



Department
for Work &
Pensions

Mandatory Programmes Official Statistics

May 2011 to August 2015

Publication date: 9:30am Wednesday 25th November 2015

Contents

- Summary 3
- Statistical tables..... 4
 - Table 1: Mandatory Work Activity Referrals and Starts (In-Month).....4
 - Table 2: Mandatory Work Activity Demographic Breakdown for the period May 2011 to August 2015.....6

 - Table 3: Skills Conditionality Referrals and Starts (In-Month)..... 7
 - Table 4: Skills Conditionality Demographic Breakdown for the period August 2011 to August 2015. 9
 - Table 5: Skills Conditionality Training Referrals and Starts (In-Month) 11
- Mandatory Work Activity – Policy Description..... 12
- Skills Conditionality - Policy Description 12
- Technical Overview 13
 - Mandatory Work Activity..... 14
 - Skills Conditionality..... 14
 - Revisions Policy 14
 - Rounding Policy 15
- Annex A: Publication Timetable..... 16

Summary

- This publication contains official statistics on Mandatory Work Activity and Skills Conditionality up to and including August 2015.
- Mandatory Work Activity (MWA) is a short placement of work-related activity intended to help people on Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) and Universal Credit claimants in the all work-related requirements group gain skills that are useful for work. It involves a four week role which benefits the local community.
- Between May 2011 and August 2015, **303,130** referrals were made to Mandatory Work Activity. During this period, there were **130,190** starts on a Mandatory Work Activity placement.
- Since early 2013, the number of monthly referrals to MWA and the number of monthly starts have been reducing. In the year to August 2015, there was a fall of **16%** in the number of referrals to MWA compared with the previous year, with a comparable drop of **23%** in starts. Around half of the referrals in the year to August 2015 (**51,930**) resulted in a MWA start (**24,450**), broadly the same proportion as in the previous year.
- Skills Conditionality (SC) is a policy that mandates claimants receiving Jobseeker's Allowance, claimants receiving Employment and Support Allowance (work-related activity group) and Universal Credit claimants in the all work-related requirements group to undertake activity to address an identified skills need which will aid their movement into work.
- Between August 2011 and August 2015 there have been:
 - **906,270** Skills Conditionality initial provider interview referrals
 - **534,540** Skills Conditionality initial provider interview starts
 - **1,146,280** Skills Conditionality training referrals
 - **640,400** Skills Conditionality training starts
 - **1,068,750** Skills Conditionality National Career Service referrals
 - **664,600** Skills Conditionality National Career Service starts

The statistical tables and graphs showing trends in starts and referrals data are also available in a separate Excel file to allow users to engage with and reuse the data. This file will also include a table with a GOR (Government Offices for the Regions) geographical breakdown.

- Interventions for claimants on Universal Credit are not captured in the data presented here, and so these official statistics will be a small undercount of referrals and starts in areas where Universal Credit has been introduced. For more information, please refer to the Technical Overview for more information.
- Future editions of this publication will be published in line with the timetable shown in **Annex A**. Details regarding future content will be announced via the UK Statistics Authority publication hub.

Statistical tables

Table 1:
Mandatory Work Activity Referrals and Starts (In-Month)

	Mandatory Work Activity referrals (GB)	Mandatory Work Activity starts (GB)
Total	303,130	130,190
May 2011 - Dec 2011	29,650	10,530
Jan 2012 - Dec 2012	95,190	35,160
Jan-2013	11,720	4,030
Feb-2013	10,250	4,090
Mar-2013	9,140	3,540
Apr-2013	7,380	4,010
May-2013	6,540	3,310
Jun-2013	5,860	2,810
Jul-2013	7,420	3,490
Aug-2013	6,080	3,050
Sep-2013	5,480	2,980
Oct-2013	6,180	2,970
Nov-2013	5,630	2,840
Dec-2013	2,490	1,720
Jan-2014	6,050	2,550
Feb-2014	4,960	2,690
Mar-2014	3,710	2,200
Apr-2014	4,600	2,390
May-2014	5,410	2,670
Jun-2014	6,060	2,960
Jul-2014	6,290	3,200
Aug-2014	5,120	2,550
Sep-2014	5,490	2,750
Oct-2014	5,100	2,470
Nov-2014	4,550	2,210
Dec-2014	2,170	1,470
Jan-2015	4,900	1,850
Feb-2015	4,610	2,140
Mar-2015	3,960	2,320
Apr-2015	3,750	1,480
May-2015	3,800	1,750

Mandatory Programmes Official Statistics

Jun-2015	4,700	2,110
Jul-2015	4,680	2,060
Aug-2015	4,230	1,830

Notes: Values are rounded to the nearest 10. Due to rounding totals may not be the sum of the individual cells. Months are calendar months. Mandatory Work Activity started in May 2011. The monthly breakdown for 2011 and 2012, here collapsed, is available from the accompanying Excel file which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/pre-work-programme-and-get-britain-working#mandatory-programmes>

Between 16 January –31 March 2012 The Department trail blazed an extension of Mandatory Work Activity across five Jobcentre Plus districts in London, Wales and the West Midlands. The trailblazer tested how the scheme works for claimants who received more than one labour-market sanction or disallowance within the last year. Numbers for Jan-2012, Feb-2012 and Mar-2012 therefore include referrals and starts to the 'MWA Trailblazer'.

Data Source - DWP LMS opportunities evaluation database September 2015.

Table 2: Mandatory Work Activity demographic breakdown for the period May 2011 to August 2015

		Mandatory Work Activity referrals (GB)	Mandatory Work Activity starts (GB)
	Total	303,130	130,190
Gender	Male	223,300	92,060
	Female	79,830	38,130
Age Group	<18	10	10
	18-24	110,130	40,460
	25-49	156,500	69,260
	50+	36,460	20,450
	Unknown	30	20
Disability ¹	Yes	80,320	36,680
	No	222,790	93,500
	Unknown	20	-
Ethnicity ²	White	229,630	102,280
	Black or Black British	24,590	9,870
	Asian or Asian British	24,590	8,170
	Mixed	7,530	2,640
	Other/ Chinese	7,240	2,830
	Unknown	9,560	4,400
Region	North East	13,490	7,180
	North West	41,760	16,400
	Yorkshire and The Humber	30,920	13,360
	East Midlands	14,080	7,550
	West Midlands	41,980	16,090
	East	17,130	8,810
	London	44,130	19,090
	South East	29,790	12,900
	South West	21,520	8,350
	Wales	17,270	7,420
	Scotland	25,150	11,220
	Unknown	5,930	1,820

Notes: Values are rounded to the nearest 10. Values less than 10 are suppressed and marked with a dash. Totals may not be the sum of the individual cells due to rounding. Mandatory Work Activity started in May 2011.

Between 16 January –31 March 2012 the Department trail blazed an extension of Mandatory Work Activity across five Jobcentre Plus districts in London, Wales and the West Midlands. The trailblazer tested how the scheme works for claimants who received more than one labour-market sanction or disallowance within the last year. Numbers in those regions therefore include referrals and starts to the 'MWA Trailblazer'.

Claimants on Universal Credit are not captured in the data presented here. As a result, geographical breakdowns may show a small undercount in areas where Universal Credit has been introduced.

Data Source - DWP LMS opportunities evaluation database September 2015.

1: Disability status is declared by the Jobseeker during a Jobcentre Plus interview. Disability status is according to the claimant's own assessment if a claimant has a disability or disabilities.

2: Claimants recording their ethnicity status as "prefer not to say" are categorised as unknown.

Table 3:
Skills Conditionality Referrals and Starts (In-Month)

	Skills Conditionality REFERRALS			Skills Conditionality STARTS		
	Initial Provider Interview (England)	Training (GB) ¹	National Careers Service (England)	Initial Provider Interview (England)	Training (GB) ¹	National Careers Service (England)
Total	906,270	1,146,280	1,068,750	534,540	640,400	664,600
Aug-Dec 11	44,650	53,720	94,310	13,590	13,880	34,310
Jan-Dec 12	214,940	207,020	246,310	98,060	96,280	133,890
Jan-13	27,090	30,620	29,050	15,000	17,010	16,960
Feb-13	24,810	29,030	25,230	15,410	16,690	17,180
Mar-13	23,300	28,010	22,740	14,830	15,270	15,720
Apr-13	23,930	29,400	23,510	14,920	18,260	16,280
May-13	22,420	29,680	22,250	14,230	15,880	16,130
Jun-13	20,710	26,830	24,180	13,480	15,790	15,830
Jul-13	26,570	34,570	34,170	17,410	19,870	22,470
Aug-13	21,840	28,730	27,610	13,820	15,090	20,390
Sep-13	24,960	35,440	28,910	18,050	24,990	20,180
Oct-13	28,190	40,760	31,510	19,330	22,750	22,600
Nov-13	25,550	37,320	29,220	18,070	23,750	20,870
Dec-13	17,550	24,390	21,210	11,860	13,470	15,610
Jan-14	30,070	42,210	32,520	19,740	25,850	21,940
Feb-14	26,220	35,790	27,920	18,470	23,570	20,280
Mar-14	25,920	36,710	28,370	18,480	25,190	20,510
Apr-14	21,570	33,210	23,830	15,410	20,770	18,180
May-14	20,960	33,020	23,650	14,310	19,540	17,120
Jun-14	19,790	31,100	23,360	14,040	22,450	17,300
Jul-14	17,640	26,430	23,600	11,940	15,260	16,590
Aug-14	14,980	21,400	18,850	9,430	11,630	13,650
Sep-14	17,790	26,290	19,920	12,170	18,190	13,280
Oct-14	16,480	25,810	20,410	10,400	13,560	12,740
Nov-14	15,520	23,380	19,210	10,080	14,280	11,760
Dec-14	10,810	16,130	14,100	6,760	8,710	9,740
Jan-15	18,720	27,970	21,580	10,960	15,770	12,400
Feb-15	16,910	25,410	18,830	11,090	15,360	12,100
Mar-15	18,990	22,980	17,390	11,700	15,040	11,990
Apr-15	15,880	19,550	15,110	10,430	11,210	10,030
May-15	14,120	17,770	13,380	9,020	9,920	9,040

Mandatory Programmes Official Statistics

Jun-15	14,910	18,540	16,030	9,390	11,500	9,810
Jul-15	12,660	15,590	16,700	7,480	8,110	9,910
Aug-15	9,840	11,500	13,850	5,160	5,550	7,820

Notes: Values are rounded to the nearest 10. Values less than 10 are suppressed and marked with a dash. Due to rounding totals may not be the sum of the individual cells. The monthly breakdown for 2011 and 2012, here collapsed, is available from the accompanying Excel file which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/pre-work-programme-and-get-britain-working#mandatory-programmes>. Months are calendar months.

Data Source - DWP LMS opportunities evaluation database September 2015.

Skills Conditionality started from 1st August 2011 in England, from 25th June 2012 in Scotland for training provision only, from November 2014 for DWP ad hoc training and from October 2012 in Wales for basic skills training provision only. In Wales, Skills Conditionality is Skills for Work (Wales) only until February 2014, from May 2014 to June 2015 is Work Ready Essential Skills training and from November 2014 for DWP ad hoc training. For more information on Skills Conditionality and the three referral routes, please see the 'Skills Conditionality Policy Description'. DWP ad hoc training refers to training purchased directly by Jobcentres using Low-Value Procurement / Flexible Support Fund.

1: Figures include Skills Funding Agency (SFA) Basic Skills Training; SFA English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) including mandatory referrals through the English Language Requirements (ELR) policy; SFA Occupational Training; Other Training; Skills for Work (Wales) and Work Ready Essential Skills Training (Wales)

Table 4: Skills Conditionality Demographic Breakdown for the period August 2011 to August 2015.

		Skills Conditionality REFERRALS			Skills Conditionality STARTS		
		Initial Provider Interview (England)	Training (GB) ³	National Careers Service (England)	Initial Provider Interview (England)	Training (GB) ³	National Careers Service (England)
	Total	906,270	1,146,280	1,068,750	534,540	640,400	664,600
Gender	Male	597,650	751,120	658,450	347,580	413,310	403,820
	Female	308,610	395,160	410,300	186,950	227,090	260,770
Age Group	Under 18	120	140	90	50	60	50
	18-24	240,500	294,860	307,240	124,520	147,970	174,090
	25-49	509,290	635,260	580,810	304,290	356,020	363,860
	50+	156,320	215,970	180,600	105,660	136,330	126,600
	Unknown	40	60	10	10	30	10
Disability ¹	Yes	237,580	295,870	272,320	145,430	171,500	173,150
	No	668,670	850,380	796,420	389,100	468,890	491,450
	Unknown	20	30	10	10	10	10
Ethnicity ²	White	668,040	829,820	792,590	393,810	469,430	486,590
	Black or Black British	61,740	96,140	97,520	35,700	48,910	62,450
	Asian or Asian British	73,030	90,160	72,450	42,830	49,250	47,100
	Mixed	20,380	25,930	25,520	11,350	13,240	15,300
	Other/Chinese	44,830	53,650	32,300	27,540	30,860	21,830
	Unknown	38,260	50,590	48,380	23,300	28,700	31,330
Region	North East	66,950	134,530	32,460	39,400	82,510	18,540
	North West	188,930	159,450	193,550	110,630	96,770	121,370
	Yorkshire and The Humber	118,050	134,340	131,110	75,930	82,830	77,500
	East Midlands	76,380	106,550	82,240	43,690	57,830	48,200
	West Midlands	132,630	95,280	70,030	80,050	56,310	40,150
	East	64,480	108,500	102,010	34,290	55,240	60,010
	London	115,770	224,390	283,240	65,080	105,980	191,090
	South East	80,090	92,970	92,750	46,120	52,420	56,510
	South West	62,990	65,890	81,370	39,350	35,240	51,230
	Wales	-	14,820	-	-	8,010	-
	Scotland	-	9,570	-	-	7,270	-

Notes: Values are rounded to the nearest 10. Values less than 10 are suppressed and marked with a dash. Due to rounding totals may not be the sum of the individual cells. The monthly breakdown for 2011 and 2012, here collapsed, is available from the accompanying Excel file which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/pre-work-programme-and-get-britain-working#mandatory-programmes>. Months are calendar months.

Mandatory Programmes Official Statistics

Skills Conditionality started from 1st August 2011 in England, from 25th June 2012 in Scotland for training provision only, from November 2014 for DWP ad hoc training and from October 2012 in Wales for basic skills training provision only. In Wales, Skills Conditionality is Skills for Work (Wales) only until February 2014, from May 2014 to June 2015 is Work Ready Essential Skills training and from November 2014 for DWP ad hoc training. For more information on Skills Conditionality and the three referral routes, please see the 'Skills Conditionality Policy Description'. DWP ad hoc training refers to training purchased directly by Jobcentres using Low-Value Procurement / Flexible Support Fund.

Claimants on Universal Credit are not captured in the data presented here. As a result, geographical breakdowns may show a small undercount in areas where Universal Credit has been introduced.

Data Source - DWP LMS opportunities evaluation database September 2015.

1: *Disability status is declared by the claimant during a Jobcentre Plus interview. Disability status is according to the claimant's own assessment if a claimant has a disability or disabilities.*

2: *Claimants recording their ethnicity status as "prefer not to say" are categorised as unknown.*

3: *Figures include Skills Funding Agency (SFA) Basic Skills Training; SFA English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) including mandatory referrals through the English Language Requirements (ELR) policy ; SFA Occupational Training; Other Training; Skills for Work (Wales) and Work Ready Essential Skills Training (Wales).*

Table 5: Skills Conditionality Training Referrals and Starts (In-Month)

	Skills Conditionality Training REFERRALS					Skills Conditionality STARTS				
	Occu- pational Training	Basic Skills Training	ESOL	Other	Skills for Work ¹	Occu- pational Training	Basic Skills Training	ESOL	Other	Skills for Work ¹
Total	600,520	200,920	136,850	195,800	12,200	330,540	117,730	84,190	101,330	6,610
Aug-Dec 11	31,260	7,560	10,120	4,800	0	7,740	2,200	3,000	950	0
Jan-Dec 12	121,420	30,660	31,060	22,990	920	56,030	14,610	16,620	8,580	440
Jan-13	18,210	4,760	3,500	3,740	420	9,860	2,710	2,430	1,810	190
Feb-13	17,900	4,440	3,510	2,760	420	10,060	2,610	2,060	1,730	230
Mar-13	17,360	4,390	3,240	2,560	460	9,230	2,410	2,020	1,360	250
Apr-13	17,780	4,820	3,540	2,750	510	11,020	2,970	2,440	1,580	250
May-13	17,240	4,670	3,490	3,370	900	8,990	2,780	1,930	1,770	420
Jun-13	15,300	4,350	2,620	3,420	1,140	9,210	2,530	1,800	1,830	430
Jul-13	18,250	6,260	3,000	5,580	1,480	10,630	3,430	1,800	3,240	770
Aug-13	15,290	5,210	2,900	4,240	1,090	7,770	3,070	1,520	2,090	660
Sep-13	18,310	6,590	3,880	5,650	1,010	12,340	4,690	3,920	3,540	500
Oct-13	21,400	7,710	3,480	6,880	1,290	11,850	4,460	1,910	3,750	780
Nov-13	19,380	7,390	3,100	6,470	970	12,320	4,870	2,120	3,850	600
Dec-13	12,080	4,930	2,490	4,240	650	6,360	2,690	1,540	2,490	390
Jan-14	21,550	8,000	3,660	8,080	920	13,000	5,340	2,790	4,220	500
Feb-14	18,200	7,240	3,230	7,120	-	11,840	4,820	2,180	4,540	200
Mar-14	18,340	7,220	3,530	7,620	-	12,430	5,190	2,790	4,780	-
Apr-14	17,040	6,200	3,210	6,770	-	10,430	4,120	2,150	4,070	-
May-14	16,080	6,360	3,770	6,800	-	9,500	4,020	2,430	3,590	-
Jun-14	15,580	5,650	3,410	6,470	-	11,440	4,250	2,430	4,330	-
Jul-14	12,810	4,480	2,890	6,250	-	7,720	2,600	1,590	3,350	-
Aug-14	9,730	4,050	2,640	4,980	-	5,460	2,100	1,340	2,730	-
Sep-14	12,090	4,920	3,690	5,590	-	7,810	3,750	3,630	3,000	-
Oct-14	11,860	4,970	2,980	5,990	-	6,610	2,680	1,560	2,710	-
Nov-14	10,590	4,690	2,580	5,520	-	6,510	2,990	1,780	3,000	-
Dec-14	6,850	3,360	2,090	3,830	-	3,770	1,860	1,100	1,990	-
Jan-15	12,700	5,330	3,270	6,670	-	7,140	3,310	2,340	2,990	-
Feb-15	11,080	4,740	3,240	6,350	-	6,820	3,100	2,250	3,190	-
Mar-15	9,810	4,370	2,800	6,000	-	6,510	2,910	2,290	3,340	-
Apr-15	8,260	3,750	2,400	5,140	-	4,960	2,210	1,480	2,560	-
May-15	7,370	3,370	2,150	4,890	-	4,210	1,890	1,580	2,240	-
Jun-15	8,020	3,450	2,080	4,990	-	5,210	2,010	1,600	2,680	-
Jul-15	6,720	2,820	1,910	4,140	-	3,630	1,540	860	2,080	-
Aug-15	4,690	2,210	1,430	3,180	-	2,160	1,060	920	1,410	-

Notes: Values are rounded to the nearest 10. Values less than 10 are suppressed and marked with a dash. Due to rounding totals may not be the sum of the individual cells. The monthly breakdown for 2011 and 2012, here collapsed, is available from the accompanying Excel file which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/pre-work-programme-and-get-britain-working#mandatory-programmes>. Months are calendar months.

Skills Conditionality started from 1st August 2011 in England, from 25th June 2012 in Scotland for training provision only, from November 2014 for DWP ad hoc training and from October 2012 in Wales for basic skills training provision only. In Wales, Skills Conditionality is Skills for Work (Wales) only until February 2014, from May 2014 to June 2015 is Work Ready Essential Skills training and from November 2014 for DWP ad hoc training. For more information on Skills Conditionality and the three referral routes, please see the 'Skills Conditionality Policy Description'. DWP ad hoc training refers to training purchased directly by Jobcentres using Low-Value Procurement / Flexible Support Fund.

Data for 2011 and 2012 is collapsed in this table. Their monthly breakdown can be found in the accompanying spread sheet.

Mandatory Work Activity – Policy Description

1. MWA was launched on 16 May 2011, enabling Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) claimants to move closer to the labour market by helping them re-engage with the system, refocus their job search and gain work-related disciplines, whilst also contributing to the local community.
2. Work related disciplines include attending on time, regularly carrying out specific tasks and working under supervision. MWA is about offering further support to some JSA claimants who would benefit from a short period of activity.
3. MWA involves work-based placements with hosts, sourced by external providers under contract to DWP. For those referred to a placement, participation is mandatory.
4. The placements sourced by the provider:
 - last for 4 weeks
 - are for 30 hours per week, unless restrictions apply, allowing the claimant time to look for work as required by their Jobseeker's Agreement or Claimant Commitment
 - are reduced in line with any restrictions a claimant might have on their Jobseeker's Agreement or Claimant Commitment. In such circumstances, placements will take up 75% of the time a claimant is available for work
 - are of benefit to the local community
 - are additional to any existing or expected vacancies the host organisation might have
5. MWA participants continue to claim JSA and attend Jobsearch Reviews.
6. Since 29 April 2013 it is possible for Universal Credit claimants in the all work-related requirements group to be referred to MWA.

Skills Conditionality - Policy Description

7. Skills conditionality policy applies where it is identified that a skills need is preventing someone from moving closer to employment. Skills conditionality makes attendance at and the completion of skills related interventions a condition for receiving benefit. JCP Advisers screen JSA and ESA WRAG claimants for potential skills needed in the labour market, and they are referred to appropriate support.
8. In England that can be an interview with the National Careers Service where skills needs are unclear, or an initial provider interview with a training provider, or a referral direct to training. In Scotland it is referral to training from June 2012. In Wales it was a referral to the DWP training programme, Skills for Work Wales between October 2012 and February 2014. From May 2014 it has been a referral to Work Ready Essentials Skills.

9. The training includes basic skills (English, numeracy, literacy), occupational skills, employability skills and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).
10. From April 2014, all new claimants to JSA or Universal Credit (subject to intensive work search requirements) in England, Scotland and Wales with a poor level of spoken English are screened for English language skills. If a claimant is identified as having English speaking or listening skills below Entry Level 2 (expected standard at ages 7-9) at the initial work search interview, then they will be required to attend appropriate provision to improve their language skills, with the intention of improving their prospects of finding employment.
11. Identified claimants are mandated to a full assessment completed by a provider and where appropriate, mandated to attend English Language training to improve their language skills. These referrals are recorded as ESOL Training on the Labour Market System.
12. Some benefit claimants will take up training on Skills Funding Agency funded courses without being referred under SC. The joint publication between DWP and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), accessible here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/further-education-for-benefit-claimants> provides statistics on overall levels of training starts by learners reporting that they are claimants of JSA and ESA WRAG (Employment Support Allowance Work-Related Activity Group).

Technical Overview

13. These statistics are derived using a combination of data from the Jobcentre Plus claimant management system (the Labour Market System, LMS) and the LMS Client Extract. For SC, data from the benefits administrative database (the National Benefits Database) is also used.
14. Information on demographics is obtained by merging data across these separate administrative systems, which sometimes results in unknown values. This is because either we are unable to find a match or the information has not been recorded for the particular claimant.
15. Every effort has been made to ensure that the quality of these statistics is of the highest standard. However, it may be necessary to revise the statistics in subsequent publications when more complete data becomes available, particularly for more recent months.
16. The format of this publication will be kept under review and any feedback or suggestions to improve this publication are welcomed.
17. Interventions for claimants on Universal Credit are not captured by the Labour Market System, and so these official statistics will be a small undercount of referrals and starts in areas where Universal Credit has been introduced. These are the Universal Credit pathfinder areas from April 2013, the North West where Universal Credit was rolled out from June 2014, and to other jobcentres nationally from February 2015 as part of the planned national rollout over 2015/16.
18. Further information on Universal Credit statistics and rollout volumes can be found using the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/universal-credit-statistics>

Mandatory Work Activity

19. A referral to MWA is defined as the date the claimant is referred to the placement, recorded within their adviser interview. This was inputted by the Work Coach to the Jobcentre Plus' Labour Market System. A start to a MWA placement is defined as the date the claimant attended their initial interview with the placement provider - this was inputted by the provider into the Provider Referrals and Payments system which then updated the Jobcentre Plus' Labour Market System.

Skills Conditionality

20. A referral to SC is defined as the date the claimant is referred to an initial provider interview, training provision or the National Careers Service¹, recorded within their adviser interview. This was inputted by the Work Coach to the Jobcentre Plus' Labour Market System. A start on SC is defined as the first date the claimant commenced an initial provider interview, training provision or the National Careers Service. The number of starts was based on the individual claimant level data supplied by Further Education Colleges, training providers and the National Careers Service and entered onto the Provider Referrals and Payments (PraP) system, which was then pulled through onto the Jobcentre Plus' Labour Market System. Providers may submit data on starts some time after the actual event occurred.

Retrospection

21. Retrospection is the time period allowed for additional or updated information to be incorporated into DWP's data systems. All data used is drawn from administrative sources, which takes time to process and collate. There are therefore lags between the reference period and availability of the dataset for analysis.
22. Labour Market System (LMS) datasets are produced a month in arrears i.e. August 2015 data was available at the end of September 2015. Generally, for any given month's worth of LMS data, significant retrospection can be seen for a further month.
23. Therefore to maximise the amount of retrospection captured, statistics in this series will be published around 2-3 months after the reference period (e.g. final statistics for August 2015 (which are published in November 2015) are produced using September data, which was released in October 2015).

Revisions Policy

24. In accordance with Principle 2 of the UK Statistics Authority's Code of Practice for Official Statistics², statistics within this publication adhere to DWP's statistics revisions policy, which explains how we will make revisions and inform users of our statistics when they occur: <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=policy>

¹ National Careers Service was previously called Next Step.

² <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/code-of-practice-for-official-statistics.pdf>

Rounding Policy

To reduce the risk of inferring the identity of a claimant from these statistics and other statistics, values are rounded to the nearest ten. Values less than 10 are suppressed and marked with a dash. Due to rounding totals may not be the sum of the individual cells.

Annex A: Publication Timetable

Publication	Date	Notes
1 st	Wednesday 15 th February 2012	The first official statistics publication covering Mandatory Work Activity.
2 nd	Tuesday 12 th June 2012	The second publication covering Mandatory Work Activity and Skills Conditionality.
3 rd	Wednesday 14 th November 2012	The third publication covering Mandatory Work Activity and Skills Conditionality.
4 th	Wednesday 22 nd May 2013	The fourth publication covering Mandatory Work Activity and Skills Conditionality.
5 th	Wednesday 27 th November 2013	The fifth publication covering Mandatory Work Activity and Skills Conditionality.
6 th	Thursday 29 th May 2014	The sixth publication covering Mandatory Work Activity and Skills Conditionality
7 th	Thursday 20 th November 2014	The seventh publication covering Mandatory Work Activity and Skills Conditionality
8 th	Wednesday 27 th May 2015	The eighth publication covering Mandatory Work Activity and Skills Conditionality
9 th	Wednesday 25 th November 2015	The ninth publication covering Mandatory Work Activity and Skills Conditionality
10 th	May 2016	The tenth publication covering Mandatory Work Activity and Skills Conditionality

For general enquiries regarding pre-work programmes and the Youth Contract (previously Get Britain Working Measures) please visit the DWP website: www.dwp.gov.uk or contact the DWP press office on 0203 267 5144.

For enquiries relating to the statistics in this publication please contact:

DWP Analyst

Samantha Poole

samantha.poole@dwp.gsi.gov.uk