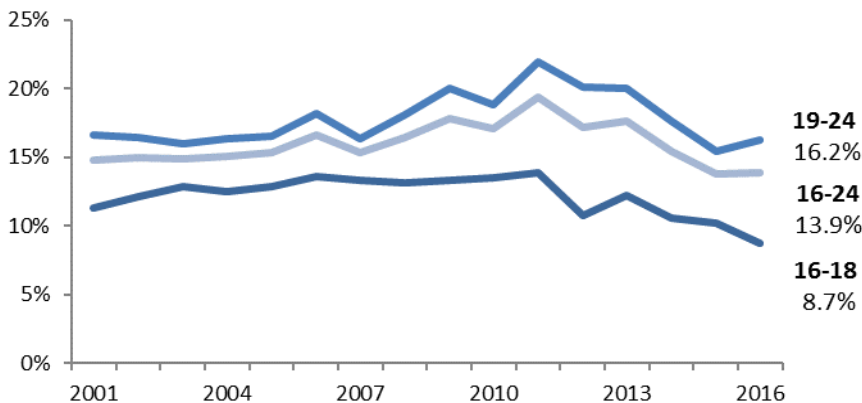




SFR 59/2016: 24 November 2016

The proportion of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) remained broadly flat for the 16-24 age group. Within this, there was a fall in the NEET rate for the 16-18 age group and a rise for the 19-24 age group.¹

July to September NEET rate: England



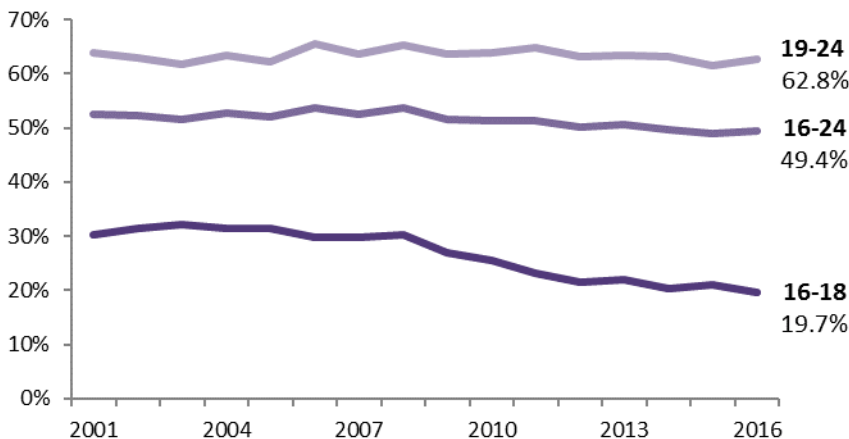
Source: Labour Force Survey

The 16-18 NEET rate was 8.7%, down 1.5 percentage points from the comparable quarter in 2015. This change from 2015 was not statistically significant.

Over the same period the 19-24 NEET rate rose by 0.8 percentage points (to 16.2%) and the overall 16-24 rate remained broadly flat (rising slightly by 0.1 percentage points to 13.9%). Neither of these changes were statistically significant.

The proportion of young people not in education or training (NET) fell for the 16-18 age group but rose for 19-24 resulting in a slight increase in NET for 16-24 overall.¹

July to September NET rate: England



Source: Labour Force Survey

The proportion of 16-18 year olds NET fell between July to September 2015 and 2016 (down 1.4 percentage points to 19.7%) although this change was not statistically significant.

The 19-24 NET rate rose by 1.3 percentage points (to 62.8%) and the overall 16-24 rose by 0.3 percentage points (to 49.4%). Neither of these changes were statistically significant.

¹ Note that none of the annual changes (between July to September 2015 and 2016) in the NEET and NET proportions for the summary age groups were statistically significant at the 95% level.

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About this release

This statistical first release (SFR) provides the most timely statistics on young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) and young people not in education or training (NET).

The data covers England and is based on academic age. Trends are assessed by comparing the current time period with the same time period in the previous year to account for seasonal effects.

The ONS releases NEET estimates on the same day as this release but their figures cover the UK, are based on calendar age and are seasonally adjusted.

Three data sources are used to publish this SFR:

- Quarterly Labour Force Survey (LFS)
- Statistical First Release (SFR) 'Participation in Education, Training and Employment by 16-18 Year Olds in England'
- Local Authorities' Client Caseload Information System (CCIS)

In this publication

The following tables are published alongside the SFR:

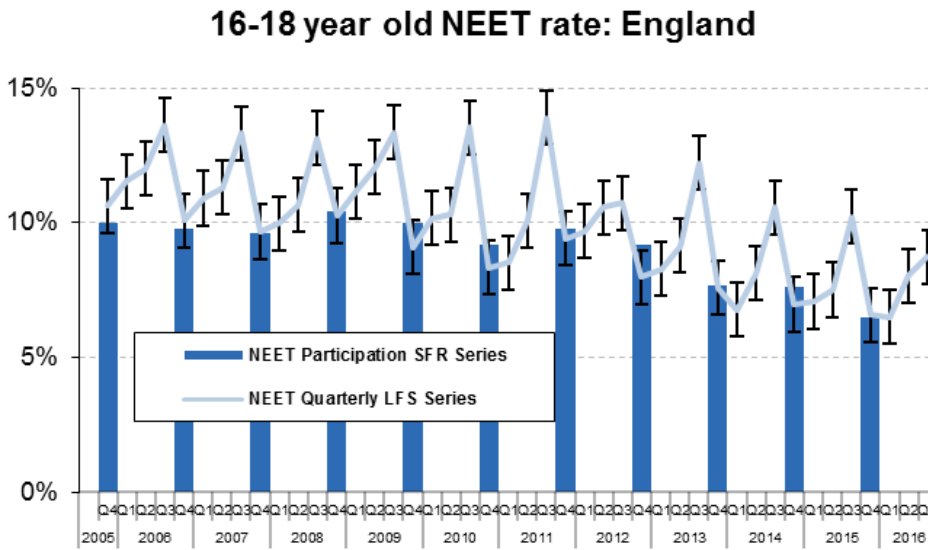
- NEET and NET estimates from the LFS (excel.xls)
- NEET and NET estimates from the Participation SFR (excel.xls)
- NEET and NET estimates from CCIS data (excel.xls)
- NEET estimates by region and gender from the LFS for: 16- 24, 18- 24 and 19-24 year-olds (excel.xls)
- National NEET estimates from the LFS for all age groups (excel.xls)
- NEET estimates from the LFS by age and gender and labour market status (excel.xls)
- Underlying data

Feedback

We welcome feedback on any aspect of this document at Post16.STATISTICS@education.gov.uk

1. NEET quarterly LFS series (last updated November 2016)

Figure 1: NEET Quarterly LFS Series, age 16-18: England, Oct-Dec 2005 to Jul-Sep 2016



Source: Source: Participation SFR and Labour Force Survey
 Note: Bars around data points indicate approximate 95% confidence

The 16-18 year old trend shows seasonal patterns that reflect the academic year: lower rates in autumn (October to December) followed by a gradual rise in spring and early summer (January to June) with a peak in late summer (July to September).

The proportion of 16-18 year olds NEET has decreased. Compared to the July to September period last year, the rate fell by 1.5 percentage points to 8.7%. This annual fall is not statistically significant.

The proportion of 16 year olds who were NEET in July to September 2016 remained

broadly flat (rising slightly by 0.1 percentage points to 4.7%) when compared to the same period in 2015. The proportion of 17 year olds NEET fell by 2.5 percentage points to 9.9% and the proportion of 18 year olds NEET fell by 1.9 percentage points to 11.5% over the same period.

It should be noted that sample sizes in the Labour Force Survey are small for individual age cohorts, so sampling variation is large and caution should be taken in interpreting changes over the short term, particularly when the characteristic of interest is rare, such as the NEET rate at 16 and 17.

Figure 2: NEET rates for different age cohorts: England 2014 - 2016

	Jul-Sep 2014	Jul-Sep 2015	Jul-Sep 2016	% point change from Jul-Sep 2015 to Jul-Sep 2016
Age 16	4.8%	4.6%	4.7%	0.1ppts
Age 17	11.5%	12.4%	9.9%	-2.5ppts
Age 18	15.2%	13.4%	11.5%	-1.9ppts
Age 16-18	10.6%	10.2%	8.7%	-1.5ppts
Age 19-24	17.7%	15.4%	16.2%	0.8ppts
Age 16-24	15.4%	13.8%	13.9%	0.1ppts

Source: Labour Force Survey
 Note: No changes are statistically significant at the 95% level.

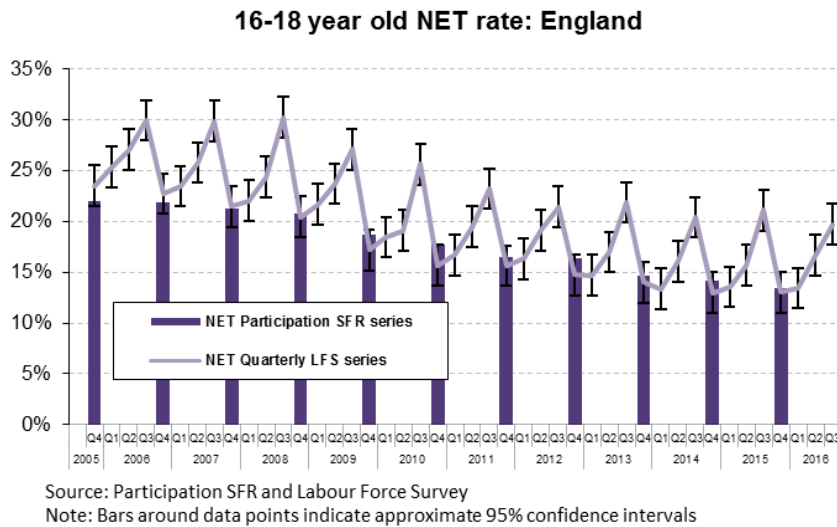
The fall in the NEET rate for the overall 16-18 group was the result of a decrease in the proportion not in education or training (down 1.4 percentage points to 19.7%) combined with an increase in the employment rate for those not in education or training. The employment rate of the 16-18 NET group rose by 4.2 percentage points in the last year to 55.7%.

The increase in the NEET rate for the 19-24 age group was the result of a 1.3 percentage point increase in the NET rate to 62.8% and a 0.8 percentage point fall in the employment rate for this NET group to 74.2%. However, the NEET rate of this group is still 5.8 percentage points lower than the July to September peak of 22.0% in 2011. The annual increase is not statistically significant.

The 16-24 NEET rate has remained broadly flat and is 5.5 percentage points lower than the peak of 19.4% in 2011.

2. NET quarterly LFS series (last updated November 2016)

Figure 3: NET Quarterly LFS Series, age 16-18: England, Oct-Dec 2005 to Jul-Sep 2016



The proportion of 16-18 year olds NET fell by 1.4 percentage points to 19.7% compared to the same period last year. This was 12.5 percentage points lower than the peak of 32.2% in 2003.

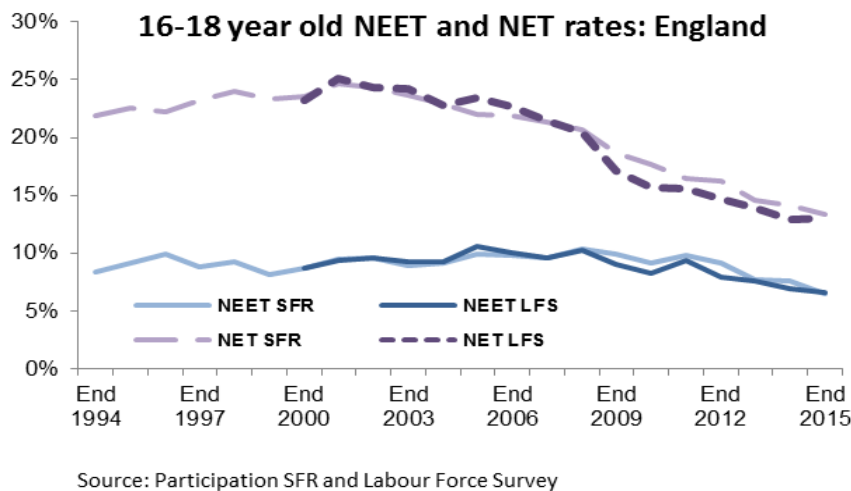
There was a decrease in the NET rate across the individual 16, 17 and 18 age groups when compared with the same period last year.

The proportion of 16 year olds NET was down by 0.6 percentage points to 5.4%, 17 year olds NET was down by 1.5 percentage points to 20.8% and the proportion of 18 year olds NET was down 1.7 percentage point to 32.9%.

None of the annual changes in the NET rate were statistically significant.

3. NEET Participation SFR series (last updated August 2016)

Figure 4: NEET historical series for 16-18 year olds: England, end 1994 - end 2015



Understanding the historical trends in NEET rates is an important part of placing current performance in perspective.

Figures in this release should be considered alongside those from the participation SFR which is the DfE's definitive measure of participation for 16-18 year olds.

Historically the 16-18 NEET rate tended to fluctuate at around 8-10%, but since 2008 both measures have shown a downward trend.

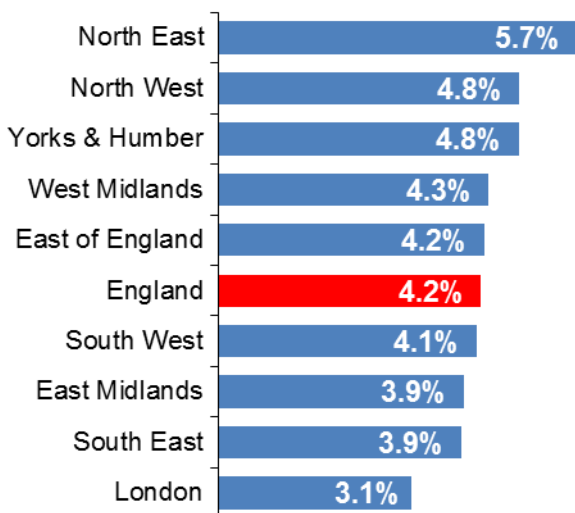
The latest Participation SFR NET rate, for end 2015, was 13.4%, a fall of 0.7 percentage points from end 2014. This is the lowest comparable figure since consistent data began in 1994.

Between end 2014 and end 2015 the proportion of 16-18 year olds participating in education and training increased from 85.9% to 86.6%. Over the same period, the employment rate of the 16-18 year olds not in education or training rose from 46.0% to 51.5%. The result of these two factors is that the proportion of 16-18 year olds NEET at the end of 2015 decreased by 1.1 percentage points to 6.5%.

4. Regional NEET (last updated May 2016)

Figure 5: Regional NEET, age 16-18: England, Nov 2015-Jan 2016 average

NEET rate 16-18 year olds: England, End 2015



Source: Client Caseload Information System

The regional picture on 16-18 NEET is taken from [Local Authorities' Client Caseload Information System \(CCIS\)](#), published in April 2016.

CCIS data indicates that the northern English regions have higher NEET rates, i.e. North East, North West, and Yorkshire and the Humber. In comparison, London, South East and East Midlands have the lowest NEET rates.

Note that Local Authority CCIS data are published annually and tend to show a lower percentage NEET than either the Participation SFR or LFS data sources. In addition, regional NEET estimates for 16-24, 18-24 and 19-24 year olds summary age groups based on the LFS are published as supplementary tables alongside this Quarterly Brief.

5. Accompanying tables

The following tables are available in Excel format on the department's statistics [website](#).

National tables

Table 1 NEET estimates from the LFS, Participation SFR and CCIS data, England

Table 2 NET estimates from the LFS, Participation SFR and CCIS data, England

Table 3 NEET estimates 16 to 24 by region and gender

Table 4 NEET estimates 18 to 24 by region and gender

Table 5 NEET estimates 19 to 24 by region and gender

Table 6 NEET time series for England

Table 7 NEET estimates by labour market status

When reviewing the tables, please note that:

Labour Force Survey (LFS) datasets are routinely reweighted in line with population estimates. In May 2016 a new weighting variable was introduced, PWT16, to LFS datasets from July - September 2012 onwards. More information about the impact of the reweighting on the NEET and NET rates is available in an additional spreadsheet published with the [January to March 2016 quarterly brief](#).

The PWT16 weights reflect the mid-year population estimates for England and Wales, released by the Office for National Statistics on 25th June 2015.

ONS have produced an assessment of the likely impact the 2014 mid-year estimates will have on the will have on the headline LFS aggregates [here](#).

6. Further information is available

Wales

The Welsh Assembly Government (WG) publishes an annual SFR produced in a similar way to DfE's Participation SFR. [The Participation of Young People in Education and the Labour Market](#) is regarded as the definitive measure of NEET estimates in Wales. It covers those in academic age 16-18 and 19-24.

The WG also publishes [NEET figures based on the Annual Population Survey \(APS\)](#) which is similar to the LFS data used in this publication. It covers academic age 16-18 and 19-24.

WG also published [local area estimates of NEET](#) which looks at pupil destinations based on the Careers Wales Survey. These are based on interviews done in October following Year 11.

Scotland

The Scottish Government (SG) publishes an annual SFR based on the Annual Population Survey (APS) [Regional Employment Patterns in Scotland: Statistics from the Annual Population Survey 2015](#) provides national NEET estimates that cover actual age 16-19.

The SG also published [Annual school leaver statistics](#) which are used to give the proportion of young people in 'positive destinations'. These NEET estimates include some young people in part-time education. The coverage is actual age 16-19.

SG also published a combination of [DWP benefits data and school leaver destinations](#) that provide local NEET estimates.

ONS

Monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) statistics for young people not in full-time education and not in employment -Table 14 from the Labour Market Statistics bulletin. Part of wider labour market statistics; rolling 3-month average both seasonally-adjusted and not seasonally-adjusted; roughly equivalent to NEET but will include some young people in part-time education. [ONS statistical bulletin: UK Labour Market, November 2016](#) Actual age 16-17 and 18-24.

Quarterly Statistics based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS). Definition of NEET corresponds to that used in the DfE NEET Quarterly Brief. UK estimate, seasonally adjusted. [ONS National Statistics: Young People not in Education, Employment or Training \(NEETs\)](#)

OECD

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) publishes annual NEET estimates. Their [Education at a Glance UK country note](#) publication covers young people aged 15-19 and 15-29 in the UK.

7. National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

The Department has a set of [statistical policies](#) in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

8. Technical information

A methodology information document accompanies this SFR. This provides further information on the data sources, their coverage and quality and explains the methodology used in producing the data, including how it is validated and processed.

	Coverage	Last Published	Next Published
NEET and NET quarterly LFS series	July to September 2016	November 2016	February 2017
NEET and NET Participation SFR series	End 2015	June 2016	June 2017
Regional NEET	November 2015 – January 2016 average	May 2016	May 2017

9. Get in touch

Media enquiries

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10. Tables

Figure 6: Percentage Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET): England

NEET Quarterly LFS series	16 year olds	17 year olds	18 year olds	16-17 year olds	16-18 year olds	16-24 year olds	18-24 year olds	19-24 year olds
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2001	8.6%	11.0%	14.7%	9.8%	11.3%	14.8%	16.3%	16.6%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2002	9.5%	12.9%	14.1%	11.2%	12.1%	15.0%	16.1%	16.4%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2003	10.3%	13.6%	14.5%	12.0%	12.8%	14.9%	15.8%	16.0%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2004	10.2%	13.1%	14.0%	11.7%	12.5%	15.1%	16.0%	16.4%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2005	9.7%	14.5%	14.3%	12.1%	12.8%	15.3%	16.3%	16.6%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2006	10.2%	14.8%	16.0%	12.5%	13.6%	16.7%	17.9%	18.2%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2007	8.8%	15.2%	15.9%	12.1%	13.3%	15.4%	16.3%	16.3%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2008	8.0%	15.4%	15.7%	11.8%	13.1%	16.5%	17.7%	18.1%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2009	8.2%	15.0%	16.7%	11.6%	13.4%	17.8%	19.6%	20.0%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2010	6.2%	15.0%	19.1%	10.8%	13.5%	17.1%	18.9%	18.9%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2011	7.7%	15.5%	18.4%	11.6%	13.9%	19.4%	21.5%	22.0%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2012	4.3%	12.7%	14.9%	8.6%	10.7%	17.2%	19.4%	20.1%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2013	5.4%	14.4%	16.3%	10.1%	12.2%	17.6%	19.5%	20.1%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2014	4.8%	11.5%	15.2%	8.2%	10.6%	15.4%	17.3%	17.7%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2015	4.6%	12.4%	13.4%	8.7%	10.2%	13.8%	15.2%	15.4%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2016	4.7%	9.9%	11.5%	7.4%	8.7%	13.9%	15.6%	16.2%

Source: Labour Force Survey.

Figure 7: Percentage Not in Education or Training (NET): England

NET Quarterly LFS series	16 year olds	17 year olds	18 year olds	16-17 year olds	16-18 year olds	16-24 year olds	18-24 year olds	19-24 year olds
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2001	17.5%	30.8%	43.7%	24.0%	30.2%	52.5%	61.1%	64.0%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2002	18.3%	32.4%	44.4%	25.3%	31.5%	52.2%	60.4%	63.0%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2003	19.2%	33.1%	44.1%	26.3%	32.2%	51.7%	59.2%	61.8%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2004	18.7%	31.5%	43.3%	25.3%	31.4%	52.7%	60.6%	63.5%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2005	17.1%	33.1%	44.4%	25.0%	31.4%	52.1%	59.8%	62.4%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2006	15.1%	32.6%	42.5%	23.9%	29.9%	53.8%	62.3%	65.5%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2007	14.4%	32.2%	43.1%	23.4%	29.8%	52.5%	60.8%	63.6%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2008	13.3%	32.3%	44.1%	23.2%	30.2%	53.8%	62.4%	65.4%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2009	11.6%	27.4%	41.3%	19.5%	27.1%	51.6%	60.5%	63.8%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2010	8.6%	26.7%	40.8%	18.0%	25.6%	51.4%	60.7%	64.0%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2011	10.6%	23.8%	34.9%	17.2%	23.2%	51.4%	60.6%	64.8%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2012	7.7%	20.6%	35.4%	14.3%	21.4%	50.2%	59.6%	63.3%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2013	7.2%	23.2%	34.1%	15.4%	21.9%	50.5%	59.6%	63.5%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2014	5.9%	21.1%	33.7%	13.5%	20.4%	49.7%	59.2%	63.3%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2015	6.1%	22.3%	34.6%	14.5%	21.1%	49.1%	58.1%	61.6%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2016	5.4%	20.8%	32.9%	13.2%	19.7%	49.4%	59.0%	62.8%

Source: Labour Force Survey.

Figure 8: Number Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET): England

NEET Quarterly LFS series	16 year olds	17 year olds	18 year olds	16-17 year olds	16-18 year olds	16-24 year olds	18-24 year olds	19-24 year olds
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2001	53,000	66,000	81,000	119,000	201,000	774,000	655,000	573,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2002	59,000	79,000	83,000	138,000	221,000	797,000	659,000	576,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2003	63,000	87,000	89,000	150,000	239,000	815,000	665,000	576,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2004	61,000	83,000	89,000	144,000	233,000	838,000	693,000	605,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2005	63,000	91,000	89,000	154,000	243,000	878,000	725,000	636,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2006	65,000	95,000	99,000	160,000	259,000	966,000	806,000	707,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2007	57,000	101,000	100,000	158,000	257,000	900,000	742,000	643,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2008	50,000	104,000	103,000	154,000	256,000	979,000	826,000	723,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2009	52,000	96,000	113,000	148,000	262,000	1,056,000	908,000	794,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2010	39,000	102,000	124,000	140,000	264,000	1,020,000	880,000	756,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2011	50,000	100,000	123,000	151,000	274,000	1,179,000	1,028,000	905,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2012	26,000	82,000	95,000	108,000	203,000	1,038,000	929,000	834,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2013	32,000	93,000	105,000	125,000	230,000	1,065,000	940,000	835,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2014	30,000	73,000	99,000	102,000	202,000	932,000	829,000	730,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2015	28,000	81,000	82,000	109,000	191,000	835,000	725,000	644,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2016	30,000	64,000	71,000	93,000	164,000	840,000	747,000	675,000

Source: Labour Force Survey.

Figure 9: Number Not in Education or Training (NET): England

NET Quarterly LFS series	16 year olds	17 year olds	18 year olds	16-17 year olds	16-18 year olds	16-24 year olds	18-24 year olds	19-24 year olds
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2001	109,000	185,000	243,000	294,000	536,000	2,743,000	2,449,000	2,207,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2002	113,000	199,000	262,000	312,000	574,000	2,783,000	2,470,000	2,209,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2003	118,000	212,000	272,000	329,000	601,000	2,826,000	2,496,000	2,225,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2004	113,000	199,000	274,000	312,000	586,000	2,934,000	2,622,000	2,348,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2005	111,000	207,000	277,000	317,000	594,000	2,984,000	2,667,000	2,390,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2006	97,000	210,000	262,000	307,000	570,000	3,116,000	2,809,000	2,546,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2007	92,000	213,000	271,000	306,000	576,000	3,075,000	2,770,000	2,499,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2008	83,000	217,000	290,000	300,000	590,000	3,201,000	2,901,000	2,611,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2009	74,000	176,000	280,000	251,000	530,000	3,058,000	2,808,000	2,528,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2010	54,000	181,000	265,000	235,000	500,000	3,064,000	2,829,000	2,564,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2011	69,000	155,000	233,000	224,000	457,000	3,126,000	2,902,000	2,669,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2012	47,000	132,000	226,000	179,000	405,000	3,033,000	2,854,000	2,628,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2013	43,000	148,000	221,000	191,000	412,000	3,056,000	2,864,000	2,644,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2014	37,000	133,000	220,000	170,000	390,000	3,002,000	2,833,000	2,613,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2015	37,000	147,000	211,000	183,000	395,000	2,966,000	2,783,000	2,572,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2016	34,000	133,000	204,000	167,000	371,000	2,986,000	2,819,000	2,615,000

Source: Labour Force Survey.



Department
for Education



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