



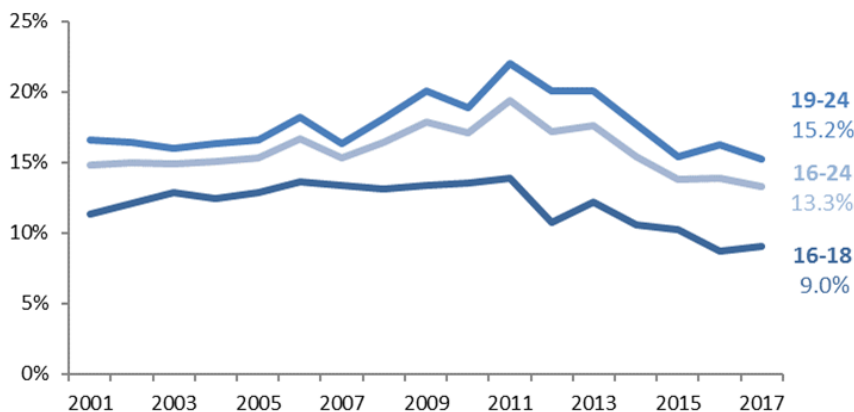
# NEET Statistics Quarterly Brief July to September 2017, England



SFR 65/2017: 23 November 2017

The proportion of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) decreased for the 19-24 and 16-24 age groups and increased for the 16-18 age group<sup>1</sup>

July to September NEET rate: England



Source: Labour Force Survey

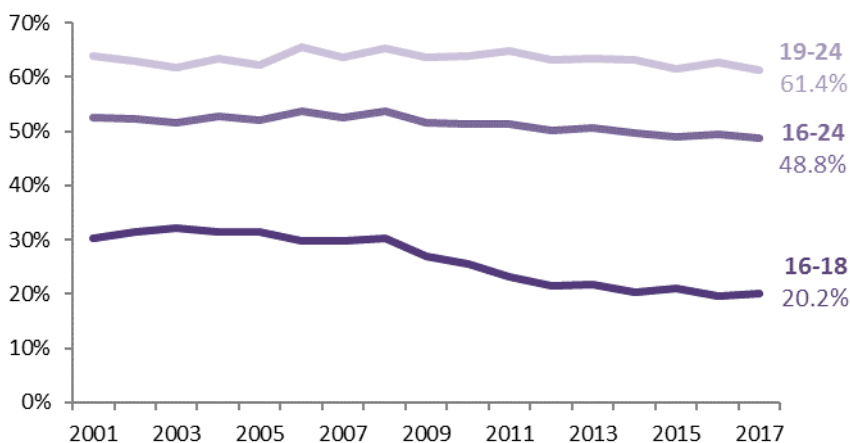
The 19-24 NEET rate decreased by 1.0 percentage point (to 15.2%) from the comparable quarter in 2016 and the overall 16-24 NEET rate decreased by 0.6 percentage points (to 13.3%).

Over the same period, the 16-18 NEET rate increased by 0.3 percentage points (to 9.0%).

None of these annual changes to NEET rates were statistically significant.

The proportion of young people not in education or training (NET) decreased for the 19-24 and 16-24 age groups and increased for the 16-18 age group<sup>1</sup>

July to September NET rate: England



Source: Labour Force Survey

The proportion of 16-18 year olds NET increased between July to September 2016 and 2017 (up 0.5 percentage points to 20.2%).

Over the same period, the 19-24 NET rate decreased by 1.4 percentage points (to 61.4%) and the overall 16-24 NET rate decreased by 0.5 percentage points (to 48.8%).

None of these annual changes, to the summary age group NET rates, were statistically significant.

<sup>1</sup> Note that none of the annual changes (between July to September 2016 and 2017) in the NEET and NET proportions for the summary age groups (16-18, 19-24 and 16-24) were statistically significant at the 95% level.

Note that the Office for National Statistics (ONS) publish NEET estimates on the same day as this release but their figures cover the UK, are based on calendar age and are seasonally adjusted.

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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.

Data in this publication is included from:

- Quarterly Labour Force Survey (LFS)
- Statistical First Release (SFR) 'Participation in Education, Training and Employment by 16-18 Year Olds in England'

### In this publication

The following tables are published alongside the SFR:

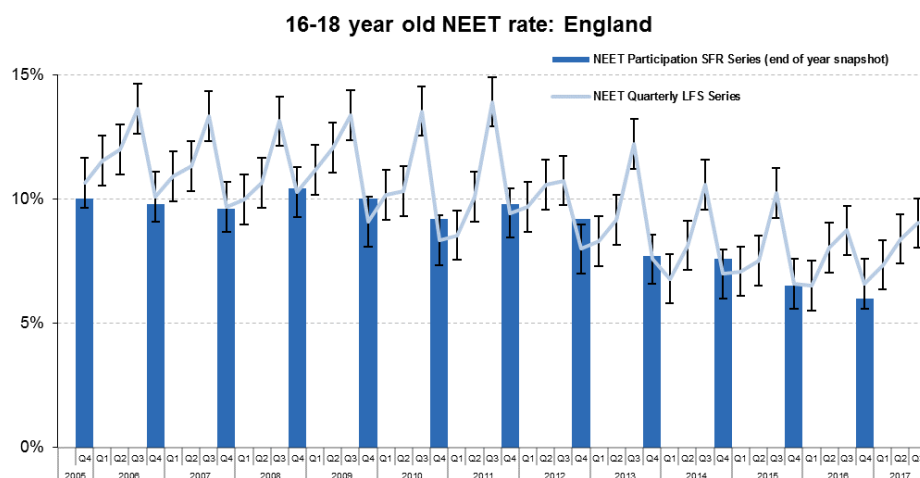
- NEET and NET estimates from the LFS (excel.xls)
- NEET and NET estimates from the Participation SFR (excel.xls)
- NEET estimates by region and gender from the LFS for: 16- 24, 18- 24 and 19-24 year-olds (excel.xls)
- National NEET estimates from the LFS for all age groups (excel.xls)
- NEET estimates from the LFS by age and gender and labour market status (excel.xls)
- Underlying data – *please note we have published a more comprehensive underlying data file for the first time in November 2017. This includes a time series of regional, gender and labour market status. See accompanying metadata for further information.*

### Feedback

As a result of user feedback and internal review of DfE releases, we are proposing to change the periodicity of this publication to an annual release starting with the Oct-Dec publication in March 2018. This reflects the fact that the Office for National Statistics publish quarterly estimates for the UK which can be used to monitor overall in-year trends, and that observed changes in the additional breakdowns published in the DfE release are rarely statistically significant so are better observed over the long term. We would welcome feedback on this and any aspect of this document at [Post16.STATISTICS@education.gov.uk](mailto:Post16.STATISTICS@education.gov.uk).

# 1. Not in education, employment or training (NEET) quarterly LFS series

Figure 1: NEET Quarterly LFS Series, age 16-18: England, Oct-Dec 2005 to Jul-Sep 2017



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

The trend for 16-18 year olds 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).

Figure 1 shows recent trends in the quarterly LFS NEET estimates compared to the Department for Education (DfE's) annual estimates published in the 16-18 Participation SFR. It shows that

the October-December LFS estimates of NEET correspond most closely to the annual SFR estimates.

In July to September 2017 the proportion of 16-18 year olds NEET increased by 0.3 percentage points to 9.0% when compared to the same period in the previous year. This change was not statistically significant.

The increase in the NEET rate for the 16-18 age group was the result of a 0.5 percentage point increase in the proportion of 16-18 NET to 20.2% and the employment rate<sup>1</sup> for this NET group falling slightly (by 0.3 percentage points to 55.3%).

Figure 2: NEET rates for different age cohorts: England 2015 - 2017

	Jul to Sep 2015	Jul to Sep 2016	Jul to Sep 2017	95% confidence interval <sup>2</sup> (percentage points)	% point change from Jul-Sep 2016 to Jul-Sep 2017
<b>Ages 16 and 17</b>	8.7%	7.4%	7.9%	+/- 1.3ppt	0.5ppts
<b>Age 16-18</b>	10.2%	8.7%	9.0%	+/- 1.2ppt	0.3ppts
<b>Age 16</b>	4.7%	4.7%	4.2%	+/- 1.4ppt	-0.6ppts
<b>Age 17</b>	12.4%	10.0%	11.2%	+/- 2.2ppt	1.3ppts
<b>Age 18</b>	13.4%	11.5%	11.2%	+/- 2.3ppt	-0.2ppts
<b>Age 19-24</b>	15.4%	16.2%	15.2%	+/- 1.1ppt	-1.0ppts
<b>Age 16-24</b>	13.8%	13.9%	13.3%	+/- 0.8ppt	-0.6ppts

The 19-24 NEET rate decreased by 1.0 percentage points to 15.2% when compared to the same period in 2016 and was 6.8 percentage points lower than the peak of 22.0% in 2011. The latest annual fall was a result of both a decrease in the NET rate of 1.4 percentage points to 61.4% and a rise in the employment rate of the NET group of 1.1 percentage points to 75.2%. None of these changes were statistically significant.

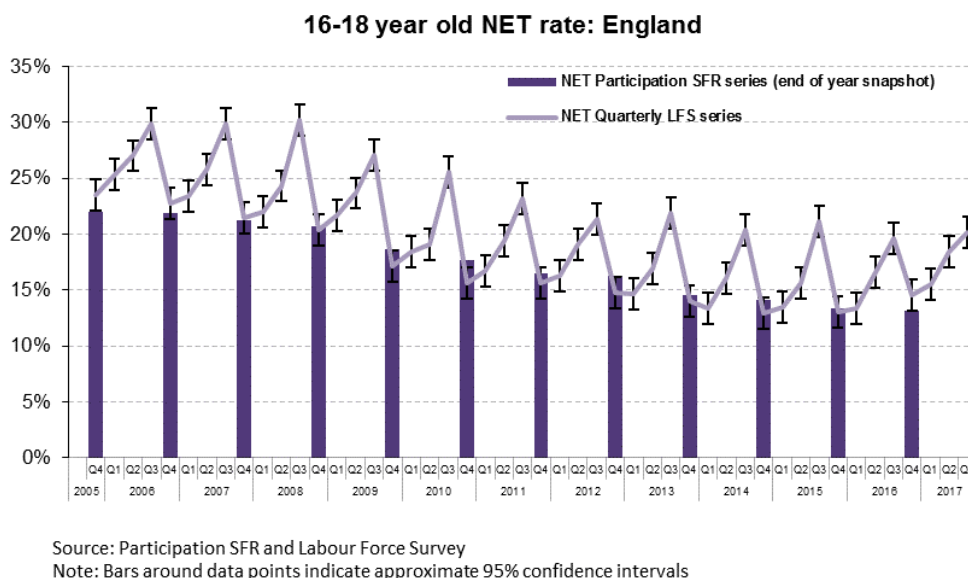
The 16-24 NEET rate decreased by 0.6 percentage points to 13.3% when compared to the same period in 2016 and was 6.1 percentage points lower than the July to September peak of 19.4% in 2011.

<sup>1</sup> The employment rate for the NET group is calculated by subtracting the number NEET from the number NET and expressing this as a proportion of the NET group i.e. (NET-NEET)/NET.

<sup>2</sup> It should be noted that sample sizes in the LFS 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.

## 2. Not in education or training (NET) quarterly LFS series

Figure 3: NET Quarterly LFS Series, age 16-18: England, Oct-Dec 2005 to Jul-Sep 2017



The NET rate follows a seasonal pattern similar to the NEET rate, and is also closest to the DfE annual estimates in the October-December quarter, as Figure 3 shows.

In July to September 2017 the proportion of 16-18 year olds NET increased by 0.5 percentage points to 20.2% compared to the same period last year. This change was not statistically significant.

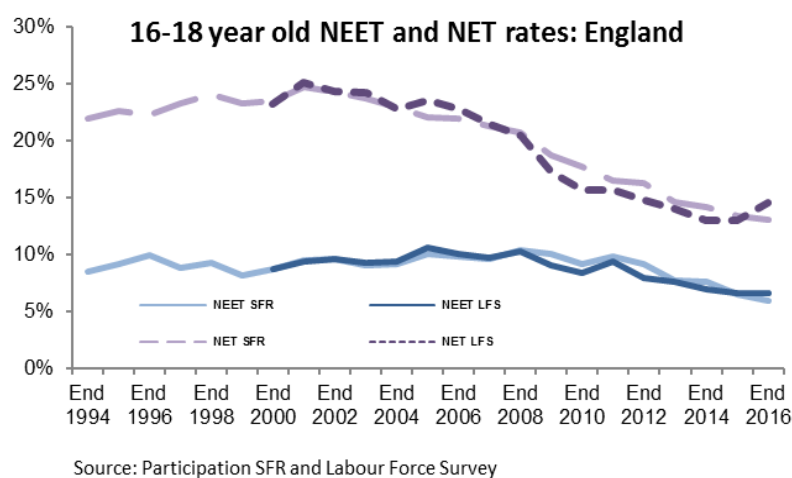
Between July to September 2016 and 2017 the proportion of 16 year olds NET remained stable at 5.4%, decreased for 17 year olds (-0.8 percentage points to 20.0%) and increased for 18 year olds (+1.2 percentage points to 34.1%). None of these changes in the proportion NET for the individual age groups were significant.

## 3. NEET Participation SFR series (last updated August 2017)

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

Figure 4 shows the long-term time series in NEET and NET from the annual 16-18 [Participation SFR](#), which is the source of DfE’s definitive annual measures of participation for 16-18 year olds based largely on administrative data, alongside those published in the quarterly brief series from the LFS (Oct-Dec quarter each year).

Figure 4: NEET historical series for 16-18 year olds: England, end 1994 - end 2016



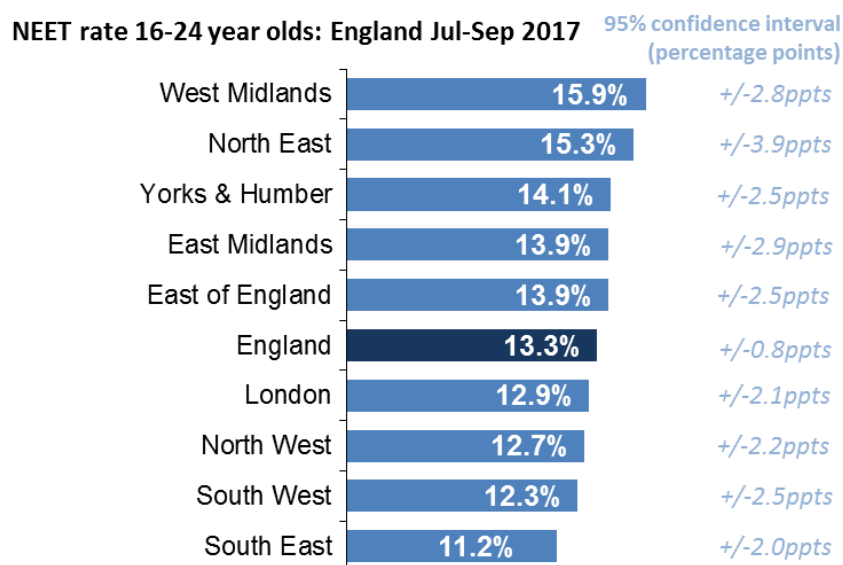
Historically the end year estimates of the 16-18 NEET rate tended to fluctuate at around 8-10%, but since 2008 both measures have shown a downward trend.

The latest Participation SFR shows the proportion of 16-18 year olds NEET at the end of 2016 was 6.0%, a fall of 0.5 percentage points from end 2015. This is the lowest comparable figure since consistent data began in 1994.

The fall in the NEET rate reported in the Participation SFR was a result of an increase from 86.6% to 86.9% in the proportion of 16-18 year olds participating in education and training, combined with an increase in the employment rate of those not in education or training, which increased from 51.3% to 54.0% over the same period.

## 4. Regional NEET

Figure 5: Regional NEET, age 16-24: England, Labour Force Survey Jul-Sep 2017



Regional data is published as part of this release. However, it should be noted that regional estimates have a large degree of uncertainty due to lower sample sizes, resulting in wide confidence intervals of between +/-2.0 percentage points in the South East and +/-3.9 percentage points in the North East.

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.

Regional 16-18 NEET estimates are published annually as transparency data from [Local Authorities' Client Caseload Information System \(CCIS\)](#). These estimates tend to show a lower percentage NEET than either the Participation SFR or LFS data sources.

## 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 and Participation SFR, England
Table 2	NET estimates from the LFS and Participation SFR, 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 2017 a new weighting variable was introduced, PWT17, 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 alongside the [January to March 2017 quarterly brief](#).

The 2017 reweighting project completed by the Office for National Statistics resulted in revisions back to 2012 due to incorporating the latest published mid-2015 population estimates (and updates to MYE's for 2012-14) and 2014 based sub-national population projections.

## 6. Further information is available

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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.

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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 2016](#) 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.

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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 2017](#) 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 \(NEETs\)](#)

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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.

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## 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 2017	November 2017	March 2017
NEET and NET Participation SFR series	End 2016	June 2017	June 2018

## 9. Get in touch

### Media enquiries

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### Other enquiries/feedback

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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	4.7%	12.4%	13.4%	8.7%	10.2%	13.8%	15.2%	15.4%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2016	4.7%	10.0%	11.5%	7.4%	8.7%	13.9%	15.6%	16.2%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2017	4.2%	11.2%	11.2%	7.9%	9.0%	13.3%	14.7%	15.2%

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%	34.2%	15.4%	21.9%	50.5%	59.6%	63.5%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2014	5.9%	21.0%	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%	49.0%	58.1%	61.6%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2016	5.4%	20.8%	32.8%	13.2%	19.7%	49.3%	58.9%	62.8%
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2017	5.4%	20.0%	34.1%	13.1%	20.2%	48.8%	57.9%	61.4%

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	92,000	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	931,000	829,000	730,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2015	28,000	81,000	82,000	110,000	192,000	833,000	724,000	642,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2016	30,000	64,000	71,000	93,000	164,000	840,000	747,000	676,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2017	24,000	71,000	69,000	95,000	164,000	791,000	696,000	628,000

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	3,055,000	2,864,000	2,643,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2014	37,000	132,000	220,000	170,000	389,000	2,999,000	2,830,000	2,610,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2015	37,000	147,000	212,000	183,000	395,000	2,954,000	2,771,000	2,559,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2016	34,000	133,000	204,000	166,000	370,000	2,983,000	2,817,000	2,613,000
Jul-Sep (Q3) 2017	31,000	127,000	209,000	158,000	367,000	2,901,000	2,743,000	2,534,000

Source: Labour Force Survey.



Department  
for Education



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