



Work Choice helped disabled people find, keep and progress in a job. The type of help they got depended on what they needed - it's different for everyone. Work Choice also helped employers to employ disabled people.

Work Choice helped disabled people whose needs could not be met through other work programmes, Access to Work or workplace adjustments. This might be because they needed more specialised support to find employment or keep a job once they had started work.

Main stories

Overall Referrals and Starts to Work Choice

Over the lifetime of Work choice there have been:

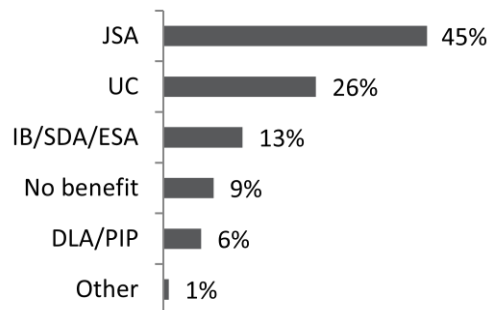
210,270 referrals

and

158,450 starts

to Work Choice.

More than half of people starting Work Choice are claiming JSA or UC



Benefit claimed at point of referral, for those who have started in the last year.

Record number of sustained job outcomes

In 2017/18 there have been:

6,900 sustained job outcomes

An increase of 510 from 2016/17.

At a glance

Page

Referrals, Starts, and Job Outcomes on Work Choice:

3

There have been a total of 210,270 referrals and 158,450 starts to the programme.

Job outcome rates on Work Choice:

4

21% of those who started in the latest year available have achieved an unsupported job outcome (lasting at least 26 weeks) within 24 months.

Analysis by benefit type:

5

45% / 26% of those who started Work Choice in the latest year were claiming JSA / UC.

Analysis by disability type:

6

Mild to moderate mental health condition and Conditions restricting mobility/ dexterity are the most prevalent disability types for those starting Work Choice.

Lead Statistician: Hatti Archer/ James Halse
archer.halsejobshare@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

DWP Press Office: 0203 267 5129

Comments? Feedback is welcome

Published 30th August 2018

Next edition on August 2019

ISBN 978-1-78659-093-0

© Crown copyright

What you need to know

What is Work Choice?

Work Choice is a voluntary programme that can help you get and keep a job if you're disabled and find it hard to work. The type of support you get depends on the help you need. This is different for everyone but can include: training and developing your skill; building your confidence; and interview coaching. Work Choice is no longer taking new referrals.

Work Choice is delivered by providers funded by the government. New Work Choice participants receive two levels of help*:

Level of help	What you get	How long it lasts
Work Entry Support	Advice on work and personal skills to help you find a job	Usually 6 months
In-Work Support	Help to start work and stay in your job	Usually 12 months

- Work Entry Support can be extended by 3 or 6 months in exceptional circumstances and when there is a clear prospect of a job.
- In-Work Support is normally expected to last for up to 12 months. However, disabled participants may be permitted to remain in Module Two for up to two years.

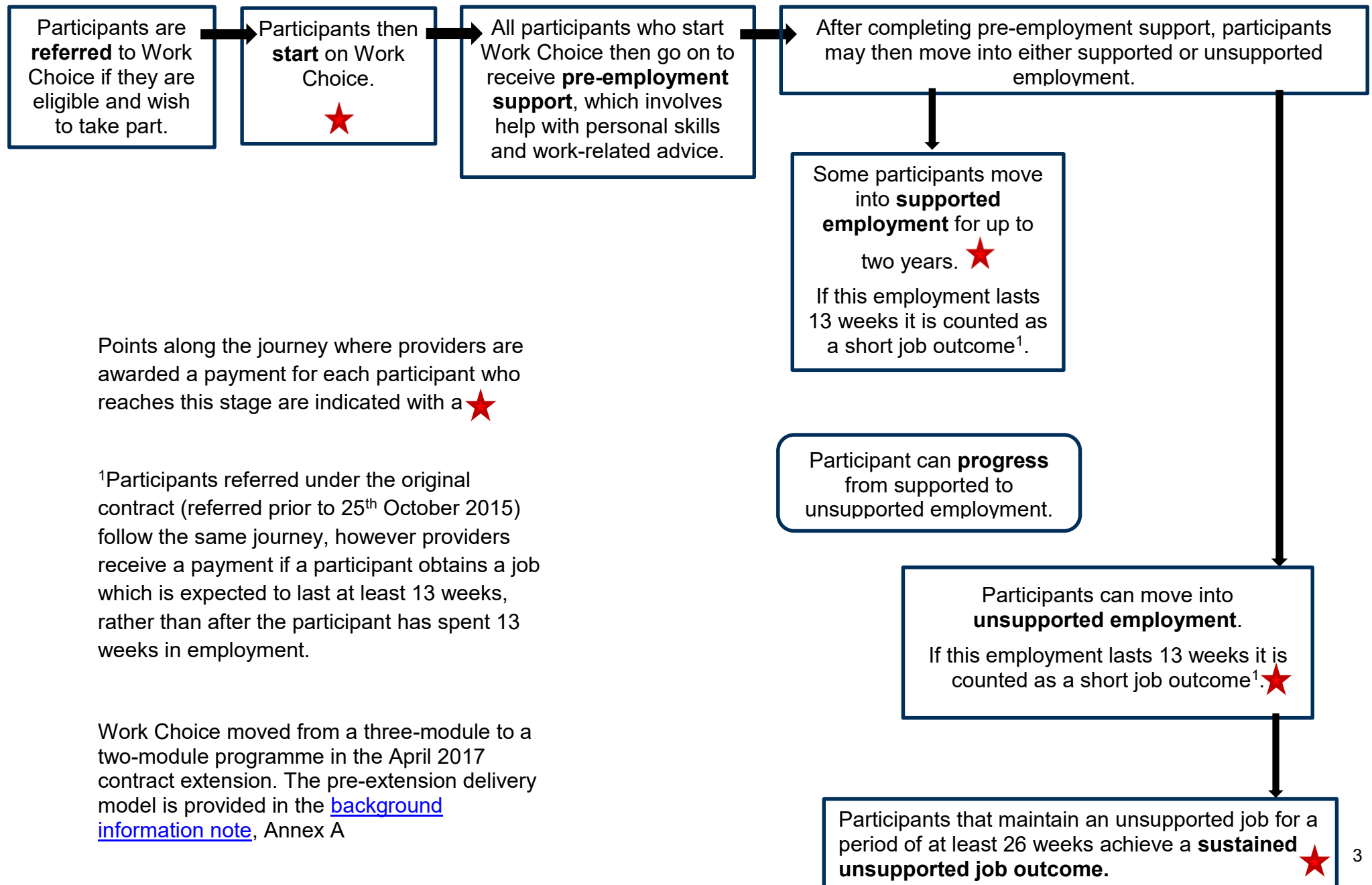
What do these statistics show?

This is the official statistical publication on Work Choice. It contains figures on referrals, starts, and job outcomes for all Work Choice providers, from 25th October 2010 up to and including **24th June 2018 (and figures for Remploy from April 2015 to June 2018^{***})**. Job outcomes include:

- Supported or unsupported jobs which last at least 13 weeks: short job outcomes**.
- Movements from supported to unsupported work: unsupported job progressions.
- Unsupported jobs maintained for at least 26 weeks: sustained unsupported job outcomes
- **Work Choice is now closed to new referrals.** Referrals ended in Scotland in March 2017 and in England and Wales between November 2017 and February 2018.
- * The Work Choice delivery model changed for new participants from April 1st 2017, for further information see the [background information note](#) section 2.
- ** The definition of short job outcomes changed with the introduction of the extended contract for those people referred on or after 25th October 2015, this has impacted on the numbers that achieve a short job outcomes within 12 months and introduced a discontinuity to the short job outcome time series. See the [background information note](#) (section 4.3) for more details.
- ***In April 2015 Remploy was awarded a Work Choice contract. Remploy data are included in the published statistics for the first time. To allow comparisons over time, some tables exclude Remploy data.

For more information see the [background information note](#)

Typical participant journey on Work Choice



Points along the journey where providers are awarded a payment for each participant who reaches this stage are indicated with a ★

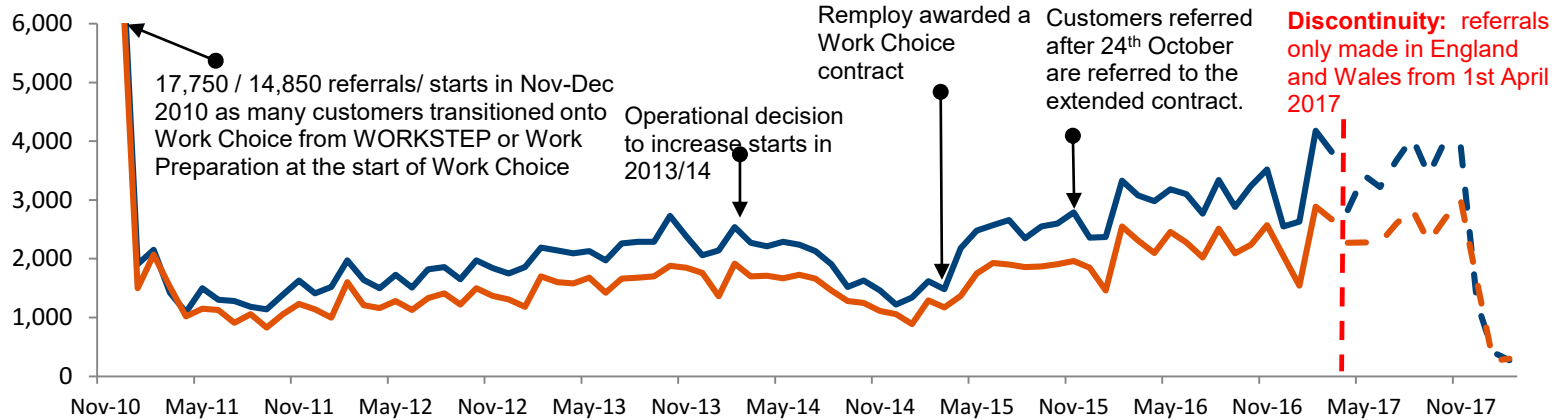
¹Participants referred under the original contract (referred prior to 25th October 2015) follow the same journey, however providers receive a payment if a participant obtains a job which is expected to last at least 13 weeks, rather than after the participant has spent 13 weeks in employment.

Work Choice moved from a three-module to a two-module programme in the April 2017 contract extension. The pre-extension delivery model is provided in the [background information note](#), Annex A

Referrals, Starts and Job Outcomes

70% of those referred to Work Choice subsequently start on the programme

Referrals and starts to Work Choice



Main Findings

Referrals and Starts from April 2017 are not comparable with previous periods since referrals are only made in England and Wales from this point.

The number of starts to Work Choice has been fairly constant over the last two years at around seven thousand each quarter.

In the last year there have been:

- 21,000 referrals; and
- 15,630 starts.

For full data see Table 1.

Main Findings

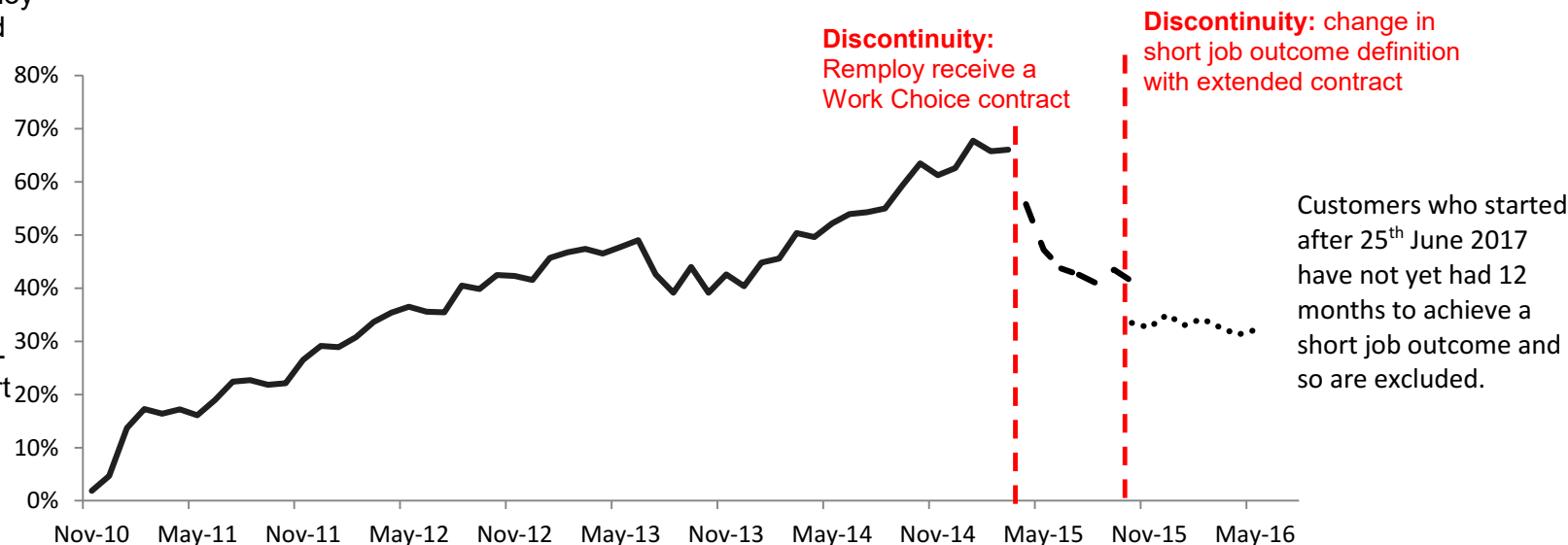
For short job outcomes there was a steady improvement over the programme up to March 2015 (Remploi received a Work Choice contract) and October 2015 (the final month before the contract extension). For the final four months of starts before Remploi received its contract, 66% achieved a short job outcome within 12 months (starts from Dec-14 to Mar-15).

Under the extended contract and Remploi gaining a Work Choice contract, 32% of starts (between Nov-15 and Mar-17) have achieved a short job outcome in 12 months.

For full data see Tables 1 and 2.

The proportion of Work Choice starts achieving a short job outcome (lasting at least 13 weeks) over time

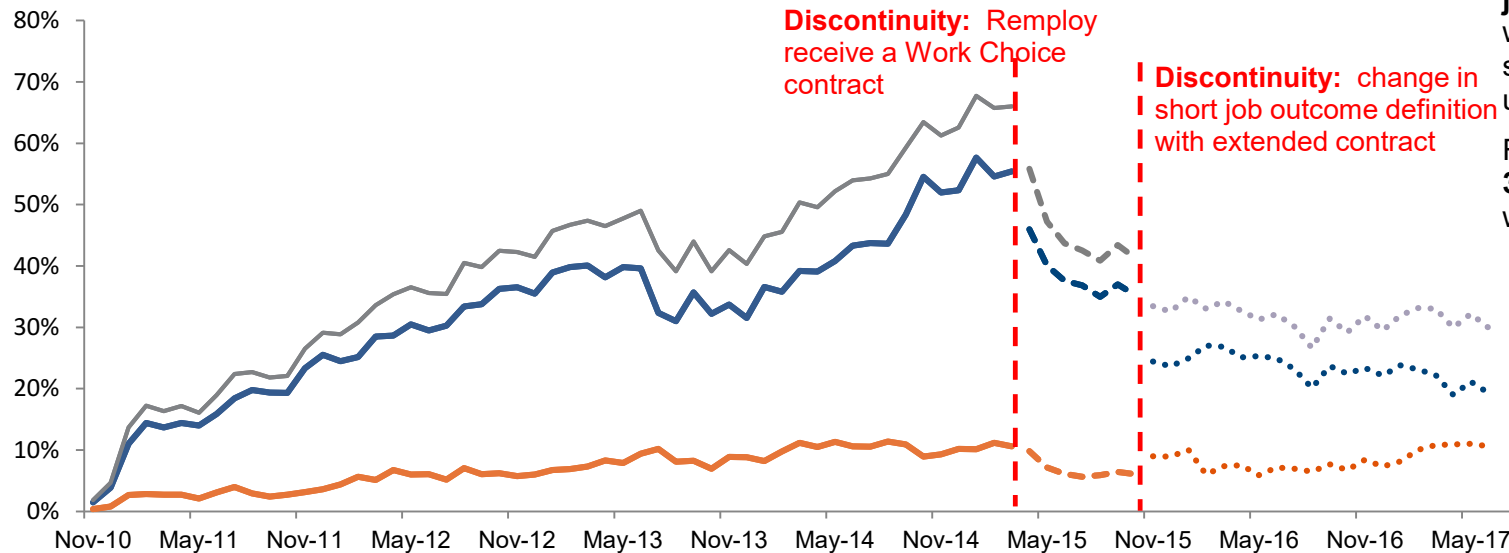
Proportion of starts that achieve a short job outcome within 12 months



Short and Sustained Job Outcomes

The majority of short job outcomes achieved are supported

Proportion of starts that achieve a supported or unsupported short job outcome within 12 months



Main Findings

Short job outcomes can be supported or unsupported.

Participants on Work Choice are much more likely to obtain a supported short job outcome than an unsupported one, with 71% being supported for the latest starts over Jul-16 to Jun-17 (referred under the extended contract).

For starts between Jul-16 and Jun-17, **31%** have achieved a short job outcome within 12 months with:

- **22%** of starts having achieved a supported job outcome and;
- **9%** of starts having achieved an unsupported short job outcome.

For full data see Table 2.

Main Findings

The proportion of Work Choice starts achieving a sustained job outcome within 24 months has seen a steady rise over the lifetime of the programme until March 2015 (when Remploy received a Work Choice contract).

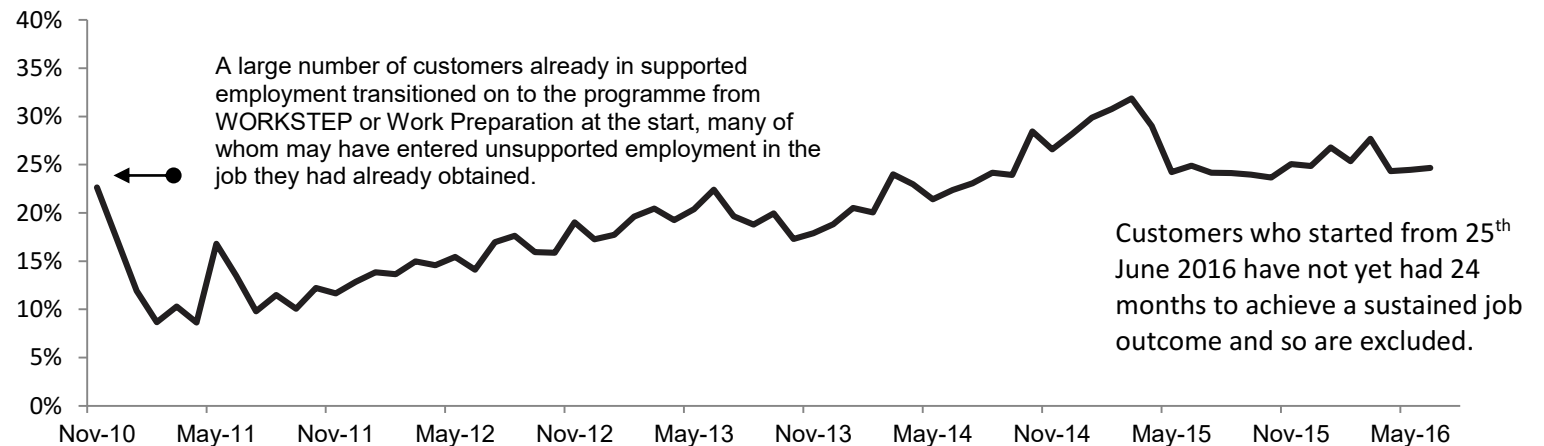
The level has increased from **13%** in 2011/12 to **25%** for the latest year of starts available.

In the last 12 months there have been **6,180** sustained job outcomes

For full data see Tables 1 and 2.

The proportion of Work Choice starts achieving a sustained job outcome has been improving

Proportion of starts that achieve a sustained job outcome within 24 months



Benefit claimed at the point of referral

More than half of people who volunteer for Work Choice are claiming JSA or UC

Proportion of starts by benefit claimed at referral, for the latest year of starts available

Main Findings

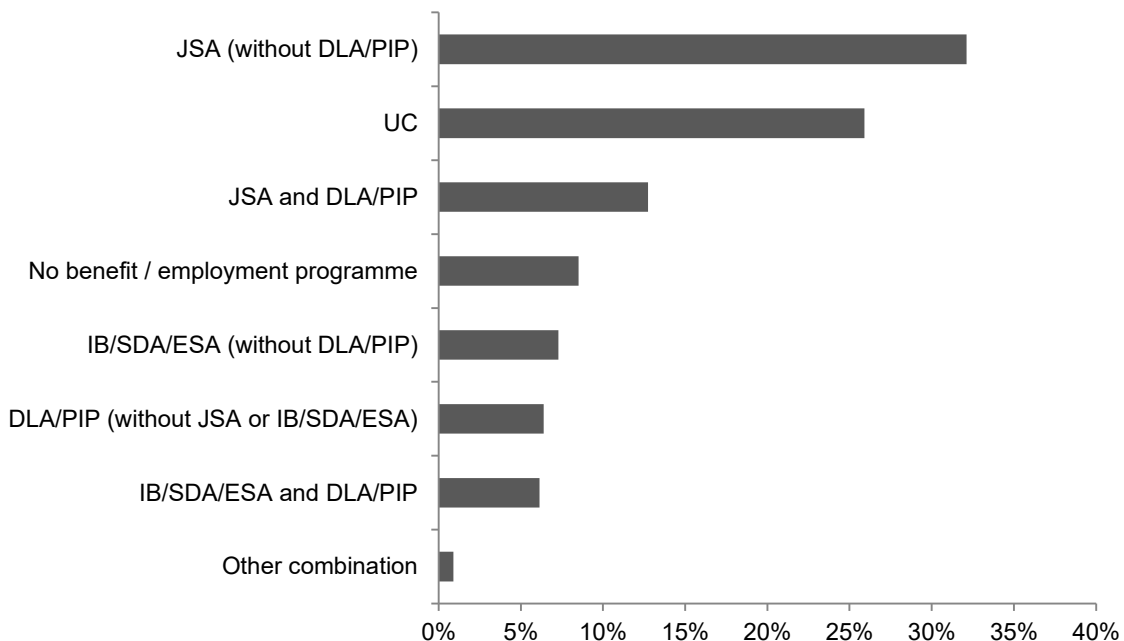
45% of people who started Work Choice in the latest year were claiming JSA with a further 26% claiming UC.

For the different benefit types, the proportion of Work Choice starts that achieve a job outcome varies between:

- **27%** and **39%** for short job outcomes (within 12 months);
- **19%** and **38%** for sustained job outcomes (within 24 months).

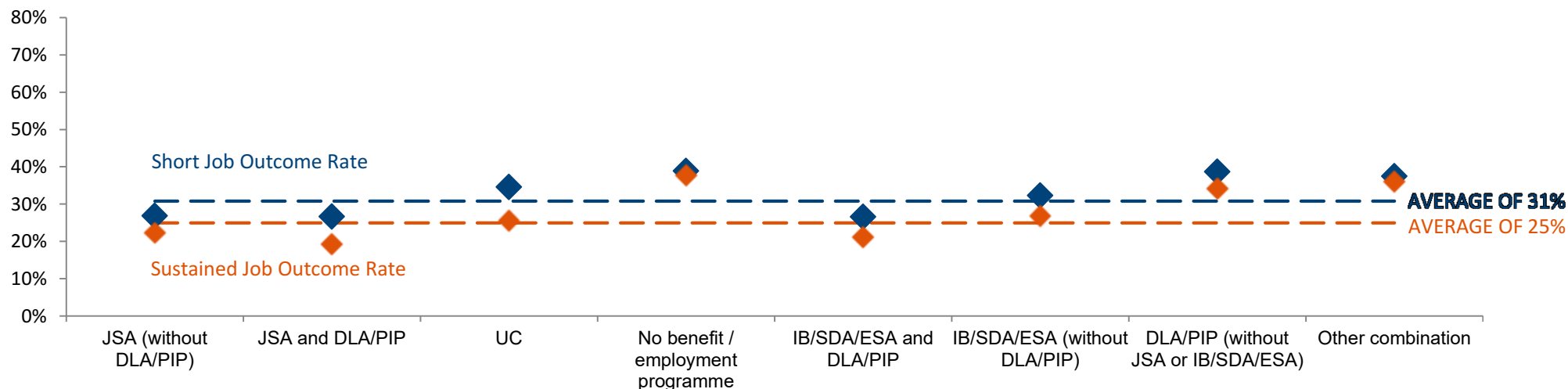
Short job outcome figures and sustained job outcome figures are based on the latest year of starts available.

For full data see Table 4.



Variation in job outcome rate by benefit claimed

Proportion of starts that achieve a job outcome by benefit claimed at referral



† Exercise caution interpreting job outcome rates with these categories – data is based on a total of less than 500 starts. Job outcome rates are also suppressed where the volume of starts is less than 100. For more information see the [Work Choice: background information note](#) section 3.4.

Primary disability type

Main Findings

The most prevalent primary disabilities of those who started Work Choice in the latest year were mild to moderate mental health conditions and conditions restricting mobility/dexterity, with these disability types accounting for 19% and 18% of total starts respectively.

For the different primary disability types, the proportion of Work Choice starts that achieve a job outcome varies between:

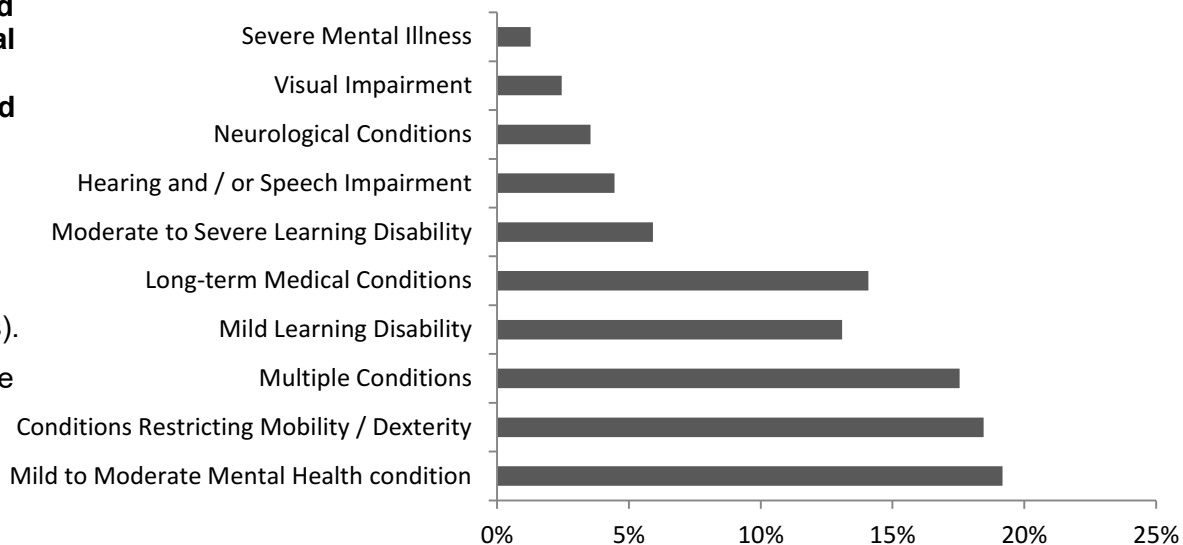
- 37% and 26% for short job outcomes (within 12 months);
- 21% and 28% for sustained job outcomes (within 24 months).

Short job outcome figures and sustained job outcome figures are based on the latest year of starts available.

For full data see Table 3.

Mild to moderate mental health condition is the most prevalent primary disability of those starting on Work Choice

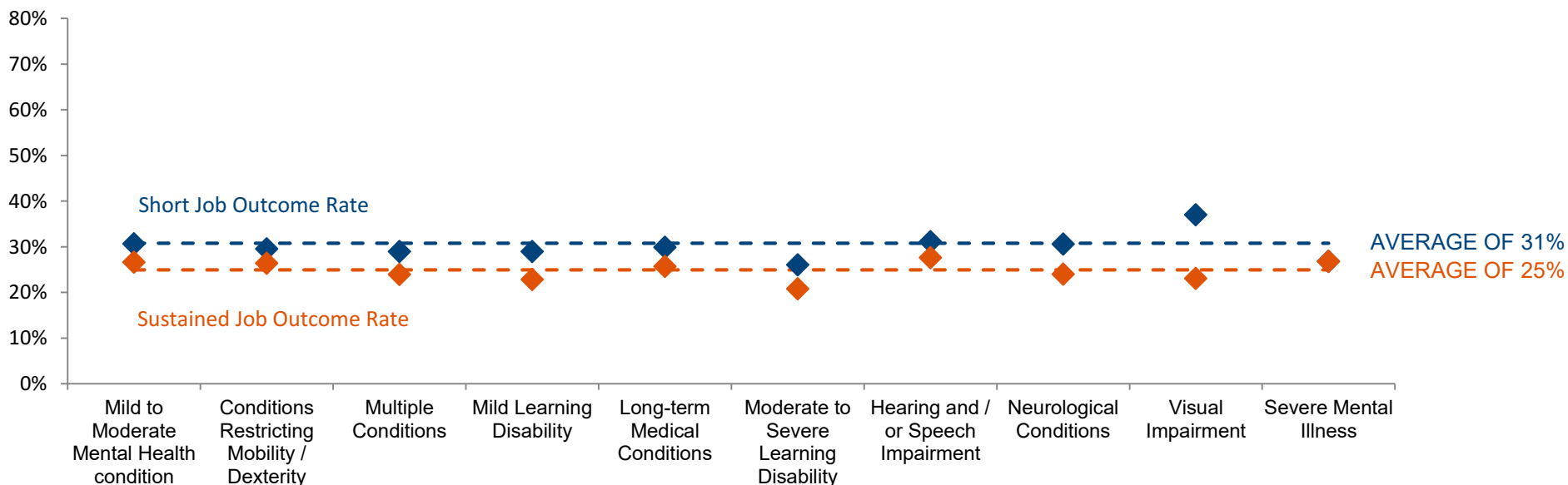
Proportion of starts by primary disability type, for the latest year of starts



Primary disability type is missing for participants in receipt of Universal Credit

Variation in job outcome rate by primary disability type

Proportion of starts that achieve a job outcome by primary disability type



About these statistics

This is the official government statistical release on the Work Choice programme for August 2018. It contains data on referrals, starts, and job outcomes to Work Choice up to 24th June 2018.

Referrals to Work Choice ended in February 2018. Remploy has been delivering the Work Choice business model since 2010 and in April 2015 was awarded a Work Choice contract. For the first time, the published statistics include data for Remploy from April 2015 onwards.

Data for these statistics is derived from the Labour Market System (LMS) Opportunity Type database, the Provider Referrals and Payments System (PRaP), and the DWP National Benefit Database (NBD).

Some data within this publication may be subject to revisions. For more information on revisions see the [Work Choice: background information note](#).

The latest year / months of starts available is used for many figures throughout the publication and relates to the latest year / months of starts for which data is complete, as follows.

- Jul-17 to Jun-18 for all in-month figures.
- Jul-15 to Jun-16 for the proportion of starts achieving a sustained job outcome in 24 months.
- Jul-16 to Jun-17 for all the proportion of starts achieving a short job outcome in 12 months.

Where to find out more

More information about Work Choice and these statistics can be found in [Work Choice: background information note](#) or at <https://www.gov.uk/work-choice>.

For information on the different benefits participants on Work Choice may be claiming see <https://www.gov.uk/browse/benefits>.