

PROPOSED NEW TRAINEESHIP MEASURES

Proposal

We intend to replace the current completion and progression traineeship measures in the [FE & Skills statistical release](#) and introduce two new measures. This note outlines the rationale for the change and the proposed two new measures.

Rationale for the change

This change will make better use of administrative data and introduce more robust and informative measures.

The current progression measure uses progression information recorded on the Individualised Learner Record that is self-reported. Further education providers contact learners to collect destination information following completion of the traineeship or withdrawal from the learning. The data therefore only reflects their position at that point and does not necessarily reflect their final destination which, leads to bias in provisional data.

Additionally, further education providers have until the end of the academic year following the end of the traineeship to report the destination so, data is not final until some significant time after the period it is first reported.

The new measures

The proposed new measures are:

1. **Traineeship completion rates**, i.e. number/proportion of traineeship starts that go on to complete¹, and
2. **Traineeship conversion rates**, i.e. the number/proportion of traineeships starts that go on to start an apprenticeship.

We intend to publish **provisional completion rates** for traineeships starts for an academic year in the following **mid-year statistics release in March**. So, traineeship starts in the 2017/18 academic year would have provisional completion rates published in March 2019 (based on 2018/19 quarter 2 data).

We will subsequently publish **final traineeship completion rates** for these starts in the following **final full-year release in November**².

We will publish **conversion rates** in the **November** end of year release also, based on apprenticeship starts within four academic quarters of a traineeship start

¹ The current completion measure simply counts the number of completions in an academic year, whereas the new measure will link a traineeship start to a completion to determine a completion rate, which may span academic years.

² Analysis shows that publishing completion rates at the mid-year point would likely under-report the true completion rate (as measured by final data at the end of the following year). The scale of under-reporting is around 2 percentage points.

(approximately 12 months). For example, a conversion rate for traineeship starts in quarter 1 in 2016/17 will be based on apprenticeship starts by quarter 1 of the 2017/18 academic year; traineeship starts in quarter 2 of 2016/17 based on apprenticeship starts by quarter 2 of 2017/18, and so on.

Historical data for these new measures will be included in an updated version of this note and published at the same time as the February monthly apprenticeship and levy release in February 2018. This will contain completion rates based on completions to quarter 4 of 2017/18 using final year data and conversion rates based on apprenticeship starts to the end of quarter 4 2017/18, again using final year data.

In the March 2019 mid-year release we will update the completion rates to include provisional figures based on completions to quarter 1 and quarter 2 2018/19.

In the November 2019 final year release we will update these provisional figures to final and also include rates based on completions to quarter 3 and quarter 4 2018/19, which will again be final.

Additionally in the November 2019 release we will include conversion rates based on apprenticeship starts to the end of quarter 4 2018/19 using final year data.

See the template tables in Annex A for how the new measures will be presented in the March 2019 release.

Other sources of progression data

Data available through the DfE further education [Outcome-Based Success Measures](#) (OBSMs) statistical release provide complimentary measures to accompany the new traineeship measures outlined in this note, and shows outcomes on same basis as other provision.

OBSMs cover the destinations (into employment and learning), earnings and the progression of learners, and are based on data collected as part of the Longitudinal Education Outcomes (LEO) study, which looks at how learners move through education and into the labour market by bringing together:

- schools, further and higher education information from the Department for Education
- employment information from HM Revenue and Customs
- benefit histories from the Department of Work and Pensions

Annex A: New traineeship measures in the March 2019 FE and skills release

Traineeship Completion Rates

Table x.x: Traineeship starts and completion rates, by age-group, 2014/15 to 2017/18

Traineeship start year and quarter	Traineeship starts by age			Traineeships completed by end:	Number of completions by age			Completion rate by age		
	16-18	19+	Total		16-18	19+	Total	16-18	19+	Total
Q1 2014/15				Q3 2014/15						
Q2 2014/15				Q4 2014/15						
Q3 2014/15				Q1 2015/16						
Q4 2014/15				Q2 2015/16						
2014/15 Total				Total						
Q1 2015/16				Q3 2015/16						
Q2 2015/16				Q4 2015/16						
Q3 2015/16				Q1 2016/17						
Q4 2015/16				Q2 2016/17						
2015/16 Total				Total						
Q1 2016/17				Q3 2016/17						
Q2 2016/17				Q4 2016/17						
Q3 2016/17				Q1 2017/18						
Q4 2016/17				Q2 2017/18						
2016/17 Total				Total						
Q1 2017/18				Q3 2017/18						
Q2 2017/18				Q4 2017/18						
Q3 2017/18				Q1 2018/19						
Q4 2017/18				Q2 2018/19						
2017/18 Total				Total						

Traineeship Conversion Rates

Table x.x: Traineeship starts and apprenticeship conversion rates, by age-group, 2014/15 to 2016/17

Traineeship start year and quarter	Traineeship starts by age			Apprenticeship started by end:	Number of apprenticeship starts by age			Apprenticeship conversion rate by age		
	16-18	19+	Total		16-18	19+	Total	16-18	19+	Total
Q1 2014/15				Q1 2015/16						
Q2 2014/15				Q2 2015/16						
Q3 2014/15				Q3 2015/16						
Q4 2014/15				Q4 2015/16						
2014/15 Total				Total						
Q1 2015/16				Q1 2016/17						
Q2 2015/16				Q2 2016/17						
Q3 2015/16				Q3 2016/17						
Q4 2015/16				Q4 2016/17						
2015/16 Total				Total						
Q1 2016/17				Q1 2017/18						
Q2 2016/17				Q2 2017/18						
Q3 2016/17				Q3 2017/18						
Q4 2016/17				Q4 2017/18						
2016/17 Total				Total						