



Level 2 and 3 attainment in England: Attainment by age 19 in 2015

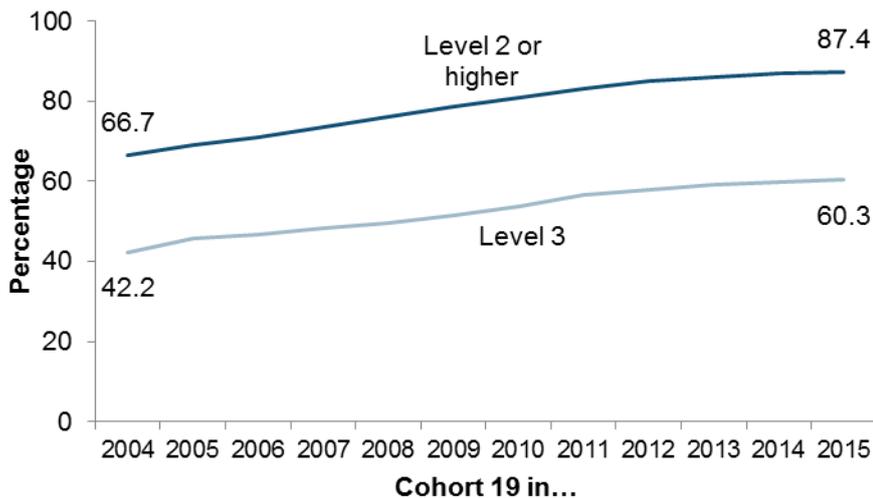


SFR 12/2016, 7 April 2016

Attainment of Level 2 and Level 3 by age 19 has risen each year since 2004.

Percentage qualified to Level 2 and Level 3 by age 19

England, cohorts 19 in 2004-2015



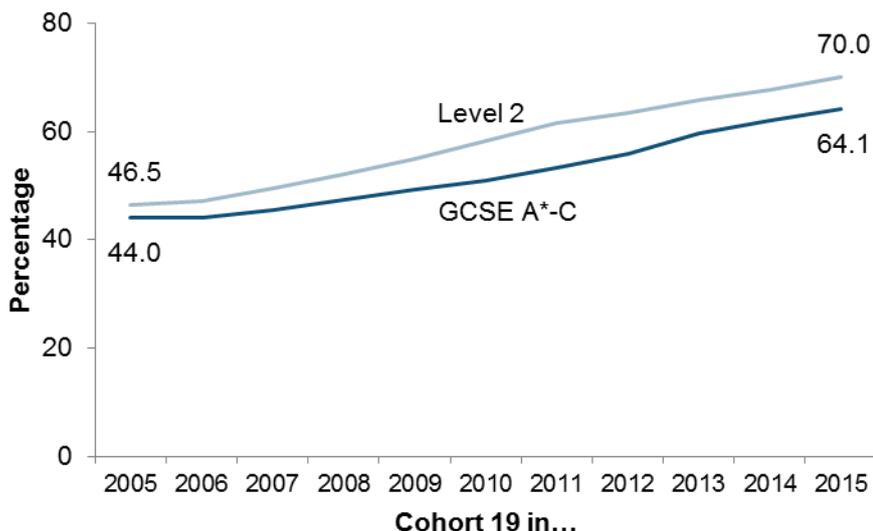
87.4 per cent of 19 year olds were qualified to Level 2 or higher in 2015. This is an increase of 0.4 percentage points (ppts) compared to 2014 and 20.8 ppts higher than the start of the time series in 2004.

60.3 per cent were qualified to Level 3 which is also an increase of 0.4 ppts since 2014 and is 18.1 ppts higher than 2004.

Attainment of Level 2 English and maths by age 19 also continues to rise.

Percentage qualified to Level 2 in English and maths by age 19

England, young people in state schools at academic age 15, cohorts 19 in 2005-2015



Attainment of Level 2 (GCSE A*-C or other Level 2 qualifications) in English and maths by age 19 rose from 67.8 per cent in 2014 to 70.0 per cent in 2015.

For GCSE A*-C only it rose from 62.1 per cent to 64.1 per cent.

The progression rate between 16 and 19 - the proportion of young people who failed to achieve a Level 2 qualification in English and maths at age 16 who had achieved both by age 19 - rose from 16.9 per cent to 22.3 per cent between 2014 and 2015.

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About this release

This statistical first release (SFR) provides the latest information at both national and local authority level on the attainment of 19 year olds from 2004 to 2015. It also reports on progress against the relevant indicators in DfE's Single Departmental Plan: 2015-2020. The figures are based on the matched administrative dataset consisting data from the Individualised Learner Record (ILR), key stage 4 and 5 awarding body results and the School Census.

In this publication

The following tables are included alongside the SFR:

- 1-5: National Tables
- 6-15: National Tables for those in the state sector at age 15
- 16-24: Local authority tables for those in the state sector at age 15 including pupil characteristics
- 25-27: Local authority tables

The accompanying Technical Document provides information on the data sources, their coverage and quality and explains the methodology used in producing the data.

Feedback

We are changing how our releases look and welcome feedback on any aspect of this document at post16.statistics@education.gsi.gov.uk

1. National attainment to Level 2 and Level 3 at age 19

(SFR Tables 1-5)

In 2015, 60.3 per cent of young people aged 19 were qualified to Level 3, an increase of 0.4 percentage points (ppts) since 2014, and 18.1 ppts since 2004 (**Table 1**). The proportion gaining Level 3 through vocational qualifications rose by 0.8 ppts to 18.4 per cent which is 15.4 ppts higher than in 2004. The proportion gaining Level 3 through A Levels fell by 0.3 ppts which is the first fall since 2008 (**Figure 1**).

Table 1: Percentage of young people qualified to Level 2 or higher, and Level 3, by age and cohort
England, cohorts 19 in 2004-2018

	Cohort 19 in...	Number	Attaining by age...			
			16	17	18	19
Level 2 or higher	2004	614,564	49.6	56.5	62.4	66.7
	2005	618,397	50.4	58.5	64.9	69.2
	2006	633,117	52.2	59.9	66.9	71.1
	2007	653,657	53.0	61.6	69.3	73.5
	2008	647,457	55.3	64.2	72.0	76.2
	2009	658,408	57.5	66.5	74.5	78.6
	2010	665,139	58.9	68.3	76.8	80.9
	2011	661,689	61.0	70.6	79.5	83.3
	2012	640,619	64.0	73.6	81.9	85.0
	2013	640,930	67.2	76.0	83.4	86.1
	2014	626,238	69.3	77.3	84.3	87.0
	2015	619,372	69.5	77.5	84.8	87.4
	2016*	631,710	67.5	76.1	83.9	
	2017*	616,941	64.8	73.8		
	2018*	611,951	63.4			
Level 3	2004	614,564	0.1	11.8	36.4	42.2
	2005	618,397	0.1	15.1	39.1	45.7
	2006	633,117	0.1	15.3	40.2	46.9
	2007	653,657	0.1	15.8	41.3	48.2
	2008	647,457	0.1	16.0	41.9	49.6
	2009	658,408	0.1	17.1	43.3	51.4
	2010	665,139	0.1	17.0	44.8	53.9
	2011	661,689	0.1	17.4	47.4	56.5
	2012	640,619	0.1	18.2	48.9	57.9
	2013	640,930	0.1	23.1	50.5	59.1
	2014	626,238	0.1	23.4	51.3	60.0
	2015	619,372	0.1	23.2	51.7	60.3
	2016*	631,710	0.1	22.7	51.6	
	2017*	616,941	0.1	22.1		
	2018*	611,951	0.1			

* Note that the 19 in 2016 cohort is the first cohort whose results at age 16 are likely to have been affected by changes to qualifications that would count in performance tables from 2013/14. The full impact of the changes is seen in the 19 in 2017 cohort - the first whose Key Stage 4 results were reported under the new rules¹.

Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

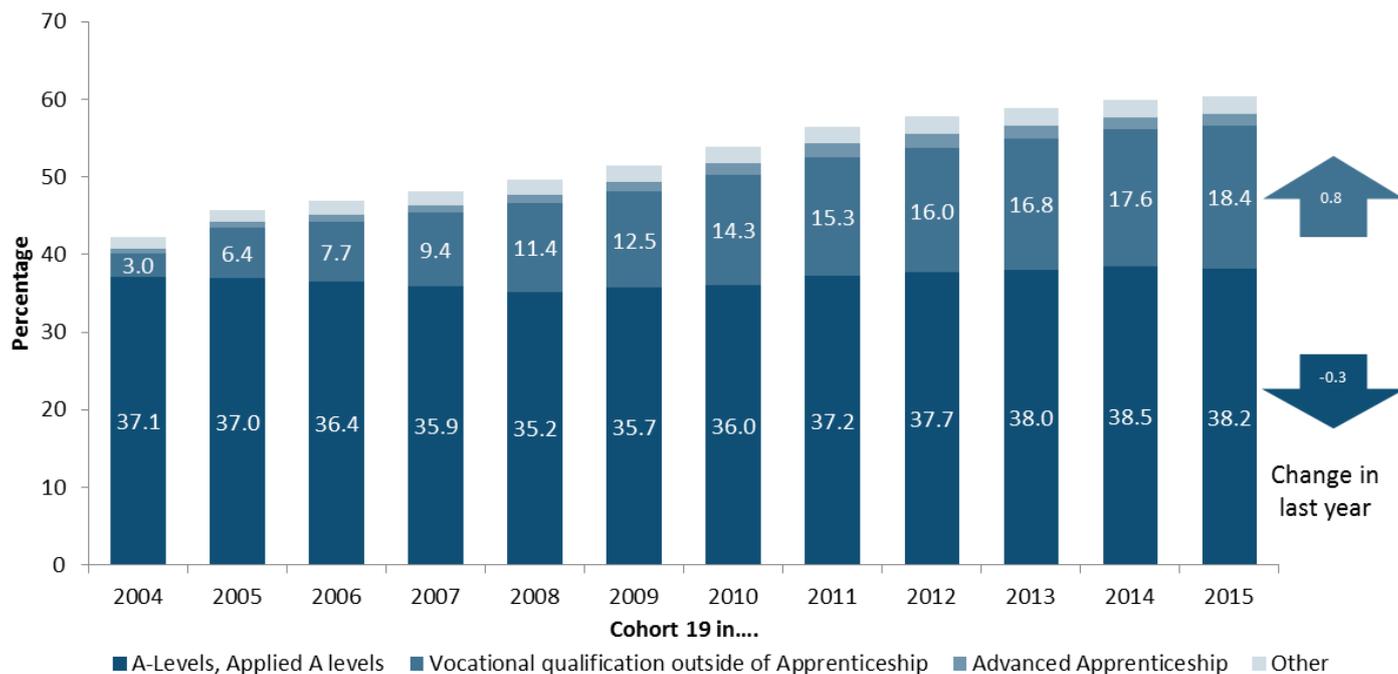
In 2015, 87.4 per cent of young people aged 19 were qualified to at least Level 2 which is an increase of 0.4 ppts since 2014 (**Table 1**). The proportion of young people aged 19 qualified to Level 2 or higher has risen annually since the start of the time series, increasing by 20.8 ppts between 2004 and 2015. The rate

¹ [Revised GCSE and equivalents results in England, 2013-2014](#)

of increase has slowed recently with the latest increase of 0.4 ppts being the smallest in the historical series.

The slower growth in Level 2 attainment at 19 comes despite the first increase for three years in the proportion of young people attaining Level 2 between 16 and 19, which rose from 17.7 per cent to 18.0 per cent between 2014 and 2015. This is because of a smaller increase in Level 2 attainment at 16 for this cohort than in previous years – it rose by just 0.2 ppts. Since then, Level 2 attainment by age 16 has actually fallen each year from 69.5 per cent for the 19 in 2015 cohort to 63.4 per cent for the 19 in 2018 cohort. This has been driven by a reduction in the number of pupils achieving Level 2 through vocational qualifications by the age of 16.

Figure 1: Percentage attaining Level 3 at 19 by qualification type and cohort
England, cohorts 19 in 2004-2015



Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

The remaining sections of the SFR report on attainment for young people who were in the state sector at academic age 15. As well as overall attainment for this group, we report on attainment by characteristics, as recorded in the School Census at academic age 15.

There are differences in the methodology between the measures of attainment for young people who were in the state sector at academic age 15 and those relating to all young people nationally, so they should not be directly compared – see Coverage section in the Technical Document for further details.

2. Attainment of those in the state sector at academic age 15

(SFR Tables 6-15)

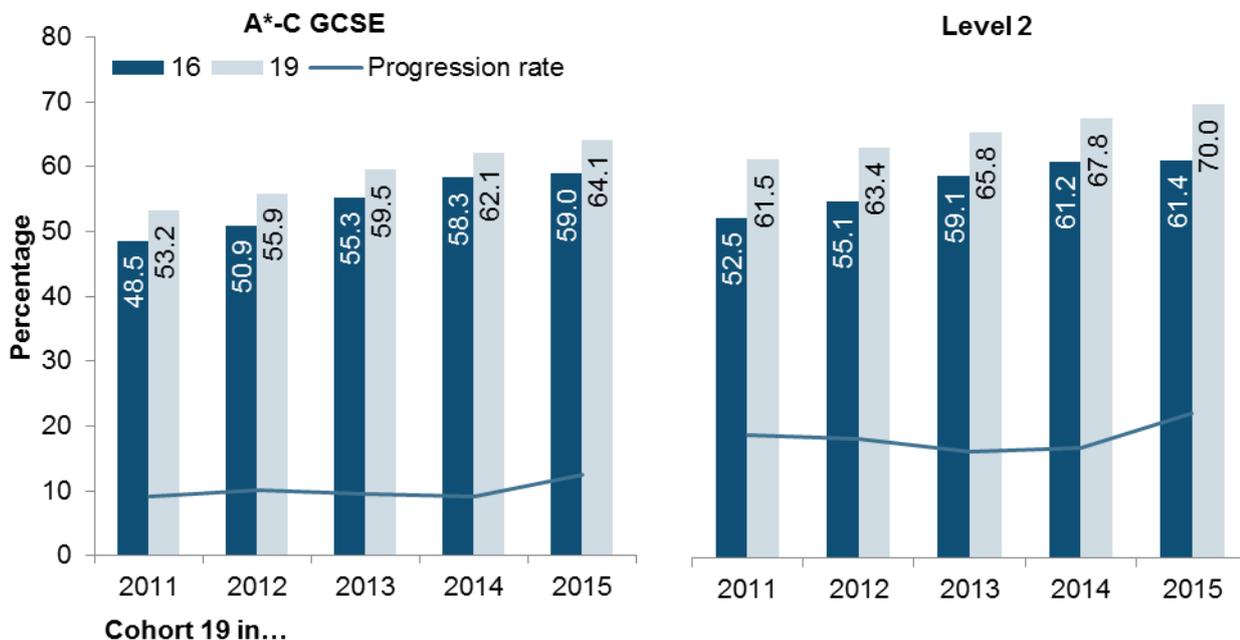
English and maths at Level 2 (GCSE A*-C and other Level 2 qualifications)

English and Maths (SFR Table 13)

In 2015, 70.0 per cent of the 19 in 2015 cohort had achieved Level 2 in English and maths by the age of 19 with 64.1 per cent achieving this via A*-C GCSE² and 5.9 per cent through other Level 2 qualifications. There has been a large increase in the proportion of pupils progressing to Level 2 between 16 and 19, with the overall progression rate - the proportion of young people who failed to achieve GCSE A*-C or another Level 2 qualification in English and maths at age 16 who had achieved this by age 19 - rising from 16.9 per cent in 2014 to 22.3 per cent in 2015 and the GCSE progression rate increasing by 3.5 pts to 12.6 per cent (Figure 2). These increases have been driven mainly by the large increase in the English progression rate.

Figure 2: GCSE A*-C and all Level 2 English and maths attainment at age 16, 19 and progression between 16 and 19

England, young people in state schools at academic age 15, cohorts 19 in 2011-2015



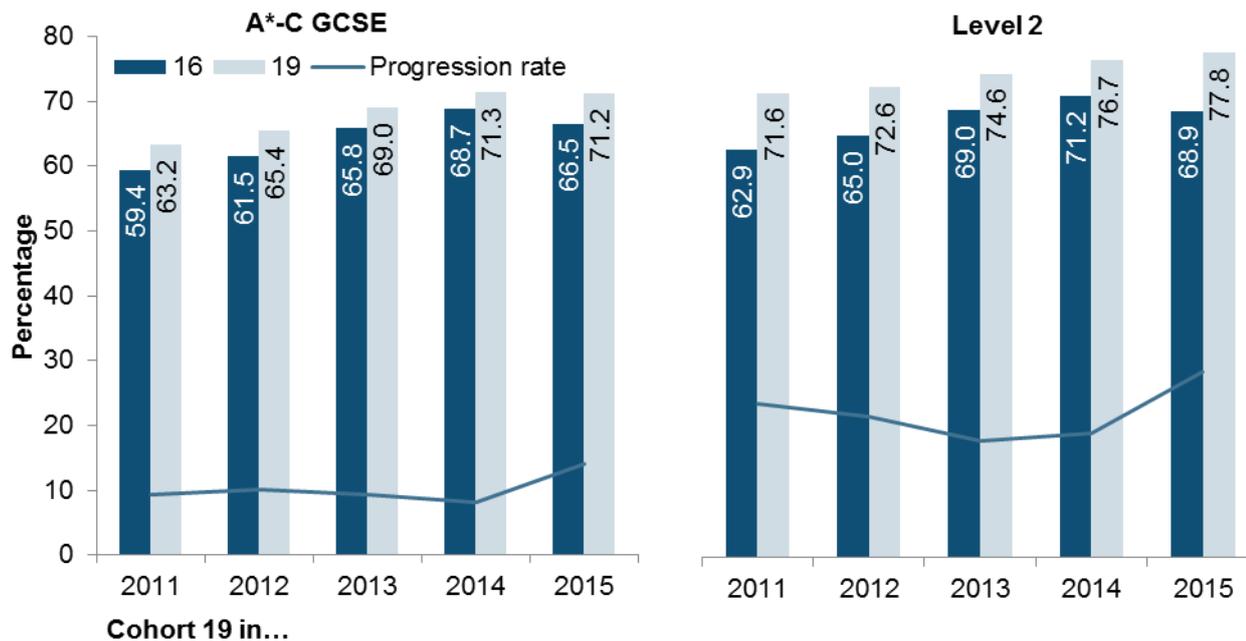
Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

English (SFR Table 13)

In 2015, 77.8 per cent of young people had achieved Level 2 English by 19; 71.2 per cent achieved this via GCSE and the remaining 6.6 per cent had achieved another Level 2 English qualification. The GCSE progression rate increased from 8.2 per cent in 2014 to 14.0 per cent, and the overall progression rate increased from 19.1 per cent to 28.7 per cent in 2015 (Figure 3). This may have been caused, in part, by lower attainment at age 16 for this cohort, leading to more young people retaking GCSEs between 16 and 19. The A*-C GCSE attainment by age 19 is slightly lower (-0.1 pts) than in 2014 but 1.1 pts higher when including other Level 2 English qualifications.

² This also includes IGCSEs

Figure 3: GCSE A*-C and all Level 2 English attainment at age 16, 19 and progression between 16 and 19
 England, young people in state schools at academic age 15, cohorts 19 in 2011-2015

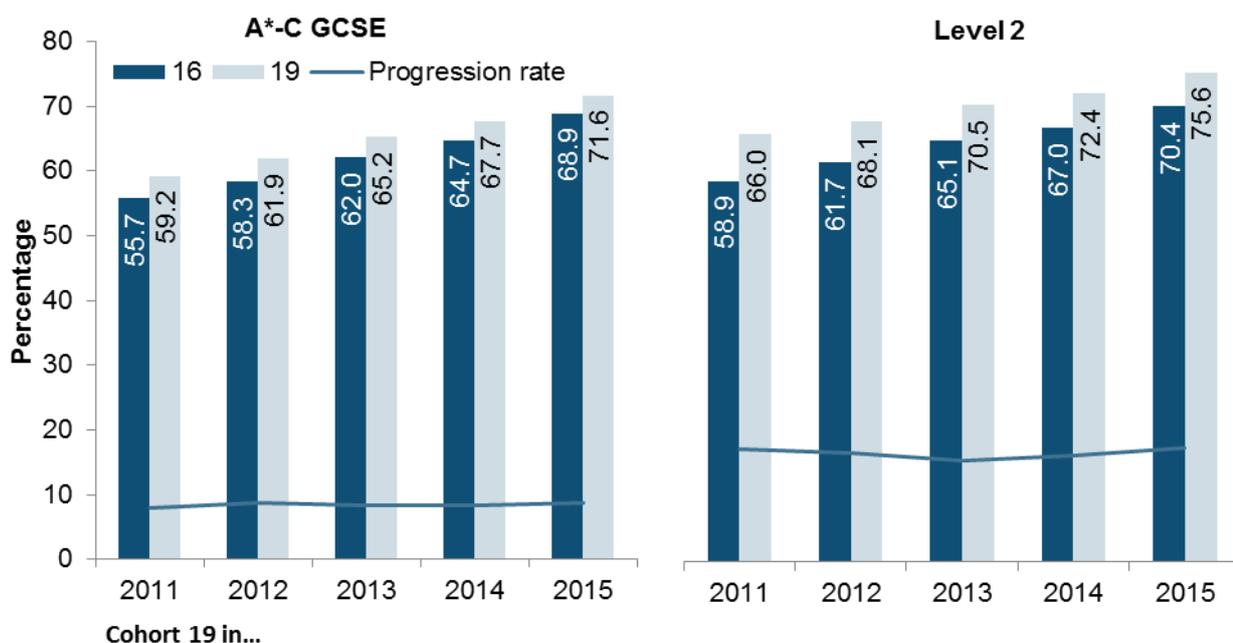


Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

Maths (SFR Table 13)

In maths, 75.6 per cent of young people achieved Level 2 by age 19 with 71.6 per cent doing so through a GCSE A*-C and the remaining 4.0 per cent through another Level 2 qualification. The overall progression rate of 17.7 per cent is 1.4 pts higher than in 2014 and is the highest in the time series. The GCSE only progression rate of 8.7 per cent is 0.4 pts higher than 2014 and also the highest rate in the data (Figure 4).

Figure 4: GCSE A*-C and all Level 2 maths attainment at age 16, 19 and progression between 16 and 19
 England, young people in state schools at academic age 15, cohorts 19 in 2011-2015



Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

English and maths attainment at Level 2 – by pupil characteristics (SFR Tables 13a-13c)

The gender gap is more pronounced in English than maths at age 19

In English, 83.1 per cent of females attained Level 2 by age 19 compared to 72.8 per cent of males. The resulting attainment gap of 10.3 pts is 0.5 pts narrower than it was in 2014

In maths, the difference between the genders is negligible with 76.0 per cent of females achieving Level 2 in the subject, compared to 75.3 per cent of males.

73.0 per cent of females and 67.2 per cent of males had achieved Level 2 in both subjects by age 19 in 2015. The attainment gap of 5.8 pts is 0.7 pts wider than 2014 and the widest it has been in the time series.

The FSM attainment gap is narrowing in English and maths at age 19

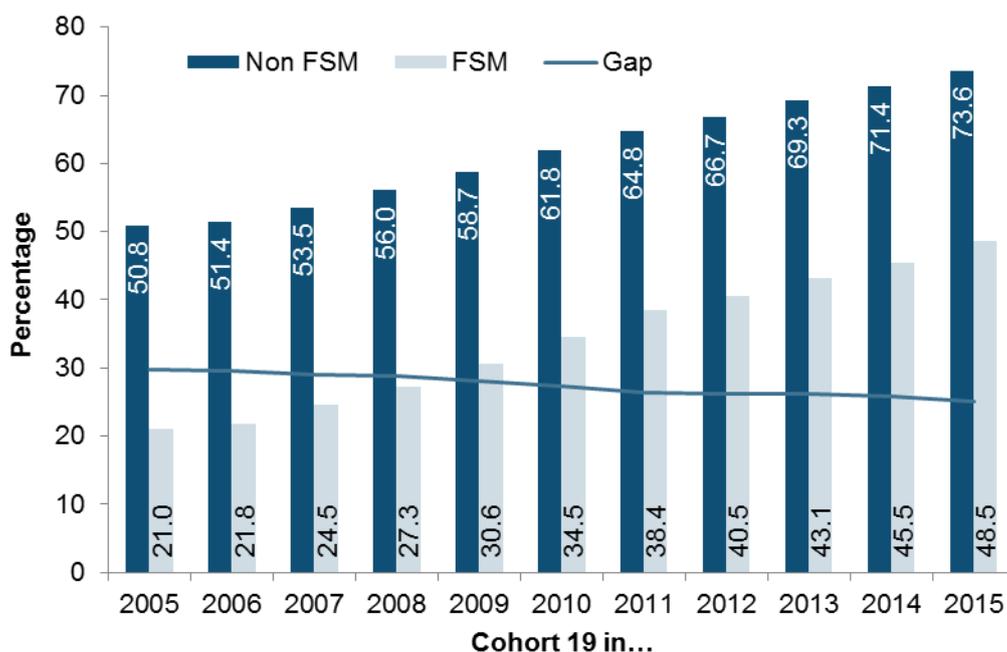
48.5 per cent of young people who were in receipt of FSM at age 15 attained Level 2 English and maths by age 19, compared to 73.6 per cent of the non-FSM group (see Figure 5).

The FSM attainment gap of 25.1 pts is 0.8 pts narrower than it was in 2014 and is at the lowest level since comparable data began in 2005 when it was 4.7 pts wider.

English and maths attainment of all SEN groups has improved in the last year

15.7 per cent of young people who had a Statement of SEN at age 15 attained Level 2 in English and maths by age 19, compared to 33.6 per cent of the School Action Plus group, 42.8 per cent of the School Action group, and 80.0 per cent of those with no identified SEN at 15. These are all higher than the equivalent rates last year and the gap between young people with no identified SEN at 15 and each of the SEN groups narrowed in the last year, with the attainment gap between those with and without any form of SEN at 15 narrowing by 0.9 pts.

Figure 5: Level 2 English and maths attainment by age 19 by FSM eligibility at 15
England, young people in state schools at academic age 15, cohorts 19 in 2005-2015



Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

Level 3 Attainment by Age 19 (SFR Tables 6 and 9)

The proportion of young people in the state sector at academic age 15 who attained Level 3 by age 19 rose by 0.4 pts to 57.4 per cent in 2015. The rate of increase has slowed in each of the last four years from the 2.8 pts increase in 2011.

Of those not eligible for FSM at 15, 60.9 per cent had achieved Level 3 by age 19 compared to 36.4 per cent of those that were eligible (**Table 2**). Both of these were higher than in 2014 (by 0.4 pts and 0.7 pts respectively) which led to the gap narrowing by 0.3 pts to 24.6 pts. The gap at Level 3 has stayed between 24 and 25 pts since 2009, with some year on year fluctuation within this. Nearly two thirds (62.7 per cent) of non-FSM pupils who achieved Level 3 by 19 did so through A Levels/International Baccalaureate compared to 43.9 per cent of the FSM group.

Table 2: Percentage of young people qualified to Level 3, by pupil characteristics and cohort
England, young people in state schools at academic age 15, cohorts 19 in 2005-2015

Characteristics at age 15	Cohort 19 in...										
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Not eligible for FSM	46.3	47.2	48.4	49.7	51.4	53.9	56.7	58.3	59.6	60.5	60.9
Eligible for FSM	19.9	21.0	22.8	24.6	26.9	29.7	32.0	34.1	35.3	35.7	36.4
No SEN		49.6	51.2	52.9	55.3	58.4	62.1	64.3	65.7	66.2	65.7
SEN		12.0	13.1	14.6	16.4	19.4	22.9	26.0	27.9	28.2	28.7
25% least deprived areas	60.9	61.6	62.1	63.2	64.9	66.9	68.9	70.2	70.6	71.3	71.0
25% most deprived areas	25.1	26.4	28.1	29.9	32.3	35.5	39.5	41.7	43.7	45.0	46.1

Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

The gap of 37.1 pts between non-SEN and SEN pupils is 0.9 pts smaller than it was in 2014 with 65.7 per cent of those without SEN at 15 having attained Level 3 by 19 compared to 28.7 per cent of those with SEN at 15. 31.8 per cent of SEN pupils without a Statement of SEN achieved this level by 19 compared to 13.4 per cent of those with a Statement of SEN.

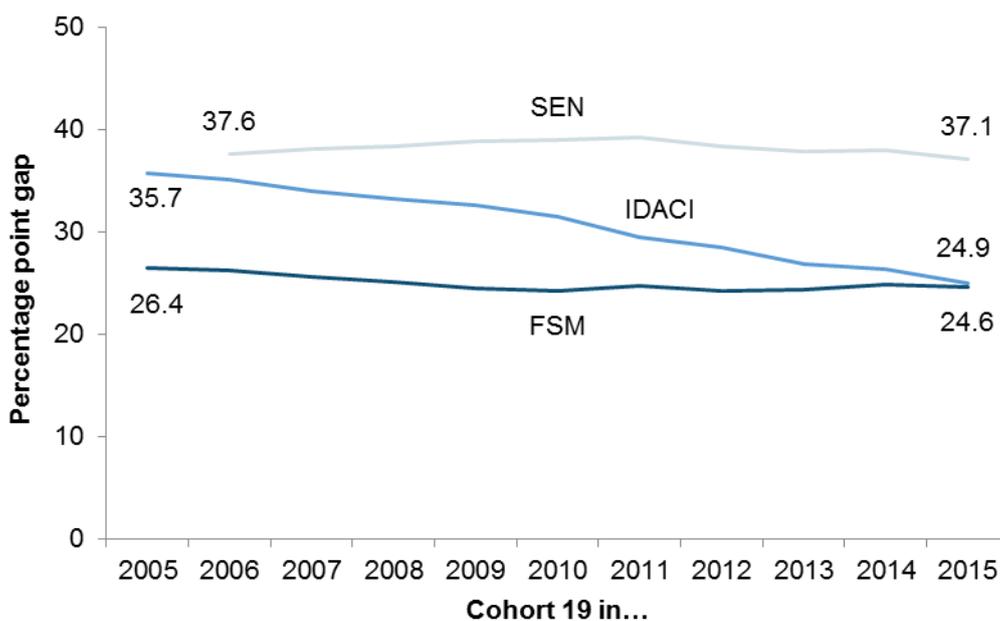
71.0 per cent of those living in the 25% least deprived areas at age 15 (as measured by the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI)³) had achieved Level 3 by age 19 compared to 46.1 per cent of those in the 25% most deprived areas. The gap of 24.9 pts is 1.4 pts lower than last year's gap of 26.3 pts.

Figure 6 shows that while the SEN and FSM Level 3 attainment gaps have narrowed this year, the overall pattern has been stable across the time series. The IDACI deprivation gap is the one that has consistently narrowed over the last decade and is 10.8 pts lower than 2005 when the data started.

³ See Technical Document for more information about Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI)

Figure 6: Level 3 attainment gaps by age 19 by Special Educational Needs (SEN), Eligibility for Free School Meals (FSM) and most/least deprived IDACI quartiles

England, young people in state schools at academic age 15, cohorts 19 in 2005-2015

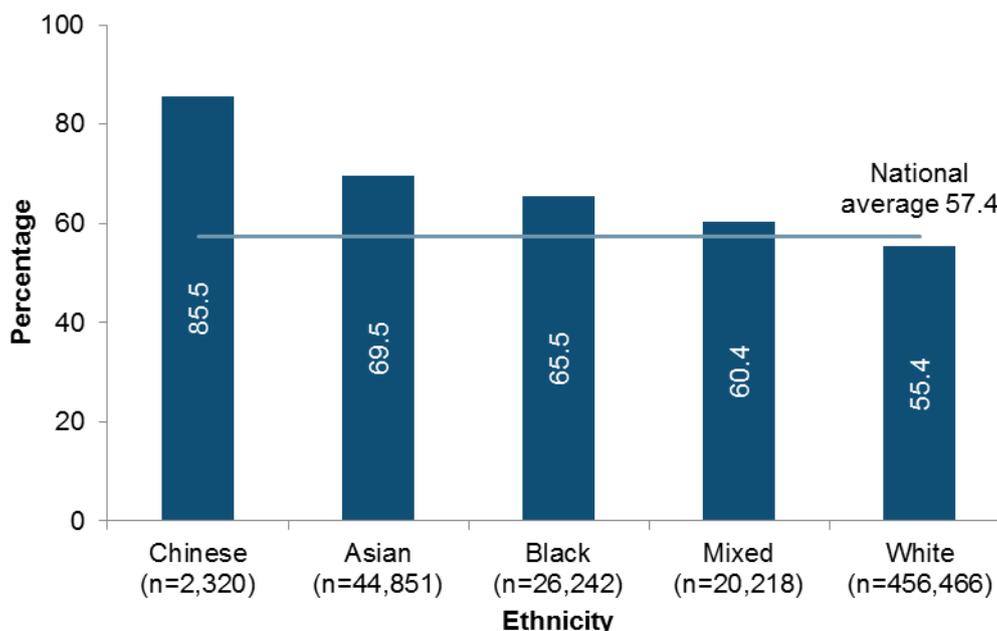


Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

Chinese students have the highest Level 3 attainment, with 85.5 per cent achieving this level by the age of 19 in 2015 (**Figure 7**). This is 28.1 ppts higher than the national average and 16.0 per cent higher than the Asian group (69.5 per cent). 65.5 per cent of the Black summary ethnic group and 60.4 per cent of the Mixed summary group achieve Level 3 by age 19 which are all above the national average. The White summary group has the lowest Level 3 attainment at 55.4 per cent. The attainment of this group has increased the least of all summary ethnic groups in the last year (+0.2 ppts). The Mixed and Asian summary groups both increased by 0.8 ppts in the last year.

Figure 7: Level 3 attainment by ethnic summary group

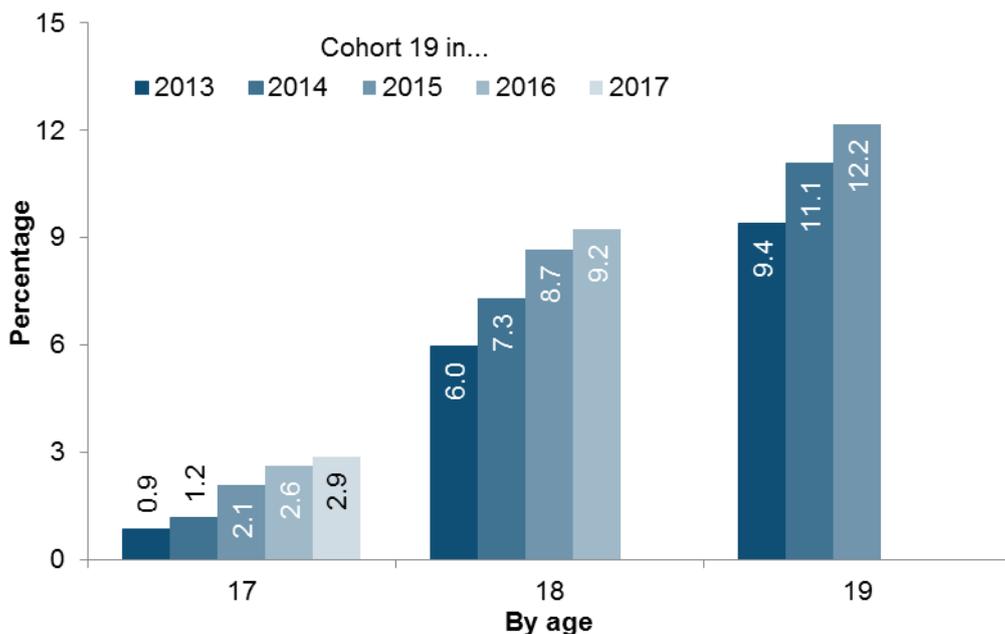
England, young people in state schools at academic age 15, cohort 19 in 2015



Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

There has been an increase in the proportion of young people achieving tech level qualifications, which are Level 3 qualifications for students wishing to specialise in a specific occupation or occupational group. All tech levels are backed by at least five employers or a relevant industry body. They will be reported separately in 16-19 performance tables from 2016⁴. Each cohort has had a higher proportion achieving a tech level than the cohort before although this will partly be due to more qualifications being branded as a tech level each academic year. 12.2 per cent of the 19 in 2015 cohort had achieved a tech level by the age of 19 which is 1.1 ppts higher than the previous cohort. The pattern looks to continue with 9.2 per cent of the 19 in 2016 cohort achieving a tech level by age 18 which is 0.6 ppts higher than the previous cohort and 2.9 per cent of the 19 in 2017 cohort achieving this level by age 17 which is 0.3 ppts higher than their predecessors.

Figure 8: Proportion of young people achieving tech level qualification by age and cohort
 England, young people in state schools at academic age 15, cohorts 19 in 2013-2017



Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

⁴ [2016 performance tables: technical and vocational qualifications](#)

Level 2 Attainment by Age 19 (SFR Tables 6-8)

The proportion of young people in the state sector at academic age 15 who attained Level 2 by age 19 rose...

...by 0.4 ppts between 2014 and 2015, to 86.0 per cent. As with Level 3, this rate of increase is slower than in previous years. This year's rise of 0.4 ppts is a third of the increase seen between 2012 and 2013.

The proportion gaining Level 2 with English and maths by age 19 rose faster than both Level 3 and the overall Level 2 rate

67.9 per cent of 19 year olds in 2015 had achieved Level 2 with English and maths which is an increase of 2.0 ppts in the last year. This is slightly higher than the 1.8 ppts rise between 2013 and 2014.

The Level 2 attainment gap narrowed last year for those eligible for FSM, those with SEN and between the 25% most deprived and 25% least deprived areas

71.9 per cent of pupils eligible for Free School Meals at 15 had achieved Level 2 by age 19 in 2015 compared to 88.4 per cent of those that were not. The FSM figure rose by 0.6 ppts in the last year and the non-FSM figure increased by 0.5 ppts which led to the attainment gap slightly narrowing to 16.5 ppts.

Nearly two thirds (65.7 per cent) of those with a SEN at 15 achieved Level 2 by the age of 19 which is 0.5 ppts higher than in 2014. 91.9 per cent of those without a SEN at 15 achieved this level leading to an attainment gap of 26.2 ppts which is 0.7 ppts smaller than last year.

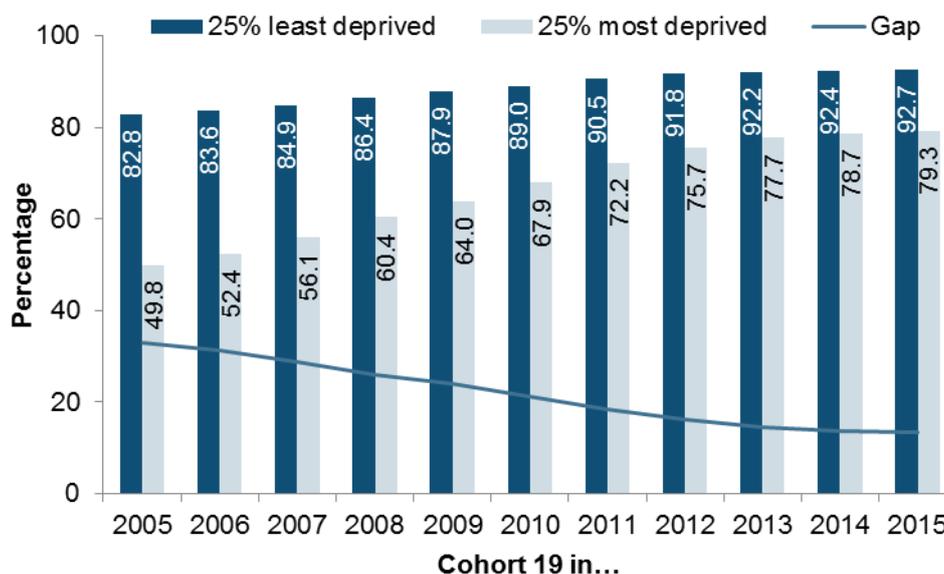
The proportion of those who lived in the 25% most deprived areas at 15 that had achieved Level 2 by age 19 increased by 0.6 ppts in 2015, to 79.3 per cent. This is 13.3 ppts lower than those who lived in the 25% least deprived areas of the country at 15 (92.7 per cent). The attainment gap between these groups shrunk by 0.4 ppts in the last year and by 19.7 ppts since 2005 which is the biggest decrease across the characteristics (**Figure 9**).

As with Level 3, Chinese pupils had the highest proportion of 19 year olds qualified to Level 2 or higher

95.5 per cent were at this level by age 19 in 2015 compared to 89.9 per cent of the Asian summary group, 88.6 per cent of the Black summary group, 86.2 per cent of the Mixed summary group and 85.5 per cent of the White summary group. The Asian and White summary groups increased the most in the last year (+0.4 ppts).

Figure 9: Level 2 or higher attainment by age 19 by IDACI quartile at 15

England, young people in state schools at academic age 15, cohorts 19 in 2005-2015



Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

3. Single Departmental Plan: 2015 to 2020 indicators

In February 2016 the Department published its Single Departmental Plan: 2015-2020⁵. Indicators to measure progress against the strategic objectives set out in the plan include the percentage of young people at 19 with a 'good pass' in English and maths GCSEs and also the number and percentage of young people achieving a technical level (tech level) by age 19. The most recent figures and historical trends for these indicators are set out below.

Table SDP1: Percentage of young people at 19 with a 'good pass' in English and maths GCSEs

England, young people in state schools at academic age 15, cohorts 19 in 2005-2015

Cohort 19 in...	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Per cent	44.0	44.0	45.5	47.5	49.2	50.9	53.2	55.9	59.5	62.1	64.1

Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

Table SDP2: Number and percentage of young people achieving a technical level (tech level) by age 19

England, young people in state schools at academic age 15, cohorts 19 in 2011-2015

Cohort 19 in...	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number	4,600	23,700	54,500	62,900	68,500
Per cent	0.8	4.1	9.4	11.1	12.2

Source: DfE, Matched Administrative Data

⁵ [DfE Single Departmental Plan: 2015-2020](#)

4. Accompanying tables

The following tables are available in Excel format on the department's statistics website ([16 to 19 Attainment Statistics](#)):

National tables

- 1 Percentage of young people qualified to Level 2 or higher, and Level 3, by age and cohort.
- 2 Percentage of 19 year olds qualified to Level 2 or higher, by qualification type and cohort.
- 3 Percentage of 19 year olds qualified to Level 3, by qualification type and cohort.
- 4 Percentage of 19 year olds qualified to Level 2 or higher, by institution type and cohort.
- 5 Percentage of 19 year olds qualified to Level 3, by institution type and cohort.

State sector tables

- 6 Attainment of Level 2, Level 2 with English and maths, and Level 3, by age and cohort.
- 7 Percentage of young people qualified to Level 2 or higher by age 19, by characteristics and cohort.
- 8 Percentage of young people qualified to Level 2 or higher with English and maths by age 19, by characteristics and cohort.
- 9 Percentage of young people qualified to Level 3 by age 19, by characteristics and cohort.
- 10 Percentage of young people qualified to Level 2 or higher, and Level 2 or higher with English and maths, by characteristics and age, for the 19 in 2015 cohort.
- 11 Percentage of young people qualified to Level 3, by characteristics and age, for the 19 in 2015 cohort.
- 12a Percentage of young people qualified to Level 2 or higher by age 19, by ethnicity and FSM eligibility at age 15, for the 19 in 2015 cohort.
- 12b Percentage of young people qualified to Level 2 or higher with English and maths by age 19, by ethnicity and FSM eligibility at age 15, for the 19 in 2015 cohort.
- 12c Percentage of young people qualified to Level 3 by age 19, by ethnicity and FSM eligibility at age 15, for the 19 in 2015 cohort.
- 13 Attainment at age 16 and 19 in English and maths at GCSE A*-C and other Level 2 qualifications.
- 13a Attainment at age 16 and 19 in English and maths at GCSE A*-C and other Level 2 qualifications, by gender.
- 13b Attainment at age 16 and 19 in English and maths at GCSE A*-C and other Level 2 qualifications, by eligibility for Free School Meals (FSM) at 15.
- 13c Attainment at age 16 and 19 in English and maths at GCSE A*-C and other Level 2 qualifications, by Special Educational Needs (SEN) status at 15.
- 13d Attainment at age 16 and 19 in English and maths at GCSE A*-C and other Level 2 qualifications, by IDACI (Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index).
- 13e Attainment at age 16 and 19 in English at GCSE A*-C and other Level 2 qualifications, by ethnicity.
- 13f Attainment at age 16 and 19 in maths at GCSE A*-C and other Level 2 qualifications, by ethnicity.
- 13g Attainment at age 16 and 19 in English and maths at GCSE A*-C and other Level 2 qualifications, by ethnicity.
- 14a Progression in English and maths between 16 and 19 (GCSE A*-C and other Level 2 qualifications), 19 in 2015 cohort.
- 14b Progression in English and maths between 16 and 19 (GCSE A*-C and below), 19 in 2015 cohort.
- 14c Attainment at age 16 and 19 in English and maths at GCSE A*-C and other Level 2 qualifications by main Level 2 qualification type attained, 19 in 2015 cohort.
- 14d Attainment at age 16 and 19 in English and maths at GCSE A*-C and other Level 2 qualifications by main Level 3 qualification type attained, 19 in 2015 cohort.
- 15a Percentage attaining Level 3 at 19 by qualification type and whether eligible for Free School Meals.

15b Percentage attaining Level 3 at 19 by qualification type and IDACI quartile (Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index).

Local Authority tables, state sector at 15

- 16a Percentage of 19 year olds qualified to Level 2 or higher, by FSM eligibility and local authority.
- 16b Number of 19 year olds qualified to Level 2 or higher, by FSM eligibility and local authority.
- 17a Percentage of 19 year olds qualified to Level 2 or higher with English and maths, by FSM eligibility and local authority.
- 17b Number of 19 year olds qualified to Level 2 or higher with English and maths, by FSM eligibility and local authority.
- 18a Percentage of 19 year olds qualified to Level 3, by FSM eligibility and local authority.
- 18b Number of 19 year olds qualified to Level 3, by FSM eligibility and local authority.
- 19 Population by FSM eligibility and local authority.
- 20a Percentage of 19 year olds qualified to Level 2 or higher, by SEN status in Year 11 and local authority.
- 20b Number of 19 year olds qualified to Level 2 or higher, by SEN status in Year 11 and local authority.
- 21a Percentage of 19 year olds qualified to Level 2 or higher with English and maths, by SEN status in Year 11 and local authority.
- 21b Number of 19 year olds qualified to Level 2 or higher with English and maths, by SEN status in Year 11 and local authority.
- 22a Percentage of 19 year olds qualified to Level 3, by SEN status in Year 11 and local authority.
- 22b Number of 19 year olds qualified to Level 3, by SEN status in Year 11 and local authority.
- 23 Population by local authority and SEN status in Year 11.
- 24a Percentage attaining GCSE A*-C or other Level 2 qualifications in English and maths at age 19, for those who had not achieved this level by age 16, by local authority.
- 24b Number attaining GCSE A*-C or other Level 2 qualifications in English and maths at age 19, for those who had not achieved this level by age 16, by local authority.
- 24c Number not attaining GCSE A*-C or other Level 2 qualifications in English and maths at age 16, by local authority.

Local Authority tables, all learners

- 25a Percentage of young people studying in each local authority at age 16 who attain Level 2 or higher, by age and cohort.
- 25b Number of young people studying in each local authority at age 16 who attain Level 2 or higher, by age and cohort.
- 26a Percentage of young people studying in each local authority at age 16 who attain Level 3, by age and cohort.
- 26b Number of young people studying in each local authority at age 16 who attain Level 3, by age and cohort.
- 27 Local authority census figures for measuring post-16 attainment.

When reviewing the tables listed on the previous page, please note the following:

We preserve confidentiality	The Code of Practice for Official Statistics requires us to take reasonable steps to ensure that our published or disseminated statistics protect confidentiality.
so we suppress some figures,	Values of 1 or 2, or a percentage based on 1 or 2 pupils are suppressed. Some additional figures have been suppressed to prevent the possibility of a suppressed figure being revealed. This suppression is consistent with our Statistical policy statement on confidentiality .
adopt symbols to help identify this	Symbols are used in the tables as follows: . not available x publication of that figure would be disclosive
and round numbers	Percentages in this SFR are given to one decimal place.

5. Further information is available

Previous Level 2 and 3 Attainment by Age 19 SFR	Level 2 and 3 attainment by young people aged 19 in 2014
Key Stage 4 results	Revised GCSE and equivalents results in England, 2014 to 2015
A level and other level 3 results	A level and other level 3 results: 2014 to 2015 (revised)
Destination Measures of key stage 4 and key stage 5 pupils	Data on key stage 4 (KS4) and key stage 5 (KS5) students in education, employment and training destinations
Examination results in Wales, 2014/15 - Revised	An annual report collated by the Welsh Government from examination bodies on the results of external examinations taken by pupils aged 15 or 17, which includes GCSE and A Levels by subject.
Summary statistics for attainment, leaver destinations and healthy living	This publication presents post review attainment for 2013/14 school leavers, initial and follow up school leaver destinations for 2013/14, and information on the healthy living survey taken in February 2015.
Qualifications and Destinations of Northern Ireland school leavers	This contains information on the qualifications and destinations of Northern Ireland school leavers. The tables relate to the destination (e.g. higher education/further education/employment) and highest level of qualification obtained for grammar and non-grammar school leavers, by sex of pupil and management type.

6. 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.

7. Technical information

A technical 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. Ages given in this SFR are at the end of the academic year.

Note to users

Attainment of Level 2 equates to achievement of 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C or a Level 2 vocational qualification of equivalent size. Attainment at Level 3 equates to achievement of 2 or more A-levels or equivalent size vocational qualifications⁶.

The attainment statistics published in this SFR are used to monitor trends in attainment over time, both nationally and at local authority level, and changes in attainment within different groups. However, the measures of “full” Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications are now somewhat dated, and do not reflect recent changes to policies governing the vocational qualifications that count in the School and College Performance Tables. The performance tables underwent a number of methodological changes last year (see the [GCSE and equivalent results in England methodology paper](#) for more information). Lists of Level 3 and Level 2 qualifications that will [count in the post-16 performance tables from 2016 and 2017 respectively](#) are available on line. These changes have not been reflected in this SFR, as it is used to show cumulative levels of attainment at 19, and these changes have yet to impact fully on attainment by age 19. However, new tables relating to attainment of approved tech level qualifications by age are now provided (see the Technical Document for more details).

⁶ Note that the methodology for calculating whether the Level 2 and Level 3 thresholds have been met differs from the measures of 5+ GCSEs at A*-C, and 2+ A-levels, reported in the School and College Performance Tables. See Technical Document for more information.

8. Get in touch

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Department
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download [Level 2 and 3 attainment in England: Attainment by age 19 in 2015](#)

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