



Work Choice is an employment programme tailored to meet individual need. It focuses on helping individuals to achieve their full potential and move towards being more independent. Work Choice also ensures employers get the support they need to employ more disabled people.

Work Choice helps people with disabilities whose needs cannot be met through other work programmes, Access to Work or workplace adjustments. This might be because they need more specialised support to find employment or keep a job once they have started work.

Main stories

Referrals and starts to Work Choice

In the last 12 months there have been:

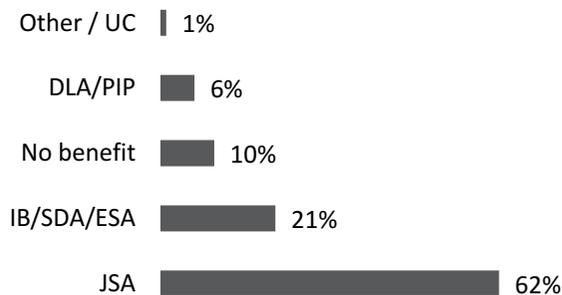
15,710 referrals

and

11,220 starts

to Work Choice.

Volunteers for Work Choice are mainly claiming JSA



Benefit claimed at point of referral for those who started in 2014/15.

Job outcome rates have seen steady improvement

59%

of those who started in 2014/15 have achieved a short job outcome.

At a glance

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Referrals, Starts, and Job Outcomes on Work Choice:

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There have been a total of 125,910 referrals and 97,310 starts to the programme.

Job outcome rates on Work Choice:

4

59% of those who started in 2014/15 have achieved a short job outcome.

Analysis by benefit type:

5

62% of all those who started Work Choice in 2014/15 were claiming JSA.

Analysis by disability type:

6

Mild to moderate health condition and mild learning disability are the most prevalent health conditions on Work Choice.

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Feedback is welcome

Published 24th August 2016

Next edition on 23rd November 2016

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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 skills
- building your confidence
- interview coaching

Work Choice is delivered by different providers across the country. New Work Choice participants receive three 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	Up to 6 months
In-Work Support	Help to start work and stay in your job	Up to 2 years
Longer-term In-Work Support	Help to get on in your job and work without support	Long-term

- Work Entry Support can be extended by 3 or 6 months in exceptional circumstances and when there is a clear prospect of a job.

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 **excluding Remploy**, from 25th October 2010 up to and including **24th June 2016**. Job outcomes include:

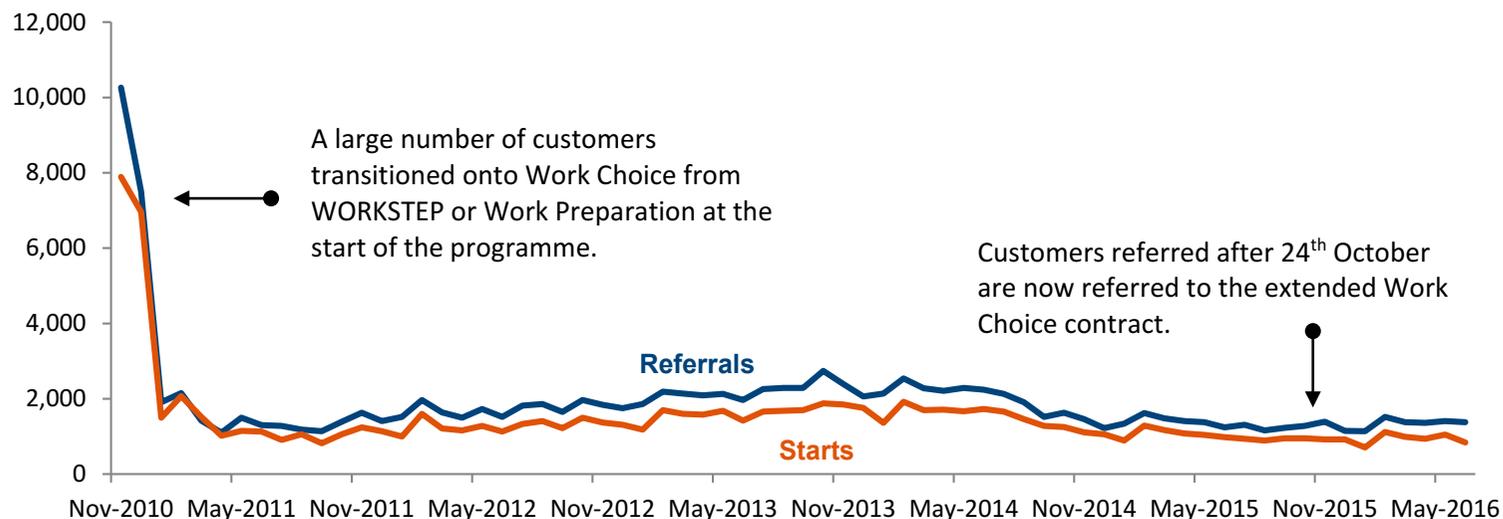
- Supported or unsupported jobs which have lasted 13 weeks, known as short job outcomes.
- Movements from supported to unsupported work, referred to as unsupported job progressions.
- Unsupported jobs which have been maintained for at least 26 weeks, which are called sustained unsupported job outcomes.

For more information see the Work Choice background information note.

Referrals, starts, and job outcomes

Around three-quarters of those referred to Work Choice subsequently start

Referrals and starts to Work Choice



Main Findings

Of those who were referred to the programme around three quarters (77%) subsequently started Work Choice.

The number of starts to Work Choice has declined since 2013/14 from between 6 to 7 thousand each quarter to a plateau of around 4 thousand over the last seven quarters.

In the last 12 months there have been:

- **15,710** referrals for **14,250** individuals* to the programme; and
- **11,220** starts for **10,830** individuals* on the programme.

For full data see Table 1.

Main Findings

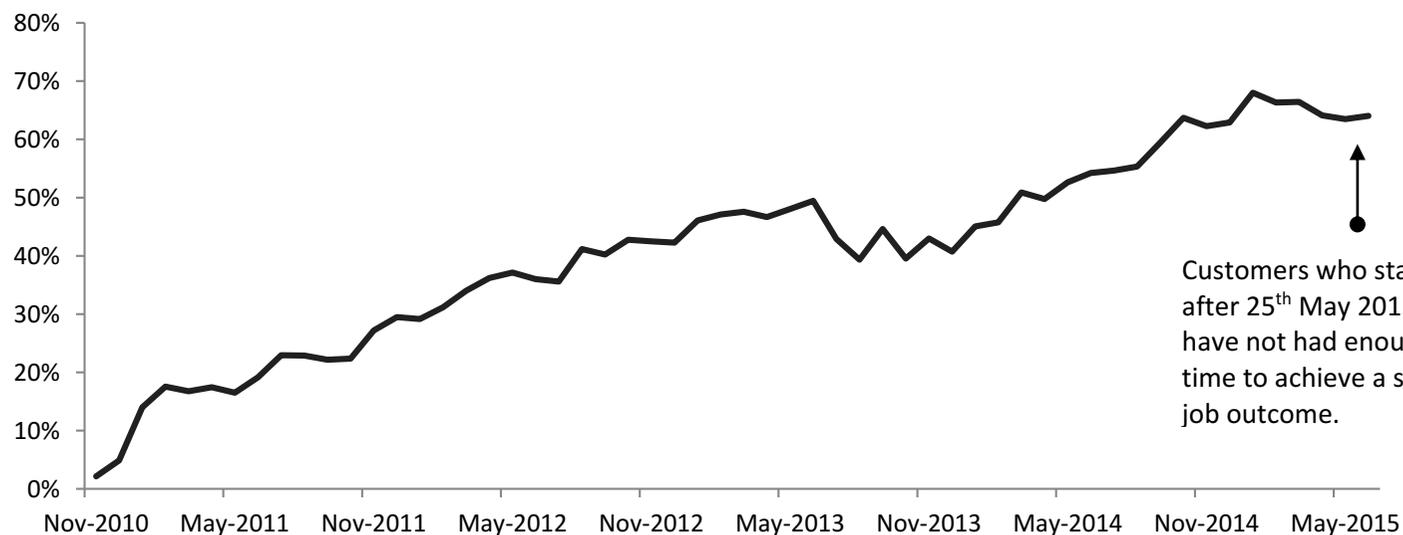
The proportion of Work Choice starts achieving a short job outcome has seen steady improvement over the lifetime of the programme, having risen to an average of 59% for those who started in 2014/15.

In the last 12 months there were **5,230** short job outcomes for **5,050** individuals*.

For full data see Tables 1 and 2.

The proportion of Work Choice starts achieving a short job outcome is improving

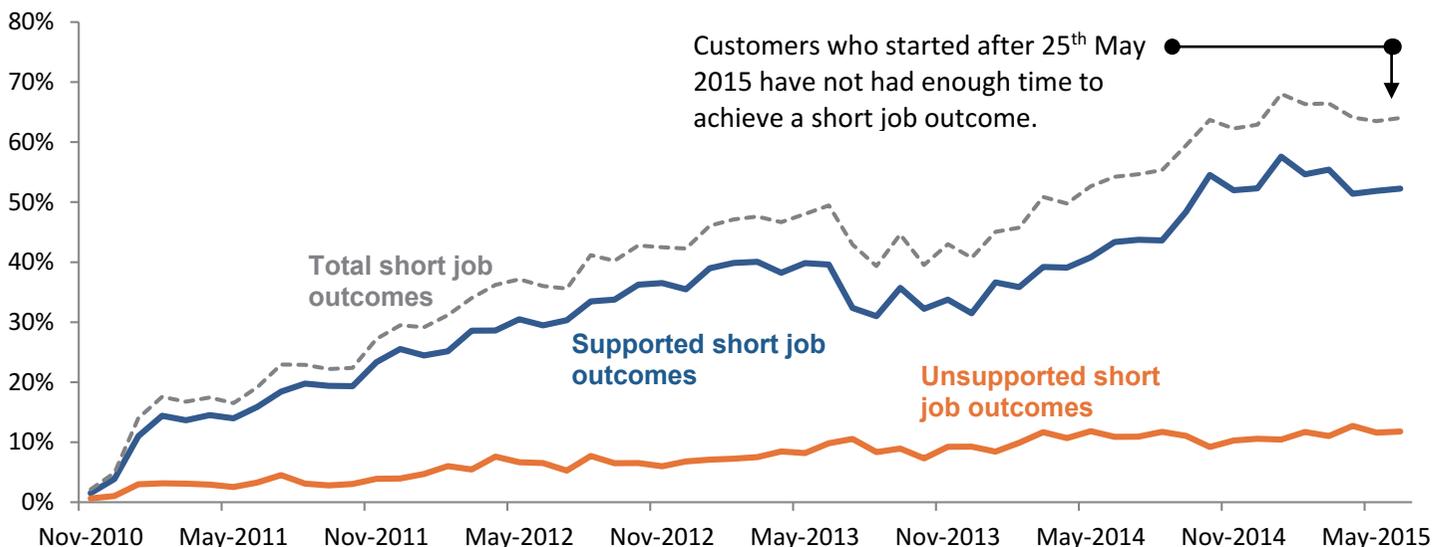
Proportion of starts that achieve a short job outcome



Short and sustained job outcomes

82% of short job outcomes achieved are supported

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



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 **82%** of short job outcomes achieved being supported.

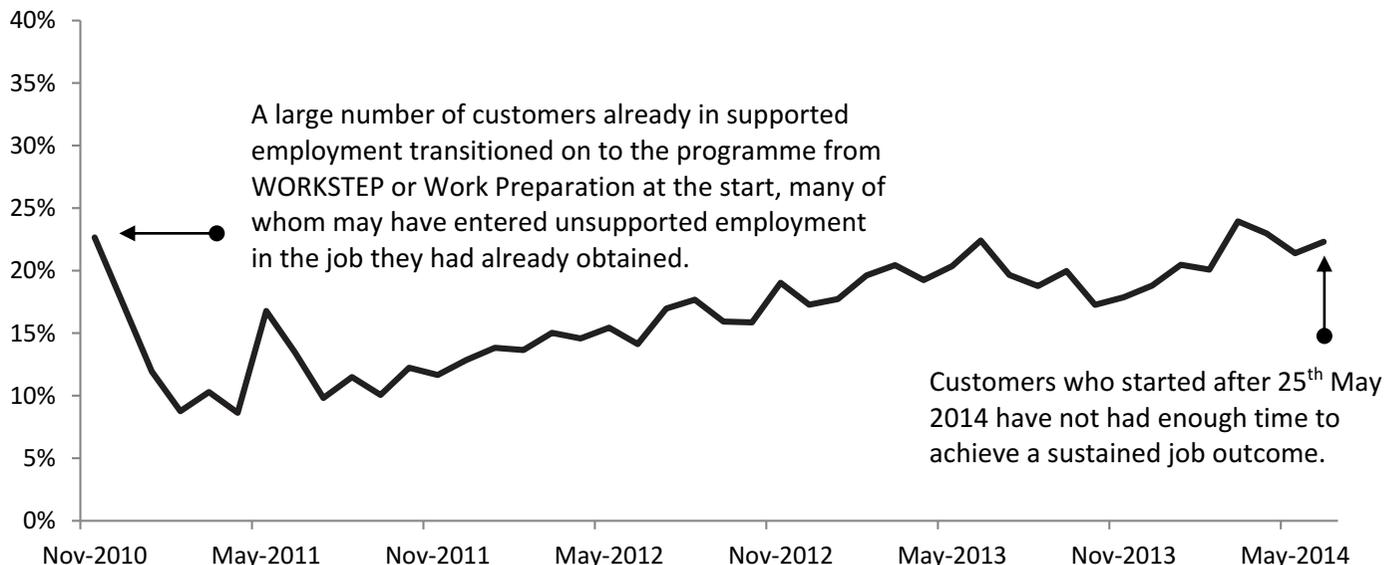
In the last 12 months there have been:

- **4,030** supported short job outcomes for **3,900** individuals*; and
- **1,190** unsupported short job outcomes for **1,190** individuals*.

For full data see Tables 1 and 2.

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

Proportion of starts that achieve a sustained job outcome



Main Findings

The proportion of Work Choice starts achieving a sustained job outcome within 24 months rate has seen a steady rise over the lifetime of the programme from 15% in 2011/12 to 23% in 2014/15.

In the last 12 months there have been **4,510** sustained job outcomes for **3,960** individuals*.

For full data see Tables 1 and 2.

Benefit claimed at point of referral

Main Findings

The majority of people who started Work Choice in 2014/15 were claiming JSA (with or without DLA/PIP), accounting for 62% of all starts on the programme.

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

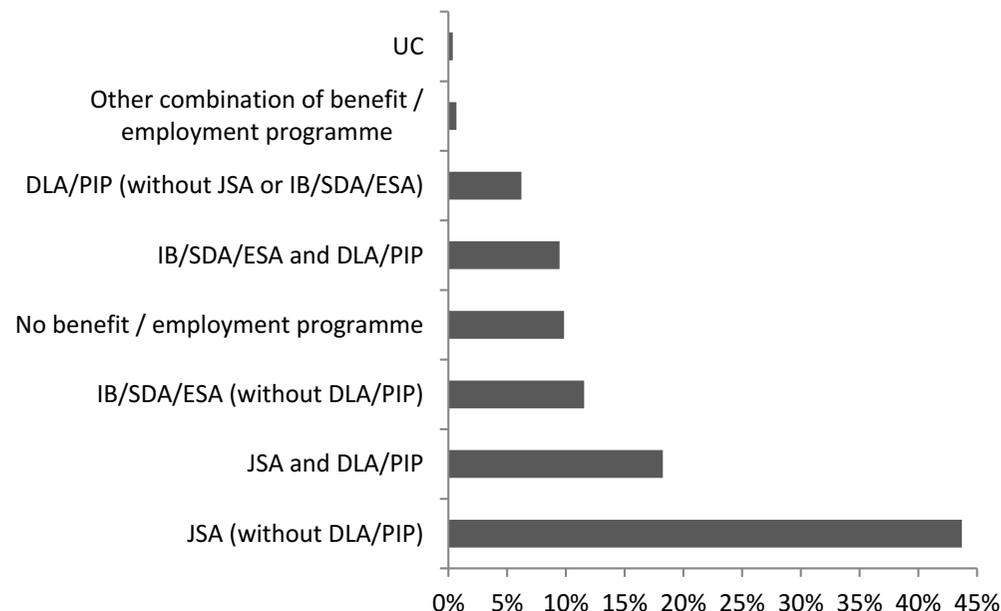
- 51% and 66% for short job outcomes;
- 17% and 28% for sustained job outcomes.

The job outcome rates for those claiming UC or other combination of benefit/employment programme have been omitted – these groups were not large enough to provide a reliable job outcome rate. For more information see the Work Choice background information note, section 3.4.

For full data see Table 4.

Most people who volunteer for Work Choice are claiming JSA

Proportion of starts by benefit claimed at referral in 2014/15



Variation in job outcome rate by benefit claimed

Proportion of starts that achieve a job outcome by benefit claimed at referral for latest year available



Primary disability type

Main Findings

The most prevalent primary disabilities of those who started Work Choice in 2014/15 were mild to moderate mental health condition and mild learning disability, with both disability types accounting for 19% of total starts each.

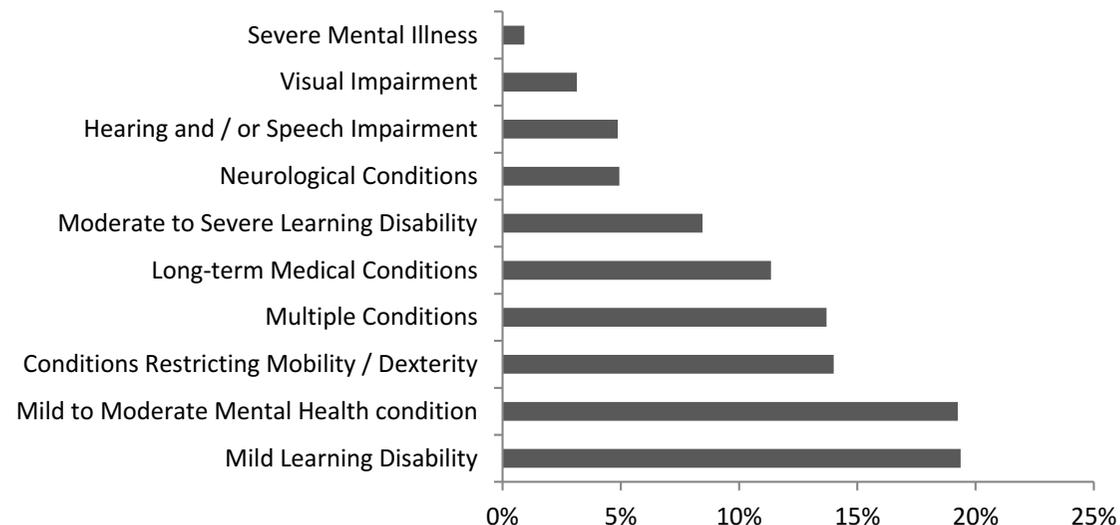
For the different primary disability types, the proportion of Work Choice starts that achieve a job outcome varies between:

- 52% and 63% for short job outcomes;
- 15% and 23% for sustained job outcomes.

For full data see Table 3.

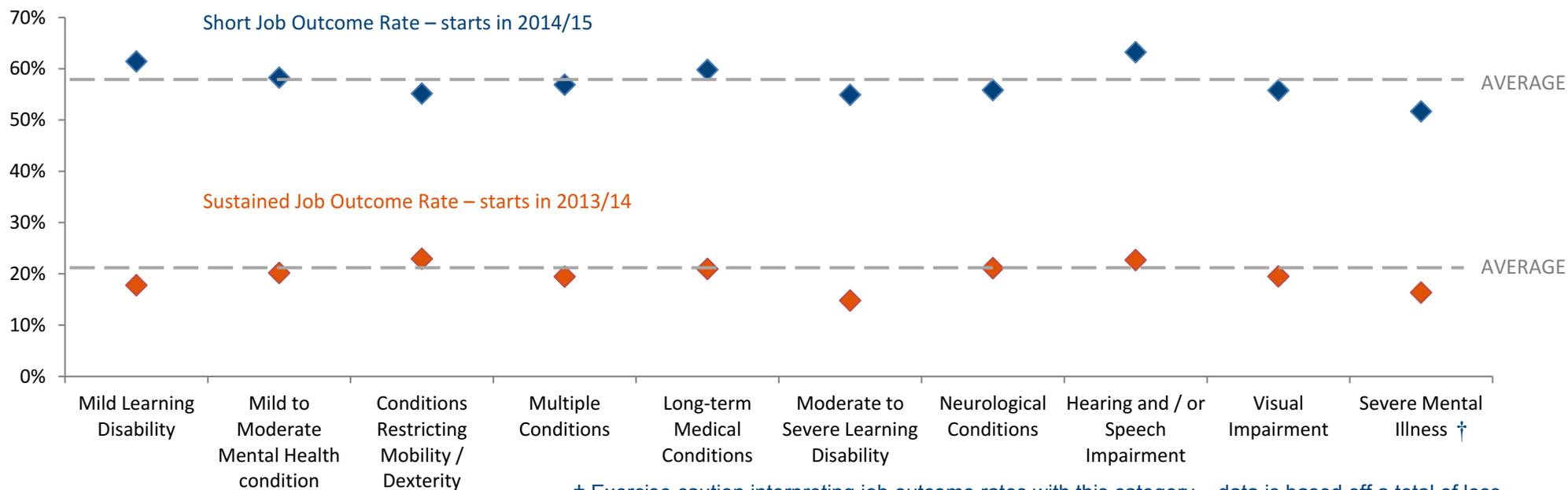
Mild learning disability is the most prevalent primary disability on Work Choice

Proportion of starts by primary disability type in 2014/15



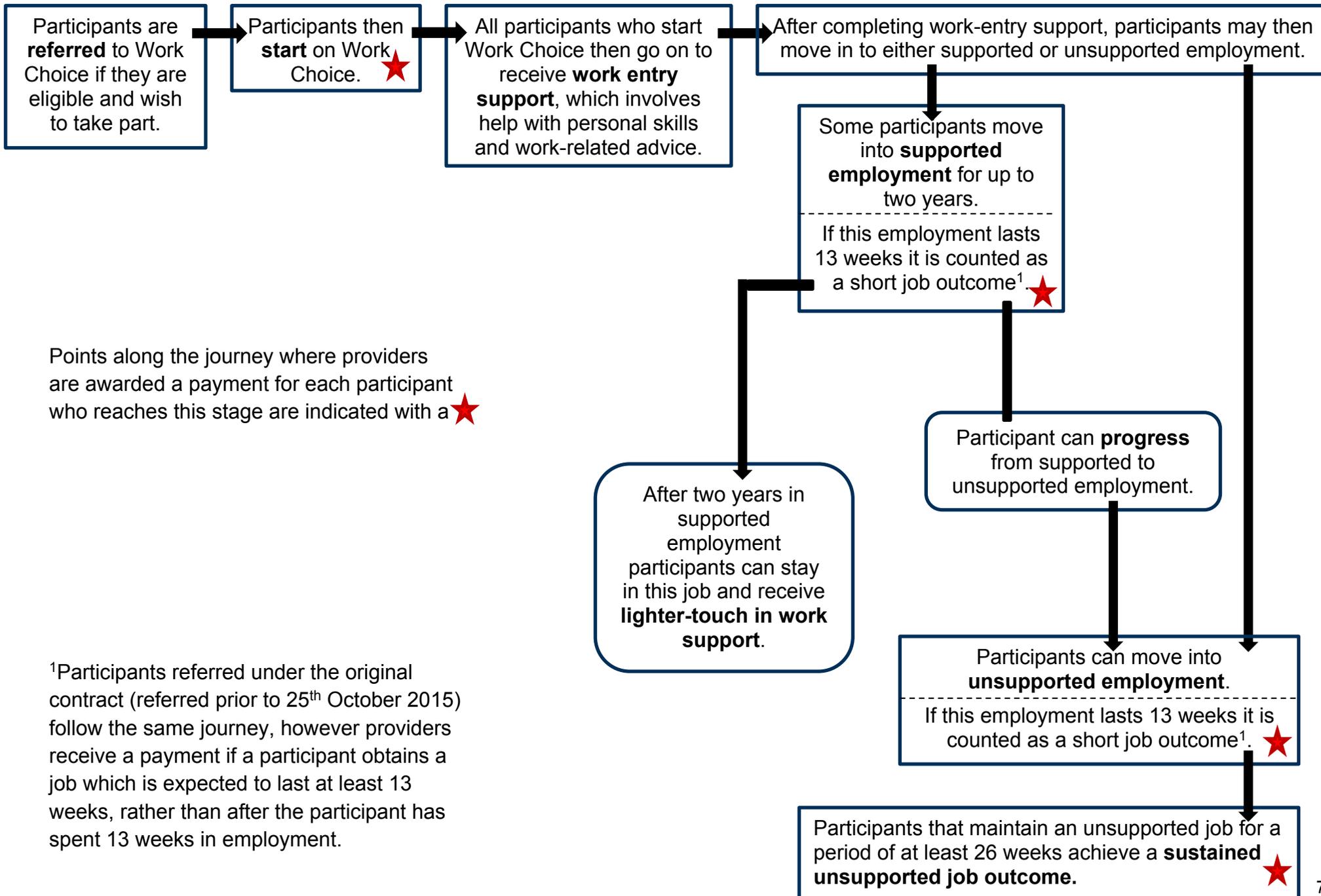
Variation in job outcome rate by primary disability type

Proportion of starts that achieve a job outcome by primary disability type for latest year available



† Exercise caution interpreting job outcome rates with this category – data is based off a total of less than 500 starts. For more information see the Work Choice background information note, section 3.4.

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.

About these statistics

This is the official government statistical release on the Work Choice programme for August 2016. It contains data on referrals, starts, and job outcomes to Work Choice up to 24th June 2016.

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.

*Throughout this publication references are made to the fact that the total number of referrals/ starts/ job outcomes is greater to the total number of individuals who have obtained it. This is because a person can be referred to / start Work Choice more than once in the period and as a result can obtain more than one job outcome in the period.

Where to find out more

More information about Work Choice and these statistics can be found in Work Choice Official Statistics 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>.