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Issued by
Department for Education
and Skills
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3BT

Telephone:
Press Office
020 7925 6789
Public Enquiries
0870 000 2288

Statistician
Tim Thair
0114 259 1386

Email
info@dfes.gsi.gov.uk

Internet
[http://www.dfes.gov.uk/
rsgateway/DB/SFR/
index.shtml](http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/index.shtml)



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

YOUTH COHORT STUDY: THE ACTIVITIES AND EXPERIENCES OF 18 YEAR OLDS: ENGLAND AND WALES 2004

INTRODUCTION

This Statistical First Release provides the summary findings of the most recent survey of 18 year olds from the eleventh Youth Cohort Study (YCS). The survey was carried out in spring 2004 when respondents were in their third academic year after completing compulsory education. All respondents were also surveyed in the two previous academic years at ages 16 and 17 allowing transitions over the period to be included.

The YCS is the main source of survey information about the education, training and work experiences of young people in England and Wales. YCS estimates correspond fairly well with the official estimates of participation and attainment (see notes to editors and the technical note), though they tend to over-estimate participation in full-time education at 18. The strength of the YCS is the richness of the data available from a single source, enabling analyses tracking the progress of young people and taking account of a wide range of socio-demographic variables.

KEY POINTS

Main Activity at 18 (Tables A, B, C)

According to the YCS, over two fifths (43 per cent) of 18 year olds were in full-time education, and three in ten had a full-time job. The remaining activities were government supported training (8 per cent), part-time jobs (6 per cent), out of work (6 per cent), or doing something else such as looking after home or family (7 per cent). Since 1993 the proportion of 18 year olds in higher education has risen from one fifth to over a quarter (27 per cent). Over the same period the proportion out of work has fallen from 14 per cent to 6 per cent.

Women were more likely to be in full-time education than men (45 per cent compared to 41 per cent), and more likely to be in higher education than men (30 per cent compared to 24 per cent). Men were much more likely to be on government supported training than women (10 per cent compared to 5 per cent), and more likely to be in a full-time job (33 per cent compared to 28 per cent).

Young people from minority ethnic groups were more likely to be in full-time education than white young people. Four fifths of Indian respondents were in full-time education, twice the proportion for whites. Whilst black young people were more likely to be in full-time education than white respondents, roughly the same proportion was in higher

education (27 per cent compared to 26 per cent). White young people were much more likely to be in a full-time job than those from the other main ethnic groups (33 per cent of whites compared to 10 per cent from Asian backgrounds and 7 per cent of black respondents). Black young people were most likely to be out of work (15 per cent), followed by Pakistani and Bangladeshi respondents (9 per cent).

There was a close link between participation at 18 and parental occupation. Young people whose parents were in higher professional backgrounds were nearly twice as likely to be participating in full-time education as those whose parents had routine occupations (58 per cent compared to 31 per cent), and more than three times more likely to be in higher education (43 per cent compared to 13 per cent). The latter group was more likely to be in a job or government supported training.

Participation in full-time education was also strongly linked to prior attainment. Almost three fifths of those who gained five or more GCSE grade A*-Cs in year 11 were in full-time education, compared to one fifth those who gained no A*-Cs. Whilst those who did not gain any GCSE A*-Cs in year 11 were more likely to be in a full-time job than those who gained 5 or more, they were also much more likely to be out of work (over one in seven compared to one in 50). Two thirds of young people who had attained level 3 by age 18 were in full-time education, compared to one sixth of those who had yet to gain a level 2 qualification.

Young people who had been persistent truants in year 11 were much less likely to be in full-time education than those who had not truanted (11 per cent compared to 52 per cent), and much more likely to be out of work (17 per cent compared to 4 per cent).

The YCS estimates that two thirds of 18 year olds in England and Wales were in some form of education or training. Nearly one in eight (12 per cent) were not in education, training or employment (NEET).

One in six (17 per cent) of black young people were NEET at 18, compared to one in eight (12 per cent) of white respondents, and 6 per cent of Asians. A third of people who were out of work at 16 were NEET at 18, as were three out of ten young people who were persistent truants during year 11. More than a quarter of respondents who said they had a disability or health problem were NEET.

Attainment (Tables D, E, F)

The YCS estimates that 72 per cent of 18 year olds had a level 2 qualification or higher, compared to 56 per cent in 1993. In the same period of time the proportion of 18 year olds with a level 3 or higher has risen from 30 per cent to 43 per cent.

Young women were more likely to have attained level 3 by 18 than men (48 per cent compared to 39 per cent), and were less likely to be below level 2 (24 per cent compared to 32 per cent).

Black respondents (32 per cent) were more likely than other ethnic groups to be below level 2 at 18, followed by white respondents (29 per cent). Indian young people were least likely to be below level 2 (17 per cent) and nearly three fifths (58 per cent) had reached level 3.

Young people whose parents were in higher professional occupations were nearly three times as likely to have reached level 3 by 18 than those whose parents had routine occupations (68 per cent compared to 24 per cent).

Two thirds of young people whose main activity was full-time education had achieved a level 3 qualification by age 18. Almost two thirds (64 per cent) of young people who were out of work had not attained a level 2 qualification. Over 70 per cent of young people who were persistent truants in year 11, and over half of those who had been excluded from school at some time in year 10 or 11, were below level 2 at 18.

Of the 43 per cent of young people who had gained a level 3 qualification at 18, over four fifths had done so via A / AS levels. Attainment of a level 2 or higher qualification by 18 by those who attained one or more GCSE grades D-G, but no A*-Cs, in year 11 was almost exclusively via the vocational route.

Qualifications Sought (Table G)

Just over half of young people said they were studying for some sort of qualification, and half of these were studying at degree level. Women were slightly more likely to be studying for a qualification than men (53 per cent compared to 51 per cent), and were more likely to be studying for a degree or equivalent (30 per cent compared to 25 per cent).

Less than half of white young people were studying for a qualification, the least of any ethnic group. Indian respondents were most likely to be studying for a qualification, with four out of five doing so. Black respondents were much more likely to be studying for a qualification than whites (68 per cent compared to 49 per cent). Similar proportions of black and white respondents were studying for a degree level qualification, but black young people were much more likely to be studying for a level 3 qualification. Indian young people were almost twice as likely to be studying for a degree or equivalent as white young people (49 per cent compared to 26 per cent).

The proportion studying for a level 3 qualification was roughly the same across all socio-economic groups, however, the overall propensity to be studying, and the proportion studying for a degree level qualification, differed considerably with social class. Young people whose parents had higher professional occupations were over three times more likely to be studying for a degree than those whose parents had semi-routine or routine occupations (44 per cent compared to 13 per cent).

Only one in twenty young people who were out of work at 18 were studying for a qualification at 18. Only one in five respondents who were persistent truants in year 11 was studying for a qualification at 18.

Changes in main activity between 16, 17 and 18 (Table H)

Table H looks at the main activity of young people at 16 compared with that at 18, at 16 compared with 17, and at 17 compared with 18. These “snapshots” show what young people were doing at specific points in time in the years immediately after completing compulsory education. They may, of course, have changed their activity a number of times between the snapshots.

Full-time education is the dominant activity for 16-19 year olds, followed by full-time job. Over half (56 per cent) of young people who were in full-time education at 16 were in full-time education at 18, and 7 out of 10 young people who were in a full-time job at 16 were also in one at 18. A quarter of respondents who were out of work at 16 were also out of work at 18.

For those young people who were in full-time education at 17 and then changed activity between 17 and 18, a full-time job was the most common destination. One in five respondents who said they were doing “something else” at 17 had returned to full-time education at 18, and a similar proportion had gone into a full-time job.

Main activity at ages 16 and 18 by year 11 qualifications (Table I)

The qualifications young people gain in year 11 affect the routes they take at 16 and in subsequent years. Those with five or more GCSE grade A*-Cs from year 11 were not only more likely to be in full-time education at 16, but also more likely to be still there at 18. Nearly two thirds (64 per cent) of young people with five or more GCSE grade A*-Cs who were in full-time education at age 16 were also in full-time education at 18, compared with two fifths (41 per cent) of those in full-time education at 16 but with fewer than five A*-Cs from year 11.

Young people who gained five or more GCSE grades A*-C are also much more likely to return to full-time education at 18 having been in a job at 16 than those who gained less than five A*-Cs (20 per cent compared to 5 per cent).

ATTACHED TABLES AND CHARTS

Table A	Main activity at 18: 1993 - 2004
Table B	18 year olds in 2004: Main activity by characteristics
Table C	18 year olds in 2004: Education, training and employment status by characteristics
Table D	Highest qualification achieved by 18: 1993 - 2004
Table E	18 year olds in 2004: Highest qualification level achieved by characteristics
Table F	18 year olds in 2004: Qualification level and type, achieved by characteristics
Table G	18 year olds in 2004: Main study aim by characteristics
Table H	Main activity of 2000/01 school leavers at ages 16, 17, and 18
Table I	Main activity of 2000/01 school leavers at ages 16 and 18 by year 11 qualifications

FURTHER INFORMATION

This SFR and the questionnaire for this survey are available in PDF format on the DfES website:

<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000536/index.shtml>

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Youth Cohort Study (YCS) is a series of longitudinal surveys that contacts a sample of an academic year-group or “cohort” of young people in the spring following completion of compulsory education and again one and/or two years later. Each survey of a particular cohort is referred to as a “sweep”. The survey looks at young people’s education and labour market experience, their training and qualifications and a range of other issues, including socio-demographic variables.

This SFR presents results from sweep three of the eleventh cohort. The sample was all those who responded to the first two sweeps (around 10,300). Sweep 1 was conducted among a representative sample of around 30,000 young people in England and Wales. The original sample of pupils is provided by schools and co-ordinated by the DfES. Individual schools obtain their sample by selecting those young people in year 11 who have birthdays on particular dates in any month.

Table 1 below shows response rates by cohort and sweep for the last four cohorts. The response rate for cohort 11 sweep 3, as a proportion of the original sample, was 26%.

TABLE 1: Response rates by cohort and sweep

Cohort	Initial Issued Sample	response rate (per cent) at sweep (age of cohort):				Latest sweep achieved sample as a % of initial issued sample	Achieved sample size at latest sweep
		16	17	18	19		
9 ¹	22,500	65	66	65	76	21	4,806
10 ²	24,500	56	74 ³	71	77	23	5,572
11 ⁴	30,000	56	76	75		26	7,777

- 1 For cohort 9 there were four sweeps at ages 16, 17, 18 and 19
- 2 For cohort 10 there were four sweeps at ages 16, 17, 18 and 19
- 3 Of those who had given their consent to be contacted again.
- 4 For cohort 11 there have been three sweeps at ages 16, 17 and 18.

As with all sample surveys the YCS is subject to sampling variability. In general, the smaller the sample, the larger the relative variability of the estimate. This means that estimates for small sub-groups need to be treated with caution. Consequently in this SFR any estimate based on fewer than 100 responses has been suppressed. This means, for example, that we are unable to provide estimates for black young people throughout this SFR. For a small number of people, there is some uncertainty about whether they have gained qualifications as they provide little or no detail on the type of qualification or the level.

The data are weighted to allow for non-response and to bring them into line as far as possible with population estimates. High attainers and people in full time education are more likely to respond to the survey and the weights counteract this tendency. The population estimates used in the weighting for sweep 1 are sex, year 11 school type, region, and year 11 attainment. Results at subsequent sweeps are weighted back to earlier sweeps using a range of variables that have been found to be strongly associated with response rates.

The Statistical First Release (SFR) providing summary findings from sweep 2 of cohort 11 was published on 11 December 2003 (*Youth Cohort Study: The Activities and Experiences of 17 Year Olds: England and Wales 2003*)

While the YCS provides estimates of qualification attainment and of numbers in education, training, work and unemployment, it is not the official source for these estimates. The YCS uses different definitions and methods to the official measures and its results are subject to sampling and response

error. The strength of the YCS is its ability to analyse the range of young people's activities and relate them to other factors, such as qualification and socio-economic variables. As a longitudinal study, the YCS also allows tracking of young people in terms of their activities and attainment.

Official estimates of participation in education and training by labour market status among young people were published in Statistical First Release 27/2005: *Participation in education, training and employment by 16-18 year olds in England: 2003 and 2004*.

The YCS estimates of the proportion of those not in any education, training or employment and those in government supported training are close to the official estimates. The YCS tends to over-estimate the proportion in full time education.

Table 2:
Comparison of official estimates and YCS estimates of activity (per cent) England

Activity at time	18 year olds	
	Official (2003)	YCS 11(18)
FT education	37	43
GST	8 ¹	8
Other education/training	14	17
Not in any education/training	41	33
Not in any education, training or employment	13	12

(1) excludes any in 'GST in full time education' as these are included in the FT education figure

Activity

With the exception of government supported training (see below) the estimates of main activity shown in the SFR are based on respondents' own classification into the following groups: full time education, government supported training, full time job, part time job out of work/unemployed, taking a break from study or work/taking a gap year, looking after home or family, something else.

A small number of people who cited full or part time job as their main activity but in response to later questions indicated they were on government supported training have been reallocated from job to government supported training.

TABLE A:**Main activity¹ at 18 : 1993 - 2004**

	1993	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004
Cohort	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
FT Education	39	40	43	42	42	40	43
FT Higher education	20	19	23	22	23	25	27
Government supported training	7	7	7	8	11	8	8
FT job	34	33	29	31	29	31	30
PT job	4	5	6	7	7	7	6
Out of work	14	11	11	7	6	7	6
Other	4	4	4	5	5	8	7

Source: YCS cohorts 5-11

1 The YCS overestimates the percentage in full-time education at 18 (see notes to editors).

TABLE B:
18 year olds in 2004: Main activity by characteristics

Percentage of the group defined at each row	MAIN ACTIVITY ¹ AT 18 (2004)								
	Weighted sample	FT education:		Government supported training	FT job (excl GST)	PT job	Out of work	Taking a break/	
		All	in HE					Looking after home/family	Something else/not stated
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
ALL	7777	43	27	8	30	6	6	2	5
SEX									
Male	3829	41	24	10	33	5	7	*	4
Female	3948	45	30	5	28	7	6	3	6
ETHNIC ORIGIN²									
White	6814	40	26	8	33	6	6	2	5
Black	197	68	27	*	7	5	15	*	3
Asian	484	72	41	3	10	5	5	*	4
- Indian	203	80	47	*	6	*	4	*	5
- Pakistani/Bangladeshi	199	64	33	4	13	8	9	*	2
- Other/Asian	<i>Insufficient base</i>								
Mixed	151	50	31	7	23	*	7	*	7
Other	<i>Insufficient base</i>								
PARENTS OCCUPATION (NSSEC)									
Higher professional	1312	58	43	6	22	3	2	*	9
Lower professional	2138	52	35	7	26	5	5	1	5
Intermediate	1715	39	24	8	33	7	6	2	4
Lower supervisory	862	27	13	11	40	7	9	3	3
Routine	1102	31	13	10	36	8	9	4	2
Other/unclassified ³	648	36	16	5	29	8	12	4	6
YEAR 11 QUALIFICATIONS⁴									
5+ GCSE grades A*-C, of which	4005	59	48	5	22	4	2	1	6
8+ GCSE grades A*-C	2896	66	57	3	18	4	2	0	7
5-7 GCSE grades A*-C	1109	41	23	10	34	6	4	1	3
1-4 GCSE grades A*-C ⁵	1942	30	6	12	38	7	7	2	4
No GCSE grades A*-C, 1+ D-G	1554	19	2	10	41	8	15	4	3
None reported	275	27	3	10	33	6	13	3	8
ACTIVITY AT SWEEP 1									
FT education	5630	56	36	4	24	6	4	1	6
Government supported training	626	5	1	40	39	5	9	*	*
FT job	668	5	1	6	70	5	8	2	3
PT job	279	15	4	10	42	11	12	7	4
Out of work	403	11	1	5	35	11	26	6	5
Other	171	28	6	8	26	9	11	14	4
DISABILITY									
Has a disability or health problem	328	42	14	7	18	3	18	*	10
Does not have a disability or health problem	7390	43	27	8	31	6	6	2	5
HIGHEST QUALIFICATION ATTAINED BY 18									
Level 3+	3367	67	57	3	17	4	2	0	7
Level 2	2209	35	6	12	37	6	5	1	3
Below level 2	2201	16	2	10	43	8	14	5	4
TRUANCY IN YEAR 11									
Persistent truancy	314	11	2	9	41	9	17	8	5
Occasional truancy	2546	31	16	9	37	7	9	3	4
No truancy	4850	52	34	7	26	5	4	1	5
EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL IN YEAR 10 OR 11									
Excluded - fixed term or permanently	633	20	6	11	42	7	13	3	4
Not excluded	7076	45	29	7	29	6	6	2	5

* Represents a cell size of less than 5

Source: YCS cohort 11, sweep 3

1 The YCS overestimates the percentage in full-time education at 18 (see notes to editors).

2 Estimates for some ethnic groups not shown due to insufficient numbers

3 Includes many respondents for whom neither parent had a reported occupation.

4 Includes equivalent GNVQ qualifications achieved in year 11

5 Consists of those with 1-4 GCSE grades A*-C and any number of other grades.

Owing to independent rounding, figures do not always sum to the total.

TABLE C:

18 year olds in 2004: Education, training and employment status by characteristics

	MAIN ACTIVITY ¹ AT 18 (2004)				
	Weighted Sample	All in education or training	All not in education or training	All in education training or employment	All not in education, training or employment (NEET)
Percentage of the group defined at each row		%	%	%	%
ALL	7777	67	33	88	12
SEX					
Male	3829	67	33	90	10
Female	3948	67	33	86	14
ETHNIC ORIGIN²					
White	6814	65	35	88	12
Black	197	80	20	83	17
Asian	484	83	17	94	6
- Indian	203	88	12	93	7
- Pakistani/Bangladeshi	199	77	23	93	7
- Other/Asian	<i>Insufficient base</i>				
Mixed	151	74	26	86	14
Other	<i>Insufficient base</i>				
PARENTS OCCUPATION (NSSEC)					
Higher professional	1312	76	24	90	10
Lower professional	2138	73	27	90	10
Intermediate	1715	65	35	89	11
Lower supervisory	862	59	41	86	14
Routine	1102	59	41	86	14
Other/unclassified ³	648	58	42	81	19
YEAR 11 QUALIFICATIONS⁴					
5+ GCSE grades A*-C, of which	4005	79	21	92	8
8+ GCSE grades A*-C	2896	82	18	92	8
5-7 GCSE grades A*-C	1109	71	29	93	7
1-4 GCSE grades A*-C ⁵	1942	61	39	88	12
No GCSE grades A*-C, 1+ D-G	1554	46	54	79	21
None reported	275	50	50	76	24
ACTIVITY AT SWEEP 1					
FT education	5630	74	26	90	10
Government supported training	626	65	35	89	11
FT job	668	43	57	87	13
PT job	279	42	58	79	21
Out of work	403	36	64	66	34
Other	171	54	46	74	26
DISABILITY					
Has a disability or health problem	328	64	36	74	26
Does not have a disability or health problem	7390	67	33	89	11
HIGHEST QUALIFICATION ATTAINED BY 18					
Level 3+	3367	81	19	92	8
Level 2	2209	68	32	91	9
Below level 2	2201	44	56	78	22
TRUANCY IN YEAR 11					
Persistent truancy	314	39	61	70	30
Occasional truancy	2546	60	40	85	15
No truancy	4850	73	27	91	9
EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL IN YEAR 10 OR 11					
Excluded - fixed term or permanently	633	52	48	81	19
Not excluded	7076	68	32	89	11

Source: YCS cohort 11, sweep 3

1 The YCS overestimates the percentage in full-time education at 18 (see notes to editors).

2 Estimates for some ethnic groups not shown due to insufficient numbers

3 Includes many respondents for whom neither parent had a reported occupation

4 Includes equivalent GNVQ qualifications achieved in year 11

5 Consists of those with 1-4 GCSE grades A*-C and any number of other grades.

Owing to independent rounding, figures do not always sum to the total.

Table D:

Highest qualification achieved by 18: 1993 - 2004

	1993	1994	1996²	1998	2000	2002	2004
Cohort	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
qualified to at least level 2							
Total ¹	56	55	66	68	71	71	72
academic	40	44	48	49	52	53	36
vocational	19	15	23	26	29	28	28
qualified to at least level 3							
Total ¹	30	35	39	37	37	41	43
academic	22	26	30	28	28	32	36
vocational	8	9	9	9	10	10	9

1 Some students may have both academic and vocational qualifications at these levels and therefore the sum of the parts may exceed the total

2 Data for England only and includes some administrative data - not directly comparable with data for other years

Source: YCS cohorts 5-11

TABLE E:

18 year olds in 2004: Highest qualification level achieved by characteristics

	Weighted sample	Level 3+	Level 2	Below level 2
Percentage of the group defined at each row		%	%	%
ALL	7777	43	28	28
SEX				
Male	3829	39	29	32
Female	3948	48	28	24
ETHNIC ORIGIN¹				
White	6814	43	28	29
Black	197	30	37	32
Asian	484	51	30	18
- Indian	203	58	25	17
- Pakistani/Bangladeshi	199	39	40	21
- Other/Asian	<i>Insufficient base</i>			
Mixed	151	46	28	26
Other	<i>Insufficient base</i>			
PARENTS OCCUPATION (NSSEC)				
Higher professional	1312	68	19	13
Lower professional	2138	54	26	20
Intermediate	1715	40	30	29
Lower supervisory	862	25	33	42
Routine	1102	24	35	41
Other/unclassified ²	648	22	32	47
YEAR 11 QUALIFICATIONS³				
5+ GCSE grades A*-C, of which	4005	75	25	*
8+ GCSE grades A*-C	2896	86	14	*
5-7 GCSE grades A*-C	1109	47	53	*
1-4 GCSE grades A*-C ⁴	1942	14	39	48
No GCSE grades A*-C, 1+ D-G	1554	5	25	70
None reported	275	7	25	68
MAIN ACTIVITY AT 18				
FT education	3348	67	23	10
Government supported training	606	17	45	37
FT job	2345	25	35	40
PT job	459	30	31	40
Out of work	498	12	24	64
Other	522	48	17	36
DISABILITY				
Has a disability or health problem	328	29	27	44
Does not have a disability or health problem	7390	44	28	28
TRUANCY IN YEAR 11				
Persistent truancy	314	5	24	71
Occasional truancy	2546	30	33	37
No truancy	4850	53	26	21
EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL IN YEAR 10 OR 11				
Excluded - fixed term or permanently	633	13	30	57
Not excluded	7076	46	28	26

* Represents a cell size of less than 5

1 Estimates for some ethnic groups not shown due to insufficient numbers

2 Includes many respondents for whom neither parent had a reported occupation

3 Includes equivalent GNVQ qualifications achieved in year 11

4 Consists of those with 1-4 GCSE grades A*-C and any number of other grades.

Owing to independent rounding, figures do not always sum to the total.

Table F:

18 year olds in 2004: Qualification level and type, achieved by characteristics

	Weighted sample	QUALIFICATIONS ATTAINED							
		Level 3+				Level 2+ ¹			
		Total	A/AS levels	AVCEs (voc A levels)	NVQ or equivalent	Total	A/AS level /GCSE	Intermediate GNVQ/ AVCEs	NVQ or equivalent
Percentage of the group defined at each row	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
ALL	7777	43	36	4	5	72	56	18	15
SEX									
Male	3829	39	32	3	4	68	51	17	15
Female	3948	48	39	4	6	76	61	18	16
ETHNIC ORIGIN²									
White	6814	43	35	3	5	71	56	16	16
Black	197	30	23	3	5	68	45	32	9
Asian	484	51	44	6	3	82	62	27	11
- Indian	203	58	50	7	3	83	66	29	9
- Pakistani/Bangladeshi	199	39	32	4	4	79	50	30	15
- Other/Asian	Insufficient base								
Mixed	151	46	38	4	5	74	55	23	13
Other	Insufficient base								
PARENTS OCCUPATION (NSSEC)									
Higher professional	1312	68	63	3	4	87	79	12	9
Lower professional	2138	54	46	4	5	80	67	17	15
Intermediate	1715	40	32	4	6	71	54	17	17
Lower supervisory	862	25	16	4	5	58	38	22	18
Routine	1102	24	16	3	5	59	35	21	20
Other/unclassified ³	648	22	16	3	4	53	32	24	14
YEAR 11 QUALIFICATIONS⁴									
5+ GCSE grades A*-C, of which	4005	75	66	6	5	100	99	14	9
8+ GCSE grades A*-C	2896	86	79	4	4	100	100	11	7
5-7 GCSE grades A*-C	1109	47	31	9	8	100	97	21	17
1-4 GCSE grades A*-C ⁶	1942	14	5	3	7	52	15	25	25
No GCSE grades A*-C, 1+ D-G	1554	5	1	*	3	30	1	21	19
None reported	275	7	6	*	*	32	14	9	13
MAIN ACTIVITY AT 18									
FT education	3348	67	59	5	4	90	77	19	10
Government supported training	606	17	7	2	9	63	35	16	35
FT job	2345	25	16	4	5	60	40	18	20
PT job	459	30	21	2	7	60	43	14	17
Out of work	498	12	8	1	3	36	21	17	12
Other	522	48	42	3	3	64	55	14	7
DISABILITY									
Has a disability or health problem	328	29	22	2	5	56	40	21	12
Does not have a disability or health problem	7390	44	36	4	5	72	56	18	16
TRUANCY IN YEAR 11									
Persistent truancy	314	5	3	*	*	29	15	9	12
Occasional truancy	2546	30	23	3	5	63	44	17	17
No truancy	4850	53	45	4	5	79	65	19	15
EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL IN YEAR 10 OR 11									
Excluded - fixed term or permanently	633	13	8	1	4	43	20	14	18
Not excluded	7076	46	38	4	5	74	59	18	15

* Represents a cell size of less than 5

Source: YCS cohort 11, sweep 3

1 Includes those also qualified to at least Level 3.

2 Estimates for some ethnic groups not shown due to insufficient numbers

3 Includes many respondents for whom neither parent had a reported occupation

4 Includes equivalent GNVQ qualifications achieved in year 11

5 Consists of those with 1-4 GCSE grades A*-C and any number of other grades.

Owing to independent rounding, figures do not always sum to the total.

TABLE G:

18 year olds in 2004: Main study aim by characteristics

	Weighted sample	Any qualification	Degree and other level 4 equivalent	MAIN STUDY AIM				Level 2 (any route)	Other/ Not specified
				Level 3:					
				All	GCE A/AS level	AVCE (Vocational A level)	NVQ 3 and other equivalent		
Percentage of the group defined at each row		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
ALL	7777	52	27	15	5	2	8	5	4
SEX									
Male	3829	51	25	17	5	2	9	5	5
Female	3948	53	30	14	5	2	7	6	3
ETHNIC ORIGIN ¹									
White	6814	49	26	14	4	1	8	6	4
Black	197	68	27	28	11	11	6	6	7
Asian	484	74	43	24	13	7	4	3	5
- Indian	203	80	49	23	13	7	3	3	5
- Pakistani/Bangladeshi	199	68	33	28	12	10	5	*	4
- Other/Asian	Insufficient base								
Mixed	151	59	33	16	7	*	4	6	4
Other	Insufficient base								
PARENTS OCCUPATION (NSSEC)									
Higher professional	1312	65	44	15	7	2	6	4	3
Lower professional	2138	59	36	15	5	2	7	5	4
Intermediate	1715	49	24	16	5	2	9	5	3
Lower supervisory	862	37	13	13	3	2	8	6	4
Routine	1102	43	13	16	5	2	9	8	6
Other/unclassified ²	648	43	17	16	4	5	7	7	4
YEAR 11 QUALIFICATIONS ³									
5+ GCSE grades A*-C, of which	4005	66	49	12	6	1	5	3	3
8+ GCSE grades A*-C	2896	71	58	10	6	0	4	2	2
5-7 GCSE grades A*-C	1109	54	25	19	8	2	9	5	5
1-4 GCSE grades A*-C ⁴	1942	42	7	22	5	4	12	9	4
No GCSE grades A*-C, 1+ D-G	1554	29	3	12	1	3	9	9	6
None reported	275	38	3	21	9	5	6	7	8
MAIN ACTIVITY at 18									
FT education	3348	94	62	25	10	5	10	4	3
Government supported training	606	75	3	34	*	*	33	27	12
FT Job	2345	12	1	4	1	*	3	4	3
PT Job	459	13	1	5	3	*	2	3	4
Out of work	498	5	*	1	*	*	*	*	3
Other	522	11	2	4	3	*	*	4	2
DISABILITY									
Has a disability or health problem	328	49	14	17	8	*	7	6	12
Does not have a disability or health problem	7390	52	28	15	5	2	8	5	4
HIGHEST QUALIFICATION ATTAINED									
Level 3+	3367	70	57	9	5	0	3	2	2
Level 2	2209	49	7	31	9	6	15	7	5
Below level 2	2201	26	2	9	1	2	7	9	6
TRUANCY IN YEAR 11									
Persistent truancy	314	20	2	6	*	*	4	6	6
Occasional truancy	2546	41	16	15	4	2	9	6	5
No truancy	4850	60	35	16	6	2	8	5	3
EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL IN YEAR 10 OR 11									
Excluded - fixed term or permanently	633	33	6	16	3	3	10	7	3
Not excluded	7076	54	29	15	5	2	8	5	4

* Represents a cell size of less than 5

Source: YCS cohort 11, sweep 3

1 Estimates for some ethnic groups not shown due to insufficient numbers

2 Includes many respondents for whom neither parent had a reported occupation

3 Includes equivalent GNVQ qualifications achieved in year 11

4 Consists of those with 1-4 GCSE grades A*-C and any number of other grades.

Owing to independent rounding, figures do not always sum to the total.

TABLE H:
Main Activity of 2000/01 school leavers at ages 16, 17 and 18

a)	MAIN ACTIVITY¹ AT 18 (2004)						
	Weighted sample	Full-time education	Government supported training	Full time Job	Part time Job	Out of work	Something else/not stated
percentage of the group defined at each row		%	%	%	%	%	%
ALL	7777	43	8	30	6	6	7
MAIN ACTIVITY AT 16 (2002)							
Full-time education	5630	56	4	24	6	4	7
Government supported training	626	5	40	39	5	9	2
Full-time Job	668	5	6	70	5	8	6
Part-time	279	15	10	42	11	12	11
Out of work	403	11	5	35	11	26	11
Something else/not stated	171	28	8	26	9	11	17
b)							
	MAIN ACTIVITY¹ AT 17 (2003)						
	Weighted sample	Full-time education	Government supported training	Full time Job	Part time Job	Out of work	Something else/not stated
percentage of the group defined at each row		%	%	%	%	%	%
ALL	7777	63	9	15	3	5	4
MAIN ACTIVITY AT 16 (2002)							
FT education	5630	82	3	7	2	3	2
Government supported training	626	8	58	21	3	7	3
Full-time Job	668	8	9	66	5	7	5
Part-time	279	23	10	27	17	15	8
Out of work	403	19	11	29	5	27	9
Something else/not stated	171	25	12	20	*	13	27
c)							
	MAIN ACTIVITY¹ AT 18 (2004)						
	Weighted sample	FT education	Government supported training	Full time Job	Part time Job	Out of work	Something else/not stated
percentage of the group defined at each row		%	%	%	%	%	%
ALL	7777	43	8	30	6	6	7
MAIN ACTIVITY AT 17 (2003)							
FT education	4920	64	3	18	5	4	6
Government supported training	705	5	48	32	4	6	5
Full-time Job	1179	3	5	75	4	8	3
Part-time	271	10	5	47	21	11	6
Out of work	422	9	8	34	13	28	8
Something else/not stated	279	21	8	19	10	10	32

1 The YCS overestimates the percentage in full-time education at 17 and 18 (see notes to editors).

TABLE I:
Main Activity of 2000/01 school leavers at ages 16 and 18 by Year 11 qualifications.

a) Those achieving 5 or more GCSE grades A*-C in year 11

	Weighted sample	FT education	MAIN ACTIVITY ¹ AT 18 (2004)		
			Government supported training	Job	Other
percentage of the group defined at each row		%	%	%	%
ALL	4005	59	5	26	9
MAIN ACTIVITY AT 16 (2002)					
FT education	3612	64	3	24	9
Government supported training	120	6	59	34	*
Job	202	20	6	65	9
Other	Insufficient base				

b) Those achieving fewer than 5 GCSE grades A*-C in year 11

	Weighted sample	FT education	MAIN ACTIVITY ¹ AT 18 (2004)		
			Government supported training	Job	Other
percentage of the group defined at each row		%	%	%	%
ALL	3772	26	11	46	17
MAIN ACTIVITY AT 16 (2002)					
FT education	2018	41	7	39	13
Government supported training	506	4	36	46	14
Job	745	5	7	69	18
Other	503	14	6	43	37

Source: YCS cohort 11

1 The YCS overestimates the percentage in full-time education at 18 (see notes to editors).