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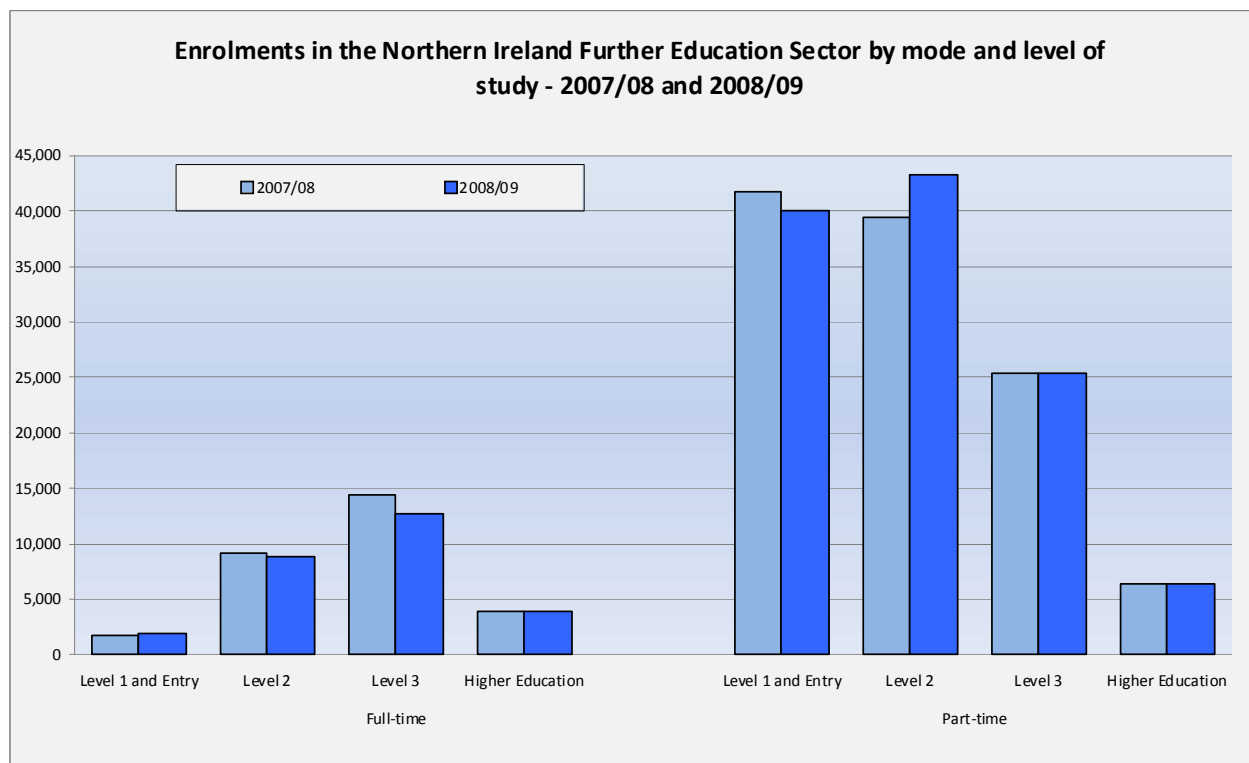
# Statistical Bulletin

## Professional and Technical Enrolments in the Northern Ireland Further Education Sector for 2007/08 and 2008/09

20<sup>th</sup> January 2010

### Introduction

This Statistical Bulletin has been produced by the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) using data collected in the Further Education Statistical Record (FESR). It gives details of full year student enrolments on Professional and Technical courses at Further Education Institutions in Northern Ireland for 2007/08 and 2008/09.



## Key Points

- There has been a slight increase in Professional and Technical assessed enrolments at Northern Ireland (NI) Further Education (FE) Institutions between 2007/08 and 2008/09. Enrolments have increased from 142,100 to 142,486.
- Between 2007/08 and 2008/09 full time enrolments decreased from 29,213 to 27,274. However part time enrolments increased by 2% from 112,887 to 115,212.
- Between these two academic years there has been a slight increase in both FE and HE Level enrolments. FE increased from 131,857 to 132,205 while HE increased from 10,243 to 10,281.
- In 2007/08, 48% of Professional and Technical assessed enrolments were male and 52% female. By 2008/09 this had changed slightly to 49% male and 51% female.
- In both 2007/08 and 2008/09 Education and Training subject area had the most enrolments increasing from 18,092 to 22,312. History, Philosophy & Theology had the least number of enrolments with 568 in 2007/08 and 732 in 2008/09.
- However in terms of gender the most popular subject, for females, in both years was Health, Public Services and Care. In 2008/09 Education and Training was the most popular among males compared to Construction, Planning and the Built Environment in 2007/08.
- The majority of male enrolments were aged 19 years and under in each of the academic years, 39,888 in 2007/08 and 40,908 in 2008/09. The majority of female enrolments were aged 25 years and over with 34,639 in 2007/08 and 33,268 in 2008/09.
- In each academic year the majority of enrolments were enrolled on courses at NQF Level 2 or equivalent, representing 34% of total enrolments in 2007/08 and 37% in 2008/09. At College level only Belfast Metropolitan College and North West Regional College did not have the majority of their enrolments at Level 2 or equivalent.
- Higher Education enrolments accounted for 7% of total enrolments in both 2007/08 and 2008/09.

## Notes to Readers

### *General*

1. The statistics in this statistical bulletin have been derived from the Further Education Statistical Record (FESR), a computerised return consisting of an individual record for each enrolment on assessed professional or technical courses in Northern Ireland Further Education Institutions.
2. Data on DEL funded provision including Jobskills is included within this report in addition to Essential Skills, Vocational Enhancement Programme and Cost Recovery courses. Recreational courses and Keyskills enrolments are omitted, as the former do not relate to qualifications and the latter are subcomponents of programmes of study.
3. The figures in this statistical bulletin are a full year count of student enrolments, it should be noted that students may be enrolled on more than one course at a given time and will therefore be counted as two or more student enrolments. This report includes data relating to the 2007/08 and 2008/09 academic years which were the first two years of the 6 College configuration.

### *Definition of Higher Education*

4. Higher Education (HE) is defined as a course leading to a qualification above A2 level standard. This includes postgraduate study, first degrees, BTEC Higher National Diploma (HND) and Certificate (HNC) courses, Foundation degrees and a number of professional qualifications. HE is NQF Level 4 (and equivalent) and above.

### *Mode of Attendance*

5. Mode of attendance identifies enrolments studying full-time or part-time:
  - (a) Full-time enrolments include all enrolments whose attendance is:
    - i. full-time (for at least 15 hours and at least 7 sessions per week, or for more than 21 hours per week, with no sessional requirement);
    - ii. on sandwich courses; or
    - iii. on short courses (single self-contained periods of full-time study of under 4 weeks' duration, within one academic year, which do not have to satisfy the hour and session requirement of i. above).
  - (b) Part-time enrolments include all enrolments whose attendance is:
    - i. part-time day;
    - ii. block release;

- iii. evening only;
- iv. open/distance learning; or
- v. linked to their attendance at a school on a full-time basis.

### *Age*

- 6. Age is at 1<sup>st</sup> July of each academic year.
- 7. The age group of '25 year and over' includes a small component of those of unknown age.

### *Changes to Subject Classification*

- 8. The standard classification subject groups listed in tables 7 to 11 are new sector and subject categories which were developed by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA), the Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) and the ACCAC, the Welsh authority, along with other key educational bodies according to industry sector and academic subject area. They aim to allow more consistent reporting of data across the UK.

### *Changes to Data Collection Methods*

- 9. Due to the phased implementation of a new MIS system in the NI FE sector NICIS in 2002/03 caution should be exercised in comparing data from 2003/04 onwards with previous years' data.

## **Further Enquiries**

Further details about any of the statistics in this statistical bulletin can be obtained from

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DEL statistical news releases and bulletins can be accessed on the Department's web site – [www.delni.gov.uk/statistics](http://www.delni.gov.uk/statistics)  
**Media enquiries should be made to the Department's Press Office at the same address, telephone (028) 9025 7872.**

## Tables

*Table 1&2: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, 2007/08 and 2008/09.*

- Details professional and technical assessed enrolments by regional college and mode of attendance for the academic year 2007/08 and 2008/09.

*Table 3&4: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Level of Study, 2007/08 and 2008/09.*

- Details professional and technical assessed enrolments by regional college and level of course, i.e. whether the qualification aim of the course is Higher Education (HE) or Further Education (FE), for the academic year 2007/08 and 2008/09.

*Table 5&6: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, Level of Study and Sector & Subject Category, 2007/08 and 2008/09.*

- Details professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories by whether they are HE or FE and by mode of attendance for the academic year 2007/08 and 2008/09.

*Tables 7&8: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Gender, 2007/08 and 2008/09.*

- The tables detail the professional and technical assessed enrolments by regional college, mode of attendance and gender for the academic year 2007/08 and 2008/09.

*Table 9&10: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by NQF Level (or equivalent), 2007/08 and 2008/09.*

- Details all professional and technical enrolments by regional college and NQF level or equivalent for the academic year 2007/08 and 2008/09.

*Tables 11&12: Professional and Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Sector & Subject Category, Gender and Age Group, 2007/08 and 2008/09.*

- The tables detail the professional and technical enrolments by the tier 1 sector & subject categories, gender and age group for the academic year 2007/08 and 2008/09.

**Table 1: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance , 2007/08**

Mode of Attendance	College						Overall FE Sector Total
	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	
Full time	6,548	4,694	4,854	5,185	3,763	4,169	29,213
Part time	31,498	16,395	16,906	22,024	13,241	12,823	112,887
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,046</b>	<b>21,089</b>	<b>21,760</b>	<b>27,209</b>	<b>17,004</b>	<b>16,992</b>	<b>142,100</b>

**Table 2: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance , 2008/09**

Mode of Attendance	College						Overall FE Sector Total
	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	
Full time	6,025	4,554	4,215	4,783	3,418	4,279	27,274
Part time	31,569	15,268	19,250	22,526	13,730	12,869	115,212
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,594</b>	<b>19,822</b>	<b>23,465</b>	<b>27,309</b>	<b>17,148</b>	<b>17,148</b>	<b>142,486</b>

**Table 3: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Level of Study , 2007/08**

Level of Study	College						Overall FE Sector Total
	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	
Higher Education	4,167	1,037	1,257	1,701	792	1,289	10,243
Further Education	33,879	20,052	20,503	25,508	16,212	15,703	131,857
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,046</b>	<b>21,089</b>	<b>21,760</b>	<b>27,209</b>	<b>17,004</b>	<b>16,992</b>	<b>142,100</b>

**Table 4: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Level of Study , 2008/09**

Level of Study	College						Overall FE Sector Total
	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	
Higher Education	4,050	1,000	1,188	1,672	1,055	1,316	10,281
Further Education	33,544	18,822	22,277	25,637	16,093	15,832	132,205
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,594</b>	<b>19,822</b>	<b>23,465</b>	<b>27,309</b>	<b>17,148</b>	<b>17,148</b>	<b>142,486</b>



**Table 5: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, Level of Study and Sector & Subject Category, 2007/08**

Sector & Subject Category	2007/08				
	Full-Time		Part-Time		Overall Total
	HE <sup>1</sup>	FE <sup>2</sup>	HE <sup>1</sup>	FE <sup>2</sup>	
Health, Public Services & Care	764	3,051	1,052	8,366	13,233
Science & Mathematics	77	1,811	90	8,568	10,546
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	22	249	25	563	859
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	152	2,691	613	6,544	10,000
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	413	5,656	618	5,996	12,683
Information & Communication Technology	506	1,590	458	10,419	12,973
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	79	3,015	396	9,343	12,833
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	522	1,986	176	1,705	4,389
Arts, Media & Publishing	754	2,426	217	3,881	7,278
History, Philosophy & Theology	-	56	-	512	568
Social Sciences	-	207	130	2,245	2,582
Languages, Literature & Culture	-	135	94	12,991	13,220
Education & Training	-	275	206	17,611	18,092
Preparation for Life & Work	-	491	81	9,253	9,825
Business Administration & Law	586	1,699	2,212	8,522	13,019
<b>FE Sector Total</b>	<b>3,875</b>	<b>25,338</b>	<b>6,368</b>	<b>106,519</b>	<b>142,100</b>

<sup>1</sup>HE = Higher Education is equivalent to NQF Level 4 and above

<sup>2</sup>FE = Further Education is equivalent to NQF Level 3 and below

**Table 6: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance, Level of Study and Sector & Subject Category, 2008/09**

Sector & Subject Category	2008/09				Overall Total
	Full-Time		Part-Time		
	HE <sup>1</sup>	FE <sup>2</sup>	HE <sup>1</sup>	FE <sup>2</sup>	
Health, Public Services & Care	740	3,095	1,232	7,577	12,644
Science & Mathematics	67	882	102	7,243	8,294
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	24	208	19	674	925
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	144	3,047	796	7,447	11,434
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	413	4,389	524	5,233	10,559
Information & Communication Technology	566	1,549	374	10,416	12,905
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	96	3,040	277	9,000	12,413
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	493	2,054	146	1,633	4,326
Arts, Media & Publishing	760	2,544	216	3,909	7,429
History, Philosophy & Theology	-	6	-	726	732
Social Sciences	-	137	98	2,415	2,650
Languages, Literature & Culture	-	97	95	13,318	13,510
Education & Training	-	252	217	21,843	22,312
Preparation for Life & Work	-	663	36	9,941	10,640
Business Administration & Law	545	1,463	2,301	7,404	11,713
<b>FE Sector Total</b>	<b>3,848</b>	<b>23,426</b>	<b>6,433</b>	<b>108,779</b>	<b>142,486</b>

<sup>1</sup>HE = Higher Education is equivalent to NQF Level 4 and above

<sup>2</sup>FE = Further Education is equivalent to NQF Level 3 and below

**Table 7: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Gender, 2007/08**

Mode of Attendance	Gender	College						Overall FE Sector Total
		Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	
Full time	Male	3,500	2,719	2,955	2,999	2,452	1,968	16,593
	Female	3,048	1,975	1,899	2,186	1,311	2,201	12,620
Full time Total		6,548	4,694	4,854	5,185	3,763	4,169	29,213
Part time	Male	13,368	7,743	7,926	9,825	6,280	6,246	51,388
	Female	18,130	8,652	8,980	12,199	6,961	6,577	61,499
Part time Total		31,498	16,395	16,906	22,024	13,241	12,823	112,887
Total	Male	16,868	10,462	10,881	12,824	8,732	8,214	67,981
	Female	21,178	10,627	10,879	14,385	8,272	8,778	74,119
Overall Total		<b>38,046</b>	<b>21,089</b>	<b>21,760</b>	<b>27,209</b>	<b>17,004</b>	<b>16,992</b>	<b>142,100</b>

**Table 8: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Mode of Attendance and Gender, 2008/09**

Mode of Attendance	Gender	College						Overall FE Sector Total
		Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	
Full time	Male	3,236	2,665	2,574	2,754	2,156	2,130	15,515
	Female	2,789	1,889	1,641	2,029	1,262	2,149	11,759
Full time Total		6,025	4,554	4,215	4,783	3,418	4,279	27,274
Part time	Male	14,148	7,324	9,478	9,990	6,917	5,965	53,822
	Female	17,421	7,944	9,772	12,536	6,813	6,904	61,390
Part time Total		31,569	15,268	19,250	22,526	13,730	12,869	115,212
Total	Male	17,384	9,989	12,052	12,744	9,073	8,095	69,337
	Female	20,210	9,833	11,413	14,565	8,075	9,053	73,149
Overall Total		<b>37,594</b>	<b>19,822</b>	<b>23,465</b>	<b>27,309</b>	<b>17,148</b>	<b>17,148</b>	<b>142,486</b>

**Table 9: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by NQF Level (or equivalent), 2007/08**

Level of Study	College						Overall FE Sector Total
	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	
Entry & Level 1	13,602	4,703	5,801	7,700	5,286	6,382	43,474
Level 2	9,016	9,008	8,700	10,655	6,416	4,889	48,684
Level 3	11,261	6,341	6,002	7,153	4,510	4,432	39,699
HE <sup>1</sup>	4,167	1,037	1,257	1,701	792	1,289	10,243
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,046</b>	<b>21,089</b>	<b>21,760</b>	<b>27,209</b>	<b>17,004</b>	<b>16,992</b>	<b>142,100</b>

**Table 10: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by NQF Level (or equivalent), 2008/09**

Level of Study	College						Overall FE Sector Total
	Belfast Metropolitan College	Northern Regional College	South Eastern Regional College	Southern Regional College	South West College	North West Regional College	
Entry & Level 1	13,906	5,148	6,818	4,492	4,963	6,662	41,989
Level 2	8,639	8,071	9,850	13,899	6,905	4,778	52,142
Level 3	10,999	5,603	5,609	7,246	4,225	4,392	38,074
HE <sup>1</sup>	4,050	1,000	1,188	1,672	1,055	1,316	10,281
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,594</b>	<b>19,822</b>	<b>23,465</b>	<b>27,309</b>	<b>17,148</b>	<b>17,148</b>	<b>142,486</b>

<sup>1</sup>HE = Higher Education is equivalent to NQF Level 4 and above

**Table 11: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Sector & Subject Category, Gender and Age Group, 2007/08**

Sector & Subject Category	Male				Female				Total			
	19 years & under	20 to 24 years	25 years & over <sup>1</sup>	Total	19 years & under	20 to 24 years	25 years & over <sup>1</sup>	Total	19 years & under	20 to 24 years	25 years & over <sup>1</sup>	Overall Total
Health, Public Services & Care	465	233	1,201	1,899	4,373	1,568	5,393	11,334	4,838	1,801	6,594	13,233
Science & Mathematics	3,190	427	528	4,145	3,993	910	1,498	6,401	7,183	1,337	2,026	10,546
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	214	20	139	373	149	21	316	486	363	41	455	859
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	5,423	1,371	2,230	9,024	263	144	569	976	5,686	1,515	2,799	10,000
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	8,841	1,337	1,999	12,177	257	82	167	506	9,098	1,419	2,166	12,683
Information & Communication Technology	2,484	617	3,066	6,167	1,186	501	5,119	6,806	3,670	1,118	8,185	12,973
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	1,040	392	1,046	2,478	3,817	1,837	4,701	10,355	4,857	2,229	5,747	12,833
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	1,680	329	340	2,349	1,566	224	250	2,040	3,246	553	590	4,389
Arts, Media & Publishing	1,738	430	689	2,857	1,752	426	2,243	4,421	3,490	856	2,932	7,278
History, Philosophy & Theology	197	35	30	262	217	40	49	306	414	75	79	568
Social Sciences	398	184	400	982	640	325	635	1,600	1,038	509	1,035	2,582
Languages, Literature and Culture	792	773	4,078	5,643	1,027	1,341	5,209	7,577	1,819	2,114	9,287	13,220
Education & Training	7,114	814	2,023	9,951	4,815	619	2,707	8,141	11,929	1,433	4,730	18,092
Preparation for Life & Work	5,058	203	790	6,051	2,991	158	625	3,774	8,049	361	1,415	9,825
Business Administration & Law	1,254	633	1,736	3,623	2,542	1,696	5,158	9,396	3,796	2,329	6,894	13,019
<b>Overall FE Sector Total</b>	<b>39,888</b>	<b>7,798</b>	<b>20,295</b>	<b>67,981</b>	<b>29,588</b>	<b>9,892</b>	<b>34,639</b>	<b>74,119</b>	<b>69,476</b>	<b>17,690</b>	<b>54,934</b>	<b>142,100</b>

<sup>1</sup>25 years & over age group includes 446 of unknown age (224 male & 222 female)

**Table 12: Professional & Technical Assessed Enrolments at the Northern Ireland Further Education Colleges by Sector & Subject Category, Gender and Age Group, 2008/09**

Sector & Subject Category	Male				Female				Total			
	19 years & under	20 to 24 years	25 years & over <sup>1</sup>	Total	19 years & under	20 to 24 years	25 years & over <sup>1</sup>	Total	19 years & under	20 to 24 years	25 years & over <sup>1</sup>	Overall Total
Health, Public Services & Care	478	252	1,169	1,899	4,445	1,565	4,735	10,745	4,923	1,817	5,904	12,644
Science & Mathematics	2,434	408	505	3,347	2,853	791	1,303	4,947	5,287	1,199	1,808	8,294
Agriculture, Horticulture & Animal Care	197	33	136	366	167	43	349	559	364	76	485	925
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	5,762	1,682	2,864	10,308	265	177	684	1,126	6,027	1,859	3,548	11,434
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	7,239	1,244	1,657	10,140	241	71	107	419	7,480	1,315	1,764	10,559
Information & Communication Technology	2,646	576	3,116	6,338	1,136	429	5,002	6,567	3,782	1,005	8,118	12,905
Retail & Commercial Enterprise	1,023	343	987	2,353	3,878	1,710	4,472	10,060	4,901	2,053	5,459	12,413
Leisure, Travel & Tourism	1,953	351	249	2,553	1,420	197	156	1,773	3,373	548	405	4,326
Arts, Media & Publishing	2,072	431	666	3,169	1,810	437	2,013	4,260	3,882	868	2,679	7,429
History, Philosophy & Theology	273	31	28	332	338	37	25	400	611	68	53	732
Social Sciences	508	136	247	891	908	285	566	1,759	1,416	421	813	2,650
Languages, Literature and Culture	936	668	3,766	5,370	1,148	1,328	5,664	8,140	2,084	1,996	9,430	13,510
Education & Training	8,602	943	2,414	11,959	5,992	911	3,450	10,353	14,594	1,854	5,864	22,312
Preparation for Life & Work	5,415	309	850	6,574	3,271	215	580	4,066	8,686	524	1,430	10,640
Business Administration & Law	1,370	585	1,783	3,738	2,395	1,418	4,162	7,975	3,765	2,003	5,945	11,713
<b>Overall FE Sector Total</b>	<b>40,908</b>	<b>7,992</b>	<b>20,437</b>	<b>69,337</b>	<b>30,267</b>	<b>9,614</b>	<b>33,268</b>	<b>73,149</b>	<b>71,175</b>	<b>17,606</b>	<b>53,705</b>	<b>142,486</b>

<sup>1</sup>25 years & over age group includes 302 of unknown age (150 male & 152 female)