

Official Statistics Release

Policy area:	Further education and skills inspections and outcomes
Theme:	Education, children's services and skills
Published on:	9 September 2014
Coverage:	England
Period covered:	1 April to 30 June 2014
Status:	Provisional
Issued by:	Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) 125 Kingsway London WC2B 6SE
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Link to official statistics release web page:	http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/official-statistics-further-education-and-skills-inspections-and-outcomes
Publication medium:	Ofsted website
Publication frequency:	Quarterly

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Introduction

1. On 1 September 2013 learning and skills was renamed further education and skills. This official statistics release reports on inspections of further education and skills providers that occurred between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014. Providers were inspected against the *Common inspection framework for further education and skills 2012*. This framework sets out the judgements that inspectors will make during inspection and the principles that apply to further education and skills inspections under the Education and Inspections Act 2006. The inspection framework can be found at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120062.
2. There are four main areas against which a provider is assessed:
 - a. Overall effectiveness
 - b. Outcomes for learners
 - c. The quality of teaching, learning and assessment
 - d. The effectiveness of leadership and management
3. There are four judgements a provider can receive against these areas: outstanding, good, requires improvement and inadequate. Further information can be found on the Ofsted website: www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120062.
4. The overall aim of inspection is to evaluate how efficiently and effectively the education and training provision meets learners' needs. Inspection arrangements – together with other government initiatives – are intended to speed up improvement in the quality of the further education and skills sector.
5. Data on inspection outcomes as at 30 June 2014 use a snapshot of data to identify providers wholly or partly funded by the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) or the Education Funding Agency (EFA) at that point. This information is provided to Ofsted on a monthly basis by Information Management Services.
6. Additional tables providing more detailed breakdowns are available here: <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/official-statistics-further-education-and-skills-inspections-and-outcomes>
7. Data and information prior to April 2013 can be found here: <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/official-statistics-learning-and-skills-inspections-and-outcomes>

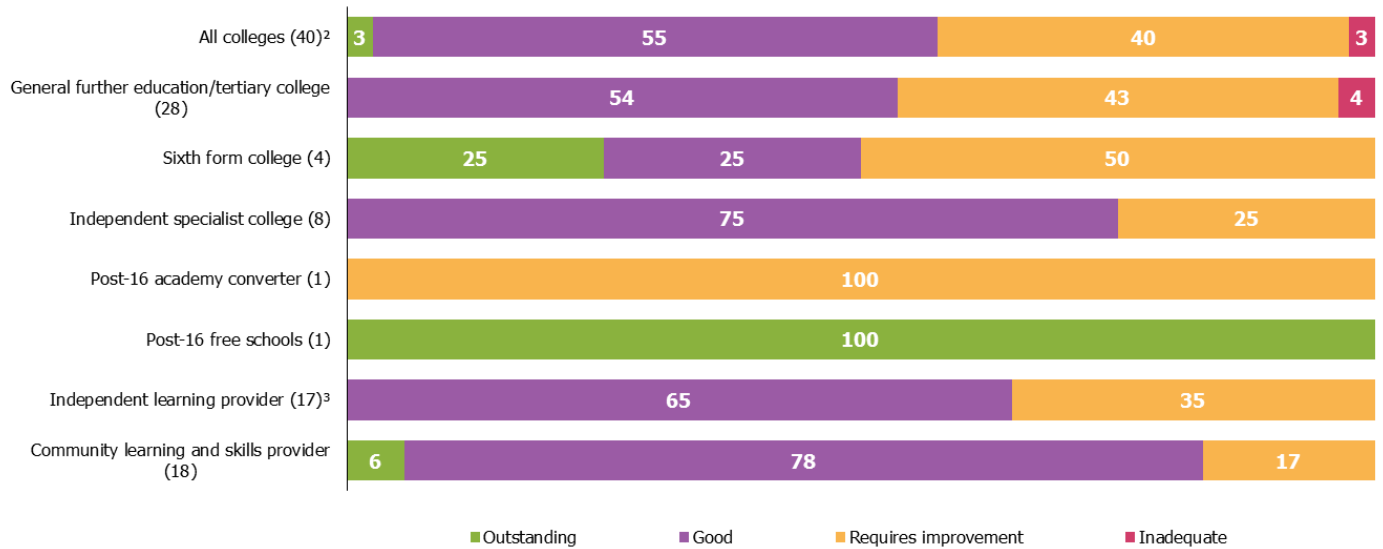
Key findings

- Between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014, there have been 77 inspections of further education and skills providers. This consisted of 40 inspections of colleges, 17 inspections of independent learning providers and 18 inspections of community learning and skills providers. Ofsted has also carried out one inspection of a post-16 free school and one inspection of an post-16 academy converter. Ofsted also contributed to the inspection of 12 prison and young offender institutions where the reports were published between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014.
- Ofsted continues to select a proportion of providers for inspection based on concerns about their current performance. Between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014, 17% of the providers inspected were selected for this reason. This is lower than the 26% of inspections that were selected through risk assessed over the same period last year. The reduction in the proportion of risk assessed inspections has largely been caused by the need to inspect requires improvement and satisfactory providers in the set time frame.
- During the period 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014, three providers (four per cent) were judged outstanding, consisting of one community learning and skills provider, one sixth form college and one free school 16-19. However, one provider, a general further education college (GFE) was judged inadequate.
- GFE colleges are the largest providers of further education and skills in terms of their learner numbers. Between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 Ofsted inspected 28 such colleges. Of these, just over half were judged good. This is lower than the first half of the year (59%) and in this reporting period none was judged outstanding. Of the remaining GFE colleges, 12 were judged as requires improvement and one was inadequate.
- Ofsted's current approach to grading identifies grade 3 providers as 'requires improvement'. These providers are subject to interventions aimed at supporting them to improve their provision quickly. The proportion of previously grade 3 providers improving at their most recent inspection is now higher compared to 2012/13. Between 1 September 2013 and 30 June 2014, 70% of providers previously judged as satisfactory/requires improvement have improved at their latest inspection.
- Ofsted has a strong focus on the quality of teaching and learning in its current framework. Of the 77 inspections carried out in this reporting period, three providers were judged outstanding for this aspect of their provision. Overall in the reporting period two-thirds of providers were judged to have good or outstanding teaching and learning making this the most positively judged aspect of the inspections.
- Just over a third of independent learning providers were judged to require improvement none was judged inadequate.
- Community learning and skills providers (where sufficient providers have been inspected to make a fair comparison) have the highest proportion judged good or outstanding at 83%

and the lowest proportion of providers judged inadequate or requires improvement, at 17% of those inspected in the period.

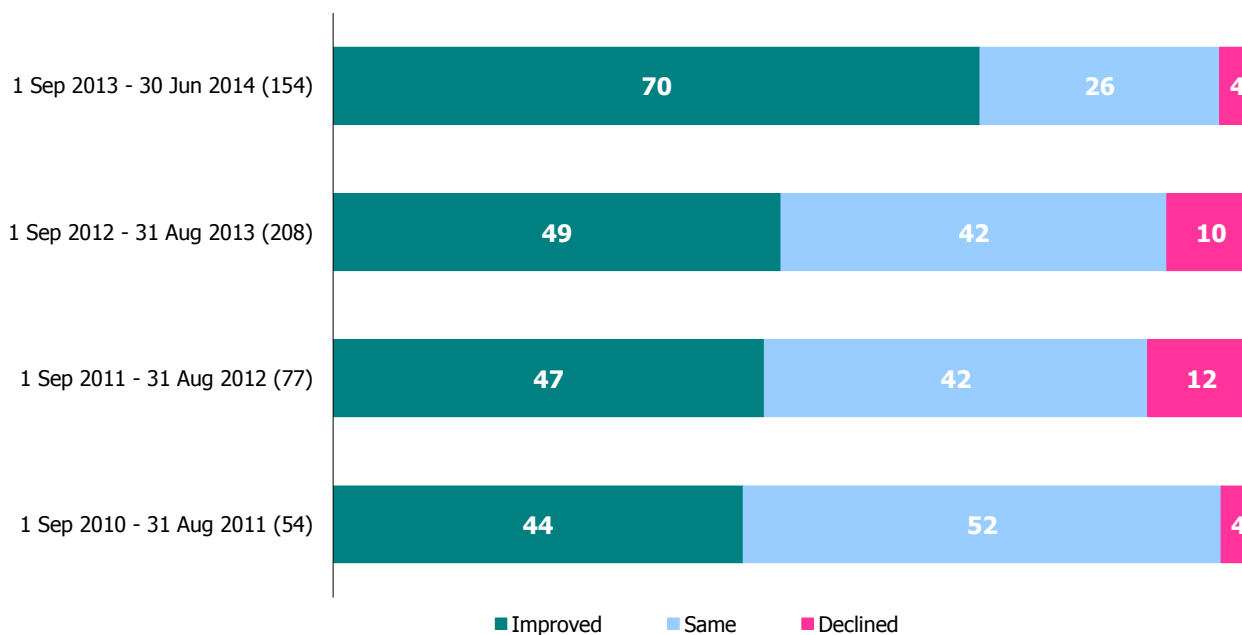
- Between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 Ofsted inspected the apprenticeship provision in 39 providers. Of these, three per cent were judged outstanding, 56% were good, 41% were judged as requires improvement and none was judged inadequate.

Chart 1: Overall effectiveness of further education and skills providers inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014, percentage (provisional)¹



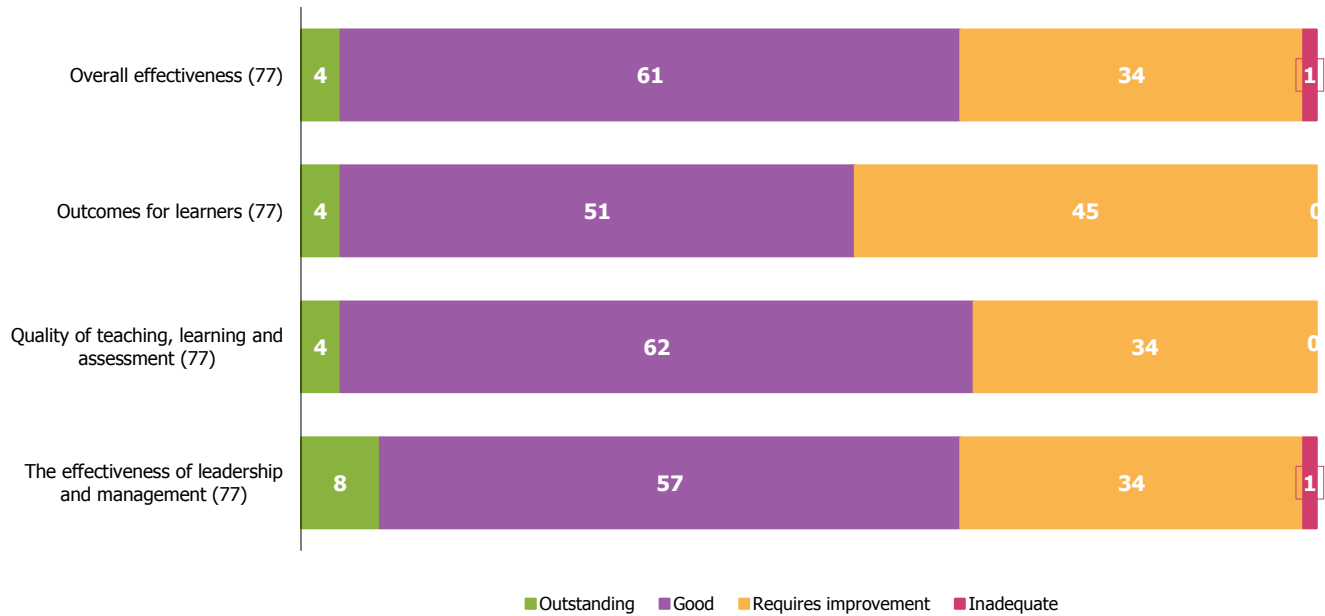
1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to exactly 100. Percentages should be viewed with caution where the number of providers is small.
2. Includes general further education college/tertiary college, sixth form college, specialist further education college and independent specialist college.
3. Includes employer providers.

Chart 2: Proportion of previously grade 3 further education and skills providers that improved, declined or stayed the same at their next inspection at 30 June 2014 percentage (provisional) ^{1 2 3}



1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to exactly 100. Percentages should be viewed with caution where the number of providers is small.
2. As of 1 September 2012, further education and skills providers with the inspection outcome of grade 3 have been judged as requires improvement. Prior to September 2012, further education and skills providers with an inspection outcome of grade 3 were judged as satisfactory. We will normally inspect providers awarded a grade of satisfactory for overall effectiveness prior to September 2012 within two years from September 2012. We will normally inspect providers awarded a grade of requires improvement for overall effectiveness again within 12–18 months.
3. Includes general further education/tertiary college (including specialist further education college), sixth form college, independent specialist college, independent learning provider (including employer providers) and community learning and skills providers.

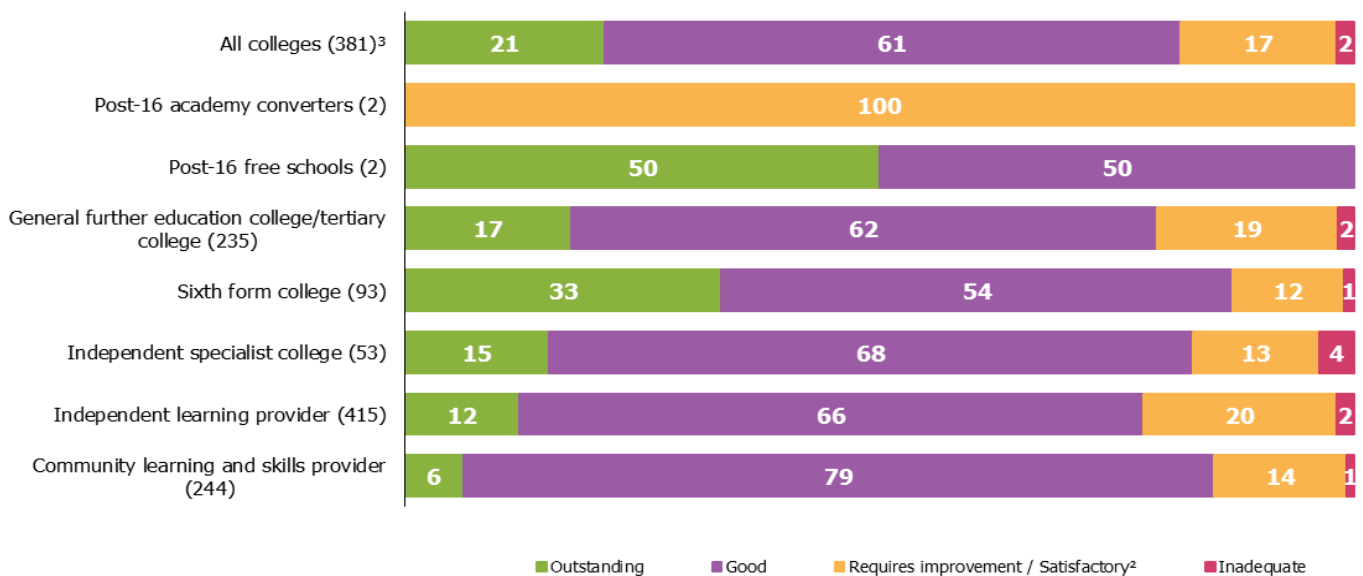
Chart 3: Key inspection judgements of further education and skills providers inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014, percentage (provisional) ^{1 2}



1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to exactly 100. Percentages should be viewed with caution where the number of providers is small.
2. Includes general further education/tertiary college (including specialist further education college), sixth form college, independent specialist college, independent learning provider (including employer provider) and community learning and skills provider.

Summary of current inspection grades

Chart 4: Overall effectiveness of all further education and skills providers inspected at 30 June 2014, percentage (provisional) ^{1 2}

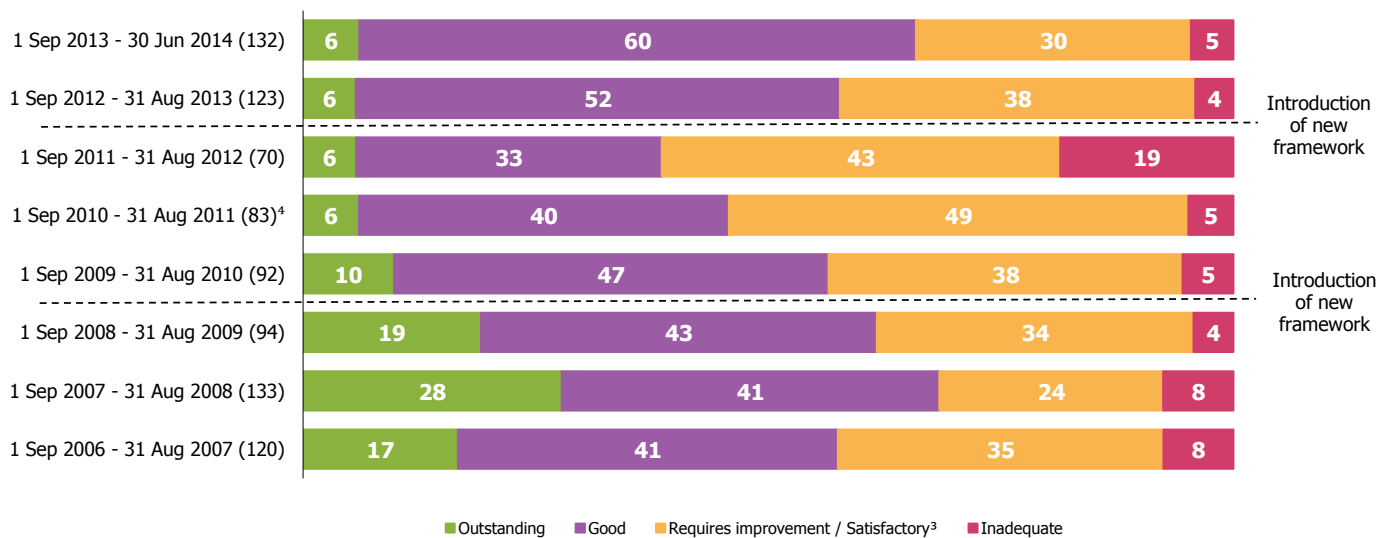


1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to exactly 100. Percentages should be viewed with caution where the number of providers is small.
 2. As of 1 September 2012, further education and skills providers with the inspection outcome of grade 3 have been judged as requires improvement. Prior to September 2012, further education and skills providers with an inspection outcome of grade 3 were judged as satisfactory.
 3. Includes general further education college/tertiary college, sixth form college, specialist further education college and independent specialist college.

- At 30 June 2014, there were 381 colleges which had received an Ofsted inspection and were in receipt of funding¹. Variations exist amongst the overall effectiveness for different types of college. Sixth form colleges continue to have the highest proportion of providers currently judged to be outstanding (where sufficient providers have been inspected to make a fair comparison) and now also have the lowest proportion of inadequate providers.
- At 30 June 2014, 415 independent learning providers had received an Ofsted inspection and were in receipt of funding. The proportion of good and outstanding provision was 78%. Of the eight inadequate providers, none was inspected between 1 April and 30 June 2014.
- At 30 June 2014, 244 community learning and skills providers had received an Ofsted inspection and were in receipt of funding. Community learning and skills providers continue to have the lowest proportion of outstanding provision at only six per cent although a high proportion, 79%, are good.

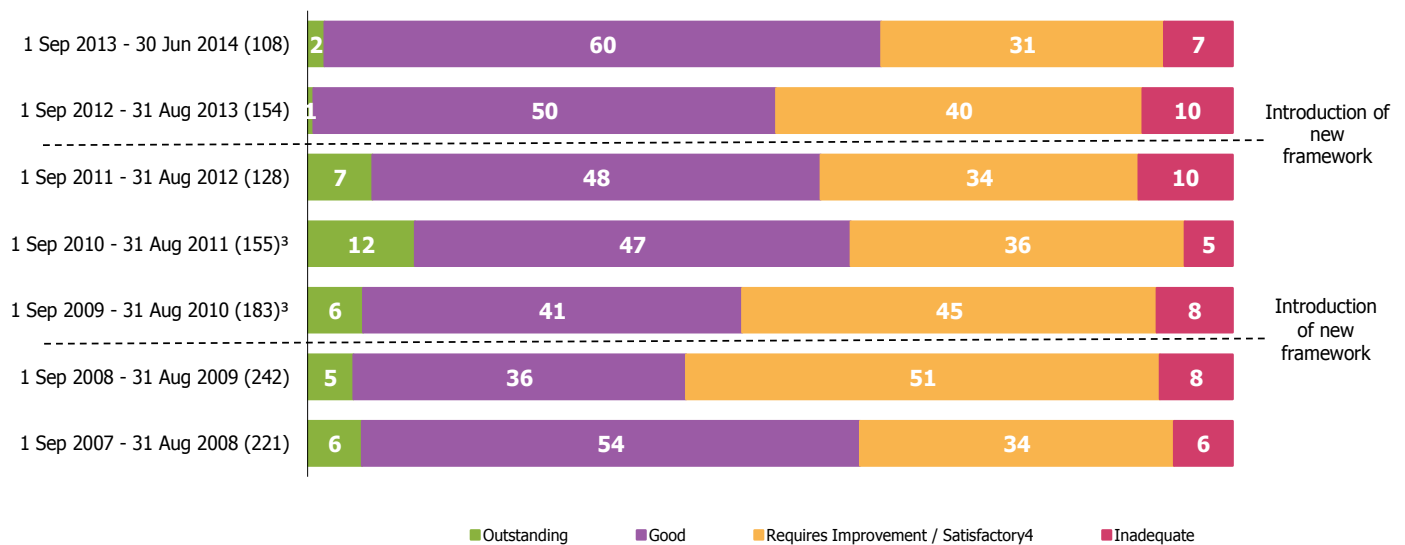
¹The Common Inspection Framework applies to the inspection of provision either wholly or partly funded by the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) or Education Funding Agency (EFA). For colleges this includes general further education/tertiary colleges, specialist further education colleges, sixth form colleges and independent specialist colleges.

Chart 5a: Overall effectiveness of colleges inspected between 1 September 2005 and 30 June 2014, by academic year, percentage (provisional) ^{1 2}



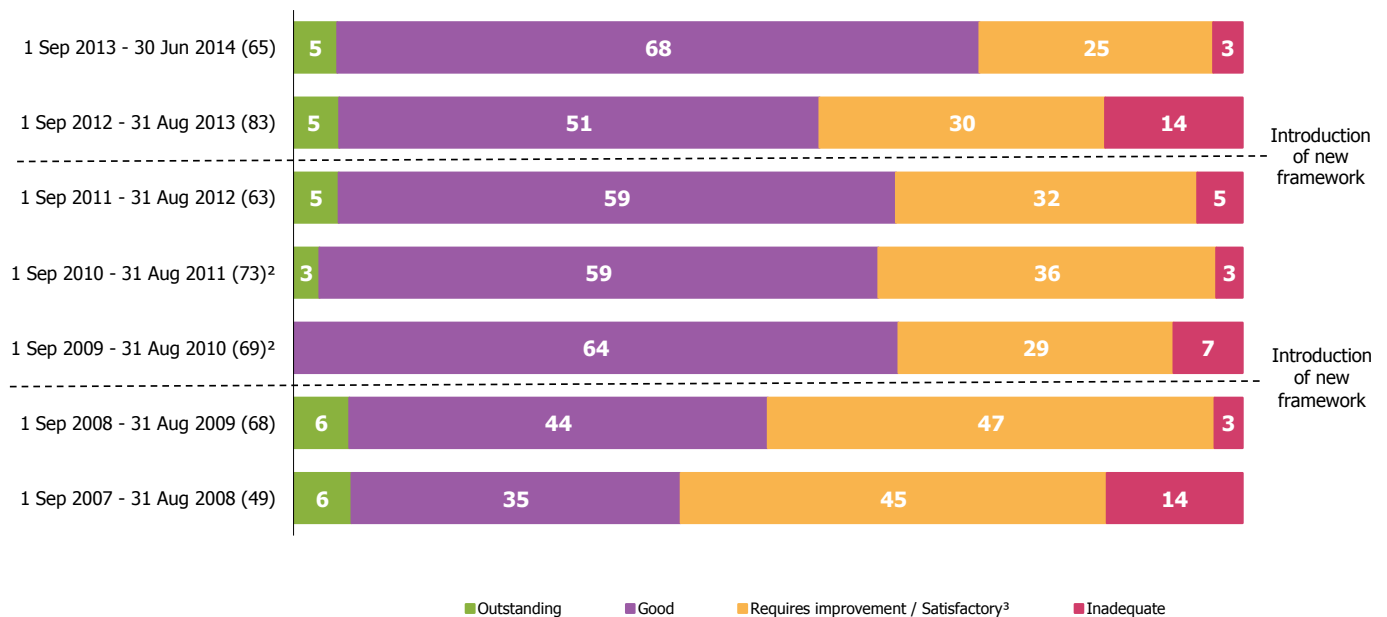
1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to exactly 100. Percentages should be viewed with caution where the number of providers is small.
2. Includes general further education/tertiary college (including specialist further education), sixth form college and independent specialist college.
3. As of 1 September 2012, further education and skills providers with the inspection outcome of grade 3 have been judged as requires improvement. Prior to September 2012, further education and skills providers with an inspection outcome of grade 3 were judged as satisfactory.
4. Data vary slightly to that reported in previous years due to Ofsted's change in provider types.
5. Each year includes only those inspections carried out during the academic year (number of inspections in brackets).

Chart 5b: Overall effectiveness of independent learning providers inspected between 1 September 2007 and 30 June 2014, by academic year, percentage (provisional) ^{1 2 3}



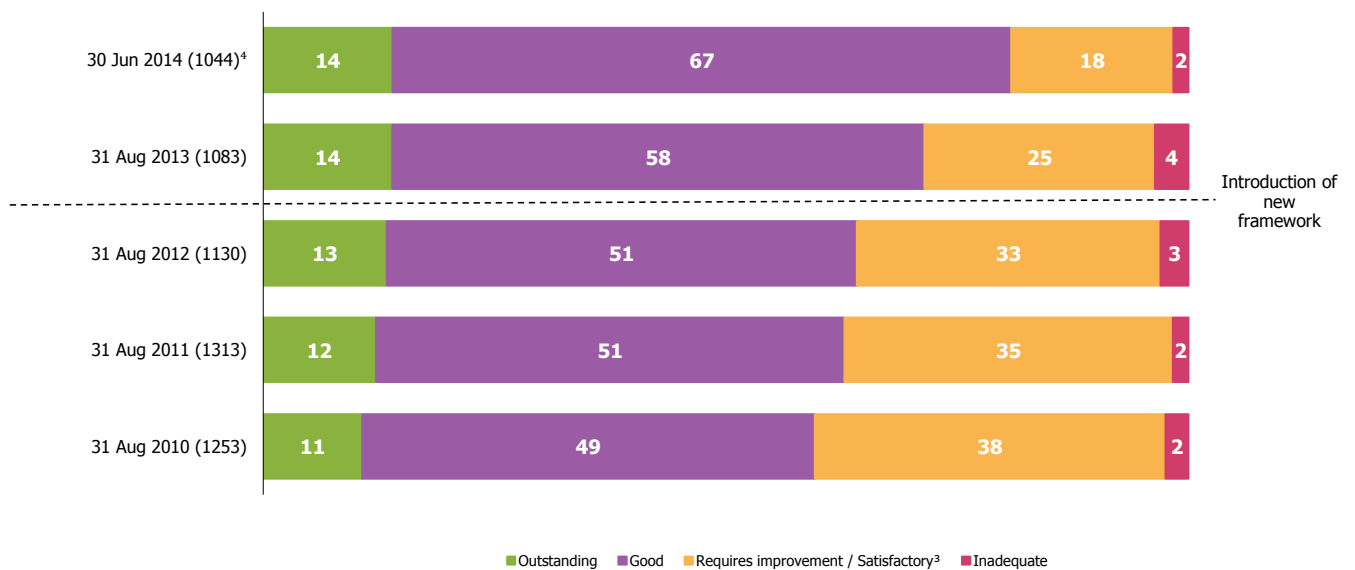
1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to exactly 100. Percentages should be viewed with caution where the number of providers is small.
2. Includes employer providers.
3. Data vary slightly to that reported in previous years due to Ofsted's change in provider types.
4. As of 1 September 2012, further education and skills providers with the inspection outcome of grade 3 have been judged as requires improvement. Prior to September 2012, further education and skills providers with an inspection outcome of grade 3 were judged as satisfactory.
5. Each year includes only those inspections carried out during the academic year (number of inspections in brackets).

Chart 5c: Overall effectiveness of community learning and skills providers inspected between 1 September 2007 and 30 June 2014, by academic year, percentage (provisional) ^{1 2}



1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to exactly 100. Percentages should be viewed with caution where the number of providers is small.
2. Data vary slightly to that reported in previous years due to Ofsted's change in provider types.
3. As of 1 September 2012, further education and skills providers with the inspection outcome of grade 3 have been judged as requires improvement. Prior to September 2012, further education providers with an inspection outcome of grade 3 were judged as satisfactory.
4. Each year includes only those inspections carried out during the academic year (number of inspections in brackets).

Chart 6: Most recent overall effectiveness of further education and skills providers inspected at 30 June 2014 compared to the most recent overall effectiveness at 31 August 2013, 31 August 2012, 31 August 2011 and 31 August 2010, percentage (provisional) ^{1 2}



1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to exactly 100. Percentages should be viewed with caution where the number of providers is small.
2. Includes general further education/tertiary college (including specialist further education college), sixth form college, independent specialist college, independent learning provider (including employer providers), and community learning and skills providers.
3. As of 1 September 2012, further education and skills providers with the inspection outcome of grade 3 have been judged as requires improvement. Prior to September 2012, further education providers with an inspection outcome of grade 3 were judged as satisfactory.
4. Based on a snapshot of providers fully or partly funded by the Education Funding Agency or Skills Funding Agency at 31 December 2013.

Table 1: Number of further education and skills providers inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014, by provider and inspection type (provisional)

Inspection activity	All further education and skills	All colleges ¹	Post-16 academy converters	Post-16 free schools	Independent learning provider ²	Community learning and skills provider	Prisons ³
Full inspections	85	37	1	1	17	17	12
Re-inspections	4	3	0	0	0	1	0
Monitoring visits	3	2	0	0	1	0	0
Re-inspection monitoring visits	7	5	0	0	2	0	0
Total	99	47	1	1	20	18	12

Source: Ofsted

1. Includes general further education college/tertiary college, sixth form college, specialist further education college and independent specialist college.

2. Includes employer providers.

3. Prison inspections where the report has been published within the reporting period.

Table 2: Inspection outcomes of further education and skills providers inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional) ^{1 2}

	Total number inspected	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Overall effectiveness	77	3	4	47	61	26	34	1	1
Outcomes for learners	77	3	4	39	51	35	45	0	0
The quality of teaching, learning and assessment	77	3	4	48	62	26	34	0	0
The effectiveness of leadership and management	77	6	8	44	57	26	34	1	1

Source: Ofsted

1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages should be treated with caution.

2. Includes general further education/tertiary college (including specialist further education college), sixth form college, independent specialist college, independent learning provider (including employer provider) and community learning and skills provider.

Table 2a: Inspection outcomes of colleges inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional) ^{1 2}

	Total number inspected	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Overall effectiveness	40	1	3	22	55	16	40	1	3
Outcomes for learners	40	1	3	17	43	22	55	0	0
The quality of teaching, learning and assessment	40	1	3	22	55	17	43	0	0
The effectiveness of leadership and management	40	3	8	20	50	16	40	1	3

Source: Ofsted

1. Includes general further education college/tertiary college (including specialist further education colleges), sixth form college and independent specialist college.

2. Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages should be treated with caution.

Table 2b: Inspection outcomes of general further education colleges/tertiary colleges inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional) ^{1 2}

	Total number inspected	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Overall effectiveness	28	0	0	15	54	12	43	1	4
Outcomes for learners	28	0	0	11	39	17	61	0	0
The quality of teaching, learning and assessment	28	0	0	15	54	13	46	0	0
The effectiveness of leadership and management	28	2	7	14	50	11	39	1	4

Source: Ofsted

1. Includes specialist further education college.

2. Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages should be treated with caution.

Table 2c: Inspection outcomes of sixth form colleges inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional) ¹

	Total number inspected	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Overall effectiveness	4	1	25	1	25	2	50	0	0
Outcomes for learners	4	1	25	0	0	3	75	0	0
The quality of teaching, learning and assessment	4	1	25	1	25	2	50	0	0
The effectiveness of leadership and management	4	1	25	1	25	2	50	0	0

Source: Ofsted

1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages should be treated with caution.

Table 2d: Inspection outcomes of independent specialist colleges inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional) ¹

	Total number inspected	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Overall effectiveness	8	0	0	6	75	2	25	0	0
Outcomes for learners	8	0	0	6	75	2	25	0	0
The quality of teaching, learning and assessment	8	0	0	6	75	2	25	0	0
The effectiveness of leadership and management	8	0	0	5	63	3	38	0	0

Source: Ofsted

1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages should be treated with caution.

Table 2e: Inspection outcomes of post-16 academy converters inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional) inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional) ¹

	Total number inspected	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Overall effectiveness	1	0	0	0	0	1	100	0	0
Outcomes for learners	1	0	0	0	0	1	100	0	0
The quality of teaching, learning and assessment	1	0	0	0	0	1	100	0	0
The effectiveness of leadership and management	1	0	0	0	0	1	100	0	0

Source: Ofsted

1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages should be treated with caution.

Table 2f: Inspection outcomes of post-16 free schools inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional) ¹

	Total number inspected	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Overall effectiveness	1	1	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Outcomes for learners	1	1	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
The quality of teaching, learning and assessment	1	1	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
The effectiveness of leadership and management	1	1	100	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: Ofsted

1. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages should be treated with caution.

Table 2g: Inspection outcomes of independent learning providers inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional) ^{1 2}

	Total number inspected	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Overall effectiveness	17	0	0	11	65	6	35	0	0
Outcomes for learners	17	0	0	10	59	7	41	0	0
The quality of teaching, learning and assessment	17	0	0	12	71	5	29	0	0
The effectiveness of leadership and management	17	0	0	11	65	6	35	0	0

Source: Ofsted

1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages should be treated with caution.

2. Includes employer providers.

Table 2h: Inspection outcomes of community learning and skills providers inspected between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional) ¹

	Total number inspected	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Overall effectiveness	18	1	6	14	78	3	17	0	0
Outcomes for learners	18	1	6	12	67	5	28	0	0
The quality of teaching, learning and assessment	18	1	6	14	78	3	17	0	0
The effectiveness of leadership and management	18	2	11	13	72	3	17	0	0

Source: Ofsted

1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages should be treated with caution.

Table 2i: Inspection outcomes of prison and young offender institutions from reports published between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional) ^{1 2 3}

	Total number inspected	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement		Inadequate	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Outcomes of prisoners engaged in learning and skills and work activities (outcomes for learners)	12	0	0	8	67	4	33	0	0
Quality of learning and skills and work activities including the quality of teaching, training, learning and assessment (quality of teaching, learning and assessment)	12	0	0	7	58	5	42	0	0
Effectiveness of the leadership and management of learning and skills and work activities (effectiveness of leadership and management)	12	0	0	6	50	5	42	1	8
Judgement on the quality of the Offender Learning and Skills Service (OLASS) provision	10	0	0	7	70	3	30	0	0
Judgement on the quality of the National Career Service (NCS) provision	10	0	0	8	80	2	20	0	0

Source: Ofsted

1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages should be treated with caution.
2. Approximate equivalent judgement in the *Common inspection framework for further education and skills* is shown in brackets.
3. Prison inspections where the report has been published within the reporting period.

Table 3: Further education and skills providers judged outstanding between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional)

URN	Provider name	Type of provider	Date of inspection
138262	City Gateway 14-19 Provision	Free school - 16-19	09/05/2014
130550	New College Pontefract	Sixth form college	04/04/2014
130525	Northern College for Residential Adult Education Limited	Community learning and skills providers	20/06/2014

Source: Ofsted

Table 4: Further education and skills providers judged inadequate between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 (provisional)

URN	Provider name	Type of provider	Date of inspection
130559	Norton Radstock College	General further education/tertiary college	16/05/2014

Source: Ofsted

Impact of revisions on key points of previous publication

The data for the state of the nation as at 31 March 2014 includes two providers which were not reported on in the provisional statistics as they were later identified as having been funded within the reporting period.

Methodology

1. The data in this release are from inspections undertaken between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 and published by 31 July 2014. These inspections were carried out under the *Common Inspection Framework for further education and skills*. Statistics relating to inspections carried out in this period are provisional.
2. The quarterly selection of further education and skills providers for inspection comprises three elements: compulsory inspections, inspections resulting from risk assessment, and a random selection:
 - The compulsory inspections are carried out for providers that have reached the end point of their inspection window (For example a good provider must be inspected every six years). New providers will also be subject to a compulsory inspection after their first year of operation but within three years.
 - The second element of the year's selection comprises providers selected through risk assessment. This risk assessment looks at a number of current performance measures, and also trends in these performance measures.
 - From September 2012, we will normally inspect providers awarded a grade of 'requires improvement' for overall effectiveness again within 12–18 months.
 - Finally, random selection is used to try to maintain a balance in the year's inspection programme, and resulting inspection judgements.

Only providers who consistently perform at a high level tend to reach the end point of their inspection window. Risk assessment enables Ofsted to optimise the use of resources, concentrating inspection activity in areas where it is likely to add most value. The result of using a risk based approach to selection is that inspection judgements for providers, in any given year, can look slightly more pessimistic than we know the national picture to be.

3. In September 2012 Ofsted introduced a new common inspection framework for further education and skills. For more information about the framework and how Ofsted inspects further education and skills providers, please go to the Ofsted website:

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/common-inspection-framework-for-further-education-and-skills-2012>

4. Since 1 January 2012, Ofsted has not produced its own summary report for prison inspections. Ofsted continues to report within the HMI Prisons report and in line with the *Common Inspection Framework for further education and skills*. Ofsted statistics will now report on prison inspections which have been published within the reporting period of the official statistics. Further information on how Ofsted inspects prisoner education and training in the further education and skills sector can be found on the Ofsted website:

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/handbook-for-inspection-of-learning-and-skills-training-for-young-adults-and-adults-custody>

5. Revisions are published in line with Ofsted's revisions policy for official statistics which can be found on the Ofsted website:

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/statistical-notice-ofsted-revisions-policy-for-official-statistics>

Glossary

From September 2011 Ofsted categorises providers in the following ways:

Community learning and skills provider

Community learning and skills providers include local authorities, charities, voluntary, not-for-profit companies and community organisations, specialist designated institutions, and community interest companies. Their provision is diverse in character and aims to meet the needs and interests of a wide range of communities. Courses include those leading to qualifications; programmes leading to qualifications whilst in employment (such as apprenticeships); provision for informal adult learning; provision for social and personal development.

From 1 September 2012 Ofsted categorised adult and community learning providers as community learning and skills providers.

General further education college

General further education colleges offer a range of education and training opportunities for learners aged from 14 years upwards, including adults.

Higher education institution

Where higher education institutions offer further education courses these are subject to inspection by Ofsted.

Independent learning provider

A company which provides government funded education. The category independent learning provider includes employer providers who only offer government funded training to their own employees.

Independent specialist college

Independent specialist colleges provide education and training for students with complex learning difficulties and/or disabilities, whose learning needs cannot be met by their local college or provider.

National Careers Service

The National Careers Service was launched on 5 April 2012. It is available in England and provides information to those over the age of 13. The service is delivered by 11 prime contractors in 12 designated areas and the adult and young person's telephone services. National Careers Service

prime contractors are subject to an Ofsted inspection, including the adult and young people's telephone service.

Offender learning

Ofsted undertakes judicial service inspections in partnership with HMI Prisons. Ofsted HMI evaluate the quality of learning and skills in prisons, including young offender institutions and secure units for young people and also provision in community settings. Since 1 January 2012, Ofsted no longer publishes reports for prison and young offender institutions. These reports can now be found on the HMIP website:

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/about/hmi-prisons>

Ofsted contributes to a reduced number of judgements in these reports.

Sector subject areas

Sector subjects are grouped into 15 areas of learning. Each area of learning has a number of tier 2 subject areas. For example area of learning 7 retail and commercial enterprise, includes 7.4 hospitality and catering, 7.2 warehousing and 7.3a hairdressing and beauty therapy. Ofsted inspects teaching and learning in a sample of tier 2 subjects during full inspections and re-inspections.

A full list of sector subject areas can be found on the Ofqual website:

<http://www2.ofqual.gov.uk/standards/142-statistics-articles/429-sector-subject-area-classification-system-ssac>

Sixth form college

A sixth form college is an educational institution where students aged 16 to 18 typically study for advanced school-level qualifications, such as A-levels, or school-level qualifications such as GCSEs.

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