



# Statistics Bulletin

Northern Ireland Qualifications Quarterly:  
October – December 2012

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February 2013

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## **Contents**

Executive summary .....	2
Achievements this quarter .....	4
Awarding organisations .....	8
Sector subject area .....	10
Level of qualification .....	12
The QCF in Northern Ireland .....	13
Background information .....	18
Geographical coverage .....	18
Qualification type .....	18
Revisions .....	18
Completeness of the data .....	19
Definitions .....	19
Appendix .....	21

## Executive summary

This bulletin is published jointly with the Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA).

In this bulletin we present achievements for all regulated qualifications in Northern Ireland (excluding GCSEs, GCEs<sup>1</sup> and the Diploma<sup>2</sup>) for the quarter October – December 2012.

Achievements are included in the quarter when the final qualification certificate is issued. Each quarter, awarding organisations submit data to us on the number of qualifications they have awarded for regulated qualifications (excluding GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma). We collect data on our behalf and on behalf of CCEA, the qualifications regulators, on the number of achievements in Northern Ireland. All regulated qualifications are included, regardless of the age of the student, the type of school or college and the funding status of the qualification.

- There were 33,140 achievements in Northern Ireland this quarter, covering 1,084 individual qualifications from 75 different awarding organisations.
  - The awarding organisation that awarded the most qualifications was City & Guilds with 10,226 (31 per cent of all achievements during October – December 2012).
  - The qualification with the most achievements in Northern Ireland was the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering with 2,815 (8 per cent of all achievements this quarter).
  - The type of qualification with the most achievements was the QCF with 26,315 (79 per cent of total achievements). The QCF qualification with the most achievements was CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering with 2,815.
  - The sector subject area retail and commercial enterprise had the most achievements with 8,166 (25 per cent of total achievements).

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<sup>1</sup> Data for GCSEs and GCEs can be found on the Joint Council for Qualifications website at: [www.jcq.org.uk/examination-results](http://www.jcq.org.uk/examination-results), or at [www.ofqual.gov.uk/research-and-statistics/statistics/general-data](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/research-and-statistics/statistics/general-data).

<sup>2</sup> Qualifications excluded are the Diploma, principal learning and project. All other qualifications are within the scope of this bulletin.

- Level 2 qualifications had the most achievements with 19,132 (58 per cent of all achievements).
- There were 3,700 achievements at level 3 (11 per cent of all achievements).
- There were 26,315 QCF achievements in Northern Ireland, covering 866 individual QCF qualifications from 67 different awarding organisations.
  - The QCF qualification with the most achievements was CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering with 2,815 (11 per cent of all QCF achievements).
  - The awarding organisation with the most achievements in QCF qualifications was City & Guilds with 6,275 (24 per cent of achievements in QCF qualifications).
  - The sector subject area with the most achievements in QCF qualifications was retail and commercial enterprise with 8,153 (31 per cent of the total QCF achievements). The qualification with the most achievements in this sector subject area was CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering with 2,815.
  - There were 16,298 achievements at level 2 in QCF qualifications (62 per cent of all QCF achievements).
  - There were 3,230 achievements at level 3 in QCF qualifications (12 per cent of all QCF achievements).

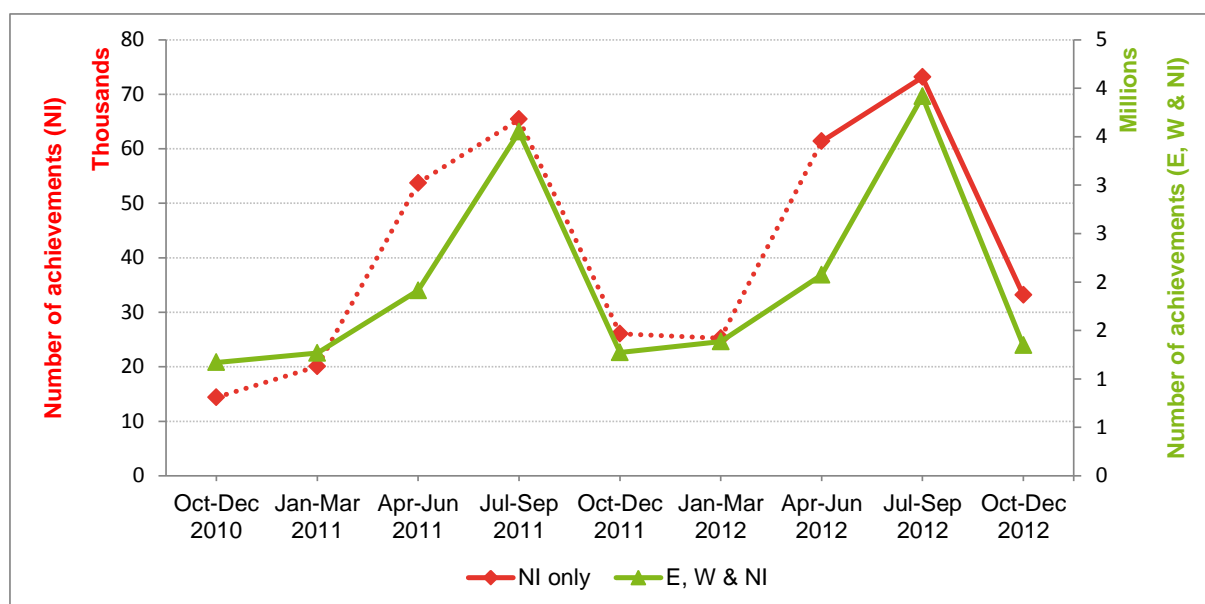
## Achievements this quarter

This section presents the number of achievements by type of qualification, awarding organisation, sector subject area and level of qualification. Due to the range of qualifications on the QCF, there is further analysis of QCF qualifications in Northern Ireland (see page 13).

At the point of accreditation, all regulated qualifications are classified into 18 qualification types, including GCSE, GCE and the Diploma (see our *Statistical Publications Glossary*<sup>3</sup> for a full listing.)

There were 33,140 achievements in Northern Ireland during October – December 2012 for all qualification types except GCSE, GCE and the Diploma (see figure 1).

**Figure 1:** Number of achievements by quarter in regulated qualifications in Northern Ireland and in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, October – December 2010 to October – December 2012

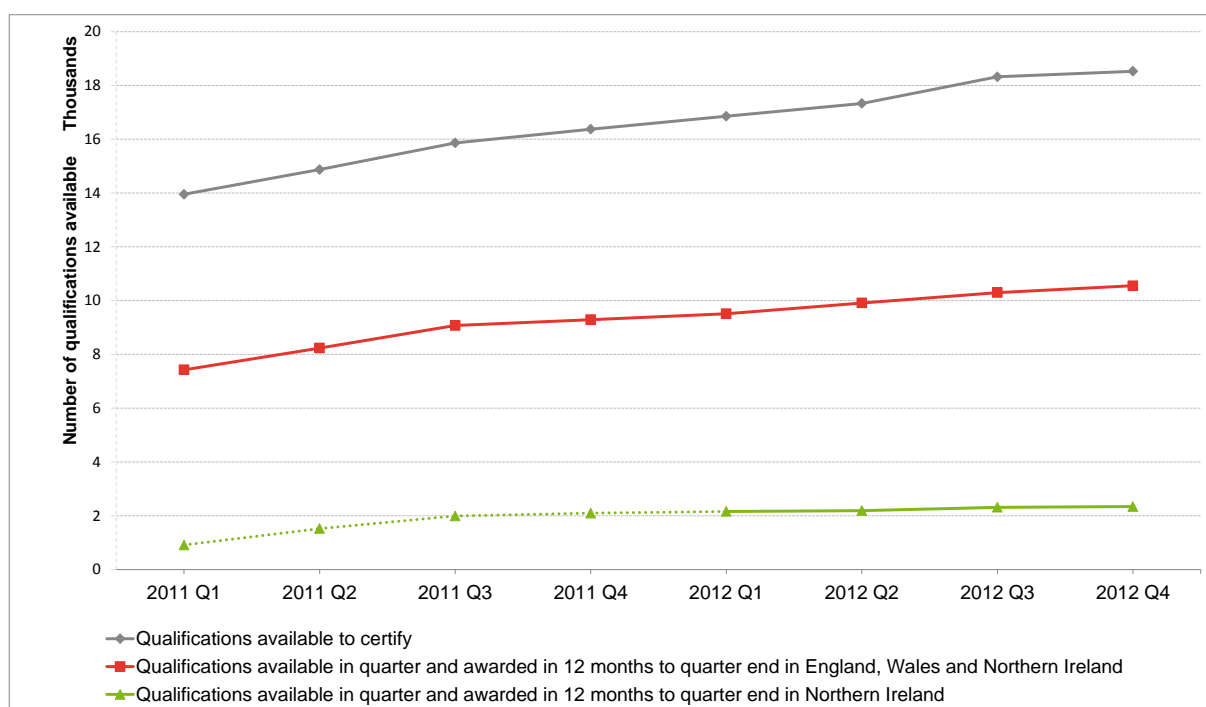


**Note:** Dashed series represents partial data and, thus, we cannot make conclusions using this data. In 2011, 80 per cent of the awarding organisations supplied the data, and in 2012 we have a complete dataset from all awarding organisations.

<sup>3</sup> [www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf)

We can see from figure 1 that, each year, there is a peak in the number of achievements during the July – September quarter, following the summer exam series. This is true for England, Wales and Northern Ireland combined, and for Northern Ireland alone. Over the past year, there has been a steady increase in the number of qualifications that are available for certification/achievement in Northern Ireland and across England, Wales and Northern Ireland combined (see figure 2). During October – December 2012, there were 18,528 available qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. From these, 10,551 (57 per cent of the available qualifications) had achievements across the three countries combined and 2,341 (13 per cent) had achievements in Northern Ireland. The low percentage of awarded qualifications in Northern Ireland could be due to the fact that not all awarding organisations/qualifications will have a presence in Northern Ireland.

**Figure 2:** Number of qualifications available in Northern Ireland alone and in England, Wales and Northern Ireland combined, January 2011 – December 2012



**Note:** Dashed series represents partial data and, thus, we cannot make conclusions using this data. In 2011, 80 per cent of the awarding organisations supplied the data, and in 2012 we have a complete dataset from all awarding organisations.

**Figure 3:** Number of achievements in regulated qualifications in Northern Ireland and in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, October – December 2012

Qualification type	Oct- Dec 2012			
	NI only		E, W & NI	
QCF	26,315	79%	1,016,500	76%
Other general qualification	3,051	9%	16,400	1%
Key skills	1,424	4%	107,900	8%
Entry level	1,003	3%	3,100	0%
Vocationally related qualification	460	1%	21,100	2%
NVQ	372	1%	11,750	1%
ESOL	221	1%	45,750	3%
Basic skills	213	1%	33,450	2%
Higher level	71	0%	2,000	0%
Functional skills	7	0%	87,250	6%
Occupational qualification	3	0%	250	0%
Free-standing mathematics qualification	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Total number of achievements</b>	<b>33,140</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,345,450</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Key:** QCF: The Qualifications and Credit Framework; ESOL: English for speakers of other languages; NVQ: National Vocational Qualification; E: England; W: Wales; and NI: Northern Ireland. Figures for the three countries combined are rounded to the nearest 50. Note: country-level data were collected from 2011 onwards.

From figure 3 above and figure 4 (next page), we can see that during October - December 2012, QCF qualifications dominate in both Northern Ireland (79 per cent) and in England, Wales and Northern Ireland combined (76 per cent). The second most frequently awarded type of qualification in Northern Ireland was other general qualification, with 3,051 achievements (9 per cent of all achievements) .

QCF, other general and entry level qualifications have a greater percentage of the achievements in Northern Ireland than they do in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. In contrast, there are a lower proportion of achievements in key skills, vocationally related, English for speakers of other languages, basic skills and functional skills qualifications.

Figure 4 lists the qualifications with the most achievements in October – December 2012 in Northern Ireland.

**Figure 4:** The 20 qualifications with the most achievements in Northern Ireland, October – December 2012

Qualification	Achievements, Oct – Dec 2012	% of total
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF)	2,815	8.5
City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Principles of Customer Service in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism (QCF)	1,268	3.8
City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Welcoming Tourists and Visitors to their Destination in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism (QCF)	1,243	3.8
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Application of Number	817	2.5
IQL Level 2 Award in Pool Lifeguarding, Intervention, Supervision and Rescue (QCF)	545	1.6
AQA Level 2 Certificate in Preparation for Working Life	487	1.5
City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills - Information and Communication Technology	478	1.4
CCEA Level 2 Award in Understanding Business Enterprise (QCF)	472	1.4
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication	472	1.4
CCEA Level 2 Award in Creative Craft (QCF)	430	1.3
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	397	1.2
CCEA Level 2 Award in Employability (QCF)	395	1.2
CIEH Level 2 Award in Health and Safety in the Workplace (QCF)	392	1.2
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Information and Communication Technology	373	1.1
NOCN Entry Level Award in Progression (Entry 3) (QCF)	331	1.0
OCR Entry Level Certificate in ICT Skills for Life	329	1.0
CCEA Level 1 Award in Creative Craft (QCF)	314	0.9
CCEA Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills – Communication	296	0.9
CCEA Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills – Application of Number	294	0.9
CCEA Entry Level Certificate in Essential Skills – Adult Numeracy	291	0.9

The 20 qualifications with the most achievements represent 36 per cent of all achievements in Northern Ireland this quarter. The qualification with the greatest number of achievements was CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF) (2,815). Of the ten qualifications with the most achievements, nine were level 2 qualifications. Finally, three of the ten qualifications with the most achievements were in essential skills. Table 2 in the appendix shows the 40 qualifications with the most achievements.



## Awarding organisations

In October – December 2012, 75 awarding organisations had achievements across 1,084 qualifications in Northern Ireland (see table 1 in the appendix).

In England, Wales and Northern Ireland combined there were 18,528 available qualifications (excluding GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma) offered by 166 awarding organisations.

The awarding organisation that awarded the most qualifications in Northern Ireland during October – December 2012 was City & Guilds with 10,226 (31 per cent of all achievements in Northern Ireland; see figures 5 and 6).

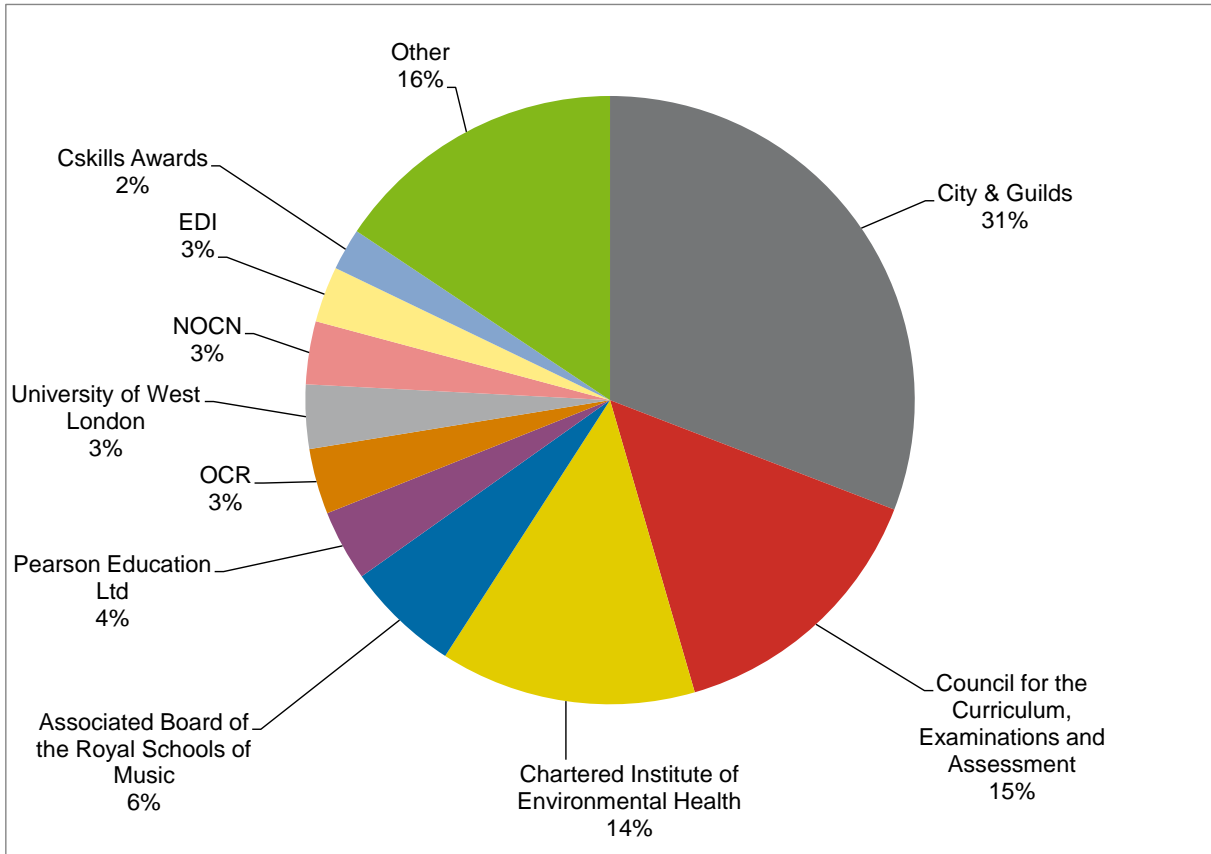
Figures for the 40 awarding organisations with the most achievements during October - December 2012 are shown in table 3 in the appendix.

**Figure 5:** The 20 awarding organisations with the most achievements across all qualification types (excluding GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma) for Northern Ireland, October – December 2012

Awarding organisation	Achievements Oct – Dec 2012	% of total
City & Guilds	10,226	30.9
Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment	4,857	14.7
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health	4,503	13.6
Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music	2,010	6.1
Pearson Education Ltd	1,250	3.8
OCR	1,156	3.5
University of West London	1,128	3.4
NOCN	1,109	3.3
EDI	985	3.0
Cskills Awards	737	2.2
Institute of Qualified Lifeguards	683	2.1
Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance	592	1.8
Institute of Leadership & Management	378	1.1
Rock School Ltd	332	1.0
Active IQ	315	1.0
British Safety Council	282	0.9
WSET Awards	194	0.6
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT	184	0.6
New Era Academy of Drama and Music (London) Ltd	182	0.5
Royal Society for Public Health	156	0.5

Figure 6 shows the ten awarding organisations with the most achievements in October – December 2012 in Northern Ireland.

**Figure 6:** Achievements by the ten awarding organisations with the most achievements compared with all other awarding organisations in Northern Ireland, October – December 2012



## Sector subject area

Regulated qualifications are allocated to one of 15 sector subject area codes (see our *Statistical Publications Glossary*<sup>4</sup> for further details.)

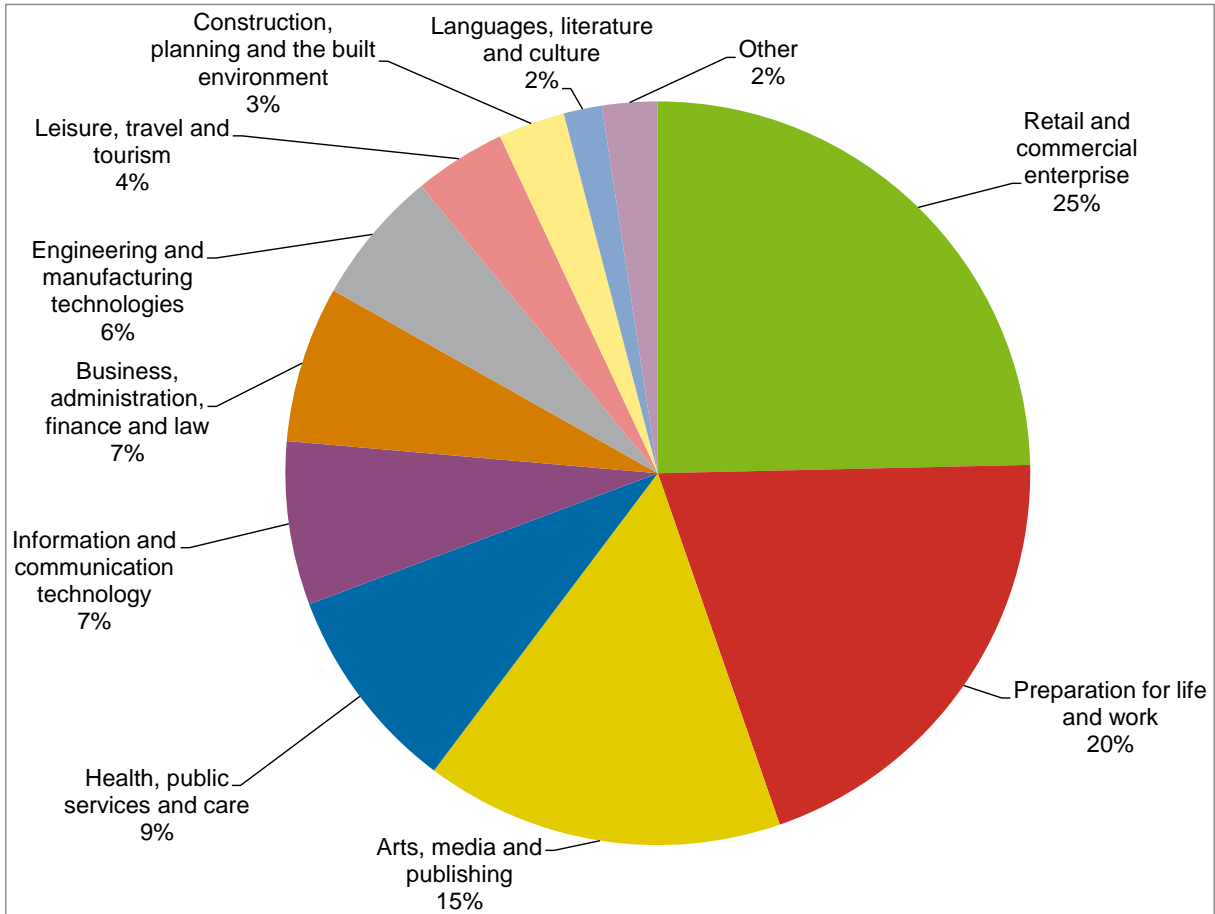
The sector subject area with the most achievements in Northern Ireland during October – December 2012 was retail and commercial enterprise with 8,166 (25 per cent of all achievements (see figure 7, next page)). The qualification with the most achievements in this sector subject area was CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering with 2,815 achievements. The second most common sector subject area was preparation for life and work with 6,644 achievements, representing 20 per cent of all achievements. The qualification with the most achievements in this sector subject area was City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential skills - Communication with 472 achievements.

Full details of the number of achievements for each sector subject area are given in table 4 in the appendix.

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<sup>4</sup> [www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf)

**Figure 7:** Achievements in Northern Ireland by sector subject area, October – December 2012

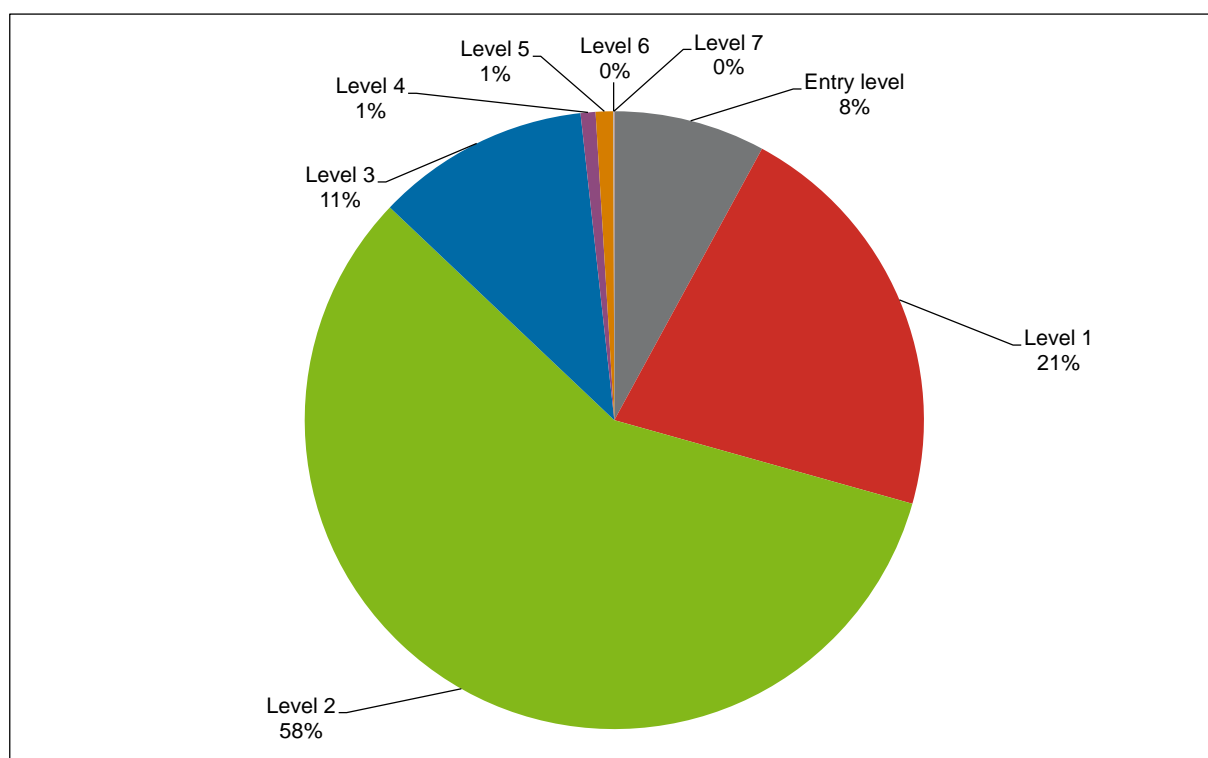


## Level of qualification

All regulated qualifications are assigned a level, ranging from entry, then 1 to 8 (see our *Statistical Publications Glossary*<sup>5</sup> for full details.)

In October – December 2012 in Northern Ireland, level 2 had the most achievements with 19,132, representing 58 per cent of achievements (see figure 8). There were 3,700 achievements at level 3 (11 per cent of all achievements). Full details of the number of achievements for each level are given in table 5 in the appendix.

**Figure 8:** Achievements in Northern Ireland by level, October – December 2012



**Note:** There were no achievements for level 8 qualifications in this quarter.

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<sup>5</sup> [www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf)

## **The QCF in Northern Ireland**

Please note: these figures refer to full qualifications, not units.

The QCF is a credit-based framework that enables students to accumulate and transfer credit towards a regulated qualification. It is designed to give students, learning providers and employers an inclusive and flexible regulated qualifications framework, containing units and qualifications that recognise the widest possible range of quality-assured student achievements. The QCF introduces a standard currency for student achievement through the award of credits. One credit is equivalent to ten hours of learning. There are three sizes of QCF qualification: award, certificate and diploma. Awards consist of 1 to 12 credits, certificates 13 to 36 credits, and diplomas 37 credits or more.

In October – December 2012, 26,315 QCF achievements were recorded at all levels in Northern Ireland (except level 8 where there were no achievements). The QCF achievements covered 866 different qualifications, offered by 67 awarding organisations. In October – December 2012, achievements in QCF qualifications represented 79 per cent of the achievements in regulated qualifications in Northern Ireland.

The QCF qualification with the most achievements was CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering, with 2,815 (see figure 9 on the next page). The 40 QCF qualifications with the most achievements are detailed in table 6 in the appendix.

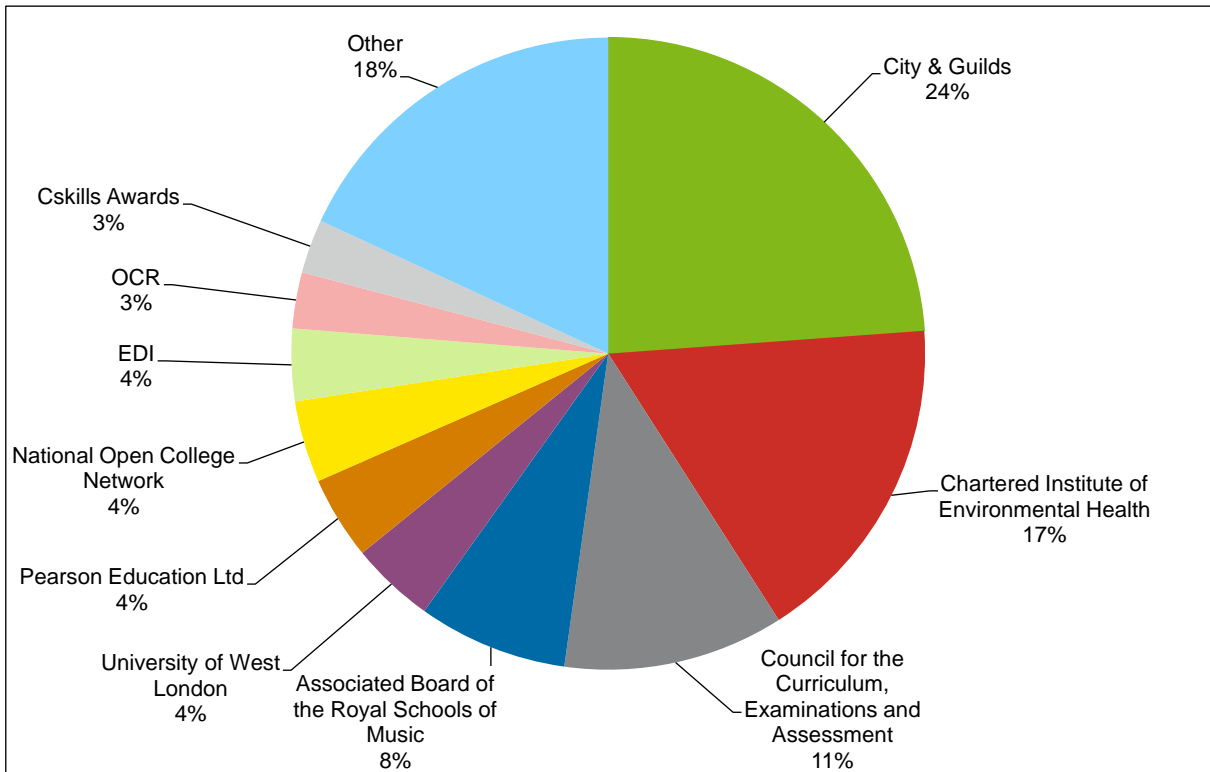
**Figure 9:** The 20 QCF qualifications with the most achievements in Northern Ireland, October – December 2012

Qualification	Achievements Oct – Dec 2012	% of total
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering	2,815	10.70
City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Principles of Customer Service in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism	1,268	4.82
City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Welcoming Tourists and Visitors to their Destination in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism	1,243	4.72
IQL Level 2 Award in Pool Lifeguarding, Intervention, Supervision and Rescue	545	2.07
CCEA Level 2 Award in Understanding Business Enterprise	472	1.79
CCEA Level 2 Award in Creative Craft	430	1.63
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1)	397	1.51
CCEA Level 2 Award in Employability	395	1.50
CIEH Level 2 Award in Health and Safety in the Workplace	392	1.49
NOCN Entry Level Award in Progression (Entry 3)	331	1.26
CCEA Level 1 Award in Creative Craft	314	1.19
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2)	277	1.05
BSC Level 1 Award in Health and Safety at Work	277	1.05
City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma in Health and Social Care (Adults) for Wales and Northern Ireland	276	1.05
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Principles of Customer Service in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism	275	1.05
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Welcoming Tourists and Visitors to their Destination in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism	264	1.00
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety for Manufacturing	245	0.93
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3)	238	0.90
ABRSM Level 2 Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 4)	234	0.89
CCEA Level 1 Award in Employability Skills	231	0.88

**Note:** Two decimal places are used to show the differences between the small values.

Figure 10 shows the proportion of QCF achievements by the ten awarding organisations with the most QCF achievements this quarter. City & Guilds had almost a quarter of all QCF achievements (6,275, 24 per cent of all QCF achievements). The 40 awarding organisations with the most achievements are shown in table 7 in the appendix.

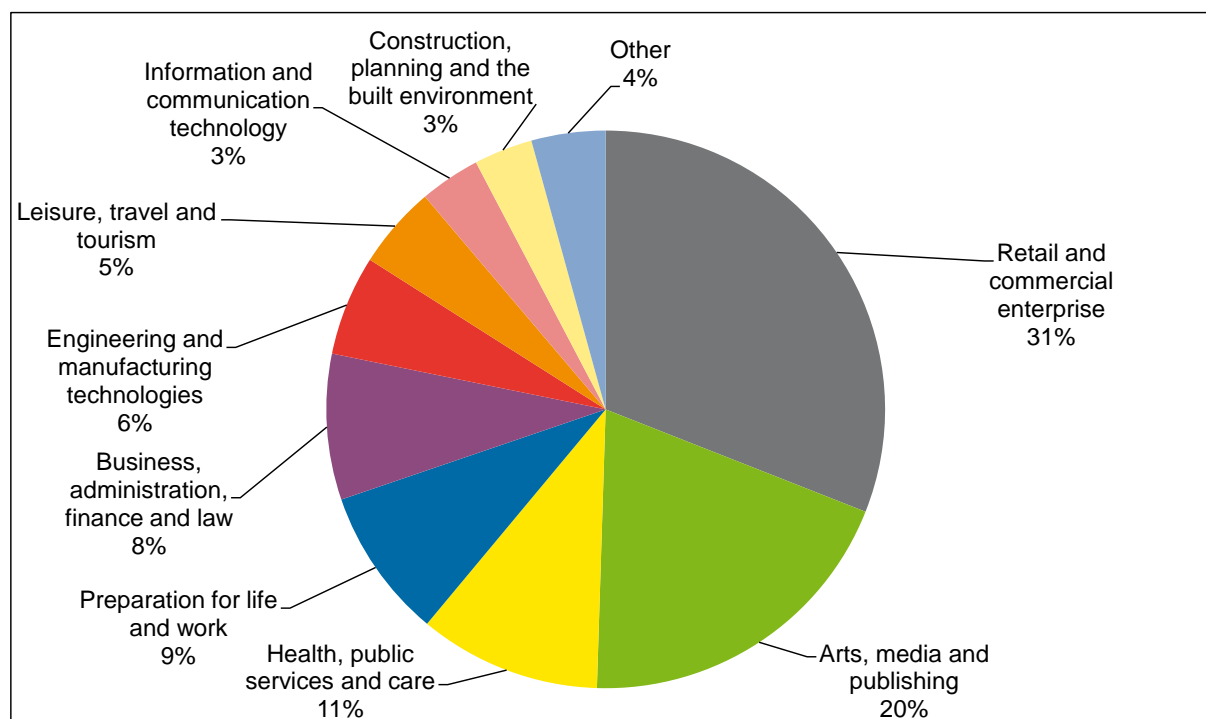
**Figure 10:** QCF achievements in Northern Ireland by awarding organisation, October – December 2012





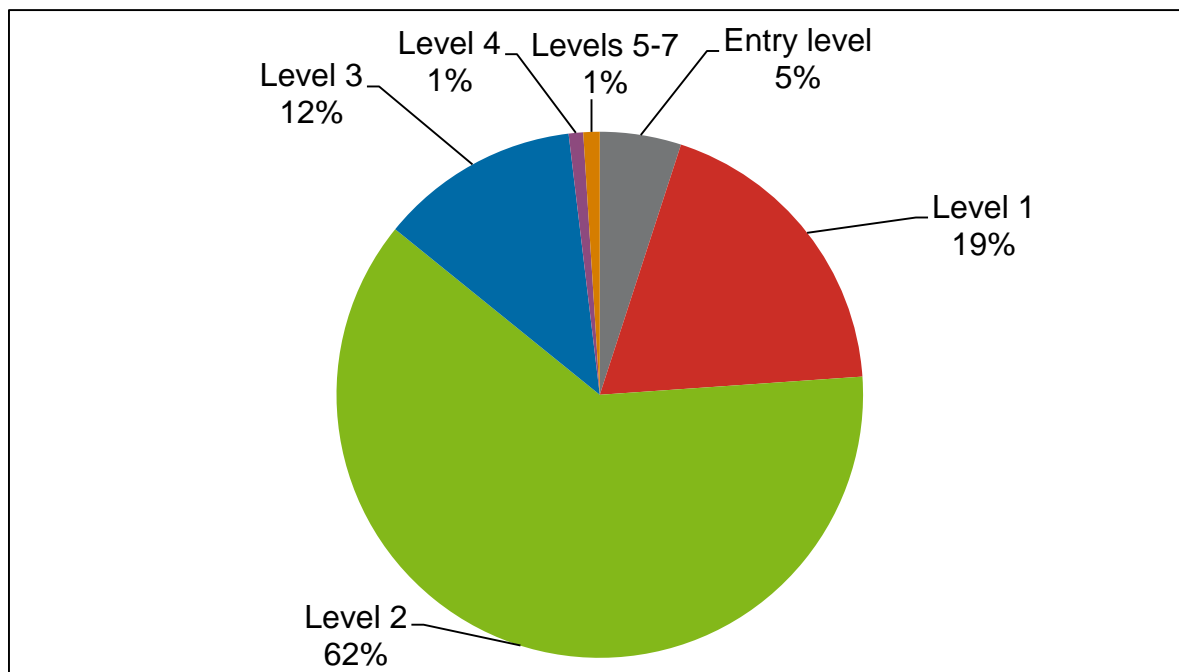
The sector subject area with the most achievements in the QCF during October - December 2012 was retail and commercial enterprise with 8,153 (31 per cent of QCF achievements (see figure 11)). This sector subject area also had the largest number of achievements when we consider all regulated qualifications (not just those in the QCF). The sector subject area with the next highest number of achievements was arts, media and publishing with 5,136 (20 per cent of QCF achievements). If we consider all regulated qualifications (not just those in the QCF) then this sector subject area had the third highest number of achievements. Full details of the number of achievements for each sector subject area are in table 8 in the appendix.

**Figure 11:** QCF achievements in Northern Ireland by sector subject area, October – December 2012



Sixty-two per cent of QCF achievements were at level 2 with 16,298 (see figure 12). Full details of the number of achievements for each level are in table 9 in the appendix.

**Figure 12:** QCF achievements in Northern Ireland by level, October – December 2012



**Note:** There were no achievements for level 8 qualifications in this quarter.

## **Background information**

Each quarter, awarding organisations submit data to us on the number of qualifications they have awarded for the quarter. For Northern Ireland, we also collect this data on behalf of CCEA, which regulates qualifications and awarding bodies in Northern Ireland. Achievements are included only in the quarter when the final certificate is issued. All regulated qualifications are included, regardless of the age of the student, the type of school or college and the funding status of the qualification.

### **Geographical coverage**

This bulletin covers the regulated qualifications of all awarding organisations recognised by us and/or CCEA for Northern Ireland. Four of these awarding organisations are based in Northern Ireland: CCEA, Engineering Training Council Awards Limited (ETCAL), Open College Network Northern Ireland (OCNNI), and Accounting Technicians Ireland (ATI).

The remaining awarding organisations recognised by us and/or CCEA to award qualifications in Northern Ireland have their headquarters elsewhere.

### **Qualification type**

At the point of accreditation, regulated qualifications are classified into 18 qualification types. These are used to classify the qualifications in this bulletin. We recognise that the classification system is not ideal, as very similar qualifications may appear under different qualification types, for example NVQs and the QCF.

This bulletin presents figures on all types of qualifications awarded in Northern Ireland, except GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma.

### **Revisions**

Once published, data on the number of certifications for any qualification are not usually subject to change. But, data may be changed in subsequent bulletins due to late data or if an error is found. Qualifications may also be re-categorised to a different type, level, sector subject area or awarding organisation. In some cases, previous data may be altered to reflect the new categorisation.

In this bulletin some figures have been revised since the July – September 2012 bulletin. These revisions were made because of updates from two awarding organisations. These updates affected quarters 2 and 3 of 2012 only.

It is also known that data prior to quarter 4 of 2012 for CCEA essential skills qualifications are incorrect and will be modified in future bulletins. A system error has affected the data from the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) for

this quarter and its 116 achievements have not been included. This will be rectified in future bulletins.

## **Completeness of the data**

Awarding organisations send us data each quarter. We contact any awarding organisation that does not return a complete set of data within the collection period to make sure that the data is as complete as possible. For this quarter, we received data from all the awarding organisations.

The collection of country-level data was introduced at the beginning of 2011, with a complete data set being achieved for the first time at the beginning of 2012. This year, we expect to be able to make comparisons with data from the same quarter of the previous year. Data for Northern Ireland are complete for 2012. In 2011, 80 per cent of awarding organisations supplied data, and, prior to this, data is only partially complete and should be considered with caution.

## **Definitions**

Some of the key terms used in this bulletin are defined as follows:

- Accreditation – a process that reviews and confirms achievement to specific criteria and standards.
- Achievement – any award that is not graded as U, absent, or X, fail.
- Available qualification – a qualification eligible for an award or a qualification that has made an award.
- Awarding organisation – an organisation recognised to develop, deliver and award descriptions of qualifications.
- Active qualification – a qualification eligible for award to students, even if the qualification is no longer available for enrolment.
- Certification – a formal acknowledgement of student achievement.
- Recognition – an evidence-based process of achieving compliance with the criteria for recognition.

Our *Statistical Publications Glossary* provides further details on sector subject area classifications and qualification types and levels. It is available as a separate document in the statistical section of our website.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> [www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2010-11-26-statistics-glossary.pdf)

In this bulletin, quarter refers to calendar quarters. So quarter 1 (Q1) refers to January – March, quarter 2 (Q2) to April – June, quarter 3 (Q3) to July – September, and quarter 4 (Q4) to October – December.

We are continually striving to improve the quality and coverage of information in these quarterly updates, and we welcome any suggestions or comments you have regarding this bulletin. Our contact details are at the end of this bulletin.

## Appendix

Table 1: Summary data, October – December 2012  
Northern Ireland

	Awarding organisations regulated	Awarding organisations offering qualifications	Awarding organisations awarding	Available qualifications	Qualifications with achievements	Total achievements
October - December 2012	175	166	75	18,528	1,084	33,140

Table 2: The 40 regulated qualifications with the highest number of achievements (except GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma), October – December 2012

Northern Ireland	
Qualification	Achievements
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (QCF)	2,815
City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Principles of Customer Service in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism (QCF)	1,268
City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Welcoming Tourists and Visitors to their Destination in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism (QCF)	1,243
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Application of Number	817
IQL Level 2 Award in Pool Lifeguarding, Intervention, Supervision and Rescue (QCF)	545
AQA Level 2 Certificate in Preparation for Working Life	487
City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills - Information and Communication Technology	478
CCEA Level 2 Award in Understanding Business Enterprise (QCF)	472
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication	472
CCEA Level 2 Award in Creative Craft (QCF)	430
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	397
CCEA Level 2 Award in Employability (QCF)	395
CIEH Level 2 Award in Health and Safety in the Workplace (QCF)	392
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Information and Communication Technology	373
NOCN Entry Level Award in Progression (Entry 3) (QCF)	331
OCR Entry Level Certificate in ICT Skills for Life	329
CCEA Level 1 Award in Creative Craft (QCF)	314
CCEA Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills – Communication	296
CCEA Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills – Application of Number	294
CCEA Entry Level Certificate in Essential Skills – Adult Numeracy	291
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2) (QCF)	277
BSC Level 1 Award in Health and Safety at Work (QCF)	277
City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma in Health and Social Care (Adults) for Wales and Northern Ireland (QCF)	276
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Principles of Customer Service in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism	275
CCEA Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills – Application of Number	270
CCEA Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication	268
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Welcoming Tourists and Visitors to their Destination in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism (QCF)	264
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety for Manufacturing (QCF)	245
CCEA Entry Level Certificate in Essential Skills – Adult Literacy	241
City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills - Application of Number	239
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3) (QCF)	238
ABRSM Level 2 Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 4) (QCF)	234
CCEA Level 1 Award in Employability Skills (QCF)	231
ABRSM Level 2 Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 5) (QCF)	230
ABRSM Level 2 Award in Graded Examination in Music Theory (Grade 5) (QCF)	222
CIEH Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work (QCF)	220
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication	219
NOCN Level 1 Award in Skills Towards Enabling Progression (Step-UP) (QCF)	215
City & Guilds Level 1 Certificate in Essential Skills - Communication	213
UWLQ Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1) (QCF)	210

Table 3: The 40 awarding organisations with the highest number of achievements in all regulated qualifications (except GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma), October – December 2012	
Northern Ireland	
Awarding organisation	Achievements
City & Guilds	10,226
Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment	4,857
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health	4,503
Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music	2,010
Pearson Education Ltd	1,250
OCR	1,156
University of West London	1,128
NOCN	1,109
EDI	985
Cskills Awards	737
Institute of Qualified Lifeguards	683
Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance	592
Institute of Leadership & Management	378
Rock School Ltd	332
Active IQ	315
British Safety Council	282
WSET Awards	194
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT	184
New Era Academy of Drama and Music (London) Ltd	182
Royal Society for Public Health	156
University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations	153
ETC Awards Limited	116
IMI Awards Ltd	114
Chartered Insurance Institute	106
Graded Qualifications Alliance	102
VTCT	92
NCFE	91
Future (Awards and Qualifications) Ltd	81
Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development	77
Trinity College London	66
Safety Training Awards	60
FDQ Limited	58
Equestrian Qualifications Limited	58
McDonalds	52
ifs School of Finance	51
BIIAB	49
Council for Awards in Care, Health and Education	41
Signature	34
Open College Network Northern Ireland	33
Institute of Administrative Management	30

Table 4: Number of achievements by sector subject area in all regulated qualifications (except GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma), October – December 2012

Northern Ireland	
	Achievements
Retail and commercial enterprise	8,166
Preparation for life and work	6,644
Arts, media and publishing	5,160
Health, public services and care	2,986
Information and communication technology	2,357
Business, administration, finance and law	2,252
Engineering and manufacturing technologies	1,943
Leisure, travel and tourism	1,324
Construction, planning and the built environment	960
Languages, literature and culture	551
Education and training	423
Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	371
Science and mathematics	3
History, philosophy and theology	0
Social sciences	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,140</b>

Table 5: Number of achievements in all regulated qualifications (except GCSEs, GCEs and the Diploma) by level, October – December 2012

Northern Ireland	
Level	Achievements
Entry	2,624
1	7,106
1/2	0
2	19,132
3	3,700
4	258
5	303
6	12
7	5
8	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,140</b>



Table 6: The 40 QCF qualifications with the highest number of achievements, October – December 2012 Northern Ireland	
Qualification	Achievements
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering	2,815
City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Principles of Customer Service in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism	1,268
City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Welcoming Tourists and Visitors to their Destination in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism	1,243
IQL Level 2 Award in Pool Lifeguarding, Intervention, Supervision and Rescue	545
CCEA Level 2 Award in Understanding Business Enterprise	472
CCEA Level 2 Award in Creative Craft	430
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1)	397
CCEA Level 2 Award in Employability	395
CIEH Level 2 Award in Health and Safety in the Workplace	392
NOCN Entry Level Award in Progression (Entry 3)	331
CCEA Level 1 Award in Creative Craft	314
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2)	277
BSC Level 1 Award in Health and Safety at Work	277
City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma in Health and Social Care (Adults) for Wales and Northern Ireland	276
EDEXCEL BTEC Level 2 Award in Principles of Customer Service in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism	275
Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Award in Welcoming Tourists and Visitors to their Destination in Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism	264
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety for Manufacturing	245
ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3)	238
ABRSM Level 2 Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 4)	234
CCEA Level 1 Award in Employability Skills	231
ABRSM Level 2 Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 5)	230
ABRSM Level 2 Award in Graded Examination in Music Theory (Grade 5)	222
CIEH Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work	220
NOCN Level 1 Award in Skills Towards Enabling Progression (Step-UP)	215
UWLQ Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1)	210
HABC Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering	203
City & Guilds Entry Level Award for IT Users (Start IT - iTQ) (Entry 3)	200
City & Guilds Entry Level Award in Online Basics (Start IT - iTQ) (Entry 3)	200
Active IQ Level 2 Certificate in Fitness Instructing	195
City & Guilds Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care (Adults) for Wales and Northern Ireland	193
City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Induction into Adult Social Care in Northern Ireland	190
CCEA Level 2 Certificate in Performance Skills	188
City & Guilds Level 1 Award In Personal and Social Skills	182
EDI Level 3 Certificate in Management Principles	177
CCEA Entry Level Award in Modern Languages (Entry 3)	175
CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety for Retail	174
UWLQ Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 2)	168
CCEA Level 3 Certificate in Creative Craft	142
IQL Level 2 Award in Pool Lifeguarding, Supervision and Rescue	138
CCEA Level 1 Award in Personal Money Management	134

Table 7: The 40 awarding organisations with the highest number of achievements in QCF qualifications, October – December 2012 Northern Ireland	
Awarding organisation	Achievements
City & Guilds	6,275
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health	4,503
Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment	2,963
Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music	2,010
University of West London	1,128
Pearson Education Ltd	1,119
NOCN	1,102
EDI	972
OCR	756
Cskills Awards	724
Institute of Qualified Lifeguards	683
Highfield Awarding Body for Compliance	592
Institute of Leadership & Management	378
Rock School Ltd	332
Active IQ	315
British Safety Council	282
WSET Awards	194
BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT	184
New Era Academy of Drama and Music (London) Ltd	182
Royal Society for Public Health	156
Chartered Insurance Institute	106
Graded Qualifications Alliance	102
NCFE	91
VTCT	91
Future (Awards and Qualifications) Ltd	81
ETC Awards Limited	77
Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development	77
IMI Awards Ltd	59
FDQ Limited	57
Equestrian Qualifications Limited	57
Safety Training Awards	54
McDonalds	52
BIIAB	49
ifs School of Finance	49
Signature	34
Open College Network Northern Ireland	33
Trinity College London	31
Institute of Administrative Management	30
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Limited	28
Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing	27

Table 8: Number of achievements by sector subject area in QCF qualifications, October – December 2012	
Northern Ireland	
	Achievements
Retail and commercial enterprise	8,153
Arts, media and publishing	5,136
Health, public services and care	2,774
Preparation for life and work	2,294
Business, administration, finance and law	2,224
Engineering and manufacturing technologies	1,527
Leisure, travel and tourism	1,262
Information and communication technology	923
Construction, planning and the built environment	894
Languages, literature and culture	396
Education and training	395
Agriculture, horticulture and animal care	334
Science and mathematics	3
Social sciences	0
History, philosophy and theology	0

Table 9: Achievements in QCF qualifications by level, from October – December 2012	
Northern Ireland	
Level	Achievements
Entry	1,314
1	4,975
2	16,298
3	3,230
4	234
5	251
6	8
7	5
8	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,315</b>

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