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Automotive Education Report

Analysis of those undertaking automotive qualifications

Edition 5

2022 Q3



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Automotive Education Report

Introduction

The aim of this report is to analyse the number of people undertaking automotive qualifications and those starting automotive apprenticeships in the UK. The report takes data released by the four nations' regulatory bodies:

- OfQual - The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation [England]
- SQA - The Scottish Qualifications Authority [Scotland]
- QiW – Qualifications Wales [Wales]
- CCEA - The Council for Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment [Northern Ireland]

These datasets hold data on the number of certifications awarded for each qualification. This data is released on a quarterly basis, with the most recent being 2022 Q3 (July-September).

Regarding qualification level, the analysis uses England & Wales's qualification levels, and Scottish levels have been mapped to match these.

For apprenticeship starts, we use data released from the Department of Education (DfE) regarding apprenticeship starts and achievement rates in England. Data is released on a monthly basis.

Summary of findings

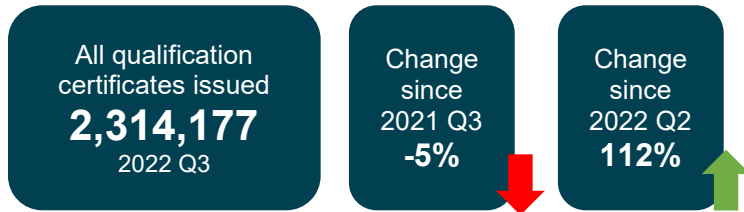
- Overall, all vocational qualifications have decreased by 5% when compared to the same period in 2021.
- The total number of automotive certificates issued in 2022 Q3 was 25,057. Following all vocational certifications trend, 2022 Q3 fell by 3% compared to the same period the year before.
- In 2022 Q3, the largest proportion (37%) of automotive qualifications were at Level 2 (or equivalent).
- The top qualification in 2022 Q3 was the IMI Level 1 Diploma in Automotive Maintenance, making up 8% of all automotive qualification certificates.
- 27% of automotive qualification certificates issued this quarter are for light-vehicle qualifications. The second most popular subject is general maintenance (27%) followed by Electric/Hybrid (16%) and MOT (6%).
- More than 3100 certificated in the third quarter of 2022 (July-Sept) undertook electric vehicle qualifications eligible to obtain TechSafe™ professional recognition. This equates to the number of technicians now qualified to work safely on electric vehicles is estimated at 36,000, the equivalent of 16% of technicians in the UK.
- Unofficial IMI data indicates that the fourth quarter could also see significant take up, which could see the total qualified in 2022 alone would be 15,000, 38% of all those qualified to date.
- There were 6767 automotive apprenticeship starts in the year 2021/22, which is 43% higher than the previous year but 13% lower than 2019/20.



- 52% of automotive apprenticeship starts were levy funded, which is in the bottom third of all sectors.
- 2021/22 saw Motor Vehicle Service and Maintenance Technician (Light Vehicle) the most popular pathway with 3077 starts, as it has been for the past 3 years.

Vocational qualification certifications

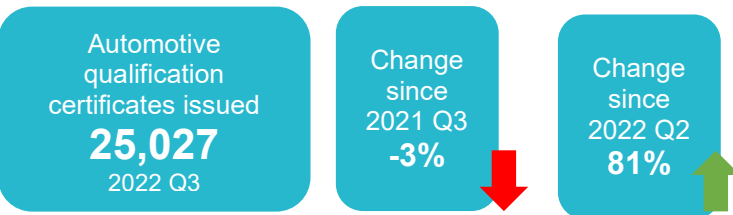
All vocational qualifications



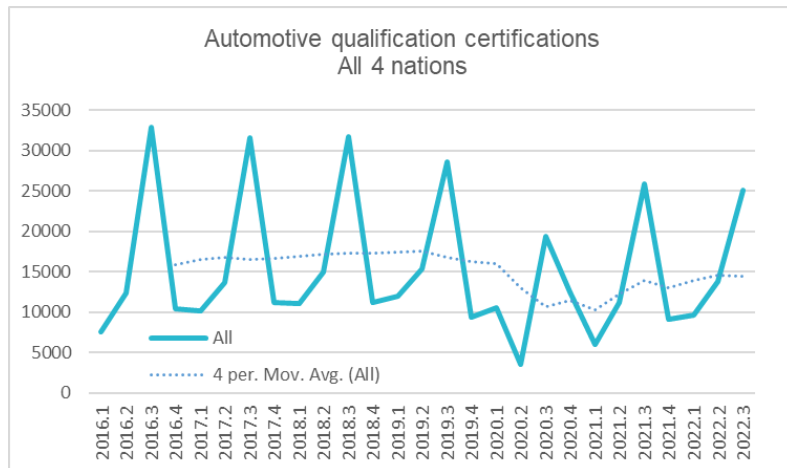
	No.	%chg 2021 Q3
England	2,099,735	-6%
Scotland	27,881	+23%
Wales	121,395	-4%
N.I	65,166	-14%

The total number of vocational certificates issued in 2022 Q3 was 2.3 million. This is 5% lower than the same period last year.

Automotive qualification certifications



	No.	%chg 2021 Q3
England	22,195	-4%
Scotland	1,154	44%
Wales	1,300	-15%
N.I	378	-15%

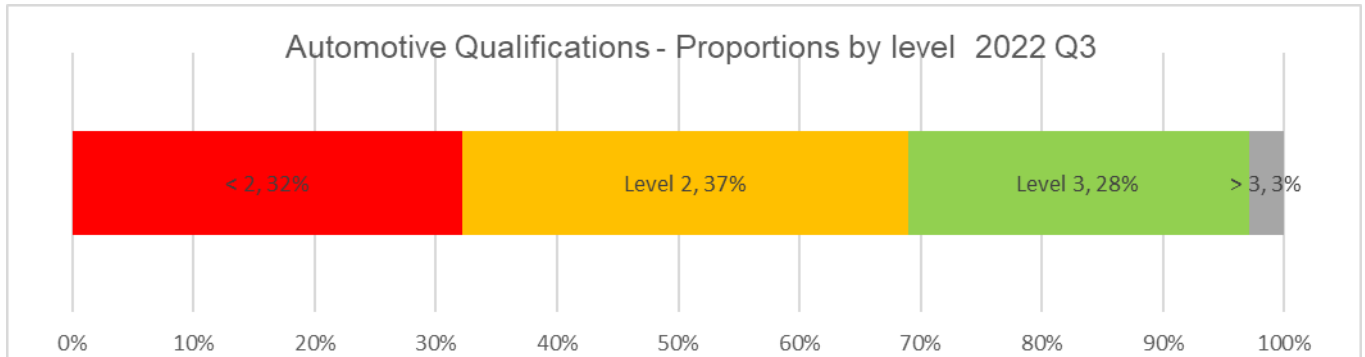


The total number of automotive certificates issued in 2022 Q3 was 25,027.

Following all vocational certifications, trends in 2022 Q3 fell by 3% compared to the same period the year before.

Scotland is bucking the trend and is up 44% this quarter compared to 2021.

Automotive qualification certifications – Levels



Automotive qualifications entry & Level 1 certificates issued
8,088

Automotive Level 2 certificates qualifications issued
9,259

Automotive qualifications Level 3 certificates issued
7,059

Automotive qualifications Level 4+ certificates issued
738

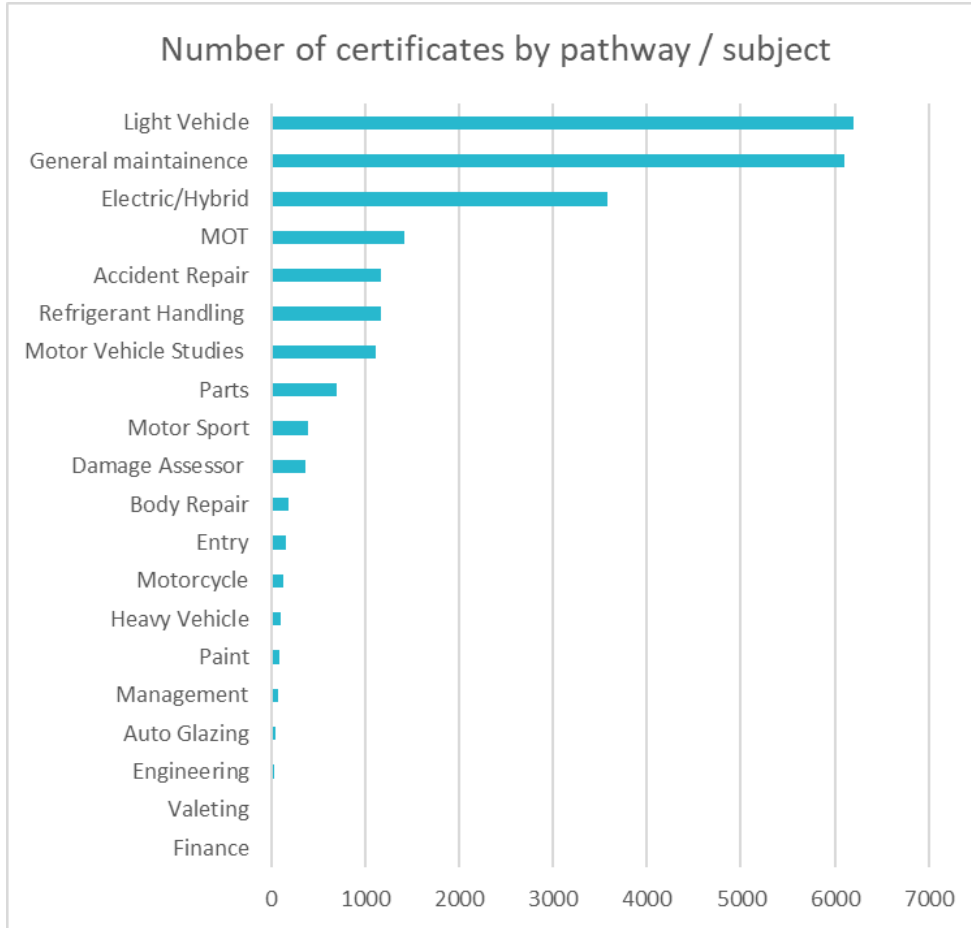
In 2022 Q3, the largest proportion (37%) of automotive qualifications were at Level 2 (or equivalent) with 9,259 qualifications at this level, 32% were at entry and Level 1 and 28% at level 2.

Top 10 automotive qualifications

Qualification Title	Level	No.
IMI Level 1 Diploma in Automotive Maintenance	Level 1	2025
IMI Level 2 Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Principles (VRQ)	Level 2	1981
IMI Level 3 Award in Electric/Hybrid Vehicle System Repair and Replacement	Level 3	1700
IMI Level 3 Award in Automotive Refrigerant Handling (EC842-2006) (VRQ)	Level 3	1165
IMI Level 3 Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Principles (VRQ)	Level 3	1078
IMI Level 2 Award in Electric/Hybrid Vehicle Routine Maintenance Activities	Level 2	880
City & Guilds Level 1 Diploma in Vehicle Maintenance	Level 1	865
City & Guilds Level 2 Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance & Repair Principles	Level 2	805
City & Guilds Level 1 Diploma in Vehicle Systems Maintenance	Level 1	780
City & Guilds Level 3 Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Principles	Level 3	710

The top qualification in 2022 Q3 was IMI Level 1 Diploma in Automotive Maintenance with 2025 certificates issued, which is 8% of all automotive qualification certificates. 48% of all automotive certificates issued this quarter were from these top 10 qualifications.

Automotive qualification certifications – pathways / subject areas



27% of automotive qualification certificates issued this quarter are for light-vehicle qualifications. The second most popular subject is general maintenance (27%) followed by Electric/Hybrid (16%) and MOT (6%).

IMI TechSafe®

Electric vehicle qualification certifications eligible to obtain TechSafe® professional recognition

3183

2022 Q3

Electric vehicle qualification certifications eligible to obtain Techsafe® professional recognition

38,600

In total (2016 – 2022 December **)

*** Includes IMI data for October-December 2022*

Data released by the education regulators (Ofqual, SQA, CCEA, Qualifications Wales) reports that more than 3100 were certificated in the third quarter of 2022 (July-Sept). This means that the first nine months of 2022, saw 11,546 technicians undertaking electric vehicle qualifications eligible to obtain TechSafe™ professional recognition. This means the number of technicians now qualified to work safely on electric vehicles is estimated at 36,000, the equivalent of 16% of technicians in the UK.

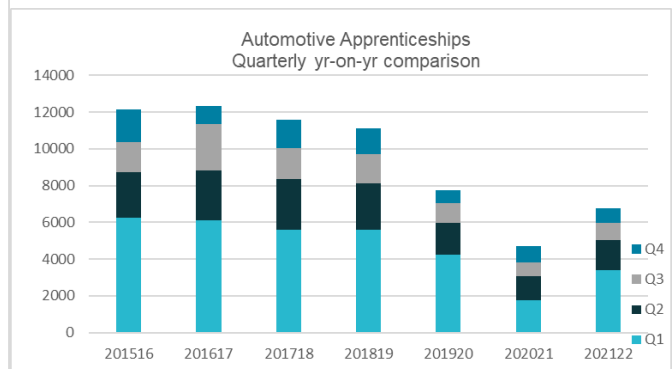
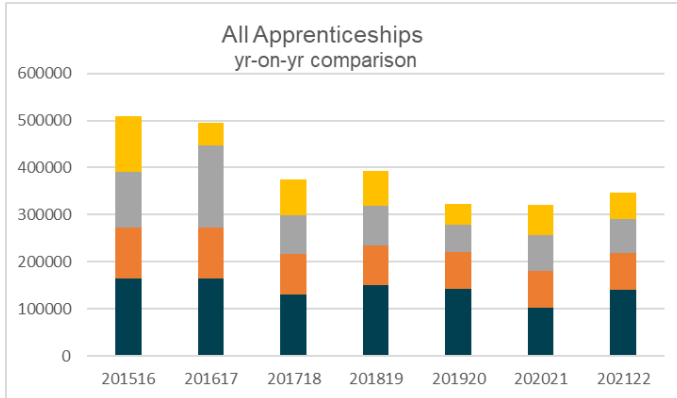
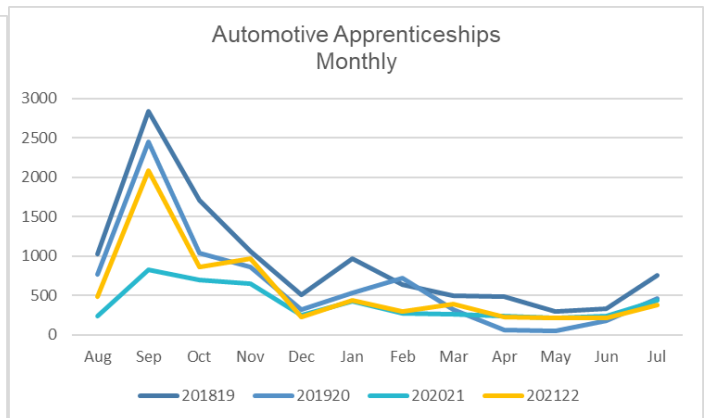
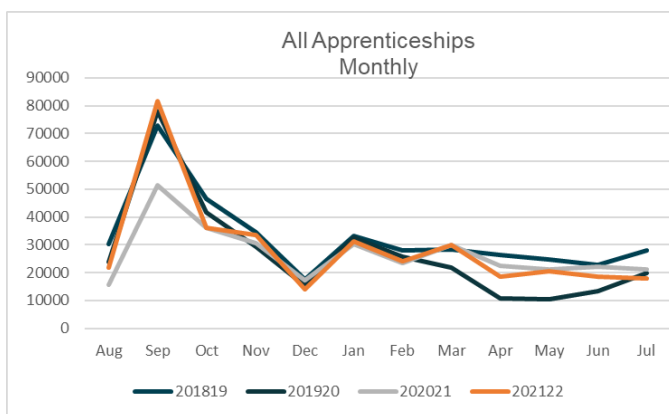
Unofficial IMI data indicates that the fourth quarter could also see significant take up, which could see the total qualified in 2022 alone would 15,000, 38% of all those qualified to date.

Automotive Apprenticeships - England

Apprenticeship Starts – Full year confirmed data

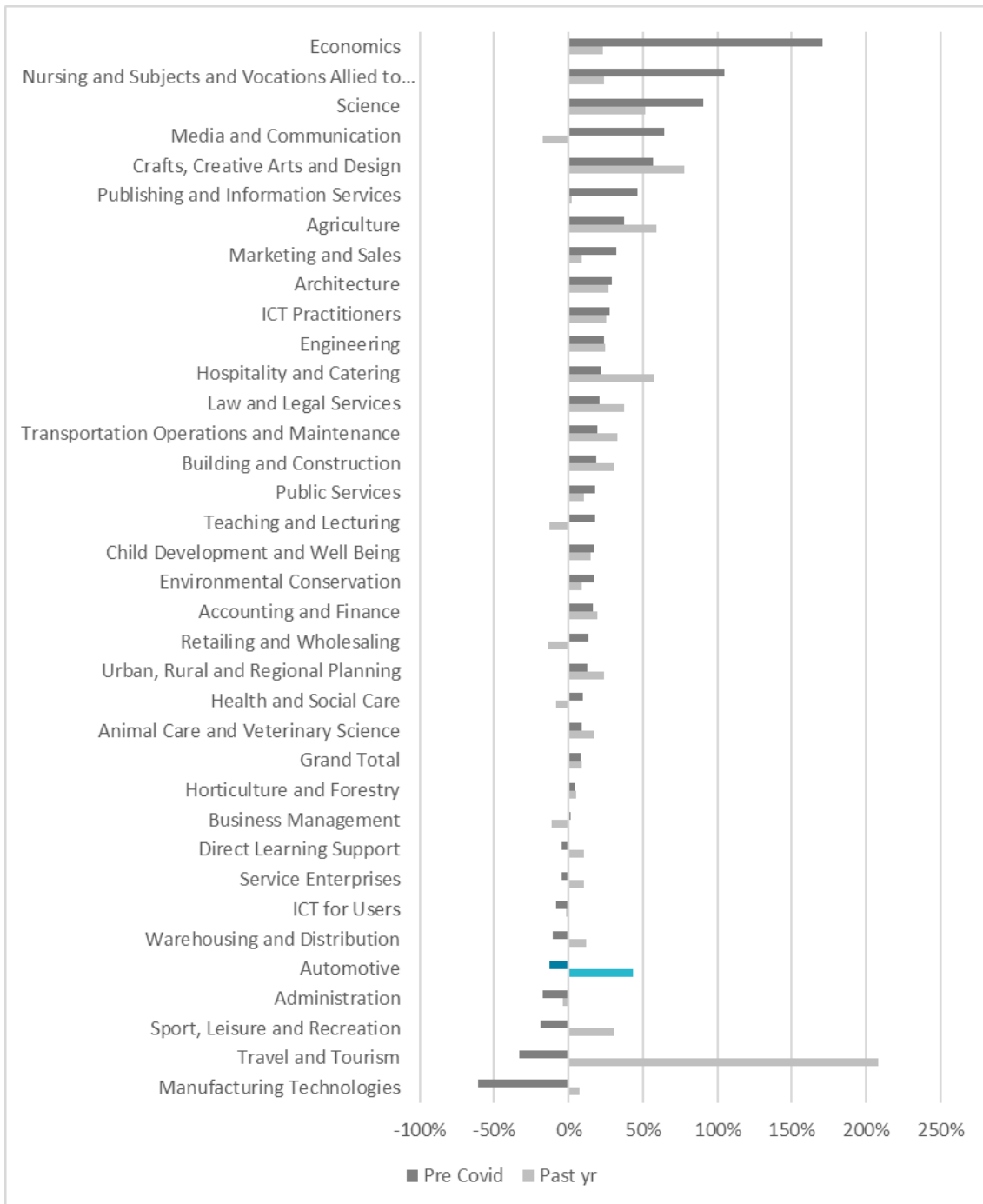
All apprenticeships
2021/22 (Aug – Jul)
349,192

Automotive apprenticeships
2021/22 (Aug – Jul)
6,767



There were 6767 automotive apprenticeship starts in the year 2021/22, which is 43% higher than the previous year but 13% lower than 2019/20.

Comparison of apprenticeship subject areas – Full year comparison to last year and 2019/20 (pre covid)



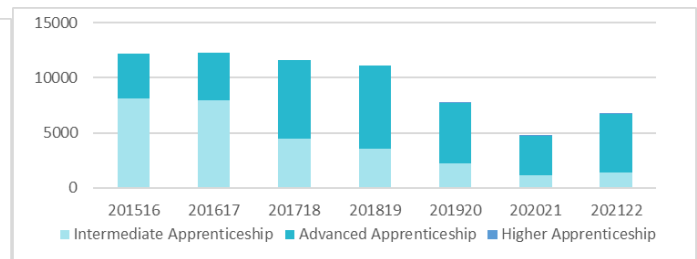
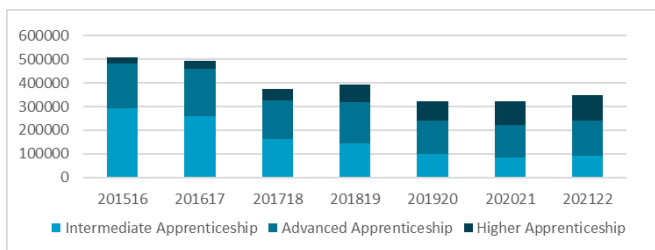
Compared to other industries, automotive has had the 6th largest percentage increase in apprenticeship starts from last year. However, compared to pre covid 2019/20 automotive has the 5th lowest increase.

Apprenticeship starts - level

All apprenticeships 2021/22
43%
Advanced apprenticeship

Automotive apprenticeships 2021/22
79%
Advanced apprenticeship

In 2021/22, 43% (151,314) of apprenticeships were at an advanced level, with 79% (5360) of all automotive apprenticeships at the same advanced level.

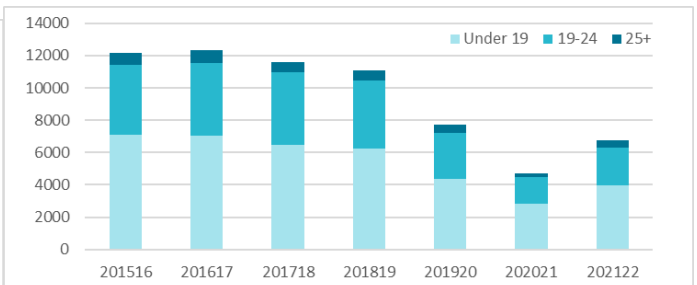
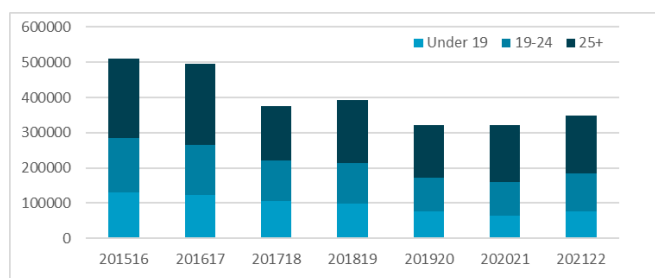


Apprenticeship starts – age profile

All apprenticeships 2020/21
22%
Under 19

Automotive apprenticeships 2020/21
59%
Under 19

In the 2021/22, 22% (77,518) of apprenticeship starts were under the age of 19, with 59% (3967) of automotive apprenticeships starts under the age of 19.

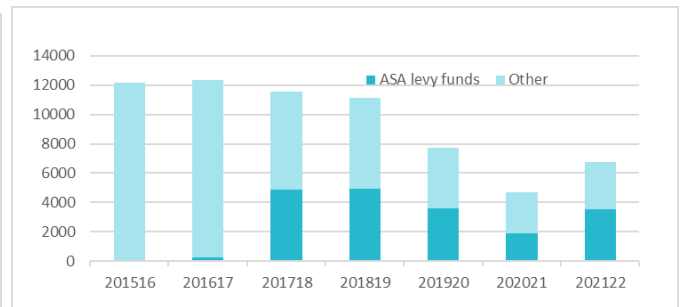
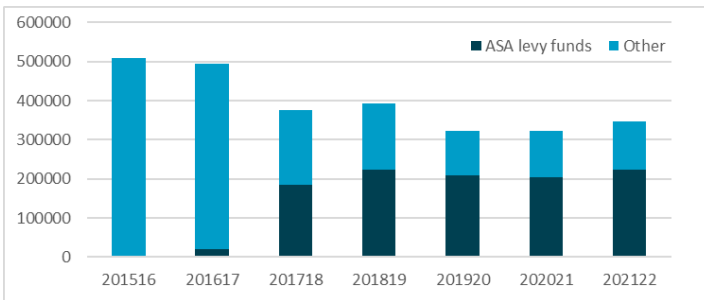


Apprenticeship starts – funding

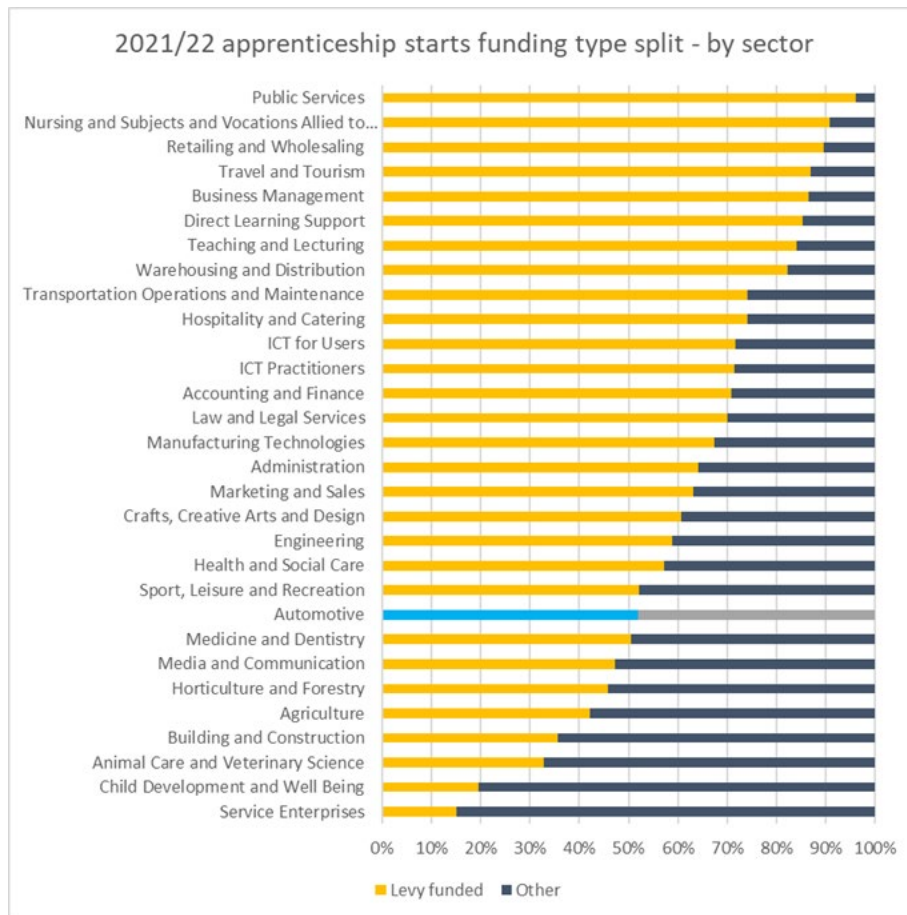
All apprenticeships 2020/21
65%
Supported by ASA levy funds

Automotive apprenticeships 2020/21
52%
Supported by ASA levy funds

In 2021/22, 65% of apprenticeship starts were supported by ASA levy funds, compared to 52% of automotive apprenticeships starts. The proportion of levy-funded automotive apprentices has been increasing, from 40% last year and 47% in 2019/20.



The following outlines the proportion split by funding type of apprenticeship starts in 2021/22. 52% of automotive apprenticeship starts were levy funded, which is in the bottom third of all sectors.



Public Services apprenticeships have the highest proportion of levy funded with 96% of starts in 2021/22 levy funded. Service Enterprises had the lowest proportion of levy funded apprenticeship starts 15%.

Transportation operations and maintenance, which automotive is a sub sector of, has a significantly higher proportion of levy funded starts (72%) compared to automotive.

When comparing to comparable sectors, automotive has a lower proportion of levy funded starts than manufacturing technologies (67%) and engineering (59%). However, automotive has a higher proportion compared to agriculture (42%) and building and construction (36%).

Automotive Apprenticeships Pathways

Apprentice starts – Automotive Apprenticeships starts by pathway

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	% chg from last year	% chg from 2019/20
Framework					
Vehicle Body and Paint Operations	668	22	*	Numbers too small for analysis	
Vehicle Fitting	28	*	*		
Vehicle Maintenance and Repair	2257	87	*		
Vehicle Parts Operations	309	5	*		
Vehicle Restoration	*	0	*		
Vehicle Sales	29	0	0		
Standard					
Accident Repair Technician	63	71	120	69%	90%
Autocare Technician	743	1081	1367	26%	84%
Bus and Coach Engineering Technician	223	109	275	152%	23%
Heavy Vehicle Service and Maintenance Technician	980	916	1128	23%	15%
Motor Finance Specialist		14		Numbers too small for analysis	
Motor Vehicle Service and Maintenance Technician (Light Vehicle)	2184	2046	3077	50%	41%
Motorcycle Technician (Repair and Maintenance)	19	11	59	Numbers too small for analysis	
Specialist Tyre Operative	19	*		Numbers too small for analysis	
Vehicle Damage Assessor	13	15	34	127%	162%
Vehicle Damage Mechanical, Electrical and Trim (MET) Technician	26	17	111	553%	327%
Vehicle Damage Paint Technician	108	232	398	72%	269%
Vehicle Damage Panel Technician	65	79	181	129%	178%

2021/22 saw Motor Vehicle Service and Maintenance Technician (Light Vehicle) the most popular pathway with 3077 starts, as it has been for the past 3 years. Compared to previous years, this pathway has increased 50% from last year and 41% from 2019/20. The largest increase since 2019/20 has been Vehicle Damage Mechanical, Electrical and Trim (MET) Technician which has tripled the amount of starts.

Data Sources

OfQual (England) - Vocational qualifications dataset [Certificates awarded for all vocational qualifications (excluding GCSEs, AS levels and A levels)] 2022 Quarter 3

SQA Accreditation (Scotland) – Quarterly statistical Reports. July – September 2022.

QiW (Wales) – Vocational and Other Qualifications Quarterly: [A quarterly release that presents data on vocational and other qualification certifications for Wales for the latest quarter] 2022 Quarter 3

Cea (Northern Ireland) - Technical and Professional Qualifications Bulletin: 2022 Quarter 3

DfE - Apprenticeships and Traineeships, England - data released 24th November 2022