

Highest Qualifications Held by Workplace Populations (aged 16-74), 2011 Census of Population

Summary

The workplace populations for the majority of local authorities in the Lancashire-14 area fared well in relation to the middle levels of qualifications, (Level 2 and Level 3) and also in terms of apprenticeship qualifications, however, the results showed lower percentages of workplace populations with Level 4 qualifications (degree or above) and higher percentages of workplace populations with low qualifications (no qualifications or Level 1 qualifications) for the majority of local authorities within Lancashire-14.

Level 2 qualifications

All of the authorities within Lancashire-14 had percentages of their respective workplace populations with Level 2 as the highest qualification held that were greater than the average for England and Wales of 16.8%. Blackpool (20.2%) and Wyre (20.1%) had the greatest percentages, whilst Fylde district (17.2%), Blackburn with Darwen (17.2%) and Ribble Valley (17.0%) had the lowest.

Level 3 qualifications

Eleven of the 14 Lancashire local authorities had percentages of their workplace populations with Level 3 qualifications which were clustered within the top 42 rankings (out of 348) within England and Wales. Lancaster and Ribble Valley, each recording 17.7%, were placed in joint 6th position. The England and Wales average was 14.7%, or roughly 1 in 7.

Apprenticeship qualifications

Ribble Valley (6.6%) had the 3rd greatest percentage of a workplace population with apprenticeship as the highest level of qualification held within England and Wales (3.6%) - behind Barrow-in-Furness (9.2%) and Copeland (7.0%), both within the North West region.

Level 4 qualifications (degree and above)

Twelve of the local authorities within Lancashire-14 had percentages of their respective workplace populations with Level 4 qualifications (degree or higher) that were below the England and Wales average (34.9%). Eight of these had percentages lower than 30%, in, or near, the bottom third of the rankings within England and Wales. Only Fylde district (37%) and Preston (35.1%) had percentages that were above the England and Wales average.

No qualifications

Conversely, 10 of the local authorities within Lancashire-14 had high percentages of their respective workplace populations with no qualifications, which were greater than the average for England and Wales of 10.2%. Eight of these had percentages that fell in the top third of the rankings. Pendle (14.5%) had the second highest percentage of the 39 local authorities within the North West - ranked 24th nationally. Fylde district (8.1%) had the lowest percentage in the region, ranked 44th lowest within England and Wales.

Level 1 qualifications

Nine of the local authorities within Lancashire-14 had percentages of their respective workplace populations with Level 1 as their highest qualification held that were greater than the average for England and Wales of 14.3%. Wyre (16.6%), Blackpool (16.4%), Rossendale (16.1%) and West Lancashire (16.0%) had the greatest percentages.

Low qualifications (no qualifications and level 1 qualifications combined)

Looking at the percentage of workplace populations with low qualifications (no qualifications and Level 1 qualifications combined), 10 of the local authorities within Lancashire-14 had percentages which were greater than the average for England and Wales of 24.5%. Six of these had percentages that fell in the top third of the rankings. Percentages ranged between highs of 29.7% in Blackpool and 29.2% in Pendle to a low of 20.7% in Fylde. Fylde had the second lowest percentage in the North West region (38th lowest in England and Wales).

Other qualifications (vocational/foreign qualifications – level not stated/unknown)

Blackburn with Darwen (5.5%) was the only North West authority that had a percentage of the workforce population with 'Other qualifications' which was greater than the average for England and Wales (5.4%).

Spread of results in Lancashire-14

Level 4 qualifications provided the greatest spread of results within Lancashire-14, ranging from 37.0% in the Fylde district to 24.5% in Pendle a difference of 12.5%. Low qualifications (no qualifications and Level 1 qualifications combined) showed the second greatest difference of 8.5%, ranging from 29.7% in Blackpool to 20.7% in the Fylde district. The percentages with no qualifications ranged from 14.5% in Pendle to 8.1% in Fylde district, a difference of 6.4%. Other qualifications had the lowest spread of results at just 2.0%, ranging from 5.5% in Blackburn with Darwen to 3.5% in Fylde district.

Background

The highest level of qualification by workplace population is derived from the 2011 Census question asking people to indicate all types of qualifications held. People were also asked if they held foreign qualifications and to indicate the closest equivalent. There were 12 response options (plus 'no qualifications') covering professional and vocational qualifications, and a range of academic qualifications.

The workplace population of an area is defined as the population working in that locality regardless of where within England and Wales they live (persons aged 16 and above). It identifies where people work. The workplace population does not include short-term residents and those people with a place of work in England and Wales but are not usually resident in England and Wales. Workplace populations also exclude those persons living in England and Wales but working in Scotland, Northern Ireland, outside the UK or on offshore installations. The workplace population does not include those persons not working the week before 27th March 2011 (Census day).

'Highest level of qualification' has been split into four levels, plus categories for 'Apprenticeship' 'Other' and 'No qualifications': Low qualifications (no qualifications and level 1 qualifications) have been grouped together as a separate category for ease of analysis. The [GOV.UK](http://gov.uk) website, provides a webpage that allows the different levels of qualification to be compared. Definitions for the usual resident population, workday population and usual resident population in employment are provided at the end of this article.

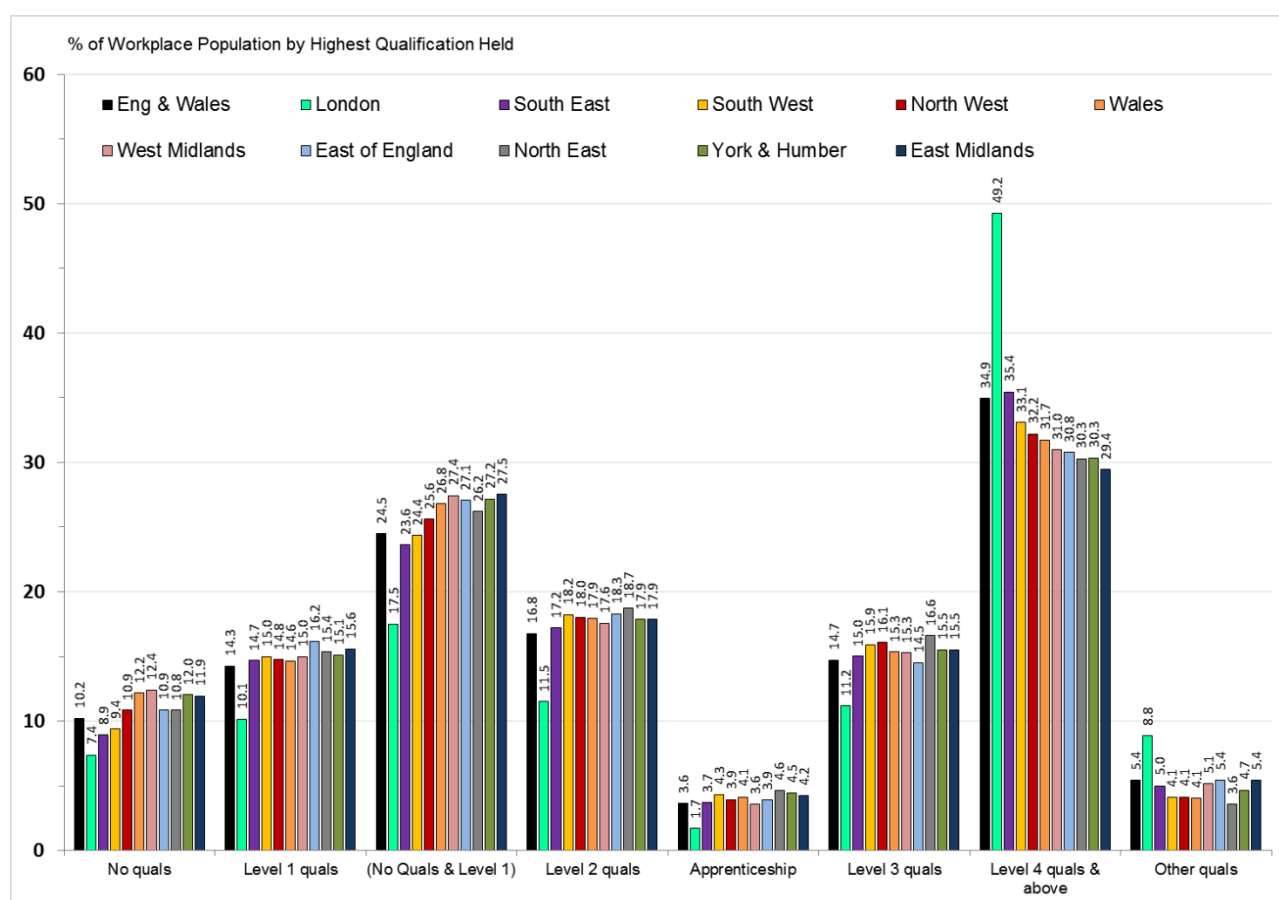
Workplace census tables

The list of tables which focus on the workplace population from the 2011 Census of Population is available via the [\(N.O.M.I.S.\)](#) web site.

Skewing of the data across the qualification categories

The high proportion of the workplace population in London that had Level 4 qualifications and 'Other qualifications' has impacted upon the distribution of the remaining categories. The categories for no qualifications, Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 qualifications and apprenticeships have lower averages owing to the low percentages in London and the skewing of the data as a result. The median (or middle ranking) figures are higher than the averages for these categories.

Figure 1: Highest Qualification Held, Percentages by Regional Workplace Populations



Note: All usual residents aged 16-74 in employment in the area the week before the census
Source: Office for National Statistics - 2011 Census Highest level of qualification (Workplace population)
Table WP501EW

Spread of results in the Lancashire area

Level 4 qualifications provided the greatest spread of results within the Lancashire sub-region, ranging from 37.0% in the Fylde district to 24.5% in Pendle a difference of 12.5%. Low qualifications (no qualifications and Level 1 qualifications combined) showed the second greatest difference of 8.5%, ranging from 29.7% in Blackpool to 20.7% in the Fylde district. The percentages with no qualifications ranged from 14.5% in Pendle to 8.1% in Fylde district, a difference of 6.4%. Level 1 qualifications had a spread of 4.1%, ranging from 16.6% in Wyre to 12.5% in Fylde district.

Level 2 qualifications and apprenticeships both had a spread of results that were very similar in range. Level 2 qualifications ranged from 20.2% in Blackpool to 17.0% in Ribble Valley, a difference of 3.2%. Apprenticeship qualifications ranged from 6.6% in Ribble Valley to 3.3% in Preston, a difference of 3.3%.

Other qualifications had the lowest spread of results at just 2.0%, ranging from 5.5% in Blackburn with Darwen to 3.5% in Fylde district. Level 3 qualifications had the second lowest spread of percentages at 2.4%, ranging from 17.7% in both Ribble Valley and Lancaster to 15.3% in Blackburn with Darwen.

Level 4 qualifications (degree and above)

Only Fylde district (37%) and Preston (35.1%) had percentages of their workplace populations with Level 4 qualifications (degree or higher) that were above the England and Wales average (34.9%) in the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region. The Manchester City Council area (44.6%) had the greatest percentage in the region. This category was skewed by the very high percentage in London (49.2%) that had Level 4 qualifications. The City of London (65.9%) had the greatest percentage. The median (or middle ranking) percentage was lower at 30.7%.

Twelve of the local authorities within the 14-authority Lancashire sub-region had percentages of their respective workplace populations with Level 4 qualifications (degree or higher) that were below the England and Wales average (34.9%). Eight of these had percentages lower than 30%, in, or near, the bottom third of the rankings within England and Wales.

Table 1a: 2011 Census - Workplace Populations, persons aged 16-74 - Highest Qualifications Held (percentages) for Level 4 qualifications (Degree of above), No qualifications, Level 1 qualifications and Low Qualifications (No Qualifications and Level 1 Qualifications combined)

Local Authority/Area	Workplace Population aged 16-74	Percent with Level 4 Qualifications (Degree and above)	Percent with No Qualifications	Percent with Level 1 Qualifications	Percent with Low Qualifications (No Qualifications and Level 1 Qualifications combined)
Fylde	42,934	37.0	8.1	12.5	20.7
Preston	87,088	35.1	9.2	13.8	23.0
Lancaster	58,893	34.6	9.4	13.0	22.4
Ribble Valley	29,815	33.1	9.1	12.6	21.6
Chorley	41,674	30.8	10.6	14.9	25.5
West Lancashire	49,510	28.5	12.3	16.0	28.3
South Ribble	49,069	28.2	11.2	15.5	26.8
Burnley	37,472	27.2	12.8	14.8	27.6
Rosendale	24,266	26.4	12.6	16.1	28.8
Hyndburn	31,172	25.6	13.7	15.1	28.8
Wyre	37,730	25.3	12.0	16.6	28.7
Pendle	34,602	24.5	14.5	14.7	29.2
Lancashire-12	524,225	30.5	10.9	14.5	25.5
Blackburn with Darwen	64,522	30.9	12.8	14.2	27.0
Blackpool	63,189	26.5	13.2	16.4	29.7
Lancashire-14	651,936	30.2	11.3	14.7	26.0
North West	3,224,701	32.2	10.9	14.8	25.6
England & Wales	26,414,207	34.9	10.2	14.3	24.5

Note: The data is ranked in descending order of the percentages for the workplace populations with Level 4 qualifications (degree of higher) as the highest qualification held for the 12 local authorities within the Lancashire County Council administrative area. The remaining categories are not ranked.

Source: 2011 Census of Population, workplace population table WP101EW and economic activity tables KS601EW, KS602EW & KS603EW.

Level 1 qualifications: 1-4 O Levels/CSE/GCSEs (any grades), Entry Level, Foundation Diploma, NVQ level 1, Foundation GNVQ, Basic/Essential Skills.

Level 2 qualifications: 5+ O Level (Passes)/CSEs (Grade 1)/GCSEs (Grades A*-C), School Certificate, 1 A Level/ 2-3 AS Levels/VCEs, Intermediate/Higher Diploma, Welsh Baccalaureate Intermediate Diploma, NVQ level 2, Intermediate GNVQ, City and Guilds Craft, BTEC First/General Diploma, RSA Diploma, Apprenticeship.

Level 3 qualifications: 2+ A Levels/VCEs, 4+ AS Levels, Higher School Certificate, Progression/Advanced Diploma, Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma, NVQ Level 3; Advanced GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma.

Level 4+ qualifications: Degree (for example BA, BSc), Higher Degree (for example MA, PhD, PGCE), NVQ Level 4-5, HNC, HND, RSA Higher Diploma, BTEC Higher level, Foundation degree (NI), Professional qualifications (for example teaching, nursing, accountancy).

Other qualifications: Vocational/Work-related Qualifications, Foreign Qualifications (Not stated/ level unknown).

No qualifications

Conversely, 10 of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region had high percentages of their respective workplace populations with no qualifications, which were greater than the average for England and Wales of 10.2%. Eight of these had percentages that fell in the top third of the rankings. Pendle (14.5%) had the second highest percentage of the 39 local authorities within the North West - ranked 24th nationally. Fylde district (8.1%) had the lowest percentage in the region, ranked 44th lowest within England and Wales.

Level 1 Qualifications

Nine of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region had percentages of their respective workplace populations with Level 1 as their highest qualification held that were greater than the average for England and Wales of 14.3%. Wyre (16.6%), Blackpool (16.4%), Rossendale (16.1%) and West Lancashire (16.0%) had the greatest percentages within the Lancashire 14 sub-region, where the average was 14.7%. Only 9 of the 39 North West authorities had percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average. Five of these, Blackburn with Darwen (14.2%), Preston (13.8%), Lancaster (13.0%), Ribble Valley (12.6%) and Fylde (12.5%) were within the Lancashire 14 sub-region.

Low Qualifications (No Qualifications and Level 1 Qualifications Combined)

Just over a quarter of the workplace population in the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region (26%) and the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area (25.5%) had low qualifications (no qualifications or Level 1 qualifications). These were slightly greater than the England and Wales average (24.5%) but lower than the median (or middle ranking) figure of 26.2%.

Percentages with low qualifications (no qualifications or Level 1 qualifications combined) ranged between highs of 29.7% in Blackpool and 29.2% in Pendle to a low of 20.7% in Fylde within the Lancashire sub-region. Wyre (28.7%), Rossendale (28.8%), Hyndburn (28.8%) and West Lancashire (28.3%) were also ranked in the top third. Only Preston (23.0%), Lancaster (22.4%), Ribble Valley (21.6%) and Fylde (20.7%) had percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average (24.5%). Fylde (20.7%) had the 2nd lowest percentage in the region (38th lowest in England and Wales). The Manchester City Council area (19.9%) was the lowest in the region.

Level 2 Qualifications

The 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region fared well in terms of Level 2 qualifications.

All of the 14 authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region had percentages of their respective workplace populations with Level 2 as the highest qualification held that were greater than the average for England and Wales of 16.8%. Blackpool (20.2%) and Wyre (20.1%) had the greatest percentages, whilst Fylde district (17.2%), Blackburn with Darwen (17.2%) and Ribble Valley (17.0%) had the lowest.

Table 1b: 2011 Census - Workplace Populations, persons aged 16-74, Highest Qualifications Held (percentages) for Level 2, Level 3, Apprenticeship and Other Qualifications

Local Authority/Area	Workplace Population aged 16-74	Percent with Level 2 Qualifications	Percent with Apprenticeship Qualifications	Percent with Level 3 Qualifications	Percent with Other Qualifications
Ribble Valley	29,815	17.0	6.6	17.7	4.1
Pendle	34,602	18.1	5.7	17.4	5.1
South Ribble	49,069	18.1	5.6	16.7	4.6
Hyndburn	31,172	18.7	5.2	17.0	4.7
Wyre	37,730	20.1	5.1	17.0	3.8
Rossendale	24,266	18.9	5.1	16.9	4.0
Burnley	37,472	18.4	4.8	17.2	4.8
Chorley	41,674	18.8	4.5	16.6	3.7
Fylde	42,934	17.2	4.4	17.2	3.5
West Lancashire	49,510	18.0	4.2	15.7	5.3
Lancaster	58,893	17.7	3.8	17.7	3.8
Preston	87,088	17.6	3.3	16.9	4.1
Lancashire (12-district area)	524,225	18.1	4.6	17.0	4.3
Blackburn with Darwen	64,522	17.2	4.2	15.3	5.5
Blackpool	63,189	20.2	3.6	15.8	4.2
Lancashire (14-authority area)	651,936	18.2	4.5	16.7	4.4
Lancashire West sub-region	430,087	18.4	4.2	16.7	4.1
East Lancashire sub-region	221,849	17.9	5.1	16.7	4.9
North West	3,224,701	18.0	3.9	16.1	4.1
England & Wales	26,414,207	16.8	3.6	14.7	5.4

Note: The data is ranked in descending order of the percentages for the workplace populations with Apprenticeship qualifications as the highest qualification held for the 12 local authorities within the Lancashire County Council administrative area. The remaining categories are not ranked.

Source: 2011 Census of Population, workplace population table WP101EW and economic activity tables KS601EW, KS602EW & KS603EW.

Level 1 qualifications: 1-4 O Levels/CSE/GCSEs (any grades), Entry Level, Foundation Diploma, NVQ level 1, Foundation GNVQ, Basic/Essential Skills.

Level 2 qualifications: 5+ O Level (Passes)/CSEs (Grade 1)/GCSEs (Grades A*-C), School Certificate, 1 A Level/ 2-3 AS Levels/VCEs, Intermediate/Higher Diploma, Welsh Baccalaureate Intermediate Diploma, NVQ level 2, Intermediate GNVQ, City and Guilds Craft, BTEC First/General Diploma, RSA Diploma, Apprenticeship.

Level 3 qualifications: 2+ A Levels/VCEs, 4+ AS Levels, Higher School Certificate, Progression/Advanced Diploma, Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma, NVQ Level 3; Advanced GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National, RSA Advanced Diploma.

Level 4+ qualifications: Degree (for example BA, BSc), Higher Degree (for example MA, PhD, PGCE), NVQ Level 4-5, HNC, HND, RSA Higher Diploma, BTEC Higher level, Foundation degree (NI), Professional qualifications (for example teaching, nursing, accountancy).

Other qualifications: Vocational/Work-related Qualifications, Foreign Qualifications (Not stated/ level unknown).

Blackpool (20.2%), Wyre (20.1%), Rossendale (18.9%), Chorley (18.8%) and Hyndburn (18.7%) had the greatest percentages with Level 2 qualifications as the highest qualification held, whilst Lancaster (17.7%), Preston (17.6%), Fylde district (17.2%), Blackburn with Darwen (17.2%) and Ribble Valley (17.0%) had the lowest. Out of the 39 local authorities within the North West region, only the Manchester City Council area (14.4%) had a percentage which was lower than the England and Wales average of 16.8%. This partly reflects the greater percentage of the workplace population in the Manchester City Council area (44.6%) with Level 4 qualifications.

Level 3 Qualifications and Apprenticeship Qualifications

Lancashire and the North West also fared better in terms of Level 3 qualifications and apprenticeship qualifications.

Eleven of the 14 authorities within the Lancashire sub-region had percentages of their workplace populations with Level 3 qualifications which were clustered within the top 42 rankings. Lancaster and Ribble Valley, each recording 17.7%, were placed in joint 6th position. The England and Wales average was 14.7%, or roughly 1 in 7.

Ribble Valley (6.6%) had the 3rd greatest percentage of the workplace population with apprenticeship as the highest level of qualification held within England and Wales - behind Barrow-in-Furness (9.2%) and Copeland (7.0%). Pendle (5.7%), South Ribble (5.6%), Hyndburn (5.2%), Wyre (5.1%), Rossendale (5.1%) and Burnley (4.8%) also fell within the top fifth of the rankings. The percentage for East Lancashire (5.1%) was higher than that for the Lancashire West part of the sub-region (4.2%). Preston (3.3%) was the only Lancashire authority to have a percentage lower than the England and Wales average of 3.6%.

Other Qualifications

(Vocational/Foreign Qualifications – Level Not Stated/Unknown)

London (8.8%) also had by far the highest percentage of the workforce population with 'Other qualifications', which was above the England and Wales average of 5.4%. This category includes vocational/work-related qualifications and foreign qualifications for which the equivalent qualification level has not been stated or is unknown. The median (or middle ranking) percentage was lower at 4.7%, roughly 1 in twenty.

Blackburn with Darwen (5.5%) was the only North West authority that had a percentage greater than the England and Wales average (5.4%). There is a cluster of seven local authorities within the region with some of the highest percentages for this category. Blackburn with Darwen (5.5%), Pendle (5.1%), Burnley (4.8%) and Hyndburn (4.7%) were within East Lancashire and Rochdale (5.2%), Oldham (5.2%) and Bolton (4.7%) were located nearby, in northern part of Greater Manchester. West Lancashire (5.3%) was ranked second in the region.

The Regional Perspective – High and Low Percentages by Qualification

Within the North West region, the Manchester City Council area (44.6%) had by far high the highest percentage of its workplace population with Level 4 qualifications. As a consequence, the area had the lowest percentages

with Level 1 qualifications (11.5%), low qualifications (19.9% - no qualifications and Level 1 qualifications combined), Level 2 qualifications (14.4%), Level 3 qualifications (14.3%) and Apprenticeship qualifications (1.9%) in the region. Fylde district (8.1%), within Lancashire, had the lowest percentage with no qualifications in the region. Allerdale (24.3%) had the lowest percentage of its workplace population in the North West with Level 4 qualifications. Barrow-in-Furness (2.7%) had the lowest percentage with 'Other qualifications' in the region and within England and Wales.

Barrow-in-Furness (9.2%) had the highest percentage of its workplace population with Apprenticeship qualifications in the North West (and in England and Wales). Barrow-in-Furness (18.6%) also had the highest percentage with Level 3 qualifications in the region and the 2nd greatest percentage within England and Wales. Allerdale (24.3%) had the greatest percentage of its workplace population in the North West with Level 2 qualifications. Wigan (17.2%) had the highest percentage with Level 1 qualifications and Oldham (14.7%) had the greatest percentage in the region with no qualifications, whilst Tameside (30.9%) had the greatest percentage with low qualification (no qualifications and Level 1 qualifications combined). Blackburn with Darwen (5.5%) had the greatest percentage in the North West region with 'Other qualifications' as the highest qualification held.

Definitions

Workplace Populations, Usual Resident Populations, Workday populations and Usual Resident Population in Employment.

The workplace population of an area is defined as the population working in that locality regardless of where within England and Wales they live (persons aged 16 and above). It identifies where people work. The workplace population does not include short-term residents and those people with a place of work in England and Wales but are not usually resident in England and Wales. Workplace populations also exclude those persons living in England and Wales but working in Scotland, Northern Ireland, outside the UK or on offshore installations. The workplace population does not include those persons not working the week before 27th March 2011 (Census day).

The usual resident population of an area is defined as the population residing in the area: an estimate of all individuals that live in the locality (all ages). A usual resident of the UK is anyone who, on Census day, was in the UK and had stayed or intended to stay in the UK for a period of 12 months or more, or had a permanent UK address and was outside the UK and intended to be outside the UK for less than 12 months. Although the population base for enumeration included non-UK short-term residents, this population is analysed separately and is not included in the main statistics from the 2011 Census. Most datasets, unless specified, are produced using only usual residents of the UK.

The workday population in the area is defined as all people that are in the area during a normal workday. It includes all people that work in an area, whether residents or non-residents in the area, plus all residents in the area not in work, i.e. it is the sum of the workplace population and residents not in work (all ages). The complementary [workday populations](#) article considers the differences between the usual resident populations and the workday populations for each Lancashire authority for all people aged 16 and over.

Usual residents in employment are economically active and defined as persons who, in the week before the Census, carried out at least one hour's paid work, either as an employee or self-employed. This includes casual

or temporary work, on a government-sponsored training scheme, doing paid or unpaid work for their own or family business, being away from work ill, on maternity leave, or on holiday or temporarily laid off. The main output analyses the 16-74 year old age group. Non-UK short-term residents are not included in this output and are analysed separately. Usual residents in employment may work within the local authority area where they live, or work outside of the local authority area where they reside. A related article, which analyses [commuter flows in Lancashire and beyond](#) from the 2011 Census of Population provides further insight into employment related origin and destination data (employment commuter flows).

Last updated July 2015

Highest Qualifications Held by Workplace Populations (aged 16-74), 2011 Census of Population

No Qualifications - Expanded Analysis

Summary

Lancashire, the Lancashire sub-regions, 10 of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region and the North West region had high percentages of their respective workplace populations with no qualifications, which were greater than the average for England and Wales of 10.2%.

11.3% of the workplace population in the broader 14-authority Lancashire sub-region had no qualifications and 10.9% in the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. East Lancashire (12.7%) had a higher percentage of the workplace population with no qualifications than the Lancashire West part of the sub-region (10.7%). The North West percentage of 10.9% was the same as that in the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. These were all greater than the average of 10.2% for England and Wales.

Pendle (14.5%) had the second highest percentage of the 39 local authorities within the North West region - ranked 24th nationally. Fylde district (8.1%) had the lowest percentage in the North West region, ranked 44th lowest of the 348 local authorities within in England and Wales. Eight of the 14 authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region had percentages that fell in the top third of the rankings, ranging from 12.0% to 14.5%. These were comprised of five of the six local authorities within East Lancashire - Pendle (14.5%), Hyndburn (13.7%), Blackburn with Darwen (12.8%), Burnley (12.8%) and Rossendale (12.6%) and Blackpool (13.2%), West Lancashire (12.3%) and Wyre (12.0%) in the Lancashire West part of the sub-region.

Only Lancaster (9.4%), Preston (9.2%), Ribble Valley (9.1%) and the Fylde district (8.1%) had percentages that were below the England and Wales average of 10.2% in the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region. 14 of the 39 North West local authorities, just over a third, had percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average (10.2%). Fylde district (8.1%) had the lowest percentage in the North West region.

The percentage of the England and Wales workplace population with no qualifications was just over a tenth, at 10.2%. The very low percentages for roughly a third of the London boroughs and the low percentages for more than three quarters of the local authorities in the South East of England have skewed the distribution of the data and lowered the average for England and Wales (10.2%). The median (or middle) ranking percentage was slightly higher at 10.8%.

Regionally, the percentages ranged between 12.4% in the West Midlands to 7.4% in London. This represents a difference of 5.0%.

At the local authority level, the percentages range between 18.0% in Blaenau Gwent within Wales and 2.3% in the City of London. This is a difference of 15.7%.

For the North West local authorities, the percentages range between 14.7% in Oldham to 8.1% in Fylde district - a difference of 6.6%.

For the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region, the percentages range between 14.5% in Pendle to 8.1% in Fylde district - a difference of 6.4%. This is the third greatest spread of results of the highest qualification held categories analysed in the report at the Lancashire sub-regional level.

11.3% of the workplace population in the broader 14-authority Lancashire sub-region had no qualifications and 10.9% in the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. East Lancashire (12.7%) had a higher percentage of the workplace population with no qualifications than the Lancashire West part of the sub-region (10.7%). The North West figure of 10.9% was the same as that in the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. Out of the ten regions within England and Wales, the North West (10.9%) was ranked in a middling 5th equal position (or 5th equal lowest). These percentages were all greater than the England and Wales average of 10.2%.

At the local authority level within the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region percentages ranged between a high of 14.5% in Pendle, to a low of 8.1% in the Fylde district. Pendle had the second highest percentage of the 39 local authorities within the North West region (ranked 24th nationally). Fylde district (8.1%) had the lowest percentage in the North West region (44th lowest in England and Wales), an eighth from the bottom of the 348 local authorities within England and Wales. Eight of the 14 authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region had percentages that fell in the top third of the rankings, ranging from 12.0% to 14.5%. These were comprised of five of the six local authorities within East Lancashire - Pendle (14.5%), Hyndburn (13.7%), Blackburn with Darwen (12.8%), Burnley (12.8%) and Rossendale (12.6%) and Blackpool (13.2%), West Lancashire (12.3%) and Wyre (12.0%) in the Lancashire West part of the sub-region.

Only Lancaster (9.4%), Preston (9.2%), Ribble Valley (9.1%) and the Fylde district (8.1%) had percentages within the Lancashire sub-region that were below the England and Wales average of 10.2%.

Within the North West region. Oldham (14.7%) had the highest percentage of the workplace population with no qualifications. The North West average was 10.9% with 25 of the 39 local authorities in the region having percentages that were higher than the England and Wales average of 10.2%. Fylde district (8.1%) had the lowest percentage in the region, whilst Manchester (8.4%), Trafford (8.7%), Barrow-in-Furness (8.9%) and Warrington (9.0%) had the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th lowest percentages in the region. These were lower than Ribble Valley (9.1%) and Preston (9.2%), which had the sixth and seventh lowest percentages in the region, respectively.

Out of the ten regions within England and Wales, the North West (10.9%) was ranked in a middling 5th equal position (or 5th equal lowest). London (7.4%) had the smallest percentage with no qualifications and was ranked in the lowest position, the South East region (8.9%) was ranked in the second lowest place and the South West (9.4%) had the third lowest percentage. These three were the only regions with percentages below the England and Wales average. The West Midlands (12.4%), Wales (12.2%), Yorkshire and the Humber (12.0%) and the East Midlands (11.9%) had the highest percentages of the workplace population with no qualifications.

Of the 348 local authorities, some 202 (58.0% of the total) had percentages of the workplace population with no qualifications that were above, or equal to, the England and Wales average of 10.2%, whilst 146 local authorities (42.0%) had percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average. The percentages for 15 of the 33 London boroughs were low or very low, falling roughly in the bottom fifth of the rankings, at 8.8% or lower. The bottom 14 rankings were occupied by 10 London boroughs, at 6.6% or lower. The City of London (2.3%), Westminster (3.8%), Camden (4.2%) and Hammersmith and Fulham (4.9%) had the lowest percentages of their respective workplace populations with no qualifications within England and Wales. The South East also had 51

of its 67 local authorities with percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average. Some 34 fell roughly in the bottom fifth of the rankings, at 8.8% or lower. Of these, 16 South East local authorities had percentages that fell in the bottom tenth of the rankings, at 7.8% or lower. The South West region had 22 of its 37 local authorities with percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average.

Highest Qualifications Held by Workplace Populations (aged 16-74), 2011 Census of Population

Level 1 Qualifications - Expanded Analysis

This category includes 1-4 O Levels/CSE/GCSEs (any grades), Entry Level, Foundation Diploma, NVQ Level 1, Foundation GNVQ and Basic/Essential Skills.

Summary

Lancashire, the Lancashire sub-regions, nine of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region and the North West region had percentages of their respective workplace populations with Level 1 as the highest qualification held that were greater than the average of 14.3% for England and Wales (roughly one in seven).

14.7% of the workplace population total in the broader 14-authority Lancashire sub-region had Level 1 qualifications as the highest held and 14.5% in the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. These were slightly greater than the England and Wales average of 14.3%, but slightly lower than the North West region figure of 14.8%. The percentage for the Lancashire West sub-region (14.8%) was slightly higher than that for the East Lancashire part of the sub-region (14.5%).

Wyre (16.6%), Blackpool (16.4%), Rossendale (16.1%) and West Lancashire (16.0%) had the greatest percentages of their workplace populations with Level 1 as their highest qualifications within the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region, where the average was 14.7%. Only 9 of the 39 North West local authorities had percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average. Five of these, Blackburn with Darwen (14.2%), Preston (13.8%), Lancaster (13.0%), Ribble Valley (12.6%) and the Fylde district (12.5%) were within the Lancashire 14 sub-region.

The percentage of the workplace population in England and Wales with Level 1 qualifications as the highest level of qualification was 14.3% or one seventh. A skewing of the data has arisen largely because of the very low percentages recorded in 22 of the 33 London boroughs, which has lowered the average for England and Wales (14.3%). The median (or middle) ranking percentage was slightly higher at 15.4%.

Regionally, the percentages range between 16.2% in the East of England to 10.1% in London. This represents a difference of 6.1%.

At the local authority level, the percentages range between 21.1% in Castle Point within the East of England to 6.9% in both Westminster and Camden in the London region - a difference of 14.2%.

For the North West local authorities, the percentages range between 17.2% in Wigan to 11.5% in Manchester - a difference of 5.7%.

For the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region, the percentages range between 16.6% in Wyre to 12.5% in the Fylde district - a difference of 4.1%. This is the fourth greatest spread of results of the highest qualification categories analysed in this report at the Lancashire sub-regional level.

14.7% of the workplace population total in the broader 14-authority Lancashire sub-region had Level 1 qualifications and 14.5% in the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. These were slightly greater than the England and Wales average of 14.3%, but slightly lower than the North West region figure of 14.8%. The

percentage for the Lancashire West sub-region (14.8%) was slightly higher than that for the East Lancashire part of the sub-region (14.5%).

Wyre (16.6%), Blackpool (16.4%), Rossendale (16.1%) and West Lancashire (16.0%) had the greatest percentages of their workplace populations with Level 1 as their highest qualifications within the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region, where the average was 14.7%. The England and Wales average was 14.3%, or roughly a seventh of the workplace population. Only 9 of the 39 North West local authorities had percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average. Five of these, Blackburn with Darwen (14.2%), Preston (13.8%), Lancaster (13.0%), Ribble Valley (12.6%) and the Fylde district (12.5%) were within the Lancashire 14 sub-region.

Within the North West region, Wigan (17.2%), Tameside (17.0%), Halton (17.0%) and Allerdale (17.0%) had the greatest percentages of their workplace populations with Level 1 as the highest level of qualification held. The North West average was 14.8% with 30 of the 39 local authorities in the region having percentages that were higher than the England and Wales average of 14.3%. Manchester (11.5%) had the lowest percentage in the region and the 22nd lowest within England and Wales. Cheshire East (13.7%), Barrow-in-Furness (13.9%) and Liverpool (14.0%) were the other North West local authorities outside of the Lancashire 14 sub-region to have percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average.

London region (10.1%) had the lowest percentages of the workplace population with Level 1 qualifications, whilst the East of England had the highest percentage (16.2%). The North West (14.8%) had the fourth lowest percentage out of the 10 regions and countries within England and Wales. London (10.1%) was the only region to have a percentage that was below the England and Wales average of 14.3%.

Of the 348 local authorities, 252 (72.4%) had percentages that were above, or equal to, the England and Wales average, whilst only 96 local authorities (27.6%) had percentages that were lower. The skewing of the data has arisen largely because of the low or very low percentages recorded in 24 of the 33 London boroughs, which fell in the bottom fifth of the rankings. Camden and Westminster each recorded the lowest percentages (6.9%), whilst Castle Point (21.1%), Thurrock (20.4%) and Rochford (20.1%), all within the East of England, had the greatest percentages, above one fifth of the workplace population, with Level 1 as their highest qualification held.

Highest Qualifications Held by Workplace Populations (aged 16-74), 2011 Census of Population

Low Qualifications (No Qualifications and Level 1 Qualifications Combined) – Expanded Analysis

Summary

Lancashire, the Lancashire sub-regions, ten of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region and the North West region had percentages of their respective workplace populations with low qualifications (no qualifications or Level 1 qualifications combined) which were greater than the average of 24.5% for England and Wales.

26%, or just over a quarter, of the workplace population in the broader Lancashire 14-authority sub-region and 25.5% of the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area had low qualifications (no qualifications or Level 1 qualifications combined). These figures were slightly greater than the England and Wales average of 24.5%. The North West region percentage of 25.6% was also higher than the England and Wales average and the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area percentage of 25.5%, but lower than the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region figure of 26.0%. East Lancashire (27.2%) had a higher percentage of the workplace population with low qualifications than the Lancashire West part of the sub-region (25.4%).

Percentages ranged between highs of 29.7% in Blackpool and 29.2% in Pendle to a low of 20.7% in Fylde within the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region. Three local authorities within the Lancashire West part of the sub-region, Blackpool (29.7%), Wyre (28.7%) and West Lancashire (28.3%) and three local authorities within East Lancashire, Pendle (29.2%), Rossendale (28.8%) and Hyndburn (28.8%) had percentages that fell in the top third of the rankings. Only the four Lancashire local authorities of Preston (23.0%), Lancaster (22.4%), Ribble Valley (21.6%) and the Fylde district (20.7%) had percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average of 24.5%. Fylde district (20.7%) had the second lowest percentage in the North West region (38th lowest in England and Wales), and was placed within the lowest eighth of the rankings. Manchester Metropolitan Borough had the lowest percentage in the region with 19.9% and was ranked 28th lowest within England and Wales.

The percentage of the workplace population in England and Wales with low qualifications (no qualifications or Level 1 qualifications combined) was 24.5%, or just under a quarter. A skewing of the data has occurred as a result of 21 of the 33 London boroughs having low or very low percentages of the workplace populations with low qualifications, together with low percentages for 24 of the 67 authorities in the South East, which have lowered the England and Wales average. The median (or middle) ranking percentage was slightly higher at 26.2%.

Regionally, the percentages range between 27.5% in the East Midlands to 17.5% in London. This represents a difference of 10.0%.

At the local authority level, the percentages range between 37.6% in Castle Point located in the East of England to 9.4% in the City of London - a difference of 28.2%.

For the North West local authorities, the percentages range between 30.9% in Tameside to 19.9% in Manchester - a difference of 11.0%.

For the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region, the percentages range between 29.2% in Pendle to 20.7% in the Fylde district - a difference of 8.5%. This is the second greatest spread of results of the highest qualification categories analysed in the report at the Lancashire sub-regional level.

Just over a quarter of the workplace population in the broader Lancashire 14-authority sub-region (26.0%) and the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area (25.5%) had low qualifications (no qualifications or Level 1 qualifications combined). These figures were slightly greater than the England and Wales average of 24.5%. The North West region percentage of 25.6% was also higher than the England and Wales average of 24.5% and the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area percentage of 25.5%, but lower than the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region figure of 26.0%. East Lancashire (27.2%) had a higher percentage of the workplace population with low qualifications than the Lancashire West part of the sub-region (25.4%).

Percentages ranged between highs of 29.7% in Blackpool and 29.2% in Pendle to 20.7% in Fylde within the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region. Blackpool had the 8th highest percentage of the 39 local authorities within the North West region (ranked 71st nationally, a fifth from the top). Tameside (30.9%), Allerdale (30.4%), Oldham (30.3%), Wigan (30.3%), Knowsley (30.2%), Rochdale (30.1%) and Eden (29.8%) were all above Blackpool. Fylde district (20.7%) had the second lowest percentage in the North West region (38th lowest in England and Wales), and was placed within the lowest eighth of the rankings. Manchester Metropolitan Borough has the lowest percentage in the region with 19.9% and was ranked 28th lowest within England and Wales.

Three local authorities within the Lancashire West part of the sub-region, Blackpool (29.7%), Wyre (28.7%) and West Lancashire (28.3%) and three local authorities within East Lancashire, Pendle (29.2%), Rossendale (28.8%) and Hyndburn (28.8%) had percentages that fell in the top third of rankings. Within the broader Lancashire 14 sub-region, only the four local authorities of Preston (23.0%), Lancaster (22.4%), Ribble Valley (21.6%) and the Fylde district (20.7%) had percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average of 24.5%. East Lancashire (27.2%) had a higher percentage of the workplace population with low qualifications (no qualifications or Level 1 qualifications combined) than the Lancashire West part of the sub-region (25.4%).

The London region (17.5%) had by far the lowest percentage of the workplace population with low qualifications (no qualifications or Level 1 qualifications combined), whilst the East Midlands had the highest percentage (27.5%). The North West (25.6%) had the fourth lowest percentage out of the 10 regions and countries within England and Wales, which was slightly above the average for England and Wales of 24.5%. Only the three regions of London (17.5%), the South East (23.6%) and the South West (24.4%) had percentages that were below the England and Wales average (24.5%).

Eleven of the 39 local authorities within the North West region had percentages of their respective workplace populations with low qualifications (no qualifications or Level 1 qualifications combined) that were below the England and Wales average of 24.5%. Four of these were in the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region. Twenty eight of the North West authorities had percentages that were above the England and Wales average of 24.5%

Of the 348 local authorities, 239 local authorities (68.7%), had percentages that were above the England and Wales average and just 109 (31.3%) were lower. A skewing of the data has occurred largely as a result of 21 of the 33 London boroughs having low or very low percentages of the workplace populations with low qualifications, falling in the bottom fifth of the rankings, together with low percentages for 24 of the 67 authorities in the South East, which have lowered the England and Wales average. The lowest percentages were recorded in the City of

London (9.4%), Westminster (10.7%) and Camden (11.1%). At the other extreme, Castle Point (37.6%) in the East of England and Blaenau Gwent (36.2%) in Wales had the highest percentages.

Highest Qualifications Held by Workplace Populations (aged 16-74), 2011 Census of Population

Level 2 Qualifications – Expanded Analysis

This category includes 5+ O Level (Passes)/CSEs (Grade 1)/GCSEs (Grades A*-C), School Certificate, 1 A Level/ 2-3 AS Levels/VCEs, Intermediate/Higher Diploma, Welsh Baccalaureate Intermediate Diploma, NVQ Level 2, Intermediate GNVQ, City and Guilds Craft, BTEC First/General Diploma and RSA Diploma.

Summary

Lancashire, the Lancashire sub-regions, all of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region and the North West region had percentages of their respective workplace populations with Level 2 as the highest qualification held that were greater than the average for England and Wales of 16.8%.

18.2% of the workplace population in the broader Lancashire 14-authority sub-region had Level 2 qualifications as the highest held and 18.1% in the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. These were greater than the England and Wales average of 16.8% and the North West percentage of 18.0%. The Lancashire West part of the sub-region with 18.4% had a greater percentage than that of East Lancashire with 17.9%.

All of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region had higher percentages than the England average of 16.8%. Blackpool (20.2%), Wyre (20.1%), Rossendale (18.9%), Chorley (18.8%) and Hyndburn (18.7%) had the greatest percentages, whilst Lancaster (17.7%), Preston (17.6%), Fylde district (17.2%), Blackburn with Darwen (17.2%) and Ribble Valley (17.0%) had the lowest.

Out of the 39 local authorities within the North West region, only Manchester City Council (14.4%) had a percentage that was lower than the England and Wales average of 16.8%.

The percentage of the workplace population in England and Wales with Level 2 qualifications as the highest level of qualification was 16.8%, or a sixth. A skewing of the data has arisen owing to a large number of the London boroughs having very low or low percentages with level 2 qualifications as the highest qualification held, which has lowered the England and Wales average. The median (or middle) ranking percentage was higher at 18.3%.

Regionally, the percentages range between 18.7% in the North East to 11.5% in London. This represents a difference of 7.2%.

At the local authority level, the percentages range between 21.5% in Richmondshire, located within the Yorkshire and the Humber region, to 8.3% in the London borough of Camden - a difference of 13.2%.

For the North West local authorities, the percentages range between 20.3% in Allerdale to 14.4% in Manchester - a difference of 5.9%.

For the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region, the percentages of the workplace populations with Level 2 qualifications as the highest qualification held, ranged between 20.2% in Blackpool to 17.0% in the Ribble Valley - a difference of 3.2%. This was the third narrowest spread of percentages within the broader Lancashire sub-region out of the highest qualification held categories analysed in this report.

All of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region had higher percentages than the England average of 16.8%. Blackpool (20.2%), Wyre (20.1%), Rossendale (18.9%), Chorley (18.8%) and Hyndburn (18.7%) had the greatest percentages, whilst Lancaster (17.7%), Preston (17.6%), Fylde district (17.2%), Blackburn with Darwen (17.2%) and Ribble Valley (17.0%) had the lowest.

Owing to all of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region having higher percentages than the England and Wales average, the percentages for the Lancashire 14-sub-region at 18.2% and the percentage for the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area at 18.1% were therefore greater than the England and Wales average of 16.8%. The Lancashire West part of the sub-region with 18.4% had a greater percentage than East Lancashire with 17.9%. These Lancashire percentages were clustered around the median percentage of 18.3%.

Within the North West region, of the 39 local authorities, only Manchester metropolitan borough (14.4%) had a lower percentage than the England and Wales average of 16.8% and was ranked in the 31st lowest position out of the 348 local authorities (within the bottom tenth). The North West average was 18.0%. Allerdale (20.3%) had the highest percentage within the North West, with more than a fifth of the workplace population with Level 2 as the highest qualification held and was ranked in 16th place within England and Wales. Blackpool (20.2%), Wigan (20.1%) and Wyre (20.1%) also had more than a fifth of their respective the workplace populations with Level 2 as the highest qualification held and were ranked in 21st, 22nd, and 23rd positions respectively – all within the top ten percent of the rankings.

Of the ten regions/countries within England and Wales, only London (11.5%) had a lower percentage than the England and Wales average and was ranked in the lowest position. The region with the highest percentage of the workplace population with Level 2 qualifications as the highest qualification held was the North East (18.7%). The North West average was ranked in the 4th highest position with 18.0%. Eight of the ten regions/ counties within England and Wales however had percentages that were clustered between 17.2% and 18.3%.

Of the 348 local authorities, some 266 (76.4%) had percentages of the workplace population with Level 2 qualifications as the highest qualification held that were above the England and Wales average of 16.8%, whilst 82 local authorities (23.6%) had percentages that were lower. The percentages for 30 of the 33 London boroughs were lower than the England and Wales average of 16.8% with 29 of these falling bottom fifth of the rankings. Some 27 of the 35 lowest percentages (the bottom tenth) recorded were London boroughs. The lowest 12 rankings were all taken by London boroughs with 8 of these recording percentages below 10%. Camden had the lowest percentage with 8.3% of its workplace population having Level 2 as the highest qualification held. At the top of the rankings, 32 local authorities had percentages with more 20% of their respective workplace populations with Level 2 as the highest qualification held. The highest percentage recorded was 21.5% in Richmondshire, located within the Yorkshire and the Humber region, followed by Tendring (21.2%) in the East of England, North East Lincolnshire (21.1%), again located within the Yorkshire and the Humber region.

Highest Qualifications Held by Workplace Populations (aged 16-74), 2011 Census of Population

Apprenticeship Qualifications – Expanded Analysis

Summary

Lancashire, the Lancashire sub-regions, 12 of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region and the North West region, all had percentages of their respective workplace populations with apprenticeship as their highest qualification which were greater than the average for England and Wales of 3.6%.

4.5% of the workplace population in the 14-authority Lancashire sub-region had apprenticeship as the highest level of qualification and 4.6% in the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. These were greater than the England and Wales average of 3.6% and the North West region figure of 3.9%. The percentage for East Lancashire (5.1%) was higher than that for the Lancashire West part of the sub-region (4.2%).

Ribble Valley (6.6%) had the 3rd highest percentage of the workplace population with apprenticeship as the highest level of qualification within England and Wales. Barrow-in-Furness (9.2%) and Copeland (7.0%), both within Cumbria and the North West region, were ranked in 1st and 2nd position, respectively. Seven of the 14 Lancashire local authorities, five of which are in East Lancashire, fell in the top fifth of the rankings (or just below). Pendle (5.7%) and South Ribble (5.6%) were ranked in 12th and 16th place, respectively, whilst Hyndburn (5.2%) fell in the top 10 percent of the rankings in 34th place. Wyre and Rossendale, both with 5.1%, were placed in 44th and 46th positions, respectively. Burnley, the 7th Lancashire district, with 4.8%, fell just outside of the top fifth of the rankings in 71st position.

Only 6 of the 39 North West local authorities had percentages that were below or equal to the England and Wales average. Preston (3.3%) was the only Lancashire local authority to have a percentage lower than the England and Wales average, whilst that for Blackpool (3.6%) was the same as the England and Wales average.

The percentage of the workplace population in England and Wales with an apprenticeship as the highest level of qualification held was 3.6%. A skewing of the data has arisen owing to a large number of the London boroughs having very low, or low, percentages with an apprenticeship as the highest level of qualification, which has lowered the England and Wales average (3.6%). The median (or middle) ranking percentage was slightly higher at 4.1%.

Regionally, the percentages range between 4.6% in the North East of England to 1.7% in London. This represents a difference of 2.9%.

At the local authority level, the percentages range between 9.2% in Barrow-in-Furness to 0.6% in the City of London - a difference of 8.6%.

For the North West local authorities, the percentages range between 9.2% in Barrow-in-Furness to 1.9% in Manchester - a difference of 7.3%.

For the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region, the percentages range between 6.6% in Ribble Valley (the third greatest percentage within England and Wales) to 3.3% in Preston - a difference of 3.3%.

This was the fourth narrowest spread of percentages within the broader Lancashire sub-region out of the highest qualification held categories analysed in this report.

Ribble Valley (6.6%) had the 3rd highest percentage of the workplace population with apprenticeship as the highest level of qualification within England and Wales. A [national census report](#) on the workplace results confirms that this was the third highest rate out of 348 local authorities within England and Wales, behind Barrow-in-Furness (9.2%) and Copeland (7.0%), both within Cumbria and the North West of England. Seven of the 14 Lancashire local authorities, five of which are in East Lancashire, fell in the top fifth of the rankings (or just below). Pendle (5.7%) and South Ribble (5.6%) were ranked in 12th and 16th place, respectively, in the top twentieth, whilst Hyndburn (5.2%) fell in the top 10 percent of the rankings in 34th place. Wyre and Rossendale, both with 5.1%, were placed in 44th and 46th positions, respectively, or the top seventh of the rankings. Burnley, the 7th Lancashire district, with 4.8%, fell just outside of the top fifth of the rankings in 71st position.

Twelve of the local authorities within the broader Lancashire 14-authority sub-region have workplace populations with apprenticeship as the highest level of qualification that were above the England and Wales average of 3.6%. Preston (3.3%) was the only local authority to be lower than the England and Wales average, whilst the percentage for Blackpool (3.6%) was the same as the England and Wales average.

4.5% of the workplace population in the 14-authority Lancashire sub-region had apprenticeship as the highest level of qualification and 4.6% in the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area.

East Lancashire had a percentage of 5.1%, whilst the percentage for the Lancashire West part of the sub-region was 4.2%. These were greater than the England and Wales average of 3.6% and the North West figure of 3.9%. Out of the ten regions within England and Wales, the North West (3.9%) was ranked in a middling sixth position (or 5th lowest).

Within the region, only 6 of the 39 local authorities had percentages that were below or equal to the England and Wales average of 3.6%, two of these were within the Lancashire 14 sub-region. The six local authorities were Blackpool (3.6%), Salford (3.4%), Preston (3.3%), Trafford (3.3%), Liverpool, (2.6%) and Manchester (1.9%). Manchester, ranked 17 places from bottom, had the lowest percentage outside of London. Liverpool, ranked in the 32nd lowest position, was the only other North West local authority to fall in the bottom tenth of the rankings.

Some 241 local authorities (69.2% of the total), had percentages with apprenticeship as the highest level of qualification that were above the England and Wales average of 3.6%, whilst 107 local authorities (30.8%) had percentages that were lower, or equal to, the England and Wales average of 3.6%. The percentages for 30 of the 33 London boroughs were low or very low, falling in the bottom fifth of the rankings, at 3.2% or lower. Of these, 27 London boroughs had percentages that fell in the bottom tenth of the rankings, at 2.7% or lower. The bottom 16 rankings were all taken by London boroughs, at 1.8% or lower. Westminster (0.9%) and the City of London (0.6%) had the lowest percentages with apprenticeship as the highest qualification within England and Wales. The South East also had 31 local authorities with percentages of the working population that were lower than the England and Wales average. The very low percentages for a large proportion of the London boroughs (and to a certain degree those in the South East), have skewed the distribution of the data and lowered the average.

Out of the ten regions within England and Wales, the North West (3.9%) was ranked in joint sixth place (or joint 4th lowest) with the East of England. London (1.7%) had the smallest percentage was ranked in the lowest

position, the West Midlands region (3.6%) was ranked in the second lowest place with the same percentage as England and Wales average, whilst the South East (3.7%) had the third lowest percentage. The North East (4.6%) and Yorkshire and the Humber (4.5%) had the highest percentages of the workplace population with Apprenticeship as the highest qualification. The median (middle) percentage was 4.1%, the same as Wales, which was ranked in 5th position.

Highest Qualifications Held by Workplace Populations (aged 16-74), 2011 Census of Population

Level 3 Qualifications – Expanded Analysis

This category includes 2+ A Levels/VCEs, 4+ AS Levels, Higher School Certificate, Progression/Advanced Diploma, Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma, NVQ Level 3; Advanced GNVQ, City and Guilds Advanced Craft, ONC, OND, BTEC National and RSA Advanced Diploma.

Summary

Lancashire, the Lancashire sub-regions, all of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region and the North West region all had percentages of their respective workplace populations with Level 3 as their highest qualification which were greater than the England and Wales average of 14.7%.

A sixth of the workplace population (16.7%) in the 14-authority Lancashire sub-region had Level 3 as the highest level of qualification and 17.0% within the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. These were greater than the England and Wales average of 14.7% and the North West region figure of 16.1%. The percentages for both East Lancashire and the Lancashire West part of the sub-region were the same at 16.7%.

Within the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region, Lancaster and Ribble Valley had the highest percentages, each recording 17.7% and placed in 6th and 7th positions, respectively, or joint sixth out of the 348 local authorities within England and Wales. Eleven of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region had percentages that were clustered in the top 42 positions of the England and Wales rankings (within the top eighth). The 11 Lancashire local authorities therefore represented more than a quarter of the top 42 rankings.

Within the North West, Barrow-in-Furness (18.6%) had the greatest percentage of the 39 local authorities in the region and was ranked in 2nd place within England and Wales, behind the Isles of Scilly (20.0%). Lancaster and Ribble Valley were ranked in second and third place within the region, respectively. Only 1 of the 39 North West local authorities, Manchester City Council (14.3%) had a percentage that was below the England and Wales average of 14.7%. The North West had the second greatest percentage regionally at 16.1%.

The percentage of the England and Wales workplace population with level 3 qualifications as the highest qualification was 14.7%, or just more than a seventh. Some 232 local authorities (66.7% of the total), or two thirds, had percentages with level 3 as the highest level of qualification that were above the England and Wales average of 14.7%, whilst 116 local authorities (33.3%), or a third, had percentages that were lower, or equal to, the England and Wales average of 14.7%. The median (or middle) ranking percentage was 15.4%. The low percentages in a large number of the London boroughs skew the data and reduce the overall average for England and Wales.

Regionally, the percentages range between 16.6% in the North East of England to 11.2% in London. This represents a difference of 5.4%.

At the local authority level, the percentages range between 20.0% in the Isles of Scilly and 9.5% in the City of London. This is a difference of 10.5%.

For the North West local authorities, the percentages range between 18.6% in Barrow-in-Furness, ranked in the second highest position, to 14.3% in Manchester. This is a difference of 4.3%.

For the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region, the percentages range between 17.7% in Lancaster and the Ribble Valley to 15.3% in Blackburn with Darwen. This is a difference of 2.4%. This was the second narrowest spread of percentages within the broader Lancashire sub-region out of the highest qualification held categories analysed in this report.

A sixth of the workplace population (16.7%) in the 14-authority Lancashire sub-region had Level 3 as the highest level of qualification and 17.0% within the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. These were greater than the England and Wales average of 14.7% and the North West region figure of 16.1%. Both the Lancashire West part of the sub-region (16.7%) and East Lancashire (16.7%) had the same percentage of the workplace population with level 3 qualifications. These were the same percentage as the Lancashire 14 sub-region.

Eleven of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region had percentages of the working population with Level 3 qualifications as their highest qualification that were clustered in the top eighth of the England and Wales rankings (6th place to 42nd position). The 11 Lancashire local authorities therefore represented more than a quarter of the top 42 rankings.

Lancaster and Ribble Valley were ranked in the highest positions, each recording 17.7% and placed in 6th and 7th positions (joint sixth), respectively, out of the 348 local authorities within England and Wales. Blackpool (15.8%), West Lancashire Borough (15.7%) and Blackburn with Darwen (15.3%) recorded the lowest percentages within the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region. All three were, however, greater than the average for England and Wales of 14.7%.

Within the North West, Barrow-in-Furness (18.6%) had the greatest percentage of the 39 local authorities in the region with Level 3 as the highest level of qualification held and was ranked in 2nd place within England and Wales, behind the Isles of Scilly (20.0%). Lancaster (17.7%) and Ribble Valley (17.7%) were ranked in second and third place within the region, respectively. Fifteen of the 39 North West local authorities with Level 3 as the highest qualification held were ranked in the top 42 positions (roughly the top eighth within England and Wales). Of these fifteen, eleven were Lancashire local authorities. Barrow-in-Furness (20.0%), Copeland (17.5%), Sefton (17.2%) and the Wirral (16.8%) were the remaining four authorities in the top eighth of the rankings. Only 1 of the 39 North West local authorities, Manchester City Council (14.3%) had a percentage that was below the England and Wales average and placed in the 86th lowest position, or a quarter from the bottom of the rankings.

The London region (11.2%) had the lowest percentages of the workplace population with Level 3 as the highest qualifications held, whilst the North East had the greatest percentage (16.6%). The North West (16.1%) had the second greatest percentage out of the 10 regions and countries within England and Wales. London (11.2%) and the East of England (14.5%) were the only two regions to have percentages that were below the England and Wales average of 14.7%.

Of the 348 local authorities, some 240 local authorities (69.0% of the total) had percentages that were above, or equal to, the England and Wales average of 14.7%, whilst 108 local authorities (31.0%) had percentages that were below the England and Wales average. The skewing of the data has arisen largely because of the low or very low percentages recorded in 31 of the 33 London boroughs, which fell in the bottom 50 or lowest seventh of the rankings (13.5% or below). The bottom 16 rankings were all taken by London boroughs with the City of

London (9.5%) and Camden (9.5%) having the lowest percentages of their respective workplace populations having Level 3 as the highest qualification. All 33 London boroughs had percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average of 14.7% with Kingston upon Thames (14.6%) having the highest percentage of the 33 London boroughs. The East of England had 27 local authorities with percentages below the England and Wales average, whilst the South East had 25.

Highest Qualifications Held by Workplace Populations (aged 16-74), 2011 Census of Population

Level 4 and Above Qualifications (degree or higher) – Expanded Analysis

This category includes a Degree (for example BA, BSc), Higher Degree (for example MA, PhD, PGCE), NVQ Level 4-5, HNC, HND, RSA Higher Diploma, BTEC Higher level, Foundation degree (NI) and Professional qualifications (for example teaching, nursing, accountancy).

Summary

Lancashire, the Lancashire sub-regions, 12 of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region and the North West region all had percentages of their respective workplace populations with Level 4 as their highest qualification which were lower than the England and Wales average of 34.9%.

30.2% of the workplace population in the 14-authority Lancashire sub-region had Level 4 as the highest level of qualification and 30.5% within the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. These were lower than the England and Wales average of 34.9% and the North West region figure of 32.2%. The percentage for East Lancashire (28.3%) was lower than that for the Lancashire West part of the sub-region (31.1%).

Fylde district (37%) had the second greatest percentage within the North West and the greatest percentage within the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region, ranked in 66th position within England and Wales. Preston (35.1%) was the only other Lancashire authority to have a percentage greater than the England and Wales average. Preston was ranked 5th in the region, behind Manchester (44.6%), Fylde (37%), Cheshire East (35.6%) and Liverpool (35.4%) and was placed in 87th position, or the top quarter of the England and Wales rankings.

Eight of the local authorities within the broader Lancashire 14-authority sub-region had percentages of the workplace population with level 4 qualifications (degree or higher) that were below 30%. Six of these fell in the bottom third of the rankings (and two just above the bottom third) of the 348 local authority rankings. These eight were West Lancashire (28.5%), South Ribble (28.2%), Burnley (27.2%), Blackpool (26.5%), Rossendale (26.4%), Hyndburn (25.6%), Wyre (25.3%) and Pendle (24.5%).

Within the North West, Manchester City Council (44.6%) had the greatest percentage of the 39 local authorities in the region and was ranked in 17th place within England and Wales. Allerdale (24.3%) had the lowest percentage within the region, ranked in the 33rd lowest position and just within the bottom tenth of the rankings. Only 6 of the 39 North West local authorities had a percentage that was above, or equal to, the England and Wales average of 34.9%. Trafford (34.9%) had the sixth greatest percentage, which was the same as the average for England and Wales. The North West had the fourth greatest percentage regionally at 32.2%.

A skewing of the data has arisen largely because of the high, or very high, percentages recorded for 19 of the 33 London boroughs (40% and over) and the South East of England. The City of London (65.9%), Camden (63.1%) and Westminster (60.8%) had the greatest percentages of their respective workplace populations with Level 4 or above as the highest qualification. The South East had 32 local authorities with percentages that were higher than the England and Wales average.

The percentage of the England and Wales workplace population with level four qualifications (degree or higher) as the highest qualification, was just over a third, at 34.9%. The median (or middle) ranking percentage was 30.7%. The high proportions, predominantly in London and the South East, have resulted in the distribution of the data being skewed and raise the average for England and Wales.

Regionally, the percentages range between 49.2% in London to 29.4% in the East Midlands. This represents a difference of 19.8%

At the local authority level, the percentages range between 65.9% in the City of London and 18.5% in South Holland in the East Midlands. This represents a difference of 47.4%.

For the North West local authorities, the percentages range between 44.6% in Manchester to 24.3% in Allerdale. This is a difference of 20.3%.

For the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region, the percentages range between 37.0% in Fylde district to 24.5% in Pendle. This is a difference of 12.5%. This was the widest spread of percentages within the broader Lancashire sub-region out of the highest qualification held categories analysed in this report.

The London region had by far the greatest percentage (49.2%) of the workplace population with level 4 qualifications (degree or higher), almost a half. Three London boroughs had percentages that were above 60%. These were the City of London (65.9%), just shy of two thirds of the workplace population, Camden (63.1%) and Westminster (60.8%). Regionally, only London and the South East had percentages above the England and Wales average. The high proportions, predominantly in London and the South East, have resulted in the distribution of the data being skewed. Only 90 of the 348 local authorities within England and Wales, or just over a quarter, had percentages that were greater than the England and Wales average. The North West had the fourth highest percentage at 32.2%, behind London (49.2%), the South East (35.4%) and South West (33.1%).

Level four qualifications (degree or higher) were held by 30.2% of the workplace population in the 14-authority Lancashire area and by 30.5% in the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. These were lower than the England and Wales average. Only Fylde district (37%) and Preston (35.1%) had rates above the England and Wales average within the broader Lancashire 14-authority sub-region. Hyndburn (25.6%), Wyre (25.3%) and Pendle (24.5%), had the lowest percentages in the sub-region, all below 26%.

Twelve of the local authorities within the broader Lancashire 14-authority sub-region had percentages of the workplace population with level 4 qualifications (degree or higher) that were below the England and Wales average of 34.9%. However, only 90 of the 348 local authorities within England and Wales, or just over a quarter, had percentages that were greater than the England and Wales average.

Eight of the local authorities within the broader Lancashire 14-authority sub-region, however, had percentages of the workplace population with level 4 qualifications (degree or higher) that were below 30%. Six of these fell in the bottom third of the rankings (and two just above the bottom third) of the 348 local authority rankings. These eight were West Lancashire (28.5%), South Ribble (28.2%), Burnley (27.2%), Blackpool (26.5%), Rossendale (26.4%), Hyndburn (25.6%), Wyre (25.3%) and Pendle (24.5%).

The Lancashire West part of the sub-region (31.1%) had a higher percentage of the workplace population with level 4 qualifications than East Lancashire (28.3%).

Within the North West region, Manchester City Council had the highest percentage with 44.6% of the workplace population with level 4 qualifications (degree or higher) and was ranked in 17th place out of 348 local authorities within England and Wales. Excluding the 12 London boroughs which had higher percentages, Manchester had the fifth greatest percentage outside of London, behind Cambridge within the East of England and Oxford, Guildford and Runnymede, all located in the South East of England. Allerdale (24.3%) had the lowest percentage in the region and Pendle (24.5%) the second lowest.

Fylde district (37%) had the second greatest percentage within the North West region and the greatest percentage within the broader Lancashire 14-authority sub-region, ranked in 66th position within England and Wales. Preston (35.1%) was the only other Lancashire authority to have a percentage greater than the England and Wales average (34.9%). Preston was ranked fifth in the region, behind Manchester (44.6%), Fylde (37%), Cheshire East (35.6%) and Liverpool (35.4%) and was placed in 87th position, or the top quarter of the England and Wales rankings. Lancaster (34.6%) had the third highest percentage in the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region (7th highest regionally) and was ranked in 95th position within England and Wales. Ribble Valley (33.1%) had the fourth highest percentage in the broader Lancashire sub-region (10th highest regionally) and was ranked in 126th place within England and Wales in the top half of the rankings.

Pendle (24.5%) had the lowest percentage within the broader Lancashire 14-authority sub-region with less than a quarter of the workplace population with level 4 qualifications (degree or higher). Pendle's percentage was the second lowest in the North West region, and was ranked in 313th position (36th lowest) within England and Wales, just above the bottom tenth. Pendle was just above Allerdale (24.3%) within Cumbria, which was the lowest in the region, ranked in 316th place (33rd lowest). The Lincolnshire local authority of South Holland (18.5%), located within the East Midlands had the lowest percentage within England and Wales.

Within the region, only 6 of the 39 North West local authorities had percentages that were above, or equal to, the England and Wales average of 34.9% - two of which were within Lancashire. Trafford (34.9%) had the sixth greatest percentage, which was the same as the average for England and Wales. The North West had the fourth greatest percentage regionally at 32.2%. Some 33 of the 39 local authorities in the region had percentages that were below the average for England and Wales.

The London region (49.2%) had the greatest percentage of the workplace population with Level 4 as the highest qualifications held, whilst the East Midlands had the lowest percentage (29.4%). The North West (32.2%) had the fourth greatest percentage out of the 10 regions and countries within England and Wales. London (49.2%) and the South East (35.4%) were the only two regions to have percentages that were above the England and Wales average of 34.9%. The percentages for the remaining 8 regions ranged between 33.1% for the South West of England to 29.4% for the East Midlands.

Of the 348 local authorities, only 92 local authorities (26.4% of the total) had percentages that were above, or equal to, the England and Wales average of 34.9%, whilst 256 local authorities (73.6%) had percentages that were below the England and Wales average. The skewing of the data has arisen largely because of the high, or very high, percentages recorded for 19 of the 33 London boroughs, which fell within the top 44 places, or the highest eighth of the rankings (40% and over). Twelve of the top 14 rankings were taken by London boroughs with the City of London (65.9%), Camden (63.1%) and Westminster (60.8%) having the greatest percentages of their respective workplace populations with Level 4 as the highest qualification. Some 26 of the 33 London

boroughs had percentages that were greater than the England and Wales average of 34.9%. The South East of England had 32 local authorities with percentages that were higher than the England and Wales average.

Highest Qualifications Held by Workplace Populations (aged 16-74), 2011 Census of Population

Other Qualifications – Expanded Analysis

This category includes vocational/work-related qualifications and foreign qualifications for which the equivalent qualification level has not been stated or is unknown.

Summary

Lancashire, the Lancashire sub-regions, 13 of the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region and the North West region had percentages of their respective workplace populations with 'Other qualifications' as the highest qualification held which were lower than the England and Wales average of 5.4%.

4.4% of workplace population in the 14-authority Lancashire sub-region had 'Other qualifications' as the highest level of qualification and 4.3% within the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. These were lower than the England and Wales average of 5.4% but greater than the North West region figure of 4.1%. The percentage for East Lancashire at 4.9% was greater than the figure for the Lancashire West part of the sub-region at 4.1%.

Blackburn with Darwen (5.5%), which fell in the top third of the rankings, was the only local authority within the broader Lancashire 14-authority sub-region (and the North West region) that had a percentage greater than the England and Wales average (5.4%). West Lancashire (5.3%) had the second highest percentage in the North West, just above Rochdale (5.2%) and Oldham (5.2%), whilst Pendle (5.1%) had the fifth highest percentage in the region (3rd highest in the Lancashire 14 sub-region). Manchester (4.9%), Burnley (4.8%), Hyndburn (4.7%) and Bolton (4.7%) made up the nine North West local authorities placed in the top half of the 348 local authority rankings. Four of the top five local authorities in the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region are located within East Lancashire. Three of the remaining five local authorities in the North West with high percentages of 'Other qualifications' are located in the northern part of Greater Manchester.

Fylde district (3.5%) had the lowest percentage with 'Other qualifications' as the highest level held within the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region and fell roughly a tenth from the bottom of the rankings. Chorley (3.7%) had the 2nd lowest percentage and Wyre (3.8%) and Lancaster (3.8%) the joint third lowest percentages in the Lancashire sub-region and fell in the bottom sixth of the England and Wales rankings.

Within the North West, Blackburn with Darwen (5.5%) had the greatest percentage of the 39 local authorities in the region. Twenty-five of the North West local authorities, or just under two thirds, had percentages that fell within the lowest third of the England and Wales rankings. Barrow-in-Furness, within Cumbria (2.7%) had the lowest percentage. The Wirral (3.1%) on Merseyside and Copeland (3.3%), also in Cumbria, had low percentages, ranked in 3rd and 5th lowest places, respectively. The North West region (4.1%) had the joint second lowest percentage, together with Wales and the South West of England, The North East had the lowest percentage at 3.6%.

The percentage of the workplace population in England and Wales with 'Other qualifications' as the highest level of qualification held was 5.4%, or roughly one in twenty. The median (or middle) ranking percentage was 4.7%. The high proportions, predominantly in London, but also within the East of England, the East Midlands and the

South East to a lesser extent, have resulted in the distribution of the data being skewed and raise the average for England and Wales to 5.4%.

Regionally, percentages range between 8.8% in London to 3.6% in the North East. This is a difference of 5.2%.

At the local authority level within England and Wales, the percentages range between 16.0% for both Forest Heath (in the East of England) and Brent (within London) to 2.7% in Barrow-in-Furness – a difference of 17.3%.

For the North West local authorities, the percentages range between 5.5% in Blackburn with Darwen to 2.7% in Barrow-in-Furness. This is a difference of 2.8%. The percentage for Barrow-in-Furness was the lowest within England and Wales.

For the 14 local authorities within the broader Lancashire sub-region, the percentages range between 5.5% in Blackburn with Darwen to 3.5% in Fylde district. This is a difference of 2.0%. This was the narrowest spread of percentages within the broader Lancashire sub-region out of the highest qualification held categories analysed in this report.

4.4% of the workplace population in the 14-authority Lancashire sub-region had 'Other qualifications' as the highest level of qualification and 4.3% within the Lancashire County Council 12-authority area. These were lower than the average for England and Wales of 5.4% but greater than the North West region figure of 4.1%. The percentage for East Lancashire at 4.9% was greater than the figure for the Lancashire West part of the sub-region at 4.1%.

Blackburn with Darwen (5.5%), which fell in the top third of the rankings in 95th position, was the only local authority within the broader Lancashire 14-authority sub-region that had a percentage greater than the England and Wales average (5.4%). The Blackburn with Darwen figure also had the highest percentage for a local authority within the North West region. West Lancashire (5.3%) had the second highest percentage in the North West, just above Rochdale (5.2%) and Oldham (5.2%), whilst Pendle (5.1%) had the fifth highest percentage in the region (3rd highest in the Lancashire 14 sub-region). Manchester (4.9%), Burnley (4.8%), Hyndburn (4.7%) and Bolton (4.7%) made up the nine North West local authorities placed in the top half of the 348 local authority rankings. Four of the top five local authorities in the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region are located within East Lancashire. Three of the remaining five local authorities in the North West with high percentages of other qualifications are located in the northern part of Greater Manchester.

Fylde district (3.5%) had the lowest percentage with 'Other qualifications' as the highest level held within the Lancashire 14-authority sub-region and fell roughly a tenth from the bottom of the rankings. Chorley (3.7%) had the 2nd lowest percentage, whilst Wyre (3.8%) and Lancaster (3.8%) had the joint third lowest percentages in the Lancashire sub-region and fell in the bottom sixth of the England and Wales rankings.

Of the 10 regions/countries within England and Wales, London had by far the highest percentage with 8.8% of the workplace population with 'Other qualifications' as the highest level of qualification held. The East of England and the East Midlands both had percentages of 5.4% in joint second place, which were the same as the England and Wales average. These were the only three regions to have percentages that were above or equal to the England and Wales average. The North East had the lowest percentage with 3.6%. The North West region was ranked in joint 2nd lowest position (joint 6th place), together with Wales and the South West of England, all of which had 4.1% of their respective workplace populations with 'Other qualifications' as the highest qualification.

Thirty-eight of the 39 local authorities within the North West region had percentages of their respective workplace populations with 'Other qualifications' as the highest level of qualification held which were below the England and Wales average of 5.4%. Twenty-five of these were in the lowest third of the England and Wales rankings.

Barrow-in-Furness, within Cumbria (2.7%) had the lowest percentage. The Wirral (3.1%) on Merseyside and Copeland (3.3%), also in Cumbria, had low percentages, ranked in 3rd and 5th lowest places, respectively.

Of the 348 local authorities, some 103 (29.6% of the total) had percentages of the workplace population with other qualifications that were above or equal to the England and Wales average of 5.4%, whilst 245 local authorities (70.4%) had percentages that were lower than the England and Wales average. The percentages for 32 of the 33 London boroughs were above the England and Wales average of 5.4%. Some 27 of the top 39 rankings (7% to 16%) were taken by London boroughs. Brent within London and Forest Heath in the East of England, both had 16% of their workplace populations with 'Other qualifications' as the highest level of qualification. The East of England, East Midlands, South East and the West Midlands to a lesser degree also had a high number of local authorities with high percentages of their workplace populations with 'Other qualifications' as the highest qualification held. These figures may reflect a higher percentage of their respective workplace population who have attained foreign qualifications for which the equivalent qualification level is not known or has not been stated.

The very high percentages for the majority of London boroughs and the high percentages for the local authorities within the East of England, East Midlands, the South East and West Midlands have skewed the distribution of the data and raised the average for England and Wales (5.4%). The median, or middle ranking, percentage was lower at 4.7%.