

# Apprenticeship success rates fall nearly 5pc points

**Last week, FE Week revealed the best and worst success rates performers for classroom-based provision in 2013/14 — and this week it's the turn of apprenticeships, writes Rebecca Cooney.**

Success rates in apprenticeships for all ages and levels dropped by almost five percentage points over the course of three years up to 2013/14, national success rates tables have shown.

The rates are calculated by working out how many leavers — students individually enrolled on each course, so one learner on two courses would count in both — achieved their learning aims on a course, out of the number that started. The result is expressed as a percentage.

And the 2013/14 overall success rate was 68.9 — compared to 73.8 in 2011/12, a decline of 4.9 percentage points.

This downward trend is reflected at each level of apprenticeships, with all-age intermediate apprenticeships falling from 72.6 per cent in 2011/12 to 68.8 per cent last year, and advanced apprenticeships dropping from 72.6 per cent to 71.3 per cent over the same period.

Higher apprenticeships were down from 72.6 per cent to 71.3 per cent — although this is actually an increase from the 2012/13 figure of 70.2 per cent.

Apprenticeship success rates were also down in each individual age group — the most dramatic fall was in 24+ apprenticeships which tumbled six percentage points since 2011/12, from 72.8 per cent to 66.8 per cent.

The framework with the most enrolments was health and social care level two, which had 26,310 apprentices, of which 67.1 achieved their learning aims, followed closely by level three health and social care apprenticeships, on which 65.6 of 24,180 learners were successful.

These were followed by business administration, which had 22,960 and a 73.8 per cent success rate.

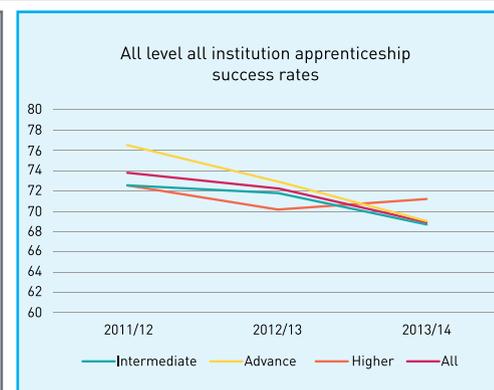
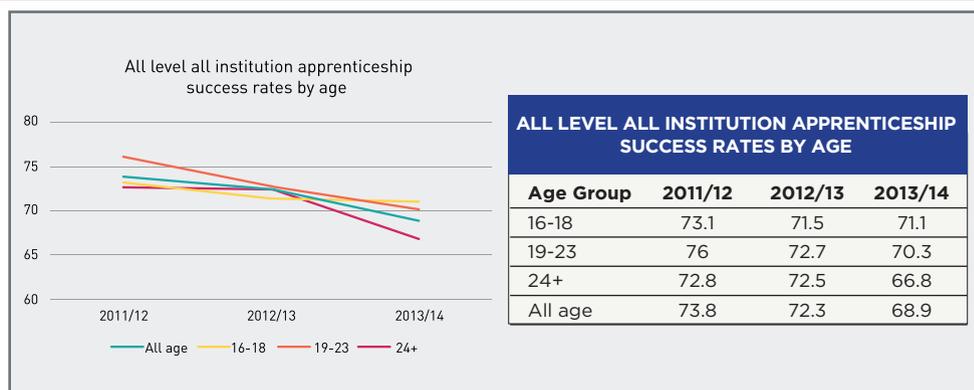
However, meaningful comparisons on apprenticeship performance between providers are tricky because delivery ranges from a handful of learners to several thousand.

Of the providers with 500 or more leavers, the top scorer was the Royal Air Force, with 950 of its 1000 enrolments (95 per cent) succeeding on their course.

Hot on the RAF's heels was League Football Education, which delivers apprenticeships to clubs in the Football League, with 608 (92.1 per cent) of its 660 enrolments achieving.

Next came the Vocational College Ltd, with 91.7 per cent 650 enrolments achieving, then HSBC Bank with a 91.3 per cent success rate for its 520 enrolments and Mitie Group PLC with a 91.2 per cent success rate for 830 learners.

The top scorers among general FE colleges were Yorkshire's Craven College, with 90.1



## TOP 10 FRAMEWORKS (ALL AGE ALL INSTITUTION) BY NUMBER OF LEAVERS AND LEVEL

Framework	Level	Leavers	Success rate
Health and Social Care	2	26,310	67.1
Health and Social Care	3	24,180	65.6
Business and Administration	2	22,960	73.8
Customer Service	2	22,610	69.6
Management	2	15,960	68
Management	3	15,420	65
Business and Administration	3	13,620	76.1
Children and Young People's Workforce	3	12,850	71.3
Improving Operational Performance	2	12,310	75.2
Retail*	2	12,050	53.1

\* Impact of Elmfield Training (no longer trading)

## ALL LEVEL ALL INSTITUTION APPRENTICESHIP SUCCESS RATES

Age Group	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Intermediate	72.6	71.9	68.8
Advanced	76.5	73	69.1
Higher	72.6	70.2	71.3
All	73.8	72.3	68.9

Source : [www.gov.uk/government/statistics/sfa-national-success-rates-tables-2013-to-2014-open-data-csv-files](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/sfa-national-success-rates-tables-2013-to-2014-open-data-csv-files)

## TOP 5 APPRENTICESHIPS SUCCESS RATES FOR PROVIDERS WITH 500 OR MORE LEAVERS (ALL AGE, ALL LEVELS ALL INSTITUTIONS)

Institution Name	Institution Type	Leavers	Success rates
Royal Air Force	Other Public Funded	1000	95
League Football Education	Private Sector Public Funded	660	92.1
The Vocational College	Private Sector Public Funded	650	91.7
HSBC	Private Sector Public Funded	520	91.3
Mitie Group	Private Sector Public Funded	830	91.2

## TOP 5 GFE APPRENTICESHIPS SUCCESS RATES (ALL AGE AND ALL LEVELS)

College	General FE and Tertiary College	Leavers	Success rates
Craven College	General FE and Tertiary College	340	90.1
City of Westminster College	General FE and Tertiary College	380	89.2
Dudley College	General FE and Tertiary College	850	89
Waltham Forest College	General FE and Tertiary College	130	88.5
Barnsley College	General FE and Tertiary College	720	87.5

## LARGEST PROVIDER BY NUMBER OF APPRENTICESHIP LEAVERS (ALL AGE AND ALL LEVELS)

Provider	Institution Type	Leavers	Success rates
Babcock Training	Private Sector Public Funded	13,940	69.4
Learndirect	Private Sector Public Funded	11,340	68.8
Elmfield training	Private Sector Public Funded	9,090	6.5
Lifetime Training Group	Private Sector Public Funded	8,970	72.9
NCG	General FE and Tertiary College	8,840	69.6
British Army	Other Public Funded	8,450	79.4
Hit Training	Private Sector Public Funded	7,770	68.3
ESG	Private Sector Public Funded	6,680	69.9
First4Skills	Private Sector Public Funded	6,640	66.2
GP Strategies training LIMITED	Private Sector Public Funded	4,280	81.1

## BOTTOM 5 APPRENTICESHIPS SUCCESS RATES FOR PROVIDERS WITH 500 OR MORE LEAVERS (ALL AGE, ALL LEVELS ALL INSTITUTIONS)

Provider	Institution Type	Leavers	Success rates
Pearson In Practice Skills Based Learning	Private Sector Public Funded	2110	0
FFS Realisations 2012	Private Sector Public Funded	680	0.4
The Alternative Hotel Group	Private Sector Public Funded	1370	2.4
Elmfield Training	Private Sector Public Funded	9090	6.5
JHP Group	Private Sector Public Funded	1590	9.7

per cent (306) of 340 leavers succeeding, City of Westminster with an 89.2 per cent success rate for 380 enrolments and Dudley College with 89 per cent of 850 learners succeeding.

Behind them were Waltham Forest College, with an 88.5 per cent success rate for 130 leavers and Barnsley College where 87.5 per cent of 720 enrolments achieved.

The biggest provider of apprenticeships, according to the data, was Babcock Training Ltd, with 13,940 leavers, of which 9,674, or 69.4 per cent achieved.

The second biggest was Learndirect, with a 69.4 per cent success rate for 11,340 learners, and next was Elmfield.

Lifetime Training Group was the fourth biggest on the list and achieved a 72.9 per cent success rates with its 8,970 learners and fifth was NCG with a 69.6 per cent success rate — 6,153 leavers of 8,840 achieving.

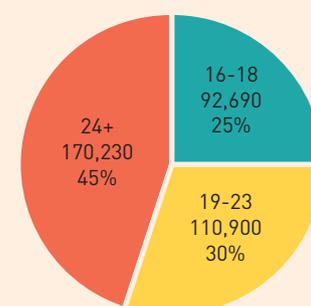
The five providers with more than 500 leavers and the lowest success rates are no longer trading. Bottom of the pile was Pearson in Practice Skills-Based Learning,

where none of the 2,110 leavers succeeded on their apprenticeships.

Next came FFS Realisations 2012 Ltd, where just three of 680 enrolments (0.4 per cent) achieved, followed by Alternative Hotel Group's De Vere Academy of Hospitality, with a 2.4 per cent success rate meaning that 1,337 of 1,370 leavers failed to achieve.

Next came Elmfield Training Ltd with 6.5 per cent or 591 leavers succeeding of 9,090 and JHP Group Ltd with a success rate of 9.7 per cent for 1,590 learners.

## ALL LEVEL 2013/14 APPREN LEAVERS BY AGE



## ALL AGE ALL INSTITUTION 2013/14 APPREN LEAVERS BY LEVEL

