



INSTITUTE
OF THE MOTOR
INDUSTRY



Apprenticeship starts

May 2021



+44 (0) 1992 511521



info@theimi.org.uk



www.theimi.org.uk



Automotive Apprenticeships – May 2021

Introduction

The following examines data released from the Department of Education (DfE) regarding apprenticeship starts in England. This report is an analysis of the apprenticeship starts data outlining the 2020/21 first 7 months (Aug – Feb) data issued by the DfE on the 24th May.

Summary results

This report outlines the apprenticeship starts up to February 2021 and so, to fully understand the results I will provide some context into the landscape of the sector, at this time. In February 2021, the UK was in lockdown 3.0, although vehicle maintenance (e.g. garages) were still able to operate, non-essential retail was not and so show rooms were temporarily closed and, work moved online. Schools and colleges were closed with most learning moved to online. Almost a quarter of the sectors workforce were on furlough and, recruitment in most automotive occupations was virtually zero. Considering these factors it goes some way in understanding the very low apprenticeship start figures.

- Automotive apprenticeships continue to be more adversely effected then apprenticeships generally. There were 229 automotive apprenticeships in February 2021 which is 68% lower than February 2020.
- Comparing subject areas, automotive apprenticeship starts have seen the 6th largest fall, with only Travel & Tourism, Manufacturing, Sport & Leisure, Service Enterprises and Arts & Crafts with larger falls.
- The proportion of automotive apprenticeships that are at an intermediate level has been falling throughout 2020/21. Falling from a third of automotive apprenticeship starts at the beginning of the academic year to 17% in February.
- In 2020/21 to date, 61% of apprenticeship starts were supported by ASA levy funds compared to 34% of automotive apprenticeships starts.
- Vehicle Maintenance and Repair, Vehicle Body and Paint Operations and Vehicle Parts Operations saw declines of almost 100% compared to the same period last year.

Apprenticeship starts

All apprenticeships
Aug – Feb 2020/21

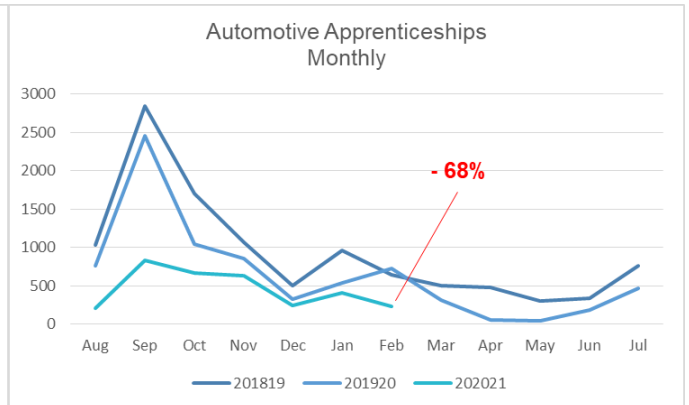
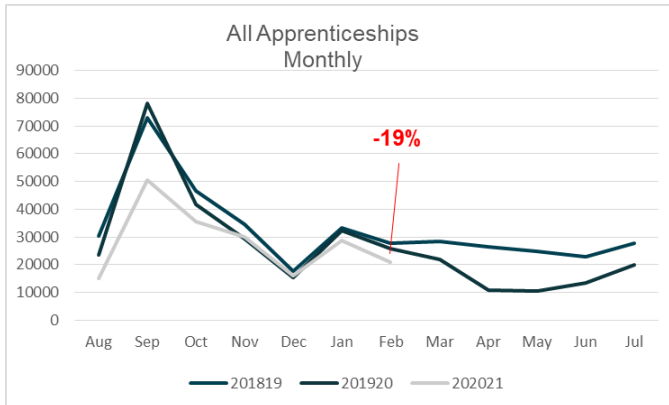
196,939

20,935 starts in February, down 19% on 2020

Automotive apprenticeships
Aug – Feb 2020/21

1,575

229 starts in February, down 68% on 2020



There were 229 automotive apprenticeships in February 2021 which is 68% lower than February 2020. Automotive apprenticeship starts were approaching monthly figures that resemble previous years, but with another significant fall in February, there is no sign of 'recouping' the dramatic falls in September and October.

Comparison of apprenticeship subject areas – Percentage change from Feb 2020 to Feb 2021



12 of the 33 subject areas analysed have seen an increase in apprenticeship starts comparing February 2020 to February 2021. The most significant being in medicine and dentistry (not shown on the graph) which has seen an 18 fold increase.

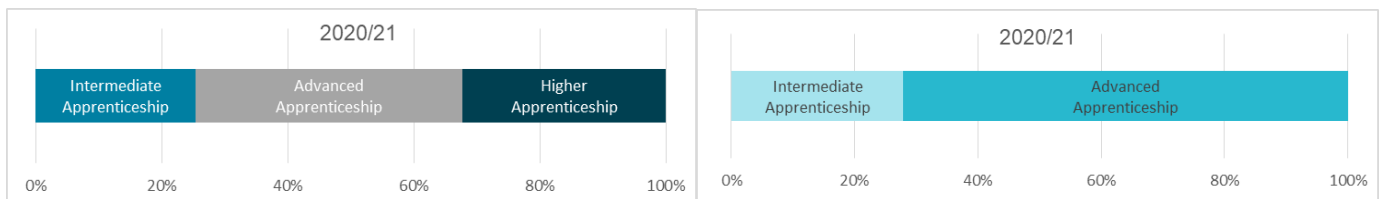
Automotive apprenticeship starts have seen the 6th largest fall.

Apprenticeship starts - level

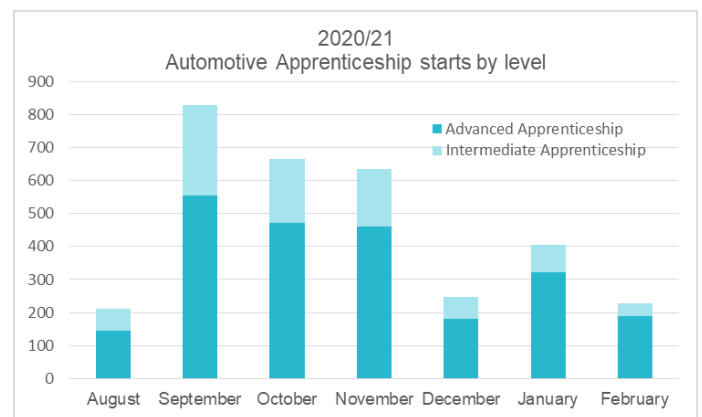
All apprenticeships 2020/21 to date
42%
Advanced apprenticeship

Automotive apprenticeships 2020/21 to date
72%
Advanced apprenticeship

In 2020/21 to date, 42% (83,366) of apprenticeships were at advanced level with 72% (2,325) of all automotive apprenticeships at the same advanced level.



The proportion of automotive apprenticeships at an intermediate level has been falling throughout 2020/21. Falling from a third of apprenticeship starts at the start of the academic year to 17% in February.

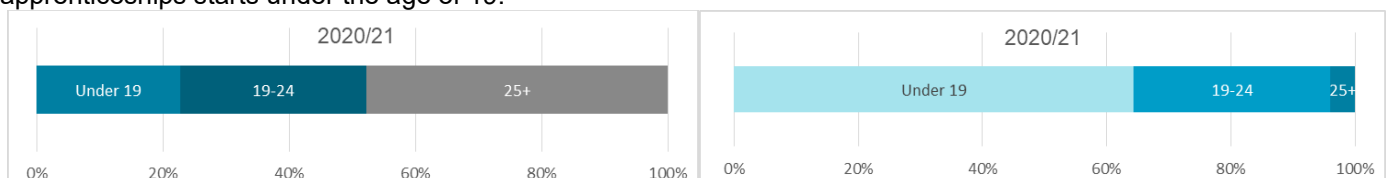


Apprenticeship starts – age profile

All apprenticeships 2020/21 to date
23%
Under 19

Automotive apprenticeships 2020/21 to date
64%
Under 19

In 2020/21 to date, 23% (44,876) of apprenticeship starts were under the age of 19 with 64% (2,073) of automotive apprenticeships starts under the age of 19.



In general, apprenticeship starts for those under the age of 19 have seen the largest fall in 2020/21 compared to previous years. This has changed the age profile and the under 19s which made up a third of all apprenticeship starts, now makes only a quarter. This is not the case for automotive apprenticeship starts, with the largest % fall in the over 25s with recorded falls of 71%.

Apprenticeship starts – funding

All apprenticeships 2020/21 to date

61%

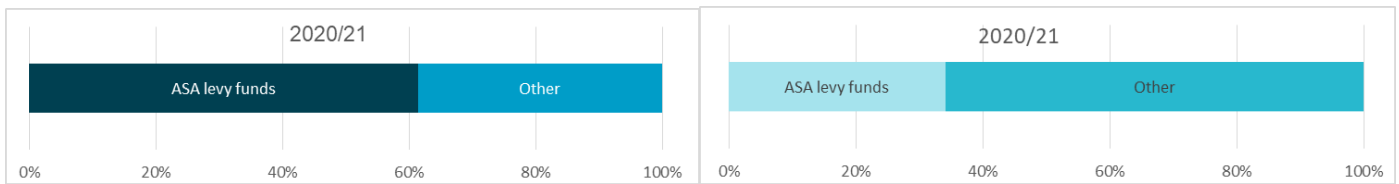
Supported by ASA levy funds

Automotive apprenticeships 2020/21 to date

34%

Supported by ASA levy funds

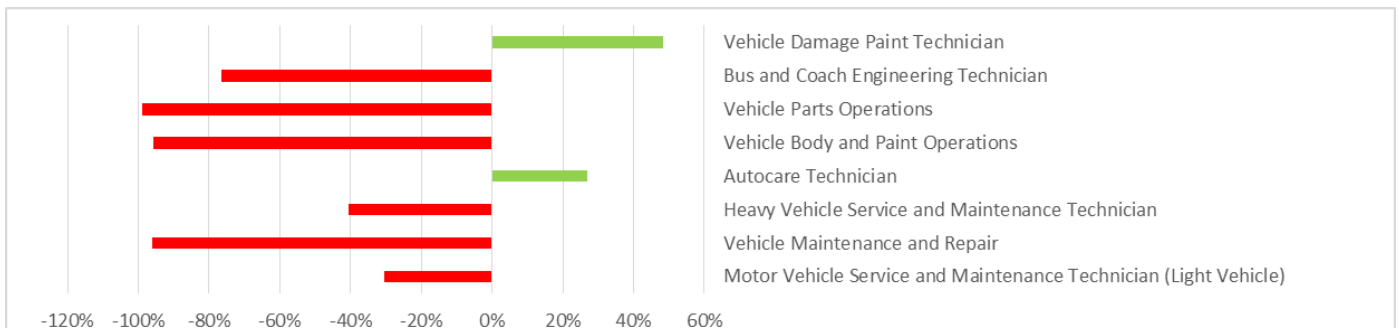
In 2020/21 to date, 61% of apprenticeship starts were supported by ASA levy funds, compared to 34% of automotive apprenticeships starts.



Automotive Apprenticeships

Apprentice starts – Automotive Apprenticeships with more than 100 starts

Automotive Apprenticeship	201920 YTD (7mths)	202021 YTD (7mths)	Diff Vol	% chg
Motor Vehicle Service and Maintenance Technician (Light Vehicle)	2020	1407	-613	-30%
Vehicle Maintenance and Repair	1853	70	-1783	-96%
Heavy Vehicle Service and Maintenance Technician	950	564	-386	-41%
Autocare Technician	656	833	177	27%
Vehicle Body and Paint Operations	465	20	-445	-96%
Vehicle Parts Operations	210	2	-208	-99%
Bus and Coach Engineering Technician	209	49	-160	-77%
Vehicle Damage Paint Technician	95	141	46	48%



This year, 3 of the apprenticeships have seen almost 100% declines compared to the same period last year; Vehicle Maintenance and Repair, Vehicle Body and Paint Operations and Vehicle Parts Operations.

Data - DfE - Apprenticeships and Traineeships, England - data released 24th May 2021