



ESTD 1920

INSTITUTE
OF THE MOTOR
INDUSTRY



Automotive Education Report

Analysis of those undertaking automotive qualifications
Edition 6
2022 Q4



+44 (0) 1992 511521



info@theimi.org.uk



www.theimi.org.uk



Automotive Education Report

Introduction

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

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

These datasets hold data on the number of certifications awarded for each qualification. This data is released on a quarterly basis, with the most recent being 2022 Q4 (October - December).

This edition does not include data from Northern Ireland (CCEA) as Q4 data has been delayed release.

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

The most recent quarterly EV TechSafe forecasts are included.

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

Summary of findings

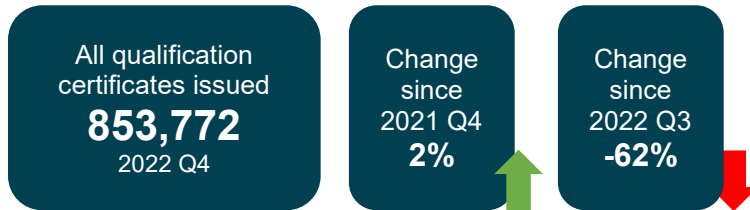
- Overall, all vocational qualifications have increased by 2% when compared to the same period in 2021.
- The total number of automotive certificates issued in 2022 Q4 was just over 9,500, which is 8% higher than the same period the last year. This is a larger increase than all vocational qualifications.
- The top qualification in 2022 Q4 was IMI Level 3 Award in Electric/Hybrid Vehicle System Repair and Replacement with 1840 certificates issued, which is 19% of all automotive qualification certificates.
- 44% of automotive qualification certificates issued this quarter are for Electric/Hybrid qualification, with the IMI awarding 87% of these qualifications.
- The second most popular subject is MOT (17%) followed by Refrigerant handling (11%) and Light Vehicle (7%).
- In 2022, over 14,800 skilled technicians were certified by education regulators Ofqual, SQA, CCEA, and Qualifications Wales, boosting the total number of qualified technicians able to safely work on electric vehicles to 39,000 - that's 16% of all technicians in the UK.



- There were 4505 automotive apprenticeship starts in the first 4 months of academic year 2022/23 (August – November), which is 3% higher than the same point the previous year. This increase has been driven by a particularly strong November.
- Comparing to other industries automotive are one of only 11 subjects that have seen an increase in the number of apprenticeships starts compared to same period the previous year.
- Just over half of automotive apprenticeship are levy funded.

Vocational qualification certifications

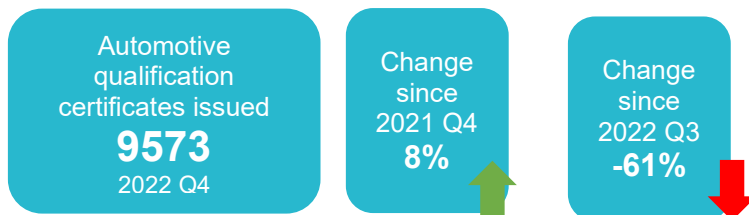
All vocational qualifications



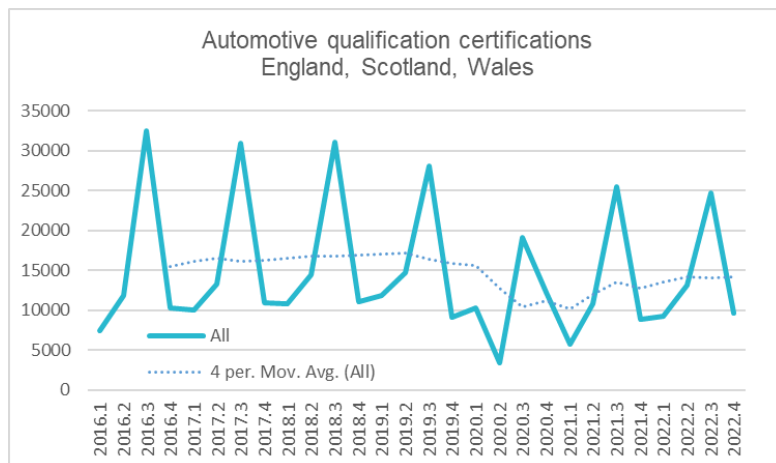
	No.	%chg 2021 Q4
England	790605	2%
Scotland	25767	10%
Wales	37400	2%
N.I		

The total number of vocational certificates issued in 2022 Q4 was 854,000. This is 2% higher than the same period last year.

Automotive qualification certifications

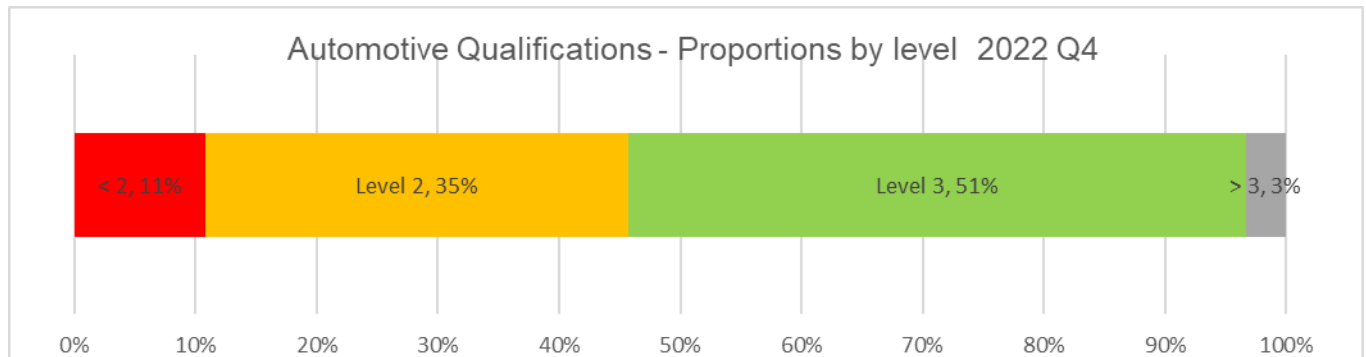


	No.	%chg 2021 Q3
England	8510	7%
Scotland	598	25%
Wales	465	13%
N.I		



The total number of automotive certificates issued in 2022 Q4 was just over 9,500, which is 8% higher than the same period the last year. This is a larger increase than all vocational qualifications. Scotland has seen the largest increase, 25%.

Automotive qualification certifications – Levels



Automotive qualifications entry & Level 1 certificates issued
1,035

Automotive Level 2 certificates qualifications issued
3,341

Automotive qualifications Level 3 certificates issued
4,879

Automotive qualifications Level 4+ certificates issued
318

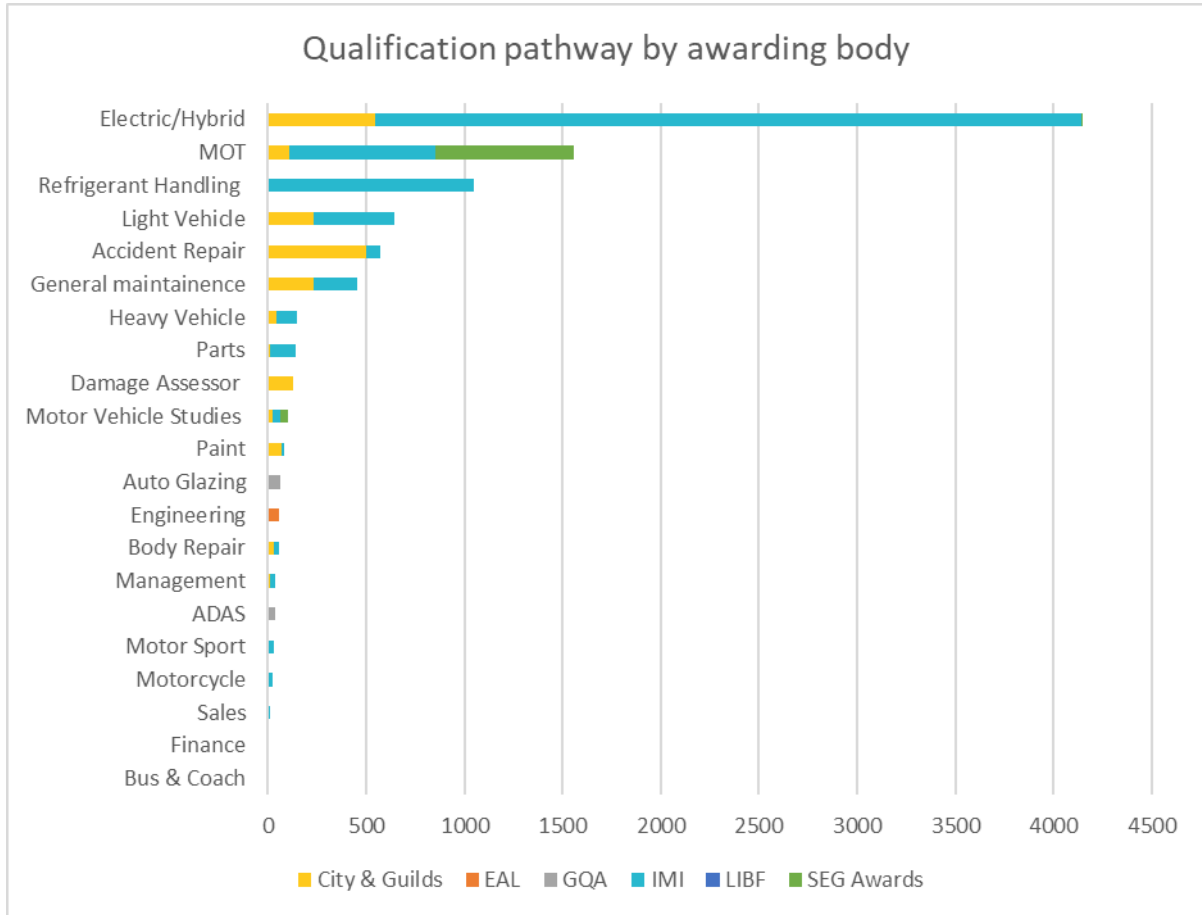
In 2022 Q4, the largest proportion (51%) of automotive qualifications were at Level 3 (or equivalent) with 4,879 qualifications at this level, 35% were at level 2 and 11% at entry and Level 1.

Top 10 automotive qualifications

Qualification Title	No.
IMI Level 3 Award in Electric/Hybrid Vehicle System Repair and Replacement	1840
IMI Level 3 Award in Automotive Refrigerant Handling (EC842-2006) (VRQ)	1040
IMI Level 2 Award in Electric/Hybrid Vehicle Routine Maintenance Activities	955
IMI Level 1 Award in Electric/Hybrid Vehicle Awareness	530
IMI Level 2 Award in MOT Testing (Classes 4 and 7)	505
SEG Awards ABC Level 2 Award In MOT Testing (Classes 4 and 7) (VRQ)	450
City & Guilds Level 3 Award in Component Removal and Replacement in Electric and Hybrid Vehicles	265
SEG Awards ABC Level 3 Award In MOT Test Centre Management (VRQ)	240
IMI Level 3 Award in MOT Test Centre Management	210
City & Guilds Level 3 Diploma in Accident Repair Paint Competence	185

The top qualification in 2022 Q4 was IMI Level 3 Award in Electric/Hybrid Vehicle System Repair and Replacement with 1840 certificates issued, which is 19% of all automotive qualification certificates. 65% of all automotive certificates issued this quarter were from these top 10 qualifications.

Automotive qualification certifications – pathways / subject areas



44% of automotive qualification certificates issued this quarter are for Electric/Hybrid qualification, with the IMI awarding 87% of these qualifications. The second most popular subject is MOT (17%), followed by Refrigerant handling (11%) and Light Vehicle (7%).

IMI TechSafe™

Techsafe™ – official figures from regulators

Electric vehicle qualification certifications eligible to obtain Techsafe™ professional recognition

3183
2022 Q3

Electric vehicle qualification certifications eligible to obtain Techsafe™ professional recognition

38,600
In total (2016 – 2022 December **)

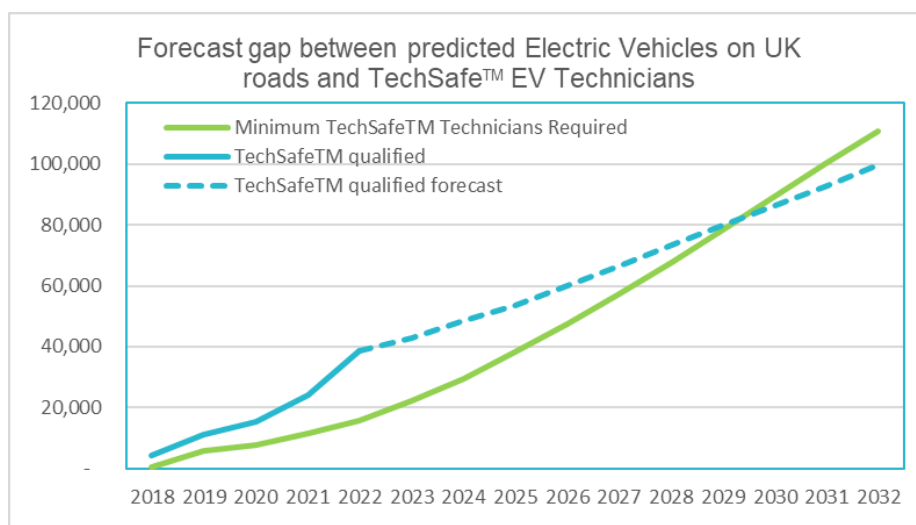
** Includes IMI data for October-December 2022

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

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

Techsafe – forecast

In 2022, over 14,800 skilled technicians were certified by education regulators Ofqual, SQA, CCEA, and Qualifications Wales, boosting the total number of qualified technicians able to safely work on electric vehicles to 39,000 - that's 16% of all technicians in the UK.



Size of EV qualified technician gap

		2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032
		0	0	0	3200	7400	11100



The IMI predicts that by 2030, we will need 103,000 TechSafe qualified technicians to work with electric vehicles, increasing to 124,000 by 2032. However, the adjusted forecast warns of a potential shortfall of 4,500 qualified technicians by 2029, increasing to 16,000 by 2032. The realisation of the forecast depends on the sector's ability to maintain its current pace of workforce training and upskilling. Despite good take-up of qualifications in 2022, the current economic pressures raise concerns that training budgets could be the first to be cut. Furthermore, to maintain their TechSafe recognition and competence, technicians must undergo continuous professional development (CPD) to keep up with technological advancements. The need for CPD, coupled with employment turnover, implies that the pool of qualified technicians is not ever-growing but requires ongoing replenishment and sustained support from the sector.

Automotive Apprenticeships - England

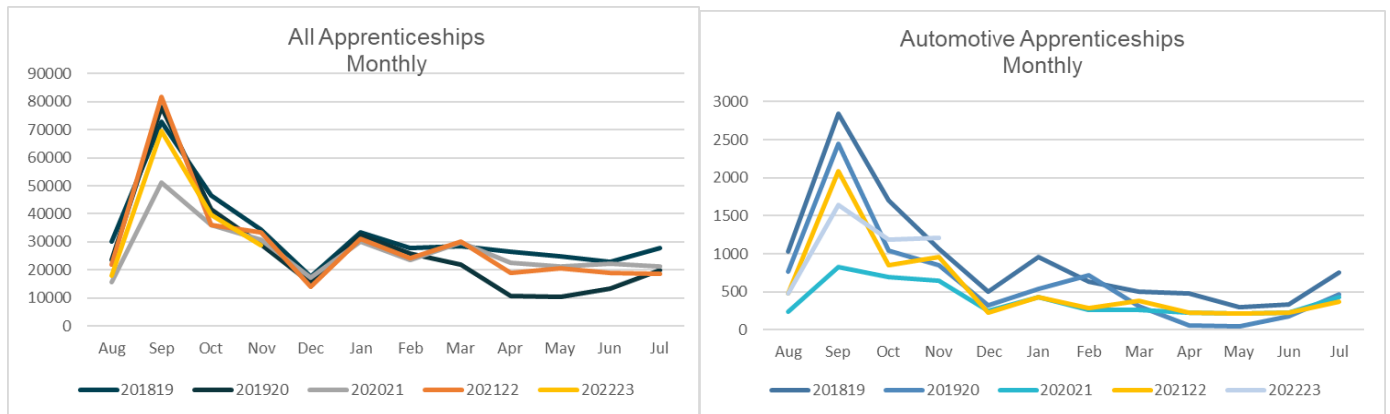
Apprenticeship Starts – First 4 months 2022/23 academic year (Aug-Nov)

All apprenticeships
2022/23 (Aug – Nov)

155,890

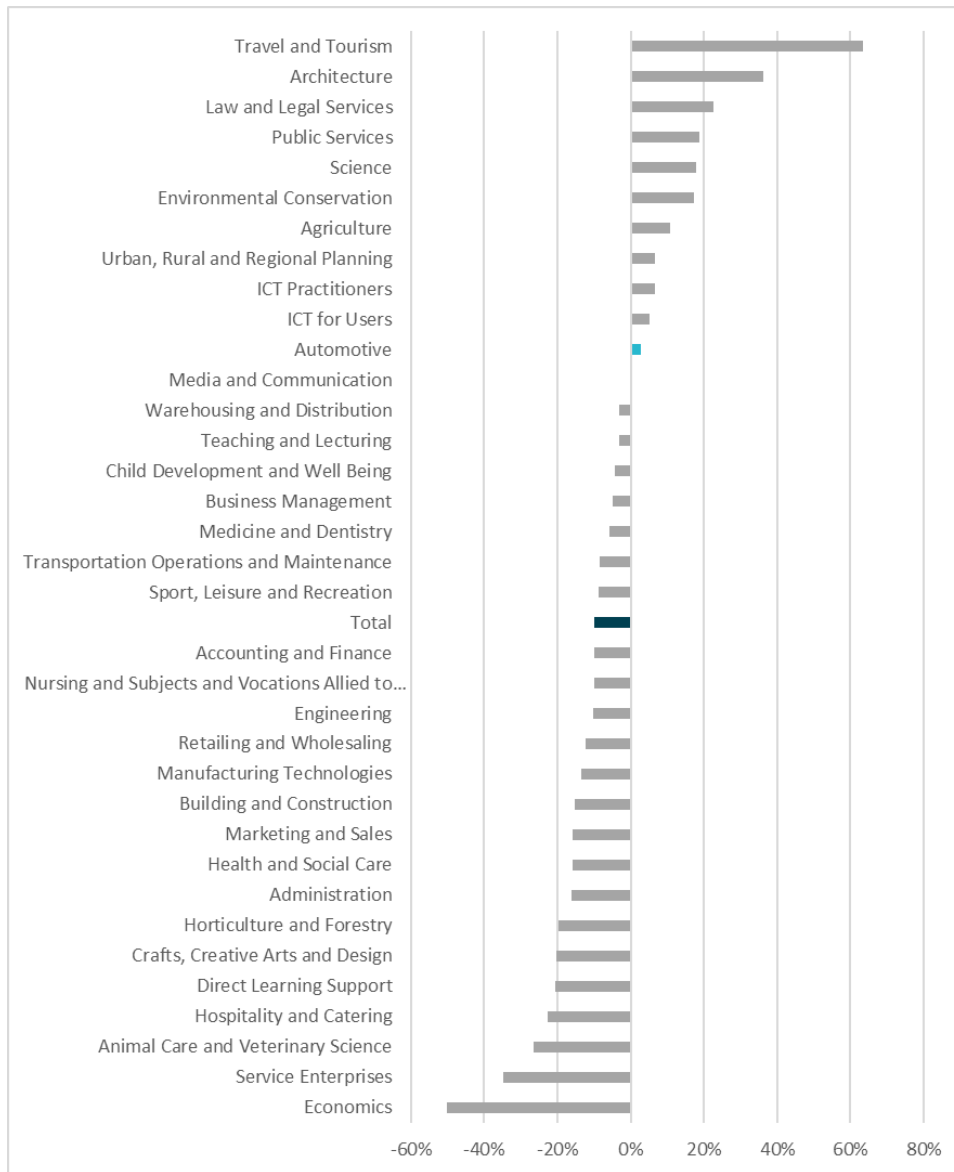
Automotive apprenticeships
2022/23 (Aug – Nov)

4505



There were 4505 automotive apprenticeship starts in the first 4 months of academic year 2022/23 (August – November), which is 3% higher than the same point the previous year. This increase has been driven by a particularly strong November.

Comparison of apprenticeship subject areas – Comparison first 4 months of academic year 2021/22 & 2022/23

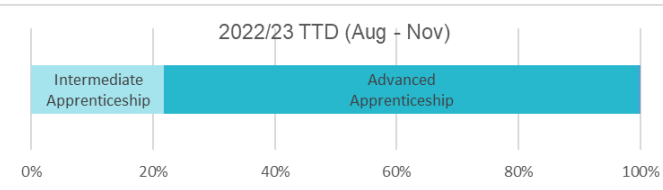
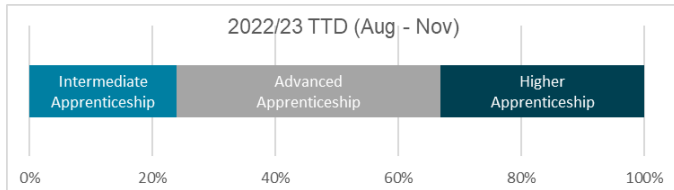


Comparing to other industries automotive are one of only 11 subjects that have seen an increase in the number of apprenticeships starts comparing the first 4 months of the past 2 years. The all-subjects total has fallen by 10%, this indicates that automotive is bucking the national trend.

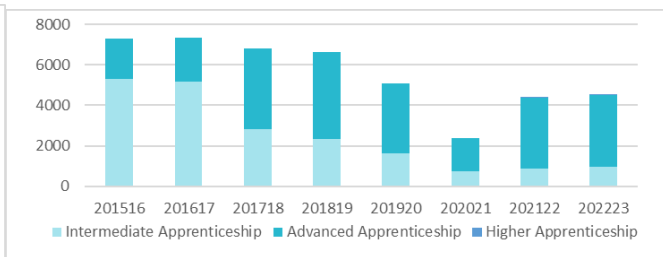
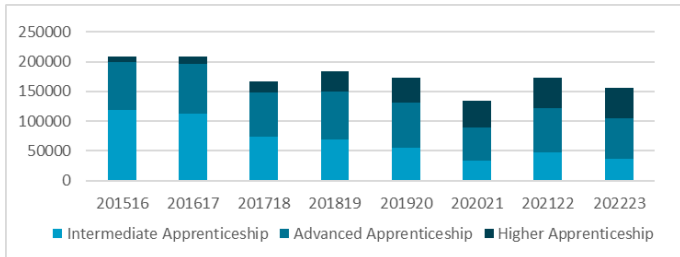
Apprenticeship starts - level

All apprenticeships 2022/23 (Aug – Nov)
43%
Advanced apprenticeship

Automotive apprenticeships 2022/23 (Aug – Nov)
78%
Advanced apprenticeship



In the first 4 months of academic year 2022/23, 43% (66,948) of apprenticeships were at an advanced level, with 78% (3509) of all automotive apprenticeships at the same advanced level.

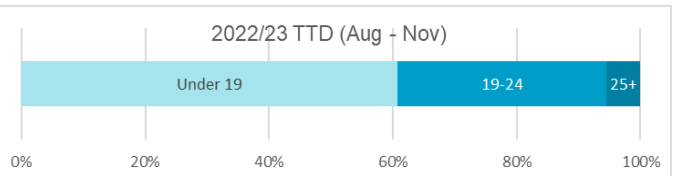
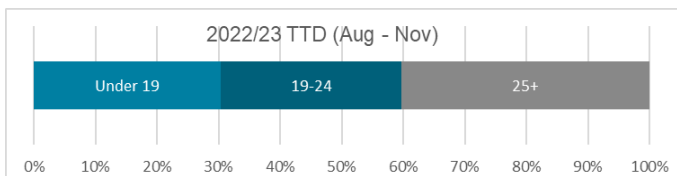


The proportion of automotive apprenticeship starts which were at advanced level has been the dominant level since 2017/18 and has been increasing over the past 8 years, although it fell by 1% this year. Automotive had less than 20 higher apprenticeship starts.

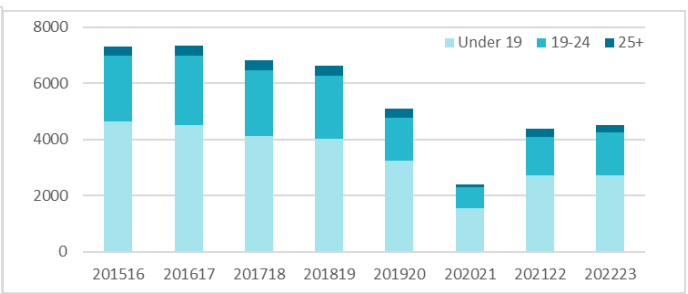
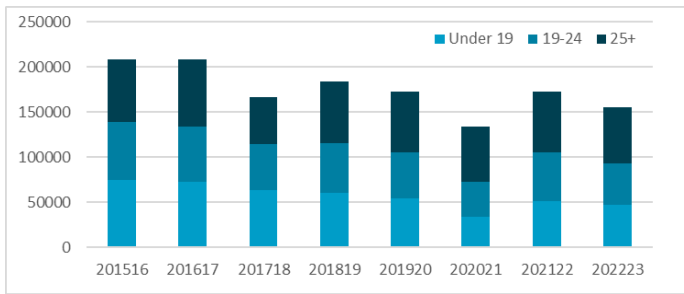
Apprenticeship starts – age profile

All apprenticeships 2022/23 (Aug – Nov)
30%
Under 19

Automotive apprenticeships 2022/23 (Aug – Nov)
61%
Under 19



In the first 4 months of academic year 2022/23, 30% (47,260) of apprenticeship starts were under the age of 19, with 61% (2,735) of automotive apprenticeships starts under the age of 19.

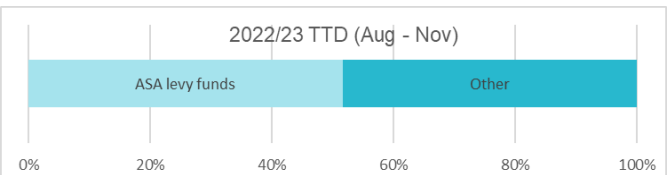
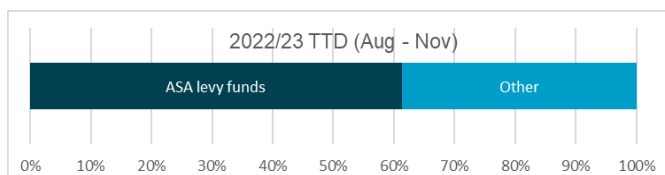


Under 19s have been the primary starters in automotive, however the proportion has been falling slightly from 64% in 2015/16 to 61% 2022/23. The proportion of starts over 25 remains 5% of automotive starts.

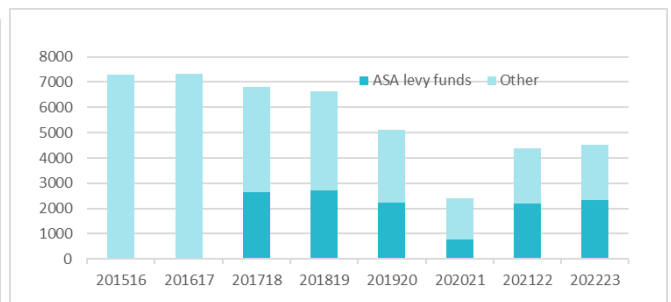
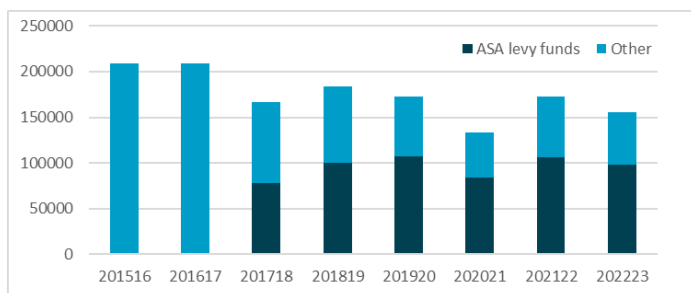
Apprenticeship starts – funding

All apprenticeships 2022/23 (Aug – Nov)
63%
Supported by ASA levy funds

Automotive apprenticeships 2022/23 (Aug – Nov)
52%
Supported by ASA levy funds



In the first 4 months of academic year 2022/23, 63% of apprenticeship starts were supported by ASA levy funds compared to 52% of automotive apprenticeships starts.



The proportion of levy funded automotive apprentices has been increasing, from 50% last year and 33% in 2019/20.

Automotive Apprenticeships Pathways

Apprentice starts – Automotive Apprenticeships starts by pathway

Automotive Standard	First 4 months of academic year		
	2022/23	2021/22	% Change
Accident Repair Technician	88	77	14%
Autocare Technician	983	890	10%
Bus and Coach Engineering Technician	134	237	-43%
Heavy Vehicle Service and Maintenance Technician	731	767	-5%
Motor Finance Specialist	**	0	
Motor Vehicle Service and Maintenance Technician (Light Vehicle)	2158	1956	10%
Motorcycle Technician (Repair and Maintenance)	32	37	-14%
Vehicle Damage Assessor	13	16	-19%
Vehicle Damage Mechanical, Electrical and Trim (MET) Technician	78	69	13%
Vehicle Damage Paint Technician	182	231	-21%
Vehicle Damage Panel Technician	101	92	10%
All Automotive	4505	4372	
<i>** Supressed due to low counts</i>			

The first 4 months of academic year 2022/23 saw Motor Vehicle Service and Maintenance Technician (Light Vehicle) the most popular pathway with 2158 starts. Accident Repair Technician pathway has seen the largest increase in the past year increasing by 14%. Bus and Coach Engineering Technician has seen the largest fall in apprenticeship starts, falling by 43%.

Data Sources

OfQual (England) - Vocational qualifications dataset [Certificates awarded for all vocational qualifications (excluding GCSEs, AS levels and A levels)] 2022 Quarter 4

SQA Accreditation (Scotland) – Quarterly statistical Reports. October - December 2022.

QiW (Wales) – Vocational and Other Qualifications Quarterly: [A quarterly release that presents data on vocational and other qualification certifications for Wales for the latest quarter] 2022 Quarter 4

DfE - Apprenticeships and Traineeships, England - data released 16th February 2023