

Activity Survey 2005

Tyne and Wear Level

Education

This is above 70% for the first time. This represents a 3% increase on last year and a 5% increase in the past 2 years. There has also been a 2% increase over last year in the proportion studying advanced level courses (A levels, NVQ3 and GNVQ Advanced). The gender split is almost identical to that in 2004 with approximately 700 more girls than boys continuing their education.

Training

After a small increase in the proportion entering training last year this is now back below the level it was in 2003. Fewer than 1000 of the 2005 school leavers were in training at the time of the survey with boys outnumbering girls by almost two to one.

Employment

The number entering employment dropped by over 1000 representing a fall of 0.85%. However almost 90% have entered jobs with training and the number going into unskilled work has dropped from 385 in 2004 to 115 now. This represents only 0.8% of the cohort. During the 12-month period preceding the activity survey 1241 jobs, advanced modern apprenticeships and employed status training places were notified to the partnership. During the corresponding period in 2004 the figure was 1195.

NEET

The percentage of school leavers who are NEET is largely unchanged from last year although there has been a slight increase in the proportion who are available to the labour market and a corresponding decrease in those who are unavailable. Whilst the NEET figure has tended to drop in recent years it is conceivable that as we make greater inroads into reducing the "not known" figure this becomes more difficult to achieve. Over a third of those classed as NEET available to the labour market (1349) have had an EET destination prior to or subsequent to becoming unemployed.

Not Known

This dropped by another 0.8% to 2.46% the lowest ever achieved.

Into Learning

This has increased by 2.7% although over half of this is down to the reduction in those entering unskilled work.

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LMC Level

Education

All LMC's saw an increase in the proportion continuing their education with the biggest increases in Sunderland (5%) and North Tyneside (3.8%). Over a 2 year period all LMC's have seen increases of 3.5% or greater with the biggest changes taking place in the LMC's with tertiary systems – 6.7% in Sunderland, 5.6% in South Tyneside. Newcastle (73.2%) and North Tyneside (72.5%) as in 2003 still have the largest proportion of school leavers remaining in education.

Training

All LMC's saw a reduction in this but with the largest drop in South Tyneside (2.2%), Newcastle (1.7%) and Sunderland (1.3%) Almost 60% of those entering training are from South Tyneside or Sunderland schools – there are more in training from South Tyneside than from Newcastle and Gateshead combined.

Employment

This decreased in all LMC's with a 3.4% drop in North Tyneside and only 0.7% in Gateshead and Sunderland. South Tyneside (10.37) still has the highest proportion of young people entering work with Newcastle the lowest (5.12). Gateshead and North Tyneside saw major decreases in the numbers entering unskilled work although they remain the only LMC's with more than 1% of the cohort in this category.

NEET

This varied from increases in Gateshead (1.4%) and Newcastle (0.6%) to decreases in Sunderland (0.9%) and South Tyneside (0.5%) Last year Sunderland had the highest NEET percentage figure closely followed by Newcastle with North Tyneside the lowest. This has changed and Newcastle and Gateshead are the only two LMC's with more than 11% NEET whilst South Tyneside (8.6%) has the lowest.

Not Known

This varied from 4.35% in Newcastle to 0.46 in Sunderland. Three LMC's saw a reduction – 2.3% in Sunderland, 1.2% in South Tyneside and 1% in Gateshead and two saw an increase – 0.9% in North Tyneside and 1% in Newcastle. The total number of clients from South Tyneside and Sunderland schools for whom an activity status could not be established was fewer than 50.

Into Learning

Apart from Newcastle (0.4%) all LMC's saw increases in excess of 3% with the highest being in North Tyneside (4.0%). As in 2003 South Tyneside has the highest percentage (88.5%) with Newcastle and Gateshead the lowest at 82.9%