

Key findings from the Statistic Digest

The EWC's Register of Education Practitioners is real time and provides a unique source of data not available elsewhere. Included in the Digest are statistics on all seven registrant groups. More information on the registration categories is available at "Applying for registration".

There are 80,172 individual registrants. 9.8% are registered in multiple registration categories. The data for the individual registration category sections of the Digest are based on the number of registrants eligible to practise in each category.

School teachers

The number of registered school teachers has continued to decline (a reduction of 4.8% since 2015) to 35,545 in 2019. This is mainly due to a decline in the number of teachers trained in Wales, a fall in voluntary registrations and fewer schools.

The majority of school teachers are female (75.5%). There has been a gradual decrease in the proportion of male teachers from 28.1% in 2002 to 24.5% in 2019, however during this time the profession has remained predominately female.

The age profile of school teachers is balanced, with over 75% of school teachers (including voluntary registrants) under the age of 50.

90.5% of school teachers declared their ethnicity as White.

62.0% of school teachers have declared their national identity as Welsh and 22.1% as British.

33.3% of school teachers have declared themselves as Welsh speakers which exceeds the percentage of Welsh speakers in Wales (19%)¹. There has however been little variation over time with only a 0.2% increase since 2015 in school teachers who have declared themselves Welsh speakers. In addition, 26.9% of school teachers are able to work through the medium of Welsh.

Although there is no requirement for school teachers to be trained in the subject taught, over 70% of secondary phase working school teachers that teach either English, Mathematics or Welsh, are trained in the respective subject. In the foundation subjects, around 80% of secondary phase working practitioners are trained in the subjects they teach, with the exception of Information Technology (40.4%).

School learning support workers

School learning support workers have been required to register with the EWC since April 2016. At that time the Council worked with employers to register their existing staff "en masse" to establish the Register for this group. The Council only required a minimal amount of data on each practitioner to complete the initial registration. Since this time, practitioners have been further populating their records and any new registrants have been required to provide full information. The Council is undertaking a programme of work to continue to populate records and will publish more specific data as records become more complete.

¹ 2011 Census, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/2011census>.

The number of registered school learning support workers has increased from 33,424 in 2017 to 37,325 in 2019, contrary to the school teacher trend. In addition, in 2019 there are more registered school learning support workers (37,325) than school teachers (35,545) registered.

A higher proportion (87.1%) of school learning support workers are female in comparison to the other registration groups. The next highest is school teachers with 75.5% being female.

School learning support workers are younger than school teachers. 14.3% are under 25 years of age which is considerably higher than school teachers with 3.8% falling within this age range.

Further education (FE) teachers

6,695 FE teachers are registered in 2019. Since the first full registration year in 2016 there has been an increase of 5%.

There are more male teachers in FE (41.3%) than in any other registrant group.

The further education workforce is older than the school workforce, with 44.7% of registered college lecturers aged 50 and over in comparison to 24.8% of school teachers.

69.6% of FE teachers have declared their ethnicity as White.

41.4% declared their national identity as Welsh, however 25.6% have yet to declare this information.

15.2% of FE teachers are fluent or fairly fluent Welsh speakers - this figure is higher for school teachers (33.3%). Furthermore, 10.6% of FE teachers are able to work through the medium of Welsh compared to 26.9% of school teachers. 24.5% of FE teachers have yet to declare their Welsh language ability.

80.6% of FE teacher records include qualification information and of those, 82.1% have a qualification at level 6 or above.

The highest proportion of FE teachers trained in the subject they teach are those teaching Education and Childcare Development, Business, Sports and Leisure, Agriculture, and Creative Industries, with over 50% having qualifications in these subjects. Construction is slightly lower at 42.2%.

Further education learning support workers

FE learning support workers have been required to register since April 2016. 5,459 are registered in 2019.

There are more female FE learning support workers (69.6%) than female FE teachers (58.7%).

FE learning support workers are a younger workforce than FE teachers in that 65.6% are under 50 compared with 55.3% of FE teachers. 22.1% of FE learning support workers are aged under 29.

71.9% of FE learning support workers declared their ethnicity as White and 43.9% declared their national identity as Welsh. 22.8% of FE learning support workers however have yet to declare this information.

14.2% of FE learning support workers are able to speak Welsh and 9.1% have declared that they are able to work through the medium of Welsh.

Work-based learning (WBL) practitioners

Since April 2017, if an individual provides work-based learning services for, or on behalf of, a work based learning provider contracted to the Welsh Government (this also applies to all sub-contractors and consortium members that deliver Welsh Government funded training) they must be registered with the EWC. Registered WBL practitioners work as trainers, assessors, tutors, coaches, or in management and quality assurance roles. In 2019, there are 3,306 individuals registered as WBL practitioners.

The gender split of WBL practitioners is similar to FE teachers as 63.4% are female in comparison to 58.7% of FE teachers. A higher proportion of school teachers are female (75.5%).

36.5% WBL practitioners are aged 50 and over. In comparison 44.7% of FE teachers and 24.8% of school teachers are aged 50 and over. WBL practitioners have a more even distribution in age range with 10.4% under the age of 29, 11.2% aged 60 and over and the other age categories around 26% each (30 to 39, 40 to 49 and 50 to 59).

41.0% stated their national identity as Welsh, however for 31.9% of WBL practitioners this information is currently unknown.

B-wbl Consortium employ the most WBL practitioners with 12.7% closely followed by ACT Ltd (11.5%)².

11.1% of WBL practitioners who have made a declaration said that they are able to speak Welsh and 7.7% are able to work through the medium of Welsh. These figures are similar to FE teachers as 15.2% are able to speak Welsh and 10.6% are able to work through the medium of Welsh.

48.2% of WBL practitioners employed in a work-based learning establishment have their subject information populated. Of those recorded, the most taught subjects are Business (7.7%), Skills for Work (7.1%) and Health and Social Care (6.9%).

72.0% of WBL practitioner records include qualification information and of those, 53.7% have a qualification at level 6 or above.

Qualified youth workers and youth support workers

To be registered as a qualified youth or youth support worker, the practitioner must hold one of the youth work qualifications specified in Welsh legislation. Since April 2017, qualified youth workers and youth support workers carrying out youth development services for or on behalf of a local authority or voluntary sector setting must be registered with the EWC. The Council's figures only summarise a proportion of the youth workforce as unqualified paid youth workers/youth support workers and voluntary youth workers are not required to register with the EWC and therefore have not been included in the data.

Similar to school learning support workers, the Council will publish more information on youth and youth support workers when records become more complete.

There are 411 qualified youth workers and 696 qualified youth support workers registered in 2019.

² The list of main contractors was taken from Employers Welsh Government Work-Based Learning (WBL) Contracts 2019 <https://gov.wales/work-based-learning-wbl-contracts>.

Over 60% of qualified youth workers (67.6%) and qualified youth support workers (63.2%) are female.

Youth work registrants are younger than registrants in the FE sector. 44.7% of FE teachers are aged 50 and over in comparison to 21% of qualified youth workers/youth support workers, which is a similar proportion to the school workforce.