

Apprenticeships Starts

***The number of apprenticeships starts has increased since 2010...
...and 4,000 individuals across Oxfordshire benefited in 2016/17***

Apprenticeships are qualifications that allow individuals to combine work experience with study while earning a wage. They usually last from 1-4 years. Recently it has become possible to do apprenticeships right through to degree or masters level.

In 2016/17, **3,970** individuals across Oxfordshire started an apprenticeship. Of these, 47% were over the age of 25. Nationally, **491,000** individuals started an apprenticeship; the government wants 3 million places to be created by 2020.

Apprenticeships are a recognised route into higher education and will be an integral part of the new technical pathway (T-Levels) from 2020.

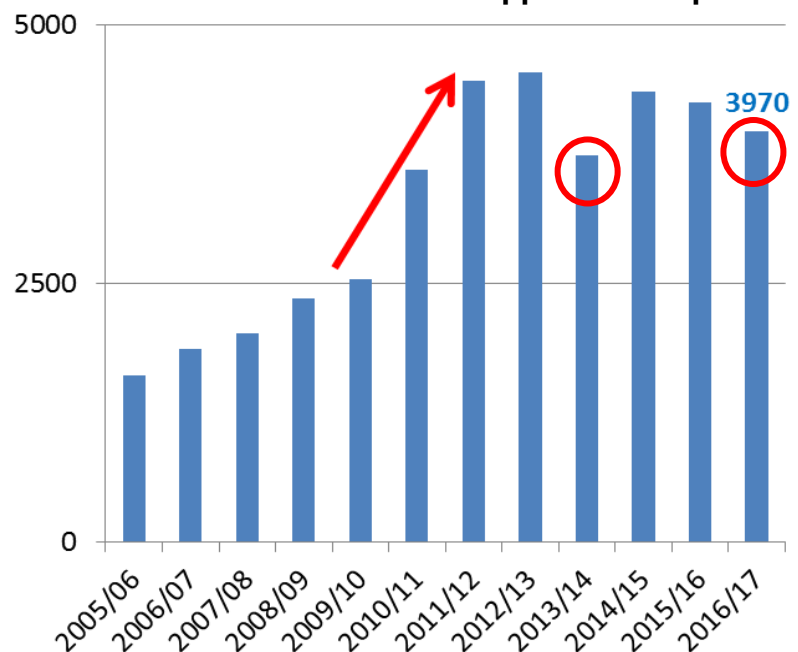
It should be noted that the data in this bulletin is **provisional**.

(a) Apprenticeship starts through time

Currently published data goes back to 2005/6. See Figure 1.

- In 2010/11 and 2011/12 there were sharp increases in the number of starts. This is for a number of reasons, particular due to increased government funding in these years (which affected those aged 25+ in particular).
- In 2013/14 there was a dip in starts. This was because of the introduction of the 19+ Advanced Learner Loan. Because of the unwanted impact of this loan, it was removed the following year (in the case of apprentices).

FIGURE 1: Oxfordshire apprenticeship starts

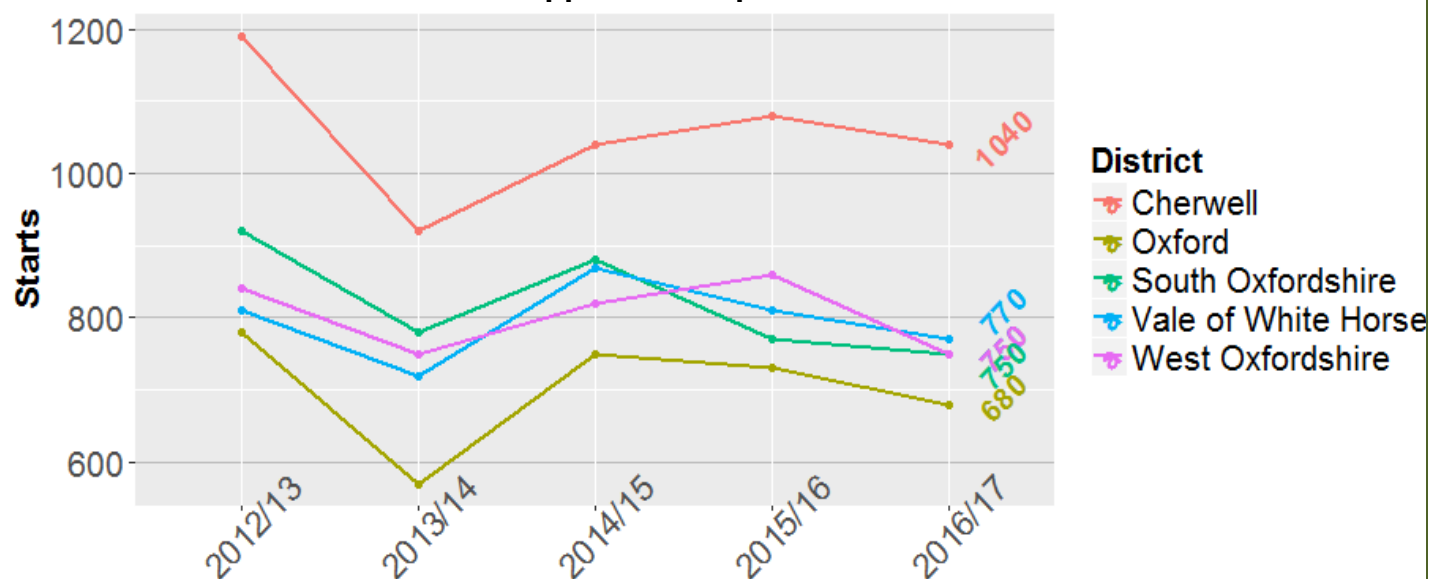


Source: Department for Education (see link in 'Notes' section)

- The 2016/17 figure is a dip of 7% on the previous year.
 - Nationally, there was a dip of around 4% on the previous year. This is probably because of the uncertainties associated with the introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy in April 2017 to help fund the system.
 - The Oxfordshire dip of 7% in 2016/17 is thus higher than the national drop.

A split for the Oxfordshire districts has only been available since 2012/3. See Figure 2.

FIGURE 2: Apprenticeship Starts across Oxfordshire since 2012/3



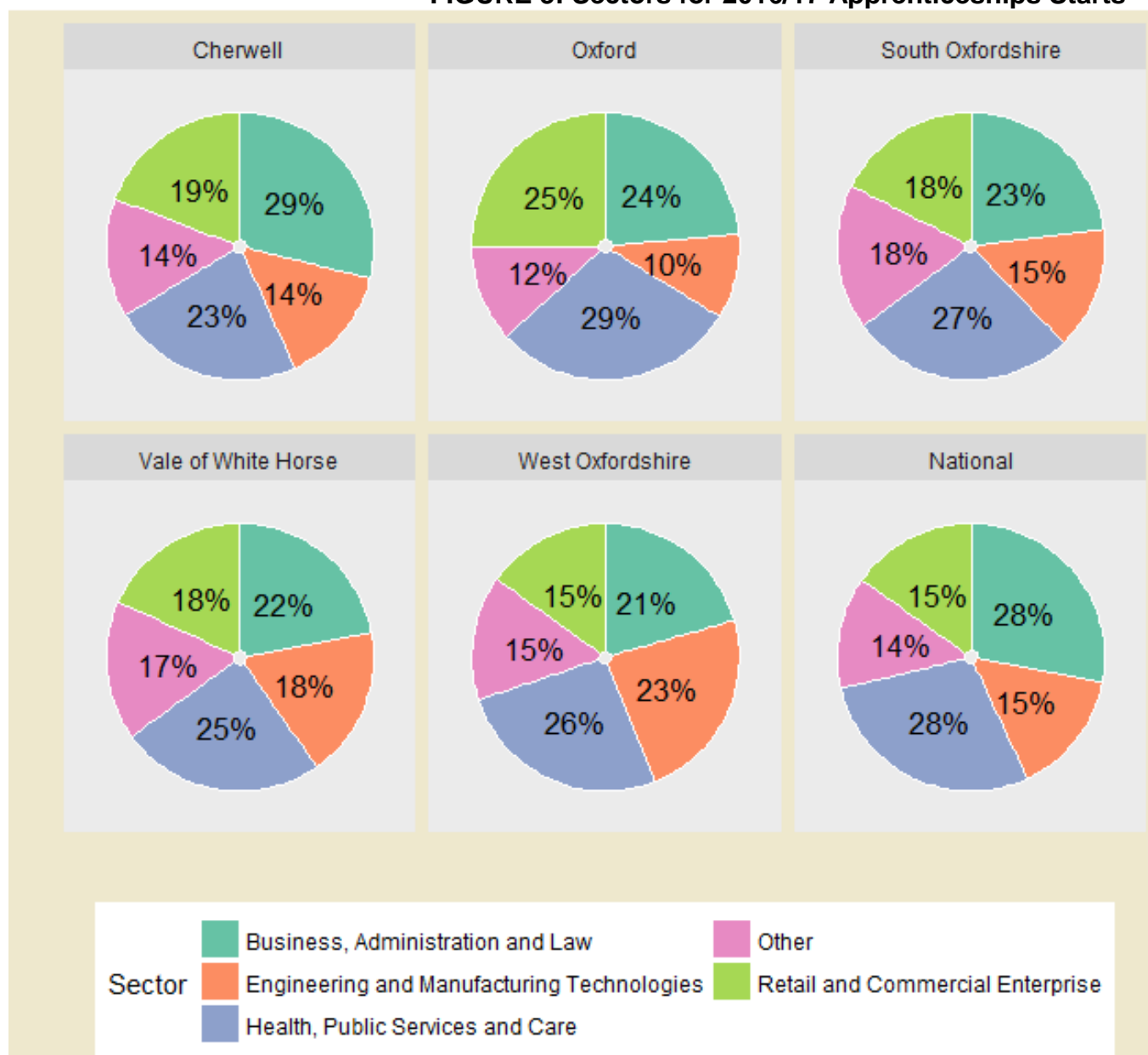
Source: Department for Education (see link in 'Notes' section)

(b) Apprenticeship Starts across industrial sectors

Figure 3 shows how the apprenticeships in 2016/17 were divided up amongst various industrial sectors.

- Most apprenticeships (usually more than 50%) are in “Health & Public Services” or in “Business & Law.”
 - After these “Retail / Commercial” and “Engineering / Manufacturing” are the next most common.
- Among the districts certain patterns can be seen:
 - Cherwell has proportionally more in “Business & Law” than any other district
 - Oxford has proportionally more starts in “Retail / Commercial”
 - South & Vale have proportionally more starts in “Agriculture / Horticulture” (both 4%, compared to the national figure of 1%)
 - West Oxfordshire has proportionally more starts in “Engineering / Manufacturing”.
- There were **no** starts in Oxfordshire in the following categories: Languages Literature & Culture; Preparation for Life and Work; Science and Mathematics.

FIGURE 3: Sectors for 2016/17 Apprenticeships Starts



Note: "Other" includes: Arts Media & Publishing; Agriculture Horticulture & Animal Care; Construction Planning & Built Environment; Education & Training; Information and Communication Technology; Languages Literature & Culture; Leisure Travel and Tourism; Preparation for Life & Work; Science & Mathematics

Scroll down for data table

NOTES

- Data from DfE: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fe-data-library-apprenticeships>
- Other sources
 - Briefing & explanation of policy changes: <http://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/SN06113>
 - Apprenticeship Levy: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apprenticeship-levy-how-it-will-work/apprenticeship-levy-how-it-will-work#pay-apprenticeship-levy>
 - On T-levels: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/post-16-skills-plan-and-independent-report-on-technical-education>
- Huge thanks to **Clare McLening**, Skills Adviser at Oxfordshire LEP, for assistance and explanations.

Data note prepared by Bella Image as part of the District Data Analysis Service
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On behalf of: Cherwell District Council Vale of White Horse District Council
Oxford City Council West Oxfordshire District Council
South Oxfordshire District Council

Data notes and briefings from this service are available at www.oxford.gov.uk/districtdata

APPENDIX: Apprenticeship Starts

The table gives the number of apprenticeship starts across Oxfordshire, as presented in Figure1 and Figure2 of this note.

For data on the subject sectors, or any other data, please contact clare.mclening@oxfordshirelep.com or iimage@oxford.gov.uk.

	Cherwell	Oxford	South Oxfordshire	Vale of WH	West Oxfordshire	Oxfordshire	National
2005/06	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,610	175,000
2006/07	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,860	184,400
2007/08	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,020	224,800
2008/09	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,360	239,900
2009/10	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,540	279,700
2010/11	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,600	457,200
2011/12	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4,460	520,600
2012/13	1,190	780	920	810	840	4,540	510,200
2013/14	920	570	780	720	750	3,740	440,400
2014/15	1,040	750	880	870	820	4,360	499,900
2015/16	1,080	730	770	810	860	4,250	509,400
2016/17	1,040	680	750	770	750	3,970	491,300