

# Technical changes to the Performance Indicators

## PITG 12/05

### Issue

1. The questions on the 2011/12 DLHE questionnaire have been modified and as a result, there was a need for the concept of activity to be redefined for use in HESA publications. This will also impact on the employment indicators.
2. There have been changes to the qualifications included in the UCAS tariff which will impact on the benchmarks.

### Recommendations

3. PITG to approve using the equivalent, under the new derivation of activity, of the old activity categories A-F to define the employment indicators for 2011/12.
4. PITG to approve the continued use of XTARIFF, with the modifications outlined below, in the derivation of the benchmarks and to treat the new BTEC qualifications with (B) BTEC and (BE) BTEC National in Early Years.

### Employment indicators discussion

5. The 2011/12 DLHE questionnaire was modified and question 1 now asks what the leaver was doing on the reference date. Multiple activities may be ticked and the “most important” activity must be highlighted.
6. Previously, the leaver was asked in two separate questions which activity (only one may be ticked) best describes their employment circumstance on the reference date and if the leaver was also involved in any full-time or part-time study (study circumstance).
7. Prior to 2011/12, activity was derived using the following matrix of employment circumstances and study circumstances:

Employment circumstances	Full-time study (1)	Part-time study (2)	Not in study (3)
Employed full-time in paid work (01)	D	D	A
Employed part-time in paid work (02)	D	D	B
Self-employed/freelance (03)	D	D	A
Voluntary work/other unpaid work (15)	D	D	C
Permanently unable to work/retired (16)	G	G	G
Temporarily sick or unable to work/looking after the home or family (17)	E	E	G
Taking time out in order to travel (10)	G	G	G
Due to start a job within the next month (11)	E	F	F
Unemployed and looking for employment, further study or training (12)	E	F	F
Not employed but NOT looking for employment, further study or training (13)	E	E	O
Something else (14)	E	E	O
Question not answered (XX)	X	X	X

8. Activity describes the employment category of the leaver based on the values in the Matrix of employment circumstances and Study circumstances:

Activity	
Full-time paid work only (including self-employed)	A
Part-time paid work only	B
Voluntary/unpaid work only	C
Work and further study	D
Further study only	E
Assumed to be unemployed	F
Not available for employment	G
Other	O
Explicit refusal	X

9. The employment indicator was defined as the proportion of leavers in activity categories A to E out of those in activity categories A to F.
10. Following consultation with a review group consisting of statutory customers and experts, the concept of activity was redefined for 2011/12 based on answers from the first question of the survey only. Similar colours and numbering have been used in this paper to highlight an approximate mapping between the old and new activity categories, although the content of these groups is likely to differ.

Status	Most important activity	If any other activity includes	Activity		
Ineligibility or explicit refusal			Ineligibility or explicit refusal	X	
All other	Working full-time	Engaged in full-time study, training or research OR Engaged in part-time further study, training or research	Primarily in work and also studying	D	
		Otherwise	Full-time work	A	
	Working part-time	Engaged in full-time study, training or research OR Engaged in part-time further study, training or research	Primarily in work and also studying	D	
		Otherwise	Part-time work	B	
	Unemployed and looking for work		Unemployed	F	
	Due to start a job in the next month	Working full-time		Full-time work	A
		Engaged in full-time further study, training or research, provided that Working full-time has not been selected.		Full-time study	E
		Working part-time, provided that Working full-time AND Engaged in full-time further study, training or research have not been selected.		Part-time work	B

		Otherwise	Due to start work	F
	Engaged in full-time further study, training or research	Working full-time OR Working part-time	Primarily studying and also working	D
		Otherwise	Full-time study	E
	Engaged in part-time further study, training or research	Working full-time OR Working part-time	Primarily studying and also working	D
		Otherwise	Part-time study	E
	Taking time out in order to travel		Other	G
	Something else		Other	O

11. Proposal to create the 2011/12 employment indicator by taking the proportion in categories A to E out of those in categories A to F.
12. Since the new activity categories put an emphasis on “most important activity” which was not previously taken into account, the content of the categories are likely to differ, although the extent of this is unlikely to be known until the collection has taken place.

### Tariff changes discussion

13. The table below provides a list of the new qualifications which have been added to the UCAS tariff for 2011/12 and included in the derived field XTARIFF. The final coding frame for BTECs is still to be confirmed and may differ from below, but UCAS and HESA plan to issue a joint statement when a decision has been finalised.
14. In addition and following institutional comment, the previously excluded (FA) Diploma in Foundation Studies (Art and Design), has been included in the tariff calculation (XTARIFF) for 2011/12. It was previously excluded as FA qualifications are not ABL qualifications and therefore do not available electronically to institutions, even though they are valid QUALTYPE codes.
15. On advice from UCAS, where a (FD) Financial Services (Diploma) qualification is present with a (FS) Financial Services (Certificate) qualification, only the points from the Certificate are retained in XTARIFF.

Code	Qualification
1B	BTEC specialist (QCF): Diploma
2B	BTEC specialist (QCF): Certificate
3B	BTEC specialist (QCF): Award
B1	BTEC qualifications (QCF) (Suite of qualifications known as Nationals): Extended Diploma
B2	BTEC qualifications (QCF) (Suite of qualifications known as Nationals): Diploma
B3	BTEC qualifications (QCF) (Suite of qualifications known as Nationals): Subsidiary Diploma
B4	BTEC qualifications (QCF) (Suite of qualifications known as Nationals): Certificate
AT	AAT Level 3 Diploma in Accounting (QCF)
C1	Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE)

C2	Certificate in Advanced English (CAE)
E1	Essential Skills (NI) (Level 1)
E2	Essential Skills (NI) (Level 2)
E3	Essential Skills (NI) (Level 3)
E4	Essential Skills (NI) (Level 4)
MC	iMedia Certificate
MD	iMedia Diploma
ME	Certificate in Mathematics for Engineering
N1	City and Guilds Land Based Services Level 3 qualifications: Extended Diploma
N2	City and Guilds Land Based Services Level 3 qualifications: Diploma
N3	City and Guilds Land Based Services Level 3 qualifications: Subsidiary Diploma
N4	City and Guilds Land Based Services Level 3 qualifications: Certificate
S1	Scottish National Certificate (Band A)
S2	Scottish National Certificate (Band B)
S3	Scottish National Certificate (Band C)
SI	CISI Introduction to Securities and Investment
TA	Institute of Arts Award (Gold)
VA	Community Volunteering Award
VC	Community Volunteering Certificate
W1	Essential Skills Wales (Level 1)
W2	Essential Skills Wales (Level 2)
W3	Essential Skills Wales (Level 3)
W4	Essential Skills Wales (Level 4)
YE	Certificate for Young Enterprise

### Further information

16. For further information contact Suzie Dent (Phone: 01242 211109; e-mail: [suzie.dent@hesa.ac.uk](mailto:suzie.dent@hesa.ac.uk)).