

Black Country APS Qualifications (NVQ)

The Annual Population Survey (APS) datasets from the Office of National Statistics were updated on 16 April 2019 with new figures for the Jan 2018 – Dec 2018 survey period.

Headline Summary

- The number of people with NVQ Level 4+ qualifications has increased by 0.7 per cent over the year to 177,900 (from 176,600) compared to a national increase of 2.3 per cent.
- This now means almost one in four (24.5 per cent) of the working age population are educated to degree level or above.
- Despite this improvement, a further 107,100 working age Black Country residents are required to obtain NVQ Level 4 qualifications to equal the national average.
- The number of working age people with 'No Qualifications', increased slightly from 112,200 in 2017 to 114,000 in 2018.
- This equates to 1,800 more people with no qualifications or 1.6 per cent increase against a national reduction of -0.2 per cent.
- There are now almost twice as many people in the Black Country (15.7 per cent) with 'No Qualifications' as the national average (8.0 per cent).
- To eradicate the gap with the UK average, an additional 55,832 working age Black Country residents are needed to obtain at least one qualification.
- The number of people with NVQ Level 3 qualifications fell by -3.8 per cent compared to a national increase of 0.2 per cent; whilst those with just NVQ Level 2 increased by 4.9 per cent against a national drop of -1.2 per cent.
- Those with just NVQ Level 1 increased by 5.1 per cent against a UK fall of -2.6 per cent.

Black Country Qualifications

Qualification Level (NVQ)	Black Country					
	2017	2018	% (2018)	% UK	BC % Change 17/18	Gap to National
% with NVQ4+ aged 16-64	176,600	177,900	24.5	39.2	0.7%	107,100
% with NVQ3 only aged 16-64	112,000	107,700	14.8	17.0	-3.8%	15,907
% with NVQ2 only aged 16-64	133,900	140,400	19.3	15.8	4.9%	No Gap
% with NVQ1 only aged 16-64	91,300	96,000	13.2	10.4	5.1%	No Gap
% with Other Qualifications (NVQ) aged 16-64	82,000	76,100	10.5	6.7	-7.2%	No Gap
% with No Qualifications (NVQ) aged 16-64	112,200	114,000	15.7	8.0	1.6%	-55,832

Source: Annual Population Survey 2018