FET in Numbers 2018
Roma Community

Further
Education
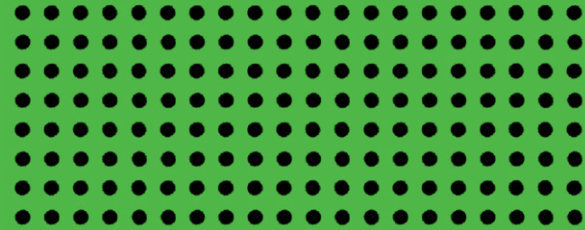& Training

A Report by the
Data Analytics Unit in SOLAS
September 2019

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All data is sourced from the Programme and
Learner Support Systems (PLSS) database. PLSS
collects and processes the personal data of the
FET learners who are enrolled in SOLAS funded
programmes. Please note that apprenticeship
and eCollege data are currently not included in
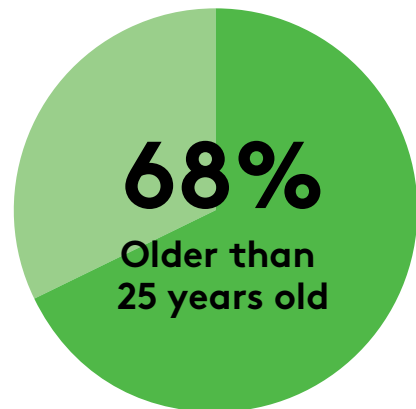the PLSS database.

Enrolments

302

Learners of
Roma ethnic origin
Enrolments

46%
Male

54%
Female
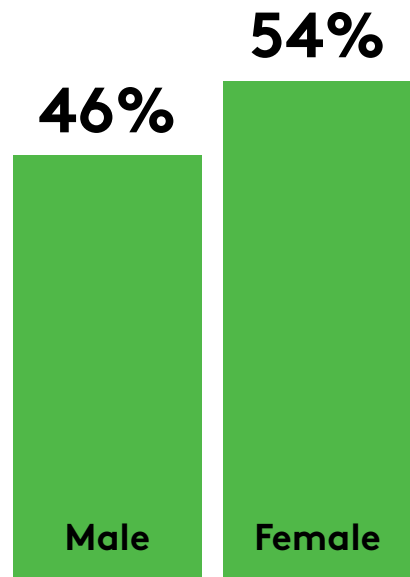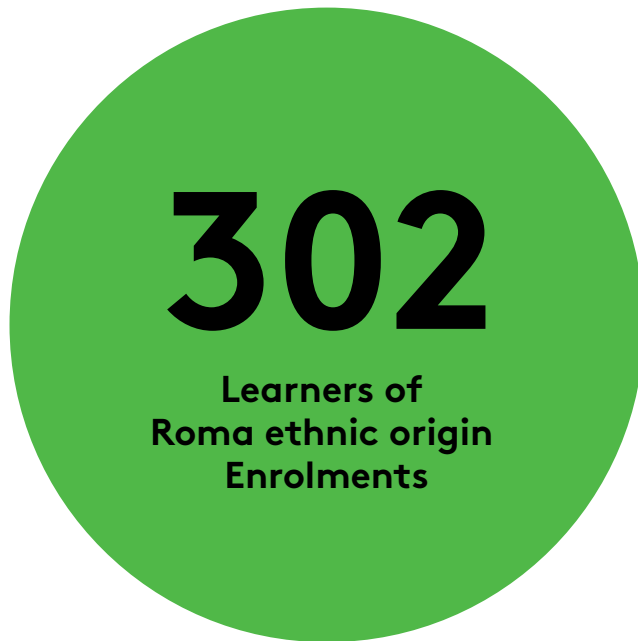
87%
Full and partial
completions

68%
Older than
25 years old

57%
Certification rate

In 2018, the total number of Roma enrolments reported in further education and training was 302. Of these learner enrolments, 46% were men and 54% were women. The majority (68%) of these learners were older than 25 years of age.

Of the 302 Roma enrolments, 87% partially or fully completed a course in 2018. The certification rate for Roma who completed certified courses was 57%.

Principle Economic Status[1]

15.7%
Inactive for other reasons

9.8%
Student Trainee

3.5%
Engaged in Home Duties

53%
Unemployed

18.1%
Employed

Duration of Unemployment

37.8%
Short-term Unemployed
less than 12 months

62.2%
Long-term Unemployed
12 months or more
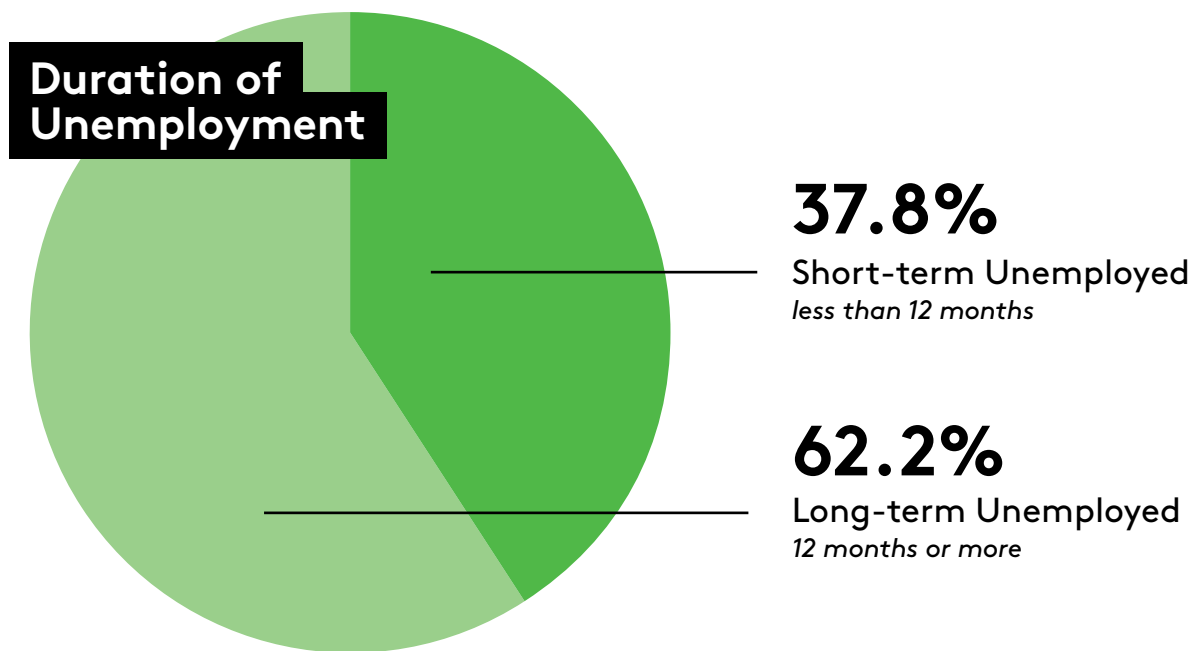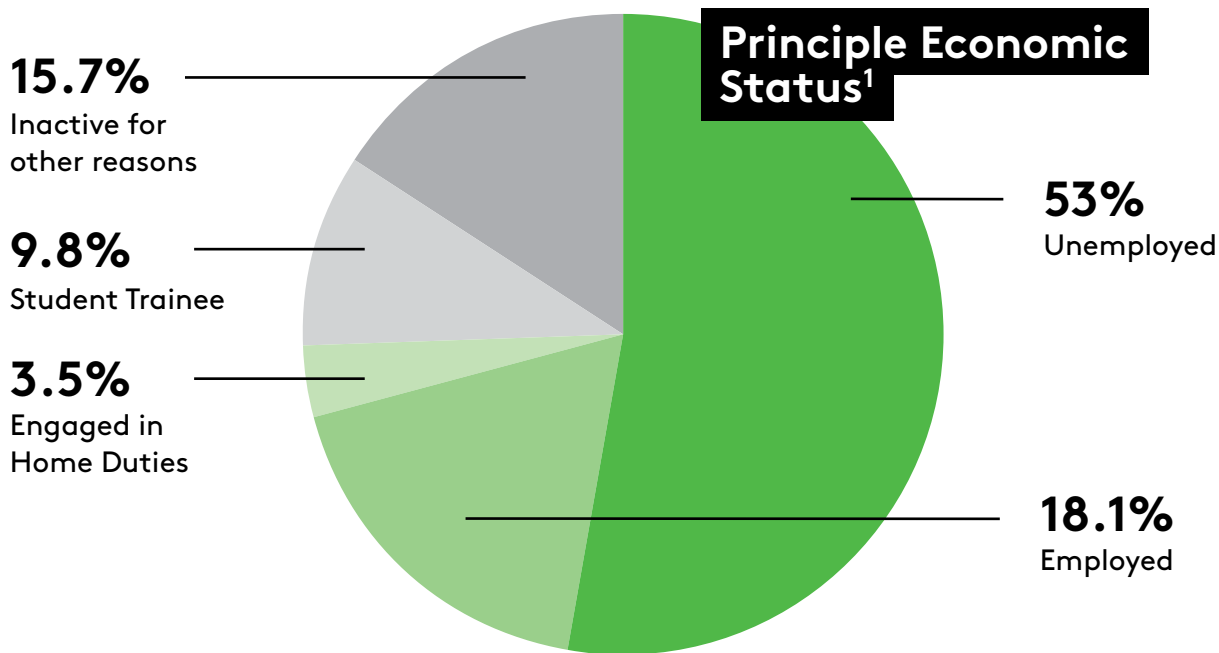
The majority of Roma learners were either unemployed or economically inactive. Of those who were unemployed, 62.2% were unemployed for 12 months or more.

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1   It should be noted that this is figure is an estimate and includes only those cases where previous principle economic status was captured. The Principle Economic Status response rate for Roma enrolments was 95%.

Highest Level of Formal Education[2]

28	Third level
9	Short-cycle tertiary education
40	Post-secondary non-tertiary
53	Upper secondary
70	Lower secondary
100	Primary education and below
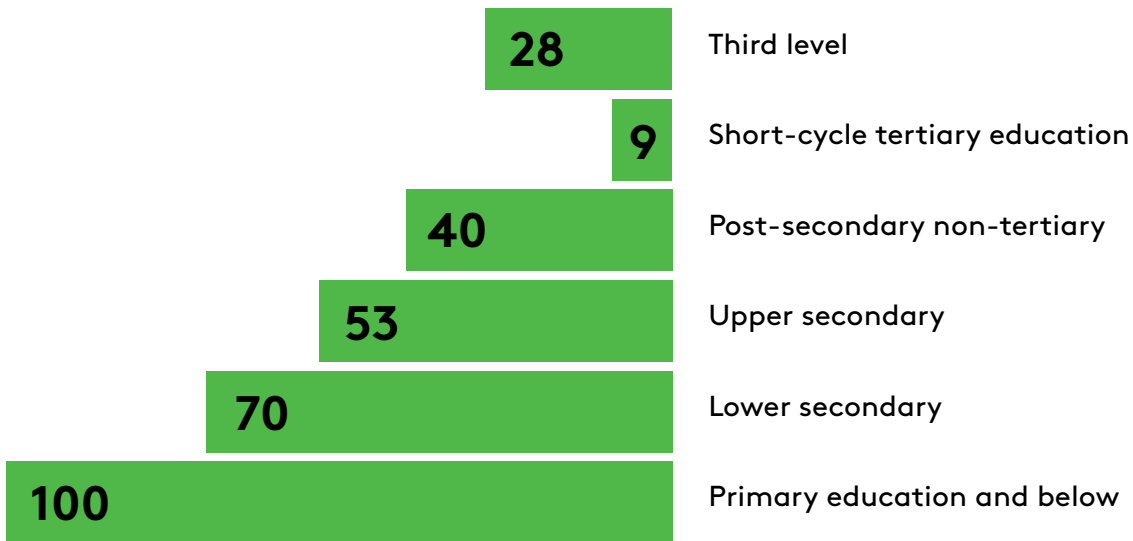
Approximately 170 of Roma reported that they had attained (56.7%) a lower secondary or primary education and below education level prior to joining further education and training.

Household Joblessness

12 part of a jobless household

58 dependants in a jobless household

Disability

24 had a long-lasting condition

Of the 302 Roma enrolments, 12 reported that they were part of a jobless household, whereas 58 reported that they were dependants in a jobless household. There were also 24 Roma that reported they had a long-lasting condition.

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2   It should be noted that this figure is an estimate and includes only those cases where previous levels of education were captured.

ETB

ETB	Learners
Cavan and Monaghan ETB	43
City of Dublin ETB	17
Cork ETB	28
Donegal ETB	5
Dublin and Dun Laoghaire ETB	20
Galway and Roscommon ETB	15
Kerry ETB	16
Kildare and Wicklow ETB	14
Kilkenny and Carlow ETB	7
Laois and Offaly ETB	28
Limerick Clare ETB	14
Longford and Westmeath ETB	27
Louth and Meath ETB	29
Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB	8
Tipperary ETB	8
VSCSS	2
Waterford and Wexford ETB	21
Total	**302**

Of the 302 Romas enrolled in FET courses, Roma enrolments were primarily concentrated in Cavan and Monaghan ETB, Louth and Meath ETB, Laois and Offaly ETB, and Cork ETB.
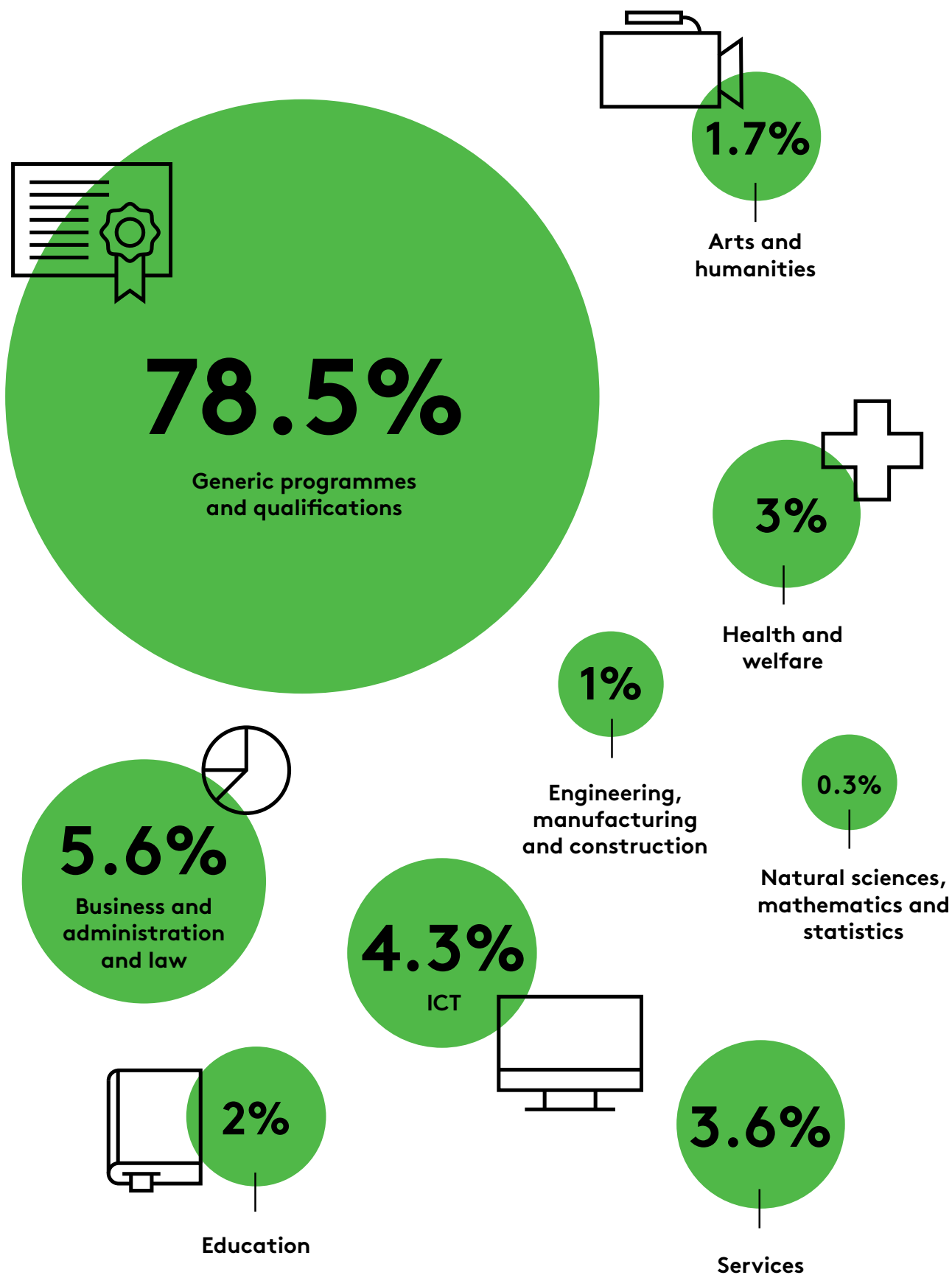
Programme Category[3]

Programme Category	Learners
Bridging Foundation Training	1
Community Training Centres	13
Specific Skills Training	14
Traineeship Training	3
Local Training Initiatives	6
Specialist Training Providers	2
VTOS Core	8
Youthreach	39
Justice Workshop	0
Blended Training	0
PLC	17
Traineeship Employed	0
Evening Training	10
BTEI Groups	43
Adult Literacy Tuition	68
ITABE	9
Voluntary Literacy Tuition	1
FET Cooperation Hours	10
Community Education	21
Skills for Work	6
ESOL	116
Refugee Resettlement	5
Other Funding	4
Recognition of Prior Learning	0
Skills to Advance	1

Among FET programmes, enrolments were primarily concentrated among English as a Second or Foreign Language (ESOL), Adult Literacy, Back to Education Initiative (BTEI), and Youthreach courses.
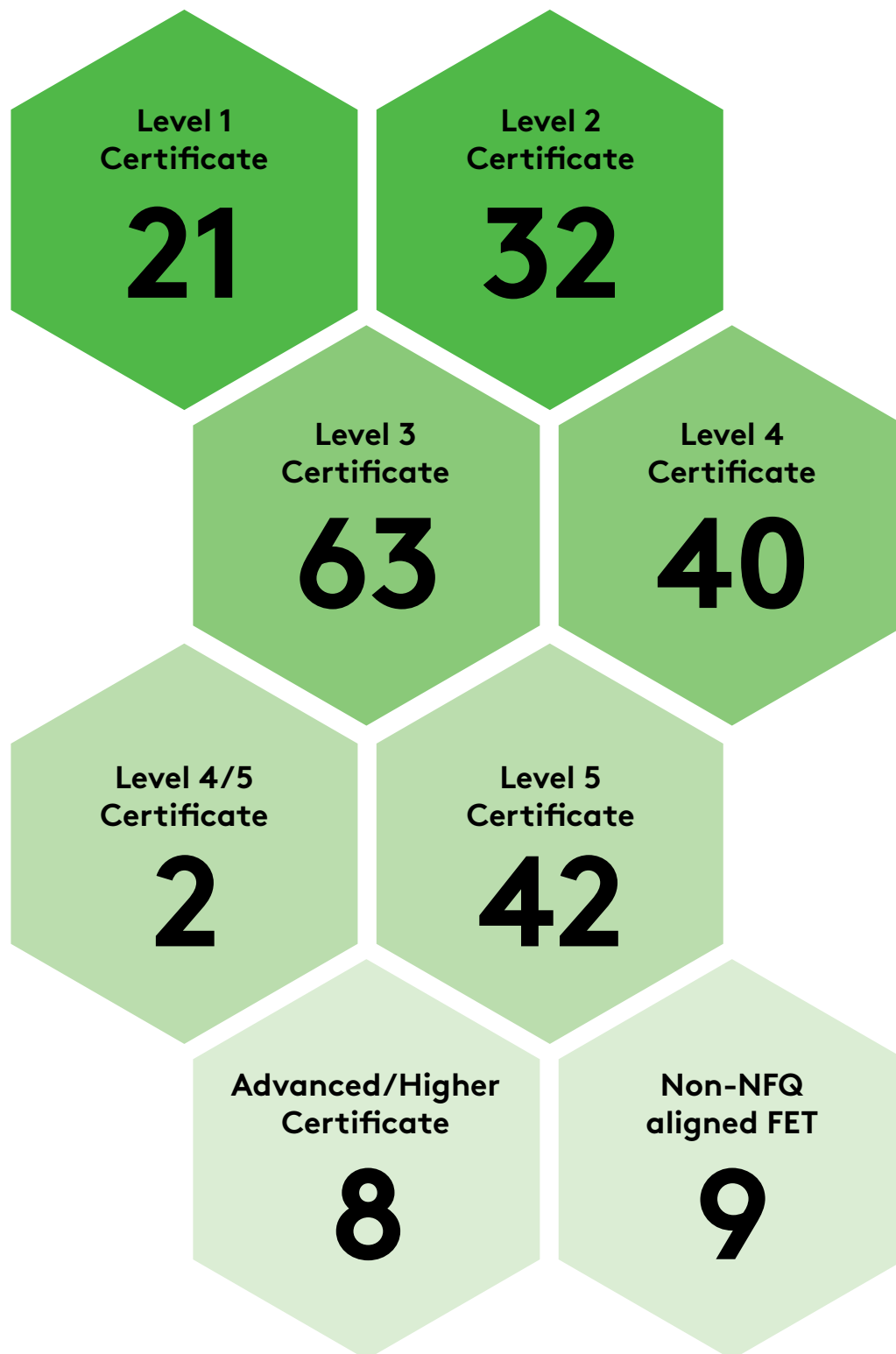
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3 Each learner is counted once within each programme, but is allowed to be counted more than once if they did courses in different programmes.

Field of Study (Broad ISCED)

78.5%
Generic programmes and qualifications

1.7%
Arts and humanities

3%
Health and welfare

1%
Engineering, manufacturing and construction

0.3%
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics

5.6%
Business and administration and law

4.3%
ICT

2%
Education

3.6%
Services

Field of Study (Broad ISCED)	Examples of courses
Generic programmes and qualifications	Employability Skills
	ESOL English Language
	Health and Wellbeing
	Arts and Crafts
Business and administration and law	Start your own Business
	Office Administration
Health and welfare	Nursing Studies
	Applied Social Studies
Services	Beauty Therapy
	Sports, Recreation and Exercise
Arts and humanities	Art, Craft and Design
	Film and TV Production
Education	Early Childhood Care and Education
	Special Needs Assisting
ICT	Computer Systems and Networks
	Computer Basics
Engineering, manufacturing and construction	Welding
	Engineering Technology
Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary	Horticulture
	Animal Care
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	Applied Science/Laboratory Techniques
	Pre-University Science
Social sciences, journalism and information	Journalism for the Digital Age
	Cultural and Heritage Studies

Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) or Equivalent[4]

Level 1 Certificate
21

Level 2 Certificate
32

Level 3 Certificate
63

Level 4 Certificate
40

Level 4/5 Certificate
2

Level 5 Certificate
42

Advanced/Higher Certificate
8

Non-NFQ aligned FET
9

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4   This excludes learners enrolled in courses that do not lead to an award through a recognised awarding body.

Definition of Terms

Activity

The sum of learners multiplied by the number of courses which they have been enrolled in or completed within a programme or across different programmes, or providers during 2018.

Certification Rate

The sum of only full and partial learner completions that gained an award through a recognised awarding body in 2018.

Certified Completions

In the FET sector, not all learner completions lead to an award through a recognised awarding body in the FET sector. Therefore, certified completions refer only to the total number of certified completions in 2018.

Completions

Total number of learners who have a finish date of a course (regardless of whether the course is certified or not) in 2018. Completions include partial and full completers, but exclude early leavers.

Enrolments

Enrolments are defined as learners who are on course or have completed a course during 2018.

Field of Study

This is defined and categorized by the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED). Both broad (2-digit) and detailed (4-digit) fields of study are used for categorising Further Education and Training course fields of study.

Partial Completions

Learners who have completed more than 25 per cent but less than 90 per cent of a course and its requirements in 2018.

Inactive

This term is used according to the Eurostat and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition which defines inactive as individuals who are neither employed nor unemployed and are not working and not available or looking for work. Inactive in this report includes those learners engaged in home duties, retired, student/trainees, and those inactive for other reasons.

Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ)

This is a framework through which all learning achievements may be measured and related to each other in a coherent way. The many different types and sizes of qualifications included in the NFQ are organised based on their level of knowledge, skill and competence. In some cases, where awards have not been placed on the Irish NFQ, equivalent levels are assigned based on the document 'Qualifications can cross boundaries' and the level assigned to the award on the relevant country's framework (e.g. Cf. Ofqual, Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework, etc.).

Non-NFQ Aligned courses

This includes completions with certification not aligned with the NFQ.

Learner

A unique individual who has progressed onto a course in the application process. The total number of learners is the sum of all unique individuals in Further Education and Training in 2018.

Long-lasting Condition

This includes anyone who has: 1) blindness or a serious vision impairment, 2) deafness or a serious hearing impairment, 3) a difficulty with basic physical activities (e.g. walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting or carrying, etc.), 4) an intellectual disability, 5) a difficulty with learning, remembering or concentrating, 6) a psychological or emotional condition, and/or 7) a difficulty with pain, breathing, any other chronic illness/condition.

Long-term Unemployed

This refers to any person who is unemployed for 12 months or more.

On Course

This refers to those learners who were still on course as of December 31st, 2018.

Full Completions

Learners who have completed 90 per cent or more of the course and its requirements in 2018.
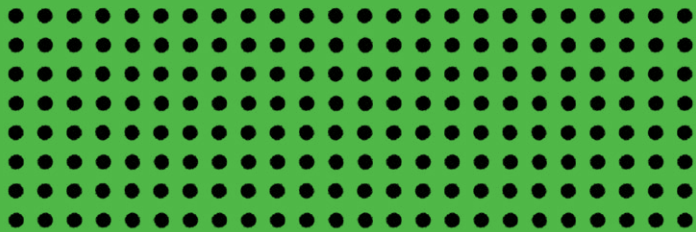
Post-secondary non-tertiary

This refers to Post Leaving Certificate NFQ Level 4 or 5, Advanced Certificate NFQ Level 6, other non-NFQ aligned FET, Certificate NFQ Level 4, or Certificate NFQ Level 5.

Short-cycle tertiary education

This refers to third level non-degree courses and includes higher certificate NFQ level 6 courses and diploma NFQ level 7 courses. These courses are usually of one year in duration and are often vocational in nature.

Third Level

This refers to Ordinary Bachelor degree, Honours Bachelor degree, Professional, Post-Graduate, Doctorate or Higher degree courses.

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