

Closing the Gap The Scale of the Task - 2009

| Measure | | Position in 2009 | | | | Best performing region | | Scale of the task — to close the gap | |
|--|--|------------------|---------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | W Midlands | England | Rank in 2009* | Rank in 2008* | Achievement | Region | With England average | With best performing region |
| Demand issues: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Proportion of private sector companies investing in training | | 65.6% | 64.8% | 4th | - | 68% | SW | n/a | 3,300 |
| 2. Proportion of staff with skill gaps | | 8.3% | 7.4% | 8th | - | 6% | NE | 21,300 | 56,800 |
| 3. Density of skill shortage vacancies | | 14.6% | 16.4% | 3rd | - | 13% | EM | n/a | 35,500 |
| 4. Proportion of graduates finding employment in their region of study after graduation | | 66.5% | 66.2% | 4th | 4th | 75% | NW | n/a | 1,400 |
| Supply issues: | | | | | | | | | |
| 5. Private sector employees educated to NVQ Level 4+ | | 24.0% | 30.4% | 7th | 7th | 47% | Lon | 112,800 | 401,300 |
| 6. Proportion of pupils achieving 5+ GCSE A*-C grades (inc Maths & English) | | 48.5% | 50.9% | 8th | 7th | 54% | Lon | 1,600 | 3,600 |
| 7. Proportion of working age population with NVQ4+ | | 28.0% | 32.9% | 8th | 8th | 43% | Lon | 151,000 | 457,300 |
| 8. Proportion of working age population with NVQ3+ | | 47.2% | 52.5% | 9th | 8th | 57% | Lon | 163,000 | 308,400 |
| 9. Proportion of working age population with NVQ2+ | | 68.9% | 72.8% | 9th | 9th | 77% | SW | 119,700 | 241,100 |
| 10. Proportion of working age population with No qualifications | | 12.2% | 9.3% | 8th | 9th | 6% | SW | 90,900 | 186,900 |
| 11. Proportion of employees who participated in job related training in the last 4 weeks | | 9.3% | 10.2% | 8th | 4th | 11% | SE | 30,900 | 63,700 |
| 12. Proportion of 16-17 year olds in education or Work Based Learning | | 83% | 83% | 3rd | 4th | 90% | Lon | n/a | 9,900 |

● = Worse than the national average
 ● = Same as the national average (-/+ 1%)
 ● = Better than the national average
 n/a = Exceeds the national average
 * = Best performing region is ranked 1st and worst performing region is ranked 9th