

## Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) or Not Known (NK): Released July 2021<sup>1</sup>

### In Summary:

- In the Black Country, there were 3.9% (1,130) of 16- and 17-years olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) or not known (NK) at the end of 2020 (average of December 2020, January 2021 and February 2021). This is a decrease of 0.1 percentage points (pp) when compared to end of 2019 (average of December 2019, January 2020 and February 2020). Over the same period England wide NEET or NK has remained at 5.5%, the WM 7 Met. area increased by 0.2pp and the West Midlands region increased by 0.4pp.
- The proportion of NEET aged 16-17 years old varies by gender. At the end of 2020, there were 5.1% of male NEET or NK in the Black Country – an increase of 0.3pp since the end of 2019. Males NEET or NK for England wide increased by 0.1pp over the same period. At the end of 2020, there were 3.5% of female NEET or NK in the Black Country – an increase of 0.2pp since the end of 2019. Female NEET for England wide decreased by 0.1pp to 4.6% at the end of 2020.
- For ethnicity, those described as 'white' accounted for the highest proportion NEET & NK in Sandwell (4.8%); whilst for Dudley it was 'black or black British' (6.1%), in Walsall it was 'mixed race' (5.4%) and in Wolverhampton it was 'other' (12.6%).

### Full Brief:

- In the Black Country, there were 3.9% (1,130) of 16- and 17-years olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) or not known (NK) at the end of 2020 (average of December 2020, January 2021 and February 2021). This is a decrease of 0.1 percentage points (pp) when compared to end of 2019 (average of December 2019, January 2020 and February 2020). Over the same period England wide NEET or NK has remained at 5.5%, the WM 7 Met. area increased by 0.2pp and the West Midlands region increased by 0.4pp.
- At the end of 2020 within the Black Country, the proportion of NEET & NK vary from 2.9% (decrease from 3.1% end of 2019) in Sandwell to 5.7% in Dudley (decrease from 5.8% end of 2019).

The following table shows across the Black Country, WM 7 Met. total, West Midlands Region and England the number and proportions of NEET or NK at the end of 2019 and the end of 2020:

	End of 2019			End of 2020		
	Number of 16/17 year olds known to LA	Total number NEET or NK	Proportion NEET or NK	Number of 16/17 year olds known to LA	Total number NEET or NK	Proportion NEET or NK
Dudley	7,210	420	5.8%	7,310	420	5.7%
Sandwell	8,360	260	3.1%	8,600	250	2.9%
Walsall	6,880	240	3.5%	6,970	250	3.6%
Wolverhampton	5,880	200	3.3%	6,000	210	3.5%
<b>Black Country</b>	<b>28,330</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>28,880</b>	<b>1,130</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
WM 7 Met.	70,780	4,040	5.7%	72,310	4,290	5.9%
West Midlands Region	129,730	6,910	5.3%	133,180	7,580	5.7%
England	1,143,000	62,350	5.5%	1,181,090	64,720	5.5%

<sup>1</sup> Department for Education; 16-to 17 years-olds recorded in education and training and NEET by local authority, 2021 – released July 2021

- For the Black Country at the end of 2020, there were 2.3% (330) of NEET or NK aged 16 years old – a decrease of 0.1pp when compared to the end of 2019. The proportion of NEET or NK England wide aged 16 years old remained at 3.5%.
- For the Black Country at the end of 2020, there were 5.5% (800) of NEET or NK aged 17 years old – a decrease of 0.1pp when compared to the end of 2019. The proportion of NEET or NK England wide aged 16 years old remained at 7.5%.

#### NEET or NK by Gender (16-17 years old)

- The proportion of NEET aged 16-17 years old varies by gender. At the end of 2020, there were 5.1% of male NEET or NK in the Black Country – an increase of 0.3pp since the end of 2019. Males NEET or NK for England wide increased by 0.1pp over the same period (to 6.3%). At the end of 2020, there were 3.5% of female NEET or NK in the Black Country – an increase of 0.2pp since the end of 2019. Female NEET for England wide decreased by 0.1pp to 4.6% at the end of 2020.
- At the end of 2020 within the Black Country, the proportion of male NEET or NK vary from 4.0% (decrease from 4.2% end of 2019) in Sandwell to 6.3% in Dudley (decrease from 6.4% end of 2019).
- At the end of 2020 within the Black Country, the proportion of female NEET or NK vary from 2.2% (decrease from 2.5% end of 2019) in Sandwell to 5.2% in Dudley (increase from 5.1% end of 2019).

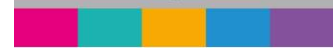
The following table shows for the Black Country, the WM 7 Met. total, West Midlands Region and England the number and proportions of NEET or NK by gender aged 16-17 years old at the end of 2020:

	Total known to the LA: All	Total known to the LA: Males	Total known to the LA: Females	NEET or NK Number: All	NEET or NK %: All	NEET or NK Number: Males	NEET or NK %: Males	NEET or NK Number: Females	NEET or NK %: Females
Dudley	7,310	3,670	3,570	420	5.7%	230	6.3%	190	5.2%
Sandwell	8,600	3,590	3,320	250	2.9%	140	4.0%	70	2.2%
Walsall	6,970	3,130	2,910	250	3.6%	150	4.7%	90	3.0%
Wolverhampton	6,000	2,250	2,150	210	3.5%	120	5.5%	70	3.1%
<b>Black Country</b>	<b>28,880</b>	<b>12,640</b>	<b>11,950</b>	<b>1,130</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>3.5%</b>
WM 7 Met.	72,310	34,110	32,040	4,290	5.9%	2,520	7.4%	1,610	5.0%
West Midlands Region	133,180	62,970	59,580	7,580	5.7%	4,430	7.0%	2,840	4.8%
England	1,181,090	585,630	556,610	64,720	5.5%	36,810	6.3%	25,580	4.6%

#### NEET or NK by Ethnic Group (16-17 years old)<sup>2</sup>

- For ethnicity, those described as 'white' accounted for the highest proportion NEET & NK in Sandwell (4.8%); whilst for Dudley it was 'black or black British' (6.1%), in Walsall it was 'mixed race' (5.4%) and in Wolverhampton it was 'other' (12.6%).

<sup>2</sup> Please note, due to metadata unavailable at the Black Country, total level for ethnicity a total figure has not been included. When local authorities have more than 15% of ethnicities not recorded so caution should be taken in interpreting results.



The following table shows at Black Country Local Authority Level, West Midlands Region and England the number and proportions of NEETs or NK by Ethnic Group aged 16-17 years old at the end of 2020:

	Dudley	Sandwell	Walsall	Wolverhampton	West Midlands Region	England
<b>White:</b> Number known to LA	5,230	2,620	3,430	2,250	74,580	774,060
<b>White:</b> % NEET or NK	5.3%	4.8%	4.9%	5.9%	6.1%	5.8%
<b>Mixed race:</b> Number known to LA	410	350	290	460	4,910	50,590
<b>Mixed race:</b> % NEET or NK	5.5%	3.2%	5.4%	5.6%	6.9%	5.6%
<b>Black or black British:</b> Number known to LA	200	590	280	520	4,320	59,730
<b>Black or black British:</b> % NEET or NK	6.1%	1.8%	1.2%	1.1%	4.8%	3.7%
<b>Asian or Asian British:</b> Number known to LA	640	1,650	1,330	1,110	13,950	111,510
<b>Asian or Asian British:</b> % NEET or NK	4.3%	0.8%	1.9%	0.8%	4.0%	2.7%
<b>Chinese:</b> Number known to LA	10	10	10	10	230	3,680
<b>Chinese:</b> % NEET or NK	0.0%	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	1.9%
<b>Other:</b> Number known to LA	150	200	50	40	1,990	19,150
<b>Other:</b> % NEET or NK	5.5%	1.4%	4.4%	12.6%	7.3%	5.0%
<b>Total:</b> Number known to LA	7,310	8,600	6,970	6,000	133,180	1,181,090
<b>Total:</b> % NEET or NK	5.7%	2.9%	3.6%	3.5%	5.7%	5.5%