# Further education and skills: July 2024 underlying data

# Metadata specification

## Description

This document describes the data included in the 'Further education and skills: July 2024' National Statistics release's underlying data files. This data is released under the terms of the Open Government License. It is provided to allow users to interrogate the data themselves.

The underlying data files cover England and include Further Education and Skills learner participation/achievements and aim enrolment/achievement figures. Some tables also include further breakdowns; by provision type (e.g. education and training, community learning, or apprenticeships), by learner characteristics (e.g. age, sex, ethnicity group) or subject characteristics (e.g. sector subject area, level, learning aim).

The Further education and skills statistics: methodology document published alongside the main release should be referenced alongside this data. It provides information on the data sources, their coverage and quality as well as explaining methodology used in producing the data.

**Annex A - Field Listing**
**Annex B – How to use excel to connect to larger underlying files for your analysis**

## File format

### The underlying data consists of the following files:

- Underlying data - FE and skills (FES) learner participation
- Underlying data - FE and skills (FES) aims enrolments
- Underlying data - FE and skills (FES) aims achievements
- Underlying data - FE and skills (FES) demographics
- Underlying data – free courses for jobs starts and achievements on individual courses
- Underlying data – advanced learner loans applications - top 10 qualifications
- Education and Training Achievement Rates Transparency - Provider Redactions

| File and description | Geographic levels | Time period |
|---|---|---|
| **Underlying data - FE and skills (FES) learner participation**<br><br>*fes-underlying-data -learner-participation-202324-q3.csv*<br><br>**year:** Academic year<br>**snapshot:** Snapshot<br>**ukprn:** Provider UKPRN<br>**provider_name:** Provider name<br>**provider_type:** Provider type<br>**learner_home_region_code:** Learner region code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_region:** Learner region description (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_pcon_code:** Learner parliamentary constituency code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_pcon:** Learner parliamentary constituency description (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_la_code:** Learner local authority code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_la:** Learner local authority description (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_lad_code:** Learner local authority district code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_lad:** Learner local authority district description (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_devolved_administration_code:** Learner English devolved area code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_devolved_administration:** Learner English devolved area description (based on home postcode)<br>**age_detailed:** Detailed age group<br><br>**fes_total:** All age Further education and skills learner participation (comprises Adult (19+) Further education and skills, and under 19 apprenticeships)<br>**fes_19p:** Adult (19+) Further education and skills learner participation<br>**e_and_t_19p:** Adult (19+) Education and training learner participation<br>**apps_total:** All age Apprenticeship learner participation<br>**apps_19p:** Adult (19+) Apprenticeship learner participation<br>**community_learning_total:** Community learning total learner participation | National, region, local authority, local authority district, parliamentary constituency, English devolved administration | 2018/19 (full year)<br><br>2019/20 (full year)<br><br>2020/21 (full year)<br><br>2021/22 (full year)<br><br>2022/23 (full year)<br><br>2023/24 (Aug-Apr Reported to date) |

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| **Underlying data - FE and skills (FES) aims enrolments**<br><br>fes-underlying-data-aims-enrolments-202324-q3.csv<br><br>**year:** Academic year<br>**snapshot:** Snapshot<br>**ukprn:** Provider UKPRN<br>**provider_name:** Provider name<br>**provider_type:** Provider type<br>**delivery_region_code:** Learner region code (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_region:** Learner region description (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_pcon_code:** Learner parliamentary constituency code (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_pcon:** Learner parliamentary constituency description (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_la_code:** Learner local authority code (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_la:** Learner local authority description (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_lad_code:** Learner local authority district code (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_lad:** Learner local authority district description (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_devolved_administration_code:** Learner English devolved area code (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_devolved_administration:** Learner English devolved area description (based on delivery postcode)<br>**learner_home_region_code:** Learner region code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_region:** Learner region description (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_pcon_code:** Learner parliamentary constituency code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_pcon:** Learner parliamentary constituency description (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_la_code:** Learner local authority code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_la:** Learner local authority description (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_lad_code:** Learner local authority district code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_lad:** Learner local authority district description (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_devolved_administration_code:** Learner English devolved area code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_devolved_administration:** Learner English devolved area description (based on home postcode)<br>**age_academic_summary_with_unknowns:** summary age group (age as at 31 August of the academic year) | National, region, local authority, local authority district, parliamentary constituency, English devolved administration | 2023/24 (Aug-Apr Reported to date) |

**age_academic_detailed:** detailed age group (age as at 31 August of the academic year)

**age_start_detailed:** detailed age group (age at the start of the programme)

**notional_nvq_level:** level of the learning aim

**stem:** STEM flag

**ssa_tier_1_code:** Sector subject area Tier 1 code

**ssa_tier_1:** Sector subject area Tier 1 description

**ssa_tier_2_code:** Sector subject area Tier 2 code

**ssa_tier_2:** Sector subject area Tier 2 description

**learning_aim_reference:** Learning aim reference number

**learning_aim_title:** Learning aim title

**learning_aim_type:** Learning aim type

**skills_for_life_type_description:** Skills for life type description

**awarding_organisation_description:** Awarding organisation description

**of_which_multiply:** Adult (19+) enrolments funded through the Multiply programme

**fes_total_aim_enrolments:** All age Further education and skills aim enrolments

**fes_19p_aim_enrolments:** Adult (19+) Further education and skills aim enrolments

**et_total_aim_enrolments:** All age Education and training aim enrolments

**et_19p_aim_enrolments:** Adult (19+) Education and training aim enrolments

**apps_total_funded_aims_enrolments:** All age Apprenticeship aim enrolments

**apps_19p_funded_aims_enrolments:** Adult (19+) Apprenticeship aim enrolments

**community_learning_aims_enrolments:** Community learning aim enrolments

**loans_aim_enrolments:** Loan enrolments

Please note: academic age (as at 31 August) is for use with FES, ET and CL enrolments. Age at start of programme is for use with apprenticeship enrolments.

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| **Underlying data - FE and skills (FES) aims achievements**<br>*fes-underlying-data-aims-achievements-202324-q3.csv*<br><br>**year:** Academic year<br>**snapshot:** Snapshot<br>**ukprn:** Provider UKPRN<br>**provider_name:** Provider name<br>**provider_type:** Provider type<br>**delivery_region_code:** Learner region code (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_region:** Learner region description (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_pcon_code:** Learner parliamentary constituency code (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_pcon:** Learner parliamentary constituency description (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_la_code:** Learner local authority code (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_la:** Learner local authority description (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_lad_code:** Learner local authority district code (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_lad:** Learner local authority district description (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_devolved_administration_code:** Learner English devolved area code (based on delivery postcode)<br>**delivery_devolved_administration:** Learner English devolved area description (based on delivery postcode)<br>**learner_home_region_code:** Learner region code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_region:** Learner region description (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_pcon_code:** Learner parliamentary constituency code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_pcon:** Learner parliamentary constituency description (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_la_code:** Learner local authority code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_la:** Learner local authority description (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_lad_code:** Learner local authority district code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_lad:** Learner local authority district description (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_devolved_administration_code:** Learner English devolved area code (based on home postcode)<br>**learner_home_devolved_administration:** Learner English devolved area description (based on home postcode)<br>**age_youth_adult:** age 19+ or under 19 (age as at 31 August of the academic year) | National, region, local authority, local authority district, parliamentary constituency, English devolved administration | 2023/24 (Aug-Apr Reported to date) |

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| **age_summary_with_unknowns:** summary age group (age as at 31 August of the academic year)<br><br>**age_detailed:** detailed age group (age as at 31 August of the academic year)<br><br>**notional_nvq_level:** level of the learning aim<br><br>**stem:** STEM flag<br><br>**ssa_tier_1_code:** Sector subject area Tier 1 code<br><br>**ssa_tier_1:** Sector subject area Tier 1 description<br><br>**ssa_tier_2_code:** Sector subject area Tier 2 code<br><br>**ssa_tier_2:** Sector subject area Tier 2 description<br><br>**learning_aim_reference:** Learning aim reference number<br><br>**learning_aim_title:** Learning aim title<br><br>**learning_aim_type:** Learning aim type<br><br><br>**fes_total_aim_achievements:** All age Further education and skills aim achievements<br><br>**fes_19p_aim_achievements:** Adult (19+) Further education and skills aim achievements<br><br>**et_19p_aims_achievements:** Adult (19+) Education and training aim achievements<br><br>**apps_total_funded_aims_achievements:** All age Apprenticeship_aim_achievements<br><br>**apps_total_funded_19p_aims_achievements:** Adult (19+) Apprenticeship aim achievements<br><br>**community_learning_aims_achievements:** Community learning aim achievements | | |

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| **Underlying data for FE and Skills (FES) demographics**<br><br>*fes-underlying-data- demographics-202324-q3.csv*<br><br>*This csv is rounded and contains pre-calculated totals. Please be aware when using this tool to derive further breakdowns.*<br><br>**year:** Academic year<br>**snapshot:** Snapshot<br>**provision_type:**<br>    Further education and skills: Further education and skills participation (All Age)<br>    Community learning: Community learning participation<br>    Education and training : Education and Training participation (Adult (19+))<br>    Apprenticeships: Apprenticeship participation (All Age)<br>**age_summary_with_unknowns:** Age group<br>**age_youth_adult:** Age group (19+ or under 19)<br>**sex:** Sex<br>**lldd:** LLDD status<br>**ethnicity_major:** Ethnicity group<br>**ethnicity_minor:** Ethnicity detail<br><br>**participation:** Learner participation<br><br>*Please note: to get adult (19+) FES participation, or adult (19+) apprenticeship participation figures, the age filter must be used.* | National | 2018/19 (full year)<br><br>2019/20 (full year)<br><br>2020/21 (full year)<br><br>2021/22 (full year)<br><br>2022/23 (full year)<br><br>2023/24 (Aug-Apr Reported to date) |

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| **Underlying data – Free Courses for Jobs Starts and Achievements on Individual Courses**<br><br>*underlying-data-fes-free-courses-for-jobs-quals-2324-q3.csv*<br><br>**qualification_reference_number:** Qualification reference number<br><br>**qualification_title:** Title of the qualification<br><br>**qualification_type:** Type of qualification<br><br>**course_length:** Indicator of whether the qualification is a short course<br><br>**guided_learning_hours:** guided learning hours associated with the course<br><br>**ssa_t1:** Sector subject area tier 1 description<br>**ssa_t2:** Sector subject area tier 2 description<br><br>**free_courses_for_jobs_valid_from:** Free courses for jobs funding approval start date<br><br>**free_courses_for_jobs_valid_to:** Free courses for jobs funding approval end date<br><br>**total_takeup_original_adult_offer:** Free courses for jobs total starts under original offer (April 21 to April 24)<br><br>**total_takeup_extended_adult_offer:** Free courses for jobs total starts including extended offer (April 21 to April 24)<br><br>**total_achievements_original_adult_offer:** Free courses for jobs total achievements under original offer (April 21 to April 24)<br><br>**total_achievements_extended_adult_offer:** Free courses for jobs total achievements including extended offer (April 21 to April 24) | National | April 2021 to April 2024 |

| Underlying data – advanced learner loans applications - top 10 qualifications | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Underlying data – advanced learner loans applications - top 10 qualifications**<br><br>*adv-learner-loans-applications-top-10-qualifications-202223.csv*<br><br>This csv contains the top 10 advanced learner loans-funded learning aims per year, since the 2014/15 academic year.<br><br>**time_period:** academic year<br><br>**rank:** position of learning aim<br><br>**aim_reference_number:** learning aim reference number<br><br>**learning_aim_description:** learning aim title<br><br>**awarding_organisation:** awarding_organisation name<br><br>**level:** level of the learning aim<br><br>**apps_received:** advanced learner loans applications received<br><br>**apps_approved:** advanced learner loans applications approved<br><br>**loan_amount_awarded:** loan amount awarded (£000s) | National | 2014/15 to 2022/23 (full academic years) |

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| **Education and Training Achievement Rates Transparency - Provider Redactions**<br><br>*Education and Training Achievement Rates - Transparency Redactions.pdf*<br><br>This csv contains redacted 2021/22 Education and Training achievement rates for those providers whose data has been redacted from the official provider level national achievement rate tables. Note there are no redactions for the 2022/23 year.<br><br>**provider_ukprn:** Provider UKPRN<br><br>**provider_name:** Provider name<br><br>**age_band:** Age group (16-18, 19+)<br><br>**sector_subject_area_t1:** Sector subject area Tier 1 description<br><br>**qualification_type:** Type of qualification<br><br>**qualification_level:** Level of qualification<br><br>**leavers:** Number of leavers<br><br>**completers**: Number of completers<br><br>**achievers:** Number of achievers<br><br>**retention_rate:** Retention rate<br><br>**pass_rate:** Pass rate<br><br>**achievement_rate:** Achievement rate | National | 2021/22 (full year) |

## Annex A – Field Listing

Further information about the fields in the underlying data files is given below:

| Variable name | Variable description |
|---|---|
| Achievers (when used in achievement rate calculations) | A count of the number of learning aims that have been achieved. |
| Achievement | A qualification or apprenticeship has successfully been gained.<br><br>The columns used are any of the following:<br>Apprenticeship 19P Aims Achievements Funded Only,<br>Apprenticeship Under 19 Aims Achievements Funded Only,<br>Community Learning Aims Achievements,<br>ET 19P Aims Achievements,<br>FES 19P Aims Achievements,<br>FES All Age Aims Achievements |
| Achievement rate | Achievement rates are based on the individual qualification aims that were completed in the relevant year (Hybrid End Year). They are calculated as the number of aims achieved divided by the number started, excluding the aims of any learners that transferred onto another qualification within the same institution. |
| Age summary with unknowns<br>Age academic summary with unknowns | This shows the age of the learner as at the 31st August of the reported academic year.<br><br>Age categories (Under 19, 19-24, 25-49, 50+, Unknown) |
| Age Youth Adult<br>Age Band | This shows the age of the learner as at the 31st August of the reported academic year.<br><br>Age categories (Under 19, 19+) |
| Age Detailed<br>Age academic detailed | This shows the age of the learner as at the 31st August of the reported academic year. This is for use with the FES, CL and ET measures. It also for use with apprenticeship participation measures.<br><br>Age categories (Under 19, 19-24, 35-44, 45-59, 60+) |
| Age start detailed | This shows the age of the learner at the start of the programme. This is for use with the apprenticeship enrolments measures.<br><br>Age categories (Under 19, 19-24, 35-44, 45-59, 60+) |
| Completers (when used in achievement rate calculations) | A count of the number of learning aims that have been completed. |
| Delivery_Region<br>Delivery_PCON<br>Delivery_LA<br>Delivery_LAD<br>Delivery_Devolved_Administration | Geographical breakdown based on the delivery postcode<br><br>PCON = Parliamentary Constituency<br>LA = Local Authority<br>LAD = Local Authority District |

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|---|---|
| Delivery_Region_Code<br>Delivery_PCON_Code<br>Delivery_LA_Code<br>Delivery_LAD_Code<br>Delivery_Devolved_Administration_Code | Reference code assigned to the geographical breakdowns based on delivery postcode |
| Detailed Level or<br>Apps Level Detailed | Level of the apprenticeship (Level 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7). |
| Enrolments | Enrolments indicates that a learner was on a framework or aim during a period.<br><br>The columns used are any of the following:<br>Apprenticeship 19P Aims Enrolments Funded Only,<br>Apprenticeship Under 19 Aims Enrolments Funded Only,<br>Community Learning Aims Enrolments,<br>ET 19P Aims Enrolments,<br>FES 19P Aims Enrolments,<br>FES All Age Aims Enrolments |
| Ethnicity | Learners ethnicity (i.e. the self-declared ethnicity from which the Ethnicity group is derived). |
| Ethnicity major | The self-declared ethnicity group of the learner (Asian/Asian British; Black/African/Caribbean/Black British; Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Group; Not App/Known; Other Ethnic Group; White; Totals). |
| Ethnicity minor | African, Any other Asian Background, Any other Black/African/Caribbean Background, Any other ethnic group, Any other Mixed/multiple ethnic background, Any other White Background, Arab, Bangladeshi, Caribbean, Chinese, English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/ British, Gypsy or Irish Traveller, Indian, Not Provided, Pakistani, Total, White and Asian, White and Black Caribbean, White and Black African |
| Free Courses for Jobs Valid to/from | Free Courses for Jobs funding approval start and end dates. |
| Free Courses for Jobs Total Takeup Original Offer | How many learners started a qualification on the original Free Courses for Jobs offer. |
| Free Courses for Jobs Total Takeup Extended Offer | How many learners started a qualification on Free Courses for Jobs, including the extended offer for unemployed and low-paid workers. |
| Free Courses for Jobs Total Achievements Original Offer | How many learners achieved a qualification on the original Free Courses for Jobs offer. |
| Free Courses for Jobs Total Achievements Extended Offer | How many learners achieved a qualification on Free Courses for Jobs, including the extended offer for unemployed and low-paid workers. |
| Learner_Home_Region<br>Learner_Home_PCON<br>Learner_Home_LA<br>Learner_Home_LAD<br>Learner_Home_Devolved_Administration<br>Learner_Home_LEP | Geographical breakdown based on the learner home postcode.<br><br>PCON = Parliamentary Constituency<br>LA = Local Authority<br>LAD = Local Authority District<br>CA = Combined Authority<br>LEP = Local Enterprise Partnership |
| Learner_Home_Region_Code<br>Learner_Home_PCON_Code | Reference code assigned to the geographical breakdowns based on learner home postcode |

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|---|---|
| Learner_Home_LA_Code<br>Learner_Home_LAD_Code<br>Learner_Home_Devolved_Administration_Code<br>Learner_Home_LEP_Code | |
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| Learning Aim | Learning Aim is a generic term which includes qualifications, courses and learning events under a general title. |
| Learning Aim Reference | Reference code for a learning aim which corresponds to the ILR |
| Learning Aim Title | Title of a learning aim |
| Learning Aim Type | The type of learning aim awarded (e.g. A Level, Diploma, Certificate…) |
| Leavers (when used in achievement rate calculations) | The total volume of learners included, this is the denominator used in achievement rate calculation. |
| Level<br>Or App Level | Apprenticeship level (Intermediate, advanced or higher).<br>Or FE and Skills programmes Level ( Entry ,1,2,3,4,5,6,7, High Level) |
| Learner Participation Q1,Q2, Q3, Q4, or Full Year | Learner was in learning at any point during the indicated quarter or any point during the year (full year) |
| LLDD | Defines if the learner self declares that they are a learner with a learning difficulty and/or disability. |
| Notional NVQ Level | The Notional NVQ Level indicates the level of a qualification on the NVQ scale or a notional level where an aim has not been assigned a level on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).<br><br>The values used in this classification are:<br><br>Level 1 and entry<br>Level 2<br>Level 3<br>Level 4, 5 and Higher Education (HE)<br>Level not specified |
| Participation | Learner was in learning at any point during the year<br><br>The column used are any of the following:<br>FES All Age,<br>FES_Total19P,<br>ET_19P,<br>CL Participation, CL Personal and Community Development Learning, CL_Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities,<br>CL_Family English, Maths and Language, CL_Wider Family Learning<br>Apprenticeships19P,<br>Apprenticeships Under 19 |
| Pass rate | Pass rates are based on the individual aims that were successfully completed in the relevant year (the Hybrid End Year). They are calculated as the number of learning aims achieved divided by the number successfully completed. |

| Provider, Provider Name | Name of the provider |
|---|---|
| Provider Type | Indicates the type of organisation |
|  |      General FE and Tertiary College |
|  |      Other Public Funded |
|  |      Private Sector Public Funded |
|  |      Schools |
|  |      Sixth Form College |
|  | Specialist College |
| Qualification Reference Number | Reference code for a learning aim which corresponds to the ILR |
| Qualification Title | Title of Qualification |
| Qualification Type | Type of Qualification (Occupational, Vocational or Other) |
| Retention rate | Retention rates are based on the individual aims that were successfully completed in the relevant year (the Hybrid End Year). They are calculated as the number of learning aims completed divided by the number of leavers. |
| Sex | Sex of the learner. |
| Short Course | Short courses are those labelled as 'Level three Free Courses short qualification' in the list of qualifications approved for funding |
| SSA Tier 1 | Sector subject area (tier 1) of the apprenticeship standard or framework or learning aim being studied. |
| SSA Tier 1 Code | Reference code assigned to a Sector subject area (tier 1) |
| SSA Tier 2 | The sector subject area (tier 2) of the apprenticeship standard or framework or learning aim being studied. |
| SSA Tier 2 Code | Reference code assigned to a Sector subject area (tier 2) |
| STEM | STEM includes those within the following sector subject tier 1 areas: Construction, Planning and the Built Environment, Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies, Information and Communication Technology, Science and Mathematics. |
| Snapshot | The Individualised Learner Record snapshot used to produce the data: SN04 covers Aug to Oct, as published in January SN06 covers Aug to Jan, as published in March SN10 covers Aug to Ap, as published in July SN14 covers the full finalised academic year, as published in November |
| UKPRN | The unique provider reference number as assigned when registered on UKRLP system. |
| Year | Academic year |

**Annex A – quick guide to using the underlying files on EES (EXPLORE EDUCATION STATISTICS)**

Navigate to the 'Explore data and files' section of this release to find several useful underlying and supporting files for the data on the publication.

The underlying data files and meta data information can be found under the 'All supporting files' sections. Once expanded you will see a list of all the files available for you to download and use.

Due to the size of some of these files follow these steps to download and access the data.

Click the data file link you wish to view; this will automatically start a download of the file through your internet browser. Once this step is complete, click the file, or open your downloads folder on your file explorer.
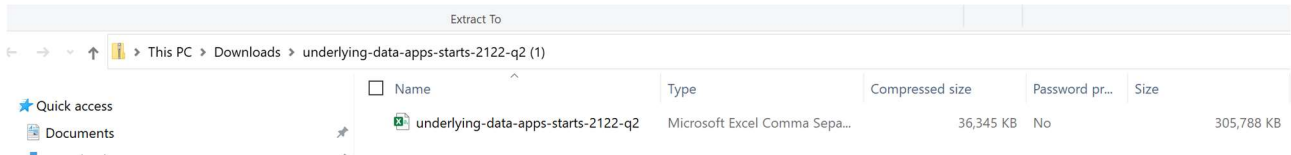


The data files will download as CSV files which you can create a connection to and build a pivot table for your analysis.

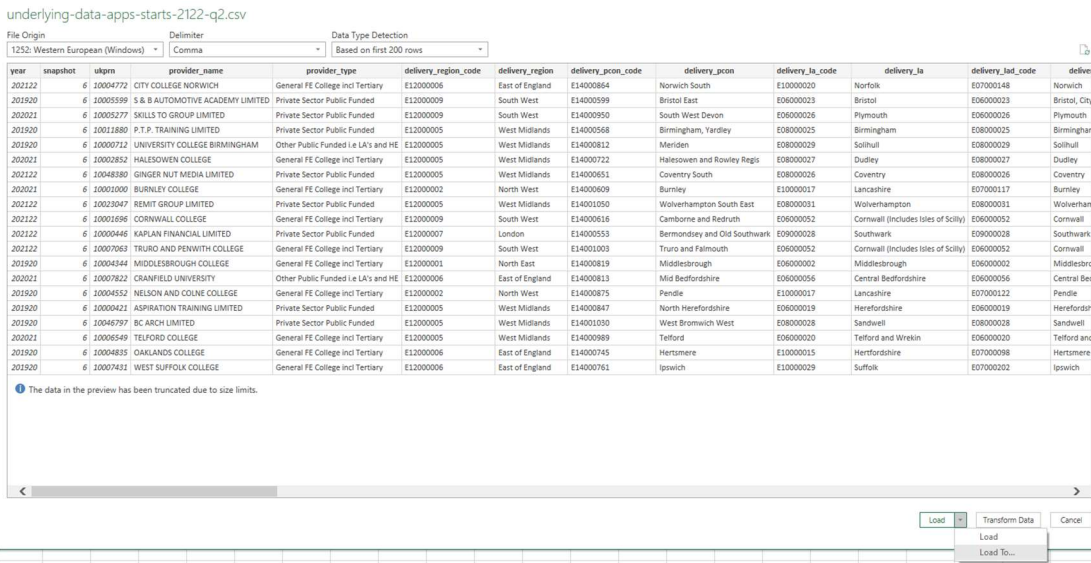Save the file from the downloads folder into a suitable location of your choice.

In excel on the 'Data' tab click the 'From Text/CSV' button in the top ribbon of excel.
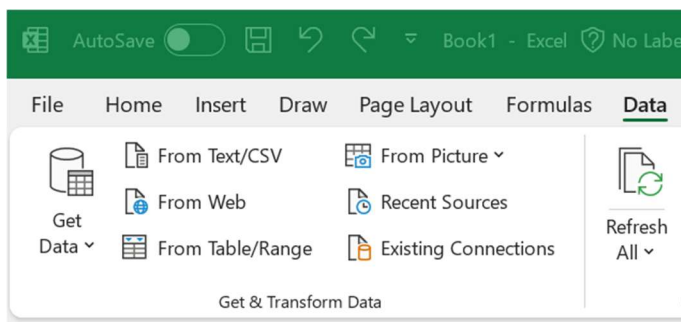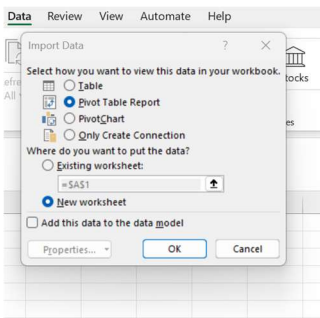


Navigate to the folder the underlying file is saved to and select the file to 'import'
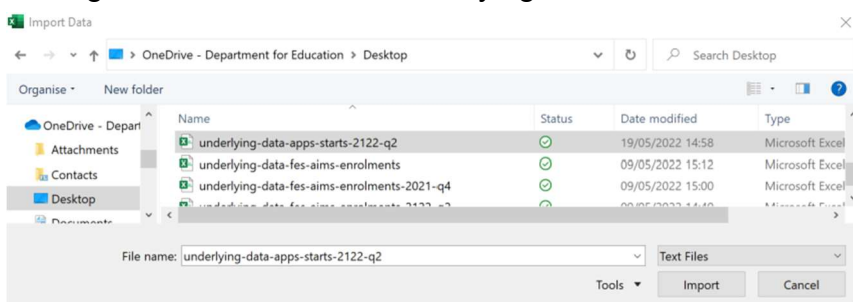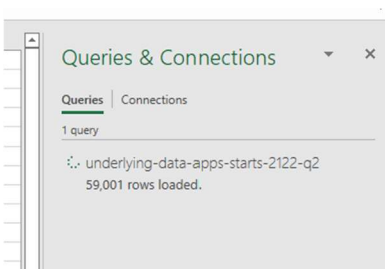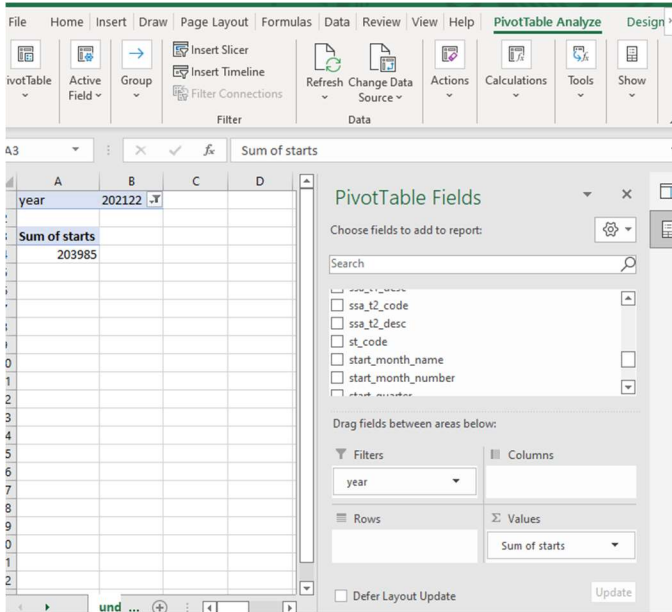
Select the option to 'Load to'



At the next stage it will open an 'import data' window.



Select 'PivotTable Report'. Whilst the data is loading you will see the queries and connections to the right side of the excel process the pivot table – bigger files can take a while.



Once this is complete the pivots tables will be ready for you to manipulate in whichever way is required.

**Top tip!** When creating a pivot table from a large dataset tick 'defer layout update' until you have finished building your pivot options.