Wales Adult Education Data: Further and Adult Community Education 2021

Section 1 - Introduction

The research used published data from Stats Wales available at the Website:

https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Education-and-Skills/Post-16-Education-and-Training/Further-Education-and-Work-Based-Learning/Learners/Local-Authority-Community-Learning

Data for local authority community learning exclude 'assisted' provision, which forms a significant part of provision in North Wales, as this is not on the Lifelong Learning Wales Record. Care should therefore be taken regarding figures for North Wales.
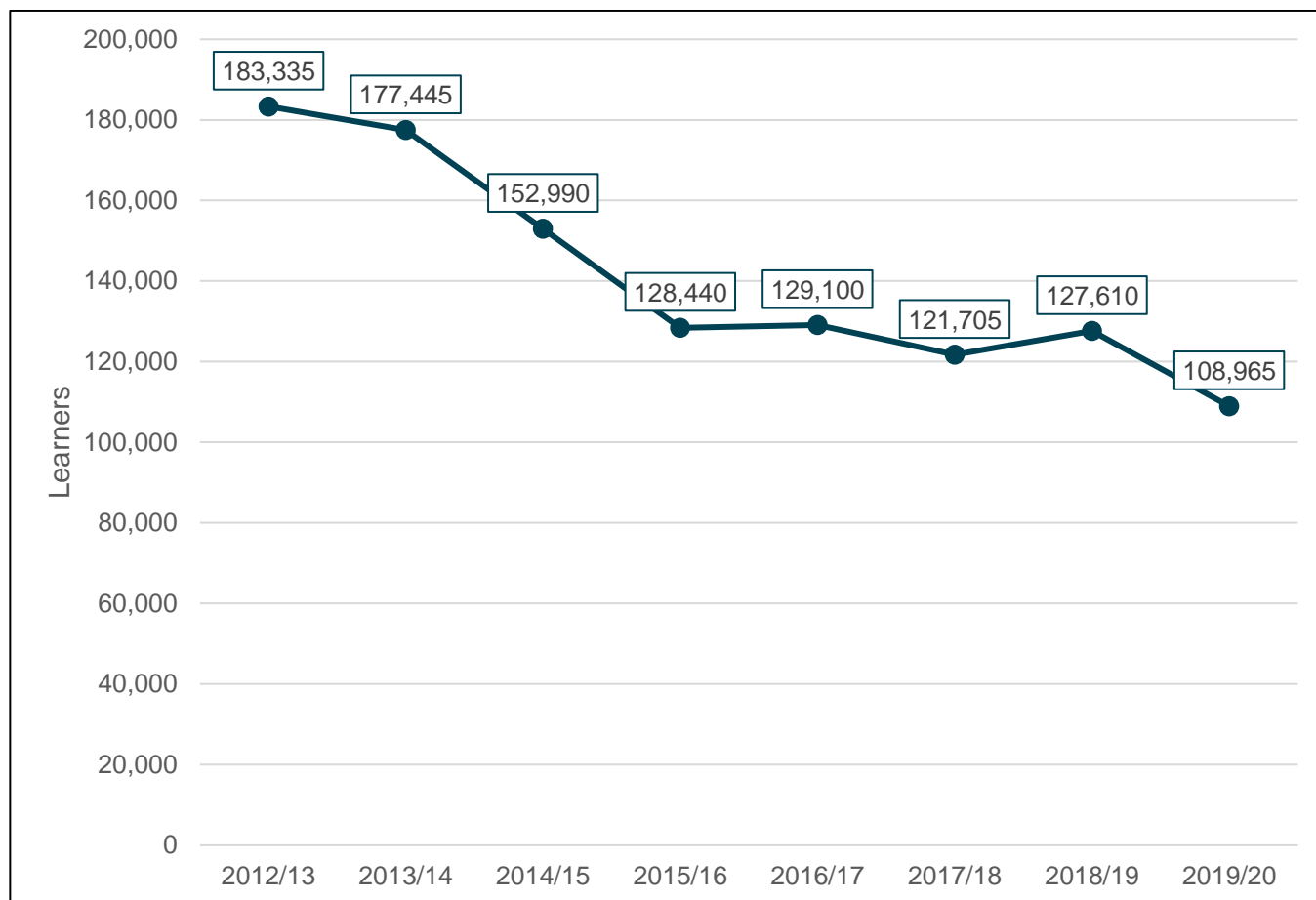
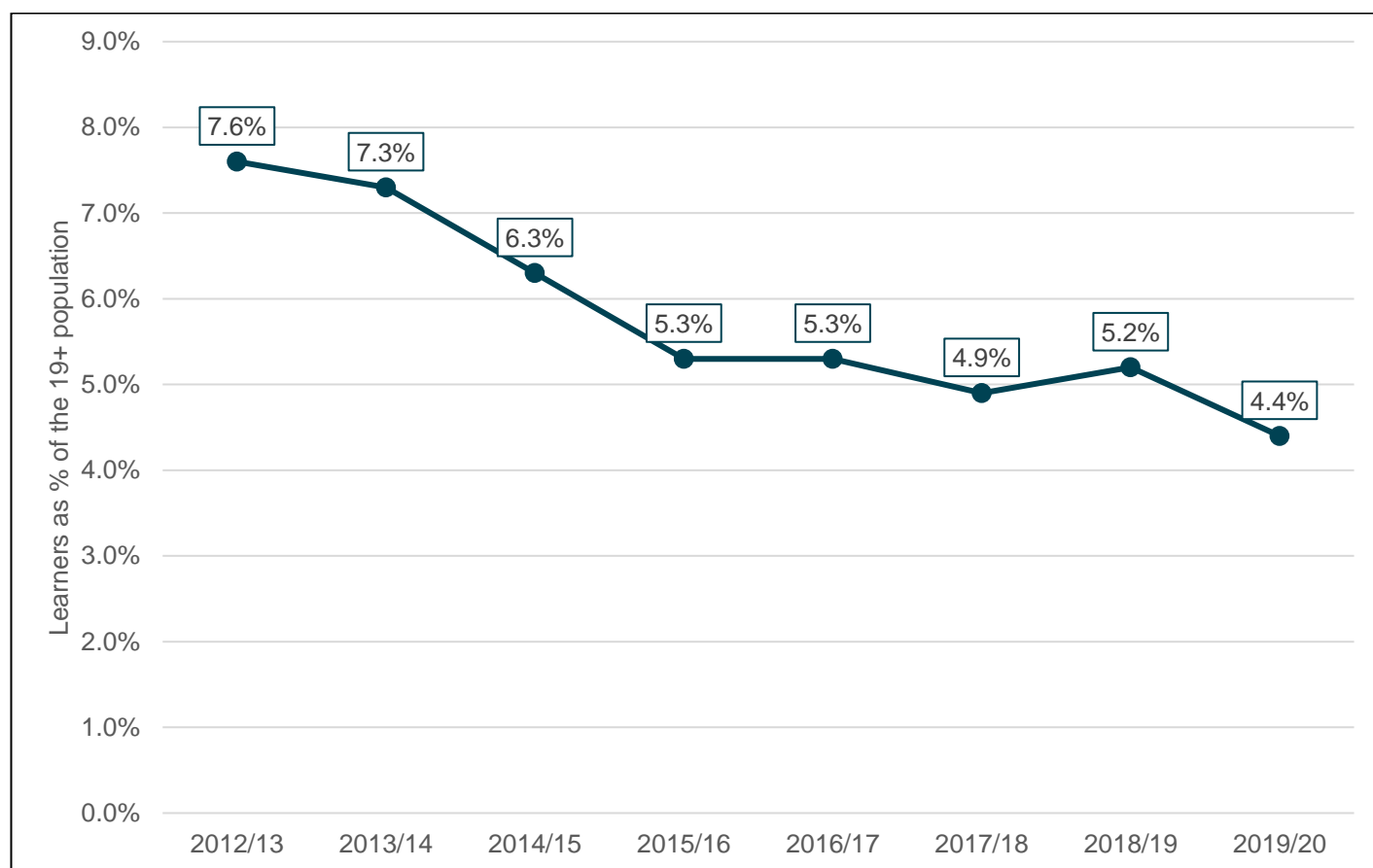# Section 2 – Adult Learners in Further Education

2.1 Overall

Section 3 shows the profile of adult (19+) learners in further education in Wales. The figures include community learning that has been contracted out to local authorities.

Total number of adult learners (19+) in further education by year

Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning

Participation in further education by year

Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning and ONS population estimates

2.2 Further Education Providers

The table below shows the number of adult learners (aged 19+) at further education providers in Wales from 2015/16 to 2019/20. The figures include community learning that has been contracted out to local authorities.

Totals are rounded in multiples of 5.

Total number of adult learners (19+) in further education providers by year

Further education institution	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
All further education institutions	**89,085**	**88,860**	**77,215**	**83,820**	**73,415**
Bridgend College	3,265	4,065	4,530	4,820	3,745
Cardiff and Vale College	6,075	7,030	6,560	8,185	8,915
Coleg Cambria	11,455	14,555	10,490	11,375	9,660
Coleg Ceredigion	410	450	0	0	0
Coleg Gwent	10,195	10,255	5,245	5,325	5,545
Coleg Sir Gar	3,025	3,120	4,540	5,375	4,660
Coleg Y Cymoedd	4,910	5,445	5,345	5,800	5,795
Gower College Swansea	7,225	6,355	7,220	7,685	6,815
Grwp Llandrillo Menai	14,115	13,290	11,075	11,550	9,460
Merthyr Tydfil College	990	775	855	715	605
Pembrokeshire College	4,020	2,985	2,950	3,300	2,960
St David's Catholic Sixth Form College	20	30	20	20	10
Adult Learning Wales	16,690	14,155	12,340	12,045	8,875
Grwp NPTC	6,695	6,325	6,035	7,625	6,355
Other training providers	29,245	29,805	35,145	33,860	30,020
Local education authority community learning providers	10,110	10,435	9,340	9,940	5,530

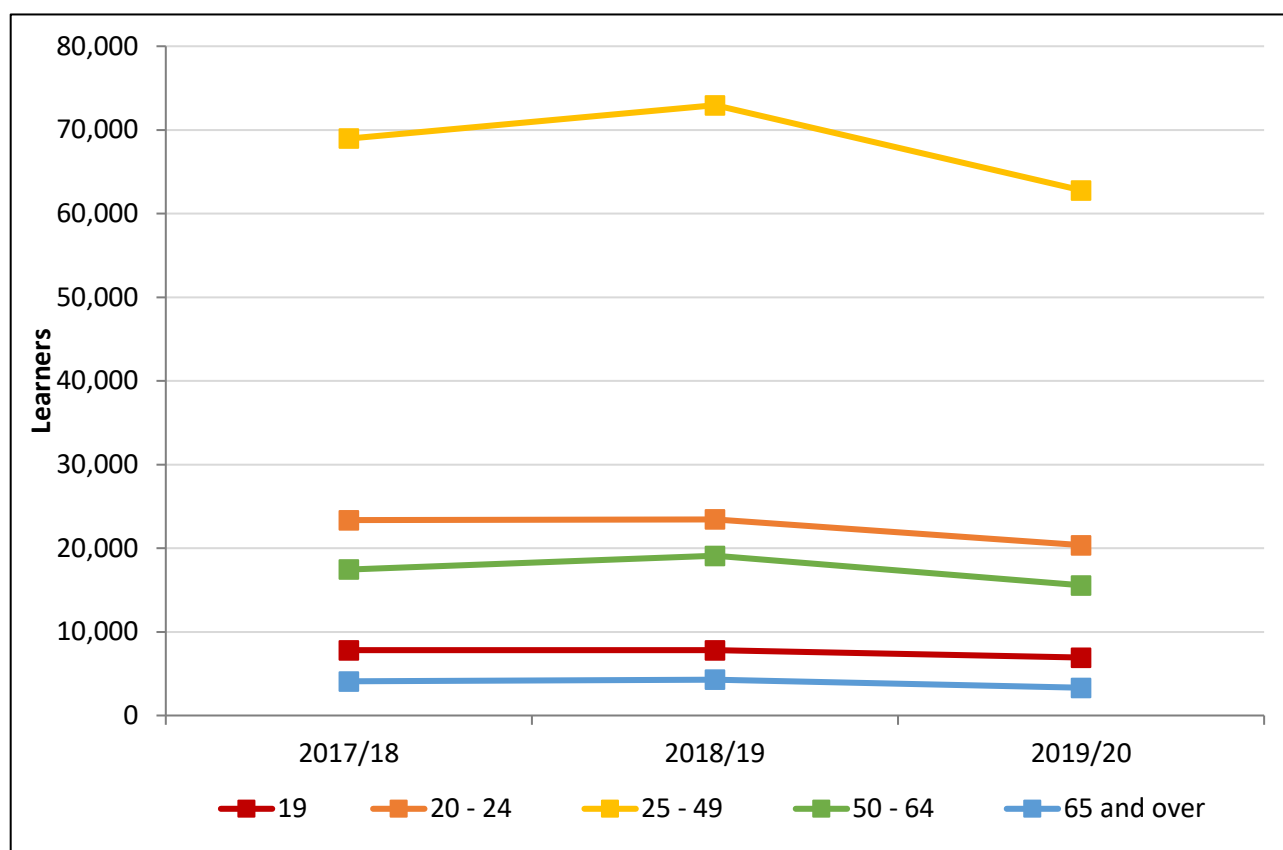Source: StatsWales – Further education and work-based learning

2.3 Age Band

Total number of adult learners in further education by age band (2019/20)

Learners

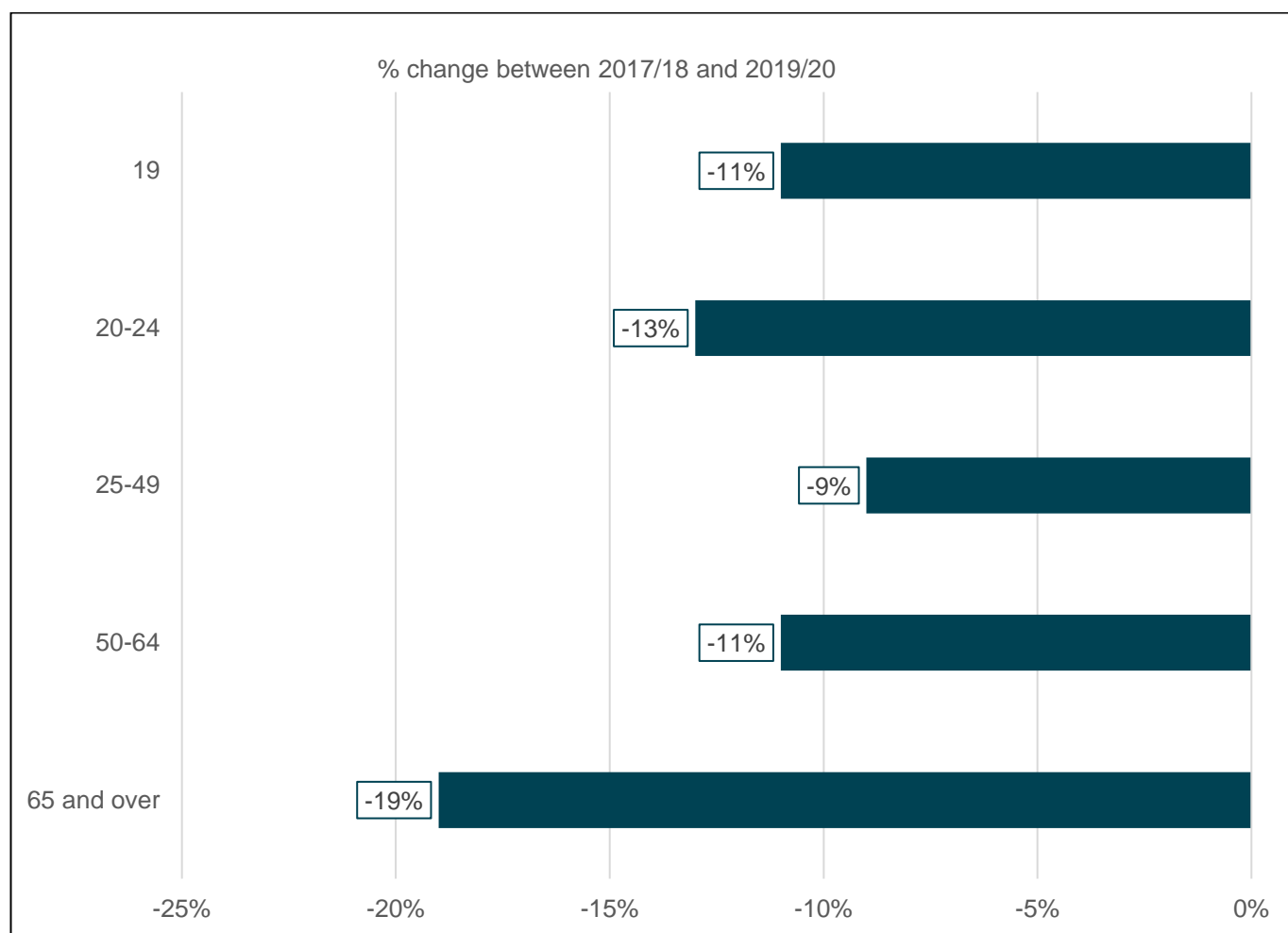| Age Band	Learners
19	6,930
20-24	20,365
25-49	62,785
50-64	15,570
65 and over	3,315
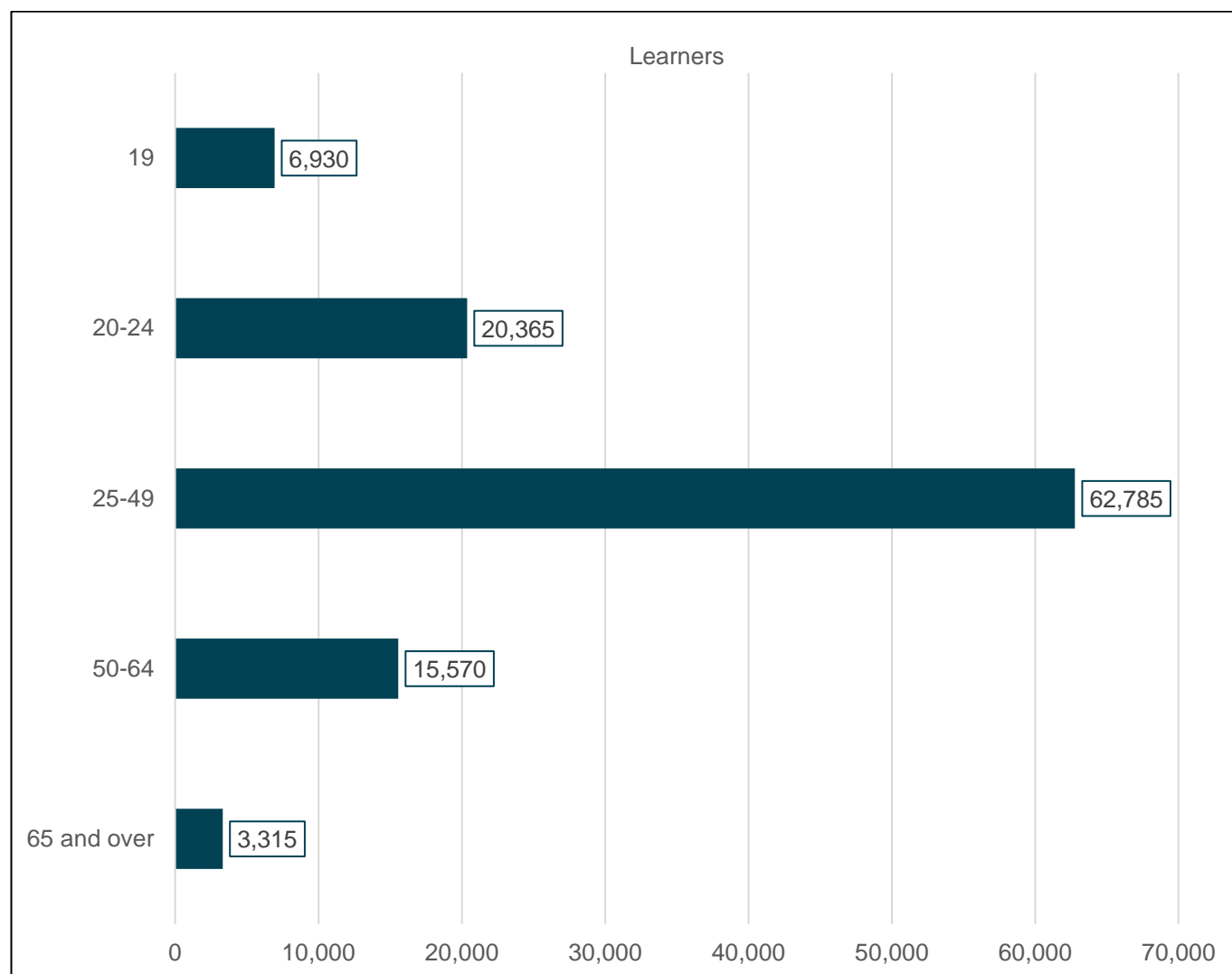
Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning

Trend in adult learners (19+) in further education by age band (2017/18 – 2019/20)
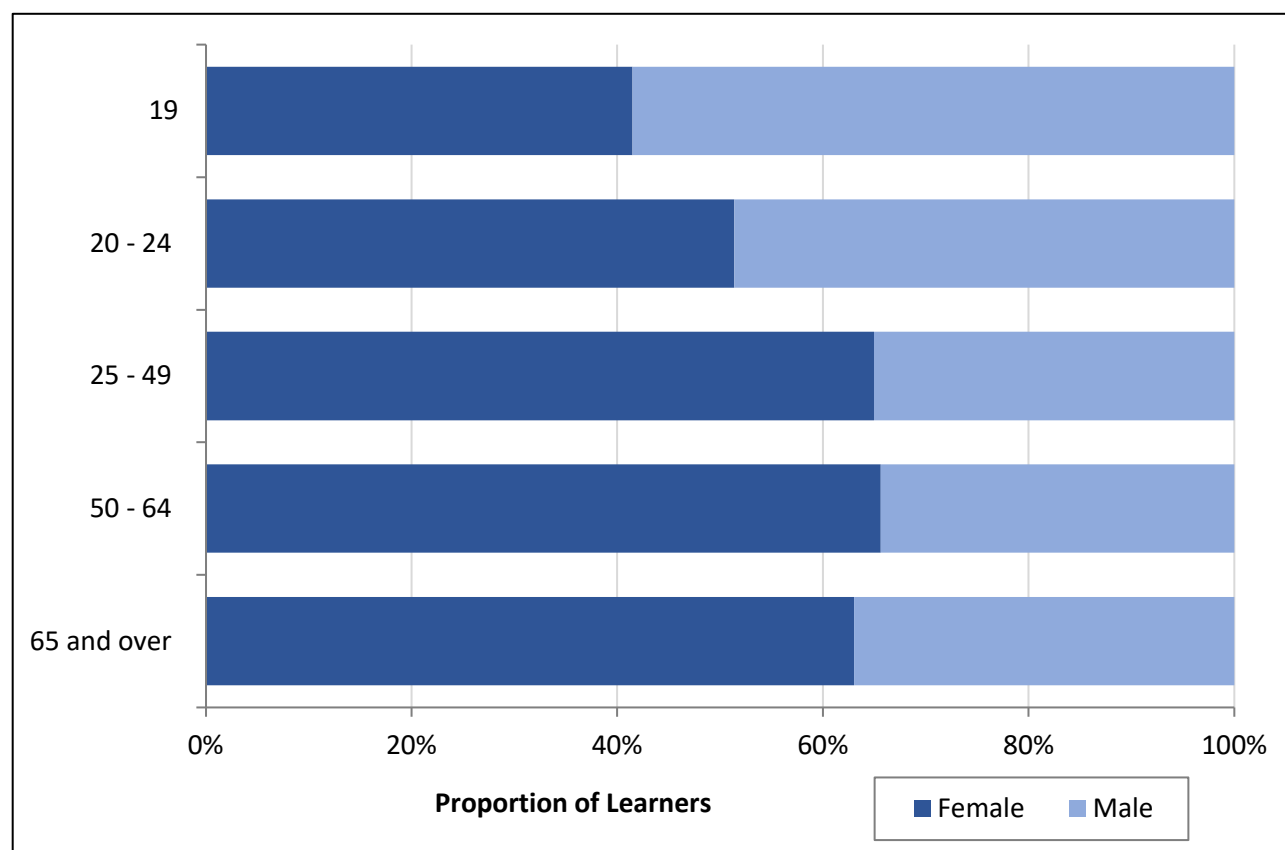

Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning

Percentage change of adults (19+) in further education between 2017/18 & 2019/20 by age band

Source: StatsWales – Further education and work-based learning
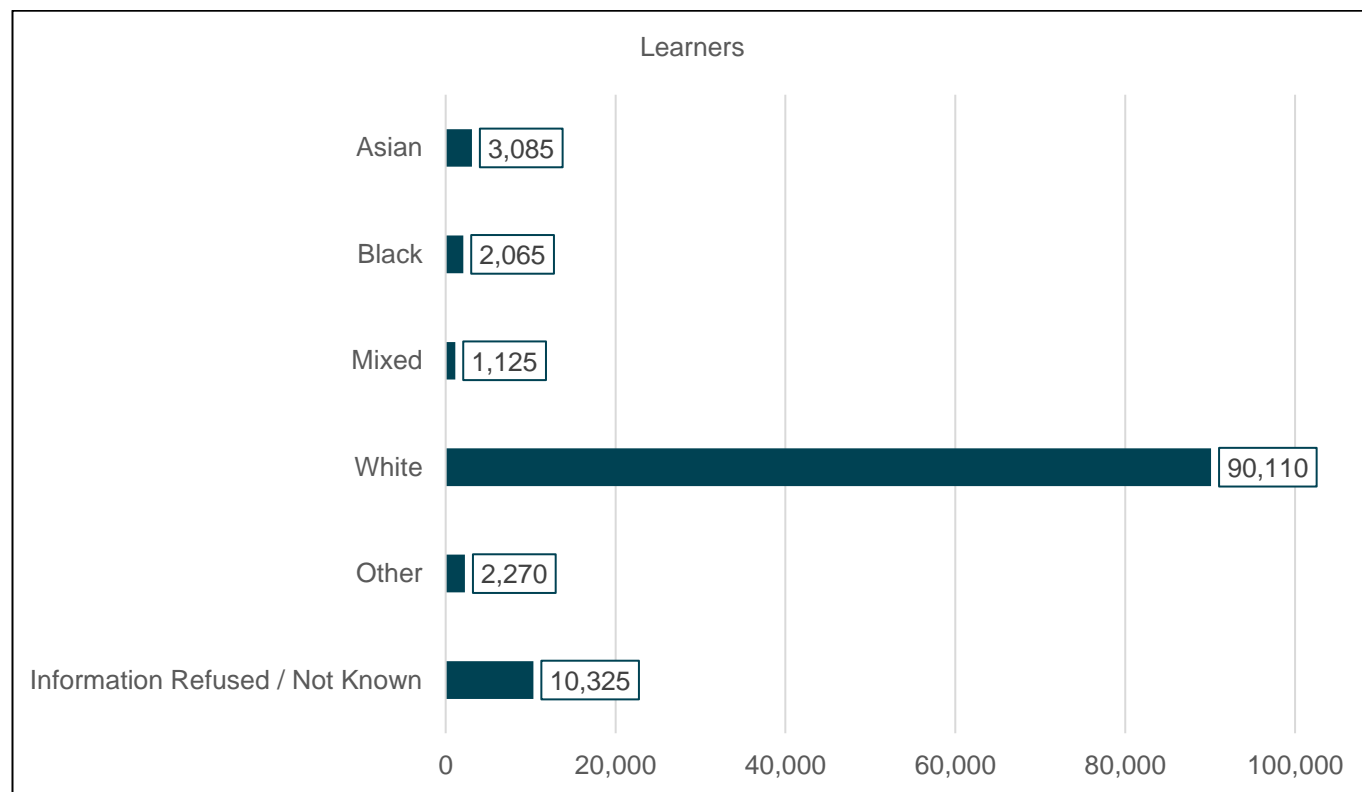
Percentage of adult learners (19+) in further education by age band and sex (2019/20)

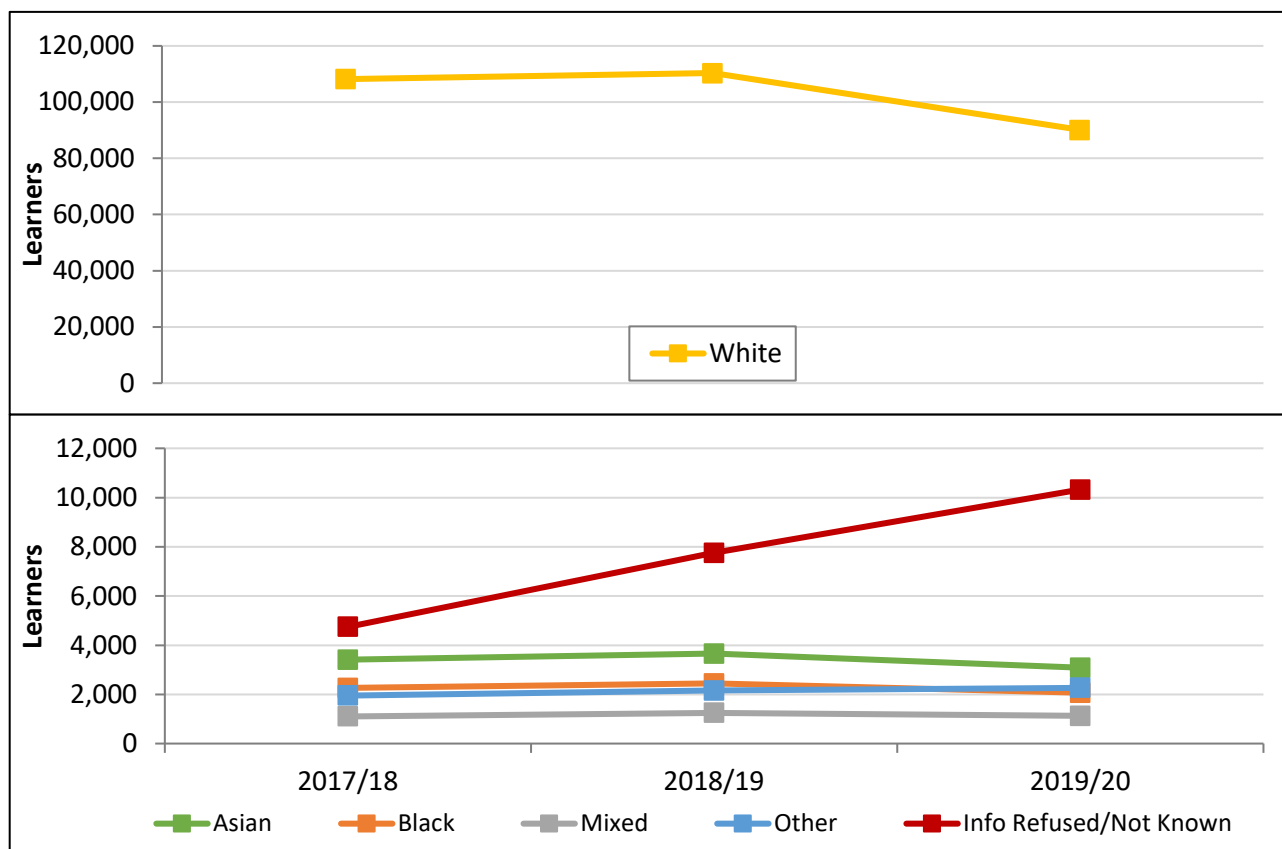Source: StatsWales – Further education and work-based learning

2.4 Ethnicity

Total number of adult learners (19+) in further education by ethnicity (2019/20)

Learners

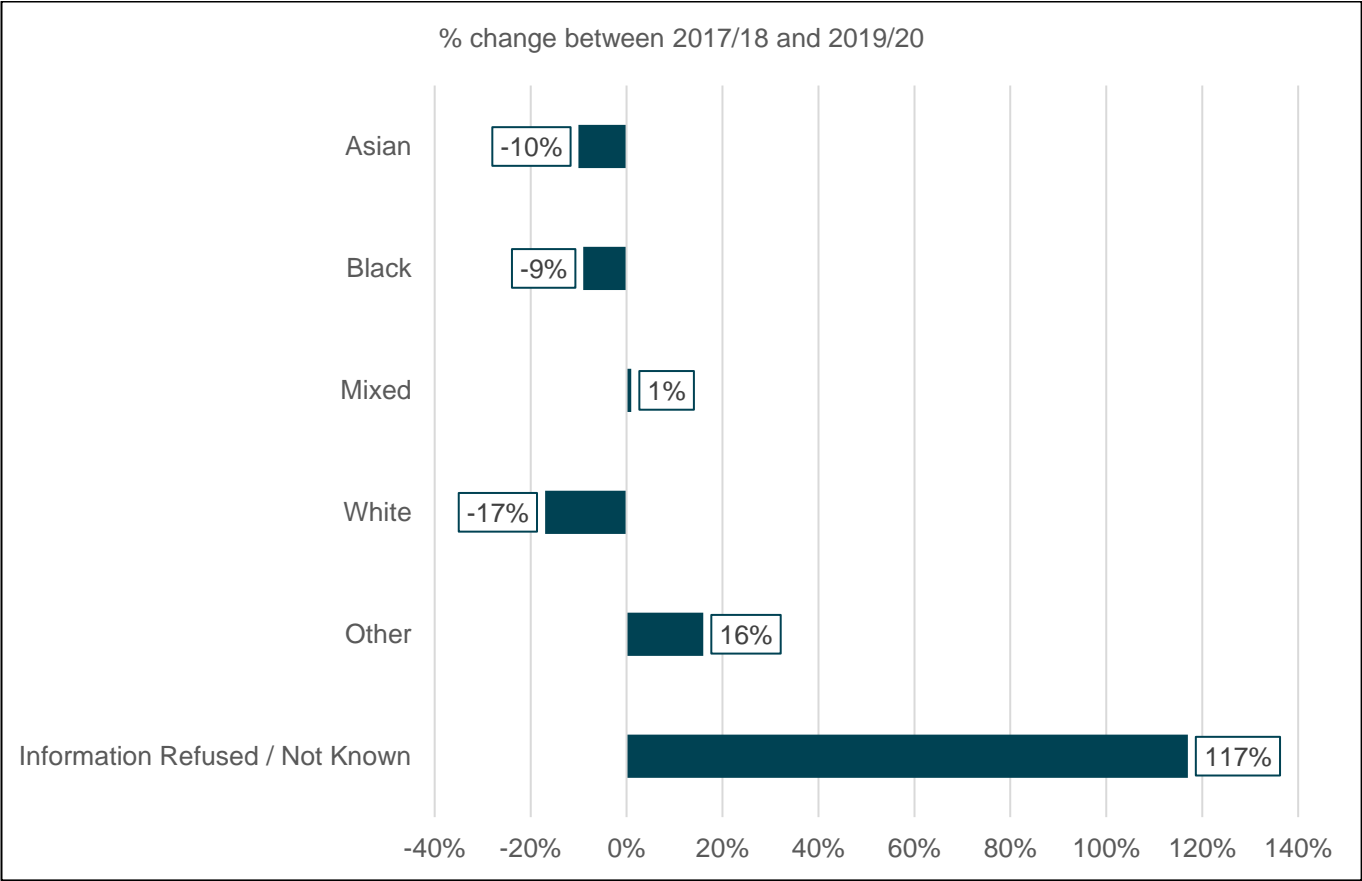| Ethnicity	Learners
Asian	3,085
Black	2,065
Mixed	1,125
White	90,110
Other	2,270
Information Refused / Not Known	10,325

Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning

Trends in adult learners (19+) in further education by ethnicity

Source: StatsWales – Further education and work-based learning

Percentage change of adults (19+) in further education between 2017/18 & 2019/20 by ethnicity

% change between 2017/18 and 2019/20

Ethnicity	% change
Asian	-10%
Black	-9%
Mixed	1%
White	-17%
Other	16%
Information Refused / Not Known	117%

Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning

2.5 Sex

Total number of adult learners (19+) in further education by sex (2019/20)

Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning

Trend in learners in further education by sex

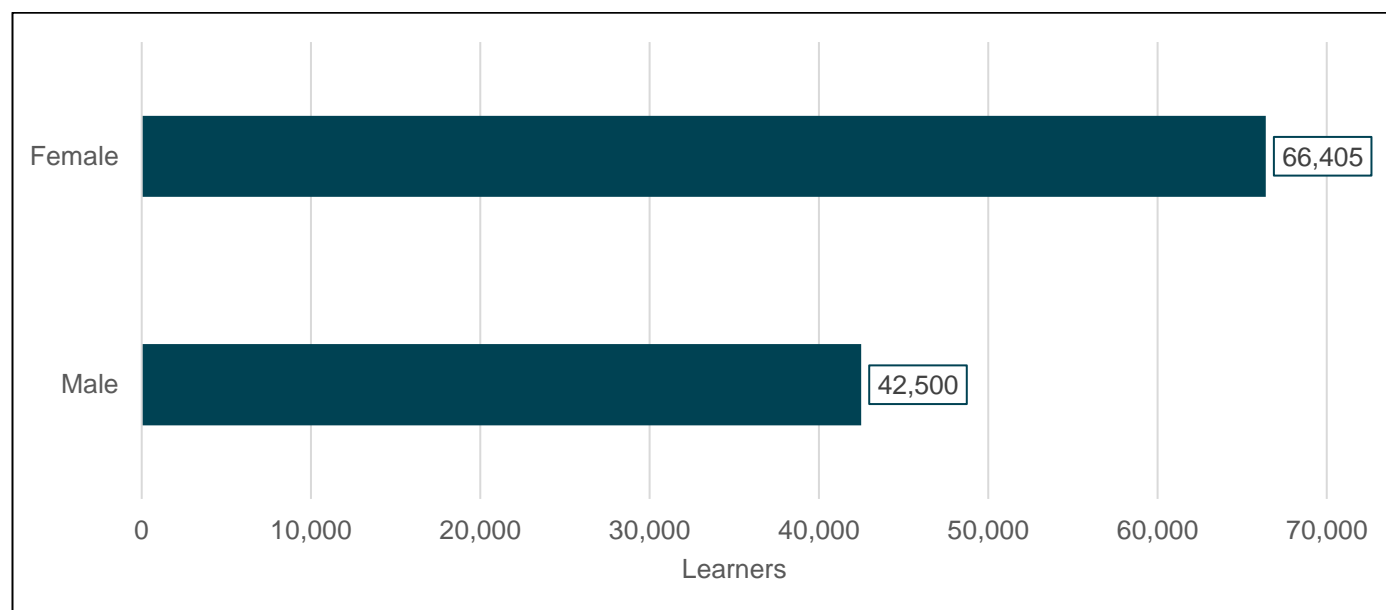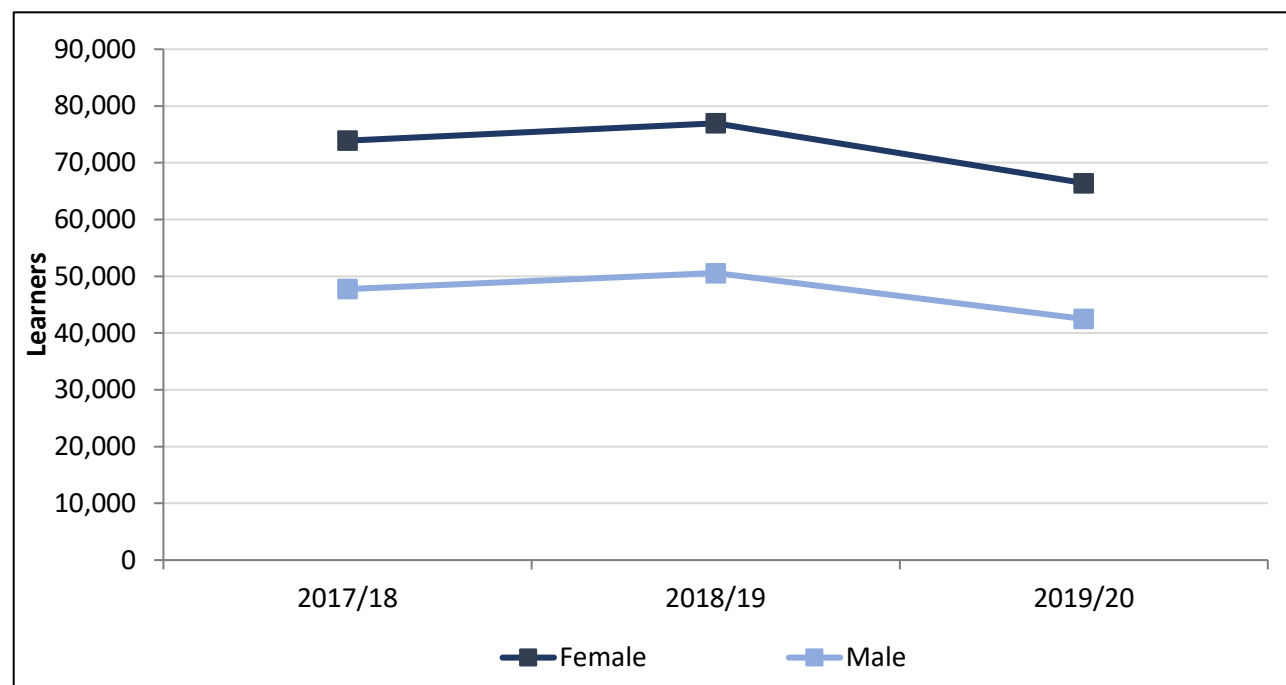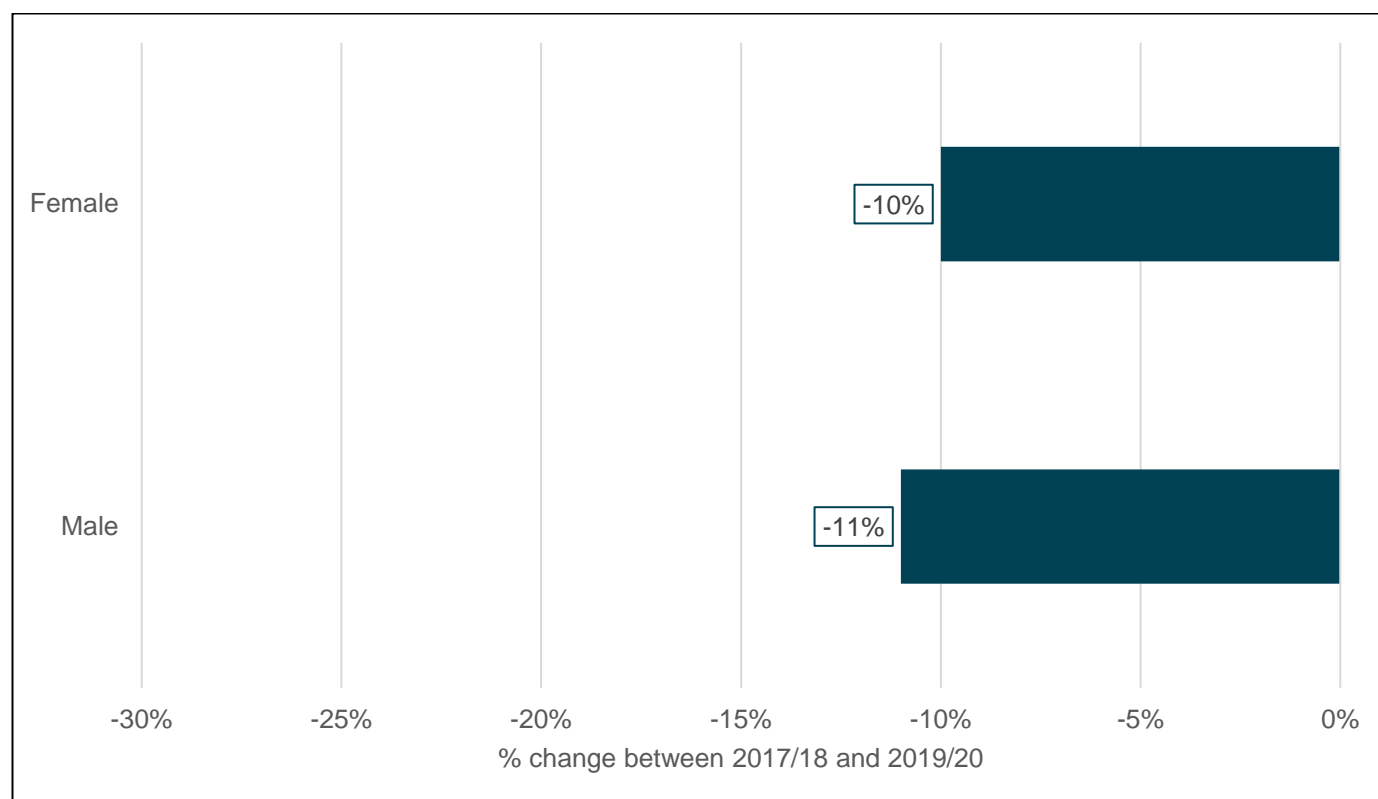Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning

Percentage change of adults (19+) in further education between 2017/18 and 2019/20 by sex

Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning

2.6   Disability

Total number of adult learners (19+) in further education by disability (2019/20)
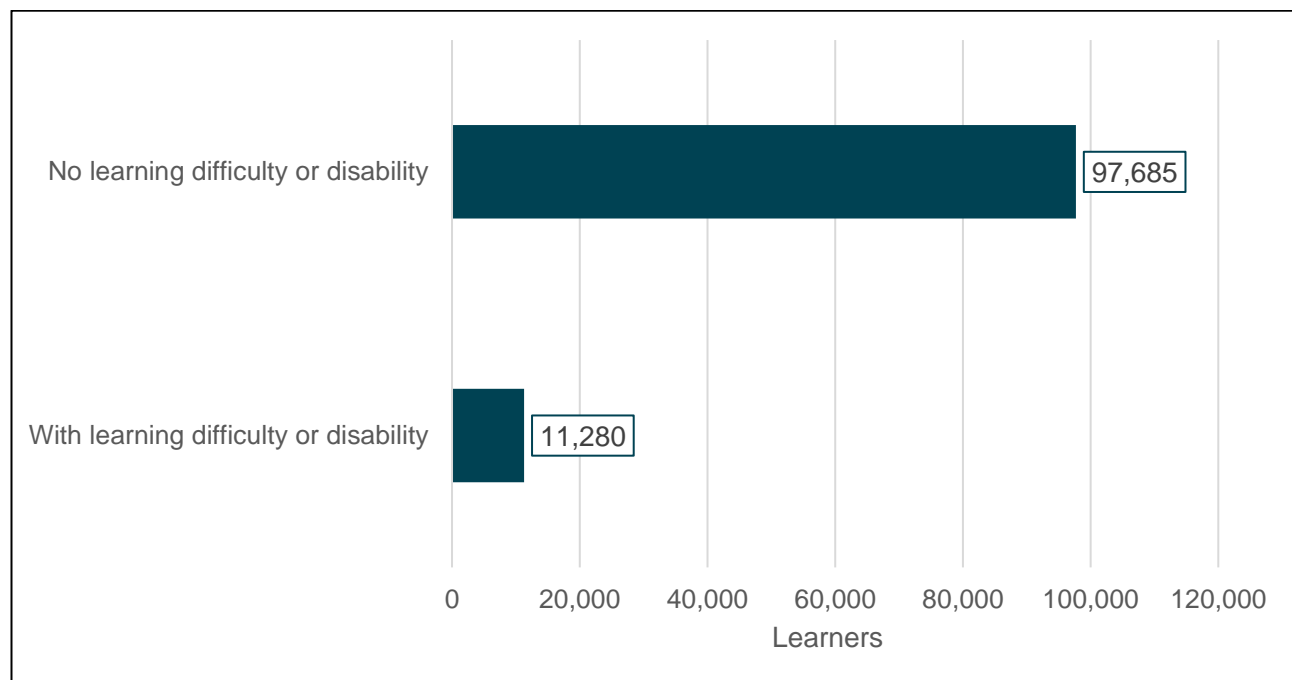
Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning

Trend in adults (19+) in further education by disability
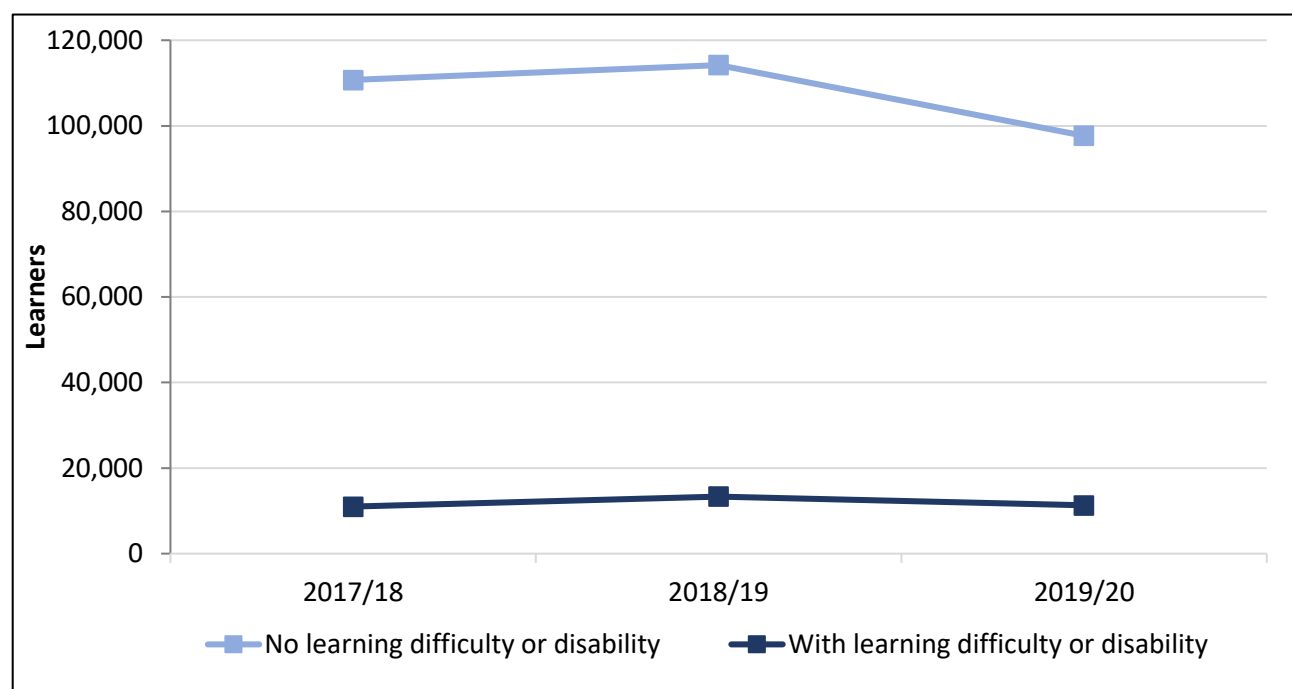
Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning

Percentage change of adults (19+) in further education between 2017/18 and 2019/20 by disability

No learning difficulty or disability | -12%

With learning difficulty or disability | 3%

-15%   -10%   -5%   0%   5%

% change between 2017/18 and 2019/20

Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning

2.7 Local Authority

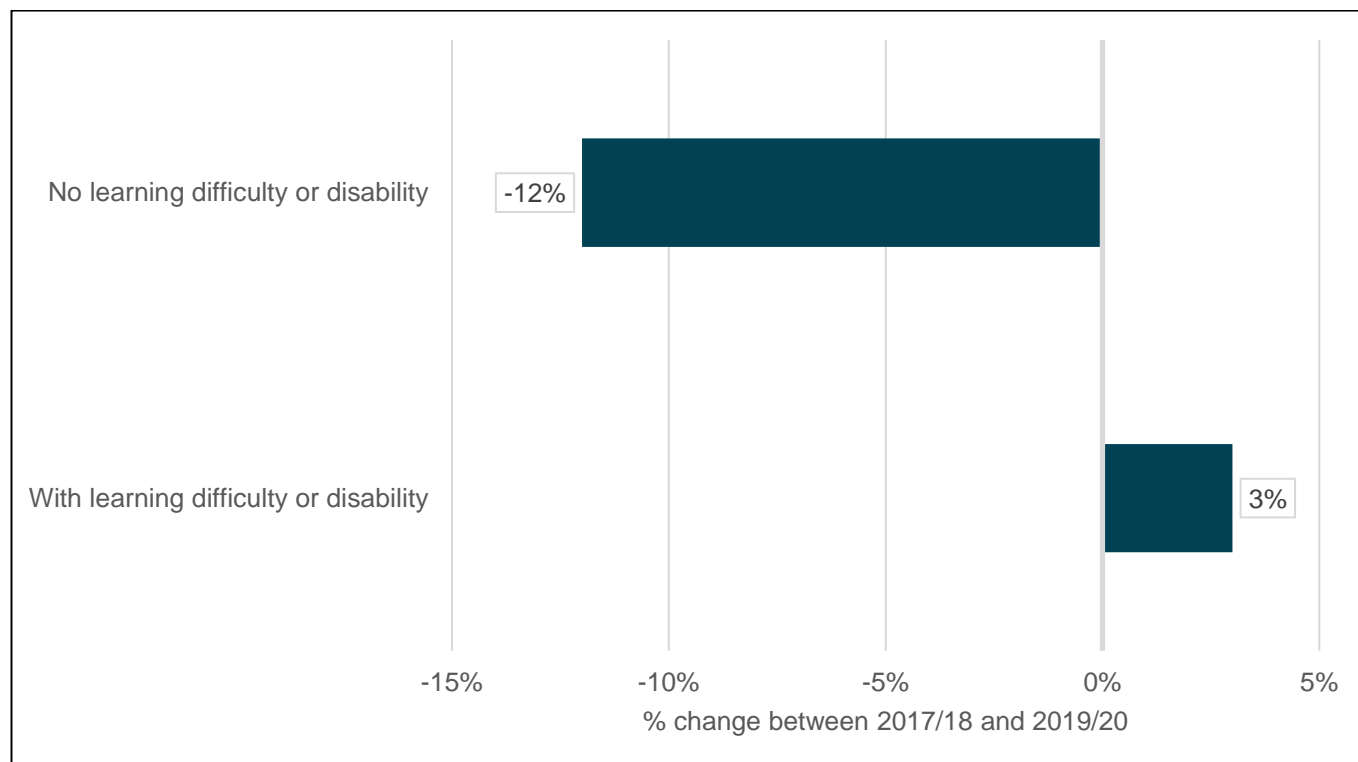**Total number of adult learners (19+) in further education by local authority & region**

| Geography	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
All areas	128,440	129,100	121,705	127,610	108,965
Wales	125,900	126,265	119,165	124,620	105,985
North Wales Region	30,475	32,090	26,880	27,070	23,220
Isle of Anglesey	3,290	3,090	2,815	2,590	2,300
Gwynedd	5,085	4,960	4,205	4,255	3,675
Conwy	6,540	5,965	5,015	4,745	4,010
Denbighshire	4,645	5,070	4,080	4,095	3,320
Flintshire	5,715	6,730	5,360	5,715	4,940
Wrexham	5,210	6,275	5,410	5,675	4,995
Mid Wales Region	5,880	5,620	5,740	5,700	4,850
Powys	3,575	3,735	3,785	3,700	3,410
Ceredigion	2,305	1,885	1,960	1,995	1,435
South West Wales Region	30,470	29,040	30,050	32,200	26,395
Pembrokeshire	6,515	5,790	5,910	6,535	4,935
Carmarthenshire	6,465	6,375	6,665	7,040	6,110
Swansea	10,925	10,750	11,160	11,785	9,675
Neath Port Talbot	6,575	6,135	6,310	6,835	5,685
South East Wales Region	59,070	59,505	56,505	59,645	51,525
Bridgend	5,220	5,985	6,580	6,830	5,705
The Vale of Glamorgan	4,265	4,270	4,340	4,570	3,660
Rhondda Cynon Taf	9,310	9,580	9,515	10,165	8,695
Merthyr Tydfil	2,935	2,480	2,610	2,525	2,185
Caerphilly	7,695	7,720	6,660	6,785	6,185
Blaenau Gwent	3,235	3,285	2,950	3,195	2,885
Torfaen	4,270	4,260	3,320	3,480	3,235
Monmouthshire	2,600	2,720	2,085	2,065	1,900
Newport	6,190	6,100	5,300	5,900	5,280
Cardiff	13,355	13,095	13,135	14,125	11,800
Outside Wales or not known	2,545	2,830	2,540	2,985	2,970

Source: StatsWales - Further education and work-based learning

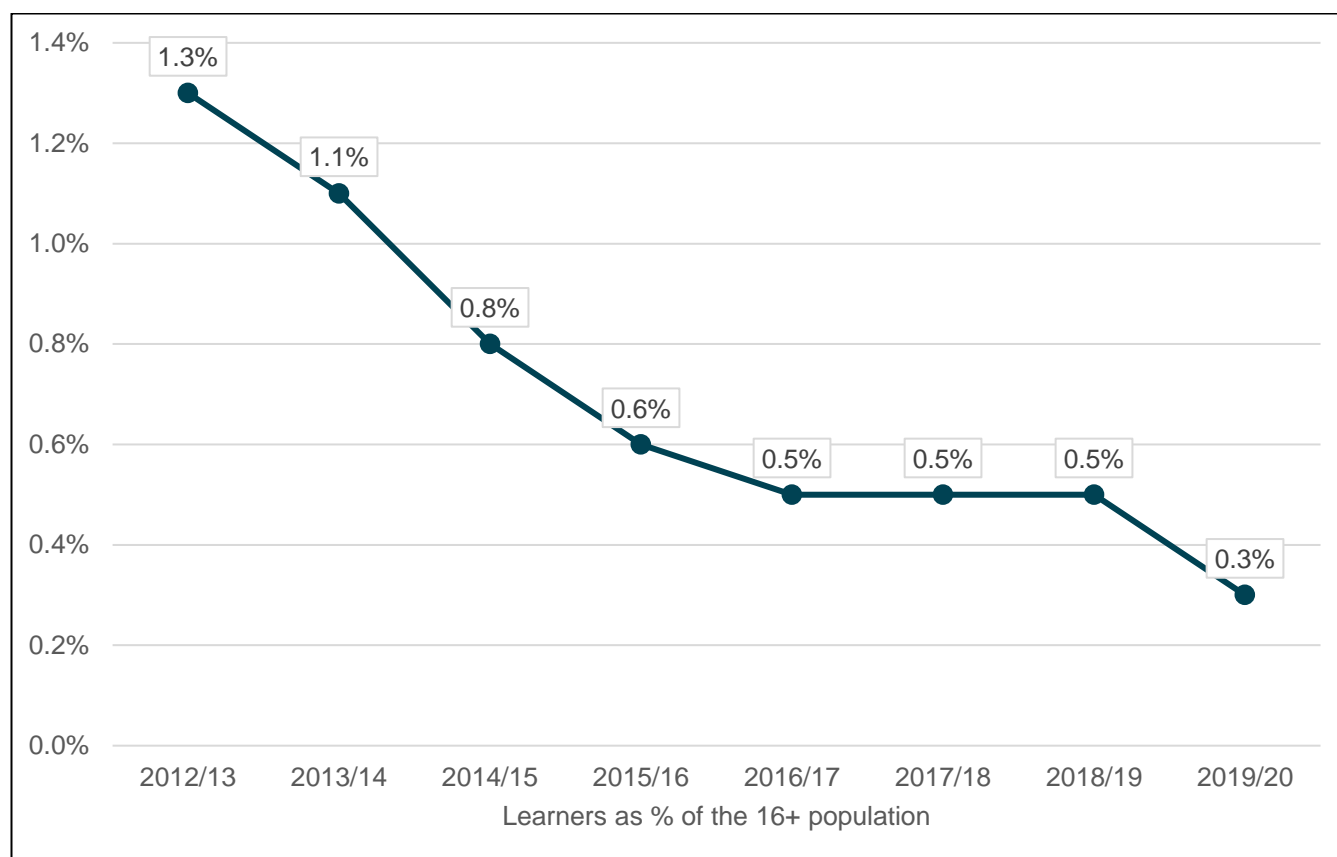# Section 3 – Local Authority Community Learning Profile

3.1   Overall

Section 2 shows the profile of learners taking local authority community learning in Wales. Unless stated, figures shown in this section include learners that are contracted-in from further education institutions.

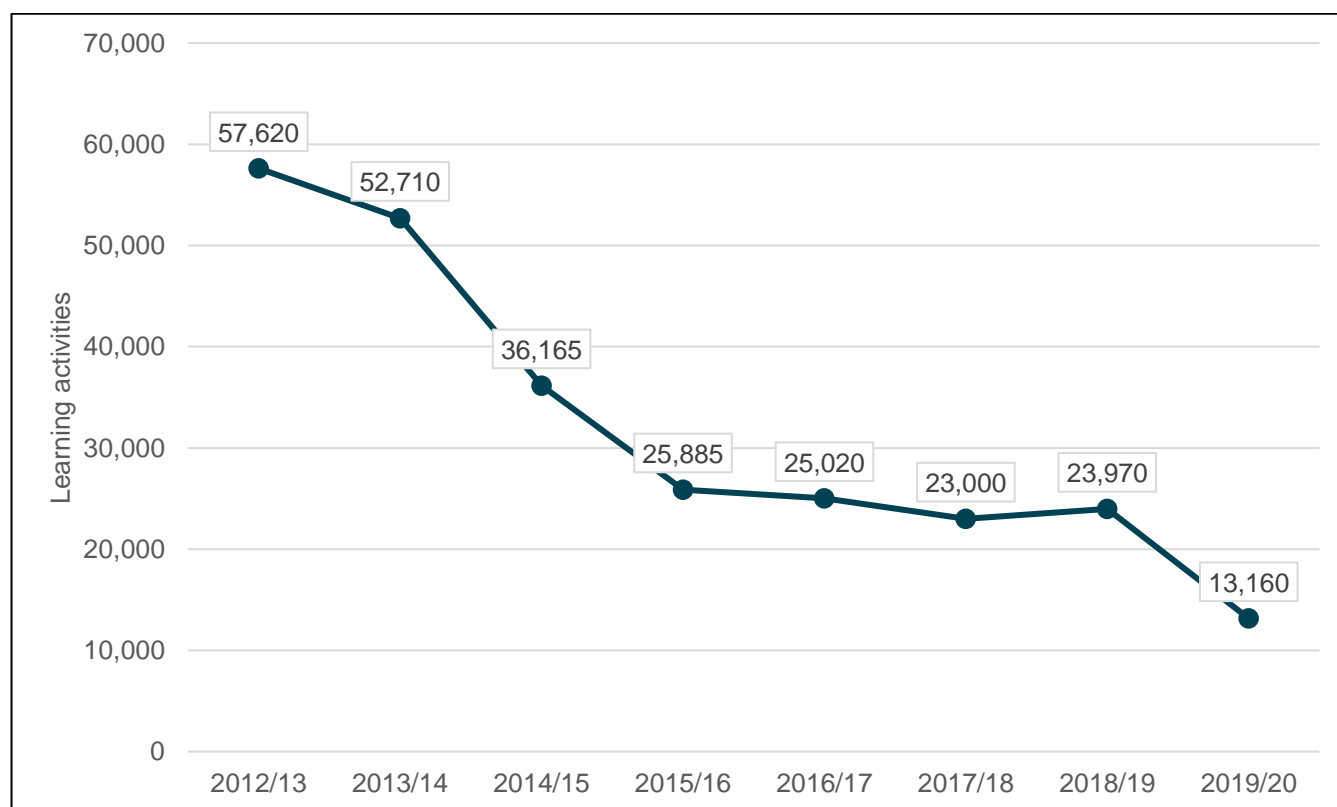**Total number of learners in local authority community learning by year**
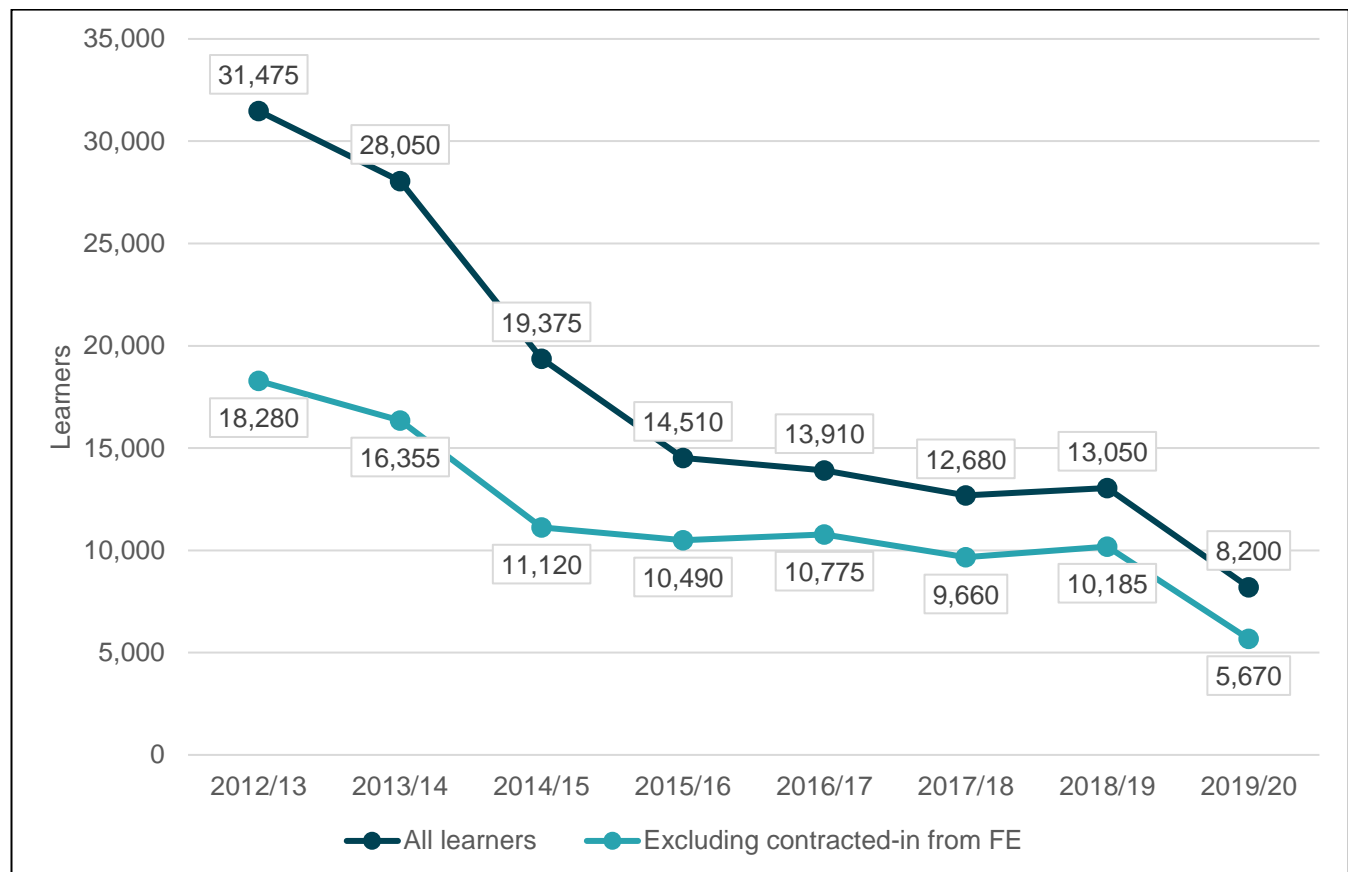
Source: StatsWales - Local authority community learning

Participation in local authority community learning by year

Source: StatsWales - Local authority community learning and ONS population estimates

Total number of learning activities in local authority community learning by year

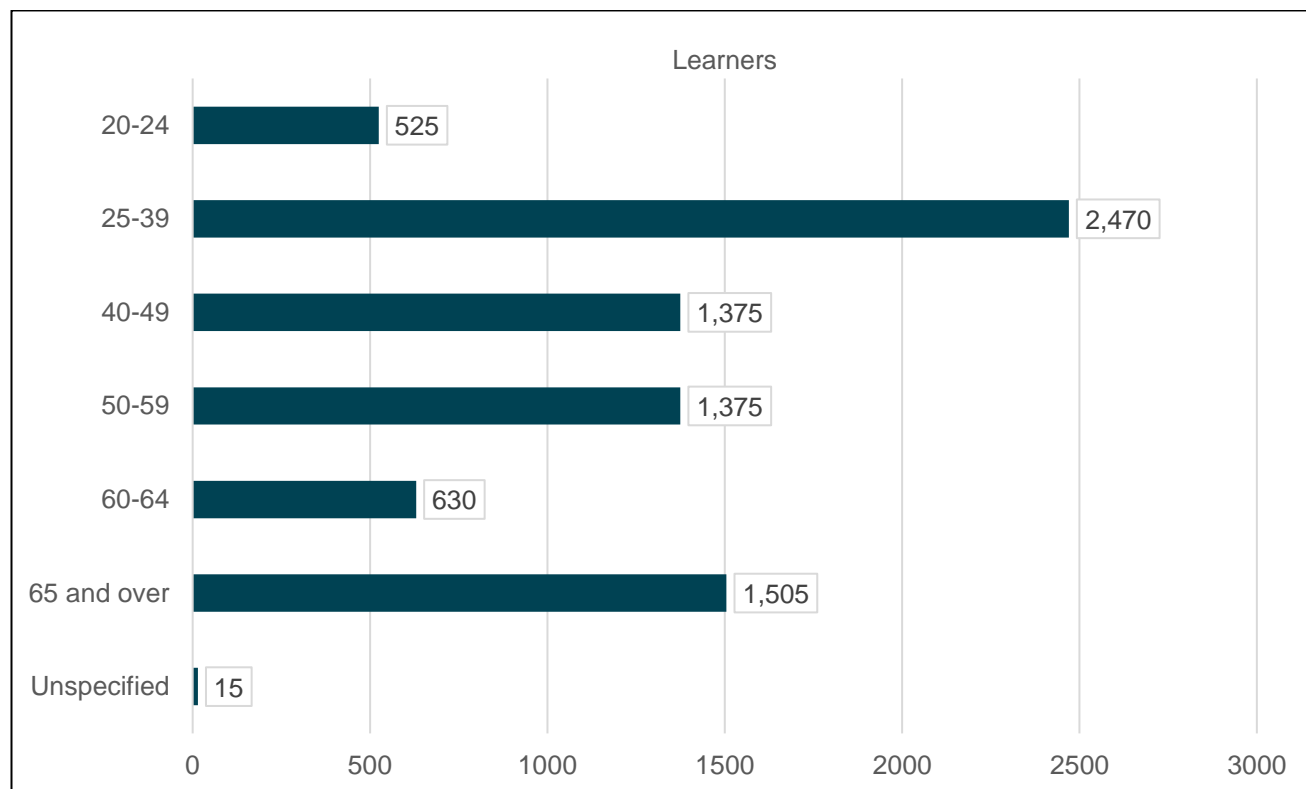Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

3.2 Age Band

The table below shows the number of learners in Local Authority Community Learning between 2017/18 and 2019/20. As the numbers in the Under 16, 16, 17, 18, 19 and Unspecified categories are relatively small, they have not been included in the subsequent charts.

Total Number of learners in local authority community learning by age

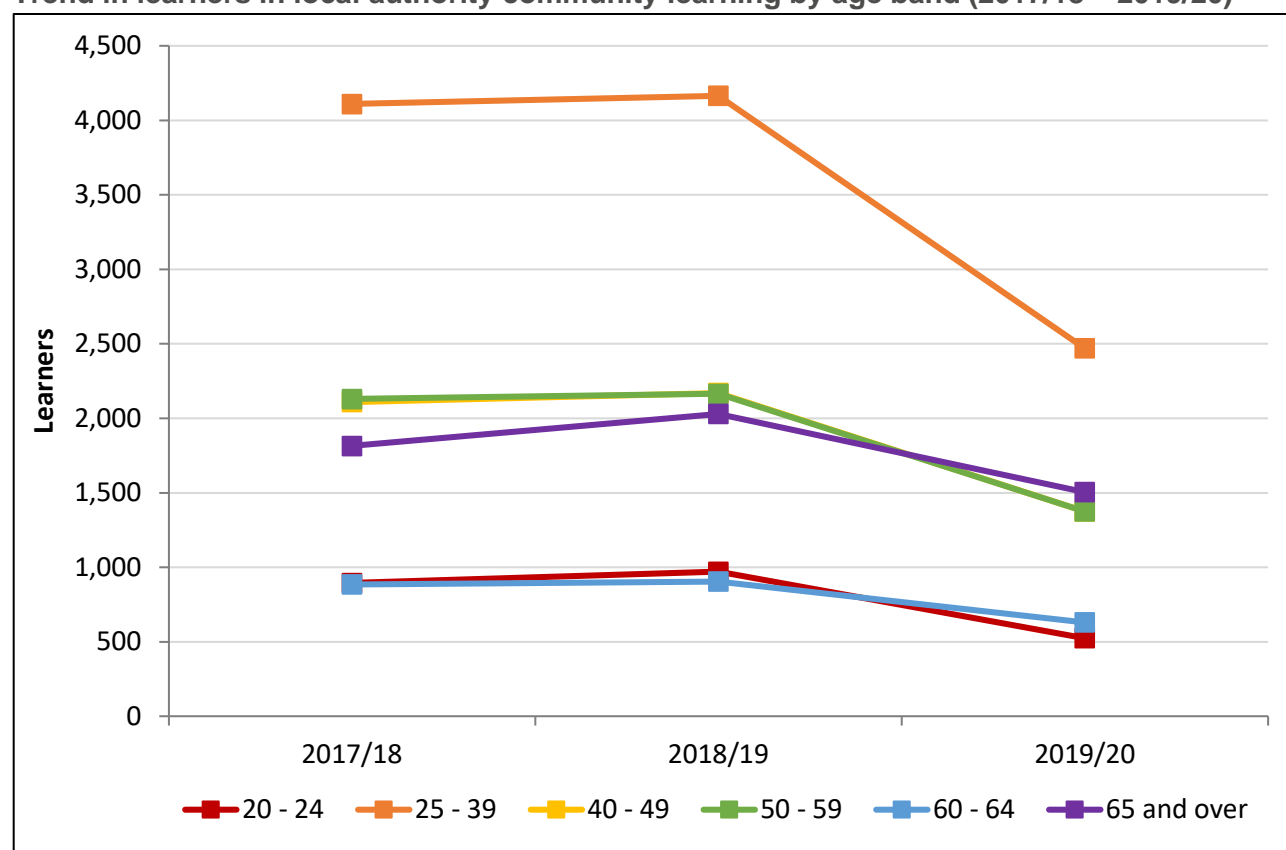| Age Band	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	% Change
Under 16	25	40	10	-60%
16	280	185	50	-82%
17	115	140	60	-48%
18	150	125	100	-33%
19	145	135	80	-45%
20-24	895	970	525	-41%
25-39	4,110	4,165	2,470	-40%
40-49	2,110	2,170	1,375	-35%
50-59	2,130	2,165	1,375	-35%
60-64	885	905	630	-29%
65 and over	1,815	2,030	1,505	-17%
Unspecified	15	20	15	0%

Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

Total number of learners in local authority community learning by age band (2019/20)

Source: StatsWales - Local authority community learning

Trend in learners in local authority community learning by age band (2017/18 – 2019/20)

Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

Percentage change of local authority community learning between 2017/18 & 2019/20 by age band

% change between 2017/18 and 2019/20

Age band	% change
20-24	-41%
25-39	-40%
40-49	-35%
50-59	-35%
60-64	-29%
65 and over	-17%
Unspecified	0%
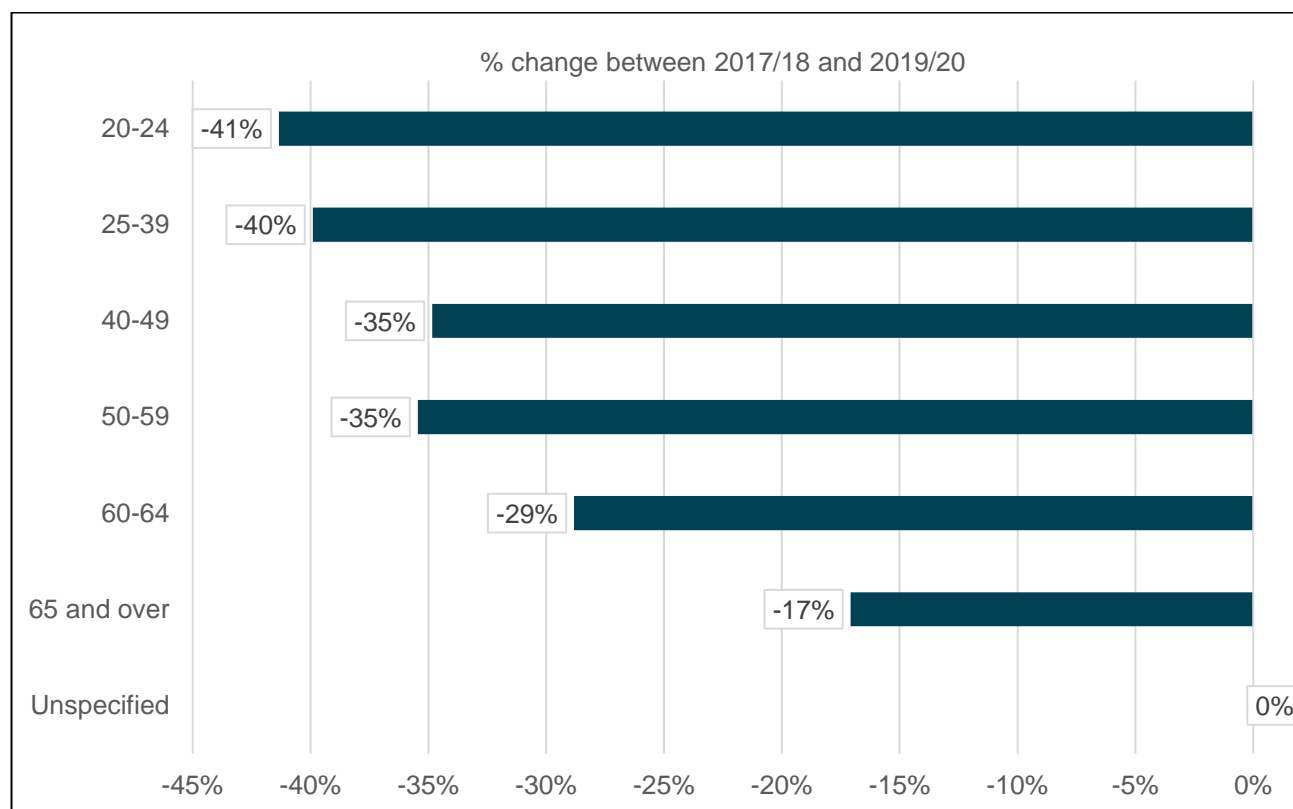
Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

Percentage of local authority community learners by age band and sex (2019/20)

Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

3.3   Ethnicity

Total number of learners in local authority community learning by ethnicity (2019/20)

Learners

Ethnicity	Learners
Asian	340
Black	170
Mixed	95
White	6,915
Other	295
Information Refused / Not Known	385

Source: StatsWales - Local authority community learning

Trends in learners in local authority community learning by ethnicity
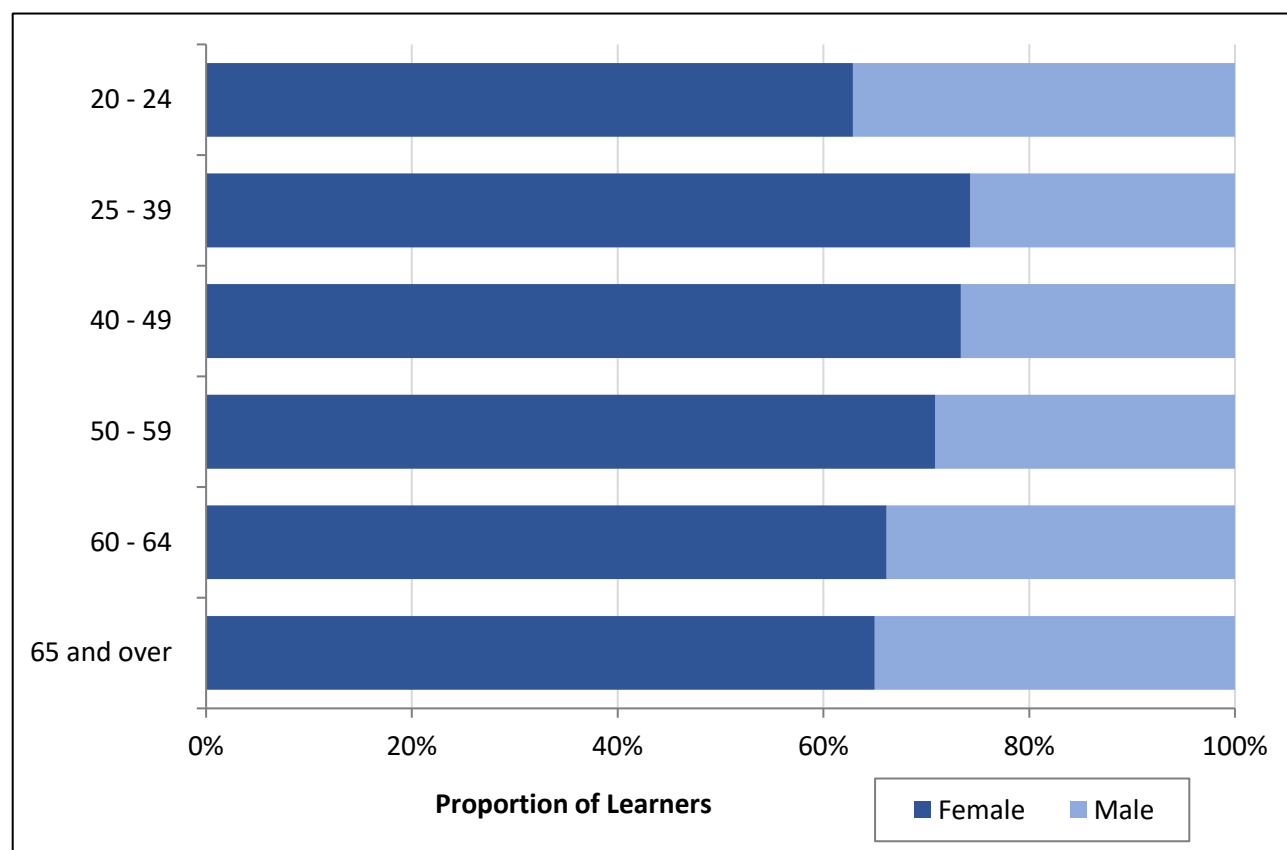

Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

Percentage change of local authority community learning between 2017/18 & 2019/20 by ethnicity

% change between 2017/18 and 2019/20

Ethnicity	% change
Asian	-47%
Black	-48%
Mixed	-42%
White	-34%
Other	-14%
Information Refused / Not Known	-50%

Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

3.4   Sex

Total number of learners in local authority community learning by sex (2019/20)

Source: StatsWales - Local authority community learning

Trend in learners in local authority community learning by sex

Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

Percentage change of local authority community learning between 2017/18 and 2019/20 by sex

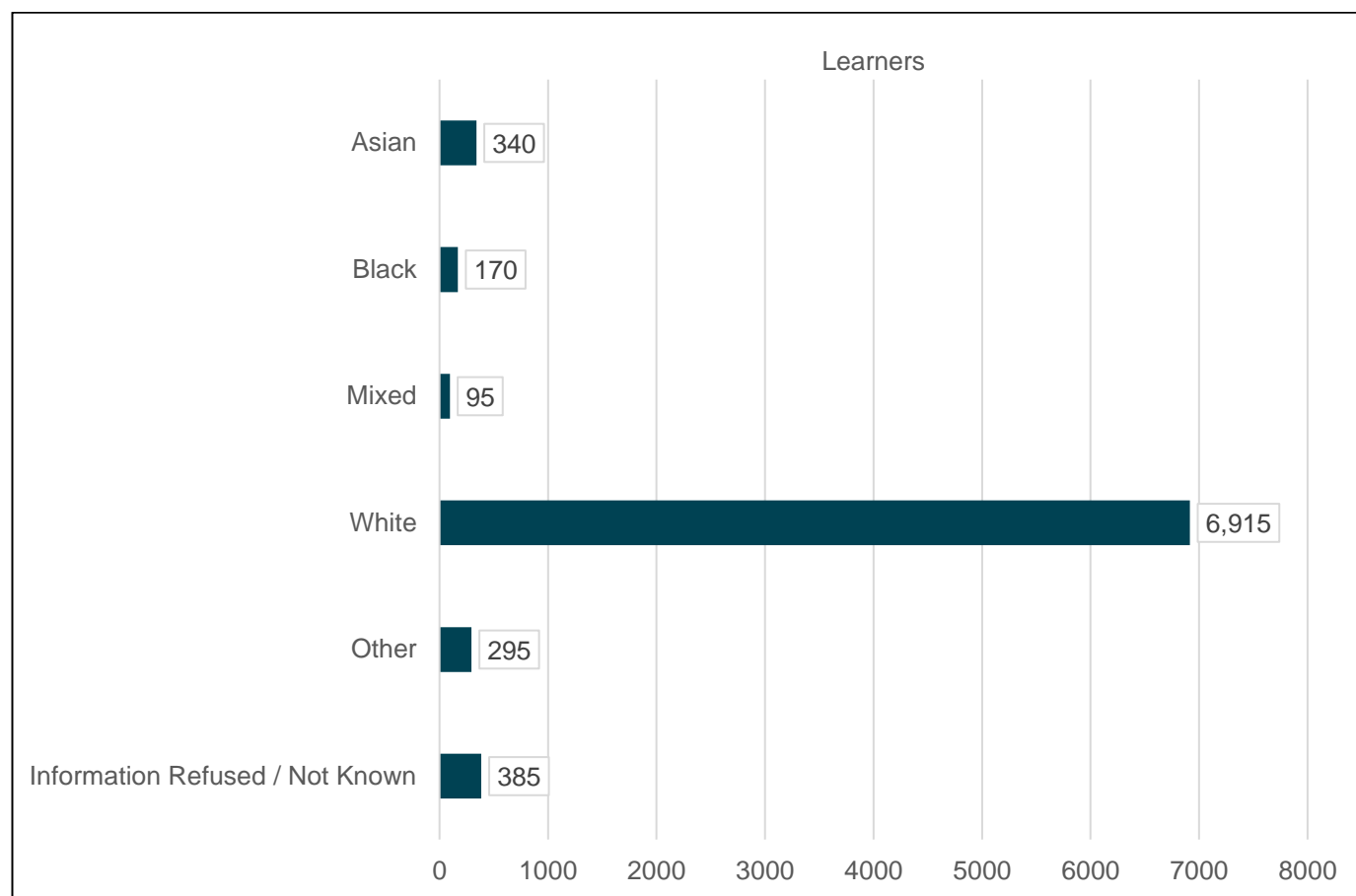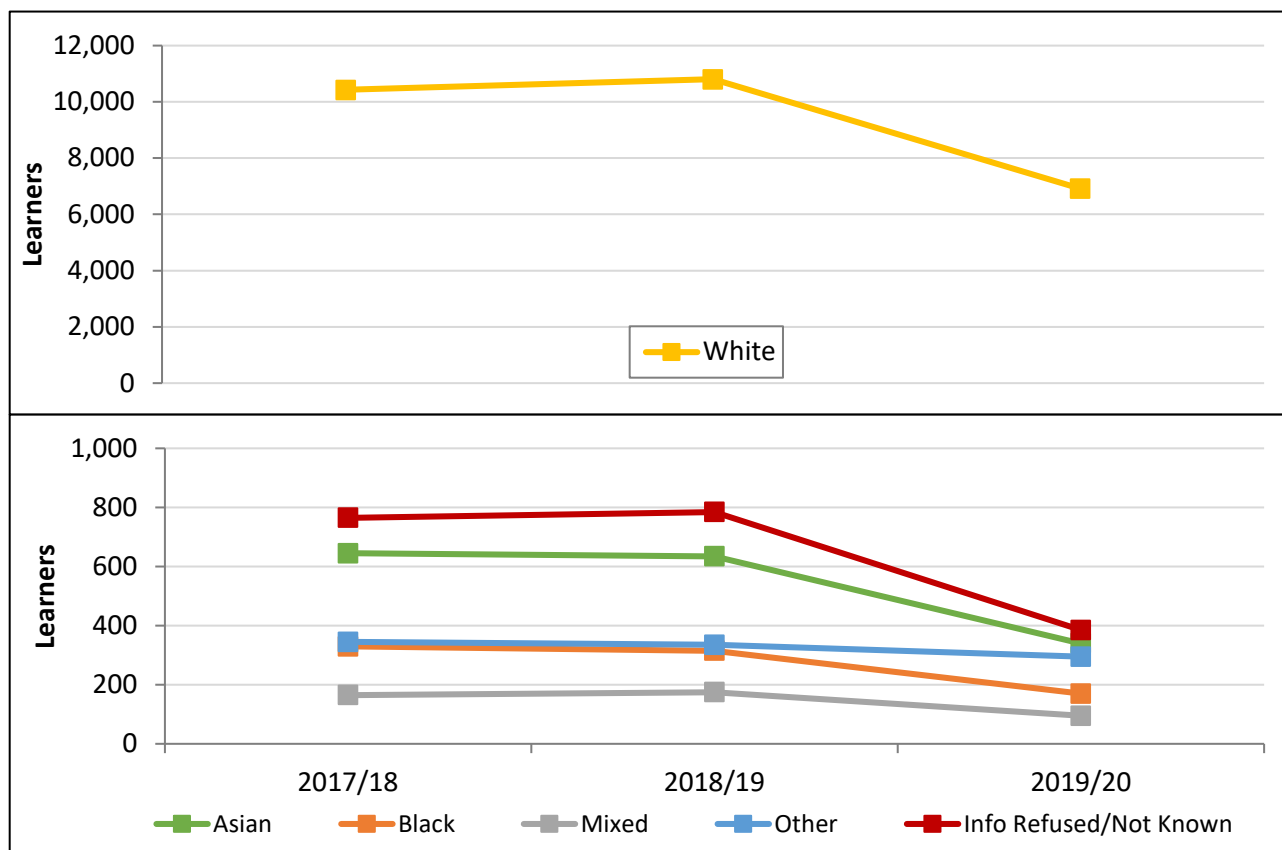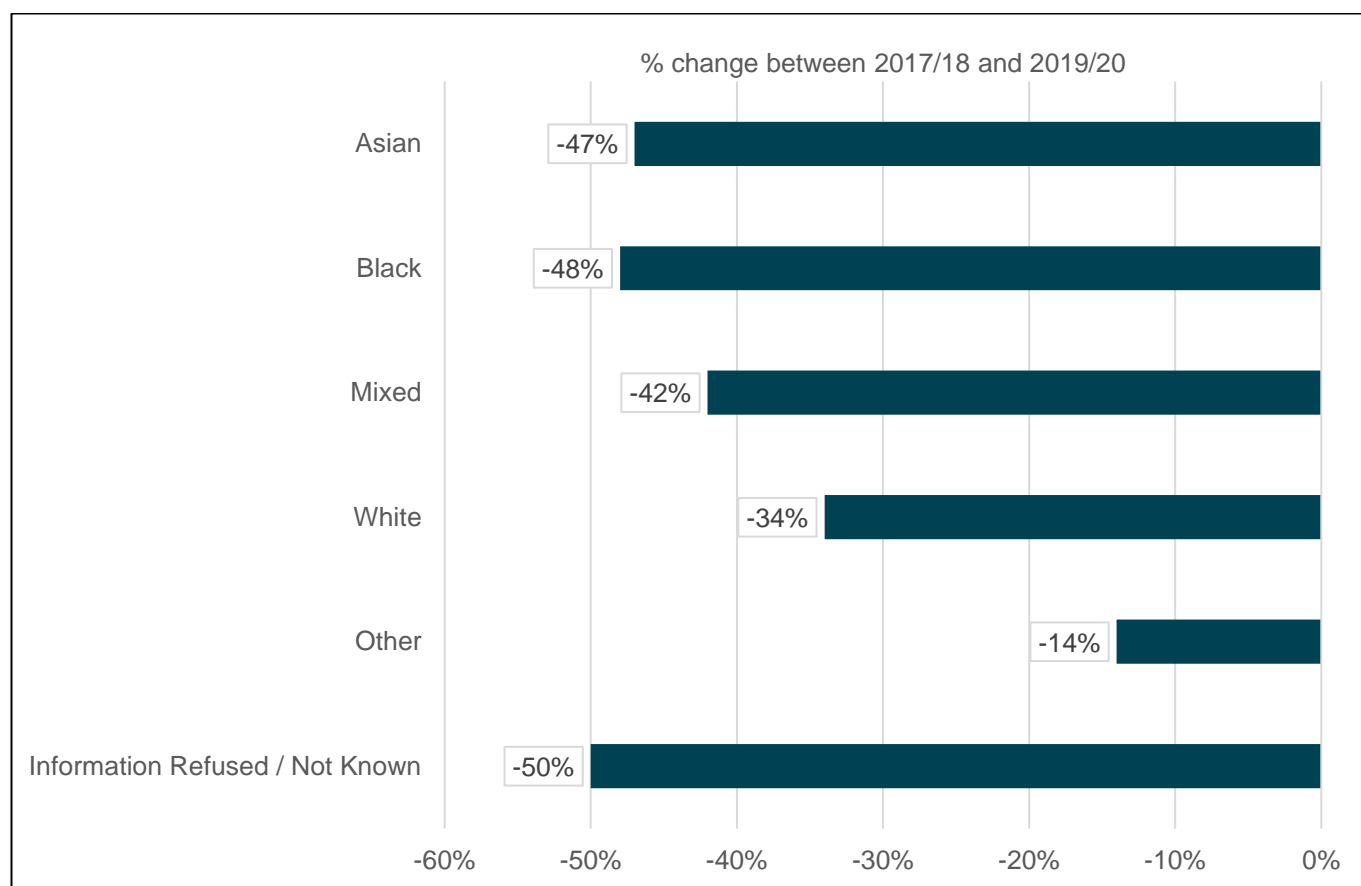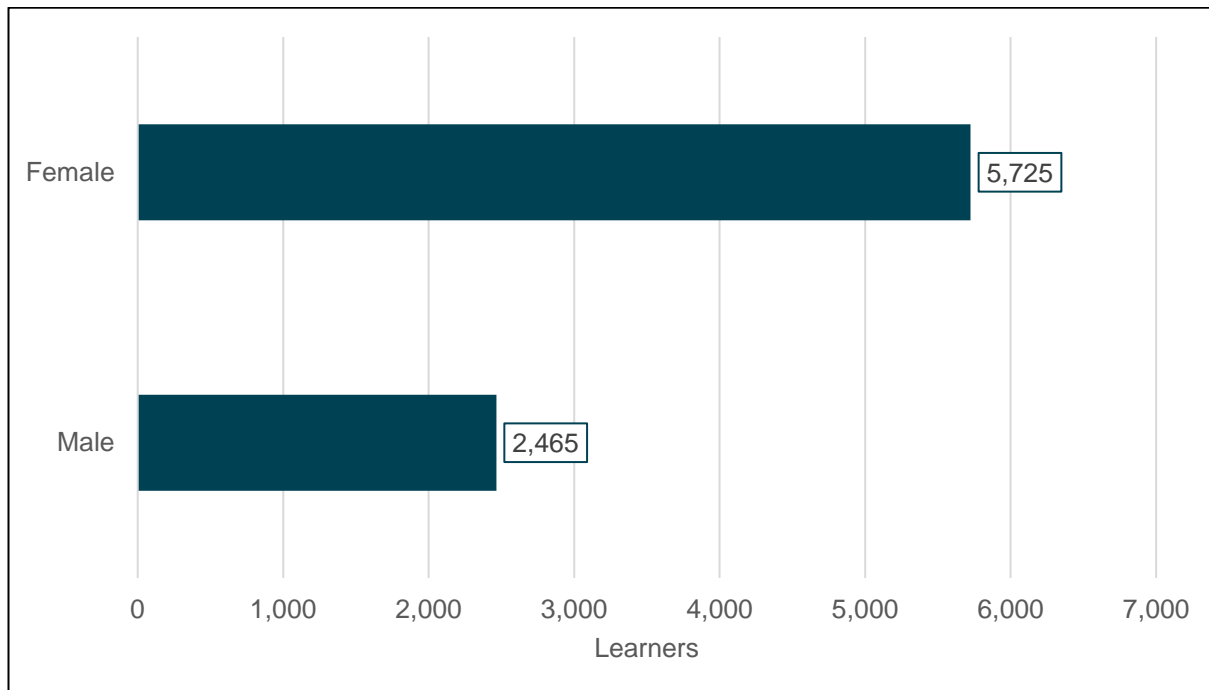

Source: StatsWales - Local authority community learning

3.5   Disability

Total number of learners in local authority community learning by disability (2019/20)

Source: StatsWales - Local authority community learning

Trend in local authority community learning by disability

Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

Percentage change of local authority community learning between 2017/18 and 2019/20 by disability

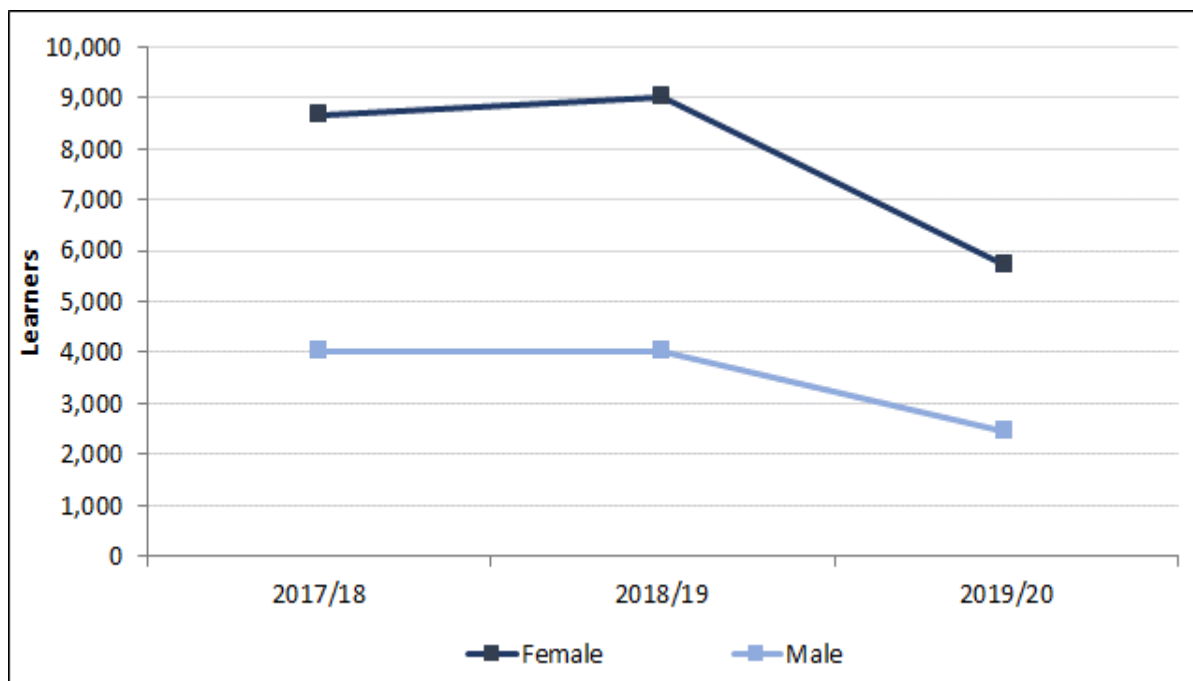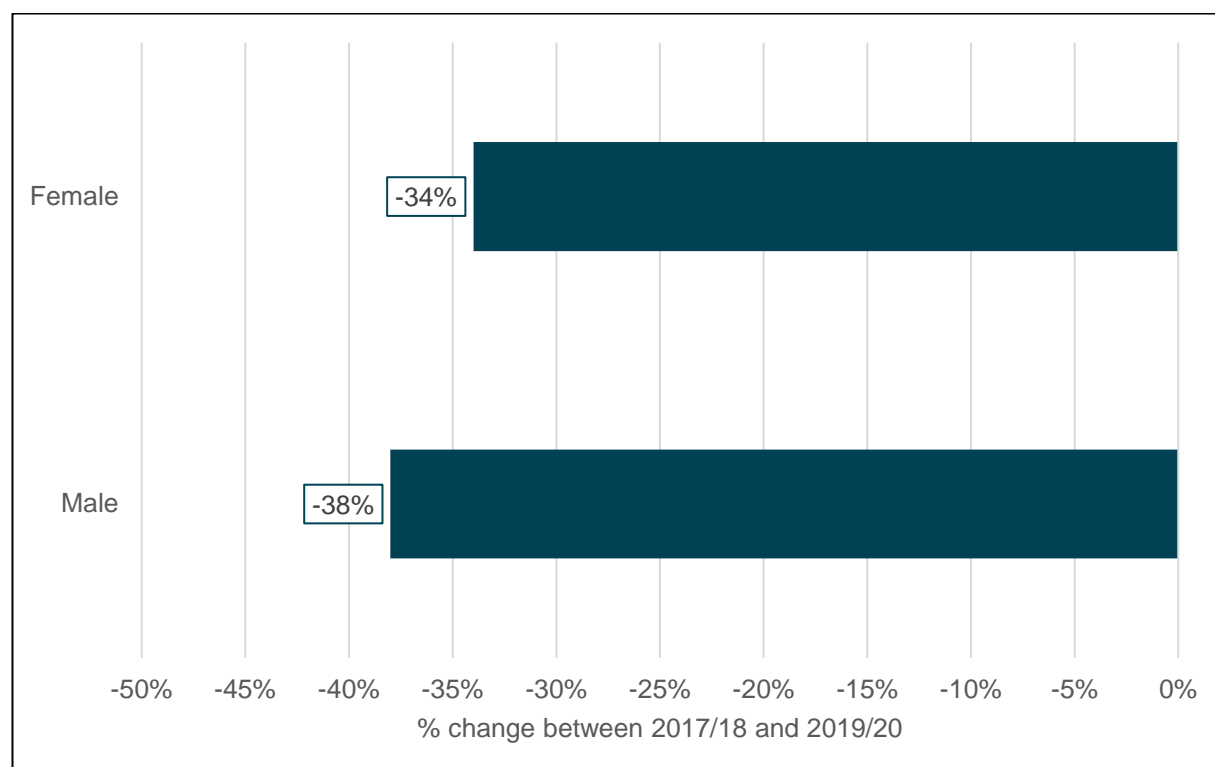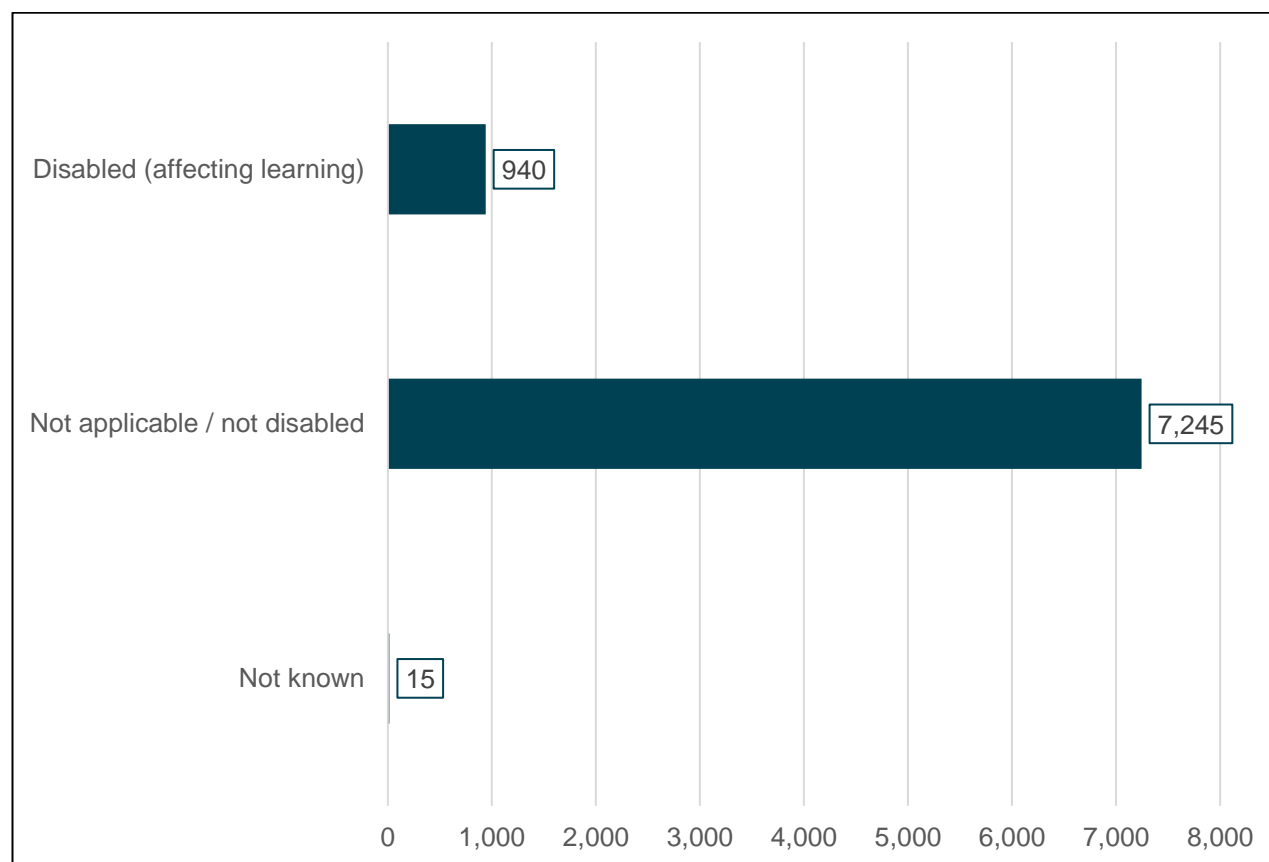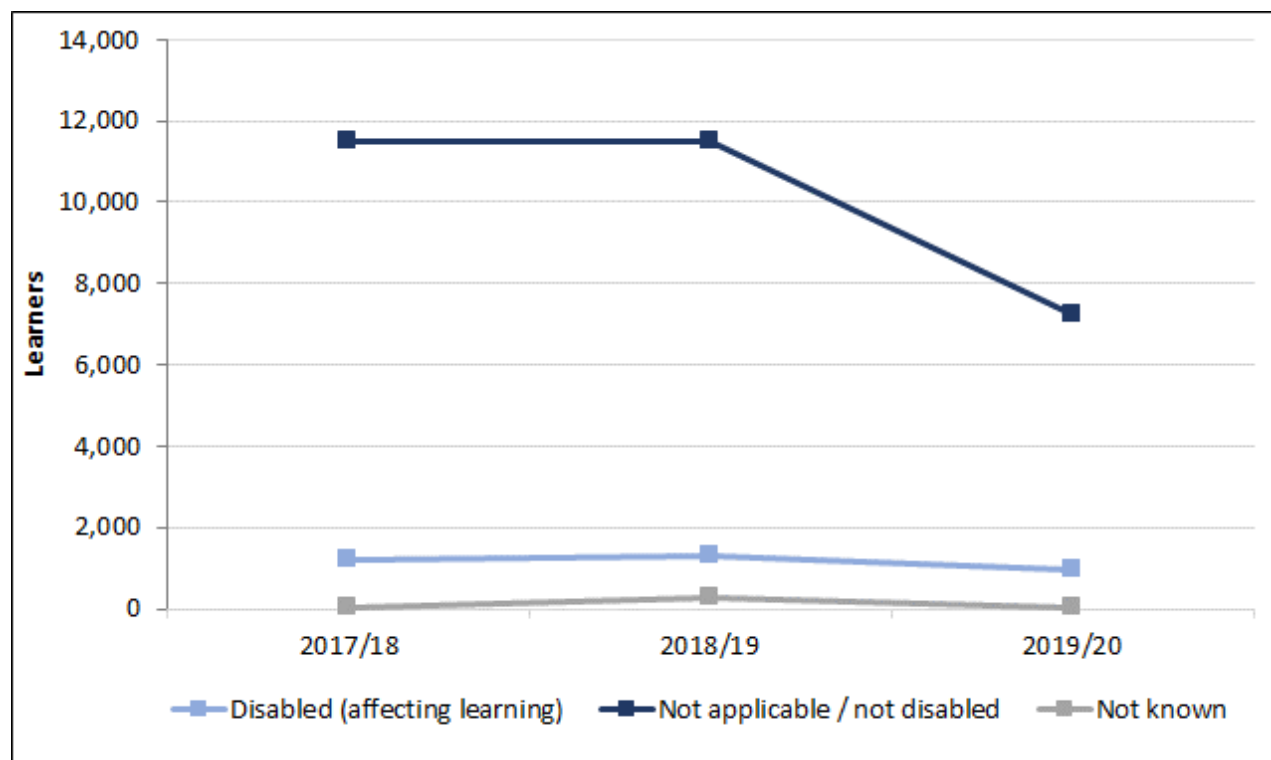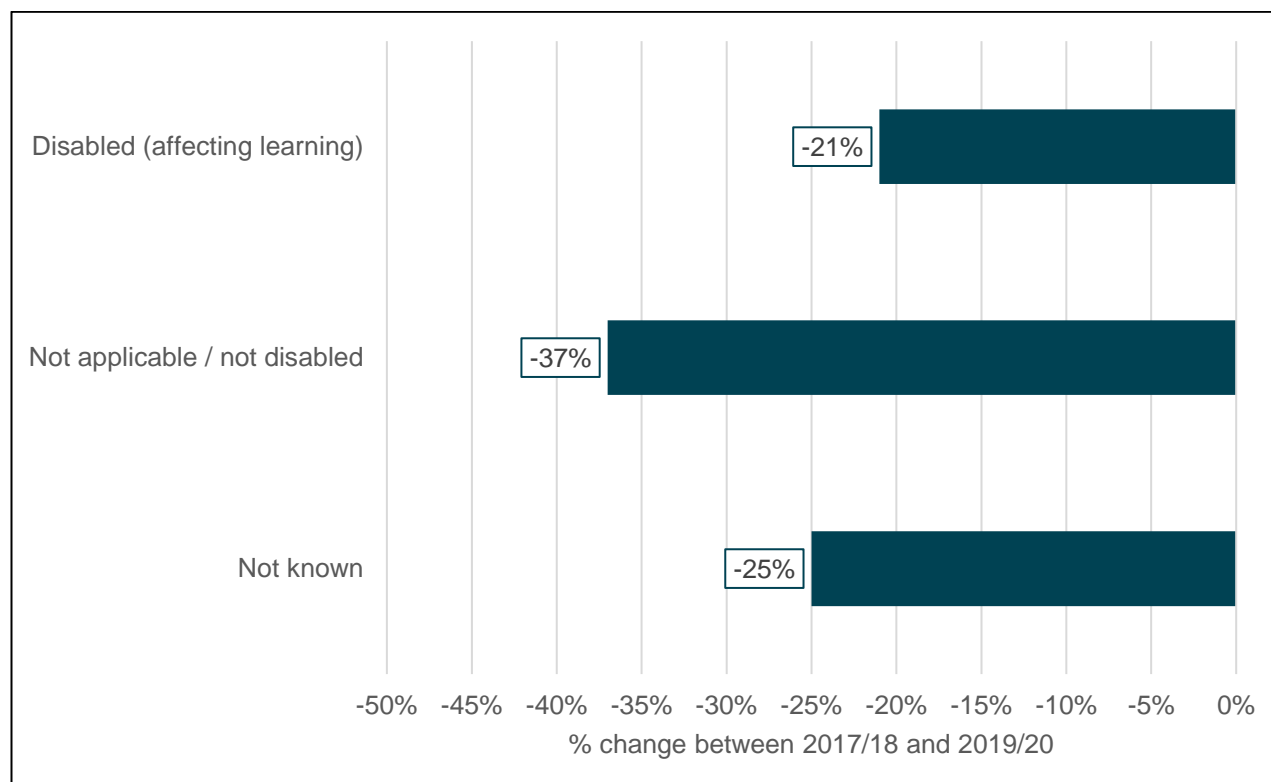Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

3.6   Subject

Total number of learning activities in local authority community learning by subject area (2019/20)

Subject area	Learning activities
Health, Public Services and Care	780
Science and Mathematics	450
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	100
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	185
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	0
Information and Communication Technology	915
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	305
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	375
Arts, Media and Publishing	1,570
History, Philosophy and Theology	100
Social Sciences	0
Languages, Literature and Culture	515
Education and Training	210
Preparation for Life and Work	5,195
Business, Administration and Law	155
Not known	2,315

Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

Trend of Learning Activities in Local Authority Community Learning by Subject Area

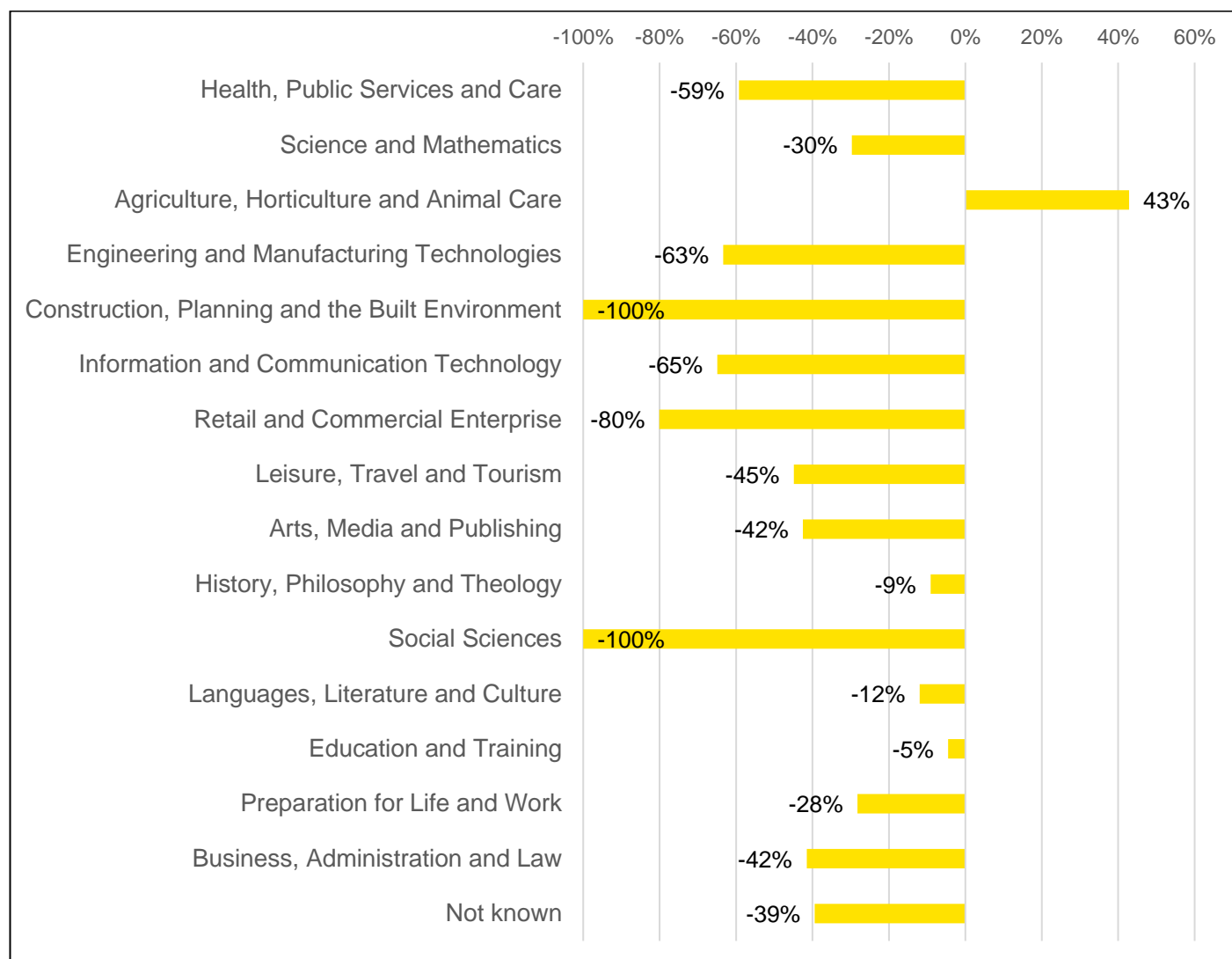| Subject area	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Change
Health, Public Services and Care	1,915	1,770	780	-1,135
Science and Mathematics	640	655	450	-190
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	70	160	100	30
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	505	510	185	-320
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	70	20	0	-70
Information and Communication Technology	2,610	2,235	915	-1,695
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	1,530	1,315	305	-1,225
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	680	605	375	-305
Arts, Media and Publishing	2,730	2,685	1,570	-1,160
History, Philosophy and Theology	110	110	100	-10
Social Sciences	10	5	0	-10
Languages, Literature and Culture	585	710	515	-70
Education and Training	220	230	210	-10
Preparation for Life and Work	7,240	7,585	5,195	-2,045
Business, Administration and Law	265	425	155	-110
Not known	3,820	4,965	2,315	-1,505
Total	**23,000**	**23,985**	**13,170**	**-9,830**

Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

Percentage change of learning activities in local authority community learning between 2017/18 and 2019/20 by subject area

Subject area	Percentage change
Health, Public Services and Care	-59%
Science and Mathematics	-30%
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	43%
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	-63%
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	-100%
Information and Communication Technology	-65%
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	-80%
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	-45%
Arts, Media and Publishing	-42%
History, Philosophy and Theology	-9%
Social Sciences	-100%
Languages, Literature and Culture	-12%
Education and Training	-5%
Preparation for Life and Work	-28%
Business, Administration and Law	-42%
Not known	-39%

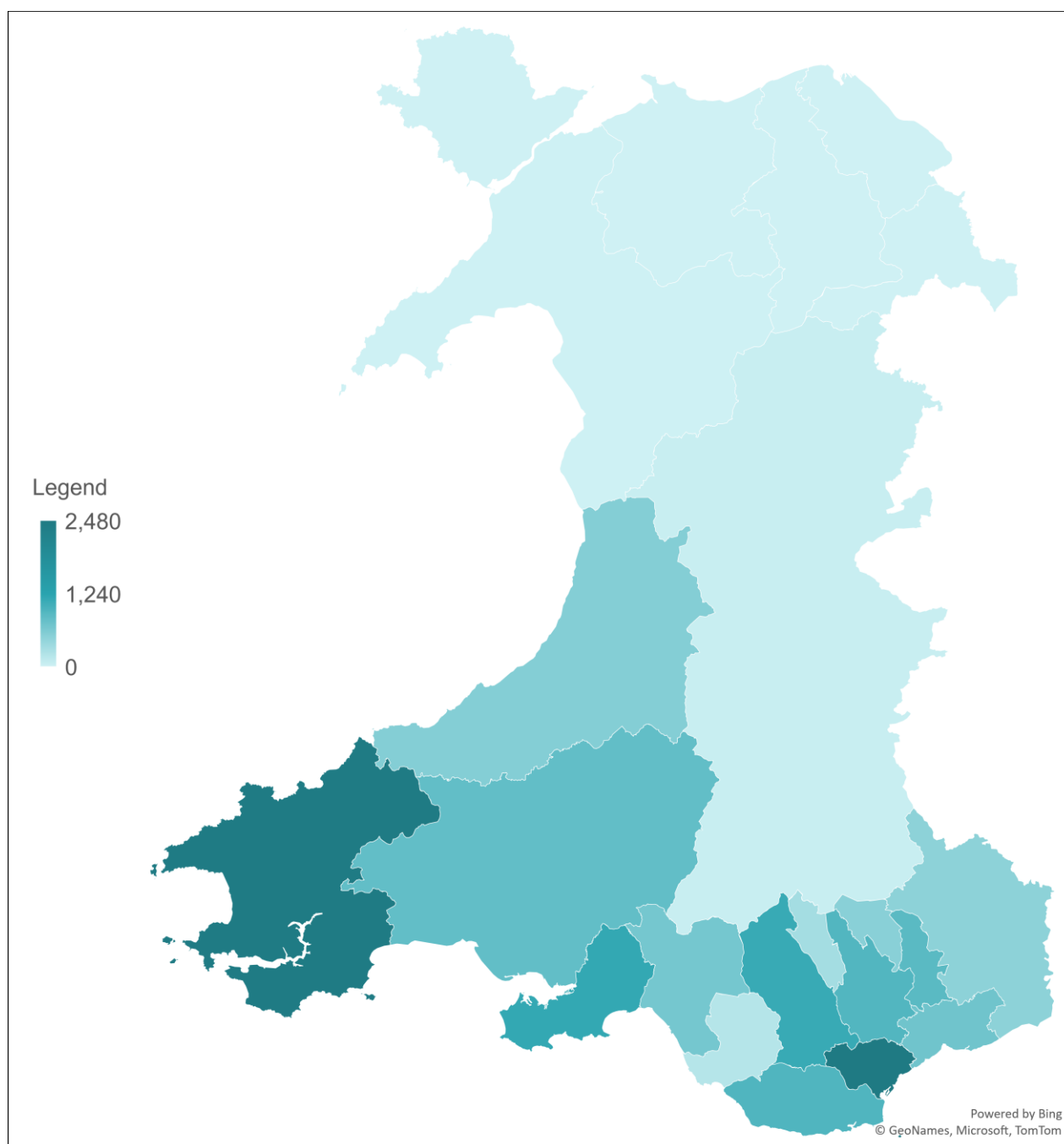Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

3.7   Local Authority

Total number of learners in local authority community learning by local authority & region

| Geography	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
All areas	**14,510**	**13,910**	**12,680**	**13,050**	**8,200**
Wales	**14,335**	**13,825**	**12,600**	**12,965**	**8,145**
North Wales Region	**<5**	**<5**	**<5**	**105**	**190**
Isle of Anglesey	0	<5	0	0	0
Gwynedd	<5	<5	<5	<5	0
Conwy	0	0	0	<5	<5
Denbighshire	0	0	0	<5	<5
Flintshire	0	0	0	<5	10
Wrexham	0	0	0	100	180
Mid Wales Region	**605**	**340**	**345**	**330**	**50**
Powys	50	30	25	50	15
Ceredigion	560	305	320	275	35
South West Wales Region	**5,110**	**5,315**	**4,660**	**5,005**	**3,485**
Pembrokeshire	2,455	2,240	2,130	2,315	1,700
Carmarthenshire	815	960	690	710	615
Swansea	1,165	1,320	1,140	1,185	710
Neath Port Talbot	670	795	700	800	455
South East Wales Region	**8,615**	**8,170**	**7,590**	**7,525**	**4,425**
Bridgend	195	575	280	440	340
The Vale of Glamorgan	950	585	665	775	165
Rhondda Cynon Taf	1,130	1,655	1,360	1,540	970
Merthyr Tydfil	320	195	285	245	60
Caerphilly	935	895	640	620	500
Blaenau Gwent	525	480	525	415	405
Torfaen	875	645	550	520	525
Monmouthshire	495	265	265	270	250
Newport	710	555	580	545	450
Cardiff	2,480	2,315	2,435	2,150	760
Outside Wales or not known	175	85	75	85	50

Source: StatsWales – Local authority community learning

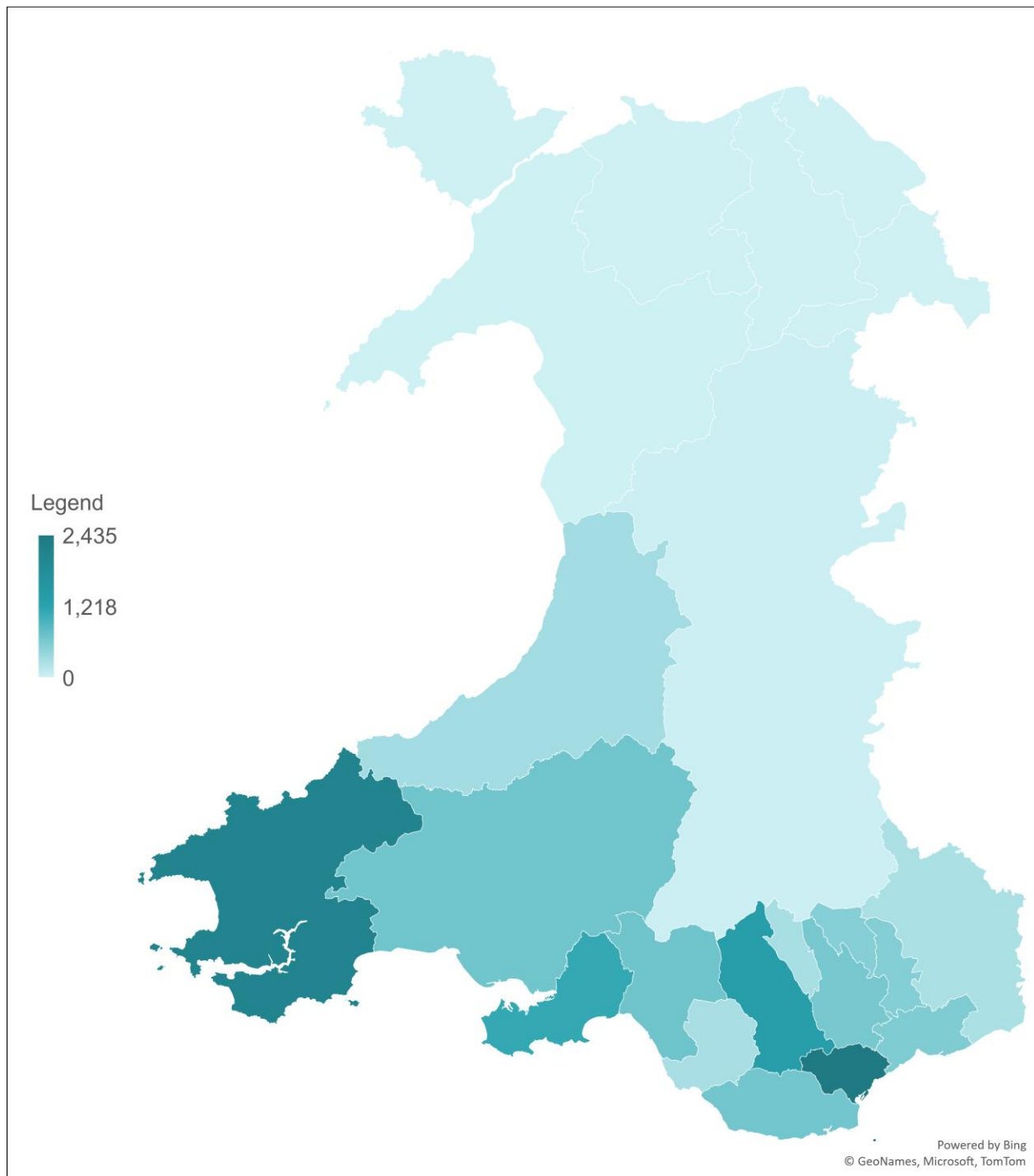**Total number of learners in local authority community learning by local authority (2015/16)**

Source: StatsWales - Local authority community learning

Total number of learners in local authority community learning by local authority (2016/17)
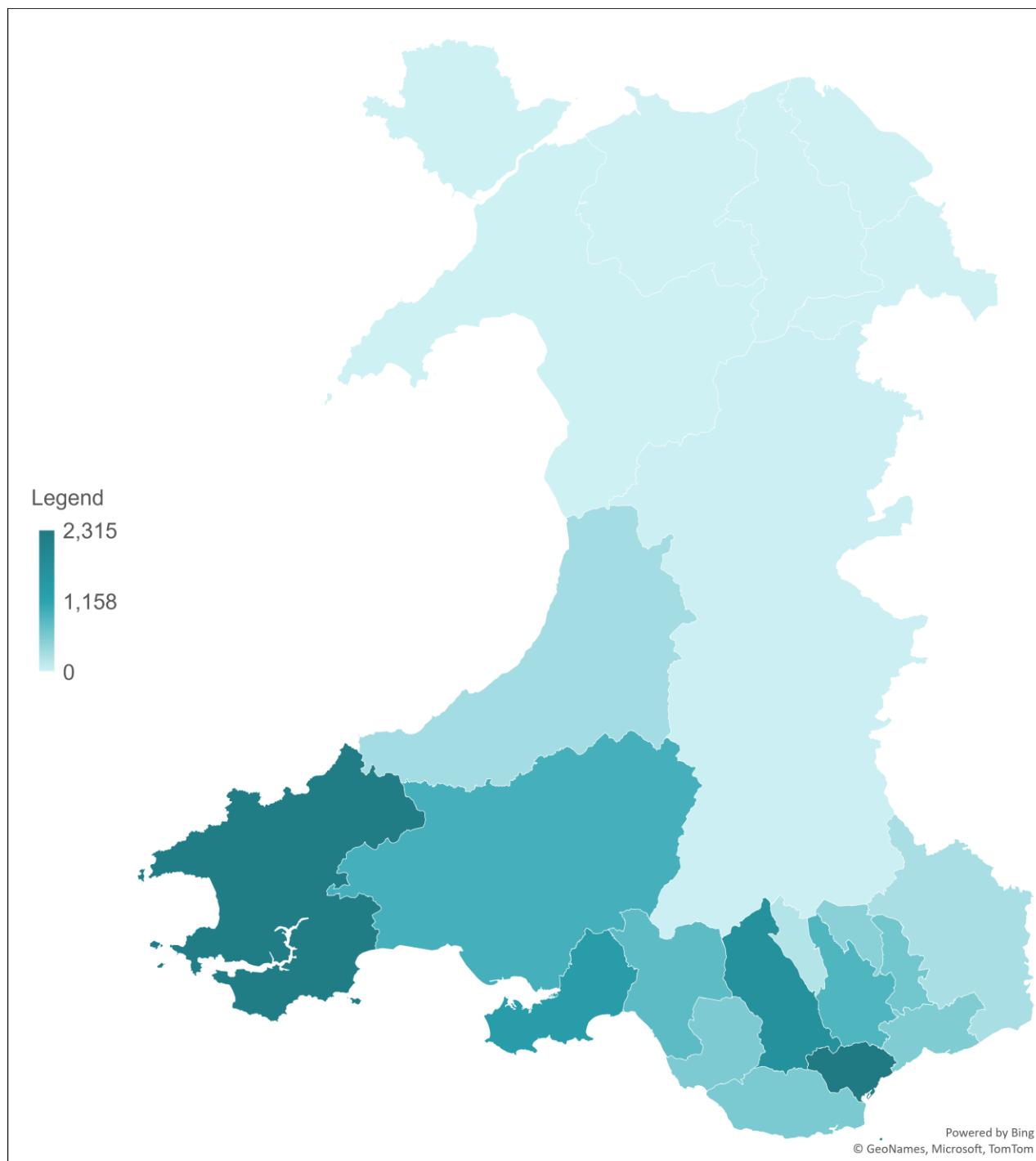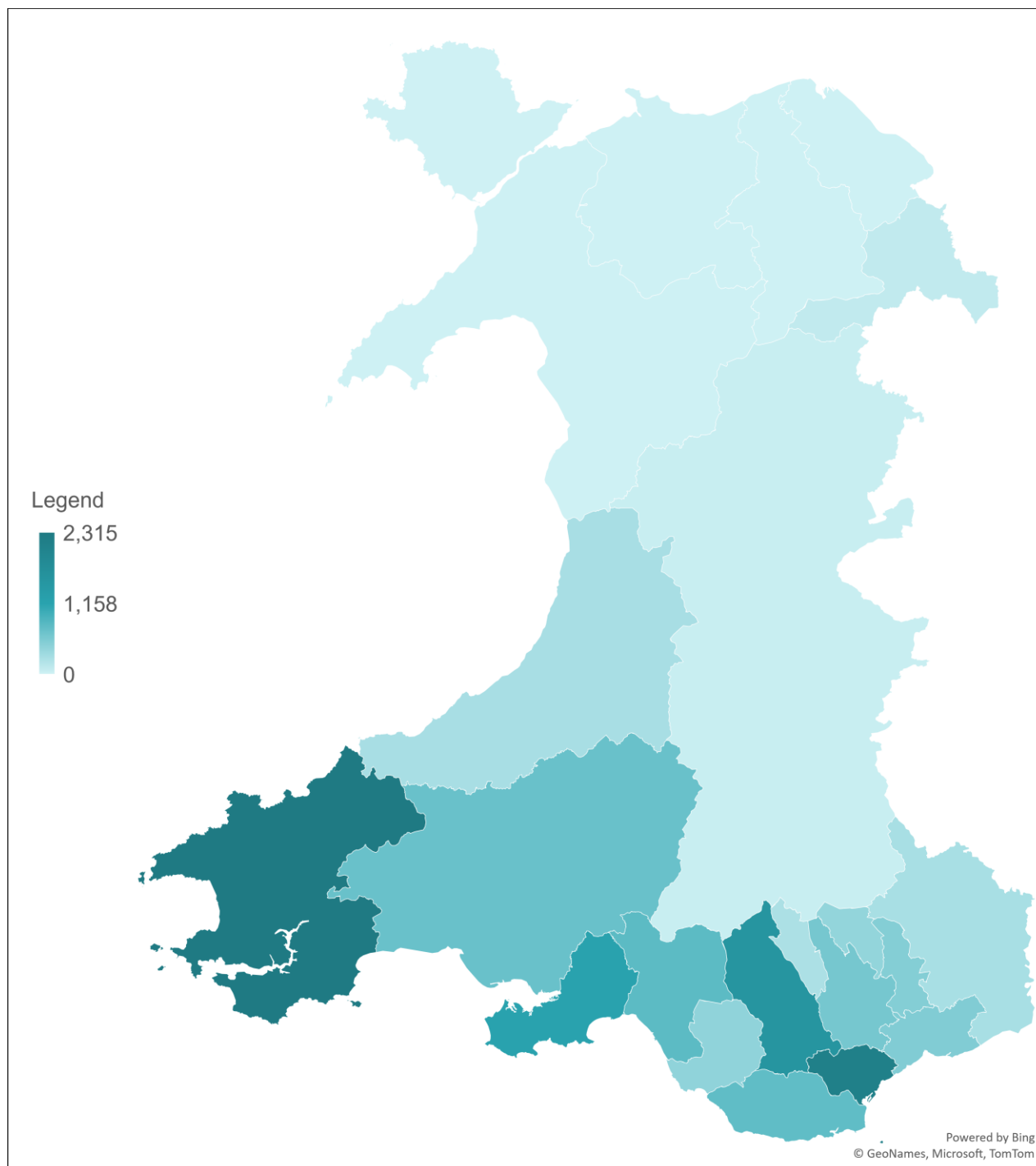

Source: StatsWales - Local authority community learning

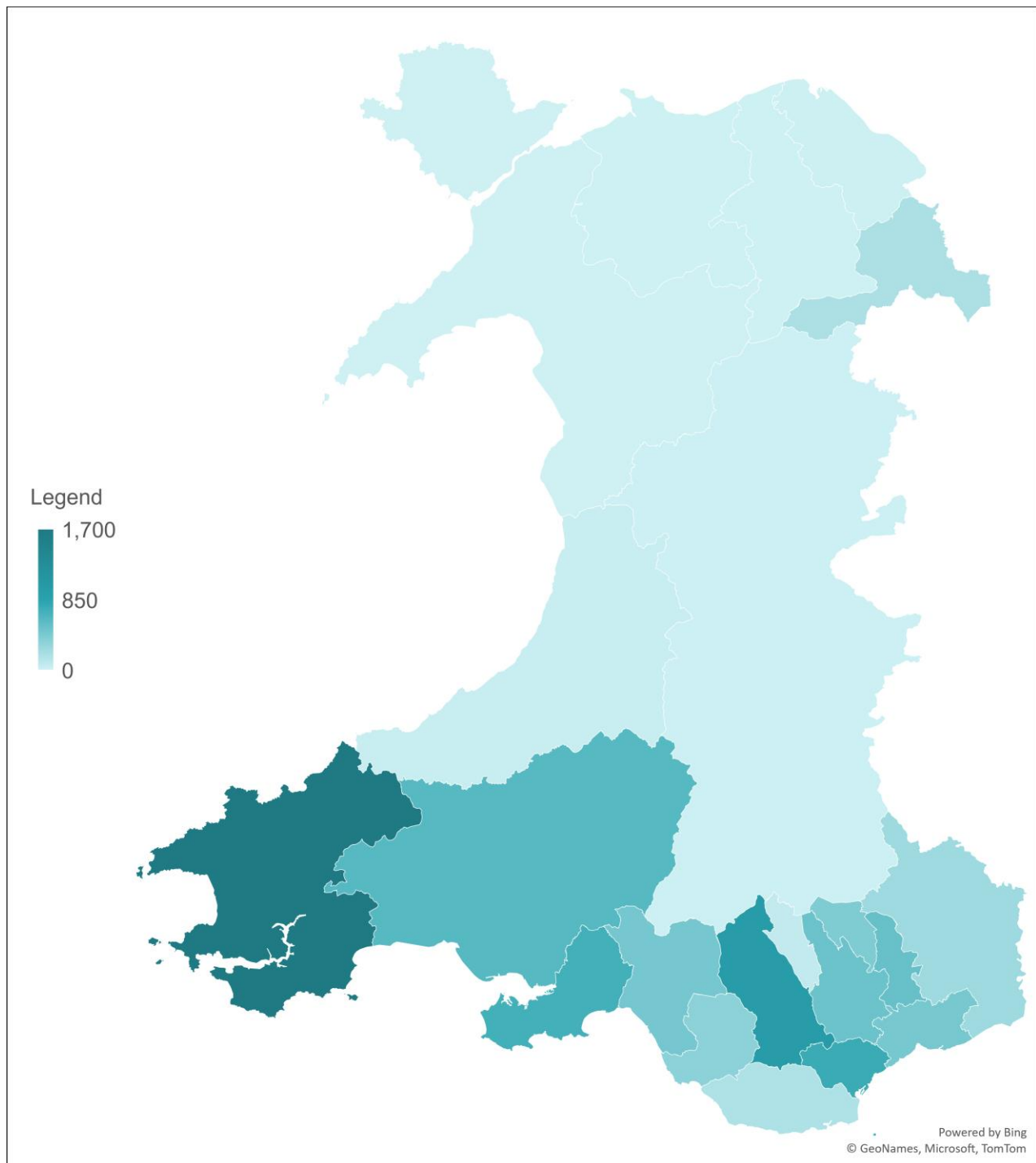**Total number of learners in local authority community learning by local authority (2017/18)**

Legend
2,435

1,218

0

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© GeoNames, Microsoft, TomTom

Source: StatsWales - Local authority community learning

Total number of learners in local authority community learning by local authority (2018/19)

Legend
2,315

1,158

0

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Source: StatsWales - Local authority community learning

Total number of learners in local authority community learning by local authority (2019/20)

Legend
1,700

850

0

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Source: StatsWales - Local authority community learning

Author Details

RCU is a data intelligence, research and consultancy company for the education sector in England.

About the Wales Centre for Public Policy

Here at the Centre, we collaborate with leading policy experts to provide ministers, the civil service and Welsh public services with high quality evidence and independent advice that helps them to improve policy decisions and outcomes.

Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council and Welsh Government, the Centre is based at Cardiff University and a member of the UK's What Works Network.

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