

Moving On 2007



An Analysis of School Leavers in Oldham - 2007

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MOVING ON 2007 - AN ANALYSIS OF SCHOOL LEAVERS IN OLDHAM - 2007

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The following analyses of the destinations of 2007 Year 11 school pupils are based on information held by the Connexions Service in Oldham at 31st October 2007.
- 1.2 They have been compiled using information supplied by: Oldham's schools and colleges; the Learning & Skills Council; training providers; employers; neighbouring Connexions providers; schools and colleges outside Oldham; and not least, young people, their parents and relatives via telephone, text, mail and home visit follow-up activities carried out by Connexions staff. They are, to the best of our knowledge, accurate at the time of compilation. We are indebted to these organisations and individuals for their assistance. This year we have discovered the whereabouts of **99.9%** of the cohort, resulting in an 'unknown' total of only **5** young people.
- 1.3 NB. These analyses are produced in **two** sections:
- Section 1 analyses Year 11 leavers **from all Oldham's schools** (including independent schools, special schools and the Pupil Referral Unit), regardless of where they live as well as pupils educated at home or not on a school roll, but remaining in the Borough and contact with Connexions. The analysis also includes a small number of young people who were classified as "educated at home" and "not on a school roll".
 - Section 2 analyses Year 11 leavers **who are Oldham residents** and includes pupils living in Oldham who were educated in schools **outside** the Borough.

SECTION 1 – ANALYSIS OF YEAR 11 LEAVERS FROM OLDHAM SCHOOLS

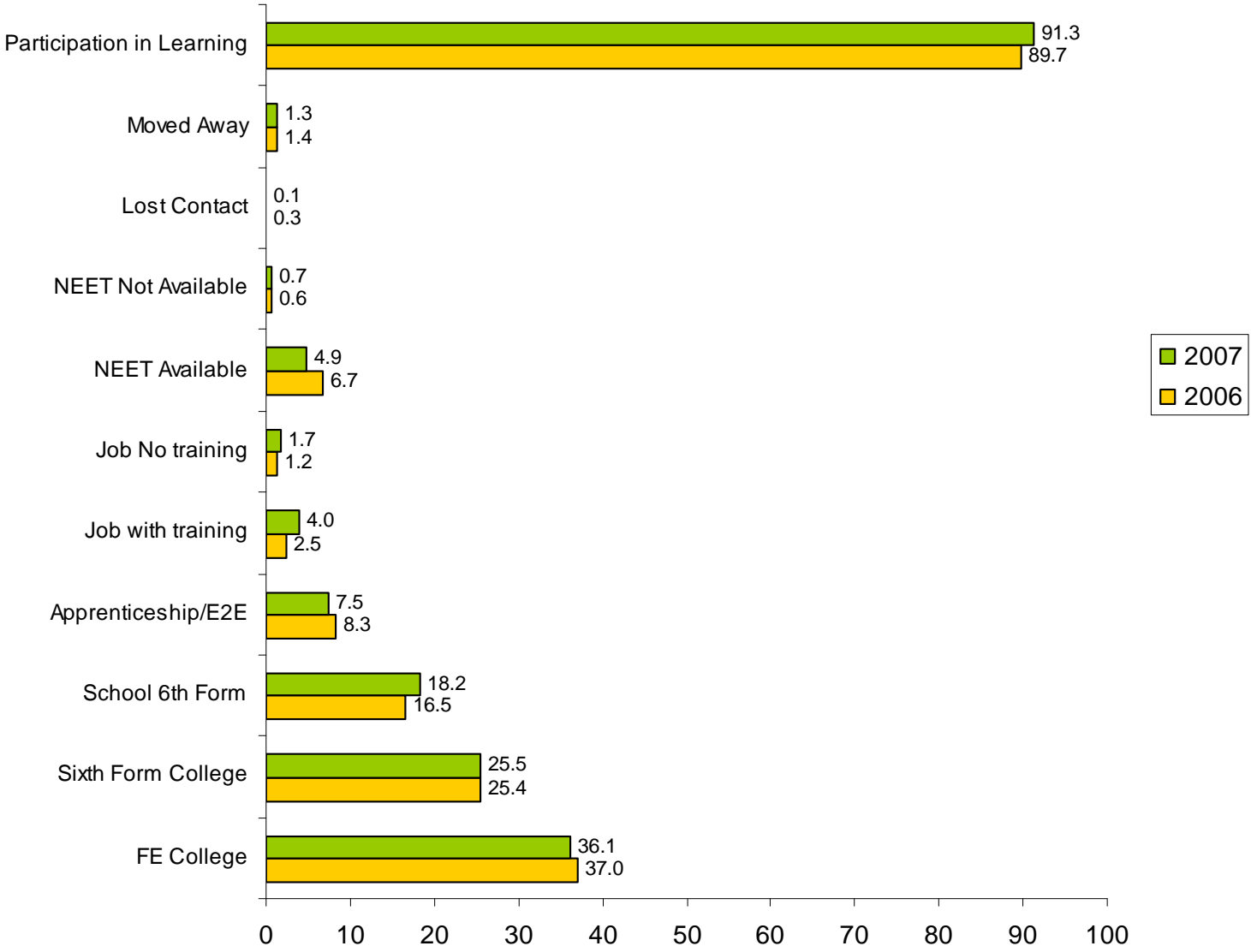
2. KEY FINDINGS

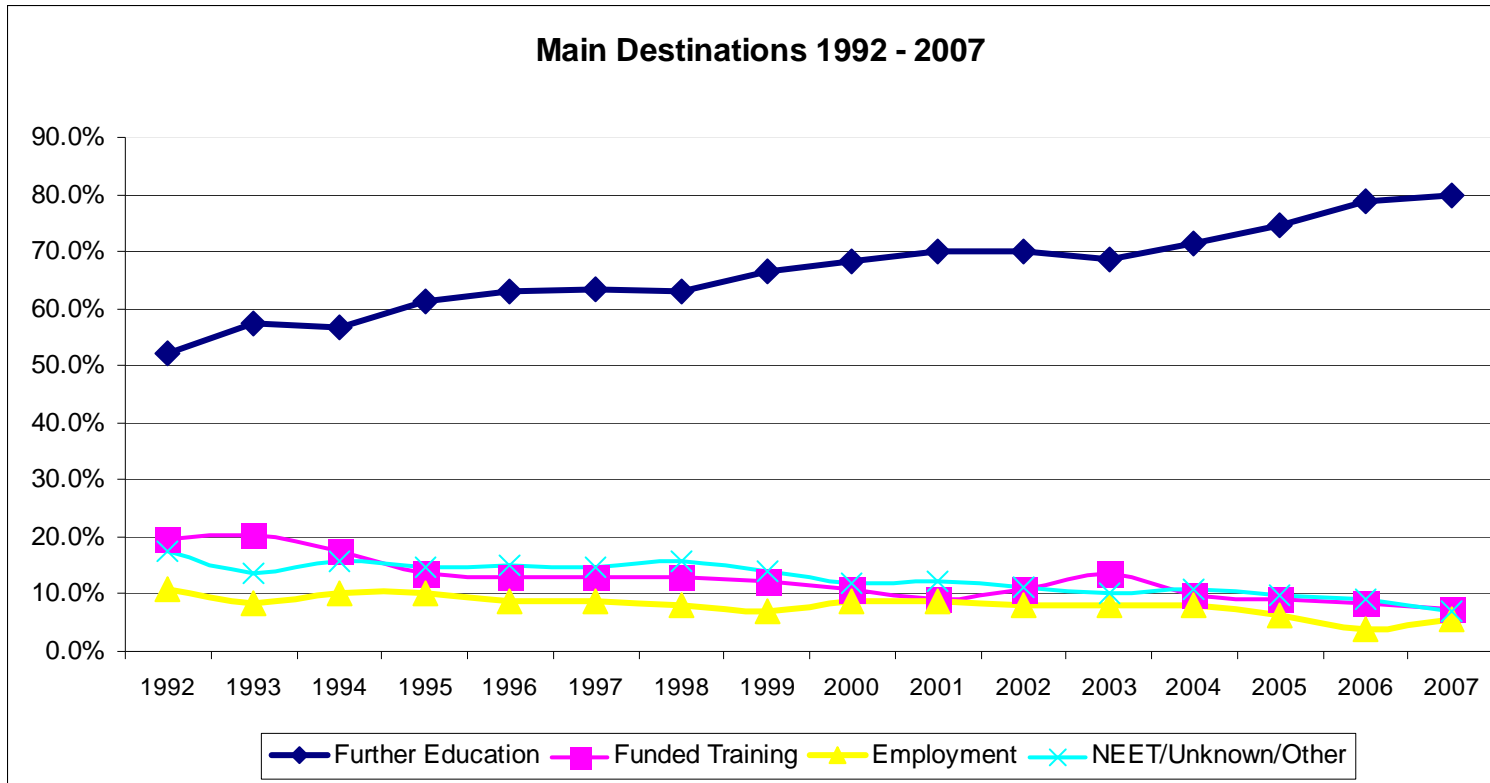
- ❖ **Staying-on Rates increase by 1.1%;**
- ❖ **Entry to LSC-funded work-based learning falls by 9.6%;**
- ❖ **Entry to Employment increases by 54.1%;**
- ❖ **63% of students entering further education access Level 3 courses compared with 59% last year;**
- ❖ **Participation in funded learning and jobs with recognised training reaches all time high at 91.3%; and**
- ❖ **The NEET rate for Year 11 leavers falls by 23.3%.**

3. MAIN DESTINATIONS

- 3.1 Over recent years, the national picture has been reflected locally with a steady decline in labour market entrants and a corresponding increase in pupils remaining in full-time education beyond the age of 16. The staying-on rate increased steadily over the last 10 years, though it remained at between 70% and 74% between 2001 and 2005. In 2006 there was a dramatic increase to 78.9% and this year the figure is 79.8%.
- 3.2 There has been a **corresponding decrease** in labour market entrants falling from 18.8% in 2006 to 18.0% this year. Entry to LSC-funded work-based training **has decreased** from 8.3% to 7.5%.
- 3.3 The NEET Available (Unemployed) group has **fallen dramatically** from 6.7% to 4.9% and the NEET Unavailable group has increased slightly from 0.6% to 0.7%. The overall NEET rate has seen a **significant reduction** of 23.3%.
- 3.4 The analysis of all Year 11 destinations for the past two years and the main three pathways taken by 16 year olds for the last 16 years are shown on pages 3 and 4.

Destinations 2006 & 2007





4. TRANSFERRING TO FURTHER EDUCATION

4.1 School Sixth Forms

The percentage of pupils who transferred into school sixth forms has increased (by 10.8%) from 16.5% in 2006 to 18.2% this year. 8 young people (0.9%) continued their studies at school sixth forms outside Oldham.

4.2 Sixth Form Colleges

There was a 0.4% increase in leavers entering sixth form colleges with 25.5%, this year, compared with 25.4% in 2006. 97 young people, or 10.8% (8.2% last year) young people continued their studies at sixth form colleges outside Oldham with Greenhead College in Huddersfield and Ashton Sixth Form College taking the majority.

The numbers entering School Sixth forms and Sixth Form Colleges, combined, for the last ten years are shown in the table over the page:

Analysis of Entry to School Sixth Forms and Sixth Form Colleges – 1998 - 2007

Year	Male	Female	Total	Percentage of Total Cohort	A Levels	Other Courses
1998	634	740	1374	41%	31%	10%
1999	678	707	1385	41%	32%	9%
2000	689	753	1442	42%	34%	8%
2001	693	702	1395	40%	32%	8%
2002	698	726	1424	41%	33%	8%
2003	652	742	1394	40%	29%	11%
2004	646	766	1412	41%	32%	9%
2005	683	765	1448	42%	35%	7%
2006	623	824	1447	42%	34%	8%
2007	740	795	1535	44%	36%	8%

4.3 Further Education Colleges

The percentage of pupils who transferred to full-time courses in colleges of further education has fallen (by 2.4%) from 37.0% in 2006 to 36.1% in 2007. This year, The Oldham College's share of the general FE College market (not including sixth form colleges) has fallen from 66.0% last year to 59.8% in 2007. This compares with 70.0% in 2005, 67.5% in 2004, 73.1% in 2003, 70.9% in 2002, 73.5% in 2001 and 70.2% in 2000. Hopwood Hall, MANCAT and Tameside colleges recruited the majority of students who moved out of Oldham to study in an FE College. Figures for students entering colleges of further education in the last ten years are shown in the table over the page:

Analysis of Entry to Further Education Colleges - 1998 - 2007

Year	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
1998	385	376	761	22%
1999	423	429	852	25%
2000	433	447	880	26%
2001	527	532	1059	30%
2002	528	479	1009	29%
2003	478	514	992	28%
2004	516	517	1033	30%
2005	583	537	1120	33%
2006	707	569	1276	37%
2007	651	618	1269	36%

4.4 NVQ Equivalent Entry Levels

4.4.1 For the last eleven years we have analysed courses entered by National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) equivalent. This year's figures are shown in the table over the page, along with percentages for 1997-2006.

4.4.2 A significant shift in entry to courses below NVQ Level 2 had taken place over the previous seven years as the overall staying-on rate increased. This increase was largely due to those students achieving lower GCSE grades choosing to remain in full-time education. Now the increase in GCSE achievement is beginning again to redress the balance with Level 3 entry gaining ground again. Entry to Level 1 and 2 courses have decreased.

This data is analysed later in terms of male/female and BME/white comparisons

Entry to FE by NVQ Level	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
Below NVQ 2	16.6%	18.4%	14.3%	13.5%	13.8%	15.8%	16.2%	14.1%	13.0%	9.5%	8.7%
NVQ 2	20.6%	22.4%	19.7%	22.9%	21.0%	20.8%	22.0%	21.5%	20.3%	24.5%	27.1%
NVQ 3	62.8%	59.2%	66.0%	63.6%	65.2%	63.4%	61.8%	64.4%	66.7%	66.0%	64.2%

5. TRANSFERRING TO WORK-BASED LSC-FUNDED LEARNING

- 5.1 The percentage of Year 11 pupils entering Apprenticeships, Entry to Employment (E2E), Pre-E2E and other personal development opportunities has fallen (by 9.6%) from 8.3% in 2006 to 7.5% this year. The percentage of females fell from 6.2% to 4.2%. However, the percentage of males entering this option increased slightly from 10.4% to 10.6%. This year E2E, Pre-E2E and personal development opportunities was readily available with 162 (61.4%) out of the total of work-based learning entrants accessing this provision compared with 132 (45.8%) last year, 150 (48%) in 2005, 30% in 2004 and 41% in 2003. Overall, the numbers gaining "employed" status from the start of training was 31.4% compared with 48.6% last year.
- 5.2 It is also anticipated that a number of young people who have entered direct employment without training will be "converted" to Apprenticeship status during the coming months via the Learning Agreement pilot.

6. ENTERING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES (Outside Funded Learning)

- 6.1 The percentage of 2006 Year 11 pupils entering employment outside Government-funded training increased dramatically (by 54.0%) to 5.7% compared with 3.7% compared last year and with 6.2% in 2005 and 8.0% in 2004.
- 6.2 4.0% of the total cohort entered jobs which appeared to offer NVQ-based learning or equivalent (e.g. Armed Forces, jobs covered through a Learning Agreement and a few local traditional apprenticeships, leading to an NVQ or equivalent), or **some degree** of planned training. Of the 139 entering this category, 55 (or 39.6%) did so through the Learning Agreement Pilot.
- 6.3 This left only 58 young people (1.7% of the total cohort) entering employment with no degree of planned training. Much of this employment was through agencies or other temporary work. Again, it is hoped that a number of these can be converted into Learning Agreements.

7. PARTICIPATION IN LEARNING

- 7.1 The 'participation in learning rate' is defined as the percentage of the cohort, entering full-time further education, LSC- funded work-based training and jobs with NVQ or other planned training. This rate is a key headline target set by the Department for Children, Schools & Families (DCSF) for Connexions. We have seen a steady increase on previous years. To summarise the above analysis, the overall participation rate in learning for the last seven years is shown below:

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
85.2%	86.2%	86.2%	86.3%	87.7%	89.7%	91.3%

8. NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING (NEET)

8.1 This group is divided into two categories:

8.1.1 those young people who are available and actively seeking a job, course or training programme and therefore **registered as unemployed** with Connexions; and

8.1.2 those who for a variety of reasons – illness or disability, custodial sentence, pregnancy or parenthood, cultural restrictions or caring for other family members – are **unavailable**. Local authorities and their partners are measured on the total NEET group (discounting those in custody). Although we saw an increase in the NEET rate last year, the rate for this year has **decreased significantly**. We believe this has been caused by several factors:

- Although the serious downturn in the local economy which occurred last year is continuing, it has started to stabilise;
- There has been a 7.4% increase in GCSE achievement at 5 A*-C
- There has been a refinement of the “handover” process of potential NEET young people between school and community-based personal advisers; and
- Much improved liaison has taken place, this year, between Connexions providers in the sub-region to ensure that young people leaving school are passed to their “home” Connexions service sooner to avoid them falling through the net.

The percentage in each category is shown for the last eight years:

	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
NEET Available	4.9%	6.7%	6.0%	7.0%	6.9%	7.2%	6.9%	6.9%
NEET Not Available	0.7%	0.6%	0.9%	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	1.5%	1.7%
Total	5.6%	7.3%	6.9%	8.2%	8.2%	8.5%	8.4%	8.6%

Of the 171 young people in the “NEET Available group”, 18 reside outside the Borough of Oldham and are registered with a neighbouring Connexions provider.

9. UNKNOWN

This year, a mere 0.1% (or 5 young people) remained unknown to Connexions. This is, yet again, a remarkable achievement. Last year the figure was 8, 10 in 2005 and 14 in 2004. The figure has been dramatically reduced over recent years and compares to 1.4% in 1999 and 3.7% in 1998.

10. GENDER ISSUES

10.1 There was a 1.7% increase in the total Year 11 cohort in 2007 from 2006. The total cohort was 3,512.

2006 – 3,452
2005 – 3,439
2004 – 3,424
2003 – 3,484
2002 – 3,475
2001 – 3,503

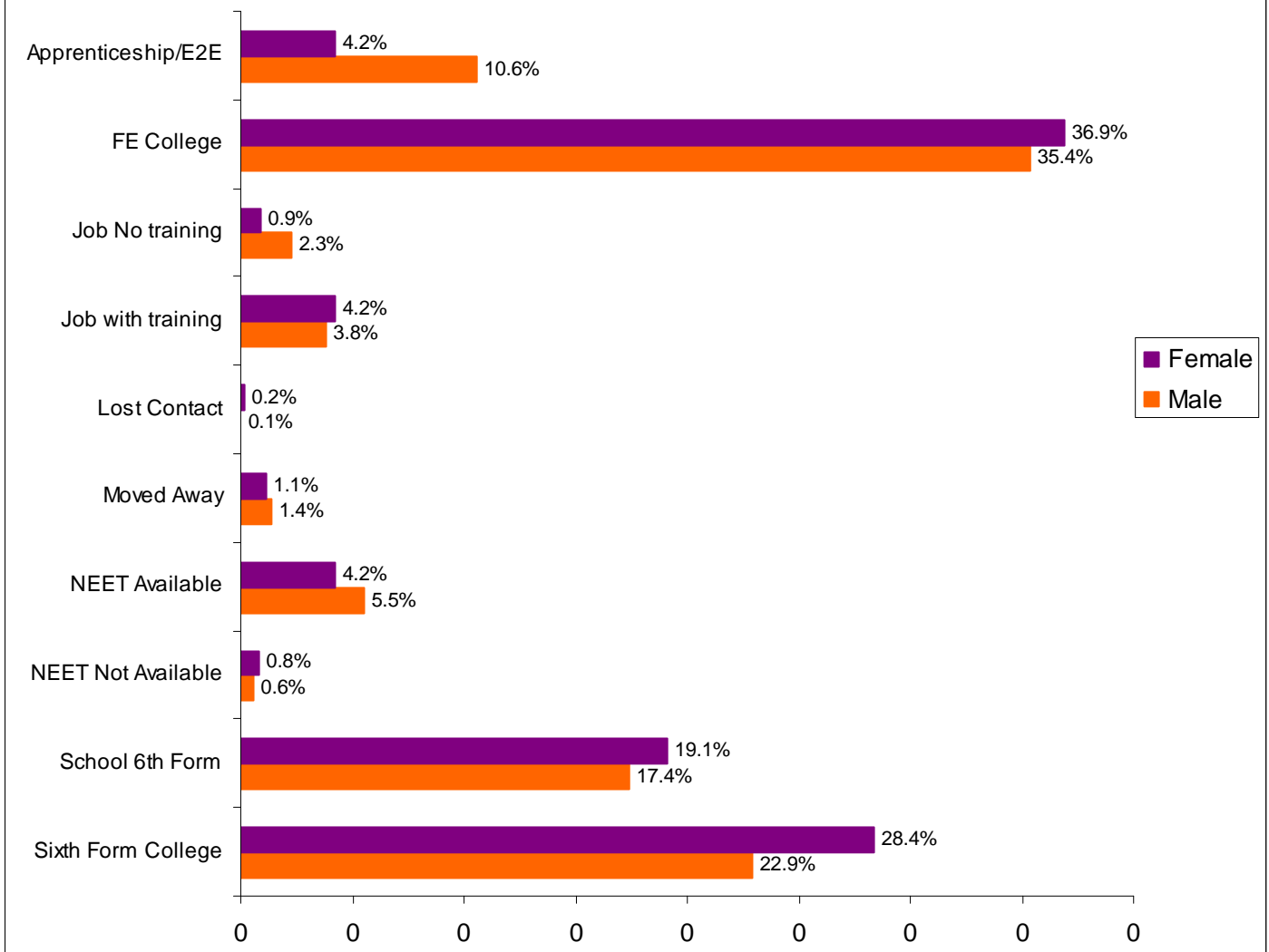
This number was divided between 1838 males (52.3%) and 1674 females (47.7%).

10.2 This difference in the gender split has been notable in the last few years and is attributable, in part to variances in male and female births in the mid to late 1980s and early 1990s and to female pupils, particularly those from minority ethnic groups, choosing secondary education outside the Oldham Borough. The gender split for both groups is as follows and is becoming more marked in respect of BME young people:

	BME	White
Male	54.3%	51.9%
Female	45.7%	48.1%

10.3 There are increasingly marked differences in the pathways being followed by young men and women, with a definite trend established. Considerably more females entered further education – 84.4% compared with only 75.7% of males. This is partly offset by the work-based learning data showing 4.2% of females entering compared with 10.6% of males. However, once employment and NEET Available data is added we see that only 13.5% of females accessed the labour market at 16, compared with 22.2% of males.

Year 11 Destinations - Female/Male Comparison 2007



Entry into Further Education over the last 10 years

	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998
Males	75.7%	74.0%	69.5%	65.5%	62.6%	67.4%	66.4%	64.5%	63.3%	57.7%
Females	84.4%	84.2%	80.5%	77.7%	74.2%	72.9%	74.0%	74.0%	70.1%	68.8%

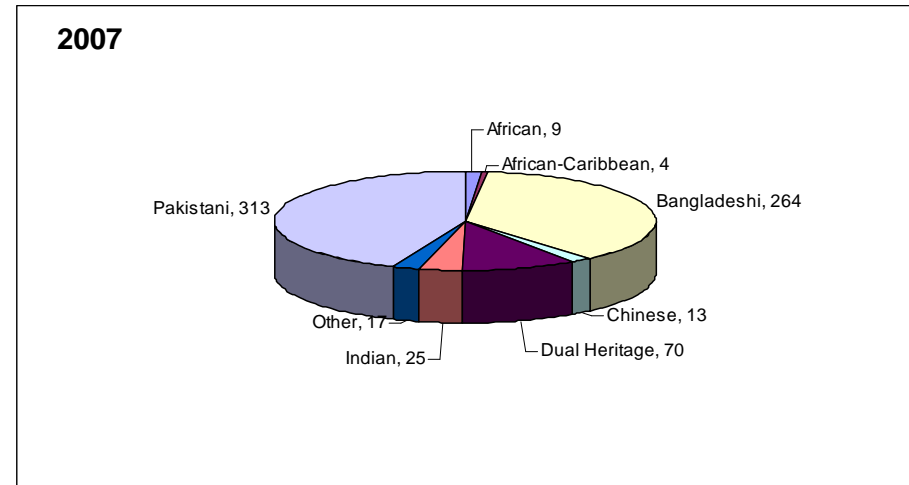
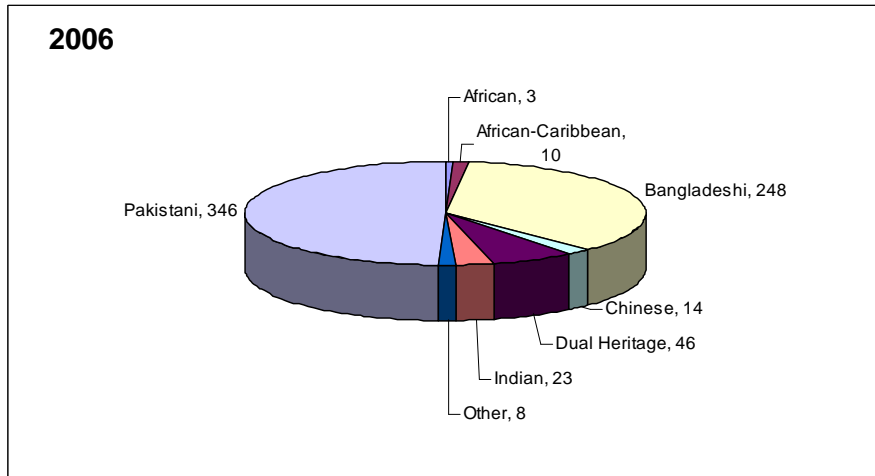
10.4 Entry to Further Education by NVQ Level

Although the difference in staying-on rate between females and males remains, the gap is beginning to narrow. Differences are also apparent in terms of the **level** of further education courses entered by males and females, in particular a higher percentage of males than females entering courses at below NVQ Level 2 and significantly more females enter courses at NVQ Level 3 or equivalent, **although the gap continues to narrow.**

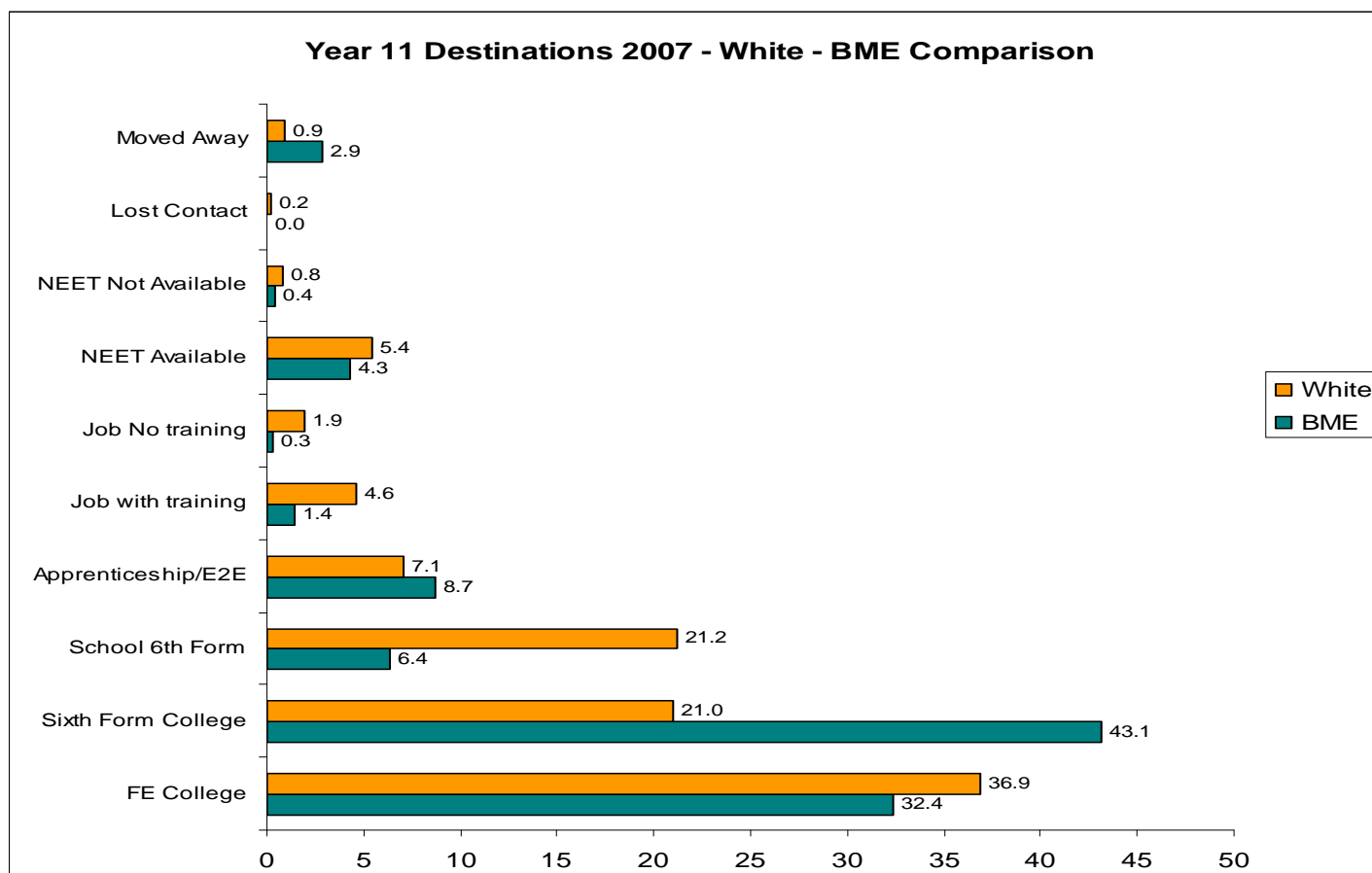
Level of FE entered	Female					Male				
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Below NVQ 2	12.2%	10.7%	12.0%	14.7%	13.3%	15.8%	16.5%	16.3%	22.3%	19.9%
NVQ Level 2	19.5%	21.6%	17.7%	19.5%	21.0%	23.3%	23.7%	21.8%	25.6%	20.3%
NVQ Level 3	68.3%	67.7%	70.3%	65.8%	65.7%	60.9%	59.8%	61.9%	52.1%	59.8%

11. ETHNIC MINORITY ISSUES

11.1 A total of 715 (20.4%) of Year 11 leavers were from black and minority ethnic (BME) groups compared with 697 (20.2%) last year, 677 (19.7%) in 2005, 638 (18.6%) in 2004, 651 (18.7%) in 2003, and 639 (18.2%) in 2002. The size of most cohorts remained more or less the same, although the Pakistani cohort has reduced and the dual heritage cohort has increased. The breakdown along with last year's pie chart is illustrated below.



11.2 The main destinations entered by BME groups compared with the White cohort are illustrated below. Differences occur across the range of categories:



11.3 Further Education

The comparative staying-on rates for the last eight years is as follows:

	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
BME	82.0%	84.2%	80.6%	82.6%	77.9%	74.9%	79.7%	75.0%
White	79.2%	77.5%	73.2%	68.9%	66.3%	68.8%	67.9%	67.0%

The difference between BME and white young people is only 3.5% this year and the gap appears to be gradually narrowing.

Only 6.4% of BME students entered school 6th forms. The percentage in 2006 was 5.3%, 2005 was 6.1%, 2004 - 6.9%, 2003 - 8.9% and in 2002 - 6.0%.

The variance in entry levels to post-16 courses between BME and White students is not as striking this year, suggesting that the gap is closing again.

Level of FE entered	BME					White				
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Below NVQ Level 2	20.5%	20.3%	22.2%	26.1%	22.4%	12.0%	11.7%	18.2%	16.4%	15.0%
NVQ Level 2	23.5%	26.2%	18.7%	25.4%	19.4%	20.4%	22.0%	20.0%	21.6%	21.0%
NVQ Level 3	56.0%	53.5%	59.2%	48.6%	58.2%	67.6%	66.3%	61.8%	62.0%	64.0%

11.4 Apprenticeships, E2E and Personal Development Opportunities

This year, 8.7% of leavers from BME groups entered LSC-funded work-based learning (Apprenticeships and E2E) compared with 5.2% last year. The figures for the last nine years are as follows:

2007	8.7%
2006	5.2%
2005	6.6%
2004	5.0%
2003	11.2%
2002	8.6%
2001	5.5%
2000	7.4%
1999	10.8%

In 2007 the percentage of white entrants fell from 9.1% to 7.1%.

11.5 Participation Rate

The participation rates of both groups have, over recent years, been very similar, with the BME group being slightly ahead again this year.

	BME	White
2007	92.0%	90.9%
2006	89.6%	89.7%
2005	88.0%	87.6%

11.6 Employment and NEET Comparisons

With higher further education entry, not surprisingly, the number of BME Year 11 leavers entering employment is very low at just 1.7% (0.6% last year, 1.6% in 2005, 2.0% in 2004, 2.8% in 2003, 3.7% in 2002 and 2.8% in 2001) compared to 6.5% of white leavers (4.5% in 2006, 7.3% in 2005, 9.3% in 2004, 9.0 in 2003 8.9% in 2002 and 10.2% in 2001).

For **the fifth time** since these reports were produced (1987), the NEET comparison shows, a lower percentage of BME leavers in the 'NEET Available' group than in the white group. The overall NEET rate for BME school leavers is 24.2% lower than the white cohort.

	BME	White
NEET Available	4.3%	5.4%
NEET Not Available	0.4%	0.8%
Total	4.7%	6.2%

SECTION 2 – ANALYSIS OF YEAR 11 LEAVERS LIVING IN OLDHAM

12. BACKGROUND

12.1 Close co-operation between Connexions services in Greater Manchester has resulted, this year, in the production of a Cross-Border protocol. The main outcome of this has been ensuring that young people who leave education in one Borough are successfully “handed over” to their “home” Connexions service, thus ensuring they receive a seamless support service.

12.2 The other bi-product of this has been the collation of a very accurate picture of young people who live in Oldham and who have been educated, up to Year 11, outside the Borough.

12.3 The following analyses have been produced by:

- Removing the non-Oldham residents attending Oldham schools; and
- Adding in the Oldham residents attending schools outside the Borough.

12.4 Our overall analysis shows that Oldham is a net importer of secondary school students with **489** Year 11s in Oldham schools residing outside the Borough and **216** Oldham residents attending school outside the Borough.

12.5 As this is the first year a **full** analysis has been possible, no comparative data is presented **with the exception of a comparison of NEET in the six wards with the highest rates.**

12.6 This section will cover key outcomes:

12.6.1 Staying on rates by ward

12.6.2 Participation in Learning by ward

12.6.3 NEET by ward

12.7 Supplementary analysis will provide:

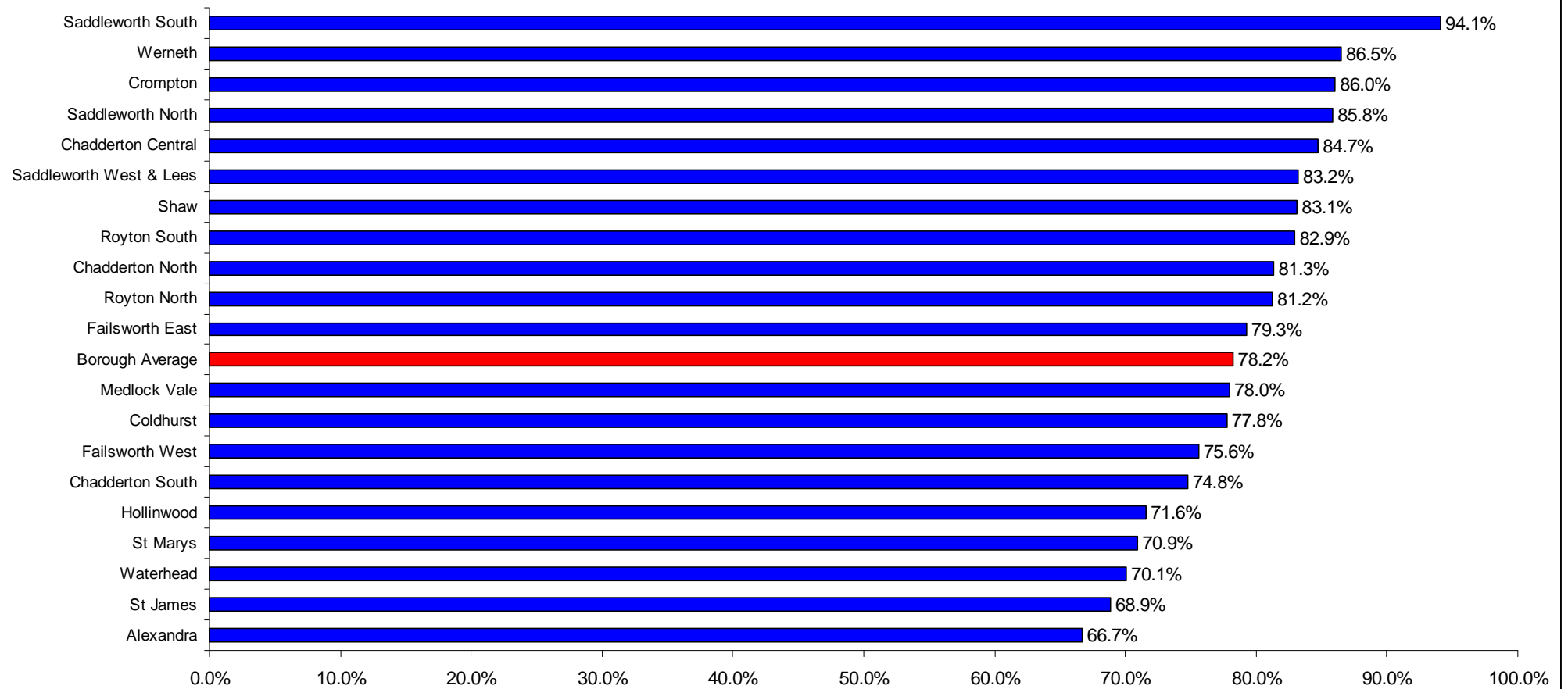
12.7.1 Ethnic breakdown

12.7.2 Out of Borough Schools attended

Ward Analyses

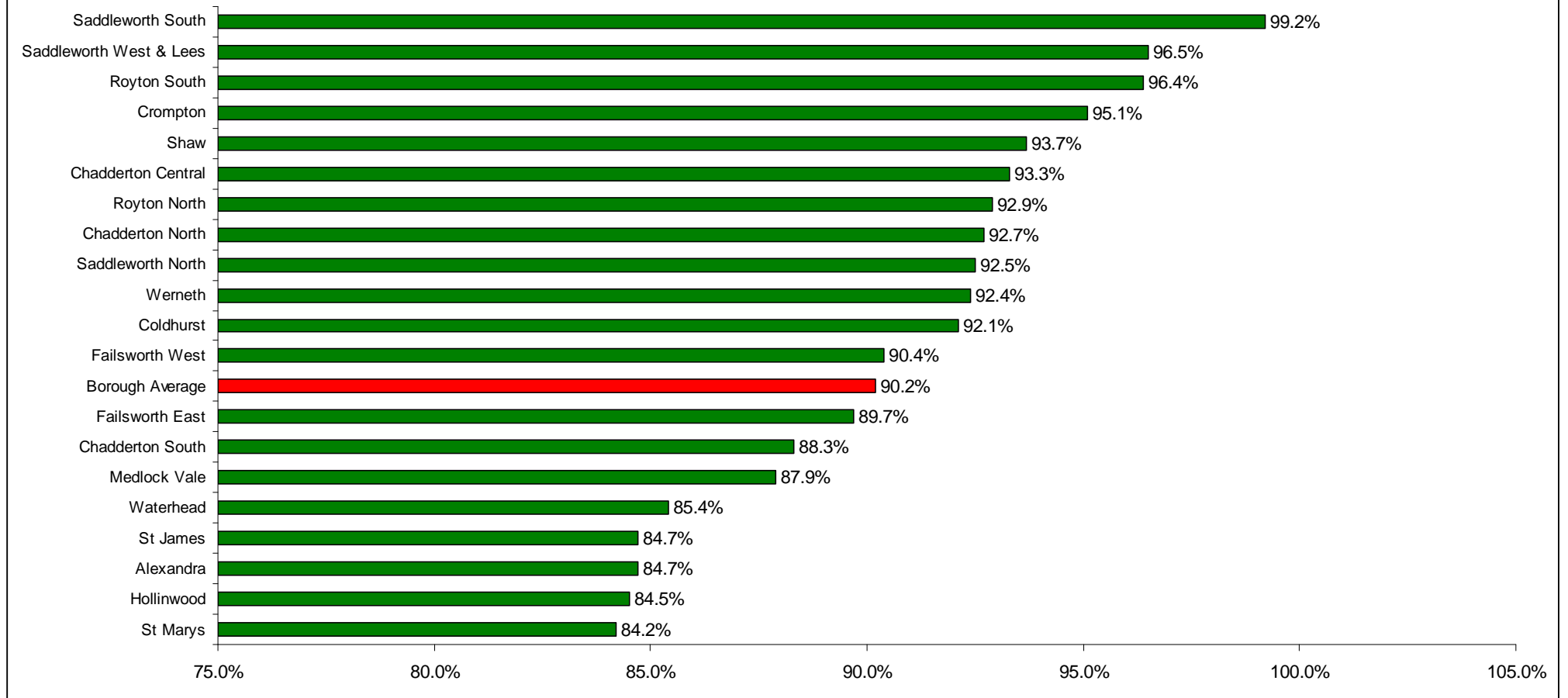
6.1 Further Education

Year 11 Destinations 2007 (Oldham Residents) - Staying On Rates by Ward



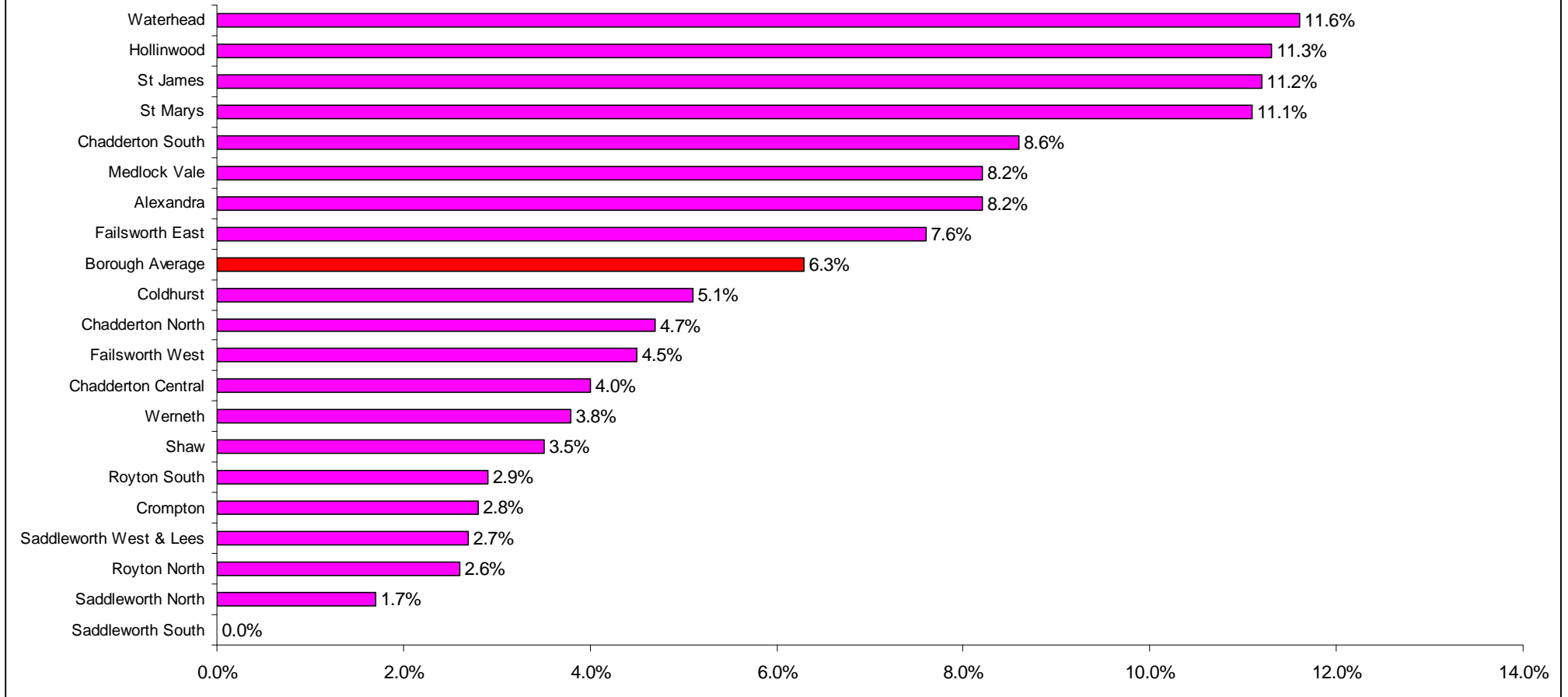
6.2 Participation in Funded Learning

Year 11 Destinations 2007 (Oldham Residents) - Participation Rates by Ward

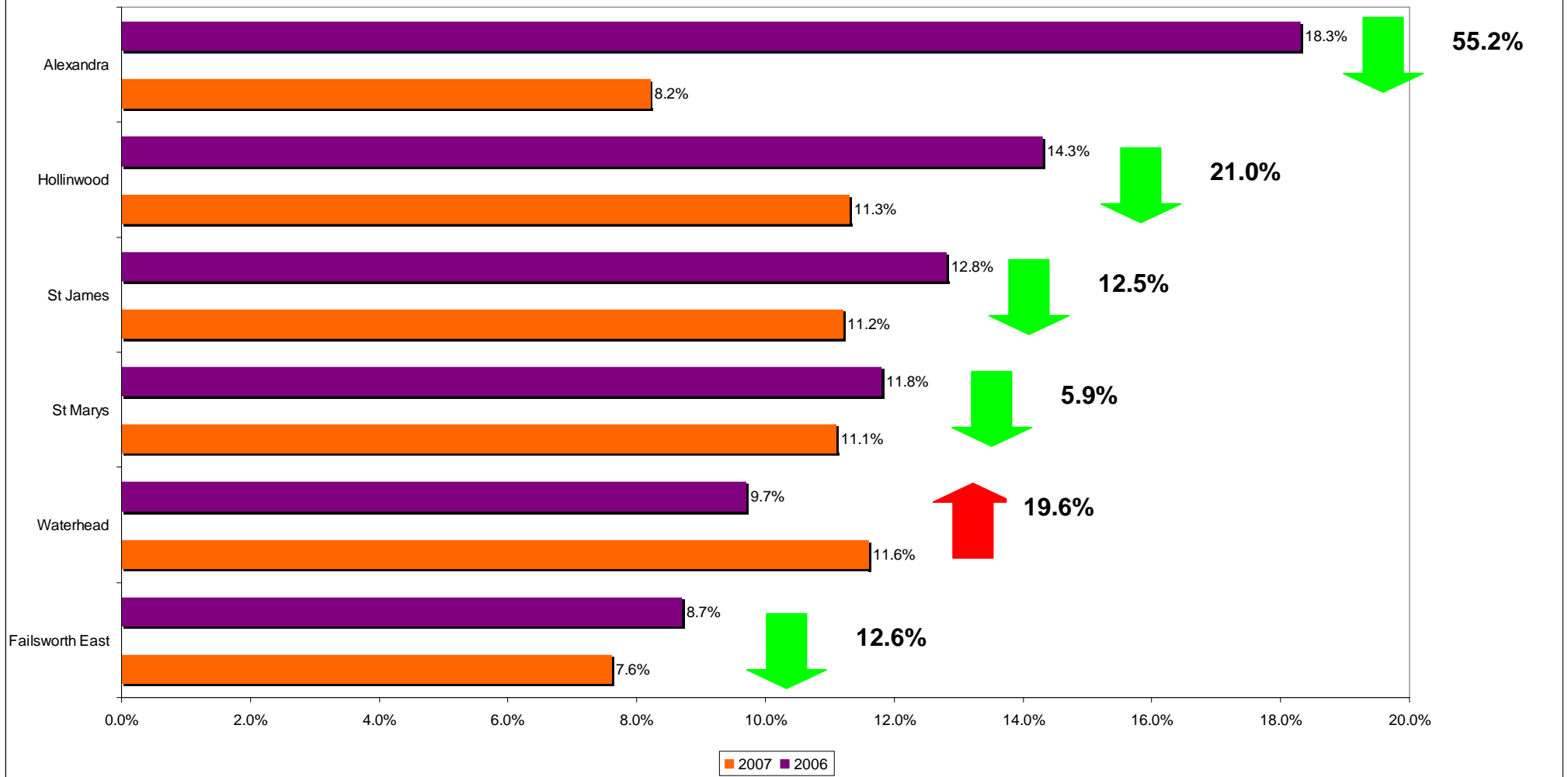


6.3 Not in Employment, Education & Training

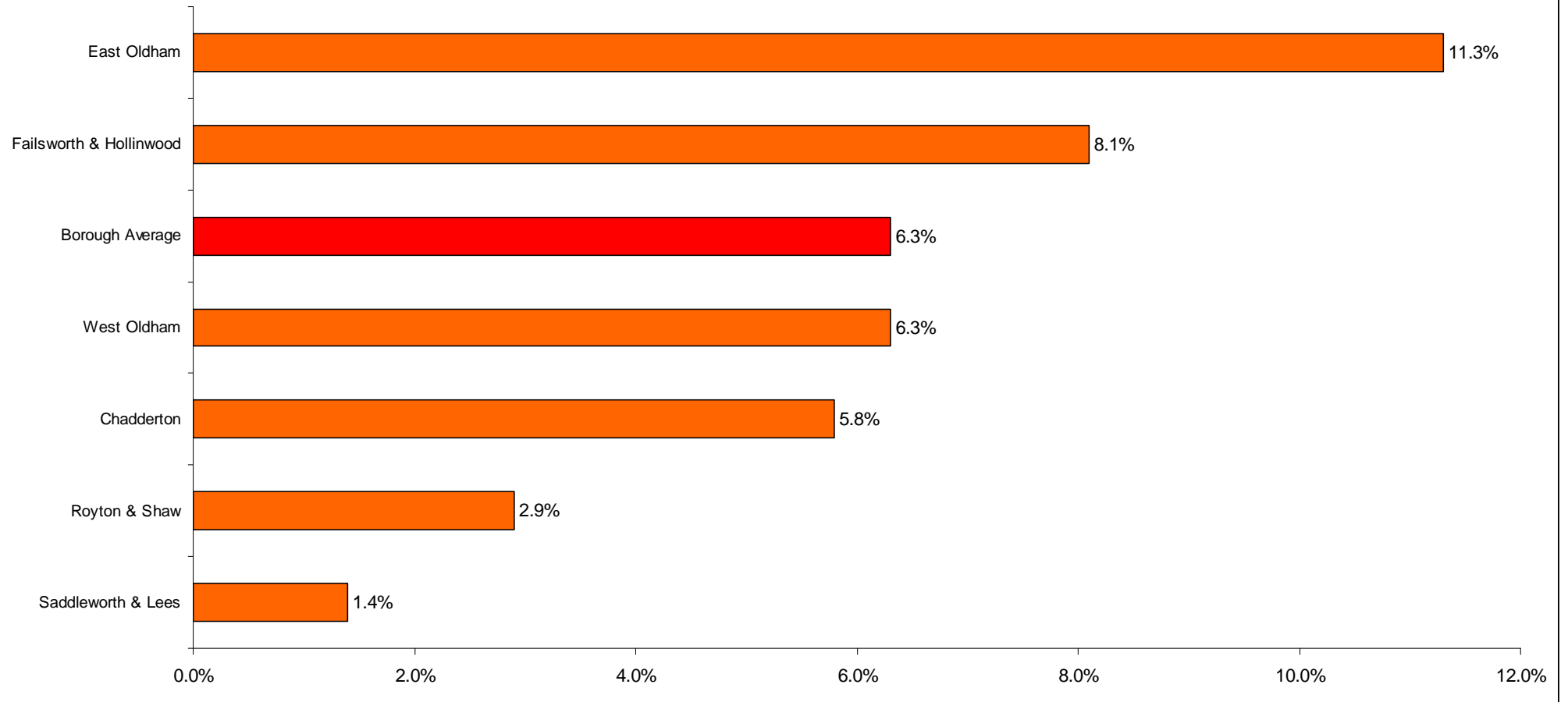
Year 11 Destinations 2007 (Oldham Residents) - NEET Rates by Ward



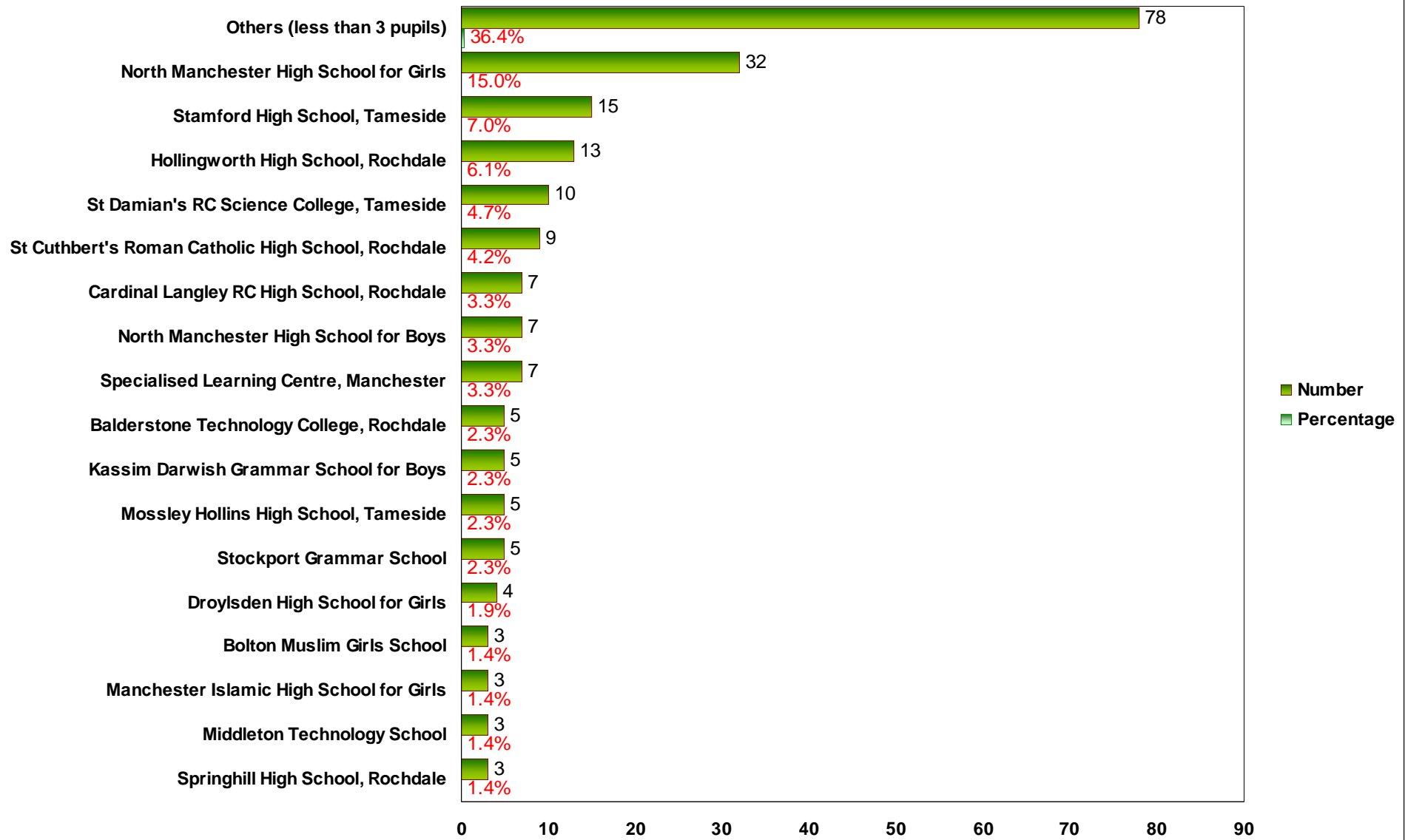
Year 11 Destinations - NEET Rate by Ward 2006 & 2007 - TOP SIX WARDS in 2006



Year 11 Destinations 2007 (Oldham Residents) - NEET Rates by Township



Oldham Year 11 Residents Leaving Out of Borough Schools 2007 (3 or more pupils)



The analysis in Part 1 of this report alluded to the gender split of Year 11 leavers in Oldham schools, suggesting that as well as higher male birth rates occurring in the early 1990s, there may also be a number of BME females choosing to be educated outside the Borough. Our analysis of Oldham-resident Year 11 leavers concludes that although a number of Bangladeshi and Pakistani-heritage females studied at single sex schools outside the Borough (mainly North Manchester High School for Girls), similar numbers of Asian-heritage males did likewise. The gender split therefore remains more or less the same at 52.1% male and 47.9% female.

7. Conclusion

This 'Moving On - 2007 Report' would be incomplete without acknowledging the support given and information provided by: head teachers and staff in schools; the principals and staff of The Oldham College and Oldham Sixth Form College; staff of Oldham MBC Children, Young People & Families Department; Greater Manchester Learning & Skills Council, employers; training providers; neighbouring Connexions providers; schools and colleges in neighbouring areas; and, not least, young people and their parents, carers and relatives.

Positive Steps Oldham
November 2007