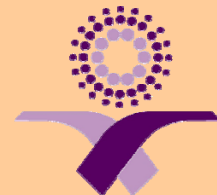


An Analysis of School Leavers in Oldham 2009

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OLDHAM**

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connexions

OLDHAM

MOVING ON 2009 - AN ANALYSIS OF YEAR 11 SCHOOL LEAVERS IN OLDHAM - 2009

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The following analyses of the destinations of 2009 Year 11 school pupils are based on information held by Connexions in Oldham on 31st October 2009.

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 **99.8%** 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 in contact with Connexions.
- Section 2 analyses Year 11 leavers **who are Oldham residents only** and includes pupils living in Oldham who were educated in schools **outside** the Borough.

SECTION 1 – ANALYSIS OF YEAR 11 LEAVERS FROM OLDHAM SCHOOLS

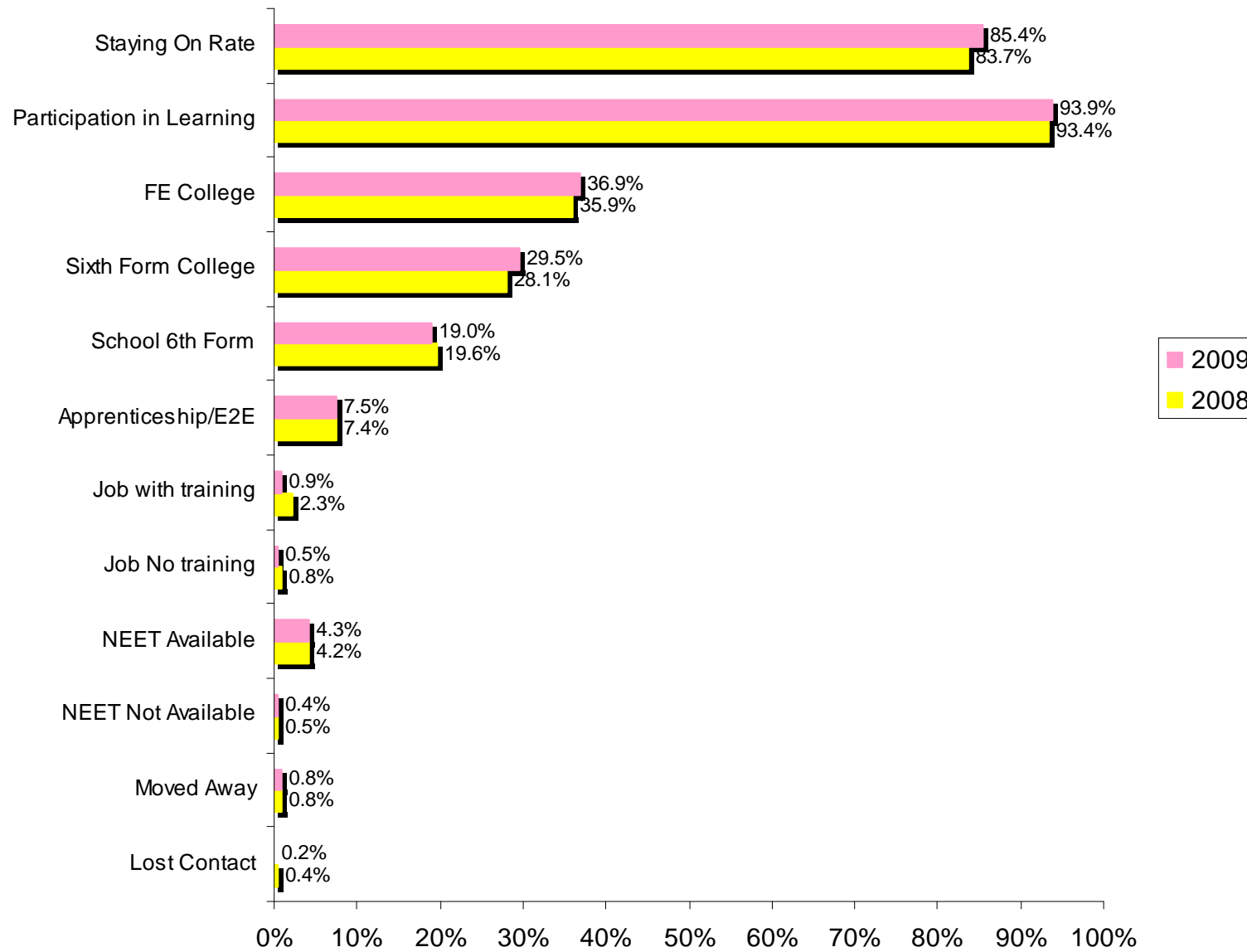
2. KEY FINDINGS

- ❖ **Staying-on Rates increases (by 2%) from 83.7% to 85.4%;**
- ❖ **Entry to LSC-funded work-based learning increases, slightly from 7.4% to 7.5%;**
- ❖ **Entry to Employment decreases by (54.8%) from 3.1% to 1.4%;**
- ❖ **67.4% of students entering further education access Level 3 courses compared with 66.1% last year;**
- ❖ **Participation in funded learning and jobs with recognised training increases slightly from 93.4% last year to 93.9%; and**
- ❖ **The NEET rate for Year 11 leavers remains exactly the same as last year at 4.7%.**

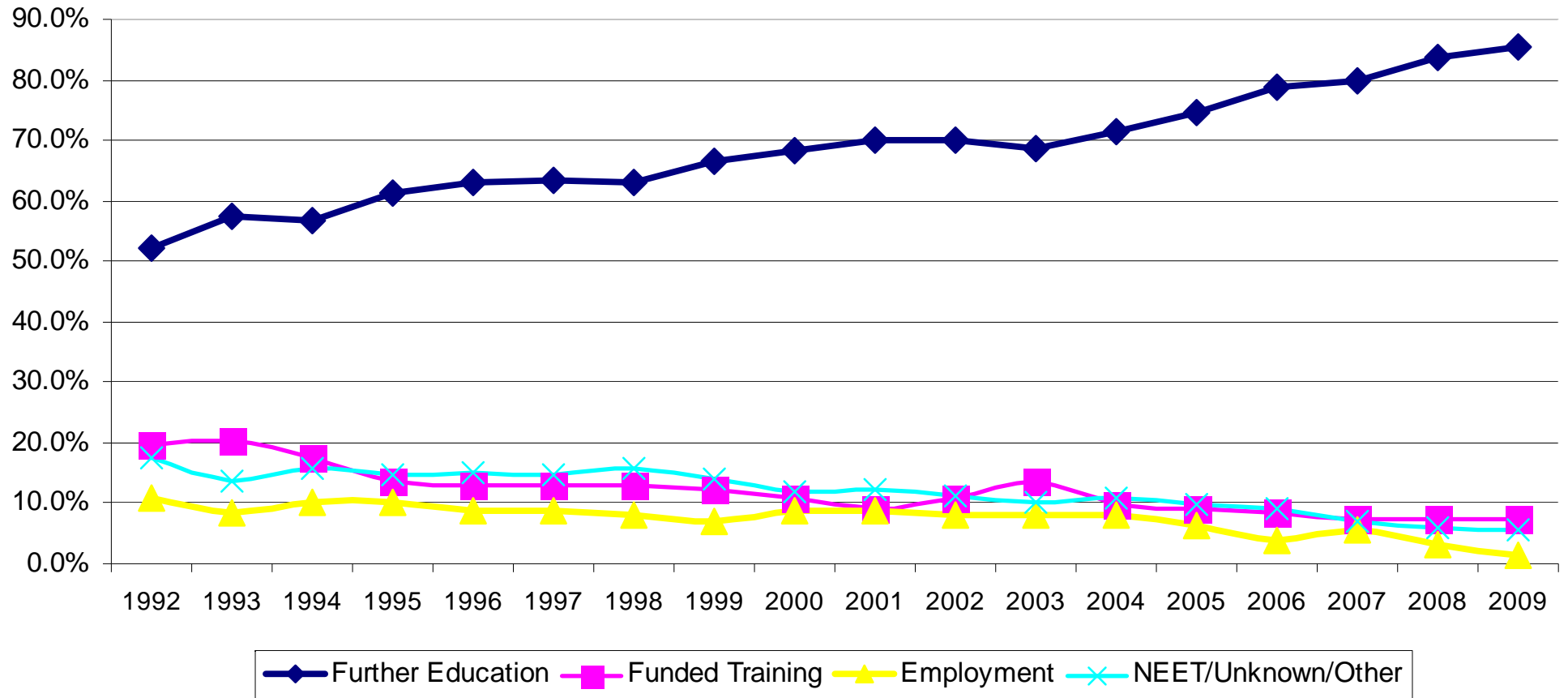
3. MAIN DESTINATIONS

- 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%, in 2007 this was 79.8%, 83.7% in 2008 and this year has seen another increase to 85.4%.
- 3.2 There has been a **corresponding decrease** in labour market entrants falling from 18.0% in 2007 to 14.8% in 2008 and to 13.2% this year. However, entry to LSC-funded work-based training **has increased slightly** to 7.5%.
- 3.3 The NEET Available (Unemployed) group has **risen, slightly** from 4.2% in 2008 to 4.3% this year. However, the NEET Unavailable group has also fallen slightly from 0.5% to 0.4%. Therefore the overall NEET rate has remained the same at 4.7%.
- 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 17 years are shown on pages 3 and 4.

Year 11 Destinations 2008 & 2009



Main Destinations 1992 - 2009



4. TRANSFERRING TO FURTHER EDUCATION

4.1 School Sixth Forms

The number of students entering school sixth forms (or repeating Year 11) was **622** compared with **675** last year. The percentage of the total cohort has increased from 18.2% in 2008 to 19.0% this year. Only 5 young people continued their studies at school sixth forms outside Oldham.

4.2 Sixth Form Colleges

Numbers entering Sixth Form Colleges were identical to 2008 at **969**. Because the cohort is smaller, the percentage of the cohort choosing this option increased from 28.1% in 2008 to 29.5% this year.

882 students transferred to Oldham Sixth Form College and 87 young people or 9.0% continued their studies at sixth form colleges outside Oldham with Ashton Sixth Form College (30) Loreto (20) and Greenhead College in Huddersfield (13) taking the majority. (This compares with 85, last year, and 97 in 2007).

The numbers entering School Sixth forms and Sixth Form Colleges, combined, for the last 11 years are shown in the table over the page:

Analysis of Entry to School Sixth Forms and Sixth Form Colleges – 1998 - 2009

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%
2008	819	825	1644	48%	36%	12%
2009	774	817	1591	48%	39%	10%

4.3 Further Education Colleges

The number of leavers transferring to full-time courses in colleges of further education in 2009 was **1,212** compared with **1,237** in 2008 **1,269** in 2007. Percentage-wise this represents an increase in the cohort share at 36.9% compared with 35.9% in 2008 and 36.1% in 2007.

The Oldham College's share of the general FE College market (not including sixth form colleges) was 62.2% compared with 62.7% in 2008 and 59.8% in 2007. This compares with 66.0% in 2006, 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, Manchester 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 11 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%
2008	680	557	1237	36%
2009	639	573	1212	37%

4.4 NVQ Equivalent Entry Levels

For the last 11 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 1999-2008.

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 to redress the balance, again, with Level 3 entry gaining ground. Entry to courses at Level 1 and below has fallen and numbers accessing Level 2 courses has increased slightly.

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

Entry to FE by NVQ Level	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
Below NVQ 2	14.8%	16.7%	16.6%	18.4%	14.3%	13.5%	13.8%	15.8%	16.2%	14.1%	13.0%
NVQ 2	17.9%	17.2%	20.6%	22.4%	19.7%	22.9%	21.0%	20.8%	22.0%	21.5%	20.3%
NVQ 3	67.4%	66.1%	62.8%	59.2%	66.0%	63.6%	65.2%	63.4%	61.8%	64.4%	66.7%

5 TRANSFERRING TO WORK-BASED LSC-FUNDED LEARNING

The percentage of Year 11 pupils entering Apprenticeships, Entry to Employment (E2E), Pre-E2E and other personal development opportunities has increased slightly from 7.4 to 7.5%%.

The percentage of **females fell** from 5.4% to 5.1%. However, the percentage of **males** entering this option **increased** from 9.2% to 9.8%.

This year E2E, Pre-E2E and other personal development opportunities was readily available with 146 (59.1%) out of the total of work-based learning entrants accessing this provision compared with 162 (63.3%) in 2008, 162 (61.4%) in 2007, 132 (45.8%) in 2006 and 150 (48%) in 2005. Overall, the numbers gaining "employed" status from the start of training was 33.9% compared with 33.2% in 2008 and 31.4% in 2007.

6 ENTERING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES (Outside Funded Learning)

The percentage of 2009 Year 11 pupils entering employment outside Government-funded training decreased dramatically from 3.1% in 2008 to 1.4% this year, 5.7% in 2007, 3.7% in 2006, 6.2% in 2005 and 8.0% in 2004.

0.9% 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.

This left only 15 young people (0.5% of the total cohort) entering employment with no degree of planned training. Much of this employment was through agencies or other temporary work.

7 PARTICIPATION IN LEARNING

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 nine years is shown below:

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
85.2%	86.2%	86.2%	86.3%	87.7%	89.7%	91.3%	93.4%	93.9%

8 NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING (NEET)

The number of NEET young people was **154** compared with **162** last year.

This group is divided into two categories:

- Those young people who are available and actively seeking a job, course or training programme and therefore **registered as unemployed** with Connexions; and
- 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).

Last year, the NEET rate fell significantly and despite the downturn in the economy, locally, the rate has remained exactly the same as last year at **4.7%**. We believe this is the result of:

- An increase in GCSE achievement at 5 A*-C including English and Maths and an a concomitant increase in numbers staying-on in education;
- The continued use of a “handover” process of potential NEET young people between school and community-based personal advisers, well before they leave school;
- Excellent liaison 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; and
- Utilising the Fast Track to Success programme in Year 11.

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

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
NEET Available	4.3%	4.2%	4.9%	6.7%	6.0%	7.0%	6.9%	7.2%	6.9%	6.9%
NEET Not Available	0.4%	0.5%	0.7%	0.6%	0.9%	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	1.5%	1.7%
Total	4.7%	4.7%	5.6%	7.3%	6.9%	8.2%	8.2%	8.5%	8.4%	8.6%

Of the 141 young people in the “NEET Available group”, 16 reside outside the Borough of Oldham and are registered with a neighbouring Connexions provider.

9 UNKNOWN

This year, a mere 0.2% (or **5 young people, 4 females and 1 male**) remained unknown to Connexions. The figure has been dramatically reduced over recent years and compares to 1.4% in 1999 and 3.7% in 1998.

10 GENDER ISSUES

There was a 4.7% reduction in the total Year 11 cohort in 2009 from 2008. The total cohort was 3,281. This number was divided between 1695 males (51.7%) and 1586 females (48.3%). The cohort size was the lowest of the last eight years.

Previous years’ cohort sizes were as follows:

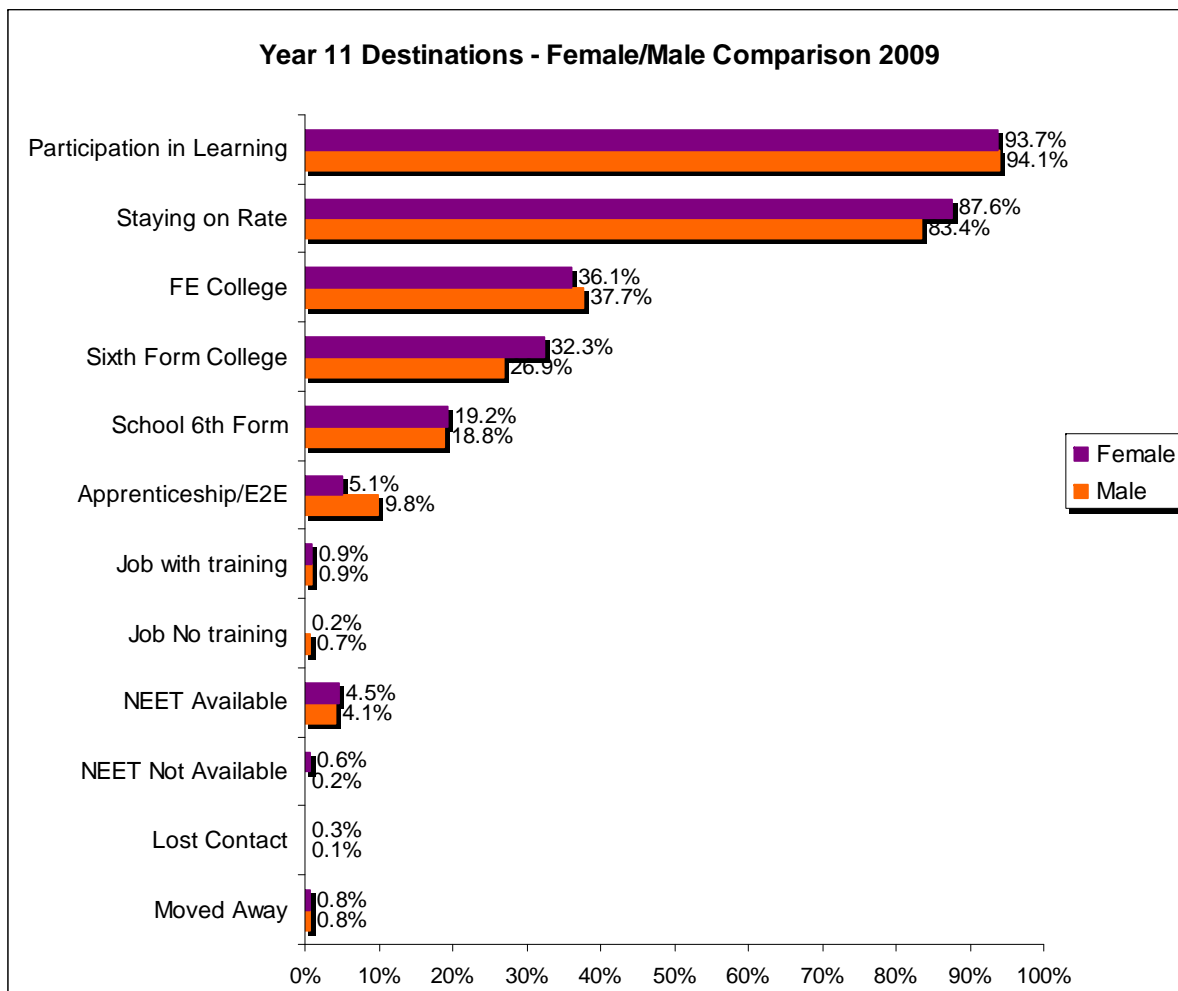
2008 – 3,443
 2007 – 3,512
 2006 – 3,452
 2005 – 3,439
 2004 – 3,424
 2003 – 3,484
 2002 – 3,475
 2001 – 3,503

The difference in the gender split has been notable in the last few years although this year it has begun to even out. The larger difference in the male / female split in the BME population is likely to be as a result of a number of females from minority ethnic groups, choose single sex secondary education outside the Oldham Borough.

:

Male	BME	White
	52.7%	51.4%
Female	47.3%	48.6%

There have been increasingly marked differences in the pathways being followed by young men and women, with a definite trend established for the last few years. Considerably more females entered further education. However, in 2009 the gap continued to close with – 86.9% of females compared with 82.9% of males. This was partly offset by the work-based learning data showing 5.8% of females entering compared with 9.0% of males. However, once employment and NEET Available data is added we see that only 10.8% of females accessed the labour market at 16, compared with 15.5% of males.



Entry into Further Education over the last 11 years

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998
Males	83.4%	81.1%	75.7%	74.0%	69.5%	65.5%	62.6%	67.4%	66.4%	64.5%	63.3%	57.7%
Females	87.6%	86.7%	84.4%	84.2%	80.5%	77.7%	74.2%	72.9%	74.0%	74.0%	70.1%	68.8%

Entry to Further Education by NVQ Level

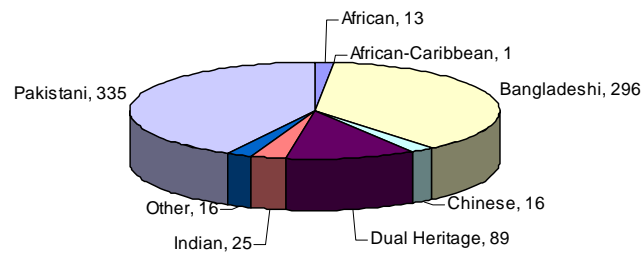
Although the difference in staying-on rate between females and males remains, the gap is beginning to narrow. Differences are also apparent in terms of the **level** of further education courses entered by males and females, in particular a higher percentage of males than females entering courses at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

Level of FE entered	Female						Male					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Below NVQ 2	10.7%	12.0%	14.7%	13.3%	12.8%	12.4%	16.5%	16.3%	22.3%	19.9%	20.5%	17.1%
NVQ Level 2	21.6%	17.7%	19.5%	21.0%	15.0%	16.2%	23.7%	21.8%	25.6%	20.3%	19.3%	19.5%
NVQ Level 3	67.7%	70.3%	65.8%	65.7%	72.2%	71.4%	59.8%	61.9%	52.1%	59.8%	60.2%	63.3%

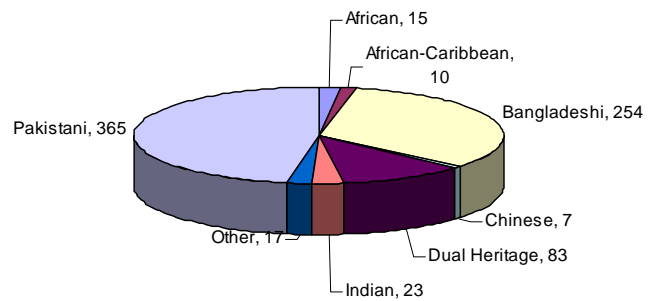
11 ETHNIC MINORITY ISSUES

A total of 774 (23.6%) of Year 11 leavers were from black and minority ethnic (BME) groups compared with 791 last year (23.0%) 697 in 2007 (20.2). The size of most cohorts remained more or less the same.

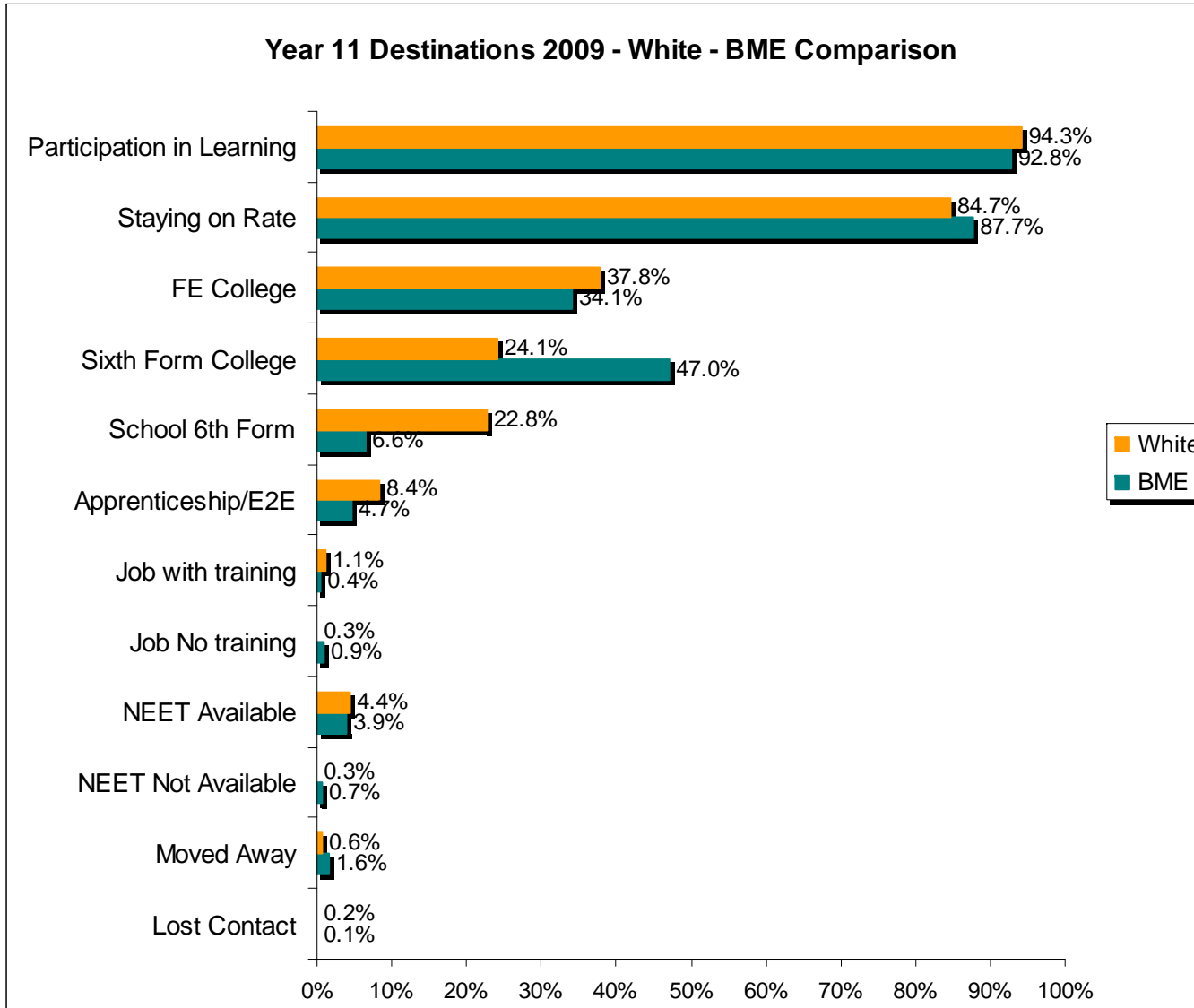
2008



2009



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 ten years is as follows:

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
BME	87.7%	88.4%	82.0%	84.2%	80.6%	82.6%	77.9%	74.9%	79.7%	75.0%
White	84.7%	82.3%	79.2%	77.5%	73.2%	68.9%	66.3%	68.8%	67.9%	67.0%

The difference between BME and white young people appeared to be **closing** again, having widened considerably last year.

Only 6.6% of BME students entered school sixth forms although there was some evidence that was increasing slightly, year on year. Last year the figure was 8.5%, 6.4% in 2007, 5.3% in 2006 (2005 - 6.1% and 2004 - 6.9%).

The variance in entry levels to post-16 courses between BME and White students is widening again following last year when the gap was beginning to close.

Level of FE entered	BME							White						
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Below NVQ Level 2	20.5%	20.3%	22.2%	26.1%	22.4%	20.7%	20.9%	12.0%	11.7%	18.2%	16.4%	15.0%	15.4%	12.8%
NVQ Level 2	23.5%	26.2%	18.7%	25.4%	19.4%	19.3%	20.5%	20.4%	22.0%	20.0%	21.6%	21.0%	16.5%	17.0%
NVQ Level 3	56.0%	53.5%	59.2%	48.6%	58.2%	59.9%	58.6%	67.6%	66.3%	61.8%	62.0%	64.0%	68.1%	70.2%

11.4 Apprenticeships, E2E and Personal Development Opportunities

This year, 4.7% of leavers from BME groups entered LSC-funded work-based learning (Apprenticeships and E2E) compared with 5.1% last year. The figures for the last six years are as follows:

2009	4.2%
2008	5.1%
2007	8.7%
2006	5.2%
2005	6.6%
2004	5.0%

In 2009, the percentage of white entrants rose from 8.1% (2008) to 8.4%.

11.5 Participation Rate

The participation rates of both groups have, over recent years, been very similar, however the BME percentage is lower this year than the white cohort.

Rate	BME	White
2009	92.8%	94.3%
2008	94.3%	93.1%
2007	92.0%	90.0%
2006	89.6%	89.7%
2005	88.0%	87.6%

11.6 Employment and NEET Comparisons

With considerably higher further education entry, not surprisingly, the number of Year 11 leavers entering employment is very low at just 1.3% for BME leavers and 1.4% for white.

For **the seventh time** since these reports were produced (in 1987), the NEET comparison shows, a lower percentage of BME leavers in the 'NEET Available' group than in the white group. However, the gap has closed significantly this year.

	BME	White
NEET Available	3.9%	4.4%
NEET Not Available	0.7%	0.3%
Total	4.6%	4.7%

SECTION 2 – ANALYSIS OF YEAR 11 LEAVERS LIVING IN OLDHAM

12 BACKGROUND

12.1 Close co-operation between Connexions services in Greater Manchester resulted, two years ago, 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, in 2009, Oldham was a net importer (by **177** Year 11 pupils) of secondary school students with **465** Year 11s in Oldham schools residing outside the Borough and **288** Oldham residents attending school outside the Borough.

12.5 This section will cover key outcomes:

12.5.1 Overall comparison of destination pathways with 2009

12.5.2 Staying on rates by ward

12.5.3 Participation in Learning by ward

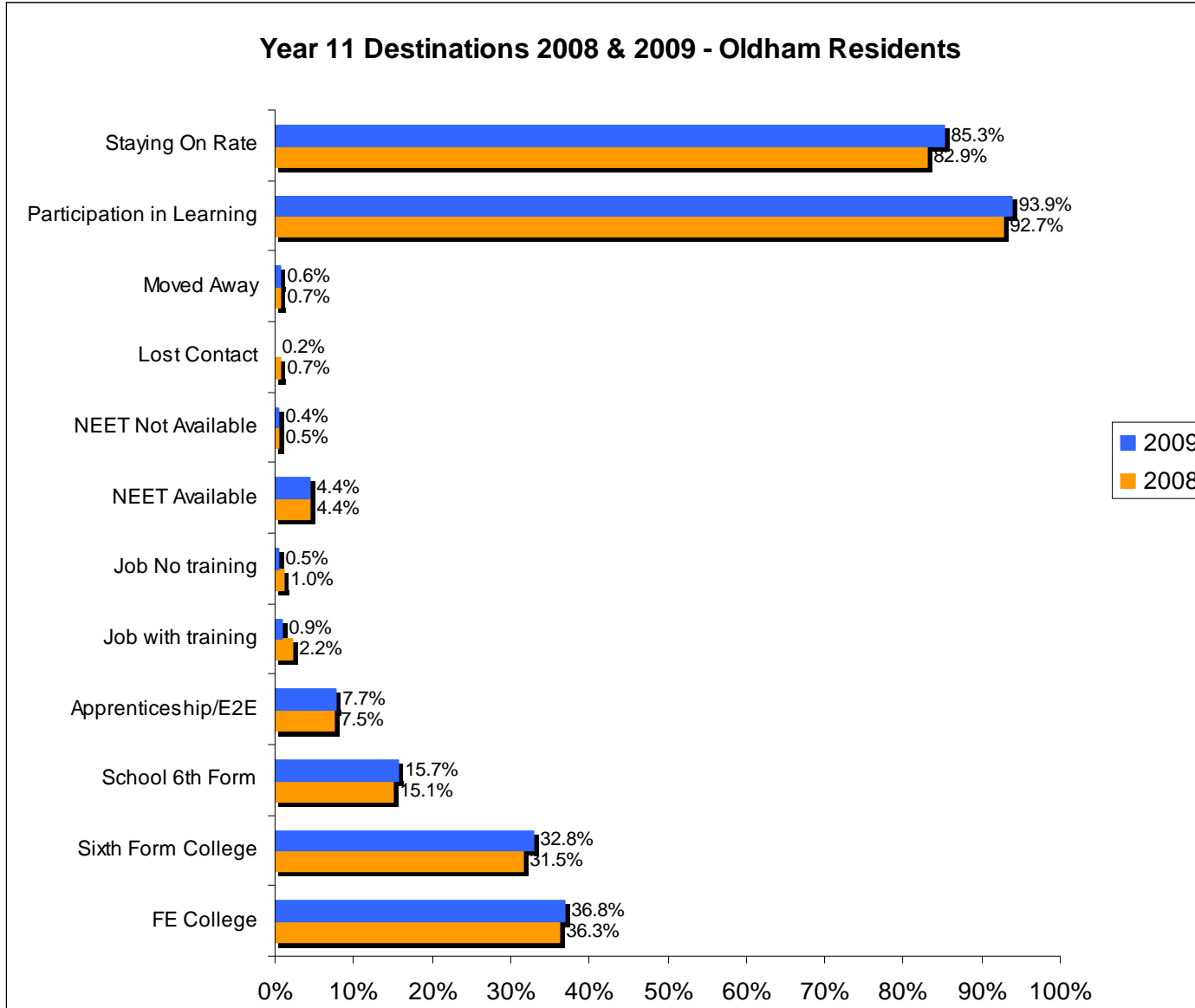
12.5.4 NEET by ward

12.6 Supplementary analysis will provide:

12.6.1 Out of Borough Schools attended

12.6.2 Gender and Ethnicity Perspectives

13.1 Oldham Residents' Destinations 2008 & 2009



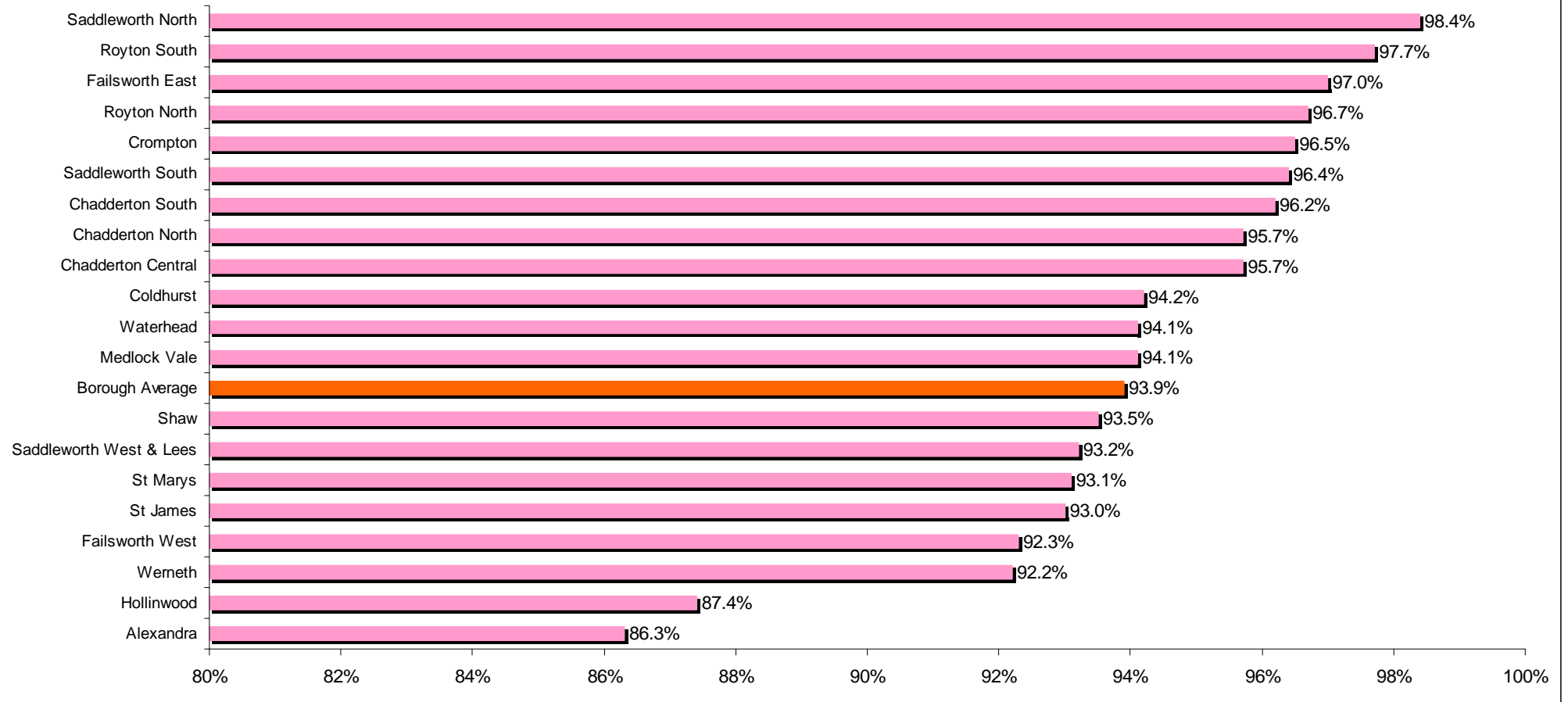
The staying on in FE rate has increased by 2.9% and the participation rate by 1.3%

13.2 Ward Analysis – Staying on Rates 2009



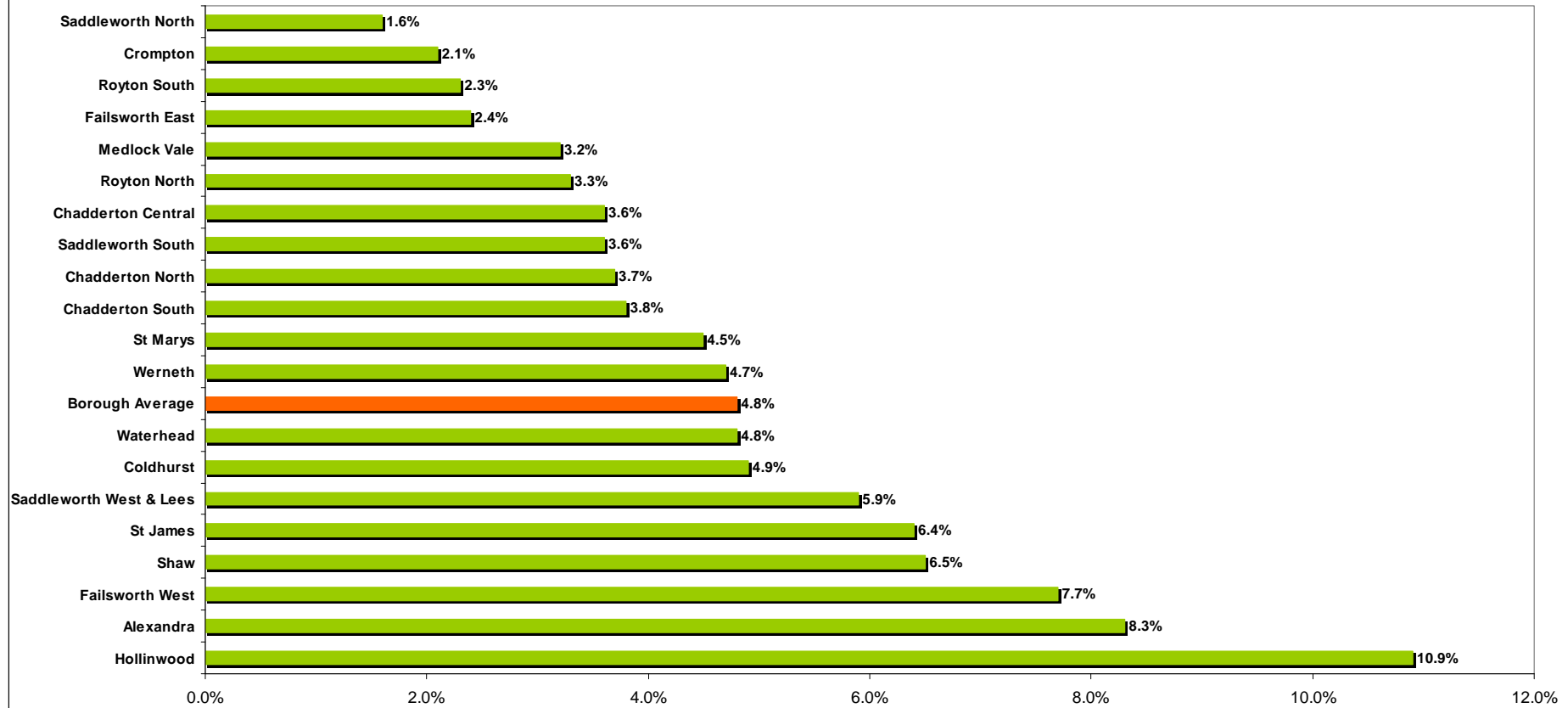
13.3 Ward Analysis - Participation in Funded Learning 2009

Year 11 Destinations 2009 (Oldham Residents) - Participation in Learning Rates by Ward

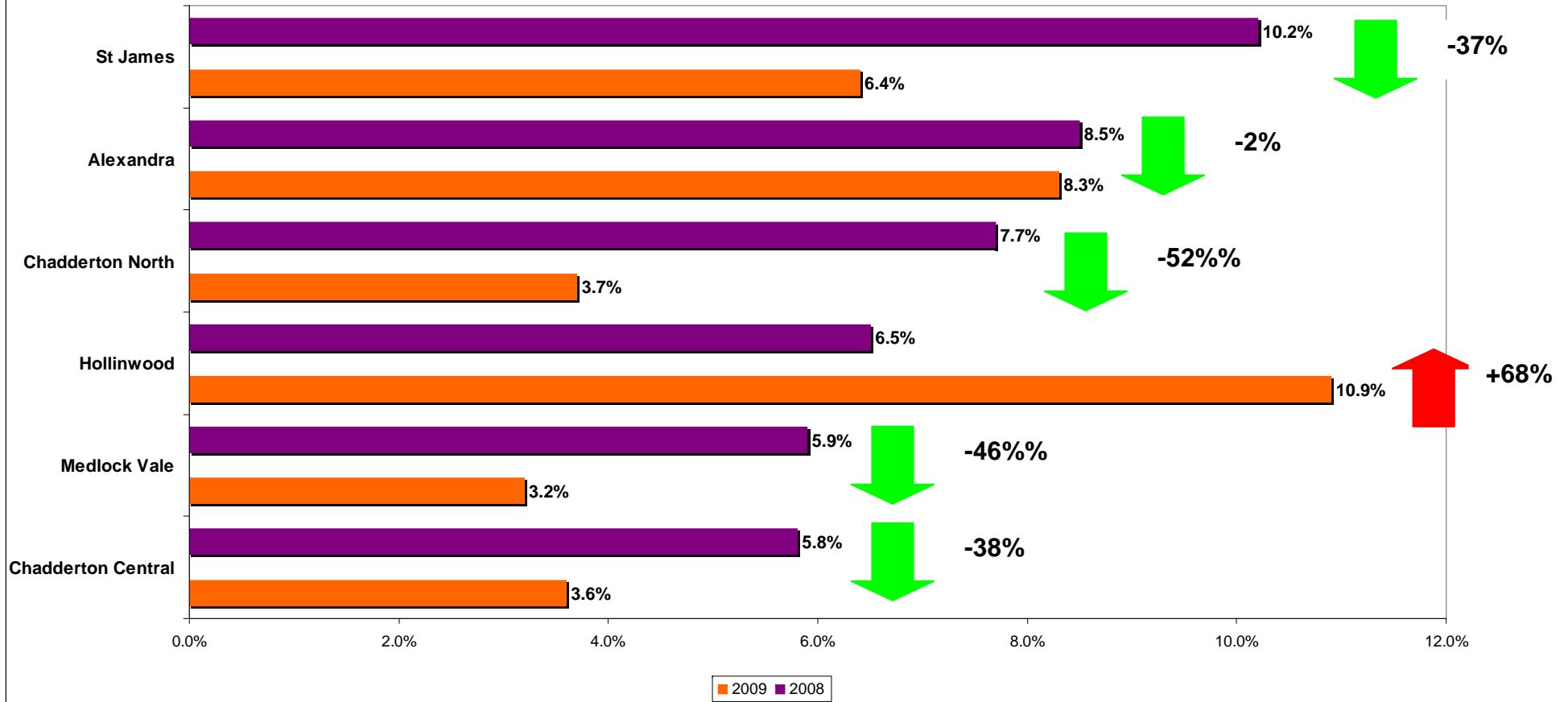


13.4 Ward Analysis - Not in Employment, Education & Training (NEET) 2009

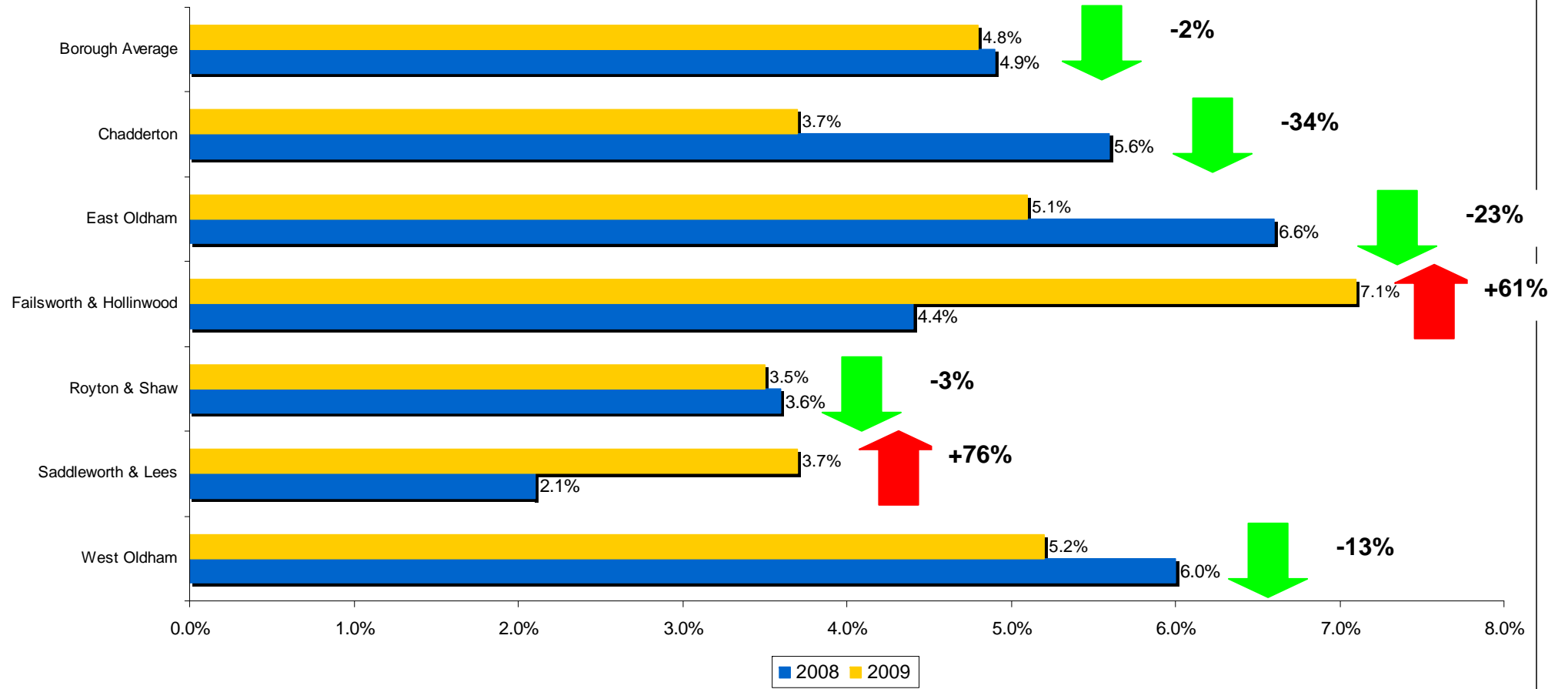
Year 11 Destinations - NEET Rate by Ward 2009



Year 11 Destinations - NEET Rate by Ward 2008 & 2009 - (TOP SIX WARDS in 2008)

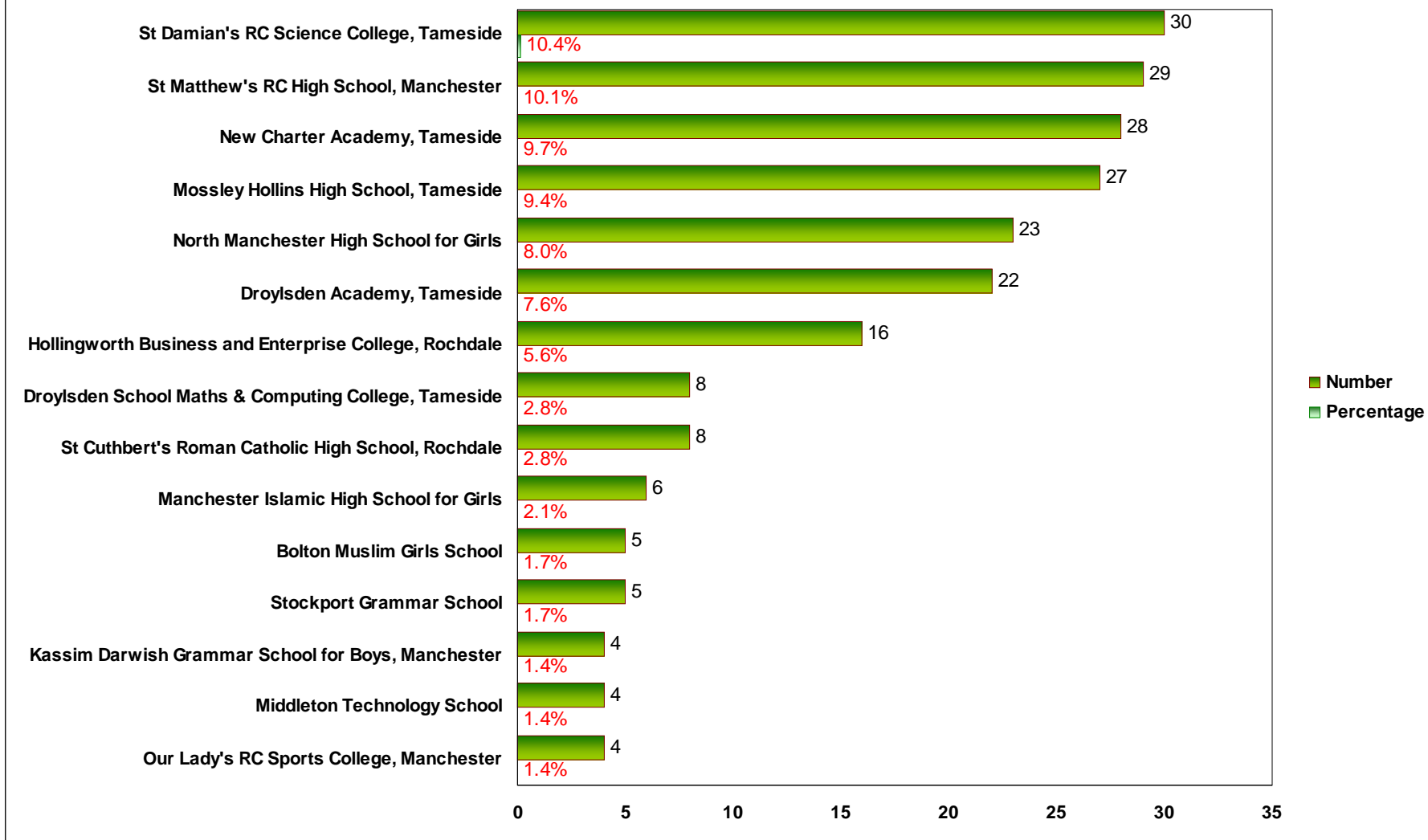


Year 11 Destinations 2009 (Oldham Residents) - NEET Rates by Township compared with 2008



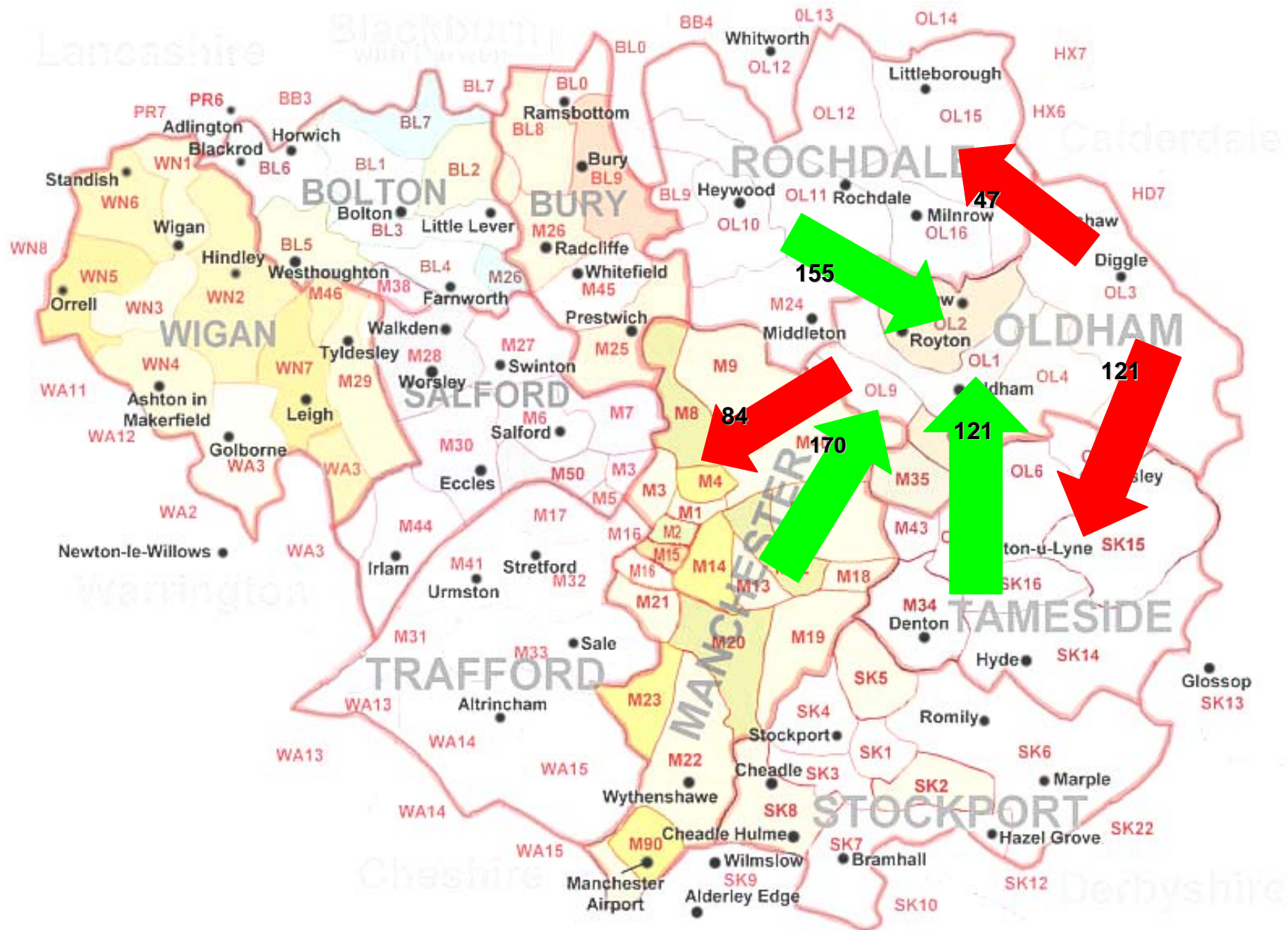
13.5 Oldham Residents – Which School Did they Attend?

Oldham Year 11 Residents Leaving Out of Borough Schools 2009
(A further 69 attended schools outside the Borough in numbers of 3 or less)



75 Oldham resident Year 11 pupils attended Roman Catholic Schools outside the Borough and 15 attended Islamic schools.

13.6 Imports & Exports in Year 11 2009



13.7 Gender & Ethnicity Perspectives

This section looks at the gender and ethnic mix of the Year 11 leavers who attended schools outside the Borough.

The number of females was 167 out of 288 (or 54.5%). This compares with 48.3% of females attending Oldham schools. This difference indicates that parents of female pupils are choosing schools outside the Borough for a range of reasons, indeed 40 out of 167 attended single gender schools.

The number of males was 121 (or 45.5%). This compares with 51.7% of males attending Oldham schools. Only six attended single gender schools.

The number of BME Year 11 leavers who attended schools outside the Borough was 95 or 33% of the total. This compares with the BME Year 11 resident population of Oldham of 27%. A choice of both single gender (68 out of 95) and Islamic education (20 out of 95) appears to account for this difference.

13.8 Does Location Impact on Choice?

Statistically significant examples were:

- 38 out of 46 Alexandra residents attended schools in Tameside, of whom 35 were White – British;
- 19 out of 25 Crompton and Shaw residents attended schools in Rochdale;
- 13 out of 40 Saddleworth ward residents attended Roman Catholic School in Tameside; and
- 30 out of 37 Failsworth East & West residents attended Roman Catholic Schools in Manchester.

7. Conclusion

This 'Moving On - 2009 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
20th November 2009