

- Buckinghamshire Thames Valley LEP has the lowest proportion of any residents with no qualifications of any LEP area;
- BTVLEP ranks 4th of all LEP areas for the highest proportion of residents with NVQ4+;
- Chiltern district has only 3 per cent of residents with no qualifications and 52.6 per cent hold NVQ4 or above;
- 94.9 per cent of Buckinghamshire residents hold a NVQ Level 1 or above.

Buckinghamshire has the lowest proportion of residents with no qualifications of any LEP area. Only 5.1 per cent of residents do not hold a qualification, compared with 6.9 per cent regionally and 9.7 per cent nationally.

In Chiltern, only 3 per cent hold no qualifications and the district is ranked 7th lowest of 380 local authority districts on this measure. Wycombe is the district with the highest proportion holding no qualifications (8.2 per cent).

At the other end of the scale, Buckinghamshire ranks 4th of any LEP area for the highest proportion of residents with NVQ4+, surpassed only by London (47.6 per cent), Oxfordshire (47.0) and Enterprise M3 (42.4). Buckinghamshire's 41.0 per cent is significantly higher than the regional and national levels.

The most highly-qualified district is Chiltern, where 52.6 per cent of residents hold a qualification at NVQ4 equivalent or above.

Table 1: Qualifications Held (residents aged 16-64)

	NVQ4+			NVQ3			NVQ2			NVQ1			No Quals		
	No.	%	Rank	No.	%	Rank	No.	%	Rank	No.	%	Rank	No.	%	Rank
Aylesbury Vale	39,200	35.9	136	25,220	23.1	139	22,370	20.5	158	17,410	16.0	178	4,900	4.5	344
Chiltern	28,400	52.6	17	9,420	17.5	323	8,970	16.6	293	5,610	10.4	349	1,600	3.0	369
South Bucks	16,900	41.3	71	7,750	18.9	305	9,325	22.7	68	6,225	15.2	220	-	-	-
Wycombe	41,300	40.3	81	22,060	21.5	214	15,160	14.8	332	15,480	15.1	224	8,400	8.2	216
Buckinghamshire	125,700	41.0	4	64,550	21.1	22	55,825	18.2	24	44,725	14.6	17	15,600	5.1	26
BTVLEP	125,700	41.0	4	64,550	21.1	31	55,825	18.2	33	44,725	14.6	30	15,600	5.1	39
Enterprise M3	429,700	42.4	3	211,730	20.9	32	175,305	17.3	37	135,565	13.4	36	60,200	5.9	37
Hertfordshire	288,600	40.4	6	147,180	20.6	34	135,380	18.9	30	98,540	13.8	35	45,000	6.3	35
Oxfordshire	197,900	47.0	2	74,140	17.6	38	67,890	16.1	38	53,270	12.7	39	27,600	6.6	33
London	2,573,900	47.6	1	885,300	16.4	39	792,650	14.7	39	697,350	12.9	38	455,800	8.4	23
Northamptonshire	121,700	27.5	32	100,490	22.7	18	99,915	22.6	1	82,595	18.7	3	38,100	8.6	21
SEMLEP	363,600	32.8	16	238,640	21.5	25	227,790	20.5	17	184,170	16.6	19	95,000	8.6	22
TV Berkshire	237,300	41.0	4	118,930	20.5	35	103,505	17.9	35	82,065	14.2	34	37,500	6.5	34
South East	1,992,100	36.8	3	1,183,900	21.9	7	1,032,550	19.1	9	828,650	15.3	9	371,800	6.9	12
Great Britain	13,377,600	34.4		8,300,230	21.3		7,383,355	19.0		6,083,515	15.6		3,764,700	9.7	

Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS, 2013

Table 2 shows that 94.9 of Buckinghamshire's residents held at least Level 1 qualification, making it the top LEP area and the second-placed county after Somerset. A total of 98.0 per cent of South Bucks residents hold at least a NVQ Level 1 qualification. South Bucks is ranked 3rd of all districts and Chiltern is ranked 4th, both following closely behind Weymouth and Portland (98.6 per cent) and Taunton Deane (98.5 per cent).

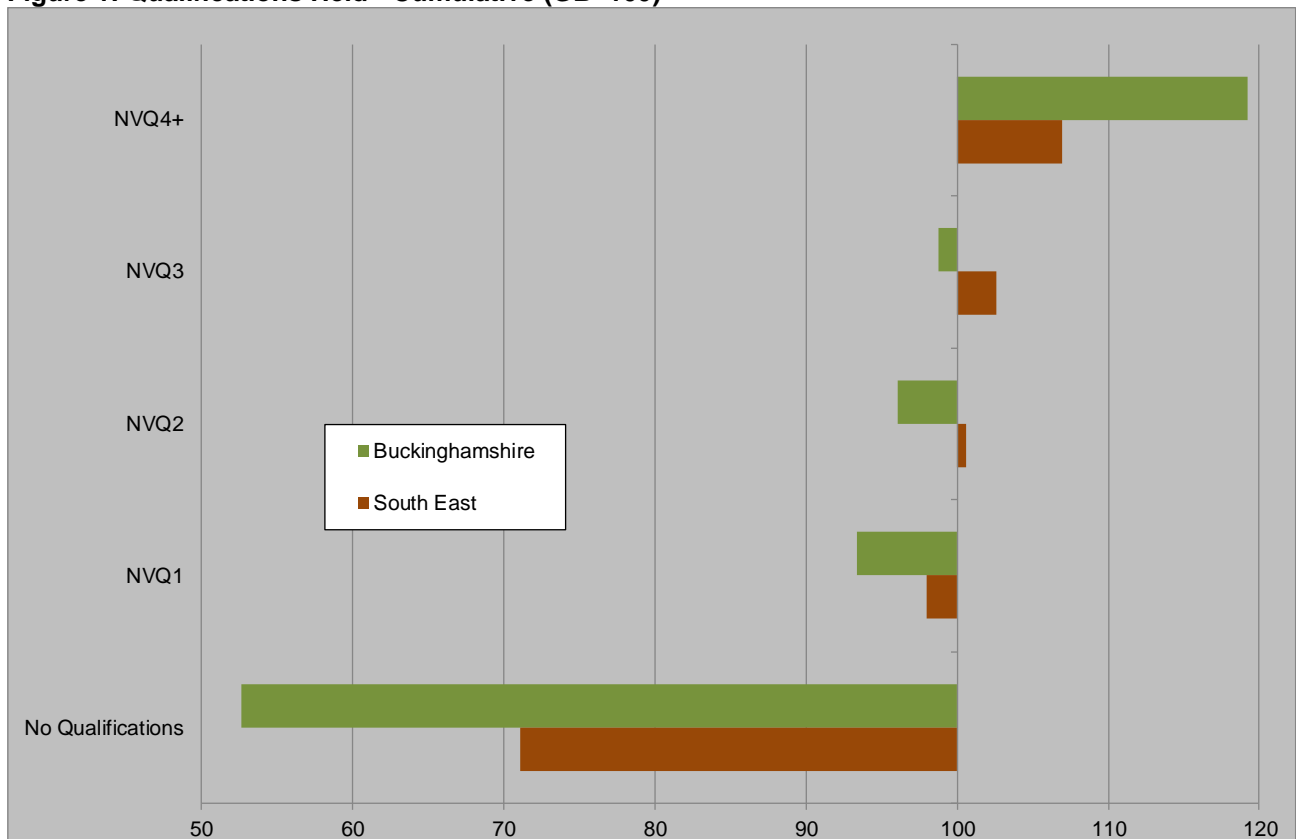
Table 2: Qualifications Held (cumulative) by residents aged 16-64

	NVQ4+			NVQ3+			NVQ2+			NVQ1+			No Quals		
	No.	%	Rank	No.	%	Rank	No.	%	Rank	No.	%	Rank	No.	%	Rank
Aylesbury Vale	39,200	35.9	136	64,420	58.7	117	86,790	77.9	65	104,200	95.6	27	4,900	4.5	344
Chiltern	28,400	52.6	17	37,820	69.7	17	46,790	85.0	10	52,400	97.2	4	1,600	3.0	369
South Bucks	16,900	41.3	71	24,650	59.8	94	33,975	81.3	26	40,200	98.0	3	-	-	-
Wycombe	41,300	40.3	81	63,360	61.3	68	78,520	74.2	146	94,000	91.8	159	8,400	8.2	216
Buckinghamshire	125,700	41.0	4	190,250	61.7	3	246,075	78.4	3	290,800	94.9	2	15,600	5.1	26
BTVLEP	125,700	41.0	4	190,250	61.7	4	246,075	78.4	3	290,800	94.9	1	15,600	5.1	39
Enterprise M3	429,700	42.4	3	641,430	62.9	3	816,735	78.6	2	952,300	94.1	3	60,200	5.9	37
Hertfordshire	288,600	40.4	6	435,780	60.5	6	571,160	77.8	4	669,700	93.7	5	45,000	6.3	35
Oxfordshire	197,900	47.0	2	272,040	64.2	1	339,930	78.9	1	393,200	93.4	7	27,600	6.6	32
London	2,573,900	47.6	1	3,459,200	63.2	2	4,251,850	75.1	12	4,949,200	91.6	17	455,800	8.4	23
Northamptonshire	121,700	27.5	32	222,190	49.4	32	322,105	69.2	28	404,700	91.4	19	38,100	8.6	21
SEMLEP	363,600	32.8	16	602,240	53.6	18	830,030	71.8	19	1,014,200	91.4	18	95,000	8.6	21
TV Berkshire	237,300	41.0	4	356,230	60.9	5	459,735	76.5	6	541,800	93.5	6	37,500	6.5	34
South East	1,992,100	36.8	3	3,176,000	58.2	3	4,208,550	75.4	1	5,037,200	93.1	1	371,800	6.9	12
Great Britain	13,377,600	34.4		21,677,830	55.1		29,061,185	71.8		35,144,700	90.3		3,764,700	9.7	

Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS 2013

Figure 1 illustrates the extent to which Buckinghamshire deviates from national levels. There is a marked progression according to the level of qualification - the higher the qualification, the greater the positive deviation from the national level.

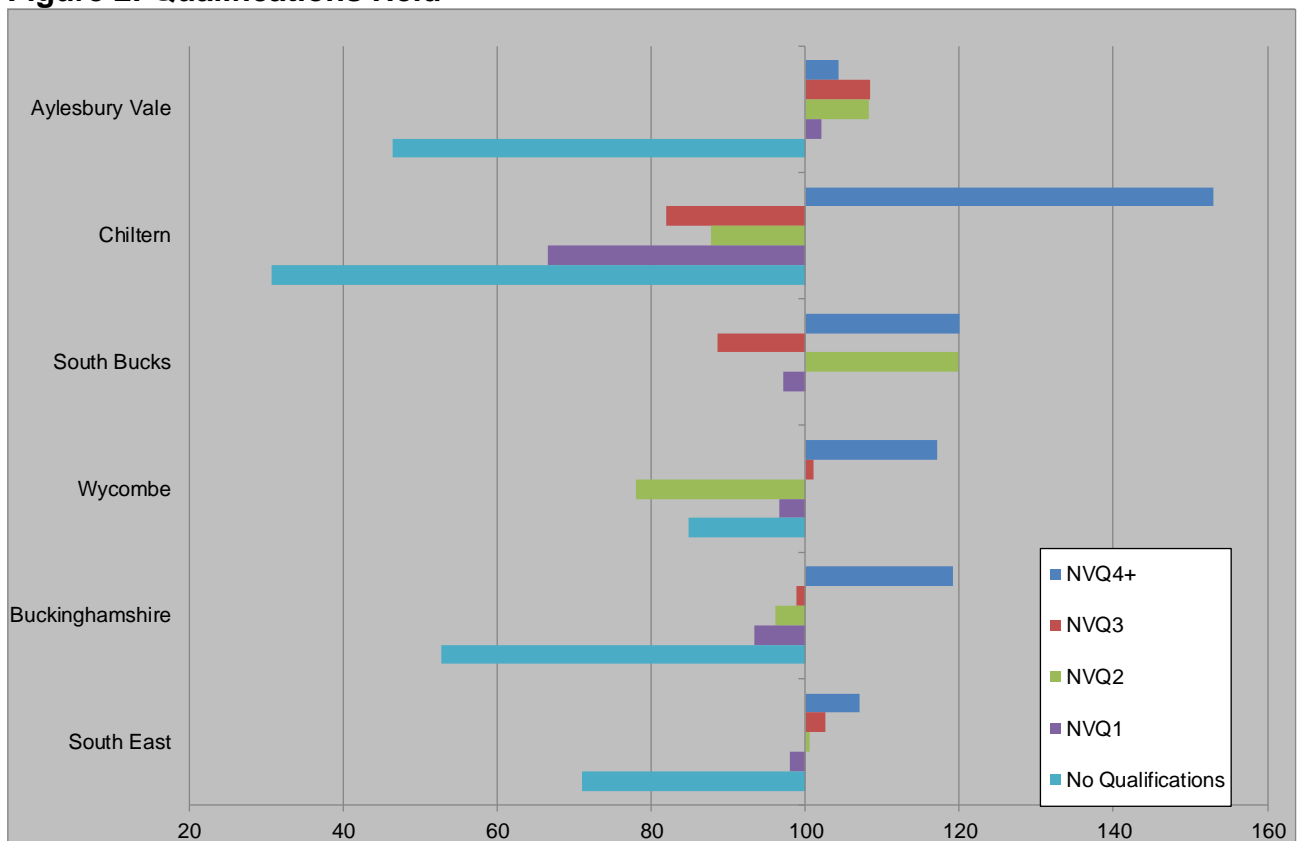
Figure 1: Qualifications Held - Cumulative (GB=100)



Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS, 2013

Figure 2 shows the variation in qualification levels compared with national levels. The Buckinghamshire data shows polarisation at either end of the scale, with a ‘hollowing out’ effect in the middle where there are comparatively few Level 1 to Level 3 qualifications. This is particularly noticeable in Chiltern, South Bucks and Wycombe but it is not the case in Aylesbury Vale. The impact of this in those districts which have few L1-L3 qualified residents is that employers could struggle to find suitably qualified employees for work which requires these technical and intermediate skills.

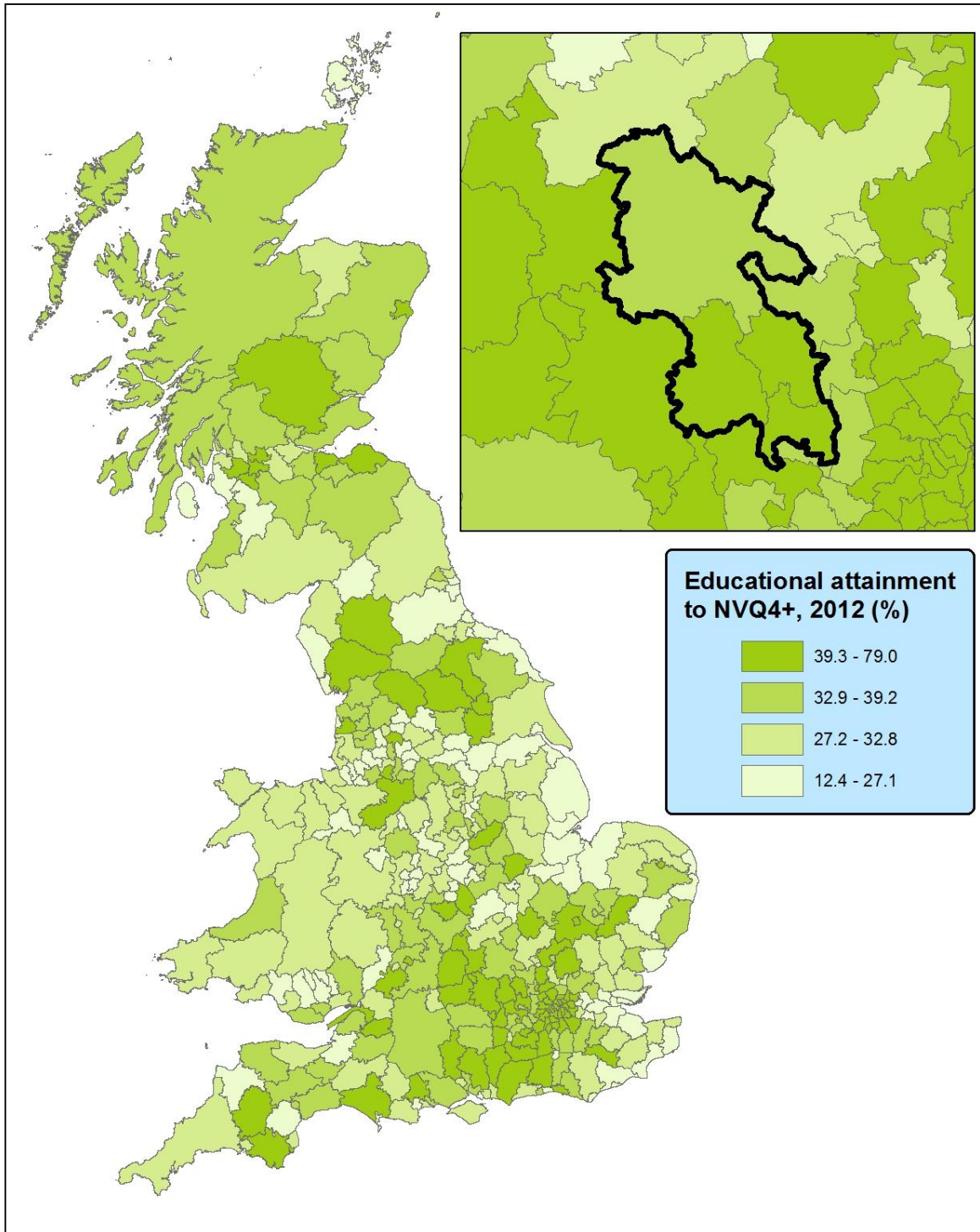
Figure 2: Qualifications Held



Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS, 2013 (NB data for No quals in S Bucks is not available)

The map on the following page shows the distribution by district of the proportion of residents holding NVQ4+. The Buckinghamshire districts form part of the Thames Valley knowledge concentration where there are large proportions of residents holding higher qualifications.

Figure 3: Educational Attainment to NVQ4+



Working age residents with degree level qualifications, 2012 (%)

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