
*
* DESTINATIONS OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHO LEFT FULL TIME *
* EDUCATION AT DIFFERENT AGES *
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SUMMARY

The activities of men and women are shown at yearly intervals from first leaving full time education until age 23. The numbers who left in the academic years of the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth birthdays are large enough for stable trends to be established for these groups; numbers leaving at 19, 21 and 22 are smaller and the findings correspondingly more tentative.

Two in five males who left at 16 and one in five who left at 17 were in apprenticeships one year later, but the proportion of females was much smaller. About 4% of each sex were following non-apprenticeship training courses, but from the age of 18 women were more likely to be on full time courses and men more likely to be on day or block release. Among both 17 and 18 year old leavers around 9-11% of each sex were on a training course one year after leaving.

Apart from a growing number unemployed, male 16 year old leavers showed a very stable pattern of full time employment up to age 23. Some 17 year old leavers and a rather larger proportion of 18 year old leavers later returned to full time education; this was more common among males than females.

At age 18, 17 year old leavers of both sexes had unemployment rates very close to those for 16 year old leavers, but in all subsequent years the additional year of education appeared to give a degree of protection against unemployment. Male 18 year old leavers had at age 19 an unemployment rate close to that for 16 year old leavers at the same age, and females had a rate close to that for 17 year old leavers. In both sexes the extra year of education gave no advantage to the 18 year old over the 17 year old leavers in terms of their chances of avoiding unemployment until age 23, when the unemployment rates in the two groups diverged.

For women who left school at 16, the proportion out of the labour force increased at a constant rate each year until age 23. In contrast, very few 18 year old leavers left the labour force before the age of 22. In both

groups there was also a small but increasing proportion in part time employment. Seventeen year old leavers showed a pattern intermediate to the groups which left at 16 and 18.

Among 19 year old leavers sex differences were similar to those observed in earlier leaving groups. There was little difference between the proportions of 18 and 19 year old leavers receiving non-apprenticeship training in their job, but 19 year old leavers were less likely to follow part time education courses.

There was some evidence that among 21 year old leavers men were more prepared than women to face a period of unemployment in order to obtain the type of work they wanted, in particular a job with training. Unemployment was even higher among 22 year old leavers one year after leaving - though not as high as among 16 year old leavers at the same age - but men were no more likely than women to be following a training course.

INTRODUCTION

1. This brief paper looks at the activities of members of the NCDS cohort at yearly intervals from first leaving full time education until the NCDS Fourth Sweep interview at age 23 in 1981. Breakdowns are presented by sex and by date of first leaving full time education. The paper is intended not to be a complete analysis, but to show the main trends and suggest where further work would be illuminating.
2. The tables are based on a special data set constructed from the NCDS data base which records respondents' activities in each month from May 1974 until interview¹. Definitions of the various activities examined are given in the "Notes to the Tables" attached.
3. For the purposes of the analysis, members of the NCDS cohort are classified according to the academic year in which they first left continuous full time education. This classification is based on a very complex derived variable² which allows a break of up to five months between consecutive full time courses. Thus a young person who took a break of more than five months between leaving school and taking up a college or university place which had already been secured would appear to have first left full time education when he left school and to have returned to full time education later. This affects the interpretation of the tables, particularly for those who first left full time education in the academic year in which they reached their eighteenth or nineteenth birthday, and a future analysis should attempt to take account of this.
4. Although groupings according to the academic year of first leaving full time education include people who left before their birthday in March as well as those who left after, for convenience those who left before September 1974 will be referred to as 16 year old leavers, those who left between September 1974 and August 1975 will be referred to as 17 year old leavers and similarly for each leaving group up to age 22.

1. An account of the derivation of these variables is given in a note to the NCDS IV Steering Committee, "Economic activity variables for each month from May 1974 to interview", J. Payne, Feb. 1984.

2. CTAE, computed by Dougal Hutchison.

5. Twenty year old leavers are excluded from the analysis because numbers are very small (49 males and 73 females). A further 139 males and 99 females either first left during the academic year 1980/81 or were still in full time education when interviewed, and these are also excluded.
6. For those who first left full time education in any given academic year, activities are shown in June of the following year and each subsequent year until interview. This month was chosen as the comparison date because in most cases it is around a calendar year from the date of leaving full time education, and because in July and August of each year the proportion of young people out of the labour force increases significantly¹.
7. Because members of the NCDS cohort are all the same age, comparisons can be made between different leaving groups either at the same age, and hence the same date, or at the same interval after leaving full time education (and hence different dates). Systematic significance testing has been done only for the first type of comparison, but it is clear from the following account of the findings that systematic comparisons of the second type would also be illuminating.

FINDINGS

Sixteen year old leavers

8. 4086 males and 3710 females in the cohort first left full time education before September 1974. These figures include 470 men and women who said that they left before the earliest legal date of June - some of them several months before.
9. Activities of male 16 year old leavers at yearly intervals until age 23 are shown in Table 1(a). In June 1975, one year after first leaving full time education, 40.4% were in apprenticeships and a further 4.2% were following a training course connected with their job. Both these proportions fell fairly steadily over the years, the majority having completed or left their apprenticeship by age 21.

1. See Figure 3 in the note to the Steering Committee referred to above.

10. The number unemployed is shown both as a proportion of the full leaving group and, in Table 3, as a proportion of those who were economically active, the latter providing the more appropriate comparisons both between the sexes and between different leaving groups. For male 16 year old leavers, trends in unemployment broadly reflected national trends during the same years, rising from 3.7% in 1975 to 5.1% in 1977, levelling off during 1978 and 1979 (when national levels of unemployment fell), and rising again very rapidly after 1979 to reach 14.4% in 1981.
11. In other respects, male 16 year old leavers showed a very stable pattern of employment, with very small numbers returning to education either full or part time and very few in part time employment, economically inactive, or on a government scheme.
12. Figures for women who left full time education at age 16 are given in Table 2(a) where, as in Table 1(a) and subsequent tables, proportions which differ between the sexes at or beyond the .01 level of significance are indicated by a cross ¹.
13. Less than 5% of women 16 year old leavers were in apprenticeships at age 17, and the shortfall in comparison to men was not compensated for by any increase in the numbers following other training courses. As with the males, the proportions in both apprenticeships and training fell steadily with age. From age 18 onwards there were differences in the type of training courses undertaken by men and women, with significantly more females in full time courses (many possibly in nursing), and from the age of 21 onwards significantly ² fewer females on day or block release.
14. The picture for women was complicated by the rapidly rising proportion leaving the labour force. Already at age 17, 4.7% were economically inactive (other than those in full time education or on a government scheme), and by age 23 this had risen to over a third of the whole leaving group.

1. Using the simple random sample formula for the comparison of proportions, ie. $se(p-p') = \sqrt{\frac{pq}{n} + \frac{p'q'}{n}}$

2. Here, as throughout the paper, "significant" means statistically significant at or beyond the .01 level of probability.

There was also a steady rise in the proportion in part time jobs, from 0.7% at age 17 to 6.3% at age 23. Thus, although the proportion of women in full time jobs with neither apprenticeship nor training fell over the years, this merely reflected a decline in the proportion of women in the labour force.

15. The same factor produced apparently large sex differences in unemployment in the full leaving group. When, however, unemployment was calculated as a proportion of those economically active (Table 3), sex differences were much reduced and reached significance only at age 23, when there was an unemployment rate of 14.4% for males and 11.1% for females. It is possible that growth in part time service employment in the years up to 1981 (Department of Employment, 1982) played a part in keeping down the unemployment rate for women in this leaving group; it is also possible that women who could not find jobs were less likely than men to describe themselves as unemployed.
16. Among 16 year old leavers, there were no statistically significant sex differences at any age in the proportions in full time or part time education or on government schemes. All these proportions were very small for women as for men.

Seventeen year old leavers

17. 17 year old leavers (593 men and 772 women) were a mixed group including young people who stayed on to resit examinations and others who took secretarial or commercial courses after school, as well as those who took 'A' level GCE standard examinations early, and Scottish sixth form leavers. Some later continued with their education after a break of several months or more.
18. The activities of male 17 year old leavers differed substantially from those of men who left full time education at the minimum legal age. Table 4(a) indicates those differences which reached statistical significance at or beyond the .01 level.

19. Table 1(b) shows that at age 18 roughly half as many of the later leavers were in apprenticeships, but, at 20.6%, this figure was much higher than the common understanding of age restrictions on entry to apprenticeships might lead one to expect. Other analysis of NCDS IV data suggests that the apprenticeships entered by 17 year old leavers were similar in nature to those entered by 16 year old leavers (Cook, 1983). Most of the apprenticeships of 17 year old leavers were completed by age 22, one year later than the usual completion age for 16 year old leavers.
20. Although they had fewer apprenticeships, more than twice as many male 17 year old leavers found jobs with other forms of training, particularly day or block release. In addition significantly more were in part time education (which in nearly all cases was undertaken at the same time as a full time job) and more returned to full time education after a break of six months or more. As Table 4 brings out, these differences between 16 and 17 year old leavers persisted for several years.
21. From the age of 19 onwards, unemployment rates (Table 3) were consistently lower for male 17 year old leavers than for 16 year old leavers. Unemployment trends are discussed in more detail in paragraphs 28-33.
22. Once more the proportions of male 17 year old leavers who were in part time jobs, on a government scheme or economically inactive at any age were very small.
23. Sex differences among 17 year old leavers (Table 2(b)) were very like those found in the earlier leaving group, with many fewer women than men in apprenticeships, similar numbers in non-apprenticeship training courses - but with more women on full time courses rather than day or block release - and over the years an increasing number of women economically inactive or in part time employment. For 17 year old leavers however, there were no significant differences at any age in the unemployment rates of males and females calculated either as a proportion of the full leaving group or of those economically active (Table 3).

24. There were a number of significant differences between women who left full time education at the minimum age and women who left a year later, which are listed in Table 5(a). Although at age 18 fewer of the later leavers were in apprenticeships, roughly three times as many were following non-apprenticeship training courses in their job (10.6% compared to 3.6%), with significantly more on both full time and day or block release courses. Although most full time training courses were completed by age 21, small but significant differences in the proportions following day or block release courses persisted until age 23. More of the later leavers also returned to full time education.
25. At every age, more of the women who left full time education at 16 were economically inactive and more were in part time jobs, so that, by age 23, the difference between the two groups was quite large. Trends in movements out of the labour force are discussed in detail in paragraphs 34-36 below.
26. Unemployment rates for women who had an additional year of full time education, like those for men, were lower than the rates for minimum age leavers from the age of 19 onwards (see paragraphs 28-33 below).

Eighteen year old leavers

27. The numbers of 18 year old leavers (732 males and 942 females) were not very much greater than those of 17 year old leavers. These people would usually have completed two years in the sixth form or at FE college.
28. There were again substantial sex differences in the activities of 18 year old leavers (Table 1 (c) and 2(c)). Once more there were fewer women than men in apprenticeships, and while proportions receiving non-apprenticeship training were similar in both sexes, at ages 19, 20 and 21 there were significantly more women than men on full time courses and more men than women on day or block release. Sex differences in economic inactivity and part time employment were as would be expected, but in this leaving group (unlike 16 and 17 year old leavers) significantly more of the men had returned to full time education by age 19. In both sexes, this proportion

was quite big (24.5% and 14.5% for men and women respectively at age 20) and was probably partly explained by young people who had already secured their college or university place taking a year off before starting the course¹. At ages 22 and 23 there were also significantly more men than women in part time education. Unemployment rates (Table 3) were generally lower for women than for men in this leaving group, but the difference only reached statistical significance in 1978 at age 20. No explanation is immediately apparent for this difference, which does not reflect any consistent pattern found in other leaving groups.

29. The comparison between male 17 and 18 year old leavers (Table 4(b)) shows significantly fewer of the latter in apprenticeships at ages 19, 20 and 21, but significantly more in apprenticeships at age 23. These were probably professional "apprenticeships" entered by men who had returned to full time education at 19 or 20. There were no significant differences between the two groups in the proportions receiving non-apprenticeship training. As already mentioned, considerably more of the 18 year old leavers returned to full time education, and from age 21 onwards significantly more of them were following part time education courses (at age 23, 9.8% of 18 year old leavers compared to 3.4% of 17 year old leavers). Nearly all part time education courses were taken concurrently with a full time job, and it is possible that the rising proportion of 18 year old leavers taking part time education in their early twenties was associated with the increasing proportion of men in this leaving group in full time employment at this age following the completion of deferred further or higher education courses.
30. For women the extra year of full time education had little effect on the number entering apprenticeships or non-apprenticeship training courses. The significant difference (Table 5(b)) between the proportions on full time training courses at age 20 was explained by the fact that the 17 year old leavers had largely completed their full time training courses by that time. As with the men, however, many more of the later leavers returned to full time education, and at ages 22 and 23, more of them were in part-time education. Rates of economic inactivity were significantly lower for the later leavers; see paragraphs 34-36 below.

1. See paragraph 3 above. As the "Definitions" in the "Notes to the tables" attached point out, full time jobs between school and further or higher education were only excluded from the job history in the questionnaire if the education course began in the same calendar year as leaving school.

Effects of additional education on unemployment

31. The numbers of economically active 16, 17 and 18 year old leavers in the NCDS cohort are large enough to give fairly stable estimates of unemployment rates over time, and these are plotted in Figure 1. Estimates for 19, 21 and 22 year old leavers are omitted from this graph because the smaller N's lead to unstable estimates. A clear pattern emerges, a little different for men and women, but identical in its major features.
32. In both sexes the unemployment rate for 16 year old leavers who entered the labour market in the comparatively prosperous year of 1974 was at its lowest one year after leaving full time education, despite the fact that the first year in the labour market is a time when young people are particularly vulnerable to unemployment. From then on, like national levels of unemployment, the rate rose steadily, to level off during the economic recovery in 1978 and 1979 before rising substantially in 1980 and 1981.
33. Unemployment rates for 17 year old leavers of both sexes one year after leaving full time education were very close to those for 16 year old leavers at the same age, so that despite the fact that they entered the labour market in a year when unemployment was rising, they were no worse off than if they had left school at 16. During the following two years, while unemployment rates for 16 year old leavers rose, rates for 17 year old leavers fell. It seems clear therefore, that in these years of recession, the extra year of full time education gave protection against unemployment. Although unemployment among 17 year old leavers rose substantially after 1978 for men and after 1979 for women, they preserved a significant and largely constant advantage over 16 year old leavers.
34. Eighteen year old leavers also appeared to receive in the long term increased protection against unemployment in return for delaying their entry to the labour force, but in their case the marginal benefits of the extra year of education were longer in emerging. Among the men, 18 year old leavers had, one year after leaving full time education, an unemployment rate very close to that of 16 year old leavers at the same age. During the next two years this rate fell, and although it rose again between 1979 and 1980 in line with the trend for 17 year old leavers, in 1981 the two

rates diverged. For women, the unemployment rate for 18 year olds one year after leaving was very close to that for 17 year old rather than 16 year old leavers. Between 1977 and 1980 the two rates fell and rose again broadly together, but in 1981 the 18 year old leavers appeared to have better chances of finding employment ¹.

35. For men, the divergence between the unemployment rates of 17 and 18 year old leavers in 1981 may be explained by the rapid decline in the engineering industries in that year. As already shown, a fifth of male 17 year old leavers entered apprenticeships compared to only one in twenty 18 year old leavers, and many of these were in engineering (Cook, 1983). No parallel explanation is immediately obvious for the divergence in the rates for women, though analysis by industry and occupation might be illuminating².
36. Because these data are standardised for age and time, they give important evidence on the effects that prolonged education has on subsequent chances of unemployment. The NCDS data set used to derive Figure 1 also contains information on economic activity in each month between the yearly time points already plotted. It would be well worth while to interpose these data and to construct a multivariate statistical model in order to produce more precise estimates of the size of these effects while making due allowance for sampling variation and for other important factors such as qualifications.

Patterns of departure from the labour force for women

37. Figure 2 shows rates of economic inactivity for women who left full time education at 16, 17 and 18 years of age. Percentages have been adjusted to exclude from the base those women who were in full time education at a given age, so that the graph shows overall movement from work or unemployment to economic inactivity. As with Figure 1, 19, 21 and 22 year old leavers are not shown because of their smaller numbers.
38. It is apparent, and not unexpected, that the longer a woman stayed in full time education, the less likely she was to leave the labour force at an

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1. Although the difference between the unemployment rates of 17 and 18 year old leavers at age 23 is not significant when the sexes are analysed separately, when the sexes are combined the difference reaches significance at the .05 level.
 2. It is possible that 18 year old female leavers more often entered sectors of the economy which were less affected by recession, such as banking, insurance and finance.

early age. Patterns of departure are however also of interest. One year after leaving full time education approximately 5% of women had left the labour force, regardless of whether they left school at the minimum age or had one or two additional years of education. From then on, the proportion of 16 year old leavers who were economically inactive increased at a constant rate each year to reach over one third of the leaving group at age 23. In contrast, the proportion of 18 year old leavers who were economically inactive did not increase at all in the second year after leaving full time education, increased only slightly in the third, and although increasing at a greater rate in the fourth and fifth years, the rate of increase was still below that for 16 year old leavers. The line for 17 year old leavers shows a pattern intermediate between the patterns for women who left a year earlier and a year later.

39. It seems, therefore, that at least until age 23 each additional year of education between 16 and 18 delayed departure from the labour force so that the investment in education was repaid by a longer period of labour force activity. Again, it would be well worth while to model the trends shown in Figure 2 statistically, incorporating into the model other relevant variables.

Nineteen year old leavers

40. The numbers in the NCDS cohort who first left full time education at ages 19, 21 and 22¹ are much smaller than for any of the earlier leaving groups, so differences must be very large to reach statistical significance. Some general trends can however be detected.
41. The 228 men and 166 women who left at 19 include third year sixth formers, a few early leavers from higher education courses and some who took secretarial or similar courses after the sixth form.
42. Among 19 year old leavers (Tables 1(d) and 2(d)) sex differences are broadly similar to those observed in earlier leaving groups. Fewer women were in

1. Twenty year old leavers are not discussed because numbers are particularly small - see paragraph 5 above.

apprenticeships, non-apprenticeship day or block release training courses, and full time or part time education, and more were in full time training courses, part time employment or were economically inactive.

43. As compared with 18 year old leavers (Table 4(c)) the men appeared no more likely to receive training with their job, except perhaps at age 23 when some would have recently re-entered the labour force on completing further or higher education. More of the men who left at 19 returned to full time education, but fewer took part time education, the differences being significant at ages 20, 22 and 23. Possibly some 18 year old leavers were trying to get through part time education those qualifications which 19 year old leavers stayed an extra year at school or in college to obtain. No significant differences can be seen in the unemployment rates for the two groups.
44. For women there were no significant differences between 18 and 19 year old leavers in the proportions following full time training courses (Table 5(c)), but it seems that the later leavers were a little more likely to undertake a day or block release training course, the difference reaching significance for 21 year olds. As with the men, more of the later leavers returned to full time education and fewer undertook part time education. More of the women who left at 18 were out of the labour force at each age, but the differences did not reach significance.

Twenty-one year old leavers

45. Although there is much variation, 21 is the most common age for completing first degree or non-graduate diploma courses. The numbers in this group were too small (235 men and 277 women) for many differences to reach significance, but Tables 1(e) and 2(e) are suggestive of an interesting comparison between the sexes. Similar numbers of men and women were in full time employment in 1980, one year after leaving full time education, but more men than women (9.4% compared to 4.3%) were in a job with a training course or day or block release. At the same time, the unemployment rate for men was more than double that for women (7.2% v. 3.2%), and for the first time there were more men than women economically inactive. These facts suggest that in this year of rapidly rising unemployment, while male

graduates were prepared to wait to find the kind of work they wanted, women were more likely to take whatever job they could get. It is interesting to note that a year later, in 1981, unemployment rates for men and women were much closer, at 6.0% and 5.4% respectively. The fall in the male unemployment rate was due however not to an increase in the number finding employment - the proportion in full time employment actually fell by 2.5% - but apparently to some respondents returning to full time education (7.2% in 1981 compared to none in 1980).

46. Comparisons between 19 year old and 21 year old leavers are complicated by the fact that many more of the earlier leavers returned to full time education one or two years after first leaving. It is worth noting however that despite the high unemployment rate for male 21 year old leavers in 1980, by 1981 the unemployment rate for 19 year old leavers had overtaken the rate for 21 year old leavers in both sexes. Among the women significantly more of the 19 year old leavers were out of the labour force at ages 22 and 23.

Twenty-two year old leavers

47. Nearly as many cohort members left full time education at 22 as left at 21 (176 men and 215 women). Among these would be graduates from four year degree courses including sandwich and B.Ed. courses, later entrants to three year college or university courses, and holders of some postgraduate diplomas, especially perhaps the Diploma in Education.
48. Unemployment rates were even higher for 22 year old leavers one year after leaving full time education (Table 3), but high as these rates were, they were not as big as the unemployment rates for 16 year old leavers at the same age. Once more, the rate for men was roughly twice that for women (12.3% and 6.3% respectively), and as many men as women were economically inactive. However, considerably fewer of the male 22 year old leavers were following either an apprenticeship or training course - a total of 5.7% compared to 15.4% of 21 year old leavers one year after leaving - and sex differences in this respect virtually disappeared.

49. The differences between male 21 and 22 year old leavers in the proportions receiving training are not statistically significant, and there are at least three possible explanations for them. They may be the result merely of random sampling variance, they may reflect a real decline in training opportunities for graduates following on the recession of 1980/81, or it may be that 22 year old leavers were more likely either to have followed a vocational college course or to have received full time post graduate vocational education such as the Diploma in Education and thus were less likely to need further training after starting work. Further analysis of some considerable detail would be needed to establish whether the last of these hypotheses is correct.

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Destinations of young people who left full
time education at different ages.

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J.Payne
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Notes to the Tables

1. Definitions

Date of first leaving full time education is the date of leaving the last full time education course undertaken, provided that there was a gap of no more than five months between any two consecutive courses. The course could be at a school, college of further education, university, or any other educational institution.

Full time job is a job in which the respondent usually worked 30 hours or more per week, excluding the following: fill-in work between school and further or higher education where the respondent entered further or higher education in the same calendar year as leaving school, fill-in work of students waiting to take up a job already offered, vacation, work experience or sandwich jobs of students, and casual jobs while on holiday.

Apprenticeship is defined by the respondent and could be with or without formal articles. Apprenticeships held in conjunction with a part time job (one respondent only) are ignored.

Training is any training course undertaken during a full time job which involved at least 14 days or 100 hours attendance either at a college, training centre or skill centre, other than any training undertaken as a part of an apprenticeship (though courses undertaken concurrently with an apprenticeship but not as part of the apprenticeship are included). TOPS courses are not included as training but appear under a separate head. Training courses undertaken in conjunction with a part time job (one respondent only) are ignored.

Part time job is a job in which the respondent usually worked less than 30 hours per week with the same exclusions as for full time job. Part time jobs are only included if they were the respondent's main activity at the time; thus part time jobs held at the same time as a full time job or while in full time education are ignored.

Unemployment is time during which the respondent was wanting work, and was ready and available to take up work, should suitable work be found, regardless of whether he or she was registered as unemployed or actively seeking employment.

Other scheme for the unemployed means one of the following: Job Creation Programme, Special Temporary Employment Programme, Community Enterprise Programme, Work Experience Programme, or Community Industry.

Full time education as an activity after first leaving full time education means a return to full time education after a gap of six months or more. All full time education had to be undertaken for qualifications and involve a course of 21 hours or more per week.

Other economically inactive is time spent out of the labour force other than in full time education or on a government scheme. The largest group under this head are housewives, but it also includes those in prison or borstal, people who are unable to work because of sickness or disability, and those on extended holidays.

No information The largest source of missing information is "fill-in time", which is defined as fill-in work between school and further education, fill-in work of students waiting to take up a job already offered, and periods of working which lasted at least one month and in which no single job lasted for as long as a month. Respondents with a large number of jobs are also more likely to have missing information in some months, particularly when some of the jobs were part time.

Part time education is education undertaken for qualifications which involved a course of less than 21 hours per week. Part time education undertaken at the same time as a full time education course is ignored, but otherwise part time education could have been undertaken at the same time as any other activity (though in most cases it was undertaken at the same time as a full time job).

3. Double counting

Because part time education could be undertaken at the same time as any other activity other than full time education it is presented in the tables as a separate count not included in the total of 100%. Otherwise, with one small exception, all the row headings in the tables are mutually exclusive so that the columns sum to 100%. The exception is that some respondents had a full time job with both an apprenticeship and with training which was said to be not part of that apprenticeship. Such instances are very few in number (Tables 1 (a), (b), (c) and (d)) and are indicated in the tables by an asterisk alongside the figures. This double counting has been eliminated from the subtotal of "all with full time job", so that for most practical purposes it can be ignored.

Table 1: Activities of males at various intervals after first leaving full time education, by date of first leaving full time education

Source: National Child Development Study

1(a) Males who first left full time education before September 1974 (ie. in or before the academic year in which they reached their 16th birthday)

N=4086

Time after first leaving full time education:

Activity	1 year %	2 years %	3 years %	4 years %	5 years %	6 years %	7 years %
Activity	June 1975 17	June 1976 18	June 1977 19	June 1978 20	June 1979 21	June 1980 22	June 1981 23
<u>Full time job</u>							
- with apprenticeship	40.4**	38.7**	34.9**	24.1**	5.6+	1.1+	0.3
- with training							
full time	0.5	0.4+	0.1+	0.1+	0.1+	-	-
day or block release	3.4	2.9	1.7	1.6	1.8+	1.5+	1.3+
other	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-
all with training	4.2*	3.4*	1.9*	1.8*	2.0+	1.6+	1.3
- with neither	48.7+	50.5+	55.0+	66.1	84.4+	85.7+	81.0+
all with full time job	93.0+	92.4+	91.8+	91.8+	92.0+	88.4+	82.7+
<u>Part time job</u>	0.3	0.3+	0.2+	0.3+	0.4+	0.3+	0.4+
<u>Unemployed</u>	3.6	4.4	5.0	5.2	5.1	8.2+	13.9+
<u>Government scheme</u>							
- TOPS	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
- other scheme for the unemployed	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3
all on government scheme	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5
<u>Full time education</u>	1.5	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5
<u>Other economically inactive</u>	0.9+	1.0+	1.3+	1.3+	1.1+	1.4+	1.4+
<u>No information</u>	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.6
<u>Total</u>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<u>Part time education</u>	2.0	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.7

Key

+ The proportion differs from the corresponding proportion for the opposite sex at or beyond the .01 level of significance.

* See Note 2 on double counting on p.(ii).

- .05% or less but greater than zero.

1(b) Males who first left full time education between September 1974 and August 1975 inclusive (ie. in the academic year in which they reached their 17th birthday)

N=593

Time after first leaving full time education:

Activity	1 year % June 1976 18	2 years % June 1977 19	3 years % June 1978 20	4 years % June 1979 21	5 years % June 1980 22	6 years % June 1981 23
<u>Full time job</u>						
- with apprenticeship	20.6**	19.1*+	16.2+	10.0+	2.0+	0.3+
- with training full time day or block release other	1.2+ 7.8+ 0.0	1.2+ 6.9 0.2	0.3+ 4.4 0.3	0.3 4.7+ 0.3	0.0 3.2 0.2	0.2 3.2 0.2
all with training	8.9*	8.3*	5.1	5.4	3.4	3.5
- with neither	59.7+	62.1+	69.8+	74.4	84.5+	83.0+
all with full time job	88.9	89.2	91.1+	89.7+	89.9+	86.8+
<u>Part time job</u>	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3+	0.3+
<u>Unemployed</u>	4.0	2.5	2.0	3.4	4.9	8.3
<u>Government scheme</u>						
- TOPS	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2
- other scheme for the unemployed	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
all on government scheme	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
<u>Full time education</u>	4.2	5.9	4.7	4.4	2.7	3.0
<u>Other economically inactive</u>	1.5+	1.2+	1.5+	1.5+	1.5+	1.3+
<u>No information</u>	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<u>Part time education</u>	5.2	3.7	3.7	2.5	3.5	3.4

Key

+ The proportion differs from the corresponding proportions for the opposite sex at or beyond the .01 level of significance.

* See Note 2 on double counting on p.(ii).

1(c) Males who first left full time education between September 1975 and August 1976 inclusive (ie. in the academic year in which they reached their 18th birthday)

N=732

Time after first leaving full time education:

Activity	1 year %	2 years %	3 years %	4 years %	5 years %
date: age:	June 1977 19	June 1978 20	June 1979 21	June 1980 22	June 1981 23
<u>Full time job</u>					
- with apprenticeship	5.3*+	5.3*+	4.1*+	3.3*+	2.6+
- with training full time	0.7+	0.5+	0.1+	0.3	0.3
day or block release	8.1+	6.8+	5.2+	5.0	3.6
other	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0
all with training	9.0*	7.9*	5.6*	5.5*	3.8
- with neither	57.4+	56.6+	62.8+	67.9	76.0
all with full time job	71.6+	69.7+	72.3	76.4	82.4
<u>Part time job</u>	0.4	0.3	0.3+	0.3+	0.8+
<u>Unemployed</u>	4.4	3.7+	2.3	4.4	5.9
<u>Government scheme</u>					
- TOPS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
- other scheme for the unemployed	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0
all on government scheme	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.0
<u>Full time education</u>	17.3+	24.5+	23.5+	15.8+	9.0+
<u>Other economically inactive</u>	3.1	0.7+	0.7+	2.0+	1.1+
<u>No information</u>	2.0	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.7
<u>Total</u>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<u>Part time education</u>	4.6	5.7	5.7	7.4+	9.8+

Key

+ The proportion differs from the corresponding proportion for the opposite sex at or beyond the .01 level of significance.

* See Note 2 on double counting on p.(ii).

1(d) Males who first left full time education between September 1976 and August 1977 inclusive (ie. in the academic year in which they reached their 19th birthday)

N=228

Time after first leaving full time education:

Activity	1 year % June 1978 20	2 years % June 1979 21	3 years % June 1980 22	4 years % June 1981 23
<u>Full time job</u>				
- with apprenticeship	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.1*
- with training	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
full time	6.1	7.5	5.3	6.6
day or block release	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
other				
all with training	7.0	8.3	5.3	7.0*
- with neither	55.3	53.1	57.9	65.8
all with full time job	65.8	64.9	66.7	75.4
<u>Part time job</u>	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
<u>Unemployed</u>	2.6	1.3	4.4	7.5
<u>Government scheme</u>				
- TOPS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- other scheme for the unemployed	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
all on government scheme	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
<u>Full time education</u>	26.3	32.5+	26.8	15.8
<u>Other economically inactive</u>	3.1	0.9	1.3+	0.4+
<u>No information</u>	0.9	0.4	0.9	0.9
<u>Total</u>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<u>Part time education</u>	1.8	2.6	3.1	4.0

Key

+ The proportion differs from the corresponding proportion for the opposite sex at or beyond the .01 level of significance.

* See Note 2 on double counting on p.(ii).

1(e) Males who first left full time education between September 1978 and August 1979 inclusive (ie. in the academic year in which they reached their 21st birthday)

N=235

Time after first leaving full time education:

Activity	1 year %		2 years %	
	June 1980 22	June 1981 23	June 1980 22	June 1981 23
<u>Full time job</u>				
- with apprenticeship	6.0	5.5		
- with training full time	2.1	0.4		
day or block release	6.4	4.3		
other	0.9	0.4		
all with training	9.4	5.1		
- with neither	71.9+	74.0		
all with full time job	87.2	84.7		
<u>Part time job</u>	0.9	0.4		
<u>Unemployed</u>	7.2	6.0		
<u>Government scheme</u>				
- TOPS	0.0	0.0		
- other scheme for the unemployed	0.0	0.0		
all on government scheme	0.0	0.0		
<u>Full time education</u>	0.0	7.2		
<u>Other economically inactive</u>	3.4	1.7		
<u>No information</u>	1.3	0.0		
Total	100.0	100.0		
<u>Part time education</u>	0.4	0.4		

Key

+ The proportion differs from the corresponding proportion for the opposite sex at or beyond the .01 level of significance.

1(f) Males who first left full time education between September 1979 and August 1980 inclusive (ie. in the academic year in which they reached their 22nd birthday)

N=176

Time after first leaving full time education:

Activity	1 year %	
	June 1981 23	June 1981 23
<u>Full time job</u>		
- with apprenticeship	3.4	
- with training full time	0.0	
day or block release	2.3	
other	0.0	
all with training	2.3	
- with neither	79.0	
all with full time job	84.7	
<u>Part time job</u>	0.6	
<u>Unemployed</u>	11.9	
<u>Government scheme</u>		
- TOPS	0.0	
- other scheme for the unemployed	0.6	
all on government scheme	0.6	
<u>Full time education</u>	0.6	
<u>Other economically inactive</u>	1.7	
<u>No information</u>	0.0	
Total	100.0	
<u>Part time education</u>	1.1	

Table 2: Activities of females at various intervals after first leaving full time education, by date of first leaving full time education

Source: National Child Development Study

2(a) Females who first left full time education before September 1974 (ie. in or before the academic year in which they reached their 16th birthday).

N=3710

Time after first leaving full time education:

Activity	date:		June 1975		June 1976		June 1977		June 1978		June 1979		June 1980		June 1981	
	age:		1 year %	2 years %	3 years %	4 years %	5 years %	6 years %	7 years %							
<u>Full time job</u>																
- with apprenticeship			4.9+	4.3+	3.2+	0.8+	0.2+	0.1+	-							
- with training			0.4	1.1+	1.1+	0.7+	0.4+	0.1	-							
full time			2.9	2.4	1.3	1.0	0.6+	0.7+	0.7+							
day or block release			0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0							
other			3.6	3.7	2.6	1.8	1.0+	0.9+	0.8							
all with training			79.1+	73.8+	71.4+	69.0	65.1+	57.8+	51.0+							
- with neither			87.6+	81.8+	77.2+	71.6+	66.3+	58.8+	51.8+							
all with full time job			0.7	1.2+	1.8+	2.3+	3.4+	4.2+	6.3+							
<u>Part time job</u>			3.4	4.1	5.1	5.4	4.7	5.5+	7.2+							
<u>Unemployed</u>																
<u>Government scheme</u>																
- TOPS			-	0.1	-	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1							
- other scheme for the unemployed			0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2							
all on the government scheme			0.1	0.3	-	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2							
<u>Full time education</u>			2.2	1.4	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2							
Other economically inactive			4.7+	10.3+	14.6+	19.3+	24.1+	30.2+	33.9+							
No information			1.2	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.2	0.8	0.5							
Total			100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0							
<u>Part time education</u>			2.1	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.4							

Key

+ The proportion differs from the corresponding proportion for the opposite sex at or beyond the .01 level of significance.

- .05% or less but greater than zero.

2(b) Females who first left full time education between September 1974 and August 1975 inclusive (ie in the academic year in which they reached their 17th birthday)

N=772

Time after first leaving full time education:

Activity	date:		Time after first leaving full time education:					
	age:	1 year %	2 years %	3 years %	4 years %	5 years %	6 years %	
<u>Full time job</u>								
- with apprenticeship	June 1976 18	June 1977 19	June 1978 20	June 1979 21	June 1980 22	June 1981 23		
- with training full time	1.9+	1.7+	0.8+	0.4+	0.3+	0.0+		
day or block release	5.6+	5.6+	1.9+	0.6	0.5	0.0		
other	4.4+	4.3	2.6	1.9+	1.8	1.9		
all with training	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0		
- with neither	10.6	10.1	4.8	2.8	2.6	1.9		
all with full time job	73.4+	72.9+	78.1+	77.6	73.2+	65.8+		
Part time job	86.0	84.7	83.7+	80.8+	76.0+	67.8+		
<u>Unemployed</u>	0.5	0.4	0.8	1.4	2.1+	3.8+		
<u>Government scheme</u>	4.4	3.0	1.6	1.7	3.1	5.2		
- TOPS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.3		
- other scheme for the unemployed	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1		
all on government scheme	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.4		
<u>Full time education</u>	3.1	5.3	4.5	3.1	2.1	1.2		
<u>Other economically inactive</u>	4.3+	6.2+	8.5+	11.4+	15.3+	20.0+		
<u>No information</u>	1.3	0.3	0.8	1.2	0.9	1.8		
<u>Total</u>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		
<u>Part time education</u>	4.2	2.8	1.9	1.9	1.3	1.4		

Key

+ The proportion differs from the corresponding proportion for the opposite sex at or beyond the .01 level of significance.

2(c) Females who first left full time education between September 1975 and August 1976 inclusive (ie. in the academic year in which they reached their 18th birthday)

N=942

Time after first leaving full time education:

Activity	date: age:	1 year %	2 years %	3 years %	4 years %	5 years %
<u>Full time job</u>						
- with apprenticeship	June 1977 19	0.8+	0.8+	0.7+	0.6+	0.5+
- with training		5.9+	5.8+	1.3+	0.3	0.2
full-time		4.4+	3.4+	2.4+	3.0	3.8
day or block release		0.4	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.0
other						
all with training		10.7	9.9	3.8	3.4	4.0
- with neither		66.9+	67.2+	72.2+	72.9	72.8
all with full time job		78.4+	77.9+	76.8	77.0	77.4
<u>Part time job</u>		1.3	1.2	1.8+	1.5+	2.5+
<u>Unemployed</u>		2.6	1.3+	2.2	2.6	3.5
<u>Government scheme</u>						
- TOPS		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2
- other scheme for the unemployed		0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2
all on government scheme		0.6	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.4
<u>Full time education</u>		10.7+	14.5+	13.3+	9.3+	4.7+
<u>Other economically inactive</u>		4.8	4.5+	5.5+	8.5+	11.4+
<u>No information</u>		1.6	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.1
<u>Total</u>		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<u>Part time education</u>		3.0	3.1	3.2	3.8+	5.2+

Key

+ The proportion differs from the corresponding proportion for the opposite sex at or beyond the .01 level of significance.

2(d) Females who first left full time education between September 1976 and August 1977 inclusive (ie. in the academic year in which they first reached their 19th birthday)

N=166

Time after first leaving full time education:

Activity	1 year % June 1978 20	2 years % June 1979 21	3 years % June 1980 22	4 years % June 1981 23
<u>Full time job</u>				
- with apprenticeship	1.8	1.2	1.2	1.2
- with training	4.2	3.0	0.6	0.0
full time	7.2	8.4	3.0	3.0
day or block release	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
other	11.4	11.4	3.6	3.0
all with training	62.6	61.4	64.5	63.9
- with neither	75.9	74.1	69.3	68.1
all with full time job	0.6	0.6	1.2	3.0
<u>Part time job</u>	2.4	2.4	4.2	7.2
<u>Unemployed</u>				
<u>Government scheme</u>				
- TOPS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- other scheme for the unemployed	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
all on government scheme	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
<u>Full time education</u>	16.3	17.5+	16.9	11.4
<u>Other economically inactive</u>	4.2	3.6	7.8+	9.6+
<u>No information</u>	0.0	1.2	0.6	0.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<u>Part time education</u>	1.2	2.4	1.2	1.2

Key

+ The proportion differs from the corresponding proportion for the opposite sex at or beyond the .01 level of significance.

2(e) Females who first left full time education between September 1978 and August 1979 inclusive (ie. in the academic year in which they reached their 21st birthday)

N=277

Time after first leaving full time education:

Activity	1 year %		2 years %	
	June 1980 22	June 1981 23	June 1980 22	June 1981 23
<u>Full time job</u>				
- with apprenticeship	2.2	2.2		
- with training			0.4	0.0
full time			3.2	3.6
day or block release			0.7	0.4
other				
all with training	4.3	4.0		
- with neither	83.4 +	79.1		
all with full time job	89.9	85.2		
<u>Part time job</u>	1.1	1.8		
<u>Unemployed</u>	3.2	5.4		
<u>Government scheme</u>				
- TOPS	0.0	0.0		
- other scheme for the unemployed	1.4	0.0		
all on government scheme	1.4	0.0		
<u>Full time education</u>	1.4	4.0		
<u>Other economically inactive</u>	1.8	2.9		
<u>No information</u>	1.1	0.7		
Total	100.0	100.0		
<u>Part time education</u>	1.8	1.1		

2(f) Females who first left full time education between September 1979 and August 1980 inclusive (ie. in the academic year in which they reached their 22nd birthday)

N=215

Time after first leaving full time education:

Activity	1 year %	
	June 1980 23	June 1981 23
<u>Full time job</u>		
- with apprenticeship	3.3	
- with training		0.0
full time		1.9
day or block release		0.0
other		
all with training	1.9	
- with neither	81.9	
all with full time job	87.0	
<u>Part time job</u>	2.8	
<u>Unemployed</u>	6.0	
<u>Government scheme</u>		
- TOPS	0.0	
- other scheme for the unemployed	1.9	
all on government scheme	1.9	
<u>Full time education</u>	0.0	
<u>Other economically inactive</u>	1.9	
<u>No information</u>	0.5	
Total	100.0	
<u>Part time education</u>	0.9	

Key

+ The proportion differs from the corresponding proportion for the opposite sex at or beyond the .01 level of significance.

Table 4: Comparison of the activities at the same age of males who first left full time education at different ages

Key: > The proportion in Group 1 is greater than the corresponding proportion in Group 2 at or beyond the .05 level of significance
 < The proportion in Group 1 is smaller than the corresponding proportion in Group 2 at or beyond the .05 level of significance

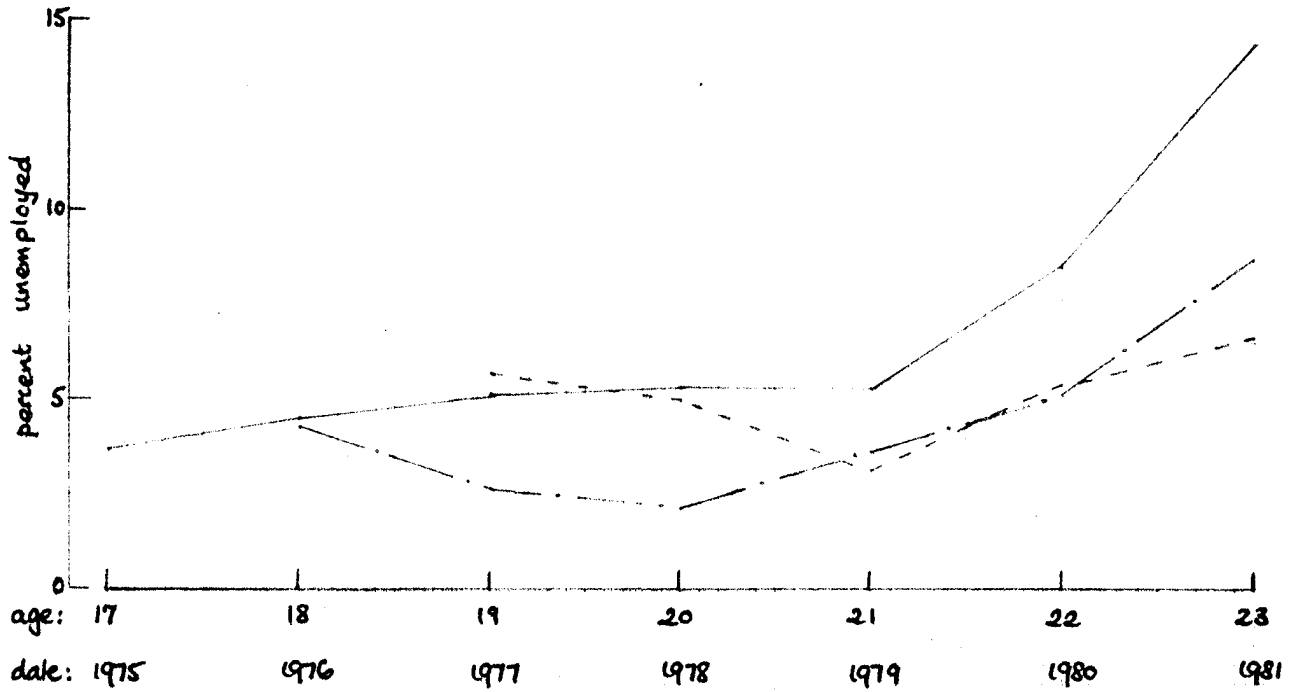
Note Comparisons between groups of the proportions on training courses other than full time or day or block release and on government schemes have been omitted as no differences are significant

Activity	(a)						(b)						(c)						(d)		(e)		
	June 1976	June 1977	June 1978	June 1979	June 1980	June 1981	June 1977	June 1978	June 1979	June 1980	June 1981	June 1982	Sept. 1975	June 1976	June 1977	June 1978	June 1979	June 1980	June 1981	June 1982	Sept. 1976 - Aug. 1977 inc.	Sept. 1978 - Aug. 1979 inc.	Sept. 1978 - Aug. 1979 inc.
GROUP 1 1st left full time education	before Sept. 1974						Sept. 1974 - Aug. 1975 inc.						Sept. 1974 - Aug. 1975 inc.						Sept. 1976 - Aug. 1977 inc.		Sept. 1978 - Aug. 1979 inc.	Sept. 1979 - Aug. 1980 inc.	
approx. age at leaving N	16 4086						17 593						17 593						18 732		19 228	20 235	
GROUP 2 1st left full time education	Sept. 1974 - Aug. 1975 inc.						Sept. 1975 - Aug. 1976 inc.						Sept. 1975 - Aug. 1976 inc.						Sept. 1976 - Aug. 1977 inc.		Sept. 1978 - Aug. 1979 inc.	Sept. 1979 - Aug. 1980 inc.	
approx. age at leaving N	17 593						18 732						18 732						19 228		20 235	21 176	
comparison at: date: age:	June 1976						June 1977						June 1978						June 1979		June 1980	June 1981	
Full time job:	>						>						>						>		>	>	
- with apprenticeship	<						<						<						<		<	<	
- with training full time	<						<						<						<		<	<	
day or block release	<						<						<						<		<	<	
all with training	>						>						>						>		>	>	
- with neither	>						>						>						>		>	>	
all with full time job	>						>						>						>		>	>	
Part time job	>						>						>						>		>	>	
Unemployed:	>						>						>						>		>	>	
- proportion of full leaving group	>						>						>						>		>	>	
- proportion of economically active	>						>						>						>		>	>	
Full time education	<						<						<						<		<	<	
Other economically inactive	<						<						<						<		<	<	
Part time education	<						<						<						<		<	<	

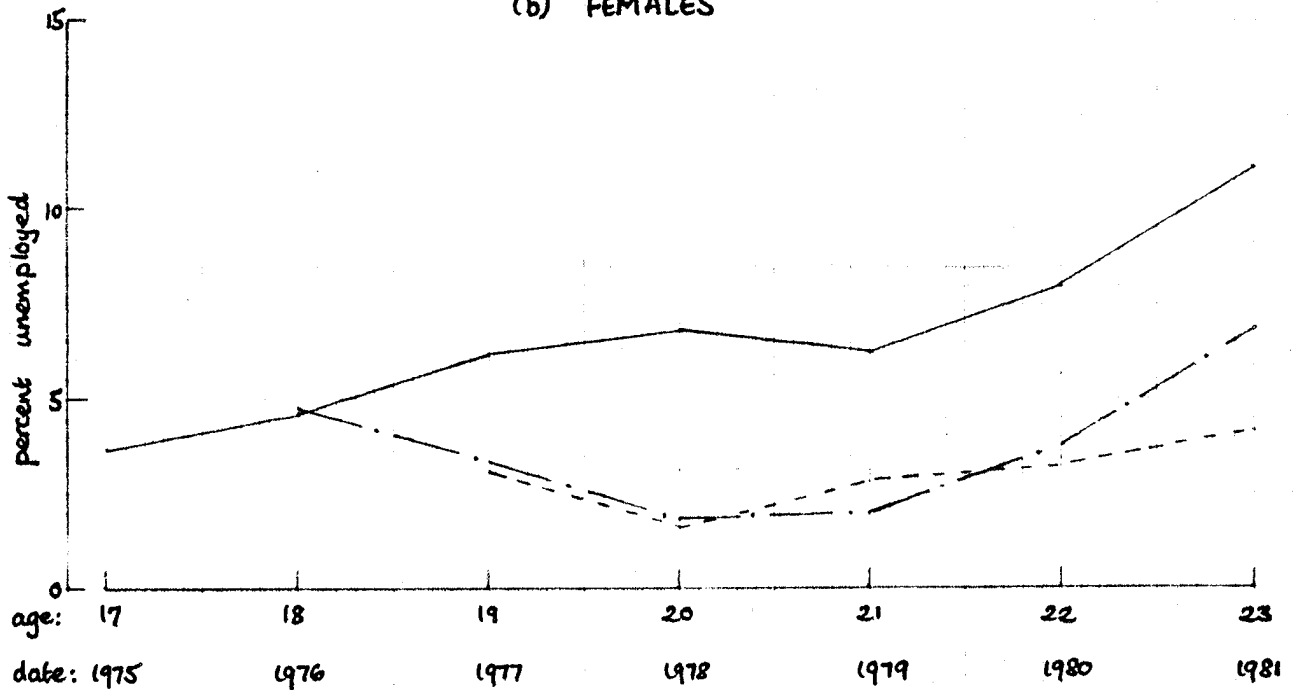
Figure 1: Unemployment rates at yearly intervals after first leaving full time education, by age at first leaving full time education and sex.

(Unemployed persons as a percentage of all economically active. For N's, see Table 3.)

(a) MALES



(b) FEMALES

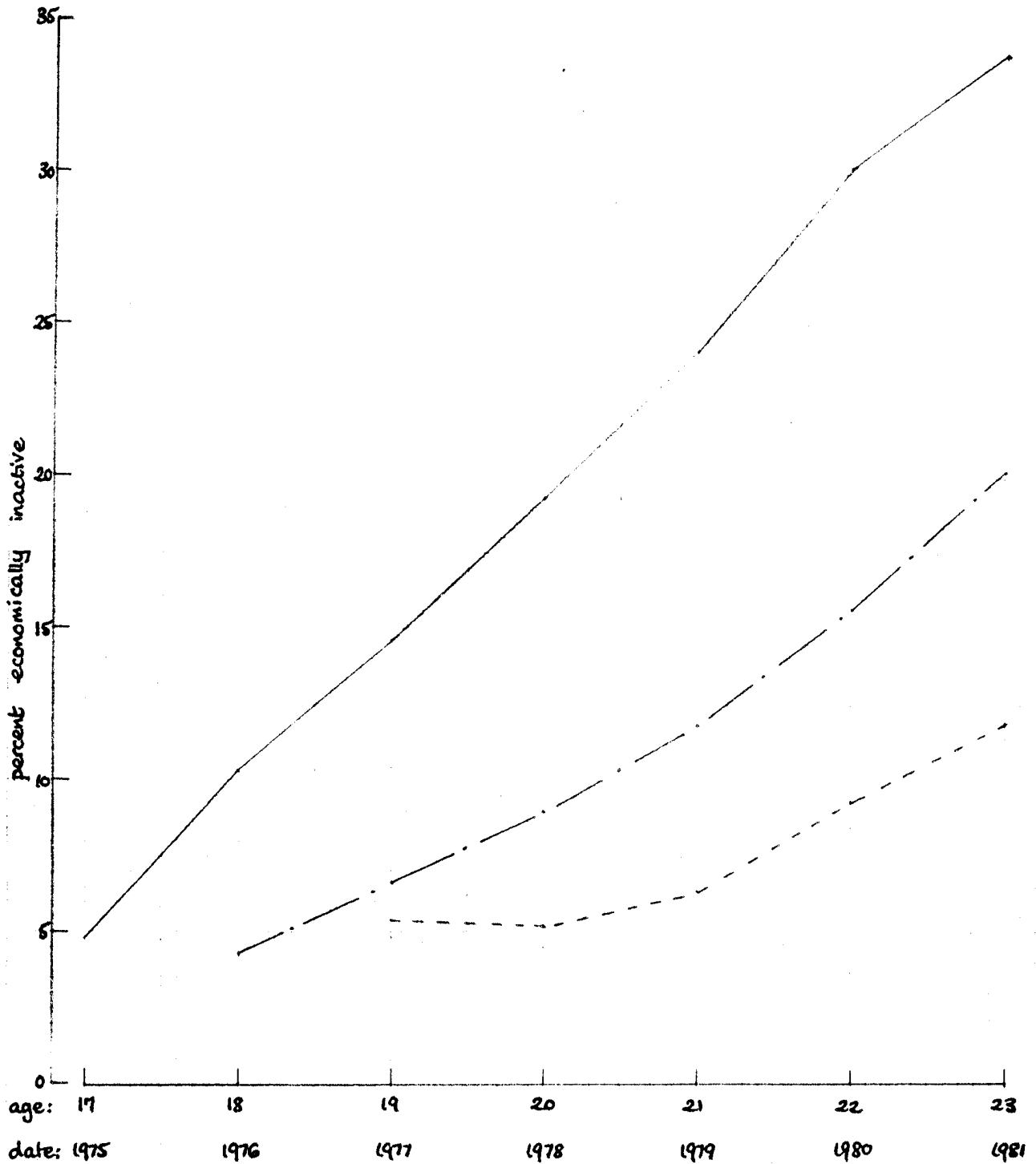


KEY

- 16 year old leavers
- . - 17 year old leavers
- - - 18 year old leavers

Figure 2: Rates of economic inactivity for women at yearly intervals after first leaving full time education, by age at first leaving full time education.

(Women out of the labour force other than those in full time education or on a government scheme as a percentage of all women leaving full time education at a given age, excluding those back in full time education.)



KEY	BASE N							
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	
— 16 year old leavers	3628	3661	3691	3698	3703	3701	3702	
- - - 17 year old leavers	-	748	731	737	748	756	763	
--- 18 year old leavers	-	-	841	805	817	854	898	