

## Next Steps

A guide to the linked Individualised Learner Records (ILR) Learner and Learning aims datasets

(First Edition)

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## Acknowledgements

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## 1. Introduction

Next Steps (previously known as the Longitudinal Study of Young People in England (LSYPE1)) is a large and nationally representative longitudinal cohort study following the lives of around 16,000 people in England born in 1989-1990.

The study started in 2004 and was funded and managed by the Department for Education until it transferred to CLS in 2013. Annual interviews with study members were carried out between 2004 and 2010 (ages 14 to 20), as well as interviews with parents for the first four sweeps. The study focused primarily on educational transitions and was supplemented by linked administrative data from the National Pupil Database. Following the initial survey at age 13-14, the cohort members were interviewed every year until 2010.

In 2013 CLS successfully re-started the study and collected another sweep of data at age 25 (in 2015/2016). The scientific content of the study was broadened to provide a multi-disciplinary research resource, supplemented by a wide-range of administrative data linkage consents. Extensive efforts were made to maximise the size and representativeness of the sample and interviews were achieved with almost 8,000 study members.

## 2. Consent to education data linkage

In sweep 8 data linkage was a major part of the study, with 10 different linkage consents collected covering education, health, economics and criminal justice. One of these consents was linkage to Individualised Learner Records (ILR) data.

Considerable effort was expended in developing an approach that would maximise consent, particularly in the context of a mixed-mode survey.

A data linkage leaflet was included in the advance mailing, sent at the start of each batch of fieldwork. It gave information on the purpose, types, value and process of data linkage, and encouraged study members to contact the study team with any questions they might have.

During the interview, and following an introduction page, consents were recorded electronically directly into the survey instrument. All participants were then sent a confirmation of their consents (as part of their 'Thank you' letter) by post or email.

Detailed information on the fieldwork and consent collection can be found in the Next Steps Age 25 Technical report and Next Steps Age 25 User Guide. All documents can be found under 'documentation' at <https://cls.ucl.ac.uk/cls-studies/next-steps/next-steps-age-25-sweep/>

## 3. Education data linkage

The Individualised Learner Record (ILR) is a collection of data about learners and the learning undertaken in further education (FE) in England. The data on FE will include information on programmes of study such as Apprenticeship, National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs). This data contains information collected by funded colleges, training organisations, local authorities and employers (FE providers). Further details can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/individualised-learner-record-ilr>

Linked ILR data includes one learner record for each learner on a programme of study at an FE provider and contains information specific to the learner. Each learner record has associated with it one or more learning aim records. There is one learning aim record for each learning aim that a learner is studying. For example, where a learner is studying three GCE A levels, there would be three learning aim data sets. A learning aim record contains learning aim related information such as start date, end date, fee information and outcome.

In 2018 CLS made a request to the Department of Education to link all consenting Next Steps participants to their ILR records.

A total of 5257 participants agreed to ILR linkage out of 7707 who took part in the survey, corresponding to a consent rate of 68.2%.

A total of 3658 consenting Next Steps participants were successfully matched out of 5257 corresponding to a successful linkage rate of 69.6%. This excludes a small number of cohort members who withdrew their consent following sweep 8 both prior and subsequently to data linkage.

Table 1 below shows the number of successful matches to ILR records following data linkage.

**Table 1: Consent and linkage**

	ILR Records
Number in Next Steps Age 25 Survey	7707
Number with valid consent	5257
Consent rate	68.2%
Number with linked ILR data	3658
Linkage rate	69.6%

The matching was completed by the DfE in March 2018. The personal identifiers supplied to the DfE for matching against the ILR contained: anonymised Pupil Matching Reference (PMR), forename, middle name, surname, other surname, date of birth, sex, current address, and current, and prior postcodes.

The items used for matching were anonymised Pupil Matching Reference, forename, middle name, surname, date of birth and postcode.

The initial ILR matching process involved direct matching on the variables: PMR, forename, middle name, surname, date of birth and current or prior postcode. This was followed by fuzzy<sup>1</sup> matching on surname, middle name and forename and partial matching on current or

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<sup>1</sup> Fuzzy matching is an inexact string matching technique which allows the matching of an individual identifier despite small differences between two sources. For example, a person may have their name recorded as 'Elisabeth' in one dataset but 'Elizabeth' in the other. With a series of matching criteria looking at first name, surname and date of birth, the fuzzy matching method achieves a link despite the slight difference in first name

prior postcode. Eventually in an effort to find the final few pupils, fuzzy matching was used on all variables which involved manual checks on individuals for a match. Only confident matches were returned.

Fuzzy matching on names was conducted on the first 1 to 3 characters of the name. Checks were made to see if the forename supplied matched the forename or middle names held in the ILR. Checks were also carried out on historical surnames, preferred surname and former surname in ILR data.

## 4. Data available

### 4.1. Datasets

The following linked ILR data was provided by the DfE:

- ILR learner data for academic years 2004/2005 to 2013/2014
- ILR learning aims data for academic years 2004/2005 to 2013/2014

The title and content of the deposited datasets are given in Table 2.

Table 2: List of deposited datasets

Name of the dataset	Data source(s)	Contents
NS_ILR_LEARNER_2005_2014	ILR Learner	ILR Learner data for the academic years 2004/05 to 2013/2014
NS_ILR_AIMS_2005_2014	ILR Aims	ILR Aims data for the academic years 2004/05 to 2013/2014

In addition, there are four files which are lookup tables to variables in the Aims dataset:

<b>CONTRACTING_ORGANISATION</b>	This file contains the description of the contracting organisation code ILA_A70.
<b>LEARNING_AIM</b>	This file contains the description of the learning aim reference code ILA_LEARNAIMREF.
<b>SOC2000_CODES</b>	This file contains the description of occupation code relating to the learner aim ILA_A24.
<b>SPECIAL_PROJECTS_&amp;_PILOTS</b>	This file contains the description of the special projects and pilots code ILA_A49.

Tables 3 and 4 list the variables belonging to each of these datasets.

### 4.2. Identifiers

NSID is the anonymised unique cohort member identifier which can be used to merge this data and other deposited Next Steps datasets. In either datasets, a pupil can have multiple records and so secondary indices have been created - ILL\_ID and ILA\_ID for the learner and aims datasets respectively.

In addition, UPINANON is the anonymised unique provider identifier. This was created by anonymising the actual provider identifier UPIN.

### **4.3. Variables**

Variables in the learner data set are prefixed by ILL and those in the learning aims data set are prefixed by ILA.

Variable labels and value labels have been populated from the data table covering the academic period (see Appendix A). It is recommended that users refer to the historic documentation as well because labels and values may have changed meaning over time.

Some variables have been excluded because they have been considered potentially disclosive. As well as the provider number mentioned above, full dates have not been included. Instead the month and year have been extracted where applicable.

Other variables have been excluded because all data is missing. A list of these variables is given in Appendix B.

## 4.4. Learner data

Table 3: Variables in the learner dataset

Variable Name	Description	Source
NSID	Anonymised Research ID	CLS
ILL_ID	ILR learner identifier	CLS
ILL_BASE_YEAR	Base Year for pupil	ILR Learner
ILL_SRC_TABLE	Identifies the source and year of the raw data	ILR Learner
ILL_SRC_TABLE_ID	Source table identifier	ILR Learner
ILL_D_YEAR	DV: Academic year of dataset	CLS
ILL_COLLECTION	Collection	ILR Learner
ILL_PERIOD	Period of the year this file relates to	ILR Learner
ILL_RETURN	The return that the data relates to (specified by the Information Authority)	ILR Learner
ILL_SNAPSHOT	Snapshot (SN) number	ILR Learner
ILL_ACMNTH	DV - Most recent month of data included in the dataset	ILR Learner
ILL_UPINANON	Unique provider identification number (UPIN) (anonymised)	CLS
ILL_L02	Contract/Allocation type for this provision	ILR Learner
ILL_L04	Identifier for the type of dataset	ILR Learner
ILL_D_LRNAIMRECORDS	Number of associated learning aim datasets	ILR Learner
ILL_L24	Country of domicile	ILR Learner
ILL_L25	Number of funding LSC	ILR Learner
ILL_L25_REG	Region of the funding of the LSC	ILR Learner
ILL_L27	Restricted use indicator	ILR Learner
ILL_L28	Eligibility for 16-18 funding entitlement	ILR Learner
ILL_L28A	Eligibility for enhanced funding (1 of 2)	ILR Learner



<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Source</b>
ILL_L28B	Eligibility for enhanced funding (2 of 2)	ILR Learner
ILL_RUI1	Restricted use of the learner record indicator (1 of 2)	ILR Learner
ILL_RUI2	Restricted use of the learner record indicator (2 of 2)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_RUI	Contact preference code	ILR Learner
ILL_L_LSR1	Learner support reason (1 of 4)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_LSR2	Learner support reason (2 of 4)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_LSR3	Learner support reason (3 of 4)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_LSR4	Learner support reason (4 of 4)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_EHC	Education Health Care Plan	ILR Learner
ILL_PRIORATTAIN	Prior attainment level	ILR Learner
ILL_L36	Learner status on last working day before learning (WBL)	ILR Learner
ILL_L37	Employment status on first day of learning (WBL)	ILR Learner
ILL_L38	Employment status on last day of learning	ILR Learner
ILL_DEST	Destination of the learner after completion of learning	ILR Learner
ILL_L_NLM1	National learner monitoring (1 of 2)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_NLM2	National learner monitoring (2 of 2)	ILR Learner
ILL_L44	NES delivery LSC number	ILR Learner
ILL_UKPRNANON	UK Provider Reference Number (UKPRN) (anonymised)	ILR Learner
ILL_L47	Current employment status	ILR Learner
ILL_L48_MONTH	DV: Month employment status changed (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILL_L48_YEAR	DV: Year employment status changed (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILL_L52	Restricted use contact method	ILR Learner
ILL_L_IL_P1	DV - Learner in learning programme type period 1	ILR Learner

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Source</b>
ILL_L_IL_P2	DV - Learner in learning programme type period 2	ILR Learner
ILL_L_IL_P3	DV - Learner in learning programme type period 3	ILR Learner
ILL_L_IL_P4	DV - Learner in learning programme type period 4	ILR Learner
ILL_L_IL_P5	DV - Learner in learning programme type period 5	ILR Learner
ILL_L_IL_P6	DV - Learner in learning programme type period 6	ILR Learner
ILL_L_IL_P7	DV - Learner in learning programme type period 7	ILR Learner
ILL_L_IL_P8	DV - Learner in learning programme type period 8	ILR Learner
ILL_L_IL_P9	DV - Learner in learning programme type period 9	ILR Learner
ILL_L_IL_P10	DV - Learner in learning programme type period 10	ILR Learner
ILL_L_IL_P11	DV - Learner in learning programme type period 11	ILR Learner
ILL_L_IL_P12	DV - Learner in learning programme type period 12	ILR Learner
ILL_L_3RDSECTOR	DV - Third sector flag at learner level	ILR Learner
ILL_L_CREATED_MONTH	DV - Month the learner record was created (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILL_L_CREATED_YEAR	DV - Year the learner record was created (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILL_L_MODIFIED_MONTH	DV - Month the learner record was last modified (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILL_L_MODIFIED_YEAR	DV - Year the learner record was last modified (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILL_L_ACTIVE	DV - Whether learner active for current academic year	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ILACMNTH1	DV - Learner in learning academic month 1	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ILACMNTH2	DV - Learner in learning academic month 2	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ILACMNTH3	DV - Learner in learning academic month 3	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ILACMNTH4	DV - Learner in learning academic month 4	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ILACMNTH5	DV - Learner in learning academic month 5	ILR Learner

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Source</b>
ILL_L_ILACMNT6	DV - Learner in learning academic month 6	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ILACMNT7	DV - Learner in learning academic month 7	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ILACMNT8	DV - Learner in learning academic month 8	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ILACMNT9	DV - Learner in learning academic month 9	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ILACMNT10	DV - Learner in learning academic month 10	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ILACMNT11	DV - Learner in learning academic month 11	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ILACMNT12	DV - Learner in learning academic month 12	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FUNDAGENCY	Sources of funding for the learner	ILR Learner
ILL_L_INYR_ACTUAL_GLH	DV - Actual current year GLH	ILR Learner
ILL_L_INYR_EXPECTED_GLH	DV - Expected current year GLH	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ACT_A	DV - Actual current year GLH (1 Nov 1 Feb 15 May - method A)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ACT_B	DV - Actual current year GLH (1 Oct 1 Feb 15 May - method B)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ADDSUP	DV - Whether learner is eligible for learner support	ILR Learner
ILL_L_AGE	DV - Age of learner as at 31 August yyyy	ILR Learner
ILL_L_AGE_B	DV - Age of learner as at 31 August yyyy (Banded)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_AGE_B16TO19	DV - Age band for youth allocations	ILR Learner
ILL_L_AGE_BAND	DV - Age of learner as at 31 August yyyy, 16-18 19+ bands	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ATYPE	In-year aim type of the learner	ILR Learner
ILL_L_BENEFIT_STAT	DV - Benefit status	ILR Learner
ILL_L_DISADV	DV - Whether learner is considered to be disadvantaged	ILR Learner
ILL_L_DP_GOR	DV - Learner-level Government Office Region of delivery provider's postcode	ILR Learner
ILL_L_DP_PA	DV - Learner-level portfolio area of delivery provider postcode	ILR Learner
ILL_L_DPREG	DV - Region of the delivery provider	ILR Learner

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Source</b>
ILL_L_EXP_A	DV - Expected current year GLH using 1 Nov 1 Feb 15 May (method A)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_EXP_B	DV - Expected current year GLH (1 Oct 1 Feb 15 May - method B)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_EFA_EXTRACT_FLAG	DV - EFA extract indicator	ILR Learner
ILL_L_EFA_FUNDING	DV - Type of YPLA funding	ILR Learner
ILL_L_EMPSTATFDL	DV - Employment status on first day of learning	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FULLLEVEL2	DV - Full NVQ level 2 learner flag	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FULLLEVEL2ACH	DV - Learner full level 2 achievement	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FULLLEVEL2_COMPLETE	DV - Learner full level 2 completion	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FIRSTFULLLEVEL2	DV - Learner first full level 2	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FIRSTFULLLEVEL2ACH	DV - Learner first full level 2 achievement	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FULLLEVEL3	DV - Full NVQ level 3 learner flag	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FULLLEVEL3ACH	DV - Learner full level 3 achievement	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FULLLEVEL3_COMPLETE	DV - Learner full level 3 completion	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FIRSTFULLLEVEL3	DV - Learner first full level 3	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FIRSTFULLLEVEL3ACH	DV - Learner first full level 3 achievement	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FRANCH	DV - Whether learner has any franchised aims	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FTCLP	DV - Full time equivalent, learner profile method	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ACTIVEOCT	Whether learner was active on 1 Oct this year	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ACTIVENOV	Whether learner was active on 1 Nov this year	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ACTIVEJAN	Whether learner was active on 1 Jan this year	ILR Learner
ILL_L_LARGEEMPR	DV - Large employer flags at learner level	ILR Learner
ILL_L_LARGE_EMP_FACTOR	DV - Large employer flags at learner level	ILR Learner
ILL_L_LEVEL2E	DV - Full level 2 entitlement	ILR Learner

Variable Name	Description	Source
ILL_L_LIS_FG	DV - LIS funding flag	ILR Learner
ILL_L_LIVE_A	Status of the aim for inclusion for analysis (1 Nov used as first census date)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_LIVE_B	Status of the aim for inclusion for analysis (1 Oct used as first census date)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_MODE_A	Learners mode of attendance (1 Nov 1 Feb 15 May - method A)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_MODE_B	Learners mode of attendance (1 Oct 1 Feb 15 May - method B)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_NVQLEV	DV - Notional NVQ level of the learner	ILR Learner
ILL_L_BSKILL	Whether the learner is Skills for Life	ILR Learner
ILL_L_UFI	Whether the learner is UFI	ILR Learner
ILL_L_OS1200	DV - Whether the learner has more than 1200 expected onsite GLH	ILR Learner
ILL_L_OSEGLH	DV - Expected daytime on-site GLH	ILR Learner
ILL_L_EMPSTATPRIOR	DV - Employment status prior to start of learning	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PRIORFTED	DV - Previous education status prior to start of learning	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PLLSC	LLSC based on the 1-1 owner relationship UPIN to LLSC	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PREG	DV - Region of the owning provider (based on provider postcode)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PROGLEDAPP	DV - Learner is undertaking a programme led apprenticeship	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PROG_ROUTE	DV - Programme route	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PV_COMP	DV - Learners type of component for planning volumes	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PV_GCSE_ME	DV - Planning volumes (GCSE Programme with Maths and English)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PV_GCSE_NOTME	DV - Planning volumes (GCSE Programme without Maths and English)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PV_LEVEL1	DV - Planning volumes (level 1 aim)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PV_PROG	DV - Detailed planning volumes programme	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PV_PROG_DIP1	DV - Planning volumes (level 1 diploma programme)	ILR Learner

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Source</b>
ILL_L_PV_PROG_DIP2	DV - Planning volumes (level 2 diploma programme)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PV_PROG_DIP3	DV - Planning volumes (level 3 diploma programme)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PV_PROG_E2E	DV - Planning volumes (E2E programme)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PV_PROG_FL3A2AS	DV - Planning volumes (full level 3 from A2 and AS programme)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PV_PROG_FL	DV - Planning volumes (foundation programme)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PV_STAL	DV - Category of a stand-alone aim	ILR Learner
ILL_L_RISKOFNEET	DV - Learner is aged 14-15 and is at risk of becoming NEET	ILR Learner
ILL_L_SFA_FUNDING	DV - Type of Skills Funding Agency funding	ILR Learner
ILL_L_SFL_LEITCH_LIT	DV - Leitch Skills for Life literacy learner	ILR Learner
ILL_L_SFL_LEITCH_LIT_ACH	DV - Leitch Skills for Life literacy achiever	ILR Learner
ILL_L_SFL_LEITCH_NUM	DV - Leitch Skills for Life numeracy learner	ILR Learner
ILL_L_SFL_LEITCH_NUM_ACH	DV - Leitch Skills for Life numeracy achiever	ILR Learner
ILL_L_TTGAIN	DV - Train to Gain learner	ILR Learner
ILL_L_YPLA_FUNDING	DV - Type of YPLA funding	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FFA	DV - Framework for achievement learner	ILR Learner
ILL_L_IY_SLN_PAYMENT	Whether learner received SLN or payment this year to date	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FNDPRVYR	Whether learner received SLN or Payment in previous year	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ILCURRYR	Whether learner in learning in year	ILR Learner
ILL_L_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT	Whether learner generated SLN or received payment in previous/current year	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FUND	DV - Sources of funding for the learner	ILR Learner
ILL_L_FEFUND	Sources of funding for the learner	ILR Learner
ILL_L_QCF	Qualifications and Credit Framework learner	ILR Learner
ILL_L_NOTIONLEV	Notional NVQ level of learner	ILR Learner

Variable Name	Description	Source
ILL_L_NOTIONLEV_V2	DV - Notional NVQ level of learner version 2	ILR Learner
ILL_L_MODEATTPLANHRS	DV - Mode of attendance for planned learning hours	ILR Learner

## 4.5. Learning aims data

Table 4: Variables in the learning aims dataset

Variable Name	Description	Source
NSID	Anonymised Research ID	CLS
ILA_ID	ILR aims identifier	CLS
ILA_ACADEMIC_YEAR	Academic year of the data (2001/2002 represents Sept 2001-Aug 2002)	ILR Aims
ILA_AC_YEAR	Academic year of the data (2001 represents Sept 2001-Aug 2002)	ILR Aims
ILA_BASE_YEAR	Base year for pupil	ILR Aims
ILA_SRC_TABLE	Identifies the source and year of the raw data	ILR Aims
ILA_SRC_TABLE_ID	Source table identifier	ILR Aims
ILA_D_YEAR	DV: Academic year of dataset	CLS
ILA_COLLECTION	Collection	ILR Aims
ILA_PERIOD	Period of the year this file relates to	ILR Aims
ILA_ACMNTH	DV - Most recent month of data included in the dataset	ILR Aims
ILA_RETURN	The return that the data relates to (specified by the Information Authority)	ILR Aims
ILA_SNAPSHOT	Snapshot (SN) number	ILR Aims
ILA_UPINANON	Unique provider identification number (UPIN) anonymised	ILR Aims
ILA_A02	Contract/Allocation type for this provision	ILR Aims
ILA_AIMTYPE	Data set identifier code	ILR Aims
ILA_AIMSEQNUMBER	Learning aim data set sequence	ILR Aims

Variable Name	Description	Source
ILA_A06	Number of ESF co-financing data sets attached to this learning aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A07	Number of HE data sets attached to this learning aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A08	Data set format	ILR Aims
ILA_LEARNAIMREF	Learning aim reference code (see lookup table for values)	ILR Aims
ILA_FUNDMODEL	Funding model to be applied when calculating funding for learning aim	ILR Aims
ILA_SOF	Source of funding (1 of 2)	ILR Aims
ILA_A11B	Source of funding (2 of 2)	ILR Aims
ILA_A12A	Implied rate of LSC FE funding for ESF (not LSC ESF co-financed (FE))	ILR Aims
ILA_A12B	Implied rate of LSC FE funding for ESF (not LSC ESF co-financed (FE))	ILR Aims
ILA_A13	Tuition fee received for year (actual amount in pounds)	ILR Aims
ILA_A14	Reason for partial or full non-payment of fees	ILR Aims
ILA_PROGTYPE	Programme type	ILR Aims
ILA_A16	Programme entry route	ILR Aims
ILA_A17	Delivery mode	ILR Aims
ILA_A18	Main delivery method	ILR Aims
ILA_A19	Employer role in the learner attendance to study	ILR Aims
ILA_A20	Resit of a qualification	ILR Aims
ILA_A21	Franchised out and partnership arrangement	ILR Aims
ILA_PARTNERUKPRNANON	Franchised and partnership delivery provider number (anonymised)	ILR Aims
ILA_PRIORLEARNFUNDADJ	Funding adjustment for prior learning	ILR Aims
ILA_OTHERFUNDADJ	Other funding adjustment	ILR Aims
ILA_A24	Occupation code relating to learner aim (SOC 2000) (see lookup table for values)	ILR Aims



Variable Name	Description	Source
ILA_FWORKCODE	Sector framework of learning	ILR Aims
ILA_PWAYCODE	Pathway of the apprenticeship framework being undertaken	ILR Aims
ILA_LEARNPLANENDMONTH	DV: Learning planned end month (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILA_LEARNPLANENDYEAR	DV: Learning planned end year (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILA_A32	Guided learning hours (GLH)	ILR Aims
ILA_A33	Enhanced guided learning hours (FE)	ILR Aims
ILA_COMPSTATUS	Completion status	ILR Aims
ILA_OUTCOME	Learning outcome	ILR Aims
ILA_OUTGRADE	Learning outcome grade	ILR Aims
ILA_A37	Number of units completed and achieved from full qualification or learning aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A38	Number of units required to achieve a full qualification	ILR Aims
ILA_A39	Eligibility for achievement funding	ILR Aims
ILA_A43_MONTH	DV: Sector framework achievement month (including key skills) (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILA_A43_YEAR	DV: Sector framework achievement year (including key skills) (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILA_LDM_1	National learning aim monitoring (instance 1 of 4)	ILR Aims
ILA_LDM_2	National learning aim monitoring (2 of 4)	ILR Aims
ILA_A49	Special Projects and Pilots (see lookup table for values)	ILR Aims
ILA_SPP	Special Projects and Pilots (1 of 3) (see lookup table for values)	ILR Aims
ILA_A51A	Proportion of funding remaining	ILR Aims
ILA_A52	Distance learning funding	ILR Aims
ILA_A57	Source of tuition fees	ILR Aims
ILA_ASF	ASL Provision Type	ILR Aims

Variable Name	Description	Source
ILA_A59	Planned credit value of the learning aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A60	Credits achieved by learner when learning aim is completed or study ceases	ILR Aims
ILA_NSA	National Skills Academy	ILR Aims
ILA_A64	Planned group based hours	ILR Aims
ILA_A65	Planned one-to-one contact hours	ILR Aims
ILA_A66	Employment status on day before starting learning aim	ILR Aims
ILA_D_LENUNEMP	Length of unemployment before starting ESF project	ILR Aims
ILA_EMPOUTCOME	Employment outcome	ILR Aims
ILA_EEF	Eligibility for advanced ER funding	ILR Aims
ILA_A70	Contracting organisation code (see lookup table for values)	ILR Aims
ILA_FFI	Full/co-funding indicator	ILR Aims
ILA_WPL	Workplace learning indicator	ILR Aims
ILA_D_FUNDINGLINETYPE	DV - Funding line type	ILR Aims
ILA_A_CREATED_MONTH	DV - Month the learner record was created (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILA_A_CREATED_YEAR	DV - Year the learner record was created (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILA_A_MODIFIED_MONTH	DV - Month the learner record was last modified (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILA_A_MODIFIED_YEAR	DV - Year the learner record was last modified (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILA_P_ACTIVE	DV - Programme active	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ACTIVE	DV - Aim active for the current year	ILR Aims
ILA_A_AGESTB	Age of the learner as at the start date of aim (banded)	ILR Aims
ILA_A_AGESTBAND	Age of the learner as at the start date of aim (reduced bands)	ILR Aims
ILA_A_ATYPE	Type of aim	ILR Aims

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Source</b>
ILA_D_CARRYIN	DV - Carry in aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A_DAGLH	DV - Delivery-adjusted guided learning hours	ILR Aims
ILA_A_DP_GOR	DV - Aim-level GOR of delivery provider postcode	ILR Aims
ILA_A_DPREG	DV - Region of the delivery provider	ILR Aims
ILA_A_ACT_A	Actual current year GLH (1 Nov 1 Feb 15 )	ILR Aims
ILA_A_ACT_B	Actual current year GLH (1 Oct 1 Feb 15)	ILR Aims
ILA_A_ESF	DV - Type of ESF aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A_EXP_A	Expected current year GLH (1 Nov 1 Feb 15)	ILR Aims
ILA_A_EXP_B	Expected current year GLH (1 Oct 1 Feb 15 May)	ILR Aims
ILA_A_ESFTY	DV - ESF co-financing type	ILR Aims
ILA_A_FE_PROVMIX_MATRIX	DV - FE provision mix matrix	ILR Aims
ILA_A_FE_PROVMIX_MATRIX_SUMM	DV - FE provision mix matrix summary	ILR Aims
ILA_A_PROVMIX	DV - Type of provision	ILR Aims
ILA_A_FRANCH	DV - Franchised aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A_FFA	DV - Framework for achievement aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IL_P1	Whether the aim was active in period 1	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IL_P2	Whether the aim was active in period 2	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IL_P3	Whether the aim was active in period 3	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IL_P4	Whether the aim was active in period 4	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IL_P5	Whether the aim was active in period 5	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IL_P6	Whether the aim was active in period 6	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IL_P7	Whether the aim was active in period 7	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IL_P8	Whether the aim was active in period 8	ILR Aims

Variable Name	Description	Source
ILA_A_IL_P9	Whether the aim was active in period 9	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IL_P10	Whether the aim was active in period 10	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IL_P11	Whether the aim was active in period 11	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IL_P12	Whether the aim was active in period 12	ILR Aims
ILA_A_ILPY2D	DV - Number of periods in learning in current year to date	ILR Aims
ILA_A_ILAVY2	DV - Average number of periods in learning in current year to date	ILR Aims
ILA_A_INYR_ACTUAL_GLH	DV - Actual current year GLH	ILR Aims
ILA_A_INYR_EXPECTED_GLH	DV - Expected current year GLH	ILR Aims
ILA_A_LIS_FG	DV - LIS funding flag	ILR Aims
ILA_A_LIVE_A	Status of aim for inclusion in analysis (using 1 Nov)	ILR Aims
ILA_A_LIVE_B	Status of aim for inclusion in analysis (using 1 Oct)	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ACTIVEJAN	DV - Aim was active on 1 Jan in this year	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ACTIVEOCT	Aim active on 1 October in this year	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ACTIVENOV	Aim active on 1 November in this year	ILR Aims
ILA_D_L2WID	DV - Level 2 width for full Level 2 and GCSE aims (%)	ILR Aims
ILA_D_L3WID	DV - L3 width for full level 2 and GCSE aims (%)	ILR Aims
ILA_D_LARGEEMPR	DV - Large employer flags at aim level	ILR Aims
ILA_A_LEAVEP	Period left in	ILR Aims
ILA_A_NVQLEV	Notional NVQ level of the aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A_PROGLEDAPP	DV - Aim is programme led apprenticeship	ILR Aims
ILA_A_PV_COMP	DV - Type of component for planning volumes	ILR Aims
ILA_A_QCF	Qualifications and Credit Framework learner	ILR Aims
ILA_D_BSKILL	DV - Skills for Life learner	ILR Aims

Variable Name	Description	Source
ILA_A_SFL_LEITCH_LIT	DV - Leitch Skills for Life literacy learner	ILR Aims
ILA_A_SFL_LEITCH_LIT_ACH	DV - Leitch Skills for Life literacy achiever	ILR Aims
ILA_A_SFL_LEITCH_NUM	DV - Leitch Skills for Life numeracy learner	ILR Aims
ILA_A_SFL_LEITCH_NUM_ACH	DV - Leitch Skills for Life numeracy achiever	ILR Aims
ILA_D_BSKILLP	DV - Skills for Life participation flag	ILR Aims
ILA_D_BSKILLTYPE	DV - Detailed type of Skills for Life aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A_SFLPAR	DV - Skills for Life participation flag	ILR Aims
ILA_A_SFLTYA	DV - Detailed type of Skills for Life aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A_SFLTYP	DV - Advanced Skills for Life type including level and awarding body	ILR Aims
ILA_D_SECSUBJAREATIER1	LAD - SSA Tier 1 code	ILR Aims
ILA_D_SECSUBJAREATIER2	LAD - SSA Tier 2 code	ILR Aims
ILA_A_STARTP	Period started in	ILR Aims
ILA_A_TTGAIN	DV - Train to Gain aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A_TTGBROKE	DV - Train to Gain Brokered	ILR Aims
ILA_A_STREAM	Sources of funding for the aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A15_2	Apprenticeships for adults	ILR Aims
ILA_P_AVIL	DV - Learner average in learning at programme level	ILR Aims
ILA_P_AVILY2D	DV - Learner average in learning at programme level year to date	ILR Aims
ILA_P_PROGLEDAPP	DV - Programme is a programme led apprenticeship	ILR Aims
ILA_P_PROGSTATUS	Status of NVQ framework	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILACMNTHY2D	DV - Number of academic months in learning in current year, year to date	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILACMNTH1	DV - Learner in learning academic month 1	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILACMNTH2	DV - Learner in learning academic month 2	ILR Aims

Variable Name	Description	Source
ILA_D_ILACMNTH3	DV - Learner in learning academic month 3	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILACMNTH4	DV - Learner in learning academic month 4	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILACMNTH5	DV - Learner in learning academic month 5	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILACMNTH6	DV - Learner in learning academic month 6	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILACMNTH7	DV - Learner in learning academic month 7	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILACMNTH8	DV - Learner in learning academic month 8	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILACMNTH9	DV - Learner in learning academic month 9	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILACMNTH10	DV - Learner in learning academic month 10	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILACMNTH11	DV - Learner in learning academic month 11	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILACMNTH12	DV - Learner in learning academic month 12	ILR Aims
ILA_D_SLNSTARTIND	DV - Start for funding purposes	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IY_QUALIFYING_SLN_PERIOD	DV - Aim passes in year qualifying period to be eligible to generate SLN	ILR Aims
ILA_A_TODATE_QUAL_SLN_PERIOD	DV - Aim passes qualifying period in any year to be eligible to generate SLN	ILR Aims
ILA_D_FNDPRVYR	DV - Whether aim generated SLN or received a payment in previous years	ILR Aims
ILA_A_IY_SLN_PAYMENT	Whether aim generated SLN or received in year payment up to current period	ILR Aims
ILA_P_IY_SLN_PAYMENT	Programme generates SLN or receives in year payment up to current period	ILR Aims
ILA_P_NVQ_ACH_MONTH	DV - Month of achievement of NVQ (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILA_P_NVQ_ACH_YEAR	DV - Year of achievement of NVQ (extracted from full date)	CLS
ILA_P_FNDPRVYR	Programme generated SLN or received a payment prior to this year	ILR Aims
ILA_A_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT	Aim generated SLN or received a Payment in Previous Years or In this Year	ILR Aims
ILA_P_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT	Programme generated SLN or received payment in previous years or in this year	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ILCURRYR	Aim in learning in year	ILR Aims

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Source</b>
ILA_P_ILCURRYR	Programme in learning in year	ILR Aims
ILA_A_FULLY_FUNDED	Aim fully funded	ILR Aims
ILA_A_FUNDED_AGE_BAND	Age band used in DLF funding calculation	ILR Aims
ILA_D_FEFUND	Sources of funding for the learner	ILR Aims
ILA_D_FUNDAGENCY	Funding agency and type of funding for the aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A_OPROV	DV - Aim other provision	ILR Aims
ILA_D_EMPSTATPRIOR	DV - Employment status prior to start of learning	ILR Aims
ILA_D_EMPSTATFDL	DV - Employment status on first day of learning	ILR Aims
ILA_D_RISKOFNEET	DV - NEET status	ILR Aims
ILA_D_PRIORFTED	DV - Previous education status prior to start of learning	ILR Aims
ILA_TOTACT	DV - The actual number of days for the aim	ILR Aims
ILA_TOTEXP	DV - The expected number of days for the aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A_EFA_EXTRACT_FLAG	DV - EFA extract indicator	ILR Aims
ILA_D_NOTIONLEV	Notional NVQ level of learner	ILR Aims
ILA_D_NOTIONLEV_V2	Notional NVQ level of learner version 2	ILR Aims
ILA_D_REGAIM	DV - Regulated Aims	ILR Aims
ILA_D_QCFTYPE	DV - Type of QCF Aim	ILR Aims
ILA_D_FUNCCKILLS	DV - Whether learning aim is a functional learning aim	ILR Aims
ILA_D_GCE	DV - Whether learning aim is a GCE learning aim	ILR Aims
ILA_D_GCSE	DV - Whether learning aim is a GCSE learning aim	ILR Aims
ILA_D_KEYSKILLS	DV - Whether learning aim is a Key Skills learning aim	ILR Aims
ILA_D_OCCUPAIM	DV - Whether learning aim is an occupational learning aim	ILR Aims
ILA_D_WPLPROV	DV - Whether learning aim is Workplace Learning Provision	ILR Aims

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Source</b>
ILA_D_QCF	DV - Whether learning aim is a Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) aim	ILR Aims
ILA_D_QFCERT	DV - Whether learning aim is a QCF Certificate aim	ILR Aims
ILA_D_QCFDIPL	DV - Whether learning aim is a QCF Diploma aim	ILR Aims
ILA_D_PLANNEDDAYSILCURRYR	DV - Learning aim planned number of days in learning this academic year	ILR Aims
ILA_D_PLANNEDDAYSILAFTERCURRYR	DV - Planned number of days in learning of learning aim after this academic year	ILR Aims
ILA_D_PLANTOTALDAYSIL	DV - Planned number of days in learning of the learning aim over its lifetime	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ACTDAYSILCURRYR	DV - The Learning aim actual number of days in learning this academic year	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ACTDAYSILAFTERCURRYR	DV - Actual number of days in learning of learning aim after this academic year	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ACTTOTALDAYSIL	DV - Actual total number of days in learning of learning aim over lifetime	ILR Aims
ILA_D_APPAIMTYPE	DV – Type of apprenticeship aim	ILR Aims
ILA_A_AOL	Area of learning	ILR Aims
ILA_A_UFI	Whether the aim is UFI	ILR Aims
ILA_A_AWARDDB	Awarding body code	ILR Aims
ILA_A_NOTION	Notional NVQ Level	ILR Aims



## 5. Standard Disclosure Control

The UK Data Service perform a certain level of disclosure control on the outputs generated by researchers in the Secure Lab. This involves looking at outputs with cells <10 and the process is outlined in their SDC Handbook which can be downloaded from:

<https://securedatagroup.org/sdc-handbook/>

The DfE have more specific requirements and these are described below:

- Any published ILR figure(s) at a local level must be based on no fewer than 3 cases or else suppressed (e.g. replaced with an X, with a note “\* in this table means the figures have been suppressed due to small numbers”. Zero is allowed).
- Any published ILR figure(s) at a school level from 2011 onwards must be based on no fewer than 6 cases or else suppressed (e.g. replaced with an X, with a note “\* in this table means a figure less than 6”. Zero is allowed).
- Any published figures at school level for years prior to 2011 must be based on no fewer than 11 cases or else suppressed (e.g. replaced with an X, with a note “\* in this table means a figure less than 11”. Zero is allowed).
- Even if only one cell requires cell suppression, you must suppress at least one other component cell (the next smallest) to avoid calculation of suppressed values from the totals.

## Appendix A: Data sources

ILR Data Tables

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/568272/ILR\\_Data\\_Tables\\_May16.xlsx](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/568272/ILR_Data_Tables_May16.xlsx)

ILR Documentation

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

## Appendix B: Variables with complete missing data (excluded from deposit)

Variable Name	Description	Source
ILL_L07	Number of associated HE datasets	ILR Learner
ILL_L08	Deletion flag	ILR Learner
ILL_PLANLEARNHOURS	Planned learning hours	ILR Learner
ILL_PLANEEPHOURS	Planned employability, enrichment and pastoral hours	ILR Learner
ILL_PREVUKPRN	UKPRN in previous year	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PMC1	DV - Preferred method of contact 1	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PMC2	DV - Preferred method of contact 2	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PMC3	DV - Preferred method of contact 3	ILR Learner
ILL_L_PMC	DV - Preferred method of contact	ILR Learner
ILL_L_ACCOM	DV - Type of accommodation (learners living away from home for study purposes)	ILR Learner
ILL_L_LENUNEMP	DV - Length of unemployment on first day of learning	ILR Learner
ILL_L_LENEMP	DV - Length of employment on first day of learning	ILR Learner
ILA_LDM_3	National learning aim monitoring instance 3 of 4	ILR Aims
ILA_LDM_4	National learning aim monitoring instance 4 of 4	ILR Aims
ILA_A49B	Special Projects and pilots including delivery of learning by a Centre of Vocational Excellence (CoVE) 2 of 3	ILR Aims
ILA_A49C	Special Projects and pilots including delivery of learning by a Centre of Vocational Excellence (CoVE) 3 of 3	ILR Aims
ILA_D_LENEMP	DV - Length of employment	ILR Aims
ILA_ADL	24+ Advanced learning loan indicator	ILR Aims
ILA_D_L2WIDACH	DV - The achieved learning aim's percentage contribution to a Full Level 2	ILR Aims
ILA_D_L3WIDACH	DV - The achieved learning aim's percentage contribution to a Full Level 3	ILR Aims

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Source</b>
ILA_A_PV_DIP_COMP	DV - Is the aim a component of a 14-19 diploma?	ILR Aims
ILA_A_ACHIEVE	DV - NVQ Achieved Only on AIMS File	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ACCTOAPPEMPD	Employment status of Access to Apprenticeship learners	ILR Aims
ILA_D_ACCTOAPPEMPDDATE	DV - Access to Apprenticeship Employment Date	ILR Aims
ILA_D_APPMAINAIM	DV - Apprenticeship Main Aim	ILR Aims
ILA_D_SFAAPPROV	DV - Skills Funding Agency Approved Provision	ILR Aims
ILA_D_SFAFUNDSTREAM	DV - Skills Funding Agency Funding Stream	ILR Aims
ILA_A_AGEFUN	Age for funding purposes	ILR Aims

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