

ETC.

Fuelling the future

Meeting the demand
for data skills through
apprenticeships

The digital skills gap

In today's data-driven world, organisations across all sectors—from healthcare and finance to retail and manufacturing—rely on data to drive efficiency, innovation, and strategic decision-making. As businesses seek to harness the power of data, the demand for skilled professionals continues to grow.

According to the UK government's 2023 Data Skills Gap Report, 82% of all job postings now require some level of data proficiency, and the UK's data economy is projected to be worth £95 billion by 2030. However, there remains a significant skills gap, creating a unique opportunity for training providers to equip learners with the expertise needed to thrive in this evolving landscape.

Guiding the next generation of data professionals

The demand for data skills is no longer limited to traditional tech roles. Here's why:

Broad industry need: Data competencies are now essential in various sectors, including logistics, education, healthcare, and the creative industries. Professionals across these fields must adapt to stay competitive.

The role of training providers: Whether learners are new to data or looking to upskill, training providers are crucial in equipping individuals with the knowledge and practical skills required for data-related roles.



Shaping future data careers

Training providers can help learners step into careers as:



Data Analysts



Business Intelligence Specialists



Data Scientists

Through structured learning pathways, learners gain technical expertise and insights tailored to industry needs, positioning them for success and career growth.

Our EPA standards in data



Level 3 Data Technician

A Data Technician apprentice collects, organises, and manages data to support business operations. They ensure data accuracy, perform basic analysis, and create reports using various tools.

[Click here to view the solution brief for this standard](#)



Level 4 Data Analyst

A Data Analyst apprentice examines large datasets to identify patterns and insights that inform business decisions. They use statistical tools, programming languages like Python or SQL, and data visualisation techniques.

[Click here to view the solution brief for this standard](#)



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Job roles available in data



Amira – Market Analyst (Retail)

Level 4 Data Analyst apprentice

Amira analyses sales and inventory data, identifying market trends and consumer patterns to support strategic decisions.



Sophie – Business Intelligence Assistant (Public Sector)

Level 3 Data Technician Apprentice

Sophie supports local government by analysing community service data, tracking public transport trends, and preparing reports to inform council planning.



Tom – Business Intelligence Analyst (Healthcare)

Level 4 Data Analyst apprentice

Tom ensures accurate hospital data, verifying admissions, identifying issues, and reporting on waiting times to help managers optimise resources.



Jake – Reporting Assistant (Marketing)

Level 3 Data Technician Apprentice

Jake supports a marketing agency by tracking customer behaviour and campaign performance, compiling data into dashboards that highlight effective social media strategies.



Priya – Junior Data Analyst (Finance)

Level 4 Data Analyst apprentice

Priya analyses financial data, ensuring accuracy in transactions and updating risk reports to detect unusual patterns.



Alex – Data Administrator (Manufacturing)

Level 3 Data Technician Apprentice

Alex manages factory data for a car manufacturer, tracking production metrics, identifying delays, and maintaining reports to support improvements in efficiency.

NCFE's data qualifications: designed for training providers

At NCFE, we're committed to supporting training providers in delivering high-quality, industry-relevant data qualifications. Our flexible, accredited programmes allow providers to equip learners with practical skills, ensuring they're job-ready and able to meet employer demands.

Qualification	Ideal for learners:	Includes:
Level 2 Certificate in Data Analysis	looking to develop foundational data skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic data visualisation and interpretation techniques • Practical applications in business and decision-making
Level 3 Certificate in Data	looking to build technical expertise and apply data skills in real-world scenarios.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced data handling, cleaning, and analysis techniques • Introduction to coding for data analysis (e.g., Python, SQL) • Ethical considerations and compliance in data management
Level 4 Diploma in Data	learners seeking to develop high-level analytical skills for career advancement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-depth exploration of statistical modelling and machine learning fundamentals • Data-driven decision-making and business intelligence • Practical project work to develop industry-relevant experience



Why choose NCFE?

We're leading the way in data apprenticeships

Learner-centric approach: for Data Technician, the Professional Discussion comes first, helping assessors tailor the assessment and boost apprentice confidence.

Streamlined and efficient process: for Data Analyst, project titles are provided at the start of the 8-week gateway, allowing apprentices and employers to select the most relevant project without extra approval, ensuring a smooth process.

Clear employer guidance: employers receive structured guidance to understand their role in supporting apprentices, ensuring a well-supported assessment journey.

Sector expertise and commitment to the digital sector: we're committed to digital skills, offering a range of data and digital qualifications, from entry-level to advanced analytics, providing clear progression pathways for apprentices.



By choosing NCFE, training providers gain a reliable partner committed to maintaining high standards and delivering successful apprenticeship outcomes.



Industry-recognised curriculum:

Our qualifications are designed with employer input to ensure learners develop job-ready skills.



Flexible delivery options:

Adapt our qualification to suit your learners' needs, with support for blended and online learning.



Accredited certification:

Provide learners with recognised qualifications that enhance their employability and career prospects.

Our EPA process can't be matched

Our approach prioritises **fairness, clarity, and apprentice confidence**, making the EPA process as effective and stress-free as possible.

Trust and transparency

Our fees are completely transparent, and we deliver on our service level agreements, because that's what you and your apprentices deserve.

Quality and rigour

We're a well-established, Ofqual-regulated awarding organisation, trusted by training providers and employers to deliver high-quality, independent assessments.

Relationship and support

Training providers receive dedicated account management, clear guidance, and ongoing support to navigate the EPA process efficiently.



We go further to support you

We understand the challenges training providers face in delivering high-quality education. That's why we offer a range of support to help you deliver the best learning experience possible, including:

- teaching resources
- assessment guidance
- ongoing professional development.

Now is the time to help learners take advantage of the growing demand for data skills.

By offering NCFE's data qualifications, you can support individuals in securing employment, advancing their careers, and contributing to the UK's data economy.

For more information on our data offer, visit [our page](#).