CONSTRUCTION
SUMMARY REPORT

Construction is *a high-cost, high-risk, long-term activity, and so its performance is a good indicator of the heath of the wider economy. When the economy falters, construction investment grinds to a halt, but when the economy begins to recover, the construction industry can quickly overheat (Institute of Civil Engineers)*

*The industry accounts for approximately **3m jobs, 10% of total UK employment** (Construction 2025)*

*Construction output in the UK is more than **£110 billion** per annum and contributes **7% of GDP** (Design Build UK)*

*The current climate has created an **unprecedented demand for Global infrastructure projects**, expected to be the backbone for economic recovery. 4 major infrastructure projects taking place in 2022 include **Thames Tideway, HS2, Hinkley Point and Stonehenge Tunnel** (GOV.UK)*

*The number of **directly employed is at 1.520m, a 37,000 increase from before the pandemic**, but self-employment is still down by 99,000. **Many self-employed have either decided to leave the industry or to retire**, while **migrant workers have left Britain** and are less likely to return. These **skills pressures will grow** (ONS)*

Executive Summary

Introduction

This sector summary overview presents an overview of the Construction sector within Milton Keynes (MK), highlighting particular areas of regional specialisation prioritisation alongside the macro factors driving short, medium and longer term changes to the sector, and local economy.

The objective of the report is to highlight the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities within the local employment and skills market, including structural factors which may continue to impact the region in the future.

With the overall aim that intelligence will be used to inform and direct curriculum delivery, including but not limited to Apprenticeships, 16-19, Adult Learning, Higher Education, bespoke, part-time and modular bitesize provision.

The information outlined in the report is designed to inform stakeholder and employer forums to shape curriculum strategies and future facing skills design. Audiences are encouraged to use the data provided therein, alongside other reports, strategies, data and policy papers to plan future recruitment and training strategies in line with industry needs.

Important drivers and trends affecting labour market and skills demand to be considered within the context of this report and subsequent curriculum design include:

- Global and domestic political environments

- National and regional economic growth

- State of public finances and Further Education (FE) Funding allocations

- Ageing population, multigenerational workforces, migration, Brexit

- Pace of technological change* *e.g. technology-facilitated changes to the location and organisation of work*

- Climate change and Bioeconomy* *bioeconomy represents the economic potential of harnessing the power of bioscience, using renewable biological resources to replace fossil resources in innovative products, processes and services* in line with Net zero targets

- Inequality, underrepresentation, In-work poverty, Digital Exclusion

- Geo-based issues including transport and access

- Perception of Industry

- The education inspection framework (EIF) and OFSTED.

LMI in context

Different organisations will use a breadth of complementarity official datasets accessible API datasets including information from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, the Labour Force Survey, the Employer Skills Survey, Working Futures and the UK Census.

Statistical agencies like the Office for National Statistics (ONS), the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) produce data, and sector organisations or professional bodies at national and regional level, often have their own researchers and provide a rich source of LMI.

However LMI is also presented in many different formats. For example, complex statistical formats including CSV files, datacubes or technical reports that are geared towards economist and policy makers, rather than for use in education organisations.

Methods of data collection and curation will vary, as will the timeframe over which data is collected, its intended use and the reliability of the data needs to be considered within context of other LMI sources.

An example, some organisations will use former Government Office regions to classify a geography, others a Local Enterprise or Local Authority area. Slightly different geography or demography, the time period over which data was collated, different O*NET or Standard Occupational Classification (*SOC*) or Standard Industry Classification (*SIC*) definitions (levels 1 – 4) should be recognised as a limitation of the data, and account for any variance between sources of LMI.

The validity of the data overall; which yields information from the various official datasets and sources of intelligence it draws upon is accurate at the point of circulation.

Nevertheless, good LMI practitioners will advocate how important to use your own judgement to draw conclusions about the information.

Question and explore the data, reflect on the key messages and in doing so, engage in an ongoing dialogue and debate with the information within context of each readers situation to contribute towards creating growing body of up to date LMI.

Regional Context

Since the previous Census in 2011, Milton Keynes has seen its population grow to 287,821. This is a **15.3% increase, which is above the national average of 6.3%.** Milton Keynes has a **younger age profile than England as a whole.**

272,467	173,681	£32.4k
Population (2021)	Total Regional Employment	Avg. Wages Per Job (2021)
Population grew by 6,227 over the last 5 years and is projected to grow by 3,877 over the next 5 years.	Jobs decreased by 8,442 over the last 5 years and are projected to decrease by 953 over the next 5 years.	Regional average wages per job are £1.9k above the national average wages of £30.4k per job.

Age Cohort	2021 Population	2021 Percent	
Under 16 years	62,372	22.9%	
16 to 34 years	58,282	21.4%	
35 to 54 years	80,768	29.6%	
55 to 74 years	54,022	19.8%	
75 years and over	17,023	6.2%	

Population Characteristics

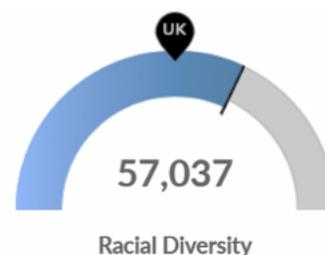| 50,927	82,650	57,037
Millennials	Retiring Soon	Racial Diversity
Milton Keynes has 50,927 millennials (ages 25-39). The national average for an area this size is 51,227.	Retirement risk is low in Milton Keynes. The national average for an area this size is 94,806 people 55 or older, while there are 82,650 here.	Racial diversity is high in Milton Keynes. The national average for an area this size is 38,519 racially diverse people, while there are 57,037 here.

As of 2021 the region's population increased by 2.3% since 2016. **Population is expected to increase by 1.4% between 2021 and 2026,** adding 3,877.

Concerning educational attainment, 34.2% of Milton Keynes residents possess a Degree or Equivalent and Above - SCQF L9 (0.7% above the national average), and 7.8% hold a Higher Education Below Degree Level - SCQF L7-8 (0.2% below the national average).

|		% of Population	Population
●	No Qualifications (NVQ)	6.5%	11,000
●	Other Qualifications (NVQ)	6.5%	11,053
●	NVQ 1 - SCQF L4	9.6%	16,360
●	NVQ 2 - SCQF L5	17.2%	29,124
●	Trade Apprenticeships	1.9%	3,234
●	NVQ 3 - SCQF L6	16.2%	27,554
●	Higher Education Below Degree Level - SCQF L7-8	7.8%	13,292
●	Degree or Equivalent and Above - SCQF L9	34.2%	58,043

Sector Summary

The Office of National Statistics (ONS) reports that annual **construction output increased by a record 12.7% in 2021 compared with 2020**, mainly as a result of the coronavirus pandemic contributing to a very weak 2020.

CITB's Construction Skills Network forecasts show an annual **need to recruit more than 50,000 workers above current trends**. They also point to growing needs in a wide variety of roles. These includes **trades such as carpenters and joiners, painters and decorators, bricklayers and electricians** as well as professional and managerial roles such as **building and civil engineering technicians, architectural technologists, estimators and logistic managers**.

CITB also report a range of cross-cutting skills are becoming more important including **leadership and management, digital skills, and understanding and managing mental health.**

The Construction Skills Network (CSN) forecasts UK **construction output to grow at an average rate of 4.4% across 2022**. They believe will mean the construction sector will need to recruit an extra 43,000 workers, relatively in line with CITBs predictions.

Challenges such as **Net Zero** and **Building Safety** also need considering, as will expanding the range of skills, knowledge and behaviours needed to be developed in these areas across both new entrants to the industry and in the current workforce.
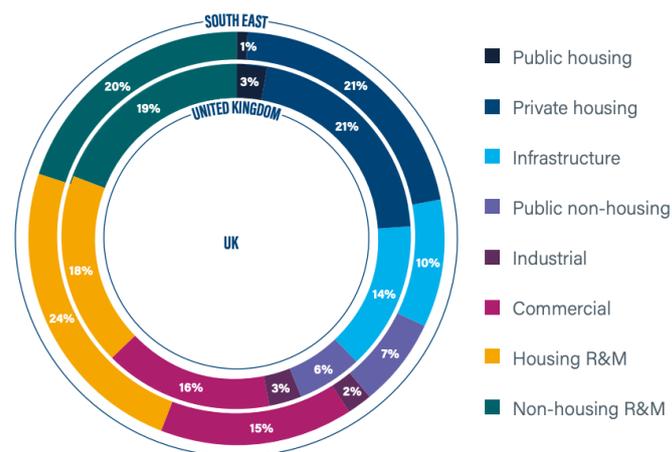
Regionally, the construction industry in the South East has a similar variation in structure when compared to the UK view, with **R&M sectors having a larger share**, whereas infrastructure has a smaller share.

However, **infrastructure, housing and commercial are all important sources of new work**, while repair and maintenance accounts for over two-fifths of all construction work in the South East.

There are ambitious expansion plans being delivered by Milton Keynes Development Partnership (MKDP) and other public and private land owners to **accommodate the city's growing population.**

By 2050, some 410,000 will live in Milton Keynes borough, part of a Greater Milton Keynes of around half a million.

The MK Strategy for 2050 proposes that **30,000-35,000 additional homes are required to meet the needs of future residents**, including those already living in the city as they form new households and their families grow, and for the expanding workforce.

There is significant housebuilding in the city, complemented by large-scale commercial construction and infrastructure development. Unlike most UK cities, **because it is still a relatively new location, Milton Keynes still has land suitable available that can be used for the required facilities.**

MKDP is progressing its plan to play a pivotable role in both **facilitating growth and creating an affordable city** by using some of its land holdings to produce a variety of affordable housing. This will create decent homes for essential workers and others on low incomes including supportive provision for those often excluded by mainstream affordable housing providers.

MKDP will initially develop 19 mixed-tenure sites in Milton Keynes, which will **produce up to 2,000 affordable homes in an overall programme of more than 4,000 homes by 2031**. MKHC expects to have its first 78 affordable homes tenanted by late 2023.

The launch of the first phase of the 135-acre site, at PLP Milton Keynes will total 1.05 million sq. ft and comprise of 10 units ranging in sizes up to 308,516 sq. ft. **The target delivery for the first units will be in Q1 2023.**

Key Insight

The UK government's policy of **reducing the country's greenhouse gas emissions to Net Zero by 2050** will impact the construction industry in its commitment to achieve the Net Zero Strategy the UK government has coined the **"green industrial revolution".**

Senior, executive and business process managers; Construction Project Managers; Other construction process managers Non-construction professional, technical, IT and other office-based staff; Construction Trades Supervisors; Wood trades and interior fit-out roles, Labourers and Electrical trades and installation workers will remain in high demand.

One area predicted to grow and address the struggles faced by the industry is the use of **Modern Methods of Construction (MMC).**

MMC also offers a route to greener buildings, which could **make the sector more attractive to younger workers,** helping to alleviate skills shortages, an ageing workforce and **appeal to MKs youthful population**.

Demand for **logistics and warehouse facilities remains high**, helping retailers keep pace with **unprecedented growth and demand in online shopping** as a result of the short and longer term impact of the pandemic.

Within Milton Keynes from January 2021 to June 2022, there were **8,071 total job postings for Construction related occupations,** of which **3,647 were unique**. These numbers give us a Posting Intensity of 2-to-1, meaning that for every 2 postings there is 1 unique job posting.

The highest demand was for **Labourers, Quantity Surveyors, CSCS Labourers, Surveyors, Gas Engineers, Carpenters, Site Managers, Infrastructure Engineers, Building Surveyors and Groundworkers.**

The biggest demand is currently for elementary Construction Occupations**;** with **1,429 adverts placed for these roles during this timeframe.**

Job holders in this unit group perform a variety of general labouring and construction duties to assist **building, civil engineering and related trades workers** in the performance of their tasks. This suggests there is a **shortage of labourers and associated lower skilled labour** to support the **boom in the construction of residential and non-residential Buildings** in Milton Keynes.

Emerging environment

The **MK Strategy 2050 recognises the gearshift towards MMC**, **sustainable materials and aims to be a pioneer in green construction** through the design of new communities to create more sustainable lifestyles, behaviours, environments and improve resilience to climate change.

The Green Jobs Taskforce, in their Report to Government, Industry and the Skills sector Skills and jobs paper Outline the recent report by the National Grid estimates **a need to recruit for 400,000 energy jobs between now and 2050 to get to net zero - 260,000 will be new roles, while 140,000 will be replacing** those who have left the workforce due to natural attrition.

Substantial job growth is expected in a range of fields, ranging from **electrical engineering, green construction, biodiversity and habitat management.**

By 2050, the do**mestic market for Smart systems technology is projected to be worth £1.3 billion** to GDP supporting around 10,000 jobs, while the export potential in 2050 could be worth as much as £2.7 billion and 14,000 jobs.

UK-wide buildings **retrofit sector is expected to grow in the short to medium** term. To meet net zero, most buildings in the UK must be retrofitted in the next three decades, and people need to be recruited and trained to do so, nationally.

Building a net zero retrofit sector will require an increased trained workforce, resulting in a need to urgently prioritise new recruitment and retraining/ upskilling and attracting new entrants into the Construction industry.

This will have a **residual impact on each part of the construction supply chain** - from **planners, architects, engineers, construction workers, supervisors and auditors, managers and construction workers.**

Prioritised sectors where change will be crucial to meeting net zero include:

- **Power** – including renewables (such as wind, solar and hydropower), nuclear power, grid infrastructure, energy storage and smart systems technology
- **Business and industry** – including hydrogen production and industrial use, carbon capture, utilisation & storage (CCUS) and industrial decarbonisation
- **Homes and buildings** – including retrofit, building new energy-efficient homes, heat pumps, smart devices and controls, heat networks and hydrogen boilers
- **Transport** – including low or zero emission vehicles, aviation and maritime, rail, public transport and walking or cycling
- Natural **resources – including nature restoration, tree planting and decarbonising** agriculture, waste management and recycling
- **Enabling decarbonisation** – including science and innovation for climate change, green finance, circular economy and energy networks
- **Climate adaptation** – including flood defences, retrofitting of buildings to be resilient to extreme weather/climate events, nature-based solutions to reduce climate impacts and civil and mechanical engineering for infrastructure adaptation.

Industry Profile

Construction is one of the **fastest growing sectors in Milton Keynes.**

This may be underpinned by the **capital investment to increase skills capacity and provision** through the Local Growth Fund the area has already received.

For example, SEMLEP has already supported a number of skills capital projects, including Bedford College's Buchanan Centre, which provides training in advanced engineering, with the aim of **addressing skills gaps in the engineering and construction industries.**

Northampton College's **Advanced Construction Engineering College**, a £4.75m project, also received targeted funds to create facilities aimed at developing the skills needed for the **most up-to date construction and engineering technologies,** with the intention of creating quality space for 659 additional new learners by 2025/26.

Despite these facilities, there may be space in the market for additional skills providers to capitalise on the value, and projected growth of the sector. Given the **SEMLEP region's strategic location, logistics strengths, road network and available land for physical premises**, there is a real opportunity to grow requisite skills needed to support the sector required, locally.
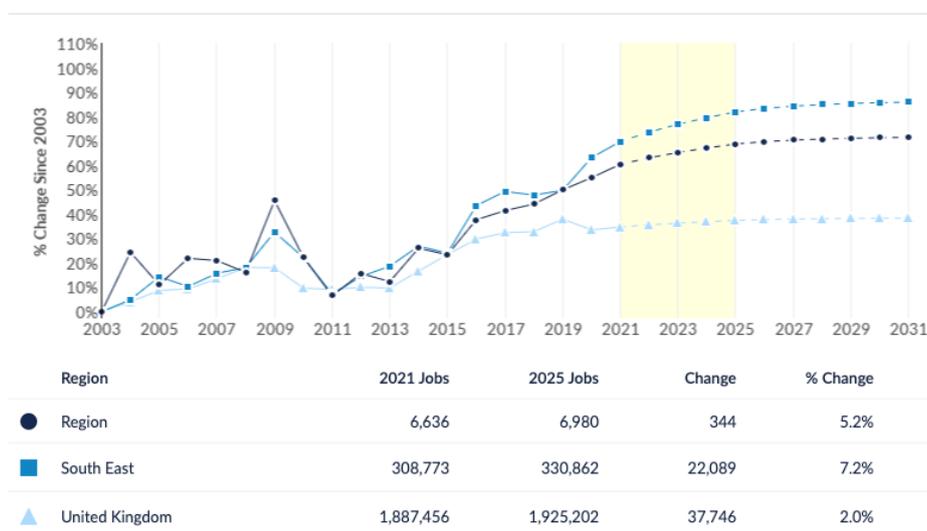
Top Growing Industries
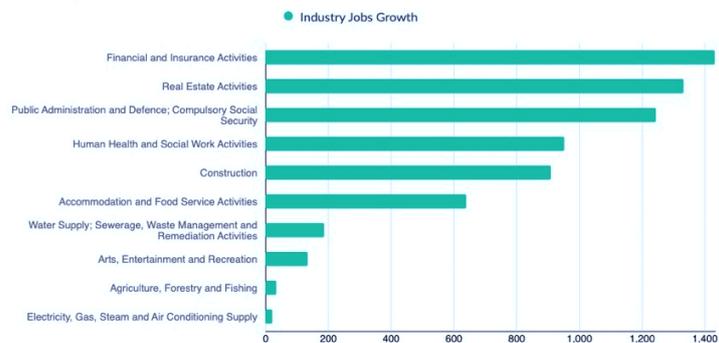
Industry	2016 Jobs	2021 Jobs	Change in Jobs	% Change in Jobs	2021 LQ	2021 Wages Per Worker	2019 GVA
Financial and Insurance Activities	8,991	10,424	1,433	+16%	1.77	£35,678	£1.30b
Real Estate Activities	3,030	4,363	1,333	+44%	1.37	£34,900	£195.05m
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	4,974	6,220	1,246	+25%	0.75	£31,537	£374.37m
Human Health and Social Work Activities	15,029	15,982	953	+6%	0.66	£25,463	£457.15m
Construction	4,221	5,132	911	+22%	0.62	£38,413	£404.46m
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	9,101	9,740	639	+7%	0.81	£14,712	£222.56m
Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	295	483	188	+64%	0.39	£35,459	£40.64m
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	4,403	4,537	134	+3%	1.24	£25,107	£315.71m
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	281	315	34	+12%	0.21	£22,847	£53.45m
Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	219	242	23	+11%	0.31	£35,570	£25.62m

Occupational and skills demand

The region currently outperforms the UK in terms of the number of jobs predicted to be needed by 2025. However, to deliver the objectives of MKDP and ensure the new workforce is skilled to fill these roles, it is vital the following regulatory and regional construction priorities are factored into skills and curriculum (re)design.

MK requires new buildings and development schemes to **meet the highest standards of sustainability**. This will include *the building materials used*; *minimising construction waste*; *positioning buildings to maximise solar gain*; *using solar panels and green roofs*; *installing water and energy efficient appliances and technologies*; *electric vehicle charging points* and *replacing gas heating.*

Regional Trends

Region	2021 Jobs	2025 Jobs	Change	% Change
● Region	6,636	6,980	344	5.2%
■ South East	308,773	330,862	22,089	7.2%
▲ United Kingdom	1,887,456	1,925,202	37,746	2.0%

The most highly sought after specialist and technical skills employers are currently looking for include **Marketing, Construction**, **AutoCAD, Project Controls, Painting, Engineering Management, Carpentry, Project Planning, Procuremen**t and **Maintenance Engineering**.

Top common skills in demand by employers currently recruiting the sector include **Management, Communications, Customer Service, Planning, Operations, Problem Solving, Leadership and Sales.**

This suggests a **strong demand for cross-cutting sales, business development, leadership and management skills within the sector.**

Top Posted Job Titles

Job Title	Total/Unique (Jan 2022 - Apr 2022)	Posting Intensity	Unique Postings Trend (Jan 2022 - Apr 2022)
Labourers	320 / 80	4 : 1	
CSCS Labourers	262 / 67	4 : 1	
Quantity Surveyors	90 / 51	2 : 1	
Gas Engineers	78 / 42	2 : 1	
Surveyors	70 / 42	2 : 1	
Building Surveyors	99 / 38	3 : 1	
Infrastructure Engineers	89 / 35	3 : 1	
Site Managers	64 / 34	2 : 1	
Structural Engineers	49 / 27	2 : 1	
Assistant Site Managers	47 / 26	2 : 1	

The above image shows the d**ensity of job postings for roles within the Construction sector in MK**. However, if you include the most in-demand 'Green Jobs' employers are actively trying to recruit during this period shows **reveals a greater need for senior, highly skilled and more specialist roles, than within the primary construction sector**.

Green Jobs in construction may perform tasks like planning, coordinating, or working on natural buildings that are environmentally friendly. **Typical jobs may include carpenters, insulators, construction workers and labourers.**

Consequently it may be that sustainable construction in MK is already being adopted, and the skills are in-demand, but the way the data is presented within EMSI and wider Standard Industry Classification code doesn't classify, and therefore capture these as '**Green Jobs'**.

Top Posted Job Titles

Job Title	Total/Unique (Jan 2022 - Jun 2022)	Posting Intensity	Unique Postings Trend (Jan 2022 - Jun 2022)
Environmental Managers	61 / 25	2 : 1	
Recycling Workers	15 / 10	2 : 1	
Environmental Specialists	44 / 8	6 : 1	
Sustainability Engineers	22 / 8	3 : 1	
Environmental Health and Safety Managers	12 / 7	2 : 1	
Sustainability Managers	11 / 7	2 : 1	
Renewable Energy Engineers	10 / 7	1 : 1	
Solid Waste Operators	24 / 7	3 : 1	
Environmental Consultants	16 / 6	3 : 1	
Environmental Engineers	31 / 5	6 : 1	

Of the '**Green Jobs'** currently being recruited, the most in demand technical, 'hard' skills are **Marketing; Environment; Health And Safety; Environmental Laws; ISO 14000; Environment Management; Business Development** and **Risk Analysis** skills.

The most in demand interpersonal and workplace, 'soft' skills are **Management; Communications; Planning; Detail Oriented; Sales; Problem Solving;** understanding of **Microsoft Office** and **Presentation** skills.
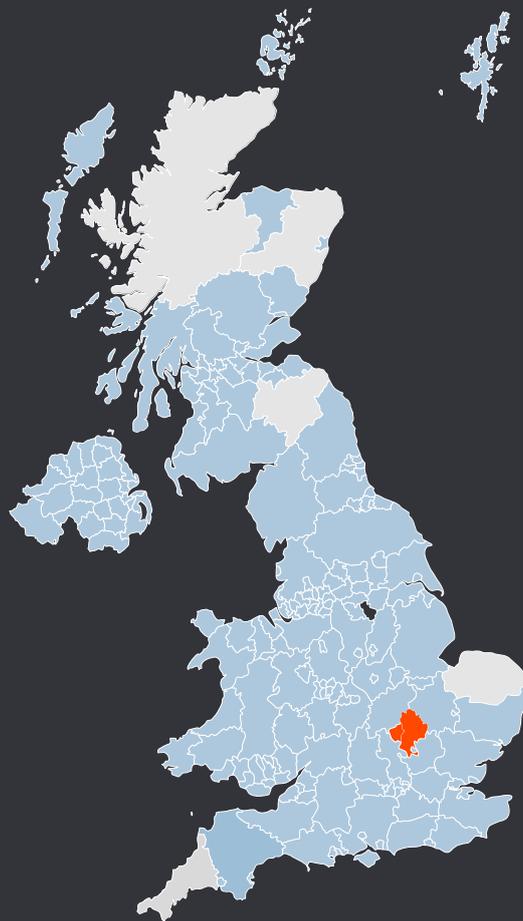
A Future Facing Sector

Currently, Further Education (FE) providers are allocated funds from different sources depending on the type of courses they provide and on the age of their students. There is also capital funding available for upgrading the college estate, as well as European funding for skills to support economic growth across locally defined geographies.

EU investment will transition across domestic funding over the next couple of years, spearheaded under the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

To assess the current performance of different areas of college provision, and develop new, fit for purpose skills solutions and it is important to understand the key sources of funding. Any regulatory requirements, as well as the opportunities and limitations of each programme and overall policy drivers should be factored into any subsequent skills discussion and design.

Primary sources of current FE funding are summarised overleaf.

Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)

16-19
Funding to provide study programmes for young people. The ESFA pays colleges based on the numbers of students they are expected to enrol each academic year using funding rates adjusted by a weighted average calculation based on characteristics.

19+ Adult Education Budget (AEB)
The AEB provides most of the public funding for non-apprenticeship, 19+ further education in England. AEB monies is used specifically to fund training opportunities to support the most disadvantaged learners.

Funds can be used for anyone aged 19-23 to get a L2/ 3 qualification if they don't already have one. AEB can be used to fund low-waged learners 24+ to get their first L2/3 qualification. The AEB can be used to fund anyone unemployed for any course or qualification up to L2.

English and Maths
AEB can be used to fully fund level 2 English and maths for anyone over the age of 19.

Lifelong Loan Entitlement (LLE)
From 2025, the Lifelong Loan Entitlement is intended to provide individuals with a loan entitlement to the equivalent of four years' worth of post-18 education to use over their lifetime. The flagship element of the Skills and Post16 Education Act 2022, It is intended to be used flexibly, for full or part-time study of modules or full qualifications at L4 to L6.

Apprenticeships
Employers can receive incentive payments to help fund apprenticeships The amount received depends on whether employers pay the apprenticeship levy .If you pay the levy you will receive funds to spend on training and assessing your apprentices. The government will add 10%.

If employers do not need to pay the levy they pay 5% and the government will pay the rest (95%) up to the funding band maximum.

Department for Education (DfE)

National Skills Fund
Free L3 qualifications for adults and Skills Bootcamps. There are over 400 qualifications available in areas such as engineering, social care, and accounting. The offer is also available to adults who earn less than the National Living Wage annually or the unemployed. All 19 - 23 year olds can access courses for free through their legal entitlement to a first full L3 qualification.

Capital funding
The 2021 Skills for jobs White Paper included a proposal to "continue to invest in the college estate, to transform facilities and enable high-quality provision." The £1.5bn capital commitment made in the Budget 2020 for capital spending across all further education sites in England for the next 5 years is primarily being delivered through the **Further Education Capital Transformation Fund**.

Additional sources

EU structural funding (ESIF)
ESIF includes money from the **European Social Fund (ESF**), **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** and **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).**

The ESIF Growth Programme provides investment to projects that improve local innovation and growth, create jobs and promotes social inclusion. Projects funded by the ESIF Growth Programme are currently running, in some cases with an extension to the end of 2023. Local Enterprise Partnerships and Combined Authorities are responsible for developing local ESIF strategies.

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is intended to replace EU structural funding. The Fund will focus on three priorities: communities and place, local businesses, and people and skills.
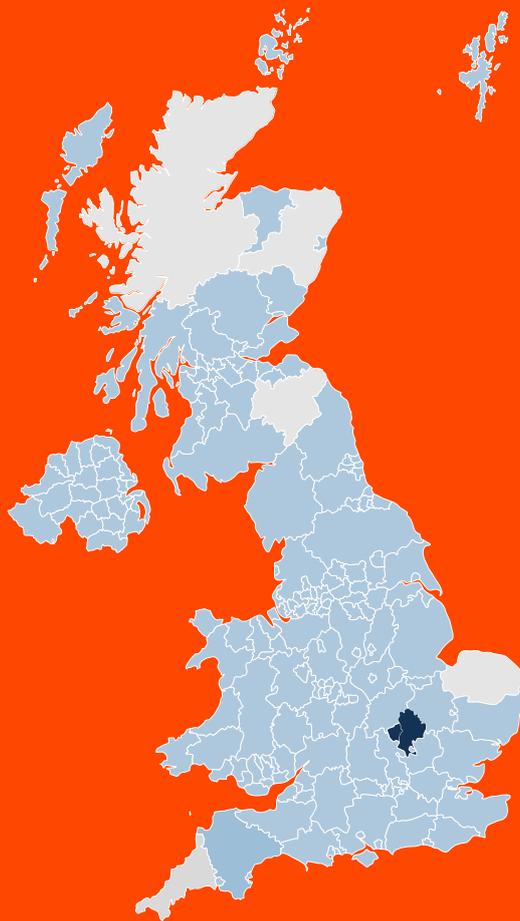
Current curriculum overview

Combining ILR, schools data and LMI, RCU Vector provides an insight into local learner markets. Allowing parties to identify and meet the future needs of local communities by shaping appropriate responses and curriculum updates.

The following pages, using Vector data, provide a comprehensive picture of the current Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG) curriculum delivered, alongside local skills demand.

Summary

In 2020/21 there were a total of **250 *Construction, Planning and the Built Environment (CPBE) 16-19 learners***, of which **210 were enrolled at Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG).** The total market has retained the same number of learners since the 2018/19 academic year, as has MKCG. MKCG has a **very strong market share across Level 1 and 2, with 85% of the Level 1 and below learners, and 92% of the Level 2 learners**.

Level 3 learner share is lower, but still significant at 63%. The remaining number of level 3+ learners is very low, suggesting it will be difficult to increase market share at this level.

In 2020/21 there were a total of **110 *Construction, Planning and the Built Environment (CPBE) Adult learners***, of which 30 were enrolled at Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG). The total market has grown by 10 learners since the 2018/19 academic year, during which time MKCG saw no change in learner numbers. Most learners are studying at level 1 or 2, whilst MKCG have a higher market share at Level 3+. **The market has remained fairly static, with Other FE Colleges controlling a significant portion of the market.**

In 2020/21 there were a total of **2,370 Construction apprentices, of which 80 were enrolled at Milton Keynes College Group** (MKCG). **The total market has grown by 460 learners since the 2018/19 academic year, during which time MKCG saw an increase of 40 learners.**

Regionally, **Other Colleges tend to dominate across apprenticeships with 52% market share**, followed by Private Training Providers with 30% of the market share. The remaining apprentices are shared between Other Providers (14%) and MKCG (3%).

In 2020/21, there were 160 learners within the HE market, of which 0 were studying at MKCG. This is a market decrease of 60 learners and no change at MKCG, since 2018/19. The majority of learners are studying at HEIs.

A note on differences across funding streams, there are slight differences in the definition of a Technical Route (which is used for apprenticeships) and Subject Sector Area. These are both based on information contained in the submitted ILR. This is sometimes just a name change, and sometimes multiple SSAs being mapped to a single Technical Route. For example, A full table of this mapping is available in the *Supporting Documents* menu on Vector RCU.

Geographies are defined by Vector as the resident location of learners, rather than where the learning is taking place. Across funding streams, different aggregate geographies are available, from the Local Authority to the LEP level. For some cases, it is more appropriate to
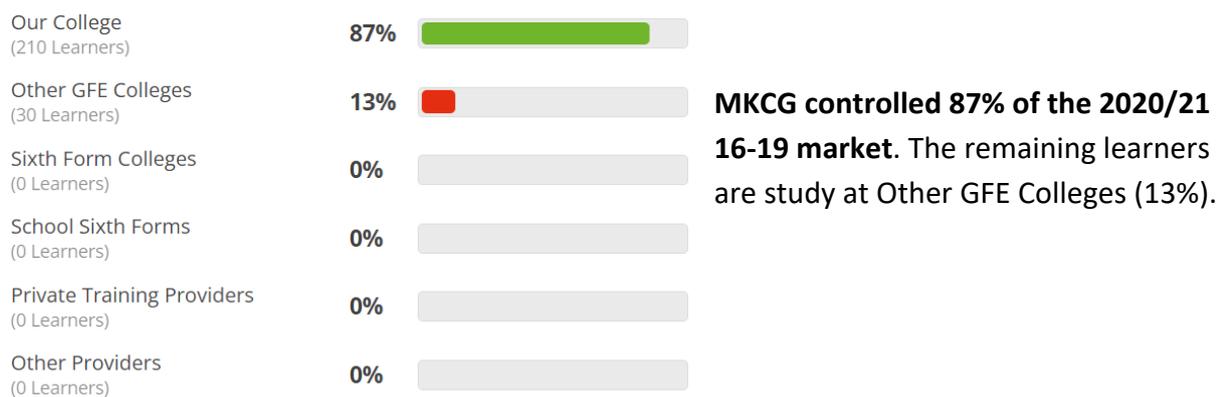
survey a larger geography (such as apprenticeships). This is especially important to note for HE, where many learners leave their residence area to study at a HEI.

16-19

For this section, the Subject Sector Area (SSA) analysed is *Construction, Planning and the Built Environment* **(CPBE)** the selected geography is *Main Area (MK).*

In 2020/21 there were a total of 2**50 CPBE 16-19 learners, of which 210 were enrolled at Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG).** The total market has retained the same number of learners since the 2018/19 academic year, as has MKCG.

Market Share

Our College (210 Learners)	87%	
Other GFE Colleges (30 Learners)	13%	
Sixth Form Colleges (0 Learners)	0%	
School Sixth Forms (0 Learners)	0%	
Private Training Providers (0 Learners)	0%	
Other Providers (0 Learners)	0%	

MKCG controlled 87% of the 2020/21 16-19 market. The remaining learners are study at Other GFE Colleges (13%).
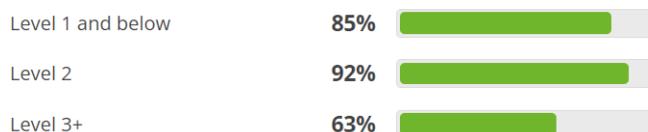
The majority of local 16-19 learners are enrolled level 1 (49%) or level 2 (45%) courses, with only 6% on level 3+ courses. This is potentially indicative of skills demand within the labour market, but is worth exploring further to understand level 3+ demand.

Level Profile - All Learners

Level 1 and below	49%
Level 2	45%
Level 3+	6%

Market Share by Level

Level 1 and below	85%
Level 2	92%
Level 3+	63%

MKCG has a very strong market share across Level 1 and 2, with **85% of the Level 1 and below learners and 92% of the Level 2 learners.** Level 3 learner share is lower, but still significant at 63%. The remaining number of level 3+ learners is very low, suggesting it will be difficult to increase market share at this level.

There are a **relatively small number of providers operating in the 16-19 market**. MKCG is the largest with 210 learners, **followed Moulton College (20 learners) and Bedford College (10 learners).** All other providers report 5 learners or below.

There hasn't been a significant change within a particular level from 2018/19 to 2020/21, with small increases and decreases seen between provider types over this period.

Adults

For this section, the Subject Sector Area (SSA) analysed is *Construction, Planning and the Built Environment* **(CPBE)** and the selected geography is *Main Area (MK)*.

In 2020/21 there were a total of **110 CPBE Adult learners, of which 30 were enrolled at Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG).** The total market has grown by 10 learners since the 2018/19 academic year, during which time MKCG saw no change in learner numbers.
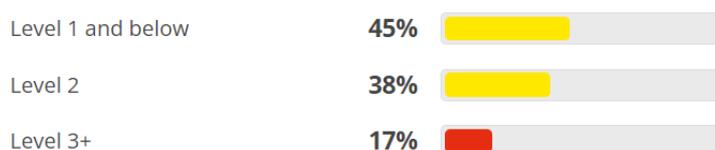
Market Share

|	
Our College (30 Learners)	28%
Other Colleges (60 Learners)	51%
Private Training Providers (20 Learners)	21%
Local Authorities (0 Learners)	0%
Other Providers (0 Learners)	0%
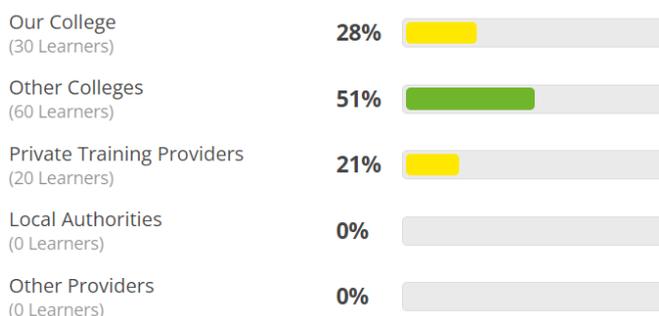
The providers operating within the market are quite varied. **Other Colleges have a controlling 51% of learners,** with MKCG (28%) and Private Training Providers (21%) trailing but quite a margin.

Most learners are studying at Level 1 and below (45%), followed by level 2 (38%). **Few progress onto level 3, with only 17% of learners studying at this level.**

Level Profile - All Learners

Level 1 and below	**45%**	
Level 2	**38%**	
Level 3+	**17%**	

Market Share by Level

Level 1 and below	**17%**	
Level 2	**32%**	
Level 3+	**50%**	
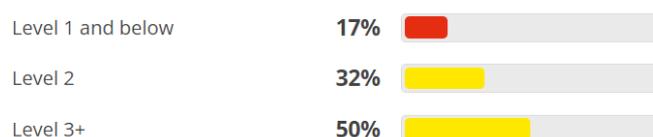
MKCG have a strong market share at Level 3+ (50%), but report fewer learners at lower levels. **This is interesting when considering the majority of learners are studying at Level 1 and 2 regionally. There is room for growth here by analysing competitor curricula and expanding MKCG's Level 2 offering.**

There are many providers within this Market, all with a relatively small number of learners; most report 10 learners. Amongst these are a number of GFE colleges and private training providers across a fairly wide geographic reach. Milton Keynes College is one of the largest individual providers.

Provider	2020/21 Learners
Milton Keynes College	30
Bedford College	30
CT Skills Ltd.	10
Moulton College	10
Barnet & Southgate College	10
City of Bristol College	<5
Barrett Bell Ltd	<5
C&G Assessments and Training Ltd	<5
Newcastle & Staffordshire Colleges Group	<5
BCTG Ltd	<5

The whole market has remained fairly static over the previous 3 years, with some growth seen. The **highest volatility is observed in the Level 1 market**, with provider numbers fluctuating significantly.
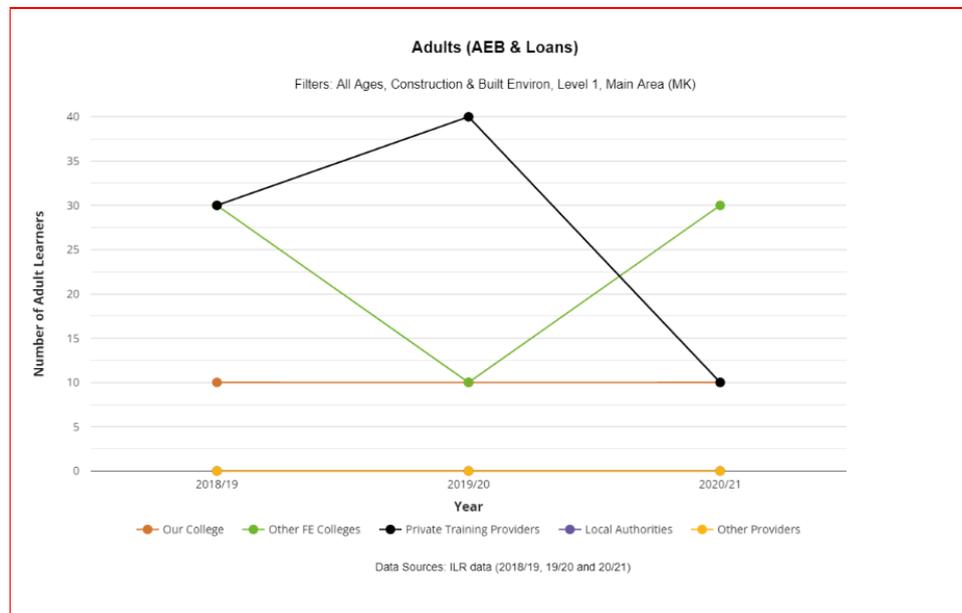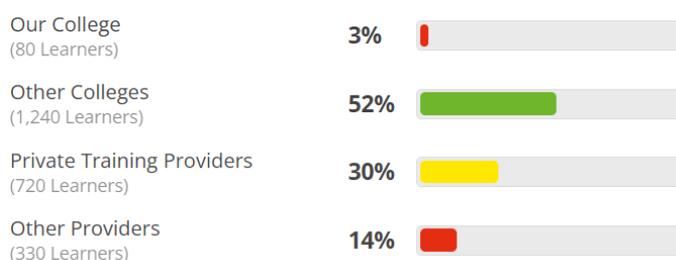

Apprenticeships

For this section, the Technical Route analysed is *Construction* and the analysed geography is *South East Midlands LEP*, for *All Ages*.

In 2020/21 there were a total of **2,370 Construction apprentices, of which 80 were enrolled at Milton Keynes College Group (MKCG).** The total **market has grown by 460 learners** since the 2018/19 academic year, **during which time MKCG saw an increase of 40 learners.**
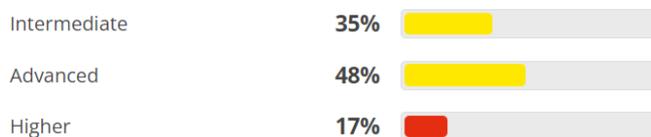

Market Share

Our College
(80 Learners) — 3%

Other Colleges
(1,240 Learners) — 52%

Private Training Providers
(720 Learners) — 30%

Other Providers
(330 Learners) — 14%

Regionally, **Other Colleges tend to dominate across apprenticeships** with 52% market share, followed by Private Training Providers with 30% of the market share. The remaining apprentices are shared between Other Providers (14%) and **MKCG (3%).**

Most apprentices study at Advanced Level (48%), with just over a third at Intermediate Level (35%) and 17% at Intermediate Level.

Level Profile - All Apprenticeships

Intermediate	35%
Advanced	48%
Higher	17%

Market Share by Level

Intermediate	1%
Advanced	6%
Higher	0%
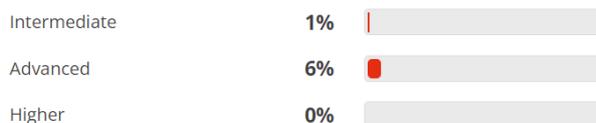
MKCG's market share is very low across all levels, indicating very little market penetration.

Many different providers operate within this market, with colleges occupying the top of the table.

Provider	2020/21 Learners
Bedford College	560
JTL	170
Northampton College	140
Buckinghamshire College Group	130
CITB	110
BT PLC	80
Clarkson Evans Training Ltd	80
Milton Keynes College	80
Leeds College of Building	80
London South Bank University	60

Most of the market growth has been due to a rise in Advanced and Higher Level Construction Apprentice numbers over the previous three academic years since 2018/19 (see below charts).
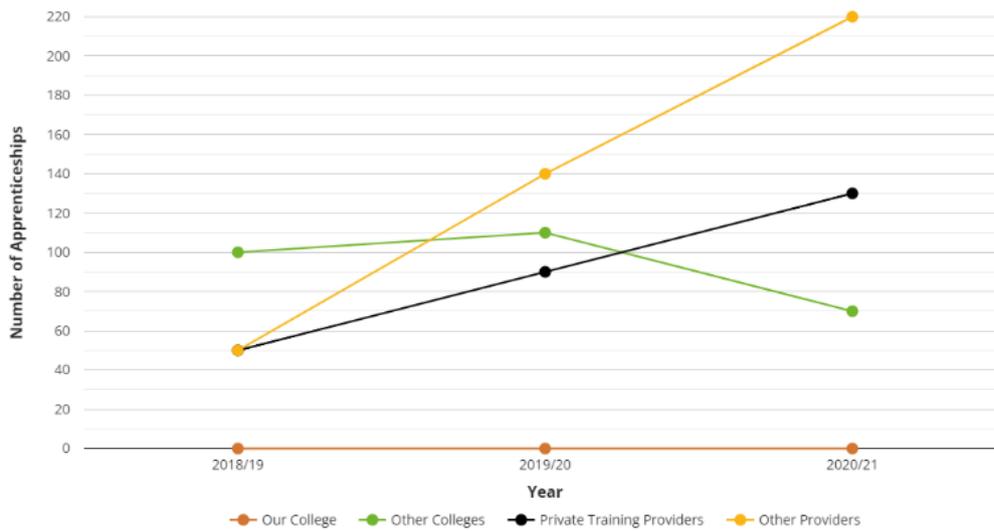
3 Year Trends

Filters: Construction, Advanced, South East Midlands LEP, All Ages, On Programme
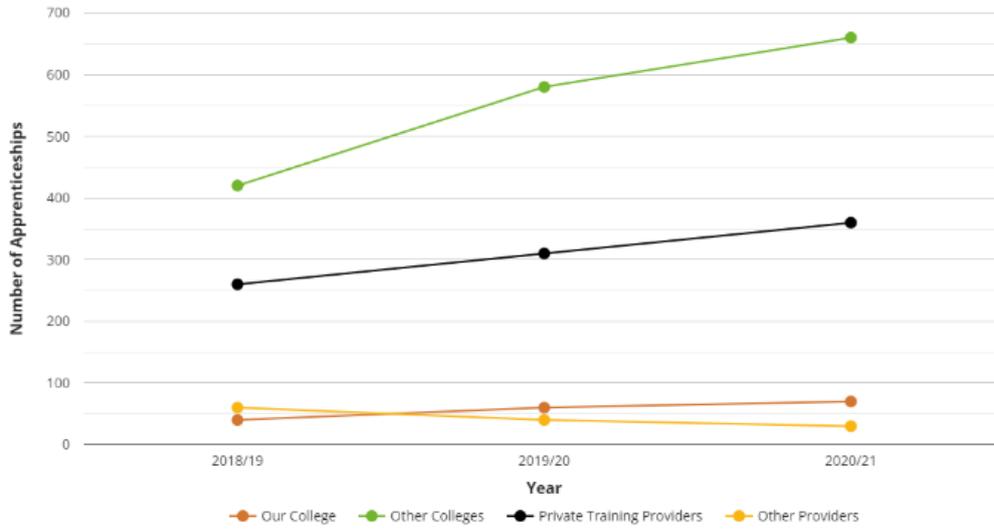
Data Sources: ILR data (2018/19, 19/20 and 20/21)

3 Year Trends

Filters: Construction, Higher, South East Midlands LEP, All Ages, On Programme


Data Sources: ILR data (2018/19, 19/20 and 20/21)

Higher Education

For this section, the SSA selected is *Construction, Planning and the Built Environment (CPBE)* and the geography selected is *Milton Keynes.* Data is for *All Ages* and *All Level 4+* unless otherwise specified.

In 2020/21, there were **160 learners within the HE market, of which 0 were studying at MKCG.** This is a market decrease of 60 learners and no change at MKCG, since 2018/19.

Most regional CPBE learners are 21+ (100).

Within Milton Keynes, **Higher Education Institutions dominate the 2020/21 CPBE landscape** with **140 of the 160 learners**. This pattern is seen across the previous three academic years.

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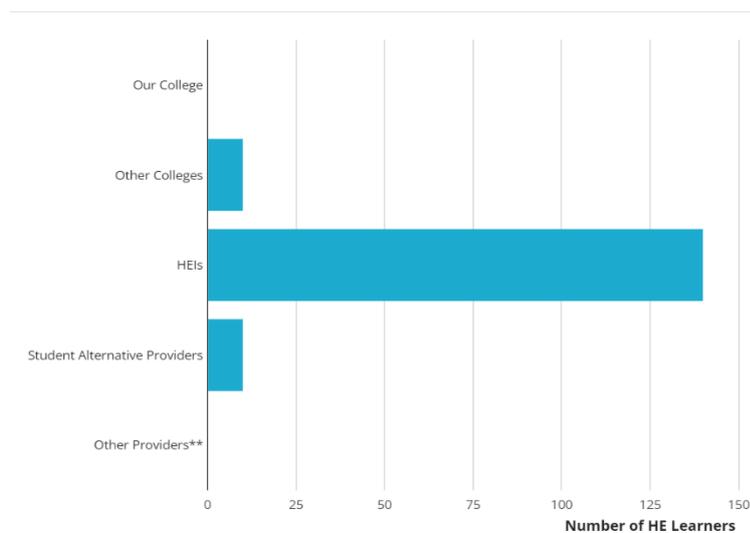
The impact of the COVID-1- pandemic continues to impact the learning and skills system, which is no doubt reflected in the data. Particularly in sectors where apprenticeships and other skills may not lend themselves well to online delivery, or industries and employers who have had to focus on business survival, sustainability, or invest in new technologies to support ways of working which has had a knock-on-effect on staff development budgets or time available to train and upskill staff.

Even before the current crisis, changing technologies and new ways of working were disrupting jobs and the skills employees need to do them, and ambitions to improve resilience, tackle digital and social isolation, as well as overcoming barriers to overcome mental and physical health issues for staff and learners have been core priorities for FE Colleges over the last 2 years.

Using the information contained within this report alongside associated LMI and stakeholder intelligence there are opportunities to reskill and upskill the workforce to deliver new business models in the post-pandemic era.

Building

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