



Sefydliad Ymchwil Cymdeithasol
ac Economaidd a Data Cymru
Wales Institute of Social and
Economic Research and Data



The Challenges faced by FSM Pupils in Making the Transition to Post-Compulsory Education

Rhys Davies and Katy Huxley,
Cardiff University

Research funded by



Background

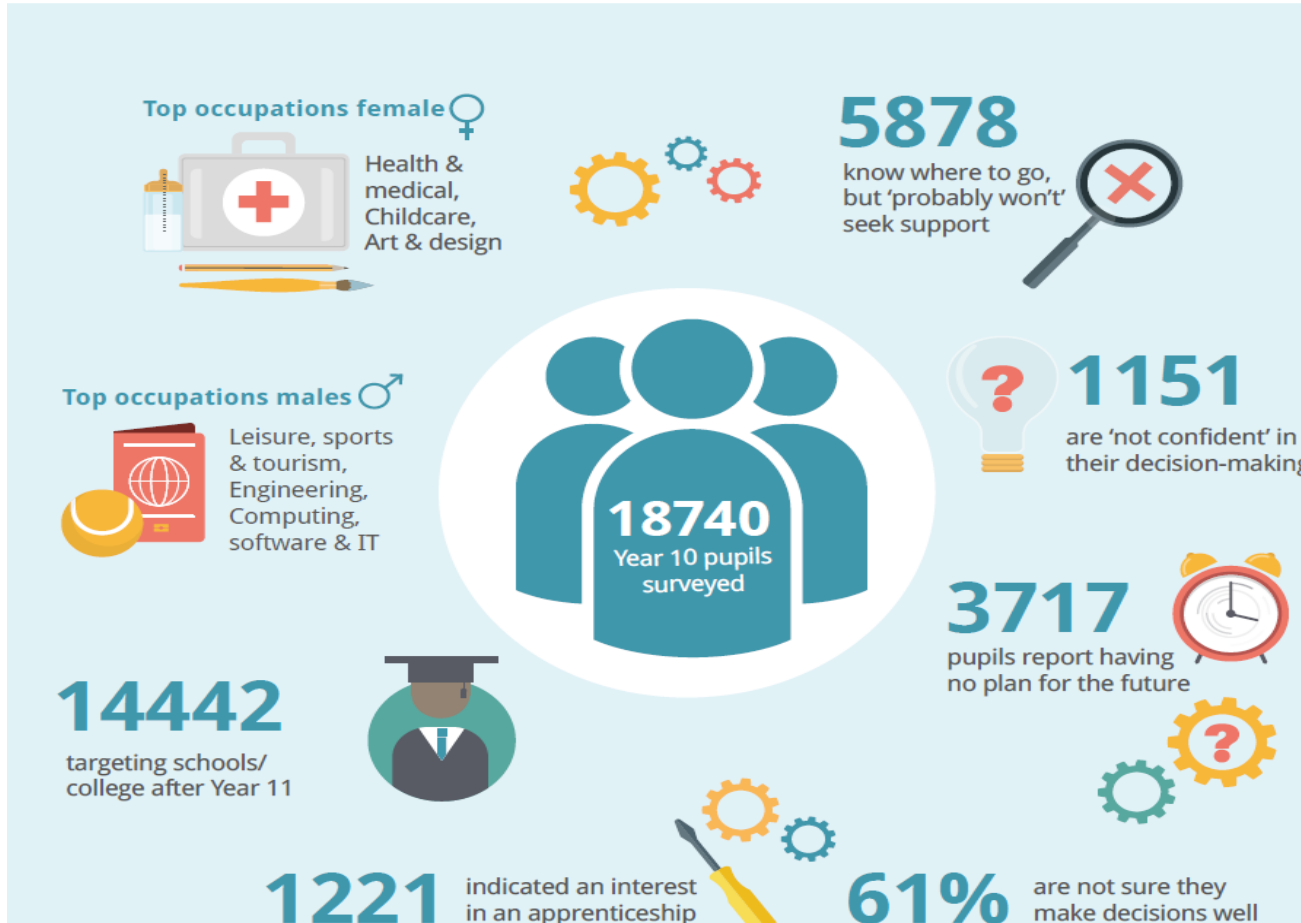
- ADR UK facilitates linkage of administrative data held by government departments and public bodies. It provides safe and secure access to this data so that approved researchers can undertake analysis to support better informed policy decisions and more effective public services.
- ADR Wales is a partnership between Swansea University Medical School, the Welsh Government and WISERD. Supported by the SAIL Databank, ADR Wales undertakes research aligned to Priority Areas identified in the Welsh Government's national strategy *Prosperity for All*: Housing; Early Years; Wellbeing; Mental Health; Social Care; Skills and Employability plus Emerging Government Priorities.
- ADR Wales has been working with Career Wales to explore how the data that it collects can be enhanced via data linkage and how this data can be used to support the provision of a more effective service to its clients.

Understanding the Aspirations of Key Stage 4 Pupils

Careers Wales

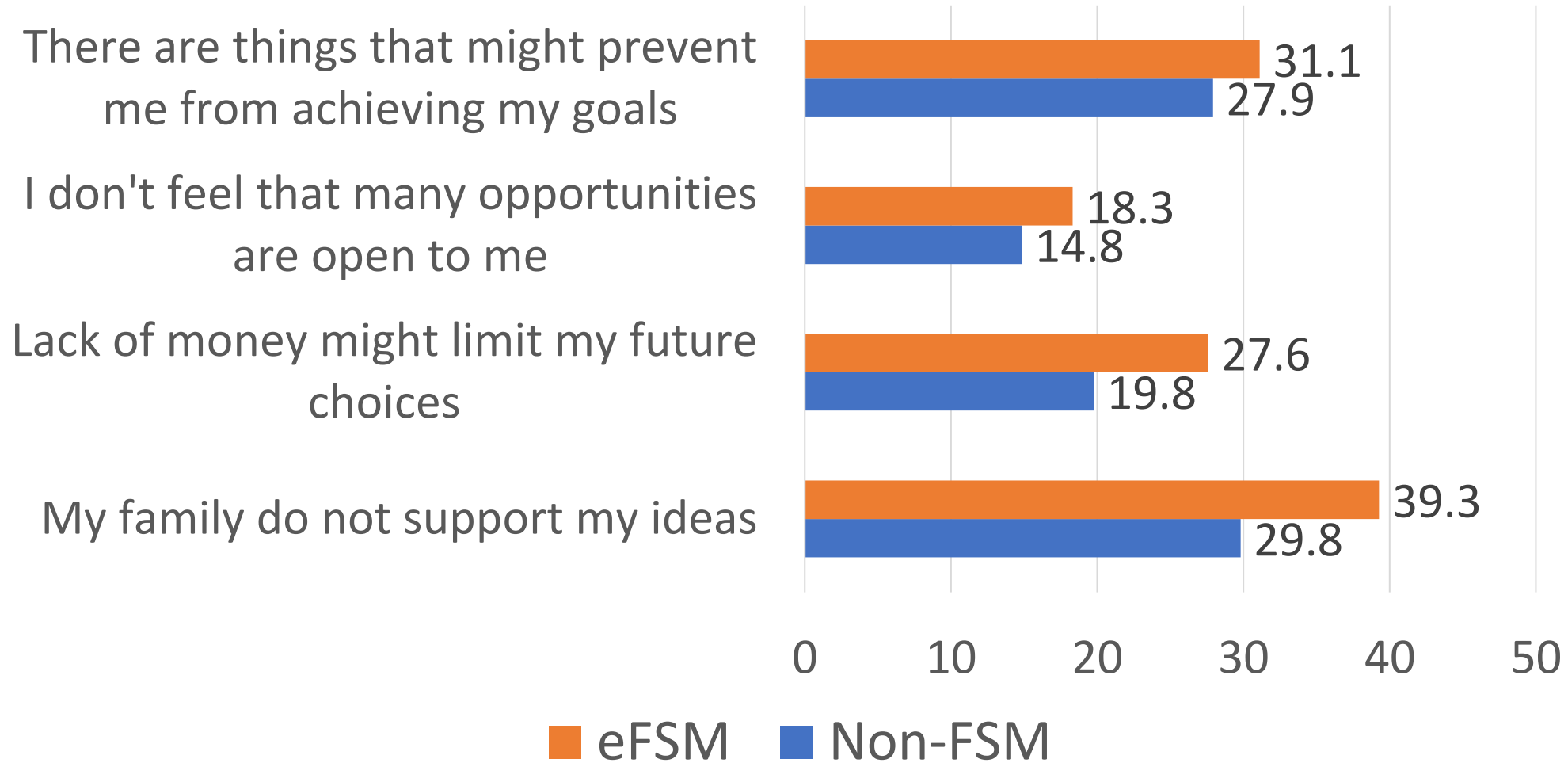
Career Check Survey 2016

Annual career survey with 18740 Year 10 pupils

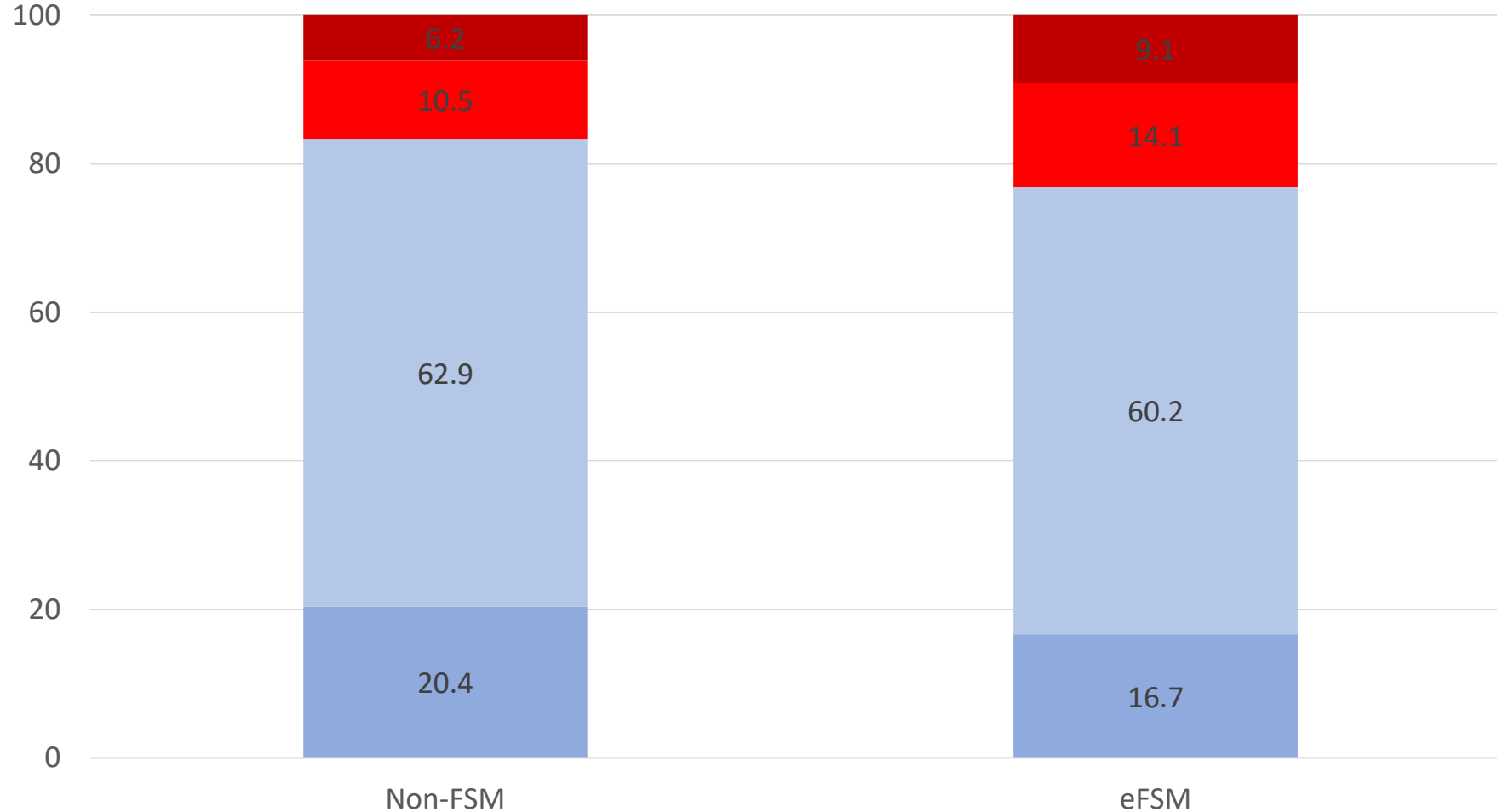


- Career Check is used to help Careers Advisors determine who is most need of support and what is required.
- Mostly completed during Year 10.
- Valuable information about intended pathways, occupational preferences, perceived barriers, confidence with decision making.
- Response rate of 90% in 2018/19
- Data for 4 cohorts of KS4 pupils from 2015/16-2018/19 has been linked to National Pupil Database.
- Examine how responses to Career Check vary by pupil and school characteristics.

Perceived Barriers



Confidence in Decision Making



- I'm not confident about making decisions, I prefer others to make them for me
- I want to make decisions, but others usually make them for me
- I make my own decisions, but I'm not sure that I always do it well
- I make my own decisions and I'm confident that they are good decisions

Career Aspirations

Job	Females			Males			All KS4 Children
	Non-FSM	FSM	All	Non-FSM	FSM	All	
Health and Medical	15.4	11.6	14.9	4.4	2.8	4.2	9.5
Leisure, Sports & Tourism	5.1	3.3	4.8	13.8	11.2	13.5	9.2
Engineering	1.4	1.3	1.4	14.1	14.1	14.1	7.8
Computers, Software & IT	1.2	1.0	1.1	11.5	12.0	11.6	6.4
Art & Design	8.6	9.6	8.7	3.5	3.9	3.6	6.1
Emergency, Security and Armed Services	3.5	3.9	3.6	6.9	7.6	7.0	5.3
Law	6.8	5.8	6.7	3.7	2.8	3.6	5.1
Teaching & Education	7.8	5.6	7.5	2.6	2.3	2.5	5.0
Animal Care	7.5	7.7	7.5	1.8	2.3	1.9	4.7
Building & Construction	0.4	0.5	0.4	8.2	12.2	8.7	4.6
TV, Film and Media	4.4	3.3	4.2	4.7	4.3	4.6	4.4
Childcare	7.8	14.1	8.7	0.2	0.3	0.2	4.4
Science &; Research	4.0	2.5	3.8	4.9	2.8	4.6	4.2
Hair & Beauty	7.0	12.6	7.7	0.4	0.5	0.4	4.0
Performing Arts	5.4	4.0	5.2	2.3	2.4	2.3	3.7

Interest in Apprenticeships

	All		Schools with no Sixth Form		Schools with a Sixth Form	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
FSM	10.9	4.5	12.4	5.6	10.1	4.4
Non-FSM	11.1	3.4	13.3	4.5	10.3	3.1
All	11.0	3.6	13.2	4.7	10.3	3.3

- Multivariate analysis confirms that:
 - interest in apprenticeships among males is 3 times that observed among females at KS4;
 - pupils attending schools with no Sixth Form are 25% more likely to express an interest in Apprenticeships;
 - pupils eligible for Free School Meals are 20% less likely to express an interest in Apprenticeships after taking account of other observable characteristics.

Conclusions and Next Steps

- Pupils from low-income households:
 - are more likely to perceive barriers to their choices,
 - express lower levels of confidence in decision making,
 - have career aspirations that are more heavily gender segregated,
 - are less likely to have an interest in doing an apprenticeship.
- Next Steps
 - Linkage to 2011 Census to explore importance of household characteristics in predicting responses to Career Check.
 - How do the results of Career Check relate to subsequent support provided by Careers Wales?
 - Having identified pupils 'at risk' via Career Check, can we demonstrate that Careers Guidance has a positive influence on subsequent transitions to post-compulsory education and beyond.



Sefydliad Ymchwil Cymdeithasol
ac Economaidd a Data Cymru
Wales Institute of Social and
Economic Research and Data



Thank you

Rhys Davies:

daviesor@cardiff.ac.uk

Research funded by



Economic
and Social
Research Council