



How the NQF Facilitates the Identification of Skills Needs:

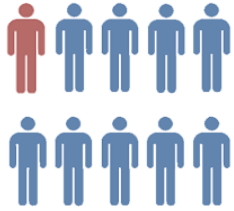
Advantages & Limitations

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SOLAS

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National Skills Database



Analysing the Data

- Requires classifications
- Must be comparable
 - across datasets (different providers)
 - across sectors

Skills Classifications

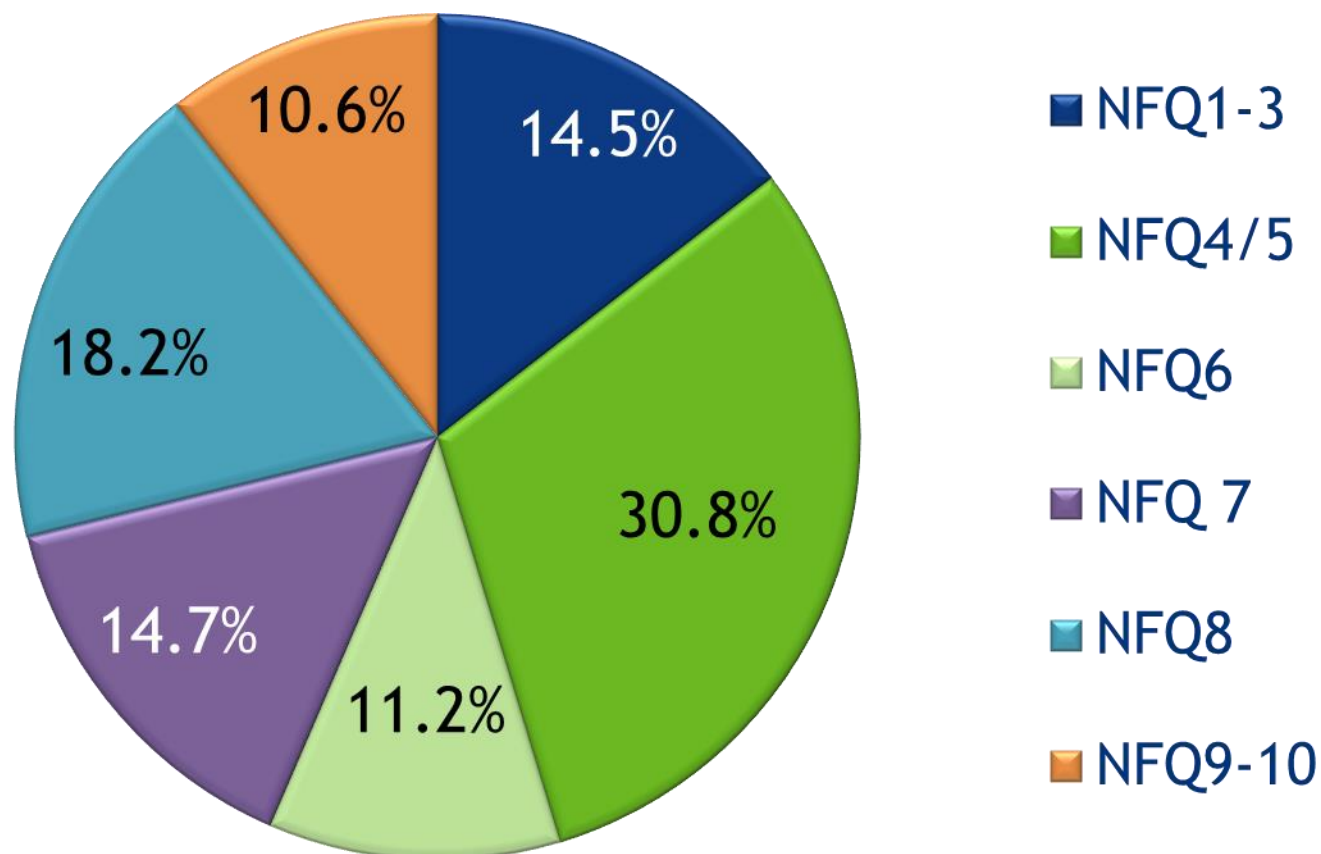
- **Demand side:**
 - **Occupation (SOC)**
 - **Previous occupation (SOC)**
 - **Highest level of education attained**
 - NFQ
 - ISCED level of education
 - **Field of learning for education attained**

Skills Classifications

- **Supply side:**
 - **NFQ award level** (main proxy for skill)
 - **ISCED field of learning**

Example of Demand Side

Employment by Education Level (NFQ), Quarter 4 2016

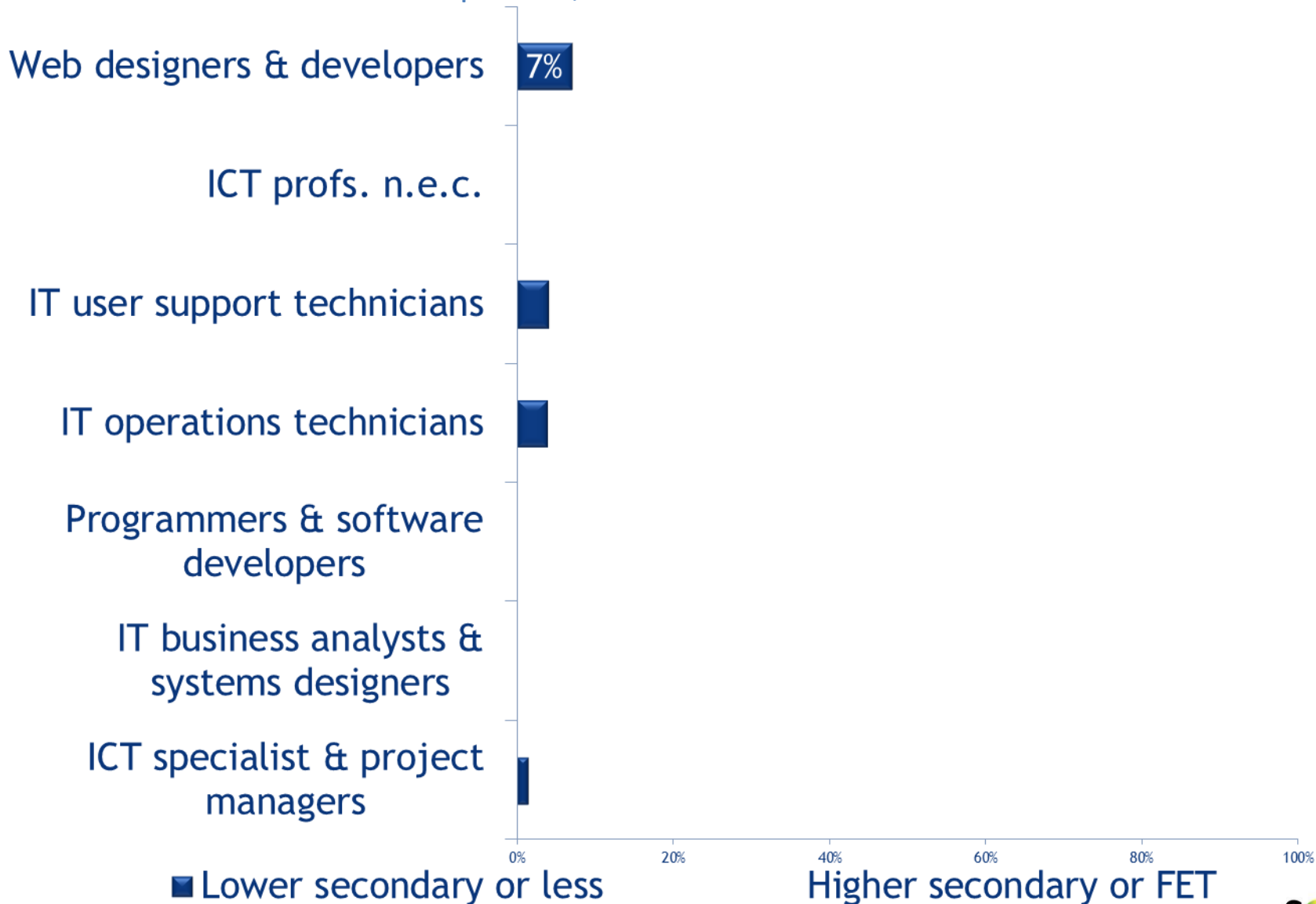


Source: SLMRU (SOLAS) analysis of CSO data

Note: excludes those who did not state their education level

Demand Side: Using Occupation & Education Levels to Measure Skills

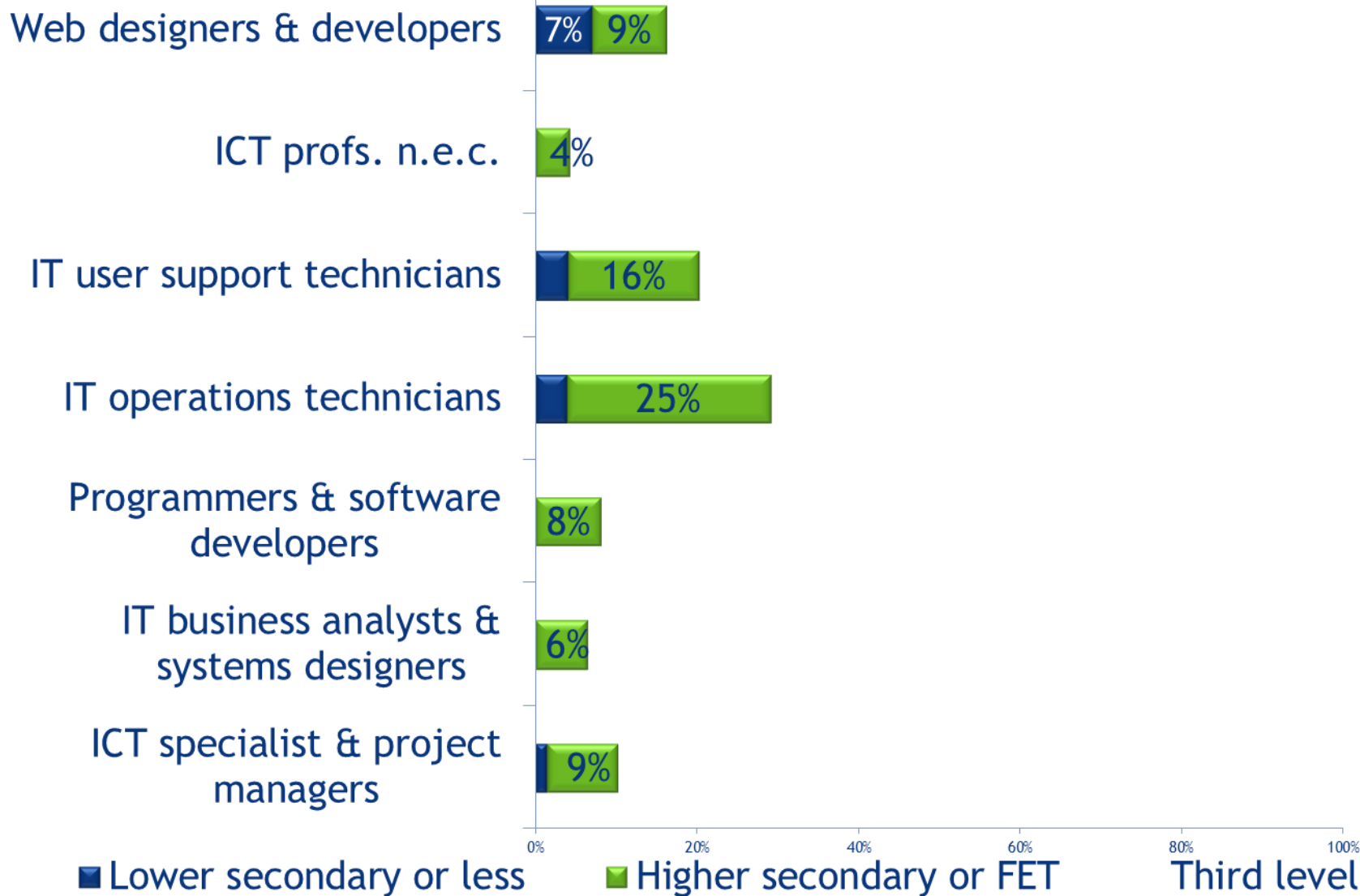
Education Profile for IT Occupations, Quarter 4 2016



Source: SLMRU (SOLAS) analysis of CSO data

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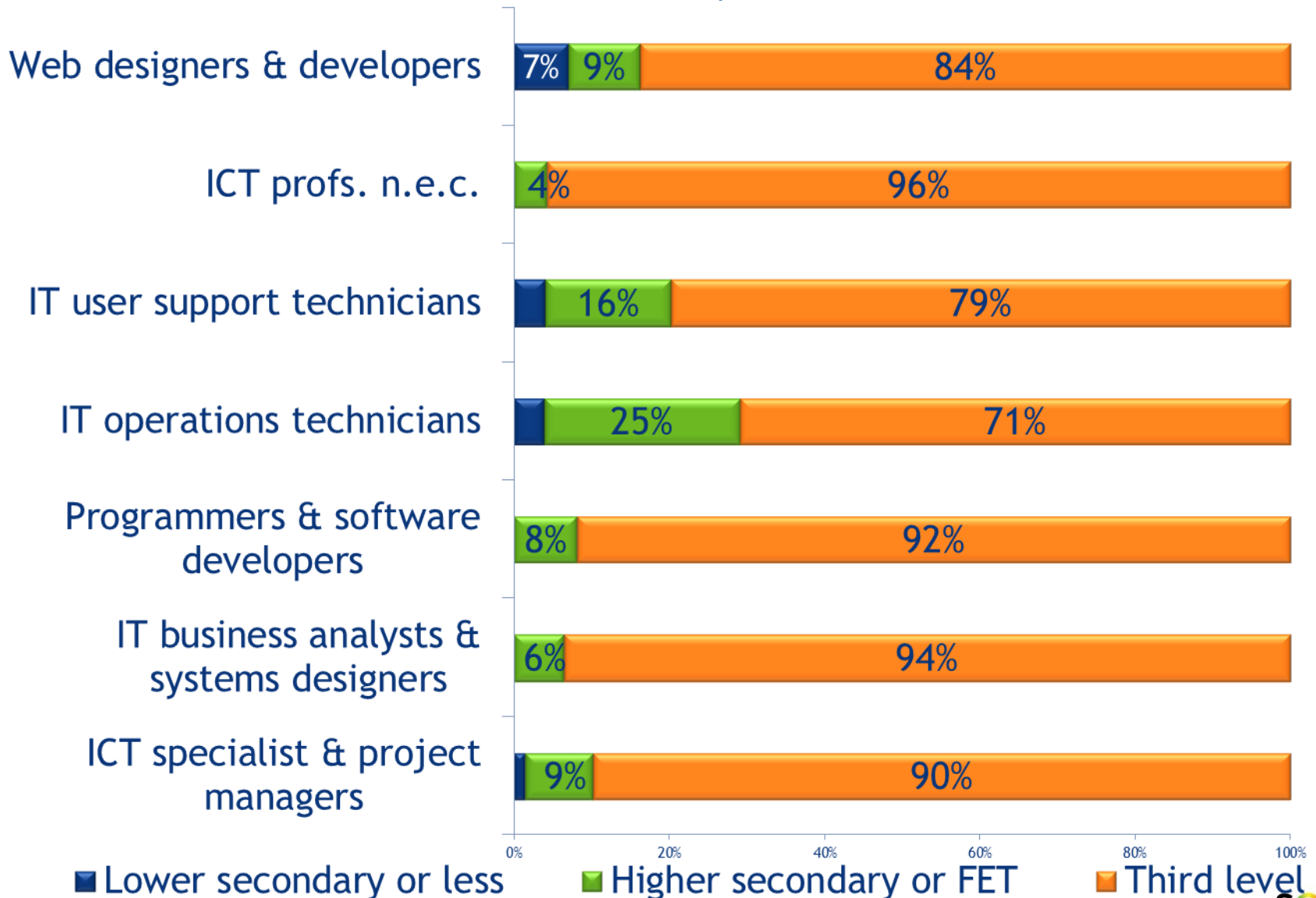
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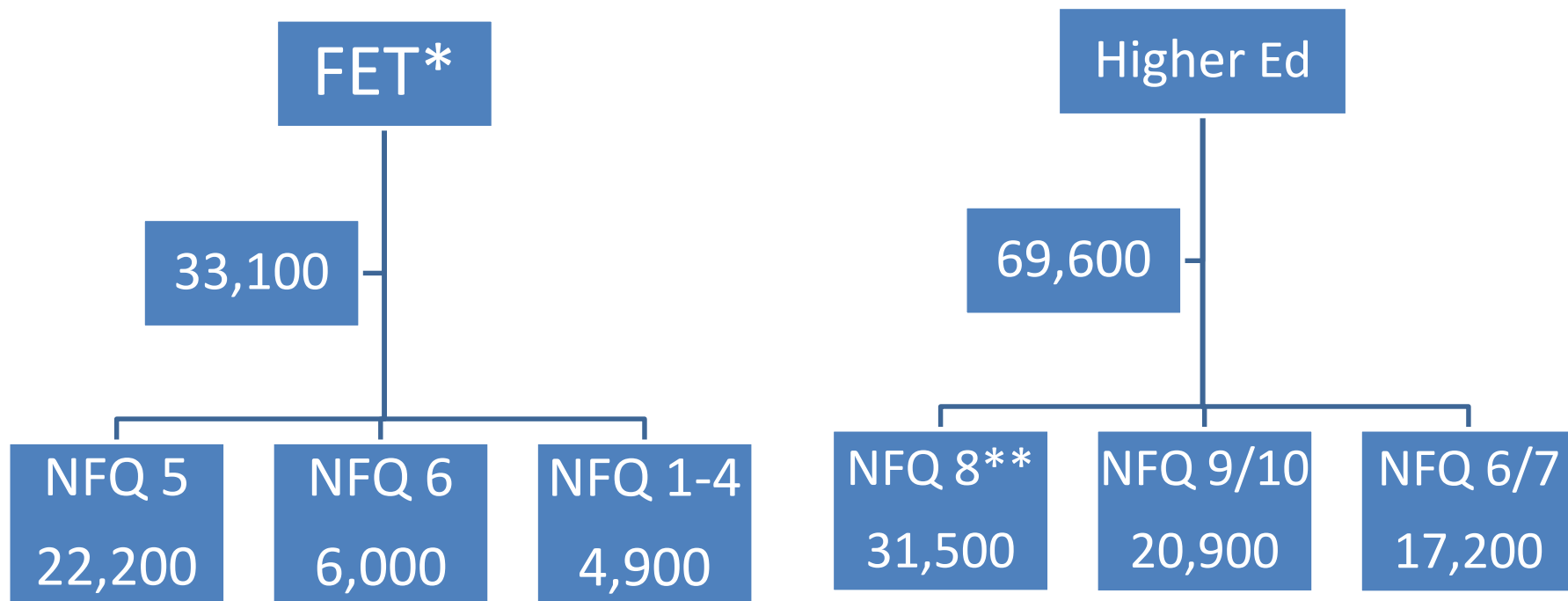
Education Profile for IT Occupations, Quarter 4 2016



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Supply Side

Further and higher education and training awards, 2016



*QQI awards only

** NFQ 8 higher dips are grouped with other postgraduate awards in NFQ 9/10

Source: QQI (FET) and HEA

Further and higher education and training awards by field, 2016

Field	NFQ 1-4	NFQ 5	NFQ 6 FET	NFQ 6 HE	NFQ 7	NFQ 8	NFQ 9/10	Total
General								
Education								
Arts/humanities								
SSBL								
Science & computing								
Eng. & const.								
Agri & veterinary								
Health & welfare								
Services								
Total								102,777

Source: QQI (FET major awards); HEA

Further and higher education and training awards by field, 2016

Field	NFQ 1-4	NFQ 5	NFQ 6 FET	NFQ 6 HE	NFQ 7	NFQ 8	NFQ 9/10	Total
General								2,843
Education								5,322
Arts/humanities								14,005
SSBL								25,617
Science & computing								11,007
Eng. & const.								8,538
Agri & veterinary								4,634
Health & welfare								24,048
Services								6,763
Total								102,777

Source: QQI (FET major awards); HEA

Further and higher education and training awards by field, 2016

Field	NFQ 1-4	NFQ 5	NFQ 6 FET	NFQ 6 HE	NFQ 7	NFQ 8	NFQ 9/10	Total
General								
Education								
Arts/humanities								
SSBL								
Science & computing	0	806	286	693	1,515	5,022	2,685	11,007
Eng. & const.								
Agri & veterinary								
Health & welfare								
Services								
Total	4,927	22,181	6,036	7,707	9,552	31,510	20,864	102,777

Source: QQI (FET major awards); HEA

National Skills Bulletin Shortage Indicator for ICT Skills

- Employment **grew** by c14,000 for the selected IT occupations in 2011-2016
- Over 2,700 **employment permits** in 2016
- 4,600+ **third level graduates*** in 2016
 - Of these, more than two thirds were at levels 8-10.
- 1,245 **job ready job seekers** (April 2017)** (prof. roles)
 - of these, a half held at least a degree (NFQ 7)
- A further 1,000 **job ready job seekers** (tech. roles),
 - Of these, a third held third level qualifications.

*HEA and private/ independent third level institutions ** with previous experience in IT professional or managerial roles

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Advantages

- Can interact relatively easily with other classifications
 - ISCED level
- Enhances significantly ability
 - to classify skill sets
 - to identify areas where training interventions are needed (for learners and skills)

Limitations

- Lack of delineation between some levels
 - NFQ 4-5: Leaving Cert spans more than 1 level
 - NFQ 4-5: can be Leaving Cert or FET
 - NFQ 6: spans FET and 3rd level
- Industry training awards not on or aligned to NFQ



Thank you

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