CAMPAIGN FOR LEARNING

Lifelong learning, welfare to work and poverty reduction

Tricia Hartley
Chief Executive
Campaign for Learning

Rearrange these words into a well-known phrase:

- Grandmother
- Eggs
- Teaching ...

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Which Department..?

“Literacy is more than an education matter – it is an issue that applies to all sectors of government.”

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Skills policy since Leitch

- Work-based
- Qualification-based
- ‘Demand-led’
- Upskilling agenda
- Targets - for SfL, Level 2, HE entry...
- Skills health checks for benefit claimants

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50% HE target

Probability of going to University:

	1948	2008
Top 2 social groups:	78%	?
Bottom social group:	14%	?

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Welfare to Work policy

“The Government wants as many people as possible to share in the rewards of work, because paid work is the best route to independence, health & well-being for most people.”

‘Raising Expectations’ White Paper

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Skills for Life and poverty

" The consequences of poor basic skills are unacceptable... Poor basic skills are one of the main contributory factors to a cycle of poverty and disadvantage which is passed on from generation to generation." 'Better Basic Skills' DfEE, 1999

"To deliver our world class ambitions we need to focus our ... support on the following priority learner groups:

a people who are unemployed and on benefits

b low skilled adults in employment

c prisoners

d other groups at risk of social exclusion"

Skills for Life: Changing Lives 2009

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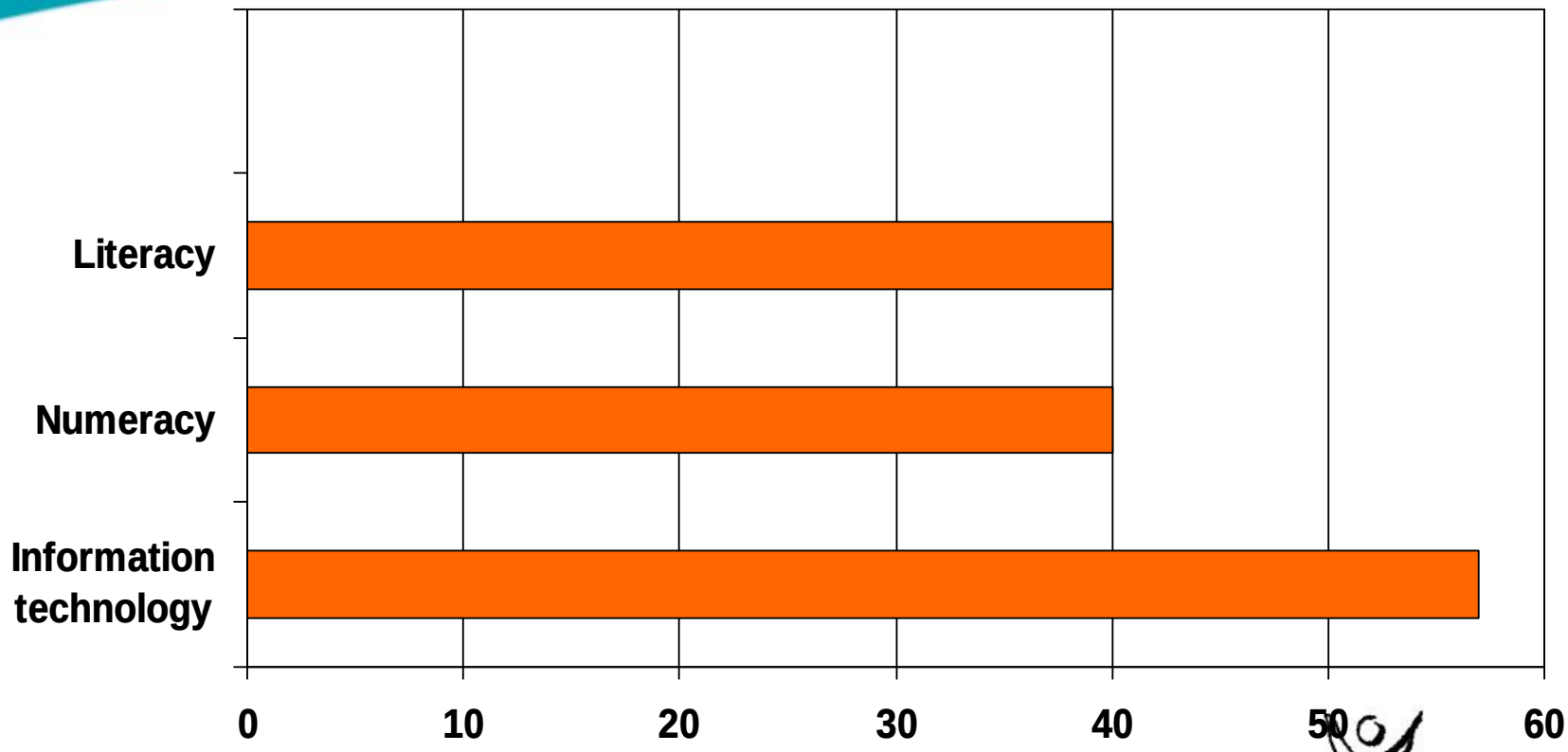
Employer concerns



Source: CBI, 2009

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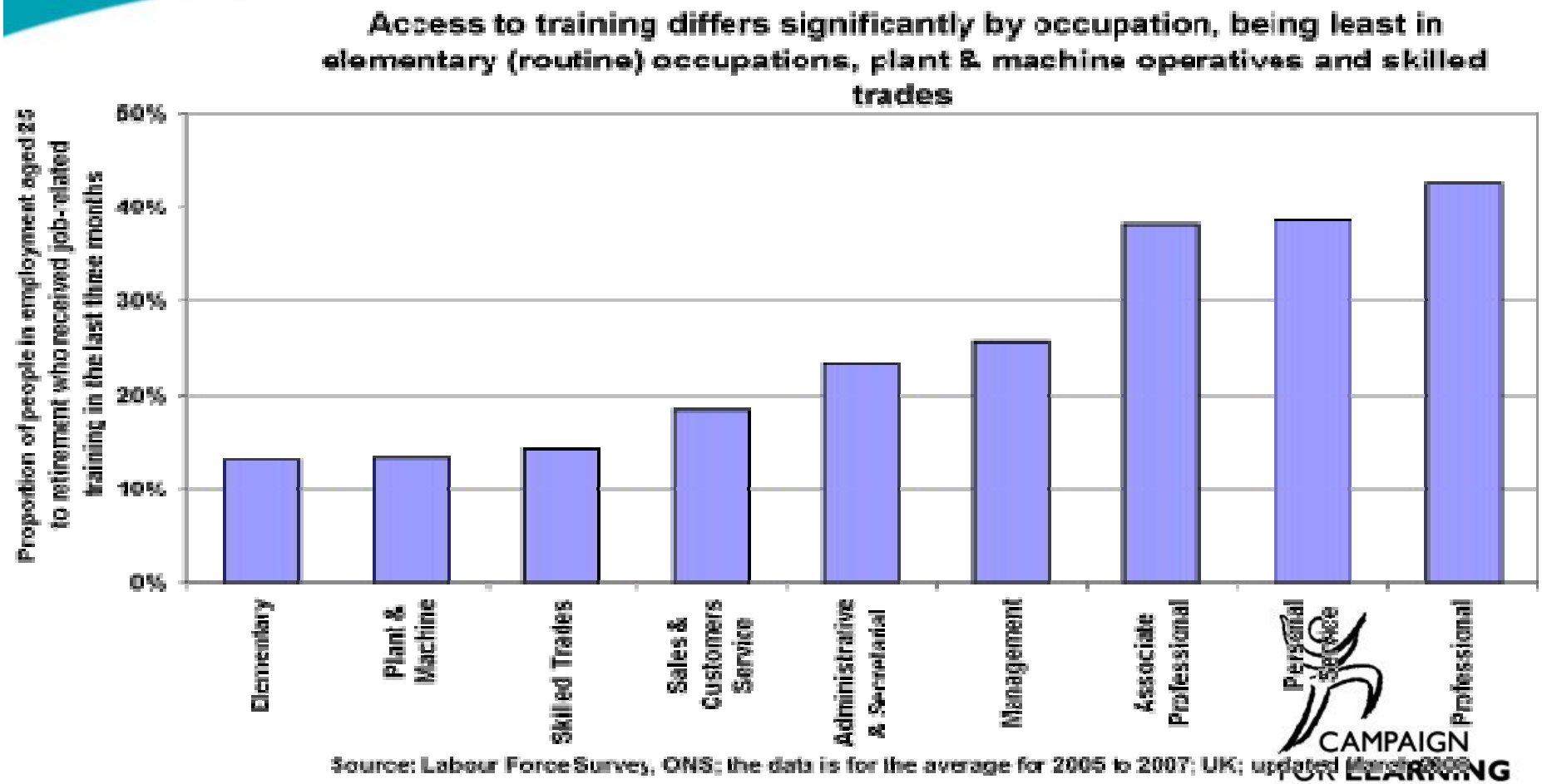
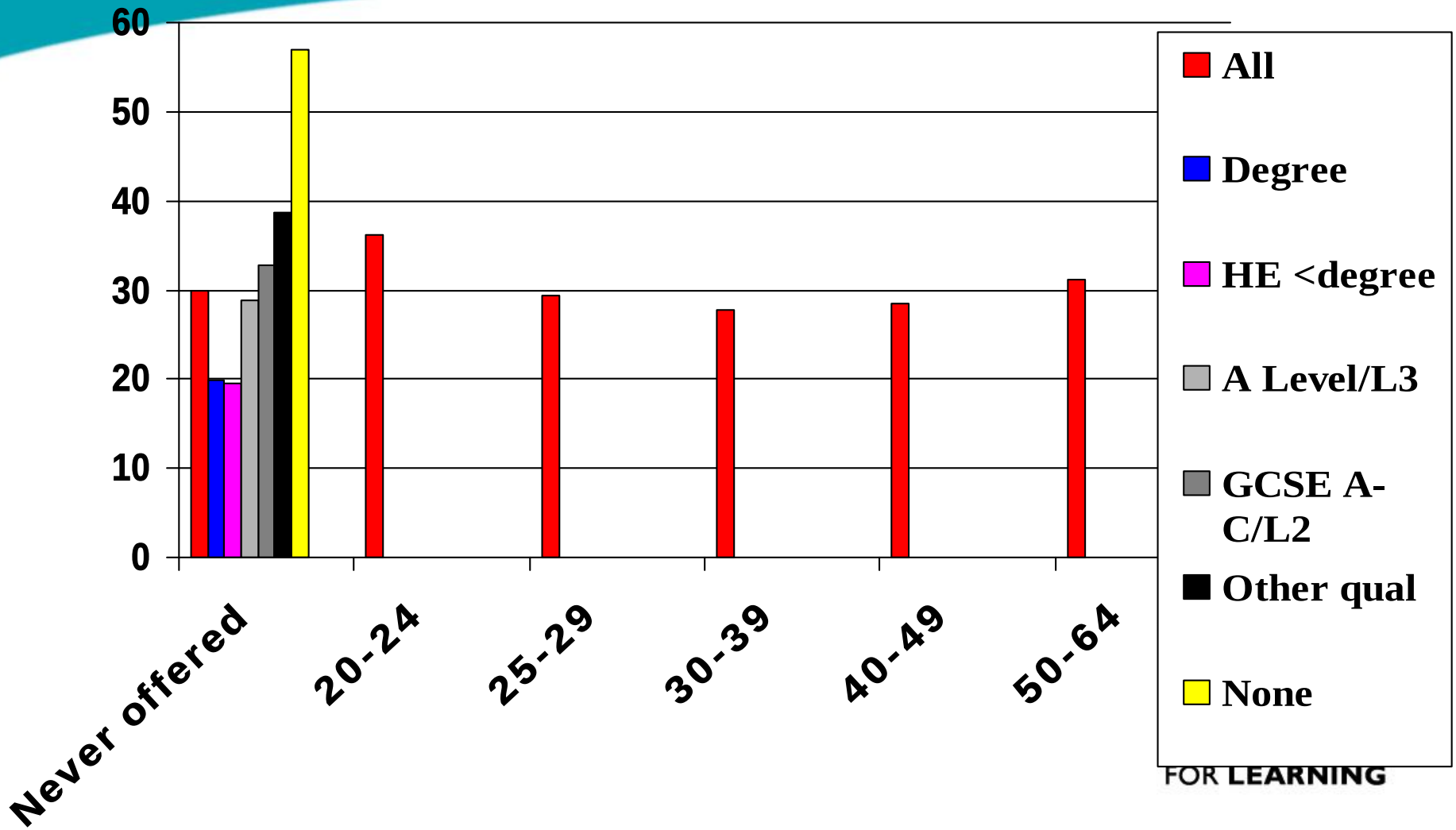
Access to training at work



Employees never offered job-related training



FOR LEARNING

Lifelong Learning?

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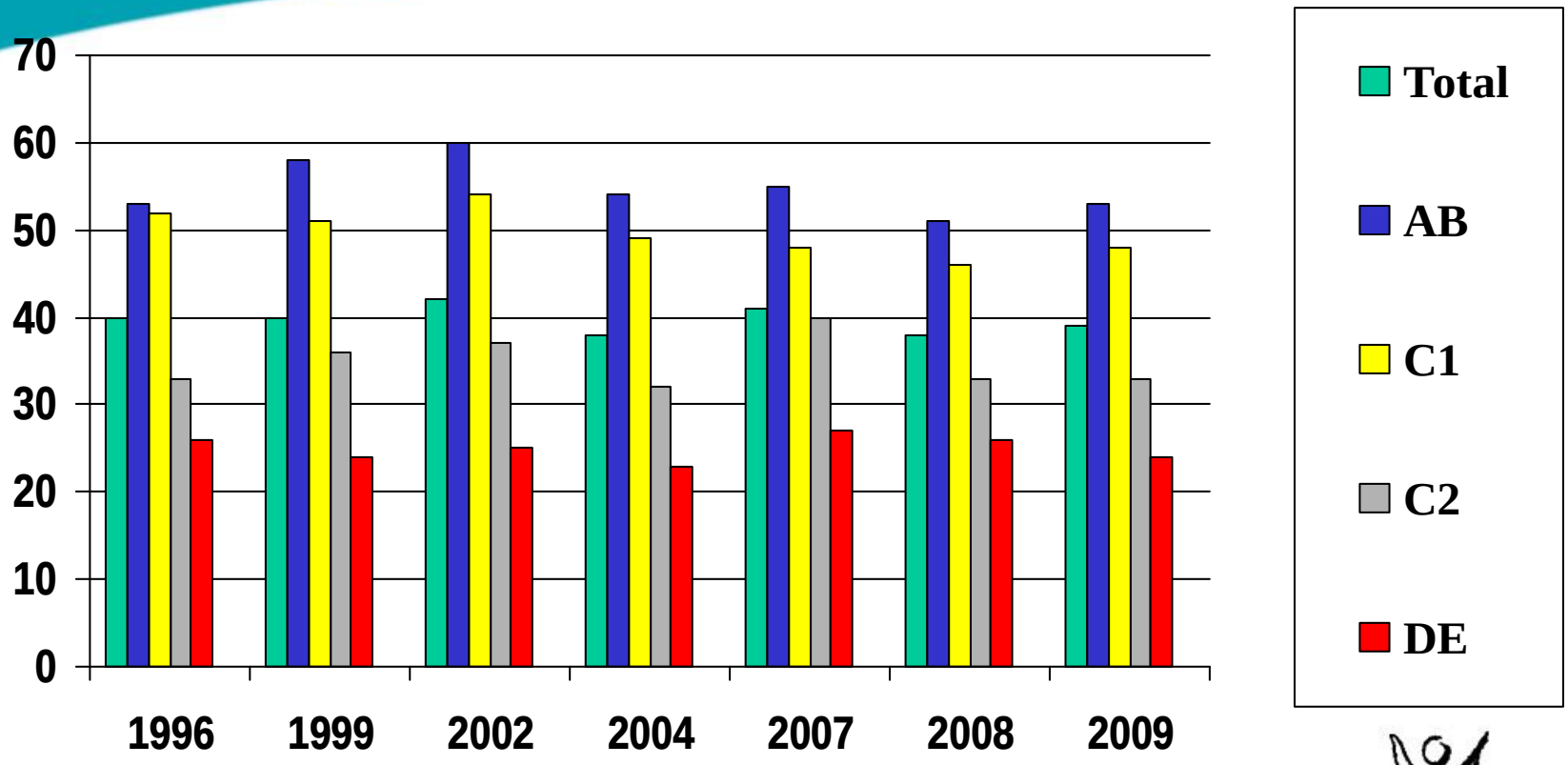
Current or recent participation in adult learning in UK 1996-2009



Source: NIACE 2009

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Economic downturn

- Economy will shrink by over 3% in 2009
- Zero growth predicted in 2010
- Over 300k redundancies Jan – March
- Youth unemployment increasing rapidly

- Learning & Skills sector expected to save £340m by 2010-11

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Meeting the challenge

"We do know broadly what we need to be good at: being smarter and more innovative and creative and more flexible and adaptive and confident and entrepreneurial than the competition. That is where the jobs will come from." Peter Mandelson

Jobs Summit January 2009

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… the economy, stupid?

- **Learning**
- **Work**
- **Leisure**
- **Health**
- **Citizenship**

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Adult learning & skills policy in a downturn?

- Employers & individuals
- Upskilling and reskilling
- Flexibility & accreditation
- Volunteering & work experience
- Targets & the ‘hardest to reach’
- Digital skills & access
- Joining up & embedding

CAMPAIGN FOR LEARNING

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DFID International Development website 2008

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