



School Meal Uptake Research

November 2017

Independent research conducted by Dewberry Redpoint Ltd June 2017 – September 2017



These findings are part one of a research project designed to analyze the UFSM scheme within key stage 1 and 2

The research conducted by Dewberry Redpoint involved collecting data from 22 local authorities who served hot meals to almost three quarter of a million pupils across key stage 1 and key stage 2 in England and Wales

Overview of respondents

- 22 local authority areas took part
- The local authorities surveyed provide the lunch time service to an average of 92% of the schools in their LA area
- 681,009 children attend the 3,120 schools covered in the study
- 17% of children are entitled to a Free School Meal
- 100% of providers say that all pupils in their authority are offered a hot meal at lunch-times

LACA regions covered

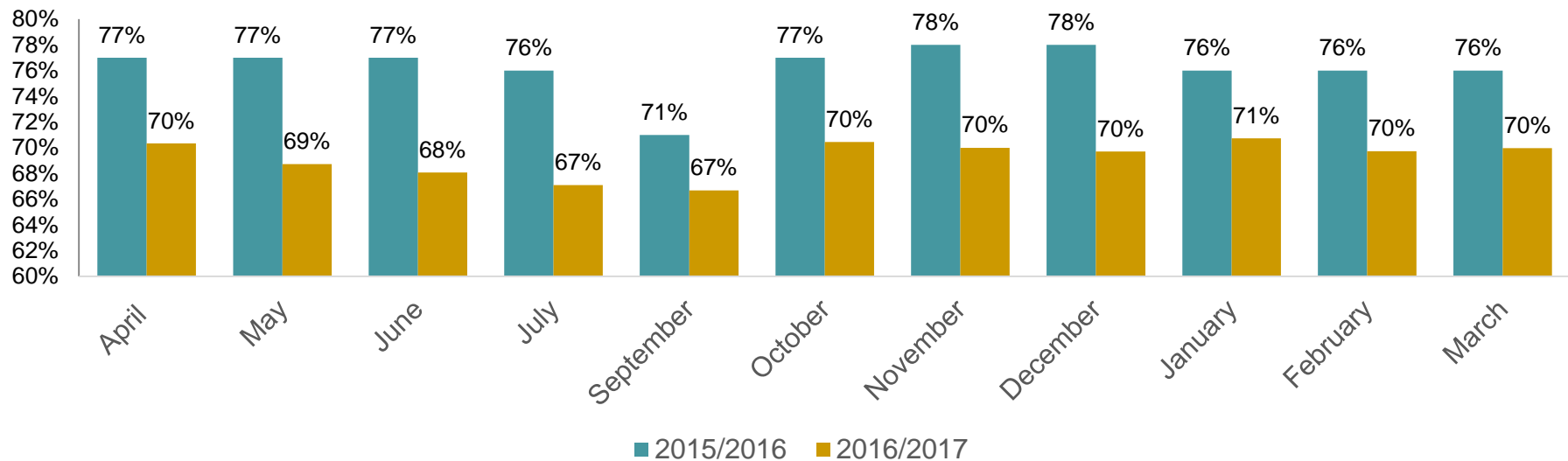
- East Midlands
- East of England
- London
- North East
- North West
- South East
- South West
- Wales
- West Midlands
- Yorkshire and Humberside

Key stage 1: UIFSM take-up

There has been a slight decline in take up of UIFSM month-on-month over the period 2016/2017 compared to 2015/2016

Take-up tends to peak over the winter period

Combined average from 22 responding local authorities:

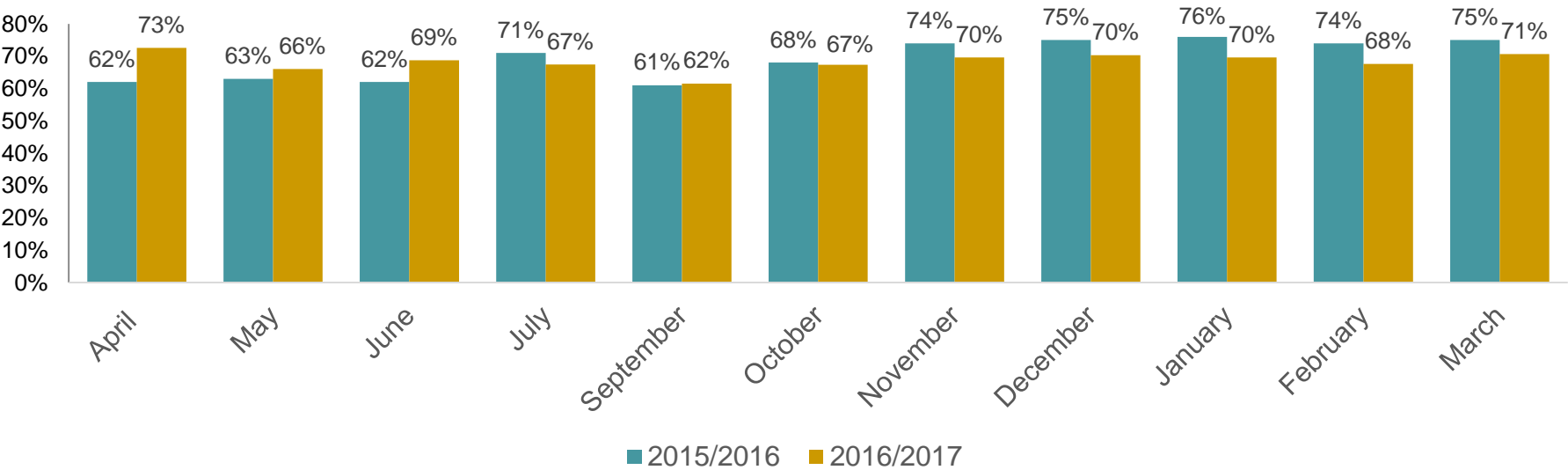


Key stage 1: FSM take-up

Over the two periods analysed, the vast majority of people entitled to FSM take this up

Take-up tends to peak over the winter period

Combined average from 22 responding local authorities:

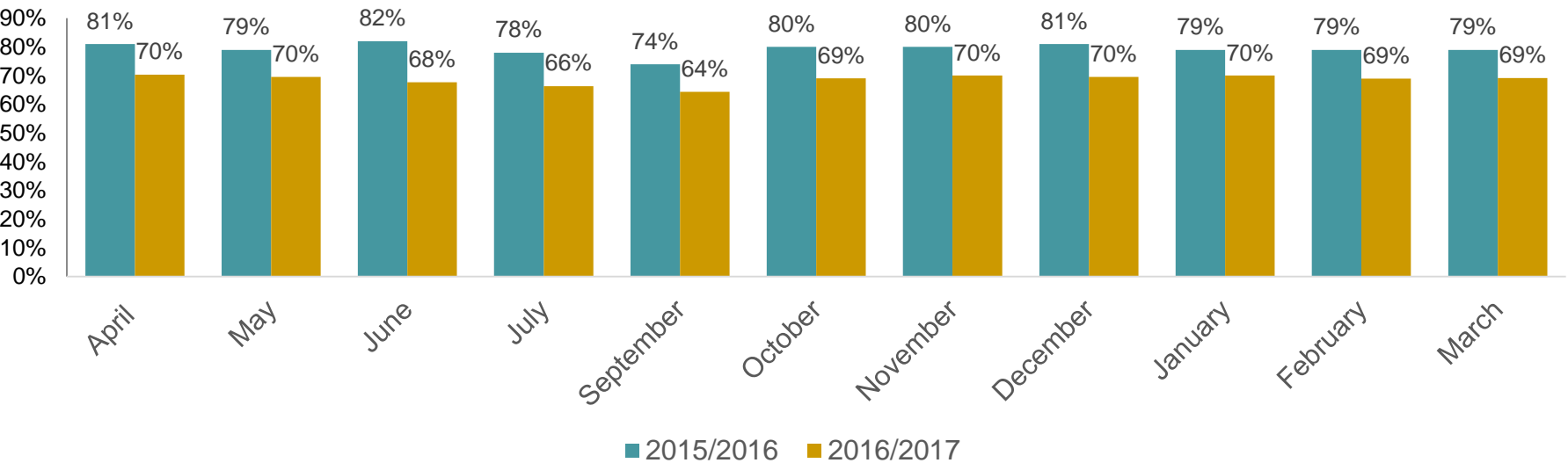


Key stage 1: Total take-up for UIFSM & FSM

There has been a slight decline in total take-up for UIFSM and FSM over the period 2016/2017 compared to the period 2015/2016

Take-up tends to peak over the winter period

Combined average from 22 responding local authorities:

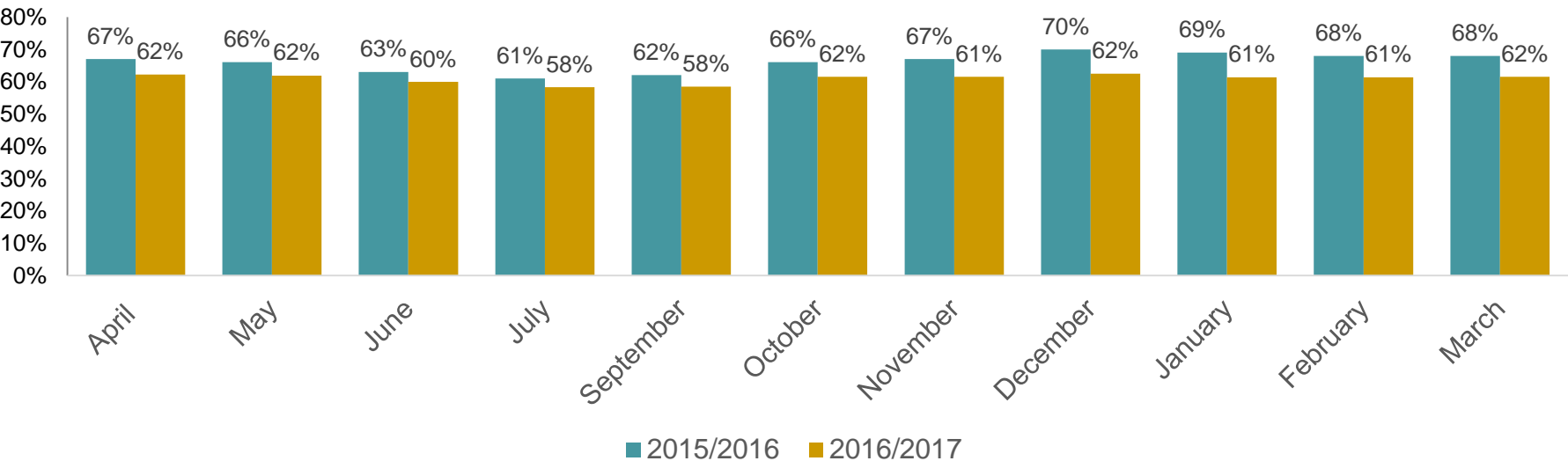


Key stage 2: FSM take-up

Average take-up of FSM over the period 2016/2017 is very similar to trends witnessed over the period 2015/2016

Again, take-up tends to peak over the winter months

Combined average from 22 responding local authorities:

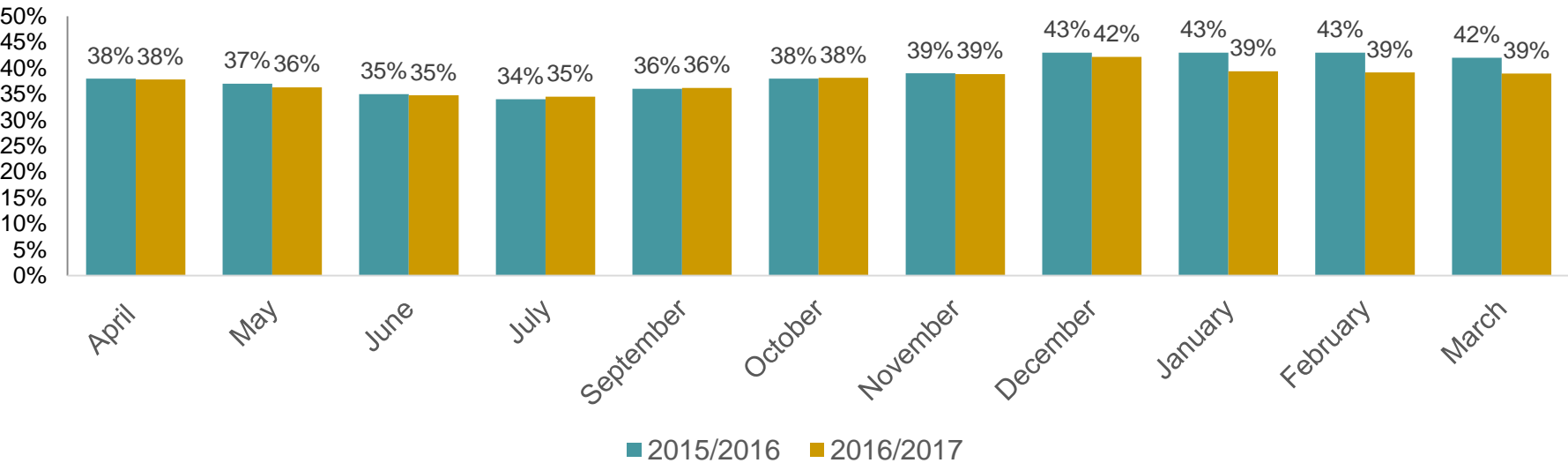


Key stage 2: Total take-up of paid meals

Average total take-up of paid meals in key stage 2 is noticeably lower than average total take-up of UISFM in key stage 1

Average take-up in 2016/2017 is very similar to levels of take-up over the period 2015/2016

Combined average from 22 responding local authorities:

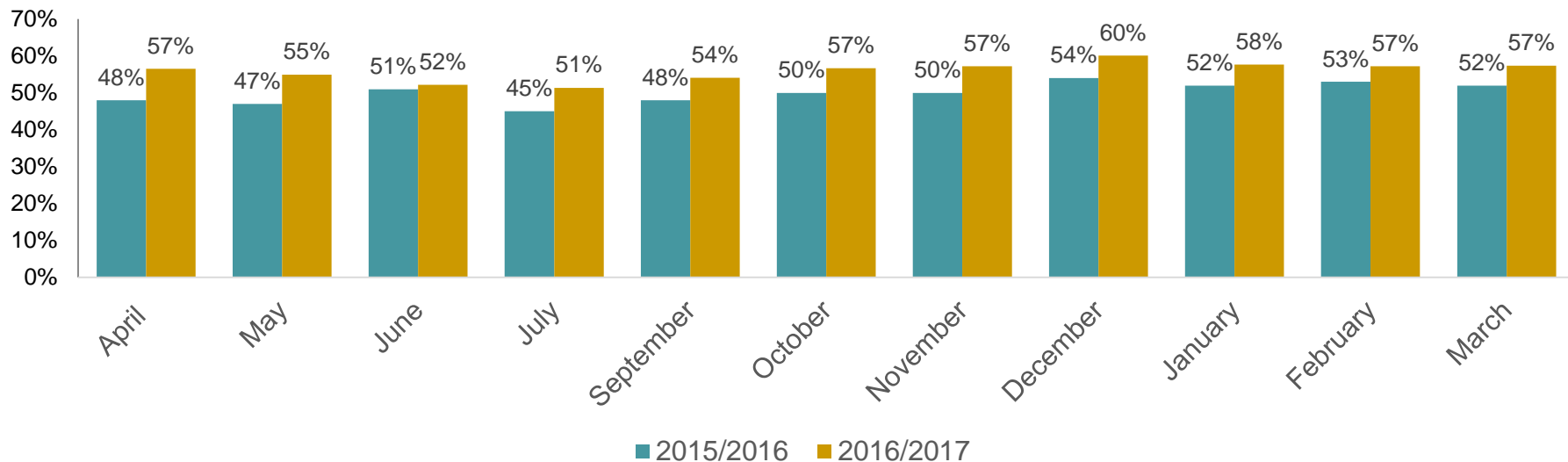


Key stage 2: Total take-up for paid & FSM

Average take up for 2016/2017 for paid and FSM combined appears to be slightly higher compared to average take-up over the period 2015/2016

Again, take-up appears to peak over the winter months

Combined average from 22 responding local authorities:



Total Take Up of Paid and FSM drops significantly between key stage 1 and key stage 2

Percentage drop in the proportion of Total Take Up for Paid & FSM for Key stage 1 and 2 (Boroughs that completed survey)

[illegible]

Average take-up year-on-year comparison

Total average take-up comparison

Key stage 1	2015/2016	2016/2017
KSI UIFSM	76%	69%
KS1 FSM	69%	68%
KS1 UIFSM & FSM	79%	69%
Key stage 2	2015/2016	2016/2017
KS2 FSM	66%	61%
KS2 PAID	39%	38%
KS2 PAID AND FSM	50%	56%

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