



Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills

**WIDENING PARTICIPATION IN
HIGHER EDUCATION**

JULY 2014

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Introduction

This Official Statistics Release includes the latest information on 3 measures of Widening Participation in Higher Education:

- The estimated percentages of 15 year olds, by Free School Meals (FSM) status, who progressed to Higher Education (HE) by age 19 in 2011/12. The information is presented at national and local authority level.
- The estimated percentages of A level students, by school/college type, who progressed to Higher Education and to the most selective Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) by age 19 in 2011/12.
- Estimated proportions of young 2012/13 graduates in different occupation classifications by social background on entry to Higher Education. This uses Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) at both points, split into two groups.

The FSM measure covers pupils from English maintained schools who have progressed to Higher Education in UK Higher Education Institutions and English Further Education Colleges. The school type measure covers pupils from English maintained schools who have progressed to Higher Education in UK Higher Education Institutions. The measure on graduate outcomes covers English domiciled graduates from UK Higher Education Institutions. The first two measures use matched data which takes longer to become available for use than the sources used for the graduate outcomes measure.

These measures are intended to contribute to the understanding of widening participation issues as part of a range of measures, which have different strengths and limitations. Annex E provides information on some of the other measures available.

This publication updates the previous release of August 2013.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/widening-participation-in-higher-education-2013>

Key Findings

Table 1

This table compares the progression of pupils with and without Free School Meals to Higher Education.

**Table 1: Estimated percentage of maintained school pupils aged 15 by Free School Meal status who entered HE by age 19
Academic Years 2005/06 to 2011/12
UK Higher Education Institutions and English Further Education Colleges**

	Estimated % who entered HE			
	FSM ^[1]	Non-FSM ^[1]	Gap (pp) ^[2]	All
2005/06	13%	33%	19	30%
2006/07	14%	33%	19	31%
2007/08	15%	33%	18	31%
2008/09	17%	35%	18	33%
2009/10	18%	36%	18	34%
2010/11	20%	38%	18	35%
2011/12	21%	39%	18	36%

pp = percentage points

[1] FSM and Non-FSM refer to whether pupils were receiving Free School Meals or not.

[2] Gap is the difference between FSM and non-FSM expressed in percentage points. Percentage figures are rounded; gap figures are calculated from un-rounded data and therefore may not correspond to the gap between rounded percentages.

The table shows that an estimated 13% of maintained school pupils who received Free School Meals (FSM) at age 15 entered Higher Education by age 19 in 2005/06. This rose steadily to an estimated 21% in 2011/12. The estimated progression rate for pupils not receiving Free School Meals has risen from 33% in 2007/08 to 39% in 2011/12. The estimated gap between FSM and Non-FSM rates was 19 percentage points in 2005/06 and 2006/07 and has remained steady at 18 percentage points from 2007/08 to 2011/12.

Prior attainment is not accounted for in this measure. Many pupils will not continue their education; therefore may not hold the qualifications to progress to Higher Education. See Annex A, in particular the caveats, for more details on this measure.

Table 2

This table breaks down the 2011/12 progression rates by Local Authority.

Table 2: Estimated percentage of maintained school pupils aged 15 in 2007/08 by Free School Meal status who entered HE in 2010/11 at age 18 or 2011/12 at age 19, by Local Authority
UK Higher Education Institutions and English further education colleges

Local Authority ^[1]	Estimated percentage who entered HE				% of pupils with FSM ^[4]
	FSM ^[2]	Non-FSM ^[2]	Gap (pp) ^[3]	All	
North East	15%	37%	22	34%	15%
Darlington	11%	39%	28	35%	13%
Durham	12%	35%	23	31%	16%
Gateshead	15%	37%	22	33%	15%
Hartlepool	18%	35%	17	32%	19%
Middlesbrough	20%	35%	15	31%	25%
Newcastle upon Tyne	16%	35%	18	31%	17%
North Tyneside	17%	38%	20	36%	9%
Northumberland	11%	40%	29	38%	8%
Redcar and Cleveland	16%	40%	24	36%	16%
South Tyneside	12%	32%	20	29%	14%
Stockton-on-Tees	16%	44%	29	40%	16%
Sunderland	15%	35%	20	32%	14%
North West	18%	41%	22	37%	16%
Blackburn with Darwen	28%	43%	14	39%	22%
Blackpool	15%	33%	18	29%	20%
Bolton	22%	41%	19	38%	16%
Bury	19%	42%	23	39%	10%
Cheshire	12%	43%	31	40%	8%
Cumbria	12%	36%	24	34%	8%
Halton	16%	36%	20	33%	18%
Knowsley	12%	26%	14	22%	30%
Lancashire	20%	44%	24	41%	10%
Liverpool	19%	42%	23	35%	29%
Manchester	24%	38%	15	33%	37%
Oldham	24%	38%	13	35%	20%
Rochdale	19%	37%	18	32%	24%
Salford	12%	33%	21	28%	20%
Sefton	19%	45%	27	41%	15%
St. Helens	11%	41%	30	37%	15%
Stockport	15%	40%	26	37%	12%
Tameside	17%	33%	15	30%	13%
Trafford	22%	53%	31	50%	10%
Warrington	13%	42%	28	39%	8%
Wigan	12%	38%	26	35%	12%
Wirral	17%	48%	31	40%	25%

Local Authority ^[1]	Estimated percentage who entered HE				% of pupils with FSM ^[4]
	FSM ^[2]	Non-FSM ^[2]	Gap (pp) ^[3]	All	
Yorkshire and the Humber	15%	35%	20	33%	13%
Barnsley	9%	27%	19	24%	15%
Bradford	24%	37%	12	34%	23%
Calderdale	20%	41%	22	38%	12%
Doncaster	12%	31%	19	28%	12%
East Riding of Yorkshire	12%	40%	28	38%	7%
Kingston Upon Hull, City of	9%	24%	15	21%	19%
Kirklees	20%	39%	19	36%	15%
Leeds	14%	37%	23	33%	16%
North East Lincolnshire	8%	27%	19	24%	14%
North Lincolnshire	13%	30%	17	28%	9%
North Yorkshire	11%	43%	32	42%	5%
Rotherham	12%	30%	18	28%	15%
Sheffield	16%	34%	18	31%	14%
Wakefield	12%	30%	19	28%	11%
York	16%	42%	26	40%	6%
East Midlands	15%	36%	22	34%	9%
Derby	14%	37%	23	33%	14%
Derbyshire	14%	35%	22	34%	8%
Leicester	29%	40%	11	38%	17%
Leicestershire	16%	39%	23	38%	5%
Lincolnshire	11%	38%	27	36%	6%
Northamptonshire	13%	35%	23	34%	6%
Nottingham	14%	29%	15	25%	26%
Nottinghamshire	9%	33%	24	31%	10%
Rutland	31%	42%	12	42%	3%
West Midlands	19%	38%	19	35%	15%
Birmingham	26%	43%	17	37%	31%
Coventry	16%	39%	22	35%	16%
Dudley	15%	38%	23	35%	14%
Herefordshire	10%	37%	27	36%	5%
Sandwell	16%	28%	12	26%	15%
Shropshire	12%	38%	26	36%	7%
Solihull	13%	43%	30	40%	11%
Staffordshire	15%	37%	22	35%	7%
Stoke-on-Trent	13%	30%	17	27%	16%
Telford and Wrekin	13%	37%	25	33%	15%
Walsall	16%	38%	22	34%	18%
Warwickshire	13%	40%	26	38%	6%
Wolverhampton	22%	36%	15	33%	17%
Worcestershire	12%	39%	27	37%	7%

Local Authority ^[1]	Estimated percentage who entered HE				% of pupils with FSM ^[4]
	FSM ^[2]	Non-FSM ^[2]	Gap (pp) ^[3]	All	
East of England	16%	38%	22	36%	8%
Bedfordshire	16%	39%	23	37%	7%
Cambridgeshire	12%	40%	28	38%	6%
Essex	14%	35%	21	33%	7%
Hertfordshire	22%	47%	25	45%	5%
Luton	31%	41%	10	39%	19%
Norfolk	13%	32%	19	30%	9%
Peterborough	19%	33%	14	31%	15%
Southend-on-Sea	13%	44%	32	41%	9%
Suffolk	10%	35%	25	33%	7%
Thurrock	12%	28%	16	26%	12%
London	37%	49%	12	46%	21%
Inner London	40%	48%	7	44%	34%
Camden	42%	50%	8	46%	34%
Hackney	44%	45%	0	44%	35%
Hammersmith and Fulham	37%	57%	19	50%	26%
Haringey	37%	48%	11	44%	34%
Islington	38%	37%	-1	36%	32%
Kensington and Chelsea	48%	51%	3	49%	24%
Lambeth	33%	50%	17	43%	40%
Lewisham	33%	45%	12	41%	23%
Newham	46%	51%	5	48%	34%
Southwark	34%	45%	11	41%	31%
Tower Hamlets	41%	42%	2	40%	59%
Wandsworth	42%	49%	7	46%	20%
Westminster	52%	52%	0	51%	30%
Outer London	34%	49%	15	46%	16%
Barking and Dagenham	28%	36%	8	33%	24%
Barnet	43%	58%	15	56%	16%
Bexley	20%	39%	20	38%	7%
Brent	46%	56%	11	54%	21%
Bromley	20%	44%	24	42%	9%
Croydon	29%	43%	14	41%	17%
Ealing	41%	56%	15	52%	25%
Enfield	35%	51%	16	48%	18%
Greenwich	27%	41%	15	37%	25%
Harrow	43%	61%	18	57%	19%
Havering	16%	39%	24	37%	8%
Hillingdon	28%	43%	15	40%	16%
Hounslow	35%	53%	17	49%	18%
Kingston upon Thames	29%	56%	26	53%	8%
Merton	35%	42%	7	41%	12%
Redbridge	43%	61%	17	58%	15%
Richmond upon Thames	31%	47%	17	45%	15%
Sutton	28%	58%	30	55%	7%
Waltham Forest	37%	45%	8	42%	22%

Local Authority ^[1]	Estimated percentage who entered HE				% of pupils with FSM ^[4]
	FSM ^[2]	Non-FSM ^[2]	Gap (pp) ^[3]	All	
South East	14%	39%	25	37%	7%
Bracknell Forest	20%	39%	19	38%	5%
Brighton and Hove	13%	35%	22	32%	14%
Buckinghamshire	25%	54%	29	51%	6%
East Sussex	11%	31%	20	29%	9%
Hampshire	13%	37%	24	35%	6%
Isle of Wight	12%	29%	17	26%	16%
Kent	12%	38%	26	36%	8%
Medway	11%	35%	24	32%	9%
Milton Keynes	15%	38%	23	36%	10%
Oxfordshire	12%	38%	26	36%	7%
Portsmouth	10%	25%	15	23%	13%
Reading	15%	48%	33	43%	14%
Slough	35%	55%	20	52%	13%
Southampton	9%	27%	18	25%	11%
Surrey	16%	43%	26	41%	4%
West Berkshire	7%	40%	33	38%	5%
West Sussex	12%	37%	24	35%	5%
Windsor and Maidenhead	14%	44%	30	43%	4%
Wokingham	20%	46%	26	44%	5%
South West	13%	35%	22	33%	8%
Bath and North East Somerset	10%	38%	28	37%	6%
Bournemouth	15%	36%	21	34%	9%
Bristol, City of	11%	25%	14	22%	18%
Cornwall	14%	35%	20	33%	9%
Devon	16%	34%	18	33%	7%
Dorset	13%	35%	22	33%	6%
Gloucestershire	11%	41%	30	39%	6%
Isles of Scilly ^[5]	-	43%	-	43%	-
North Somerset	9%	39%	29	36%	7%
Plymouth	14%	34%	20	31%	10%
Poole	20%	41%	21	40%	6%
Somerset	10%	33%	22	31%	6%
South Gloucestershire	10%	32%	22	31%	5%
Swindon	11%	27%	16	25%	12%
Torbay	15%	37%	22	35%	12%
Wiltshire	15%	38%	23	37%	4%
Total England	21%	39%	18	36%	12%

pp = percentage points - = less than 0.5% or suppressed

[1] Local authority refers to the location of the school the pupil attended, rather than their home address.

[2] FSM and Non-FSM refer to whether pupils were receiving Free School Meals or not.

[3] Percentage figures are rounded; gap figures are calculated from un-rounded data and therefore may not correspond to the gap between rounded percentages.

[4] Percentage of pupils with Free School Meals according to the matched data used to produce this table; figures may vary slightly from other sources.

[5] Percentages below 0.5 are not shown in the table, nor are related figures which could potentially disclose these.

The figures in the table suggest that 91 Local Authorities out of 149 (61%) have a larger gap between the progression rates for FSM and Non-FSM pupils than the England level gap (of 18 percentage points). The equivalent proportion of authorities in the previous year was 64%.

In addition, an Excel table associated with this publication on the webpage gives a time series of this information.

Figures are estimates. Care should be taken when comparing progression rates across Local Authorities. In particular, it is not possible to conclude that the gaps in progression rates shown for different Local Authorities are a reflection of the performance of educational institutions in those authorities. This is because the composition of the Non-FSM group (and to a lesser extent the FSM group) will vary considerably in terms of levels of affluence and other factors that will impact on educational attainment and progression. The proportion of pupils with FSM varies considerably between authorities, as illustrated in the last column of the table. Note that there is a potential for minor errors in the matching process deployed. See Annex A for more details on this measure and Annex D for information about the matching process.

Table 3

This table compares progression to HE from the state and independent sector for A level students, with selective state and other state schools/colleges shown separately for the latest three years.

**Table 3a: Estimated number and percentage of A level students who entered HE by age 19 and the percentage who progressed to the most selective HE Institutions, by independent and state school/college^[1]
Academic Years 2008/09 to 2011/12**

School/college type	Total age 17 in 2006/07	Progressed to HE by age 19 in 2008/09		of which; Most selective HE ^[2]	
		Number	% of total age 17 in 2006/07	Number	% of total age 17 in 2006/07
Independent	30,435	24,935	82%	19,005	62%
Selective state	20,305	17,995	89%	11,705	58%
Other state	215,570	145,730	68%	48,690	23%
Total State	235,875	163,725	69%	60,395	26%
Total	266,310	188,660	71%	79,400	30%

School/college type	Total age 17 in 2007/08	Progressed to HE by age 19 in 2009/10		of which; Most selective HE ^[2]	
		Number	% of total age 17 in 2007/08	Number	% of total age 17 in 2007/08
Independent	28,510	24,710	87%	18,535	65%
Selective state	23,630	21,055	89%	14,065	60%
Other state	223,280	153,425	69%	49,970	22%
Total state	246,915	174,485	71%	64,035	26%
Total	275,420	199,195	72%	82,570	30%

School/college type	Total age 17 in 2008/09	Progressed to HE by age 19 in 2010/11		of which; Most selective HE ^[2]	
		Number	% of total age 17 in 2008/09	Number	% of total age 17 in 2008/09
Independent	29,595	25,520	86%	18,845	64%
Selective state	23,915	21,580	90%	13,885	58%
Other state	240,320	164,490	68%	48,955	20%
Total state	264,230	186,065	70%	62,840	24%
Total	293,830	211,585	72%	81,685	28%

School/college type	Total age 17 in 2009/10	Progressed to HE by age 19 in 2011/12		of which; Most selective HE ^[2]	
		Number	% of total age 17 in 2009/10	Number	% of total age 17 in 2009/10
Independent	29,875	25,535	85%	18,500	62%
Selective state	25,115	22,525	90%	14,870	59%
Other state	259,535	168,365	65%	50,595	19%
Total state	284,650	190,890	67%	65,465	23%
Total	314,525	216,425	69%	83,965	27%

[1] Excludes a small number with unknown school type.

[2] The most selective are defined as the top third of HEIs when ranked by mean UCAS tariff score from the top three A level grades of entrants.

The estimated number of A level entrants to the most selective HE increased slightly in the latest year, while overall entrants to HE also increased.

This table summarises progression rates from table 3a and includes earlier years.

Table 3b: Estimated percentage of A level students who entered HE by age 19 and the percentage who progressed to the most selective HE Institutions, by independent and state school/college Academic Years 2006/07 to 2011/12

Progression rate to all HE

School/college type	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Independent	85%	83%	82%	87%	86%	85%
Selective state ^[1]	..	..	89%	89%	90%	90%
Other state ^[1]	..	..	68%	69%	68%	65%
Total state	72%	68%	69%	71%	70%	67%
All	74%	69%	71%	72%	72%	69%
Independent/ State Gap (pp)	13	16	13	16	16	18

Progression rate to the most selective HE ^[2]

School/college type	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Independent	63%	63%	62%	65%	64%	62%
Selective state ^[1]	..	..	58%	60%	58%	59%
Other state ^[1]	..	..	23%	22%	20%	19%
Total state	26%	25%	26%	26%	24%	23%
All	31%	29%	30%	30%	28%	27%
Independent/ State Gap (pp)	37	38	37	39	40	39

.. = not available

[1] Indicators to separately identify selective state schools are not available on the matched datasets before 2006/07, so progression rates to HE by age 19 are not available for these schools before 2008/09.

[2] The most selective are defined as the top third of HEIs when ranked by mean UCAS tariff score from the top three A level grades of entrants.

An estimated 67% of those who studied A levels in state schools and colleges at age 17 in 2008/09 progressed to Higher Education by age 19 in 2011/12. For independent school and college pupils the estimated progression rate was 85%. The gap between these progression rates has fluctuated between 13 and 18 percentage points from 2006/07 to 2011/12.

The estimated progression rate for state school and college pupils to the most selective Higher Education Institutions was 23% in 2011/12, which compares to 24% in the previous year. The equivalent progression rate for independent school and college pupils was 62% in 2011/12, which had fallen by 2 percentage points since 2010/11. The gap between state

and independent progression rates to the most selective institutions has fluctuated between 37 and 40 percentage points from 2006/07 to 2011/12.

Note that the student numbers shown are from matched data which has been produced for the purpose of calculating progression rates, other sources may give different student numbers. A small improvement has been made to the methodology for the identification of the most selective group of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Students with no A level points recorded on the database have been removed from the calculations. This has increased the mean scores of HEIs, but the identification of the top third most selective HEIs otherwise remains the same. See Annex B for more information on this measure and Annex D for more information on the matching procedure.

Table 4

For young graduates in full-time employment six months after graduating, this table gives graduate outcomes by social background on entry to Higher Education.

Table 4: English domiciled full-time first degree graduates in full-time employment six months after graduating: estimated percentages for Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) on entry to Higher Education and in employment Aged 20-22 in graduation year

Employment SOC^[1] of 2008/09 graduates			
SOC^[1] on entry to HE	Most advantaged (SOC 1 to 3)	Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	Total
Most advantaged (SOC 1 to 3)	68%	32%	100%
Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	64%	36%	100%
Gap (pp) ^[2]	3		

Employment SOC^[1] of 2009/10 graduates			
SOC^[1] on entry to HE	Most advantaged (SOC 1 to 3)	Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	Total
Most advantaged (SOC 1 to 3)	70%	30%	100%
Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	65%	35%	100%
Gap (pp) ^[2]	5		

Employment SOC^[1] of 2010/11 graduates^[3]			
SOC^[1] on entry to HE	Most advantaged (SOC 1 to 3)	Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	Total
Most advantaged (SOC 1 to 3)	72%	28%	100%
Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	66%	34%	100%
Gap (pp) ^[2]	6		

Employment SOC^[1] of 2011/12 graduates^[3]			
SOC^[1] on entry to HE	Most advantaged (SOC 1 to 3)	Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	Total
Most advantaged (SOC 1 to 3)	71%	29%	100%
Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	67%	33%	100%
Gap (pp) ^[2]	4		

Employment SOC^[1] of 2012/13 graduates			
SOC^[1] on entry to HE	Most advantaged (SOC 1 to 3)	Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	Total
Most advantaged (SOC 1 to 3)	73%	27%	100%
Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	67%	33%	100%
Gap (pp) ^[2]	6		

Source: HESA Student Record and DLHE survey

(pp) = percentage points

[1] Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) classifies jobs in terms of skill level and skill content. SOC 1 to 3 is sometimes used as a proxy for graduate level jobs. Figures should be treated as estimates and

considered to be broadly indicative rather than precise measures, due to data limitations. See Annex C for details.

[2] Percentage figures are rounded; gap figures are calculated from un-rounded data and therefore may not correspond to the gap between rounded percentages.

[3] A change to the UCAS question on occupation in 2008/09 means that 2010/11 and 2011/12 graduate figures are not comparable with other years. See Annex C for details.

The table covers young graduates in full-time employment six months after graduating. An estimated 73% of those who came from the most advantaged backgrounds before higher education were in the most advantaged occupation groups six months after graduating in 2012/13. 67% of those from less advantaged backgrounds were in the most advantaged occupation groups. 2010/11 and 2011/12 figures are not comparable with other years, due to a change to the UCAS question on occupation. See Annex C for details.

The analysis looks at the position six months after graduation. At this point many people have not yet reached their career destination and may not be in a graduate level job yet.

Technical Annexes

Annex A

The estimated percentages of maintained schools pupils aged 15, by free school meal status, who progressed to Higher Education by age 19

For the most recent data, the denominator used in this measure covers pupils aged 15 in 2007/08 in English maintained schools. This denominator is broken down by free school meal (FSM) status.

The numerator is calculated by identifying pupils who progressed to UK Higher Education (HE) in either 2010/11 at age 18, or in 2011/12 at age 19. HE students are those on programmes of study for which the level of instruction is above that of level 3 of the National Qualifications Framework, e.g. courses leading to the Advanced Level of the General Certificate of Education (GCE A-levels), the Advanced Level of the Vocational Certificate of Education (VCE A-levels) or the Advanced Higher Grade and Higher Grade of the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Advanced Highers/Highers).

This measure is calculated using matched data. This matches the National Pupil Database to the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) Individualised Learner Record and the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Student Record. This allows pupils to be tracked from English schools at age 15 to higher education (HE) by age 19. The measure covers HE courses at both UK Higher Education Institutions and English Further Education Colleges. It must be noted, due to the matching procedures deployed, all figures in this measure should be treated as estimates. Further details of the matching procedure can be found in Annex D.

The following table helps to demonstrate how the cohort is tracked through to entry into HE.

Academic Year	Age at start of academic year	Stage of Education
2007/08	15	GCSEs or equivalent (Key Stage 4)
2008/09	16	AS Levels or equivalent (Key Stage 5)
2009/10	17	A Levels or equivalent (Key Stage 5)
2010/11	18	Entry to HE
2011/12	19	Entry to HE (following a gap year)

Free School Meals status refers to whether or not a successful claim for Free School Meals has been made for the pupil. Those who are entitled but do not claim will not appear in the analysis. Free school meals may be claimed if parents receive any of the following:

- Income Support

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Caveats

1. There may be pupils who are eligible for FSM but do not claim for a number of reasons. Such pupils will not be classified as in receipt of FSM for the purposes of this measure.
2. Pupils may have claimed FSM in earlier school years, but not when age 15. Such pupils will not be recorded as in receipt of FSM in this measure.
3. This measure only tracks entry to HE by age 19. A number of pupils may enter HE at a later age and are not included in this measure.
4. Prior attainment is not accounted for in this measure. Many pupils will not continue their education; therefore will not hold the qualifications to progress to HE.
5. Due to the matching procedures deployed, all figures in this measure should be treated as estimates.

The following table gives the figures underlying the percentages given in table 1. Note that these figures are obtained from the matched data which has been produced for the purpose of calculating progression rates; other sources may give different pupil numbers.

**Table A: Estimated number and percentage of maintained school pupils aged 15 by Free School Meal status who entered HE by age 19
Academic Years 2006/07 to 2011/12
UK Higher Education Institutions and English Further Education Colleges**

	Pupils aged 15^[1]	% of all^[2]	Estimated number who entered HE by age 19	% of all^[2]
	in 2002/03		in 2006/07	
FSM^[3]	81,115	14%	11,405	7%
Non-FSM^[3]	492,610	86%	163,955	93%
All	573,730	100%	175,360	100%
	in 2003/04		in 2007/08	
FSM^[3]	82,785	14%	12,550	7%
Non-FSM^[3]	508,415	86%	169,545	93%
All	591,205	100%	182,095	100%
	in 2004/05		in 2008/09	
FSM^[3]	80,320	14%	13,845	7%
Non-FSM^[3]	503,125	86%	176,240	93%
All	583,445	100%	190,085	100%
	in 2005/06		in 2009/10	
FSM^[3]	78,215	13%	14,380	7%
Non-FSM^[3]	514,860	86%	186,820	93%
Unrecorded FSM status^[4]	3,425	1%	135	-
All	596,495	100%	201,335	100%
	in 2006/07		in 2010/11	
FSM^[3]	76,990	13%	15,285	7%
Non-FSM^[3]	523,055	87%	197,140	93%
Unrecorded FSM status^[4]	3,290	1%	135	-
All	603,335	100%	212,565	100%
	in 2007/08		in 2011/12	
FSM^[3]	74,825	12%	15,585	7%
Non-FSM^[3]	522,190	87%	203,325	93%
Unrecorded FSM status^[4]	4,225	1%	215	-
All	601,235	100%	219,130	100%

- = less than 0.5%

[1] Numbers of pupils according to the matched data used to produce this table; figures may vary from other sources.

[2] Percentage figures are rounded and calculated from un-rounded data; rounded figures may appear to have inconsistencies between totals and sums of constituent parts.

[3] FSM and Non-FSM refer to whether pupils were receiving Free School Meals or not.

[4] A small number of pupils had no FSM status recorded in the data used (this coincided with the change from annual to termly census in 2005/06).

The table shows that there were an estimated 74,825 pupils who were in receipt of Free Schools Meals at age 15 in 2007/08 who represented around 12% of all 15 year olds on the matched dataset. It is estimated that around 7% of Higher Education entrants had received Free School Meals when they were aged 15. The table shows that the proportion of 15 year old pupils with Free School Meals has remained broadly steady at around 12% to 14% between 2002/03 and 2007/08. The estimated percentage of Higher Education entrants who received Free School Meals at the age of 15 has been consistent from 2006/07 to 2011/12.

Annex B

The estimated percentages of A level students, by school and college type, who progressed to higher education and the most selective higher education institutions by age 19

For the most recent data, the denominator is defined as pupils aged 17 in 2009/10 studying at least one GCE A level at English schools and colleges. This denominator is broken down by the school/college type: state, selective state or independent.

The numerator is calculated by identifying the pupils who progress to UK HE in 2010/11 at age 18, or in 2011/12 at age 19, and of those, which pupils progress to the most selective HEIs. HE students are those students on programmes of study for which the level of instruction is above that of level 3 of the National Qualifications Framework, e.g. courses leading to the Advanced Level of the General Certificate of Education (GCE A-levels), the Advanced Level of the Vocational Certificate of Education (VCE A-levels) or the Advanced Higher Grade and Higher Grade of the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Advanced Highers/Highers). This measure only covers HE courses at UK Higher Education Institutions and excludes HE courses at English Further Education Colleges.

This measure is calculated using matched data. This matches the National Pupil Database to the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) Individualised Learner Record and the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Student Record. It must be noted, due to the matching procedures deployed, all figures in this measure should be treated as estimates. Further details of the matching procedure can be found in Annex D.

The following school types make up the state school/college group in this measure: Community, Voluntary aided, Voluntary controlled, Foundation, City Technology College, Community special, Non-maintained special, Pupil referral unit, Further Education, Miscellaneous, Academies, Higher Education Institutions, Sixth form centres. Schools with sixth forms comprise selective and non-selective institutions. Information on school type comes from DfE records.

Caveats

1. Prior attainment is not accounted for in this measure. Many pupils may not achieve the required Level 3 qualifications to progress to HE.
2. Due to the matching procedures deployed, all figures in this measure should be treated as estimates.

Most Selective HE

The “most selective” Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) are defined as the top third of HEIs when ranked by mean UCAS tariff score from the top three A level grades of entrants.

This measure is calculated using matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, the Skills Funding Agency Individualised Learner Record and the Higher Education Statistics

Agency Student Record. It uses pupils aged 17 studying A levels at schools and colleges in England, who have progressed to UK HEIs by age 19. It excludes HE courses at Further Education colleges. It takes the mean UCAS tariff score from the top three A levels of these entrants to each HEI.

This is a way of grouping HEIs for statistical purposes using available information. It does not cover all students and all qualifications and is not intended as a comprehensive measure of qualifications on entry to Higher Education. Users should be aware that the Higher Education sector has a diverse mix of institutions and courses, so any grouping of HEIs has limitations as an indicator of quality.

The HEIs included in this group change every year; although 88% of HEIs remained in the top third for 6 consecutive years, from 2006/07 to 2011/12. The calculation is restricted to the top three A level attainment; pupils who study other qualifications at Key Stage 5 will be excluded. Institutions with a considerable proportion of entrants who studied a combination of A levels and other qualifications may appear to have low scores. As the analysis covers students from schools and colleges in England, some institutions in other UK countries have scores based on small numbers of students. As this measure uses matched data, all figures should be treated as estimates.

A small improvement has been made to the methodology for the identification of the most selective group of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Students with no A level points recorded on the database have been removed from the calculations. This has increased the mean scores of HEIs, but the identification of the top third most selective HEIs otherwise remains the same.

A level Grade	UCAS points
A*	140
A	120
B	100
C	80
D	60
E	40

Further information on UCAS tariff scores is available on the UCAS website:

<http://www.ucas.com/how-it-all-works/explore-your-options/entry-requirements/tariff-tables>

For each Higher Education Institution, Table B shows the estimated mean tariff score of entrants and whether the institution is included in the most selective group.

**Table B: Estimated mean UCAS tariff score from the top three A-level grades of entrants to each Higher Education Institution (HEI) by age 19 in 2011/12
From schools and colleges in England**

Institution	Mean points	Most selective group
Aberystwyth University	239.3	
Anglia Ruskin University	188.1	
Arts Institute at Bournemouth	247.2	
Aston University	285.3	MS
Bangor University	236.5	
Bath Spa University	227.3	
Birkbeck College	222.3	
Birmingham College of Food Tourism & Creative Studies	148.9	
Bishop Grosseteste University College	196.5	
Bournemouth University	243.1	
Brunel University	251.7	
Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College	186.0	
Canterbury Christ Church University	203.0	
Cardiff University	323.3	MS
Central School of Speech and Drama	280.0	MS
City University	272.2	MS
College of St Mark and St John	179.8	
Conservatoire for Dance and Drama	246.9	
Courtauld Institute of Art	363.6	MS
Coventry University	209.8	
De Montfort University	212.2	
Edge Hill University	187.7	
Glasgow Caledonian University	196.0	
Glasgow School of Art	316.7	MS
Glyndwr University	166.9	
Goldsmiths College	281.6	MS
Guildhall School of Music and Drama	277.4	MS
Harper Adams University College	216.7	
Heriot-Watt University	250.0	
Heythrop College	268.6	MS
Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine	381.1	MS
Kings College London	343.6	MS
Kingston University	204.9	
Leeds College of Art	247.4	
Leeds College of Music	249.8	
Leeds Metropolitan University	204.4	
Leeds Trinity and All Saints	195.5	
Liverpool Hope University	208.5	
Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts	231.6	
Liverpool John Moores University	214.2	
London Metropolitan University	167.0	

Institution	Mean points	Most selective group
London School of Economics and Political Science	366.7	MS
London South Bank University	159.3	
Loughborough University	308.7	MS
Manchester Metropolitan University	211.9	
Middlesex University	184.0	
Napier University	228.9	
Newman University College	194.7	
Norwich School of Art and Design	235.6	
Nottingham Trent University	239.0	
Open University	214.0	
Oxford Brookes University	256.3	
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	211.4	
Queen Mary and Westfield College	308.4	MS
Queens University of Belfast	285.0	MS
Ravensbourne College	214.5	
Robert Gordon University	218.6	
Roehampton University	206.6	
Rose Bruford College	256.8	
Royal Academy of Music	311.8	MS
Royal Agricultural College	238.4	
Royal College of Music	269.8	MS
Royal Holloway and Bedford New College	308.8	MS
Royal Northern College of Music	262.1	
Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama	270.3	MS
Royal Veterinary College	319.2	MS
School of Oriental and African Studies	319.4	MS
School of Pharmacy	325.9	MS
Scottish Agricultural College	149.1	
Sheffield Hallam University	217.5	
Southampton Solent University	191.3	
St Georges Hospital Medical School	315.4	MS
St Marys University College, Twickenham	213.0	
Staffordshire University	194.0	
Stranmillis University College	205.0	
Swansea Institute of Higher Education	174.5	
Swansea University	266.8	
Teesside University	176.5	
Thames Valley University	174.1	
Trinity Laban	246.8	
University Campus Suffolk	183.9	
University College Falmouth	244.0	
University College for the Creative Arts at Canterbury	211.2	
University College London	366.2	MS
University of Aberdeen	279.1	MS
University of Abertay Dundee	194.1	
University of Bath	347.1	MS
University of Bedfordshire	166.7	

Institution	Mean points	Most selective group
University of Birmingham	335.4	MS
University of Bolton	174.7	
University of Bradford	205.5	
University of Brighton	230.0	
University of Bristol	360.2	MS
University of Buckingham	230.3	
University of Cambridge	401.4	MS
University of Central England in Birmingham	212.3	
University of Central Lancashire	211.1	
University of Chester	212.8	
University of Chichester	205.8	
University of Cumbria	183.6	
University of Derby	184.9	
University of Dundee	264.6	
University of Durham	364.3	MS
University of East Anglia	295.8	MS
University of East London	169.2	
University of Edinburgh	345.6	MS
University of Essex	245.0	
University of Exeter	349.0	MS
University of Glamorgan	220.1	
University of Glasgow	334.4	MS
University of Gloucestershire	212.8	
University of Greenwich	183.0	
University of Hertfordshire	213.3	
University of Huddersfield	206.8	
University of Hull	248.1	
University of Keele	264.9	
University of Kent	269.5	MS
University of Lancaster	311.8	MS
University of Leeds	325.5	MS
University of Leicester	314.3	MS
University of Lincoln	224.6	
University of Liverpool	311.4	MS
University of Manchester	328.0	MS
University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne	325.2	MS
University of Northampton	188.2	
University of Northumbria at Newcastle	242.1	
University of Nottingham	329.6	MS
University of Oxford	390.6	MS
University of Paisley	179.5	
University of Plymouth	214.2	
University of Portsmouth	233.8	
University of Reading	290.6	MS
University of Salford	217.7	
University of Sheffield	338.8	MS
University of Southampton	327.9	MS

Institution	Mean points	Most selective group
University of St Andrews	366.7	MS
University of Stirling	262.7	
University of Strathclyde	268.4	MS
University of Sunderland	196.0	
University of Surrey	290.5	MS
University of Sussex	312.1	MS
University of the Arts, London	260.3	
University of the Highlands and Islands	198.8	
University of the West of England, Bristol	224.2	
University of Ulster	181.5	
University of Wales Institute, Cardiff	217.8	
University of Wales Trinity St David	186.1	
University of Wales, Newport	208.7	
University of Warwick	358.0	MS
University of Westminster	230.5	
University of Winchester	225.9	
University of Wolverhampton	161.6	
University of Worcester	208.5	
University of York	335.3	MS
Writtle College	185.2	
York St John University	217.7	

Annex C

Graduates in full-time employment six months after graduating: Estimated proportions of young graduates in different occupation classifications by social background on entry to Higher Education.

The table covers English domiciled first degree graduates who studied full-time, were aged 20 to 22 at the start of their last academic year in UK Higher Education and were in full-time employment six months after graduating. Data is taken from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Student Record, and the Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey. Only those with Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) information in both sources are covered.

The table gives the SOC groups on entry to Higher Education and in employment, split two ways into the “top three” group and the others. The background SOC on entry to Higher Education will often reflect the occupation of the student’s parents, while the employment SOC will reflect the occupation of the graduate.

SOC codes 1 to 3 are: Managers and senior officials; Professional occupations; Associate professional and technical occupations. This is a widely used approximation of graduate level occupations.

The remaining SOC codes 4 to 9 are: Administrative and secretarial occupations; Skilled trades occupations; Personal service occupations; Sales and customer service occupations; Process, plant and machine operatives; Elementary occupations.

SOC data on entry to Higher Education is collected by UCAS and appears on the HESA Student Record. It is therefore not available for students who did not apply via UCAS or did not provide this information on their UCAS application. Around 80% of young entrants have SOC details recorded.

The occupation question on the UCAS form was changed for entrants in 2008/09 and changed back in the following year. It previously asked: *if you are under 21, please give the occupation of your parent, step-parent or guardian who earns the most. If he or she is retired or unemployed, give the most recent occupation. If you are 21 or over, please give your own occupation.* For 2008/09 the age criteria was replaced with whether the applicant was in full-time education. Young entrants not in full-time education would therefore give their own occupation in 2008/09, but a parent’s occupation in other years. This may have caused a shift from most advantaged to less advantaged SOC groups, distorting the trend. 2008/09 entrants completing 3 year courses graduated in 2010/11, those who deferred entry or completed 4 year courses graduated in 2011/12. For this reason figures on 2010/11 and 2011/12 graduates are not comparable with other years. The change would have had a different impact on 2011/12 than on 2010/11, as different proportions of graduates and different courses would be affected.

The Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey, used to derive Standard Occupation Classification in employment, has a response rate of around 80%.

Not all graduates will be settled into their career path six months after graduating. Figures should be treated as estimates and considered to be broadly indicative rather than precise measures, due to data limitations.

Annex D

Details of the matching process

Tables 1, 2 and 3 use matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, the HESA Student Record and the SFA ILR.

The National Pupil Database (NPD) contains administrative data on all pupils in schools in England, collected by the Department for Education. Key Stage 1 (KS1) to Key Stage 5 (KS5) data and Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) records were matched to the Higher Education Statistics Agency's (HESA) Student Record and the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) Individualised Learner Record (ILR). The matching process allows for school pupils to be tracked through to Higher Education. It has been estimated that coverage is at least 95% of the HE students that we would most expect to be matched. Although it is not possible to know for certain - it is highly unlikely that matching errors would cause the estimate to vary by more than the level of rounding used. The match achieved is called a "fuzzy match" where we rely on names, postcodes, dates of birth, etc and there is some potential for minor errors in the matching process. For this reason, the figures are deemed estimates due to the reliability of the matching procedure used and are subsequently rounded to allow for a small margin of error that arises as result of the matching procedure deployed.

Annex E

Other widening participation measures

The measures given in the main body of this publication could be considered alongside other statistics on widening participation in Higher Education. Some other measures are described in this annex.

Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS): End of cycle report 2013

UCAS released widening participation data in this publication, including analysis of entry rates by POLAR and entry to higher tariff institutions. <http://www.ucas.com/data-analysis/key-analysis>. Entry rates give the number of students from England entering Higher Education via UCAS by age 19 as a proportion of the population of 18 year olds in England.

POLAR: Participation of Local Area (POLAR) was developed by HEFCE and classifies small areas across the UK into five groups according to their level of young participation in HE. Each of these groups represents around 20 per cent of young people and are ranked from quintile 1 (Q1) (areas with the lowest young participation rates, considered as the most disadvantaged) to quintile 5 (Q5) (highest young participation rates, considered most advantaged). This has been updated over the years to POLAR2 and POLAR3.

Higher tariff institutions: UCAS grouped institutions into 3 groups based on their average level of attainment of their accepted applicants (summarised through UCAS tariff points) in recent cycles. Each group had around a third of all UK 18 year old acceptances in recent cycles. This measure covers the group of institutions with entrants with the highest attainment.

Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA): Performance Indicators in Higher Education

HESA has published *Performance Indicators in Higher Education* since 2002/03. The latest publication is available from the HESA website:

<http://www.hesa.ac.uk/index.php/content/view/2072/141/>

In addition to data about young peoples' socio-economic class, the Performance Indicators (PIs) provide information about the proportion of entrants who are from state schools and low participation neighbourhoods. The indicator for state schools reflects the percentage of young, full-time entrants to first degrees in English Higher Education Institutions who had previously attended a school or college in the state sector.

The Low Participation Neighbourhood (LPN) indicator is the percentage of young, full-time entrants to first degree courses in English HEIs whose home area (as denoted by their postcode) is identified as being within Quintile 1 of the POLAR system. POLAR is described in the UCAS entry above. POLAR2 (Participation of Local Area 2) data is not comparable with the more recent POLAR3 data.

Table C shows widening participation measures from these sources. It is important to realise that none of these measures are directly comparable, as there are differences in definitions, coverage and data sources.

Table C: widening participation in higher education – basket of measures

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Progression by age 19							
Progression to HE by FSM status							
FSM	15%	17%	18%	20%	21%	..	..
Non-FSM	33%	35%	36%	38%	39%	..	..
Gap (pp)	18	18	18	18	18	..	..
UCAS							
Young cohort entry rates POLAR2 ^{[1][2]}							
Low Part. (Q1)	15.7%	16.9%	18.4%	19.6%	20.4%	21.3%	22.8%
High Part. (Q5)	57.0%	57.8%	59.3%	60.3%	60.7%	61.1%	61.1%
Gap (pp)	41.3	40.9	40.9	40.7	40.3	39.8	38.3
All ^[3]	33.3%	34.7%	36.3%	37.5%	38.5%	39.0%	40.0%
Entry at age 18							
UCAS							
Entry rates state school pupils ^[4]							
FSM	8.6%	9.4%	10.0%	10.1%	11.4%	11.6%	12.5%
Non-FSM	23.0%	24.1%	24.8%	24.9%	26.8%	25.6%	27.4%
Entry rates to higher tariff inst. ^{[2][5]}							
Low Part. (Q1)	2.3%	2.5%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.6%	2.9%
High Part. (Q5)	20.3%	20.5%	19.8%	19.4%	19.4%	20.9%	21.7%
Young (under 21) entry							
HESA Performance Indicators^[6]							
State Schools	87.4%	88.0%	88.4%	88.2%	88.5%	89.0%	..
Lower NS-SEC ^[7]	29.4%	..	30.1%	30.7%	30.9%	32.8%	..
LPN (POLAR2) ^[2]	9.9%	10.2%	10.5%	10.6%	10.7%	11.7%	..
LPN (POLAR3) ^[2]	.	.	9.6%	10.0%	10.2%	10.9%	..

. not applicable .. not available

[1] Young cohort entry rates (aged 18 or 19 on entry) by POLAR2 groups for England. The entry rates give students from England entering Higher Education via UCAS by age 19 as a proportion of the population of 18 year olds in England, based on ONS and HEFCE data. From Figure 58 of UCAS End of cycle report 2013.

[2] Entry rates for Quintile 1 low participation and Quintile 5 high participation areas by POLAR. See text for description of POLAR.

[3] England young cohort entry rate from Figure 18 of UCAS End of cycle report 2013.

[4] Entry rates for English 18 year old state school pupils by Free School Meal (FSM) status at age 15. From UCAS data linked to DfE National Pupil Database data, see text for further information..From Figure 65 of UCAS End of cycle report 2013.[5] English 18 year olds, entry rates (cycle) to higher tariff institutions by POLAR2 groups. The cycle entry rates give students entering Higher Education from a UCAS application cycle as a proportion of the base population, based on ONS population estimates. From figure 62 of the UCAS End of cycle report 2013. See text for definition of higher tariff institutions.

[6] Young full-time first degree UK domiciled students in Higher Education Institutions in England.

[7] National Statistics Socio-Economic Classification 4 to 7; comparable figures for 2008/09 are not available.

Department for Education(DfE): Destinations of Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 pupils

DfE has produced education destination measures showing the percentage of students progressing to further learning in a school, further education or sixth-form college, apprenticeship, work-based learning provider or higher education institution. The KS4 measure is based on activity at academic age 16 (i.e. the year after the young person finished compulsory schooling). The KS5 measure is based on activity in the year after the young person took their A Level or equivalent qualification/s. The latest information is available from the GOV website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/series/statistics-destinations>

Details of KS5 destinations by gender, ethnicity and free-school meals status are available in the publication: *Destinations of key stage 4 and key stage 5 pupils 2011 to 2012*, which can be accessed from the same link above.

Main differences between DfE KS5 measure and BIS progression to HE by school type measure

- The DfE figures cover those in the first year after KS5 exams, the BIS figures are those entering HE by age 19. So these BIS figures take into account those who took a gap year before entering Higher Education at age 19.
- The DfE figures cover all Level 3 qualifications equivalent to A levels (excluding AS levels), BIS figures are A level only.
- DfE figures cover those entered for A levels or equivalent qualifications at ages 16 to 18 (at the start of the academic year), BIS figures cover those studying A levels aged 17 at the start of the academic year.
- DfE figures cover only those who stayed in the education destination (in this case HE) for at least the first two terms, BIS covers all entrants except those who dropped out in the first two weeks.

The latest DfE publication shows that 53% of KS5 leavers progressed to HE in 2011/12, 16% to the most selective HE. As we would expect, the BIS measures show higher proportions, as BIS look at progression by age 19, rather than the year after KS5. Also our measure looks at A level students only, rather than those taking any KS5 qualifications equivalent to A levels. BIS figures show 69% of A level students progressed to HE by age 19, 27% to the most selective.

The DfE KS5 destination Free School Meal (FSM) measure covers those KS5 leavers who had free school meals in year 11 (generally aged 15 at the start of the year). This shows 47% of KS5 students who had FSM progressed to HE in 2011/12, compared to 53% for

non-FSM. The BIS measure that looks at progression by FSM status is very different because it covers all 15 year olds, not just those who go on to complete KS5. It shows that 15 year old pupils with FSM are substantially less likely to progress to Higher Education than non-FSM pupils, whereas the DfE measure suggests that for KS5 pupils the progression rates are much closer.

Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE): Trends in young participation in higher education

HEFCE have an established programme of analysis tracking the proportion of young people from different backgrounds who enter higher education at age 18 or 19 ('young participation'), and periodically report progress on this measure. The results cover young people from England in UK Higher Education Institutions. The latest publication (October 2013) reports on trends from the cohort aged 18 in 1998/99 onwards, with provisional results (based upon applications data) for the cohort aged 18 in 2011/12:

<https://www.hefce.ac.uk/pubs/year/2013/201328/#d.en.83272>

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Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to:

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET
Tel: 020 7215 5000

If you require this publication in an alternative format, email enquiries@bis.gsi.gov.uk, or call 020 7215 5000.

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