



Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills

**WIDENING PARTICIPATION IN
HIGHER EDUCATION**

JULY 2015

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Introduction

This Official Statistics Release includes the latest information on three 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 2012/13. 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 2012/13.
- Estimated proportions of young 2013/14 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 July 2014.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/widening-participation-in-higher-education-2014>

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 15 year old pupils from state-funded schools by Free School Meal status who entered HE by age 19

Academic Years 2005/06 to 2012/13

UK Higher Education Institutions and English Further Education Colleges

Entered HE by age 19 in academic year	Estimated % who entered HE			
	FSM ^[1]	Non-FSM ^[1]	Gap (pp) ^[2]	All
2005/06	13%	33%	19	30%
2006/07 ^[3]	14%	33%	19	30%
2007/08	15%	33%	18	31%
2008/09 ^[3]	17%	35%	18	32%
2009/10	18%	36%	18	34%
2010/11	20%	38%	18	35%
2011/12	21%	39%	18	36%
2012/13	23%	40%	17	37%

pp = percentage points

[1] FSM and Non-FSM refer to whether pupils were receiving Free School Meals at age 15 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.

[3] An improvement has been made to the calculation of these figures to remove a small number counted in both HE and FE institutions. Figures in the All column for 2006/07 and 2008/09 therefore show small differences from those published previously, see Annex A for further details.

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 23% for the 2012/13 cohort. The estimated progression rate for pupils not receiving Free School Meals has risen from 33% in 2007/08 to 40% in 2012/13. The estimated gap between FSM and Non-FSM rates was 18 percentage points from 2007/08 to 2011/12 and 17 percentage points for the 2012/13 cohort.

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 2012/13 cohort progression rates by Local Authority.

Table 2: Estimated percentage of pupils from state-funded schools aged 15 in 2008/09 by Free School Meal status who entered HE in 2011/12 at age 18 or 2012/13 at age 19, by Local Authority
UK Higher Education Institutions and English further education colleges

Local Authority ^[1]	Estimated percentage who entered HE			All	% of pupils with FSM ^[4]
	FSM ^[2]	Non-FSM ^[2]	Gap (pp) ^[3]		
North East	15%	38%	23	34%	15%
Darlington	13%	41%	28	38%	10%
Durham	12%	34%	23	31%	16%
Gateshead	16%	41%	24	37%	15%
Hartlepool	19%	42%	23	38%	19%
Middlesbrough	20%	35%	14	30%	31%
Newcastle upon Tyne	14%	37%	23	33%	19%
North Tyneside	19%	39%	19	37%	8%
Northumberland	13%	39%	26	36%	10%
Redcar and Cleveland	15%	40%	25	36%	16%
South Tyneside	14%	35%	21	31%	17%
Stockton-on-Tees	16%	42%	26	38%	15%
Sunderland	14%	35%	20	32%	14%
North West	20%	42%	22	38%	16%
Blackburn with Darwen	28%	47%	18	42%	21%
Blackpool	17%	38%	21	33%	17%
Bolton	23%	43%	20	39%	19%
Bury	28%	44%	16	41%	14%
Cheshire	13%	44%	31	41%	8%
Cumbria	13%	37%	23	35%	9%
Halton	13%	35%	22	30%	23%
Knowsley	16%	26%	10	23%	31%
Lancashire	22%	45%	23	42%	10%
Liverpool	18%	43%	25	36%	29%
Manchester	26%	39%	12	34%	36%
Oldham	23%	39%	16	36%	19%
Rochdale	21%	37%	17	33%	23%
Salford	15%	34%	19	29%	21%
Sefton	19%	44%	25	40%	13%
St. Helens	16%	42%	26	38%	16%
Stockport	17%	43%	26	39%	13%
Tameside	21%	35%	15	33%	15%
Trafford	22%	53%	31	50%	10%
Warrington	13%	47%	34	44%	8%
Wigan	16%	38%	22	35%	13%
Wirral	20%	49%	29	42%	24%

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	17%	37%	20	34%	14%
Barnsley	10%	30%	20	27%	16%
Bradford	26%	39%	13	36%	23%
Calderdale	21%	45%	24	42%	12%
Doncaster	13%	32%	19	29%	14%
East Riding of Yorkshire	14%	40%	26	39%	6%
Kingston Upon Hull, City of	15%	26%	12	24%	20%
Kirklees	21%	42%	21	38%	16%
Leeds	13%	38%	24	33%	17%
North East Lincolnshire	10%	29%	19	26%	14%
North Lincolnshire	13%	34%	21	31%	10%
North Yorkshire	16%	45%	29	43%	6%
Rotherham	16%	33%	18	31%	15%
Sheffield	20%	36%	17	34%	14%
Wakefield	12%	32%	19	29%	11%
York	17%	44%	27	42%	8%
East Midlands	15%	37%	22	35%	10%
Derby	15%	36%	21	32%	14%
Derbyshire	12%	37%	26	35%	8%
Leicester	29%	41%	12	39%	18%
Leicestershire	16%	39%	23	38%	5%
Lincolnshire	12%	38%	27	36%	7%
Northamptonshire	15%	37%	22	35%	8%
Nottingham	15%	31%	16	27%	26%
Nottinghamshire	12%	35%	23	33%	11%
Rutland	7%	42%	35	41%	3%
West Midlands	22%	39%	17	37%	15%
Birmingham	30%	44%	15	39%	31%
Coventry	24%	39%	16	36%	17%
Dudley	20%	40%	20	37%	15%
Herefordshire	19%	38%	20	36%	7%
Sandwell	21%	30%	9	28%	15%
Shropshire	12%	39%	27	37%	6%
Solihull	16%	44%	28	41%	12%
Staffordshire	16%	38%	22	36%	7%
Stoke-on-Trent	13%	31%	18	28%	19%
Telford and Wrekin	17%	38%	21	35%	15%
Walsall	19%	37%	18	34%	18%
Warwickshire	13%	41%	28	38%	7%
Wolverhampton	22%	40%	18	36%	16%
Worcestershire	15%	40%	25	38%	8%

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	18%	38%	21	36%	8%
Bedfordshire	19%	41%	22	39%	8%
Cambridgeshire	14%	40%	25	38%	7%
Essex	13%	35%	22	34%	7%
Hertfordshire	23%	47%	25	46%	6%
Luton	33%	41%	8	39%	19%
Norfolk	14%	30%	16	29%	9%
Peterborough	18%	34%	16	32%	13%
Southend-on-Sea	17%	43%	26	41%	9%
Suffolk	15%	36%	21	34%	8%
Thurrock	13%	29%	16	27%	11%
London	39%	49%	11	46%	22%
Inner London	41%	49%	8	45%	35%
Camden	39%	52%	13	47%	34%
Hackney	44%	49%	5	47%	37%
Hammersmith and Fulham	40%	62%	22	54%	32%
Haringey	42%	49%	8	47%	32%
Islington	41%	41%	1	39%	34%
Kensington and Chelsea	51%	60%	9	58%	25%
Lambeth	38%	48%	10	43%	33%
Lewisham	35%	46%	11	43%	23%
Newham	44%	52%	8	48%	39%
Southwark	37%	42%	5	40%	30%
Tower Hamlets	39%	46%	7	40%	61%
Wandsworth	44%	48%	4	46%	21%
Westminster	49%	50%	1	49%	34%
Outer London	36%	50%	14	47%	16%
Barking and Dagenham	35%	40%	4	38%	25%
Barnet	38%	60%	22	56%	17%
Bexley	28%	42%	14	40%	8%
Brent	46%	60%	13	56%	22%
Bromley	21%	43%	23	41%	9%
Croydon	35%	44%	9	42%	16%
Ealing	43%	56%	13	52%	23%
Enfield	36%	55%	19	51%	22%
Greenwich	29%	37%	7	35%	22%
Harrow	45%	63%	17	59%	17%
Havering	16%	36%	20	34%	8%
Hillingdon	28%	44%	17	41%	18%
Hounslow	42%	54%	12	51%	17%
Kingston upon Thames	37%	59%	22	57%	7%
Merton	32%	43%	11	41%	13%
Redbridge	49%	61%	12	58%	16%
Richmond upon Thames	28%	48%	19	45%	13%
Sutton	27%	56%	29	54%	8%
Waltham Forest	39%	48%	9	45%	24%

Local Authority ^[1]	Estimated percentage who entered HE				% of pupils with FSM ^[4]
	FSM ^[2]	Non-FSM ^[2]	Gap (pp) ^[3]	All	
South East	15%	39%	24	37%	8%
Bracknell Forest	17%	39%	22	38%	3%
Brighton and Hove	14%	34%	20	31%	14%
Buckinghamshire	22%	54%	32	51%	7%
East Sussex	10%	33%	23	31%	9%
Hampshire	13%	38%	25	36%	6%
Isle of Wight	13%	30%	17	28%	12%
Kent	11%	39%	28	36%	8%
Medway	19%	35%	17	34%	8%
Milton Keynes	21%	40%	19	37%	12%
Oxfordshire	14%	37%	24	36%	7%
Portsmouth	15%	23%	8	22%	13%
Reading	13%	46%	34	41%	13%
Slough	37%	55%	18	52%	15%
Southampton	13%	29%	16	27%	13%
Surrey	16%	42%	26	40%	5%
West Berkshire	12%	38%	26	36%	5%
West Sussex	15%	35%	20	34%	6%
Windsor and Maidenhead	19%	47%	28	45%	6%
Wokingham	26%	49%	23	48%	4%
South West	15%	36%	21	34%	8%
Bath and North East					
Somerset	16%	41%	25	40%	6%
Bournemouth	11%	37%	25	34%	11%
Bristol, City of	15%	28%	14	26%	16%
Cornwall	18%	36%	17	34%	8%
Devon	13%	34%	21	32%	8%
Dorset	18%	35%	18	34%	6%
Gloucestershire	13%	39%	26	38%	6%
Isles of Scilly ^[5]	-	40%	-	40%	-
North Somerset	16%	40%	25	38%	7%
Plymouth	17%	36%	19	34%	11%
Poole	12%	40%	28	38%	6%
Somerset	12%	32%	20	31%	6%
South Gloucestershire	18%	33%	15	32%	5%
Swindon	9%	30%	21	27%	11%
Torbay	16%	40%	24	37%	12%
Wiltshire	14%	39%	25	38%	4%
Total England	23%	40%	17	37%	13%

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 at age 15 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 98 Local Authorities out of 149 (66%) have a larger gap between the progression rates for FSM and Non-FSM pupils than the England level gap (of 17 percentage points). The equivalent proportion of authorities in the previous year was 61%.

An Excel table associated with this publication on the webpage gives a time series of the local authority level 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.

**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 2009/10 to 2012/13**

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%

School/college type	Total age 17 in 2010/11	Progressed to HE by age 19 in 2012/13		of which; Most selective HE ^[2]	
		Number	% of total age 17 in 2010/11	Number	% of total age 17 in 2010/11
Independent	28,670	24,380	85%	18,065	63%
Selective state	24,915	22,360	90%	14,880	60%
Other state	262,990	166,505	63%	49,975	19%
Total state	287,905	188,865	66%	64,855	23%
Total	316,575	213,245	67%	82,920	26%

[1] Excludes a small number with unknown school/college type. The latest age cohort had 750 A level students with unknown school/college type, giving a total of 317,325.

[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.

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 2007/08 to 2012/13

Progression rate to all HE

School/college type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Independent	83%	82%	87%	86%	85%	85%
Selective state ^[1]	..	89%	89%	90%	90%	90%
Other state ^[1]	..	68%	69%	68%	65%	63%
Total state	68%	69%	71%	70%	67%	66%
All	69%	71%	72%	72%	69%	67%
Independent/ State Gap (pp)	16	13	16	16	18	19

Progression rate to the most selective HE ^[2]

School/college type	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Independent	63%	62%	65%	64%	62%	63%
Selective state ^[1]	..	58%	60%	58%	59%	60%
Other state ^[1]	..	23%	22%	20%	19%	19%
Total state	25%	26%	26%	24%	23%	23%
All	29%	30%	30%	28%	27%	26%
Independent/ State Gap (pp)	38	37	39	40	39	40

.. = 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 66% of those who studied A levels in state schools and colleges at age 17 in 2009/10 progressed to Higher Education by age 19 in 2012/13. For independent school and college pupils the estimated progression rate was 85%. The gap between these progression rates has risen from 13 percentage points for the 2008/09 cohort to 19 percentage points for the 2012/13 cohort.

The estimated progression rate for state school and college pupils to the most selective Higher Education Institutions was 23% in 2012/13, the same as for the previous cohort. The equivalent progression rate for independent school and college pupils was 63% in 2012/13, which had fallen by 1 percentage point since 2011/12. The gap between state and independent progression rates to the most selective institutions has fluctuated between 37 and 40 percentage points from 2007/08 to 2012/13.

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. 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 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		

Employment SOC ^[1] of 2013/14 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)	74%	26%	100%
Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	68%	32%	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 74% of those who came from the most advantaged backgrounds before higher education were in the most advantaged occupation groups six months after graduating in 2013/14. This was a rise of 1 percentage point from 2012/13. 68% of those from less advantaged backgrounds were in the most advantaged occupation groups, up 1 percentage point on the previous year. 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 2008/09 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 2011/12 at age 18, or in 2012/13 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 HE entry.

Academic Year	Age at start of academic year	Stage of Education
2008/09	15	GCSEs or equivalent (Key Stage 4)
2009/10	16	AS Levels or equivalent (Key Stage 5)
2010/11	17	A Levels or equivalent (Key Stage 5)
2011/12	18	Entry to HE
2012/13	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
- Universal 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 15 year old pupils from state-funded schools by Free School Meal status who entered HE by age 19
Academic Years 2007/08 to 2012/13
UK Higher Education Institutions and English Further Education Colleges**

	Pupils aged 15^[1]	% of all^[2]	Estimated number who entered HE by age 19^[3]	% of all^[2]
	in 2003/04		in 2007/08	
FSM^[4]	82,785	14%	12,480	7%
Non-FSM^[4]	508,415	86%	168,980	93%
All	591,205	100%	181,465	100%
	in 2004/05		in 2008/09	
FSM^[4]	80,320	14%	13,765	7%
Non-FSM^[4]	503,125	86%	175,520	93%
All	583,445	100%	189,285	100%
	in 2005/06		in 2009/10	
FSM^[4]	78,215	13%	14,300	7%
Non-FSM^[4]	514,860	86%	186,125	93%
Unrecorded FSM status^[5]	3,425	1%	135	-
All	596,495	100%	200,560	100%
	in 2006/07		in 2010/11	
FSM^[4]	76,990	13%	15,210	7%
Non-FSM^[4]	523,055	87%	196,455	93%
Unrecorded FSM status^[5]	3,290	1%	135	-
All	603,335	100%	211,800	100%
	in 2007/08		in 2011/12	
FSM^[4]	74,825	12%	15,525	7%
Non-FSM^[4]	522,190	87%	202,775	93%
Unrecorded FSM status^[5]	4,225	1%	215	-
All	601,235	100%	218,520	100%
	in 2008/09		in 2012/13	
FSM^[4]	74,205	13%	16,705	8%
Non-FSM^[4]	502,660	86%	200,150	92%
Unrecorded FSM status^[5]	4,735	1%	225	-
All	581,595	100%	217,080	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] An improvement has been made to the calculation of these figures to remove a small number counted in both HE and FE institutions. Figures for earlier years therefore show small differences from those published previously, see text for further details.

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

[5] 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 74,205 pupils who were in receipt of Free Schools Meals at age 15 in 2008/09 who represented around 13% of all 15 year olds in state-funded schools on the matched dataset. It is estimated that around 8% 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 2003/04 and 2008/09. The estimated percentage of Higher Education entrants who received Free School Meals at the age of 15 has been consistent from 2007/08 to 2011/12 and has risen slightly in the 2012/13 cohort.

An improvement has been made to the calculation of these figures to remove a small number counted in both HE and FE institutions studying HE courses. Figures for earlier years therefore show small differences from those published previously. For example the total in Higher Education from the 2011/12 cohort changed by around 610 to 218,520.

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 2010/11 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 2011/12 at age 18, or in 2012/13 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. Students with no A level points recorded on the database are excluded from the calculations that identify the most selective group of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).

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 85% of HEIs remained in the top third for 7 consecutive years, from 2006/07 to 2012/13. 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 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 2012/13
From schools and colleges in England**

Institution	Mean points	Most Selective group
Aberystwyth University	251.1	
Anglia Ruskin University	190.6	
Arts University Bournemouth	251.7	
Aston University	291.8	MS
Bangor University	249.4	
Bath Spa University	237.2	
Birkbeck College	213.4	
Birmingham City University	216.9	
Bishop Grosseteste University	190.5	
Bournemouth University	245.5	
Brunel University	259.4	
Buckinghamshire New University	183.0	
Canterbury Christ Church University	206.1	
Cardiff Metropolitan University	218.5	
Cardiff University	319.7	MS
Central School of Speech and Drama	281.7	MS
City University	281.1	MS
College of St Mark and St John	187.5	
Conservatoire for Dance and Drama	249.4	
Courtauld Institute of Art	357.7	MS
Coventry University	215.6	
De Montfort University	219.1	
Edge Hill University	198.3	
Edinburgh Napier University	224.5	
Falmouth University	240.3	
Glasgow Caledonian University	224.0	
Glasgow School of Art	309.6	MS
Glyndwr University	172.8	
Goldsmiths College	279.8	MS
Guildhall School of Music and Drama	263.0	
Harper Adams University	226.1	
Heriot-Watt University	262.2	
Heythrop College	271.4	MS
Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine	385.4	MS
Kings College London	347.1	MS
Kingston University	213.3	

Institution	Mean points	Most Selective group
Leeds College of Art	244.6	
Leeds Metropolitan University	205.4	
Leeds Trinity University	196.5	
Liverpool Hope University	214.0	
Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts	256.7	
Liverpool John Moores University	222.1	
London Metropolitan University	169.3	
London School of Economics and Political Science	370.0	MS
London South Bank University	175.9	
Loughborough University	309.2	MS
Manchester Metropolitan University	227.2	
Middlesex University	198.6	
Newman University	209.9	
Norwich University of the Arts	240.9	
Nottingham Trent University	244.3	
Open University	204.4	
Oxford Brookes University	264.1	MS
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	206.7	
Queen Mary and Westfield College	312.5	MS
Queens University of Belfast	271.4	MS
Ravensbourne	228.9	
Robert Gordon University	188.6	
Roehampton University	220.0	
Rose Bruford College	225.3	
Royal Academy of Music	284.1	MS
Royal Agricultural University	241.8	
Royal College of Music	255.6	
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	260.0	
Royal Holloway and Bedford New College	305.2	MS
Royal Northern College of Music	268.2	MS
Royal Veterinary College	317.1	MS
School of Oriental and African Studies	321.7	MS
School of Pharmacy	345.0	MS
Sheffield Hallam University	224.5	
Southampton Solent University	192.1	
SRUC	172.5	
St Georges Hospital Medical School	322.8	MS
St Marys University College	160.0	
St Marys University College, Twickenham	215.5	
Staffordshire University	190.4	
Stranmillis University College	132.0	
Swansea Institute of Higher Education	156.5	

Institution	Mean points	Most Selective group
Swansea University	276.0	MS
Teesside University	182.7	
Trinity Laban Conservatoire	247.7	
University Campus Suffolk	196.0	
University College Birmingham	149.5	
University College London	361.9	MS
University for the Creative Arts	215.6	
University of Aberdeen	281.0	MS
University of Abertay Dundee	211.4	
University of Bath	352.7	MS
University of Bedfordshire	166.1	
University of Birmingham	340.3	MS
University of Bolton	176.6	
University of Bradford	218.8	
University of Brighton	243.9	
University of Bristol	357.5	MS
University of Buckingham	244.2	
University of Cambridge	401.9	MS
University of Central Lancashire	220.6	
University of Chester	221.7	
University of Chichester	216.7	
University of Cumbria	186.9	
University of Derby	200.1	
University of Dundee	258.8	
University of Durham	365.6	MS
University of East Anglia	303.5	MS
University of East London	174.6	
University of Edinburgh	344.3	MS
University of Essex	251.6	
University of Exeter	348.0	MS
University of Glamorgan	223.0	
University of Glasgow	314.9	MS
University of Gloucestershire	214.3	
University of Greenwich	199.1	
University of Hertfordshire	224.2	
University of Huddersfield	215.5	
University of Hull	254.5	
University of Keele	274.8	MS
University of Kent	274.8	MS
University of Lancaster	331.7	MS
University of Leeds	331.2	MS
University of Leicester	312.5	MS

Institution	Mean points	Most Selective group
University of Lincoln	228.5	
University of Liverpool	320.0	MS
University of Manchester	336.4	MS
University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne	329.7	MS
University of Northampton	194.4	
University of Northumbria at Newcastle	245.8	
University of Nottingham	333.2	MS
University of Oxford	390.7	MS
University of Plymouth	223.3	
University of Portsmouth	237.0	
University of Reading	297.4	MS
University of Salford	228.2	
University of Sheffield	337.3	MS
University of Southampton	332.3	MS
University of St Andrews	359.3	MS
University of Stirling	262.9	
University of Strathclyde	229.9	
University of Sunderland	201.7	
University of Surrey	313.7	MS
University of Sussex	321.6	MS
University of the Arts, London	254.0	
University of the Highlands and Islands	225.5	
University of the West of Scotland	212.9	
University of the West of England, Bristol	228.2	
University of Ulster	212.4	
University of Wales Trinity St David	179.2	
University of Wales, Newport	214.9	
University of Warwick	363.1	MS
University of West London	170.7	
University of Westminster	233.1	
University of Winchester	233.8	
University of Wolverhampton	170.6	
University of Worcester	207.1	
University of York	340.2	MS
Writtle College	194.0	
York St John University	217.3	

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 2014

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	2014/15
Progression by age 19								
BIS								
Progression to HE by FSM status								
FSM	15%	17%	18%	20%	21%	23%	..	..
Non-FSM	33%	35%	36%	38%	39%	40%	..	..
Gap (pp)	18	18	18	18	18	17	..	..
UCAS								
Young cohort entry rates POLAR2 ^{[1][2]}								
Disadvantaged (Q1)	16.0%	17.3%	18.7%	19.8%	20.5%	21.1%	22.3%	24.2%
Advantaged (Q5)	56.8%	58.0%	59.4%	59.8%	60.0%	59.7%	58.8%	60.2%
Gap (pp)	40.8	40.7	40.7	40.0	39.5	38.6	36.5	36.0
All ^[3]	33.4%	35.0%	36.5%	37.3%	38.1%	38.2%	38.7%	40.5%
Entry at age 18								
UCAS								
Entry rates state school pupils ^[4]								
FSM	9.7%	10.8%	11.4%	11.4%	13.0%	13.1%	14.1%	15.3%
Non-FSM	24.6%	25.9%	26.4%	26.4%	28.4%	27.2%	29.1%	30.3%
Entry rates to higher tariff inst. ^{[2][5]}								
Disadvantaged (Q1)	2.3%	2.5%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.5%	2.8%	3.2%
Advantaged (Q5)	20.4%	20.5%	19.6%	19.2%	18.9%	20.1%	20.9%	21.3%
Young (under 21) entry								
HESA Performance Indicators^[6]								
State Schools	87.4%	88.0%	88.4%	88.2%	88.5%	89.0%	89.4%	..
Lower NS-SEC ^[7]	29.4%	..	30.1%	30.7%	30.9%	32.8%	33.1%	..
LPN (POLAR2) ^[2]	9.9%	10.2%	10.5%	10.6%	10.7%	11.7%	11.7%	..
LPN (POLAR3) ^[2]	..	..	9.6%	10.0%	10.2%	10.9%	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 data. From Figure 75 of UCAS End of cycle report 2014. UCAS describe cohorts by the year when aged 18, rather than 19 as in the table, so figures are under different headings to those in the UCAS publication. Some figures have changed due to revised population estimates.

[2] Entry rates for Quintile 1 disadvantaged and Quintile 5 advantaged areas by POLAR. See text for description of POLAR.

[3] England young cohort entry rate from Figure 14 of UCAS End of cycle report 2014.

[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 82 of UCAS End of cycle report 2014.

[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 figures 76 and 77 of the UCAS End of cycle report 2014. See text for definition of higher tariff institutions.

[6] Young full-time first degree UK domiciled students in Higher Education Institutions in England. For example 89.4% of entrants covered were from state schools in 2013/14.

[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 48% of KS5 leavers progressed to HE in 2012/13, 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 67% of A level students progressed to HE by age 19, with 26% 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 45% of KS5 students who had FSM progressed to HE in 2012/13, compared to 48% 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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