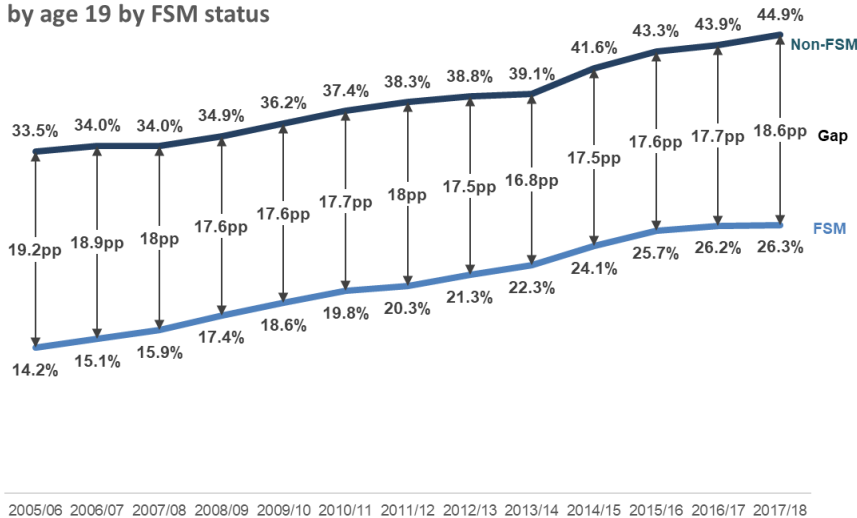




17 December 2019

The gap in progression rates between FSM and non-FSM pupils has increased

Percentage of 15 year old state-funded pupils who entered HE by age 19 by FSM status

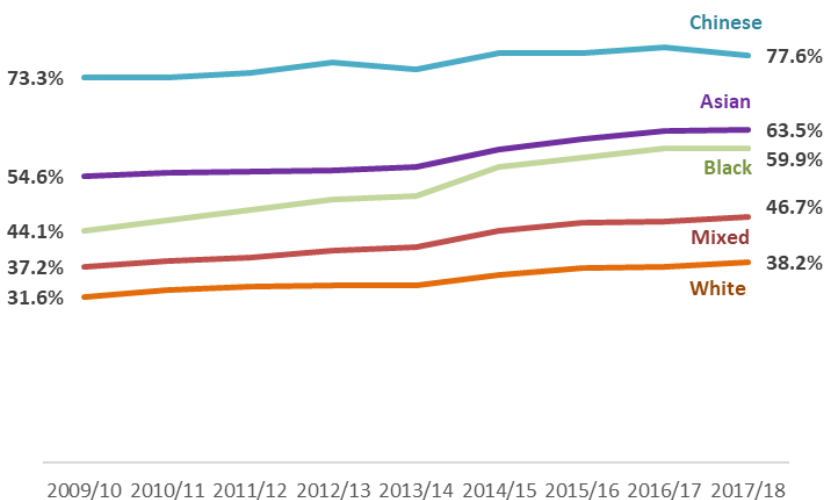


The percentage of pupils who were in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) aged 15 in 2013/14 who entered Higher Education by age 19 by 2017/18 has increased marginally from 26.2% to 26.3%. The progression rate for non-FSM pupils increased from 43.9% to 44.9%. The gap in progression rates between FSM and non-FSM pupils has increased to 18.6 from 17.7 percentage points in 2016/17. The gap has varied between 16.8 and 19.2 percentage points since 2005/06.

The 2017/18 cohort includes those who entered Higher Education aged 18 in 2016/17 or aged 19 in 2017/18.

Chinese pupils are the most likely to progress to HE and White pupils the least likely. Black pupils have seen the biggest increase in the proportion progressing to HE

Percentage of 15 year old state-funded pupils who entered HE by age 19 by Ethnic Group



Progression to Higher Education varies significantly by ethnic group.

Chinese pupils are the most likely to progress to HE by age 19 at 77.6% in 2017/18, whilst White pupils are the least likely to progress to HE at 38.2% in 2017/18.

Black pupils have seen the greatest increase in the proportion entering HE – from 44.1% in 2009/10 to 59.9% in 2017/18, however there was little improvement in the latest year.

Note that, following consultation, Alternative Providers and a revised method for identifying high tariff providers are included in this publication. Changes have been applied to the whole time series covered by this publication. More details are in the accompanying Technical Note.

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About this release

This statistics publication includes the latest information on measures of Widening Participation in Higher Education.

These include estimates of progression to higher education (HE) by age 19 for state-funded pupils by personal characteristics, including eligibility for free school meals (FSM), Gender, Ethnicity, Special Educational Need status, First Language and Children Looked After status.

Figures are also provided showing estimated percentages of A level and equivalent students, by school or college type, who progressed to HE by age 19 with breakdowns for high tariff higher education providers.

Further breakdowns include progression by POLAR disadvantage and Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework rating.

The pupil characteristic measures cover pupils from English state-funded schools and special schools who have progressed to HE in UK Higher Education Providers (including Alternative Providers) and English Further Education Colleges.

The school type measure covers students from English schools and colleges who have progressed to HE in UK Higher Education Providers (including Alternative Providers).

The publication relies on matched data and all figures should be considered as estimates.

These measures are intended to contribute to the understanding of widening participation issues as part of a range of measures. Section 12 provides information on some of the other measures available.

The publication includes a new method for identifying high tariff providers following consultation. This and other changes are set out in more detail in the accompanying Technical Note.

This publication updates the previous release of November 2018:

[Widening Participation in Higher Education 2018](#)

In this publication

The following tables are included in this publication: Main Tables (Excel .xlsx)

The accompanying Technical Note document provides information on the data sources, their coverage and quality and explains the methodology used in producing the data.

Prior attainment

Variations in progression to HE by student characteristics can largely be explained by prior attainment.

Feedback

We are changing how our releases look and welcome feedback on any aspect of this document at HE.statistics@education.gov.uk

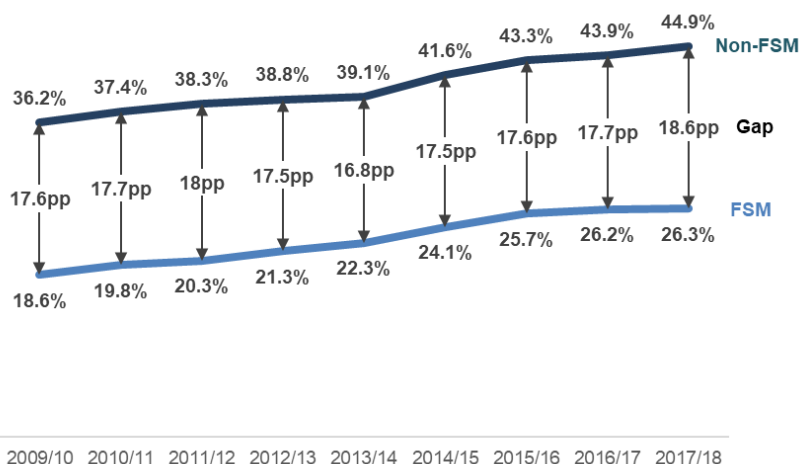
1. Progression to Higher Education by Free School Meal status (Table 1)

18.6% of state-funded and special school pupils who received Free School Meals (FSM) at age 15 entered Higher Education by age 19 by 2009/10. This rose steadily to 26.3% for the 2017/18 cohort. The progression rate for pupils not receiving Free School Meals has risen from 36.2% for the 2009/10 cohort to 44.9% for the 2017/18 cohort. The gap between FSM and Non-FSM progression rates increased to 18.6 percentage points for the 2017/18 cohort, the largest gap since 2006/07.

Figure 1: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered HE by age 19 by Free School Meal status

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers and English Further Education Colleges



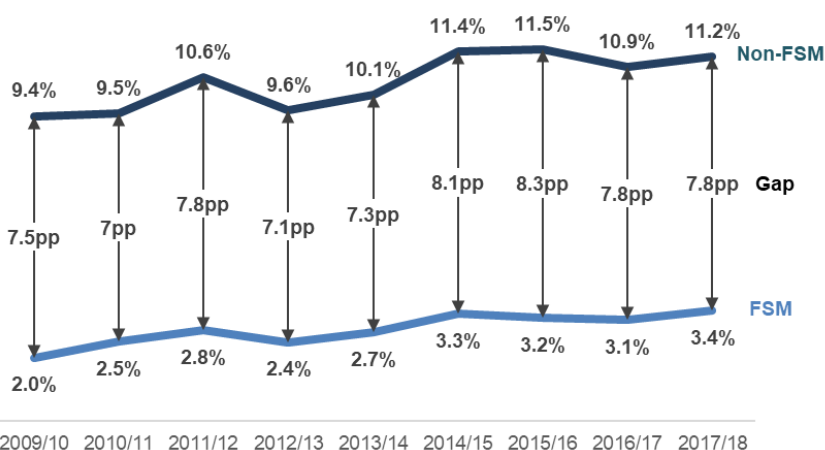
Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Student Record and ESFA Individualised Learner Record (ILR)

2.0% of state-funded and special school pupils who received Free School Meals (FSM) at age 15 entered high tariff HE by age 19 by 2009/10. The rate has increased to 3.4% for the 2017/18 cohort. The progression rate for pupils not receiving Free School Meals has risen from 9.4% for the 2009/10 cohort to 11.2% for the 2017/18 cohort. The gap between FSM and Non-FSM progression rates was 7.8 percentage points for the 2017/18 cohort, the same as the previous year.

Figure 2: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered high tariff HE providers by age 19 by Free School Meal status

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

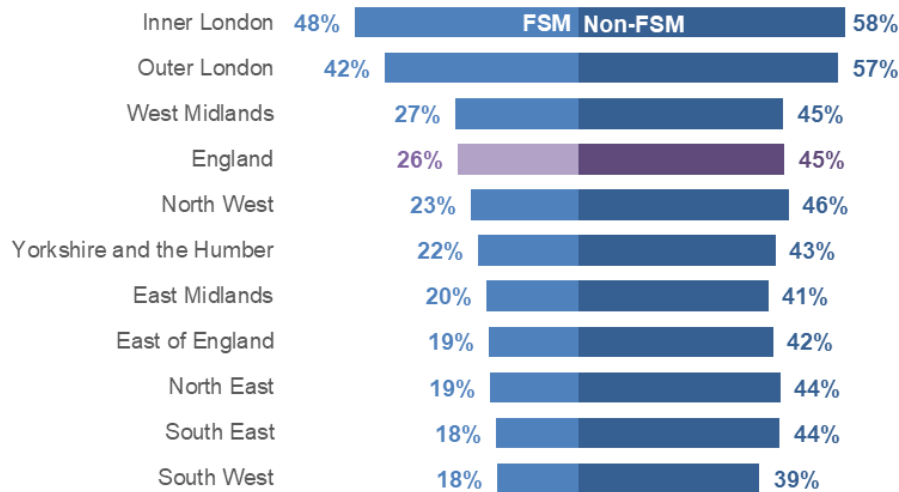
2. Progression to Higher Education/High Tariff Higher Education by Free School Meal status by Region (Tables 2 and 2a)

Progression to Higher Education varies significantly by region, in particular for those eligible for Free School Meals. 48% of those eligible for Free School Meals at age 15 in Inner London progressed to HE by age 19 compared to 18% in the South East and South West. London also has the highest progression rates for those not eligible for Free School Meals at age 15 – over 50% in both Inner London (58%) and Outer London (57%). The South West has the lowest progression rate of 39%.

Figure 3: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered HE by age 19 by region and Free School Meal status

Academic Year 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers and English Further Education Colleges



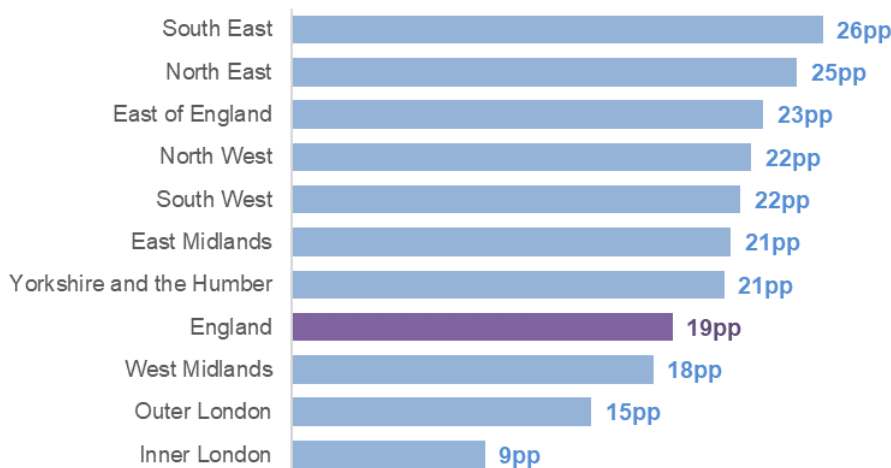
Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, HESA Student Record and ESFA ILR

The gap in progression rates between those eligible for Free School Meals at age 15 and those who were not eligible also varies by region. The gap is lowest for Inner London at 9 percentage points, followed by Outer London at 15 percentage points and the West Midlands at 18 percentage points. The South East has the largest gap in progression rates at 26 percentage points.

Figure 4: Gap in progression to HE between 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils eligible for Free School Meals and those not eligible by age 19 by region

Academic Year 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers and English Further Education Colleges



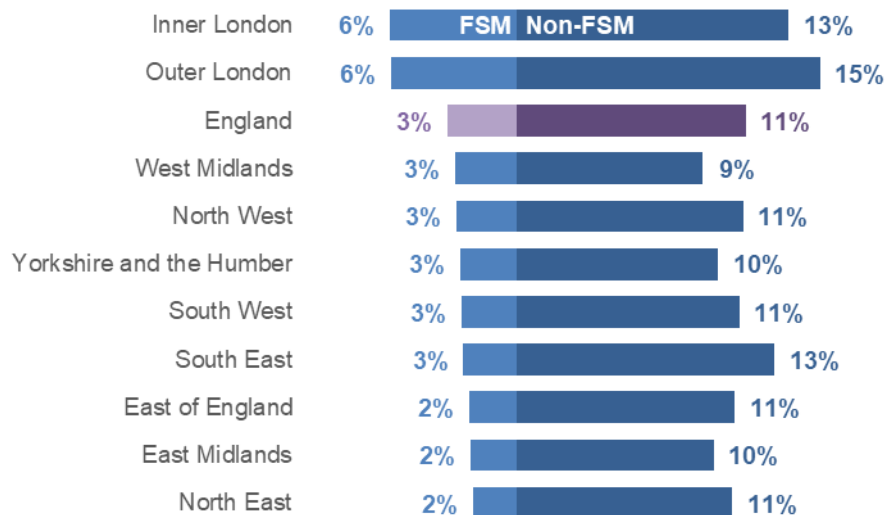
Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, HESA Student Record and ESFA ILR

Progression to high tariff HE providers also varies by region. In London, 6% of those eligible for Free School Meals at age 15 progressed to high tariff HE by age 19 – a rate three times higher than for the North East, East of England and East Midlands (all 2%). London also has the highest progression rates for those not eligible for Free School Meals at age 15 – 15% in Outer London and 13% in Inner London. The West Midlands has the lowest progression rates at 9%.

Figure 5: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered high tariff HE providers by age 19 by region and Free School Meal status

Academic Year 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers



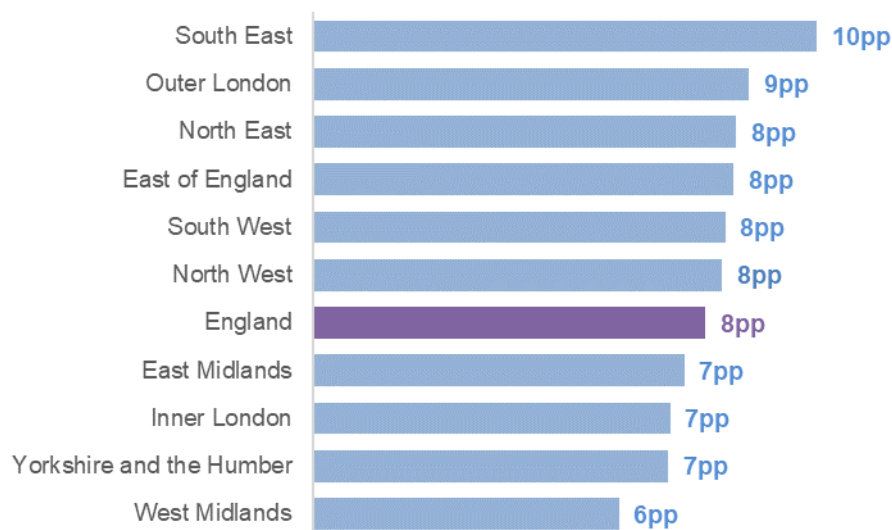
Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

The gap in progression rates to high tariff providers between those eligible for Free School Meals at age 15 and those who were not eligible also varies by region. The gap is lowest in the West Midlands at 6 percentage points. The South East has the largest gap in progression rates at 10 percentage points.

Figure 6: Gap in progression to high tariff HE providers between 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils eligible for Free School Meals and those not eligible by age 19 by region

Academic Year 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

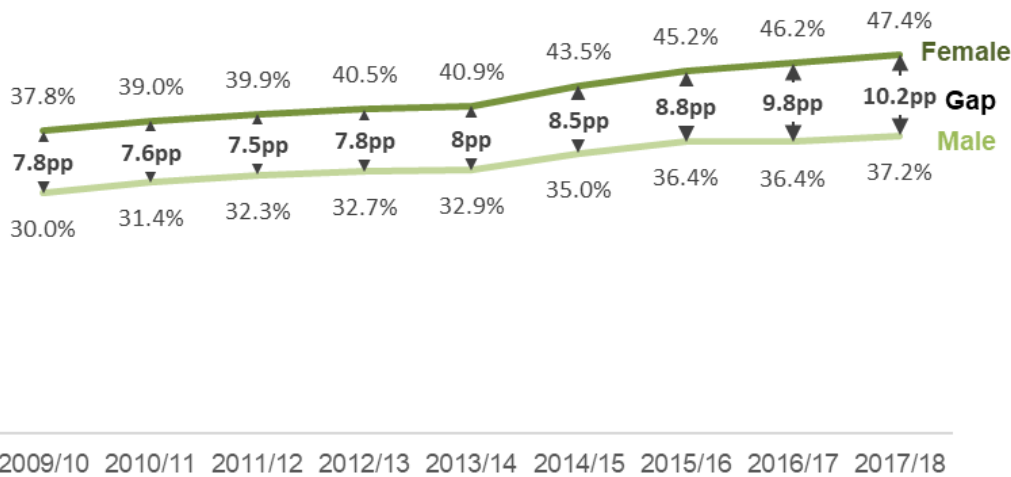
3. Progression to Higher Education by Gender (Table 3)

47.4% of female pupils entered Higher Education by age 19 by 2017/18 compared to 37.2% of males. The gap in progression rates between males and females rose from 9.8 to 10.2 percentage points between 2016/17 and 2017/18.

Figure 7: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered HE by age 19 by gender

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers and English Further Education Colleges



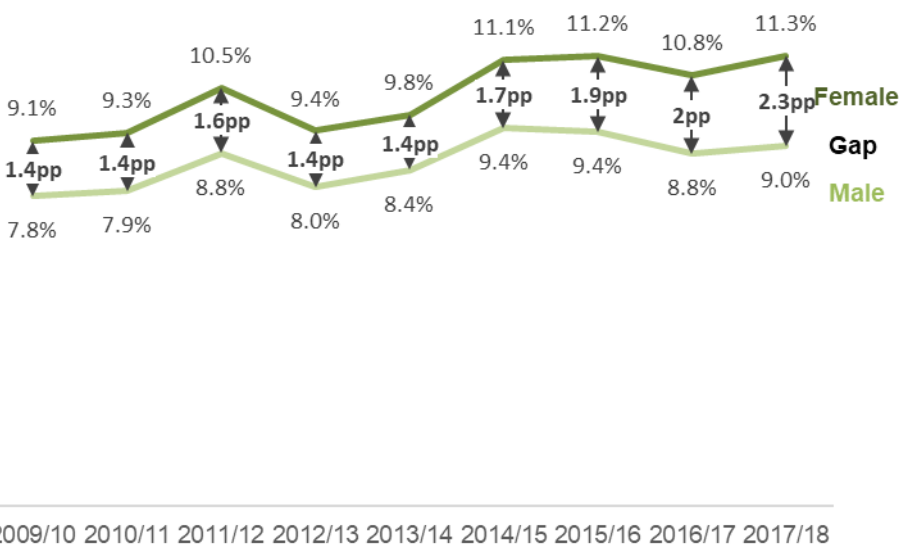
Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, HESA Student Record and ESFA ILR

11.3% of female pupils entered high tariff HE by age 19 by 2017/18 compared to 9.0% of males. The gap in progression rates between males and females rose from 2.0 to 2.3 percentage points between 2016/17 and 2017/18.

Figure 8: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered high tariff HE providers by age 19 by gender

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

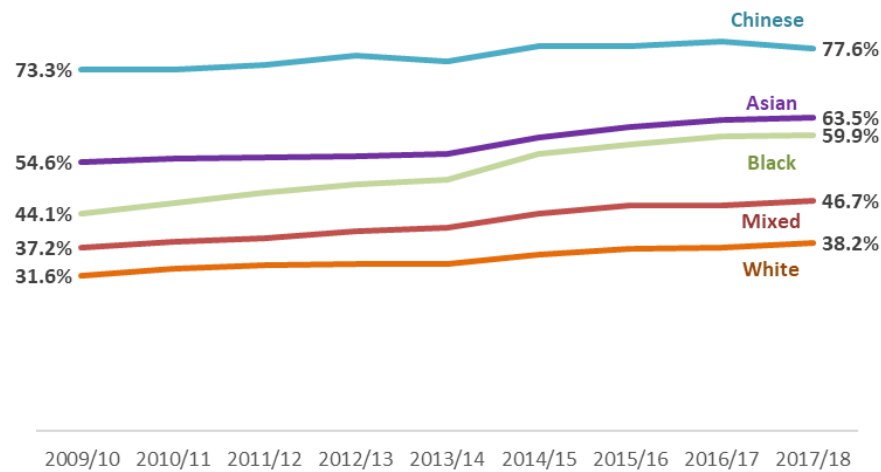
4. Progression to Higher Education by Ethnic Group (Table 4)

Progression to Higher Education varies significantly by ethnic group. Chinese pupils are the most likely to progress to HE by age 19 at 77.6% in 2017/18, whilst White pupils are the least likely to progress to HE at 38.2% in 2017/18. Black pupils have seen the greatest increase in the proportion entering HE – from 44.1% in 2009/10 to 59.9% in 2017/18, however there was little improvement in the latest year.

Figure 9: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered HE by age 19 by Ethnic Group

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers and English Further Education Colleges



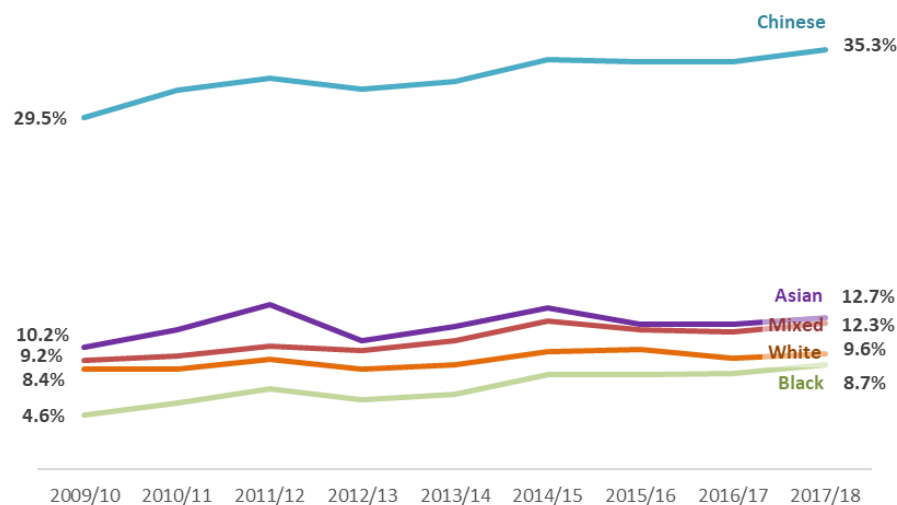
Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, HESA Student Record and ESFA ILR

Chinese pupils are also by far the most likely to progress to high tariff HE by age 19 at 35.3% in 2017/18, whilst Black pupils are the least likely to progress to high tariff HE at 8.7% in 2017/18, although this rate has almost doubled since 2009/10.

Figure 10: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered high tariff HE providers by age 19 by Ethnic Group

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

Progression rates by more detailed ethnic group breakdowns are in Table 4 and Section 8, below.

5. Progression to Higher Education by Special Educational Need (SEN) status (Table 5)

SEN Support From 2015, the School Action and School Action Plus categories have combined to form one category of SEN support. Extra or different help is given from that provided as part of the school's usual curriculum. The class teacher and special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO) may receive advice or support from outside specialists. The pupil does not have a statement or education, health and care plan.

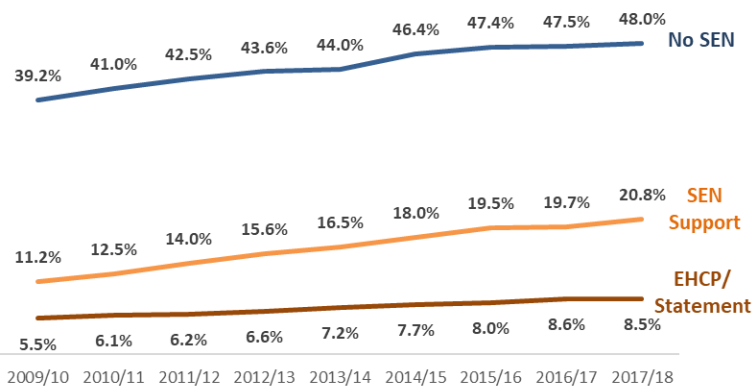
Statement of special educational needs (statement) or Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) A pupil has a statement or EHCP when a formal assessment has been made. A document is in place that sets out the child's need and the extra help they should receive.

The progression rates for pupils with Special Education Needs lag well behind those for other pupils. Just 8.5% of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or Statement of SEN progressed to HE by age 19 by 2017/18 compared to 20.8% of pupils on SEN Support and 48.0% for pupils with no SEN.

Figure 11: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered HE by age 19 by SEN status

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers and English Further Education Colleges



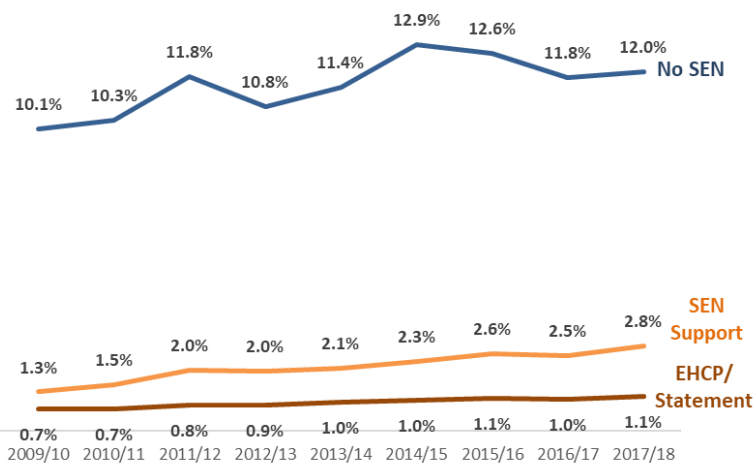
Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, HESA Student Record and ESFA ILR

Just 1.1% of pupils with and EHCP/Statement and 2.8% of those on SEN support progressed to high tariff HE in 2017/18 despite an increasing trend since 2009/10. The progression rate for other pupils was 12.0%.

Figure 12: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered the high tariff HE providers by age 19 by SEN status

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

6. Progression to Higher Education by First Language (Table 6)

English as an additional language

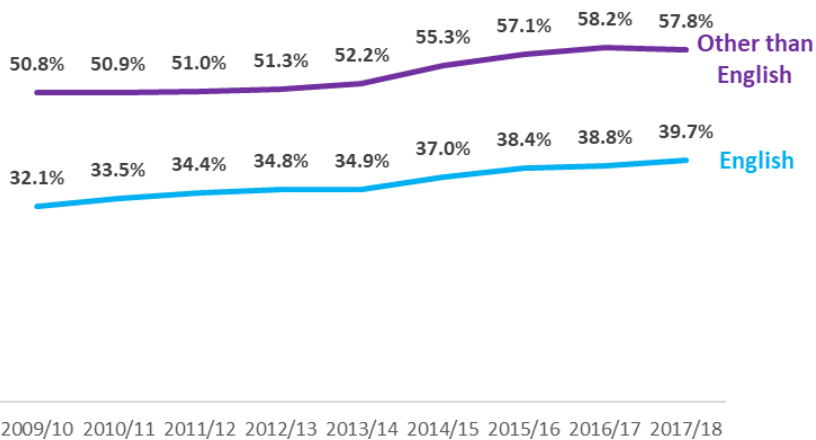
A pupil is recorded to have English as an additional language if they are exposed to a language at home that is known or believed to be other than English.

A majority of pupils with a first language other than English progress to HE by age 19. 57.8% of pupils with a first language other than English progressed to HE by age 19 by 2017/18 compared to 39.7% of pupils with English as a first language. The progression rates have increased by 7.0 percentage points and 7.6 percentage points respectively since 2009/10.

Figure 13: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered HE by age 19 by First Language

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers and English Further Education Colleges



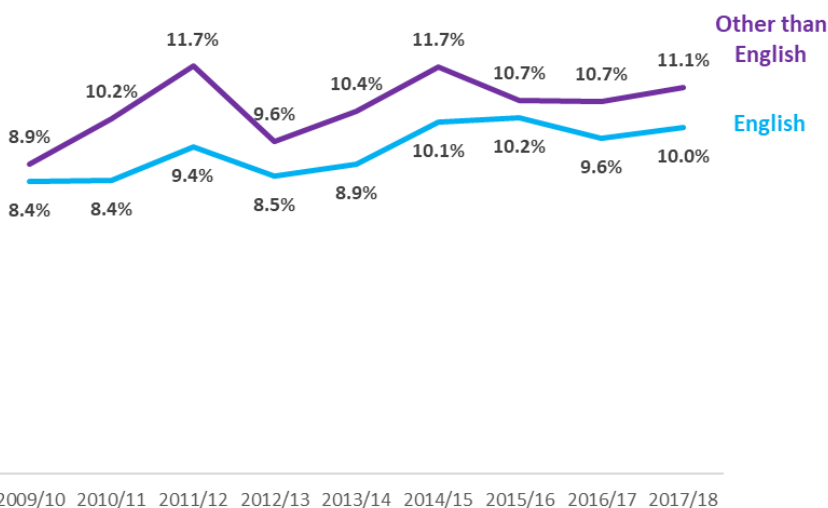
Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, HESA Student Record and ESFA ILR

Pupils with a first language other than English are also more likely to progress to high tariff HE by age 19 at 11.1% in 2017/18 compared to 10.0% of pupils with English as a first language.

Figure 14: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered high tariff HE providers by age 19 by First Language

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

7. Progression to Higher Education by Children Looked After status

(Table 7)

A **child is looked after** by a local authority under the Children Act 1989 if they fall into one of the following: is provided with accommodation, for a continuous period of more than 24 hours [Children Act 1989, Section 20 & 21]; is subject to a care order [Children Act 1989, Part IV]; or is subject to a placement order.

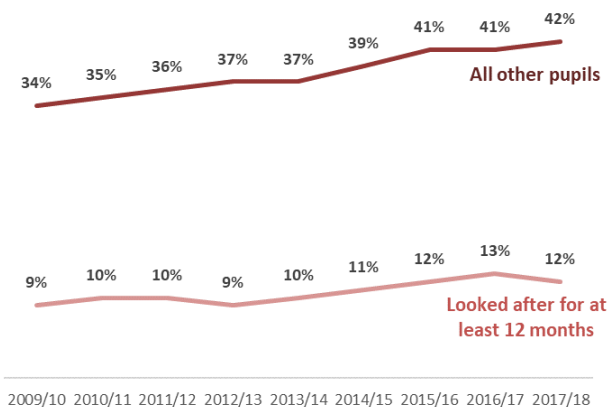
This publication presents figures for **Children looked after continuously for 12 months or more** at 31st March for state-funded and special school pupils who were 15 at the start of the academic year.

Just 12% of pupils who were looked after continuously for 12 months or more at 31st March 2014 progressed to HE by age 19 by 2017/18 compared to 42% of all other pupils. Progression rates for children looked continuously for 12 months or more decreased in the latest year after several years of increases.

Figure 15: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered HE by age 19 by Children Looked After status

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers and English Further Education Colleges



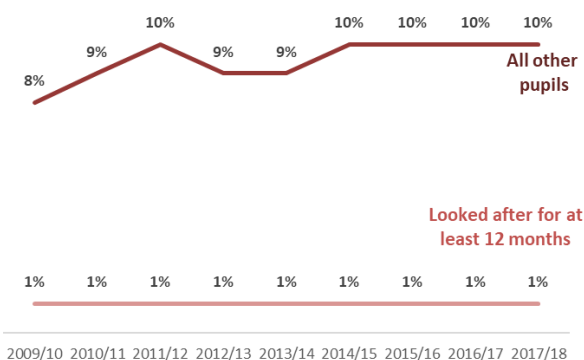
Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, HESA Student Record and ESFA ILR

The progression rates to high tariff HE for children looked after continuously for at least 12 months has remained at 1% since 2009/10, whilst 10% of other pupils progressed to high tariff HE in 2017/18.

Figure 16: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered high tariff HE providers by age 19 by Children Looked After status

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

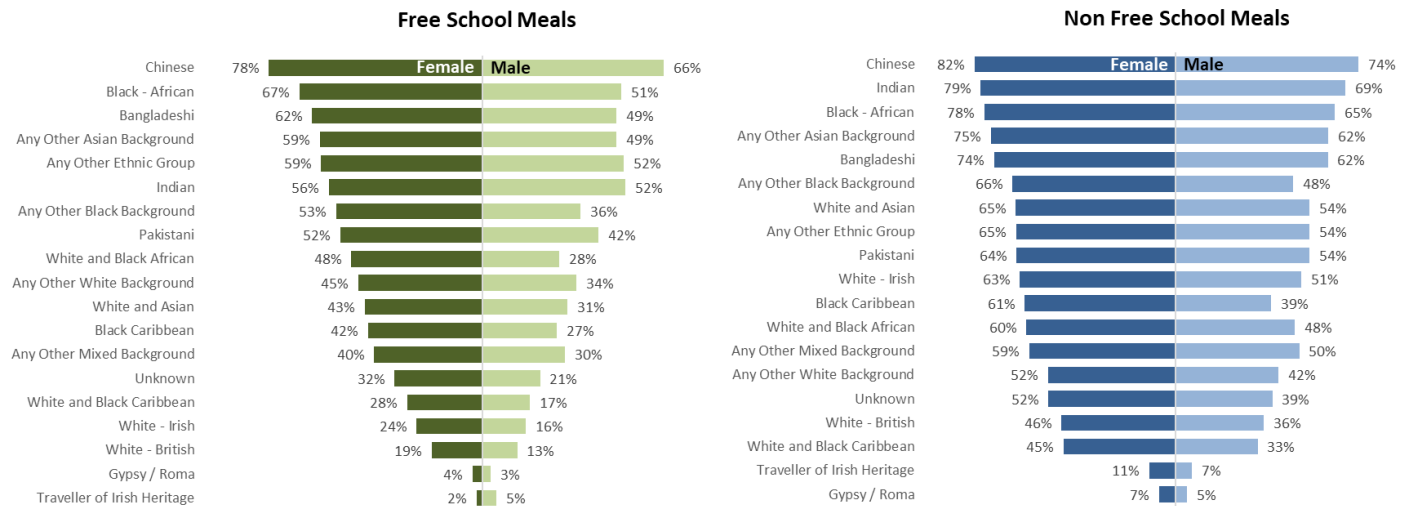
The Department also publishes figures on entry to HE in the [Children looked after in England including adoption](#) publication. The progression rates are lower than presented here as those statistics relate to care leavers known to local authorities. This publication uses a different cohort – children looked after continuously for 12 months or more at 31st March for pupils in state-funded and special schools who were 15 at the start of the academic year – and uses matched census data to identify HE participation by age 19 rather than for a single age.

8. Progression to Higher Education by Gender, Ethnic Group and Free School Meal status (Table 8 and Table 9)

Progression rates are highest for Chinese pupils regardless of gender or free school meal eligibility. Chinese females who were not eligible for free school meals had the highest progression rate at 82% in 2017/18. Indian, Black African and Bangladeshi pupils also have consistently high progression rates regardless of free school meal status and gender. The lowest progression rates are for Traveller of Irish Heritage and Gypsy Roma pupils.

Figure 17: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered HE by age 19 by Gender, Ethnic Group and Free School Meal status
Academic Year 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers and English Further Education Colleges

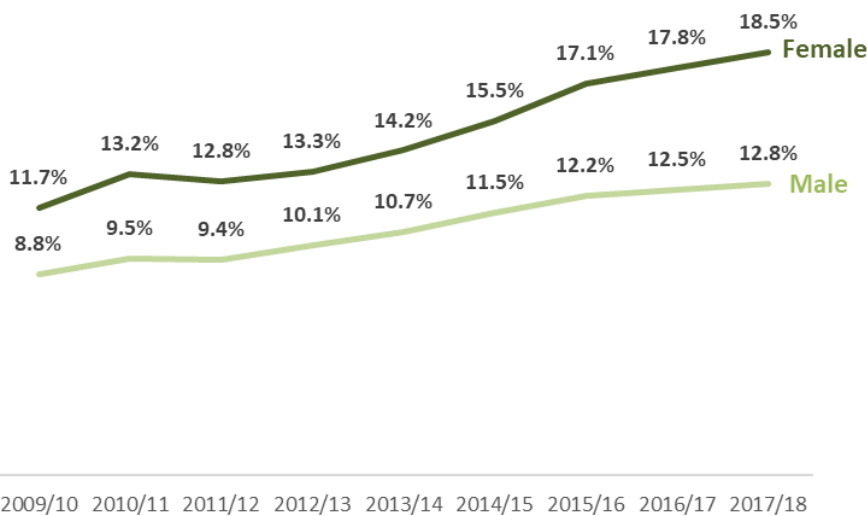


Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, HESA Student Record and ESFA ILR

Progression rates are also particularly low for White British pupils who were eligible for free school meals with rates of 18.5% for females and 12.8% for males in 2017/18. Although the progression rates remain low, there has been almost continual improvement over the time period. The progression rate has increased by 6.8 percentage points for females and 4.0 percentage points for males since 2009/10.

Figure 18: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school White British Free School Meal pupils who entered HE by age 19 by Gender
Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers and English Further Education Colleges

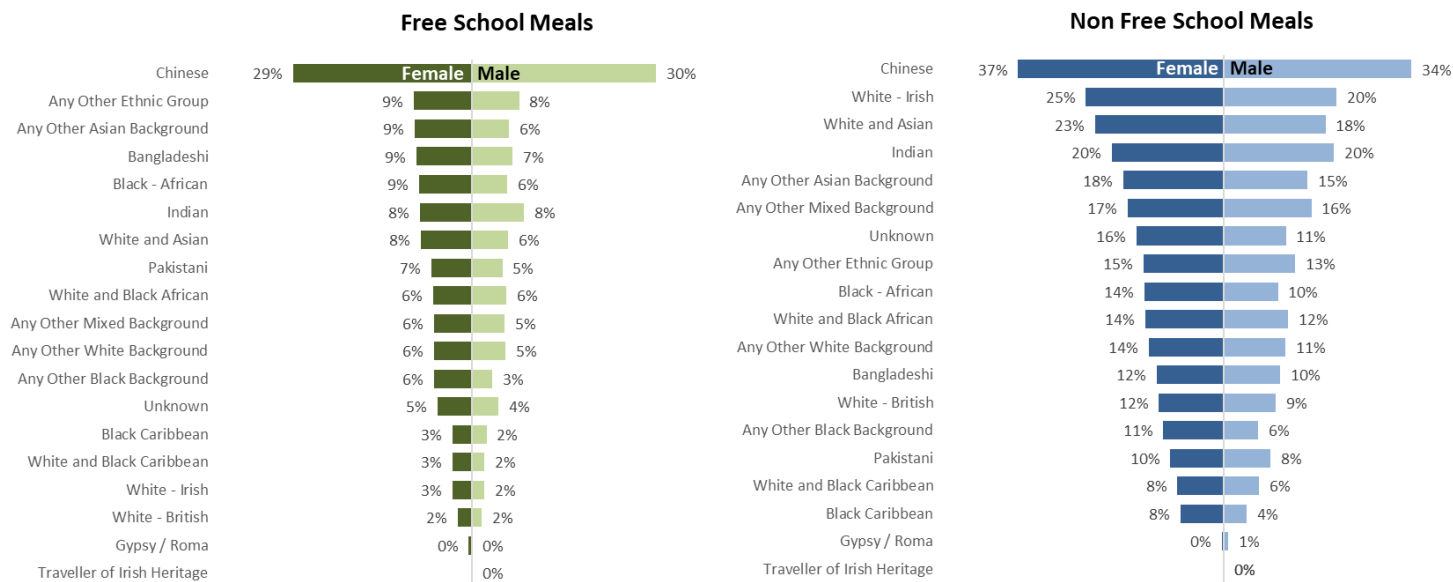


Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, HESA Student Record and ESFA ILR

Progression rates to high tariff HE providers are highest for Chinese pupils regardless of gender or free school meal eligibility. This is particular apparently for pupils who were eligible for free school meals where Chinese pupils are more than three times as likely as other pupils to progress to high tariff HE.

Figure 19: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered high tariff HE providers by age 19 by Gender, Ethnic Group and Free School Meal status
Academic Year 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

Figures for progression rates by Free School Meals status, Ethnic Group, Gender and Region can be found in Table 9 of the Excel Tables.

9. Progression to Higher Education by POLAR disadvantage (Table 10)

POLAR

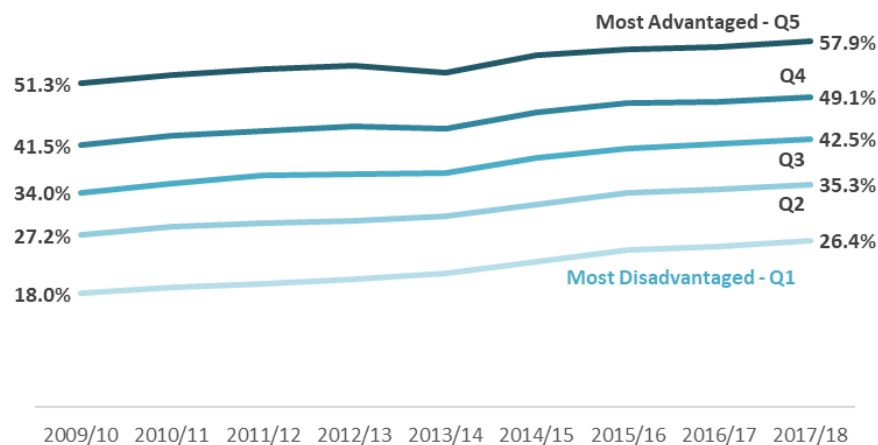
Participation of Local Areas (POLAR) was developed by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and classifies small areas across the UK into five groups according to their level of young participation in HE. Each of these groups represents around 20 per cent of young people and are ranked 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, POLAR3 and POLAR4. This publication presents information using POLAR4.

Pupils in the most advantaged quintile are more than twice as likely to progress to HE as those from the most disadvantaged quintile at 57.9% compared to 26.4% in 2017/18. There has been some narrowing of the gap over time with the progression rate for the most advantaged increasing by 6.6 percentage points since 2009/10 compared to 8.4 percentage points for the most disadvantaged.

Figure 20: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered HE by age 19 by Disadvantage Quintile (POLAR4)

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers and English Further Education Colleges



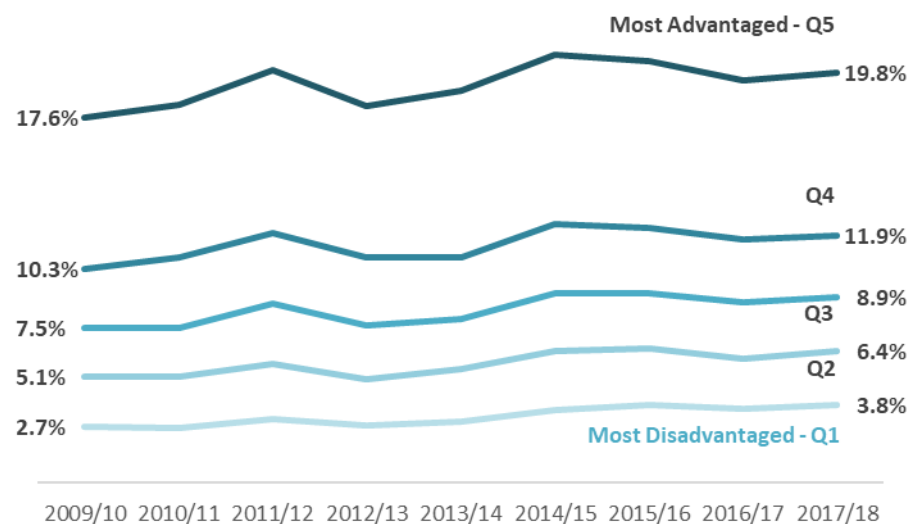
Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, HESA Student Record, ESFA ILR and OfS POLAR4 quintile

The gap widens when looking at progression to high tariff HE. The most advantaged pupils were five times more likely to progress to high tariff HE than the most disadvantaged pupils in 2017/18. However, this is down from six times more likely in 2009/10.

Figure 21: Percentage of 15 year old state-funded and special school pupils who entered high tariff HE providers by age 19 by Disadvantage Quintile (POLAR4)

Academic Years 2009/10 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, HESA Student Record and OfS POLAR4 quintile

Difference from UCAS figures

UCAS publish figures on entry to Higher Education by POLAR4 quintile. The figures differ from those in this publication as they are measuring slightly different things. The figures in this publication relate to state-funded and special school pupils only, whereas the UCAS figures include students who attended other types of school.

The UCAS figures relate to acceptances, whereas the figures in this publication relate to those identified as participating in HE, excluding entrants who dropped out in the first two weeks.

10. Progression to Higher Education/High Tariff Higher Education by school type (Tables 11ab and 11cd)

Changes to Key Stage 5 cohort

Due to qualification reforms and methodological changes in the way the Key Stage 5 cohort is counted, it is not possible to directly compare figures for HE progression rates for 2017/18 with earlier years.

For students turning 19 in 2017/18 (KS5 in 2015/16), only students who entered approved level 3 qualifications (designated as academic, applied general or tech levels) are included in the statistics. In addition, the HE progression rate estimates for 2017/18 will include students entering qualifications equivalent to one AS level or higher. In earlier years students were only included where they entered with qualifications equivalent to one A level or higher.

Changes in the framework around A-level equivalent qualifications have also led to some courses no longer being approved, effectively removing some students from our latest estimates or affecting them due to schools and colleges changing their practices in response to government reforms. These changes are described in more detail here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/a-level-and-other-16-to-18-results-2015-to-2016-revised>

We cannot quantify the impact of these changes on the latest 2017/18 progression estimates, though anticipate that they would have an impact on progression rates compared to previous years.

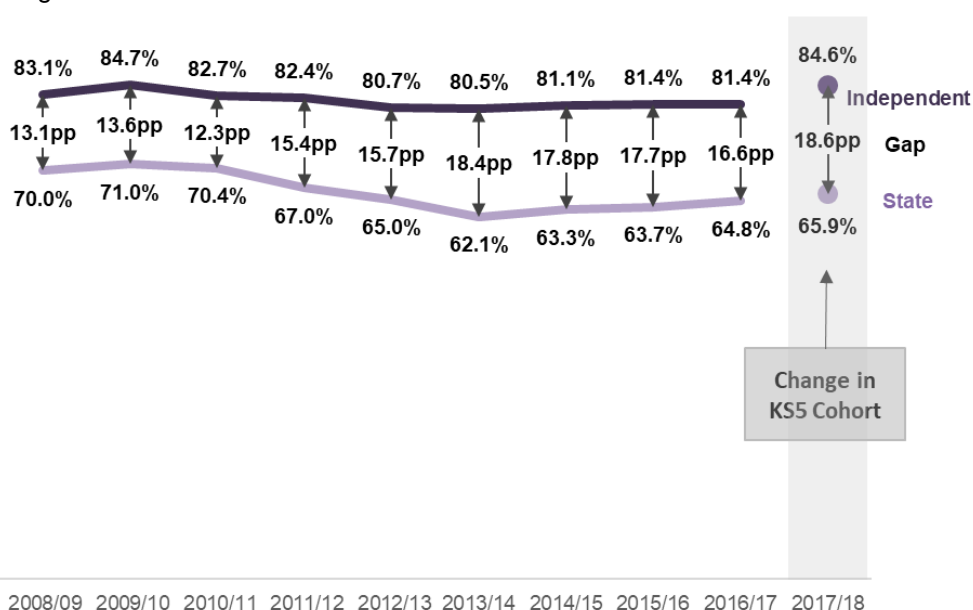
It should also be noted that because the state sector includes a greater range of qualifications that students are studying for (e.g. for those aged 17 in 2015/16, 94.0% of independent sector students studied A-levels compared to 75.8% in the state sector) these changes will have a much greater impact on HE progression rates for state school/college students.

Figures for 2017/18 are therefore NOT directly comparable with earlier years

65.9% of those who studied A level and equivalent qualifications in state schools and colleges at age 17 in 2014/15 progressed to Higher Education by age 19 by 2017/18. For independent school and college pupils the progression rate is 84.6%, 18.6 percentage points higher than for state schools and colleges.

Figure 22: Percentage of A level and equivalent students who entered HE by age 19, by independent and state school/college

Academic Years 2008/09 to 2017/18
UK Higher Education Providers



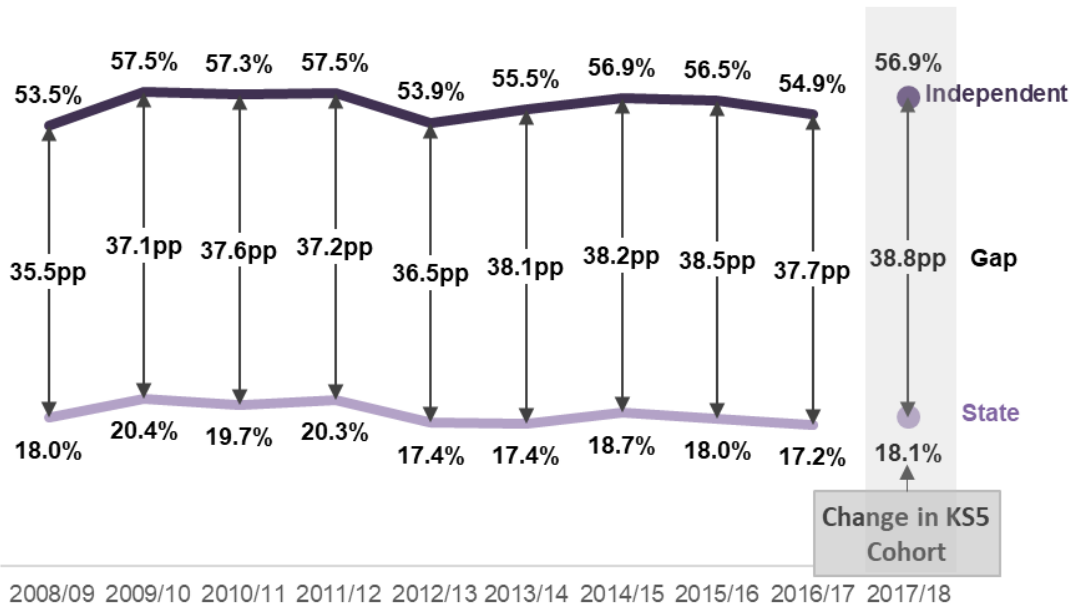
Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

The progression rate for state school and college pupils to high tariff Higher Education Providers was 18.1% for the 2017/18 cohort. The equivalent progression rate for independent school and college pupils was 56.9%, a gap of 38.8 percentage points.

Figure 23: Percentage of A level and equivalent students who progressed to high tariff HE Providers by age 19, by independent and state school/college

Academic Years 2008/09 to 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

When the analysis is restricted to those who took A levels (including those combining academic courses with vocational courses), the gap between independent and state-funded schools/colleges reduces.

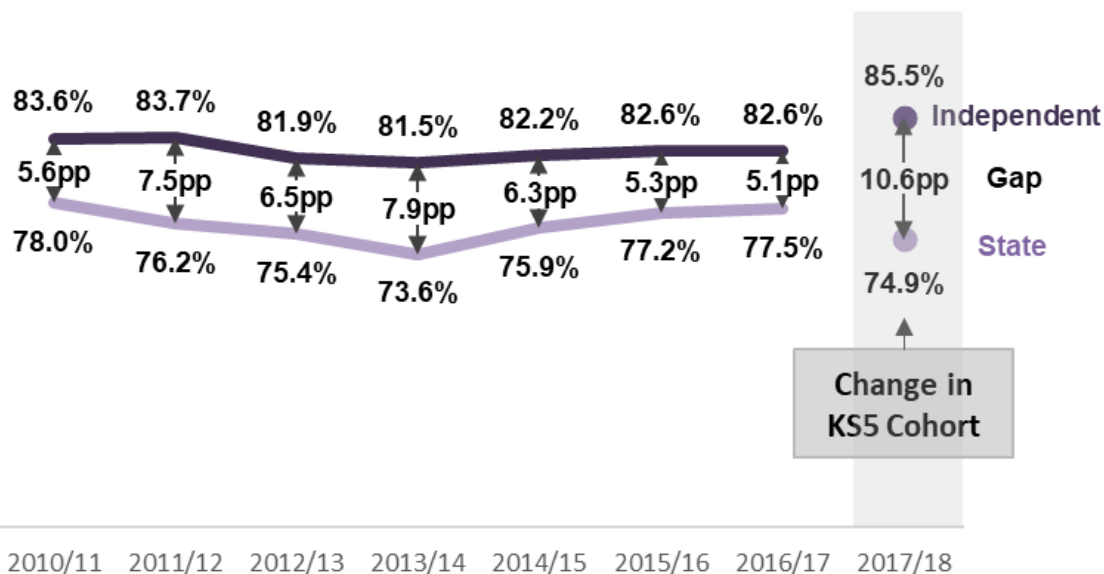
The chart on the following page (Figure 24) shows that 85.5% of pupils who took A levels in Independent schools progressed to HE, 10.6 percentage points higher than for pupils in state-funded schools/colleges (74.9%).

Changes to A level cohort

As noted above, in the latest year the cohort includes students who took a single AS level (as well as those combining one AS level with vocational qualifications). We would expect these students to have lower progression rates than in the past when the threshold for inclusion was at least one A level. The change has most impact on the state-funded students, who are more likely to study AS levels.

Figures for 2017/18 are therefore **NOT** directly comparable with earlier years.

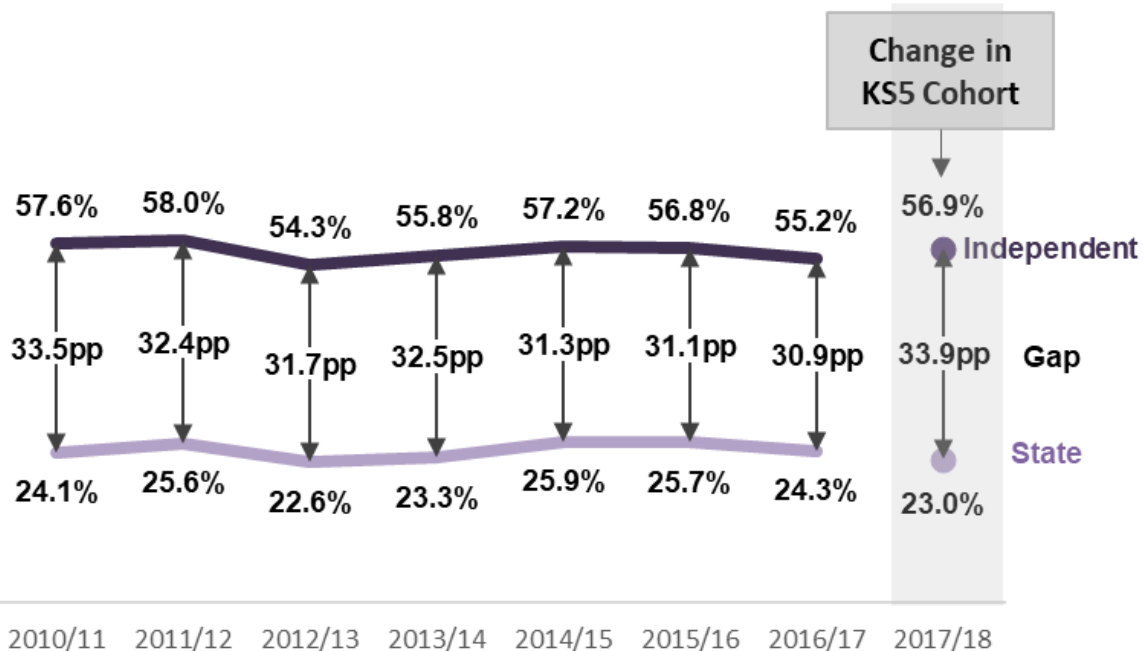
Figure 24: Percentage of A level students who entered HE by age 19 by independent and state school/college
 Academic Years 2010/11 to 2017/18
 UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

The gap however remains large when focusing on those progressing to high tariff HE. 56.9% of pupils who took A levels in Independent schools progressed to high tariff HE, 33.9 percentage points higher than those in state-funded schools/colleges (23.0%).

Figure 25: Percentage of A level students who progressed to high tariff HE Providers by age 19 by independent and state school/college
 Academic Years 2010/11 to 2017/18
 UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database and HESA Student Record

11. Students in Higher Education by Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (TEF) Award (Table 12a and 12b)

Teaching Excellence Framework

The Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (TEF) was introduced to assess, recognise and reward high quality teaching and student outcomes in higher education. Universities are awarded a rating of Gold, Silver or Bronze taking into account factors such as student satisfaction, employment outcomes and retention rates.

This publication includes the latest TEF rating held by providers as at October 2019. There are 169 providers covered by the publication with a TEF rating. Of these 35% are rated Gold, 46% Silver, 14% Bronze and 5% with a provisional award.

HE students who attended non-selective state schools are less likely to study at HE providers with a Gold award than those who attended selective state and independent schools.

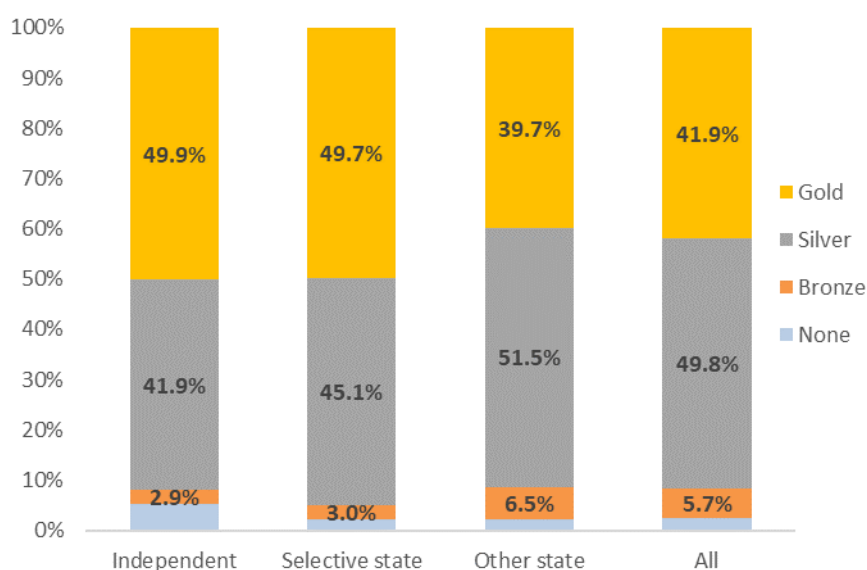
39.7% of HE students who attended non-selective state schools studied at HE providers with a Gold award in 2017/18 compared to 49.7% of those from selective state schools and 49.9% of those from independent schools.

The comparison is much closer when looking at study at HE providers with Gold or Silver awards. HE students who attended selective state schools are the most likely to attend Gold or Silver providers at 94.8%. This compares to 91.8% for those who attended independent schools and 91.2% of those who attended non-selective state schools. However, this partly reflects the fact that students who attended independent schools are more likely to study at providers who do not currently have a TEF rating.

Figure 27: HE students who entered HE by age 19 by Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework award and school type

Academic Year 2017/18

UK Higher Education Providers



Source: Matched data from the DfE National Pupil Database, HESA Student Record and TEF Rating

12. Other Widening Participation Measures

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

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

UCAS releases widening participation data in December each year, including analysis of entry rates by POLAR disadvantage and entry to higher tariff providers:

[UCAS End of Cycle Reports](#)

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

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

[HESA Performance Indicators](#)

The Performance Indicators provide information about the proportion of entrants who are from state schools and low participation neighbourhoods as well as previously provided data on young peoples' socio-economic class. 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. These measures differ from the widening participation measures as they focus on the composition of the HE student population rather than progression rates into HE.

Destinations of Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 pupils

DfE also produce 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 provider. 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 qualifications.

The latest information is available from the GOV.UK website:

[Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 Destinations](#)

Main differences between the KS5 destination measures and the progression to HE by school type measure in this Widening Participation in Higher Education (WPHE) publication:

- In the past the DfE destinations figures only covered those in the first year after KS5 exams, whilst the WPHE figures are those entering HE by age 19. An additional destination measure has now been added which looks at progression in the two years after KS5. This new measure is more comparable with the WPHE figures.
- Destinations figures cover those entered for A levels or equivalent qualifications at ages 16 to 18 (at the start of the academic year), WPHE figures cover those studying A levels or equivalent qualifications aged 17 at the start of the academic year.
- Destinations figures cover only those who stayed in the education destination (in this case HE) for at least the first two terms, WPHE covers all entrants except those who dropped out in the first two weeks.

Graduate outcomes by social background

This publication previously included figures on graduate employment by social background. These figures used the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Survey which has been cancelled. Data will not be available from the replacement Graduate Outcomes Survey until 2020.

13. Accompanying tables

The following tables are available in Excel format on the department's statistics [website](#):

National and local authority tables

- 1 Number and percentage of pupils from state-funded and special schools who entered HE/high tariff HE by age 19 by Free School Meal status
- 2 Percentage of pupils from state-funded and special schools who entered HE by age 19 by local authority by Free School Meal status
- 2a Percentage of pupils from state-funded and special schools who entered high tariff HE by age 19 by local authority by Free School Meal status
- 3 Number and percentage of pupils from state-funded and special schools who entered HE/high tariff HE by age 19 by Gender
- 4 Number and percentage of pupils from state-funded and special schools who entered HE/high tariff HE by age 19 by Ethnic Group
- 5 Number and percentage of pupils from state-funded and special schools who entered HE/high tariff HE by age 19 by Special Educational Need (SEN) status
- 6 Number and percentage of pupils from state-funded and special schools who entered HE/high tariff HE by age 19 by First Language
- 7 Number and percentage of pupils from state-funded and special schools who entered HE/high tariff HE by age 19 by Children Looked After Status
- 8 Number and percentage of pupils from state-funded and special schools who entered HE/high tariff HE by age 19 by FSM Status, Gender and Ethnic Group
- 9 Number and percentage of pupils from state-funded and special schools who entered HE/high tariff HE by age 19 by FSM Status, Gender, Ethnic Group and Region
- 10 Number and percentage of pupils from state-funded and special schools by Disadvantage (POLAR3) who entered HE/high tariff HE by age 19
- 11ab Number and percentage of A level and equivalent students who entered HE by age 19 and the percentage who progressed to high tariff HE Providers, by independent and state school/college
- 11cd Number and percentage of A level students who entered HE by age 19 and the percentage who progressed to high tariff HE Providers, by independent and state school/college
- 12a Number and percentage of A level and equivalent students who entered HE by age 19 by Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (TEF) Award by independent and state school/college
- 12b Number and percentage of HE students by Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (TEF) Rating by independent and state school/college
- A Tariff Grouping based on normalised Mean UCAS tariff score of young undergraduate entrants

When reviewing the tables, please note that:

- These measures only track entry to HE by age 19. A number of pupils may enter HE at a later age and are not included in these measures.
- Prior attainment is not accounted for in these measures. Many pupils will not continue their education; therefore will not hold the qualifications to progress to HE.
- Due to the matching procedures deployed, all figures in this measure should be treated as estimates.
- May include a small amount of double counting where pupils attend more than one school.

14. Further information is available

- A detailed Technical Note is published alongside this publication.
- Previously published figures are also available from the same website.
- Section 12 gives details of some other sources of information on Widening Participation

15. Official Statistics

These are Official Statistics and have been produced in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

This can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

The Department has a set of [statistical policies](#) in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

16. Technical information

A quality and methodology information document accompanies this publication. This provides further information on the data sources, their coverage and quality and explains the methodology used in producing the data, including how it is validated and processed.

17. Get in touch

Media enquiries

Press Office News Desk, Department for Education, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT.

Tel: 020 7783 8300

Other enquiries/feedback

John Simes, Higher Education Analysis, Department for Education, 2 St. Paul's Place, Sheffield, S1 2FJ.

Email: HE.statistics@education.gov.uk



Department for Education

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About this publication:

enquiries John Simes, Higher Education Analysis, Department for Education, 2 St. Paul's Place, Sheffield, S1 2FJ. Email: HE.statistics@education.gov.uk

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

Reference: Widening Participation in Higher Education, England, 2017/18 age cohort



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