

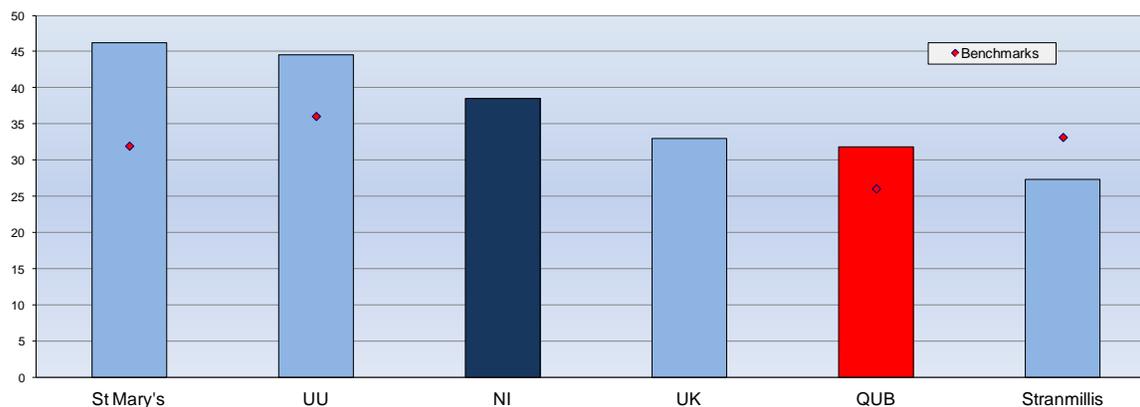
Performance Indicators in Higher Education: Widening participation

Participation of under-represented groups in Higher Education: Young full-time entrants - 2014/15

For this indicator a value higher than the benchmark indicates that an institution is performing better than the sector average.

(a) Percentage of Young¹ full-time first degree entrants from NS-SEC^{2,3} Classes 4, 5, 6 & 7 (Table 1, Figure 1)

Figure 1: Percentage of young full-time first degree entrants from NS-SEC Classes 4, 5, 6 & 7 - 2014/15



At NI Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), 38.5% of young full-time first degree entrants in 2014/15 were from NS-SEC groups 4 to 7, above the UK average of 33.0%.

At Queen's University of Belfast (QUB) there were 31.9% (benchmark 26.1%) of young full-time first degree entrants from NS-SEC groups 4 to 7. The University of Ulster (UU) had 44.6% (benchmark 36.1%) and St Mary's had 46.2% (benchmark 32.0%) of young full-time first degree entrants from NS-SEC groups 4 to 7. Each of these NI HEIs performed significantly⁴ above their benchmark for this indicator.

¹ See 'Contextual Information' document: Definitions - point 3.

² See 'Contextual Information': Definitions - point 1.

³ DEL refers to NS-SEC groups 5 to 7 as under-represented groups, so figures published elsewhere may not necessarily match with groups 4 to 7 used for Performance Indicators.

⁴ See 'Contextual Information': Notes - point 2.

Stranmillis had 27.4% and was performing below, but not significantly below their benchmark (33.2%) of young full-time first degree entrants from NS-SEC groups 4 to 7. The Open University (OU) (NI campuses) did not have a percentage for this indicator, as all entrants during 2014/15 were part-time.

Table 1: Percentage of young full-time first degree entrants from NS-SEC Classes 4, 5, 6 & 7 - 2014/15

	2014/15	
	Percentage	Benchmark
UK	33.0	-
NI	38.5	-
QUB	31.9 ⁺	26.1
St Mary's	46.2 ⁺	32.0
Stranmillis	27.4	33.2
UU	44.6 ⁺	36.1
OU (NI campuses)

Note: Percentages are not subject to rounding, but those calculated on populations which contain fewer than 22.5 individuals are suppressed and represented as '..'
 +/- shows that the indicator is significantly better/worse than its benchmark.

(b) Percentage of young full-time 'other undergraduate' entrants from NS-SEC Classes 4, 5, 6 & 7

At NI HEIs, 41.8% of young full-time 'other undergraduate' entrants were from NS-SEC groups 4 to 7. This compares with the UK average of 47.2%. At QUB, 43.3% (benchmark 32.5%) of young full-time other undergraduate entrants were from NS-SEC groups 4 to 7, whilst Stranmillis had 48.4% (benchmark 40.4%). Due to the small numbers only QUB and Stranmillis had a percentage for this indicator.

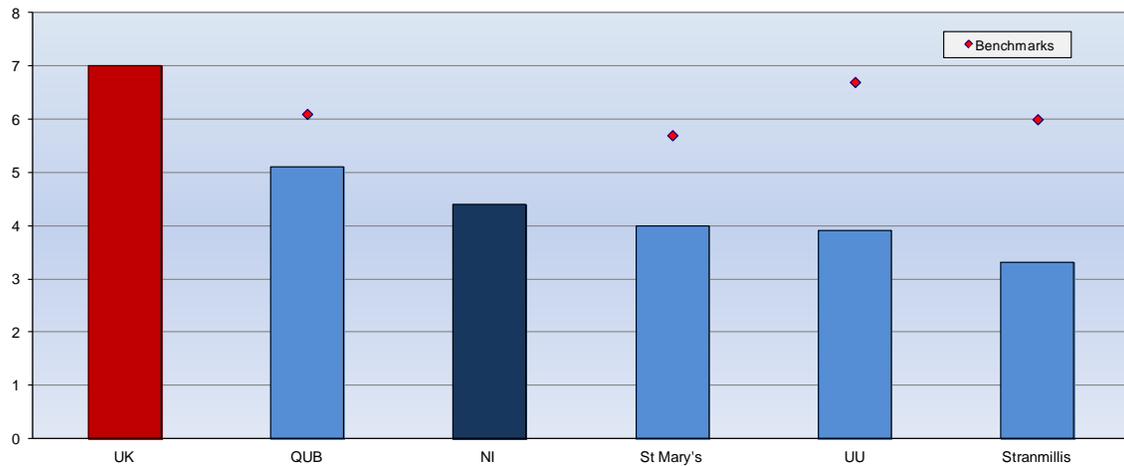
Participation of under-represented groups in Higher Education – mature and part-time entrants - 2014/15

This indicator looks at the percentage of entrants who came from low participation neighbourhoods and have no previous HE qualification. This indicator is not applicable in NI due to the methodological issues around the calculation of low participation areas at the NI institutional level (further information on this in the 'Contextual information' document, which is published alongside this factsheet on the DEL website).

Participation of students who were in receipt of Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA): All undergraduate students - 2014/15

This indicator is designed to provide information about the percentage of disabled students in the sector. For this indicator a value higher than the benchmark indicates that an institution was performing better than the sector average.

Figure 2: Percentage of full-time undergraduate students who were in receipt of Disabled Students' Allowance - 2014/15



NI HEIs were performing below the UK average of 7.0%, with 4.4% of all full-time undergraduates in receipt of DSA in 2014/15.

All NI HEIs were performing below their benchmarks for full-time undergraduates in receipt of DSA.

For part-time undergraduates, NI HEIs were performing slightly higher than the UK average of 3.4%, with 4.0% in receipt of DSA.

Table 2: Percentage of Full-time undergraduate students who were in receipt of Disabled Students' Allowance - 2014/15

	Full-time first degree		Full-time all UG		Part-time all UG	
	% DSA	Bench-mark	% DSA	Bench-mark	% DSA	Bench-mark
UK	7.0	-	7.0	-	3.4	-
NI	4.5	-	4.4	-	4.0	-
QUB	5.2	6.0	5.1	6.1	6.7	6.4
St Mary's	4.0	5.7	4.0	5.7
Stranmillis	3.7	6.0	3.3	6.0	1.6	4.0
UU	3.9	6.8	3.9	6.7	3.7	4.5
OU (NI campuses)	3.5	-

Note: Percentages are not subject to rounding, but those calculated on populations which contain fewer than 22.5 individuals are suppressed and represented as '..'

+/- shows that the indicator is significantly better/worse than its benchmark.

From the 2014/15 academic year onwards, within DEL publications, Open University students are counted within the country where their national centre is located, but individual benchmarks for these centres are not available.