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PARTICIPATION RATES IN HIGHER EDUCATION: ACADEMIC YEARS 2006/2007 – 2010/2011 (Provisional)

INTRODUCTION

1. This Statistical First Release (SFR) provides the latest provisional initial participation rates for 17-30 year old English domiciled first-time participants at UK Higher Education Institutions, English, Welsh and Scottish Further Education Colleges, alongside a historical time series.
2. The Higher Education Initial Participation Rate (HEIPR) has been published by BIS (and former Departments) since 2004, and the measure roughly equates to the probability that a seventeen year old will participate in higher education by age thirty given the age specific participation rates.
3. Due to a change in the underlying data, a new methodology was introduced which resulted in a discontinuity in the time series at 2006/07, first published in 2009. The latest figures (for 2006/07 to 2010/11) are therefore not comparable to the historical time series (see Supplementary table A). Details of the methodology changes can be found in the Notes to Editors section.
4. The figures in this SFR supersede figures released earlier as they have been updated with revised data from all sources.
5. Figures for the Higher Education Initial Participation Rate (HEIPR) are rounded to the nearest whole number to reflect the degree of accuracy inherent in the data. As this can conceal changes or trends, figures rounded to the first decimal place are also provided in the tables to inform comparisons over time.



KEY FINDINGS

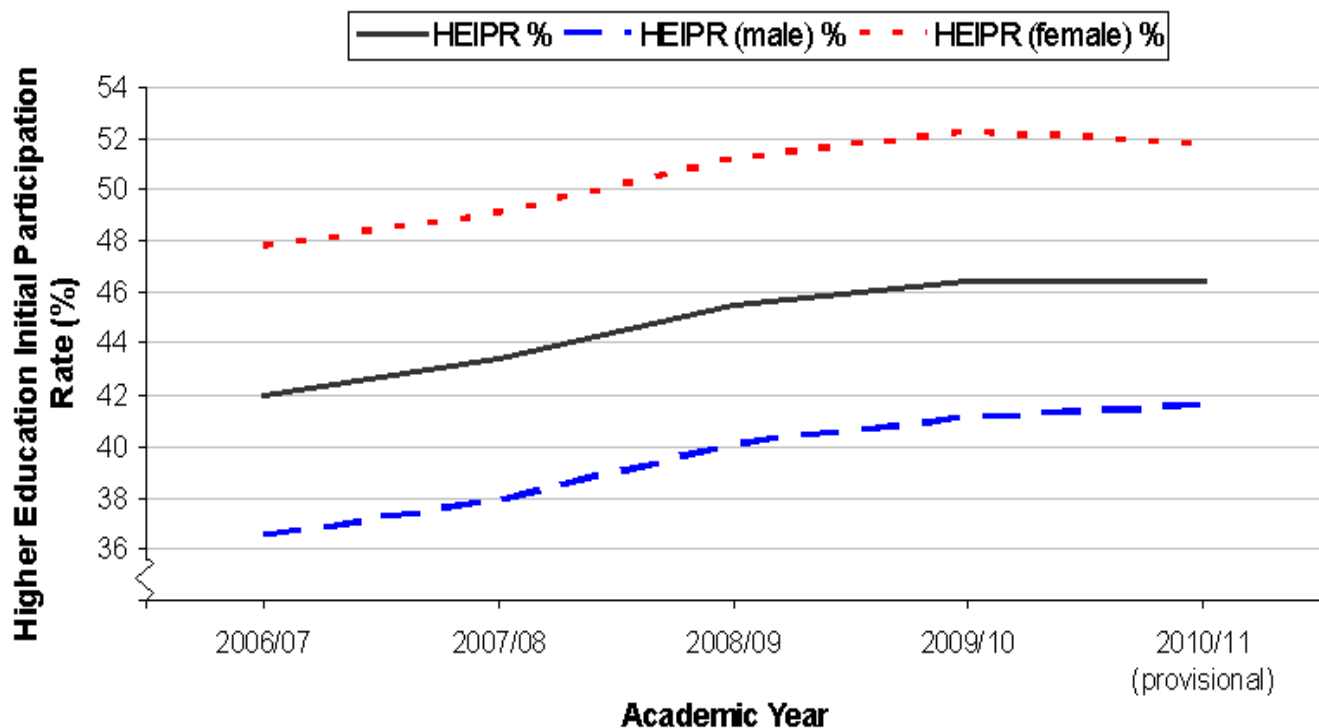
6. The provisional HEIPR for 2010/11 was 47%, no change from the final figure for 2009/10.
7. The provisional HEIPR for males for 2010/11 was 42%, up from the final figure for 2009/10 of 41%.
For females the provisional HEIPR for 2010/11 was 52%, no change from the final figure for 2009/10.
8. The provisional figure for full-time students in 2010/11 was 40%, no change from the final figure for 2009/10. The provisional figure for part-time students was 6% in 2010/11, no change from the final figure for 2009/10.
9. The provisional figures for 2010/11 on the age specific initial participation rates for males and females show that participation rates for females were higher than those for males for all ages from 17 to 30.



DISCUSSION OF TRENDS

10. The provisional HEIPR for 2010/11 was 47%, showing no change from the final figure for 2009/10. This marks the first time in recent years that the HEIPR measure hasn't had a year on year increase.
11. Despite the overall provisional HEIPR for 2010/11 not increasing, the provisional HEIPR for males for 2010/11 was 42%, up from the final figure for 2009/10 of 41%. The provisional HEIPR for females for 2010/11 was 52%, no change from the final figure for 2009/10.
12. The HEIPR measure for females has been notably higher than for males for some years, with a difference of 11 percentage points in each of the academic years from 2006/07 to 2009/10. The difference between the HEIPR measure for females and males has narrowed in 2010/11 and now stands at a difference of 10 percentage points.

Chart 1: Higher Education Initial Participation Rate by Gender: 2006/07 to 2010/11 (provisional)



Notes

Tables from the release are available in Excel format here:

http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/statistics/docs/p/participation_rates_in_he_tables.xls



TABLES

Table 1: Higher Education Initial Participation Rate (HEIPR) for English domiciled first time participants in Higher Education Courses at UK Higher Education Institutions and English, Welsh and Scottish Further Education Colleges: 2006/07 to 2010/11 (provisional)

Academic Year	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11 (Provisional)
HEIPR (male and female) %	42 (42.0)	43 (43.4)	45 (45.5)	47 (46.5)	47 (46.5)
Initial entrants (thousands)	285	296	313	323	323
HEIPR (male) %	37 (36.5)	38 (37.9)	40 (40.1)	41 (41.1)	42 (41.6)
Initial entrants (thousands)	127	133	141	147	148
HEIPR (female) %	48 (47.8)	49 (49.1)	51 (51.2)	52 (52.2)	52 (51.7)
Initial entrants (thousands)	158	163	172	177	174
HEIPR (full-time) %	35 (35.3)	37 (36.9)	39 (39.0)	40 (40.3)	40 (40.4)
Initial entrants (thousands)	240	252	268	279	279
HEIPR (part-time) %	7 (6.8)	6 (6.4)	6 (6.5)	6 (6.2)	6 (6.1)
Initial entrants (thousands)	45	44	45	44	44

Notes

Figures for the HEIPR are rounded to the nearest whole number to reflect the degree of accuracy inherent in the data. As this can conceal changes or trends, figures rounded to the nearest decimal place are also provided to inform comparisons over time. Figures rounded to the nearest decimal place are shown in parentheses. Figures for the counts of initial entrants are rounded to the nearest thousand. Rounding may result in apparent inconsistencies between totals and sums of constituent parts.

Tables from the release are available in Excel format here:

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Table 2: Higher Education Initial Participation Rates by Age: 2009/10 (final) and 2010/11 (provisional)

	2009/10			2010/11		
Age	Initial Entrants	Population	Initial Participation Rate (%)	Initial Entrants	Population	Initial Participation Rate (%)
17	3,150	668,100	0.5%	2,695	643,700	0.4%
18	154,915	687,800	22.5%	155,735	676,600	23.0%
19	77,275	696,800	11.1%	78,035	699,600	11.2%
20	23,040	694,600	3.3%	22,870	711,100	3.2%
21	12,775	717,700	1.8%	12,195	712,200	1.7%
22	8,860	718,000	1.2%	8,755	737,900	1.2%
23	7,410	723,600	1.0%	7,255	737,700	1.0%
24	6,375	740,800	0.9%	6,170	742,000	0.8%
25	5,820	724,000	0.8%	5,690	753,300	0.8%
26	5,440	708,700	0.8%	5,185	734,000	0.7%
27	5,025	690,600	0.7%	4,935	717,300	0.7%
28	4,745	706,400	0.7%	4,560	698,100	0.7%
29	4,425	708,100	0.6%	4,225	712,900	0.6%
30	4,160	682,500	0.6%	4,255	711,900	0.6%
17-30 (overall)	323,425		46.5%	322,555		46.5%

Notes

The HEIPR is defined as the sum of the initial participation rates by age over ages 17-30. In this table the overall initial participation rate and the rates by age have been rounded to one decimal place, the counts of the initial entrants have been rounded to the nearest 5 and the counts of the relevant population have been rounded to the nearest 100. Rounding may result in apparent inconsistencies between totals and sums of constituent parts.

Tables from the release are available in Excel format here:

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Table 3: Higher Education Initial Participation Rates for Males by Age 2009/10 (final) and 2010/11 (provisional)

Age	2009/10			2010/11		
	Initial Entrants	Population	Initial Participation Rate (%)	Initial Entrants	Population	Initial Participation Rate (%)
17	1,360	343,200	0.4%	1,065	331,400	0.3%
18	69,430	353,800	19.6%	70,630	348,300	20.3%
19	37,335	356,900	10.5%	38,400	360,700	10.6%
20	11,360	356,000	3.2%	11,545	365,100	3.2%
21	6,090	368,200	1.7%	5,855	365,200	1.6%
22	3,955	369,200	1.1%	3,820	379,500	1.0%
23	3,105	369,100	0.8%	3,055	381,100	0.8%
24	2,520	381,900	0.7%	2,525	380,100	0.7%
25	2,365	375,900	0.6%	2,345	385,800	0.6%
26	2,155	368,700	0.6%	2,050	377,500	0.5%
27	1,930	352,600	0.5%	1,910	370,300	0.5%
28	1,815	358,800	0.5%	1,760	355,000	0.5%
29	1,715	359,500	0.5%	1,620	361,700	0.4%
30	1,565	345,000	0.5%	1,655	359,500	0.5%
17-30 (overall)	146,705		41.1%	148,240		41.6%

Notes

The HEIPR is defined as the sum of the initial participation rates by age over ages 17-30. In this table the overall initial participation rates and the rates by age have been rounded to one decimal place, the counts of the initial entrants have been rounded to the nearest 5 and the counts of the relevant population have been rounded to the nearest 100. Rounding may result in apparent inconsistencies between totals and sums of constituent parts.

Tables from the release are available in Excel format here:

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Table 4: Higher Education Initial Participation Rates for Females by Age 2009/10 (final) and 2010/11 (provisional)

Age	2009/10			2010/11		
	Initial Entrants	Population	Initial Participation Rate (%)	Initial Entrants	Population	Initial Participation Rate (%)
17	1,790	324,600	0.6%	1,635	312,300	0.5%
18	85,480	333,500	25.6%	85,105	328,300	25.9%
19	39,930	338,900	11.8%	39,635	338,900	11.7%
20	11,675	340,900	3.4%	11,320	346,000	3.3%
21	6,685	351,400	1.9%	6,330	347,000	1.8%
22	4,900	351,000	1.4%	4,930	358,400	1.4%
23	4,305	357,800	1.2%	4,190	356,600	1.2%
24	3,850	365,400	1.1%	3,635	361,900	1.0%
25	3,455	355,300	1.0%	3,350	367,500	0.9%
26	3,280	345,500	1.0%	3,135	356,500	0.9%
27	3,100	340,900	0.9%	3,020	347,000	0.9%
28	2,930	348,600	0.8%	2,800	343,100	0.8%
29	2,715	350,500	0.8%	2,605	351,200	0.7%
30	2,600	338,500	0.8%	2,600	352,300	0.7%
17-30 (overall)	176,695		52.2%	174,280		51.7%

Notes

The HEIPR is defined as the sum of the initial participation rates by age over ages 17-30. In this table the overall initial participation rates and the rates by age have been rounded to one decimal place, the counts of the initial entrants have been rounded to the nearest 5 and the counts of the relevant population have been rounded to the nearest 100. Rounding may result in apparent inconsistencies between totals and sums of constituent parts.

Tables from the release are available in Excel format here:

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NOTES TO EDITORS

13. The HEIPR is the National Statistic which was used to measure progress towards the former target to “Increase participation in Higher Education towards 50 per cent of those aged 18 to 30...” The participation rate has been published by BIS (and former Departments) since 2004. The HEIPR roughly equates to the probability that a seventeen year old will participate in higher education by age thirty given the age specific participation rates.
14. In November 2002, the Department for Education and Skills commissioned a National Statistics Quality Review of Higher Education participation statistics. The review was carried out independently by Professor Ramsden in accordance with Office for National Statistics guidelines and was designed to ensure rigour and transparency. The report on the review was published in July 2003 and is available on the Office for National Statistics website, at: http://www.statistics.gov.uk/methods_quality/quality_review/education.asp. The report recommended that the HEIPR be a measure of initial participation in higher education.
15. In August 2004, the Department for Education and Skills commissioned a further review to assess the feasibility of disaggregating the HEIPR by ethnicity, disability, social class and region. This review was also carried out by Professor Ramsden. The report on this review was published in August 2005 and is available at: <http://www.education.gov.uk/publications/RSG/publicationDetail/Page1/RR676>
16. In December 2006, the National Audit Office published a review of the data systems underpinning target measurement in a number of Government Departments. The HEIPR methodology was reviewed as part of this process. The report is available on the National Audit Office website, at: http://www.nao.org.uk/publications/0607/third_validation_compendium_re.aspx
17. The methodology for calculating the HEIPR was revised in 2007, in line with recommendations set out in the National Statistics Quality Review and the recent National Audit Office review. The details of the revisions and their impact on the HEIPR time series were reported in Statistical First Release 8/2007, “Methodological Revisions to the Higher Education Initial Participation Rate (HEIPR)”, which is available at: <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000714/SFR08-2007.pdf>
18. The methodology for calculating the HEIPR was further revised in 2009 due to a change in the underlying data. Details of the revisions were reported in the Statistical First Release 02/2009, “Participation Rates in Higher Education: Academic Years 1999/00 to 2007/08 (Provisional)” which is



available at: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000839/SFR02-2009webversion1.pdf> .

Details of the impact of the revisions on the HEIPR time series were detailed in an appendix to the main Statistical First Release which is available at:

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000839/SFR02-2009appendix.pdf>.

19. In December 2010, the UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) published an assessment of compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics for Higher Education Statistics in England and the UK. The Participation Rates in Higher Education Statistical First Release was covered as part of this assessment. The full assessment report is available on the UKSA website at:
<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment/assessment-reports/assessment-report-77---higher-education-in-england-and-the-uk.pdf>
20. Professor Ramsden drafted a report on “Non-traditional Routes into Higher Education”, which included an estimate of 4,500 English domiciled initial entrants to higher education studying wholly overseas in 2004. In the context of the latest figure for the HEIPR, 46.5% in 2010/11 based on 323,000 English domiciled initial participants in higher education in the UK, 4,500 additional English domiciled initial entrants would equate to an increase in initial entrants of 1.4% and could potentially add roughly up to 0.7 percentage points to the HEIPR. Professor Ramsden concludes that it is not possible on the basis of available data to disaggregate these students by age and therefore to include them in the HEIPR calculation: however they should not be disregarded.
21. The same report suggested that some 900 entrants to private higher education institutions might appropriately be counted within the HEIPR. 900 additional initial entrants would equate to an increase in initial entrants of 0.3% and could potentially add roughly up to 0.2 percentage points to the HEIPR. Again, it is not possible to disaggregate these students by age and therefore to include them in the HEIPR calculation, but they should not be disregarded.
22. The Annex contains supplementary tables as follows:
 - **Supplementary Table A:** Higher Education Initial Participation Rate (HEIPR) for English domiciled first time participants in Higher Education Courses at UK Higher Education Institutions and English, Welsh and Scottish Further Education Colleges: 1999/00 to 2006/07 (based on old methodology).
 - **Supplementary Table B:** Higher Education Initial Participation Rate for 17-20 year olds (HEIPR20) for English domiciled first time participants in Higher Education Courses at UK Higher



Education Institutions and English, Welsh and Scottish Further Education Colleges, 2006/07 to 2010/11.

- **Supplementary Table C:** Higher Education Initial Participation Rate for 17-60 year olds (HEIPR60) for English domiciled first time participants in Higher Education Courses at UK Higher Education Institutions and English, Welsh and Scottish Further Education Colleges, 2006/07 to 2010/11.
- **Supplementary Table D:** Postgraduate Initial Participation Rate (PGIPR) for English domiciled 17-30 year old first time participants in Postgraduate Courses at UK Higher Education Institutions 1999/00 to 2010/11.

23. The figures in Supplementary Table A show the historical HEIPR time series, prior to the methodology change in 2006/07. These figures are not comparable to the figures in Table 1.

24. The figures in Supplementary Tables B, C and D have been derived using similar methods to the HEIPR. The figures for the HEIPR20 are the sums of the age specific initial participation rates for 17 to 20 year olds and are at least as robust as the figures for the HEIPR itself. The figures for the HEIPR60 are the sums of the age specific participation rates for 17 to 60 year olds and are not as robust as the figures for the HEIPR itself because it is not possible to check as thoroughly whether participants aged 31 to 60 are initial participants.

DEFINITIONS

25. The figures in this SFR were derived from data on Higher Education students collected from publicly funded Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the United Kingdom and from the University of Buckingham (from 2004/05) by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA), and from Further Education Colleges (FECs) in England by the Further Education Data Service, in Wales by the Welsh Government, and in Scotland by the Scottish Funding Council (SFC). Population estimates were provided by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), which have been converted to an academic year basis by the Department for Education (DfE).

26. The HEIPR counts English-domiciled 17-30 year old Higher Education students. Students are counted if they participate for at least six months on a course expected to last for at least six months, except that students are not counted if they have participated in Higher Education previously for at least six months. Students at FECs in England, Scotland and Wales are counted if they are on



courses designated as National Vocational Qualification Level 4 or above, or listed as Higher Education.

27. The HEIPR does not count English domiciled Higher Education students (as defined above):

- at FECs in Northern Ireland;
- at privately funded institutions, with the exception of the University of Buckingham from 2004/05;
- at institutions outside the UK.

Information on these students is not currently available to the Department in sufficient detail to be included in the calculations.

28. The HEIPR includes students studying via both Full-time (FT) and Part-time (PT) modes. FT study is defined by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) as attendance at an institution for periods amounting to at least 24 weeks per year, with learning activity amounting to an average of at least 21 hours per week. The PT mode refers to study which is less intensive than this definition. There is no lower limit on the intensity of PT courses for inclusion in the HEIPR.

29. In order to ensure that only initial participants are counted in the HEIPR in a given year, algorithms are applied to match back over 12 years for HE data and FE data. This method looks back over the previous years' HE and FE datasets and checks whether a student appears in these datasets, recorded as studying at HE level for a minimum period of six months. If so, they are eliminated from the calculations as they are not initial participants in the current year. Matching the 2010/11 figures back over 12 years ensures that any 30 year old in the dataset, who has at least six months' prior HE experience, can be detected all the way back to when they were 18 years old. The algorithms are provided to BIS by HEFCE.

30. 2007/08 was the first year for which this approach was possible (as 12 years' worth of HE data is available up to that point). In order to provide some time series comparison, and to demonstrate the impact of this change, the 2006/07 figure was also calculated using this methodology – although this used one fewer year of matching due to early data availability. It is estimated that the 12th year of matching could detect up to 35 additional students who have at least six months' prior HE experience. This would not affect the 2006/07 HEIPR to the level of accuracy quoted. For comparison, the 2006/07 HEIPR measure created using the new methodology can be found in Table 1 of this SFR and the 2006/07 HEIPR measure using the old methodology can be found in Supplementary Table A.



REVISIONS

31. Updates to the underlying data: As revisions and updates to the source data from HESA, Further Education Data Services, SFC, the Welsh Government and the population estimates and projections from ONS and the Government Actuary's Department (GAD) are made available at different times during the year, any revisions to the provisional figures for 2010/11 will be published as soon as the provisional figures for 2011/12 are available. The Department is planning to publish the provisional figures for 2011/12 in March 2013.



ANNEX

Supplementary Table A: Higher Education Initial Participation Rate (HEIPR) for English domiciled first time participants in Higher Education Courses at UK Higher Education Institutions and English, Welsh and Scottish Further Education Colleges: 1999/00 to 2006/07 (based on old methodology).

Academic Year	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
HEIPR (male and female) %	39 (39.2)	40 (39.6)	40 (40.2)	41 (41.1)	40 (40.3)	40 (40.1)	42 (42.4)	40 (39.8)
Initial entrants (thousands)	238	238	244	255	258	261	281	270
HEIPR (male) %	37 (37.0)	37 (36.6)	36 (36.5)	37 (36.9)	35 (35.5)	35 (35.4)	37 (37.4)	35 (34.9)
Initial entrants (thousands)	113	111	112	117	117	118	127	122
HEIPR (female) %	41 (41.4)	43 (42.6)	44 (44.0)	46 (45.6)	45 (45.5)	45 (45.0)	47 (47.3)	45 (45.0)
Initial entrants (thousands)	125	127	131	138	142	143	153	148
HEIPR (full-time) %	34 (33.6)	34 (34.4)	35 (35.0)	36 (35.6)	35 (34.6)	34 (34.4)	37 (36.6)	34 (34.0)
Initial entrants (thousands)	202	205	211	220	222	224	243	231
HEIPR (part-time) %	6 (5.6)	5 (5.2)	5 (5.1)	6 (5.6)	6 (5.8)	6 (5.7)	6 (5.9)	6 (5.9)
Initial entrants (thousands)	36	33	33	35	37	37	39	39

Notes

Figures in this table are not comparable to the later figures shown in Table 1.

Figures for the HEIPR are rounded to the nearest whole number to reflect the degree of accuracy inherent in the data. As this can conceal changes or trends, figures rounded to the nearest decimal place are also provided to inform comparisons over time. Figures rounded to the nearest decimal place are shown in parentheses. Figures for the counts of initial entrants are rounded to the nearest thousand. Rounding may result in apparent inconsistencies between totals and sums of constituent parts.

Tables from the release are available in Excel format here:

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Supplementary Table B: Higher Education Initial Participation Rate for 17-20 year olds (HEIPR20) for English domiciled first time participants in Higher Education Courses at UK Higher Education Institutions and English, Welsh and Scottish Further Education Colleges 2006/07 – 2010/11

Academic Year	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11 (Provisional)
HEIPR20 (male and female) %	33 (32.8)	34 (34.3)	36 (36.2)	37 (37.4)	38 (37.8)
Initial entrants (thousands)	223	234	248	258	259
HEIPR20 (male) %	29 (29.3)	31 (30.8)	32 (32.5)	34 (33.7)	34 (34.4)
Initial entrants (thousands)	103	108	114	119	122
HEIPR20 (female) %	37 (36.5)	38 (38.1)	40 (40.2)	41 (41.4)	41 (41.4)
Initial entrants (thousands)	120	126	134	139	138
HEIPR20 (full-time) %	31 (31.1)	33 (32.6)	34 (34.4)	36 (35.5)	36 (35.9)
Initial entrants (thousands)	211	222	236	245	246
HEIPR20 (part-time) %	2 (1.7)	2 (1.8)	2 (1.9)	2 (1.9)	2 (1.9)
Initial entrants (thousands)	11	12	13	13	13

Notes

Figures for the HEIPR20 are rounded to the nearest whole number to reflect the degree of accuracy inherent in the data. As this can conceal changes or trends, figures rounded to the nearest decimal place are also provided to inform comparisons over time. Figures rounded to the nearest decimal place are shown in parentheses. Figures for the counts of initial entrants are rounded to the nearest thousand. Rounding may result in apparent inconsistencies between totals and sums of constituent parts.

Tables from the release are available in Excel format here:

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Supplementary Table C: Higher Education Initial Participation Rate for 17-60 year olds (HEIPR60) for English domiciled first time participants in Higher Education Courses at UK Higher Education Institutions and English, Welsh and Scottish Further Education Colleges 2006/07 – 2010/11

Academic Year	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11 (Provisional)
HEIPR60 (male and female) %	52 (52.4)	53 (53.0)	55 (54.6)	55 (55.2)	55 (54.9)
Initial entrants (thousands)	360	365	378	386	382
HEIPR60 (male) %	44 (43.8)	45 (44.6)	47 (46.7)	47 (47.4)	48 (47.7)
Initial entrants (thousands)	153	157	165	169	170
HEIPR60 (female) %	61 (61.2)	62 (61.6)	63 (62.8)	63 (63.3)	62 (62.4)
Initial entrants (thousands)	207	209	213	217	212
HEIPR60 (full-time) %	37 (37.4)	39 (39.1)	41 (41.2)	43 (42.6)	43 (42.6)
Initial entrants (thousands)	256	268	284	296	294
HEIPR60 (part-time) %	15 (15.0)	14 (13.9)	13 (13.4)	13 (12.6)	12 (12.3)
Initial entrants (thousands)	105	98	94	89	87

Notes

Figures for the HEIPR60 are rounded to the nearest whole number to reflect the degree of accuracy inherent in the data. As this can conceal changes or trends, figures rounded to the nearest decimal place are also provided to inform comparisons over time. Figures rounded to the nearest decimal place are shown in parentheses. Figures for the counts of initial entrants are rounded to the nearest thousand. Rounding may result in apparent inconsistencies between totals and sums of constituent parts.

Tables from the release are available in Excel format here:

http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/statistics/docs/p/participation_rates_in_he_tables.xls



Supplementary Table D: Postgraduate Initial Participation Rate (PGIPR) for English domiciled 17-30 year old first time participants in Postgraduate Courses at UK Higher Education Institutions 2006/07 – 2010/11 (no methodology change)

Academic Year	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11 (Provisional)
PGIPR (male and female) %	9 (8.8)	8 (8.3)	9 (8.8)	10 (9.6)	9 (9.3)
Initial entrants (thousands)	59	58	62	69	67
PGIPR (male) %	7 (6.8)	6 (6.5)	7 (6.8)	8 (7.6)	7 (7.2)
Initial entrants (thousands)	23	23	24	28	26
PGIPR (female) %	11 (10.8)	10 (10.3)	11 (11.0)	12 (11.7)	11 (11.5)
Initial entrants (thousands)	36	35	38	41	40
PGIPR (full-time) %	6 (5.9)	6 (5.5)	6 (5.7)	6 (6.5)	6 (6.3)
Initial entrants (thousands)	40	38	40	47	45
PGIPR (part-time) %	3 (2.9)	3 (2.8)	3 (3.1)	3 (3.1)	3 (3.0)
Initial entrants (thousands)	19	19	22	22	22

Notes

Figures for the PGIPR are rounded to the nearest whole number to reflect the degree of accuracy inherent in the data. As this can conceal changes or trends, figures rounded to the nearest decimal place are also provided to inform comparisons over time. Figures rounded to the nearest decimal place are shown in parentheses. Figures for the counts of initial entrants are rounded to the nearest thousand. Rounding may result in apparent inconsistencies between totals and sums of constituent parts.

Tables from the release are available in Excel format here:

http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/statistics/docs/p/participation_rates_in_he_tables.xls



A National Statistics publication

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation 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.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

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