



Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills

**WIDENING PARTICIPATION IN
HIGHER EDUCATION**

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Introduction

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

- The estimated percentages of 15 year olds, by Free School Meals (FSM) status, who progressed to Higher Education (HE) by age 19 in 2010/11. 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 2010/11.
- Estimated proportions of young 2011/12 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 first two measures cover pupils from English maintained schools who have progressed to Higher Education in UK Higher Education Institutions and English Further Education Colleges. The measure on graduate outcomes covers English domiciled graduates from UK Higher Education Institutions. The first two measures use matched data which takes longer to become available for use than the sources used for the graduate outcomes measure.

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

This publication updates the previous release of August 2012.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/widening-participation-in-higher-education-august-2012>

Key Findings

Table 1

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

**Table 1: Estimated percentage of maintained school pupils aged 15 by Free School Meal status who entered HE by age 19
Academic Years 2005/06 to 2010/11
UK Higher Education Institutions and English Further Education Colleges**

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

pp = percentage points

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

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

The table shows that an estimated 13% of maintained school pupils who received Free School Meals (FSM) at age 15 entered Higher Education by age 19 in 2005/06. This rose steadily to an estimated 20% in 2010/11. The estimated progression rate for pupils not receiving Free School Meals has risen from 33% in 2007/08 to 38% in 2010/11. The estimated gap between FSM and Non-FSM rates was 19 percentage points in 2005/06 and 2006/07 and has remained steady at 18 percentage points from 2007/08 to 2010/11.

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 2010/11 progression rates by Local Authority.

**Table 2: Estimated percentage of maintained school pupils aged 15 in 2006/07 by Free School Meal status who entered HE in 2009/10 at age 18 or 2010/11 at age 19, by Local Authority
UK Higher Education Institutions and English further education colleges**

Local Authority ^[1]	Estimated percentage who entered HE				% of pupils with FSM ^[4]
	FSM ^[2]	Non-FSM ^[2]	Gap (pp) ^[3]	All	
Camden	40%	50%	9	46%	31%
Greenwich	24%	35%	10	31%	26%
Hackney	35%	43%	8	39%	36%
Hammersmith and Fulham	41%	54%	13	51%	22%
Islington	37%	33%	-3	34%	33%
Kensington and Chelsea	44%	51%	7	49%	24%
Lambeth	30%	45%	16	39%	39%
Lewisham	30%	43%	13	39%	23%
Southwark	38%	42%	3	40%	35%
Tower Hamlets	37%	41%	4	38%	59%
Wandsworth	39%	49%	10	45%	23%
Westminster	51%	48%	-3	48%	28%
Barking and Dagenham	26%	34%	7	31%	26%
Barnet	37%	59%	23	56%	16%
Bexley	20%	37%	17	35%	9%
Brent	39%	56%	17	52%	22%
Bromley	20%	43%	23	40%	10%
Croydon	30%	44%	14	41%	17%
Ealing	45%	55%	10	52%	26%
Enfield	34%	51%	17	47%	18%
Haringey	36%	46%	10	42%	34%
Harrow	44%	62%	18	59%	17%
Havering	15%	37%	22	35%	9%
Hillingdon	24%	41%	17	38%	19%
Hounslow	39%	51%	12	49%	16%
Kingston upon Thames	40%	55%	15	54%	8%
Merton	34%	40%	6	39%	13%
Newham	45%	49%	4	47%	35%
Redbridge	43%	62%	19	59%	16%
Richmond upon Thames	19%	43%	24	40%	13%
Sutton	25%	55%	30	52%	7%
Waltham Forest	36%	43%	7	41%	23%
Birmingham	25%	43%	19	37%	32%
Coventry	17%	37%	20	34%	15%
Dudley	15%	36%	21	33%	14%
Sandwell	19%	28%	9	27%	17%
Solihull	18%	42%	24	39%	12%
Walsall	13%	34%	20	30%	16%
Wolverhampton	17%	37%	21	33%	18%
Knowsley	10%	25%	15	20%	32%
Liverpool	16%	39%	23	32%	29%

Local Authority ^[1]	Estimated percentage who entered HE				% of pupils with FSM ^[4]
	FSM ^[2]	Non-FSM ^[2]	Gap (pp) ^[3]	All	
St. Helens	14%	38%	25	34%	17%
Sefton	18%	40%	22	36%	15%
Wirral	16%	46%	31	38%	28%
Bolton	21%	36%	15	34%	16%
Bury	20%	41%	21	38%	11%
Manchester	19%	35%	16	29%	38%
Oldham	20%	38%	19	34%	20%
Rochdale	19%	33%	15	30%	23%
Salford	16%	31%	15	28%	19%
Stockport	15%	39%	25	37%	9%
Tameside	12%	32%	19	29%	16%
Trafford	22%	49%	27	46%	9%
Wigan	15%	36%	21	33%	12%
Barnsley	9%	26%	17	23%	14%
Doncaster	9%	29%	20	26%	13%
Rotherham	13%	31%	19	29%	14%
Sheffield	16%	35%	19	32%	16%
Bradford	25%	34%	10	32%	23%
Calderdale	19%	39%	20	36%	12%
Kirklees	20%	38%	18	35%	15%
Leeds	14%	34%	20	31%	17%
Wakefield	12%	30%	18	28%	11%
Gateshead	13%	36%	23	32%	17%
Newcastle upon Tyne	12%	34%	21	30%	18%
North Tyneside	13%	38%	25	35%	10%
South Tyneside	10%	31%	21	26%	23%
Sunderland	11%	31%	20	28%	11%
Isles of Scilly ^[5]	-	59%	-	59%	-
Bath and North East Somerset	10%	35%	26	34%	6%
Bristol, City of	9%	24%	15	21%	16%
North Somerset	16%	38%	22	36%	8%
South Gloucestershire	10%	30%	20	29%	5%
Hartlepool	17%	38%	21	34%	15%
Middlesbrough	19%	38%	19	32%	31%
Redcar and Cleveland	17%	42%	24	37%	18%
Stockton-on-Tees	11%	41%	29	36%	16%
Kingston Upon Hull, City of	10%	22%	12	21%	14%
East Riding of Yorkshire	17%	41%	25	40%	7%
North East Lincolnshire	10%	29%	19	27%	14%
North Lincolnshire	10%	34%	24	31%	10%
North Yorkshire	15%	41%	26	40%	5%
York	14%	42%	28	40%	6%
Bedfordshire	17%	38%	22	36%	8%
Luton	33%	41%	8	39%	21%
Buckinghamshire	23%	52%	29	49%	6%
Milton Keynes	14%	36%	21	33%	10%
Derbyshire	13%	35%	23	33%	9%
Derby	16%	33%	17	30%	14%
Dorset	13%	34%	21	33%	6%
Poole	13%	39%	26	38%	5%

Local Authority ^[1]	Estimated percentage who entered HE				% of pupils with FSM ^[4]
	FSM ^[2]	Non-FSM ^[2]	Gap (pp) ^[3]	All	
Bournemouth	9%	37%	28	34%	10%
Durham	9%	34%	25	30%	17%
Darlington	17%	39%	22	36%	13%
East Sussex	11%	29%	18	27%	9%
Brighton and Hove	13%	33%	20	30%	13%
Hampshire	11%	36%	25	34%	6%
Portsmouth	14%	23%	9	22%	14%
Southampton	7%	26%	20	24%	11%
Leicestershire	16%	39%	23	38%	5%
Leicester	26%	38%	12	36%	19%
Rutland	14%	40%	26	39%	3%
Staffordshire	16%	37%	21	35%	7%
Stoke-on-Trent	13%	29%	16	26%	17%
Wiltshire	9%	37%	28	36%	5%
Swindon	12%	26%	14	25%	7%
Bracknell Forest	14%	36%	22	35%	5%
Windsor and Maidenhead	16%	43%	27	42%	4%
West Berkshire	12%	41%	28	39%	5%
Reading	11%	41%	29	37%	11%
Slough	31%	53%	22	50%	14%
Wokingham	22%	45%	24	44%	5%
Cambridgeshire	12%	38%	27	36%	7%
Peterborough	15%	35%	20	32%	14%
Cheshire	13%	42%	29	39%	8%
Halton	13%	31%	18	28%	15%
Warrington	12%	42%	29	39%	7%
Devon	16%	32%	16	30%	7%
Plymouth	13%	33%	20	31%	10%
Torbay	14%	38%	24	35%	12%
Essex	13%	35%	22	33%	7%
Southend-on-Sea	17%	43%	26	40%	10%
Thurrock	5%	26%	20	23%	12%
Herefordshire	13%	35%	22	34%	6%
Worcestershire	12%	37%	26	35%	7%
Kent	11%	38%	26	35%	8%
Medway	13%	35%	23	33%	9%
Lancashire	17%	40%	23	38%	10%
Blackburn with Darwen	28%	42%	15	39%	21%
Blackpool	14%	32%	18	28%	19%
Nottinghamshire	10%	34%	24	31%	11%
Nottingham	13%	28%	15	24%	26%
Shropshire	15%	38%	23	37%	5%
Telford and Wrekin	16%	36%	20	33%	15%
Cornwall	19%	33%	14	32%	8%
Cumbria	11%	37%	26	34%	11%
Gloucestershire	10%	39%	29	37%	6%
Hertfordshire	22%	45%	24	44%	5%
Isle of Wight	17%	30%	14	28%	13%
Lincolnshire	11%	37%	26	35%	6%
Norfolk	8%	30%	22	28%	10%

Local Authority ^[1]	Estimated percentage who entered HE				% of pupils with FSM ^[4]
	FSM ^[2]	Non-FSM ^[2]	Gap (pp) ^[3]	All	
Northamptonshire	14%	34%	20	33%	6%
Northumberland	13%	38%	25	35%	9%
Oxfordshire	14%	37%	23	35%	7%
Somerset	11%	33%	22	31%	7%
Suffolk	14%	35%	21	33%	8%
Surrey	14%	41%	28	40%	5%
Warwickshire	12%	39%	27	37%	6%
West Sussex	9%	35%	26	33%	5%
Total England	20%	38%	18	35%	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 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 96 Local Authorities out of 149 (64%) have a larger gap between the progression rates for FSM and Non-FSM pupils than the England level gap (of 18 percentage points). The equivalent proportion of authorities in the previous year was 62%.

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

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

Table 3

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

**Table 3a: Estimated number and percentage of A level students who entered HE by age 19 and the percentage who progressed to the most selective HE Institutions, by independent and state school/college ^[1]
Academic Years 2007/08 to 2010/11**

School/college type	Total age 17 in 2005/06	Progressed to HE by age 19 in 2007/08		of which; Most selective HE ^[2]	
		Number	% of total age 17 in 2005/06	Number	% of total age 17 in 2005/06
Independent	30,350	25,325	83%	19,195	63%
State ^[3]	234,860	158,655	68%	58,195	25%
Total	265,210	183,980	69%	77,385	29%

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

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

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

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

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

[3] 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.

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

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

Table 3b: Estimated percentage of A level students who entered HE by age 19 and the percentage who progressed to the most selective HE Institutions, by independent and state school/college Academic Years 2006/07 to 2010/11

Progression rate to all HE

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

Progression rate to the most selective HE ^[2]

School/college type	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Independent	63%	63%	62%	65%	64%
Selective state ^[1]	..	..	58%	60%	58%
Other state ^[1]	..	..	23%	22%	20%
Total state	26%	25%	26%	26%	24%
All	31%	29%	30%	30%	28%
Independent/ State Gap (pp)	37	38	37	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 70% of those who studied A levels in state schools and colleges at age 17 in 2008/09 progressed to Higher Education by age 19 in 2010/11. For independent school and college pupils the estimated progression rate was 86%. The gap between these progression rates has fluctuated between 13 and 16 percentage points from 2006/07 to 2010/11.

The estimated progression rate for state school and college pupils to the most selective Higher Education Institutions was 24% in 2010/11, which compares to 26% in the previous year. The equivalent progression rate for independent school and college pupils was 64% in 2010/11, which had fallen by 1 percentage point since 2009/10. The gap between state

and independent progression rates to the most selective institutions has fluctuated between 37 and 40 percentage points from 2006/07 to 2010/11.

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 2006/07 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)	69%	31%	100%
Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	65%	35%	100%
Gap (pp) ^[2]	4		

Employment SOC^[1] of 2007/08 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)	69%	31%	100%
Less advantaged (SOC 4 to 9)	65%	35%	100%
Gap (pp) ^[2]	4		

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

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

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

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

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 71% of those who came from the most advantaged backgrounds before higher education were in the most advantaged occupation groups six months after graduating in 2011/12. 67% of those from less advantaged backgrounds were in the most advantaged occupation groups. 2010/11 and 2011/12 figures are not comparable with other years, due to a change to the UCAS question on occupation. See Annex C for details.

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

Technical Annexes

Annex A

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

For the most recent data, the denominator used in this measure covers pupils aged 15 in 2006/07 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 2009/10 at age 18, or in 2010/11 at age 19. HE students are those on programmes of study for which the level of instruction is above that of level 3 of the National Qualifications Framework, e.g. courses leading to the Advanced Level of the General Certificate of Education (GCE A-levels), the Advanced Level of the Vocational Certificate of Education (VCE A-levels) or the Advanced Higher Grade and Higher Grade of the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Advanced Highers/Highers).

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

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

Academic Year	Age at start of academic year	Stage of Education
2006/07	15	GCSEs or equivalent (Key Stage 4)
2007/08	16	AS Levels or equivalent (Key Stage 5)
2008/09	17	A Levels or equivalent (Key Stage 5)
2009/10	18	Entry to HE
2010/11	19	Entry to HE (following a gap year)

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

- Income Support

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

Caveats

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

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

**Table A: Estimated number and percentage of maintained school pupils aged 15 by Free School Meal status who entered HE by age 19
Academic Years 2005/06 to 2010/11
UK higher education institutions and English further education colleges**

	Pupils aged 15^[1]	% of all^[2]	Estimated number who entered HE by age 19	% of all^[2]
	in 2001/02		in 2005/06	
FSM^[3]	79,745	14%	10,760	6%
Non-FSM^[3]	475,205	85%	156,005	93%
Unrecorded FSM status	1,670	-	310	-
All	556,615	100%	167,070	100%
	in 2002/03		in 2006/07	
FSM^[3]	81,115	14%	11,405	7%
Non-FSM^[3]	492,610	86%	163,955	93%
All	573,730	100%	175,360	100%
	in 2003/04		in 2007/08	
FSM^[3]	82,785	14%	12,550	7%
Non-FSM^[3]	508,415	86%	169,545	93%
All	591,205	100%	182,095	100%
	in 2004/05		in 2008/09	
FSM^[3]	80,320	14%	13,845	7%
Non-FSM^[3]	503,125	86%	176,240	93%
All	583,445	100%	190,085	100%
	in 2005/06		in 2009/10	
FSM^[3]	78,215	13%	14,380	7%
Non-FSM^[3]	514,860	86%	186,820	93%
Unrecorded FSM status^[4]	3,425	1%	135	-
All	596,495	100%	201,335	100%
	in 2006/07		in 2010/11	
FSM^[3]	76,990	13%	15,285	7%
Non-FSM^[3]	523,055	87%	197,140	93%
Unrecorded FSM status^[4]	3,290	1%	135	-
All	603,335	100%	212,565	100%

- = less than 0.5%

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

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

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

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

The table shows that there were an estimated 76,990 pupils who were in receipt of Free Schools Meals at age 15 in 2006/07 who represented around 13% of all 15 year olds on the matched dataset. It is estimated that around 7% of Higher Education entrants had received Free School Meals when they were aged 15. The table shows that the proportion of 15 year old pupils with Free School Meals has remained broadly steady at around 13% to 14% between 2001/02 and 2006/07. The estimated percentage of Higher Education entrants who received Free School Meals at the age of 15 has been consistent from 2006/07 to 2010/11.

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 2008/09 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 2009/10 at age 18, or in 2010/11 at age 19, and of those, which pupils progress to the most selective HEIs. HE students are those students on programmes of study for which the level of instruction is above that of level 3 of the National Qualifications Framework, e.g. courses leading to the Advanced Level of the General Certificate of Education (GCE A-levels), the Advanced Level of the Vocational Certificate of Education (VCE A-levels) or the Advanced Higher Grade and Higher Grade of the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Advanced Highers/Highers). This measure only covers HE courses at UK Higher Education Institutions and excludes HE courses at English Further Education Colleges.

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

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

Caveats

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

Most Selective HE

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

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

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

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

The HEIs included in this group change every year; although 94% of HEIs remained in the top third for 5 consecutive years, from 2006/07 to 2010/11. 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	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 2010/11
From schools and colleges in England**

Institution	Mean points	Most selective group
Aberystwyth University	225.3	
Anglia Ruskin University	141.1	
Arts Institute at Bournemouth	201.1	
Aston University	254.7	MS
Bangor University	213.8	
Bath Spa University	197.9	
Birkbeck College	175.5	
Birmingham City University	156.6	
Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln	183.4	
Bournemouth University	188.6	
Brunel University	222.6	
Buckinghamshire New University	126.5	
Canterbury Christ Church University	155.4	
Cardiff University	308.4	MS
Central School of Speech and Drama	201.6	
City University	249.3	MS
Conservatoire for Dance and Drama	203.3	
Courtauld Institute of Art	330.5	MS
Coventry University	167.5	
De Montfort University	163.9	
Edge Hill University	135.3	
Edinburgh College of Art	271.2	MS
Glasgow Caledonian University	179.1	
Glasgow School of Art	300.6	MS
Glyndwr University	120.0	
Goldsmiths College	255.1	MS
Guildhall School of Music and Drama	249.4	MS
Harper Adams University College	166.4	
Heriot-Watt University	237.4	
Heythrop College	257.2	MS
Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine	341.3	MS
Kings College London	312.8	MS
Kingston University	163.1	
Leeds College of Music	204.9	
Leeds Metropolitan University	170.7	
Leeds Trinity and All Saints	160.3	
Liverpool Hope University	162.7	
Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts	199.3	
Liverpool John Moores University	168.9	
London Metropolitan University	131.8	
London School of Economics and Political Science	336.6	MS
London South Bank University	109.2	

Institution	Mean points	Most selective group
Loughborough University	290.9	MS
Manchester Metropolitan University	175.0	
Middlesex University	129.8	
Napier University	195.1	
Newman University College	141.0	
Norwich University College of the Arts	174.1	
Nottingham Trent University	208.9	
Open University	173.3	
Oxford Brookes University	233.1	
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	208.4	
Queen Mary and Westfield College	282.0	MS
Queens University of Belfast	273.6	MS
Ravensbourne College of Design and Communication	157.6	
Robert Gordon University	181.5	
Roehampton University	181.8	
Rose Bruford College	167.8	
Royal Academy of Music	270.7	MS
Royal Agricultural College	206.1	
Royal College of Music	255.9	MS
Royal Holloway and Bedford New College	284.6	MS
Royal Northern College of Music	252.4	MS
Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama	267.3	MS
Royal Veterinary College	282.4	MS
School of Oriental and African Studies	300.7	MS
School of Pharmacy	316.4	MS
Scottish Agricultural College	75.0	
Sheffield Hallam University	181.7	
Southampton Solent University	147.2	
St Georges Hospital Medical School	279.8	MS
St Marys University College, Twickenham	161.6	
Staffordshire University	127.5	
Stranmillis University College	100.0	
Swansea Metropolitan University	113.9	
Swansea University	241.5	
Thames Valley University	96.4	
Trinity Laban	199.6	
UHI Millennium Institute	90.0	
University Campus Suffolk	114.7	
University College Birmingham	94.8	
University College Falmouth	194.0	
University College London	330.6	MS
University College Plymouth St Mark and St John	132.2	
University for the Creative Arts	153.2	
University of Aberdeen	242.1	MS
University of Abertay Dundee	167.8	
University of Bath	308.9	MS
University of Bedfordshire	112.5	
University of Birmingham	309.8	MS
University of Bolton	110.4	
University of Bradford	160.8	

Institution	Mean points	Most selective group
University of Brighton	196.5	
University of Bristol	335.0	MS
University of Buckingham	197.3	
University of Cambridge	342.7	MS
University of Central Lancashire	141.2	
University of Chester	176.8	
University of Chichester	145.9	
University of Cumbria	143.1	
University of Derby	141.0	
University of Dundee	253.1	MS
University of Durham	333.8	MS
University of East Anglia	262.2	MS
University of East London	111.2	
University of Edinburgh	325.7	MS
University of Essex	197.8	
University of Exeter	317.0	MS
University of Glamorgan	178.1	
University of Glasgow	311.3	MS
University of Gloucestershire	182.7	
University of Greenwich	127.1	
University of Hertfordshire	156.8	
University of Huddersfield	156.1	
University of Hull	206.5	
University of Keele	230.4	
University of Kent	240.0	
University of Lancaster	289.8	MS
University of Leeds	303.4	MS
University of Leicester	295.0	MS
University of Lincoln	183.7	
University of Liverpool	297.2	MS
University of Manchester	310.2	MS
University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne	305.7	MS
University of Northampton	141.9	
University of Northumbria at Newcastle	205.6	
University of Nottingham	306.1	MS
University of Oxford	345.3	MS
University of Plymouth	169.2	
University of Portsmouth	208.3	
University of Reading	275.7	MS
University of Salford	154.6	
University of Sheffield	318.2	MS
University of Southampton	297.8	MS
University of St Andrews	332.1	MS
University of Stirling	229.2	
University of Strathclyde	238.2	
University of Sunderland	134.4	
University of Surrey	263.0	MS
University of Sussex	289.5	MS
University of Teesside	113.1	
University of the Arts, London	213.7	

Institution	Mean points	Most selective group
University of the West of England, Bristol	192.6	
University of the West of Scotland	136.8	
University of Ulster	112.3	
University of Wales Institute, Cardiff	175.6	
University of Wales, Lampeter	184.9	
University of Wales, Newport	165.5	
University of Warwick	329.7	MS
University of Westminster	190.2	
University of Winchester	192.4	
University of Wolverhampton	109.3	
University of Worcester	148.0	
University of York	308.4	MS
Writtle College	95.2	
York St John University	193.3	

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 2012

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 Funding Council for England (HEFCE): Trends in young participation in higher education core results for England

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 latest publication (January 2010) reports on trends from 1994/95, with provisional results (based upon applications data) up to 2009/2010:

http://www.hefce.ac.uk/pubs/hefce/2010/10_03/

The results cover young people from England in UK Higher Education Institutions.

The starting point for the participation rate is an estimate of the population size of the young cohort at age 15, as they start their final year of compulsory education. The cohort is then allowed three years to undertake their GCSEs and further education before entrants to higher education (typically aged 18) are recorded followed by a further year of entrants (typically aged 19). The young participation rate is then simply the proportion that those HE entrants form of the population of that cohort when it was aged 15. HEFCE reference the cohorts by the two years in which they can enter HE. For example the participation rate for the 2006/07 cohort relates to that group of young people who were aged 15 on 31 August 2003, aged 18 on 31 August 2006, with those who entered HE doing so in academic years 2006/07 or 2007/08.

This young participation rate can then be directly interpreted as the proportion of a particular cohort of young people who enter higher education. The HE entrants in the

measure are drawn from a single real cohort of young people followed across academic years – rather than combining young entrants from different cohorts who enter HE in a single academic year. This makes the participation rate less susceptible to distortions from demographic or behaviour changes (for example, from young people delaying their entry to HE to age 19 rather than age 18) that do not reflect a change in the proportion of young people entering HE.

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

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Progression to HE by FSM status							
FSM	14%	15%	17%	18%	20%	..	..
Non-FSM	33%	33%	35%	36%	38%	..	..
Gap (pp)	19	18	18	18	18	..	..
UCAS							
Young cohort entry rates POLAR2 ^{[1][2]}							
Low Part. (Q1)	16.0%	17.2%	18.7%	19.9%	20.9%	21.7%	..
High Part. (Q5)	58.1%	59.0%	60.5%	61.4%	62.4%	62.5%	..
Entry rates state school pupils ^[3]							
FSM	7.6%	8.2%	9.0%	9.6%	9.4%	10.8%	11.1%
Non-FSM	22.3%	22.4%	23.5%	24.2%	24.2%	26.1%	25.9%
Entry rates to higher tariff inst. ^{[2][4]}							
Low Part. (Q1)	2.2%	2.3%	2.5%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.6%
High Part. (Q5)	20.4%	20.5%	20.6%	19.9%	19.5%	19.5%	21.0%
HESA Performance Indicators^[5]							
State Schools	87.2%	87.4%	88.0%	88.4%	88.2%	88.5%	..
Lower NS-SEC ^[6]	29.8%	29.4%	..	30.1%	30.7%	30.9%	..
LPN (POLAR2) ^[2]	9.6%	9.9%	10.2%	10.5%	10.6%	10.7%	..
LPN (POLAR3) ^[2]	.	.	.	9.6%	10.0%	10.2%	..
HEFCE Trends in Young Participation^{[2][7]}							
Low Part. (Q1)	16%	17%	18%	19%	..	..	..
High Part. (Q5)	55%	56%	58%	57%	..	..	..

. not applicable .. not available

[1] Young cohort entry rates (aged 18 or 19 on entry) by POLAR2 groups for England. The entry rates give students from England entering Higher Education via UCAS by age 19 as a proportion of the population of 18 year olds in England, based on ONS and HEFCE data. From Figure 55 of UCAS End of cycle report 2012.

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

[3] Entry rates for English state school pupils by Free School Meal (FSM) status at age 15. The cycle entry rates give students from England entering Higher Education from a UCAS application cycle as a proportion

of the base population of England, based on ONS population estimates. From Figure 60 of UCAS End of cycle report 2012.

[4] English 18 year olds, entry rates (cycle) to higher tariff institutions by POLAR2 groups. The cycle entry rates give students entering Higher Education from a UCAS application cycle as a proportion of the base population, based on ONS population estimates. From figure 58 of the UCAS End of cycle report 2012. See text for definition of higher tariff institutions.

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

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

[7] Used POLAR2.

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 by characteristics: academic year 2010 to 2011*, 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 DfE publication shows that 48% of KS5 leavers progressed to HE in 2010/11, 14% to the most selective HE. As we would expect, the BIS measures show higher proportions, as we 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 72% of A level students progressed to HE by age 19, 28% 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

46% of KS5 students who had FSM progressed to HE in 2010/11, 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.

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