## Applicants and entrants to higher education

- The total number of home applications via UCAS rose in each year between 1999 and 2005. There was a $4.1 \%$ drop in 2006, the first year of 'variable' fees.
- The drop in 2006 was greater than that seen in 1998 -the last major change to tuition fees. Both were preceded by relatively large increases in applications.
- 2007 data showed a return to the upward trend. Applicant and acceptance numbers reached new records which were exceeded in 2008, 2009 and 2011.
- Applicant numbers fell in 2012 with larger falls among those who face fees of up to £9,000. The total was $7.6 \%$ down; accepted applicants were down by $5.5 \%$.
- Applications from home/EU students bounced back to a certain extent in 2013 with an increase of $3.4 \%$. Total applicants in the 2013 cycle were $3.6 \%$ up on 2012, but still below 2010 and 2011 levels.
- A record 495,000 applicants were accepted; $6.6 \%$ above the 2012 total. The majority of the increase in acceptances taking place in institutions in England.
- Applicant numbers rose again in 2014, but were still below the 2011 peak. Total acceptances reached another new record as did the entry rate for young people and the entry rate for those from the most 'disadvantaged' areas.
- These UCAS data cover full-time/sandwich undergraduate courses. As mature students are much more likely to study part-time, they are not as well covered by these data.


[^0]Home applicants through UCAS

|  | Applicants |  |  | Accepted |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | number | change |  | number | change | accepted |

Sources: UCAS annual datasets; End of cycle data resources, UCAS

## Accepted applicants by age, sex and domicile

 Thousands|  | 1997 | 2005 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { \% Change } \\ \text { on } 1997 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 21 | 258 | 316 | 373 | 384 | 363 | 390 | 402 | +55\% |
| 21-24 | 37 | 46 | 60 | 57 | 53 | 55 | 56 | +51\% |
| 25+ | 41 | 42 | 55 | 51 | 49 | 51 | 55 | +34\% |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Female | 172 | 217 | 267 | 270 | 257 | 274 | 285 | +66\% |
| Male | 164 | 188 | 220 | 222 | 208 | 222 | 227 | +38\% |
| Domcile |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Home | 303 | 360 | 425 | 431 | 407 | 434 | 447 | +48\% |
| EU | 17 | 17 | 26 | 27 | 23 | 25 | 26 | +58\% |
| overseas | 16 | 28 | 37 | 34 | 34 | 37 | 39 | +137\% |
| Total | 336 | 405 | 487 | 492 | 492 | 496 | 512 | +52\% |

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[^0]:    Next update: February 2015

[^1]:    Sources: UCAS annual datasets; End of cycle data resources, UCAS

