
HIGHER EDUCATION IN

FACTS AND FIGURES

2015



Universities UK

HIGHLIGHTS

*18-year-olds from the areas with lowest participation in higher education in England are **61% more likely** to start university now, than in 2006.*

*In the first quarter of 2015, the median salary for graduates was **41% higher** than for non-graduates amongst those aged 16–64.*

27% of all academic staff employed at UK universities are from outside the UK.

17% of research and development funding received by UK universities comes from overseas sources, the majority (68%) from within the EU.

*Over **three quarters** of research activity at UK universities was rated as world-leading or internationally excellent.*

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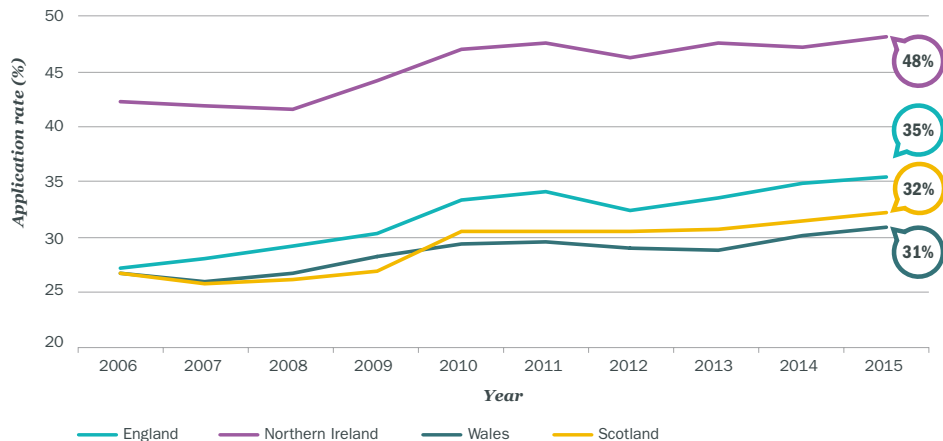
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RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

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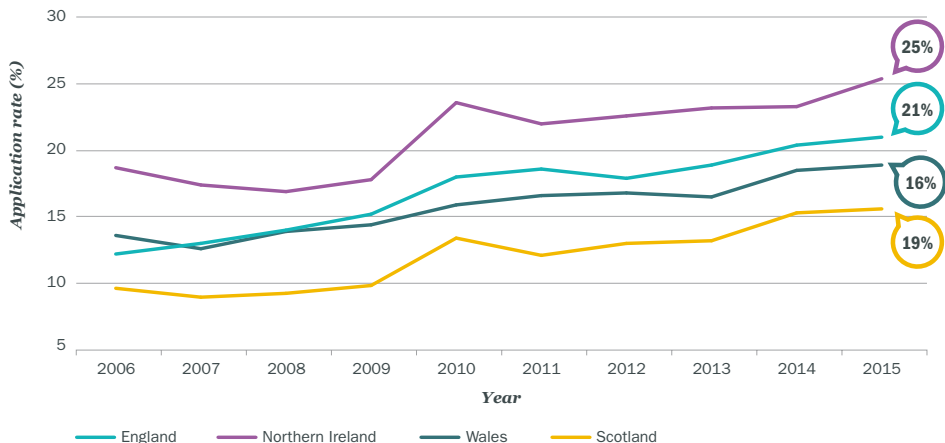
18-YEAR-OLD APPLICATION RATES TO FULL-TIME FIRST DEGREE STUDY IN THE UK, 2006–15

18-year-olds are more likely than ever to apply for university in all UK countries. This shows the proportion of 18-year-olds living in the different UK nations who apply to university.



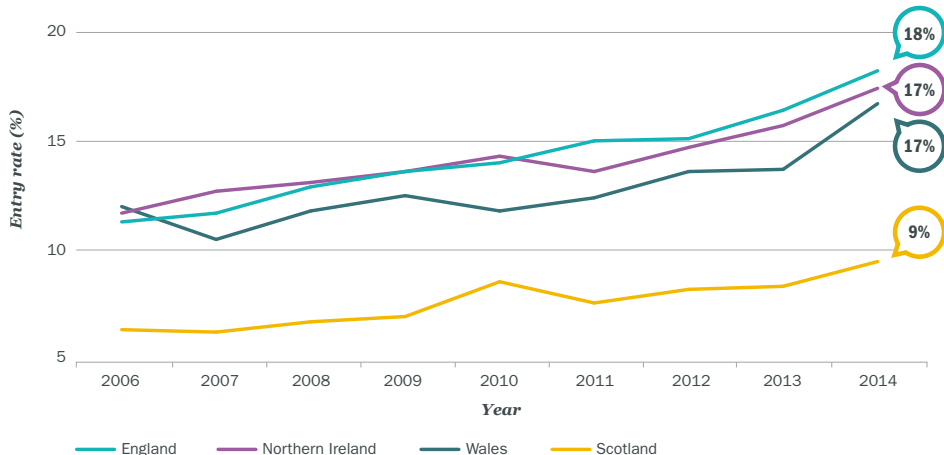
APPLICATION RATES TO FULL-TIME FIRST DEGREE STUDY FOR THE MOST DISADVANTAGED 18-YEAR-OLDS, 2006-15

18-year-olds from the areas of lowest higher education participation (POLAR3 quintile 1) have never been more likely to apply to university across all countries in the UK.



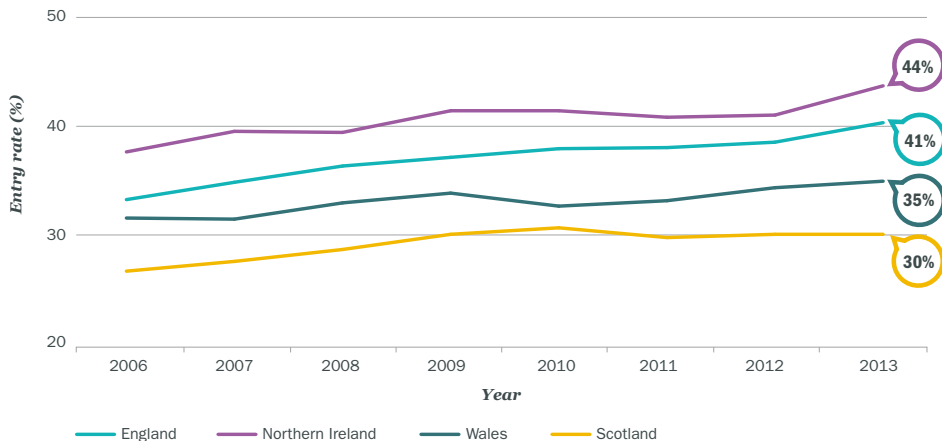
ENTRY RATES TO FULL-TIME FIRST DEGREE STUDY FOR THE MOST DISADVANTAGED 18-YEAR-OLDS, 2006-14

18-year-olds from the areas with lowest higher education participation (POLAR3 quintile 1) are more likely than ever to go to university, with those in England 61% more likely to start university now than in 2006. The gap between those from the most and least advantaged areas fell by 12% during the period.



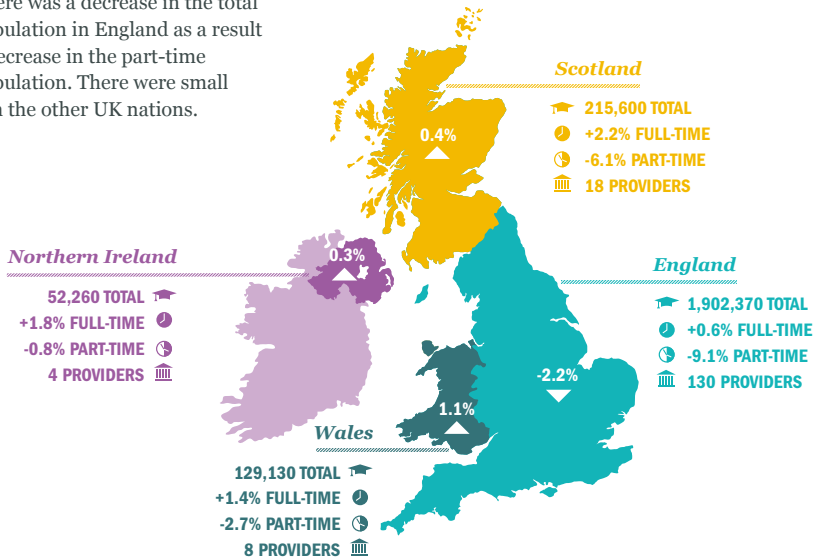
YOUNG ENTRY RATES TO FULL-TIME FIRST DEGREE STUDY BY UK COUNTRY, 2006-13

Entry rates show the proportion of the population accepted into higher education through UCAS. People aged 18 and 19 are now more likely to enter higher education than ever before in three of the four nations of the UK.



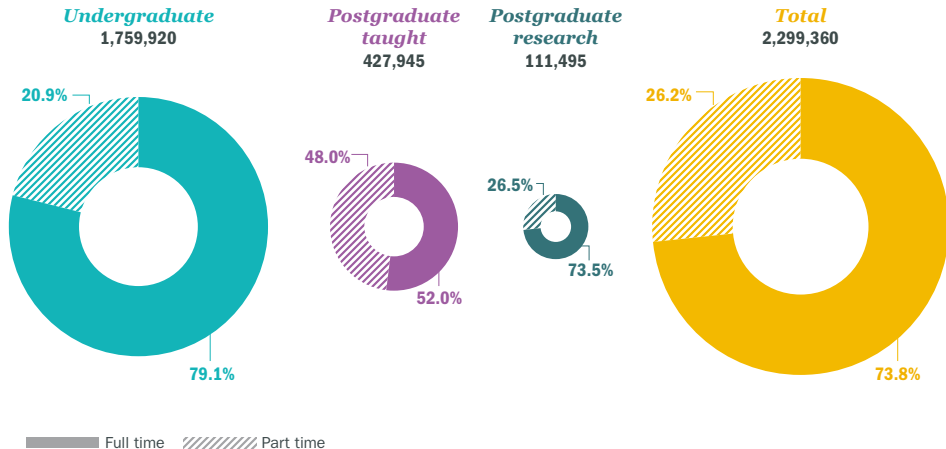
STUDENTS AT HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS IN THE UK BY COUNTRY OF PROVIDER, 2012-13 TO 2013-14

In 2013, there was a decrease in the total student population in England as a result of a large decrease in the part-time student population. There were small increases in the other UK nations.



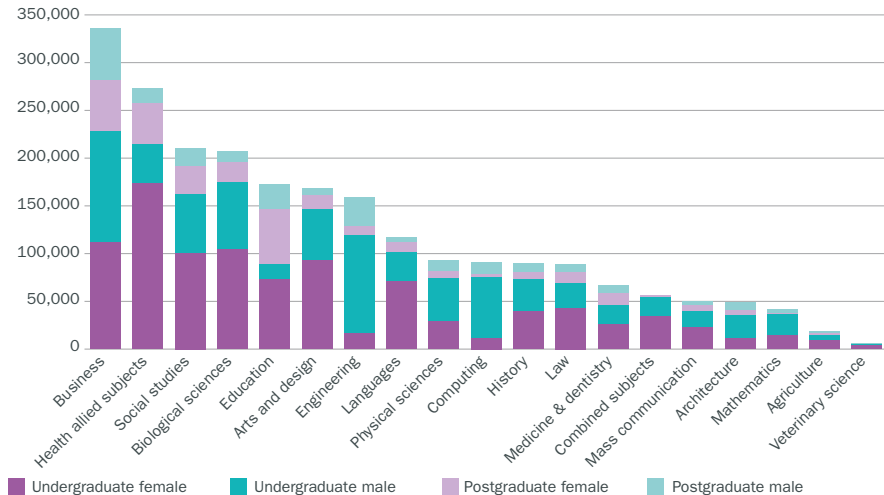
FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS BY LEVEL OF STUDY AT UK HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS, 2013-14

Part-time students make up about a quarter of postgraduate research students, a fifth of all undergraduate students, and half of postgraduate taught students.



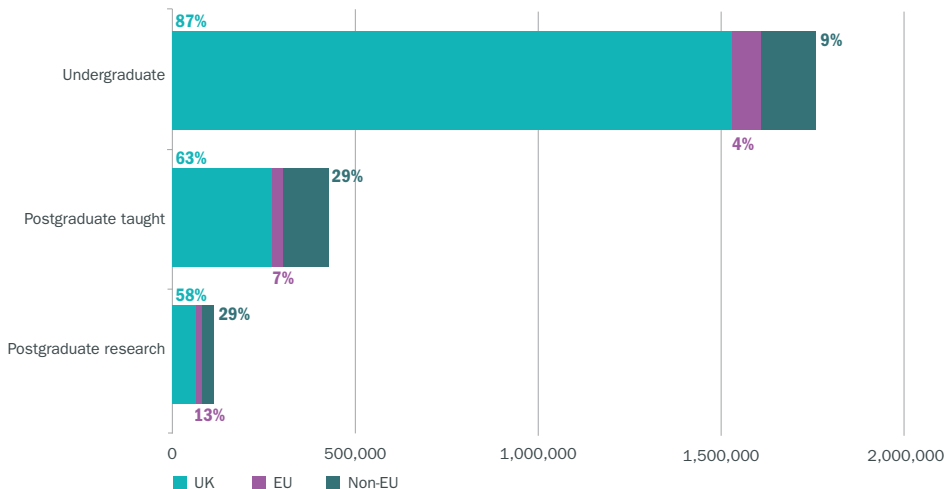
STUDENTS BY SUBJECT AREA AT UK HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS 2013-14

There is still a strong male/female split in subject choice, with 84% of those studying engineering male and 79% of those studying subjects allied to health, female.



HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDER STUDENTS BY DOMICILE AND LEVEL OF STUDY, 2013–14

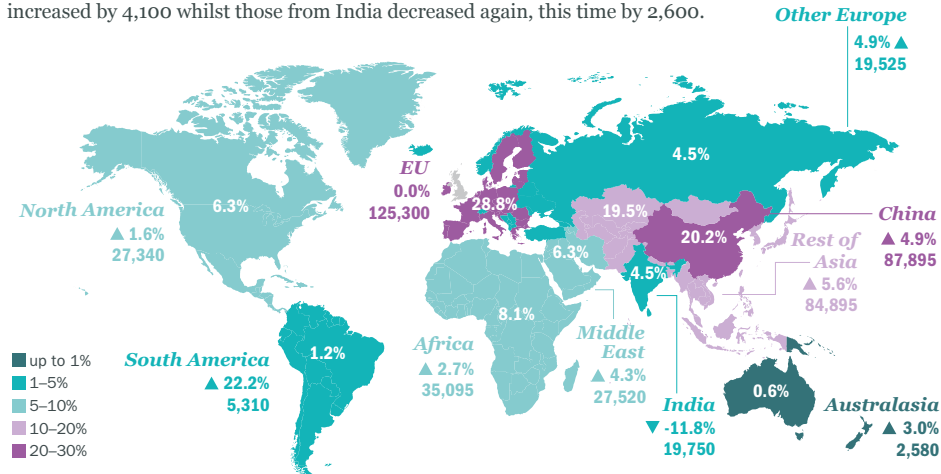
13% of undergraduate students and 38% of postgraduate students are from outside the UK.



Note: All percentages have been calculated using the raw figures and rounded, therefore percentages may not sum precisely

HOME COUNTRY OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AT UK HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS, 2013–14

The number of international students in the UK increased between 2012–13 and 2013–14 by 2%. Students from China made up 20% of all international students and those from India made up 5% in 2013–14. The number of students from China increased by 4,100 whilst those from India decreased again, this time by 2,600.

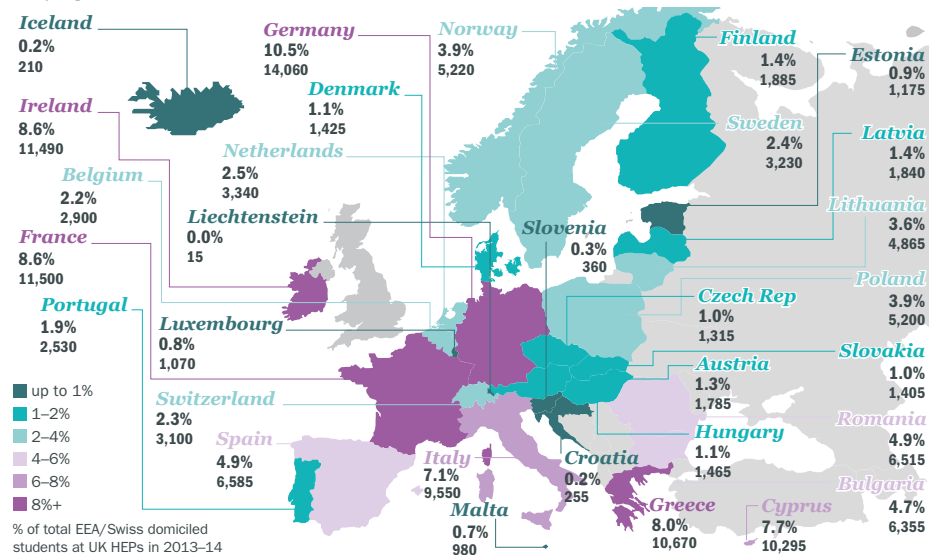


■ up to 1%
 ■ 1–5%
 ■ 5–10%
 ■ 10–20%
 ■ 20–30%

% of total non-UK domiciled students at UK HE providers
 % change from last year
 Total students 2013–14

HOME COUNTRY OF EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA STUDENTS AT UK HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS, 2013-14

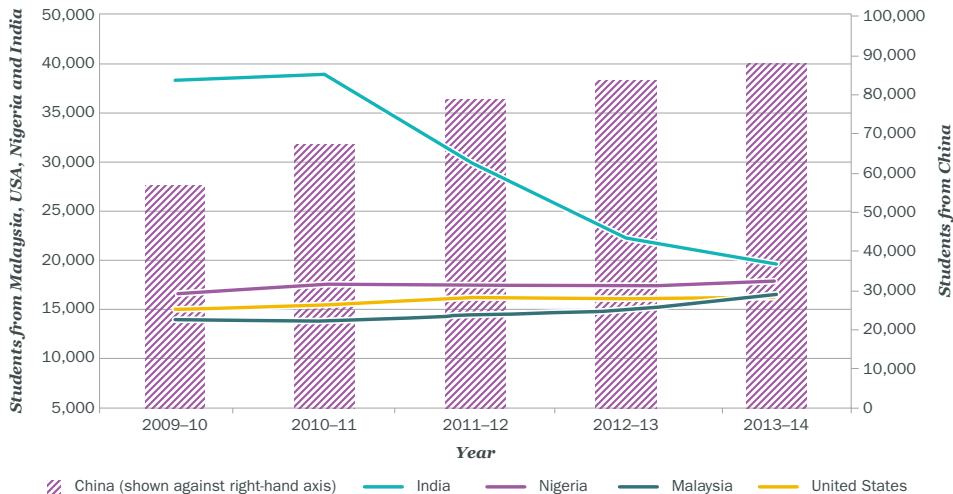
There were 133,845 students from the EEA and Switzerland studying in UK universities in 2013-14.



% of total EEA/Swiss domiciled students at UK HEPs in 2013-14

TOP FIVE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN FOR UK STUDENTS, 2013-14

Students coming from China have risen by 54% over the past four years but those from India have fallen by 49% in the same period.



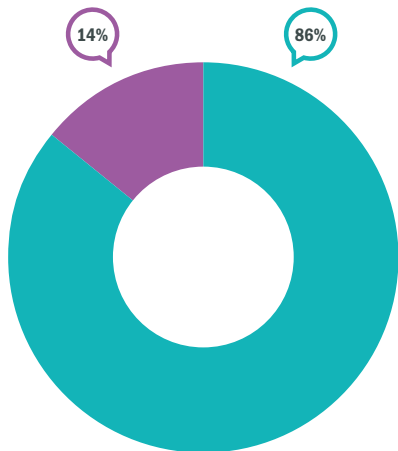
PROVIDER INCOME FROM NON-EU DOMICILED STUDENTS AND NON-EU DOMICILED STUDENT NUMBERS, 2003-04 TO 2013-14

Universities received £3.9 billion in tuition fees from the 310,000 international student registered at them in 2013-14.



STUDENT SATISFACTION, 2015

Student satisfaction remains high, with 86% of students satisfied with their course.



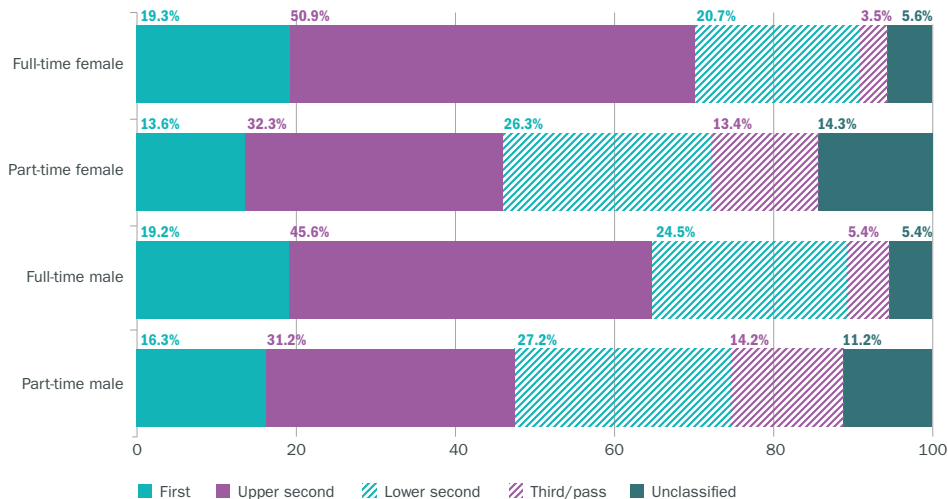
*The National Student Survey
of final year undergraduate students
found the overwhelming majority
were satisfied with the quality
of their course.*

■ Satisfied

■ Not satisfied

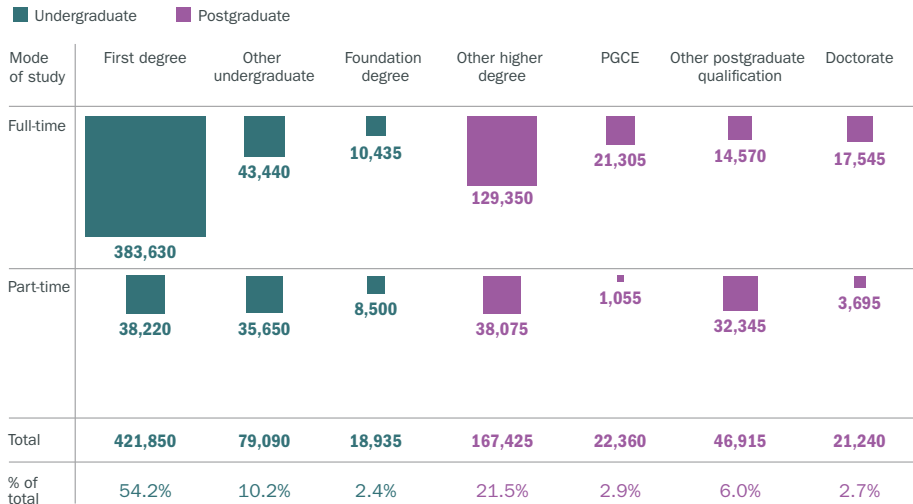
FIRST DEGREE QUALIFIERS BY SEX, MODE OF STUDY AND DEGREE CLASS, 2013-14

70% of full-time female students and 65% of full-time male students got first and upper-second (2.1) degrees. Full-time female students are 53% more likely to get a first or 2.1 than their part-time equivalents. Male full-time students are 36% more likely to get a first or 2.1 than their part-time equivalents.



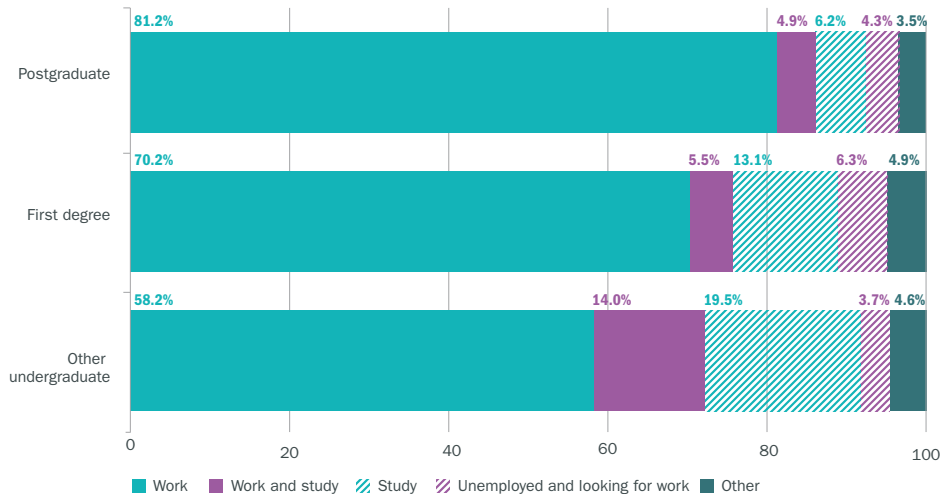
QUALIFICATIONS AWARDED AT UK HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS, 2013–14

56% of all qualifications awarded in 2013–14 were for undergraduate first degrees. The number of degrees awarded was 10,000 lower than in 2012–13.



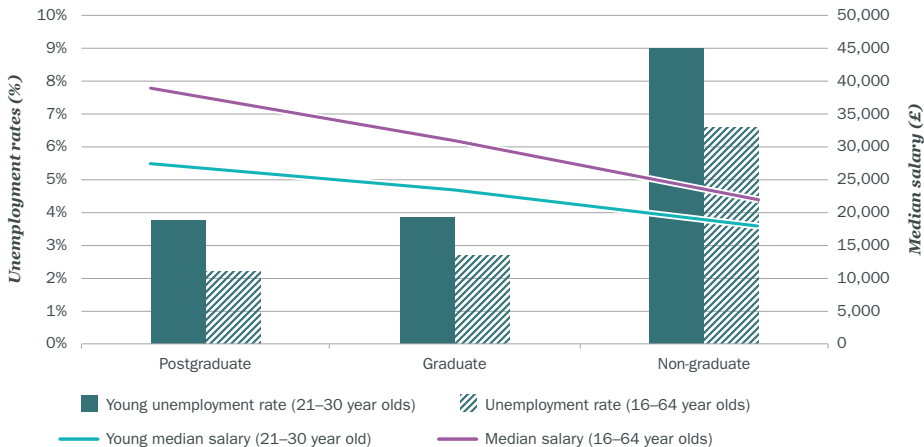
DESTINATIONS OF LEAVERS BY LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION 2013-14

Six months after graduation, 92% of postgraduates and other undergraduates, and 89% of first degree students are working or pursuing further study.













UNEMPLOYMENT RATES AND MEDIAN SALARIES IN THE UK BY GROUP (2015, QUARTER 1)

In the first quarter of 2015 the median salary for graduates was 31% higher than for non-graduates amongst those aged 21–30, and 41% higher for those aged 16–64.



EXPENDITURE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP (2011)

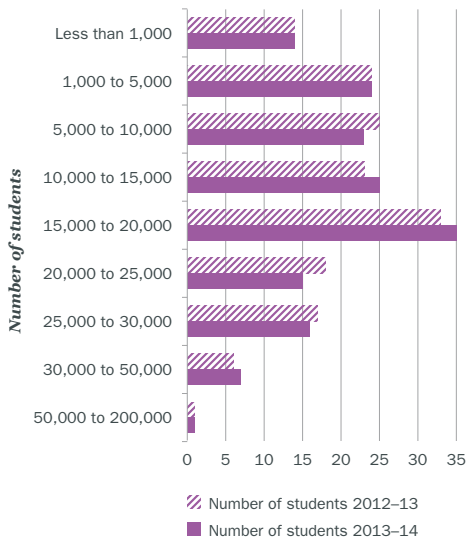
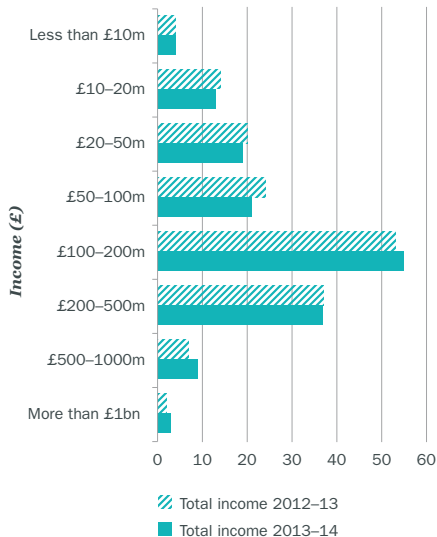
In 2011 the UK spent 1.2% of GDP on higher education: a lower proportion than many countries, including the USA, the Russian Federation, and Chile.

| Country | Total expenditure in % |
|---|------------------------|
|  Canada | 2.8 |
|  United States | 2.7 |
|  Republic of Korea | 2.6 |
|  Chile | 2.4 |
|  Colombia | 2.0 |
|  Denmark | 1.9 |
|  Finland | 1.9 |
|  Netherlands | 1.8 |
|  Estonia | 1.7 |
|  Israel | 1.7 |
|  Norway | 1.7 |
|  Sweden | 1.7 |
|  Argentina | 1.6 |
|  Australia | 1.6 |
|  Japan | 1.6 |
|  Austria | 1.5 |
|  France | 1.5 |
|  Ireland | 1.5 |
|  Latvia | 1.5 |

| Country | Total expenditure in % |
|--|------------------------|
|  New Zealand | 1.5 |
|  Belgium | 1.4 |
|  Czech Republic | 1.4 |
|  Portugal | 1.4 |
|  Russian Federation | 1.4 |
|  Germany | 1.3 |
|  Mexico | 1.3 |
|  Poland | 1.3 |
|  Slovenia | 1.3 |
|  Spain | 1.3 |
|  Switzerland | 1.3 |
|  Turkey | 1.3 |
|  Iceland | 1.2 |
|  United Kingdom | 1.2 |
|  Hungary | 1.0 |
|  Italy | 1.0 |
|  Slovakia | 1.0 |
|  Brazil | 0.9 |

INCOME AND SIZE OF UK HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS, 2012-13 AND 2013-14

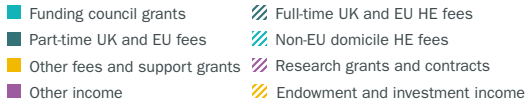
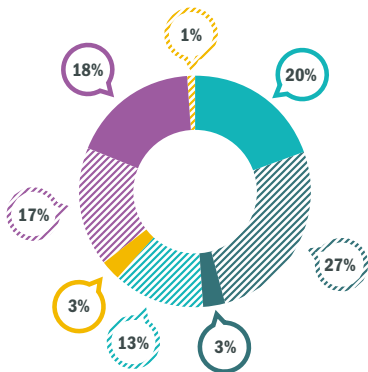
Nearly half of all UK higher education providers have an annual income of between £50 and £200 million. Less than a third had an annual income higher than £200 million.



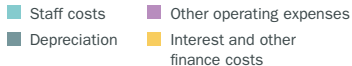
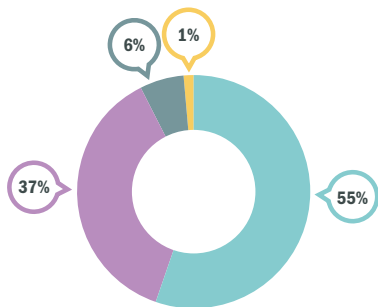
INCOME OF AND EXPENDITURE BY UK HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS, 2013-14

In 2013-14, the highest proportion of providers' income came from full-time UK and EU students. In total, tuition fees made up 42% of provider income.

Total income £30.7 billion

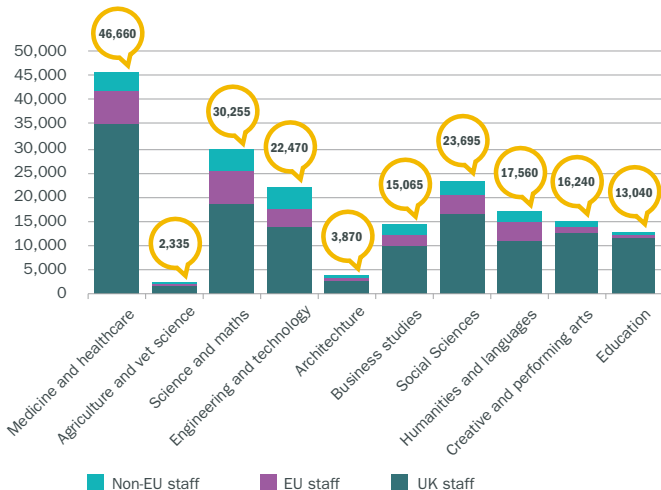


Total expenditure £29.3 billion



ACADEMIC STAFF BY NATIONALITY AND SUBJECT AREA, 2013-14

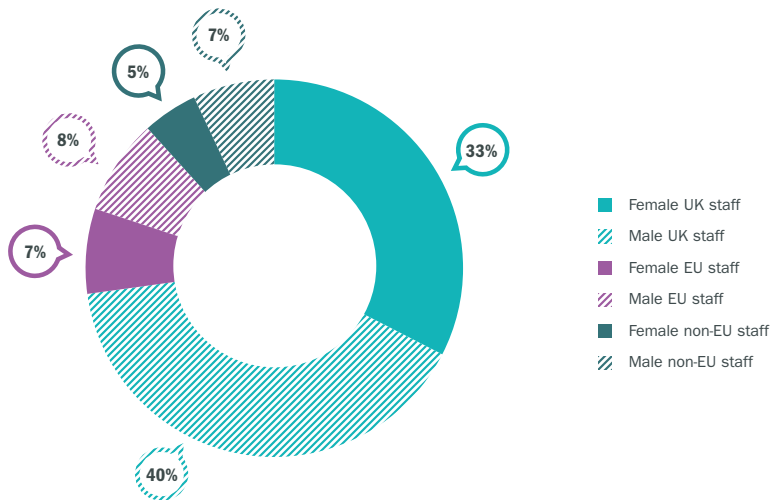
EU and international staff make up 37% of all academics employed in engineering and technology, and 35% of those employed in science and maths.



Universities
employed
191,000
academics
in 2013-14.

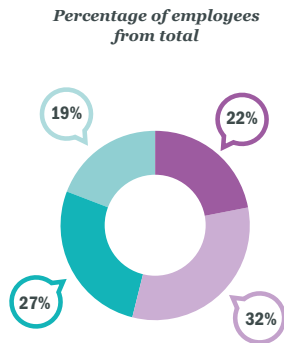
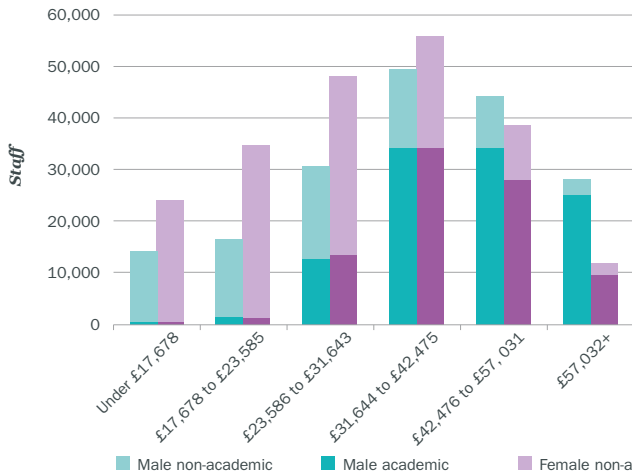
ACADEMIC STAFF IN UK HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS BY NATIONALITY AND SEX, 2013-14

27% of academic staff at UK higher education providers are from outside the UK.



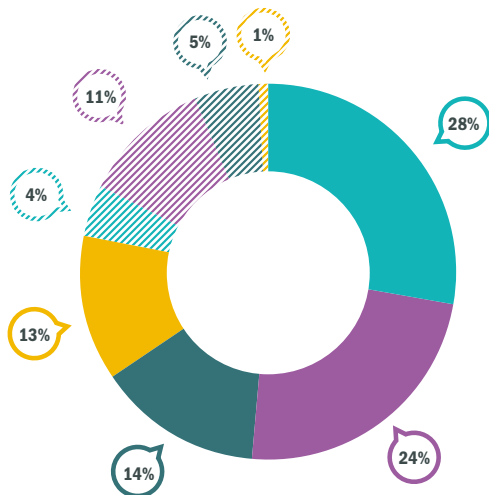
STAFF SALARIES AT UK HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS, 2013-14

54% of the total higher education workforce are female. They make up 63% of those paid under £17,678. Men are 46% of the total higher education workforce. They make up 70% of those paid over £57,032.



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FUNDING RECEIVED BY UK HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS, 2013-14

17% of research and development funding received by UK universities comes from overseas sources, the majority (68%) from within the EU.



Overall
research and
development
funding has
decreased by

2.3%

from 2012-13.

Research
funding from
international
sources
increased by

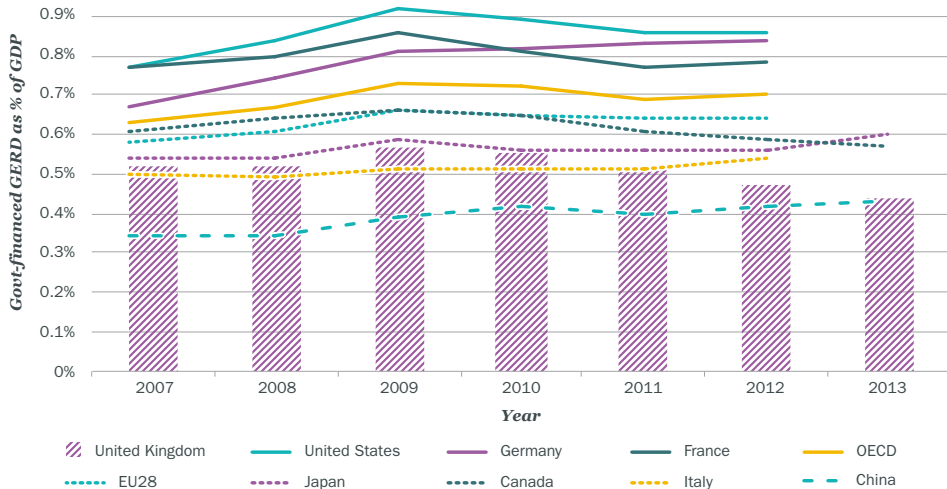
9.3%

in the same period.

- Higher education funding councils
- Research councils
- UK-based charities
- UK central government
- ▨ UK industry, commerce and public corporations
- ▨ EU sources
- ▨ International sources
- ▨ Other

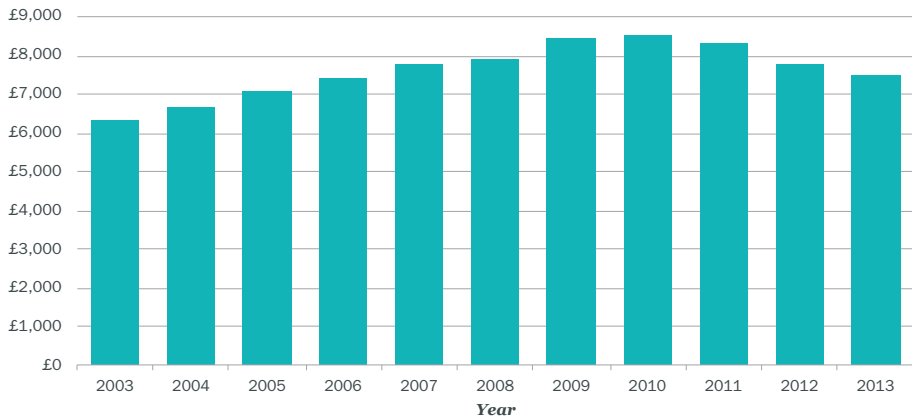
GOVERNMENT-FINANCED GROSS DOMESTIC EXPENDITURE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AS A PROPORTION OF GDP, 2007-13

The Chinese government is now spending almost the same proportion of GDP on research and development as the UK government.



UK GOVERNMENT-FUNDED EXPENDITURE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, 2003–13

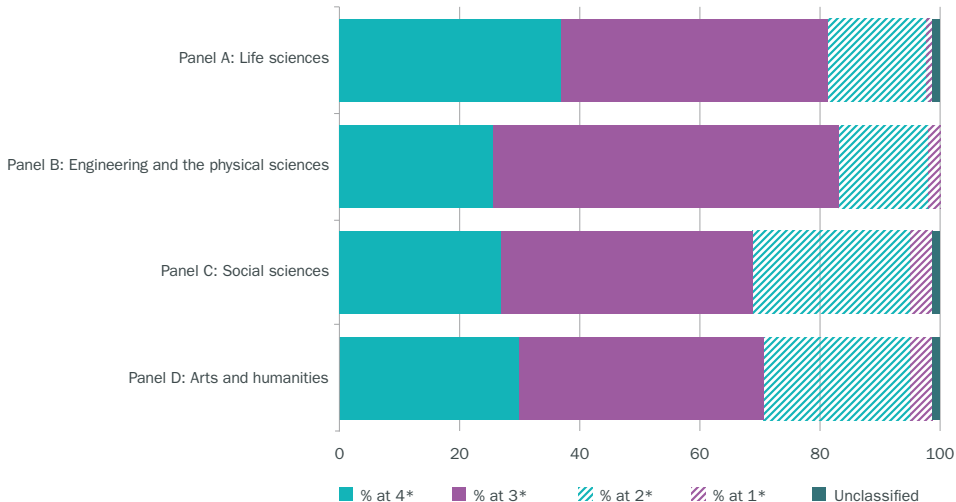
UK government expenditure on research and development has been declining for the past three years and is now 12% lower than in 2010.



■ Government-funded GERD, £ million

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK RESEARCH QUALITY PROFILES, 2014

Over three quarters of research activity at UK universities was rated as world-leading (4*) or internationally excellent (3*). Within disciplinary panels this ranged from 69% to 83%.



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All data and further information on sources can be found on our website www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/highereducation

GLOSSARY

Application rate

The number of applicants divided by the estimated base population.

DLHE

The Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey asks leavers from higher education what they are doing six months after graduation. About three quarters of leavers complete the survey.

Domicile

A student's permanent country of residence.

Entry rate

The number of acceptances for entry to start higher education, divided by the estimated base population.

First degree

A three or four year undergraduate higher education course taken after finishing further education, generally resulting in a bachelor's degree.

GERD

Gross Domestic Expenditure on Research and Development (GERD) is the total internal spending on research and development performed within a country during a given period.

HEFCE

The Higher Education Funding Council for England funds and regulates universities and colleges in England.

HEPs

Higher education providers.

HEPI

Higher Education Policy Institute.

HESA

Higher Education Statistics Agency.

Mode of study

Whether a student studies full- or part-time.

OECD

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Other undergraduate

Undergraduate degrees which are not first degrees: these include foundation degrees and Higher National Diplomas.

POLAR3

Participation of Local Areas (POLAR) is a widening participation measure which classifies local areas or 'wards' into five groups, based on the proportion of 18-year-olds who enter higher education aged 18 or 19-years-old. These groups range from quintile 1 areas, with the lowest young participation (most disadvantaged), up to quintile 5 areas with the highest rates (most advantaged).



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