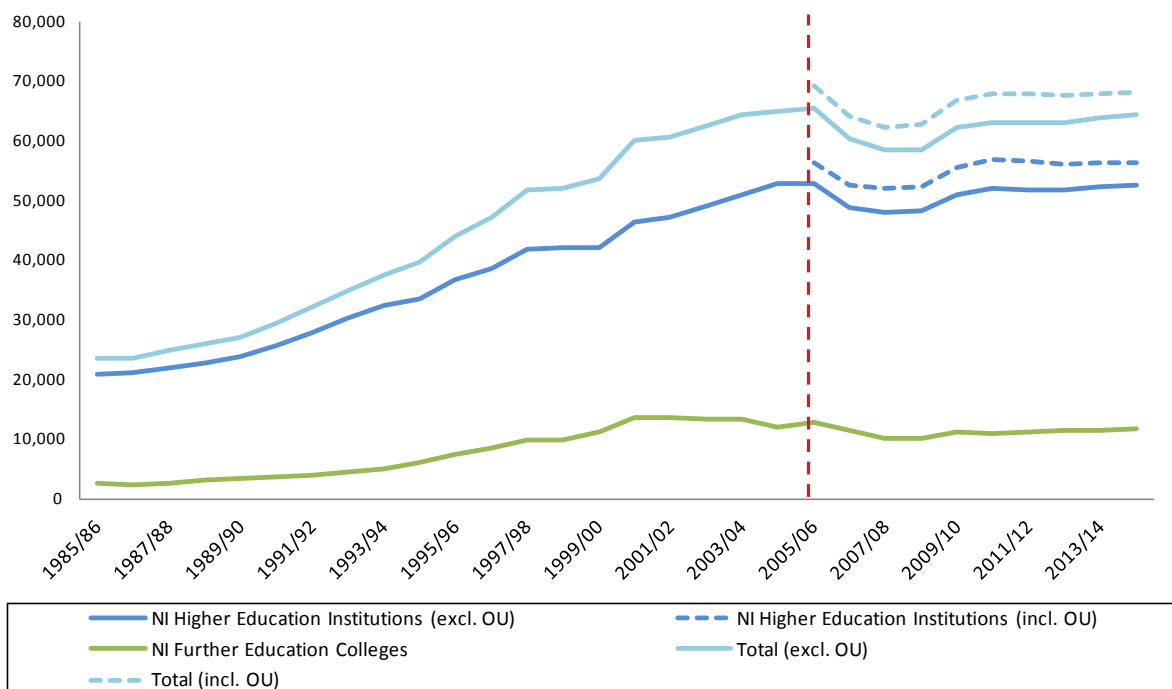


## Statistical Fact Sheet 7

### Enrolments on Higher Education courses at NI Higher Education Institutions and NI Further Education Colleges - 1985/86 to 2014/15

- From the 2014/15 academic year onwards, DfE has changed the methodology used to allocate the enrolments of Open University (OU) students. This is to align with changes made by HESA to the student record for the 2013/14 academic year. Please see [notes 6 and 7](#) for more details. Figures for 2013/14 and 2014/15 below include OU (where the national centre is located in NI).
- Over the past 30 years, enrolments on HE courses at NI Higher Education Institutions have increased from 20,970 in 1985/86 to 56,445 in 2014/15.
- Between 2013/14 and 2014/15, the number of enrolments on HE courses at NI Higher Education Institutions increased by 0.1%, from 56,395 to 56,445.

#### Enrolments on HE courses at NI HEIs and NI FE colleges



- Over the 30-year period, between 1985/86 and 2014/15, the number of enrolments on HE courses at NI Further Education Colleges increased from 2,645 to 11,722.
- Between 2013/14 and 2014/15, the number of enrolments on HE courses at NI Further Education Colleges increased from 11,576 to 11,722, an increase of 1.3%.
- Between 1985/86 and 2014/15 the number of enrolments on HE courses at NI Higher Education Institutions and NI Further Education Colleges increased from 23,615 to 68,165.
- Over the last year, the number of enrolments on HE courses at NI Higher Education Institutions and NI Further Education Colleges has increased by 0.3%, from 67,970 to 68,165.

**Enrolment on Higher Education courses at NI HEIs (excluding Open University) and NI FE Colleges –1985/86 to 2014/15**

	NI Higher Education Institutions	NI Further Education Colleges	Total		NI Higher Education Institutions	NI Further Education Colleges	Total
1985/86	20,970	2,645	23,615	2000/01	46,400	13,780	60,180
1986/87	21,280	2,365	23,645	2001/02	47,155	13,650	60,805
1987/88	22,140	2,775	24,915	2002/03	49,125	13,515	62,640
1988/89	22,880	3,175	26,060	2003/04	51,025	13,330	64,355
1989/90	23,815	3,445	27,255	2004/05	52,930	12,000	64,930
1990/91	25,725	3,770	29,495	2005/06	52,845	12,790	65,635
1991/92	28,035	4,095	32,130	2006/07	48,860	11,625	60,485
1992/93	30,255	4,585	34,840	2007/08	48,200	10,245	58,440
1993/94	32,610	5,055	37,665	2008/09	48,240	10,280	58,525
1994/95	33,575	6,135	39,715	2009/10	50,990	11,400	62,390
1995/96	36,720	7,450	44,170	2010/11	52,000	11,005	63,005
1996/97	38,665	8,715	47,380	2011/12	51,905	11,315	63,220
1997/98	41,880	9,950	51,830	2012/13	51,715	11,453	63,170
1998/99	42,135	9,880	52,015	2013/14	52,260	11,576	63,835
1999/00	42,255	11,385	53,640	2014/15	52,650	11,722	64,370

Sources: Various – see notes below

**Enrolment on Higher Education courses at NI HEIs (including NI campuses of Open University) and NI FE Colleges –2005/06 to 2014/15**

	NI Higher Education Institutions	NI Further Education Colleges	Total		NI Higher Education Institutions	NI Further Education Colleges	Total
2005/06	56,525	12,790	69,315	2010/11	56,860	11,005	67,865
2006/07	52,615	11,625	64,240	2011/12	56,720	11,315	68,035
2007/08	52,155	10,245	62,400	2012/13	56,155	11,453	67,610
2008/09	52,450	10,280	62,730	2013/14	56,395	11,576	67,970
2009/10	55,600	11,400	67,000	2014/15	56,445	11,722	68,165

Sources: Various – see notes below

## Notes:

1. 1985/86 to 1993/94 information obtained from the "Digest of Northern Ireland Higher Education Statistics 1985/86-1993/94", and Statistical News Releases & Bulletins published by the Department for Education and the Department for Employment & Learning (now the Department for the Economy).
2. From 2000/01, HE statistics are based on full year HESA data. FE statistics were based on full year Further Education Statistical Return (FESR) data until 2013/14, when the FESR changed to the Consolidated Data Return (CDR). Prior to 2000/01, FESR data were based on a snapshot of enrolments.
3. Detailed footnotes relevant to all data should be obtained from the relevant published sources.
4. Some early data may have changed over time due to changes in data coding and variable definitions.
5. The definition of the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Standard Registration Population at UK HEIs changed for 2007/08 enrolments. Writing up and sabbatical students are now excluded from this population, whereas they were previously included in published enrolment data. In order to maintain time series accuracy, all historical data between 2000/01 and 2006/07 have been updated to include the 2007/08 definition of the Standard Registration Population.
6. From the 2014/15 academic year onwards, DfE no longer counts the Open University as a wholly English institution, but splits it between England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, depending on where the national centre is located.
7. Figures for both methodologies for the academic years 2005/06 to 2014/15 have been provided in tables above. Due to the change in methodology, figures are not directly comparable between 2004/05 backwards and 2005/06 onwards. We are, however, comparing these figures as they provide a close approximation to the overall trends in the last 30 years as a whole.
8. To prevent the identification of individuals, figures have been rounded to the nearest 5, in line with HESA rounding strategy, with 0, 1 and 2 rounded to 0.
9. Due to rounding, the sum of rows or columns may not match the total shown.
10. Percentages are based on unrounded figures.

More Higher Education statistics are available from:

<https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-economic-research/higher-education-statistics>