

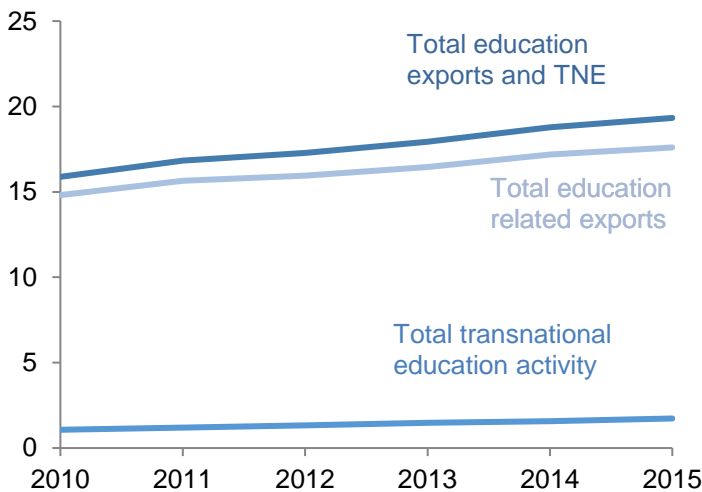


# UK revenue from education related exports and transnational education activity in 2015

SFR12/2018, 22 February 2018

**UK revenue from education related exports and TNE activity increased to £19.3 billion in 2015, an increase of 22% since 2010.**

**UK revenue from education exports and TNE activity (£billions and current prices)**

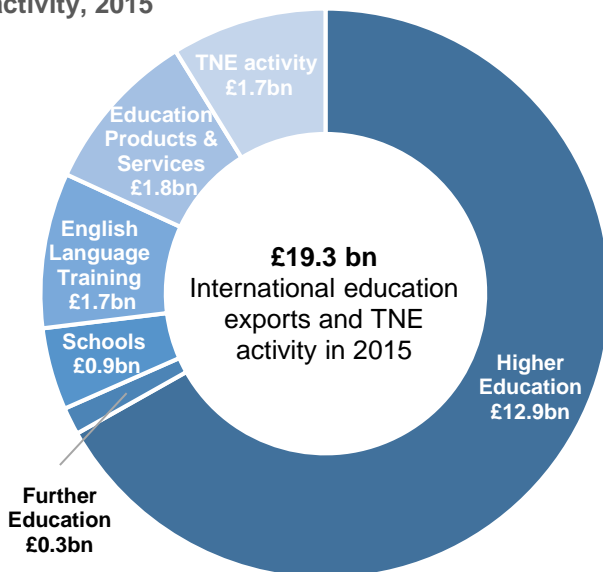


Total education exports and transnational education (TNE<sup>1</sup>) activity was estimated to be £19.3 billion in 2015 (current prices), an increase of 3.0% since 2014 in current prices. Since 2010, the estimated value of education related exports has risen by 22% in current prices.

Total education related exports were estimated to be £17.6 billion in 2015, and have increased by 19% since 2010. TNE activity was estimated to be £1.7 billion in 2015 and has grown by 62% since 2010, albeit from a lower base.

**Higher Education accounts for 67% of the total revenue of education related exports and TNE activity.**

**UK revenue from education exports and TNE activity, 2015**



Higher Education accounts for the largest share of revenue from education related exports and TNE activity. Higher Education Institutions contributed £12.9 billion (67%) of the total value. The revenue from other stages of education such as Further Education and Schools is comparably smaller at £0.3 billion and £0.9 billion respectively.

<sup>1</sup> TNE – education programmes delivered ‘offshore’ either through partner institutions or directly through distance learning or international branch campuses

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## About this release

This statistical first release contains the latest estimates of education related exports and transnational education activity, for the calendar year 2015. The publication draws on previous years data which has been published [here](#) to provide a picture of the trends over time. These estimates attach a monetary value to education related exports and TNE activity to understand the contribution made to the UK economy.

This SFR presents information on:

- The total contribution from education related exports and transnational education activity (TNE) to the UK economy from 2010 through to 2015
- The proportionate change in education related exports and TNE activity in 2015 compared to 2010
- The revenue streams comprising education related exports and TNE activity
- The proportionate share of revenue streams comprising education related exports and TNE activity
- The income from EU and non-EU students in terms of tuition fees and living expenditure

## Technical document

Further detail on the methodology used to calculate education related exports and TNE activity can be found [here](#).

## In this publication

The following tables are included in the SFR:

- UK revenue from education related exports and repatriated income from transnational education activities
- Underlying data

The accompanying technical document provides information on the methodology used in producing this data and the quality and coverage of data sources.

These measures are intended to quantify the value of education related exports and transnational education activity to the UK economy.

### **Experimental statistics**

These estimates are experimental statistics since they are still to be fully developed and rigorously tested to ensure they meet the required standard for national statistics. This is because the data used to compile these estimates come from multiple sources, some with varying quality or limited coverage.

As improvements are best made by publishing the data and opening up the discussion with data users, we would welcome feedback on the usefulness of the statistics and on the methodology we have used to produce them. We would also welcome ideas for appropriate data sources which could be used to assess the value of exports in these areas and suggestions on additional areas, outside of those already identified, which might contribute to the overall value of education-related exports.

We will publish the next SFR on education related exports and TNE activity for the calendar year 2016, in Autumn 2018. Thereafter, the SFR will be published on an annual basis.

### **Feedback**

We are changing how our releases look and welcome feedback on any aspect of this document at [khalida.choudhury@education.gov.uk](mailto:khalida.choudhury@education.gov.uk)

# 1. UK revenue from education related exports and transnational education (TNE) activity (Table 1 & 2)

Figure 1 shows the increase in education related exports and TNE activity to £19.3 billion (current prices) in 2015. The value of education related exports and TNE activity has grown steadily since 2010. The overall value has increased by 22% or £3.5 billion in current prices since 2010. Education related exports account for £2.8 billion of the £3.5 billion increase and TNE accounts for £0.7 billion of the increase.

Since 2010, total education related exports have grown by 19% in current prices. TNE activity has grown at a significantly faster rate of 62% over the same period. However, this growth has occurred from a lower base.

**Figure 1: UK revenue from education related exports and TNE activity (£billions and current prices)**

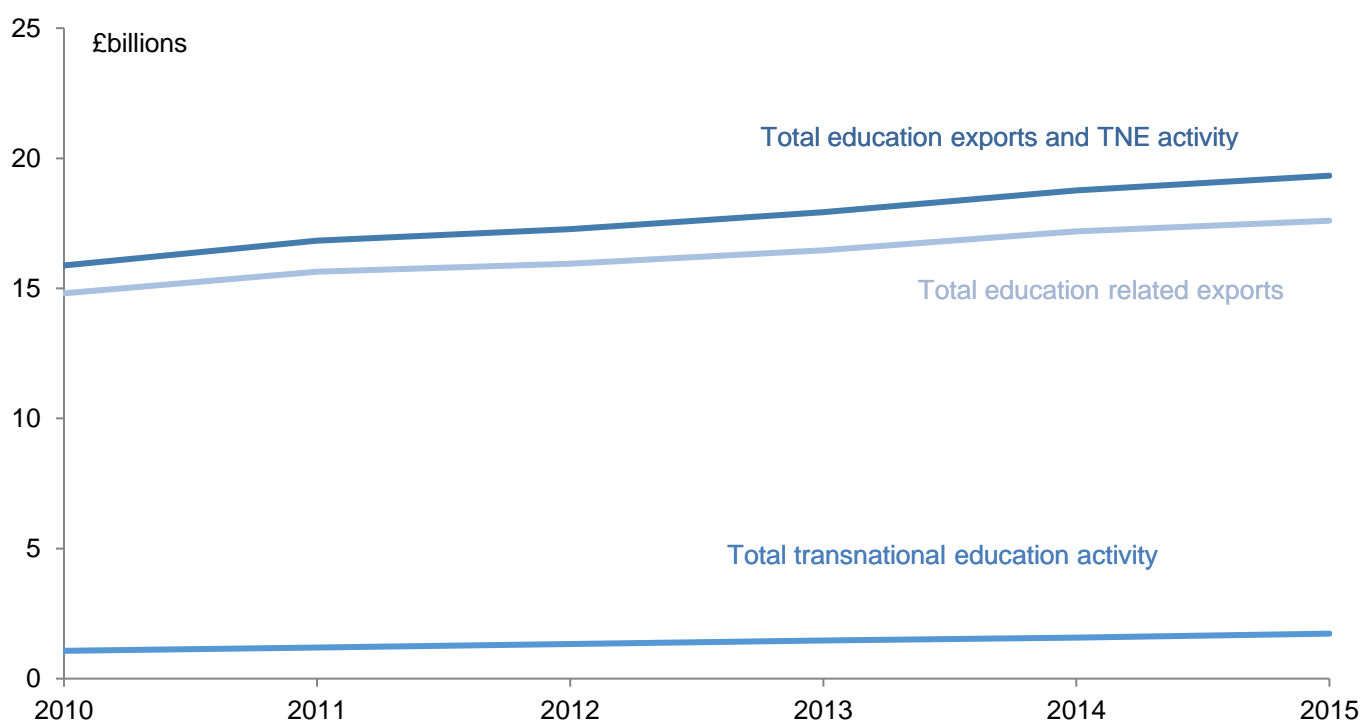


Table 1 shows the annual rate of change in estimates of education related exports since 2010. Between 2014 and 2015 total education exports and TNE activity grew by 3.0%, 1.7 percentage points lower than the rate of growth seen between 2013 and 2014. This reflects the slightly lower growth rate in total education related exports which grew at 2.4% between 2014 and 2015, compared to 4.4% in the previous year.

**Table 1: Annual percentage change in education related exports and TNE activity**

	% change 2010 to 2011	% change 2011 to 2012	% change 2012 to 2013	% change 2013 to 2014	% change 2014 to 2015
Total education related exports	5.6	2.0	3.2	4.4	2.4
Total transnational education activity	10.9	11.8	10.7	7.5	9.6
Total education exports and TNE activity	6.0	2.7	3.8	4.7	3.0

**Table 2. Percentage change between 2010 and 2015 in revenue streams of education related exports and transnational education activity**

£m current prices to nearest £10m,  
calendar years

	2010	2015	Change 2010-2015	% Change 2010 - 2015
<b>Higher Education - HEIs</b>				
Non-EU students				
Fee income	2,700	4,300	+1,600	59%
Living expenditure	3,860	4,600	+740	19%
(Scholarships awarded)	(40)	(50)	+10	28%
EU students				
Fee income	350	700	+350	101%
Living expenditure	1,580	1,730	+150	9%
Incoming Erasmus students (living expenditure)	260	380	+120	46%
(Cost to Govt of tuition fee loans)	(50)	(150)	+100	212%
Other				
Research and other contracts	760	1,250	+490	64%
Other (e.g. IP income)	100	190	+90	86%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,530</b>	<b>12,940</b>	<b>+3,410</b>	<b>36%</b>
<b>Further Education (Non-EU only)</b>				
Fee Income	230	90	-140	-60%
Living costs	650	190	-460	-71%
Other income	40	40	0	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>-600</b>	<b>-65%</b>
<b>Independent schools</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>+270</b>	<b>44%</b>
<b>English Language Training</b>	<b>2,230</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>-580</b>	<b>-26%</b>
<b>Education Products and Services</b>				
Qualification awarding bodies	140	250	+110	73%
Education-related publishing	870	920	+50	6%
Education-related equipment	480	610	+130	27%
Education-related broadcasting	10	10	0	-16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,510</b>	<b>1,790</b>	<b>+280</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>TOTAL EDUCATION RELATED EXPORTS</b>	<b>14,810</b>	<b>17,600</b>	<b>+2,790</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>Transnational Education</b>				
Higher Education	350	580	+230	65%
Further Education	30	30	0	9%
Schools	610	1,010	+400	66%
English Language Training	80	100	+20	30%
<b>TOTAL TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION ACTIVITY</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>1,730</b>	<b>+660</b>	<b>62%</b>
<b>TOTAL EDUCATION EXPORTS AND TNE ACTIVITY</b>	<b>15,880</b>	<b>19,330</b>	<b>+3,450</b>	<b>22%</b>

Totals will not necessarily equal the sum of the parts due to rounding

Figures in brackets are subtracted

## 2. Share of education related exports and TNE by value of revenue stream (Tables 3 & 4)

Figure 2: Share by revenue stream of education related exports and repatriated income from transnational education activities, 2015 (£billions in current prices)

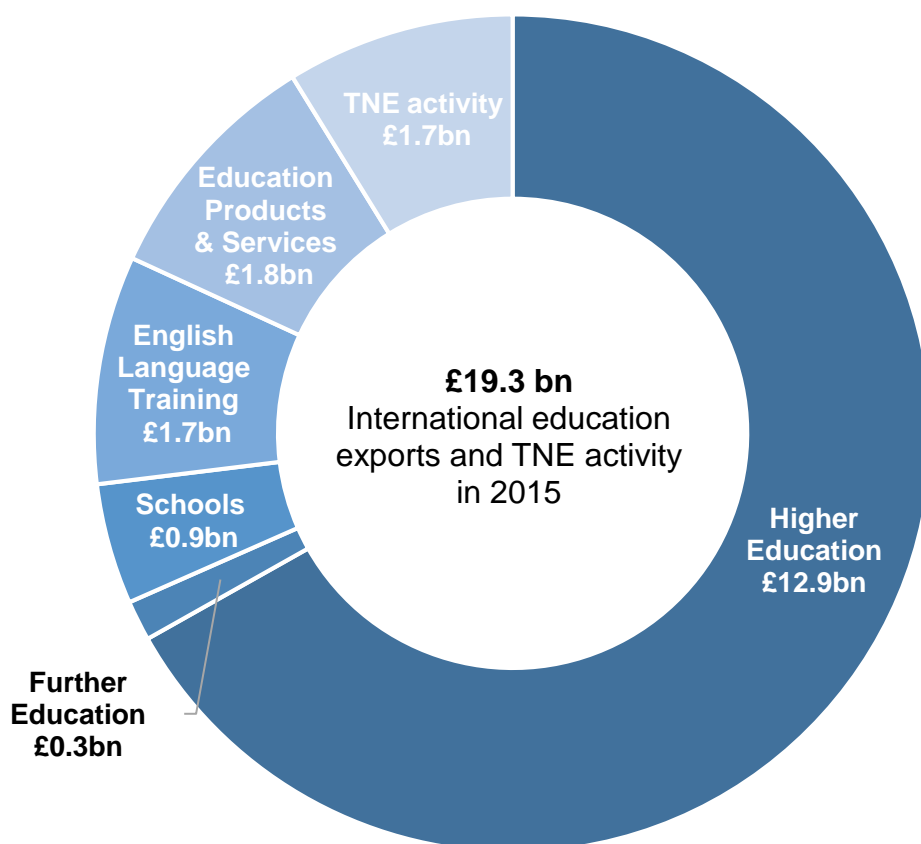


Figure 2 shows the composition of revenue streams in total education related exports and TNE activity in 2015. Higher education was the main contributor with £12.9 billion of export revenue. In comparison, Further Education – (which consists of non-EU students only) accounted for £0.3 billion (see methodology for further information on how this is calculated). The income generated from English Language Training, Education Products and Services and TNE activity is broadly similar. Independent schools generated £0.9 billion.

Table 3 sets out the components of each revenue stream between 2010 and 2015. It shows that, in 2015, EU and non-EU higher education students generated an estimated £11.5 billion<sup>2</sup> in exports through living expenditure and tuition fees, which accounts for around 60% of the total value of education exports and TNE activity.

<sup>2</sup> EU and non-EU students generated £8.9 billion and £2.8 billion respectively, minus the cost of scholarships awarded and cost to Government of tuition fee loans.

**Table 3. UK revenue from education related exports and transnational education activity**

	£m current prices to nearest £10m, calendar years					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Higher Education - HEIs</b>						
Non-EU students						
Fee income	2,700	3,040	3,340	3,650	4,000	4,300
Living expenditure (Scholarships awarded)	3,860 (40)	4,140 (40)	4,270 (40)	4,380 (40)	4,550 (40)	4,600 (50)
EU students						
Fee income	350	380	430	530	630	700
Living expenditure	1,580	1,680	1,710	1,680	1,700	1,730
Incoming Erasmus students (living expenditure) (Cost to Govt of tuition fee loans)	260 (50)	280 (50)	310 (60)	330 (80)	340 (100)	380 (150)
Other						
Research and other contracts	760	840	970	1,100	1,190	1,250
Other (e.g. IP income)	100	110	120	140	170	190
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,530</b>	<b>10,390</b>	<b>11,040</b>	<b>11,690</b>	<b>12,440</b>	<b>12,940</b>
<b>Further Education (Non-EU only)</b>						
Fee Income	230	260	160	130	110	90
Living costs	650	720	450	260	210	190
Other income	40	40	40	40	40	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>1,020</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>320</b>
<b>Independent schools</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>900</b>
<b>English Language Training</b>	<b>2,230</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>1,890</b>	<b>1,860</b>	<b>1,820</b>	<b>1,650</b>
<b>Education Products and Services</b>						
Qualification awarding bodies	140	160	180	210	230	250
Education-related publishing	870	860	860	940	940	920
Education-related equipment	480	510	560	560	580	610
Education-related broadcasting	10	10	20	20	20	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,510</b>	<b>1,540</b>	<b>1,610</b>	<b>1,730</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>1,790</b>
<b>TOTAL EDUCATION RELATED EXPORTS</b>	<b>14,810</b>	<b>15,640</b>	<b>15,950</b>	<b>16,460</b>	<b>17,190</b>	<b>17,600</b>
<b>Transnational Education</b>						
Higher Education	350	400	470	510	550	580
Further Education	30	30	30	30	30	30
Schools	610	670	730	830	900	1,010
English Language Training	80	90	90	100	100	100
<b>TOTAL TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION ACTIVITY</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>1,190</b>	<b>1,330</b>	<b>1,470</b>	<b>1,580</b>	<b>1,730</b>
<b>TOTAL EDUCATION EXPORTS AND TNE ACTIVITY</b>	<b>15,880</b>	<b>16,830</b>	<b>17,280</b>	<b>17,930</b>	<b>18,770</b>	<b>19,330</b>

Totals will not necessarily equal the sum of the parts due to rounding

Figures in brackets are subtracted

Over the period 2010 to 2015 the share of Higher Education to the total value of education related exports and TNE activity has increased by 7 percentage points from 60% to 67%. TNE activity has increased by 2 percentage point over the same period from 7% to 9% (Table 4).

The share of English Language Training and Further Education (non-EU students) have both fallen by 5 and 4 percentage points respectively; the ELT share dropping from 14% to 9% and the Further Education share dropping from 6% to 2%.

**Table 4: Share by revenue stream of total education related exports and transnational education activity from 2010 to 2015**

	% share of total education exports and TNE activity					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Higher Education - HEIs	60%	62%	64%	65%	66%	67%
Further Education (Non-EU only)	6%	6%	4%	2%	2%	2%
Independent schools	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%
English Language Training	14%	12%	11%	10%	10%	9%
Education Products and Services	9%	9%	9%	10%	9%	9%
Transnational Education	7%	7%	8%	8%	8%	9%
<b>Total value education exports and transnational education activity</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	£15.88 bn	£16.83 bn	£17.28 bn	£17.93 bn	£18.77 bn	£19.33 bn

Totals will not necessarily equal the sum of the parts due to rounding

### 3. Accompanying tables

The following tables are available in Excel format on the department's statistics website [here](#):

#### National tables

##### Table 1

Annual percentage change in education related exports and TNE activity

##### Table 2

Percentage change between 2010 and 2015 in revenue streams of education related exports and transnational education activity

##### Table 3

UK revenue from education related exports and transnational education activity, 2010-2015.

##### Table 4

Share of total education related exports and transnational education activity by revenue stream from 2010 to 2015

When reviewing the tables, please note that:

Tables 2 and 4 on the percentage change in revenue streams

- The percentage change in table 4 shows the market share of each component of education related exports and transnational education activity, the percentages for each year sum to 100%. In contrast table 2 shows the percentage change in 2015 compared to 2010, showing how the different components have grown or declined in this period.



## 4. Further information

- A detailed technical note is published alongside this publication
- Previously published figures for 2010 to 2014 are available [here](#)

## 5. Technical information

A quality and methodology information document accompanies this SFR. This provides further information on the data sources, their coverage and quality and explains the methodology used in producing the data, including how it is validated and processed.

## 6. Get in touch

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About this publication:

Reference: SFR12/2018



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