## Statistical Fact Sheet 1

## Higher Education Age Participation Index for Northern Ireland - 1994/95 to 2017/18

The Age Participation Index (API) is a measure used to demonstrate changes in participation of young people in Higher Education over time. More precisely, it is defined as the number of NI domiciled young entrants (aged under 21) to full-time undergraduate Higher Education (in the UK or Republic of Ireland) as a percentage of the 18 year-old population of Northern Ireland.

- The NI API for the 2017/18 academic year was $50.6 \%$, a decrease of 0.9 percentage points from the 2016/17 academic year (51.5\%). While the figure can fluctuate by a few percentage points from year to year it has grown substantially in net terms since 1994/95, at which stage it was $36.9 \%$.

Higher Education Age Participation Index - 1994/95 to 2017/18


| Year | Proportion of NI <br> 18 year olds | Year | Proportion of NI <br> 18 year olds |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1994 / 95$ | $36.9 \%$ | $2006 / 07$ | $46.1 \%$ |
| $1995 / 96$ | $40.9 \%$ | $2007 / 08$ | $49.6 \%$ |
| $1996 / 97$ | $40.3 \%$ | $2008 / 09$ | $48.2 \%$ |
| $1997 / 98$ | $43.9 \%$ | $2009 / 10$ | $50.7 \%$ |
| $1998 / 99$ | $41.2 \%$ | $2010 / 11$ | $48.0 \%$ |
| $1999 / 00$ | $44.8 \%$ | $2011 / 12$ | $48.8 \%$ |
| $2000 / 01$ | $46.4 \%$ | $2012 / 13$ | $45.9 \%$ |
| $2001 / 02$ | $45.6 \%$ | $2013 / 14$ | $49.5 \%$ |
| $2002 / 03$ | $46.0 \%$ | $2014 / 15$ | $49.4 \%$ |
| $2003 / 04$ | $44.2 \%$ | $2015 / 16$ | $48.2 \%$ |
| $2004 / 05$ | $45.0 \%$ | $2016 / 17$ | $51.5 \%$ |
| $2005 / 06$ | $47.7 \%$ | $2017 / 18$ | $50.6 \%$ |

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA), Further Education Statistical Record (FESR), Consolidated Data Return (CDR), Higher Education Authority - Republic of Ireland (HEA), Department for Education, Welsh Government (WG), Scottish Government (SG).

## Notes:

1. From 2000/01, the data used to calculate the API are based on full-year enrolments. The data used in previous years were based on a snapshot of enrolments at $1^{\text {st }}$ December of the academic year. Full year data are defined by the HESA standard registration population.
2. In 2013/14, the Further Education Statistical Record (FESR) ceased to exist and was replaced by the Consolidated Data Return (CDR).
3. There is no single common measure of HE participation across the UK. England and Scotland calculate the Higher Education Initial Participation Rate (HEIPR), which is a more wide ranging measure and includes, in addition to the API, part-time students and students up to the age of 30 . Wales does not currently calculate a specific age participation rate.
4. Consideration is being given to developing the HEIPR for NI to facilitate future comparisons with England and Scotland. This will be done in consultation with key stakeholders.
5. The API percentage can fluctuate from year to year as a result of small increases or decreases in the 18 year old population each year in combination with small increases or decreases in enrolments.

Data from this fact sheet are available in open data format at the following link:
https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/articles/higher-education-statistical-fact-sheets

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## Statistical Fact Sheet 2

## Section 1: NI Domiciled applicants applying and applicants accepted to UK institutions through UCAS - 2009/10 to 2018/19 (2009-2018 UCAS cycles)

The chart and table below provide information on the number of NI domiciled applicants applying to and accepted to UK institutions, through the UCAS process.

- Over the decade between 2009/10 and 2018/19, the number of NI domiciled applicants applying to UK institutions increased by a net $10.7 \%$, from 17,450 to 19,310 . Over the same period, the number of NI domiciled applicants accepted to UK institutions increased by a net $3.9 \%$, from 13,600 to 14,125 .
- Between 2017/18 and 2018/19, the number of NI domiciled applicants applying to UK institutions decreased by $4.8 \%$, from 20,290 to 19,310 . Over the same period, the number of NI domiciled applicants accepted to UK institutions decreased by 1.7\%, from 14,375 to 14,125.


|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 9 / 1 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 0} / \mathbf{1 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 1 / 1 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 2 / 1 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 3 / 1 4}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Applicants applying | 17,450 | 19,410 | 20,030 | 19,150 | 20,290 |
| Applicants accepted | 13,600 | 13,505 | 13,790 | 13,285 | 14,555 |
|  | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4 / 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5 / 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6 / 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7 / 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 8} / \mathbf{1 9}$ |
| Applicants applying | 20,300 | 20,810 | 21,110 | 20,290 | 19,310 |
| Applicants accepted | 14,455 | 14,050 | 14,800 | 14,375 | 14,125 |

Source: The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)
Notes:

1. Figures include applicants applying and accepted to Queen's University Belfast, Ulster University, Stranmillis University College and the NI Colleges of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE).
2. St Mary's University College and the Open University do not use UCAS for their application process.
3. UCAS is the central organisation through which applications are processed for entry to full-time undergraduate courses at UK higher education institutions.
4. Applicants can make up to five applications through UCAS; however, in the above table, each applicant is counted only once.
5. Percentage comparisons are based on unrounded figures.

## Section 2: Applicants applying and applicants accepted to NI institutions through UCAS 2009/10 to 2018/19 (2009-2018 UCAS cycles)

The chart and table below provide information on the number of applicants applying to and accepted to NI institutions, through the UCAS process.

- Over the decade between 2009/10 and 2018/19, the number of applicants applying to NI institutions increased by a net $23.0 \%$, from 19,290 to 23,720 . Over the same period, the number of applicants accepted to NI institutions increased by a net $0.6 \%$, from 10,150 to 10,210.
- Between 2017/18 and 2018/19, the number of applicants applying to NI institutions decreased by $2.5 \%$ from 24,330 to 23,720 . Over the same period, the number of applicants accepted to NI institutions remained stable, 10,205 compared with 10,210.


|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 9 / 1 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 0} / \mathbf{1 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 1 / 1 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 2 / 1 3}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 3 / 1 4}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Applicants applying | 19,290 | 21,680 | 22,190 | 22,250 | 23,600 |
| Applicants accepted | 10,150 | 9,750 | 9,550 | 10,040 | 10,965 |
|  | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4 / 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5} / \mathbf{1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6} / \mathbf{1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7 / 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 8} / \mathbf{1 9}$ |
| Applicants applying | 24,400 | 25,840 | 25,110 | 24,330 | 23,720 |
| Applicants accepted | 11,260 | 10,165 | 10,450 | 10,205 | 10,210 |

Source: The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

## Notes:

1. Figures include applicants applying and accepted to Queen's University Belfast, Ulster University, Stranmillis University College and the NI Colleges of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE).
2. St Mary's University College and the Open University do not use UCAS for their application process.
3. UCAS is the central organisation through which applications are processed for entry to full-time undergraduate courses at UK higher education institutions.
4. Applicants can make up to five applications through UCAS; however, in the above table, each applicant is counted only once.
5. Percentage comparisons are based on rounded figures.

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## Statistical Fact Sheet 3

Initial teacher training at NI Higher Education Institutions: first year enrolments, all enrolments and graduates by level of study and teaching sector - 2013/14 to 2017/18
 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).
 decreased by $12.1 \%$, from 585 to 515.

- Between 2016/17 and 2017/18, the total number of first year enrolments on ITT courses at NI HEls decreased from 580 to 565 (a $2.2 \%$ decrease), while the total number of student enrolments on ITT courses at NI HEIs decreased from 1,420 to 1,380 (a $2.5 \%$ decrease).

|  |  | 2013/14 |  |  | 2014/15 |  |  | 2015/16 |  |  | 2016/17 |  |  | 2017/18 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Primary | Secondary | Total | Primary | Secondary | Total | Primary | Secondary | Total | Primary | Secondary | Total | Primary | Secondary | Total |
| Enrolments | Undergraduate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | First Year Enrolments | 200 | 95 | 290 | 190 | 100 | 290 | 190 | 100 | 290 | 190 | 100 | 290 | 190 | 100 | 295 |
|  | All Enrolments | 770 | 345 | 1,115 | 750 | 380 | 1,130 | 755 | 380 | 1,135 | 745 | 375 | 1,120 | 740 | 365 | 1,105 |
|  | Postgraduate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | First Year Enrolments | 70 | 250 | 315 | 70 | 215 | 285 | 70 | 220 | 290 | 65 | 225 | 290 | 65 | 210 | 275 |
|  | All Enrolments | 70 | 260 | 330 | 70 | 245 | 315 | 70 | 220 | 290 | 70 | 225 | 295 | 65 | 210 | 280 |
|  | Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | First Year Enrolments | 265 | 340 | 610 | 260 | 320 | 575 | 260 | 320 | 580 | 255 | 320 | 580 | 255 | 310 | 565 |
|  | All Enrolments | 840 | 610 | 1,445 | 820 | 625 | 1,445 | 820 | 600 | 1,420 | 815 | 600 | 1,420 | 805 | 575 | 1,380 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Qualifications | Undergraduate | 190 | 120 | 305 | 170 | 105 | 270 | 180 | 90 | 270 | 190 | 90 | 275 | 175 | 75 | 250 |
|  | Postgraduate | 65 | 215 | 280 | 65 | 220 | 285 | 65 | 210 | 275 | 65 | 215 | 280 | 65 | 200 | 260 |
|  | All Graduates | 255 | 330 | 585 | 235 | 325 | 560 | 245 | 300 | 545 | 250 | 305 | 555 | 240 | 275 | 515 |

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)
Notes:

1. Courses provided by Stranmillis University College and St. Mary's University College are at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, while Queen's University Belfast \& Ulster University provide only postgraduate courses. 2. To prevent the identification of individuals, figures are rounded to the nearest 5 , in line with HESA rounding strategy with 0,1 and 2 rounded to 0 . Due to rounding, figures in rows or columns may not sum to totals. 2. To preventages are based on unrounded figures.
2. 

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## Statistical Fact Sheet 4

## Enrolments at NI Higher Education Institutions by available equality categories 2013/14 to 2017/18

- In 2017/18, 10.4\% of students enrolled at NI HEls self-reported as having a disability; an increase from 9.6\% in 2016/17.
- In 2017/18, of those NI domiciled students enrolled at NI HEIs who were asked to provide the religion they were brought up in, $30.4 \%$ of students stated 'Protestant', $48.9 \%$ stated 'Roman Catholic' and the remainder were categorised as 'Other' (5.2\%), 'No Religion' (6.8\%) or 'Unknown' (8.7\%).

| Disability ${ }^{(1)}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 3 / 1 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4 / 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5 / 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6 / 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7 / 1 8}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Disability | 4,160 | 4,550 | 5,140 | 5,250 | 5,650 |
| No disability/unknown | 52,235 | 51,895 | 50,100 | 49,320 | 48,810 |
| Total | 56,395 | 56,445 | 55,245 | 54,570 | 54,460 |


| Religion ${ }^{(2)(3)(4)}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 3 / 1 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4 / 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5 / 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6 / 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7 / 1 8}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Protestant | 13,800 | 13,655 | 13,125 | 12,955 | 12,695 |
| Roman Catholic | 21,325 | 21,210 | 20,595 | 20,535 | 20,425 |
| Other | 4,665 | 5,170 | 5,640 | 3,580 | 2,190 |
| Unknown | 4,350 | 4,265 | 4,055 | 3,675 | 3,615 |
| No Religion | - | - | - | 1,765 | 2,830 |
| Total | 44,140 | 44,295 | 43,415 | 42,505 | 41,755 |


| Age | $\mathbf{2 0 1 3 / 1 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4 / 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5 / 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6 / 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7 / 1 8}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 20 and under | 19,995 | 20,610 | 19,810 | 19,395 | 19,190 |
| 21 to 24 | 15,115 | 14,870 | 15,185 | 15,360 | 15,810 |
| 25 and over | 21,280 | 20,960 | 20,250 | 19,815 | 19,460 |
| Unknown | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 56,395 | 56,445 | 55,245 | 54,570 | 54,460 |


| Sex | $\mathbf{2 0 1 3 / 1 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4 / 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5 / 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6 / 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7 / 1 8}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Male | 24,400 | 24,670 | 23,865 | 23,540 | 23,180 |
| Female | 31,995 | 31,775 | 31,380 | 31,030 | 31,280 |
| Total | 56,395 | 56,445 | 55,245 | 54,570 | 54,460 |


| Ethnicity $^{(\mathbf{1})}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 3 / 1 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4 / 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5 / 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6 / \mathbf { 1 7 }}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7 / 1 8}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| White | 48,415 | 49,150 | 49,575 | 48,625 | 48,040 |
| Irish Traveller | 15 | 15 | 10 | 15 | 10 |
| Black | 330 | 455 | 360 | 370 | 340 |
| Indian | 315 | 285 | 300 | 295 | 275 |
| Pakistani | 135 | 235 | 195 | 185 | 150 |
| Bangladeshi | 150 | 100 | 115 | 115 | 55 |
| Chinese | 900 | 550 | 350 | 355 | 370 |
| Other Asian | 385 | 360 | 295 | 300 | 280 |
| Mixed | 340 | 325 | 340 | 380 | 405 |
| Other | 190 | 235 | 220 | 235 | 200 |
| Unknown | 5,220 | 4,740 | 3,480 | 3,695 | 4,330 |
| Total | 56,395 | 56,445 | 55,245 | 54,570 | 54,460 |


| Marital Status(2) | $\mathbf{2 0 1 3 / 1 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4 / 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5 / 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6 / 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7 / 1 8}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Single (never married or never in civil partnership) | 36,645 | 37,230 | 36,515 | 35,920 | 34,560 |
| Married or in civil partnership | 4,940 | 4,660 | 4,360 | 4,120 | 3,875 |
| Separated (but still legally married or in civil |  |  |  |  |  |
| partnership) | 290 | 275 | 260 | 245 | 235 |
| Divorced or civil partnership dissolved | 260 | 245 | 260 | 225 | 215 |
| Widowed | 50 | 55 | 55 | 45 | 40 |
| Co-habiting | 740 | 725 | 700 | 685 | 650 |
| Unknown | 1,210 | 1,105 | 1,260 | 1,265 | 2,180 |
| Total | 44,140 | 44,295 | 43,415 | 42,505 | 41,755 | | Dependants |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Young people/children (YP/C) | $\mathbf{2 0 1 3 / 1 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 4 / 1 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 5 / 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6 / 1 7}$ |
| 2017/18 |  |  |  |  |
| Other relative/friends (OR/F) | 4,570 | 4,530 | 4,330 | 4,140 |
| Both YP/C \& OR/F | 395 | 375 | 315 | 290 |

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

## Notes:

1. Information on disability and ethnicity is collected on the basis of a student's self assessment.
2. Information on religion, marital status and dependents is only collected for NI domiciled students studying at NI HE institutions.
3. Religious affiliation is not a mandatory question and therefore can have a high non-response rate.
4. A new coding framework was added to the HESA data collection for the Religion question in 2016/17, which includes an additional category for 'No Religion'. More information can be found at: www.hesa.ac.uk/collection/c16051/n/religion
5. 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. Figures for the previous academic years have been updated to reflect this change.
6. Enrolments at the OU (where the national centre is located in NI ) have been removed from the figures for religion, marital status and dependants due to high levels of unknowns.
7. To prevent the identification of individuals, figures in the attached table are rounded to the nearest 5 , with 0 , 1 and 2 rounded to 0 . Due to rounding, the sum of numbers in each row or column may not match the total shown.
8. Percentages are based on unrounded figures.

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## Statistical Fact Sheet 5

## Enrolments at UK Higher Education Institutions by country of institution and subject area 2017/18

Of the 54,460 students enrolled at Northern Ireland Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in 2017/18:

- $14,145(26.0 \%)$ were enrolled on Narrow STEM ${ }^{1}$ related courses. The equivalent percentages for English, Scottish and Welsh HEIs were $27.1 \%, 29.9 \%$ and $30.8 \%$ respectively.
- 26,995 (49.6\%) were enrolled on Broad STEM ${ }^{2}$ related courses. The equivalent percentages for English, Scottish and Welsh HEIs were $45.5 \%, 49.5 \%$ and $47.7 \%$ respectively.
- The three most popular subject areas studied in NI HEls were 'Subjects allied to medicine' $(8,595)$, 'Business and administrative studies' $(7,500)$ and 'Education' $(6,365)$.

Enrolments at UK HEls by subject area and country of institution - 2017/18

|  | Country of Institution |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Subject Area | England | NI | Wales | Scotland |
| Biological Sciences | 189,270 | 3,620 | 24,020 | 17,060 |
| Physical Sciences | 76,320 | 1,715 | 11,890 | 5,790 |
| Mathematical Sciences | 37,730 | 585 | 4,665 | 1,600 |
| Computer Science | 84,665 | 4,360 | 12,640 | 5,585 |
| Engineering and technology | 130,560 | 3,875 | 20,670 | 9,865 |
| Total Narrow STEM ${ }^{1}$ related subjects | 518,545 | 14,155 | 73,885 | 39,905 |
| Medicine and dentistry | 52,885 | 2,160 | 7,655 | 3,180 |
| Subjects allied to medicine | 233,525 | 8,595 | 30,690 | 15,255 |
| Veterinary Science | 6,310 | 0 | 1,550 | 0 |
| Agriculture and related subjects | 14,545 | 475 | 2,345 | 1,315 |
| Architecture, building \& planning | 43,720 | 1,615 | 6,150 | 2,135 |
| Total Broad STEM ${ }^{2}$ related subjects | 869,530 | 26,995 | 122,280 | 61,785 |
| Social studies | 191,935 | 4,650 | 21,205 | 11,570 |
| Law | 76,995 | 2,210 | 8,755 | 4,210 |
| Business and administrative studies | 286,975 | 7,500 | 33,215 | 15,280 |
| Mass communications \& documentation | 44,565 | 900 | 3,440 | 2,455 |
| Languages | 81,905 | 1,700 | 12,375 | 7,560 |
| Historical and philosophical studies | 66,895 | 1,220 | 11,730 | 4,270 |
| Creative arts and design | 155,630 | 2,035 | 12,170 | 8,580 |
| Education | 114,950 | 6,365 | 15,635 | 8,505 |
| Combined | 22,560 | 885 | 6,300 | 5,380 |
| All subject Areas | 1,911,940 | 54,460 | 247,110 | 129,585 |
| \% Narrow STEM ${ }^{1}$ related subject | 27.1\% | 26.0\% | 29.9\% | 30.8\% |
| \% Broad STEM ${ }^{2}$ related subject | 45.5\% | 49.6\% | 49.5\% | 47.7\% |

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

Notes:

1. Narrow STEM related courses include: Biological Sciences; Physical Sciences; Mathematical Sciences; Computer Science; and Engineering \& Technology.
2. Broad STEM related courses include: Medicine \& Dentistry; Subjects allied to Medicine; Biological Sciences; Veterinary Science; Agriculture \& related subjects; Physical Sciences; Mathematical Sciences; Computer Science; Engineering \& Technology; and Architecture, Building \& Planning.
3. 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 .
4. Due to rounding, the sum of rows or columns may not match the totals shown.
5. Percentages are based on unrounded figures.

Data from this fact sheet, and for the years up to and including 2014/15, are available in open data format at the following link:
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## Statistical Fact Sheet 6

## Section 1: Enrolments on Narrow STEM ${ }^{1}$ related courses at NI Higher Education Institutions - 2013/14 to 2017/18

- Between 2013/14 and 2017/18, the total number of students enrolled on Narrow STEM related courses at NI Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) increased by 5.1\%, from 13,460 to 14,155.
- Although there was a $3.4 \%$ net decrease in all enrolments at NI HEls between 2013/14 and 2017/18, the proportion of Narrow STEM enrolments increased from $23.9 \%$ to $26.0 \%$ over the same period.
- Between 2016/17 and 2017/18, the total number of students enrolled on Narrow STEM related courses at NI HEls increased by 235 (1.7\%), from 13,920 to 14,155.
- Between 2013/14 and 2017/18, the number of undergraduate enrolments on Narrow STEM related courses at NI HEls increased from 11,175 to 11,805 (a rise of $5.7 \%$ ). Over the same time period, postgraduate Narrow STEM enrolments increased from 2,290 to 2,345 (a rise of 2.5\%).


|  | Narrow STEM Enrolments |  |  |  | All <br> Enrolments |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Undergraduate | Postgraduate | Total | Proportion |  |
| $2013 / 14$ | 11,175 | 2,290 | $\mathbf{1 3 , 4 6 0}$ | $23.9 \%$ | 56,445 |
| $2014 / 15$ | 11,765 | 2,260 | $\mathbf{1 4 , 0 2 5}$ | $24.8 \%$ | 55,245 |
| $2015 / 16$ | 11,985 | 2,190 | $\mathbf{1 4 , 1 7 5}$ | $25.7 \%$ | 54,570 |
| $2016 / 17$ | 11,845 | 2,075 | $\mathbf{1 3 , 9 2 0}$ | $25.5 \%$ | 50,460 |
| $2017 / 18$ | 11,805 | 2,345 | $\mathbf{1 4 , 1 5 5}$ | $26.0 \%$ | 55 |

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)
Notes:

1. Narrow STEM related courses include: Biological Sciences; Physical Sciences; Mathematical Sciences; Computer Science and Engineering \& Technology.
2. Figures are rounded to the nearest 5 . Due to rounding, figures may not sum to totals. Percentages are based on unrounded figures.
3. 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. Figures for previous years have been updated to reflect this change in methodology.

## Section 2: Enrolments on Broad STEM ${ }^{1}$ related courses at NI Higher Education Institutions 2013/14 to 2017/18

- Between 2013/14 and 2017/18, the total number of students enrolled on Broad STEM related courses at NI Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) rose from 25,565 to 26,995 (a 5.6\% increase).
- Although there was a 3.4\% net decrease in all enrolments at NI HEls between 2013/14 and 2017/18, the proportion of Broad STEM enrolments increased from $45.3 \%$ to $49.6 \%$ over the same period.
- Between 2016/17 and 2017/18, the total number of students enrolled on Broad STEM related courses at NI HEls increased by 315 (1.2\%), from 26,680 to 26,995.
- Between 2013/14 and 2017/18, undergraduate enrolments on Broad STEM related courses at NI HEls increased from 20,365 to 21,380 (a rise of $5 \%$ ). Although some fluctuations occurred, the number of postgraduate Broad STEM enrolments increased from 5,200 to 5,615 (a rise of $8 \%$ ) over the same period.

Enrolments on Broad STEM courses at NI HEls - 2013/14 to 2017/18


|  | Broad STEM Enrolments |  |  |  | All <br> Enrolments |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Undergraduate | Postgraduate | Total | Proportion | 56,395 |
| $2013 / 14$ | 20,365 | 5,200 | $\mathbf{2 5 , 5 6 5}$ | $45.3 \%$ | 56,445 |
| $2014 / 15$ | 20,960 | 5,135 | $\mathbf{2 6 , 0 9 5}$ | $46.2 \%$ | 55,245 |
| $2015 / 16$ | 21,280 | 5,100 | $\mathbf{2 6 , 3 8 0}$ | $47.8 \%$ | 54,570 |
| $2016 / 17$ | 21,440 | 5,240 | $\mathbf{2 6 , 6 8 0}$ | $48.9 \%$ | 50,460 |
| $2017 / 18$ | 21,380 | 5,615 | $\mathbf{2 6 , 9 9 5}$ | $49.6 \%$ | 550 |

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

## Notes:

1. Broad STEM related courses include: Medicine \& Dentistry; Subjects allied to Medicine; Biological Sciences; Agriculture \& related subjects; Physical Sciences; Mathematical Sciences; Computer Science; Engineering \& Technology; and Architecture, Building \& Planning.
2. Figures are rounded to the nearest 5. Due to rounding, figures may not sum to totals. Percentages are based on unrounded figures.
3. 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. Figures for previous years have been updated to reflect this change in methodology.

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Department for the
Economy

## Statistical Fact Sheet 7

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## Enrolments on Higher Education courses at NI Higher Education Institutions and NI Further Education Colleges - 1988/89 to 2017/18

- Over the past 30 years, enrolments on HE courses at NI Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) have more than doubled, from 22,880 in 1988/89 to 54,460 in 2017/18. (Footnote)
- Between 2016/17 and 2017/18, the number of enrolments on HE courses at NI HEIs decreased by $0.2 \%$, from 54,570 to 54,460 . (Footnote)


## Enrolments on HE courses at NI HEIs and NI FE colleges - 1988/89-2017/18



Footnote: 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. The figures above have been backdated to include OU (where the national centre is located in NI) from 2005/06 onwards.

- Over the 30-year period between 1988/89 and 2017/18, the number of enrolments on HE courses at NI Further Education colleges increased almost four-fold, from 3,175 to 11,848.
- Between 2016/17 and 2017/17, the number of enrolments on HE courses at NI Further Education colleges increased from 11,175 to 11,848 , an increase of $6.0 \%$.
- Between 1988/89 and 2017/18, the number of enrolments on HE courses at NI HEIs and NI Further Education colleges more than doubled, from 26,060 to 66,305.
- Between 2016/17 and 2017/18, the total number of enrolments on HE courses at NI Higher Education Institutions and NI Further Education colleges increased by 0.9\%, from 65,745 to 66,305.

Enrolments on Higher Education courses at NI HEls (excluding Open University) and NI FE Colleges - 1988/89 to 2017/18

|  | NI Higher <br> Education <br> Institutions | NI Further <br> Education <br> Colleges | Total |  | NI Higher <br> Education <br> Institutions | NI Further <br> Education <br> Colleges | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $1988 / 89$ | 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 |
| $2000 / 01$ | 46,400 | 13,780 | 60,180 | $2015 / 16$ | 51,505 | 11,631 | 63,135 |
| $2001 / 02$ | 47,155 | 13,650 | 60,805 | $2016 / 17$ | 50,960 | 11,175 | 62,135 |
| $2002 / 03$ | 49,125 | 13,515 | 62,640 | $2017 / 18$ | 50,725 | 11,848 | 62,570 |

Sources: Various - see notes below

Enrolments on Higher Education courses at NI HEls (including Open University NI) and NI FE Colleges - 2005/06 to 2017/18

|  | NI Higher <br> Education <br> Institutions | NI Further <br> Education <br> Colleges | Total |  | NI Higher <br> Education <br> Institutions | NI Further <br> Education <br> Colleges | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $2005 / 06$ | 56,525 | 12,790 | 69,315 | $2012 / 13$ | 56,155 | 11,453 | 67,610 |
| $2006 / 07$ | 52,615 | 11,625 | 64,240 | $2013 / 14$ | 56,395 | 11,576 | 67,970 |
| $2007 / 08$ | 52,155 | 10,245 | 62,400 | $2014 / 15$ | 56,445 | 11,722 | 68,165 |
| $2008 / 09$ | 52,450 | 10,280 | 62,730 | $2015 / 16$ | 55,245 | 11,631 | 66,875 |
| $2009 / 10$ | 55,600 | 11,400 | 67,000 | $2016 / 17$ | 54,570 | 11,175 | 65,745 |
| $2010 / 11$ | 56,860 | 11,005 | 67,865 | $2017 / 18$ | 54,460 | 11,848 | 66,305 |
| $2011 / 12$ | 56,720 | 11,315 | 68,035 |  |  |  |  |

Sources: Various - see notes below

## Notes:

1. $1988 / 89$ to $1993 / 94$ information has been obtained from the Digest of Northern Ireland Higher Education Statistics 1988/89-1993/94, and Statistical News Releases and Bulletins published by the Department for Education, the Department for Employment and Learning and the Department for the Economy.
2. From 2000/01, Higher Education statistics are based on full year Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) data. Further Education 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 are contained in 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 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 Open University (OU) as a wholly English institution, but splits it between England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, depending on the location of the national centre. Any historical statistics affected by this change in methodology (going back to 2005/06) now reflect the new allocation method for OU.
7. Although figures for 2004/05 backwards and 2005/06 onwards are not directly comparable because of this change in OU allocation, we believe this comparison provides a close approximation to the overall trends in the last 30 years as a whole and so make comparisons between these years.
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 totals shown.
10. Percentages are based on unrounded figures.

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## Statistical Fact Sheet 8

Northern Ireland domiciled students enrolled on Higher Education courses in the UK and Republic of Ireland - 2013/14 to 2017/18

The chart and tables below provide information on NI domiciled students enrolled on Higher Education (HE) courses in the UK and Republic of Ireland (Rol). This includes HE enrolments at UK Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and Further Education (FE) colleges, as well as Rol institutions.

- Between 2013/14 and 2017/18, the total number of NI domiciled students enrolled on HE courses at UK HEIs, UK FE colleges and Rol institutions decreased by a net 1.0\%, from 77,165 to 76,360.
- Between 2016/17 and 2017/18, the total number of NI domiciled students enrolled on HE courses at UK and ROI institutions increased from 75,640 to 76,360 (a net increase of 1.0\%).

NI Domiciled students enrolled on Higher Education courses at UK and Rol institutions

$$
-2013 / 14 \text { to } 2017 / 18
$$



|  |  | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NI HEIs (excl. OU) |  | 44,140 | 44,295 | 43,415 | 42,505 | 41,755 |
| NI FE colleges |  | 10,875 | 11,055 | 11,140 | 10,725 | 11,400 |
| GB HEls (excl. OU) |  | 16,290 | 15,870 | 16,450 | 16,955 | 17,440 |
| OU |  | 4,140 | 3,800 | 3,740 | 3,610 | 3,735 |
| Other | GB FE colleges | 205 | 190 | 190 | 225 | 240 |
|  | Rol | 1,035 | 1,075 | 1,200 | 1,160 | 1,330 |
|  | CAFRE | 475 | 495 | 475 | 455 | 470 |
| Total |  | 77,165 | 76,780 | 76,610 | 75,640 | 76,360 |

Northern Ireland domiciled students enrolled on Higher Education courses in the UK and Rol by type of institution, level of study and mode of study - 2013/14 to 2017/18

| Institution and Year |  | First Degree |  |  | Other Undergraduate |  |  | All Undergraduate |  |  | Postgraduate |  |  | Total |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Full-time | Part-time | Total | Full-time | Part-time | Total | Full-time | Part-time | Total | Full-time | Part-time | Total | Full-time | Part-time | Total |
| Northern Ireland Higher Education institutions |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2013/14 | 28,505 | 2,615 | 31,120 | 300 | 5,020 | 5,320 | 28,805 | 7,630 | 36,440 | 2,950 | 4,750 | 7,700 | 31,760 | 12,380 | 44,140 |
|  | 2014/15 | 29,065 | 2,325 | 31,390 | 270 | 5,110 | 5,380 | 29,335 | 7,435 | 36,770 | 2,980 | 4,550 | 7,525 | 32,310 | 11,985 | 44,295 |
|  | 2015/16 | 28,810 | 2,610 | 31,415 | 280 | 4,790 | 5,065 | 29,085 | 7,400 | 36,485 | 2,960 | 3,970 | 6,930 | 32,045 | 11,370 | 43,415 |
|  | 2016/17 | 28,825 | 2,405 | 31,230 | 325 | 4,130 | 4,455 | 29,150 | 6,535 | 35,685 | 2,905 | 3,910 | 6,815 | 32,055 | 10,445 | 42,505 |
|  | 2017/18 | 28,345 | 2,265 | 30,610 | 360 | 3,650 | 4,010 | 28,710 | 5,915 | 34,620 | 3,240 | 3,890 | 7,130 | 31,945 | 9,805 | 41,755 |
| Northern Ireland |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Further Education | 2013/14 | 270 | 630 | 900 | 3,585 | 6,300 | 9,885 | 3,855 | 6,925 | 10,785 | 0 | 95 | 95 | 3,855 | 7,020 | 10,875 |
|  | 2014/15 | 175 | 535 | 710 | 3,980 | 6,280 | 10,260 | 4,155 | 6,815 | 10,970 | 0 | 85 | 85 | 4,155 | 6,900 | 11,055 |
|  | 2015/16 | 150 | 560 | 710 | 4,165 | 6,220 | 10,390 | 4,315 | 6,785 | 11,100 | 0 | 40 | 40 | 4,315 | 6,825 | 11,140 |
|  | 2016/17 | 145 | 515 | 660 | 4,225 | 5,800 | 10,025 | 4,370 | 6,315 | 10,685 | 0 | 40 | 40 | 4,370 | 6,355 | 10,725 |
|  | 2017/18 | 140 | 620 | 755 | 3,975 | 6,595 | 10,575 | 4,115 | 7,215 | 11,330 | 0 | 70 | 70 | 4,115 | 7,285 | 11,400 |
| College of Agriculture, Food \& Rural Enterprise |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2013/14 | 155 | 80 | 235 | 205 | 35 | 240 | 365 | 115 | 475 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 365 | 115 | 475 |
|  | 2014/15 | 170 | 80 | 250 | 215 | 30 | 250 | 385 | 110 | 495 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 385 | 110 | 495 |
|  | 2015/16 | 210 | 30 | 240 | 160 | 70 | 235 | 370 | 105 | 475 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 370 | 105 | 475 |
|  | 2016/17 | 135 | 70 | 205 | 220 | 30 | 250 | 355 | 100 | 455 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 355 | 100 | 455 |
|  | 2017/18 | 225 | 25 | 245 | 125 | 100 | 220 | 345 | 120 | 470 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 345 | 120 | 470 |
| Great Britain universities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2013/14 | 13,130 | 270 | 13,400 | 185 | 455 | 635 | 13,310 | 725 | 14,035 | 1,175 | 1,080 | 2,255 | 14,485 | 1,805 | 16,290 |
|  | 2014/15 | 12,795 | 280 | 13,075 | 150 | 390 | 540 | 12,945 | 670 | 13,620 | 1,170 | 1,085 | 2,255 | 14,115 | 1,755 | 15,870 |
|  | 2015/16 | 13,235 | 260 | 13,500 | 170 | 385 | 555 | 13,410 | 650 | 14,055 | 1,265 | 1,125 | 2,390 | 14,675 | 1,775 | 16,450 |
|  | 2016/17 | 13,895 | 260 | 14,160 | 130 | 320 | 450 | 14,025 | 580 | 14,605 | 1,240 | 1,110 | 2,350 | 15,265 | 1,690 | 16,955 |
|  | 2017/18 | 14,230 | 285 | 14,515 | 130 | 315 | 445 | 14,360 | 600 | 14,965 | 1,355 | 1,120 | 2,475 | 15,715 | 1,725 | 17,440 |
| Open University |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2013/14 | 0 | 3,005 | 3,005 | 0 | 880 | 880 | 0 | 3,885 | 3,885 | 0 | 255 | 255 | 0 | 4,140 | 4,140 |
|  | 2014/15 | 0 | 3,065 | 3,065 | 0 | 560 | 560 | 0 | 3,625 | 3,625 | 0 | 175 | 175 | 0 | 3,800 | 3,800 |
|  | 2015/16 | 0 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 0 | 590 | 590 | 0 | 3,590 | 3,590 | 0 | 150 | 150 | 0 | 3,740 | 3,740 |
|  | 2016/17 | 0 | 2,855 | 2,855 | 0 | 610 | 610 | 0 | 3,460 | 3,460 | 0 | 150 | 150 | 0 | 3,610 | 3,610 |
|  | 2017/18 | 0 | 2,930 | 2,930 | 0 | 635 | 635 | 0 | 3,565 | 3,565 | 0 | 175 | 175 | 0 | 3,735 | 3,735 |
| Great Britain Further |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Education colleges (1) | 2013/14 | 30 | 20 | 50 | 70 | 85 | 155 | 100 | 105 | 200 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 100 | 105 | 205 |
|  | 2014/15 | 55 | 5 | 60 | 70 | 45 | 125 | 125 | 50 | 190 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 130 | 50 | 190 |
|  | 2015/16 | 40 | 5 | 40 | 80 | 55 | 145 | 120 | 60 | 190 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 120 | 60 | 190 |
|  | 2016/17 | 55 | 5 | 60 | 85 | 50 | 165 | 140 | 55 | 225 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 145 | 55 | 225 |
|  | 2017/18 | 85 | 5 | 85 | 75 | 70 | 150 | 160 | 75 | 235 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 165 | 75 | 240 |
| Republic of Ireland institutions |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2013/14 | 585 | 40 | 625 | 60 | 135 | 195 | 645 | 175 | 820 | 80 | 130 | 215 | 725 | 310 | 1,035 |
|  | 2014/15 | 600 | 50 | 645 | 80 | 150 | 230 | 680 | 200 | 875 | 85 | 115 | 195 | 760 | 310 | 1,075 |
|  | 2015/16 | 740 | 25 | 765 | 95 | 120 | 215 | 835 | 145 | 980 | 120 | 100 | 220 | 950 | 250 | 1,200 |
|  | 2016/17 | 740 | 15 | 755 | 115 | 85 | 200 | 855 | 100 | 955 | 100 | 105 | 205 | 955 | 205 | 1,160 |
|  | 2017/18 | 845 | 5 | 855 | 95 | 125 | 220 | 940 | 135 | 1,075 | 125 | 130 | 255 | 1,065 | 265 | 1,330 |
| Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2013/14 | 42,675 | 6,655 | 49,330 | 4,410 | 12,905 | 17,315 | 47,080 | 19,560 | 66,645 | 4,210 | 6,310 | 10,520 | 51,290 | 25,875 | 77,165 |
|  | 2014/15 | 42,860 | 6,335 | 49,190 | 4,765 | 12,570 | 17,345 | 47,625 | 18,900 | 66,540 | 4,235 | 6,005 | 10,240 | 51,860 | 24,910 | 76,780 |
|  | 2015/16 | 43,185 | 6,490 | 49,675 | 4,950 | 12,240 | 17,200 | 48,135 | 18,730 | 66,875 | 4,345 | 5,390 | 9,735 | 52,480 | 24,120 | 76,610 |
|  | 2016/17 | 43,800 | 6,125 | 49,925 | 5,100 | 11,025 | 16,155 | 48,900 | 17,145 | 66,075 | 4,250 | 5,315 | 9,560 | 53,150 | 22,460 | 75,640 |
|  | 2017/18 | 43,870 | 6,130 | 50,000 | 4,760 | 11,490 | 16,255 | 48,630 | 17,625 | 66,255 | 4,720 | 5,385 | 10,110 | 53,355 | 23,010 | 76,360 |

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA), Further Education Statistical Record (FESR), Consolidated Data Return (CDR),
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD), Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA),
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), Welsh Government (WG), Scottish Government (SG) and Higher Education Authority (HEA).

Notes:

1. For the years 2015/16 and 2016/17, some Northern Ireland (NI) domiciled other undergraduate students on a Higher Education (HE) course at an English Further Education College (FEC) had an unknown mode of study. These students have been included in the totals above but not in the mode of study breakdown.
2. Data on NI domiciled enrolments at GB FECs are provisional for 2017/18.
3. The definition of a Higher Education student used by the different data sources may vary slightly due to different data coding and variable definitions.
4. To prevent the identification of individuals, HE figures have been rounded to the nearest 5 , in line with HESA rounding strategy, with 0 , 1 and 2 rounded to 0 .
5. For consistency, the same rounding strategy has been used on all figures in the table above.
6. Due to rounding, the sum of rows or columns may not match the totals shown.
7. Percentages are based on unrounded figures.

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