

Medr statistics

Quality and Methodology: Higher Education Race Equality Monitoring Measures

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Summary: Quality and production information about the 'Higher Education Race Equality Monitoring Measures' publication

Theme: Higher Education

Source: UCAS end of cycle data and Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Student and Staff records

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Data sources

UCAS Undergraduate end of cycle data 2024

Contains information about applicants and applications to full-time undergraduate higher education courses via UCAS.

These data are not Official Statistics as UCAS are not a producer of Official Statistics. However, UCAS is a voluntary adopter of the Code of Practice for Statistics which helps to provide assurance that the data is of high quality and is trustworthy.

More information about this data source can be found on the [UCAS website](#).

Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Student record

Contains information about students studying at higher education providers across the UK, although only the data of those studying at providers in Wales is used here.

Statistics based on this data source are Official Statistics.

More information about this data source can be found on the [HESA website](#).

Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Staff record

Contains information about staff at higher education providers across the UK, although only the data of those studying at universities in Wales is used here. Staff at the Open University are not included as the Open University data covers staff across the whole of the UK rather than Wales individually.

Statistics based on this data source are Official Statistics.

More information about this data source can be found on the [HESA website](#).

Rounding

Figures are rounded to the nearest 5. Totals are calculated on unrounded figures and then rounded to the nearest 5 so may not equal the sum of the constituent parts.

Percentages are calculated using unrounded figures and rounded to the nearest whole per cent. This may mean the percentages in this release may not match what you would calculate from the rounded figures. If a percentage is calculated where the denominator is less than 22.5 then the percentage is suppressed.

Key Quality Information

Relevance

The measures included in this report were first published by the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales to meet an action in the Welsh Government's [Anti-racist Wales](#)

[Action Plan](#). Publishing this updated version of the measures provides up-to-date information that can contribute to monitoring the progress of this plan.

The measures also contribute to monitoring the goals of the [Well-being of Future Generations Act](#), and also to Medr's duties from the Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Act (2022) and the Equality Act (2010).

Accuracy

For all of the data sources ethnic background information is self declared. It is not mandatory for applicants, students or staff to provide this information so ethnic background is unknown for some of the population and these unknowns may be more likely to be individuals from particular ethnic backgrounds.

In the case of applicants to higher education, the UCAS data provides information about a considerable proportion of applicants to higher education. However there are other paths to apply to higher education so the UCAS data does not comprehensively cover all applications.

Data collected about students in the HESA student record is comprehensive, however ethnic background data is only collected for students whose permanent address on entry is in the UK. This means the information is limited to that subset of the student population rather than the population in its entirety.

Data on staff includes those of all nationalities, but this report does not include analysis of those on an atypical contract.

A small number of individuals are governors at the University of Wales and University of Wales Trinity Saint David and have been counted twice as a result as this is consistent with how governors are counted in published HESA staff data.

Timeliness and punctuality

The data in this release covers applications for the 2016 to 2024 UCAS cycles, and for the 2016/17 to 2023/24 academic years for the HESA student and staff data. This is the latest data available at the time of publishing this release.

Accessibility and clarity

This statistical release is pre-announced and then published on the [Statistics section of the Medr website](#).

The report is published as a PDF with an accompanying workbook available in an open data format (ODS). Both the release and the workbook follow accessibility guidelines.

Comparability and coherence

There were changes to the ethnic background categories that students and staff can declare in the HESA student and staff records from 2022/23. However these changes do not affect the broader groupings used in this release.

The 2023/24 HESA student data includes six providers who submitted to the HESA student record for the first time and are therefore not included in the previous years.

However, these providers returned relatively small numbers of students and have a minimal impact on comparing the year on year figures.

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