

Higher education in facts and figures

Summer 2010



Universities UK



Higher education in facts and figures covers the whole of the UK higher education sector. The data is derived from a variety of sources; please see the notes to each table.

Further information can be obtained from:

Universities UK

Tel +44 (0)20 7419 4111

Web www.UniversitiesUK.ac.uk

Email info@UniversitiesUK.ac.uk

Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

Tel +44 (0)1242 255 577

Web www.hesa.ac.uk

Email information.provision@hesa.ac.uk

Universities and Colleges Admissions Service for the UK (UCAS)

Tel +44 (0)1242 222 444

Web www.ucas.ac.uk

Email stats@ucas.ac.uk

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Applicants* to UK higher education institutions, 2007–2009

Thousands

	2007			2008			2009		
	Applicants	Accepted applicants	% Accepted applicants	Applicants	Accepted applicants	% Accepted applicants	Applicants	Accepted applicants	% Accepted applicants
Total	534	413	77%	587	457	78%	639	482	75%
Men	241	190	79%	260	205	79%	285	218	76%
Women	295	224	76%	329	252	77%	355	264	74%
% Women	55%	54%		56%	55%		56%	55%	
UK-domiciled students	454	365	80%	502	405	81%	544	425	78%
Overseas students**	80	49	61%	86	52	60%	96	57	59%
% from abroad**	15%	12%		15%	11%		15%	12%	

* Covers full-time undergraduate applicants only.

** Includes EU domiciled and non-EU domiciled applicants.

Source: Universities and Colleges Admission Service (UCAS): 2007–2009.

Higher education participation rates, 1998–2009

Percentages

	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
HEIPR – English domiciled 17-30 year old students		39	40	40	41	40	40	42	42*	43*	45*
API Scottish domiciled students aged under 21	48	49	54	52	49	49	46	47	46	43	
Higher Education Age Participation Index (NI)	41	45	46	46	46	44	45	48	46	50	

*HEIPR is the Higher Education Initial Participation Rate for 17-30 year old population in England. *Due to a change in underlying data, a discontinuity has been introduced from 2006/07 onwards.*

API Scottish domiciled students covers under-21 Scottish entrants to HE as % of population in Scotland for the relevant age group.

Northern Ireland participation in HE covers the ratio of under-21 full-time new entrants to HE in NI to the 18 year old NI population.

Source: Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) now the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS); Scottish Executive; Department for Employment and Learning Northern Ireland (DELNI).

Full-time and part-time higher education students, by subject area, at higher education institutions in the UK, 2008/09

	First degree		Other undergraduate		Postgraduate		Total
	Full-time*	Part-time**	Full-time*	Part-time**	Full-time*	Part-time**	
Medicine and dentistry	44,315	85	425	245	7,855	10,715	63,640
Subjects allied to medicine	90,305	25,295	53,840	73,930	11,965	38,335	293,670
Biological sciences	111,095	19,575	4,450	7,585	18,290	10,805	171,800
Veterinary science	4,240	45	0	0	470	385	5,135
Agriculture and related subjects	7,235	435	3,255	4,630	1,705	985	18,250
Physical sciences	53,160	8,420	1,410	4,665	14,415	3,980	86,045
Mathematical sciences	23,840	4,155	470	2,730	3,445	1,410	36,055
Computer science	51,335	8,935	4,700	9,410	15,720	6,180	96,280
Engineering and technology	77,700	11,885	6,065	13,445	26,800	12,175	148,070
Architecture, building and planning	29,575	8,460	3,765	7,575	6,525	9,020	64,920
Social studies	110,505	18,660	6,435	27,485	25,660	17,310	206,050
Law	54,850	9,970	1,595	4,035	13,295	8,355	92,110
Business and administrative studies	154,740	18,865	11,525	38,325	54,635	52,170	330,255
Mass communications and documentation	34,865	1,720	1,525	1,375	5,935	3,645	49,065
Languages	75,940	10,220	3,535	25,290	10,295	5,895	131,170
Historical and philosophical studies	52,280	13,110	825	11,445	8,675	7,790	94,120
Creative arts and design	122,075	5,655	10,625	6,410	11,830	6,895	163,490
Education	44,565	10,765	9,710	51,155	30,375	70,630	217,200
Combined	3,935	28,945	1,325	92,275	110	2,135	128,725
Total	1,146,550	205,195	125,480	382,010	268,000	268,815	2,396,050

* Full-time, sandwich course students and those on a study-related year out.

** Part-time students are those whose study was recorded as part-time, or studying full-time on courses lasting less than 24 weeks, on block release or studying during evenings.

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA): *Students in higher education institutions 2008/09*, tables 2a-d.

Full-time and part-time students at UK higher education institutions, 2008/09

	Full-time	Part-time	All students
First degree			
United Kingdom	1,001,995	196,395	1,198,390
Other European Union	57,700	3,035	60,735
Non European Union	86,855	5,765	92,620
Total	1,146,550	205,195	1,351,745
Other undergraduate			
United Kingdom	112,870	362,400	475,270
Other European Union	3,475	9,165	12,640
Non European Union	9,140	10,450	19,590
Total	125,485	382,015	507,500
Postgraduate			
United Kingdom	119,285	234,145	353,430
Other European Union	30,795	13,490	44,285
Non European Union	117,920	21,180	139,100
Total	268,000	268,815	536,815
All students			
United Kingdom	1,234,145	792,935	2,027,080
Other European Union	91,970	25,690	117,660
Non European Union	213,915	37,395	251,310
Total	1,540,030	856,020	2,396,050

Source: HESA: *Students in higher education institutions 2008/09*, table 1.

Higher education qualifications awarded at UK higher education institutions, 2008/09

	Full-time	Part-time	Total
First degree	296,870	36,855	333,725
Other undergraduate qualification	46,610	70,670	117,280
Foundation degree	12,055	6,795	18,850
Doctorate	14,165	3,485	17,650
Other higher degree	90,095	33,215	123,310
Postgraduate Certificate in Education	19,135	1,565	20,700
Other postgraduate qualification	13,165	29,725	42,890
Total HE qualifications obtained	492,100	182,310	674,410

Source: HESA: *Students in higher education institutions 2008/09*, table 14.

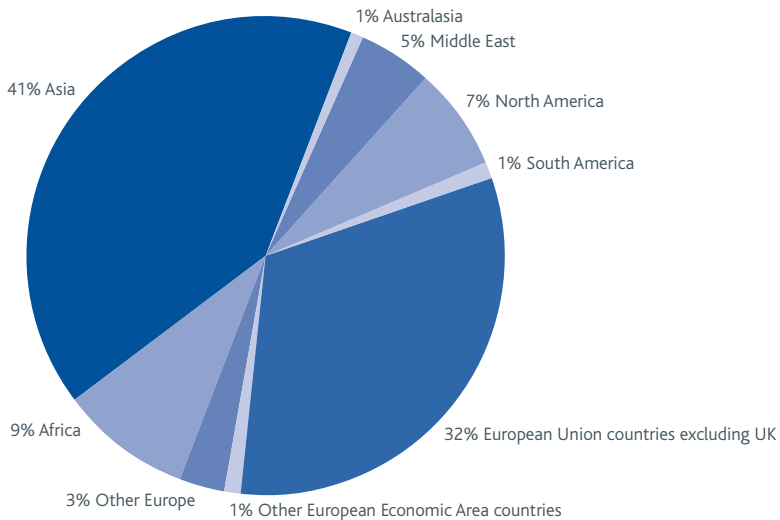
Higher education students in the UK by country of institution, 2008/09

	Undergraduates		Postgraduates		Total
	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	
England	1,044,720	511,805	222,955	226,360	2,005,840
Wales	68,445	32,465	12,545	13,020	126,475
Scotland	129,065	34,775	27,755	23,900	215,495
Northern Ireland	29,800	8,160	4,745	5,535	48,240
United Kingdom total					2,396,050

Source: HESA: *Students in higher education institutions 2008/09*, table 0.

Non-UK domiciled students at UK higher education institutions, by region 2007/08

368,970 non-UK domiciled students



Source: HESA: *Students in higher education institutions 2008/09*, table 6.

Students

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Trends in higher education student enrolments at UK higher education institutions, 1994/95–2008/09

	1994/95	2008/09*	Percentage increase
Undergraduate	1,231,988	1,859,240	51%
Full time	946,919	1,272,030	34%
Part time	285,069	587,205	106%
Postgraduate	335,325	536,810	60%
Full time	129,711	268,000	107%
Part time	205,614	268,815	31%
All students	1,567,313	2,396,050	53%

* Writing up and sabbatical students are not included in standard counts of students from 2007/08 onwards.

Source: HESA (2010): *Students in higher education institutions*, various years.

Academic staff at UK higher education institutions, 2008/09

	Full-time	Part-time	Total
Total academic staff	117,465	61,575	179,040
% female	38%	54%	43%
% wholly institutionally financed	72%	89%	78%
% financed by NHS/General Medical or General Dental Practice or Department of Health	2%	2%	2%
% research only	28%	11%	22%
% disabled *	3%	3%	3%
% of non-UK nationality	26%	16%	22%
Academic staff by salary range			
Contract salary < £17,026	185	1,500	1,685
Contract salary ≥ £17,026 and < £22,765	1,115	1,380	2,495
Contract salary ≥ £22,765 and < £30,594	11,180	9,855	21,035
Contract salary ≥ £30,594 and < £41,118	33,485	24,800	58,285
Contract salary ≥ £41,118 and < £55,259	47,685	10,280	57,965
Contract salary ≥ £55,259	23,505	3,545	27,050
Academic staff by age			
% aged 35 or under	29%	26%	28%
% aged over 55	15%	24%	18%

Academic staff are defined as those staff whose primary function is teaching and/or research and include only those of at least 25% full-time equivalence. Excludes atypical staff.

Full-time staff are those whose contracts state that their mode of employment is full-time.

Age is at 31 August 2008.

** Based on those staff with known disability status. Disability status is self-declared.*

Source: HESA (2010): *Resources of higher education institutions 2007/08*.

Size of higher education institutions in the UK, 2008/09

(2007/08 figures in brackets)

Total income	Number of institutions	Total numbers of students	Number of institutions
Less than £10m	5 (7)	Less than 1,000	18 (20)
£10 - 20m	21 (23)	>1,000 - 5,000	26 (27)
>£20 - 50m	20 (21)	>5,000 - 10,000	23 (25)
>£50 - 80m	17 (16)	>10,000 - 15,000	24 (24)
>£80 - 120m	24 (24)	>15,000 - 20,000	24 (25)
>£120 - 150m	12 (21)	> 20,000	50 (45)
> £150m	66 (54)		
	Average income		Average number of students
mean	£154m (£140m)	mean	14,522 (13,892)
median	£111m (£102m)	median	13,380 (12,708)

This table includes all publicly funded UK higher education institutions and the University of Buckingham.

Source: HESA: Resources of higher education institutions 2008/09, table 1a; Students in higher education institutions 2008/09, table 0; Universities UK analysis.

Number of institutions (as at August 2010)

	Higher education institutions	Universities*	University colleges*
England	131	89	34
Scotland	19	14	0
Wales	11	10	1
Northern Ireland	4	2	2
United Kingdom	165	115	37

* institutions with 'university' or 'university college' title or status.

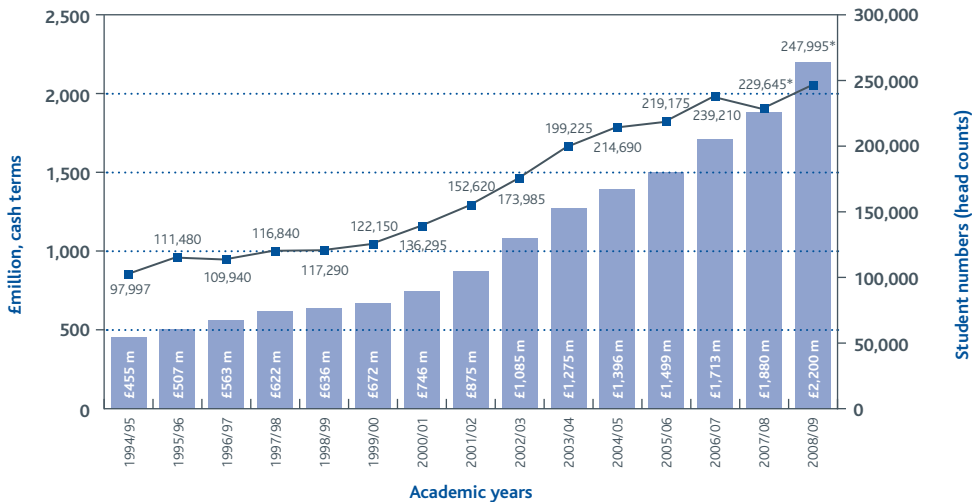
There are also a significant number of further education colleges at which higher education students study.

This list excludes foreign and private higher education institutions operating in the UK.

The Open University operates in all countries of the UK; its headquarters is based in England.

Source: Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE); Scottish Funding Council (SFC); Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW); DELNI.

Income from non-EU domiciled student tuition fees and non-EU student numbers, 1994/95-2008/09

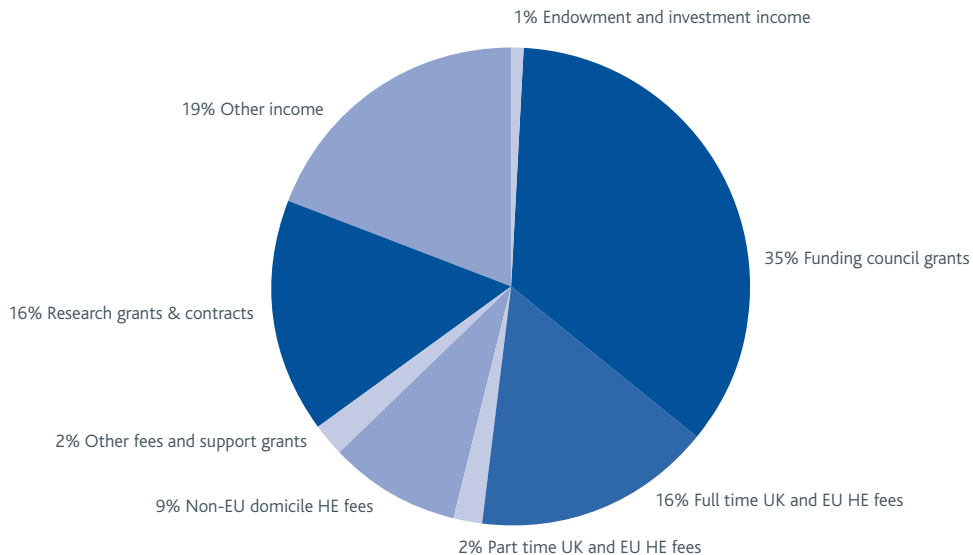


* From 2007/08 writing-up and sabbatical students are no longer included in standard counts of students.

Source: HESA: Resources of higher education institutions, Students in higher education institutions, various years.

Income of higher education institutions in the UK, 2008/09

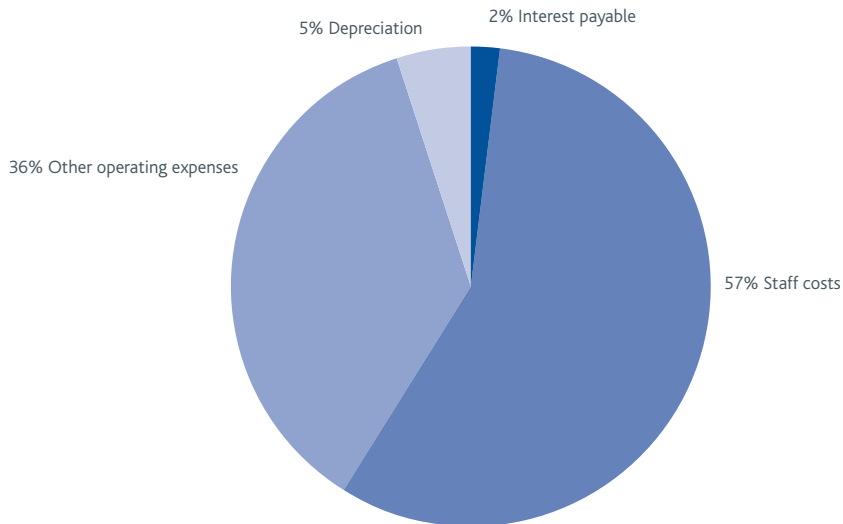
Total income: £25.3bn



Source: HESA (2010): *Finance plus 2007/08*, tables 5b.

Expenditure of higher education institutions in the UK, 2008/09

Total expenditure: £24.9bn



Source: HESA (2010): *Finance plus 2007/08*, tables 5b.

Public expenditure on higher education as a percentage of GDP, 2006

Finland	1.63	Germany	0.91
Denmark	1.60	Spain	0.90
Canada	1.47	Hungary	0.88
Sweden	1.44	Estonia	0.87
Switzerland	1.43	United Kingdom	0.85
Austria	1.23	Russian Federation	0.85
Belgium	1.23	Slovak Republic	0.79
Norway	1.21	Mexico	0.79
France	1.15	Australia	0.79
Netherlands	1.09	Turkey	0.78
Iceland	1.03	Brazil	0.77
Israel	1.00	Italy	0.73
Ireland	1.00	Korea	0.64
United States	0.99	Japan	0.48
Czech Republic	0.99	Chile	0.27
Slovenia	0.99		
Poland	0.95	OECD average (for all countries)	1.03
New Zealand	0.94		
Portugal	0.93		

Source: Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) (2009): *Education at a glance: OECD indicators 2009*, table B2.4.



About Universities UK

Universities UK is the representative organisation for the UK's universities. Founded in 1918, its mission is to be the definitive voice for all universities in the UK, providing high quality leadership and support to its members to promote a successful and diverse higher education sector. With 133 members and offices in London, Cardiff and Edinburgh, it promotes the strength and success of UK universities nationally and internationally.

Universities UK

Woburn House, 20 Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9HQ

Tel +44 (0)20 7419 4111

Fax +44 (0)20 7388 8649

Email info@UniversitiesUK.ac.uk

Web www.UniversitiesUK.ac.uk

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