UCAS 2019
Admissions Data Trends

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UCAS: 2019 statistics

- 706,435 applicants (circa. 60% of them UK 18 year olds) +1.6%
- 541,240 accepted onto courses +1.5%
- 372,290 accepted to firm choice
- 35,440 accepted to insurance choice
- 73,320 accepted via Clearing +10%
- 53,685 accepted via Clearing after main scheme
- 19,640 accepted via Clearing direct (applied after 18:00 30 June)
- 4,635 accepted via Extra and 590 accepted via Adjustment

76.6% acceptance rate
34.1% entry rate for UK 18y-os
Some **noteworthy** trends and observations

- **92.5%** of applicants received at least one offer
- **39.1%** of applicants got offers from all choices
- **73.6%** of UK 18-year-olds accepted onto a course got in to their **firm** choice
- **49%** of 18-year-olds from Eng/Wales/NI who sat at least 3 A levels, were accepted with lower grades than those advertised
- **15%** growth in students aged 35+

2019 applicants & accepts
Some noteworthy trends and observations

Record entry rates for all POLAR 4 groups of UK 18-year-olds

21% record entry rate for the most disadvantaged 18-year-olds

Gap between 18-year-olds from Q1 and Q5 narrowed to a record low.

The most advantaged students 2.26 times as likely to enter HE as the most disadvantaged
Other key statistics

19% increase in applicants declaring a mental health condition

Women are 1.36 times more likely to enter HE than men

The most disadvantaged students 61% more likely to enter HE than 10 years ago

Which course had the most acceptances? Business and Admin studies 72,135
Unconditional offers
2019 cycle update
Unconditional offer making 2019 - UK 18 year olds

137,805 received an offer with an unconditional component

82,560 received a conditional unconditional offer

1 in 4 students received a ‘make us your Firm choice’ offer

13% more applicants by 2024 – unconditional offer making may decrease in scale
Clearing 2019
2019 Clearing in numbers

- **73,320** placed through Clearing
- **53,685** applied before 30 June and were placed through Clearing
- **28,030** Released themselves into Clearing
- **19,640** applied direct to Clearing
- **30,000** Courses available during Clearing 2019
Decline my place for Clearing (2019)

Why did the process change?

- Clearing Working Group recommendation
- 26,823 applicants in 2018
- Hope to reduce unnecessary calls to course providers and to the UCAS Customer Experience Centre
- Keep up momentum in Clearing

- 28,030 applicants used ‘Decline my place’ in 2019
- 18,960 accepted onto different course
UCAS 2020 and beyond
2020 stats for **15 October deadline**

- **68,680** applications (+4% and new record for 5\(^{th}\) consecutive year)
- **35,290** UK 18-year-olds (+5\% - against 1.5\% fall in number of 18-year-olds in UK)

Partly fuelled by an expansion in the number of Medicine places

For the first time, more than 2,300 (**2,350**) people from the most disadvantaged backgrounds (POLAR 4, Quintile 1) applied for an early deadline course (+8\%), against a rise of 4\% from most advantaged (Q1) to **16,010**
2020 stats for **15 January** deadline

- **568,330** people applied (+1.2% - despite 1.5% drop in 18-y-os)
- Record **39.5%** of all UK 18-y-os applied
- Record **73,080** applicants from **outside EU** – China +33.8% & India +32.9% (EU applications)
- Application rate gap between POLAR 4 Q1 & Q5 narrows to a record low
- Rise in applications from over-30s (especially to Nursing courses)

UCAS

Security marking: PUBLIC
Important
Advisers need to be aware that from 2021, competition for places is likely to increase. Therefore, you need to ensure that your support processes are robust, and that you are keeping abreast of new UCAS services and tools.

Declining number of UK 18-year-olds until 2021

[Graph showing declining number of UK 18-year-olds from 2005 to 2035]
2019 End of cycle report

2019 End of Cycle Report
Our latest and most in-depth analysis and insight about patterns in applications to full-time undergraduate courses.

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Published on 30 January 2020.
Thank you