

Reference Number: EXACT_000012

Scheme: UCAS Undergraduate Scheme

Client Name: UCAS

Statistics Requested: Number of Applicants, Number of Acceptances

Summary: Breakdown of Achieved A level points band filtered to for 18 year old applicants domiciled in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland at End of Cycle.

Years: 2014 - 2018. Year is defined as cycle year, when the application was processed, rather than entry year.

Cycle Reference Point: End of Cycle.

Technical notes and definitions

Applicant Domicile (High Level)

Applicant's area of permanent residence summarised at a high level. This variable is derived from domicile as declared by the applicant and does not guarantee fee status. Split by the following values: 'England', 'Northern Ireland', 'Scotland', 'Wales', 'EU (excluding UK)' and 'Not EU'. Please note: The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man have been assigned as 'Not EU'.

Age Band (5 Levels)

Derived from date of birth declared by the applicant, age is aligned with the cut off points for school/college cohorts within the different administrations of the UK. For England and Wales ages are defined on the 31 August, for Northern Ireland on the 1 July and for Scotland on the 28 February the following year. Defining ages in this way matches the assignment of children to school cohorts. For applicants outside of the UK the cohort cut off for England and Wales has been used. Age then is grouped in the following bands: '17 and under', '18', '19', '20', '21 and Over'. Please note: if the derived age is outside of the range 11-100 then it is set to 18 by default.

Achieved A level point score

A points score attached to the highest 3 A level grades achieved by the applicant as identified either on application or through awarding body linkage process. ABL grades are verified through the awarding bodies for qualifications achieved during the application cycle. Application, i.e. self-declared, grades are considered for any qualifications achieved prior to the academic year in which the application was made, these are then topped-up with ABL grades if there are less than 3 grades declared. The application and ABL grade profiles are then converted to points and compared. The grade profile corresponding to highest overall points score is then used. The following points per grade are used in the calculation: A* = 6, A = 5, B = 4, C = 3, D = 2, E = 1. A level Double Award grades are included, AS Level grades are not included. The score represents the qualifications recorded as held by the applicant at the end of the cycle to which the statistic relates. This variable is currently only available for 18 year-old applicants domiciled in England, Northern Ireland and Wales, any applicants outside of this cohort will be assigned the value 'Not applicable'. These scores are calculated purely for analytical purposes and do not relate to the UCAS tariff.

Achieved A level points band

User defined variable.

Number of Applicants

Applicant is defined as a person who has made a valid application in the UCAS system. RPAs are included in the total. An RPA (record of prior acceptance) is an application submitted to UCAS by an institution when an unconditional firm has already been offered and accepted by the applicant.

Number of Acceptances

Acceptance is defined as an applicant who has been placed for entry into higher education. RPAs are included in the total. An RPA (record of prior acceptance) is an application submitted to UCAS by an institution when an unconditional firm has already been offered and accepted by the applicant.

Disclosure Controls

Disclosure controls have been applied to the data to reduce the risk of disclosing personal data about identifiable individuals.

For counts, the controls include reporting each cell count to the nearest five. In particular cell counts of 1 and 2 are reported as 0. Rows that only report 0 are omitted from the output. These controls are applied to each cell independently so this may result in instances where totals do not equal the sum of the components.

For derived statistics (e.g. means), to ensure these disclosure controls are not undone, a minor adjustment is applied, if necessary, such that the set of records contributing to each cell matches the reported cell count (to the nearest five). This involves either removing 1 or 2 records at random, or adding in 1 or 2 duplicates at random. If the number of values contributing to a cell is 1, 2 or 0 then it is displayed as 'N'. Rows that only report 'N' are omitted from the output.

Number of Applicants by Achieved A level points band for 18 year old applicants domiciled in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland at End of Cycle

| Achieved A level points band | Cycle Year | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
| Band A (16 - 18 points) | 23,425 | 23,865 | 23,020 | 23,250 | 22,750 |
| Band B (13 - 15 points) | 46,820 | 47,625 | 47,680 | 47,240 | 45,680 |
| Band C (10 - 12 points) | 54,850 | 56,995 | 57,330 | 57,870 | 55,520 |
| Band D (7 - 9 points) | 41,615 | 43,705 | 44,390 | 44,880 | 43,665 |
| Band E (4 - 6 points) | 23,860 | 24,905 | 26,160 | 26,495 | 26,980 |
| Band F (1 - 3 points) | 11,925 | 12,690 | 13,605 | 13,655 | 14,500 |
| Grand Total | 202,500 | 209,785 | 212,185 | 213,390 | 209,085 |

Number of Acceptances by Achieved A level points band for 18 year old applicants domiciled in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland at End of Cycle

| Achieved A level points band | Cycle Year | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
| Band A (16 - 18 points) | 21,580 | 22,080 | 21,300 | 21,565 | 21,040 |
| Band B (13 - 15 points) | 43,050 | 43,735 | 43,780 | 43,530 | 41,765 |
| Band C (10 - 12 points) | 47,860 | 50,310 | 50,830 | 51,220 | 49,155 |
| Band D (7 - 9 points) | 34,395 | 36,450 | 37,565 | 38,290 | 37,525 |
| Band E (4 - 6 points) | 18,215 | 19,405 | 20,895 | 21,385 | 22,155 |
| Band F (1 - 3 points) | 8,845 | 9,640 | 10,590 | 10,590 | 11,425 |
| Grand Total | 173,945 | 181,620 | 184,965 | 186,575 | 183,065 |