

End of Cycle 2017 Data Resources

DR2_037_04 Applicants by POLAR3

UCAS

Statistic: Number of Applicants

Variables: POLAR3 Quintile, Cycle Year

Coverage: UK domiciled 18 year olds

Definitions

POLAR3 Quintile

Developed by HEFCE, POLAR3 classifies small areas across the UK into five groups according to their level of young participation in Higher Education. Each of these groups represents around 20 per cent of young people and is ranked from Quintile 1 (areas with the lowest young participation rates, considered as the most disadvantaged) to Quintile 5 (highest young participation rates, considered most advantaged). These groups are assigned using the postcode declared by the applicant at the time of their application. If a UK postcode is invalid, considered unsafe for measurement or there is no link to Census geography possible then the applicant is classified as 'Not Assigned'. Please note: POLAR3 is only relevant for applicants aged 19 and under domiciled in the UK (as determined by EXACT definitions of age and domicile - please see relevant definition for more details), therefore any applicants outside of this cohort are classified as 'Not Applicable'. Following the inclusion of 2015 application cycle data a small change was made to allow for the assignment of POLAR3 to any new postcodes from 2011.

Cycle Year

The cycle in which the application was processed.

Number of Applicants

Applicant is defined as a person who has made a valid application in the UCAS system.

UCAS: DR2_037_04 Applicants by POLAR3 (UK domiciled 18 year olds)

POLAR3 Quintile	Number of Applicants by Cycle Year									
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
POLAR3 Quintile 1	22,275	24,535	27,405	27,430	26,520	27,225	29,285	30,490	30,595	31,040
POLAR3 Quintile 2	34,440	37,370	39,780	40,200	38,730	39,600	41,265	43,235	43,450	43,375
POLAR3 Quintile 3	44,800	48,320	51,360	50,955	49,730	50,560	51,825	53,985	54,300	54,615
POLAR3 Quintile 4	58,140	61,370	64,700	63,905	61,435	62,015	62,280	65,110	65,165	65,215
POLAR3 Quintile 5	80,255	84,285	86,505	86,160	83,420	82,965	83,595	85,995	86,945	87,365
Not assigned	4,165	1,210	595	550	525	480	510	550	585	770
Total	244,070	257,090	270,350	269,195	260,360	262,850	268,760	279,365	281,040	282,380