

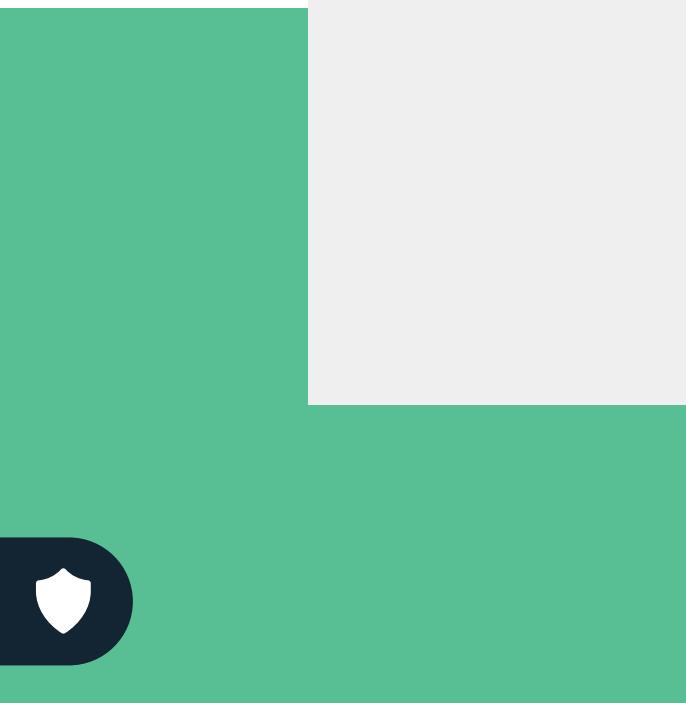
2026 EQUAL CONSIDERATION DATE

Ben Jordan, Director of Strategy

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HEADLINE DEMAND



APPLICANTS AT THE EQUAL CONSIDERATION DATE



+3.1%

TOTAL APPLICANTS

619,360 applicants
+18,700 vs 2025



+4.8%

UK 18-YEAR-OLDS

338,940 applicants
+15,580 vs 2025



+5.1%

INTERNATIONAL

124,830 applicants
+6,030 vs 2025

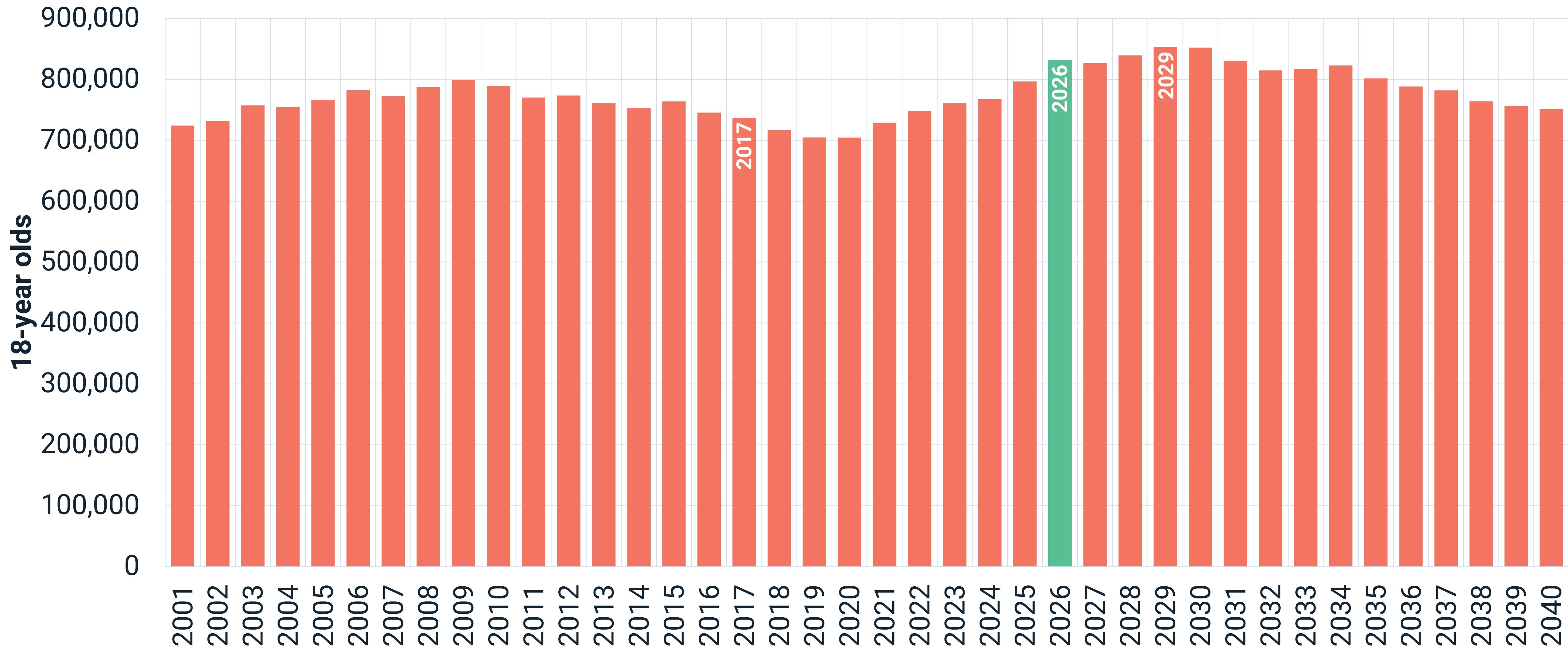


-6.1%

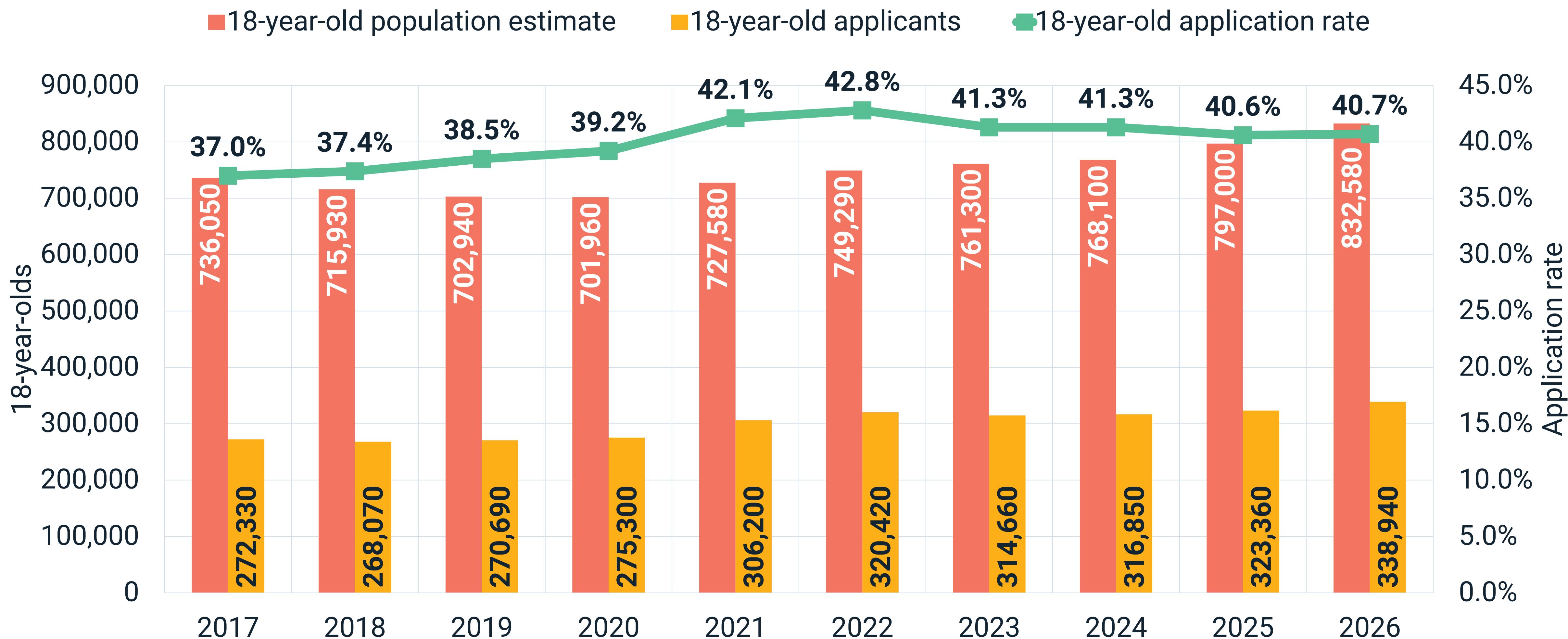
UK 21 AND OVER

57,570 applicants
-3,710 vs 2025

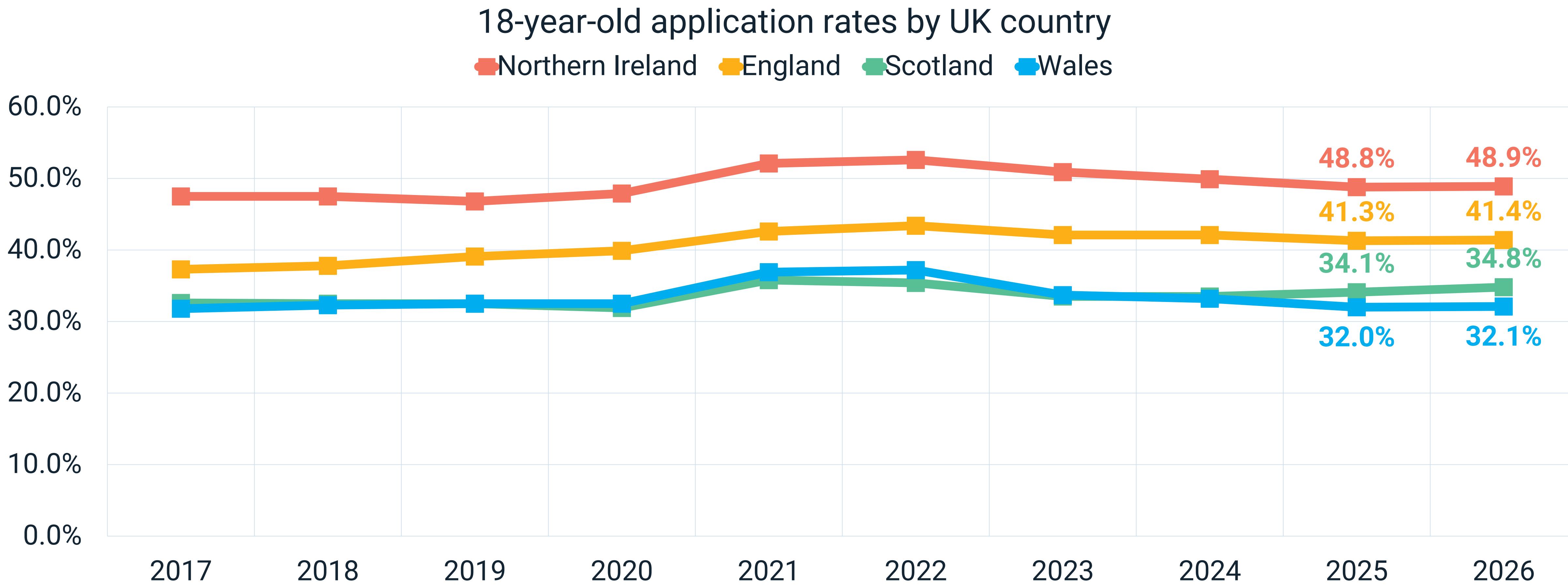
UK 18-YEAR-OLD POPULATION



UK 18-YEAR-OLD APPLICATION RATE

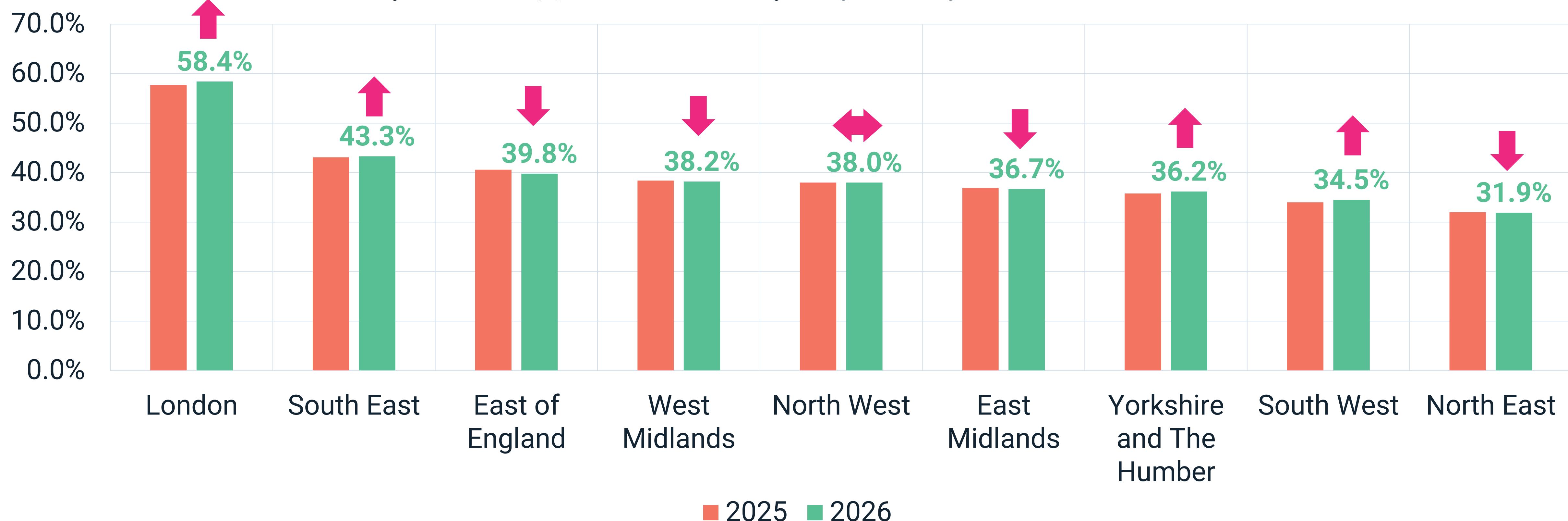


18-YEAR-OLD APPLICATION RATES IN THE DEVOLVED NATIONS



18-YEAR-OLD APPLICATION RATES BY ENGLISH REGION

18-year-old application rate by English region, 2025 and 2026



APPLICANT DOMICILE FOCUS

English applicants

 415,610 applicants (+2.6%)

 18-year-old application rate increased by 0.1pp to 41.4

 IMD 18-year-old application rate ratio narrowed from 1.75 to 1.73.

Scottish applicants

 42,230 applicants (+1.7%)

 18-year-old application rate increased by 0.7pp to 34.8%

 SIMD 18-year-old application rate ratio narrowed from 2.44 to 2.23.

Northern Irish applicants

 17,860 applicants (+5.8%)

 18-year-old application rate increased by 0.1pp to 48.9%

 NIMDM 18-year-old application rate ratio widened from 2.02 to 2.11.

Welsh applicants

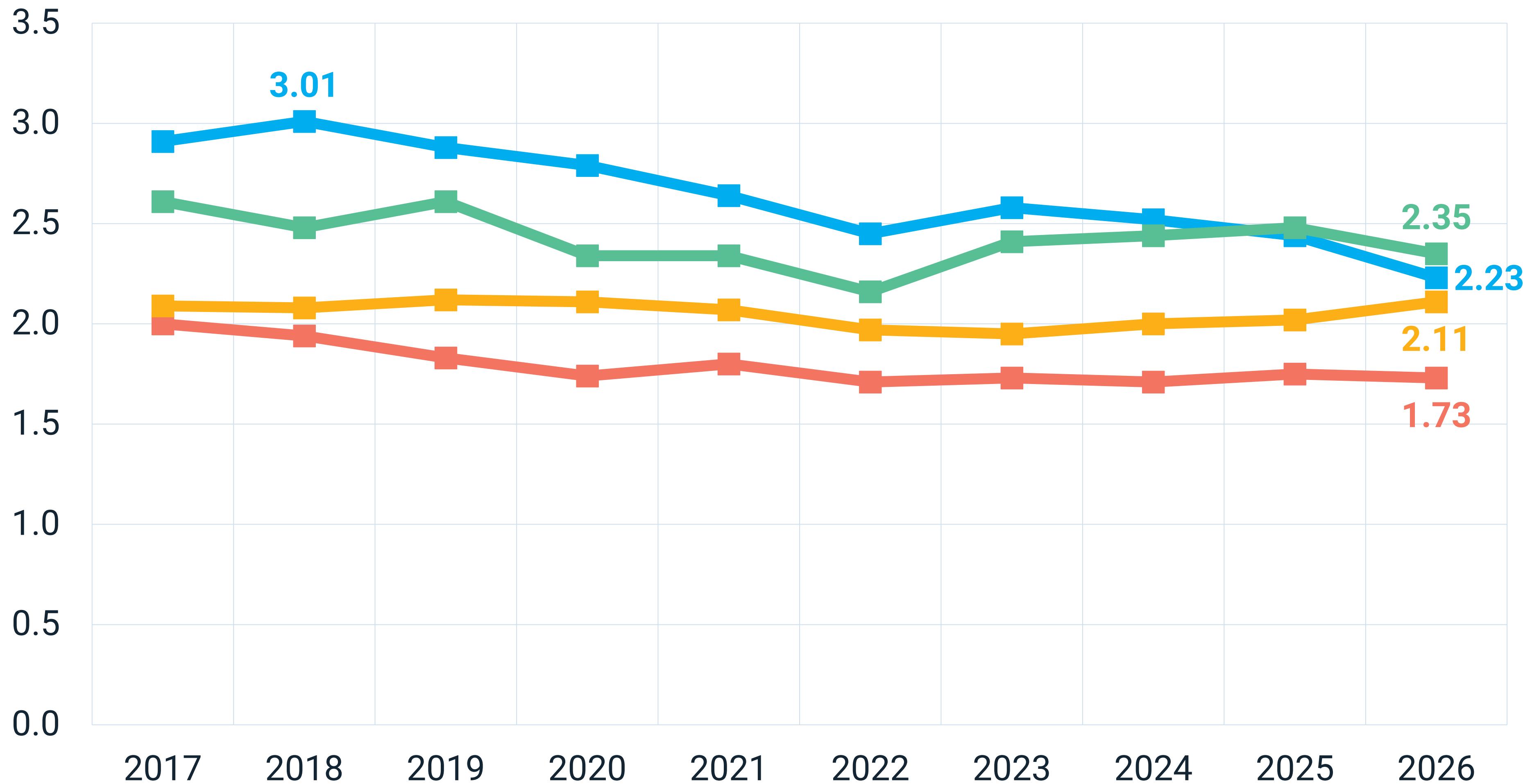
 19,290 applicants (+2.5%)

 18-year-old application rate increased by 0.1pp to 32.1%

 WIMD 18-year-old application rate ratio narrowed from 2.48 to 2.35.

APPLICATION RATE RATIOS OVER TIME

IMD quintile Q5:Q1 application rate ratio by UK country



Application Rate Ratio
Range

IMD 2025: 1.73

Max: 2.0 in 2017

Min: 1.71 in 2024

NIMDM 2025: 2.11

Max: 2.12 in 2019

Min: 1.95 in 2023

SIMD 2025: 2.23

Max: 3.01 in 2018

Min: 2.23 in 2026

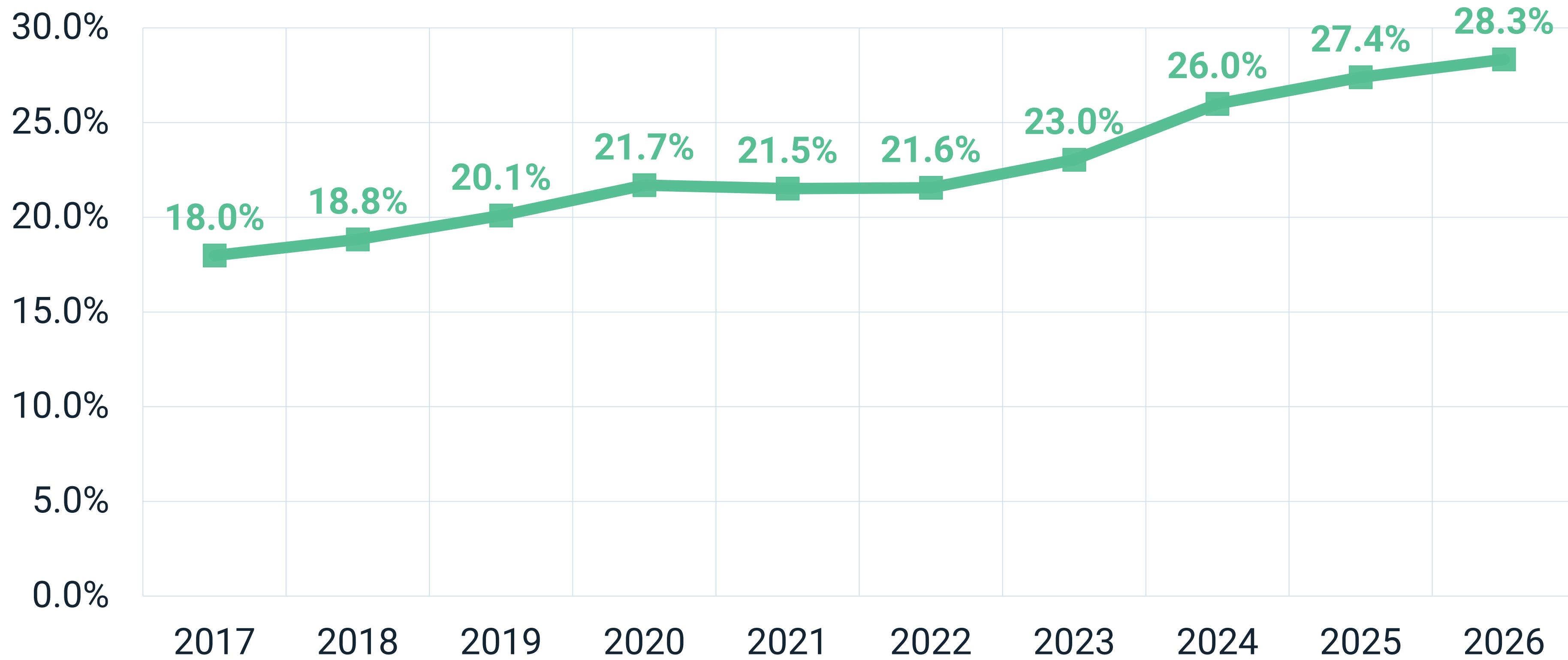
WIMD 2025: 2.35

Max: 2.61 in 2019

Min: 2.16 in 2022

INCREASES IN PERCENTAGE OF UK18 APPLICATIONS WHERE INTENT IS TO LIVE AT HOME

Percentage of UK 18-year-old applications where an intention to live at home is declared



+0.9PP

Increase in the rate of declarations to live at home, 2026 vs 2025

PROVIDER COUNTRY FOCUS

English providers

-  2,399,770 applications (+3.9%)
-  +3.1% increase in applications from those domiciled in England
-  +7.6% increase in applications from those domiciled outside the EU

Scottish providers

-  281,050 applications (+2.4%)
-  +3.2% increase in applications from those domiciled in Scotland
-  -3.3% decrease in applications from those domiciled in Northern Ireland

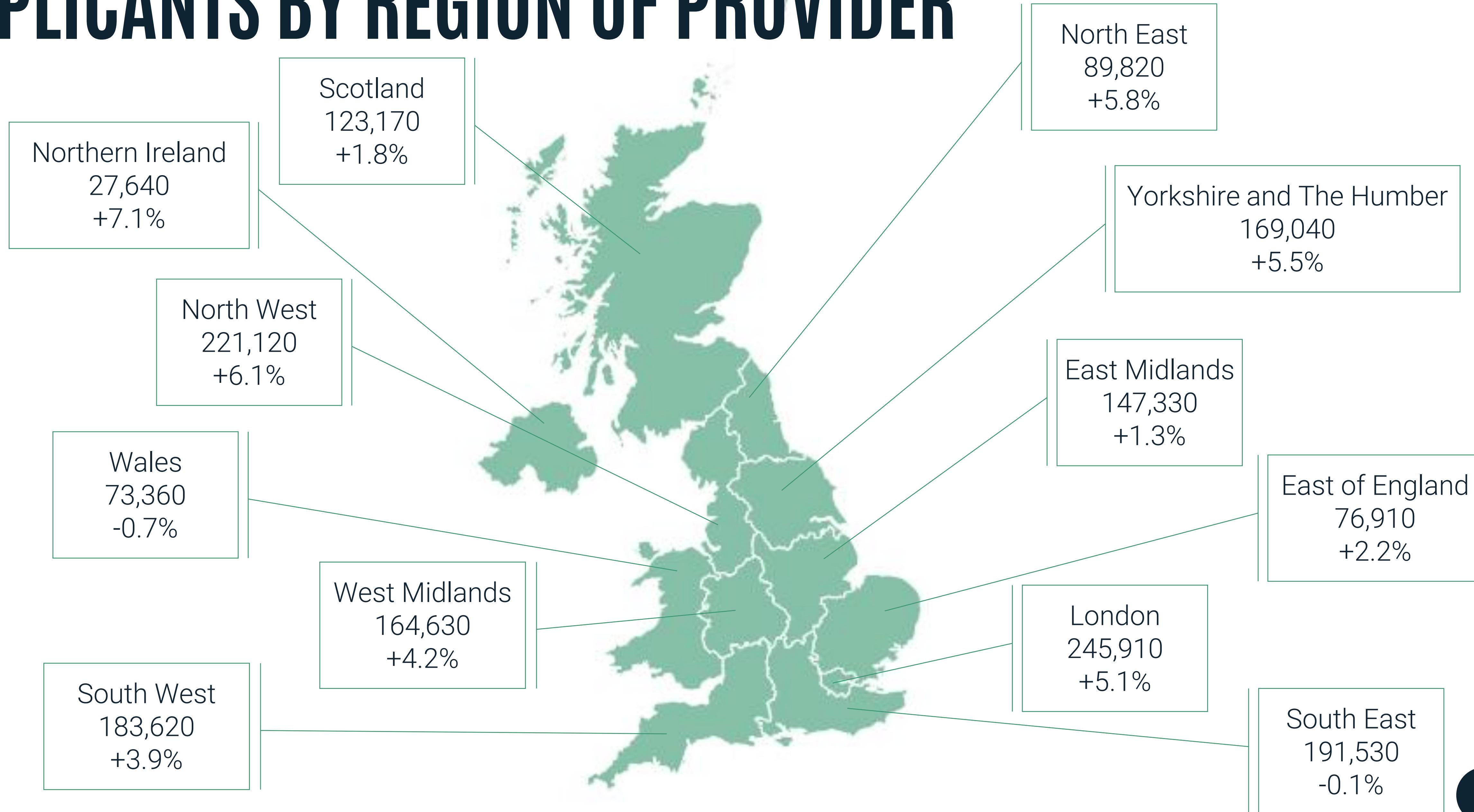
Northern Irish providers

-  76,290 applications (+10.0%)
-  +7.6% increase in applications from those domiciled in Northern Ireland
-  +25.2% increase in applications from those domiciled in EU

Welsh providers

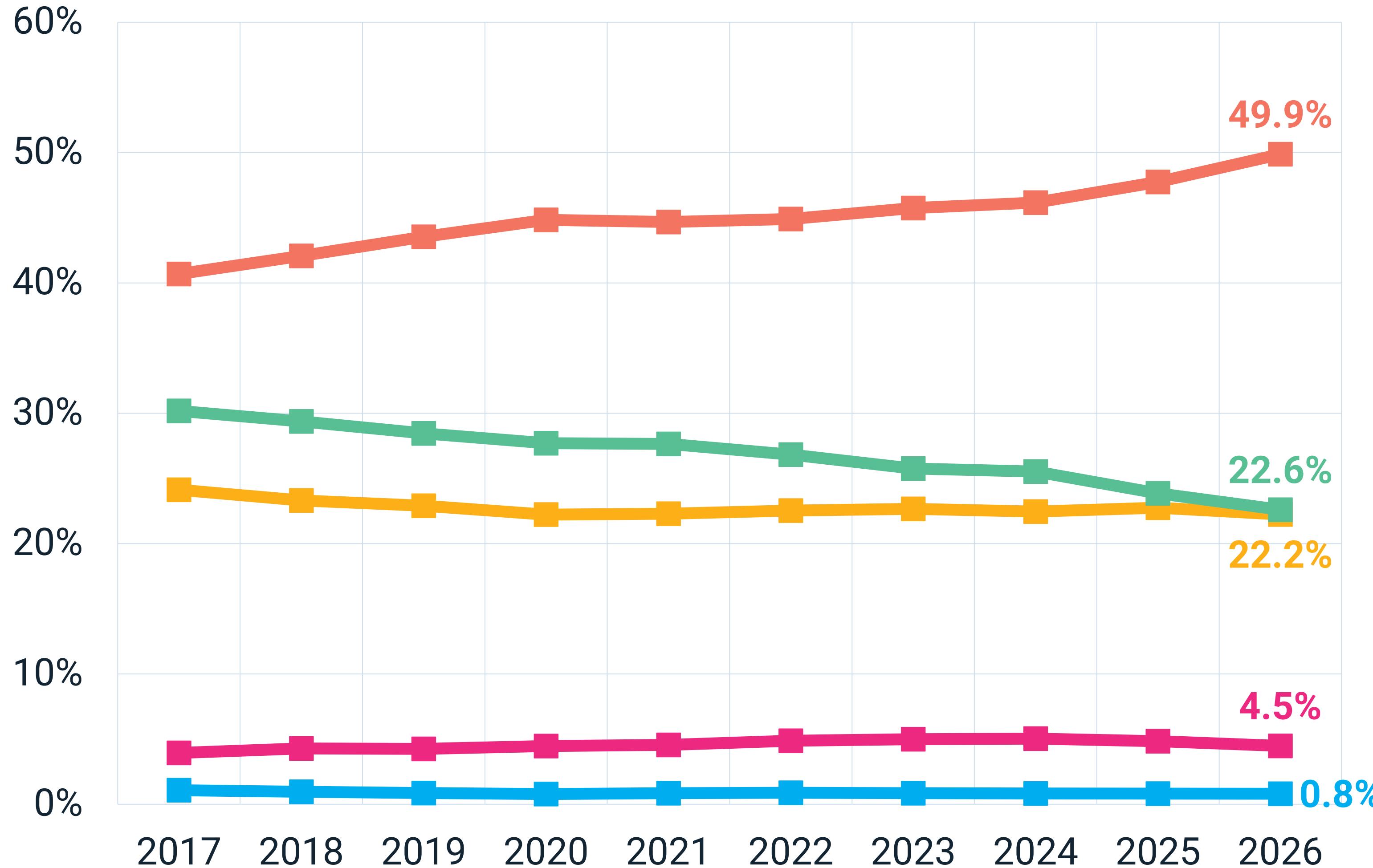
-  104,310 applications (-0.7%)
-  +3.0% increase in applications from those domiciled in Wales
-  -11.7% decrease in applications from those domiciled outside the EU

APPLICANTS BY REGION OF PROVIDER



UCAS PROVIDER CATEGORIES

Proportion of applications by UCAS provider category



Proportion of 2026 applications

+2.1PP
Higher tariff (49.9%)

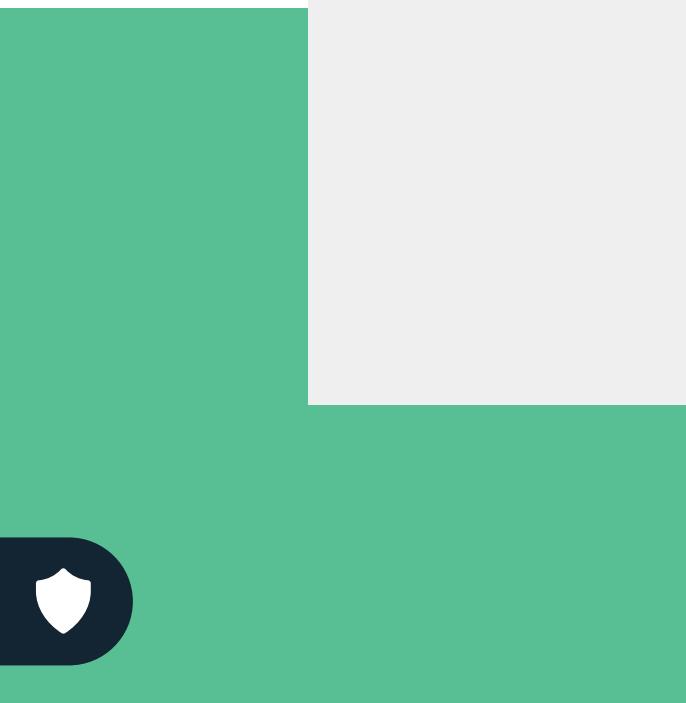
-1.3PP
Lower tariff (22.6%)

-0.5PP
Medium tariff (22.2%)

-0.4PP
Specialist (4.5%)

-0.0PP
Smaller (0.8%)

SUBJECTS



MAIN SCHEME APPLICATIONS REMAIN HIGHEST TO SUBJECTS ALLIED TO MEDICINE

UCAS

13.2%
OF APPLICATIONS

**SUBJECTS ALLIED
TO MEDICINE**

376,860
applications
+14,290 vs 2025

12.6%
OF APPLICATIONS

**BUSINESS AND
MANAGEMENT**

360,220
applications
+5,390 vs 2025

10.8%
OF APPLICATIONS

**SOCIAL
SCIENCES**

309,980
applications
+23,750 vs 2025

8.8%
OF APPLICATIONS

**ENGINEERING &
TECHNOLOGY**

250,610
applications
+33,640 vs 2025

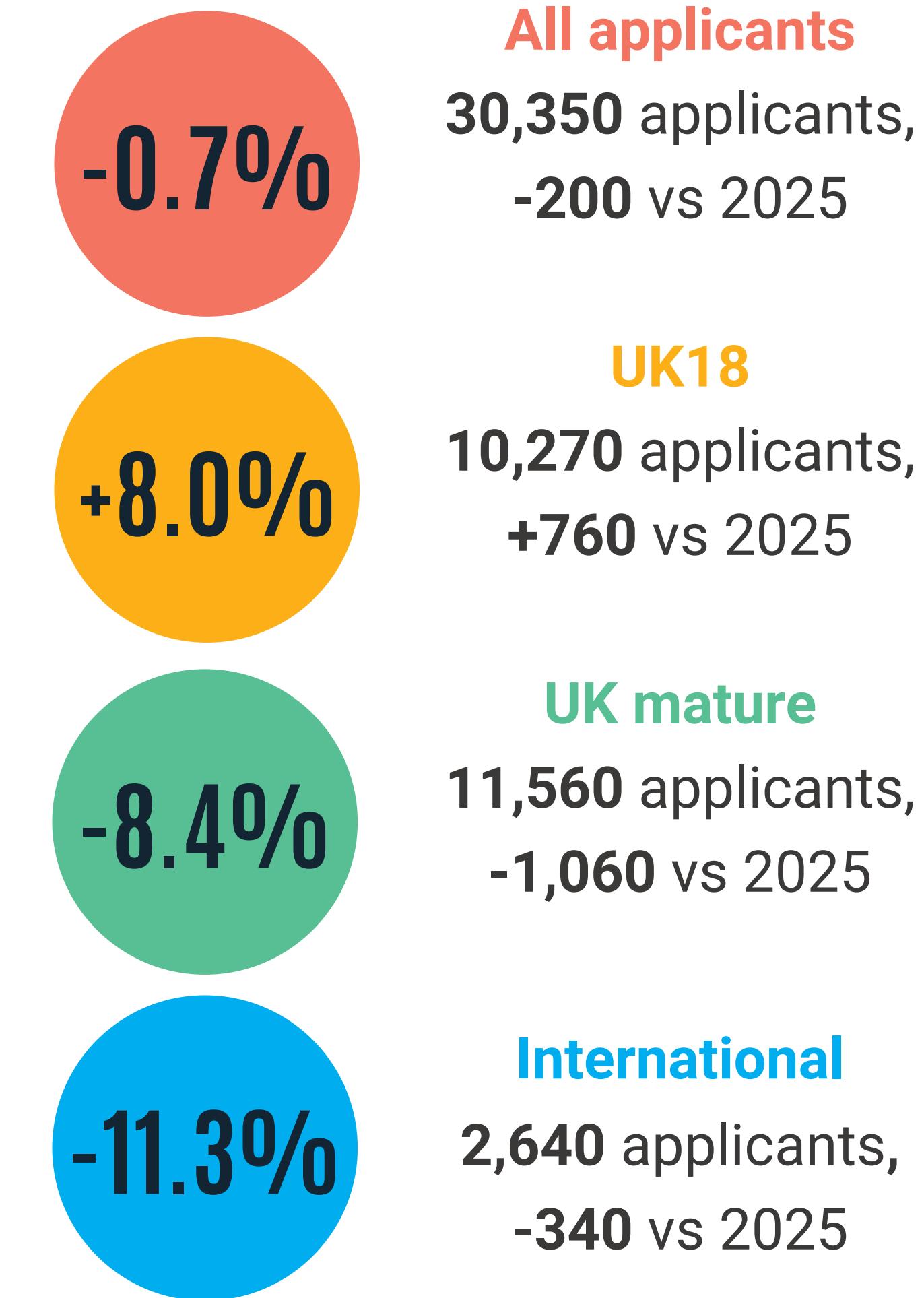
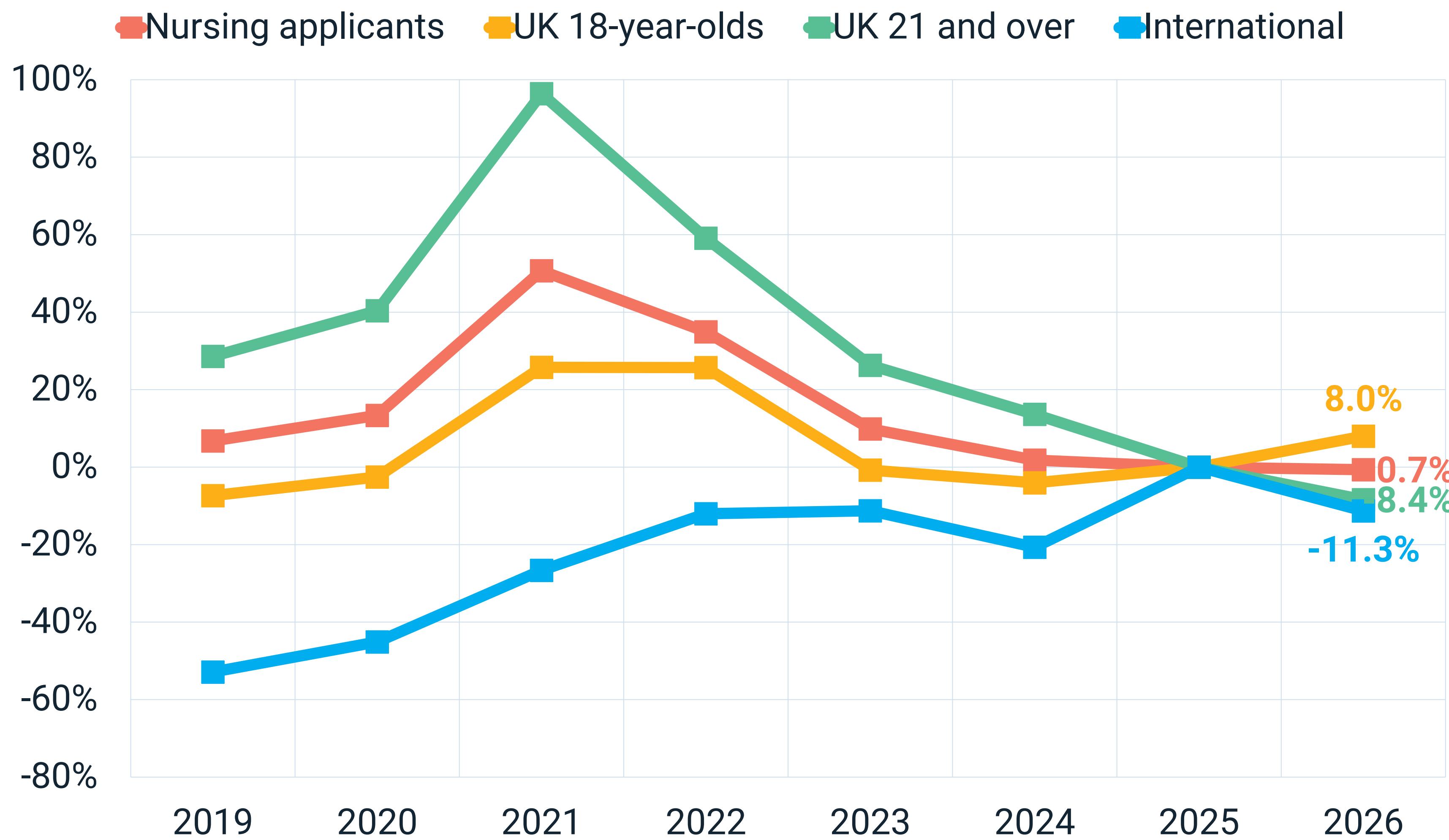
8.0%
OF APPLICATIONS

**DESIGN, CREATIVE &
PERFORMING ARTS**

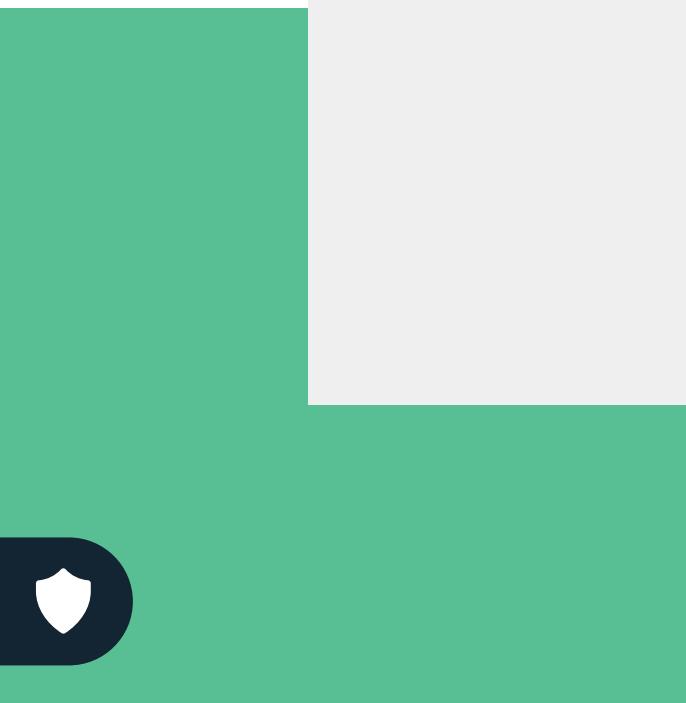
229,800
applications
-4,840 vs 2025

NURSING APPLICANTS

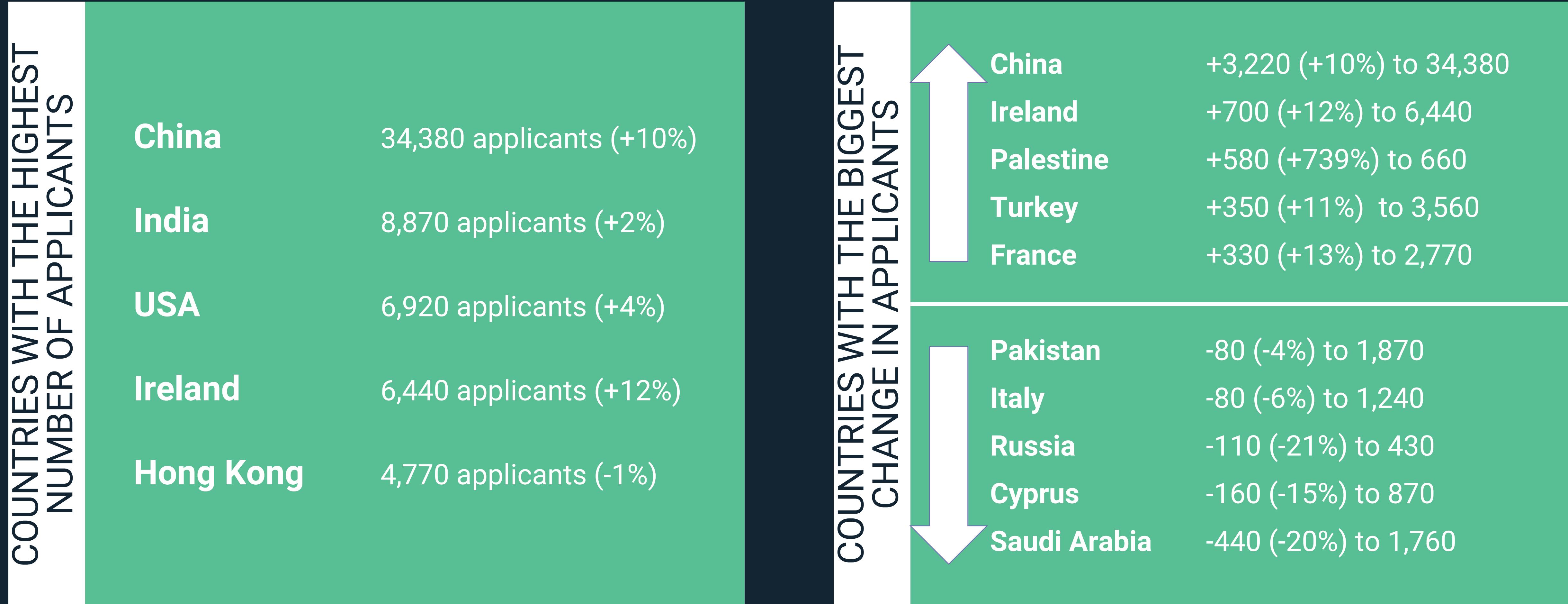
Percentage change in nursing applicants compared to 2025



INTERNATIONAL



INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS INCREASE BY 5.1%



2026 EQUAL CONSIDERATION DATE

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