

Technical notes and definitions

All offer-making analysis is limited to undergraduate applicants (excluding RPAs) who applied by the January equal consideration date (ECD), and who have not completely withdrawn their application. Unconditional offer analysis is further subset to 18-year-old applicants domiciled in England, Northern Ireland and Wales.

The offer-making report looks at the last three years of data, to limit comparison to recent cycles less impacted by changes necessitated by the pandemic. However, a ten-year time series is available in the associated data files. Care should be taken when comparing offer-making across the full time series.

Variable	Definition
Applicants with an offer	The number of undergraduate ECD applicants who received at least one main scheme offer or an offer on an application in Extra by 30 June.
Applicants with an unconditional offer	The number of applicants who received at least one unconditional offer on a main scheme or Extra application by 30 June.
ECD	equal consideration date. This was 14 January in the 2026 application cycle, and 29 January in the 2025 cycle. Please note that the definition of an ECD applicant has changed slightly since last year, now including applicants who cancelled and reinstated their application, and excluding applicants who have completely withdrawn.
ENW18	English, Northern Irish and Welsh 18-year-olds.
Extra	additional rolling choice for ECD applicants that did not receive an offer they wished to accept from their main scheme choices.
Main scheme	the application route for those that had applied by the ECD.
Main scheme offer rate	The percentage of main scheme applications which received an offer by 30 June.
Main scheme offers	The number of main scheme applications which received an offer by 30 June.
Percentage of applicants with an offer	The percentage of undergraduate ECD applicants who received at least one main scheme offer or an offer on an application in Extra by 30 June.
Percentage of applicants with an unconditional offer	The percentage of applicants who received at least one unconditional offer on a main scheme or Extra application by 30 June.
Unconditional offer	An application where the institution decision is 'Unconditional' on 30 June. There are various scenarios where an application may have an unconditional institution decision, for example:

	- the application receives an offer which is unconditional at the point of offer; - the application receives an offer which is conditional at the point of offer, and becomes unconditional before 30 June.
Unconditional offer rate	The percentage of main scheme applications which received an unconditional offer by 30 June.
Unconditional offers	The number of main scheme applications which received an unconditional offer by 30 June.