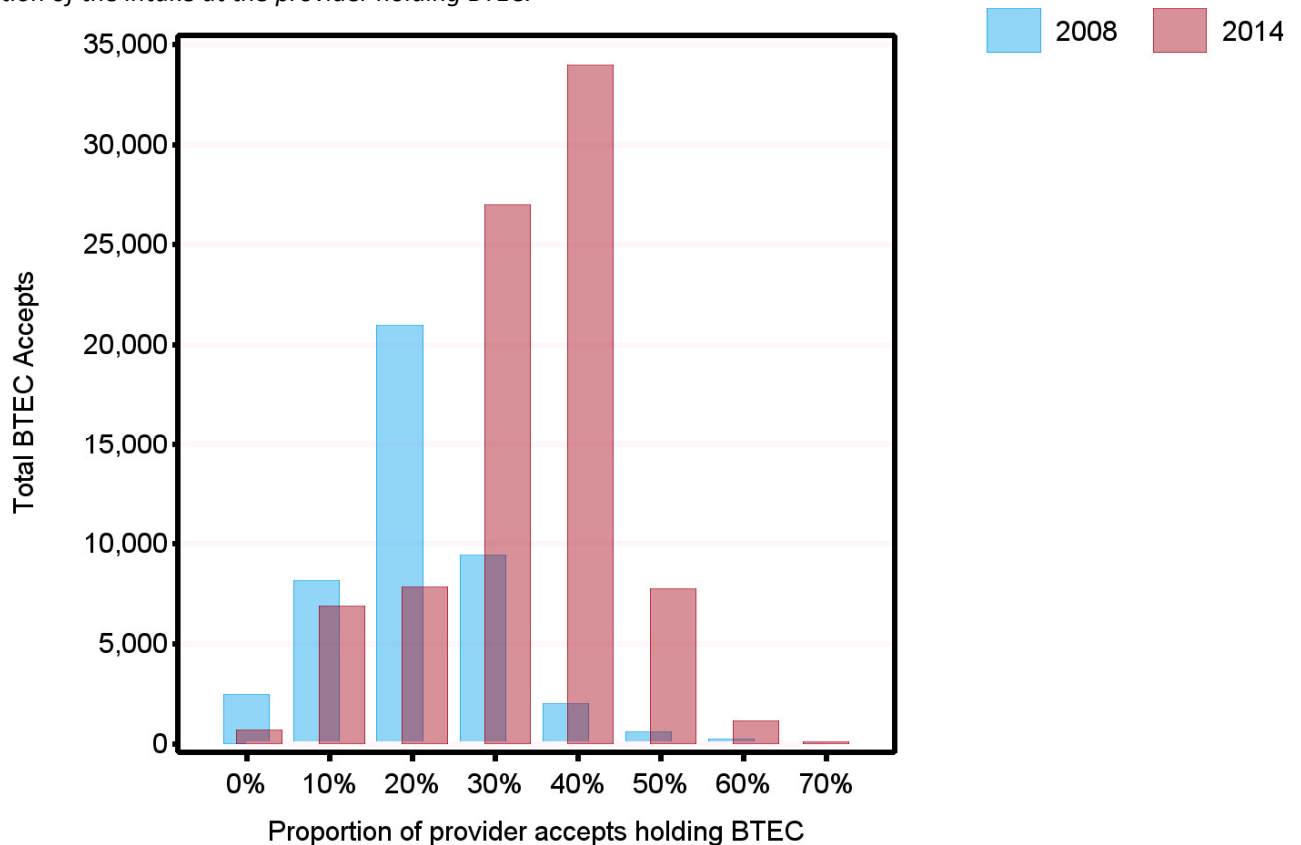




Those entering higher education holding a BTEC are a greater proportion of provider accepts than in 2008

The number of people from the UK placed through the UCAS main scheme holding a BTEC qualification has almost doubled since 2008, to 85,000 in 2014. In 2008, just under half of those placed holding BTECs entered providers where around 10 per cent of their acceptances held the qualification. By 2014 the large majority, over two-thirds, of acceptances holding BTECs entered providers where around 30 to 40 per cent of those entering held a BTEC.

Figure 1: UK applicants holding a BTEC qualification placed through UCAS main scheme in 2008 and 2014 cycles, by the proportion of the intake at the provider holding BTEC.



The 2014 cycle saw the largest number of UK applicants placed through UCAS main scheme (369,000) to date and 88,000 of them held a BTEC qualification - 85,000 in larger providers.

The growth in numbers entering higher education holding BTECs is not just a result of larger overall recruitment; the proportion of placed UK applicants who held a BTEC qualification increased each year across the period recorded, from 13.5 per cent in 2008 to 23.8 per cent in 2014.

In 2008, there were around 44,000 BTEC holders placed at larger providers, around 70 per cent of those at providers with less than a quarter of their intake holding a BTEC. By 2014, less than 20 per cent of the 85,000 BTEC holders were placed at providers with a similar profile - and the majority (60,000) were placed at providers with between 25 and 45 per cent of their intake holding BTECs.

The number of larger providers who made up less than 5 per cent of their intake from BTEC holders has reduced by nearly half across the period from 47 in 2008 to 26 in 2014. In 2014, those entering higher education with a BTEC were more likely to enter providers in which they outnumbered those without BTECs than they were to be at one of the 26 providers that typically did not recruit BTEC holders.

Technical notes

1. This analysis is based on the table 'DR4_014_02 Main scheme acceptances by provider and BTEC' published by UCAS on 21 January 2015. Only UK domiciled main scheme acceptances are included. The PDF version of the table includes the full technical notes and definitions for the fields used. Figures in this table are rounded to the nearest five and calculations carried out for the purpose of this analysis are based on the rounded figures.
2. The analysis is restricted to providers with more than 100 main scheme acceptances in the cycle reported. These providers cover 98-99% of main scheme acceptances in each cycle, and are referred to as 'larger providers' in this note.
3. The labels on the chart axis for 'Proportion of provider accepts holding BTEC' represent midpoints; 10%=5 < 15 per cent, 20%= 15 < 25 per cent etc. The exception is that 0% represents those with less than 5 per cent. These providers are also referenced as those that 'typically did not recruit BTEC holders'.
4. The number of providers and accepts within each of the categories plotted are shown in Table 1.
5. Acceptances holding BTECs do not necessarily hold BTEC qualifications only, it is frequently the case that BTEC qualifications are held in combination with A levels.

Table 1: The number of larger providers and the number of UK main scheme acceptances holding a BTEC in each of the categories plotted in Figure 1.

	HEPs 08	HEPs 14	BTEC Accepts 08	BTEC Accepts 14	HEPs 08 (%)	HEPs 14 (%)	BTEC Accepts 08 (%)	BTEC Accepts 14 (%)
0%	47	26	2,460	680	26%	13%	6%	1%
10%	33	29	8,185	6,875	18%	15%	19%	8%
20%	42	20	20,985	7,830	23%	10%	48%	9%
30%	31	47	9,455	27,005	17%	24%	22%	32%
40%	17	46	2,010	33,975	9%	23%	5%	40%
50%	7	22	610	7,735	4%	11%	1%	9%
60%	3	5	245	1,125	2%	3%	1%	1%
70%	0	1	0	100	0%	1%	0%	0%
TOTAL	180	196	43,950	85,325	100%	100%	100%	100%