# End of Cycle 2016 Data Resources DR2\_042\_06 Applicants by A level points and POLAR3



**Statistic:** Number of Applicants

Variables: Achieved A-Level point score, POLAR3 Quintile, Cycle Year

Coverage: Applied before June deadline, UK domiciled (excluding Scotland) 18 year olds and hold at least 3 A levels

# **Definitions**

## 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. 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. This value is not updated beyond the end of the application cycle for each applicant. (I.e. if an applicant applied in the 2010 cycle with one A Level grade 'C', but went on to obtain a further two A Levels in 2011, the value for the applicant applying in 2010 would remain 3.) This is only relevant 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.

### **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.



| Achieved A-Level point score , POLAR3 Quintile |                   | Number of Applicants by Cycle Year |       |       |       |       |       |       |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|
|  |                   | 2010                               | 2011  | 2012  | 2013  | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  |  |
| 3 points                                       | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 60                                 | 45    | 45    | 40    | 40    | 35    | 30    |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 85                                 | 75    | 40    | 55    | 40    | 45    | 45    |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 95                                 | 70    | 60    | 65    | 65    | 50    | 60    |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 115                                | 75    | 35    | 70    | 65    | 65    | 50    |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 105                                | 70    | 65    | 55    | 65    | 55    | 60    |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 0                                  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |  |
| 4 points                                       | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 210                                | 175   | 180   | 130   | 160   | 130   | 145   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 285                                | 255   | 180   | 170   | 190   | 170   | 210   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 370                                | 270   | 255   | 215   | 220   | 245   | 205   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 340                                | 285   | 285   | 215   | 240   | 250   | 230   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 345                                | 310   | 265   | 250   | 285   | 235   | 235   |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 5                                  | 5     | 5     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 5     |  |
| 5 points                                       | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 490                                | 350   | 380   | 365   | 360   | 340   | 360   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 650                                | 595   | 485   | 485   | 470   | 480   | 485   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 785                                | 675   | 595   | 585   | 585   | 595   | 590   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 810                                | 775   | 650   | 590   | 600   | 590   | 570   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 895                                | 745   | 695   | 645   | 715   | 635   | 665   |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 10                                 | 10    | 5     | 5     | 5     | 10    | 15    |  |
| 6 points                                       | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 830                                | 785   | 715   | 640   | 695   | 630   | 665   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 1,175                              | 1,065 | 980   | 910   | 930   | 945   | 900   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 1,375                              | 1,280 | 1,185 | 1,045 | 1,125 | 1,145 | 1,120 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 1,610                              | 1,375 | 1,205 | 1,230 | 1,265 | 1,200 | 1,175 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 1,635                              | 1,450 | 1,430 | 1,285 | 1,445 | 1,370 | 1,380 |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 15                                 | 10    | 5     | 15    | 15    | 10    | 15    |  |
| 7 points                                       | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 1,155                              | 1,160 | 1,025 | 985   | 1,000 | 1,040 | 1,095 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 1,725                              | 1,670 | 1,580 | 1,435 | 1,435 | 1,485 | 1,455 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 2,080                              | 1,945 | 1,925 | 1,755 | 1,810 | 1,855 | 1,840 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 2,300                              | 2,245 | 1,965 | 1,975 | 2,085 | 2,035 | 2,010 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 2,625                              | 2,385 | 2,190 | 2,200 | 2,165 | 2,215 | 2,260 |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 20                                 | 5     | 20    | 15    | 15    | 15    | 30    |  |
| 8 points                                       | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 1,520                              | 1,505 | 1,305 | 1,340 | 1,355 | 1,415 | 1,430 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 2,165                              | 2,120 | 1,995 | 1,920 | 1,990 | 2,130 | 2,030 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 2,735                              | 2,690 | 2,520 | 2,495 | 2,495 | 2,585 | 2,480 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 3,165                              | 3,055 | 2,875 | 2,775 | 2,895 | 2,885 | 3,015 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 3,575                              | 3,525 | 3,195 | 3,120 | 3,285 | 3,280 | 3,295 |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 25                                 | 25    | 15    | 15    | 20    | 25    | 50    |  |
| 9 points                                       | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 1,770                              | 1,815 | 1,625 | 1,625 | 1,620 | 1,775 | 1,740 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 2,660                              | 2,610 | 2,420 | 2,380 | 2,415 | 2,445 | 2,510 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 3,320                              | 3,345 | 3,215 | 3,235 | 3,155 | 3,230 | 3,215 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 3,960                              | 3,955 | 3,745 | 3,615 | 3,590 | 3,825 | 3,765 |  |
| (Continued)                                    | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 4,665                              | 4,620 | 4,255 | 4,265 | 4,230 | 4,475 | 4,480 |  |

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UCAS: DR2\_042\_06 Applicants by A level points and POLAR3 (Applied before June deadline, UK domiciled (excluding Scotland) 18 year olds and hold at least 3 A levels)

| Achieved A-Level point score , POLAR3 Quintile |                   | Number of Applicants by Cycle Year |       |       |       |       |       |       |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|
|  |                   | 2010                               | 2011  | 2012  | 2013  | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  |  |
| 9 points                                       | Not assigned      | 35                                 | 20    | 20    | 15    | 25    | 25    | 60    |  |
| 10 points                                      | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 1,750                              | 1,820 | 1,735 | 1,730 | 1,790 | 1,875 | 1,865 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 2,735                              | 2,820 | 2,695 | 2,730 | 2,695 | 2,760 | 2,710 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 3,570                              | 3,670 | 3,420 | 3,500 | 3,560 | 3,550 | 3,510 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 4,460                              | 4,530 | 4,300 | 4,460 | 4,160 | 4,445 | 4,315 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 5,420                              | 5,585 | 5,260 | 5,090 | 5,115 | 5,270 | 5,360 |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 25                                 | 25    | 40    | 20    | 30    | 40    | 65    |  |
| 11 points                                      | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 1,650                              | 1,740 | 1,775 | 1,775 | 1,700 | 1,740 | 1,725 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 2,675                              | 2,700 | 2,700 | 2,655 | 2,535 | 2,665 | 2,780 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 3,655                              | 3,600 | 3,510 | 3,525 | 3,500 | 3,670 | 3,635 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 4,675                              | 4,725 | 4,540 | 4,625 | 4,400 | 4,720 | 4,670 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 6,080                              | 6,040 | 5,855 | 5,765 | 5,880 | 6,045 | 6,055 |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 50                                 | 30    | 25    | 20    | 20    | 35    | 65    |  |
| 12 points                                      | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 1,585                              | 1,600 | 1,575 | 1,585 | 1,585 | 1,605 | 1,630 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 2,620                              | 2,680 | 2,570 | 2,640 | 2,575 | 2,550 | 2,570 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 3,570                              | 3,590 | 3,485 | 3,580 | 3,450 | 3,570 | 3,655 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 4,725                              | 4,905 | 4,750 | 4,785 | 4,635 | 4,765 | 4,830 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 6,585                              | 6,580 | 6,430 | 6,620 | 6,370 | 6,710 | 6,715 |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 25                                 | 35    | 35    | 30    | 25    | 50    | 75    |  |
| 13 points                                      | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 1,290                              | 1,310 | 1,305 | 1,300 | 1,260 | 1,310 | 1,300 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 2,255                              | 2,210 | 2,220 | 2,235 | 2,155 | 2,235 | 2,290 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 3,250                              | 3,270 | 3,120 | 3,165 | 3,045 | 3,195 | 3,120 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 4,535                              | 4,540 | 4,610 | 4,595 | 4,230 | 4,370 | 4,470 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 6,605                              | 6,695 | 6,650 | 6,595 | 6,465 | 6,655 | 6,575 |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 30                                 | 35    | 25    | 15    | 15    | 35    | 60    |  |
| 14 points                                      | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 1,000                              | 1,080 | 1,040 | 1,070 | 1,020 | 990   | 1,055 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 1,835                              | 1,825 | 1,830 | 1,835 | 1,780 | 1,770 | 1,800 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 2,710                              | 2,780 | 2,785 | 2,660 | 2,570 | 2,620 | 2,680 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 4,270                              | 4,145 | 3,900 | 4,085 | 3,820 | 3,940 | 3,790 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 6,530                              | 6,690 | 6,520 | 6,360 | 6,175 | 6,240 | 6,315 |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 30                                 | 35    | 15    | 25    | 30    | 35    | 55    |  |
| 15 points                                      | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 900                                | 885   | 890   | 785   | 830   | 855   | 785   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 1,570                              | 1,715 | 1,595 | 1,675 | 1,515 | 1,490 | 1,530 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 2,540                              | 2,555 | 2,500 | 2,395 | 2,195 | 2,215 | 2,260 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 4,130                              | 4,100 | 3,910 | 3,900 | 3,495 | 3,610 | 3,440 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 7,230                              | 6,875 | 6,835 | 6,740 | 6,190 | 6,010 | 6,090 |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 30                                 | 30    | 25    | 25    | 15    | 25    | 50    |  |
| 16 points                                      | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 570                                | 630   | 560   | 570   | 570   | 505   | 530   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 1,090                              | 1,175 | 1,095 | 1,060 | 1,005 | 1,100 | 1,025 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 1,820                              | 1,845 | 1,695 | 1,755 | 1,580 | 1,605 | 1,680 |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 3,055                              | 2,885 | 2,955 | 2,765 | 2,695 | 2,685 | 2,720 |  |
| (Continued)                                    | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 5,410                              | 5,650 | 5,340 | 5,260 | 5,020 | 5,120 | 5,070 |  |

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| Achieved A-Level point score , POLAR3 Quintile |                   | Number of Applicants by Cycle Year |         |         |         |         |         |         |  |
|--|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|
|  |                   | 2010                               | 2011    | 2012    | 2013    | 2014    | 2015    | 2016    |  |
| 16 points                                      | Not assigned      | 15                                 | 20      | 20      | 15      | 20      | 25      | 40      |  |
| 17 points                                      | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 325                                | 290     | 325     | 270     | 260     | 315     | 305     |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 625                                | 600     | 600     | 605     | 645     | 615     | 580     |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 990                                | 1,080   | 1,010   | 970     | 1,000   | 985     | 945     |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 1,675                              | 1,800   | 1,680   | 1,565   | 1,625   | 1,725   | 1,595   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 3,455                              | 3,435   | 3,300   | 3,250   | 3,420   | 3,500   | 3,360   |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 15                                 | 5       | 10      | 5       | 5       | 15      | 20      |  |
| 18 points                                      | POLAR3 Quintile 1 | 200                                | 215     | 195     | 165     | 230     | 205     | 185     |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 2 | 415                                | 450     | 425     | 415     | 450     | 435     | 390     |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 3 | 720                                | 760     | 730     | 755     | 735     | 740     | 645     |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 4 | 1,255                              | 1,265   | 1,320   | 1,230   | 1,300   | 1,345   | 1,150   |  |
|  | POLAR3 Quintile 5 | 2,760                              | 3,055   | 2,920   | 2,715   | 2,855   | 2,930   | 2,755   |  |
|  | Not assigned      | 5                                  | 10      | 5       | 10      | 10      | 10      | 15      |  |
| Total  |                   | 182,790                            | 182,075 | 174,280 | 172,195 | 169,445 | 173,490 | 172,885 |  |