



UCAS

End of cycle report 2010/2011

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Dear colleague

This compendium of data from the 2011 cycle builds on the first End of Cycle Report we published last year. It contains a new section of analytical data as well as detailed tables and charts showing applicant and acceptance data by domicile, institution country, age, gender, ethnicity, POLAR2 group (deprivation index), type of school or college, distance travelled, type of higher education institution and subject area. In many cases, we have included historical data for additional context. The analytical data are indexed on page 6 and the reference data on pages 22 and 23.

This End of Cycle report records a year of admissions which was, in many respects, very similar to 2010. We show that there was no evidence of any off-trend application rates as widely anticipated in the media as a result of the impending changes in HE funding and tuition fees for 2012.

UCAS remains committed to making its data available as widely as possible to support HEIs, applicants, schools and colleges, Government and policy makers. We provide applicant tracking data to all our member institutions, and to schools and colleges. We publish monthly application statistics throughout each admissions cycle as well as more comprehensive datasets (the Applications Digest) after key deadlines in January and June, and a large annual dataset at the end of each cycle. More information about these can be found at:

www.ucas.com/about_us/stat_services/datacalendar/

We welcome feedback on this publication and suggestions for how it could be improved in future years – please contact our Communications Team at communications@ucas.ac.uk if you have any queries.

Mary Curnock Cook
Chief Executive



Section 1:
Analytical overview
of the 2011 cycle



Analytical overview of the 2011 cycle

The statistics for the 2011 application cycle show some important similarities and differences compared to recent years. This overview of the 2011 application cycle builds on the core reference tables in section 2 of this document, with additional analysis highlighting key patterns.

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Applicants, acceptances and the shape of the admissions cycle

Little change in overall applicant and acceptance numbers

Figure i shows how the overall statistics for applicants and acceptances in the 2011 cycle are similar to those for 2010, with small increases of 0.4 per cent for applicants and 1.0 per cent for acceptances.

Figure ii shows these overall figures as a graph.

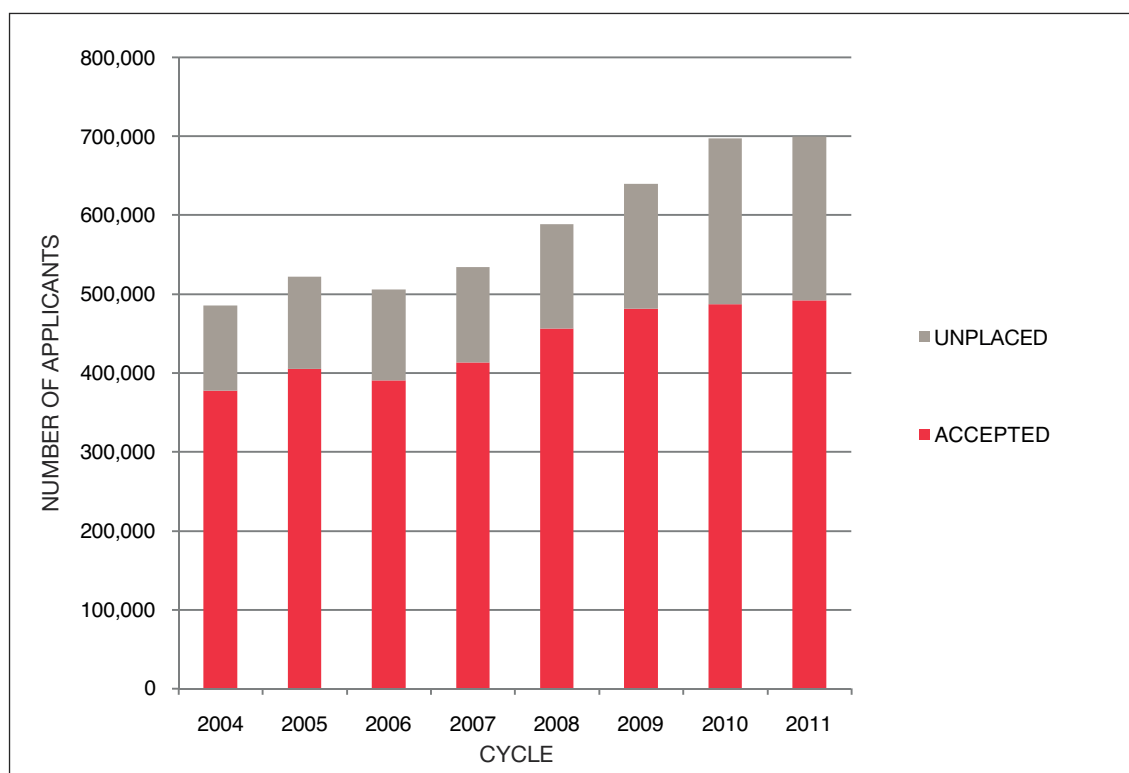
Recent cycles show notable year-on-year increases in applicants but this trend did not continue for the 2011 cycle. The increase in the number of acceptances is also small, but larger than the increase in the number of applicants, leading to a slight fall in the number of unplaced applicants.

Figure i: Applicants and acceptances for full-time undergraduate courses at UK higher education institutions (2010 and 2011 cycles)

	2010	2011	Difference (+/-)	% change 2010-2011
Total applicants	697,351	700,161	+2,810	+0.4%
Total accepted applicants	487,329	492,030	+4,701	+1.0%
Total unplaced applicants	210,022	208,131	-1,891	-0.9%
Number of institutions with UCAS membership receiving applications	305	304	-1	

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure ii: Applicants and acceptances



SOURCE: UCAS

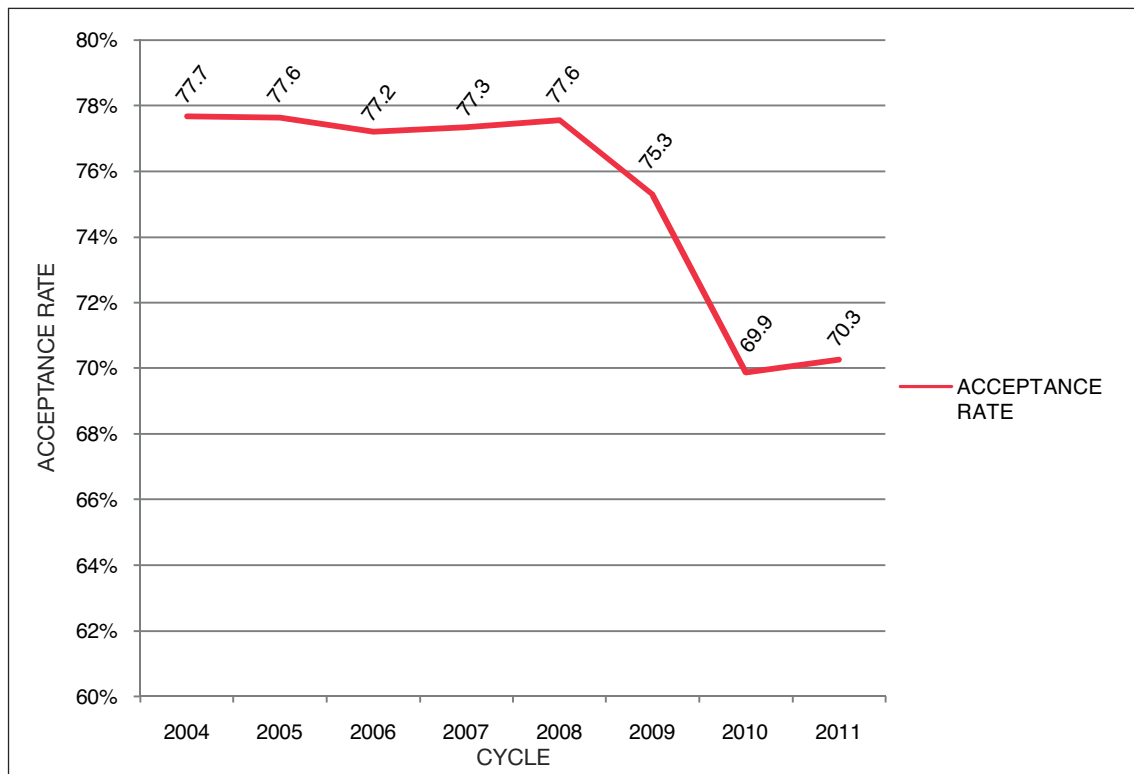


Recent decline in overall acceptance rate arrested

With similar numbers of applicants and acceptances the overall acceptance rate (that is, the proportion of applicants who are accepted for entry in the cycle) remains at around 70 per cent.

The recent trend of sharply falling acceptance rates, and increasing numbers of unplaced applicants, has been arrested. However, the overall acceptance rate remains much lower than the 77-78 per cent recorded for the cycles between 2004 and 2008. The trend since 2004 is illustrated at figure iii.

Figure iii: Overall acceptance rate



SOURCE: UCAS



The shape of the 2011 cycle for UK and EU applicants is similar to 2010

Figure iv shows the progress of the 2011 cycle (solid lines) from when it started in September 2010 to the end of the cycle in November 2011 compared to the equivalent points in the 2010 cycle (dashed lines).

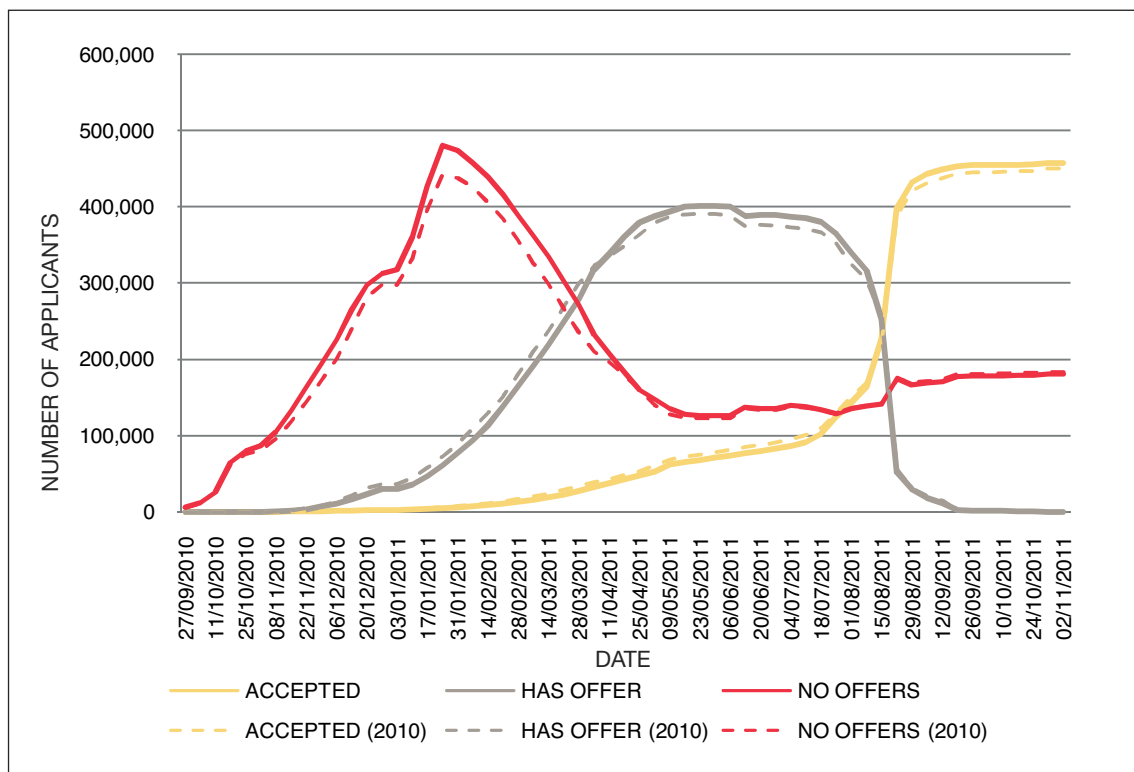
At each point all the UK and EU applicants in the scheme are divided into three mutually exclusive states:

- those who hold no offers for entry,
- those who hold an offer which has not yet been resolved, and
- those who have been accepted into higher education.

The timetable of the UCAS scheme is evident from shape of the graph. As applications are submitted in advance of the October and January deadlines the number of applicants in the cycle with no offers rises. As institutions make offers in large numbers after the January deadline, the number of applicants with offers increases. By the middle of July around 400,000 applicants are holding offers, around 100,000 are already accepted and just fewer than 150,000 have no offers. As examination results become known the number holding offers declines rapidly with an accompanying increase in those accepted.

With the dashed lines for the 2010 cycle being close to the solid lines of the 2011 cycle it is clear that overall progress of the two cycles is very similar, including – as we saw in the preceding analysis – the final numbers accepted and unplaced.

Figure iv: UK and EU applicant status through the 2010 and 2011 cycles



SOURCE: UCAS

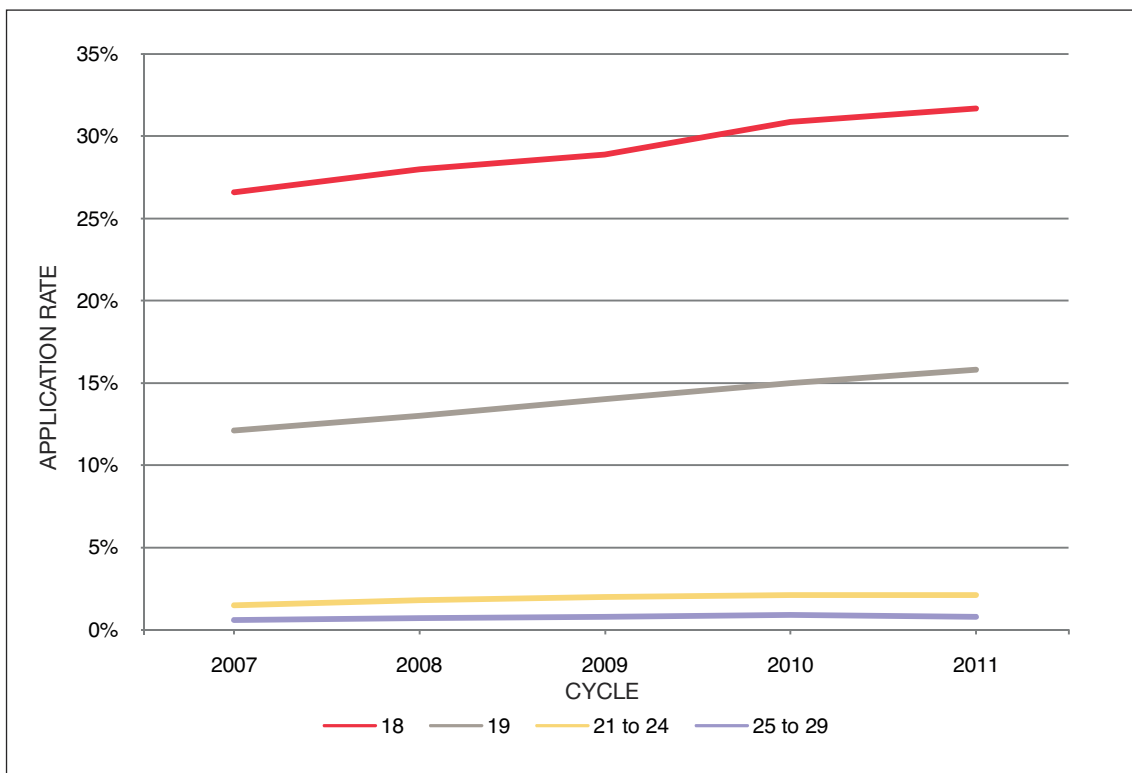
Application rates

One measure of demand for higher education is how likely people are to apply for entry to higher education through UCAS. This can be measured through application rates – that is, the number of applicants from a group, divided by the population size of that group. It is important to consider application rates rather than just overall applicant numbers since the population size of some groups can change significantly from year to year.

Application rates higher for young than other age groups

Figure v shows the application rates for selected UK-domiciled age cohorts. Young people aged 18 or 19 are more likely to apply than other age groups. We estimate that 32 per cent of UK 18 year olds and 16 per cent of 19 year olds applied in the 2011 cycle, compared to two per cent of the 21 to 24 year old and around one per cent or less of the 25 to 29 year old groups.

Figure v: UK application rates by selected age group



SOURCE: UCAS



Application rates for young increasing broadly in line with recent trends

The proportion of 18 and 19 year olds applying to UCAS over recent cycles has been increasing at around one percentage point a year. The application rates for the 2011 cycle broadly continue that pattern. There is no above-trend increase in application rates for 18 or 19 year olds that would indicate that significant numbers were applying to UCAS a year earlier than expected.

Young women over 30 per cent more likely to apply than young men

Figure vi shows the UK 18 year old application rate by gender. The application rates for both men and women have increased, but the increase is larger for women. We estimate that 36 per cent of 18 year old women apply to UCAS compared to 27.5 per cent of 18 year old men. This makes young women just over 30 per cent more likely to apply than young men.

Figure vi: UK application rates for 18 year olds by gender



SOURCE: UCAS



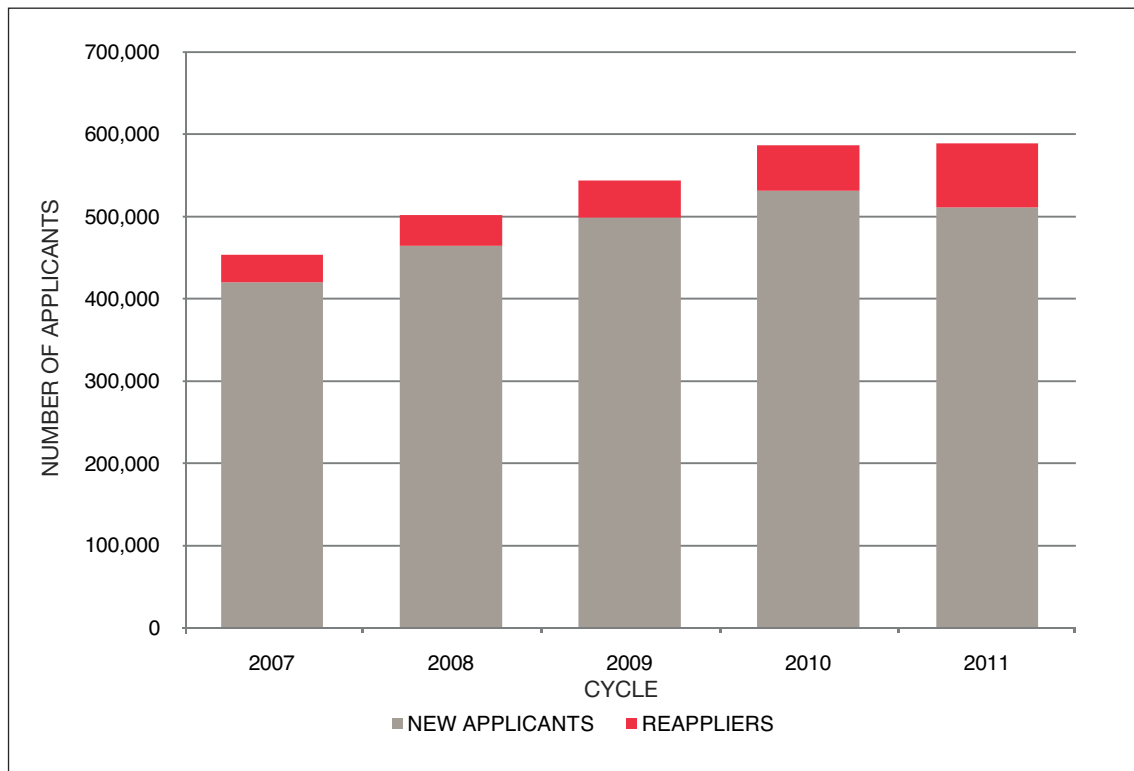
New applicants and reapplicants

Figure vii shows the trend in the number of UK-domiciled applicants with the proportion that are reapplicants (that is, they have applied to UCAS in the previous cycle) highlighted. The 2011 cycle shows a substantial increase in the number of reapplicants from 55,000 to 75,000. This follows the increase in unplaced applicants at the end of the 2010 cycle.

UK-domiciled new applicants declined for 2011 cycle

The grey sections of the bars in figure vii represent those UK-domiciled applicants who have not applied in the previous cycle – those that can be considered new or “first-time” applicants. The number of these UK domiciled first-time applicants decreased in the 2011 cycle by 20,000 (four per cent), the first fall in these numbers across the period looked at.

Figure vii: UK applicants split by whether they are “first-time” or have made a previous application



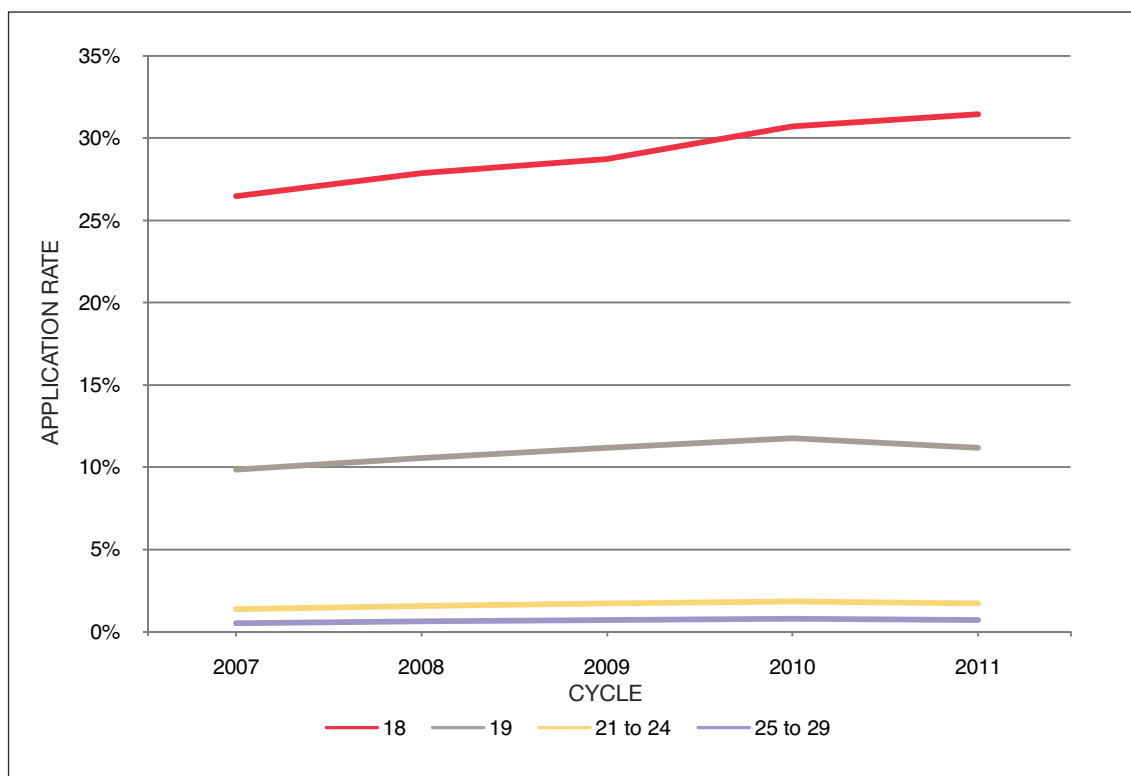
SOURCE: UCAS



First-time application rates decline for older age groups

Figure viii shows the trends in “first-time” application rates. This is similar to the analysis of application rates reported in figure v but here the application rate includes only those applying for the first time. The upward trend for 18 year olds is unchanged (since very few applicants in this age group will have had the opportunity to make a previous application). The trend for 19 year olds shows that the proportion of UK-domiciled 19 year olds making a first-time application to UCAS fell for the 2011 cycle. Similar falls in first-time application rates are seen for other older age groups.

Figure viii: UK new application rates by selected age group



SOURCE: UCAS

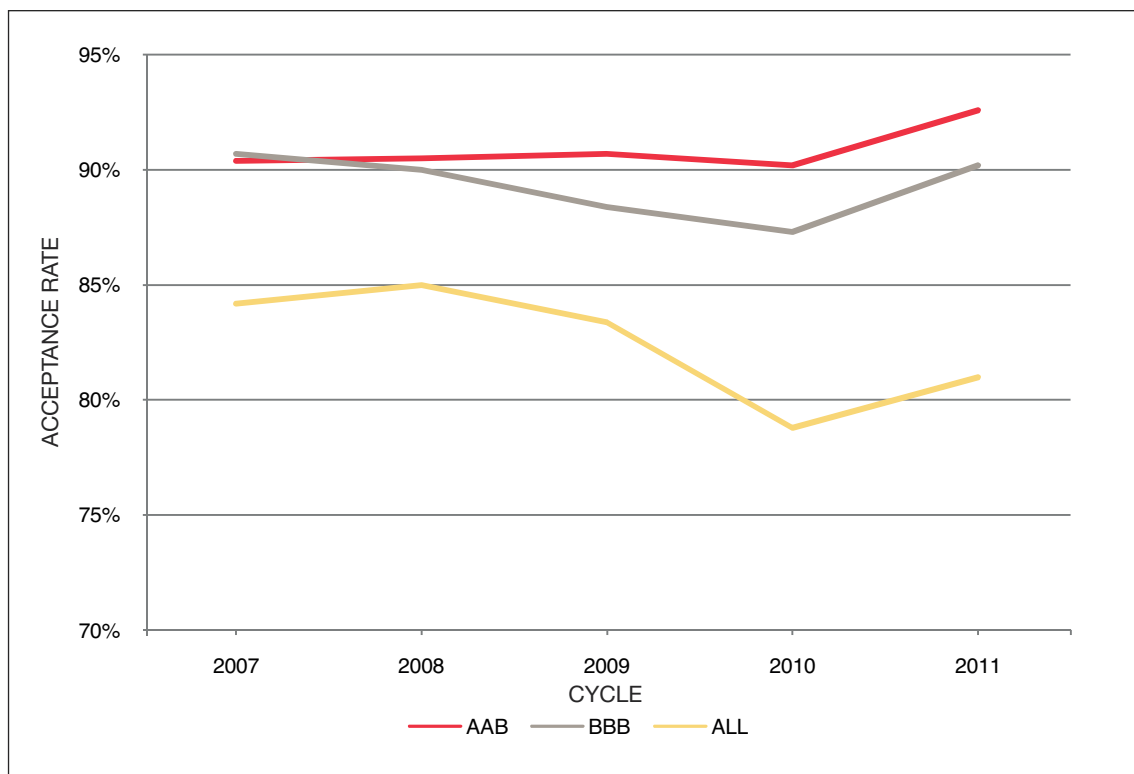
Acceptance rates

One measure of the difficulty of gaining entry to higher education is the acceptance rate (the proportion of applicants who get offered and who accept a place in higher education). Figure iii showed that overall the acceptance rate was similar for 2011 against 2010. However, comparing the overall acceptance rate does not take into account any changes in the composition of applicants that might affect the acceptance rate, such as their domicile, age or qualifications offered. To provide an indication of how the difficulty of gaining entry to higher education might be changing we looked at the trends in the acceptance rate for similar applicants through time.

Acceptance rate increases in 2011 for UK-domiciled 18 year olds after recent declines

Figure ix shows the trend in acceptance rates for UK-domiciled 18 year olds (yellow line). Using this group removes any effect on the trend from changing proportions of non-UK or older applicants within the overall acceptance rate figure. The acceptance rate for 18 year olds is higher than that for the applicants overall (at around 80 per cent compared to 70 per cent for the overall applicant cohort) but both show a fall in the acceptance rate across the 2009 and 2010 cycles. For 18 year olds the reversal of this trend in the 2011 cycle is more pronounced than for the overall figure. The acceptance rate increased by two percentage points for the 2011 cycle.

Figure ix: Acceptance rates for UK-domiciled 18 year olds attaining selected A-level grade combinations



SOURCE: UCAS



Acceptance rates for some qualification groups higher now than in past five years

Figure ix also shows the acceptance rates for 18 year old UK-domiciled applicants holding some common combination of A level grades, AAB and BBB (red and grey lines). Further subdividing the applicants in this way removes any distortion to the trend from applicants offering stronger or weaker qualifications through time.

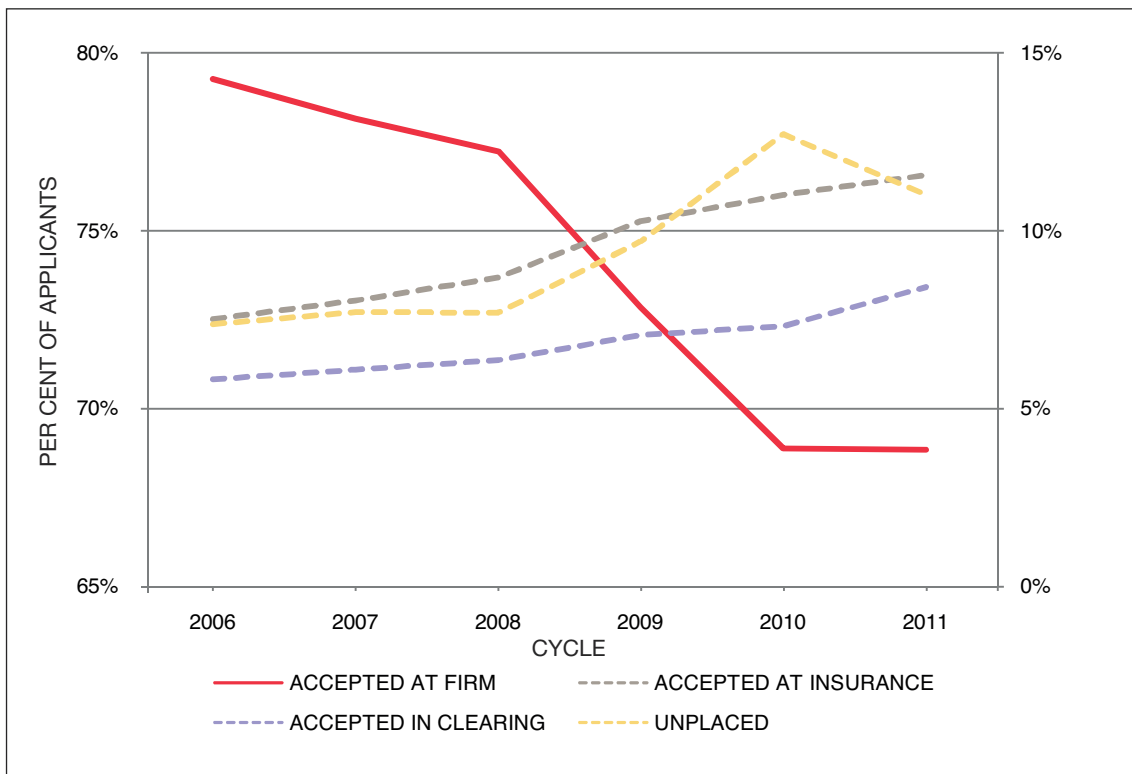
These results show that these two groups have higher acceptance rates (around 90 per cent) and that they did not experience the reduction in acceptance rates in recent years to the same degree as other groups. In both cases there is a substantial increase in the acceptance rate in 2011 – in the case of AAB applicants taking the acceptance rate to 93 per cent, higher than at any other time in the period looked at.

Outcomes for young people holding offers

Another indication of the difficulty of getting into higher education can be obtained by looking at whether people gain entry through their firm choice offers. If demand for places is high, then institutions might respond by applying tougher criteria in assessing whether an applicant has met the conditions of the offer. We would expect this to show up as fewer of those holding conditional firm offers gaining entry to their firm choice.

Figure x shows the outcomes for a subset of 18 year old applicants who were holding firm or insurance offers from institutions on the 30th June. For this age group, these offers are overwhelmingly conditional and most will be holding both a firm and an insurance offer.

Figure x: Outcomes for 18 year old UK applicants holding firm or insurance offers on 30th June



SOURCE: UCAS

Note: The dotted lines refer to the right hand side scale, the solid line relates to the left hand side scale



No change in young offer-holders gaining entry to firm choice in 2011, slight fall in unplaced

Of these applicants, 69 per cent gained entry at their firm choice. This is unchanged from the 2010 cycle but substantially lower than five years ago. The fall in the proportion of this group gaining entry to their firm choice was accompanied by an increase in the proportion ending up unplaced at the end of the cycle, reflecting the fall in the acceptance rate over this period. But the proportion of this group ending up unplaced fell slightly in the 2011 cycle to 11 per cent.

Continuation of trend for an increasing proportion of young offer-holders entering through insurance and Clearing

There have been increases in the proportion of this group gaining entry through their insurance choice (reaching 12 per cent in 2011) and through Clearing (reaching 8 per cent in 2011). There is no indication that the proportion gaining entry through their insurance choice increased beyond that which might be expected from the recent trend.

Deferred applicants and acceptances by entry year

The majority of applicants applying through UCAS are looking to start their HE course the following autumn; thus under “immediate entry”, individuals apply to start their course in autumn 2011 from the 2011 admissions cycle.

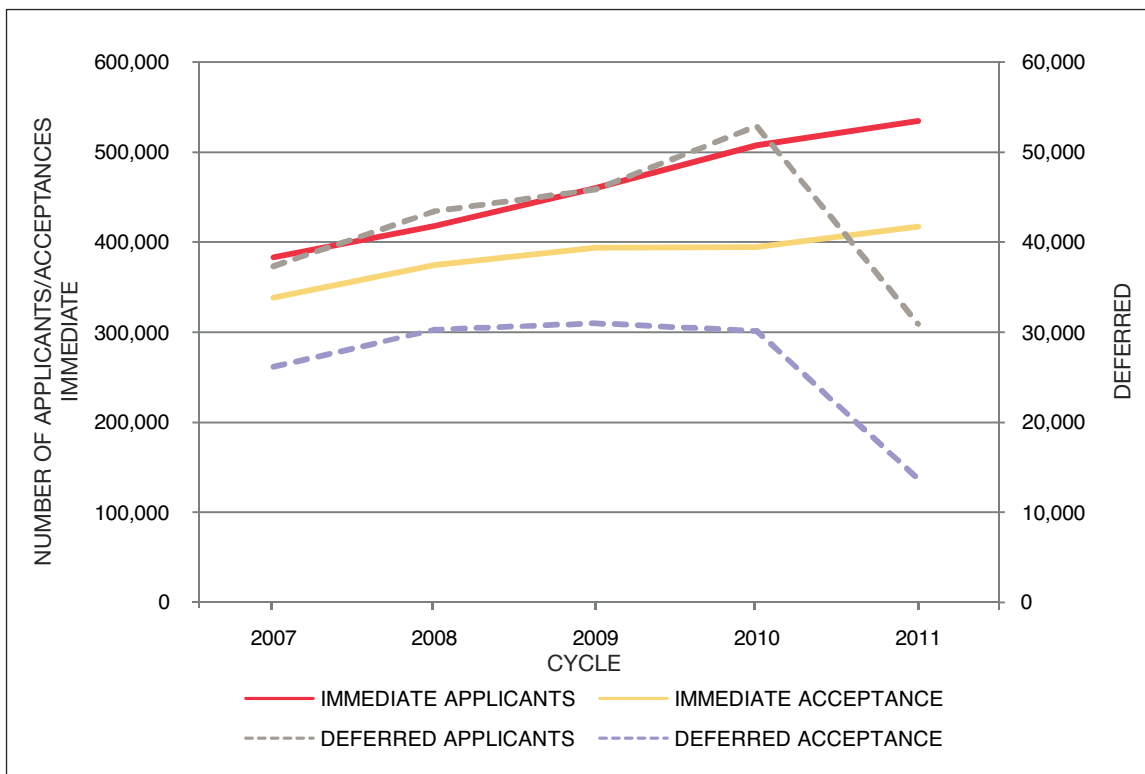
However, some institutions also allow applicants the opportunity to postpone the start of their course by a year; thus under “deferred entry”, individuals typically apply to start their course in autumn 2012 from the 2011 admissions cycle.

Substantial falls in deferred applicants and acceptances

Figure xi shows the trends in immediate and deferred UK-domiciled applicants and acceptances. The number of immediate applicants and acceptances is around ten times larger than the number of deferred applicants so they are shown on separate axes (immediate on the right).

Applicants for immediate entry increased in 2011, as did the number of acceptances for immediate entry. But applications for deferred entry fell by 22,000 in 2011 (a fall of over 40 per cent) and acceptances for deferred entry dropped by 16,000, a fall of more than half.

Figure xi: Trends in immediate and deferred applications and acceptances (UK-domiciled)



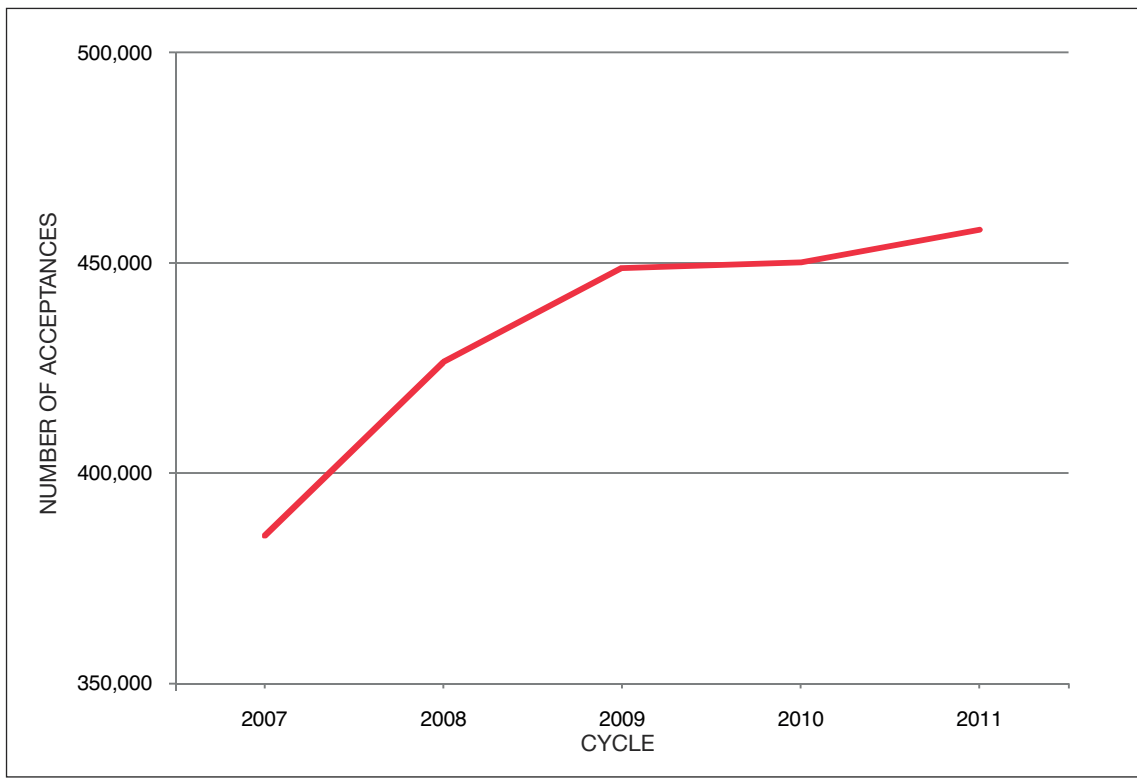
SOURCE: UCAS



UK- and EU-domiciled acceptances by entry cycle continue recent pattern of broadly flat acceptances

Figure xii shows the number of UK and EU acceptances over recent UCAS application cycles. The trend of year-on-year increases stopped in the 2010 cycle as a result of the imposition of forms of entrant number controls on UK and EU students – notably for English institutions – in that year. The figures for acceptances from the 2011 cycle show an increase, but of less than two per cent.

Figure xii: UK- and EU-domiciled acceptances by application cycle



SOURCE: UCAS

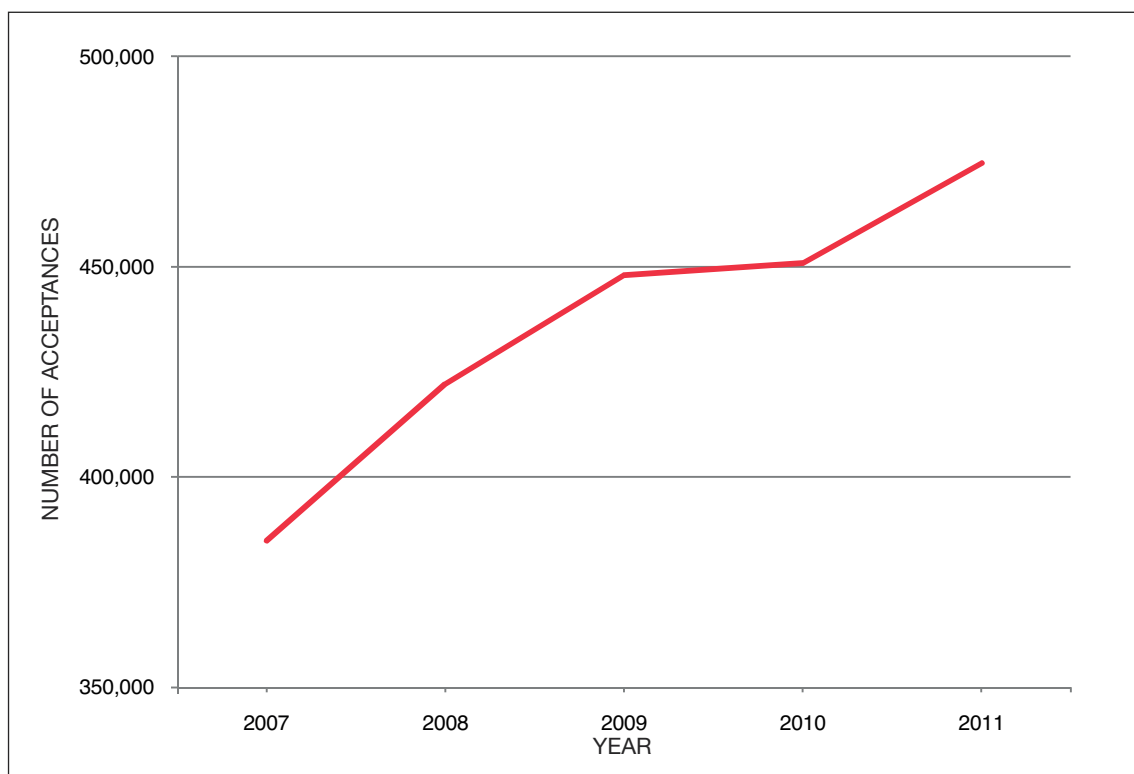


24,000 extra UK- and EU-domiciled students expected to have started in Autumn 2011

The trends in figure xii are based on the cycle in which an applicant was accepted. Figure xiii shows the same group of UK and EU acceptances but this time reported by the year in which they intend to start their courses. In particular deferred acceptances are counted against the year in which they intend to start, rather than the year in which they were accepted.

This shows that there has been a substantial increase (around 24,000, five per cent) in the number of UCAS acceptances that we would expect to start their courses in 2011. This increase is not evident in the trend by entry cycle as the increase in the number of immediate acceptances to 2011 is largely offset by the sharp decline in the number of deferred acceptances to 2012.

Figure xiii: UK- and EU-domiciled acceptances by intended entry year



SOURCE: UCAS



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Applicants and acceptances

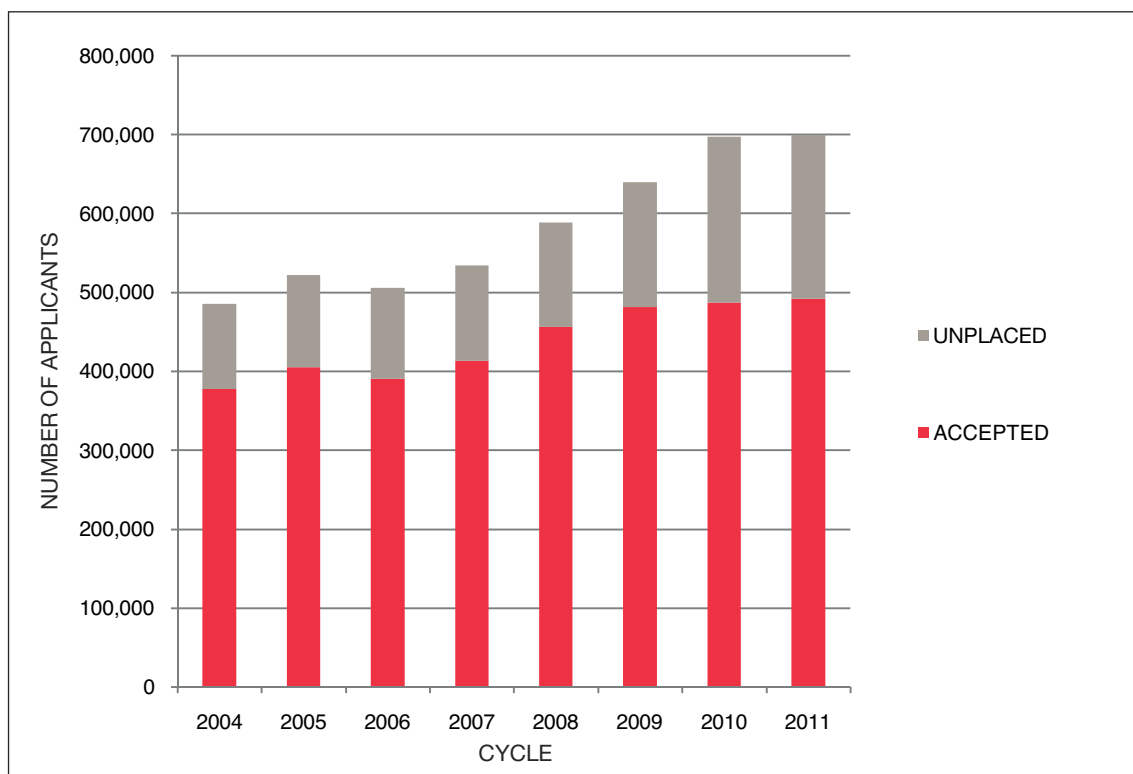
Figure 1a: Applicants and acceptances for full-time undergraduate courses at UK higher education institutions (2010-2011)

	2010	2011	Difference (+/-)	% change 2010-2011
Total applicants	697,351	700,161	+2,810	+0.4%
Total accepted applicants ⁽¹⁾	487,329	492,030	+4,701	+1.0%
Total unplaced applicants	210,022	208,131	-1,891	-0.9%
Number of institutions with UCAS membership receiving applications	305	304	-1	

SOURCE: UCAS

⁽¹⁾ Includes those deferring entry to the following year. (Applicants are counted in the year in which they apply, not in the year in which they intend to begin their course.)

Figure 1b: Applicants and acceptances – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS



Figure 2a: Acceptance rate (2004-2011)

	2004	2005	% change 2004-2005	2006	% change 2005-2006	2007	% change 2006-2007
Applicants	486,028	522,155	+7.4%	506,304	-3.0%	534,495	+5.6%
Accepted applicants	377,544	405,369	+7.4%	390,890	-3.6%	413,430	+5.8%
Acceptance rate	77.7%	77.6%	-	77.2%	-	77.3%	-
Average number of choices per applicant	4.3	4.4	-	4.4	-	4.4	-

	2008	% change 2007-2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
Applicants	588,689	+10.1%	639,860	+8.7%	697,351	+9.0%	700,161	+0.4%
Accepted applicants	456,627	+10.4%	481,854	+5.5%	487,329	+1.1%	492,030	+1.0%
Acceptance rate	77.6%	-	75.3%	-	69.9%	-	70.3%	-
Average number of choices per applicant	3.7	-	3.7	-	3.9	-	4.1	-

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 2b: Acceptance rate (2004-2011) – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS

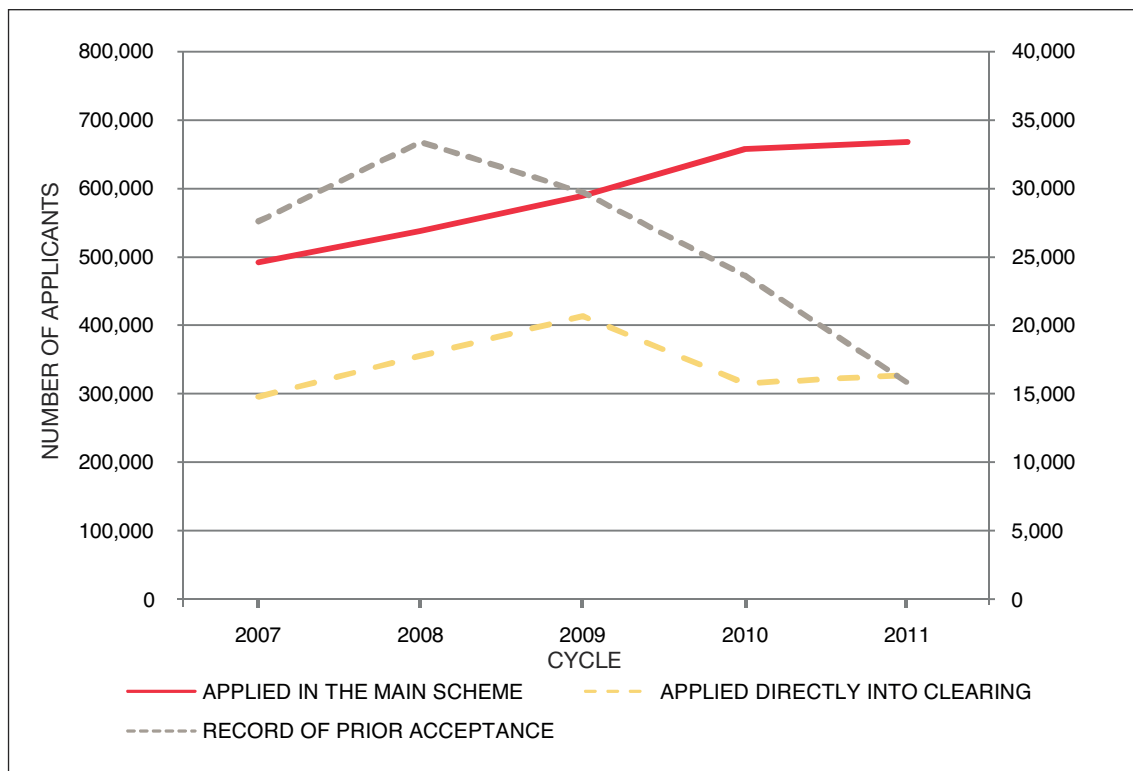


Figure 3a: Application route (2007-2011)

	2007	2008	% change 2007-2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
Applied in the main scheme	492,136	537,494	+9.5%	589,473	+10.1%	657,953	+14.8%	667,952	+1.5%
Applied directly into Clearing	14,785	17,802	+20.4%	20,686	+16.2%	15,765	-23.8%	16,396	+4.0%
Record of Prior Acceptance	27,574	33,393	+21.1%	29,701	-11.1%	23,633	-20.4%	15,813	-33.1%
Total	534,495	588,689	+10.1%	639,860	+8.7%	697,351	+9.0%	700,161	+0.4%

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 3b: Application route (2007-2011) – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS

Note: The dotted lines refer to the right hand side scale, the solid line relates to the left hand side scale.



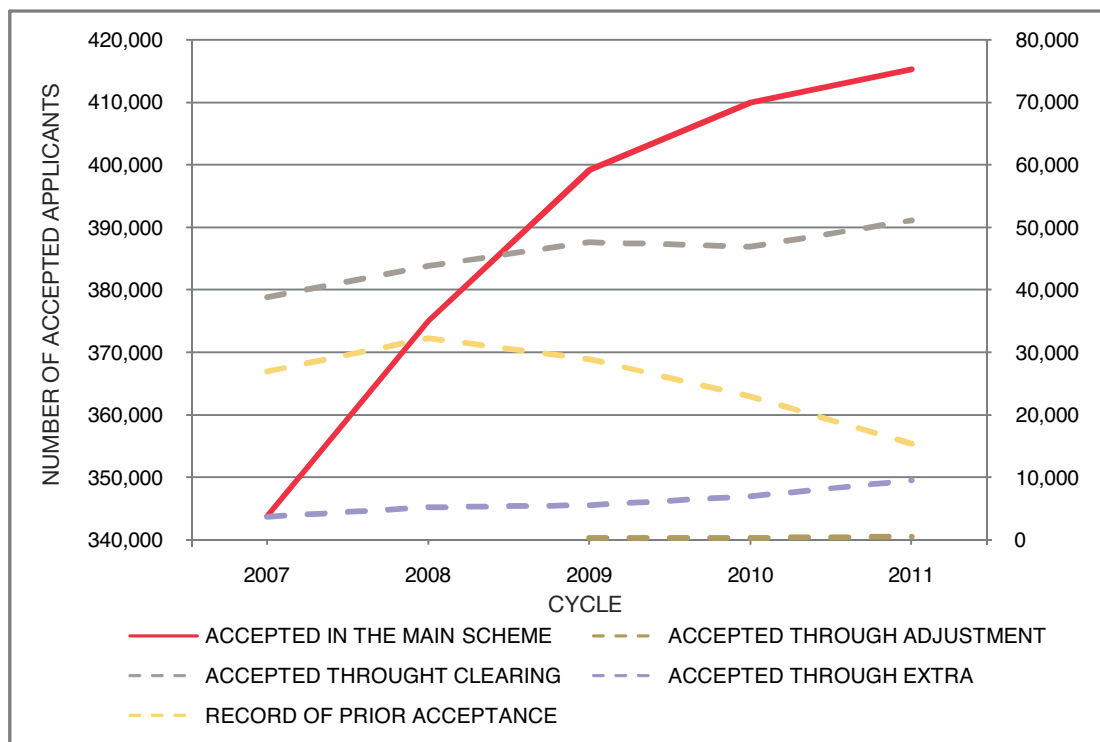
Figure 4a: Acceptance route (2007-2011)

	2007	2008	% change 2007-2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
Accepted in the main scheme	343,833	375,105	+9.1%	399,283	+6.4%	409,994	+2.7%	415,340	+1.3%
Accepted through Adjustment ⁽¹⁾	-	-	-	382	-	377	-1.3%	552	+46.4%
Accepted through Clearing	38,858	43,890	+12.9%	47,673	+8.6%	46,925	-1.6%	51,169	+9.0%
Accepted through Extra	3,767	5,327	+41.4%	5,619	+5.5%	7,018	+24.9%	9,537	+35.9%
Record of Prior Acceptance	26,972	32,305	+19.8%	28,897	-10.5%	23,015	-20.4%	15,432	-32.9%
Total	413,430	456,627	+10.4%	481,854	+5.5%	487,329	+1.1%	492,030	+1.0%

SOURCE: UCAS

⁽¹⁾ Adjustment has only been available since 2009, hence no data is available for 2007 and 2008.

Figure 4b: Acceptance route (2007-2011) – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS

Note: The dotted lines refer to the right hand side scale, the solid line relates to the left hand side scale.



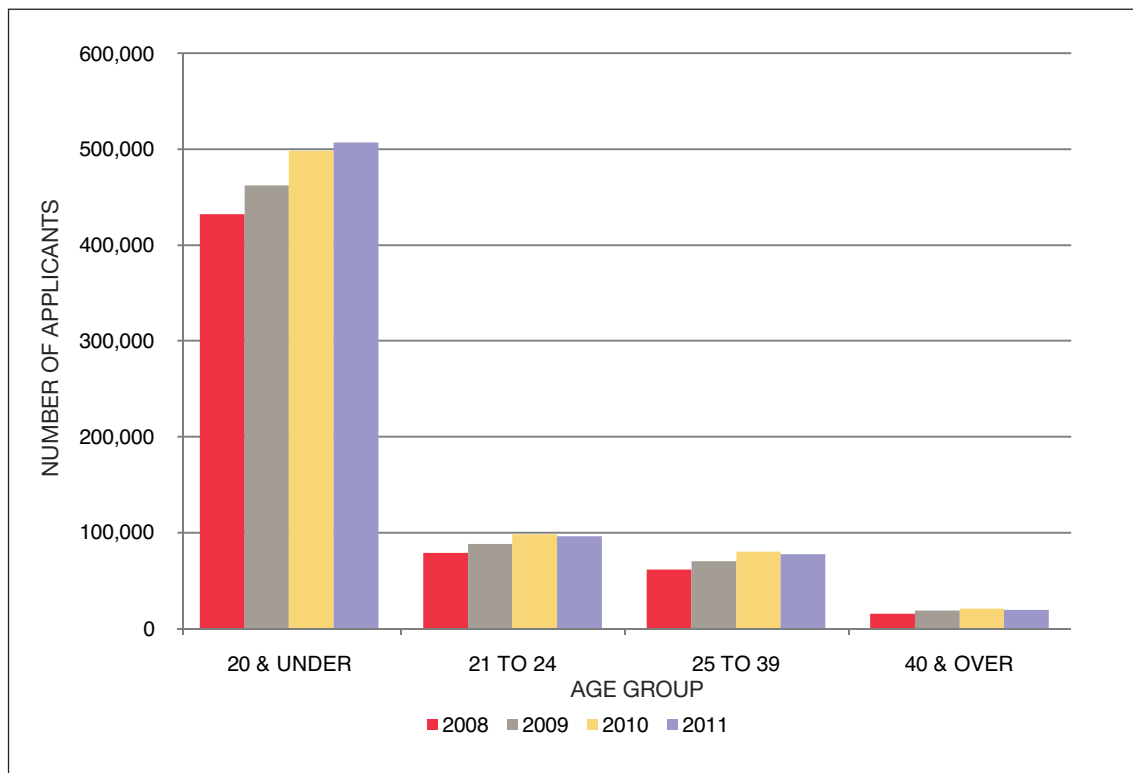
Age group

Figure 5a: Applicants by age group (2008-2011)

	2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
20 and under	432,600	462,376	+6.9%	498,469	+7.8%	507,410	+1.8%
21 to 24	78,803	88,351	+12.1%	97,986	+10.9%	96,058	-2.0%
25 to 39	61,754	70,425	+14.0%	80,288	+14.0%	77,265	-3.8%
40 and over	15,532	18,708	+20.4%	20,608	+10.2%	19,428	-5.7%
Total	588,689	639,860	+8.7%	697,351	+9.0%	700,161	+0.4%

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 5b: Applicants by age group (2008-2011) – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS

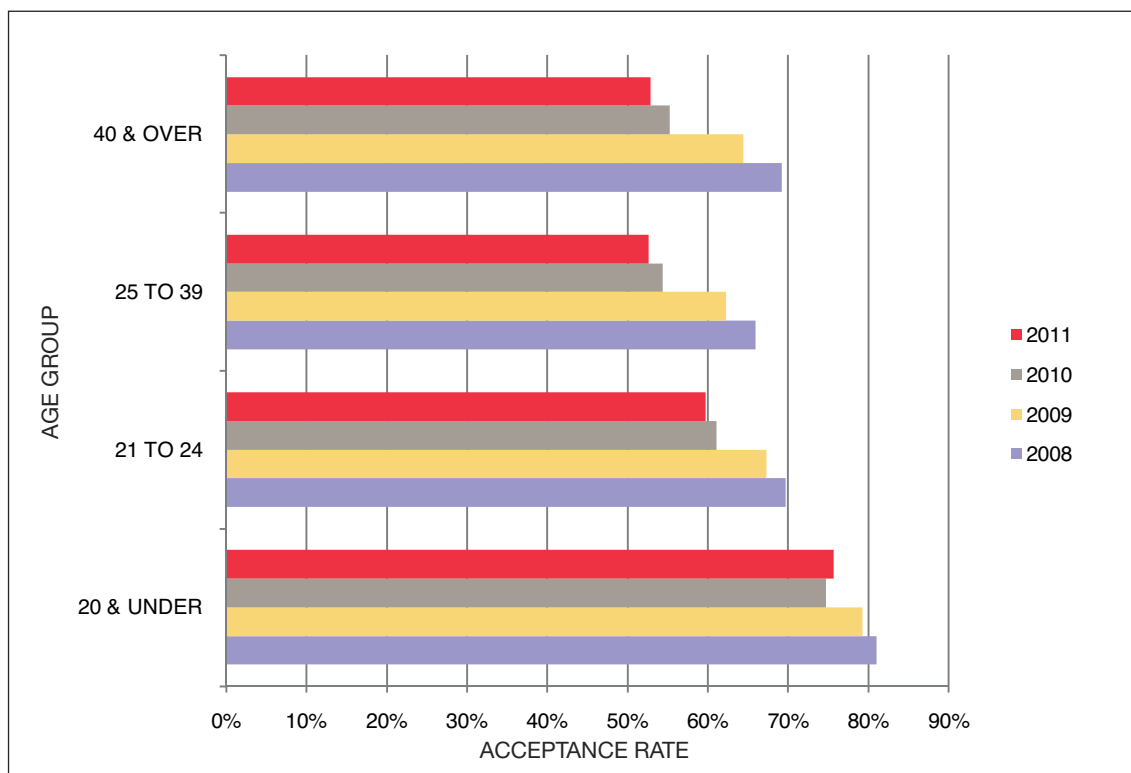


Figure 6a: Acceptance rate by age group (2008-2011)

	2008	2009	2010	2011
20 and under	81.0%	79.3%	74.7%	75.6%
21 to 24	69.7%	67.3%	61.0%	59.7%
25 to 39	65.9%	62.3%	54.3%	52.6%
40 and over	69.2%	64.4%	55.2%	52.9%
Total	77.6%	75.3%	69.9%	70.3%

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 6b: Acceptance rate by age group (2008-2011) – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS



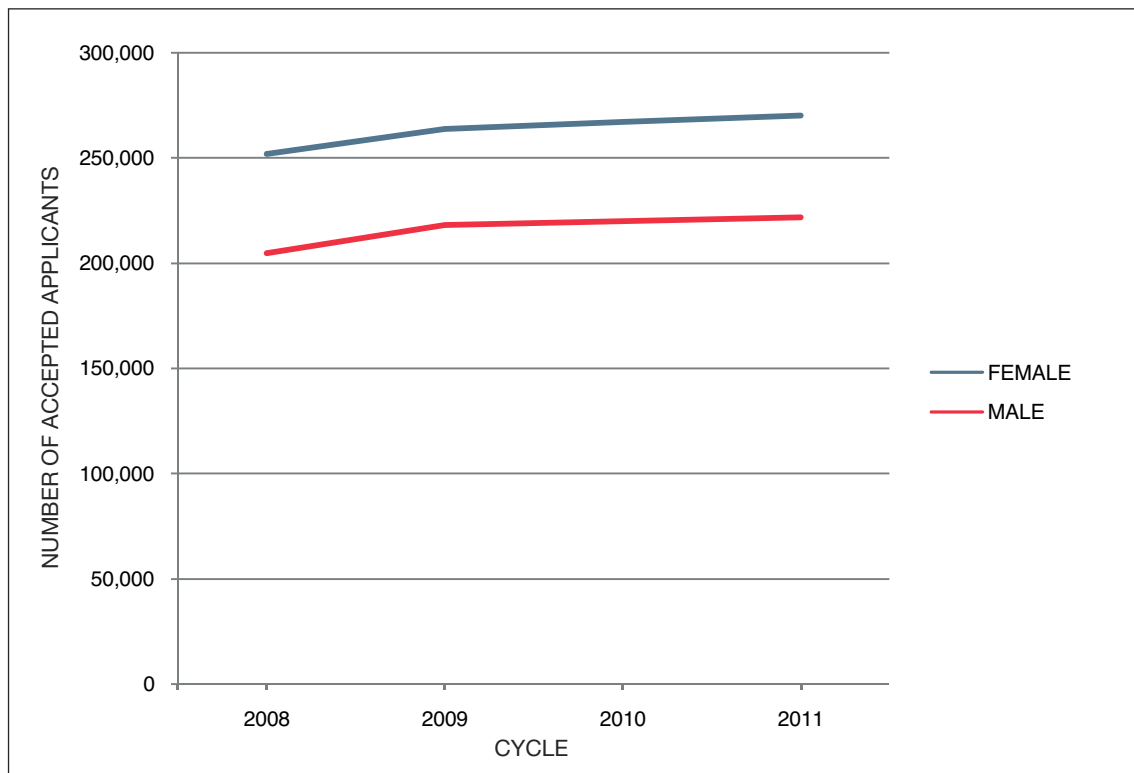
Gender

Figure 7a: Acceptances by gender (2008-2011)

	2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
Female	251,932	263,669	+4.7%	267,244	+1.4%	270,154	+1.1%
Male	204,695	218,185	+6.6%	220,085	+0.9%	221,876	+0.8%
Total	456,627	481,854	+5.5%	487,329	+1.1%	492,030	+1.0%

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 7b: Acceptances by gender (2008-2011) – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS



Ethnicity

Figure 8: Acceptances by ethnicity (UK-domiciled only, 2008-2011)

	2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
Asian - Bangladeshi	3,705	4,040	+9.0%	4,308	+6.6%	4,685	+8.8%
Asian - Chinese	3,617	3,434	-5.1%	3,472	+1.1%	3,605	+3.8%
Asian - Indian	14,256	14,723	+3.3%	14,388	-2.3%	14,906	+3.6%
Asian - other Asian background	5,311	5,939	+11.8%	6,661	+12.2%	7,305	+9.7%
Asian - Pakistani	10,397	11,033	+6.1%	11,908	+7.9%	12,710	+6.7%
Black - African	15,809	17,643	+11.6%	19,247	+9.1%	21,427	+11.3%
Black - Caribbean	5,982	6,383	+6.7%	6,683	+4.7%	6,914	+3.5%
Black - other black background	1,223	1,218	-0.4%	1,232	+1.1%	1,347	+9.3%
Mixed - other mixed background	3,691	3,866	+4.7%	4,065	+5.1%	4,410	+8.5%
Mixed - white and Asian	3,858	4,094	+6.1%	4,492	+9.7%	4,823	+7.4%
Mixed - white and black African	1,325	1,601	+20.8%	1,556	-2.8%	1,852	+19.0%
Mixed - white and black Caribbean	3,265	3,746	+14.7%	4,072	+8.7%	4,409	+8.3%
Other ethnic background	3,878	4,056	+4.6%	4,419	+8.9%	4,709	+6.6%
Unknown	22,664	17,052	-24.8%	6,640	-61.1%	4,935	-25.7%
White	306,043	326,235	+6.6%	331,491	+1.6%	333,198	+0.5%
Total	405,024	425,063	+4.9%	424,634	-0.1%	431,235	+1.6%

SOURCE: UCAS



Domicile

Figure 9: Applicants, acceptances, and acceptance rate by domicile (2008-2011)

	2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
Applicants							
UK	502,461	544,285	+8.3%	586,821	+7.8%	589,350	+0.4%
Non-EU	51,698	56,071	+8.5%	63,212	+12.7%	61,536	-2.7%
Other EU	34,530	39,504	+14.4%	47,318	+19.8%	49,275	+4.1%
Total applicants	588,689	639,860	+8.7%	697,351	+9.0%	700,161	+0.4%
Acceptances							
UK	405,024	425,063	+4.9%	424,634	-0.1%	431,235	+1.6%
Non-EU	30,240	32,984	+9.1%	37,088	+12.4%	34,094	-8.1%
Other EU	21,363	23,807	+11.4%	25,607	+7.6%	26,701	+4.3%
Total acceptances	456,627	481,854	+5.5%	487,329	+1.1%	492,030	+1.0%
Acceptance Rate							
UK	80.6%	78.1%	-	72.4%	-	73.2%	-
Non-EU	58.5%	58.8%	-	58.7%	-	55.4%	-
Other EU	61.9%	60.3%	-	54.1%	-	54.2%	-

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 10: Applicants, acceptances, and acceptance rate by country (2008-2011)

	2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
Applicants							
England	424,596	461,421	+8.7%	495,884	+7.5%	498,119	+0.5%
Northern Ireland	17,116	17,864	+4.4%	19,682	+10.2%	20,242	+2.8%
Scotland	38,035	40,053	+5.3%	46,347	+15.7%	46,015	-0.7%
Wales	22,714	24,947	+9.8%	24,908	-0.2%	24,974	+0.3%
Total applicants	502,461	544,285	+8.3%	586,821	+7.8%	589,350	+0.4%
Acceptances							
England	343,608	360,236	+4.8%	360,208	0.0%	368,316	+2.3%
Northern Ireland	13,430	13,601	+1.3%	13,507	-0.7%	13,792	+2.1%
Scotland	29,391	31,030	+5.6%	32,248	+3.9%	30,800	-4.5%
Wales	18,595	20,196	+8.6%	18,671	-7.6%	18,327	-1.8%
Total acceptances	405,024	425,063	+4.9%	424,634	-0.1%	431,235	+1.6%
Acceptance Rate							
England	80.9%	78.1%	-	72.6%	-	73.9%	-
Northern Ireland	78.5%	76.1%	-	68.6%	-	68.1%	-
Scotland	77.3%	77.5%	-	69.6%	-	66.9%	-
Wales	81.9%	81.0%	-	75.0%	-	73.4%	-

SOURCE: UCAS



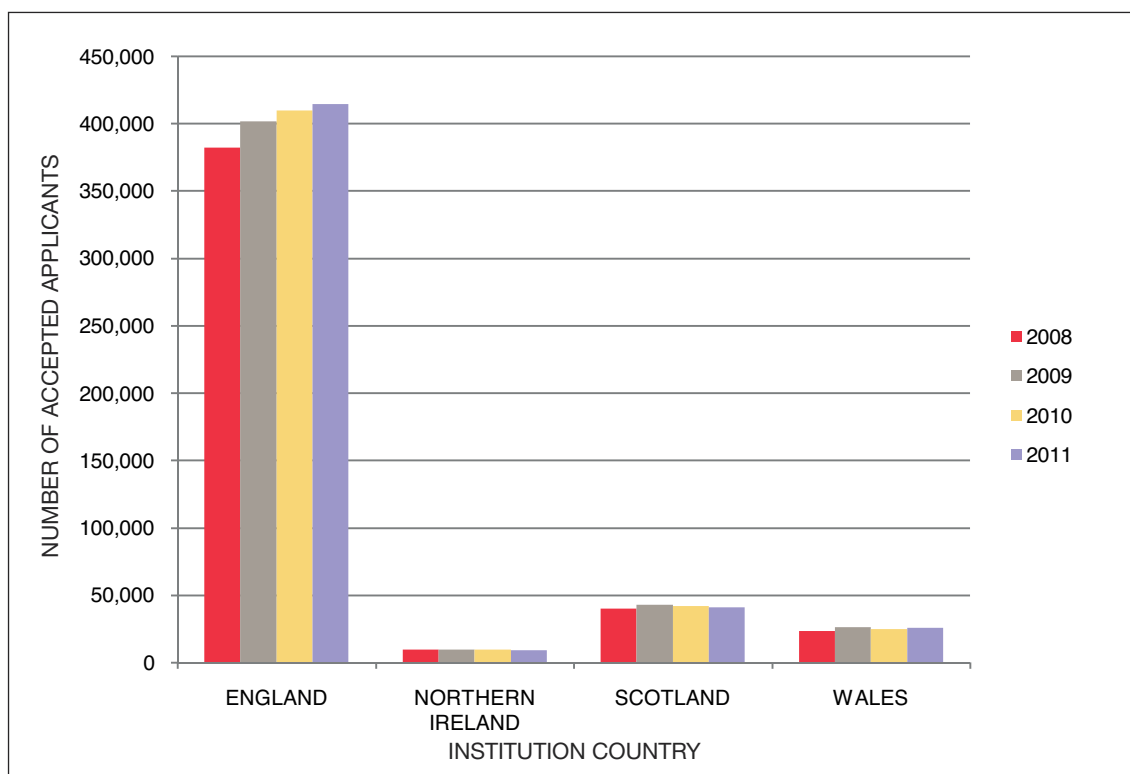
Institution country

Figure 11a: Acceptances by institution country (2008-2011)

	2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
England	382,546	402,224	+5.1%	410,099	+2.0%	415,069	+1.2%
Northern Ireland	9,824	10,152	+3.3%	9,751	-3.9%	9,549	-2.1%
Scotland	40,618	43,057	+6.0%	42,317	-1.7%	41,163	-2.7%
Wales	23,639	26,421	+11.8%	25,162	-4.8%	26,249	+4.3%
Total	456,627	481,854	+5.5%	487,329	+1.1%	492,030	+1.0%

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 11b: Acceptances by institution country (2008-2011) – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 12: Acceptances by institution country (UK-domiciled only, 2008-2011)

	2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
England	340,879	356,029	+4.4%	357,581	+0.4%	365,243	+2.1%
Northern Ireland	9,316	9,601	+3.1%	9,088	-5.3%	8,920	-1.8%
Scotland	33,190	35,193	+6.0%	35,094	-0.3%	33,527	-4.5%
Wales	21,639	24,240	+12.0%	22,871	-5.6%	23,545	+2.9%
Total	405,024	425,063	+4.9%	424,634	-0.1%	431,235	+1.6%

SOURCE: UCAS



Institution grouping

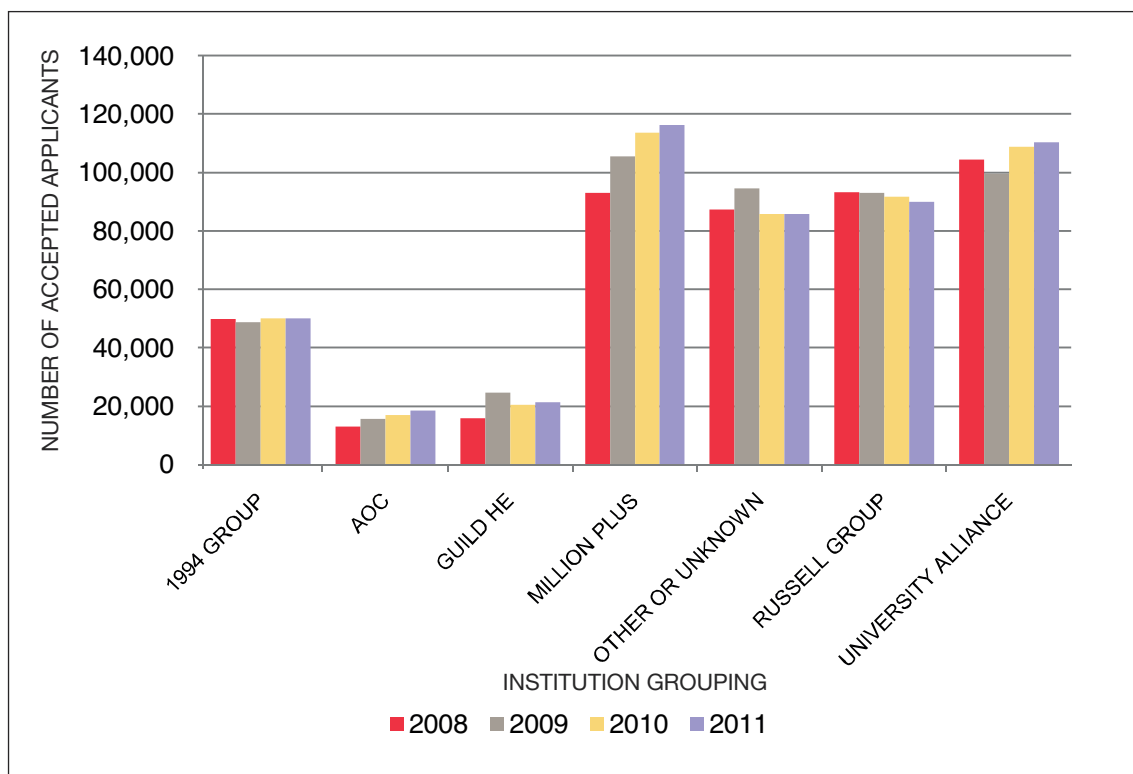
Many higher education institutions in the UK are part of groupings commonly known as ‘mission groups’; more information can be found at <http://wwwucas.com/students/wheretostart/heexplained/universitygroups>.

Figure 13a: Acceptances by institution grouping (2008-2011)

	2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
1994 Group	49,871	48,824	-2.1%	50,098	+2.6%	50,123	0.0%
AoC	13,047	15,507	+18.9%	16,981	+9.5%	18,337	+8.0%
GuildHE	15,884	24,593	+54.8%	20,348	-17.3%	21,239	+4.4%
Million+	92,946	105,641	+13.7%	113,676	+7.6%	116,280	+2.3%
Other/unknown	87,283	94,666	+8.5%	85,719	-9.5%	85,801	+0.1%
Russell Group	93,164	93,008	-0.2%	91,754	-1.3%	89,921	-2.0%
University Alliance	104,432	99,615	-4.6%	108,753	+9.2%	110,329	+1.4%
Total	456,627	481,854	+5.5%	487,329	+1.1%	492,030	+1.0%

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 13b: Acceptances by institution grouping (2008-2011) – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS



Figure 14: Acceptances by institution grouping and acceptance route (2011)

	Main scheme	% of total	Clearing	% of total	Total
1994 Group	47,024	93.8%	3,099	6.2%	50,123
AoC	15,006	81.8%	3,331	18.2%	18,337
GuildHE	19,329	91.0%	1,910	9.0%	21,239
Million+	98,448	84.7%	17,832	15.3%	116,280
Other/unknown	75,791	88.3%	10,010	11.7%	85,801
Russell Group	87,299	97.1%	2,622	2.9%	89,921
University Alliance	97,964	88.8%	12,365	11.2%	110,329
Total	440,861	89.6%	51,169	10.4%	492,030

SOURCE: UCAS

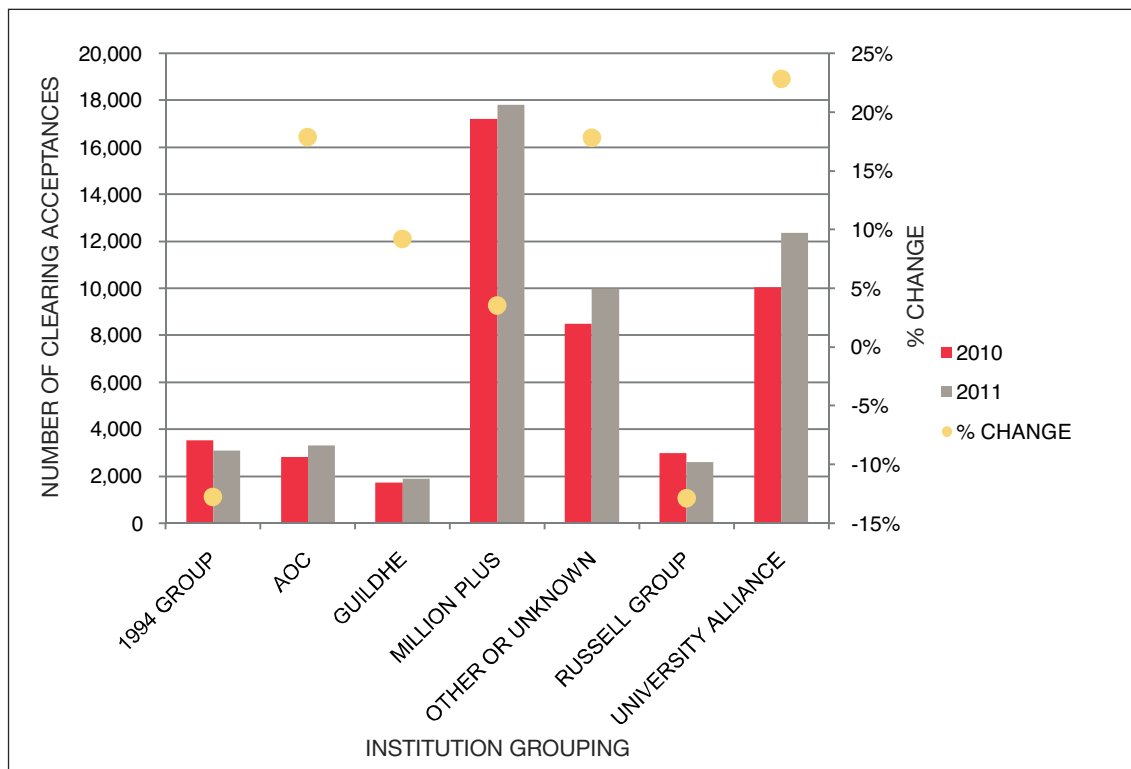


Figure 15a: Clearing acceptances by institution grouping (2010-2011)

	2010	2011	Difference (+/-)	% change 2010-2011
1994 Group	3,552	3,099	-453	-12.8%
AoC	2,826	3,331	+505	+17.9%
GuildHE	1,749	1,910	+161	+9.2%
Million+	17,224	17,832	+608	+3.5%
Other/unknown	8,497	10,010	+1,513	+17.8%
Russell Group	3,009	2,622	-387	-12.9%
University Alliance	10,068	12,365	+2,297	+22.8%
Total	46,925	51,169	+4,244	+9.0%

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 15b: Clearing acceptances by institution grouping (2010-2011) – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS



Educational establishment

**Figure 16: Applicants by educational establishment
(UK-domiciled only, aged 19 and under, 2008-2011)**

	2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
Further education	46,820	46,463	-0.8%	48,400	+4.2%	46,109	-4.7%
Grammar school	29,207	30,060	+2.9%	31,041	+3.3%	31,062	+0.1%
Independent school	36,980	38,069	+2.9%	38,390	+0.8%	36,827	-4.1%
Other ⁽¹⁾	22,975	27,031	+17.7%	36,175	+33.8%	42,622	+17.8%
Sixth form college	59,777	65,387	+9.4%	68,664	+5.0%	68,594	-0.1%
State exc. grammar	135,680	144,439	+6.5%	150,579	+4.3%	150,582	0.0%
Total	331,439	351,449	+6.0%	373,249	+6.2%	375,796	+0.7%

SOURCE: UCAS

**Figure 17: Acceptances by educational establishment
(UK-domiciled only, aged 19 and under, 2008-2011)**

	2008	2009	% change 2008-2009	2010	% change 2009-2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
Further education	37,518	36,720	-2.1%	36,059	-1.8%	35,195	-2.4%
Grammar school	25,825	26,039	+0.8%	25,986	-0.2%	26,692	+2.7%
Independent school	31,666	32,043	+1.2%	31,748	-0.9%	31,095	-2.1%
Other ⁽¹⁾	19,613	22,245	+13.4%	26,886	+20.9%	31,535	+17.3%
Sixth form college	51,399	55,189	+7.4%	55,295	+0.2%	56,124	+1.5%
State exc. grammar	114,816	120,174	+4.7%	118,181	-1.7%	121,213	+2.6%
Total	280,837	292,410	+4.1%	294,155	+0.6%	301,854	+2.6%

SOURCE: UCAS

⁽¹⁾ Other includes Apply online (those applying independently of a centre), those applying from a higher education institution, and other miscellaneous such as prisons, libraries, careers offices, and unknowns.

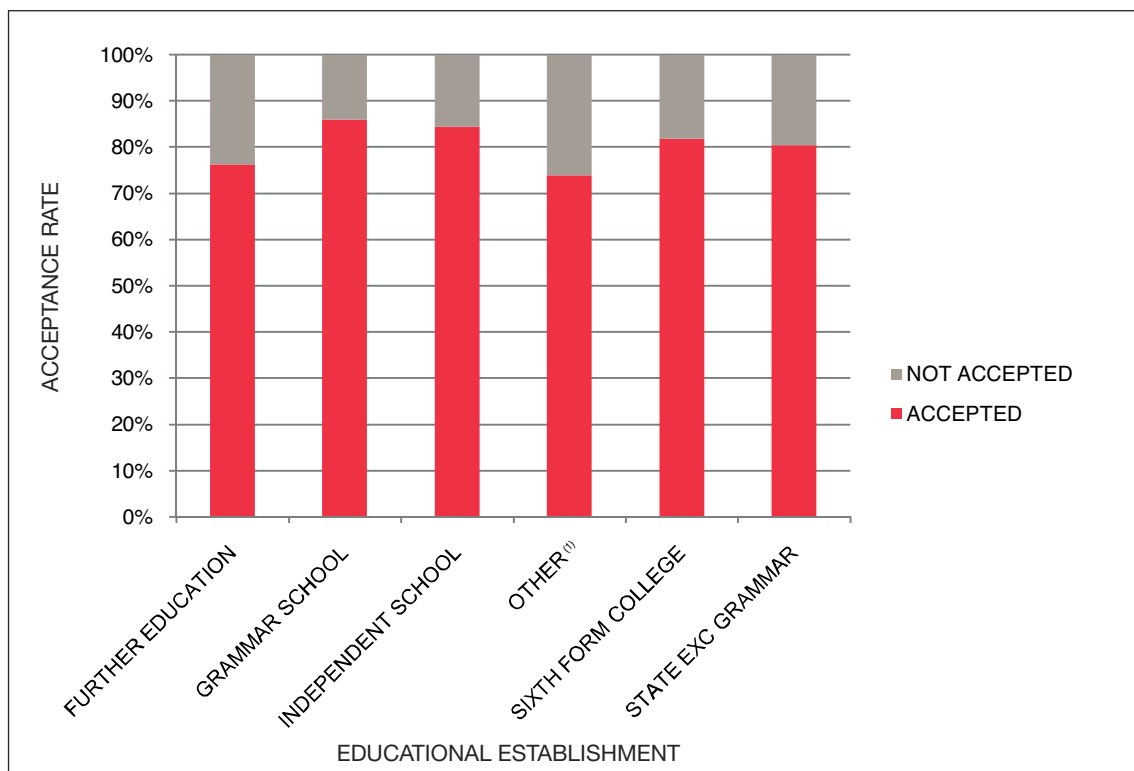


Figure 18a: Acceptance rate by educational establishment (UK-domiciled only, aged 19 and under, 2008-2011)

	2008	2009	2010	2011
Further education	80.1%	79.0%	74.5%	76.3%
Grammar school	88.4%	86.6%	83.7%	85.9%
Independent school	85.6%	84.2%	82.7%	84.4%
Other ⁽¹⁾	85.4%	82.3%	74.3%	74.0%
Sixth form college	86.0%	84.4%	80.5%	81.8%
State exc. grammar	84.6%	83.2%	78.5%	80.5%
Total	84.7%	83.2%	78.8%	80.3%

SOURCE: UCAS

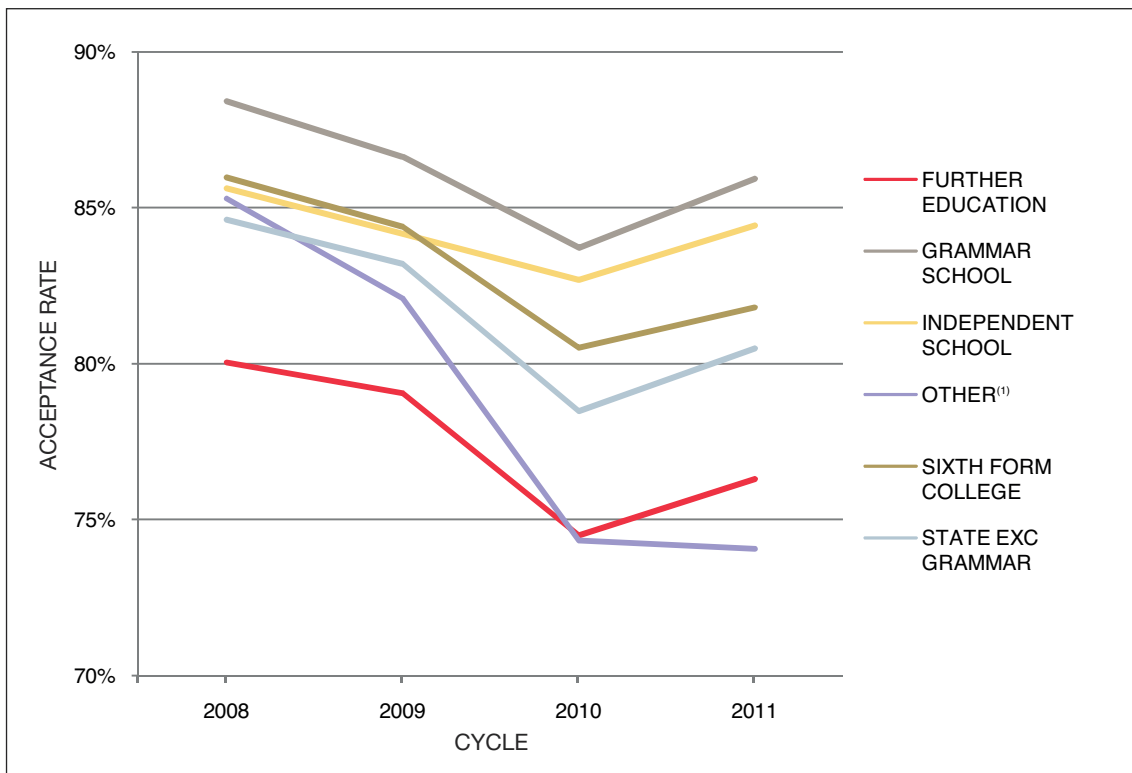
Figure 18b: Acceptance rate by educational establishment (UK-domiciled only, aged 19 and under, 2011 only) – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS



**Figure 18c: Acceptance rate by educational establishment
(UK-domiciled only, aged 19 and under, 2008-2011) – diagram**



SOURCE: UCAS

⁽¹⁾ Other includes Apply online (those applying independently of a centre), those applying from a higher education institution, and other miscellaneous such as prisons, libraries, careers offices, and unknowns.

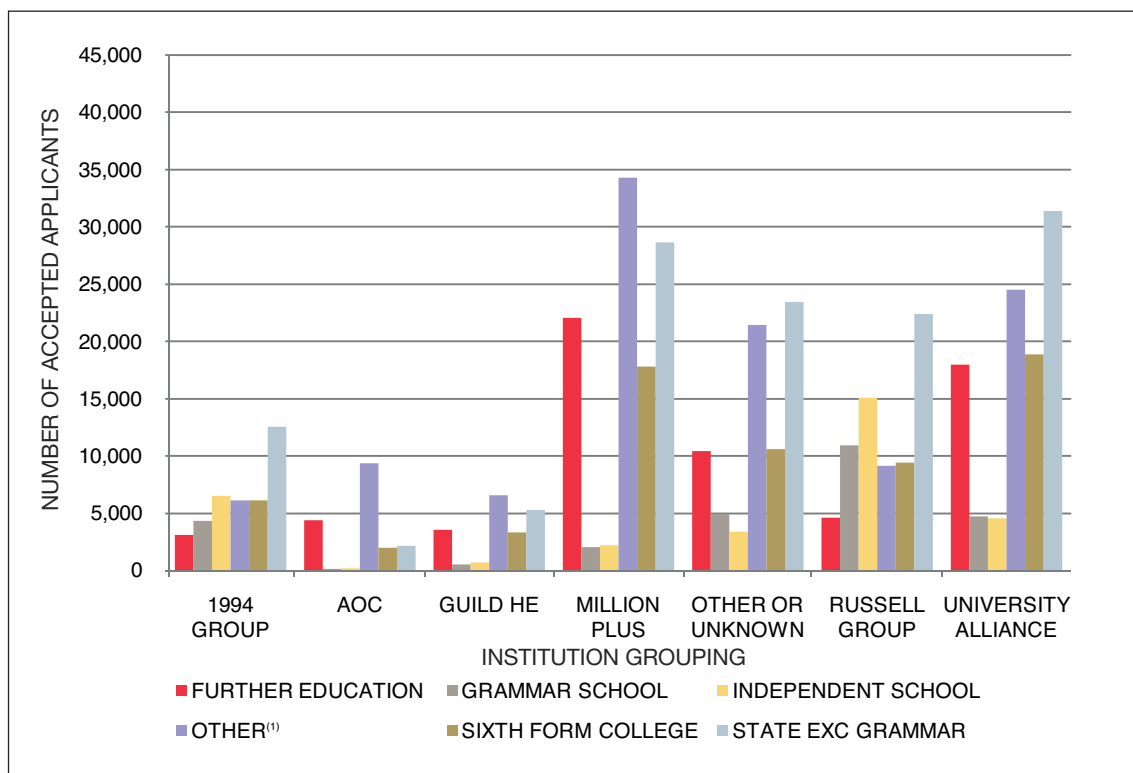


Figure 19a: Acceptances by educational establishment and institution grouping (UK-domiciled applicants only, 2011)

	1994 Group	AoC	GuildHE	Million+	Other/unknown	Russell Group	University Alliance	Total
Further education	3,073	4,368	3,546	22,058	10,429	4,598	17,985	66,057
Grammar school	4,322	95	522	2,036	4,921	10,924	4,683	27,503
Independent school	6,482	148	650	2,177	3,379	15,065	4,520	32,421
Other ⁽¹⁾	6,120	9,368	6,572	34,316	21,412	9,145	24,489	111,422
Sixth form college	6,121	1,941	3,328	17,774	10,587	9,423	18,859	68,033
State exc. grammar	12,511	2,128	5,271	28,639	23,467	22,368	31,415	125,799
Total	38,629	18,048	19,889	107,000	74,195	71,523	101,951	431,235

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 19b: Acceptances by educational establishment and institution grouping (UK-domiciled applicants only, 2011) – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS

⁽¹⁾ Other includes Apply online (those applying independently of a centre), those applying from a higher education institution, and other miscellaneous such as prisons, libraries, careers offices, and unknowns.

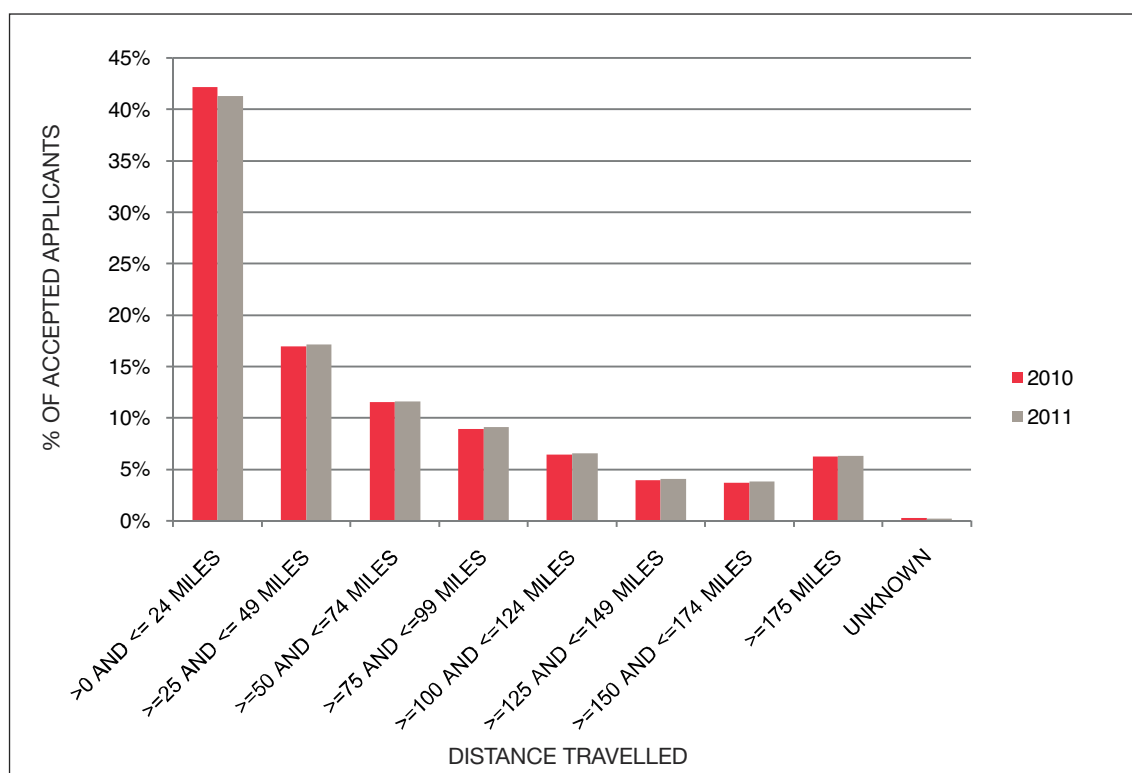
Distance travelled

Figure 20a: Acceptances by distance travelled (UK-domiciled only, 2010-2011)

	2010	% of total	2011	% of total	% change 2010-2011
>0 and <= 24 miles	179,145	42.2%	178,113	41.3%	-0.6%
>=25 and <= 49 miles	71,878	16.9%	73,830	17.1%	+2.7%
>=50 and <=74 miles	49,012	11.5%	49,888	11.6%	+1.8%
>=75 and <=99 miles	37,798	8.9%	39,195	9.1%	+3.7%
>=100 and <=124 miles	27,151	6.4%	28,225	6.5%	+4.0%
>=125 and <=149 miles	16,729	3.9%	17,561	4.1%	+5.0%
>=150 and <=174 miles	15,537	3.7%	16,269	3.8%	+4.7%
>=175 miles	26,356	6.2%	27,235	6.3%	+3.3%
Unknown	1,029	0.2%	923	0.2%	-10.3%
Total	424,635	100.0%	431,239	100.0%	+1.6%

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 20b: Acceptances by distance travelled (UK-domiciled only, 2010-2011) – diagram



SOURCE: UCAS



POLAR2

The POLAR2 (Participation of Local AREas 2) classification groups small areas across the UK into five quintile groups according to their rate of young participation in higher education in the early 2000s. In quintile 1 fewer than one in five young people enter higher education compared to well over half in quintile 5. Each quintile represents around 20 per cent of the young population. Further information on the POLAR2 classification can be found on the HEFCE website (www.hefce.ac.uk/widen/polar/polar2/).

Figure 21: Accepted applicants by POLAR2 quintile (UK-domiciled only, aged 19 and under, 2010-2011)

	2010	% of total	2011	% of total	% change 2010-2011
Quintile 1	30,054	10.2%	31,008	10.3%	+3.2%
Quintile 2	44,144	15.0%	45,606	15.1%	+3.3%
Quintile 3	55,584	18.9%	56,905	18.9%	+2.4%
Quintile 4	69,607	23.7%	70,912	23.5%	+1.9%
Quintile 5	91,795	31.2%	93,872	31.1%	+2.3%
Unknown quintile	2,971	1.0%	3,551	1.2%	+19.5%
Total	294,155	100.0%	301,854	100.0%	+2.6%

SOURCE: UCAS



JACS2 subject group

Figure 22: Acceptances by JACS2 subject group and educational establishment (UK-domiciled only, 2011)

The Joint Academic Coding System (JACS) is owned and maintained by the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) and the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and is used for subject coding of provision across higher education in the UK.

JACS was first introduced in 2002/03 (UCAS year of entry 2002 and reporting year 2002/03 HESA) to replace the two different classification systems previously used by the two organisations. JACS is currently used to code the subjects of both higher education courses and the individual modules within them across the full range of higher education provision.

JACS2 was introduced for 2007 year of entry (UCAS) and 2007/08 reporting year (HESA) and the coding is regularly reviewed to ensure best fit with the current HE offering in the UK.

	Further Education	Grammar School	Independent School	Other ⁽¹⁾	Sixth Form College	State Exc Grammar	Total
Group A: medicine and dentistry	179	1,570	1,748	2,155	700	1,751	8,103
Group B: subjects allied to medicine	8,427	2,227	1,481	17,623	6,127	9,055	44,940
Group C: biological sciences	5,786	2,636	2,654	6,247	6,677	12,978	36,978
Group D: veterinary sciences, agriculture and related subjects	1,028	388	439	1,906	615	1,330	5,706
Group F: physical sciences	1,284	1,772	1,928	1,988	2,760	7,111	16,843
Group G: mathematical and computer sciences	4,543	1,615	1,025	5,998	4,241	8,185	25,607
Group H: engineering	2,565	1,645	1,841	4,504	2,534	6,407	19,496
Group J: technologies	542	104	129	786	365	534	2,460
Group K: architecture, building and planning	1,125	527	590	2,249	936	1,899	7,326
Group L: social sciences	4,619	2,223	3,662	10,374	4,966	8,890	34,734
Group M: law	2,414	1,423	1,183	3,938	3,788	5,793	18,539
Group N: business and administrative studies	7,298	2,470	3,278	11,572	7,972	14,380	46,970
Group P: mass communications and documentation	1,791	437	290	2,477	2,074	3,503	10,572
Group Q: linguistics, classics and related subjects	1,068	1,117	1,703	1,645	2,055	4,310	11,898
Group R: European languages, literature and related subjects	157	581	1,055	338	567	1,420	4,118
Group T: Eastern, Asiatic, African, American and Australasian languages, literature and related subjects	83	110	266	187	173	444	1,263
Group V: historical and philosophical studies	1,053	1,412	2,633	1,774	2,125	5,292	14,289
Group W: creative arts and design	11,156	1,258	1,561	17,656	7,734	9,535	48,900
Group X: education	2,808	633	348	5,353	2,713	5,095	16,950
Combined arts	1,400	856	1,084	2,152	2,090	4,253	11,835
Combined sciences	1,275	467	476	1,772	1,168	2,356	7,514
Combined social sciences	563	274	428	872	861	1,551	4,549
Sciences combined with social sciences or arts	3,330	748	950	4,440	2,884	5,622	17,974
Social sciences combined with arts	1,271	699	1,143	2,557	1,468	3,190	10,328
General, other combined and unknown	292	311	526	859	440	915	3,343
Total	66,057	27,503	32,421	111,422	68,033	125,799	431,235

SOURCE: UCAS

⁽¹⁾ Other includes Apply online (those applying independently of a centre), those applying from a higher education institution, and other miscellaneous such as prisons, libraries, careers offices, and unknowns.



Figure 23: Clearing acceptances by JACS2 subject group (2010-2011)

This table is arranged in rank order from the courses offering the most Clearing places in 2011 to those offering the fewest.

	2010	2011	% change 2010-2011
Group N: business and administrative studies	7,292	8,179	+12.2%
Group B: subjects allied to medicine	3,960	4,721	+19.2%
Group L: social sciences	4,350	4,336	-0.3%
Group C: biological sciences	3,830	4,220	+10.2%
Group G: mathematical and computer sciences	3,555	3,815	+7.3%
Group W: creative arts and design	3,437	3,521	+2.4%
Group M: law	2,901	3,294	+13.5%
Group H: engineering	2,977	3,250	+9.2%
Sciences combined with social sciences or arts	1,938	2,008	+3.6%
Group F: physical sciences	1,697	1,817	+7.1%
Group X: education	1,300	1,549	+19.2%
Group V: historical and philosophical studies	1,146	1,329	+16.0%
Group P: mass communications and documentation	1,194	1,220	+2.2%
Combined sciences	1,048	1,219	+16.3%
Group Q: linguistics, classics and related subjects	888	1,075	+21.1%
Social sciences combined with arts	947	1,020	+7.7%
Combined arts	999	981	-1.8%
Group K: architecture, building and planning	943	926	-1.8%
Combined social sciences	608	744	+22.4%
Group D: veterinary sciences, agriculture and related subjects	549	575	+4.7%
General, other combined and unknown	411	390	-5.1%
Group R: European languages, literature and related subjects	337	368	+9.2%
Group J: technologies	296	299	+1.0%
Group A: medicine and dentistry	217	222	+2.3%
Group T: Eastern, Asiatic, African, American and Australasian languages, literature and related subjects	105	91	-13.3%
Total	46,925	51,169	+9.0%

SOURCE: UCAS



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