



# **2012 End of cycle assessment of UCAS acceptances by intended entry year, country of institution and qualifications held**

**UCAS Analysis and Research, 18 January 2013**

## Summary

This analysis reports UK and EU domiciled UCAS acceptances by intended academic year of entry through data available at the end of each cycle. To reflect student number control arrangements applicants domiciled in Channel Islands or Isle of Man (around 1,000 acceptances per cycle) are not included in this analysis. It completes the assessment of acceptances by intended entry year, country of institution and qualifications held that was first published as an interim assessment on the 14 September.

Reporting acceptances by intended academic year of entry, rather than by the UCAS admissions cycle in which they were accepted, is a better guide to the likely number of UCAS acceptances starting higher education in an academic year when there have been changing patterns of deferred acceptances.

These statistics reflect the position recorded at the end of the 2012 UCAS cycle.

- UK and EU domiciled acceptances to the 2012-13 entry year are 416,300. This is a change of -53,200 (-11 per cent) compared to acceptances into the 2011-12 entry year.
- On the same basis, by country of institution:
  - England: 345,600, -51,100 (-13 per cent)
  - Northern Ireland: 9,800, +300 (+3 per cent)
  - Scotland: 38,600, +600 (+2 per cent)
  - Wales: 22,300, -3,000 (-12 per cent)
- UK and EU domiciled acceptances into the 2012-13 entry year at institutions and subject areas estimated to fall within the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) student number control arrangements are 307,000. This is a change of -48,500 (-14 per cent) compared to acceptances into the 2011-12 entry year.
- On the same basis, within this group of acceptances:
  - Recorded as holding entry qualifications in HEFCE's 'AAB+' set:  
79,500, -13,400 (-14 per cent)
  - Not recorded as holding entry qualifications in HEFCE's 'AAB+' set:  
227,500, -35,100 (-13 per cent)

## How to read these tables

### *Reporting by entry year compared to reporting by UCAS cycle*

UCAS acceptances can be reported by the academic year that they intend to start their course ('entry year') rather than by the UCAS cycle from which they are accepted. Reporting acceptances in this way, rather than by the UCAS cycle in which they were accepted, is a better guide to the likely number of students starting higher education courses at UCAS member institutions in an academic year.

This is important when using UCAS statistics as an indicator of likely changes in students starting courses over recent years as it takes account of the substantial changes in the proportion of UCAS acceptances who defer their entry to higher education (that is, intend to start their course after a year rather than immediately).

In particular, the number and proportion of acceptances who deferred their entry in the 2011 cycle was lower than usual (see the 2011 End of Cycle report, [http://www.ucas.com/about\\_us/media\\_enquiries/media\\_releases/2011/151211a](http://www.ucas.com/about_us/media_enquiries/media_releases/2011/151211a)). Compared to the UCAS cycle totals, this meant that the number of acceptances into the 2011-12 entry year was relatively high compared to the UCAS cycle totals for 2011 since a greater proportion of those acceptances entered immediately, whilst the number of deferred acceptances into 2011-12 from the 2010 cycle was at a typical level (27,200 for UK and EU domiciled acceptances). The lower number of deferred acceptances from the 2011 cycle into the 2012-13 entry year (11,600 for UK and EU domiciled acceptances), combined with a partial return in the 2012 cycle to more typical levels of deferred acceptances (22,300) means that the change in acceptances recorded by entry years differs substantially from that recorded by UCAS cycle over these two years.

It is these patterns that account for the differences between these figures and the usual UCAS cycle-based acceptances. These patterns are also one reason why, although there was no above-trend increase in UCAS application rates in the 2011 cycle, there is a substantial increase in acceptances into the 2011-12 academic year (see the 2012 End of cycle report ([http://www.ucas.com/about\\_us/media\\_enquiries/media\\_releases/2012/2012endofcycle](http://www.ucas.com/about_us/media_enquiries/media_releases/2012/2012endofcycle))).

UCAS acceptances can differ from eventual total higher education entrants, even when counted by entry year, due to a range of factors. These include not all acceptances going on to enrol and some enrolments not coming through UCAS, and these factors and their extent can vary from year to year.

### *Coverage and structure of analysis tables*

The analysis tables report the number of acceptances into entry year 2012-13 against the totals for entry into 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 at the end of the relevant UCAS cycle. They describe accepted applicants from the UK and EU. To reflect student number control arrangements applicants domiciled in Channel Islands or Isle of Man (around 1,000 acceptances per cycle) are not included in this analysis. In addition, to ensure a consistent comparison through time the tables do not include a small number (several thousand) of acceptances to courses which start within a cycle.

There are two sets of tables. The first set (Tables 1a, 1b, 1c and 1d) report acceptances by country of institution and country of domicile of acceptances. The second set (Tables 2a, 2b, 2c and 2d) provide a further analysis of UCAS institutions in England by categories that relate to arrangements for controlling student numbers for entry into 2012-13. These are based on the details of the course

the applicant is accepted to and an assessment of their entry qualifications. They approximate the categories that relate to the HEFCE student number control arrangements from information recorded in the UCAS system. The assessment of entry qualifications uses a number of data sources including information provided by applicants themselves.

There are four parts to each set of tables. The first (a) gives the accepted applicant totals by entry year. The second (b) reports these as the change between the 2012-13 entry year acceptances and acceptances into earlier entry years (reported so that where the 2012-13 entry year acceptances are lower than the comparison entry year acceptances the statistic reported will be negative). The third (c) reports this same statistic as a proportional change from the comparison entry year.

The fourth table (d) splits the acceptances into a particular entry year by the UCAS cycle that the acceptance was from. So, for example, the acceptances into the 2012-13 entry year are split into whether they were accepted from the 2012 cycle ('immediate acceptances') or from the 2011 cycle ('deferred acceptances'). A small number of rows are suppressed in this table where their inclusion would lead, either directly or indirectly, to the disclosure of the entry route for individual applicants.

## Analysis Tables

**Table 1a: UK and EU acceptances to UCAS institutions by entry year, country of institution and country of domicile of accepted applicant**

		Entry year			
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Country of institution	Country of domicile				
England	England	341,759	343,242	363,147	316,848
	Northern Ireland	3,123	3,421	3,935	3,143
	Scotland	1,737	1,764	1,795	1,409
	Wales	5,710	6,329	6,612	7,157
	EU (not UK)	17,609	19,906	21,267	17,083
	All	369,938	374,662	396,756	345,640
Northern Ireland	England	271	205	267	315
	Northern Ireland	9,284	8,862	8,748	8,973
	Scotland	18	22	21	25
	Wales	12	8	9	4
	EU (not UK)	457	553	446	466
	All	10,042	9,650	9,491	9,783
Scotland	England	4,724	3,682	3,422	3,792
	Northern Ireland	1,071	1,066	1,113	896
	Scotland	29,277	30,194	29,113	29,396
	Wales	133	107	91	114
	EU (not UK)	4,502	3,993	4,246	4,370
	All	39,707	39,042	37,985	38,568

		Entry year			
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Wales	England	9,584	10,367	12,101	9,209
	Northern Ireland	116	164	217	153
	Scotland	58	56	68	53
	Wales	14,335	12,203	11,806	11,860
	EU (not UK)	1,063	1,055	1,064	1,012
	All	25,156	23,845	25,256	22,287
All	All	444,843	447,199	469,488	416,278

**Table 1b: UK and EU acceptances to UCAS institutions by entry year, country of institution and country of domicile of accepted applicant, change in acceptances to 2012-13 compared to previous entry years**

		Change between specified year and 2012-13		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Country of institution	Country of domicile			
England	England	-24,911	-26,394	-46,299
	Northern Ireland	20	-278	-792
	Scotland	-328	-355	-386
	Wales	1,447	828	545
	EU (not UK)	-526	-2,823	-4,184
	All	-24,298	-29,022	-51,116
Northern Ireland	England	44	110	48
	Northern Ireland	-311	111	225
	Scotland	7	3	4
	Wales	-8	-4	-5
	EU (not UK)	9	-87	20
	All	-259	133	292

		Change between specified year and 2012-13		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Scotland	England	-932	110	370
	Northern Ireland	-175	-170	-217
	Scotland	119	-798	283
	Wales	-19	7	23
	EU (not UK)	-132	377	124
	All	-1,139	-474	583
Wales	England	-375	-1,158	-2,892
	Northern Ireland	37	-11	-64
	Scotland	-5	-3	-15
	Wales	-2,475	-343	54
	EU (not UK)	-51	-43	-52
	All	-2,869	-1,558	-2,969
All	All	-28,565	-30,921	-53,210

**Table 1c: UK and EU acceptances to UCAS member institutions by entry year, country of institution and domicile of accepted applicant, proportional change in acceptances to 2012-13 compared to previous entry years**

		Proportional change between specified year and 2012-13		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Country of institution	Country of domicile			
England	England	-7%	-8%	-13%
	Northern Ireland	1%	-8%	-20%
	Scotland	-19%	-20%	-22%
	Wales	25%	13%	8%
	EU (not UK)	-3%	-14%	-20%
	All	-7%	-8%	-13%

		Proportional change between specified year and 2012-13		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Northern Ireland	England	16%	54%	18%
	Northern Ireland	-3%	1%	3%
	Scotland	39%	14%	19%
	Wales	-67%	-50%	-56%
	EU (not UK)	2%	-16%	4%
	All	-3%	1%	3%
Scotland	England	-20%	3%	11%
	Northern Ireland	-16%	-16%	-19%
	Scotland	0%	-3%	1%
	Wales	-14%	7%	25%
	EU (not UK)	-3%	9%	3%
	All	-3%	-1%	2%
Wales	England	-4%	-11%	-24%
	Northern Ireland	32%	-7%	-29%
	Scotland	-9%	-5%	-22%
	Wales	-17%	-3%	0%
	EU (not UK)	-5%	-4%	-5%
	All	-11%	-7%	-12%
All	All	-6%	-7%	-11%



**Table 1d: UK and EU acceptances to UCAS member institutions by entry year, UCAS cycle, country of institution and domicile of acceptance**

		Entry year								
		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14
		From UCAS cycle		From UCAS cycle		From UCAS cycle		From UCAS cycle		From UCAS cycle
		2008	2009	2009	2010	2010	2011	2011	2012	2012
Country of institution	Country of domicile									
England	England	22,864	318,895	22,569	320,673	21,718	341,429	8,400	308,448	18,176
	Northern Ireland	188	2,935	170	3,251	173	3,762	94	3,049	152
	Scotland	256	1,481	225	1,539	249	1,546	91	1,318	134
	Wales	414	5,296	359	5,970	405	6,207	234	6,923	353
	EU (not UK)	865	16,744	997	18,909	1,055	20,212	697	16,386	929
	All	24,587	345,351	24,320	350,342	23,600	373,156	9,516	336,124	19,744
Northern Ireland	Country of domicile									
	England	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Northern Ireland	230	9,054	242	8,620	212	8,536	105	8,868	154
	Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Wales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	EU (not UK)	25	432	32	521	33	413	27	439	20
	All	275	9,767	295	9,355	282	9,209	144	9,639	202

		Entry year								
		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14
		From UCAS cycle		From UCAS cycle		From UCAS cycle		From UCAS cycle		From UCAS cycle
		2008	2009	2009	2010	2010	2011	2011	2012	2012
Scotland	Country of domicile									
	England	483	4,241	462	3,220	276	3,146	92	3,700	300
	Northern Ireland	59	1,012	59	1,007	63	1,050	21	875	32
	Scotland	1,267	28,010	1,231	28,963	1,243	27,870	948	28,448	852
	Wales	21	112	19	88	4	87	6	108	7
	EU (not UK)	182	4,320	181	3,812	185	4,061	188	4,182	207
	All	2,012	37,695	1,952	37,090	1,771	36,214	1,255	37,313	1,398
Wales	Country of domicile									
	England	988	8,596	1,038	9,329	1,071	11,030	391	8,818	691
	Northern Ireland	4	112	5	159	10	207	10	143	2
	Scotland	11	47	5	51	4	64	3	50	3
	Wales	480	13,855	478	11,725	403	11,403	289	11,571	236
	EU (not UK)	57	1,006	72	983	60	1,004	40	972	53
	All	1,540	23,616	1,598	22,247	1,548	23,708	733	21,554	985
All	28,414	416,429	28,165	419,034	27,201	442,287	11,648	404,630	22,329	

**Table 2a: UK and EU acceptances to UCAS member institutions in England by entry year and categories relating to HEFCE student number control arrangements**

		Entry year			
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
HEFCE-funded institutions: courses subject to number control arrangements, recruited through UCAS	AAB+ all qualifications	70,222	80,946	92,909	79,480
	AAB+ with GCE A level	48,730	55,138	61,460	51,204
	AAB+ with qualifications other than GCE A level	21,492	25,808	31,449	28,276
	not AAB+	258,446	252,746	262,609	227,494
	All	328,668	333,692	355,518	306,974
HEFCE-funded institutions: other courses, recruited through UCAS		39,340	38,916	37,827	35,806
Other English institutions		1,930	2,054	3,411	2,860
All English Institutions		369,938	374,662	396,756	345,640

**Table 2b: UK and EU acceptances to UCAS member institutions in England by entry year and categories relating to HEFCE student number control arrangements, change in acceptances to 2012-13 compared to previous entry years**

		Change between specified year and 2012-13		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
HEFCE-funded institutions: courses subject to number control arrangements, recruited through UCAS	AAB+ all qualifications	9,258	-1,466	-13,429
	AAB+ with GCE A level	2,474	-3,934	-10,256
	AAB+ with qualifications other than GCE A level	6,784	2,468	-3,173
	not AAB+	-30,952	-25,252	-35,115
	All	-21,694	-26,718	-48,544
HEFCE-funded institutions: other courses, recruited through UCAS		-3,534	-3,110	-2,021
Other English institutions		930	806	-551
All English Institutions		-24,298	-29,022	-51,116

**Table 2c: UK and EU acceptances to UCAS member institutions in England by entry year and categories relating to HEFCE student number control arrangements, change in acceptances to 2012-13 compared to previous entry years**

		Proportional change between specified year and 2012-13		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
HEFCE-funded institutions: courses subject to number control arrangements, recruited through UCAS	AAB+ all qualifications	13%	-2%	-14%
	AAB+ with GCE A level	5%	-7%	-17%
	AAB+ with qualifications other than GCE A level	32%	10%	-10%
	not AAB+	-12%	-10%	-13%
	All	-7%	-8%	-14%
HEFCE-funded institutions: other courses, recruited through UCAS		-9%	-8%	-5%
Other English institutions		48%	39%	-16%
All English Institutions		-7%	-8%	-13%

**Table 2d: UK and EU acceptances to UCAS member institutions in England by entry year, UCAS cycle and categories relating to HEFCE student number control arrangements**

		Entry year								
		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14
		From UCAS cycle		From UCAS cycle		From UCAS cycle		From UCAS cycle		From UCAS cycle
		2008	2009	2009	2010	2010	2011	2011	2012	2012
HEFCE-funded institutions: courses subject to number control arrangements, recruited through UCAS	AAB+ all qualifications	5,876	64,346	6,049	74,897	6,468	86,441	2,673	76,807	5,288
	AAB+ with GCE A level	4,753	43,977	4,744	50,394	4,853	56,607	1,800	49,404	3,752
	AAB+ with qualifications other than GCE A level	1,123	20,369	1,305	24,503	1,615	29,834	873	27,403	1,536
	not AAB+	16,749	241,697	16,011	236,735	14,848	247,761	5,695	221,799	12,954
	All	22,625	306,043	22,060	311,632	21,316	334,202	8,368	298,606	18,242
HEFCE-funded institutions: other courses, recruited through UCAS		1,897	37,443	2,179	36,737	2,200	35,627	1,112	34,694	1,421
Other English institutions		65	1,865	81	1,973	84	3,327	36	2,824	81
All		24,587	345,351	24,320	350,342	23,600	373,156	9,516	336,124	19,744