

## Statistical Fact Sheet 5

### Enrolments at UK Higher Education Institutions by country of institution and subject area – 2015/16

Of the 55,245 students enrolled at Northern Ireland Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in 2015/16:

- 14,175 (25.7%) were enrolled on Narrow STEM<sup>1</sup> related courses. The equivalent percentages for English, Scottish and Welsh HEIs were 26.5%, 29.2% and 29.4% respectively.
- 26,380 (47.8%) were enrolled on Broad STEM<sup>2</sup> related courses. The equivalent percentages for English, Scottish and Welsh HEIs were 45.2%, 48.7% and 45.8% respectively.
- the three most popular subject areas studied in NI HEIs were ‘Subjects allied to medicine’ (7,960), ‘Business and administrative studies’ (7,690) and ‘Education’ (6,415).

#### Enrolments at UK HEIs by subject area and country of institution– 2015/16

| Subject Area  | Country of Institution |               |                |                |
|---|------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | England                | NI            | Wales          | Scotland       |
| Biological Sciences                                   | 176,195                | 3,800         | 21,850         | 15,465         |
| Physical Sciences                                     | 75,680                 | 1,760         | 11,665         | 5,815          |
| Mathematical Sciences                                 | 36,575                 | 575           | 4,405          | 1,605          |
| Computer Science                                      | 76,125                 | 4,285         | 10,690         | 5,165          |
| Engineering and technology                            | 129,465                | 3,755         | 20,250         | 9,785          |
| <b>Total Narrow STEM<sup>1</sup> related subjects</b> | <b>494,040</b>         | <b>14,175</b> | <b>68,860</b>  | <b>37,830</b>  |
| Medicine and dentistry                                | 52,235                 | 2,095         | 7,655          | 3,565          |
| Subjects allied to medicine                           | 233,670                | 7,960         | 29,130         | 14,170         |
| Veterinary Science                                    | 5,255                  | 0             | 1,520          | 0              |
| Agriculture and related subjects                      | 15,090                 | 610           | 1,975          | 1,350          |
| Architecture, building & planning                     | 40,190                 | 1,545         | 5,600          | 2,050          |
| <b>Total Broad STEM<sup>2</sup> related subjects</b>  | <b>840,485</b>         | <b>26,380</b> | <b>114,740</b> | <b>58,965</b>  |
| Social studies  | 178,305                | 4,785         | 20,510         | 10,550         |
| Law   | 74,215                 | 2,110         | 8,280          | 4,060          |
| Business and administrative studies                   | 269,120                | 7,690         | 32,580         | 17,110         |
| Mass communications & documentation                   | 42,880                 | 790           | 3,350          | 2,295          |
| Languages   | 87,815                 | 1,890         | 11,155         | 7,500          |
| Historical and philosophical studies                  | 68,775                 | 1,415         | 10,815         | 4,370          |
| Creative arts and design                              | 147,190                | 2,270         | 11,900         | 8,465          |
| Education   | 124,395                | 6,415         | 13,905         | 11,435         |
| Combined  | 28,175                 | 1,500         | 8,320          | 3,930          |
| <b>All subject Areas</b>                              | <b>1,861,345</b>       | <b>55,245</b> | <b>235,565</b> | <b>128,675</b> |
| <b>% Narrow STEM<sup>1</sup> related subject</b>      | <b>26.5%</b>           | <b>25.7%</b>  | <b>29.2%</b>   | <b>29.4%</b>   |
| <b>% Broad STEM<sup>2</sup> related subject</b>       | <b>45.2%</b>           | <b>47.8%</b>  | <b>48.7%</b>   | <b>45.8%</b>   |

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

Notes:

1. Narrow STEM related courses include: Biological sciences; Physical sciences; Mathematical sciences; Computer science; and Engineering & Technology.
2. Broad STEM related courses include: Medicine & Dentistry; Subjects allied to Medicine; Biological sciences; Veterinary Science; Agriculture & related subjects; Physical sciences; Mathematical sciences; Computer science; Engineering & Technology; and Architecture, Building & Planning.
3. To prevent the identification of individuals, figures have been rounded to the nearest 5, in line with HESA rounding strategy, with 0, 1 and 2 rounded to 0.
4. Due to rounding, the sum of rows or columns may not match the total shown.
5. Percentages are based on unrounded figures.

More Higher Education statistics are available from:

<https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-economic-research/higher-education-statistics>