

Date published by UCAS: 14th July 2016

KEY POINTS

UCAS APPLICANT FIGURES FOR 2016/17 FULL-TIME

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

1. This report provides an analysis of full-time undergraduate applicants through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) (during the 2016 UCAS cycle) for entry into higher education in 2016/17¹ on the number of:
 - Applicants to NI higher education institutions
 - NI domiciled applicants to UK institutions
2. This information has been extracted from the UCAS News Release published on the 14 July 2016, which can be found at:

<https://www.ucas.com/corporate/data-and-analysis/ucas-undergraduate-releases>
3. UCAS is the central organisation that processes applications for full-time undergraduate courses at UK universities and colleges. Queen's University Belfast, Ulster University, Stranmillis University College and the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise use the UCAS service. St Mary's University College withdrew from the UCAS application process from the 2006 year onwards.
4. UCAS News Releases are published periodically throughout the year to show progress through the UCAS process. The information in this analysis relates to applicants' data held by UCAS as at 30/06/2016. Comparisons with previous years are at approximately the same stage in the process.

Note: ¹ All full-time undergraduate applications submitted on time for the 30 June deadline, which is the final chance for applicants to submit a selection of up to five choices through the main UCAS scheme.

The key points arising from the News Release, relevant to NI, are as follows:

Table 1 - Applicants to NI Institutions by domicile in 2012-2016 UCAS cycles

- The total number of students applying to NI institutions has decreased by **2.8%**, from 25,840 in 2015 to 25,110 in 2016. This equates to 730 fewer applicants over the year. In contrast the total number of applicants to English, Scottish and Welsh institutions increased by **0.3%**, **1.8%** and **0.5%** respectively.
- The number of NI domiciled students applying to NI institutions has increased by **0.5%**, from 18,440 in 2015 to 18,540 in 2016.
- The number of England domiciled students applying to NI institutions has decreased by **22.3%**, from 3,270 in 2015 to 2,540 in 2016, reaching levels closer to those in previous years, for example, 2013 (2,320) and 2014 (2,670).

Table 1

**Applicants to Northern Ireland Institutions by domicile
in 2012-2016 UCAS cycles (position @ 30/06/16)**

Domicile	Year					% change between 2015 and 2016
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Northern Ireland	16,840	17,900	18,000	18,440	18,540	0.5%
England	2,130	2,320	2,670	3,270	2,540	-22.3%
Scotland	180	170	130	210	210	0.0%
Wales	90	80	90	110	100	-9.1%
Other EU	2,040	2,010	2,010	1,920	1,890	-1.6%
Non EU	970	1,120	1,500	1,900	1,850	-2.6%
Grand Total	22,250	23,600	24,400	25,840	25,110	-2.8%

Note: Percentage changes are based on rounded data

(UCAS has rounded data to the nearest 10, so totals may not match the figures in the table)

Footnote

¹ As of 2014, applicants from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are no longer counted in the England domiciled applicants; they are now included in the Non EU applicants, meaning the figures for 2013 may not match previous publications.

Table 2 - NI domiciled applicants to UK institutions by gender in 2012-2016 UCAS cycles

- The total number of NI domiciled students applying to UK institutions has increased by **1.4%** from 20,810 in 2015 to 21,110 in 2016.
- In 2016, among NI domiciled applications to UK institutions, those from female students (11,980) continued to outnumber those from males (9,130).
- There was a **1.2%** increase in the number of NI domiciled female students applying to UK institutions and a **1.8%** increase in the number of male applicants between 2015 and 2016.

Table 2

Northern Ireland domiciled applicants to UK institutions by gender in 2012-2016 UCAS cycles (position @ 30/06/16)

Gender	Year					% change between 2015 and 2016
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Female	10,840	11,410	11,410	11,840	11,980	1.2%
Male	8,310	8,880	8,890	8,970	9,130	1.8%
Total	19,150	20,290	20,300	20,810	21,110	1.4%

Note: Percentage changes are based on rounded data
(UCAS has rounded data to the nearest 10, so totals may not match figures in the table)

Footnote

¹ As of 2014, applicants from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are no longer counted in the England domiciled applicants; they are now included in the Non EU applicants, meaning the figures for 2013 may not match previous publications.

Table 3 - NI domiciled applicants to UK Institutions by country of institution in 2012-2016 UCAS cycles

- Between 2015 and 2016, the number of NI domiciled applicants applying to NI, English, Scottish and Welsh institutions increased by **0.5%** (100 students), **6.3%** (670 students), **3.9%** (210 students), and **22.1%** (230 students) respectively.

Table 3

Northern Ireland domiciled applicants² to UK Institutions by country of institution in 2012-2016 UCAS cycles (Position @ 30/06/16)

Country of institution	Year					% change between 2015 and 2016
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Northern Ireland	16,840	17,900	18,000	18,440	18,540	0.5%
England	9,900	10,370	10,460	10,690	11,360	6.3%
Scotland	5,250	6,100	5,410	5,430	5,640	3.9%
Wales	970	1,160	1,040	1,040	1,270	22.1%

Note: Percentage changes are based on rounded data
(UCAS has rounded data to the nearest 10)

Footnote

¹ As of 2014, applicants from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are no longer counted in the England domiciled applicants; they are now included in the Non EU applicants, meaning the figures for 2013 may not match previous publications.

² There is a difference in the number of applicants in tables 2 and 3. Table 2 refers to the total number of NI domiciled applicants at UK Level. Table 3 refers to the total number of NI domiciled applicants at country level, which means that where an applicant has applied to more than one country, they have been counted more than once.