



UCAS

End of cycle report 2010/2011

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Dear colleague

After a particularly active 2010 undergraduate admissions season, we are delighted to be able to share with you a comprehensive review of the cycle based on provisional end-of-cycle statistics.

Though the admissions cycle for 2010 will not close until January 2011, the information in this publication (based on data extracted in mid October) gives a good indication of the trends that have defined this year's admissions activity. It covers a range of perspectives on the admissions cycle, including admissions by:

- Domicile and institution country
- Age group
- Gender
- Ethnicity
- POLAR2 group
- Type of school or college
- Type of institution (defined by Mission Group)
- Subject

The index on page 24 gives you quick access to these tables and charts.

In some cases we have provided comparative historical data going back a number of years.

We hope this detailed information will prove useful to our member institutions, to applicants and their advisers and to Government and policy makers. We welcome feedback on this publication and suggestions for how it could be improved in future years – please contact our Communications Team on communications@ucas.ac.uk with any specific feedback or queries related to this document.

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 results.

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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 applications and acceptances in the 2011 cycle are similar to that for 2010, with small increases of 0.4 per cent for applications and 1.0 per cent for acceptances. Figure ii shows these overall figures as a graph.

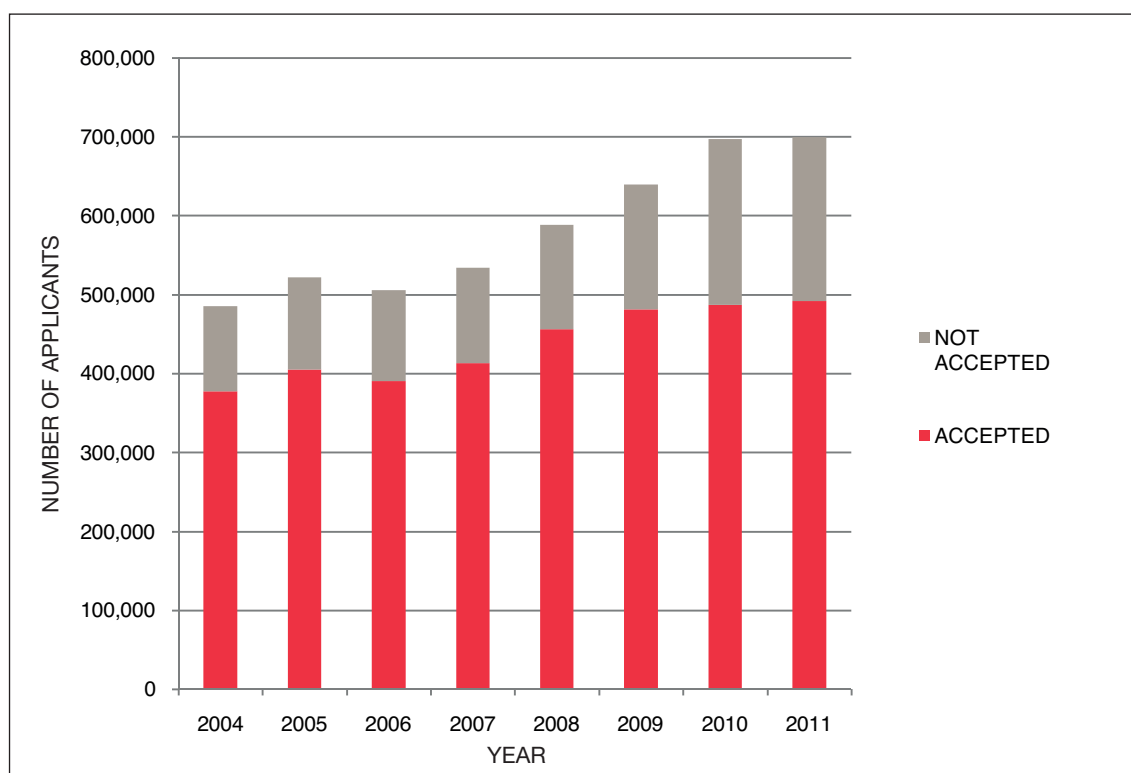
Recent cycles show notable year on year increases in applicants but this has not occurred for the 2011 cycle. The increase in the number of acceptances is also small, but larger than the increase in applications, leading to a slight fall in the number of unplaced applicants.

Figure i – Applicants and accepted applicants 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

Figure ii - Applications and accepted applicants (2004 to 2011 cycles)



SOURCE: UCAS

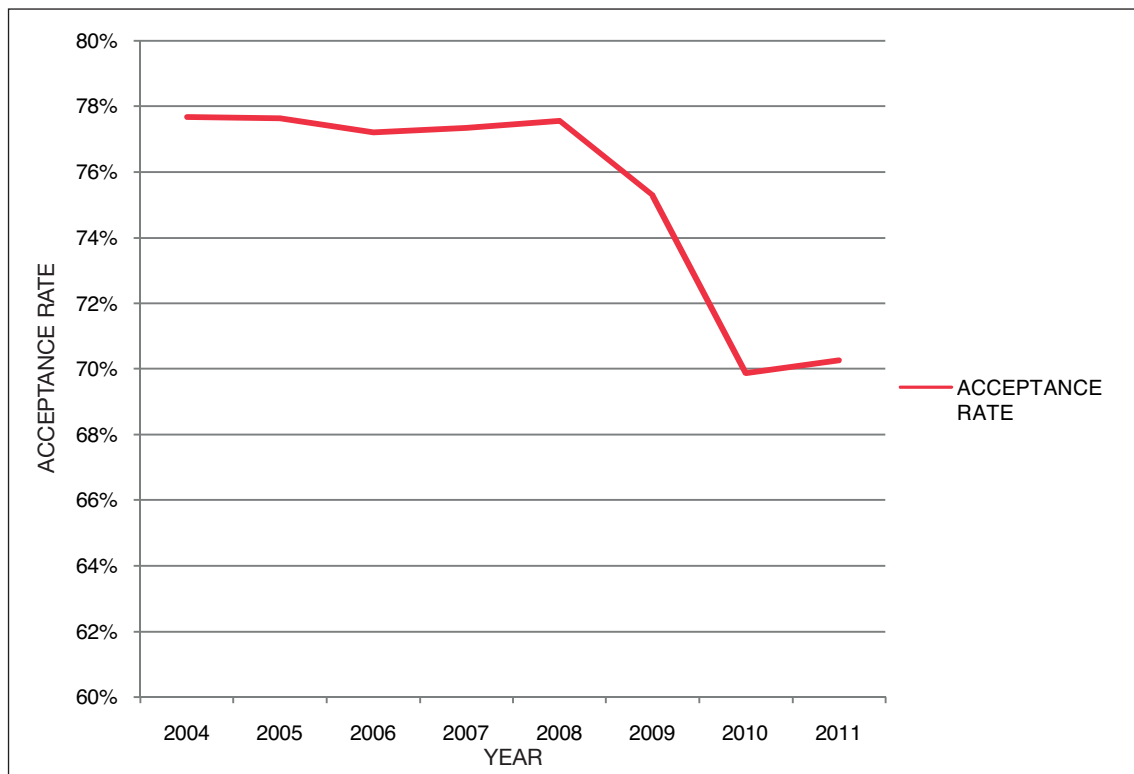


Recent decline in overall acceptance rate arrested

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

This is a change from the trend seen over the past couple of cycles of a sharply falling acceptance rate - and increasing numbers of unplaced applicants - driven by applicants increasing more rapidly than acceptances. 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 2004 to 2011 cycles



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).

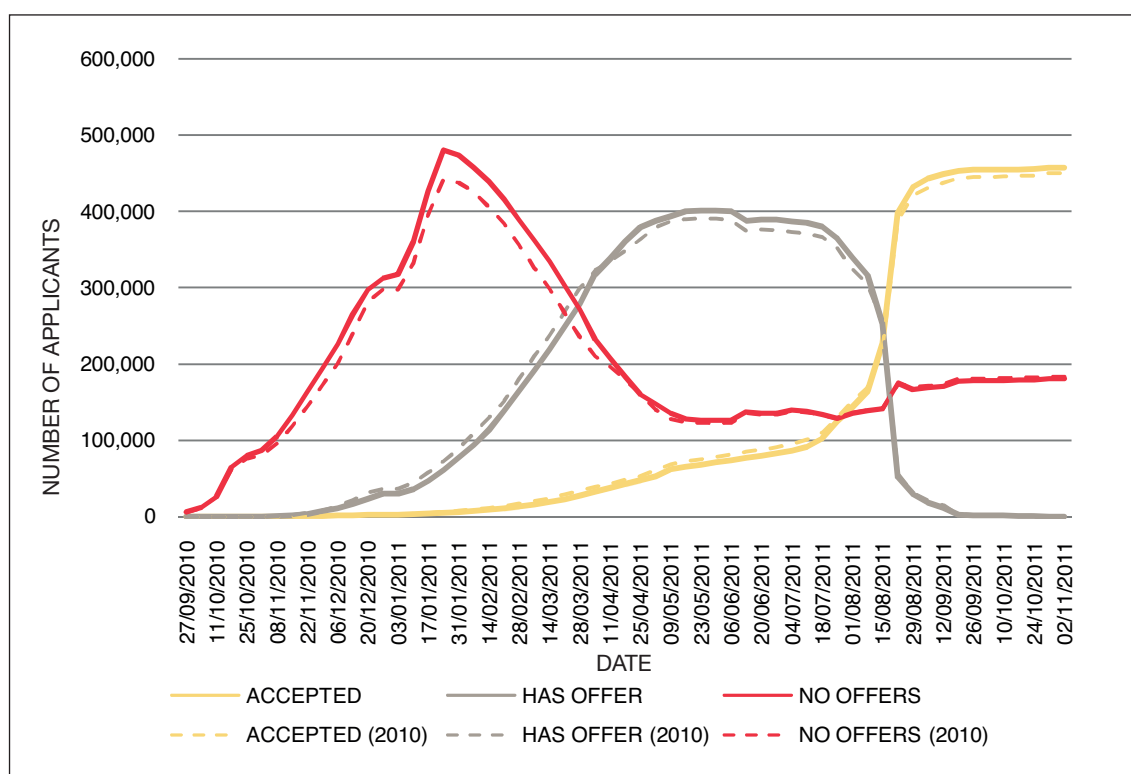
At each point all the UK and EU applicants in the scheme are divided into three mutually exclusive states:

- 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 but with no offers rises. As institutions make offers in large numbers after the January deadline the numbers 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 those two cycles was 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



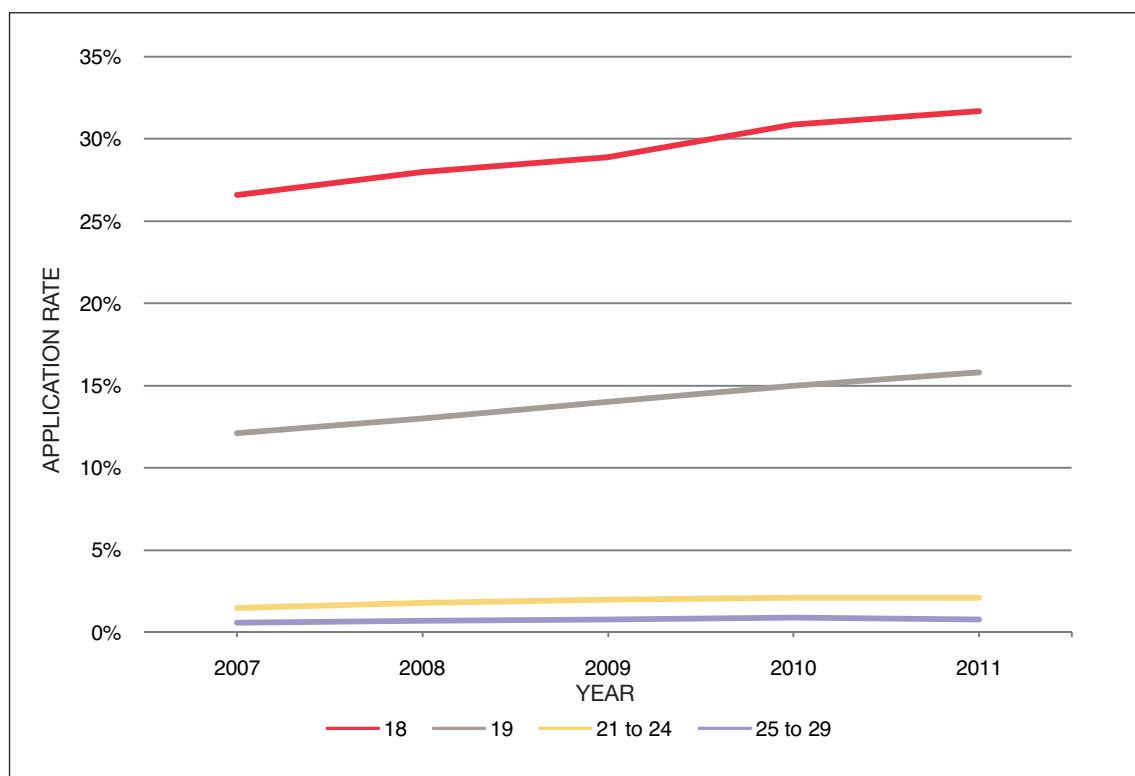
Application rates

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 groups⁷

Figure v shows the application rates for selected age groups in the UK. 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 2 per cent of the 21 to 24 and around 1 per cent or less of the 25 to 29 year old groups.

Figure v: UK application rates by selected age group



SOURCE: UCAS



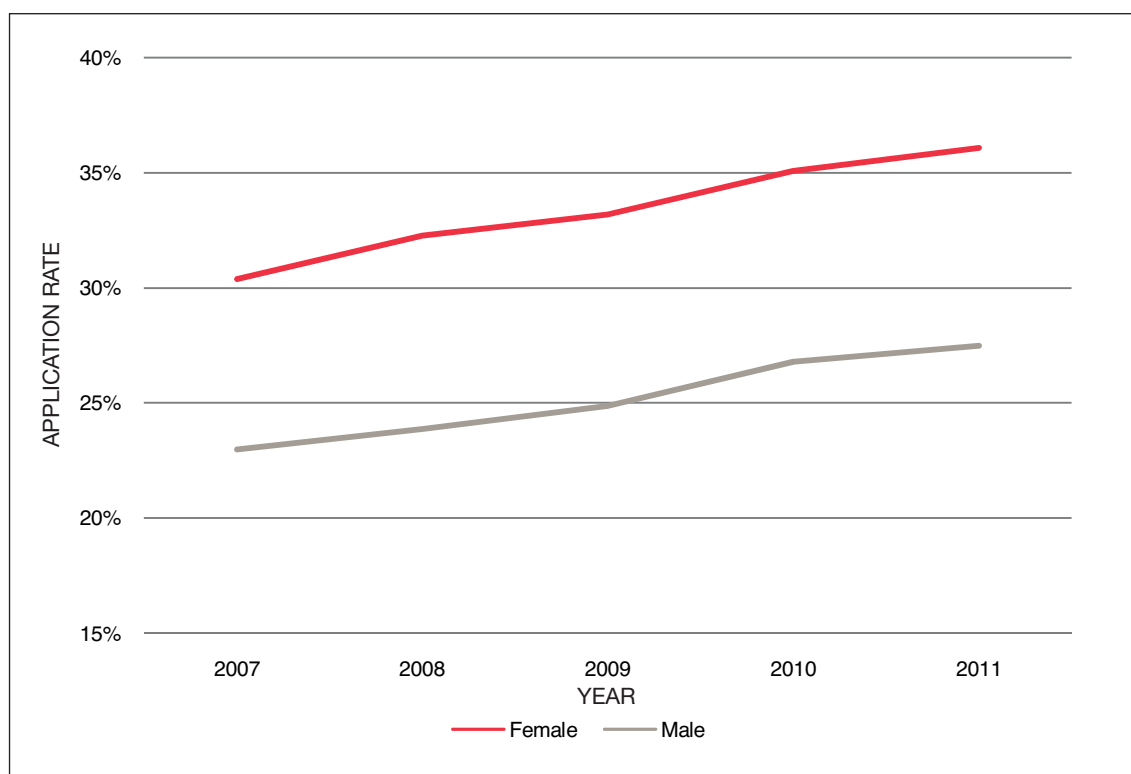
Applications rates for young increasing broadly in line with recent trends

The proportion of 18 and 19 year olds applying to UCAS over recent cycles has been increasing at around 1 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 they ordinarily would do so.

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

Figure vi shows the UK 18 year old application rate by sex. 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 sex



SOURCE: UCAS



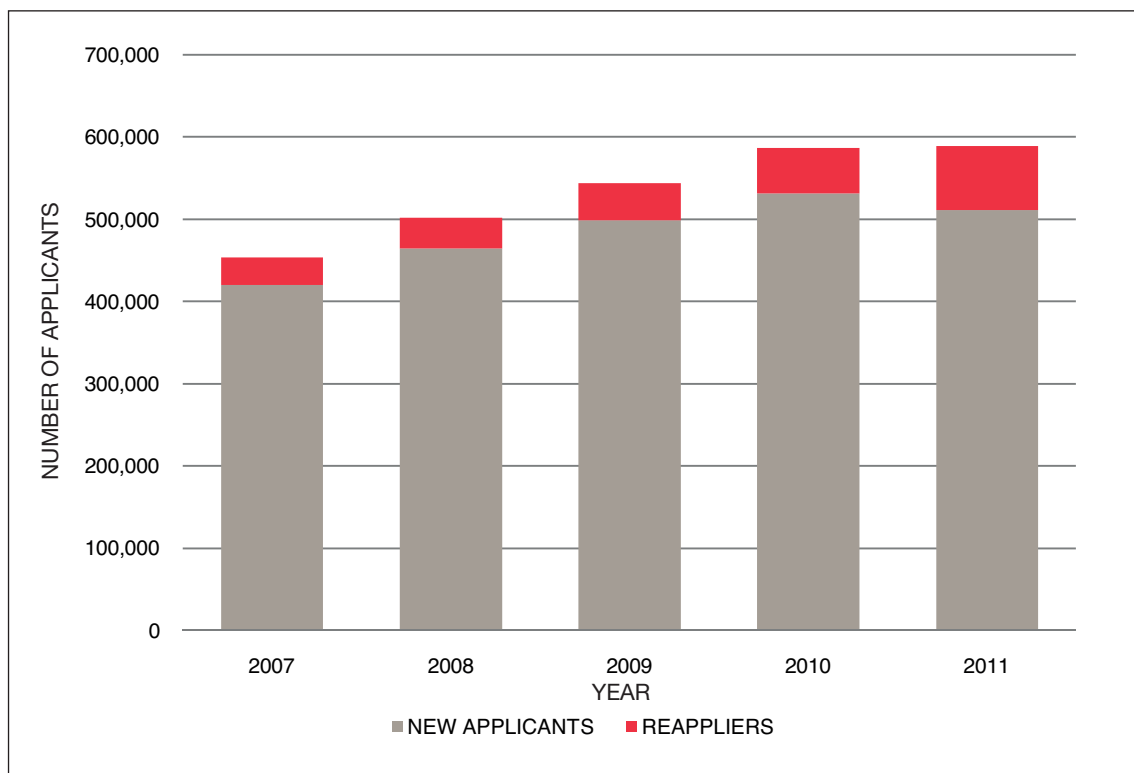
New applicants and reapplicants

Figure vii shows the trend in the number of UK domiciled applicants with the proportion that are re-applicants (meaning they have applied to UCAS in the previous cycle) highlighted. The 2011 cycle shows a substantial increase in the number of re-applicants 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 bottom half 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 (4 per cent), the first fall in these numbers across the period looked at.

Figure vii: UK applicants split by whether they are new or have made a previous application



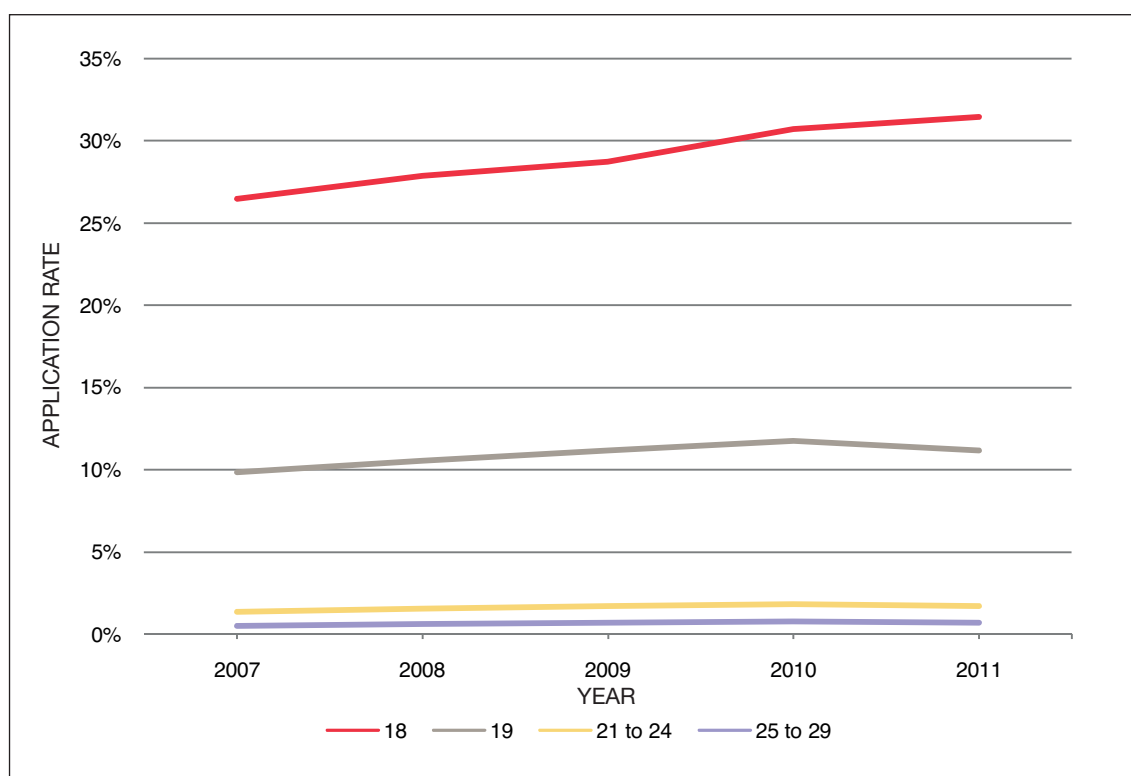
SOURCE: UCAS



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



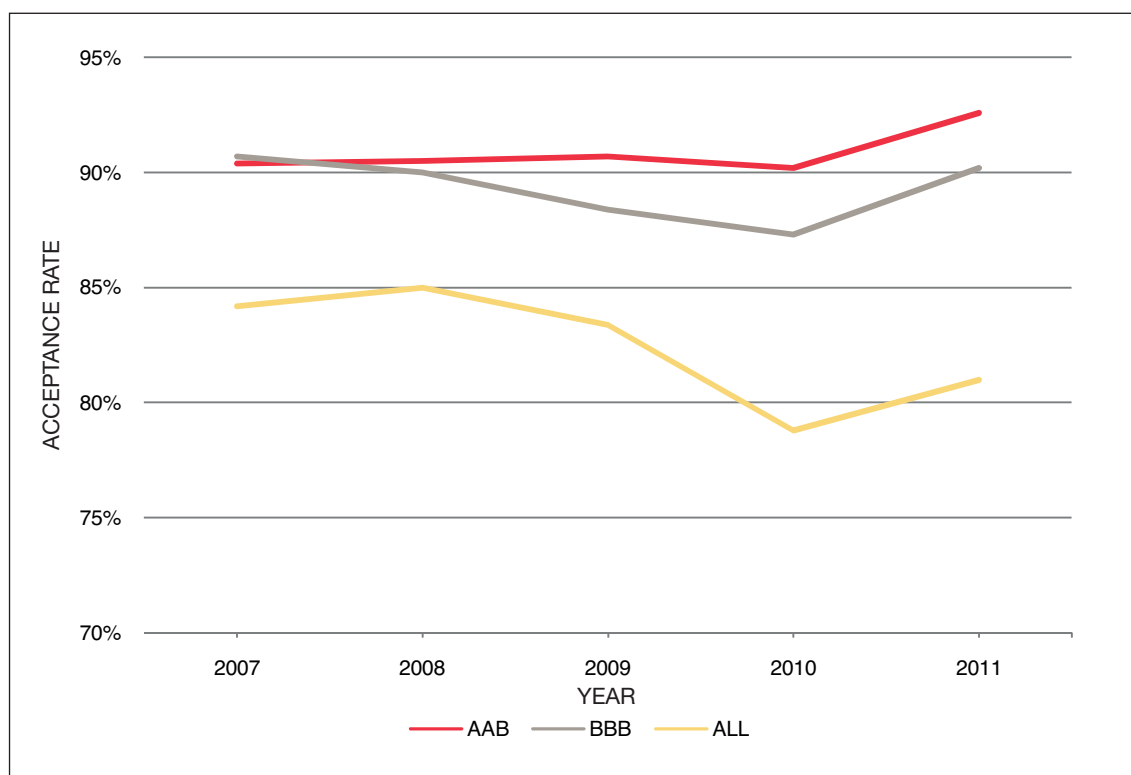
Acceptance rates

One measure of the difficulty of gaining entry to higher education is the acceptance rate (the proportion of applicants who get accepted). 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 look 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. 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 figure) 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





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. Further subdividing the applicants in this way remove 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 of the period looked at.

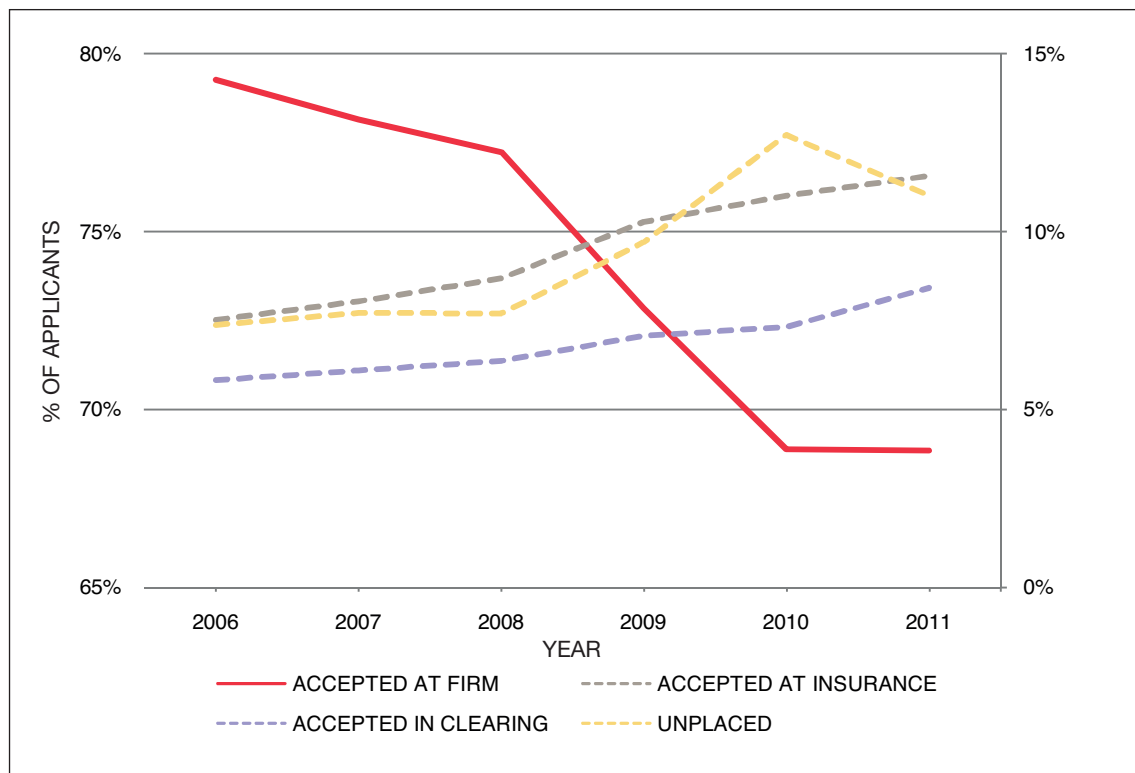


Outcomes for young people holding offers

Another indication of the difficulty of getting into higher education is through 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 conditional offers on 30th June



SOURCE: UCAS



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

Of these applicants, 69 per cent gain 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 applications and acceptances by entry year

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

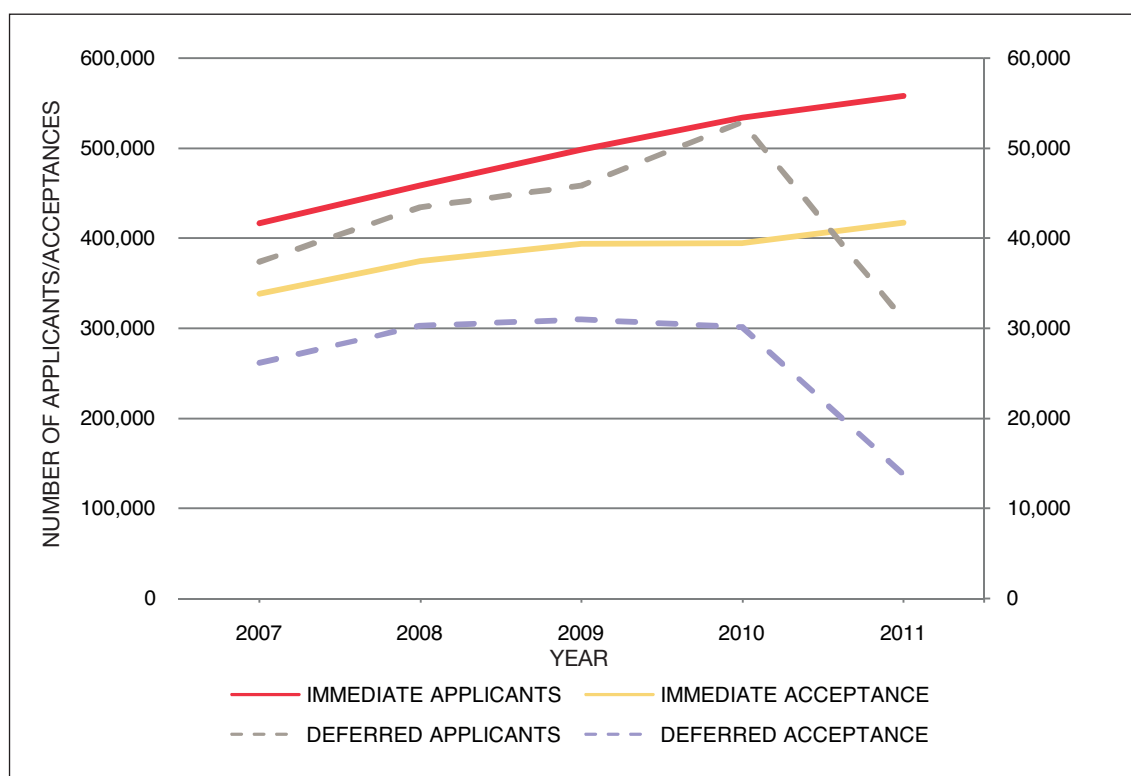
However, many institutions also offer allow applicants the opportunity to postpone the start of their course by a year, i.e. under “deferred entry” individuals typically apply to start their course in autumn 2012 from the 2011 admissions cycle.

Substantial falls in deferred applications 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)



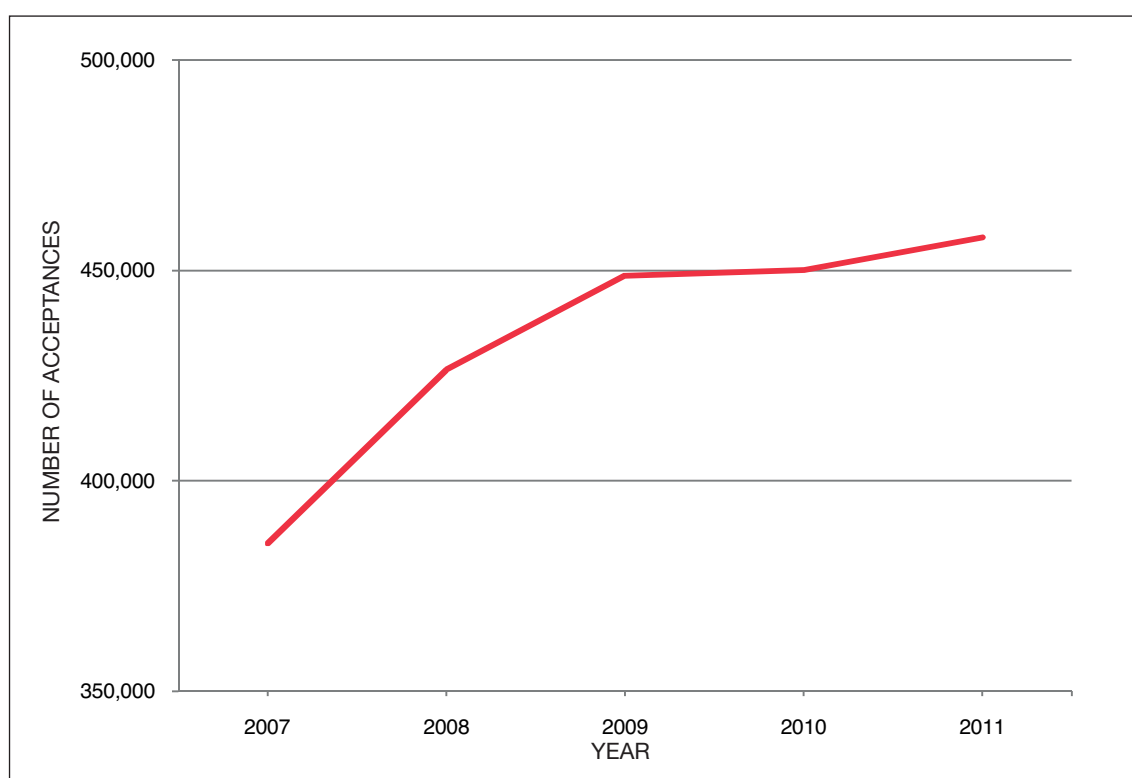
SOURCE: UCAS



UK and EU 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, a result of the imposition of forms of entrant 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 2 per cent.

Figure xii: UK and EU acceptances by application cycle



SOURCE: UCAS

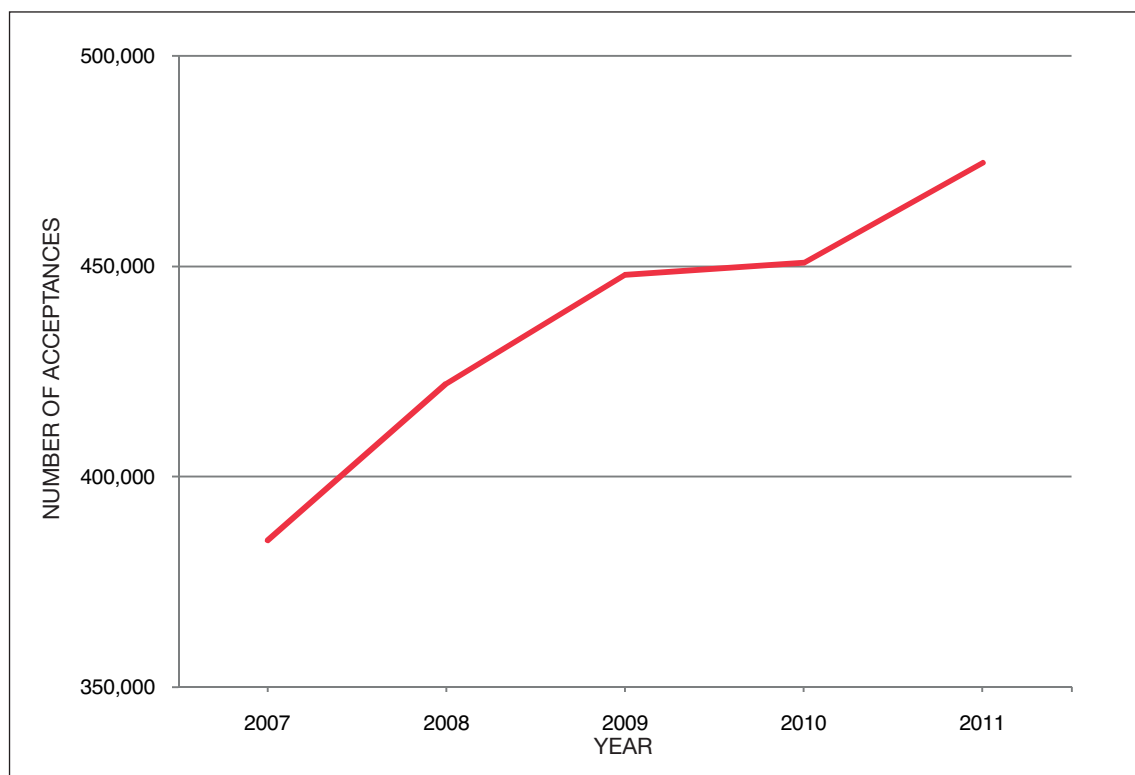


24,000 extra UK and EU students expected to have started in Autumn 2011

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 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 that they were accepted.

This shows that there has been a substantial increase (around 24,000, 5 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 acceptances by intended entry year



SOURCE: UCAS



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Applicants and acceptances

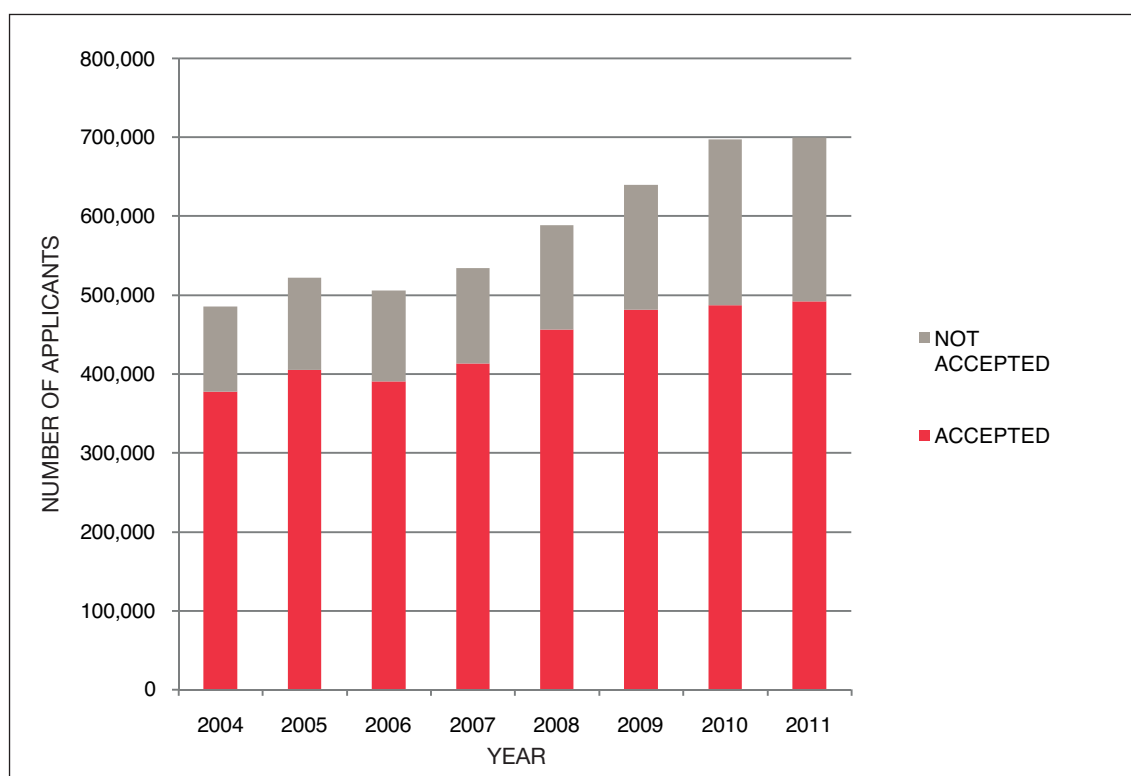
Figure 1a: Applicants and accepted applicants for full-time undergraduate courses at UK higher education institutions (2010-2011)

| | 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:



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:



SOURCE: UCAS

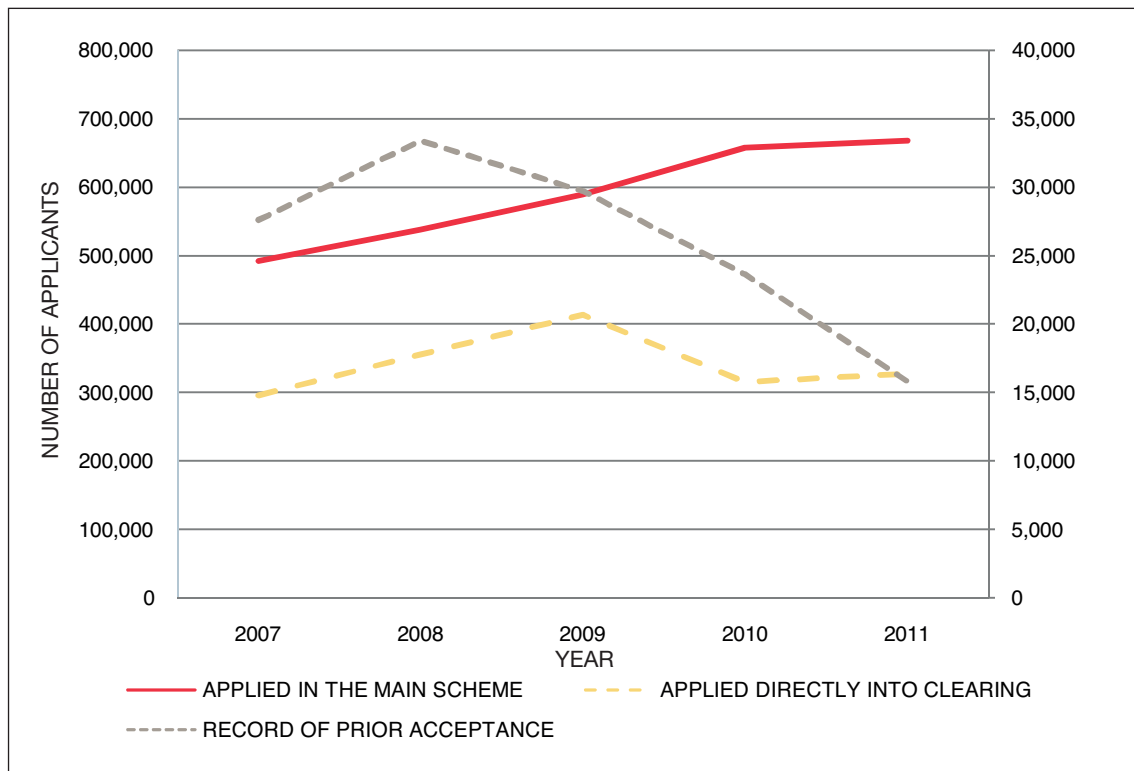


Figure 3a: Application route (2007-2011)

| | 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:



SOURCE: UCAS

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

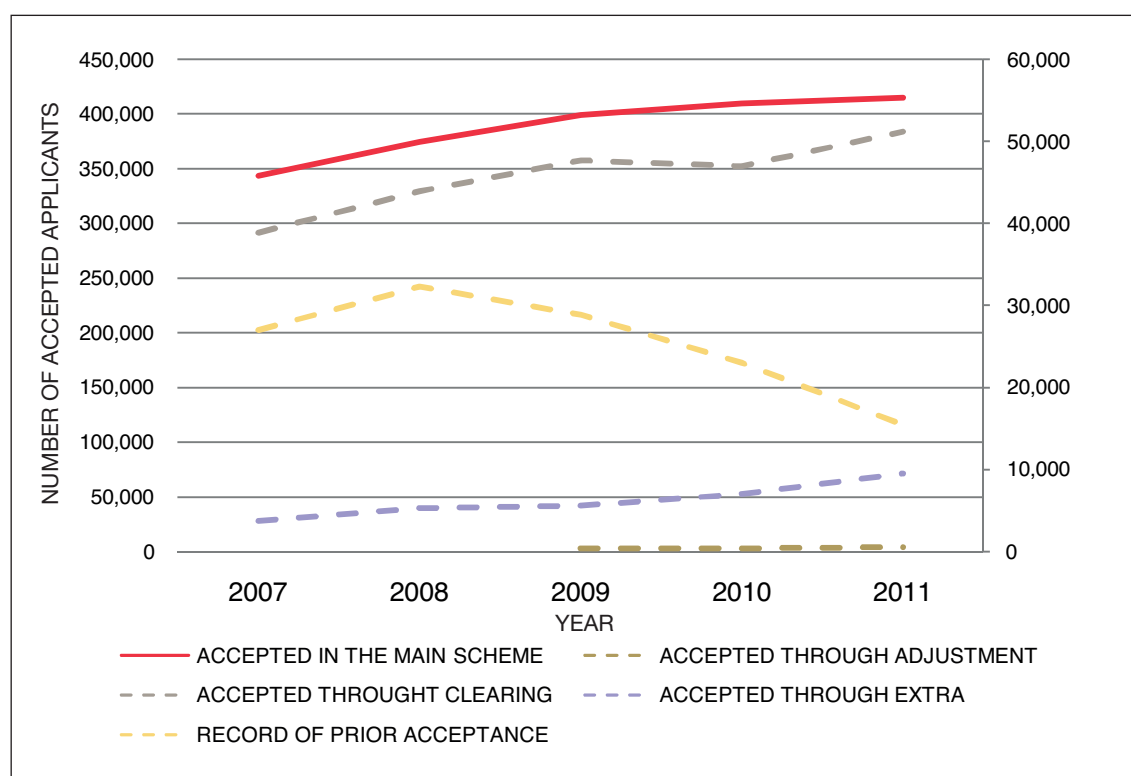


Figure 4a: Acceptance route (2007-2011)

| | 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 | - | - | - | 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

Figure 4b:



SOURCE: UCAS

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



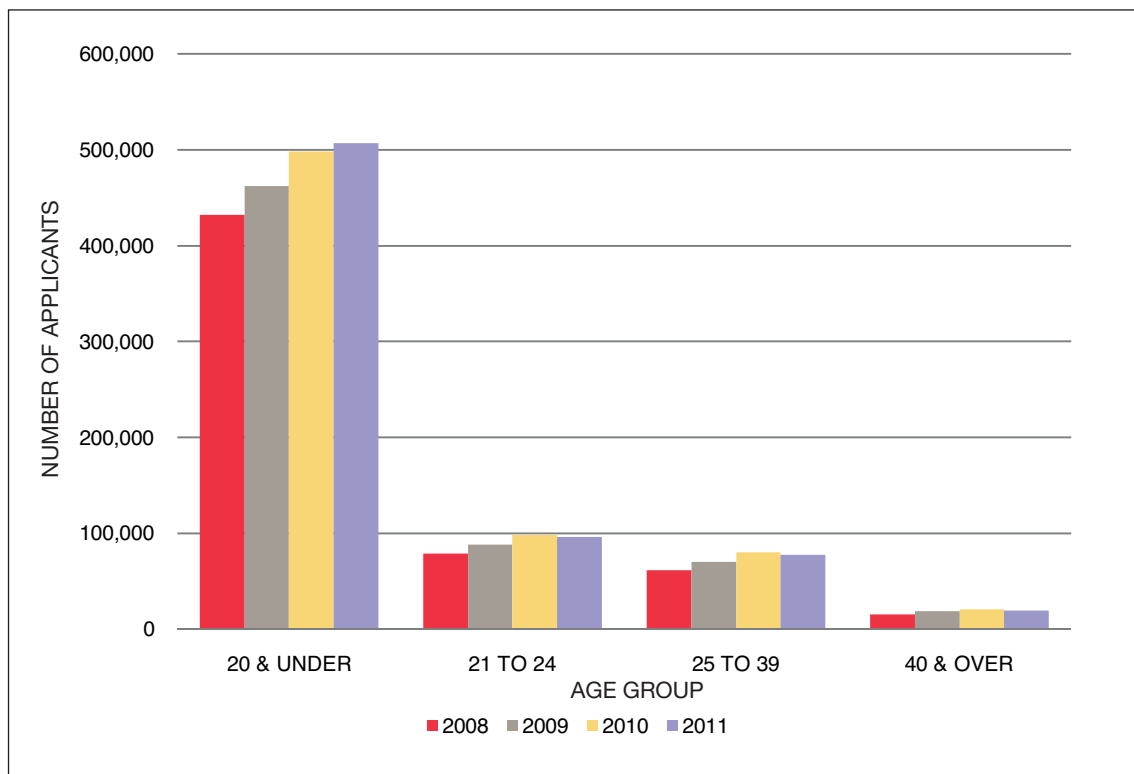
Age group

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:



SOURCE: UCAS

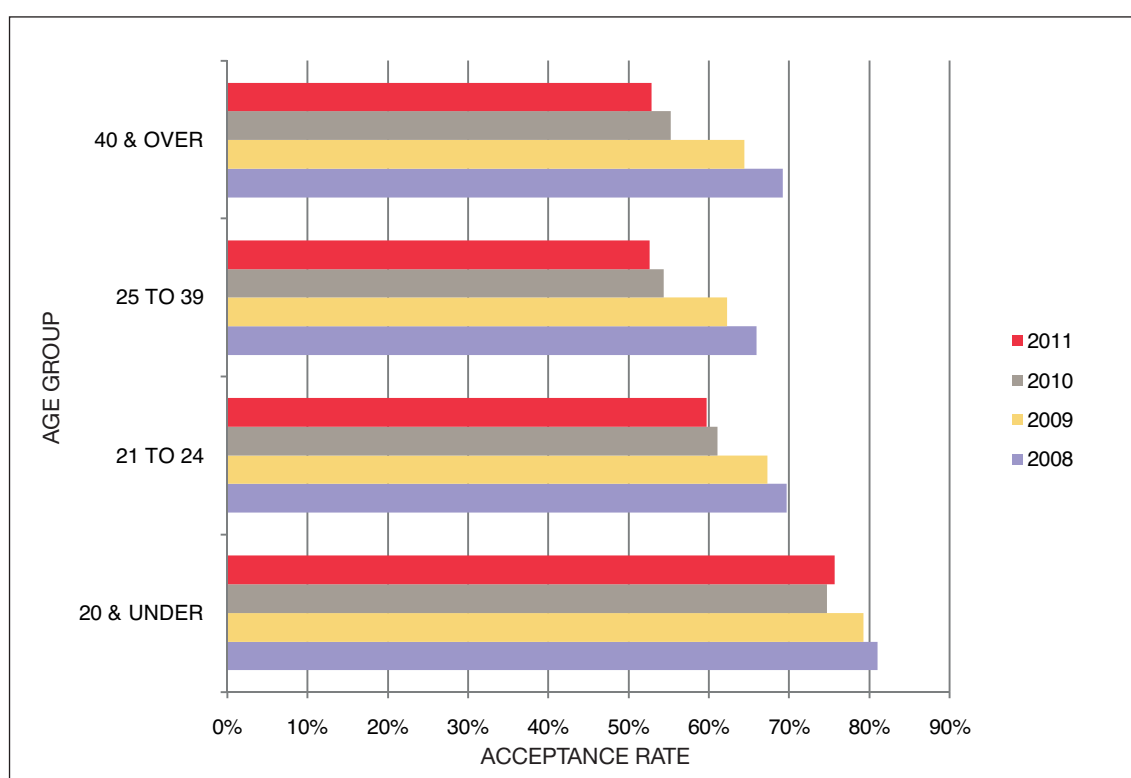


Figure 6a: Acceptance rate by age (2008-2011)

| | 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 | 9.2% | 64.4% | 55.2% | 52.9% |
| Total | 77.6% | 75.3% | 69.9% | 70.3% |

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 6b:



SOURCE: UCAS



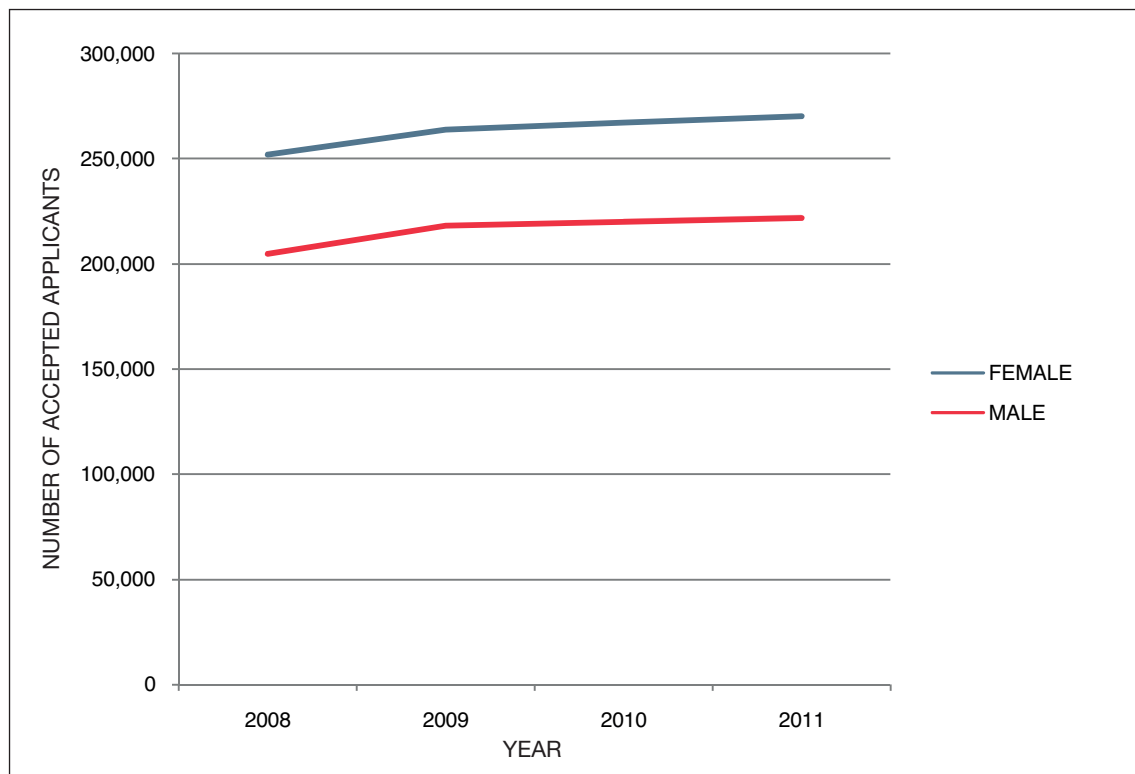
Sex

Figure 7a: Accepted applicants by sex (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:



SOURCE: UCAS



Ethnicity

Figure 8: Accepted applicants 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 | 425,06 | +4.9% | 424,634 | -0.1% | 431,235 | +1.6% |

SOURCE: UCAS

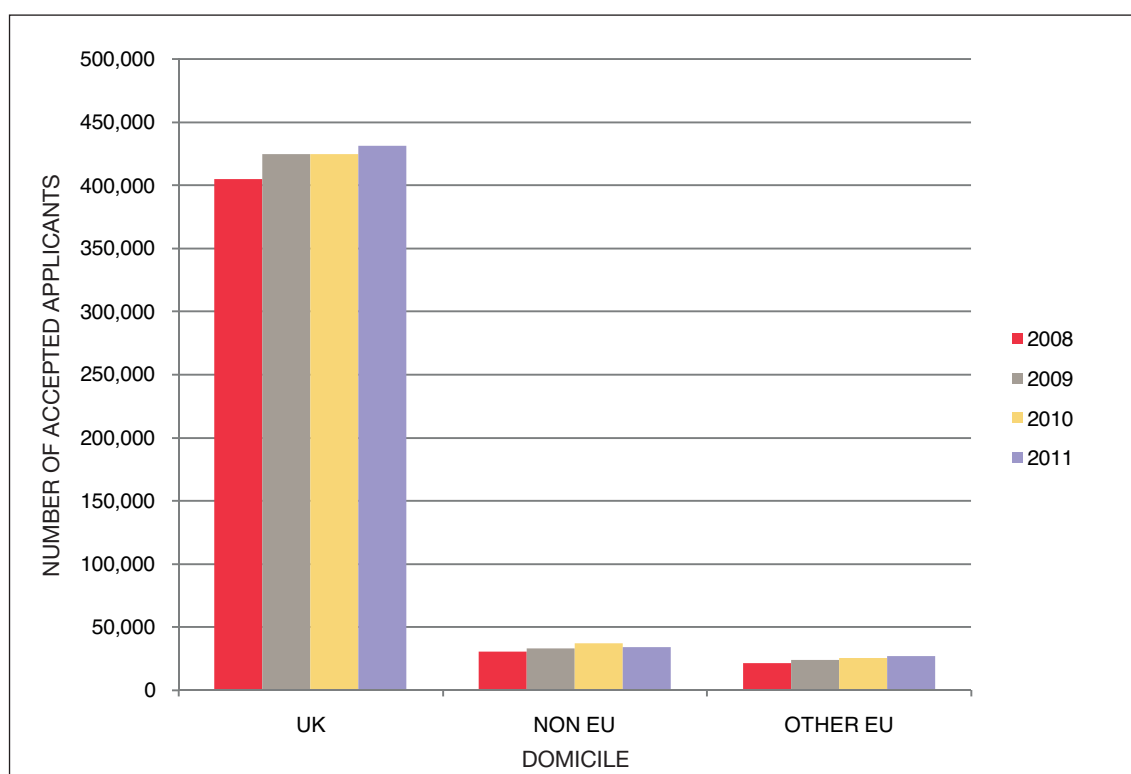
Domicile

Figure 9a: Accepted applicants by domicile (2008-2011)

| | 2008 | 2009 | % change 2008-2009 | 2010 | % change 2009-2010 | 2011 | % change 2010-2011 |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| 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 | 456,627 | 481,854 | +5.5% | 487,329 | +1.1% | 492,030 | +1.0% |

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 9b:



SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 10: Accepted applicants by UK country (UK-domiciled only, 2008-2011)

| | 2008 | 2009 | % change 2008-2009 | 2010 | % change 2009-2010 | 2011 | % change 2010-2011 |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| 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 | 405,024 | 425,063 | +4.9% | 424,634 | -0.1% | 431,235 | +1.6% |

SOURCE: UCAS



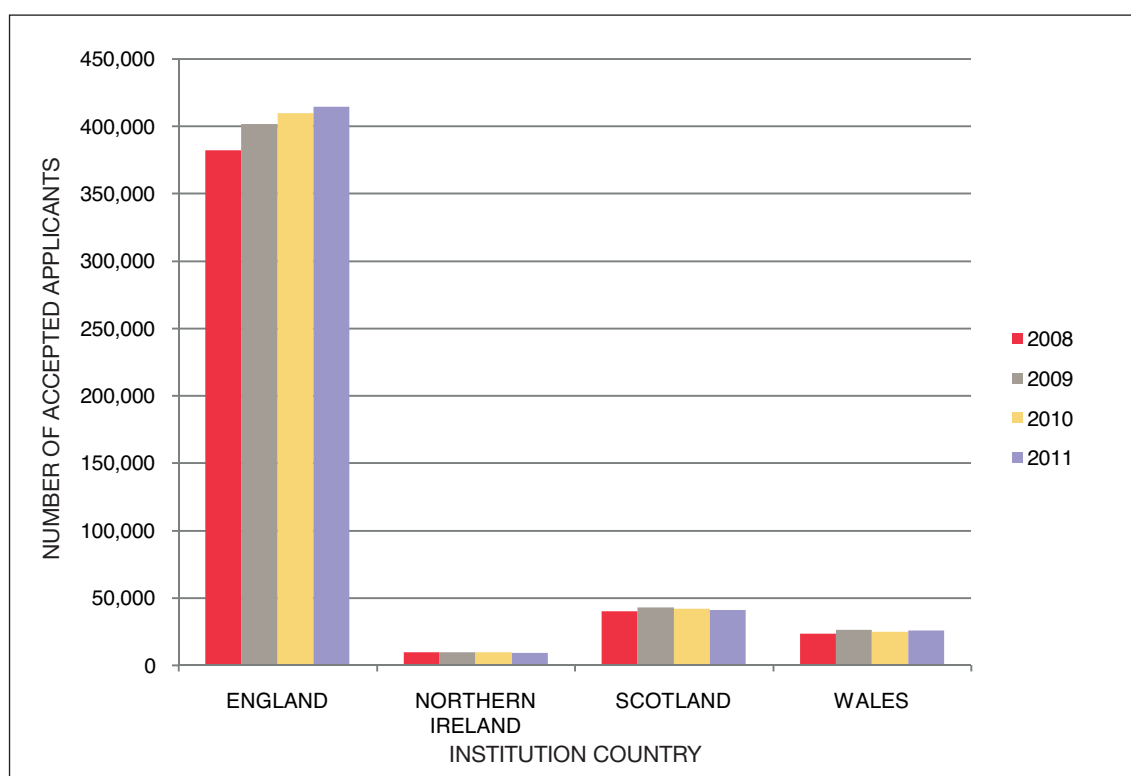
Institution country

Figure 11a: Accepted applicants 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:



SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 12: Accepted applicants 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

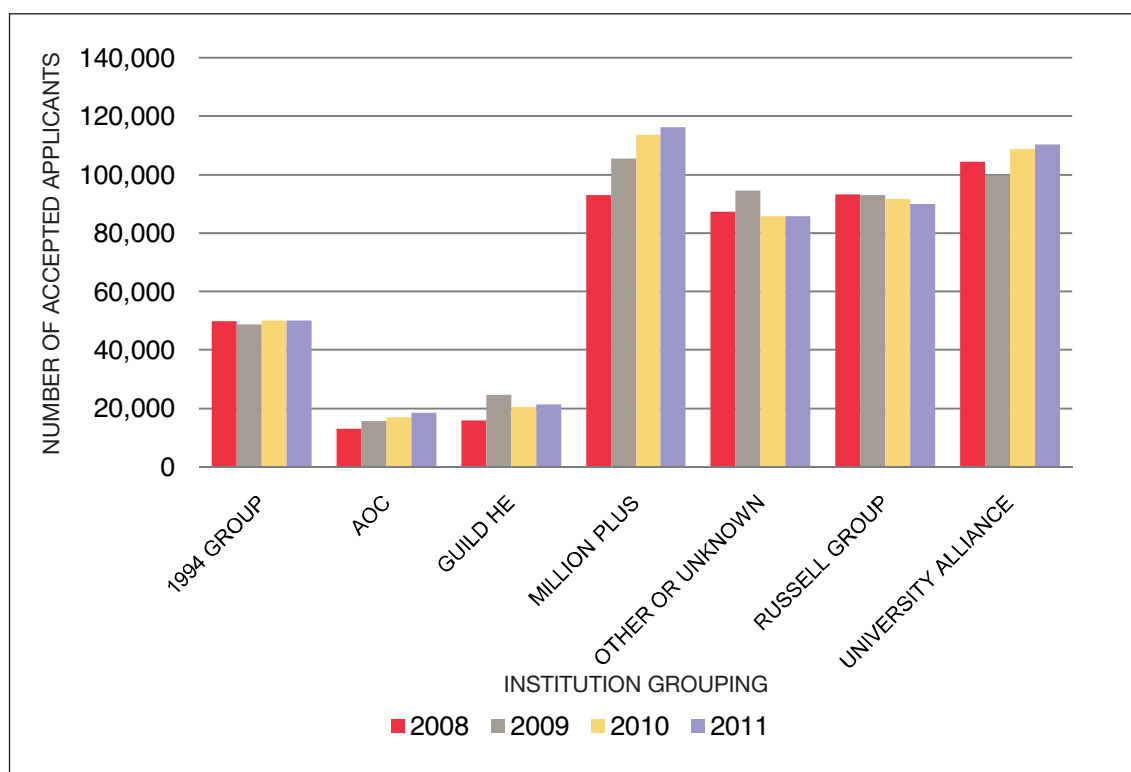
Institution grouping

Figure 13a: Accepted applicants 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% | 7,329 | +1.1% | 492,030 | +1.0% |

SOURCE: UCAS

Figure 13b:



SOURCE: UCAS

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



Figure 14: Accepted applicants 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 |

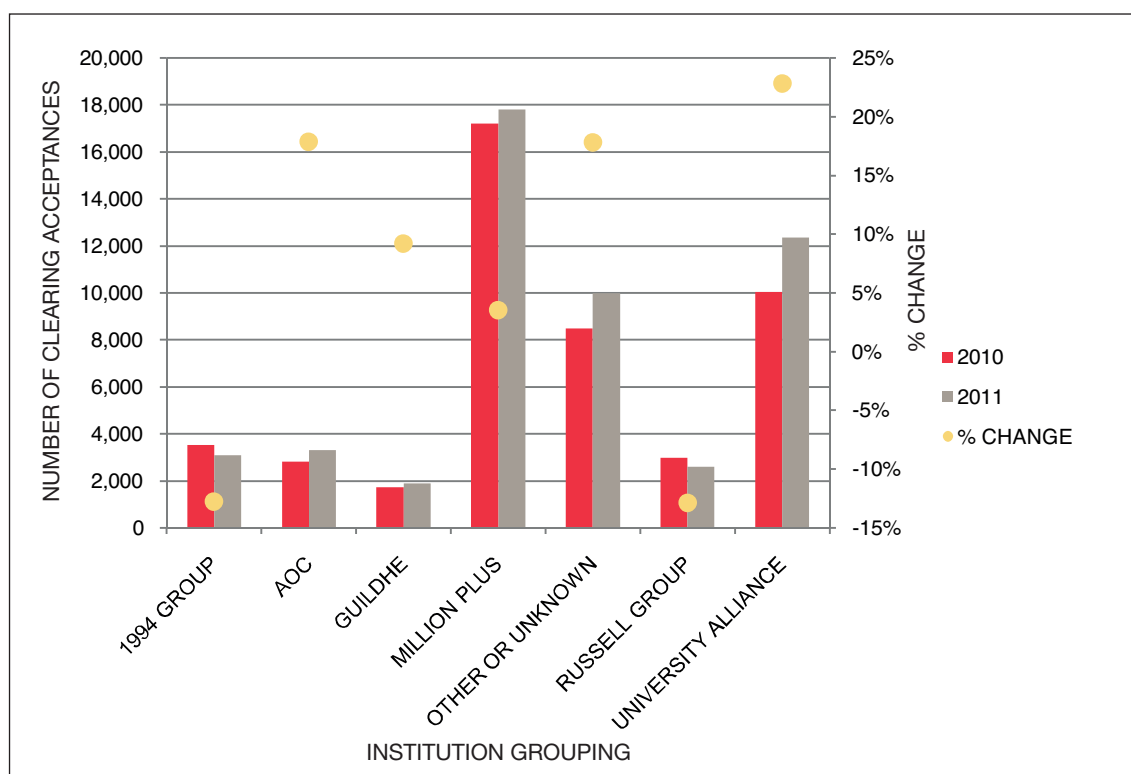
SOURCE: UCAS

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:



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* | 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

* 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 17: Accepted 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 | 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* | 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

* 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.

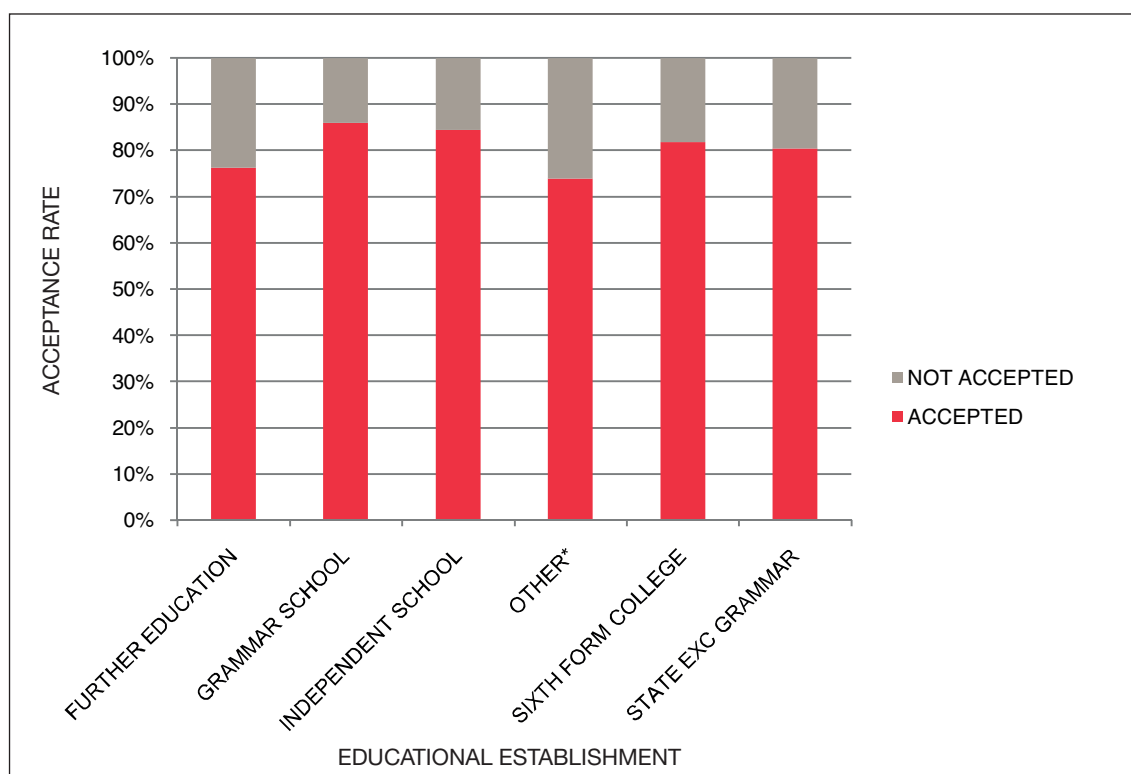
**Figure 18a: Acceptance rate by educational establishment
(UK-domiciled only, aged 19 and under, 2008-2011)**

| | 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* | 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

* 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.

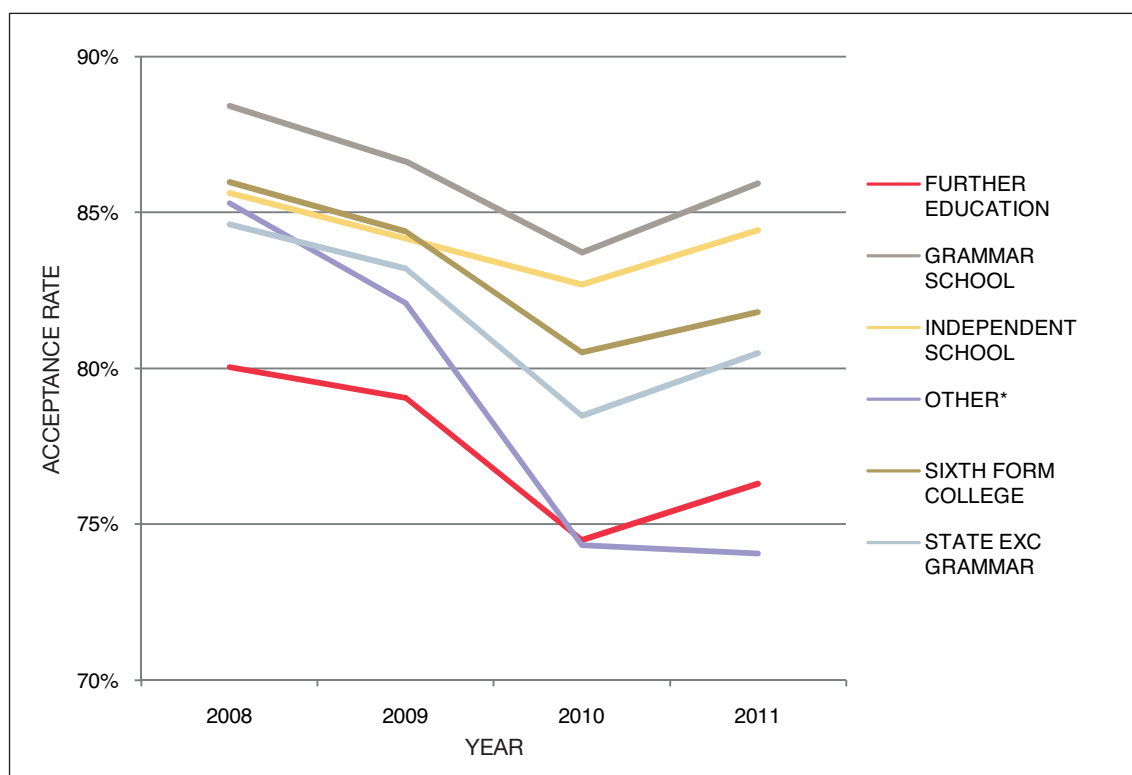
**Figure 18b: Acceptance rate by educational establishment
(UK-domiciled only, aged 19 and under, 2011 only)**



SOURCE: UCAS



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



SOURCE: UCAS

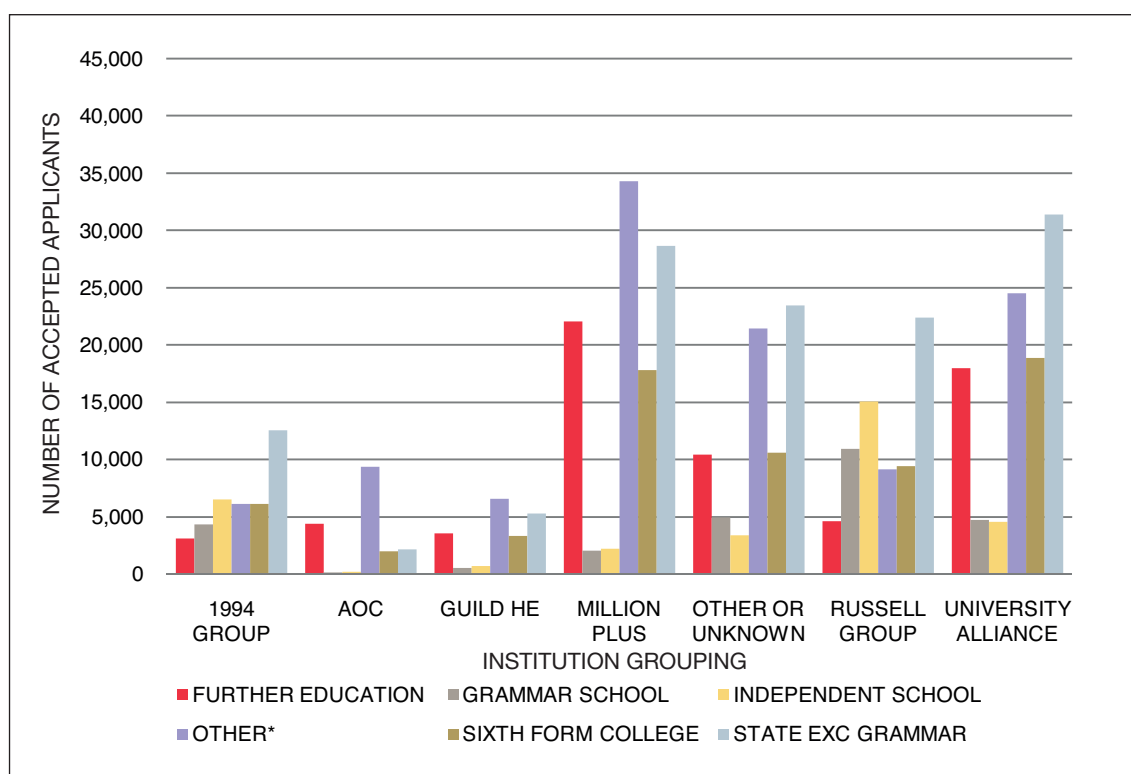
Figure 19a: Accepted applicants by educational establishment and institution grouping (UK-domiciled applicants only, 2011)

| | 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* | 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

* 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 19b:



SOURCE: UCAS



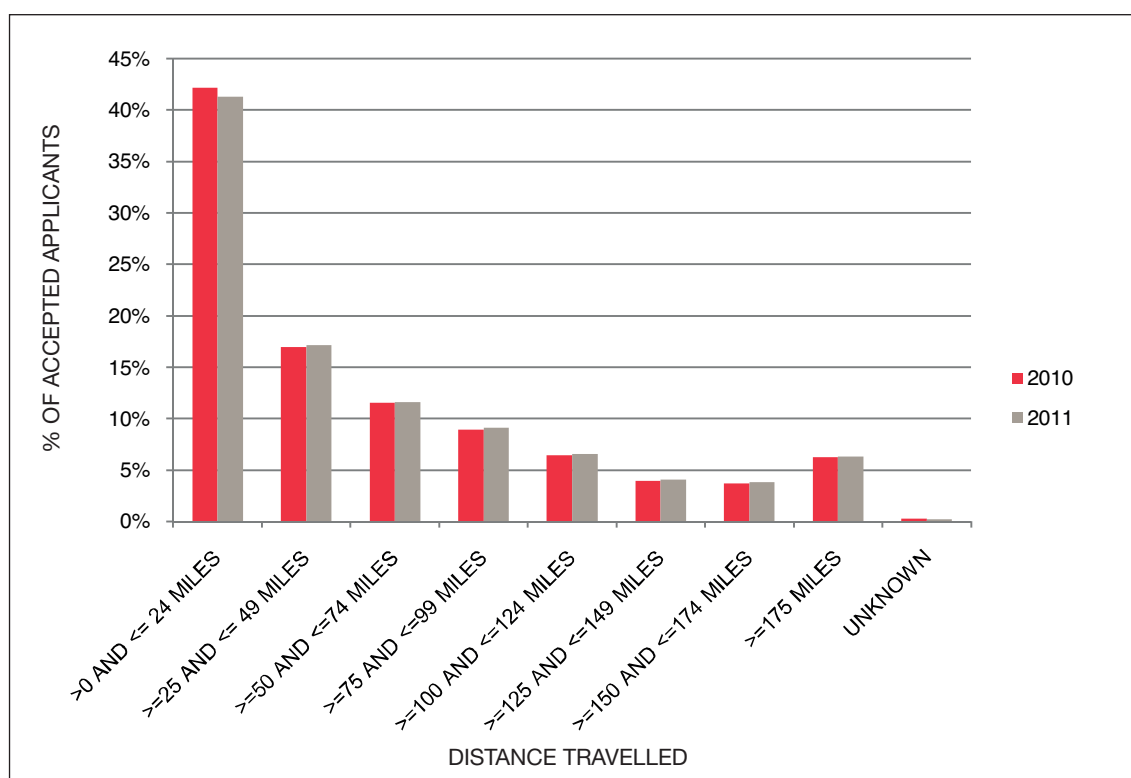
Distance travelled

Figure 20a: Accepted applicants 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:



SOURCE: UCAS



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

* 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 less than 1 in 5 young people enter higher education compared to well over half in quintile 5. Each quintile represents around 20 percent of the young population. Further information on the POLAR2 classification can be found on the HEFCE website (www.hefce.ac.uk/widen/polar/polar2/).



JACS2 subject group

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

| | Further Education | Grammar School | Independent School | Other* | 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

* 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)

| | 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

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

A decorative pattern of overlapping diamond shapes in various shades of grey and white, covering the top half of the page.A background photograph of two smiling students, a young man and a young woman, walking outdoors. The man is on the left, wearing a blue shirt and carrying a backpack. The woman is on the right, wearing a red top and carrying a large stack of papers.

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