

Postgraduate Admissions Statistics

Applications for admission in the 2024/25 academic year

Introduction

This report provides data for all applications made to commence a matriculated¹ postgraduate programme at the University of Cambridge in the 2024/25 academic year (admitted in Michaelmas Term 2024, Lent Term 2025 or Easter Term 2025). This cycle closed on 21 May 2025.

Application figures show the number of applications for admission to a postgraduate programme in the 2024/25 academic year, excluding applications that were withdrawn within the terms of the 14 day cancellation policy,² or deferrals from a previous academic year.³ Offer figures show the number of offers of admission made following a recommendation from the Department (postgraduate admissions decisions are made by the Departments). Admission figures show the number of offer holders whose admission was confirmed because they satisfied all the conditions of their offer, and who subsequently registered and took up their places on the course (those who were confirmed but did not take up their place have been excluded).⁴ Visiting students are also excluded.

The report combines data from the four admitting authorities for postgraduate admissions at the University of Cambridge:

- Faculty of Education (Fac. Ed)
<https://www.educ.cam.ac.uk/>
- Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) <https://www.pace.cam.ac.uk/>
- Judge Business School (JBS)
<https://www.jbs.cam.ac.uk/>
- Postgraduate Admissions Office (PAO)
<https://www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/>

The University of Cambridge offers more than 300 postgraduate courses, run by Faculties and Departments. The majority of these courses sit within one of six Schools (these are an administrative grouping of Faculties and other institutions): Arts and Humanities, Biological Sciences, Clinical Medicine, Humanities and Social Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Technology. However there are also a number of external University Partner Institutions (UPIs) where postgraduate students registered at the University can undertake specialist research.⁵

Postgraduate courses at the University of Cambridge are typically characterised as doctoral or non-doctoral. The doctoral category also includes courses with a '1+3' structure, where the participant completes a master's year and then commences a doctorate. The Higher Education sector frequently categorises postgraduate courses as research (PGR) or taught (PGT) which is similar to, but not a direct match with, the doctoral and non-doctoral categories.⁶ The degree type section reports both groupings.

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¹ Students on matriculated programmes become members of the University. This encompasses the vast majority of postgraduate programmes offered by the University, but not the Postgraduate Certificates and Postgraduate Diplomas offered by Professional and Continuing Education (PACE).

² This applies for courses admitted by the Postgraduate Admissions Office. 37 applications for the 2024/25 academic year were withdrawn within the policy terms.

³ 209 offer holders for courses admitted by the Postgraduate Admissions Office satisfied the conditions of their offer for the 2024/25 academic year but did not take up their place.

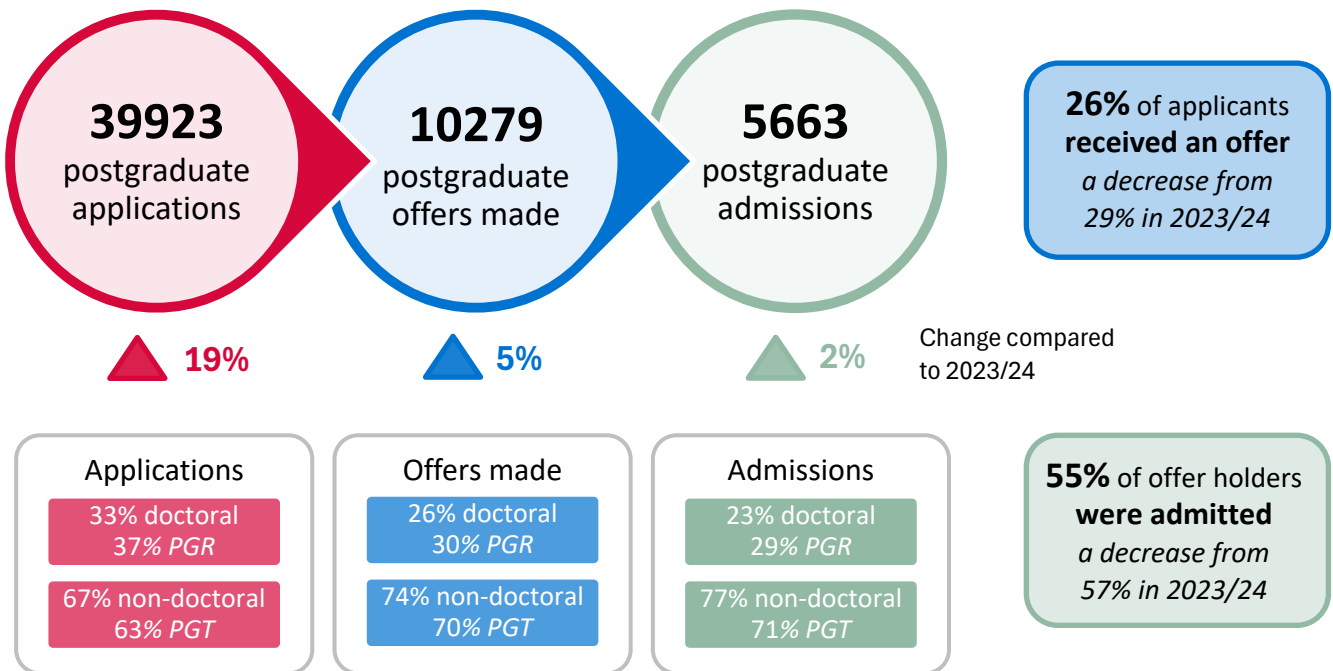
⁴ 3 applications for admission in the 2023/24 academic year were deferred for admission in the 2024/25 academic year.

⁵ A list of University Partner Institutions is available at: <https://www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/why-cambridge/cambridge-explained>

⁶ This is because some research courses are non-doctoral.



Postgraduate admissions for 2024/25

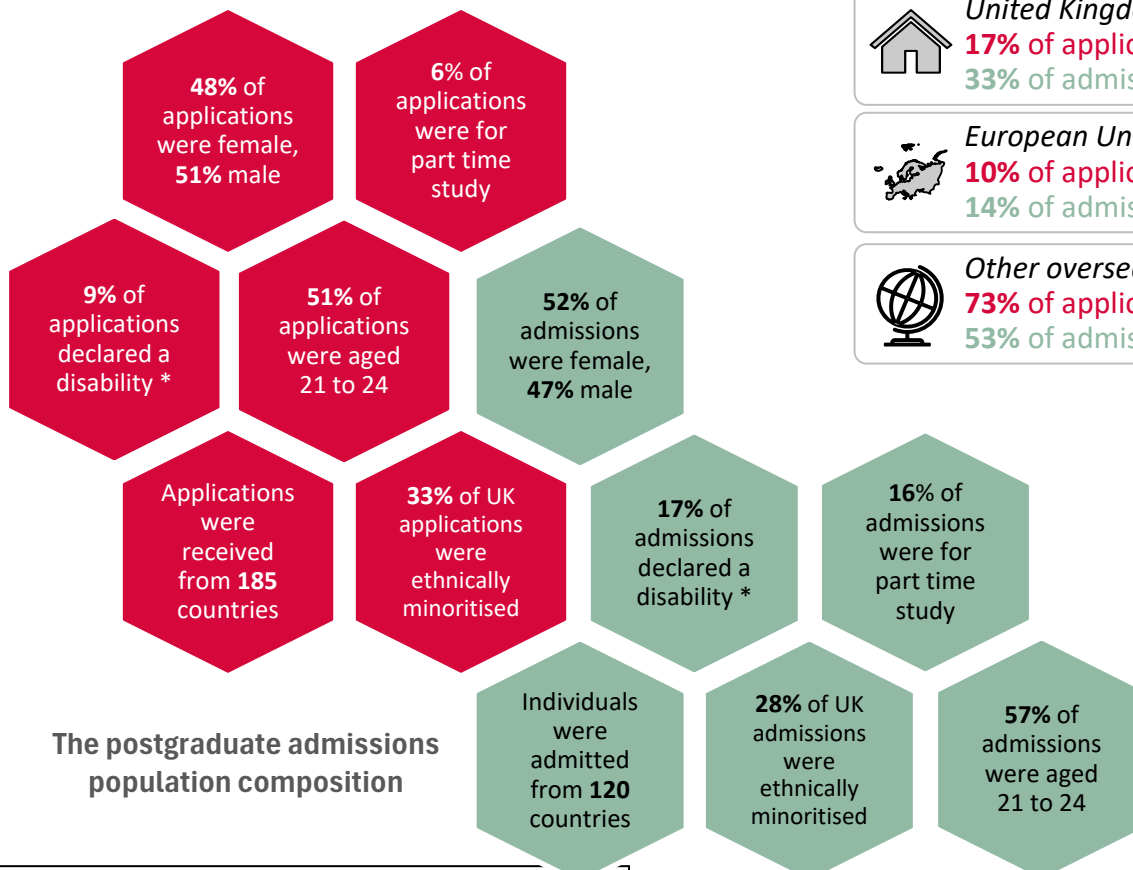


Primary citizenship of the postgraduate admissions population

 **United Kingdom (UK):**
17% of applications
33% of admissions

 **European Union (EU):**
10% of applications
14% of admissions

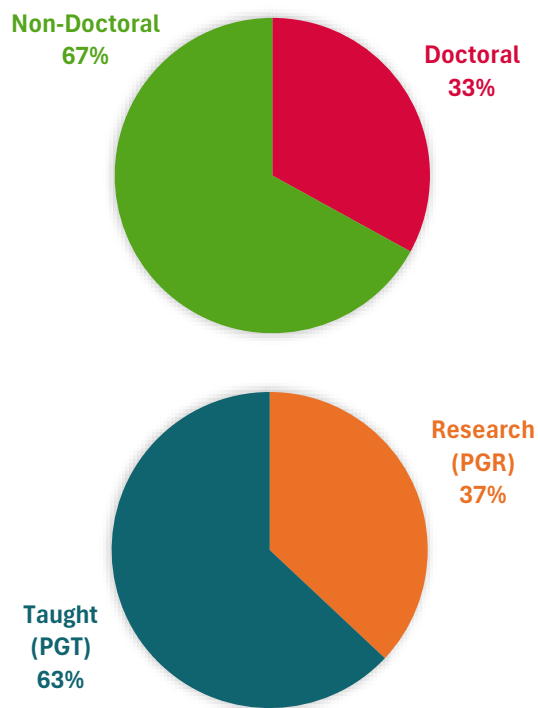
 **Other overseas:**
73% of applications
53% of admissions



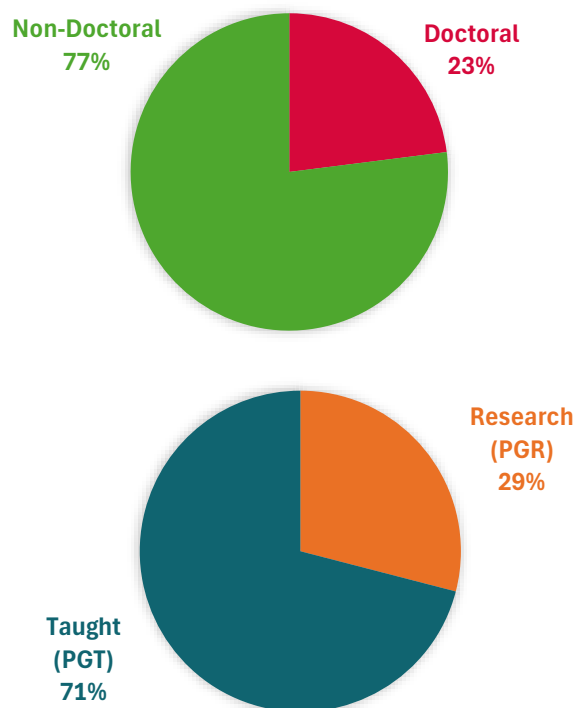
* Excludes Judge Business School (no disability data available)

Degree type

Applications, by degree type



Admissions, by degree type



Application, offers and admissions for all postgraduate admitting authorities, by degree type

This data is for all four admitting authorities, although only the Postgraduate Admissions Office admits to doctoral courses. Some individuals had a change in their degree type during the admissions cycle as the result of a course change.⁷ The data reported here records the degree type at the stage listed (i.e. the application degree type, the offer degree type etc.)

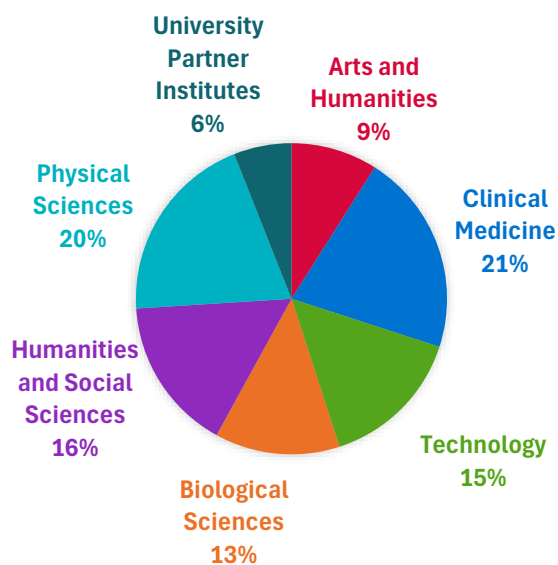
Degree type	Numbers			Conversion rates		
	Applications	Offers Made	Admissions	Application to Offer	Application to Admission	Offer to Admission
Doctoral	13079	2670	1309	20.4%	10.0%	49.0%
Non-Doctoral	26844	7609	4354	28.3%	16.2%	57.2%
Total	39923	10279	5663	25.7%	14.2%	55.1%

Degree type	Numbers			Conversion rates		
	Applications	Offers Made	Admissions	Application to Offer	Application to Admission	Offer to Admission
Postgraduate Research (PGR)	14891	3133	1644	21.0%	11.0%	52.5%
Postgraduate Taught (PGT)	25032	7146	4019	28.5%	16.1%	56.2%
Total	39923	10279	5663	25.7%	14.2%	55.1%

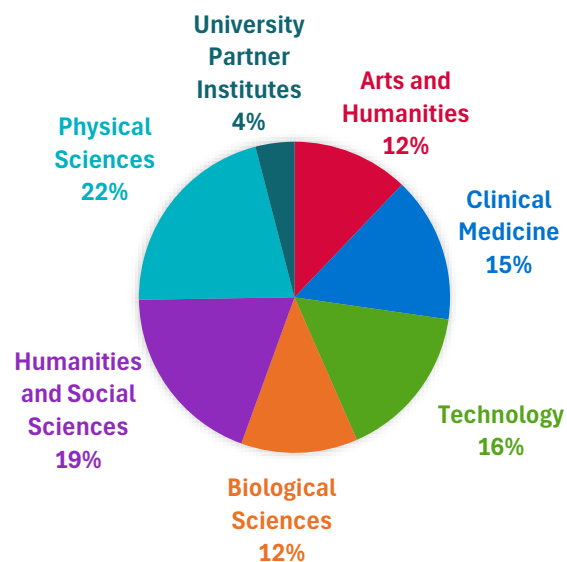
⁷ 56 individuals had one or more change in their doctoral/non-doctoral degree type classification during the admissions cycle: 54 changes were made at the offer-making stage, 2 changes were made at the point admissions was confirmed. 62 individuals had a change in their PGR/PGT degree type classification during the admissions cycle: 59 changes were made at the offer-making stage, 3 changes were made at the point admissions was confirmed.

School

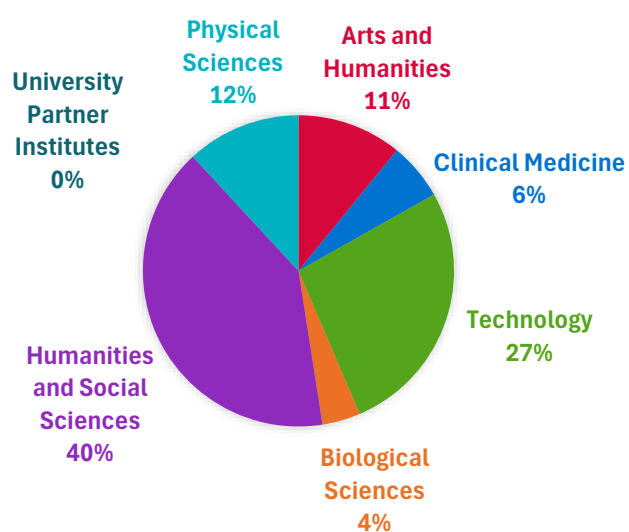
Doctoral applications, by School



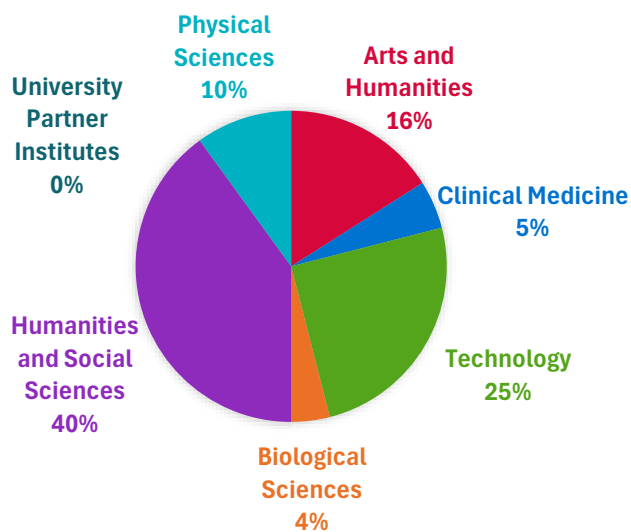
Doctoral admissions, by School



Non-doctoral applications, by School



Non-doctoral admissions, by School



School

Application, offers and admissions for all postgraduate admitting authorities, by School..

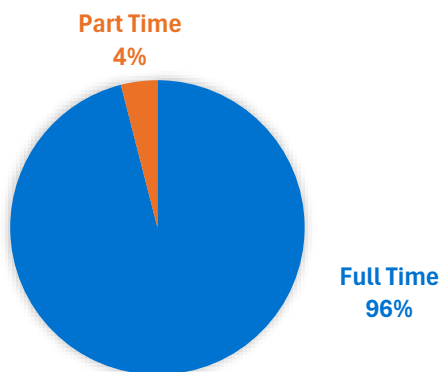
Some individuals had a change in School during the admissions cycle as the result of a course change.⁸ The data reported here records the School at the stage listed (i.e. the application course's School, the offer course's School etc.) Conversion rates are not calculated where the baseline group is less than 10.

School	Numbers			Conversion rates		
	Applications	Offers Made	Admissions	Application to Offer	Application to Admission	Offer to Admission
School of Arts and Humanities	4077	1421	840	34.9%	20.6%	59.1%
Doctoral	1219	339	152	27.8%	12.5%	44.8%
Non-Doctoral	2858	1082	688	37.9%	24.1%	63.6%
School of Clinical Medicine	4316	649	418	15.0%	9.7%	64.4%
Doctoral	2811	321	199	11.4%	7.1%	62.0%
Non-Doctoral	1505	328	219	21.8%	14.6%	66.8%
School of Technology	9070	2394	1320	26.4%	14.6%	55.1%
Doctoral	1955	468	212	23.9%	10.8%	45.3%
Non-Doctoral	7115	1926	1108	27.1%	15.6%	57.5%
School of the Biological Sciences	2852	550	320	19.3%	11.2%	58.2%
Doctoral	1688	309	159	18.3%	9.4%	51.5%
Non-Doctoral	1164	241	161	20.7%	13.8%	66.8%
School of the Humanities & Social Sciences	13025	3730	1973	28.6%	15.1%	52.9%
Doctoral	2105	546	253	25.9%	12.0%	46.3%
Non-Doctoral	10920	3184	1720	29.2%	15.8%	54.0%
School of the Physical Sciences	5825	1472	732	25.3%	12.6%	49.7%
Doctoral	2581	631	281	24.4%	10.9%	44.5%
Non-Doctoral	3244	841	451	25.9%	13.9%	53.6%
University Partner Institutes (UPIs)	758	63	60	8.3%	7.9%	95.2%
Doctoral	720	56	53	7.8%	7.4%	94.6%
Non-Doctoral	38	7	7	18.4%	18.4%	-
Total	39923	10279	5663	25.7%	14.2%	55.1%

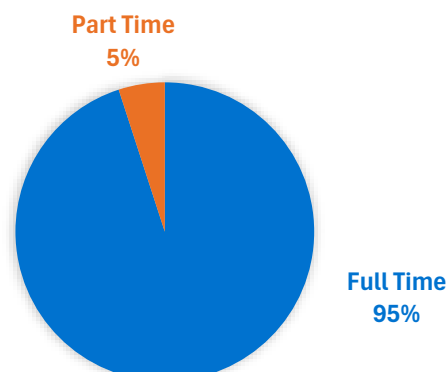
⁸ 32 individuals had a change in the School they are associated with during the admissions cycle: 29 changes were made at the offer-making stage, 3 changes were made at the point admissions was confirmed.

Full or part time study

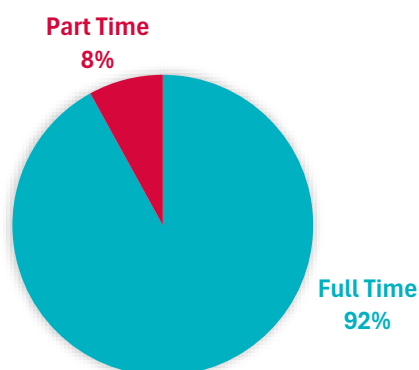
Doctoral applications, by full/part time status



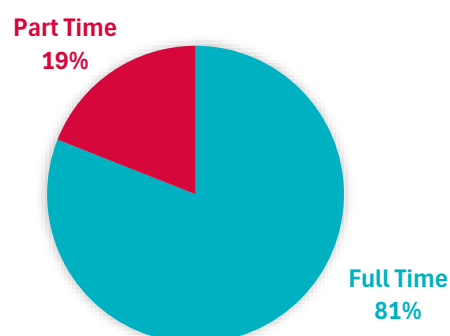
Doctoral admissions, by full/part time status



Non-Doctoral applications, by full/part time status



Non-Doctoral admissions, by full/part time status



Application, offers and admissions for all postgraduate admitting authorities, by full/part time status

This data is for all four admitting authorities, although the Faculty of Education only admits to full time courses and Professional and Continuing Education only admits to part time courses.

Some individuals changed the full/part time status of their course during the admissions cycle.⁹ The data reported here records the full/part time status at the stage listed (i.e. at the point of application, for the offer made etc.)

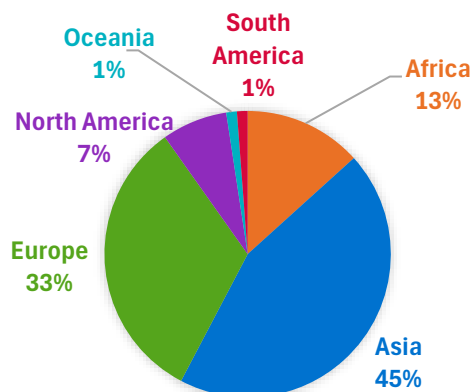
Full/part time Degree type	Numbers			Conversion rates		
	Applications	Offers Made	Admissions	Application to Offer	Application to Admission	Offer to Admission
Full time	37375	9174	4769	24.5%	12.8%	52.0%
Doctoral	12611	2595	1238	20.6%	9.8%	47.7%
Non-Doctoral	24764	6579	3531	26.6%	14.3%	53.7%
Part time	2548	1105	894	43.4%	35.1%	80.9%
Doctoral	468	75	71	16.0%	15.2%	94.7%
Non-Doctoral	2080	1030	823	49.5%	39.6%	79.9%
Total	39923	10279	5663	25.7%	14.2%	55.1%

⁹ 29 individuals changed the full/part time status of their course during the admissions cycle: 14 changes were made at the point an offer was made, 17 changes were made at the point admissions was confirmed (2 individuals had changes at both stages).

Citizenship

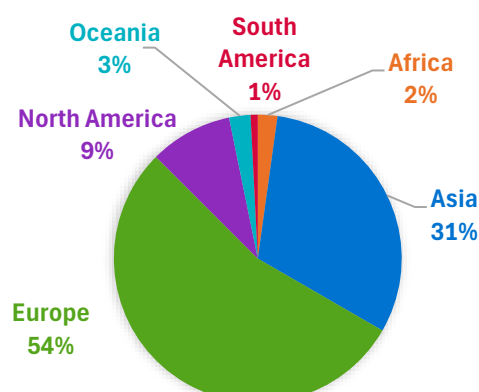
Doctoral applications, by primary citizenship

Excludes 0.1% (9) whose citizenship data is not in a continent (e.g. Stateless).



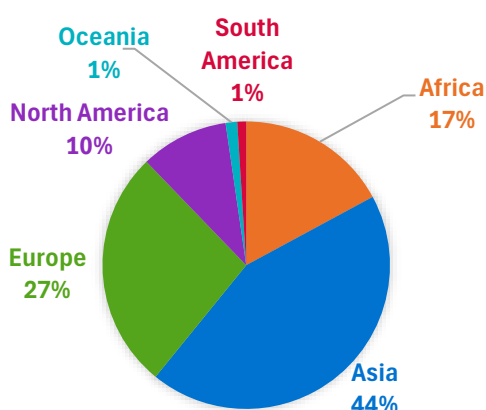
Doctoral admissions, by primary citizenship

Excludes 0.0% (<5) whose citizenship data is not in a continent (e.g. Stateless).



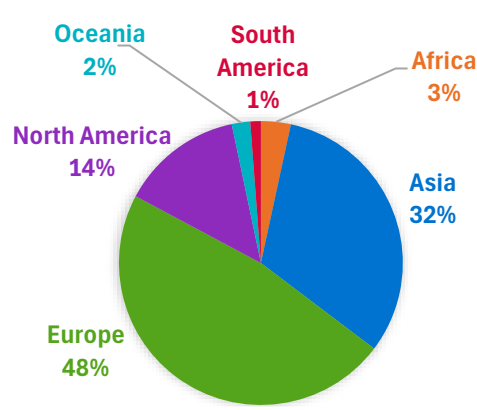
Non-doctoral applications, by primary citizenship

Excludes 0.0% (8) whose citizenship data is not in a continent (e.g. Stateless).



Non-doctoral admissions, by primary citizenship

Excludes 0.0% (<5) whose citizenship data is not in a continent (e.g. Stateless).



The top 10 most common primary citizenships for doctoral applications, offers and admissions

Top 10 for Doctoral Applications			Top 10 for Doctoral Offers Made			Top 10 for Doctoral Admissions		
United Kingdom	2376	18.2%	United Kingdom	751	28.1%	United Kingdom	439	33.5%
China	2053	15.7%	China	455	17.0%	China	235	18.0%
India	1526	11.7%	United States	223	8.4%	United States	91	7.0%
United States	695	5.3%	India	162	6.1%	Germany	53	4.0%
Nigeria	597	4.6%	Germany	107	4.0%	India	46	3.5%
Pakistan	408	3.1%	Italy	74	2.8%	France	31	2.4%
Iran (Islamic Republic Of)	366	2.8%	Canada	56	2.1%	Italy	30	2.3%
Germany	283	2.2%	Australia	49	1.8%	Spain	23	1.8%
Italy	228	1.7%	France	47	1.8%	Australia	21	1.6%
Canada	209	1.6%	Spain	37	1.4%	Poland	20	1.5%
All others (165)	4338	33.2%	All others (92)	709	26.6%	All others (80)	320	24.4%

Citizenship

The top 10 most common primary citizenships for non-doctoral applications, offers and admissions

Top 10 for Non-Doctoral Applications			Top 10 for Non-Doctoral Offers Made			Top 10 for Non-Doctoral Admissions		
China	6937	25.8%	United Kingdom	2011	26.4%	United Kingdom	1440	33.1%
United Kingdom	4569	17.0%	China	1287	16.9%	China	678	15.6%
United States	2026	7.5%	United States	969	12.7%	United States	468	10.7%
India	1735	6.5%	India	396	5.2%	India	191	4.4%
Nigeria	1280	4.8%	Germany	221	2.9%	Germany	126	2.9%
Ghana	664	2.5%	Canada	199	2.6%	Canada	102	2.3%
Germany	488	1.8%	Australia	135	1.8%	Hong Kong	77	1.8%
Kenya	458	1.7%	Nigeria	117	1.5%	Singapore	73	1.7%
Canada	457	1.7%	Singapore	114	1.5%	Australia	71	1.6%
Hong Kong	369	1.4%	Hong Kong	111	1.5%	France	63	1.4%
All others (167)	7861	29.3%	All others (131)	2049	26.9%	All others (104)	1065	24.5%

Application, offers and admissions for all postgraduate admitting authorities, by primary citizenship continent

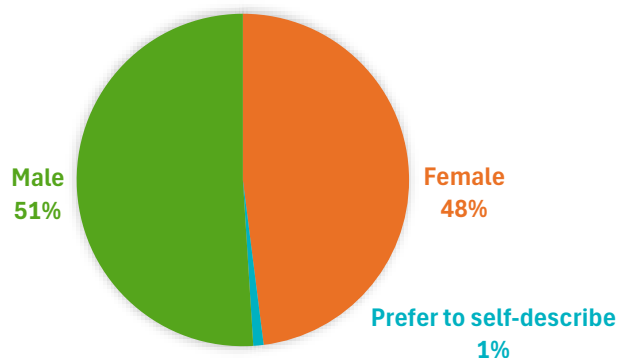
Subgroup data is suppressed (X) where group size is fewer than 3 or to prevent calculation of other subgroup categories.

Continent	Numbers			Conversion rates		
	Applications	Offers Made	Admissions	Application to Offer	Application to Admission	Offer to Admission
Africa	6329	452	175	7.1%	2.8%	38.7%
Doctoral	1733	81	29	4.7%	1.7%	35.8%
Non-Doctoral	4596	371	146	8.1%	3.2%	39.4%
Asia	17533	3552	1797	20.3%	10.2%	50.6%
Doctoral	5801	920	407	15.9%	7.0%	44.2%
Non-Doctoral	11732	2632	1390	22.4%	11.8%	52.8%
Europe	11466	4365	2775	38.1%	24.2%	63.6%
Doctoral	4253	1278	708	30.0%	16.6%	55.4%
Non-Doctoral	7213	3087	2067	42.8%	28.7%	67.0%
North America	3641	1525	727	41.9%	20.0%	47.7%
Doctoral	972	294	122	30.2%	12.6%	41.5%
Non-Doctoral	2669	1231	605	46.1%	22.7%	49.1%
Oceania	516	244	123	47.3%	23.8%	50.4%
Doctoral	160	64	32	40.0%	20.0%	50.0%
Non-Doctoral	356	180	91	50.6%	25.6%	50.6%
South America	421	138	63	32.8%	15.0%	45.7%
Doctoral	151	33	11	21.9%	7.3%	33.3%
Non-Doctoral	270	105	52	38.9%	19.3%	49.5%
Unknown	17	3	3	-	-	-
Doctoral	9	X	X	-	-	-
Non-Doctoral	8	X	X	-	-	-
Total	39923	10279	5663	25.7%	14.2%	55.1%
Total with data	39906	10276	5660	25.8%	14.2%	55.1%

Gender

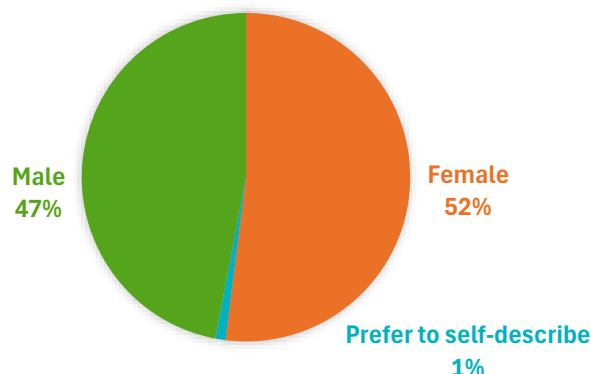
Applications, by gender reported

Excludes 3.4% (1372) with no gender group reported.



Admissions, by gender reported

Excludes 0.2% (14) with no gender group reported.



Application, offers and admissions for all four postgraduate admitting authorities, by gender

Note that the Faculty of Education does not hold gender data for all applicants or offer holders as this field is not mandatory on the Department for Education PGCE application (and is collected by the University at the point of admission).¹⁰

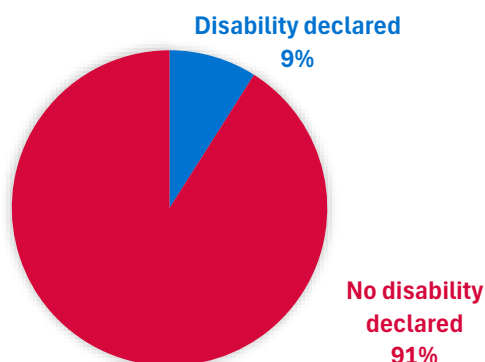
Gender	Numbers			Conversion rates		
	Applications	Offers Made	Admissions	Application to Offer	Application to Admission	Offer to Admission
Female	18568	5172	2937	27.9%	15.8%	56.8%
Male	19718	4895	2660	24.8%	13.5%	54.3%
Other (prefer to self-describe)	265	91	52	34.3%	19.6%	57.1%
Unknown / prefer not to specify ¹⁰	1372	121	14	-	-	-
Total	39923	10279	5663	25.7%	14.2%	55.1%
Total with data	38551	10158	5649	26.3%	14.7%	55.6%

¹⁰ 77.7% of Faculty of Education applicants have no gender data (compared to 0.8% of all other applicants), and 18.8% of Faculty of Education offer holders (compared to 0.6% of all other offer holders). 0.0% of Faculty of Education admissions have no gender data (compared to 0.3% of all other admissions).

Disability

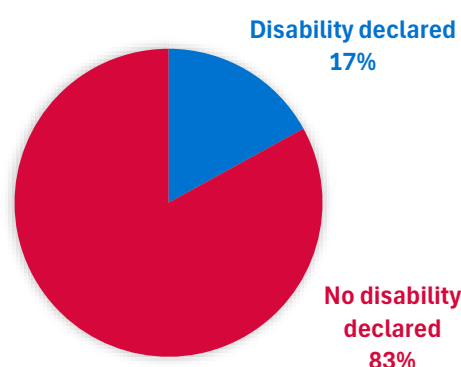
Applications, by disability declared

Excludes 10.8% (4306) with no disability declaration, including all administered by the Judge Business School.



Admissions, by disability declared

Excludes 12.9% (731) with no disability declaration, including all administered by the Judge Business School.



Application, offers and admissions for three postgraduate admitting authorities, by disability

This data is unavailable for the Judge Business School for 2024/25 so these applications, offers and admissions are all included in the unknown/prefer not to say category.

Note that the Faculty of Education does not hold disability data for all applicants or offer holders as this field is not mandatory on the Department for Education PGCE application (and is collected by the University at the point of admission).¹¹

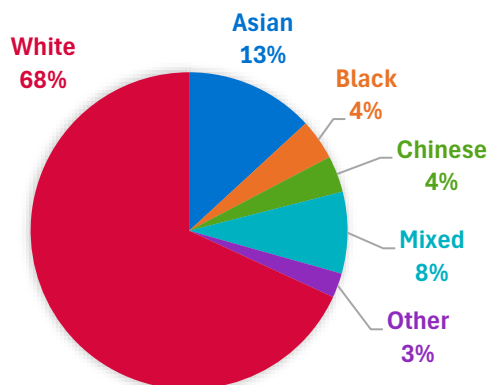
Disability	Numbers			Conversion rates		
	Applications	Offers Made	Admissions	Application to Offer	Application to Admission	Offer to Admission
Disability declared	3324	1234	820	37.1%	24.7%	66.5%
Blind or have a visual impairment uncorrected by glasses	78	23	18	29.5%	23.1%	78.3%
Deaf or have a hearing impairment	58	13	9	22.4%	15.5%	69.2%
Learning difference such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, or AD(H)D	853	353	255	41.4%	29.9%	72.2%
Long-term illness or health condition	317	128	88	40.4%	27.8%	68.8%
Mental health condition, challenge or disorder	746	281	185	37.7%	24.8%	65.8%
Physical impairment	100	31	17	31.0%	17.0%	54.8%
Social/communication conditions	137	62	32	45.3%	23.4%	51.6%
An impairment, health condition or learning difference that is not listed	188	65	45	34.6%	23.9%	69.2%
Two or more impairments and/or disabling medical conditions	847	278	171	32.8%	20.2%	61.5%
No disability declared	32293	7600	4112	23.5%	12.7%	54.1%
Unknown / prefer not to say¹¹	4306	1445	731	-	-	-
Total	39923	10279	5663	25.7%	14.2%	55.1%
Total with data	35617	8834	4932	24.8%	13.8%	55.8%

¹¹ 100.0% of Judge Business School applicants, offer holders and admissions have no disability data. 73.2% of Faculty of Education applicants have no disability data (compared to 4.2% of Postgraduate Admissions Office and Professional and Continuing Education applicants), and 19.7% of Faculty of Education offer holders (compared to 5.4%). Only 5.3% of Faculty of Education admissions have no disability data (compared to 4.8% of Postgraduate Admissions Office and Professional and Continuing Education admissions).

Ethnicity (UK applicants only)

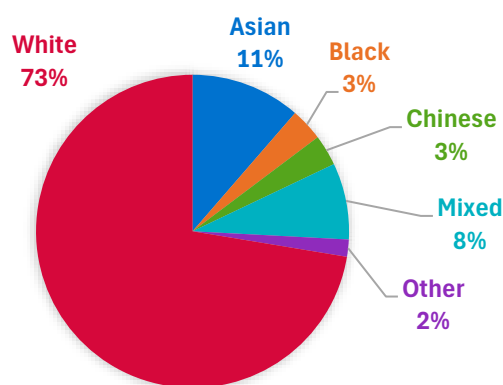
Applications from those with United Kingdom (UK) citizenship, by ethnic group reported

Excludes 12.3% (853) with no ethnicity data reported.



Admissions for those with United Kingdom (UK) citizenship, by ethnic group reported

Excludes 3.6% (68) with no ethnicity data reported.



Application, offers and admissions from individuals with United Kingdom (UK) citizenship for all four postgraduate admitting authorities, by ethnicity group

Note that the Faculty of Education does not hold ethnicity data for all applicants or offer holders as this field is not mandatory on the Department for Education PGCE application (and is collected by the University at the point of admission).¹²

Conversion rates are not calculated where the baseline group is less than 10.

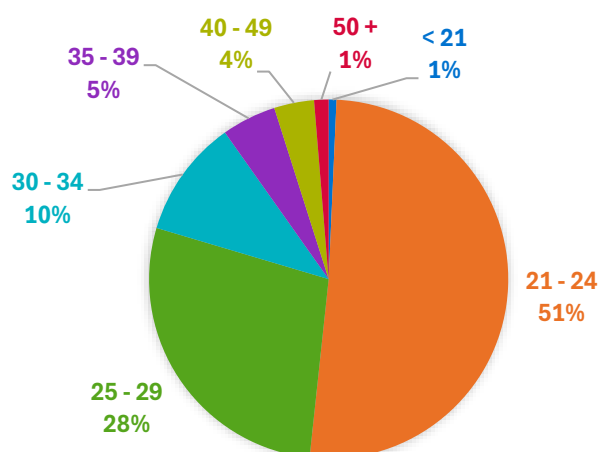
Ethnicity group	Numbers			Conversion rates		
	Applications	Offers Made	Admissions	Application to Offer	Application to Admission	Offer to Admission
Asian	854	282	206	33.0%	24.1%	73.0%
Bangladeshi or Bangladeshi British	85	24	20	28.2%	23.5%	83.3%
Indian or Indian British	367	135	89	36.8%	24.3%	65.9%
Pakistani or Pakistani British	179	56	46	31.3%	25.7%	82.1%
Any other Asian background	223	67	51	30.0%	22.9%	76.1%
Black	251	85	61	33.9%	24.3%	71.8%
African or African British	187	61	46	32.6%	24.6%	75.4%
Caribbean or Caribbean British	40	19	10	47.5%	25.0%	52.6%
Any other Black background	24	5	5	20.8%	20.8%	-
Chinese	224	88	58	39.3%	25.9%	65.9%
Mixed	503	207	143	41.2%	28.4%	69.1%
White and Asian	221	95	67	43.0%	30.3%	70.5%
White and Black African	22	9	5	40.9%	22.7%	-
White and Black Caribbean	31	16	11	51.6%	35.5%	68.8%
Any other Mixed or Multiple background	227	85	58	37.4%	25.6%	68.2%
Other	151	51	32	33.8%	21.2%	62.7%
Arab	75	23	15	30.7%	20.0%	65.2%
Any other ethnic background	76	28	17	36.8%	22.4%	60.7%
White	4110	1906	1311	46.4%	31.9%	68.8%
Unknown / prefer not to say¹²	853	143	68	-	-	-
Non-UK citizenship	32977	7517	3784	-	-	-
Total (UK citizenship only)	6946	2762	1879	39.8%	27.1%	68.0%
Total with data (UK citizenship only)	6093	2619	1811	43.0%	29.7%	69.1%

¹² 66.6% of Faculty of Education applicants with UK citizenship have no ethnicity data (compared to 4.1% of all other applicants with UK citizenship), and 15.6% of Faculty of Education offer holders (compared to 4.1% of all other offer holders). Only 0.9% of Faculty of Education admissions with UK citizenship have no ethnicity data (compared to 4.0% of all other admissions with UK citizenship).

Age

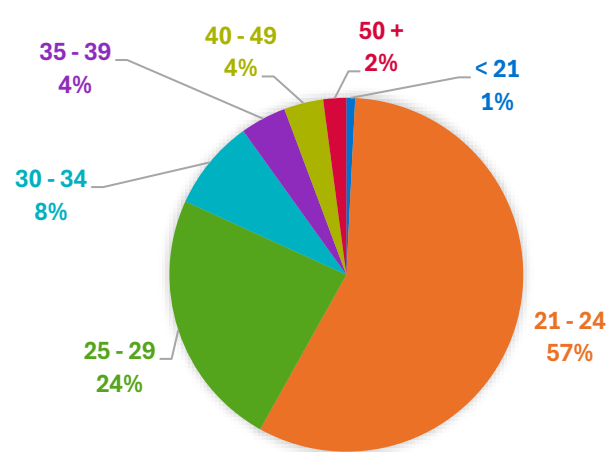
Applications, by age group

Age is calculated as age at the start of the academic year (1 October 2024).



Admissions, by age group

Age is calculated as age at the start of the academic year (1 October 2024).



Application, offers and admissions for all four postgraduate admitting authorities, by age group

Age (at start of academic year)	Numbers			Conversion rates		
	Applications	Offers Made	Admissions	Application to Offer	Application to Admission	Offer to Admission
<21	297	76	46	25.6%	15.5%	60.5%
21 - 24	20358	5829	3243	28.6%	15.9%	55.6%
25 - 29	11148	2688	1340	24.1%	12.0%	49.9%
30 - 34	4223	865	471	20.5%	11.2%	54.5%
35 - 39	1937	379	240	19.6%	12.4%	63.3%
40 - 49	1443	293	203	20.3%	14.1%	69.3%
50 - 59	391	102	84	26.1%	21.5%	82.4%
60 +	126	47	36	37.3%	28.6%	76.6%
Total	39923	10279	5663	25.7%	14.2%	55.1%