

SB 29/2013

20 March 2013

Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) Statistics 2012 Entry

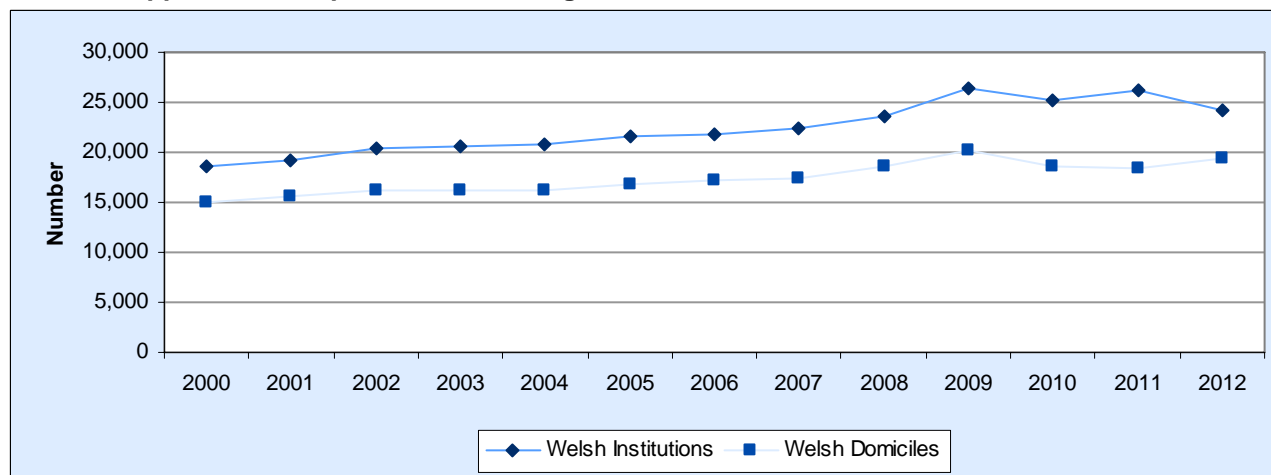
This bulletin presents, in a Welsh context, some of the main features relating to applicants accepted to full-time degree and HND courses, starting in Autumn 2012 at UK higher education institutions. The data was first published by the Universities & Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) in December 2012 and further information can be found on the UCAS web site.

http://www.ucas.ac.uk/about_us/stat_services/

Summary

- Prior to 2010 there was a year on year increase in the number of applicants accepted by **Welsh Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)**. Figures have fluctuated over the last three years but remain above the 2008 figure. (*Chart 1*).
- The eight per cent fall in acceptances at Welsh HEIs was driven by a 17 per cent decrease in acceptances by applicants living in England. In the 2012 cycle, the number of these accepted English domiciles decreased by 1,920 to 9,577 and was the predominant factor in the 2,121 fall in acceptances to Welsh institutions.
- The number of accepted **Welsh domiciled** applicants to Welsh HEIs was one per cent higher in 2012 than in 2011, whilst Welsh domiciles accepted at English institutions increased by 13 per cent.
- The number of accepted applicants from non-UK countries to Welsh institutions fell by eight per cent, compared to the 2011 cycle.

Chart 1: Applicants accepted to full-time higher education courses



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Context

In recent years there have been a number of changes to both the tuition fee and statutory student support regimes throughout the UK. Increased fee levels (called 'top-up fees') were introduced for courses in England and Northern Ireland in 2006/07 and Welsh institutions a year later in 2007/08. There are different financial support schemes for students from different UK countries. Welsh (and EU) students starting a course in Wales between 2006/07 and 2009/10 may have been eligible for a Tuition Fee Grant to cover the cost of the increase in fees. However, from 2010/11 entrants (excluding deferrals) were no longer able to claim this grant but were able to apply for a higher level of Assembly Learning Grant.

In 2002, the then Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) laid out its long-term strategy for higher education in 'Reaching Higher'. This set out a vision of how the HE sector in Wales would contribute to the achievement of the education and lifelong learning programme to 2010. The strategy set out a range of targets for higher education to be met by 2010, relating to widening access, Welsh medium provision, Wales as a destination of first choice, overseas students, reducing overhead costs, 'spinout' companies from universities and research income.

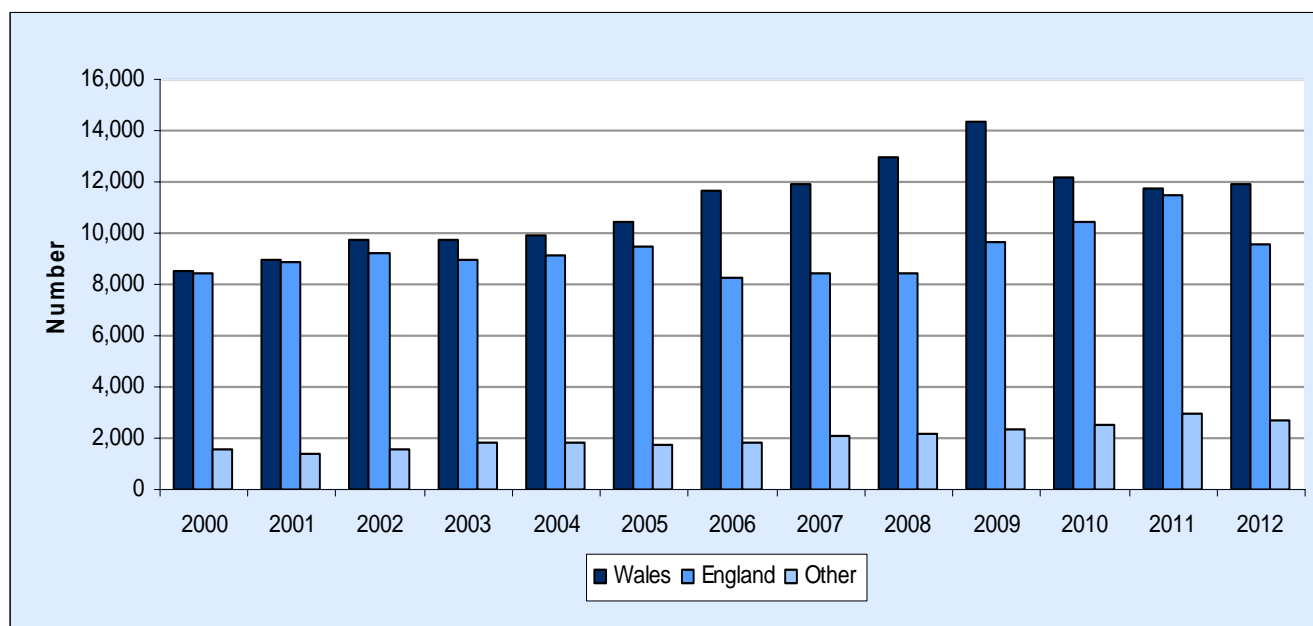
In response to the Jones Review of Higher Education in Wales in 2009, the Welsh Government published 'For Our Future', a new higher education strategy and plan for Wales which builds upon and replaces 'Reaching Higher', with the two areas of social justice and supporting a buoyant economy forming the basis of the Strategy. The Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW) corporate strategy sets out the performance indicators associated with For Our Future available via the following link:

[HEFCW | Corporate Strategy](#)

Applicants accepted to Welsh institutions, 2012 entry

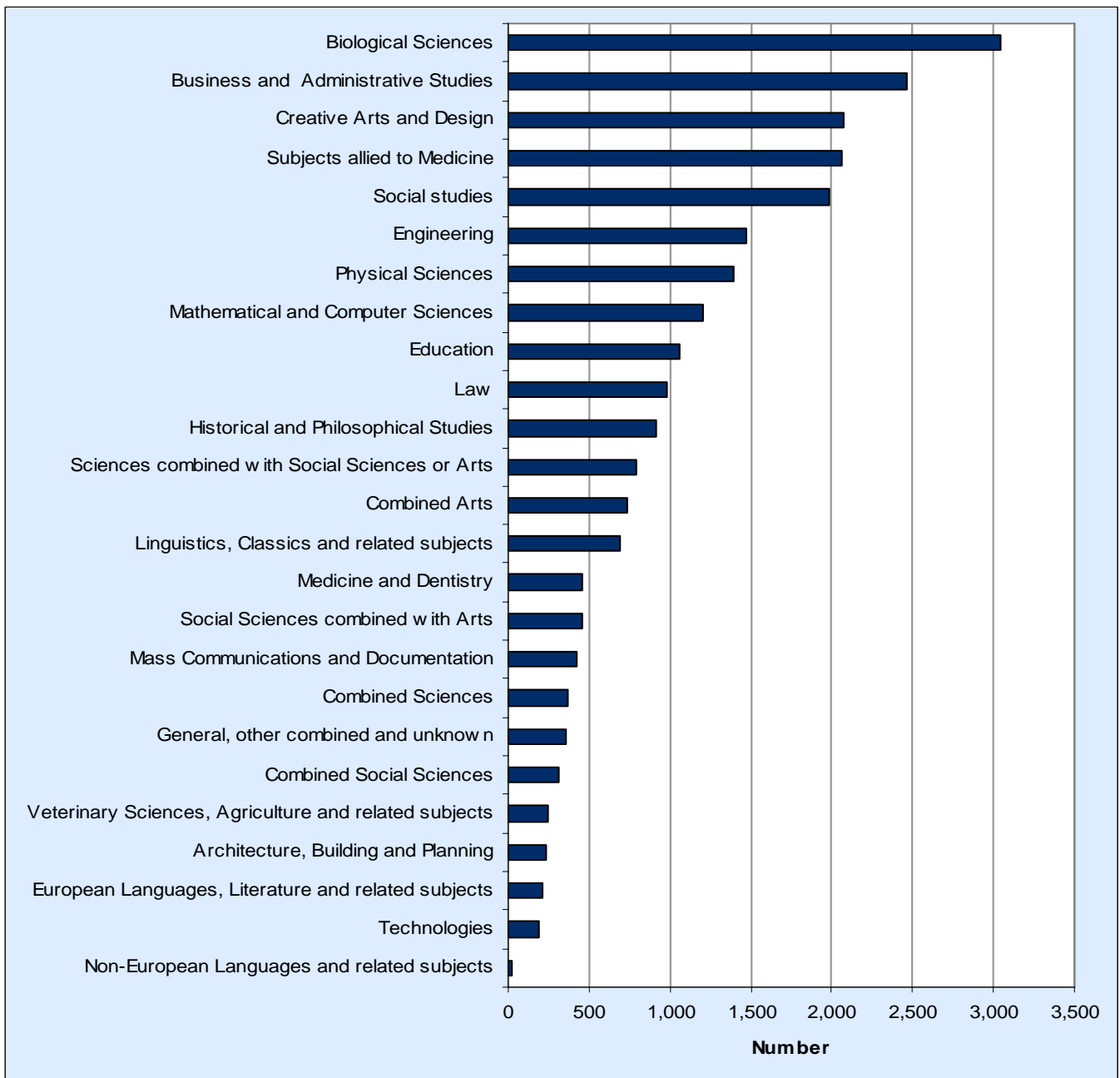
- There were 24,128 applicants accepted by Welsh institutions. This was an eight per cent decrease compared with 2011, but still 30 per cent higher than in 2000. (*Chart 1, Table 1.1*)
- 49 per cent of all applicants accepted by Welsh institutions were from Wales. This was four percentage points higher than in 2011. (*Chart 2, Table 1.1, Table 1.2*)

Chart 2: Welsh institutions: Applicants accepted by country of domicile



- The number of accepted applications by English domiciled students to Welsh institutions decreased by 17 per cent compared with 2011 entry figures. (Chart 2, Table 1.1)
- 43 per cent of accepted applicants to Welsh institutions were from England and of these 26 per cent were from the South West and 24 per cent from the West Midlands. 10 per cent of accepted applicants came from overseas with 58 per cent of these from Non-EU countries. (Table 1.2)
- 78 per cent of applicants accepted by Welsh institutions were aged under 21, one percentage point down from the previous year whilst the 21 to 24 year old age group accounted for 12 per cent of accepted applicants; at least one percentage points higher than in each of the previous eleven years. (Table 1.3)

Chart 3: Welsh institutions: Applicants accepted by subject of study, 2012 entry

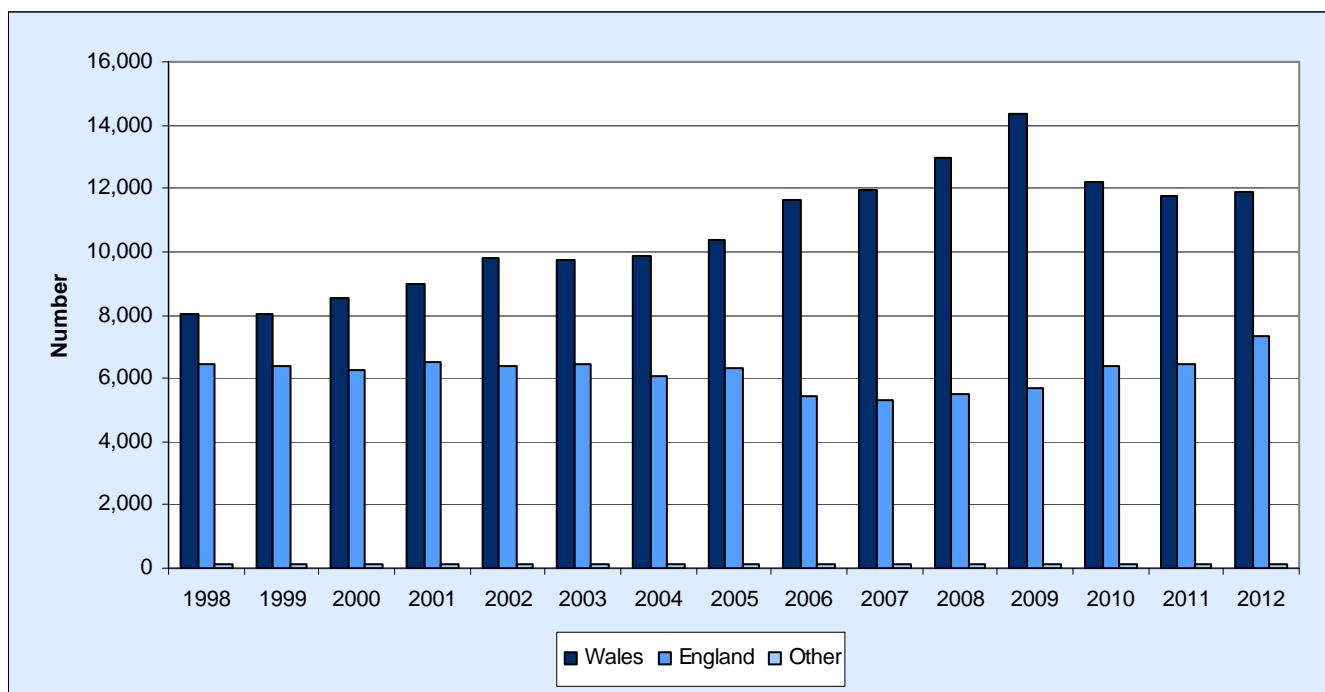


- For accepted applicants the most popular subjects were Biological Sciences (13 per cent), Business and Administrative Studies (10 per cent) and Creative Arts and Design (9 per cent). These subjects were also the most popular subjects for accepted applicants in the three preceding years. (*Chart 3, Table 1.4*)
- Accepted applicants to Engineering and Technologies subjects were mostly male (87 per cent and 88 per cent respectively), while 79 per cent of accepted applicants to Education and 78 per cent of accepted applicants to Subjects allied to Medicine were female. Overall 53 per cent of successful applicants to Welsh HEIs were female as in 2011. (*Table 1.4*)
- 932 successful applicants to Welsh institutions deferred their enrolment until 2013. Of all deferred enrolments 74 per cent were English domiciled, a notably higher proportion than in previous years. (*Table 1.1a*)

Welsh domiciled applicants accepted to UK institutions, 2012 entry

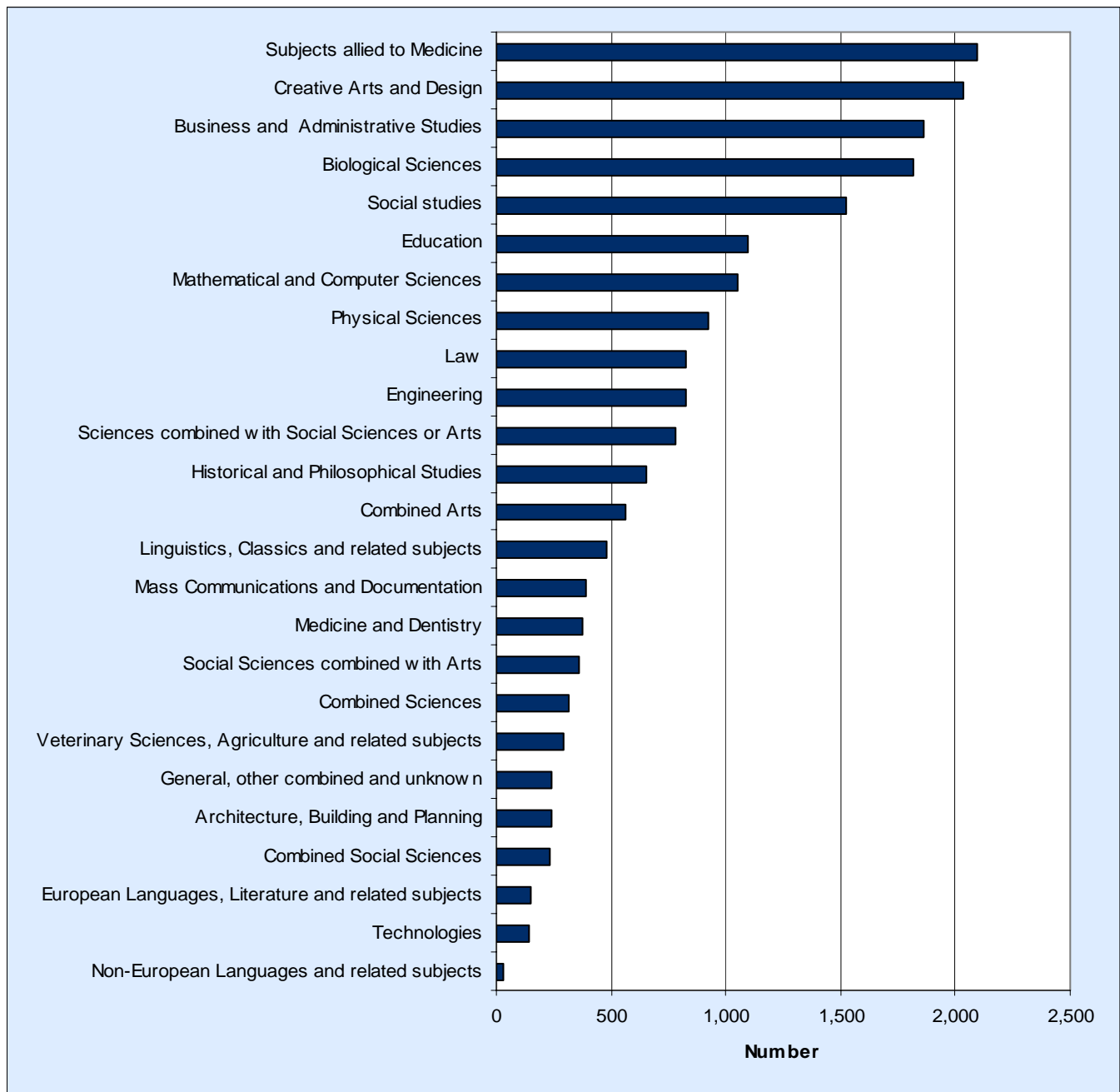
- There were 19,307 accepted Welsh domiciled applicants to UK institutions, a five per cent increase on 2011, and 29 per cent increase compared with 2000. (*Table 2.1*)
- The number of accepted Welsh domiciled applicants to English institutions increased by 13 per cent, the fifth consecutive year there had been an increase. (*Chart 1, Table 2.1*)

Chart 4: Welsh domiciles: By country of accepting institution



- 62 per cent of Welsh domiciled applicants were accepted by Welsh institutions, the lowest proportion since 2005, but five percentage points higher than in 2000. (*Chart 4, Table 2.1*)
- Less than one per cent of Welsh domiciled applicants were accepted by institutions in Scotland or Northern Ireland. (*Table 2.2*)
- 77 per cent of Welsh applicants accepted by UK institutions were under 21 years of age and 11 per cent were aged 25 and over (both one percentage point lower than for 2011 entry). (*Table 2.3*)

Chart 5: Welsh domiciles: By subject of study, 2012 entry



- For accepted Welsh domiciled applicants the most popular subjects were Subjects allied to Medicine (11 per cent), Creative Arts and Design (11 per cent) and Business and Administrative Studies (10 per cent). These subjects were also the three most popular subjects for accepted applicants in 2009 and 2010. (*Chart 5, Table 2.4*)
- 89 per cent of accepted applicants to Engineering subjects were male and 79 per cent of accepted applicants to Education were female. Overall, 57 per cent of accepted Welsh domiciled applicants were female. (*Table 2.4*)
- 596 successful Welsh domiciled applicants to UK HEIs deferred their enrolment. Of these deferred enrolments 40 per cent were to Welsh HEIs. (*Table 2.1a*)

Tables

Table 1.1: Welsh institutions: Applicants accepted by country of domicile and year of entry

Year	UK domiciled					Overseas		Unknown or stateless	Total
	Wales	England	Scotland	Northern Ireland	Other UK	EU	Non-EU		
	Number								
2000	8,530	8,429	90	124	-	746	602	1	18,522
2001	8,993	8,851	84	96	-	583	602	2	19,211
2002	9,771	9,189	77	93	9	612	733	-	20,484
2003	9,726	8,966	71	92	20	632	997	1	20,505
2004	9,882	9,133	65	107	20	671	932	-	20,810
2005	10,400	9,471	64	109	11	686	910	2	21,653
2006	11,616	8,286	58	110	16	743	919	1	21,749
2007	11,945	8,445	44	101	38	779	1,133	3	22,488
2008	12,982	8,477	67	109	4	831	1,157	12	23,639
2009	14,373	9,694	52	117	4	1,078	1,086	17	26,421
2010	12,178	10,469	55	169	-	1,044	1,240	7	25,162
2011	11,764	11,497	67	217	-	1,044	1,642	18	26,249
2012	11,875	9,577	53	145	-	1,025	1,453	-	24,128
	Percentage								
2000	46	46	-	1	-	4	3	-	100
2001	47	46	-	-	-	3	3	-	100
2002	48	45	-	-	-	3	4	-	100
2003	47	44	-	-	-	3	5	-	100
2004	47	44	-	1	-	3	4	-	100
2005	48	44	-	1	-	3	4	-	100
2006	53	38	-	1	-	3	4	-	100
2007	53	38	-	-	-	3	5	-	100
2008	55	36	-	-	-	4	5	-	100
2009	54	37	-	-	-	4	4	-	100
2010	48	42	-	1	-	4	5	-	100
2011	45	44	-	1	-	4	6	-	100
2012	49	40	-	1	-	4	6	-	100

Source: Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

Notes:

(a) Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 1.1a: Welsh institutions: Deferred acceptances by country of domicile, year of application and year of deferred (new methodology)

Year of application	Year of deferred entry	Wales	England	Scotland	Northern Ireland	Total
2008	2009	480	988	11	4	1,483
2009	2010	478	1,038	5	5	2,564
2010	2011	403	1,071	4	10	1,488
2011	2012	289	391	3	10	693
2012	2013	236	691	3	2	932

Source: Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

(a) Deferred applicants are included in other tables according to their year of application - see Notes: 2.6

(b) UCAS have revised the methodology of classifying deferred acceptances - see Notes: 2.6 and 3.6

Table 1.2: Welsh institutions: Applicants accepted by country or region, 2012 entry

Country or region of domicile	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
England	4,839	43	4,738	37	9,577	40
North East	70	1	46	-	116	-
Yorkshire & the Humber	143	1	163	1	306	1
North West ^(b)	587	5	552	4	1,139	5
East Midlands	268	2	270	2	538	2
West Midlands	804	7	828	6	1,632	7
Eastern	339	3	269	2	608	3
Greater London	412	4	335	3	747	3
South East	943	8	872	7	1,815	8
South West	1,273	11	1,403	11	2,676	11
Wales	5,175	46	6,700	53	11,875	49
Northern Ireland	59	1	86	1	145	1
Scotland	21	-	32	-	53	-
Other UK	0	-	0	-	0	-
Total overseas	1,274	11	1,195	9	2,469	10
Africa	89	1	84	-	173	1
Americas	40	-	56	-	96	-
Australasia	2	-	0	-	2	-
Europe (EU)	520	5	505	4	1,025	4
Europe (non EU)	47	-	56	-	103	-
Far East	476	4	455	4	931	4
Middle East	100	1	39	-	139	1
Total ^(c)	11,372	100	12,756	100	24,128	100

Source: Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

Notes:

- (a) Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.
- (b) North West includes Merseyside.
- (c) Includes those of unknown region of domicile or stateless.

Table 1.3: Welsh institutions: Applicants accepted by age group

Year	20 and under		21 to 24		25 to 39		40 and over		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
2001	15,502	81	1,830	10	1,464	8	415	2	19,211	100
2002	16,418	80	1,995	10	1,654	8	417	2	20,484	100
2003	16,300	79	2,027	10	1,721	8	457	2	20,505	100
2004	16,388	79	2,048	10	1,897	9	477	2	20,810	100
2005	17,213	79	2,154	10	1,830	8	456	2	21,653	100
2006	17,153	79	2,286	11	1,797	8	513	2	21,749	100
2007	17,817	79	2,315	10	1,885	8	471	2	22,488	100
2008	18,597	79	2,541	11	1,981	8	520	2	23,639	100
2009	20,505	78	3,006	11	2,250	9	660	2	26,421	100
2010	19,793	79	2,866	11	2,018	8	485	2	25,162	100
2011	20,832	79	2,995	11	1,986	8	436	2	26,249	100
2012	18,906	78	2,852	12	1,931	8	439	2	24,128	100

Source: Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

- (a) Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 1.4: Welsh institutions: Applicants accepted by subject of study and gender, 2012 entry

JACS Subject Group	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Medicine and Dentistry	176	2	283	2	459	2
Subjects allied to Medicine	462	4	1,597	13	2,059	9
Biological Sciences	1,398	12	1,642	13	3,040	13
Veterinary Sciences, Agriculture and related subjects	126	1	120	1	246	1
Physical Sciences	922	8	469	4	1,391	6
Mathematical and Computer Sciences	967	9	237	2	1,204	5
Engineering	1,274	11	194	2	1,468	6
Technologies	164	1	23	-	187	1
Architecture, Building and Planning	144	1	95	1	239	1
Social studies	747	7	1,241	10	1,988	8
Law	356	3	623	5	979	4
Business and Administrative Studies	1,281	11	1,187	9	2,468	10
Mass Communications and Documentation	210	2	213	2	423	2
Linguistics, Classics and related subjects	182	2	512	4	694	3
European Languages, Literature and related subjects	72	1	143	1	215	1
Non-European Languages and related subjects	6	-	15	-	21	-
Historical and Philosophical Studies	483	4	429	3	912	4
Creative Arts and Design	850	7	1,222	10	2,072	9
Education	225	2	830	7	1,055	4
Combined Arts	225	2	506	4	731	3
Combined Sciences	225	2	142	1	367	2
Combined Social Sciences	115	1	194	2	309	1
Sciences combined with Social Sciences or Arts	422	4	364	3	786	3
Social Sciences combined with Arts	180	2	278	2	458	2
General, other combined and unknown	160	1	197	2	357	1
Total	11,372	100	12,756	100	24,128	100

Source: Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

(a) Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.

(b) For further information see paragraph 2.8 in the Notes section.

Table 2.1: Welsh domiciles: Accepted applicants by country of accepting institution and year of entry

Year	Wales	England	Scotland	Northern Ireland	Total
					Number
2000	8,530	6,262	115	2	14,909
2001	8,993	6,527	112	4	15,636
2002	9,771	6,365	101	2	16,239
2003	9,726	6,423	121	6	16,276
2004	9,882	6,102	123	6	16,113
2005	10,400	6,324	132	7	16,863
2006	11,616	5,434	94	4	17,148
2007	11,945	5,306	108	7	17,366
2008	12,982	5,491	112	10	18,595
2009	14,373	5,679	131	13	20,196
2010	12,178	6,393	92	8	18,671
2011	11,764	6,462	93	8	18,327
2012	11,875	7,313	115	4	19,307
					Percentage
2000	57	42	1	-	100
2001	58	42	1	-	100
2002	60	39	1	-	100
2003	60	39	1	-	100
2004	61	38	1	-	100
2005	62	38	1	-	100
2006	68	32	1	-	100
2007	69	31	1	-	100
2008	70	30	1	-	100
2009	71	28	1	-	100
2010	65	34	-	-	100
2011	64	35	1	-	100
2012	62	38	1	-	100

Source: Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

(a) Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 2.1a: Welsh domiciles: Deferred acceptances by country of institution, year of application and year of deferred entry (new methodology)

Year of application	Year of deferred entry	Wales	England	Scotland	Northern Ireland	Total
2008	2009	480	414	21	0	915
2009	2010	478	359	19	0	856
2010	2011	403	405	4	0	812
2011	2012	289	234	6	0	529
2012	2013	236	353	7	0	596

Source: Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

(a) Deferred applicants are included in other tables according to their year of application - see Notes: 2.6

(b) UCAS have revised the methodology of classifying deferred acceptances - see Notes: 2.6 and 3.5

Table 2.2: Welsh domiciles: Accepted applicants by country or region of accepting institution, 2012 entry

Country or region of accepting institution	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
England	3,158	38	4,155	38	7,313	38
North East	84	1	76	1	160	1
Yorkshire & the Humber	218	3	266	2	484	3
North West ^(b)	762	9	1,115	10	1,877	10
East Midlands	232	3	231	2	463	2
West Midlands	317	4	443	4	760	4
Eastern	89	1	112	1	201	1
Greater London	289	3	386	4	675	3
South East	390	5	455	4	845	4
South West	777	9	1,071	10	1,848	10
Wales	5,175	62	6,700	61	11,875	62
Northern Ireland	2	-	2	-	4	-
Scotland	46	-	0	0	46	0
Total	8,381	100	10,926	100	19,307	100

Source: Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

(a) Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.

(b) North West includes Merseyside.

Table 2.3: Welsh domiciles: Accepted applicants by age group

Year	20 and under		21 to 24		25 to 39		40 and over		All	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
2001	12,672	81	1,342	9	1,238	8	384	2	15,636	100
2002	13,035	80	1,419	9	1,389	9	396	2	16,239	100
2003	13,038	80	1,391	9	1,427	9	420	3	16,276	100
2004	12,764	79	1,368	8	1,549	10	432	3	16,113	100
2005	13,377	79	1,564	9	1,513	9	409	2	16,863	100
2006	13,516	79	1,636	10	1,507	9	489	3	17,148	100
2007	13,592	78	1,713	10	1,621	9	440	3	17,366	100
2008	14,351	77	1,992	11	1,756	9	496	3	18,595	100
2009	15,331	76	2,261	11	1,945	10	659	3	20,196	100
2010	14,488	78	2,013	11	1,731	9	439	2	18,671	100
2011	14,269	78	1,950	11	1,709	9	399	2	18,327	100
2012	14,915	77	2,206	11	1,772	9	414	2	19,307	100

Source: Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

(a) Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 2.4: Welsh domiciles: Accepted applicants by subject of study and gender, 2012 entry

JACS Subject Group(b)	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Medicine and Dentistry	163	2	210	2	373	2
Subjects allied to Medicine	404	5	1,687	15	2,091	11
Biological Sciences	806	10	1,008	9	1,814	9
Veterinary Sciences, Agriculture and related subjects	107	1	184	2	291	2
Physical Sciences	636	8	289	3	925	5
Mathematical and Computer Sciences	822	10	232	2	1,054	5
Engineering	732	9	92	1	824	4
Technologies	128	2	18	-	146	1
Architecture, Building and Planning	165	2	73	1	238	1
Social studies	444	5	1,077	10	1,521	8
Law	280	3	546	5	826	4
Business and Administrative Studies	936	11	927	8	1,863	10
Mass Communications and Documentation	199	2	190	2	389	2
Linguistics, Classics and related subjects	129	2	355	3	484	3
European Languages, Literature and related subjects	41	-	107	1	148	1
Non-European Languages and related subjects	10	-	17	-	27	-
Historical and Philosophical Studies	325	4	327	3	652	3
Creative Arts and Design	804	10	1,231	11	2,035	11
Education	228	3	871	8	1,099	6
Combined Arts	151	2	415	4	566	3
Combined Sciences	171	2	147	1	318	2
Combined Social Sciences	70	1	166	2	236	1
Sciences combined with Social Sciences or Arts	383	5	398	4	781	4
Social Sciences combined with Arts	128	2	236	2	364	2
General, other combined and unknown	119	1	123	1	242	1
Total	8,381	100	10,926	100	19,307	100

Source: Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

(a) Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.

(b) For further information see paragraph 2.8 in the Notes section.

Notes

1. Related publications

UCAS released final end of year applicant figures for the 2012 cycle:

http://www.ucas.ac.uk/about_us/media_enquiries/media_releases/2012/finalendofcyclefigures2012

UCAS published an end of year cycle report in December 2012 that details statistics for the 2012 application cycle which can be downloaded from the link given below:

http://www.ucas.ac.uk/about_us/keydocuments

2. Definitions

2.1 Accepted applicants (accepts)

The numbers of accepted applicants are indicative of, but not necessarily identical to, to the numbers of full time students who actually enrol at an institution via the UCAS scheme.

2.2 Age

For England and Wales, ages are defined on 31 August, for Northern Ireland on the 1 July and for Scotland on the 28 February the following year. Defining ages in this way matches the assignment of children to school cohorts. For applicants domiciled outside the UK then the cohort cut off for England and Wales is used.

2.3 Applicants

UCAS applicants are those who apply to full-time, undergraduate higher education courses offered by universities or colleges in membership of the UCAS scheme.

2.4 Applications

Prior to 2008 entry, applicants could make up to six applications to different courses and/or institutions, subsequently the limit is a maximum of five applications. Medicine (from 2000), Dentistry and Veterinary Science (from 2001) applicants were limited to four applications.

2.5 Coverage

UCAS membership is limited to universities and colleges offering higher education courses, and extends to all UK universities (excluding the Open University), most colleges of higher education and some colleges of further education who are UCAS members. The full list of institutions for the 2012 entry can be viewed via the link below:

http://www.ucas.com/about_us/stat_services/stats_online/data_tables/heinstitution/2012

Figures in this bulletin are the number of applicants that have been accepted, through the UCAS scheme, to full-time degree, foundation degree and HND courses starting in Autumn 2012.

2.6 Deferred entry

UCAS revised their methodology of classifying deferred acceptances for those applying in the 2012 cycle. (See Notes: 3.6) Deferred acceptance is now based on the academic year that a student begins their course – this means a student is counted as deferred if the course begins in the following academic year, for applicants in the 2012 cycle this would be from autumn 2013 onwards. Tables 1.1a and 2.1a show the numbers of deferred accepted applicants by domicile and accepting country of institution respectively.

2.7 Region

Applicant country and/or region is based on the home postcode (UK) or the area of permanent residence (overseas) whilst the UK country or region of accepting institution is derived using the

postcode of the institutional headquarters. Tables 1.2 and 2.2 use the same England regional breakdown as that employed by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) when matching postcodes to the ONS Postcode Directory field "Region".

2.8 Subject

UCAS subject classifications employ the Joint Academic Coding System (JACS). JACS, introduced for 2002 entry, replaces UCAS' Standard Classification of Academic Subject (SCAS), which was used up to and including 2001 entry. Usually presented by broad subject area (Subject group) or detailed subject of study (Subject line). This change in classification means that the data for 2002 entry onwards are not directly comparable with data for previous years.

Where applicants apply to more than one subject area, the subject group listed most frequently on the application form is counted (preferred subject). For some subjects, this creates the impression that there are more people accepted than applied.

3. Key quality information

This section provides a summary of information on this output against five dimensions of quality: Relevance, Accuracy, Timeliness and Punctuality, Accessibility and Clarity and Comparability.

3.1 Relevance

UCAS is the organisation responsible for managing applications to full-time, undergraduate courses in the UK, together with applications through the Graduate Teacher Training Registry (GTTR), the Conservatoires UK Admission Service (CUKAS) and the UK Postgraduate Application and Statistical Service (UKPASS).

The statistics are used both within and outside the Welsh Government to monitor educational trends and as a baseline for further analysis of the underlying data. Some of the key users are:

- Ministers and the Members Research Service in the National Assembly for Wales;
- Officials in the Welsh Government;
- Other government departments;
- The Higher Education Funding Council for Wales;
- Higher Education Institutions and representative bodies;
- Students, researchers, and academics;
- Individual citizens, private companies, and the media;

These statistics are used in a variety of ways. Some examples of these are:

- General background and research;
- Inclusions in reports and briefings;
- Advice to Ministers;
- To inform the education policy development and decision-making process in Wales;

3.2 Accuracy

This bulletin reports on the number of applicants through UCAS that are accepted. Whilst UCAS data provides a useful, timely indicator of trends in higher education, it does not represent a full coverage of the higher education sector. Applicants through UCAS are mainly full-time undergraduates, but even this group does not fully reflect the number of enrolments at UK HEIs, since it is possible to enter via other routes. In addition, the degree of correlation between UCAS' figures and total enrolments varies across institutions depending on an HEI's profile in terms of provision and student type.

3.3 Timeliness and Punctuality

UCAS published final applicant statistics for the 2012 admissions cycle in December 2012 and their annual datasets, from which data in this bulletin is derived, in January 2013.

3.4 Accessibility and Clarity

This statistical bulletin is pre-announced and then published on the Statistics section of the Welsh Assembly website.

3.5 Comparability

UCAS is responsible for managing applications to higher education throughout the UK so comparison of statistics with other UK countries is possible. Please use the following link for UCAS media releases:

http://www.ucas.com/about_us/media_enquiries/media_releases/

3.6 Data quality issues

Previous issues of this bulletin included a table outlining the ethnicity of Welsh domiciled applicants. This table has been removed this year because UCAS no longer provide ethnicity data at this level of detail.

Similarly, a table providing information relating to the socio-economic classification of accepted students was removed from 2009 onwards, as the information was no longer included in UCAS' annual datasets.

As mentioned in the Notes: 2.6, UCAS have introduced a new method of classifying deferred acceptances. This is now based on the academic year rather than the calendar year as was the case prior to the 2012 entry cycle. This earlier methodology meant that if a student was accepted to a course that began between the September and December immediately after being accepted then they would be classed as an immediate acceptance (as in the new methodology). However, a student beginning a course from the following January onwards would have been counted as a deferred acceptance. Tables 1.1a and 2.1a in this bulletin present five years of data using the revised method – these tables are not comparable with the same named tables in earlier issues of the bulletin.

When analysing 2008 and 2009 UCAS applicant numbers, it should be noted that the NMAS service for nursing and midwifery diploma courses was incorporated into UCAS for the first time in 2008. All NMAS courses are offered in England, and most NMAS applicants are English. Therefore this change does not affect figures for Welsh institutions, and is unlikely to have much impact on figures for Welsh domiciles.

Applications previously processed by CATCH (Centralised Applications to Nursing and Midwifery Training Clearing House) were processed by UCAS for the first time in 2010.

For further information about the UCAS data and specific data issues:

http://www.ucas.com/about_us/stat_services/