

EOTAG Fifth Report – Part B (Students)

Key Points

INTAKES

Undergraduate Intake

- The proportion of females entering the University in 2005/06 was 55.3%, the lowest level since 2001/02.
- Science and Engineering continues to have the lowest level of female entrants and Medicine and Veterinary Medicine the highest.
- The proportion of students describing themselves as disabled has remained relatively stable since 1999/00 at between 7.0% and 7.5%.
- 5.6% of the Undergraduate entrants in 2005/06 described themselves as coming from an ethnic minority background.
- The intake of mature students is proportionally lower for Science and Engineering and higher for Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.
- State school students accounted for 58.9% of entrants in 2005/06, the highest ever level.

Taught Postgraduate Intake

- Science and Engineering saw a drop in the level of female PGT entrants in 2004/05 and 2005/06. HSS has seen a gradual growth in the intake of female PGT students with the figure for 2005/06 at 61.9%.
- 2005/06 saw a drop in the proportion of PGT entrants reporting themselves to have a disability.
- There was a dramatic increase in the proportion of PGT entrants describing themselves as coming from an ethnic minority background from 9.8% in 2004/05 to 16.9% in 2005/06.

Research Postgraduate Intake

- 45.7% of PGR entrants in 2005/06 were female.
- As with the PGT entrants 2005/06 saw a large increase in the number of PGR entrants describing themselves as coming from an ethnic minority background at 14.5% which is more than twice the level of 2003/04.

OUTCOMES

Undergraduate Honours Entrants

- Please note that the qualification for graduation rates quoted differ from the performance indicator figures published by HESA which is an estimate of the proportion of University of Edinburgh entrants who will complete a degree in any UK university within 15 years. Please see page 4 of the main report for a fuller explanation of the differences between HESA definitions and those used for EOTAG.
- Rates for females qualifying for graduation have been consistently higher when compared to males. For 2001/02 entrants, 83.9% of females have already successfully qualified to graduate a course at Edinburgh, compared to 76.5% of males. The difference is most pronounced in Science and Engineering.
- Males are more likely to obtain 2:2s, thirds and non Honours degrees, with the difference again much more marked in Science and Engineering.
- Since 2000/01, disabled students have appeared slightly more likely to qualify to graduate than non disabled students. However disabled students are also slightly less likely to receive firsts or 2:1s.
- Rates for those from ethnic minority backgrounds qualifying to graduate are consistently higher than those from white backgrounds. However ethnic minority students are slightly less likely to obtain firsts or 2:1s.
- Those entering at under 18 years of age are less likely to qualify to graduate and less likely to obtain first or 2:1s than those entering at ages 18-20.

- Those aged 25 and over show the lowest qualification to graduate rates but entrants in the 21 to 24 age group have also seen a decline in rates of qualification to graduate and are now close to those for the older group. Those in the 25 and over are much more likely to graduate with non Honours degrees.
- Despite a reduction in the differential between independent and state schools, those entrants from an independent school background are still more likely to qualify to graduate.
- State school entrants are more likely to achieve firsts and less likely to achieve 2:1s than those from independent schools.

Taught Masters (1 year) Outcomes

- Qualification to graduate rates for disabled students are slightly lower when compared to the general population for the combined years 2000/01 to 2004/05. Disabled students are also slightly more likely to graduate with a Postgraduate Diploma.
- The qualification to graduate rates for those Masters entrants describing themselves as from an ethnic minority background are slightly lower than those for white students when the years 2000/01 to 2004/05 are combined. They are also slightly more likely to graduate with a Postgraduate Diploma.
- Those aged 25 or over are less likely to complete than those in the 21 to 24 age group. For entrants in 2003/04 the figures were 92.0% and 94.2% respectively.

Research Doctorate Outcomes

- For the combined entry years 1996/97 to 2000/01 disabled students have been less likely to qualify to graduate than non disabled students. While 96.7% of the total completed population obtained a doctorate the figure for disabled students was 91.9%.
- 65% of ethnic minority entrants to research doctorate programmes have qualified to graduate compared to the total population figure of 81.5%. However on successful completion ethnic minority students are almost as likely to obtain a PhD.
- Entrants in the 21 to 24 age group are more likely to qualify to graduate and to achieve a PhD than those aged 25 or over.