
Profiles of higher education institutions

Higher Education Funding Council for England

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Introduction

This is the fourth edition of 'Profiles of higher education institutions' to be published since the HEFCE was established in 1992. Higher education institutions (HEIs) in England have undergone considerable change during this time. The number of higher education students registered at HEFCE-funded universities and higher education colleges reached almost 1.7 million in 2000-01, and the total income of these HEIs was £11,069 million.

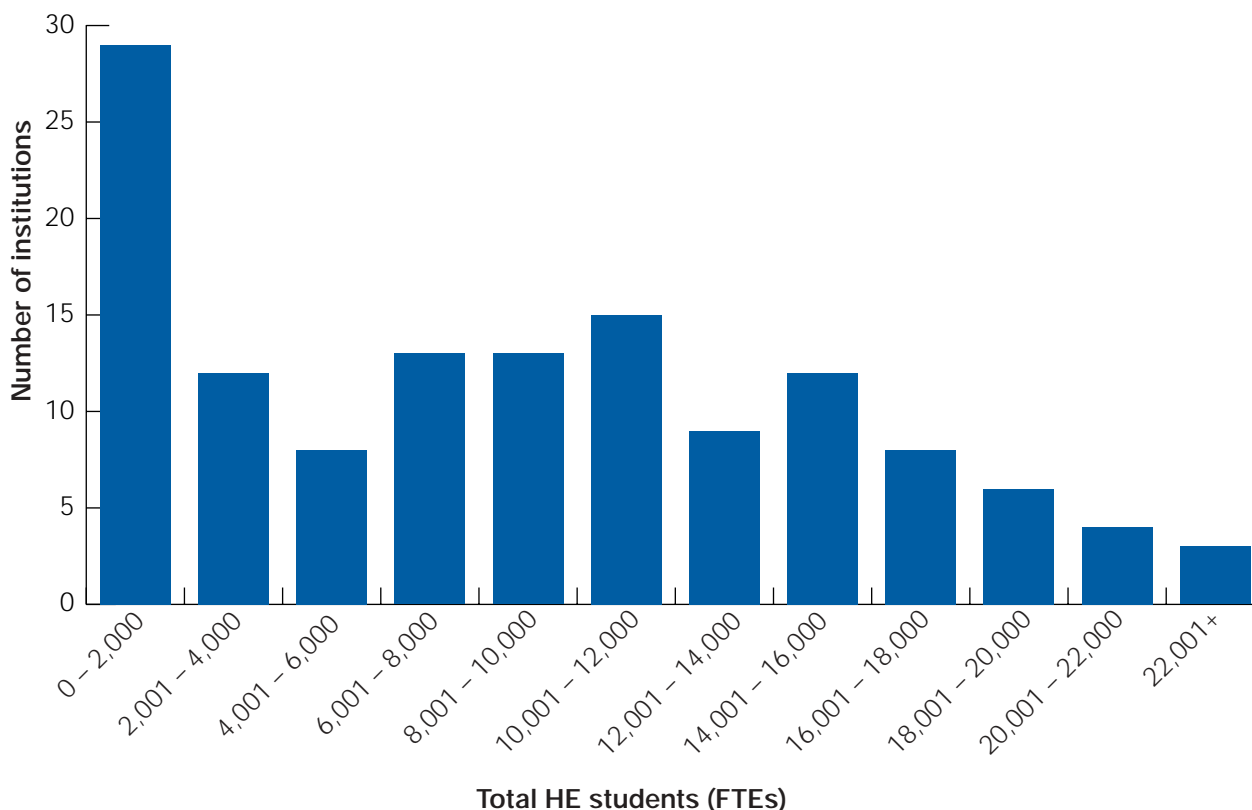
This is one of a series of publications that we produce to promote the higher education sector and to explain the role of the HEFCE. We publish regional profiles of higher education, and guides to the work of the HEFCE and our funding methods. Each year we also publish performance indicators for higher education, which show how well

universities and higher education colleges are performing in terms of access to higher education, non-completion rates, research output, and the employment success of their graduates.

In this publication, for each university and higher education college in England there is a page of text and a page of data. The text includes the institution's principal officers, mission statement, academic structure, development, estate, web-site and contact details. The statistical data are presented under the following categories:

- students
- resources – finance and staff
- quality assessment.

Figure A **Distribution of institutions' size based on total student FTEs**



Source: HESA 2000-01 student record, English HEIs (see page x)
The individual schools of the University of London are treated as separate institutions

Higher education institutions

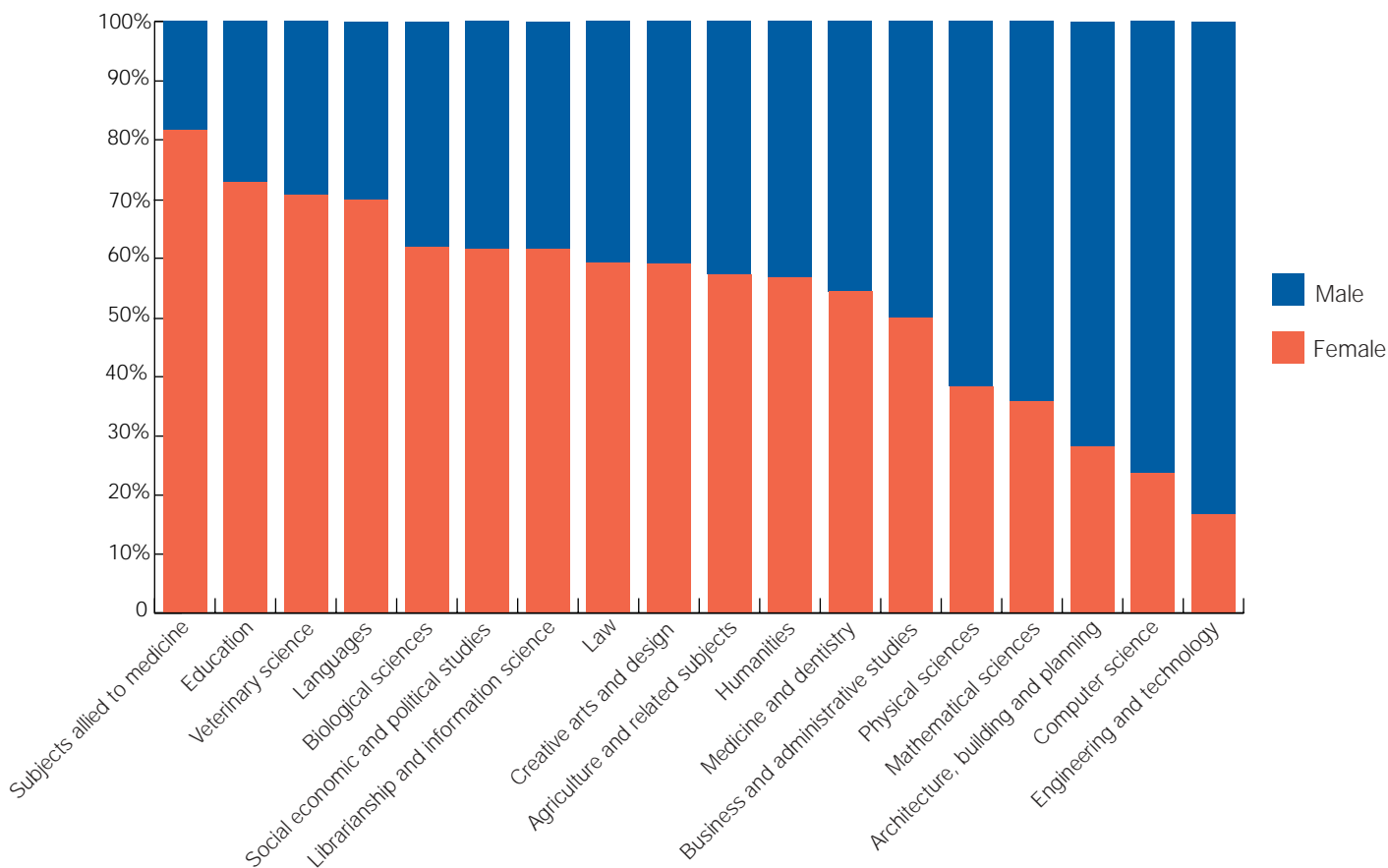
We refer to universities and higher education colleges collectively as 'higher education institutions' or HEIs. This publication gives a comprehensive picture of the 132 English HEIs funded by us:

- 77* universities (including 18 schools of the University of London)
- 14 general colleges
- 41 specialist institutions.

We advise the Department for Employment and Learning, Northern Ireland on funding for the four HEIs in Northern Ireland, and their profiles are included. Their data are not included in the statistics provided in this introduction.

Higher education institutions are very diverse in size and make-up. The largest in terms of number of students is the Open University, with over 60,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) students. The University of London is larger with over 113,000 FTE students, but it is treated as separate constituent colleges for the purposes of HEFCE funding, and each college has its own profile in this publication. At the other end of the scale, the Northern School of Contemporary Dance has just over 130 FTE students. Figure A shows the variation in size within the English higher education sector by number of students.

Figure B **Distribution of students (FTEs) by gender and subject**



Source: HESA 2000-01 student record, English HEIs (see page x)

* This figure counts London Guildhall University and University of North London as a single HEI, as they merged in August 2002 to form London Metropolitan University. Data for the two institutions are shown separately in this publication.

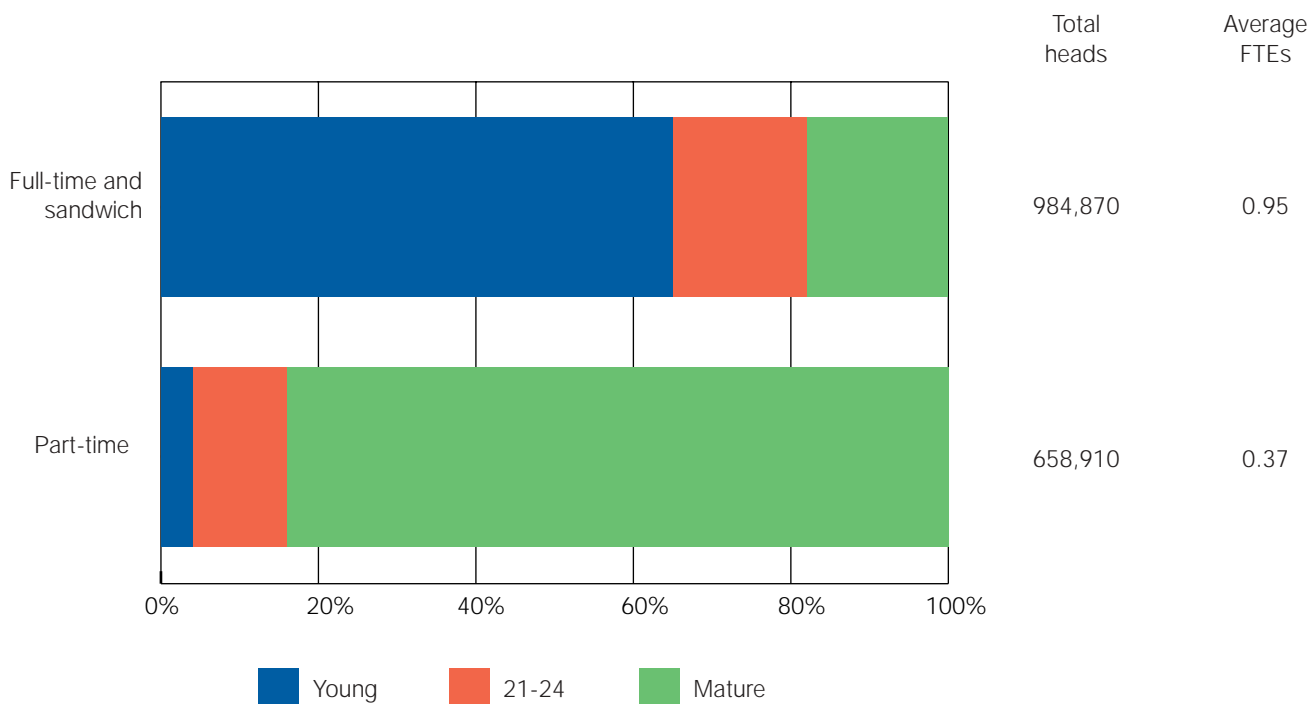
Students

In 2000-01 there were almost 1.7 million higher education (HE) students registered at higher education institutions in England. Not all the HE students registered at an HEI will study there. There are many arrangements between further education (FE) colleges and HEIs, and among consortia of FE colleges, which determine where a student will study. In addition to the 1.7 million students registered at HEIs there were 83,000 HE students registered at FE colleges in 2000-01. The FE colleges which receive funding directly from us for running higher education courses are listed in Annex E, and the FE colleges which are members of HEFCE-recognised funding consortia are at Annex F.

The ratio of male to female students overall is well balanced. However, there is wide variation between subjects, ranging from less than 17 per cent of females studying engineering and technology to over 80 per cent studying subjects allied to medicine, which includes nursing. Figure B shows the distribution of gender across the 18 subject areas.

Over 80 per cent of full-time undergraduates are 24 years old or under on entry; this contrasts with 16 per cent of part-time undergraduates. Figure C illustrates this difference. As Figure C is based on headcounts rather than FTEs, we have included the average FTE and rounded total numbers in each mode category.

Figure C Student headcounts by mode and known age group on entry



Source: HESA 2000-01 student record, English HEIs (see page x)

Resources: finance and staff

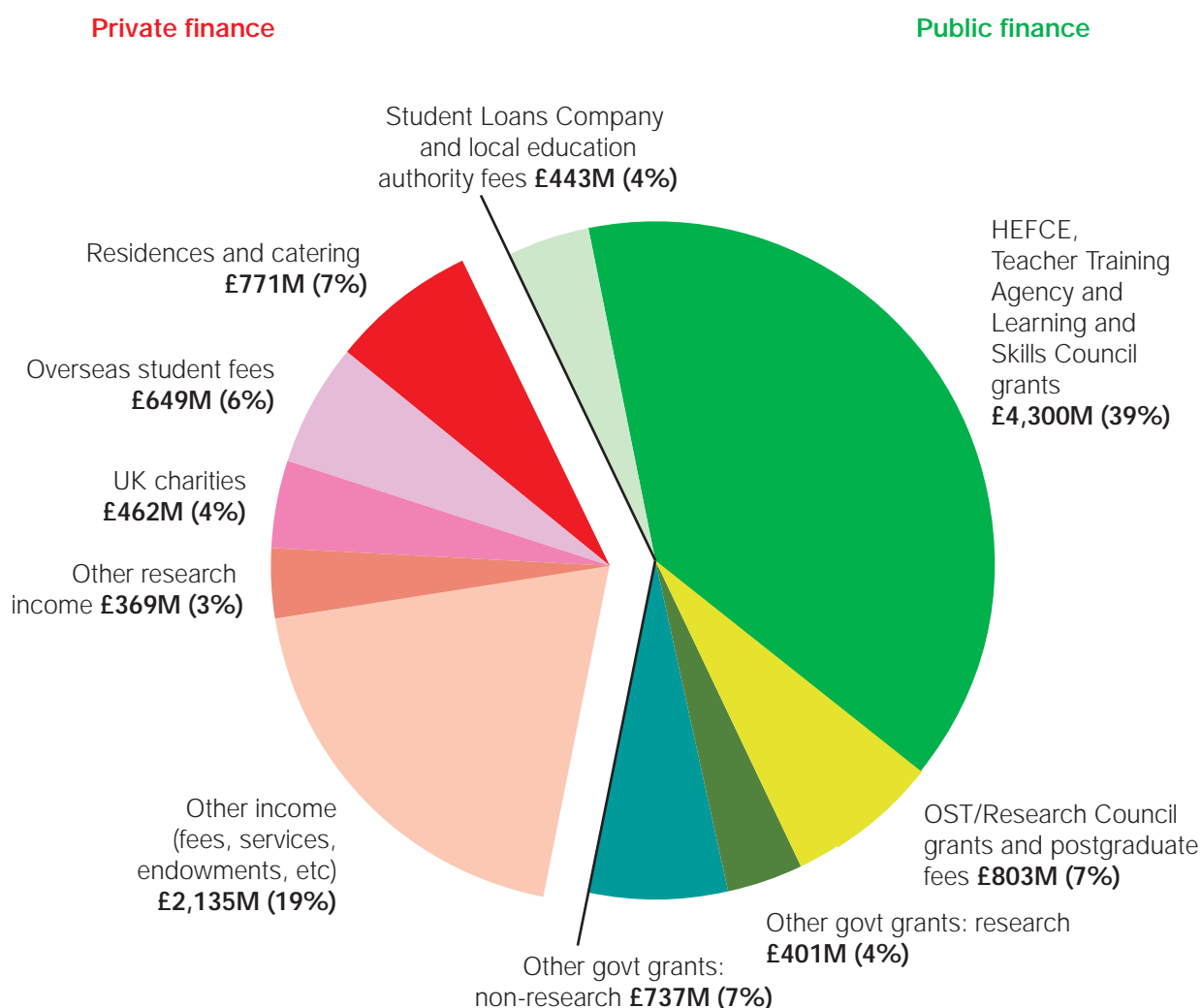
Total income for the English HEIs in 2000-01 was £11,069 million (see Figure D). In 2000-01 grants from the funding bodies (the HEFCE, Teacher Training Agency, Learning and Skills Council) accounted for 39 per cent of the total income to HEIs; this percentage varied markedly between HEIs, from below 10 per cent to over 75 per cent.

Figure E shows the wide variations between institutions in the proportion of funding from different sources.

There are nearly 100,000 FTE academic staff employed in English HEIs.

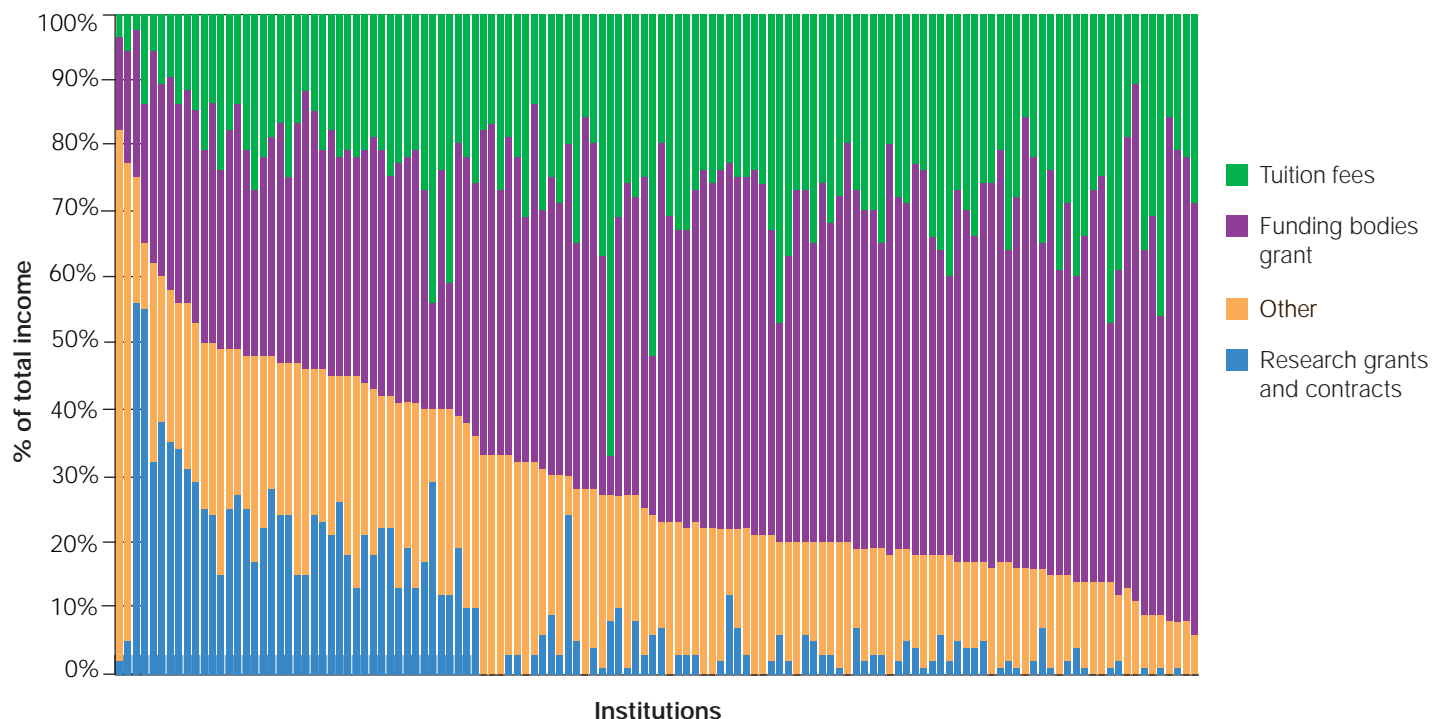
Figure D **Sources of income for HEIs, 2000-01**

Total income £11,069 million



Source: HESA finance record 2000-01, English higher education institutions

Figure E Variations in sources of income for English HEIs



Source: HESA 2000-01 finance record, English HEIs (see page x)

Assessment of teaching

The assessment of teaching is carried out by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) under contract to the HEFCE. The outcomes of subject assessments carried out between June 1999 and December 2001 are shown in this publication. A description of the assessment method and results published in the last edition of 'Profiles of higher education institutions' are given in Annex A.

Assessment of research

Research in the UK was most recently assessed in the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) carried out in 2001. The outcomes of RAE 2001 are used in this publication. Details of the RAE are on the HERO web-site, www.hero.ac.uk/rae.

Additional information

Further information about the HEFCE and links to the web-sites of all the institutions listed in this publication are on the HEFCE web-site, www.hefce.ac.uk.

A list of publications for further reading is given in Annex I.

Details of the sources of information, and the extraction methods used for the data pages, are in Annex C. The main sources of data are:

- a. 2000-01 data from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) on the individualised student, aggregate staff and finance records.
- b. QAA data held by the HEFCE.
- c. 2001 RAE data held by the HEFCE.

The following changes in reporting and definitions have been made since the 1999 edition:

- a. The student numbers are based on the HESA standard registration population for headcounts, and the session population for FTEs. In previous editions we used HESSES numbers.
- b. A breakdown of part-time students by length of course is included.

Source data for Figures A, B, C and E

All student and resource data were extracted from the HESA 2000-01 July record, with the exception of data for the few institutions that joined the HE sector after 31 July 2001. Student data for these institutions were sourced from the LSC individualised student record, while resources data were supplied to us directly by the institutions.

Sector-wide data

Page xi shows collective data for higher education institutions in England. The data are set out in the same way as the pages for individual institutions.

Feedback

We wish to know how you think this publication can be improved. Please fill in the feedback form at the back (postage is prepaid).