

North East

Introduction

The North East region covers approximately 8,600 km² and has a population of around 2.5 million. It is therefore the smallest of the English regions in population terms. It contains highly urbanised areas and large areas of both farming land and national park. The population density is relatively low at 297 per km², but more than 61 per cent live in the urban areas of Tyne and Wear, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland, and Stockton-on-Tees. According to the mid-year estimates, the population of the North East decreased by 3.5 per cent between 1981 and 2004. The largest percentage movement was in Middlesbrough, with an 8.4 per cent decrease in population.

The economy

The government office of the North East describes the region as follows:

'The North East has seen enormous change over the past 30 years. Between 1981 and 1997, the region lost over 110,000 jobs in primary and manufacturing industries. Although less than 16 per cent of the workforce is still employed in manufacturing, the sector remains an important element in the economy.

The regional economic base has diversified into new areas such as:

- *microelectronics*
- *the offshore industry*
- *biotechnology*
- *automotives.*

There has also been significant growth in the service sector, public administration, education and health. Retail is also an important sector accounting for 10 per cent of all businesses, whilst tourism is estimated to support over 55,000 jobs in the region.

Despite this diversification, the region is still dealing with the economic, social and structural consequences of its past dependence on traditional industries. This is reflected in its poor performance across a range of indicators. For example, over 30 per cent of Super Output Areas (SOAs) in the region fall within the 20 per cent most deprived in England under the Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2004. Twenty-two per cent fall within the most deprived 10 per cent.

Significant clusters of deprivation exist within Easington, Middlesbrough, Hartlepool and Sunderland. Seventeen of the 23 local authorities have 25 per cent or more SOAs within the 20 per cent most deprived in England.'

For further information is available at: www.gos.gov.uk/gone/ourregion/.

The economic output of the region is £34.2 billion, 3.4 per cent of the total UK gross value added (GVA). The GVA per head is low in the North East; in 2001 Darlington had the highest value at £12,831 and Northumberland the lowest at £8,722. In comparison the value for England was £14,781.

In spring 2005 the unemployment rate was high at 6.4 per cent compared with England's 4.6 per cent and in 2002-03 it was over 8 per cent in Hartlepool, Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland. In March 2003 Northumberland was the most rural of the North Eastern local authorities with 17.7 per cent of business sites in the 'agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing' industrial class; Durham County had 9.3 per cent in this category; while the comparable percentages for all the other local authorities were below the UK value of 6.5 per cent. All local authorities in the North East had a greater percentage of business sites in the 'education and health' category than the UK as a whole.

The total income of higher education institutions in the region is £805 million per year.

Qualification levels

In spring 2005, 12.4 per cent of the North East working age population's highest qualification was degree level or above, this was the lowest of all the English regions and compares with 17.9 per cent for England. The other measures of qualification levels presented also show that people living in the North East have relatively low qualification levels.

Higher education provision

There are five universities in the region and no higher education colleges. In addition, there are 16 further education colleges (FECs) offering a range of higher education (HE) courses. In 2005-06 these institutions attracted 111,925 full-time and part-time HE students (84,250 full-time equivalents), 6,235 of whom were registered at FECs. The higher education institutions (HEIs) range in size from the University of Northumbria at Newcastle with 27,285 students, to the University of Durham with 17,320 students.

The largest concentration of higher education is in the Tyne and Wear area where there are three universities and five FECs providing higher education.

Student profile

The North East has a high percentage of young full-time first degree students remaining in the region to study, and the inflow of students from other regions in the UK is much greater than the outflow. It also has a high proportion of young full-time first degree entrants from low participation neighbourhoods.

HEFCE developments

There are a number of HEFCE-funded developments in the North East. Perhaps most exciting is the North East Higher Skills Network (NEHSN) which draws together the 29 higher education providers into a single region-wide Lifelong Learning Network. The network is now into its second year of operation and has established a number of model progression agreements; distributed 150 FTE additional student numbers and created working groups to improve information, advice and guidance for higher level skills in the region. The Network works closely with employers through the Sector Skills Councils, professional bodies and employer representative bodies.

The North East is one of three regions invited to develop a Higher Levels Skills Pathfinder project that extends Train to Gain to higher education and promotes the role of HE in meeting higher level skills needs more broadly. The pathfinder has four strategic aims:

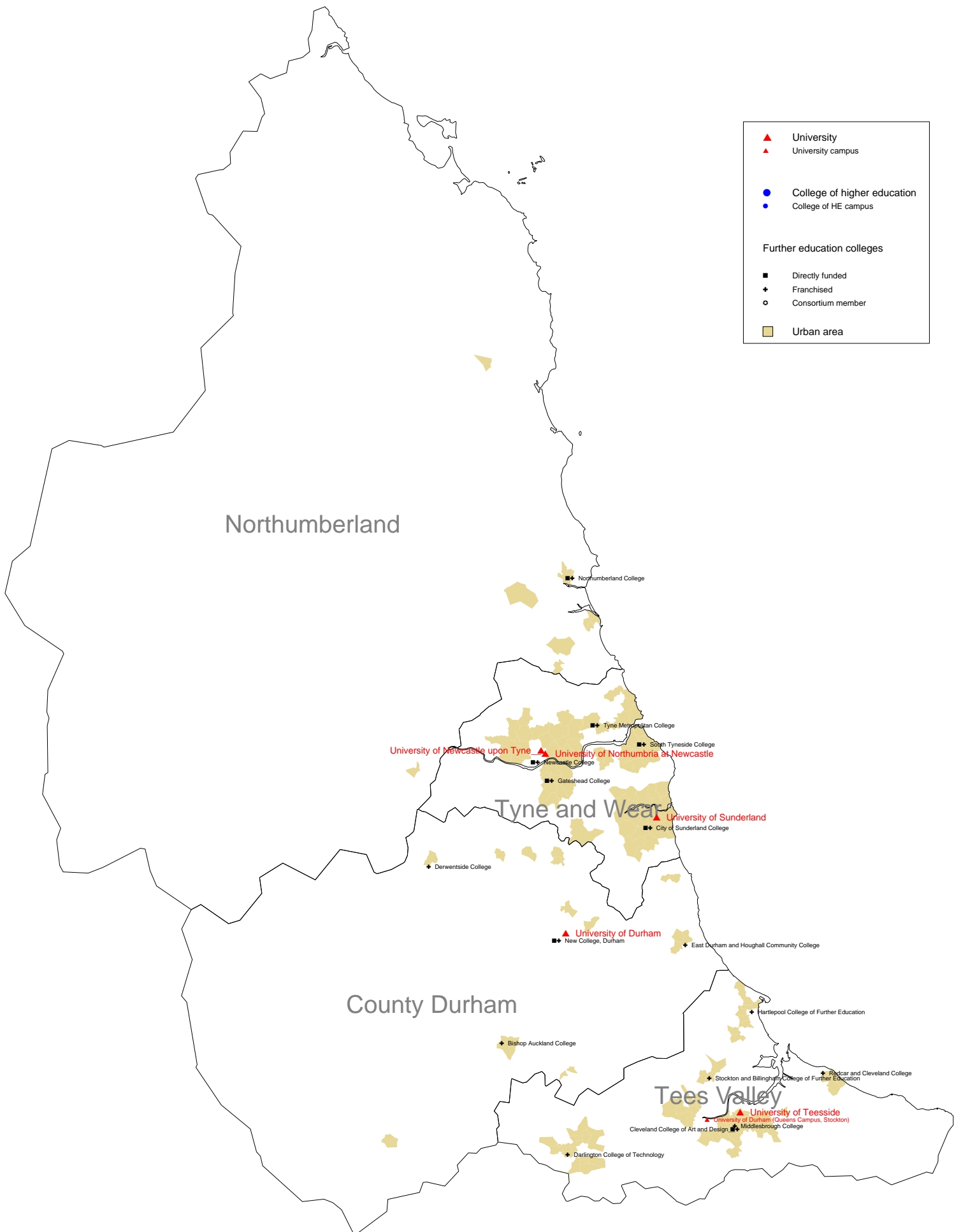
- to provide effective advocacy for the HE sector in supporting the development of higher level skills for the North East region
- to stimulate demand for higher level skills development from an increased number of more diverse businesses in the North East.
- to enable the development of innovative and demand-led provision by building capacity in the HE system in the North East
- to build and sustain regional partnerships within and outside of the HE system to ensure that the capacity exists to meet the higher level skills needs of businesses in the North East.

Together the NEHSN and Higher Level Skills Pathfinder, linking with Business Link and Train to Gain brokers, will create a coherent infrastructure for employers and employees to access higher education suitable for their needs and then nurture lifelong learning through progression and advice. We hope this will go some way to address the shortfall in workforce skills levels created by the relatively low levels of attainment as outlined above.

Other HEFCE funded developments include working with the University of Teesside to develop HE centres at a number of its partner colleges. The purpose of the centres is to enhance the student experience and

encourage progression and retention in the Tees Valley sub-region. HEFCE provided capital through the Strategic Development Fund (SDF) to co-fund buildings at Darlington College, Middlesbrough College and Hartlepool College.

The University of Northumbria successfully led, on behalf of a number of northern HE institutions, a bid for funding through the SDF to support urban regeneration. The two main aims are to build a long-term strategic alliance between the core university partners (Manchester Metropolitan, Salford, Central Lancashire and Northumbria) for the delivery of activities between HE and business and the community, and to address specific regeneration challenges in the North of England.



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HEFCE funding and related student numbers at North East institutions

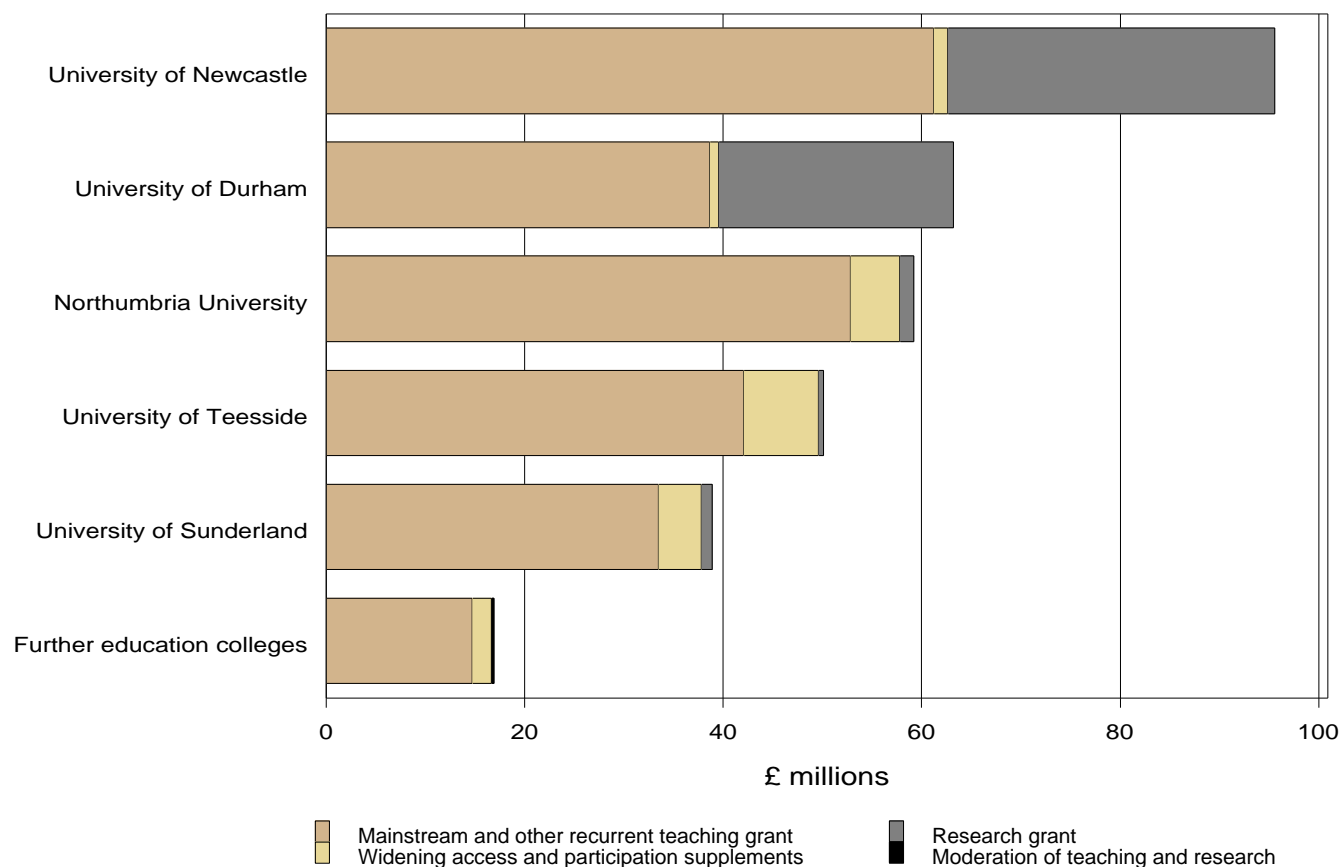
Number of students completing the year

	2005-06	2006-07	2006-07	2006-07
	All students	All students	Home and EC fundable	Other funding status
Universities	91,754	92,374	70,389	21,985
Other HE institutions	0	0	0	0
Further education colleges	5,288	5,575	4,957	618
Total	97,042	97,949	75,346	22,603

FTEs of students completing the year

	2005-06	2006-07	2006-07	2006-07
	All students	All students	Home and EC fundable	Other funding status
Universities	74,723	75,102	57,034	18,067
Other HE institutions	0	0	0	0
Further education colleges	4,349	4,659	4,081	578
Total	79,072	79,761	61,116	18,646

HEFCE recurrent grants for 2007-08



HEFCE-recognised funding consortia 2006-07.

There are no consortia members in this region

HE students registered at North East institutions

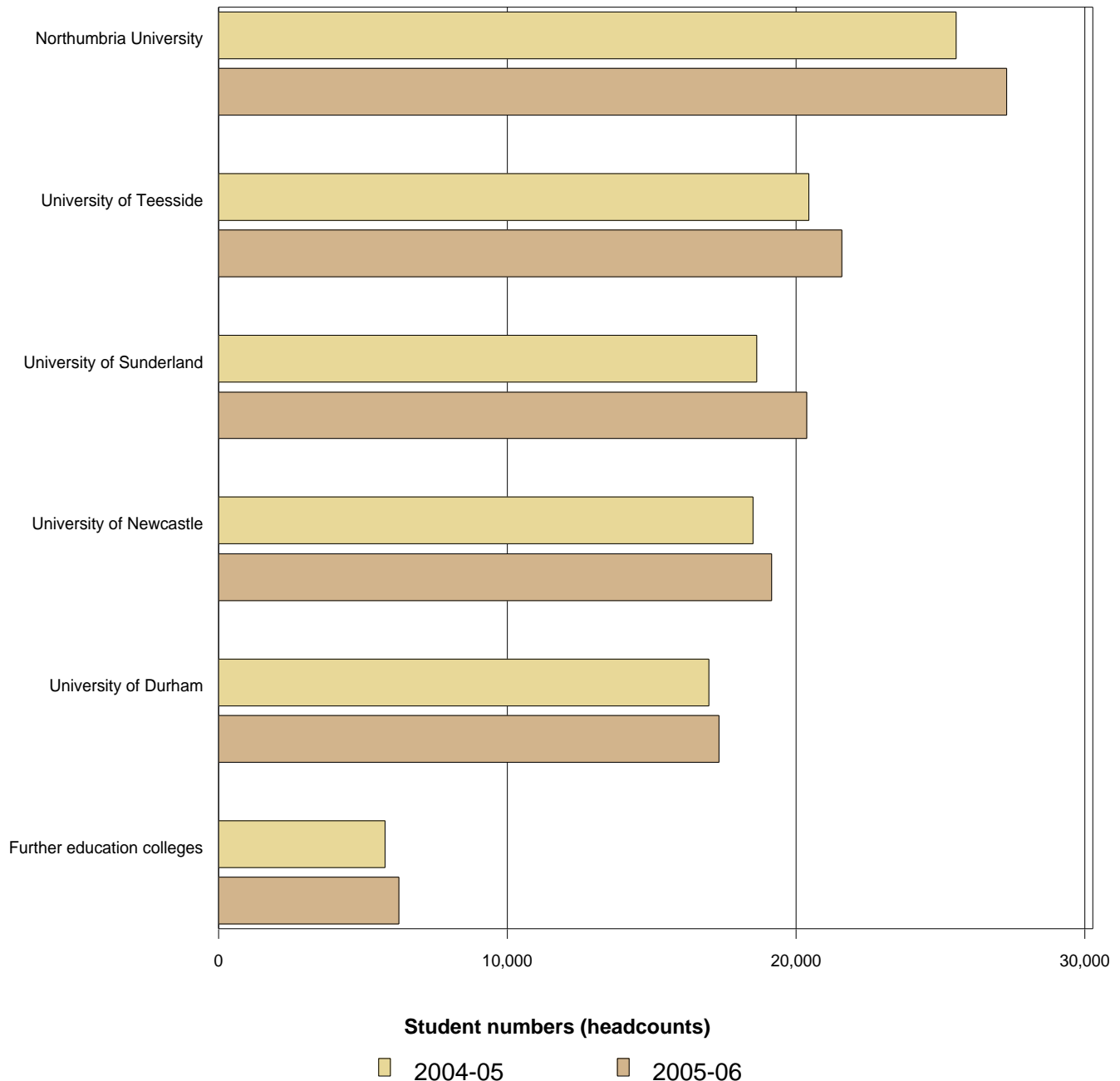
2004-05 and 2005-06

Student numbers are based on HESA and ILR data

	Headcounts: 2004-05	2005-06
In HE institutions:	100,084	105,690
In FE colleges:	5,762	6,237
Total:	105,846	111,927

	FTEs: 2004-05	2005-06
In HE institutions:	74,723	79,083
In FE colleges:	4,463	5,170
Total:	79,186	84,252

Higher education student numbers by institution 2004-05 and 2005-06



Learning in the North East

2005-06

HE students registered and taught in the North East

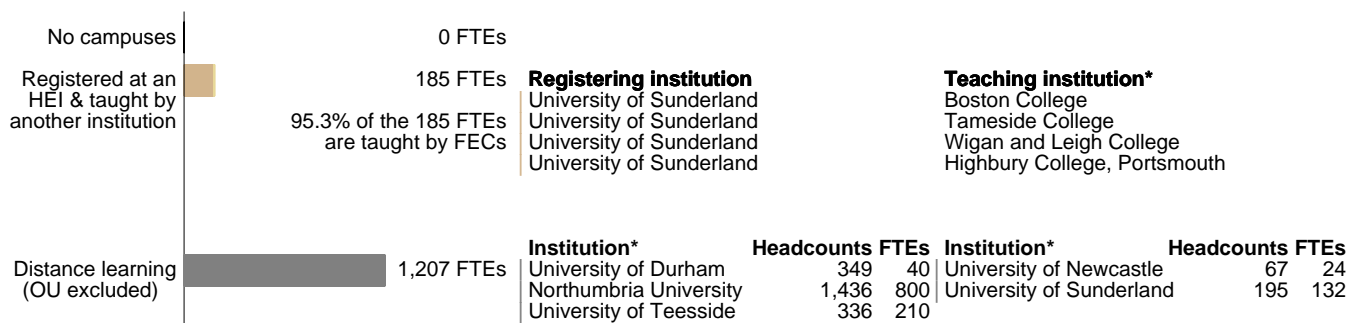
Type	Headcounts	FTEs
HEI	98,877	75,056
Franchised	3,591	2,290
FEC	6,343	5,053

Open University students domiciled in the North East

Headcounts	FTEs
4,506	1,683

Registered in the North East but learning outside the North East

Method of learning (FTEs)



Registered outside the North East but learning in the North East

Method of learning (FTEs)

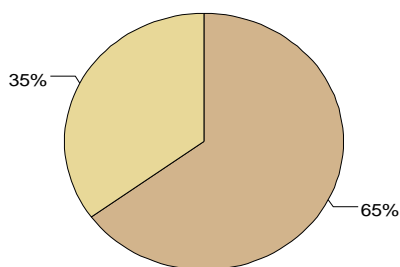


* Institutions with fewer than 20 FTEs have been excluded.

HE students registered at HEIs 2005-06: characteristics

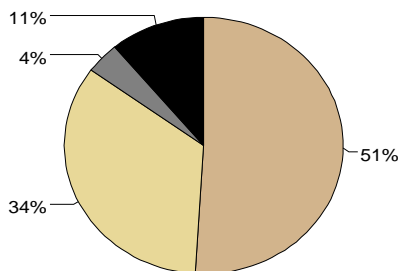
Headcounts

Students by mode



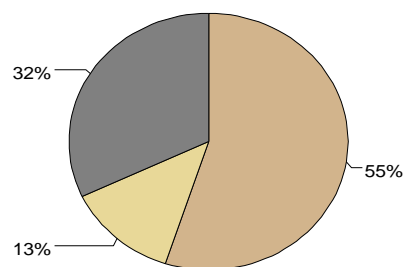
■ Full-time & sandwich
■ Part-time

Students by domicile



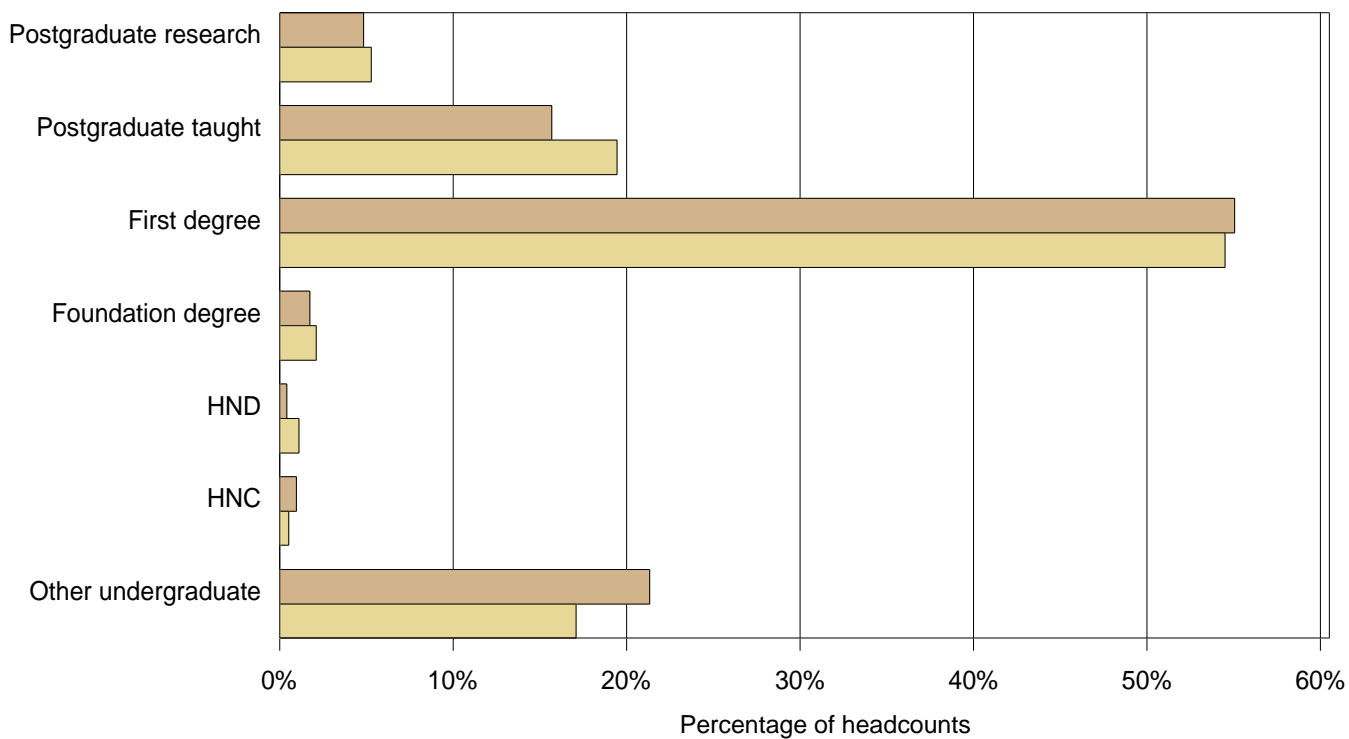
■ From the region
■ Other UK
■ Other EU
■ Rest of the world

Undergraduates by age on entry



■ Young
■ 21-24 years old
■ Mature

Students by level



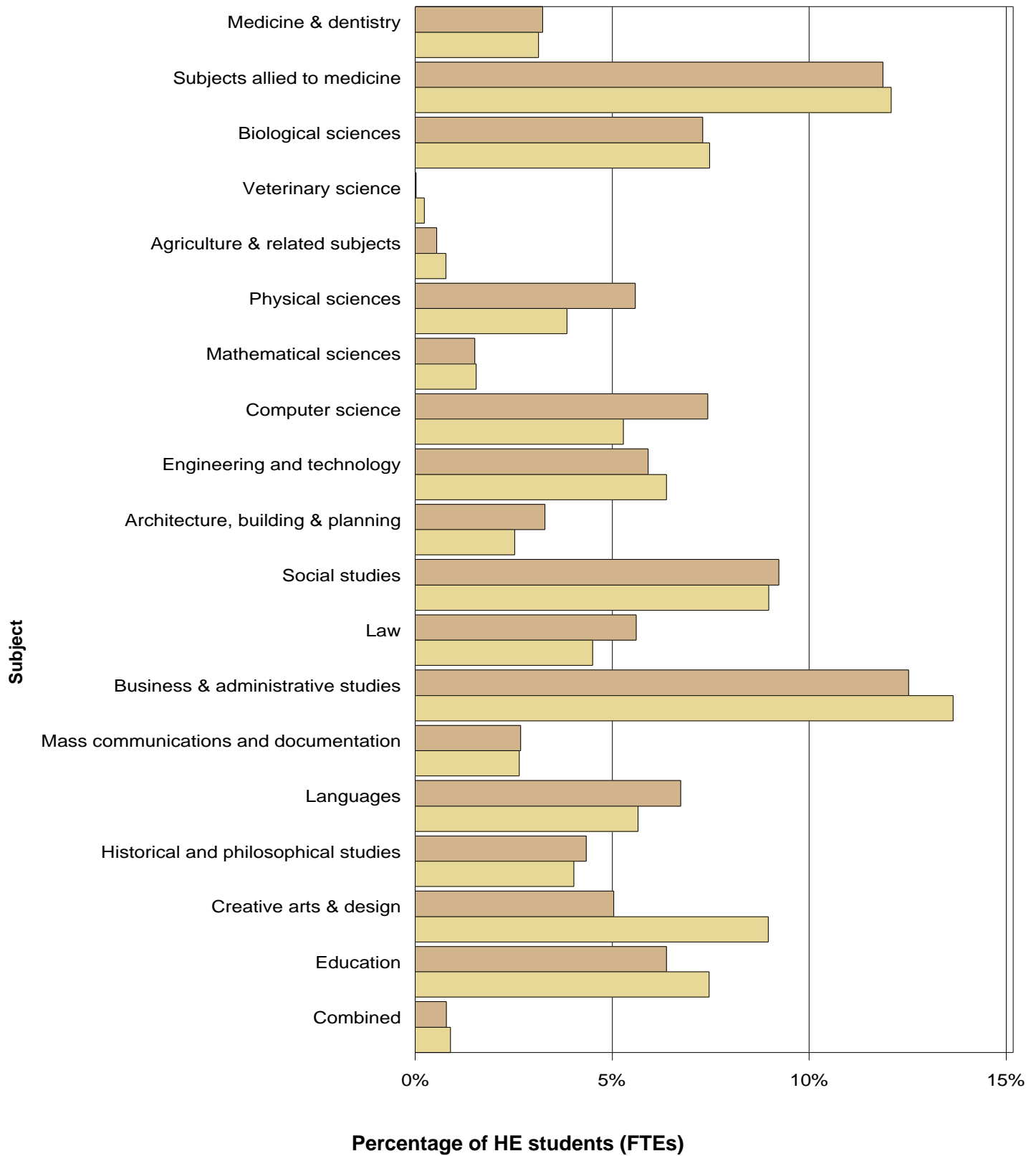
■ North East ■ England

FTEs

Rest of the world (% of FTEs):	11.3	Part-time (% of FTEs):	17.0
Young (% of UG FTEs):	68.1	PG (% of FTEs):	17.4
Mature (% of UG FTEs):	19.8	Male (% of FTEs):	46.4
Franchised (% of FTEs):	3.5		

HE students registered at HEIs: subject

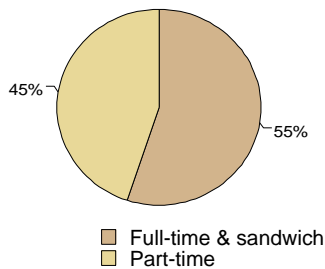
2005-06 (Open University excluded)



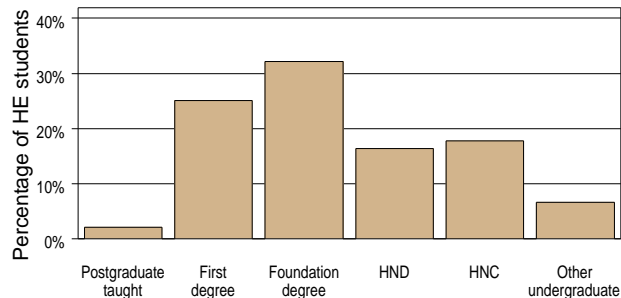
HE students at FE colleges

Characteristics of students registered at FECs 2005-06

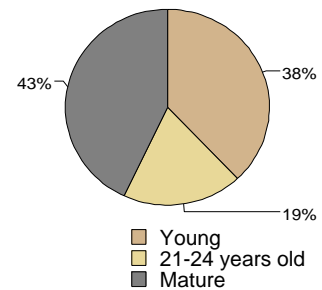
Headcounts by mode



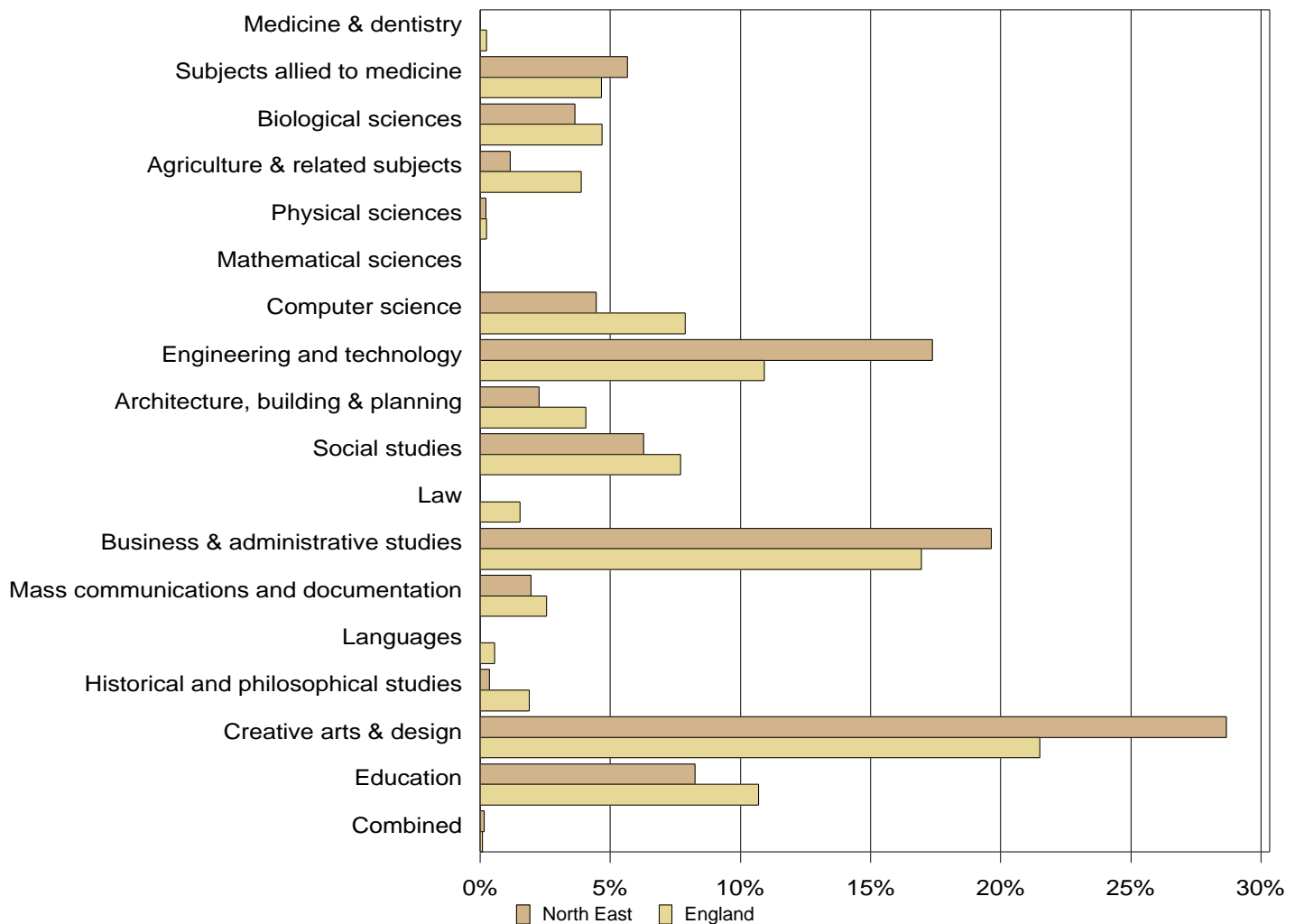
Headcounts by qualification aim



Headcounts by age on entry



Subject breakdown



Percentage of total FTE student population 2005-06

Major FEC providers of HE 2005-06

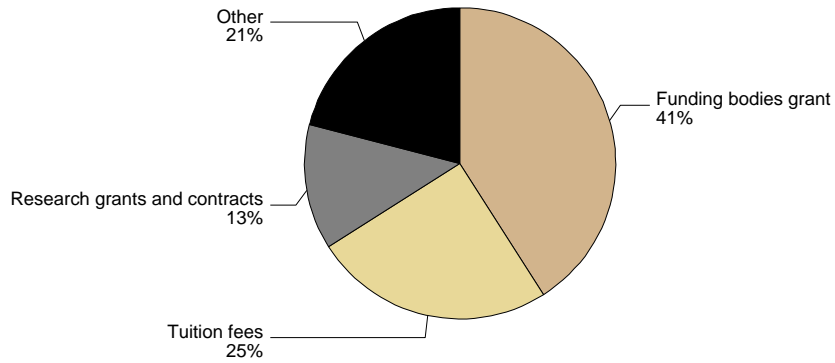
College name	FEC registered FTEs	HEI registered FTEs	Total FTEs
Newcastle College	2,144	65	2,208
New College, Durham	1,299	98	1,397
South Tyneside College	645	98	742
City of Sunderland College	195	369	563
Cleveland College of Art and Design	383	118	501
Middlesbrough College	0	382	382
Tyne Metropolitan College	236	124	359
Gateshead College	233	98	331
Darlington College of Technology	0	326	326
Stockton and Billingham College of FE	6	183	189

Students registered at an HEI, and taught by an FEC in the region (2005-06): Headcounts: 3,996 FTEs: 2,484

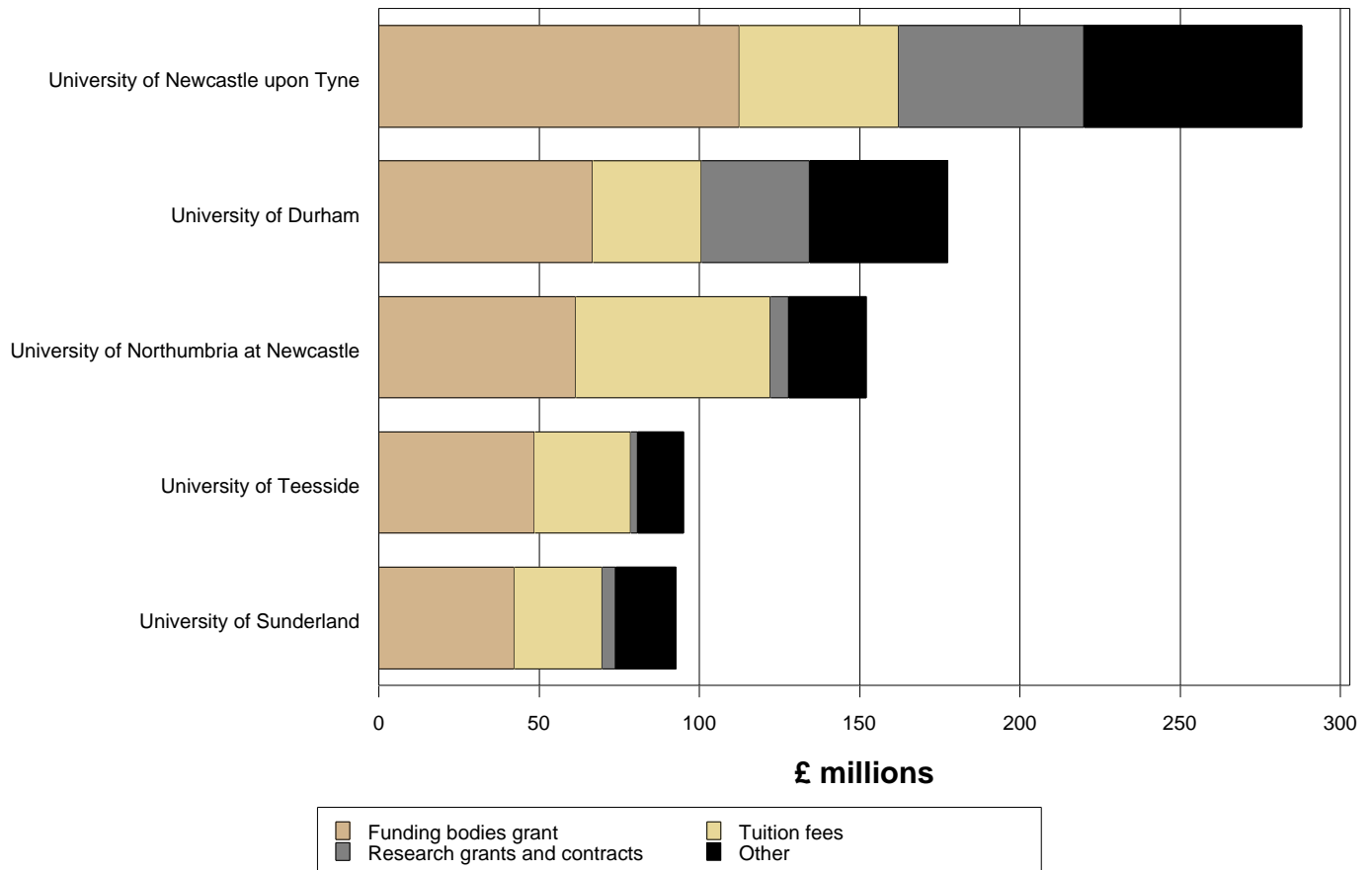
Income to HE institutions 2005-06

Total income to all HEIs: £805 million

Income to all HEIs by source



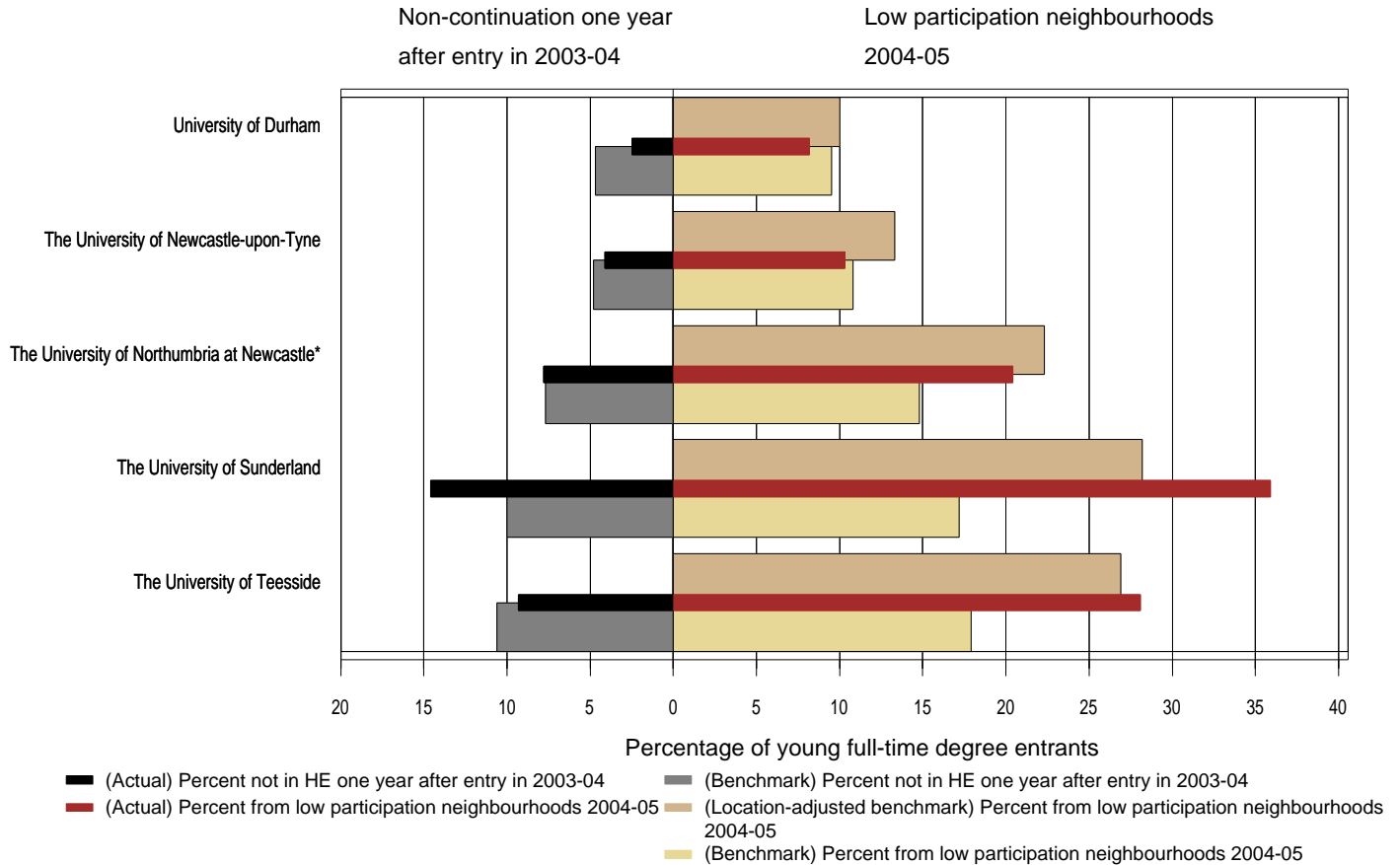
Income to individual HEIs by source



Performance of HEIs in the North East

Performance indicators for participation and non-continuation

Young full-time degree entrants to HEIs in the North East

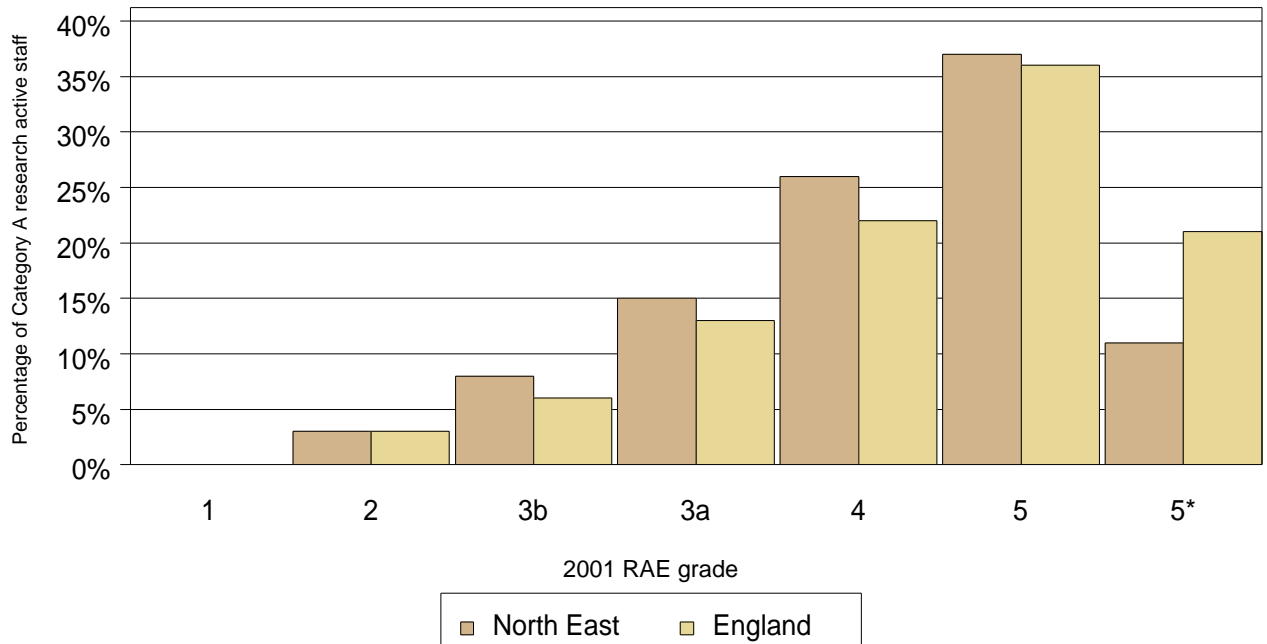


These data are taken from 'Performance indicators in higher education in the UK' (HESA). Institution names used in that publication have been kept.

* In September 2004, the ownership of Carlisle campus of The University of Northumbria at Newcastle was transferred to The University of Central Lancashire.

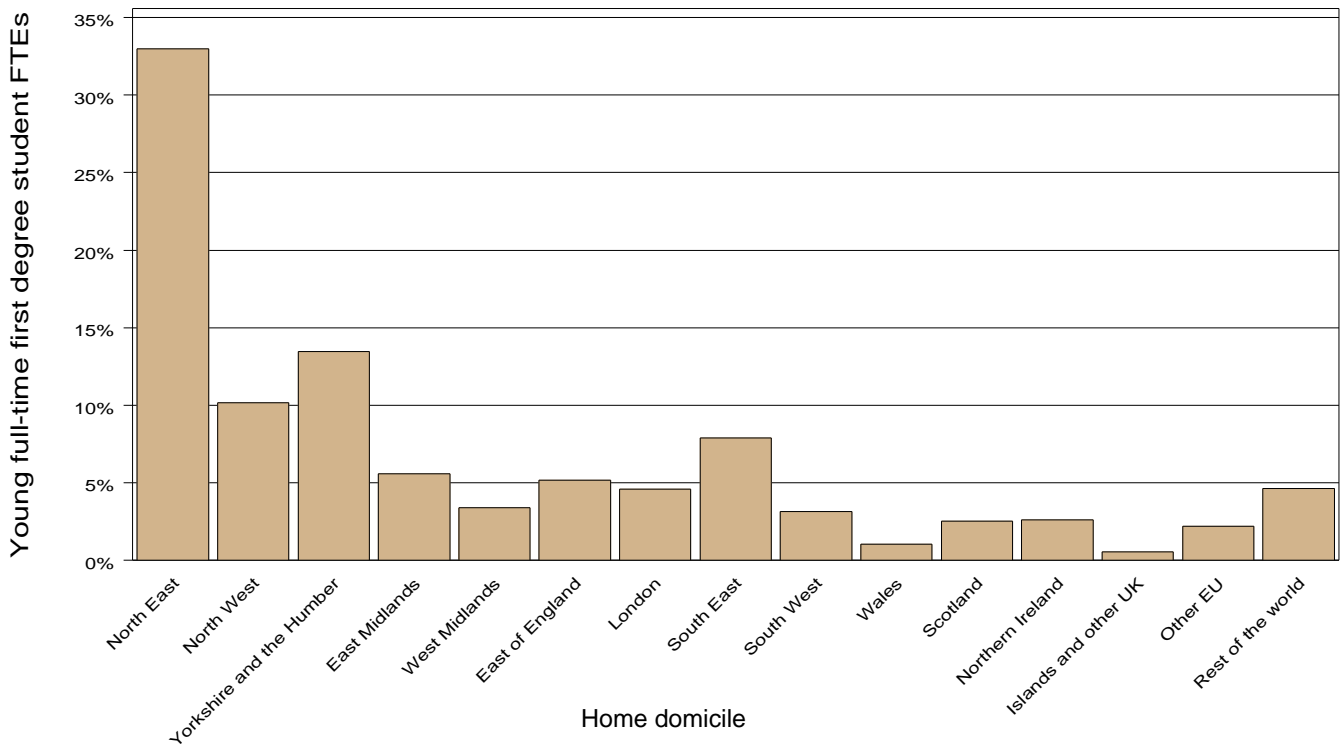
Research Assessment Exercise performance

Research active academic staff by RAE grade

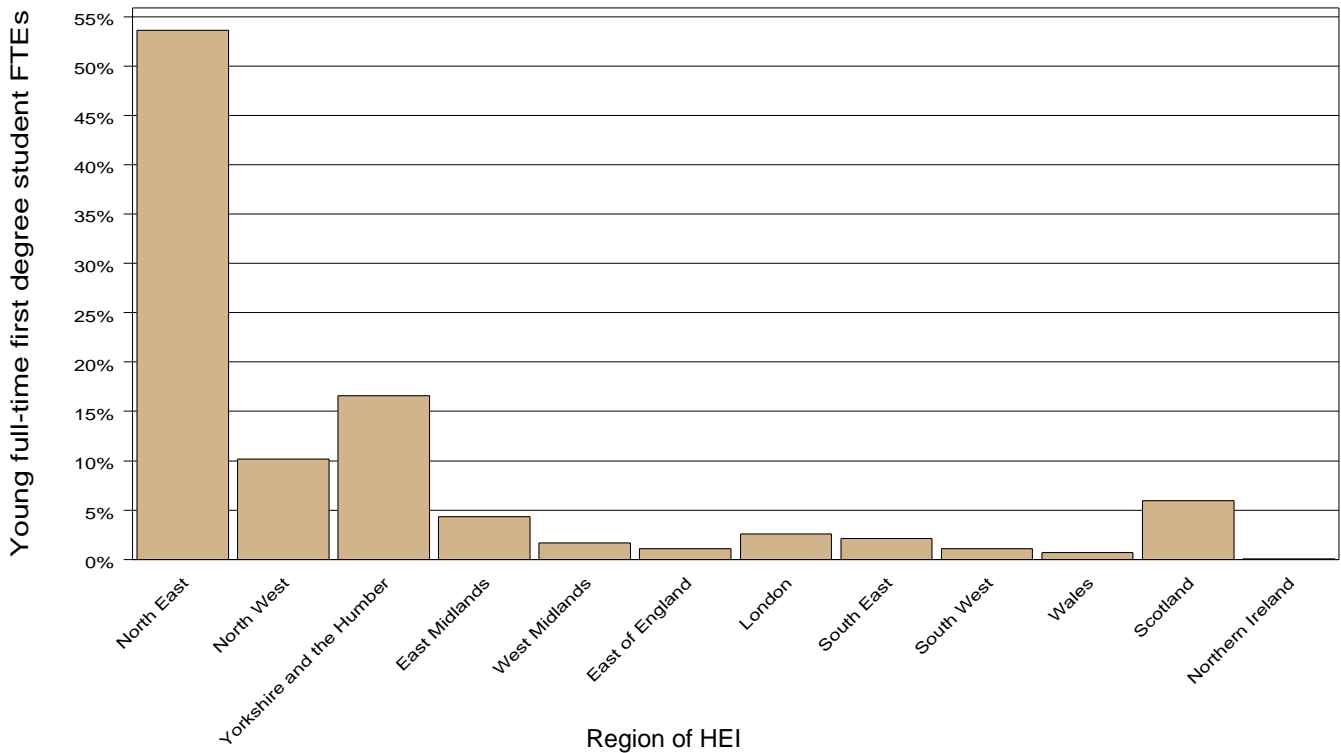


Flows of young full-time first degree students between regions

Where do young students at North East HEIs in 2005-06 come from?



Where do young students from the North East study, 2005-06?

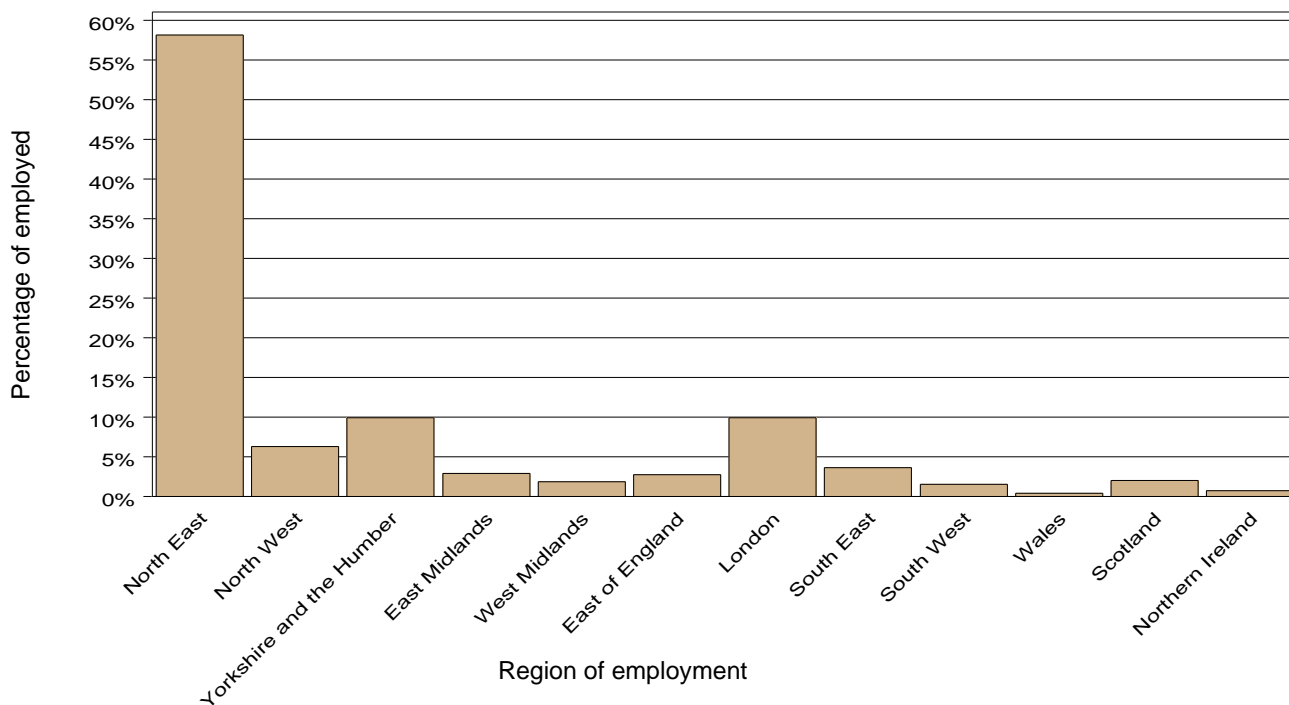


Employment destinations of first degree graduates

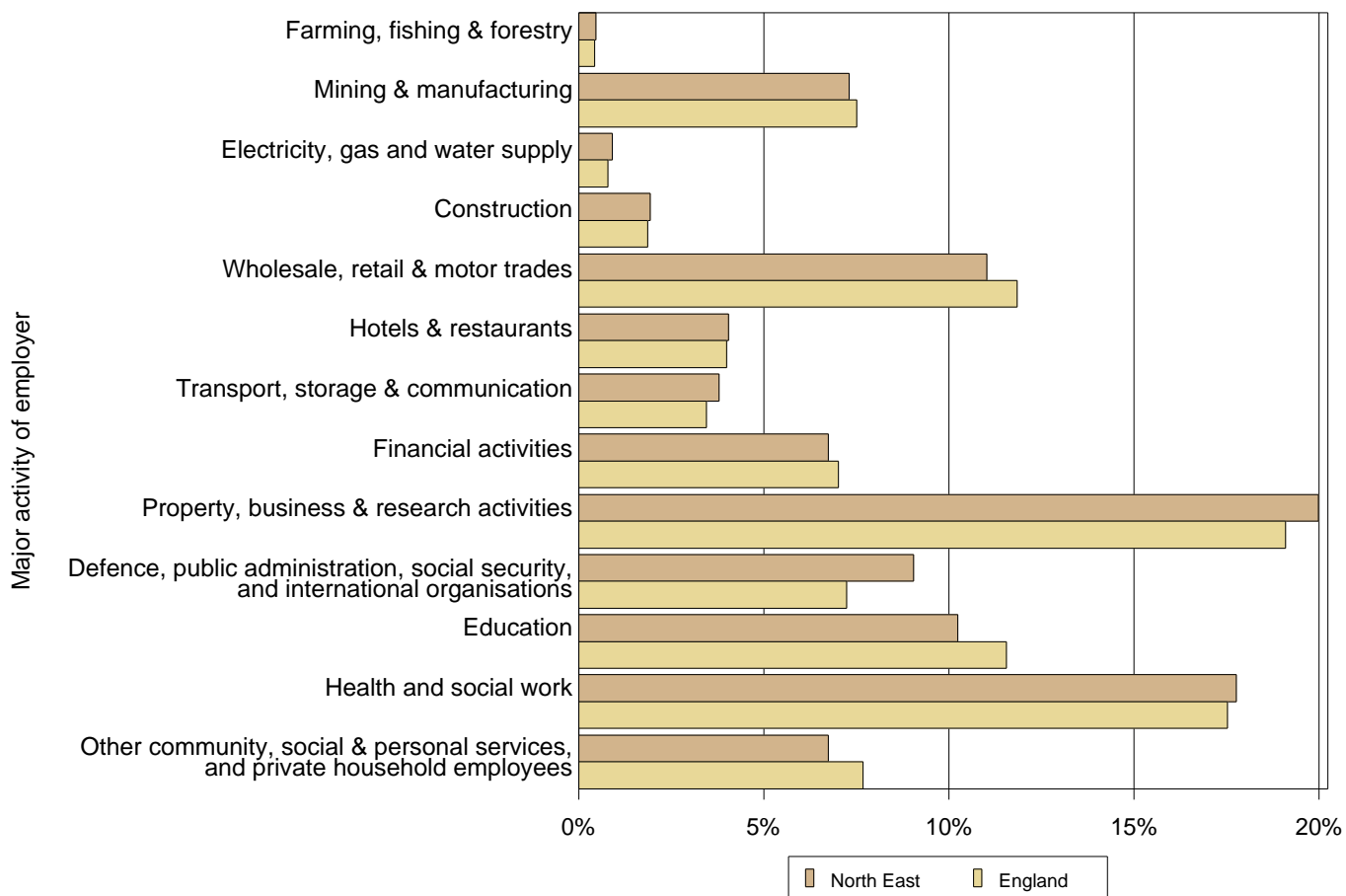
First degree students graduating from HEIs in 2005:

Work: 62% Further study: 17% Work and study: 9% Unemployed: 6% Other: 5%

Where do graduates from North East HEIs find employment?



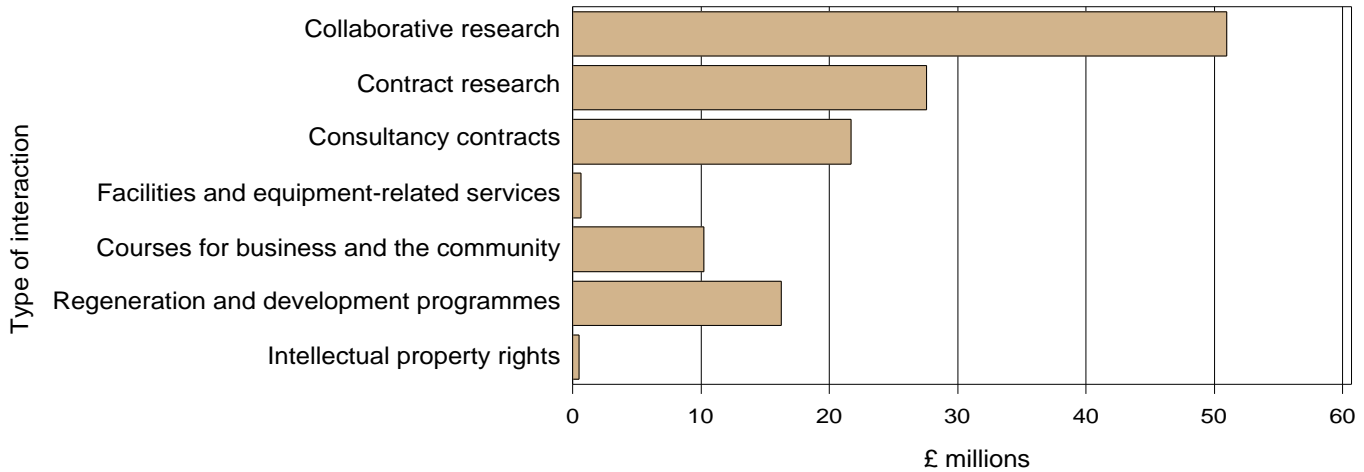
Employed graduates of North East HEIs: destination by type of industry



Percentage of employed first degree graduates returned in the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey

Higher education-business and community interaction survey 2005-06

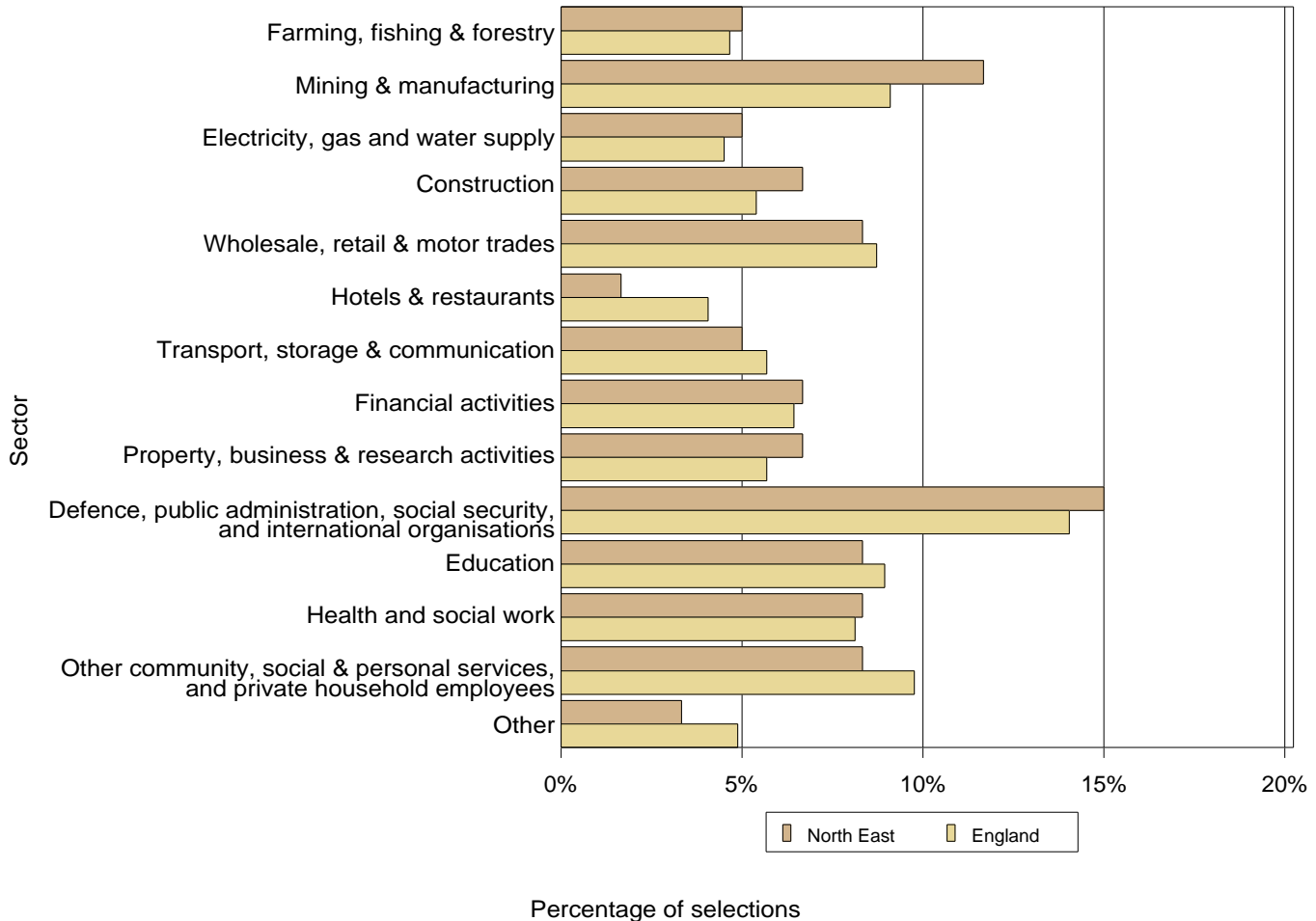
Income from HE-business interactions



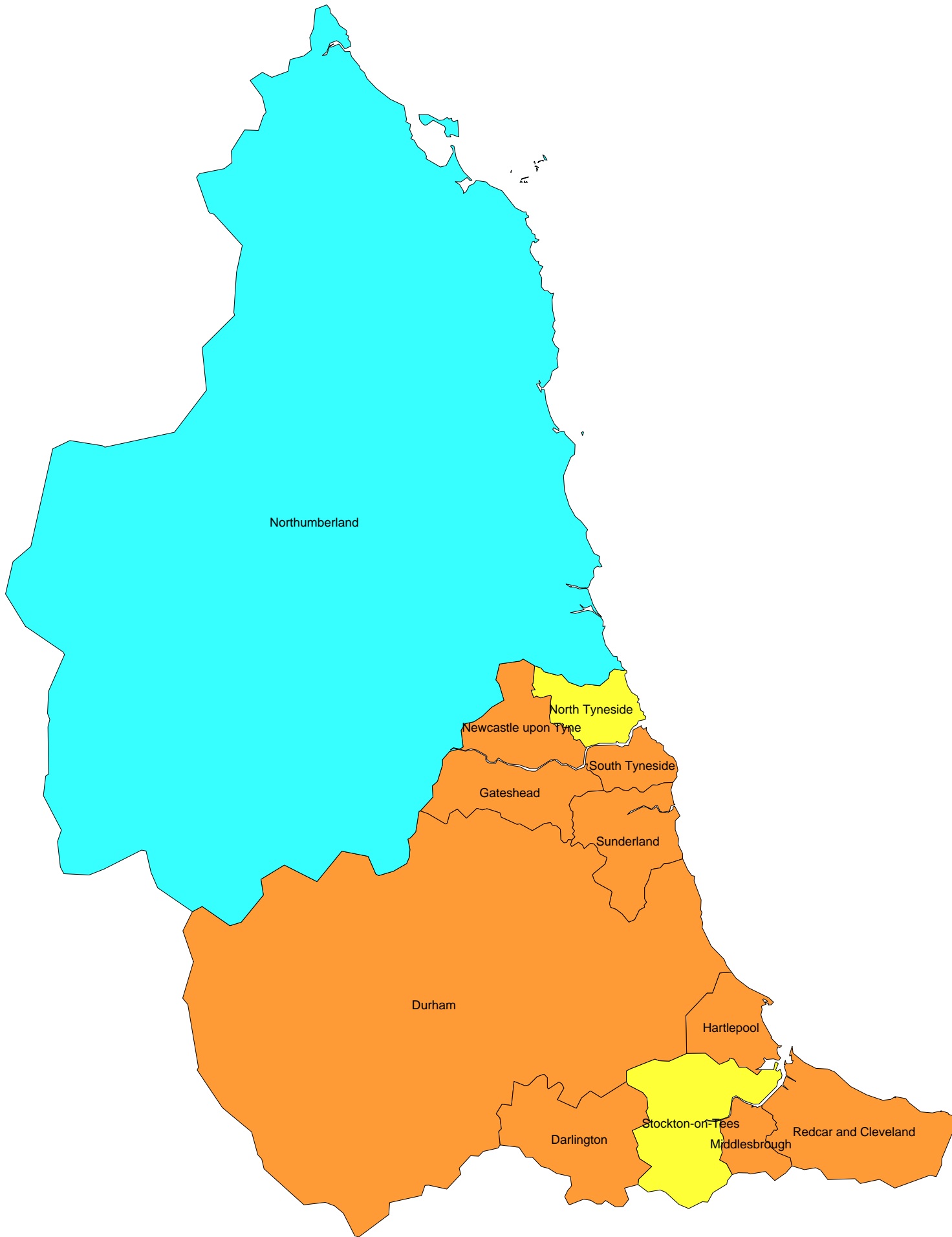
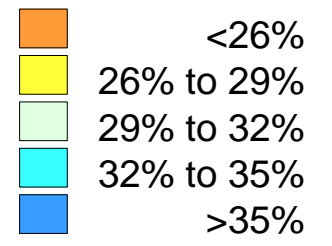
Type and number of interactions

Contract research	576	Non-software licences granted	7
Consultancy contracts	19,058	Software licences granted	2
Facilities and equipment-related services	310	Spin-offs still active and survived 3 years	30
New patents granted in year	6	Estimated turnover from active spin-offs	£9 million

Sectors North East HEIs set out to work with



Young participation



Qualification levels

Population of working age¹ : by highest qualification² , percentages spring 2005

	United Kingdom	North East
At least degree or equivalent	17.6	12.4
Other HE qualifications ³	8.4	8.2
GCE A level or equivalent ⁴	23.6	25.3
GCSE grades A*-C or equivalent	22.9	25.4
Other qualifications	12.5	13.0
No qualifications	14.1	15.2

Percentage of economically active adults qualified to at least NVQ4¹ autumn 2005

Geographical name	Percentage
United Kingdom	31.4
England	31.2
North East	26.0

Source: DTI regional competitiveness indices, Table 9bi.
1 Degree or higher level vocational qualification.

Source: Department for Education and Skills; from the Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics.

1 Males aged 16 to 64 and females aged 16 to 59.

2 For information on equivalent level qualifications, see Notes and Definitions in Regional Trends 39 table 4.10.

3 Higher education qualification below degree level.

4 Includes recognised trade apprenticeship.

School leavers' qualifications

On 15 March 2007 data were not available for all local educational authorities

Geographical name Region and local education authority ¹	16 year olds in full-time post-compulsory education ² percentages 2001-02	Percentage of 15 year old pupils in 2004-05 with: ^{3,4}		Average GCE/VCE A/AS level points score 2004-05 ^{4,5}
		No passes at GCSE or equivalent	5 or more GCSEs A*-C or equivalent	
North East	67	4.3	53.5	253
Darlington	65	3.9	56.9	306
Durham	66
Gateshead	68	5.1	64.1	240
Hartlepool	68	5.0	51.2	263
Middlesbrough	69	6.4	47.0	214
Newcastle upon Tyne	73	6.1	53.0	228
North Tyneside	75	3.3	54.1	240
Northumberland	70
Redcar and Cleveland	60	5.3	45.7	252
South Tyneside	60	5.3	50.9	211
Stockton-on-Tees	69	4.2	55.3	263
Sunderland	63	3.5	51.6	284

1 2003 education hierarchy.

2 Pupils and students aged 16 in education as a percentage of the estimated 16 year old population.

3 Referenced by pupil residence.

4 Figures relate to maintained schools only.

5 The points scores reflect the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) tariff.

Population and the economy

Area and population by local authority 2004

Geographical name Region, local authority (1)	Area km ²	People per km ²	Total population (000s)	Population change (%) 1981-2004	% of population aged:		
					0 to 15	16 to pensionable age (2)	over pensionable age (2)
England	130,281	385	50,094	7.0	19.5	62.0	18.5
North East	8,573	297	2,545	-3.5	18.9	61.7	19.4
Darlington UA	197	499	99	0.0	19.8	60.5	19.7
Hartlepool UA	94	960	90	-5.1	21.0	60.0	19.0
Middlesbrough UA	54	2,560	138	-8.4	20.8	61.8	17.4
Redcar and Cleveland UA	245	568	139	-7.8	19.7	59.8	20.5
Stockton-on-Tees UA	204	913	186	7.1	20.4	62.3	17.3
Durham County	2,226	223	497	-2.9	18.3	61.9	19.8
Northumberland	5,013	62	311	3.9	18.0	60.9	21.1
Tyne and Wear (Met County)	540	2,010	1,086	-6.1	18.5	62.2	19.3

(1) Local government structure as at 1 April 1998.

(2) Pension age is 65 for men and 60 for women.

Gross Value Added^{1,2} 2001 at current base prices^{3,4,5}

Geographical name NUTS levels 1 and 3	GVA per head (£)
North East	11,132
Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees	12,295
South Teesside	10,114
Darlington	12,831
Durham CC	9,285
Northumberland	8,722
Tyneside	12,539
Sunderland	11,215

(1) Consistent with the National Accounts (Blue Book) 2003.

(2) Data are provisional and consistent with those published on 11 December 2003.

(3) Excluding GVA for Extra-Region, which comprises compensation of employees and gross operating surplus which cannot be assigned to regions.

(4) Estimates of workplace based GVA allocate income to the region in which commuters work.

(5) Includes taxes less subsidies on production.

Labour force¹ and employment rates 2002-03²

Geographical name Region, local authority	Total labour force (3) (000s)	Employment rate (4) (%)	Unemployment rate (%)
North East	1,122	68.6	6.7
Darlington UA	45	73.9	4.9
Hartlepool UA	37	63.8	9.8
Middlesbrough UA	54	61.3	8.7
Redcar and Cleveland UA	60	65.9	8.7
Stockton-on-Tees UA	84	70.5	7.3
Durham	212	66.4	5.7
Northumberland	145	74.1	5.3
Tyne and Wear (Met. County)	485	68.6	7.0

(1) Based on the population of working age in private households, student halls of residence and NHS accommodation.

(2) Annual average of March 2002 to February 2003. These data are weighted to population estimates which were released in February 2003.

(3) Includes those on government-supported employment and training programmes, and unpaid family workers.

(4) Total labour force as a percentage of all people of working age.

Classification of business sites¹: by sub-region, March 2003

Geographical name Region, local authority	%Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	%Mining & quarrying, energy, water supply, manufacturing	%Construction	%Distribution, hotels & catering, repairs	%Transport & communication	%Financial, intermediation, real estate renting & business activities	%Education & health	%Public administration & other services	Total business sites (=100%) (000s)
United Kingdom	6.5	7.6	8.8	28.0	4.3	27.5	7.3	10.1	2,545.9
North East	5.7	7.8	7.9	32.3	4.5	21.4	9.5	10.9	75.6
Darlington UA	5.6	6.7	7.9	34.6	4.7	21.2	9.2	10.0	3.5
Hartlepool UA	3.8	9.3	8.3	34.2	3.7	20.9	9.3	10.5	2.2
Middlesbrough UA	0.4	6.9	6.8	34.9	4.1	25.0	10.7	11.3	3.8
Redcar and Cleveland UA	4.4	7.4	8.7	31.3	4.7	21.2	10.8	11.6	3.4
Stockton-on-Tees UA	2.0	8.7	8.0	30.0	4.7	28.2	8.3	10.1	5.3
Durham County	9.3	8.5	8.9	32.4	5.6	16.6	8.1	10.6	14.6
Northumberland	17.7	6.4	8.5	28.0	4.1	16.6	8.1	10.5	12.1
Tyne and Wear (Met County)	0.9	7.9	7.2	33.7	4.1	24.1	10.7	11.3	30.7
Tees Valley (2)	3.0	7.8	7.9	32.6	4.5	24.0	9.6	10.7	18.2
Tees Valley less Darlington (3)	2.4	8.0	7.9	32.2	4.4	24.6	9.7	10.8	14.7
Former county of Durham (4)	8.6	8.2	8.7	32.8	5.4	17.5	8.3	10.5	18.1

Source: Inter-Departmental Business Register, Office for National Statistics.

(1) Based on Standard Industrial Classification 2003. Registered for VAT and/or PAYE, local unit basis, eg an individual factory or shop.

(2) Tees Valley refers to the area covered by the five unitary authorities of Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland, and Stockton-on-Tees.

(3) Tees Valley less Darlington refers to the area previously covered by the administrative county of Cleveland which was abolished and replaced by UAs on 1 April 1996.

(4) The former county of Durham is the area covered by the current Durham county and Darlington UA created on 1 April 1997.