



# Briefing: Confirmed places for nursing undergraduate courses on A level results day 2019

## Briefing Paper: Confirmed places for nursing courses – 15 August 2019

On A level results day, UCAS has [published](#) data on confirmed places on A level results day.

### Headlines for the whole higher education sector

#### Decrease in overall acceptance rate but higher entry rate for disadvantaged students

In total, more than 348,890 people from across the UK have been accepted so far this year – a 1 per cent decrease compared to A level results day 2018.

A record 17.3 per cent of 18 year-olds from the most **disadvantaged backgrounds** in England have been accepted, a rise of 0.8 percentage points on 2018. There are also record acceptances in Wales and Northern Ireland, with 15.8 per cent and 13.2 per cent respectively, from the most disadvantaged backgrounds.

In **England**, 28.5 per cent of the **18 year-old population** have been accepted through UCAS. In **Wales** 25.8 per cent of young people will be starting an undergraduate course and in **Northern Ireland**, the entry rate is 29.4 per cent. **Scottish** students received their exam results last week, and 25.7 per cent of all 18 year-olds have now been accepted.

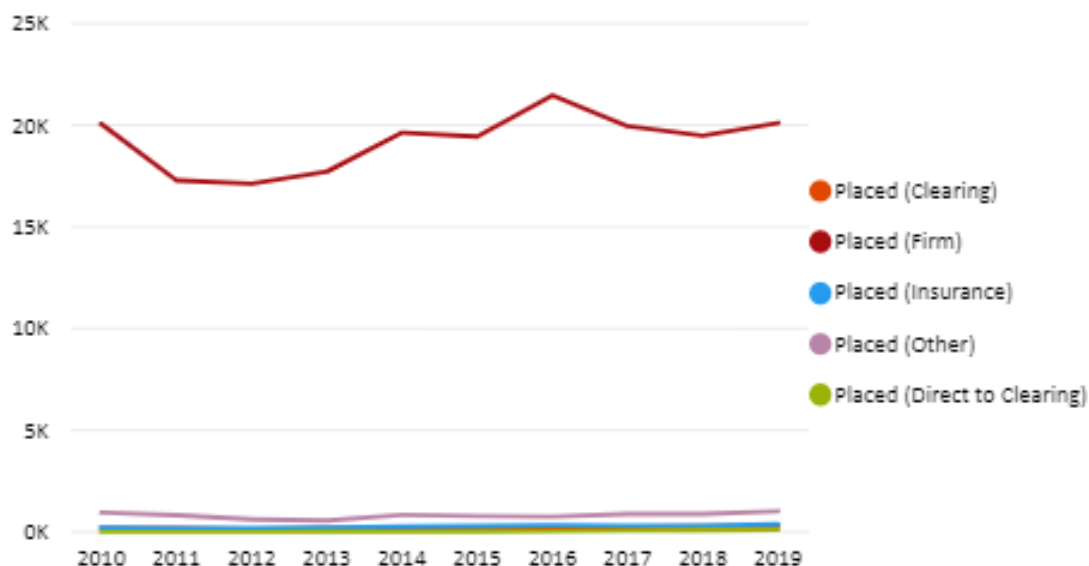
Since 2018 there has been a marginal increase to 26,440 in the number of EU students being accepted to study in the UK. A record 33,630 students from **outside the EU** have been accepted, attributable to a 32 per cent increase in applicants from China.

### Nursing figures

#### Placed applicants by route

Compared to the 2018 cycle, the number of placed applicants for nursing courses overall has risen 4 per cent with a total of 21,870 placed applications. The number of placed applicants has increased across all of the home nations as well as from outside the EU (160 applicants in total) and from the EU excluding the UK (340 applicants in total).

Figure 1: Placed main scheme applicants to nursing from all domiciles: A level results day



The number of main scheme applicants that were placed through Clearing is 4 per cent higher than last year. The number of placed applicants that came through the firm route has risen 3 per cent compared to last year and the number of placed applicants that came through the insurance route has increased to 380 applicants.

### Main scheme applicants not currently placed

The number of applicants to nursing courses who are holding an offer but are not currently placed is 13 per cent higher than it was in 2018. 14,690 applicants are free to be placed in Clearing, which is an increase from last year.

The number of applicants to nursing courses from the EU (excluding the UK) not currently placed with a holding offer has increased to 220 applicants, whilst the number of them free to be placed in Clearing is 10 per cent lower. The number of applicants from outside the EU not currently placed with a holding offer has risen to 130 and the number of those free to be placed in Clearing is 19 per cent higher than last year.

### Placed and not currently placed applicants by domicile group

The overall number of placed applicants from **England** has risen 3 per cent from 2018. The number of applicants who came through Clearing is 11 per cent higher. For the firm route it is 2 per cent higher and for the insurance route it is 25 per cent higher. The number of currently unplaced applicants with holding offers is 11 per cent higher than last year whilst the number of those free to be placed in Clearing is 3 per cent lower. The number of applicants who were placed direct to Clearing increased to 80 applicants.

The overall number of placed applicants from **Northern Ireland** is 3 per cent higher than in 2018. The number of applicants who came through Clearing has remained the same at 10 applicants, whilst for the firm route it is up 3 per cent and for the insurance route it is down to 20 applicants. The number of currently unplaced applicants with holding offers is 6 per cent higher than last year whilst the number of those free to be placed in Clearing is 9 per cent higher.

The overall number of placed applicants from **Wales** is 9 per cent higher than in 2018. The number of applicants who came through Clearing has remained the same, whilst for the firm route it is up 1 per cent and applicants for the insurance route halved to 10. The number of currently unplaced applicants with holding offers is 26 per cent higher than last year whilst the number of those free to be placed in Clearing is 3 per cent lower.

The overall number of placed applicants from **Scotland** is 7 per cent higher than in 2018. The number of applicants who came through Clearing decreased to 40 applicants, whilst for the insurance route it remained the same and for the firm route it rose by 8 per cent. The number of currently unplaced applicants with holding offers is 12 per cent higher and the number of those free to be placed in Clearing is 14 per cent higher than last year.

### Placed applicants by domicile and age group

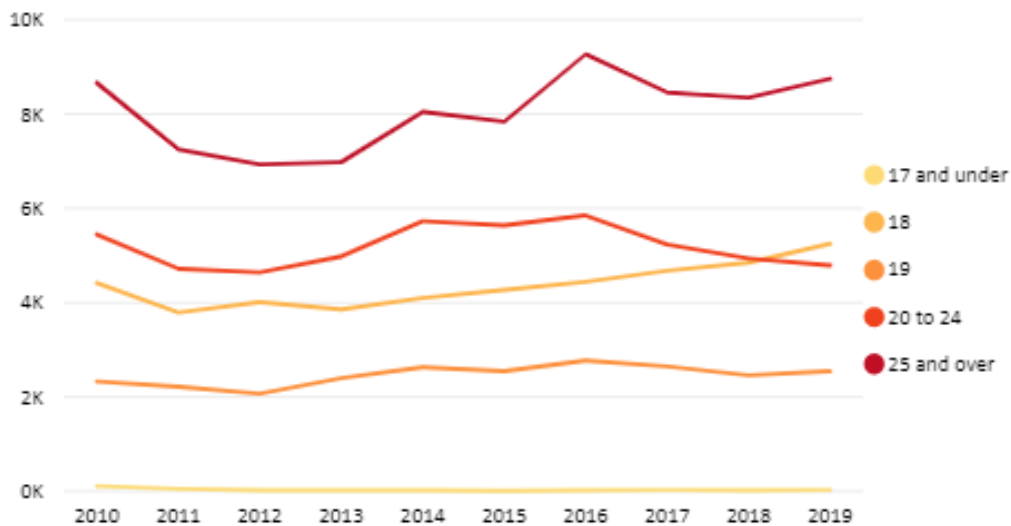
The number of placed applicants **aged 18** from England and Scotland has increased by 9 per cent and 19 per cent respectively. By comparison, the number of placed applicants aged 18 from Northern Ireland has remained the same and from Wales has decreased by 7 per cent.

There has been an increase in the number of placed applicants **aged 19** from England by 1 per cent, from Scotland by 10 per cent and from Wales by 36 per cent. In Northern Ireland the number of applicants aged 19 remained the same.

The number of placed applicants **aged 20-24** from all nations has decreased. In England there has been a 2 per cent decrease, in Northern Ireland 4 per cent, in Scotland 3 per cent and in Wales 9 per cent.

The number of placed applicants **aged 25 and over** from all nations has increased. In England there has been a 4 per cent rise, in Northern Ireland 18 per cent, in Scotland 5 per cent and in Wales 2 per cent.

Figure 2: Placed applicants to nursing by age: A level results day



### Placed applicants by domicile and sex

Overall, the number of placed applicants to nursing courses has increased by 3 per cent for both men and 4 per cent for women compared to 2018. Given the small number of **men** entering nursing courses, changes for this group for the four nations are marginal. Changes in the number of **women** entering nursing courses are therefore in line with overall developments described above.

### For more information contact:

Robyn Cooke, Policy Officer, [robyn.cooke@cod-health.ac.uk](mailto:robyn.cooke@cod-health.ac.uk)