



Briefing: Confirmed places for nursing undergraduate courses on A level results day 2020

Briefing Paper: Confirmed places for nursing courses – 13 August 2020

On A level results day, UCAS has published data on confirmed places on undergraduate higher education courses. The full data set including a breakdown for nursing courses by applicant domicile, age, and country of provider is [available](#). This paper highlights some key trends as the data stands today as changes are expected in the coming weeks as Clearing progresses.

Headlines for the whole higher education sector

UCAS has published a [press release](#) on the headlines for the higher education sector on A level results day 2020.

A record number of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds have a confirmed place on an undergraduate course this year. More applicants have been placed overall, 415,600 so far, and more applicants have been accepted onto their first choice of course compared to last year.

Across the UK, 30.2% of all 18 year olds have been placed on an undergraduate course (210,260 students).

There has not been a significant change in the deferral rate for UCAS applications, which is currently 3.8% compared to 3.6% in 2019. There is a 30% increase in non-UK applicants currently holding offers which is not unexpected due to delays globally for many qualification awarding bodies.

Headlines for nursing courses

Compared to A level results day 2019, the overall number of **applicants placed** on an undergraduate nursing course in the UK has **increased by 13%** to 24,560. There are 12,480 nursing applicants whose UCAS application status is 'holding offer' and have not currently been placed. An additional 15,480 nursing applicants are free to be placed in Clearing.

Nursing - applicant status

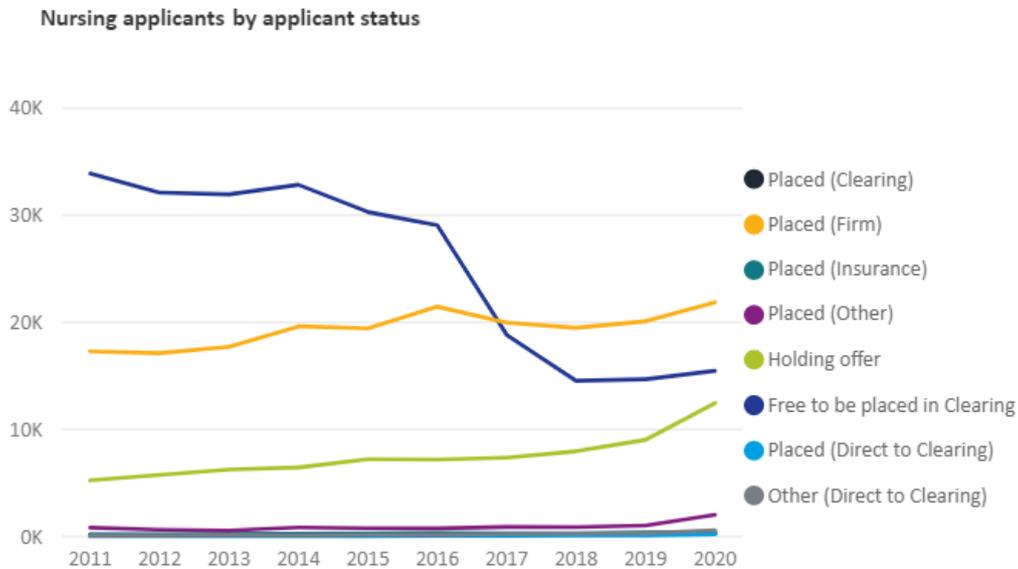


Figure 1: Nursing applicants by applicant status: A Level results day 2020, [UCAS statistical analysis](#)

Providers in England have accepted 18,770 applicants which is a **14% increase** from results day 2019. There are currently 10,780 nursing applicants holding an offer to English providers.

10,150 English applicants are currently holding an offer which is an increase of 40% from last year.

The number of placed applicants from **Northern Ireland** is 12% higher, there is a 16% increase in the number of placed applicants from **Scotland** and the number of placed applicants from **Wales** is 4% more than last year.

Overall, the number of placed applicants to nursing courses has increased by 22% for **men** and 12% for **women** compared to 2019.

Whilst the highest number of placed applicants are aged **18 years** (5,850 placed applicants in 2020), the age group which has seen the largest percentage increase is **35 years and above** (3,820 placed applicants in 2019; 4,890 in 2020).

For more information contact:

Robyn Cooke, Policy Officer, robyn.cooke@cod-health.ac.uk