



Briefing: Confirmed places on A-level Results Day 2024

Briefing Paper: UCAS data release 15 August 2024

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 and midwifery courses by applicant domicile, age, and country of provider is [available](#). This paper highlights some key trends as the data stands today, with changes taking place in the coming weeks as Clearing progresses. The Council will monitor developments and review the data trends at the end of Clearing.

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 2024.

- Overall, there has been a 3% increase in placed applicants compared to the same point last year.
- 31.7% of the UK 18-year-old population are heading to university or college this September, compared to 30.4% last year.
- 27,600 of UK 18-year-olds from the most disadvantaged backgrounds (POLAR4 Quintile 1) have accepted a place, up 7% on 25,800 last year.
- The overall number of accepted international students stands at 51,170, in line with 51,210 in 2023
- The top three subjects with the largest increase in total placed applicants are engineering and technology (+11% on last year), architecture, building and planning (+9%) and law (+9%).

Headlines for nursing courses

On A-level results day 2024, **18,450 applicants have been placed on nursing courses across the UK.** This is a 1% increase compared to 2023.

There are 7,880 nursing applicants whose UCAS application status is currently **'holding an offer'** and have not currently been placed. An additional 10,670 nursing applicants are **free to be placed in Clearing.**

Placed applicants by country of provider

Providers in England have placed 13,870 applicants which is a decrease of 1% from 2023. **Providers in Scotland** have placed 2,960 applicants, an increase of 4% from 2023. **Providers in Wales** have placed

980 applicants, an increase of 22% as compared to 2023. **Providers in Northern Ireland** have placed 640 applicants, the same as 2023.

Placed applicants by domicile

The overall number of placed applicants from the **UK** is on par with last year at 17,960. The number of placed **EU** applicants decreased from 130 in 2023 to 100 in 2024. Whilst the number of **non-EU** applicants increased from 470 in 2023 to 660 in 2024. The majority of EU applicants are from Ireland while the majority of non-EU applicants are from India, followed by Nigeria.

There is a slight decrease overall in placed **English domiciled applicants** compared to 2023, falling from 13,460 to 13,290. The number of **Scottish domiciled applicants** increased from 2,750 in 2023 to 2,880. The number of **applicants domiciled in Wales** increased from 760 in 2023 to 800 in 2024, and the number of **applicants domiciled in Northern Ireland** is on par with 2023 at 730.

Placed applicants by age

The number of placed applicants for undergraduate nursing courses has increased since 2023 for the following age groups: **18 years old** (8% increase), **19 years old** (6% increase), **21-24 years** (3% increase). There is no change in those aged **20 years**. every age group. The biggest decrease is in the **25-29 years group** (10% decrease), followed by those aged **over 35 years** (5% decrease) and then those **aged 30-34 years** (3% decrease).

Year	17 and under	18	19	20	21 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 and over
2019	40	4,420	2,250	1,200	2,930	2,400	1,700	3,430
2020	30	4,820	2,090	1,290	3,170	2,890	2,110	4,430
2021	20	6,100	2,220	1,210	3,140	3,110	2,250	4,640
2022	50	5,580	2,130	1,200	2,640	2,570	2,210	4,760
2023	50	4,880	1,870	1,130	2,210	1,930	1,640	4,590
2024	60	5,300	1,970	1,140	2,280	1,730	1,590	4,380

Figure 1: Placed nursing applicants on A Level results day 2024 by age group

Placed applicants by ethnicity

Out of the 17,690 UK domiciled accepted applicants; 10,330 listed their ethnicity as White, 4,870 as Black, 1,800 as Asian, 610 as Mixed, 240 as Other and 130 preferred not to disclose. Overall, there is more diversity in ethnicity than seen at this point in 2023.

Placed applicants by gender

The number of placed applicants who identify as female is on par with 2023 at 16, 00, as are those who identify as male at 2,260.

Headlines for midwifery courses

On A-level results day, **3,140 applicants were placed** on an undergraduate midwifery course in the UK, which is a 1% decreased compared to this point in 2023.

There are 1,240 midwifery applicants whose UCAS application status is **'holding offer'** and have not currently been placed. An additional 2,380 midwifery applicants are **free to be placed in Clearing**.

Placed applicants by country of provider

Providers in England have placed 2,620 applicants which is a decrease from 2,730 in 2023. **Providers in Scotland** have placed 250 applicants, an increase from 220 in 2023. **Providers in Wales** have placed 190 applicants which is an increase compared to 170 placed in 2023. **Providers in Northern Ireland** have placed 90 applicants, a increase from 50 placed in 2023.

Placed applicants by domicile

The majority of placed applicants are from the **UK**, with 20 **international domiciled** applicants being placed.

Placed applicants by age

The number of placed applicants to undergraduate midwifery courses has increased since 2023 for the following age groups: **18 years old** (5% increase), **19 years old** (3% increase), **20 years old** (9% increase). The biggest decrease is for those **aged 30-34 years** (14% decrease), followed by those aged **21-24 years** (6% decrease). Those aged **24-29 years** and those aged **over 35 years** both saw a 4% decrease.

Year	17 and under	18	19	20	21 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 and over
2019	0	740	340	180	500	500	330	330
2020	0	910	310	190	540	570	390	390
2021	10	960	320	150	500	600	480	420
2022	0	930	280	160	440	540	450	470
2023	10	1,100	310	180	390	410	360	440
2024	10	1,150	310	200	360	390	310	420

Figure 2: Placed midwifery applicants on A Level results day 2024 by age group

Placed applicants by ethnicity

Out of the 3,150 UK domiciled accepted applicants; 2,140 listed their ethnicity as White, 510 as Black, 280 as Asian, 130 as Mixed, 60 as Other and 20 preferred not to disclose.

Placed applicants by gender

The majority of placed midwifery applicants identify as female. The small number of placed applicants who identify as male has remained the same.

For more information contact:

Robyn Cooke, Policy and Research Manager, robyn.cooke@cod-health.ac.uk