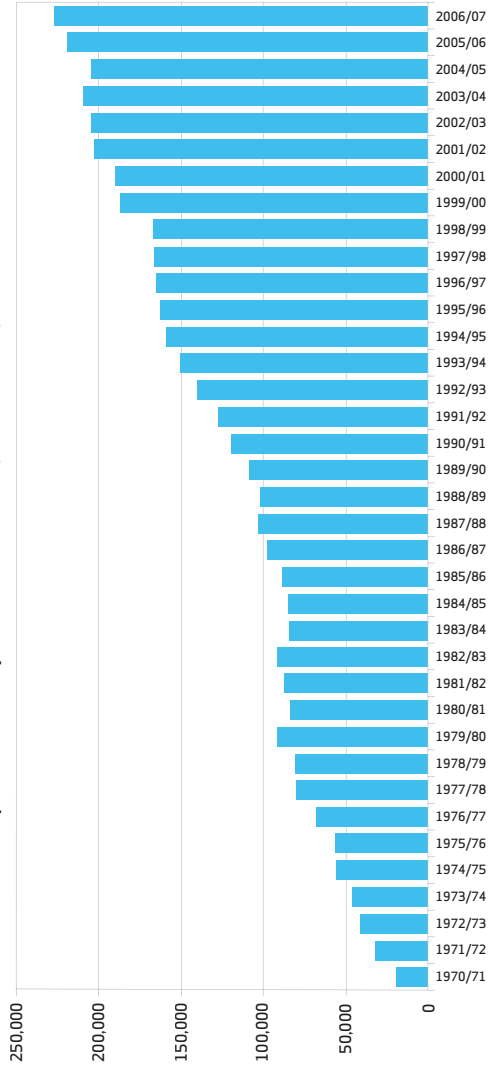


Open University Students – 1970/71 to 2006/07



## About The Open University

- The OU is the UK's largest University, teaching 35% of all part-time undergraduate students in the UK each year.
- Students gave the OU the highest overall satisfaction rating for the third year in a row in the 2007 National Student Survey.
- Nearly 20,000 OU students study outside the UK. In addition students are registered on over 48,000 courses outside the UK through the OU's educational partners.
- The OU is the UK's leading university delivering eLearning at scale. Students on two-thirds of all courses undertake eLearning activities to achieve defined learning outcomes. All courses include optional online activities.
- Since the first students were admitted in 1971, over 2 million people have studied with the OU, achieving over 675,000 qualifications.
- The OU leads four Centres for Excellence in Teaching and Learning funded by the Higher Education Funding Council for England, and is a partner in a fifth.
- The OU promotes educational opportunity and social justice by providing high quality education to all who wish to realise their ambitions and fulfil their potential:
  - 44% of new OU undergraduate students in the UK have fewer than 2 A levels;
  - 26% qualify for financial assistance;
  - 11% of those disclosing their ethnicity are from minority ethnic backgrounds;
  - 6% of UK undergraduate students have a disability.
- The OU's academic provision is regularly reviewed by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education. The 2004 Institutional Audit resulted in a judgement of broad confidence in the soundness of the University's management of the quality of its programmes and academic standards of awards.
- The OU supports a vibrant research and enterprise portfolio which focuses upon key issues affecting the social, political and physical well-being of individuals, communities, cultures and nations. Open Research Online, a repository of nearly 7000 research publications and other research outputs, offers an Open Access resource that can be searched and browsed freely by members of the public (<http://oro.open.ac.uk>).



Student and customer statistics	2005/06	2006/07
Undergraduate level students		
Access	13,238	13,570
Other undergraduate	143,443	150,737
Postgraduate level students		
taught	16,908	16,182
research part-time	747	758
research full-time	707	735
Initial Teacher Training	463	463
Overseas special scheme students	10,277	8853
Students validated by the		
Open University	32,105	32,136
Students on non-credit-bearing courses	37	842
<b>Total students</b>	<b>217,925</b>	<b>224,276</b>
Study packs and materials sold	7750	6184
<b>Total students and customers</b>	<b>225,675</b>	<b>230,460</b>

Student distribution	2005/06	2006/07
UK students		
England	140,982	148,395
Scotland	13,959	14,125
Wales	6015	6420
Northern Ireland	3568	3641
<b>Total UK students</b>	<b>164,524</b>	<b>172,581</b>
Republic of Ireland	3981	3726
Other EU	7149	7235
Non-EU	10,166	8598
Validated students	32,105	32,136
<b>Total</b>	<b>217,925</b>	<b>224,276</b>

Qualifications awarded	Cumulative 1971-	
	2006/07	2006/07
Foundation degrees	155	155
First degrees	9901	289,404
Higher degrees	2977	42,344
Undergraduate certificates and diplomas	18,500	216,993
Postgraduate certificates and diplomas	3337	49,110
Validated awards (under/post-graduate)	9485	81,518

Student FTEs by subject area*	2005/06	2006/07
Subjects allied to medicine	1756	1920
Biological and Physical Sciences	11,935	11,910
Mathematical Sciences	4524	5126
Computer Science	3096	3064
Engineering and Technology	6036	5894
Social Studies	14,763	14,577
Law	2313	2428
Business and Administrative Studies	5728	7721
Mass Communications and Documentation	238	187
Languages	6853	6823
Historical & Philosophical Studies	8424	9165
Creative Arts & Design	549	545
Education	6608	6784
<b>Total</b>	<b>72,821</b>	<b>76,145</b>

\*Excludes non-credit-bearing courses, Singapore, study materials and validated students

Features of Open University students	2006/07	
	Undergraduate Level	Postgraduate Level
Male: female ratio	39:61	52:48
Age profile		
Under 25	13%	4%
25-34	30%	33%
35-44	30%	37%
45-54	17%	19%
55-64	7%	5%
65 and over	3%	1%
Median age of new undergraduate level students		32

Ethnic origin of new undergraduate students*	2006/07
White	89.3%
Asian and Black	8.3%
Mixed and Other	2.4%

\*% of new students disclosing ethnicity

Qualifications on entry of undergraduate level students	2006/07
No formal qualifications	3%
1 A level or lower	32%
2 A levels or equivalent	21%
HE qualification	30%
Postgraduate qualification	6%
Not known	8%

Other student information	2006/07
Number of students receiving help with fees	37,852
Number of students with disabilities	10,685
Number of credit transfer awards for prior study	11,468

Courses information	2006/07
Number of standard courses/modules offered	
Undergraduate level	385
Postgraduate level	155
Overseas versions	37

UK fees	2006/07
Undergraduate course (60 credit points)	£525 to £1995
Undergraduate residential school	£370 to £615
Postgraduate course	£880 to £2435
Research degree	
full-time	£3168 p.a.
part-time	£1540 p.a.
Study packs and materials	£10 to £100

Cost of study to UK students	
Typical total fees for BA/BSc (Hons) undergraduate degree (360 credit points)	£3150-£4225

Finance	2005/06	2006/07
	(£ millions)	(£ millions)
<b>Income</b>		
Funding Council grants	201.1	212.1
Academic & other fees	115.6	123.1
Research grants and contracts	10.5	12.6
Other operating income	18.8	19.5
Interest receivable	6.7	8.5
<b>Total income</b>	<b>352.7</b>	<b>375.8</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Staff costs	209.8	225.3
Depreciation	8.5	9.4
Other operating expenses	121.8	125.6
Interest payable	3.1	3.4
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>343.2</b>	<b>363.7</b>

Staff statistics	2005/06	2006/07
Salaried academic staff	1167	1218
Academic-related staff	1499	1654
Support staff (secretaries, clerks, technicians, etc)	1807	1847
Associate lecturers	8254	8094

Most popular undergraduate courses	2006/07	No. of students
DD100 An Introduction to the Social Sciences		7233
A103 An Introduction to the Humanities		5295
K100 Understanding Health and Social Care		4546
M150 Data, Computing and Information		4010
DSE212 Exploring Psychology		3923