

# KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

Higher Education  
2017/18

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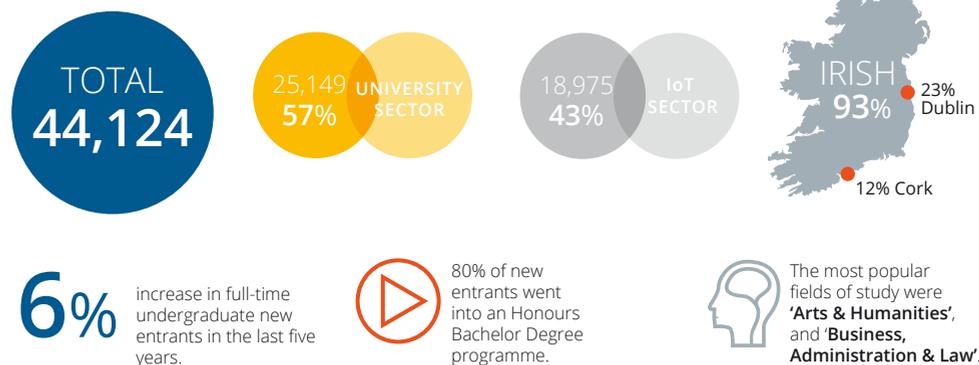
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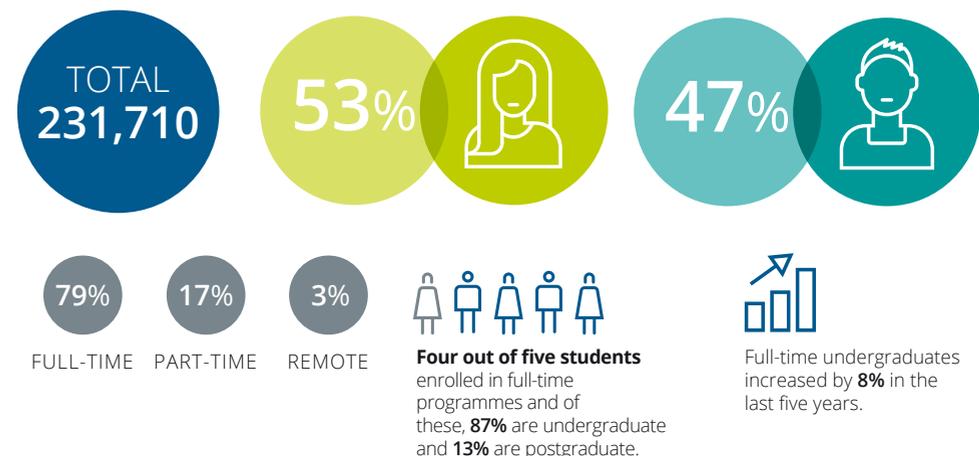
# Key Facts and Figures

## NEW ENTRANTS

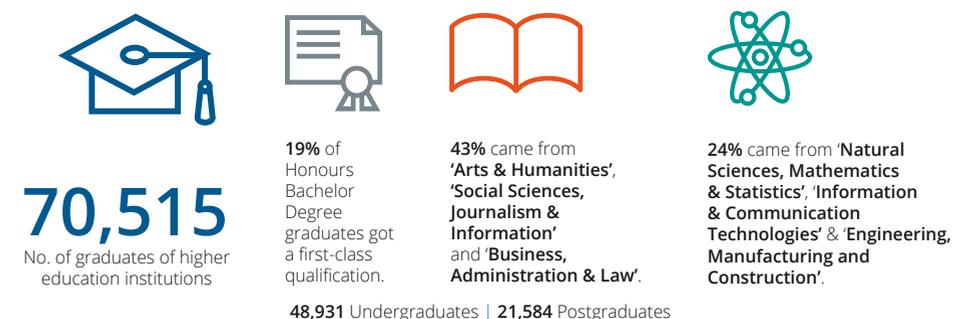
### Full-Time Undergraduate New Entrants



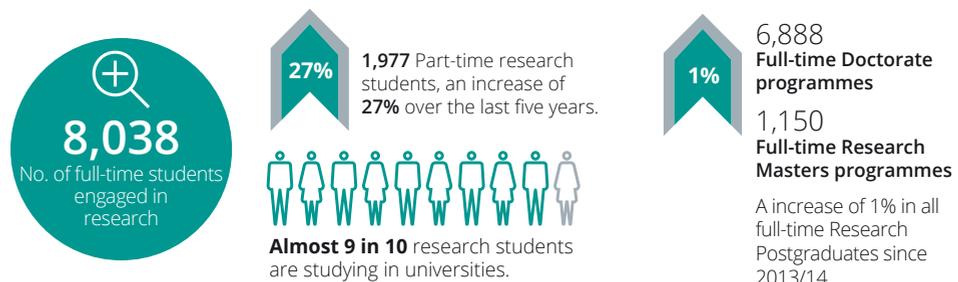
## ENROLMENTS



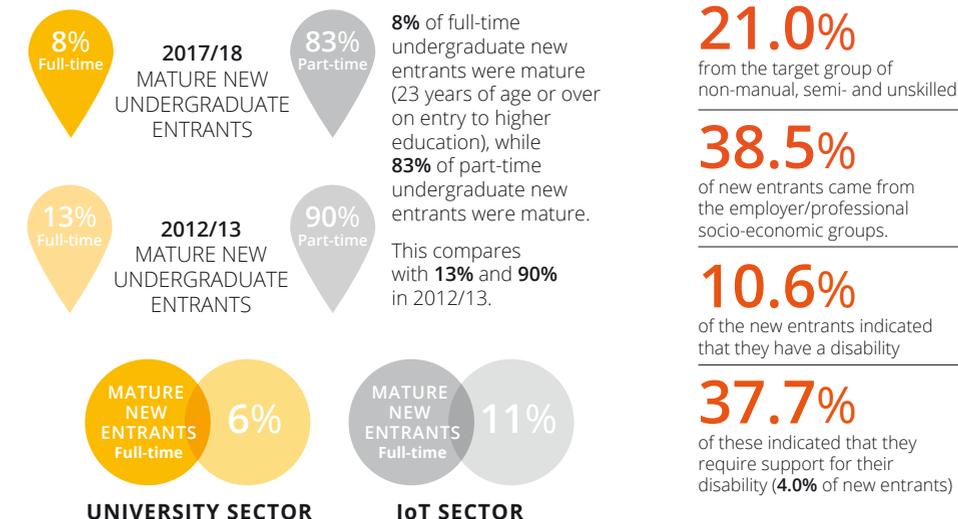
## GRADUATES



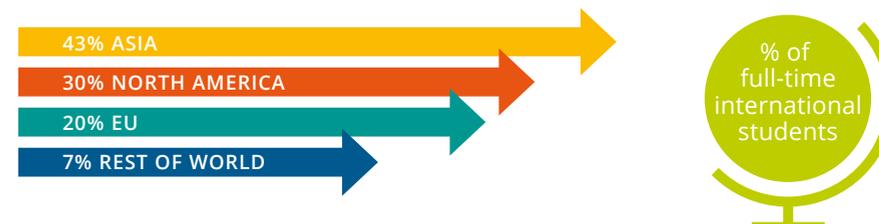
## RESEARCH



## PARTICIPATION



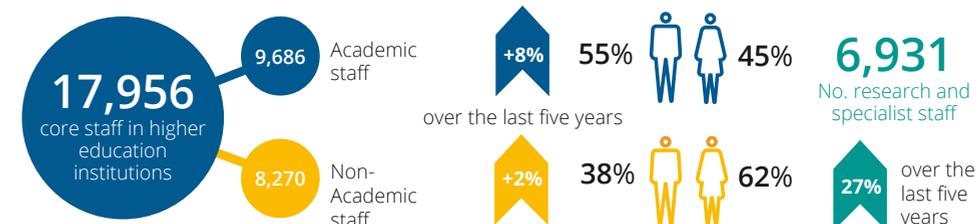
## INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION



## FINANCES



## STAFFING



# FOREWORD

By Paul O'Toole, Interim Chief Executive, Higher Education Authority

Key Facts and Figures (2017/18) is the fourteenth publication in the series of annual reports from the HEA's Statistics Unit. This year's document provides an overview of data from the Irish higher education system highlighting key trends in relation to the following:

- ▶ New Entrants
- ▶ Enrolments
- ▶ Graduates
- ▶ Research
- ▶ Participation
- ▶ Staffing
- ▶ Finances

The trend of increasing enrolments to the higher education system continues in 2017/18, with 231,710 full-time, part-time and remote students enrolled in HEA funded institutions in 2017/18. This represents an increase of 2.7% on the previous year.

The number of full-time new entrants to undergraduate higher education now exceeds 44,000, with 80% of these students enrolled on an Honours Bachelor Degree qualification.

There are just over 10,000 students engaged in full-time and part-time postgraduate research in HEA-funded institutions, with 80% of these students enrolled full time.

Furthermore, there were 70,515 graduates of higher education institutions in 2017 of which 48,931 were undergraduates and 21,584 were postgraduates. This represents an increase of 16% over the last 5 years. At 38%, the greatest increase in graduates in 2017 is in Information & Communication Technologies (ICTs) and Natural Sciences, Mathematics & Statistics compared to 2012.

A range of key trends over the last five years are presented in this publication and are intended as a convenient reference document for higher education institutions, Government departments and those with an interest in higher education. Further student statistics for 2017/18 are available on the HEA website @ <http://hea.ie/statistics-archive/>.

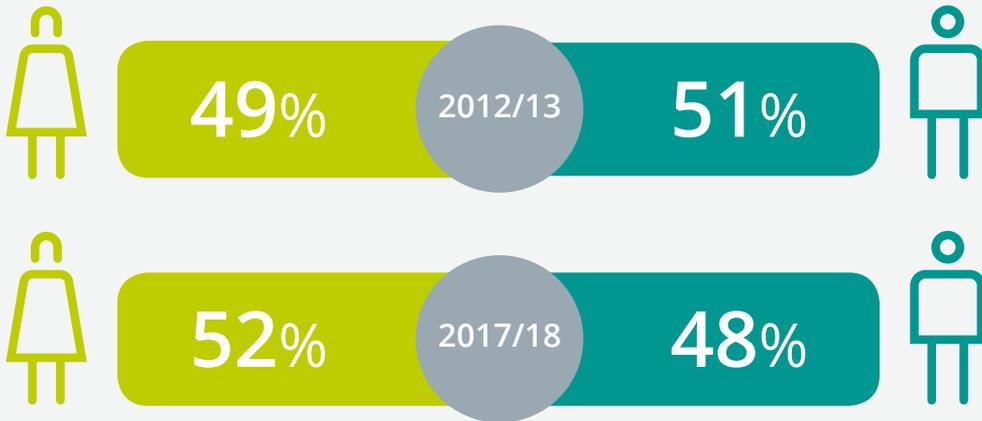
The HEA wishes to thank the participating higher education institutions for their on-going cooperation in providing such important data.

**Paul O'Toole**  
*Interim Chief Executive*  
December 2018

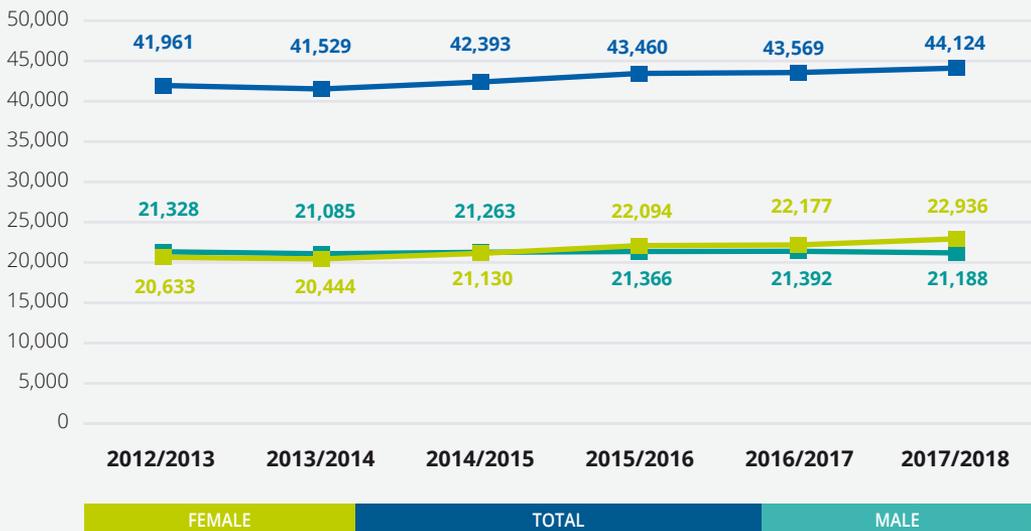
# NEW ENTRANTS

**Note:** Totals may not always equal 100% due to rounding.

### Full-time Undergraduate New Entrant Gender Trends, 2012/13 to 2017/18



### Full-time Undergraduate New Entrant Gender Trends, 2012/13 - 2017/18



**Note:** New Entrants for 2012/13 and 2013/14 have been modified to reflect institutional updates.

## Change in Full-time Undergraduate New Entrants in the University and IoT Sector, 2012/13 to 2017/18

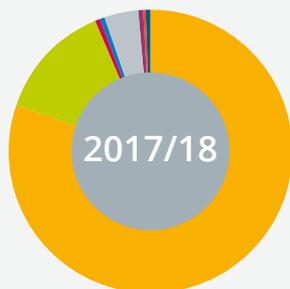


\* Please note that the 'University Sector' also includes four 'Colleges' as outlined in Appendix 1

## Age Distribution of Full-time Undergraduate New Entrants, 2017/18

AGE	%	
17 and under	4%	1,615
18	32%	14,315
19	41%	18,094
20	9%	4,046
21	3%	1,287
22	1%	604
23	1%	358
24	1%	600
25-29	3%	1,238
30 and over	4%	1,967
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>44,124</b>

## Full-time Undergraduate New Entrants by Level, 2017/18



Honours Bachelor Degree (L8)	35,447
Ordinary Degree (L7)	5,930
Diploma (L7)	216
Certificate (L6)	254
Higher Certificate (L6)	1,703
Occasional*	327
Access	29
Foundation	218
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>44,124</b>

\* Occasional includes Occasional, Postgraduate Qualifier (Undergraduate) and Professional Training Qualification (Undergraduate).

## Full-time Undergraduate New Entrants by Field of Study, 2017/18



**Arts and Humanities**  
(9,634)



**Natural Sciences,  
Mathematics & Statistics**  
(4,693)



**Engineering,  
Manufacturing  
& Construction**  
(4,746)



**Social Science, Journalism  
& Information**  
(1,988)



**Business, Administration  
& Law**  
(8,309)



**Agriculture, Forestry,  
Fisheries & Veterinary**  
(847)



**Education**  
(1,930)



**Services**  
(2,414)



**Information &  
Communication  
Technologies (ICTs)**  
(2,855)

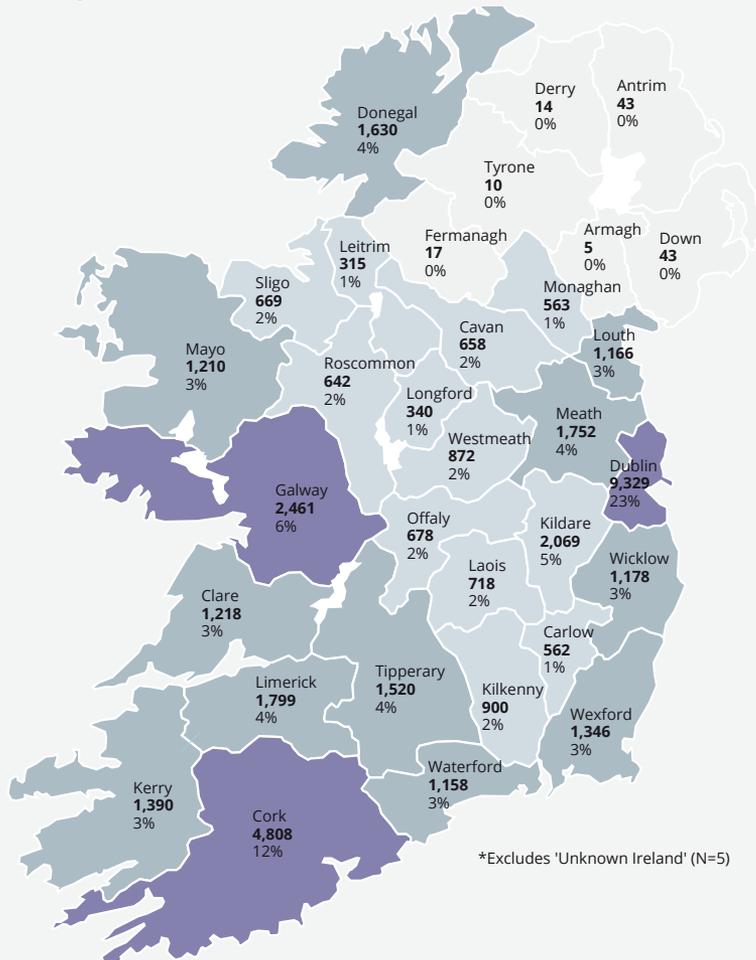


**Generic Programmes  
and Qualifications**  
(366)

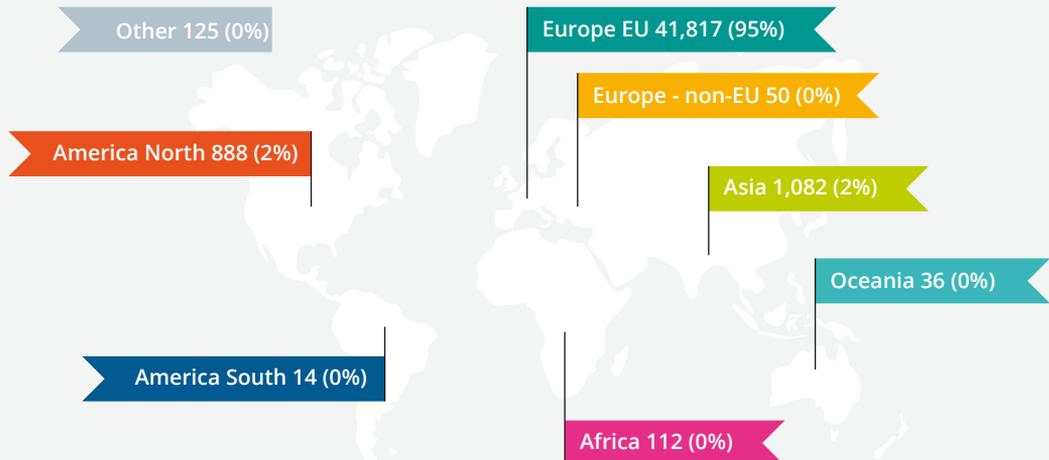


**Health & Welfare**  
(6,342)

## County of Origin for Irish Domiciled Full-time Undergraduate New Entrants, 2017/18



## Domiciliary of Origin of Full-time Undergraduate New Entrants, 2017/18

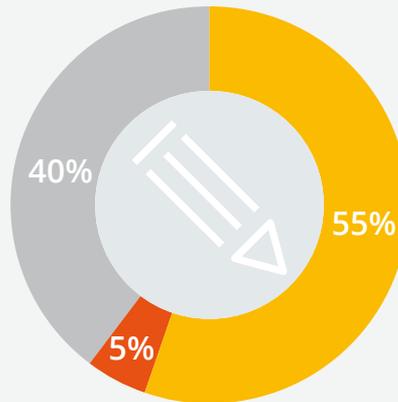


# ENROLMENTS

**Note:** This section excludes FETAC courses in the Institutes of Technology

## All Enrolments by Sector, 2017/18

TOTAL 231,710



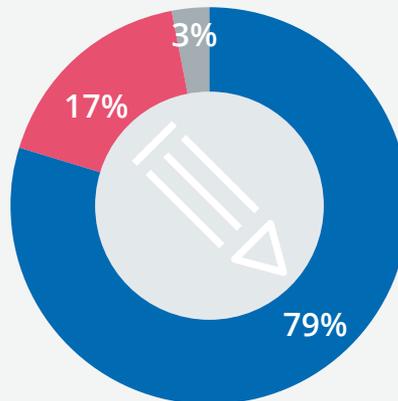
**Universities**  
127,775

**Colleges**  
10,915

**Institutes of Technology**  
93,020

## All Enrolments by Mode of Study, 2017/18

TOTAL 231,710



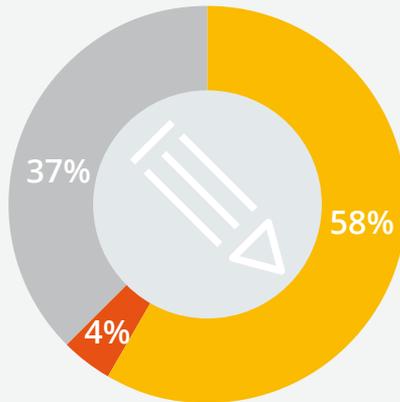
**Full-time**  
183,642

**Part-time**  
40,101

**Remote**  
7,967

### Full-time Enrolments by Sector, 2017/18

TOTAL **183,642**



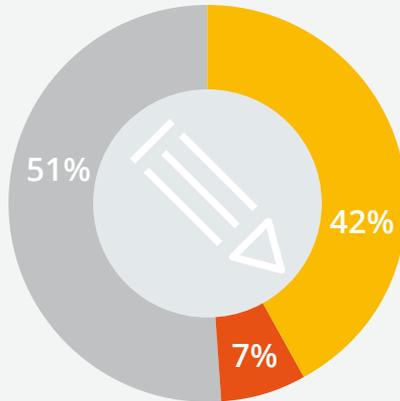
**Universities**  
107,114

**Colleges**  
8,003

**Institutes of Technology**  
68,525

### Part-time Enrolments by Sector, 2017/18

TOTAL **40,101**



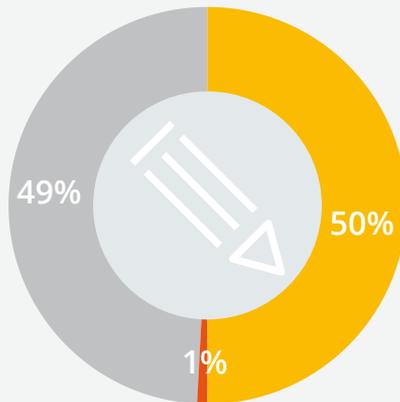
**Universities**  
16,649

**Colleges**  
2,855

**Institutes of Technology**  
20,597

### Remote Enrolments by Sector, 2017/18

TOTAL **7,967**



**Universities**  
4,012

**Colleges**  
57

**Institutes of Technology**  
3,898

## Undergraduate by Programme Type, 2017/18

UNDERGRADUATE	NUMBER	% OF UG FT ENROLMENTS
Honours Bachelor Degree	132,703	83%
Ordinary Degree	18,925	12%
Diploma	490	0%
Certificate	350	0%
Higher Certificate	3,575	2%
Occasional*	3,433	2%
Access	116	0%
Foundation	231	0%
<b>Undergraduate Total</b>	<b>159,823</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* Occasional includes Occasional (Undergraduate), Postgraduate Qualifier (Undergraduate) and Professional Training Qualification (Undergraduate).

## Undergraduate by Age, 2017/18

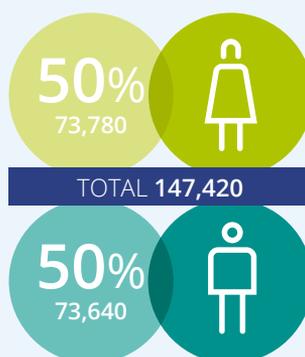
AGE	NUMBER	% OF UG FT ENROLMENTS
17 And Under	1,631	1%
18	16,102	10%
19	33,068	21%
20	34,239	21%
21	28,706	18%
22	16,643	10%
23	6,831	4%
24	4,075	3%
25-29	8,920	6%
30 And Over	9,606	6%
<b>Undergraduate Total</b>	<b>159,821</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Excludes 'Unknown' (n=2)

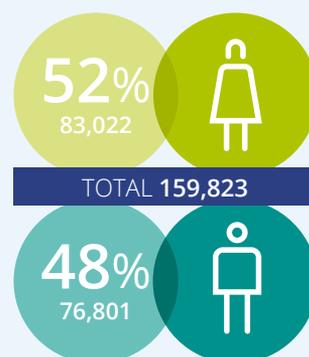
## Undergraduate Trend, 2013/14 to 2017/18



## Undergraduate by Gender, 2013/14



## Undergraduate by Gender, 2017/18



## Undergraduate by Discipline and Sector, 2017/18

	UNIVERSITIES		COLLEGES		IoTs		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Generic Programmes & Qualifications	550	1%	22	0%	356	1%	928	1%
Education	4,027	5%	2,754	39%	292	0%	7,073	4%
Arts & Humanities	20,559	23%	1,736	25%	7,491	12%	29,786	19%
Social Sciences, Journalism & Information	6,644	8%	0	0%	943	1%	7,587	5%
Business, Administration & Law	16,461	19%	0	0%	14,042	22%	30,503	19%
Natural Sciences, Mathematics & Statistics	12,057	14%	0	0%	5,328	8%	17,385	11%
Information & Communication Technologies (ICTs)	3,924	4%	7	0%	6,533	10%	10,464	7%
Engineering, Manufacturing & Construction	6,793	8%	48	1%	10,424	16%	17,265	11%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries & Veterinary	1,685	2%	0	0%	1,799	3%	3,484	2%
Health & Welfare	14,952	17%	2,517	36%	9,945	15%	27,414	17%
Services	303	0%	0	0%	7,631	12%	7,934	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>87,955</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>7,084</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>64,784</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>159,823</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Postgraduate by Programme Type, 2017/18

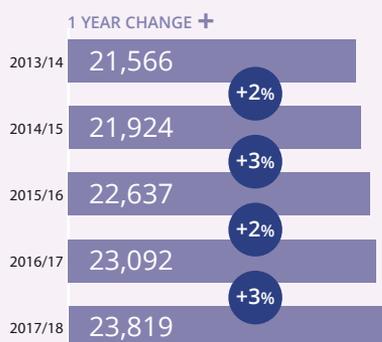
POSTGRADUATE	NUMBER	% OF PG FT ENROLMENTS
Doctorate	6,888	29%
Masters (Research)	1,150	5%
Masters (Taught)	13,638	57%
Postgraduate Diploma	824	3%
Higher Diploma	1,157	5%
Postgraduate Certificate	71	0%
Postgraduate Occasional*	91	0%
<b>Postgraduate Total</b>	<b>23,819</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* Postgraduate Occasional includes Occasional (Postgraduate) and Professional Training Qualification (Postgraduate).

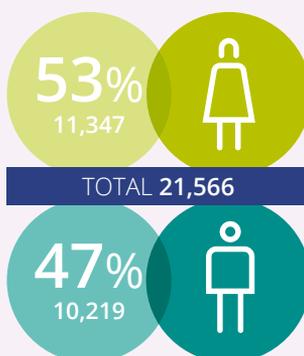
## Postgraduate by Age, 2017/18

AGE	NUMBER	% OF PG FT ENROLMENTS
17 and under	3	0%
18	0	0%
19	0	0%
20	90	0%
21	900	4%
22	2,614	11%
23	3,034	13%
24	2,466	10%
25-29	7,332	31%
30 and over	7,380	31%
<b>Postgraduate Total</b>	<b>23,819</b>	<b>100%</b>

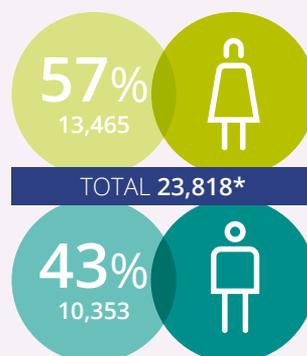
## Postgraduate Trend, 2013/14 to 2017/18



## Postgraduate by Gender, 2013/14



## Postgraduate by Gender, 2017/18



\* Excludes 'Gender Undeclared' (n=1)

## Postgraduate by Discipline and Sector, 2017/18

	UNIVERSITIES		COLLEGES		IoTs		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Generic Programmes & Qualifications	10	0%	0	0%	47	1%	57	0%
Education	2,100	11%	360	39%	199	5%	2,659	11%
Arts & Humanities	1,944	10%	176	19%	487	13%	2,607	11%
Social Sciences, Journalism & Information	2,354	12%	9	1%	151	4%	2,514	11%
Business, Administration & Law	3,655	19%	0	0%	974	26%	4,629	19%
Natural Sciences, Mathematics & Statistics	2,201	11%	0	0%	503	13%	2,704	11%
Information & Communication Technologies (ICTs)	1,236	6%	14	2%	449	12%	1,699	7%
Engineering, Manufacturing & Construction	1,945	10%	0	0%	403	11%	2,348	10%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries & Veterinary	203	1%	0	0%	0	0%	203	1%
Health & Welfare	3,437	18%	360	39%	332	9%	4,129	17%
Services	74	0%	0	0%	196	5%	270	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,159</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>919</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,741</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>23,819</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Undergraduate by Programme Type, 2017/18

UNDERGRADUATE	NUMBER	% OF UG PT ENROLMENTS
Honours Bachelor Degree	3,889	16%
Ordinary Degree	2,910	12%
Diploma	2,570	11%
Certificate	7,850	33%
Higher Certificate	2,295	10%
Occasional*	3,906	16%
Access	117	0%
Foundation	257	1%
<b>Undergraduate Total</b>	<b>23,794</b>	<b>100%</b>

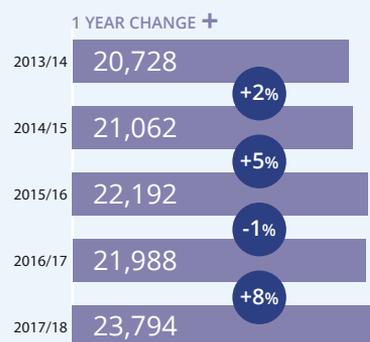
\* Occasional includes Occasional (Undergraduate), Postgraduate Qualifier (Undergraduate) and Professional Training Qualification (Undergraduate).

## Undergraduate by Age, 2017/18

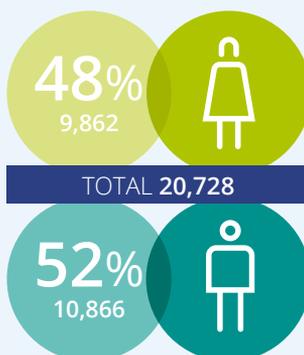
AGE	NUMBER	% OF UG PT ENROLMENTS
17 and under	308	1%
18	149	1%
19	310	1%
20	438	2%
21	498	2%
22	513	2%
23	644	3%
24	702	3%
25-29	3,934	17%
30 and over	16,222	68%
<b>Undergraduate Total</b>	<b>23,718</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Excludes 'Unknown' (n=76)

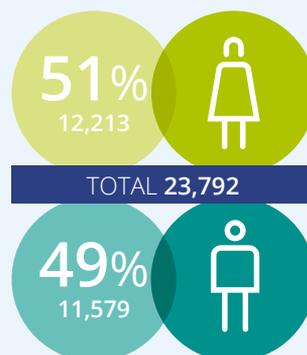
## Undergraduate Trend, 2013/14 to 2017/18



## Undergraduate by Gender, 2013/14



## Undergraduate by Gender, 2017/18



\* Excludes 'Gender Undeclared' (n=2)

## Undergraduate by Discipline and Sector, 2017/18

	UNIVERSITIES		COLLEGES		IoTs		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Generic Programmes & Qualifications	342	6%	146	11%	431	3%	919	4%
Education	893	14%	972	70%	311	2%	2,176	9%
Arts & Humanities	1,151	19%	178	13%	685	4%	2,014	8%
Social Sciences, Journalism & Information	628	10%	0	0%	261	2%	889	4%
Business, Administration & Law	830	13%	0	0%	4,890	30%	5,720	24%
Natural Sciences, Mathematics & Statistics	196	3%	0	0%	1,367	8%	1,563	7%
Information & Communication Technologies (ICTs)	48	1%	0	0%	1,082	7%	1,130	5%
Engineering, Manufacturing & Construction	302	5%	1	0%	3,640	22%	3,943	17%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries & Veterinary	16	0%	0	0%	30	0%	46	0%
Health & Welfare	1,542	25%	93	7%	1,857	11%	3,492	15%
Services	238	4%	0	0%	1,664	10%	1,902	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,186</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,390</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,218</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>23,794</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Postgraduate by Programme Type, 2017/18

POSTGRADUATE	NUMBER	% OF PG PT ENROLMENTS
Doctorate	1,625	10%
Masters (Research)	352	2%
Masters (Taught)	7,886	48%
Postgraduate Diploma	2,875	18%
Higher Diploma	1,005	6%
Postgraduate Certificate	1,618	10%
Postgraduate Occasional*	946	6%
<b>Postgraduate Total</b>	<b>16,307</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* Postgraduate Occasional includes Occasional (Postgraduate) and Professional Training Qualification (Postgraduate).

## Postgraduate by Age, 2017/18

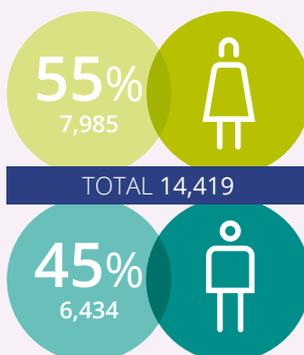
AGE	NUMBER	% OF PG PT ENROLMENTS
17 and under	14	0%
18	0	0%
19	0	0%
20	4	0%
21	42	0%
22	144	1%
23	313	2%
24	456	3%
25-29	3,050	19%
30 and over	12,282	75%
<b>Postgraduate Total</b>	<b>16,305</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Excludes 'Unknown' (n=2)

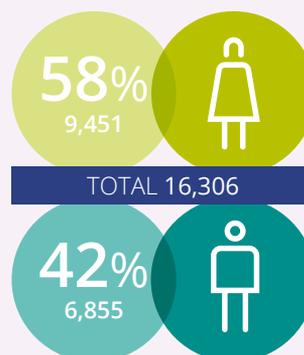
## Postgraduate Trend, 2013/14 to 2017/18



## Postgraduate by Gender, 2013/14



## Postgraduate by Gender, 2017/18



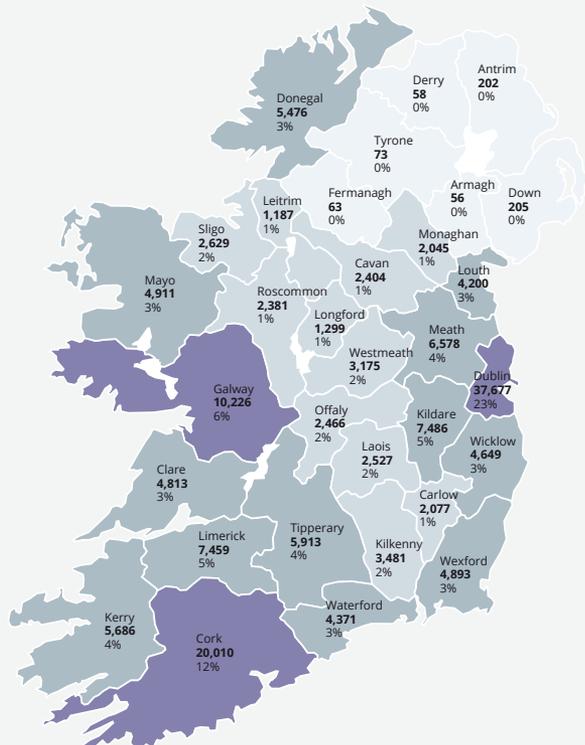
\* Excludes 'Gender Undeclared' (n=1)

## Postgraduate by Discipline and Sector, 2017/18

	UNIVERSITIES		COLLEGES		IoTs		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Generic Programmes & Qualifications	123	1%	25	2%	24	1%	172	1%
Education	1,850	18%	326	22%	425	10%	2,601	16%
Arts & Humanities	624	6%	76	5%	206	5%	906	6%
Social Sciences, Journalism & Information	1,027	10%	0	0%	263	6%	1,290	8%
Business, Administration & Law	2,802	27%	51	3%	1,171	27%	4,024	25%
Natural Sciences, Mathematics & Statistics	261	2%	0	0%	404	9%	665	4%
Information & Communication Technologies (ICTs)	748	7%	0	0%	636	15%	1,384	8%
Engineering, Manufacturing & Construction	451	4%	0	0%	823	19%	1,274	8%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries & Veterinary	62	1%	0	0%	0	0%	62	0%
Health & Welfare	2,310	22%	987	67%	302	7%	3,599	22%
Services	205	2%	0	0%	125	3%	330	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,463</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,465</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,379</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,307</b>	<b>100%</b>

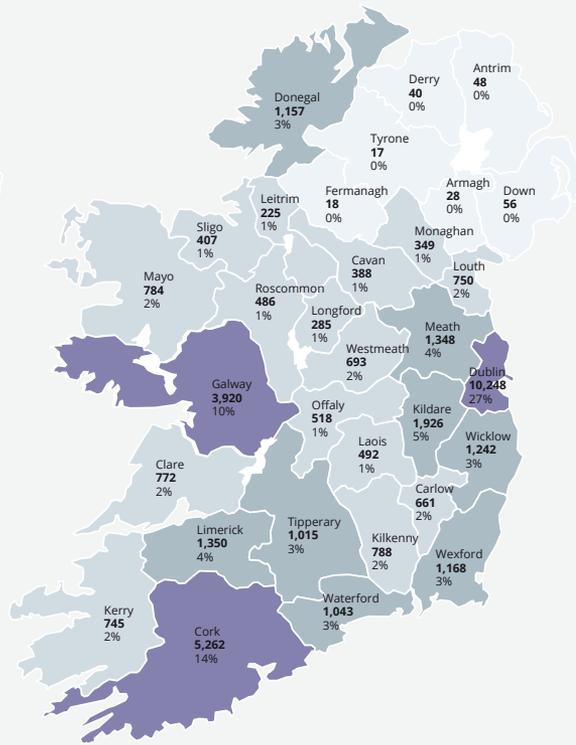
## Irish Domiciled Full-time Enrolments by County, 2017/18

\*Excludes 'Unknown Ireland' (n=37)

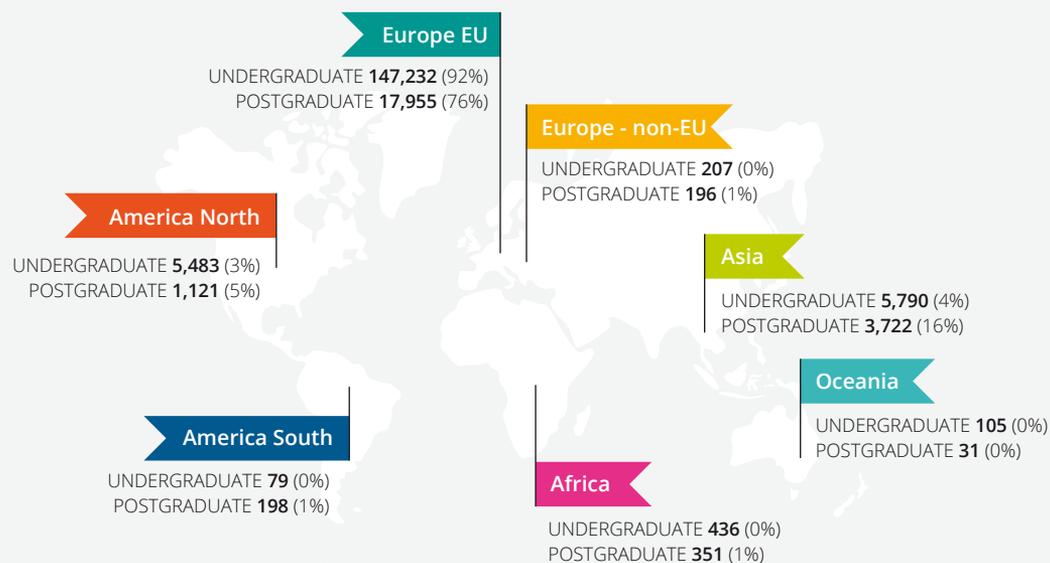


## Irish Domiciled Part-time Enrolments by County, 2017/18

\*Excludes 'Unknown Ireland' (n=35)



## Full-time Enrolments by Domiciliary of Origin, 2017/18



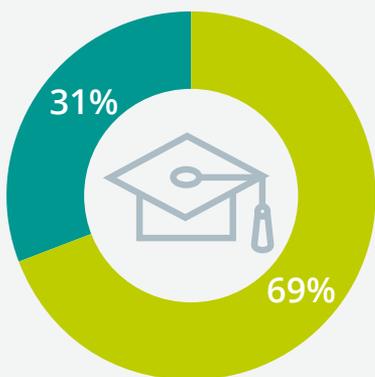
Domiciliary Undergraduate excludes 'Other' (N=491)  
Domiciliary Postgraduate excludes 'Other' (N=245)

# GRADUATES

## 2017 Graduates

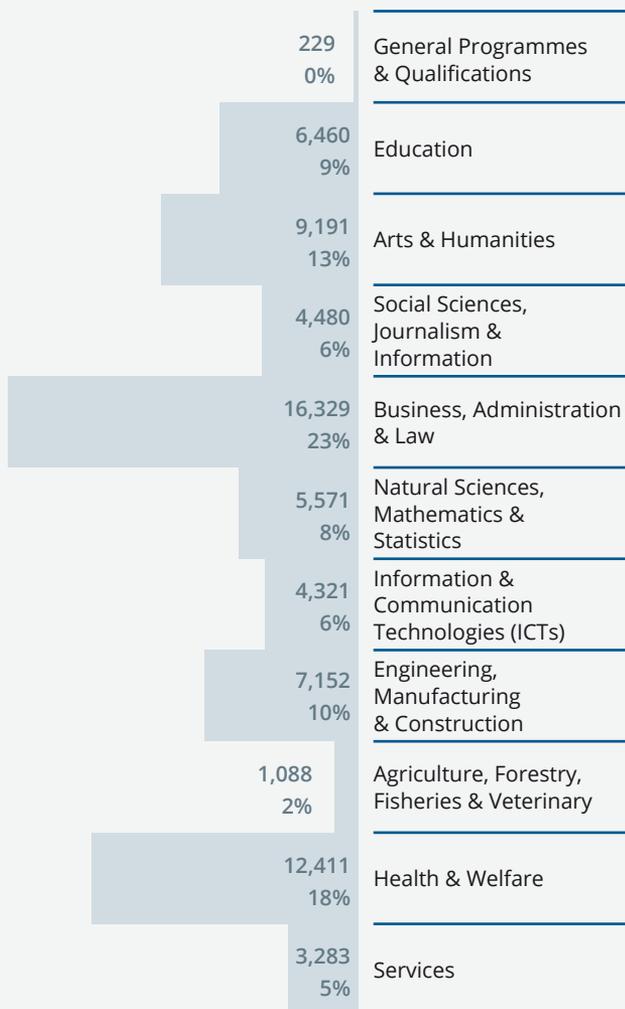
Undergraduate  
**48,931**

Postgraduate  
**21,584**



TOTAL 70,515

## All Levels Awarded in 2017 by Field of Study



## Graduate Trend % Change 2012 to 2017



Agriculture, Forestry,  
Fisheries & Veterinary

**+14%**



Generic Programmes  
and Qualifications

**-33%**



Engineering,  
Manufacturing  
& Construction

**-2%**



Arts and Humanities

**+2%**



Health & Welfare

**+26%**



Education

**+32%**



Business, Administration  
& Law, Social Science,  
Journalism & Information

**+14%**



Services

**+12%**



Information &  
Communication  
Technologies, Natural  
Sciences, Mathematics  
& Statistics

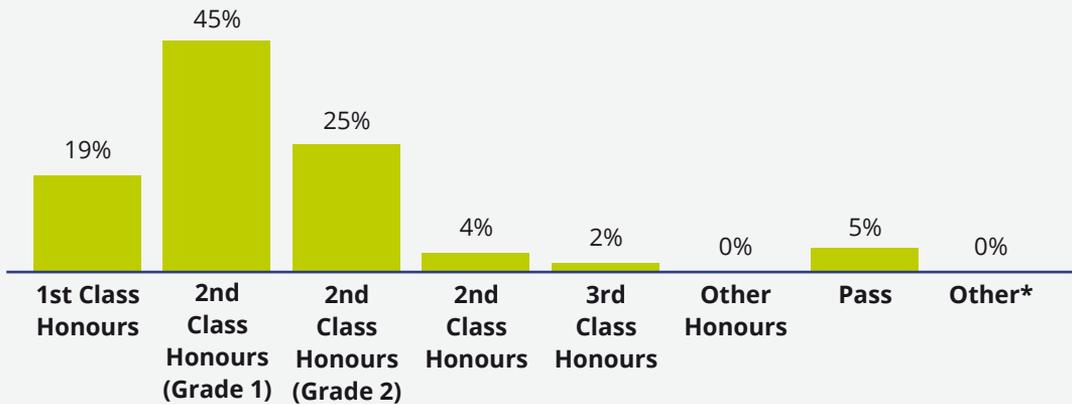
**+38%**

**+9,869**

TOTAL  
% CHANGE IN  
GRADUATE  
NUMBERS

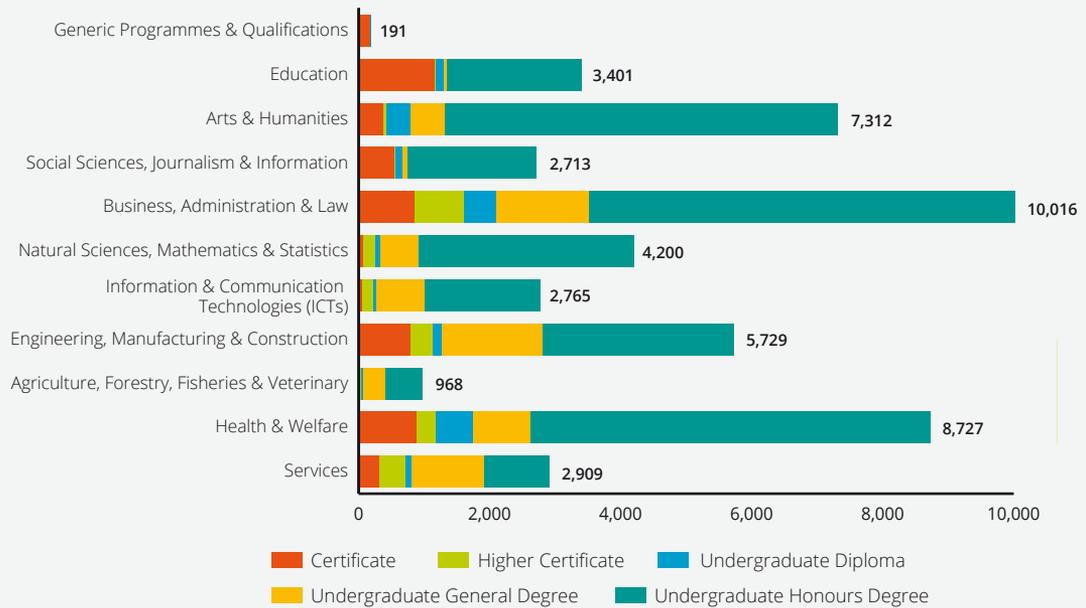
**+16%**

## Honours Bachelor Degrees Awarded in 2017 by Class of Award

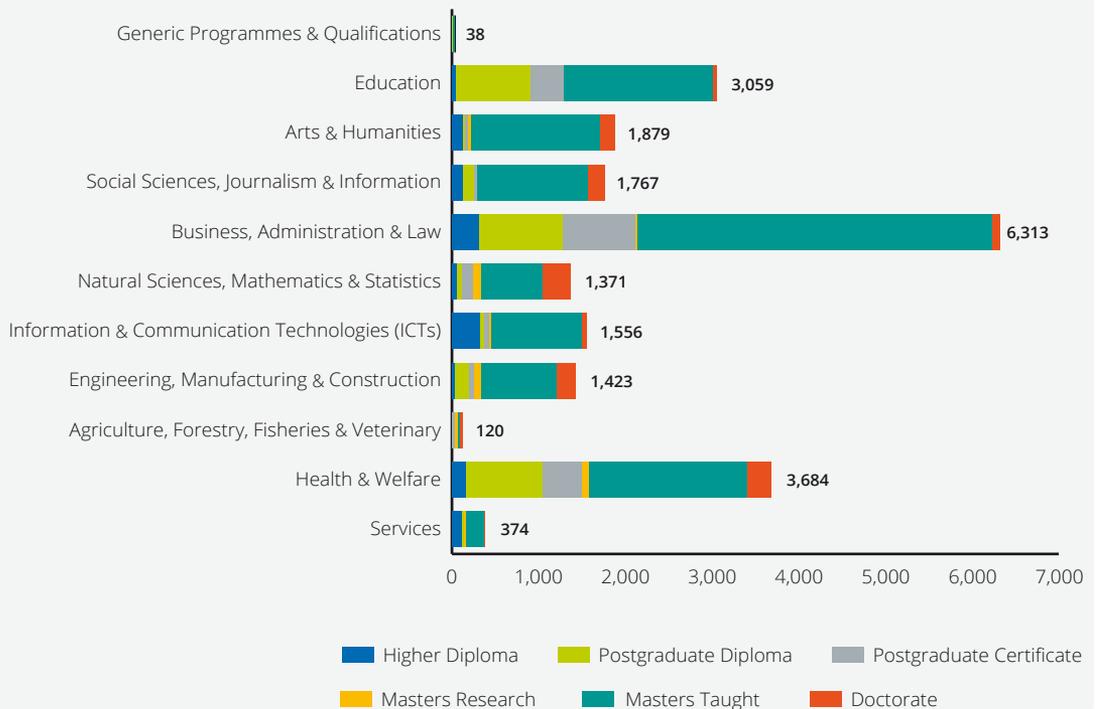


\* (e.g. merit, distinction, recommended, unclassified)

## Undergraduate Qualifications Awarded in 2017 by Field of Study (All Modes)

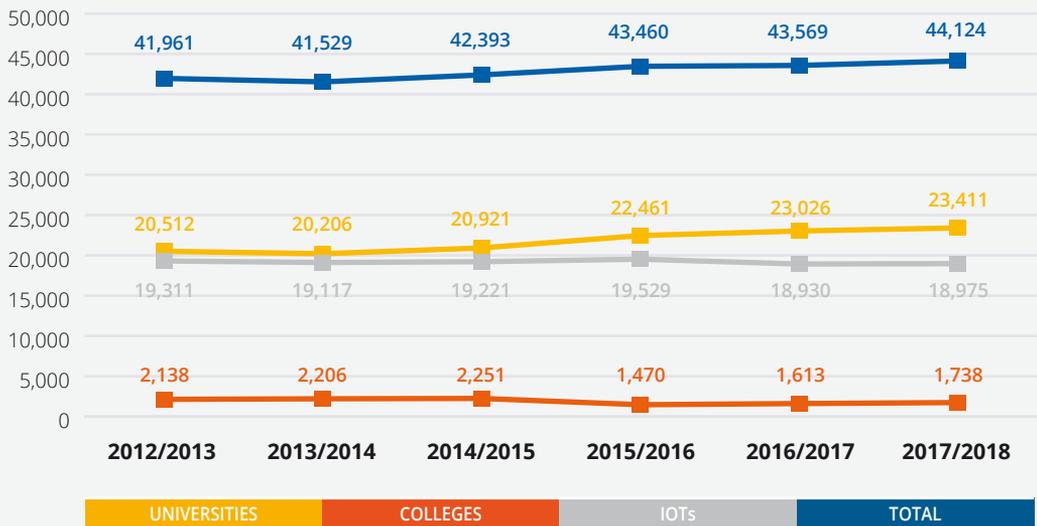


## Postgraduate Qualifications Awarded in 2017 by Field of Study (All Modes)

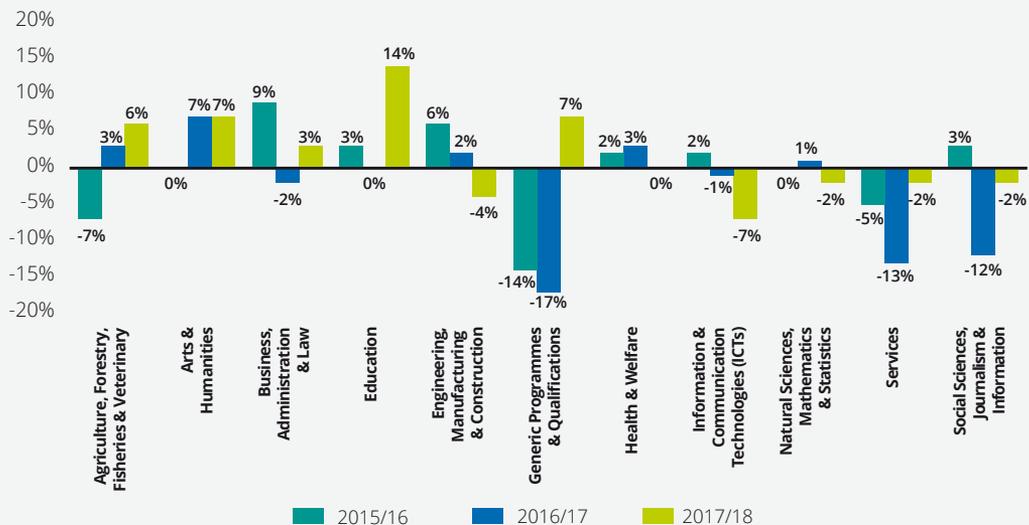


# TRENDS 2017

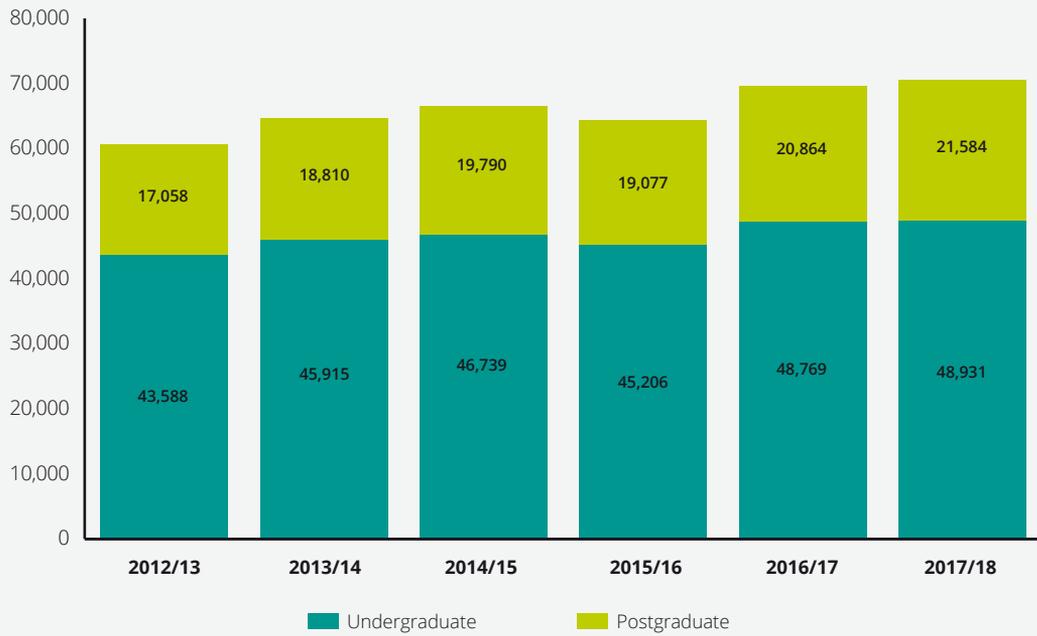
## Full-time Undergraduate New Entrant Sector Trends, 2012/13 - 2017/18



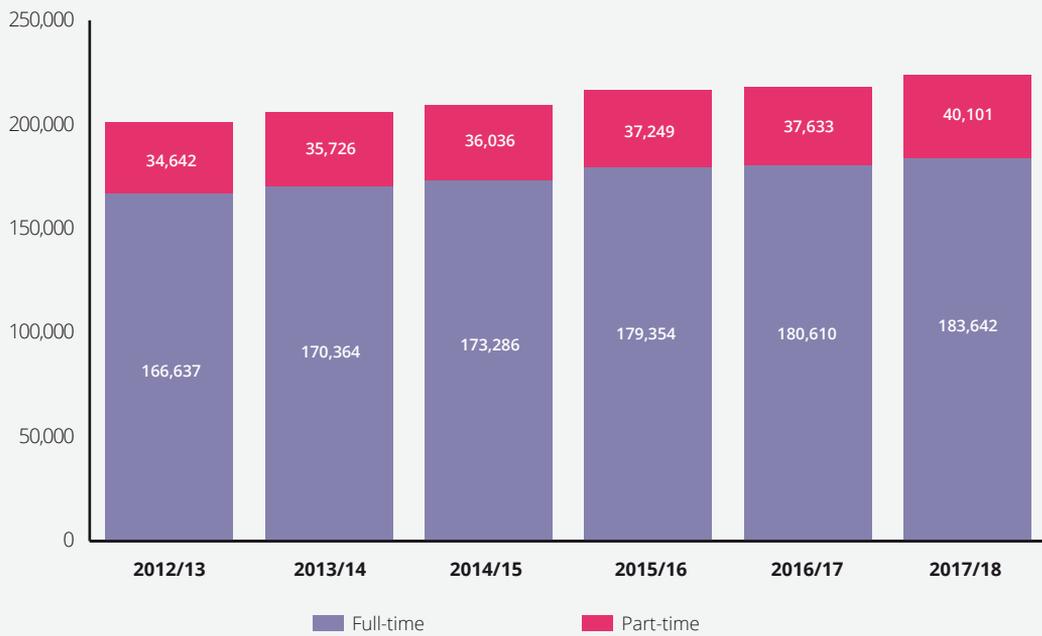
## Full-time Undergraduate New Entrants by Field of Study, % Change on Previous Year



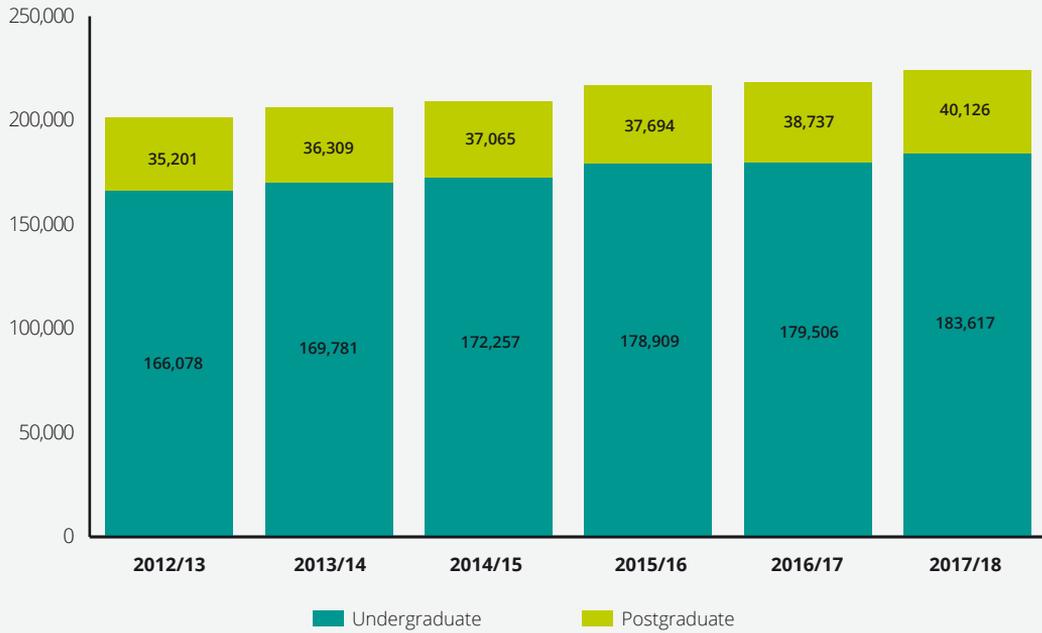
## Graduate Trends, 2012-2017



## Full-time and Part-time Enrolments Trends, 2012/13 – 2017/18



## Undergraduate and Postgraduate Enrolment Trends, 2012/13 – 2017/18



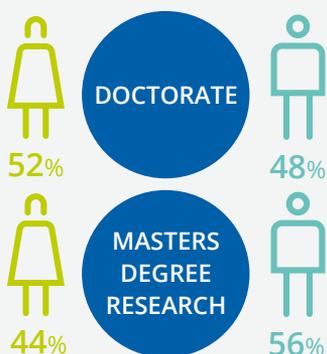
## Full-time International Undergraduate and Postgraduate Enrolment Trends, 2012/13 – 2017/18



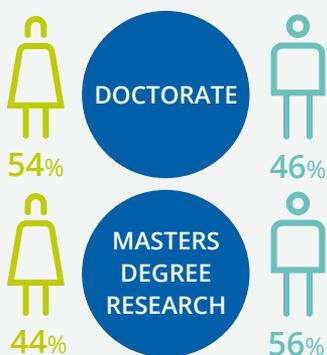
# RESEARCH

## Research Enrolments by Gender, 2017/18 (%)

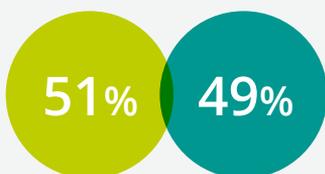
Full-time Research Postgraduate



Part-time Research Postgraduate



Overall



## Full-time Postgraduate Research Enrolment Trends, 2012/13 to 2017/18

	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Doctorate	6,953	6,645	6,800	6,928	6,806	6,888
Masters Degree Research	1,110	1,082	1,145	1,115	1,156	1,150
<b>Total Full-time</b>	<b>8,063</b>	<b>7,727</b>	<b>7,945</b>	<b>8,043</b>	<b>7,962</b>	<b>8,038</b>

## Part-time Postgraduate Research Enrolment Trends, 2012/13 to 2017/18

	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Doctorate	1,210	1,253	1,358	1,440	1,551	1,625
Masters Degree Research	292	300	303	290	289	352
<b>Total Part-time</b>	<b>1,502</b>	<b>1,553</b>	<b>1,661</b>	<b>1,730</b>	<b>1,840</b>	<b>1,977</b>

## Research Enrolments by Gender, 2017/18

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>FULL-TIME RESEARCH POSTGRADUATE</b>			
Doctorate	3,298	3,590	6,888
Masters Degree Research	644	506	1,150
<b>PART-TIME RESEARCH POSTGRADUATE</b>			
Doctorate	747	878	1,625
Masters Degree Research	198	154	352
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>4,887</b>	<b>5,128</b>	<b>10,015</b>

## Age Distribution of Full-time Research Enrolments, 2017/18

AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	AS A % OF TOTAL
21 and under	17	12	29	0%
22	117	112	229	3%
23	268	225	493	6%
24	305	304	609	8%
25-29	1534	1612	3,146	39%
30 and over	1,701	1,831	3,532	44%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,942</b>	<b>4,096</b>	<b>8,038</b>	<b>100%</b>

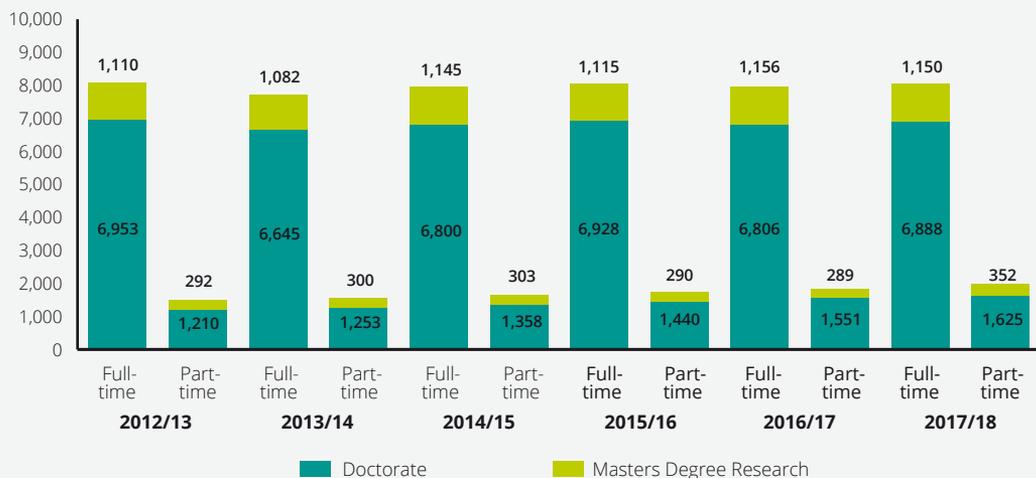
## Age Distribution of Part-time Research Enrolments, 2017/18

AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	AS A % OF TOTAL
23 and under	15	11	26	1%
24	18	11	29	1%
25-29	138	114	252	13%
30 and over	774	896	1,670	84%
<b>Total</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>1,032</b>	<b>1,977</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Research Enrolments by Sector, 2017/18

	UNIVERSITY SECTOR	INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SECTOR	TOTAL
<b>Full-time</b>	<b>6,737</b>	<b>1,301</b>	<b>8,038</b>
Masters Research	6,170	718	6,888
Doctorate	567	583	1,150
<b>Part-time</b>	<b>1,596</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>1,977</b>
Masters Research	1,353	272	1,625
Doctorate	243	109	352
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,333</b>	<b>1,682</b>	<b>10,015</b>

## Full-time and Part-time Doctorate and Masters Degree Research Enrolments, 2012/13 - 2017/18



## Full-time Research Enrolments by Discipline and Sector, 2017/2018

	UNIVERSITY SECTOR		INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SECTOR		TOTAL	
	Enrolments	%	Enrolments	%	Enrolments	%
Generic Programmes & Qualifications	0	0%	42	3%	42	1%
Education	240	4%	59	5%	299	4%
Arts & Humanities	865	13%	186	14%	1,051	13%
Social Sciences, Journalism & Information	800	12%	28	2%	828	10%
Business, Administration & Law	440	7%	136	10%	576	7%
Natural Sciences, Mathematics & Statistics	1,549	23%	401	31%	1,950	24%
Information & Communication Technologies (ICTs)	282	4%	118	9%	400	5%
Engineering, Manufacturing & Construction	1,061	16%	220	17%	1,281	16%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries & Veterinary	200	3%	0	0%	200	2%
Health & Welfare	1,300	19%	32	2%	1,332	17%
Services	0	0%	79	6%	79	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,737</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,301</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>8,038</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Part-time Research Enrolments by Discipline and Sector, 2017/2018

	UNIVERSITY SECTOR		INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SECTOR		TOTAL	
	Enrolments	%	Enrolments	%	Enrolments	%
Generic Programmes & Qualifications	0	0%	4	1%	4	0%
Education	260	16%	2	1%	262	13%
Arts & Humanities	199	12%	70	18%	269	14%
Social Sciences, Journalism & Information	226	14%	14	4%	240	12%
Business, Administration & Law	211	13%	71	19%	282	14%
Natural Sciences, Mathematics & Statistics	82	5%	96	25%	178	9%
Information & Communication Technologies (ICTs)	69	4%	36	9%	105	5%
Engineering, Manufacturing & Construction	111	7%	75	20%	186	9%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries & Veterinary	25	2%	0	0%	25	1%
Health & Welfare	413	26%	8	2%	421	21%
Services	0	0%	5	1%	5	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,596</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,977</b>	<b>100%</b>

# PARTICIPATION

## Equal Access Survey

The Equal Access Survey is a voluntary survey which collects information on the social, economic and ethnic background of new students who enter higher education for the first time. The survey commenced in 2007 and this annual collection is managed jointly by the National Office for Equity to Higher Education and the Statistics Unit of the HEA.

Equal Access data has been used:

- ▶ From 2010 onwards to advise the allocation of the Student Assistance Fund to each higher education institution for the support of students in financial need;
- ▶ Since 2011 to implement the access element of the annual HEA recurrent grant allocation model for higher education institutions to support the provision of access and lifelong learning initiatives.

It should be noted the figures in this section represent full-time new entrants to year 1 of Undergraduate Certificate, Higher Certificate, Undergraduate Diploma, Ordinary and Honours Bachelor Degree programmes. The new entrant figures in other selected sections of this report also contain figures for students studying occasional programmes (as well as Exam Only students) who are excluded in this section when referring to new entrants. While the National College of Ireland (NCI) carry out the Equal Access Survey, they are a non-HEA funded institution and are therefore excluded from the analysis. Furthermore, it is important to note that Mater Dei and St Patrick's College have amalgamated into Dublin City University (DCU), while the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) do not conduct this survey.

Response rates to the Equal Access Survey by institution are given in Appendix 2.

**Note:** RCSI and NCI are excluded from all sections and totals

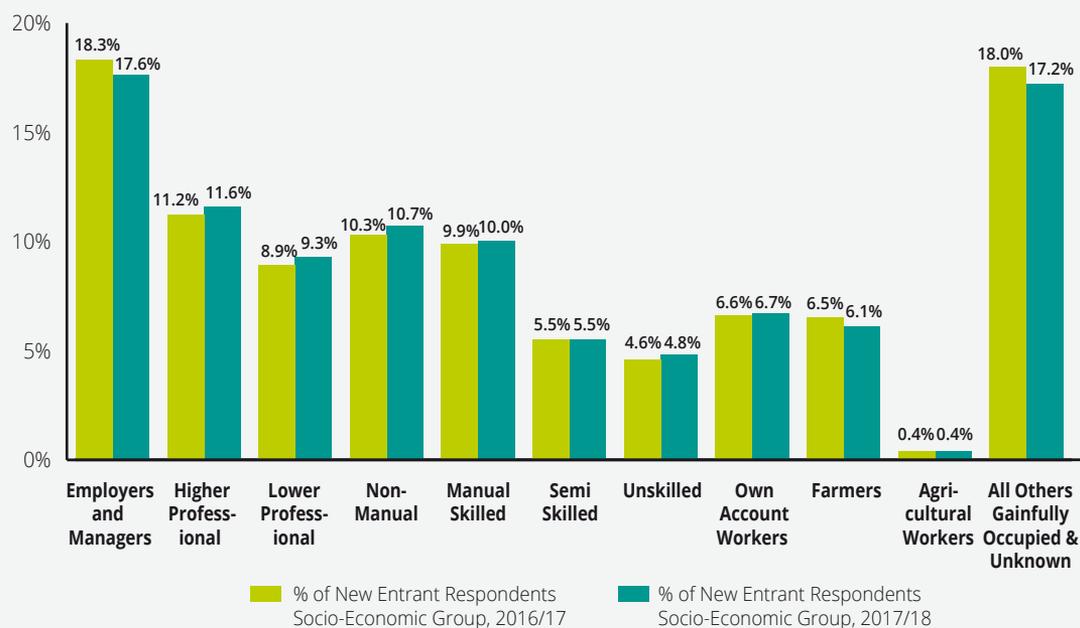
### Response Rates by Sector and Selected Equal Access Survey Question, 2017/18

	NEW ENTRANTS, 2017/18	RESPONSE TO EQUAL ACCESS SURVEY, 2017/18	% NEW ENTRANTS WHO RESPONDED TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROUP QUESTIONS*	% NEW ENTRANTS WHO RESPONDED TO ETHNIC GROUP QUESTIONS
UNIVERSITIES	24,403	81%	76%	79%
INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY	18,744	65%	57%	54%
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,147</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>68%</b>

**Note:** Excludes Royal College of Surgeons and National College of Ireland

\*including gainfully employed & unknown

## Socio-Economic Group of Respondents, 2016/17 and 2017/18



## Socio-Economic Group by Sector, 2016/17 and 2017/18

	UNIVERSITIES		INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
Employers and Managers	19.5%	19.0%	16.1%	15.2%
Higher Professional	14.2%	14.5%	6.0%	6.7%
Lower Professional	10.0%	10.2%	6.9%	7.7%
Non-Manual	10.0%	10.6%	10.7%	11.0%
Manual Skilled	8.3%	8.1%	12.6%	13.2%
Semi-Skilled	4.5%	4.5%	7.3%	7.3%
Unskilled	3.6%	3.8%	6.4%	6.7%
Own Account Workers	6.3%	6.3%	7.1%	7.4%
Farmers	6.7%	6.0%	6.2%	6.4%
Agricultural Workers	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.6%
All Others Gainfully Occupied, and Unknown	16.7%	16.9%	20.2%	17.6%

## Respondents with a Disability, 2017/18

TYPE OF DISABILITY	% OF RESPONDENTS	% OF NEW ENTRANTS
Blindness, Deafness, Severe Vision or Hearing Impairment	5.9%	0.6%
Physical Condition	6.7%	0.7%
Specific Learning Difficulty	47.0%	5.0%
Psych./Emotional Condition	34.1%	3.6%
Other, incl. Chronic Illness	21.2%	2.3%

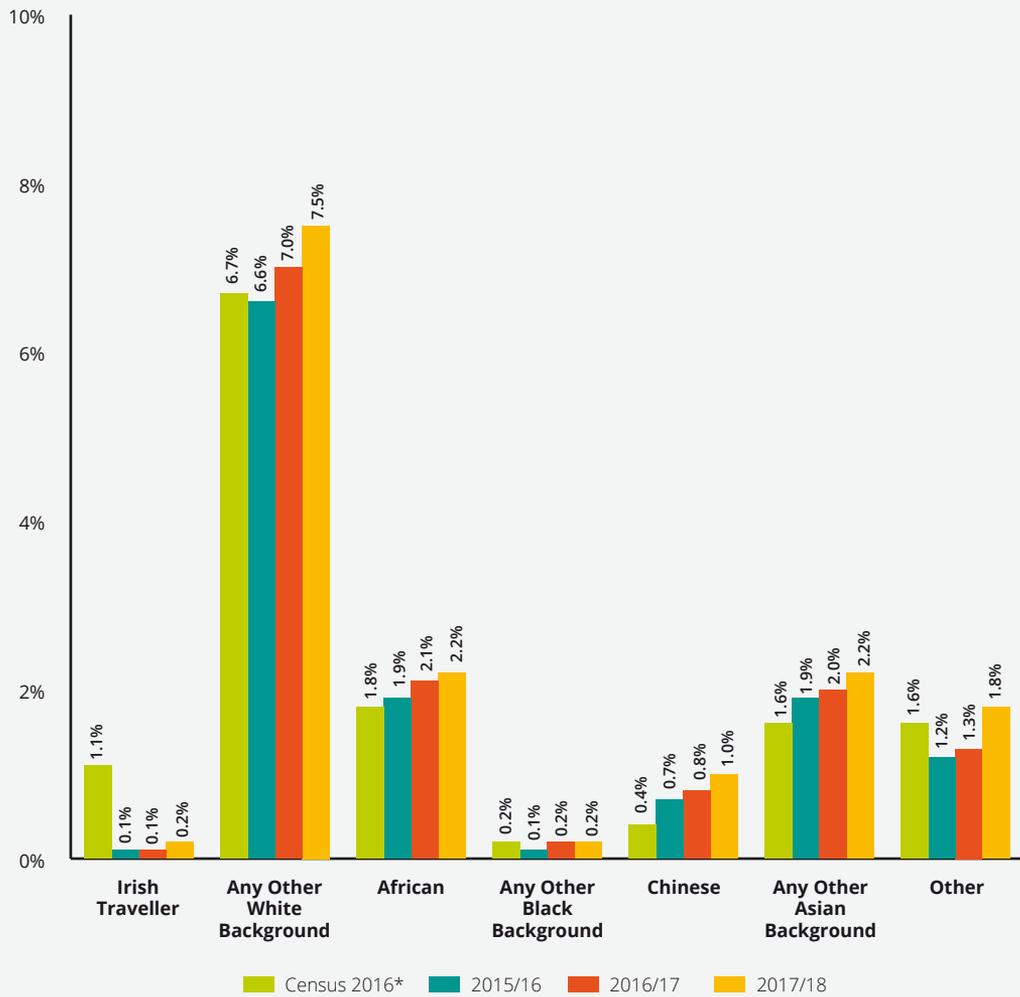
## Proportion of Respondents with a Disability, 2017/18

	%
% of Total New Entrants with a Disability	10.6%
% of Total Respondents to Equal Access survey with a Disability	14.4%
% of New Entrants Requiring Support	4.0%
% of Respondents with a Disability Requiring Support	37.7%

## Ethnic Group of Respondents, 2017/18

	UNIVERSITIES	INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY	ALL INSTITUTIONS
Irish	85.8%	83.2%	84.9%
Irish Traveller	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Any Other White Background	6.9%	8.7%	7.5%
African	1.7%	3.1%	2.2%
Any Other Black Background	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Chinese	1.3%	0.5%	1.0%
Any Other Asian Background	2.2%	2.3%	2.2%
Other	1.7%	1.9%	1.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Ethnic Group of Respondents 2017/18, 2016/17, 2015/16 & Census 2016



\* Census 2016 data taken from 15-19 year age group by ethnic group

## Mature New Entrants

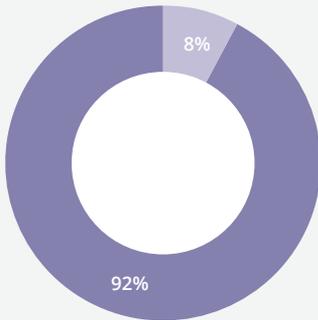
The following analysis outlines the trends in mature student participation in Irish higher education over recent years and presents a demographic profile of this group.

A mature new entrant is defined as a student who was 23 or over on the 1 January of the year of entry to the higher education institution.

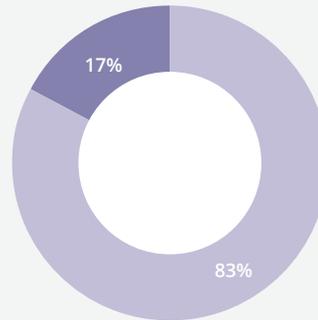
In this analysis, we have included new entrants for year one of Undergraduate Certificate/ Higher Certificate, Diploma, Ordinary and Honours Bachelor Degree programmes. It should be noted that the figures in this section exclude data from the National College of Ireland (NCI) and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI).

### Proportion of Mature and Non-Mature New Entrants, 2017/18

New Entrants Full-time

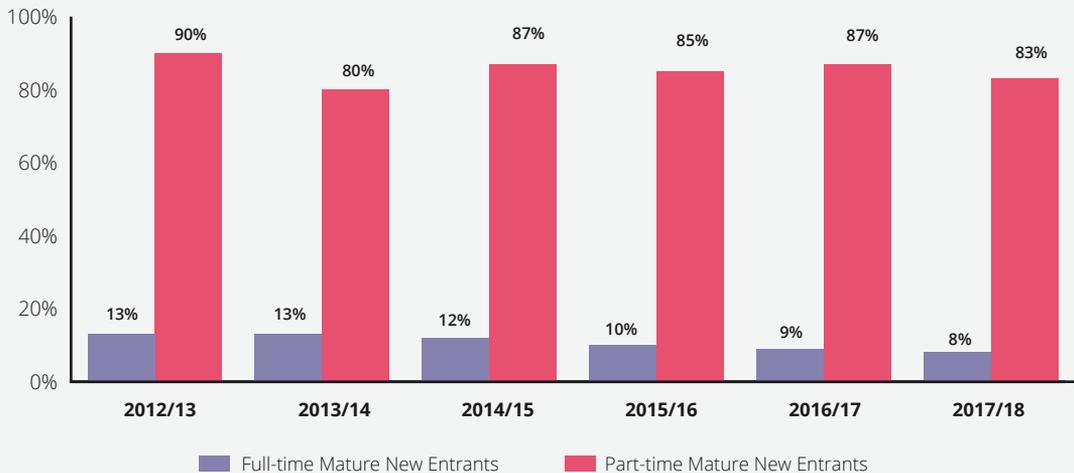


New Entrants Part-time



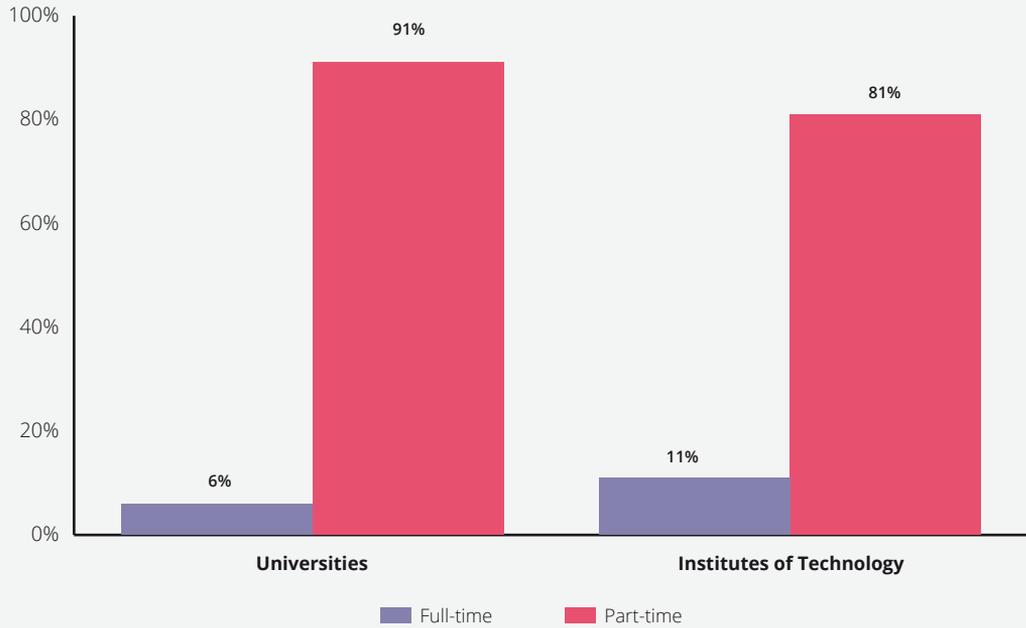
● Mature ● Non-Mature

### Full-time and Part-time Mature New Entrants as a % of all New Entrants, 2012/13 to 2017/18

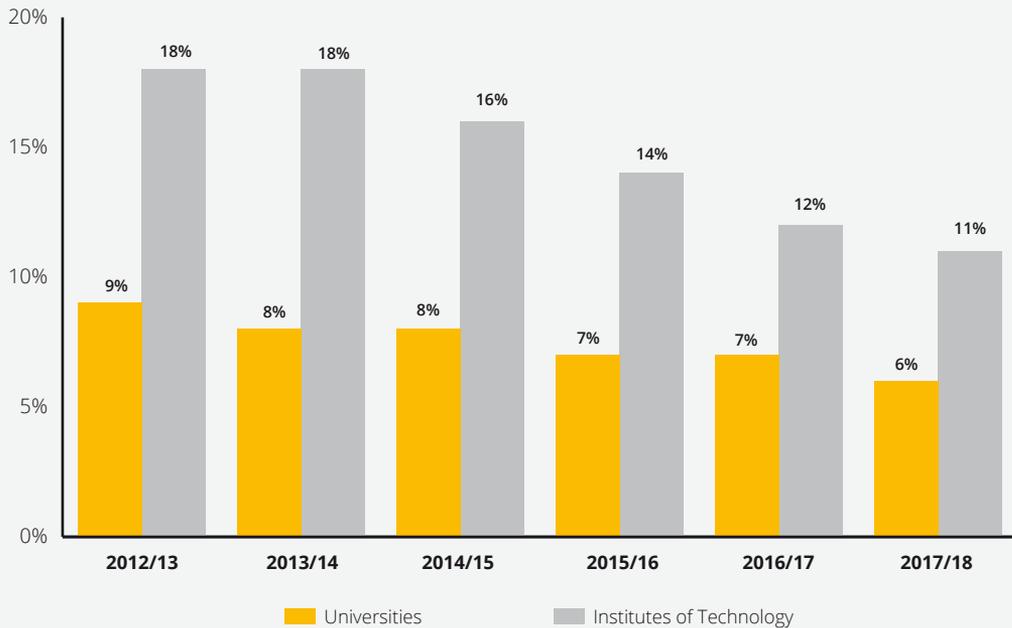


■ Full-time Mature New Entrants ■ Part-time Mature New Entrants

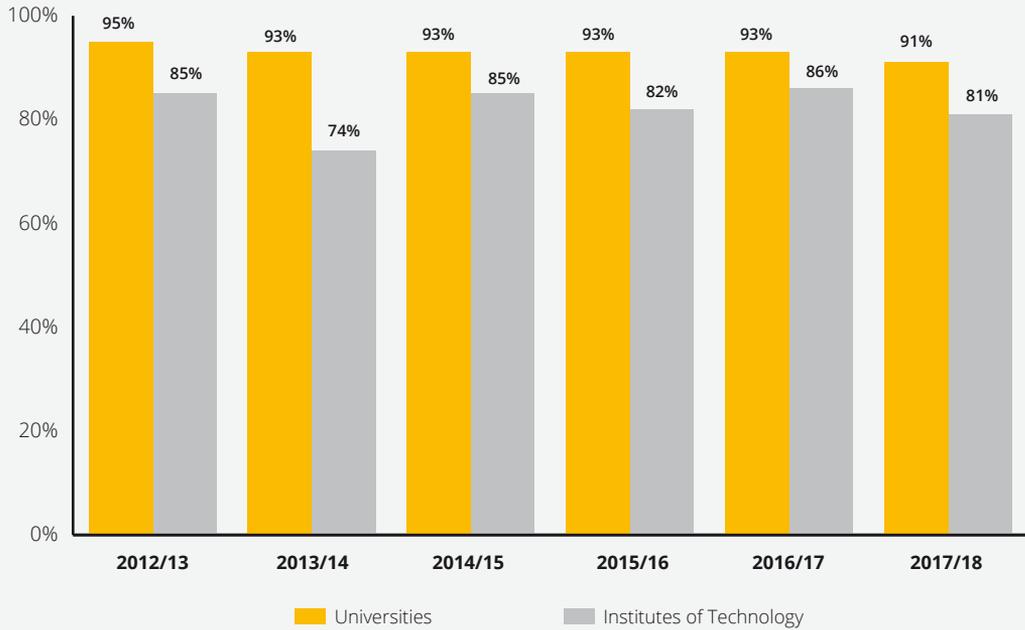
### Full- and Part-time Mature New Entrants as a % of all New Entrants by Sector, 2017/18



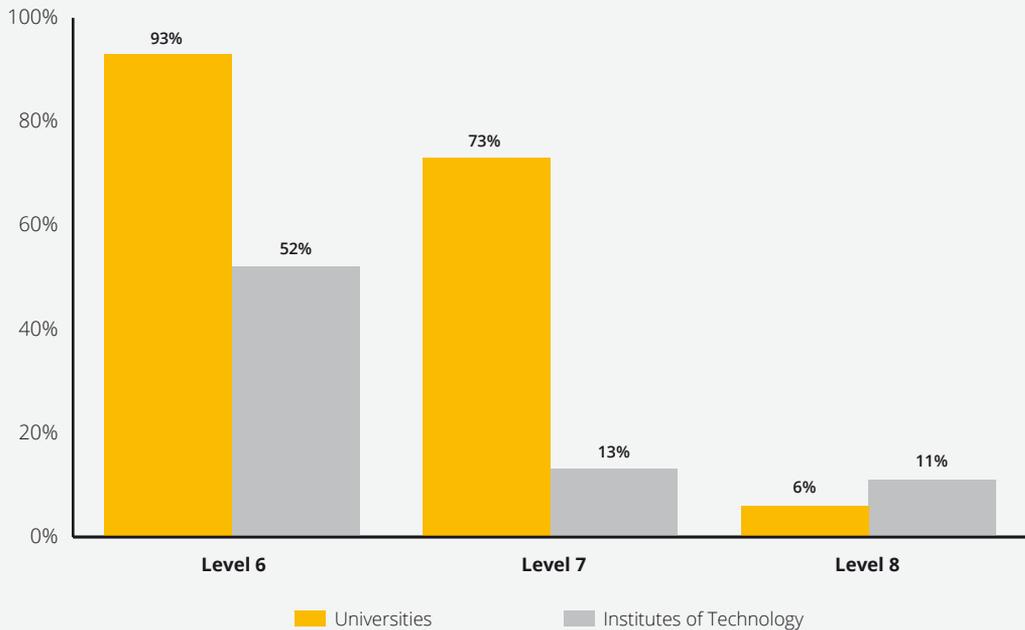
### Trends in Full-time Mature New Entrants as a % of all New Entrants, 2012/13 to 2017/18



## Trends in Part-time Mature New Entrants as a % of all New Entrants, 2012/13 to 2017/18

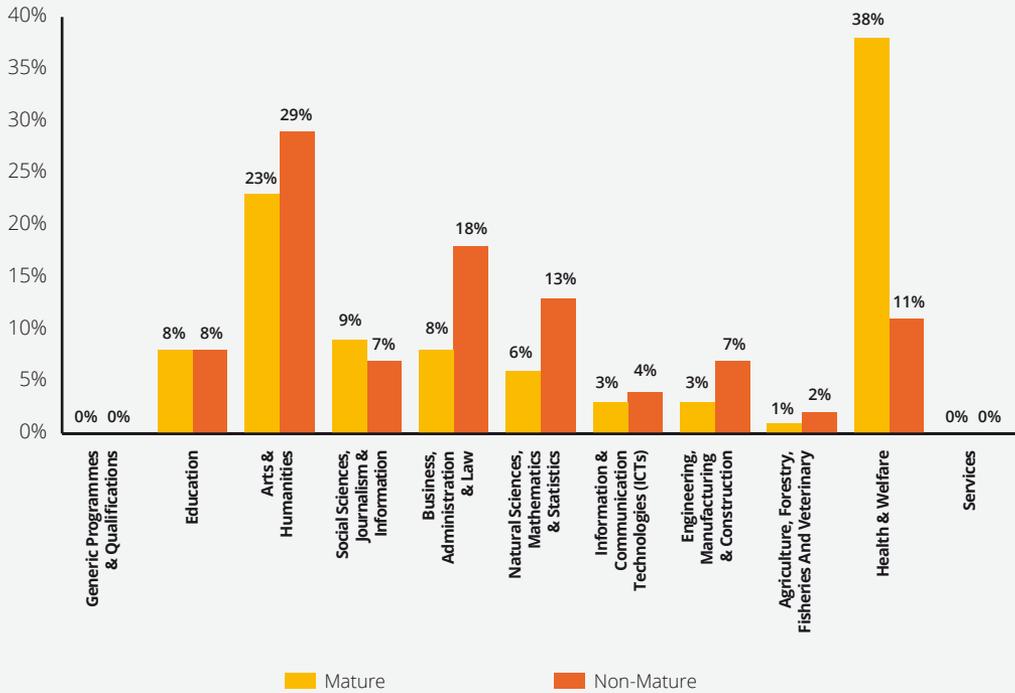


## Proportion of Full- and Part-time Mature New Entrants by Level and Sector, 2017/18

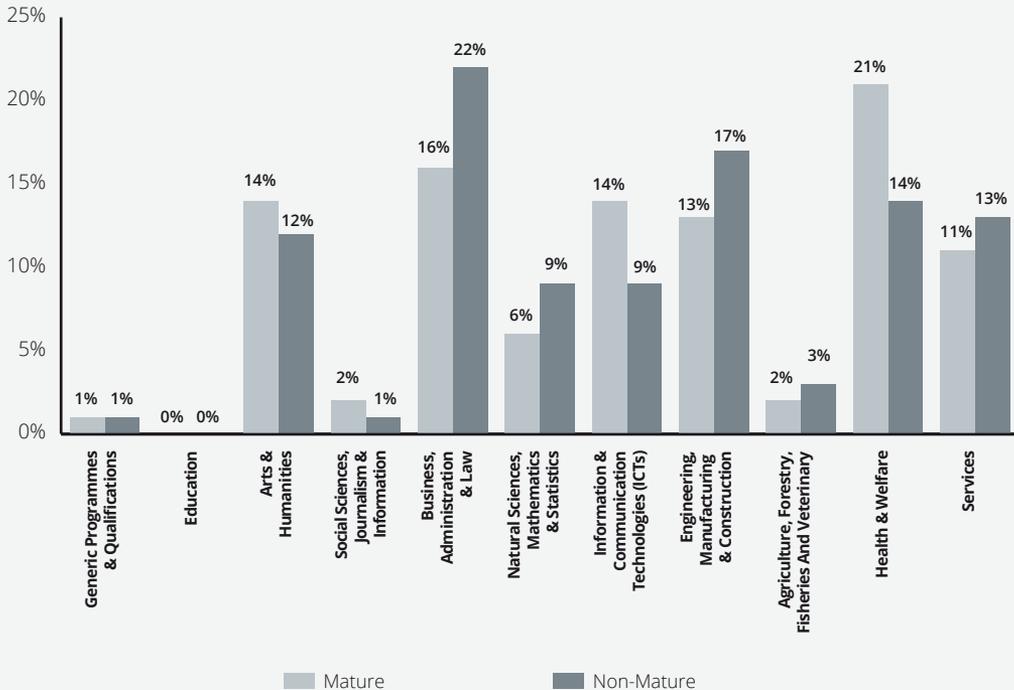


## Discipline of Full-time Mature New Entrants by Sector, 2017/18

### Universities

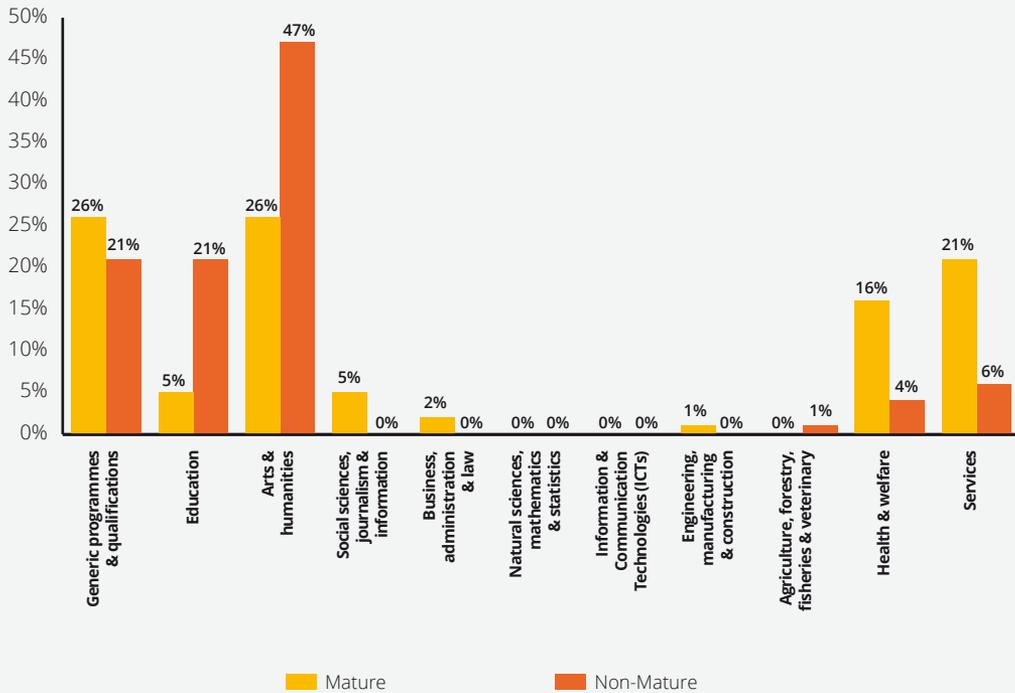


### Institutes of Technology

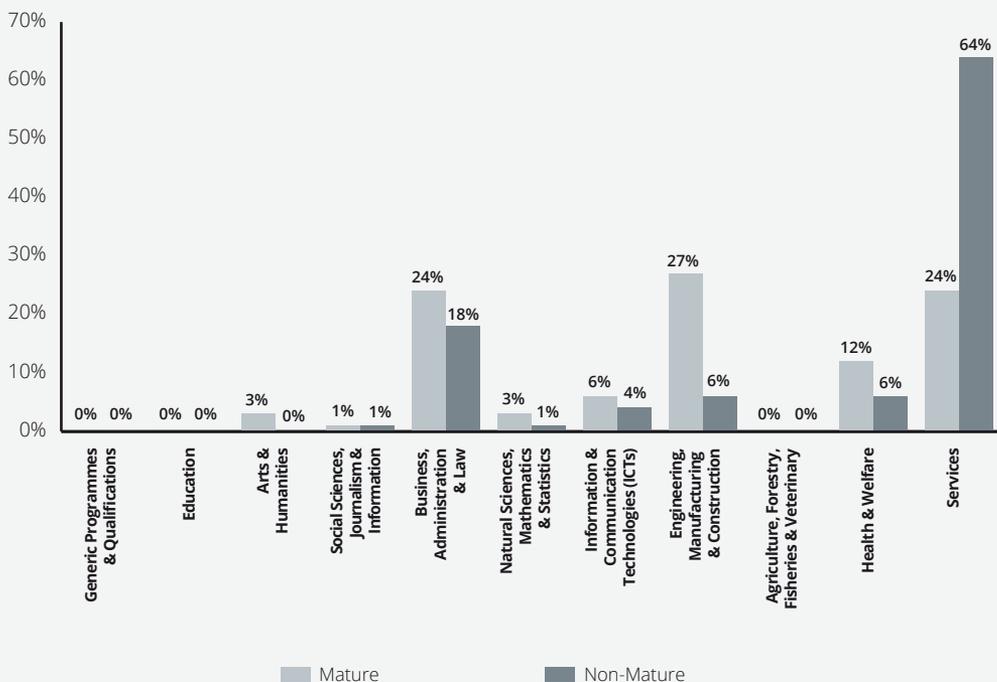


## Discipline of Part-time Mature New Entrants by Sector, 2017/18

### Universities

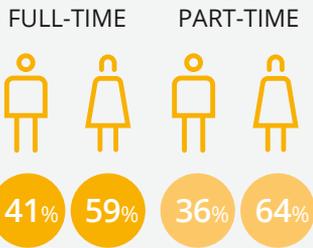


### Institutes of Technology

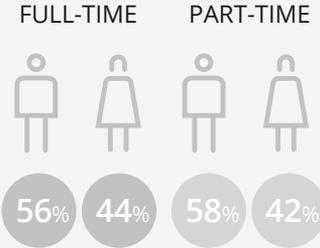


## Gender of Mature New Entrants by Sector, 2017/18

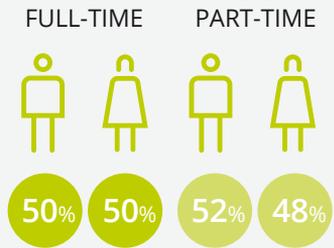
### Universities



### Institutes of Technology

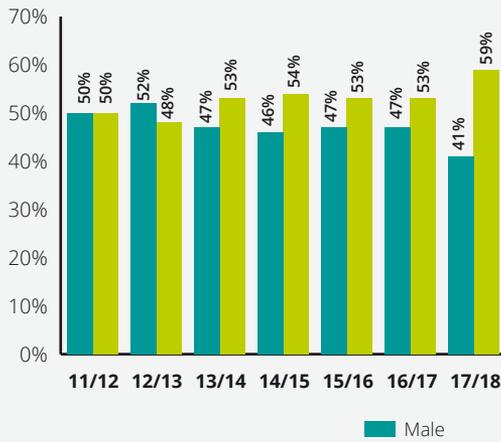


### All HEA institutions

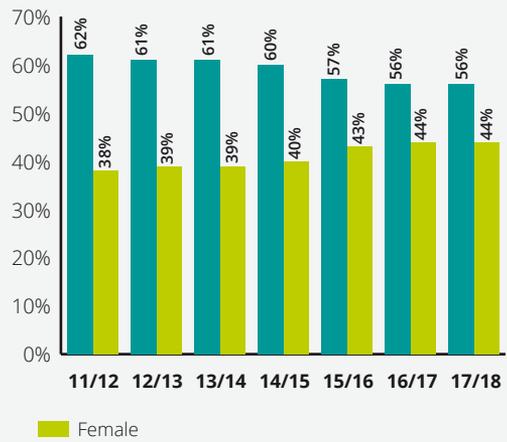


## Gender Full-time Mature New Entrants by Sector, 2011/12 to 2017/18

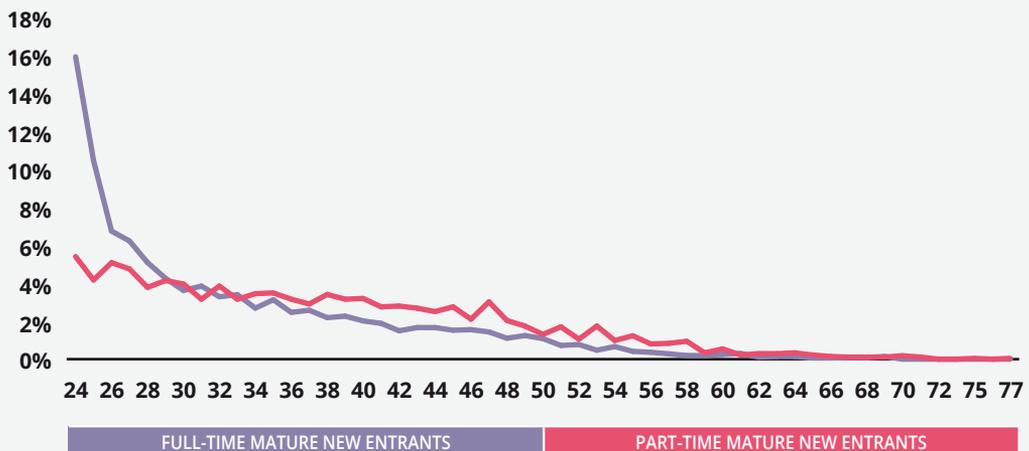
### Universities



### Institutes of Technology

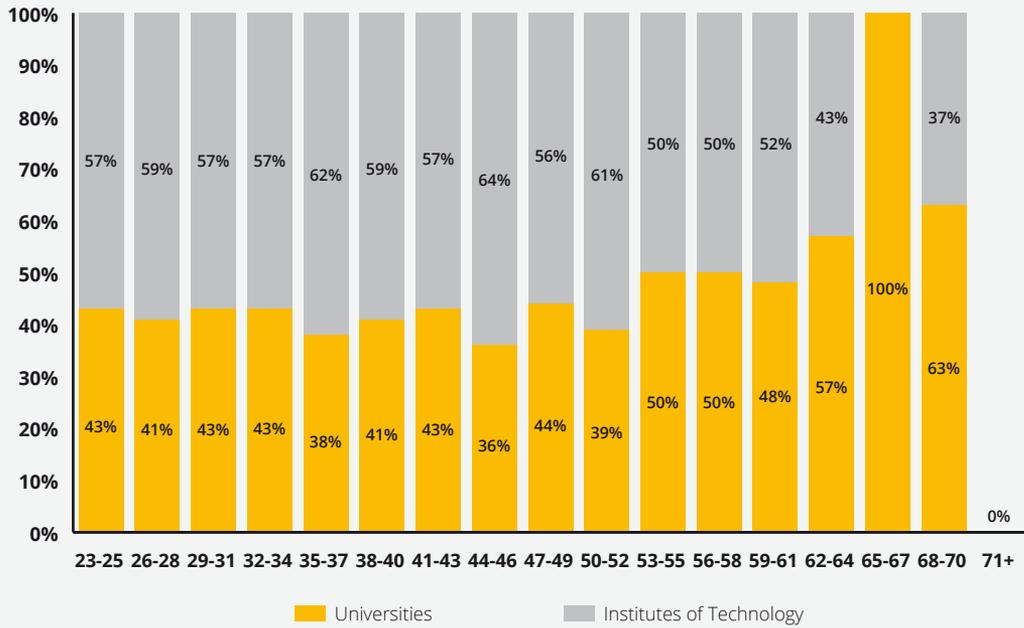


## Age of Mature New Entrants as a % of Total Mature New Entrants, 2017/18

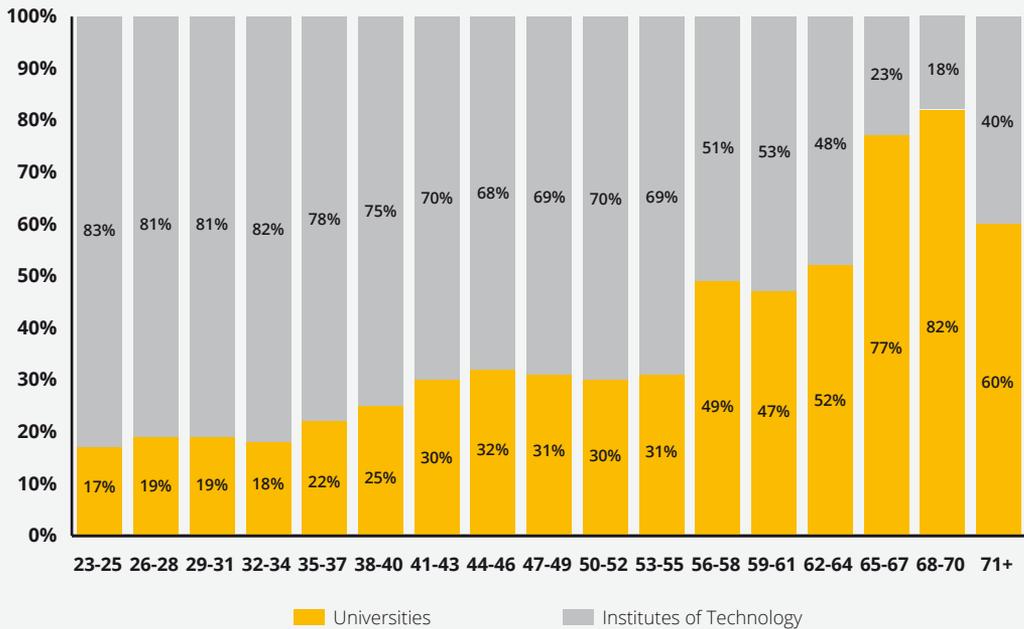


## Age Profile of Mature New Entrants, 2017/18

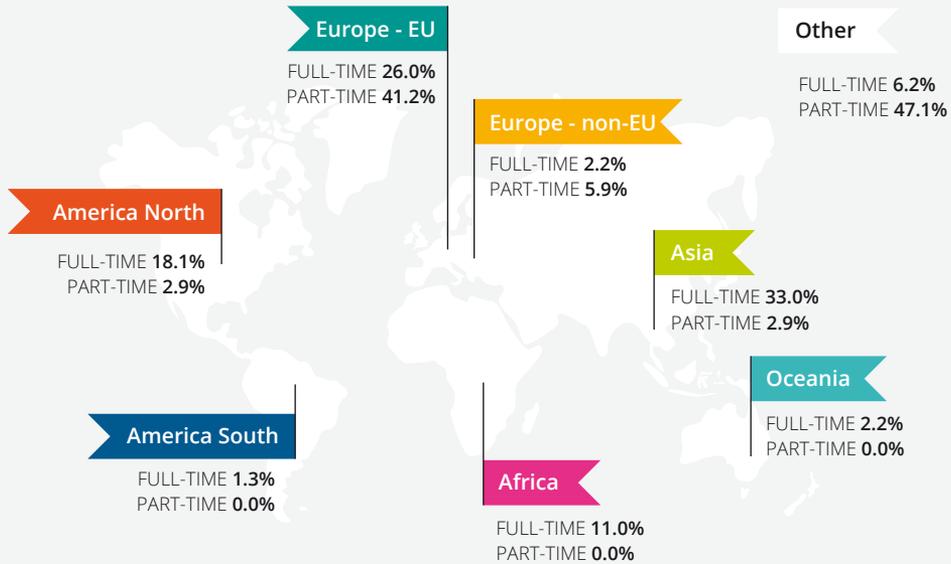
### Full-time



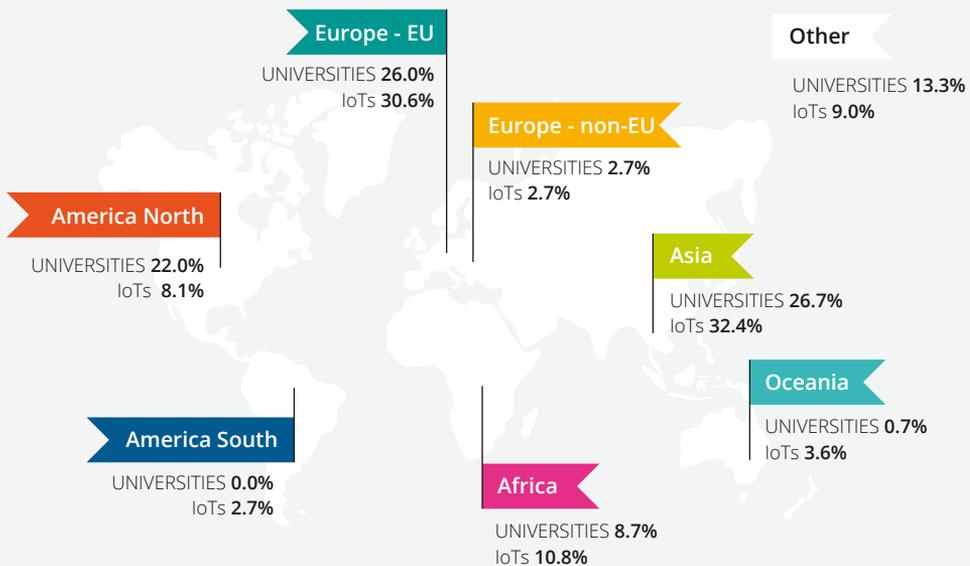
### Part-time



## Domiciliary of Origin of Full- and Part-time International Mature New Entrants by Mode, 2017/18



## Domiciliary of Origin of Full- and Part-time International Mature New Entrants by Sector, 2017/18



## Equal Access Survey Data of Mature New Entrants

The Equal Access Survey is administered to all new entrants in HEA-funded institutions at registration every year. This section examines the responses of mature new entrants to questions in the survey. All data in this section refers to full-time mature new entrants to year 1 Undergraduate Certificate/Higher Certificate, Diploma, Ordinary Bachelor Degree and Honours Bachelor Degree programmes. It should be noted that the figures in this section exclude data from the National College of Ireland (NCI) and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI).

Response rates to the Equal Access Survey by institution for mature new entrants are given in Appendix 3.

### Ethnic Group of Full-time Mature and Non-Mature Respondents, 2017/18

Ethnic Group	MATURE	NON-MATURE
Irish	74.0%	85.6%
Irish Traveller	0.2%	0.2%
Any Other White Background	15.2%	7.1%
African	5.7%	2.1%
Any Other Black Background	0.8%	0.2%
Chinese	0.6%	0.9%
Any Other Asian Background	2.0%	2.2%
Other	1.6%	1.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Type of Disability of Full-time Mature and Non-Mature Respondents, 2017/18

	MATURE RESPONDENTS	NON-MATURE RESPONDENTS
	314	3,286
Type of Disability*	AS % OF TOTAL MATURE RESPONDENTS WITH A DISABILITY	AS % OF TOTAL NON-MATURE RESPONDENTS WITH A DISABILITY
Blindness, Deafness, Severe Hearing or Vision Impairment*	9.6%	6.6%
Physical Condition*	20.1%	6.4%
Specific Learning Difficulty*	34.1%	56.7%
Psychological/Emotional Condition*	57.6%	36.7%
Other, inc. Chronic Illness*	33.1%	22.7%
% of people with a Disability indicating support required	43.6%	48.4%

\* % refers to proportion of disabilities as some respondents indicated more than one disability

## Type of Disability of Full-time Mature and Non-Mature Respondents as a % of All New Entrants, 2017/18

	MATURE RESPONDENTS	NON-MATURE RESPONDENTS
	Disability Type as % of all Mature New Entrants	Disability Type as % of all Mature New Entrants
Blindness, Deafness, Severe Vision or Hearing Impairment*	0.8%	0.5%
Physical Condition*	1.7%	0.5%
Specific Learning Difficulty*	3.0%	4.7%
Psych./Emotional Condition*	5.0%	3.1%
Other, incl Chronic Illness*	2.9%	1.9%
Respondents with a disability as % of all new entrants	8.7%	8.3%
Respondents with a disability as % of all respondents to survey	16.0%	12.4%
Those indicating support required as % of all new entrants	3.8%	4.0%

\* % refers to proportion of disabilities as some respondents indicated more than one disability

## Response Rates Full-time Mature and Non-Mature New Entrants, 2017/18

All New entrants, 2017/18	UNIVERSITIES	INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY	TOTAL
Mature	1,526	2,098	3,624
Non-Mature	22,877	16,646	39,523
<b>% of New entrants responding to Equal Access Survey, 2017/18</b>			
Mature	55%	54%	54%
Non-Mature	68%	66%	67%
<b>% of Respondents for whom a socio-economic classification was assigned (not including gainfully employed)</b>			
Mature	47%	40%	43%
Non-Mature	79%	76%	78%

## Socio-Economic Group of Full-time Mature and Non-Mature Respondents for whom a Classification was Assigned, 2017/18

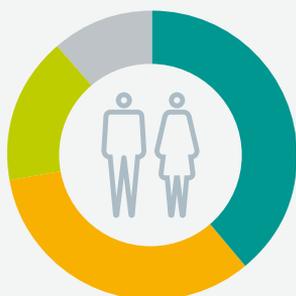
Socio-economic group	MATURE	NON-MATURE
Employers and Managers	13.9%	21.5%
Higher Professional	10.5%	13.8%
Lower Professional	9.5%	11.0%
Non-Manual	11.9%	13.0%
Manual Skilled	20.0%	12.2%
Semi-Skilled	9.3%	6.7%
Unskilled	9.2%	5.8%
Own Account Workers	9.4%	8.0%
Farmers	5.2%	7.4%
Agricultural Workers	1.0%	0.5%

## Socio-Economic Group of Full-time Mature and Non-Mature Respondents for whom a Classification was Assigned by Sector, 2017/18

Socio-Economic Group	MATURE UNIVERSITIES	NON-MATURE UNIVERSITIES	MATURE INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY	NON-MATURE INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY
Employers and Managers	15.1%	23.4%	13.0%	18.7%
Higher Professional	12.0%	17.6%	9.2%	8.1%
Lower Professional	9.7%	12.2%	9.4%	9.4%
Non-Manual	13.8%	12.7%	10.3%	13.5%
Manual Skilled	18.9%	9.8%	21.0%	15.8%
Semi-Skilled	8.2%	5.2%	10.3%	8.8%
Unskilled	8.2%	4.2%	10.1%	8.1%
Own Account Workers	9.4%	7.4%	9.4%	9.0%
Farmers	4.1%	7.1%	6.3%	7.9%
Agricultural Workers	0.8%	0.4%	1.1%	0.7%

# STAFFING

## Summary



Academic  
**9,686**

Research and Specialist - Academic  
**4,194**

Non-Academic  
**8,270**

Research and Specialist - Non-Academic  
**2,737**

## Staffing Statistics: HEA Institutions 2013 to 2017 (December Figures): Numbers in Whole-Time Equivalents (WTEs)

		2013	2017	% Change 2013 to 2017	No. Change 2013 to 2017
UNIVERSITIES	Academic	4,216	4,713	12%	497
	Non Academic	4,993	5,097	2%	104
	Research and Specialist - Academic	2,851	3,683	29%	832
	Research and Specialist - Non Academic	1,637	2,231	36%	593
	<b>Total</b>	<b>13,697</b>	<b>15,724</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>2,026</b>
COLLEGES	Academic	388	274	-29%	-114
	Non Academic	340	275	-19%	-65
	Research and Specialist - Academic	8	18	131%	10
	Research and Specialist - Non Academic	12	16	35%	4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>-22%</b>	<b>-164</b>
INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY	Academic	4,396	4,698	7%	303
	Non Academic	2,773	2,898	5%	126
	Research and Specialist - Academic	391	493	26%	102
	Research and Specialist - Non Academic	539	490	-9%	-49
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8,099</b>	<b>8,580</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>482</b>
TOTAL	Academic	9,000	9,686	8%	686
	Non Academic	8,106	8,270	2%	164
	Research and Specialist - Academic	3,250	4,194	29%	944
	Research and Specialist - Non Academic	2,188	2,737	25%	549
	<b>Total</b>	<b>22,544</b>	<b>24,888</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>2,344</b>

## Gender Breakdown by Institution, Academic and Non-Academic, 2017

### Universities

ACADEMIC      NON-ACADEMIC



### Colleges

ACADEMIC      NON-ACADEMIC

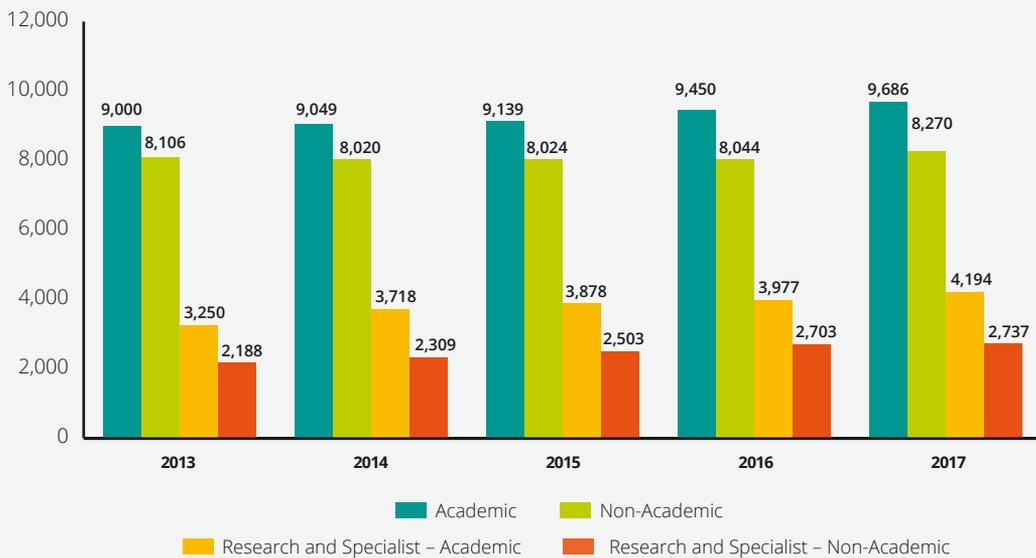


### Institutes of Technology

ACADEMIC      NON-ACADEMIC



## Staff Numbers by Staff Type, 2013 to 2017



# FINANCES

## Students Paying Non-EU Fees, 2017/18

	Full-time	Part-time	Remote	Total
<b>UNIVERSITIES</b>	<b>107,114</b>	<b>16,649</b>	<b>4,012</b>	<b>127,775</b>
Paying Non-EU fee	11,499	650	327	12,476
%	<b>11%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>COLLEGES</b>	<b>8,003</b>	<b>2,855</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>10,915</b>
Paying Non-EU fee	1,636	11	0	1,647
%	<b>20%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>68,525</b>	<b>20,597</b>	<b>3,898</b>	<b>93,020</b>
Paying Non-EU fee	3,022	39	53	3,114
%	<b>4%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>183,642</b>	<b>40,101</b>	<b>7,967</b>	<b>231,710</b>
Paying Non-EU fee	16,157	700	380	17,237
%	<b>9%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>7%</b>

## All HEA Income and Expenditure (Figures in €000), 2015/16\*

<b>Income</b>	<b>€2,430,969</b>
State Grants	€616,074
Fees, of which:	€1,153,505
Exchequer Fees	€301,850
Non-Exchequer Fees	€851,655
Research Grants & Contracts	€474,251
Other Income	€187,138
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>€2,409,456</b>
Core - Pay	€1,430,983
Core - Non-Pay	€505,686
Research Grants & Contracts - Pay	€295,589
Research Grants & Contracts - Non-Pay	€177,199
Exchequer/Non-Exchequer Fees Ratio	0.4
Pay/Non-Pay Expenditure Ratio (incl. Research)	2.5
Pay/Non-Pay Expenditure Ratio (excl. Research)	2.8

\* Figures exclude RCSI.  
Source: Institutional Profiles (2015/16)

## All HEA Income and Expenditure (Figures in €000), 2015/16\*

UNIVERSITIES	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>€1,588,671</b>
State Grants	€268,796
Fees, of which:	€796,889
Exchequer Fees	€241,714
Non-Exchequer Fees	€555,175
Research Grants & Contracts	€400,891
Other Income	€122,096
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>€1,586,082</b>
Core - Pay	€845,878
Core - Non-Pay	€339,314
Research Grants & Contracts - Pay	€256,675
Research Grants & Contracts - Non-Pay	€144,216
Exchequer/Non-Exchequer Fees Ratio	0.4
Pay/Non-Pay Expenditure Ratio (incl. Research)	2.3
Pay/Non-Pay Expenditure Ratio (excl. Research)	2.5
COLLEGES	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>€100,470</b>
State Grants	€40,078
Fees, of which:	€50,126
Exchequer Fees	€19,125
Non-Exchequer Fees	€31,001
Research Grants & Contracts	€5,072
Other Income	€5,194
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>€95,316</b>
Core - Pay	€71,125
Core - Non-Pay	€21,253
Research Grants & Contracts - Pay	€1,114
Research Grants & Contracts - Non-Pay	€1,824
Exchequer/Non-Exchequer Fees Ratio	0.6
Pay/Non-Pay Expenditure Ratio (incl. Research)	3.1
Pay/Non-Pay Expenditure Ratio (excl. Research)	3.3

INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>€741,827</b>
State Grants	€307,200
Fees, of which:	€306,490
Exchequer Fees	€41,011
Non-Exchequer Fees	€265,479
Research Grants & Contracts	€68,289
Other Income	€59,848
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>€728,058</b>
Core - Pay	€513,980
Core - Non-Pay	€145,119
Research Grants & Contracts - Pay	€37,800
Research Grants & Contracts - Non-Pay	€31,159
Exchequer/Non-Exchequer Fees Ratio	0.2
Pay/Non-Pay Expenditure Ratio (incl. Research)	3.1
Pay/Non-Pay Expenditure Ratio (excl. Research)	3.5

# APPENDICES

## APPENDIX 1

### Institutions Participating in the Student Record System (SRS)

#### The University Sector

Dublin City University

National University of Ireland, Galway

National University of Ireland, Maynooth

Trinity College Dublin

University College Cork

University College Dublin

University of Limerick

Mary Immaculate College, Limerick

National College of Art and Design

Royal College of Surgeons

St. Angela's College of Home Economics, Sligo

#### The Institute of Technology Sector

Athlone IT

Cork IT

Dublin Institute of Technology

Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology

Dundalk IT

Galway-Mayo IT

IT Blanchardstown

IT Carlow

IT Sligo

IT Tallaght

IT Tralee

Letterkenny IT

Limerick IT

Waterford IT

## APPENDIX 2

### Response Rates to the Equal Access Survey by Institution 2017/18 and 2016/17

Institution	Response Rate as % of all New Entrants 2017/18	Response Rate as % of all New Entrants 2016/17
Dublin City University	31%	57%
National University of Ireland, Galway	83%	81%
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	83%	81%
Trinity College Dublin	95%	94%
University College Cork	95%	95%
University College Dublin	92%	92%
University of Limerick	82%	80%
Mary Immaculate College, Limerick	93%	98%
National College of Art and Design	100%	100%
St. Angela's College of Home Economics, Sligo	64%	64%
Athlone IT	73%	55%
Cork IT	94%	92%
Dublin Institute of Technology	81%	80%
Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology	31%	34%
Dundalk IT	35%	72%
Galway-Mayo IT	42%	47%
IT Blanchardstown	50%	42%
IT Carlow	50%	61%
IT Sligo	21%	5%
IT Tallaght	83%	92%
IT Tralee	96%	69%
Letterkenny IT	78%	82%
Limerick IT	24%	23%
Waterford IT	91%	96%
National College of Ireland	67%	69%
<b>Total</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>75%</b>

## APPENDIX 3

### Response Rates to the Equal Access Survey by Institution for all Full-time Mature New Entrants

Institution	Response Rate 2017/18
Dublin City University	21%
National University of Ireland, Galway	82%
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	71%
Trinity College Dublin	89%
University College Cork	NA
University College Dublin	64%
University of Limerick	75%
Mary Immaculate College, Limerick	63%
National College of Art and Design	100%
St. Angela's College of Home Economics, Sligo	58%
Athlone IT	57%
Cork IT	76%
Dublin Institute of Technology	56%
Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology	18%
Dundalk IT	25%
Galway-Mayo IT	42%
IT Blanchardstown	52%
IT Carlow	60%
IT Sligo	21%
IT Tallaght	69%
IT Tralee	96%
Letterkenny IT	72%
Limerick IT	32%
Waterford IT	69%
<b>Total</b>	<b>54%</b>





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