

To ask the Minister for Employment and Learning (i) how many pupils gained a place at Oxford and Cambridge universities in each of the last ten years, broken down by subject studied; and of these pupils, how many attended (a) private secondary schools; (b) controlled schools; (c) integrated schools; (d) maintained schools; and (e) other types of schools; and (ii) how many of these pupils were entitled to free school meals.

ANSWER

The Department of Education does not hold destination information of school leavers by individual Higher Education Institution. Therefore, it cannot identify the courses being taken in specific Higher Education institutions by Northern Ireland school leavers.

However Department for Employment and Learning is able to provide information on those from Northern Ireland who enrol at Oxford and Cambridge but on a different basis. As a proxy to pupils who have gained a place, the number of 18–21 year old Northern Ireland domiciled first year undergraduates enrolled at Oxford University and Cambridge University by subject in each of the last ten years is detailed in the tables overleaf.

Please note, however, that a breakdown of the information on these students by schooling background is not retained in this format. In addition, a breakdown by entitlement to free school meals is not available through the Higher Education Statistics Agency record. Therefore these data have not been provided.

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Minister for Employment and Learning

8-21 year old NI Domiciled first year undergraduates enrolled at Oxford University by subject from 2000/01 to 2009/10

Subject Area	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Medicine & dentistry	5	0	5	5	0	0	5	5	5	0
Subjects allied to medicine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Biological sciences	5	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
Veterinary science	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Physical sciences	5	5	5	5	15	5	5	5	5	5
Mathematical sciences	5	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Computer science	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Engineering & technology	5	5	5	5	5	0	0	0	0	0
Architecture, building & planning	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Social studies	0	0	5	5	0	5	0	0	0	0
Law	10	5	15	10	10	10	5	10	5	10
Business & administrative studies	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Languages	10	0	20	20	10	10	5	5	5	15
Historical & philosophical studies	5	5	5	5	5	10	0	0	5	5
Creative arts & design	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Education	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Combined	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	50	35	75	60	50	40	25	30	30	35

18-21 year old NI Domiciled first year undergraduates enrolled at Cambridge University by subject from 2000/01 to 2009/10

Subject Area	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Medicine & dentistry	5	15	10	10	10	5	15	5	10	10
Subjects allied to medicine	0	0	5	0	5	5	5	0	5	5
Biological sciences	0	0	5	0	5	5	5	0	5	5
Veterinary science	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	0	0
Physical sciences	0	0	5	0	5	5	5	0	5	5
Mathematical sciences	5	5	5	5	0	5	5	0	0	0
Computer science	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Engineering & technology	5	10	10	5	10	5	5	5	5	15
Architecture, building & planning	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Social studies	10	5	0	5	5	5	0	5	0	5
Law	5	15	15	10	10	10	5	20	15	15
Business & administrative studies	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Languages	10	0	15	10	10	5	10	10	5	10
Historical & philosophical studies	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Creative arts & design	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Education	0	5	0	5	0	5	0	0	0	0
Combined	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	55	80	80	65	75	70	60	65	60	70

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency

Notes:

- 1) Figures in the above tables are rounded to the nearest five. 2) Due to rounding the sum of numbers may not match the total shown.
- 3) Before 2002/03, Historical & philosophical studies was called Humanities. Before 2001/02, Computer Science was called Information Technology.