



Briefing: Confirmed places for nursing undergraduate courses on A level results day 2021

Briefing Paper: Confirmed places for nursing courses – 10 August 2021

On A level results day, UCAS has published data on confirmed places on undergraduate higher education courses. For the first time, students from England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales are receiving their grades at the same time. 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 2021.

A record 435,430 students have a place, which is a 5% increase compared to results day 2020.

Across the UK, 34.1% of all 18-year-olds have been placed on an undergraduate course (245,330 students).

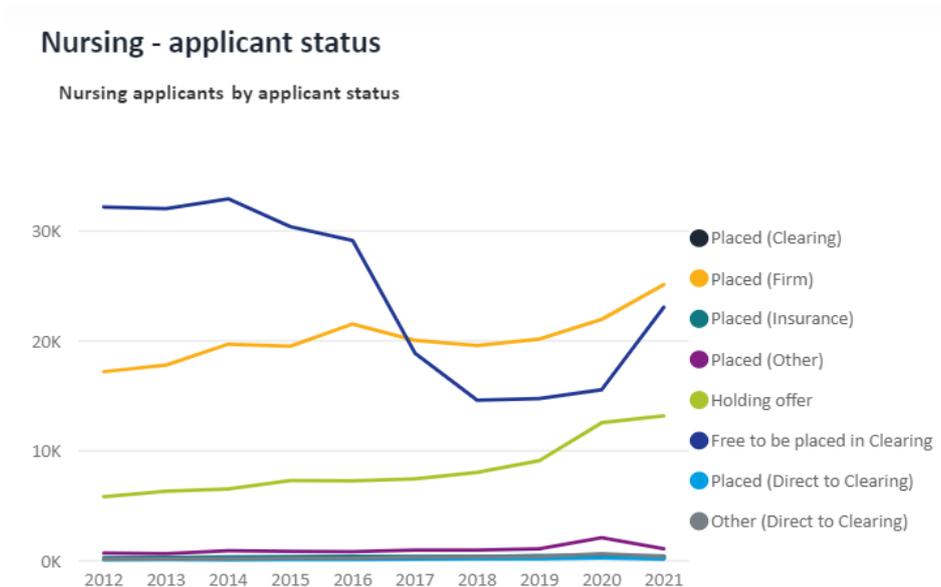
Although a record 20.7% of all UK 18-year-olds from the most disadvantaged backgrounds in the UK have an undergraduate place, there has been no progress in closing the gap to students from the most advantaged areas.

The number of students from England which have been accepted onto medicine and dentistry courses has increased by 23% compared to results day 2020.

Headlines for nursing courses

Compared to A level results day 2020, the overall number of **applicants placed** on an undergraduate nursing course in the UK has **increased by 8%** to 26,730. There are 13,100 nursing applicants whose UCAS application status is 'holding offer' and have not currently been placed. An additional 22,990 nursing applicants are free to be placed in Clearing.

Figure 1: Nursing applicants by applicant status: A Level results day 2021, [UCAS statistical analysis](#)



Providers in England have placed 20,930 applicants which is a **11% increase** from A level results day 2020. There are currently 11,230 nursing applicants holding an offer to English providers.

Provider in Scotland have placed 3,730 applicants which a **15% increase** from SQA results day 2020. There are currently 1,210 nursing applicants holding an offer to Scottish providers.

Providers in Wales have placed 1,290 applicants which is a **1% increase** from A level results day 2020. There are currently 750 nursing applicants holding an offer to Welsh providers.

The number of placed applicants from **England** is 11% higher, the number of placed applicants from **Northern Ireland** is 1% lower, the number of placed applicants from **Wales** is 1% higher and the number of placed applicants from **Scotland** is the same as last year.

In line with the rest of the higher education sector, the number of placed **non-EU** students has increased (260) and the number of placed **EU** students has decreased (210).

Overall, the number of placed applicants to nursing courses has increased by 4% for **men** to 2,330 and 8% for **women** to 24,400 compared to 2020.

The highest number of placed applicants are aged **18 years** (7,150) and it is this age group which has seen the largest percentage increase (22%).

For more information contact:

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