



# Briefing: UCAS deadline applicant statistics for June 2022

## Briefing Paper – 14 July 2022

UCAS has published a statistical release providing core numbers for the 30 June 2022 application deadline.

### Definition change

It should be noted that from the 2022 cycle onwards, UCAS is using a different subject classification system. The previous definition of nursing used for UCAS reporting was for all courses within the B7 – Nursing subject group through the Joint Academic Coding System (JACS) subject classification. These subjects included both midwifery and dental nursing. UCAS are now using the Common Aggregation Hierarchy applied to Higher Education Classification of Subjects to identify subjects. This means that they have split nursing from midwifery and dental nursing has been removed from the nursing classification entirely. It is important that any analysis from this data release is caveated by this definition change.

## Headlines for the overall higher education sector

- Record application rate from UK 18-year-olds in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods across the UK.
- In Scotland, there was also a record proportion of 18-year-olds from disadvantaged areas - 21.3% from SIMD 20.
- Increase in the 18 year old application rate - 44.1% which represents a record high.
- Increase in international student applications - increase of 3% since last year.
- Interest in degree/higher apprenticeships is growing - 6.58% increase in applicants from last year.
- 490 people have become the first T level students to apply to higher education.

## Headlines for nursing

The nursing figures for 2022 are in line with the rest of the sector in showing a general trend for sustained upward growth if we take out the 2021 application rates as an outlier. The nursing figures in this statistical release show a decrease compared to 2021 but an increase compared to 2020. UCAS has highlighted that last year's application rates across the whole sector were 'atypical' and put the record breaking number of health related applications down to the pandemic 'Chris Witty' effect.

Therefore, the number of applicants to UK undergraduate nursing courses has decreased by 8% compared to 2021 from 56,630 to 52,150 but the number of applicants to UK undergraduate nursing courses has increased by 10% compared to 2020.

### Applicants by country of provider

The number of applicants to nursing courses for providers in **Scotland** decreased by 12% compared to 2021 and increased by 4% compared to 2020.

The number of applicants to nursing courses for providers in **England** decreased by 6% compared to 2021 and increased by 14% compared to 2020.

The number of applicants to nursing courses for providers in **Wales** decreased by 12% compared to 2021 and increased by 17% compared to 2020.

The number of applicants to nursing courses for providers in **Northern Ireland** decreased by 7% compared to 2021 and increased by 19% compared to 2020.

Country of provider	2019	2020	2021	2022
England	31,780	37,990	45,740	43,170
Northern Ireland	2,610	2,500	3,130	2,910
Scotland	7,290	7,840	9,010	7,930
Wales	3,800	3,880	4,780	4,200

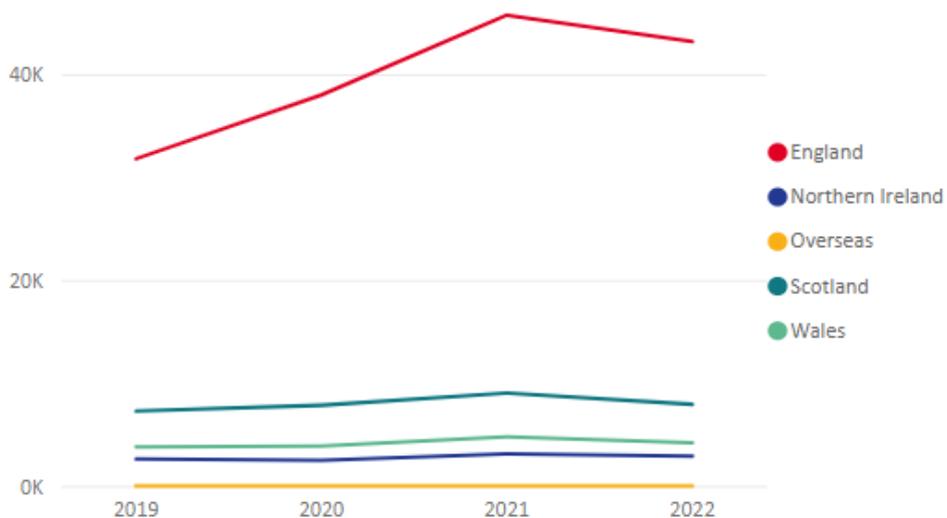


Figure 1: Nursing applicants by country of provider

## Applicants by age

There has been a slight increase in younger applicants (age 18 years and 19 years) however there has been a decrease compared to both 2021 and 2020 cycles in those applicants aged between 21 and 30 years.

### *Applicants aged 18*

The overall number of 18-year-old nursing applicants has slightly increased compared to 2021 (13,320 applicants).

### *Applicants aged 19*

The overall number of 19-year-old applicants saw a slight increase compared to 2021 (5,590 applicants).

### *Applicants aged 20*

The overall number of 20-year-old applicants saw a decrease of 6% compared to 2021, but increased by 3% compared to 2020.

### *Applicants aged 21-24*

The overall number of applicants aged 21-24 saw a decrease of 16% compared to 2021.

### *Applicants aged 25-29*

The overall number of applicants aged 25-29 saw a decrease of 21% compared to 2021.

### *Applicants aged 30-34*

The overall number of applicants aged 30-34 saw a decrease of 12% compared to 2021, but increased by 9% compared to 2020.

### *Applicants aged 35 and over*

The overall number of applicants aged 35 and over decreased by 7% compared to 2021, but increased by 7% compared to 2020.

## Gender

In line with the trends in the number of overall nursing applicants, the number of female applicants saw a decrease of 9% compared to 2021 but increased by 8% compared to 2020. The number of male applicants has slightly increased from 6,510 in 2021 to 6,570 in 2022.

## Domicile

The number of **UK domiciled** applicants has **decreased by 10%** compared to 2021, however the number of **international students** has **increased by 28%**. The number of EU students has decreased but the number of non-EU domiciled students has increased significantly from 880 applicants in 2019 to 3,410 in 2022. The countries with the most applicants to nursing courses are Nigeria, India, Hong Kong, Zimbabwe and the United States.

## Reapplication status

The number of first time applicants to nursing courses has decreased by 10% compared to 2021. Notably, the number of reapplicants has increased by 10%.

## Headlines for midwifery

In line with the nursing figures, the number of applicants to UK undergraduate midwifery courses has decreased by 8% compared to 2021 from 13,350 to 12,220 but has increased by 23% compared to 2020.

### Applicants by country of provider

The number of applicants to midwifery courses for providers in **Scotland** decreased by 16% compared to 2021 and increased by 18% compared to 2020.

The number of applicants to midwifery courses for providers in **England** decreased by 7% compared to 2021 and increased by 7% compared to 2020.

The number of applicants to midwifery courses for providers in **Wales** decreased by 16% compared to 2021 and increased by 19% compared to 2020.

The number of applicants to midwifery courses for providers in **Northern Ireland** decreased by 1% compared to 2021 and increased by 38% compared to 2020.

Country of provider	2019	2020	2021	2022
England	7,980	8,600	10,940	10,170
Northern Ireland	600	580	810	800
Scotland	1,320	1,380	1,760	1,480
Wales	1,160	1,160	1,640	1,380

### Applicants by age

The overall number of **18-year-old** midwifery applicants has increased by 3% compared to 2021 (3,780 applicants in 2021; 3,870 applicants in 2022).

The number of midwifery applicants for all other age groups decreased compared to 2021 but increased compared to 2020.

### Gender

The number of male applicants to UK midwifery courses has remained the same compared to last year at 60 applicants.

### Domicile

The number of **UK domiciled** applicants has **decreased by 9%** compared to 2021. The number of international applicants has remained the same at 350 which includes 200 EU applicants.

### Reapplication status

The number of first time applicants to nursing courses has decreased by 12% compared to 2021. Notably, the number of reapplicants has increased by 13%.

### For more information contact:

Robyn Cooke, Senior Policy and Research Officer, [robyn.cooke@cod-health.ac.uk](mailto:robyn.cooke@cod-health.ac.uk)