

National Student Survey 2025

1. Briefing paper – 18th July 2025

1. The [National Student Survey 2025](#) has been published. The Council has produced a high-level briefing of the headline results. It does not analyse the reasoning behind the scores or provide analysis of individual providers.
2. Total response rate for NSS 2025 was 71.5%, approximately 357,000 students. In 2024, the response rate was slightly higher at 72.3%. In 2023 the response rate was 71.5%.
3. The questions on the survey are grouped into 7 themes:
 - **Theme 1:** Teaching on my course
 - **Theme 2:** Learning opportunities
 - **Theme 3:** Assessment and feedback
 - **Theme 4:** Academic support
 - **Theme 5:** Organisation and management
 - **Theme 6:** Learning resources
 - **Theme 7:** Student voice
4. Also, for relevant subjects, there are 6 questions regarding placement experience:
 - **HC1:** I received sufficient preparatory information prior to my placement(s).
 - **HC2:** I was allocated placement(s) suitable for my course.
 - **HC3:** I received appropriate supervision on placement(s).
 - **HC4:** I was given opportunities to meet my required practice learning outcomes / competences.
 - **HC5:** My contribution during placement(s) as part of the clinical team was valued.
 - **HC6:** My practice supervisor(s) understood how my placement(s) related to the broader requirements of my course.
5. Each question was allocated a positivity score. The higher the score, the higher the student satisfaction.
6. **On the whole, and reflecting the national average, positivity scores are increasing year on year (from 2021 onwards) in nursing, midwifery and allied health subjects, across all four nations of the UK.**
7. As in previous years, the satisfaction with nursing and midwifery, and allied health courses were lower across the UK than in the majority of other subjects. This is only very broadly, and

not across all themes, but although satisfaction in all subjects is increasing between the years of 2023 to 2025, the degree of difference between nursing, midwifery and allied health and other subjects has remained largely stable. However, they compare more favourably to courses in medicine and dentistry. For example, **Theme 1** on teaching shows the same score (86.9) for subjects allied to medicine, and medicine and dentistry in 2025 in the UK. **Theme 2** on learning opportunities scored 84.8 in subjects allied to medicine and 83 in medicine and dentistry. **Theme 6** on learning resources scored 88.4 in subjects allied to medicine and 84 in medicine and dentistry.

8. Again, as in 2023 and 2024, **Theme 5** on organisation and management showed the lowest scores, across the four nations and across nursing, midwifery and allied health, and compared to the national average. It should be noted, as alluded to above, that this is also the case for medicine, and may reflect the intensive nature of these courses. **Theme 7** on the student voice showed some improvement on previous years for but remained weaker than **Themes 1-4** and **Theme 6**, which also showed improvement on previous years.
9. There were particularly sharp improvements in **Theme 3**, assessment and feedback in nursing and midwifery in England, from a score of 69.2 in 2024 to 83.2 in 2025. Also, although as mentioned above the scores were lower in general on theme 5, in nursing and midwifery in England in 2025 the score was much improved in 2025 at 65.1, compared to 39.9 in 2024. AHP students in England also scored more highly on theme 5 in 2025 (71) compared to 2024 (58.5).
10. In Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, scores in all themes for nursing and midwifery and AHP improved in 2025 compared to 2024.
11. In 2025, **HC1**, which asks whether students received sufficient preparatory time prior to their placement, scored the lowest of the placement questions across all fields of nursing and midwifery and allied health in the UK.
12. Adult nursing students in the UK were a little less likely to report positive experiences of appropriate supervision on placements (77.7) than children's nursing (84.9), learning disability nursing (83) and mental health nursing students (80.3). Scores were also higher on this measure for midwifery (86.1) and allied health (86). However, there were high positive scores across all fields, and midwifery and allied health, on being allocated a placement suitable for their course.
13. Adult nursing students also scored lower on the other measures of placement satisfaction than other fields of nursing, midwifery and AHP, including opportunities to meet practice learning outcomes/competencies, that their contribution on placement was valued, and that the practice supervisor understood the broader requirements of the course. AHP students scored more highly in these areas, compared to nursing and midwifery in the UK.

2. For more information please contact

Namita Srivastava, Policy Officer Namita.Srivastava@cod-health.ac.uk

