

Briefing: UCAS statistics on placed applicants 28 days after A-level results day

Heading

UCAS has [published data](#) on confirmed places on undergraduate higher education courses 28 days after A-level results following the Clearing process.

Headlines for nursing courses

A total of 23,730 nursing applicants were placed at the end of Clearing, compared to 23,800 in 2024, representing a decrease of 0.3%.

Placed applicants by country of provider

Providers in **England** placed 18,640 applicants which is an increase of 1.2% from 2024. This marks the first rise in nursing applicant numbers in England since the peak in 2021 during the Covid-19 pandemic, with figures now exceeding the pre-pandemic levels seen in 2019. Providers in **Scotland** placed 3,230 applicants, a 5% decrease from 2024. Providers in **Wales** have placed 1,020 applicants, representing a 15% decline since 2024. Meanwhile, providers in **Northern Ireland** placed 840 applicants, an increase of 7.7% compared to 2024.

Country of Provider	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
England	17,950	22,490	23,490	21,490	18,870	18,420	18,640
Northern Ireland	830	1,010	870	880	920	780	840
Scotland	3,660	4,210	4,240	3,850	3,300	3,400	3,230
Wales	1,460	1,590	1,540	1,210	1,050	1,200	1,020
Total	23,900	29,300	30,140	27,430	24,140	23,800	23,730

Please note that all figures have been rounded and may not sum precisely to the totals shown.

Placed applicants by domicile

The overall number of placed applicants from the **UK** has decreased by 0.4% compared to last year, falling from 22,850 to 22,770 applicants. However, the number of placed **international** applicants has increased by 2.1%, with 960 placed this year compared to 940 in 2024, continuing a steady upward trend observed in recent years.

Among international applicants, the number of placed **EU** applicants has increased by 11.1%, from 180 to 200. The number of **non-EU** applicants has remained unchanged since 2024 at 770. As in previous years, the majority of EU applicants are from Ireland, and there continues to be a significant number of non-EU applicants from India and Nigeria.

Among UK applicants, there was a 0.3% overall increase in placed **English** domiciled applicants, rising from 17,720 in 2024 to 17,780 in 2025. The number of **Scottish** domiciled applicants decreased by 4.8%, from 3,320 in 2024 to 3,160 in 2025. The number of **Welsh** domiciled decreased by 1%, from 990 in 2024 to 980 in 2025, while **Northern Irish** domiciled applicants increased by 2.4%, from 830 to 850.

Placed applicants by age

The number of placed nursing applicants has increased across nearly all age groups aged **under 25 years** since 2024, with the only exception being applicants aged **20**. The largest rise is among **18-year-olds**, showing a 5.8% increase, from 6,910 in 2024 to 7,310 in 2025. Applicants aged **21–24** also saw a 2.1% increase, rising from 2,880 to 2,940.

In contrast, the number of applicants aged **20**, **30–34**, and **35 and over** has decreased since 2024. The largest drop occurred in the **30–34** age group, which fell by 14.9%, from 2,020 to 1,720. Meanwhile, the number of applicants aged **25–29** has remained stable at 2,150.

Placed applicants by ethnicity

Out of the 22,770 UK domiciled accepted applicants this year; 12,060 identified as **White**, 6,460 as **Black**, 2,770 as **Asian** and 860 as **Mixed**.

Placed applicants by gender

The number of placed **female applicants** to nursing courses increased by 0.5% compared to 2024, from 20,800 to 20,910. In contrast, the number of placed **male applicants** decreased by 6.2%, from 2,890 in 2024 to 2,710 in 2025.

Last year, UCAS introduced two new categories including 'I prefer not to say' and 'I use another term'. The number of applicants selecting 'I prefer not to say' remained the same at 50. 'I use another term' was selected by 50 applicants, down from 60 in 2024, representing a 16.7% decrease.

Headlines for midwifery courses

Accepted places on undergraduate midwifery courses in the UK have increased by 2.6% since 2024. The total number of placed midwifery applicants at the end of Clearing stands at 3,980.

Placed applicants by country of provider

Providers in **England** have placed 3,390 applicants, representing 3% increase (an additional 100 places) compared to 2024. Providers in the devolved nations have all placed the same number of midwifery applicants as in 2024, with 280 applicants in **Scotland**, 210 in **Wales** and 100 in **Northern Ireland**.

Country of Provider	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
England	3,090	3,610	3,670	3,350	3,360	3,290	3,390
Northern Ireland	70	80	90	90	70	100	100
Scotland	260	310	230	280	260	280	280
Wales	130	160	180	170	210	210	210
Total	3,550	4,160	4,170	3,890	3,900	3,880	3,980

Placed applicants by domicile

The overall number of **UK-domiciled** placed applicants has increased by 2.3% compared to last year, rising from 3,860 in 2024, to 3,950 in 2025. The number of placed **international** applicants has increased by 50%, from 20 to 30.

The number of placed **EU** applicants has doubled, increasing from 10 to 20, while the number of **non-EU** applicants has remained the same at 10 since 2024.

There was a 2.5% increase overall in placed **English** domiciled applicants compared to 2024, rising from 3,260 to 3,340.

The number of **Scottish** domiciled applicants increased by 3.7% from 270 in 2024 to 280 in 2025.

The number of applicants **Welsh** domiciled applicants increased by 4.8%, from 210 in 2024 to 220 in 2025, and the number of **Northern Irish** applicants domiciled decreased by 8.3% (120 in 2024; 110 in 2025).

Placed applicants by age

The number of placed midwifery applicants under the age of 25 has increased across all age groups since 2024. Across the UK, the largest increase was among those aged **18-year-olds**, rising 7.1% from 1,400 in 2024 to 1,500 in 2025. In contrast, the number of placed applicants in age groups over 24 years old has declined. The most significant drop was among those aged **25–29**, with a 12.8% drop in placed applicants from 470 in 2024 to 410 in 2025. The largest group of placed applicants remains those aged 18, with 1,500 placed this year.

Placed applicants by ethnicity

Out of 3,950 UK-domiciled accepted applicants to midwifery courses; 2,490 identified as **White**, 760 as **Black**, 410 as **Asian** and 190 as **Mixed**. The number of non-White placed applicants has increased compared to last year, while the number of White placed applicants has decreased, indicating a more diverse cohort than previously.

Placed applicants by gender

The number of placed female and male applicants has remained largely consistent with last year's figures. This year, there were 10 **male** applicants, the same as in previous years. The only notable change is that 10 applicants selected "I use another term" this year, compared to none last year.

For more information, contact:

Megan Isherwood, Senior Policy Officer, Megan.isherwood@cod-health.ac.uk