

# UCAS END OF CYCLE REPORT 2019

## CHAPTER 4: OFFER-MAKING

More applicants than ever received an offer to study at university or college in 2019.

- > 92.5% of applicants got at least one offer.
- > 39.1% of applicants got offers from all their choices.
- > AAB – ABB (predicted) – UK 18 year olds with the highest offer rate.
- > All age groups of 18 and over saw increases in their offer rates
- > Applicants aged 30 – 34 had largest proportional increase in offer rate, up 2.3 percentage points.



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Explore all the end of cycle data in our interactive dashboard on [ucas.com](https://ucas.com)<sup>1</sup>. Definitions of terms used in this report are available in the glossary<sup>2</sup>.

### Overall numbers and proportions of applicants receiving an offer

A record 589,845 applicants received at least one offer in the 2019 cycle. This is an increase of 4,020 applicants (+0.7%) on 2018, and represents a new high of 92.5% of all main scheme applicants (those who applied by 30 June). This proportion of applicants with an offer is an increase of 0.5 percentage points on 2018 and continues a trend of increases that began in 2012.

39.1% of all main scheme applicants (249,420 students, an increase of 1.2%) received offers from all their choices, up 0.4 percentage points on last year.

For the first time, fewer than 50,000 applicants did not receive any offers. 48,105 applicants, a fall of 2,885 (-5.7%), were not made any offers and then became eligible for Extra and Clearing. This is 7.5% of all those applying in the main scheme – a decrease of 0.5 percentage points – the eighth straight year of decline, and a new record low. As well as applying in the main scheme, applicants may also be looking at other options for their future – almost a quarter of young applicants said they were also considering an apprenticeship after applying in the 2019 cycle<sup>3</sup>.

Unconditional offers will be covered in Chapter 5 and Insight Report B of the End of Cycle Report, due to be published in December 2019.

**92.5%**  
OF MAIN SCHEME APPLICANTS  
RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE OFFER.

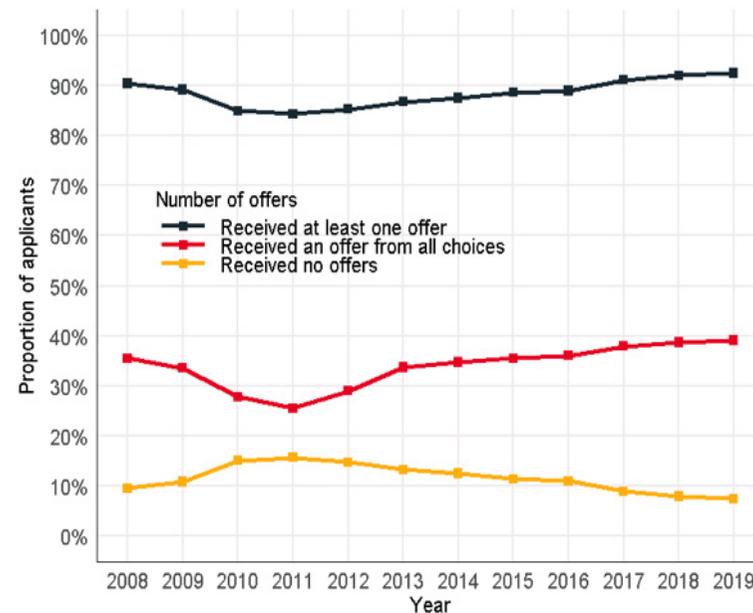


FIGURE 1: Proportion of applicants by the number of offers received

### Offer rates by age group

All age groups of 18 and over saw increases in their offer rates – the proportion of applications from this group receiving an offer – to reach record levels (except the 35 and over group, where the 2008 record still stands). The highest offer rate was for 18 year olds, which saw a small increase (0.1 percentage points), to reach 77.8%.

The 30 – 34 age group has seen the largest proportional increase in offer rate, rising 2.3 percentage points to reach 47.7%. In Chapter 1, the age 35 and over group has seen the largest proportional increase in acceptances

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ucas.com/data-and-analysis/undergraduate-statistics-and-reports/ucas-undergraduate-end-cycle-data-resources-2019>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ucas.com/data-and-analysis/undergraduate-statistics-and-reports/ucas-undergraduate-end-cycle-reports/2019-end-cycle-report>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ucas.com/corporate/news-and-key-documents/news/first-rise-university-applications-three-years>

## 18 year old applicants

The offer rate for UK 18 year olds increased by 0.3 percentage points to a record 79.4% in 2019, continuing annual increases that go back to 2012.

18 year olds from the EU have also seen increases to their offer rate, up 0.5 percentage points to a new high of 68.8%.

Students from outside the EU saw a small decrease (-0.1 percentage points) in their offer rate, to 70.0%.

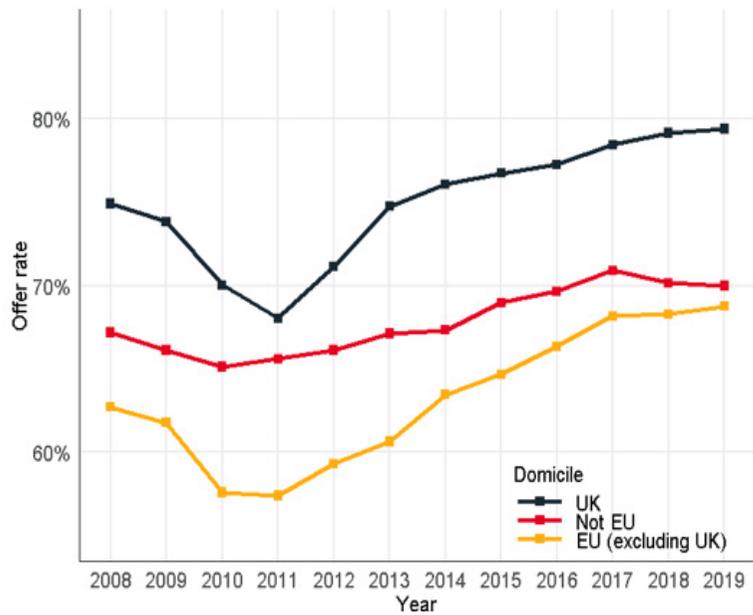


FIGURE 2: Offer rate for 18 year olds by domicile

Within the UK, 18 year olds in Wales had the highest offer rate, a record 81.3%. While Scotland has the lowest offer rate, it has risen to 65% this year.

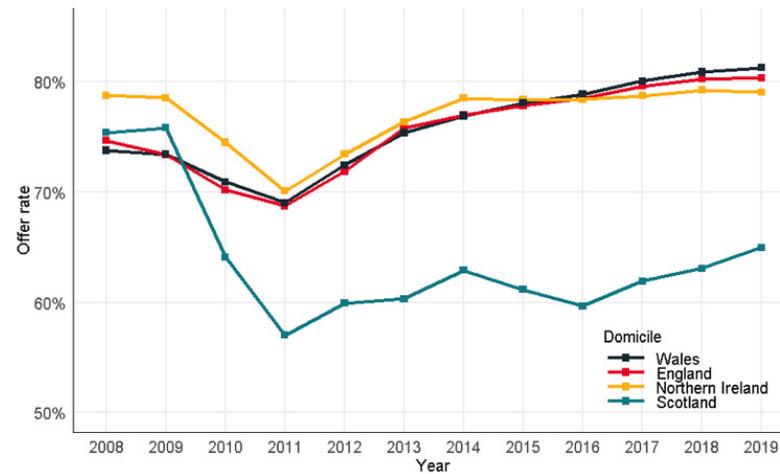


FIGURE 3: Offer rate for UK 18 year olds by domicile





### Predicted A level grades

UK 18 year old main scheme applicants with a predicted grade profile equivalent to AAB – ABB have the highest chance of receiving an offer – 87.5%. This is a new record, having increased by 0.1 percentage points in 2019.

Those with the highest predicted grade profile of A\*A\*A\*-A\*A\*A have an offer rate of 78.9%, down 0.2 percentage points since last year. This lower offer rate is indicative of the competitive courses this group of students typically applies for, where the number of available places may be limited.

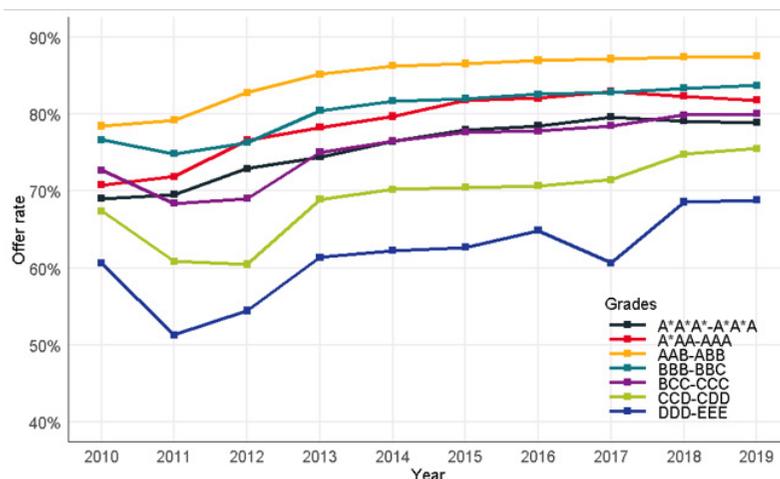


FIGURE 4: Offer rate for UK 18 year olds by predicted grade profile

**AAB-ABB**  
 (PREDICTED) – UK 18 YEAR OLDS  
 WITH THE HIGHEST OFFER RATE.

### Provider tariff group

All provider groups increased their offer rate to UK 18 year olds in 2019.

Higher tariff providers collectively increased their offer rate by 0.1 percentage points to 73.4%. Offer rates for higher tariff providers' 15 October deadline courses<sup>4</sup> have remained broadly similar to previous years, suppressing their overall offer rate, which would be higher if only 15 January deadline courses (those not covered by 15 October deadline) were analysed.

Both medium and lower tariff provider groups raised their offer rates by 0.5 percentage points to record levels – medium tariff providers to 83.1%, while lower tariff providers had the highest offer rate of the three groups, at 83.9%.

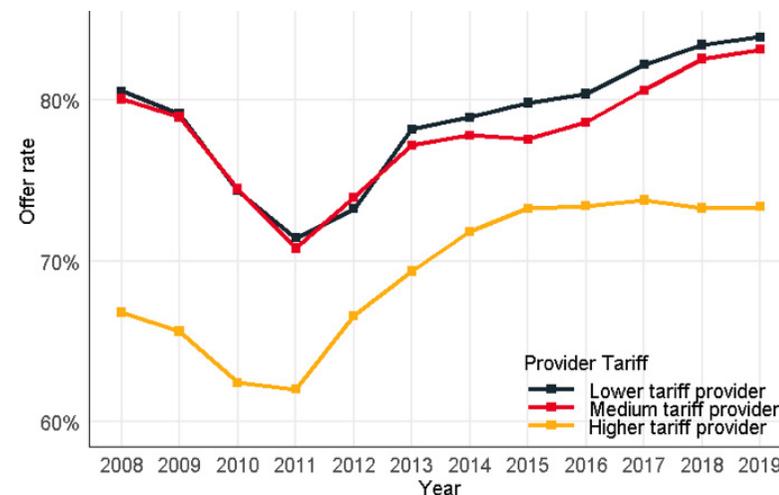


FIGURE 5: Offer rate for UK 18 year olds by provider tariff group

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ucas.com/corporate/news-and-key-documents/news/record-number-applicants-early-deadline-university-courses>



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