

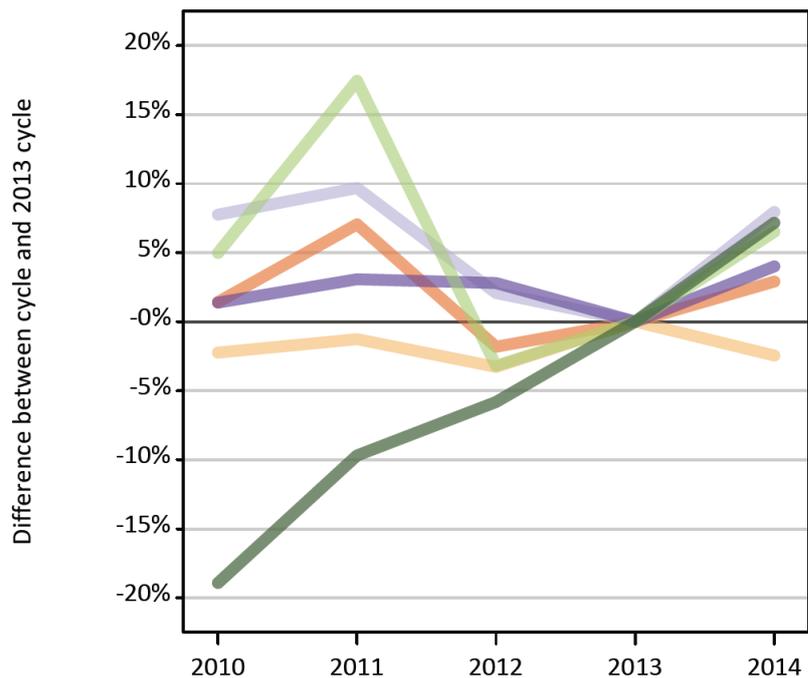


367,000 set for conditional offers to be decided in August

Most UCAS applicants receive an offer of a place at university which is conditional on the exam grades they achieve. At the end of July 2014 there were 367,000 UCAS applicants holding a conditional offer – an increase of 3 per cent from last year. There are 18,000 Scottish applicants holding offers, mostly waiting for Scottish qualification results. English applicants are the largest group holding offers (276,000) who, together with those from Northern Ireland (13,000) and Wales (14,000), are mostly waiting for A level results. The number of applicants from outside the EU holding offers has increased to 28,000 – the highest number recorded.

Figure 1: Applicants holding offers (1 week before Scottish results day) by domicile group of applicant, shown as proportional change relative to 2013 cycle.

- England
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales
- EU (excluding UK)
- Not EU



Around 80 per cent of the people UCAS places in higher education get their place through a conditional offer. At the end of July, although some applicants have been placed (for example, those with BTEC qualifications), most applicants are holding conditional offers. Around 90 per cent of the conditional offers held at this point will be resolved in a short period in August as, first, Scottish results and then A level results are released. On the 29 July 2014 (a week before Scottish results day) there were 367,000 applicants holding a conditional offer. This is 12,000 (3 per cent) higher than at the same point in 2013.

Most applicants from Scotland holding conditional offers are waiting for Scottish results day (5 August 2014). There were 18,000 Scottish applicants holding offers at the end of July, an increase of around 1,000 from last year.

Applicants from England, Northern Ireland and Wales are mostly waiting for A level results (14 August 2014). There were 276,000 English applicants holding conditional offers at the end of July, 3 per cent higher than this point last cycle. There were 13,000 applicants from Northern Ireland holding conditional offers (2 per cent lower) and 14,000 from Wales (4 per cent higher).

Applicants from other countries typically hold conditional offers referring to a more varied set of qualifications. The number of EU applicants holding conditional offers has increased by 7 per cent to 17,000. The number of applicants from outside the EU holding conditional offers has also increased by 7 per cent to 28,000 – the highest level recorded and a third higher than five years ago.

Technical notes

1. The main UCAS application scheme, where applicants can apply for up to five courses, opens in September of each year and closes to new applications on 30 June the following year. The applicants reported in this note are all main scheme applicants.
2. Applicants holding conditional offers are waiting to have their outcome confirmed, which is usually dependent on their examination results being verified against the conditions of their offer. This note does not include any applicants with a place already confirmed.
3. This note reports the number of applicants holding conditional offers one week before Scottish results day in each cycle from 2010 to 2014. This is equivalent to 16 days before A level results day in 2012, 2013 and 2014 and 21 days before A level results day in 2010 and 2011.
4. The numbers of applicants holding offers by domicile of applicant are shown in Table 1 and the proportional changes (data for Figure 1) are shown in Table 2.

Table 1: Applicants holding offers (1 week before Scottish results day) by domicile of applicant

Applicant Status	Domicile	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Holding conditional offer	England	271,670	286,750	262,990	267,830	275,610
	Northern Ireland	13,520	13,650	13,380	13,830	13,490
	Scotland	18,440	18,760	17,460	17,110	18,470
	Wales	14,030	14,260	14,220	13,840	14,390
	EU (excluding UK)	16,990	19,010	15,670	16,180	17,240
	Not EU	21,400	23,830	24,850	26,390	28,280
	All domiciles	356,040	376,270	348,570	355,180	367,490

Table 2: Applicants holding offers (1 week before Scottish results day) by domicile of applicant, shown as proportional change relative to 2013 cycle

Applicant Status	Domicile	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Holding conditional offer	England	1%	7%	-2%	0%	3%
	Northern Ireland	-2%	-1%	-3%	0%	-2%
	Scotland	8%	10%	2%	0%	8%
	Wales	1%	3%	3%	0%	4%
	EU (excluding UK)	5%	17%	-3%	0%	7%
	Not EU	-19%	-10%	-6%	0%	7%
	All domiciles	0%	6%	-2%	0%	3%