

HE language students in the UK, 2007- 08

The data comes from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Student Records of individual enrolments at HE institutions, extracting subject group Q, R and T and is analysed annually by CILT, the National Centre for Languages.

Data definitions

- Student enrolments across all years of study at all higher education institutions in the UK (excluding writing-up and sabbatical students) in the academic year 2007-08
- Excluding Open University students due to changes in their reporting across the years
- All students, UK, EU and overseas domiciled are included
- Full Time and Part Time students (see additional notes on Standard Registration Population)
- Using headcount measure where all students studying a language as a single, joint, major, minor or triple honours combination are included counted as 1. Note that the headcount data provided here is different to the Full Person Equivalent (FPE) counts used in DIUS and HESA published data, the figures are not conflicting but produce different counts according to preference and purpose.¹

Data warnings

- The accuracy of the data depends on how individual institutions code and report their figures to HESA.
- Note that the very high numbers in the categories *Other European languages* and *Other non-European languages* suggests that these codes are being used in place of the specified language code, hence unfortunately the individual totals for each language may not adequately reflect the true numbers (i.e. an under-representation of the true totals).

Additional notes on Standard Registration Population (SRP)

From 2007-08, writing-up students and sabbatical students were excluded from the student Standard Registration Population (SRP). No students from the subject group Q, R and T were recorded as sabbatical in 2007-08. Writing-up students were coded in part-time research degree students in the years prior to 2007-08.

- The change is not thought to affect analyses on undergraduate students.
- For postgraduate students, the change will only affect **part-time postgraduate research degree** students. Unfortunately, previous datasets ordered from HESA do not contain a flag for writing-up students, which means that it is impossible to extract writing-up students from the datasets before 2007-08. Therefore, when needed for the purpose of year-on-year comparison, the whole group of part-time research degree students had to be excluded from the samples. The estimation of such students is around 1,000 in each year (see the table below).

| PG excluding PGCE | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| TOTAL | 3995 | 5120 | N/A | 5320 | 5305 | 5045 |
| TOTAL excluding part-time research degrees | 4855 | 6450 | N/A | 6555 | 6600 | 5545 |
| Difference in sample size | 860 | 1330 | N/A | 1235 | 1290 | 500 |

*2004-05 data not available for postgraduate students.

The data are rounded according to the HESA rounding rules for published data. percentages are calculated on the raw data.

¹ Headcount data counts every language student as a full person whether they are studying single, joint, major, minor or triple honours, and so shows how many students are studying each language. In contrast, the Full Person Equivalent measure counts student activity through how many parts of students are studying languages, according to the language balance of their degree, a single honours student = 1, joint hon = 0.5, major = 0.667, minor = 0.333, and triple = 0.333.

First-degree students in languages

The HESA data recorded a total of 38265 students in all the UK higher education institutions who were studying a language as their first degree in 2007-08. Back in 2002-03, there were 39665 first-degree language students in UK HEIs and that was 4% more than in the year of 2007-08. However, it should be noted that the total figure in 2007-08 was higher than those in the years from 2003-04.

| | 2002-3 | 2003-4 | 2004-5* | 2005-6 | 2006-7 | 2007-8 | % change |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|----------|
| TOTAL first degree in UK HE | 39665 | 37880 | 37345 | 37710 | 37570 | 38265 | -4% |

*Note that translation students are not included in the 2004-05 dataset and it is estimated that around 300 students are missing from the above figure.

- There were 33720 UK domiciled students studying their first degree in languages in 2007-08, accounting for 88% of all the first-degree students in languages. Compared to the year 2002-03, fewer UK students were doing first degrees in languages (a decrease of 4%) although 2007-08 also saw a slight increase in the UK student number if compared to 2005-06 and 2006-07.

| Domicile: FD | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| UK | 35220 | 34115 | 33560 | 33660 | 33370 | 33720 |
| Other EU | 3200 | 2535 | 3785 | 2965 | 3125 | 3410 |
| Non-EU | 1245 | 1230 | | 1080 | 1080 | 1135 |
| TOTAL | 39665 | 37880 | 37345 | 37710 | 37570 | 38265 |
| | | | | | | |
| % | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| UK | 89% | 90% | 90% | 89% | 89% | 88% |
| Other EU | 8% | 7% | 10% | 8% | 8% | 9% |
| Non-EU | 3% | 3% | | 3% | 3% | 3% |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

* The 2004-05 dataset only has breakdown of UK and non-UK students.

Slightly more male students studied languages as their first degree in 2007-08 than in 2002-03 and accordingly, the proportion of male students has increased slightly since 2002-03.

| Gender: FD | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | % change |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Male | 11860 | 11425 | N/A | 11600 | 11695 | 12075 | 2% |
| Female | 27805 | 26455 | N/A | 26110 | 25875 | 26185 | -6% |
| TOTAL | 39665 | 37880 | 0 | 37710 | 37570 | 38265 | -4% |
| | | | | | | | |
| % | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | |
| Male | 30% | 30% | N/A | 31% | 31% | 32% | |
| Female | 70% | 70% | N/A | 69% | 69% | 68% | |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% | N/A | 100% | 100% | 100% | |

* Gender data is missing from the 2004-05 dataset.

- 97% of first-degree students in languages were studying full-time in 2007-08 and the proportion of such students has been increasing slightly over the years.

| Mode of Study: FD | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Full-time | 37460 | 36120 | 35700 | 36370 | 36305 | 36955 |
| Part-time | 2205 | 1765 | 1645 | 1400 | 1270 | 1310 |
| TOTAL | 39665 | 37880 | 37345 | 37770 | 37570 | 38265 |
| | | | | | | |
| % | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Full-time | 94% | 95% | 96% | 96% | 97% | 97% |
| Part-time | 6% | 5% | 4% | 4% | 3% | 3% |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

- The number of students doing Joint Double degrees increased by around 300 annually after a dip in 2003-04 and there were approximately 280 more students doing Triples in languages in 2007-08 than five years ago. On the other hand, students doing Single Honours degrees in languages decreased by 5% from 2002-03 although slightly more students did Single degrees in 2007-08 than in 2005-06 and 2006-07.

In terms of the proportions of each subject balance, as in previous years, under a third of all first-degree language students were studying a Single Honours degree in languages and half of them were combining 2 languages or a language with another discipline.

| Subject balance: FD | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Single | 11935 | 11640 | 11140 | 11190 | 11310 | 11350 |
| Joint Double | 19650 | 18220 | 18675 | 19030 | 19385 | 19650 |
| Major/Minor | 6295 | 6030 | 5680 | 5570 | 5105 | 5200 |
| Triple | 1785 | 1995 | 1850 | 1920 | 1770 | 2060 |
| TOTAL | 39665 | 37880 | 37345 | 37710 | 37570 | 38265 |
| | | | | | | |
| % | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Single | 30% | 31% | 30% | 30% | 30% | 30% |
| Joint Double | 50% | 48% | 50% | 50% | 52% | 51% |
| Major/Minor | 16% | 16% | 15% | 15% | 14% | 14% |
| Triple | 4% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% | 5% |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

More than a third of Double Joint degree students combined two languages for the degree. Other popular subjects to combine with a language included Linguistics, English Studies, Classics, Business studies, Social Studies, Philosophy and History. Another 12% of Double Joint students combined language studies with subjects including Creative Arts and Design, Law, Mass Communications and Documentation, Education, Mathematical and Computer Science, American and Australian Studies, Biological Sciences and Engineering.

| Subject combination in Double Joint degrees: student count | 2007-08 | % |
|--|--------------|-------------|
| 2 language subjects | 7335 | 37% |
| Language + another subject | 12315 | 63% |
| | | |
| Q Linguistics, Classics & related (excluding Celtic studies & Translation) | 2950 | 15% |
| N Business & Administrative studies | 2825 | 14% |
| L Social studies | 2280 | 12% |
| V Historical and Philosophical studies | 1920 | 10% |
| Other subjects | 2390 | 12% |
| | | |
| BASE NUMBER: TOTAL joint double first-degrees in languages | 19650 | 100% |

- As in previous years, French, Spanish and German were studied by the biggest numbers of language students. Although down by 1% compared to 2002-03, French remained the most popular language and accounted for 37% of first-degree students in languages. Students studying Spanish has increased by 14% over the last few years and nearly a quarter studied Spanish in 2007-08. Fewer students did German than in five years ago (down by 5%) although it should be noted that more students did German in 2007-08 than in 2005-06 and 2006-07.

| Language: FD | 02-03 | 03-04 | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | % change |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------|
| R1 French studies | 14400 | 14060 | 13810 | 13845 | 13810 | 14270 | -1% |
| R4 Spanish studies | 8210 | 8250 | 8500 | 8645 | 8810 | 9350 | 14% |
| R2 German studies | 5870 | 5760 | 5495 | 5295 | 5285 | 5565 | -5% |
| | | | | | | | |
| % of TOTAL language FD | 02-03 | 03-04 | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | |
| R1 French studies | 36% | 37% | 37% | 37% | 37% | 37% | |
| R4 Spanish studies | 21% | 22% | 23% | 23% | 23% | 24% | |
| R2 German studies | 15% | 15% | 15% | 14% | 14% | 15% | |
| BASE NUMBER: TOTAL FD | 39665 | 37880 | 37345 | 37710 | 37570 | 38265 | |

Italian had a decrease over the years and in 2007-08, it accounted for 6% of first-degree languages students, compared to 8% five years ago.

| Language: FD | 02-03 | 03-04 | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | % change |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------|
| R3 Italian studies | 3005 | 2890 | 2750 | 2615 | 2505 | 2415 | -20% |
| R7 Russian and East European studies | 1475 | 1495 | 1505 | 1530 | 1495 | 1500 | 2% |
| Q5 Celtic Studies | 1315 | 1240 | 1205 | 1240 | 1260 | 1190 | -10% |
| | | | | | | | |
| % of TOTAL language FD | 02-03 | 03-04 | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | |
| R3 Italian studies | 8% | 8% | 7% | 7% | 7% | 6% | |
| R7 Russian and East European studies | 4% | 4% | 4% | 4% | 4% | 4% | |
| Q5 Celtic Studies | 3% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 3% | |
| BASE NUMBER: TOTAL FD | 39665 | 37880 | 37345 | 37710 | 37570 | 38265 | |

The number of students doing Chinese, Modern Middle Eastern studies and Japanese either exceeded 1,000 or just a little below 1,000 in 2007-08. From the moderate base numbers in 2002-03, the three languages have grown significantly. However, the proportion of such students was still very small, each accounted for about 3% of first-degree students in languages.

| Language: FD | 02-03 | 03-04 | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | Number change |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| T1 Chinese studies | 605 | 685 | 755 | 850 | 950 | 1020 | 420 |
| T6 Modern Middle Eastern studies | 805 | 915 | 985 | 945 | 985 | 1020 | 215 |
| T2 Japanese studies | 685 | 720 | 810 | 860 | 935 | 975 | 290 |
| R5 Portuguese studies | 620 | 665 | 680 | 715 | 750 | 665 | 40 |
| | | | | | | | |
| % of TOTAL language FD | 02-03 | 03-04 | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | |
| T1 Chinese studies | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 3% | 3% | |
| T6 Modern Middle Eastern studies | 2% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 3% | |
| T2 Japanese studies | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 3% | |
| R5 Portuguese studies | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | |
| BASE NUMBER: TOTAL FD | 39665 | 37880 | 37345 | 37710 | 37570 | 38265 | |

Below is a table for subjects which had fewer than 700 students in 2007-08. It is notable that translation students increased significantly over the years although the overall number was still very small.

| Language: FD | 02-03 | 03-04 | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | Number change |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| R5 Portuguese studies | 620 | 665 | 680 | 715 | 750 | 665 | 40 |
| Q91 92 Translation studies/theory | 230 | 310 | N/A | 325 | 325 | 405 | 180 |
| T3 South Asian studies | 365 | 365 | 370 | 370 | 320 | 310 | -50 |
| T5 African studies | 170 | 180 | 190 | 190 | 190 | 185 | 10 |
| T4 Other Asian studies | 30 | 30 | 65 | 80 | 105 | 108 | 80 |
| R6 Scandinavian studies | 180 | 175 | 215 | 150 | 130 | 80 | -100 |
| | | | | | | | |
| % of TOTAL language FD | 02-03 | 03-04 | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | |
| R5 Portuguese studies | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | |
| Q91 92 Translation studies/theory | 1% | 1% | N/A | 1% | 1% | 1% | |
| T3 South Asian studies | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | |
| T5 African studies | 0% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 0% | |
| T4 Other Asian studies | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | |
| R6 Scandinavian studies | 0% | 0% | 1% | 0% | 0% | 0% | |
| BASE NUMBER: TOTAL FD | 39665 | 37880 | 37345 | 37710 | 37570 | 38265 | |

* Each language taken by students studying 2 or more languages is counted as 1 for each individual language row. The base number, i.e., the total, however does not double count these students. Therefore, the column percentages will not add up to 100%

- In England, higher education institutions in London, South East, North West, Yorkshire and the Humber continued to record the highest number of students doing first degrees in languages and related studies in 2007-08 whereas those in East, North East and East Midlands continued to have the fewest number of first-degree language students. Institutions in Scotland overall had more students doing first degrees in languages than in previous years. (See next page for the table)

| Region: FD | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| London | 5940 | 5825 | 5660 | 5460 | 5265 | 5265 |
| Scotland | 4440 | 4820 | 4885 | 5030 | 4870 | 4995 |
| South East | 5160 | 4840 | 4725 | 4565 | 4655 | 4680 |
| Yorkshire & the Humber | 5160 | 4280 | 4020 | 3980 | 4075 | 4320 |
| North West | 3640 | 3455 | 3570 | 3765 | 4060 | 4180 |
| South West | 3240 | 3035 | 3165 | 3240 | 3130 | 3385 |
| West Midlands | 2935 | 2850 | 2595 | 2725 | 2660 | 2615 |
| East Midlands | 2270 | 2305 | 2280 | 2330 | 2265 | 2220 |
| Wales | 2425 | 2220 | 2175 | 2150 | 2200 | 2220 |
| North East | 1955 | 2060 | 2025 | 2140 | 2145 | 2065 |
| East | 1530 | 1355 | 1355 | 1360 | 1330 | 1420 |
| Northern Ireland | 965 | 835 | 880 | 955 | 910 | 895 |
| TOTAL | 39665 | 37880 | 37345 | 37710 | 37570 | 38265 |
| | | | | | | |
| % | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| London | 15% | 15% | 15% | 14% | 14% | 14% |
| Scotland | 11% | 13% | 13% | 13% | 13% | 13% |
| South East | 13% | 13% | 13% | 12% | 12% | 12% |
| Yorkshire & the Humber | 13% | 11% | 11% | 11% | 11% | 11% |
| North West | 9% | 9% | 10% | 10% | 11% | 11% |
| South West | 8% | 8% | 8% | 9% | 8% | 9% |
| West Midlands | 7% | 8% | 7% | 7% | 7% | 7% |
| East Midlands | 6% | 6% | 6% | 6% | 6% | 6% |
| Wales | 6% | 6% | 6% | 6% | 6% | 6% |
| North East | 5% | 5% | 5% | 6% | 6% | 5% |
| East | 4% | 4% | 4% | 4% | 4% | 4% |
| Northern Ireland | 2% | 2% | 2% | 3% | 2% | 2% |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

Other undergraduate students in languages

According to the HESA data, the number of students doing undergraduate programmes other than First degree (Other UG hereafter) reached a height of 23840 in 2003-04 and then fluctuated down to 24140 in 2006-07 and further down to 23285 in 2007-08. However, compared to 2002-03, the latest figure was still 6% higher.

| | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | % change |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| TOTAL UG | 22035 | 23840 | 22720 | 26045 | 24140 | 23285 | 6% |

*Note that translation students are missing from the 2004-05 dataset.

The majority of Other UG students in languages took languages for institutional undergraduate credit.

| Course aim: Other UG | 2007-08 |
|---|----------------|
| Institutional UG credit (codes 02 to 52, including CAT) | 18110 |
| NVQ/SVQ level 4/C | 1620 |
| Certificate of HE | 1200 |
| Professional qualification at UG level | 420 |
| Other* | 1935 |
| TOTAL | 23285 |
| % | 2007-08 |
| Institutional UG credit (codes 02 to 52, including CAT) | 78% |
| NVQ/SVQ level 4/C | 7% |
| Certificate of HE | 5% |
| Professional qualification at UG level | 2% |
| Other | 8% |
| TOTAL | 100% |

* Including Diploma of Higher Education, Foundation degree, post-degree diploma/certificate at UG level and other programmes at the UG level.

- Institutions in Scotland recorded 4430 students doing languages at Other UG level (19% of total such students), followed by those in Wales, West Midlands and North East. Institutions in East Midlands, East and Northern Ireland recorded fewest such students (see next page for the table).

Please note that Other UG courses tend to be offered in a limited number of universities. For instance, the increase in Scotland in 2007-08 was due to one university reporting approximately 3,500 students doing courses titled as Award in Continuing Education and Certificate in Higher Education. Similarly, one university had reported nearly 750 students more in 2006-07 than in 2007-08 and this led to a decrease in the latest overall figure of North West. *Therefore, the readers are advised to treat year-on-year comparisons for Other UG with care.*

| Region: Other UG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Scotland | 845 | 765 | 865 | 935 | 1000 | 4430 |
| Wales | 2040 | 4095 | 4385 | 5090 | 4645 | 3820 |
| West Midlands | 3815 | 4235 | 3980 | 4050 | 3985 | 3775 |
| North East | 1650 | 1565 | 1820 | 1970 | 2215 | 3420 |
| Yorkshire & the Humber | 1990 | 2010 | 1975 | 3000 | 2715 | 2885 |
| London | 3600 | 3385 | 2655 | 3785 | 3210 | 2495 |
| South East | 1050 | 985 | 740 | 1020 | 1090 | 720 |
| South West | 3825 | 3585 | 3435 | 3580 | 2270 | 695 |
| North West | 1590 | 1440 | 1360 | 920 | 1330 | 505 |
| East | 150 | 235 | 155 | 320 | 485 | 300 |
| Northern Ireland | 1300 | 1230 | 1245 | 1120 | 1015 | 120 |
| East Midlands | 180 | 315 | 105 | 250 | 180 | 120 |
| TOTAL | 22035 | 23840 | 22720 | 26045 | 24140 | 23285 |
| | | | | | | |
| Region: other UG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Scotland | 4% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 4% | 19% |
| Wales | 9% | 17% | 19% | 20% | 19% | 16% |
| West Midlands | 17% | 18% | 18% | 16% | 17% | 16% |
| North East | 7% | 7% | 8% | 8% | 9% | 15% |
| Yorkshire & the Humber | 9% | 8% | 9% | 12% | 11% | 12% |
| London | 16% | 14% | 12% | 15% | 13% | 11% |
| South East | 5% | 4% | 3% | 4% | 5% | 3% |
| South West | 17% | 15% | 15% | 14% | 9% | 3% |
| North West | 7% | 6% | 6% | 4% | 6% | 2% |
| East | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 1% |
| Northern Ireland | 6% | 5% | 5% | 4% | 4% | 1% |
| East Midlands | 1% | 1% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

- 84% of Other UG students were UK domiciled. Overall, the proportion of UK domiciled students ranged from 83% in 2002-03 to 87% in 2005-06.

| Domicile: Other UG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| UK | 18180 | 20175 | 19030 | 22670 | 20660 | 19600 |
| Other EU | 1420 | 1380 | 3690 | 1515 | 1795 | 2050 |
| Non-EU | 2435 | 2290 | | 1865 | 1685 | 1635 |
| TOTAL | 22035 | 23840 | 22720 | 26045 | 24140 | 23285 |
| | | | | | | |
| % | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| UK | 83% | 85% | 84% | 87% | 86% | 84% |
| Other EU | 6% | 6% | 16% | 6% | 7% | 9% |
| Non-EU | 11% | 10% | 0% | 7% | 7% | 7% |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

* The 2004-05 dataset only has breakdown of UK and non-UK students.

- The majority were studying on part-time basis.

| Mode of Study: Other UG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Full-time | 685 | 415 | 405 | 325 | 465 | 415 |
| Part-time | 21350 | 23450 | 22315 | 25725 | 23680 | 22870 |
| TOTAL | 22035 | 23840 | 22720 | 26045 | 24140 | 23285 |
| | | | | | | |
| % | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Full-time | 3% | 2% | 2% | 1% | 2% | 2% |
| Part-time | 97% | 98% | 98% | 99% | 98% | 98% |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

- Approximately three out of five Other UG students were females.

| Gender: Other UG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Male | 8910 | 9915 | N/A | 10455 | 9350 | 9180 |
| Female | 13125 | 13925 | N/A | 15590 | 14790 | 14105 |
| Intermediate | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 5 |
| TOTAL | 22035 | 23840 | 22720 | 26045 | 24140 | 23285 |
| | | | | | | |
| % | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Male | 40% | 42% | N/A | 40% | 39% | 39% |
| Female | 60% | 58% | N/A | 60% | 61% | 61% |
| Intermediate | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 0% |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

- 2007-08 recorded significantly fewer students doing languages as a single subject, down by 11% from 2002-03 and 24% from its previous year. On the other hand, there was a greater increase in students doing balanced combinations over the same period. The figure in 2007-08 more than doubled that in 2002-03 and jumped from 1,005 to 5,620 from 2006-07.

As a result of the changes, in 2007-08, three quarters of Other UG students were doing a language as a single subject while another quarter of them were taking languages in combination with another subject.

| Subject balance: Other UG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Single | 19655 | 21800 | 20515 | 24080 | 23075 | 17475 |
| Joint Double | 2345 | 1970 | 2105 | 1915 | 1005 | 5620 |
| Major/Minor | 15 | 55 | 40 | 40 | 35 | 165 |
| Triple | 15 | 10 | 55 | 15 | 30 | 25 |
| TOTAL | 22035 | 23840 | 22720 | 26045 | 24140 | 23285 |
| | | | | | | |
| % | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Single | 89% | 91% | 90% | 92% | 96% | 75% |
| Joint Double | 11% | 8% | 9% | 7% | 4% | 24% |
| Major/Minor | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 1% |
| Triple | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| TOTAL | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

For students taking a language as one of their balanced combination, 63% of them took Historical and Philosophical studies as the other subject and nearly a quarter took subjects such as Linguistics, Classics and English studies.

| Subject combination: Other UG Double Joint | 2007-08 |
|--|----------------|
| 2 language subjects | 685 |
| Language + another subject | 4935 |
| V Historical and Philosophical studies | 3525 |
| Q Linguistics, Classics & related (excluding Celtic studies & Translation) | 1265 |
| X Education | 115 |
| G Mathematical and Computer Sciences | 15 |
| T7 American, Latin American studies (& Australasian studies) | 10 |
| P Mass Communications & Documentation | 5 |
| W Creative Arts and Design | 0 |
| TOTAL | 5620 |
| % | 2007-08 |
| 2 language subjects | 12% |
| Language + another subject | 88% |
| V Historical and Philosophical studies | 63% |
| Q Linguistics, Classics & related (excluding Celtic studies & Translation) | 23% |
| X Education | 2% |
| G Mathematical and Computer Sciences | 0% |
| T7 American, Latin American studies (& Australasian studies) | 0% |
| P Mass Communications & Documentation | 0% |
| W Creative Arts and Design | 0% |
| TOTAL | 100% |

- In 2007-08, more than a third of Other UG students were recorded doing subjects which fell into the category of R9: other European languages and related studies. Another fifth of them took Spanish and Celtic studies were taken by 12%, followed by French, with a proportion of 9%.

Again, as the case of regional changes, the decrease of French in 2007-08 was largely due to the factor that a few schools were not recorded to have students in French, each of which were recorded having hundreds one year ago.

However, the growth of Spanish appeared to be consistent over the last five years and the latest figure increased by 46% from 2002-03. (See next page for the table)

| Language: Other UG | 02-03 | 03-04 | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Q91 92 Translation studies or theory | 465 | 545 | N/A | 250 | 70 | 25 |
| Q5 Celtic Studies | 845 | 2750 | 2925 | 2985 | 2420 | 2760 |
| R1 French studies | 5545 | 5110 | 5125 | 5290 | 4125 | 2105 |
| R2 German studies | 1545 | 1465 | 1510 | 1650 | 1985 | 1285 |
| R3 Italian studies | 1910 | 2035 | 2175 | 2385 | 2060 | 1620 |
| R4 Spanish studies | 3300 | 3510 | 3745 | 4695 | 4480 | 4820 |
| R5 Portuguese studies | 205 | 245 | 225 | 365 | 315 | 185 |
| R6 Scandinavian studies | 425 | 405 | 340 | 490 | 325 | 280 |
| R7 Russian and East European studies | 555 | 710 | 790 | 1000 | 865 | 640 |
| R8 European studies | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 60 |
| T1 Chinese studies | 255 | 370 | 585 | 805 | 815 | 585 |
| T2 Japanese studies | 685 | 645 | 795 | 950 | 905 | 470 |
| T3 South Asian studies | 10 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 25 | 20 |
| T4 Other Asian studies | 0 | 15 | 10 | 0 | 35 | 0 |
| T5 African studies | 30 | 25 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| T6 Modern Middle Eastern studies | 610 | 670 | 665 | 780 | 680 | 380 |
| | | | | | | |
| R9 Others European Languages and related | 5570 | 4815 | 3975 | 4340 | 4950 | 8100 |
| T9 Others Non-European languages and related | 80 | 510 | 20 | 195 | 410 | 810 |
| TOTAL | 22035 | 23840 | 22720 | 26045 | 24140 | 23285 |
| | | | | | | |
| Language: Other UG | 02-03 | 03-04 | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 |
| Q91 92 Translation studies or theory | 2% | 2% | | 1% | 0% | 0% |
| Q5 Celtic Studies | 4% | 12% | 13% | 11% | 10% | 12% |
| R1 French studies | 25% | 21% | 23% | 20% | 17% | 9% |
| R2 German studies | 7% | 6% | 7% | 6% | 8% | 6% |
| R3 Italian studies | 9% | 9% | 10% | 9% | 9% | 7% |
| R4 Spanish studies | 15% | 15% | 16% | 18% | 19% | 21% |
| R5 Portuguese studies | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| R6 Scandinavian studies | 2% | 2% | 1% | 2% | 1% | 1% |
| R7 Russian and East European studies | 3% | 3% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 3% |
| R8 European studies | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 0% |
| T1 Chinese studies | 1% | 2% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 3% |
| T2 Japanese studies | 3% | 3% | 4% | 4% | 4% | 2% |
| T3 South Asian studies | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| T4 Other Asian studies | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| T5 African studies | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| T6 Modern Middle Eastern studies | 3% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 3% | 2% |
| | | | | | | |
| R9 Others European Languages and related | 25% | 20% | 18% | 17% | 21% | 35% |
| T9 Others Non-European languages and related | 0% | 2% | 0% | 1% | 2% | 3% |
| BAE NUMBER: TOTAL UG* | 22035 | 23840 | 22720 | 26045 | 24140 | 23285 |

* Each language taken by students studying 2 or more languages is counted as 1 for each individual language row. The base number, i.e., the total, however does not double count these students. Therefore, the column percentages will not add up to 100%

Postgraduate students in languages

- In 2007-08, HESA recorded 3390 postgraduate students in taught higher degrees, accounting for nearly half of all the postgraduate language students in UK HEIs. A little more than a quarter were doing research higher degrees (excluding writing-up students) and another quarter doing PGCE in languages. Of the 230 students categorized as 'other PG', approximately 100 of them were doing various courses on translations and/or interpreting (e.g., diploma, certificate and other courses).

| | 2007-08 | % |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| PG taught degree | 3390 | 47% |
| PG research degree | 1925 | 27% |
| PGCE | 1640 | 23% |
| Other PG | 230 | 3% |
| | | |
| TOTAL PG | 7185 | 100% |

Excluding part-time research degree students (see notes on SRP, p.1) for comparison purposes, the number of students doing postgraduate courses (not including PGCE) decreased by 5% on its previous year, but was a quarter more than that in 2002-03.

| TOTAL PG | 02-03 | 03-04 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | % change |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Excluding part-time research degree and PGCE | 3995 | 5120 | 5320 | 5305 | 5045 | 26% |

*2004-05 data on postgraduate students not available

The following analysis is on postgraduate degree students and those postgraduates categorized as 'Other PG'. Analysis on PGCE is available on request.

- In 2007-08, nearly a half of the students studying a language as their postgraduate degrees or other postgraduate programmes were UK domiciled. A little under a third of them were domiciled as overseas students.

| Domicile: PG | 2007-08 | % |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------|
| UK | 2705 | 49% |
| Other EU | 1195 | 22% |
| Non-EU | 1645 | 30% |
| TOTAL | 5545 | 100% |

There have been a significantly increase in overseas students who studied a language as their postgraduate degrees or other postgraduate programmes. While the number of UK students also increased over the same time, the proportion of UK students decreased from 53% to 47% in the last five years.

| Domicile: PG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| UK | 2120 | 2650 | 2530 | 2470 | 2365 |
| Other EU | 795 | 990 | 1160 | 1195 | 1100 |
| Non-EU | 1080 | 1480 | 1625 | 1640 | 1575 |
| TOTAL* | 3995 | 5120 | 5320 | 5305 | 5045 |
| % | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| UK | 53% | 52% | 48% | 47% | 47% |
| Other EU | 20% | 19% | 22% | 22% | 22% |
| Non-EU | 27% | 29% | 31% | 31% | 31% |
| TOTAL* | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

*Excluding part-time postgraduate research degree students

- In 2007-08, 35% of postgraduates were male students and 65% females.

| Gender: PG | 2007-08 | % |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Male | 1935 | 35% |
| Female | 3610 | 65% |
| TOTAL | 5545 | 100% |

The proportions between male and female students have remained relatively stable.

| Gender: PG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Male | 1375 | 1675 | 1800 | 1745 | 1725 |
| Female | 2620 | 3445 | 3520 | 3560 | 3320 |
| TOTAL* | 3995 | 5120 | 5320 | 5305 | 5045 |
| | | | | | |
| % | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Male | 34% | 33% | 34% | 33% | 34% |
| Female | 66% | 67% | 66% | 67% | 66% |
| TOTAL* | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

*Excluding part-time postgraduate research degree students

- In 2007-08, the majority of postgraduate students took a language as a single subject and one out of ten took two languages or combined a language with another subject.

| Subject balance: PG | 2007-08 | % |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Single | 4750 | 86% |
| Joint Double | 560 | 10% |
| Major/Minor | 75 | 1% |
| Triple | 155 | 3% |
| TOTAL | 5545 | 100% |

Compared to previous years, there seems to be a smaller percentage of students who were studying a language as a single subject. Note that part-time research degree students being excluded from the datasets may affect the number of students studying languages as a Single subject; therefore, the trend needs to be further tracked in future years.

On the other hand, more students tended to combine two languages or take a language together with at least one another subject.

| Subject balance: PG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Single | 3545 | 4550 | 4725 | 4715 | 4285 |
| Joint Double | 385 | 500 | 465 | 435 | 530 |
| Major/Minor | 0 | 5 | 55 | 70 | 75 |
| Triple | 60 | 70 | 75 | 95 | 155 |
| TOTAL* | 3995 | 5120 | 5320 | 5305 | 5045 |
| | | | | | |
| % | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Single | 89% | 89% | 89% | 89% | 77% |
| Joint Double | 10% | 10% | 9% | 8% | 10% |
| Major/Minor | 0% | 0% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| Triple | 1% | 1% | 1% | 2% | 3% |
| TOTAL* | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

*Excluding part-time postgraduate research degree students

In terms of other subjects studied alongside with a language, in 2007-08, among postgraduate students who took a language as one of the balanced combination, a little more than a quarter took two languages as a balanced combination. For students who took a language with another non-language subject, subjects including Linguistics, English studies, Mass Communications and Documentation, Education and Business and Administrative studies were the most popular.

| Subject combination: PG Double Joint | 2007-08 | % |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| 2 language subjects | 150 | 27% |
| Language + another subject | 410 | 73% |
| | | |
| Q Linguistics, Classics & related (excluding Celtic studies & translation) | 145 | 26% |
| P Mass Communications & Documentation | 70 | 13% |
| X Education | 65 | 11% |
| N Business & Administrative studies | 45 | 8% |
| L Social studies | 35 | 6% |
| W Creative Arts and Design | 30 | 6% |
| T7 American, Latin American studs (& Australasian studies) | 10 | 1% |
| V Historical and Philosophical studies | 5 | 1% |
| M Law | 0 | 0% |
| TOTAL | 560 | 100% |

- In 2007-08, more than a quarter of postgraduate language students were record to study Translation Theories or Translation Studies. The percentages of students doing European languages ranged from 2 to 6% and those studying non-European languages from 2% (e.g., South Asian studies) to 8% (Modern Middle Eastern studies).

| Language: PG | 2007-08 | % |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| Q91 92 Translation studies or theory | 1485 | 27% |
| Q5 Celtic Studies | 265 | 5% |
| R1 French studies | 275 | 5% |
| R2 German studies | 160 | 3% |
| R3 Italian studies | 115 | 2% |
| R4 Spanish studies | 190 | 3% |
| R5 Portuguese studies | 25 | 0% |
| R6 Scandinavian studies | 20 | 0% |
| R7 Russian and East European studies | 320 | 6% |
| R8 European studies | 120 | 2% |
| R9 Others European Languages and related | 1275 | 23% |
| T1 Chinese studies | 270 | 5% |
| T2 Japanese studies | 155 | 3% |
| T3 South Asian studies | 100 | 2% |
| T4 Other Asian studies | 110 | 2% |
| T5 African studies | 315 | 6% |
| T6 Modern Middle Eastern studies | 445 | 8% |
| T9 Others Non-European languages and related | 180 | 3% |
| TOTAL | 5545 | 100% |

* Each language taken by students studying 2 or more languages is counted as 1 for each individual language row. The base number, i.e., the total, however does not double count these students. Therefore, the column percentages will not add up to 100%

Year-on-year comparison excluding part-time research degree students shows a fairly consistent increase of Translation and African studies. Over the same period, the decrease of German studies and Japanese studies were notable although based on a small number. Some other subjects such as Chinese studies and Spanish studies seemed to have increased (although again with small numbers), but the 2007-08 figure did not conform. Again, this may be related to the exclusion of part-time research degree students. Further tracking is needed.

| Language: PG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Q91 92 Translation studies or theory | 710 | 1160 | 1345 | 1125 | 1450 |
| T6 Modern Middle Eastern studies | 345 | 380 | 415 | 460 | 400 |
| R7 Russian and East European studies | 240 | 270 | 245 | 320 | 280 |
| T1 Chinese studies | 175 | 215 | 265 | 290 | 270 |
| R1 French studies | 305 | 350 | 255 | 300 | 230 |
| Q5 Celtic Studies | 190 | 235 | 220 | 225 | 225 |
| T2 Japanese studies | 215 | 190 | 170 | 150 | 150 |
| R4 Spanish studies | 180 | 170 | 175 | 250 | 135 |
| T5 African studies | 45 | 75 | 95 | 110 | 130 |
| R2 German studies | 185 | 190 | 170 | 175 | 120 |
| T4 Other Asian studies | 30 | 115 | 130 | 145 | 105 |
| T3 South Asian studies | 140 | 95 | 95 | 95 | 95 |
| R3 Italian studies | 90 | 100 | 110 | 135 | 95 |
| R5 Portuguese studies | 20 | 30 | 30 | 25 | 20 |
| R6 Scandinavian studies | 15 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 15 |
| | | | | | |
| Language: PG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Q91 92 Translation studies or theory | 18% | 23% | 25% | 21% | 29% |
| T6 Modern Middle Eastern studies | 9% | 7% | 8% | 9% | 8% |
| R7 Russian and East European studies | 6% | 5% | 5% | 6% | 6% |
| T1 Chinese studies | 4% | 4% | 5% | 5% | 5% |
| R1 French studies | 8% | 7% | 5% | 6% | 5% |
| Q5 Celtic Studies | 5% | 5% | 4% | 4% | 4% |
| T2 Japanese studies | 5% | 4% | 3% | 3% | 3% |
| R4 Spanish studies | 5% | 3% | 3% | 5% | 3% |
| T5 African studies | 1% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 3% |
| R2 German studies | 5% | 4% | 3% | 3% | 2% |
| T4 Other Asian studies | 1% | 2% | 2% | 3% | 2% |
| T3 South Asian studies | 3% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% |
| R3 Italian studies | 2% | 2% | 2% | 3% | 2% |
| R5 Portuguese studies | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 0% |
| R6 Scandinavian studies | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| BASE NUMBER: TOTAL PG*# | 3995 | 5120 | 5320 | 5305 | 5045 |

*Excluding part-time postgraduate research degree students

Each language taken by students studying 2 or more languages is counted as 1 for each individual language row. The base number, i.e., the total, however does not double count these students. Therefore, the column percentages will not add up to 100%.

- In 2007-08, nearly a third of postgraduate language students were studying in HE institutions in London, followed by those in South East (16%) and Yorkshire and the Humber (12%).

| Region: PG | 2007-08 | % |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| London | 1670 | 30% |
| South East | 910 | 16% |
| Yorkshire & the Humber | 660 | 12% |
| Scotland | 475 | 9% |
| South West | 410 | 7% |
| North West | 360 | 6% |
| West Midlands | 300 | 5% |
| North East | 235 | 4% |
| East | 190 | 3% |
| Wales | 150 | 3% |
| East Midlands | 105 | 2% |
| Northern Ireland | 75 | 1% |
| TOTAL | 5545 | 100% |

Most of the regions remained a relatively stable picture with some increases in postgraduate languages. London enjoyed an increased share of the students (from 26% in 2002-03 to 30% in 2007-08). Also note the increase in areas such as North West and West Midlands although the numbers were still small. On the other hand, while the figure in South East was still increasing in general and South East continued to attract a good share of postgraduate students, the proportion of students decreased from 20% in 2002-03 to 17% in 2007-08. (See next page for the table)

| Region: PG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| London | 1030 | 1375 | 1535 | 1425 | 1515 |
| South East | 785 | 805 | 760 | 830 | 850 |
| Yorkshire & the Humber | 505 | 675 | 700 | 640 | 630 |
| Scotland | 335 | 440 | 415 | 475 | 435 |
| South West | 350 | 650 | 690 | 635 | 340 |
| North West | 205 | 210 | 270 | 320 | 330 |
| West Midlands | 135 | 220 | 235 | 275 | 265 |
| North East | 180 | 210 | 170 | 190 | 215 |
| East | 155 | 170 | 215 | 185 | 180 |
| Wales | 130 | 150 | 130 | 150 | 125 |
| East Midlands | 80 | 95 | 85 | 75 | 80 |
| Northern Ireland | 95 | 120 | 110 | 105 | 70 |
| TOTAL* | 3995 | 5120 | 5320 | 5305 | 5045 |
| | | | | | |
| Region: PG | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| London | 26% | 27% | 29% | 27% | 30% |
| South East | 20% | 16% | 14% | 16% | 17% |
| Yorkshire & the Humber | 13% | 13% | 13% | 12% | 13% |
| Scotland | 8% | 9% | 8% | 9% | 9% |
| South West | 9% | 13% | 13% | 12% | 7% |
| North West | 5% | 4% | 5% | 6% | 7% |
| West Midlands | 3% | 4% | 4% | 5% | 5% |
| North East | 5% | 4% | 3% | 4% | 4% |
| East | 4% | 3% | 4% | 3% | 4% |
| Wales | 3% | 3% | 2% | 3% | 3% |
| East Midlands | 2% | 2% | 2% | 1% | 2% |
| Northern Ireland | 2% | 2% | 2% | 2% | 1% |
| TOTAL* | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

*Excluding part-time postgraduate research degree students