

## Medr statistics

### Students in Higher Education, 2023/24

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**Summary:** Statistics on Welsh domiciled students studying at HE providers in the UK and students studying at HE providers in Wales.

**Theme:** Higher Education

**Source:** Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Student Record



## Enrolments in Welsh Higher Education Providers (HEPs)

- There were 150,680 enrolments at Welsh HEPs in 2023/24, 2% less than the 154,385 in 2022/23.
- The number of enrolments at undergraduate level decreased by less than 1%; from 111,745 in 2022/23 to 111,320 in 2023/24.
- The number of enrolments at postgraduate level decreased by 8%; from 42,640 in 2022/23 to 39,360 in 2023/24.
- 35% of postgraduates studied part-time, compared to 25% of undergraduates.
- The most popular subject group at Welsh HEPs at both undergraduate and postgraduate level in 2023/24 was Business and management.

### Demographics

- 57% of enrolments in 2023/24 were from female students, the same proportion as in 2022/23.
- 20% of enrolments in 2023/24 were from students with a known disability. This was an increase from 17% in the previous year.
- Of students from the UK whose ethnicity is known, 16% of enrolments in 2023/24 were from students with an ethnic minority background. An increase from 14% in 2022/23.
- 46% of enrolments at Welsh HEPs in 2023/24 were from students whose permanent address on entry to their course was Wales. A further 35% were from the rest of the UK, 1% from the EU and 17% were from elsewhere.

## Welsh domiciled students enrolled in UK Higher Education Providers (HEPs)

- There were 103,185 enrolments by students from Wales at UK Higher Education Providers (HEPs) in 2023/24, 5% less than 2022/23.
- 83,350 of these enrolments were at undergraduate level in 2023/24, 3% less than 2022/23. 32% of undergraduate students studied part-time.
- 19,840 of these enrolments were at postgraduate level in 2023/24, 10% less than 2022/23. 61% of postgraduate students studied part-time.

### Demographics

- 62% of Welsh domiciled enrolments were female students, the same proportion as in 2022/23.
- 23% of Welsh domiciled students had a known disability in 2023/24, an increase from 21% in 2022/23.
- Of students whose ethnicity is known, 11% of Welsh domiciled students in 2023/24 had an ethnic minority background, an increase from 10% in 2022/23.

- The number of full-time, undergraduate enrolments from the most deprived areas in Wales (Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) 2019 Quintile 1) decreased by 6%, from 9,940 enrolments in 2022/23 to 9,385 enrolments in 2023/24.
- The number of full-time, undergraduate enrolments from the least deprived areas in Wales (WIMD 2019 Quintile 5) decreased by 2% (from 15,195 enrolments in 2022/23 to 14,855 enrolments in 2023/24).

## Cross border flows of full-time students 2023/24

- Wales is a net importer of full-time students from the rest of the UK.
- There were 45,045 full-time students from other UK countries at Welsh HEPs, compared to 27,785 full-time students from Wales studying at HEPs in the rest of the UK.
- 44% of full-time undergraduates from Wales studied elsewhere in the UK. 38% of full-time postgraduates from Wales studied elsewhere in the UK.

## Qualifications awarded

- The number of qualifications awarded to students from Wales decreased by 3%; from 30,315 in 2022/23 to 29,490 in 2023/24.
- The number of qualifications awarded by HEPs in Wales increased by 8%; from 46,465 in 2022/23 to 50,130 in 2023/24.
- The proportion of first degree qualifiers at HEPs in Wales gaining first class honours qualifications decreased from 30% in 2022/23 to 28% in 2023/24 (excluding those with unclassified degrees).

## Further information

More detailed statistics can be found on the Higher Education Statistics Agency [Open Data](#) website. The data for students enrolled at providers in Wales can also be found on [StatsWales](#).

## Quality and methodology information

Please see the accompanying Quality and methodology document for detailed information including definitions.

### Statement of compliance with the Code of Practice for Statistics

Our statistical practice is regulated by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR). OSR sets the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) that all producers of official statistics should adhere to.

All of our statistics are produced and published in accordance with a number of statements and protocols to enhance trustworthiness, quality and value. These are set out in Medr's [Statement of Compliance](#) with the Code of Practice for Statistics.

These official statistics demonstrate the standards expected around trustworthiness, quality and value in the following ways.

### **Trustworthiness**

These statistics have been published according to Medr's [Statement of Compliance](#) and [pre-release access to official statistics policy](#).

### **Quality**

The data is sourced from the HESA Student record which collects data from higher education providers. When the data is submitted it must meet certain validation rules. When the statistics are being produced quality checks are undertaken by the statisticians.

### **Value**

These statistics are produced to provide an insight into the numbers of people from Wales studying at HE providers across the UK and into the numbers of students studying at Welsh HE providers.

This provides easy access to data from the HESA student record that is specific to Wales, and also makes the information available in Welsh.

### **Change in accredited statistics status**

These statistics were previously published by the Welsh Government as National Statistics (now known as Accredited Official Statistics). As the statistics are now published by a new organisation, the Accredited Official Statistics status has been temporarily removed.

Medr has continued the systems and processes for producing the statistics from Welsh Government, and the statisticians producing the statistics include statisticians who produced further education, work-based learning and community learning statistics at Welsh Government.

The OSR will assess the processes in place at Medr as an official statistics producer. The OSR will assess whether the statistics meet the requirements for Accredited Official Statistics.

### **Related statistics**

Earlier reports in this series were published on [gov.wales](http://gov.wales).

### **Contact information**

We welcome any feedback on any aspect of these statistics.

Feedback, questions, and requests for further data can be directed by email to: [hestats@medr.cymru](mailto:hestats@medr.cymru)

# Medr

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