

Medr statistics

Quality and Methodology: Graduate Outcomes, 2022/23

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Summary: Quality and production information about the 'Graduate Outcomes, 2022/23' publication

Theme: Higher Education

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Graduate Outcomes Survey



Contents

Data source	2
Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Graduate Outcomes survey.....	2
Rounding.....	2
Key Quality Information	2
Relevance.....	2
Accuracy.....	2
Timeliness and punctuality	3
Accessibility and clarity	3
Comparability and coherence	3
Statement of compliance with the Code of Practice for Statistics.....	3

Data source

Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Graduate Outcomes survey

The HESA Graduate Outcomes is a survey, which first commenced with the 2017/18 academic year's graduate population. The survey collects information about the activities and perspectives of graduates approximately 15 months after they complete their higher education (HE) studies.

The survey collects information from graduates of HE providers across the UK. However our report focuses on the graduates from Welsh HE providers, and on graduates whose address on entry to their course was in Wales regardless of where in the UK they studied.

Rounding

Figures are rounded to the nearest 5. Totals are calculated on unrounded figures and then rounded to the nearest 5 so may not equal the sum of the constituent parts.

Percentages are calculated using unrounded figures and rounded to the nearest whole per cent. This may mean the percentages in this release may not match what you would calculate from the rounded figures. If a percentage is calculated where the denominator is less than 22.5 then the percentage is suppressed.

Key Quality Information

HESA have produced a [Quality Report](#) for the Graduate Outcomes survey that is published on their website. This report includes information about the quality of the survey according to the five dimensions of quality specified in the European Statistical System. These are relevance, accuracy, timeliness and punctuality, accessibility and clarity, and coherence and comparability.

Relevance

The statistics provide high-level information on the results of the Graduate Outcomes survey for graduates from Welsh higher education providers, and for graduates from Wales who studied across the UK.

Accuracy

The Graduate Outcomes survey is a population scale survey in the sense that it attempts to collect responses from the entire sampling frame. However as with most surveys there is not a 100% response rate. The response rate to the 2022/23 Graduate Outcomes survey was lower than in previous years. To help users of the data understand this issue, HESA have included additional contextual information in [User Guide](#) on their website.

HESA have found the data to be representative of the population for most statistical purposes and assess whether any weighting is required for the data every five years unless there is evidence to suggest an earlier assessment is required.

The majority of the data in this report is also published in HESA's Higher Education Graduate Outcomes Data which is designated as Accredited Official Statistics. The exception to this is the data we've presented about the country that respondents work in where we have used the same variables as used by HESA, but covering a slightly different population by including those from and working outside of the UK.

Timeliness and punctuality

When designing the Graduate Outcomes survey HESA and its statutory customers decided to have a 15 month interval between graduation and data collection to strike a balance between the availability of useful careers data being available, being able to achieve a high response rate and being able to publish data that is still relevant.

For this report published by Medr, we have made it available as soon as possible following the publication of Graduate Outcomes survey results by HESA, and in accordance with Medr's pre-release procedures.

Accessibility and clarity

This statistical release was pre-announced on the Welsh Government website and in the [Statistics section](#) of the Medr website.

The report is published as a PDF with an accompanying workbook available in an open data format (ODS). Both the release and the workbook follow accessibility guidelines.

Comparability and coherence

The HESA Open data website includes Graduate Outcomes results for graduates from HE providers from across the UK. This includes results from the first Graduate Outcomes survey which looked at graduates from the 2017/18 academic year to allow comparisons over time and between providers across the UK.

The Graduate Outcomes survey replaced the former Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey and differs in a number of ways which mean that the results from the two surveys are not directly comparable.

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 source for this information is the HESA Graduate Outcomes survey. HESA publish the results as Accredited Official Statistics on their website. Most of the statistics in the report match what is published by HESA. The exception to this is the data looking at the country that respondents work in where we have used a slightly different populations.

HESA publish information on the [survey methodology](#) and a [quality report](#) on their website. Medr's 'Graduate Outcomes, 2022/23' report is produced by statistical analysts who do additional checks to identify and understand any issues.

Value

These statistics provide an insight into the outcomes of graduates from Welsh higher education providers, and graduates from Wales who studied across the UK. Producing these statistics helps to provide evidence for anyone with an interest in what students do following their studies and whether they feel their studies were beneficial.

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