

Research Councils' Diversity Data (April 2018)

This publication is the fourth annual update of the Research Councils' diversity data. It forms part of the information we are using and sharing to map our current situation and identify challenges with respect to equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) so that we can take a strategic lead in working to address challenges and promote EDI within the research and innovation landscape. We will also continue to publish this data annually and monitor more detailed data so that we can track progress and see where issues persist or new challenges emerge.

The Research Councils, Innovate UK and Research England came together to form UK Research and Innovation at the start of April 2018. UKRI is committed to building on the work of its councils and we plan to include similar data from Innovate UK in the future.

Research Councils presently gather data on four protected characteristics¹:

- Gender
- Age
- Disability status
- Ethnicity

For the 2015-16 period, first reported last year, the data published was extended to include:

- Principal Investigator application, award and success rate data by gender, age and ethnicity
- Co-Investigator application, award and success rate data by gender, age and ethnicity (new)
- Fellowship application, award and success rate data by gender, age and ethnicity
- Student population data (new starts in each year) by gender, age, ethnicity and disability (new)².

¹ Grant and Fellowship applicant data is generated from returns by individuals to their JeS account, where all individuals are assigned a 'unique person identifier'. Student data is drawn from the JeS Student Details Portal.

² Data is presented for successfully appointed students by intake year. Funding for studentships is provided to research organisations, who then select candidates for specific studentship projects. The data presented reflect- individual studentship information submitted by research organisations to Research Councils via the cross-council Je-S Student Details Portal (SDP).

We are only publishing disability data for students at present. The numbers disclosing a disability are small in the other data sets coupled with a significant number choosing not to disclose or unknown. We will continue to monitor this data internally.

All the data generated over the last six financial years 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 are reported as both numbers and as percentages.

HESA Data - estimating the diversity profile of the academic and studentship populations

In addition to looking at our own data, Research Councils also look at data on the overall diversity profile of the broader academic community - to understand how representative the current pool of applicants to the Research Councils is and how representative the students supported by Research Councils are compared of the wider UK-domiciled population of students. As a starting point we have looked at HESA staff and student returns for 2015-16. Each Research Council has identified the HESA cost centres that most closely reflect the population of researchers who might apply to their Council and those cost centres have been aggregated to give the summary table below. The same cost centres have been applied to the student data set.

Table 1 - HESA Data 2015-16 – An estimate of academic populations

		AHRC	BBSRC	ESRC	EPSRC	MRC	NERC	STFC
Gender	Female	45%	36%	47%	17%	41%	26%	14%
	Male	55%	64%	53%	83%	59%	74%	86%
Age	0-30	4%	2%	4%	4%	3%	4%	2%
	31-40	26%	23%	27%	28%	24%	27%	27%
	41-50	34%	36%	32%	32%	35%	35%	36%
	51-60	26%	29%	26%	27%	29%	23%	25%
	61+	10%	10%	11%	10%	10%	11%	10%
Ethnicity	Asian	1%	3%	3%	4%	4%	1%	2%
	Black	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%
	Chinese	1%	1%	3%	7%	2%	1%	2%
	White	86%	86%	81%	76%	84%	87%	83%
	Other	4%	4%	5%	6%	4%	2%	5%
	Not known	7%	5%	5%	7%	5%	8%	9%

- All columns may not add to 100% due to rounding
- Using the HESA 2015-16 staff return, Staff full-person equivalent, Staff (excluding atypical), Academic employment function, Teaching & research
- Each Research Council has selected the HESA cost centres that most closely reflect their remit, as such there are overlaps and gaps.
- HESA cost centres are departments originating from the HESA Finance records and have been used for a number of years as a way of coding higher education.
- For AHRC Individuals are from the following Cost Centres (2012-13 onwards): Area Studies, Archaeology, Politics & International studies, Law, Modern languages, English language & literature, History, Classics, Philosophy, Theology & religious studies, Art & design, Music, dance, drama & performing arts, Media studies.
- For BBSRC Individuals are from the following Cost Centres (2012-13 onwards): Veterinary Science, Agriculture, forestry and food science, Biosciences.
- For EPSRC Individuals are from the following Cost Centres (2012-13 on wards): Chemistry, 'General engineering, Chemical engineering', 'Mineral, metallurgy & materials engineering', 'Civil engineering', 'Electrical, electronic & computer engineering' and 'Mechanical, aero & production engineering', 'Information technology & systems sciences & computer software engineering', 'Mathematics' and 'Physics'.
- For ESRC individuals are from the following Cost centres (2012-13 onwards): Area studies, Anthropology and Development Studies, Political and international studies, Economics and econometrics, law, social work and social policy, sociology, Psychology & Business sciences, Business & Management Studies, Geography & Environmental studies, Education
- For MRC individuals are from the following Cost Centres (2012-13 onwards): Biosciences, Clinical medicine, Clinical dentistry, Veterinary science, Anatomy & physiology, Health & community studies, Psychology & behavioural sciences, Pharmacy & pharmacology. *The decision was taken to exclude Nursing & allied health professions.*
- For NERC individuals are from the Cost centres (2012-13 onwards): Earth, Marine and Environmental Science
- For STFC, individuals are from the Physics costs centre. *The decision was taken to exclude the relatively very small population that are funded outside of the Physics cost centre to make the statistics relating to STFC meaningful.*

Table 2 HESA Data 2015-16 – An estimate of student populations

		AHRC	BBSRC	ESRC	EPSRC	MRC	NERC	STFC
Gender	Female	51%	53%	60%	26%	60%	46%	21%
	Male	49%	47%	40%	74%	40%	54%	78%
	Other	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Age	0-29	49%	79%	40%	80%	64%	73%	93%
	30-39	23%	16%	27%	13%	26%	18%	5%
	40-49	14%	3%	19%	5%	7%	5%	1%
	50-59	9%	1%	11%	2%	3%	3%	1%
	60+	5%	0%	3%	1%	0%	1%	0%
	Age unknown	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Ethnicity	Asian	2%	4%	4%	5%	6%	2%	3%
	Black	2%	2%	5%	3%	2%	1%	0%
	Chinese	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	0%	1%
	White	85%	84%	79%	79%	79%	89%	86%
	Other	6%	7%	8%	8%	8%	4%	5%
	Unknown/not applicable	4%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	4%

- All columns may not add to 100% due to rounding
- Using the HESA 15/16 student return HE students, Full-time equivalent, Level of study (4 detailed), Postgraduate (research), Domicile (basic), United Kingdom
- Using same cost centres as above to estimate Research Councils populations

Information Note on Methodology

All data is rounded in line with the HESA rounding methodology to protect the confidentiality of individuals. The methodology is as follows:

- All raw/actual data generated as 0,1,2 is to be **rounded to 0**.
- All other numbers are rounded to the **nearest multiple of 5**.

As totals have also been rounded based on unrounded values, some may be greater or less than the individual count numbers presented in the report.

All success rate percentages are calculated on the basis of unrounded numbers. In line with HESA rounding methodology all % have been suppressed if the denominator is less than 22.5. We recognise that some of the data headings are very small and so the success rates are not particularly meaningful in all cases but they are included for transparency where the suppression methodology allows.

For each protected characteristic the following aggregate groupings have been used:

2.1 Age:

The age of individuals is banded as follows:

- 0-29,
- 30-39,
- 40-49,
- 50-59,
- 60+

2.2 Ethnicity:

The **ethnicity** data has been aggregated as follows for publication purposes as numbers are small but Councils are monitoring their ethnicity data at a finer level:

- White (this includes all white ethnic groups including white British)

- Black (including black Caribbean, black African, black British and black other), Asian (including Asian Indian, Asian Pakistani, Asian Bangladeshi, Asian British and Asian other), Chinese, Mixed, Other ethnic background
- Not disclosed
- Unknown

The data sets include the categories '**unknown**' and '**not disclosed**':

- **Unknown** refers to instances where individuals have not updated their details and therefore Research Councils has received no usable response.
- **Not disclosed** refers to individuals who have consciously chosen not to disclose their information and have selected the 'Not disclosed' category.

The data is based on what people chose to disclose.

Individual Council Data and Narratives

AHRC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

AHRC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17															
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR											
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%											
Gender	Female	330	40.2%	140	41.8%	42.8%	230	40.4%	125	43.9%	53.4%	375	43.9%	130	43.3%	34.8%	345	44.9%	105	48.0%	30.9%	285	45.6%	105	46.7%	36.8%	445	48.6%	150	48.4%	33.4%	
	Male	450	54.9%	180	53.7%	40.5%	320	56.1%	48.0%	450	52.6%	35.3%	160	53.3%	35.3%	400	52.4%	110	49.3%	27.3%	315	50.4%	115	51.1%	36.5%	440	48.1%	150	48.4%	34.2%		
	Not disclosed	35	4.3%	15	4.5%	36.1%	15	2.8%	...	5	1.8%	...	25	2.9%	10	3.3%	42.3%	20	2.7%	5	2.7%	...	25	4.0%	5	2.2%	20.0%	25	2.7%	10	3.2%	33.3%
	Unknown	10	1.2%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.9%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.6%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	
	Total	825		335		40.8%	570		285		49.7%	855		300		35.1%	760		220		28.9%	625		225		36.0%	915		310		33.7%	
Age	0-29	15	1.8%	5	1.5%	40.0%	5	0.9%	0	0.0%	25.0%	10	1.2%	0	0.0%	20.0%	10	1.4%	5	2.3%	45.5%	10	1.6%	0	0.0%	...	10	1.1%	0	0.0%	...	
	30-39	175	21.3%	85	25.0%	46.9%	135	23.5%	70	25.0%	50.7%	200	23.4%	70	23.0%	33.3%	175	23.0%	55	25.3%	31.8%	130	20.8%	45	20.5%	34.6%	200	21.9%	65	21.0%	33.3%	
	40-49	300	36.6%	120	35.3%	39.6%	210	36.5%	115	41.1%	55.3%	335	39.2%	115	37.7%	34.4%	295	38.7%	90	40.7%	30.4%	265	42.4%	95	43.2%	35.8%	325	35.5%	110	35.5%	34.3%	
	50-59	230	28.0%	85	25.0%	37.0%	160	27.8%	75	26.8%	48.4%	220	25.7%	75	24.6%	34.9%	210	27.5%	50	23.5%	24.8%	165	26.4%	60	27.3%	36.4%	270	29.5%	95	30.6%	35.8%	
	60+	85	10.4%	40	11.8%	46.6%	55	9.6%	20	7.1%	38.2%	85	9.9%	40	13.1%	44.7%	70	8.9%	15	7.7%	25.0%	55	8.8%	20	9.1%	36.4%	105	11.5%	30	9.7%	29.2%	
	Unknown	15	1.8%	5	1.5%	...	10	1.7%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.6%	5	1.6%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.5%	0	0.0%	...	
Total	820		340		40.8%	575		280		49.7%	855		305		35.3%	760		220		28.9%	625		220		35.2%	915		310		33.7%		
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	40	4.9%	20	6.0%	51.2%	20	3.5%	15	5.3%	71.4%	60	7.1%	15	5.0%	25.9%	55	7.5%	15	6.8%	26.3%	45	7.2%	20	8.9%	44.4%	75	8.2%	20	6.5%	29.3%	
	White	670	81.7%	270	80.6%	40.4%	470	82.4%	230	80.7%	49.3%	690	81.2%	245	81.7%	35.4%	620	81.4%	185	83.7%	29.7%	515	82.4%	175	77.8%	34.0%	725	79.2%	245	79.0%	33.6%	
	Not disclosed	110	13.4%	45	13.4%	39.1%	80	14.0%	40	14.0%	48.7%	100	11.8%	40	13.3%	40.2%	85	11.0%	20	9.5%	25.0%	65	10.4%	30	13.3%	46.2%	110	12.0%	40	12.9%	37.5%	
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	
	Total	820		335		40.8%	570		285		49.7%	850		300		35.3%	760		220		28.9%	625		225		36.0%	915		310		33.7%	

AHRC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Co Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

AHRC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	380	39.8%	175	39.9%	46.2%	315	40.6%	170	41.2%	54.3%	525	40.4%	185	39.5%	35.2%	515	43.1%	170	46.4%	32.6%	395	40.9%	135	41.5%	34.2%	745	44.2%	270	47.4%	36.0%
	Male	525	55.3%	240	54.9%	45.7%	425	54.7%	52.7%	735	56.4%	35.9%	635	53.2%	185	51.1%	29.1%	545	56.5%	180	55.4%	33.0%	895	53.1%	290	50.9%	32.5%				
	Not disclosed	20	2.3%	10	2.5%	...	20	2.4%	...	25	2.0%	38.5%	10	2.1%	...	30	2.4%	5	1.7%	20.7%	20	2.1%	10	3.1%	...	35	2.1%	5	0.9%	18.2%	
	Unknown	25	2.6%	10	2.7%	48.0%	20	2.3%	...	10	1.9%	...	15	1.2%	...	10	2.1%	...	15	1.3%	...	5	0.5%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	955		440		46.1%	780		53.4%	1300		36.0%	1195		360		30.3%	965		325		33.7%	1685		570		33.7%				
Age	0-29	20	2.1%	10	2.7%	...	20	3.4%	...	40	3.2%	47.6%	35	2.9%	15	4.4%	45.7%	25	2.6%	10	3.1%	40.0%	25	1.5%	10	1.8%	38.5%				
	30-39	240	25.4%	105	24.1%	43.8%	205	28.1%	57.1%	340	25.9%	38.9%	365	30.5%	120	32.6%	32.3%	265	27.5%	85	26.2%	32.1%	430	25.5%	155	27.2%	35.9%				
	40-49	340	35.9%	170	38.3%	49.1%	285	34.8%	50.7%	485	37.3%	30.6%	405	34.1%	110	30.4%	27.0%	325	33.7%	105	32.3%	32.3%	595	35.3%	220	38.6%	37.0%				
	50-59	225	23.4%	100	22.3%	43.9%	190	23.5%	52.1%	305	23.6%	37.8%	275	23.2%	90	24.9%	32.5%	240	24.9%	90	27.7%	37.5%	435	25.8%	130	22.8%	29.8%				
	60+	100	10.4%	40	9.3%	41.4%	60	7.9%	53.2%	105	8.2%	37.4%	90	7.6%	25	6.4%	25.3%	100	10.4%	30	9.2%	30.0%	185	11.0%	50	8.8%	25.8%				
	Unknown	25	2.8%	15	3.2%	51.9%	20	2.4%	...	20	1.7%	...	15	2.8%	...	20	1.7%	...	10	1.0%	5	1.5%	...	15	0.9%	5	0.9%	...			
Total	955		440		46.1%	780		53.4%	1300		36.0%	1195		360		30.3%	965		325		33.7%	1685		570		33.7%					
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	60	6.5%	25	6.2%	43.5%	40	5.1%	45.0%	95	7.2%	37.6%	85	7.2%	30	8.3%	34.9%	80	8.3%	25	7.8%	31.3%	245	14.5%	75	13.2%	30.0%				
	White	760	79.9%	340	77.9%	44.9%	640	81.8%	52.7%	1055	81.4%	35.4%	990	83.0%	305	84.0%	30.6%	785	81.3%	250	78.1%	31.8%	1225	72.7%	415	72.8%	33.7%				
	Not disclosed	120	12.5%	65	14.8%	54.6%	95	12.2%	62.1%	140	10.9%	36.2%	110	9.3%	25	7.2%	23.4%	100	10.4%	45	14.1%	45.0%	205	12.2%	75	13.2%	37.7%				
	Unknown	10	1.2%	5	1.1%	...	5	0.9%	...	10	0.6%	...	5	0.5%	0	0.6%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	5	0.9%	...				
	Total	955		440		46.1%	780		53.4%	1300		36.0%	1195		360		30.3%	965		320		33.2%	1685		570		33.8%				

AHRC Fellowship Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

AHRC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	170	39.6%	60	37.5%	34.9%	105	56.8%	40	42.1%	39.0%	60	48.0%	20	40.0%	37.3%	45	40.0%	15	35.6%	14.0%	50	43.5%	15	42.9%	30.0%	55	45.8%	15	42.9%	30.4%
	Male	180	54.3%	85	53.1%	45.6%	70	37.8%	50	52.6%	68.6%	60	48.0%	25	50.0%	37.1%	65	55.0%	25	55.6%	21.9%	60	52.2%	20	57.1%	33.3%	65	54.2%	20	57.1%	30.2%
	Not disclosed	15	4.3%	5	3.1%	...	10	5.4%	5	5.3%	...	5	4.0%	5	10.0%	...	5	4.0%	5	8.9%	...	5	4.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	4.2%	0	0.0%	...
	Unknown	20	1.8%	10	6.3%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	385		160		40.2%	185		95		50.0%	125		50		40.0%	115		45		39.5%	115		35		30.4%	120		35		30.3%
Age	0-29	15	1.8%	5	3.2%	...	5	2.7%	5	5.6%	...	5	4.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	3.0%	0	4.4%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	30-39	165	21.3%	80	51.6%	47.0%	70	37.8%	35	38.9%	50.0%	70	56.0%	35	70.0%	50.0%	55	49.0%	25	51.1%	41.1%	65	56.5%	20	57.1%	30.8%	65	54.2%	25	71.4%	36.9%
	40-49	115	36.6%	40	25.8%	34.5%	70	37.8%	30	33.3%	43.7%	35	28.0%	10	20.0%	28.6%	35	29.0%	15	28.9%	39.4%	30	26.1%	10	28.6%	33.3%	30	25.0%	10	28.6%	28.1%
	50-59	60	27.4%	20	12.9%	36.7%	30	16.2%	20	16.7%	63.0%	15	12.0%	5	10.0%	...	15	11.0%	5	8.9%	...	15	13.0%	5	14.3%	...	15	12.5%	5	14.3%	...
	60+	10	10.4%	5	3.2%	...	5	2.7%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	5.0%	0	4.4%	...	5	4.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	4.2%	0	0.0%	...
	Unknown	20	2.4%	10	6.5%	...	5	2.7%	5	5.6%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	3.0%	0	2.2%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
Total	385		160		40.2%	185		90		50.3%	125		50		40.0%	115		45		39.5%	115		35		30.4%	120		35		30.3%	
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	20	5.2%	10	6.5%	...	5	2.7%	0	0.0%	...	5	3.8%	0	0.0%	...	5	5.0%	0	4.4%	...	10	8.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	4.2%	0	0.0%	...
	White	310	80.5%	125	80.6%	40.0%	165	89.2%	85	94.4%	51.5%	105	80.8%	40	80.0%	40.8%	90	81.0%	30	71.1%	34.8%	100	83.3%	30	85.7%	30.0%	110	91.7%	30	85.7%	29.6%
	Not disclosed	55	14.3%	25	16.1%	42.9%	15	8.1%	5	5.6%	...	20	15.4%	5	10.0%	...	15	14.0%	10	24.4%	...	10	8.3%	5	14.3%	...	5	4.2%	5	14.3%	...
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	385		160		40.2%	185		90		50.3%	130		45		34.6%	115		45		39.5%	120		35		29.2%	120		35		30.3%

AHRC New Studentships (starts) by Gender, Age, Ethnicity and Disability

AHRC		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gender	Female	700	55.6%	620	54.8%	600	54.7%	470	55.3%	505	58.4%	430	55.5%
	Male	550	43.6%	495	43.8%	490	44.7%	380	44.7%	355	41.0%	340	43.9%
	Not disclosed	10	7.9%	15	1.3%	5	0.0%	5	0.1%	5	0.6%	5	0.6%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	1260		1130		1095		850		865		775	
Age	0-29	980	77.8%	736	65.1%	735	67.1%	530	62.4%	545	62.6%	475	61.3%
	30-39	145	11.5%	150	13.3%	145	13.2%	125	14.7%	165	19.0%	130	16.8%
	40-49	55	4.4%	60	5.3%	60	5.5%	45	5.3%	55	6.3%	50	6.5%
	50-59	25	2.0%	25	2.2%	25	2.3%	25	2.9%	15	1.7%	25	3.2%
	60+	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	0.0%	5	0.0%	5	0.6%	0	0.0%
	Unknown	50	4.0%	150	13.3%	130	11.9%	120	14.1%	85	9.8%	90	11.6%
Total	1260		1130		1095		850		870		775		
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	55	4.4%	40	3.5%	35	3.2%	30	0.0%	30	3.5%	25	3.2%
	White	985	78.2%	770	68.1%	725	66.2%	630	74.1%	630	72.8%	570	73.5%
	Not disclosed	195	15.5%	280	24.8%	295	26.9%	155	18.2%	175	20.2%	140	18.1%
	Unknown	20	1.6%	40	3.5%	40	3.7%	35	4.1%	30	3.5%	30	3.9%
	Total	1260		1130		1095		850		865		775	
Disability	Known Disability	65	5.2%	55	4.9%	65	5.9%	45	5.3%	50	5.8%	45	5.8%
	No known disability	905	71.8%	1035	91.6%	1015	92.7%	795	93.5%	800	92.5%	710	91.6%
	Undisclosed	20	1.9%	20	1.8%	15	1.4%	15	1.8%	15	1.7%	15	1.9%
	Unknown	270	21.4%	20	1.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	1260		1130		1095		850		865		775	

AHRC Narrative

Grants - Principal Investigators

HESA data for 2015-16 indicates that 45% of the academic population is female and the percentage of female AHRC grant applicant principal investigators is roughly in line with this. AHRC data shows an increase in female applicants from 40.2% in 2011-12 to 48.6% in 2016-17. The success rate is similar for female (33.4%) and male (34.2%) applicants in 2016-17 and the percentage of successful applicants (awards) is the same (48.4%). The success rate for females was slightly higher than for males in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2014-15. For most years, the percentage of awards for females has been lower.

Consistently, the highest proportion of applicants and awards is in the 40-49 age group, 35.5% for both in 2016-17, which is in line with the HESA figure of 34% for the 41-50 age range. The success rate was broadly similar across the age ranges for 2016-17, except for those under 30 years for which no awards are recorded (noting the small numbers and impact of rounding methodology).

The percentage of Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other applicants is 8.2% which is similar to recent years (around 7%) and in line with the HESA figure. The success rate for this group is 29.3% compared to 33.6% for White applicants and 37.5% applicants who are in the category of 'not disclosed' (the latter group makes up 12.0% of applicants).

Grants - Co-Investigators

The percentage of female applicants is in line with the HESA figure at 44.2%. This is slightly higher than most years, for which females are around 40% of applicants. The success rate for female applicants was slightly higher than for males in 2016-17. Females comprise 47.4% of successful applicants (award) and males 50.9%.

There is a broader age range amongst Co-Investigator applicants than for Principal Investigators, though still the highest percentage (35.3%) in the 40-49 age range. This group has the highest percentage of awards in all years except 2014-15, where the 30-39 age range has a slightly higher rate. The success rate for 2016-17 Co-Investigator applicants varies from 25.8% for the 60+ range to 38.5% for the 0-29 range.

There is a significantly higher percentage of Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other Co-Investigator applicants in 2016-17, at 14.5%, this compares to 7.2% in 2013-14 and 2014-15, and 8.3% in 2015-16. The success rate is slightly lower at 30.0% compared to 33.7% for White Co-Investigator applicants.

Fellowships

The percentage of female applicants to the Fellowship scheme in 2016-17 is in line with the HESA population (45.8% and 45%, respectively). The percentage of female applicants shows variation between the years, from 39.6% (in 2011-12) to 56.8% (in 2012-13). There is considerable variability in the success rate for female applicants to the scheme over the full period but, for 2016-17, it is roughly the same for male and female applicants (30.2% and 30.4%, respectively). This translates into 42.9% of successful applicants (awards) being female and 57.1% male and follows a consistent pattern of a lower percentage of awards for females.

From 2012-13 onwards, there is a consistently higher percentage of applicants in the 30-49 age range. This group (two ranges combined) comprised 79.2% of applicants in 2016-17. The equivalent HESA age ranges are 31-50 and this group makes up 60% of the population. The rounding methodology means that success rates are only reported for these two age ranges from 2013-14 onwards. There is a higher success rate for the 30-39 group in 2016-17 at 36.9% compared to 28.1% and this is a general pattern across the period from 2013-14, except for 2015-16 when the 40-49 age group had a 3% higher success rate. The 30-39 age group make up 71.4% of successful applicants (awards) in 2016-17, noting that the HESA population for the equivalent 31-40 age range is 26%.

The rounding methodology means that it is difficult to draw conclusions from the data for Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other but, the percentage of applicants is 4.2% for 2016-17, compared to 8.3% for the previous year and 7% for the HESA population.

Studentships

Females make up 55.5% of the AHRC student population for 2016-17 compared to 51% for the 2015-16 HESA population, this is in line with previous years, though there was an increase to 58.4% in 2015-16.

The majority of students are under 40 years of age: for 2016-17, 61.3% are in the 0-29 age range and 16.8% in the 30-39 age range, and this is a consistent pattern across the period. The HESA student population shows 49% in the 0-29 age range and 23% in the 30-39 age range.

The HESA percentage for Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other students is 11% which compares with an AHRC student population of 3.2% for 2016-17. This is in line with previous years for AHRC but, is well below the HESA figure. There is a high proportion of 'not disclosed' and 'not known', at 22% combined (the HESA figure of 'unknown/not applicable' is 4%).

The percentage of students with a declared disability has been consistently around 5 to 6%.

BBSRC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

BBSRC		2011-12					2012-13					2013-14					2014-15					2015-16					2016-17				
		Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR
		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		
Gender	Female	365	21.4%	100	18.9%	27.4%	310	21.1%	80	18.2%	25.8%	440	22.1%	105	17.6%	23.9%	460	23.2%	105	20.4%	23.2%	410	22.5%	105	22.3%	25.7%	540	26.1%	110	23.5%	20.6%
	Male	1315	77.1%	425	80.2%	32.3%	1145	77.9%	350	79.5%	30.6%	1530	76.7%	485	81.5%	31.7%	1490	75.1%	400	77.7%	27.0%	1385	76.1%	360	76.6%	26.1%	1510	73.0%	355	75.3%	23.6%
	Not disclosed	20	1.2%	5	0.9%	...	15	1.0%	10	2.3%	...	20	1.0%	5	0.8%	...	30	1.5%	5	1.0%	25.0%	20	1.1%	5	1.1%	...	20	0.9%	5	1.3%	...
	Unknown	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	1705		530		31.1%	1470		440		29.9%	1995		595		29.8%	1985		515		26.0%	1820		470		25.9%	2065		475		22.9%
Age	0-29	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	10	0.6%	5	0.8%	...
	30-39	415	24.3%	130	24.5%	31.3%	330	22.4%	90	20.7%	27.3%	460	23.0%	120	20.2%	26.1%	465	23.4%	120	23.1%	26.1%	405	22.3%	95	20.0%	22.9%	415	20.0%	75	15.3%	17.6%
	40-49	740	43.4%	230	43.4%	31.1%	610	41.5%	180	41.4%	29.5%	790	39.5%	220	37.0%	27.8%	805	40.5%	200	38.5%	24.7%	725	39.8%	185	38.9%	25.6%	805	38.8%	175	36.9%	21.9%
	50-59	450	26.4%	140	26.4%	31.1%	435	29.6%	140	32.2%	32.2%	620	31.0%	210	35.3%	33.9%	560	28.1%	150	28.8%	26.8%	515	28.3%	150	31.6%	29.3%	660	31.9%	175	36.9%	26.7%
	60+	95	5.6%	40	7.5%	42.1%	95	6.5%	25	5.7%	26.3%	120	6.0%	45	7.6%	37.5%	150	7.5%	50	9.6%	32.9%	165	9.1%	45	9.5%	26.7%	175	8.4%	45	9.9%	27.2%
	Unknown	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	10	0.4%	0	0.2%	...
Total	1710		540		31.6%	1470		435		29.6%	2000		595		29.8%	1990		520		26.1%	1820		475		26.0%	2070		475		23.0%	
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	145	8.5%	35	6.6%	24.1%	110	7.5%	30	6.8%	27.3%	165	8.3%	40	6.7%	24.2%	165	8.3%	30	5.8%	17.2%	155	8.5%	30	6.4%	20.9%	160	7.7%	20	4.4%	13.1%
	White	1430	83.9%	460	86.8%	32.2%	1260	85.7%	365	83.0%	29.0%	1695	85.0%	515	86.6%	30.4%	1710	86.1%	465	89.4%	19.6%	1550	85.2%	415	88.3%	26.9%	1775	85.8%	415	87.3%	23.4%
	Not disclosed	130	7.6%	45	8.5%	34.6%	100	6.8%	45	10.2%	45.0%	130	6.5%	40	6.7%	30.8%	110	5.5%	25	4.8%	23.2%	115	6.3%	25	5.3%	20.5%	135	6.5%	40	8.2%	29.1%
	Unknown	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	1710		540		31.6%	1470		440		29.9%	1995		595		29.8%	1985		520		26.2%	1820		470		26.0%	2065		475		22.9%

BBSRC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Co Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

BBSRC		2011-12					2012-13					2013-14					2014-15					2015-16					2016-17				
		Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR
		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		
Gender	Female	255	24.4%	75	23.8%	30.1%	215	24.3%	65	25.5%	30.0%	420	28.9%	125	29.8%	30.2%	380	28.5%	100	27.4%	26.4%	365	30.2%	105	32.8%	28.6%	505	30.9%	110	31.7%	22.1%
	Male	765	73.2%	230	73.0%	29.9%	655	74.0%	190	74.5%	28.7%	990	68.0%	280	66.7%	28.3%	920	68.9%	250	68.5%	27.4%	820	67.8%	205	64.1%	25.0%	1090	66.9%	235	67.1%	21.6%
	Not disclosed	15	1.4%	10	3.2%	...	15	1.7%	0	0.0%	...	35	2.4%	15	3.6%	42.4%	20	1.5%	5	1.4%	...	20	1.7%	5	1.6%	...	30	1.8%	5	0.9%	10.0%
	Unknown	10	1.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.6%	0	0.0%	...	10	0.7%	0	0.0%	...	10	0.7%	5	1.4%	...	5	0.4%	5	1.6%	...	5	0.4%	0	0.3%	..
	Total	1045		315		30.1%	885		255		28.7%	1455		420		29.0%	1335		365		27.3%	1210		320		26.1%	1630		350		21.5%
Age	0-29	10	0.8%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.5%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	10	0.6%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	20	1.1%	5	0.9%	..
	30-39	310	24.5%	85	22.4%	28.2%	240	22.3%	60	19.4%	24.1%	435	24.2%	115	22.1%	26.4%	400	23.6%	115	23.5%	28.6%	320	21.7%	85	22.7%	25.9%	440	21.3%	90	19.4%	20.6%
	40-49	500	39.5%	150	39.5%	29.9%	395	36.7%	110	35.5%	28.3%	675	37.5%	200	38.5%	29.3%	615	36.3%	175	35.7%	28.3%	535	36.3%	130	34.7%	23.3%	725	35.0%	165	35.0%	22.6%
	50-59	325	25.7%	100	26.3%	31.8%	315	29.3%	100	32.3%	32.2%	485	26.9%	145	27.9%	29.5%	465	27.4%	135	27.6%	29.4%	425	28.8%	110	29.3%	25.7%	585	28.4%	135	28.8%	23.0%
	60+	110	8.7%	35	9.2%	31.5%	115	10.7%	35	11.3%	31.9%	175	9.7%	60	11.5%	33.7%	185	10.9%	55	11.2%	29.0%	170	11.5%	45	12.0%	27.4%	270	13.0%	65	14.1%	24.4%
	Unknown	15	1.2%	5	1.3%	...	5	0.5%	0	0.0%	...	25	1.4%	5	1.0%	16.7%	25	1.5%	10	2.0%	36.0%	20	1.4%	5	1.3%	...	25	1.2%	10	1.7%	33.3%
Total	1265		380		30.1%	1075		310		28.8%	1800		520		28.8%	1695		490		28.8%	1475		375		24.9%	2070		470		22.6%	
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	135	11.1%	50	13.2%	36.8%	100	10.3%	25	8.8%	25.5%	205	12.0%	60	12.2%	28.9%	155	10.1%	50	11.1%	32.5%	140	10.1%	40	11.0%	28.8%	250	15.5%	50	15.0%	20.6%
	White	945	77.8%	285	75.0%	30.2%	785	80.9%	235	82.5%	29.7%	1320	77.4%	375	76.5%	28.4%	1245	80.8%	355	78.9%	28.4%	1130	81.6%	295	80.8%	25.9%	1150	71.9%	255	74.5%	22.1%
	Not disclosed	125	10.3%	40	10.5%	33.3%	80	8.2%	25	8.8%	34.1%	175	10.3%	55	11.2%	31.8%	125	8.1%	35	7.8%	29.6%	110	7.9%	25	6.8%	23.1%	195	12.2%	35	10.0%	17.4%
	Unknown	10	0.8%	5	1.3%	...	5	0.5%	0	0.0%	...	10	0.6%	5	1.0%	...	15	1.0%	5	1.1%	...	5	0.4%	5	1.4%	...	5	0.4%	0	0.6%	..
	Total	1215		380		31.2%	970		285		29.5%	1705		490		28.8%	1540		450		29.1%	1385		365		26.2%	1595		340		21.4%

BBSRC Fellowship Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

BBSRC		2011-12					2012-13					2013-14					2014-15					2015-16					2016-17				
		Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR
		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		
Gender	Female	10	28.6%	0	...	...	15	27.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%	25	39.1%	5	...	20.0%	90	42.9%	15	68.2%	14.4%	70	45.2%	10	50.0%	14.5%	55	48.3%	10	44.4%	14.0%
	Male	20	57.1%	5	...	...	40	72.7%	5	...	12.5%	40	62.5%	5	...	12.5%	120	57.1%	10	45.5%	7.6%	85	54.8%	10	50.0%	14.5%	60	51.7%	10	55.6%	16.4%
	Not disclosed	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	-	-	-	-	-
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	35		5	...	14.3%	55		5	...	9.1%	65		10	...	15.6%	210		22		10.5%	155		20		14.5%	120		20		15.3%
Age	0-29	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	5	7.7%	0	...	...	50	23.8%	5	22.7%	8.0%	30	19.4%	5	25.0%	13.8%	25	22.9%	0	11.1%	7.4%
	30-39	25	71.4%	5	...	20.0%	50	90.9%	5	...	10.0%	55	84.6%	5	...	9.1%	145	69.0%	15	68.2%	10.3%	110	71.0%	15	75.0%	15.6%	75	61.9%	15	83.3%	20.5%
	40-49	5	14.3%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	5	2.4%	0	0.0%	...	10	6.5%	0	0.0%	...	10	8.5%	0	0.0%	..
	50-59	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.8%	0	0.0%	..
	60+	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	-	-	-	-	-
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	5	7.7%	0	...	...	5	2.4%	5	22.7%	...	5	3.2%	0	0.0%	...	5	5.9%	0	5.6%	..
	Total	35		5	...	14.3%	55		5	...	9.1%	65		10	...	15.4%	210		22		10.5%	155		20		14.5%	120		20		15.3%
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	0	0.0%	0	...	...	5	10.0%	0	...	...	10	15.4%	0	...	...	25	11.9%	0	0.0%	8.0%	30	20.0%	0	0.0%	3.3%	20	16.1%	0	4.5%	..
	White	30	100.0%	5	...	16.7%	45	90.0%	5	...	11.1%	55	84.6%	5	...	9.1%	175	83.3%	20	90.9%	11.0%	115	76.7%	15	100.0%	17.9%	100	83.1%	20	95.5%	21.4%
	Not disclosed	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	10	4.8%	0	0.0%	...	5	3.3%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.8%	0	0.0%	..
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	30		5	...	16.7%	50		5	...	10.0%	65		10	...	15.4%	210		22		10.5%	150		15		14.5%	120		20		18.6%

BBSRC New Studentships (starts) by Gender, Age, Ethnicity and Disability

BBSRC		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gender	Female	440	55.7%	385	51.3%	315	53.4%	290	53.7%	310	53.0%	285	52.3%
	Male	345	43.7%	360	48.0%	275	46.6%	250	46.3%	275	47.0%	260	47.7%
	Not disclosed	5	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	5	0.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	790		750		590		540		585		545	
Age	0-29	720	91.1%	680	90.7%	560	94.9%	510	94.4%	545	93.2%	495	91.0%
	30-39	50	6.3%	55	7.3%	30	5.1%	25	4.6%	30	5.1%	40	7.7%
	40-49	5	0.6%	10	1.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	0.9%	5	0.7%
	50-59	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.2%
	60+	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Unknown	10	1.3%	5	0.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	0.9%	0	0.4%
Total	790		750		590		540		585		545		
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	40	5.1%	65	8.7%	40	6.8%	35	6.5%	40	6.8%	40	7.0%
	White	590	74.7%	490	65.3%	420	71.2%	410	75.9%	385	65.8%	375	68.9%
	Not disclosed	135	17.1%	160	21.3%	105	17.8%	75	13.9%	145	24.8%	105	19.5%
	Unknown	30	3.8%	30	4.0%	25	4.2%	20	3.7%	10	1.7%	25	4.6%
	Total	795		745		590		540		580		545	
Disability	Known Disability	25	3.2%	35	4.7%	20	3.4%	35	6.5%	35	6.0%	20	3.9%
	No known disability	640	81.0%	700	93.3%	560	94.9%	500	92.6%	530	90.6%	520	95.4%
	Undisclosed	10	1.3%	5	0.7%	10	1.7%	5	0.9%	15	2.6%	5	0.7%
	Unknown	120	15.2%	5	0.7%	5	0.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	795		745		595		540		580		545	

BBSRC Narrative

Grants - Principal Investigators

The BBSRC population, as identified through HESA, is 36% female, whereas the pool of applicants is 26% female. This is an increase from previous years, which have been steadily 22-23%. The success rate of women continues to be less than the average (20.6% *versus* an overall success rate of 22.9%). This is broadly the pattern for previous years.

The age profile of applicants is comparable to that of the overall population, although older applicants (in both categories over 50) have considerably higher success rates than their younger colleagues. Applicants in the 30-39 age bracket have a lower success rate than in previous years (17.6%).

The ethnicity of the BBSRC population is largely (86%) white, and this is reflected in the application rates (85.6%). Given the small numbers of people of other ethnicities applying for BBSRC funding, it is difficult to make conclusions on success rates.

The disclosure rates remain steady compared to previous years, with 99.1% of applicants declaring their gender and 91.7% declaring their ethnicity.

Grants - Co-Investigators

Women constitute 30.9% of the Co-Investigators on applications, which is greater than the proportion who apply as PIs. This is higher than in previous years and shows a trend (in 2011-12, 24.4% of Co-Is were female). The success rate of grants with women as Co-Is is slightly (0.6%) higher than average. This is largely in line with previous years.

The age profile of Co-Investigators is comparable to the overall population. Comparably to PIs, the success rates of Co-Investigators in the 50-59 and over 60 have a higher success rate than the average; those in the 40-49 bracket have an average success rate.

The ethnicity profile of Co-Investigators varies from that of the Principal Investigator pool, with 15.5% of Co-Investigators being of Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other background (compared to 7.7% of PIs). 71.9% of Co-Investigators disclose a White ethnicity, with 12.2% undisclosed. Co-investigators that declare White ethnicity have a slightly higher success rate than others, and higher than average (22.1% *versus* 21.4%). The non-disclosure rate for ethnicity is higher than the trend since 2012-13, and nearly double the rate for PIs.

Fellowships

The proportion of women applying for BBSRC fellowships continues to increase, from 27.3% in 2012-13 to 48.3% in 2016-17. The proportion of awards to women in 2016-17 is slightly less than the proportion of applications received by

women (44.4% *versus* 48.3%). This reverses previous trends that have women being proportionally more successful than men in receiving fellowships.

The age profile of applicants and successful awardees of BBSRC fellowships continues the trend of being largely under 40. Since the rules on eligibility were changed in 2015-16 to focus on competencies rather than time post-PhD, there has been a small cadre of people in the 40-49 age bracket applying. However, no one from this group has successfully obtained fellowship funding.

The ethnicity of applicants is largely (83.1%) White, with 16.1% Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other. However, the success rate of this latter category does not reflect the application proportions: only 4.5% of fellowships were awarded to applicants from the Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other category.

It should be noted that it is difficult to make conclusions about application and success rates for BBSRC fellowships due to the small number awarded.

Studentships

BBSRC studentships continue to reflect the gender split of the biosciences doctoral community (52.3% female for BBSRC studentships compared to 53% in the population). This continues the trend seen since 2011-12.

The age profile of BBSRC studentships continues to be heavily focused at the 0-29 age bracket, with 91% of new students being in that age range. This continues a downward trend seen since 2013-14 where 94.9% of students were 0-29 years old. The BBSRC studentship cohort differs considerably from the population, 79% of which is 0-29.

Similarly, the ethnicity of the overall bioscience studentship population varies from that supported by BBSRC investments. 84% of the population are classed as White and 14% as Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other. This compares to the 68.9% of BBSRC students that are categorised as White, and 7.0% that are Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other. It should be noted that a substantial (19.5%) proportion of BBSRC students do not disclose their ethnicity.

The proportion of BBSRC students declaring a disability has reduced from 6.0% in 2015-16 to 3.9% in 2016-17. However, due to small numbers involved, it is difficult to draw any conclusions from these data.

EPSRC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

EPSRC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	245	12.7%	90	11.4%	37.9%	400	13.6%	130	13.1%	32.8%	215	11.7%	65	11.1%	30.2%	290	12.6%	100	11.4%	35.1%	325	13.4%	105	13.4%	32.4%	430	15.5%	155	15.9%	36.4%
	Male	1650	85.5%	690	87.3%	41.8%	2500	85.0%	855	86.4%	34.3%	1595	87.2%	520	88.9%	32.7%	1995	86.4%	765	87.4%	38.5%	2085	85.8%	675	86.0%	32.4%	2305	83.2%	810	83.1%	35.3%
	Not disclosed	25	1.3%	10	1.3%	41.7%	30	1.0%	5	0.5%	25.0%	15	0.8%	0	0.0%	...	20	0.9%	10	1.1%	...	20	0.8%	5	0.6%	...	35	1.3%	10	1.0%	25.7%
	Unknown	10	0.5%	0	0.0%	...	10	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.2%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	1930		790		41.2%	2940		990		34.0%	1830		585		32.2%	2310		875		38.2%	2430		785		32.4%	2770		975		35.3%
Age	0-29	20	1.0%	10	1.3%	...	30	1.0%	10	1.0%	26.7%	30	1.6%	15	2.5%	43.3%	35	1.5%	15	1.7%	41.2%	30	1.2%	15	1.9%	53.1%	30	1.1%	10	1.0%	38.7%
	30-39	590	30.6%	245	30.6%	41.5%	855	29.1%	250	25.0%	29.2%	605	33.2%	200	33.9%	32.6%	720	31.2%	300	34.1%	41.3%	760	31.3%	260	33.3%	34.4%	890	32.2%	315	32.1%	35.1%
	40-49	745	38.6%	295	36.9%	39.4%	1110	37.8%	400	40.0%	36.1%	645	35.3%	210	35.6%	32.9%	775	33.5%	285	32.4%	37.0%	795	32.7%	230	29.5%	29.3%	885	32.1%	315	32.1%	35.4%
	50-59	430	22.3%	180	22.5%	41.3%	720	24.5%	250	25.0%	35.0%	410	22.5%	125	21.2%	30.3%	595	25.8%	220	25.0%	37.2%	615	25.3%	190	24.4%	31.1%	705	25.5%	240	24.5%	34.2%
	60+	135	7.0%	65	8.1%	47.0%	205	7.0%	80	8.0%	38.0%	130	7.1%	40	6.8%	31.3%	170	7.4%	55	6.3%	33.1%	215	8.8%	80	10.3%	37.2%	240	8.7%	95	9.7%	38.4%
	Unknown	10	0.5%	5	0.6%	...	15	0.5%	10	1.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	15	0.6%	5	0.6%	...	15	0.6%	5	0.6%	...	10	0.4%	5	0.5%	...
	Total	1930		800		41.2%	2935		1000		34.0%	1825		590		32.2%	2310		880		38.2%	2430		780		32.4%	2760		980		35.3%
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	270	14.0%	95	11.9%	34.3%	405	13.8%	100	10.1%	24.9%	310	16.9%	80	13.6%	25.4%	360	15.6%	110	12.4%	30.1%	410	16.9%	115	14.6%	28.4%	495	17.9%	130	13.3%	26.8%
	White	1505	78.2%	640	80.5%	42.5%	2315	78.9%	835	83.9%	36.1%	1385	75.7%	460	78.0%	33.3%	1800	77.9%	720	81.4%	39.9%	1845	75.9%	610	77.7%	33.0%	2090	75.6%	790	81.0%	37.7%
	Not disclosed	150	7.8%	60	7.5%	40.1%	215	7.3%	60	6.0%	28.6%	130	7.1%	50	8.5%	36.9%	145	6.3%	55	6.2%	36.8%	175	7.2%	60	7.6%	35.1%	180	6.5%	55	5.6%	31.3%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.2%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	1925		795		41.2%	2935		995		34.0%	1830		590		32.2%	2310		885		38.2%	2430		785		32.4%	2765		975		35.3%

EPSRC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Co Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

EPSRC		2011-12					2012-13					2013-14					2014-15					2015-16					2016-17				
		Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR
		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		
Gender	Female	385	15.8%	155	14.2%	40.4%	870	15.1%	335	15.5%	38.5%	290	12.2%	115	12.4%	39.7%	655	15.2%	205	13.0%	31.1%	780	15.9%	220	14.2%	27.9%	1120	18.4%	265	14.9%	23.6%
	Male	2015	82.8%	925	84.9%	45.8%	4800	83.1%	1795	82.9%	37.5%	2050	86.5%	805	86.6%	39.3%	3590	83.3%	1350	85.4%	37.6%	4060	82.9%	1305	84.2%	32.1%	4885	80.4%	1485	83.7%	30.4%
	Not disclosed	20	0.8%	5	0.5%	...	55	1.0%	20	0.9%	34.5%	20	0.8%	5	0.5%	...	45	1.0%	20	1.3%	40.4%	40	0.8%	15	1.0%	31.0%	50	0.8%	20	1.1%	38.0%
	Unknown	15	0.6%	5	0.5%	...	50	0.9%	15	0.7%	33.3%	10	0.4%	5	0.5%	...	20	0.5%	5	0.3%	...	20	0.4%	10	0.6%	...	20	0.3%	5	0.3%	...
	Total	2435		1090		44.6%	5775		2165		37.6%	2370		930		39.3%	4310		1580		36.6%	4900		1550		31.5%	6075		1775		29.2%
Age	0-29	45	1.8%	20	1.8%	45.5%	105	1.8%	45	2.1%	41.3%	50	2.1%	20	2.2%	41.2%	95	2.2%	35	2.2%	37.5%	95	1.9%	35	2.3%	38.7%	100	1.6%	20	1.1%	21.2%
	30-39	705	28.9%	320	29.5%	45.2%	1525	26.4%	550	25.3%	36.2%	640	26.9%	250	26.9%	39.3%	1190	27.6%	460	29.2%	38.6%	1335	27.2%	420	27.3%	31.6%	1560	25.7%	425	23.9%	27.3%
	40-49	900	36.9%	410	37.8%	45.7%	2090	36.2%	815	37.6%	38.9%	880	37.1%	350	37.6%	40.0%	1510	35.0%	545	34.6%	36.2%	1670	34.0%	510	33.1%	30.6%	2085	34.3%	620	34.9%	29.7%
	50-59	565	23.2%	240	22.1%	42.8%	1470	25.5%	555	25.6%	37.6%	550	23.2%	215	23.1%	39.4%	1100	25.5%	385	24.4%	35.0%	1320	26.9%	400	26.0%	30.4%	1695	27.9%	510	28.7%	30.0%
	60+	195	8.0%	85	7.8%	44.1%	515	8.9%	190	8.8%	37.2%	230	9.7%	85	9.1%	36.4%	365	8.5%	135	8.6%	37.2%	445	9.1%	155	10.1%	34.9%	595	9.8%	190	10.7%	31.7%
	Unknown	30	1.2%	10	0.9%	35.5%	65	1.1%	15	0.7%	22.7%	25	1.1%	10	1.1%	32.0%	50	1.2%	15	1.0%	26.9%	45	0.9%	20	1.3%	41.9%	40	0.7%	10	0.6%	27.5%
Total	2440		1085		44.6%	5770		2170		37.6%	2375		930		39.3%	4310		1575		36.6%	4910		1540		31.5%	6075		1775		29.2%	
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	295	12.1%	100	9.2%	34.7%	680	11.8%	235	10.9%	35.0%	305	12.8%	110	11.8%	36.8%	560	13.0%	180	11.4%	31.7%	685	14.0%	190	12.3%	27.5%	1200	19.7%	235	13.2%	19.5%
	White	1940	79.5%	895	82.5%	46.0%	4680	81.0%	1785	82.6%	38.2%	1890	79.6%	750	80.6%	39.7%	3470	80.5%	1290	81.6%	37.1%	3895	79.4%	1250	80.6%	32.0%	4415	72.6%	1445	81.4%	32.7%
	Not disclosed	195	8.0%	90	8.3%	46.4%	385	6.7%	135	6.3%	35.4%	170	7.2%	65	7.0%	37.9%	255	5.9%	100	6.3%	39.9%	310	6.3%	100	6.5%	31.8%	450	7.4%	90	5.1%	20.4%
	Unknown	10	0.4%	0	0.0%	...	30	0.5%	5	0.2%	24.1%	10	0.4%	5	0.5%	...	25	0.6%	10	0.6%	41.7%	15	0.3%	10	0.6%	...	15	0.2%	5	0.3%	...
	Total	2440		1085		44.6%	5775		2160		37.6%	2375		930		39.3%	4310		1580		36.6%	4905		1550		31.5%	6080		1775		29.2%

EPSRC Fellowship Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

EPSRC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	25	17.9%	10	20.0%	42.3%	50	17.9%	5	7.7%	5.8%	40	13.8%	10	13.3%	22.0%	60	19.7%	5	7.1%	10.3%	80	17.0%	20	25.0%	25.6%	70	22.6%	25	41.7%	34.8%
	Male	115	82.1%	40	80.0%	35.1%	230	82.1%	60	92.3%	25.9%	245	84.5%	65	86.7%	26.6%	240	78.7%	65	92.9%	28.0%	390	83.0%	60	75.0%	15.6%	235	75.8%	35	58.3%	15.6%
	Not disclosed	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.7%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.6%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.6%	0	0.0%	...
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	140		50		36.6%	280		65		22.0%	290		75		26.0%	305		70		24.7%	470		80		17.3%	310		60		20.1%
Age	0-29	5	3.6%	0	0.0%	...	30	10.9%	5	8.3%	21.9%	35	12.3%	5	7.1%	20.0%	40	13.1%	15	20.0%	32.5%	55	11.6%	5	6.7%	12.3%	40	13.1%	5	7.7%	14.3%
	30-39	95	67.9%	35	70.0%	37.1%	160	58.2%	35	58.3%	23.4%	175	61.4%	50	71.4%	28.7%	170	55.7%	40	53.3%	22.6%	260	54.7%	40	53.3%	15.4%	180	59.0%	40	61.5%	20.9%
	40-49	30	21.4%	10	20.0%	39.3%	65	23.6%	15	25.0%	19.7%	55	19.3%	10	14.3%	17.9%	65	21.3%	15	20.0%	23.4%	100	21.1%	25	33.3%	26.0%	50	16.4%	10	15.4%	19.2%
	50-59	10	7.1%	5	10.0%	...	15	5.5%	5	8.3%	...	15	5.3%	5	7.1%	...	25	8.2%	5	6.7%	29.2%	35	7.4%	5	6.7%	18.2%	20	6.6%	5	7.7%	...
	60+	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	10	2.1%	0	0.0%	...	10	3.3%	5	7.7%	...
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.8%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.8%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.6%	0	0.0%	...	15	3.2%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.6%	0	0.0%	...
Total	140		50		36.6%	275		60		22.0%	285		70		26.0%	305		75		24.7%	475		75		17.3%	305		65		20.1%	
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	25	17.9%	10	20.0%	36.0%	40	14.0%	0	0.0%	2.6%	45	15.8%	5	6.7%	10.6%	40	13.3%	5	6.7%	11.9%	70	14.9%	5	6.3%	8.3%	50	16.1%	5	7.7%	12.5%
	White	105	75.0%	35	70.0%	34.3%	225	78.9%	55	91.7%	25.1%	225	78.9%	65	86.7%	29.1%	230	76.7%	60	80.0%	26.3%	380	80.9%	70	87.5%	18.9%	240	77.4%	55	84.6%	22.1%
	Not disclosed	10	7.1%	5	10.0%	...	20	7.0%	5	8.3%	...	15	5.3%	5	6.7%	...	30	10.0%	10	13.3%	28.6%	20	4.3%	5	6.3%	...	20	6.5%	5	7.7%	...
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	140		50		36.6%	285		60		22.0%	285		75		26.0%	300		75		24.7%	470		80		17.3%	310		65		20.1%

EPSRC New Studentships (starts) by Gender, Age, Ethnicity and Disability

EPSRC		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gender	Female	675	27.4%	650	26.5%	670	26.4%	770	27.1%	885	28.7%	810	28.7%
	Male	1785	72.6%	1790	73.1%	1850	73.0%	2070	72.9%	2195	71.3%	2000	70.9%
	Not disclosed	0	0.0%	5	0.2%	15	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	0.4%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	5	0.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	2460		2450		2535		2840		3080		2820	
Age	0-29	2200	89.4%	2170	88.6%	2245	88.6%	2555	89.8%	2790	90.4%	2520	89.2%
	30-39	185	7.5%	165	6.7%	175	6.9%	170	6.0%	180	5.8%	195	6.9%
	40-49	35	1.4%	35	1.4%	40	1.6%	35	1.2%	30	1.0%	30	1.1%
	50-59	10	0.4%	10	0.4%	10	0.4%	10	0.4%	5	0.2%	15	0.5%
	60+	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	0.2%	5	0.2%
	Unknown	30	1.2%	70	2.9%	65	2.6%	75	2.6%	75	2.4%	60	2.1%
Total	2460		2450		2535		2845		3085		2825		
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	205	8.3%	190	7.8%	185	7.3%	270	9.5%	270	8.8%	240	8.5%
	White	1530	62.1%	1365	55.7%	1415	55.9%	1615	56.9%	1710	55.5%	1545	54.7%
	Not disclosed	545	22.1%	690	28.2%	725	28.7%	690	24.3%	855	27.8%	840	29.7%
	Unknown	185	7.5%	205	8.4%	205	8.1%	265	9.3%	245	8.0%	200	7.1%
	Total	2465		2450		2530		2840		3085		2825	
Disability	Known Disability	100	4.1%	75	3.1%	95	3.7%	110	3.9%	145	4.7%	145	5.1%
	No known disability	2155	87.4%	2345	95.9%	2420	95.5%	2720	95.6%	2920	94.7%	2660	94.3%
	Undisclosed	15	0.6%	10	0.4%	15	0.6%	15	0.5%	20	0.7%	15	0.5%
	Unknown	195	7.9%	15	0.6%	5	0.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	2465		2445		2535		2845		3085		2820	

EPSRC Narrative

The academic population in the Engineering and Physical Sciences is of the order of 17,700. The gender balance is poor with 17% women (showing a slight increase (0.5% points) from the previous year) and 83% men. Of those disclosing their ethnicity, 76% were white with the next largest groupings being Asian, Chinese and Unknown (each at 6.5%).

The UK domicile student population in the Engineering and Physical Sciences is of the order 13,900. The gender balance is better at the student level with 26% women (unchanged from the previous year) and 74% men. Of those disclosing their ethnicity 79% are white with the next largest groupings being Other (8%) and Asian (5%).

This is based on the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) data for the academic population in Engineering and Physical Sciences related cost centres.

Grants - Principal Investigators and Co-Investigators

The gender composition of the applications received differs slightly from the HESA data with 16% of Principal Investigators and 18% of Co-Investigators being women.

The number of applications received from women, both as a Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator, continue to increase, but are still lower than expected when compared to the HESA population.

Over the period 2011-12 – 2014-15, the success rates for women applicants were slightly lower than for men when they apply as a Principal Investigator. However, in 2015-16 the success rates for men and women when they apply as a Principal Investigator became equal at 32.4%. In 2016-17, the success rates for women when they apply as a Principal Investigator is 36%, 1% higher than the success rate for men. There is more fluctuation in the success rate when women apply as a Co-Investigator.

Application rates by age are consistent with the HESA population, with the exception of applications from people under 30, who appear to apply less. This is probably explained by their career stage. There is no discernible pattern in the age-related success rate data (for both Principal Investigators and Co-Investigators) with variations between age-bands across the years. Although, success rates for Principal Investigators appear to be higher in applicants under 30 and over 60 in 2016-17, noting the significantly smaller sample sizes than other groups. The largest number of Principal Investigator applications is being submitted by applicants in the 30-39 age range closely followed by those in the 40-49 age range. For Co-Investigators, the largest number of applications is being submitted by applicants in the 40-49 age range, followed by those in the 50-59 age range.

In 2016-17, the number of Principal Investigators describing themselves as Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other has risen by 1% to 18% from the previous year, and has risen by a notable 6% to 20% for Co-Investigators. A significant proportion of applicants in both categories (7%) have chosen not to disclose their ethnicity. Around three quarters of applicants (both as a Principal Investigator and as a Co-Investigator) describe themselves as White, which is consistent with data from the previous years. Success rates have also been fairly consistent across the years, with those that describe themselves as Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other continuing to be lower.

We are continuing to look in more detail at all the data across these diversity characteristics, working with university partners, to improve our understanding of where there are specific issues to address. Investigating the ethnicity data is a priority for EPSRC.

Fellowships

The number of fellowships applications in 2011-12 was low coinciding with the introduction of a new Fellowship Framework. The fellowship data set as a whole comprises small numbers making it difficult to draw firm conclusions about the variation in success rate data by year - by gender, age and ethnicity. Again, it is noticeable that a reasonable proportion (6.5%) are choosing not to disclose their ethnicity.

There has been a slight reduction in the demand for fellowships in 2016-17 as compared with 2015-16. However, women for the second consecutive year have a higher success rate than men.

The younger age profile of the fellowship applicants is a reflection of the EPSRC fellowship framework which requires candidates to apply against a person specification based on their career stage. Only certain career stages are open for fellowship applications in certain priority areas at any one time with a tendency for more areas to be open for those at early career stages.

Studentships

The gender composition of the studentship new starts in 2016-17 has remained unchanged from the previous year at 29% women, which is slightly higher than the comparable HESA population data (26%). As expected, the largest proportion of students (89%) are in the 0-29 age category. This is higher than the HESA population for the same age-range (80%). It is difficult to draw any conclusions on the ethnicity data due to the large proportion that are Not Disclosed (30%) and Unknown (7%). The proportion of students disclosing a disability has remained at 5%.

ESRC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

ESRC		2011-12					2012-13					2013-14					2014-15					2015-16					2016-17				
		Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR
		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		
Gender	Female	635	42.5%	110	42.3%	17.0%	535	41.5%	185	43.5%	34.6%	550	46.6%	165	44.6%	29.8%	650	43.0%	180	48.0%	27.7%	725	46.6%	120	46.2%	16.7%	555	44.3%	135	47.2%	24.1%
	Male	800	53.5%	140	53.9%	17.5%	720	55.8%	225	52.9%	31.5%	610	51.7%	195	52.7%	31.9%	820	54.3%	185	49.3%	22.5%	795	51.1%	130	50.0%	16.1%	680	54.0%	145	51.1%	21.4%
	Not disclosed	30	2.0%	5	1.9%	18.8%	20	1.6%	10	2.4%	...	15	1.3%	5	1.4%	...	35	2.3%	10	2.7%	22.2%	35	2.3%	10	...	33.3%	20	1.7%	5	1.8%	..
	Unknown	30	2.0%	5	1.9%	12.5%	15	1.2%	5	1.2%	...	5	0.4%	5	1.4%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	..
	Total	1495	260	17.2%	1290	425	32.9%	1180	370	31.1%	1510	375	24.8%	1555	260	16.9%	1260	285	22.6%												
Age	0-29	25	1.7%	0	0.0%	7.4%	50	3.9%	15	3.6%	32.7%	55	4.7%	15	4.1%	24.6%	25	1.7%	10	2.7%	32.0%	110	7.1%	5	1.9%	4.5%	25	1.9%	15	4.6%	54.2%
	30-39	380	25.4%	65	25.5%	17.1%	420	32.6%	125	29.8%	30.2%	385	32.6%	120	32.4%	31.0%	420	27.7%	90	24.3%	21.8%	585	37.7%	80	30.1%	13.5%	315	25.0%	80	27.8%	25.1%
	40-49	555	37.1%	100	39.2%	18.0%	425	33.0%	145	34.5%	34.0%	350	29.7%	115	31.1%	33.0%	500	33.0%	125	33.8%	25.3%	470	30.3%	95	36.5%	20.5%	425	33.9%	100	35.6%	23.7%
	50-59	370	24.8%	60	23.5%	16.3%	255	19.8%	85	20.2%	33.5%	270	22.9%	85	23.0%	31.1%	400	26.4%	100	27.0%	25.5%	265	17.1%	55	21.2%	20.2%	370	29.3%	70	24.3%	18.7%
	60+	135	9.0%	30	11.8%	21.5%	120	9.3%	45	10.7%	38.5%	115	9.8%	35	9.5%	30.1%	160	10.6%	45	12.2%	29.6%	115	7.4%	25	9.6%	23.1%	120	9.4%	20	7.4%	17.8%
	Unknown	30	2.0%	0	0.0%	6.5%	20	1.6%	5	1.2%	...	5	0.4%	0	0.0%	...	10	0.7%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	...	...	5	0.4%	0	0.4%	..
Total	1495	255	17.2%	1290	420	32.9%	1180	370	31.1%	1515	370	24.8%	1550	260	16.9%	1260	285	22.6%													
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	200	13.4%	25	9.8%	12.5%	165	12.8%	35	8.3%	21.7%	165	14.0%	20	5.5%	12.8%	210	13.9%	30	8.1%	14.9%	185	11.9%	30	11.5%	15.6%	170	13.5%	25	8.5%	14.1%
	White	1130	75.6%	210	82.4%	18.7%	1000	77.5%	345	82.1%	34.6%	920	78.0%	310	84.9%	33.9%	1160	76.8%	305	82.4%	26.4%	1245	80.3%	210	80.8%	17.0%	985	78.5%	235	83.1%	23.9%
	Not disclosed	160	10.7%	20	7.8%	12.5%	120	9.3%	40	9.5%	34.4%	95	8.1%	35	9.6%	36.2%	135	8.9%	35	9.5%	26.3%	120	7.7%	20	7.7%	16.7%	100	8.0%	25	8.5%	23.8%
	Unknown	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	39.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	..
	Total	1495	255	17.2%	1290	420	32.9%	1180	365	31.1%	1510	370	24.8%	1550	260	16.9%	1260	285	22.6%												

ESRC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Co Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

ESRC		2011-12					2012-13					2013-14					2014-15					2015-16					2016-17				
		Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR
		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		
Gender	Female	880	36.5%	175	36.8%	19.8%	915	37.2%	360	38.7%	39.2%	1070	37.2%	395	37.6%	37.0%	1560	39.9%	420	40.8%	26.9%	1300	40.4%	285	39.9%	22.0%	1760	39.3%	315	40.6%	17.8%
	Male	1400	58.1%	275	57.9%	19.8%	1425	57.9%	535	57.5%	37.4%	1715	59.5%	620	59.0%	36.3%	2225	57.0%	570	55.3%	25.6%	1830	56.8%	410	57.3%	22.5%	2625	58.6%	450	58.3%	17.2%
	Not disclosed	50	2.1%	10	2.1%	16.3%	55	2.2%	20	2.2%	36.8%	45	1.6%	10	1.0%	27.9%	70	1.8%	20	1.9%	29.4%	60	1.9%	10	...	20.0%	60	1.4%	5	0.6%	8.2%
	Unknown	80	3.3%	15	3.2%	19.0%	65	2.6%	15	1.6%	25.4%	50	1.7%	20	1.9%	39.2%	50	1.3%	20	1.9%	38.8%	30	0.9%	10	...	30.0%	35	0.7%	5	0.5%	12.1%
	Total	2410		475		19.7%	2460		930		37.8%	2880		1050		36.4%	3905		1030		26.4%	3220		715		22.3%	4480		775		17.3%
Age	0-29	65	2.7%	15	3.2%	21.5%	45	1.8%	10	1.1%	26.7%	40	1.4%	15	1.4%	40.0%	90	2.3%	25	2.4%	30.0%	50	1.6%	10	...	24.5%	65	1.5%	15	1.7%	19.7%
	30-39	620	25.7%	110	23.2%	18.0%	590	24.0%	210	22.6%	35.1%	655	22.7%	225	24.4%	34.6%	1030	26.4%	270	26.3%	26.2%	855	26.6%	180	24.8%	20.8%	1225	27.3%	200	26.0%	16.4%
	40-49	795	33.0%	150	31.6%	19.0%	865	35.2%	340	36.6%	39.0%	975	33.9%	340	32.4%	34.9%	1315	33.7%	350	34.1%	26.7%	1130	35.0%	250	34.5%	22.0%	1575	35.2%	265	34.0%	16.7%
	50-59	600	24.9%	125	26.3%	21.1%	620	25.2%	250	26.9%	40.4%	755	26.2%	290	27.6%	38.4%	950	24.4%	255	24.9%	26.9%	785	24.3%	195	26.9%	24.8%	1085	24.2%	185	23.6%	16.9%
	60+	275	11.4%	60	12.6%	21.3%	270	11.0%	90	9.7%	34.0%	380	13.2%	150	14.3%	39.0%	455	11.7%	110	10.7%	24.3%	360	11.2%	75	10.3%	20.4%	475	10.6%	105	13.8%	22.5%
	Unknown	55	2.3%	15	3.2%	26.4%	70	2.8%	30	3.2%	42.9%	70	2.4%	25	2.4%	38.6%	60	1.5%	15	1.5%	23.7%	45	1.4%	15	...	30.4%	55	1.2%	5	0.9%	13.2%
	Total	2410		475		19.7%	2460		930		37.8%	2880		1050		36.4%	3900		1025		26.4%	3225		725		22.3%	4480		775		17.3%
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	375	15.6%	60	12.6%	16.6%	355	14.4%	110	11.8%	31.1%	350	12.2%	105	10.0%	29.8%	660	16.9%	100	9.7%	15.3%	390	12.1%	85	11.9%	21.5%	925	20.6%	180	23.3%	19.5%
	White	1750	72.6%	370	77.9%	21.0%	1860	75.6%	725	78.0%	38.9%	2245	78.0%	840	80.2%	37.5%	2880	73.8%	830	80.6%	28.8%	2570	79.8%	575	80.4%	22.5%	3060	68.3%	510	65.9%	16.7%
	Not disclosed	260	10.8%	40	8.4%	15.8%	225	9.1%	90	9.7%	40.1%	250	8.7%	95	8.9%	37.1%	340	8.7%	90	8.7%	26.3%	240	7.5%	50	7.0%	21.2%	475	10.6%	85	10.9%	17.7%
	Unknown	25	1.0%	5	1.1%	16.7%	20	0.8%	5	0.5%	...	30	1.0%	10	0.9%	31.0%	20	0.5%	10	1.0%	...	15	0.5%	5	...	...	20	0.4%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	2410		475		19.7%	2460		930		37.8%	2880		1050		36.4%	3900		1030		26.4%	3219		715		22.3%	4480		775		17.3%

ESRC Fellowship Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

ESRC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	200	58.8%	45	56.3%	20.0%	30	31.6%	10	28.6%	40.0%	5	...	5	...	...	10	40.0%	0	...	...	10	...	5	...	...	20	73.3%	20	73.3%	..
	Male	140	41.2%	35	43.8%	20.0%	65	68.4%	25	71.4%	30.0%	10	...	0	...	...	15	60.0%	0	...	...	20	...	10	...	...	5	23.3%	5	23.3%	..
	Not disclosed	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	3.3%	0	3.3%	..
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	..
	Total	340		80		20.0%	95		35		40.0%	15		5		...	25		0		...	30		15		...	30		30		100.0%
Age	0-29	100	29.9%	20	26.7%	20.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	6.7%	0	6.7%	..
	30-39	140	41.8%	30	40.0%	20.0%	15	15.0%	5	16.7%	...	0	...	0	...	...	5	25.0%	0	...	...	5	...	0	...	...	20	66.7%	20	66.7%	..
	40-49	45	13.4%	10	13.3%	30.0%	35	35.0%	10	33.3%	30.0%	5	...	0	...	...	10	50.0%	0	...	...	10	...	10	...	...	5	13.3%	5	13.3%	..
	50-59	25	7.5%	10	13.3%	40.0%	35	35.0%	10	33.3%	30.0%	5	...	5	...	...	0	...	0	...	...	5	...	5	...	...	0	3.3%	0	3.3%	..
	60+	5	1.5%	0	0.0%	...	15	15.0%	5	16.7%	...	0	...	0	...	...	5	25.0%	0	...	...	5	...	5	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	..
	Unknown	20	6.0%	5	6.7%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	...	0	...	...	5	10.0%	5	10.0%	..
	Total	335		75		20.0%	100		30		40.0%	10		5		...	20		0		...	25		20		...	30		30		100.0%
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	40	11.9%	5	11.8%	20.0%	5	5.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	...	0	...	...	5	...	0	...	...	10	33.3%	10	33.3%	..
	White	280	83.6%	65	82.4%	20.0%	85	85.0%	30	85.7%	40.0%	15	...	5	...	...	20	80.0%	0	...	...	25	62.5%	15	...	...	15	50.0%	15	50.0%	..
	Not disclosed	15	4.5%	5	5.9%	...	10	10.0%	5	14.3%	...	0	...	0	...	...	5	20.0%	0	...	...	5	...	0	...	...	5	16.7%	5	16.7%	..
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	...	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	..
	Total	335		85		20.0%	100		35		40.0%	15		5		...	25		0		...	40		15		...	30		30		100.0%

ESRC New Studentships (starts) by Gender, Age, Ethnicity and Disability

ESRC		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gender	Female	410	56.6%	445	55.3%	475	55.2%	480	57.1%	475	55.6%	495	58.4%
	Male	315	43.4%	360	44.7%	385	44.8%	360	42.9%	370	43.3%	345	40.9%
	Not disclosed	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	1.2%	5	0.6%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.1%
	Total	725		805		860		840		855		850	
Age	0-29	480	66.7%	535	66.9%	600	69.8%	490	58.0%	485	57.0%	480	56.6%
	30-39	135	18.8%	145	18.1%	130	15.1%	140	16.6%	165	19.4%	155	18.5%
	40-49	45	6.3%	40	5.0%	40	4.7%	45	5.3%	45	5.3%	50	5.9%
	50-59	5	0.7%	15	1.9%	15	1.7%	15	1.8%	15	1.8%	15	1.8%
	60+	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Unknown	55	7.6%	65	8.1%	75	8.7%	150	17.8%	140	16.5%	145	17.2%
Total	720		800		860		845		850		850		
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	55	7.6%	60	7.5%	60	7.0%	85	10.2%	85	9.9%	70	8.3%
	White	515	71.0%	535	66.9%	495	57.6%	510	61.1%	540	63.2%	560	65.8%
	Not disclosed	90	12.4%	165	20.6%	270	31.4%	225	26.9%	110	12.9%	170	19.9%
	Unknown	65	9.0%	40	5.0%	35	4.1%	15	1.8%	120	14.0%	50	6.0%
	Total	725		800		860		835		855		850	
Disability	Known Disability	40	5.5%	35	4.3%	20	2.3%	45	5.4%	50	5.9%	60	7.2%
	No known disability	575	79.3%	755	93.8%	830	96.0%	785	93.5%	790	92.9%	785	92.3%
	Undisclosed	5	0.7%	10	1.2%	10	1.2%	10	1.2%	10	1.2%	5	0.4%
	Unknown	105	14.5%	5	0.6%	5	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.1%
	Total	725		805		865		840		850		850	

ESRC Narrative

Grants - Principal Investigators and Co-Investigators

A full analysis of the data on ESRC grant Principal and Co-Investigators, including Fellowship applicants, is available at <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/files/about-us/performance-information/esrc-analysis-2017/>.

In general, there is no meaningful difference in ESRC success rates by gender for Principal or Co-Investigators. Each declared gender is equally likely to have the higher rate in each year, and observed differences are within the expected range associated with sampling errors. In contrast, success rates by ethnicity show a persistent difference in the rates of those declaring an ethnicity of 'White' vs those declaring all other categories, with 'White' applicants having higher success rates. The gap has decreased slightly in recent years but remains a challenge to address.

While the composition of the HESA population differs slightly from that of the recorded ESRC applicant population, the difference is small enough that it cannot be considered meaningful. This is in light of the uncertainty around the definition of the HESA population by cost centres, the fact that only around a half to two thirds of the HESA population are potential ESRC applicants and that differences in propensity to apply by discipline are unknown.

Fellowships

The Fellowship data do not support an informative analysis due to low decision volumes, and so are included in the general figures above rather than being analysed separately.

Studentships

There are no meaningful trends in studentship data, with the majority of new studentship starts in 16-17 being female, as found in all previous years'. As may be expected in this category, studentships tend to be awarded to younger people. The rate of missing or unknown data on ethnicity is high enough that it would not be safe to draw conclusions on this aspect of the student body composition. The comparison only with HESA data is problematic in that the key issues are whether the composition of the ESRC student population deviates from that of the pool of potential students and, in the longer term, that of the UK as a whole, rather than whether it differs from the contemporary doctoral student population.

We will continue to explore where meaningful comparisons can be made that can help us identify and address challenges in relation to equality, diversity and inclusion.

MRC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

MRC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR	Applications		Awards		SR										
		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%											
Gender	Female	345	27.8%	100	30.8%	29.6%	350	26.8%	75	23.4%	21.4%	420	30.4%	80	26.2%	19.6%	455	31.0%	100	29.9%	21.9%	535	31.2%	110	31.0%	20.1%	590	34.0%	140	35.4%	23.5%
	Male	835	67.3%	215	66.2%	26.0%	935	71.6%	245	76.6%	26.2%	935	67.8%	220	72.1%	23.6%	1000	68.0%	235	70.1%	23.6%	1165	67.9%	240	67.6%	20.4%	1130	65.1%	255	64.6%	22.6%
	Not disclosed	15	1.2%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.4%	0	0.0%	...	20	1.4%	5	1.6%	...	15	1.0%	0	0.0%	...	15	0.9%	5	1.4%	...	15	0.9%	0	0.0%	...
	Unknown	45	3.6%	10	3.1%	18.6%	15	1.1%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.4%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	1240		325		26.4%	1305		320		24.7%	1380		305		22.2%	1470		335		22.9%	1715		355		20.3%	1735		395		22.8%
Age	0-29	5	0.4%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	10	0.6%	0	0.0%	...	10	0.6%	0	0.0%	...
	30-39	260	21.0%	60	18.5%	22.2%	230	17.6%	40	12.5%	17.5%	260	19.0%	50	16.4%	19.1%	280	19.0%	60	17.9%	21.1%	370	21.4%	65	19.1%	17.8%	330	19.0%	75	19.0%	22.4%
	40-49	495	39.9%	130	40.0%	26.7%	545	41.6%	125	39.1%	23.3%	565	41.2%	105	34.4%	18.8%	600	40.8%	135	40.3%	22.6%	675	39.1%	120	35.3%	17.9%	660	37.9%	150	38.0%	22.8%
	50-59	335	27.0%	85	26.2%	26.0%	415	31.7%	115	35.9%	27.6%	425	31.0%	115	37.7%	26.7%	460	31.3%	115	34.3%	24.7%	510	29.6%	120	35.3%	24.0%	550	31.6%	125	31.6%	22.6%
	60+	100	8.1%	35	10.8%	36.0%	105	8.0%	40	12.5%	38.5%	120	8.8%	35	11.5%	30.5%	120	8.2%	25	7.5%	22.1%	150	8.7%	35	10.3%	25.0%	180	10.3%	45	11.4%	24.7%
	Unknown	45	3.6%	15	4.6%	28.3%	15	1.1%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.4%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	10	0.6%	0	0.0%	...	10	0.6%	0	0.0%	...
Total	1240		325		26.4%	1310		320		24.7%	1375		305		22.2%	1470		335		22.9%	1725		340		20.3%	1740		395		22.8%	
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	115	9.3%	20	6.1%	15.9%	140	10.7%	25	7.7%	16.7%	205	14.9%	35	11.7%	18.1%	190	13.0%	35	10.4%	18.8%	270	15.6%	45	12.9%	16.0%	265	15.3%	45	11.4%	16.3%
	White	1000	80.6%	275	83.3%	27.4%	1075	82.1%	280	86.2%	25.9%	1080	78.5%	245	81.7%	22.9%	1190	81.2%	285	85.1%	23.8%	1345	77.7%	280	80.0%	20.8%	1355	78.1%	325	82.3%	24.1%
	Not disclosed	105	8.5%	30	9.1%	28.8%	85	6.5%	15	4.6%	18.6%	90	6.5%	20	6.7%	23.9%	85	5.8%	15	4.5%	19.5%	110	6.4%	25	7.1%	22.9%	115	6.6%	25	6.3%	23.1%
	Unknown	20	1.6%	5	1.5%	...	10	0.8%	5	1.5%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.3%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	1240		330		26.4%	1310		325		24.7%	1375		300		22.2%	1465		335		22.9%	1730		350		20.3%	1735		395		22.8%

MRC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Co Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

MRC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	855	29.0%	245	29.3%	29.0%	950	26.6%	305	26.9%	32.0%	930	28.2%	250	27.9%	27.1%	1120	29.3%	270	27.3%	24.0%	1615	32.5%	415	34.9%	25.6%	1720	34.8%	385	35.5%	22.5%
	Male	1990	67.6%	570	68.3%	28.7%	2545	71.2%	805	70.9%	31.6%	2285	69.4%	630	70.4%	27.6%	2620	68.5%	690	69.7%	26.4%	3275	65.8%	760	63.9%	23.2%	3150	63.8%	685	63.1%	21.8%
	Not disclosed	25	0.9%	5	0.6%	24.0%	25	0.7%	5	0.4%	25.0%	30	0.9%	5	0.6%	19.4%	45	1.2%	15	1.5%	29.5%	50	1.0%	5	0.4%	14.6%	45	0.9%	10	0.9%	23.3%
	Unknown	75	2.6%	15	1.8%	23.0%	55	1.5%	20	1.8%	31.6%	50	1.5%	10	1.1%	18.8%	40	1.0%	15	1.5%	32.5%	35	0.7%	10	0.8%	34.3%	25	0.5%	5	0.5%	28.0%
	Total	2945	29.0%	835	29.3%	28.6%	3575	26.6%	1135	26.9%	31.6%	3295	28.2%	895	27.9%	27.3%	3825	29.3%	990	27.3%	25.8%	4975	32.5%	1190	34.9%	24.0%	4940	34.8%	1085	35.5%	22.1%
Age	0-29	35	1.2%	10	1.2%	29.7%	45	1.3%	10	0.9%	23.3%	30	0.9%	10	1.1%	29.0%	40	1.0%	10	1.0%	29.3%	85	1.7%	20	1.7%	21.2%	65	1.3%	15	1.4%	26.6%
	30-39	580	19.7%	155	18.5%	26.5%	640	17.9%	200	17.7%	31.3%	610	18.5%	160	17.8%	26.1%	685	17.9%	170	17.3%	25.1%	1015	20.4%	230	19.3%	22.7%	1020	20.7%	225	20.6%	22.0%
	40-49	1150	39.1%	340	40.5%	29.6%	1435	40.1%	445	39.4%	31.0%	1260	38.3%	355	39.4%	28.2%	1485	38.9%	365	37.2%	24.7%	1790	36.0%	420	35.3%	23.5%	1835	37.2%	390	35.8%	21.3%
	50-59	845	28.7%	240	28.6%	28.5%	1085	30.4%	355	31.4%	32.8%	1005	30.6%	275	30.6%	27.2%	1185	31.0%	315	32.1%	26.8%	1465	29.5%	360	30.3%	24.6%	1450	29.4%	335	30.7%	23.0%
	60+	240	8.2%	75	8.9%	31.1%	315	8.8%	100	8.9%	32.2%	335	10.2%	90	10.0%	27.4%	375	9.8%	105	10.7%	27.9%	570	11.5%	145	12.2%	25.6%	525	10.6%	115	10.6%	22.2%
	Unknown	90	3.1%	20	2.4%	22.8%	55	1.5%	20	1.8%	32.7%	50	1.5%	10	1.1%	17.7%	50	1.3%	15	1.5%	29.4%	45	0.9%	15	1.3%	31.9%	40	0.8%	10	0.9%	20.0%
Total	2940	29.0%	840	29.3%	28.6%	3575	26.6%	1130	26.9%	31.6%	3290	28.2%	900	27.9%	27.3%	3820	29.3%	980	27.3%	25.8%	4970	32.5%	1190	34.9%	24.0%	4935	34.8%	1090	35.5%	22.1%	
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	270	9.2%	70	8.3%	26.0%	400	11.2%	125	11.1%	31.1%	425	12.9%	115	12.8%	27.4%	550	14.4%	140	14.1%	25.1%	1070	21.5%	280	23.5%	26.0%	1455	29.5%	315	28.8%	21.5%
	White	2290	77.8%	655	78.0%	28.7%	2890	81.0%	920	81.4%	31.9%	2595	78.9%	715	79.4%	27.5%	2975	77.8%	775	78.3%	26.0%	3470	69.8%	815	68.5%	23.5%	3010	61.0%	675	61.6%	22.4%
	Not disclosed	315	10.7%	100	11.9%	31.6%	245	6.9%	70	6.2%	28.7%	230	7.0%	55	6.1%	23.8%	260	6.8%	65	6.6%	25.1%	405	8.1%	90	7.6%	22.4%	455	9.2%	100	9.1%	21.7%
	Unknown	70	2.4%	15	1.8%	20.8%	35	1.0%	15	1.3%	35.1%	40	1.2%	15	1.7%	31.7%	40	1.0%	10	1.0%	25.6%	25	0.5%	5	0.4%	25.0%	15	0.3%	5	0.5%	...
	Total	2945	29.0%	840	29.3%	28.6%	3570	26.6%	1130	26.9%	31.6%	3290	28.2%	900	27.9%	27.3%	3825	29.3%	990	27.3%	25.8%	4970	32.5%	1190	34.9%	24.0%	4935	34.8%	1095	35.5%	22.1%

MRC Fellowship Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

MRC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	210	41.2%	35	36.8%	15.9%	190	44.2%	45	45.0%	15.9%	150	46.2%	30	35.3%	21.6%	165	45.2%	40	50.0%	23.3%	175	44.9%	30	42.9%	17.0%	190	43.7%	40	50.0%	21.4%
	Male	280	54.9%	60	63.2%	20.8%	240	55.8%	55	55.0%	20.8%	175	53.8%	55	64.7%	29.9%	195	53.4%	40	50.0%	20.4%	210	53.8%	40	57.1%	19.9%	240	55.2%	40	50.0%	15.8%
	Not disclosed	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.4%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.3%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.1%	0	0.0%	...
	Unknown	20	3.9%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	510		95		18.1%	430		100		18.1%	325		85		26.3%	365		80		22.2%	390		70		18.5%	435		80		18.3%
Age	0-29	45	8.9%	20	22.2%	38.3%	45	10.5%	15	15.0%	38.3%	30	9.1%	15	17.6%	43.3%	60	16.4%	20	23.5%	30.0%	70	18.2%	20	28.6%	28.2%	60	13.8%	15	18.8%	24.6%
	30-39	380	75.2%	65	72.2%	17.6%	320	74.4%	70	70.0%	17.6%	250	75.8%	65	76.5%	26.1%	265	72.6%	55	64.7%	21.1%	265	68.8%	45	64.3%	17.7%	320	73.6%	55	68.8%	17.9%
	40-49	60	11.9%	5	5.6%	8.2%	40	9.3%	10	10.0%	8.2%	40	12.1%	5	5.9%	15.4%	30	8.2%	5	5.9%	13.8%	40	10.4%	5	7.1%	10.0%	45	10.3%	5	6.3%	10.9%
	50-59	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.2%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.5%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	60+	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Unknown	20	4.0%	0	0.0%	...	20	4.7%	5	5.0%	10.5%	5	1.5%	0	0.0%	...	10	2.7%	5	5.9%	...	10	2.6%	0	0.0%	...	10	2.3%	5	6.3%	...
Total	505		90		18.1%	430		100		18.1%	330		85		26.3%	365		85		22.2%	385		70		18.5%	435		80		18.3%	
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	85	16.5%	15	16.7%	18.1%	100	23.3%	25	25.0%	24.8%	75	22.7%	15	16.7%	20.5%	85	23.6%	15	20.0%	19.8%	90	23.1%	15	21.4%	18.9%	100	23.0%	20	25.0%	21.0%
	White	295	57.3%	55	61.1%	19.0%	315	73.3%	75	75.0%	23.3%	245	74.2%	70	77.8%	27.8%	260	72.2%	60	80.0%	23.0%	285	73.1%	55	78.6%	18.8%	320	73.6%	55	68.8%	16.8%
	Not disclosed	115	22.3%	20	22.2%	17.7%	15	3.5%	0	0.0%	...	10	3.0%	5	5.6%	...	15	4.2%	0	0.0%	...	15	3.8%	0	0.0%	...	15	3.4%	5	6.3%	...
	Unknown	20	3.9%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	515		90		18.1%	430		100		22.9%	330		90		26.3%	360		75		22.2%	390		70		18.5%	435		80		18.3%

MRC New Studentships (starts) by Gender, Age, Ethnicity and Disability

MRC		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gender	Female	270	57.5%	250	55.0%	250	56.2%	230	54.8%	245	57.0%	225	62.5%
	Male	200	42.6%	200	44.0%	195	43.8%	190	45.2%	185	43.0%	135	37.5%
	Not disclosed	0	0.0%	5	1.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	470		455		445		420		430		360	
Age	0-29	405	86.2%	395	86.8%	410	90.1%	380	90.5%	385	88.5%	335	91.8%
	30-39	30	6.4%	30	6.6%	25	5.5%	20	4.8%	30	6.9%	20	5.5%
	40-49	10	2.1%	5	1.1%	5	1.1%	5	1.2%	5	1.1%	5	1.4%
	50-59	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	60+	25	5.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Unknown	470		25	5.5%	15	3.3%	15	3.6%	15	3.4%	5	1.4%
Total	35	7.4%	455		455		420		435		365		
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	330	69.5%	35	7.8%	30	6.7%	45	10.6%	30	6.9%	30	8.3%
	White	100	21.1%	290	64.4%	265	59.6%	275	64.7%	290	66.7%	225	62.5%
	Not disclosed	10	2.1%	105	23.3%	120	27.0%	80	18.8%	85	19.5%	80	22.2%
	Unknown	475		20	4.4%	30	6.7%	25	5.9%	30	6.9%	25	6.9%
	Total	15	3.2%	450		445		425		435		360	
Disability	Known Disability	425	90.4%	20	4.4%	10	2.3%	15	3.6%	25	5.8%	15	4.1%
	No known disability	0	0.0%	430	94.5%	430	96.6%	405	96.4%	405	94.2%	345	94.5%
	Undisclosed	0	0.0%	5	1.1%	5	1.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	1.4%
	Unknown	30	6.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	470		455		445		420		430		365	

MRC Narrative

Grants - Principal Investigators and Co-Investigators

The data presented combines all grant schemes: applications for funding in both responsive mode and managed mode and irrespective of target group (new investigator grants for instance aim at applicants in an early career stage who are typically younger). MRC also monitors success rates by grant type and value and a more detailed breakdown can be found here: <https://www.mrc.ac.uk/research/funded-research/success-rates>

In 2016-17 overall grant success rates returned to close to 23%, following a small drop in success rates in 2015-16. Updated HESA data indicates that the female staff population in medical research is 41% and the proportion of female applicants for MRC grants does not yet reflect this, although the proportion of female applicants has continued to increase. There has been good progress in the last two years and the proportion of female Principal Investigators applying has now reached 34%. Female applicants make up a similar proportion of Co-Investigators and do not appear to be more likely to be Co-Investigators than Principal Investigators. Grant success rates for female and male Principal Investigators were equal in 2015-16 and in 2016-17 the female grant success rate was 1% higher than for male applicants. Female Co-Investigators also had a slightly higher success rate than males in both 2015-16 and 2016-17. Grant applications from BME applicants are higher than the HESA population estimate (15% PI applications and 30% Co-I applications compared to 11% population). 2015-16 and 2016-17 saw the highest levels of BME grant applicants in the reporting period, probably due to more MRC grant schemes encouraging international co-investigators, especially in the Global Challenges Research Fund launched in 2016-17. Success rates for BME Co-investigators remain closely comparable to other groups, although there continues to be a difference for Principal Investigators requiring further investigation and attention

Fellowships

This category contains all MRC Fellowships, including Clinical Research Training Fellowships (CRTFs, which primarily support clinicians undertaking PhD studies). A more detailed breakdown of this information, by scheme, can be found on MRC's website <https://www.mrc.ac.uk/research/funded-research/success-rates>

In 2016-17, overall fellowship success rates averaged just over 18%, lower than the peak in 2013-14 (26%), but similar to 2015-16 and closer to past average success rates of approximately 18%.

The highest proportion of fellowship applications is from individuals aged under 40 (close to 90% of applications and awards in 2016-17). This is not representative of the HESA population data, but reflects that our fellowship schemes support specific career transition points as individuals develop towards research leadership (<http://www.mrc.ac.uk/skills-careers/fellowships/>). While there are no age limits to eligibility, individuals at early career stages are typically younger.

HESA data indicates that the female staff population in medical research is ~40% and the proportion of female applicants to fellowships continues to reflect or slightly exceed this (44% female applicants in 2016-17). The success rates between male and female applicants vary year on year, with women historically achieving a slightly lower success rate than men. However, success rates have been converging in recent years, with female applicants achieving a higher success rate than male applicants in 2014-15 (23% versus 20%) and also in 2016-17 (21% versus 17%). An equal number of fellowship awards were made to men and women in 2016-17.

Fellowship applications from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) staff remain much higher (approximately 23% in 2016-17) than the HESA population estimate of 11%. Success rates for BME applicants was higher than average (21%) in 2016-17.

Studentships

Details of students across all mechanisms are included, with the exception of CRTFs, which are included under fellowship data. More details of MRC support mechanisms for studentships is available on our website: <http://www.mrc.ac.uk/skills-careers/studentships/>

Overall numbers of studentships awarded by MRC has been relatively constant over recent years. The relatively low number of new students (360) in 2016-17 is likely to reflect either delays in registering student details on the system or a small reduction in co-funding (any research council funded student can be match-funded by other funds, potentially doubling the number of studentships).

The largest proportion of MRC-funded students are under 30 years old (92% in 2016-17). This is higher than the estimated HESA population (64%). There are no age limits to holding an MRC-funded studentship.

HESA data indicates that approximately 60% of the student population in medical research are female. MRC-funded students on average show a slightly more even distribution, however, the 2016-17 studentship intake broadly reflects the HESA population (62.5% female).

NERC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

NERC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	360	19.4%	95	17.0%	26.6%	260	18.6%	85	19.3%	32.4%	380	21.2%	95	19.6%	25.0%	370	21.4%	95	21.1%	25.7%	375	22.6%	90	18.6%	24.0%	325	26.9%	105	26.9%	32.3%
	Male	1470	79.0%	460	82.1%	31.4%	1105	79.2%	345	78.4%	31.4%	1380	77.1%	385	79.4%	27.9%	1330	77.1%	350	77.8%	26.3%	1260	75.9%	390	80.4%	31.0%	870	71.9%	280	71.8%	32.2%
	Not disclosed	30	1.6%	5	0.9%	11.1%	30	2.2%	10	2.3%	29.6%	30	1.7%	5	1.0%	21.4%	25	1.4%	5	1.1%	20.0%	25	1.5%	5	1.0%	20.0%	15	1.2%	5	1.3%	...
	Unknown				0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	
	Total	1860		560		1395		440		1790		485		1725		26.1%	1660		485		29.2%	1210		390		32.2%					
Age	0-29	15	0.8%	5	0.9%	....	10	0.7%	5	1.1%	....	25	1.4%	5	1.0%	30.4%	15	0.9%	5	1.1%	33.3%	15	0.9%	5	1.0%	...	5	0.4%	0	0.0%	...
	30-39	550	29.6%	150	26.8%	27.2%	385	27.7%	115	26.4%	30.2%	465	26.0%	105	21.6%	22.7%	470	27.2%	90	20.0%	19.1%	405	24.4%	105	21.4%	25.9%	350	28.9%	105	26.9%	30.0%
	40-49	830	44.6%	250	44.6%	30.2%	635	45.7%	210	48.3%	33.3%	775	43.3%	225	46.4%	28.8%	725	42.0%	210	46.7%	29.0%	695	41.9%	230	46.9%	33.1%	440	36.4%	150	38.5%	34.1%
	50-59	370	19.9%	130	23.2%	35.8%	290	20.9%	95	21.8%	32.5%	410	22.9%	120	24.7%	29.4%	395	22.9%	105	23.3%	26.6%	425	25.6%	120	24.5%	28.2%	325	26.9%	105	26.9%	32.3%
	60+	80	4.3%	20	3.6%	24.3%	60	4.3%	10	2.3%	20.6%	110	6.1%	30	6.2%	26.1%	110	6.4%	35	7.8%	31.8%	110	6.6%	30	6.1%	27.3%	85	7.0%	30	7.7%	35.3%
	Unknown	15	0.8%	5	33.3%	....	10	66.7%	0	0.0%	.....	5	33.3%	0	0.0%	.....	10	0.6%	5	1.1%	50.0%	10	0.6%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.4%	0	0.0%	...
Total	1860		560		1390		435		1790		485		1725		26.1%	1660		490		29.5%	1210		390		32.2%						
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	65	3.5%	10	1.8%	19.4%	70	5.0%	20	4.5%	26.4%	100	5.6%	20	4.1%	20.6%	115	6.7%	35	7.7%	30.4%	115	6.9%	30	6.2%	26.1%	90	7.5%	15	3.9%	16.7%
	White	1605	86.5%	475	85.6%	29.7%	1185	85.3%	380	86.4%	31.9%	1515	84.9%	415	85.6%	28.5%	1470	85.2%	380	83.5%	25.9%	1395	84.0%	410	84.5%	29.4%	1010	83.8%	335	87.0%	33.2%
	Not disclosed				135	9.7%	40	9.1%	31.1%	170	9.5%	50	10.3%	27.5%	140	8.1%	40	8.8%	28.6%	150	9.0%	45	9.3%	30.0%	105	8.7%	35	9.1%	33.3%		
	Unknown	185	10.0%	70	12.6%	37.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	1855		555		1390		440		1785		485		1725		27.2%	1660		485		29.2%	1205		385		32.0%					

NERC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Co Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

NERC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	325	20.1%	100	19.0%	30.8%	305	20.3%	110	20.6%	36.1%	485	19.7%	150	19.9%	30.9%	505	21.9%	175	25.0%	34.7%	750	23.2%	235	24.1%	31.3%	960	26.9%	330	29.2%	34.4%
	Male	1250	77.2%	410	78.1%	32.8%	1165	77.7%	415	77.6%	35.6%	1930	78.3%	585	77.5%	30.3%	1745	75.7%	515	73.6%	29.5%	2425	74.9%	720	73.8%	29.7%	2565	71.7%	780	69.0%	30.4%
	Not disclosed	45	2.8%	15	2.9%	33.3%	30	2.0%	10	1.9%	33.3%	50	2.0%	20	2.6%	40.0%	55	2.4%	10	1.4%	18.2%	60	1.9%	20	2.1%	33.3%	40	1.1%	15	1.3%	37.5%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	10	0.3%	5	0.4%	...
	Total	1620		525		32.4%	1500		535		35.7%	2465		755		30.6%	2305		700		30.4%	3235		975		30.1%	3575		1130		31.6%
Age	0-29	25	1.5%	10	1.9%	40.0%	15	1.0%	5	0.9%	33.3%	25	1.0%	5	0.7%	20.0%	25	1.1%	10	1.4%	40.0%	45	1.3%	15	1.5%	33.3%	30	0.8%	10	0.9%	33.3%
	30-39	445	27.4%	130	25.0%	29.2%	395	26.3%	150	27.5%	38.0%	660	26.9%	185	24.3%	28.0%	580	25.2%	175	24.8%	30.2%	895	27.6%	285	29.4%	31.8%	1000	28.0%	300	26.7%	30.0%
	40-49	695	42.8%	225	43.3%	32.4%	660	44.0%	250	45.9%	37.9%	990	40.3%	305	40.1%	30.8%	985	42.8%	305	43.3%	31.0%	1290	39.8%	365	37.6%	28.3%	1365	38.2%	445	39.6%	32.6%
	50-59	315	19.4%	100	19.2%	31.7%	310	20.7%	105	19.3%	33.9%	590	24.0%	210	27.6%	35.6%	525	22.8%	155	22.0%	29.5%	785	24.2%	235	24.2%	29.9%	925	25.9%	295	26.2%	31.9%
	60+	110	6.8%	40	7.7%	36.4%	105	7.0%	30	5.5%	28.6%	160	6.5%	50	6.6%	31.3%	155	6.7%	50	7.1%	32.3%	195	6.1%	60	6.2%	30.8%	235	6.6%	70	6.2%	29.8%
	Unknown	35	2.2%	15	2.9%	42.9%	15	1.0%	5	0.9%	33.3%	30	1.2%	5	0.7%	16.7%	30	1.3%	10	1.4%	33.3%	35	1.0%	10	1.0%	28.6%	20	0.6%	5	0.4%	...
	Total	1625		520		32.0%	1500		545		36.3%	2455		760		31.0%	2300		705		30.7%	3245		970		29.9%	3575		1125		31.5%
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	75		30		40.0%	115	7.6%	40	7.5%	34.8%	180	7.3%	70	9.2%	38.9%	175	7.6%	60	8.5%	34.3%	255	7.8%	75	7.7%	29.4%	530	14.8%	120	10.7%	22.6%
	White		4.6%		5.8%		1260	83.7%	445	83.2%	35.3%	2045	83.3%	610	80.3%	29.8%	1924	83.3%	585	83.0%	30.4%	2705	83.5%	820	84.5%	30.3%	2670	74.7%	870	77.7%	32.6%
	Not disclosed	1390	85.8%	430	82.7%	30.9%	130	8.6%	50	9.3%	38.5%	230	9.4%	80	10.5%	34.8%	210	9.1%	60	8.5%	28.6%	280	8.7%	75	7.7%	26.8%	370	10.3%	130	11.6%	35.1%
	Unknown	155	9.6%	60	11.5%	38.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.1%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	1620		520		32.1%	1505		535		35.5%	2455		760		31.0%	2309		705		30.5%	3240		970		29.9%	3575		1120		31.3%

NERC Fellowship Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

NERC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	70	42.0%	5	25.0%	8.3%	55	38.0%	5	25.0%	11.1%	55	36.0%	5	33.0%	15.9%	45	36.0%	5	25.0%	11.1%	65	35.1%	5	50.0%	9.0%	70	40.0%	15	50.0%	21.4%
	Male	90	55.0%	15	75.0%	16.3%	85	59.0%	15	75.0%	14.9%	85	64.0%	10	67.0%	16.4%	80	64.0%	15	75.0%	18.8%	120	64.9%	5	50.0%	5.0%	105	60.0%	15	50.0%	14.3%
	Not disclosed	5	3.0%	0	0.0%	....	5	3.0%	0	0.0%	....	5	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Unknown						0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	165		20		25.0%	145		20		26.0%	145		15		32.3%	125		20		16.0%	185		10		6.0%	175		30		17.1%
Age	0-29	40	24.0%	5	25.0%	12.2%	30	21.0%	5	25.0%	15.2%	30	20.0%	5	33.0%	29.2%	25	20.8%	5	33.3%	20.0%	45	24.3%	0	0.0%	17.0%	25	14.7%	5	16.7%	20.0%
	30-39	105	64.0%	15	75.0%	13.6%	100	69.0%	15	75.0%	14.1%	100	68.0%	10	67.0%	14.1%	85	70.8%	10	66.7%	11.8%	120	64.9%	10	100.0%	4.0%	120	70.6%	20	66.7%	16.7%
	40-49	15	9.0%	0	0.0%	....	10	7.0%	0	0.0%	....	10	8.0%	0	0.0%	....	10	8.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%	15	8.1%	0	0.0%	...	20	11.8%	5	16.7%	...
	50-59	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	2.9%	0	0.0%	...
	60+	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	5	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Unknown	5	3.0%	0	0.0%	....	5	3.3%	0	0.0%	....		33.0%	0	0.0%	33.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	5	2.7%	0	0.0%	...	5	2.9%	0	0.0%	...
Total	165		20		25.8%	145		20		29.3%	145		15		76.6%	120		15		12.5%	185		10		6.0%	170		30		17.6%	
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	10	6.0%	0	0.0%	....	20	13.0%	0	0.0%	....	20	12.0%	0	0.0%	....	10	8.7%	0	0.0%	0.0%	15	8.3%	0	0.0%	...	10	5.7%	0	0.0%	...
	White	145	85.0%	20	100.0%	13.3%	120	80.0%	15	100.0%	14.4%	120	84.0%	15	100.0%	15.5%	105	91.3%	15	100.0%	14.3%	160	88.9%	15	100.0%	10.0%	160	91.4%	30	100.0%	18.8%
	Not disclosed	15	9.0%	0	0.0%	....	10	7.0%	0	0.0%	....	10	4.0%	0	0.0%	....	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	5	2.8%	0	0.0%	...	5	2.9%	0	0.0%	...
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	....	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
Total	170		20		13.3%	150		15		14.4%	150		15		15.5%	115		15		14.3%	180		15		9.0%	175		30		17.1%	

NERC New Studentships (starts) by Gender, Age, Ethnicity and Disability

NERC		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gender	Female	175	47.9%	180	49.3%	155	43.7%	185	46.3%	215	51.2%	205	49.4%
	Male	185	50.7%	185	50.7%	200	56.3%	215	53.8%	205	48.8%	210	50.6%
	Not disclosed	5	1.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	365		365		355		400		420		415	
Age	0-29	315	87.5%	330	90.4%	315	87.5%	350	85.4%	360	86.7%	365	88.0%
	30-39	30	8.3%	25	6.8%	30	8.3%	45	11.0%	50	12.0%	40	9.6%
	40-49	10	2.8%	5	1.4%	5	1.4%	5	1.2%	5	1.2%	10	2.4%
	50-59	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	1.4%	5	1.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	60+	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Unknown	5	1.4%	5	1.4%	5	1.4%	5	1.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	360		365		360		410		415		415		
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	15	4.1%	10	2.8%	5	1.4%	5	1.3%	15	3.6%	25	6.0%
	White	265	72.6%	255	70.8%	255	71.8%	325	81.3%	320	76.2%	290	69.0%
	Not disclosed	85	23.3%	95	26.4%	95	26.8%	70	17.5%	85	20.2%	50	11.9%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	55	13.1%
	Total	365		360		355		400		420		420	
Disability	Known Disability	50	13.7%	20	5.5%	10	2.8%	15	3.8%	20	4.8%	20	4.7%
	No known disability	305	83.6%	340	93.2%	345	97.2%	385	96.3%	400	95.2%	400	94.1%
	Undisclosed	10	2.7%	5	1.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	1.2%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	365		365		355		400		420		425	

NERC Narrative

Data relating to NERC's Research Grants, Fellowships and Studentships application and awards process has been analysed to consider the distribution of gender, age and ethnicity. This data has been compared with the Higher Education Statistics Authority (HESA) data for the HEI population in Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences. This does not provide a complete comparator, as subsets of scientists from other HESA categories also contribute to the NERC remit.

Research Grants

The overall number of applications from Principal Investigators (PIs) reduced in 2016-17 with an increase in the number of Co-Investigators (Co-Is) for the same period. This is due to a reduction in the use of child (component) grant applications (which all have a PI). The percentage of female applicants and awards has increased for both Principal and Co-Investigators for 2016-17. The female PI success rate also increased from 24% to 32% in 2016-17, which was the same as the male PI success rate. The female Co-I success rate remains slightly higher than that of male Co-I's in 2016-17.

The age profile of applicants and awards for Principal and Co-Investigators is also similar in percentage terms. Success rates for PIs and Co-Is in the different age profiles were generally similar except for the small number of PIs in the youngest age bracket.

The percentage of applications from BME PIs and Co-Is remains low with a similar percentage of applicants selecting not disclosed. There has been an increase for 2016-17 in the percentage of applications and awards for BME Co-Is. However, the data shows a lower success rate as PI and Co-I for BME applicants than white applicants.

Fellowships

The overall number of applications slightly decreased in 2016-17 despite an increase in the number of female applicants. There was no change in the gender balance of award holders for this period. There was a slight variation in the age range and ethnicity of applicants from the previous reporting period but the age range of award holders this year is more varied than 2015-16. There is no change on the ethnicity of fellowship award holders for 2016-17.

Studentships

The data show that 49% of NERC new studentships starts were female in 2016-17, this is similar to 51% in 2015-16. The equivalent figure for the estimated HESA population is 46%. Most NERC students are in the 0 to 29 age bracket (88% in 2016-17) which is consistent with the figures over recent years, this is higher than the estimated HESA population (73%). The data show an increase in the proportion of BME NERC students in recent years, rising to 6% in 2016-17, this is also higher than the figure for the estimated HESA population (3% in 2015-16). It should be noted that ethnicity data

is unknown or undisclosed for 25% of NERC students. The percentage of NERC students declaring a known disability has remained constant over recent years at just under 5%.

STFC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

STFC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	55	11.7%	35	10.9%	57.9%	75	19.2%	40	15.4%	54.7%	90	18.8%	50	15.4%	58.4%	95	19.8%	50	15.4%	51.6%	75	21.1%	40	18.6%	56.2%	85	19.3%	45	15.8%	55.4%
	Male	405	86.2%	280	87.5%	69.4%	310	79.5%	215	82.7%	69.7%	380	79.2%	270	83.1%	70.5%	375	78.1%	270	83.1%	72.1%	275	77.5%	175	81.4%	63.4%	340	77.3%	230	80.7%	67.8%
	Not disclosed	5	1.1%	5	1.6%	...	5	1.3%	5	1.9%	...	10	2.1%	5	1.5%	...	10	2.1%	5	1.5%	...	5	1.4%	0	0.0%	.....	15	3.4%	10	3.5%	...
	Unknown	5	1.1%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	470		320		68.1%	390		260		66.7%	480		325		67.7%	480		325		67.9%	355		215		61.8%	440		285		65.4%
Age	0-29	20	4.3%	10	3.2%	...	15	3.8%	5	1.9%	...	15	3.1%	5	1.6%	...	15	3.1%	5	1.6%	...	10	2.8%	5	2.3%	.....	5	1.1%	0	0.0%	...
	30-39	110	23.7%	70	22.2%	61.6%	90	23.1%	50	19.2%	57.1%	125	25.8%	75	23.4%	60.5%	110	22.9%	55	17.2%	50.9%	75	21.1%	35	16.3%	49.3%	100	22.5%	55	19.0%	55.7%
	40-49	140	30.1%	100	31.7%	70.7%	145	37.2%	105	40.4%	72.2%	185	38.1%	130	40.6%	71.4%	170	35.4%	115	35.9%	67.3%	150	42.3%	95	44.2%	64.9%	165	37.1%	110	37.9%	65.9%
	50-59	145	31.2%	115	36.5%	79.2%	120	30.8%	85	32.7%	71.3%	125	25.8%	90	28.1%	73.4%	150	31.3%	125	39.1%	82.9%	100	28.2%	65	30.2%	67.3%	145	32.6%	105	36.2%	73.4%
	60+	35	7.5%	20	6.3%	59.0%	20	5.1%	15	5.8%	...	35	7.2%	20	6.3%	63.6%	30	6.3%	20	6.3%	68.8%	20	5.6%	15	7.0%	.....	30	6.7%	20	6.9%	63.3%
	Unknown	15	3.2%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	1.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	.....	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	465		315		67.7%	390		260		66.7%	485		320		66.0%	480		320		67.9%	355		215		61.8%	445		290		65.4%
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	15	3.2%	5	1.6%	...	15	3.9%	5	2.0%	...	20	4.2%	5	1.6%	...	20	4.2%	15	4.5%	...	25	7.0%	10	4.7%	52.2%	30	6.8%	15	5.3%	51.6%
	White	90	19.1%	65	21.0%	73.6%	45	11.7%	35	13.7%	77.8%	60	12.5%	40	12.5%	69.0%	380	80.0%	255	77.3%	66.2%	295	83.1%	180	83.7%	60.9%	355	80.7%	230	80.7%	64.8%
	Not disclosed	15	3.2%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	70	14.7%	55	16.7%	74.7%	35	9.9%	25	11.6%	74.3%	55	12.5%	40	14.0%	76.4%
	Unknown	350	74.5%	240	77.4%	69.0%	325	84.4%	215	84.3%	65.4%	400	83.3%	275	85.9%	68.0%	5	1.1%	5	1.5%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	.....	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	470		310		66.0%	385		255		66.2%	480		320		66.7%	475		330		67.9%	355		215		61.8%	440		285		65.4%

STFC Grant Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Co Investigators by Gender, Age and Ethnicity

STFC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	115	14.7%	60	12.2%	50.4%	75	12.8%	65	13.0%	84.2%	110	16.2%	65	12.4%	60.6%	160	18.0%	125	17.0%	78.6%	95	14.5%	65	12.7%	69.9%	190	17.4%	120	16.7%	63.3%
	Male	635	80.9%	410	83.7%	64.8%	490	83.8%	415	83.0%	84.1%	545	80.2%	445	84.8%	81.4%	705	79.2%	590	80.3%	83.4%	540	82.4%	425	83.3%	79.0%	890	81.3%	585	81.3%	65.5%
	Not disclosed	25	3.2%	15	3.1%	60.0%	15	2.6%	15	3.0%	...	20	2.9%	15	2.9%	...	25	2.8%	20	2.7%	91.7%	15	2.3%	15	2.9%	.....	15	1.4%	15	2.1%	...
	Unknown	10	1.3%	5	1.0%	...	5	0.9%	5	1.0%	...	5	0.7%	0	0.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.8%	5	1.0%	.....	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	785		490		62.3%	585		500		84.2%	680		525		77.5%	890		735		82.8%	655		510		77.9%	1095		720		65.2%
Age	0-29	15	1.9%	5	1.0%	...	5	0.8%	5	1.0%	...	10	1.5%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.6%	0	0.0%	...	20	3.1%	15	3.0%	.....	15	1.4%	10	1.4%	...
	30-39	190	24.1%	135	27.3%	71.8%	170	28.8%	145	29.0%	83.7%	200	29.4%	145	27.6%	73.1%	240	27.1%	200	27.2%	83.5%	165	25.4%	130	25.7%	78.9%	315	28.6%	210	29.2%	66.6%
	40-49	325	41.1%	210	42.4%	64.2%	230	39.0%	195	39.0%	85.1%	240	35.3%	200	38.1%	82.9%	335	37.9%	280	38.1%	83.8%	225	34.6%	180	35.6%	81.6%	385	35.0%	265	36.8%	68.5%
	50-59	180	22.8%	95	19.2%	51.7%	110	18.6%	95	19.0%	86.1%	155	22.8%	110	21.0%	70.1%	205	23.2%	170	23.1%	81.2%	160	24.6%	115	22.8%	70.4%	280	25.5%	170	23.6%	60.6%
	60+	65	8.2%	40	8.1%	60.3%	70	11.9%	55	11.0%	79.4%	70	10.3%	65	12.4%	94.4%	100	11.3%	85	11.6%	84.3%	75	11.5%	60	11.9%	80.3%	105	9.5%	65	9.0%	62.3%
	Unknown	15	1.9%	10	2.0%	...	5	0.8%	5	1.0%	...	5	0.7%	5	1.0%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...	5	0.8%	5	1.0%	.....	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	...
Total	790		495		62.3%	590		500		84.2%	680		525		77.5%	885		735		82.8%	650		505		77.9%	1100		720		65.2%	
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	35	4.5%	30	7.1%	85.7%	35	5.9%	30	6.0%	87.9%	35	5.2%	25	4.8%	82.9%	55	6.2%	45	6.1%	82.5%	50	7.7%	30	5.9%	54.9%	200	18.2%	70	9.8%	34.2%
	White	605	77.1%	375	76.5%	62.2%	465	78.8%	385	77.0%	82.6%	535	79.3%	410	78.8%	76.5%	695	78.1%	570	77.6%	81.9%	510	78.5%	400	78.4%	78.6%	755	68.6%	550	76.9%	72.9%
	Not disclosed	120	15.3%	75	15.3%	63.3%	85	14.4%	80	16.0%	92.9%	100	14.8%	80	15.4%	76.5%	130	14.6%	115	15.6%	86.9%	90	13.8%	80	15.7%	86.7%	140	12.7%	95	13.3%	68.6%
	Unknown	25	3.2%	5	1.0%	28.0%	5	0.8%	5	1.0%	...	5	0.7%	5	1.0%	...	5	0.6%	5	0.7%	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	.....	5	0.5%	0	0.0%	...
	Total	785		490		62.3%	590		500		84.2%	675		520		77.5%	890		735		82.8%	650		510		77.9%	1100		715		65.2%

STFC Fellowship Applications, Awards and Success Rates of Principal Investigators by Gender, Age And Ethnicity

STFC		2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17														
		Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR	Applications		Awards	SR										
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%										
Gender	Female	20	15.4%	0	...	...	25	16.7%	0	...	...	30	20.7%	5	...	9.4%	30	18.8%	5	...	20.0%	35	21.2%	5	...	8.1%	35	22.6%	0	0.0%	5.4%
	Male	105	80.8%	15	...	13.1%	125	83.3%	10	...	8.9%	115	79.3%	10	...	10.3%	125	78.1%	10	...	6.5%	125	75.8%	10	...	8.7%	115	74.2%	15	100.0%	9.7%
	Not disclosed	5	3.8%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	5	3.1%	0	...	...	5	3.0%	0	...	...	5	3.2%	0	0.0%	0.0%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
	Total	130		15		11.5%	150		10		6.7%	145		15		10.3%	160		15		8.8%	165		15		8.4%	155		15		8.5%
Age	0-29	20	14.8%	5	...	...	15	10.0%	0	...	...	20	13.8%	0	...	...	20	12.1%	5	...	...	20	12.1%	0	...	...	15	9.7%	0	0.0%	0.0%
	30-39	95	70.4%	10	...	9.6%	115	76.7%	10	...	10.5%	105	72.4%	10	...	10.3%	125	75.8%	5	...	5.7%	125	75.8%	10	...	7.9%	125	80.6%	10	100.0%	8.0%
	40-49	10	7.4%	5	...	...	15	10.0%	0	...	...	15	10.3%	5	...	...	15	9.1%	0	...	...	15	9.1%	0	...	...	10	6.5%	0	0.0%	0.0%
	50-59	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
	60+	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
	Unknown	10	7.4%	0	...	...	5	3.3%	0	...	...	5	3.4%	0	...	...	5	3.0%	0	...	...	5	3.0%	0	...	...	5	3.2%	0	0.0%	0.0%
Total	135		20		14.8%	150		10		6.7%	145		15		10.3%	165		10		8.8%	165		10		8.4%	155		10		100.0%	8.5%
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	15	11.5%	5	...	...	10	6.7%	0	...	...	15	10.0%	0	...	...	15	9.4%	0	...	...	15	9.1%	0	...	...	20	12.9%	0	0.0%	0.0%
	White	15	11.5%	0	...	...	10	6.7%	0	...	...	10	6.7%	0	...	...	130	81.3%	10	...	9.1%	140	84.8%	15	...	9.4%	125	80.6%	10	100.0%	9.6%
	Not disclosed	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	15	9.4%	0	...	...	10	6.1%	0	...	...	10	6.5%	0	0.0%	12.5%
	Unknown	100	76.9%	10	...	9.3%	130	86.7%	15	...	10.6%	125	83.3%	15	...	9.3%	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	...	...	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
	Total	130		15		11.5%	150		15		10.0%	150		15		10.0%	160		10		8.8%	165		15		8.4%	155		10		100.0%	8.5%

STFC New Studentships (starts) by Gender, Age, Ethnicity and Disability

STFC		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gender	Female	55	20.8%	50	20.8%	60	22.6%	70	25.5%	70	25.5%	55	20.8%
	Male	210	79.3%	190	79.2%	205	77.4%	205	74.6%	205	74.5%	210	79.2%
	Not disclosed	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Unknown	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	265		240		265		275		275		265	
Age	0-29	240	90.6%	220	91.7%	250	92.6%	255	92.7%	260	94.6%	255	98.1%
	30-39	15	5.7%	10	4.2%	10	3.7%	10	3.6%	10	3.6%	5	1.9%
	40-49	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	1.8%	5	1.8%	0	0.0%
	50-59	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	1.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	60+	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Unknown	10	3.8%	10	4.2%	5	1.9%	5	1.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	265		240		270		275		275		260		
Ethnicity	Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other	10	3.7%	10	4.2%	10	3.8%	20	7.1%	5	1.8%	10	3.8%
	White	175	64.8%	125	52.1%	165	62.3%	190	67.9%	155	57.4%	155	58.5%
	Not disclosed	75	27.8%	90	37.5%	65	24.5%	60	21.4%	95	35.2%	90	33.9%
	Unknown	10	3.7%	15	6.3%	25	9.4%	10	3.6%	15	5.6%	10	3.8%
	Total	270		240		265		280		270		265	
Disability	Known Disability	10	3.8%	10	4.1%	10	3.8%	10	3.6%	5	1.8%	15	5.7%
	No known disability	225	84.9%	230	93.9%	255	96.2%	265	96.4%	265	98.2%	245	92.4%
	Undisclosed	0	0.0%	5	2.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	1.9%
	Unknown	30	11.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Total	265		245		265		275		270		265	

STFC Narrative

For STFC, comparison figures are drawn from the Physics costs centre, thereby excluding the relatively very small population of researchers that are recorded outside of the Physics cost centre.

Grants - Principal Investigators

With the exception of only a single year, STFC has observed a year-on-year increase in the percentage of applications from female PIs since 2011 (12% in 2011-12, rising to 21% last year). In 2016-17, this figure has fallen to just less than 20%, though this figure remains above the 14% of female researchers recorded in the relevant HESA data. Overall, there was an increase in the number of grant applications received and this is reflected in the increase by number of all genders, and other protected characteristics, categories during this period.

Overall, the applicant success rate in STFC has increased by 3%. The success rate for female PIs (55%) remains lower than for male PIs (68%), as has been the case since 2011-12. This success rate continues to fluctuate, with a low of 52% in 2014-15 and a high of 58% in both 2011-12 and 2013-14. This year, the success rate for female applicants has decreased very slightly (1%) compared to 2015-16, whereas the male applicant success rate has increased by 5%. STFC's E&D strategy considers how we can help increase the success rates of minority groups in the physics community including, but not limited to, actions to improve the consistency and quality of our peer review decision-making.

As with last year, applications from age ranges 30-39, 40-49 and 50-59 account for approximately 90% of all applications, and over 90% of awards. This is reflective of the relevant HESA data. However, the balance of applicants within these age ranges has changed since last year and show variance to the HESA data. The percentage of STFC applicants in the 30-39 age range has increased slightly, but is around 6% less than the HESA population data. For the 40-49 age range, the percentage has decreased by 10% since 2015-16 but is now more comparable to the HESA data. There has been an increase in the percentage of 50-59 year-old applicants since 2015-16 and this is also higher than those in the HESA population data. While the success rates for all age ranges have increased relative to last year, the 50-59 age group applicants continued to have the best overall success rates.

The number of applications from white applicants had been in excess of 83% in 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2015-16 (2014-15 saw a dip below 80%) but this has reduced slightly to 81% in 2016-17. This is slightly lower than the corresponding HESA population data. The percentage of applications from the Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other category has remained stable though the success rate for this group has decreased slightly – for White and Not Disclosed there has been an increase.

Grants - Co-Investigators

Both the number of applications and awards in 2016-17 were substantially higher than in the previous year. The success rate of both male and female applicants was lower in 2016-17 than for 2015-16 – more significantly so for male co-applicants. Due to the increase in co-applicants, the overall success rate also decreased by 13%. The number of applications from female co-applicants in 2016-17 was 17% which is an increase on 2015-16 (15%) and 3% higher than the HESA estimate of the academic population.

Close to 90% of co-applicants on both applications and awards are in the 30-39, 40-49 and 50-59 age ranges. The 40-49 year-old category has a slightly higher success rate, consistent with 2015-16.

Co-applicants from the white ethnic category accounted for 69% across all applications, a decrease of nearly 10% since 2015-16. Considering awards rather than applications, 77% of successful co-applicants were white, a decrease of just 1% from 2015-16. Co-applicants from the combined Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other category accounted for around 18% in 2016-17, a 10% increase on 2015-16. This is higher than the 9% of the academic population in this category estimated by HESA. The success rate for this group decreased by 21% in 2016-17. As in 2015-16, the overall success rate for this category remains significantly lower than for the white ethnic category, though for the four years prior to this the success rate for this category was higher than for the white ethnicity group.

The overall number from Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other co-applicants has risen significantly (from 50 in 2015-16 to 200 in 2016-17) which is due to the increased number of international Newton and GCRF programmes. 148 of co-applicants are associated with 11 applications to these programmes which accounts for the high number of unsuccessful co-applicants.

Fellowships

The overall number of applications decreased by 6% in 2016-17. There was a slight increase in the number of female applicants, rising to 22%. The limit on the number of applications each department may submit remains in place.

The success rate for female applicants dropped in 2016-17 for the first time since 2012-13.

The number of applications from female candidates has increased by approximately 50% since 2011 and accounted for over 20% of all applications in 2016-17. The HESA data set shows that the gender balance in Physics is 14% female and 86% male. Assuming that the applicants are from this group, the latest figure appears to indicate a reasonable ratio.

The age profile is again dominated by those in the 30-39 age range. The number of applications from this group has increased to an excess of 80% in 2016-17 of the overall total.

The large majority of applications are again from candidates from the white ethnicity groupings. The success rates for this grouping were above that for those of other ethnic groups. The combined number of applications from outside of this grouping represents remains just over 10% of applications; success rates for these groups have been consistently lower than for the white ethnicity groupings. The figures are reflective of the HESA academic population data.

Studentships

The population of female students has reduced slightly to 21% in 2016-17.

Studentships are predominately awarded to applicants in the under-29 age category; the figure has been in excess of 90% for each of the six years reported.

The success rate for applicants from the Asian/Black/Chinese/Mixed/Other combined group has increased to 3.8%. It should be noted that in the region of 40% of the applications submitted to STFC are classed as either 'Not disclosed' or 'Unknown' ethnicity which gives a large margin for error.

The number of disabled studentships has increased to 5.7% from 3.8% in the six years reported upon.