# Birkbeck, University of London Equalities Data – February 2023

At Birkbeck we are committed to reviewing our staff and student data to monitor our performance against our founding mission, and we have been proactive in commissioning analysis and making targeted interventions to improve outcomes for staff and students.

Birkbeck is unique in the sector as the UK’s only specialist provider of evening degree-level education. Our mission is one of social change and widening access and our student body is among the most diverse in the sector: a majority of our students study part-time, two thirds are over the age of 25, half are BAME, many are from low-income households and disabled students make up a larger proportion of our student body than most other institutions. In addition, most students juggle their studies around work, or caring responsibilities.

Our successes in access and widening participation among disadvantaged groups do create real challenges for us: we open up education to a diverse community of students who would otherwise be excluded but we need to do more to ensure that these students receive an inclusive and supportive student experience, and achieve the best possible outcomes from their studies. While we have many areas in which we can point to success, we also acknowledge that at an institutional level we must continue to narrow the gap in attainment between white and black students, and improve outcomes for disabled students.

The following pages show undergraduate student data by ethnicity and disability. In line with the Office for Students’ requirements for institutions to provide Access and Participation Plans, we have shown data related to access (applicants), attainment (degree classification) and progression (post-graduation activity). There is further detail contained in [Birkbeck’s current approved plan](https://apis.officeforstudents.org.uk/accessplansdownloads/2024/BirbeckCollege_APP_2020-21_V1_10007760.pdf).

## Applicant data

This compares the proportion of UK applicants who receive an offer to start in the stated year broken down by ethnicity and disability (where stated). Note that many applicants apply to more than one programme.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Applicants | Offers | % app to offer | Applicants | Offers | % app to offer | Applicants | Offers | % app to offer |
| Asian | 952 | 791 | 83% | 780 | 644 | 83% | 744 | 647 | 87% |
| Black | 1,296 | 1,022 | 79% | 953 | 755 | 79% | 912 | 763 | 84% |
| Mixed Race | 640 | 542 | 85% | 570 | 492 | 86% | 521 | 464 | 89% |
| Other | 326 | 258 | 79% | 287 | 241 | 84% | 301 | 267 | 89% |
| White | 4,433 | 3,725 | 84% | 3,837 | 3,376 | 88% | 3,252 | 2,923 | 90% |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Applicants | Offers | % app to offer | Applicants | Offers | % app to offer | Applicants | Offers | % app to offer |
| No known disability | 7,593 | 6,368 | 84% | 7,209 | 6,266 | 87% | 6,777 | 6,084 | 90% |
| Mental Health | 680 | 573 | 84% | 572 | 507 | 89% | 570 | 523 | 92% |
| Dyslexia/Learning difficulty | 402 | 317 | 79% | 321 | 256 | 80% | 278 | 232 | 83% |
| Multiple Disabilities | 268 | 242 | 90% | 187 | 174 | 93% | 198 | 185 | 93% |
| Long Standing Illness | 202 | 171 | 85% | 172 | 156 | 91% | 155 | 137 | 88% |
| A Specific Learning Disability | 171 | 145 | 85% | 209 | 201 | 96% | 214 | 188 | 88% |
| Information refused | 142 | 127 | 89% | 131 | 118 | 90% | 99 | 87 | 88% |
| Other Disability | 92 | 72 | 78% | 102 | 88 | 86% | 118 | 101 | 86% |
| Autistic Spectrum Disorder | 84 | 69 | 82% | 90 | 80 | 89% | 121 | 108 | 89% |
| Deaf/partial hearing | 46 | 43 | 93% | 41 | 33 | 80% | 34 | 30 | 88% |
| Wheelchair/mobility | 45 | 41 | 91% | 47 | 44 | 94% | 53 | 48 | 91% |
| Unseen disability | 31 | 18 | 58% | 30 | 19 | 63% | 37 | 21 | 57% |
| Blind/partial sight | 24 | 22 | 92% | 19 | 18 | 95% | 31 | 28 | 90% |

## Attainment data

This shows the proportion of students gaining a particular Bachelor’s degree classification broken down by ethnicity (where known) and disability status.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 |
|  | **1st** | **2:1** | **2:2** | **3rd** | **1st** | **2:1** | **2:2** | **3rd** | **1st** | **2:1** | **2:2** | **3rd** |
| Asian | 19% | 38% | 36% | 7% | 13% | 46% | 36% | 4% | 25% | 39% | 31% | 4% |
| Black | 10% | 43% | 39% | 9% | 13% | 44% | 41% | 3% | 19% | 33% | 43% | 6% |
| Mixed Race  | 24% | 49% | 22% | 4% | 42% | 42% | 12% | 4% | 19% | 46% | 33% | 3% |
| Other  | 12% | 42% | 40% | 6% | 24% | 45% | 29% | 3% | 24% | 41% | 29% | 5% |
| White | 35% | 47% | 17% | 1% | 44% | 44% | 11% | 1% | 40% | 43% | 16% | 1% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 |
|  | **1st** | **2:1** | **2:2** | **3rd** | **1st** | **2:1** | **2:2** | **3rd** | **1st** | **2:1** | **2:2** | **3rd** |
| Disability declared | 24% | 48% | 23% | 5% | 29% | 44% | 25% | 2% | 33% | 39% | 27% | 3% |
| No disability | 25% | 43% | 28% | 4% | 32% | 44% | 22% | 2% | 31% | 42% | 24% | 3% |

## Progression

This shows the main activity of graduates following their graduation. It is broken down by level of qualification studied for, disability status and ethnicity – note that only graduates who responded to the Graduate Outcomes survey, carried out by HESA, are included.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Level and year of qualification obtained: First degree | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 |
|   | Disabled | No Known Disability | Disabled | No Known Disability | Disabled | No Known Disability |
| Due to start work/study in the next month | 1% | 1% |  | 1% | 3% | 3% |
| Full-time further study, training or research | 6% | 5% | 8% | 6% | 7% | 6% |
| Part-time further study, training or research | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| Unemployed | 5% | 5% | 12% | 8% | 5% | 5% |
| Working full-time | 39% | 54% | 33% | 47% | 37% | 52% |
| Working part-time | 11% | 10% | 22% | 10% | 11% | 11% |
| Doing something else (incl travel, volunteering) | 21% | 10% | 13% | 11% | 22% | 10% |
| Both employment and further study | 15% | 15% | 11% | 16% | 14% | 13% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Level and year of qualification obtained: Other undergraduate | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 |
|   | Disabled | No Known Disability | Disabled | No Known Disability | Disabled | No Known Disability |
| Due to start work/study in the next month |  |  | 4% |  | 4% | 5% |
| Full-time further study, training or research | 13% | 8% | 12% | 9% | 31% | 15% |
| Part-time further study, training or research | 13% | 2% | 8% | 4% | 4% | 3% |
| Unemployed |  | 2% | 4% | 4% | 4% | 4% |
| Working full-time | 30% | 37% | 23% | 34% | 23% | 25% |
| Working part-time | 17% | 17% | 15% | 10% | 19% | 16% |
| Doing something else (incl travel, volunteering) | 9% | 11% | 23% | 21% | 12% | 18% |
| Both employment and further study | 17% | 25% | 12% | 27% | 4% | 15% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Level and year of qualification obtained: Postgraduate | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 |
|   | Disabled | No Known Disability | Disabled | No Known Disability | Disabled | No Known Disability |
| Due to start work/study in the next month | 1% | 1% | 1% | <1% | 2% | <1% |
| Full-time further study, training or research | 6% | 4% | 5% | 4% | 2% | 4% |
| Part-time further study, training or research | 4% | 1% | 3% | 1% | 3% | 1% |
| Unemployed | 7% | 2% | 4% | 3% | 4% | 4% |
| Working full-time | 40% | 61% | 43% | 57% | 46% | 61% |
| Working part-time | 12% | 13% | 15% | 12% | 13% | 13% |
| Doing something else (incl travel, volunteering) | 11% | 10% | 9% | 10% | 12% | 8% |
| Both employment and further study | 17% | 9% | 20% | 13% | 19% | 10% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Level and year of qualification obtained: First degree | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 |
|  | Asian | Black | Other / Mixed | White | Asian | Black | Other / Mixed | White | Asian | Black | Other/Mixed | White |
|  Due to start work/study in the next month |  | 4% |  |  | 2% |  | 1% | 1% | 7% | 2% | 3% | 2% |
|  Full-time further study, training or research | 4% | 3% | 4% | 6% | 7% | 3% | 8% | 6% | 10% | 3% | 7% | 6% |
| Part-time further study, training or research | 4% |  |  | 2% | 1% | 2% |  | 1% |  |  | 1% | 1% |
|  Unemployed | 8% | 4% | 11% | 2% | 11% | 8% | 14% | 8% | 8% | 7% | 8% | 4% |
|  Working full-time | 48% | 48% | 38% | 56% | 36% | 47% | 42% | 46% | 50% | 50% | 40% | 50% |
|  Working part-time | 14% | 13% | 14% | 10% | 17% | 12% | 12% | 12% | 10% | 10% | 11% | 11% |
|  Doing something else (incl travel, volunteering) | 10% | 9% | 14% | 13% | 14% | 15% | 8% | 9% | 10% | 15% | 14% | 12% |
| Both employment and further study  | 12% | 18% | 20% | 19% | 12% | 12% | 16% | 17% | 6% | 12% | 16% | 13% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Level and year of qualification obtained: Other undergraduate | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 |
|  | Asian | Black | Other / Mixed | White | Asian | Black | Other / Mixed | White | Asian | Black | Other/Mixed | White |
|  Due to start work/study in the next month |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 14% | 3% |  | 4% |
| Full-time further study, training or research | 10% | 3% | 16% | 8% | 10% | 4% | 17% | 9% | 14% | 19% | 15% | 19% |
|  Part-time further study, training or research | 10% | 3% |  | 2% | 5% | 12% |  | 3% |  | 3% | 8% | 3% |
|  Unemployed |  |  |  | 2% | 15% |  | 6% | 2% | 7% | 3% | 8% | 3% |
|  Working full-time | 15% | 40% | 37% | 40% | 40% | 39% | 28% | 27% | 36% | 22% | 31% | 23% |
|  Working part-time | 30% | 23% | 11% | 13% | 5% | 12% | 11% | 12% | 21% | 19% | 15% | 15% |
|  Doing something else (incl travel, volunteering) | 20% |  | 11% | 12% | 5% | 8% | 17% | 21% | 7% | 13% | 8% | 22% |
| Both employment and further study  | 15% | 30% | 26% | 24% | 15% | 27% | 22% | 26% |  | 19% | 15% | 12% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Level and year of qualification obtained: Postgraduate | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 |
|  | Asian | Black | Other / Mixed | White | Asian | Black | Other / Mixed | White | Asian | Black | Other / Mixed | White |
|  Due to start work/study in the next month | 2% |  |  | 1% |  | 1% | 2% |  | 1% | 1% |  | <1% |
| Full-time further study, training or research | 1% | 2% | 4% | 5% | 4% | 2% | 3% | 5% | 4% | 4% | 3% | 4% |
| Part-time further study, training or research |  | 1% |  | 2% | 1% | 2% |  | 2% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 2% |
|  Unemployed | 1% | 2% | 6% | 2% | 5% | 6% | 10% | 1% | 7% | 8% | 2% | 3% |
|  Working full-time | 64% | 50% | 62% | 60% | 54% | 49% | 51% | 57% | 59% | 61% | 59% | 59% |
|  Working part-time | 14% | 12% | 8% | 13% | 16% | 12% | 9% | 12% | 10% | 12% | 18% | 12% |
|  Doing something else (incl travel, volunteering) | 10% | 10% | 11% | 9% | 10% | 13% | 13% | 9% | 8% | 2% | 6% | 9% |
| Both employment and further study  | 8% | 21% | 10% | 9% | 11% | 16% | 12% | 14% | 12% | 11% | 11% | 11% |