

Appendix 4: Comparison tables

1. This appendix describes the content of the comparison tables on the 'Comparison 1' (Tables A to D), 'Comparison 2' (Tables E to H) and 'Comparison 3' (Table I and J) worksheets of the Higher Education Students Early Statistics 2020-21 survey (HESES20) workbook, and lists the criteria that determine cell highlighting in these tables.
2. A cell will be highlighted when it contains a value that has exceeded a pre-determined threshold set by the Office for Students (OfS). If the cause of cell highlighting cannot be identified, providers should email us for guidance at heses@officeforstudents.org.uk.
3. The highlighting built into the comparison tables is intended to help providers check data prior to submission by identifying values that are unusual or unexpected. As well as querying any values identified by the comparison tables, we may also query other significant changes or inconsistencies.
4. The results from the comparison tables are summarised on the 'Information' worksheet. Where a submitted workbook has a value highlighted in a comparison table, providers must explain why the associated data is credible. Such explanations are part of the submission process and should be emailed to dataverification@officeforstudents.org.uk by noon on the date of the submission deadline to inform the subsequent data verification process.
5. As we release updates to the workbook during the submission period, additional highlighting may appear. Please ensure that you review your HESES20 return after each update. See Appendix 1 for information regarding updates to the workbook.
6. Once the submission deadline has passed, the results from the comparison tables and any explanations given by the provider will be used by OfS staff to assess whether the data is reasonable. Providers may be asked to provide additional information, or to correct data, in response to this assessment during the data verification period. Our 'Completing the HESES20 workbook' document¹ provides more information on the data verification process.
7. The HESES20 workbook also includes a series of validation checks and credibility checks which help to ensure that incorrect data is not submitted. The validation checks are described in Appendix 2 and the credibility checks are described in Appendix 3.

Changes since HESES19

8. This section describes any changes to the comparison tables since HESES19 due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
9. For the 2019-20 HESA student, HESA student alternative and Individualised Learner Record (ILR) data checking tools HESES19 comparison we developed an alternative method of assigning years of instance to Columns 3, 4 and 4a of Tables 1, 2, 3, 6a, 6b, and 6c as the FUNDCOMP field cannot be used reliably to assess completion status.

¹ Available at www.officeforstudents.org.uk/data-and-analysis/data-collection/heses/.

Appendix 4: Comparison tables

10. Due to using the new method of assigning non-completions in the 2019-20 data checking tool, the 2019-20 HESA/ILR data is not used in relation to full-time equivalence (FTE) in the comparison tables. The changes to the comparison tables are:
- a. Table A, Column 4 and 4a comparisons for the 2019-20 HESA/ILR column will be greyed out.
 - b. The 2019-20 HESA/ILR column and comparisons have been removed from Tables B, C, D, E and K2.
 - c. The countable years of instance will be used instead of FTE in Tables F, I, J and K1.

Data sources

11. The comparison tables summarise data from several sources.

For further education colleges, sixth forms and academies these are:

- **HEIFES18:** This data is taken from the HEIFES18 workbook submitted at the start of the 2018-19 academic year.
- **2018-19 ILR:** This data is available in the latest HEIFES18 comparison workbook 'HEF18_HXXXXXXXXX.xlsx', where XXXXXXXXX is the UK Provider Reference Number (UKPRN) for your provider.
- **HESES19:** This data is taken from the HESES19 workbook submitted at the start of the 2019-20 academic year.
- **2019-20 ILR:** This is 2019-20 data processed by the 2019-20 ILR data checking tool, where available.
- **HESES20:** This data is taken from the relevant tables of the HESES20 workbook.

For all other providers these are:

- **HESES18:** This data is taken from the relevant HESES18 workbook submitted at the start of the 2018-19 academic year.
- **2018-19 HESA:** This data is available in the latest HESES18 comparison workbook 'HES18A_HXXXXXXXXX.xlsx' or 'HES18B_HXXXXXXXXX.xlsx', where XXXXXXXXX is the UK Provider Reference Number (UKPRN) for your provider.
- **HESES19:** This data is taken from the relevant HESES19 workbook submitted at the start of the 2019-20 academic year.
- **2019-20 HESA:** This is 2019-20 data processed by the 2019-20 HESA student or 2019-20 HESA student alternative data checking tool, where available.
- **HESES20:** This data is taken from the relevant tables of the HESES20 workbook.

For the purpose of the workbook, previous years' data will be shown using the headings HESA/ILR and HESES. If data is not available from any of the data sources then the relevant column will be greyed out and no comparisons will be made.

Cell highlighting

12. Each comparison table description in this appendix includes a table which provides information on cell highlighting. For each comparison, this table describes: the data compared; the criteria for highlighting; and the columns that are highlighted when the criteria are met.
13. The colour of the cell in the third column reflects the colour of the highlighting in the comparison table. Yellow highlighting indicates a substantial change between HESES19 and HESES20, and orange highlighting indicates a substantial change between 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20 (if 2019-20 HESA/ILR data is available) or 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20 (if 2018-19 HESA/ILR data is available). Where there are substantial changes for both comparisons, the cell will be highlighted orange. Highlighting may also appear as a result of comparisons with data from other sources.

Table A: Total countable years of instance split by fundability status in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21

14. This table summarises the following information from Tables 1, 2 and 3 and splits the years of instance and FTEs in Table A by fundability status (Fundable; Non fundable; Island and overseas).
- Total countable years of instance, from Columns 1 and 2.
 - Total estimated completed years of instance, from Column 4.
 - Total estimated FTE, from Column 4a (Column 4a = Column 4 for Table 1, Column 4a = 0.5 × Column 4 for Table 2 and Column 4a = Column 4a for Table 3).
15. Data is summarised for: 2018-19 HESA/ILR, HESES19, 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.
16. The table shows the proportion (as a percentage) of the total which is contributed by each fundability status, and the change in proportion (i.e. the percentage point difference) between:
- HESES19 and 2019-20 HESA/ILR for Columns 1 + 2 only.
 - HESES19 and HESES20.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES20 vs. HESES19	Change in proportion of more than 4 percentage points and values differ by more than 5	Change in proportion between HESES19 and HESES20
	HESES20 = 0 and HESES19 > 5 , or vice versa	HESES19 and HESES20
HESES20 vs. 2019-20 HESA/ILR	Change in proportion of more than 4 percentage points and values differ by more than 5	Change in proportion between 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20

Appendix 4: Comparison tables

(Columns 1 + 2 only)	HESES20 = 0 and 2019-20 HESA/ILR > 5 , or vice versa	2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20
----------------------	--	------------------------------

c. 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20 for Columns 1 + 2 only.

17. Percentage changes are shown between the Totals for:

- a. 2018-19 HESA/ILR and 2019-20 HESA/ILR for Columns 1 + 2 only.
- b. HESES19 and HESES20.
- c. 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
2018-19 HESA/ILR vs. 2019-20 HESA/ILR (Columns 1 + 2 only)	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between 2018-19 HESA/ILR and 2019-20 HESA/ILR
	Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 10	Percentage change between 2018-19 HESA/ILR and 2019-20 HESA/ILR
HESES20 vs. HESES19	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between HESES19 and HESES20
	Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 10	Percentage change between HESES19 and HESES20
HESES20 vs. 2019-20 HESA/ILR	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20
	Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 10	Percentage change between 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20

Table B: Fundable FTEs split by mode in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21

18. This table splits the fundable FTEs by mode (Full-time; Sandwich year out; Part-time).

19. Data is summarised for: 2018-19 HESA/ILR, HESES19 and HESES20.

20. Percentage changes are shown between:

- a. HESES19 and HESES20.
- b. 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20.

Appendix 4: Comparison tables

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES20 vs. HESES19	Full-time: Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between HESES19 and HESES20
	Sandwich year out and part-time: Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between HESES19 and HESES20
	All modes: Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 10	Percentage change between HESES19 and HESES20
	All modes: HESES20 = 0 and HESES19 > 5 , or vice versa	HESES19 and HESES20
HESES20 vs. 2018-19 HESA/ILR	Full-time: Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20
	Sandwich year out and part-time: Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20
	All modes: Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 10	Percentage change between 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20
	All modes: HESES20 = 0 and 2019-20 HESA/ILR > 5 , or vice versa	2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20

Table C: Fundable FTEs split by level in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21

21. This table splits the fundable FTEs by level (UG; PGT (UG fee); PGT (Masters' loan); PGT (Other)).

22. Data is summarised for: 2018-19 HESA/ILR, HESES19 and HESES20.

23. Percentage changes are shown between:

- a. 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20.
- b. HESES19 and HESES20.

Appendix 4: Comparison tables

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES20 vs. 2018-19 HESA/ILR	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 100	Percentage change between 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20
	Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 20	Percentage change between 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20
HESES20 vs. HESES19	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 100	Percentage change between HESES19 and HESES20
	Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 20	Percentage change between HESES19 and HESES20

Table D: Fundable FTEs split by price group in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21

24. This table splits the fundable FTEs by price group (A; B; C1; C2; D).

25. Data is summarised for: 2018-19 HESA/ILR, HESES19 and HESES20.

26. The table shows the proportion (as a percentage) of the total FTE which is contributed by each price group, and the change in proportion (i.e. the percentage point difference) between:

- a. 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20.
- b. HESES19 and HESES20.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES20 vs. 2018-19 HESA/ILR	Change in proportion of more than 10 percentage points and values differ by more than 10	Change in proportion between 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20
	Change in proportion of more than 3 percentage point and values differ by more than 250	Change in proportion between 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20
	HESES20 = 0 and 2018-19 HESA/ILR > 5 , or vice versa	2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20
HESES20 vs. HESES19	Change in proportion of more than 10 percentage points and values differ by more than 10	Change in proportion between HESES19 and HESES20

Appendix 4: Comparison tables

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
	Change in proportion of more than 3 percentage points and values differ by more than 250	Change in proportion between HESES19 and HESES20
	HESES20 = 0 and HESES19 > 5 , or vice versa	HESES19 and HESES20

Table E: Percentage of fundable non-completions

27. The data in this table is sourced from 2018-19 HESA/ILR, HESES19 and HESES20.

28. The table summarises the following information from Tables 1 and 3, split by mode (Full-time; Part-time) and level (UG; PGT, i.e. the sum of PGT (UG fee), PGT (Masters' loan) and PGT (Other)):

- a. Countable years of instance, from Columns 1 and 2.
- b. Forecast of years of instance not completed, from Column 3.

29. The table shows the percentage of non-completions for each source of data, and the difference in percentage of non-completions between:

- a. 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20.
- b. HESES19 and HESES20.

30. For 2018-19 HESA/ILR, the number of students assigned a FUNDCOMP value of 3 in the HESES/HEIFES18 comparison and the HESES19 comparison are displayed. This shows the number of students who have an unknown completion status.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES20 vs. 2018-19 HESA/ILR	Change in percentage of non-completions of more than 3 percentage points and HESES20 Columns 1+2 \geq 50	Percentage point difference between 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20
HESES20 vs. HESES19	Change in percentage of non-completions of more than 3 percentage points and HESES20 Columns 1+2 \geq 50	Percentage point difference between HESES19 and HESES20

Table F: Proportion of fundable countable years of instance recorded as long

31. The data in this table is sourced from HESES19, 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.

Appendix 4: Comparison tables

32. The table summarises the following information from Tables 1 and 3, split by price group (A; B; C1; C2; D), mode (Full-time; Part-time) and level (UG; PGT, i.e. the sum of PGT (UG fee), PGT (Masters' loan) and PGT (Other)):
- Total fundable countable years of instance, from Column 1 and Column 2 of Table 1 or Column 1 and Column 2 of Table 3.
 - Fundable countable years of instance for long years of instance, from Column 1 and Column 2 of Table 1 or Column 1 and Column 2 of Table 3.
33. The table shows the proportion (as a percentage) of the total fundable countable years of instance which is contributed by long years of instance, and the change in proportion (i.e. the percentage point difference) between:
- HESES19 and HESES20.
 - 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES20 vs. HESES19	Change in proportion of more than 5 percentage points and long fundable countable years of instance differ by more than 10	Percentage point difference between HESES19 and HESES20
	HESES20 long fundable countable years of instance = 0 and HESES19 long fundable countable years of instance > 5 , or vice versa	HESES19 long fundable countable years of instance and HESES20 long fundable countable years of instance
HESES20 vs. 2019-20 HESA/ILR	Change in proportion of more than 5 percentage points and long FTEs differ by more than 10	Percentage point difference between 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20
	HESES20 long fundable countable years of instance = 0 and 2019-20 HESA/ILR long fundable countable years of instance > 5 , or vice versa	2019-20 HESA/ILR long fundable countable years of instance and HESES19 long fundable countable years of instance

Table G: Home and EU undergraduate years abroad

34. The data in this table is sourced from 2018-19 HESA/ILR, HESES19, 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.
35. The table summarises the following information from Table 4, split by type of year abroad (Outgoing Erasmus+ year abroad; Outgoing year abroad outside the Erasmus+ programme), fundability status (Fundable; Non-fundable) and mode (Full-time; Sandwich year out):
- Countable years of instance, from Columns 1 and 2.

Appendix 4: Comparison tables

36. Percentage changes are shown between:

- a. 2018-19 HESA/ILR and 2019-20 HESA/ILR.
- b. HESES19 and HESES20.
- c. 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES20 vs. HESES19	Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 15	Percentage change between HESES19 and HESES20
	HESES20 = 0 and HESES19 > 5 , or vice versa	HESES19 and HESES20
HESES20 vs. 2019-20 HESA/ILR	Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 15	Percentage change between 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20
	HESES20 = 0 and 2019-20 HESA/ILR > 5 , or vice versa	2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20

Table H: Proportion of new entrants

37. The data in this table is sourced from HESES/HEIFES18, HESES19, 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.

38. The table summarises the following information from Table 5, split by mode (Full-time and sandwich year out; Part-time), level (UG; PGT, i.e. the sum of PGT (UG fee), PGT (Masters' loan) and PGT (Other)) and domicile (Home and EU, i.e. fundable and non-fundable; Island and overseas):

- a. Countable years of instance, from Section A, Columns 1 and 2 (Column 1 for HESES/HEIFES18).
- b. New entrants, from Section B (Column 2 for HESES/HEIFES18).

39. The table shows the proportion (as a percentage) of the years of instance which is contributed by new entrants.

40. Percentage differences between counts of years of instance and between counts of new entrants are shown for:

- a. HESES19 and HESES20.
- b. 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.

41. The table also shows changes in the proportion of new entrants (i.e. the percentage point difference) between these pairs of data sources.

Appendix 4: Comparison tables

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES20 vs. HESES19	Change in proportion of more than 10 percentage points and new entrants differ by more than 20	Percentage point difference between HESES19 and HESES20 proportions
	Change in new entrants of more than 10 per cent and new entrants differ by more than 20	Percentage difference between HESES19 and HESES20 new entrants
	HESES20 new entrants = 0 and HESES19 new entrants > 5 , or vice versa	HESES19 and HESES20
HESES20 vs. 2019-20 HESA/ILR	Change in proportion of more than 10 percentage points and new entrants differ by more than 20	Percentage point difference between 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20 proportions
	Change in new entrants of more than 10 per cent and new entrants differ by more than 20	Percentage difference between 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20 new entrants
	HESES20 new entrants = 0 and 2019-20 HESA/ILR new entrants > 5 , or vice versa	2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20

Table I: Countable years of instance for Home and EU starters on pre-registration nursing, midwifery and allied health profession courses

42. The data in this table is sourced from 2018-19 HESA/ILR, HESES19, 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.

43. The table summarises the FTEs from Tables 6a, 6b and 6c (Table 7a, 7b and 7c for 2018-19 HESA/ILR data) for each profession and level (UG; PGT (UG fee)).

44. For each profession and level, the table shows the sum of the fundable and non-fundable countable years of instance for:

- a. Full-time starters in 2018-19.
- b. Part-time starters in 2018-19.
- c. Full-time starters in 2019-20.
- d. Part-time starters in 2019-20.
- e. Full-time starters in 2020-21.
- f. Part-time starters in 2020-21.

45. Percentage differences are shown between:

Appendix 4: Comparison tables

- a. HESES19 starters in 2019-20 and HESES20 starters in 2020-21.
- b. 2019-20 HESA/ILR starters in 2019-20 and HESES20 starters in 2020-21.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES19 starters in 2019-20 vs. HESES20 starters in 2020-21	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 20	Percentage difference between HESES19 starters in 2019-20 and HESES20 starters in 2020-21
	HESES20 = 0 and HESES19 > 5 , or vice versa	HESES/HEIFES starters in 2019-20 and HESES20 starters in 2020-21
2019-20 HESA/ILR starters in 2019-20 vs. HESES20 starters in 2020-21	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 20	Percentage difference between 2019-20 HESA/ILR starters in 2019-20 and HESES20 starters in 2020-21
	HESES20 = 0 and 2019-20 HESA/ILR > 5 , or vice versa	2019-20 HESA/ILR starters in 2019-20 and HESES20 starters in 2020-21

Table J: Total countable years of instance on pre-registration nursing, midwifery and allied health profession courses

46. The data in this table is sourced from 2018-19 HESA/ILR, HESES19, 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.

47. The table summarises the countable years of instance from Tables 6a, 6b and 6c (Table 7a, 7b and 7c for 2018-19 HESA/ILR data) for each profession and level (UG; PGT (UG fee)).

48. For each profession and level, the table shows the sum of the fundable and non-fundable countable years of instance for:

- a. Full-time and sandwich year out total countable years of instance.
- b. Part-time total countable years of instance.

49. Percentage differences are shown between:

- a. Total countable years of instance in 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20.
- b. Total countable years of instance in 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.
- c. Total countable years of instance in HESES19 and HESES20.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
2018-19 HESA/ILR vs. HESES20	Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 30	Percentage difference between 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20

Appendix 4: Comparison tables

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
	HESES20 = 0 and 2018-19 HESA/ILR > 5, or vice versa	2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20
2019-20 HESA/ILR vs. HESES20	Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 30	Percentage difference between 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20
	HESES20 = 0 and 2019-20 HESA/ILR > 5, or vice versa	2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20
HESES19 vs. HESES20	Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 30	Percentage difference between HESES19 and HESES20
	HESES20 = 0 and HESES19 > 5, or vice versa	HESES19 and HESES20

Table K1: Countable fundable years of instance by mode, level and price group

50. The data in this table is sourced from HESES19, 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.
51. The table summarises counts of fundable years of instance from Columns 1 and 2 of Tables 1, 2 and 3 by price group (A; B; C1; C2; D), mode of study (Full-time; Sandwich year out; Part-time) and level of study (UG; PGT).
52. Percentage differences are shown between the countable fundable years of instance in:
- HESES19 and HESES20.
 - 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES20.
53. This table does not include any automatic highlighting.

Table K2: Fundable part-time FTE

54. The data in this table is sourced from 2018-19 HESA/ILR, HESES19 and HESES20.
55. The table summarises the average FTE from Table 3 by price group (A; B; C1; C2; D) and level of study (UG; PGT), which is the Column 4a FTE divided by the Column 4 headcount.
56. Differences in average FTE are shown between:
- HESES19 and HESES20.
 - 2018-19 HESA/ILR and HESES20.
57. This table does not include any automatic highlighting.