

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 2021-22 survey (HESES21) 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 HESES21 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 HESES21 workbook' document provides more information on the data verification process.
7. The HESES21 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 HESES20

8. This section describes any changes to the comparison tables since HESES20.
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. This method has been used to derive the 2019-20 HESA/ILR data in comparison tables A, B, C and D.

Data sources

10. The comparison tables summarise data from several sources.

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For further education and sixth form colleges and academies these are:

- **HESES19:** This data is taken from the HESES19 workbook submitted at the start of the 2019-20 academic year.
- **2019-20 ILR:** This data is available in the latest HESES19 comparison workbook 'HES19_XXXXXXXX.xlsx', where XXXXXXXX is the UK Provider Reference Number (UKPRN) for your provider.
- **HESES20:** This data is taken from the HESES20 workbook submitted at the start of the 2020-21 academic year.
- **2020-21 ILR:** This is 2020-21 data processed by the 2020-21 ILR data checking tool, where available.
- **HESES21:** This data is taken from the relevant tables of the HESES21 workbook.

For all other providers these are:

- **HESES19:** This data is taken from the relevant HESES19 workbook submitted at the start of the 2019-20 academic year.
- **2019-20 HESA:** This data is available in the latest HESES19 comparison workbook 'HES19_XXXXXXXX.xlsx', where XXXXXXXX is the UK Provider Reference Number (UKPRN) for your provider.
- **HESES20:** This data is taken from the relevant HESES20 workbook submitted at the start of the 2020-21 academic year.
- **2020-21 HESA:** This is 2020-21 data processed by the 2020-21 HESA student or 2020-21 HESA student alternative data checking tool, where available.
- **HESES21:** This data is taken from the relevant tables of the HESES21 workbook.

For 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

11. 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.
12. 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 HESES20 and HESES21, and orange highlighting indicates a substantial change between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21 (if 2020-21 HESA/ILR data is available) or 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES21 (if 2019-20 HESA/ILR data is available). Where there are substantial changes for both comparisons, the cell will be highlighted orange. Highlighting may also appear because of comparisons with data from other sources.

Table A: Total countable years of instance split by fundability status in 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22

13. 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; 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).
14. Data is summarised for 2019-20 HESA/ILR, HESES20, 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
15. 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 the following:
- HESES21 and 2020-21 HESA/ILR.
 - HESES20 and HESES21.
 - 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES20.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES21 vs. HESES20	Change in proportion of more than 4 percentage points and values differ by more than 5	Change in proportion between HESES20 and HESES21
	HESES21 = 0 and HESES20 > 5 , or vice versa	HESES20 and HESES21
HESES21 vs. 2020-21 HESA/ILR (Columns 1 + 2 only)	Change in proportion of more than 4 percentage points and values differ by more than 5	Change in proportion between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
	HESES21 = 0 and 2020-21 HESA/ILR > 5 , or vice versa	2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21

16. Percentage changes are shown between the totals for the following:
- 2019-20 HESA/ILR and 2020-21 HESA/ILR.
 - HESES20 and HESES21.
 - 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.

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Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES21 vs. HESES20	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between HESES20 and HESES21
	Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 10	Percentage change between HESES20 and HESES21
HESES21 vs. 2020-21 HESA/ILR	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
	Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 10	Percentage change between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21

Table B: Fundable FTEs split by mode in 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22

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

18. Data is summarised for: 2019-20 HESA/ILR, HESES20, 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.

19. Percentage changes are shown between:

- a. HESES20 and HESES21.
- b. 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
- c. 2019-20 HESA/ILR and 2020-21 HESA/ILR.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES21 vs. HESES20	Full-time: Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between HESES20 and HESES21
	Sandwich year out and part-time: Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between HESES20 and HESES21
	All modes: Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 10	Percentage change between HESES20 and HESES21
	All modes: HESES21 = 0 and HESES20 > 5 , or vice versa	HESES20 and HESES21

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Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES21 vs. 2020-21 HESA/ILR	Full-time: Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
	Sandwich year out and part-time: Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 50	Percentage change between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
	All modes: Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 10	Percentage change between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
	All modes: HESES21 = 0 and 2020-21 HESA/ILR > 5 , or vice versa	2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21

Table C: Fundable FTEs split by level in 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22

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

21. Data is summarised for: 2019-20 HESA/ILR, HESES20, 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.

22. Percentage changes are shown between the following:

- a. 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
- b. HESES20 and HESES21.
- c. 2019-20 HESA/ILR and 2020-21 HESA/ILR.
- d. 2019-20 HESA/ILR and 2020-21 HESA/ILR.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES21 vs. 2020-21 HESA/ILR	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 100	Percentage change between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
	Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 20	Percentage change between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
HESES21 vs. HESES20	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 100	Percentage change between HESES20 and HESES21

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Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
	Change of more than 50 per cent and values differ by more than 20	Percentage change between HESES20 and HESES21

Table D: Fundable FTEs split by price group in 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22

23. This table splits the fundable FTEs by price group: A; B; C1; C1.1; C1.2; C2; D.

24. Data is summarised for: 2019-20 HESA/ILR, HESES20, 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.

25. 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 the following:

- a. 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
- b. HESES20 and HESES21.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES21 vs. 2020-21 HESA/ILR	Change in proportion of more than 10 percentage points and values differ by more than 10	Change in proportion between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
	Change in proportion of more than 3 percentage point and values differ by more than 250	Change in proportion between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
	HESES21 = 0 and 2020-21 HESA/ILR > 5 , or vice versa	2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
HESES21 vs. HESES20	Change in proportion of more than 10 percentage points and values differ by more than 10	Change in proportion between HESES20 and HESES21
	Change in proportion of more than 3 percentage points and values differ by more than 250	Change in proportion between HESES20 and HESES21
	HESES21 = 0 and HESES20 > 5 , or vice versa	HESES20 and HESES21

Table E: Percentage of fundable non-completions

26. The data in this table is sourced from HESES19, 2020-21 HESA/ILR, HESES20 and HESES21.
27. 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)):
- Countable years of instance, from Columns 1 and 2.
 - Forecast of years of instance not completed, from Column 3.
28. The table shows the percentage of non-completions for each source of data, and the difference in percentage of non-completions between:
- HESES19 and HESES21
 - 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
 - HESES20 and HESES21.
29. For 2020-21 HESA/ILR, the number of students assigned a FUNDCOMP value of 3 in the HESES20 comparison are displayed. This shows the number of students who have an unknown completion status.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES21 vs. 2020-21 HESA/ILR	Change in percentage of non-completions of more than 3 percentage points and HESES21 Columns 1+2 \geq 50	Percentage point difference between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
HESES21 vs. HESES20	Change in percentage of non-completions of more than 3 percentage points and HESES21 Columns 1+2 \geq 50	Percentage point difference between HESES20 and HESES21

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

30. The data in this table is sourced from HESES20, 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
31. 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.

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- b. 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.

32. 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 the following:

- a. HESES20 and HESES21.
- b. 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES21 vs. HESES20	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 HESES20 and HESES21
	HESES21 long fundable countable years of instance = 0 and HESES20 long fundable countable years of instance > 5 , or vice versa	HESES20 long fundable countable years of instance and HESES21 long fundable countable years of instance
HESES21 vs. 2020-21 HESA/ILR	Change in proportion of more than 5 percentage points and long fundable countable years differ by more than 10	Percentage point difference between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
	HESES21 long fundable countable years of instance = 0 and 2020-21 HESA/ILR long fundable countable years of instance > 5 , or vice versa	2020-21 HESA/ILR long fundable countable years of instance and HESES21 long fundable countable years of instance

Table G: Home fee undergraduate years abroad

33. The data in this table is sourced from 2019-20 HESA/ILR, HESES20, 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.

34. The table summarises the following information from Table 4, split by type of year abroad (Outgoing Erasmus+ and Turing years abroad; Outgoing year abroad outside the Erasmus+ and Turing programmes), fundability status (Fundable; Non-fundable) and mode (Full-time; Sandwich year out):

- a. Countable years of instance, from Columns 1 and 2.

35. Percentage changes are shown between the following:

- a. 2019-20 HESA/ILR and 2020-21 HESA/ILR.
- b. HESES20 and HESES21.

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c. 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES21 vs. HESES20	Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 25	Percentage change between HESES20 and HESES21
	HESES21 = 0 and HESES20 > 25 , or vice versa	HESES20 and HESES21
HESES21 vs. 2020-21 HESA/ILR	Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 25	Percentage change between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
	HESES21 = 0 and 2020-21 HESA/ILR > 25 , or vice versa	2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21

Table H: Proportion of new entrants

36. The data in this table is sourced from 2019-20 HESA/ILR, HESES20, 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.

37. 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 residential status (Home fee, i.e., OfS-fundable and non-fundable; Overseas):

- a. Countable years of instance, from Section A, Columns 1 and 2.
- b. New entrants, from Section B.

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

39. Percentage differences between counts of years of instance and between counts of new entrants are shown for the following:

- a. HESES20 and HESES21.
- b. 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.

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

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES21 vs. HESES20	Change in proportion of more than 10 percentage points and new entrants differ by more than 20	Percentage point difference between HESES20 and HESES21 proportions

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Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
	Change in new entrants of more than 10 per cent and new entrants differ by more than 20	Percentage difference between HESES20 and HESES21 new entrants
	HESES21 new entrants = 0 and HESES20 new entrants > 10 , or vice versa	HESES20 and HESES21
HESES21 vs. 2020-21 HESA/ILR	Change in proportion of more than 10 percentage points and new entrants differ by more than 20	Percentage point difference between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21 proportions
	Change in new entrants of more than 10 per cent and new entrants differ by more than 20	Percentage difference between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21 new entrants
	HESES21 new entrants = 0 and 2020-21 HESA/ILR new entrants > 10 , or vice versa	2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21

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

41. The data in this table is sourced from 2019-20 HESA/ILR, HESES20, 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.

42. The table summarises the countable years of instance from Tables 6a, 6b and 6c for each profession and level (UG; PGT (UG fee)).

43. 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 2019-20.
- b. Part-time starters in 2019-20.
- c. Full-time starters in 2020-21.
- d. Part-time starters in 2020-21.
- e. Full-time starters in 2021-22.
- f. Part-time starters in 2021-22.

44. Percentage differences are shown between:

- a. HESES20 starters in 2020-21 and HESES21 starters in 2021-22.
- b. 2020-21 HESA/ILR starters in 2020-21 and HESES21 starters in 2021-22.

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Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES20 starters in 2020-21 vs. HESES21 starters in 2021-22	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 20	Percentage difference between HESES20 starters in 2020-21 and HESES21 starters in 2021-22
	HESES21 = 0 and HESES20 > 10 , or vice versa	HESES20 starters in 2020-21 and HESES21 starters in 2021-22
2020-21 HESA/ILR starters in 2020-21 vs. HESES21 starters in 2021-22	Change of more than 10 per cent and values differ by more than 20	Percentage difference between 2020-21 HESA/ILR starters in 2020-21 and HESES21 starters in 2021-22
	HESES21 = 0 and 2020-21 HESA/ILR > 10 , or vice versa	2020-21 HESA/ILR starters in 2020-21 and HESES21 starters in 2021-22

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

45. The data in this table is sourced from 2019-20 HESA/ILR, HESES20, 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
46. The table summarises the countable years of instance from Tables 6a, 6b and 6c for each profession and level (UG; PGT (UG fee)).
47. For each profession and level, the table shows the sum of the fundable and non-fundable countable years of instance for:
- Full-time and sandwich year out total countable years of instance.
 - Part-time total countable years of instance.
48. Percentage differences are shown between the following:
- Total countable years of instance in 2019-20 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
 - Total countable years of instance in 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
 - Total countable years of instance in HESES20 and HESES21.

Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
2020-21 HESA/ILR vs. HESES21	Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 30	Percentage difference between 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21
	HESES21 = 0 and 2020-21 HESA/ILR > 10 , or vice versa	2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21

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Data compared	Criteria	Columns highlighted
HESES20 vs. HESES21	Change of more than 20 per cent and values differ by more than 30	Percentage difference between HESES20 and HESES21
	HESES21 = 0 and HESES20 > 10 , or vice versa	HESES20 and HESES21

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

- 49. The data in this table is sourced from HESES20, 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
- 50. 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; C1.1; C1.2; C2; D), mode of study (Full-time; Sandwich year out; Part-time) and level of study (UG; PGT).
- 51. Percentage differences are shown between the countable fundable years of instance in the following:
 - a. HESES20 and HESES21.
 - b. 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
- 52. This table does not include any automatic highlighting.

Table K2: Fundable part-time FTE

- 53. The data in this table is sourced from HESES20, 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
- 54. The table summarises the average FTE from Table 3 by price group (A; B; C1; C1.1; C1.2; C2; D) and level of study (UG; PGT), which is the Column 4a FTE divided by the Column 4 headcount.
- 55. Differences in average FTE are shown between the following:
 - a. HESES20 and HESES21.
 - b. 2020-21 HESA/ILR and HESES21.
- 56. This table does not include any automatic highlighting.