



Engineering Academics
NETWORK

DATA DIVE WORKSHOP

APPLICATIONS & ADMISSIONS

Insights drawn from the latest data
from UCAS on engineering students

**WEDNESDAY
4TH MARCH, 2026
2-3 PM, ONLINE**

Introductions

5 mins

Lets set sail...

- Applications and admissions overview
- Breaking down the data
- Key takeaways

15 mins

Dive point

- Into the data explorer

5 mins

Have a go

- Breakout rooms and group activity

20 mins

Feedback and questions **Continue the conversation**

10 mins

Close and thank you

5 mins



Applications and admissions overview

- Tells us about:
 - those who make applications to study Engineering through UCAS;
 - those who successfully secure a place.
- Enables us to understand the composition of applications and accepted applicants:
 - breakdowns include provider country, UK applicant region, deprivation, POLAR 4, ethnicity, disability
- Select a question of interest to create the visualisation of your choice:
 - you can explore the charts and tables or downloaded the dataset
 - possible to select particular Engineering disciplines if you wish.

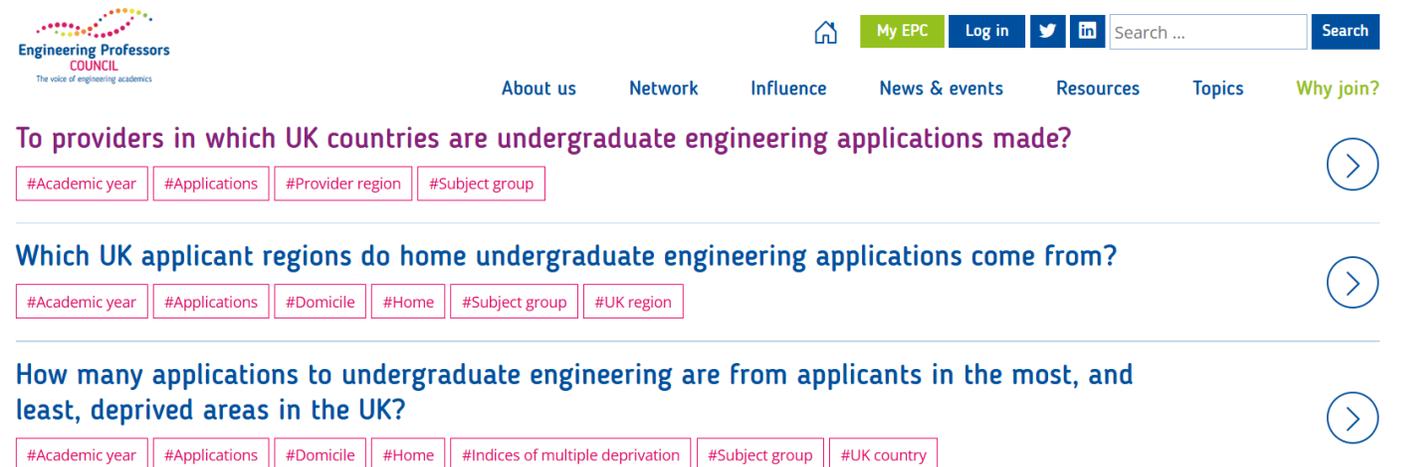


New for 2026

- Tags
 - You can now interrogate and search the Applications and admissions dataline by variable (see the #Tags)

- Sandbox tabs

- Studio feature

Engineering Professors COUNCIL
The voice of engineering academics

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To providers in which UK countries are undergraduate engineering applications made?

#Academic year #Applications #Provider region #Subject group

Which UK applicant regions do home undergraduate engineering applications come from?

#Academic year #Applications #Domicile #Home #Subject group #UK region

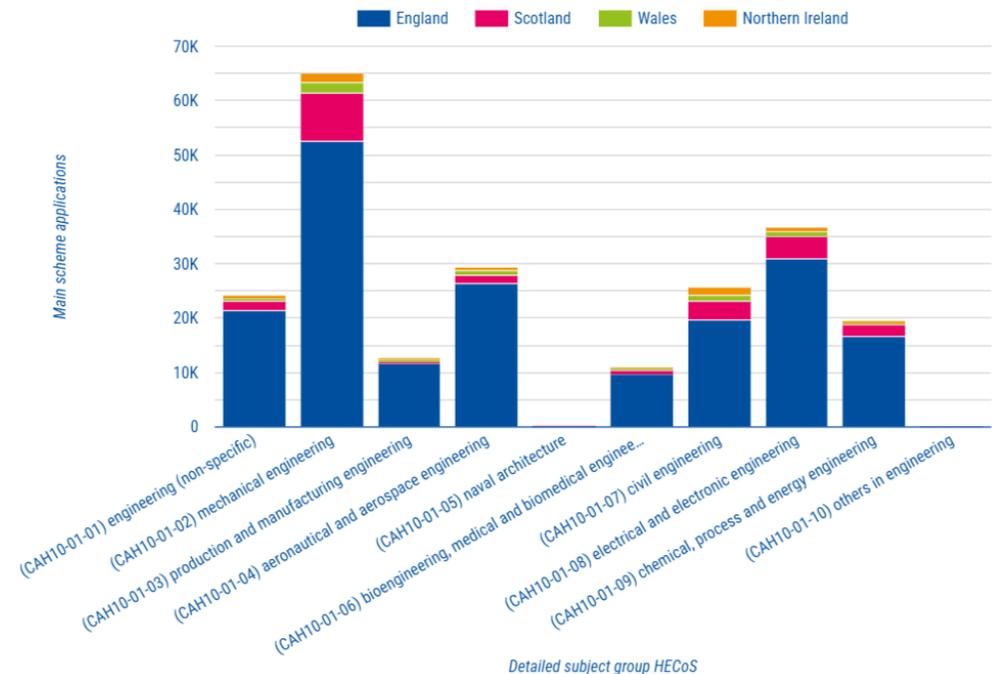
How many applications to undergraduate engineering are from applicants in the most, and least, deprived areas in the UK?

#Academic year #Applications #Domicile #Home #Indices of multiple deprivation #Subject group #UK country



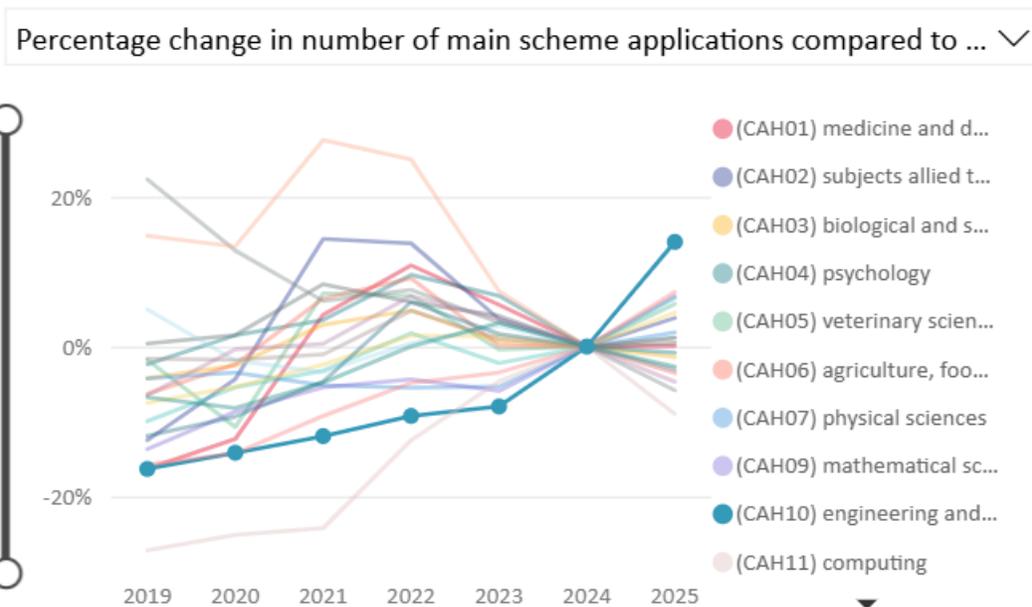
Engineering applications and provider country

- 224,665 undergraduate applications to Engineering in 2025.
 - + 14.3% year-on-year
 - + 24.4% in last 2 years
 - (E&T +15.5% at January deadline)
- 15.9% to Welsh, Scottish and NI providers
- Relatively stable following proportional declines in recent years.
- 92% of production and manufacturing engineering applications to England
- 76.1% of civil engineering applications to England

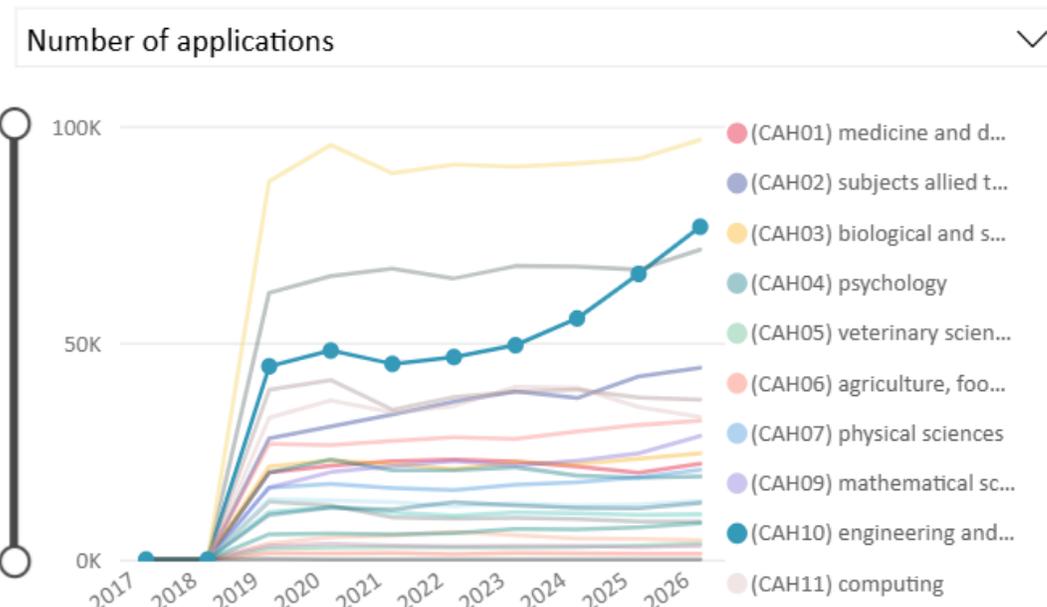


Subject context (L: 2025)(R: 2026 international)

End of cycle applications and offers



Applications received by the January equal consideration date

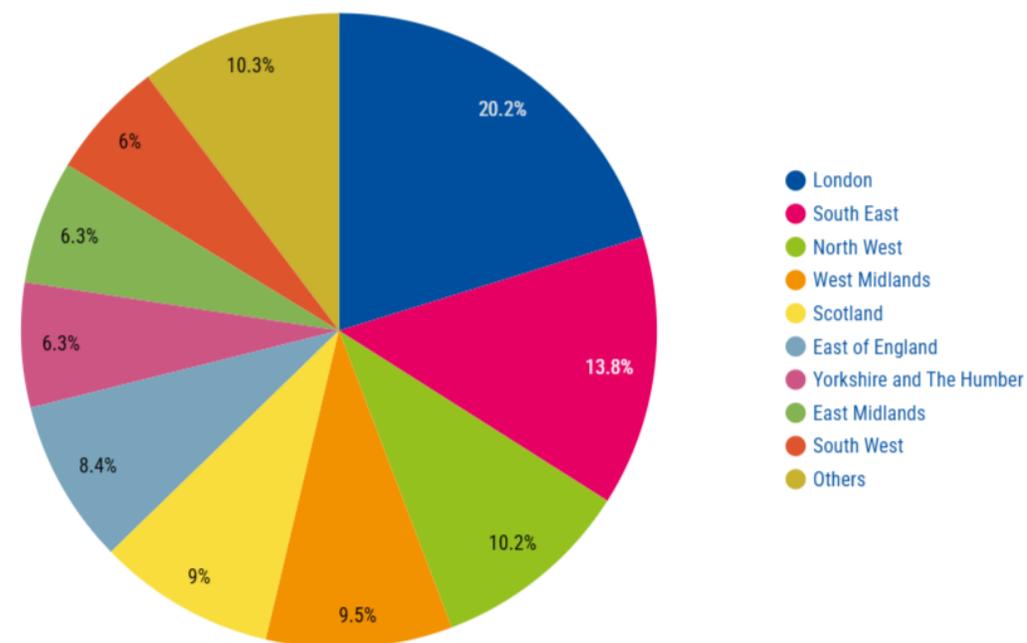


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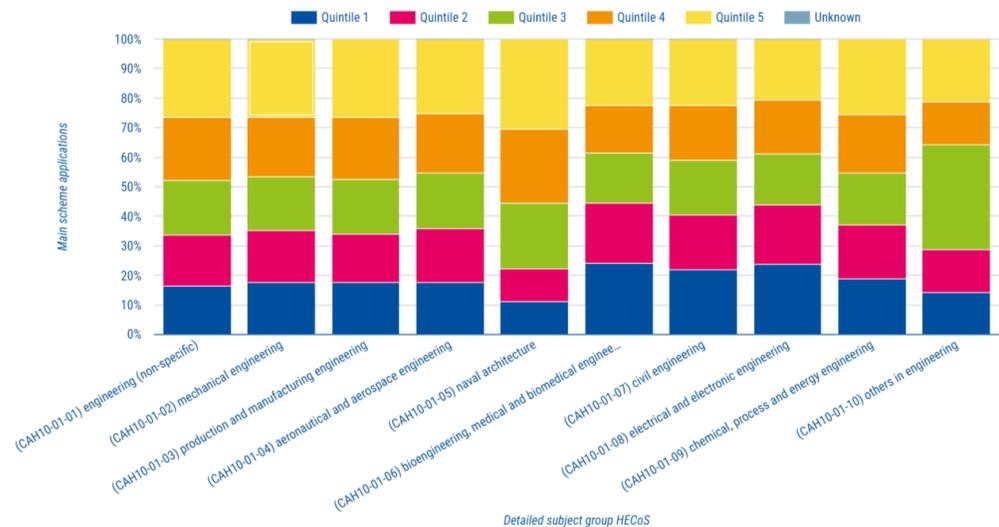
Engineering applications and applicant region

- 154,125 domestic (UK) Engineering applications in 2025
 - Thus, 31.4% of applications were overseas
 - Increase on previous years
- >1 in 3 Engineering applications were from those living in London and the South East in 2025
 - That proportion has dipped, following proportional increases since 2021
- 1 in 10 from the North West
- 9.0% from Scotland (also slight proportional decline)
 - Civil applications were more tightly concentrated from Scotland than South-West domiciled applicants.
 - Mechanical engineering draws most devolved administrations applications by number.



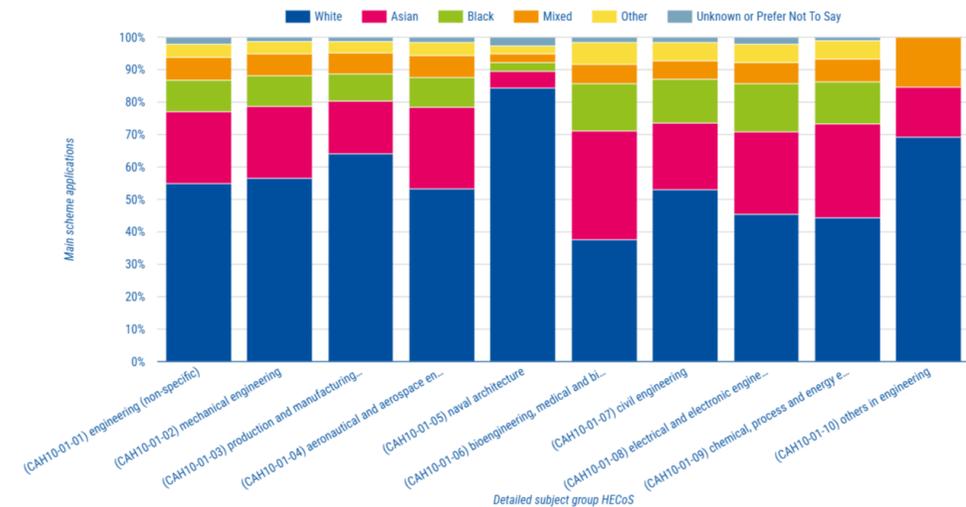
Engineering applications and deprivation

- IMD, WIMD, SIMD, NIMDM
- One quarter of UK applications from Q5 (least deprived)
 - Highest proportion since 2021.
 - Around one in three from Q5 in Scotland and Wales and climbing
- 19.2% from Q1 (most deprived)
 - Bioengineering, medical and biomedical engineering (England and Wales) and Electrical engineering attracted the highest proportions of Q1 applications



Engineering applications and ethnicity

- 45.7% of of UK applications to engineering were BME in 2024.
 - Increased from 39.9% in 2019
- Half of BME applications (UK) were from Asian applicants in 2025.
- 11% UK applications overall were from Black applicants (2024).



Engineering applications and disability

- 15.8% of applications declared a disability in 2025.
- 38.3% of those with a disability = learning difference.
- 14.4% of those with a disability = mental health condition.
- >3x increase those with hearing impairment since 2019.
- >7x increase those with visual impairment in the same time.

Disability and mental health description	Year / Main Scheme applications						
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Hearing impairment	190	210	205	275	535	505	625
Learning difference	4,975	5,725	5,705	6,255	6,970	7,835	9,335
Long-term illness/health condition	800	795	800	980	2,245	2,710	3,110
Mental health condition/challenge/disorder	1,340	1,400	1,590	2,110	3,785	3,670	3,515
No impairment	103,945	104,025	112,050	112,240	106,375	115,565	129,725
Other condition/impairment	940	1,045	1,130	1,150	1,215	1,205	1,220
Physical impairment/challenges with mob...	140	200	170	190	295	330	515
Social/behavioural/communication impair...	1,095	1,115	1,495	1,585	1,815	2,420	2,800
Two or more impairments	475	560	700	880	1,630	1,940	2,515
Visual impairment	100	95	110	130	580	610	720
Grand total	114,000	115,170	123,955	125,795	125,445	136,790	154,080



Acceptance patterns

Provider

- 16.3% of successful Engineering applicants in 2025 were to providers in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland.
- One in five acceptances to Civil engineering were to providers in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland in 2025.
- >90% of acceptances to Production and manufacturing Engineering were to English providers in 2025.

UK domicile

- 34.0% of successful main scheme applications to Engineering in 2025 came from London and the South East.
- >1 in 10 successful main scheme applications to Engineering in 2025 came from the North West.
- 8.5% of acceptances to Engineering in 2025 came from Scotland (down from 9.3 in 2024).

Deprivation

- 1 in 4 of those accepted into engineering in 2025 were students from the least deprived areas in the UK.
- 19.4% of those accepted into engineering in 2024 were students in the most deprived areas (downward trend).
- 23.4% of acceptances to Bioengineering, were from the most deprived quintile in 2024 (upward trend).



Acceptance patterns

Ethnicity

- 45.2% of successful main scheme applications to engineering were from a BME background in 2025.
- c1 in 2 successful main scheme applications from a BME background were Asian in 2025.
- >1 in 10 successful main scheme applications were Black in 2025.

Disability

- 16.2% of successful main scheme applications to engineering in 2025 had a disability or mental health condition.
- 38.2% of successful main scheme applications to engineering from those with a disability had a learning difference in 2025.
- 15.0% of successful main scheme applications to engineering from those with a disability had a mental health condition in 2025 (down from 17.2%)

In summary...

- Undergraduate applications soaring.
- Acceptances up but not quite keeping pace with applications.
- BME / disability representation up, learning difference dominant and increasing.
- Mental health disclosure applications and acceptances down.
- Deprivation imbalance in engineering is vast and stubborn.
- But most deprived more successful to accepts than least deprived.
- Acceptance patterns generally mirror application by region of domicile.
- Scotland provider conversion rate low, while Wales conversion rate high.



Dive Point – into the data explorer!



The screenshot shows the Engineering Professors Council website. At the top left is the logo for the Engineering Professors Council, with the tagline 'The voice of engineering academics'. To the right of the logo are navigation links: 'Home', 'Resources', 'Data explorer', and 'Applications and admissions'. Further right are utility links: 'My EPC', 'Log out', and social media icons for Twitter and LinkedIn. A search bar is also present. Below the navigation is a main menu with links: 'About us', 'Network', 'Influence', 'News & events', 'Resources', 'Topics', and 'Why join?'. The main content area has a dark blue header with 'Data explorer' on the left and 'Welcome, Stella Fowler' on the right. Below this header is a row of five icons representing different data categories: 'Applications and admissions', 'Student enrolments', 'Student completion', 'Academic staff', and 'Enrolments survey'.



Applications and admissions

Now updated for 2024 entry!

Undergraduate admissions data tells us about those who make applications to study engineering through UCAS, and those who successfully secure a place. Select a question of interest to create the visualisation of your choice, selecting particular engineering disciplines if you wish. Once you're explored the charts and tables, or downloaded the dataset, you can get back to the Data explorer landing page (at any time) by clicking on the icons in the bar at the top of the page. If there are visualisations you would like to see in addition to those featured here, please [contact us](#).



Have a go

- This is now your opportunity to get your hands on the data explorer, have a go at navigating it yourself and ask any questions you may have.
- In your breakout groups, please introduce yourself, EPC will facilitate.
- The best discussions marry the data headlines or your own quick mining finds with your interests and own experiences, insights or what's on your mind about applications and admissions. E.g.:
 - What does the increase in applications mean to you?
 - Is there a ceiling for acceptances?
 - How do you address neuro-inclusion at admissions and beyond?



Questions, Feedback, Close

Thanks for attending. Any questions or feedback?

Next Workshop: HESA staff, 1st April 2026

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University of
Strathclyde
Glasgow

REVOLUTION

ANNUAL CONGRESS 2026