

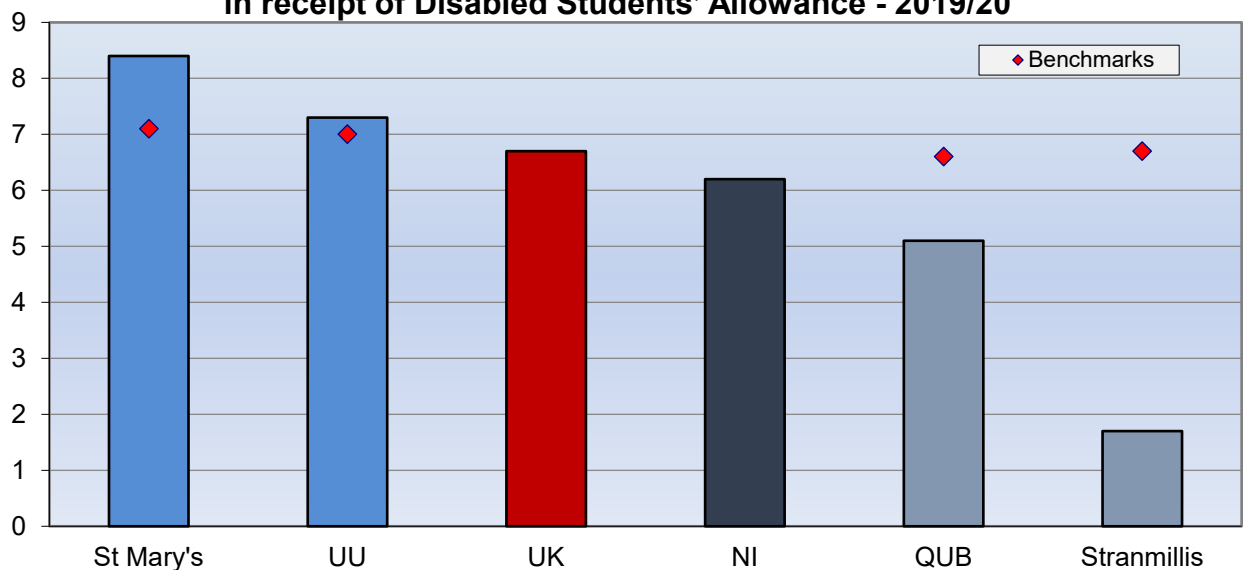
## Performance Indicators in Higher Education - 2019/20

### Widening Participation Fact Sheet

Participation of students who were in receipt of Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA): All undergraduate students - 2019/20

This indicator is designed to provide information about the percentage of students in receipt of Disabled Students' Allowance. For this indicator, a value higher than the benchmark<sup>1</sup> indicates that an institution was performing better than the sector average.

**Figure 1 : Percentage of full-time undergraduate students who were in receipt of Disabled Students' Allowance - 2019/20**



On average, NI Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) were performing below the UK average of 6.8%, with 6.2% of all full-time undergraduates in receipt of DSA in 2019/20.

St Mary's University College and Ulster University were performing above their benchmarks, with respectively 8.4% (benchmark 7.1%) and 7.3 % (benchmark 6.9%) of full-time undergraduates in receipt of DSA in 2019/20.

The proportions of full-time undergraduates in receipt of DSA in 2019/20 in Queen's University Belfast (QUB) and Stranmillis University College were 5.1%, and 1.7% respectively. However, both institutions were performing below their benchmark of 6.5% (both institutions had the same benchmark). The Open University (OU) NI did not have a percentage for this Performance Indicator as all entrants for 2019/20 were part-time.

For part-time undergraduates, NI HEIs were performing above the UK average of 3.3%, with 3.6% in receipt of DSA.

<sup>1</sup> The benchmark is a sector average, adjusted to take account of the subject and entry profile of the institution's students. For more information, see page 4 of the [Contextual Information](#) document.

**Table 1: Percentage of students in higher education who were in receipt of Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) - 2019/20**

	Full-time first degree		Full-time all undergraduate		Part-time all undergraduate	
	Percentage in receipt of DSA (%)	Benchmark (%)	Percentage in receipt of DSA (%)	Benchmark (%)	Percentage in receipt of DSA (%)	Benchmark (%)
<b>Total UK</b>	<b>7.0</b>		<b>6.8</b>		<b>3.3</b>	
<b>Total Northern Ireland</b>	<b>6.2</b>		<b>6.2</b>		<b>3.6</b>	
Queen's University Belfast	5.1	6.6	5.1	6.5	<b>3.8</b>	<b>5</b>
St Mary's University College	8.4	7.1	8.4	7.1	..	..
Stranmillis University College	1.7	6.7	1.7	6.5	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>
Ulster University	7.3	7	7.3	6.9	<b>4.5</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Open University (NI)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<b>3.2</b>	<b>2.9</b>

**Notes:**

1. Percentages are not subject to rounding, but those calculated on populations containing fewer than 22.5 individuals are suppressed and represented as '..'
2. From the 2014/15 academic year onwards, within DfE publications, Open University students are counted within the country where their national centre is located.

**Participation of under-represented groups in Higher Education – mature and part-time entrants - 2019/20**

This indicator looks at the percentage of entrants who came from low participation neighbourhoods and have no previous HE qualification. This indicator is not applicable in NI due to the methodological issues around the calculation of low participation areas at the NI institutional level (further information on this is contained in the 'Contextual information' document, which is published alongside this factsheet on the DfE website).

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