

Performance Indicators in Higher Education: Employment

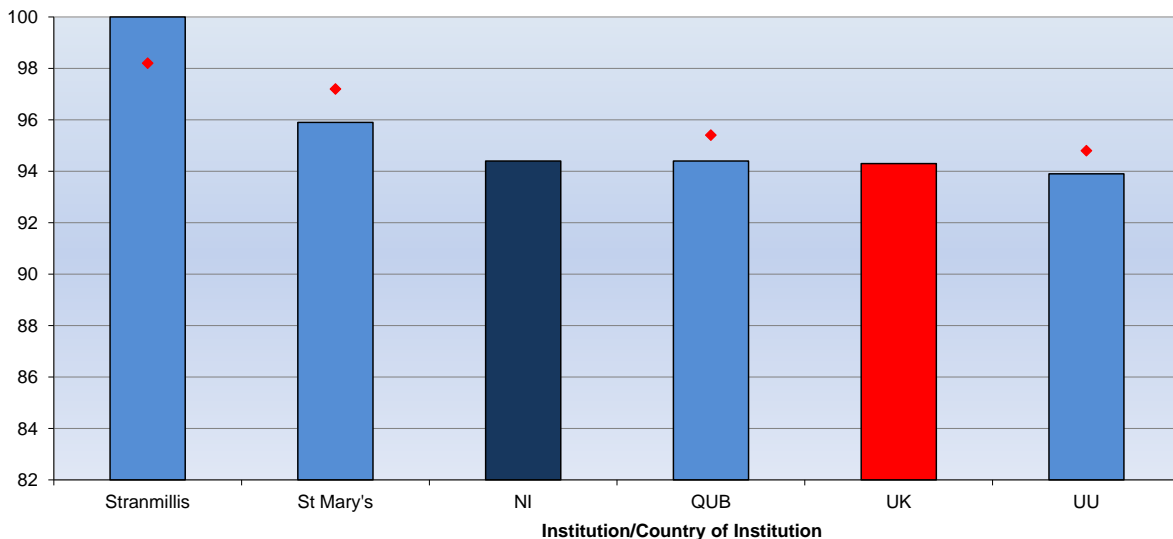
Employment Indicator - 2015/16 graduates – six months after graduation

This indicator expresses the number of graduates who are working or studying (or both) as a percentage of graduates who are working or studying (or both) or seeking work. Indicators are provided by level and mode of study.

Differences between institutions, such as subject mix or the qualifications on entry of their students, make comparisons between institutions unreliable. For this reason, benchmarks against which an institution’s value can be compared have been produced. For this indicator, a value higher than the benchmark indicates that an institution is performing well. Benchmarks are shown by a red diamond in Figure 1.

(a) Full-time first degree graduates¹ (Table 1, Figure 1)

Figure 1: Number of full time first degree graduates in work or study (or both) as a percentage of full time first degree graduates in work or study (or both) or seeking work - 2015/16



- Of the full-time first degree graduates from Northern Ireland (NI) Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in 2015/16 who were in work and/or study or seeking work, 94.4% (93.5% in 2014/15) were in work and/or study. The comparable figure for United Kingdom (UK) HEIs is 94.3% (93.9% in 2014/15);
- On this basis, Stranmillis (100.0%) performed above its benchmark (98.2%), although not significantly¹ so.

¹ See [‘Contextual Information’](#)

- QUB (94.4%), St. Mary's (95.9%) and UU (93.9%) all had values lower than their benchmarks (95.4%, 97.2% and 94.8%), again not significantly¹ so.
- The Open University (OU) did not have a percentage for this indicator, as all entrants during 2015/16 were part-time.

Table 1: Number of full-time first degree graduates in work or study or both as a percentage of full-time first degree graduates in work or study (or both) or seeking work - 2014/15 and 2015/16

	2014/15		2015/16	
	Percentage	Benchmark	Percentage	Benchmark
UK	93.9	-	94.3	-
NI	93.5	-	94.4	-
QUB	93.5	95.3	94.4	95.4
St Mary's	97.2	96.9	95.9	97.2
Stranmillis	99.4	98.0	100.0	98.2
UU	93.0	94.4	93.9	94.8
OU	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: Percentages are not subject to rounding.

+/- shows that the indicator is significantly better/worse than its benchmark.

N/A Not applicable

(b) Part-time first degree graduates¹

- Of the part-time first degree graduates from NI HEIs in 2015/16 who were in work and/or study or seeking work, 94.2% were in work and/or study six months after graduation. The comparable UK figure is 95.3%.
- On this basis, QUB (90.1%), UU (95.3%) and OU (94.8%) all performed below their benchmarks (94.5%, 96.8% and 96.2% respectively), though none of these differences are statistically significant.
- Due to small numbers this measure was not produced for St Mary's or Stranmillis.

(c) Full-time other undergraduates¹

- Of the full-time other undergraduates from NI HEIs in 2015/16 who were in work and/or study or seeking work, 96.2% were in work and/or study six months after graduation. The comparable UK figure is 95.5%.
- On this basis, QUB (96.0%) performed above its benchmark (91.2%), but not significantly so.

¹ See ['Contextual Information'](#)

- Stranmillis (96.3%) had a value lower than its benchmark (97.9%), but again, this difference was not significant.
- Due to small numbers this measure was not produced for St Mary's and OU, and due to a low response rate this measure was not produced for UU.

(d) Part-time other undergraduates¹

- Of the part-time other undergraduates from NI HEIs in 2015/16 who were in work and/or study or seeking work, 98.3% were in work and/or study six months after graduation. The comparable UK figure is 97.7%.
- Stranmillis (100.0%) and UU (98.7%) both performed above their benchmarks (98.2% and 98.0% respectively), but neither difference was significant.
- OU (96.3%) performed below its benchmark (97.2%), but not significantly so.
- Due to small numbers this measure was not produced for QUB and St Mary's.

¹ See [‘Contextual Information’](#)