THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT IN UK EDUCATION

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Our Agenda

- Different modes of engagement
- Key issues to consider
- Lessons learnt

Modes of engagement



Key issues to consider

- Why are you doing it?
 - Educational experience that is international
 - Income
 - Research links
 - Staff skills
 - Altruistic motives
 - Building reputation
- Economics of international recruitment & partnerships
- Competence academic and administrative to run international projects
- Your model
- Your time scales

Experiences

- Language
- Balance of student body
- Set long term goals
- Deep / broad relationships
- Partnerships of scale



The UK higher education quality assurance system and its internationalisation

Fiona Crozier, Head of International Fabrizio Trifiro', Manager International, Maureen McLaughlin, Head of Engagement

Structure of presentation

- The UK higher education (HE) system
- The UK HE quality assurance system and QAA
- QAA and the internationalisation of HE







Features of the UK higher education system

'Recognised Bodies':

- Higher education providers with degree awarding powers
- Over 150 recognised bodies
- Full list published by the Government

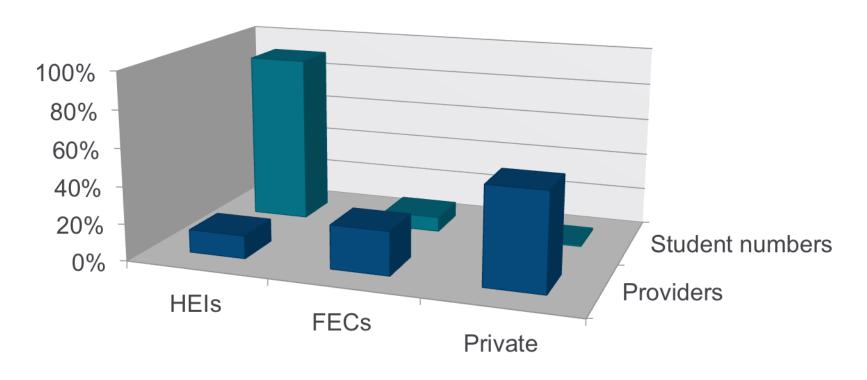
'Listed Bodies':

- Colleges and other providers without degree awarding powers
- Offer courses validated by recognised bodies
- Currently over 600 listed bodies



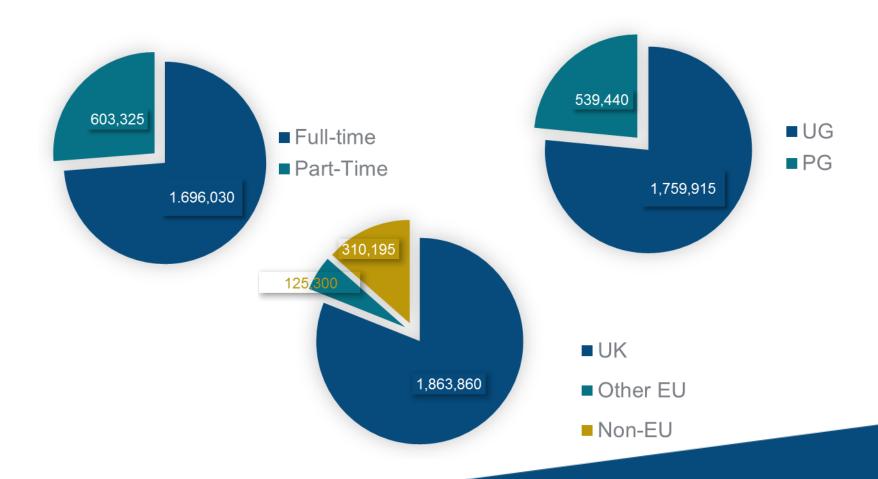


The UK HE landscape (i)

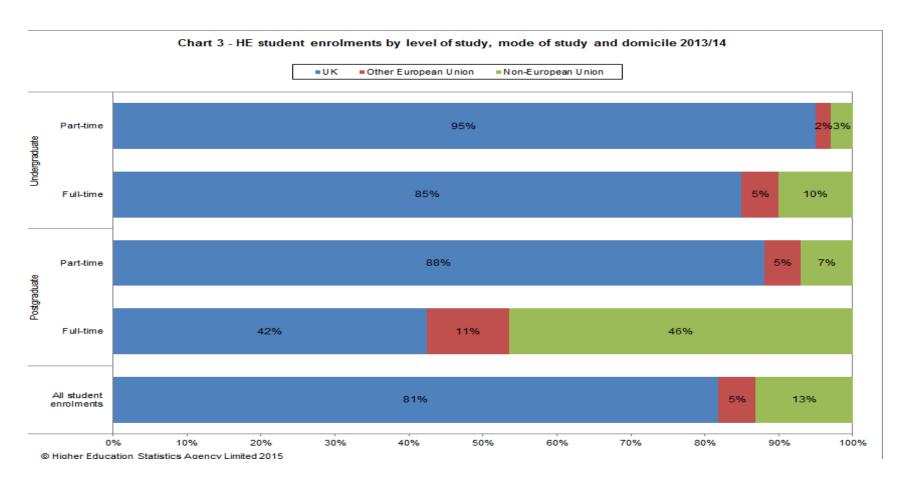


- 2 million students in HEIs
- 180, 000 students in FECs
- 600 alternative providers

The UK HE landscape (ii)



The UK HE landscape (iii)







UK quality assurance system

- Degree-warding bodies retain the ultimate responsibility for quality and standards
- The HE funding councils have statutory responsibility for the quality of public funded HE
- Co-regulation: HE providers and the funding councils work together through the QAA to ensure the quality and standards of UK HE





QAA

Founded in 1997

A UK-wide remit

Funded through:

- ✓ subscriptions from providers
- ✓ contracts with HE funding councils
- √ capacity development services

An independent organisation

Around 180 staff members

Over 400 reviewers





QAA subscriber profile

Subscriber type	Number of subscribers
Higher education institutions/ universities	168
Further education colleges/colleges	214
Alternative providers	5
Other	1
Total	388



Our mission is to safeguard standards and improve the quality of UK higher education, wherever it is delivered around the world



The UK Quality Code for Higher Education (Quality Code)

- Sets out what is expected of higher education providers.
- Provides guidance on good practice.
- Covers the four nations of the UK.
- Protects the interests of all students.
- Is developed through working with the sector.



The UK Quality Code for Higher Education

General Introduction			
Part A	Part B	Part C	
Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards	Assuring and Enhancing Academic Quality	Information about Higher Education Provision	



QAA's review activities (i)

- Review of publicly funded providers.
- Review of transnational education.
- Private providers wishing to recruit non-EU students.
- Private providers wishing to have courses designated for publicly funded student loans.

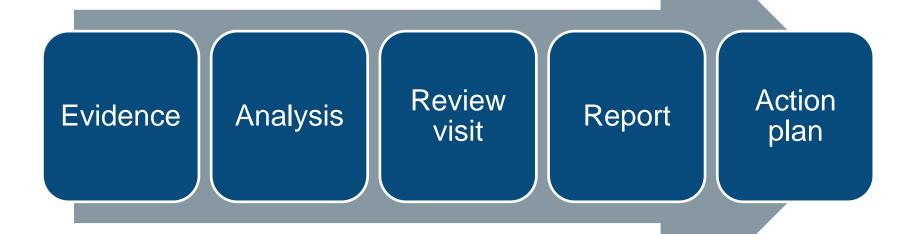


QAA's review activities (ii)

- Providers wishing to apply to government to obtain degree awarding powers and university title
- Regulate the Access to HE Diploma
- Concerns Scheme
 - ✓ We do not assess research
 - √ We do not accredit programmes



Typical review process





Judgement

Providers are assessed on four key aspects

- Academic standards
- Quality of learning opportunities
- Enhancement of learning opportunities
- Information about HE provision

Outcomes are defined as

- Commended
- Meets UK expectations
- Requires improvement to meet UK expectations
- Does not meet UK expectations



Reviewers

- Peers: senior academics, quality managers, and students.
- Currency of experience is key.
- Three-day required training.
- Between two to six reviewers per team.



Risk-based quality assurance

- QAA's review processes apply greatest scrutiny where it is most needed.
- The need for flexibility reflects the greater diversity among HE providers.
- Providers with a strong track record are reviewed less frequently and less intensively than providers without a strong record.



Student engagement

- Students are at the centre of QAA's review process
- Quality Code, Chapter B5: Student Engagement
 'HE providers take deliberate steps to engage all students, individually and collectively, as partners in the assurance and enhancement of their educational experience'
- Two students are members of the QAA Board
- A Student Advisory Board



Transparent and collaborative

- Reference points, review processes and review outcomes are clearly and publicly stated.
- Reference points and review processes are developed working together with the sector.



Key feature of QAA's approach

- Evidence-based peer review
- Risk based
- Student centred
- Enhancement oriented
- Transparent and accountable
- Collaborative



Internationalisation 'at home'

Country	%
United States	16
United Kingdom	13
France	7
Australia	7
Germany	7

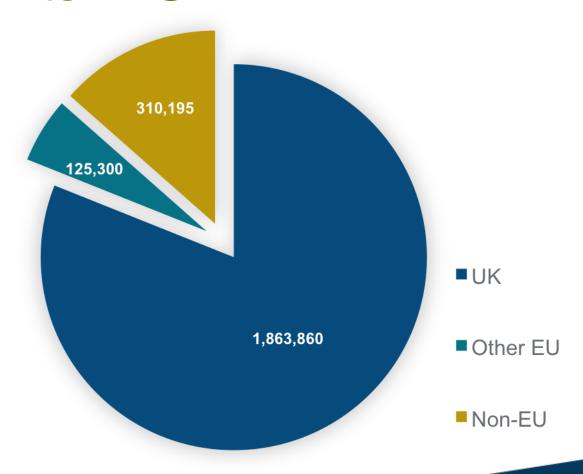
It is the 2nd most popular destination for international HE students in the world

Country	%
Australia	18
United Kingdom	17
New Zealand	16
Switzerland	16
Austria	15

It has the 2nd world highest percentage of international students in HE enrolments

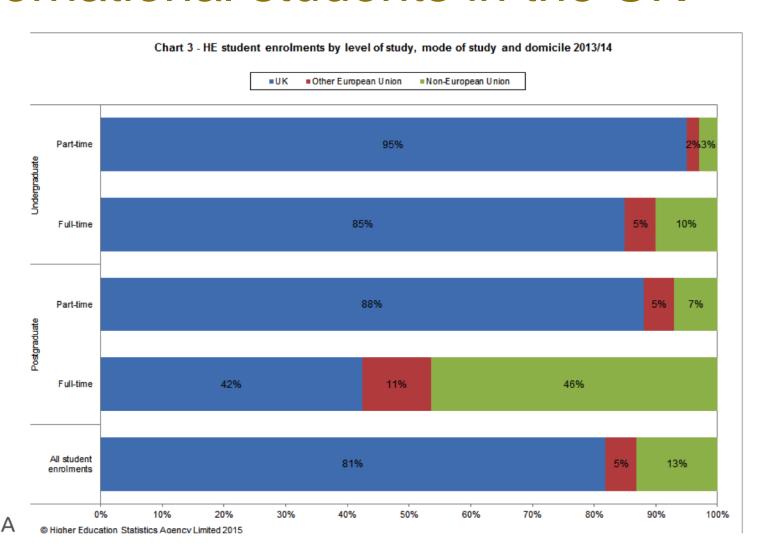


Students in UK HE

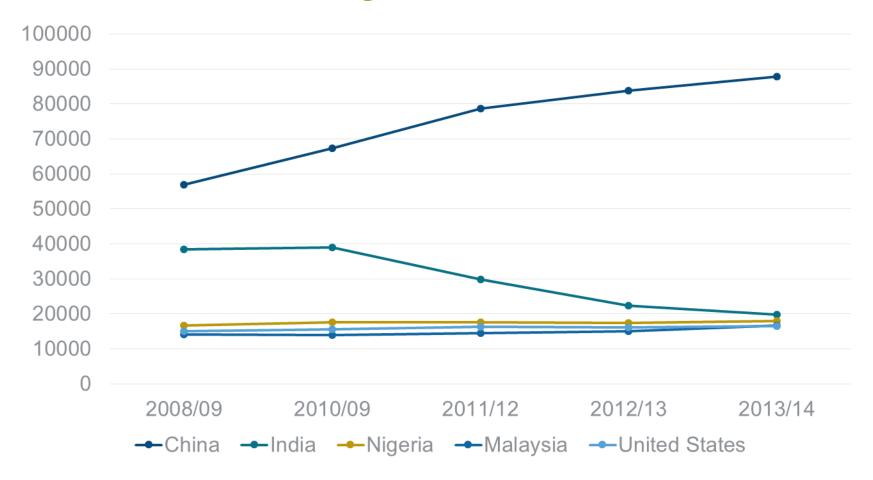




International students in the UK



Top 5 sending countries





Transnational Education

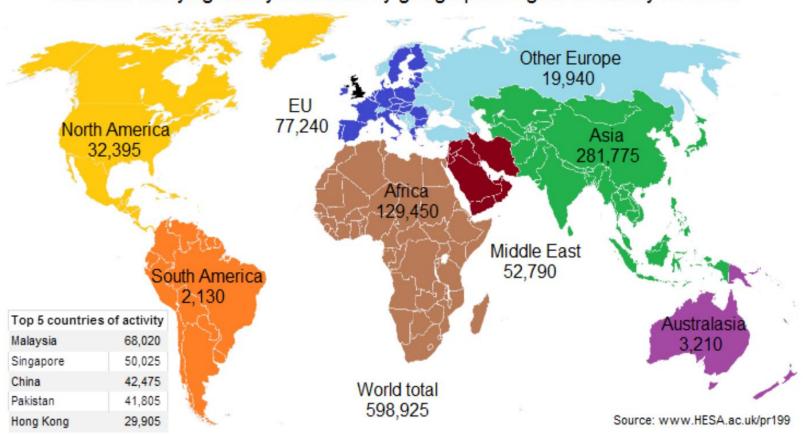
'education in which the learners are located in a country different from the one where the awarding institution is based'

(UNESCO/Council of Europe 2001 Code of Good Practice in the provision of transnational education)



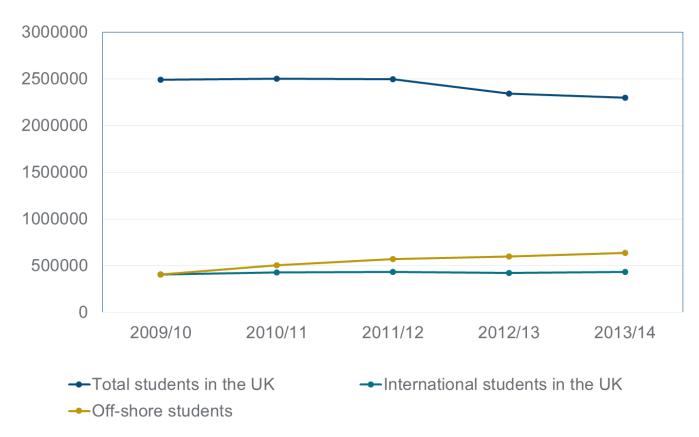
Spread of UK TNE

Students studying wholly overseas by geographic region of activity 2012/13



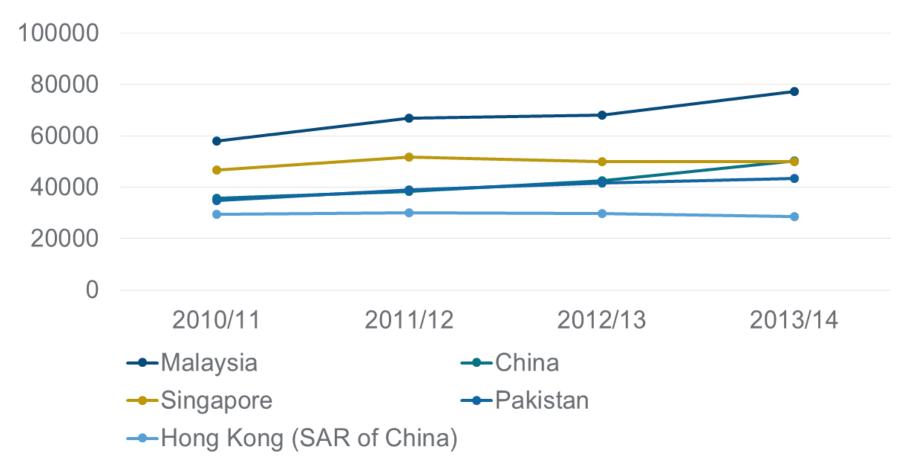


TNE is main area of growth in UK HE



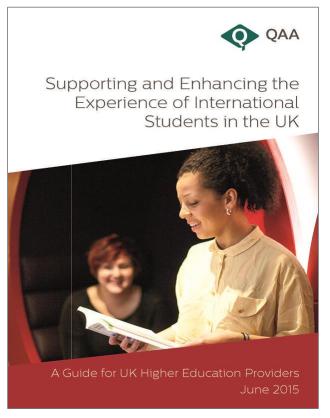


Top 5 UK TNE host countries





Supporting and enhancing the experience of international students in the UK – a Guide for HE Providers



QAA

- Supplements, but is not part of the Quality Code.
- Focuses on aspects of the student journey that may be particular interest to international students.
- Contains information that providers may find helpful in reviewing their own practices.
- Consolidates existing good practice, intending to facilitate the sharing of good practice.
- Developed and reviewed in consultation with the sector.

The quality assurance of TNE

A dedicated review process supplementing UK reviews

A country-based approach

A partnership approach

TNE: key expectation of the Quality Code

'degree-awarding bodies have ultimate responsibility for academic standards and the quality of learning opportunities, **regardless** of where these opportunities are delivered and who provides them'



QAA's international engagement

Membership in international networks

✓ENQA, INQAAHE, APQN, CHEA-IQG, CBQAN, CBBG

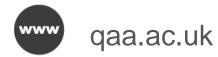
Strategic links with partner agencies worldwide

✓CDGDC, HKCAAVQ, CPE, MQA, KHDA, TEQSA, QQI

International services

✓ Consultancies, training, reviews of foreign providers.





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Student Services & Support

Cheltenham and Gloucester

- Work to support students across 3 campuses, 2 towns and a range of halls and housing
- 10,000 students
- 70+ staff
- Work with faculty staff to help and advise
- Very connected with external organisations

Student Wellbeing

Student Development

Student Life

Mental Health

Employability

Housing

Disability

Volunteering

Money Advice

Medical

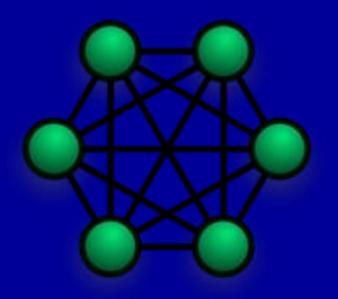
Study Skills

Faith



Support for All

- We offer tailored support for students from all backgrounds
- Bursaries & Grants
- Everyday problems, as well as support for academic success
- Work with faculties to support recruitment & retention of students
- Work with Student Union



Student Development

- Support students to be more employable
 - Student Placements
 - Careers Guidance / Advice
 - Volunteering
 - Awards / co-curricular activity
- Student Achievement
 - Study skills
 - Time management
 - Presentation
 - Confidence





The Higher Education Statistics Agency

95 Promenade Cheltenham GL50 1HZ www.hesa.ac.uk



HESA as an organisation

HESA's mission

To support the advancement of UK higher education by collecting, analysing and disseminating accurate and comprehensive statistical information in response to the needs of all those with an interest in its characteristics and a stake in its future.



HESA as an organisation

HESA's vision

 Our aim is to be the analytical powerhouse for the UK higher education sector, and the trusted source of national higher education statistics and public information. We strive to be at the leading edge of developments in data collection, data processing, technology, digital service delivery, analysis, and dissemination, and to make our data accessible and easy to use. We seek to support the strategic aims of our users, and to enhance the competitive strength and effectiveness of UK higher education as a whole.



HESA as an organisation

A sector-owned agency

- Created in 1993
- Replaced a number of different statistical systems
- First collections for 1994/95
- HESA is a Company Limited by Guarantee
- HESA is a sector-owned agency
- HESA exercises statutory powers of data collection from HEIs on behalf of its Statutory Customers



Management

- 106 staff (head count)
 - Chief Executive: Paul Clark
 - Plus five Heads of Units: Information & Analysis, Finance, Human Resources, Operations and Information Systems
- Income £5.7 million for 2013/14
 - HEI core subscriptions £4.2 million
 - Contract funding £380k (£0.2 million)
 - Commercial and other income £0.9 million
 - Restricted income £424k (£0.4 million)



Who does HESA collect data for?

HE providers and agencies

- The HE sector in the UK
 - 165 institutions
- Universities UK (UUK)
- GuildHE
- Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)
- Universities & Colleges Admission Service (UCAS)













Who are our customers?

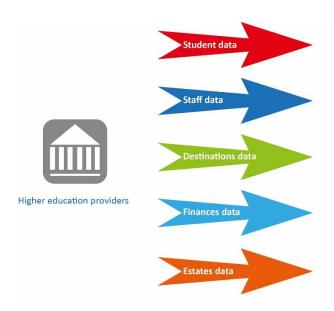
- Government departments and funding bodies in England and the devolved administrations
 - BIS, DfE, HEFCE, SG, SFC, WG, HEFCW, DEL[NI], RCs, NCTL (formerly TA)
 and others
 - Governed by contracts and MoUs
- The HE sector in the UK
 - HE providers; representative and sector bodies
- The public interest in HE
 - students, employers, trades unions, professional bodies, academic researchers, the media,...



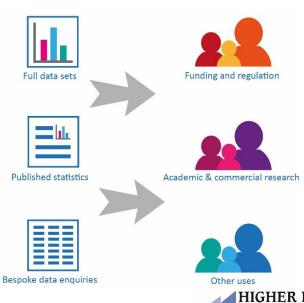
The processes across the HESA data life-cycle

- Collections systems
 - In-house s/w
 - Virtual servers
 - Cloud based office
 - Quality assurance process
 - Data delivery to SCs

- Access to Information
 - Heidi reporting tool
 - Open Data Web based
 - Mobile App
 - On-line publications
 - National Stats/Official Stats
 - Query and report information services







The information map

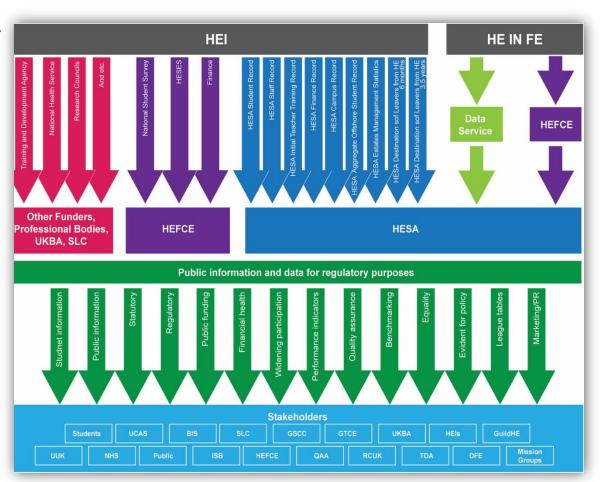
HE Provider

Data Collections

HESA + Others
Collect once use many times

Data Users

Stakeholders





The shape and size of the data collection

- Annual and retrospective data collections from institutions
- Related to a reporting period (1 August to 31 July)

To include

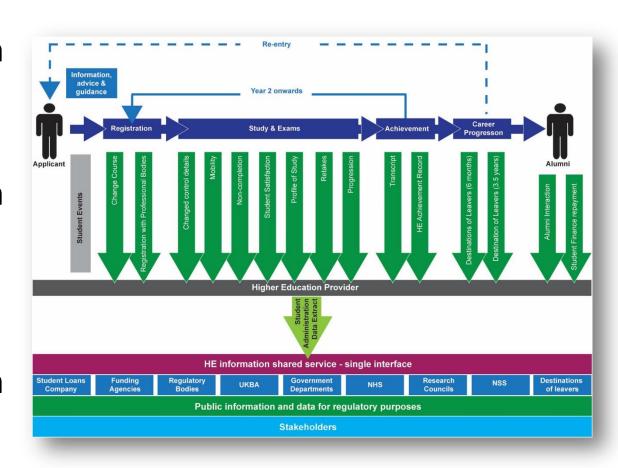
- 2,490,000 students
- 182,000 academic staff
- 206,000 non-academic staff
- £26,700,000,000 turnover



Student life-cycle and data

- Higher Education
 Student Record
- Higher Education
 Aggregate
 Offshore Record

Higher Education
 Initial Teacher
 Training Record





Graduate data

- Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education, Early Survey
- Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education, Longitudinal Survey





Higher education activities and resources

- Institution Profile Record
- Higher Education Finance
 Statistics Record with Higher
 Education Business and
 Community Interaction Survey
- Higher Education Staff Record
- Higher Education Estates
 Management Record





Reviewing the data collections

- Structured change at intervals
 - Shopping list
 - Review group: SCs, HEI representatives, interested parties/experts
 - Formulate proposals
 - Consultation(s) with sector and external bodies
 - Finalise recommendations
 - HESA Board approval
 - Write specification
 - One-year lead time
- Annual changes to reflect matters of fact



How does HESA collect data?

Data quality

- Our aim is "Fit for purpose"
- HESA can only identify errors
- Institutions can identify and correct errors
- Trap errors as early as possible
- Feed information back in a useful form
- Process is based on the HESA Quality Model





How does HESA collect data?

Engagement with HE institutions

- Operational documentation on the web
- HESA operates a helpdesk telephone and email
- Comprehensive programme of training seminars
- Training materials on the web
- Post-implementation reviews after significant change
- Each institution nominates a record contact for each of the HESA data streams
- National HESA User Group with representatives of professional associations, e.g. Planners, Finance Directors, Academic Registrars, Estates Directors



HESA publications





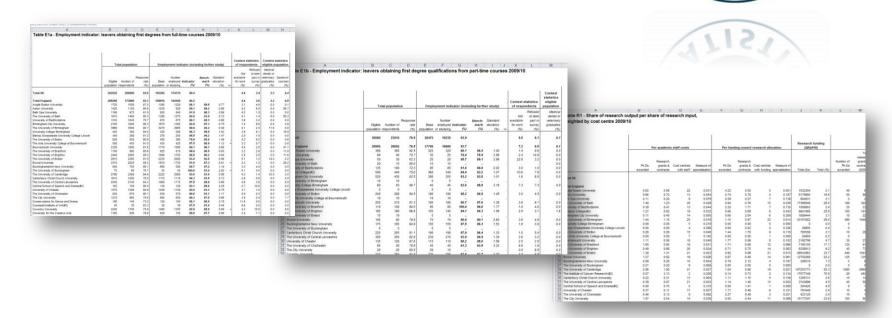
HESA publications





Other HESA publications

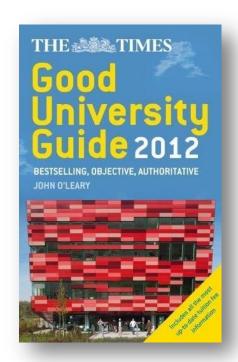
- Statistical First Releases (SFR) –
 National Statistics products
- Performance Indicators





HESA bespoke data service

- Complements the range of publications
- Customised extracts of data to meet specialised requirements
- Receive around 1,200 enquiries annually
- Data supplied under contract
- Charging policy charge for staff time not data
- Some 'high-profile' data requests





Heidi (Higher Education Information Database for Institutions)

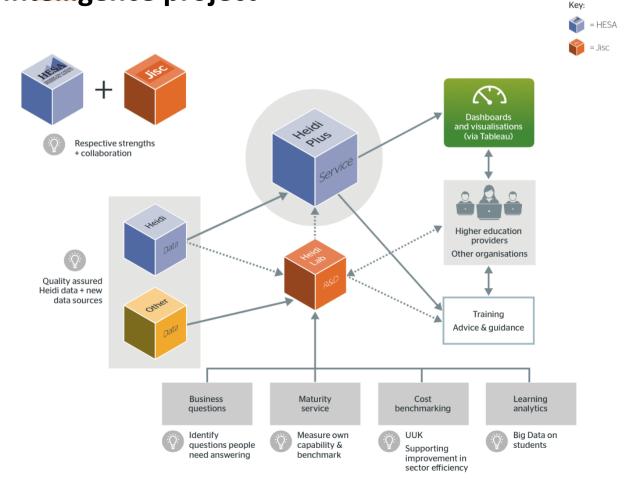
- heidi is a web-based information system and has been developed as a query tool for HESA data.
- heidi includes non-HESA data, for example Student Applications from UCAS and National Student Survey data.
- heidi can be used for benchmarking







Development of Heidi: HESA-Jisc Business Intelligence project



Unistats – data sought by prospective students

