

Transparency 2026 information

Publication guidance and methodology
for condition F1

Reference number: OfS 2026.14

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Summary

1. This document provides details of the publication requirements for the Office for Students' (OfS's) Transparency 2026 information. It also describes the methodology used by the OfS in the preparation of this data.
2. The Transparency 2026 information shows the qualifications received by UK domiciled students, split by sex, ethnicity and English Index of Multiple Deprivation (EIMD) quintile. This data is rounded, ready for publication.
3. In February 2022, we wrote to registered higher education providers to explain that they will be required to publish a reduced set of transparency information, but that we will review this in the longer term. We have decided to continue to require publication of a reduced set of transparency information for 2026. This is referred to as the 'Transparency 2026 information' and is relevant only to providers that registered with the OfS **on or before 19 March 2026**.
4. The Transparency 2026 information for each provider will be available to download through the new OfS portal from **26 March 2026**.¹ We explain how to access the information in this document.
5. The information provided must be published on the provider's website by 1800 on **8 May 2026**.
6. For further information, please refer to our letter, 'Update on transparency information requirements for data relating to the 2023-24 and 2024-25 academic years', emailed to accountable officers on 26 March 2026.

If you have any queries regarding the **requirements of the Transparency 2026 information**, please email regulation@officeforstudents.org.uk.

If you have any queries regarding **how the information is calculated**, please email providermetrics@officeforstudents.org.uk.

¹ See [Login - Office for Students portal](#).

The Transparency 2026 information

7. The Transparency 2026 information is limited to the following parts of condition F1 of the regulatory framework for higher education in England.² These relate to section 9(2)(e) and 9(3) of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017:³
- a. The number of students who attained a particular degree or other academic award, or a particular level of such an award, on completion of their course with the provider.
 - b. Include those numbers by reference to one or more of the following:
 - i. the sex of individuals to which they relate⁴
 - ii. their ethnicity
 - iii. their socioeconomic background, in the form of the English Index of Multiple Deprivation 2025.⁵

² For more information on condition F1 of the Regulatory framework, see [Condition F1: Transparency information - Office for Students](#).

³ See Gov.UK, [Higher Education and Research Act 2017](#).

⁴ Section 9 of HERA refers to 'gender'; the data collected from higher education providers and provided for publication as part of the Transparency information 2023 relates to 'sex'.

⁵ See Gov.UK, [English indices of deprivation 2025](#).

Accessing and publishing the Transparency 2026 information

Accessing the Transparency 2026 information

8. The Transparency 2026 information will be available to providers from **26 March 2026**.

Your transparency 2026 information will be available from the new OfS portal.

For more general guidance on how to access the new OfS portal, please see www.officeforstudents.org.uk/media/sz4fouqh/how-to-submit-your-data-returns.pdf

To access your Transparency 2026 information, follow these steps:

- Log in to the new OfS portal: <https://ofsproviderportal.officeforstudents.org.uk/>.
- Select 'Your regulatory submissions' from the options along the top of the screen (you might need to select the three horizontal lines in the top right corner to find these options if the window you're working on is not full screen). Then select 'Your data returns'.
- Select the return titled 'Transparency Information 2026'.
- Under 'Your deliverables' there will be a box titled 'Transparency Information Data' – press 'continue' in this box. This will take you to the page where you can download your workbook.
- The page will have a box telling you your return is open and a greyed out 'sign off' box. Because there is no submission for this (we're just sharing data with you), you can ignore this.
- If you have any questions regarding the use of the OfS portal, please email portal@officeforstudents.org.uk.

9. Table 1 details the contents of the Transparency 2026 information workbook.

Table 1: Contents of the Transparency 2026 information workbook

Worksheet	Description
Instructions	Information and instructions on preparing the workbook if you choose to make it available to download from your website
Workbook overview	Contents of workbook once prepared for publication
Table 1a Attainment 2023-25	Percentage of classified first degrees at grade 2:1 or above by characteristic for 2023-24 and 2024-25 qualifiers
Table 1b Attainment 2023-25	Detailed information on attainment for 2023-24 and 2024-25 qualifiers

Publishing the Transparency 2026 information

10. Providers are required to publish the rounded and suppressed data contained in Tables 1a and 1b. These tables can be found in the worksheets 'Table 1a Attainment 2023-24 and 2024-25' and 'Table 1b Attainment 2023-24 and 2024-25'.
11. If all values in Tables 1a and 1b of the Transparency 2026 information workbook are showing as '[none]', then your provider is **not** required to publish the information on its website.
12. You can choose what format to publish Tables 1a and 1b on your provider's website. For example, the tables may be published directly on a webpage as HTML content, or as a downloadable file (.pdf, .xlsx etc.).
13. If you choose to make the data available as a downloadable file from your provider's website, the Transparency 2026 information workbook contains instructions on how to prepare it for publication. Once these instructions have been followed, the resulting file can be made available for download to the public.
14. Other than the requirement to publish the rounded and suppressed data in Tables 1a and 1b of the Transparency 2026 information workbook, there are no requirements relating to the content (for example, the accompanying text) of the page where the information is published.
15. However, providers may wish to publish the following introductory text alongside the data.

The information published on these pages shows:

The number of students who attained a particular degree or other academic award, or a particular level of such an award, on completion of their course with us.

It shows these numbers by reference to:

- the sex of the individuals to which they relate
- their ethnicity
- their socioeconomic background.

16. The Transparency 2026 information must be published on the provider's website by 1800 on Friday 8 May 2026.

Methodology

17. The OfS has extracted the information relating to the 2023-24 and 2024-25 academic years from:
 - the individualised student data returned in the Student record collected by the designated data body (DDB)
 - and
 - the Individualised Learner Record (ILR) collected by the Department for Education.

18. The information has been extracted for all providers that registered with the OfS on or before 19 March 2026, and that returned individualised student data relating to 2023-24, 2024-25 or both.
19. The data used to create the information includes amendments submitted and approved for use in institutional performance measures by 2 March 2026.
20. Readers are advised to have a copy of the OfS's 'Technical algorithms for student outcome and experience measures' to hand for definitions of OfS derived fields.⁶
21. Readers are also advised to have the following to hand, for whichever source or sources are relevant to their provider:
- 'Student record coding manual 2023-24'⁷
 - 'Student record coding manual 2024-25'⁸
 - 'Specification of the Individualised Learner Record for 2023 to 2024'⁹
 - 'Specification of the Individualised Learner Record for 2024 to 2025'.¹⁰

Changes from the Transparency 2023 information

22. This section describes any changes to the algorithms since the equivalent was published for the 2022-23 algorithms.¹¹
23. In order to bring the definitions used for the transparency information in line with other OfS data products, there are no longer separate algorithm used for the transparency information. All algorithms now align with those set out in 'Technical algorithms for student outcome and experience measures' document and the calculation of degree outcomes fully aligns with that set out in the 'Description and definition of student outcome and experience measures used in OfS regulation: Definition of measures and methods used to construct and present them'¹² document under the section 'Indicator definitions: Degree outcomes measure'.
24. Information on which OfS derived fields are used and where to find more information on how degree outcomes are calculated are set out in the section below.

⁶ See OfS, [Description and definition of student outcome and experience measures](#).

⁷ See Higher Education Statistics Agency, <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/collection/23056/>.

⁸ See Higher Education Statistics Agency, <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/collection/24056/>.

⁹ See Gov.UK, <https://guidance.submit-learner-data.service.gov.uk/23-24/ilr/overview>.

¹⁰ See Gov.UK, <https://guidance.submit-learner-data.service.gov.uk/24-25/ilr/overview>.

¹¹ See Transparency information 2023, available in the archive at [Transparency information - Office for Students](#).

¹² Available from OfS, [Description and definition of student outcome and experience measures](#). Note that this document has not yet been updated for 2026 and so refers to variables with the prefix 'IP', however the method for calculating attainment remains unchanged. The new technical algorithm document maps the new variable names onto these old variable names and so the two can be used in conjunction with each other.

25. Rounding and suppression rules have been updated to align with those used in other OfS data products.
26. The data has been rounded as follows:
- Denominators or headcounts have been rounded to the nearest 10.
 - Percentages been rounded to the nearest 0.1.
27. Any data point that is not reportable will be replaced with a symbol to indicate why, applied according to the following hierarchical order:
- [none]: where there are no students in the population (or two or fewer).
 - [low]: Low numbers of students, where there are more than two but fewer than 23 students in the denominator.
 - [DPL]: Data protection for low numerators, where data has been suppressed for data protection reasons. The code [DPL] has been used to indicate where the data has been suppressed due to a numerator or headcount that is less than or equal to two, meaning that the percentage will take on a value close to 0 per cent.
 - [DPH]: Data protection for high numerators, where data has been suppressed for data protection reasons. For the percentages, the code [DPH] has been used to indicate where data has been suppressed due to a numerator that is greater than two but is within two of the denominator.

Fields used in producing the Transparency 2026 information

28. Table 2 shows the OfS student outcome and experience algorithms used to calculate the transparency information.

Table 2: OfS student outcome and experience derived fields used in producing the Transparency 2026 information

Field	Description
is_apprentice	Identifies instances or learning aims that are part of an apprenticeship at any level
registering_ukprn	UKPRN of the provider where the student is registered in this academic year
base_academic_year	The academic year that the record relates to
student_domicile	Domicile of the student
is_degree_outcome_duplicate	Indicates the record with the best outcome for students who we believe also exist in another provider's student record, student alternative record or ILR
award_level_aggregate_1	Broad grouping of the qualification awarded to the student during the reporting year
linked_engagement_starting_mode	Starting mode of study of the student

Field	Description
broad_student_ethnicity	Ethnicity of the student
home_postcode	Postcode of the student's permanent or home address prior to entry to the course
home_imd_quintile_by_nation	EIMD quintile of student's home address
student_sex	Sex of the student
student_data_collection	Indicates whether the record is taken from the student record, student alternative record or ILR
degree_class	Indicates the degree classification awarded to first degree qualifiers
In_degree_outcomes_population	Indicates whether the student is included in the population of first degree qualifiers who are in scope for the degree outcome indicators

29. In addition, a field is created called EIMD. This field classifies the EIMD 2025 quintile of the student's home address. It is derived from home_imd_quintile_by_nation. Values take the form as shown below, where [X] is from 1 to 5, with 1 being the quintile of highest deprivation.
30. Details of how we calculated the number of students who attained a particular degree or other academic award, or a particular level of such an award, on completion of their course with the provider can be found in the 'Description and definition of student outcome and experience measures used in OfS regulation: Definition of measures and methods used to construct and present them'¹³ document under the section 'Indicator definitions: Degree outcomes measure'.

¹³ Available from OfS, [Description and definition of student outcome and experience measures](#). Note that this document has not yet been updated for 2026 and so refers to variables with the prefix 'IP'. The new technical algorithm document maps the new variable names onto these old variable names and so the two can be used in conjunction with each other.



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www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/