

Students obtaining university degrees, UK

	First degrees			Higher degrees		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
1920	3,145	1,212	4,357	529	174	703
1930	6,494	2,635	9,129	1,123	200	1,323
1938	7,071	2,240	9,311	1,316	164	1,480
1950	13,398	3,939	17,337	2,149	261	2,410
1960	16,851	5,575	22,426	2,994	279	3,273
1970	35,571	15,618	51,189	11,186	1,715	12,901
1980	42,831	25,319	68,150	14,414	4,511	18,925
1990	43,297	33,866	77,163	20,905	10,419	31,324
2000	109,930	133,316	243,246	46,015	40,520	86,535
2005	122,155	156,225	278,380	63,035	62,050	125,085
2010	144,980	185,740	330,720	93,375	89,235	182,610
2011	153,235	197,565	350,800	96,280	97,990	194,270

Notes:

All figures are for students from all domiciles

Full-time first degree students only

Major breaks in series

1925 -Excludes higher degrees awarded without further study

1973 -includes universities in Northern Ireland

1994- includes former Polytechnics and the Open University from now on

2000 -includes students qualifying from 'dormant' status - where a student is not actively studying for their qualification. This may be where there is an administrative delay between completion and award. These qualifications were not previously recorded. The main impact is on the number of doctorates.

Sources: *Statistical abstract for the United Kingdom 1935, Board of Trade*

Annual abstract of statistics, ONS/CSO

Higher Education Statistics Agency

Library House of Commons (Paul Bolton). "Education: Historical Statistics." UK Parliament, 27 Nov 2012, researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/SN04252#fullreport. Accessed 15 Nov 2016.

This source helped us understand how discrimination towards women in academia was prevalent in the 1930s. A chart from this source is featured on our *Taking A Stand* page, in which we address how women faced opposition at universities; viewers can download the table to see an enlarged version there. This is a primary source because it is raw statistical data that remains unaltered by the compiler.