

The Russell Group, ranked by diversity

All 24 universities by the share of UK students from an ethnic minority

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What you're looking at

This is the full ranking the carousel promised. It's UK accepted applicants only, British students, not international, from the UCAS End of Cycle 2024 data. "Minority" means Asian, Black, Mixed or Other as a share of students whose ethnicity is known, the official UCAS and HESA measure. The national benchmark across all UK university acceptances on the exact same measure is **36.6%**, so anything above that line is more diverse than the typical university, anything below is less.

The full ranking

#	University	Ethnic minority	White
1	Queen Mary University of London	78.6%	21.4%
2	King's College London	68.7%	31.3%
3	Imperial College London	68.3%	31.7%
4	LSE	66.3%	33.7%
5	UCL	64.5%	35.5%
6	Birmingham	48.4%	51.6%
7	Warwick	45.4%	54.6%
8	Manchester	40.5%	59.5%
9	Nottingham	40.5%	59.5%
10	Southampton	35.8%	64.2%
11	Cambridge	35.7%	64.3%
—	National benchmark, all UK acceptances	36.6%	63.4%
12	Oxford	30.9%	69.1%
13	Leeds	29.1%	70.9%
14	Bristol	25.6%	74.4%
15	Sheffield	24.2%	75.8%
16	Liverpool	23.0%	77.0%
17	Cardiff	22.5%	77.5%
18	Edinburgh	18.9%	81.1%
19	Newcastle	18.7%	81.3%

#	University	Ethnic minority	White
20	Glasgow	17.3%	82.7%
21	Durham	17.1%	82.9%
22	York	16.6%	83.4%
23	Exeter	15.6%	84.4%
24	Queen's Belfast	6.5%	93.5%

Three things the ranking shows

- **The famous London names are the most diverse, not the least.** Queen Mary, King's, Imperial, LSE and UCL all sit far above the national average. If your child worries a top university means a narrow crowd, the data says the opposite.
- **Oxford is mid-table, not rock bottom.** People assume it's the least diverse. It's 12th of the 24, just below the national line, and a whisker behind Cambridge.
- **The least diverse names are mostly geography, not selection.** The universities at the bottom are largely Scottish, Northern Irish and rural, they recruit from whiter local populations. It's where they are, not who they turn away.

One caveat

These are acceptance figures for the university as a whole. The mix shifts by course and by campus, a science course and a humanities course at the same university can feel very different. So treat this as a starting point for the "where would my child feel at home" conversation, not the final word. It's just a real number nobody puts in a league table.

Want help using this?

If where your child feels they belong is part of the decision, that's exactly the kind of thing an EduStrategy 1:1 weighs up alongside the grades and the course. Book a 1:1 or reply.

Source, UCAS End of Cycle 2024, UK accepted applicants, minority share of known ethnicity. Figures cross-checked, Oxford's own 2024 report gives 30.8% against our 30.9%.

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