

Census data is a valuable source of information and can help when making big decisions such as what to do when you leave school. Using data from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and other sources investigate different areas where you would like to live. There are lots of career opportunities that are open to you.

- University
- An apprenticeship
- A college course - training
- Employment
- Training/studying while employed
- Running your own business
- Joining the armed forces
- Gap year

Here we consider going to university.

You don't always get a place at the university you want to go to so it is a good idea to choose at least three universities that may be suitable.

What is most important to you when choosing a university?

- Subject specialism/Course
- Course fees
- Cost of accommodation
- Entry requirements
- Incentives (e.g. free iPads)
- Location
- Recreation activities and clubs
- Student support
- University ranking
- Night life/entertainment
- Ratio of male/female
- Percentage of students who get a job after graduating
- Average salary after graduating
- Student to lecturer ratio
- Course structure, i.e. time spent in lectures
- Assessment, exams or coursework
- Distance from home

TASK A

Firstly you need to pick the three universities that you would like to explore further. The best way to do this is to find universities which offer courses in subjects/subject areas that you are interested in studying. On the next two pages there is a guide on how to search for courses and universities on the UNISTATS website. You will need to select three different universities to compare. Write the names of the universities you choose in table 1 on page 4.

TASK B

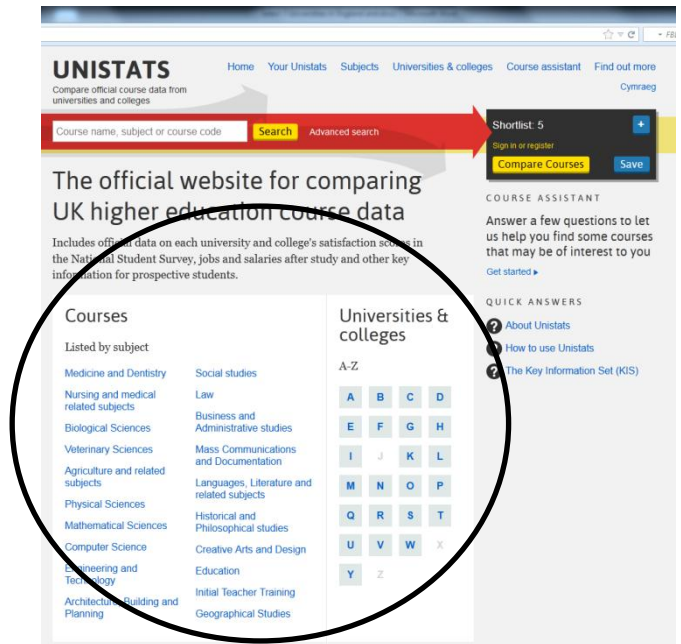
Using the UNISTATS website, fill out table 1 to compare the universities on the suggested categories. There is space for you to research any additional information that may interest you.

Guide to using Unistats.direct.gov.uk

This website allows you to compare 3 university/course choices on various topics. It also shows results from the National Student Survey, which has been set up to give potential student's information from students that have previously attended or are in current attendance at each university.

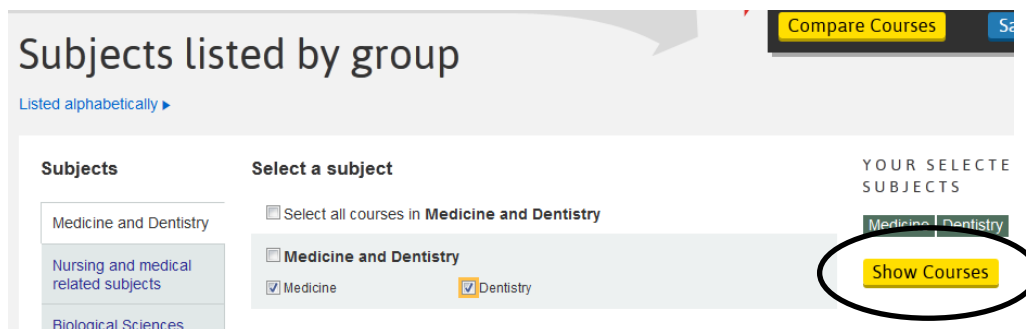
You can select the courses you are interested in attending by choosing:

- a subject area under **Courses**. This will help to find a university where your course is taught.
- or you can select courses under particular universities in the **Universities & Colleges** section.



For Courses:

Choose courses of interest by ticking the appropriate boxes, then press the **Show Courses** button on the right-hand-side of the screen.



On the left-hand-side of the screen you can select the country of study. Select England, Wales or both. The webpage should automatically update to show the universities where these courses are available. You can click to shortlist several courses (see page 3), then click the compare courses button at the top on the right.

UNISTATS Home Your Unistats Subjects Universities & colleges Course assistant Find out more
Compare official course data from universities and colleges Cymraeg

Course name, subject or course code Advanced search

Shortlist: 5
Sign in or register

RESULTS FOR
Multiple subjects
Showing 1-25 of 80 courses [View on a map](#) ▶

Sort by: Relevance

Filters

Choose data to show
None

University/college

Country
 England (80)
 Northern Ireland (2)
 Scotland (12)
 Wales (6)

Study mode
 Full time (79)
 Part time (1)

Financial support
 Is there a fee waiver available? (54)
 Is there non-means-tested support available? (44)
 Is there means-tested support (72)

Medicine MBChB
University of Birmingham

Dentistry BDS
University of Birmingham

Medicine (graduate entry) MBChB
University of Birmingham

Bachelor of Medicine Bachelor of Surgery
Brighton and Sussex Medical School

MBChB Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery
University of Bristol

BDS Bachelor of Dental Surgery
University of Bristol

Diploma in Dental Therapy
University of Bristol

MBChB Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (Pre-Medical Entry)
University of Bristol

Unistats is an independent website offering a range of useful info and statistics on university courses.

QUICK ANSWERS
How to use Unistats
The Key Information Set (KIS)
Why full KIS data may not be available

For Universities:

Click on the university that you would like to compare, then find the course you are interested in studying. Click on **add to shortlist** (as shown above). Once you have added all 3 courses, click the **Compare Courses** button in the top right of the screen.

UNISTATS Home Your Unistats Subjects Universities & colleges
Compare official course data from universities and colleges

Course name, subject or course code Advanced search

Comparing 3 courses
[View on a map](#) ▶

Information set
Cost & accommodation

| Information set | Foundation Degree in Ophthalmic Dispensing ABDO College of Education | BSc (Hons) Animal Ecology University of Aberdeen | Theoretical Physics and Applied Mathematics MSci University of Birmingham |
|--|---|---|--|
| Average annual fee for students from England | | £6,750 | £9,000 |
| This may be lower for some students who are eligible for fee support | | | |
| for students from N. Ireland | | £6,750 | £9,000 |
| for students from Scotland | | £1,820 | £9,000 |
| for students from Wales | | £6,750 | £9,000 |

You can look at different information using the drop-down menu under **Information set**. Table A shows the information set each category is shown within marked in brackets.

To find the county/area and postcode click on the university name, this will take you to a page with a map and address.

Should I Stay or Should I Go?

TABLE 1

| Topic | University A | University B | University C |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| University name | | | |
| County/area | | | |
| Postcode | | | |
| Course | | | |
| Course fees (cost and accommodation) | | | |
| Cost of accommodation (cost and accommodation) | | | |
| Entry requirements (entry information tab) | | | |
| Percentage of students who get a job after graduating (employment and accreditation) | | | |
| Average salary after graduating (employment and accreditation) | | | |
| Course structure, i.e. time spent in lectures (study information) | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Should I Stay or Should I Go?

TASK C

When deciding where you would like to go to university it is important to have an understanding of the area in which you will live. Complete table 2 on the following page, using the links from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) website, to investigate the three areas/universities you have chosen. You may also explore other information that you feel is relevant from this site. This page gives guidance on using the ONS website.

Interactive maps

Enter the university postcode, followed by the magnifying glass to search. Then click on the arrow to update the table.

| | 2001 | 2011 |
|--|-------|-------|
| Work mainly at or from home (%) | 6.59 | 6.97 |
| Underground, metro, light rail, tram (%) | 0.06 | 0.06 |
| Train (%) | 0.34 | 0.54 |
| Bus, minibus or coach (%) | 11.84 | 11.03 |
| Taxi (%) | 0.6 | 0.83 |
| Motorcycle, scooter or moped (%) | 2.15 | 1.91 |
| Driving a car or van (%) | 53.82 | 55.27 |
| Passenger in a car or van (%) | 7.82 | 6.04 |
| Vehicle Occupancy Rate | 1.15 | 1.11 |
| Bicycle (%) | 2.64 | 2.6 |
| On foot (%) | 13.2 | 14.1 |
| Other method of travel to work (%) | 0.83 | 0.86 |

Population pyramids

Select the areas you would like to look at using the drop-down menu. You can compare two areas at a time.

Neighbourhood Statistics

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUMMARY

This search allows you to find a **summary report** for your **local neighbourhood**. If you want to know more about the neighbourhood you live or work in use this search.

Enter a full postcode from your neighbourhood:
 PL4 8AA
 e.g. N51JP

Search

Enter the university postcode in the right-hand-side box and click search. Using the tabs at the top of the screen you can search different topics.

2011 Census | People and Places | Health | Local Economy | Education | Housing | **Crime and Safety** | More...

The following table compares the number of recorded cases of each type of notifiable offence in the reporting year indicated (April to March)

Recorded crimes, 2010 - 2011

Well-being map

UK experimental subjective Well-being estimates
 Satisfaction - LOW (score 0-6)
 UK by County and Local Authority, Province of Northern Ireland

Map shows: Satisfaction - LOW (score 0-6)

Proportion with low or very low life satisfaction (%)

| per cent | number of map areas |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 30.5 to 32.8 | 4 |
| 28.3 to 30.4 | 8 |
| 26 to 28.2 | 23 |
| 24.7 to 25.9 | 35 |
| 21.4 to 24.4 | 28 |
| 19.2 to 21.3 | 35 |
| 16.9 to 19.1 | 8 |
| 14.6 to 16.8 | 4 |

Devon (2011-12) = 20.7 per cent.
 3.4 LESS than the UK mean of 24.1 per cent

Satisfaction LOW (score 0-6)
 This is the percentage of UK adults (aged 16 and over) who gave a rating of zero to six on an eleven point scale (where zero was "not at all" and ten "completely") when asked "Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays?" and therefore reported a relatively low satisfaction with their lives.

Should I Stay or Should I Go?

TABLE 2

| Topic | University A | University B | University C |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Name | | | |
| Postcode | | | |
| Population by age – percentage of young people in the area. (www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/vp2-2011-census-comparator/index.html) | | | |
| Population density – crowded or spacious? (www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-1-4/index.html) | | | |
| Location – rural or urban? (www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/HTMLDocs/urbanrural.html) | | | |
| Ethnicity – percentage mix of the location. (www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-1---ethnicity/index.html) | | | |
| Crime rate – low, medium or high crime rate? (www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination) | | | |
| Travel – best way to get to work. (www.ons.gov.uk/ons/interactive/census-map-2-3---method-of-travel/index.html) This may help you to see the best methods for getting around | | | |
| Well-being (www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/HTMLDocs/dvc34/Well-being_map.html) | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Should I Stay or Should I Go?

TASK D

Write a report on your findings.

State the purpose of the investigation.

Explain what and how you found out relevant information.

State your conclusions.

Describe any further research you need to do.