

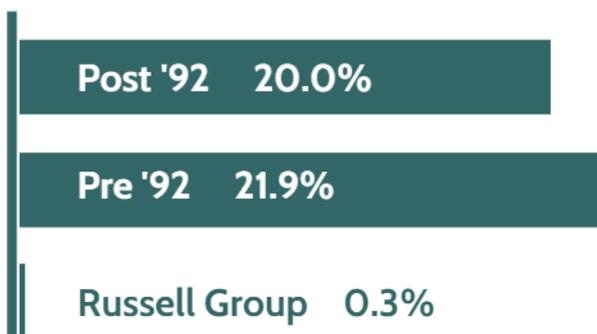
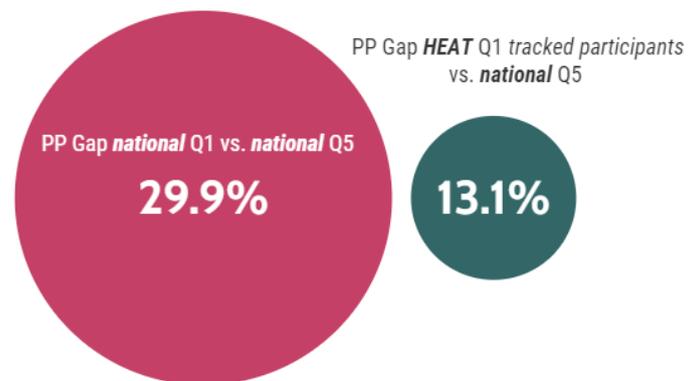


Each year the Higher Education Access Tracker (HEAT) asks the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) to track HEAT members' outreach participants into HE enrolment data, in order to study their lifecycle, from access through to progression in Higher Education (HE). This report shows some key findings from the 2018/19 track, shown in relation to the Office for Students' (OfS) Key Performance Measures for the HE sector.

Access - Office for Students (OfS) Key Performance Measure 1 - reduce the gaps in HE Participation between most and least represented groups

In 2018/19 nationally there was a gap of 30 percentage points between 18 to 30 year olds in POLAR4 Quintile 5 (most represented in HE) accessing HE versus access for those in Quintile 1 (least represented). The gap between HEAT member tracked outreach participants in Quintile 1 and the national population of Quintile 5 was smaller at 13.1 percentage points. (For more information about the POLAR4 measure see Appendix)

This narrower gap suggests that outreach activities contribute to closing the national gap between the most and least represented in HE.



For more information about these categories of University, see Appendix

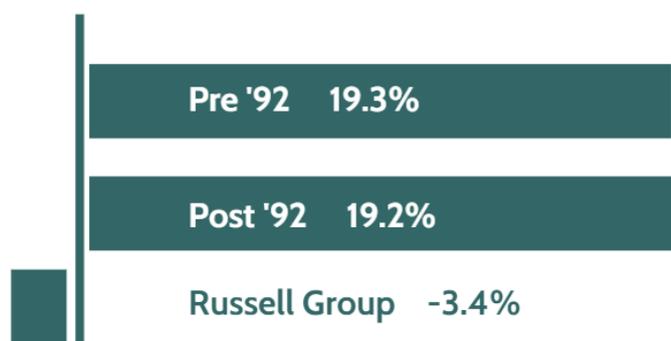
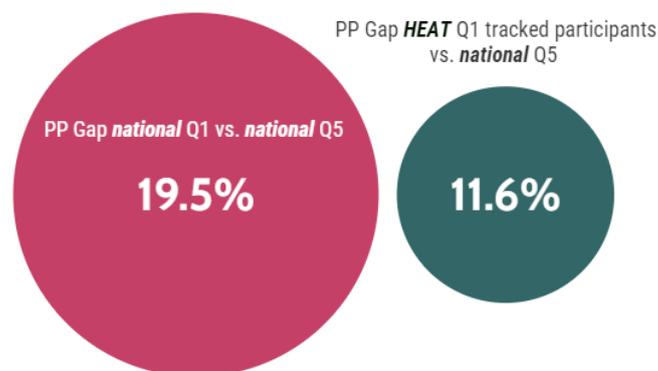
This chart shows the gap in access between the POLAR4 Quintile 1 tracked outreach participants and national Q5 students enrolling at higher-tariff universities, by the type of HEI that provided those Quintile 1 students with outreach.

The POLAR4 Q1 students that Russell Group universities work with are often high achievers at Key Stage 4, a key factor in influencing progression to Higher Education. Russell Group universities work with these students to ensure fair access to all types of University, as per OfS Key Performance Measure 2 below:

Access to higher-tariff providers - OFS Key Performance Measure 2

Nationally, in 2018/19, there was a gap of 19.5 percentage points between 18 to 30 year olds in POLAR4 Quintile 5 accessing HE at higher-tariff providers versus access by those from Quintile 1. The gap between the total HEAT tracked outreach participants in Quintile 1 accessing HE at higher-tariff providers and the national population of Quintile 5 was much smaller at 11.6 percentage points.

This smaller gap suggests that participating in outreach may contribute to closing the national gap in progression to high-tariff providers.



This chart shows the gap in access between the POLAR4 Quintile 1 tracked outreach participants and national Quintile 5 students enrolling at higher-tariff universities, by the type of HEI that provided those Quintile 1 students with outreach.

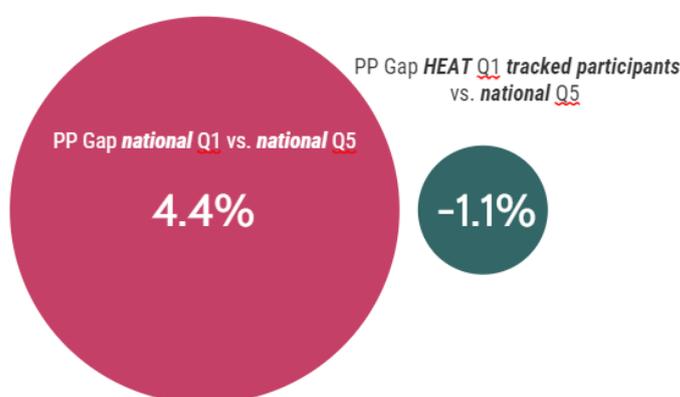
Gaps which are smaller than the national gap of 19.5%, including negative gaps, suggest outreach is contributing to closing the national gap.

The negative gap for the Russell Group suggests that the outreach they provide, from a position of expertise in this area, is effective in closing the gap although it may also reflect their targeting of underrepresented but high achieving KS4 outreach participants.

Non-Continuation - OfS Key Performance Measure 3 - reduce the gaps in non-continuation between most and least represented groups

Nationally, in 2018/19, there was a gap in Non-Continuation of 4.4 percentage points between HE entrants in POLAR4 Quintile 5 versus those in Quintile 1. The gap in Non-Continuation between HEAT member organisations' tracked outreach participants in Quintile 1 and the national population of Quintile 5 is then shown as a comparison. (For a definition of Non-continuation see Appendix)

This negative gap suggests that outreach activities contribute to closing the national gap between the continuation rates of the most and least represented in HE.





This chart shows the gap in non-continuation for tracked POLAR4 Q1 outreach participants by type of HEI that provided them with outreach compared to the national Q5 population.

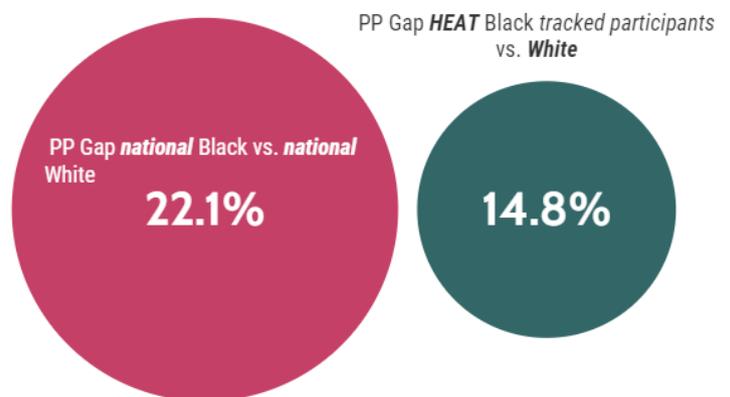
Smaller gaps than the national average (-1.1%) suggest that outreach activities contribute to closing the national gap between the continuation rates of the most and least represented in HE.

The negative gap for outreach participants working with Russell Group universities is narrower (-1.8%) than the national gap (-1.1%). This suggests that either the outreach provided by Russell Group HEAT members prepares outreach participants well for undergraduate studies or may be an effect of the students', often high, KS4 attainment (see KPM 1&2).

Degree Outcomes - OfS Key performance Measure 4 - reduce the attainment gap between White and Black students

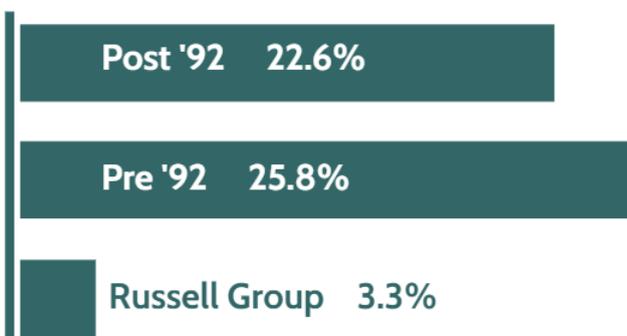
In 2018/19, there was a national gap of 22.1% percentage points between the proportion of White students and the proportion of Black students gaining a 1st or 2:1 First Degree. The gap between HEAT member organisation Black students gaining a good degree and the national population of White students doing so was smaller at 14.8%.

This narrower gap suggests that Black HEAT member outreach participants may have been well supported once they entered HE.



This shows the gap in degree outcomes between White and Black HEAT outreach participants by the type of university that provided them with outreach.

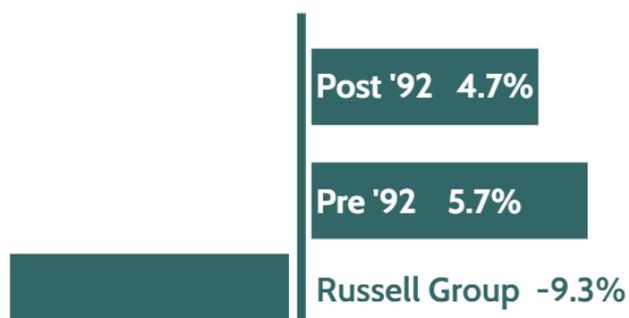
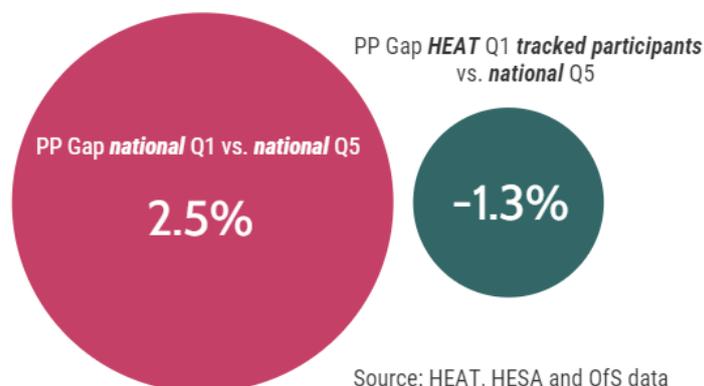
The gap for outreach participants working with Russell Group universities is narrower (3.3%) than the national gap (14.18%). This suggests that either the outreach provided by Russell Group HEAT members prepares Black outreach participants well for undergraduate studies or it may be an effect of their participants (often high) KS4 attainment (see KPM 1&2).



Degree Outcomes - OfS Key performance Measure 5 - reduce the attainment gap between Disabled and Non-Disabled students

This chart shows that in 2018/19 nationally there was a gap of 2.5% percentage points between Non-Disabled students and Disabled students gaining a First Class or Upper Second class degree classification. The gap between HEAT member organisation tracked Disabled outreach participants national population of Non-Disabled students was smaller at -1.3% percentage points i.e. Disabled HEAT students have achieved a good degree at a higher rate than the national cohort of Non-Disabled students.

This negative gap suggests that HEAT member Disabled outreach participants have been well supported during their studies



This chart shows the gap in degree outcomes between Disabled HEAT outreach participants and the national Non-Disabled population by the type of university that provided them with outreach.

The gap for between Disabled and Non-Disabled outreach participants working with Russell Group universities is narrower (-9.3%) than the national gap (2.5%). This suggests that the outreach provided by Russell Group HEAT members prepares Disabled outreach participants well for undergraduate studies or it may be an effect of their participants (often high) KS4 attainment (see KPM 1&2).

Appendix

For more information about the HEAT membership organisation please see: www.heat.ac.uk

This report draws on data from all HEAT Members to evaluate the success of Widening Participation (WP) outreach provision in attracting participants into Higher Education (HE) institutions across the UK. In this report 84435 outreach participants, recorded by members on the HEAT database as having participated in at least one outreach activity and ready to progress to HE, were matched to records on the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) entrants' database. This data matching reveals how many participants have entered HE in the academic years 2006/7 to 2018/19 as well as their outcomes.

The report draws on the Key Performance Measures (KPM) the Office for Students (OfS) have set for the Higher Education sector. Please see:

www.officeforstudents.org.uk/about/measures-of-our-success/participation-performance-measures

The OfS KPMs are expressed as gaps in outcomes between the most and least represented groups. Here the national gap is compared with the gap between tracked participants and the national rate to examine the sector-wide contribution HEAT member organisations are making to closing the national gaps.

The KPMs define students as most or least represented by both the personal characteristics of students, such as ethnicity or disability, and by the geographic measure of young participation in Higher Education - POLAR4. For an explanation of POLAR 4 please see:

www.officeforstudents.org.uk/data-and-analysis/young-participation-by-area/

For definitions of Continuation and Non-Continuation see:

www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/performance-indicators/non-continuation/technical

All charts in this report are derived from HEAT, HESA and OfS data. The underlying data complies with HESA rounding and suppression rules.

In charts featuring a breakdown by 'type' of university, the categories are defined as follows:

A 'Post 1992' university is broadly defined as a former polytechnic or central institution in the United Kingdom that was given university status through the Further and Higher Education Act 1992, or which has been granted university status since 1992. This category is used in contrast to 'Pre-1992' universities. 'Russell Group' refers to a self-selected association of twenty-four public research universities in the United Kingdom often associated with high entry requirements (although higher-tariffs are not exclusive to this group of institutions).