Outreach participation and progression outcomes of disadvantaged white males
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This is the third in a series of research papers using HEAT outreach participant data linked to KS4/KS5 attainment at school and HE outcome data. This report aims to increase our understanding of why disadvantaged white males are underrepresented in HE. Since 2004-05 females have been overrepresented in HE, now making up 56% of the entrant population. Using HEAT track data, we are able to track students who have participated in HEAT member university outreach activity from prior attainment at KS2, KS4 and KS5 through to their progression into HE. We will explore the extent to which patterns of participation in outreach differ for disadvantaged groups. We will also examine the difference between the performance of disadvantaged white males and their peers who participate in outreach and extend this analysis to include a comparison with disadvantaged BME males and females in order to present comparator groups. These results can be used by HEAT members in conjunction with other evidence from HEAT to help inform and plan outreach activity for this group of students.

Engagement of disadvantaged white males in outreach...

Proportionally, males are less likely to engage in outreach than females. White males engage at a similar rate to their BME male peers...

...disadvantaged white males are more likely to first engage in outreach before the age of 16 when compared with their disadvantaged peers...

...engagement in multiple outreach interventions (including a campus visit...)

But disadvantaged white males are currently under-represented (when compared with their disadvantaged peers) in sustained multiple outreach interventions which including a campus visit.

This analysis represents the data collected across HEAT member universities delivering outreach to participants between 2005 and 2014 (KS4 and KS5 data is only available for a subset of participants). Please see the full meaning of the following abbreviations used in this data infographics paper:- White M - White Males, White F - White Females, BME M - BME Males, BME F - BME Females. Disadvantage has been defined using a number of metrics including POLAR, IDACI, Acorn, Free School Meal eligibility and First Generation HE information. For further information about this summary please contact support@heat.ac.uk
This section examines the educational outcomes of disadvantaged white males compared with those for other disadvantaged groups (data relates to outreach participants recorded and tracked through HEAT).

- At KS4, disadvantaged white males start to fall behind their peers from other disadvantaged groups.

- A smaller proportion of disadvantaged white males progress to post 16 education.

- Of those who were found in post 16 education, more were enrolled in an FE College.

- By KS5, performance of white disadvantaged males is significantly lower than that of other disadvantaged groups.

- Progression to HE is lower overall, perhaps due to attainment plus post 16 progression pathways.

- If we only look at those who achieved 3 A Level passes, the progression is very similar for both groups.
Contribution of outreach to improving the outcomes of disadvantaged white males

Those who engaged in outreach before the age of 16 were more likely to achieve 5A*-C including in English and Maths at GCSE. This finding is consistent across all disadvantaged groups.

KS4 point scores are higher for disadvantaged white males who participated in multiple activities including a campus visit...

HE Progression is higher for disadvantaged white males who participated in multiple activities including a campus visit...

...participation in multiple activities including a campus visit appears to have a positive impact on HE progression of disadvantaged white males.