

[REDACTED]

13 February 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request: FOI2020/00010

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 13 January in which you requested the following:

Your request:

Are you able to tell me how many doctoral students are currently funded through the research councils?

You have given me the figures for 2017/18 [FOI Response 2019/0270] just wondered if these are now available for 2018/19?

Our response

I can confirm UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) hold the information relevant to your request. Please see the information below. Please note that all figures provided are rounded to the nearest 5.

Are you able to tell me how many doctoral students are currently funded through the research councils?

Studentships in receipt of UKRI funding on the 1st October 2019

| Row Labels | Count of Studentship Reference |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| AHRC | 2835 |
| BBSRC | 2325 |
| EPSRC | 11310 |
| ESRC | 3015 |
| MRC | 1565 |
| NERC | 1815 |
| STFC | 1185 |
| Grand Total | 24055 |

You have given me the figures for 2017/18 just wondered if these are now available for 2018/19

Studentships starts by financial year

| Row Labels | Count of Studentship Reference |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2013/2014 | 6075 |
| AHRC | 815 |
| BBSRC | 575 |
| EPSRC | 2690 |
| ESRC | 850 |
| MRC | 485 |
| NERC | 375 |
| STFC | 285 |
| 2014/2015 | 6480 |
| AHRC | 825 |
| BBSRC | 545 |
| EPSRC | 3125 |
| ESRC | 840 |
| MRC | 430 |
| NERC | 430 |
| STFC | 285 |
| 2015/2016 | 6645 |
| AHRC | 825 |
| BBSRC | 590 |
| EPSRC | 3215 |
| ESRC | 855 |
| MRC | 440 |
| NERC | 445 |
| STFC | 275 |
| 2016/2017 | 6415 |
| AHRC | 795 |
| BBSRC | 560 |
| EPSRC | 3080 |
| ESRC | 870 |
| MRC | 390 |
| NERC | 440 |
| STFC | 280 |
| 2017/2018 | 7150 |
| AHRC | 900 |
| BBSRC | 645 |
| EPSRC | 3345 |
| ESRC | 800 |
| MRC | 515 |
| NERC | 560 |
| STFC | 385 |
| 2018/2019 | 6445 |
| AHRC | 915 |
| BBSRC | 545 |
| EPSRC | 3015 |
| ESRC | 755 |
| MRC | 410 |
| NERC | 460 |
| STFC | 320 |
| UKRI | 25 |
| Grand Total | 39215 |

As noted in our original response, UKRI is not a grant awarding body and students captured under this are supported through NPIF funding; this is awarded by Councils on behalf of UKRI. The data provided includes all students and is not limited to DTP and CDT. Due to the nature of UKRI studentship funding and the differing council studentship funding mechanisms it is difficult to identify numbers of CDT and DTP with confidence. Please note that studentship data is entered by research organisations and is subject to change over time due to amendments or corrections.

Revisions to data provided under FOI Response 2019/0270

In the process of collating the data for your above request, we identified the following revisions to the data previously provided to you. We have provided the adjusted figures below for your information:

1. How many students are currently undertaking doctoral study in the UK as funded by UKRI?
a. Of these, how many are UK/EU students and how many are international students?

Studentships in receipt of UKRI funding on the 1st October 2019

| Row Labels | Count of Studentship Reference |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| EU | 5095 |
| International | 1310 |
| United Kingdom | 16980 |
| Unknown | 585 |
| Not Disclosed | 80 |
| Grand Total | 24055 |

For this data EU students were identified by their Nationality; if an individual provided their Nationality as one of the EU countries (excluding UK) the student has been recorded as EU. Please note that further information in regards to our student eligibility rules (which are based on residency, not nationality) is available [here](#)¹.

2. How many completed students their doctorate in 2013/14 to 2017/18 as funded by UKRI?
a. Of these, how many were UK/EU students, and how many were international students?

Studentships who submitted their PhD by financial year.

| Row Labels | Count of Studentship Reference |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2017/2018 | 4395 |
| EU | 865 |
| International | 170 |
| United Kingdom | 3235 |
| Unknown | 105 |
| Not Disclosed | 15 |
| 2016/2017 | 4520 |
| EU | 835 |
| International | 195 |
| United Kingdom | 3360 |
| Unknown | 115 |
| Not Disclosed | 10 |
| 2015/2016 | 4690 |
| EU | 720 |
| International | 210 |
| United Kingdom | 3670 |
| Unknown | 80 |
| Not Disclosed | 10 |

¹ <https://www.ukri.org/files/legacy/publications/rcuk-training-grant-guide-pdf/>

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| 2014/2015 | 4670 |
| EU | 640 |
| International | 250 |
| United Kingdom | 3730 |
| Unknown | 40 |
| Not Disclosed | 5 |
| 2013/2014 | 4405 |
| EU | 555 |
| International | 480 |
| United Kingdom | 3320 |
| Unknown | 40 |
| Not Disclosed | 10 |
| Grand Total | 22675 |

Please note that the above figures have been sourced from an annual submission survey conducted by UKRI.

If you have any queries regarding our response or you are unhappy with the outcome of your request and wish to seek a review of the decision, please contact:

Head of Information Governance


Email: foi@ukri.org or infogovernance@ukri.org

Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of our internal review you are entitled to refer the matter to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review procedure provided by UKRI. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>

If you wish to raise a complaint regarding the service you have received or the conduct of any UKRI staff in relation to your request, please see UKRI's complaints policy: <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-and-standards/complaints-policy/>

Yours sincerely,


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 Information Rights Team
 UK Research and Innovation
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