Admissions to Higher Education Conference
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Confirmation, Clearing and Adjustment – Facts, Figures and Implications for Admissions

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Outline

- 2009 cycle figures
- Confirmation and Clearing
- Adjustment
- Implications for admissions

2009 cycle figures

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total no. applicants	520,961	504,748	531,898	582,657	633,592
Total no. accepted applicants	404,668	389,505	411,971	451,871	477,277

- 99.7% of applications made online
  - 480 paper applications received
- Busiest day of cycle – 14 January 2009
  - 7,511 concurrent users of Apply
  - 1,900 concurrent users of Staff Apply

Source: UCAS Statistics Unit / UCAS Information Services Department

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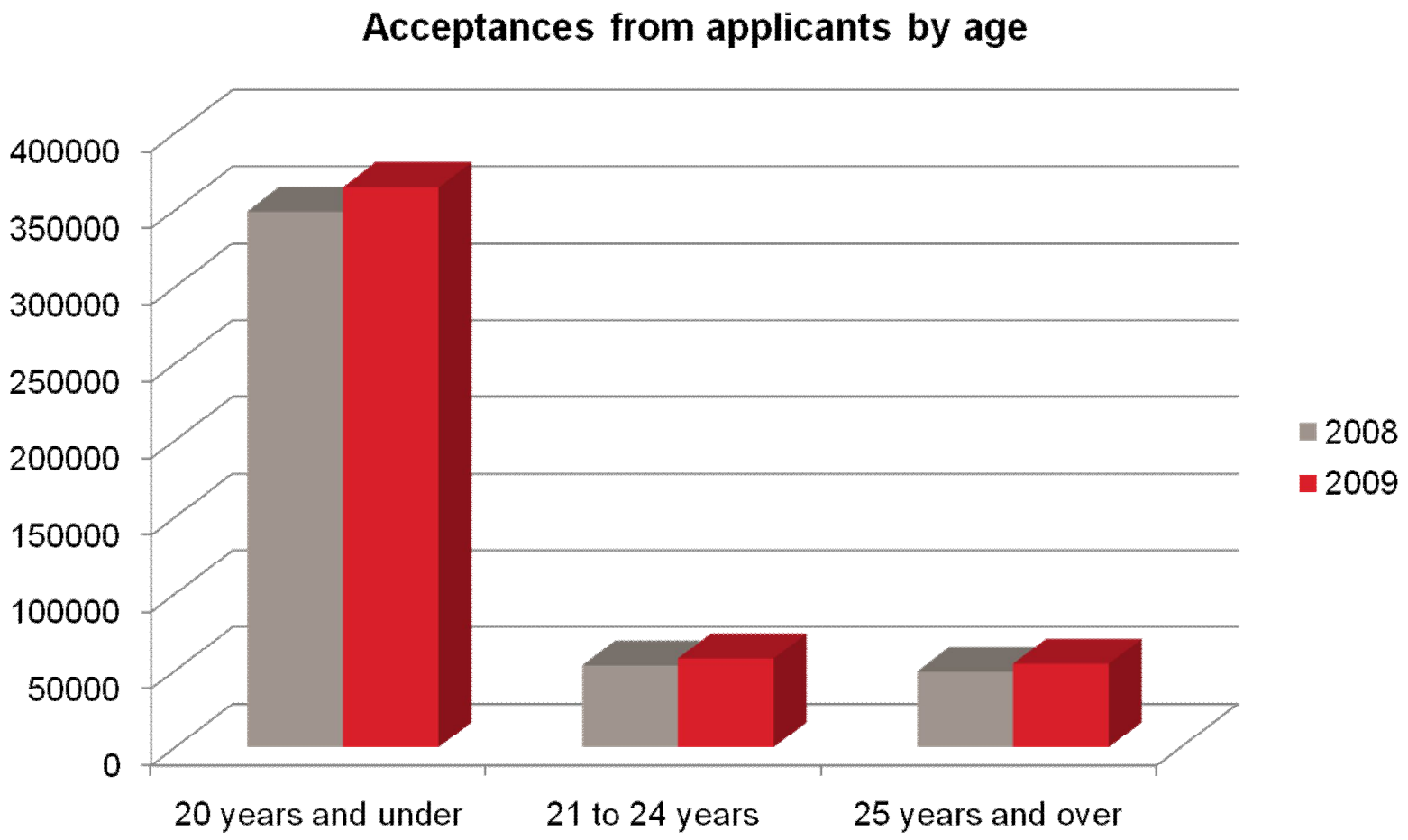
2009 cycle figures



Source: UCAS Statistics Unit

2009 cycle figures

Acceptances by overseas country (top ten)

	2009	2008	% change
China	6,073	5,969	1.7
France	2,956	2,565	15.2
Ireland	2,856	2,623	8.9
Cyprus	2,612	2,329	12.2
Hong Kong	2,562	2,611	-1.9
Malaysia	2,382	2,033	17.2
Germany	2,380	2,197	8.3
India	1,744	1,714	1.8
Nigeria	1,576	1,813	-13.1
Greece	1,538	1,660	-7.3

Source: UCAS Statistics Unit

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2009 cycle figures

Acceptances by subject (top ten)

	2008 position	(JACS 2) Subject	Degree 2009
1	►	Law by Area	17,346
2	►	Design studies	16,674
3	►	Psychology	15,327
4	▲ (5)	Computer Science	11,328
5	▼ (4)	Management studies	10,708
6	►	Business studies	10,597
7	►	English studies	10,374
8	►	Combs with Business & Admin Studies	10,311
9	►	Sports Science	9,274
10	▲ (14)	Combs. of social studies / bus / law with arts / humanities	8,677

Source: UCAS Statistics Unit

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2009 cycle figures

Acceptances by subject (highest %age increase / decrease)

(JACS 2) Subject	% age change
Imaginative Writing	28.1%
Combinations within Biological Sciences	25.7%
Others in Biological Sciences	25.5%
Others in Business & Admin studies	22.8%
Others in Creative Arts and Design	20.5%
Others in non-European Langs & related	-51.2%
Combs. within Mass Comms & Documentation	-13.1%
Others in European Langs, Lit & related	-13%
Complementary Medicine	-9.9%
Finance	-7.9%

Source: UCAS Statistics Unit

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Confirmation and Clearing

- 3.9m summer results and over 8m unit grades processed
- 1,237,380 Clearing Vacancy Searches on results day
  - 78% increase on 2008 usage
  - Busiest hour 11.00am – 11.59am (123,274 searches)
- Top 5 subjects searched: law, economics, psychology, history and business management
- Top 5 institutions searched: Leeds, Birmingham, Nottingham, Manchester, Sheffield

Source: UCAS Information Services Department

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Confirmation and Clearing

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Applicants accepted through Clearing	37,729	38,477	43,145	47,188

- Part-time Course Search facility introduced
  - 779 subjects in the system
  - 9,541 part-time course searches performed during Clearing
  - Top five subjects searched for part-time courses: nursing, accounting, social work, business and management, law

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Adjustment

- Introduced for 2009 entry
- A Level results day (20 August) to 2 September 2009
- Over 40% of applicants had the opportunity to use the scheme
  - 3,600 applicants registered
  - 384 applicants placed in Adjustment choice

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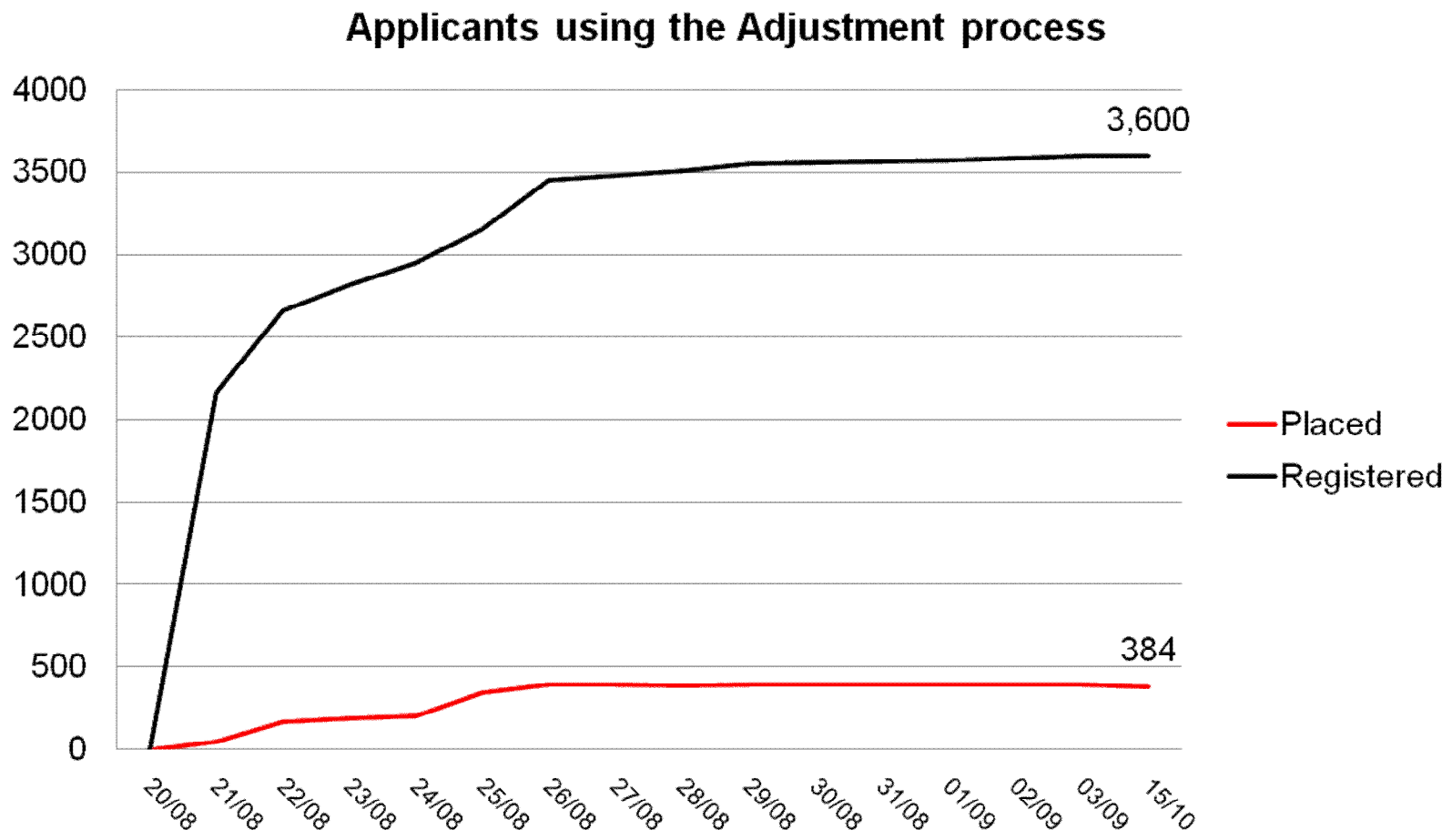
Adjustment



Source: UCAS Statistics Unit

Adjustment

Placed	
In Adjustment choice	384
In Registered UF Main Scheme/Extra choice ('Reconfirmed')	2,355
In other Main Scheme/Extra choice	2
In Clearing choice	442
Not Placed	
Awaiting / referred in Clearing choice or CF-UF processed in error	168
Applicant withdrew from scheme	249

Source: UCAS Statistics Unit

Adjustment

Applicant Demographics – gender

	Placed	% prop placed	Registered	% prop registered	% placed
Female	216	56.3%	1,978	54.9%	10.9%
Male	168	43.8%	1,622	45.1%	10.4%

Applicant Demographics – applicant country

	Placed	% prop placed	Registered	% prop registered	% placed
UK	343	89.3%	2,628	84.4%	13.1%
EU	12	3.1%	137	4.4%	8.8%
Non EU	29	7.6%	349	11.2%	8.3%

Source: UCAS Statistics Unit

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Adjustment

Applicant Demographics – ethnicity (UK only)

	Placed	% prop placed	Registered	% prop registered	% placed
White	223	65.0%	1,863	59.8%	12.0%
Asian	60	17.5%	761	24.4%	7.9%
Black	36	10.5%	269	8.6%	13.4%
Mixed	14	4.1%	121	3.9%	11.6%
Other	6	1.7%	65	2.1%	9.2%
Not given	4	1.2%	35	1.1%	11.4%

Source: UCAS Statistics Unit

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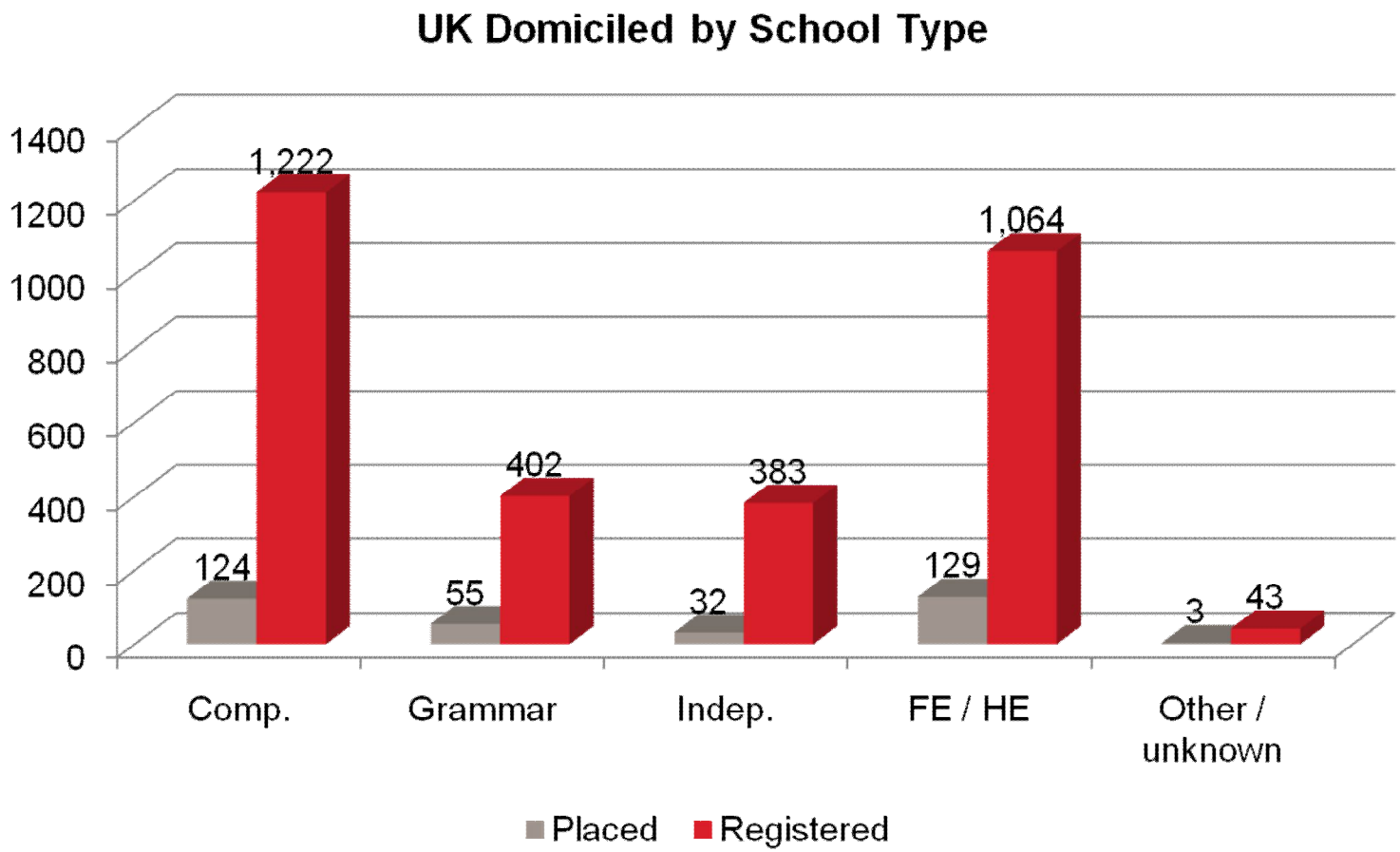
Adjustment

Applicant educational background

	Placed
A Level only	283
BTEC / OCR and A Level	15
BTEC / OCR only	30
IB	3
SQA	4
Access	2

Source: UCAS Statistics Unit

Adjustment



Source: UCAS Statistics Unit

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Adjustment

Institutional activity

	Gained	Lost
Russell Group	105	69
Million Plus	42	83
1994 Group	71	58
Guild HE	15	10
AOC	2	4

Institution country

	Placed	% prop placed
England	329	85.7%
Northern Ireland	23	6.0%
Scotland	9	2.6%
Wales	23	6.0%

Source: UCAS Statistics Unit

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Implications for admissions

- Continuing unprecedented demand
  - A*
  - Admissions Tests
- Funding for HE
- Admissions reforms
  - Adjustment period
  - A level examinations timetable
  - PQA?
- Feedback to unsuccessful applicants
- Information, advice and guidance

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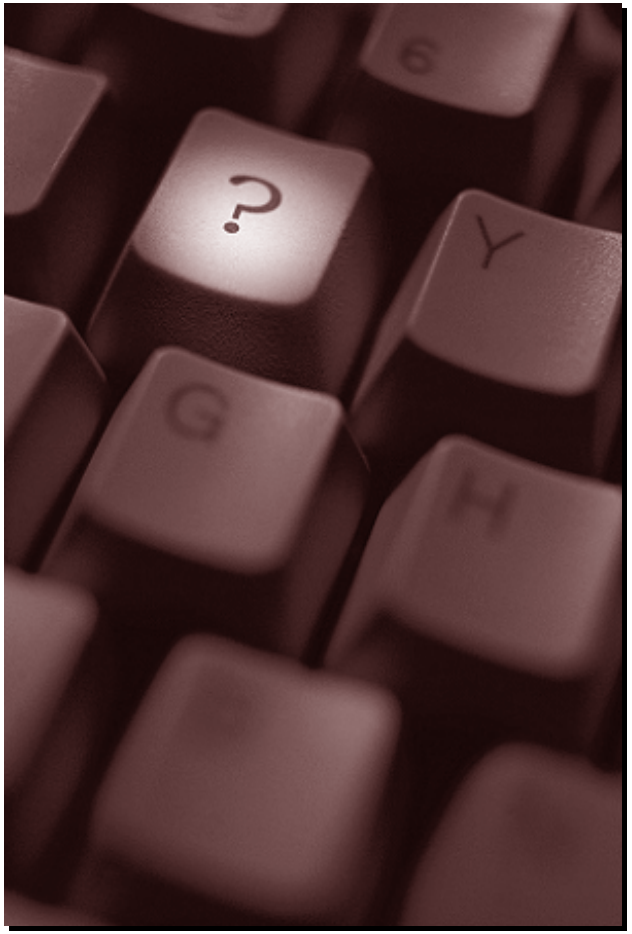
Questions



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