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HE for 'health'

The provision of flexible and efficient higher education for the health workforce – present and future

Michael Farthing, Chair HSCPC UUK

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HE for ‘health’

- The present
- The immediate future
- The longer term future

HE for 'health'

The present

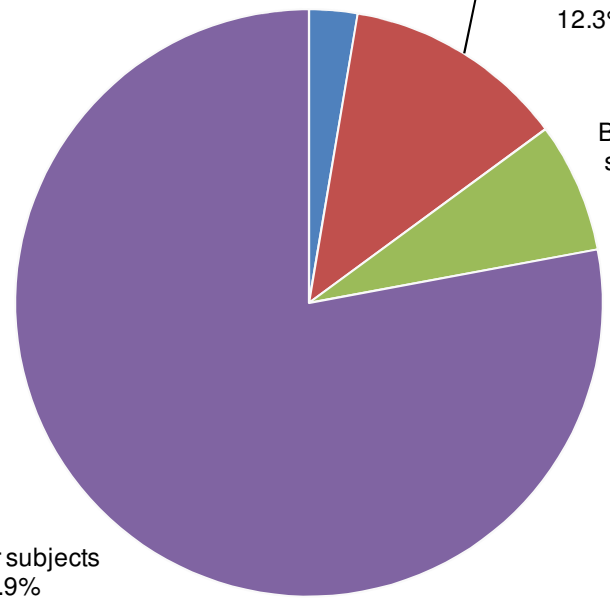
- UG and PG education
- Promotion of MPL
- Basic and clinical research
- Enterprise and innovation
- Leadership and management

Higher Education students (Undergraduate and Postgraduate) 2008/09

UK student figures (undergraduate and postgraduate): 2008/09

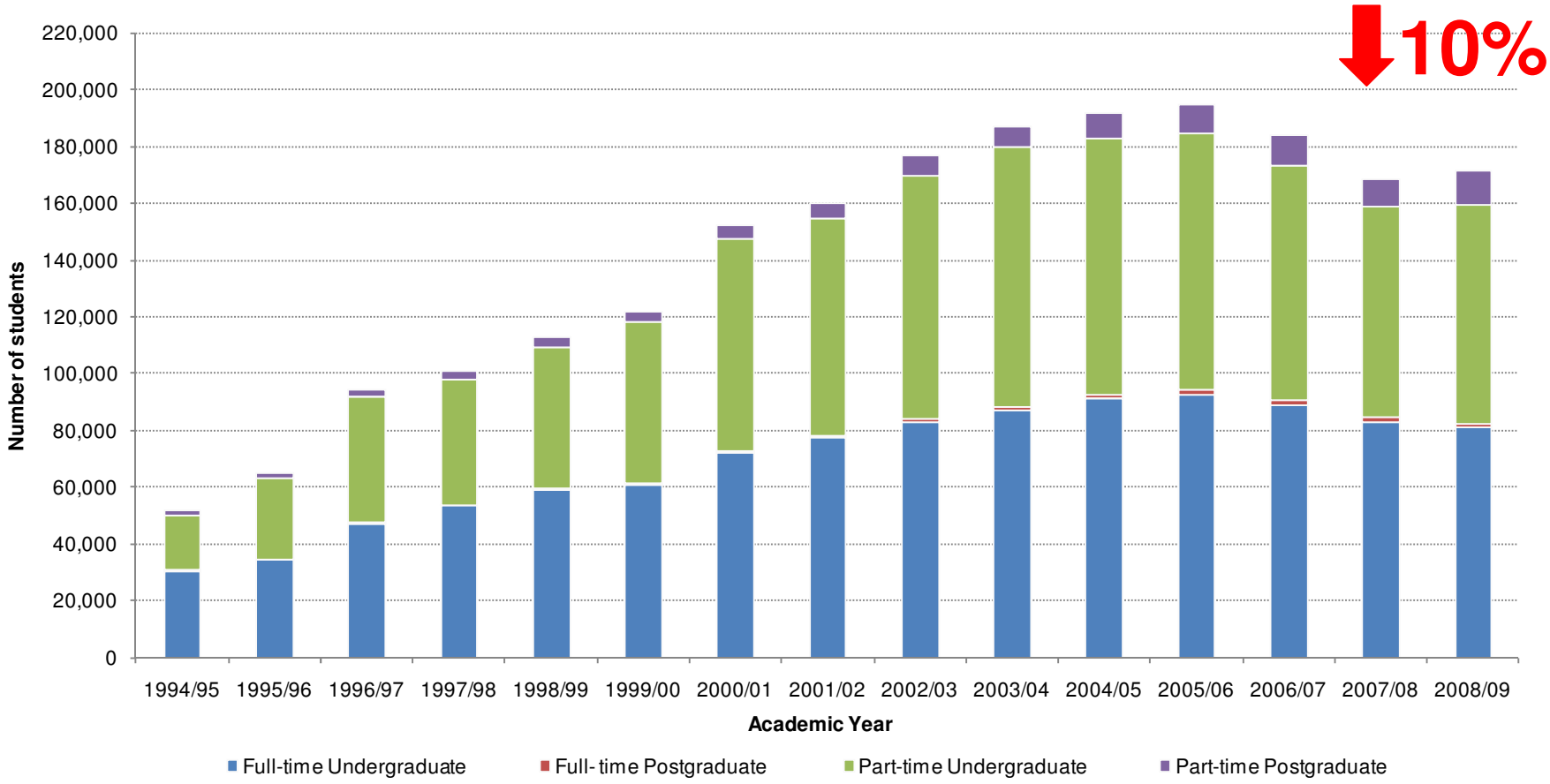
22%

All subject areas total:	**2,396,050**
Medicine and dentistry	63,640
Subjects allied to medicine	293,670
Biological sciences	171,800
All other subjects	1,866,940



Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency, Students in Higher Education Institutions 2008/09

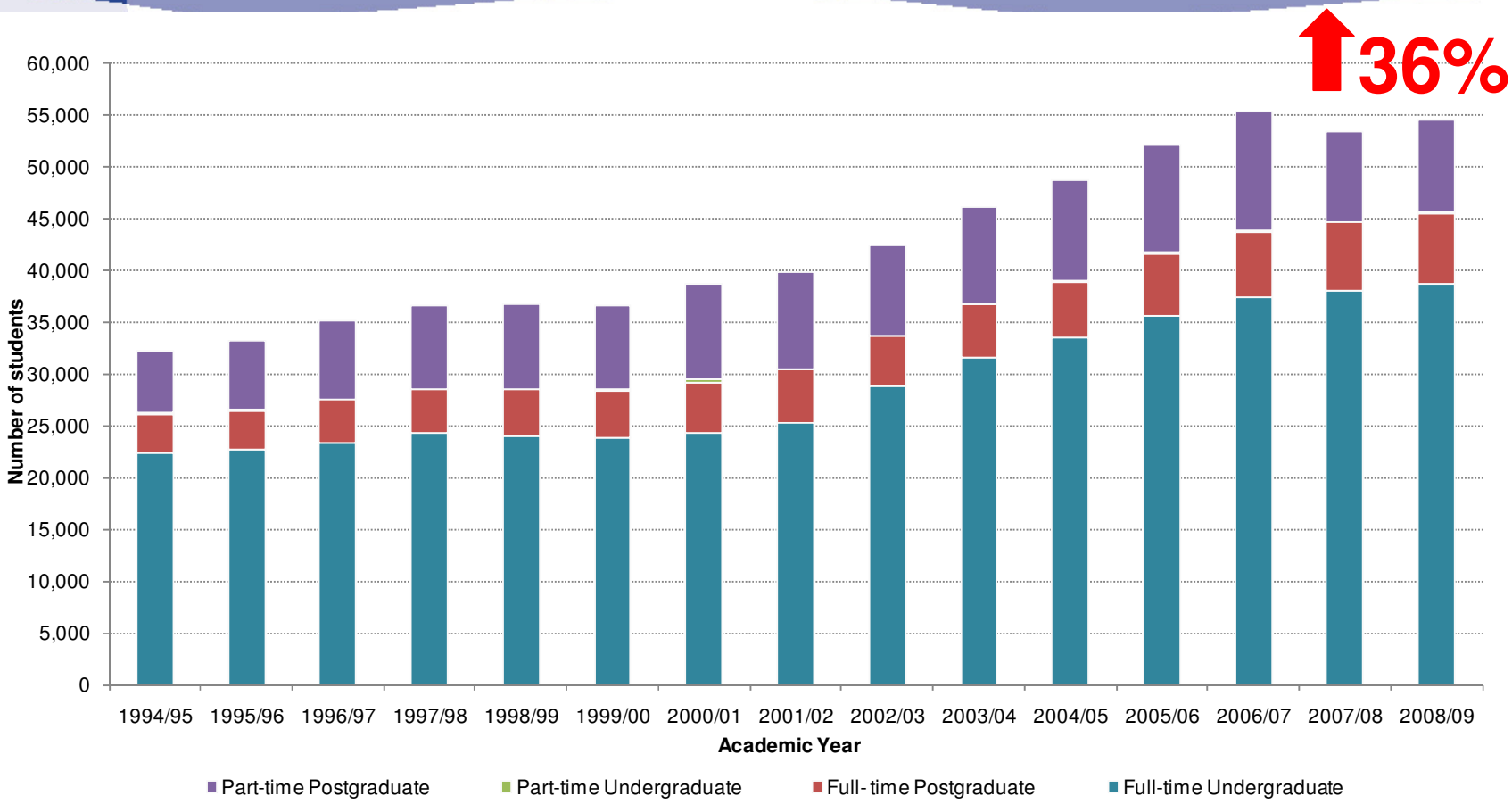
Total number of nursing enrolments at UK HEIs, 1994/95 to 2008/09



NB: From 2007/08 Writing-up and sabbatical students are no longer included in standard counts of students. This particularly effects reported postgraduate numbers.

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency, Students in Higher Education Institutions 1994/95 to 2008/09

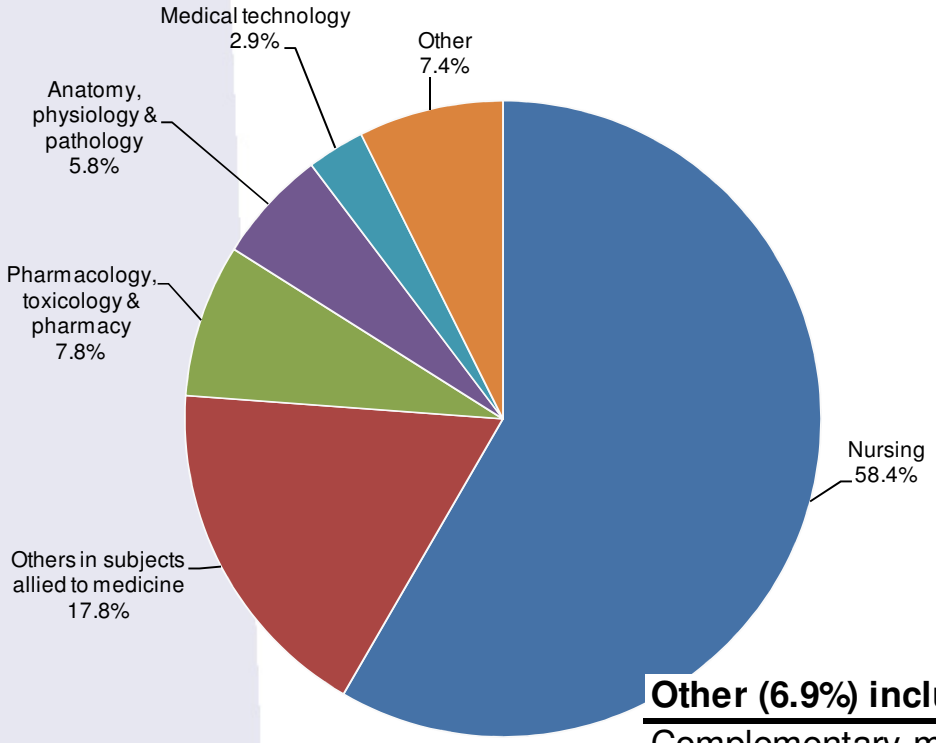
Total number of medical students (clinical and pre-clinical) enrolled at UK HEIs, 1994/95 – 2008/09



NB: From 2007/08 Writing-up and sabbatical students are no longer included in standard counts of students. This particularly effects reported postgraduate numbers.

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency, Students in Higher Education Institutions 1994/95 to 2008/09

Subjects Allied to Medicine (Undergraduate and Postgraduate) 2008/09



Other (6.9%) includes:	
Complementary medicine	2.3%
Nutrition	2.1%
Ophthalmics	1.2%
Aural & oral sciences	1.4%
Broadly-based programmes within subjects allied to medicine	0.2%

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency, Students in Higher Education Institutions 2008/09

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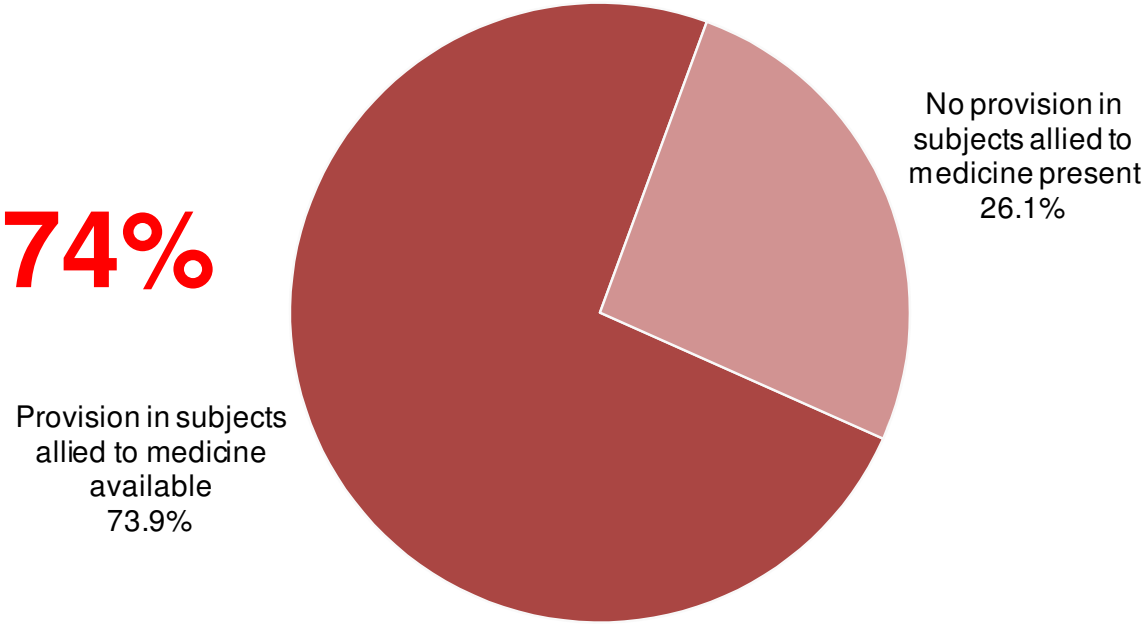
UK HEIs offering provision in subjects allied to medicine, 2008/09

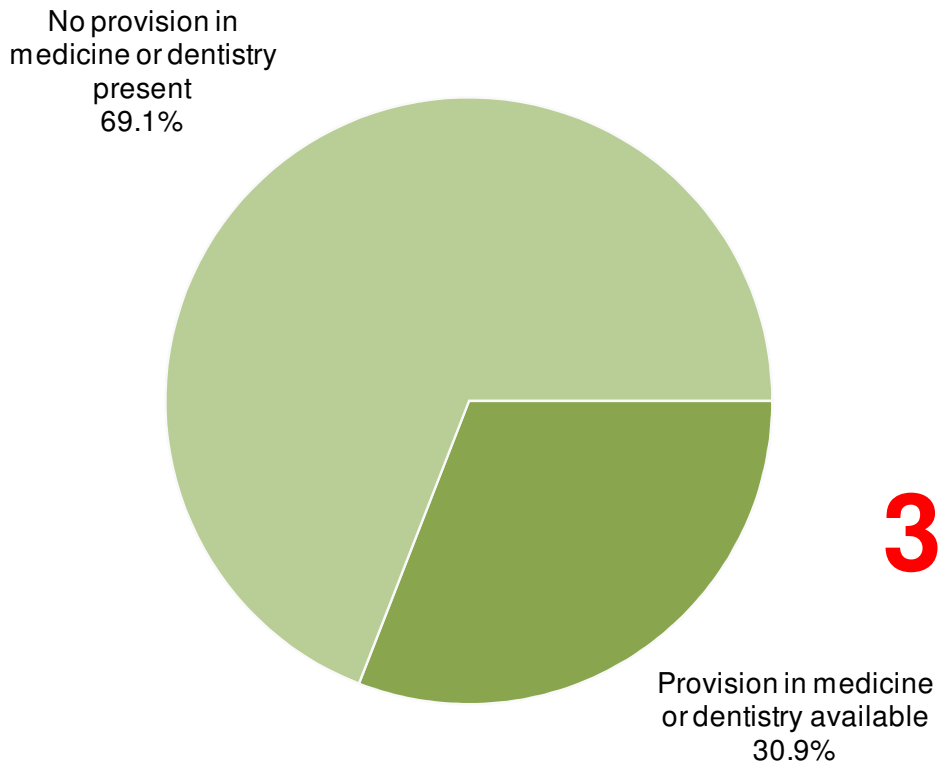
Proportion of UK HEIs providing provision in subjects allied to medicine, 2008/09



Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency, Students in Higher Education Institutions 2008/09

UK HEIs offering provision in medicine and / or dentistry, 2008/09

Number of UK HEIs providing provision in medicine and / or dentistry, 2008/09



31%

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency, Students in Higher Education Institutions 2008/09

The immediate future

- Funding challenges for HE and health
- Evolution of healthcare delivery
- HE can and will adapt.....
- But there will be limits

The immediate future

- Flexible workforce
- Educated not just trained
- Curricula can catalyze change
- New programmes must have a 'run off'
- 'Train, sustain, retain'

The longer term future

- We should be thinking about 2040!
- Students enrolled in 2010 will still be at work.....
- With possibly another 20 years to go!

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The future of medical and healthcare services

Scenario 1

- Expansion of primary care
- Increase in home care
- Reduction in secondary care ?
- Increase in self care
- Increased opportunities for self diagnosis
- Increase in OTC medications

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Scenario 2

The future of the medical practitioner

- Progressive development of new roles
- Nurse practitioners and nurse specialists
- ‘Physicians’ assistants’
- Enhanced roles – radiographers, medical technologists, emergency care practitioners
- New roles – surgical technologists
- Medical-surgical Robotics

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Scenario 3

The medical practitioner of the future

- Less ‘doing’, more ‘thinking and planning’
- Less routine tasks, more advanced/complex
- More engagement with science and technology
- More research and development
- More leadership
- More engagement with education and training

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Scenarios Summary

Future predictions

- Patients will do more for themselves
- Healthcare delivery will be knowledge and skills based.....and
- Less dependent on traditional disciplines
- Science and technology will make it easier
- Advanced skills and innovation will be vital
- The rate of change will accelerate!

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What will be required?

- New generic and specialist programmes
- Multi professional learning and practice
- More ‘escalators’
- Lower disciplinary boundaries - task focused
- Recognition that all jobs will change
- Multiple ‘career evolutions’ will be the norm
- More healthcare practitioners ?

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Desirables for the HE –NHS relationship?

- Shared vision
- Joint, longer term planning
- Recognition that education and training are different
- Work together to prepare a flexible workforce

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How best to define the HE –NHS relationship?

- Purchaser-provider ?
- Strategic alliance ?
- Partnership ?

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