

Progression Reports | Specialty exams | Undergraduate

These reports show percentage pass rates for Royal College exams for various groups of doctors in postgraduate training based on which medical school they attended.

To create the reports, we used data collected from the medical Royal Colleges and Faculties, along with data from the medical register and the Higher Education Statistics Authority (HESA).

In these reports, you can explore Royal College exam outcomes by:

- Medical school, first & last institution and country (of medical school) with further breakdown by Educational Performance Measure (EPM) and course type
- Medical school over exam years 2013/2014 – 2018/2019

Technical notes & definitions

GMC confidentiality rules	To protect the confidentiality of doctors, we do not report on any group smaller than three people.
Confidence intervals	All our confidence intervals (CI) are calculated to the 95% confidence level using the recommended method for proportions from Altman, D.G., Machin, D. et al. <i>Statistics with Confidence</i> 2nd edition; BMJ Books. 2000.
Outliers	Outliers in these reports are where the upper confidence limit of the report group is less than the lower confidence limit of the benchmark group (below outlier: coloured purple), or where the lower confidence limit of the report group is more than the upper confidence limit of the benchmark group (above outlier: coloured dark blue).
Reporting period/year	These reports include data from 2014 onwards. Each year of this report includes exams taken in a given academic year, running from 1 August to 31 July. The label refers to the 2nd calendar year in that period. For example, '2019' refers to the academic year starting on 1 August 2018 and finishing on 31 July 2019.
Medical school names & country	We have used the best available medical school value held in our systems. We have done this because PMQ awarding body is not always the same as medical

	<p>school. For example University of London as a PMQ can refer to one of several London medical schools.</p> <p>We are able to use HESA data for cases attending UK medical schools from 2002 onwards to identify specific schools where this is not the same value as the PMQ awarding body.</p> <p>Country is based on the applied medical school value.</p>
<p>First and last institution</p>	<p>There are some instances where a student’s first medical school is not the same as their graduating school. Using first and last institution allows us to report on these cohorts. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students starting at St Andrews and moving to Manchester for their clinical years • Students starting at Durham and moving to Newcastle for their clinical training. • Students from Oxbridge who complete their PMQ at a London Medical School.
<p>Course type</p>	<p>The course types were derived by mapping the HESA values of COURSEID and COURSETITLE to course types described in the Medical School Council’s (MSC) Entry requirements for UK medical schools – please see https://www.medschools.ac.uk/studying-medicine/course-types</p> <p>These mappings were confirmed by the schools as part of an exercise conducted by the part of an exercise conducted by the MSC Selection Alliance Data Group.</p>
<p>Educational Performance Measure (EPM)</p>	<p>Students in the graduating cohort are ranked on their medical school performance. Schools were free to decide which assessments to include, provided they met the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summative (and hence subject to formal controls) • Cover clinical knowledge, skills and performance • Cover non-clinical performance • Cover all aspects of the curriculum assessed up to the end of the penultimate year at medical school • Represent the average performance of the applicants over time, rather than being limited to a snap-shot • Include written and practical forms of assessment

	<p>Schools were required to consult with students and publish on their website which assessments they included in the score.</p> <p>In 2012 students were placed into quartiles; from 2013 students are placed into deciles.</p> <p>To merge the 2012 EPM measure with the EPM scores obtained from 2013 onwards we placed cases into the top or bottom half of the EPM scale.</p>
Non-medical school values	A small number of exams are taken by doctors who graduated from UK institutions that are not medical schools. These records have been excluded from the reports.

If your queries have not yet been resolved please email the education data and insight team by [clicking here](#).