



Student
Loans Company

SLC Estranged Student Demographics – IR0492 (Phase Two)

Customer Insight

Customer & Marketing Intelligence

May 2015

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

Research Statement

SLC Stakeholder Services department are working in conjunction with Standalone, a charity organisation set up to offer assistance to vulnerable students including those estranged from their families.

To support this work, SLC have been asked to profile the parentally estranged student population who have applied, to date, for student support across the 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14 academic years.



What is estrangement?

Estrangement under the student support regulations has the following impact in terms of assessment:

“Parental income is not included in the income assessment where the eligible student is irreconcilably estranged from their parents.

They should be regarded as independent where:

- (a) ‘they have not communicated with either of their parents for the period of one year before the beginning of the relevant year’ for which they are being financially assessed;
- (b) Or they can demonstrate on other grounds that they are irreconcilably estranged from their parents.”

In other words, if the student has not communicated with either parent during the year prior to the year of study they should be regarded as irreconcilably estranged.

If they have communicated with either of them during that year, they can nevertheless still be regarded as irreconcilably estranged, as aside from a year long absence of communication, the student may be able to demonstrate other grounds for regarding themselves as irreconcilably estranged from their parents.”

Methodology & Notes

Data and information contained within this report was extracted using the SLC Microstrategy system.

Data is accurate as of the date extracted from the system – **29/04/2015**.

Data relates to the **Student Finance England**, **Student Finance Wales** and **Student Finance Northern Ireland** products only.

Data excludes EU/EEA Nationals.

Data relates to full-time applicants only.

Data relates to applicants aged 16 up to a maximum age of 24 (inclusive). Any applicants outside this age range have been excluded.

Data relates to applicants that are indicated as being 'irreconcilably estranged' from their parents on the application form.

Data includes all applicants indicated as 'estranged' irrespective of the work stage of their application.

Data deemed to be erroneous has been removed.

Data should not be re-distributed without prior permission of the SLC Stakeholder Services team.

Data should be referenced and used **for indicative purposes only**.

It is important to note that this demographic profile is not necessarily representative of the wider student population the Student Support Regulations are specific in their definition of what constitutes being 'irreconcilably estranged' from your parents.

As a result, customers profiled in this research have met or believe that they meet these requirements and have indicated this on their application.

It is also important to note that applicants must be full-time, means-tested and 24 years of age or under in order for the 'irreconcilably estranged' criteria to apply.

Applicants out-with of this criteria are not included in this analysis.

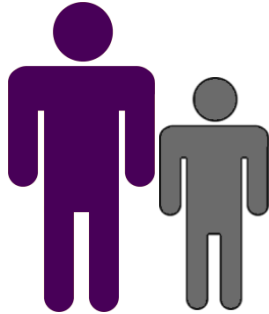
References to '*All other applicants*' is any other applicant who has applied to any of the three award authorities listed above but has not indicated estrangement from parents on application.

A Glossary of terms is available at the end of this slide pack.

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: TOTAL APPLICANTS BY AWARD AUTHORITY

Estranged 2011/12 Academic Year

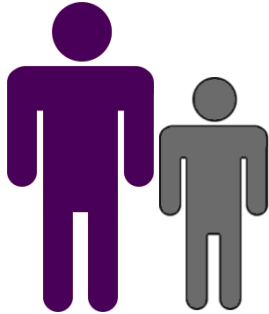
Award Authority	Number of Estranged Applicants
Student Finance England	7,121
Student Finance Wales	444
Student Finance Northern Ireland	283



Estranged Applicants represent 0.62% of all applicants to the SLC in the 2011/12 Academic Year

Estranged 2012/13 Academic Year

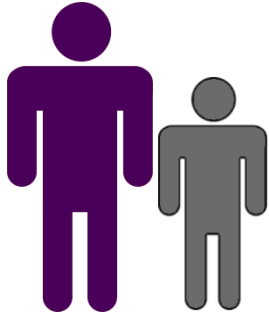
Award Authority	Number of Estranged Applicants
Student Finance England	7,759
Student Finance Wales	500
Student Finance Northern Ireland	290



Estranged Applicants represent 0.64% of all applicants to the SLC in the 2012/13 Academic Year

Estranged 2013/14 Academic Year

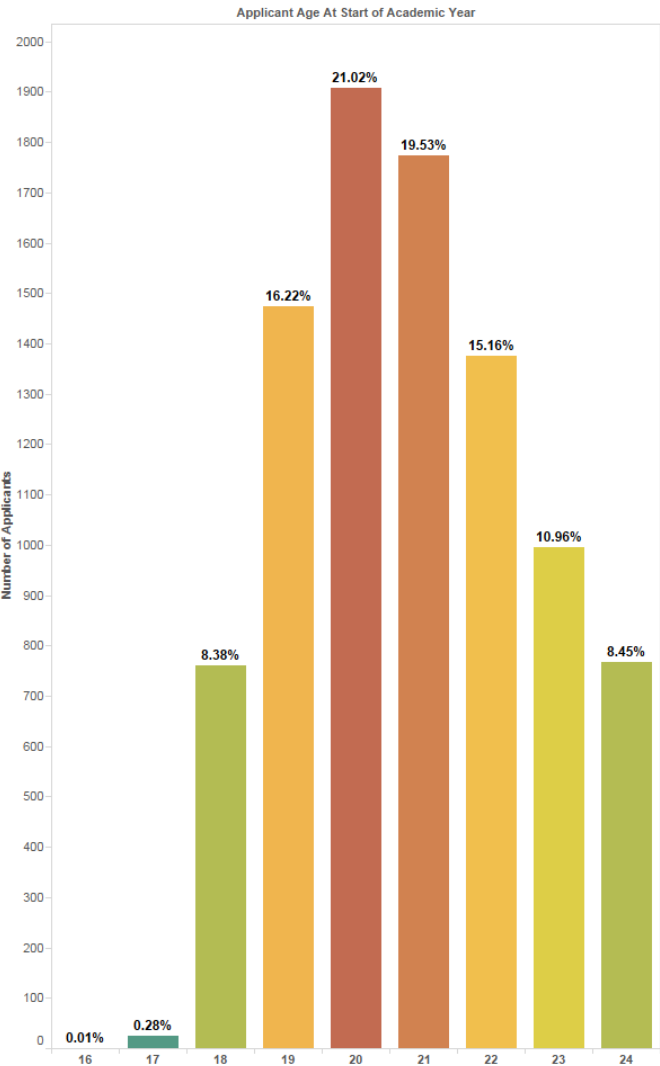
Award Authority	Number of Estranged Applicants
Student Finance England	8,505
Student Finance Wales	557
Student Finance Northern Ireland	276



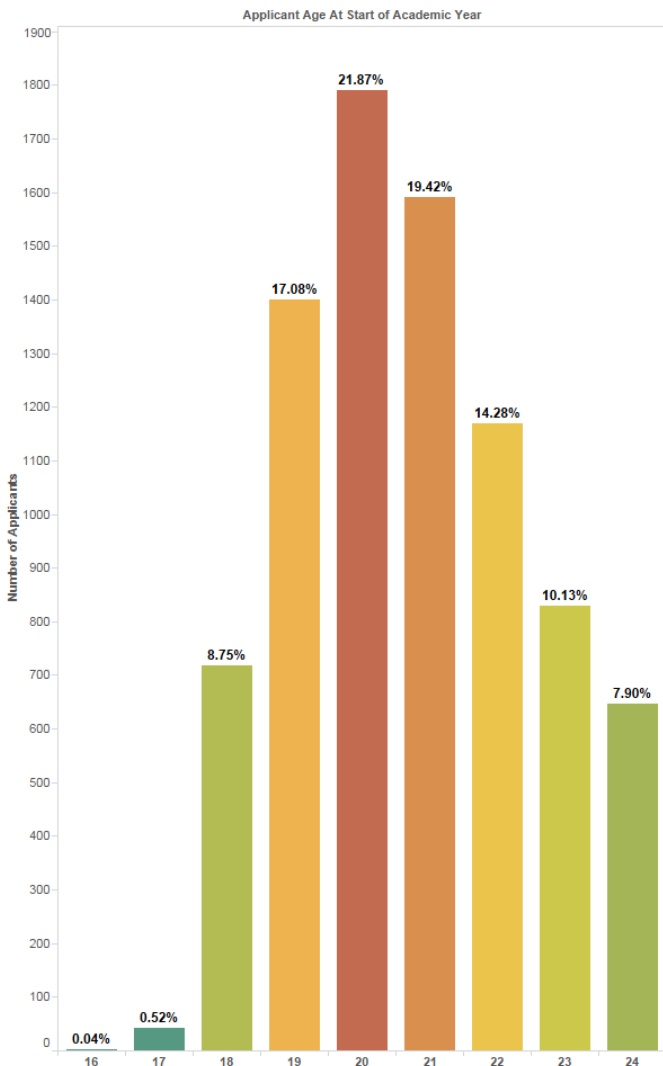
Estranged Applicants represent 0.66% of all applicants to the SLC in the 2013/14 Academic Year

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: AGE BREAKDOWN BY NUMBER OF APPLICANTS

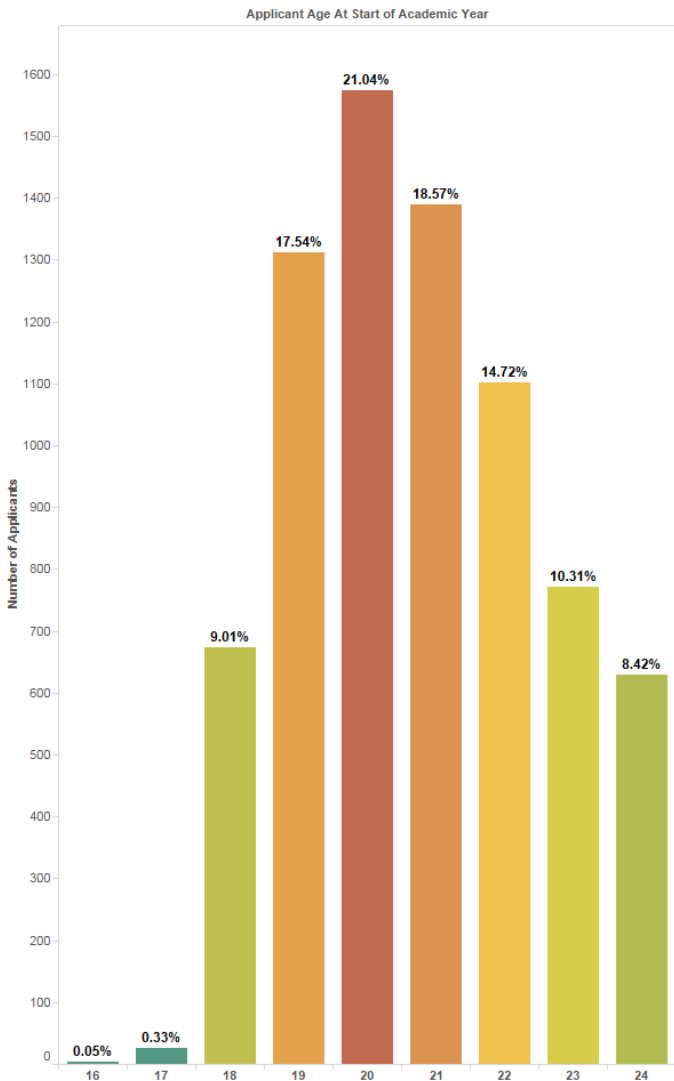
Estranged 2011/12 Academic Year



Estranged 2012/13 Academic Year



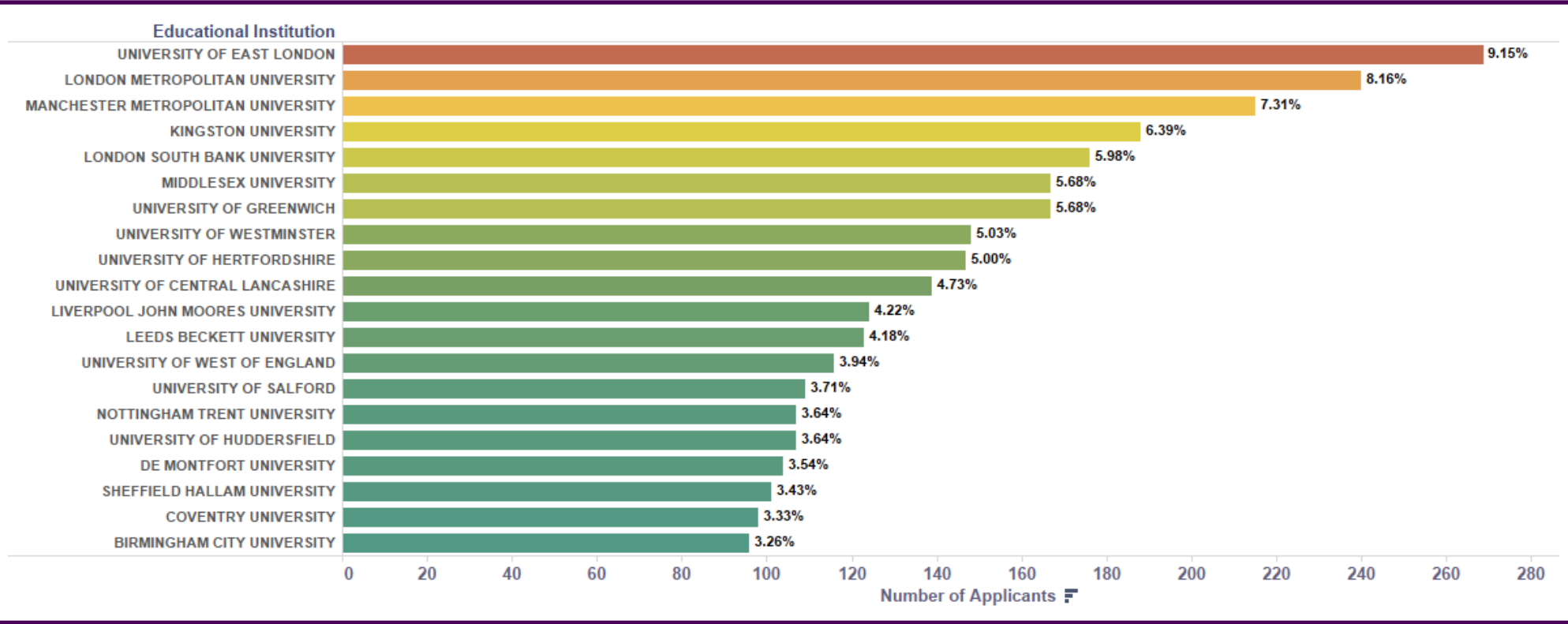
Estranged 2013/14 Academic Year



Note: Total number of Applicants by Age at Start of Academic Year for Applicants indicating 'estranged from parents'.

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDER – TOP 20

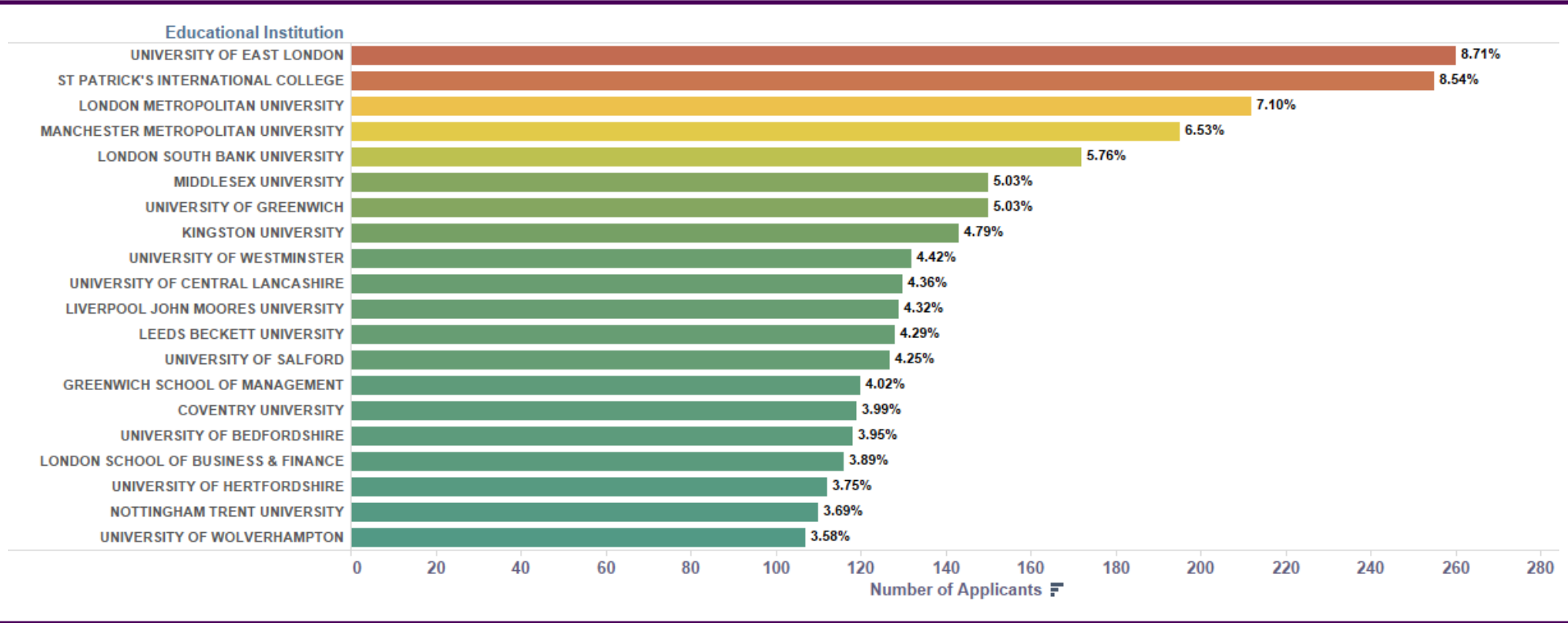
Estranged 2011/12 Academic Year



Note: Number of Applicants by Higher Education Provider (Educational Institution) and ranked by Top 20 within the group. Percentage of total within Top 20 displayed on chart.

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDER – TOP 20

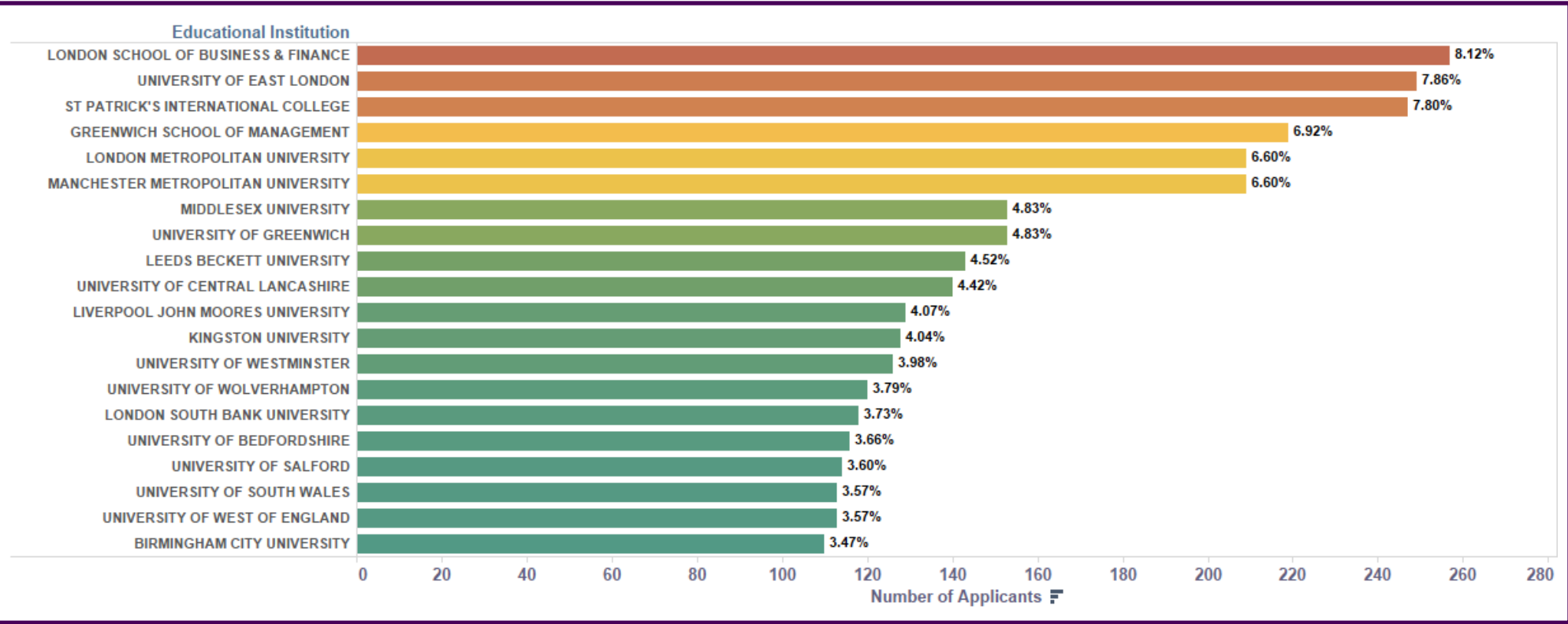
Estranged 2012/13 Academic Year



Note: Number of Applicants by Higher Education Provider (Educational Institution) and ranked by Top 20 within the group. Percentage of total within Top 20 displayed on chart.

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDER – TOP 20

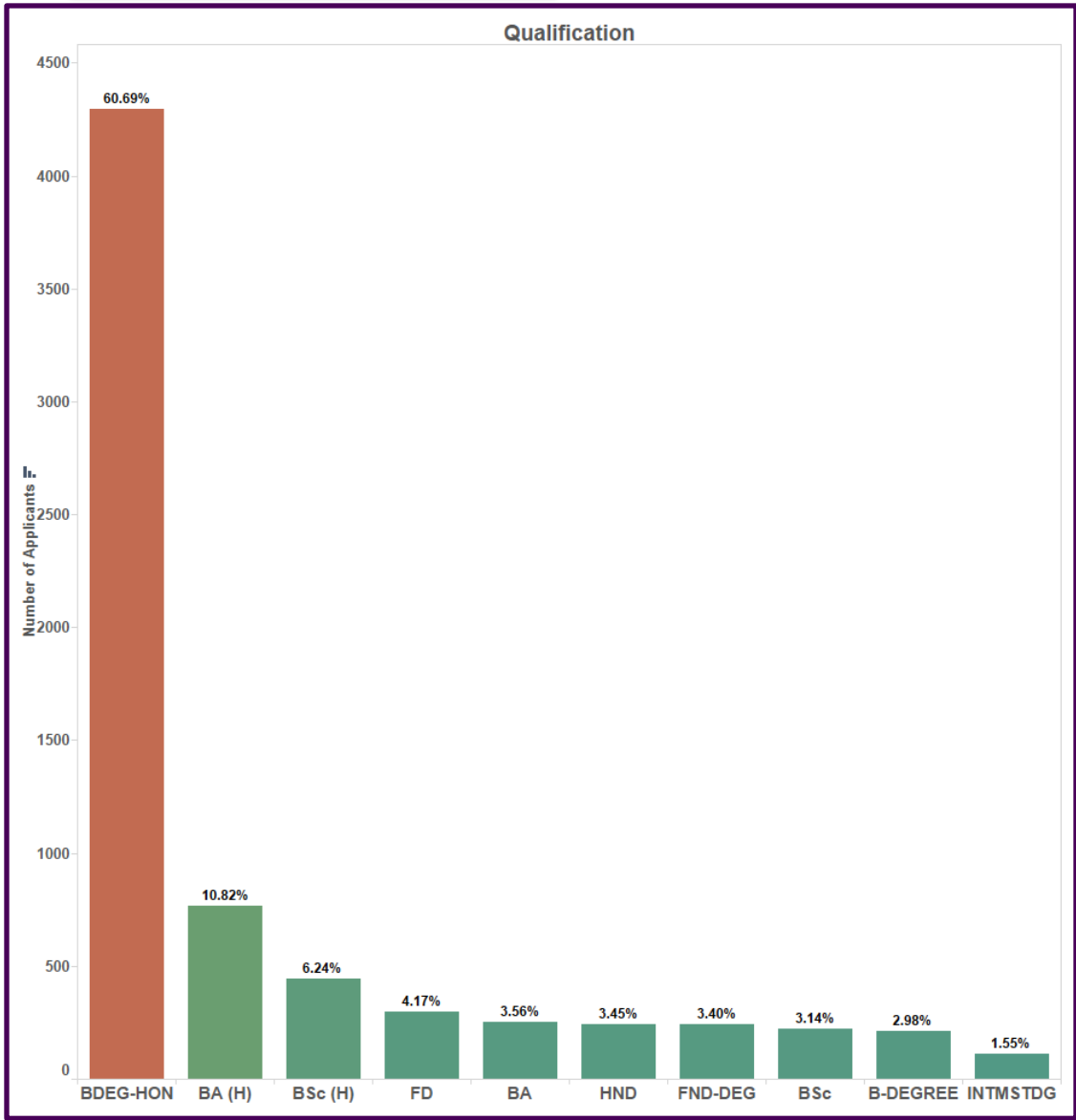
Estranged 2013/14 Academic Year



Note: Number of Applicants by Higher Education Provider (Educational Institution) and ranked by Top 20 within the group. Percentage of total within Top 20 displayed on chart.

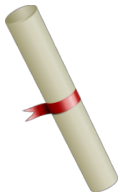
ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: QUALIFICATION TYPE

Estranged 2011/12 Academic Year



Qualification Type Legend

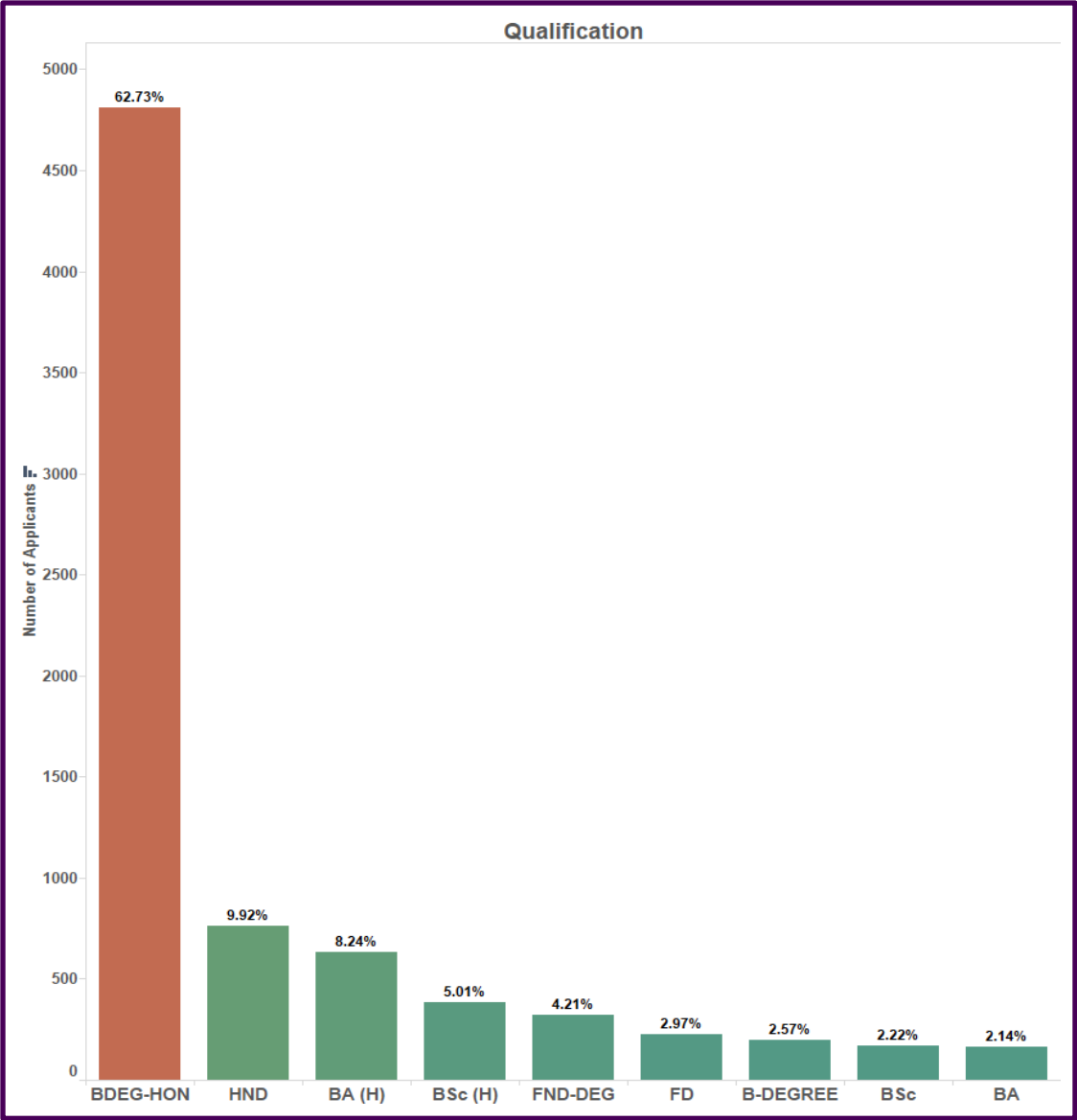
- BDEG-HON**: Bachelor Degree with Honours
- BA (H)**: Bachelor of Arts with Honours
- BSc (H)**: Bachelor of Science with Honours
- FD**: Foundation Degree
- BA**: Bachelor of Arts
- HND**: Higher National Diploma
- FND-DEG**: Foundation Degree
- BSc**: Bachelor of Science
- B-Degree**: Bachelor Degree
- INTMSTDG**: Integrated Masters Degree



Note: Total number of Applicants by Qualification Type for all applicants indicating ‘estranged from parents’ ranked by Top 10 within group. Percentage of total within Top 10 displayed on chart.

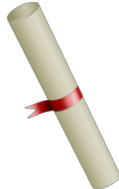
ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: QUALIFICATION TYPE

Estranged 2012/13 Academic Year



Qualification Type Legend

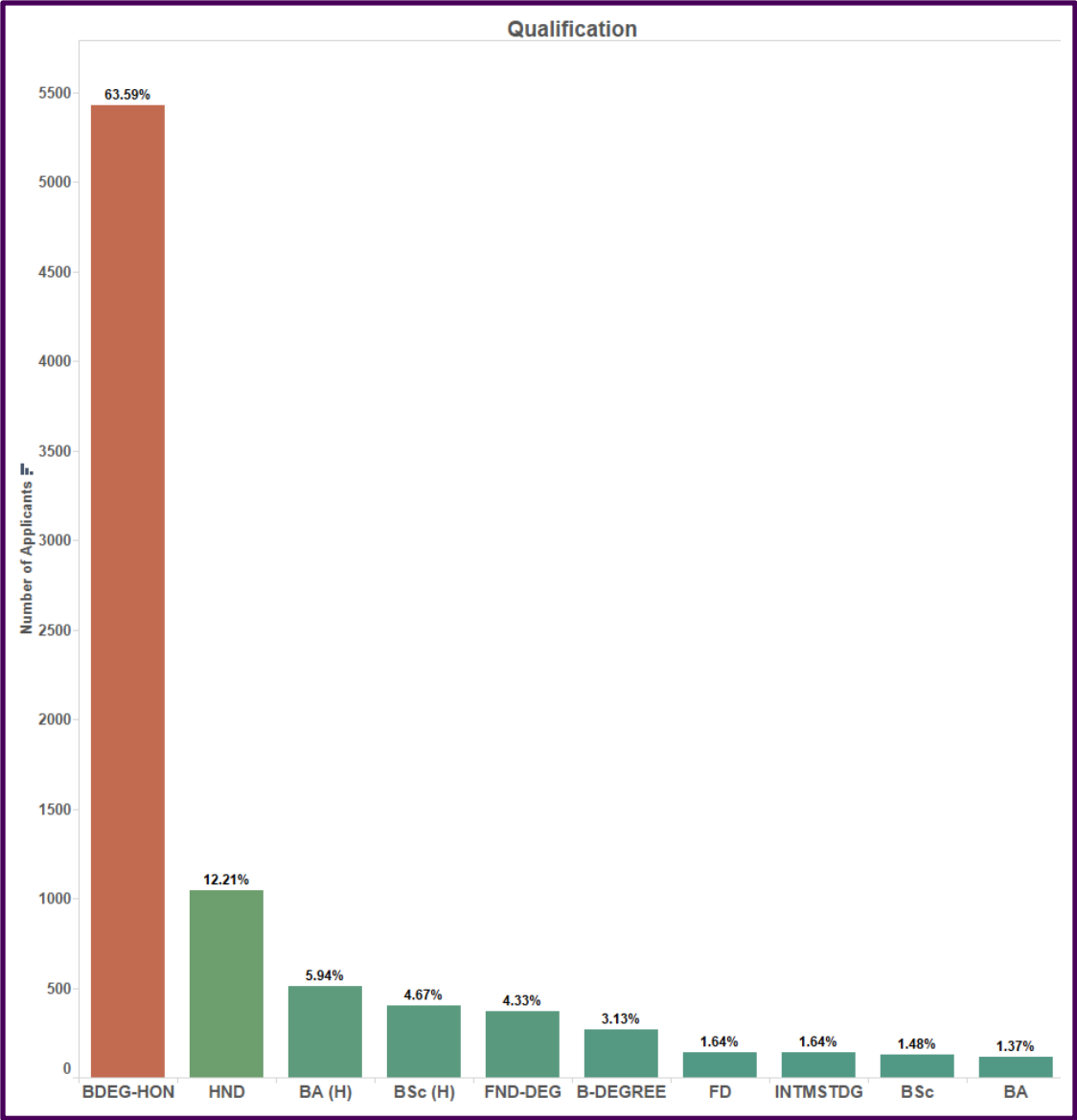
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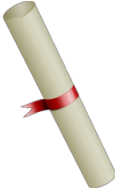
ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: QUALIFICATION TYPE

Estranged 2013/14 Academic Year



Qualification Type Legend

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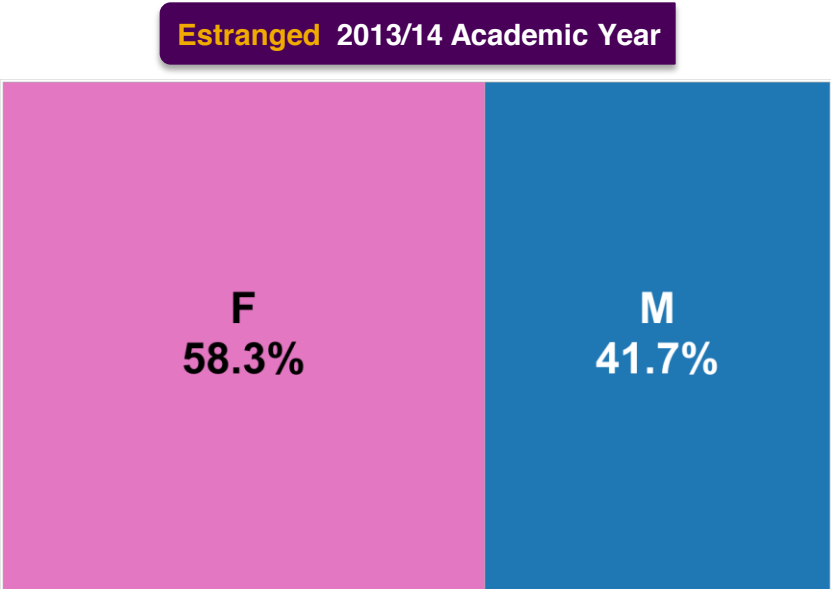
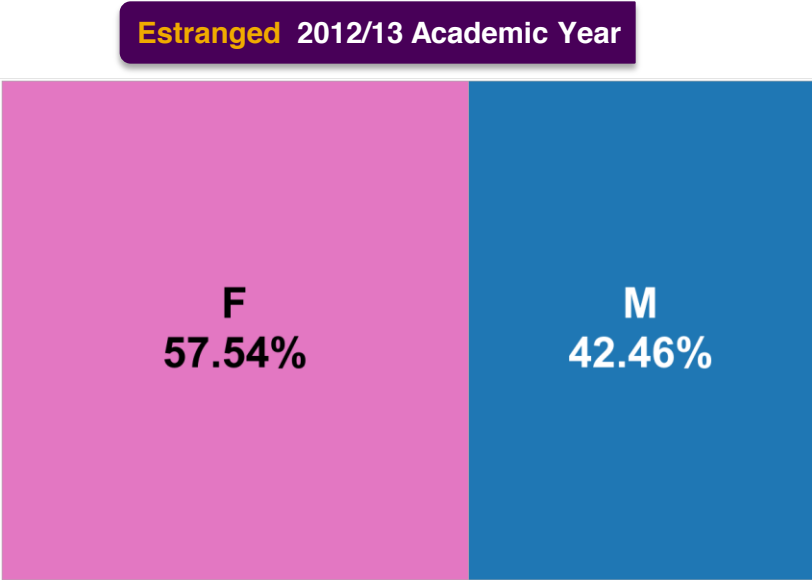
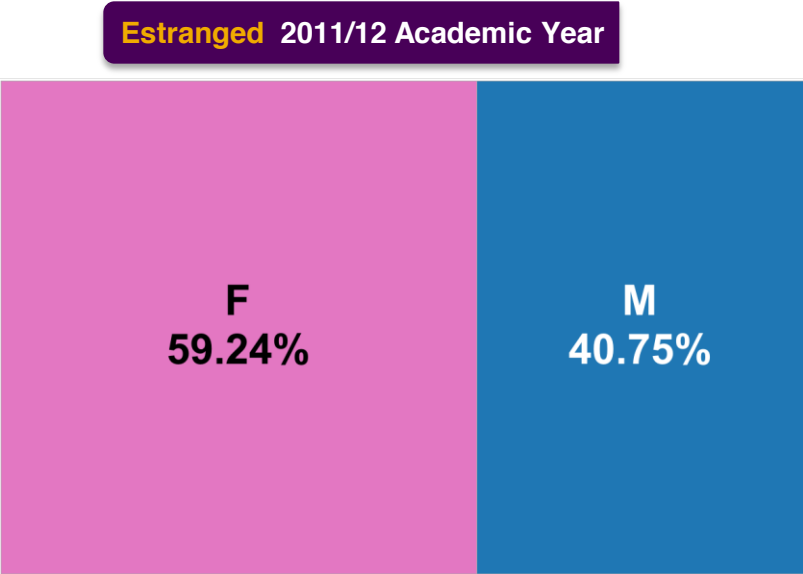
Note: Total number of Applicants by Qualification Type for all applicants indicating 'estranged from parents' ranked by Top 10 within group. Percentage of total within Top 10 displayed on chart.

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: MEANS TESTED VS. NON MEANS TESTED SPLIT



Note: Total number of Applicants split by Means Tested or Non-Means Tested across the indicated Academic Years.

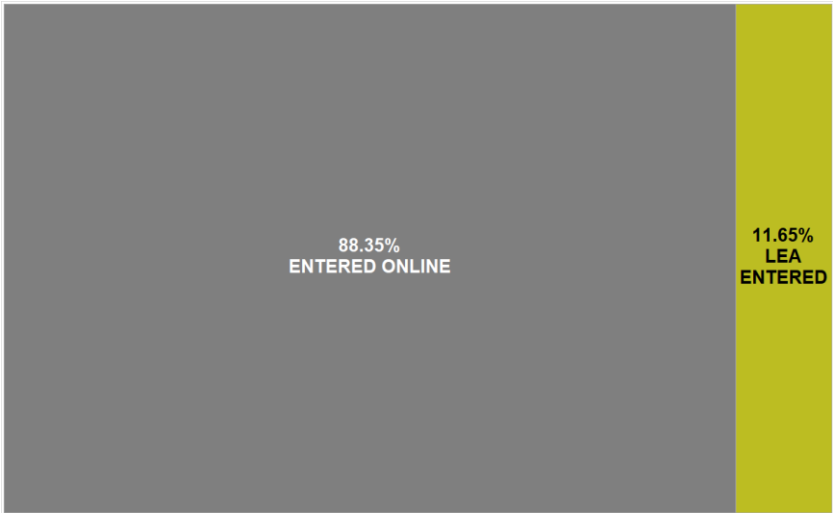
ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: MALE VS. FEMALE SPLIT



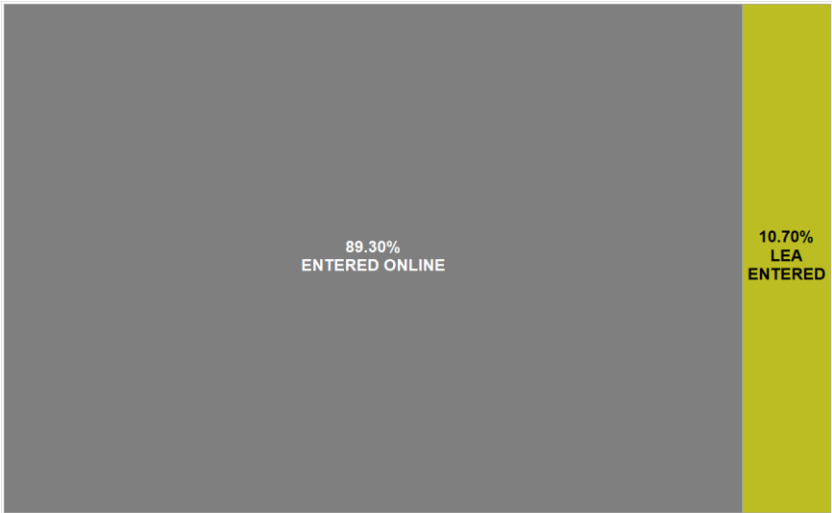
Note: Total number of Applicants split by Male or Female across the indicated Academic Years.

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: ONLINE VS. PAPER

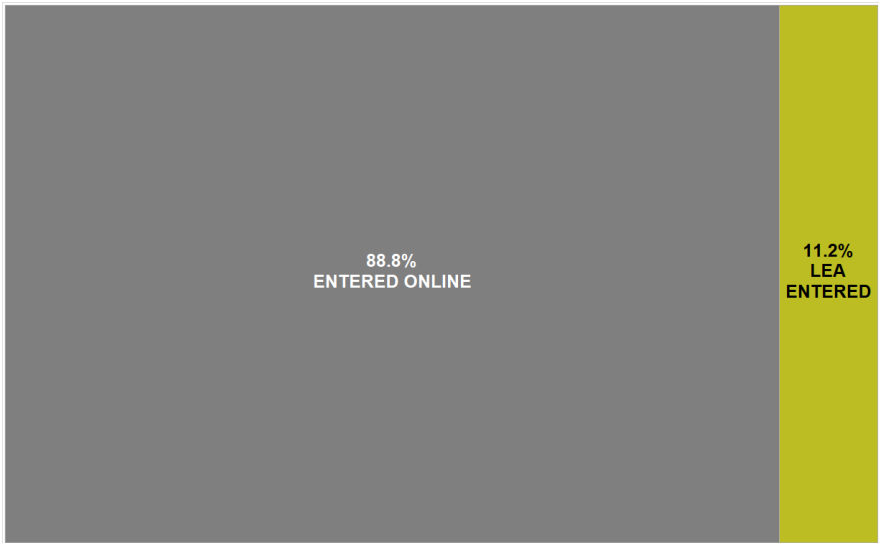
Estranged 2011/12 Academic Year



Estranged 2012/13 Academic Year



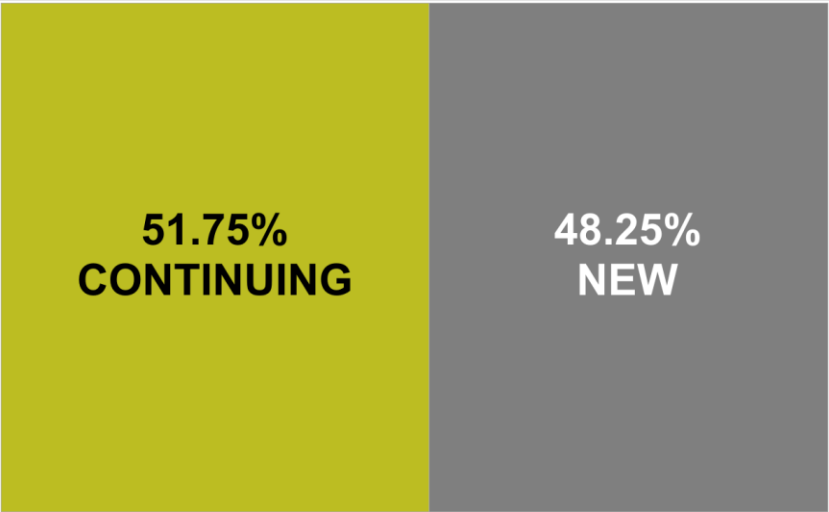
Estranged 2013/14 Academic Year



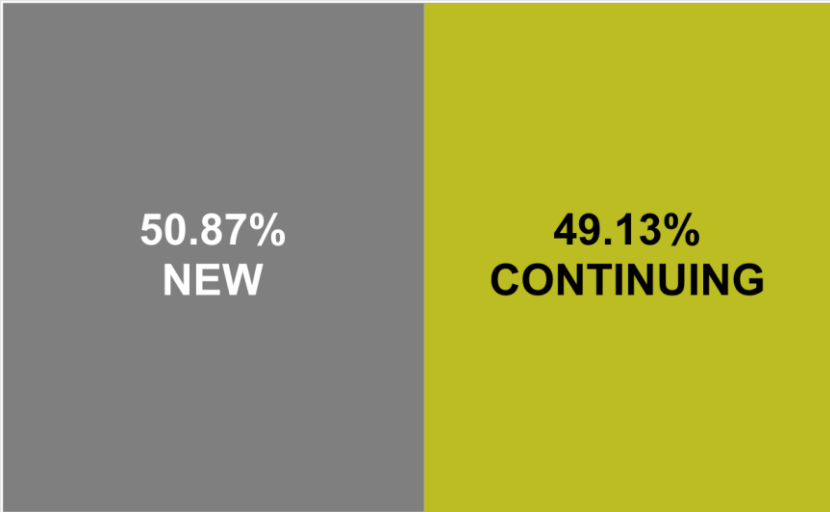
Note: Total number of Applicants split by Online vs. Paper Application type for the indicated Academic Years.

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: NEW VS. CONTINUING

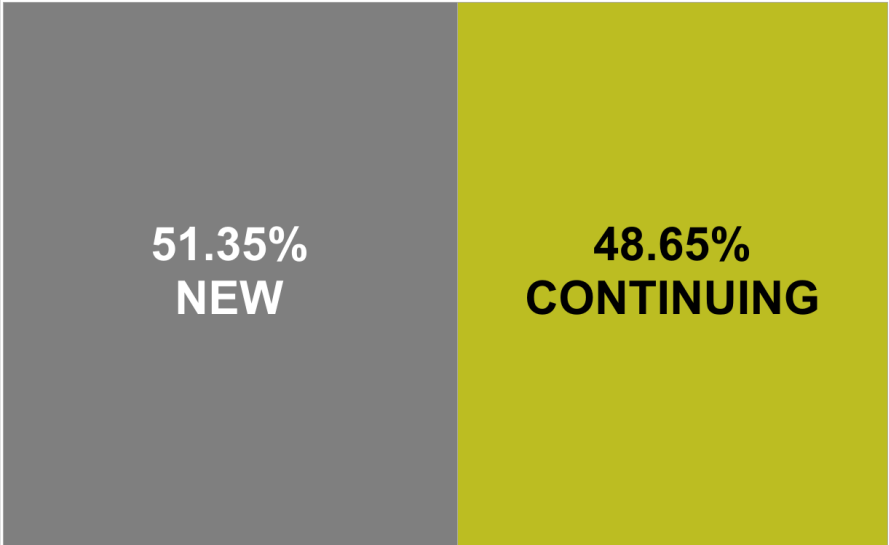
Estranged 2011/12 Academic Year



Estranged 2012/13 Academic Year



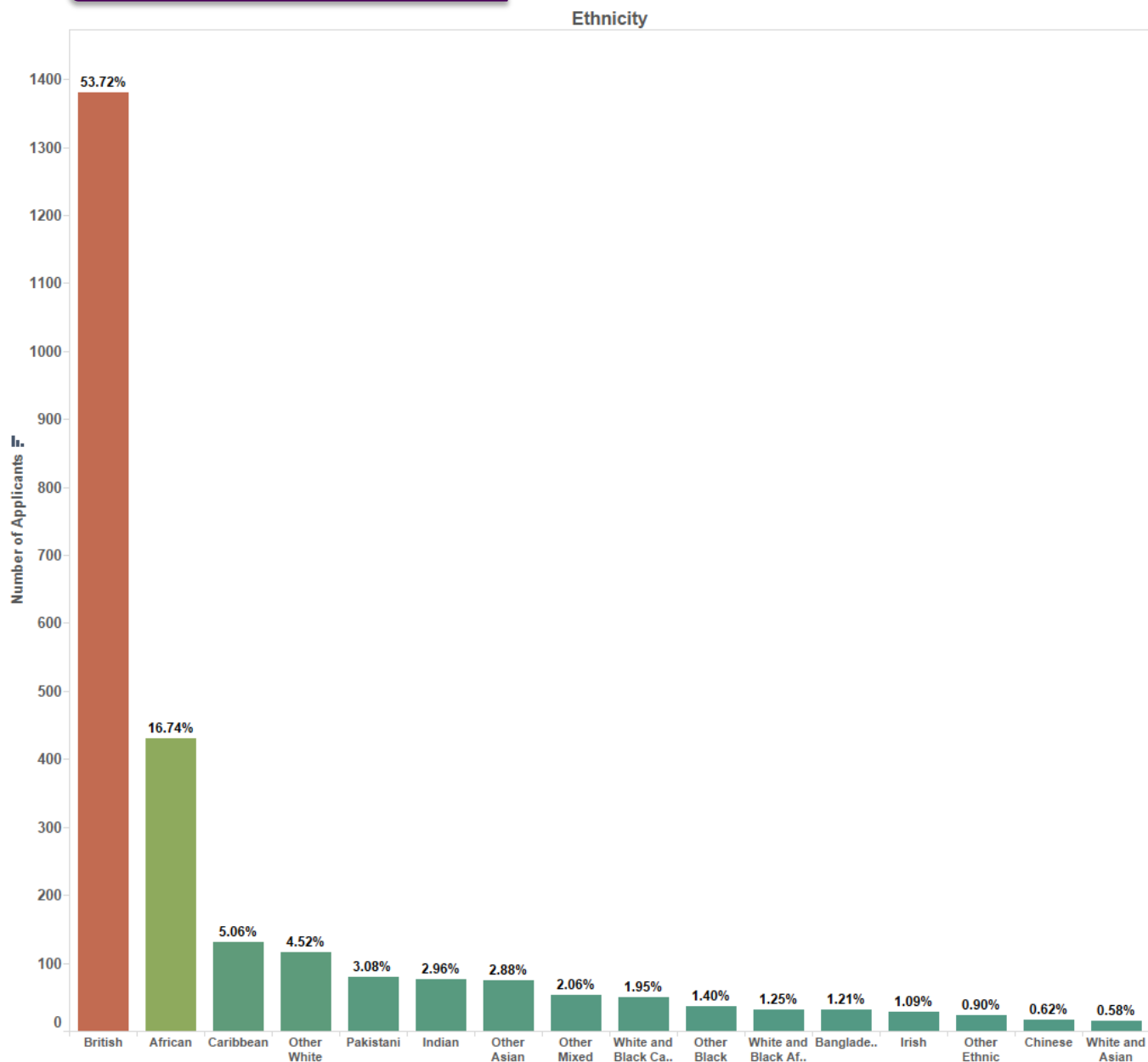
Estranged 2013/14 Academic Year



Note: Total number of Applicants split by New vs. Continuing application type for the indicated Academic Years. Largest Volume displayed first.

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: ETHNICITY DATA

Estranged 2011/12 Academic Year



- **7,848** Estranged Base Size

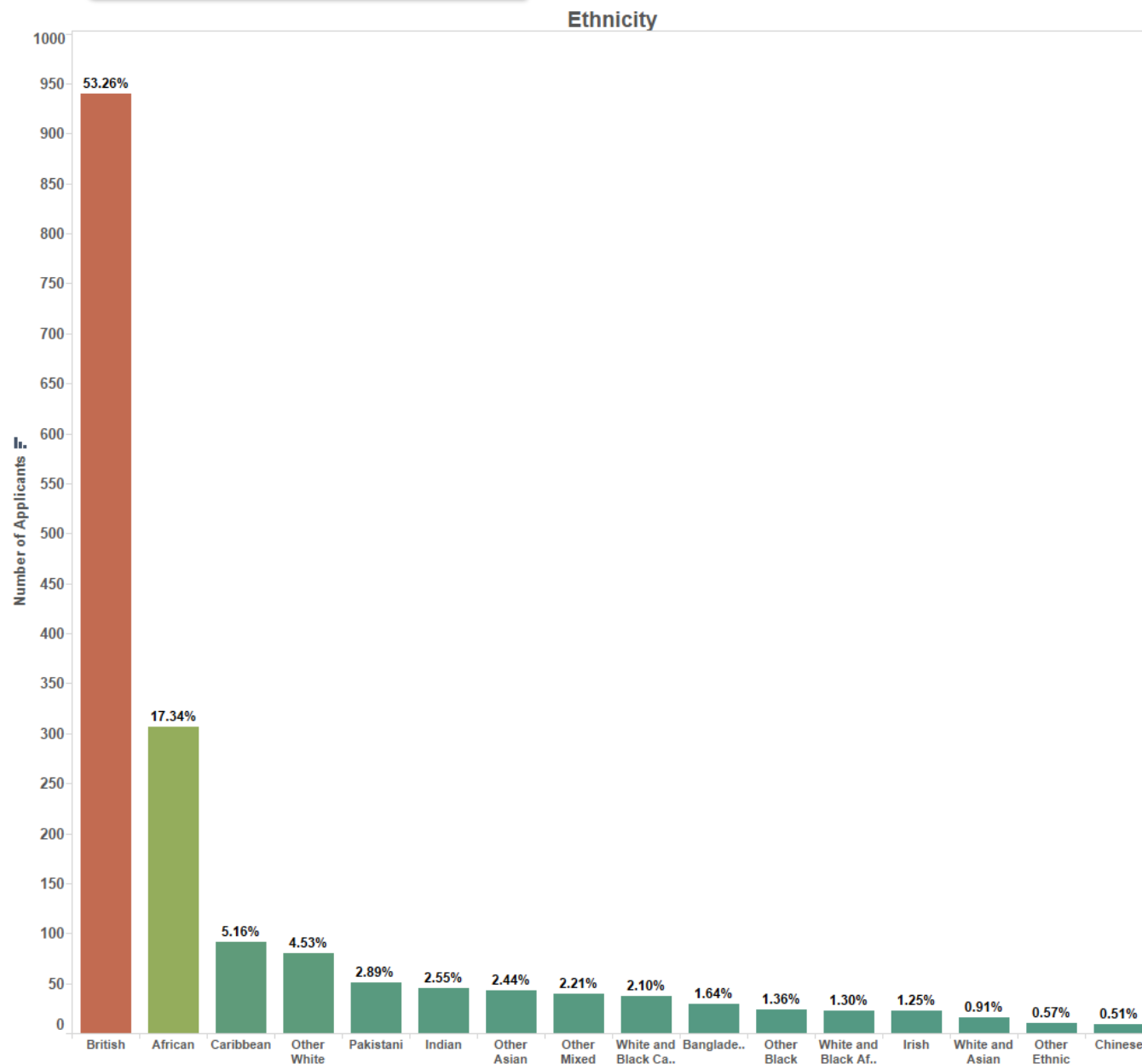
- **5,293** of group did not provide Ethnicity information on application.

- Graph based on sample of **2,555** applicants who did provide Ethnicity information at the point of application

- Percentage of total based on **sample group** not overall base size

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: ETHNICITY DATA

Estranged 2012/13 Academic Year



- 8,549** Estranged Base Size

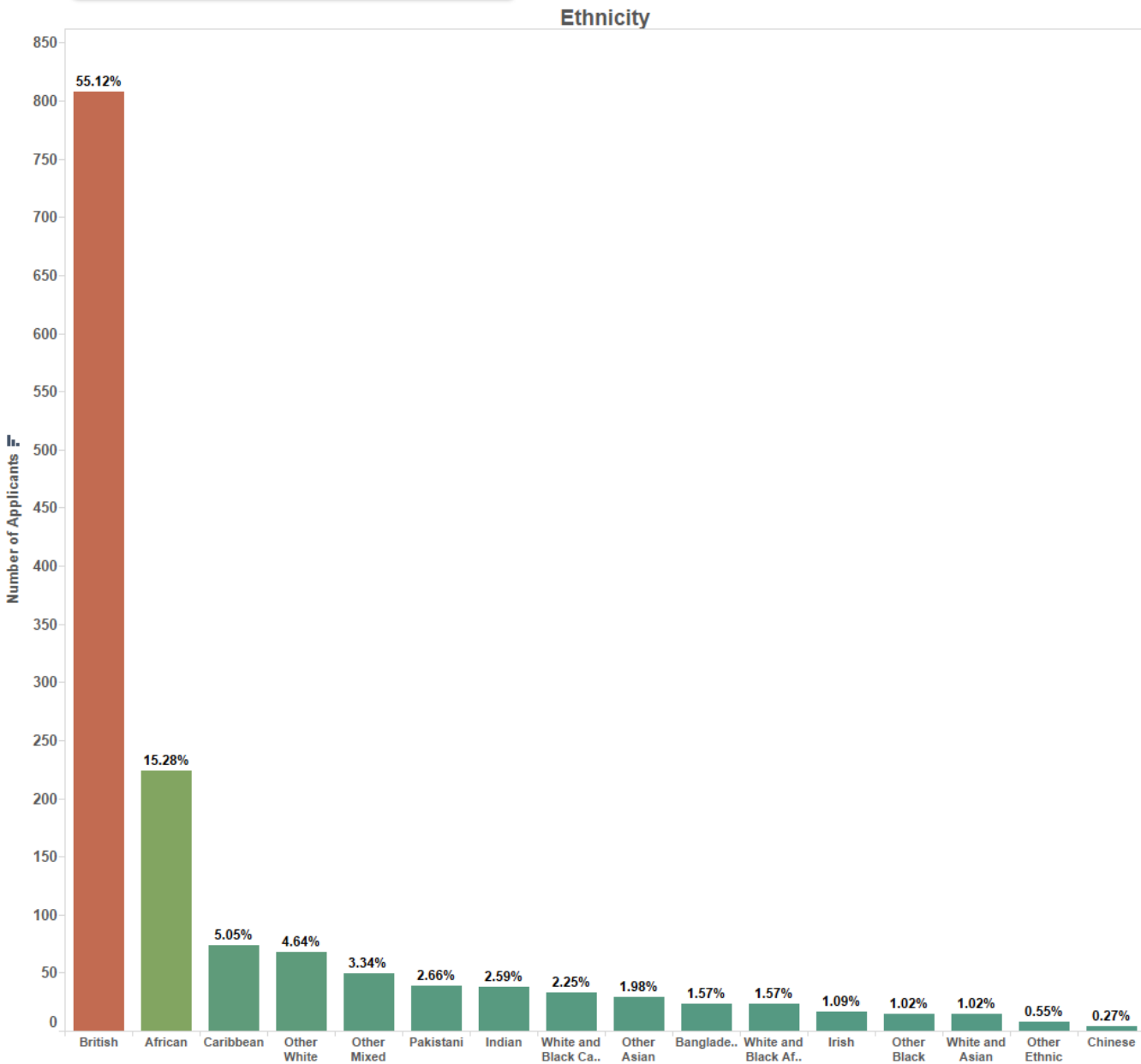
- 6,812** of group did not provide Ethnicity information on application.

- Graph based on sample of **1,737** applicants who did provide Ethnicity information at the point of application

- Percentage of total based on **sample group** not overall base size

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: ETHNICITY DATA

Estranged 2013/14 Academic Year



•**9,338** Estranged Base Size

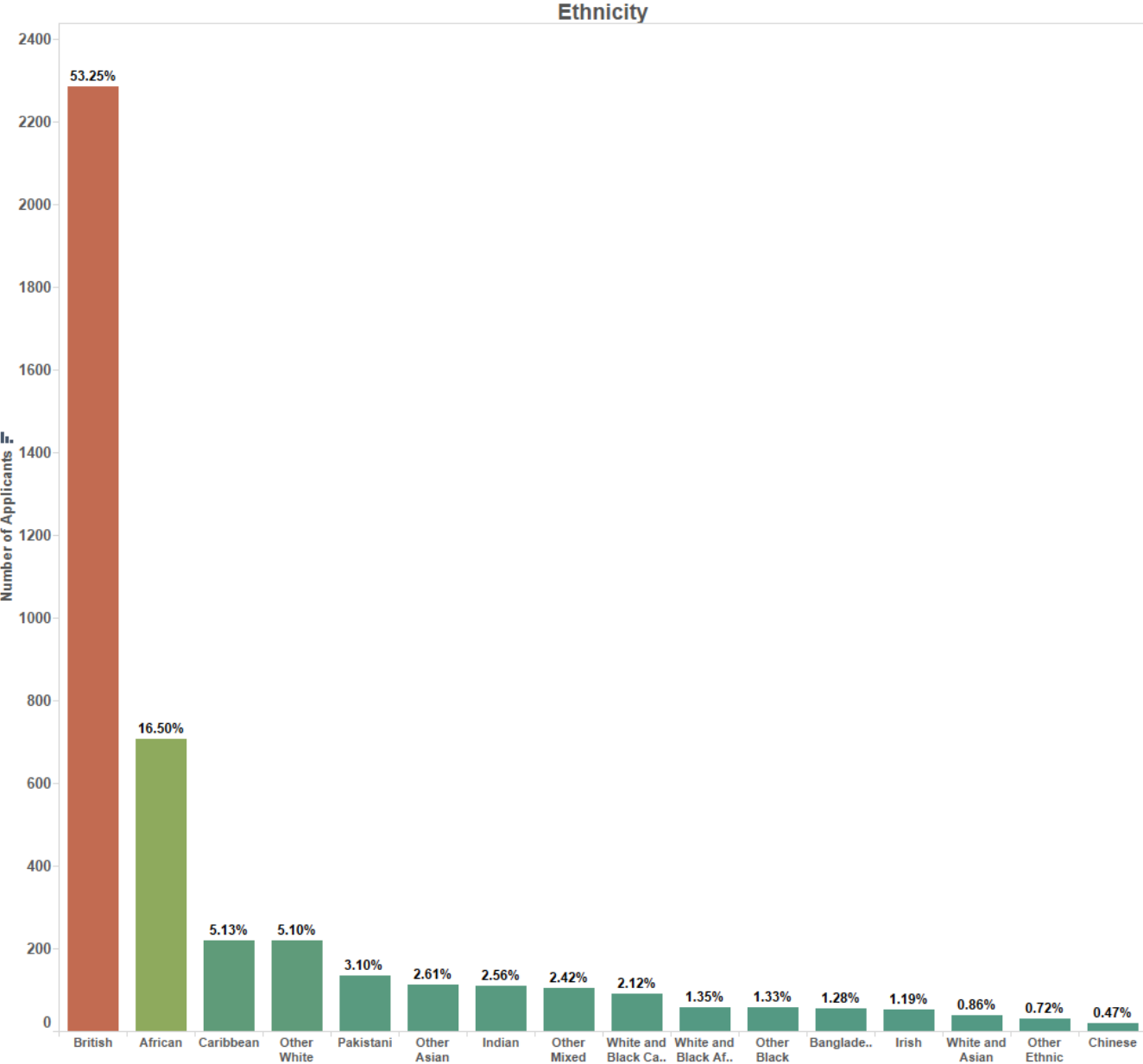
•**7,891** of group did not provide Ethnicity information on application.

•Graph based on sample of **1,447** applicants who did provide Ethnicity information at the point of application

•Percentage of total based on **sample group** not overall base size

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: ETHNICITY DATA COMPARISON

Estranged - All Academic Years



•2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14 Academic Years.

•18,415 Estranged Base Size.

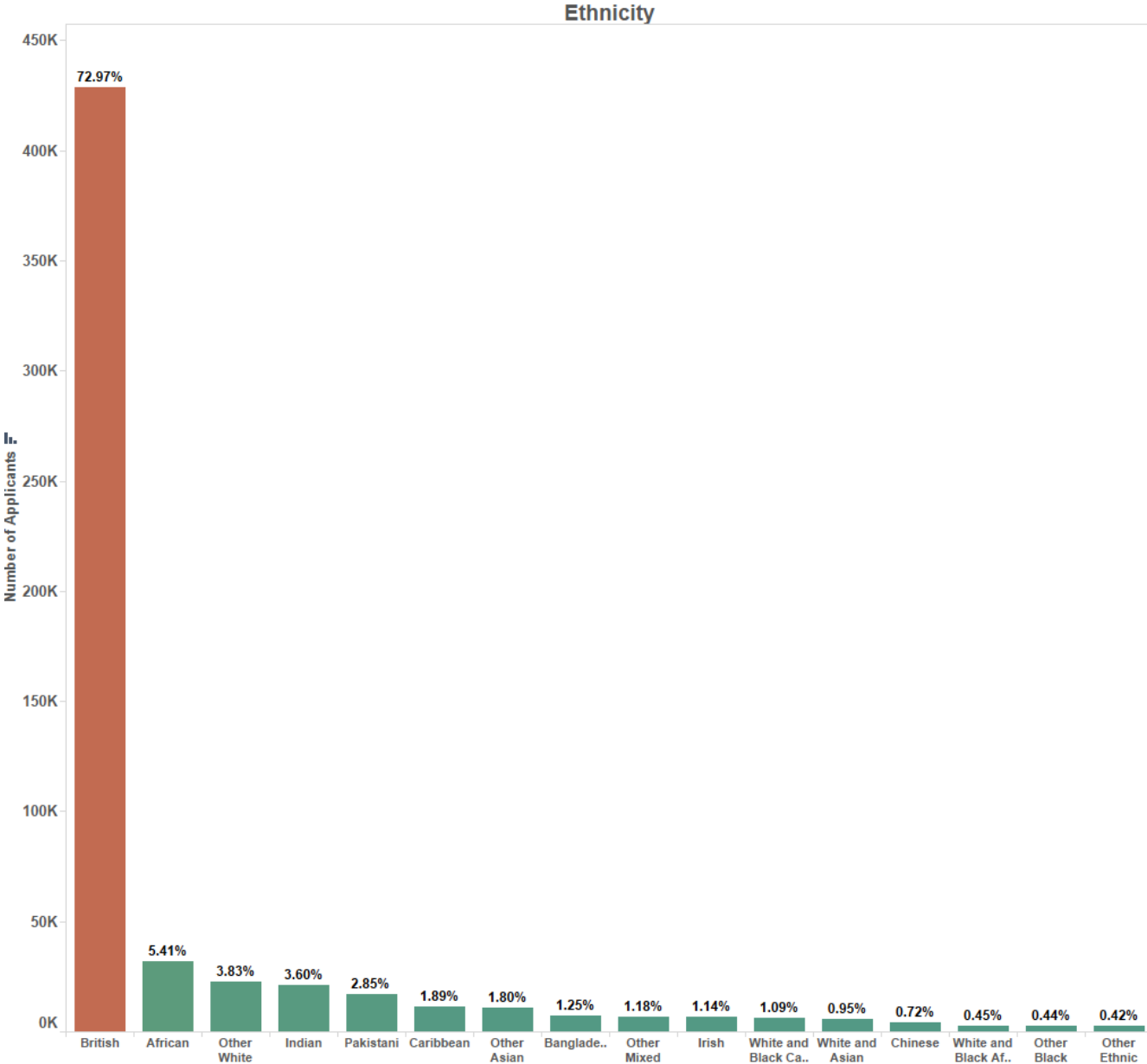
•14,124 of group did not provide Ethnicity information on application.

•Graph based on sample of 4,291 applicants who did provide Ethnicity information at the point of application.

•Percentage of total based on **sample group** not overall base size.

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: ETHNICITY DATA COMPARISON

All Other Applicants - All Academic Years



- 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14 Academic Years.

- 2,349,228 All Other Applicant Base Size.

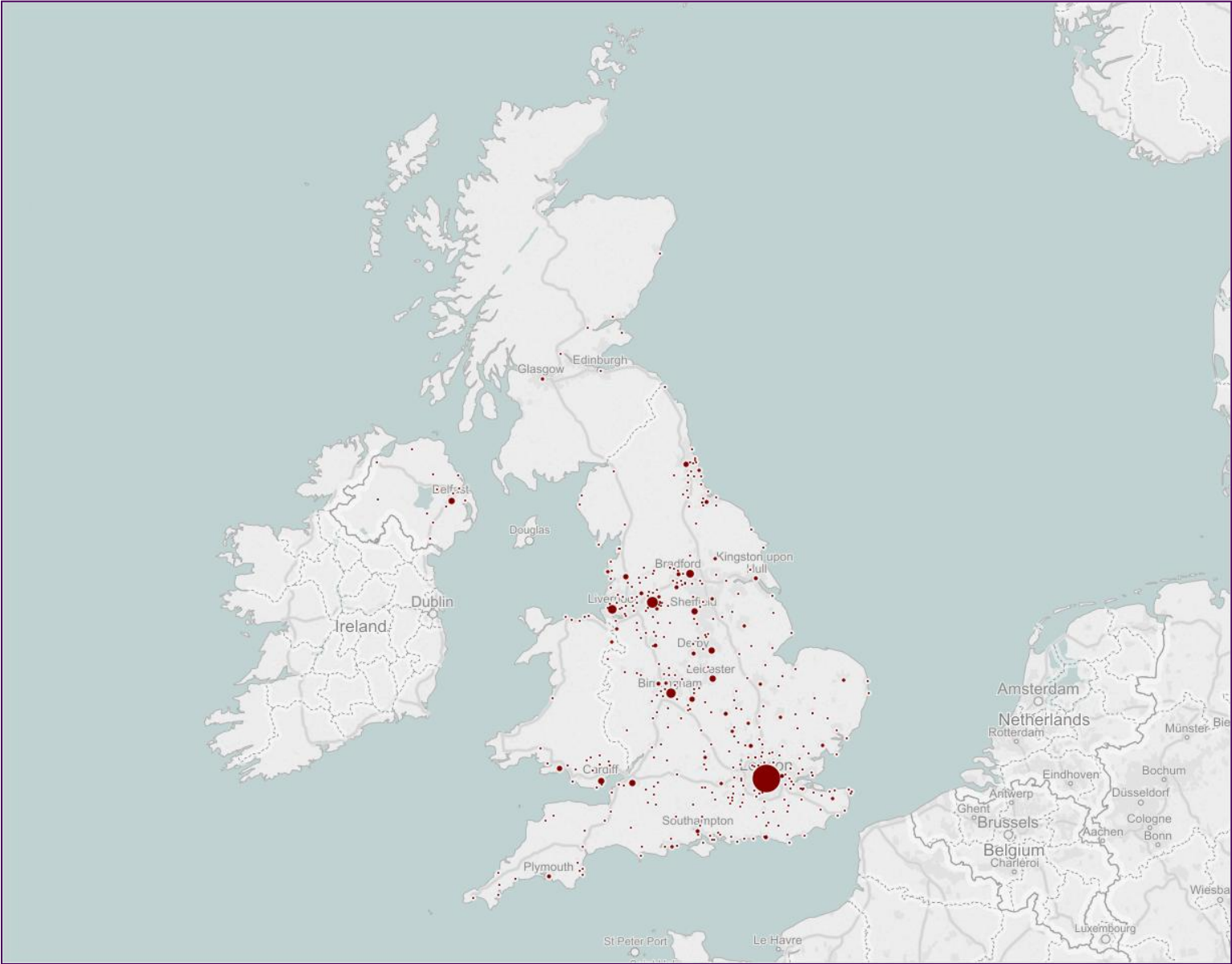
- 1,761,677 of group did not provide Ethnicity information on application.

- Graph based on sample of 587,551 applicants who did provide Ethnicity information at the point of application.

- Percentage of total based on **sample group** not overall base size.

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

Estranged 2011/12 Academic Year



Geographical Distribution of all applicants within base of 7,848.

The **larger** the circle the **greater the density** of estranged applicants within these identified areas.

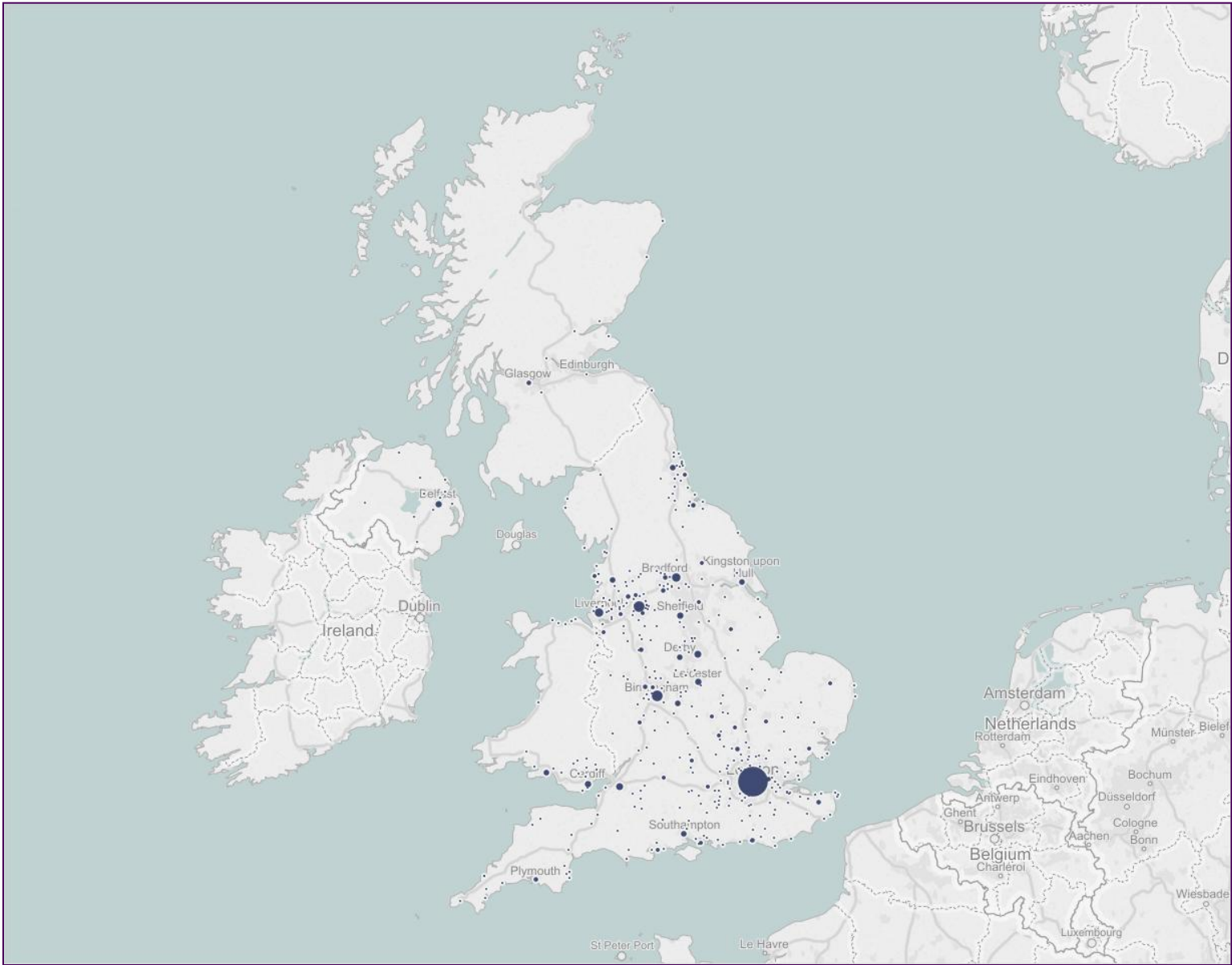
London:	57.44%
Manchester:	9.05%
Birmingham:	6.81%
Liverpool:	5.70%
Leeds:	4.65%
Nottingham:	3.63%
Leicester:	3.35%
Bristol:	3.21%
Sheffield:	3.11%
Belfast:	3.04%

Top 10 UK Cities ranked by number of estranged students.

Percentage of total within ranked group displayed.

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

Estranged 2012/13 Academic Year



Geographical Distribution of all applicants within base of **8,549**.

The **larger** the circle the **greater the density** of estranged applicants within these identified areas.

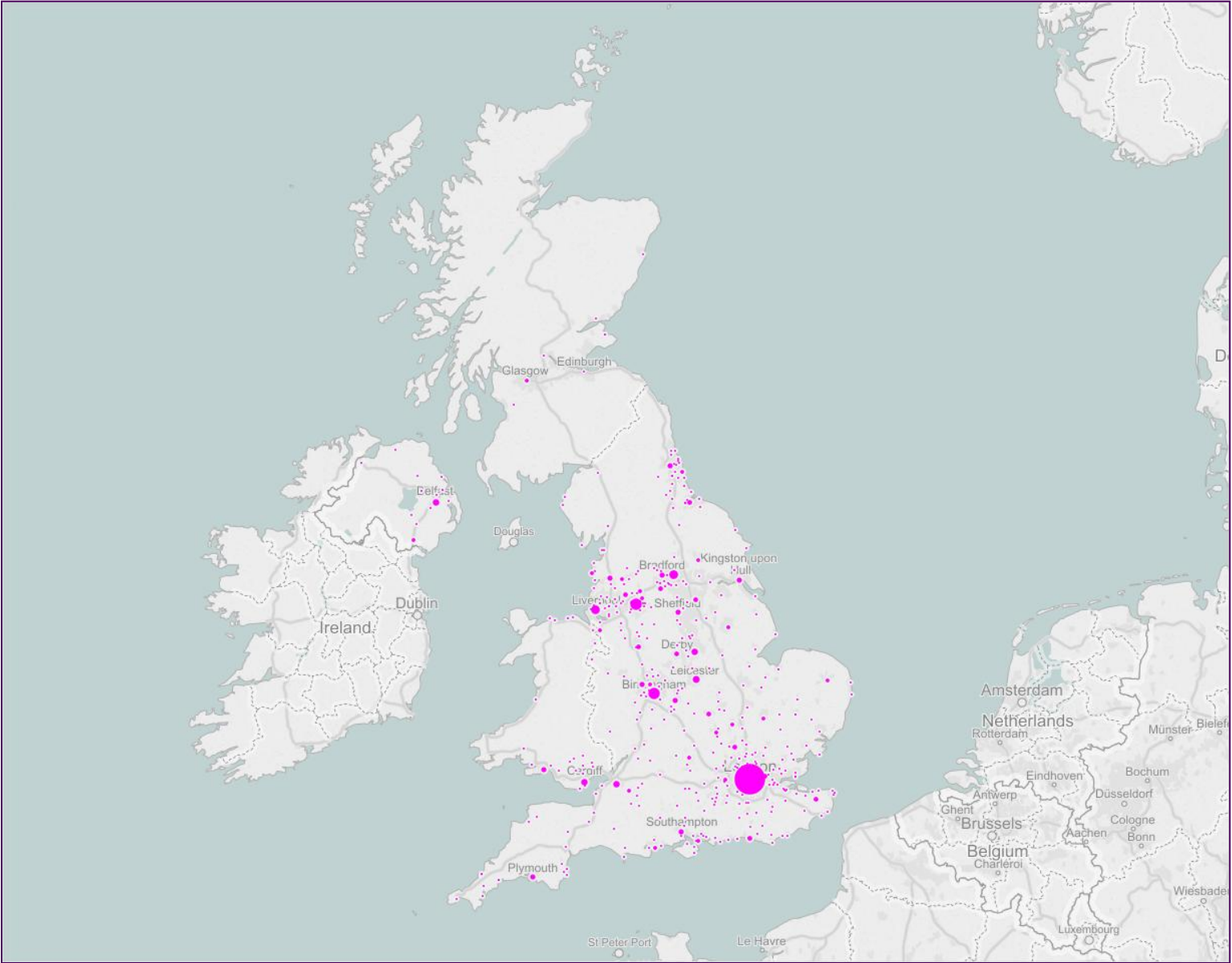
London:	59.41%
Manchester:	7.86%
Birmingham:	7.70%
Liverpool:	4.92%
Leeds:	4.79%
Bristol:	3.51%
Nottingham:	3.32%
Leicester:	3.10%
Sheffield:	2.76%
Cardiff:	2.63%

Top 10 UK Cities ranked by number of estranged students.

Percentage of total within ranked group displayed.

ESTRANGED STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC: GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

Estranged 2013/14 Academic Year



Geographical Distribution of all applicants within base of **9,338**.

The **larger** the circle the **greater the density** of estranged applicants within these identified areas.

London:	59.74%
Birmingham:	8.45%
Manchester:	8.26%
Liverpool:	4.99%
Leeds:	4.40%
Leicester:	3.16%
Bristol:	3.13%
Cardiff:	2.79%
Nottingham:	2.70%
Belfast:	2.40%

Top 10 UK Cities ranked by number of estranged students.

Percentage of total within ranked group displayed.

Glossary



New Student: Typically an eligible applicant who undertakes a new and designated course of study at a recognised Higher Education Provider.

Continuing Student: Typically an eligible applicant who undertakes subsequent or repeat study on an ongoing designated course at a recognised Higher Education Provider.

Entered Online: Application was completed online by the applicant.

LEA Entered: Application was data entered by the Award Authority and therefore submitted on Paper by the applicant.

Non-Means Tested: The student's household income **has not been taken** into consideration in the assessment; student has been awarded the basic package of funding. (65% of ML only, Tuition fees and DSA, if applicable)

Means-Tested: The students household income **has been taken** into consideration when calculating their entitlement. They are eligible to apply for 100% of Maintenance Loan and will also be considered for any applicable grants.

Independent: A student who's parental income is not assessed as part of a means-tested assessment.

Work-stage: An identifiable step in the customers application process.



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Customer & Marketing Intelligence

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