



Ref. FOI/20200605/2

02 July 2020

Reply to request for information under the Freedom of Information Act	
Your ref	Email of 5 June 2020
Request	<p>Please could you give me the following information for both 2019 and 2020 (if applicable at this stage).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Number of applicants to each individual college for undergraduate maths (G100) degree.- Number of offers given out by each college for undergraduate maths (G100) degree. <p>Please could you also tell me:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- An estimate of the total number of students that will be admitted each year into each college. <p>It would be greatly appreciated if you give me this information for 2019, and if you can, 2020 also.</p>

Dear Ryan

I write in reply to your email of 5 June requesting the above information. Data on admissions to each college by course is available online at the link below:

https://public.tableau.com/views/UniversityofOxford-CollegeSuccessRates2018/CollegeSuccessRates?:embed=y&:display_count=yes&:showTabs=y&:showVizHome=no

Other statistics on undergraduate admissions can also be found at <https://www.ox.ac.uk/about/facts-and-figures/admissions-statistics/undergraduate-students/current>.

The website has data for the 2019 UCAS admissions cycle and will be updated to include data for the 2020 UCAS cycle next year. We are therefore withholding the equivalent information for 2020 under section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Section 22 provides that information is exempt from disclosure where there is an intention on the part of the public authority or another body to publish it at a future date, and where it is reasonable in all the circumstances to maintain the publication schedule. The data for 2020 will be available in early 2021. In our view, this is not an excessive delay, and we consider it to be reasonable therefore to withhold the information until its publication.

The exemption in section 22 is a qualified exemption that would require the University to weigh the public interest in disclosing the information requested, which is presumed from FOIA, against the public interest in maintaining the exemption.

We recognise that there is a public interest in the disclosure of information relating to undergraduate admissions. Immediate disclosure of the information would contribute to that interest. However, the question to be decided is whether the public interest will be better served by disclosing the information now, or later, in accordance with the publication schedule. Our view is that the public interest would be better served by adhering to the publication schedule. Disclosing the information prematurely, and in isolation from other information relating to the 2020 cycle that would be published at the same time, would undermine the purpose of the University's publication scheme. This scheme provides for the publication of a wide range of information relating

to each admissions cycle, which presents a more complete and accurate picture than the piecemeal disclosure of separate items of admissions data.

INTERNAL REVIEW

If you are dissatisfied with this reply, you may ask the University to review it, by writing to the Head of Information Compliance at foi@admin.ox.ac.uk. A request for internal review should be submitted no later than 40 working days from the date of this letter.

THE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

If, after the internal review, you are still dissatisfied, you have the right under FOIA to apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision as to whether your request has been dealt with in accordance with the FOIA. You can do this online using the [Information Commissioner's complaints portal](#).

Yours sincerely

Information Compliance Team