Unistats - Correction to national salary data

Summary

On 24 May 2019, we corrected some of the national salary data used for Unistats.

This has resulted in changes to information about ‘average salaries across the UK after taking a similar course’ in the employment and accreditation (‘Earnings after the course’) sections.

Most of these changes are minor. They may not affect how you think about the course.

For a small percentage of courses the change is greater. These courses are listed in the ‘Changes to average salary data’ file below, together with a complete list of courses for which any earnings data has changed as result of the update.

You may wish to revisit these course pages to view the updated information. Whether you want to re-visit a course page will depend on how important earnings information is to you, and in particular whether you are interested in comparing the average earnings for a course with the UK average.

What’s this about?

We recently discovered that some of the data about salaries on the Unistats website had not been updated. This means that you may not have seen the most up-to-date information on national salaries for a number of subjects. We also provided this data for some courses with more than one subject area in error, and in some cases did not provide any data about average salaries when we should have.

We corrected the data as soon as possible.

What part of Unistats was affected?

The ‘Employment and accreditation’ section of Unistats gives information about average earnings after graduation based on a survey of the salaries of previous graduates.

This information is designed to give you an indication of how much you might expect to earn following graduation from a course, while recognising that earnings may vary for a number of reasons, such as changes in the job market and wider economy.

It also allows you to compare earnings to those for similar courses across the UK (‘Average salary across the UK after taking a similar course’).
What happened?

The ‘average salary across the UK after taking a similar course’ data had not been updated with data from 2016-17 graduates (the latest year for which we have figures). These figures are highlighted in the screenshot below.

![Earnings after the course](image)

We’ve now incorporated this data to include the data from 2016-17 graduates.

We also found a number of courses covering more than one subject which included information about average UK salaries when they should not have. Information about this type of course is difficult to combine across subjects, so our policy is not to publish it.

For a small number of courses, we did not provide an average salary for the course, or an average UK salary when we should have.

The correction has resulted in a number of changes to the ‘average salary across the UK’ figures. For some courses, this data has changed, and for other courses the data has been removed.

Which courses have seen changes?

A list of courses for which the average national salary for the subject has changed is available on the About the data page on Unistats.

How might this affect me?

If you visited the ‘Earnings after the course’ section of a Unistats course page between 10 September 2018 and 21 May 2019, you may have seen incorrect information for the average national salary for that subject area. You may wish to revisit the Unistats course pages to view the updated information.

Although the data used for comparison on most course pages has changed, many of the changes are small and may not make any difference to how you think about the course. If earnings information is important to you, and you have previously compared the average earnings associated with a course with the UK average, you may wish to visit that course page again to look at the corrected data.
If the course page you are interested in was missing salary information when you last viewed it, you may want to revisit this page as new information may have been added.

**Has other data about earnings on Unistats been affected?**

No other data has been affected by the error.

The data from the Longitudinal Education Outcomes (LEO) dataset (presented under the heading ‘after 3 years’) has not changed.

The ‘average for this course’ data has not changed, although for a small number of courses, data has been added when previously it was missing.