

In 2020/21 there were 12,005 entrants studying mechanical engineering in higher education, comprised of 9,120 undergraduate students (first degree and other undergraduate) along with 2,885 postgraduate students.

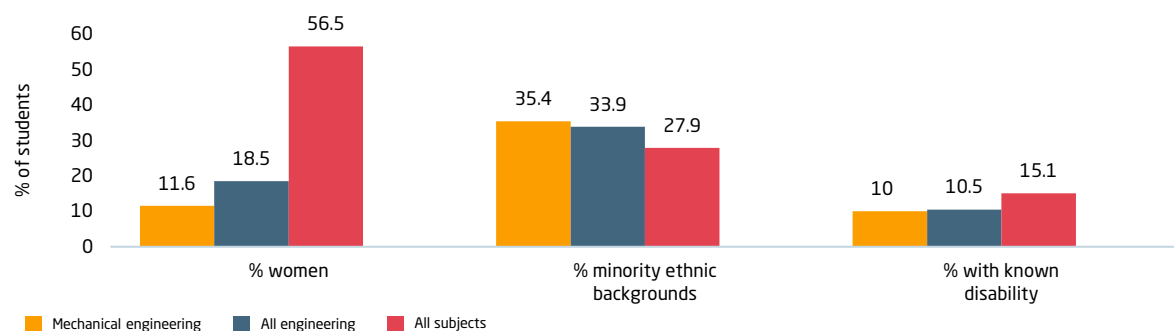
## Undergraduate first degree entrants

Mechanical engineering courses were the most popular choice for undergraduate degrees in engineering and technology in 2020/21, representing 22.5% of all engineering and technology entrants at this level. Of these:

- 11.6% were women
- 35.4% were from minority ethnic groups
- 10% had a known disability
- 9.9% were from low HE participation areas (POLAR 4 quintile 1)
- 73.7% were UK domiciled, 6.1% from EU countries and 20.2% from the rest of the World

FIGURE 65:

Characteristics of first year undergraduate degree entrants, 2020/21

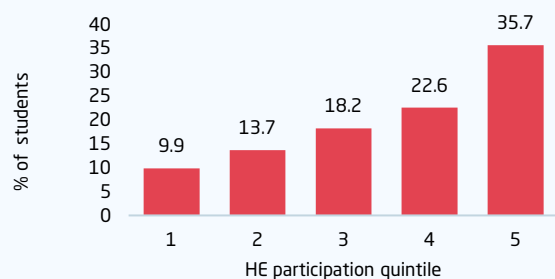


Source: HESA student record 2020/21  
Note ethnicity is only recorded for UK students, others are excluded from the analysis

FIGURE 66:

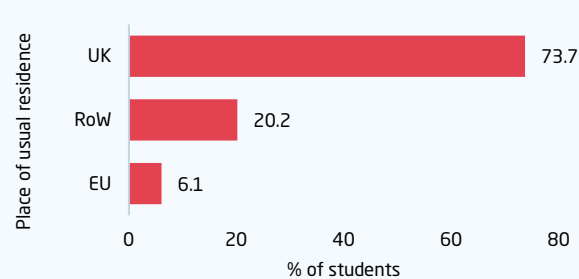
Background characteristics of first year undergraduate degree entrants on mechanical engineering courses, 2020/21

### a) By HE participation quintile (POLAR4)



Source: HESA student record 2020/21

### b) By place of usual residence



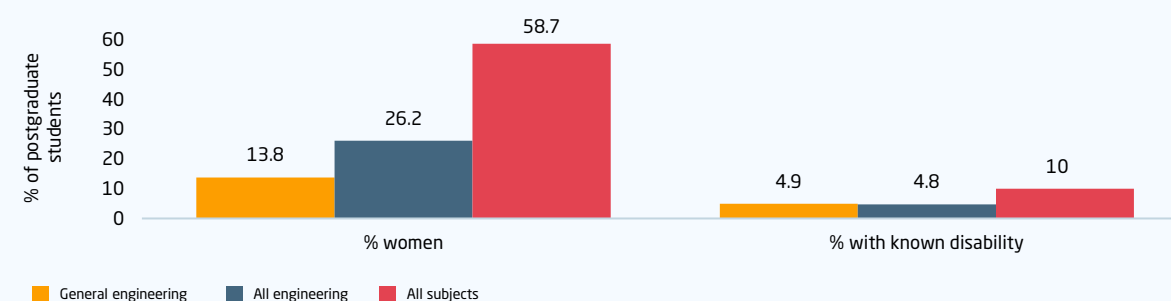
## Postgraduate degree entrants

Of the mechanical engineering postgraduate entrants, just 13.8% were women, compared to 26.2% of all engineering and technology entrants and 58.7% of postgraduate entrants studying any subject. 4.9% of mechanical engineering

postgraduate entrants were known to have a disability which is similar to all engineering and technology entrants but remains lower than the overall average of 10%.

FIGURE 67:

Characteristics of first year postgraduate degree students, 2020/21



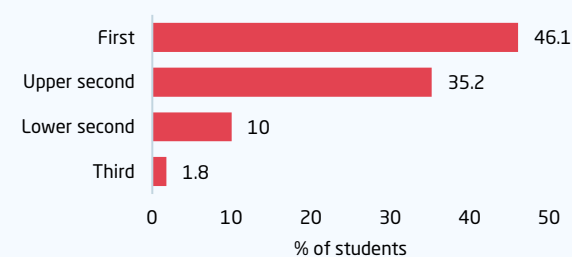
Source: HESA student record 2020/21  
Note ethnicity is only recorded for UK students, others are excluded from the analysis

## Undergraduate first degree qualifiers

46.1% of students qualifying with a first degree in mechanical engineering did so with first class honours. Additionally more than a third (35.2%) obtained upper second class honours. This is average compared to other subjects in engineering and technology.

FIGURE 68:

Mechanical engineering results, 2020/21



Source: HESA student record 2020/21

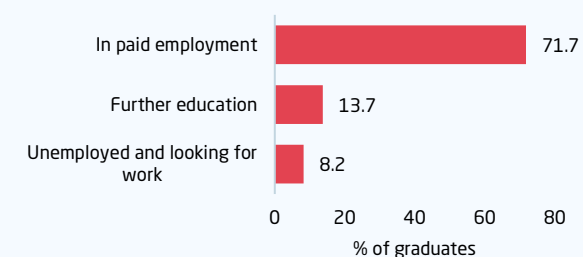
## Graduate destinations

71.7% of students who graduated from mechanical engineering degrees in 2019/20 were in paid employment 15 months after graduation. Of these, 63.3% were working in engineering companies.

13.7% of graduates from these courses had gone on to further education, and around 8.2% were unemployed and looking for work.

FIGURE 69:

Mechanical engineering graduate outcomes



Source: HESA student record 2020/21