

What would a Percent scheme look like in the UK?

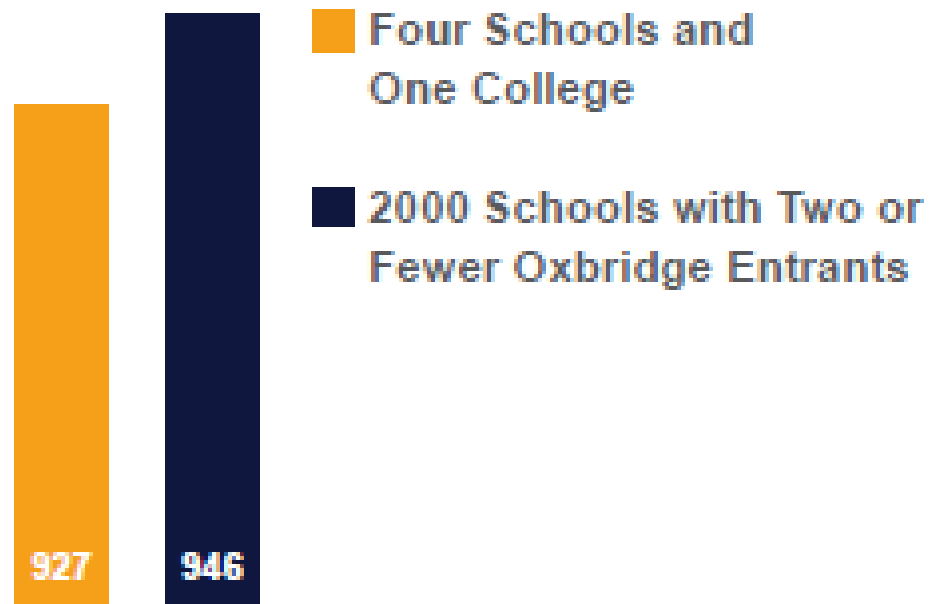
Dr Lee Elliot Major
The Sutton Trust
July 2011



Two halves

- Latest HE destinations by individual schools and local areas
 - *highly selective universities (ST30)*
 - *attainment is big driver, but..*
- What difference would a Percent scheme make to these patterns by school?
 - *the US Percent scheme*
 - *modelling this for UK schools*

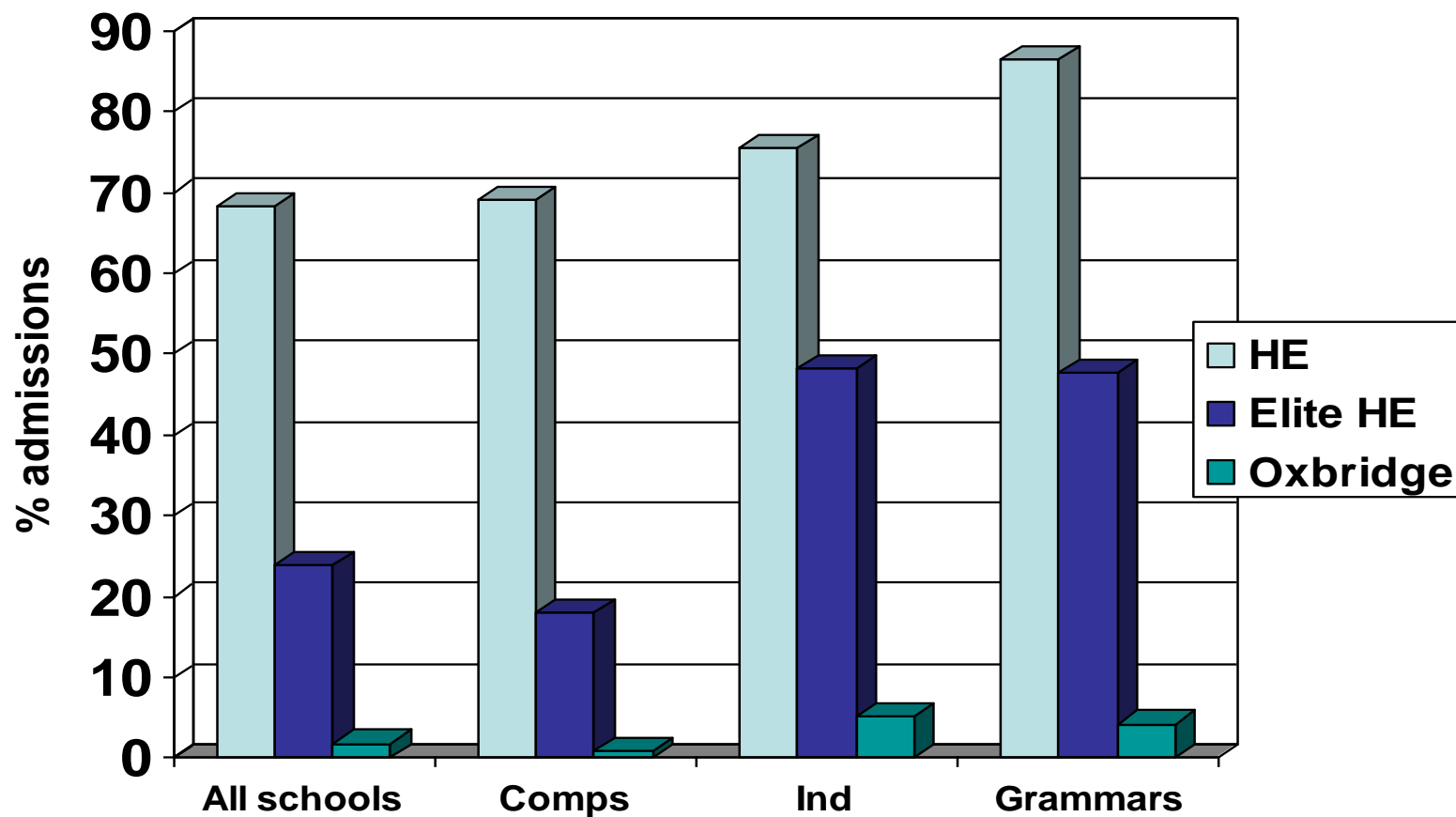
Oxbridge Entrants



ST30 uni acceptances

- 2000 schools with low progression to ST30 universities = 270 with highest progression
- These account for around 1/3 of ST30 admissions each

HE progression rates



Not just grades..

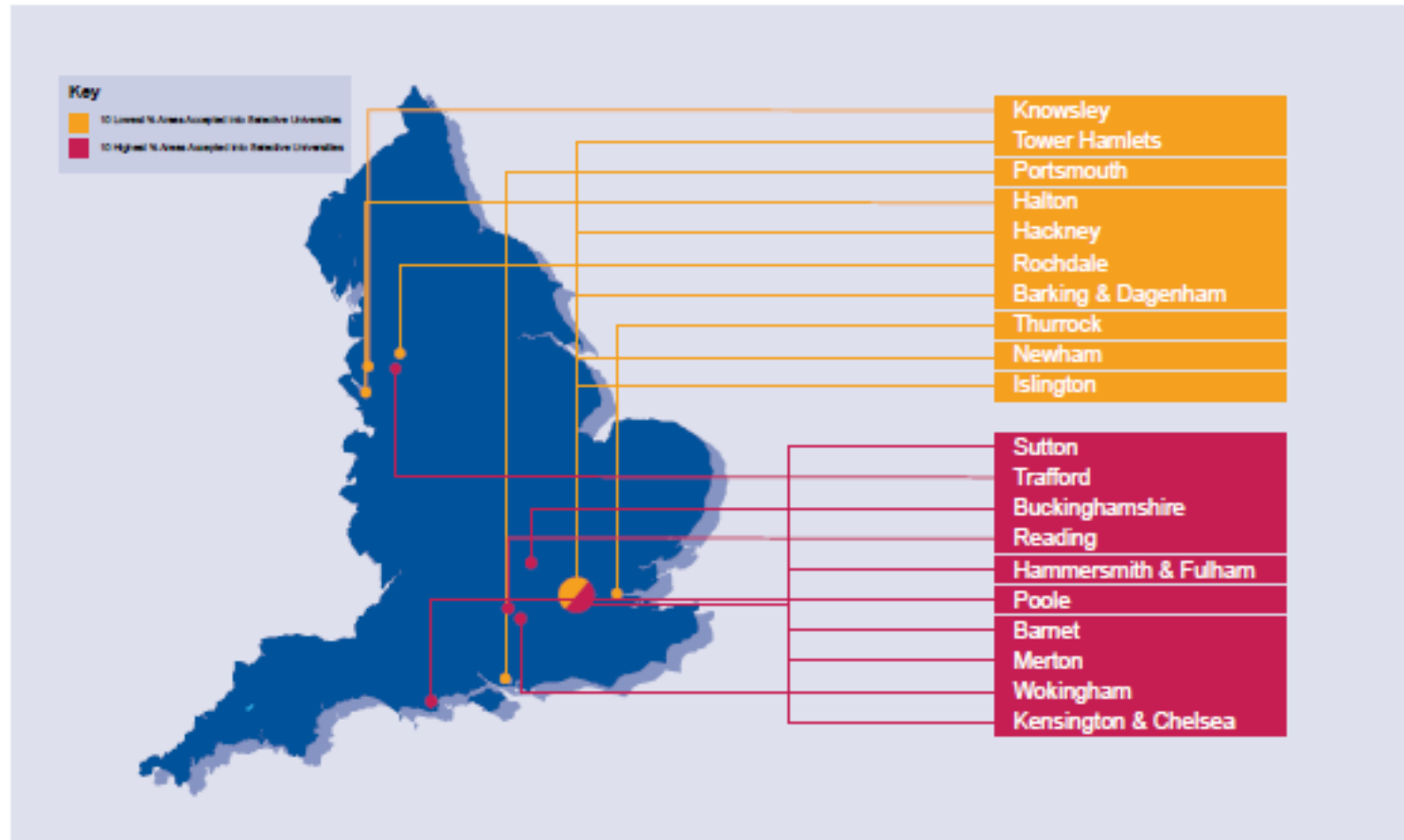
Acceptances into the 30 Most Highly Selective Universities

6 in 10 from
the 30 highest
progression
Comprehensive
Schools

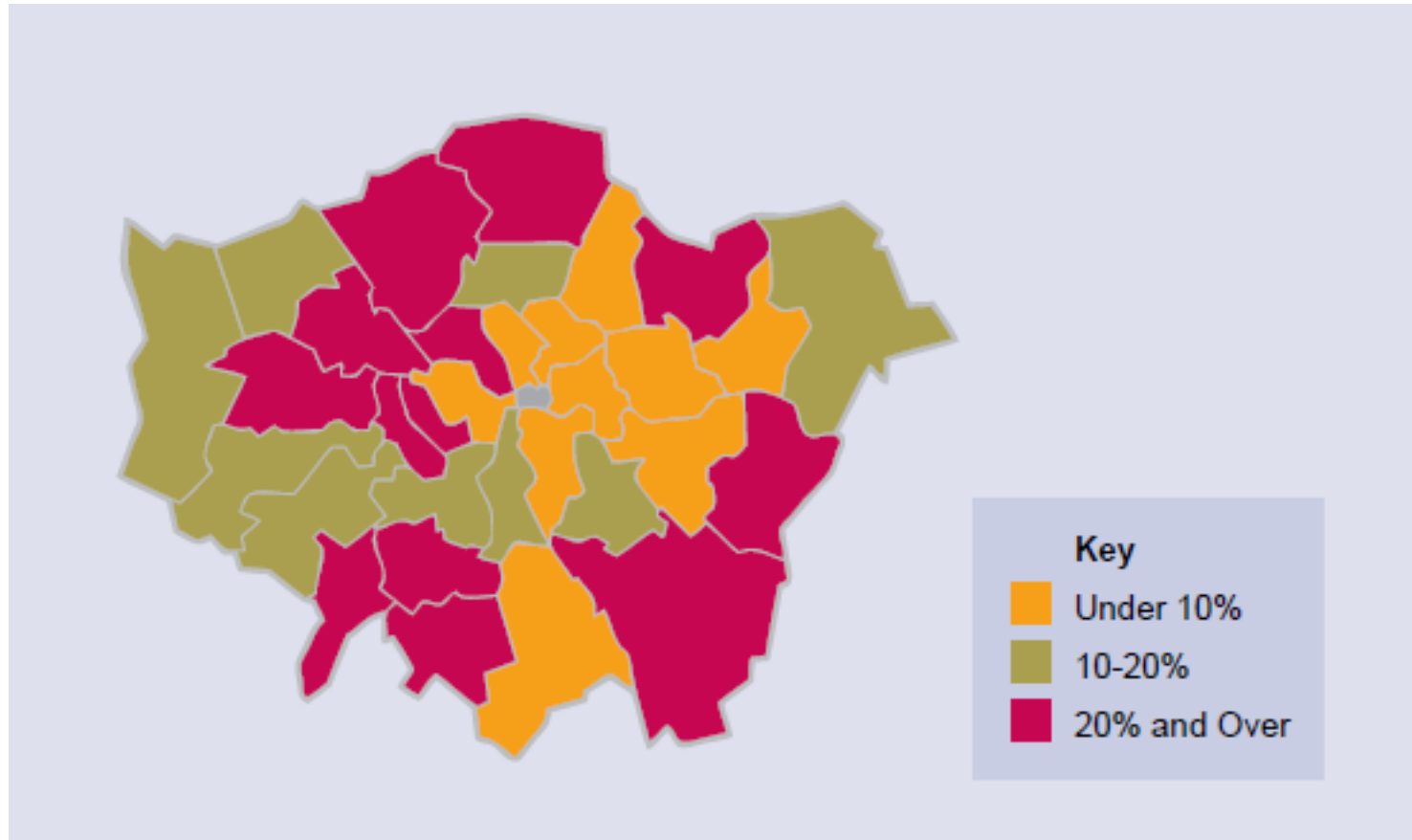


9 in 10 from
the 30 highest
progression
Independent
Schools

High and low progression areas



London divided





US style

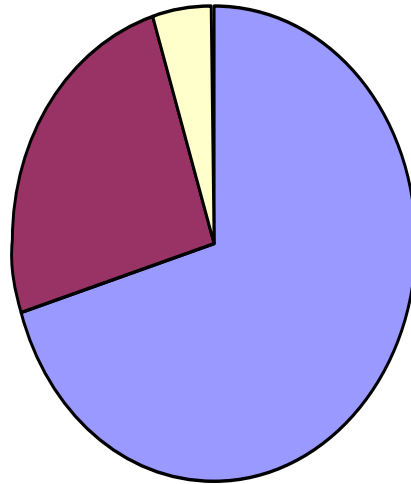
- US percent schemes – top proportion in each school guaranteed entry into university
- Recognises academic potential of students at top of their class in a lower achieving school even if their absolute test results are lower.
- Selective universities can also ask for tests/courses

10% UK?

- If 45% of ST30 degree places were reserved for Percent scheme students
- If 10% of the highest performing pupils in each school guaranteed entry/offer
- Then would lead to an extra 10,000 state school entrants at the ST30 universities

Currently **75%** of 80,000 ST30 admissions are state
Under the Percent scheme, this would increase to just
under **80%** of admissions

Impact of Percent scheme on ST30 admissions



What about attainment?

- 35,000 pupils in England aged 19 with eight or more GCSEs graded A-C did not go onto to take A-levels.
- 60,000 pupils who were at some point in the top quarter in their class do not go onto higher education.
- Or would it just shift high attainers between schools?