

# Change in SHAPE subjects' provision in the UK (2011/12 – 2022/23)

[Presentation created by the **Market and Student Insight Team**]

## Analysis and considerations

This summary report has been created using the British Academy's SHAPE Observatory interactive tool to analyse the provision of SHAPE subjects in UK higher education institutions.

### **Key considerations:**

**1. Time Frame:** The data covers the academic years from 2011/12 to 2022/23

**2. Data Representation:** The tool uses HESA data to show provision for first-year first degree UK-domiciled students aged 20 and under. The tool uses Full-Person Equivalent (FPE) rather than headcount to represent student engagement in courses. Data includes joint honours courses, with the equivalent FPE divided between relevant subjects.

### **3. The analysis covers two dimensions:**

- **Higher education providers:** The maps show how the demand of SHAPE subjects has changed over time, highlighting providers recording low/no change in student FPE, providers recording an increase in student FPE, and providers recording a decrease.
- **Regional spread of provision:** The maps show how the regional distribution of SHAPE subject provision has changed over time, highlighting areas with multiple providers, single providers, and no provision within a 60km commutable distance.



The University of Manchester

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# Visual Arts

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## Slight decrease in student demand for Visual Arts since 2011/12, however an increase in the number of providers offering this course.

Change in demand of first-year degree UK-domiciled students aged 20 or under	2011/12	2022/23	Change in FPE (#)	Change in FPE (%)
<b>Subject : Visual Arts</b>	<b>24.7k</b>	<b>24k</b>	<b>-740</b>	<b>-3%</b>
Art	3.5k	3k	-565	-16%
Cinematics and Photography	5.3k	7.6k	+2.3k	+43%
Design Studies	14.9k	12.6k	-2.3k	-16%
Others in Creative Arts and Design	950	840	-110	-11%

Change in number of providers offering courses in subject	2011/12	2022/23	Change in providers (#)	Change in providers (%)
<b>Subject : Visual Arts</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>+18</b>	<b>+16%</b>
Art	73	69	-4	-5%
Cinematics and Photography	81	105	+24	+30%
Design Studies	91	97	+6	+7%
Others in Creative Arts and Design	37	37	0	-

- **Total demand:** There has been a slight decrease in the total demand for 'Visual Arts,' with a decrease of 3% student FPE from 24.7k in 2011/12 to 24k in 2022/23 - however, numbers studying the subject remain high.
- **Providers:** In contrast with a decrease in student demand, there has been a small increase in the number of providers offering programmes in Visual Arts since 2011/12.
  - Cinematics and Photography – this is the only specific subject area within Visual Arts that has seen both demand and supply increase, with demand growth slightly outstripping supply, as institutional provision change occurs on a slower timeline than student demand changes.
  - Art – conversely, this is the only subject area where both demand and supply have decreased, although demand decrease has outstripped supply decrease – evidencing again the slower timeline for institutional provision change when compared to student demand change.
  - Design Studies and Others in Creative Arts and Design – the other two subject areas have seen demand fall, while supply has either remained stable or, in the case of Design Studies, increased.



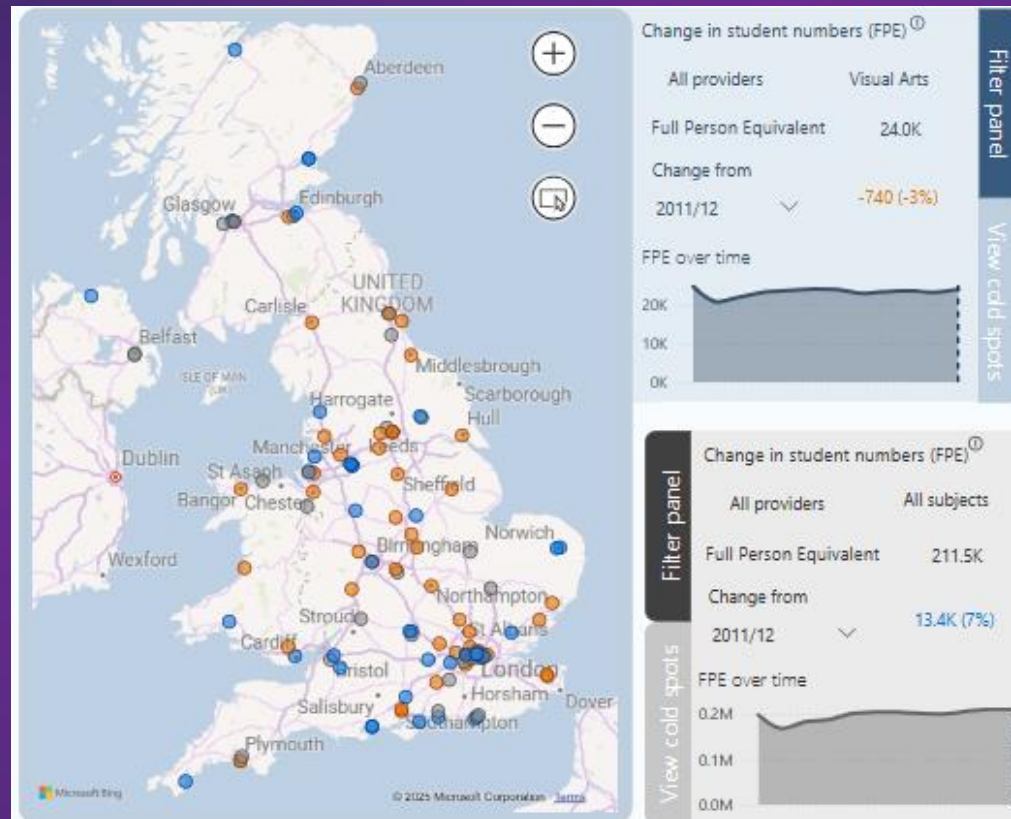
# Demand and provision of Visual Arts programmes has slightly decreased in comparison to all subjects overall.

These maps show change in demand of first-year degree UK-domiciled students aged 20 and under by provider for the subject group 'Visual Arts' vs. all.

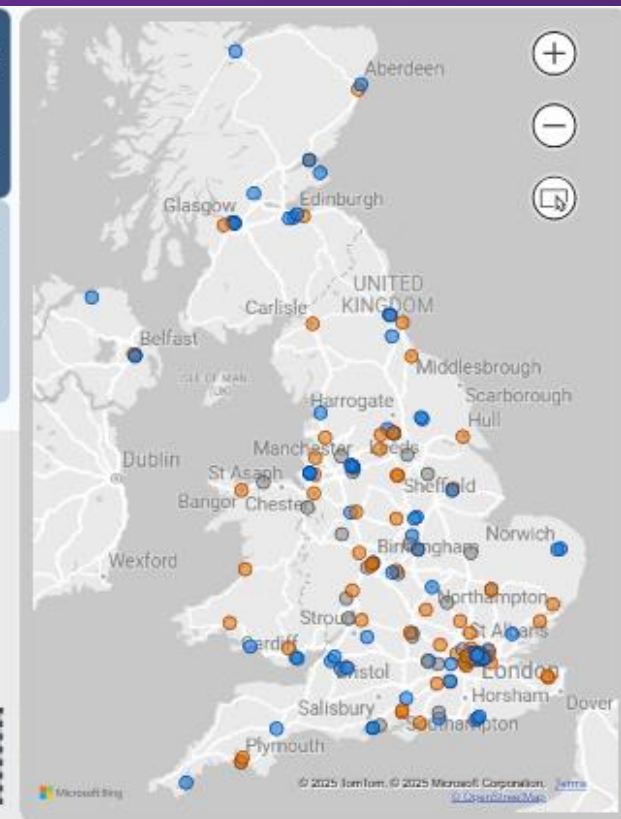
- In line with a relatively stable market, there has been both an increase and decrease in FPE amongst providers.
- Manchester Metropolitan University is the largest institution in the subject area, with 1.3k FPE registrations in 2022/23, and an increase of 100%, 630 FPE, since 2011/12.
- Institutions seeing FPE falls since 2011/12 are predominantly outside of the RG, but not exclusively – the University of Southampton, for example, saw a 70% fall in FPE between 2011/12 and 2022/23.
- UoM has seen an increase in FPE since 2011/12, and in 2022/23 had 50 registrations for Visual Arts.

## Higher education providers

### Visual Arts



### All subjects

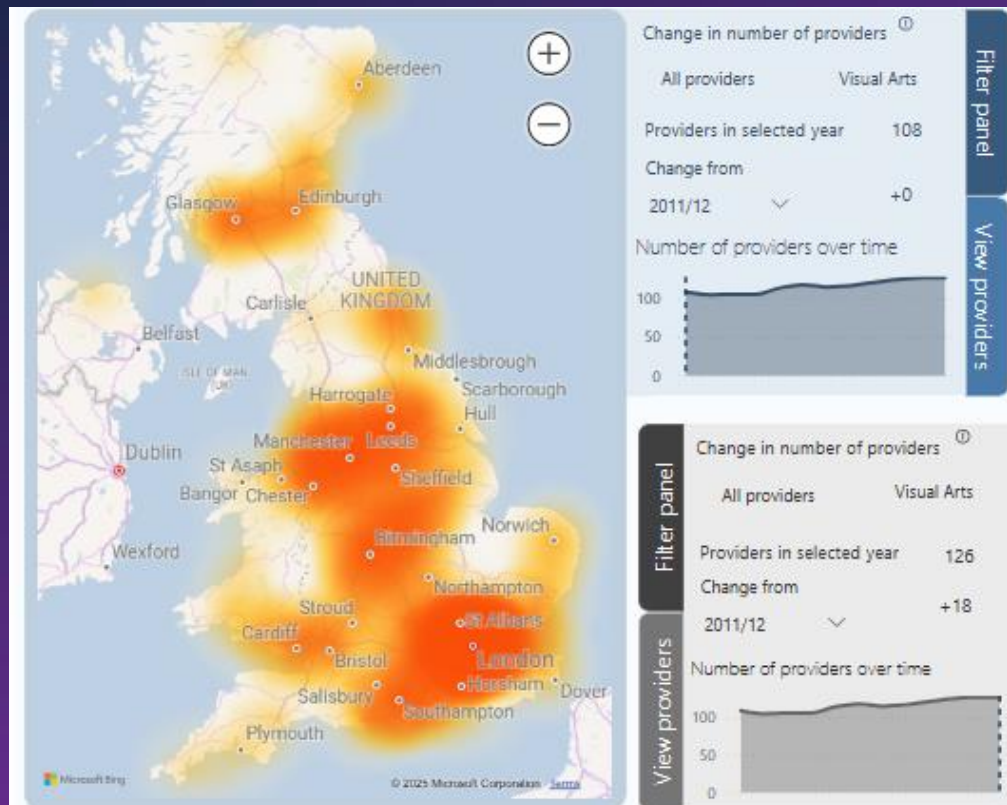


Key: Low/no change in student FPE (grey), Increase in student FPE (blue), Decrease in student FPE (orange)

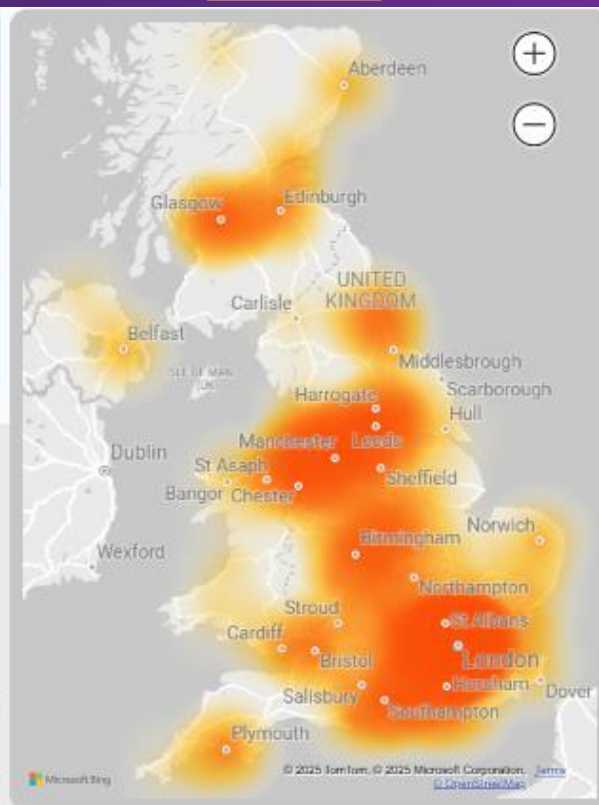
The regional spread of provision for Visual Arts has stayed roughly the same since 2011/12, with an increase in Cornwall and greater provision in Northern Ireland.

## Regional spread of provision: Visual Arts

2011/12



2022/23



These maps show how the regional distribution of 'Visual Arts' subject provision has changed over time for first-year degree UK-domiciled students aged 20 and under.

- No considerable regional change since 2011/12, with the subject area still taught in a wide variety of institutions spread across much of the UK, although there is more provision available in Cornwall and Northern Ireland since 2011/12.
- **Hot spots:** Good provision across all major cities and conurbations in the UK. Growth in provision in Northern Ireland and Cornwall, as well as small growth in Eastern England.
- **Cold spots:** Cold spots remain in rural areas poorly served by HE provision, with the only developing cold spot since 2011/12 being in the East Midlands, where the University of Nottingham did not offer provision in the area in 2022/23.

Key: multiple providers (orange), single providers (yellow), and no provision (white) within a 60km commutable distance

# THANK YOU

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**MARKET AND STUDENT INSIGHT TEAM**

For any questions, please contact: Lauren Bramley ([lauren.bramley@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:lauren.bramley@manchester.ac.uk))