

## 16 Table T16 – Education and research

### 16.1 FRA 2010 Categories and definitions

Term	Definition
Forest-related education	Post-secondary education programme with focus on forests and related subjects.
Doctor's degree (PhD)	University (or equivalent) education with a total duration of about 8 years.
Master's degree (MSc) or equivalent	University (or equivalent) education with a total duration of about five years.
Bachelor's degree (BSc) or equivalent	University (or equivalent) education with a duration of about three years.
Technician certificate or diploma	Qualification issued from a technical education institution consisting of 1 to 3 years post secondary education.
Publicly funded forest research centers	Research centers primarily implementing research programmes on forest matters. Funding is mainly public or channelled through public institutions.

### 16.2 National data

#### 16.2.1 Data sources

References to sources of information	Quality (H/M/L)	Variable(s)	Year(s)	Additional comments
HESA Student Returns	H	students	Various 2000 to 2008	Number of students in higher education
Forestry Commission staff records	H	professionals	2000, 2005, 2008	Professionals working in Forest Research

#### 16.2.2 Original data

##### Students

Data were provided by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA). According to the 1999/00, 2004/05, 2005/06, 2006/07 and 2007/08 HESA Student Returns, the number of First Degree and Postgraduate Masters students studying the principal subject of Forestry, by gender, were:

Academic Year	Masters		First Degree	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
07/08	30	95	25	150
06/07	25	105	65	155
05/06	5	75	70	170
04/05	15	65	80	160
99/00	20	60	50	275

Data are rounded to the nearest multiple of 5.

## Professionals

The only publicly funded forest research centre in the UK is Forest Research (FR), an agency of the Forestry Commission (FC). FC staff databases were interrogated by Human Resources division to provide numbers of professional staff in FR with degrees, each member of staff being shown once according to their highest level of degree (T Edwards, personal communication, Feb 2009).

### 16.3 Analysis and processing of national data

#### 16.3.1 Estimation and forecasting

##### Students

Most Masters degrees are one year, so the number of students is a reasonable estimate of the numbers graduating.

A majority of first degrees are 3 years, with a significant minority lasting 4 years. Assume an average of 3.3 years, to convert the statistics for numbers of students into estimates of numbers graduating. For 2008, take the average of the previous three years.

Round all estimated numbers and percentages to the nearest multiple of 5, to reflect the rounding in the original data.

#### 16.4 Data for Table T16

FRA 2010 Category	Graduation <sup>1)</sup> of students in forest-related education					
	2000		2005		2008	
	Number	%Female	Number	%Female	Number	%Female
Master's degree (MSc) or equivalent	80	25%	80	20%	125	25%
Bachelor's degree (BSc) or equivalent	100	20%	75	35%	65	25%
Forest technician certificate / diploma	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

FRA 2010 Category	Professionals working in publicly funded forest research centres <sup>2)</sup>					
	2000		2005		2008	
	Number	%Female	Number	%Female	Number	%Female
Doctor's degree (PhD)	31	19%	50	32%	52	37%
Master's degree (MSc) or equivalent	9	33%	27	41%	28	46%
Bachelor's degree (BSc) or equivalent	45	35%	38	42%	44	34%

Notes:

1. Graduation refers to the number of students that have successfully completed a Bachelor's or higher degree or achieved a certificate or diploma as forest technician.
2. Covers degrees in all sciences, not only forestry.

## 16.5 Comments to Table T16

Variable / category	Comments related to data, definitions, etc.	Comments on the reported trend
Graduation of students in forest-related education	Much of third row out of scope for HESA. Sent request to Lantra 22/12/08, particularly for third row; they are compiling data for a Feb report. Chased again in March and May.	
Professionals working in public forest research centres		

### Other general comments to the table

Publicly funded research centre staff without degrees are not covered by FRA data collection – T15 excludes all in research but the second part of 16.4 only asks about those with degrees.