



The landscape of undergraduate mathematics degrees in England & Wales

Highlights

BSc Mathematics degrees in England and Wales can be categorised into three broad groups:

Group A: low entry requirements, low choice within degree and high level of focus on mathematics; smaller mathematics departments.

Group B: the largest group; moderate entry requirements, medium level of choice within degree, and broad degree offer beyond just mathematics.

Group C: the smallest group; high entry requirements and high student choice; large mathematics departments.



Location of BSc Mathematics courses in England and Wales. Colours represent degree Group. Dot size is proportional to the number of mathematical sciences undergraduates in 2023-24.

What we did

Documentary analysis of 58 BSc Mathematics courses identified three main dimensions of variability between degrees, with programmes classified into 3 groups.

Why it matters

The number of new undergraduate mathematicians has decreased by 8% over the past three years, despite mathematics being vital to the economy. Identifying differences between degrees may help match applicants to appropriate courses. It will also help the sector to address gaps in provision and articulate the full breadth of mathematics courses to external stakeholders.

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