



# RIBA Education Statistics

2015/16

Report prepared for the RIBA by  
Mirza & Nacey Research

April 2017

# RIBA

# Education Statistics

# 2015/16

The RIBA Education Department conducts an annual survey of Schools of Architecture, with the data establishing raw facts about architectural education in the UK. The collection of accurate data is essential for any professional organisation, and our survey allows the RIBA to construct an overview of trends emerging in this sector, and provides a basis for responding to government and other bodies. This document describes the results of the survey for 2015/16, comparing results with figures for the last five years.

I would like to thank, in particular, all Heads of Schools and departmental administrators for responding so positively, again, to this year's survey and for providing all the detailed information we require. I am pleased to report that all UK RIBA validated schools participated in this year's survey.

The figures show continued growth in student numbers; there are now 15,500 students in the UK's Schools of Architecture. The number of new entrants to both Parts 1 and 2 are higher, and specifically, the number of students from outside the UK has increased. In particular, the growth in the number of students from Asia that we saw last year has continued this year. Entrants from the EU have decreased at Part 1 level but increased at Part 2; and given the UK's planned exit from the EU and potential changes to immigration rules, we will be closely monitoring these numbers in the future.

The number of students passing Part 2 and Part 3 exams is the highest ever; 1,300 students passed their Part 3 examinations - just two years earlier the figure was 1,000. Fifty per cent of applications made to Schools of Architecture degree courses were made by female students. Just five years ago, the proportion was 45 per cent.

David Gloster  
RIBA Director of Education

# Contents

## RIBA Education Statistics 2015/16

Introduction	2
Applications	4
Entry qualifications	4
New entrants to Part 1	5
New entrants to Part 2	8
Students of all academic years	11
Future intakes	12
Examination results	13
Progression of female students	15
Ethnic origin of students	16
Staying	17
Disability	18

Table A1: Number of Schools offering architecture courses, 2014/15 and 2015/16

Type of course	number of Schools	
	2014/15	2015/16
<b>Part One:</b>		
Validated courses	42	44
Candidate courses	2	0
<b>Part Two:</b>		
Validated courses	41	43
Candidate courses	2	0
<b>Part Three:</b>		
Validated courses	30	30
Candidate courses	0	0

All Validated Schools of Architecture provided information for this report. We are grateful to all responding Schools for their continuing help with this survey.

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# Applications

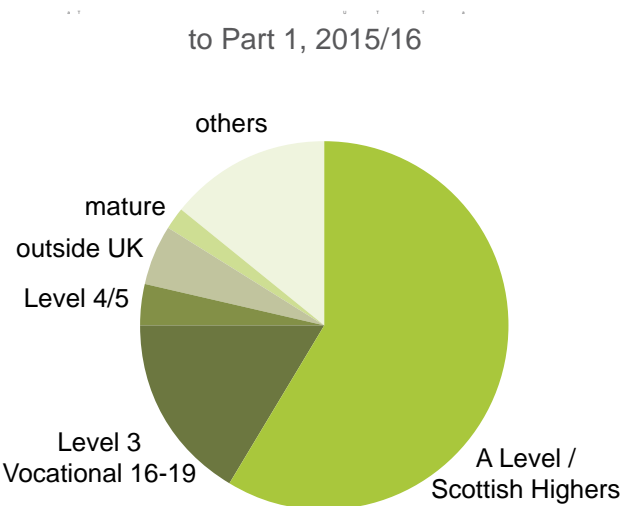
The courses offered in Schools of Architecture commencing October 2015 attracted more than 24,000 applications. This is the equivalent of 6.4 applications per place filled. The number of applications continues to grow, being 1 per cent higher than in 2014/15.

Table 1: Applications to Part 1 in 2015/16

Type of course	number of applications	number of entrants*	average number of
Full-time	24,210	3,741	6.5
Part-time	58	31	1.9
Candidate courses	0	0	n/a
<b>TOTAL - All courses</b>	<b>24,268</b>	<b>3,7725</b>	

# Entry qualifications

A majority of new entrants (59 per cent) to the Schools of Architecture came via UCAS with A-Levels, Scottish Highers or International Baccalaureate. Sixteen per cent entered with a Level 3 qualification (including vocational 16-19), 4 per cent with Level 4 or 5. Five per cent entered with qualifications from outside the UK. Two per cent of entrants were mature candidates.



# New entrants to Part 1

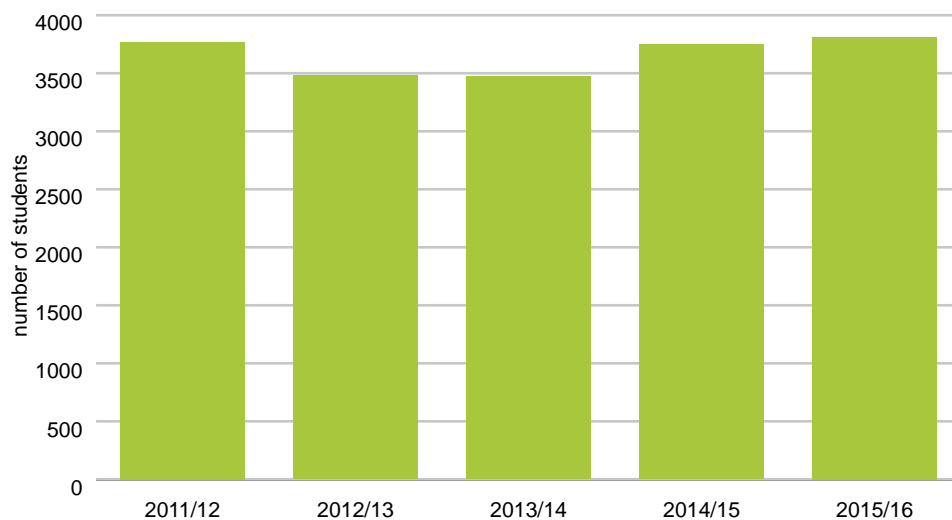
The total number of students entering RIBA Validated Part 1 architecture courses in 2015/16 was 3,811. This is 2 per cent higher than the number recorded in the previous year and is now the highest number in the last five years. The number of part-time new entrants increased from the very low level recorded in 2014/15, and is now at its highest level since 2011/12.

The proportion of female students on Validated courses is 49 per cent, higher than last year's 46 per cent and the highest figure ever recorded.

The number of new entrants to the second year of Part 1 Validated courses is 313.

Table 3: New Entrants to Part 1 in 2015/16

Type of course



# New entrants to Part 1 (continued)

Figure 3: New entrants to Part 1 2015/16 (validated courses only)

Part 1 in 2015/16



Figure 4: Ethnic origin of UK new entrants

Excluding where ethnic origin was 'not known' or not recorded, the UK student intake at the 39 Schools who were able to provide information is 68 per cent White. Thirteen per cent are Asian or Asian British, 7 per cent Black or Black British, 5 per cent are Mixed. Another 7 per cent are from an "other" ethnic background.

Figure 5: New entrants from outside the UK  
years (validated courses only)

# New entrants to Part 2

The number of students entering RIBA Validated Part 2 courses in 2015/16 is 2,122. This is 3 per cent higher than last year, and is another 'highest ever' figure.

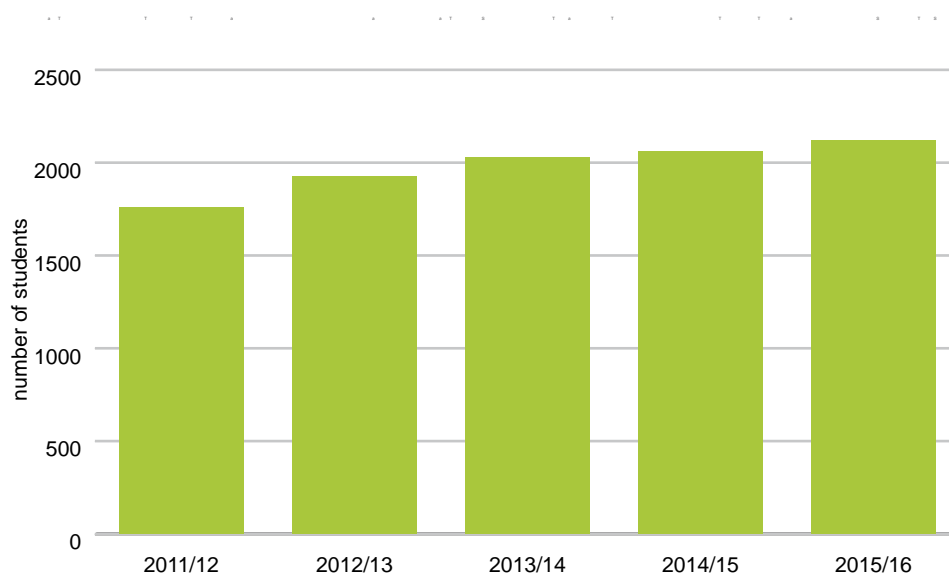
The proportion of new entrants to Part 2 who are female is 45 per cent, a proportion which has been increasing by 2 percentage points in each of the past two years.

Table 8: New entrants to Part 2 in 2015/16

Type of course	number	per cent of all entrants
Full-time	2,037	96.0
Part-time	85	4.0
Candidate courses	0	n/a
<b>TOTAL - All courses</b>	<b>2,122</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 9: New entrants to Part 2, 2011/12 to 2015/16 (validated courses only)

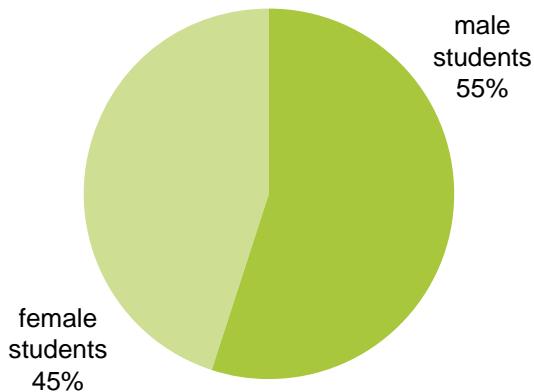
Type of course	2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16	
	number	per cent	number	per cent	number	per cent	number	per cent	number	per cent
Full-time	1,661	94.3	1,815	94.2	1,959	96.6	2,003	97.3	2,037	96.0
Part-time	100	5.7	111	5.8	70	3.4	55	2.7	85	4.0
<b>TOTAL - All courses</b>	<b>1,761</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1,926</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,029</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,058</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,122</b>	<b>100</b>





# New entrants to Part 2 (continued)

Figure 9: New entrants to Part 2 2015/16 (validated courses only)



Three quarters (75 per cent) of students who enter Part 2 have a UK first degree; another 12 per cent (a higher proportion than in previous years) have a UK second degree. Five per cent enter with a European degree while 7 per cent have a qualification from outside Europe.

Table 10: Female new entrants to Part 2 in 2015/16

Type of course	number	per cent of all entrants
Full-time	935	45.9
Part-time	20	23.5
Candidate courses	0	n/a
<b>TOTAL - All courses</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>45.0</b>

Figure 10: Qualification type of new entrants to Part 2, 2015/16

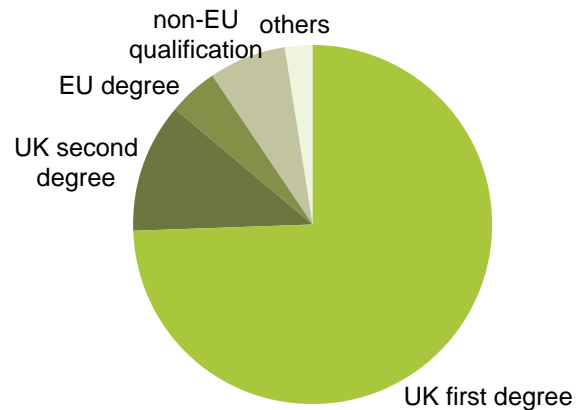
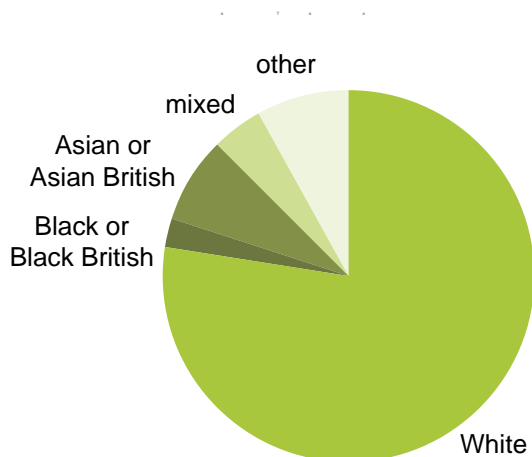


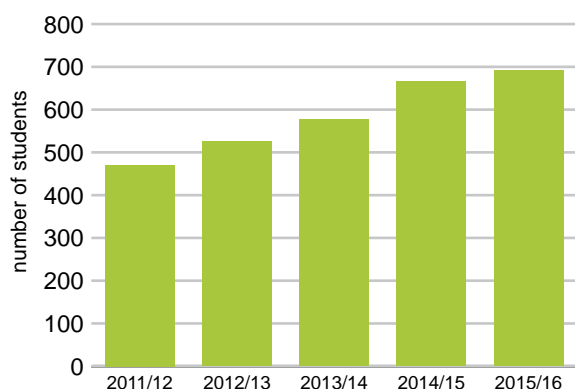
Figure 11: Ethnic origin of UK new entrants



Excluding new entrants whose ethnic origin is 'not known', at Part 2, the UK student intake is 78 per cent White (compared with 68 per cent White at Part 1); 8 per cent are Asian or Asian British (compared with 13 per cent at Part 1); and 3 per cent Black or Black British (compared with 7 per cent at Part 1). Four per cent are of mixed origin and 8 per cent 'other'.

# New entrants to Part 2 (continued)

Figure 12: New entrants from outside the UK years (validated courses only)



The number of new entrants to Part 2 from outside the UK continues to rise, although this year it is at a slower rate. The number from outside the UK is 4 per cent higher than last year's, compared with rises of 10 and 15 per cent in the previous two years. Overall, 33 per cent of new entrants to Part 2 comes from outside the UK, similar to the 34 per cent at Part 1.

Asia accounts for almost half (48 per cent) of new entrants from outside the UK, a very similar proportion as for Part 1. Thirty eight per cent of new entrants from outside the UK come from the EU.

Figure 13: Origin of new entrants from (validated courses only)

Figure 14: New entrants from outside the UK

(validated courses only)

Type of course	2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16	
	number	per cent of all entrants	number	per cent of all entrants	number	per cent of all entrants	number	per cent of all entrants	number	per cent of all entrants
Full-time - EU	219	13.2	249	13.7	221	11.3	282	14.1	301	14.8
- outside EU	246	14.8	262	14.4	353	18.0	379	18.9	383	18.8
Part-time - EU	5	5.0	10	9.0	1	1.4	5	9.1	4	4.7
- outside EU	0	0.0	4	3.6	2	2.9	0	0.0	3	3.5
<b>TOTAL - All courses</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>28.4</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>32.6</b>

Note: not all Schools providing data for Table 11 were able to provide data for Figure 13 and 14, so totals will not match

# Students of all academic years

More than 15,500 students are studying architecture at Part 1 and Part 2 (Validated courses). This is just higher, by ½ per cent, than last year but nevertheless the rise means that, once again, the current year has the highest number of students in Schools of Architecture ever recorded. The number of students studying part-time remains lower in the last three years than it was previously.

Table 12: Students of all years in 2015/16

Figure 15: All students, 2015/16 (validated courses only)

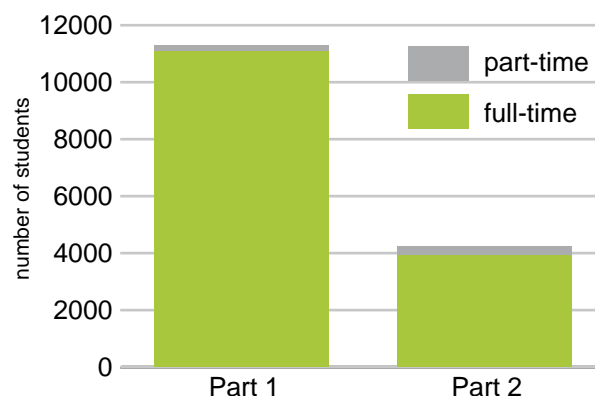
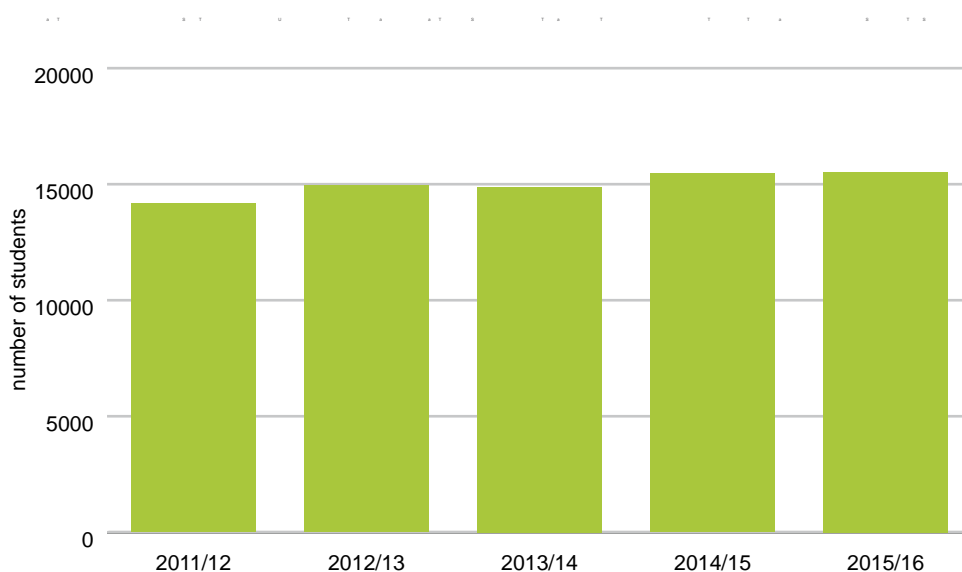


Table 13: Students of all years, 2011/12 to 2015/16 (validated courses only)

Type of course	2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16	
	number	per cent	number	per cent	number	per cent	number	per cent	number	per cent
Full-time	13,514	95.4	14,199	95.1	14,423	96.9	14,910	96.5	14,995	96.6
Part-time	647	4.6	737	4.9	455	3.1	543	3.5	528	3.4



# Future intakes

## Part 1

Schools predict the number of new entrants to Part 1 courses will increase again next year. The prediction is a rise of 6 per cent in the number of Part 1 new entrants in 2016/17.

Figure 17: Predicted changes in number of new entrants to Part 1 course (validated courses only)

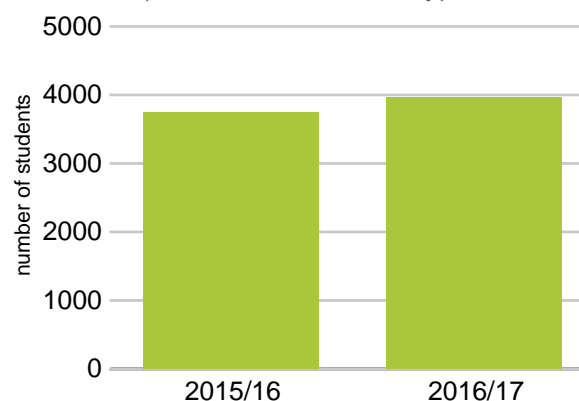


Table 14: Predicted changes to Part 1 courses 2016/17

Type of course	number of new entrants 2015/16*	predicted number of new entrants 2016/17	predicted percentage change in 2016/17
Validated courses	3,749	3,970	+5.9
Candidate courses	0	0	n/a
<b>TOTAL - All courses</b>	<b>3,749</b>	<b>3,970</b>	<b>+5.9</b>

\*The total number of new entrants refers to the total for the Schools which provided an estimate of future intakes only and is

## Part 2

The number of new entrants to Part 2 courses is expected to edge lower in 2016/17, with a predicted fall of 3 per cent.

Figure 18: Predicted changes in number of new entrants to Part 2 course (validated courses only)

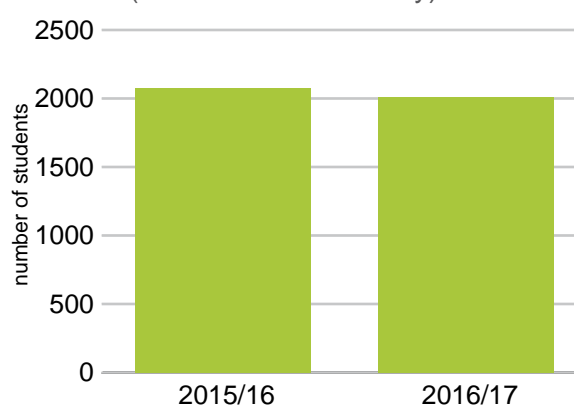


Table 15: Predicted changes to Part 2 courses 2016/17

Type of course	number of new entrants 2015/16*	predicted number of new entrants 2016/17	predicted percentage change in 2016/17
Validated courses	2,074	2,013	-2.9
Candidate courses	0	0	n/a
<b>TOTAL - All courses</b>	<b>2,074</b>	<b>2,013</b>	<b>-2.9</b>

\* The total number of new entrants refers to the total for Schools which provided an estimate of future intakes only and is

# Examination results

# Examination results (continued)

Table 17: Examination results 2014/15

Note: Information provided by 43 Schools only at Part 1, 42 Schools at Part 2, and 29 Schools at Part 3

'pass' but not 'sat' on the table above. The incomplete data from this one School is excluded from the 'pass rate' calculation.

Table 18: Female students passing examinations 2014/15

Note: Information provided by 43 Schools only at Part 1, 42 Schools at Part 2, and 29 at Part 3, including the one School

In this comparison of cohorts of students over time we assume that students take Part 1 finals in Year 3, Part 2 finals in Year 6 and Part 3 finals in Year 7 of their seven year education.

Historically the figures suggest a female drop-out

# Ethnic origin of students

If we exclude students whose ethnic origin is 'not known', the proportion of new entrants to Part 1 who are White is 68 per cent. The proportion of students who are White rises at each stage of study, to reach 88 per cent of those passing Part 3 examinations.

The information, which is not provided by all Schools, has been analysed to track the cohort of students who start their architecture course each year, in the same way as Table 20 does for female students. The analysis suggests the proportion of white students has declined over time up to passing Part 2, although the rate of decline becomes smaller as students progress through the different stages of study.

White - British, Irish or any other White background  
Black or Black British including Caribbean, African or any other black background  
Asian or Asian British - Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi or any other Asian background  
Mixed - White and Black African, White and Black Caribbean, White and Asian or any other mixed background  
Other - Chinese or any other ethnic group.

Table 22: Ethnic origin of students at different stages of study (validated courses only)

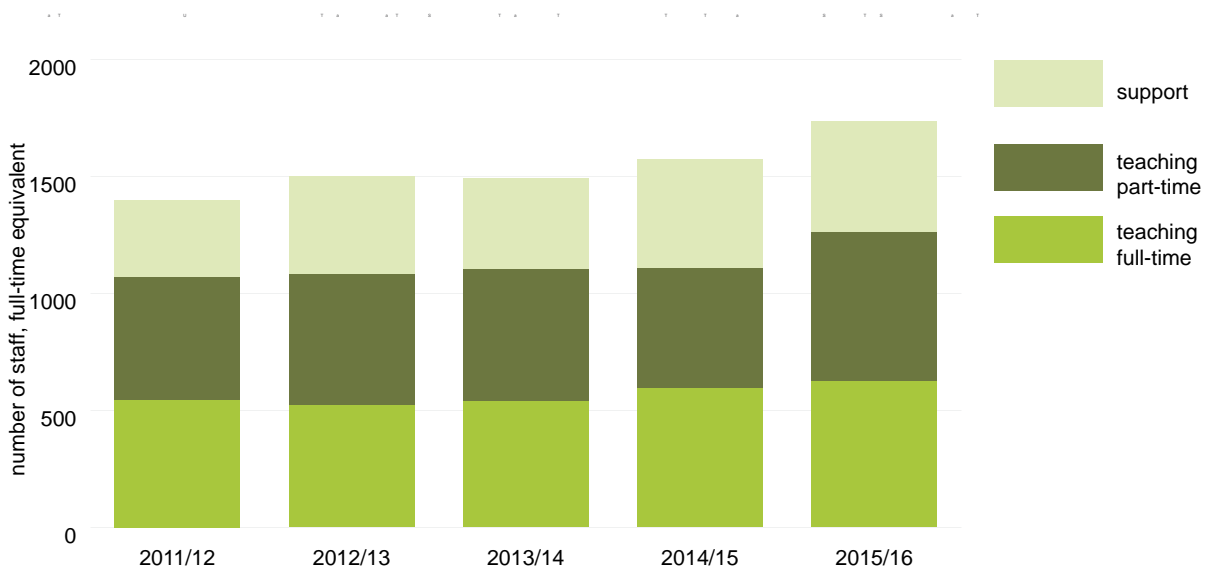
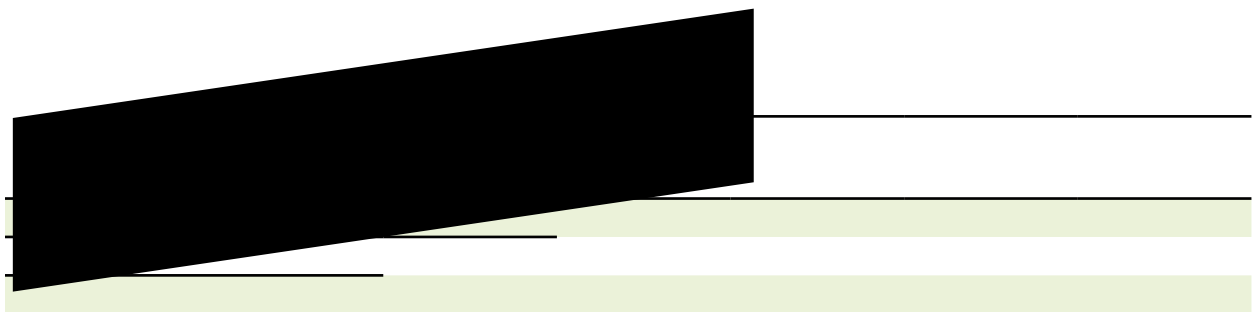
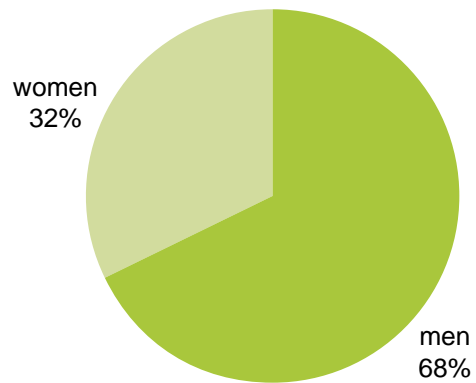


# Staffing

More than 1,700 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff work in the Schools of Architecture. Compared with last year, there are more teaching staff: both full-time (higher by 5 per cent), and part-time (24 per cent higher). The number of support staff is just 1 per cent higher.

On average, each School has 14.2 full-time teaching staff, 6.9 part-time teaching staff (contract), 7.6 part-time teaching staff (hourly paid); plus 8.4 full-time and 2.4 part-time support staff.

Figure 22: Teaching staff, full-time equivalent, 2015/16



# Disability

Statistics relating to students' disabilities have now been collected in their present way for five years, so trends in the number of students with a disability are starting to emerge (Figure 23).

Schools report that 10 per cent of students have a disability, similar to previous years. The largest

