

# UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN TRACKING APPLICANTS AND ADMISSIONS OF UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS 2020-2024

### 1. UNDERGRADUATE: APPLICANTS AND ADMISSIONS BY RACE

Tables 1a and 1b below show:

- The proportion of Black (African, Coloured and Indian) undergraduate applicants increased from 9% (5309) in 2023 to 20% (11 252) in 2024.
- The proportion of Black (African, Coloured and Indian) undergraduate admissions increased from 68% (12 093) in 2023 to 76% (13 783) in 2024.

Table 1a: Number of Undergraduate Applicants and Admissions by Race

	20	)20	2021		20	)22	20	)23	2024	
Undergraduates	Applicants	Admissions	Applicants	Admissions	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions
African	2614	5932	5081	7082	3288	7556	3559	8043	8415	9235
Coloured	876	2459	1343	2470	1025	2499	1247	2764	2093	3116
Indian	365	1102	526	1114	416	1147	503	1286	744	1432
Chinese	34	115	49	109	22	101	38	102	55	129
White	1166	3294	1400	3156	1139	3083	1127	3236	1439	3376
Unknown	33087	4386	46333	4430	53542	3773	55429	2472	1444	752
TOTAL	38142	17288	54732	18361	59432	18159	61903	17903	55725	18040

Table 1b: Proportion of Undergraduate Applicants and Admissions by Race

	202	20	2021		2022		2023		2024	
Undergraduates	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions	Applicants	Admissions	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions
African	7%	34%	9%	39%	6%	42%	6%	45%	15%	51%
Coloured	2%	14%	2%	13%	2%	14%	2%	15%	4%	17%
Indian	1%	6%	1%	6%	1%	6%	1%	7%	1%	8%
Chinese	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%
White	3%	19%	3%	17%	2%	17%	2%	18%	3%	19%
Unknown	87%	25%	85%	24%	90%	21%	90%	14%	3%	4%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

### 2. POSTGRADUATE: APPLICANTS AND ADMISSIONS BY RACE

Tables 2a and 2b below show:

- The proportion of Black (African, Coloured and Indian) postgraduate applicants increased from 25% (5504) in 2023 to 38% (7436) in 2024.
- The proportion of Black (African, Coloured and Indian) postgraduate admissions increased from 57% (6585) in 2023 to 69% (8347) in 2024.

Table 2a: Number of Postgraduate Applicants and Admissions by Race

	20	020	20	)21	20	)22	20	)23	20	)24
	Applicants	Admissions	Applicants	Admissions	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions	Applicants	Admissions
African	3363	3626	4024	4143	6049	4156	4053	4547	5789	6004
Coloured	1054	1291	1169	1390	1675	1352	1041	1343	1163	1551
Indian	496	705	527	749	642	708	410	695	484	792
Chinese	52	71	44	64	58	58	36	59	28	62
White	1681	2581	1665	2517	1907	2331	1284	2259	1709	2726
Unknown	9838	3308	11213	3147	23212	3192	15163	2727	10466	885
TOTAL	16484	11582	18642	12010	33543	11797	21987	11630	19639	12020

Table 2b: Proportion of Postgraduate Applicants and Admissions by Race

	20	20	20	)21	20	)22	20	)23	2024	
Postgraduate	Applicants	Admissions	Applicants	Admissions	Applicants	Admissions	Applicants	Admissions	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions
African	20%	31%	22%	34%	18%	35%	18%	39%	29%	50%
Coloured	6%	11%	6%	12%	5%	11%	5%	12%	6%	13%
Indian	3%	6%	3%	6%	2%	6%	2%	6%	2%	7%
Chinese	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%
White	10%	22%	9%	21%	6%	20%	6%	19%	9%	23%
Unknown	60%	29%	60%	26%	69%	27%	69%	23%	53%	7%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

# 3. UNDERGRADUATE: APPLICANTS AND ADMISSIONS BY GENDER

Tables 3a and 3b below show:

- The proportion of female undergraduate applicants dropped from 64% (39 424) in 2023 to 63% (35 074) in 2024.
- The proportion of female undergraduate admissions increased from 57% (10 117) in 2023 to 58% (10 385) in 2024.

Table 3a: Number of Undergraduate Applicants and Admissions by Gender

	20	2020		2021		2022		)23	2024	
Undergraduates	Applicants	Admissions	Applicants	Admissions	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions	Applicants	Admissions	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions
Female	22856	9376	33582	9884	37297	9873	39424	10117	35074	10385
Male	15247	7880	21099	8442	22078	8259	22409	7756	20582	7628
Trans	39	32	51	35	57	27	70	30	69	27
TOTAL	38142	17288	54732	18361	59432	18159	61903	17903	55725	18040

Table 3b: Proportion of Undergraduate Applicants and Admissions by Gender

	20	2020		2021		2022		2023		)24
Undergraduates	Applicants	Admissions								
Female	60%	54%	61%	54%	63%	54%	64%	57%	63%	58%
Male	40%	46%	39%	46%	37%	45%	36%	43%	37%	42%
Trans	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

# 4. POSTGRADUATE: APPLICANTS AND ADMISSIONS BY GENDER

Tables 4a and 4b below show:

- The proportion of female postgraduate applicants remained the same at 57% for 2023 and 2024, although actual numbers declined from 12 639 in 2023 to 11 209 in 2024.
- The proportion of female postgraduate admissions remained the same at 55% in 2023 and 2024, although actual numbers increased from 6403 in 2023 to 6663 in 2024.

Table 4a: Number of Postgraduate Applicants and Admissions by Gender

	20	)20	2021		2022		2023		2024	
<b>Postgraduates</b>	Applicants	Admissions	Applicants	Admissions	Applicants	Admissions	Applicants	Admissions	<b>Applicants</b>	Admissions
Female	8932	6130	10417	6466	19450	6455	12639	6403	11209	6663
Male	7529	5440	8204	5529	14044	5324	9323	5212	8383	5324
Trans	23	12	21	15	49	18	25	15	47	33
TOTAL	16484	11582	18642	12010	33543	11797	21987	11630	19639	12020

Table 4b: Proportion of Postgraduate Applicants and Admissions by Gender

	20	)20	2021		2022		2023		2024	
Postgraduates	Applicants	Admissions								
Female	54%	53%	56%	54%	58%	55%	57%	55%	57%	55%
Male	46%	47%	44%	46%	42%	45%	42%	45%	43%	44%
Trans	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

### 5. FIRST-TIME ENTERING ADMISSIONS BY FINANCIAL AID

- Admissions by financial aid is tracked by the number of first-time entering undergraduate (FU) students who receive funding through the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS).
- National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) supports access to, and success in, higher education and training for students from poor and working class families who would otherwise not be able to afford to study.
- Table 5 below shows that the proportion of FU students on NSFAS financial aid increased from 29% (1235) in 2023 to 30% (1382) in 2024.

Table 5: FU Admissions by Financial Aid

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total FU Admissions	4140	4395	3841	4273	4597
FU Admissions on NSFAS	1352	1541	1033	1235	1382
% NSFAS Financial Aid	33%	35%	<b>27</b> %	<b>29</b> %	30%

### 6. FIRST-TIME ENTERING ADMISSIONS BY SCHOOL POVERTY QUINTILE

- The South African school quintile classification system is a government mechanism used to allocate funding to public schools based on the relative poverty of the community they serve. It was introduced through the South African Schools Act, 84 of 1996 (SASA), as amended, and further regulated by the National Norms and Standards for School Funding (1998).
- Schools are divided into five quintiles (Q1–Q5), ranked from poorest to least poor, according to factors such as income, literacy, and unemployment levels in the surrounding area.
- Quintiles 1 to Quintile 3 schools are non-fee paying schools with learners from low-income households:
  - o Quintile 1 (Q1) Poorest schools, serving the most disadvantaged communities.
  - o Quintile 2 (Q2) Very poor schools, though marginally better resourced than Q1.
  - o Quintile 3 (Q3) Schools serving lower-middle-income communities.
- Table 6 below shows that the proportion of first-time entering undergraduate (FU) students from the lowest quintile schools (Quintiles 1-3) remained the same at 24% in 2023 and 2024, although actual number of students increased from 1030 in 2023 to 1117 in 2024.

Table 6: FU Admissions by School Poverty Quintile

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total FU Admissions	4140	4395	3841	4273	4597
FU Admissions from School Quintiles 1-3	886	1312	960	1030	1117
% School Quintiles 1-3	<b>21</b> %	30%	<b>25</b> %	24%	24%

# 7. ADMISSIONS BY DISABILITY

• Table 7 below shows that the proportion of students with disability has remained at 2% for the past four years.

Table 7: Admissions by Disability

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Headcount Admissions	28477	29618	29425	29034	29396
Admissions with disability	721	696	682	681	713
% Disability	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%