EDUCATION INTELLIGENCE

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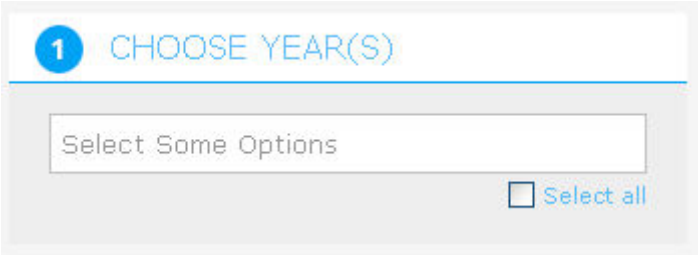
Guide to using the Higher Education Student Data mining tool

Using this system, it is possible to access information from 2002/2003 onwards and break the information down by year, by country of domicile and by 19 additional fields. For more information on the definitions of these fields, please download the data definitions.

This guide will guide you through the 5 basic steps to extract the information on student profile you require via your customised query and will show you various functions you can perform with the tool.

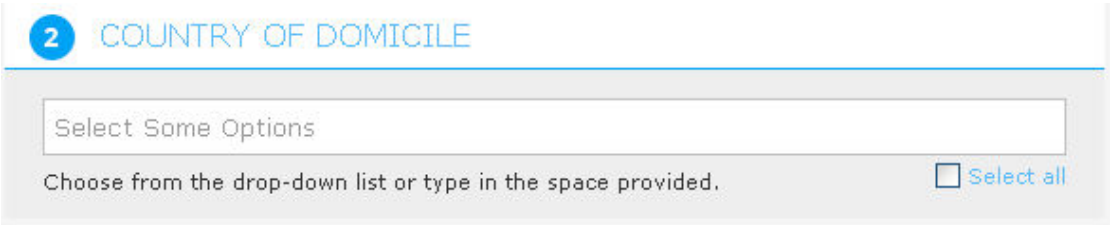
Five steps to customise your own query

Step 1: Choose year (s)



Choose the academic year(s) of your interest from the drop-down list or click “Select all” to select all years.

Step 2: Country of domicile

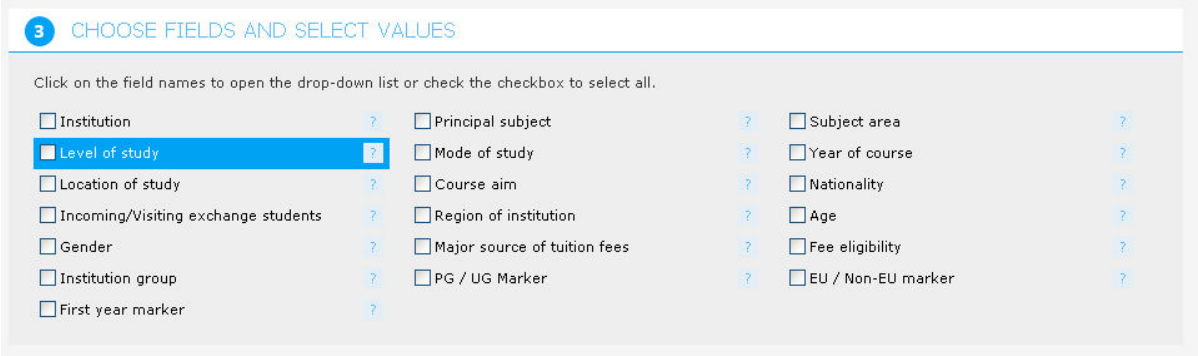


Choose the country of your interest from the drop-down list or click “Select all” to select all countries.

You can also type in the country name in the space provided and the system will match your input and auto-select the country for you.

If you do not enter any values in this step, by default the system will generate resulted figures for all countries in total

Step 3: Choose fields and select values



Click on the field name to open the drop-down list for the selected field.

You can click on the question marks next to each field name to view more what the particular field tells

Then choose the values or options by checking the checkbox in the drop-down list

You can also check the checkbox next to the field name to select all values or options in that field.

The fields and values you choose in this step will be applied to filter the result for your query

Step 4: Customise your table & chart – Select primary category (x-axis)

All of your selected field(s) in step 3 will be shown here, you can select one of these fields to be your primary category i.e. the primary column in your table and the x-axis in your chart.

The field chosen in this step will be used as x-axis in the chart and the primary column in the table thus the data orientation can be totally controlled by users.

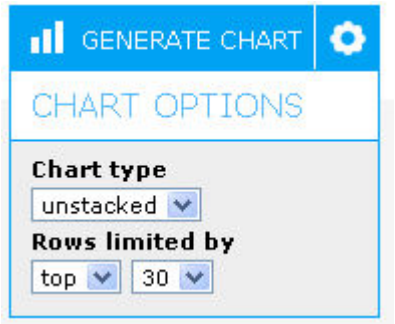
If you do not choose any fields, the fields with the most number of options will be used as x-axis in chart and primary column in table by default.

Step 5: Get your report

You can choose from 3 different formats to present the information extracted from your own query.

Simply click on the 3 buttons to get a report in the corresponding formats

If you would like to generate chart, you may need to click  to open the chart option for you to format your chart.



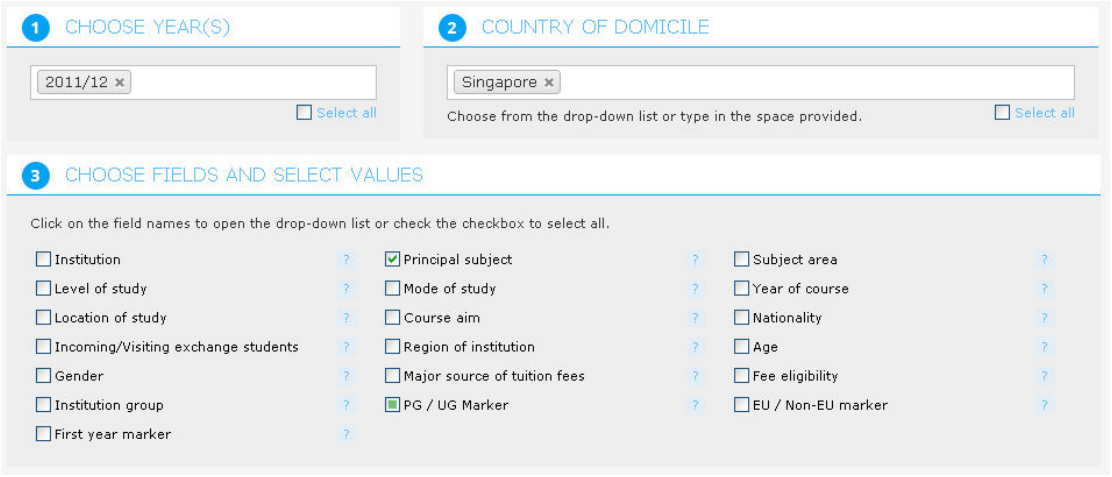
If the resulting chart contains a lot of rows, the system will only allow a maximum of 30 rows and the chart will be sorted in descending order.

Example: Generate table

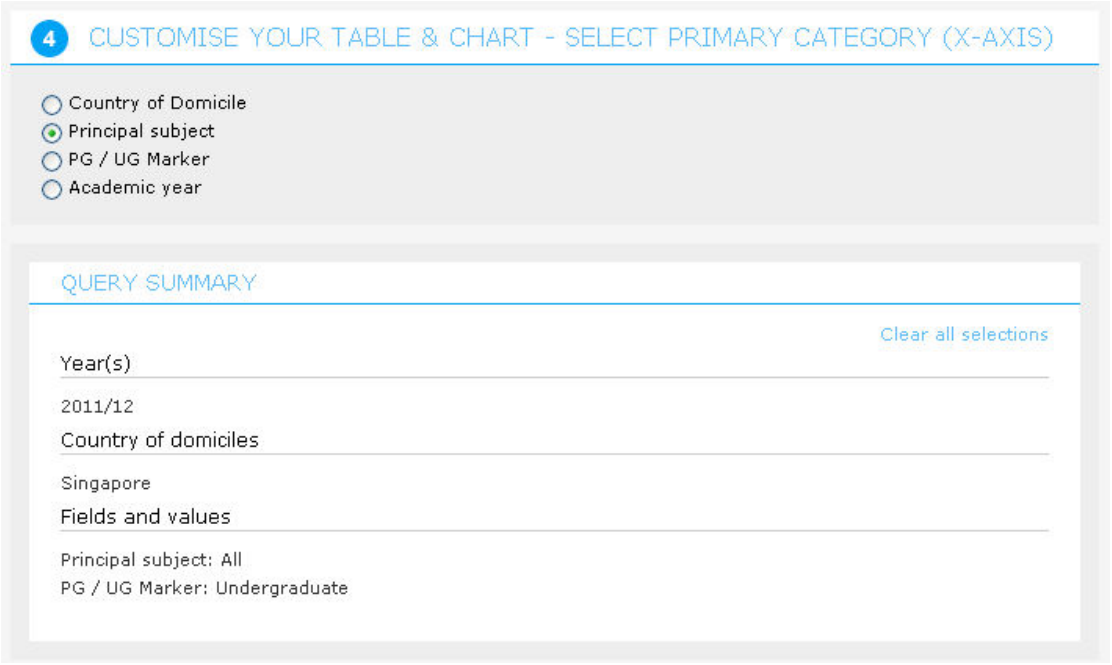
This example shows how the tool can be used to obtain an idea of the most popular subjects for undergraduate students from Singapore in 2011-12:

1. Select the academic year 2011-2012.
2. Select Singapore from the list of countries.
3. Click on the 'PG / UG Marker' box and then select "undergraduate" as option. It acts as a marker to filter only undergraduate students.

4. Check the checkbox next to Principal subject to select all Principal subject



5. Choose “Principal subject” as the primary category.
6. Review your query in the query summary



7. Click “Generate table” to obtain the result.

Principal subject	Singapore Undergraduate 2011/12
Pre-clinical medicine	205
Pre-clinical dentistry	10
Clinical medicine	255
Clinical dentistry	10
Broadly-based programmes within subjects allied to medicine	10
Anatomy, physiology & pathology	45
Pharmacology, toxicology & pharmacy	50
Complementary medicine	10
Nutrition	5
Ophthalmics	0
Aural & oral sciences	15
Nursing	10
Medical technology	20

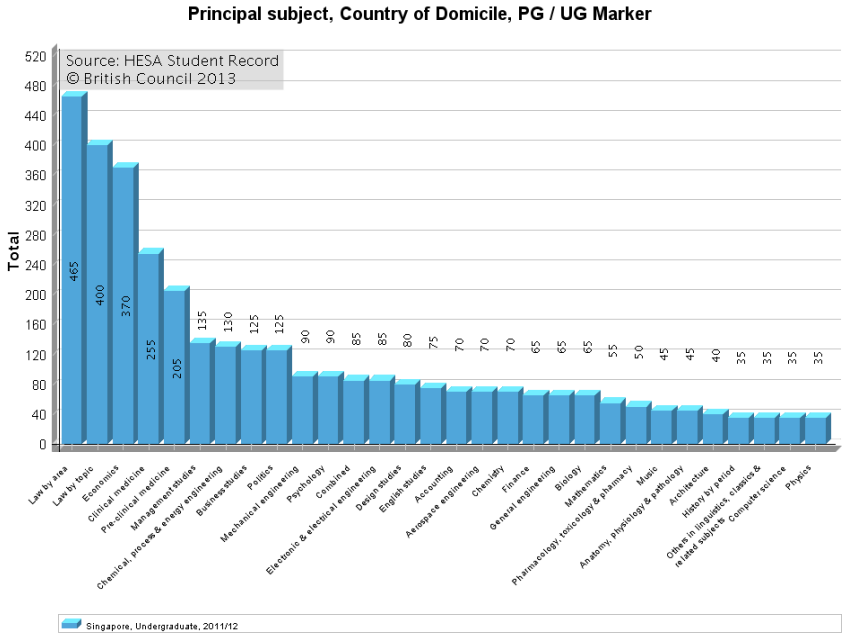
8. You can sort the table by alphabetical order of “Principal subject” or number of undergraduate students from Singapore studying the corresponding subjects by clicking on the relevant cell in the header row.

Example: Generate Chart

Using the same query in the above example,

1. Click  to open the chart option and select the maximum rows will be shown in the chart.

2. Click “Generate Chart” to obtain the chart.



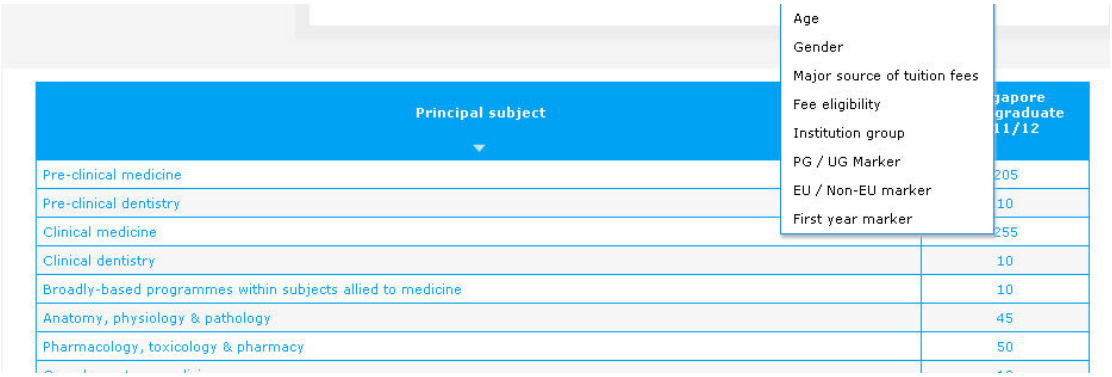
3. You can right click on the chart and select “Save as” to save the chart as image file in your computer.

Example: Drill-down feature

From the table of numbers generated earlier in this example, it is possible to drill-down into the data which have been generated to find out more specific information.

For example, to find out the major sources of tuition fees for those undergraduate students from Singapore studying Clinical Medicine in the UK in 2011/12:

1. Click on the relevant value (255) to open a box containing a number of fields
2. Click on “Major source of tuition fees” to further drill down



3. This will generate another table containing required information

Rounding of data

You may notice that many of the numbers do not appear to add up (for example a column of numbers may read 0+0+0+0=10). This is due to the fact that when publishing these data we have to comply with the data protection act and round the numbers to the nearest five.

For further details on the rounding strategy employed, see the data definitions.

Data collection methodology

Currently, the query system contains statistics provided by HESA for the academic years 2002/2003 onwards. Please note that due to a change in HESA’s data collection methodology, the data contained in the query system are not comparable with data we have published before 2002.

Please explore this user-friendly data-mining system. All feedback is welcomed; send your comments to the Education Intelligence Support Helpdesk at EI.Support@britishcouncil.org.hk.

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