Web based advice and guidance and widening participation in HE

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Routes through the system

• Need to show the “HE value” of different qualification combinations
  – Academic versus vocational routes to HE
  – High value A levels
  – A level combinations

• Data source – integrated administrative data set and possibly UCAS
Integrated administrative data set

• School data
  – Census of school children with individual characteristics of all pupils e.g. gender, ethnicity
  – Prior achievement from age 11 through to 18

• Higher Education data
  – Detailed information on degree subject, institution, degree class awarded etc. for all those participating in HE
Integrated administrative data set

- Data on participants AND non-participants
- Currently have two cohorts:
  - Those entering HE at age 18 in 2004/05
  - Those entering HE at age 18 in 2005/06
- More cohorts constantly coming on line
Example: the value of Physics A level

- 90% of students with Physics A-level go to university at age 18 or 19
- 51% of HE participants with a Physics A-level go to a Russell Group university
- 68% of HE participants with a Physics A-level go to a high research quality university
Top degree subjects

For students with Physics A-level:

1. Engineering (8,910)
2. Physical sciences (6,589)
3. Mathematical sciences (3,076)
4. Computer sciences (2,354)
5. Biological sciences (2,288)
6. Subjects allied to medicine (1,915)
7. Medicine and dentistry (1,816)
8. Social studies (1,303)
9. Business and administrative studies (1,159)
10. Architecture, building and planning (1,134)

(Total sample size = 34,411)
Top degree subjects

For students with Biology A-level:

1 Biological sciences (15,968)
2 Subjects allied to medicine (11,696)
3 Medicine and dentistry (7,638)
4 Physical sciences (6,192)
5 Social studies (2,751)
6 Business and administrative studies (2,426)
7 Historical and philosophical studies (1,948)
8 Veterinary sciences and agriculture (1,846)
9 Law (1,577)
10 Creative arts and design (1,537)

(Total sample size = 61,594)
The value of HE

• Need to show the wage premium associated with different degrees
  – By subject → Labour Force Survey
  – By institution type → Longitudinal DHLE
    • e.g. Russell Group/ Other
  – By institution → Longitudinal DHLE
Labour Force Survey

- Can tell us wage premium from having a degree i.e. compared to other lower level qualifications
- Can tell us the wage premium by broad degree subject
# The Return to a Degree by Subject

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mark-up from</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subjects</td>
<td>Mark-up from</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>Rank</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rank</td>
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<td>Accountancy</td>
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<td>Medicine and related</td>
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<td>Maths and computing</td>
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<td>Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mechanical engineering</td>
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<td>Social sciences</td>
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<td>Biology</td>
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<td>English</td>
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<td>History</td>
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<td>Sociology</td>
<td>10.83%</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Politics</td>
<td>-0.91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey (DLHE)

- Early DHLE Survey (surveys graduates 6 months out of university) – only preliminary snapshot of graduate success
- In 2006, HESA carried out a follow up to the Early DHLE Survey → Longitudinal DLHE – 3 years after graduation
- Contains full details of HE plus wages / occupation 3 years after graduation
Longitudinal DLHE

• Can tell us *early* value of degrees
  – By subject
  – By institution
  – Possibly by subject and institution (subject to sample size)

• Data essentially owned by universities so would need their permission to do this