

## Summary of the 2023/24 University of Oxford Admissions Process for the subjects; Mathematics, Mathematics & Statistics, Mathematics & Philosophy, and Mathematics & Computer Science

These data refer to applicants in the “2023/24 cycle” who applied in 2023 for the Oxford course starting in 2024 or in 2025 (deferred entry). All figures in brackets relate to the previous admissions cycle, 2022/23. Note that in the 2023/24 cycle Mathematics / Mathematics and Statistics operated a joint admissions process. Numbers for the previous cycle have been summed.

### Overall Application Statistics

Course	Applications	Shortlisted	Offers
Mathematics / Mathematics and Statistics	1960 (1945)	691 (568)	204 (200)
Mathematics and Philosophy	173 (161)	53 (61)	16 (20)
Mathematics and Computer Science	616 (594)	206 (153)	74 (68)
Total	2749 (2700)	950 (782)	294 (288)

- 16.0% of applications made were open applications (15.8%).
- 27 applicants applied for deferred entry (20). Of these, 11 were interviewed and 5 were offered places.
- 26.7% of applicants were female (29.9%) and 26.5% of those offered a place are female (22.9%).
- 1603 applicants were studying A-levels in the UK (1486). Of these, 94% were taking Further Mathematics as a full A-level. Of the 90 applicants studying A-levels in the UK who weren't taking Further Maths as a full A-level, 7 were shortlisted for interview, and fewer than 3 were offered a place.
- There were 947 non-EU international-fee-paying applicants (1000).

The admissions criteria are published on the department's website at:

[www.maths.ox.ac.uk/study-here/prospective-undergraduates/how-apply/admissions-criteria](http://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/study-here/prospective-undergraduates/how-apply/admissions-criteria).

### Mathematics Admissions Test

All applicants are expected to sit the Mathematics Admissions Test (MAT), or must seek permission in exceptional circumstances from the subject Admissions Coordinator to be exempted from the test. In 2023 the test date was 19 October. In this cycle, 2716 applicants for Mathematics or joint honours courses registered for and sat the MAT (2621).

Many candidates experienced technical disruption on 19 October with the online web platform for the MAT. Students for whom a special considerations form related to this technical disruption was submitted were invited to take an optional additional test on 14 November. The additional test consisted of ten multiple choice questions. This additional test was taken by 1407 applicants for Mathematics or joint honours courses before shortlisting.

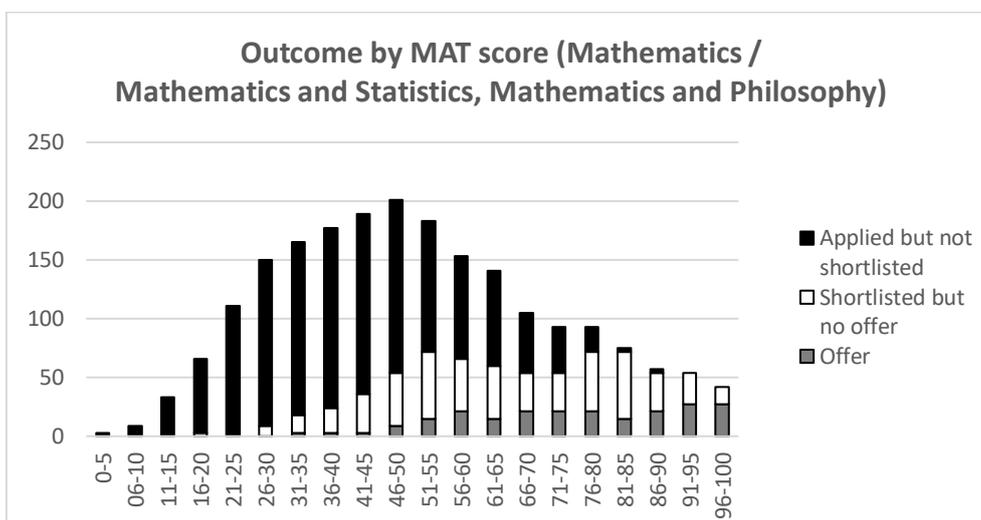
Details relating to the MAT, including several past and specimen papers, can be found at:

<https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/study-here/undergraduate-study/maths-admissions-test>

The average MAT score for Oxford applicants answering questions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 was:

- 51.2 (48.3) amongst all applicants;
- 68.1 (65.2) amongst shortlisted applicants;
- 75.1 (71.5) amongst successful applicants.

The average score for Oxford applicants taking the additional mathematics test was 6.0.



This chart excludes applicants who did not sit the MAT, and the numbers have been rounded.

For further details on Mathematics & Computer Science, please see the feedback report produced by the Computer Science department at [www.cs.ox.ac.uk/adstats](http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/adstats).

## Shortlisting

In light of the competition for places, the purpose of shortlisting is to provide time during the December interview window to interview all shortlisted applicants.

Shortlisting is performed in accordance with the stated admissions criteria on the basis of all currently available and relevant data: in particular these data include an applicant's score from the MAT, all aspects of the applicant's UCAS form and any further relevant contextual data specific to the application.

As guidance, the Admissions Coordinator advised college tutors on shortlisting decisions based on MAT scores and additional test scores and special considerations forms. Around 3.4 (3) applicants per place were shortlisted for Mathematics / Mathematics & Statistics and Mathematics & Philosophy.

Throughout the process all UCAS forms, test scores, contextual information, comments, and interview grades are easily accessible to all college tutors involved with admissions via a web-based database.

College tutors review the UCAS forms and any other information relevant to individual applications, and in light of all information enter their provisional shortlisting decisions in the web-based admissions database. Provisional shortlisting decisions become final by an agreed deadline. Letters and/or emails are then sent to candidates informing them of the outcome of the shortlisting exercise.

## Interview Stage

Each applicant has a first-assigned college, which is either the college to which they applied or, in the case of open applications, a college randomly assigned by the University Admissions Office in such a way as to even out the number of applicants per place across colleges. Each shortlisted applicant is also randomly assigned a second college by an algorithm aiming to equalise across colleges the interview load per place ratio.

In cases where a college is particularly over-subscribed (more than four shortlisted applicants per place), a college must reallocate a fraction of their candidates. These candidates are then assigned at random to other colleges. In this admissions cycle, 6 candidates were reallocated to a different first college.

In December 2023 all interviews were carried out remotely. Most applicants were given interviews by at least two different colleges (their first- and second-assigned colleges). Applicants may also have been interviewed by other colleges. Applicants to joint degrees typically have separate interviews in the two disciplines.

Interviews are academic in nature. An applicant's performance is judged according to the admissions criteria and graded on a scale of 1-9 against agreed descriptors. The score and any comments are added to the shared web-based database.

## **Decisions**

The Admissions Group operates various procedures in a coordinated effort to ensure that the strongest applicants are admitted to the University irrespective of college choice; these include transparency of all test results, interview grades, and UCAS forms amongst all tutors involved with admissions, and a final meeting of tutors at which the strongest unplaced applicants are collectively discussed and open offers are made by the Admissions Group. Around 34% of offers (28%) made in this cycle were either open offers or made by a college other than the first college considering the applicant.

Colleges may make offers conditional on the Opportunity Oxford bridging programme to eligible students who would not otherwise have been admitted. In this cycle, 12 such offers were made for Maths or joint honours courses. More information on this programme is available at: [www.ox.ac.uk/opportunityoxford](http://www.ox.ac.uk/opportunityoxford).

Decisions are deemed to be official at the end of the Group's final meeting. These decisions are then conveyed by tutors to their respective college offices for dissemination to shortlisted applicants. The Admissions Group has standard offers for those taking A-levels, the International Baccalaureate or Advanced Highers; college tutors will seek advice from admissions tutors or the Admissions Office in making other offers.

## **Feedback**

All candidates who took the MAT, and who have not withdrawn, will have their MAT score emailed to them automatically by the University Admissions Office at the end of the admissions process.

All candidates who took the additional test, and who have not withdrawn, will have their additional test score emailed to them automatically by the University Admissions Office at the end of the admissions process.

Other feedback will not automatically be sent out, but applicants may seek feedback from their first-assigned colleges about any aspect of the admissions process. Feedback will not usually be sent out until the new year, once the admissions process is complete.

January 2024