

# REF 2021 results

Briefing for HEI press officers

28 Mar 2022



Research  
England



Scottish Funding Council  
Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba

Cyngor Cyllido Addysg  
Uwch Cymru  
Higher Education Funding  
Council for Wales

hefcw



Department for the  
**Economy**  
www.economy-ni.gov.uk

# REF 2021

Follow us on Twitter  
[@REF\\_2021](https://twitter.com/REF_2021)

Email us: [info@ref.ac.uk](mailto:info@ref.ac.uk)

# Housekeeping

- We will be recording the webinar and hosting it on the REF website following the event
- Please use the Q&A function to ask any questions as we go through the presentations
- We will take questions at the end

# Introduction

- Aim:
  - Provide briefing information on publication of results
  - Support institutions' preparations
- Outline:
  - Introduction to publishing the REF results
  - Timetable and press briefing details
  - Receiving results and introduction to the data format
  - Responsible reporting of REF results
  - Q&A

# How the REF works

REF assesses the quality of research in participating UK universities, in all disciplines. It is carried out by 34 expert panels, grouped into 4 main panels.

Main Panel A: **Medicine, health and life sciences**

Main Panel B: **Physical sciences, engineering and mathematics**

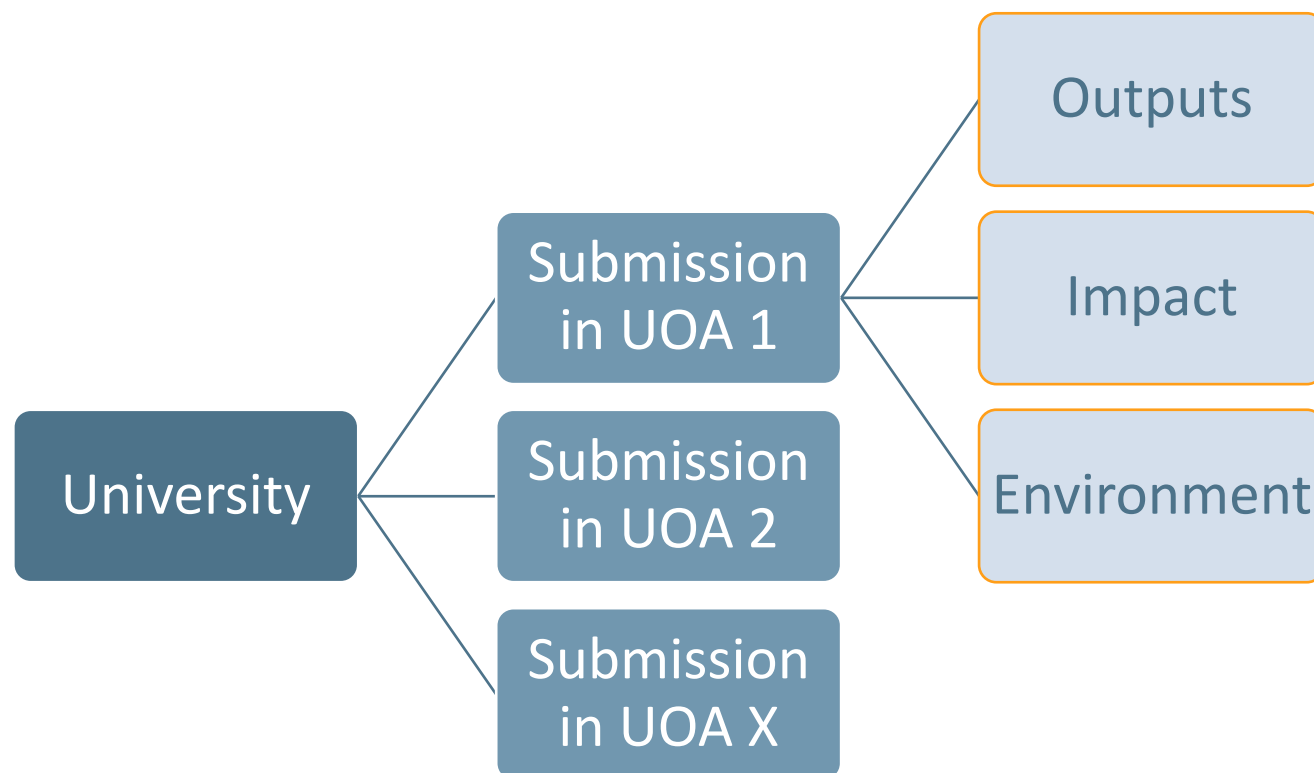
Main panel C: **Social sciences**

Main Panel D: **Arts and humanities**



# Submissions

REF2021

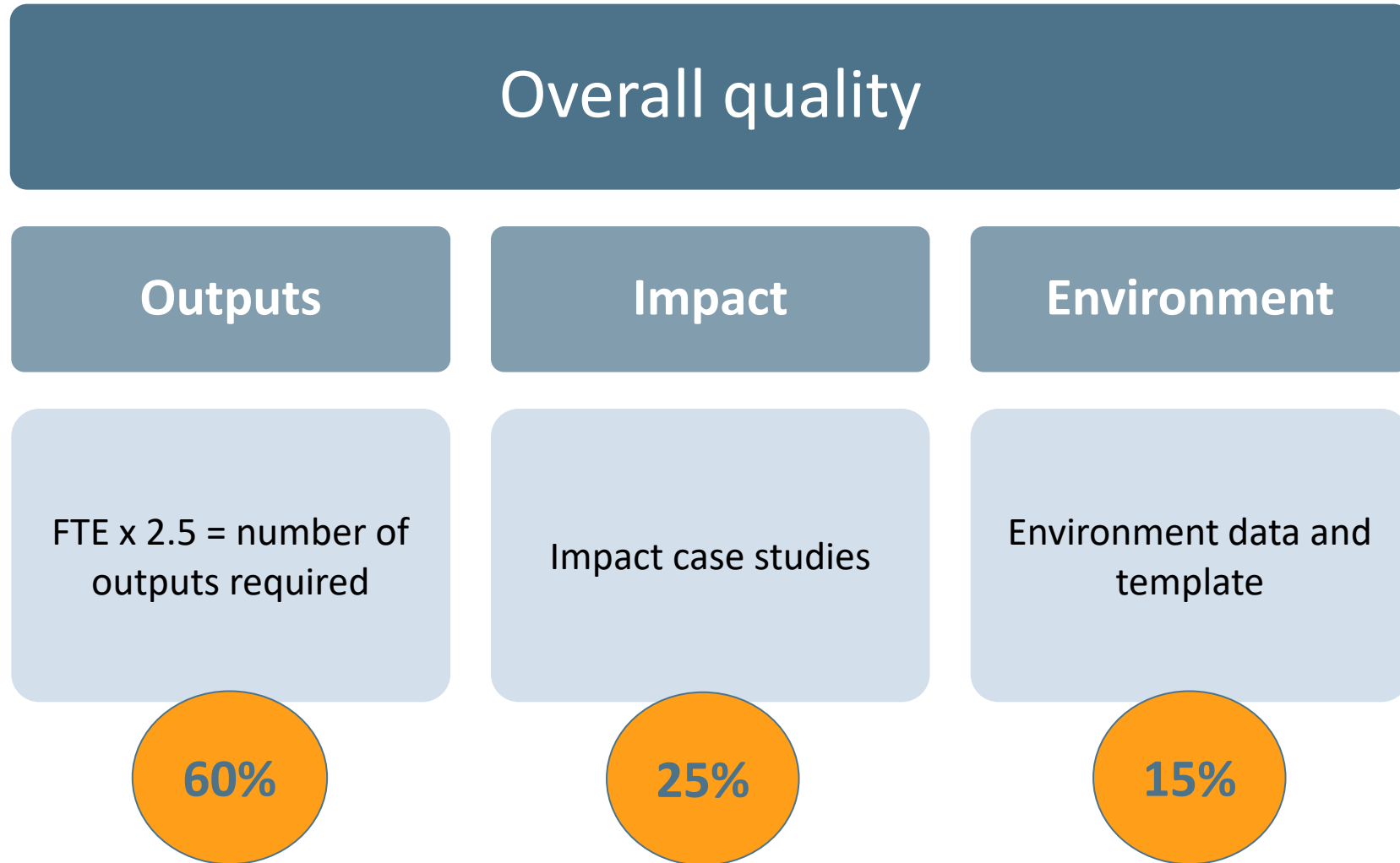


Each submission included the staff identified by the university as working within the remit of a UOA, and:

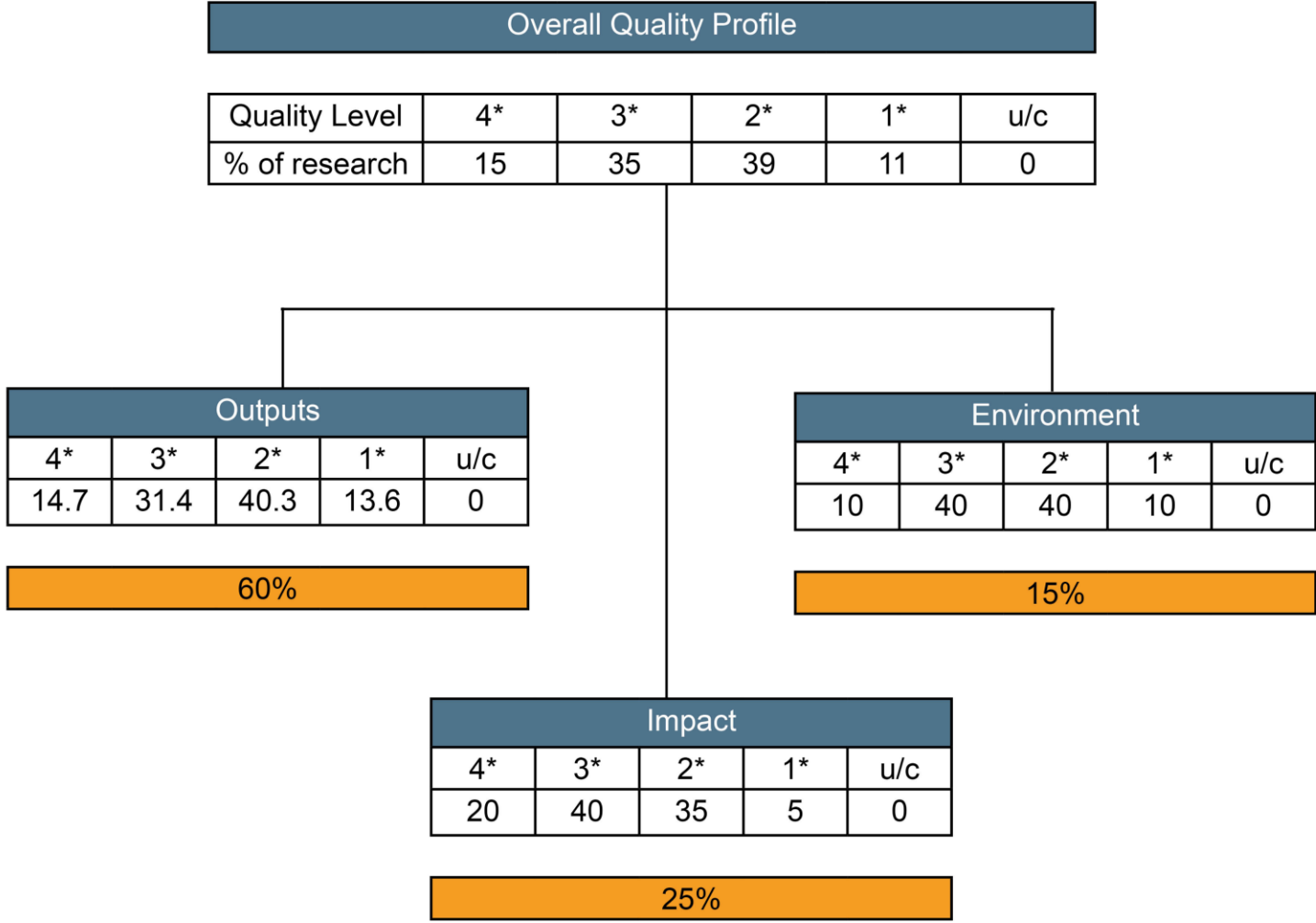
- the research produced by the unit between 2014 to 2020
- examples of impact from the unit's research
- The environment supporting research and its application or impact.

- Each participating university was required to submit all staff with significant responsibility for research
- Universities could choose how to map these staff to UOAs for submission

# What was assessed



# Example quality profile



# Results publication

## Results and analysis

- REF website and file download
- E-publications (key facts, guide to results)

## Reports

- E-publications

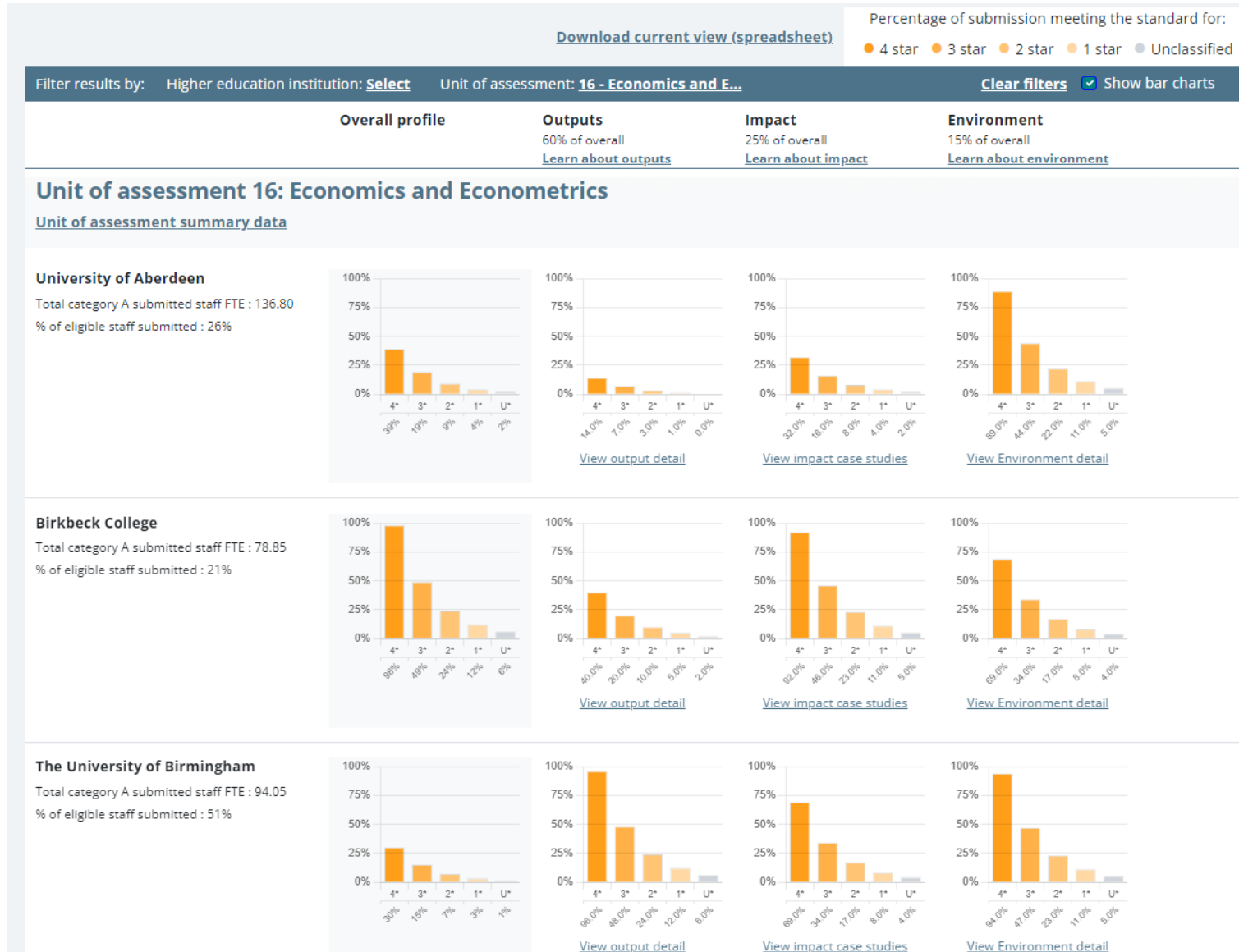
## Submissions

- REF website and databases
- File download



# Results website

# REF2021



This slide shows only dummy data

# Timetable

REF2021

Date	Publication
9am: 9 May 2022	HEIs receive own results and comparative data
9am: 10 May 2022	HEIs receive all results
11 May 2022	Press conference – after this press may contact HEIs
00.01am: 12 May 2022	Results published
w/c 16 May 2022	Main Panel overview reports published
June 2022	HEIs receive confidential feedback REF Director's report published EDAP report published IDAP report published
July 2022	ILEPP report published

# Press briefing details

- HEIs will receive the press release and further info (inc. logos) on 10 May 2022
- Press conference will be held 11 May 2022 (in the morning)
- Press will receive full results and press release under embargo at the briefing on 11 May
- Press will be asked not to contact HEIs until after the press briefing (i.e. from late morning 11 May 2022)
- Embargo period ends 00.01 12 May 2022

# Receiving your results

- Available through the submission system to your HEI's authorised submitters
- Individual HEI results available from 9.00am on 9 May, 2022 with comparative data
- All HEI results available (under embargo) from 9.00am on 10 May, 2022
- Both sets of results will be available in a spreadsheet in the format in which you received your dummy data.

# Individual results

- Filename will be ResultsXXXXXX.xlsx with your HEI's UKPRN in the filename
- Format will be as the dummy data but will just contain results for your submissions:

File Home Insert Draw Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Help

Clipboard: Paste, Cut, Copy, Format Painter

Font: Calibri, 11, Bold, Italic, Underline, Text Color, Background Color

Alignment: Wrap Text, Merge & Center

Protection: Protect

Number: General, Percent, Decimals

Styles: Normal, Bad, Good, Neutral, Calculation, Check Cell, Explanatory, Input

Cells: Insert, Delete, Format

Editing: AutoSum, Fill, Clear, Sort & Filter, Find & Select, Ideas

2021 Research Excellence Framework Results																
Quality profiles																
Note: In this table, joint submissions are shown split by their constituent institutions.																
Percentage of the submission meeting the standard for																
Institution code	Institution name	Institution sort order	Main unit of assessment number	Unit of assessment name	Multiple submission letter	Multiple submission name	Joint submission	Profile	FTE of staff submitted	Total FTE of staff for joint submission	% of eligible staff submitted	4*	3*	2*	1*	Unclassified
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	1 Clinical Medicine				Overall	58.90		95	31	15	7	3	1
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	1 Clinical Medicine				Outputs	58.90		95	59.0	29.0	14.0	7.0	3.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	1 Clinical Medicine				Impact	58.90		95	37.0	18.0	9.0	4.0	2.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	1 Clinical Medicine				Environment	58.90		95	36.0	18.0	9.0	4.0	2.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3 Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy				Overall	63.65		100	15	7	3	1	0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3 Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy				Outputs	63.65		100	85.0	42.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3 Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy				Impact	63.65		100	98.0	49.0	24.0	12.0	6.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3 Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy				Environment	63.65		100	17.0	8.0	4.0	2.0	1.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3 Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	A	Nursing		Overall	10.45		100	69	34	17	8	4
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3 Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	A	Nursing		Outputs	10.45		100	87.0	43.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3 Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	A	Nursing		Impact	10.45		100	56.0	28.0	14.0	7.0	3.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3 Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	A	Nursing		Environment	10.45		100	72.0	36.0	18.0	9.0	4.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3 Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	B	Pharmacy		Overall	105.45		100	51	25	12	6	3
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3 Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	B	Pharmacy		Outputs	105.45		100	82.0	41.0	20.0	10.0	5.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3 Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	B	Pharmacy		Impact	105.45		100	97.0	48.0	24.0	12.0	6.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3 Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	B	Pharmacy		Environment	105.45		100	22.0	11.0	5.0	2.0	1.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	4 Psychology, Psychiatry and Neuroscience				Overall	50.35		95	89	44	22	11	5
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	4 Psychology, Psychiatry and Neuroscience				Outputs	50.35		95	22.0	11.0	5.0	2.0	1.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	4 Psychology, Psychiatry and Neuroscience				Impact	50.35		95	78.0	39.0	19.0	9.0	4.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	4 Psychology, Psychiatry and Neuroscience				Environment	50.35		95	87.0	43.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	5 Biological Sciences				Overall	71.25		90	23	11	5	2	1
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	5 Biological Sciences				Outputs	71.25		90	16.0	8.0	4.0	2.0	1.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	5 Biological Sciences				Impact	71.25		90	54.0	27.0	13.0	6.0	3.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	5 Biological Sciences				Environment	71.25		90	86.0	43.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	6 Agriculture, Food and Veterinary Sciences				Overall	57.00		85	93	46	23	11	5
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	6 Agriculture, Food and Veterinary Sciences				Outputs	57.00		85	85.0	42.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	6 Agriculture, Food and Veterinary Sciences				Impact	57.00		85	74.0	12.0	6.0	3.0	1.0

# All results

- Filename will be Results.xlsx
- Format will be as the dummy data and will contain results for all submissions from all HEIs in the exercise:

File Home Insert Draw Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Help

Clipboard Font Alignment Protection Number Styles Cells Editing Ideas

A2

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R

# 2021 Research Excellence Framework Results

## Quality profiles

Note: In this table, joint submissions are shown split by their constituent institutions.

										Percentage of the submission meeting the standard for							
Institution code	Institution name	Main sort order	Main par	Unit of assessment number	Unit of assessment name	Multiple submission letter	Multiple submission name	Joint submission	Profile	FTE of submitted staff	Total FTE of submitted staff for joint submission	% of eligible staff submitted	4*	3*	2*	1*	Unclassified
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy				Overall	63.65		100	15	7	3	1	0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy				Outputs	63.65		100	85.0	42.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy				Impact	63.65		100	98.0	49.0	24.0	12.0	6.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy				Environment	63.65		100	17.0	8.0	4.0	2.0	1.0
D1000023	Angerport University	2	B	9	Physics				Overall	20.90		100	10	5	2	1	0
D1000023	Angerport University	2	B	9	Physics				Outputs	20.90		100	36.0	18.0	9.0	4.0	2.0
D1000023	Angerport University	2	B	9	Physics				Impact	20.90		100	87.0	43.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D1000023	Angerport University	2	B	9	Physics				Environment	20.90		100	88.0	44.0	22.0	11.0	5.0
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	A	Nursing		Overall	10.45		100	69	34	17	8	4
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	A	Nursing		Outputs	10.45		100	87.0	43.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	A	Nursing		Impact	10.45		100	56.0	28.0	14.0	7.0	3.0
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	A	Nursing		Environment	10.45		100	72.0	36.0	18.0	9.0	4.0
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	B	Pharmacy		Overall	105.45		100	51	25	12	6	3
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	B	Pharmacy		Outputs	105.45		100	82.0	41.0	20.0	10.0	5.0
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	B	Pharmacy		Impact	105.45		100	97.0	48.0	24.0	12.0	6.0
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	B	Pharmacy		Environment	105.45		100	22.0	11.0	5.0	2.0	1.0
D0011123	University of Bridgeland	4	B	10	Mathematical Sciences			(joint submission with University	Overall	63.80	110.20	95	90	45	22	11	5
D0011123	University of Bridgeland	4	B	10	Mathematical Sciences			(joint submission with University	Outputs	63.80	110.20	95	88.0	44.0	22.0	11.0	5.0
D0011123	University of Bridgeland	4	B	10	Mathematical Sciences			(joint submission with University	Impact	63.80	110.20	95	85.0	42.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D0011123	University of Bridgeland	4	B	10	Mathematical Sciences			(joint submission with University	Environment	63.80	110.20	95	97.0	48.0	24.0	12.0	6.0
D0000213	Clamborough City University	5	B	8	Chemistry				Overall	76.95		100	21	10	5	2	1
D0000213	Clamborough City University	5	B	8	Chemistry				Outputs	76.95		100	29.0	14.0	7.0	3.0	1.0
D0000213	Clamborough City University	5	B	8	Chemistry				Impact	76.95		100	68.0	34.0	17.0	8.0	4.0
D0000213	Clamborough City University	5	B	8	Chemistry				Environment	76.95		100	96.0	48.0	24.0	12.0	6.0
D0000770	University of Clamborough	6	A	6	Agriculture, Food and Veterinary Sciences				Overall	57.00		85	93	46	23	11	5
D0000770	University of Clamborough	6	A	6	Agriculture, Food and Veterinary Sciences				Outputs	57.00		85	85.0	42.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D0000770	University of Clamborough	6	A	6	Agriculture, Food and Veterinary Sciences				Impact	57.00		85	24.0	12.0	6.0	3.0	1.0



# Dummy data

- Now going to look at the format of the data in more detail

File Home Insert Draw Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Help

Clipboard Font Alignment Protection Number Styles Cells Editing Ideas

A2

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R

# 2021 Research Excellence Framework Results

## Quality profiles

Note: In this table, joint submissions are shown split by their constituent institutions.

										Percentage of the submission meeting the standard for							
Institution code	Institution name	Main sort order	Main par	Unit of assessment number	Unit of assessment name	Multiple submission letter	Multiple submission name	Joint submission	Profile	FTE of submitted staff	Total FTE of submitted staff for joint submission	% of eligible staff submitted	4*	3*	2*	1*	Unclassified
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy				Overall	63.65		100	15	7	3	1	0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy				Outputs	63.65		100	85.0	42.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy				Impact	63.65		100	98.0	49.0	24.0	12.0	6.0
D0000013	Aelwich University	1	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy				Environment	63.65		100	17.0	8.0	4.0	2.0	1.0
D1000023	Angerport University	2	B	9	Physics				Overall	20.90		100	10	5	2	1	0
D1000023	Angerport University	2	B	9	Physics				Outputs	20.90		100	36.0	18.0	9.0	4.0	2.0
D1000023	Angerport University	2	B	9	Physics				Impact	20.90		100	87.0	43.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D1000023	Angerport University	2	B	9	Physics				Environment	20.90		100	88.0	44.0	22.0	11.0	5.0
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	A	Nursing		Overall	10.45		100	69	34	17	8	4
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	A	Nursing		Outputs	10.45		100	87.0	43.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	A	Nursing		Impact	10.45		100	56.0	28.0	14.0	7.0	3.0
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	A	Nursing		Environment	10.45		100	72.0	36.0	18.0	9.0	4.0
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	B	Pharmacy		Overall	105.45		100	51	25	12	6	3
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	B	Pharmacy		Outputs	105.45		100	82.0	41.0	20.0	10.0	5.0
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	B	Pharmacy		Impact	105.45		100	97.0	48.0	24.0	12.0	6.0
D1114400	The University of Applemouth	3	A	3	Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy	B	Pharmacy		Environment	105.45		100	22.0	11.0	5.0	2.0	1.0
D0011123	University of Bridgeland	4	B	10	Mathematical Sciences			(joint submission with University	Overall	63.80	110.20	95	90	45	22	11	5
D0011123	University of Bridgeland	4	B	10	Mathematical Sciences			(joint submission with University	Outputs	63.80	110.20	95	88.0	44.0	22.0	11.0	5.0
D0011123	University of Bridgeland	4	B	10	Mathematical Sciences			(joint submission with University	Impact	63.80	110.20	95	85.0	42.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D0011123	University of Bridgeland	4	B	10	Mathematical Sciences			(joint submission with University	Environment	63.80	110.20	95	97.0	48.0	24.0	12.0	6.0
D0000213	Clamborough City University	5	B	8	Chemistry				Overall	76.95		100	21	10	5	2	1
D0000213	Clamborough City University	5	B	8	Chemistry				Outputs	76.95		100	29.0	14.0	7.0	3.0	1.0
D0000213	Clamborough City University	5	B	8	Chemistry				Impact	76.95		100	68.0	34.0	17.0	8.0	4.0
D0000213	Clamborough City University	5	B	8	Chemistry				Environment	76.95		100	96.0	48.0	24.0	12.0	6.0
D0000770	University of Clamborough	6	A	6	Agriculture, Food and Veterinary Sciences				Overall	57.00		85	93	46	23	11	5
D0000770	University of Clamborough	6	A	6	Agriculture, Food and Veterinary Sciences				Outputs	57.00		85	85.0	42.0	21.0	10.0	5.0
D0000770	University of Clamborough	6	A	6	Agriculture, Food and Veterinary Sciences				Impact	57.00		85	24.0	12.0	6.0	3.0	1.0

# % of eligible staff submitted

REF2021

- The % eligible indicates the proportion made up by staff returned to the exercise out of the total staff meeting the core eligibility criteria:
  - In REF 2021 it was a requirement for HEIs to return all staff with significant responsibility for research
  - These staff would in many cases have been identified by contractual status alone (including staff with R-only and T and R contracts) – as defined in the core eligibility criteria; where this was the case, the % eligible submitted = 100%
  - However, where these criteria identified staff who did not have significant responsibility for research, the institution could run a process to identify who, among their staff meeting the core eligibility criteria, had significant responsibility for research.
- The % of eligible staff submitted is calculated as
  - The total FTE of all eligible staff submitted as a percentage of the total FTE of all eligible staff identified
- and rounded to the nearest 5% and capped at 100%

# Dummy data

- Submissions with a submitted **headcount of 3** or under will have the sub-profiles suppressed:

0	D0000399	University of Ormoor	13	D	32	Art and Design: History, Practice and Theory					Overall	2.50	100	57	26	13	10	0
1	D0000400	University of Ormoor	13	D	32	Art and Design: History, Practice and Theory					Outputs	2.50	100	-	-	-	-	-
2	D0000401	University of Ormoor	13	D	32	Art and Design: History, Practice and Theory					Impact	2.50	100	-	-	-	-	-
3	D0000402	University of Ormoor	13	D	32	Art and Design: History, Practice and Theory					Environment	2.50	100	-	-	-	-	-
4	D0000004	Cardiff University	14	A	4	Psychology: Psychological Neuroscience					Overall	2.50	100	20	20	11	20	11

# Comparative data

- Provided to HEIs with own results on 9<sup>th</sup> May
- Will include, by UOA, main panel and for UK sector:
  - Average profiles (FTE-weighted)
  - Quartiles
  - For overall and sub-profiles
- Will be published on REF website with results on 12<sup>th</sup> May

# Responsible REF results

- The REF team **do not** provide rankings or hierarchies of results
- REF logo policy
  - Full details on the REF website
  - We would **not** expect the REF logo to be used to imply endorsement of any rankings or hierarchies
  - Can be used on external and internal comms about participation in REF 2021 and the results
  - Should generally be used on specific comms about REF, rather than on homepages etc. where use of the logo may look like endorsement or partnership
  - REF logo should not be the most prominent feature in order to avoid confusion over authorship of content – comms still need your HEI branding
- Approaching REF panel members for comment
  - **They are only allowed to discuss material already in the public domain**
  - They cannot comment on scores for individual outputs/ICS or on who assessed particular items
  - They cannot comment on ranking of UOAs, submissions, HEIs or anything else – the REF **does not** provide rankings
- HEIs should ensure they are familiar with CMA guidelines

# Thank you

REF2021

- Just a reminder: we have recorded the webinar and will host it on the REF website following the event
- If you have any further questions, please email [info@ref.ac.uk](mailto:info@ref.ac.uk)