

Research income for Law – 2013/14 to 2018/19

This briefing uses data from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)¹ to present findings on research income in the field of Law for the period of 2013/14 to 2018/19. If you have any feedback or suggestions for other analyses please email ramin.bokaian@charteredabs.org with feedback.

Research income sources – Law 2013/14 to 2018/19 (£000s)

Source of Income	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	5 year % change
BEIS Research Councils, The Royal Society, British Academy and The Royal Society of Edinburgh	5,879	6,570	8,575	8,524	7,432	9,093	54.7%
UK central government bodies/local authorities, health and hospital authorities	1,816	2,237	3,689	3,697	3,419	2,881	58.6%
UK central government tax credits for research and development expenditure	0	14	1	1	0	0	0%
UK industry, commerce and public corporations	434	337	293	352	451	304	-30.0%
UK-based charities (open competitive process)	2,306	2,428	2,468	2,990	3,423	2,878	24.8%
UK-based charities (other)	244	237	691	484	664	656	168.9%
EU government bodies	4,621	5,289	4,961	4,370	5,049	5,795	25.4%
EU-based charities (open competitive process)	20	6	14	26	24	106	430%
EU industry, commerce and public corporations	144	56	7	75	89	39	-72.9%
EU (excluding UK) other	441	481	545	468	665	516	17%
Non-EU-based charities (open competitive process)	365	332	253	434	722	668	83%
Non-EU industry, commerce and public corporations	207	260	439	348	312	407	96.6%
Non-EU other	1,082	715	774	747	1,620	1,656	53.0%
UK other sources	660	1,284	379	311	636	321	-51.4%
Total	18,219	20,246	23,089	22,827	24,506	25,320	39.0%

¹ Source: HESA Finance Records 2013/14 to 2018/19. © Higher Education Statistics Agency Limited. Data extracted from the Heidi Plus Online Analytics Service in June 2020.

Advice on full comparability with prior years: From 1 January 2015 the financial reporting for universities changed in line with Financial Reporting Standards (FRS) 102. Due to these changes, absolute comparability with HESA finance records pre and post 2014/15 and 2015/16 may not be possible.

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Research Income in Law – UK Sources

Law Funding - UK Sources (£000s)	2013/14	2018/19	% Increase/Decrease	Difference
All UK Sources	11,339	16,133	42%	4,794
All UK Sources (Inflation Adjusted)	12,790	16,133	26%	3,343
UK Government Sources Only	7,695	11,974	56%	4,279
UK Government Sources Only (Inflation Adjusted)	8,680	11,974	38%	3,294

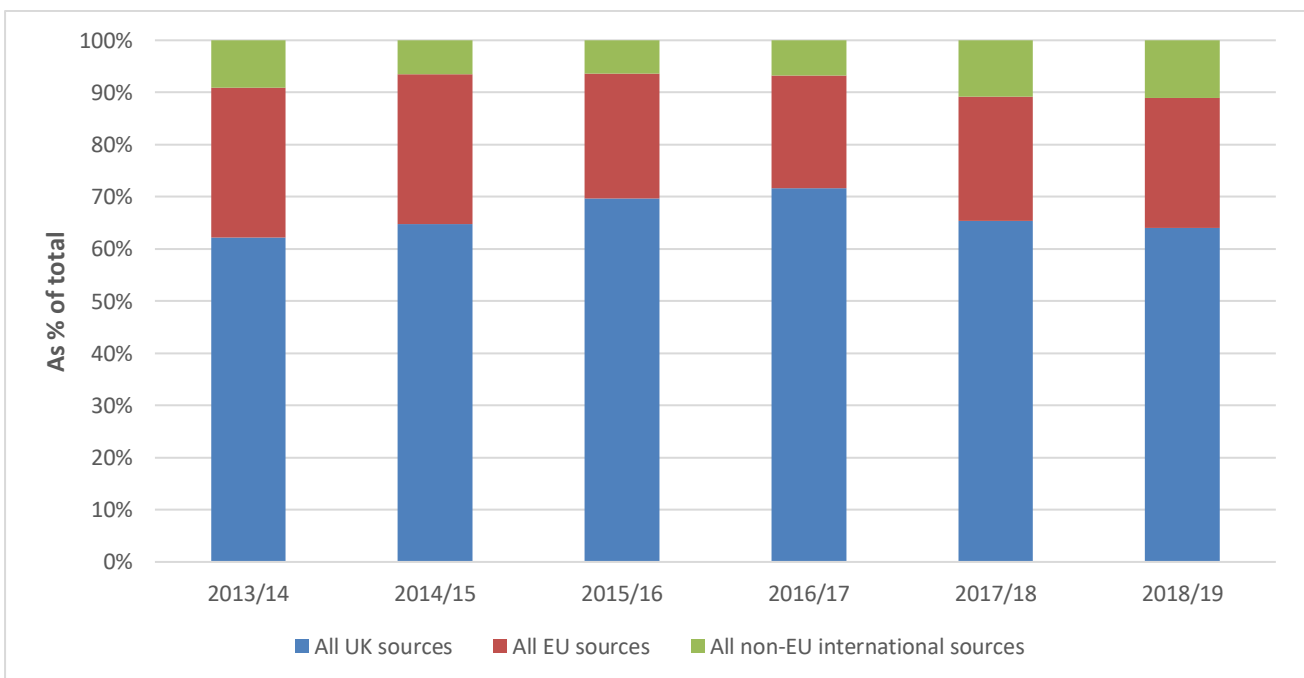
Research income in Law – International Sources

Law Funding - Intl Sources (£000s)	2013/14	2018/19	% Increase/Decrease	Difference
All EU Sources	5,226	6,456	24%	1,230
All non-EU International Sources	1,654	2,731	65%	1,077

Overall trends

- In 2018/19 UK Law schools received £25.3m in research funding which is 3% higher than a year ago and 39% higher compared to five years ago.
- Over the last year there were increases in funding from the Research Councils (+£1.7m) and EU government bodies (+£750k), which together offset falls in funding from several other sources, including UK-based charities (-£500k), UK central government (-£500k), and other UK sources (-£300k).

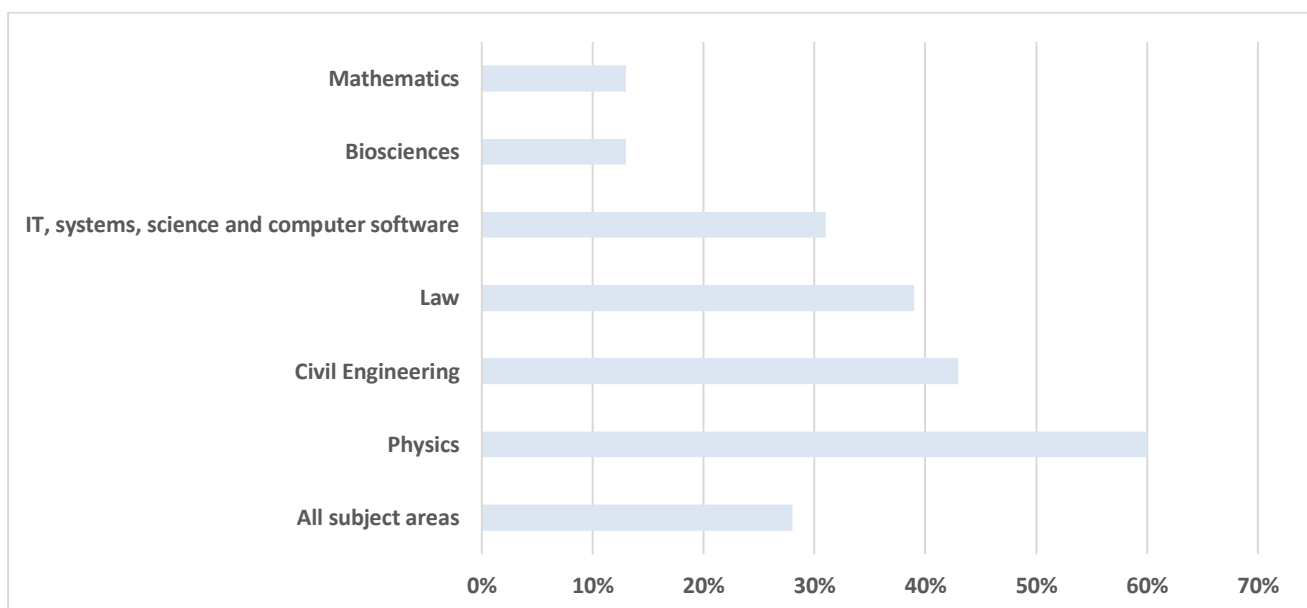
Research income in Law: Breakdown of funding from UK, EU and International sources (2013/14 to 2018/19)



- In 2018/19 UK sources represented 64% of all research income for the subject of Law, EU sources 25%, and non-EU sources 11%, with little change compared to last year. Over the longer-term the share of funding from UK sources has fallen from 72% in 2016/17 and the share of funding from EU sources has declined from 29% in 2014/15. The share of total funding from non-EU sources has grown from 6% in 2014/15 to 11% in the current year.
- In absolute terms the funding received from all EU sources in 2018/19 of £6.5m is 24% higher than in 2013/14 and the amount of £2.7m received from all non-EU sources is 65% greater than in 2013/14.

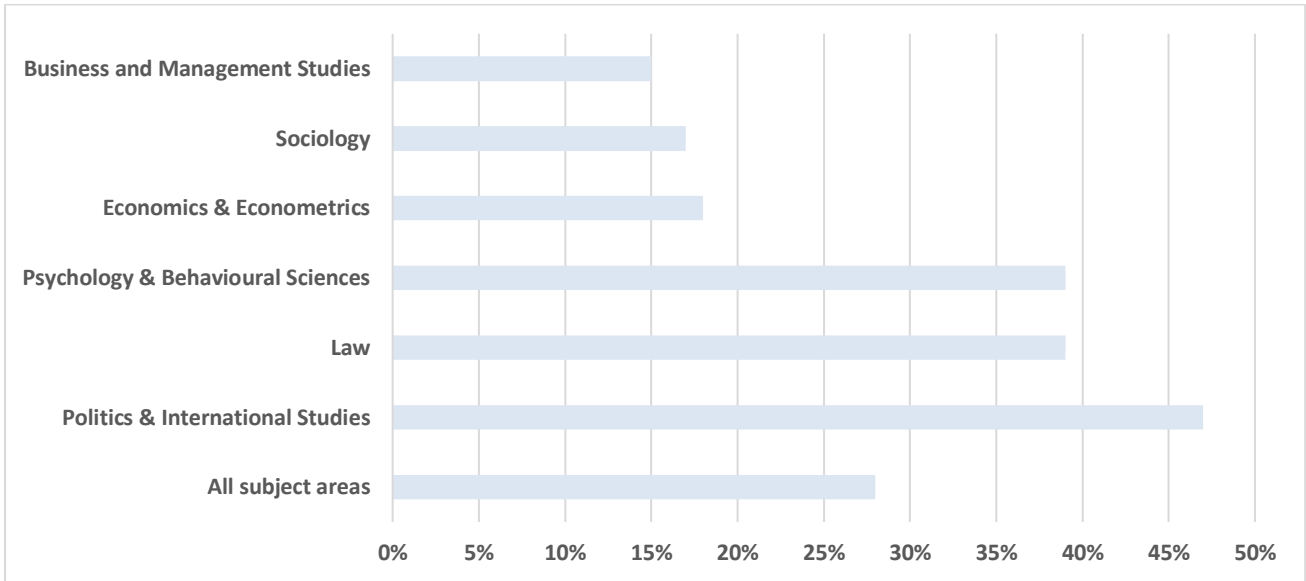
Comparison with other subjects

Research income in Law and STEM subjects: percentage increase between 2013/14 and 2018/19



- Over the five year period of analysis the total research income for Law grew by 39% in nominal terms, compared to a 28% increase in funding across all subject areas.
- The proportional increase in research funding for Law is higher than for several STEM subjects, although Civil Engineering (+43%) and Physics (+60%) received higher increases over this period.
- If adjusting for inflation Law schools saw a 23% real-term increase in research income over the last five years, compared to 14% across all fields.

Research income in Law and Social Science subjects: percentage increase between 2013/14 and 2018/19



- The growth in research income for Law of 39% in nominal terms since 2013/14 is higher than for several other Social Science subjects, including Business & Management Studies, Sociology and Economics & Econometrics.

Research income by region

Research income in Law by region (£000s)

Region	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
East	1,898	2,157	2,565	3,024	3,418	3,379
East Midlands	633	1,511	757	550	745	942
London	4,293	3,336	4,266	4,627	5,237	5,658
North-East	456	570	493	436	618	336
North-West	676	1,120	1,242	1,389	1,615	956
Northern Ireland	876	860	1,058	1,340	1,699	1,523
Scotland	2,967	2,990	4,481	4,018	3,093	3,899
South-East	2,986	3,265	2,922	2,439	2,584	3,400
South-West	1,260	1,741	1,685	1,167	1,001	857
Wales	1,043	944	1,328	1,121	1,114	1,149
West Midlands	483	477	585	701	1,446	1,374
Yorkshire and Humberside	648	1,275	1,707	2,015	1,936	1,847
Total	18,219	20,246	23,089	22,827	24,506	25,320

- In the last year the share of total funding for research income in Law received by institutions in London and the South-East increased from 32% to 36%. This remains lower than the 40% share for institutions in London and the South-East five years ago.
- Since 2013/14 the regions recording the biggest proportional increases in research funding for Law were Yorkshire and Humberside (+185%), West Midlands (+184%), the East of England (+78%), Northern Ireland (+74%) and East Midlands (+49%).
- Over the last five years there were only two regions that saw a decline in research income in Law: the South-West (-32%) and the North-East (-26%).

Research income by Law schools

- Over the combined three year period of 2016/17 to 2018/19 the five schools that received the highest amounts of research funding for Law were:
 - The University of Cambridge (£6.8m)
 - The University of Edinburgh (£6.3m)
 - Queen Mary University of London (£4.9m)
 - The University of Oxford (£4.8m)
 - Middlesex University (£3.3m)
- A full list of research income for Law by institution over the last five years is included in the appendix.
- The five schools with the highest amounts of funding are all Russell Group institutions with the exception of Middlesex University which belongs to the Million Plus mission group. Of the ten institutions with the highest amounts of research income in Law, eight belong to the Russell Group, with the University of Essex (non-affiliated) being the other exception in addition to Middlesex.
- Research income for Law shows a tendency towards distribution within a certain group of institutions, with the five schools receiving the highest amounts of research income in the last three years accounting for 36% of total research funding. The ten schools with the highest amounts of research income comprise 54% of the total.

Appendix – Research Income in Law by institution: 2013/14 to 2018/19

Institution	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
The University of Cambridge	1,633	1,721	1,960	2,098	2,363	2,368
The University of Edinburgh	1,656	1,589	2,748	2,741	1,610	1,977
Queen Mary University of London	767	724	1,206	1,436	1,647	1,773
The University of Oxford	2,105	1,980	1,928	1,527	1,357	1,958
Middlesex University	580	435	760	855	1,146	1,340
The University of Leeds	209	409	885	961	966	1,333
The University of Essex	260	385	570	924	996	977
Queen's University Belfast	692	676	706	711	948	1,047
Cardiff University	397	488	862	708	661	694
The University of Birmingham	273	283	213	272	784	950
The University of Manchester	442	744	613	700	723	487
University College London	723	579	704	716	652	498
Ulster University	184	184	352	629	751	476
The University of Glasgow	484	750	1,090	511	634	679
Birkbeck College	546	605	328	531	647	377
The University of Bristol	491	627	893	743	608	183
The University of Strathclyde	273	147	174	314	299	757
The University of Kent	474	673	569	381	396	492
The University of Sheffield	272	428	428	478	462	263
The University of Sussex	36	159	101	232	417	507
The University of Exeter	626	781	614	370	279	388
King's College London	402	146	236	268	325	418
University of Durham	363	410	371	347	397	144
London School of Economics and Political Science	353	246	567	149	140	579
The University of Lancaster	59	84	210	315	369	137
The University of Warwick	76	146	163	335	237	197
University of Nottingham	375	472	457	168	270	321
The University of Leicester	98	346	209	233	224	290
The University of Southampton	231	236	164	214	288	211
Aberystwyth University	89	62	200	239	258	204
The University of York	122	134	281	241	241	142
Sheffield Hallam University	0	288	90	271	214	80
The University of Wolverhampton	15	7	55	0	365	200
University of London (Institutes and activities)	353	201	168	182	165	184
Swansea University	285	220	195	151	152	217
The University of Dundee	421	255	186	105	120	254
The University of Liverpool	74	49	111	155	153	155
The University of Stirling	37	68	95	164	250	43
SOAS University of London	121	37	128	256	166	0
The Nottingham Trent University	56	20	38	33	137	250
The University of Westminster	41	-1	13	36	160	173
The University of Aberdeen	78	154	184	133	107	106

Institution	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Liverpool John Moores University	65	79	36	15	236	46
The University of East London	153	152	74	42	46	149
University of the West of England, Bristol	55	190	170	34	72	123
The University of Reading	89	49	3	67	104	46
Edge Hill University	2	3	2	29	56	127
The University of Lincoln	11	10	25	31	102	68
City, University of London	23	-3	0	8	70	117
Edinburgh Napier University	3	0	15	36	71	81
Newcastle University	8	19	19	37	98	51
Keele University	109	38	37	91	54	25
The University of Central Lancashire	34	155	192	135	33	1
University of Northumbria at Newcastle	84	141	61	22	79	66
Bournemouth University	88	137	8	8	8	141
The University of Hull	45	16	23	63	46	19
Teesside University	1	0	0	0	44	83
Royal Holloway and Bedford New College	0	0	38	16	28	82
Brunel University London	193	101	16	81	3	27
The University of Greenwich	31	54	58	53	28	23
Bangor University	272	174	71	23	43	34
The University of East Anglia	5	5	8	0	50	34
The University of Portsmouth	10	5	1	0	0	69
The Manchester Metropolitan University	0	6	48	36	34	-3
Kingston University	1	7	8	14	42	0
De Montfort University	93	54	0	31	12	13
The University of Northampton	0	609	28	54	0	0
University of Plymouth	0	6	0	7	27	11
University of Gloucestershire	0	0	0	5	7	11
The University of Sunderland	0	0	42	30	0	-8
University of Chester	0	0	30	4	9	6
Canterbury Christ Church University	7	95	0	-39	-8	62
The University of Huddersfield	0	0	0	1	7	5
Birmingham City University	8	3	117	3	6	2
University of Abertay Dundee	2	4	-11	11	0	0
The University of Surrey	32	54	117	33	0	-27
University of Hertfordshire	0	46	27	2	4	0
The Open University	0	0	0	5	1	-1
University of Bedfordshire	0	0	0	0	5	0
Glasgow Caledonian University	13	8	0	3	1	1
Leeds Beckett University	0	0	0	0	0	5
The University of Winchester	2	0	0	2	1	0
Liverpool Hope University	0	0	0	0	2	0
Oxford Brookes University	0	14	1	1	0	1

Institution	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
The Robert Gordon University	0	15	0	0	1	1
London Metropolitan University	4	53	0	0	0	0
St Mary's University, Twickenham	2	0	0	0	0	0
Staffordshire University	2	0	0	0	0	0
Total	18,219	20,246	23,089	22,827	24,506	25,320

Note: The above table only includes institutions that received at least some research income in the field of Law during the period of 2013/14 to 2018/19.