



PGR participation and funding

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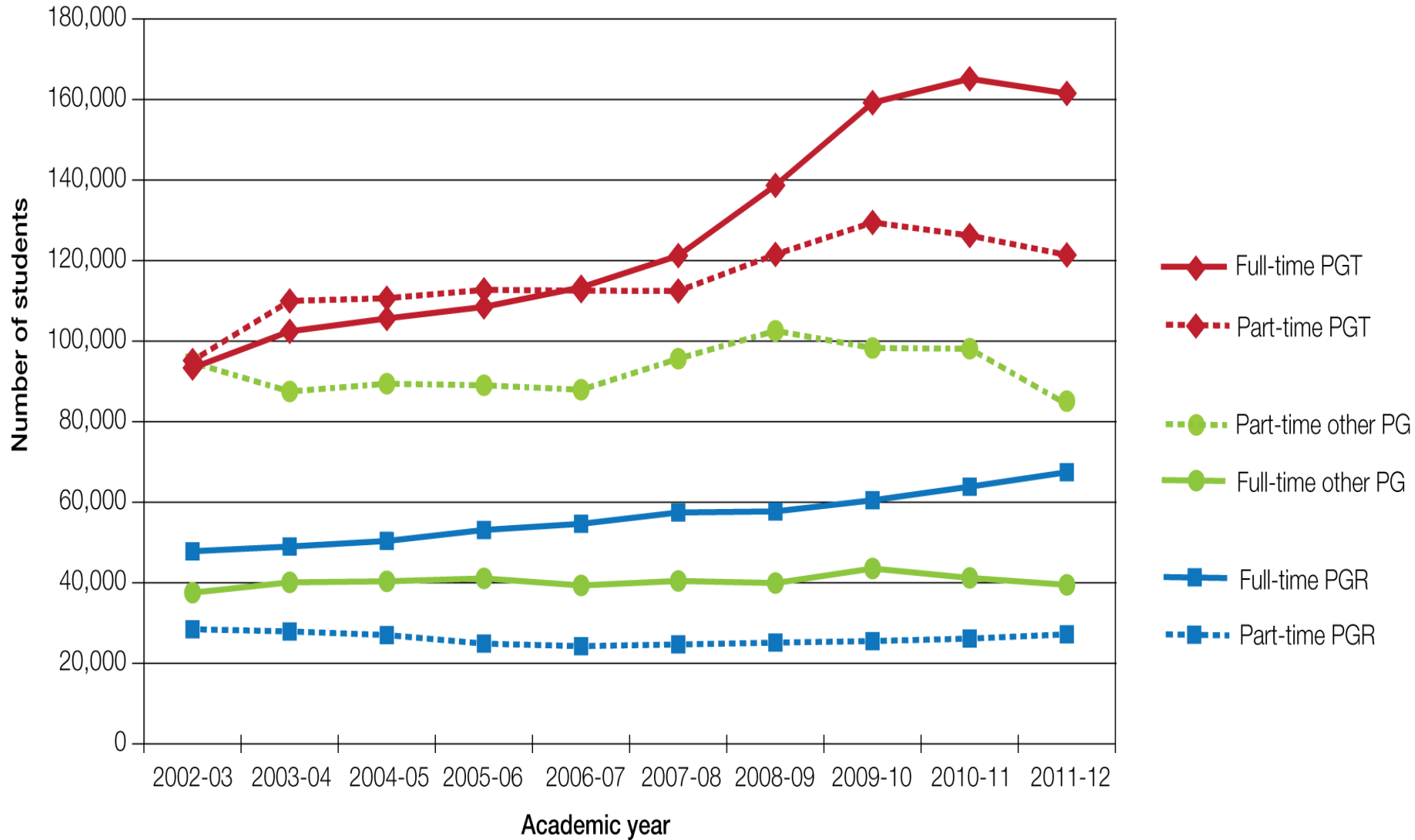
Emma Creasey, Higher Education Policy Adviser

**Vitae workshop
4 September 2013**

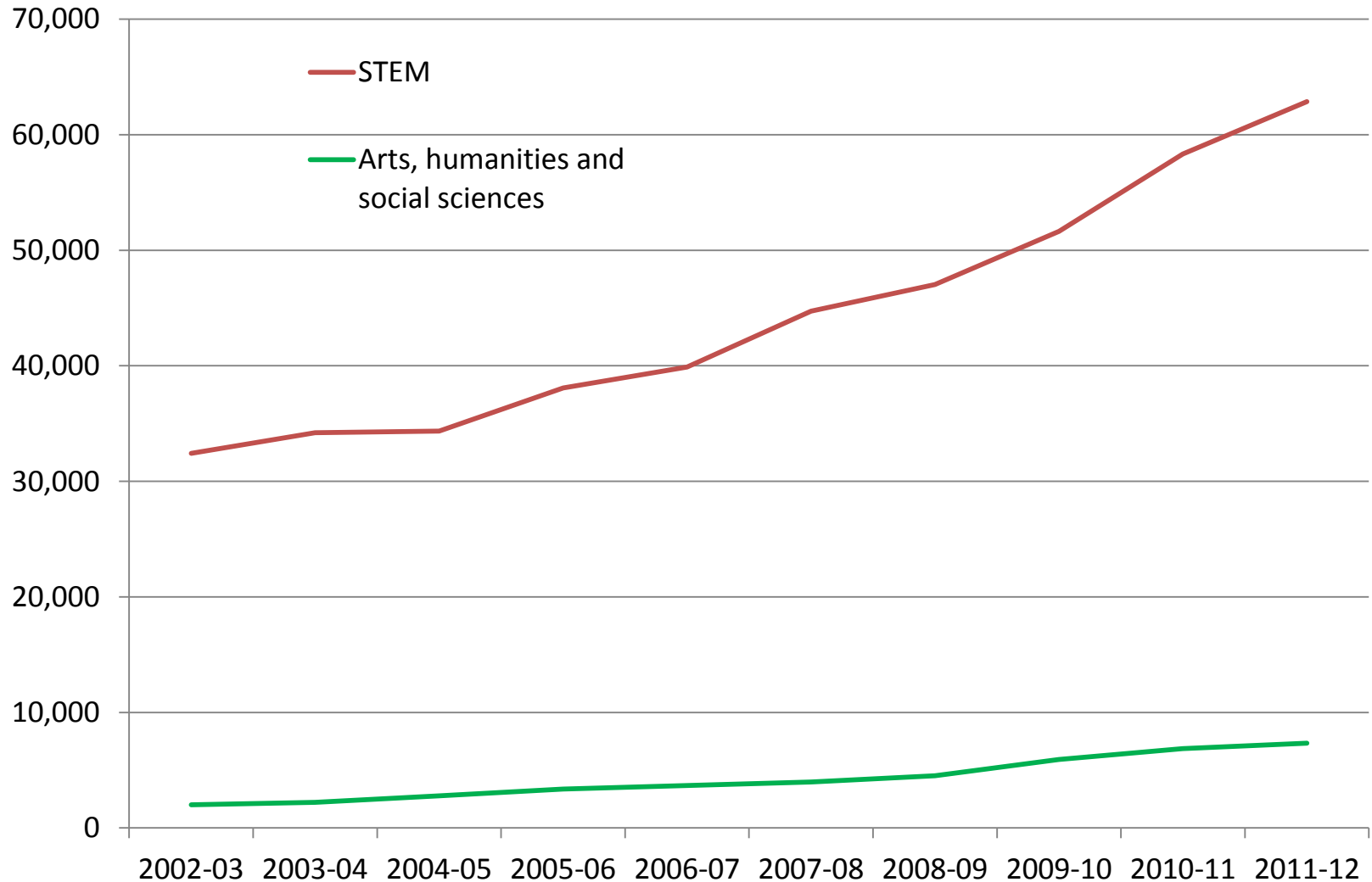
Development of the cross-cutting theme

- January 2012 BIS Grant letter – Gather evidence, identify information needs and support postgraduate provision
- Postgraduate provision impacts on education, research, knowledge exchange, and institutional success
- We consider three types of provision – PGR, PGT, Other
- Work has included :
 - Analysing postgraduate trends for the last decade (HEFCE 2013/14)
 - Analysing the transition from UG to PG study and what factors influence this (HEFCE 2013/13)
 - Commissioning work to gather new evidence
 - Maintaining existing funding for the foreseeable future

PG numbers by mode 2002-03 to 2011-12

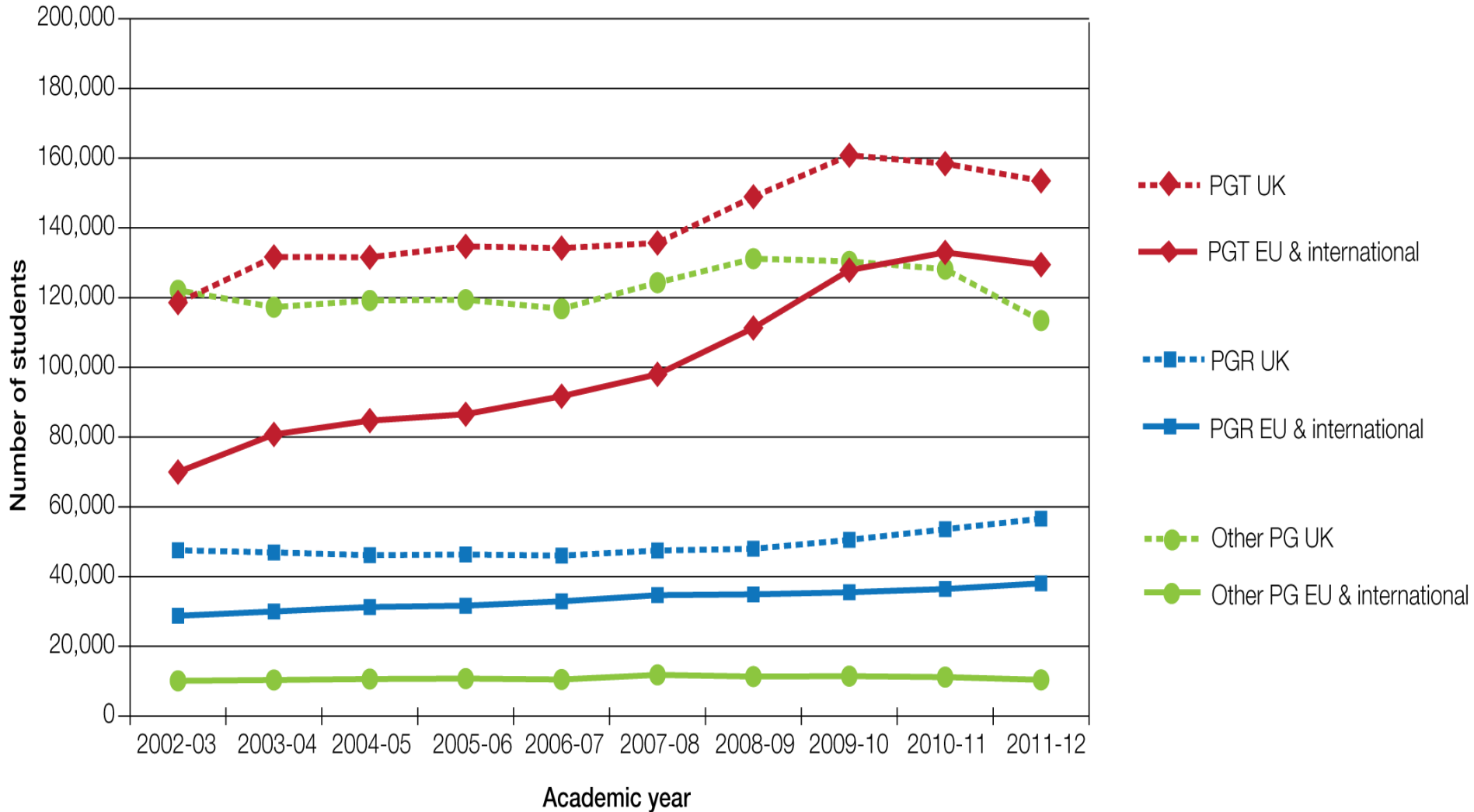


Integrated masters students

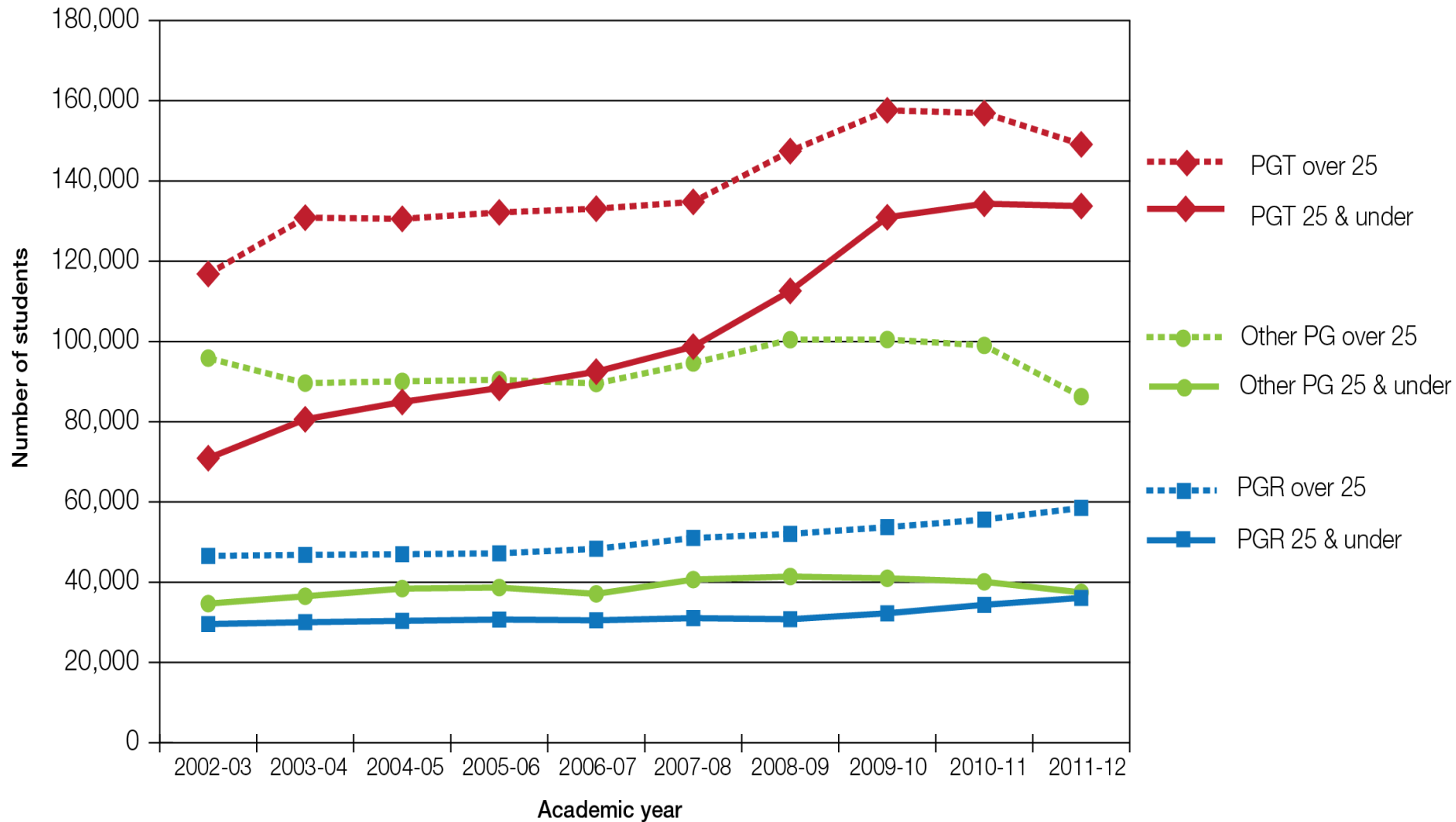


*HESA –all years and all domiciles

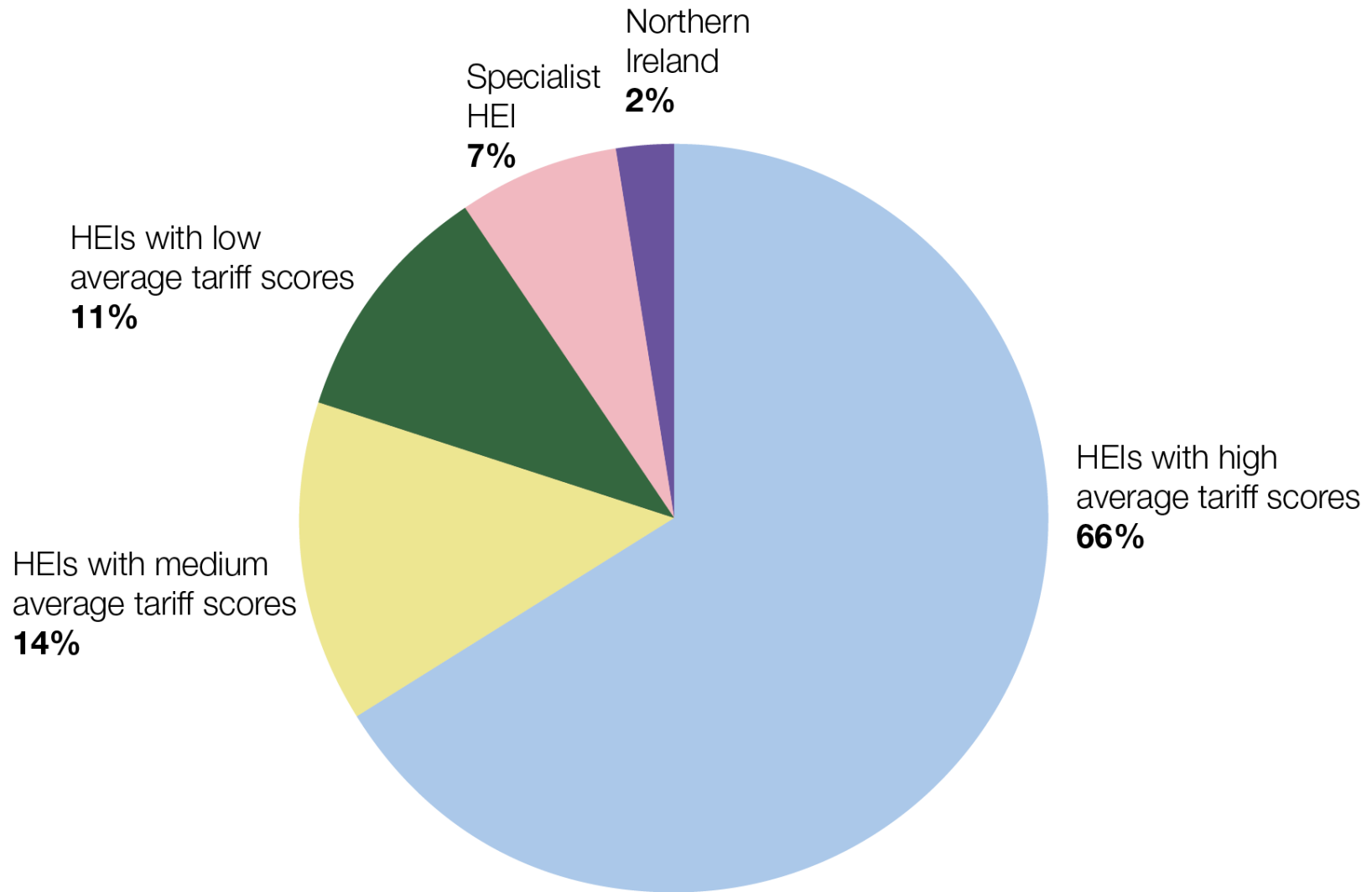
PG numbers by domicile 2002-03 to 2011-12



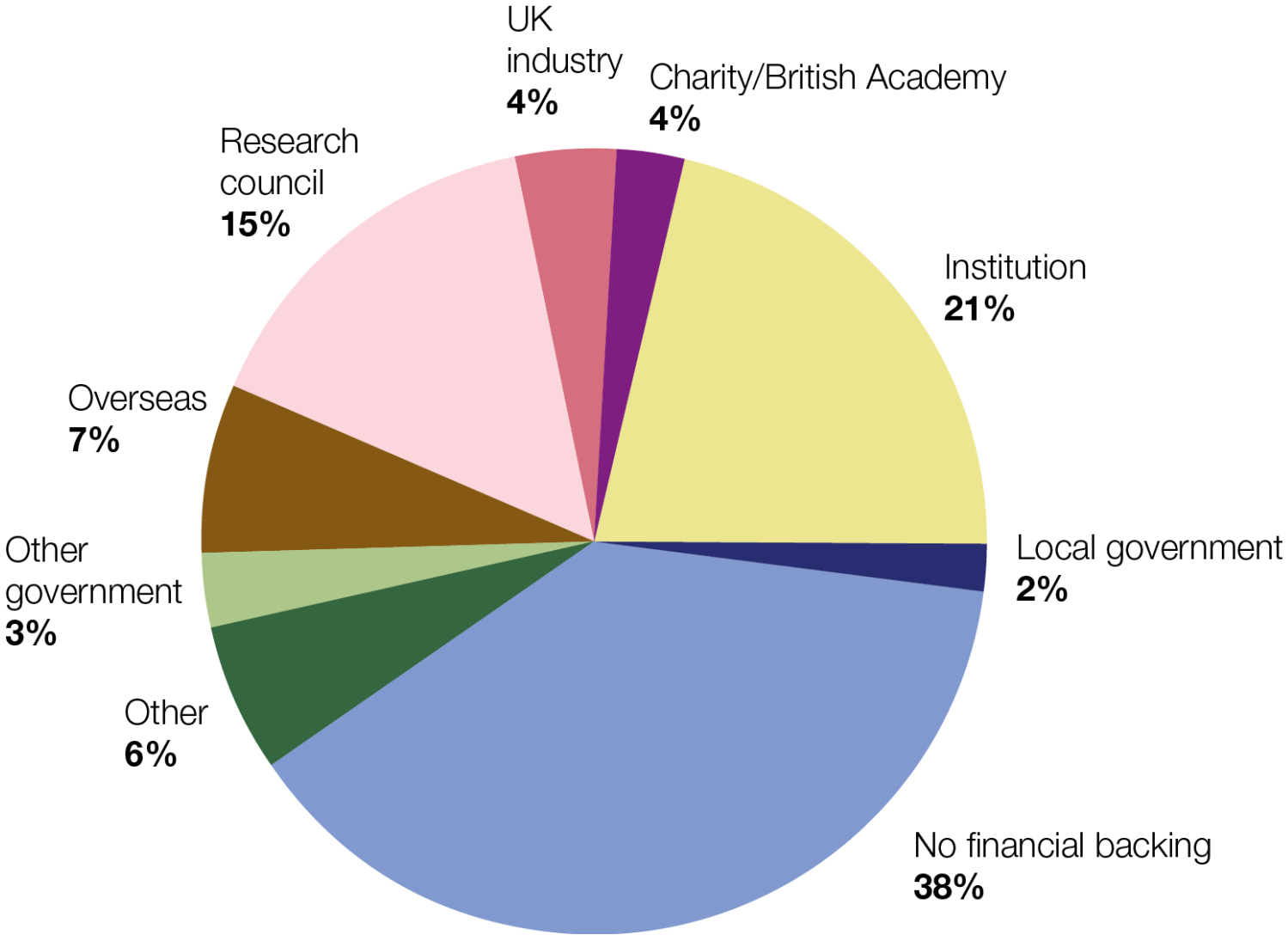
PG numbers by age 2002-03 to 2011-12



PGR students by institution type 2011-12



Sources of PGR student fees 2011-12



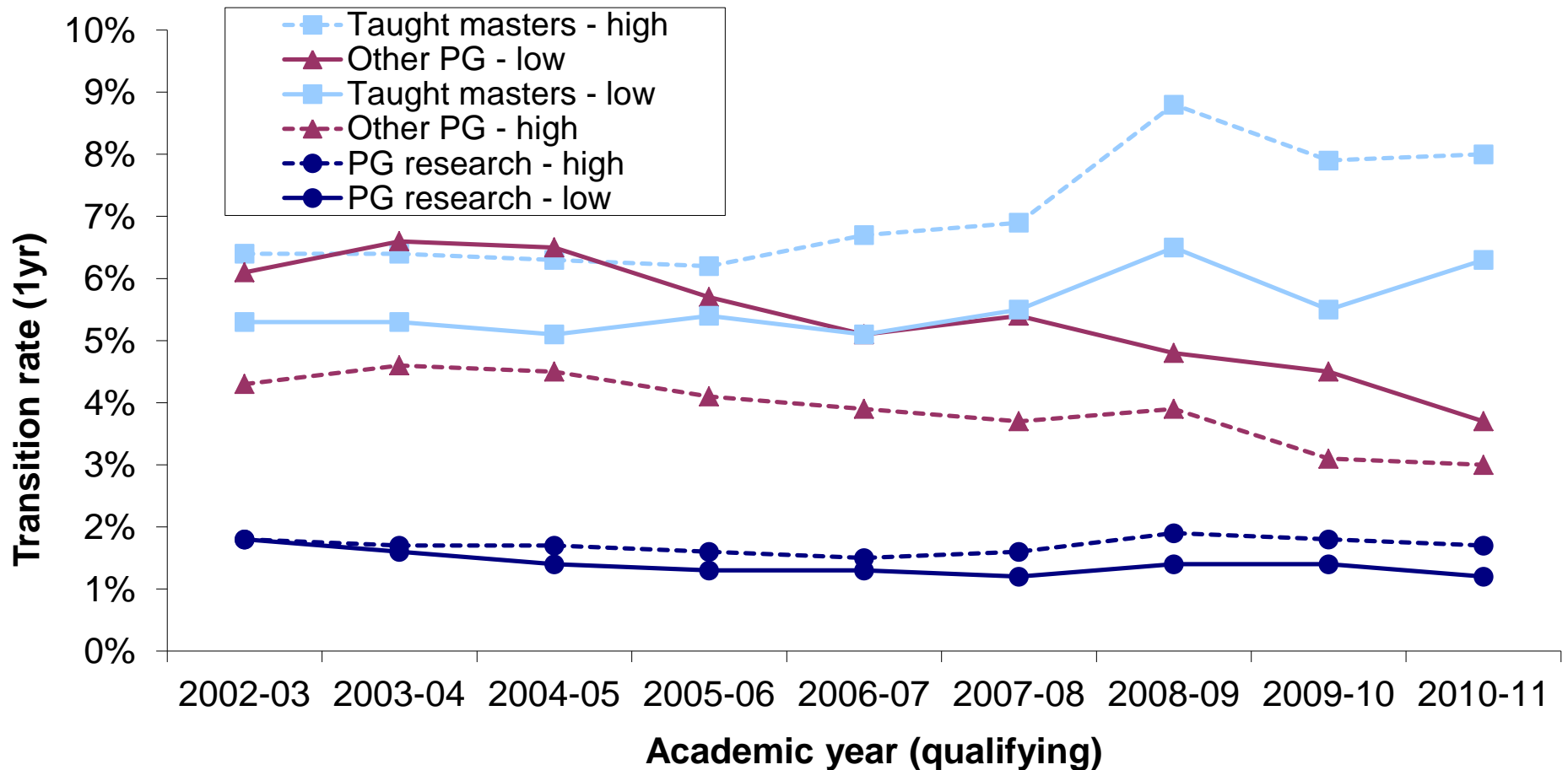
Masters – the broken bridge?



- 56% of PGR students now enter with a masters, compared to 33% a decade ago
- 72% of PGT students are self-funded
- Without funding, will some students be barred from PhDs as well as a Masters?

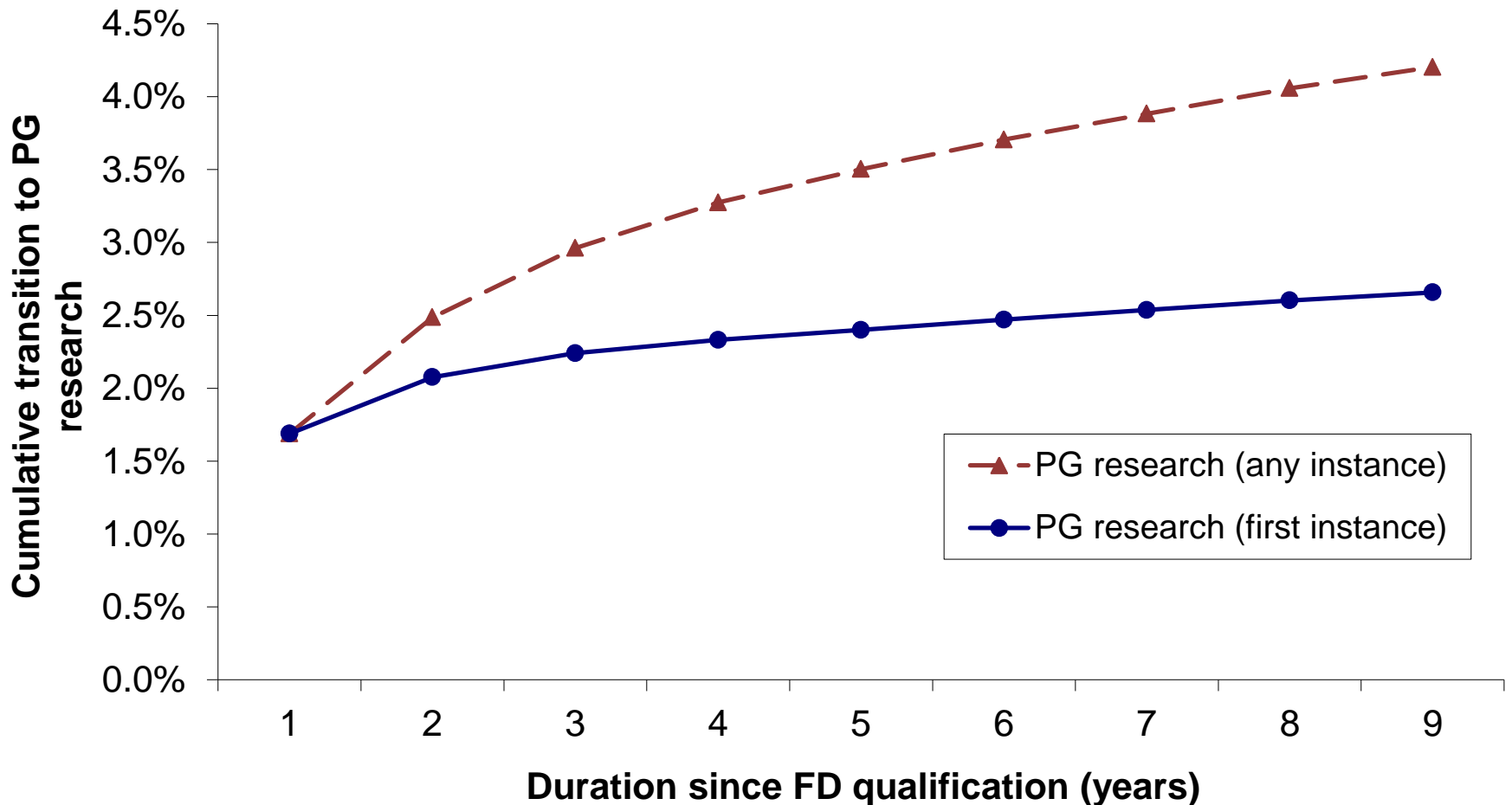
Transition rates - POLAR

- Comparing the transition rates for the three PG groups by highest and lowest POLAR quintile shows that those from higher participation areas were more likely to go into PGR



Longer term transition

- One year transition from first degree underestimates transition rates. Allowing for a break of study (or PGT/other PG study) would increase overall transition rate to research PG in particular.



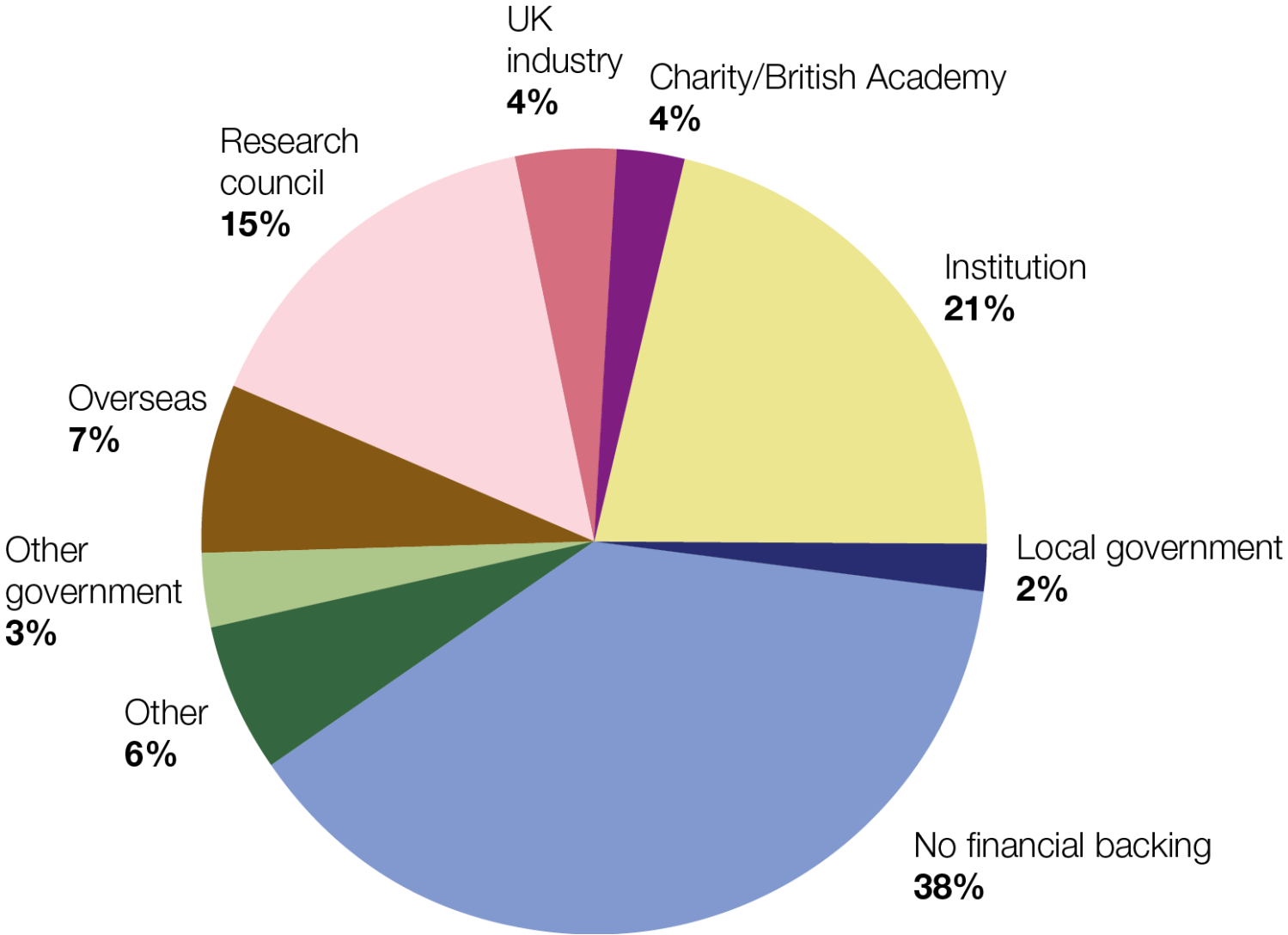
Public funding for PGR

- How much public funding is spent on PGR? Is this the right amount?
- What is the balance between the two sides of the dual support system? Is the balance right?
- How is public funding distributed between institutions? Is the distribution pattern of the two sides of dual support similar? Should it be?

Total funding

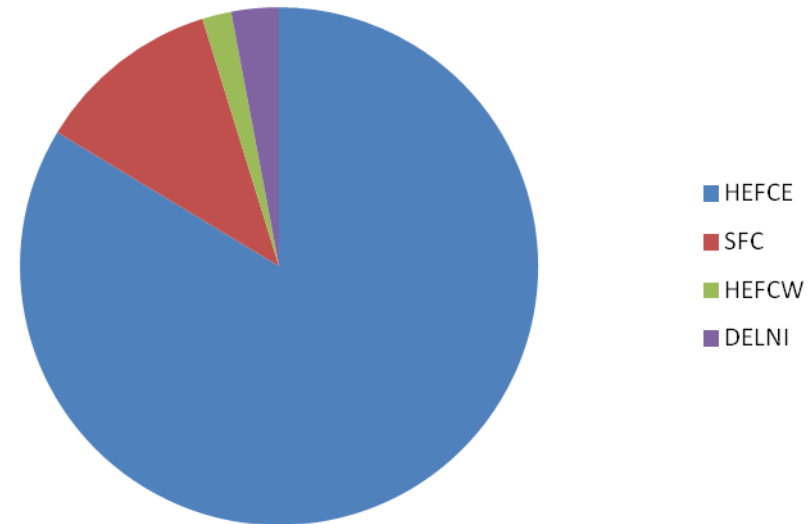
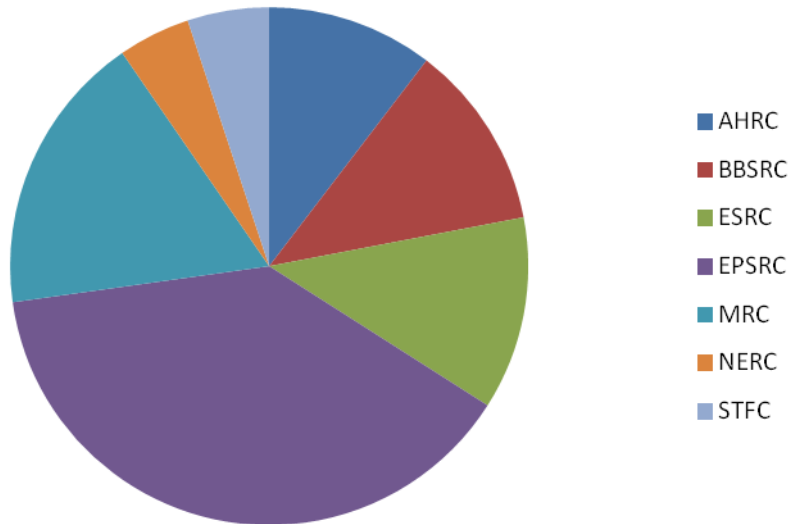
- HE Funding Bodies and Research Councils invest around £700M p.a. in supporting PGR
- roughly £8,000 per student (on average)
- RCUK indicative fee + minimum stipend = £17,626
- so public funding supports at least 38,000 students at the RCUK rate

Sources of PGR student fees 2011-12



Balance between dual support

- 60% of funding from Research Councils; 40% from HE Funding Bodies



Distribution of funding

- HE Funding Bodies – formula
- Research Councils – mixed model (project studentship, block grant by competition, formula)

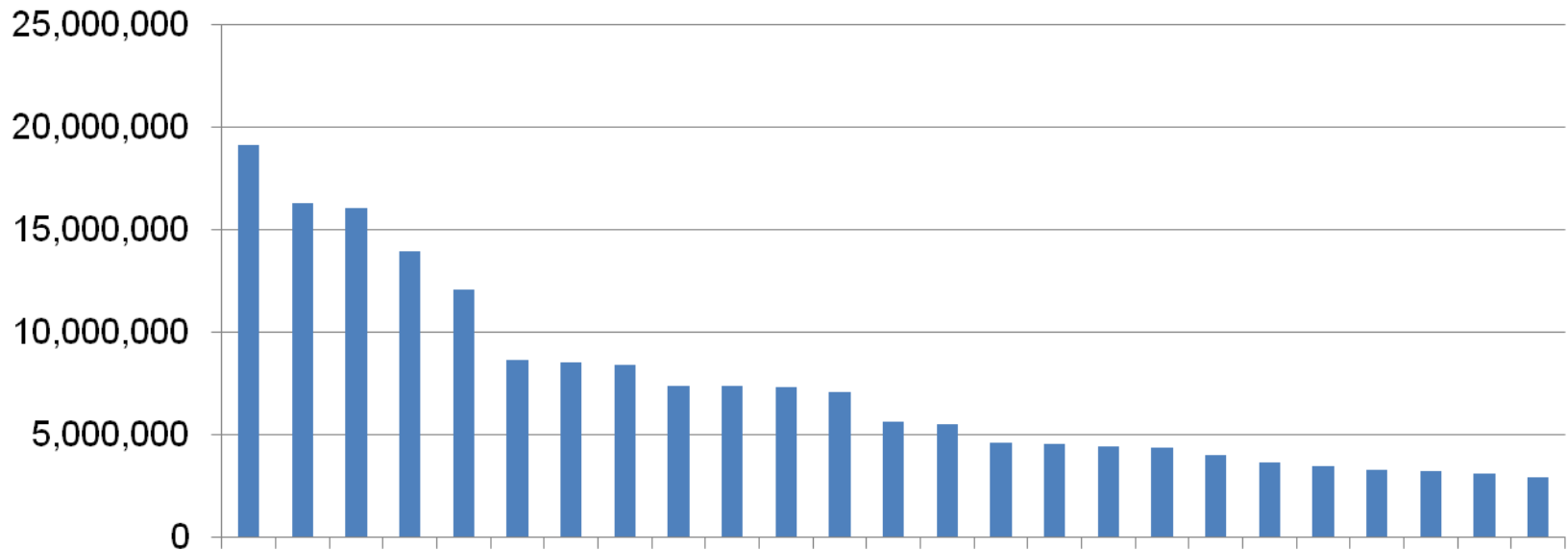
HEFCE approach

RDP Supervision Fund

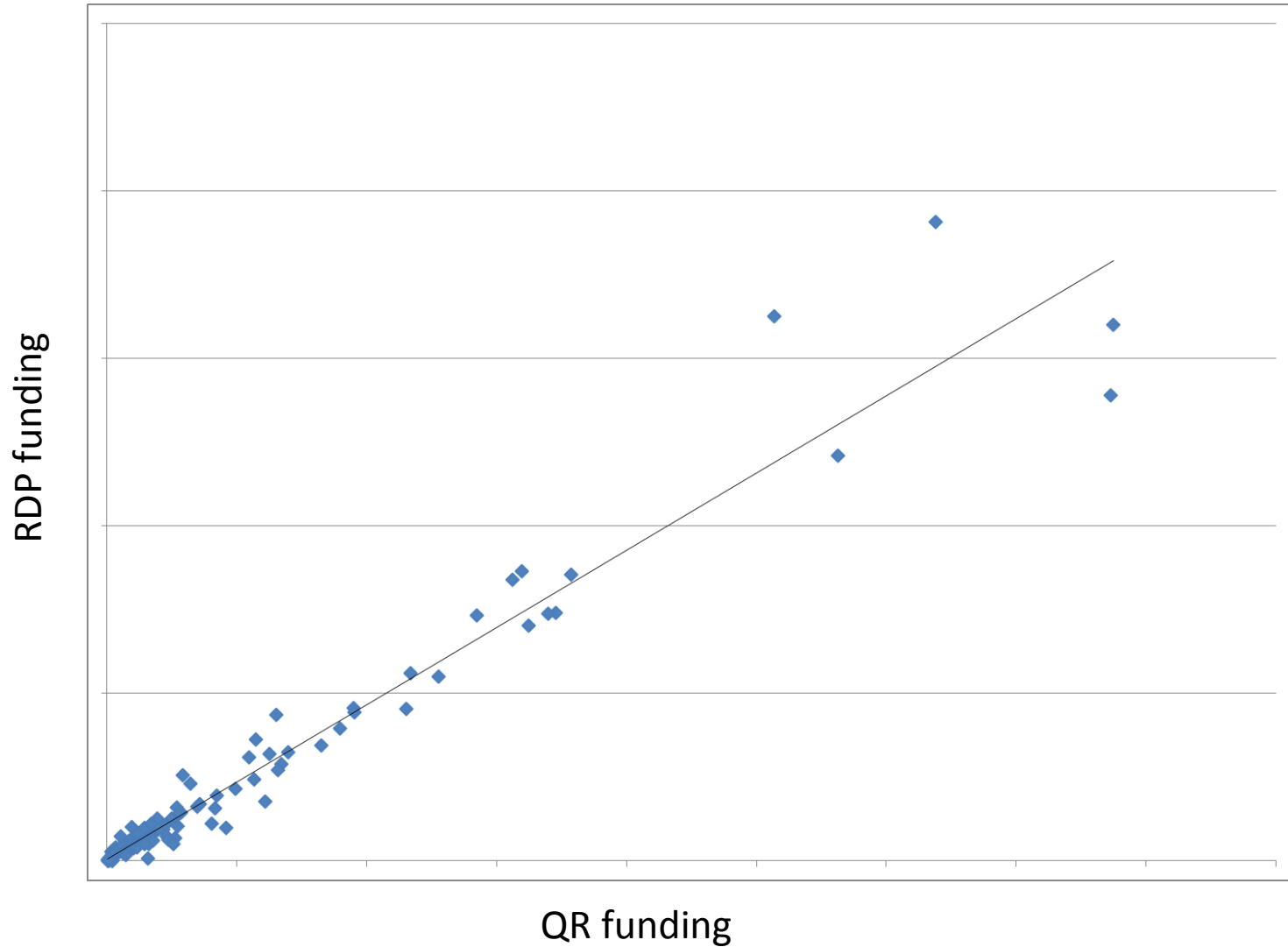
RDP funding helps universities and colleges meet the costs of supervising research degree programmes. This forms a single stream of funding within our mainstream funding for research.

- The total value of the RDP supervision fund in 2013-14 is £240M
- RDP funding is allocated to departments in receipt of main QR funding
- The rate of funding per student varies depending on the quality score derived from the department's 2008 RAE quality profile
- Allocations for part-time students are made pro-rata
- The average length of postgraduate research programmes is 3.5yrs (for full-time students)

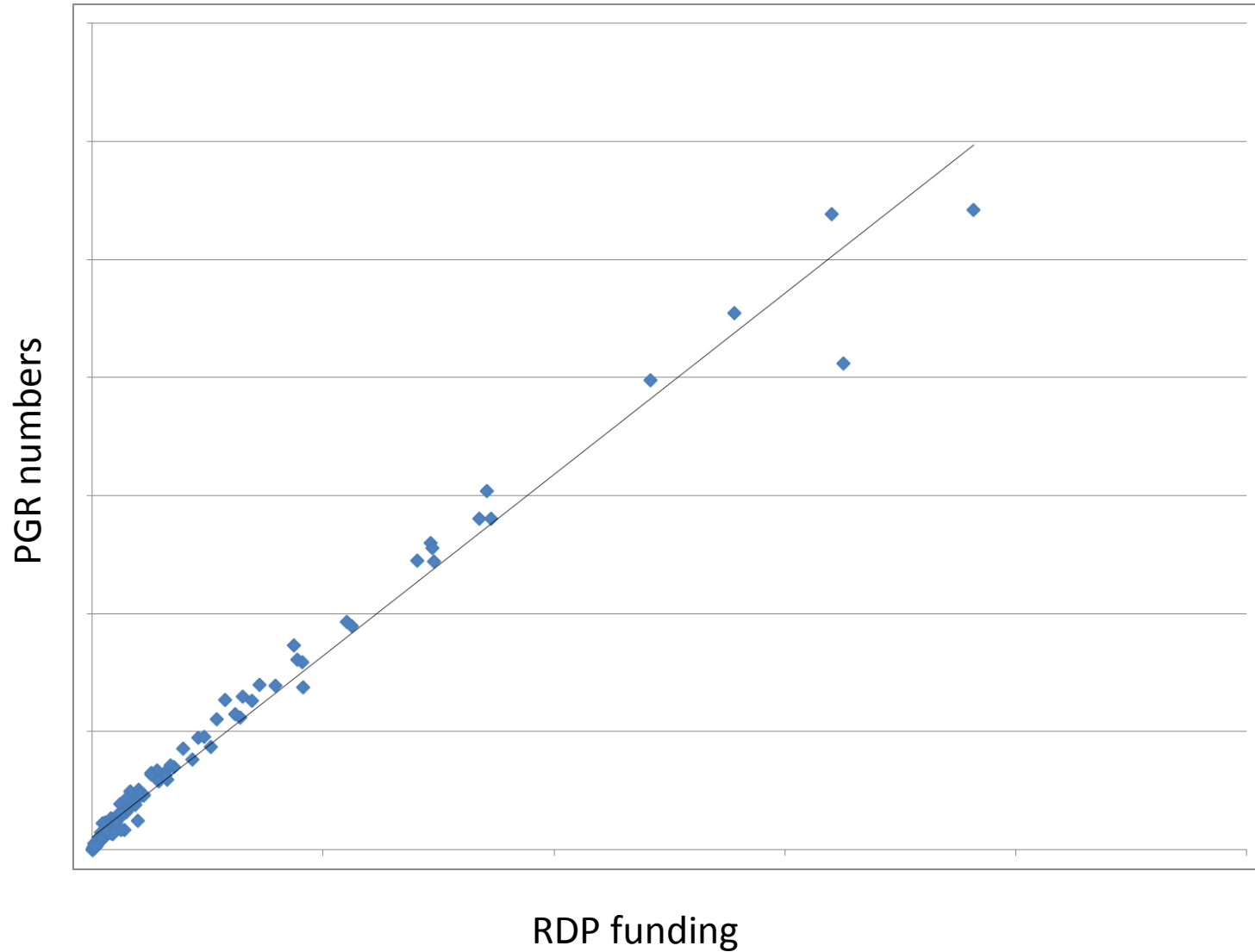
Top-25 institutions by RDP funding



RDP funding vs mainstream QR

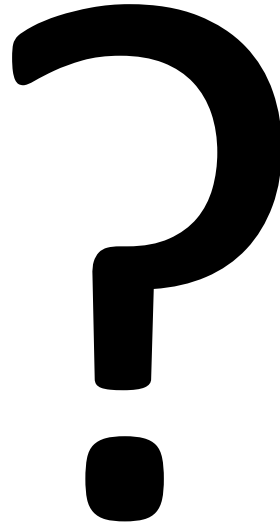


RDP funding vs PGR numbers



Funding body funding vs RCUK funding by institution

RCUK funding



Funding body funding

Public funding for PGR

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- What is the balance between the two sides of the dual support system? Is the balance right?
- How is public funding distributed between institutions? Is the distribution pattern of the two sides of dual support similar? Should it be?
- *What further evidence do we need to answer these questions?*



Thank you for listening

<http://www.hefce.ac.uk/whatwedo/crosscutting/pg/>