

Advance HE Surveys 2020: Supporting participating institutions over this period

Are PTES, PRES and UKES still going ahead this year?

Yes. The full fieldwork period began in early February and many institutions have already begun their surveys.

With everything else going on should we treat PTES, PRES and UKES as a priority?

This is a decision for each institution. Advance HE is committed to providing the same level of service around the results. Under the circumstances, comparison of results to previous years may not be the main focus – but comparison in-year against other institutions should still provide helpful data for enhancement. The surveys will provide students with a way of feeding back on how teaching and learning is progressing within a very different environment.

Would students still wish to take part?

The surveys still provide a key once-a-year opportunity to submit feedback – information which will be acted upon. Students who are taking online and blended learning courses find the surveys relevant and we gain good response rates from these groups. If students are switching learning modes, the surveys will still be relevant to their experience. We know from wider research that opportunities to provide feedback are important and running the survey provides institutions with the opportunity to show their commitment in this area. As students and staff face new challenges, having a feedback mechanism will be important.

Will Advance HE still be providing results at institutional level?

Absolutely. Many institutions already have sizeable samples which will provide full scope for analysis and we will be aiming to provide detailed comparison for all institutions.

If there is reduced participation, what might this affect?

Any reduced participation could impact on the number of subgroups for which detailed results could be produced. Examples could include more detailed subject hierarchies. However we are hopeful that for main demographics and high level subject hierarchies at the very least there will be detailed data, and extensive comparison opportunities available.

Will Advance HE be extending the fieldwork periods?

At the moment there are no plans to extend the periods, which already run as far as mid-May for PRES and mid-June for UKES and PTES. Our windows are flexible – institutions, can start, stop and pause the survey as they require. Closing on this date will allow us to provide results by the end of the academic year as planned. However we are always open to feedback and if you feel that, for example, extending the survey periods summer could help students have a better opportunity to take part, please let us know and we will be happy to consider this if there is widespread agreement.

How many institutions are taking part and have already started?

| | PTES | PRES | UKES |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Participants | 114 | 66 | 30 |
| Information on starting dates received | 54 | 29 | 14 |
| Already begun | 43 | 21 | 13 |