



UK Research
and Innovation

Diversity results for UKRI Future Leaders Fellowships

Rounds 1 to 6

Future Leaders Fellowships

The Future Leaders Fellowships (FLF) is a £900 million fund that is helping to establish the careers of world-class research and innovation leaders across UK business and academia. To accompany the announcement of Round 6 FLF awards we have published diversity data for both round 6, and all rounds completed to date.

Diversity results for the Future Leaders Fellowships

The dataset contains data on the four protected characteristics (gender, age, ethnicity, disability) for which data are collected from returns by individuals to their Joint electronic Submissions (Je-S) account, used by the FLF applicants to apply for UKRI funding.

Within the associated Excel file, counts and results are not disclosed for groups with 1 to 4 members, which are denoted with '--'. Counts of zero are shown, with other counts rounded to the nearest multiple of 5.

Percentages are calculated based on the unrounded counts, where a count is between 1 to 4 the percentage will also be denoted as '--'. The purpose of this rounding methodology is to reduce the risk of identifying individuals from published figures.

For round 6 the data are based on the awards that were accepted by applicants as of May 2022. For rounds 1 – 5 data are based on awards that have started.

It is worth noting that some of the groups in the protected characteristics have a low number of applicants, so care should be taken when interpreting differences in the figures.

We note:

- Round 6 award rates have decreased from previous rounds due to the significant increase in the number of applications received to round 6. Round 6 has an overall award rate of 11%, while rounds 1 to 6 had an award rate of 17%.
- Round 6 award rates were 12% for female applicants and 10% for male applicants. The proportion of applications received from female applicants was 4 percentage points higher for round 6 in comparison to rounds 1 to 6 combined.
- In round 6 the proportion of applications from ethnic minority applicants equalled the proportion of awards to these applicants. Over the six rounds the award rate for ethnic minority applicants was 5 percentage points lower than that of white applicants.
- Over all six rounds of the FLF, 3% of applications have been from applicants who have disclosed a disability, with award rates for these applicants 1% higher than award rates for the scheme as a whole.

- The only age groups for which we have not yet made an award are the 60-69 and 70+ age groups. We continue to make awards across all other age groups. Across all age groups both the proportion of applications and awards for round 6 are consistent with the proportions of all rounds combined.

The scheme is committed to supporting researchers and innovators with outstanding potential, regardless of their background. Our processes for reviewing applications aim to be fair and unbiased. UKRI is examining the data in further detail and will be analysing further data to gain insight regarding the potential causes of any disparities that may be seen in award rates.