Earth Sciences 2025-26 cycle admissions report

Note on the data in this report

The data used for the statistics in this report are a snapshot of the data available on 9 January 2026. Whilst it is not anticipated that there will be significant change between this date and the date on which candidates are notified of the outcome of their applications, small changes may be possible. As such, the statistics presented in this report may differ slightly from any statistics produced after final decisions are communicated.

Candidates that withdrew before final decisions were made, or that submitted their applications after the deadline at 6pm on 15th October 2025 that were not considered, are excluded from the statistics given in this report.

Admissions requirements

Information on the requirements to study Earth Sciences at Oxford can be found on the University website at https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/courses/course-listing/earth-sciences-geology and on the department website https://www.earth.ox.ac.uk/undergraduate/admissions.

Application numbers

The table below shows information regarding the number of applicants, shortlisted applicants, and applicants made offers. It further shows the numbers by Gender ("Prefer not to say" and "Uses another term" have been combined due to low numbers), and by domicile ("UK" or "Non-UK").

	Man	**Woman**	**Prefers not to say/Uses another term**	**UK**	**Non-UK**	**Total**
Applicants	112	110	8	96	134	230
Shortlisted applicants	62	73	7	82	60	142
Applicants made offers	21	20	5	40	6	46

GCSE results

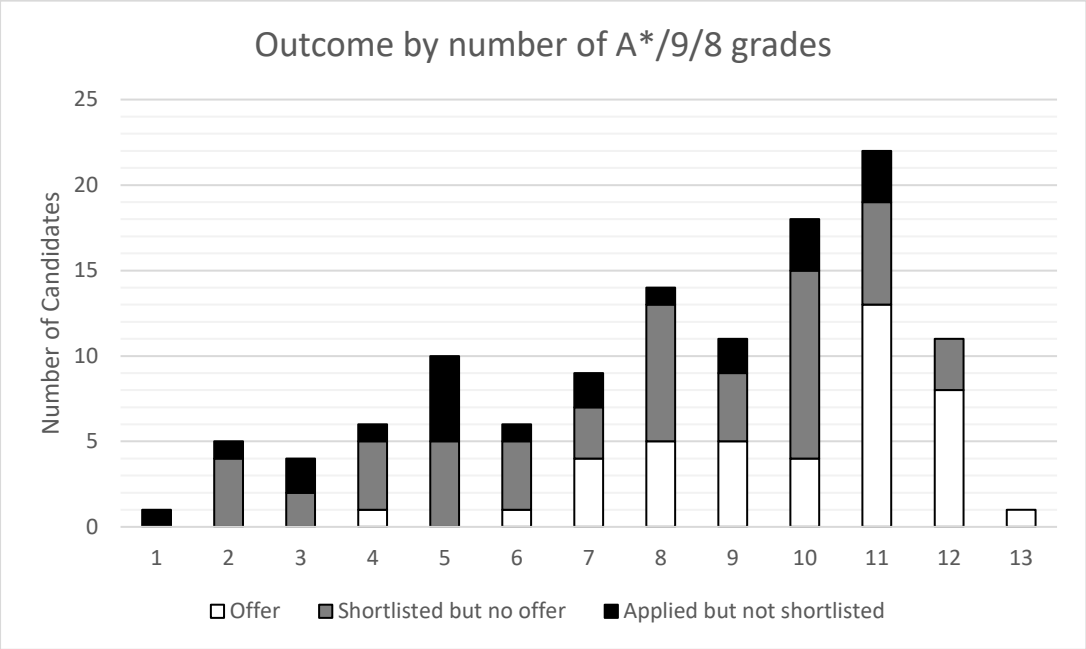
GCSEs (General Certificates in Secondary Education) are UK qualifications usually taken in Year 11 (when the applicant is 15-16). It is not required for applicants to have taken GCSEs, and we receive and consider many applications, particularly from outside the UK, that have not taken GCSEs. However, where these results are available, they are considered when making decisions.

In this section, "A*/9/8" refers to GCSE results of A* ***or*** 9 ***or*** 8 (the grading may depend on the exact qualification and when it was taken), and only includes applicants that have taken at least five GCSEs.

The average numbers of A*/9/8 grades for all applicants, shortlisted applicants, and applicants made offers, are listed in the table below.

	Average number of A*/9/8 grades
Applicants	7.2
Shortlisted Applicants	7.6
Applicants made offers	8.9

The chart below shows the outcome for applicants by their number of A*/9/8 grades.



Shortlisting decisions

There is no admissions test for Earth Sciences. When shortlisting candidates, we considered: predicted A-level (or equivalent) grades relative to our offer; overlap in expressed interests with the content of our course; teacher statements; and demonstrated track records (e.g., pre-16 exams) that support predicted grades. This year, these criteria led to ~61% of applicants being called to interview. We use the interviews as one part of the assessment process, also taking account of applicants' track record, predicted grades, and other relevant circumstances as well when we make offers.

Final Decisions

Successful pre-examination candidates are made conditional offers, which are usually **A*AA** or **AAAA at A-Level**, **39 (including core points) with 766 at HL for IB**, or carefully calibrated equivalents in other systems of examination. Post-qualification candidates may receive offers conditional only on verification of qualifications. The grades required by the offer include results in Maths AND Chemistry OR Physics.