

Jim Cunningham MP  
Member for Coventry South  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

4 May 2018

Dear Mr Cunningham

**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NUMBER 137422:**

*To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what estimate he has made of the number of graduate students who are earning over £50k and have begun repaying their student loan since 2010.*

Your recent Parliamentary Question has been passed to me, as CEO of the Student Loans Company, for response.

The table below shows the number of Income Contingent Repayment (ICR) Student Loan borrowers earning over £50k and making repayments via HMRC by repayment cohort and tax year as at 30/04/2017.

Borrowers who received loans as English domiciled students studying in the UK or as EU domiciled students studying in England

Tax Year of Repayment	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Income Threshold	£ 15,000	£ 15,000	£ 15,795	£ 16,365	£ 16,910	£ 17,335
Repayment Cohort						
2000	143	153	178	192	156	144
2001	238	303	317	314	306	295
2002	2,061	2,007	1,785	1,709	1,564	1,441
2003	4,195	4,035	3,547	3,404	3,022	2,705
2004	5,433	5,239	4,695	4,478	3,970	3,509
2005	5,951	6,062	5,769	5,536	5,059	4,624
2006	5,477	6,543	6,551	6,707	6,132	5,611
2007	3,657	5,685	6,604	7,319	6,896	6,594
2008	2,151	3,724	5,660	7,540	8,071	8,162
2009	1,246	2,135	3,676	6,428	8,314	9,614
2010	539	1,276	2,338	4,348	7,521	10,452
2011	.	576	1,495	2,869	5,305	8,991
2012	.	.	709	1,757	3,566	6,514
2013	.	.	.	775	2,075	4,181
2014	.	.	.	.	889	2,260
2015	.	.	.	.	.	887
<b>All ICR borrowers who made a repayment via HMRC after they became liable to repay</b>	<b>31,091</b>	<b>37,738</b>	<b>43,324</b>	<b>53,376</b>	<b>62,846</b>	<b>75,984</b>

. = not applicable

**Notes:**

Repayment cohort: A borrower is placed in a single repayment cohort. In some circumstances the repayment cohort may change i.e. withdrawal from course of study. The repayment cohort is based on the year a borrower becomes liable to begin repaying a loan, normally the April after graduating or otherwise leaving their course.

Atypical repayment cohorts: The transition from mortgage style loans to ICR loans began in 1998-1999. The first two repayment cohorts for ICR loans (2000 and 2001) are atypical because they comprise borrowers on one year courses (such as Higher National Certificate (HNC) and postgraduate Initial Teacher Training) or students who dropped out before completing three years of study. The first repayment cohort containing graduates from three year courses is the 2002 cohort and the first year containing graduates from both three and four year courses is the 2003 cohort.

Income thresholds: Students who began their course prior to 1 September 2012 are on Repayment Plan 1. The income threshold was £10,000 until April 2005 and then £15,000 until April 2012. It has since increased incrementally each year and from April 2016 it was £17,495. Students who began their course on or after 1 September 2012 are on Repayment Plan 2, for which the repayment threshold was set at £21,000 and increased to £25,000 this year. Borrowers normally become liable to make repayments from the April after they leave their course, however borrowers with Repayment Plan 2 loans did not first become liable to repay until April 2016 as repayments could not be taken through the tax system until then. As data for 2016-2017 has not yet been released, there are no Plan 2 borrowers included in this table.

I hope this information is of use. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Yours sincerely



**Peter Lauener**  
**Chief Executive**