

What stops students from BTEC and Access to HE courses progressing to HE when places have been offered?

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Setting of the research

- Niche provider, associate faculty of post-1992 university
- Applied science and business management Fd, BSc and M programmes – Animal and Land, Sports, Equine
- Also Veterinary Nursing provision- RCVS accredited
- FE provision mirrors HE provision in key areas through BTEC and Access to HE programmes

Why was this a project of interest?

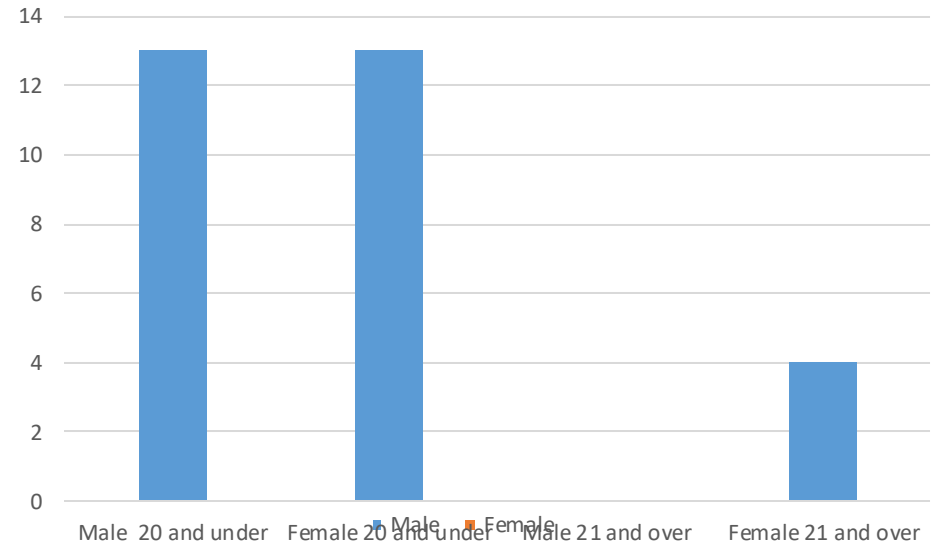
- Limited published research in similar settings
- Initial motivation- so why not follow through?
- Can different support be provided?

Approach

- Questionnaire- administered by phone and linked into ongoing marketing activities
- Identified internal students who had not been placed despite applying to HEIs
- Allows snap shot, currently working with sample in follow-up interviews

Participants

- Initially sample of 49, but some incomplete or out of date contact details
- Final participants 30



Initial Reasons for Rejection

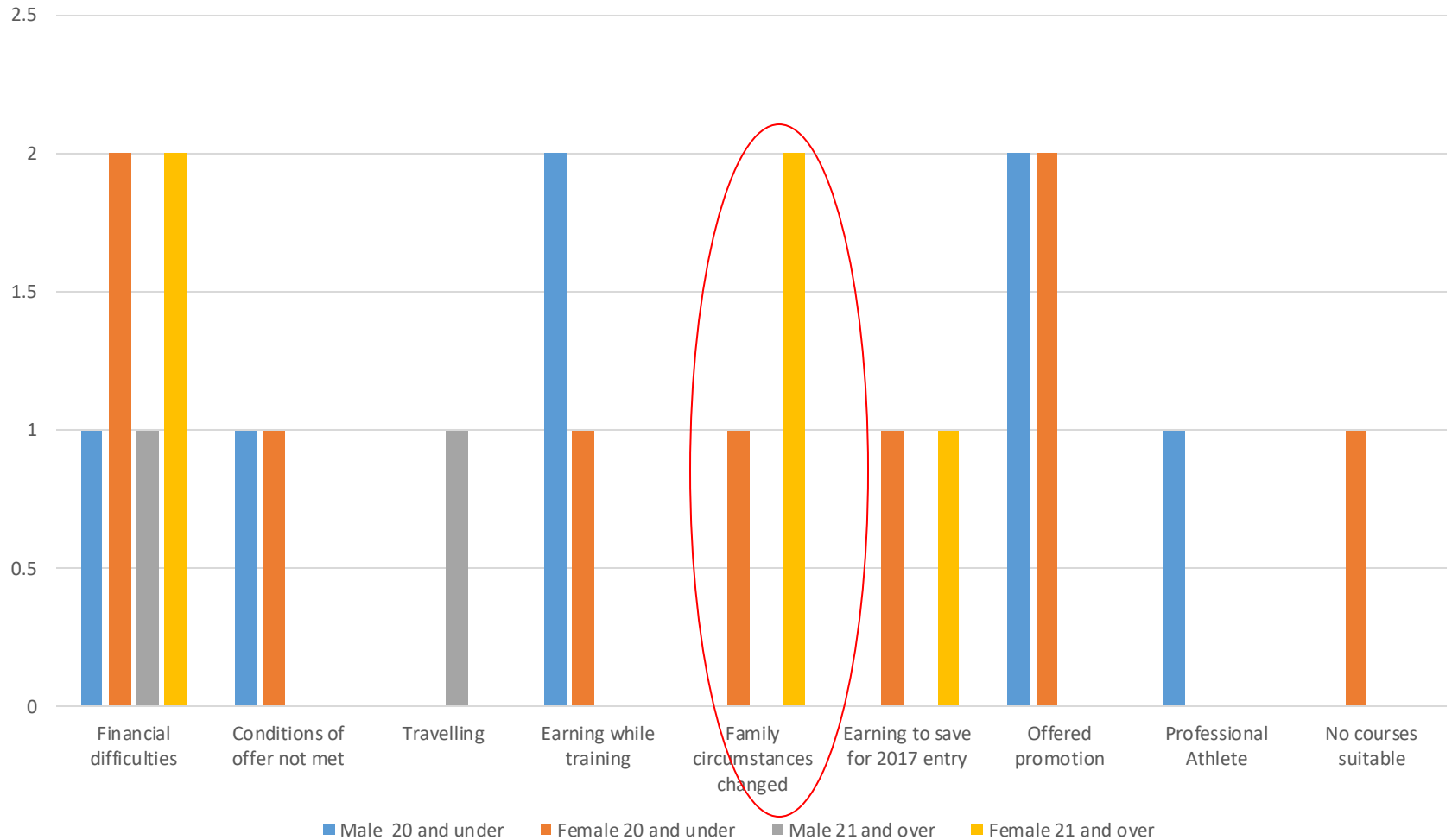
- Did not meet conditions of offer (at first choice)
- Financial difficulties – main reason
- Travelling over HE studies- deferred entry to 2017 or 2018
- Job promotion- but considering p/t return in 2018



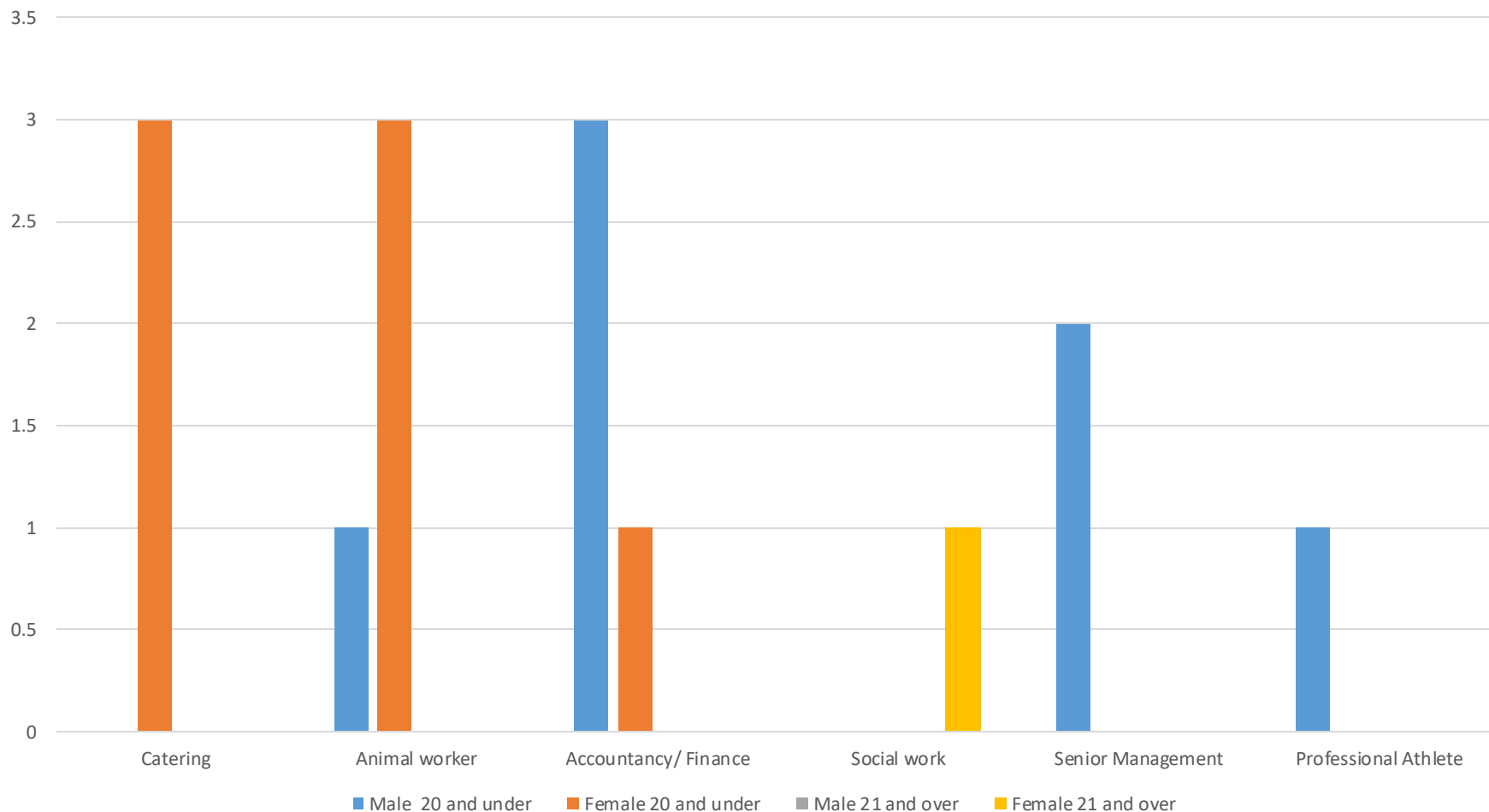
Initial reasons for Rejection

- Chose apprenticeship over HE- earning while learning
- Professional sporting career, although considering return to related programme for 2020/2021 entry

Main barriers by Gender and Age (n)



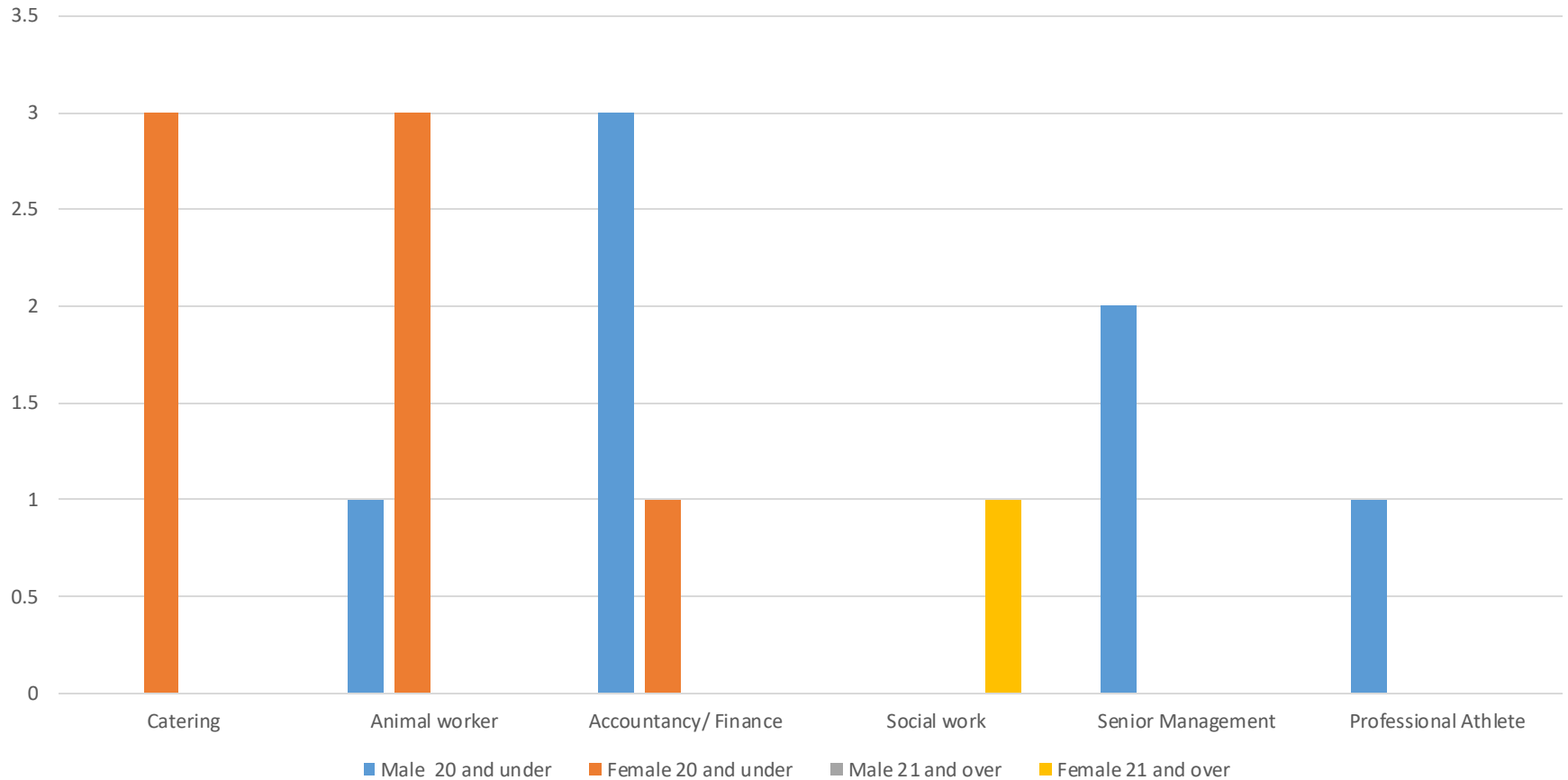
Job areas and positions held now (n)



Considerations for future HE entry

- 4 planning to enrol in either 2017 or 2018 (accepted)
- 3 currently not satisfied in paid positions, considering p/t study, but not before 2018
- 9 definitely have no more interest in pursuing HE

Future HE plans by Age and Gender (n)



Preliminary conclusions and thoughts

- Definitely requires further work- wider collaboration between FE colleges?
- Could have considered wider WP characteristics- future research
- Lack of understanding of HE as a whole- benefits and purposes need to be promoted more clearly
- Need more flexible and / or WB provision in wider range of areas.