



Student Satisfaction and Engagement Survey 2024-25

Background and Appendices

Student Satisfaction and Engagement Survey 2024-25 Background and Appendices

ISSUE DATE:	14 October 2025
REFERENCE:	SFC/ST/07/2025
SUMMARY:	To inform stakeholders of the publication of the college 2024-25 Student Satisfaction and Engagement Survey (SSES) outcomes.
FAO:	Principals and Chairs of Scotland's colleges, students, parents, guardians and the general public.
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Purpose

1. The Student Satisfaction and Engagement Survey (SSES) provides a means to evaluate and enhance college provision in Scotland through a national approach to monitoring student satisfaction and engagement. Over time, this will provide a consistent basis for college regions to evidence impact and improvement within their outcome agreements. With sparqs support it is envisaged that it will help to strengthen the role of students' associations in representation and advocacy and will contribute to public accountability.
2. The survey asks students to rate their satisfaction ('strongly agree', 'agree', 'disagree', and 'strongly disagree') on 13 statements.
 - The overall satisfaction figure is the key outcome agreement measure for student satisfaction and is based on the combined figure for 'strongly agree' and 'agree' for the statement '*overall, I am satisfied with my college experience*'.
 - For the engagement statement - '*the college students' association influences change for the better*' - students have the option of providing a 'don't know' response. However, our calculations to derive the levels of satisfaction exclude those 'don't know' responses.
3. Further information on the survey method, coverage and timing is available in separate guidance – [College Student Satisfaction Survey Guidance 2024-25 - Scottish Funding Council \(sfc.ac.uk\)](https://www.sfc.ac.uk/College-Student-Satisfaction-Survey-Guidance-2024-25)

Appendix A: Full-time survey response and satisfaction rates by college

College	FE		HE	
	Response rate	Satisfaction rate	Response rate	Satisfaction rate
Argyll UHI*	72.2%	98.2%	-	-
Ayrshire	49.0%	95.2%	48.1%	87.0%
Borders	42.6%	97.7%	43.5%	98.8%
City of Glasgow	57.8%	94.4%	56.7%	91.5%
Dumfries and Galloway	77.2%	98.6%	76.5%	97.5%
Dundee and Angus	54.9%	98.0%	55.6%	96.8%
Edinburgh	45.7%	97.0%	40.8%	94.4%
Fife	80.8%	94.7%	75.9%	92.0%
Forth Valley	50.0%	93.6%	42.8%	94.6%
Glasgow Clyde	54.7%	97.2%	60.2%	95.6%
Glasgow Kelvin	51.8%	95.6%	42.1%	96.0%
Inverness*	71.3%	94.3%	-	-
North, West & Outer Hebrides UHI*	49.0%	91.2%	-	-
Moray UHI*	49.2%	96.0%	-	-
New College Lanarkshire	71.8%	92.9%	57.0%	91.2%
Newbattle Abbey	60.7%	82.4%	76.9%	80.0%
North East Scotland	81.1%	95.4%	76.5%	95.0%
Orkney UHI**	-	-	-	-
Perth UHI*	81.7%	97.5%	-	-
Scotland's Rural College*	71.1%	92.4%	-	-
Shetland UHI*	100.0%	92.9%	-	-
South Lanarkshire	53.0%	88.1%	44.7%	80.2%
West College Scotland	39.0%	94.6%	15.9%	91.1%
West Lothian	65.7%	96.0%	66.5%	95.5%
Scotland	59.6%	95.2%	54.2%	93.0%

*UHI partner colleges and Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) HE level student satisfaction is reported in the [National Student Survey 2025 results](#)

**We are not publishing UHI Orkney's satisfaction rate this year as due to unforeseen circumstances the response rate was very low.

Appendix B: Publication Metadata

Metadata Indicator	Description
Publication title	College Student Satisfaction and Engagement Survey 2024-25
Description	College student satisfaction data for full-time and part-time courses during the academic year 2024-2025.
Theme	Education
Topic	College Student Satisfaction information
Format	Web (HTML) report, PDF
Data source(s)	Scotland's colleges student satisfaction survey (for Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) and the UHI partner colleges coverage is only for FE level students)
Date that data is acquired	02 June 2025
Release date	14 October 2025
Frequency	Annual
Timeframe of data and timeliness	Academic year (1 August 2024 to 31 July 2025), and limited trend data from academic year 2017-18. Data is not available for 2019-20 as the survey was cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
Continuity of data	From 2015-16 aggregate student satisfaction data has been submitted in Excel tables. Data for 2019-20 is not available as the survey was cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
Revisions statement	There are no revisions to this publication
Enhancements relevant to this publication	The publishing of satisfaction and response rates at a college level for full-time FE and HE students.
Concepts and definitions	Please see the College Student Satisfaction Survey Guidance 2024-25
Relevance and key uses of the statistics	The results from the college student satisfaction publication are used by the Scottish Funding Council, Scottish Government, Audit Scotland, Colleges Scotland, academics, and member of the general public to monitor college student satisfaction and to support policy development.
Official Statistics designation	Official Statistics
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	N/A
Last published	05 November 2024
Next published	Autumn 2026 – date to be confirmed
Date of first publication	27 October 2017

Appendix C: Glossary

College student satisfaction data - aggregate data from colleges based on the number of current students, at the point of survey, responding.

FE level - courses at SCQF or 'broadly comparable' level 6 and below.

HE level - courses at SCQF or 'broadly comparable' level 7 and above.

Full-time

- Programme of at least 600 planned notional hours or for a one year HNC at least 480 hours.

Part-time

- Self-contained full-time programme, i.e. one not supplemented by other periods of study of 18 weeks duration or less.
- Programme for which students are released by their employer for periods of full-time attendance.
- Programme for which employer sponsored students are released by their employer for part of the week.
- Day programmes in which periods of evening or twilight study form an integral part of the programme.
- Programme held only in evening or twilight sessions or at weekends.

Student target group - students on courses of 160 hours or more in duration.

Survey timing - the period and the number of weeks the survey should be conducted. This is within an eight week window between March and April and during this period, colleges will operate their survey for a period of six weeks (and this could straddle the Spring break).