



College Leaver Destinations 2017-18

SFC Statistical Publication

College Leaver Destinations 2017-18

Issue date: 15 October 2019

Reference: SFC/ST/08/2019

Summary: To inform stakeholders of the publication of the 2017-18 College Leaver Destinations measurements.

FAO: Principals and Directors of Scotland's colleges, students and parents.

Further information: **Contact:** Dr Scott Montgomery, Senior Policy/Analysis Officer
Directorate: Finance
Tel: 0131 313 6656
Email: smontgomery@sfc.ac.uk

This is an official statistics publication

All official statistics should comply with the UK Statistics Authority's Code of Practice to Official Statistics, which promotes the production and dissemination of official statistics that inform decision-making. Find out more about the Code of Practice for Official Statistics at www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/code-of-practice/



Scottish Funding Council
Promoting further and higher education

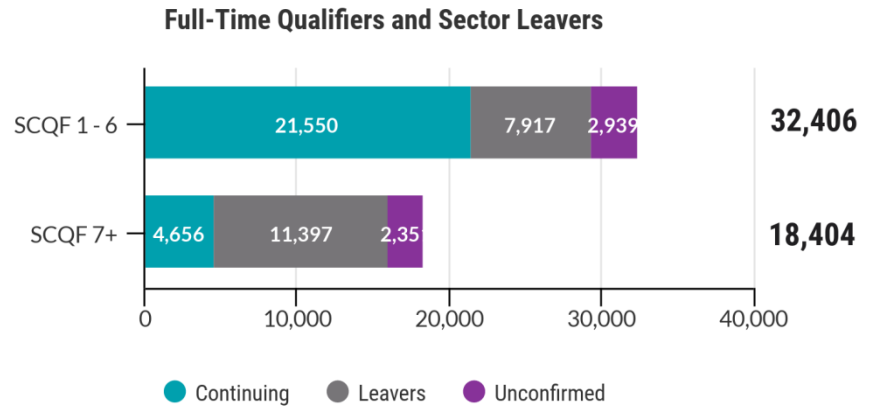
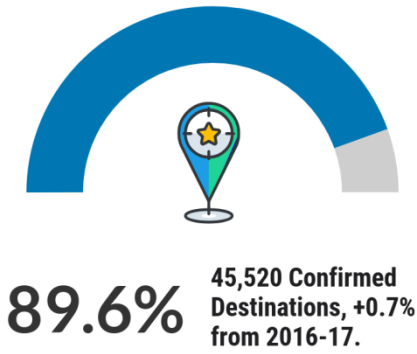
Scottish Funding Council
Apex 2
97 Haymarket Terrace
Edinburgh
EH12 5HD
T 0131 313 6500
F 0131 313 6501
www.sfc.ac.uk

Executive Summary

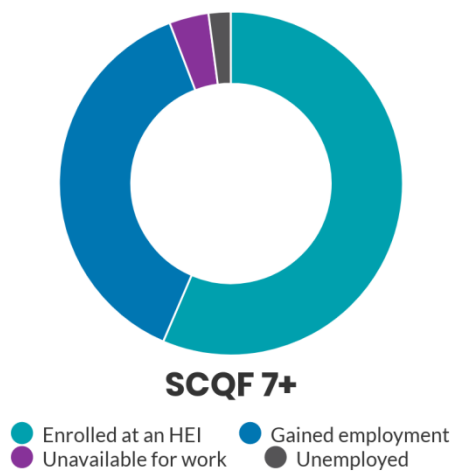
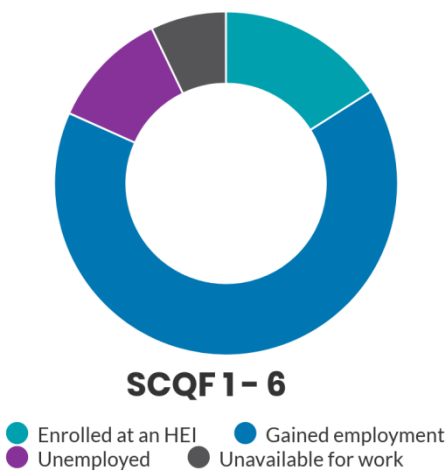
1. This publication provides information on the destinations of successful full-time college leavers in Scotland. It supports the Scottish Funding Council's work with colleges on outcome-based planning through Outcome Agreements and the Scottish Government's skills strategy, *Skills for Scotland* and *Developing the Young Workforce* – Scotland's Youth Employment strategy, by providing key measurements for progression to further study and employment for all age groups.
2. This is the fifth publication of College Leaver Destinations (CLD) for Scotland's colleges and covers the academic year 2017-18. This publication reports on the destinations of leavers 3-6 months after qualifying.
3. The key focus of this publication centres on **Sector Leavers** with the following showing the salient aspects for this group:
 - 19,314 qualifiers left the college sector and these Sector Leavers accounted for 42.4% of confirmed destinations.
 - 89.1% of Sector Leavers found positive destinations, an increase from last session's 88.3%.
 - 94.2% of qualifiers from SCQF (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework¹) 7+ went on to positive destinations.
 - Unemployment and unavailability for work for Sector Leavers reduced to 10.9% from 11.7% last session – although broken down by SCQF the distribution is notable: 18.3% at SCQF 1-6 compared with 5.8% at SCQF 7+.
4. Other highlights from all **confirmed** destinations in 2017-18 (both Sector Leavers and those who remain in college for further study) are:
 - 50,810 students qualified in 2017-18, with destinations confirmed for 45,520 (89.6%) up from 88.9% last session.
 - 95.4% of confirmed qualifiers moved on to positive destinations, up from 95.0%.
 - For those students who remained in education at college, 86.8% progressed to a higher level of study on the SCQF compared with 82.4% last session.

¹ Where a programme is not formally SCQF credit rated a 'broadly comparable' level can be assigned. This has been done by either comparing across to SCQF from other national frameworks if the programme has a level on another framework, or if this is not the case, using the SCQF Level Descriptors to identify the most appropriate level of learning for the programme of study. References to SCQF in this publication should be assumed to reflect this definition.

College Leaver Destinations 2017-18



Confirmed destinations of Sector Leavers



89.1% Sector Leavers found positive destinations*, up 0.8% from 2016-17.

86.8% of students who remained in college progressed to higher SCQF level of study, up 4.4%.

10.9% of Sector Leavers unemployed/unavailable overall down 0.8% from 2016-17.

18.3% of SCQF 1 - 6 Sector Leavers unemployed/unavailable, compared with 5.8% at SCQF 7+.

95.4% of confirmed qualifiers moved on to positive destinations, up 0.4% from 2016-17.

94.2% of SCQF 7+ qualifiers went on to positive destinations.

*Positive destinations are defined as qualifiers moving into work or further study.