



Scottish Funding Council
Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba

College Leaver Destinations 2018-19

SFC Statistics

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Summary: To inform stakeholders of the publication of the 2018-19 College Leaver Destinations measurements.

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

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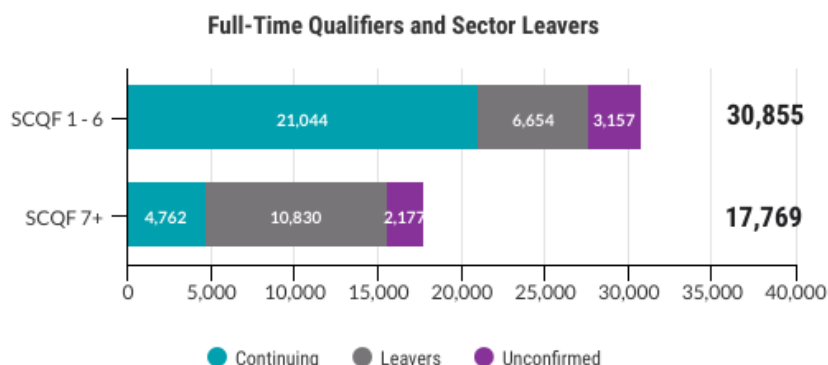
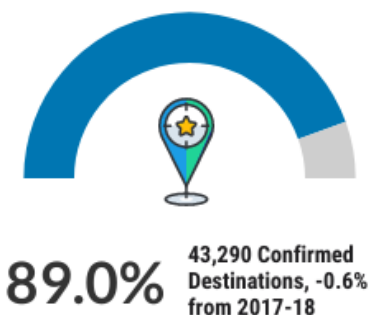
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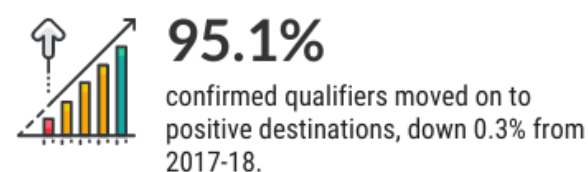
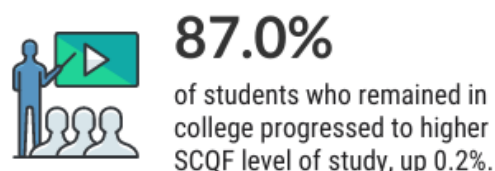
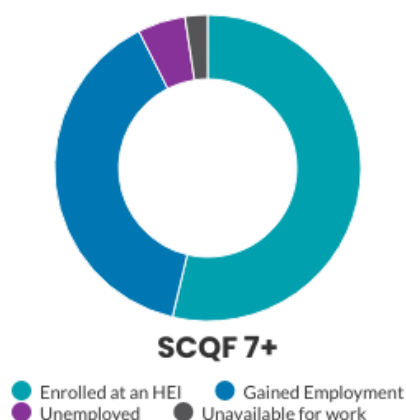
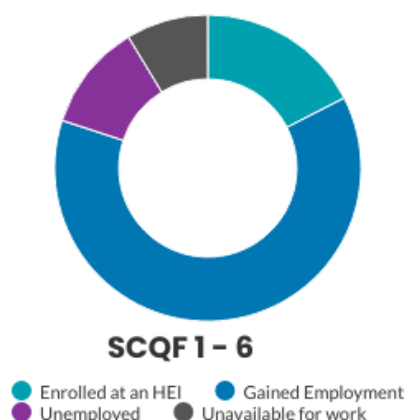
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College Leaver Destinations 2018-19



Confirmed destinations of Sector Leavers



Section 1: 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 2018-19. 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:
 - 17,484 qualifiers left the college sector and these Sector Leavers accounted for 40.4% for whom the post-study destination is known.
 - 87.8% of Sector Leavers found positive destinations, a decrease from last session's 89.1%.
 - 80.0% of sector-leaving who achieved SCQF¹ 1-6 went on to positive destinations compared to 81.7% last session.
 - 92.6% of sector-leaving who achieved SCQF 7+ went on to positive destinations compared to 94.2% last session.
 - Unemployment and unavailability for work for Sector Leavers increased to 12.2% from 10.9% last session – although broken down by SCQF the distribution is notable: 20.0% at SCQF 1-6 (up from 18.3%) compared with 7.4% at SCQF 7+ (up from 5.8%).
4. Other key observations from the students with known destinations in 2018-19 (both Sector Leavers and those who remain in college for further study) are:
 - 48,624 students qualified in 2018-19, with **destinations confirmed** for 43,290 (89.0%, down from 89.6% last session).

¹ Where a programme is not formally SCQF (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework) 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.

- 95.1% of confirmed qualifiers moved on to positive destinations, broadly level from 95.4%.
- For those students who remained in education at college, 87.0% progressed to a higher level of study on the SCQF unchanged from last session.

CLD Focus

5. The primary focus of this publication is Sector Leavers (those who completed their learner journey in the college sector). This group is examined in detail in Section 2 where figures are based on **confirmed destinations only** and breakdowns show numbers and proportions for SCQF 1-6 to Higher Education Institution (HEI), SCQF 7+ to HEI, Sector Leavers to work and Sector Leavers to negative destinations. This publication aims to provide an understanding of student movement on leaving college.
6. Section 3 contains tables of SCQF progression for those who are continuing study. The tables here are provided to show trends against previous publications.
7. The final sections provide the rationale for the CLD, and college/regional tables, including a sector leaver table for each college and region. These can be downloaded separately.

Section 2: Sector Leavers

Total qualifiers and confirmed destinations

8. In 2018-19 there were 48,624 student qualifiers from full time courses (a decrease of 2,186 from 2017-18²). As a result of data matching exercises and supplementary surveys undertaken by the colleges, confirmed destinations account for 43,290 (89.0%) of these qualifiers which exceeds our 80% target for confirmed destinations.
9. Table 1 provides an overview of the number of student qualifiers and confirmed destinations over the period 2013-14 to 2018-19.

² The [Performance Indicators for academic year 2018-19](#) show FE full-time success decreased by 0.9% from the previous year which, along with a 2.5% reduction in the criteria required for a student to appear in the CLD, accounts for the reduced number of qualifiers reported in this publication.

Table 1: Student qualifiers and confirmed destinations 2013-14 to 2018-19

	CLD 2013-14	CLD 2014-15	CLD 2015-16	CLD 2016-17	CLD 2017-18	CLD 2018-19
Student Qualifiers	52,556	50,198	50,682	50,298	50,810	48,624
Confirmed Destinations	45,144	43,387	44,183	44,716	45,520	43,290
% Confirmed Destinations	85.9%	86.4%	87.2%	88.9%	89.6%	89.0%

10. The consistently high proportions of confirmed destinations strengthen the validity of the findings in this report.

College Courses and Sector Leavers

11. The CLD is concerned with successful full-time qualifiers from college courses. Full-time college courses are most commonly confined to a single academic year and are designed to allow students to progress from lower level courses to more advanced courses via learning pathways. Course literature commonly signposts that 'course A' will enable progression to 'course B' and steer the student towards employment in a particular area after completion of a number of progressing courses.
12. It is likely therefore that a student who enrolls at college after 4th year at school will have to study for a few years at college before they can expect to achieve a qualification at SCQF level 7 or 8. The journey varies dependant on the point of entry and qualifications achieved prior to enrolment.
13. In light of this, the qualifiers are divided into those who will continue studies within college following this successfully completed course and those who have completed the college component of their learner journey: the Sector Leavers.
14. Sector Leavers are defined as those who do not stay in the college sector after qualifying and instead have moved into post-college destinations: work, study at university, or negative destinations such as unemployment after qualifying.

Table 2: 2018-19 Full-Time Qualifiers and Sector Leavers

	CLD Qualifiers 2018-19	Confirmed Destinations	Unconfirmed	Continuing College Study	Sector Leavers
SCQF 1-6	30,855	27,698 89.8%	3,157 10.2%	21,044 68.2%	6,654 21.6%
SCQF 7+	17,769	15,592 87.7%	2,177 12.3%	4,762 26.8%	10,830 60.9%
Total	48,624	43,290 89.0%	5,334 11.0%	25,806 53.1%	17,484 36.0%

15. Table 2 shows the total qualifiers, confirmed destinations and Sector Leaver numbers by SCQF level split for the 2018-19 CLD. The majority of SCQF 1-6 qualifiers stay on at college: 68.2% compared to 21.6% who left the sector. At SCQF 7+ the inverse is observable: the majority of qualifiers left the sector: 60.9% compared to 26.8% continuing at college.
16. Chart A shows changes in the proportion of Sector Leavers from all levels from the confirmed destinations since 2015-16 (the period from which data is of an appropriate quality for analysis of the Sector Leavers). The trend for these leavers has been to more positive destinations over the period 2015-16 to 2017-18. Positive destinations in 2018-19 decreased for Sector Leavers to 87.8%.

Chart A: Sector Leaver Positive versus Negative Destinations

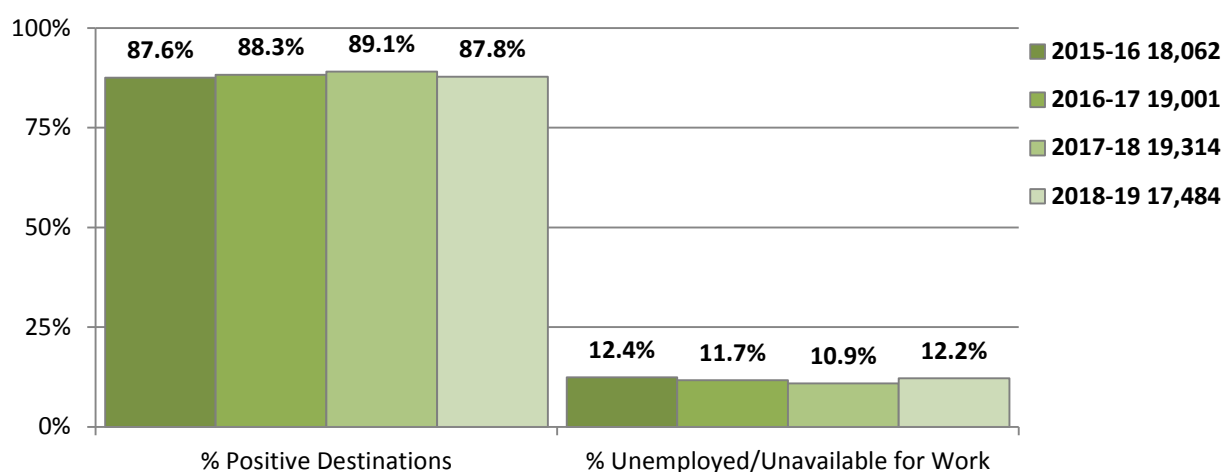


Table 3 Sector Leaver Comparison 2017-18 to 2018-19

External Destination	2017-18 Sector Leavers	% Sector Leavers	2018-19 Sector Leavers	% Sector Leavers	
Qualifiers Leaving College Sector	19,314 / 45,520	42.4%	17,484 / 43,290	40.4%	▼
FE to University	1,267	6.6%	1,162	6.6%	▲
HE to University	6,415	33.2%	5,817	33.3%	▲
FE/HE into work	9,519	49.3%	8,373	47.9%	▼
Unemployed	1,305	6.8%	1,298	7.4%	▲
Unavailable for work	808	4.2%	834	4.8%	▲
		100%		100%	

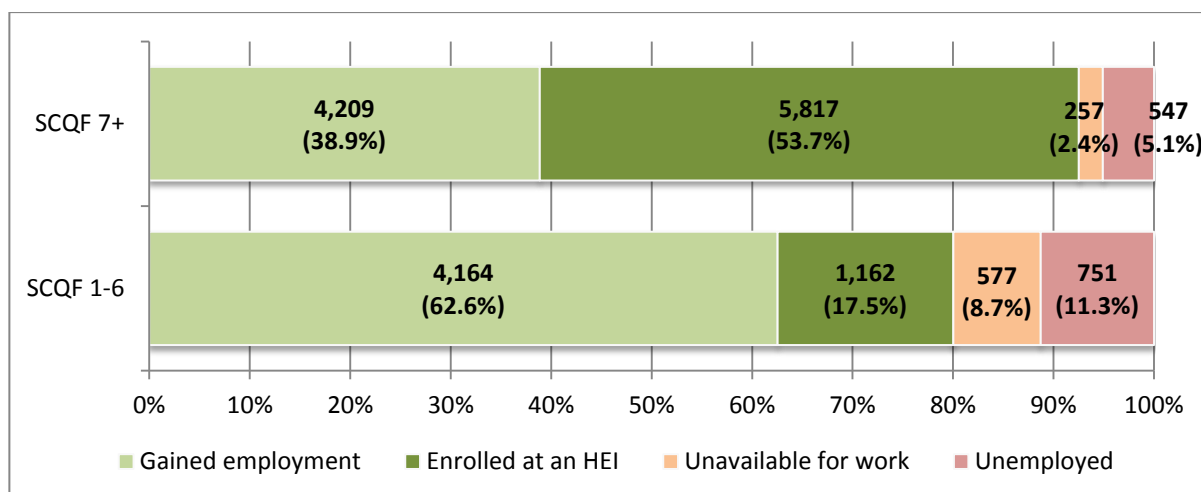
17. Table 3 provides destination proportions for students with confirmed destinations who left the sector comparing 2017-18 with 2018-19. This session 17,484 qualifiers left the sector, a decrease of 1,830. For these Sector Leavers, positive destinations account for 87.8% (a decrease of 1.3pp). This decrease

comes from the 1.4 percentage point decrease in FE/HE qualifiers moving to work compared to the previous year, 47.9% from 49.3%. Negative destinations increased from 10.9% in the previous year to 12.2% this year.

Sector Leaver Analysis

18. Chart B provides a more detailed overview of destination proportions for those leaving college from SCQF 1-6 compared to SCQF 7+³.

Chart B: Confirmed destination of Sector Leavers by level, 2018-19



19. When looking at leavers by level, it is evident that those completing SCQF 1-6 courses show greater unemployment than at SCQF 7+. The proportions for SCQF 1-6 remained mainly the same as last session at 11.3% while SCQF 7+ has an increase from 3.7% to 5.1%. Both groups also saw an increase in those unavailable for work: SCQF 1-6 increasing from 7.2% last session to 8.7% and SCQF 7+ increasing from 2.1% last session to 2.4%.
20. Combining the totals of those gaining employment or enrolling at an HEI shows 80.0% of leavers who studied at the SCQF 1-6 level moved to a positive destination, compared to 81.7% last session. For SCQF 7+ level students 92.6% went on to further study or employment, compared to 94.2% last session.
21. The main difference between the destinations for those studying at SCQF 1-6

³ The apparent ease of movement into employment of qualifiers from SCQF 1-6 compared to SCQF 7+ (62.6% versus 38.9%) can be seen as counterintuitive since we would perhaps expect those better qualified to have greater success in finding work. If we remove those students who have gone on to study, we get a clearer indication of which group of qualifiers is more successful moving into work and unemployment. At SCQF 1-6 we have 5,492 non-studying leavers, of which those employed account for 75.8% (4,164) and those unemployed for 13.7% (751). At SCQF 7+ we have 5,013 non-studying leavers, with those employed accounting for 84.0% (4,209) and those unemployed for 10.9% (547). So excluding those continuing studies, we find those at SCQF 7+ show greater movement to work and a less-marked difference between both groups for unemployment.

versus SCQF 7+ students at college is the difference between the proportions of the groups who enrol at an HEI. It is evident that a student completing an SCQF 7+ course *in a college* will be better qualified to progress to an HEI than someone at SCQF 1-6⁴.

22. For employment destinations, SCQF 1-6 students proportionally move into work more than SCQF 7+ leavers, with 62.6% of leavers from SCQF 1-6 level courses gaining employment within 3 to 6 months of leaving college, a decrease from last session's 65.7%. By contrast, the SCQF 7+ qualifiers moving into work has grown slightly for a second year with 38.9% moving into work, a 1.0pp increase from last session.
23. Examining the division of Sector Leavers by gender⁵, we find females account for 57.3%: 3,495 from SCQF 1-6 and 6,519 from SCQF 7+, totalling 10,014 female Sector Leavers. Males account for 43.3% (compared to 42.4% last session): 3,131 from SCQF 1-6 and 4,289 from SCQF 7+, totalling 7,420 male Sector Leavers. Table 4 gives a more detailed breakdown of the post-college destinations for males and females by SCQF level.

Table 4: Sector Leaver Destinations by Gender

		Total	HEI%	Work %	(Positive %: HEI+Work)	Unemployed %	Unavailable %
SCQF 1-6	Male	3,131	9.3%	71.7%	81.0%	13.3%	5.7%
	Female	3,495	24.8%	54.4%	79.2%	9.4%	11.3%
SCQF 7+	Male	4,289	56.7%	36.7%	93.4%	5.2%	1.5%
	Female	6,519	51.7%	40.4%	92.1%	5.0%	3.0%

24. We can see that at SCQF 1-6 males move into positive destinations 1.8pp more than females: 81.0% and 79.2% respectively. For males, the underlying breakdown for these positive destinations is 9.3 % to HEIs/71.7% to work. For females the movement to HEIs is over two and a half times the male proportion (24.8%) with females moving into work at 54.5%. Males have greater levels of unemployment at 13.3% compared to 9.4% for females, while again this session we see more than twice as many females unavailable for work compared to males: 11.3% female to 5.7% male.
25. At SCQF 7+, the distribution of destinations is less marked. Positive destinations are 93.4% for males and 92.1% for females, with breakdowns for males being 56.7% moving to HEIs and 36.7% moving to work, and for females 51.7% to HEI

⁴ See SFC's 2019 [Articulation publication](#) for details on movement from Scottish colleges to Scottish Universities.

⁵ Other genders are not included in the analysis as numbers are too small.

and 40.4% to work. Unemployment differs only by 0.2pp: 5.2% male and 5.0% female; and although there is less unavailability for work at SCQF 7+, females still have double the proportions to males: 3.90% to the male 1.5%.

Table 5a: SCQF 1-6 Sector Leaver Destinations by SIMD⁶ 2016

		SCQF 1-6				
		Total	HEI%	Work %	(Positive %: HEI+Work)	Unemployed %
Most Deprived	1	918	16.2%	55.0%	71.2%	16.4%
	2	1,001	15.8%	60.1%	75.9%	13.3%
	3	840	15.8%	63.5%	79.3%	12.3%
	4	749	17.9%	63.8%	81.7%	11.2%
	5	708	16.2%	63.6%	79.8%	10.7%
Least Deprived	6	592	19.1%	63.3%	82.4%	9.8%
	7	561	16.6%	67.9%	84.5%	9.1%
	8	471	19.7%	66.5%	86.2%	7.4%
	9	481	19.3%	68.0%	87.3%	7.1%
	10	307	25.7%	60.3%	86.0%	7.8%
		6,628 ⁷	17.5%	62.6%	80.1%	11.3%
						8.6%

Table 5b: SCQF 7+ Sector Leaver Destinations by SIMD 2016

		SCQF 7+				
		Total	HEI%	Work%	(Positive %: HEI+Work)	Unemployed %
Most Deprived	1	1,444	51.9%	38.2%	90.0%	6.4%
	2	1,371	52.4%	38.0%	90.4%	6.4%
	3	1,140	53.5%	39.9%	93.4%	4.8%
	4	1,029	53.5%	38.6%	92.1%	5.3%
	5	1,032	52.3%	40.3%	92.6%	4.9%
Least Deprived	6	1,023	50.8%	43.3%	94.1%	3.9%
	7	903	54.0%	38.3%	92.4%	5.5%
	8	936	58.3%	36.3%	94.7%	3.7%
	9	1,003	55.6%	38.7%	94.3%	4.2%
	10	820	63.4%	30.9%	94.3%	3.2%
		10,701	54.2%	38.4%	92.6%	5.0%
						2.4%

26. Tables 5a and 5b show an interesting interplay between the SCQF bandings in combination with the deprivation deciles when we look at those who are unemployed. The unemployed range runs from 16.4% at SCQF 1-6/decile one to

⁶ [Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2016](#): the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) is The Scottish Government's official tool to identify areas of multiple deprivation in Scotland.

⁷ Note: the figures in this table and Table 5b have a smaller number compared to Chart B as these tables only include those where we had a valid postcode for the student.

3.2% at SCQF 7+/decile 10. What is of interest is the impact of the higher-level qualifications on unemployment prospects. We do not see an overlap of proportions of unemployment over the two tables and instead we see a near-uninterrupted continuum of declining unemployment as we move from the top of Table 5a to the bottom of Table 5b. The SCQF 1-6/decile 10 (lower qualified/least deprived) qualifiers have greater unemployment (7.8%) than the SCQF 7+/decile one (higher qualified/most deprived) qualifiers (6.4%) highlighting the role of education for these more deprived students as an escape from negative destinations. So although those from the least qualified and most deprived group are over five times as likely to be unemployed post-college than those least deprived from higher qualifications, education improves the chances of gaining employment.

27. Examining the positive destinations (combining those moving to work and study), we see those in SCQF 1-6/decile one have 71.2% moving to positive destinations compared to 90.0% for those at the SCQF 7+/decile one (an 18.8pp difference). Although this is clearly a positive observation of the impact of education on opportunity, of greater interest is to again examine the two tables together.
28. For positive destinations, we again observe no overlap in positive destinations in Table 5a and 5b; instead, those from SCQF 7+/decile one enter positive destinations 90.0% of the time, 4.0pp more than those at SCQF 1-6/decile 10 (the least deprived) at 86.0%.
29. For positive destinations at the extremes of Table 5a (SCQF 1-6) we have 71.2% at decile one and 86.0% at decile ten – a 14.8pp differential in positive destinations. By comparison at SCQF 7+ we see the impact of education in reducing the gap over the deprivation levels, with decile one having 90.0% positive destinations compared to 94.3% in decile 10, a differential of 4.3pp.
30. Table 6 below provides destination proportions by subject groupings. It is worth pointing out that some percentages are based on small numbers, which make some percentages less robust than others.
31. Positive destinations for subject groupings at SCQF 1-6 for Sector Leavers range from 62.6% (*Computing and ICT*) to 93.1% (*Science*)⁸. At SCQF 7+, the range is 79.4% (*Land-based industries*) to 97.0% (*Science*). The impact of the higher qualifications on positive destinations is clear, with SCQF 1-6 averaging 80.0% compared to 92.6% at SCQF 7+, highlighting the benefit of staying in college to HE-level as the benefits to destinations are clear across the table.

⁸ Excluding *Special Programmes*.

Table 6: Sector Leavers by Subject Area

	SCQF 1-6						SCQF 7+					
	Total	HEI%	Work %	(Positive %: HEI+Work)	Unemployed %	Unavailable %	Total	HEI %	Work %	(Positive %: HEI+Work)	Unemployed %	Unavailable %
Art and design Arts and Crafts	212	40.1%	41.5%	81.6%	10.4%	8.0%	708	61.3%	30.8%	92.1%	4.9%	3.0%
Business, management and administration	194	3.6%	71.6%	75.3%	14.9%	9.8%	1,861	64.2%	29.8%	94.0%	3.4%	2.5%
Care	1,006	46.1%	39.0%	85.1%	6.4%	8.5%	2,227	49.8%	43.2%	93.1%	4.6%	2.3%
Computing and ICT	115	4.3%	58.3%	62.6%	27.0%	10.4%	880	66.1%	25.3%	91.5%	6.5%	2.0%
Construction	659	0.6%	78.3%	78.9%	15.9%	5.2%	333	65.2%	29.1%	94.3%	4.2%	1.5%
Education and training	98	14.3%	65.3%	79.6%	10.2%	10.2%	117	24.8%	65.8%	90.6%	0.9%	8.5%
Engineering	1,146	1.9%	87.3%	89.3%	8.9%	1.8%	737	40.7%	52.0%	92.7%	6.6%	0.7%
Hairdressing, beauty and complementary therapies	768	1.3%	76.8%	78.1%	10.7%	11.2%	449	4.7%	78.8%	83.5%	9.8%	6.7%
Hospitality and Tourism	446	0.9%	75.8%	76.7%	15.2%	8.1%	409	40.1%	48.9%	89.0%	7.6%	3.4%
Land-based industries	248	0.8%	77.8%	78.6%	12.9%	8.5%	34	2.9%	76.5%	79.4%	17.6% ⁹	2.9%
Languages and ESOL	312	3.2%	60.3%	63.5%	13.1%	23.4%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Media	69	10.1%	56.5%	66.7%	23.2%	10.1%	597	43.7%	45.2%	88.9%	8.2%	2.8%
Nautical studies	52	0.0%	96.2%	96.2%	0.0%	3.8%	182	0.0%	91.2%	91.2%	8.8%	0.0%
Performing arts	49	20.4%	67.3%	87.8%	12.2%	0.0%	521	35.7%	54.5%	90.2%	6.9%	2.9%
Science	332	70.2%	22.9%	93.1%	1.5%	5.4%	428	79.9%	17.1%	97.0%	2.1%	0.9%
Social subjects	414	65.0%	20.8%	85.7%	7.2%	7.0%	688	87.6%	8.9%	96.5%	2.0%	1.5%
Special Programmes	269	0.0%	43.1%	43.1%	22.3%	34.6%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sport and leisure	265	6.0%	70.9%	77.0%	18.1%	4.9%	659	56.4%	39.3%	95.8%	3.0%	1.2%
All	6,654	17.5%	62.6%	80.0%	11.3%	8.7%	10,830	53.7%	38.9%	92.6%	5.1%	2.4%

⁹ Note: small numbers can produce misleadingly large percentages.

32. Movement of Sector Leavers to an HEI from SCQF 1-6 is less than a third of that found at SCQF 7+. One of the more striking examples is *Engineering* where at SCQF 1-6, only 1.9% of qualifiers go into HEI compared to 40.7% at SCQF 7+. Both SCQF grouping for *Engineering* do have high positive destinations in general at 89.3% and 92.7%, but almost nine out of 10 qualifiers at the lower levels moves into work, despite only half of them being on Modern Apprenticeships who are in work during and after their course. The majority qualified from SCQF 5, but for all the lower levels employment was clearly the preferred option.
33. The same pattern exists for *Construction* – although unemployment is higher at 15.9% of SCQF 1-6. Of those moving into positive destination, again at SCQF 1-6 (from SCQF 5 mainly) the movement into work is the preferred path 78.3% to 0.6% moving to HEI. *Care*, by contrast has one of the highest levels of HEI entry at 46.1%.
34. At SCQF 1-6 in *Computing and ICT* we again see the propensity of SCQF 1-6 to move into employment (58.3% compared to 25.3% at SCQF 7+). This lower-qualified group also shows the highest levels of unemployment at 27.0%, where at SCQF 7+ the proportion is 6.5% for the subject. Examining the underlying data this unemployment affects the north east and west of Scotland more than other areas.
35. Qualifiers from SCQF 1-6 *Special Programmes*, which are generally designed for students with additional support needs for learning, saw the lowest levels of positive destinations at 43.1% (down from 51.1%) and 56.9% negative destinations. The year-on-year decline for this group does need further investigation.

Course relationship to work destinations

36. Of those Sector Leavers who moved into work (8,373 qualifiers), 6,558 gave information on the relationship between their studies and their work. This was 78.3% of this group (the same proportion as last session). Table 7 shows two-thirds of Sector Leavers who answered this question found work related to their course of study.

Table 7: Course Relationship to work

Overall Cohort:		
Work related to course	4,344	66.2%
Work not related to course	2,214	33.8%
Total	6,558	

37. Table 8 shows work relationship to course by subject groupings. Figures were far better this year in establishing work to study relationships, but we still find some strange anomalies in this data. The proportions where the relationship is

unknown vary from 1.8% to 49.3% unknown in comparison to last session's 3.2% to 54.3%. But again it is unlikely that only 32.0% of those studying engineering are obtaining jobs related to their studies with current STEM priorities. Examining those with the highest relationship between course and work, there continues to be a correlation between those subjects which are industry driven and those which include work placements that is worthy of observation.

38. The shaded column shows the values for work that is related to study if we exclude the unknowns, highlighting subject areas which need to be more diligent in providing this information to improve accuracy.

Table 8: Course Relationship to Work by Subject Grouping

	Totals	Work related to course (% of known only)		Work related to course		Work not related to course		Work relationship unknown	
Art and design Arts and Crafts	306	125	50.0%	125	40.8%	125	40.8%	56	18.3%
Business, management and administration	694	413	67.0%	413	59.5%	203	29.3%	78	11.2%
Care	1,355	1018	82.7%	1018	75.1%	213	15.7%	124	9.2%
Computing and ICT	290	130	52.6%	130	44.8%	117	40.3%	43	14.8%
Construction	613	217	60.6%	217	35.4%	141	23.0%	255	41.6%
Education and training	141	97	75.2%	97	68.8%	32	22.7%	12	8.5%
Engineering	1,384	443	70.0%	443	32.0%	190	13.7%	751	54.3%
Hairdressing, beauty and complementary therapies	944	596	72.2%	596	63.1%	230	24.4%	118	12.5%
Hospitality and Tourism	538	293	65.5%	293	54.5%	154	28.6%	91	16.9%
Land-based industries	219	118	67.4%	118	53.9%	57	26.0%	44	20.1%
Languages and ESOL	188	72	39.6%	72	38.3%	110	58.5%	6	3.2%
Media	309	129	45.7%	129	41.7%	153	49.5%	27	8.7%
Nautical studies	216	192	97.5%	192	88.9%	5	2.3%	19	8.8%
Performing arts	317	132	44.3%	132	41.6%	166	52.4%	19	6.0%
Science	149	77	59.2%	77	51.7%	53	35.6%	19	12.8%
Social subjects	147	36	29.8%	36	24.5%	85	57.8%	26	17.7%
Special Programmes	116	67	77.0%	67	57.8%	20	17.2%	29	25.0%
Sport and leisure	447	189	54.2%	189	42.3%	160	35.8%	98	21.9%
Total	8,373	4,344	66.2%	4,344	51.9%	2,214	26.4%	1,815	21.7%

Section 3: SCQF Progression in the qualifiers going on to further study (all levels)

39. A great deal of work continues to be carried out to ensure SCQF levelling and broadly comparable levels are accurate to allow observation of progression within the learner journeys. Ideally progression upwards in SCQF should be evident as students move from one course to another, however it is not as clear cut as this as some students require learning at a similar level for a different skill – such as those working in construction – to afford them versatility, and others may be enhancing specific areas after qualifying at a higher level in a subject, for example qualifying in art then doing a jewellery course. Table 9 shows SCQF movement for those who continued in study after qualifying for all known SCQF levels.

Table 9: SCQF Progression for continued study (college and university)¹⁰

Starting SCQF level	Count	Moving to a lower level	Staying at the same level	Progress to a higher level
1	61	0.0%	31.1%	68.9%
2	470	1.1%	37.2%	61.7%
3	1,170	3.8%	30.8%	65.4%
4	3,609	1.9%	15.2%	82.8%
5	8,061	3.8%	13.5%	82.7%
6	8,691	3.2%	7.5%	89.2%
7	6,068	2.4%	2.0%	95.6%
8	4,358	4.7%	3.6%	91.7%
9	94	5.3%	12.8%	81.9%
10	42	11.9%	66.7%	21.4%
	32,624	3.3%	9.7%	87.0%

40. As this table demonstrates, for those continuing in study in college or university, the vast majority progress upwards: 87.0% (compared to 86.8% last session). It is notable the highest conversion to upward movement is at SCQF 7, at 95.6%, where the HNC allows progress to HND at college as well as entry or articulation onto a degree – last session's figure for SCQF7 was 96.0%. Of those not progressing upwards, we see 9.7% moving to study at the same level (down 0.3pp), i.e. widening their skillset at the same level, while 3.3% progress to a lower level (up 0.4pp).

¹⁰ Note: all movement here assumes movement to a higher level of qualification, e.g. someone moving from an HND to an Honours degree is assumed to be moving upwards (to SCQF 9 or 10) even if they start the degree at year one in university which would be a downward move in terms of the SCQF level. Table S1.0 follows this same pattern.

Section 4: Further Information

41. The CLD measures are of primary importance to Ministers, College Principals, Governing Boards and Scottish Government officials.
42. Despite difficulties this year, staff within the colleges again worked hard to keep the integrity of this collection. This session our unconfirmed rate did fall slightly to 89.0% from 89.6%, but this is still a solid confirmed destination rate considering the year. The SFC extends its thanks to the efforts put in by those who are so central to this publication – and this year to those who truly did go the extra mile. Thank you. We will continue the work to reduce the number of unconfirmed destinations next year through matching, our approach to collection and refinement of the process to further improve analysis, and we would welcome feedback to inform modifications to the publication coverage and presentation.
43. Please pass any comments to Dr Scott Montgomery, email: smontgomery@sfc.ac.uk.

College Leaver Destinations 2018-19 Supplement: Developing Scotland's Young Workforce (KPI 4)

44. The SCQF progression of qualifiers continuing to further study is one of the central aspects of *Developing Scotland's Young Workforce* and KPI 4 which measures how many full-time qualifiers aged 16-24 progress under the definition of KPI 4. This is defined as those students who have successfully completed a full-time course, before moving into employment or higher level study.
45. Again this year, colleges and SFC have worked together to ensure that courses of study in this 2018-19 CLD collection are correctly mapped to SCQF levels for both the original course, and for continuing study, to allow us accurately to state what proportion of qualifiers moved forward, stayed the same or moved down with regard to SCQF.
46. Central to the KPI 4 is progression upwards in terms of SCQF level where a destination was to continue in education. Of the 16-24 year old cohort (33,642), 23,289 qualifiers continued to further study. Of these, the SCQF level for the destination course was ascertained for 23,129 with 20,044 moving upwards one or more SCQF levels (86.7% of those continuing study compared to last session's 86.4%). Table S1.0 shows SCQF movement from 2017-18 to 2018-19.

Table S1.0: 16-24 Group SCQF movement

Starting SCQF level	Count	Moving to a lower level	Staying at the same level	Progress to a higher level
1	56	0.0%	31.1%	60.7%
2	321	0.6%	45.2%	54.2%
3	868	5.1%	32.1%	62.8%
4	2,665	2.2%	17.7%	80.1%
5	5,533	3.6%	13.5%	82.9%
6	5,805	3.2%	8.2%	88.6%
7	4,428	2.2%	1.8%	96.0%
8	3,370	4.1%	3.5%	92.4%
9	59	3.4%	6.8%	89.8%
10	24	12.5%	66.7%	20.8%
	23,129	3.2%	10.2%	86.7%

47. The other aspect of the KPI 4 concerns those entering work (including Modern Apprenticeships) and training. Table S1.1 gives figures for those in the 16-24 group who meet these requirements.

Table S1.1: 16-24 Group Modern Apprenticeships/training/work¹¹

	Modern Apprenticeship	Training	Work
Qualifying Course SCQF Level			
1	0	0	*
2	*	*	15
3	6	16	40
4	118	57	357
5	600	49	974
6	234	12	774
7	244	5	887
8	84	7	1,254
9	0	0	103
10	*	0	76
	1,289	149	4,480

48. The KPI 4 is calculated as the proportion of 16-24 year old students who fall into the following categories: those moving upwards in SCQF, those in training, those in Modern Apprenticeships and those in other work. In the 2018-19 CLD this gives: 20,044 moving upwards in SCQF + 149 in training + 1,289 in Modern Apprenticeships + 4,480 in work = 25,962 qualifiers. This equates to 85.5% of confirmed qualifiers (25,962/30,352), basically unchanged since 2017-18:

Table S1.2: KPI 4 comparison 2016-17 to 2017-18

	CLD 2017-18			CLD 2018-19		
		All Qual	Conf.Dest		All Qual	Conf.Dest
SCQF Progression	21,006	58.3%	64.2%	20,044	59.6%	66.0%
Training	152	0.4%	0.5%	149	0.4%	0.5%
Modern Apprenticeship	1,908	5.3%	5.8%	1,289	3.8%	4.2%
Work	4,917	13.6%	15.0%	4,480	13.3%	14.8%
Total	27,983	77.6%	85.6%	25,962	77.2%	85.5%
Confirmed Destinations	32,702			30,352		
Total Qualifiers	36,061			33,642		

¹¹ Values under 5 are represented with *.

College Leaver Destinations 2018-19 Supplement: College Destinations

49. Scotland has 26 colleges divided among the 13 regions. Many are single college regions, while some have a number of colleges in the region, e.g. Highlands and Islands, Glasgow and Lanarkshire. The colleges vary considerably in their geographical locations, course provision as well as the needs of the industries of the local areas. As such, direct comparison of the colleges is not always valuable.
50. Student full-time qualifier numbers from colleges vary considerably from 50 in Orkney College to 5,530 at City of Glasgow College, with the five largest colleges each having well over 4,000 qualifiers in 2018-19.
51. Table S2.1 details individual college confirmed destination rates; Table S2.2 gives percentages of college cohorts in positive/other/negative/ unconfirmed destinations; Table S2.3 shows the positive/negative split; while Table S2.4 covers the college figures for those entering study/work/other/ negative destinations. Table S2.5 gives Sector Leaver information per college with HEI and work destinations combined to give overall positive destination proportions.

Note: all values under five have been removed from the following tables.

Table S2.1: College Qualifier Destination Confirmation Rate

COLLEGE		Qualifiers	Destination Confirmed	Unconfirmed	Confirmed Destination Rate (%)	
AYRSHIRE COLLEGE	▼	4,333	3,828	505	88.3%	▲
BORDERS COLLEGE	▼	651	568	83	87.3%	▼
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COLLEGE	▼	842	799	43	94.9%	▲
DUNDEE AND ANGUS COLLEGE ¹²	▼	3,348	2,852	496	85.2%	▼
EDINBURGH COLLEGE	▼	4,758	3,972	786	83.5%	▼
FIFE COLLEGE	▼	3,176	3,164	12	99.6%	▲
FORTH VALLEY COLLEGE	▲	1,641	1,528	113	93.1%	▼
NEWBATTLE ABBEY COLLEGE	▲	72	68	0	94.4%	▼
NORTH EAST SCOTLAND COLLEGE	▼	3,691	3,592	99	97.3%	▲
SCOTTISH RURAL COLLEGE (SRUC)	▼	449	395	54	88.0%	▼
WEST COLLEGE SCOTLAND	▼	4,529	3,837	692	84.7%	▼
WEST LOTHIAN COLLEGE	▲	1,404	1,242	162	88.5%	▼
CITY OF GLASGOW COLLEGE	▼	5,530	4,920	610	89.0%	▼
GLASGOW CLYDE COLLEGE	▼	4,096	3,313	783	80.9%	▼
GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE	▲	1,722	1,519	203	88.2%	▲
NEW COLLEGE LANARKSHIRE	▼	4,405	4,152	253	94.3%	▲
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COLLEGE	▼	1,409	1,217	192	86.4%	▼
ARGYLL COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	125	122	0	97.6%	▲
INVERNESS COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	750	661	89	88.1%	▼
LEWS CASTLE COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	83	82	0	98.8%	▲
MORAY COLLEGE (UHI)	▲	461	431	30	93.5%	▲
NORTH HIGHLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	178	168	10	94.4%	▼
ORKNEY COLLEGE (UHI)	▲	50	45	5	90.0%	▼
PERTH COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	730	645	85	88.4%	▲
SHETLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	53	40	13	75.5%	▼
WEST HIGHLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	138	130	8	94.2%	▲
NATIONAL	▼	48,624	43,290	5,334	89.0%	▼

¹² Note: Dundee and Angus College suffered a major cyber-attack which had an impact on their capacity to deal with the CLD collection as effectively as usual.

Table S2.2: College positive/other/negative/unconfirmed (all)

COLLEGE		Positive		Unavailable for Work		Unemployed ¹³		Unconfirmed	
AYRSHIRE COLLEGE	▲	3,652	84.3%	85	2.0%	91	2.1%	505	11.7%
BORDERS COLLEGE	▼	525	80.6%	20	3.1%	23	3.5%	83	12.7%
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COLLEGE	▲	764	90.7%	14	1.7%	21	2.5%	43	5.1%
DUNDEE AND ANGUS COLLEGE	▼	2,664	79.6%	97	2.9%	91	2.7%	496	14.8%
EDINBURGH COLLEGE	▼	3,865	81.2%	70	1.5%	37	0.8%	786	16.5%
FIFE COLLEGE	▲	2,964	93.3%	64	2.0%	136	4.3%	12	0.4%
FORTH VALLEY COLLEGE	▲	1,459	88.9%	26	1.6%	43	2.6%	113	6.9%
NEWBATTLE ABBEY COLLEGE	▼	65	90.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
NORTH EAST SCOTLAND COLLEGE	▼	3,376	91.5%	73	2.0%	143	3.9%	99	2.7%
SCOTTISH RURAL COLLEGE (SRUC)	▼	381	84.9%	5	1.1%	9	2.0%	54	12.0%
WEST COLLEGE SCOTLAND	▼	3,611	79.7%	69	1.5%	157	3.5%	692	15.3%
WEST LOTHIAN COLLEGE	▼	1,200	85.5%	20	1.4%	22	1.6%	162	11.5%
CITY OF GLASGOW COLLEGE	▼	4,735	85.6%	66	1.2%	119	2.2%	610	11.0%
GLASGOW CLYDE COLLEGE	▼	3,219	78.6%	24	0.6%	70	1.7%	783	19.1%
GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE	▲	1,454	84.4%	24	1.4%	41	2.4%	203	11.8%
NEW COLLEGE LANARKSHIRE	▲	3,903	88.6%	84	1.9%	165	3.7%	253	5.7%
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COLLEGE	▼	1,140	80.9%	14	1.0%	63	4.5%	192	13.6%
ARGYLL COLLEGE (UHI)	▲	112	89.6%	6	4.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
INVERNESS COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	627	83.6%	23	3.1%	11	1.5%	89	11.9%
LEWS CASTLE COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	76	91.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MORAY COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	393	85.2%	12	2.6%	26	5.6%	30	6.5%
NORTH HIGHLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	156	87.6%	6	3.4%	6	3.4%	10	5.6%
ORKNEY COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	43	86.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	10.0%
PERTH COLLEGE (UHI)	▲	614	84.1%	18	2.5%	13	1.8%	85	11.6%
SHETLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	▼	38	71.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13	24.5%
WEST HIGHLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	▲	122	88.4%	6	4.3%	0	0.0%	8	5.8%
NATIONAL	▼	41,158	84.6%	834	1.7%	1,298	2.7%	5,334	11.0%

¹³ Note: the unemployed proportions appear smaller as the numbers here include both unconfirmed and those staying in college to continue studies. As such the numbers of unemployed make up a smaller proportion of the overall group for a college and thus a smaller percentage.

Table S2.3: College positive/other/negative (confirmed)

COLLEGE		Positive		Unavailable for Work		Unemployed	
AYRSHIRE COLLEGE	▽	3,652	95.4%	85	2.2%	91	2.4%
BORDERS COLLEGE	▽	525	92.4%	20	3.5%	23	4.0%
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COLLEGE	▲	764	95.6%	14	1.8%	21	2.6%
DUNDEE AND ANGUS COLLEGE	▽	2,664	93.4%	97	3.4%	91	3.2%
EDINBURGH COLLEGE	▲	3,865	97.3%	70	1.8%	37	0.9%
FIFE COLLEGE	▽	2,964	93.7%	64	2.0%	136	4.3%
FORTH VALLEY COLLEGE	▲	1,459	95.5%	26	1.7%	43	2.8%
NEWBATTLE ABBEY COLLEGE	▽	65	95.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
NORTH EAST SCOTLAND COLLEGE	▽	3,376	94.0%	73	2.0%	143	4.0%
SCOTTISH RURAL COLLEGE (SRUC)	▲	381	96.5%	5	1.3%	9	2.3%
WEST COLLEGE SCOTLAND	▽	3,611	94.1%	69	1.8%	157	4.1%
WEST LoTHIAN COLLEGE	▲	1,200	96.6%	20	1.6%	22	1.8%
CITY OF GLASGOW COLLEGE	▲	4,735	96.2%	66	1.3%	119	2.4%
GLASGOW CLYDE COLLEGE	▶	3,219	97.2%	24	0.7%	70	2.1%
GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE	▽	1,454	95.7%	24	1.6%	41	2.7%
NEW COLLEGE LANARKSHIRE	▽	3,903	94.0%	84	2.0%	165	4.0%
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COLLEGE	▽	1,140	93.7%	14	1.2%	63	5.2%
ARGYLL COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	112	91.8%	6	4.9%	0	0.0%
INVERNESS COLLEGE (UHI)	▲	627	94.9%	23	3.5%	11	1.7%
LEWS CASTLE COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	76	92.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MORAY COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	393	91.2%	12	2.8%	26	6.0%
NORTH HIGHLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	156	92.9%	6	3.6%	6	3.6%
ORKNEY COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	43	95.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PERTH COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	614	95.2%	18	2.8%	13	2.0%
SHETLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	38	95.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WEST HIGHLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	▲	122	93.8%	6	4.6%	0	0.0%
NATIONAL	▽	41,158	95.1%	834	1.9%	1,298	3.0%

Table S2.4: College work/study/ other/negative (confirmed)

COLLEGE	Work			Study			Unavailable for Work		Unemployed	
AYRSHIRE COLLEGE	▽	585	15.3%	▲	3,067	80.1%	85	2.2%	91	2.4%
BORDERS COLLEGE	▽	151	26.6%	▲	374	65.8%	20	3.5%	23	4.0%
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COLLEGE	▲	203	25.4%	▲	561	70.2%	14	1.8%	21	2.6%
DUNDEE AND ANGUS COLLEGE	▽	548	19.2%	▽	2,116	74.2%	97	3.4%	91	3.2%
EDINBURGH COLLEGE	▽	700	17.6%	▲	3,165	79.7%	70	1.8%	37	0.9%
FIFE COLLEGE	▽	853	27.0%	▽	2,111	66.7%	64	2.0%	136	4.3%
FORTH VALLEY COLLEGE	▽	404	26.4%	▲	1,055	69.0%	26	1.7%	43	2.8%
NEWBATTLE ABBEY COLLEGE	▽	0	0.0%	▽	63	92.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
NORTH EAST SCOTLAND COLLEGE	▽	740	20.6%	▲	2,636	73.4%	73	2.0%	143	4.0%
SCOTTISH RURAL COLLEGE (SRUC)	▽	106	26.8%	▲	275	69.6%	5	1.3%	9	2.3%
WEST COLLEGE SCOTLAND	▽	525	13.7%	▲	3,086	80.4%	69	1.8%	157	4.1%
WEST LOTHIAN COLLEGE	▽	279	22.5%	▲	921	74.2%	20	1.6%	22	1.8%
CITY OF GLASGOW COLLEGE	▲	1,000	20.3%	▽	3,735	75.9%	66	1.3%	119	2.4%
GLASGOW CLYDE COLLEGE	▶	484	14.6%	▶	2,735	82.6%	24	0.7%	70	2.1%
GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE	▲	234	15.4%	▽	1,220	80.3%	24	1.6%	41	2.7%
NEW COLLEGE LANARKSHIRE	▶	865	20.8%	▽	3,038	73.2%	84	2.0%	165	4.0%
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COLLEGE	▽	169	13.9%	▲	971	79.8%	14	1.2%	63	5.2%
ARGYLL COLLEGE (UHI)	▲	45	36.9%	▽	67	54.9%	6	4.9%	0	0.0%
INVERNESS COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	152	23.0%	▲	475	71.9%	23	3.5%	11	1.7%
LEWS CASTLE COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	22	26.8%	▶	54	65.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MORAY COLLEGE (UHI)	▲	80	18.6%	▽	313	72.6%	12	2.8%	26	6.0%
NORTH HIGHLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	57	33.9%	▲	99	58.9%	6	3.6%	6	3.6%
ORKNEY COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	9	20.0%	▲	34	75.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
PERTH COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	97	15.0%	▲	517	80.2%	18	2.8%	13	2.0%
SHETLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	▽	18	45.0%	▶	20	50.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WEST HIGHLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	▲	45	34.6%	▲	77	59.2%	6	4.6%	0	0.0%
NATIONAL	▽	8,373	19.3%	▲	32,785	75.7%	834	1.9%	1,298	3.0%

Table S2.5: Sector Leavers by College (Positive/Unemployed/Unavailable)

Institution name	Combined				SCQF 1-6				SCQF 7+			
	Total	(Positive %: HEI+Work)	Unemployed %	Unavailable %	Total	(Positive %: HEI+Work)	Unemployed %	Unavailable %	Total	(Positive %: HEI+Work)	Unemployed %	Unavailable %
AYRSHIRE COLLEGE	1,198	85.3%	7.6%	7.1%	457	71.8%	16.2%	12.0%	741	93.7%	2.3%	4.0%
BORDERS COLLEGE	233	81.5%	9.9%	8.6%	141	74.5%	12.1%	13.5%	92	92.4%	6.5%	1.1%
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COLLEGE	339	89.7%	6.2%	4.1%	155	82.6%	11.0%	6.5%	184	95.7%	2.2%	2.2%
DUNDEE AND ANGUS COLLEGE	1,198	84.3%	7.6%	8.1%	557	75.9%	11.3%	12.7%	641	91.6%	4.4%	4.1%
EDINBURGH COLLEGE	1,693	93.7%	2.2%	4.1%	634	87.9%	3.8%	8.4%	1,059	97.2%	1.2%	1.6%
FIFE COLLEGE	1,381	85.5%	9.8%	4.6%	585	80.2%	13.0%	6.8%	796	89.4%	7.5%	3.0%
FORTH VALLEY COLLEGE	680	89.9%	6.3%	3.8%	234	78.6%	12.4%	9.0%	446	95.7%	3.1%	1.1%
NEWBATTLE ABBEY COLLEGE	42	92.9%	0.0%	7.1%	24	87.5%	0.0%	12.5%	18	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%
NORTH EAST SCOTLAND COLLEGE	1,616	86.6%	8.8%	4.5%	717	79.9%	13.1%	7.0%	899	92.0%	5.5%	2.6%
SCOTLAND'S RURAL COLLEGE (SRUC)	121	88.4%	7.4%	4.1%	121	88.4%	7.4%	4.1%	0	-	-	-
WEST COLLEGE SCOTLAND	1,167	80.6%	13.5%	5.9%	372	76.6%	13.7%	9.7%	795	82.5%	13.3%	4.2%
WEST LOTHIAN COLLEGE	506	91.7%	4.3%	4.0%	220	87.3%	6.4%	6.4%	286	95.1%	2.8%	2.1%
CITY OF GLASGOW COLLEGE	2,479	92.5%	4.8%	2.7%	286	74.8%	16.1%	9.1%	2,193	94.8%	3.3%	1.8%
GLASGOW CLYDE COLLEGE	1,314	92.8%	5.3%	1.8%	396	90.4%	7.1%	2.5%	918	93.9%	4.6%	1.5%
GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE	643	89.9%	6.4%	3.7%	263	82.5%	11.8%	5.7%	380	95.0%	2.6%	2.4%
NEW COLLEGE LANARKSHIRE	1,659	85.0%	9.9%	5.1%	567	74.1%	14.5%	11.5%	1092	90.7%	7.6%	1.7%
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COLLEGE	482	84.0%	13.1%	2.9%	213	81.2%	14.1%	4.7%	269	86.2%	12.3%	1.5%
ARGYLL COLLEGE (UHI)	55	81.8%	7.3%	10.9%	39	82.1%	7.7%	10.3%	16	81.3%	6.3%	12.5%
INVERNESS COLLEGE (UHI)	215	84.2%	5.1%	10.7%	215	84.2%	5.1%	10.7%	0	-	-	-
LEWS CASTLE COLLEGE (UHI)	30	80.0%	10.0%	10.0%	30	80.0%	10.0%	10.0%	0	-	-	-
MORAY COLLEGE (UHI)	123	69.1%	21.1%	9.8%	123	69.1%	21.1%	9.8%	0	-	-	-
NORTH HIGHLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	71	83.1%	8.5%	8.5%	71	83.1%	8.5%	8.5%	0	-	-	-
ORKNEY COLLEGE (UHI)	15	86.7%	6.7%	6.7%	15	86.7%	6.7%	6.7%	0	-	-	-
PERTH COLLEGE (UHI)	138	77.5%	9.4%	13.0%	138	77.5%	9.4%	13.0%	0	-	-	-
SHETLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	22	90.9%	4.5%	4.5%	22	90.9%	4.5%	4.5%	0	-	-	-
WEST HIGHLAND COLLEGE (UHI)	59	86.4%	3.4%	10.2%	59	86.4%	3.4%	10.2%	0	-	-	-
All	17,484	87.8%	7.4%	4.8%	6,654	80.0%	11.3%	8.7%	10,830	92.5%	5.1%	2.4%

Appendix: Methodology, Data Sources and Data Definitions

CLD Rationale

52. The CLD collection forms a central element in understanding the learner journey through and beyond college education. The dataset has evolved from the need to develop a robust sector-wide method of collecting information to enable the National Performance Measure on Destinations and Employment to be established and to monitor *Scotland's Youth Employment Strategy, Developing the Young Workforce*.
53. Prior to the first survey in 2013-14 there was a general lack of valid and reliable college leaver destination data for FE (non-advanced) qualifiers, while poor response rates were associated with the data collected by SFC for a number of years on full-time HE (advanced) qualifiers through the First Destinations Graduate Survey (FDG). These things demonstrated the need to establish a coherent, systematic and comprehensive way of collecting and reporting on the destinations of college students who successfully completed courses. The benefits of such a collection are manifold and include:
 - Facilitating reporting on full-time college leavers going into positive destinations year-on-year at national, regional and college level.
 - Demonstrating the impact of the college sector to the individual, the economy and to society.
 - Helping colleges to ensure relevance and effectiveness of provision.
 - Guiding colleges to equip learners to make informed choices.
 - Providing evidence to inform regional curriculum planning and to aid in the design of learning programmes.
54. Since the 2013-14 CLD publication (December 2015), the endeavour has been to improve the quality of the data to provide accurate information and conclusions. A great deal of work has been undertaken by the colleges to ensure the most robust picture of College Leaver Destinations from the dataset, while refinement of data matching has also been central to the high proportion of confirmed destinations.
55. Changes in the Further Education Statistics (FES) collection of college data were implemented in the 2016-17 session to provide a robust and accurate measure of progression of SCQF level or broadly comparable level for those continuing study.
56. Building on the enhancements for equalities data introduced in CLD 2015-16, we have continued to enrich our understanding of the sector this year through establishing the relationship of courses to jobs for those who enter the workplace as a destination as well as providing analysis of rurality to enrich the

detail and validity of analysis from this dataset.

Sources of Destinations

57. The CLD continues to build on ‘best practice’ as well as to improve data linkage for 16-24 year olds with Skills Development Scotland (SDS) and the Students Award Agency for Scotland (SAAS) to reduce the collection burden and to improve data integrity. The target confirmed destination rate again was set at 80% in line with the target rate for HESA’s annual Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE). Table A1 shows the numbers and percentages from data linkage and other sources used in compiling this dataset.

Table A1: Sources of CLD 2017-18 Data

Source	Count	%
COLLEGE	4,794	9.9%
FAMILY	248	0.5%
FES	23,676	48.7%
INDIVIDUAL	7,490	15.4%
MISSING	6,272	12.9%
OTHER	306	0.6%
SDS	5,361	11.0%
UCAS	477	1.0%
	48,624	100%

58. We continue to develop the collection quality assurance processes and to refine and extend the use of data linkage to improve the completeness and robustness of these data. Other key areas for development include:
- Consistency of collection methods.
 - Integrity of destinations evidence collected anecdotally.
 - Confirmed destination rates.
 - Improving SCQF and broadly comparable level accuracy.
 - Addition of employment relationship to course field added.

Contextualising the College Sector

59. It is important to recognise what the college sector is to fully appreciate the value of the destinations information in this publication and why the distribution of destinations for college qualifiers fall as they do. There is an unfortunate tendency to see college and university as the same thing - since students can progress from one to the other - but this is an oversimplification and does not capture the differences within the tertiary sector.
60. The university sector is most easily understood: a significant proportion enrol on a degree course and four years later graduate from the programme with their degree and, most frequently, move into the world of employment. A cursory examination of the Higher Education Statistical Agency’s (HESA)

destinations¹⁴ demonstrates this trend with university destinations almost the exact inverse of what is happening in the college sector. The focus on Sector Leavers in this publication perhaps adds a more comparable analysis of the college leavers, but the difference in the sectors should always be kept in mind.

Notes:

- Care should be taken when comparing figures in the publication to ensure percentages are of the same type for valid comparison – and especially when comparing with previous CLD publications.
- Table and chart percentages are driven from raw figures so rounding may produce some apparent addition errors.

¹⁴ <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/students/destinations>

Definitions

Sector Leavers:	Qualifiers who do not stay in the college sector after qualifying and instead have move into post-college destinations: work, study at university and negative destinations such as unemployment. This CLD the national figure for Sector Leavers was 17,484 .
Unconfirmed qualifiers:	Qualifiers where contact could not be made.
Positive Destinations:	Defined in the <i>National Measure: Destination and Employment</i> as the number and proportion of college qualifiers in work, training and/or further study 3-6 months after qualifying. Separate figures are reported for FE (non-advanced) and HE (advanced) levels course qualifiers.
All qualifiers:	Refers to qualifiers for whom we have confirmed destinations <i>and</i> those qualifiers who remain unconfirmed. This CLD the national figure for all qualifiers was 48,624 .
Confirmed qualifiers:	Refers to only those qualifiers for whom we have confirmed destinations. This CLD the national figure for confirmed qualifiers was 43,290 .
Further study or training:	Qualifiers who are continuing with full-time or part-time study, training or research at college or university.
Entering employment:	For those in full-time and part-time work only (including self-employed/freelance, voluntary/unpaid, developing a professional portfolio/creative practice or on an internship). Also includes qualifiers who were not currently in employment but who secured employment that was set to commence by 31 March 2020.
Unemployed:	This applies to qualifiers <i>Unemployed and looking for work</i> .

Unavailable to work:	Qualifiers who are: <i>taking time out in order to travel; Permanently unable to work/retired; Temporarily sick/unable to work/looking after home/family; and those not employed but not looking for employment, further study or training.</i>
KPI 4 definition:	KPI 4 on <i>Destinations & Employment for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce</i> : The percentage of 16-24 year old college students who have successfully completed a full-time course moving into employment or higher level study. [Employment includes Modern Apprenticeships and continued study <i>must</i> show upwards progression in SCQF level.]
SCQF:	SCQF refers to a programme's SCQF level or a 'broadly comparable' level for non-SCQF credit rated provision.

Previous CLD Publications

61. Figures and percentages referring to previous CLD publications are taken from the original publications:
- [College Leaver Destinations 2013-14](#) (Experimental Statistics: data being developed) [Ref: SFC/ST/07/2015]
 - [College Leaver Destinations 2014-15](#) [SFC/ST/07/2016]
 - [College Leaver Destinations 2015-16](#) [SFC/ST/07/2017]
 - [College Leaver Destinations 2016-17](#) [SFC/ST/07/2018]
 - [College Leaver Destinations 2017-18](#) [SFC/ST/08/2019]