



Scottish Funding Council
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SFC STATISTICS

Higher Education Students and Qualifiers at Scottish Institutions 2018-19
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Higher Education Students and Qualifiers at Scottish Institutions 2018-19: Executive Summary

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Summary: This release contains information on HE provision and attainment in higher education institutions (HEIs) and colleges in Scotland from 2009-10 to 2018-19

FAO: Principals and Chairs of Scotland's colleges and universities, students, parents, guardians and the general public.

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The UK Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.



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Executive Summary

- There were 302,660 students in higher education in Scotland in 2018-19, the highest number on record. This is an increase of 5,965 (+2.0%) from 2017-18, primarily as a result of an increase in students at Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The largest percentage increase of students was at Taught Postgraduate level. See Table A.
- In 2018-19, females made up 57.5% of the total number of HE students. This proportion has been increasing since 2010-11. At HEIs, females account for 58.8% of students whilst at colleges females account for 50.5% of students. See Table B.
- In 2018-19, there were 143,915 entrants to HE courses in Scotland. That is an increase of 2,095 students (1.5%) since 2017-18. See Table D.
- In 2018-19, there were 106,770 new entrants to HEIs, an increase of 2,250 (+2.2%) since 2017-18. Meanwhile, there were 37,145 new entrants to colleges, a reduction of 155 (-0.4%) since 2017-18. See Table D.
- In 2018-19, HE entrants at colleges accounted for 25.8% of all HE entrants in Scotland. See Table D.
- The number of Scottish domiciled entrants increased by 190 (0.2%) between 2017-18 and 2018-19. See Table F.
- There were 110,150 higher education qualifiers from Scottish institutions in 2018-19 which is the highest level over the last ten years. There was an increase of 5,990 (+5.8%) qualifiers between 2017-18 and 2018-19. See Table G.
- Of all qualifiers, 67.9% achieved graduate level qualifications (first degree level or above) in 2018-19. See Table G.

Higher Education Students and Qualifiers 2018-19



143,915 entrants

1.5% increase since 2017-18



302,660 students

2.0% increase since 2017-18

110,150 qualifiers



5.8% increase since 2017-18



67.9%

of all qualifiers achieved
graduate level*
qualifications in 2018-19

* first degree level or above.