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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

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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

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**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.

## Introduction

1. This report contains information relating to higher education (HE) provision and attainment in higher education institutions (HEIs) and colleges in Scotland. Student data from Scottish HEIs and colleges have been combined to allow reporting on all HE provision delivered in Scotland.
2. This report includes information on a number of different HE student populations, including the total number of students; the number of entrants and the number of qualifiers from HE courses. These populations are considered by multiple breakdowns including level of study, mode of study, domicile and protected characteristics, such as age and gender. Prior to the 2017-18 edition of this report, it contained information relating to access and inclusion measures, however, these are now covered in the [Report on Widening Access Publication \(RoWA\)](#) going forward. The RoWA contains more coverage of the wider access measures for Scottish-domiciled entrants to higher and further education in Scotland.
3. This report follows on [from HESA's Higher Education Student Data](#) release for 2018-19 with a focus on Scottish institutions and Scottish-domiciled students. Scottish Funding Council (SFC) also publishes an annual report on [College Statistics](#) detailing further and higher education students at colleges in Scotland.
4. This report covers a ten year time period, 2009-10 to 2018-19 and is accompanied by background tables including additional tables and further detail that is not included within the main body of the report.

## Section 1 – Student Numbers and Characteristics

5. This section addresses the number of students studying HE in all years and at all levels of study, across HEIs and colleges. The term ‘student numbers’ specifically refers here to student enrolments, or instances of study, and those students studying more than one course will have multiple enrolments. Student enrolments are considered in relation to student characteristics such as age, gender and mode of study across the last ten years (2009-10 to 2018-19) and this report discusses these trends occurring over this timeframe.

### Total Student Numbers

6. Table A, below, details the number of students studying HE courses at Scottish HEIs and colleges by institution type and level of study over the last ten years.
7. In 2018-19, there were 302,660 higher education students in Scotland, the highest number on record. That is 5,965 more students than in 2017-18, an increase of 2.0%. Across Scottish institutions, there were 3,595 more students undertaking First Degrees in 2017-18 than the previous year. Numbers of students at Research Postgraduate, Taught Postgraduate and First Degree levels of study are at their highest on record.
8. Overall, since 2009-10, the number of students on HNC/HND and other sub-degree courses has reduced. Colleges hosted 88.9% of HNC/HND students in 2018-19. Between 2017-18 and 2018-19, the number of students on these courses reduced by 3.0% (1,240 students). This was the key factor behind the reduction in HE students in the college sector of 400 students (0.8%), although a year on year increase in numbers on other sub-degree courses in the college sector went some way to mitigate the year-on-year overall reduction in HE students in that sector.
9. Since 2009-10, there was a reduction of 16,815 sub-degree students; a 37.2% reduction. The reduction was driven by the HEI sector, with student numbers at this level remaining broadly constant in the college sector over this time period.
10. In 2018-19, the number of students studying at HEIs increased, overall, by 6,365 students on the previous year. Over the last ten years there has been an increase of 15,710 students (up 6.6%) in Scottish HEIs. The largest increase in number came from those studying first degrees (3,510 students), up 2.1% since 2017-18 and up 15.8% since 2009-10.
11. There was an increase in postgraduate students between 2017-18 and 2018-19 of 2,680, of which 2,405 were studying taught postgraduate courses. The number of students on research and taught postgraduate students has increased by 25.8% (2,755 students) and 14.9% (6,615 students) respectively since 2009-10.

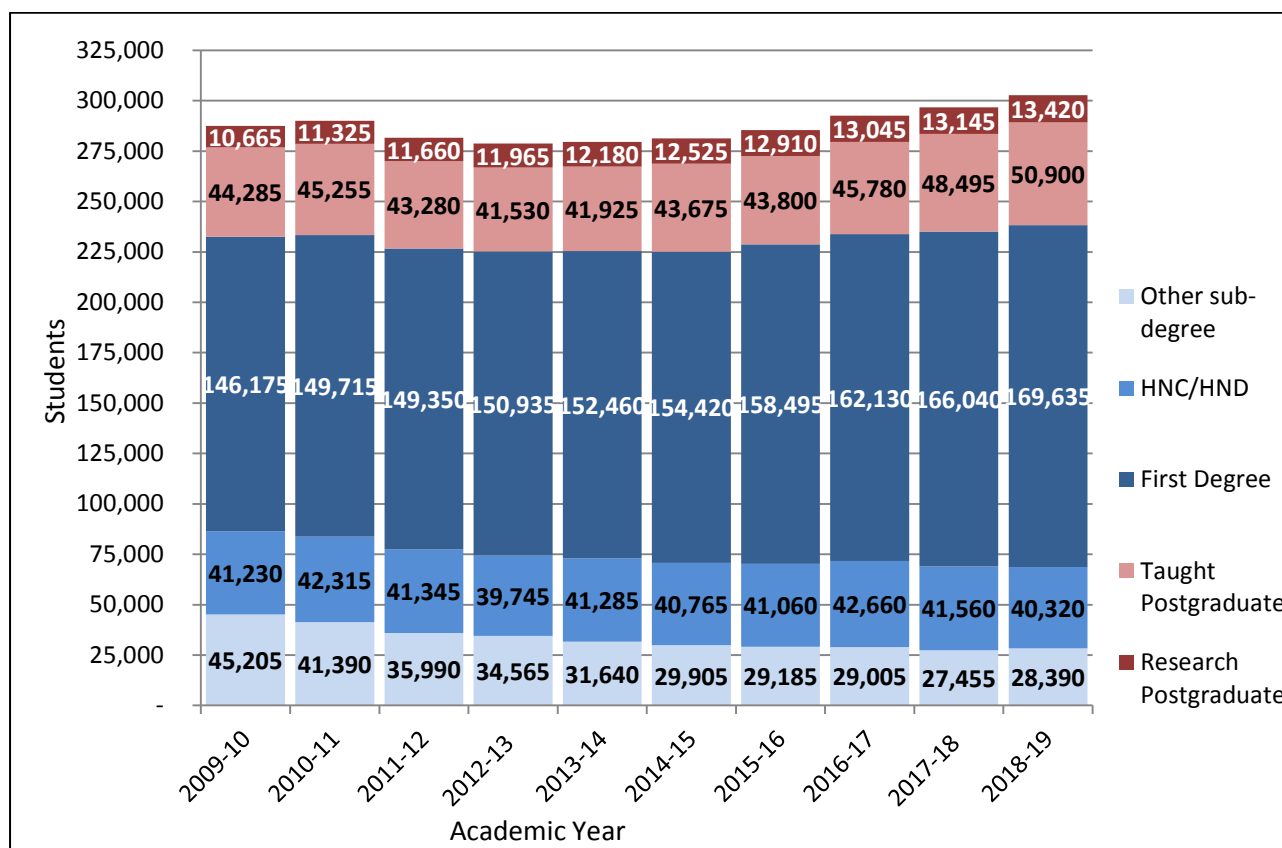
Table A: Students in Higher Education at Scottish HEIs & colleges by institution Type and Level of Study 2009-10 to 2018-19

Institution Type / Academic Session	Level of Study					
	All Levels	Postgraduate		First Degree	Sub-degree	
		Research Postgraduate (1)	Taught Postgraduate		HNC/HND	Other sub-degree
<b>Total</b>						
2009-10	<b>287,565</b>	10,665	44,285	146,175	41,230	45,205
2010-11	<b>290,000</b>	11,325	45,255	149,715	42,315	41,390
2011-12	<b>281,630</b>	11,660	43,280	149,350	41,345	35,990
2012-13 (2)	<b>278,745</b>	11,965	41,530	150,935	39,745	34,565
2013-14 (2)	<b>279,495</b>	12,180	41,925	152,460	41,285	31,640
2014-15 (2)	<b>281,285</b>	12,525	43,675	154,420	40,765	29,905
2015-16	<b>285,450</b>	12,910	43,800	158,495	41,060	29,185
2016-17	<b>292,620</b>	13,045	45,780	162,130	42,660	29,005
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>296,695</b>	13,145	48,495	166,040	41,560	27,455
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>302,660</b>	<b>13,420</b>	<b>50,900</b>	<b>169,635</b>	<b>40,320</b>	<b>28,390</b>
<b>All students at HEIs</b>						
2009-10	<b>237,765</b>	10,665	44,165	145,535	4,540	32,855
2010-11	<b>238,645</b>	11,325	45,155	148,770	4,120	29,275
2011-12	<b>233,010</b>	11,660	43,245	148,425	3,875	25,800
2012-13 (2)	<b>230,950</b>	11,965	41,515	149,860	3,605	24,005
2013-14 (2)	<b>230,805</b>	12,180	41,925	151,325	4,905	20,470
2014-15 (2)	<b>232,570</b>	12,525	43,675	153,325	4,955	18,090
2015-16	<b>235,565</b>	12,910	43,800	157,440	4,930	16,480
2016-17	<b>241,935</b>	13,045	45,780	161,125	5,135	16,850
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>247,110</b>	13,145	48,495	165,060	5,030	15,385
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>253,475</b>	<b>13,420</b>	<b>50,900</b>	<b>168,570</b>	<b>4,485</b>	<b>16,105</b>
<b>All students at colleges</b>						
2009-10	<b>49,800</b>	-	120	640	36,690	12,355
2010-11	<b>51,355</b>	-	100	945	38,195	12,115
2011-12	<b>48,620</b>	-	35	925	37,465	10,190
2012-13 (2)	<b>47,795</b>	-	15	1,075	36,140	10,560
2013-14 (2)	<b>48,690</b>	-	-	1,135	36,380	11,175
2014-15 (2)	<b>48,715</b>	-	-	1,095	35,810	11,810
2015-16	<b>49,890</b>	-	-	1,055	36,130	12,705
2016-17	<b>50,685</b>	-	-	1,005	37,525	12,155
2017-18	<b>49,585</b>	-	-	980	36,535	12,070
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>49,185</b>	-	-	<b>1,065</b>	<b>35,835</b>	<b>12,285</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC). Refer to notes to tables.



Figure 1: Students in higher education in Scottish HEIs and colleges by level of Study, 2009-10 to 2018-19



12. Figure 1, above, shows the proportional split of students in HE by level of study in 2018-19 and earlier years. The majority of students, 56.0%, were studying First Degree programmes whilst research postgraduate students accounted for the smallest proportion, 4.4%.

### Mode of Study and Gender

13. Table B below shows students at HEIs and colleges by mode of study, detailing student numbers on part-time and full-time courses. Three quarters (75.1%) of HE students studied full-time in 2018-19, equivalent to 227,580 students. Full-time students accounted for 5,000 of the overall increase of 5,965 students from 2017-18 to 2018-19. At HEIs, 77.2% of students studied on a full-time basis, whilst in the College sector, 64.8% of HE students did so.

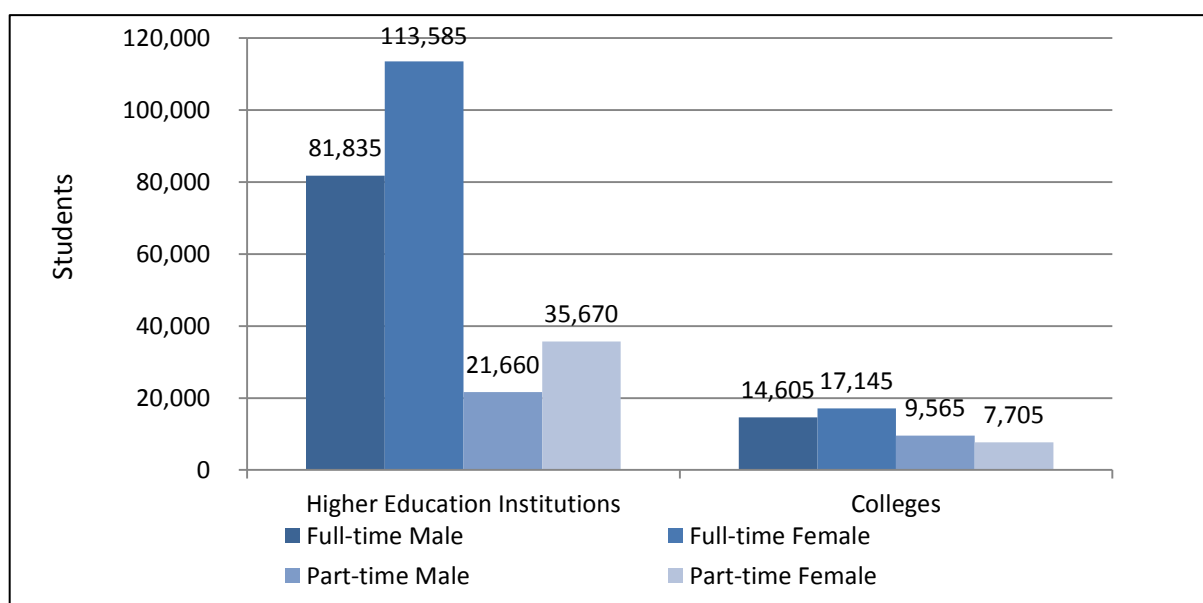
Table B: Students in higher education in Scottish HEIs and colleges by mode of study and gender, 2009-10 to 2018-19

Academic Session	Total			Full-time			Part-time		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>									
2009-10	<b>287,565</b>	126,995	160,565	<b>191,615</b>	86,465	105,150	<b>95,950</b>	40,535	55,415
2010-11	<b>290,000</b>	128,900	161,100	<b>197,490</b>	89,165	108,325	<b>92,505</b>	39,735	52,770
2011-12	<b>281,630</b>	124,100	157,525	<b>199,430</b>	89,150	110,280	<b>82,200</b>	34,950	47,245
2012-13 (2,7)	<b>278,745</b>	122,465	156,050	<b>198,405</b>	88,245	110,160	<b>80,340</b>	34,220	45,890
2013-14 (2,7)	<b>279,495</b>	121,970	157,485	<b>202,700</b>	89,490	113,180	<b>76,795</b>	32,480	44,305
2014-15 (2,7)	<b>281,285</b>	122,910	158,270	<b>207,305</b>	90,745	116,500	<b>73,980</b>	32,165	41,770
2015-16 (2,7)	<b>285,450</b>	123,905	161,410	<b>212,215</b>	92,095	120,000	<b>73,235</b>	31,805	41,410
2016-17 (2,7)	<b>292,620</b>	125,615	166,755	<b>216,595</b>	92,975	123,470	<b>76,025</b>	32,640	43,285
2017-18	<b>296,695</b>	125,980	170,265	<b>222,580</b>	94,640	127,690	<b>74,115</b>	31,340	42,575
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>302,660</b>	<b>127,665</b>	<b>174,100</b>	<b>227,580</b>	<b>96,440</b>	<b>130,725</b>	<b>75,080</b>	<b>31,225</b>	<b>43,375</b>
<b>All students at HEIs</b>									
2009-10	<b>237,765</b>	102,270	135,495	<b>162,970</b>	72,700	90,270	<b>74,790</b>	29,570	45,225
2010-11	<b>238,645</b>	103,250	135,395	<b>166,350</b>	73,870	92,480	<b>72,295</b>	29,380	42,910
2011-12	<b>233,010</b>	99,995	133,010	<b>167,365</b>	73,545	93,820	<b>65,640</b>	26,450	39,190
2012-13 (2,7)	<b>230,950</b>	98,640	132,080	<b>167,065</b>	73,190	93,880	<b>63,885</b>	25,450	38,205
2013-14 (2,7)	<b>230,805</b>	97,830	132,935	<b>170,800</b>	74,380	96,390	<b>60,000</b>	23,450	36,545
2014-15 (2,7)	<b>232,570</b>	98,775	133,690	<b>174,840</b>	75,790	98,990	<b>57,730</b>	22,985	34,700
2015-16 (2,7)	<b>235,565</b>	98,905	136,545	<b>179,460</b>	76,925	102,445	<b>56,105</b>	21,980	34,105
2016-17 (2,7)	<b>241,935</b>	100,515	141,205	<b>183,795</b>	77,980	105,685	<b>58,140</b>	22,535	35,520
2017-18	<b>247,110</b>	101,940	144,810	<b>189,960</b>	79,920	109,870	<b>57,150</b>	22,020	34,940
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>253,475</b>	<b>103,495</b>	<b>149,255</b>	<b>195,705</b>	<b>81,835</b>	<b>113,585</b>	<b>57,770</b>	<b>21,660</b>	<b>35,670</b>
<b>All students at colleges</b>									
2009-10	<b>49,800</b>	24,730	25,075	<b>28,640</b>	13,765	14,880	<b>21,160</b>	10,965	10,195
2010-11	<b>51,355</b>	25,650	25,705	<b>31,140</b>	15,295	15,845	<b>20,215</b>	10,355	9,860
2011-12	<b>48,620</b>	24,105	24,515	<b>32,065</b>	15,605	16,460	<b>16,555</b>	8,500	8,055
2012-13 (2)	<b>47,795</b>	23,825	23,970	<b>31,340</b>	15,055	16,280	<b>16,455</b>	8,770	7,690
2013-14 (2)	<b>48,690</b>	24,140	24,550	<b>31,900</b>	15,110	16,790	<b>16,795</b>	9,035	7,760
2014-15 (2)	<b>48,715</b>	24,135	24,580	<b>32,465</b>	14,955	17,510	<b>16,250</b>	9,180	7,070
2015-16 (2)	<b>49,890</b>	25,000	24,865	<b>32,755</b>	15,175	17,555	<b>17,135</b>	9,825	7,310
2016-17 (2)	<b>50,685</b>	25,100	25,550	<b>32,800</b>	14,995	17,785	<b>17,885</b>	10,105	7,765
2017-18	<b>49,585</b>	24,040	25,455	<b>32,620</b>	14,720	17,820	<b>16,965</b>	9,320	7,635
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>49,185</b>	<b>24,170</b>	<b>24,850</b>	<b>31,875</b>	<b>14,605</b>	<b>17,145</b>	<b>17,310</b>	<b>9,565</b>	<b>7,705</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC).  
Refer to notes to tables.

14. The overall proportion of HE students studying full-time courses has increased by 8.5 percentage points, from 66.6% in 2009-10 to 75.2% in 2018-19.
15. In 2018-19 there were 227,580 full-time and 75,080 part-time students studying HE at Scottish institutions. The number of part-time HE students did increase by 1.3% between 2017-18 and 2018-19, equivalent to 965 students. This resulted from an increase of 620 students in HEIs and 345 in colleges. There has been a 21.8% decline over the last ten years in the number of part-time HE students at Scottish institutions from the 2009-10 figure of 95,950.
16. Of the 227,580 students who studied full-time in 2017-18, 86.0% were at HEIs. Meanwhile, 76.9% of the part-time students studied at HEIs.

Figure 2: Higher Education Student Numbers at Scottish Institutions by Mode of Study, Gender and Sector 2018-19



17. Table B and Figure 2 also detail the breakdown of students by gender across modes of study. Overall, females accounted for 57.5% of students studying HE in 2018-19, 15.3pp more than males. This gap is 3.6pp larger than in 2009-10, although there have been fluctuations throughout this time.
18. The gender balance of HE students varies depending on institution type. As has been seen throughout the last ten years, males constitute a smaller proportion of students in HEIs than in colleges. In 2018-19, females accounted for 58.9% of HE students in HEIs compared to 57.0% in 2009-10. Meanwhile, the gender split in colleges was more even with females accounting for 50.5% of HE students in 2018-19.
19. Although females account for a higher proportion of students regardless of mode of study, the gender imbalance for part-time students is more

pronounced (16.2pp difference) in comparison to full-time students (15.0pp).

20. Females account for 58.0% of full-time HE students in HEIs and 53.8% in colleges. Meanwhile they account for 61.7% of the part-time student population in HEIs. However, part-time HE activity at college has a higher proportion of males (55.3%) compared to females.
21. Overall, 75.5% of males and 75.1% of females were on a full-time basis in 2018-19. At HEIs 79.1% of males and 76.1% of females studied full-time whereas at colleges, 60.4% of males and 69.0% of females studied in this way. Full-time male and female student numbers are at their highest level on record in HEIs.

## Age

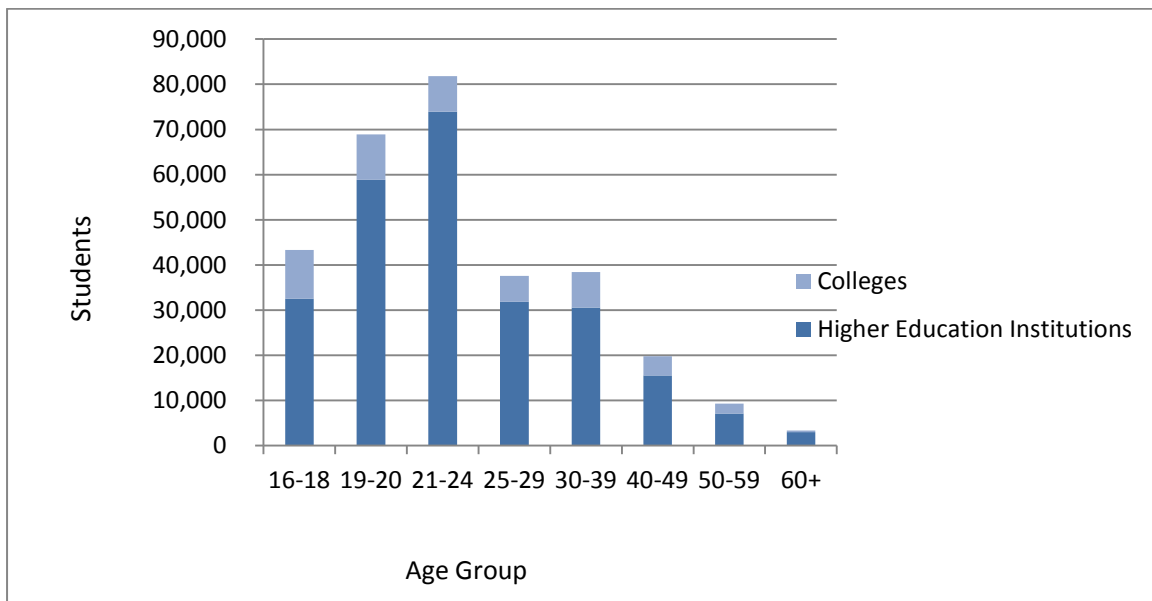
22. Table C below details the number of HE students at Scottish HEIs and colleges by age group.
23. Overall, students aged 21-24 accounted for the largest proportion of students studying HE in Scotland's HEIs and colleges in 2018-19 (27.0%), an increase of 3.9pp on the 2009-10 proportion and also on the 2017-18 proportion (up 0.5pp year on year).
24. In 2018-19, students aged under 25 accounted for 64.1% of the HE student population in Scotland. However, since 2017-18, it was the number of students in the HE population aged 25 and over that increased more, by 4,035 students, equivalent an increase of 3.9%, compared to 2,015, or 1.1%, for those under 25.
25. In 2018-19, 29.2% of students at Scottish HEIs were aged between 21 and 24 compared to 24.7% in 2009-10. Collectively, there were 165,365 students aged under 25 at Scottish HEIs in 2018-19. This is an increase of 2.2% on the previous year. The number of students aged 25 and over increased by 3.4% year-on-year to 88,080. At Scottish HEIs, there has been a reduction in students aged 30 or over since 2009-10.
26. A slightly different picture is seen in colleges. Those aged 16-18 remained the most prominent age group in 2017-18 accounting for 22.0% of the student population.
27. Figure 3 illustrates the age profile of HE students in each sector in 2018-19.
28. In 2018-19 there were 28,700 students in Colleges aged under 25, which is a 4.9% reduction from the 2017-18 total of 30,190. The number of students aged 25 and over has increased by 5.7% from 19,300 in 2017-18 to 20,405 in 2018-19.
29. Similar to HEIs, the proportional split of age groups in Scotland's colleges has remained relatively stable over the last 10 years. Those aged between 16 and 18 comprised around a quarter of the student population and those aged over 60 made up the smallest proportion with less than 1% in each year.

Table C: Students in higher education in Scottish HEIs and colleges by age, 2009-10 to 2018-19

Institution type / Academic session	Total (10)	16-18	19-20	21-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+
<b>Total</b>									
2009-10	<b>287,565</b>	43,330	59,245	66,655	35,400	38,915	27,865	10,855	5,170
2010-11	<b>290,000</b>	41,925	62,415	69,885	36,630	38,560	25,740	10,100	4,655
2011-12	<b>281,630</b>	41,735	62,835	69,725	34,735	35,705	23,010	9,225	4,565
2012-13	<b>278,745</b>	42,370	62,440	70,985	33,715	34,250	21,355	8,995	4,545
2013-14	<b>279,495</b>	42,985	64,605	71,620	33,295	33,625	20,440	8,710	4,105
2014-15	<b>281,285</b>	44,070	66,610	72,765	33,755	33,265	19,125	8,175	3,305
2015-16	<b>285,450</b>	44,680	66,295	75,555	34,445	33,805	18,985	8,245	3,205
2016-17	<b>292,620</b>	45,330	67,785	77,030	35,425	35,170	19,350	8,605	3,705
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>296,695</b>	44,955	68,585	78,505	36,530	36,565	19,420	8,765	3,170
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>302,660</b>	<b>43,360</b>	<b>68,885</b>	<b>81,815</b>	<b>37,595</b>	<b>38,445</b>	<b>19,770</b>	<b>9,290</b>	<b>3,385</b>
<b>All students at HEIs (2)</b>									
2009-10	<b>237,765</b>	31,330	49,825	58,705	29,540	31,780	22,395	9,205	4,900
2010-11	<b>238,645</b>	29,955	52,180	60,935	30,475	31,430	20,730	8,425	4,440
2011-12	<b>233,010</b>	29,515	52,605	61,630	29,030	29,280	18,705	7,780	4,395
2012-13 (2)	<b>230,950</b>	30,370	51,905	62,970	28,060	28,115	17,500	7,625	4,350
2013-14 (2)	<b>230,805</b>	30,755	53,690	63,375	27,675	27,550	16,695	7,120	3,860
2014-15 (2)	<b>232,570</b>	31,590	55,435	64,470	28,225	27,365	15,675	6,660	3,055
2015-16	<b>235,565</b>	32,140	55,650	67,050	28,855	27,315	15,130	6,445	2,835
2016-17	<b>241,935</b>	32,630	56,900	68,650	29,615	28,400	15,570	6,775	3,320
2017-18	<b>247,110</b>	32,910	58,235	70,710	30,750	29,335	15,445	6,820	2,800
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>253,475</b>	<b>32,530</b>	<b>58,875</b>	<b>73,960</b>	<b>31,865</b>	<b>30,560</b>	<b>15,570</b>	<b>7,100</b>	<b>2,985</b>
<b>All students at colleges (2)</b>									
2009-10	<b>49,800</b>	12,000	9,420	7,945	5,860	7,140	5,475	1,650	270
2010-11	<b>51,355</b>	11,970	10,240	8,945	6,155	7,130	5,010	1,675	215
2011-12	<b>48,620</b>	12,220	10,230	8,095	5,705	6,430	4,305	1,445	170
2012-13 (2)	<b>47,795</b>	12,000	10,535	8,015	5,655	6,135	3,855	1,370	200
2013-14 (2)	<b>48,690</b>	12,225	10,915	8,245	5,620	6,075	3,745	1,590	245
2014-15 (2)	<b>48,715</b>	12,480	11,175	8,295	5,530	5,900	3,450	1,515	250
2015-16	<b>49,890</b>	12,540	10,645	8,505	5,590	6,490	3,850	1,800	370
2016-17	<b>50,685</b>	12,700	10,885	8,380	5,810	6,770	3,780	1,830	385
2017-18	<b>49,585</b>	12,045	10,350	7,795	5,780	7,230	3,975	1,945	370
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>49,185</b>	<b>10,830</b>	<b>10,010</b>	<b>7,860</b>	<b>5,730</b>	<b>7,885</b>	<b>4,200</b>	<b>2,190</b>	<b>400</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC).  
Refer to notes to tables.

Figure 3: HE Student Numbers at Scottish Institutions by Age Group and Sector, 2018-19



## Section 2 – Entrant Numbers and Characteristics

30. This section concerns students beginning a higher education course in a given academic year (i.e. entrants in that academic year), rather than the total student population as is shown in the previous section.

### Total Entrants

31. Table D below displays the total number of HE entrants to Scottish Institutions over the last ten academic years, detailed by level of study and type of institution. Table D shows that in 2018-19 there were 143,915 entrants to HE courses in Scottish Institutions, 2,095, (1.5%), more than in 2017-18. This amounts from an increase of 2,250 entrants to HEIs (up 2.2%), partially offset by a reduction of 155 entrants to colleges (down 0.4%) on 2017-18.
32. Over the last ten years the number of entrants to HE courses in Scotland has fluctuated but overall in that period there has been a reduction of 2.4% with 3,550 fewer students in 2018-19 than in 2009-10. This can be attributed to a reduction in entrants at sub-degree and HNC/HND level.
33. Colleges have witnessed a larger reduction in proportion (3.8%), compared to a reduction of 1.9% in the number of entrants to HEIs over the same time period.
34. In earlier years, students studying at a sub-degree level, particularly other sub-degrees made up a greater share of student numbers than they do now. In 2009-10 there were 36,080 entrants to sub-degrees but this number has reduced by 34.5% since. Specifically, entrants to HEIs accounted for 12,400 students of this reduction.
35. In 2018-19, 48.6% of HE entrants at HEIs were on First Degree programmes compared to 1.9% in colleges. When considering the undergraduate population, colleges accounted for 35.7% of entrants to this level of study in 2018-19, majority of whom, 67.2%, entered HNC/HND programmes, compared to 2.7% of HEI entrant populations taking up these types of courses.
36. In 2018-19, HE entrants to colleges accounted for 25.8% of all HE entrants in Scotland, a reduction of 0.5pp since 2017-18. However, over the last ten years the distribution of entrants studying HE at colleges and HEIs has remained relatively stable, with the proportion of HE entrants at colleges decreasing by only 0.3pp in that period of time.
37. When comparing entrants in 2018-19 to 2009-10, there have been increases in entrant numbers at all levels of study with the exception of Sub-degrees. The reduction of entrants to these types of courses equated to more than the combined increase in all other levels of study over the last ten years. However, it is still important to note that, over this timeframe, the number of entrants to



Taught Postgraduate courses increased by 27.6%, to Research Postgraduate courses by 19.0% and First Degrees by 4.5%.

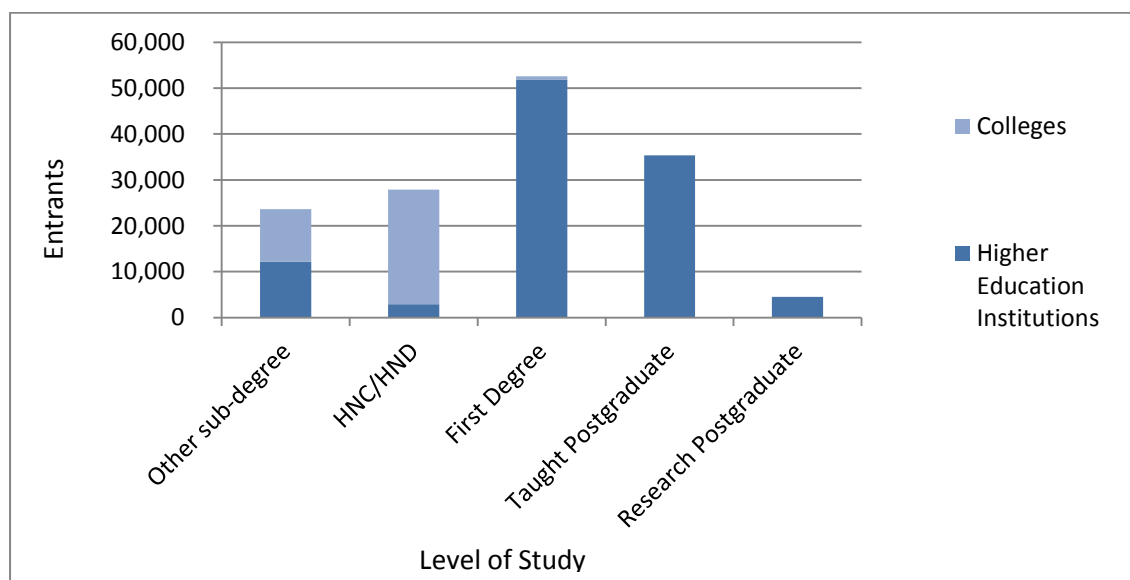
Table D: Entrants to higher education in Scottish HEIs and colleges by Institution Type and Level of Study, 2009-10 to 2018-19

Institution Type / Academic Session	Level of Study					
	All Levels	Postgraduate		First Degree	Sub-degree	
		Research Postgraduate	Taught Postgraduate		HNC/HND	Other sub-degree
<b>Total</b>						
2009-10	<b>147,465</b>	3,790	27,700	50,295	29,600	36,080
2010-11	<b>140,590</b>	3,865	26,840	46,860	30,250	32,775
2011-12	<b>132,365</b>	3,800	25,915	44,945	29,275	28,430
2012-13	<b>133,415</b>	3,940	25,870	46,870	27,945	28,790
2013-14	<b>135,365</b>	4,090	27,290	47,855	29,485	26,650
2014-15	<b>133,660</b>	4,175	27,935	48,075	28,215	25,255
2015-16	<b>135,090</b>	4,175	28,630	49,095	28,215	24,975
2016-17	<b>139,785</b>	4,165	31,200	50,245	29,700	24,480
2017-18	<b>141,820</b>	4,365	33,610	51,690	28,855	23,310
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>143,915</b>	4,510	35,345	52,565	27,860	23,630
<b>All students at HEIs</b>						
2009-10	<b>108,840</b>	3,790	27,610	49,765	3,110	24,570
2010-11	<b>101,080</b>	3,865	26,765	46,070	2,885	21,500
2011-12	<b>95,350</b>	3,800	25,905	44,140	2,465	19,040
2012-13 (2)	<b>96,970</b>	3,940	25,870	45,970	2,410	18,780
2013-14 (2)	<b>97,900</b>	4,090	27,290	46,920	3,465	16,135
2014-15	<b>96,875</b>	4,175	27,935	47,230	3,410	14,125
2015-16	<b>97,135</b>	4,175	28,630	48,300	3,285	12,745
2016-17	<b>101,295</b>	4,165	31,200	49,575	3,420	12,940
2017-18	<b>104,520</b>	4,365	33,610	51,020	3,340	12,190
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>106,770</b>	4,510	35,345	51,850	2,895	12,170
<b>All students at colleges</b>						
2009-10	<b>38,625</b>	-	90	535	26,490	11,505
2010-11	<b>39,510</b>	-	75	790	27,370	11,275
2011-12	<b>37,015</b>	-	10	805	26,810	9,385
2012-13 (2)	<b>36,445</b>	-	-	900	25,535	10,010
2013-14 (2)	<b>37,465</b>	-	-	935	26,020	10,510
2014-15 (2)	<b>36,780</b>	-	-	845	24,805	11,135
2015-16	<b>37,955</b>	-	-	795	24,930	12,230
2016-17	<b>38,495</b>	-	-	670	26,280	11,540
2017-18	<b>37,300</b>	-	-	665	25,515	11,115
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>37,145</b>	-	-	715	24,965	11,465

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC).

Refer to notes to tables.

Figure 4: Entrants to higher education in Scottish HEIs and colleges by Level of Study, 2018-19



38. Figure 4 above shows the proportional distribution of entrants across level of study in 2018-19. The distribution of entrants is more evenly spread than is the case for students in all years (Figure 1). It is important to recognise course duration will vary depending on the level of study. For example, First Degrees last, typically up to four years whilst sub-degrees and postgraduate courses tend to span one or two years, and therefore, the cohorts are not comparable. Nevertheless, of all entrants in 2018-16, 36.5% were to First Degree courses and nearly a quarter of students (24.6%) entered taught post-graduate courses, whilst around a fifth (19.4%) of students entered HNC/HND courses.

### Subject Area and Gender

39. Table E below shows entrants to higher education in HEIs and colleges by level of study, subject and gender. Some HE subject areas at HEIs have tightly controlled student intakes which influence the profile of subjects delivered. Our controlled subjects sector communication outlines the intake targets for these subject areas and can be found on the [SFC website](#).
40. The HE courses with the largest overall number of entrants in 2018-19 broadly mirror the largest entrant cohorts in 2017-18. Business and Administrative Studies saw the largest intake with 23,740 entrants, followed by Subjects Allied to Medicine with 15,915 entrants, Social Studies with 15,055 entrants and Engineering and Technology with 12,625 entrants.
41. The subjects with the highest proportions of female entrants were Subjects allied to Medicine (83.5%), followed by Veterinary Science (81.4%) and Social Studies (73.7%). Meanwhile, males accounted for the highest proportion of

entrants to Engineering and Technology (84.2%) and Computer Science (80.0%).

42. In 2018-19, gender imbalances of entrants were greater at First Degree and sub-degree level, for each subject, than at postgraduate level. Those subjects with a particularly high gender imbalance at First Degree and Sub Degree level are being targeted through SFC's [Gender Action Plan](#).

Table E: Entrants to higher education in Scottish HEIs and colleges by level of study, subject and gender, 2018-19

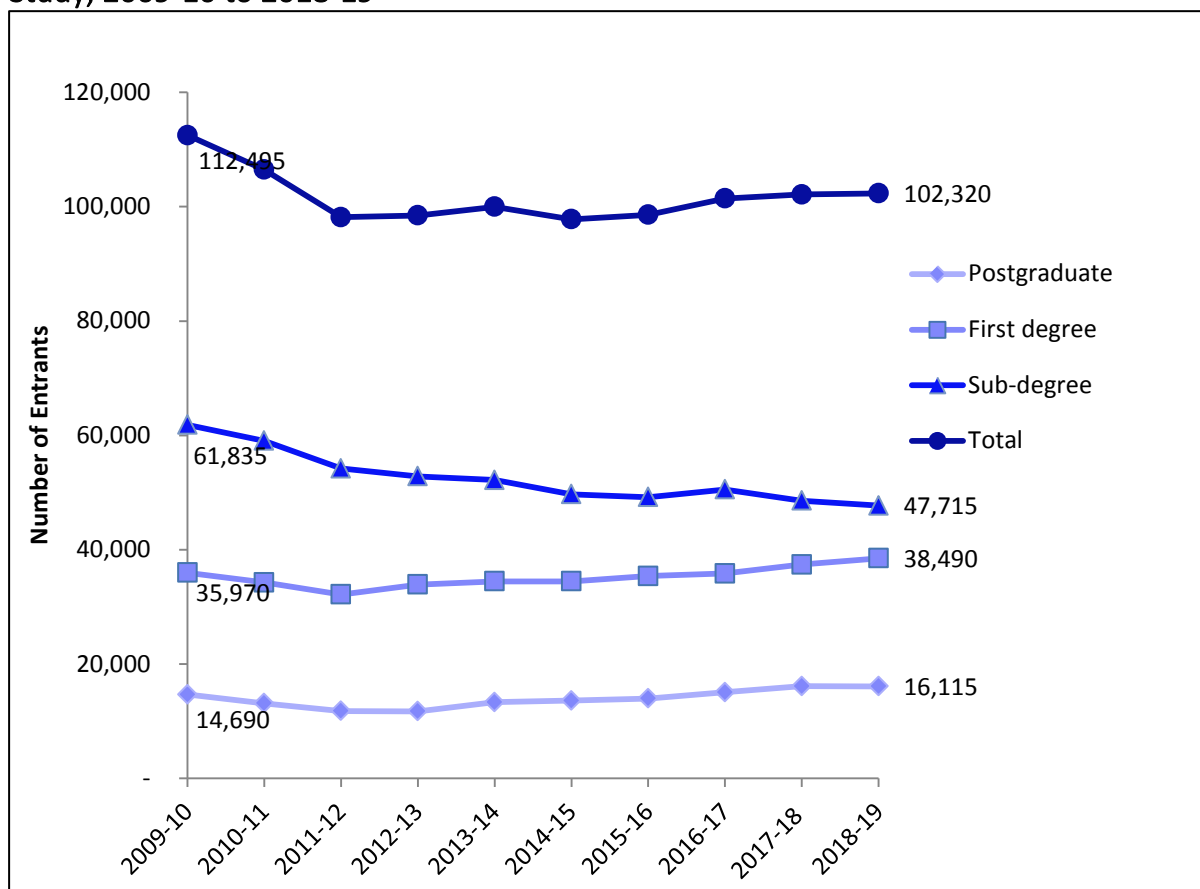
Subject Area	All levels			Postgraduate			First degree			Sub-degree		
	Total	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total	Male (%)	Female (%)
<b>Total (7)</b>	<b>143,915</b>	<b>41.6%</b>	<b>58.4%</b>	<b>39,855</b>	<b>39.7%</b>	<b>60.3%</b>	<b>52,565</b>	<b>40.2%</b>	<b>59.8%</b>	<b>51,490</b>	<b>44.5%</b>	<b>55.5%</b>
<b>Medical Studies</b>												
Subjects allied to Medicine	15,915	16.5%	83.5%	4,960	23.1%	76.9%	6,605	14.0%	86.0%	4,350	12.7%	87.3%
Medicine and Dentistry	2,430	36.9%	63.1%	965	37.9%	62.1%	1,420	36.4%	63.6%	45	30.4%	69.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,345</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	<b>80.8%</b>	<b>5,920</b>	<b>25.5%</b>	<b>74.5%</b>	<b>8,025</b>	<b>17.9%</b>	<b>82.1%</b>	<b>4,395</b>	<b>12.9%</b>	<b>87.1%</b>
<b>Science and Engineering</b>												
Agriculture & related subjects	1,420	38.7%	61.3%	485	39.3%	60.7%	295	25.1%	74.9%	645	44.5%	55.5%
Architecture, building and planning	4,135	67.7%	32.3%	1,110	49.5%	50.5%	1,345	63.6%	36.4%	1,680	82.9%	17.1%
Biological Sciences	10,210	33.5%	66.5%	2,495	32.9%	67.1%	5,830	32.0%	68.0%	1,885	39.4%	60.6%
Engineering and Technology	12,625	84.2%	15.8%	2,655	72.6%	27.4%	4,175	81.5%	18.5%	5,790	91.4%	8.6%
Computer Science	8,530	80.0%	20.0%	2,045	68.5%	31.5%	3,675	82.3%	17.7%	2,815	85.3%	14.7%
Mathematical Sciences	1,925	56.8%	43.2%	665	54.3%	45.7%	1,165	57.1%	42.9%	100	70.2%	29.8%
Physical Sciences	4,230	50.6%	49.4%	1,495	50.2%	49.8%	2,300	50.3%	49.7%	435	53.9%	46.1%
Veterinary Science	495	18.6%	81.4%	120	28.1%	71.9%	310	16.7%	83.3%	60	9.8%	90.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,570</b>	<b>63.3%</b>	<b>36.7%</b>	<b>11,070</b>	<b>54.5%</b>	<b>45.5%</b>	<b>19,095</b>	<b>58.1%</b>	<b>41.9%</b>	<b>13,405</b>	<b>78.1%</b>	<b>21.9%</b>
<b>Business and Social Studies</b>												
Business & Administrative studies	23,740	42.8%	57.2%	7,535	45.3%	54.7%	7,185	42.7%	57.3%	9,025	40.8%	59.2%
Law	5,470	35.1%	64.9%	1,975	37.4%	62.6%	2,080	33.7%	66.3%	1,415	33.8%	66.2%
Mass Communication & documentation	2,025	42.6%	57.4%	680	26.7%	73.3%	715	41.9%	58.1%	625	60.9%	39.1%
Social Studies	15,055	26.3%	73.7%	2,735	35.4%	64.6%	4,840	30.5%	69.5%	7,480	20.2%	79.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,290</b>	<b>36.5%</b>	<b>63.5%</b>	<b>12,925</b>	<b>41.0%</b>	<b>59.0%</b>	<b>14,820</b>	<b>37.4%</b>	<b>62.6%</b>	<b>18,545</b>	<b>32.6%</b>	<b>67.4%</b>
<b>Education and the Arts</b>												
Creative Arts & Design	10,360	33.8%	66.2%	1,375	36.2%	63.8%	3,310	31.9%	68.1%	5,675	34.3%	65.7%
Education	9,845	25.6%	74.4%	5,985	25.9%	74.1%	2,375	15.1%	84.9%	1,485	41.3%	58.7%
Historical & Philosophical Studies	4,300	39.7%	60.3%	1,305	41.8%	58.2%	2,125	39.1%	60.9%	870	38.0%	62.0%
Languages	5,680	31.6%	68.4%	1,130	28.9%	71.1%	2,365	26.9%	73.1%	2,185	38.3%	61.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,190</b>	<b>31.5%</b>	<b>68.5%</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>29.8%</b>	<b>70.2%</b>	<b>10,175</b>	<b>28.3%</b>	<b>71.7%</b>	<b>10,215</b>	<b>36.4%</b>	<b>63.6%</b>
<b>Combined (11)</b>	<b>5,520</b>	<b>42.5%</b>	<b>57.5%</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>33.6%</b>	<b>66.4%</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>33.8%</b>	<b>66.2%</b>	<b>4,930</b>	<b>43.6%</b>	<b>56.4%</b>
<b>Supplementary subjects contained in the above categories</b>												
Economics and Politics	<b>3,595</b>	52.2%	47.8%	1,105	49.2%	50.8%	<b>1,965</b>	48.5%	51.5%	<b>525</b>	73.1%	26.9%
English	<b>1,890</b>	29.9%	70.1%	465	26.1%	73.9%	<b>1,000</b>	23.7%	76.3%	<b>420</b>	48.6%	51.4%
Geography	<b>815</b>	35.6%	64.4%	265	43.5%	56.5%	<b>540</b>	32.0%	68.0%	<b>5</b>	-	-
Psychology	<b>4,650</b>	22.5%	77.5%	1,230	22.0%	78.0%	<b>2,515</b>	19.3%	80.7%	<b>905</b>	33.2%	66.8%

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC).

Refer to notes to tables.

## Domicile of Entrants

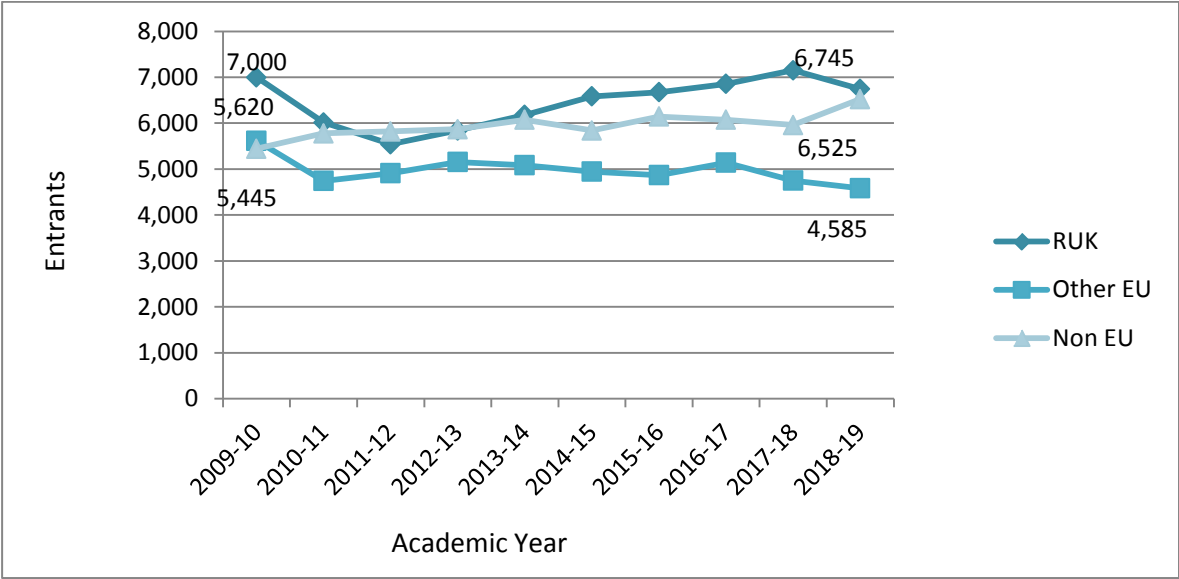
Figure 5: Scottish Domiciled entrants to HE at Scottish HEIs and Colleges by Level of Study, 2009-10 to 2018-19



43. Figure 5 above details the number of Scottish-domiciled entrants to HE at Scottish institutions by level of study over the last ten years (2009-10 to 2018-19). In 2018-19 102,320 Scottish-domiciled students entered HE in Scotland, 9.0% fewer than in 2009-10 when there were 112,495 Scottish domiciled entrants to Scottish institutions. This reduction was driven by 22.8% less students entering sub-degree courses in 2018-19 compared to 2009-10, which mirrors the overall trend of students on sub-degree courses reducing, as reported earlier in this publication.
44. The number of Scottish-domiciled entrants to First Degree courses increased by 2,520 students in 2018-19, a 7.0% increase on 2009-10, whilst the number of entrants to postgraduate courses in 2018-19 increased by 1,425 entrants, up 9.7% on 2009-10.
45. There has been an increase of 4,390 Scottish-domiciled postgraduate entrants (+37.4%) between 2012-13 and 2018-19. In 2013-14 SFC began investing in additional taught postgraduate places and this may have contributed to this increase.

46. Figure 6, below details non-Scottish-domiciled undergraduate entrants to HE at Scottish institutions by domicile, from 2009-10 to 2018-19. In earlier years, the number of students from the rest of the UK (RUK) at Scottish HEIs was controlled by the number of funded places available. This changed in 2012-13 when provision for RUK students at Scottish HEIs became funded by deregulated tuition fees.
47. Figure 6 shows that the number of RUK undergraduate entrants to Scottish institutions in 2018-19 (6,745) has reduced by 405 students (5.7%) since 2017-18, having previously increased each year since 2011-12.
48. Students from the EU (excluding RUK) are still eligible to have their provision supported through SFC funding. There were 1,035 fewer EU undergraduate entrants in 2018-19 (4,585 entrants) than there was in 2009-10, a reduction of 18.4%. There was a 3.5% decrease in EU entrants since last year (2017-18).
49. The number of Non-EU undergraduate entrants in 2018-19 (6,525 students) was 19.8% higher than the 2009-10 figure of 5,445. Meanwhile, there was a 9.5% increase in Non-EU entrants since last year (2017-18).

Figure 6: Non-Scottish Domiciled Undergraduate Entrants to HE at Scottish HEIs and Colleges by Domicile, 2009-10 to 2018-19



- 50. Similar data is shown in Table F, below, which details the total number of students in HE at Scottish institutions split by domicile and level of study.
- 51. In 2018-19, the total number of EU (excluding RUK) students decreased by 80 students on 2017-18. This is despite small increases of EU students at Postgraduate (80 students) and First Degree level (40 students); however these were offset by a reduction at sub-degree level of 205 students. Despite this, the number of EU (excluding RUK) students at Scottish institutions has increased by 2.5% over the last ten years.
- 52. There were 20,475 Non-European entrants to HE in 2018-19, 2,430 more students than in 2017-18 (an increase of 13.5%). The number of Non-European entrants has increased since 2009-10 by 39.1%, equivalent to 5,760 students.



Table F: Entrants to Higher Education at Scottish HEIs and Colleges by Domicile and Level of Study, 2009-10 to 2018-19

Level of Study / Academic Session	Total all domiciles (16)	Scotland	England	Wales	Northern Ireland	Other UK	Total UK	EU	Non-EU Europe	Non-European
<b>All levels</b>										
2009-10	<b>147,465</b>	112,495	8,440	275	1,420	335	<b>123,135</b>	8,770	810	14,715
2010-11	<b>140,590</b>	106,460	7,800	235	1,390	75	<b>116,015</b>	7,905	870	15,790
2011-12	<b>132,365</b>	98,150	7,495	260	1,375	75	<b>107,380</b>	8,380	880	15,725
2012-13	<b>133,415</b>	98,455	7,910	285	1,165	155	<b>107,975</b>	8,890	965	15,565
2013-14	<b>135,365</b>	99,980	8,175	315	1,295	60	<b>109,820</b>	8,980	975	15,590
2014-15	<b>133,660</b>	97,790	8,405	285	1,240	65	<b>107,780</b>	8,975	1,030	15,875
2015-16	<b>135,090</b>	98,575	8,600	280	1,335	75	<b>108,870</b>	8,885	995	16,345
2016-17	<b>139,785</b>	101,430	9,240	325	1,335	100	<b>112,430</b>	9,405	935	17,010
2017-18	<b>141,820</b>	102,130	9,860	350	1,320	95	<b>113,755</b>	9,065	960	18,045
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>143,915</b>	<b>102,320</b>	<b>9,495</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>113,505</b>	<b>8,985</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>20,475</b>
<b>Postgraduate</b>										
2009-10	<b>31,490</b>	14,690	3,035	115	295	20	<b>18,235</b>	3,150	380	9,695
2010-11	<b>30,705</b>	13,150	3,095	100	270	15	<b>16,660</b>	3,160	395	10,480
2011-12	<b>29,715</b>	11,780	3,280	115	255	15	<b>15,465</b>	3,470	400	10,380
2012-13	<b>29,810</b>	11,725	3,280	120	215	65	<b>15,405</b>	3,730	485	10,175
2013-14	<b>31,375</b>	13,325	3,230	170	240	25	<b>16,995</b>	3,895	470	10,020
2014-15	<b>32,110</b>	13,610	3,030	125	230	25	<b>17,020</b>	4,025	520	10,545
2015-16	<b>32,805</b>	13,980	3,205	130	250	30	<b>17,595</b>	4,015	555	10,635
2016-17	<b>35,360</b>	15,075	3,710	150	250	30	<b>19,215</b>	4,270	500	11,380
2017-18	<b>37,970</b>	16,130	4,040	165	245	25	<b>20,610</b>	4,315	555	12,490
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>39,855</b>	<b>16,115</b>	<b>3,980</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20,555</b>	<b>4,395</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>14,335</b>
<b>First Degree</b>										
2009-10	<b>50,295</b>	35,970	4,715	130	1,065	60	<b>41,950</b>	4,830	350	3,155
2010-11	<b>46,860</b>	34,265	3,720	100	1,035	45	<b>39,170</b>	4,175	330	3,185
2011-12	<b>44,945</b>	32,160	3,495	95	1,070	50	<b>36,865</b>	4,210	410	3,455
2012-13	<b>46,870</b>	33,910	3,910	125	885	45	<b>38,875</b>	4,500	370	3,125
2013-14	<b>47,855</b>	34,460	4,255	110	975	25	<b>39,825</b>	4,280	390	3,360
2014-15	<b>48,075</b>	34,480	4,670	125	955	30	<b>40,265</b>	4,115	385	3,310
2015-16	<b>49,095</b>	35,395	4,695	125	1,025	40	<b>41,280</b>	3,945	350	3,520
2016-17	<b>50,245</b>	35,835	4,810	135	1,010	45	<b>41,835</b>	4,455	365	3,595
2017-18	<b>51,690</b>	37,410	5,030	135	985	45	<b>43,600</b>	3,915	335	3,835
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>52,565</b>	<b>38,490</b>	<b>4,595</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>44,145</b>	<b>3,955</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>4,150</b>
<b>Sub-degree</b>										
2009-10	<b>65,680</b>	61,835	690	25	60	255	<b>62,950</b>	790	80	1,860
2010-11	<b>63,025</b>	59,045	985	35	85	10	<b>60,185</b>	570	140	2,125
2011-12	<b>57,705</b>	54,210	720	50	50	10	<b>55,045</b>	700	65	1,890
2012-13	<b>56,735</b>	52,825	725	40	65	45	<b>53,695</b>	655	110	2,265
2013-14	<b>56,135</b>	52,190	695	35	80	5	<b>53,000</b>	805	115	2,210
2014-15	<b>53,475</b>	49,695	705	35	60	5	<b>50,500</b>	830	125	2,020
2015-16	<b>53,190</b>	49,205	700	25	60	5	<b>49,995</b>	925	85	2,190
2016-17	<b>54,180</b>	50,525	720	35	75	25	<b>51,380</b>	685	75	2,040
2017-18	<b>52,165</b>	48,590	790	50	90	25	<b>49,540</b>	835	70	1,720
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>51,490</b>	<b>47,715</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>48,805</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>1,990</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC). Refer to notes to tables.

### Section 3 – Qualifier Numbers and Characteristics

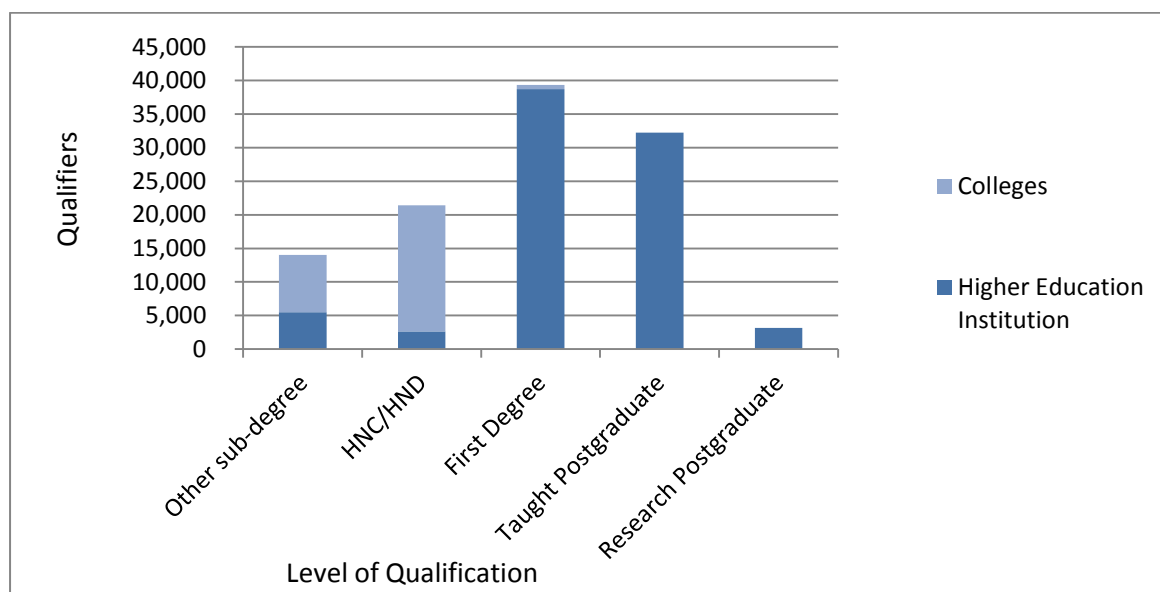
53. This section considers students qualifying from Scottish institutions with a HE qualification across the last ten academic years (2009-10 to 2018-19). The number of qualifiers is shown across different levels and modes of study as well as for selected protected characteristics. Further breakdowns are available in the accompanying background tables.
54. Information on the destinations of qualifiers was previously contained in HESA's Destination of Leavers publication (discontinued in 2016-17). It will soon feature in the HESA Graduate Outcomes report, due for release in Spring 2020. Details of these can be found on the [HESA website](#). Information on destinations of HE students in colleges is available in [SFC's College Leaver Destinations publication](#).
55. Table G below shows that there were 110,150 higher education qualifiers from Scottish institutions in 2018-19, 5,990 qualifiers (5.8%) more than in 2017-18, and 26,265 (31.3%) more than in 2009-10.
56. In 2018-19, 74.7% of qualifiers were from HEIs. HEIs saw an increase of 5,645 qualifiers (up 7.4%) on 2017-18, whilst there were 345 more qualifiers from colleges than last year (up 1.3%).
57. Overall, the distribution of qualifiers across levels of study has remained relatively stable over the last ten years. Those qualifying from First Degree level studies have consistently constituted the largest proportion of qualifiers. In 2018-19, those qualifying from a First Degree course accounted for 35.7% of all qualifiers, 1.6pp lower than in 2017-18 and 2.5pp lower than in 2009-10. The largest increase in qualifiers between 2017-18 and 2018-19 was observed at Taught Postgraduate level (4,985 qualifiers).
58. Since 2009-10 the number of qualifiers from taught and research postgraduate programmes has increased by 65.6% (14,030 qualifiers) whilst the number from First Degree courses has increased by 22.6% (7,245 qualifiers). The number of qualifiers from HNC/HND programmes has increased by 3,135 students (17.2%), and, the number from other sub-degrees has increased over this same time period by 1,850 qualifiers (15.2%), primarily driven by an increase in qualifiers in the college sector at this level. This increase in qualifiers reflects the increase in HE students at this level of study in this time period in the college sector, as shown in Table A earlier in this report.

Table G: Qualifiers from higher education courses at Scottish institutions by institution type and level of qualification obtained, 2009-10 to 2018-19

Institution Type / Academic Session	Level of Qualification Obtained					
	All Levels	Postgraduate		First Degree	Sub-degree	
		Research Postgraduate (1)	Taught Postgraduate		HNC/HND	Other Sub-degree
<b>Total</b>						
2009-10	<b>83,885</b>	2,330	19,045	32,095	18,260	12,155
2010-11	<b>90,480</b>	2,590	20,920	33,130	20,000	13,840
2011-12	<b>92,870</b>	2,710	22,360	34,585	20,530	12,675
2012-13 (2)	<b>95,575</b>	2,870	22,685	36,025	20,570	13,430
2013-14 (2)	<b>97,340</b>	2,605	24,110	37,010	20,525	13,090
2014-15 (2)	<b>96,950</b>	2,930	24,135	36,870	19,970	13,050
2015-16	<b>97,400</b>	2,790	23,050	37,785	20,525	13,250
2016-17	<b>101,755</b>	3,050	26,340	38,225	21,895	12,245
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>104,160</b>	<b>3,265</b>	<b>27,240</b>	<b>38,855</b>	<b>21,995</b>	<b>12,810</b>
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>110,150</b>	<b>3,180</b>	<b>32,225</b>	<b>39,340</b>	<b>21,395</b>	<b>14,005</b>
<b>All students at HEIs</b>						
2009-10	<b>60,530</b>	2,330	19,000	31,790	1,675	5,730
2010-11	<b>64,295</b>	2,590	20,875	32,555	1,765	6,500
2011-12	<b>67,930</b>	2,710	22,350	34,085	1,865	6,925
2012-13 (2)	<b>70,005</b>	2,870	22,670	35,440	1,920	7,110
2013-14 (2)	<b>71,615</b>	2,605	24,110	36,340	2,320	6,240
2014-15 (2)	<b>71,175</b>	2,930	24,135	36,210	2,330	5,575
2015-16	<b>70,830</b>	2,790	23,050	37,140	2,565	5,285
2016-17	<b>74,765</b>	3,050	26,340	37,650	2,785	4,940
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>76,595</b>	<b>3,265</b>	<b>27,240</b>	<b>38,295</b>	<b>2,570</b>	<b>5,225</b>
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>82,240</b>	<b>3,180</b>	<b>32,225</b>	<b>38,730</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>5,495</b>
<b>All students at colleges</b>						
2009-10	<b>23,355</b>	-	45	300	16,585	6,420
2010-11	<b>26,185</b>	-	40	570	18,230	7,340
2011-12	<b>24,935</b>	-	15	505	18,670	5,750
2012-13 (2)	<b>25,565</b>	-	15	585	18,650	6,320
2013-14 (2)	<b>25,725</b>	-	-	670	18,205	6,850
2014-15 (2)	<b>25,775</b>	-	-	660	17,640	7,475
2015-16	<b>26,575</b>	-	-	645	17,960	7,965
2016-17	<b>26,990</b>	-	-	575	19,110	7,305
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>27,565</b>	-	-	<b>560</b>	<b>19,425</b>	<b>7,585</b>
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>27,910</b>	-	-	<b>610</b>	<b>18,790</b>	<b>8,510</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC). Refer to notes to tables.

Figure 7: Qualifiers from Higher Education Courses by institution type and level of qualification obtained, 2018-19



59. Figure 7, above, shows the proportional split of qualifiers from HE courses by level qualification obtained in 2018-19. Over a third (35.7%) of students qualified with First Degree level qualifications, primarily in the University sector. Meanwhile there were 21,400 qualifiers at HNC/HND level, with the College sector accounting for 87.8% of these.

### Gender, Age and Domicile of Qualifiers

60. Table H below displays HE qualifiers at Scottish Institutions by age and level of qualification. The full-time series for 2009-10 to 2018-19 by institution type is available in the background tables online.

61. As is shown in Table H, throughout the last ten years those aged 21-24 have accounted for the largest proportion of qualifiers at Scottish institutions, of which there were 47,475 qualifiers in 2018-19, 43.1% of the total qualifiers population. The distribution of qualifiers follows the logic that students will be studying for a longer or shorter timeframe depending on the type of course. For example, a school leaver who enters a four year First Degree straight from school, would likely qualify within the age bracket of 21-24 along with four cohorts of one-year HNC/HND students who fall into this age bracket when graduating. However, the age distribution of students differs depending of the level of qualification obtained.

62. When considering postgraduate qualifications, the age profile shifts up with the largest proportion (36.2%) aged 25-29. The proportional distribution of First Degree qualifiers is in line with the sector level, but more pronounced, with 72.6% of all First Degree qualifiers aged between 21-24. The age distribution of

qualifiers from sub-degrees is more evenly spread than other levels of qualification obtained; with 24.1% aged 19-20 and 21.6% aged 21-24 in 2018-19.

63. At a sector level, 54.7% of qualifiers were under 25 years old which was mirrored at sub-degree level with 54.3% of qualifiers in the this age group. However, there is a clear switch in age profiles of qualifiers from First Degrees and those from postgraduate level degrees. In 2018-19 of the 35,405 qualifiers from postgraduate degrees, 68.2% were aged 25 or over. Meanwhile, 24.3% of the 39,340 First Degree qualifiers were aged 25 and over.

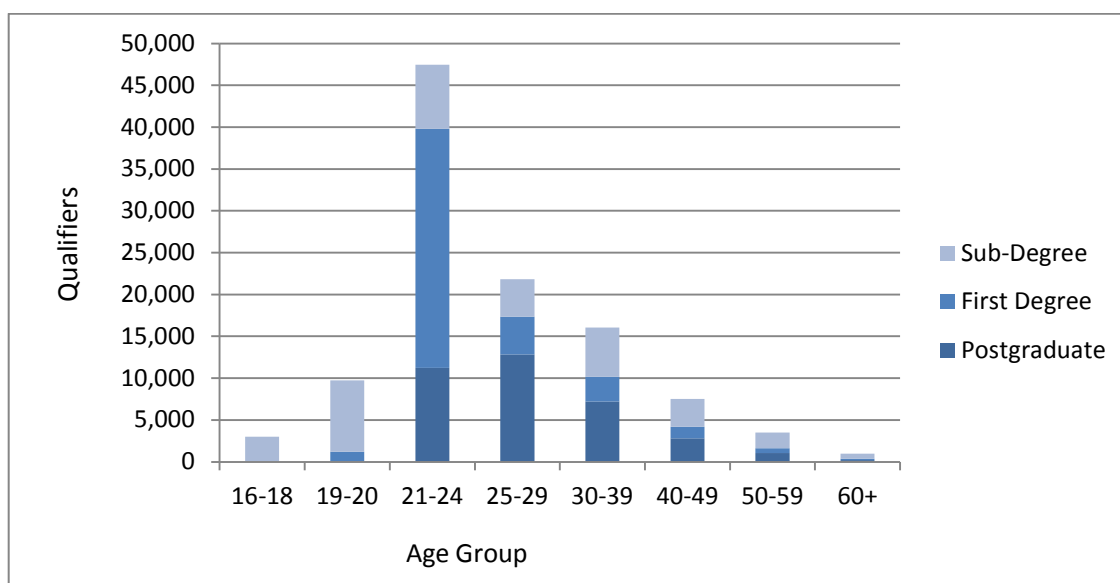
Table H: Qualifiers from higher education courses at Scottish institutions by age and level of qualification obtained, 2009-10 to 2018-19

Level of Qualification / Academic Session	Total (10)	16-18	19-20	21-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+
<b>All levels</b>									
2009-10	<b>83,885</b>	2,830	8,110	33,620	15,495	12,650	7,900	2,735	535
2010-11	<b>90,480</b>	2,930	9,165	36,170	17,270	13,250	7,955	3,000	740
2011-12	<b>92,870</b>	3,140	9,360	37,945	18,360	13,320	7,450	2,705	580
2012-13	<b>95,575</b>	3,585	14,815	38,895	16,055	12,295	6,660	2,545	715
2013-14	<b>97,340</b>	3,755	15,685	39,770	15,930	12,285	6,545	2,615	755
2014-15	<b>96,955</b>	3,005	10,455	42,465	18,465	12,975	6,155	2,720	705
2015-16	<b>97,405</b>	3,045	10,260	42,395	18,275	13,300	6,535	2,855	735
2016-17	<b>101,755</b>	3,415	10,330	43,615	19,850	14,480	6,625	2,765	670
2017-18	<b>104,160</b>	3,455	9,985	44,555	20,475	14,935	6,995	3,000	725
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>110,150</b>	<b>3,020</b>	<b>9,755</b>	<b>47,475</b>	<b>21,835</b>	<b>16,040</b>	<b>7,515</b>	<b>3,505</b>	<b>965</b>
<b>Postgraduate</b>									
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>35,405</b>	-	<b>10</b>	<b>11,245</b>	<b>12,825</b>	<b>7,215</b>	<b>2,830</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>215</b>
<b>First Degree</b>									
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>39,340</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1,195</b>	<b>28,565</b>	<b>4,515</b>	<b>2,955</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>Sub-degree</b>									
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>35,405</b>	<b>3,015</b>	<b>8,545</b>	<b>7,660</b>	<b>4,495</b>	<b>5,870</b>	<b>3,305</b>	<b>1,870</b>	<b>600</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC).  
Refer to notes to tables.

64. Table I below shows HE qualifiers at Scottish institutions by domicile and qualification obtained. The full series for 2009-10 to 2018-19 by institution type is available in the Background Tables online.

Figure 8: Qualifiers from HE Courses at Scottish Institutions by Age Group and Level of Qualification, 2018-19, All Domiciles



65. In 2018-19, Scottish domiciled students accounted for 66.8% of all HE qualifiers from Scottish institutions including 69.6% of qualifiers from First Degrees. Sub-degrees account for the largest percentage of qualifiers; however, there is also a comparable number of qualifiers from sub-degree courses of which 93.7% were Scottish-domiciled in 2018-19. In 2018-19 of all Scottish domiciled qualifiers, 45.1% qualified from sub-degree level courses, 37.2% from First Degree level and 17.7% from postgraduate level.

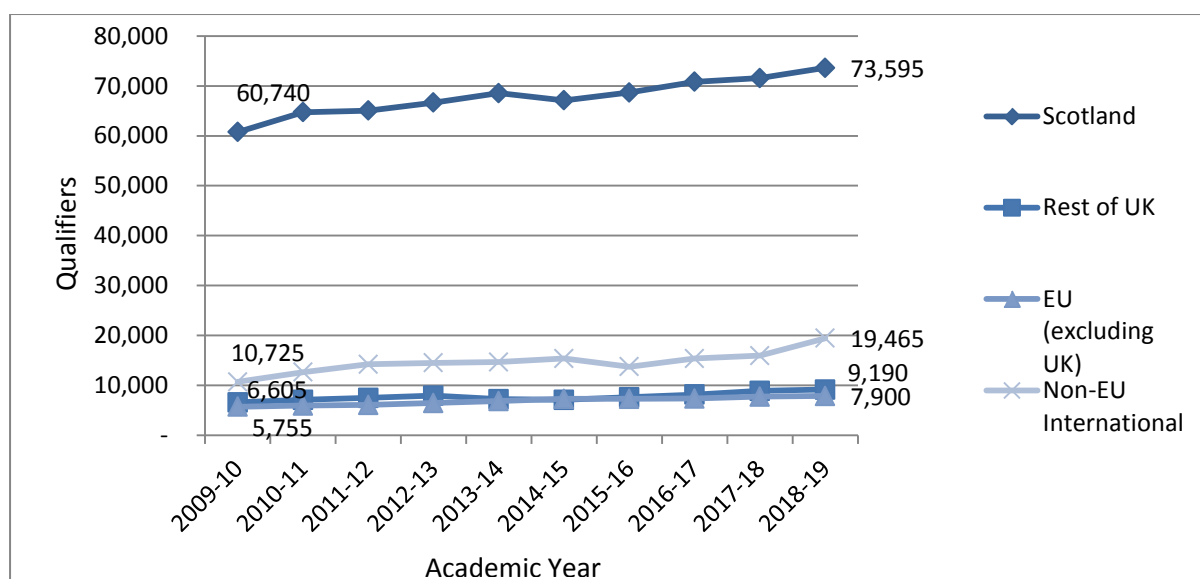
66. Table I also shows that there were 2,050 more Scottish domiciled qualifiers in 2018-19 than in 2017-18, up 2.9%, whilst the total number of qualifiers from the rest of the UK increased by 285 qualifiers (3.2%) in the same time frame. There was an increase of 150 qualifiers from the rest of the EU, up 1.9%, and 3,505 qualifiers, an increase of 22.0%, from elsewhere.

Table I: Qualifiers from higher education courses at Scottish institutions by Domicile and Qualification obtained, 2008-09 to 2017-18

Level of Qualification/ Academic Session	Total	Scotland	Rest of UK	EU (excluding UK)	Non-EU International
<b>Total</b>					
2009-10	<b>83,885</b>	60,740	6,605	5,755	10,725
2010-11	<b>90,480</b>	64,715	7,110	5,955	12,655
2011-12	<b>92,870</b>	65,045	7,500	6,095	14,230
2012-13	<b>95,575</b>	66,640	7,945	6,475	14,515
2013-14	<b>97,340</b>	68,530	7,260	6,855	14,695
2014-15	<b>96,955</b>	67,100	7,130	7,320	15,405
2015-16	<b>97,405</b>	68,685	7,630	7,320	13,760
2016-17	<b>101,755</b>	70,815	8,190	7,365	15,385
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>104,160</b>	<b>71,545</b>	<b>8,905</b>	<b>7,750</b>	<b>15,960</b>
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>110,150</b>	<b>73,595</b>	<b>9,190</b>	<b>7,900</b>	<b>19,465</b>
<b>Postgraduate</b>					
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>35,405</b>	<b>13,025</b>	<b>3,520</b>	<b>4,140</b>	<b>14,720</b>
<b>First Degree</b>					
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>39,340</b>	<b>27,380</b>	<b>4,895</b>	<b>3,345</b>	<b>3,715</b>
<b>Sub-degree</b>					
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>35,405</b>	<b>33,185</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>1,030</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC).  
Refer to notes to tables.

Figure 9: Qualifiers from Higher Education Courses at Scottish Institutions by Domicile, 2009-10 to 2018-19



67. Table J below shows HE qualifiers at Scottish institutions by gender and mode



of study. The table displays that females made up a higher proportion of qualifiers from HE in 2018-19 (57.5%) which is in line with the trend over the last ten years. This is more pronounced for full-time courses where females constituted 59.4% of qualifiers in 2018-19 and less so for part-time courses where females accounted for 53.0% in the same year.

68. From 2017-18 to 2018-19, the number of male HE qualifiers increased by 2,345 students (5.3%) compared to an increase in female HE qualifiers of 3,530 (5.9%).

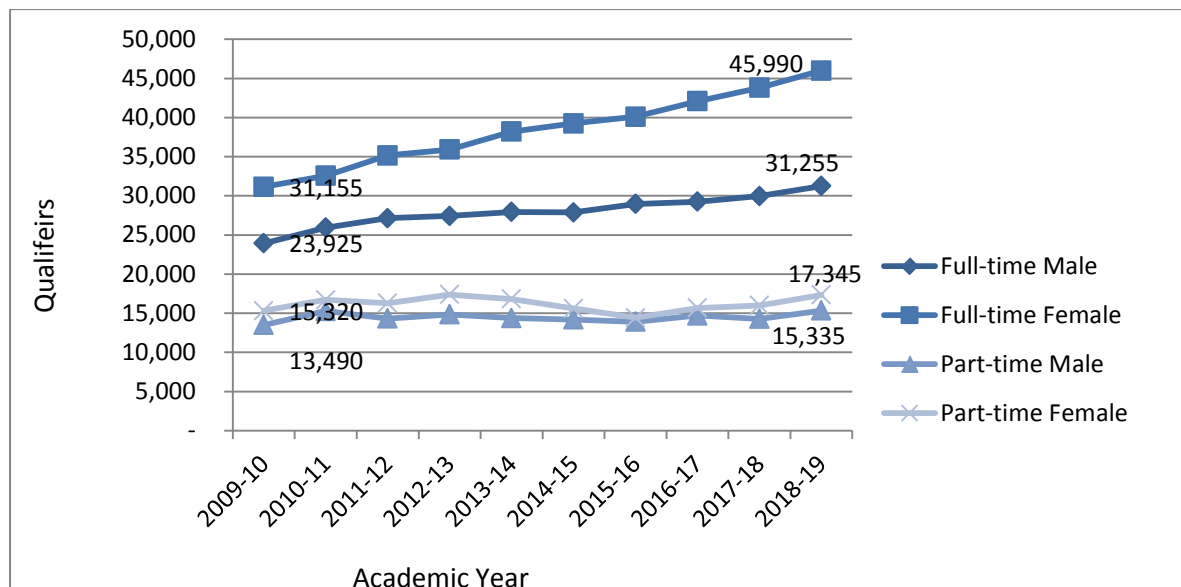
Table J: Qualifiers from higher education courses at Scottish institutions by mode of study and gender, 2009-10 to 2018-19

Academic Session	Total			Full-time			Part-time (18)		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
2009-10	<b>83,885</b>	37,410	46,470	<b>55,075</b>	23,925	31,155	<b>28,805</b>	13,490	15,320
2010-11	<b>90,480</b>	41,215	49,265	<b>58,490</b>	25,935	32,560	<b>31,990</b>	15,280	16,710
2011-12	<b>92,870</b>	41,440	51,430	<b>62,275</b>	27,130	35,145	<b>30,595</b>	14,310	16,285
2012-13	<b>95,575</b>	42,280	53,290	<b>63,340</b>	27,425	35,915	<b>32,230</b>	14,855	17,375
2013-14	<b>97,340</b>	42,320	55,005	<b>66,150</b>	27,945	38,195	<b>31,195</b>	14,375	16,815
2014-15	<b>96,955</b>	42,070	54,860	<b>67,140</b>	27,875	39,250	<b>29,800</b>	14,195	15,610
2015-16	<b>97,365</b>	42,855	54,505	<b>69,055</b>	28,960	40,095	<b>28,310</b>	13,900	14,410
2016-17	<b>101,755</b>	43,950	57,740	<b>71,320</b>	29,240	42,080	<b>30,375</b>	14,715	15,660
2017-18	<b>104,160</b>	44,240	59,810	<b>73,870</b>	29,965	43,810	<b>30,290</b>	14,270	16,000
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>110,150</b>	<b>46,585</b>	<b>63,340</b>	<b>77,410</b>	<b>31,255</b>	<b>45,990</b>	<b>32,740</b>	<b>15,335</b>	<b>17,345</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC).  
Refer to notes to tables.

69. Figure 10, below, shows the qualifiers over the last ten years by mode of study and gender. Full-time students were the main driver behind the increase in qualifiers between 2009-10 and 2018-19, with full-time female qualifiers increasing by 14,835 (47.6%) and full-time male qualifiers increasing by 7,330 (30.6%).

Figure 10: Higher Education Qualifiers at Scottish Institutions by Gender and Mode of Study, 2018-19



## **Section 4 – Participation Rates for Entrants to Higher Education in Scotland**

### **Higher Education Initial Participation Rate (HEIPR)**

70. The Higher Education Initial Participation Rate (HEIPR) is an estimate of the probability that a 16 year old will participate in Higher Education by the age of 30.
71. The Scottish HEIPR, detailed in Table K, is a measure of all Scottish or Scottish-domiciled initial entrants aged between 16 and 30 (inclusive). An initial entrant is defined as any student who participates in Higher Education for at least six months on a course which is expected to last for at least six months. They must not have participated in Higher Education previously for period of more than six months (whether that is at a college or a HEI).
72. This participation measure does not show the proportion currently participating in HE, the proportion continuing beyond the first six months, or those who successfully complete a course. The HEIPR measures the likelihood of participation in higher education and is suitable for comparison with the HEIPR of other UK nations. The key strength of having a participation rate statistic, in comparison to student number statistics, is that these participation rates are more inclusive and can be used to infer and recognise the importance of lifelong learning.
73. The initial participation rates for each age group (16 to 30), in scope of this calculation, are summed to give the overall HEIPR.
74. Table K shows that in 2018-19, the Scottish HEIPR of 57.5% was 0.9% higher than in 2017-18. This can mainly be attributed to the increase in participation rates of 17 to 22 year olds. Whilst initial entrant numbers for the aged 16 to 30 cohort fell marginally by 218 (0.6%) between 2017-18 and 2018-19, the reduction in the Scottish population in the same time period of 0.9% was more pronounced, therefore causing the aged 16 to 30 HEIPR to increase.

Table K: Scottish Higher Education Initial Participation Rate, 2017-18 to 2018-19

Age	2017-18			2018-19			Year-on-Year Change in HEIPR
	Initial Entrants	Population	Initial Participation Rate	Initial Entrants	Population	Initial Participation Rate	
16	1,234	55,210	2.2%	1,189	53,519	2.2%	↔
17	9,005	56,782	15.9%	8,923	55,433	16.1%	↑
18	12,967	59,307	21.9%	12,744	57,574	22.1%	↑
19	3,545	63,606	5.6%	3,447	62,641	5.5%	↓
20	1,652	67,963	2.4%	1,677	66,058	2.5%	↑
21	1,037	69,452	1.5%	1,162	69,124	1.7%	↑
22	834	70,513	1.2%	893	70,206	1.3%	↑
23	750	72,595	1.0%	700	70,983	1.0%	↔
24	634	74,373	0.9%	667	72,684	0.9%	↔
25	614	77,988	0.8%	605	74,210	0.8%	↔
26	601	78,512	0.8%	575	77,981	0.7%	↓
27	533	75,882	0.7%	567	78,610	0.7%	↔
28	477	74,961	0.6%	498	76,097	0.7%	↑
29	443	74,869	0.6%	478	75,107	0.6%	↔
30	457	72,954	0.6%	440	75,177	0.6%	↔
<b>16-30</b>	<b>34,783</b>		<b>56.6%</b>	<b>34,565</b>		<b>57.5%</b>	<b>↑</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA), National Records of Scotland (NRS) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC). Refer to notes to tables.

75. There are differences between the Scotland population which is used to calculate the HEIPR population and the true Scottish Population, due to swelling of some age ranges. For example, the HEIPR methodology estimates there were 59,307 18 year olds in 2017-18 but a year later, in 2018-19 the 19 year old population increased to 62,641. This would suggest that the population was being swollen by individuals entering Scotland from that age group. Given the demographics of the student population in Scotland, it would seem likely that Scotland's population was being swollen by the influx of students around this age group coming to Scotland to study, and therefore the participation rate may be slightly underestimated on this basis.

## Annex A: Notes to Tables

1. The numbering of the notes refers to additional tables published on the SFC website and not to any of the tables in this publication. For full details please see the associated Excel Workbook.
2. The figures include Scottish-domiciled postgraduate research students at the Open University (OU) up to 2011-12. The OU had 20 Scottish-domiciled postgraduate research students in 2011-12.
3. Students at the former land-based colleges of Barony, Elmwood and Oatridge, which merged with the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) to form SRUC in October 2012, were still recorded through the college reporting until 2012-13. They are included in the figures for colleges for 2012-13 but are included with the SRUC and HEI related figures from 2013-14.
  - In 2010-11, Glasgow Metropolitan College, Glasgow College of Nautical Studies and Central College Glasgow merged to form City of Glasgow College.
  - In 2012-13 Telford College, Stevenson College and Jewel and Esk Valley College merged to form Edinburgh College.
  - In 2012-13 Barony College, Elmwood College and Oatridge College merged with the Scottish Agricultural College to form SRUC.
  - On 1 November 2013, Aberdeen College and Banff and Buchan College merged to form North East Scotland College.
  - On 1 August 2013, Ayr College, James Watt College (Kilwinning campus) and Kilmarnock College merged to form Ayrshire College.
  - On 1 August 2013, Adam Smith College, Carnegie College and SRUC (non-land base element) merged to form Fife College.
  - On 1 November 2013, North Glasgow College, John Wheatley College and Stow College merged to form Glasgow Kelvin College.
  - On 31 July 2013, Anniesland College, Cardonald College and Langside College merged to form Glasgow Clyde College.
  - On 1 November 2013, Angus College and Dundee College merged to form Dundee and Angus College.
  - On 1 November 2013, Cumbernauld College and Motherwell College merged to form New College Lanarkshire, and on 1 April 2014, they were joined by Coatbridge College.
  - On 1 August 2013, Clydebank College, Reid Kerr College and James Watt College (Greenock campus) merged to form West College Scotland.
4. The Edinburgh College of Art merged with the University of Edinburgh at the start of academic session 2011-12.
5. The college full-time equivalents (FTEs) for HE students exclude the additional

volume associated with students receiving extended learning support as this is not reported in the same way for HEIs. When looking at college FTEs on their own, FTEs accounting for extended learning support should be used. These can be accessed on the SFC [Infact database](#).

6. A number of institution mergers happened across the university and college sectors over the time period shown in this publication. Full details of these are described in [Annex A: HE Students and Qualifiers 2014-15](#).
7. Totals include students whose genders were not reported.
8. The totals include Scottish domiciled students whose local authority was not recorded.
9. The above table does not include Scottish domiciled students at UK institutions outside of Scotland and does not represent rates of participation in Scottish local authorities.
10. Totals include students whose ages were not reported.
11. The 'Combined' subject grouping is used in recognition of programmes of study which cut across different subject areas.
12. Total includes students from overseas whose specific country of domicile was not recorded.
13. This table includes students at UK HEIs only and does not include students studying at colleges.
14. The above table does not include Scottish domiciled entrants at UK institutions outside of Scotland and does not represent rates of participation in Scottish local authorities.
15. The total includes a small number of students at the Open University who are domiciled outside the UK
16. Includes students from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man and students from the UK whose specific country of domicile was not reported.
17. Where universities are group in 'types', these types comprised the following HEIs:
  - Ancient Universities: University of Aberdeen, University of Edinburgh, University of Glasgow, University of St. Andrews.
  - Newer Universities: University of Dundee, Heriot-Watt University, University of Stirling, University of Strathclyde.
  - Post-92 Universities: University of Abertay Dundee, Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, Glasgow Caledonian University, Edinburgh Napier



University, University of the West of Scotland, Robert Gordon University and the University of the Highlands & Islands.

- Small Specialist Institutions: SRUC, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Glasgow School of Art.
18. SIMD is no longer covered in this report. For further analysis of College and University provision delivered to those from the most deprived areas, please see the SFC [Report on Widening Access](#).
  19. The working population is defined as number of persons aged 16-64.
  20. Includes students obtaining qualifications from writing up and dormant status who were previously studying full-time.
  21. The totals in 2016-17 included 212 students whose gender was reported at 'Other' or 'Unknown'.
  22. The entrant figures shown in the table will not match Scottish domiciled entrant figures in other tables as not all postcodes from student records can be matched to postcodes in SIMD.
  23. The figures include Scottish-domiciled research postgraduate students at the Open University up to 2011-12.
  24. Aegrotat degrees; this is an honours degree without classification, awarded on the understanding that had the candidate not been unwell, he or she would have passed.
  25. Totals include other qualification classifications.

## **Annex B: Methodology, Data Definitions, and Quality Information**

### **Data Sources**

This publication contains information on students from both colleges and higher education institutions (HEIs) who are attending Higher Education courses in Scotland. These statistics are collected by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) from HEIs and by SFC from further education colleges (colleges).

### **Coverage**

Following a consultation in 2007, the method of counting students at HEIs was changed in 2009 in order to provide a greater level of consistency with HESA. The figures in this publication that relate to higher education institutions are defined by HESA's standard registration population. Time-series have been revised according to this definition.

The standard registration population includes all higher education student instances active at a reporting institution at point in the reporting period 1 August to 21 July except; dormant students, incoming visiting exchange students, student who study wholly outside the UK, students on sabbatical and writing up students.

Data from Scottish colleges continues to exclude those students who do not complete the first 25% of their course (the point at which they become eligible for funding).

### **Student Instances**

HESA's Student Records use the term 'instance' to describe a student's engagement within an institution. A student may enrol on more than one course and, therefore, have more than one instance. It is instances that are reported in this publication, consistent with HESA's methodology. The same approach is taken when reporting on student activity at Scottish colleges. Where references are made in this release to 'students' this should be interpreted as instances.

### **Full-time Equivalents**

Full-time Equivalents (FTE) represent the expected hours of learning undertaken by a student during their course, as a proportion of the expected learning of full-time study. For example; a student with an FTE of 0.8 is expected to undertake 20% fewer hours of learning relative to a full-time student on the same course, a student with an FTE of 1.2 is expected to undertake 20% more hours of learning relative to a full-time student on the same course.

At UK HEIs, full-time students are those normally required to attend an institution for periods amounting to more than 24 weeks within the year of study, on thick or thin sandwich courses, and those on a study-related year out of their institution. During that time students are normally expected to undertake periods of study, tuition or work experience which amounts to an average of at least 21 hours per week. Full-time HE students at Scottish Colleges are those which meet the criteria of at least 480 planned notional hours.

### **Open University**

Students attending the Open University, whose location (domicile) prior to study was in Scotland, are classified in this publication as studying at a Scottish HEI. Where comparisons are made with other UK countries, the Open University is regarded as a separate institution in each country. Students studying at the Open University whose location (domicile) prior to study was outside the UK or recorded as an unknown UK domicile are excluded prior to 2012-13. This methodology differs from that used by HESA where the Open University is counted as a whole English institution; as a result student figures reported in this release will differ from those reported by HESA.

### **Domicile**

The full list of countries included in each domicile grouping is published in [Annex B: HE Students and Qualifiers 2014-15](#).

### **Level of Study**

The full list of qualifications included in each level of study category is published in [Annex B: HE Students and Qualifiers 2014-15](#).

### **Subject Tables**

Subject data from higher education institutions is apportioned to broadly reflect the weight of a particular subject within the study programmes of individual enrolments. This process is consistent with the treatment of subject breakdowns by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA). As well as being counted in the main subject groupings, supplementary subjects are shown separately for clarity. Economics and Politics are included in Social Studies, English is included in Languages, Geography is included in Social Studies, Environmental Science is in Physical Sciences and Psychology is included in Biological Sciences.

### **Data Presentation**

Our rounding strategy is in line with [HESA's](#). In all tables in this release, figures have been rounded to the nearest 5 whilst values of 0, 1 and 2 have been rounded to 0 and presented as '-'. Percentages are based on rounded figures. Unknown values are not displayed individually in tables but are included in totals. Figures may not sum to

totals due to rounding and the inclusion of unknown values. Figures and percentage in the text and charts are calculated from rounded values.

Percentage changes in actual numbers, for example between one year and the next, are referred to as x%. However, when discussing the difference between percentages, such as the difference between two proportions, percentage points (pp) is used.

## Data Quality Information

This section provides a summary of information in the following dimensions of quality: Relevance, Accuracy, Accessibility and Clarity, and Comparability. For further information please see [Annex B: HE Students and Qualifiers 2014-15](#).

### Relevance

HESA is the official UK agency for the collection, analysis and dissemination of quantitative information about higher education at higher education institutions. SFC collects data on provision at colleges through the Further Education Statistics (FES) data collections.

### Accuracy

The procedures followed by HESA to ensure quality of the data are provided on the HESA website. The guidance issued by SFC for the submission of the Scottish college records is on the SFC website.

The following table gives the proportions of the overall student populations at Scottish HEIs and colleges where the ethnicity and disability were unknown, both for all students and for Scottish domiciled students only. The proportion of Scottish-domiciled students at Scottish HEIs and colleges and for whom their unitary authority of residence was not recorded is also given.

Proportion unknown for key variables, 2013-14 to 2018-19

Proportion of unknowns for key variables	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
<b>LA unknown for Scottish Domiciles:</b>						
<b>HEIs</b>	0.5%	1.0%	1.4%	1.8%	1.4%	2.0%
<b>Colleges</b>	2.0%	0.0%	0.8%	1.5%	0.3%	0.1%

Scottish HEIs are only required to return ethnicity information for UK-domiciled students.

## Accessibility and Clarity

This statistical publication is pre-announced and then published on the SFC website. It is accompanied by more detailed tables available on the website only which is a freely available resource.

## Comparability

HESA collects student enrolment data from all publicly funded UK HEIs, so comparison with other countries within the UK is possible. The Release '[Higher Education Student Data](#)' provides information on this topic.

## Associate Students by gender, age and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation quintile, 2018-19

When a college and HEI share responsibility for students, for example, when a HEI acts as the awarding body for a course that is partly delivered at college, these students appear in both the HEI and college data and are known as Associate Students.

Following consultation, it was decided to continue counting Associate Students in both sectors in this publication and to produce a separate table quantifying the number of identifiable Associate Students. The table shows a split by gender, age, and percentages from the most deprived areas for the 1,470 students who have been identified as Associate Students in colleges in 2018-19.

	Number of Associate Students	Percentage of Associate Students
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	875	59.6%
Female	580	39.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,470</b>	
<b>Age group</b>		
16-18	420	28.7%
19-20	465	31.8%
21-24	280	19.0%
25-29	130	9.0%
30-39	130	8.8%
40-49	35	2.5%
50-59	5	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,470</b>	
<b>Deprivation Quintile (1)</b>		
20% most deprived areas	340	23.1%
40% most deprived areas	635	43.3%

Refer to notes to tables.

## Metadata Table

Metadata Indicator	Description
Publication Title	Higher Education Students and Qualifiers at Scottish Institutions, 2018-19
Description	Includes ten data on Higher Education students, entrants and qualifiers in Scottish Higher Education Institutions and Colleges over a ten year time series (2009-10 to 2018-19)
Theme	Higher Education
Topic	Student Information
Format	PDF and Excel Tables
Data Source(s)	This publication contains information on students from both colleges and higher education institutions (HEIs) who are attending Higher Education courses in Scotland. These statistics are collected by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) from HEIs and by SFC from further education colleges (colleges). Population data used to calculate the Higher Education Initial Participation Rate is sourced from National Records Scotland <a href="#">Mid-Year Population Estimates</a> .
Date that data are acquired	College statistics: October 2019 HEI data: November 2019
Release date	31/03/2020
Frequency	Annual
Timeframe of data and timeliness	Trend data over ten academic years, 2009-10 to 2018-19
Continuity of data	<p>Following a consultation in 2007, the method of counting students at HEIs was changed in 2009 in order to provide a greater level of consistency with HESA. The figures in this publication that relate to higher education institutions are defined by HESA's standard registration population. Time-series have been revised according to this definition.</p> <p>The standard registration population includes all higher education student instances active at a reporting institution at point in the reporting period 1 August to 21 July except; dormant students, incoming visiting exchange students, student who study wholly outside the UK, students on sabbatical and writing up students.</p> <p>Data from Scottish colleges continues to exclude those students who do not complete the first 25% of their course (the point at which they become eligible for funding).</p>
Revisions statement	There are two revisions to historical figures presented in this publication, in Tables 23 and 31.
Revisions relevant to this publication	In Table 31 (Background tables), the total number of qualifiers in 2016-17 has been amended as it did not previously include students of 'Other' gender.

	In Table 23 (Background Tables), the Total UK figure overall and for each country has been updated for 2010-11 and 2011-12 due to an error.
Relevance and Key uses of this statistics	HESA is the official UK agency for the collection, analysis and dissemination of quantitative information about higher education at higher education institutions. SFC collects data on provision at colleges in Scotland through the Further Education Statistics (FES) data collection.
Accuracy	The procedures followed by HESA to ensure quality of the data are provided on the HESA website. The guidance issued by SFC for the submission of the Scottish college records is on the SFC website.
Comparability	HESA collects student enrolment data from all publicly funded UK HEIs, so comparison with other countries within the UK is possible. The release <a href="#">‘Higher Education Student Data’</a> provides information on this topic.
Accessibility	SFC has a style guideline which sets out options to make all publications as accessible to potential readers as possible. More information relating to <a href="#">accessibility of the website</a> .
Coherence and clarity	This statistical publication is pre-announced and then published on the SFC website. It is accompanied by more detailed tables available in Excel format on the website only which is a freely available resource.
Value type and unity of measurement	Number, percentage, percentage points
Disclosure	In all tables in this release, figures have been rounded to the nearest 5, and 0, 1 and 2 have been rounded to 0. Unknown values are not displayed individually in tables but are included in totals. Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding and the inclusion of unknown values. Figures and percentages in the text and charts are calculated from rounded values. This is to mitigate the risk of identification of individuals.
Official Statistics designation	National Statistics
UK Statistics Authority Assessment	<a href="#">Assessment of compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics</a> undertaken in 2013 by UK Statistics Authority, as part of Assessment Report 255.
Last published	26/03/2019
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Date of first publication	Scottish Funding Council first published this report in March 2013. Previously, this was published by the Scottish Government.
Help email	<a href="mailto:datarequests@sfc.ac.uk">datarequests@sfc.ac.uk</a>
Date form completed	12/03/2020