

Qualifications and Destinations of Northern Ireland School Leavers

2018-19



The purpose of this statistical bulletin is to provide an analysis of the latest annual data collection relating to qualifications and destinations of Northern Ireland School Leavers from grant-aided schools in the 2018/19 academic year. The publication of this bulletin has been delayed due to the current COVID-19 situation.

Reader Information

Purpose	The purpose of this statistical bulletin is to provide an analysis of the latest annual data collection relating to qualifications and destinations of Northern Ireland School Leavers from grant-aided schools in the 2018/19 academic year. The publication of this bulletin has been delayed due to the current COVID-19 situation.
Authors	Trevor Campbell, Amanda Lennon and Jessica McCallion
Publication Date	12 August 2020
Issued by	Analytical Services Unit Department of Education Rathgael House Balloo Road, Rathgael Bangor, BT19 7PR
Statistician	Jessica McCallion (028) 9185 8015
Email	statistics@education-ni.gov.uk
Press Office	(028) 9127 9772
Internet Address	https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-research/statistics
Coverage	Northern Ireland
Frequency	Annual
Theme	Children, Education and Skills

Key Points

- The proportion of school leavers achieving **at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent** has increased by 7.8 percentage points from five years ago, from 78.6% in 2013/14 to 86.4% in 2018/19.
- At 70.8%, the proportion of school leavers achieving **at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths** has remained similar to 2017/18 (70.6%) and has increased by 7.3 percentage points since 2013/14 (63.5%).
- The proportion of free school meal entitled school leavers achieving **at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths** increased by 0.9 percentage points from 48.6% in 2017/18 to 49.5% in 2018/19.
- The proportion of school leavers achieving **three or more A-levels at grades A* - C or equivalent** was 41.0% in 2018/19, an increase of 4.0 percentage points from five years ago (37.0% in 2013/14).
- The proportion of school leavers continuing on to **Institutions of Higher Education** decreased by 1.1 percentage points from 43.1% in 2017/18 to 42.0% in 2018/19. Overall, 95.8% of school leavers were recorded by their school as entering **Education, Employment or Training**.

Contents

Section	Title	Page
	<u>Introduction</u>	6
	<u>Draft Programme for Government 2016-2021</u>	7
1	<u>Qualifications</u>	8
1.1	<u>5+ GCSEs A* - C including equivalent qualifications</u>	8
1.2	<u>5+ GCSEs A* - C and equivalent qualifications including GCSE English and GCSE maths</u>	9
1.3	<u>No GCSEs/ No Formal Qualifications</u>	11
1.4	<u>A-levels and equivalent qualifications</u>	11
2	<u>Destinations</u>	13
3	<u>Notes to Readers</u>	14
4	<u>2018/19 Tables</u>	
Table 1	<u>Qualifications of school leavers by gender and school type</u>	17
Table 2	<u>Highest qualification of school leavers by destination</u>	18
Table 3	<u>Qualifications of school leavers by gender and religion of pupil</u>	19
Table 4	<u>Qualifications of school leavers by ethnic origin</u>	20
Table 5	<u>Qualifications of school leavers by gender and free school meal entitlement</u>	21
Table 6	<u>Qualifications of school leavers by 2014 District Council of pupil residence</u>	22
Table 7	<u>School leavers not entitled to free school meals achieving at least 5 GCSEs A* - C inc. GCSE English and GCSE maths by gender and religion of pupil</u>	23
Table 8	<u>School leavers entitled to free school meals achieving at least 5 GCSEs A* - C inc. GCSE English and GCSE maths by gender and religion of pupil</u>	23
Table 9	<u>School leavers achieving at least 5 GCSEs A* - C inc. GCSE English and GCSE maths by gender and religion of pupil</u>	23
Table 10	<u>Qualifications of school leavers by special educational need (SEN) status</u> [Not available – see Notes to Readers point 15]	24
Table 11	<u>Qualifications of school leavers 2013/14 to 2018/19</u>	25
Table 12	<u>Qualifications of male school leavers 2013/14 to 2018/19</u>	25
Table 13	<u>Qualifications of female school leavers 2013/14 to 2018/19</u>	25
Table 14	<u>Destination of school leavers by school type and gender</u>	26
Table 15	<u>Destination of school leavers by gender and religion of pupil</u>	27
Table 16	<u>Destination of school leavers by ethnic origin</u>	28
Table 17	<u>Destination of school leavers by free school meal entitlement and gender</u>	29

Table 18	<u>Destination of school leavers by special educational need (SEN) status</u> [Not available – see Notes to Readers point 15]	30
Table 19	<u>Destination of school leavers by 2014 District Council of pupil residence</u>	31
Table 20	<u>Higher education destination by country of institution and gender of pupil</u>	32
Table 21	<u>Higher education destination by country of institution and religion of pupil</u>	32
Table 22	<u>Destination of school leavers 2013/14 to 2018/19</u>	33
Table 23	<u>Destination of male school leavers 2013/14 to 2018/19</u>	33
Table 24	<u>Destination of female school leavers 2013/14 to 2018/19</u>	33
5	<u>Appendices 2013/14</u>	
Appendix A	<u>Qualifications of school leavers by gender and school type</u>	34
Appendix B	<u>Destinations of school leavers by gender and school type</u>	35

Introduction

Uses of Qualification and Destination data

The primary reason for this data collection exercise is to create a statistical base to inform a wide range of policy areas aimed at raising standards and tackling educational underachievement. Data collected throughout this process are used by policy teams within the Department of Education (DE) and by other users across the education service, most notably by the Education and Training Inspectorate and the Education Authority. The data are used to respond to Assembly questions and are included in the Department's accountability and performance management process. The data are also used in the development, implementation and monitoring of policies, in particular the Literacy and Numeracy strategy, school improvement programmes and relevant Departmental Milestones.

Background information

Extension of Free School Meal eligibility criteria

In 2013/14, there were 4,054 school leavers that were entitled to free schools meals, 17.9% of all school leavers. By 2018/19, this figure has increased to 5,776, 26.7% of school leavers. This increase in the proportion of school leavers with Free School Meal Entitlement (FSME) coincides with an extension of the eligibility for free school meals under the Working Tax Credit free school meal criterion. This was introduced on a phased basis with Nursery, Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils eligible from September 2010 and Key Stage 2 pupils eligible from September 2011. It was extended to post-primary pupils from September 2014.

Other information

Statistics relating to school numbers and enrolments can be found on the Statistics and research section of the Department of Education [website](https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-research/statistics)¹.

¹ <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-research/statistics>

Draft Programme for Government 2016-2021

School leavers data informs two indicators in the Draft Programme for Government (PfG) 2016-2021². Both indicators use the 2014/15 year as the baseline year for comparison purposes.

Indicator 11: % school leavers achieving at level 2 or above including English and maths

Current position: In 2018/19, the percentage of school leavers achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent (i.e. achieving at level 2 or above) including GCSEs in English and maths was **70.8%**. This represents an increase of 4.8 percentage points from the 2014/15 baseline year when 66.0% of school leavers achieved this standard.

Indicator 12: Gap between % non-FSME school leavers and % FSME school leavers achieving at level 2 or above including English and maths

Current position: In 2018/19, the percentage of school leavers not entitled to free school meals achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent (i.e. achieving at level 2 or above) including GCSEs in English and maths was 78.5%, while the percentage of those entitled to free school meals achieving the same measure was 49.5%. This represents a gap of 29.0 percentage points between these two groups compared with a gap of 32.4 percentage points between these groups in the baseline year of 2014/15.

The change in attainment for each group was as follows:

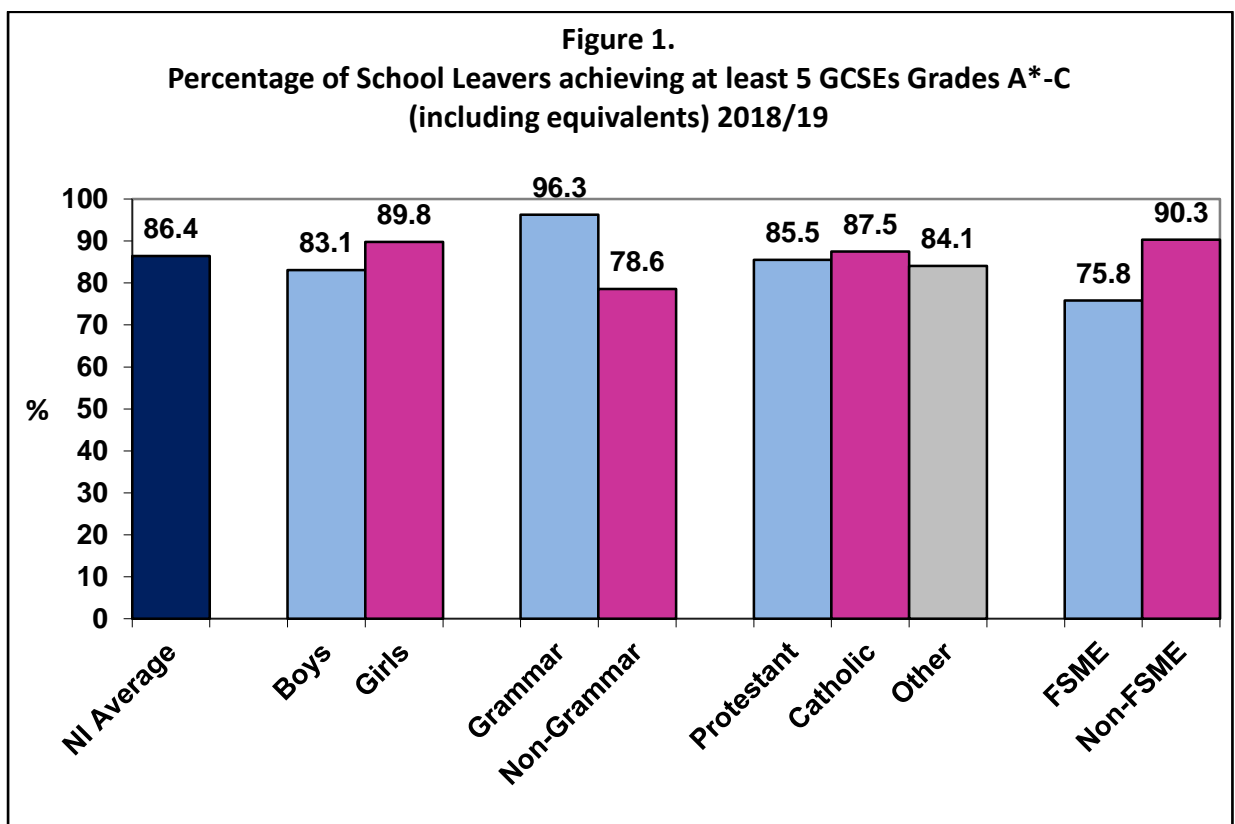
- In 2018/19, **49.5%** of those entitled to free school meals achieved this standard, an increase from 41.3% in the 2014/15 baseline year;
- In 2018/19, **78.5%** of those not entitled to free school meals achieved this standard, an increase from 73.7% in the 2014/15 baseline year.

² <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/topics/making-government-work/programme-government>

Section 1: Qualifications

1.1 5+ GCSEs A* - C including equivalent qualifications

- The proportion of school leavers achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent has increased by 7.8 percentage points from five years ago, from 78.6% in 2013/14 to 86.4% in 2018/19 ([Table 11](#), [Figure 1](#)).
- As in previous years, the proportion of girls leaving school with at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent remains higher than the proportion of boys; 89.8% of girls leaving school in 2018/19 achieved this standard compared with 83.1% of boys ([Table 1](#), [Table 12](#), [Table 13](#) & [Figure 1](#)).

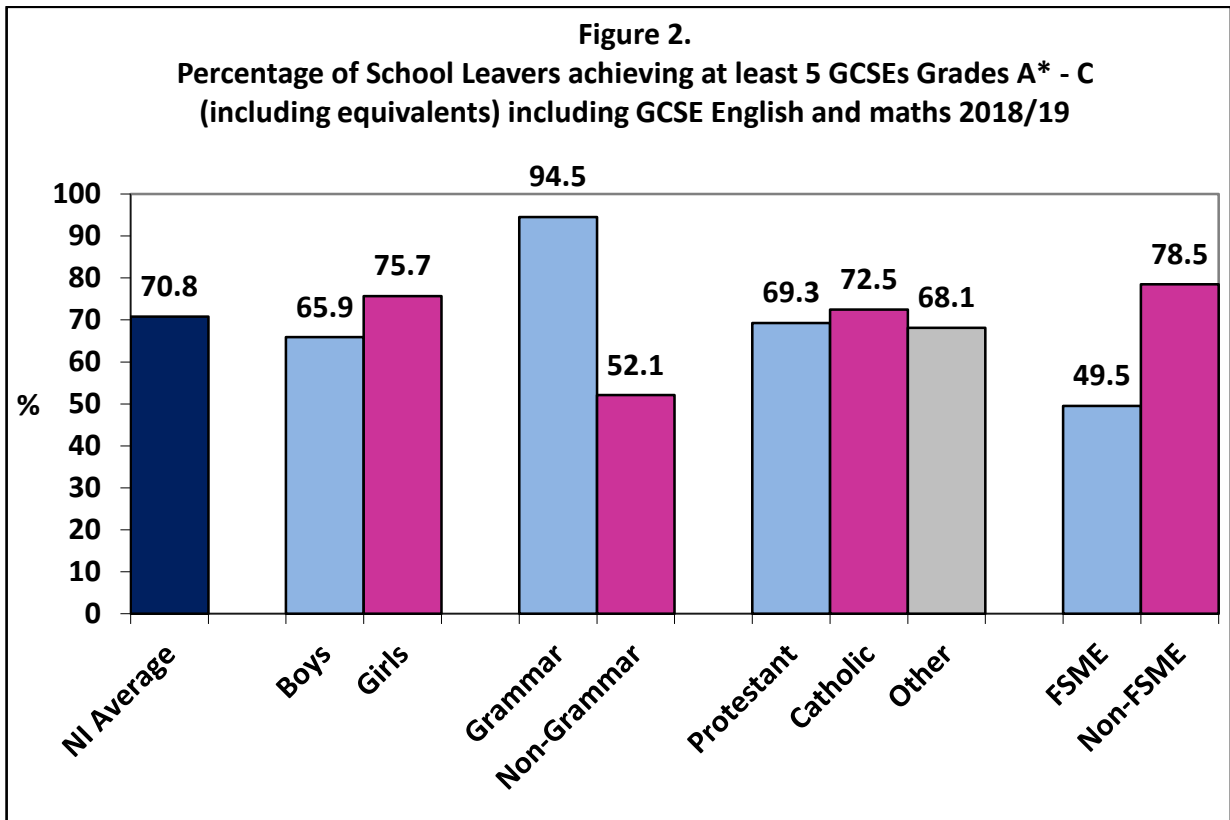


- The proportion of pupils leaving non-grammar schools who achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent has increased by 13.4 percentage points from 65.2% in 2013/14 to 78.6% in 2018/19. The corresponding proportion for grammar schools has decreased from 97.3% in 2013/14 to 96.3% in 2018/19 ([Table 1](#), [Appendix A](#) & [Figure 1](#)).
- The proportion of pupils leaving non-grammar schools who achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent has increased by 2.4 percentage points from 76.2% in 2017/18 to 78.6% in 2018/19. At 96.3% in 2018/19, the proportion of pupils leaving grammar schools who achieved this standard has remained similar to 2017/18 when 96.1% of pupils leaving grammar schools achieved this measure ([Table 1](#)).

- Data relating to the qualifications of school leavers with special educational needs (SEN) is not available for 2018/19, as a consequence of the changes to SEN categories and associated descriptors that was implemented from January 2019. Please see Notes to Readers point 15 for further information.

1.2 5+ GCSEs A* - C and equivalent qualifications including GCSE English and GCSE maths

- At 70.8%, the proportion of school leavers achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths has remained similar to 2017/18 (70.6%) and has increased by 7.3 percentage points since 2013/14 (63.5%) ([Table 11](#), [Figure 2](#)).
- The proportion of free school meal entitled school leavers achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths has increased by 0.9 percentage points from 48.6% in 2017/18 to 49.5% in 2018/19 ([Table 5](#), [Figure 2](#)).
- There is a 15.6 percentage point gap between the proportion of pupils achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths (70.8%) and the proportion of pupils achieving at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent (86.4%) ([Table 1](#)).
- Three-quarters (75.7%) of girls have achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths compared with 65.9% of boys, a difference of 9.8 percentage points ([Table 1](#), [Table 9](#) & [Figure 2](#)).
- In 2018/19, 94.5% of grammar school leavers left with at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths, while 96.3% left with at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent, a difference of 1.8 percentage points. The corresponding proportions for non-grammar school leavers were 52.1% and 78.6% respectively, a difference of 26.5 percentage points ([Table 1](#), [Figure 2](#)).
- Again, looking at the difference between these two indicators, 72.5% of Catholic pupils left school with at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths, while 87.5% left with at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent, a difference of 15.0 percentage points. The corresponding proportions for Protestant school leavers were 69.3% and 85.5% respectively, a difference of 16.2 percentage points ([Table 3](#), [Table 9](#) & [Figure 2](#)).
- The proportion of pupils leaving non-grammar schools who achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths has increased by 1.1 percentage points from 51.0% in 2017/18 to 52.1% in 2018/19. The proportion of pupils leaving grammar schools who achieved this standard has remained similar at 94.3% in 2017/18 and 94.5% in 2018/19 ([Table 1](#)).



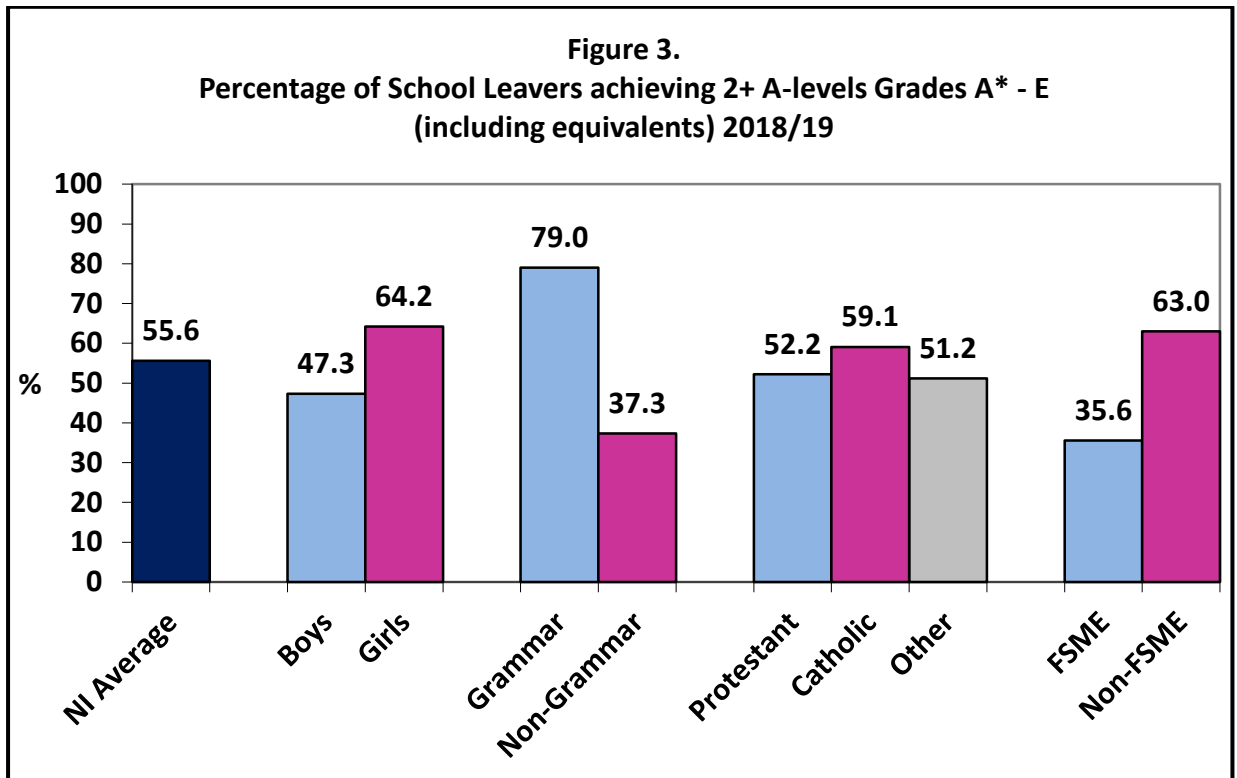
- In 2018/19, 37.9% (331) of Protestant boys entitled to free school meals have achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths compared with 46.7% (775) of Catholic boys entitled to free school meals ([Table 8](#)). A greater proportion of Protestant boys with entitlement to free school meals have achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths in 2018/19 when compared with 2017/18, representing an increase of 0.7 percentage points. The corresponding measure for Catholic boys with entitlement to free school meals remained the same at 46.7% in both 2017/18 and 2018/19.
- Similarly, 49.0% (445) of Protestant girls entitled to free school meals have achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths compared with 59.4% (1012) of Catholic girls entitled to free school meals ([Table 8](#)). When compared with 2017/18, a similar proportion of Protestant girls entitled to free school meals achieved this measure (49.1% in 2017/18) but there was an increase of 2.4 percentage points for Catholic girls (57.0% in 2017/18).
- Geographically the data can be analysed in terms of the school leaver's place of residence ([Table 6](#)). Analysis conducted using the 2014 District Council (DC) boundaries showed a 12.3 percentage point difference between the lowest achieving DC which was Belfast (66.4%) and the highest achieving DC which was Lisburn and Castlereagh (78.7%) when comparing those leavers achieving at least 5 GCSEs A* - C or equivalent including GCSE English and maths.

1.3 No GCSEs/ No Formal Qualifications

- More boys (96) left school in 2018/19 with no GCSEs or equivalent qualifications than girls (62), equating to 0.9% of all male school leavers and 0.6% of all female school leavers in 2018/19 ([Table 1](#), [Table 12](#) & [Table 13](#)).
- When free school meal entitlement is considered, 1.4% (82) of those entitled to free school meals left without any GCSEs compared with 0.5% (76) of school leavers who were not entitled to free school meals ([Table 5](#)).
- The proportion of pupils who left school in 2018/19 without any formal qualifications has remained the same at 0.6% in 2017/18 and 2018/19. This applied to both male and female school leavers as the proportion of boys and girls remained at 0.7% and 0.5% respectively ([Table 11](#), [Table 12](#) & [Table 13](#)).

1.4 A-levels and equivalent qualifications

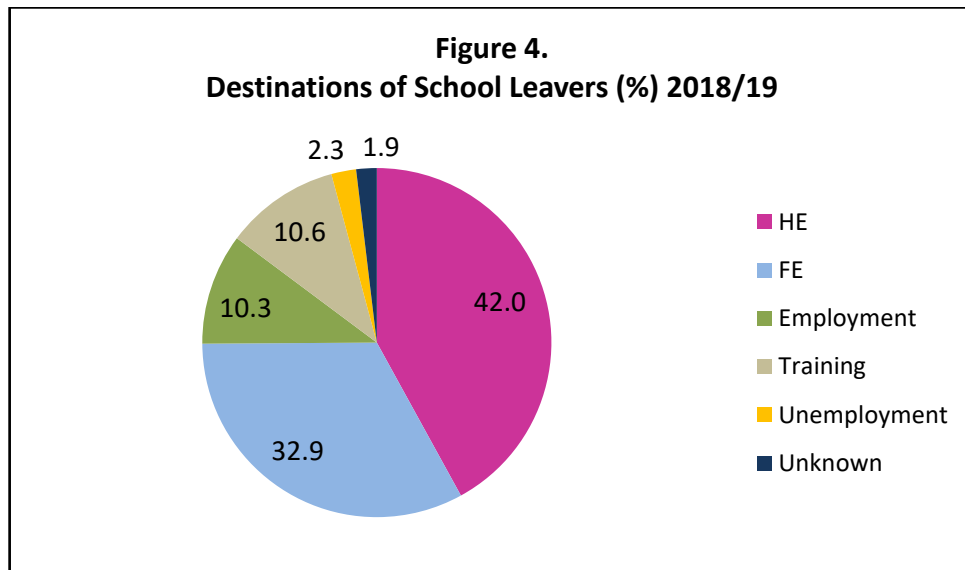
- The proportion of school leavers achieving three or more A-levels at grades A* - C or equivalent was 41.0% in 2018/19, an increase of 4.0 percentage points from five years ago (37.0% in 2013/14) ([Table 1](#), [Table 11](#)).
- The proportion of school leavers achieving two or more A-levels at grades A* - E or equivalent was 55.6% in 2018/19, which has remained similar to the 55.7% of school leavers achieving this measure in 2013/14 ([Table 1](#), [Table 11](#) & [Figure 3](#)).
- Girls continued to outperform boys in terms of A-level qualifications achieved. In 2018/19, 48.6% of girls achieved at least three A-levels at grades A* - C or equivalent on leaving school compared with 33.5% of boys. Girls (64.2%) also outperformed boys (47.3%) in achieving two or more A-levels at grades A* - E or equivalent in 2018/19 ([Table 1](#), [Table 12](#), [Table 13](#) & [Figure 3](#)).
- The proportion of non-grammar school leavers achieving at least two A-levels at grades A* - E or equivalent has increased by 1.8 percentage points from 35.5% in 2013/14 to 37.3% in 2018/19. Some 47.5% of non-grammar school girls have achieved this standard compared with 27.6% of non-grammar school boys ([Table 1](#), [Appendix A](#) & [Figure 3](#)).
- The proportion of grammar school leavers achieving at least two A-levels at grades A* - E or equivalent has decreased by 4.9 percentage points from 83.9% in 2013/14 to 79.0% in 2018/19. Some 84.6% of grammar school girls left school with two or more A-levels or equivalent compared with 73.2% of grammar school boys ([Table 1](#), [Appendix A](#) & [Figure 3](#)).



- The proportion of pupils leaving non-grammar schools who achieved at least two A-levels at grades A* - E or equivalent has decreased by 1.1 percentage points from 38.4% in 2017/18 to 37.3% in 2018/19. The proportion of pupils leaving grammar schools who achieved this standard has remained similar at 78.9% in 2017/18 and 79.0% in 2018/19 ([Table 1](#)).
- When religion of pupil was considered, 59.1% of Catholic school leavers achieved two or more A-levels at grades A* - E or equivalent in 2018/19 compared with 52.2% of Protestant school leavers ([Table 3](#), [Figure 3](#)).
- The proportion of pupils achieving at least two A-levels at grades A* - E or equivalent was higher for those school leavers who were not entitled to free school meals (Non-FSME) 63.0%, compared with 35.6% of school leavers entitled to free school meals (FSME) ([Table 5](#), [Figure 3](#)).

Section 2: Destinations

The main destination of the school leaver is reported by the pupil and recorded by the school.



- In total, 42.0% of pupils leaving school in 2018/19 entered Institutions of Higher Education. At 49.2%, the proportion of girls continuing on to Institutions of Higher Education was higher than that for boys (35.0%) ([Table 14](#), [Figure 4](#)).
- When religion of pupil was considered, 38.3% of Protestant school leavers entered Institutions of Higher Education compared with 45.3% of Catholic school leavers ([Table 15](#)).
- The proportion of school leavers continuing on to Institutions of Higher Education has remained similar to five years ago, at 41.8% in 2013/14 and 42.0% in 2018/19. The proportion continuing on to Institutions of Further Education decreased from 35.4% in 2013/14 to 32.9% in 2018/19 ([Table 22](#)).
- In 2018/19, school leavers not entitled to free school meals were more likely to continue their education with 79.0% entering institutions of Higher or Further Education compared with 63.9% of leavers who were entitled to free school meals ([Table 17](#)).
- The proportion of school leavers entering employment has increased by 3.4 percentage points from 6.9% in 2013/14 to 10.3% in 2018/19 ([Table 22](#)).
- At 15.3%, the proportion of boys entering Training was more than double that of girls (5.8%) ([Table 14](#)).
- Overall, 95.8% of 2018/19 school leavers were recorded by their school as entering Education, Employment or Training. When school type was considered, 98.1% of grammar school leavers and 94.1% of non-grammar school leavers were recorded as having these destinations ([Table 14](#)).

Section 3: Notes to Readers

National Statistics

1. The Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) within the United Kingdom Statistics Authority (UKSA) 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 Statistics](#). National Statistics status means that our statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value, and it is our responsibility to maintain compliance with these standards.

Qualifications and Destinations of Northern Ireland School Leavers were assessed in July 2010. Following work to address recommendations that were identified from the assessment (https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/images-assessment-report-51-schools-for-northern-ireland_tcm97-33759.pdf) the UKSA confirmed the designation of these statistics as National Statistics in June 2011.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Since being designated as National Statistics, we have continued to comply with the Code of Practice for Statistics.

2. For general enquiries about National Statistics, contact the Office for National Statistics Customer Contact Centre on 0845 601 3034

E-mail: info@ons.gov.uk

Fax: 01633 652747

Letters: Customer Contact Centre, Office for National Statistics, Rm D265, Government Buildings, Cardiff Road, Newport, South Wales, NP10 8XG

3. You can also find National Statistics on the [Internet](#)³

School Leavers Survey

4. For more detail about the procedures used in the collection of school leavers data and further information about the quality of the data used, such as relevance, accuracy, reliability and confidentiality, click [here](#)⁴.
Special analysis of the school leavers survey can be produced on request.
5. Information presenting qualifications and destinations of school leavers in Wales, England, Scotland and the Republic of Ireland is not reported as policy differences

³ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/>

⁴ <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/publications/school-leavers-data-collection-and-validation>

between the regions make direct comparisons difficult. Figures relating to these regions can be accessed at the links below:

Wales:

<http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/?topic=Education+and+skills&lang=en#/statistics-and-research/?topics=Education+and+skills&subtopics=Qualifications&view=Search+results&lang=en>

England:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-education-and-training>

Scotland:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/PubAttainment>

Republic of Ireland:

<http://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Statistics/>

6. A comparison of Northern Ireland pupils is available in an international context through the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). PISA, organised by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) aims to compare standards of achievement for 15 year olds in reading, mathematics and science, between participating countries. It takes place every 3 years. [2018 results](#)⁵ were published in December 2019.
7. Further information on examination equivalencies can be obtained from: <http://register.ofqual.gov.uk/Qualification>
8. The numbers relating to qualifications are cumulative totals of the level detailed and those above. For example, 86.4% of school leavers achieved at least 5 GCSEs at grades A* - C including equivalents. This proportion is calculated by adding those with a highest qualification of 3+ A-levels, 2 A-levels, 1 A-level & 5 GCSEs A* - C and dividing by the total number of school leavers.
9. Destinations are reported by the school leaver and recorded by the school.
10. Since 2012/13, two AS qualifications have not been counted as one A-level as in previous years.
11. The school leaving cohort comprises of year 12, 13 and 14 pupils leaving mainstream grant-aided post-primary schools. As the school leavers data collection and validation process took place in the 2019/20 academic year, it was not possible to collect or validate information for a small number of pupils who left schools that had closed at the end of the 2018/19 academic year.
12. Percentages have been rounded to one decimal place and as a consequence, some percentages may not sum to 100.

⁵ <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/publications/pisa-2018-achievement-15-year-olds-main-focus-reading>

13. School leavers FSM entitlement is usually taken at the point pupils leave school. However, a quality issue was identified with the FSM entitlement information received as part of the school leavers data collection in 2016/17. A decision was made to make use of the Department's FSM entitlement data taken from the 2016/17 annual School Census. The FSM data were collected in October 2016 and validated by the Education Authority. Therefore any impact on FSM entitlement data will be minimal. This issue related to 2016/17 data only.
14. Following the introduction of General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) on 25th May 2018, Analytical Services Unit has updated its privacy notice. A link to the privacy notice and Analytical Service Units other statistical protocols can be found here <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/publications/statistical-policies>
15. Data relating to the qualifications and destinations of school leavers with special educational needs (SEN) is not available for 2018/19. A full review of SEN categories was undertaken in 2017/18 and consequently a new list of SEN categories and associated descriptors was created. The changes to the categories were implemented from January 2019 and therefore impacted on the 2018/19 data relating to school leavers with SEN as schools transitioned to the new system. It is anticipated that data relating to the attainment and destinations of school leavers within the new list of SEN categories will be available from 2019/20 onwards. Further information on the review of SEN categories can be found here: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/articles/recording-children-special-educational-needs>

Contact details for further information

Requests for further information should be addressed to:-

Jessica McCallion
Analytical Services Unit
Department of Education
Rathgael House
Balloo Road
Rathgill
Bangor
BT19 7PR

Telephone (028) 9185 8015
E-mail jessica.mccallion@education-ni.gov.uk

DE Statistical Bulletins can be accessed at the DE Internet site – <http://www.education-ni.gov.uk> under the Statistics and research section.

Press enquiries should be made to the Department's Press Office at the same address, telephone (028) 9127 9772 or press.office@education-ni.gov.uk

Please send any feedback on the content or presentation of this publication to the E-mail address: jessica.mccallion@education-ni.gov.uk

Section 4: 2018/19 Tables

Table 1

Qualifications of school leavers by gender and school type 2018/2019⁽¹⁾

	BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
GRAMMAR						
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	2665	56.5	3362	70.1	6027	63.3
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	3333	70.6	3982	83.1	7315	76.9
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	3457	73.2	4058	84.6	7515	79.0
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	4472	94.7	4693	97.9	9165	96.3
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	4348	92.1	4643	96.9	8991	94.5
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	4692	99.4	4771	99.5	9463	99.5
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	7	0.1	7	0.1	14	0.1
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	7	0.1	7	0.1	14	0.1
TOTAL GRAMMAR	4720	100.0	4794	100.0	9514	100.0
NON-GRAMMAR						
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	1001	16.1	1822	31.1	2823	23.4
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	1486	23.9	2532	43.2	4018	33.2
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	1715	27.6	2789	47.5	4504	37.3
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	4620	74.3	4877	83.1	9497	78.6
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	2866	46.1	3429	58.5	6295	52.1
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	5849	94.0	5648	96.3	11497	95.1
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	89	1.4	55	0.9	144	1.2
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	72	1.2	45	0.8	117	1.0
TOTAL NON-GRAMMAR	6221	100.0	5866	100.0	12087	100.0
TOTAL						
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	3666	33.5	5184	48.6	8850	41.0
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	4819	44.0	6514	61.1	11333	52.5
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	5172	47.3	6847	64.2	12019	55.6
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	9092	83.1	9570	89.8	18662	86.4
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	7214	65.9	8072	75.7	15286	70.8
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	10541	96.3	10419	97.7	20960	97.0
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	96	0.9	62	0.6	158	0.7
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	79	0.7	52	0.5	131	0.6
TOTAL LEAVERS	10941	100.0	10660	100.0	21601	100.0

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Includes equivalent qualifications.
3. Includes those who undertook no GCSE examinations or obtained no graded results but who obtained other qualifications.
4. Includes only those with no qualifications of any kind.

Please see Notes to Readers point 8 for an explanation on how these figures are calculated.

Table 2

Highest qualification of school leavers by destination 2018/2019⁽¹⁾

	Institutions of Higher Education ⁽⁴⁾		Institutions of Further Education		Employment		Training ⁽⁵⁾		Unemployment		Unknown		Total	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
A-levels														
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	8841	78.0	1237	10.9	905	8.0	217	1.9	84	0.7	49	0.4	11333	100.0
2 A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	208	30.3	226	32.9	168	24.5	43	6.3	31	4.5	10	1.5	686	100.0
1 A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	18	8.1	112	50.2	59	26.5	18	8.1	11	4.9	5	2.2	223	100.0
GCSEs														
5+ A*-C (or equivalent) ⁽²⁾	0	0.0	4120	64.2	763	11.9	1165	18.1	161	2.5	211	3.3	6420	100.0
1-4 A*-C (or equivalent) ⁽²⁾	0	0.0	1276	50.6	287	11.4	733	29.0	137	5.4	91	3.6	2524	100.0
Other grades (1+ D-G) ⁽²⁾	0	0.0	100	38.9	35	13.6	75	29.2	35	13.6	12	4.7	257	100.0
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	0	0.0	35	22.2	16	10.1	46	29.1	30	19.0	31	19.6	158	100.0
TOTAL LEAVERS	9067		7106		2233		2297		489		409		21601	

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Includes equivalent qualifications.
3. Includes those who undertook no GCSE examinations or obtained no graded results but who obtained other qualifications.
4. Includes universities and teacher training colleges.
5. Numbers entering training include those entering the Training for Success programme, operated by the Department for the Economy. Training on Training for Success is delivered by a range of training providers, including Further Education Colleges. Training for Success trainees who receive training at Further Education Colleges are recorded as being in training and not in Further Education. This convention avoids double counting of Training for Success trainees.

Table 3

Qualifications of school leavers by gender and religion of pupil 2018/2019⁽¹⁾

	BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
PROTESTANT						
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	1253	30.8	1810	45.7	3063	38.2
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	1658	40.8	2292	57.9	3950	49.2
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	1772	43.6	2418	61.1	4190	52.2
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	3357	82.6	3504	88.5	6861	85.5
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	2616	64.4	2939	74.3	5555	69.3
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	3937	96.9	3854	97.4	7791	97.1
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	37	0.9	23	0.6	60	0.7
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	26	0.6	19	0.5	45	0.6
TOTAL PROTESTANT	4063	100.0	3958	100.0	8021	100.0
CATHOLIC						
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	1969	35.9	2843	51.5	4812	43.7
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	2587	47.1	3563	64.6	6150	55.9
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	2770	50.5	3740	67.8	6510	59.1
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	4605	83.9	5030	91.2	9635	87.5
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	3711	67.6	4267	77.3	7978	72.5
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	5285	96.3	5416	98.2	10701	97.2
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	43	0.8	28	0.5	71	0.6
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	39	0.7	23	0.4	62	0.6
TOTAL CATHOLIC	5488	100.0	5518	100.0	11006	100.0
OTHER⁽⁵⁾						
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	444	31.9	531	44.8	975	37.9
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	574	41.3	659	55.7	1233	47.9
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	630	45.3	689	58.2	1319	51.2
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	1130	81.3	1036	87.5	2166	84.1
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	887	63.8	866	73.1	1753	68.1
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	1319	94.9	1149	97.0	2468	95.9
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	16	1.2	11	0.9	27	1.0
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	14	1.0	10	0.8	24	0.9
TOTAL OTHER⁽⁵⁾	1390	100.0	1184	100.0	2574	100.0

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Includes equivalent qualifications.
3. Includes those who undertook no GCSE examinations or obtained no graded results but who obtained other qualifications.
4. Includes only those with no qualifications of any kind.
5. Other includes Other Christian, No religion and Non-Christian.

Please see Notes to Readers point 8 for an explanation on how these figures are calculated.

Table 4

Qualifications of school leavers by ethnic origin 2018/2019⁽¹⁾

	TOTAL	
	Numbers	%
WHITE ⁽⁵⁾		
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	8570	41.0
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	10942	52.4
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	11606	55.6
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	18068	86.5
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	14836	71.1
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	20290	97.2
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	140	0.7
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	115	0.6
TOTAL WHITE ⁽⁵⁾	20880	100.0
MINORITY ETHNIC GROUPS ⁽⁵⁾		
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	280	38.8
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	391	54.2
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	413	57.3
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	594	82.4
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	450	62.4
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	670	92.9
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	18	2.5
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	16	2.2
TOTAL MINORITY ETHNIC GROUPS ⁽⁵⁾	721	100.0

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Includes equivalent qualifications.
3. Includes those who undertook no GCSE examinations or obtained no graded results but who obtained other qualifications.
4. Includes only those with no qualifications of any kind.
5. 'Minority Ethnic Groups' includes Irish Travellers. 'White' does not include Irish Travellers.

Please see Notes to Readers point 8 for an explanation on how these figures are calculated.

Table 5

Qualifications of school leavers by gender and free school meal entitlement 2018/2019⁽¹⁾

	BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
ENTITLED TO FSM						
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	452	15.7	859	29.6	1311	22.7
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	665	23.2	1179	40.6	1844	31.9
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	759	26.4	1296	44.6	2055	35.6
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	2035	70.9	2343	80.7	4378	75.8
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	1244	43.3	1615	55.6	2859	49.5
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	2658	92.6	2772	95.4	5430	94.0
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	50	1.7	32	1.1	82	1.4
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	40	1.4	28	1.0	68	1.2
TOTAL ENTITLED TO FSM	2871	100.0	2905	100.0	5776	100.0
NOT ENTITLED TO FSM						
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	3214	39.8	4325	55.8	7539	47.6
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	4154	51.5	5335	68.8	9489	60.0
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	4413	54.7	5551	71.6	9964	63.0
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	7057	87.4	7227	93.2	14284	90.3
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	5970	74.0	6457	83.3	12427	78.5
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	7883	97.7	7647	98.6	15530	98.1
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	46	0.6	30	0.4	76	0.5
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	39	0.5	24	0.3	63	0.4
TOTAL NOT ENTITLED TO FSM	8070	100.0	7755	100.0	15825	100.0

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Includes equivalent qualifications.
3. Includes those who undertook no GCSE examinations or obtained no graded results but who obtained other qualifications.
4. Includes only those with no qualifications of any kind.

Please see Notes to Readers point 8 for an explanation on how these figures are calculated.

Table 6

Qualifications of school leavers by 2014 District Council of pupil residence 2018/2019^{(1) (3)}

	2 or more A-levels Grades A*-E ⁽²⁾		At least 5 GCSEs Grades A*-C ⁽²⁾		At least 5 GCSEs Grades A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc. GCSE English and maths		Total Leavers
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
DISTRICT COUNCIL							
Antrim and Newtownabbey	929	57.1	1385	85.2	1148	70.6	1626
Ards and North Down	917	54.9	1476	88.4	1187	71.1	1670
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	1182	46.9	2078	82.5	1721	68.3	2520
Belfast	1902	58.4	2835	87.1	2162	66.4	3256
Causeway Coast and Glens	858	51.4	1472	88.2	1168	70.0	1669
Derry City and Strabane	1112	54.1	1779	86.6	1441	70.1	2055
Fermanagh and Omagh	850	62.5	1228	90.2	1046	76.9	1361
Lisburn and Castlereagh	1005	63.6	1431	90.5	1244	78.7	1581
Mid and East Antrim	856	54.0	1292	81.5	1090	68.8	1585
Mid Ulster	1012	55.7	1602	88.1	1327	73.0	1818
Newry, Mourne and Down	1304	56.5	1954	84.7	1658	71.9	2307
Invalid/Missing/Unknown Postcodes	92	60.1	130	85.0	94	61.4	153
TOTAL LEAVERS	12019	55.6	18662	86.4	15286	70.8	21601

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Includes equivalent qualifications.
3. District Council of pupil residence is based on the residential postcode of each individual pupil.

Please see Notes to Readers point 8 for an explanation on how these figures are calculated.

Table 7

School leavers *not entitled* to free school meals achieving at least 5 GCSEs⁽²⁾ A*-C inc. GCSE English and GCSE maths by gender and religion of pupil 2018/2019⁽¹⁾

	BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
PROTESTANT	2285	71.7	2494	81.8	4779	76.6
Total	3189		3050		6239	
CATHOLIC	2936	76.7	3255	85.3	6191	81.0
Total	3830		3815		7645	
OTHER⁽³⁾	749	71.3	708	79.6	1457	75.1
Total	1051		890		1941	
ALL RELIGIONS	5970	74.0	6457	83.3	12427	78.5
Total	8070		7755		15825	

Table 8

School leavers *entitled* to free school meals achieving at least 5 GCSEs⁽²⁾ A*-C inc. GCSE English and GCSE maths by gender and religion of pupil 2018/2019⁽¹⁾

	BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
PROTESTANT	331	37.9	445	49.0	776	43.5
Total	874		908		1782	
CATHOLIC	775	46.7	1012	59.4	1787	53.2
Total	1658		1703		3361	
OTHER⁽³⁾	138	40.7	158	53.7	296	46.8
Total	339		294		633	
ALL RELIGIONS	1244	43.3	1615	55.6	2859	49.5
Total	2871		2905		5776	

Table 9

School leavers achieving at least 5 GCSEs⁽²⁾ A*-C inc. GCSE English and GCSE maths by gender and religion of pupil 2018/2019⁽¹⁾

	BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
PROTESTANT	2616	64.4	2939	74.3	5555	69.3
Total	4063		3958		8021	
CATHOLIC	3711	67.6	4267	77.3	7978	72.5
Total	5488		5518		11006	
OTHER⁽³⁾	887	63.8	866	73.1	1753	68.1
Total	1390		1184		2574	
ALL RELIGIONS	7214	65.9	8072	75.7	15286	70.8
Total	10941		10660		21601	

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Includes equivalent qualifications.
3. Other includes Other Christian, No religion and Non-Christian.

Please see Notes to Readers point 8 for an explanation on how these figures are calculated.

Table 10

Qualifications of school leavers by special educational need (SEN) status

Data relating to the qualifications and destinations of school leavers with special educational needs (SEN) is not available for 2018/19, as a consequence of the changes to SEN categories and associated descriptors that was implemented from January 2019.

Please see Notes to Readers point 15 for further information.

Table 11

Qualifications of school leavers 2013/2014 to 2018/2019⁽¹⁾

	2013/14 %	2014/15 %	2015/16 %	2016/17 %	2017/18 %	2018/19 %
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	37.0	38.2	38.4	40.7	40.7	41.0
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	50.8	52.4	52.4	54.3	53.4	52.5
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	55.7	57.7	57.3	58.5	56.7	55.6
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	78.6	81.1	81.7	83.8	85.2	86.4
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	63.5	66.0	67.7	69.6	70.6	70.8
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	95.2	95.9	95.7	96.6	96.6	97.0
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.7
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.6
TOTAL LEAVERS	22636	22361	22746	21983	21562	21601

Table 12

Qualifications of male school leavers 2013/2014 to 2018/2019⁽¹⁾

	2013/14 %	2014/15 %	2015/16 %	2016/17 %	2017/18 %	2018/19 %
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	30.2	31.1	31.2	33.0	33.3	33.5
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	43.4	44.5	44.2	45.7	45.0	44.0
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	48.1	49.5	48.8	49.9	48.5	47.3
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	74.1	76.9	77.5	79.7	81.5	83.1
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	58.6	61.6	63.3	64.7	66.0	65.9
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	94.0	95.1	94.8	95.7	95.9	96.3
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	1.2	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.9
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.7
TOTAL LEAVERS	11632	11393	11562	11185	11181	10941

Table 13

Qualifications of female school leavers 2013/2014 to 2018/2019⁽¹⁾

	2013/14 %	2014/15 %	2015/16 %	2016/17 %	2017/18 %	2018/19 %
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	44.2	45.7	45.9	48.8	48.6	48.6
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	58.6	60.5	60.9	63.2	62.4	61.1
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	63.6	66.2	66.1	67.4	65.6	64.2
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	83.4	85.4	86.1	88.1	89.2	89.8
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	68.6	70.5	72.2	74.6	75.6	75.7
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	96.5	96.7	96.7	97.5	97.4	97.7
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.6
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.5
TOTAL LEAVERS	11004	10968	11184	10798	10381	10660

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Includes equivalent qualifications.
3. Includes those who undertook no GCSE examinations or obtained no graded results but who obtained other qualifications.
4. Includes only those with no qualifications of any kind.

Please see Notes to Readers point 8 for an explanation on how these figures are calculated and point 10 in relation to A-level figures.

Table 14

Destination of school leavers by school type and gender 2018/2019⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
GRAMMAR						
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽³⁾	2931	62.1	3573	74.5	6504	68.4
Institutions of Further Education	1083	22.9	839	17.5	1922	20.2
Employment	293	6.2	243	5.1	536	5.6
Training ⁽⁴⁾	306	6.5	61	1.3	367	3.9
Unemployment	29	0.6	32	0.7	61	0.6
Destinations Unknown	78	1.7	46	1.0	124	1.3
TOTAL GRAMMAR	4720	100.0	4794	100.0	9514	100.0
NON-GRAMMAR						
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽³⁾	896	14.4	1667	28.4	2563	21.2
Institutions of Further Education	2663	42.8	2521	43.0	5184	42.9
Employment	922	14.8	775	13.2	1697	14.0
Training ⁽⁴⁾	1372	22.1	558	9.5	1930	16.0
Unemployment	217	3.5	211	3.6	428	3.5
Destinations Unknown	151	2.4	134	2.3	285	2.4
TOTAL NON-GRAMMAR	6221	100.0	5866	100.0	12087	100.0
TOTAL						
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽³⁾	3827	35.0	5240	49.2	9067	42.0
Institutions of Further Education	3746	34.2	3360	31.5	7106	32.9
Employment	1215	11.1	1018	9.5	2233	10.3
Training ⁽⁴⁾	1678	15.3	619	5.8	2297	10.6
Unemployment	246	2.2	243	2.3	489	2.3
Destinations Unknown	229	2.1	180	1.7	409	1.9
TOTAL LEAVERS	10941	100.0	10660	100.0	21601	100.0

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Destination is defined by Institution. Institutions may provide courses at both Further and Higher Education levels.
3. Includes universities and teacher training colleges.
4. Numbers entering training include those entering the Training for Success programme, operated by the Department for the Economy. Training on Training for Success is delivered by a range of training providers, including Further Education Colleges. Training for Success trainees who receive training at Further Education Colleges are recorded as being in training and not in Further Education. This convention avoids double counting of Training for Success trainees.

Table 15

Destination of school leavers by gender and religion of pupil 2018/2019⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
PROTESTANT						
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽⁴⁾	1285	31.6	1788	45.2	3073	38.3
Institutions of Further Education	1571	38.7	1360	34.4	2931	36.5
Employment	505	12.4	386	9.8	891	11.1
Training ⁽⁵⁾	515	12.7	219	5.5	734	9.2
Unemployment	103	2.5	121	3.1	224	2.8
Destinations Unknown	84	2.1	84	2.1	168	2.1
TOTAL PROTESTANT	4063	100.0	3958	100.0	8021	100.0
CATHOLIC						
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽⁴⁾	2070	37.7	2920	52.9	4990	45.3
Institutions of Further Education	1626	29.6	1584	28.7	3210	29.2
Employment	574	10.5	511	9.3	1085	9.9
Training ⁽⁵⁾	1016	18.5	340	6.2	1356	12.3
Unemployment	102	1.9	90	1.6	192	1.7
Destinations Unknown	100	1.8	73	1.3	173	1.6
TOTAL CATHOLIC	5488	100.0	5518	100.0	11006	100.0
OTHER⁽³⁾						
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽⁴⁾	472	34.0	532	44.9	1004	39.0
Institutions of Further Education	549	39.5	416	35.1	965	37.5
Employment	136	9.8	121	10.2	257	10.0
Training ⁽⁵⁾	147	10.6	60	5.1	207	8.0
Unemployment	41	2.9	32	2.7	73	2.8
Destinations Unknown	45	3.2	23	1.9	68	2.6
TOTAL OTHER⁽³⁾	1390	100.0	1184	100.0	2574	100.0

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Destination is defined by Institution. Institution may provide courses at both Further and Higher Education levels.
3. Other includes Other Christian, No religion and Non-Christian.
4. Includes universities and teacher training colleges.
5. Numbers entering training include those entering the Training for Success programme, operated by the Department for the Economy. Training on Training for Success is delivered by a range of training providers, including Further Education Colleges. Training for Success trainees who receive training at Further Education Colleges are recorded as being in training and not in Further Education. This convention avoids double counting of Training for Success trainees.

Table 16

Destination of school leavers by ethnic origin 2018/2019⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	Total	
	Numbers	%
WHITE⁽³⁾		
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽⁴⁾	8739	41.9
Institutions of Further Education	6863	32.9
Employment	2177	10.4
Training ⁽⁵⁾	2249	10.8
Unemployment	471	2.3
Destinations Unknown	381	1.8
TOTAL WHITE⁽³⁾	20880	100.0
MINORITY ETHNIC GROUPS⁽³⁾		
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽⁴⁾	328	45.5
Institutions of Further Education	243	33.7
Employment	56	7.8
Training ⁽⁵⁾	48	6.7
Unemployment	18	2.5
Destinations Unknown	28	3.9
TOTAL MINORITY ETHNIC GROUPS⁽³⁾	721	100.0

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Destination is defined by Institution. Institution may provide courses at both Further and Higher Education levels.
3. 'Minority Ethnic Groups' includes Irish Travellers. 'White' does not include Irish Travellers.
4. Includes universities and teacher training colleges.
5. Numbers entering training include those entering the Training for Success programme, operated by the Department for the Economy. Training on Training for Success is delivered by a range of training providers, including Further Education Colleges. Training for Success trainees who receive training at Further Education Colleges are recorded as being in training and not in Further Education. This convention avoids double counting of Training for Success trainees.

Table 17

Destination of school leavers by free school meal entitlement and gender 2018/2019⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
ENTITLED TO FSM						
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽³⁾	481	16.8	839	28.9	1320	22.9
Institutions of Further Education	1153	40.2	1213	41.8	2366	41.0
Employment	374	13.0	373	12.8	747	12.9
Training ⁽⁴⁾	668	23.3	287	9.9	955	16.5
Unemployment	109	3.8	114	3.9	223	3.9
Destinations Unknown	86	3.0	79	2.7	165	2.9
TOTAL ENTITLED TO FSM	2871	100.0	2905	100.0	5776	100.0
NOT ENTITLED TO FSM						
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽³⁾	3346	41.5	4401	56.8	7747	49.0
Institutions of Further Education	2593	32.1	2147	27.7	4740	30.0
Employment	841	10.4	645	8.3	1486	9.4
Training ⁽⁴⁾	1010	12.5	332	4.3	1342	8.5
Unemployment	137	1.7	129	1.7	266	1.7
Destinations Unknown	143	1.8	101	1.3	244	1.5
TOTAL NOT ENTITLED TO FSM	8070	100.0	7755	100.0	15825	100.0

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Destination is defined by Institution. Institution may provide courses at both Further and Higher Education levels.
3. Includes universities and teacher training colleges.
4. Numbers entering training include those entering the Training for Success programme, operated by the Department for the Economy. Training on Training for Success is delivered by a range of training providers, including Further Education Colleges. Training for Success trainees who receive training at Further Education Colleges are recorded as being in training and not in Further Education. This convention avoids double counting of Training for Success trainees.

Table 18

Destination of school leavers by special educational need (SEN) status

Data relating to the qualifications and destinations of school leavers with special educational needs (SEN) is not available for 2018/19, as a consequence of the changes to SEN categories and associated descriptors that was implemented from January 2019.

Please see Notes to Readers point 15 for further information.

Table 19

Destination of school leavers by 2014 District Council of pupil residence 2018/2019⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾⁽³⁾

	Institutions of Higher Education ⁽⁴⁾		Institutions of Further Education		Employment		Training ⁽⁵⁾		Unemployment and Unknown		Total	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
DISTRICT COUNCIL												
Antrim and Newtownabbey	641	39.4	489	30.1	222	13.7	185	11.4	89	5.5	1626	100.0
Ards and North Down	640	38.3	665	39.8	225	13.5	81	4.9	59	3.5	1670	100.0
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	904	35.9	1045	41.5	160	6.3	312	12.4	99	3.9	2520	100.0
Belfast	1349	41.4	822	25.2	537	16.5	378	11.6	170	5.2	3256	100.0
Causeway Coast and Glens	653	39.1	705	42.2	121	7.2	116	7.0	74	4.4	1669	100.0
Derry City and Strabane	873	42.5	673	32.7	156	7.6	287	14.0	66	3.2	2055	100.0
Fermanagh and Omagh	711	52.2	400	29.4	94	6.9	132	9.7	24	1.8	1361	100.0
Lisburn and Castlereagh	779	49.3	501	31.7	148	9.4	93	5.9	60	3.8	1581	100.0
Mid and East Antrim	644	40.6	399	25.2	163	10.3	233	14.7	146	9.2	1585	100.0
Mid Ulster	783	43.1	587	32.3	167	9.2	228	12.5	53	2.9	1818	100.0
Newry, Mourne and Down	1013	43.9	776	33.6	235	10.2	231	10.0	52	2.3	2307	100.0
Invalid/Missing/Unknown Postcodes	77	50.3	44	28.8	5	3.3	21	13.7	6	3.9	153	100.0
TOTAL LEAVERS	9067	42.0	7106	32.9	2233	10.3	2297	10.6	898	4.2	21601	100.0

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Destination is defined by Institution. Institution may provide courses at both Further and Higher Education levels.
3. District Council of pupil residence is based on the residential postcode of each individual pupil.
4. Includes universities and teacher training colleges.
5. Numbers entering training include those entering the Training for Success programme, operated by the Department for the Economy. Training on Training for Success is delivered by a range of training providers, including Further Education Colleges. Training for Success trainees who receive training at Further Education Colleges are recorded as being in training and not in Further Education. This convention avoids double counting of Training for Success trainee

Table 20

Higher Education destination by country of institution and gender of pupil 2018/2019⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾⁽³⁾

	Boys		Girls		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
NI Institution	2816	73.6	3699	70.6	6515	71.9
GB Institution	899	23.5	1455	27.8	2354	26.0
Other Institution ⁽⁴⁾	112	2.9	86	1.6	198	2.2
Total	3827	100.0	5240	100.0	9067	100.0

Table 21

Higher Education destination by country of institution and religion of pupil 2018/2019⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾⁽³⁾

	Protestant		Catholic		Other ⁽⁵⁾		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
NI Institution	2076	67.6	3871	77.6	568	56.6	6515	71.9
GB Institution	961	31.3	975	19.5	418	41.6	2354	26.0
Other Institution ⁽⁴⁾	36	1.2	144	2.9	18	1.8	198	2.2
Total	3073	100.0	4990	100.0	1004	100.0	9067	100.0

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Destination is defined by Institution. Institution may provide courses at both Further and Higher Education levels.
3. Includes universities and teacher training colleges.
4. Includes Non-UK and unknown higher education institutions.
5. Other includes Other Christian, No religion and Non-Christian.

Table 22

Destination of school leavers 2013/2014 to 2018/2019 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	2013/14 %	2014/15 %	2015/16 %	2016/17 %	2017/18 %	2018/19 %
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽³⁾	41.8	42.3	42.9	43.3	43.1	42.0
Institutions of Further Education	35.4	35.0	34.4	34.0	33.5	32.9
Employment	6.9	8.4	8.9	8.8	9.7	10.3
Training ⁽⁴⁾	10.4	9.8	9.7	9.8	9.9	10.6
Unemployment	2.6	2.8	2.5	2.5	2.1	2.3
Destinations Unknown	2.9	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.9
TOTAL LEAVERS	22636	22361	22746	21983	21562	21601

Table 23

Destination of male school leavers 2013/2014 to 2018/2019 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	2013/14 %	2014/15 %	2015/16 %	2016/17 %	2017/18 %	2018/19 %
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽³⁾	35.8	34.7	35.7	35.8	36.0	35.0
Institutions of Further Education	36.5	37.3	36.7	36.0	34.5	34.2
Employment	7.4	9.3	9.5	9.9	10.8	11.1
Training ⁽⁴⁾	14.5	13.5	13.8	14.5	14.5	15.3
Unemployment	2.6	3.1	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.2
Destinations Unknown	3.2	2.2	2.0	1.4	2.0	2.1
TOTAL LEAVERS	11632	11393	11562	11185	11181	10941

Table 24

Destination of female school leavers 2013/2014 to 2018/2019 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	2013/14 %	2014/15 %	2015/16 %	2016/17 %	2017/18 %	2018/19 %
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽³⁾	48.1	50.2	50.3	51.1	50.7	49.2
Institutions of Further Education	34.2	32.7	32.1	32.0	32.4	31.5
Employment	6.3	7.4	8.3	7.8	8.6	9.5
Training ⁽⁴⁾	6.1	5.9	5.4	5.0	5.0	5.8
Unemployment	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.6	1.9	2.3
Destinations Unknown	2.7	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.4	1.7
TOTAL LEAVERS	11004	10968	11184	10798	10381	10660

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Destination is defined by Institution. Institution may provide courses at both Further and Higher Education levels.
3. Includes universities and teacher training colleges.
4. Numbers entering training include those entering the Training for Success programme, operated by the Department for the Economy. Training on Training for Success is delivered by a range of training providers, including Further Education Colleges. Training for Success trainees who receive training at Further Education Colleges are recorded as being in training and not in Further Education. This convention avoids double counting of Training for Success trainees.

Section 5: Appendices 2013/14

Appendix A

Qualifications of school leavers by gender and school type 2013/2014⁽¹⁾

	BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
GRAMMAR						
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	2661	57.4	3395	70.6	6056	64.1
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	3545	76.5	4112	85.5	7657	81.0
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	3702	79.8	4221	87.7	7923	83.9
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	4460	96.2	4735	98.4	9195	97.3
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	4290	92.5	4609	95.8	8899	94.2
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	4620	99.6	4793	99.6	9413	99.6
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	#	#	*	*	9	0.1
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	#	#	*	*	9	0.1
TOTAL GRAMMAR	4637	100.0	4812	100.0	9449	100.0
NON-GRAMMAR						
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	852	12.2	1466	23.7	2318	17.6
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	1501	21.5	2334	37.7	3835	29.1
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	1898	27.1	2782	44.9	4680	35.5
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	4161	59.5	4437	71.7	8598	65.2
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	2530	36.2	2944	47.5	5474	41.5
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	6316	90.3	5824	94.1	12140	92.1
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	#	#	#	#	217	1.6
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	#	#	#	#	170	1.3
TOTAL NON-GRAMMAR	6995	100.0	6192	100.0	13187	100.0
TOTAL						
3+ A-levels A*-C ⁽²⁾	3513	30.2	4861	44.2	8374	37.0
3+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	5046	43.4	6446	58.6	11492	50.8
2+ A-levels A*-E ⁽²⁾	5600	48.1	7003	63.6	12603	55.7
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾	8621	74.1	9172	83.4	17793	78.6
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-C ⁽²⁾ inc English and maths	6820	58.6	7553	68.6	14373	63.5
At Least 5 GCSEs A*-G ⁽²⁾	10936	94.0	10617	96.5	21553	95.2
No GCSEs ⁽³⁾	135	1.2	91	0.8	226	1.0
No Formal Qualifications ⁽⁴⁾	102	0.9	77	0.7	179	0.8
TOTAL LEAVERS	11632	100.0	11004	100.0	22636	100.0

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Includes equivalent qualifications.
3. Includes those who undertook no GCSE examinations or obtained no graded results but who obtained other qualifications.
4. Includes only those without qualifications of any kind.

* Denotes fewer than 5 pupils

Figure not provided under rules of statistical disclosure

Please see Notes to Readers point 8 for an explanation on how these figures are calculated and point 10 in relation to A-level figures.

Appendix B

Destinations of school leavers by gender and school type 2013/2014⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

	BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
GRAMMAR						
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽³⁾	3045	65.7	3628	75.4	6673	70.6
Institutions of Further Education	1102	23.8	841	17.5	1943	20.6
Employment	230	5.0	170	3.5	400	4.2
Training ⁽⁴⁾	106	2.3	25	0.5	131	1.4
Unemployment	50	1.1	58	1.2	108	1.1
Destinations Unknown	104	2.2	90	1.9	194	2.1
TOTAL GRAMMAR	4637	100.0	4812	100.0	9449	100.0
NON-GRAMMAR						
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽³⁾	1123	16.1	1667	26.9	2790	21.2
Institutions of Further Education	3142	44.9	2926	47.3	6068	46.0
Employment	631	9.0	525	8.5	1156	8.8
Training ⁽⁴⁾	1581	22.6	650	10.5	2231	16.9
Unemployment	252	3.6	220	3.6	472	3.6
Destinations Unknown	266	3.8	204	3.3	470	3.6
TOTAL NON-GRAMMAR	6995	100.0	6192	100.0	13187	100.0
TOTAL						
Institutions of Higher Education ⁽³⁾	4168	35.8	5295	48.1	9463	41.8
Institutions of Further Education	4244	36.5	3767	34.2	8011	35.4
Employment	861	7.4	695	6.3	1556	6.9
Training ⁽⁴⁾	1687	14.5	675	6.1	2362	10.4
Unemployment	302	2.6	278	2.5	580	2.6
Destinations Unknown	370	3.2	294	2.7	664	2.9
TOTAL LEAVERS	11632	100.0	11004	100.0	22636	100.0

NOTES

1. Excludes special and independent schools.
2. Destination is defined by Institution. Institutions may provide courses at both Further and Higher Education levels.
3. Includes universities and teacher training colleges.
4. Numbers entering training include those entering the Training for Success programme, operated by the Department for the Economy. Training on Training for Success is delivered by a range of training providers, including Further Education Colleges. Training for Success trainees who receive training at Further Education Colleges are recorded as being in training and not in Further Education. This convention avoids double counting of Training for Success trainees.