

Statistical Publication Notice

Lifelong Learning Series

A National Statistics Publication For Scotland

Education Maintenance Allowances 2010-11

26 January 2012



Scotland's Chief Statistician today published statistics on Education Maintenance Allowances (EMAs) in the academic year 2010-11. This release contains information on all students at school or at a college in Scotland who received at least one payment under the EMA scheme. This is the fourth year of full roll out of EMAs.

Summary of Key Findings

- **34,780 school pupils and college students received EMA payments in Scotland in the academic year 2010-11.** 61% of these were school pupils and 39% were college students. 48% of these were male and 52% were female (table 1).
- 32% (21,120) of all school pupils aged 16-19 years old in Scotland received an EMA payment in 2010-11 (table 1).
- The number of young people in receipt of EMA decreased by 7% (2,450) from 37,230 in 2009-10 to 34,780 in 2010-11 (table 1). This decrease is a lasting effect of the closure of the £10 and £20 a week payments to new entrants in 2009-10 (table 4).
- 25% (8,580) of EMA recipients whose deprivation classification was known in 2010-11 lived in one of Scotland's 15 per cent most deprived areas (table 3).

- **The total spend on EMAs in 2010-11 was £27.2 million.** This has decreased from £33.2 million the previous year, although this is due to the **ending of bonus payments** prior to the beginning of this year's scheme. £6.4 million was paid out in bonuses in 2009-10. The weekly payment figure for 2010-11 was £27.2 million compared with £26.8 million in 2009-10 (table 4).
- £17.8 million (66%) was paid out under the EMA scheme to school pupils in 2010-11. The remaining £9.4 million (34%) was paid out to young people attending college (table 5).

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Background to EMA

Initially, the EMA scheme consisted of both weekly payments and additional bonus payments to recipients. The weekly payments consisted of £10, £20 and £30 categories, dependent on the household income of the recipient. Following satisfactory attendance and completion of a learning agreement, additional bonus payments of £150 each were payable in January and June.

EMAs were introduced across Scotland from August 2004 for 16 year olds. In academic year 2005-06 eligibility was extended to include all 17 year olds and in academic year 2006-07 eligibility was further extended to include 18 year olds. Full roll out to 19 year olds was completed in 2007-08.

In 2009 changes were made to the EMA scheme in response to the Scottish Government's '*16+ Learning Choices – First Step Activity and Financial Support*' consultation. The £10 and £20 payments were removed and the income threshold for the £30 payment was aligned with that of the 'away from home' element of further education bursaries (£20,351). An additional, higher income threshold (£22,403) was also introduced for families with more than one dependent child. These changes were introduced for new entrants to the EMA scheme at the beginning of the academic year 2009-10 and are reflected in this publication.

In June 2010 the Scottish Government announced that as of the 2010-11 academic year, EMA bonus payments would be withdrawn from all recipients (both new and existing).

Analysis and Interpretation

Recipients of EMA

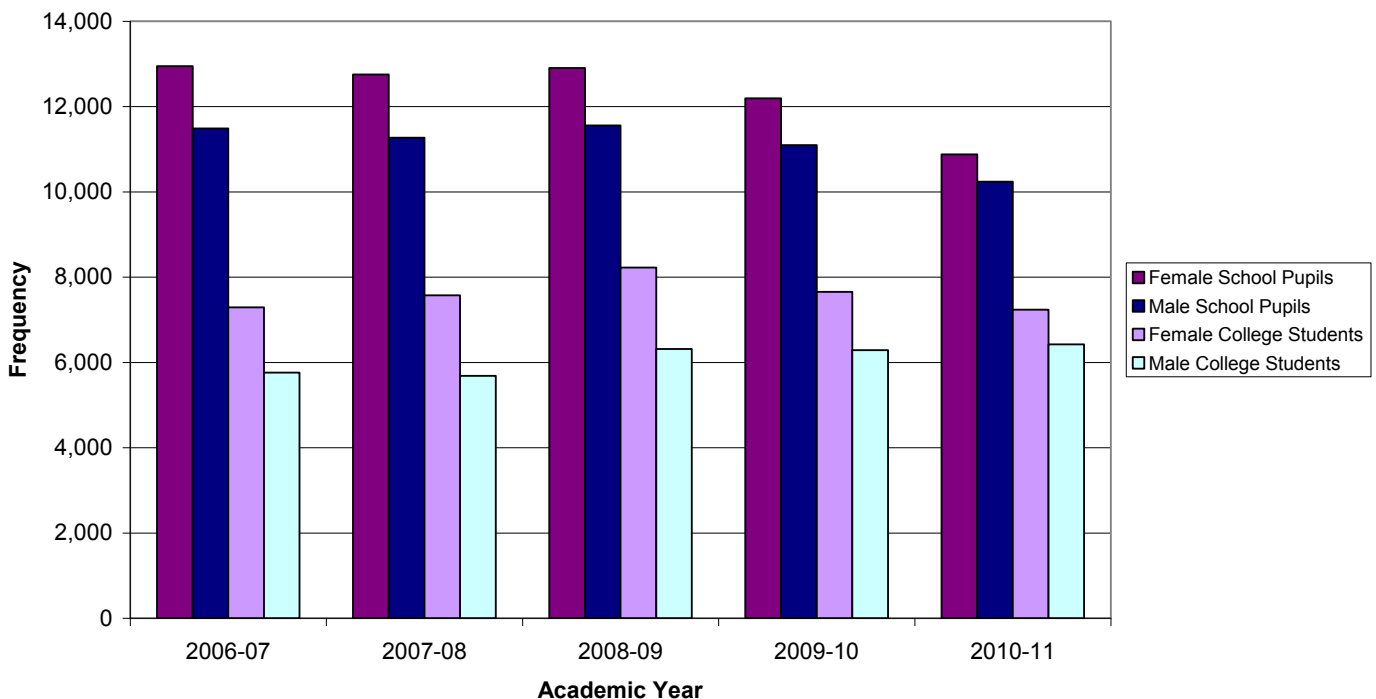
In 2010-11 there were 34,780 young people who received EMA payments, a decrease of 6.6% (2,450) from 37,230 in 2009-10. The majority (61% or 21,120) of EMA recipients accessed the scheme while studying at a Scottish school, with the remaining 39% (13,660) attending a Scottish college (see table 1). Additionally, 48% (16,660) of EMA recipients during the 2010-11 academic year were male, compared to the 52% (18,115) that were female.

Of all school pupils in Scotland aged 16 to 19 years old, 32% (21,120) received an EMA payment in 2010-11 (see table 2).

Gender

Figure 1 below allows comparison between the number of male and females that received an EMA payment according to which type of institution they attended.

Figure 1: Young People in Receipt of EMA by Institution Type and Gender: 2006-07 to 2010-11



[See Table 1, page 10]

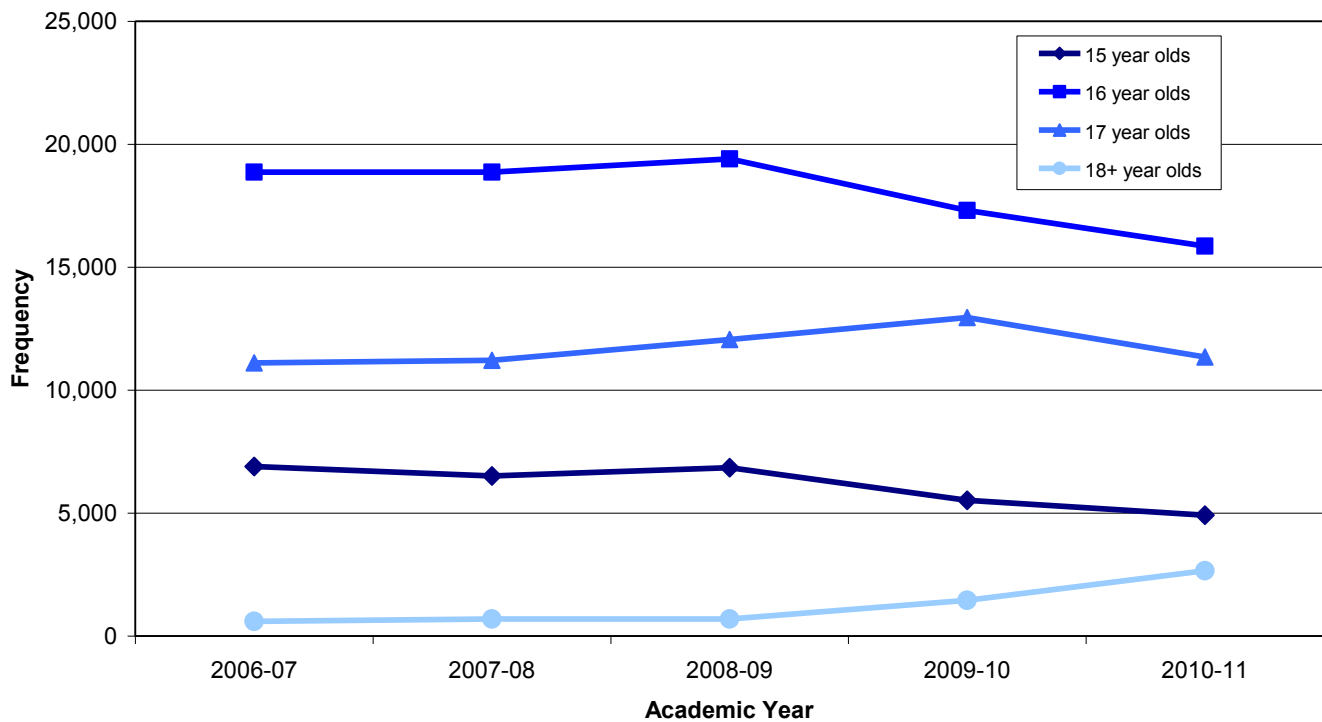
We can see from the chart above that the difference between the number of male and female EMA recipients has been gradually decreasing since 2008-09 for both

school and college students. Additionally, from 2008-09 onwards the number of EMA recipients has decreased in all groups with the exception of male college students.

Age

Figure 2 shows a time series of the different age groups that receive EMA in schools and colleges.

Figure 2. Young People in Receipt of EMA by Age: 2006-07 to 2010-11



[see Table 2, page 10]

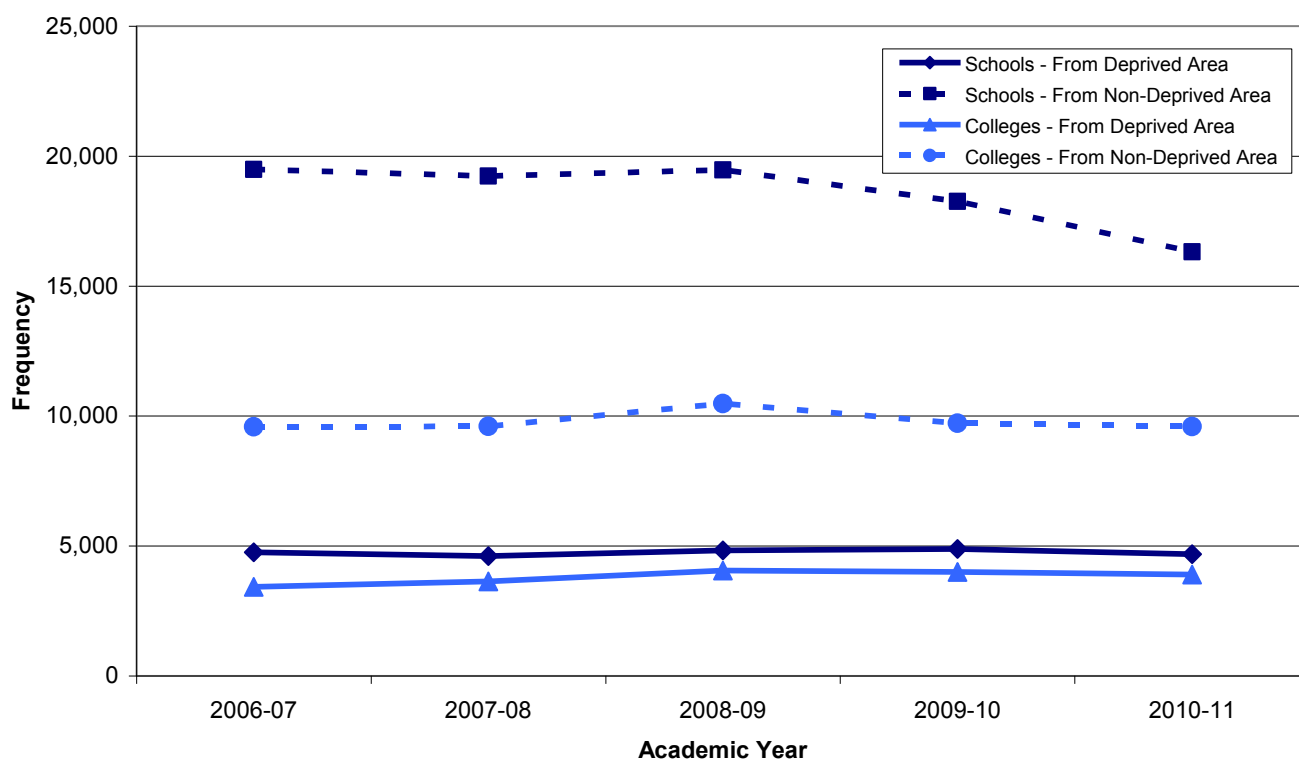
From the academic year 2006-07 to 2008-09 the level of EMA recipients of all ages remained fairly constant, with a slight increase in overall numbers throughout. From 2008-09 onwards however we can see differences in the pattern of EMA for each age group. The younger students in receipt of EMA have been falling in number in the last two years, with the number of 16 year olds falling by 18.3% (3,545) and the number of 15 year olds falling by 28.2% (1,935). This could possibly be explained by the removal of £10 and £20 a week payment levels implemented after the 2008-09 scheme. The only age group that has shown any increase is the 18 and 19 year old group, whose numbers have more than doubled between 2008-09 and 2010-11. This is mainly due to an increase in 18 and 19 year old college students receiving EMA.

Deprivation

The proportion of EMA recipients living in Scotland's 15% most deprived areas in 2010-11 (which contained 15% of 16 to 19 year olds in Scotland in 2010) was 24.7% (8,580), an increase of 0.8 percentage points since the previous year and 2.9 percentage points since 2006-07. The proportion of EMA recipients from the 15% most deprived areas in Scotland has increased every year since the 2006-07 scheme (table 2).

Figure 3 shows the difference in representation among EMA recipients of young people from the 15% most deprived areas in Scotland compared to those who are not.

Figure 3. Young People in Receipt of EMA by Institution Type and Deprivation
Background: 2006-07 to 2010-11



[see table 3, page 11]

The chart above shows that the decreases in overall EMA numbers displayed in **Table 1** are mainly attributed to school pupils who are not from a deprived area. Since 2008-09, the number of students in this category receiving EMA has fallen by 16.2% (3,155) from 19,470 to 16,315. One possible factor behind this trend could be the closure of the £10 and £20 weekly payment levels after the 2008-09 scheme. Since those who were in receipt of the £10 and £20 weekly payment levels would have had a higher family income than those who received the £30 weekly payments, we would expect that recipients from a non-deprived area would be more affected by this change than those from a deprived area.

EMA Spend

Total Spend

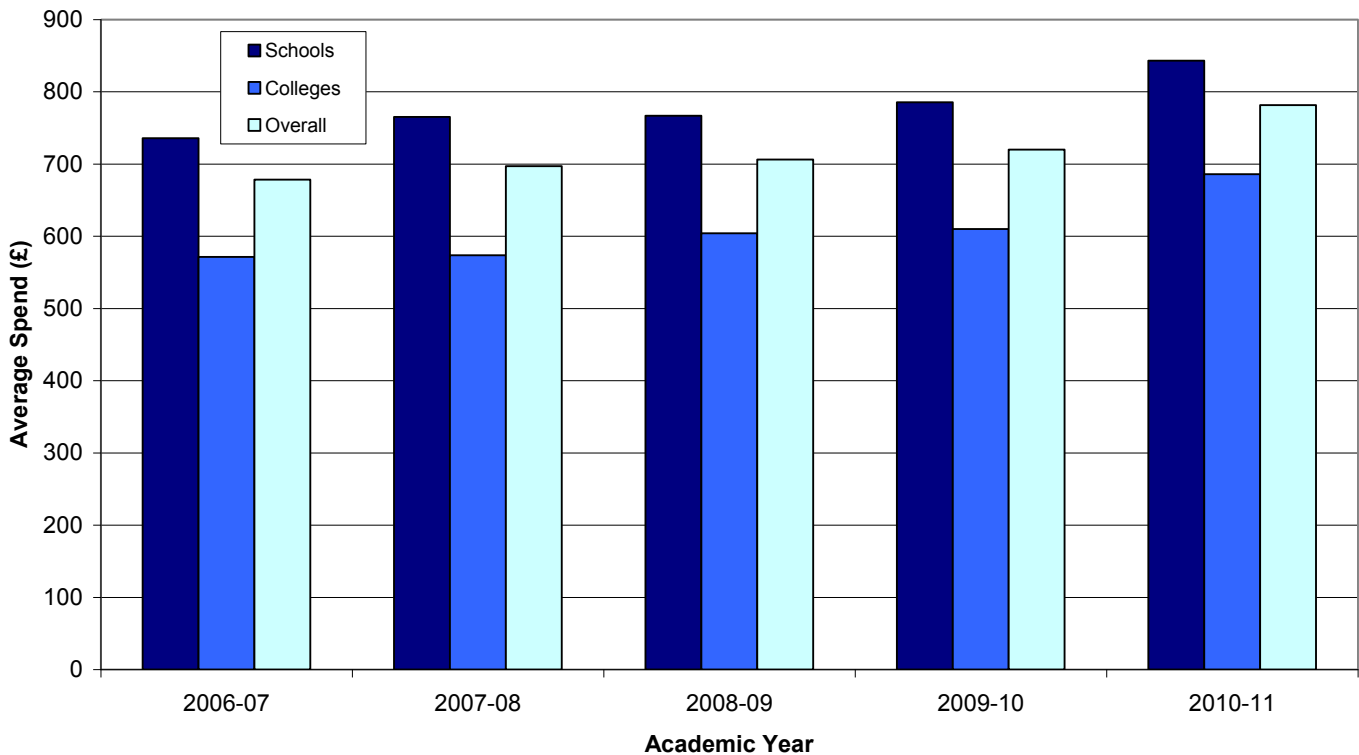
The total spend on EMAs in 2010-11 was £27.2 million. This has decreased from £33.2 million the previous year, though this is primarily due to the **ending of bonus payments** prior to the beginning of this year's scheme (for more information on this change please refer to the EMA background note on page 4). £6.4 million was paid out in bonuses as part of the 2009-10 scheme. The ending of the bonus payments had the largest impact on **school pupils** spend, which was down by £5.7 million, from £23.5 million in 2009-10 to £17.8 million in 2010-11. Overall spend for college students decreased slightly from £9.7 million to £9.4 million over the same period. The **weekly payment** figure for 2010-11 was £27.2 million compared with £26.8 million in 2009-10 (table 4 and table 5).

The £0.4 million increase in weekly spending from last year was driven by an increase in spend for college students (up £0.9 million from £8.5 million to £9.4 million); while spend for school pupils decreased over the same period (down £0.5 million from £18.3 million to £17.8 million). The proportion of EMA spend paid out to school pupils in 2010-11 was 66% compared to 71% in 2009-10 (table 5).

Average Spend (excluding bonus payments)

Figure 4 charts the development of the EMA scheme's average annual spend per person (student/pupil) in each of the last five academic years. Average EMA spend was calculated by dividing the total **weekly payments** paid out by the number of people who received an EMA payment each year. Weekly payments have been used instead of total spend to allow comparisons with previous years' data. This is because bonus payments ceased as of the 2010-11 EMA scheme (detailed in table 4 and 5).

Figure 4. Average EMA Spend (£) per Person by Institution Type: 2006-07 to 2010-11



[see table 5, page 12]

We can see from the above graph that the average EMA spent per person has risen every year since the 2006-07 academic year. This is the case for both school pupils and college students. The difference in average spend between 2006-07 and 2010-11 are summarised in the table below.

Table A	2006-07			2010-11			Increase
	Number	Weekly Payments	Average Payment	Number	Weekly Payments	Average Payment	
School	24,430	17,975,080	£736	21,120	17,805,960	£843	£107
College	13,050	7,455,005	£571	13,660	9,371,260	£686	£115
Total	37,480	25,430,085	£679	34,780	27,177,220	£781	£102

One explanation for these average increases is the previously noted closure of the £10 and £20 payment levels after the 2008-09 EMA scheme. Since the vast majority of students now receive the maximum £30 weekly payment, the average spend per person would be expected to be higher in the most recent academic years.

Tables

Table 1. Young People in Receipt of EMA by Institution Type and Gender: 2006-07 to 2010-11

	Academic Year	Total	Male	Female
All Institutions	2006-07	37,480	17,245	20,235
	2007-08	37,275	16,955	20,320
	2008-09	39,000	17,870	21,130
	2009-10	37,230	17,385	19,850
	2010-11	34,780	16,660	18,115
Schools	2006-07	24,430	11,485	12,945
	2007-08	24,020	11,270	12,750
	2008-09	24,460	11,555	12,905
	2009-10	23,290	11,095	12,190
	2010-11	21,120	10,240	10,880
Colleges	2006-07	13,050	5,760	7,290
	2007-08	13,255	5,685	7,570
	2008-09	14,540	6,315	8,225
	2009-10	13,945	6,285	7,655
	2010-11	13,660	6,420	7,235

Figures in this table have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Table 2. Young People in Receipt of EMA by Deprivation Background and Age: 2006-07 to 2010-11

Deprivation Background	Academic Year	Age				
		Total	15	16	17	18+
All Areas	2006-07	37,480	6,895	18,870	11,110	600
	2007-08	37,275	6,505	18,865	11,210	690
	2008-09	39,000	6,850	19,400	12,055	690
	2009-10	37,230	5,520	17,305	12,950	1,450
	2010-11	34,780	4,915	15,855	11,345	2,650
Deprived Areas	2006-07	8,180	1,510	4,030	2,490	150
	2007-08	8,245	1,385	4,145	2,540	175
	2008-09	8,870	1,615	4,330	2,750	175
	2009-10	8,880	1,295	4,140	3,035	405
	2010-11	8,580	1,200	3,880	2,820	680
Non-Deprived Areas	2006-07	29,070	5,340	14,710	8,570	450
	2007-08	28,840	5,100	14,615	8,620	505
	2008-09	29,945	5,200	14,990	9,250	505
	2009-10	27,985	4,185	13,015	9,775	1,005
	2010-11	25,905	3,685	11,850	8,430	1,930

Figures in this table have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Revisions have been made in the 18+ column for 2006-07 to 2009-10 following identification of omitted data.

Deprivation category was identified for over 99% of EMA recipients. For more information please refer to the methodological note (page 14).

Table 3. Young People in Receipt of EMA by Deprivation Background and Institution: 2006-07 to 2010-11

Year	Total			Schools			Colleges		
	Total	From Deprived Area	From Non-Deprived Area	Total	From Deprived Area	From Non-Deprived Area	Total	From Deprived Area	From Non-Deprived Area
2006-07	37,480	8,180	29,070	24,430	4,755	19,485	13,050	3,425	9,585
2007-08	37,275	8,245	28,840	24,020	4,610	19,235	13,255	3,635	9,605
2008-09	39,000	8,870	29,945	24,460	4,825	19,470	14,540	4,050	10,475
2009-10	37,230	8,880	27,985	23,290	4,880	18,260	13,945	4,000	9,725
2010-11	34,780	8,580	25,905	21,120	4,685	16,315	13,660	3,900	9,590

Figures in this table have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Table 4. EMA Spend (£) by Level of Weekly Payment and Payment Type: 2006-07 to 2010-11

Weekly Payment Level	Academic Year	Number of Recipients	Payment Type		
			Total (£)	Weekly Payments (£)	Bonus Payments (£)
Total	2006-07	37,480	32,433,285	25,430,085	7,003,200
	2007-08	37,275	33,340,440	25,977,090	7,363,350
	2008-09	39,000	35,441,160	27,537,960	7,903,200
	2009-10	37,230	33,193,010	26,802,110	6,390,900
	2010-11	34,780	27,177,220	27,177,220	0
£10	2006-07	3,440	1,607,320	905,020	702,300
	2007-08	3,380	1,645,480	927,730	717,750
	2008-09	3,495	1,738,660	978,460	760,200
	2009-10	1,165	568,800	326,400	242,400
	2010-11	135	35,000	35,000	0
£20	2006-07	3,820	2,750,320	1,995,070	755,250
	2007-08	3,905	2,951,000	2,123,150	827,850
	2008-09	3,915	2,989,630	2,141,680	847,950
	2009-10	1,530	1,176,490	862,840	313,650
	2010-11	205	113,210	113,210	0
£30	2006-07	30,220	28,075,645	22,529,995	5,545,650
	2007-08	29,990	28,743,960	22,926,210	5,817,750
	2008-09	31,595	30,712,870	24,417,820	6,295,050
	2009-10	34,530	31,445,290	25,611,340	5,833,950
	2010-11	34,425	27,022,140	27,022,140	0

Figures in this table have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Table 5. EMA Spend (£) by Institution Type: 2006-07 to 2010-11

	Academic Year	Number of Recipients	Total (£)	Weekly Payments (£)	Bonus Payments (£)
Schools	2006-07	24,430	22,923,580	17,975,080	4,948,500
	2007-08	24,020	23,537,100	18,374,400	5,162,700
	2008-09	24,460	24,182,020	18,755,020	5,427,000
	2009-10	23,290	23,477,730	18,295,230	5,182,500
	2010-11	21,120	17,805,960	17,805,960	0
Colleges	2006-07	13,050	9,509,705	7,455,005	2,054,700
	2007-08	13,255	9,803,340	7,602,690	2,200,650
	2008-09	14,540	11,259,140	8,782,940	2,476,200
	2009-10	13,945	9,715,280	8,506,880	1,208,400
	2010-11	13,660	9,371,260	9,371,260	0

Figures in this table have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Table 6. EMA Spend (£) by Gender: 2006-07 to 2010-11

Academic Year	Number of Recipients		Total Payments (£)		Weekly Payments (£)		Bonus Payments (£)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
2006-07	17,245	20,235	14,847,315	17,585,970	11,663,865	13,766,220	3,183,450	3,819,750
2007-08	16,955	20,320	15,207,780	18,132,660	11,864,430	14,112,660	3,343,350	4,020,000
2008-09	17,870	21,130	16,250,880	19,190,280	12,636,180	14,901,780	3,614,700	4,288,500
2009-10	17,385	19,850	15,527,450	17,664,240	12,545,450	14,255,640	2,982,000	3,408,600
2010-11	16,660	18,115	12,939,870	14,237,350	12,939,870	14,237,350	0	0

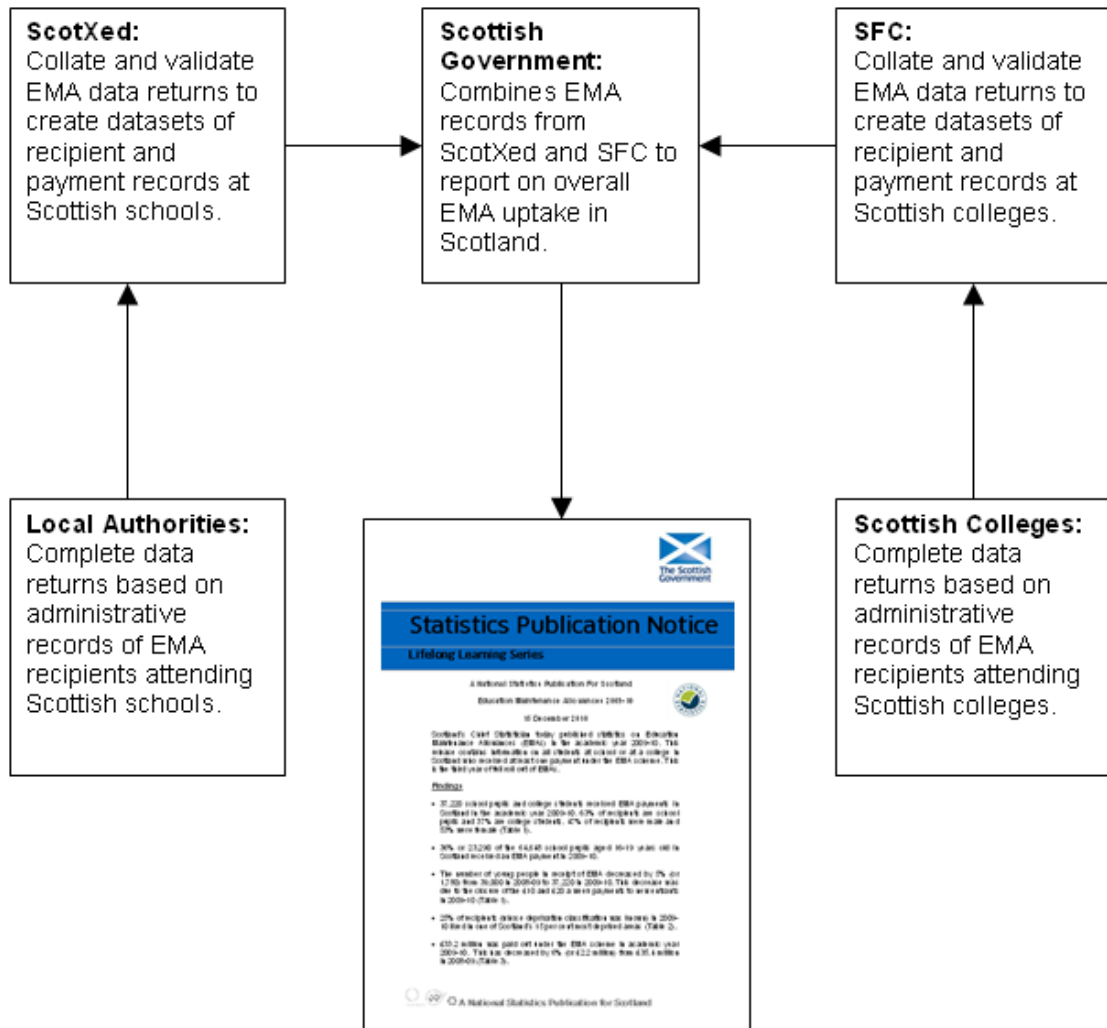
Figures in this table have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Methodological Note

Data Sources

These statistics are collected by the Scottish Government from local authorities which administer Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) payments to school pupils, and the Scottish Funding Council, which administers EMA payments to college students. Data returns from Local authorities are collated and validated by ScotXed, while those collected from colleges are collated and validated by the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) before being submitted to the Scottish Government.

Where analysis refers to institutions rather than schools or colleges, data from both Scottish schools and Scottish colleges has been combined to report on all Scottish institutions.



Coverage

EMAs are means tested payments to young people attending school or further education college on a full time basis. The data included in this publication covers all those participating in the EMA scheme, but not necessarily all those who are eligible to participate.

Although measures are taken within both the school and college data to minimise the chances or more than one record being created for the same student, an element of duplication is likely to still occur where a student moves from school into college in the same academic year. At the moment there is not a reliable way of identifying such cases. Efforts are being made to improve the collection of Scottish Candidate Numbers (SCNs) for EMA recipients in colleges. If this succeeds it may be possible to use SCNs, possibly in combination with other student characteristics, to identify those who move between school and college and therefore reduce any associated over-counting.

Age of Recipients

In this publication the age of recipients refers to their age on the 30th September 2010.

School Pupil Population

The proportion of all 16-19 year old school pupils that are in receipt of EMA is calculated in this publication using public and private school population data for Scotland. Following a consultation on the scope of Scottish Government School Statistics publications in September 2010, statistics have ceased to be collected and published on the Independent School Census. This year, the number of pupils aged 16-19 attending an Independent School in Scotland was estimated using proportions obtained from historic data. This estimation was then added to the 2010 Pupil Census figure of publicly funded secondary school pupils to achieve an estimate of the total 16 to 19 year old school population. This methodology will be reviewed in future years publications.

Recipients from Deprived Areas of Scotland

Analysis of entrants from deprived areas of Scotland is based on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (2009) combines 38 indicators across 7 domains, namely: income, employment, health, education, skills and training, housing, geographic access and crime. The overall index is a weighted sum of the seven domain scores. The weighting for each domain is based on the relative importance of the domain in measuring multiple deprivation, the robustness of the data and the time lag between data collection and the production of the SIMD.

EMA recipients from deprived areas are those whose home address was within one of the 15 per cent lowest ranked areas in Scotland. The SIMD is split into 6,505 small areas called datazones, with the 15 per cent lowest ranked areas comprising of datazones 1 to 976. A process of postcode matching was undertaken to identify which datazones recipients belonged to prior to study. In 2010-11, 99.2% of recipients were successfully matched through this process. Those recipients whose

postcodes belonged to one of the 15% lowest ranked datazones in the SIMD are classified as entrants from deprived areas.

More information on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation can be found at the following web address: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD>.

Data Presentation

In all datasets figures on recipients have been rounded to the nearest 5 (0, 1 and 2 being rounded to 0). Figures on EMA spend have not been rounded. 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. Unless stated otherwise, percentages in tables are calculated from unrounded values. Percentages in the text of the publication are calculated from the figures displayed in the tables.

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1. This is a National statistics publication. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.

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<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Lifelong-learning/Publications>

3. The publication tables and analysis by local authority for school pupils can be found at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Lifelong-learning/datasets>

4. Additional information on Education Maintenance Allowance in Scotland can be found at:

<http://www.emascotland.com/>

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ISBN: 978-1-78045-619-5

APS Group Scotland
DPPAS12465 (01/12)