



# SFC Statistical publication

## Higher Education Students and Qualifiers at Scottish Institutions, 2012-13

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Summary: To provide the latest information about HE students and qualifiers at Scottish Institutions.

FAO: Principals and directors of Scotland's colleges and/or universities

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*The statistics published in this release are National Statistics. They were previously published by the Scottish Government. Under those organisational arrangements, they were assessed against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics and the findings reported in Assessment Report 75, although the assessment process has yet to be completed. Now that responsibility for producing these statistics has transferred to the Scottish Funding Council, the statistics have been the subject of a further assessment, reported in Assessment Report 255 and SFC is implementing improvements to the statistics pending confirmation of their designation as National Statistics.*

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# Higher Education Students and Qualifiers at Scottish Institutions 2012-13

## An Official Statistics Publication for Scotland

27 March 2014

1. Statistics on students and qualifiers on Higher Education (HE) courses at Scottish institutions in 2012-13 are published today by the Scottish Funding Council (SFC). This is the third issue of the publication produced by the Scottish Funding Council and covers the period 2003-04 to 2012-13. The release contains information on HE provision and attainment in higher education institutions (HEIs) and colleges in Scotland.
2. This year we have published a summary report outlining the main trends over the past ten years. This publication is accompanied by an Excel workbook which includes additional tables not included within this report. The list of tables available in this workbook appears at the back of this document. These tables can be found on the SFC website at:  
[www.sfc.ac.uk/sectorcommunications](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/sectorcommunications)

### Summary of Key Findings

- At 95,580, the number of higher education qualifiers from Scottish institutions rose by 2,710 (2.9%) from 2011-12 and by 27% from 2003-04 and was at the highest level recorded. In 2012-13, Scottish domiciled students accounted for 69.7% of all qualifiers. Since 2003-04, the number of HE qualifiers at Scottish higher education institutions (HEIs) has increased by 19,390 (38.5%).
- Of all qualifiers in 2012-13, just under sixty-five % (64.1%) achieved graduate level qualifications (first degree level or above) which were mainly achieved at HEIs. At Scottish colleges, three quarters of qualifications gained were at HNC/HND level (73.0%).
- In 2012-13, there were 278,765 students in higher education in Scotland, a fall of 2,865 (1.0%) compared to 2011-12.
- Over the period 2003-04 to 2012-13, the number and percentage of student entrants from the outside of the UK has continued to grow, increasing from 14,525 (10.6%) in 2003-04 to 25,420 (19.1%) in 2012-13.

## Student numbers and characteristics

3. Table A shows that in 2012-13, there were 278,765 students in higher education in Scotland, a fall of 2,865 (1.0%) compared to 2011-12. While the number of first degree students rose by 1,590 (1.1%) and the number of research postgraduates rose by 320 (2.7%), the number of taught postgraduates fell by 1,750 (4.0%) and the number of students at sub-degree level fell by 3,025 (3.9%).
4. The Scottish Funding Council (SFC) funds HEIs to deliver a set number of full-time equivalent places for undergraduate and taught postgraduate courses on an annual basis for students from Scotland or the EU. As SFC applies funding consequences if HEIs exceed or fall below these targets this acts as a control on recruitment levels for these students. More detail on these targets can be found within our funding and controlled subjects sector communications: [www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Circulars/2012/SFC0512.aspx](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Circulars/2012/SFC0512.aspx)  
[www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Circulars/2012/SFC0312.aspx](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Circulars/2012/SFC0312.aspx)
5. From AY 2012-13 the Scottish Government put in place legislation to deregulate tuition fees charged to students domiciled in the rest of the UK (RUK) wishing to study at Scottish universities. The provision for these students would no longer be supported through SFC funding. This led to the SFC reducing funded places at Scottish HEIs by 5,787 for 2012-13 which was the estimate of the share of funded places associated with RUK entrants. The Scottish HEIs were free to continue to recruit these students but the SFC would no longer fund their provision.
6. SFC used the funds freed up through this change to support strategic investments in the sector, such as additional places for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects and provision in the Highlands and Islands. In total SFC created 1,527 new places for Scottish (and other EU) students.
7. Although this meant fewer funded places overall the number of entrants to HEIs for 2012-13 actually rose as RUK students continued to choose Scotland as a place to study knowing they would no longer have their study costs paid by SFC. They did fall for entrants to HE courses at college but these students were not affected by these changes to our funding rules.
8. Table A also shows that for higher education institutions (HEIs) as a whole, the number of students fell by 2,040 (or 0.9%) since 2011-12 and the number of students participating in HE in colleges also fell, by 825 (1.7%).
9. The fall in HEI students relates to sub degree and taught postgraduate students. Although taught postgraduate numbers have fallen by 1,730 between 2011-12 and 2012-13 (table A) the number of entrants to these courses have only fallen

by 35 (table D) over the same period. The fall in these taught postgraduate numbers is therefore a product of lower recruitment in previous years from the peak of 2009-10.

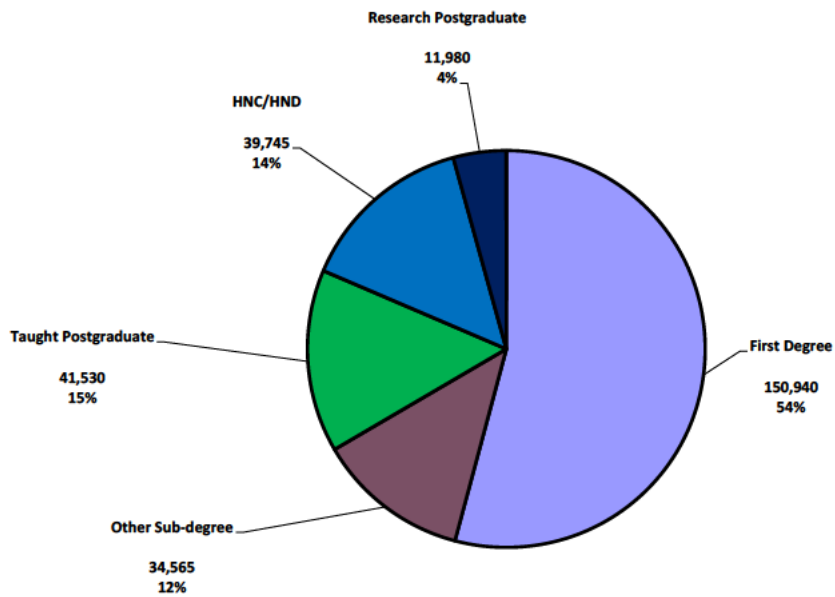
10. The fall in college numbers can be explained at least in part with colleges receiving reduced activity targets in recent years. Our college baseline report provides more detail on students studying HE courses at college and on these reduced activity targets:  
[www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Statisticalpublications/2014/BaselineReportforAcademicYear201213.aspx](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Statisticalpublications/2014/BaselineReportforAcademicYear201213.aspx)
11. SFC has also published performance indicators for those students studying HE courses at college. These figures are available at the address below:  
[www.sfc.ac.uk/web/FILES/Statistical\\_publications\\_SFCST012014\\_CollegePerformanceIndicators201213/College\\_Performance\\_Indicators\\_2012-13.pdf](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/web/FILES/Statistical_publications_SFCST012014_CollegePerformanceIndicators201213/College_Performance_Indicators_2012-13.pdf)
12. Table A shows that HEIs accounted for 82.9% of all students enrolled in HE in Scotland in 2012-13, with the remaining 17.1% studying in colleges. While a majority of those at HEIs (64.9%) were studying at first degree level, most students studying HE at colleges (97.7%) were studying at sub-degree level.
13. Further information on the destination of graduates from first degree programmes is available from the HESA website:  
[www.hesa.ac.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=2071&Itemid=141](http://www.hesa.ac.uk/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2071&Itemid=141)
14. These figures show the proportion of graduates who gain employment on completing their course or who progress to further study.
15. An increase in employment rates may lead to a reduction in those studying taught postgraduate courses. Employment rates have improved in recent years and may explain some of the fall in taught postgraduate numbers.
16. Figures 1 and 2 below provide an overview of student numbers by level and by institution type for AY 2012-13. These provide a useful snapshot of HE activity across the qualification levels and institution types.

**Table A: Students in higher education at Scottish HEIs and colleges by institution type and level of study, 2003-04 to 2012-13**

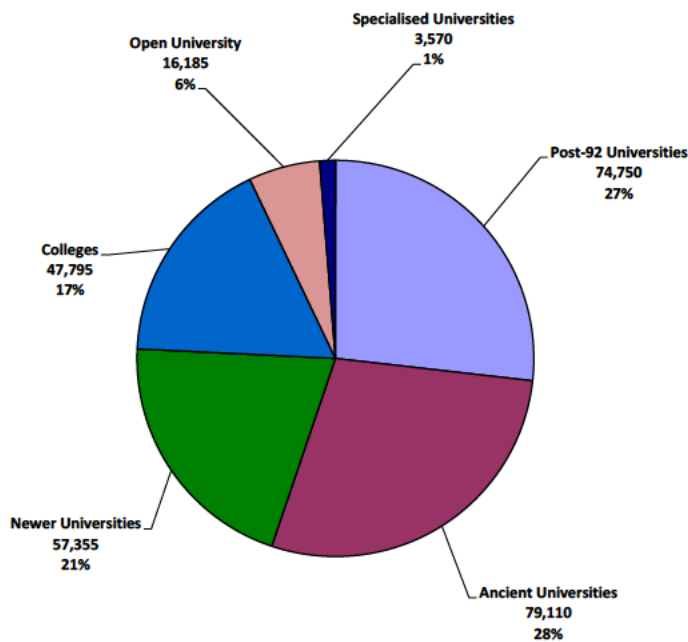
Institution Type / Academic Session	Level of Study					
	All Levels	Postgraduate		First Degree	Sub-degree	
		Research Postgraduate (1)	Taught Postgraduate		HNC/HND	Other sub-degree
<b>Total</b>						
2003-04	<b>269,120</b>	8,565	35,125	133,740	44,275	47,420
2004-05	<b>270,260</b>	8,420	35,100	133,105	41,800	51,825
2005-06	<b>273,050</b>	8,650	38,675	136,105	41,550	48,070
2006-07	<b>279,560</b>	9,360	43,035	133,740	39,265	54,160
2007-08	<b>272,625</b>	9,615	42,265	132,260	38,755	49,730
2008-09	<b>279,615</b>	9,935	42,760	137,720	39,105	50,095
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
<b>2012-13</b>	<b>278,765</b>	<b>11,980</b>	<b>41,530</b>	<b>150,940</b>	<b>39,745</b>	<b>34,565</b>
<b>All students at HEIs</b>						
2003-04	<b>213,510</b>	8,565	34,925	132,580	5,085	32,355
2004-05	<b>217,945</b>	8,420	34,930	132,595	4,780	37,215
2005-06	<b>222,090</b>	8,650	38,535	135,470	4,445	34,990
2006-07	<b>230,100</b>	9,360	42,880	133,180	4,345	40,330
2007-08	<b>224,855</b>	9,615	42,115	131,645	5,085	36,395
2008-09	<b>231,260</b>	9,935	42,660	137,040	4,745	36,875
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
<b>2012-13 (2)</b>	<b>230,970</b>	<b>11,980</b>	<b>41,515</b>	<b>149,860</b>	<b>3,605</b>	<b>24,005</b>
<b>All students at colleges</b>						
2003-04	<b>55,610</b>	-	205	1,155	39,185	15,065
2004-05	<b>52,315</b>	-	170	510	37,015	14,610
2005-06	<b>50,960</b>	-	140	635	37,105	13,075
2006-07	<b>49,460</b>	-	155	555	34,920	13,830
2007-08	<b>47,770</b>	-	150	615	33,670	13,335
2008-09	<b>48,355</b>	-	100	680	34,360	13,175
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
<b>2012-13 (2)</b>	<b>47,795</b>	-	<b>15</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>36,140</b>	<b>10,560</b>

Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC).  
Refer to Notes to Tables.

**Figure 1 Students in higher education at Scottish HEIs and colleges by level of study, 2012-13**



**Figure 2 Share of HE students at Scottish institutions by institution type, 2012-13**





**Table B Students in higher education in Scottish HEIs and colleges by mode of study and gender, 2003-04 to 2012-13**

Academic Session	Total			Full-time			Part-time		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>									
2003-04	269,120	116,360	152,765	171,560	76,600	94,960	97,565	39,760	57,805
2004-05	270,260	114,740	155,520	172,280	76,365	95,910	97,980	38,370	59,610
2005-06	273,050	115,190	157,860	174,810	76,870	97,940	98,235	38,315	59,920
2006-07	279,560	119,795	159,765	178,680	79,000	99,680	100,875	40,795	60,080
2007-08	272,625	118,250	154,375	174,805	77,795	97,010	97,820	40,455	57,365
2008-09	279,615	122,415	157,195	182,780	81,450	101,330	96,830	40,965	55,865
2009-10	287,565	126,995	160,565	191,615	86,465	105,150	95,950	40,535	55,415
2010-11	290,000	128,900	161,100	197,490	89,165	108,325	92,505	39,735	52,770
2011-12	281,630	124,100	157,525	199,430	89,150	110,280	82,200	34,950	47,245
<b>2012-13 (23)</b>	<b>278,765</b>	<b>122,470</b>	<b>156,065</b>	<b>198,405</b>	<b>88,245</b>	<b>110,160</b>	<b>80,355</b>	<b>34,230</b>	<b>45,905</b>
<b>All students at HEIs</b>									
2003-04	213,510	90,130	123,380	144,615	63,610	81,005	68,895	26,520	42,375
2004-05	217,945	90,345	127,600	146,655	64,025	82,625	71,290	26,315	44,975
2005-06	222,090	91,900	130,185	148,830	64,570	84,260	73,260	27,330	45,925
2006-07	230,100	96,455	133,640	152,800	66,765	86,040	77,295	29,695	47,605
2007-08	224,855	95,375	129,480	149,625	65,940	83,680	75,235	29,435	45,795
2008-09	231,260	98,495	132,765	156,830	69,075	87,755	74,430	29,420	45,010
2009-10	237,765	102,270	135,495	162,970	72,700	90,270	74,790	29,570	45,225
2010-11	238,645	103,250	135,395	166,350	73,870	92,480	72,295	29,380	42,910
2011-12	233,010	99,995	133,010	167,365	73,545	93,820	65,640	26,450	39,190
<b>2012-13 (23)</b>	<b>230,970</b>	<b>98,645</b>	<b>132,095</b>	<b>167,065</b>	<b>73,190</b>	<b>93,880</b>	<b>63,900</b>	<b>25,460</b>	<b>38,215</b>
<b>All students at colleges</b>									
2003-04	55,610	26,230	29,385	26,945	12,985	13,955	28,670	13,240	15,425
2004-05	52,315	24,395	27,920	25,625	12,340	13,285	26,690	12,055	14,635
2005-06	50,960	23,285	27,675	25,980	12,300	13,680	24,980	10,985	13,995
2006-07	49,460	23,340	26,120	25,880	12,240	13,640	23,580	11,100	12,475
2007-08	47,770	22,875	24,895	25,185	11,855	13,330	22,585	11,020	11,565
2008-09	48,355	23,925	24,430	25,955	12,375	13,580	22,400	11,550	10,855
2009-10	49,800	24,730	25,075	28,640	13,765	14,880	21,160	10,965	10,195
2010-11	51,355	25,650	25,705	31,140	15,295	15,845	20,215	10,355	9,860
2011-12	48,620	24,105	24,515	32,065	15,605	16,460	16,555	8,500	8,055
<b>2012-13</b>	<b>47,795</b>	<b>23,825</b>	<b>23,970</b>	<b>31,340</b>	<b>15,055</b>	<b>16,280</b>	<b>16,455</b>	<b>8,770</b>	<b>7,690</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Scottish Funding Council (SFC).  
Refer to Notes to Tables.

17. Table B shows that for part-time activity at HEIs females outnumber males by 50% whilst males outnumber females on part-time programmes at colleges. There has been a steady decline in part-time numbers for both sectors.
18. Table B also shows that in 2012-13, the majority of HE students (56.0% or 156,065) were female and 44.0% or 122,470 were male. The fall in HE level students between 2011-12 and 2012-13 was 1,630 (1.3%) for males and 1,460 (0.9%) for females.
19. The gender split can be partly explained through examination of the Scottish school leaver destination survey results:  
[www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/Datasets/attainmentandleavers](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/Datasets/attainmentandleavers)

20. This shows that females were better qualified on leaving school and therefore more able to progress to further study (Table 8 ) and that males were more likely to leave school into employment.

**Table C: Students in higher education in Scottish HEIs and colleges by age, 2003-04 to 2012-13**

Institution type / Academic session	Total	16-18	19-20	21-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+
<b>Total (7)</b>									
2003-04	269,120	40,085	54,870	56,795	28,050	44,295	30,420	10,250	3,940
2004-05	270,260	39,235	54,390	58,105	28,795	43,150	31,305	11,045	3,965
2005-06	273,050	39,830	55,145	59,230	30,460	42,035	30,910	11,320	3,790
2006-07	279,560	39,770	56,385	61,410	32,410	42,110	31,105	11,805	4,190
2007-08	272,625	38,585	56,085	59,755	32,800	40,095	29,460	11,325	4,200
2008-09	279,615	40,450	57,095	63,280	34,355	39,730	28,630	11,020	4,890
2009-10	287,565	43,330	59,245	66,655	35,400	38,915	27,865	10,855	5,170
2010-11	290,000	41,925	62,415	69,885	36,630	38,560	25,740	10,100	4,655
2011-12	281,630	41,735	62,835	69,725	34,735	35,705	23,010	9,225	4,565
<b>2012-13</b>	<b>278,765</b>	<b>42,370</b>	<b>62,440</b>	<b>70,985</b>	<b>33,715</b>	<b>34,250</b>	<b>21,360</b>	<b>9,005</b>	<b>4,545</b>
<b>All students at HEIs</b>									
2003-04	213,510	29,110	46,205	48,580	21,640	32,945	22,950	8,170	3,565
2004-05	217,945	28,555	46,130	50,595	22,835	32,830	24,210	8,960	3,605
2005-06	222,090	28,985	46,505	51,980	24,695	32,790	24,165	9,155	3,510
2006-07	230,100	28,735	47,530	54,140	26,960	33,655	24,835	9,940	3,960
2007-08	224,855	27,940	47,215	52,750	27,395	32,370	23,590	9,390	3,930
2008-09	231,260	29,290	48,105	55,895	28,895	32,175	22,970	9,190	4,615
2009-10	237,765	31,330	49,825	58,705	29,540	31,780	22,395	9,205	4,900
2010-11	238,645	29,955	52,180	60,935	30,475	31,430	20,730	8,425	4,440
2011-12	233,010	29,515	52,605	61,630	29,030	29,280	18,705	7,780	4,395
<b>2012-13 (2)</b>	<b>230,970</b>	<b>30,370</b>	<b>51,905</b>	<b>62,970</b>	<b>28,060</b>	<b>28,120</b>	<b>17,505</b>	<b>7,635</b>	<b>4,350</b>
<b>All students at colleges</b>									
2003-04	55,610	10,975	8,665	8,215	6,410	11,350	7,470	2,085	370
2004-05	52,315	10,680	8,260	7,510	5,960	10,320	7,095	2,090	360
2005-06	50,960	10,845	8,640	7,250	5,760	9,245	6,745	2,160	280
2006-07	49,460	11,035	8,855	7,270	5,445	8,450	6,270	1,865	230
2007-08	47,770	10,645	8,865	7,000	5,405	7,725	5,870	1,935	270
2008-09	48,355	11 160	8 990	7 385	5 460	7 555	5 660	1 835	275
2009-10	49,800	12,000	9,420	7,945	5,860	7,140	5,475	1,650	270
2010-11	51,355	11,970	10,240	8,945	6,155	7,130	5,010	1,675	215
2011-12	48,620	12,220	10,230	8,095	5,705	6,430	4,305	1,445	170
<b>2012-13 (2)</b>	<b>47,795</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>10,535</b>	<b>8,015</b>	<b>5,655</b>	<b>6,135</b>	<b>3,855</b>	<b>1,370</b>	<b>200</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) Scottish Funding Council (SFC).  
Refer to Notes to Tables.

21. Table C shows that whilst the number of students aged under 25 rose by 1,500 or 1.0% from 2011-12, there was a decline in enrolments for the 25 to 59 age group, which fell by 4,345 or 4.2%.
22. Student numbers for those aged 30 to 49 have reduced noticeably since 2003-04. This will be influenced by the SFC prioritising the 16 to 24 group at college in recent years and increased demand for school leavers attending HEIs during the economic recession (when fewer opportunities were available to enter employment). As first degree numbers for Scottish students attending Scottish HEIs are controlled by SFC through a set number of funded places more places for school leavers (and other younger students) mean less places for

older students.

### **Student entrant numbers characteristics**

23. Table D shows that the total number of new entrants to HE courses rose by 1,035 from 2011-12 (or 0.8%). This consisted of an increase in postgraduate study of 95 (0.3%), a rise in first degree study of 1,925 (4.3%) and a decline in sub-degree study of 990 (1.7%). The number of new entrants at HEIs was 96,975 (72.7% of the total) and the number at colleges was 36,425 (27.3%).
24. Research postgraduates rose by 36% from 2003-04 whilst first degree students rose by 4% over the same period. Sub-degree level students actually declined by 17% over the period. College students made up 33% of all HE entrants in 2003-04 falling to 27% in 2012-13.

**Table D: Entrants to higher education in HEIs and colleges by level of study and academic year: 2003-04 to 2012-13**

Institution Type / Academic Session	Total	Postgraduate Research	Postgraduate Taught	First Degree	HNC/HND	Other Sub-degree
<b>Total</b>						
2003-04	<b>136,490</b>	2,900	20,700	44,930	33,495	34,470
2004-05	<b>133,340</b>	2,920	19,690	41,780	31,495	37,445
2005-06	<b>137,565</b>	2,935	23,645	44,010	30,385	36,590
2006-07	<b>142,460</b>	3,275	25,730	42,780	28,965	41,710
2007-08	<b>137,495</b>	3,245	24,675	42,965	28,275	38,235
2008-09	<b>144,130</b>	3,655	25,720	46,775	28,470	39,465
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
<b>2012-13</b>	<b>133,415</b>	<b>3,940</b>	<b>25,870</b>	<b>46,870</b>	<b>27,945</b>	<b>28,790</b>
<b>All students at HEIs</b>						
2003-04	<b>91,680</b>	2,900	20,545	44,405	3,980	19,850
2004-05	<b>90,730</b>	2,920	19,535	41,405	3,390	23,480
2005-06	<b>97,040</b>	2,935	23,505	43,555	2,935	24,110
2006-07	<b>103,575</b>	3,275	25,575	42,400	3,470	28,855
2007-08	<b>100,115</b>	3,245	24,535	42,520	3,765	26,050
2008-09	<b>105,975</b>	3,655	25,645	46,255	3,290	27,125
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
<b>2012-13 (2)</b>	<b>96,975</b>	<b>3,940</b>	<b>25,870</b>	<b>45,970</b>	<b>2,410</b>	<b>18,780</b>
<b>All students at colleges</b>						
2003-04	<b>44,815</b>	-	155	525	29,515	14,615
2004-05	<b>42,610</b>	-	150	375	28,100	13,970
2005-06	<b>40,525</b>	-	140	450	27,450	12,480
2006-07	<b>38,885</b>	-	155	380	25,495	12,855
2007-08	<b>37,380</b>	-	140	445	24,510	12,185
2008-09	<b>38,150</b>	-	80	515	25,175	12,340
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
<b>2012-13 (2)</b>	<b>36,445</b>	-	-	<b>900</b>	<b>25,535</b>	<b>10,010</b>

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

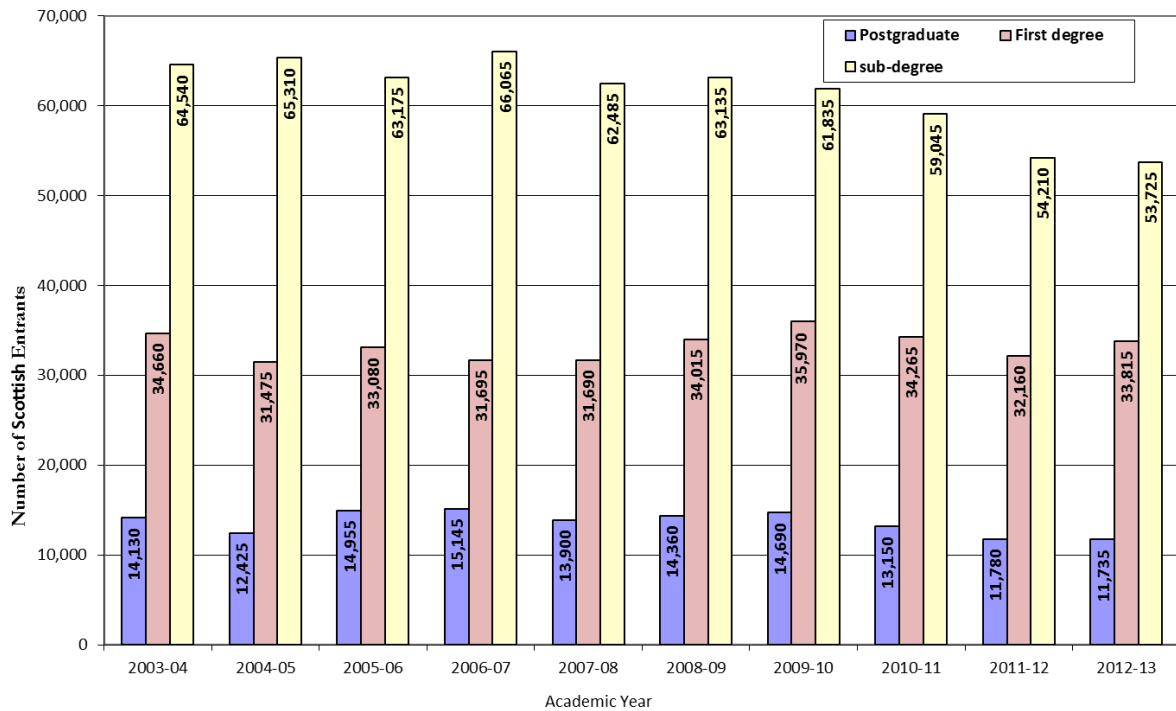
**Table E: Entrants to higher education in HEIs and colleges in 2012-13 by subject and gender**

Subject Area	All Entrants at Scottish Institutions			All Entrants at HEIs			All Entrants at Colleges		
	Total	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total	Male (%)	Female (%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>133,415</b>	<b>43.6%</b>	<b>56.4%</b>	<b>96,975</b>	<b>41.9%</b>	<b>58.1%</b>	<b>36,445</b>	<b>48.2%</b>	<b>51.8%</b>
<b>Medical Studies</b>									
Subjects allied to Medicine	12,255	17.7%	82.3%	10,555	18.2%	81.8%	1,700	14.3%	85.7%
Medicine and Dentistry	2,160	42.0%	58.0%	2,105	41.8%	58.2%	55	48.2%	51.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,415</b>	<b>21.3%</b>	<b>78.7%</b>	<b>12,655</b>	<b>22.1%</b>	<b>77.9%</b>	<b>1,760</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>84.6%</b>
<b>Science and Engineering</b>									
Agriculture & related subjects	1,105	51.3%	48.7%	800	42.9%	57.1%	305	73.0%	27.0%
Architecture building and planning	3,145	70.3%	29.7%	1,995	62.5%	37.5%	1,150	83.8%	16.2%
Biological Sciences	7,860	37.0%	63.0%	7,390	37.0%	63.0%	470	35.5%	64.5%
Engineering and Technology	12,575	85.5%	14.5%	7,275	82.0%	18.0%	5,300	90.4%	9.6%
Computer Science	6,380	81.7%	18.3%	3,950	79.6%	20.4%	2,430	85.1%	14.9%
Mathematical Sciences	1,440	58.6%	41.4%	1,355	56.6%	43.4%	85	90.6%	9.4%
Physical Sciences	3,800	55.2%	44.8%	3,620	55.9%	44.1%	180	40.3%	59.7%
Veterinary Science	590	17.8%	82.2%	360	23.9%	76.1%	230	8.2%	91.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,895</b>	<b>67.0%</b>	<b>33.0%</b>	<b>26,745</b>	<b>61.0%</b>	<b>39.0%</b>	<b>10,150</b>	<b>82.6%</b>	<b>17.4%</b>
<b>Business and Social Studies</b>									
Business & Administrative studies	25,035	42.5%	57.5%	15,530	43.7%	56.3%	9,510	40.4%	59.6%
Law	4,010	41.4%	58.6%	3,655	42.5%	57.5%	355	30.3%	69.7%
Mass Communication & documentation	1,940	41.8%	58.2%	1,250	34.6%	65.4%	690	54.8%	45.2%
Social Studies	12,725	27.5%	72.5%	7,685	34.2%	65.8%	5,040	17.1%	82.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,715</b>	<b>38.0%</b>	<b>62.0%</b>	<b>28,120</b>	<b>40.6%</b>	<b>59.4%</b>	<b>15,590</b>	<b>33.3%</b>	<b>66.7%</b>
<b>Education and the Arts</b>									
Creative Arts & Design	10,645	35.2%	64.8%	4,500	37.6%	62.4%	6,145	33.4%	66.6%
Education	6,910	28.3%	71.7%	5,970	25.0%	75.0%	940	49.5%	50.5%
Historical & Philosophical Studies	4,355	41.1%	58.9%	4,355	41.1%	58.9%	-	-	-
Languages	5,745	32.2%	67.8%	5,635	31.9%	68.1%	110	51.4%	48.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,655</b>	<b>33.8%</b>	<b>66.2%</b>	<b>20,460</b>	<b>33.0%</b>	<b>67.0%</b>	<b>7,195</b>	<b>35.8%</b>	<b>64.2%</b>
<b>Combined (8)</b>	<b>10,740</b>	<b>42.1%</b>	<b>57.9%</b>	<b>8,990</b>	<b>37.3%</b>	<b>62.7%</b>	<b>1,750</b>	<b>66.5%</b>	<b>33.5%</b>
<b>Supplementary subjects contained in the above categories</b>									
Economics and Politics	2,735	52.6%	47.4%	2,705	52.9%	47.1%	30	31.0%	69.0%
English	2,170	35.1%	64.9%	2,155	35.0%	65.0%	15	37.5%	62.5%
Geography	850	40.2%	59.8%	775	41.3%	58.7%	75	28.4%	71.6%
Psychology	3,225	26.3%	73.7%	3,200	26.4%	73.6%	25	20.8%	79.2%

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

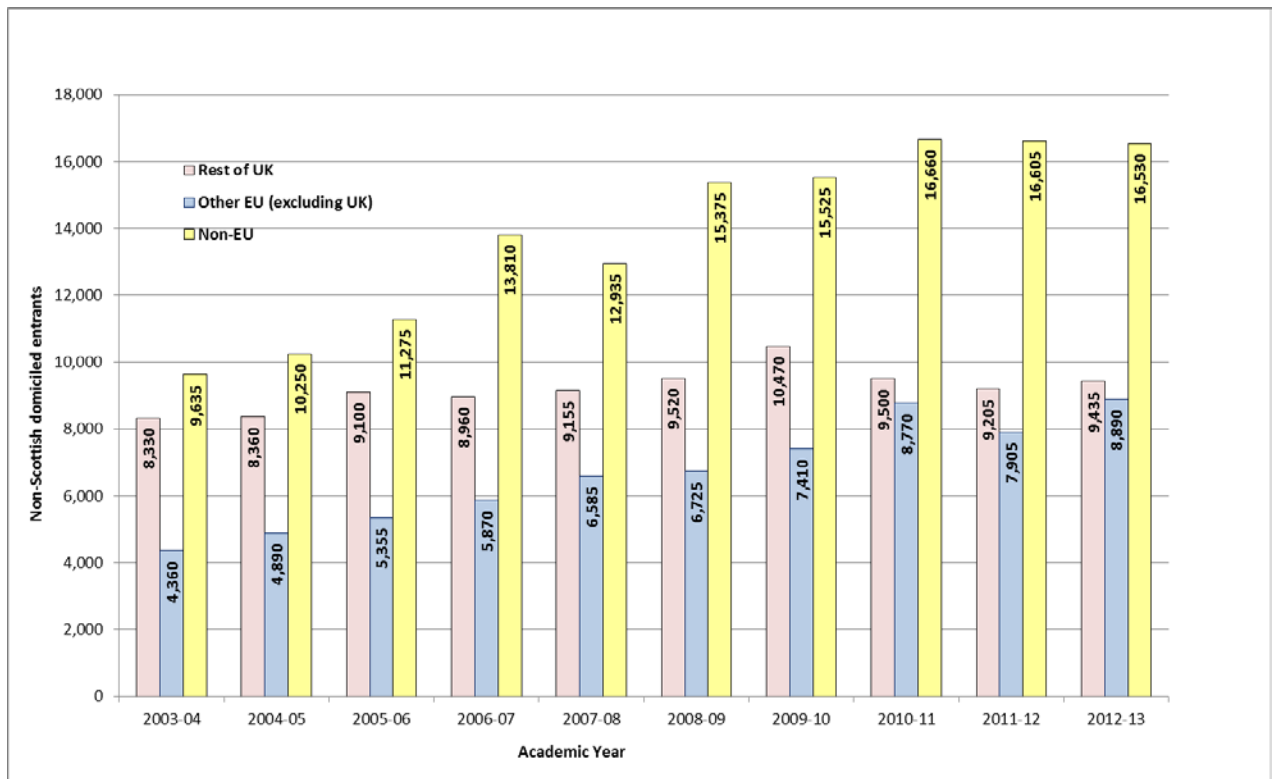
25. Some subject areas have tightly controlled student intakes which influence profile of subjects delivered. Our controlled subjects sector communication outlines these numbers:  
[www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Circulars/2012/SFC0312.aspx](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Circulars/2012/SFC0312.aspx)
26. Table E shows that a majority (56.4%) of entrants were female and 43.6% were male. The subject groups with the highest proportions of female entrants were Subjects allied to Medicine (82.3%), Veterinary Science (82.2%) and Social Studies (72.5%). The subject groups with the highest proportion of male entrants were Engineering and Technology (85.5%), Computer Science (81.7%) and Architecture, Building and Planning (70.2%).
27. The HE courses in Scotland with the largest overall numbers of entrants in 2012-13 were Business & Administrative Studies with 25,035 entrants followed by Social Studies with 12,725 entrants.

**Figure 3 Scottish domiciled entrants to HE at Scottish HEIs and colleges by level of study: 2003-04 to 2012-13**



28. Figure 3 shows that the number of Scottish domiciled postgraduate entrants has fallen from 14,130 in 2003-04 to 11,735 in 2012-13 (-17%). This can be compared with all postgraduate students in table A which have increased by 22%. From 2013-14 SFC is investing in additional taught postgraduate places.

**Figure 4 Non-Scottish domiciled entrants to HE at Scottish HEIs and colleges by level of study: 2003-04 to 2012-13**



29. To date the number of RUK students at Scottish HEIs has been controlled to some degree by the number of funded places available at Scottish HEIs which supported the provision of RUK students. The provision for these students is now funded through the deregulated tuition fees that were introduced for 2012-13. The likely long term effect on RUK recruitment of these changes is uncertain but recent UCAS figures have shown an increase in applicants from the rest of the UK.

## **Domicile of Entrants**

30. Table F shows that of the 133,400 entrants to HE in Scotland, either at Scottish colleges or HEIs, in 2012-13, 98,445 (74%) were Scottish domiciled, ie living in Scotland prior to study, while 107,960 (91%) were from the UK as a whole.
31. EU entrants have almost doubled since 2003-04 and those from outwith the EU have increased by 66%. Students from Northern Ireland have decreased by 32% from 2003-04.
32. Students from the EU (not RUK) are still eligible to have their provision supported through SFC funding but would have to pay higher fees if they chose to study at an HEI elsewhere in the UK.
33. Table F shows that the number of Scottish domiciled entrants decreased by 12% from 2003-04, this is mainly attributable to a fall in students studying at sub-degree level. However, the number of Scottish domiciled entrants rose slightly from 2011-12 to 2012-13.



**Table F. Entrants in higher education at Scottish HEIs and colleges by domicile and level of study, 2003-04 to 2012-13**

Level of Study / Academic Session	Total all domiciles (14)	Scotland	England	Wales	Northern Ireland	Other UK	Total UK (14)	EU	Non-EU Europe	Non-European
<b>Total</b>										
2003-04	136,490	113,325	6,380	230	1,720	-	121,915	4,890	715	8,920
2004-05	133,340	109,220	6,510	215	1,585	50	117,690	5,355	470	9,780
2005-06	137,565	111,210	7,210	235	1,575	80	120,390	5,870	495	10,780
2006-07	142,460	112,910	7,065	240	1,580	75	122,010	6,585	595	13,215
2007-08	137,495	108,175	7,320	260	1,505	70	117,820	6,725	565	12,370
2008-09	144,130	111,555	7,745	235	1,430	110	121,300	7,410	685	14,690
2009-10	147,465	112,495	8,440	275	1,420	335	123,135	8,770	810	14,715
2010-11	140,590	106,460	7,800	235	1,390	75	116,015	7,905	870	15,790
2011-12	132,365	98,150	7,495	260	1,375	75	107,380	8,380	880	15,725
2012-13	133,415	98,460	7,910	285	1,165	75	107,980	8,890	965	15,565
<b>Postgraduate</b>										
2003-04	23,600	14,130	1,675	75	255	-	16,240	1,990	350	4,995
2004-05	22,610	12,425	1,740	65	230	10	14,525	2,055	255	5,745
2005-06	26,580	14,955	2,060	90	240	20	17,410	2,125	240	6,775
2006-07	29,005	15,145	2,610	95	250	20	18,175	2,290	300	8,205
2007-08	27,920	13,900	2,690	120	270	20	17,035	2,235	295	8,350
2008-09	29,380	14,360	2,550	100	235	20	17,320	2,535	335	9,155
2009-10	31,490	14,690	3,035	115	295	20	18,235	3,150	380	9,695
2010-11	30,705	13,150	3,095	100	270	15	16,660	3,160	395	10,480
2011-12	29,715	11,780	3,280	115	255	15	15,465	3,470	400	10,380
2012-13	29,815	11,725	3,280	120	215	15	15,410	3,730	485	10,175
<b>First degree</b>										
2003-04	44,930	34,660	3,900	135	1,345	-	40,090	2,280	275	2,280
2004-05	41,780	31,475	3,965	125	1,235	30	36,850	2,495	170	2,255
2005-06	44,010	33,080	4,230	125	1,230	40	38,715	2,825	190	2,275
2006-07	42,780	31,695	3,600	105	1,195	40	36,660	3,180	220	2,700
2007-08	42,965	31,690	3,850	120	1,070	35	36,795	3,615	215	2,340
2008-09	46,775	34,015	4,320	100	1,100	70	39,625	4,075	285	2,790
2009-10	50,295	35,970	4,715	130	1,065	60	41,950	4,830	350	3,155
2010-11	46,860	34,265	3,720	100	1,035	45	39,170	4,175	330	3,185
2011-12	44,945	32,160	3,495	95	1,070	50	36,865	4,210	410	3,455
2012-13	46,870	33,910	3,910	125	885	45	38,875	4,500	370	3,125
<b>Sub-degree</b>										
2003-04	67,960	64,540	805	25	125	-	65,580	625	90	1,645
2004-05	68,940	65,310	805	20	120	10	66,305	805	45	1,785
2005-06	66,980	63,175	915	25	110	20	64,265	920	65	1,730
2006-07	70,675	66,065	850	35	135	15	67,170	1,120	75	2,310
2007-08	66,510	62,485	780	20	170	15	63,890	880	60	1,680
2008-09	67,935	63,135	875	30	95	20	64,310	800	70	2,750
2009-10	65,680	61,835	690	25	60	255	62,950	790	80	1,860
2010-11	63,025	59,045	985	35	85	10	60,185	570	140	2,125
2011-12	57,705	54,210	720	50	50	10	55,045	700	65	1,890
2012-13	56,735	52,825	725	40	65	20	53,695	655	110	2,265

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

## Access and Equalities

34. Table G shows that 88.4% of all students whose ethnicity was recorded were white. Students from an Asian–Chinese background were the second largest ethnic group with 2.6% of the total and students from a Black African background were the third largest ethnic group with 2.0%.

**Table G. Students in higher education at Scottish HEIs and colleges by level of study and ethnicity, 2012-13**

Ethnic Background	Level of Study					
	All Levels	Postgraduate		First Degree	Sub-degree	
		Research Postgraduate (1)	Taught Postgraduate		HNC/HND	Other Sub-degree
<b>All Students</b>	<b>278,765</b>	<b>11,980</b>	<b>41,530</b>	<b>150,940</b>	<b>39,745</b>	<b>34,565</b>
Asian - Bangladeshi	340	30	70	165	50	20
Asian - Chinese	6,445	515	2,480	2,440	185	820
Asian - Indian	3,885	240	1,315	1,280	470	580
Asian - Pakistani	3,560	110	480	2,010	645	310
Asian - other	3,400	375	1,020	1,305	415	290
Black - African	4,945	390	2,025	1,745	425	355
Black - Caribbean	310	15	100	135	25	35
Black - other	425	40	140	150	45	50
White	222,045	7,235	23,485	125,190	36,785	29,350
Mixed background	3,730	250	555	2,430	265	230
Other ethnic background	2,150	355	720	760	100	215
Unknown	27,535	2,425	9,145	13,325	330	2,305

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

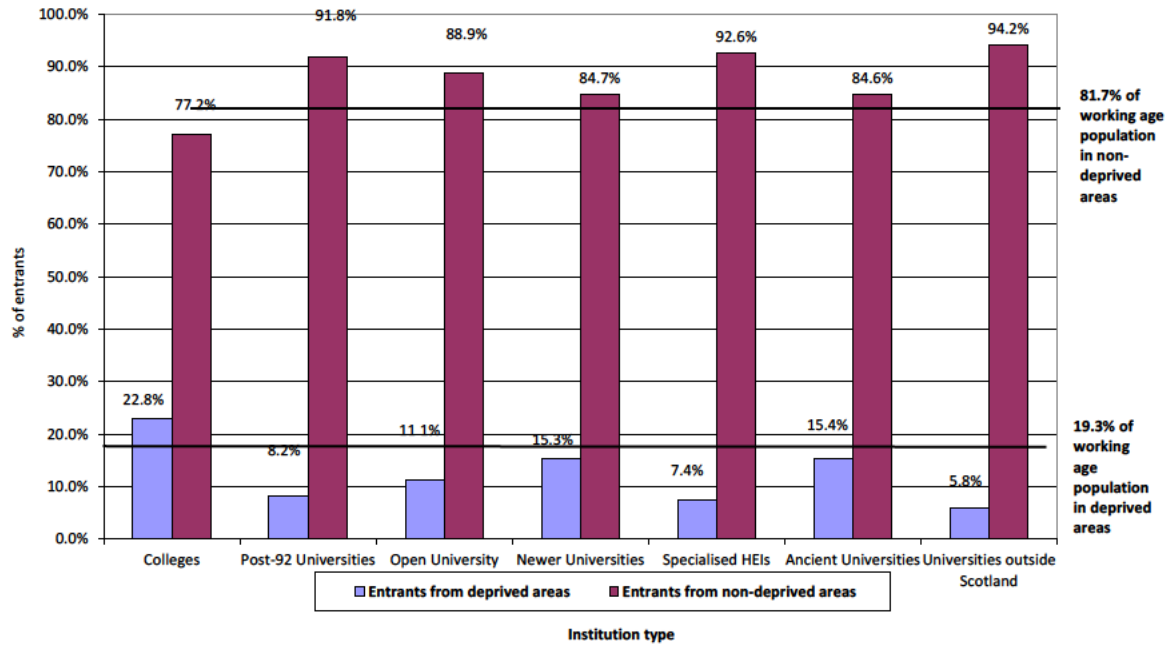
35. The proportion of entrants to HE that come from the 20% most deprived areas of Scotland rose to 15.8% in 2012-13 from 15.1% in 2011-12 (19.3% of the working age population live in the 20% most deprived areas of Scotland). Entrants from deprived areas remain over-represented in Scotland's colleges (22.8%) and under-represented amongst Scotland's HEIs, particularly ancient universities (8.2%) and small specialist institutions (7.4%).
36. In 2012-13, entrants from deprived areas were under represented by 3.5 percentage points. In 2004-05 under-representation of this group stood at 4.6 percentage points. Figure 5 provides an overview of the level of representation by institution type.

**Table H. Scottish domiciled entrants from deprived areas to higher education in the UK by institution type, 2004-05 to 2012-13**

Type of Institution (17)	Percentage of HE entrants from deprived areas (18)								
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Colleges	21.3%	21.7%	21.8%	21.8%	21.7%	22.6%	22.3%	22.4%	22.8%
Ancient Universities (3)	7.9%	7.6%	7.7%	7.3%	7.8%	7.6%	7.9%	7.4%	8.2%
Newer Universities	11.6%	11.7%	11.7%	11.1%	11.0%	11.1%	11.2%	10.7%	11.1%
Post-92 HEIs	13.9%	14.4%	14.6%	14.8%	14.7%	14.6%	14.8%	13.9%	15.3%
Specialised HEIs (3)	7.3%	7.7%	6.5%	7.5%	6.6%	7.9%	7.2%	8.6%	7.4%
Open University	13.7%	13.2%	13.7%	13.2%	14.0%	14.0%	14.7%	14.7%	15.4%
Universities outside Scotland	6.3%	6.8%	6.3%	6.9%	7.4%	7.0%	9.0%	7.5%	5.8%
<b>All entrants from deprived areas (18,24)</b>	<b>14.9%</b>	<b>15.0%</b>	<b>15.0%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>14.9%</b>	<b>15.1%</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>15.1%</b>	<b>15.8%</b>
% of Scottish population living in deprived areas (18)	19.8%	19.7%	19.6%	19.3%	19.2%	19.1%	19.0%	19.0%	19.3%
% of Scottish working age population living in deprived areas (19)	19.5%	19.4%	19.4%	19.0%	19.0%	18.9%	18.8%	18.8%	19.3%
<b>Under-representation of total population from deprived areas</b>	<b>-5.0%</b>	<b>-4.7%</b>	<b>-4.6%</b>	<b>-4.5%</b>	<b>-4.3%</b>	<b>-4.1%</b>	<b>-3.6%</b>	<b>-3.9%</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>
<b>Under-representation of working age population from deprived areas</b>	<b>-4.6%</b>	<b>-4.4%</b>	<b>-4.4%</b>	<b>-4.2%</b>	<b>-4.1%</b>	<b>-3.8%</b>	<b>-3.4%</b>	<b>-3.7%</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>

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

**Figure 5. Scottish domiciled entrants to higher education by deprivation classification of domicile and institution type: 2012-13**



## Qualifiers

### Qualifier numbers and characteristics

**Table I. Qualifiers from higher education courses at Scottish institutions by institution type, level of qualification obtained and academic year, 2003-04 to 2012-13**

Institution Type / Academic Session	Level of Qualification Obtained					
	All Levels	Postgraduate		First Degree	Sub-degree	
		Research Postgraduate	Taught Postgraduate		HNC/HND	Other Sub- degree
<b>Total</b>						
2003-04	<b>75,470</b>	2,045	13,280	28,440	18,520	13,185
2004-05	<b>81,045</b>	2,300	16,070	31,010	18,190	13,465
2005-06	<b>81,165</b>	2,235	17,575	31,090	17,470	12,790
2006-07	<b>82,920</b>	2,300	18,135	32,025	16,275	14,185
2007-08	<b>83,335</b>	2,155	19,550	31,235	15,695	14,650
2008-09	<b>84,030</b>	2,275	19,355	31,750	16,685	13,965
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
<b>2012-13</b>	<b>95,580</b>	<b>2,965</b>	<b>22,595</b>	<b>36,050</b>	<b>20,535</b>	<b>13,430</b>
<b>All students at HEIs</b>						
2003-04	<b>50,620</b>	2,045	13,160	28,325	1,570	5,515
2004-05	<b>57,745</b>	2,300	15,955	30,845	1,575	7,065
2005-06	<b>59,000</b>	2,235	17,470	30,910	1,750	6,635
2006-07	<b>60,910</b>	2,300	18,020	31,825	1,430	7,335
2007-08	<b>62,130</b>	2,155	19,510	30,965	1,950	7,550
2008-09	<b>61,565</b>	2,275	19,315	31,465	1,715	6,790
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
<b>2012-13 (2)</b>	<b>70,010</b>	<b>2,965</b>	<b>22,580</b>	<b>35,470</b>	<b>1,885</b>	<b>7,110</b>
<b>All students at colleges</b>						
2003-04	<b>24,855</b>	-	120	115	16,950	7,670
2004-05	<b>23,300</b>	-	115	165	16,615	6,400
2005-06	<b>22,165</b>	-	105	185	15,720	6,155
2006-07	<b>22,010</b>	-	115	205	14,845	6,850
2007-08	<b>21,205</b>	-	40	265	13,745	7,100
2008-09	<b>22,465</b>	-	40	285	14,970	7,175
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
<b>2012-13 (2)</b>	<b>25,565</b>	-	<b>15</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>18,650</b>	<b>6,320</b>

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

37. Table I shows that the number of higher education qualifiers from Scottish institutions has increased by 2,710 (2.9%) from 2011-12 to a record level of 95,580 in 2012-13.
38. The number qualifying at first degree level rose by 1,465 (4.2%), the number at postgraduate level rose by 490, the number at HNC/D level remained steady rising by 5. There was also a rise in the number of qualifiers at sub-degree level (excluding HNC/Ds), which increased by 755 (6.0%).
39. Qualifiers from Scottish HEIs increased by 2,080 (3.1%), from 67,930 in 2011-12 to 70,010 in 2012-13, and have increased by 19,390 (38.3%) since 2003-04. Altogether, 64% of qualifiers achieved graduate level qualifications (first degree level or above) which were mainly achieved at HEIs.
40. Many of these qualifying students will be from outwith Scotland but may choose to take up employment in Scotland when their course ends. Retaining these highly qualified graduates is an important benefit of Scotland remaining a net importer of students.

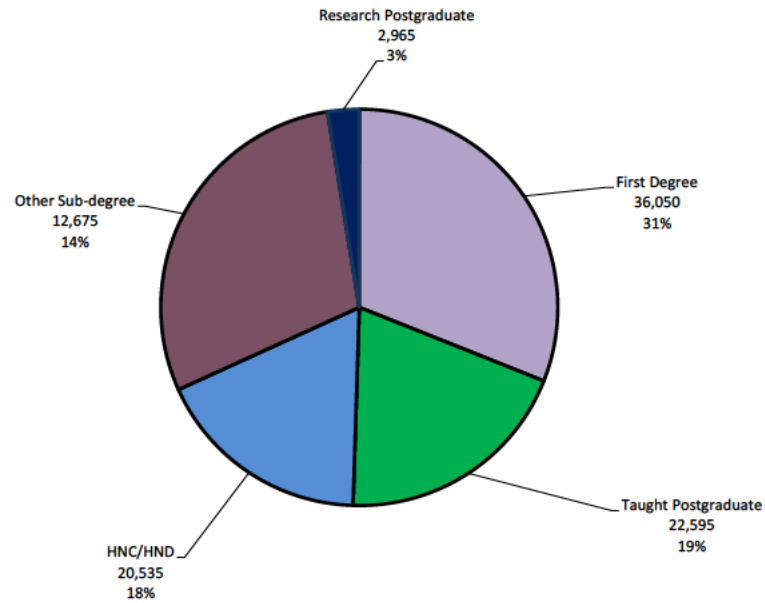
Further information on destination of qualifiers is available with the HESA publication on destination of leavers:

[www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/2936/393/](http://www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/2936/393/)

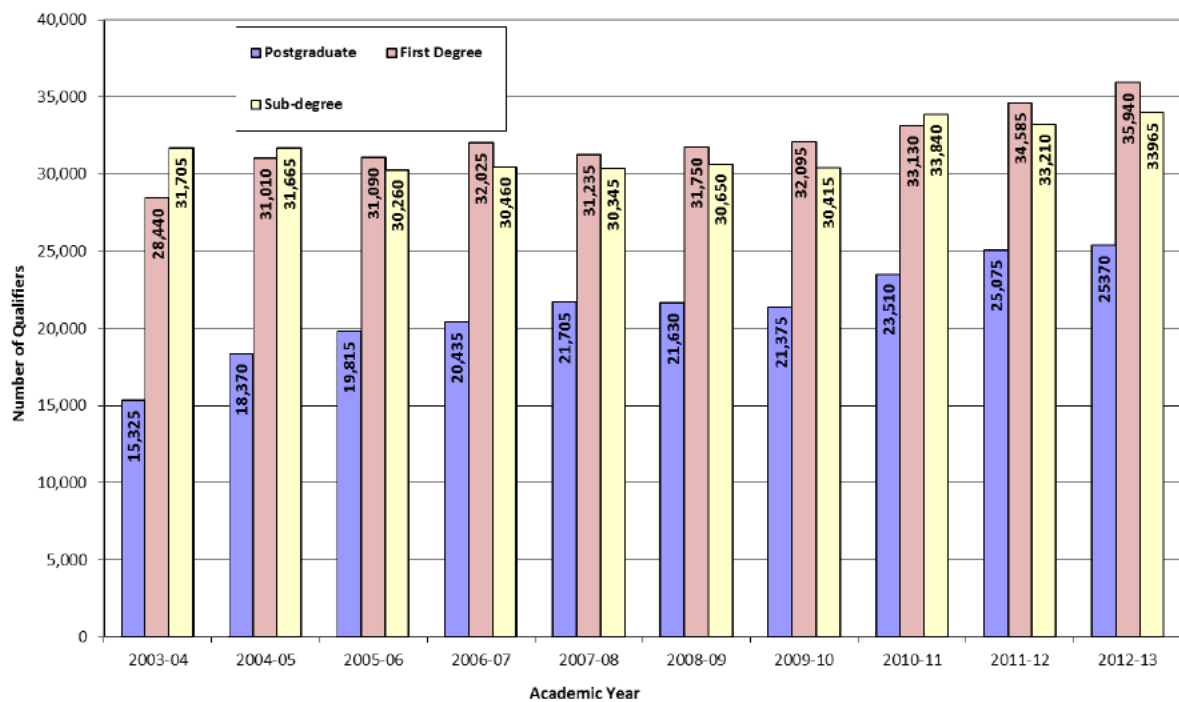
HESA also follow graduates over a longer time frame and publish their finding for this group in their longitudinal survey publication:

[www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/2985/393/](http://www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/2985/393/)

**Figure 6. Qualifiers from higher education in Scottish HEIs and colleges by level of student: 2012-13**



**Figure 7. Scottish qualifiers from HE in Scottish HEIs and colleges by level of study: 2003-04 to 2012-13**



## Gender, age and domicile of qualifiers

41. Table J shows that the number of qualifiers aged 21 to 24 increased by 2,445 (6.4%) between 2011-12 and 2012-13. The majority of qualifiers (55.6%) in 2012-13 were aged under 25. The number of qualifiers aged 25 to 29 has increased by 58.9% (6,965) since 2003-04.
42. Students with Scottish domiciles accounted for 69.7% of qualifiers from Scottish institutions in 2012-13. Rest of UK students accounted for a further 8.3% of qualifiers, with 6.8% from the rest of the EU and 15.2% from outwith the EU. Between 2011-12 and 2012-13 qualifiers from Scottish domiciles rose by 1,600 (2.5%).
43. Table L shows that in 2012-13, the percentage of males in the qualifier population was 44.2% (down marginally from 44.6% in 2011-12) and that of females was 55.8% (up marginally from 55.4% in 2010-11).

**Table J: Qualifiers from Higher Education courses at Scottish Institutions by age, 2003-04 to 2012-13**

Level of Qualification / Academic Session	Total (7)	16-18	19-20	21-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+
<b>All levels</b>									
2003-04	75,470	2,080	6,785	28,840	11,835	13,770	8,995	2,640	505
2004-05	81,045	2,200	7,155	30,460	13,380	14,280	10,025	3,000	530
2005-06	81,165	2,145	7,140	31,325	14,140	13,575	9,405	2,960	455
2006-07	82,920	2,310	7,590	32,930	14,540	13,090	9,025	2,915	500
2007-08	83,335	2,280	7,615	32,675	15,040	13,045	8,920	2,970	555
2008-09	84,030	2,580	7,870	33,455	15,025	12,965	8,510	3,005	610
2009-10	83,885	2,830	8,110	33,620	15,495	12,650	7,900	2,735	535
2010-11	90,480	2,930	9,165	36,170	17,270	13,250	7,955	3,000	740
2011-12	92,870	3,140	9,360	37,945	18,360	13,320	7,450	2,705	580
<b>2012-13</b>	<b>95,580</b>	<b>2,950</b>	<b>9,865</b>	<b>40,390</b>	<b>18,800</b>	<b>13,180</b>	<b>6,830</b>	<b>2,775</b>	<b>775</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council.  
Refer to Notes to Tables.



**Table K: Qualifiers from Higher Education courses at Scottish Institutions by pre-study domicile and academic year, 2003-04 to 2012-13**

Level of Qualification / Academic Session	Total	Scotland	Rest of UK	EU excluding UK	Rest of the world
<b>Total</b>					
2003-04	75,470	59,745	6,650	3,390	5,685
2004-05	81,045	63,495	6,930	3,765	6,855
2005-06	81,165	62,225	6,665	4,180	8,100
2006-07	82,920	62,710	6,605	4,610	8,990
2007-08	83,335	61,420	6,895	4,820	10,205
2008-09	84,030	61,435	7,485	5,005	10,100
2009-10	83,885	60,740	6,605	5,755	10,725
2010-11	90,480	64,715	7,110	5,955	12,655
2011-12	92,870	65,045	7,500	6,095	14,230
<b>2012-13</b>	<b>95,580</b>	<b>66,645</b>	<b>7,945</b>	<b>6,475</b>	<b>14,515</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council.  
Refer to Notes to Tables.

**Table L: Qualifiers from Higher Education courses at Scottish Institutions by mode of study and gender, 2003-04 to 2012-13**

Academic Session	Total			Full-time			Part-time (22)		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
2003-04	75,470	32,360	43,110	46,535	19,955	26,580	28,935	12,405	16,530
2004-05	81,045	34,365	46,680	48,980	20,695	28,285	32,065	13,665	18,400
2005-06	81,165	33,975	47,190	49,715	20,560	29,155	31,450	13,415	18,035
2006-07	82,920	35,435	47,485	52,615	21,840	30,775	30,305	13,595	16,710
2007-08	83,335	36,015	47,315	51,085	21,515	29,570	32,245	14,505	17,740
2008-09	84,030	37,270	46,760	53,585	23,010	30,575	30,445	14,260	16,185
2009-10	83,885	37,410	46,470	55,075	23,925	31,155	28,805	13,490	15,320
2010-11	90,480	41,215	49,265	58,490	25,935	32,560	31,990	15,280	16,710
2011-12	92,870	41,440	51,430	62,275	27,130	35,145	30,595	14,310	16,285
<b>2012-13</b>	<b>95,580</b>	<b>42,285</b>	<b>53,295</b>	<b>63,340</b>	<b>27,425</b>	<b>35,915</b>	<b>32,235</b>	<b>14,860</b>	<b>17,375</b>

Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council.  
Refer to Notes to Tables.

### Notes to Tables

Some of these notes refer additional tables published on the SFC website and not to any of the tables in this publication.

1. The figures include Scottish-domiciled research postgraduate students at the Open University. These students are excluded from the numbers of Scottish-domiciled students at the Open University published by HESA in their Statistical First Release 197, see table 7 of [www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/3103/161/](http://www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/3103/161/)

The Open University had 20 Scottish-domiciled research postgraduate students in both 2011-12 and 2012-13

2. Students at the former land-based colleges of Barony, Elmwood and Oatridge, which merged with SAC to form SRUC in October 2012, were still recorded through the college reporting system in 2012-13 and are included in the figures for colleges not for HEIs.
3. The following changes to institutions have taken place over the period 2003-04 to 2012-13:
  - The University of Paisley merged with Bell College at the start of the 2007-08 academic session to become the University of the West of Scotland.
  - The Edinburgh College of Art merged with the University of Edinburgh at the start of academic session 2011-12.
  - In 2005-06 Fife College of Further and Higher Education, and Glenrothes College merged to form Adam Smith College.
  - In 2005-06 Falkirk College of Further and Higher Education and, Clackmannan College of Further Education merged to form Forth Valley College.
  - In 2005-06 Glasgow College of Food Technology and Glasgow College of Building and Printing merged to form Glasgow Metropolitan 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.

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 at:

[www.sfc.ac.uk/statistics/further\\_education\\_statistics/infact\\_database/infact\\_database.aspx](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/statistics/further_education_statistics/infact_database/infact_database.aspx)

4. The totals include Scottish domiciled students whose local authority was not recorded.
5. 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.
6. Totals include students whose ages were not reported. In 2012-13 there were 90 students (60 at HEIs and 35 at colleges) whose ages were not reported for and for student entrants there was 80 whose age was not reported. The majority of students whose age was not reported were studying at sub-degree level. For qualifiers in 2012-13 there were 15 students whose ages were not reported.
7. The 'Combined' subject grouping is used in recognition of programmes of study which cut across different subject areas.
8. Prior to 2007-08, Environmental Science was included under the heading Geography. In 2007-08 a new subject classification system was introduced (JACS 2.0) and Environmental Science was no longer classified as Geography. The values associated with Geography for 2007-08 to 2010-11 do not therefore include Environmental Science students.
9. This table includes students at UK HEIs only and does not include students studying at colleges.
10. The total includes a small number of students at the Open University who are domiciled outside the UK.
11. Includes students from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man and students from the UK whose specific country of domicile was not reported.
12. Total includes students from overseas whose specific country of domicile was not recorded.
13. Total includes UK and overseas students whose specific country of domicile was not reported.
14. Includes 20 HEI students and 1,850 college students whose disability status was not reported.
15. For colleges, students with an autistic spectrum disorder are included in the category 'A disability, impairment or medical condition not listed above' as they are not reported on separately.

16. Where universities are categorised as Ancient, Small Specialist Institutions, Post-92s or Newer Universities, these categories are comprised of 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 and Islands;

Small Specialist Institutions: SRUC, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Glasgow School of Art);

17. Deprived areas are defined as the 20 per cent lowest ranked areas in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) for the relevant year. In this table, academic years 2001-02 to 2004-05 relate to SIMD 2004, 2005-06 and 2006-07 relate to SIMD 2006, academic years 2007-08 to 2010-11 relate to SIMD 2009 and academic year 2011-12 relates to SIMD 2012.
18. The working population is defined as number of persons aged 16-64.
19. This data includes an update from the University of Aberdeen for awards in academic year 2006-07.
20. Aerostat 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.
21. Includes students obtaining qualifications from writing up and dormant status who were previously studying full-time.
22. The total includes 230 students representing 30.1 FTE whose gender was not reported.
23. 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, eg if they are either incomplete or missing, to postcodes in SIMD. In 2012-13 98.7 per cent of entrant postcodes were successfully matched.

## **Methodology, Data Definitions, and Quality Information**

### **Data Sources**

1. 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 the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) from further education colleges (colleges).
2. Where analysis refers to institutions (rather than HEIs or colleges) student data from both Scottish HEIs and Scottish colleges has been combined to report on all Scottish institutions.

### **Coverage**

3. Following a consultation in 2007, the method of counting students 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. To allow comparisons across years all time-series have been revised according to this definition.
4. The standard registration population includes all higher education student instances active at a reporting institution at any point in the reporting period 1st August to 31st July except; dormant students, incoming visiting exchange students, students who study wholly outside the UK, students on sabbatical and writing up students.
5. Data from Scottish colleges continues to be reported in the same way as in previous years and excludes those students who do not complete the first 25% of their course (the point at which they become eligible for funding).

### **Student Instances**

6. 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. This approach is consistent with that of HESA. 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**

7. Full-time Equivalents (FTE) represent the expected hours of learning undertaken by a student during their course, as a proportion of the expected hours of learning of full-time study, according to the best academic judgement of the reporting institution. 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.
8. 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 amount 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**

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

## **UK Comparisons**

10. Unless stated otherwise, data from UK institutions outside of Scotland are not included in the analysis. Where data from UK institutions outside of Scotland are included, the analysis compares only HEIs and does not include data from Scottish colleges. In 2012-13, 17.1% of HE students enrolled at Scottish institutions (including Open University students) were studying at Scottish colleges.

## **Entrants from Deprived Areas of Scotland**

11. Analysis of entrants from deprived areas of Scotland is based on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (2012) combines 38 indicators across seven 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.

12. Entrants from deprived areas are Scottish domiciled entrants to HE whose pre-study location was within one of the 20% lowest ranked areas in Scotland. The SIMD is split into 6,505 small areas called datazones, with the 20% lowest ranked areas comprising of datazones 1 to 1301. A process of postcode matching was undertaken to identify which datazones students belonged to prior to study. In 2011-12, 99.1% of Scottish domiciled students were successfully matched through this process before entrant populations were defined. Entrants whose postcodes belonged to one of the 20% lowest ranked datazones in the SIMD are classified as entrants from deprived areas.
13. To date, there have been four SIMDs (SIMD 2004, SIMD 2006 SIMD 2009 and SIMD 2012). For each academic year contained within the analysis in this release, the most appropriate SIMD (relative to the time-period of applications to study HE in the UK) was selected for use with entrant data for the particular academic year.
14. In this release, academic years 2001-02 to 2004-05 relate to SIMD 2004, 2005-06 and 2006-07 relate to SIMD 2006, academic years 2007-08 to 2010-11 relate to SIMD 2009 and academic years 2011-12 and 2012-13 relate to SIMD 2012.
15. More information on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation can be found at the following web address: [www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD)

## **Domicile**

16. UK domiciled students are those whose normal residence is in the UK, and for the purposes of this publication include Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man. Officially, the Crown Dependencies of Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man are not part of the UK or the EU. Guernsey and Jersey in this context refer to the Bailiwicks of Guernsey and Jersey, which includes their smaller islands.
17. Other European Union domiciled students are those whose normal residence prior to commencing their programme of study was in countries which were European Union (EU) members (excluding the UK) at 1 December of the reporting period. This includes Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. Croatia, having joined the EU on 1 July 2013, is not included in 'Other European Union' for 2012-13 publications but will be treated as such from 2013-14 onwards.

18. Non-EU Europe includes European countries not included in the European Union; Albania, Azerbaijani Republic, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Liechtenstein, Macedonia, Monaco, Norway, Russia, San Marino, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Montenegro, Slovenia and Serbia.
19. Non-European-Union students are those whose normal residence prior to commencing their programme of study was outside the EU. Where Non-EU countries are shown separately, individual country figures exclude the country's overseas territories. These individual country figures are listed within the geographic region in which they lie.

### **Level of Study**

20. Postgraduate students include; doctorate, masters, postgraduate bachelors degrees, postgraduate diplomas or certificates, PGCE/PGDE and professional qualification at postgraduate level. From 2007-08 professional graduate certificates in education have been reported as undergraduate qualifications and separately from postgraduate certificates in education, in years prior to this both were reported as postgraduate certificates in education.
21. First Degree students include; first degrees, first degrees with qualified teacher status, enhanced first degrees, first degrees obtained concurrently with a diploma and intercalated first degrees.
22. Sub-degree students include; Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE), Certificate of Higher Education (Cert HE), professional qualification at undergraduate level, foundation courses at HE level, HND, HNC, NVQ/SVQ levels 5 and 4, diplomas and certificates at undergraduate level and other formal HE qualifications of less than degree standard. Other Higher Education includes all sub-degree level study excluding HNCs/HNDs.

### **Subject Tables**

23. 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 included in Physical Sciences and Psychology is included in Biological Sciences.



## Data Presentation

24. 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.

## Use of Data for Funding

25. SFC use HESA Student Records for HEIs in Scotland to help determine whether institutions have met some of their targets in their Outcome Agreements. Failure to meet targets could potentially lead to financial penalties. Further information about the SFC allocations of funding for HEIs and colleges for 2012-13 can be found at:

University sector

[www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Circulars/2012/SFC0512.aspx](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Circulars/2012/SFC0512.aspx)

College sector

[www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Circulars/2012/SFC0212.aspx](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Circulars/2012/SFC0212.aspx)

## Related Publications

26. The publication has been preceded by the following related publications covering the 2012/13 academic year for Scotland:

HESA Statistical First Release 197- Student Enrolments and Qualifications published in January 2014: [www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/3103/161/](http://www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/3103/161/)

HESA publication 'Students in Higher Education Institutions 2012/13' published in February 2014: [www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/3125/161/](http://www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/3125/161/)

Students Eligible for Funding, 2012-13 published in March 2013:

[www.sfc.ac.uk/web/FILES/StatisticsHEstatistics/Statistical Bulletin Students Eligible for Funding 2012-13.pdf](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/web/FILES/StatisticsHEstatistics/Statistical_Bulletin_Students_Eligible_for_Funding_2012-13.pdf)

College Performance Indicators 2012-13 published in January 2014:

[www.sfc.ac.uk/web/FILES/Statistical\\_publications\\_SFCST012014\\_CollegePerformanceIndicators201213/College\\_Performance\\_Indicators\\_2012-13.pdf](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/web/FILES/Statistical_publications_SFCST012014_CollegePerformanceIndicators201213/College_Performance_Indicators_2012-13.pdf)

College Baseline Report 2012-13 published in January 2014:

[www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Statisticalpublications/2014/BaselineReportforAcademicYear201213.aspx](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/communications/Statisticalpublications/2014/BaselineReportforAcademicYear201213.aspx)

## **Data Quality Information**

27. This section provides a summary of information on this output against five dimensions of quality: Relevance, Accuracy, Timeliness and Punctuality, Accessibility and Clarity, and Comparability.

### **Relevance**

28. HESA is the official UK agency for the collection, analysis and dissemination of quantitative information about higher education at higher education institutions. It was set up by agreement between the relevant government departments, the higher education funding councils and the universities and colleges. A primary purpose of the Student data collection is to provide each of the bodies listed below with accurate and comprehensive statistical information regarding student enrolments. SFC collects data on provision at colleges through the Further Education Statistics (FES) data collections.
29. The statistics are used both within and outside the Scottish Government and the Scottish Funding Council to monitor educational trends and as a baseline for further analysis of the underlying data. Some of the key users are:
- Ministers and the Scottish Parliament;
  - Officials in the Scottish Government;
  - Other government departments;
  - The Scottish Funding Council;
  - Higher Education Institutions and representative bodies;
  - Students, researchers, and academics;
  - Individual citizens, private companies, and the media;
30. These statistics are used in a variety of ways. Some examples of these are:
- advice to Ministers;
  - to inform the education policy development and decision-making process in Scotland;
  - to answer parliamentary questions;
  - general background and research;
  - inclusions in reports and briefings;

### **Accuracy**

31. The HESA Student Record and the student records for colleges contain information about individual enrolments, which, because a student can be enrolled on more than one programme of study, may exceed the number of students.
32. The procedures followed by HESA to ensure quality of the data are provided on

the HESA website at:

[www.hesa.ac.uk/index.php?option=com\\_studrec&Itemid=232&mnl=12051](http://www.hesa.ac.uk/index.php?option=com_studrec&Itemid=232&mnl=12051)

33. HESA also provide draft student enrolment tables and lists of anomalies to all statutory customers, including SFC, to review before tables are signed off as accurate.
34. The guidance issued by SFC for the submission of the Scottish college records is located at:  
[www.sfc.ac.uk/guidance/SubmittingStatisticalInformation/FE\\_statistical\\_data/Data2012-13/fes\\_1213.aspx](http://www.sfc.ac.uk/guidance/SubmittingStatisticalInformation/FE_statistical_data/Data2012-13/fes_1213.aspx)
35. Colleges submit their returns via the FES ON LINE web tool which performs around 150 separate validations on each record. These validations are updated on an annual basis based on feedback from statistical advisory and performance indicator groups. These validations include ensuring returns are submitted in line with FES guidance. As well as performing data validation, the FES ON LINE system provides colleges with management reports which include summaries of the college returns by level, council area, ethnicity and disability and by SIMD quintiles. The reports also provide comparison with the data for previous years.
36. SFC allocates £500m per year to colleges to support places for students and to provide financial student support. As a result colleges undergo significant audit of their student records to ensure these funds are being spent in line with guidance. This includes verifying student enrolment details and checking of withdrawal information. The funding allocations include a postcode premium for recruitment from deprived areas. As well as incentivising colleges to recruit students from deprived areas this also ensures SFC received high quality postcode data.
37. SFC has prioritised recruitment from the 16 to 24 age group in recent years. Since 2012-13 colleges have set recruitment targets for these priority groups within their outcome agreements. This will have had an impact on the recruitment profile which is closely monitored through the quarterly FES returns as part of the outcome agreement monitoring process. It will also have an effect on data quality as colleges monitor data more closely and at an earlier point in the academic year meaning reporting errors are picked up earlier and corrected before the student record is returned to SFC.
38. 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 for whom their unitary authority of residence was not recorded is also given.

### ***Proportion unknown for key variables***

<b>Proportion of unknowns for key variables</b>	<b>2010-11</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>
<b>LA unknown for</b>			
<b>Scottish Domiciles:</b>			
<b>HEIs</b>	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%
<b>Colleges</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Ethnicity unknown</b>			
<b>HEIs</b>			
<b>Scottish domiciles</b>	2.5%	2.2%	2.3%
<b>All HEI students</b>	8.3%	10.9%	11.4%
<b>Colleges</b>			
<b>Scottish domiciles</b>	2.3%	2.7%	2.2%
<b>All college students</b>	2.2%	2.7%	2.2%
<b>Disability unknown</b>			
<b>HEIs</b>			
<b>Scottish domiciles</b>	6.5%	0.2%	0.0%
<b>All HEI students</b>	6.0%	0.1%	0.0%
<b>Colleges</b>			
<b>Scottish domiciles</b>	3.3%	3.9%	3.0%
<b>All college students</b>	3.2%	3.8%	3.0%

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

HESA changed the reporting requirements for disability information for the 2010-11 academic session so that new entrants from 2010-11 onwards for whom it was not known whether or not the students had a disability had to be recorded as having 'no known disability'.

### **Timeliness and Punctuality**

39. HESA collected student enrolment data for the 2012-13 academic year between August and October 2013. They produced their first statistical release in January 2014 and follow this up with the annual publication 'Students in Higher Education Institutions' which was released on 13 February 2014. SFC produced this bulletin in March 2014, meeting the planned date of publication.

### **Accessibility and Clarity**

40. This statistical bulletin is pre-announced and then published on Scottish Funding Council website. It is accompanied by more detailed tables available on the website only, a free to use service.

### **Comparability**

41. HESA collects student enrolment data from all publicly funded UK HEIs, so comparison with other countries within the UK is possible. The Statistical First

Release 'Higher Education Student Enrolments and Qualifications Obtained at Higher Education Institutions' in the United Kingdom' provides information on this topic, see [www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/3103/393](http://www.hesa.ac.uk/content/view/3103/393) .

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