



CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Initial Destinations of Senior Phase School Leavers

No. 2: 2018 Edition

27th February 2018

This annual statistical publication provides information on initial destinations of senior phase school leavers for 2016/17 and time series data for 2011/12 to 2015/16.

Supplementary data tables can be found at:

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

Requests for further or additional analysis can be e-mailed to:

Insight@gov.scot

KEY TRENDS

- **The percentage of senior phase school leavers in a positive destination approximately three months after leaving school has increased from 93.3 per cent in 2015/16 to 93.7 per cent of 2016/17.**
- **67.5 per cent of senior phase school leavers continued their education within Higher or Further Education establishments in 2016/17 compared to 66.9 per cent in 2015/16.**
- **The percentage of senior phase school leavers entering employment has remained broadly constant since 2013/14 (at approximately 22 per cent).**
- **The percentage of leavers that are unemployed and seeking employment or training decreased from 5.1 per cent in 2015/16 to 4.5 per cent in 2016/17.**
- **For the most deprived 20 per cent of senior phase school leavers the percentage in a positive initial destination has increased by 0.9 percentage points (88.7 per cent in 2015/16 to 89.6 per cent in 2016/17).**
- **For the least deprived 20 per cent of senior phase school leavers the percentage in a positive destination has remained at 96.6 per cent for 2015/16 and 2016/17.**
- **The percentage point gap in positive initial destinations (the difference between the most and least deprived senior phase leavers) decreased from 7.9 percentage points in 2015/16 to 7.0 percentage points in 2016/17. This continues the downward trend in the percentage point gap observed over the last six years (11.2 per cent in 2011/12).**

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1. Introduction

1.1. This publication presents data on initial destinations of leavers from local authority and grant aided schools in Scotland. Data is only presented on pupils leaving during the senior phase (S4-S6) and does not include pupils attending special schools.

1.2. Information on the initial destinations of school leavers is provided from the Opportunities for All shared dataset managed by Skills Development Scotland (SDS). The initial destinations data presented in this publication provides information on the outcomes for young people as recorded in October 2017, approximately three months after leaving school.

1.3. Initial destinations data from SDS is matched to the Scottish Government's (SG) pupil census in order to identify the cohort of senior phase school leavers from local authority or grant aided secondary schools. A pupil is counted as a school leaver if they have a leaver record in SDS's data, a pupil census record for the same academic year, and no pupil census record in the following academic year.

1.4. The cohorts of school leavers presented in this publication are consistent with the data presented in the education benchmarking tool 'Insight' and the Education Scotland 'Parentzone' website. For more information on the cohort definition, please see background note 5.2.

1.5. For the purposes of this publication school leavers who are engaged in higher education, further education, training, voluntary work, employment or activity agreements are classified as having a 'positive destination'. Other initial destinations include school leavers who are unemployed not seeking employment or training, unemployed seeking employment or training, and individuals where their initial destination is not known. For full definitions of leaver destinations please see background note 5.3.

1.6. This bulletin includes data on 51,258 senior phase school leavers from local authority and grant aided secondary schools in 2016/17.

1.7. Following a stakeholder consultation in September 2017, and as part of an on-going period of rationalisation and improvement of school leaver destination statistics, it is proposed that this Initial Destinations of Senior Phase School Leavers publication will not be produced in future years. Data on the initial destinations of senior phase school leavers will continue to be available to local authorities and secondary schools on the education benchmarking tool 'Insight'. For further details, please see background note 5.1.4.










2. National Trends in Initial Destinations of Senior Phase School Leavers

- 93.7 per cent of 2016/17 senior phase school leavers were in a positive destination approximately three months after leaving school (compared to 93.3 per cent in 2015/16).
- The percentage of leavers in positive initial destinations has increased over the six year period from 2011/12 when 90.1 per cent of pupils were in a positive destination.
- 67.5 per cent of school leavers continued their education within Higher or Further Education establishments in 2016/17 (66.9 per cent in 2015/16).
- The percentage of leavers in training (2.4 per cent in 2016/17) has decreased for the last five years from 2012/13 when 4.8 per cent of pupils entered training.
- The percentage of leavers that are unemployed and seeking employment or training decreased by 0.6 percentage points, from 5.1 per cent in 2015/16 to 4.5 per cent in 2016/17. This downward trend has continued for the last six years.

2.1. Comparison to previous years

2.1.1. This section presents information that compares initial destinations of senior phase school leavers in 2016/17 to previous years.

Chart 1: Initial destinations of senior phase school leavers in 2015/16 and 2016/17

Destination	per cent	Percentage point change
Higher Education		0.4
Further Education		0.2
Employed		-0.3
Training		-0.2
Activity Agreement		0.2
Voluntary Work		0.1
Unemployed Seeking		-0.6
Unemployed Not Seeking		0.1
Not known		0.2
Any positive destination		0.4

93.7 per cent of 2016/17 senior phase school leavers were in a positive initial destination compared to **93.3 per cent** in 2015/16.

2.1.2. The percentage of senior phase pupils in a positive initial destination in 2016/17 has marginally increased to 93.7 per cent compared to 93.3 per cent in 2015/16.

2.1.3. There has been a 0.4 percentage point increase in leavers continuing to higher education (40.7 per cent in 2016/17 compared to 40.3 per cent in 2015/16) and a 0.2 percentage point increase in leavers continuing on to further education (26.8 per cent in 2016/17 compared to 26.6 per cent in 2015/16).

2.1.4. There has been a 0.6 percentage point decrease in the number of leavers that are unemployed seeking employment or training, decreasing from 5.1 per cent in 2015/16 to 4.5 per cent in 2016/17.

2.1.5. The percentage of leavers in training has decreased by 0.2 percentage points (2.4 per cent in 2016/17 compared to 2.6 per cent in 2015/16).

2.1.6. The percentage of leavers in other destinations has decreased from 6.7 per cent in 2015/16 to 6.3 per cent in 2016/17.

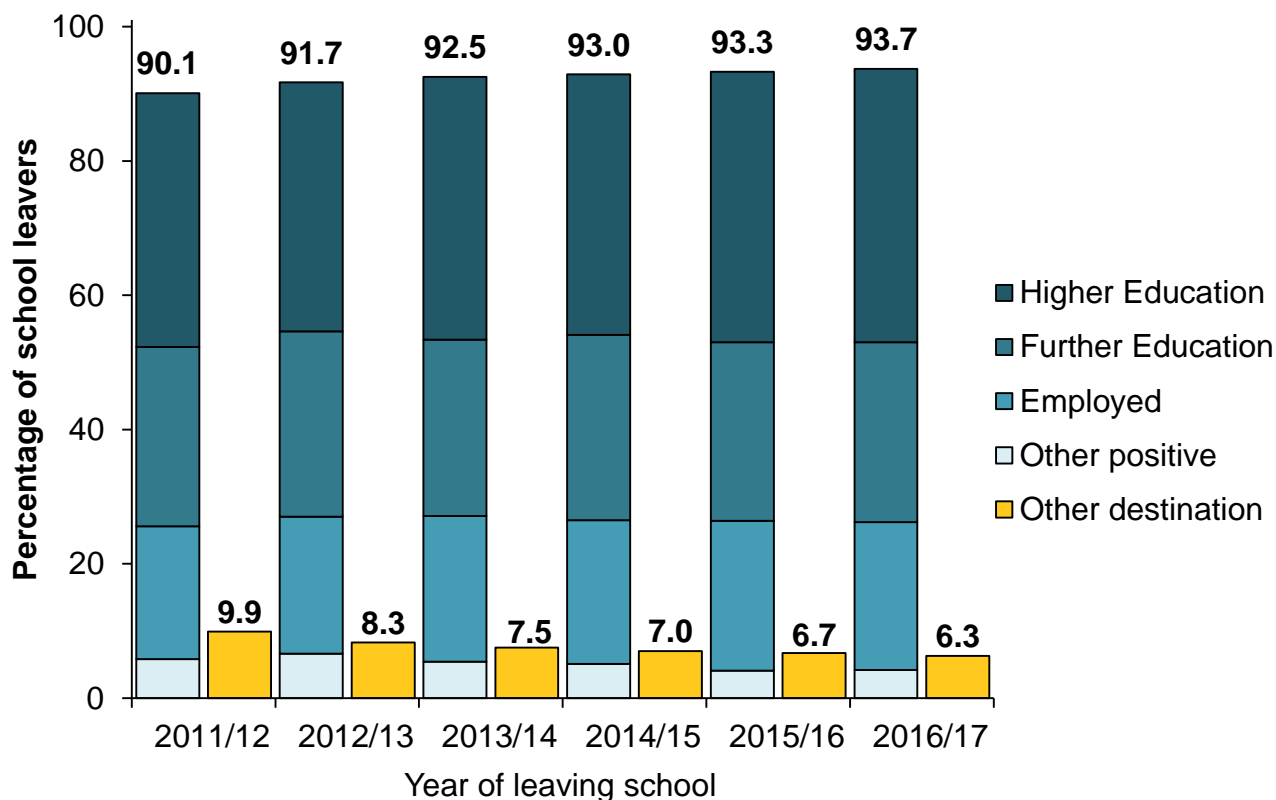
Table 1: Percentage of senior phase school leavers in initial destinations by year (2011/12 – 2016/17)

Destination	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Any positive destination	90.1	91.7	92.5	93.0	93.3	93.7
Higher Education	37.8	37.1	39.1	38.8	40.3	40.7
Further Education	26.7	27.6	26.3	27.6	26.6	26.8
Employed	19.8	20.4	21.7	21.4	22.3	22.0
Training	4.5	4.8	4.0	3.8	2.6	2.4
Activity Agreement	0.9	1.3	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.2
Voluntary Work	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6
Other destination	9.9	8.3	7.5	7.0	6.7	6.3
Unemployed Seeking	8.2	6.9	6.1	5.4	5.1	4.5
Unemployed Not Seeking	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.4
Not known	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.4
Total number of leavers	49,744	51,632	51,335	52,433	52,249	51,258

2.2. Initial destinations of school leavers 2011/12 to 2016/17

2.2.1. The next section provides information about the trend in initial destinations of senior phase school leavers over the six year period from 2011/12 to 2016/17.

Chart 2: Positive/Other initial destinations of senior phase school leavers by year (2011/12 - 2016/17)

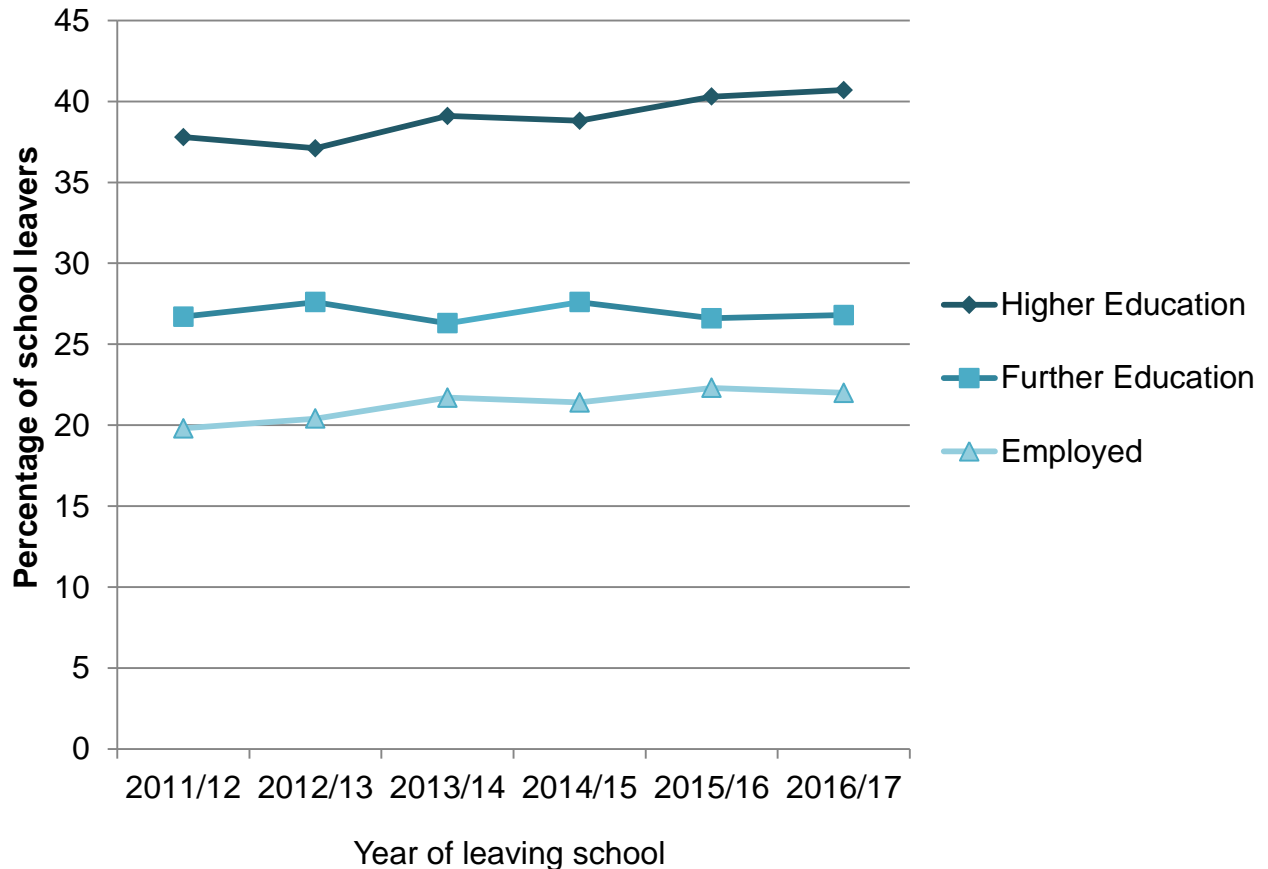


* 'Other positive' includes leavers undertaking activity agreements, training or voluntary work.
'Other destinations' includes leavers that are unemployed seeking, unemployed not seeking or where destination is not known.

2.2.2. The percentage of leavers in a positive initial destination has increased over the six year period from 2011/12 (90.1 per cent) to 2016/17 (93.7 per cent).

2.2.3. The percentage of leavers in other destinations has decreased over the six year period from 2011/12 (9.9 per cent) to 2016/17 (6.3 per cent).

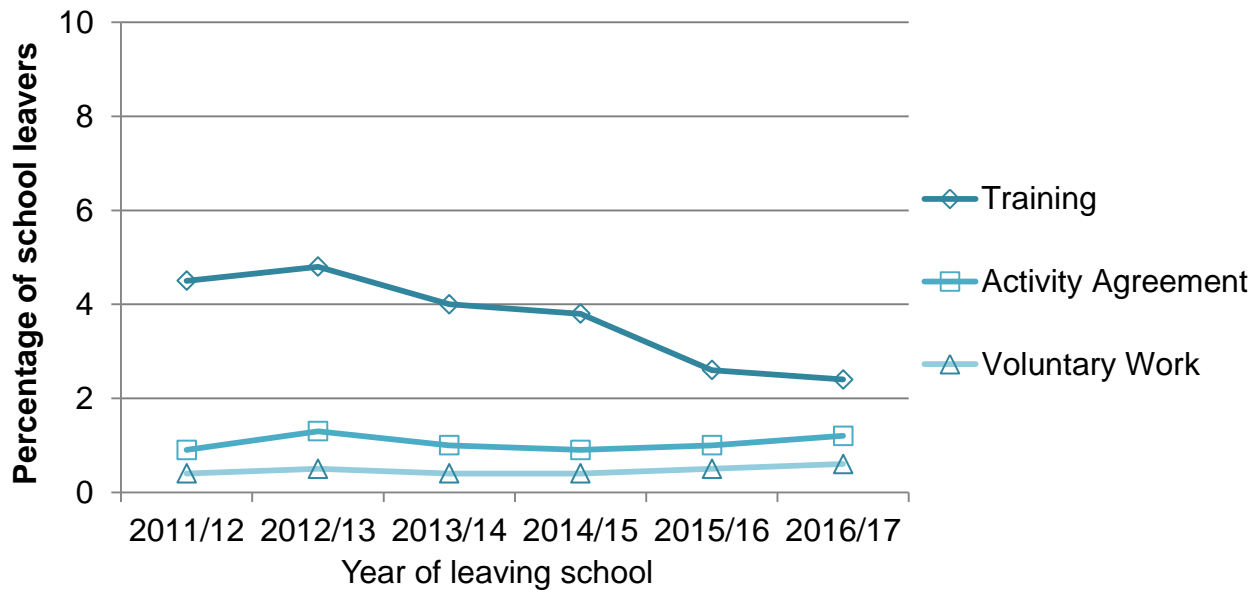
Chart 3: Six year trend in most common positive initial destinations of senior phase school leavers (2011/12 – 2016/17)



2.2.4. Over the last six years there has been a slight increase in the percentage of leavers continuing their education beyond school in higher education (37.8 per cent in 2011/12 compared to 40.7 per cent in 2016/17). Over the same period the percentage of leavers continuing their education in further education has remained broadly constant (at approximately 27 per cent).

2.2.5. The percentage of leavers entering employment increased from 19.8 per cent in 2011/12 to 21.7 per cent in 2013/14 and has since remained broadly constant (at approximately 22 per cent).

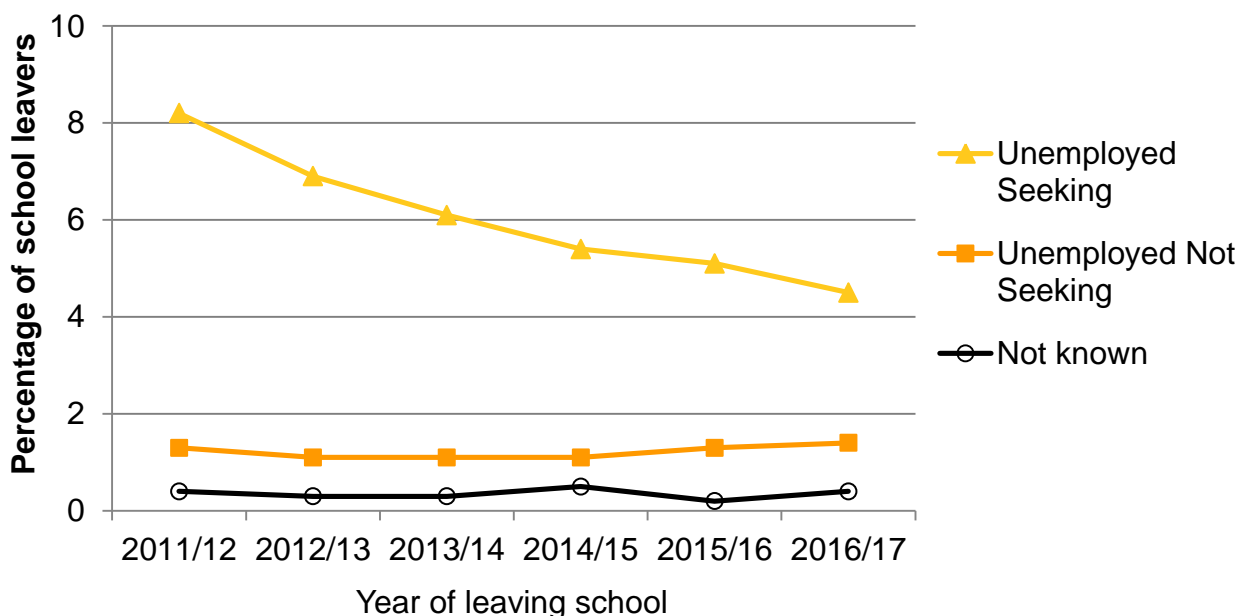
Chart 4: Six year trend in other positive initial destinations of senior phase school leavers (2011/12 – 2016/17)



2.2.6. For the fourth year in a row the percentage of leavers entering training has decreased and is now at 2.4 per cent (compared to 4.8 per cent in 2012/13).

2.2.7. The percentage of leavers in activity agreements or undertaking voluntary work has remained low over the last six years (1.2 per cent and 0.6 per cent respectively in 2016/17).

Chart 5: Six year trend in other destinations of senior phase school leavers (2011/12 – 2016/17)



2.2.8. The percentage of leavers who are unemployed and seeking work has decreased over the last six years (4.5 per cent in 2016/17 compared to 8.2 per cent in 2011/12). The percentage of leavers who are unemployed and not seeking work has slightly increased over the last two years from 1.1 per cent in 2014/15 to 1.4 per cent in 2016/17.

2.2.9. The percentage of leavers whose initial destinations are not known has remained low over the last six years (at approximately 0.4 per cent).

3. National Trends in Initial Destinations by Deprivation

- For the most deprived 20 per cent of senior phase school leavers the percentage in a positive initial destination has increased by 0.9 percentage points (88.7 per cent in 2015/16 to 89.6 per cent in 2016/17).
- For the least deprived 20 per cent of senior phase leavers the percentage in a positive initial destination has remained at 96.6 per cent for 2015/16 and 2016/17.
- The percentage point gap in positive initial destinations (the difference between the most and least deprived senior phase leavers) decreased from 7.9 percentage points in 2015/16 to 7.0 percentage points in 2016/17. This continues the downward trend in the percentage point gap observed over the last six years (11.2 per cent in 2011/12).

3.1. Positive initial destinations by deprivation

3.1.1. The next section presents positive initial destinations of senior phase school leavers by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). For more information on SIMD see background note 5.2.4.

Table 2: Percentage of senior phase school leavers in positive initial destinations by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) (2011/12 – 2016/17)

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Quintile 1 (20 per cent most deprived)	83.9	86.6	88.3	88.5	88.7	89.6
Quintile 2	87.5	89.5	90.5	91.7	92.1	92.2
Quintile 3	90.6	92.4	92.8	93.7	94.1	94.7
Quintile 4	93.2	94.2	94.5	94.9	95.3	96.0
Quintile 5 (20 per cent least deprived)	95.1	95.7	96.5	96.3	96.6	96.6
All leavers	90.1	91.7	92.5	93.0	93.3	93.7

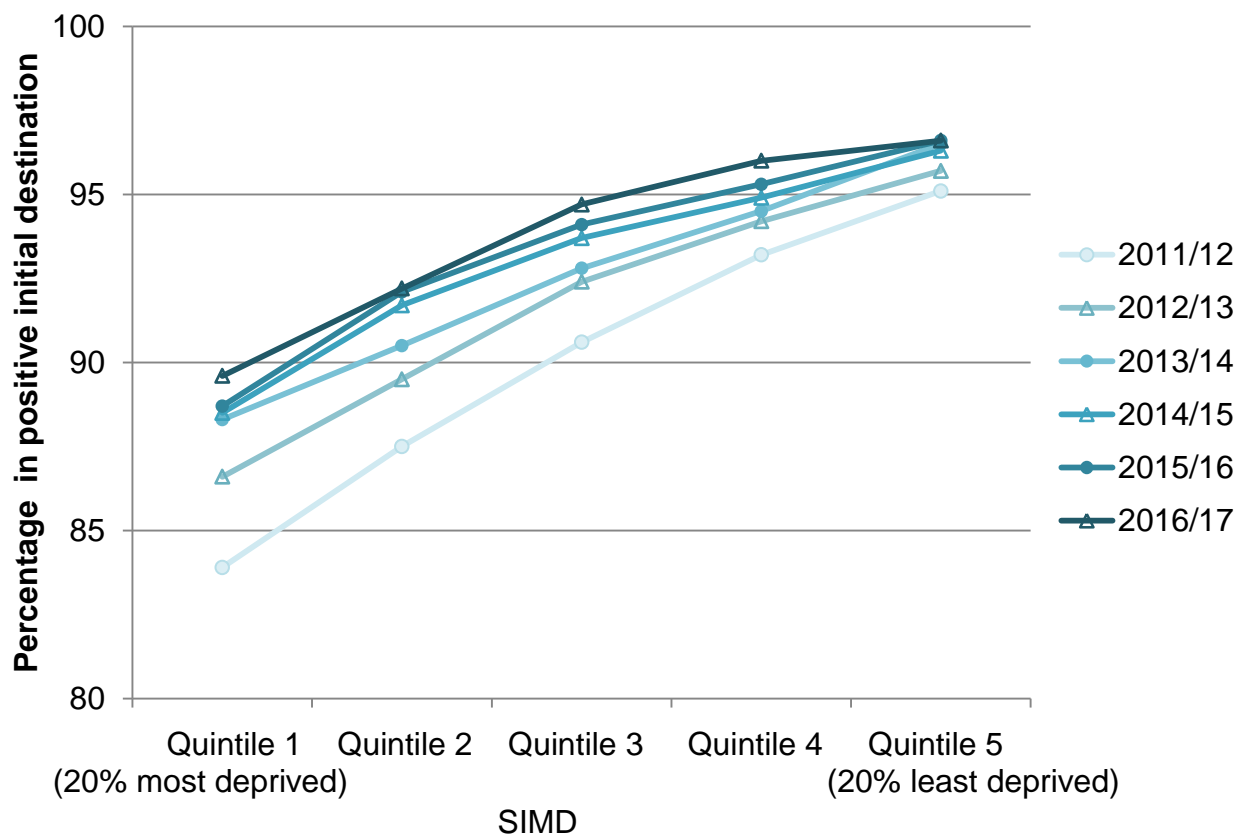
3.1.2. In 2016/17, 89.6 per cent of leavers from the 20 per cent most deprived areas were in a positive initial destination compared to 96.6 per cent of leavers from the 20 per cent least deprived areas.

3.1.3. For the most deprived 20 per cent of leavers the percentage in a positive initial destination has increased by 0.9 percentage points, from 88.7 per cent in 2015/16 to 89.6 per cent in 2016/17.

3.1.4. For the least deprived 20 per cent of leavers the percentage in a positive initial destination has remained at 96.6 per cent for 2015/16 and 2016/17.

3.1.5. The positive initial destination gap between the most and least deprived leavers has decreased over the last six years from 11.2 per cent in 2011/12 to 7.0 per cent in 2016/17.

Chart 6: Positive initial destinations of senior phase school leavers by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) (2011/12 – 2016/17)



3.2. Breakdown of initial destinations by deprivation

3.2.1. The next section presents a breakdown of initial destinations by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) for 2016/17 senior phase school leavers. For more information on SIMD see background note 5.2.4.

3.2.2. The most deprived 20 per cent quintile had the greatest percentage of leavers entering further education, training or engaging in activity agreements (37.0 per cent, 4.7 per cent and 2.3 per cent respectively in 2016/17).

3.2.3. The least deprived 20 per cent quintile had the greatest percentage of leavers entering higher education (60.6 per cent in 2016/17).

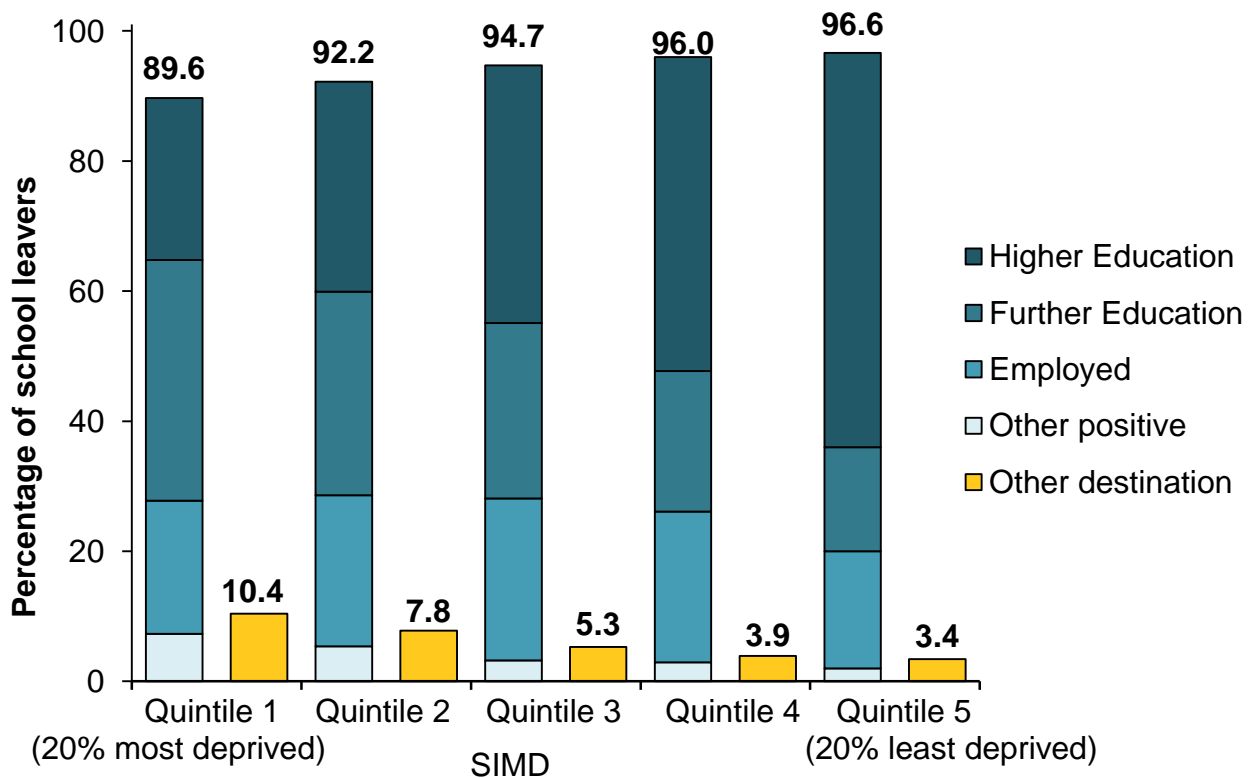
3.2.4. The middle 20 per cent (quintile 3) had the greatest percentage of leavers entering employment (24.9 per cent in 2016/17).

Table 3: Percentage of senior phase school leavers in initial destinations broken down by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) quintile (2016/17)

	Higher Education	Further Education	Employed	Training	Activity Agreement	Voluntary Work	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Not known
Quintile 1 (20% most deprived)	24.9	37.0	20.5	4.7	2.3	0.3	7.8	2.1	0.5
Quintile 2	32.3	31.3	23.2	3.3	1.7	0.4	5.9	1.4	0.5
Quintile 3	39.6	27.0	24.9	1.7	1.0	0.5	3.6	1.3	0.4
Quintile 4	48.3	21.6	23.2	1.3	0.8	0.8	2.4	1.3	0.2
Quintile 5 (20% least deprived)	60.6	16.0	18.0	1.0	0.2	0.8	2.2	1.0	0.2
All leavers	40.7	26.8	22.0	2.4	1.2	0.6	4.5	1.4	0.4

*time series information from 2011/12 to 2016/17 can be found in supplementary Table 3.

Chart 7: Initial destinations of senior phase school leavers broken down by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) quintile (2016/17)



* 'Other positive' includes leavers undertaking activity agreements, training or voluntary work. 'Other destinations' includes leavers that are unemployed seeking, unemployed not seeking or where destination is not known.

4. Local Authority breakdowns

4.1. Six year trend for positive destinations by local authority

Table 4: Six year trend for percentage of senior phase school leavers in any positive initial destination by local authority (2011/12 – 2016/17)

Local Authority	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Aberdeen City	88.6	91.1	91.2	90.2	90.3	90.8
Aberdeenshire	94.1	94.4	94.0	95.9	94.7	95.5
Angus	94.2	93.9	92.7	94.2	95.1	94.7
Argyll & Bute	90.4	93.1	91.5	93.2	92.9	94.7
Clackmannanshire	87.9	88.6	93.3	92.6	90.2	86.9
Dumfries & Galloway	87.9	91.8	90.9	93.1	94.6	94.6
Dundee City	89.6	91.1	90.9	93.0	91.5	94.2
East Ayrshire	89.4	91.6	93.3	94.2	91.8	94.3
East Dunbartonshire	95.0	96.0	97.0	96.8	97.5	98.3
East Lothian	88.4	90.0	92.4	91.8	93.5	94.0
East Renfrewshire	95.2	95.7	96.1	96.1	96.6	96.1
Edinburgh, City of	88.8	91.7	91.3	92.5	93.8	92.5
Falkirk	90.4	91.6	92.7	90.1	95.0	92.1
Fife	89.6	89.8	92.5	92.4	92.7	92.7
Glasgow City	87.9	89.4	89.8	90.3	89.9	91.9
Highland	91.2	93.4	93.7	93.8	95.0	95.5
Inverclyde	94.5	95.2	94.0	94.6	94.3	93.0
Midlothian	85.8	89.2	94.2	93.4	95.1	94.7
Moray	91.8	94.1	93.9	94.4	92.7	93.5
Na h-Eileanan Siar	95.4	96.8	96.6	95.9	97.6	97.8
North Ayrshire	90.3	94.6	94.3	95.9	94.8	93.4
North Lanarkshire	87.6	90.4	91.5	93.1	92.3	91.8
Orkney Islands	94.1	94.2	93.8	94.6	91.1	96.1
Perth & Kinross	93.2	92.4	93.8	92.1	95.0	94.5
Renfrewshire	88.1	90.3	92.7	90.9	92.2	92.8
Scottish Borders	91.3	92.3	94.4	95.2	94.3	95.8
Shetland Islands	90.3	95.4	93.2	95.6	93.4	92.6
South Ayrshire	88.8	92.8	92.4	94.5	94.3	94.2
South Lanarkshire	89.8	89.1	92.3	93.1	94.1	95.8
Stirling	88.6	90.0	92.1	90.7	93.2	93.8
West Dunbartonshire	92.8	91.1	89.6	89.9	92.2	93.1
West Lothian	89.8	92.6	92.8	93.4	92.7	93.9
Grant-Aided	95.0	*	*	*	95.3	100.0
National	90.1	91.7	92.5	93.0	93.3	93.7

* Value could provide information on a cohort of less than five or has been suppressed to prevent calculation of data for a small cohort.

4.2. Senior phase leaver destinations by local authority (2016/17)

Table 5: Initial destinations of senior phase school leavers by local authority

	Percentage of leavers in destination (2016/17)									Total number of leavers
	Higher Education	Further Education	Employed	Training	Activity Agreement	Voluntary Work	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Not known	
Aberdeen City	43	29	15	2	0	0	8	1	0	1,637
Aberdeenshire	41	31	21	1	0	1	3	1	0	2,679
Angus	40	35	17	2	*	*	3	2	*	1,149
Argyll & Bute	41	18	32	3	*	*	3	2	*	861
Clackmannanshire	28	23	32	2	*	*	11	3	0	495
Dumfries & Galloway	38	30	23	2	1	1	3	1	1	1,499
Dundee City	35	32	21	4	1	1	3	2	*	1,231
East Ayrshire	37	39	16	2	*	*	5	1	0	1,309
East Dunbartonshire	64	13	18	2	0	1	1	*	*	1,240
East Lothian	40	24	26	2	1	1	4	2	0	1,018
East Renfrewshire	65	14	15	2	*	*	2	1	0	1,343
Edinburgh, City of	42	26	21	2	1	1	6	2	*	3,236
Falkirk	35	20	31	3	1	2	6	1	1	1,586
Fife	35	34	19	2	2	1	5	1	0	3,757
Glasgow City	36	31	18	5	1	0	6	2	0	4,481
Highland	36	24	31	2	2	1	1	1	2	2,411
Inverclyde	44	27	18	3	*	*	5	2	0	784
Midlothian	31	28	30	2	2	1	5	1	*	918
Moray	37	27	27	1	*	*	3	3	1	928
Na h-Eileanan Siar	43	16	36	2	*	*	*	*	0	268
North Ayrshire	38	32	20	2	2	0	5	2	*	1,453
North Lanarkshire	43	25	21	2	1	0	6	1	1	3,701
Orkney Islands	41	16	37	*	*	*	*	*	*	204
Perth & Kinross	37	27	26	2	1	1	2	3	*	1,429
Renfrewshire	45	23	21	3	0	0	6	1	0	1,793
Scottish Borders	40	28	23	2	2	1	3	1	1	1,102
Shetland Islands	34	20	36	*	2	*	3	3	*	271
South Ayrshire	44	29	18	1	1	0	5	1	*	1,104
South Lanarkshire	45	23	21	2	4	0	3	1	0	3,367
Stirling	44	16	28	3	2	1	5	1	*	1,037
West Dunbartonshire	41	28	19	4	1	0	6	1	0	889
West Lothian	39	27	25	2	1	1	5	1	*	1,994
Grant-Aided	82	10	7	*	0	*	0	0	0	84
National	41	27	22	2	1	1	5	1	0	51,258

* Value could provide information on a cohort of less than five or has been suppressed to prevent calculation of data for a small cohort. Values are rounded to the nearest whole value and therefore may not sum to 100.

5. Background notes

5.1. Background to statistical bulletin

5.1.1. This statistical bulletin presents the national picture of leavers' initial destinations for senior phase pupils (S4-S6) and also includes breakdowns by SIMD and Local Authority. The cohort of school leavers presented in this publication is consistent with the data presented in 'Insight', the online benchmarking tool for local authorities and secondary schools, and the Education Scotland 'Parentzone' website.

5.1.2. In March of each year, Skills Development Scotland (SDS) collects further information on the destination of school leavers (follow up destination). This information is presented in a Scottish Government publication in June, with further breakdowns by pupil characteristics (e.g. stage of leaving and gender). The leaver cohort for the National Statistics publication includes S3 leavers, whereas the focus of this publication is exclusively on school leavers from the senior phase (S4-S6). The June National Statistics publication 'Summary statistics for attainment, leaver destinations and healthy living' can be accessed here; <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/Publications>

5.1.3. Complementary to these publications, SDS reports on the Annual Participation Measure (APM) which takes account of an individual's status over a whole year and reports the proportion of 16-19 year olds participating in education, training or employment. This measure is the data source for the 'Increase the proportion of young people in learning, training and work' indicator in the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework. The latest data on APM can be accessed here; <https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/publications-statistics/statistics/participation-measure/?page=1&statisticCategoryId=7&order=date-desc>

5.1.4. A stakeholder consultation was held in September 2017 to collect user feedback on proposals to rationalise school leaver statistics, including a proposal to reduce the duplication in the publication of school leaver initial destinations. Following this consultation, it is proposed that this Initial Destinations of Senior Phase School Leavers publication will not be produced in future years. Data on the initial destinations of senior phase school leavers will continue to be available to local authorities and secondary schools on the education benchmarking tool 'Insight'. School leaver initial destinations will continue to be published as part of the Summary Statistics for Attainment and Leaver Initial Destinations publication. The full consultation findings, and proposed changes to the school leaver statistics, are published in the consultation report at <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/scotstat/EduConsultationHistory/ConsulationLeavers>.

If you have any feedback on the proposals outlined in the consultation report, or on the plan to cease this publication then please contact school.stats@gov.scot.

5.2. Data sources and methodology

5.2.1. The statistical extracts for both the APM and the destination of school leavers are taken from the shared Opportunities for All dataset held by SDS on their customer support system. The status information is gathered through the use of shared administrative data from local authorities, colleges, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SASS) and the SDS Corporate Training System combined with direct follow up of 16-19 year old customers by SDS staff. The extract used for this publication is taken on the first Monday in October (2nd Oct for 2016/17 leavers).

5.2.2. Initial destinations data from SDS is matched to the Scottish Government's (SG) pupil census for the same academic year in order to identify the cohort of senior phase school leavers from local authority or grant aided secondary schools. For example, the 2016/17 cohort of school leavers from SDS was matched to the SG pupil census for senior phase pupils in a local authority or grant aided school in September 2016. This cohort is then checked against the pupil census from the start of the following academic year (e.g. the 2016/17 leaver cohort was checked against the September 2017 pupil census) and any pupils who are found to still be attending school are removed from the leaver cohort. In addition, any leavers that were identified by SDS as having moved out with Scotland are excluded.

5.2.3. A school leaver is classed as a young person in the senior phase of school (S4-S6) who left school during the school year, where the school year is taken to run from school census day one year to the day before census the following year. Therefore, for 2016/17 leavers, the leaver year is 21st September 2016 to 19th September 2017.

5.2.4. The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across Scotland. It is based on data zones (a small area geographically) and provides an assessment of multiple deprivation based on income, employment, health, education, housing, access to services and levels of crime in the area. It provides a relative measure of deprivation which means that the data zones can be ranked from most to least deprived and cut offs can be applied to identify different levels of deprivation. The calculation of quintiles means that the data zones have been ranked and split into five equal parts with quintile 1 being the most deprived 20 per cent of data zones and quintile 5 being the least deprived 20 per cent of data zones. School leavers are allocated to datazones, and therefore deprivation quintiles, based on their home postcode from the pupil census. This publication uses SIMD 2012 for all years up to and including 2015/16, then SIMD 2016 for 2016/17. This is consistent with deprivation measures presented in Insight and Parentzone. For further information on the SIMD, please see the link: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD/>.

5.3. Definition of leaver destinations

All destinations are based on self-reporting by school leavers or administrative data. The following categories for leaver destinations are included in this Statistical Bulletin.

5.3.1. **Positive destination:** includes higher education, further education, training, voluntary work, employment and activity agreements.

5.3.2. **Higher Education:** includes leavers following HND (Higher National Diploma) or HNC (Higher National Certificate) courses, degree courses, courses for the education and training of teachers and higher level courses for professional qualifications. It also includes programmes at a level higher than the standard of the National Qualifications, i.e. above SCQF level 7. Leavers with a deferred, unconditional place in higher education have also been included in this category.

5.3.3. **Further Education:** includes leavers undertaking full-time education which is not higher education and who are no longer on a school roll. This may include National Qualifications.

5.3.4. **Training:** includes leavers who are on a training course and in receipt of an allowance or grant, such as the Employability Fund national training programme. It also includes leavers who are on local authority or third sector funded training programmes that are in receipt of a training allowance.

5.3.5. **Employment:** includes those who are employed and in receipt of payment from their employers. It includes young people undertaking training in employment through national training programmes such as Modern Apprenticeships.

5.3.6. **Voluntary work:** includes those undertaking voluntary work, with or without financial allowance, who are not 'unemployed and actively seeking', as per the unemployed definition and those participating in Project Scotland/CSV or other voluntary programmes.

5.3.7. **Activity Agreements:** includes those for whom there is an agreement between a young person and a trusted professional that the young person will take part in a programme of learning and activity which helps them become ready for formal learning or employment.

5.3.8. **Unemployed and seeking employment or training:** includes those who are registered with Skills Development Scotland and are known by them to be seeking employment or training. This is based on regular contact between Skills Development Scotland and the client. This does not refer to the definition of 'unemployed' used by the Department of Work and Pensions to calculate published unemployment rates. Young people participating in Personal Skills Development who do not fit in any of the existing categories are counted in this category.

5.3.9. **Unemployed and not seeking employment or training:** includes young people who SDS is aware of who are not actively seeking employment/training. It includes those receiving support from SDS, DWP and other Opportunities for All partners. Individuals can be in this category for a range of reasons. The reasons may involve sickness, prison, pregnancy, caring for children or other dependents or taking time out.

5.3.10. **Not known:** includes all leavers whose destination is not known either to Skills Development Scotland or to the school attended.

5.4. List of supplementary tables

The following supplementary tables are available at

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

- **Publication Table 1:** Percentage of senior phase school leavers in initial destinations by year (2011/12 – 2016/17)
- **Publication Table 2:** Percentage of senior phase school leavers in positive initial destinations by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) (2011/12 – 2016/17)
- **Publication Table 3:** Percentage of senior phase school leavers in initial destinations broken down by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) quintile (2011/12 – 2016/17)
- **Publication Table 4:** Six year trend for percentage of senior phase school leavers in any positive initial destination by local authority (2011/12 – 2016/17)
- **Publication Table 5:** Initial destinations of senior phase school leavers by local authority (2016/17)

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- are available via an alternative route
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