

Statistics Publication Notice

An Official Statistics Publication for Scotland

**FOLLOW UP SURVEY OF SCHOOL LEAVERS FROM SCOTTISH SCHOOLS:
2006/07 LEAVERS
24 June 2008**

This Statistics Publication Notice presents national information on the follow-up destination status in March/April 2008 of those young people who left school in school year 2006/07. The publication also provides information on the change in status of these young people since information was published on them in the “Destinations of Leavers from Scottish Schools: 2006/07” publication on 11 December 2007. The information in this publication is the basis for the Scottish Government’s national indicator on positive and sustained destinations from Scottish publicly funded schools.

The Statistics Publication Notice and accompanying tables can be found on the Scottish Government Web Site:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/06/followupsurvey/>

Information on schools leavers from 2006/07 shows us that:

- 87.0 per cent were in positive destinations in the March/April of 2008
- 47.9 per cent were in higher or further education in March/April.
- 38.8 per cent were in employment or training in March/April.
- The proportion who were not in employment, education, training or voluntary work in March/April 2008 was 13.0 per cent.
- The proportion who were in a positive destination in both September 2007 and March/April 2008 was 80.3 per cent with a further 12.5 per cent in a positive destination in one of the two periods.
- Only 6.8 per cent were not in a positive destination in both September 2007 and March/April 2008.

TABLES

Table 1 Percentage of school leavers from publicly funded schools in Scotland: Follow-up destination summary: 2008

Positive destinations	87.0%
Other destinations	13.0%
Number of leavers	57,137

Notes:

1. Positive destinations include higher education, further education, employment, voluntary work and training (see note 4 in background notes).
2. This table includes all leavers from publicly funded secondary schools in 2006-07 excluding those who had moved outwith Scotland.

Table 2 Percentage of school leavers from publicly funded schools in Scotland by follow-up destination category: 2008

Destination	
Full-time Higher Education	27.9%
Full-time Further Education	20.0%
Training	4.4%
Employment	34.4%
Unemployed and Seeking Employment or Training	10.6%
Unemployed Not Seeking Employment or Training	2.2%
Destination Unknown (both surveys) ³	0.6%
Number of leavers	57,137

Notes:

1. Percentages may not total 100 per cent due to rounding.
2. This table includes all leavers from publicly funded secondary schools in 2006-07 excluding those who had moved outwith Scotland.
3. There was insufficient information to impute a destination category for these individuals. They have been included in 'Other destinations' in table 1. See note 2 in background notes.
4. Those in voluntary work are included in the 'Unemployed Not Seeking Employment or Training' category in this table.

Table 3 Percentage of school leavers from publicly funded schools in Scotland: Initial and follow-up destination summary: 2008

Initial (September) Destinations	Follow-up (March/April) Destinations		
	Positive	Other	Not Applicable
Positive	80.3%	6.1%	0.2%
Other	6.4%	6.8%	0.2%
Number of leavers	57,356		

Notes:

1. Percentages may not total 100 per cent due to rounding.
2. This table includes all leavers from publicly funded secondary schools in 2006-07 excluding those who had moved outwith Scotland at the September survey. Leavers who had moved outwith Scotland, were recorded as still at school or were deceased (see note 3 in background notes) at March/April are included in the 'Not Applicable' category.

BACKGROUND NOTES

1. Official Statistics Publication

This is an Official Statistics Publication. It has been produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice and Release Practice Protocol: http://www.statistics.gov.uk/about_ns/cop/default.asp

These statistics undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.

2. Sources and Methodology

Information on the follow-up destination of leavers from publicly funded schools is provided to the Scottish Government by Careers Scotland which is part of Skills Development Scotland. This is the first year that this follow-up survey has been carried out for the purposes of an official statistics publication.

This survey is a follow-up survey of those young people who were initially surveyed in September 2007 about their destinations after leaving school. The initial destinations data were published in "Destinations of Leavers from Scottish Schools: 2006/07" on 11th December 2007 which can be found at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/12/07093501/0>. The initial destinations data provides information on the outcomes for young people leaving school approximately 3 months after leaving school while the follow up survey provides information on the outcomes of young people approximately 9 months after leaving school. These publications should be seen as complementary to one another however it should be noted that different factors may affect the results at the different time periods.

During this follow-up survey, Careers Scotland were able to follow up 91.1% of all school leavers in 2006/07. For 8.3%, statistical methods were used to impute the follow-up destinations of these individuals based on their initial destination and known characteristics of those who were followed up and those who were not. For 0.6% of leavers, Careers Scotland had not been able to obtain any destination information at either survey point. These individuals are included in table 1 in 'Other destinations' and table 3 in 'Other destinations' at both September and March/April, consistent with the treatment of unknown destination in the publication "Destinations of Leavers from Scottish Schools: 2006/07". There was insufficient information to include them in the imputation set and they are shown in 'Destination Unknown (both surveys)' in table 2.

A technical note detailing the process by which follow up leaver destinations were imputed for those who were not followed up is published alongside this statistical publication and is available through: www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/06/methodology

All figures in this publication relate to publicly funded secondary schools.

The data relate to the destination in March/April 2008 of those young people who left school in the 2006/07 session.

Percentages may not always total 100 percent due to rounding.

3. School Leavers

A school leaver is classed as a young person of school leaving age who left school during or at the end of the school year, where the school year is taken to run from 1 August to 31 July.

In practice, many young people do not decide whether or not to leave school until after they have received the results of external examinations, have tried to get a job or achieve entry to further or higher education or training. For many pupils, therefore, it is only possible to identify later whether they have effectively left school by 31 July. If it has been identified that the individual has actually not left school they have been excluded from the data in tables 1 and 2 of this publication.

4. Leaver Destination

The following categories for leaver destination are included in the Statistics Publication Notice.

Positive: includes higher education, further education, training, voluntary work and employment. This is in line with the definition of positive destinations set out in Indicator 10 of the Scottish Budget Spending Review 2007: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/11/30090722/18>

Full-time 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 New National Qualifications (Intermediate 1, Intermediate 2, the new Higher) which were introduced in 1999/00, Advanced Higher, introduced in 2001, Scottish Certificate of Sixth Year Studies, and the National Certificate of Education of England, Wales or Northern Ireland at Advanced Level. Leavers with a deferred, unconditional place in higher education have also been included in this category.

Full-time Further Education: includes leavers undertaking full-time education which is not higher education and who are no longer on a school roll.

Training: includes leavers who are on a training course and in receipt of an allowance or grant, such as Skillseekers, but who are not employed. It should be noted that a large proportion of leavers entering employment may also be participants in training such as Modern Apprenticeships.

Employment: includes those who are employed for a minimum of 21 hours per week and who are in receipt of payment from their employers. It includes young people undertaking training in employment through Skillseekers and Modern

Apprenticeships. Where a leaver has more than one job, the leaver will be included in the 'employment' category if they work more than 21 hours per week in total.

Unemployed and seeking employment or training: includes those who are registered with Careers Scotland and are known by them to be seeking employment or training. This is based on regular contact between Careers Scotland and the client. This does not refer to the definition of 'unemployed' used by the Benefits Agency to calculate published unemployment rates.

Unemployed and not seeking employment or training: includes all those individuals who are not seeking employment or training for a range of reasons. The reasons may involve sickness, prison, pregnancy, caring for children or other dependents, involvement in full time unpaid voluntary work or taking time out. It may also include school leavers who are employed and/or in education part time for less than 21 hours per week.

Destination unknown (both surveys): includes individuals who were not able to be contacted at either the September or the March/April survey point.

5. Enquiries

Copies of the tables are available on the Scottish Government's website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/06/followupsurvey/>

Public enquiries (non-media) about the information contained in this Statistics Publication Notice should be addressed to:

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