

High Level Summary of Statistics

Lifelong Learning

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Students in Higher Education

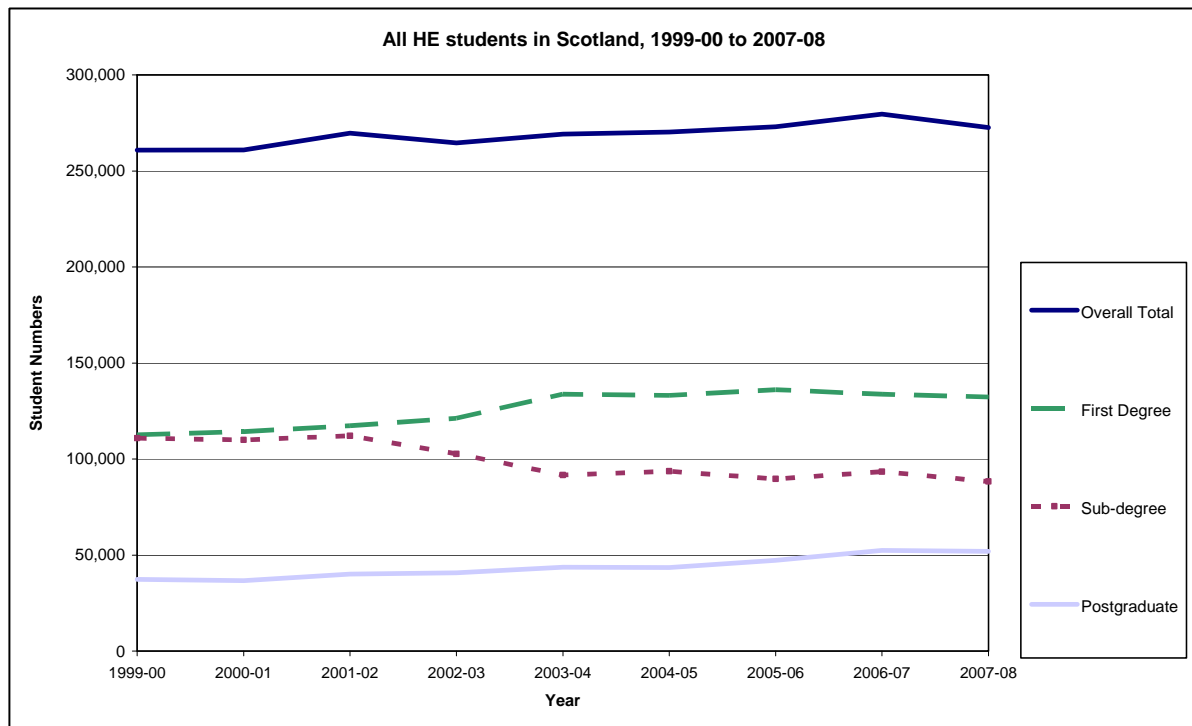
Higher Education Students in Scotland

Last updated: September 2009

Since 2006-07 the number of students in Scottish higher education fell by 6,935 (2.5 per cent) to 272,625. 76.7 per cent of these students were Scottish domiciles (209,170). Entrant numbers fell by 3.5 per cent (4,965) in 2007-08 to 137,495. The proportion of entrants from the most deprived areas of Scotland improved slightly, with those from the 20 per cent most deprived areas now under-represented by 4.3 per cent.

The largest fall in the number of students in HE occurred amongst those doing 'Other Higher Education', falling 4,580 (or 8.5 per cent) from 54,160 in 2006-07 to 49,580 in 2007-08. The number of students doing 'First Degrees' (the most common level of study) fell by a much lower amount, dropping by 1,480 (or 1.1 per cent) from 133,740 in 2006-07 to 132,260 in 2007-08. 'Research Postgraduate' was the only level of study to witness an increase in student numbers over the past year, rising by 255 (or 2.7 per cent) from 9,360 students in 2006-07 to 9,615 in 2007-08.

Overseas student numbers remained relatively stable at 35,165. India is now the largest foreign contributor to HE student numbers in Scotland at 3,815, overtaking China at 3,765.



Sources: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC).

Age Participation Index (API)

Last updated: September 2009

The Scottish Age Participation Index (API) for a given year is defined as the number of young Scots aged under 21 who enter a full-time HE course for the first time in that year taken as a percentage of the population of 17 year olds at 31 December in the same year. In simple terms it is an estimate of the share of 17 year olds in the population who, can be expected to enter HE for the first time before their 21st birthday, if current trends continue.

The Age Participation Index (API) for Scotland was 43.2 per cent for 2007-08. This is a decrease of 2.9 per cent on the previous year (46.1 per cent). The API reached 54.1 per cent in 2000-01 and apart from an increase of 0.9 per cent in 2005-06 has decreased every year to 2007-08.

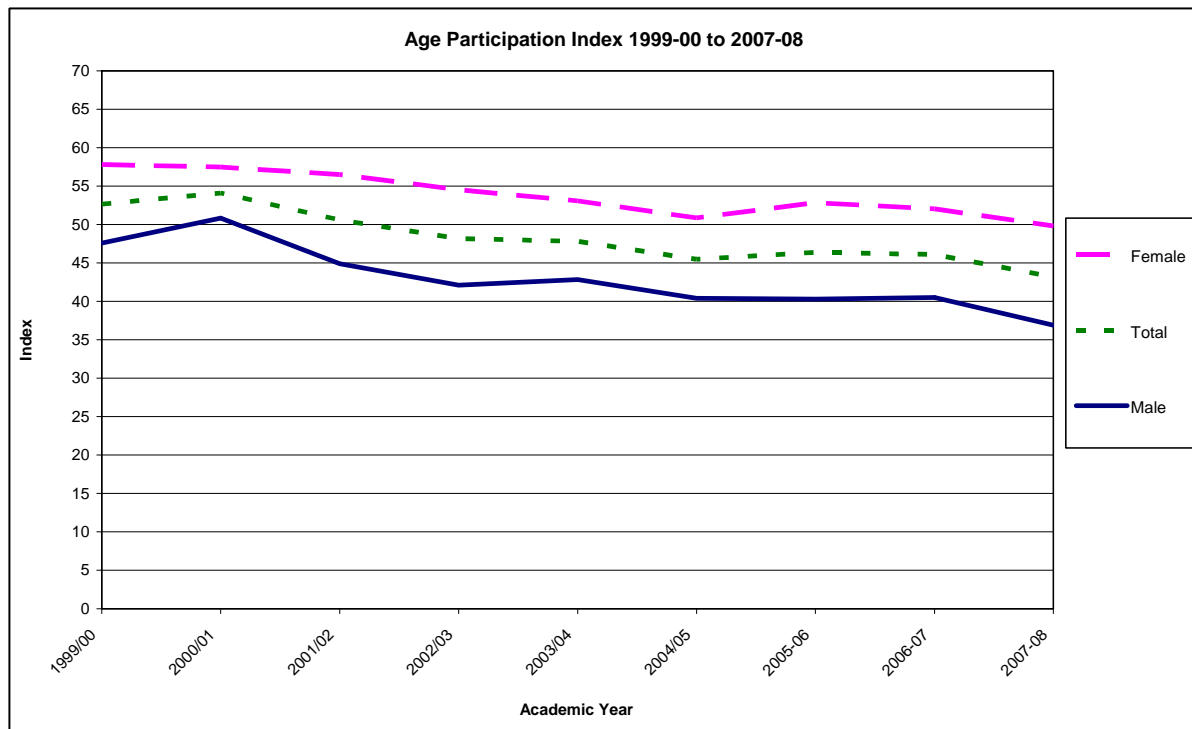
Participation by females has typically been around 10 per cent higher than for males. In 2007-08 the gender gap was 12.9 per cent, the highest it has been in the period from 1999-00 to 2007-08. The API for males was 36.9 per cent, a drop of 3.6 per cent on the previous year and for females the API was 49.8 per cent a drop of 2.2 per cent.

The participation rate at First Degree level was 25.4 per cent, a decrease of 1.6 per cent on the previous year (27.0 per cent). At Sub-Degree level participation was 17.8 per cent, down by 1.3 per cent on 2006-07 (19.1 per cent).

The majority of the decrease in the API is due to a 2.3 per cent decrease in initial participation at Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). This has dropped from 28.8 per cent in 2006-07 to 26.5 per cent in 2007-08. Participation in colleges dropped by 0.6 per cent in the same period (from 15.5 per cent to 14.9 per cent. For HEIs in the rest of the UK participation has remained stable at 1.8 per cent.

The population of 17 year olds increased over the year from 2006-07 and this contributed to the drop in the API. However in absolute terms, the number of students expected to participate in HE before their 21st birthday has also dropped from 29,680 in 2006-07 to 28,265 in 2007-08.

LIFELONG LEARNING Students in Higher Education



Source: Scottish Government Lifelong Learning Statistics, Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC)

Publication

[Participation in Higher Education at Scottish Institutions 2007-08](#) (Published September 2009)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/10/01091001/0>

Web Links

[Lifelong Learning Statistics Datasets](#)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/statistics/browse/lifelong-learning/datasets>

The Datasets section within the Lifelong Learning statistics website contains further Higher Education analysis.

Higher Education Graduates from HEIs and FECs

Last updated: October 2008

The number of higher education qualifiers from Scottish institutions has continued to rise, in the most recent year by 4% (2,865 qualifiers), to the record high of 77,380 in 2006-07. Almost half of this increase was due to a rise of 2,120 in the number of masters qualifications obtained. Scottish colleges saw a decrease in qualifiers of 1%, down to 22,030, mostly due to a decrease in the number of HNCs awarded (down by 1,135, 11%).

In terms of broad subject groups, the number of qualifiers from science and engineering has increased by 5%, as have those from education and the arts. Those from business and social studies have increased by 3% and those from medical studies have increased by 2%.

The number of male and female qualifiers have both gone up and since last year the gender gap has closed slightly overall, with 43% male (33,165) and 57% female (44,220) qualifiers in 2006-07. Since 2005-06 there has been an increase of 1 percentage point in the proportion of first degree qualifiers who obtained first class honours (for both males and females).

Scots domiciles account for nearly three quarters of qualifiers from Scottish institutions, 73%. The number of qualifications obtained by international students increased by 17% from 12,725 in 2005-06 to 14,895 in 2006-07. Of qualifiers from outside the EU 62% qualified at postgraduate level (6,555) – accounting for 34% of all postgraduate qualifiers from Scottish institutions. The rise in qualifiers from outside the UK of 7,515, since 1999-00, accounts for 84% of the 8,995 overall increase in qualifiers at Scottish institutions over the same period.

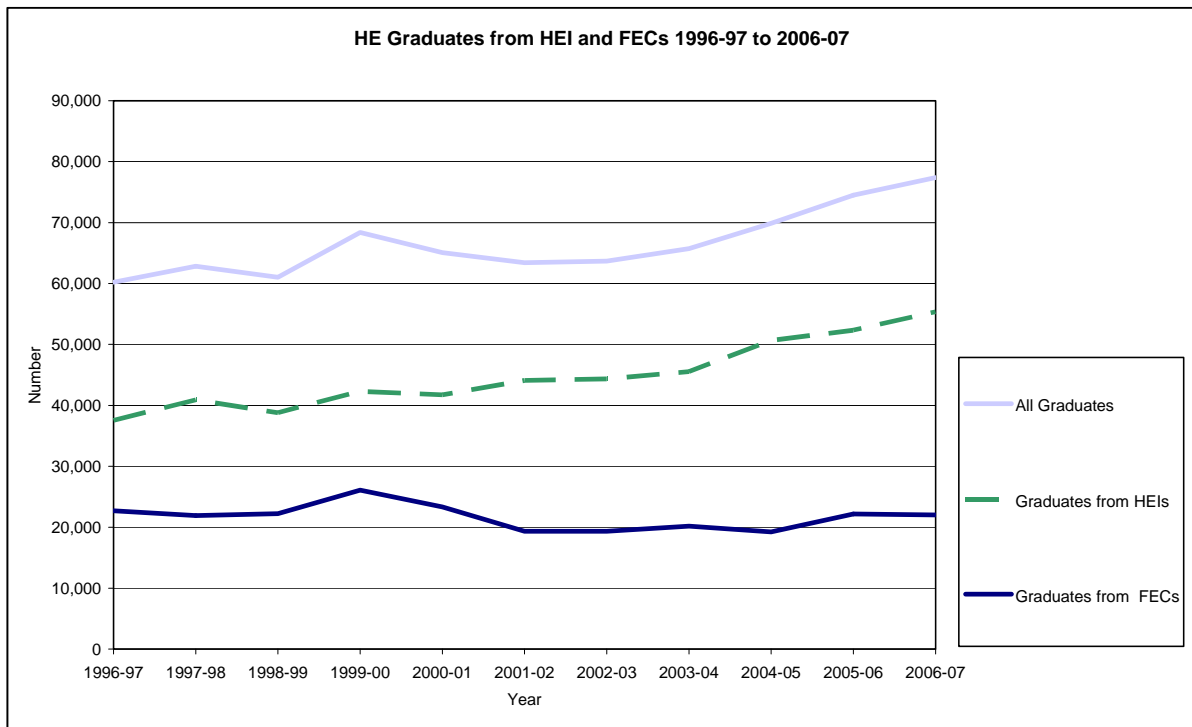
58% of qualifiers from full-time higher education courses at Scottish institutions were in permanent or temporary UK employment 6 months after completing their course, a further 31% were engaged in further study or training. 74% of those in permanent UK employment were employed in graduate level occupations. Over half of qualifiers in permanent UK employment at the time of the survey were employed in either health, social and community work (31%) or finance and business services (24%).

Of qualifiers in permanent employment (in the UK or overseas) the proportion employed in Scotland has increased by 2 percentage points since 2005-06 to 81%. 92% of Scots qualifiers in permanent employment were employed within Scotland, an increase of 2 percentage points since last year.

70% of Scots postgraduate and first degree qualifiers from Scottish Higher Education institutions were employed in graduate level occupations within Scotland or engaged in further study or training 6 months after completing their higher education course. The Scottish Government has set a National Indicator to Increase the percentage of Scottish domiciled graduates from Scottish Higher Education Institutions in positive destinations. This figure is used as a proxy for the Indicator.

LIFELONG LEARNING Students in Higher Education

The 20% most deprived areas of Scotland contain about 20% of the Scottish population; 10% of Scots qualifiers from Scottish higher education institutions and 20% from Scottish colleges are from deprived areas within Scotland. 38% of those from the most deprived areas of Scotland were in further study or training 6 months after qualifying, compared to 30% of those from other areas. 55% of those from deprived areas were in either permanent or temporary UK employment compared to 60% for those from other areas.



Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and Scottish Funding Council (SFC)

Publication

[Higher Education Graduates and Graduate Destinations 2006-07](#) (Published 2008)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/10/24103416>

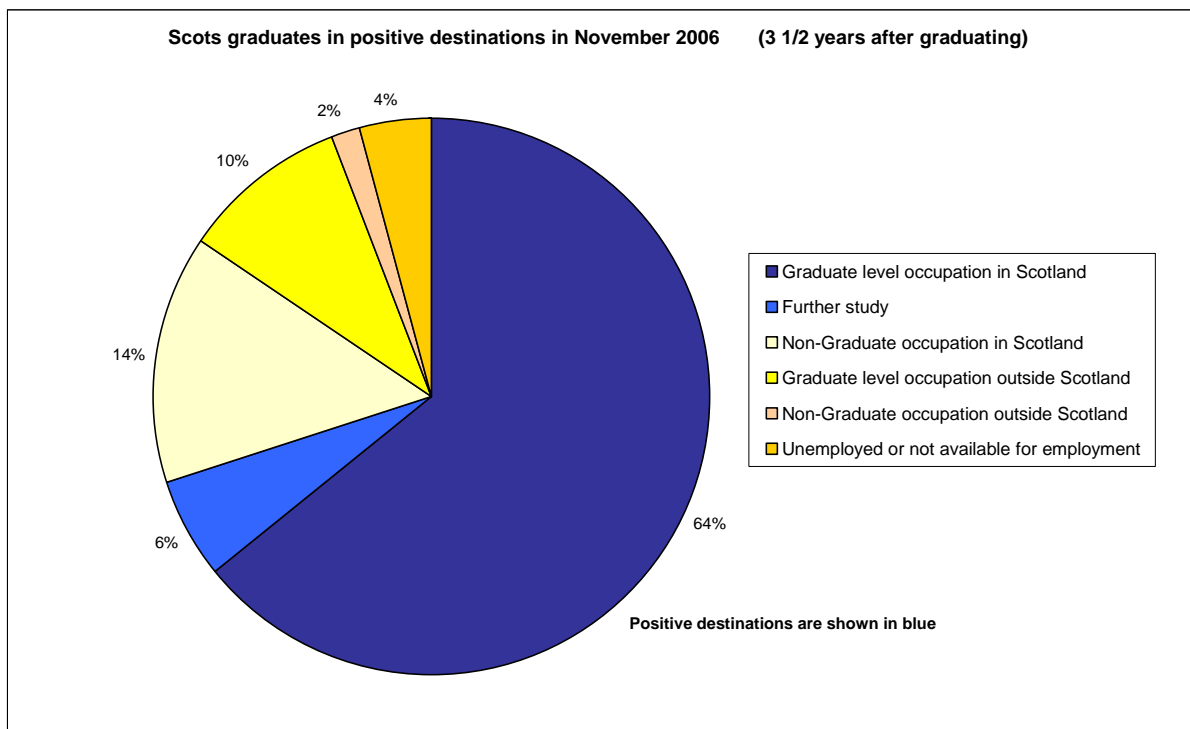
Destinations 3 1/2 Years After Graduating

Last updated: May 2008

In November 2006 seventy percent of Scottish domiciled graduates from Scottish Higher Education Institutions were in positive destinations in Scotland. The chart gives details on all destinations of graduates.

The data have been collected for the first time in 2006-07 relating to employment in November 2006, for those graduating in the academic year 2002-03 (Destinations of Leavers of Higher Education, Longitudinal Survey – Higher Education Statistics Agency); it is intended to collect the information every second year. The next statistics are expected to be available in summer 2009.

The Scottish Government has established a National Indicator to increase the percentage of graduates in positive destinations.



Source: Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Longitudinal Survey 2007, Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

Publication

[Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Longitudinal Survey 2007](#), (Published November 2007 by HESA)

http://www.hesa.ac.uk/index.php?option=com_pubs&Itemid=122#item1714

Students in Further Education

FE Students at Scotland's Colleges (FECs)

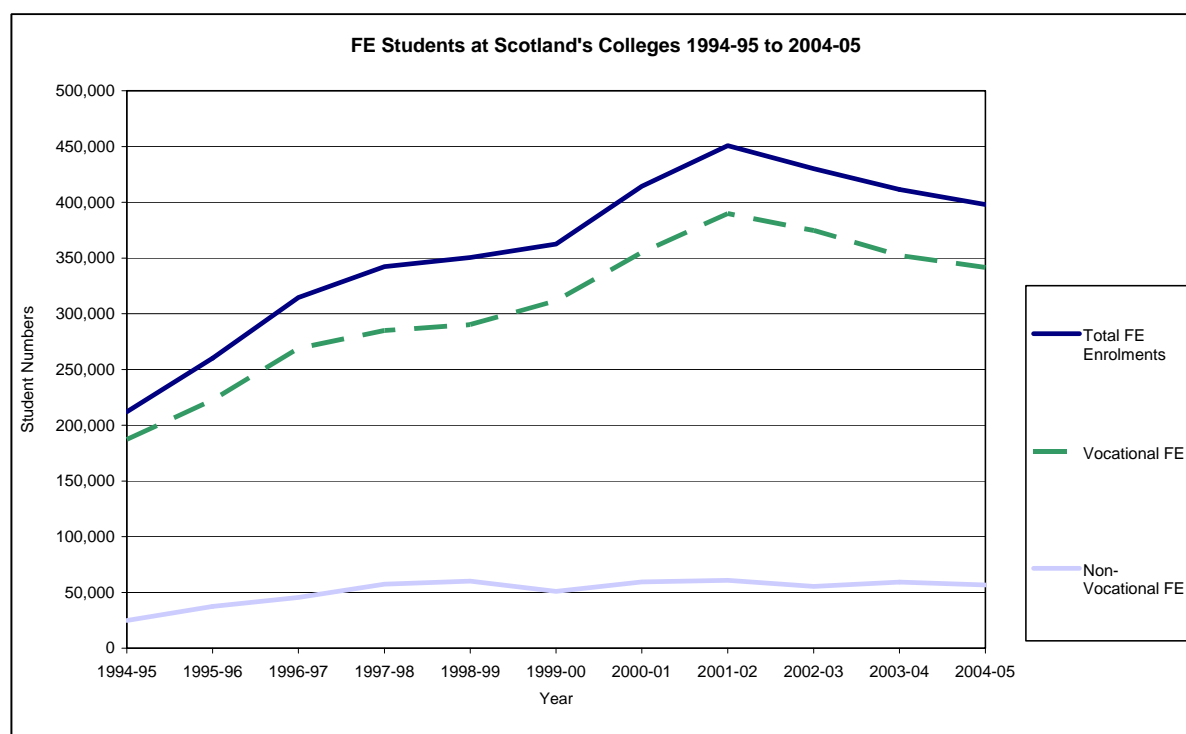
Last updated: July 2007

The number of further education enrolments at FE level in Scotland's colleges has increased dramatically since 1994-95. There are now 398,120 FE enrolments, an increase of 88% since 1994-95.

There has been a steady decline in FE enrolments since peaking in 2001-02. Enrolments have fallen from 450,790 in 2001-02 to their current level, which represents a decrease of 12% over this period.

The majority of enrolments at FE level are for vocational courses. In 2004-05 vocational enrolments accounted for 86% of the total. Vocational enrolments have increased by 82% since 1994-95, but have fallen by 12% since 2001-02.

Fourteen per cent of enrolments are at non-vocational level. Over the period 1994-95 to 2004-05, non-vocational enrolments increased by 128%. Non-vocational enrolments have fallen by 7% since 2001-02.



Source: Scottish Funding Council (SFC)

Publication

[Lifelong Learning Statistics 2005](#) (Published 2005)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/12/01155233/52337>

Web Links

[Scottish Funding Council – Infact database](#)

http://www.sfc.ac.uk/statistics/stats_infact.htm

[Lifelong Learning Statistics Datasets](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/statistics/browse/lifelong-learning/datasets)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/statistics/browse/lifelong-learning/datasets>

The Datasets section within the Lifelong Learning statistics website contains further Higher Education analysis.

Financial Support for Learners

HE Student Support

Last updated: November 2009

The Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS) supports Scottish-domiciled higher education students studying at institutions in Scotland and elsewhere and EU-domiciled students studying in Scotland.

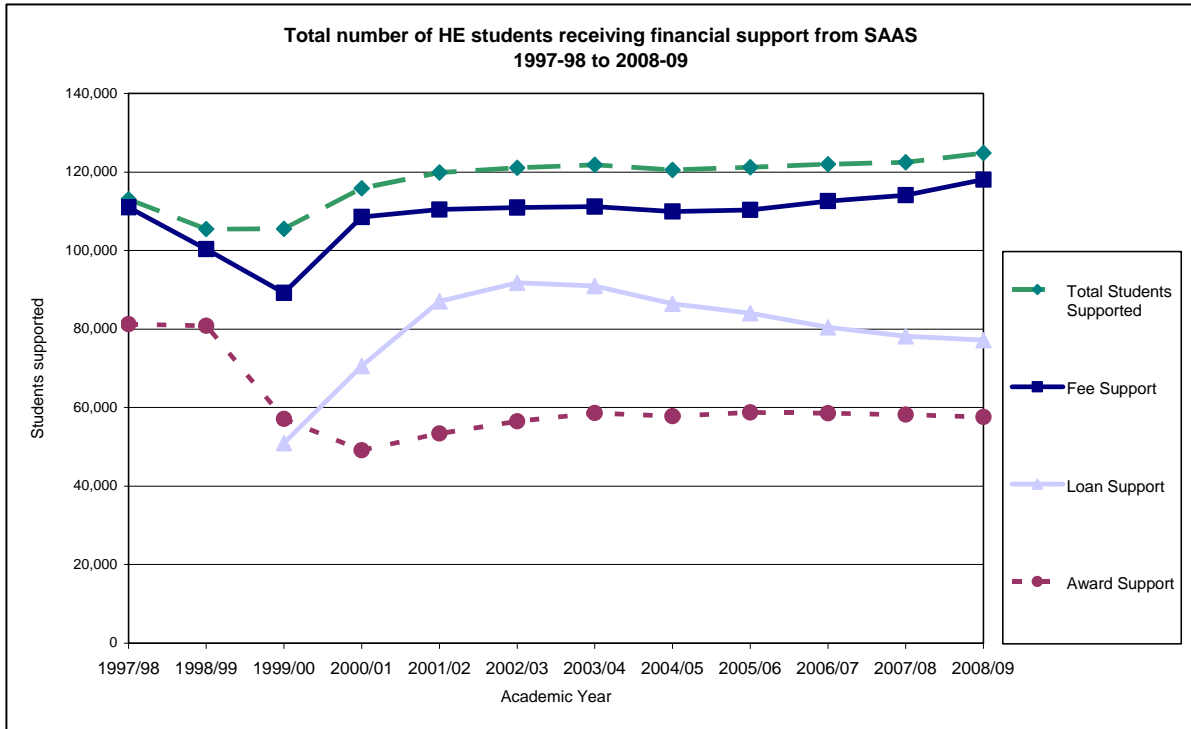
Over the period 1997-98 to 2008-09, the total number of HE students supported by SAAS has increased by 10.4% to 124,845.

The number of students receiving tuition fee support remained fairly constant from 1997-98 (although numbers were lower in 1998-00 due to the abolition of tuition fee support in these years) up to 2005-06. In 2006-07 the number of students receiving tuition fee support increased mainly due to both the introduction of tuition fee loans for new entrants studying elsewhere in the UK and to increasing EU student numbers. EU students only receive tuition fees. Recipients of fee support increased again in 2007-08 and in 2008-09. In 2008-09, 118,055 students received fee support (either tuition fees or tuition fee loans), this is an increase of 3.5% (3,955) since 2007-08 mainly due to increasing numbers of Scottish students having their tuition fees paid, although EU student numbers and recipients of fee loans also increased.

SAAS has calculated student loan entitlement since 1999-00 (prior to this students applied directly to their institution). Initially the number of students assessed for loans increased in each academic year. However numbers have been decreasing since their peak in 2002-03. In 2008-09 77,170 students were assessed for loans: 15.9% fewer than in 2002-03. This includes a 1.3% (1,005) decrease since 2007-08. However the replacement, in academic year 2008-09, of the maintenance loan for part-time students with the ILA (Individual Learning Account) 500 grant accounts for the majority of this decrease. If we consider full-time students only, numbers assessed for loans have fallen by 0.5% (or 410) since 2007-08 and are 15.3% (or 13,950) lower than at their peak in 2002-03.

The number of students receiving non-repayable financial awards has fallen by 29.1% between 1997-98 and 2008-09 to 57,590. The largest decrease occurred between 1998-99 and 1999-00 when the standard maintenance grant was abolished for all new entrants. Despite increasing after this large fall, the number of award recipients has fallen since academic year 2005-06 and in 2008-09 was 2.0% (or 1,155) lower. The number of students receiving awards specifically targeted at young students, students with dependents and students with disabilities has increased to 40,835 in 2008-09, more than four times the 1997-98 level. However numbers in this group have fallen since 2005-06 by 7.7%.

LIFELONG LEARNING
Financial Support for Learners



Source: Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS)

Publication

[Higher Education Student Support In Scotland 2008-09](#) (Published 18 November 2009)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/11/17092744>

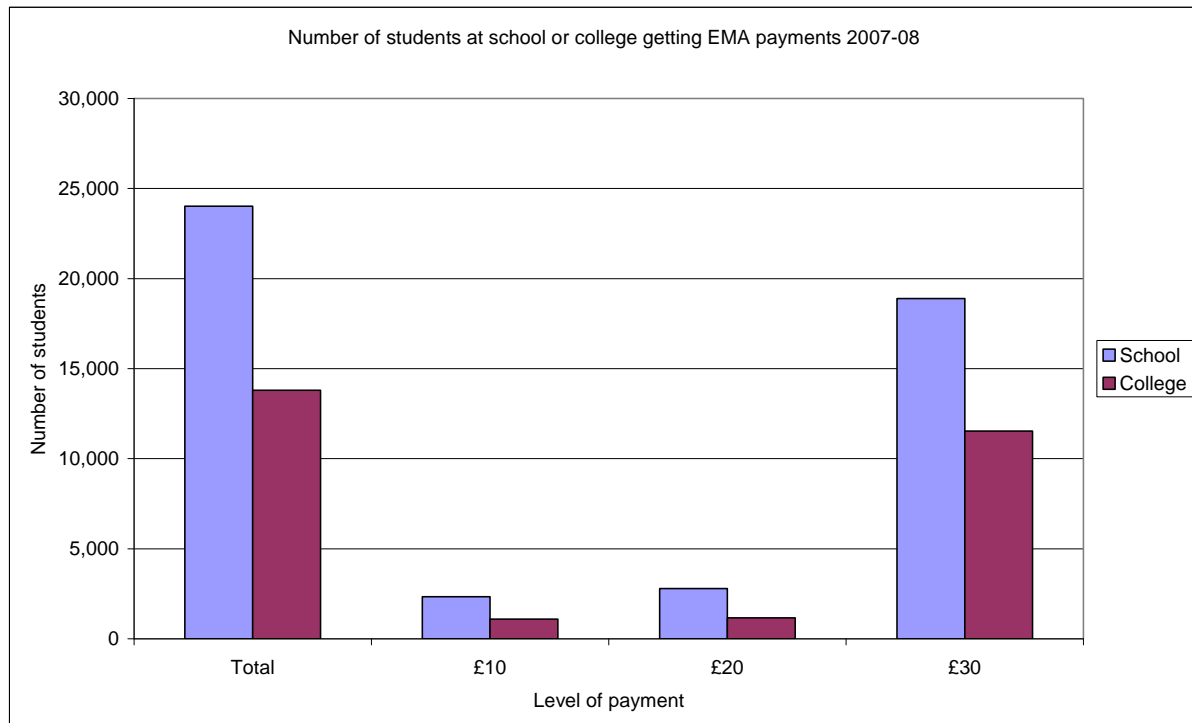
Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

Last updated: January 2009

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

The number of students receiving EMA payments in Scotland in 2007-08 was 37,815. Females accounted for 54% of the 2007-08 total, while 80% of all students receive the highest weekly payment of £30.

Almost two-thirds (64%) of students supported attended school, with the remainder in college. In terms of the school/college split, proportionately more students in college are in the £30 category (84% compared with 79% in schools).



Source: The Scottish Government

Students from the 15% most deprived areas in Scotland are represented proportionally more on the EMA scheme: around 16% of 16-19 year olds in Scotland live in deprived areas compared to 22% of EMA participants who were on the scheme for the full academic year in 2007-08.

Publication

[Education Maintenance Allowances 2007-08](#) (Published January 2009)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/01/23112534>

Student Loans for Higher Education in Scotland

Last Updated: June 2009

The Student Loans Company and the Scottish Government jointly publish statistics on the outstanding student loan debt of Scottish higher education students and EU students studying in Scotland.

At the end of financial year 2008-09 the balance outstanding (including loans not yet due for repayment) was £2.227 billion, an increase of 9% when compared with 2007-08. This amount was owed by 386,800 borrowers, with an average amount outstanding of £5,765.

During the financial year 2008-09 borrowers repaid £77.5 million, while new advances amounted to £191.3 million.

Publication

[Student Loans for Higher Education in Scotland 2008-09](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Lifelong-learning/PubStudentLoansHE)

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