

# Annual Participation Measure for 16 – 19 year olds in Scotland

(Experimental Statistics - data being developed)

The 2<sup>nd</sup> statistical publication reporting on the learning, training and work activity of 16-19 year olds in Scotland

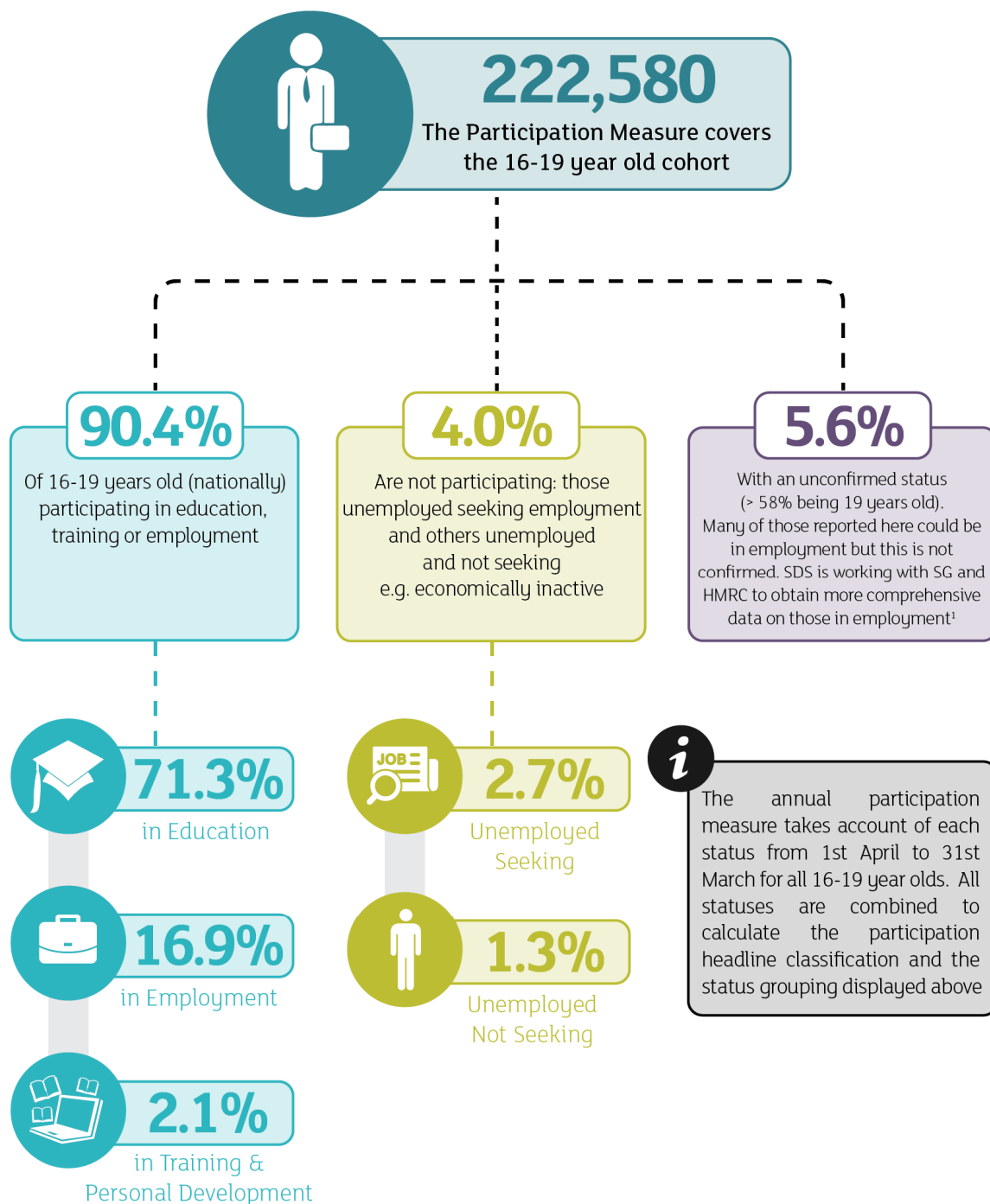
Published on 31 August 2016

**Revised: 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018**



## Annual Participation Measure-Summary of Key Results

(Percentages may not total due to rounding)



1. This should bring benefits in reducing the number of unconfirmed statuses.

# Executive Summary

This report marks the second release of statistics on the participation of 16-19 year olds at a national and local authority level, and witnesses the introduction of the annual participation measure reporting methodology. The annual participation measure now takes account of all statuses for individuals over the whole year (1<sup>st</sup> April – 31<sup>st</sup> March) as opposed to focusing on an individual's status on a single day, as adopted by the 2015 snapshot methodology. For each of the 222,580 individuals included within the annual measure cohort, the headline participation classification (participating, not participating and unconfirmed) is based on the headline classification with the highest number of days. The statistics within this report continue to be classed as "Experimental Statistics: data being developed".

The key points are as follows:

- **Nationally the proportion of 16-19 year olds participating in education, training or employment within the annual measure is 90.4%.**
  - Annual Participation rate for 16 year olds is 98.7%
  - Annual Participation rate for 17 year olds is 93.9%
  - Annual Participation rate for 18 year olds is 88.0%
  - Annual Participation rate for 19 year olds is 81.7%
- **Nationally, the proportion of 16-19 year olds not-participating within the annual measure is 4.0%.**
  - Annual non-participation rate for 16 year olds is 1.0%
  - Annual non-participation rate for 17 year olds is 3.7%
  - Annual non-participation rate for 18 year olds is 5.5%
  - Annual non-participation rate for 19 year olds is 5.8%
- **Nationally, the proportion of 16-19 years within the annual measure reported as unconfirmed is 5.6%**
  - Unconfirmed rate for 16 year olds is 0.3%
  - Unconfirmed rate for 17 year olds is 2.4%
  - Unconfirmed rate for 18 year olds is 6.6%
  - Unconfirmed rate for 19 year olds is 12.6%
- **Eighteen local authorities have an annual participation rate above the national average, one is equal and the remaining thirteen are below this rate.** The variation between the highest and the lowest annual participation rate within local authorities is 10.6 percentage points.

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## Table of Revisions

Revision Date	Revision Details																																	
27/11/2018	<p>The quality assurance process undertaken during the preparation of the 2018 APM identified some inaccuracies in the number of people reported as identified as disabled within the shared dataset. Further investigation into the data revealed that due to a coding error the field used to identify those with a disability for statistics reporting purposes had not been correctly imported from the school pupil census to SDS Customer Support System (CSS). In addition, some pupil records were not updated in subsequent years where the census disability value had changed. Whilst this issue has impacted on SDS reporting of official statistics, it has not impacted SDS customers or the service they receive.</p> <p>To resolve the inaccuracies disability data on CSS has been individually audited with corrections made where required.</p> <p>Following the audit of disability data, a revision has been made to disability reporting within the Annual Participation Measure report for 2016 and 2017, and 2018 data will be published for the first time. The numbers affected by this error and subsequent updates made is presented in the table below.</p> <p>Due to the deletion of data in line with our data retention policy, it was not possible to validate all records for each year. The proportion of records successfully audited and validated is also highlighted in the table below. It should be emphasised that where a record has not been validated, it does not mean that the coding error has affected that record. It does mean that it has not been possible to validate the accuracy of that record.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"><b>Overview of Changes</b></th> <th><b>2016</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Count of records revised</td> <td></td> <td>5,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% of full APM cohort revised</td> <td></td> <td>2.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of records in APM cohort updated to identified as disabled</td> <td></td> <td>3,726</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of records in APM cohort updated to not identified as disabled</td> <td></td> <td>1,774</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"><b>Result of Changes</b></th> <th><b>2016</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Originally identified as disabled</td> <td></td> <td>5,861</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% identified as having a disability prior to audit</td> <td></td> <td>2.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revised identified as disabled</td> <td></td> <td>7,813</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% identified as having a disability post audit</td> <td></td> <td>3.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% of records where source was validated</td> <td></td> <td>94.1%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Overview of Changes</b>		<b>2016</b>	Count of records revised		5,500	% of full APM cohort revised		2.5%	Number of records in APM cohort updated to identified as disabled		3,726	Number of records in APM cohort updated to not identified as disabled		1,774	<b>Result of Changes</b>		<b>2016</b>	Originally identified as disabled		5,861	% identified as having a disability prior to audit		2.6%	Revised identified as disabled		7,813	% identified as having a disability post audit		3.5%	% of records where source was validated		94.1%
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<b>NB: No revision has been made to the snapshot methodology and this has been removed from the publication</b>
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## 1. Introduction

In 2012 the Scottish Government made an explicit commitment to offer a place in learning or training to every 16-19 year old in Scotland who is not currently in employment, education or training. This *Opportunities for All* (OfA) pledge aims to ensure all young people are supported in their path to sustainable employment.

To deliver this commitment, the Government asked organisations involved in supporting young people to share the information they hold on each individual's needs to create a shared data set, so that informed help could be provided by the appropriate agency as and when a young person needs it.

The Scottish Government's National Performance Framework contains a measure to *increase the proportion of young people in learning, training or work*, published through [Scotland Performs](#). At present this is populated using School Leaver Destination follow up data but the intention is to replace this with the annual participation measure from August 2017.

The annual participation measure (PM) reports on the activity of the wider 16-19 year old cohort, including those at school, and will help to inform policy, planning and service delivery and determine the impact of the OfA commitment. The measure uses the shared data set held by Skills Development Scotland (SDS) on their Customer Support System (CSS). Central to the creation of the shared dataset is the sharing of information to allow partners to identify what young people are doing in 'real time' throughout their 16-19 journeys. It also allows SDS and partners to improve service delivery and provide a more tailored offer, helping to identify the right time to engage with customers. To be included in the annual participation measure an individual must have a record on CSS and the individual's age must be between 16 and 19 on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

### Report background

This report marks the second release of data on the participation of 16-19 year olds at a national and local authority level and witnesses the introduction of the annual participation measure reporting methodology. The annual measure now takes account of all statuses for individuals over the course of the year as opposed to focusing on an individual's status on a single day, as adopted by the 2015 snapshot methodology. The participation classification of each customer is calculated by combining the number of days spent in each status between 1st April and 31st March. The overall participation classification (participating, not participating and unconfirmed) is based on the classification which has the highest sum of days.

The statistics within this report continue to be classed as "Experimental Statistics: data being developed" which are defined in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics as: 'new

official statistics undergoing evaluation that are published in order to involve users and stakeholders in their development as a means to build in quality at an early stage'.

This second report continues to contain analysis related to the following:

- Participation by status and age
- Participation by the equality characteristics of gender, ethnicity and disability
- Participation by geography including local authority and SIMD

This publication of the annual participation measure is accompanied by a comparison of the 2015 and 2016 snapshot methodology within [Appendix One](#). This is the final year a snapshot methodology will be reported.

[Appendix Two](#) outlines notes to readers. This includes the definitions and background to the methodology used to populate the new annual measure.

In addition, [Supplementary Statistics Tables](#) are available in excel format on the SDS website.

Any comments or suggestions regarding the content of this report are welcome and can be emailed to [user\\_feedback@sds.co.uk](mailto:user_feedback@sds.co.uk).

## 2. Annual participation measure headline statistics

Participation rates amongst 16-19 year olds are set out in Table 1 below. These are based on 222,580 individuals within the annual participation measure. The key points are:

- Nationally, the proportion of 16-19 year olds participating in education, training or employment is 90.4%.
- The highest participation rate is amongst 16 year olds at 98.7% with the vast majority of 16 year olds having a school status (91.3%). Participation is more varied across Education, Employment and Training/Other personal development for those between the ages of 17 and 19.
- The lowest participation rate is amongst 19 year olds at 81.7%. Within this age group the status with the largest proportion of individuals is higher education at 40.4%.
- The non-participating group accounts for 4.0% of the overall 16-19 year old cohort and includes those unemployed and seeking employment (2.7%), as well as those who are economically inactive and others not seeking employment (1.3%).
- The proportion of 16-19 year olds with an unconfirmed status is 5.6%; the majority of these (58.1%) are 19 year olds. It is anticipated that as the participation measure develops, the level of those aged 18-19 with an unconfirmed status will decrease. Furthermore SDS is working with Scottish Government and HMRC to obtain more



comprehensive data on those in employment. This should bring benefits in reducing the number of unconfirmed statuses.

**Table 1: Annual Participation Measure by age (%)**

Status Group	Status	Age				16-19 year old Total
		16	17	18	19	
<b>Participating</b>						
<b>Education</b>	School Pupil	91.3%	65.1%	10.2%	0.3%	40.7%
	Higher Education	0.1%	2.2%	32.4%	40.4%	19.2%
	Further Education	4.0%	12.2%	18.0%	10.9%	11.4%
	<b>Count of Education</b>	<b>50,726</b>	<b>43,944</b>	<b>34,370</b>	<b>29,687</b>	<b>158,727</b>
	<b>% Participating in Education</b>	<b>95.3%</b>	<b>79.6%</b>	<b>60.7%</b>	<b>51.7%</b>	<b>71.3%</b>
<b>Employment</b>	Modern Apprenticeship	1.0%	5.1%	9.1%	9.9%	6.4%
	Full-Time Employment	0.9%	4.8%	12.3%	15.5%	8.5%
	Part-time Employment	0.1%	1.0%	3.1%	3.4%	1.9%
	Self-Employed	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
	<b>Count of Employment</b>	<b>1,043</b>	<b>6,068</b>	<b>13,943</b>	<b>16,601</b>	<b>37,655</b>
	<b>% Participating in Employment</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>24.6%</b>	<b>28.9%</b>	<b>16.9%</b>
<b>Training and Other Personal Development</b>	Employability Fund Stages 2 - 4	0.8%	1.9%	1.2%	0.3%	1.1%
	Activity Agreement	0.5%	0.8%	0.5%	0.2%	0.5%
	Other Formal Training	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
	Personal/ Skills Development	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%
	Voluntary Work	0.0%	0.1%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%
	<b>Count of Training &amp; Other Personal Development</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>1,841</b>	<b>1,530</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>4,770</b>
	<b>% Training &amp; Other Personal Development</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
<b>Not Participating</b>						
<b>Unemployed Seeking</b>	<b>Count of Unemployed Seeking</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>1,516</b>	<b>1,999</b>	<b>2,028</b>	<b>5,973</b>
	<b>% Unemployed Seeking</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
<b>Unemployed not seeking</b>	Economically Inactive	0.1%	0.6%	1.4%	1.6%	1.0%
	Unavailable - Ill Health	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%	0.3%
	Custody	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
	<b>Count of unemployed not seeking</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>1,114</b>	<b>1,277</b>	<b>2,990</b>
	<b>% Unemployed Not Seeking</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>

Count of 16-19 Year old Participating	52,527	51,853	49,843	46,929	201,152
<b>% 16-19 Participating</b>	<b>98.7%</b>	<b>93.9%</b>	<b>88.0%</b>	<b>81.7%</b>	<b>90.4%</b>
Count of 16-19 Not Participating	511	2,034	3,113	3,305	8,963
<b>% 16-19 Not Participating</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>
Count of 16-19 with Unconfirmed Status	169	1,343	3,712	7,241	12,465
<b>% Status Unconfirmed</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>12.6%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>
<b>Count of 16-19 Cohort</b>	<b>53,207</b>	<b>55,230</b>	<b>56,668</b>	<b>57,475</b>	<b>222,580</b>

Notes: See note (k) in “Appendix 2 - Notes for Readers” for information about comparison to other published statistics

Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding

### 3. Analysis of those participating

As shown in Table 1, further analysis indicates that:

- 71.3% of 16-19 year olds are participating in secondary or tertiary education, the highest proportion of whom (40.7%) are school pupils.
- Across the whole 16-19 year cohort, 19.2% are reported as participating in higher education.
- Over 1 in 10 of the whole 16-19 year old cohort is reported as participating in further education.
- Of those 16-19 year olds within the participation measure cohort, 16.9% are reported in the employment status grouping. This includes those undertaking a modern apprenticeship and individuals employed on a full-time, part-time or self-employed basis. Of those in employment, 50.5% are reported in a full-time employment status and a further 37.6% as undertaking a Modern Apprenticeship.
- Of the 2.1 % of 16-19 year olds reported in the training and other development status grouping, 50.1% are reported in an Employability Fund status. This provision is designed to support individuals to develop the skills needed to secure a job or progress to more advanced forms of training. The next largest proportion, (22.5%) are reported in an Activity Agreement status.

### 4. Analysis of those not participating

Within the annual participation measure those reported as non-participating account for 4.0% of the 16-19 cohort. It includes those who are unemployed and seeking employment or opportunities (2.7%) as well as the economically inactive and others not seeking employment (1.3%).

The unemployed and seeking group are those who are known to SDS to be actively seeking participation. These may include individuals who are not accessing Department for Work and Pensions services or benefits.

As shown in Table 2, the largest proportion of unemployed seeking 16-19 year olds are 19 years old. Together with 18 year olds, these make up just over two thirds of those reported as unemployed seeking.

**Table 2: Unemployed seeking employment or training by age**

	Participation measure cohort	Count / % of Unemployed seeking	% of age group Unemployed seeking
<b>Age 16</b>	53,207	430 (7.2%)	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>Age 17</b>	55,230	1,516 (25.4%)	<b>2.7%</b>
<b>Age 18</b>	56,668	1,999 (33.5%)	<b>3.5%</b>
<b>Age 19</b>	57,475	2,028 (34.0%)	<b>3.5%</b>
<b>16-19 year olds</b>	<b>222,580</b>	<b>5,973</b>	<b>2.7%</b>

Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding

In addition the highest proportion of those reported as unemployed not seeking are 19 years old. Together with 18 year olds, these make up 80% of those reported as unemployed not seeking cohort. Females account for just under two thirds of the unemployed not seeking group.

## 5. Analysis of those with status unconfirmed

An unconfirmed status within the annual measure applies to individuals within the shared data set with no available status information for the largest amount of time within the year. This means despite multi partner data sharing and tracking of individuals as part of service delivery it has not been possible to identify full status information. The number of individuals who fall into this category is 12,465 (5.6%), the majority of whom are aged 19. It could be that many of these individuals have taken up employment but it has not been possible to confirm this as SDS does not currently have any regular data feeds of employment information. Therefore no relevant data is held in the shared dataset

An unconfirmed status is slightly more likely amongst males than females; the gender split for those with an unconfirmed status is 44% female and 56% male. In general, those with an unconfirmed status are more likely to be living in more deprived areas.

Table 3 below provides a breakdown by age of those whose status is reported as unconfirmed.

**Table 3: Status unconfirmed by Age**

	Participation measure cohort	Count / % of those with status unconfirmed	% Within the 16-19 year old cohort
<b>16</b>	53,207	169 (1.4%)	0.3%
<b>17</b>	55,230	1,343 (10.8%)	2.4%
<b>18</b>	56,668	3,712 (29.8%)	6.6%
<b>19</b>	57,475	7,241 (58.1%)	12.6%
<b>16-19 year olds</b>	<b>222,580</b>	<b>12,465</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding

SDS continues to work with partners to further enhance service delivery through multi-partner data sharing and it is anticipated this work will help to decrease the number of customers with an unconfirmed status. Integral to our commitment to Opportunities for All is the follow up 16-19 year olds with an unconfirmed status.

In addition, the Scottish Government are leading on a longer term data linkage project to match customer datasets in Scotland with information from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and this may yield benefits in reducing the number of unconfirmed statuses.

## 6. Equalities

SDS has a legal duty under the Equality Act to ensure our services are inclusive and are accessible to a diverse range of customers. One of the ways we do this is by collecting equality data to allow us to monitor and review uptake of our services and help us to identify and address any barriers faced by particular groups.

This section of the report provides analysis of participation by gender, ethnicity and disability and is based on data captured within the shared data set. This data is normally captured at the point a record is created within the shared data set but the information can be updated by SDS advisers when they receive information from the individual or their representative. The majority of the equalities data within the shared data set is sourced from school management information systems as this is where most of the information is recorded.

## 6.1 Gender

Table 4 shows that 91% of females are participating in comparison to 89.7% of males. Females are more likely to be participating in education compared to males (Females: (75.9%); Males (66.9%)). In terms of reported participation within higher education there is a 6.2 percentage point difference between females and males, with females representing the highest proportion of 16-19 years old in Higher Education.

Conversely, there are more males than females in employment, with the figures showing a 6.9 percentage point difference. Also 62.1% of 16-19 year olds reported as unemployed seeking within the annual measure are male.

**Table 4: Participation statuses broken down by gender**

Status Grouping	Female	Male	16-19 year old Total
<b>Total 16-19 Cohort</b>	<b>108,280 (48.6%)</b>	<b>114,285 (51.3%)</b>	<b>222,580</b>
<b>Participating</b>	<b>91.0%</b>	<b>89.7%</b>	<b>90.4%</b>
% Participating in Education	<b>75.9%</b>	<b>66.9%</b>	<b>71.3%</b>
% Participating in Employment	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>20.3%</b>	<b>16.9%</b>
% Training & Other Development	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
<b>Not Participating</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>
% Unemployed Seeking	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
% Unemployed Not seeking	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>Status Unconfirmed</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

Note: There are 15 individuals who have indicated they would not wish to disclose their gender. These individuals have been excluded from the above gender analysis. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding

## 6.2 Ethnicity

Table 5 provides a summary of participation broken down by ethnicity. At 92.9%, the participation rate of 16-19 year olds from an ethnic minority background is 2.6 percentage points higher than the national average. Furthermore, the percentage of young people from an ethnic minority background participating in education is 84.6%, 13.3 percentage points higher than the national average. Almost half (48.9%) are participating in school education compared to a national average of 40.7% and there is a similar picture for higher education where participation of 16-19 year olds from a minority ethnic background is 6.2 percentage points higher than the national average of 19.2%.

With the dominance of education as a post 16+ choice, those from ethnic minority groups have lower representation in the other statuses. For example, the percentage of ethnic minority 16-19 year olds reported as unemployed seeking is 1.3 percentage points below the national average of 2.7%.

**Table 5: Participation statuses broken down by ethnicity**

Status Grouping	Ethnic Minority <sup>1</sup>	Non Ethnic Minority <sup>2</sup>	Not Known /Not Disclosed	16-19 year old Total
<b>Total 16-19 Cohort</b>	<b>9,729 (4.4%)</b>	<b>207,029 (93.0%)</b>	<b>5,822 (2.6%)</b>	<b>222,580</b>
<b>Participating</b>	<b>92.9%</b>	<b>90.3%</b>	<b>89.2%</b>	<b>90.4%</b>
% Participating in Education	<b>84.6%</b>	<b>70.5%</b>	<b>76.3%</b>	<b>71.3%</b>
% Participating in Employment	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>17.6%</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>16.9%</b>
% Training & Other Development	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
<b>Not Participating</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>
% Unemployed Seeking	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
% Unemployed Not seeking	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>Status Unconfirmed</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

<sup>1</sup>The Ethnic Minority totals include young people from the following ethnic groups: Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups, Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British, African, Caribbean or Black and Other Ethnic Background

<sup>2</sup>The Ethnic Minority Non group totals includes young people from the following ethnic groups: White – Scottish, White – Other British, White – Irish, White – Polish, White – Gypsy/Traveller and White – Other

Note: Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding

### 6.3 Disability

Table 6 provides a breakdown of the 16-19 year old Annual Participation Measure (APM) cohort by disability. As part of our quality assurance process we audited the accuracy of disability data for each APM cohort. For those identified as disabled we verified the source of disability for 94.1% of records for the 2016 APM. Further details about the revised disability data can be found within the [table of revisions](#) at the front of this publication.

At 86%, the participation rate of 16-19 year olds identified with a disability is 4.5 percentage points lower than those not identified as having a disability. The majority of those identified with a disability are participating in education (71.9%). Within those identified with a disability, 46.4% are reported within a school pupil status and the next highest participation status is further education (19.6%).

The participation rate within employment for those with a disability is 8.3% which is 8.9 percentage points lower than those not identified as having a disability. 7.8% of those identified as having a disability are not participating. This is double the rate for those not identified as having a Disability.

**Table 6: Participation Statuses broken down by Disability**

Status Grouping	Identified as having a Disability	NOT Identified as having a Disability	16-19 year old Total
<b>Total 16-19 Cohort</b>	<b>7,813 (3.5%)</b>	<b>214,767 (96.5%)</b>	<b>222,580</b>
<b>Participating</b>	<b>86.0%</b>	<b>90.5%</b>	<b>90.4%</b>
% Participating in Education	71.9%	71.3%	71.3%
% Participating in Employment	8.3%	17.2%	16.9%
% Training & Other Development	5.8%	2.0%	2.1%
<b>Not Participating</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>
% Unemployed Seeking	3.7%	2.6%	2.7%
% Unemployed Not seeking	4.2%	1.2%	1.3%
<b>Status Unconfirmed</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

### 7. Participation rates across Scotland

As part of the development work for the participation measure a number of options were considered to report participation at a local authority level. Following consultation, a methodology was agreed that retains a link to the local authority where the individual was schooled for a set period of time before adopting the local authority based on where an individual lives. Further detail on the methodology is provided in the background notes in Appendix 2.

In addition to local authority reporting we also present analysis based on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) which uses the postcode of individuals within the participation measure cohort.



## 7.1 Local Authority

Eighteen local authorities have an annual participation rate above the national average, one is equal and the remaining thirteen are below this rate. The variation between the highest and the lowest annual participation rate within local authorities is 10.6 percentage points. Table 7 provides additional data on those not participating or with an unconfirmed status by local authority area.

**Table 7: Participation Cohort by Local Authority**

Local Authority	Total 16-19 year old cohort	Count of those participating	% Participation	Count of those not participating	% Non participation	Count of unconfirmed status	% Unconfirmed status
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>222,580</b>	<b>201,152</b>	<b>90.4%</b>	<b>8,963</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>12,465</b>	<b>5.6%</b>
Aberdeen City	6,991	6,213	88.9%	320	4.6%	458	6.6%
Aberdeenshire	11,332	10,565	93.2%	283	2.5%	484	4.3%
Angus	5,081	4,654	91.6%	162	3.2%	265	5.2%
Argyll & Bute	3,642	3,429	94.2%	113	3.1%	100	2.7%
Clackmannanshire	2,140	1,888	88.2%	185	8.6%	67	3.1%
Dumfries & Galloway	6,450	5,844	90.6%	236	3.7%	370	5.7%
Dundee City	5,869	5,147	87.7%	487	8.3%	235	4.0%
East Ayrshire	5,445	4,863	89.3%	216	4.0%	366	6.7%
East Dunbartonshire	5,235	5,006	95.6%	91	1.7%	138	2.6%
East Lothian	4,356	3,947	90.6%	151	3.5%	258	5.9%
East Renfrewshire	5,331	5,137	96.4%	77	1.4%	117	2.2%
Edinburgh City	14,023	12,603	89.9%	517	3.7%	903	6.4%
Eilean Siar	1,136	1,088	95.8%	19	1.7%	29	2.6%
Falkirk	6,778	6,088	89.8%	395	5.8%	295	4.4%
Fife	15,645	13,812	88.3%	784	5.0%	1,049	6.7%
Glasgow City	21,903	19,003	86.8%	1,137	5.2%	1,763	8.0%
Highland	10,449	9,757	93.4%	241	2.3%	451	4.3%
Inverclyde	3,439	3,137	91.2%	160	4.7%	142	4.1%
Midlothian	3,920	3,477	88.7%	166	4.2%	277	7.1%
Moray	4,236	3,853	91.0%	153	3.6%	230	5.4%
North Ayrshire	6,193	5,565	89.9%	191	3.1%	437	7.1%
North Lanarkshire	16,476	14,713	89.3%	747	4.5%	1,016	6.2%
Orkney Islands	929	874	94.1%	22	2.4%	33	3.6%
Perth & Kinross	5,779	5,364	92.8%	158	2.7%	257	4.4%
Renfrewshire	7,946	7,210	90.7%	244	3.1%	492	6.2%
Scottish Borders	4,867	4,448	91.4%	132	2.7%	287	5.9%
Shetland Islands	1,116	1,087	97.4%	18	1.6%	11	1.0%
South Ayrshire	4,927	4,479	90.9%	170	3.5%	278	5.6%
South Lanarkshire	14,331	12,957	90.4%	637	4.4%	737	5.1%
Stirling	4,141	3,813	92.1%	179	4.3%	149	3.6%
West Dunbartonshire	4,126	3,646	88.4%	228	5.5%	252	6.1%
West Lothian	8,348	7,485	89.7%	344	4.1%	519	6.2%

Note: Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding



## 7.2 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (2016)

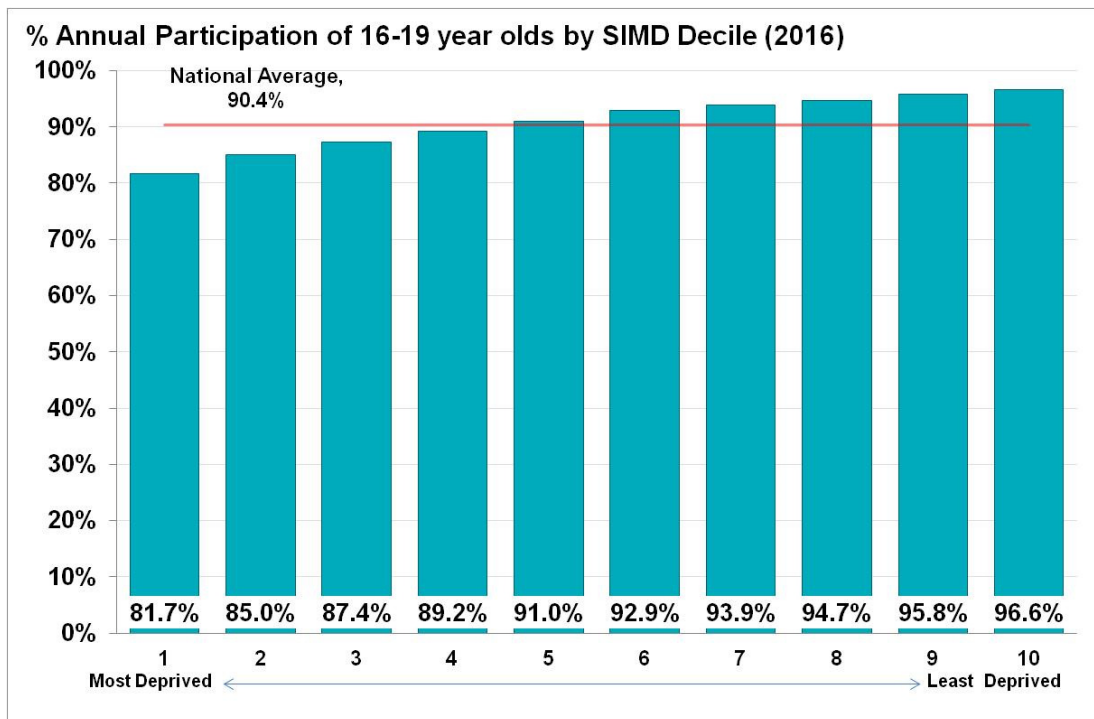
Figure 1 and Table 8 show 16-19 year old activity broken down by SIMD deciles (2016).

Overall, those who live in more deprived areas are less likely to be reported as participating within the annual measure than those from the less deprived areas: There is a 14.9 percentage point difference in the participation rate between those from SIMD 1 and SIMD 10.

Those from the less deprived areas are more likely to be reported in education compared to those from more deprived areas. The proportion of 16-19 year olds reported as participating in education from the least deprived areas (SIMD decile 10) is 84.1% compared to 61.2% for those from the most deprived areas (SIMD decile 1), a difference of 22.9 percentage points.

A higher proportion of 16-19 year olds from the more deprived areas are reported as unemployed seeking compared to those from the less deprived areas. For example, 6.2% of those from SIMD 1 are unemployed seeking compared to 0.6% from SIMD 10.

**Figure 1: Participation by SIMD Decile (2016)**



More information on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation can be found at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/SIMD>

**Table 8: Participation statuses by SIMD Decile (2016)**

SIMD Decile	Percentage of cohort									
	Participating	Within Education	Within Employment	Training & Other Personal Development	Not Participating	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not seeking	Status Unconfirmed		
Most Deprived	<b>1</b>	11.1%	<b>81.7%</b>	61.2%	16.1%	4.4%	<b>9.1%</b>	6.2%	2.9%	<b>9.2%</b>
	<b>2</b>	10.9%	<b>85.0%</b>	64.0%	17.5%	3.5%	<b>6.8%</b>	4.7%	2.2%	<b>8.2%</b>
	<b>3</b>	10.2%	<b>87.4%</b>	65.3%	19.1%	3.0%	<b>5.6%</b>	3.8%	1.8%	<b>7.0%</b>
	<b>4</b>	9.6%	<b>89.2%</b>	67.9%	18.9%	2.4%	<b>4.4%</b>	2.8%	1.6%	<b>6.4%</b>
	<b>5</b>	9.6%	<b>91.0%</b>	70.5%	18.6%	1.9%	<b>3.5%</b>	2.3%	1.2%	<b>5.5%</b>
	<b>6</b>	9.7%	<b>92.9%</b>	72.6%	18.9%	1.5%	<b>2.7%</b>	1.8%	0.9%	<b>4.4%</b>
	<b>7</b>	9.6%	<b>93.9%</b>	74.6%	18.0%	1.3%	<b>2.1%</b>	1.4%	0.7%	<b>4.0%</b>
Least Deprived	<b>8</b>	9.7%	<b>94.7%</b>	77.4%	16.2%	1.1%	<b>1.7%</b>	1.1%	0.6%	<b>3.6%</b>
	<b>9</b>	9.9%	<b>95.8%</b>	80.8%	14.2%	0.8%	<b>1.4%</b>	0.9%	0.5%	<b>2.8%</b>
	<b>10</b>	8.9%	<b>96.6%</b>	84.1%	11.7%	0.8%	<b>1.0%</b>	0.6%	0.3%	<b>2.4%</b>

Note: Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding

## 8. Conclusion

This report has set out the key results from the second year of the participation measure. As a new annual methodology was introduced this year the statistics continue to be published as ‘experimental statistics: data being developed’.

[Appendix One](#) provides a comparison between two snapshots taken in 2015 and 2016. In the future the time series will be based on the annual participation methodology.

[Appendix Two](#) provides background notes to the publication which outlines the definitions and the methodology used.

In addition, [Supplementary Statistics Tables](#) are available in excel format on the SDS website. Any comments or suggestions regarding the content of this report are welcome and can be emailed to [user\\_feedback@sds.co.uk](mailto:user_feedback@sds.co.uk).

## Appendix 1: Snapshot Methodology

### A1. Participation Snapshot Headlines

This section compares the results of the snapshot methodology for the 2015 and 2016 Participation Measure. The 2015 participation measure used the reporting date of the 7th of April 2015 to capture the individual's status and the 2016 participation measure used the 4th of April 2016.

Table 9 shows the difference in headline participation classification rates between the 2015 and 2016 snapshot participation measure dates.

The number of individuals captured within the 2016 snapshot is 3,795 less than the 2015 snapshot. This is in line with national projections. The National Records of Scotland (NRS) 2014 based population estimates stated that the number of people aged 15-19 years old was expected to decline and in the most recent population estimates the population aged between 2014 and 2015 fell by 2,314.

The coverage of the 2016 participation snapshot measure is 90% of the most recent NRS population estimate for total population aged 16 to 19 years old which was published on the 29th of April 2016. The percentage coverage has remained unchanged from the 2015 participation measure snapshot which was also 90%.

### Summary of Key Findings

#### Between the 2015 and 2016 snapshot participation measures:

- > The percentage of the snapshot participating (88.6% in 2016) has increased by 1 percentage point.
- > The percentage of the snapshot not participating (5.7% in 2016) has decreased by 0.8 of a percentage point.
- > The percentage of the snapshot with an unconfirmed status (5.6% in 2016) has decreased by 0.3 of a percentage point.
- > The percentage participating in employment has risen by 2.1 percentage points and by comparison education has fallen by 1.2 percentage points.
- > The greatest decrease within the not participating group has been from within the unemployed seeking status category, which has decreased by almost 1 percentage point between 2015 and 2016.
- > Participation rates have increased across all SIMD deciles and the gap between the most and least deprived has narrowed by 1.1 percentage points.

**Table 9: Snapshot Participation Comparison 2015 and 2016**

Status Grouping	2015 Snapshot Measure	2016 Snapshot Measure	Percentage Point Change 2015 to 2016
<b>Total 16-19 Cohort</b>	<b>226,375</b>	<b>222,580</b>	<b>-3,795</b>
<b>Participating</b>	<b>87.6%</b>	<b>88.6%</b>	<b>1.0</b>
% Participating in Education	67.1%	65.9%	-1.2
% Participating in Employment	18.1%	20.2%	2.1
% Training & Other Development	2.5%	2.6%	0.1
<b>Not Participating</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>-0.8</b>
% Unemployed Seeking	4.9%	4.0%	-0.9
% Unemployed Not seeking	1.6%	1.7%	0.1
<b>Status Unconfirmed</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>-0.3</b>

## A2. Participation Snapshot by Age

Table 10 shows the difference in headline participation status by single year of age between 2015 and 2016 snapshot participation measures. It shows that for both the 2015 and 2016 measures that percentage participation decreases with age, and conversely, the percentage not participating and unconfirmed increases with age.

The increase in participation between 2015 and 2016 has been shared across all age groups. The largest increase in participation has been witnessed within the 18 and 19 year old age groups with 1.2 and 2.6 percentage point increases respectively.

The 19 year old group has witnessed the largest decrease in unconfirmed statuses, 0.9 percentage points lower than in 2015, followed by the 16 year old group with a 0.4 percentage point decrease.

**Table 10: Snapshot Participation by Age, comparison between 2015 and 2016**

Age	2015 Snapshot Measure			2016 Snapshot measure			Percentage Point Change 2015 to 2016		
	Participating	Not Participating	Unconfirmed status	Participating	Not Participating	Unconfirmed status	Participating	Not Participating	Unconfirmed status
<b>16</b>	<b>95.6%</b>	3.6%	0.9%	<b>96.0%</b>	3.5%	0.5%	<b>0.4</b>	-0.1	-0.4
<b>17</b>	<b>91.7%</b>	6.1%	2.2%	<b>92.1%</b>	5.9%	2.0%	<b>0.4</b>	-0.2	-0.2
<b>18</b>	<b>85.5%</b>	8.1%	6.5%	<b>86.7%</b>	6.9%	6.3%	<b>1.2</b>	-1.2	-0.2
<b>19</b>	<b>77.8%</b>	8.1%	14.0%	<b>80.4%</b>	6.5%	13.1%	<b>2.6</b>	-1.6	-0.9
<b>All 16-19</b>	<b>87.6%</b>	6.5%	5.9%	<b>88.6%</b>	5.7%	5.6%	<b>1.0</b>	-0.8	-0.3

Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding

### A3. Analysis of those unemployed seeking in the snapshot

Table 11 shows the count and percentage of unemployed seeking between the 2015 and 2016 snapshot participation measures. It can be seen that for both years the percentage of unemployed seeking increases from the age 16 group to a maximum level at age 18, before decreasing in the 19 age group.

All age groups have witnessed a decrease in the percentage of young people reported as unemployed seeking between 2015 and 2016. Those aged 18 and 19 have seen the greatest percentage point decreases in unemployed seeking with reductions of 1.3 and 1.8 respectively.

**Table 11: Snapshot Unemployed Status by Age, comparison 2015 and 2016**

Age	2015 Snapshot Measure			2016 Snapshot measure			Percentage Point Change 2015 to 2016
	Cohort	Unemployed Seeking	% Unemployed Seeking	Cohort	Unemployed Seeking	% Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Seeking status
16	55,551	1,736	3.1%	53,207	1,588	3.0%	-0.1
17	57,083	2,715	4.8%	55,230	2,435	4.4%	-0.4
18	57,939	3,411	5.9%	56,668	2,618	4.6%	-1.3
19	55,802	3,180	5.7%	57,475	2,215	3.9%	-1.8
<b>All 16-19</b>	<b>226,375</b>	<b>11,042</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>222,580</b>	<b>8,856</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>-0.9</b>

Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding

### A4. Analysis of those unconfirmed in the snapshot

All age groups have seen a decrease in unconfirmed statuses. The largest decrease has been in the 19 year old group with 0.9 percentage point decrease between 2015 and 2016.

Table 12 shows the count and percentage of unconfirmed statuses between the 2015 and 2016 snapshot participation measures. In both 2015 and 2016, the 18 and 19 year old groups have a markedly higher percentage of unconfirmed statuses compared to the 16 and 17 year old groups.

It is considered, those within the 18 - 19 year old age groups are more likely to be in employment than those in the younger age groups. SDS do not currently have any regular data feeds of employment information therefore many of these 18 and 19 year olds who are in employment and not in contact with SDS will be recorded with an unconfirmed status.

**Table 12: Snapshot Unconfirmed Status by Age, comparison 2015 and 2016**

Age	2015 Snapshot Measure			2016 Snapshot measure			Percentage Point Change 2015 to 2016
	Cohort	Unconfirmed Status	% Unconfirmed	Cohort	Unconfirmed Status	% Unconfirmed	Unconfirmed status
<b>16</b>	55,551	476	<b>0.9%</b>	53,207	265	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>-0.4</b>
<b>17</b>	57,083	1,248	<b>2.2%</b>	55,230	1,123	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
<b>18</b>	57,939	3,754	<b>6.5%</b>	56,668	3,593	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
<b>19</b>	55,802	7,834	<b>14.0%</b>	57,475	7,542	<b>13.1%</b>	<b>-0.9</b>
<b>All 16-19</b>	<b>226,375</b>	<b>13,312</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>222,580</b>	<b>12,523</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>-0.3</b>

Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding

## A5. Analysis of Equalities within the Snapshot

### A5.1 Gender

Table 13 shows the difference in headline participation classifications by gender between the 2015 and 2016 snapshot participation measures. The gender composition of the 16-19 year old participation measure cohort has remained relatively unchanged.

The percentage of both females and males participating has increased between 2015 and 2016 snapshot participation measures. The participation rate remains higher for females than males although the gap between the two has narrowed from 2.1 percentage points in 2015 to 1.5 in 2016.

Between 2015 and 2016 the percentage not participating has decreased for both females and males, with males retaining a higher percentage than females. The gap between the two has reduced from 1 percentage point to 0.7. The decrease in not participating is the result of a fall in percentage unemployed seeking which has outweighed the rise in the percentage unemployed not seeking. Between 2015 and 2016 the percentage of unconfirmed statuses has decreased for both females and males, with males retaining a higher percentage than females.

**Table 13: Participation Snapshot statuses broken down by gender**

Status Grouping	2015 Snapshot			2016 Snapshot			Change between 2015 and 2016 (pp)		
	Female	Male	16-19 year old Total	Female	Male	16-19 year old Total	Female	Male	16-19 year old Total
Total 16-19 Cohort	110,045 (48.6%)	116,322 (51.4%)	226,375	108,280 (48.6%)	114,285 (51.3%)	222,580			
<b>Participating</b>	<b>88.7%</b>	<b>86.6%</b>	<b>87.6%</b>	<b>89.4%</b>	<b>87.9%</b>	<b>88.6%</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Education	71.6%	62.7%	67.1%	70.6%	61.4%	65.9%	-1.0	-1.3	-1.2
Employment	15.0%	21.1%	18.1%	16.6%	23.5%	20.2%	1.6	2.4	2.1
Training & OD	2.1%	2.8%	2.5%	2.1%	3.0%	2.6%	0.0	0.2	0.1
<b>Not Participating</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-0.8</b>
U/E Seeking	3.8%	5.9%	4.9%	3.1%	4.8%	4.0%	-0.7	-1.1	-0.9
U/E Not seeking	2.2%	1.0%	1.6%	2.3%	1.3%	1.8%	0.1	0.3	0.2
<b>Status Unconfirmed</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.3</b>

Note: There are 15 individuals who have indicated they would not wish to disclose their gender. These individuals have been excluded from the above gender analysis. Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding

## A5.2 Ethnicity

Table 14 shows the difference in headline participation classifications by ethnicity between the 2015 and 2016 snapshot participation measures. The ethnicity composition of the 16-19 year old participation measure cohort has remained relatively unchanged between 2015 and 2016.

Both the ethnic minority group and non ethnic minority group have seen a percentage point increase in participation and a decrease in non participation. The ethnic minority group has a higher percentage participating than the non ethnic minority group in both 2015 and 2016 although this gap has narrowed from 3.9 percentage points to 3.2.

The percentage unemployed seeking remain larger in the non ethnic minority group than the ethnic minority group. Both groups have shown a decrease in those reported as unemployed seeking between 2015 and 2016.

**Table 14: Participation Snapshot statuses broken down by ethnicity**

Status Grouping	2015 Snapshot			2016 Snapshot			Change between 2015 and 2016 (pp)		
	Ethnic Minority <sup>1</sup>	Non Ethnic Minority <sup>2</sup>	Not Known / Did Not Disclose	Ethnic Minority	Non Ethnic Minority	Not Known / Did Not Disclose	Ethnic Minority	Non Ethnic Minority	Not Known / Did Not Disclose
Total 16-19 Cohort	9,628 (4.3%)	211,525 (93.4%)	5,222 (2.3%)	9,729 (4.4%)	207,029 (93.0%)	5,822 (2.6%)			
<b>Participating</b>	<b>91.4%</b>	<b>87.5%</b>	<b>87.6%</b>	<b>91.8%</b>	<b>88.6%</b>	<b>86.7%</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>-0.9</b>
Education	82.3%	66.2%	74.7%	81.4%	65.0%	70.3%	-0.9	-1.2	-4.4
Employment	7.7%	18.8%	10.2%	8.8%	20.9%	13.4%	1.1	2.1	3.2
Training & OD	1.4%	2.5%	2.7%	1.5%	2.6%	3.0%	0.1	0.1	0.3
<b>Not Participating</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>1.1</b>
U/E Seeking	2.8%	5.0%	3.7%	2.2%	4.1%	4.3%	-0.6	-0.9	0.6
U/E Not seeking	1.0%	1.6%	1.5%	1.0%	1.8%	2.0%	0.0	0.2	0.5
<b>Status Unconfirmed</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>

<sup>1</sup>The Ethnic Minority totals include young people from the following ethnic groups: Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Groups, Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British, African, Caribbean or Black and Other Ethnic Background

<sup>2</sup>The Ethnic Minority Non group totals includes young people from the following ethnic groups: White – Scottish, White – Other British, White – Irish, White – Polish, White – Gypsy/Traveller and White – Other

## A5.3 Disability

[Please refer to the statement in the first disability section of this publication.](#)



## **A6. Across Scotland analysis of the Participation Snapshot**

As part of the development work for the participation measure a number of options were considered to report participation at a local authority level. Following consultation a methodology was agreed that retains a link to the local authority where the individual was schooled for a set period of time before adopting the local authority based on where an individual lives. Further detail on the methodology is provided in the background notes.

In addition to local authority reporting we also present analysis based on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) which uses the postcode of individuals within the participation measure cohort.

### **A6.1 Local Authority**

There were 29 out of the 32 Local Authorities showing a percentage point increase in participation between 2015 and 2016. Only East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire and Inverclyde saw percentage point decreases in participation. There were percentage point decreases in non participation for 23 Local Authorities, and for unconfirmed statuses in 22 Local Authorities.

Table 16 provides additional data on those not participating or with an unconfirmed status by local authority area.

**Table 16: Participation Snapshot by Local Authority**

Local Authority	2015 Snapshot			2016 Snapshot			Percentage point change between 2015 and 2016		
	% Participation	% Non participation	% Unconfirmed status	% Participation	% Non participation	% Unconfirmed status	Participation	Non participation	Unconfirmed status
Aberdeen City	87.3%	5.0%	7.7%	87.9%	5.3%	6.8%	0.6	0.3	-0.9
Aberdeenshire	91.6%	3.5%	4.9%	92.1%	3.5%	4.4%	0.5	0.0	-0.5
Angus	89.7%	4.7%	5.7%	90.5%	5.6%	3.9%	0.8	0.9	-1.8
Argyll & Bute	91.9%	4.7%	3.4%	92.3%	4.9%	2.7%	0.4	0.2	-0.7
Clackmannanshire	83.6%	12.0%	4.4%	85.9%	12.4%	1.7%	2.3	0.4	-2.7
Dumfries & Galloway	87.3%	6.0%	6.7%	89.5%	5.0%	5.5%	2.2	-1.0	-1.2
Dundee City	84.7%	10.8%	4.5%	85.7%	9.6%	4.7%	1.0	-1.2	0.2
East Ayrshire	88.2%	6.1%	5.7%	85.7%	6.5%	7.8%	-2.5	0.4	2.1
East Dunbartonshire	93.6%	2.7%	3.7%	94.3%	2.7%	3.0%	0.7	0.0	-0.7
East Lothian	87.4%	6.2%	6.4%	90.8%	5.2%	4.0%	3.4	-1.0	-2.4
East Renfrewshire	94.5%	3.0%	2.5%	95.1%	2.6%	2.3%	0.6	-0.4	-0.2
Edinburgh City	87.7%	6.0%	6.4%	88.2%	5.7%	6.1%	0.5	-0.3	-0.3
Eilean Siar	94.0%	3.2%	2.8%	95.3%	2.2%	2.5%	1.3	-1.0	-0.3
Falkirk	87.1%	7.8%	5.0%	88.5%	6.6%	4.9%	1.4	-1.2	-0.1
Fife	85.0%	8.3%	6.8%	85.7%	7.7%	6.6%	0.7	-0.6	-0.2
Glasgow City	82.6%	9.1%	8.3%	84.4%	7.2%	8.3%	1.8	-1.9	0.0
Highland	91.6%	3.6%	4.8%	92.5%	3.4%	4.1%	0.9	-0.2	-0.7
Inverclyde	89.0%	7.3%	3.7%	88.7%	6.5%	4.8%	-0.3	-0.8	1.1
Midlothian	85.3%	6.9%	7.8%	89.9%	5.7%	4.4%	4.6	-1.2	-3.4
Moray	88.2%	5.3%	6.5%	88.6%	5.1%	6.3%	0.4	-0.2	-0.2
North Ayrshire	87.6%	6.3%	6.1%	86.9%	5.4%	7.7%	-0.7	-0.9	1.6
North Lanarkshire	85.9%	8.0%	6.1%	86.7%	6.4%	6.9%	0.8	-1.6	0.8
Orkney Islands	92.8%	3.8%	3.4%	93.9%	3.9%	2.3%	1.1	0.1	-1.1
Perth & Kinross	90.6%	4.4%	5.0%	91.5%	4.4%	4.2%	0.9	0.0	-0.8
Renfrewshire	87.7%	6.2%	6.1%	89.5%	4.9%	5.6%	1.8	-1.3	-0.5
Scottish Borders	89.2%	5.1%	5.6%	91.3%	4.6%	4.1%	2.1	-0.5	-1.5
Shetland Islands	95.1%	2.6%	2.4%	96.9%	2.2%	0.9%	1.8	-0.4	-1.5
South Ayrshire	88.6%	6.1%	5.3%	88.8%	5.6%	5.6%	0.2	-0.5	0.3
South Lanarkshire	87.2%	7.2%	5.7%	87.9%	5.5%	6.5%	0.7	-1.7	0.8
Stirling	90.1%	6.6%	3.3%	90.9%	5.9%	3.3%	0.8	-0.7	0.0
West Dunbartonshire	84.5%	9.7%	5.9%	85.5%	7.8%	6.7%	1.0	-1.9	0.8
West Lothian	86.5%	6.4%	7.0%	89.0%	5.9%	5.1%	2.5	-0.5	-1.9

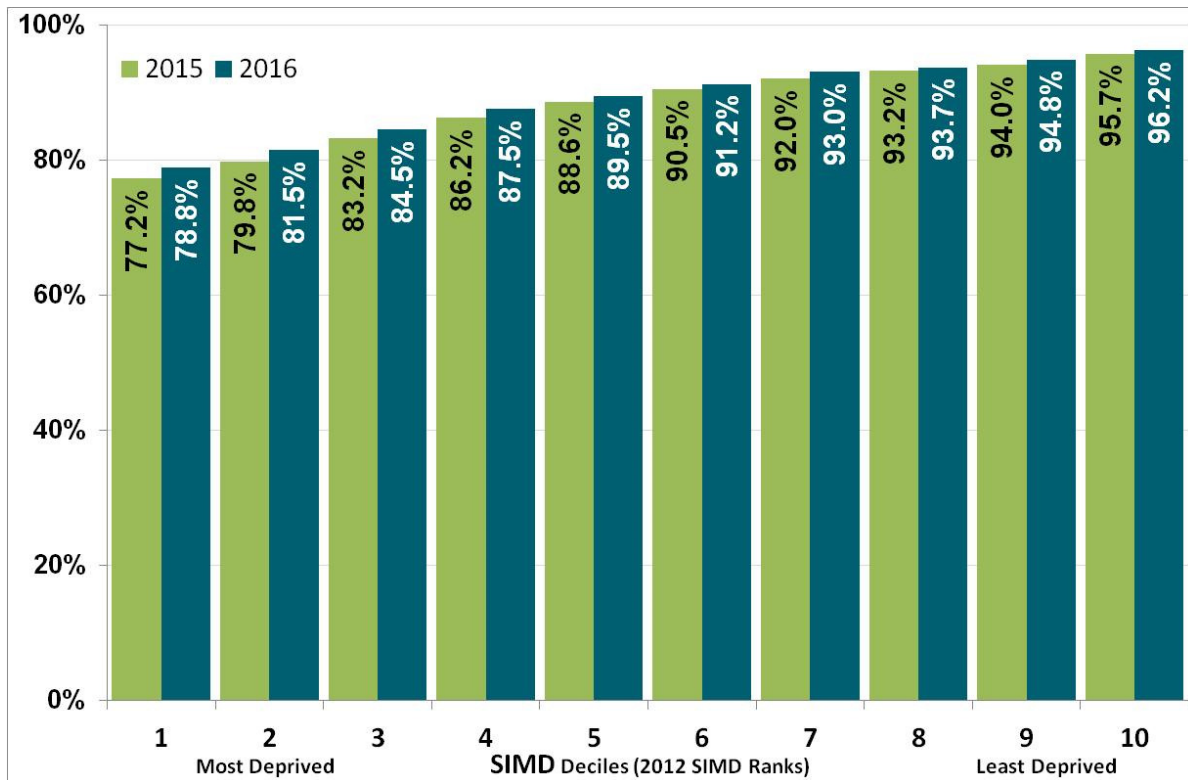
Note: Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding

## A6.2 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation in Snapshot (2012)

**Figure 2** shows the participation rates by SIMD deciles for 2015 and 2016. The overall increase in participation is reflected across all deciles, each showing an increase in participation rate.

As in 2015, participation has remained lower in the most deprived areas of Scotland compared to the least deprived. In 2015 the gap between participation in the most deprived decile (1) and the least deprived decile (10) was 18.5 percentage points; this has narrowed to 17.4 percentage points in 2016 and the two deciles witnessing the greatest percentage point increases in participation are SIMD 1 & 2.

**Figure 2: Participation Snapshot by SIMD Decile (2012)**



More information on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation can be found at:

<http://www.gov.scot/simd>

## Appendix 2: Notes to Readers

The statistics in this report are classed as “experimental statistics: data being developed” which are defined in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics as: 'new official statistics undergoing evaluation that are published in order to involve users and stakeholders in their development as a means to build in quality at an early stage'.

The reason for this publication being classed as experimental statistics is because they are based on a new and developing data source. As such time is required:

- (a) To receive informed feedback from users and potential users of the statistics
- (b) For users to become familiar with the new statistics and methodology.

A joint work stream between the Scottish Government and SDS oversaw the development work to define the participation measure.

The following notes outline the specific methodology used.

### a) Identification of the Annual Participation measure cohort

The participation measure cohort is based entirely on records held on the SDS customer support system (CSS). This is a shared data set to which partners contribute through data sharing arrangements. The following rules apply:

- i. **Age:** To be included in the annual measure the age of the individual on the last day of the period of interest must be between 16 and 19. The age used within the measure is the age of the customer on the last day of the period of interest i.e. 31st March.
- ii. **Primary Status Coverage:** to be included in the annual participation measure an individual must have status data covering the whole period of interest 1st April 2015 – 31st March 2016. Therefore, records created mid-year without a full status history for the year have been excluded from the measure.
- iii. **Excluded Statuses:** individuals who meet the above criteria but have moved out with Scotland or deceased status within the shared data set are excluded from the measure.

### b) Annual Participation Measure Calculation Methodology

- i. **Headline Classification:** The method used to calculate the annual participation measure is to assign each individual in the cohort with a headline classification of participating, not participating or unconfirmed. Each individual status available on the shared data set has been allocated to a headline classification, as outlined in (d) below. The annual headline classification for each person has been calculated by adding up all the days an individual spends in each status and the classification with the largest number of days has been assigned to the individual. Each individual's headline classification has then been used to calculate the proportion of individuals participating, not participating and unconfirmed.

- ii. **Status Grouping:** Once the annual headline classification has been calculated for each individual, the same methodology is used to calculate the status grouping. The status grouping for each person has been calculated by adding up all the days an individual spends in each status within the annual headline classification and the status grouping with the largest number of days has been assigned to the individual.
- iii. **Status:** The status for each person has been calculated by adding up all the days an individual spends in each status within the assigned status grouping and the status with the largest number of days has been assigned to the individual.

**c) Handling the scenario when no largest number of days exists**

There were a small number of instances where the highest sum of days could not be used as the sum of days was equal. The following rules used to identify the participation headline, group and status:

i. **Headline Classification:**

Where the highest sum of days between participating and unconfirmed was equal, the headline classification was recorded as unconfirmed.

Where the highest sum of days between not participating and unconfirmed was equal, the headline classification was recorded as not participating.

Where the highest sum of days was equal between participating and not participating, and the not participating sum was higher than unconfirmed then the headline classification was not participating else the headline classification was recorded as unconfirmed.

ii. **Status Grouping:**

Participating: where the highest sum of days was equal between two or more of the status groups, their final status grouping would be recorded using a hierarchy (1) Employment, (2) Education and (3) Training & Other Development.

Not Participating: where the highest sum of days was equal between the status groups, their final status grouping would be recorded using the hierarchy (1) Unemployed Seeking then (2) Unemployed not Seeking.

iii. **Status:**

Where more than one status had the same number of days within the same status grouping the most recent status was identified from the status records and this status would be reported.

**d) Handling Summer Transitions for those leaving school**

The period between 1<sup>st</sup> May and the first Monday in October was identified as a period of transition from school. Where an individual left school within this period and they transitioned from a school status to a participating status, the period between the date left school to the start of the new status was filled with a transition

status. When calculating participation classification and other subcategories these transition statuses are counted within the category being transitioned into.

**e) Handling individuals with gaps in their status history**

Where an individual had one or more statuses covering the whole year, then the sum of all the days should total 365 days. Where gaps existed in an individual's status history the deficit of days were counted as unconfirmed days until each individual had a total of 365 days. This action was required for only 0.8% of the cohort.

**f) Allocation of a local authority within the annual measure**

A number of options were considered to report participation at a local authority level and following consultation with the National Reference Group, whose members have responsibility to provide oversight for data governance of the shared data set, it was agreed to adopt the following reporting methodology.

For school pupils, we will report the local authority of the school for publicly funded secondary and special schools. For individuals attending residential schools the local authority of their home area is used.

For those who have left school we would continue to report the individual against the local authority of their school of leaving for a fixed period of time and thereafter the individual would be reported against the local authority linked to their postcode. If no postcode was available for mapping to a local authority, the SDS centre attached to the customer record would be used. All SDS centres are linked to local authority areas.

It was agreed that the link to the school of leaving would be retained for one year based on fixed points in the year. The change from reporting the local authority of the school to an individual's postcode would happen, as follows:

<b>School Leaving Date between:</b>	<b>Fixed Cohort Leave Date</b>	<b>Date Local Authority link changes from School to Postcode</b>
School census day to the 28 <sup>th</sup> February (Spring Term)	<b>1st January</b> (Prior to the start of the Spring Term)	1st January (12 months after the fixed leave date)
1st March (Spring Term) to the day before the census day	<b>1st June</b> (Within the Summer Term)	1st June (12 months after the fixed leave date)

## **g) Participation Measure Status Definitions**

### **Participating Classification**

#### **i. Education Group**

##### **School Pupil**

Relates to individuals reported on the roll of a local authority or grant-aided secondary or special school. It also includes young people who are receiving education through local authority purchased places at specialist provision, residential schools, those attending college or other providers but are on a school roll. In line with “Getting it Right for Every Child” (GIRFEC), the local authority should ensure each school maintains an accurate pupil roll. They should ensure their management information system is updated with information related to when a young person is planning to or has actually left school and this will be notified to SDS through regular data sharing.

##### **Higher Education**

Relates to individuals enrolled at a University, Higher Education Institution or College to follow a course of study at SCQF level 7 or above. This includes degree courses, courses for the education and training of teachers, higher level courses for professional qualification and Higher National Certificate / Diploma or equivalent. The individual could be enrolled on a Full-Time, Part-Time or distance learning basis.

##### **Further Education**

Those enrolled at college or other provider and studying below SCQF level 7, e.g. National Qualifications, Access courses, portfolio courses, portfolio preparation, pre-vocational courses and special programmes. The individual could be enrolled on a Full-Time, Part-Time or distance learning basis. Where an individual is attending college but they remain on the roll of a school, they will be recorded within the school pupil status.

#### **ii. Employment Group**

##### **Employment (full-time & part-time) and Self-Employment**

Covers all individuals who consider themselves to be employed through undertaking paid work. This is based on self classification adopted by the Labour Force Survey. Individuals will be considered to be working full-time if they undertake paid work 16 hours or more per week and part-time for under 16 hours per week.

Self Employed is defined as an individual who is earning a living by working independently of an employer, either freelance or by running their own business including anyone working as a professional athlete.



Included in the employment group are those who are undertaking an internship, where a young person has completed an agreed course and is working for a set period in an organisation to enhance their skills and knowledge through practical work experience and for which the young person should be paid.

### **Modern Apprenticeship**

Modern Apprenticeships (MAs) provide individuals with the opportunity to secure industry-recognised qualifications at a range of Vocational Qualification (VQ) levels while earning a wage. It relates to individuals undertaking a modern apprenticeship where there is a public funding contribution administered by SDS on behalf of the Scottish Government.

## **iii. Training and Other Development Group**

### **Employability Fund**

The Employability Fund aims to support activity that will help people to develop the skills needed to secure a job or progress to more advanced forms of training. The Employability Fund supports participants and activity that map to stages 2 to 4 of the Strategic Skills and employability pipeline (SSP).

### **Activity Agreements**

An Activity Agreement is an agreement between a young person and an advisor that the young person will take part in a programme of learning and activity which helps them to become ready for formal learning or employment. Activity Agreements provide individual learning provision in a community or third-sector setting for those young people who are not ready or able to access formal learning post-16.

An Activity Agreement status will only be recorded when a young person has agreed either verbally or in writing to the offer of an Activity Agreement. This is recorded by local authorities as “signed up”. Young people who are only at the referral stage should not be reported as participating in an Activity Agreement

### **Other Formal Training**

This includes those on a local authority or third sector funded training programme that have a formal attendance arrangement and trainees will be in receipt of a training allowance or grant. In addition, those receiving a scholarship or sponsorship to concentrate on vocational/sporting activity will be included here. This status would only include individuals who have a non-employed status but the individual is receiving external funding to participate in the activity. Community Jobs Scotland is also included within the category.

### **Personal/Skills Development**

This status is split into two different categories – PSD (Employability) and PSD (Social & Health):



### **PSD (Employability)**

Those who participate in activities with the aim of improving their employability. These formal programmes will often be delivered by community learning and development or third sector organisation. Also included is the Work Programme via DWP. The courses will have a structured attendance pattern.

### **PSD (Social & Health)**

Some young people may not be ready to enter the labour market and will require access to support from support services to make transitions into learning/ work or adulthood. This status relates to individuals who are undertaking structured opportunities appropriate to their long term needs or to address their barriers to participation. It includes those whose entry to opportunities will have been planned through the transition planning process and take account of the strengths, abilities, wishes and needs of the young person as well as identification of relevant support strategies which may be required. In addition, it includes individuals who are facing barriers to participation and are participating in “structured” support for the removal of barriers prior to concentrating on employability.

**Note:** Within the context of Opportunities for All, all participation is positive; therefore the Personal Skills Development (Social & Health) are regarded as participating whereas traditionally this participation is reported as unemployed not seeking category within school leaver destination statistics.

### **Voluntary Work**

Undertaking voluntary work/volunteering, this will involve a young person giving of his/her time and energy through a third party. It will benefit both the young person and others, including individuals, groups and organisations, communities, the environment and society at large. Some volunteering may include a financial allowance. Work experience that is not organised via a formal training programme and un-paid work would also be recorded here.

### **Not Participating Classification**

#### **iv. Unemployed and seeking employment or training:**

This refers to young people who SDS is aware of who are actively seeking employment/training. This includes those receiving support from SDS, DWP and other OfA partners. It is based on regular contact between the supporting organisation and the individual and will also include young people who are at the referral stage for an activity agreement and have not yet agreed either verbally or in writing to the offer of an activity agreement.

If there has been no contact between the individual and SDS within an 8 week period or if SDS has been unable to confirm with the OfA partner that the individual is still being supported, their status will be updated to “status unconfirmed”

However, through formal data sharing, SDS is notified by DWP of individuals aged 18/19 years old who are in receipt of benefits that require the individual to be

actively seeking employment or training. The unemployed seeking status will remain valid until SDS is notified by DWP that the individual is no longer in receipt of benefit. At this point the individual's status will be updated to "status unconfirmed."

**v. Unemployed and not seeking employment or training**

Includes individuals who are **not seeking employment or training** for a range of reasons. This is split into three main headings:

**Economically Inactive** – the primary reason for an individual not being in a position to participate includes young people with caring responsibilities, pregnancy, those with a short term illness, those who are choosing not to participate, those who due to their complex needs or personal circumstances are not in a position to participate and those who are taking time out to travel.

**Unavailable - ill health** – those young people who are unavailable to participate due to a longer term illness.

**Custody** - Young people on remand or in custodial care.

**Unconfirmed Classification**

Individuals with an unconfirmed status refers to those 16-19 year olds who have an individual record within the participation measure but despite multi partner data sharing and attempted tracking by SDS and their partners, it was not possible to identify an up to date status for reporting.

SDS has developed revised procedures for following up customers as part of their service delivery. These procedures will include attempted contact with those 16-19 year olds with an unconfirmed status.

SDS continues to work with partners to further enhance service delivery through multi-partner data sharing and it is anticipated this work will also help to decrease the number of customers with an unconfirmed status.

Furthermore, the Scottish Government are leading on a longer term data linkage project to match customer datasets in Scotland with information from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and this may yield benefits in reducing the number of unconfirmed statuses.

**CSS Statuses excluded from the measure**

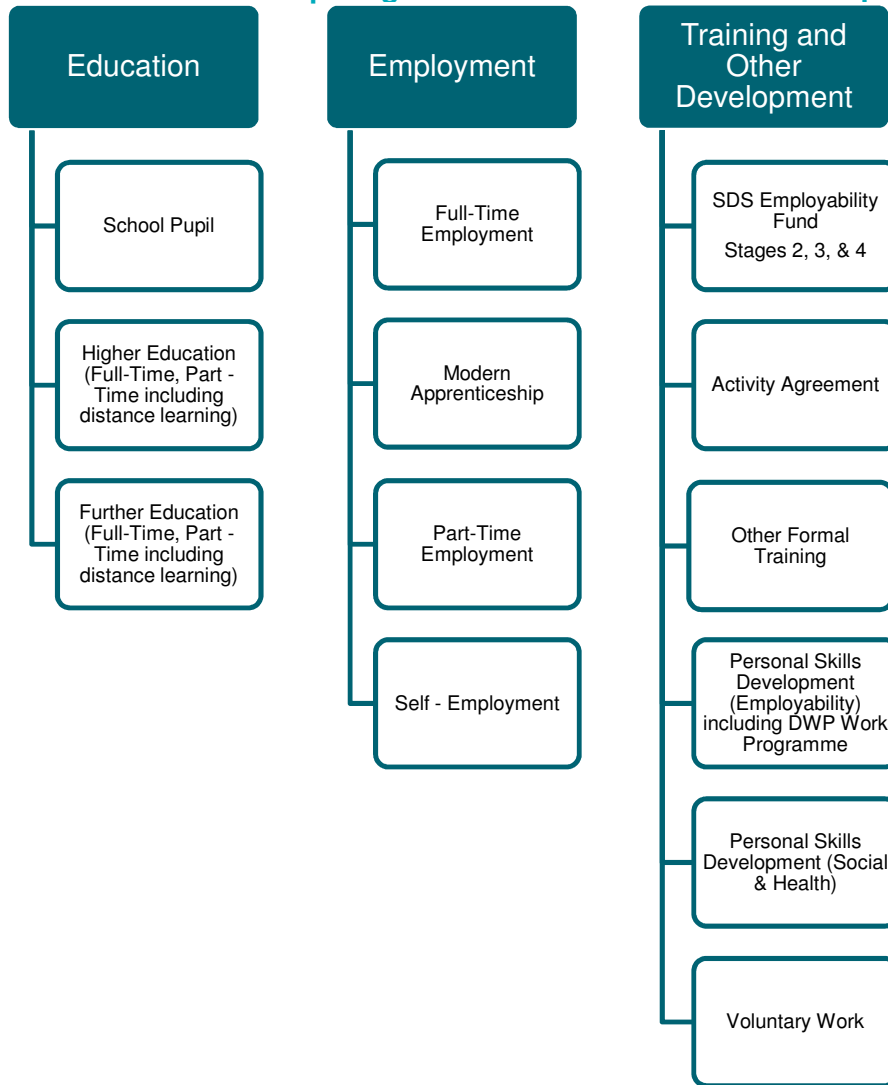
**Moved out with Scotland**

Where SDS has been notified the young person has left Scotland on a permanent basis. However, those who are ordinarily resident in Scotland and are supported by SAAS to study outwith Scotland will be recorded within Higher Education.

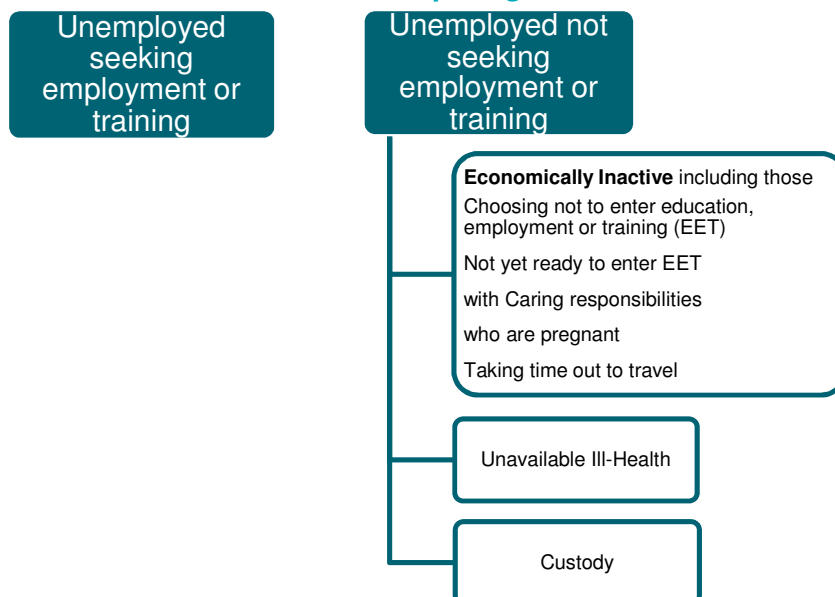
**Deceased**

Where SDS has been notified the young person has passed away.

### Statutes allocated to the “Participating” Classification and Status Grouping



### Statutes allocated to the “Not Participating” Classification and Status Grouping



## h) Coverage of the annual participation measure

The [National Records of Scotland](#) estimate the population of 16-19 year olds in Scotland, at the 2015 mid-point, was 247,393. This population estimate, published on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016, is based on the 2011 Census being updated annually by 'ageing on' the population and applying information on births, deaths and migration.

There are **222,580** individuals reported within the annual participation measure. This represents approximately 90% of the 16-19 year old population having a record within the shared dataset. Hence the measure does not report on the entire population because the shared dataset does not hold records of those:

- Attending independent schools or being home schooled
- Self-funding at University
- Living in Scotland but with no record of publicly funded schooling or post school education in Scotland and not registered with SDS.

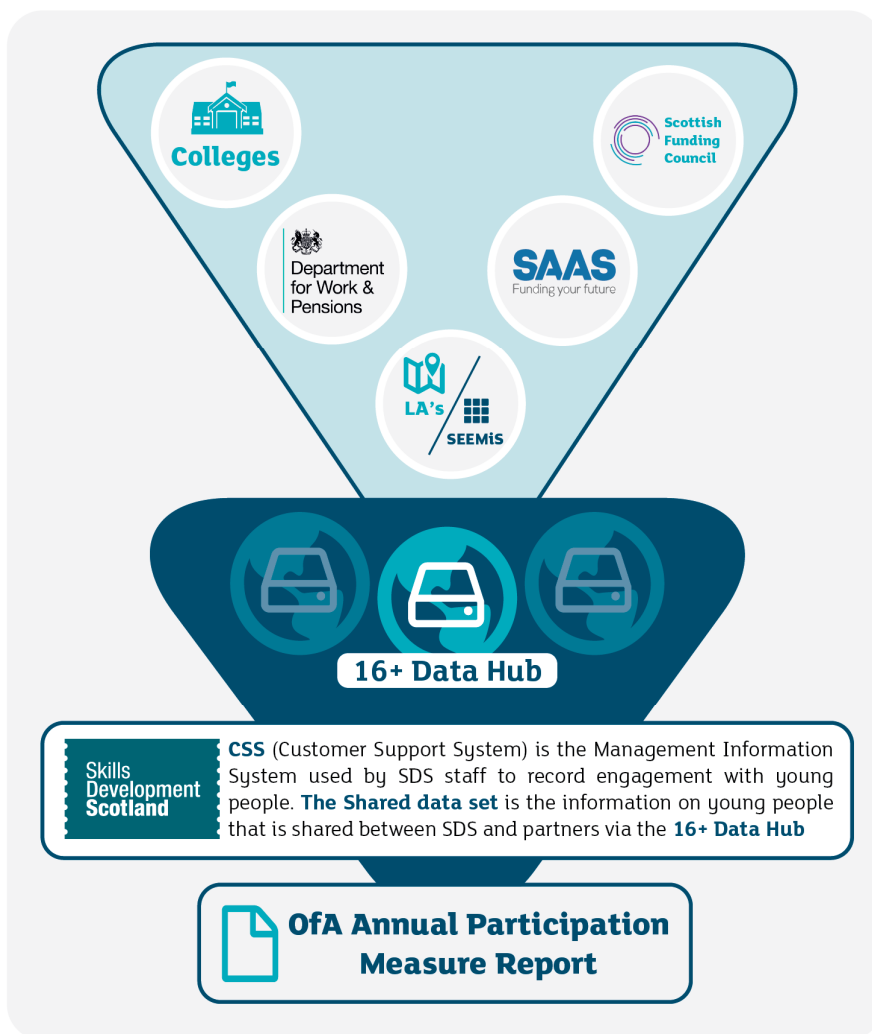
## i) Record creation on CSS

The primary source of information to create individual records on CSS is local authority education (schools) data. This is received as part of the annual school pupil census for publicly funded schools and through ongoing sharing of local authority data. In addition, new records will be created by SDS staff as a result of direct contact with individuals or their representatives. For example an individual who moved to Scotland following compulsory schooling elsewhere and have received careers information, advice and guidance support from SDS.

## j) Recording and updating statuses on CSS

The participation measure is based on a shared data set which is updated through multi partner data sharing and direct data input by SDS staff, as a result of contact with individuals, their parents/representatives or organisations an individual is engaging with. Each organisation that shares data is responsible for the quality of the data held in their system. However, SDS also uses an additional set of validation and business rules to govern the creation of new statuses from partner data.

The table that follows outlines the current sources of data that contribute to the shared data source and what statuses are created:



<b>Data Supplier</b>	<b>Primary or secondary statuses which could be created on CSS</b>
Local Authority	<p><b>a)</b> Creation and update of school pupil statuses for those at publicly funded schools based on the annual school pupil census returns prepared by each local authority.</p> <p><b>b)</b> Ongoing update and creation of school pupil and post school statuses created by school staff.</p>
Scottish Colleges	<p><b>a)</b> A student enrolment at Scotland's Colleges creates or updates Further Education (FE) or Higher Education (HE) statuses.</p> <p><b>b)</b> Withdrawals from FE and HE courses creates an unconfirmed status (unknown)</p>
Student Awards Agency Scotland	<p><b>a)</b> A student enrolment via SAAS creates or updates Higher Education statuses.</p> <p><b>b)</b> Withdrawals from HE courses creates an unconfirmed status (unknown)</p>
Department for Work and Pensions	Unemployed Seeking statuses created for those in the 18/19 year old age group

<p>SDS Corporate Training System</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants on Employability Fund Stage 2, 3 or 4</li> <li>• Participants on Modern Apprenticeships</li> <li>• Participants on other specific programmes</li> <li>• National Training Programme leaver information used to update post programme statuses.</li> </ul>
<p>Scottish Funding Council (College Leaver Survey)</p>	<p>Variety of statuses created for college leavers as a result of data gathered through the annual SFC college destination survey.</p>

In addition to the electronic data sharing processes between partners, there is sharing of information at an operational level as part of working practice within local Opportunities for All partnerships. An example is that the local authority is responsible for sharing information locally about young people commencing and leaving Activity Agreements.

One of the key issues identified during the work of the joint work stream was CSS does not yet have a complete set of shared data from all desired partners and therefore the combined data set held on CSS is incomplete. The most important missing individual level data feed is on young people who are in employment. Discussions, led by the Scottish Government with Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs to support the development of the participation measure, are ongoing.

**k) Comparability to other published statistics**

The detail outlined in note (e) provides the background to statuses recorded in the shared data set. As the annual participation measure is “experimental statistics: data being developed” results should be treated with a degree of caution. Similarly, caution should be exercised when making comparison to published data on specific topics such as Higher Education participation, the Modern Apprenticeship programme or unemployment rates. Other published statistics may use differing methodologies and timings and are therefore not directly comparable. SDS statistics on the MA programme can be viewed at <http://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/statistics/modern-apprenticeships/>

**l) Snapshot methodology**

The participation snapshot methodology reports on the primary status of 16-19 year olds with a record held on the shared CSS data set. The reporting day used for this report is 4<sup>th</sup> April 2016. The snapshot only uses the actual status on the reporting day and does not take account of any future or past statuses recorded for an individual. The snapshot will not report deferred Higher Education (HE) as HE. This differs from school leaver destinations which also adopts a snapshot methodology.