

School Leaver Destination Report

2009 – 2010

Aberdeen City Council

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Background

The School Leaver Destination Return (SLDR) is a statistical return undertaken by Skills Development Scotland (SDS) on behalf of the Scottish Government. The Return is based on a follow up of young people who left school between the 1st August 2009 and the 31st July 2010. This exercise was carried out during the month of September 2010.

The Scottish Government use the data produced from the Return to report against the National Indicator and target, "increase the proportion of school leavers (from Scottish publicly funded schools) in positive and sustained destinations (FE, HE, employment or training)". Partners, particularly Local Authorities, use the data to inform initiatives developed as part of the More Choices More Chances Strategy, to evidence the success of initiatives, measure progress against targets, and to identify areas to target resources to improve the post school outcomes for young people.

Methodology

The return is carried out during the month of September with staff across Skills Development Scotland following up over 55,000 school leavers. Destinations are confirmed throughout the follow up period and the destination that is reported is the destination that is known at the snapshot date. This year, we reported the information as known to us on 2nd October 2010. Destinations of young people are fluid in nature, therefore, it is possible that a leaver entered employment or training on leaving school but by the time the snapshot was taken this destination may have changed to another destination.

The information that is gathered is recorded within the SDS CMS system (Insight) which enables us to produce MIS reports and populate the data fields to be sent to the Government. This data is transferred at an individual level and undergoes a matching & validation process until a cohort is agreed. This allows the government's analytical services unit to match the client's individual outcome with other indicators such as social economic background, additional support needs and stage of leaving, etc. All information in this report, however, is based upon data held within the SDS Insight database which has been analysed to produce the graphs and tables contained within this report.

Analysis

Only leavers from publicly funded secondary schools are within the scope of the SLDR. This report relates to **1,772** leavers from publicly funded secondary schools. This relates to approximately a **2.0%** increase in the number of leavers reported in the SLDR in 2008-09.

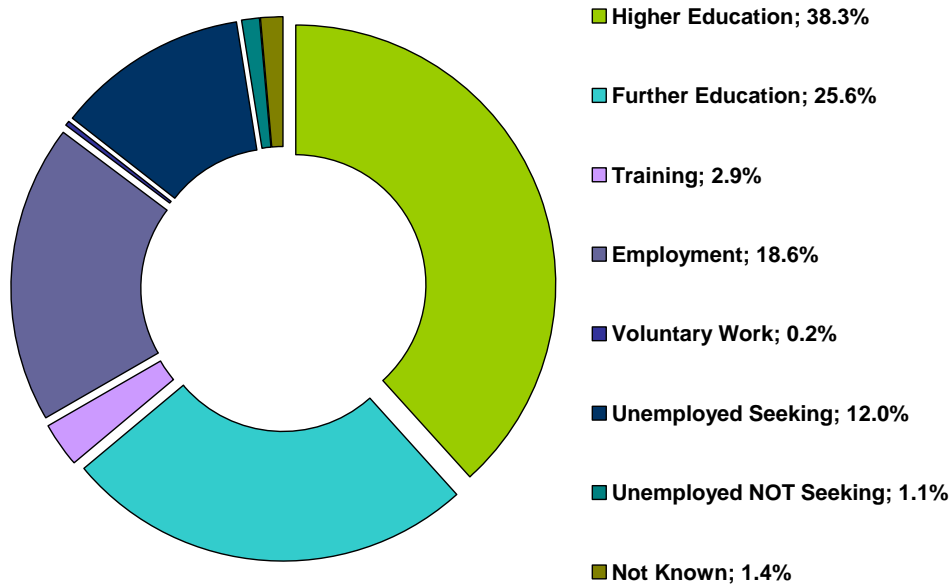
Section 1: Overview – Main Findings

- Overall the percentage of leavers entering a positive destinationⁱ is **85.6%**, a rise of **2.9%** on last year. This rise was the sixth highest in Scotland, which has resulted in the authority moving from the 27th highest level of positive destinations to the 24th.
- The proportion of leavers entering further and higher education increased this year to **63.9%**, a rise of **2.5%** compared to last year. The percentage of leavers entering higher education has increased by **1.2%** in comparison to last year to **38.3%**, higher than the Scottish level of **35.7%**. This has resulted in the authority moving from the 9th highest level of leavers entering higher education in Scotland to 8th.
- The percentage of leavers entering further education has also increased since last year to **25.6%** which is just below the Scottish level.
- The percentage of leavers entering employment has remained the same as last year at **18.6%**, and remains at the lowest level in a decade.
- The percentage entering training has increased by **0.3%** from last year to **2.9%**, the 22nd highest level in Scotland.

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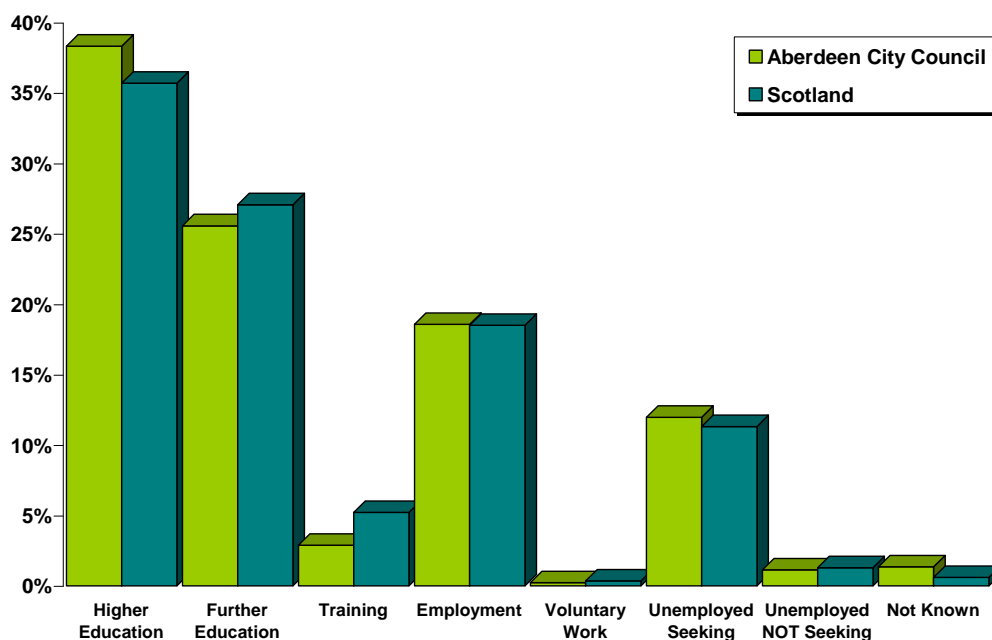
- The percentage of leavers who are unemployed seeking has decreased to **12.0%** from **12.6%**, slightly higher than the national level of **11.3%**.
- School leavers whose destination is unknown to SDS has fallen to its lowest recorded level at **1.4%**.

Table 1: Destination Totals



Area	Total Leavers	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed NOT Seeking	Not Known
Aberdeen City Council	1,772	38.3% 679	25.6% 453	2.9% 51	18.6% 329	0.2% 4	12.0% 212	1.1% 20	1.4% 24
Scotland	54,097	35.7% 19,309	27.1% 14,637	5.2% 2,822	18.5% 10,005	0.3% 187	11.3% 6,117	1.3% 696	0.6% 324

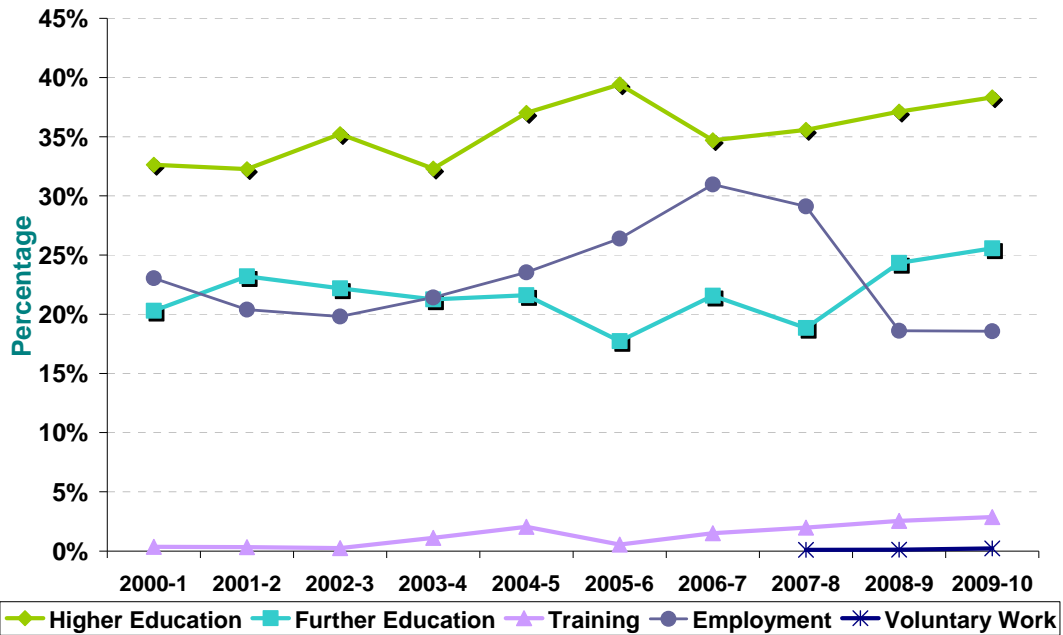
Table 2: Local Authority Comparison to Scotland



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Section 1.1 - Annual Trends

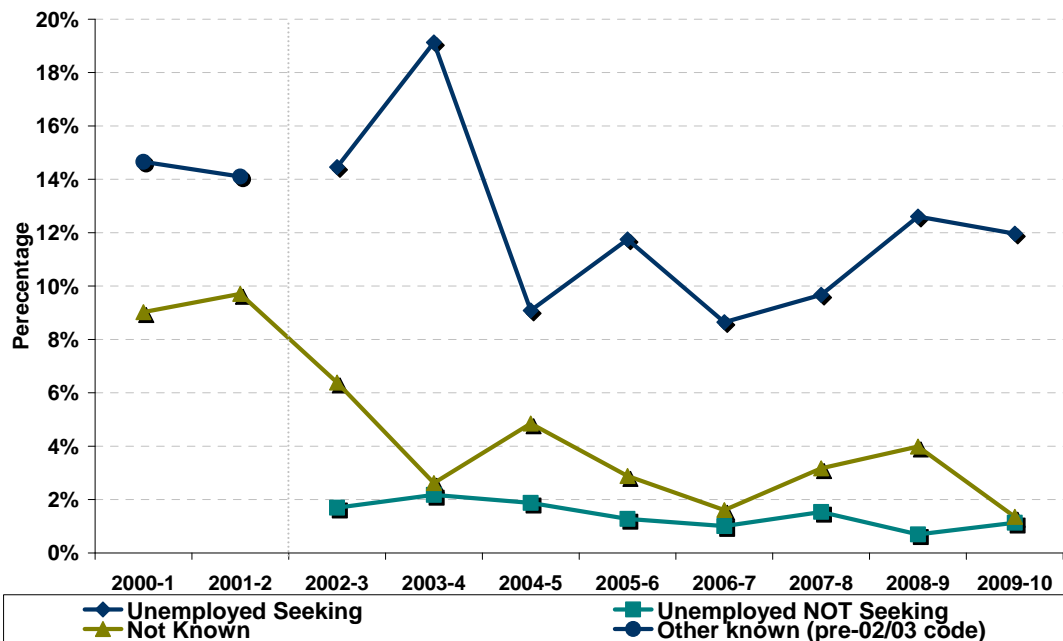
Table 3: Trends 2000 – 2010 of Positive Destinations



Note: Voluntary Work has been included as a separate destination category since the 2007-08 SLDR return but was reported within the unemployed not seeking category previously.

The percentage of leavers entering higher education is more than **5%** higher than 10 years ago. The proportion of leavers entering further education has also been rising year on year since 2007-08 and this is also at its highest level in a decade. In comparison, there has been a dramatic fall in the percentage of leavers entering employment since 2006-07 from **31%** to **18.6%**. However, the percentage entering training is at its highest level in a decade at **2.9%**.

Table 4: Trends 2000 – 2010 of Other Destinations



The proportion of leavers reported as unemployed seeking dropped dramatically in 2004-05 but has been rising year on year since 2006-07. It has now fallen and sits at a similar level to 2005-06 at **12.0%**. The percentage of leavers unknown had been rising from a low of **1.6%** in 2006-07 but this year it has fallen to the lowest level ever at **1.4%**.

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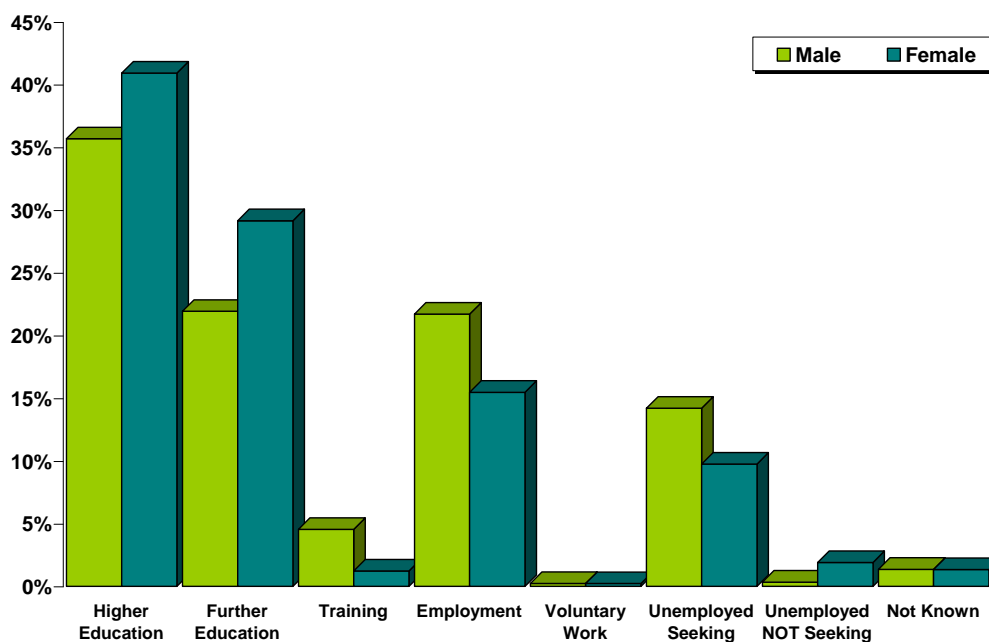
Table 5: Destinations from 2000 to 2010

Year	Total Leavers	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed NOT Seeking	Not Known	Other Known
2000-1	2,005	32.6%	20.3%	0.3%	23.0%				9.0%	14.7%
2001-2	2,133	32.3%	23.2%	0.3%	20.4%				9.7%	14.1%
2002-3	2,005	35.2%	22.2%	0.2%	19.8%		14.5%	1.7%	6.4%	
2003-4	1,793	32.3%	21.2%	1.1%	21.4%		19.1%	2.2%	2.6%	
2004-5	1,916	37.0%	21.6%	2.0%	23.5%		9.1%	1.9%	4.9%	
2005-6	1,804	39.4%	17.7%	0.6%	26.4%		11.8%	1.3%	2.9%	
2006-7	1,989	34.7%	21.6%	1.5%	31.0%		8.6%	1.0%	1.6%	
2007-8	2,016	35.6%	18.8%	2.0%	29.1%	0.1%	9.7%	1.5%	3.2%	
2008-9	1,730	37.1%	24.3%	2.5%	18.6%	0.1%	12.6%	0.7%	4.0%	
2009-10	1,772	38.3%	25.6%	2.9%	18.6%	0.2%	12.0%	1.1%	1.4%	

Note: Prior to 2002-03 both the unemployed seeking and unemployed not seeking categories were reported in a separate category called Other Known. This is reflected in the table and graph above.

Section 1.2: Client Characteristics

Table 6: Destination split by Gender



Year	Total Leavers	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed NOT Seeking	Not Known
Male	880	35.7%	21.9%	4.5%	21.7%	0.2%	14.2%	0.3%	1.4%
Female	892	40.9%	29.1%	1.2%	15.5%	0.2%	9.8%	1.9%	1.3%

Female leavers (**87%**) are more likely than male leavers (**84.1%**) to enter positive destinations on leaving school. The proportion of female leavers who continue their education in either higher or further education is **12.4%** higher than that for males, **70%** compared to **57.6%**. The percentage of males entering employment and training (**26.2%**) is **9.5%** higher than that for females (**16.7%**). Males are more likely to become unemployed and seeking than females with over **59%** of leavers reported as unemployed seeking being male.

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Table 7: Gender split within each destination

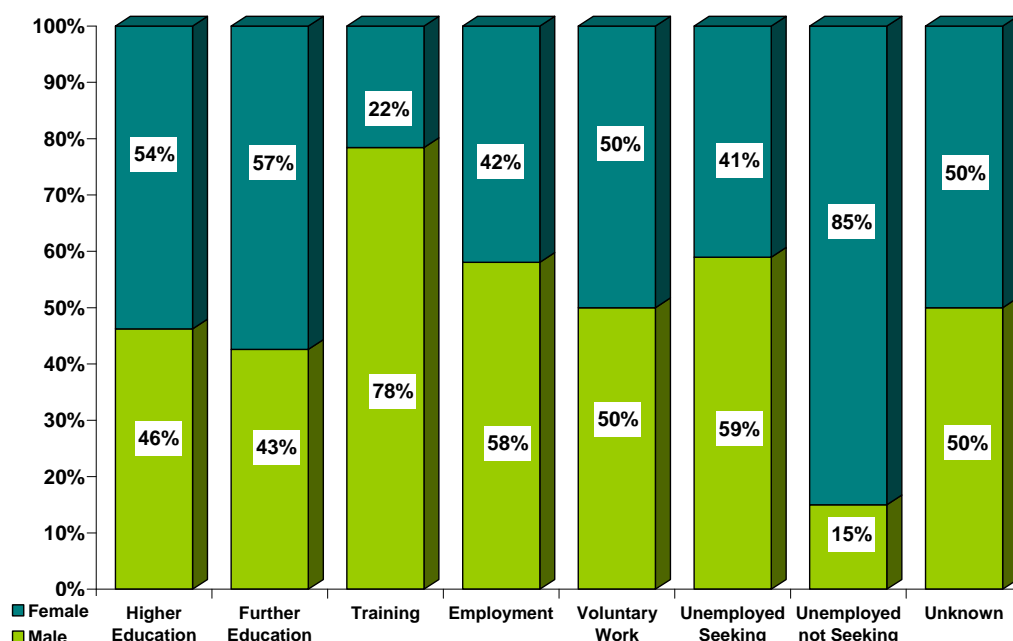


Table 8: Destination by SIMD

SIMD Decile ⁱⁱ	Most Deprived → Least Deprived									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Higher Education	8%	11%	14%	19%	22%	48%	36%	44%	46%	66%
Further Education	41%	33%	36%	22%	35%	25%	24%	28%	24%	14%
Training	*	7%	7%	6%	*	*	*	*	*	*
Employment	18%	19%	23%	33%	22%	15%	22%	15%	17%	14%
Voluntary Work	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Unemployed Seeking	17%	25%	17%	17%	17%	8%	14%	11%	9%	4%
U/E Not Seeking	6%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Unknown	8%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Positive Destinations	69%	70%	80%	81%	82%	92%	84%	87%	91%	95%
Total	120	134	214	93	143	84	135	126	235	488
% of Total Leavers	7%	8%	12%	5%	8%	5%	8%	7%	13%	28%

Percentages based on 5 or less have been suppressed due to disclosure reasons.

- As you move across the SIMD areas there is a marked difference in the proportion of leavers entering positive destinations.
- Leavers who live in the least deprived areas are more likely to enter Higher Education in comparison to leavers who live in the most deprived areas. The proportion of leavers entering higher education from the least deprived area (**66%**) is approximately eight times the proportion for leavers from the most deprived areas (**8%**). The proportion of leavers entering higher education gradually rises as you move from the most deprived areas to the least deprived
- The majority of leavers from all SIMD Decile areas enter higher or further education.
- Across the SIMD areas there is a marked difference in the proportion of leavers being unemployed seeking from SIMD 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 compared to all other SIMD areas.

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Table 9: Destination by Stage Left School.

Stage of Leaving ⁱⁱⁱ Destination	Statutory Summer Leaver	Statutory Winter Leaver	Post Statutory Leaver
Higher Education	*	*	53%
Further Education	48%	20%	20%
Training	6%	8%	2%
Employment	20%	36%	16%
Voluntary Work	*	*	*
Unemployed Seeking	23%	26%	7%
Unemployed Not Seeking	1%	3%	1%
Unknown	1%	4%	1%
Positive Destinations	74%	67%	91%
Total Leavers	345	166	1,261
% of Total Leavers	19%	9%	71%

- It can be noted that the majority of school pupils choose to remain at school past their statutory leave date and this has an impact on their positive progression from school. Leavers who stay on past their statutory leave date are more likely to progress to positive outcomes on leaving school with the majority entering higher education.
- Statutory winter leavers are less likely to enter positive destinations and the highest proportion are reported as being in employment or unemployed seeking. Statutory winter leavers are almost four times as likely to be reported as unemployed seeking than a post statutory leaver.
- The highest proportions of statutory summer leavers enter further education with unemployed seeking being the 2nd highest proportion.

Section 2: Positive Destinations

Section 2.1 Higher and Further Education

Higher Education (HE): This category 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. **17** young people with a deferred, unconditional place in higher education for next year have also been included in this year's figures.

Further Education (FE): This category includes leavers undertaking non advanced further education which is not higher education.

From those reported in the SLDR, **679** leavers entered Higher Education and **453** entered Further Education. Detailed analysis can be provided on **98.1% (1,111)** of this cohort for whom we hold information on institution and course chosen – Higher Education **99% (672)** & Further Education **96.9% (439)**.

Table 10: HE Entrants by Institution Type

Institution Type	Total	%
University / HE College	448	67%
FE College	199	30%
Other ¹	25	4%

¹ Other Category includes institutions out with Scotland and other private institutions

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Table 11: HE Students by Institution

Institution^{iv}	Total	%	Institution	Total	%
The Robert Gordon University	161	24%	Abertay University Dundee	10	1%
Aberdeen University	141	21%	Glasgow Caledonian University	7	1%
Glasgow University	29	4%	Napier University	7	1%
Edinburgh University	24	4%	St Andrews University	6	1%
Strathclyde University	20	3%	Queen Margaret University	5	1%
Dundee University	16	2%	Other Institutions	9	1%
Heriot Watt University	13	2%	Out with Scotland	25	4%

Institutions with less than 5 leavers are included in "Other Institutions" in the table above.

Table 12: HE Students by FE Colleges

Institution	Total	%	Institution	Total	%
Aberdeen College	191	28%	Other Institutions	8	1%

Institutions with less than 5 leavers are included in "Other Institutions" in the table above.

Table 13: FE Students by FE Colleges

Institution	Total	%	Institution	Total	%
Aberdeen College	433	99%	Other Institutions	6	1%

Institutions with less than 5 leavers are included in "Other Institutions" in the table above.

It can be noted from tables 11, 12 & 13 that the majority of leavers who continue their studies post school, chose to attend local institutions.

Table 14: Higher Education Course Information

Course Area	Total	%	Course Area	Total	%
Engineering	94	14%	Law	28	4%
Science & Mathematics	83	12%	Construction	27	4%
Arts & Social Sciences	70	10%	Communications & Media	26	4%
Administration & Management	54	8%	Teaching	21	3%
Health & Medicine	48	7%	Finance	18	3%
Art and Design	41	6%	Social, Caring & Advisory Services	17	3%
Hospitality, Catering & Tourism	33	5%	Animals, Land & Environment	8	1%
Computing & ICT	32	5%	Languages	6	1%
Performing Arts	31	5%	Other Course area	6	1%
Sport, Leisure & Sport Science	29	4%			

Table 15: Further Education Course Information

Course Area	Total	%	Course Area	Total	%
Hairdressing & Beauty	52	12%	Construction	22	5%
Engineering	41	9%	Garage Services	19	4%
Administration & Management	38	9%	Arts & Social Sciences	18	4%
Social, Caring & Advisory Services	34	8%	Hospitality, Catering & Tourism	15	3%
Art and Design	30	7%	Animals, Land & Environment	13	3%
Personal Dev. & Prep Courses	28	6%	Performing Arts	11	3%
Health & Medicine	26	6%	Communications & Media	7	2%
Sport, Leisure & Sport Science	26	6%	Science & Mathematics	7	2%
Computing & ICT	25	6%	Other Course areas	2	1%
General Education (Highers, etc)	25	6%			

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This is the 3rd year that SDS has gathered fuller data, across Scotland, about the course areas entered by school leavers. It shows that Engineering, Science and Mathematics, and Arts & Social Science based subjects are the most popular for those entering higher education.

Within further education, leavers studying vocational subjects such as Hairdressing & Beauty, Engineering, Administration & Management and Social, Caring and Advisory Services are the most popular choices.

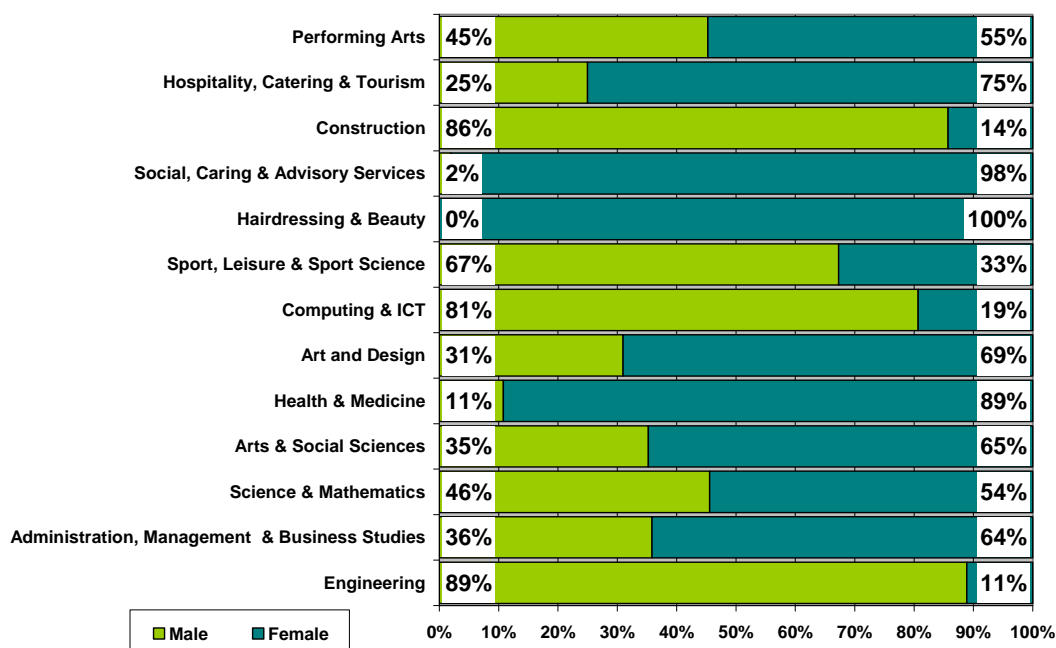
Table 16: Course Information by Gender

Course Area	Male		Female	
	Total	%	Total	%
Engineering	120	24%	15	2%
Administration & Management	33	7%	59	10%
Science & Mathematics	41	8%	49	8%
Arts & Social Sciences	31	6%	57	9%
Health & Medicine	8	2%	66	11%
Art and Design	22	4%	49	8%
Computing & ICT	46	9%	11	2%
Sport, Leisure & Sport Science	37	7%	18	3%
Hairdressing & Beauty	*	*	54	9%
Social, Caring & Advisory Services	*	*	50	8%
Construction	42	8%	7	1%
Hospitality, Catering & Tourism	12	2%	36	6%
Performing Arts	19	4%	23	4%
Communications & Media	17	3%	16	3%
Law	11	2%	18	3%
Personal Dev. & Prep Courses	14	3%	14	2%
General Education (Highers, etc)	8	2%	17	3%
Animals, Land & Environment	5	1%	16	3%
Teaching	*	1%	18	3%
Finance	11	2%	8	1%
Garage Services	17	3%	*	*
Other	*	*	5	1%
Sales & Marketing	*	*	*	*
Transport & Distribution	*	*	*	*

*Courses with less than 5 leavers have been suppressed

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Table 17: Gender split within the course areas in both FE/HE



The gender split remains consistent with last year. The top three course areas for male leavers remain Engineering, Computing and ICT and Construction. In comparison female leavers have opted to enter subjects in Health and Medicine, Administration, Management & Business Studies and Arts & Social Sciences. The most popular area for all leavers is engineering with the majority of entrants being male (89%).

Section 2.2: Employment

Employment: This category includes those who are employed and who are in receipt of payment from their employers. It includes young people undertaking training in employment through Skillseekers and Modern Apprenticeships. 325 young people entered employment and analysis can be provided on all of those entering employment for whom we hold information about the occupational area entered.

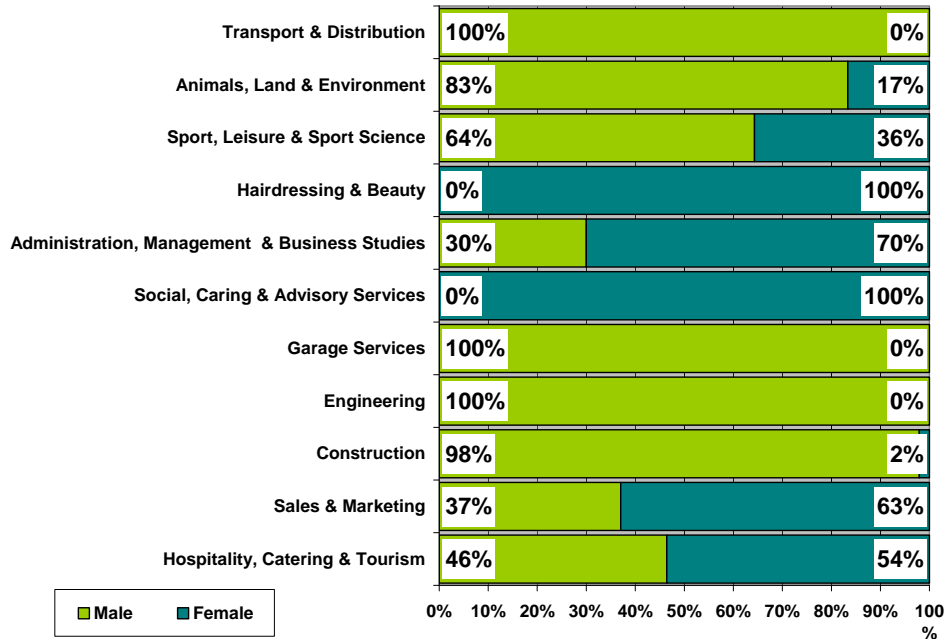
Table 18: Those entering Employment by Occupational Area

Occupational Area	Male		Female	
	Total	%	Total	%
Hospitality, Catering & Tourism	26	14%	30	22%
Sales & Marketing	20	10%	34	25%
Construction	47	25%	*	*
Engineering	35	18%	*	*
Garage Services	28	15%	*	*
Social, Caring & Advisory Services	*	*	27	20%
Administration & Management	6	*	14	10%
Hairdressing & Beauty	*	*	16	12%
Sport, Leisure & Sport Science	9	*	5	4%
Animals, Land & Environment	5	3%	*	*
Transport & Distribution	6	3%	*	*
Security & Protective Services	5	3%	*	*
Health & Medicine	*	*	*	*
Finance	*	*	*	*
Manufacturing	*	*	*	*
Performing Arts	*	*	*	*

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*Occupational areas with less than 5 leavers have been suppressed

Table 19: Gender split within the top employment areas



The most popular area of employment entered by school leavers has now changed. Last year Construction (22%) was the most popular area to work in. In 2009-10 Hospitality, Catering & Tourism and Sales & Marketing were the most popular. The majority of males enter Construction with 25% of male leavers gaining employment in this occupational area which is a drop of 10% on last year's level. The 3 most popular occupational areas with female leavers are Sales & Marketing, Hospitality, Catering & Tourism and Social, Caring & Advisory services with 68% entering these areas.

Section 3: Other Destinations

School leavers who do not achieve a positive destination on leaving school are known as the MCMC group and are key customers for Skills Development Scotland and our partner organisations. The SLDR is a snapshot in time and should only be used as an indicator.

Unemployed and seeking employment or training: This category includes those who are in contact with SDS and are known by them to be seeking employment or training. This is based on regular contact between SDS and the client. This does not refer to the definition of 'unemployed' used by the Benefits Agency to calculate published unemployment rates. In 2009-10 it also included those individuals undertaking personal skills development^v. There was **1** leaver who was in this status.

Unemployed and not seeking employment or training: This category includes all those individuals who are not seeking employment or training for a range of reasons. These individual circumstances may involve sickness, prison, pregnancy, caring for children or other dependents or taking time out.

Section 3.1 Unemployed Seeking

The table provides a comparison of the percentage of unemployed seeking clients with specific characteristics as opposed to the rate of the full SLDR cohort.

Table 20: Client Characteristics

Characteristics		% of Full SLDR	% of Unemployed Seeking
Gender			
Male		50%	59%
Female		50%	41%
Stage Left School			
Statutory Summer Leaver		19%	38%
Statutory Winter Leaver		9%	20%
Post Statutory Leaver		71%	42%
Qualifications on Leaving School^{vi}			
Access 1 / No formal Qualifications		0%	0%
Access 2&3/Foundation Stand. Grade		2%	7%
General Standard Grade/ Intermediate1		20%	47%
Credit Standard Grade/ Intermediate 2		28%	27%
Highers/Advanced Higher		46%	12%
Unknown		3%	7%
Health And Additional Support Needs			
Looked After at Home/ Looked after away from home ^{vii}		3%	11%
Additional Support Plan Recorded ^{viii}		6%	15%
Health Factor/Additional Support Need Identified ^{ix}		9%	22%
SIMD Decile Ranking /Deprivation (SIMD 2009)			
Most deprived	1	7%	9%
	2	8%	16%
	3	12%	17%
	4	5%	8%
	5	8%	12%
	6	5%	3%
	7	8%	9%
	8	7%	7%
	9	13%	9%
Least Deprived	10	28%	9%

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- Although male leavers account for only **50%** of the leaving cohort they account for **59%** of leavers reported as unemployed seeking.
- Statutory winter leavers represent only **9%** of the whole SLDR cohort but are disproportionately represented within the leavers reported as unemployed seeking at **20%**, as are statutory summer leavers.
- The largest proportion of unemployed seeking leavers has general level standard grades. Leavers with qualifications at general level or below account for **22%** of the whole SLDR cohort but are disproportionately represented in the unemployed seeking cohort at **54%**.
- Leavers who have been identified as having health issues or additional support needs are also disproportionately represented within the leavers reported as unemployed seeking.

Table 21: Leavers by Intermediate Data zone

There were **212** leavers from Aberdeen schools who were reported as unemployed seeking in the SLDR. By using postcodes, we were able to identify areas within the authority where unemployed school leavers were living. However, at the snapshot, **12** of the leavers were living outside the local authority area but a further **10** unemployed seeking school leavers from other local authority schools were residing within the local authority boundaries. The analysis below is based on **210** leavers residing in the authority and who SDS held postcode information for. The table below shows the intermediate data zones with the highest percentage of unemployed leavers.

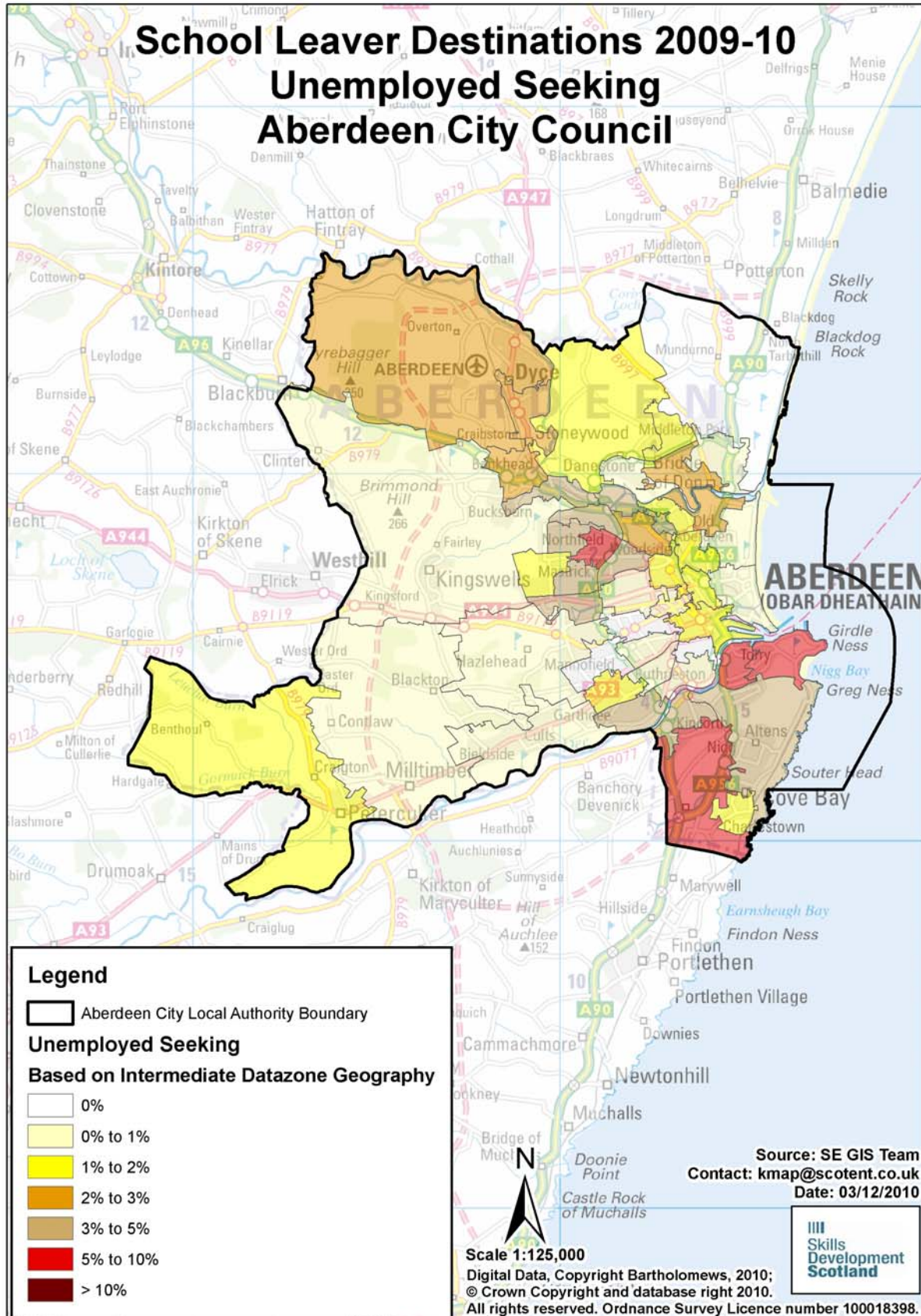
Intermediate Data zone^x	Total	%	Intermediate Data zone	Total	%
Cummings Park	14	7%	Northfield	8	4%
Torry West	12	6%	Bucksburn South	7	3%
Kincorth, Leggart and Nigg South	11	5%	Cove North	7	3%
Torry East	11	5%	Garthdee	7	3%
Kincorth, Leggart and Nigg North	10	5%	Stockethill	7	3%
Heathryfold and Middlefield	9	4%	Summerhill	7	3%

Intermediate Data zone areas with less than 5 leavers have been suppressed

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Table 22: Destinations of School Leavers: % Unemployed Seeking, 2009/10

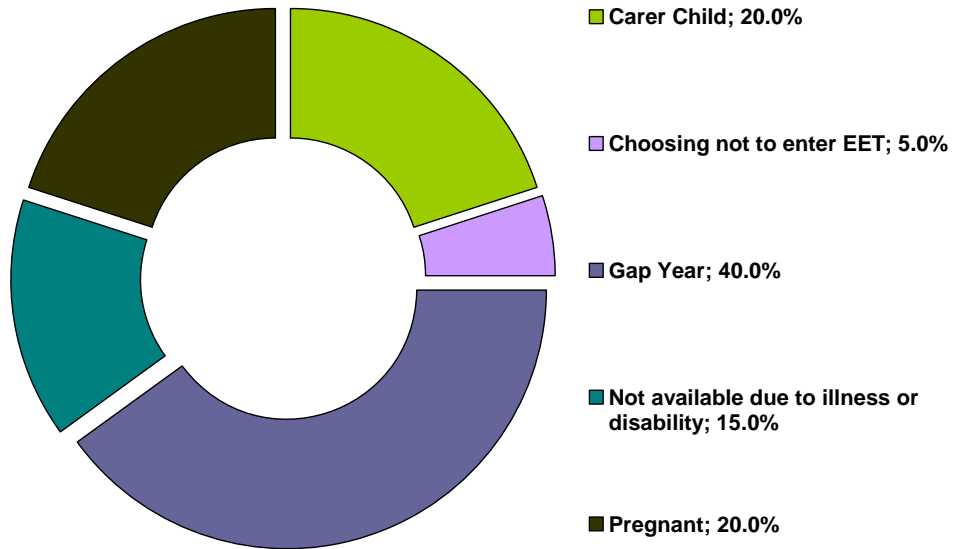
The map shows the intermediate data zones where the 210 leavers who were residing within the local authority boundary reside. Percentages have been calculated as a proportion of the number of leavers reported



Section 3.2 Unemployed NOT Seeking

There were 20 school leavers within this category.

Table 23: Individual Circumstances of those Unemployed NOT Seeking



Section 3.3 Unknown

There were 24 school leavers whose current destination was unknown at the time of SLDR.

Skills Development Scotland Aberdeen City Council School Leaver Destination Report 2009-10

Table 24: Destinations by School, Percentage

School	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Not Known	Total Leavers	% Pos	% Other
Aberdeen Grammar School	65.3%	18.4%	0.5%	8.9%	0.5%	5.3%	0.5%	0.5%	190	93.7%	6.3%
Bridge Of Don Academy	42.5%	26.0%	2.4%	19.7%	0.0%	7.9%	0.8%	0.8%	127	90.6%	9.4%
Bucksburn Academy	23.4%	34.0%	5.3%	22.3%	1.1%	13.8%	0.0%	0.0%	94	86.2%	13.8%
Cults Academy	68.8%	12.4%	0.0%	11.3%	0.5%	4.3%	2.7%	0.0%	186	93.0%	7.0%
Dyce Academy	29.0%	30.1%	1.1%	26.9%	1.1%	9.7%	0.0%	2.2%	93	88.2%	11.8%
Harlaw Academy	42.0%	22.5%	2.2%	15.2%	0.0%	14.5%	2.9%	0.7%	138	81.9%	18.1%
Hazlehead Academy	32.8%	31.8%	4.2%	20.3%	0.0%	10.9%	0.0%	0.0%	192	89.1%	10.9%
Kincorth Academy	21.8%	25.4%	0.7%	27.5%	0.0%	21.8%	1.4%	1.4%	142	75.4%	24.6%
Northfield Academy	8.3%	38.2%	2.1%	27.1%	0.0%	19.4%	2.1%	2.8%	144	75.7%	24.3%
Oldmachar Academy	61.0%	14.7%	2.3%	16.9%	0.0%	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%	177	94.9%	5.1%
St Machar Academy	19.2%	29.9%	6.2%	18.6%	0.0%	17.5%	1.1%	7.3%	177	74.0%	26.0%
Torry Academy	16.1%	35.7%	9.8%	17.0%	0.0%	19.6%	1.8%	0.0%	112	78.6%	21.4%
Aberdeen City Council	38.3%	25.6%	2.9%	18.6%	0.2%	12.0%	1.1%	1.4%	1,772	85.6%	14.4%

Background Notes:

ⁱ **Positive Destinations:** includes higher education, further education, training, employment and voluntary work. See text above for explanation of each destination heading.

ⁱⁱ **The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD):** SIMD identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland in a consistent way. SDS uses a file created by Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics to identify SIMD based on an individual leaver's postcode. The leaver's postcode is based on the last known address of the leaver as recorded on our client management system. Where there were gaps in the data held on our CMS, the last known address supplied in the annual import of pupil details has been used. As the last known postcode is used it may be that a leaver from one local authority was living in another local authority at the time of the return. Therefore, the SIMD relates to where a leaver was living and not the concentration of SIMD within a local authority.

ⁱⁱⁱ **Stage of Leaving:** A **statutory summer leaver** is a school leaver who chooses to leave school at the earliest opportunity (31st May) when they become eligible to leave school i.e. their 16th birthday falls on or between 1st March and 30th September in their year of leaving. A **statutory winter leaver** is a school leaver who chooses to leave school at the earliest opportunity when they become eligible to leave school i.e. their 16th birthday falls between 1st October and the last day in February. A **post statutory leaver** is a school leaver who chose to remain at school past their statutory leave date e.g. a winter leaver who would have been eligible to leave at the winter leave date but choose to remain at school until the summer leave date. Included in this group are leavers who have past their statutory leave date and have left school at any stage throughout the year.

^{iv} **Institutions:** through our follow up of leavers, we confirm Further and Higher Education destinations and as part of the process we request further information about the institution a leaver is attending. This is not a requirement of the Scottish Government and the information displayed is based on the recorded detail on Insight, the SDS

^v **Personal Skills Development:** - Some leavers are not yet ready, or in a position to make an immediate transition to a formal positive destination. In such cases leavers may participate in learning opportunities / personal and social development activities with the aim of improving their confidence and employability. These programmes can be viewed as a stepping stone towards a more formal positive destination. They are often delivered by a community learning and development or third sector organisation and can include the activity agreement pilots. It was agreed, with the Scottish Government, that individuals undertaking these activities would be reported within the unemployed seeking SLDR category.

^{vi} **Qualifications on leaving school:** This information is based on pre-appeal information from the Scottish Qualifications Agency where SDS received information about a leaver's qualifications and a robust match of records was made. Where no match was made the qualification level has been gathered through our interaction with individuals.

^{vii} **Looked After at Home/ Looked after away from home:** This refers to recent school leavers that SDS has recorded information that they had an episode of being looked after at home or looked after away from home. This information is gathered in a variety of ways including local SDS contact with Social Work departments, data received through the school import process or via direct contact with individuals. It is recognised that this information may not be complete when compared with similar data from social work services departments. However SDS is working with the Scottish Government and local authorities to look at improving the sharing of information in respect of these young people therefore the figures used are indicative.

^{viii} **Additional Support Plan Recorded:** SDS receives data from all local authority schools and school centres with pupils in stages S1-S6 or special schools to import into our client management system. We receive information about those who have co-ordinated support plans (CSP) and individualised educational programmes. We also gather information directly from individuals and via our ongoing work with schools. We acknowledge that the data may vary from that held by local authorities therefore the figures used are indicative.

^{ix} **Health Factor/Additional Support Need Identified:** SDS receives data from all local authority schools and school centres with pupils in stages S1-S6 or special schools to import into our client management system. We receive information about those who have identified additional support needs. We also gather information directly from individuals and via our ongoing work with schools. We acknowledge that the data may vary from that held by local authorities therefore the figures used are indicative.

^x **Intermediate Data zone Geography:** The data zone is the key small area statistical geography in Scotland. The intermediate geography is built up from data zones and can be used to disseminate statistics that are not suitable for release at the data zone level. Due to the small number of individuals it has been decided to use the intermediate level geography. There are 1235 intermediate zones in Scotland, containing on average 4000 household residents and these have been designed to respect local authority boundaries as at 2001 Census.