



# **College Leaver Destination Report 21/22**

## 2021/22 College Leavers Destination Report

### Survey Background

The WHC internal report is based on data collected from further education (FE) students who completed their study in 2021/22. The report refers to destination data from the previous two years allowing comparison over a three-year period which identifies trends. UHI undertake the HE destination survey with our higher education students.

Information on the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) guidance and methodology is contained in the appendix at the end of the report.

The college conducted the destination survey with students between February and March 2023, returning the data to the SFC by the 31<sup>st</sup> of March.

Only students enrolled on full time and short full time further education courses were included in this survey.

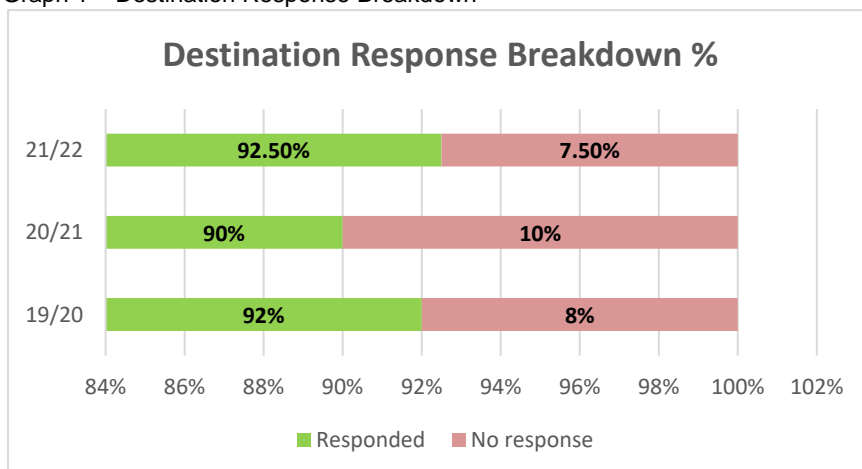
The college teams use this report and statistical information as part of self-evaluation and action planning.

### Destination Response Breakdown Over 3 Years

Academic Year		
2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Survey based on 144 students that the SFC had identified.  <b>136 responded</b> Response rate of <b>92%</b>	Survey based on 124 students that the SFC had identified.  <b>112 responded</b> Response rate of <b>90%</b>	Survey based on 107 students that the SFC had identified.  <b>99 responded</b> Response rate of <b>92.5%</b>

Our response rate has remained steady, rising very slightly by 2.5%

Graph 1 – Destination Response Breakdown



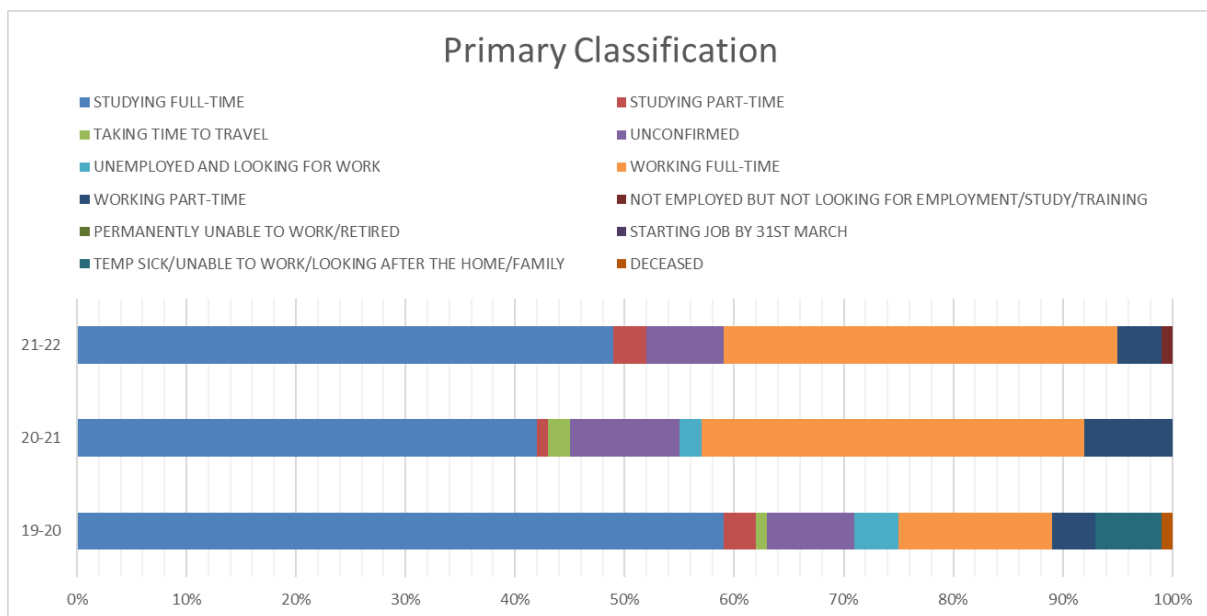
# Main Findings

## Student Destination Overview

The college established the nature of 107 student destinations as indicated below.

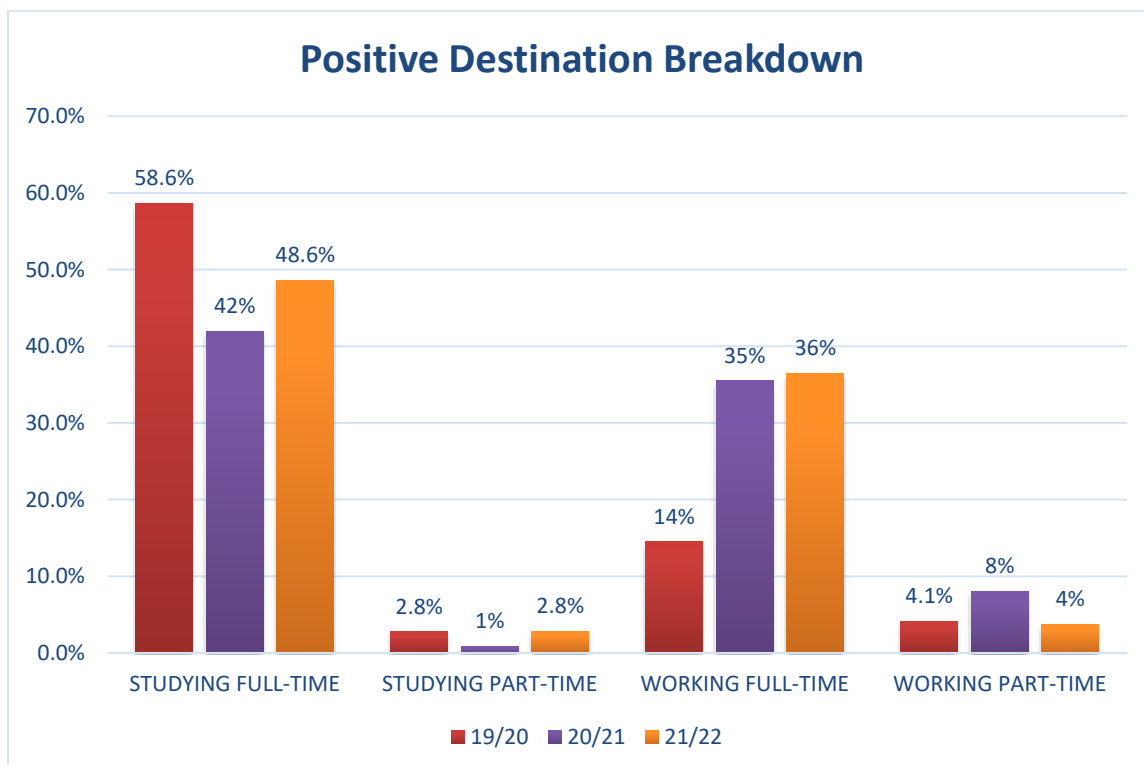
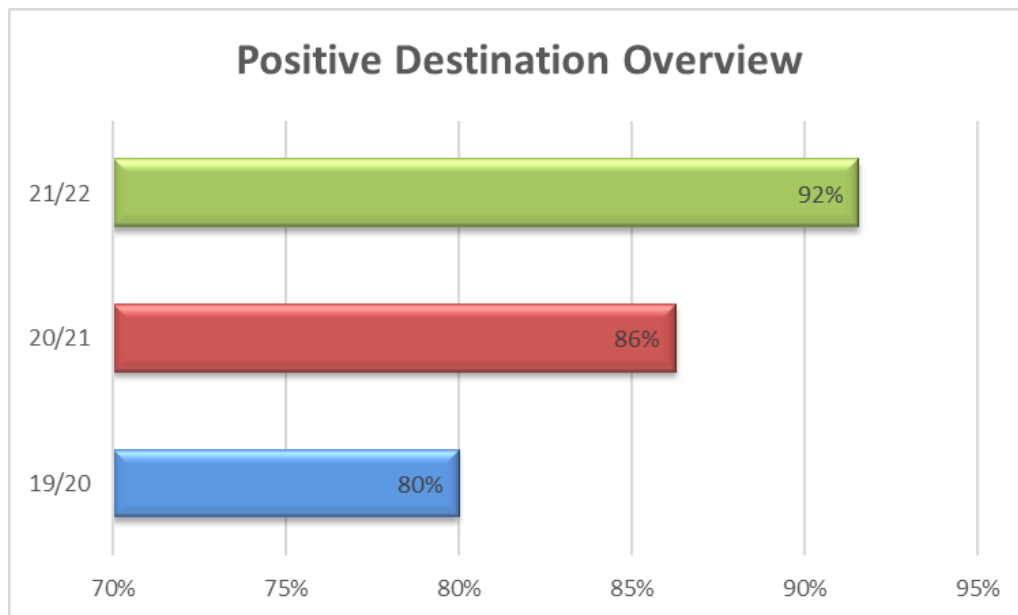
	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22	
<b>Target Student Numbers</b>	<b>144</b>		<b>124</b>		<b>107</b>	
<b>Primary Classification</b>						
STUDYING FULL-TIME	85	<b>59%</b>	52	<b>42%</b>	52	<b>48.6%</b>
STUDYING PART-TIME	4	<b>3%</b>	1	<b>1%</b>	3	<b>2.8%</b>
TAKING TIME TO TRAVEL	1	<b>1%</b>	3	<b>2%</b>	0	<b>0%</b>
UNCONFIRMED	12	<b>8%</b>	12	<b>10%</b>	8	<b>7%</b>
UNEMPLOYED AND LOOKING FOR WORK	6	<b>4%</b>	2	<b>2%</b>	0	<b>0%</b>
WORKING FULL-TIME	21	<b>14%</b>	44	<b>35%</b>	39	<b>36%</b>
WORKING PART-TIME	6	<b>4%</b>	10	<b>8%</b>	4	<b>4%</b>
NOT EMPLOYED BUT NOT LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT/STUDY/TRAINING	0	<b>0%</b>	0	<b>0%</b>	1	<b>1%</b>
PERMANENTLY UNABLE TO WORK/RETIRED	0	<b>0%</b>	0	<b>0%</b>	0	<b>0%</b>
STARTING JOB BY 31ST MARCH	0	<b>0%</b>	0	<b>0%</b>	0	<b>0%</b>
TEMP SICK/UNABLE TO WORK/LOOKING AFTER THE HOME/FAMILY	9	<b>6%</b>	0	<b>0%</b>	0	<b>0%</b>
DECEASED	1	<b>1%</b>	0	<b>0%</b>	0	<b>0%</b>

- Figures show there has been a 7% increase of students known to be studying full time.
- There is a slight increase of 1% in the working full-time classification.
- Students working part-time has decreased by 4%.



## Positive Destination Breakdown

21-22 statistical data shows 92% of our students are in a positive destination. Students either in full time study or full-time employment have the highest percentage of 85%. Figures show a 6% decrease compared to last year resulting in 4% of students working part time, whilst percentage of part-time study students risen slightly by 2% compared to 20-21.



## Employment Destinations

40% of students are in full time or part time employment, showing a slight decrease of 4%.

<b>Employment % Overall</b>	<b>19/20</b>	<b>20/21</b>	<b>21/22</b>
Total Destination Responses	<b>145</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>107</b>
Total Number of Students in Employment	<b>27</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>43</b>
	<b>19%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>40%</b>

A breakdown of the full-time and part-time employment can be found below.

## Employment Category

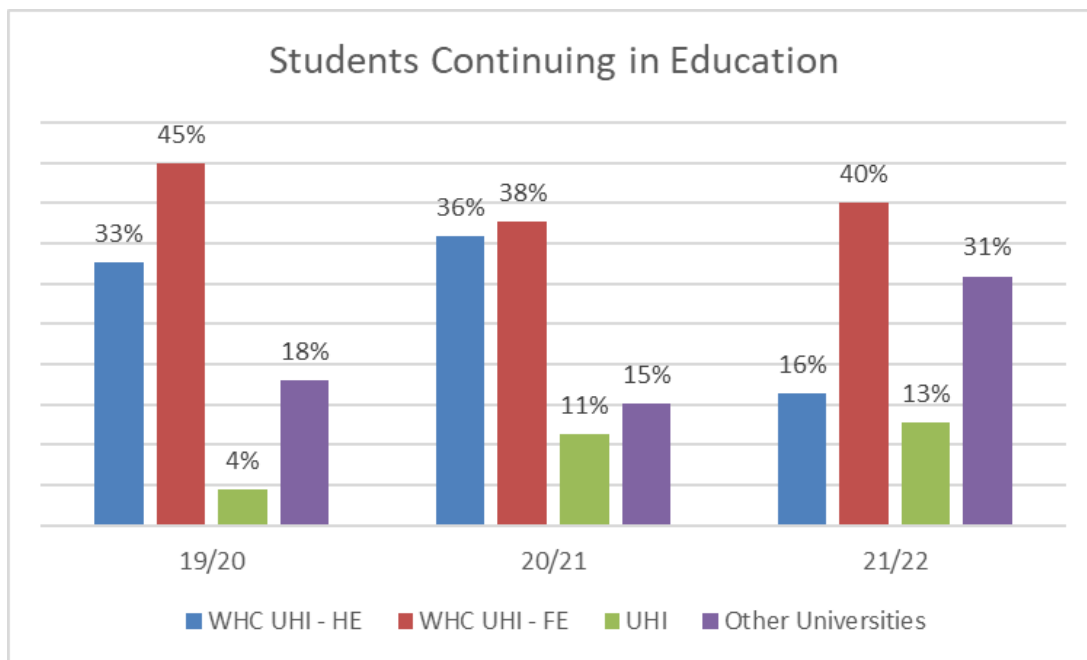
The table below gives a breakdown of student numbers by employment category and the percentage.

<b>Employment Categories</b>	<b>19/20</b>		<b>20/21</b>		<b>21/22</b>	
Total Employed Responses	<b>27</b>		<b>54</b>		<b>43</b>	
Employed FT or PT	25	93%	45	83%	37	86%
Self-employed/Freelance	2	7%	4	7%	1	2%
Voluntary/other unpaid work	0	0%	1	2%	1	2%
Modern Apprenticeship	0	0%	3	6%	4	9%
Internship	0	0%	1	2%	0	0%

<b>Employer Industry</b>	<b>19/20</b>	<b>20/21</b>	<b>21/22</b>
Student Responses	<b>27</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>43</b>
A: Agriculture, forestry and fishing	7	7	11
E: Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0	0	0
D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0	1	1
F: Construction	1	2	4
G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	4	5	5
H: Transport and storage	1	3	0
I: Accommodation and food service activities	6	17	10
J: Information and communication	0	1	0
K: Financial and insurance activities	0	0	0
M: Professional, scientific and technical activities	2	1	1
N: Administrative and support service activities	0	0	0
O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	2	2	0
P: Education	0	3	1
Q: Human health and social work activities	0	4	2
R: Arts, entertainment and recreation	4	2	7
S: Other service activities	0	2	1
Unknown	0	4	0

## Students Continuing in Education

Students Continuing in Education	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22	
West Highland College (UHI) - HE	29	33%	19	36%	9	16%
West Highland College (UHI) - FE	40	45%	20	38%	22	40%
UHI – University of the Highlands & Islands	4	4%	6	11%	7	13%
Other Universities	16	18%	8	15%	17	31%
	<b>89</b>		<b>53</b>		<b>55</b>	



Overall, 69% of students have continued to study either FE or HE courses with WHC a further 2% of the UHI students are studying a HN qualification, 11% are studying a UHI Degree. 31% of students continued their education with another college or University.

For full details, please see progression table below.

	19/20		20/21		21/22	
Total	<b>89</b>		<b>53</b>		<b>55</b>	
WHC Degree course	4	4%	5	9%	6	11%
WHC Progression HN course	22	25%	19	36%	9	16%
WHC another HN course	3	3%	0	0%	1	2%
WHC Progression FE course	32	36%	14	26%	18	33%
WHC another FE Course	8	9%	6	11%	4	7%
Other College/University	20	22%	9	17%	17	31%
Total returning WH Progressed to next level of study	58	65%	37	70%	34	62%
Returners overall UHI WH	69	78%	44	83%	38	69%

## **Conclusion**

Overall, 92% of 21/22 students have gone onto a positive destination, this is a rise of 6%  
51% of students have gone onto further study from the previous year, a rise of 8%.

The uptake of Employment opportunities by our students has fallen by 4% from 20/21

A detailed breakdown of destination data is provided to staff and gives analysis by sector for employment or by course and college/university detail.

More detail on employer industry is now available in the survey allowing analysis to be drawn about the impact on a local economy level.

## Appendix 1

### Scottish Funding Council Guidance

In June 2014, SFC brought together the colleges involved in the pilot year, to review the data gathering process and to advise on any changes required for the 2013/14 survey. No significant changes were made to the survey questionnaire, and it was agreed that student destination information could also be taken from close relatives, lecturers and fellow students, provided those involved in the survey were confident that the information was accurate and reliable. Slight changes have been implemented for the collection of data from 2015/16 onwards. A minimum of 3 attempts to contact a student must be evidenced and logged prior to the use of destination information from other sources. This information continues to be required for auditable purposes.

Prior to issuing the survey spreadsheets to each College, SFC through their links with Skills Development Scotland, and the Students Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS) were able to pre-populate the spreadsheet with student data already captured by SDS and FES returns, this continues to reduce the number of students that WHC must contact directly. However, this is restricted to 16- to 24-year-olds only due to current legislative limitations.

The key data requested by SFC:

- Primary Classification (Destination)
- Work Detail
- Employer Industry
- Employer Name
- Employ related
- Training Programme
- Training Vocational Area
- Study Detail
- Destination of Further Study
- Destination Course of Study

### Methodology

In 2012/13 the survey was undertaken between October and December 2013. This was changed in the 2013/14 survey to take place in January/February the survey continues to be undertaken during this time and an improvement in response rates has been noted.

In the first 2 years, direct telephone contact with students proved to be the most effective way of gathering the required data. However, in 2014/2015 on reflection with the key holders and staff that undertook to contacting the students direct telephone did not give us the expected results.

At this point a range of contact methods was put in place which have proved more successful in 2015/16 and continue to be so. These have included emails, social media, messaging and the use of area specific phone numbers being used by key members of staff at different times of the day. This approach has continued to be successful along with lecturer knowledge of their students destination at the end of study.