

Theme: Children, Education and Skills

17 December 2009

ENROLMENTS AT GRANT-AIDED PRIMARY AND POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS 2009/10: BASIC STATISTICS

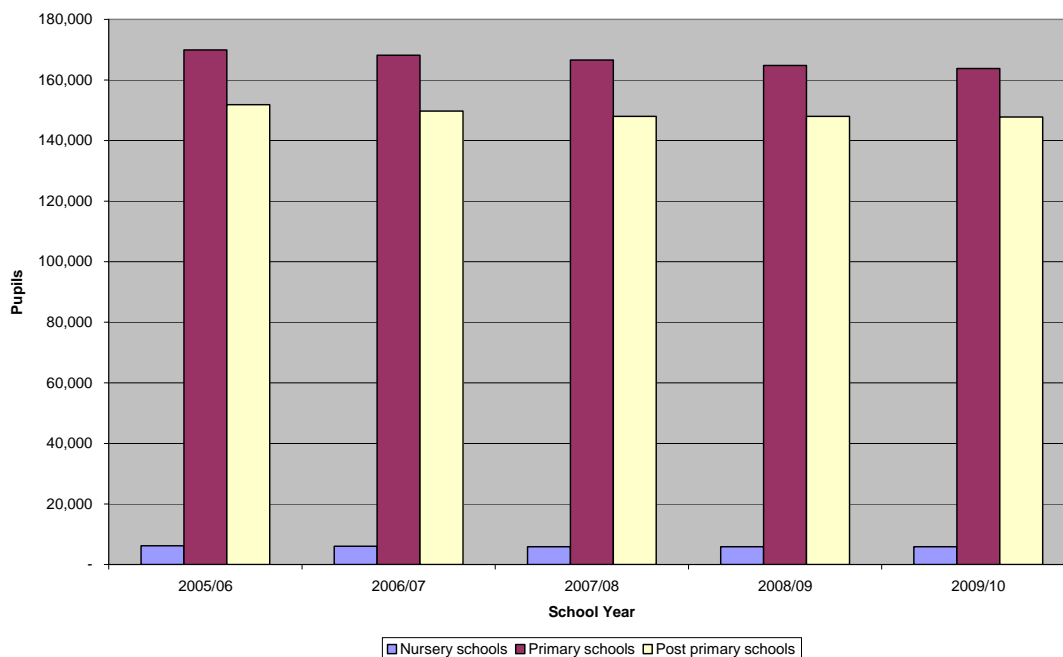
The purpose of this statistical release is to present basic enrolment figures for schools in Northern Ireland for 2009/10. The data are taken from the school census, which was run in October 2009. Data collected through the school census exercise are used to inform Departmental policy development, monitoring and evaluation. This first release of the basic statistics contains information which is used in the process to allocate funding to schools.

Key Points

- The number of pupils in compulsory primary school education (Year 1 – 7) was 154,897, a drop of over 1,000 from 2008/09. This continues the downward trend seen in recent years, though the rate of decline is decreasing.
- The number of pupils in post-primary schools was 147,775, a decrease of just over 200 from 2008/09, mainly in the non-grammar sector. However, within this total, a decline of over 800 Year 8 – 12 pupils is masked by an increase of over 600 post Year 12 pupils. This continues a trend seen in 2008/09, where the number of pupils continuing into Year 13 in schools has been increasing.
- The numbers of schools continues to decrease. In 2009/10 there were 849 primary schools, a decrease of 37 since 2005/06. The number of post-primary schools was 219, compared to 230 in 2005/06.
- The percentage of children in schools entitled to free school meals increased from 17% to 18% in 2009/10, a reverse from the downward trend of recent years. The increase applied across both primary and post-primary sectors.

A further statistical release, containing a more detailed set of tables, will be published in February 2010.

Pupils at schools in Northern Ireland 2005/06 – 2009/10



Notes to Readers

National Statistics

1. This is a National Statistics publication. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs and are produced free from any political interference.
2. For general enquiries about National Statistics, contact the National Statistics Public Enquiry Service on 0845 601 3034
minicom: 01633 812399
E-mail: info@statistics.gov.uk
Fax: 01633 652747
Letters: The Library, Office for National Statistics, Cardiff Road, Newport, NP10 8XG
3. You can also find National Statistics on the Internet: www.statistics.gov.uk

School Census

4. The statistics in this release have been derived from the annual School Census; details about the survey may be found at http://www.deni.gov.uk/census_description_for_web-11.doc. For voluntary and private pre-school centres, and nursery schools, the census consists of

a paper return comprising a number of tables; for post-primary, primary and special schools, it consists of a return comprising individual pupil records, made by Electronic Data Interchange.

5. The 2009/10 figures in this statistical release are based on information as at 9th October 2009. They may be subject to minor revision and these will be notified in accordance with our revisions policy. This can be accessed at http://www.deni.gov.uk/de_statement_on_statistical_revisions-2.doc .
6. The figures for nursery *classes* relate to approved nursery classes in primary schools. The figures for reception refer to pupils who were below compulsory school age at 1st July 2009, who were admitted to a reception class or group in primary school following their 4th birthday. Schools may admit reception pupils throughout the year, but only those who have been admitted by 31st October are counted in the school census.
7. Further statistics relating to school numbers and enrolments can be found on the DE website (www.deni.gov.uk) under the Statistics and Research section.

The DE website presents figures taken from the school census, summarised at Northern Ireland, Education and Library Board and school level. Statistics on participation rates, pupil:teacher ratios, school leaver destinations and qualifications may also be accessed via the website.

8. Information on enrolments collected via the school census process are used to inform DE policy and procedures (particularly School Funding), as well as to inform Education and Library Boards (ELBs) of detailed information useful to them in their auditing processes.

Further enquiries

Request for further information should be addressed to:-

Gemma Reid
Statistics and Research Branch
Department of Education
Rathgael House
Balloo Road
BANGOR
Co. Down
BT19 7PR
Telephone (028) 9127 9707/ Fax (028) 9127 9594
e-mail: statistics@deni.gov.uk

Special analyses of the school census can be undertaken on request.

DE Statistical Releases can be accessed on the DE website (www.deni.gov.uk) under the Statistics and Research section.

Press enquiries should be made to the Department's Press Office at the same address, telephone (028) 9127 9268 / fax (028) 9127 9271.

Feedback on this publication can be provided directly to Gemma Reid (contact details above) or via the feedback questionnaire on our website. <http://www.deni.gov.uk/feedback-pg.htm>

Table 1: Number of Pupils in Schools and Children in Funded Pre-school Education in Northern Ireland by Type of Establishment attended

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	
VOLUNTARY and PRIVATE						
PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION CENTRES¹	5,633	6,327	6,535	6,629	n/a	
NURSERY SCHOOLS						
Full-time	3,796	3,838	4,005	3,997	3,996	
Part-time	2,379	2,215	1,850	1,872	1,861	
Total nursery school pupils	6,175	6,053	5,855	5,869	5,857	
PRIMARY SCHOOLS and PREPARATORY DEPARTMENTS						
Nursery class pupils						
Full-time	3,978	4,073	4,146	4,350	4,517	
Part-time	4,071	4,032	3,950	3,876	3,800	
Total nursery class pupils	8,049	8,105	8,096	8,226	8,317	
Primary: reception	711	650	627	601	555	
Grammar preparatory: reception	43	8	5	6	14	
Total reception pupils	754	658	632	607	569	
Primary schools (year 1 - 7)	158,665	157,020	155,498	153,551	152,562	
Grammar school preparatory depts. (year 1 - 7)	2,478	2,401	2,411	2,427	2,335	
Total year 1 - 7 pupils	161,143	159,421	157,909	155,978	154,897	
Total primary pupils	169,946	168,184	166,637	164,811	163,783	
POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS						
Secondary (non grammar) schools	89,421	87,520	85,702	85,576	85,329	
Grammar schools	62,419	62,245	62,285	62,410	62,446	
Total post primary pupils	151,840	149,765	147,987	147,986	147,775	
SPECIAL SCHOOLS²	Total	4,599	4,557	4,611	4,598	4,444
HOSPITAL SCHOOLS	Total	296	251	246	197	227
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS	Total	846	809	821	712	n/a
ALL SCHOOLS	Total	333,702	329,619	326,157	324,173	n/a
ALL SCHOOLS AND PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION CENTRES		339,335	335,946	332,692	330,802	n/a

'n/a' denotes that figures are not available until February release of data.

1. Voluntary and private centres funded under the Pre-school Education Expansion Programme, which began in 1998/99.

2. Pupils placed in special schools on a temporary basis were counted against their main school in 2009/10.

Table 2: Number of Schools and Pre-school Education Centres in Northern Ireland by Management Type

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	
VOLUNTARY and PRIVATE	366	372	366	353	358	
PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION CENTRES¹						
NURSERY SCHOOLS						
Controlled	67	66	65	65	65	
Catholic Maintained	33	33	33	33	33	
Total	100	99	98	98	98	
PRIMARY SCHOOLS						
Controlled	417	411	401	392	386	
Catholic Maintained	411	408	404	402	398	
Other Maintained	21	21	24	24	24	
Controlled Integrated	15	15	16	15	18	
Grant Maintained Integrated	22	22	23	23	23	
Total	886	877	868	856	849	
Grammar school preparatory depts.	17	17	17	17	17	
Total primary schools and preparatory depts.	903	894	885	873	866	
POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS						
Secondary (non grammar) schools						
Controlled	66	65	63	61	58	
Catholic Maintained	75	74	73	72	72	
Other Maintained	1	1	1	1	1	
Controlled Integrated	4	4	5	4	4	
Grant Maintained Integrated	15	15	15	16	15	
Total	161	159	157	154	150	
Grammar schools						
Controlled	17	17	17	17	17	
Voluntary						
Under Catholic management	30	30	30	30	30	
Under other management	22	22	22	22	22	
Total	69	69	69	69	69	
Total Post Primary schools	230	228	226	223	219	
SPECIAL SCHOOLS	Total	45	45	43	42	41
HOSPITAL SCHOOLS	Total	3	3	2	2	2
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS	Total	19	19	17	16	14
ALL SCHOOLS	Total	1,283	1,271	1,254	1,237	1,223
ALL SCHOOLS AND						
PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION CENTRES		1,649	1,643	1,620	1,590	1,581

¹ Voluntary and private centres funded under the Pre-school Education Expansion Programme, which began in 1998/99.

Table 3: Percentage of Children Entitled to Free School Meals^{1,5} in Northern Ireland by Type of Establishment attended

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
VOLUNTARY and PRIVATE PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION CENTRES^{1, 2}	13	12	11	10	n/a
NURSERY SCHOOLS¹					
Full-time	32	32	30	28	30
Part-time	8	9	6	8	10
All nursery schools	23	24	22	22	23
PRIMARY SCHOOLS					
Nursery class pupils^{1,5}					
Full-time	28	25	28	25	27
Part-time	9	9	7	7	9
Total nursery class pupils	18	17	18	16	19
Primary: reception	13	9	7	9	10
Grammar preparatory: reception	-	-	-	-	-
Total reception pupils	12	9	7	9	9
Primary schools (year 1 - 7)	20	19	18	18	19
Grammar school preparatory depts. (year 1 - 7)	0	0	0	0	1
Total year 1 - 7 pupils	20	19	18	17	19
Total primary pupils	19	19	18	17	19
POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS					
Secondary (non grammar) schools	28	27	25	25	26
Grammar schools	7	6	6	6	6
TOTAL POST PRIMARY PUPILS	19	18	17	16	17
ALL SCHOOLS³ Total	19	19	18	17	18
TOTAL SCHOOLS AND PRE-EDUCATION CENTRES	19	19	17	17	n/a

'n/a' denotes that figures are not yet available.

1. For pupils and children in the nursery sector and in voluntary and private pre-school centres, where free school meal entitlement data is not appropriate, the number of pupils with (a) parent(s) in receipt of Job Seeker's allowance or Income Support is used instead of free school meal entitlement.

2. Voluntary and private centres funded under the Pre-school Education Expansion Programme, which began in 1998/99.

3. Free school meal entitlement data is not collected for pupils at special schools, hospital schools or at independent schools.

4. " - " means zero cases.

5. From 2006/07, children in nursery classes in primary schools were counted as entitled to free school meals if they had a parent(s) in receipt of Job Seeker's allowance or Income Support, or their application for free school meals had been approved.

6. These figures may be subject to minor revision once the Education and Library Boards' auditing process is completed.