

STATISTICAL PRESS RELEASE

28 February 2007

ENROLMENTS AT SCHOOLS AND IN FUNDED PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND 2006/07

Key points

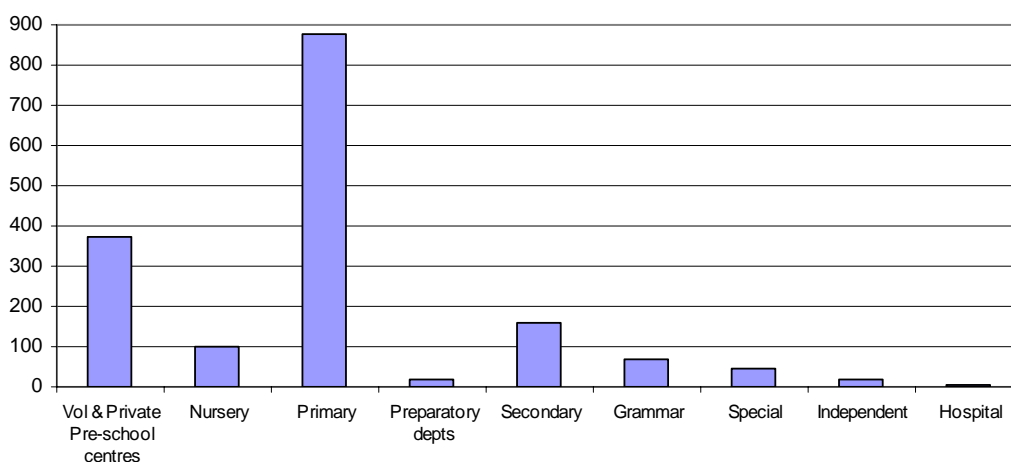
Funded pre-school education

- There are 21,143 children in funded pre-school education: 14,158 in nursery schools or nursery classes in primary schools; 658 in reception classes/groups; and 6,327 in funded places in voluntary and private pre-school education centres. In 2001/02 there were 19,919 children in funded pre-school education.
- The reported religion of children in pre-school education is: 48.3% Roman Catholic, 35.1% Protestant, 1.9% Other Christian, 0.6% Non Christian, and 14.1% Other/No Religion/Not recorded.

Grant-aided Schools

- There are 159,421 pupils in primary schools and preparatory departments (Years 1 – 7). In 2001/02 the figure was 170,553.
- There are 149,765 pupils in post-primary schools (Years 8 – 14). In 2001/02 the figure was 155,503.

Figure 1 - Number of schools and funded voluntary and private pre-school education centres in Northern Ireland, 2006/07



Key points, continued

Grant-aided Schools

- Some 18,017 pupils (5.5%) of the total enrolment in nursery, primary and post-primary schools attend integrated schools. In 2001/02, enrolment at integrated schools was 14,980 (4.3%).
- Some 2,530 pupils attend Irish medium schools. In 2001/02, the figure was 1,763.
- In the post-primary phase, 41.6% of pupils attend grammar schools. In 2001/02, the proportion was 40.3%.
- Some 19.2% of P1 – P7 pupils in primary schools and preparatory departments are entitled to free school meals, as are 26.7% of pupils in secondary (non-grammar) schools and 6.4% of grammar school pupils.
- The reported religion of pupils in schools is: 50.4% Roman Catholic, 39.5% Protestant, 2.2% Other Christian, 0.4% Non Christian, and 7.5% Other/No Religion/Not recorded.
- The reported ethnicity of pupils is 98.2% white (excluding Irish travellers), with 1.8% pupils of mixed or minority ethnic groups.
- The average number of pupils per class in primary schools (year 1 – year 7) was 24.
- Some 17.4% of pupils in schools were recorded as having special education needs; 3.8% of pupils had a statement of special educational needs.

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Notes to Editors

National Statistics

1. This is a National Statistics publication. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.
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School Census

4. The statistics in this press release have been derived from the annual School Census; details about the survey may be found at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/STATBASE/Source.asp?vlnk=1028&More=Y>. For pre-school centres and nursery schools the Census consists of a paper return comprising a number of tables; for primary, special and post-primary schools, it consists of a return comprising anonymised individual pupil records, made by Electronic Data Interchange.
5. The 2006/07 figures in this press release are based on information as at 6th October 2006.
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 1 July 2006, 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 31 October are counted in the school census.
7. 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.

Further enquiries

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

DE Statistical Press 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.

Table 1a: Children in funded pre-school education by centre type and management type, 2006/07

		Controlled Schools	Catholic Maintained Schools	Other Maintained Schools	Controlled Integrated Schools	Grant Maintained Integrated Schools	Voluntary Schools	Voluntary Pre-School Centres	Private Pre-School Centres	Grand Total
<u>PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS</u>										
Nursery Schools	Full-time	2,298	1,540	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,838
	Part-time	1,903	312	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,215
Nursery Classes ¹	Full-time	2,045	1,873	53	-	78	24	-	-	4,073
	Part-time	2,128	1,534	35	-	313	22	-	-	4,032
TOTAL		8,374	5,259	88	-	391	46	-	-	14,158
Reception	Full-time	216	414	1	19	-	8	-	-	658
<u>PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION IN OTHER CENTRES (FUNDED PLACES ONLY)</u>										
Playgroups	Part-time	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,877	263	6,140
Day Nurseries ¹	Part-time	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	187	187
Other Provision	Part-time	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL¹		-	-	-	-	-	-	5,877	450	6,327
GRAND TOTAL¹		8,590	5,673	89	19	391	54	5,877	450	21,143

¹ Revised figures.

Table 1b: Pupils by school type and management type, 2006/07

	Controlled	Catholic Maintained	Other Maintained		Controlled Integrated	Grant Maintained Integrated	Voluntary		Non Grant-Aided	Grand Total
			Irish Medium ¹	Other			Schools under Catholic Management	Schools under Other Management		
<u>NURSERY</u>										
Nursery Schools	Full-time	2,298	1,540	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,838
	Part-time	1,903	312	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,215
Nursery Classes ²	Full-time	2,045	1,873 ³	26	27	-	78	-	24	4,073
	Part-time	2,128	1,534	35	-	-	313	-	22	4,032
TOTAL		8,374	5,259	61	27	-	391	-	46	14,158
<u>PRIMARY</u>										
Reception	Primary Schools	216	414	-	1	19	-	-	-	650
	Prep. Departments		-	-	-	-	-	8	-	8
Primary Schools (Year 1 - Year 7) ²		74,726 ⁴	73,223 ⁵	1,752	438	2,076	4,805	-	-	157,020
Prep. Departments (Year 1- Year 7)		335	-	-	-	-	-	2,066	-	2,401
TOTAL		75,277	73,637	1,752	439	2,095	4,805	-	2,074	160,079
<u>SECONDARY (Year 8 - Year 14)</u>										
Secondary (Non Grammar) ²		34,723	41,582	489	-	2,001	8,725	-	-	87,520
Grammar		14,751	-	-	-	-	-	27,514	19,980	62,245
TOTAL		49,474	41,582	489	-	2,001	8,725	27,514	19,980	149,765
<u>SPECIAL</u>										
<u>HOSPITAL</u>										
		4,258	233	-	66	-	-	-	-	4,557
<u>INDEPENDENT</u>										
		251	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	251
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	773	773
GRAND TOTAL		137,634	120,711	2,302	532	4,096	13,921	27,514	22,100	329,583

¹ Excludes one Irish Medium Controlled school and one Irish Medium Catholic Maintained school.

² Revised figures.

³ Includes 26 pupils in a nursery class in one Irish Medium school.

⁴ Includes one Irish Medium school, with an enrolment of 65 pupils.

⁵ Includes one Irish Medium school, with an enrolment of 137 pupils (Year 1 - Year 7).

Table 2a: The number of pre-school providers¹ with funded places, by centre type and management type, 2001/02-2006/07

		2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Nursery Schools	Controlled	67	68	68	67	67	66
	Catholic Maintained	29	32	32	32	33	33
	TOTAL	96	100	100	99	100	99
Primary Schools and Preparatory Departments² with Nursery Units	Controlled	88	99	102	104	106	106
	Catholic Maintained	67	81	82	83	84	84
	Other Maintained	1	2	3	4	3	3
	Controlled Integrated	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Grant Maintained Integrated	11	12	13	13	13	13
	Voluntary	-	-	-	-	1	2
TOTAL	167	194	200	204	207	208	
Voluntary and private pre-School centres with funded places	Voluntary	317	321	341	330	334	345
	Private	43	42	42	35	32	27
	TOTAL	360	363	383	365	366	372
All Centres¹	GRAND TOTAL	541	657	683	668	673	679

¹ In addition to the forms of provision shown in this table, many schools have reception pupils. In 2006/07, some 134 primary schools / preparatory departments have reception pupils.

² These are part of grammar schools.

Table 2b: The number of schools by school type and management type, 2001/02-2006/07

		2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Nursery Schools	Controlled	67	68	68	67	67	66
	Catholic Maintained	29	32	32	32	33	33
	TOTAL	96	100	100	99	100	99
Primary Schools	Controlled ¹	439	435	427	425	417	411
	Catholic Maintained ¹	417	417	414	413	411	408
	Other Maintained	9	11	14	15	16	18
	Irish Medium ²	5	5	5	5	5	5
	Other	11	11	13	14	15	15
	Controlled Integrated Grant Maintained Integrated	18	18	19	22	22	22
TOTAL	899	897	892	894	886	879	
Preparatory Departments ³	Controlled	5	5	5	4	3	3
	Voluntary	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Schools under Catholic Management	16	15	14	14	14	14
	Schools under Other Management	21	20	19	18	17	17
TOTAL	21	20	19	18	17	17	
Secondary (Non Grammar) Schools	Controlled	70	69	68	66	66	65
	Catholic Maintained	76	76	76	76	75	74
	Other Maintained	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Irish Medium	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	4	4	4	4	4	4
	Controlled Integrated Grant Maintained Integrated	13	14	14	15	15	15
TOTAL	164	164	163	162	161	159	
Grammar Schools	Controlled	17	17	17	17	17	17
	Voluntary	32	32	31	31	30	30
	Schools under Catholic Management	22	22	22	22	22	22
	Schools under Other Management	71	71	70	70	69	69
TOTAL	71	71	70	70	69	69	
Special Schools ⁴	TOTAL	48	47	47	45	45	45
Hospital Schools	TOTAL	3	3	3	3	3	3
Independent Schools	TOTAL	25	22	17	17	19	18
All schools	GRAND TOTAL	1,306	1,304	1,292	1,290	1,283	1,272

¹ Includes one Irish Medium school.

² Excludes one Irish Medium Controlled school and one Irish Medium Catholic Maintained school.

³ These are part of grammar schools.

⁴ The figures from 2004/05 onwards exclude an Alternative Education Provider (AEP), which was previously counted as a special school.

Table 3a(i) : Children in funded pre-school education¹ whose parents were in receipt of Income Support or Income based Jobseeker's Allowance², by centre type and management type, 2006/07

Numbers and Percentages³

		Number	Percentage (%)
Nursery Schools <i>Full-time</i>	Controlled	654	28.5
	Catholic Maintained	582	37.8
	TOTAL	1,236	32.2
Nursery Schools <i>Part-time</i>	Controlled	154	8.1
	Catholic Maintained	46	14.7
	TOTAL	200	9.0
Nursery Classes <i>Full-time</i>	Controlled	484	23.7
	Voluntary	-	-
	Catholic Maintained/ Other Maintained	497	25.8
	Grant Maintained Integrated	19	24.4
	TOTAL	1,000	24.6
Nursery Classes <i>Part-time</i>	Controlled	174	8.2
	Catholic Maintained/ Other Maintained	162	10.3
	Grant Maintained Integrated	37	11.8
	TOTAL	373	9.3
All Nursery Provision <i>Full- and part-time</i>	Controlled	1,466	17.5
	Catholic Maintained/ Other Maintained	1,287	24.1
	Grant Maintained Integrated	56	14.3
	TOTAL	2,809	19.8
Voluntary and Private Pre-School Centres (funded places only) <i>Part-time</i>	Voluntary	702	11.9
	Private ⁴	18	4.4
	TOTAL⁴	720	11.4
TOTAL⁴		3,529	17.2

¹ Excludes reception pupils, since data on whether the parents of these pupils were in receipt of Income Support or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance are not collected.

² Income Support and income-based Jobseeker's Allowance are the benefits which determine eligibility for free school meals. As school meals are not universally available to children in pre-school education, parental receipt of these benefits is a better indicator of social disadvantage for the pre-school sector.

³ Percentages express the number of children in funded places whose parents were in receipt of Income Support or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance at the time of first application for admission, as a proportion of all children in funded places. Thus, for example, 28.5% of children in full-time places in controlled nursery schools had parents in receipt of these benefits.

⁴ Revised figures, 12 March 2007.

Table 3a(ii) : Reception pupils entitled to Free School Meals by management type, 2006/07

Numbers and Percentages¹

		Number	Percentage (%)
Reception pupils <i>Full-time</i>	Controlled	#	#
	Catholic Maintained	50	12.1
	Other Maintained	-	-
	Controlled Integrated	*	*
	Voluntary	-	-
	TOTAL	62	9.4

¹ Percentages express the number of pupils entitled to free school meals in a particular category as a proportion of all pupils in the same category. Thus, for example, 12.1% of all reception pupils at Catholic Maintained schools in 2006/07 are entitled to free school meals.

* Fewer than 5 cases.

Number suppressed.

Table 3b: Pupils entitled to Free School Meals by school type and management type, 2006/07: Primary and Post-Primary schools

Numbers and percentages¹

		Number	Percentage (%)	
Primary Schools (Year 1-Year 7)	Controlled	11,450	15.3	
	Catholic Maintained	16,969	23.2	
	Other Maintained	Irish Medium	596	34.0
		Other	48	11.0
	Controlled Integrated	360	17.3	
	Grant Maintained Integrated	678	14.1	
	TOTAL	30,101	19.2	
Prep. Departments	Controlled	*	*	
	Voluntary	Schools under Catholic Management	-	-
		Schools under Other Management	*	*
	TOTAL	*	*	
Secondary (Non Grammar) Schools	Controlled	7,129	20.5	
	Catholic Maintained	13,759	33.1	
	Other Maintained	Irish Medium	176	36.0
		Other	-	-
	Controlled Integrated	481	24.0	
	Grant Maintained Integrated	1,817	20.8	
TOTAL	23,362	26.7		
Grammar Schools	Controlled	565	3.8	
	Voluntary	Schools under Catholic Management	2,813	10.2
		Schools under Other Management	580	2.9
	TOTAL	3,958	6.4	
ALL PRIMARY AND POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS		#	18.6	

* Fewer than 5 cases.

Number suppressed.

¹ Percentages express the number of pupils entitled to free school meals in a particular category (e.g. those at primary school) as a proportion of all pupils in the same category. Thus, for example, 19.2% of all primary school pupils in 2006/07 are entitled to free school meals.

Table 4: Average class size^{1,2} by school type and management type, 2006/07

		Average number of pupils per class
Nursery Schools	Controlled	26
	Catholic Maintained	26
	TOTAL	26
Nursery Classes	Controlled/Voluntary	25
	Catholic Maintained³	26
	Other Maintained	20
	Irish Medium	27
	Other	-
	Controlled Integrated	-
	Grant Maintained Integrated	26
TOTAL	25	
Reception Classes⁴	Controlled	11
	Catholic Maintained	15
	Other Maintained	-
	Irish Medium	-
	Other	-
	Controlled Integrated	5
	Grant Maintained Integrated	-
Voluntary (Prep. Depts)	8	
TOTAL	12	
Primary Schools (Year 1 - Year 7)⁵	Controlled⁶	24
	Catholic Maintained⁶	23
	Other Maintained	18
	Irish Medium⁷	20
	Other	23
	Controlled Integrated	23
	Grant Maintained Integrated	27
TOTAL	24	
Preparatory Departments (Year 1 - Year 7)⁵	Controlled	18
	Voluntary	-
	Schools under Catholic Management	19
	Schools under Other Management	19
TOTAL	19	

¹. Class size data is only collected in respect of nursery and primary schools and prep. departments.

². Children in special units are excluded.

³. Includes one Irish Medium school.

⁴. These are classes consisting solely of reception pupils.

⁵. Any reception pupils integrated into primary classes are not included.

⁶. Includes one Irish Medium school.

⁷. Excludes one Controlled and one Catholic Maintained Irish Medium school.

Table 5a: Religion of children in funded pre-school education by centre type and management type, 2006/07

		Protestant	Roman Catholic	Other Christian	Non Christian	Other/ No Religion/ Not recorded	Total
Nursery Schools	Controlled	2,440	1,096	#	#	572	4,201
	Catholic Maintained	65	1,658	*	#	121	1,852
	TOTAL	2,505	2,754	62	39	693	6,053
Nursery Classes & Reception	Controlled/Voluntary¹	2,628	475	252	33	1,055	4,443
	Catholic Maintained/ Other Maintained	99	3,684	17	18	92	3,910
	Controlled Integrated	6	5	*	-	#	19
	Grant Maintained Integrated	122	157	#	7	#	391
	TOTAL	2,855	4,321	289	58	1,240	8,763
Voluntary and Private Pre-School Centres (funded children only)	Voluntary	1,824	3,027	#	#	963	5,877
	Private²	247	102	#	*	94	450
	TOTAL²	2,071	3,129	49	21	1,057	6,327
ALL FUNDED PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION²		7,421	10,204	400	118	2,990	21,143

* Fewer than 5 cases.

Number suppressed.

¹ Not under Catholic management.

² Revised figures 12 March 2007.

Table 5b: Religion of pupils by school type and management type, 2006/07
Nursery, Primary, Post Primary and Special Schools

		Protestant	Roman Catholic	Other Christian	Non Christian	Other/ No Religion/ Not recorded	Total
Nursery Schools	Controlled	2,440	1,096	#	#	572	4,201
	Catholic Maintained	65	1,658	*	#	121	1,852
	TOTAL	2,505	2,754	62	39	693	6,053
Nursery Classes & Reception	Controlled/Voluntary ¹	2,628	475	252	33	1,055	4,443
	Catholic Maintained/Other Maintained	99	3,684	17	18	92	3,910
	Controlled Integrated	6	5	*	-	#	19
	Grant Maintained Integrated	122	157	#	7	#	391
	TOTAL	2,855	4,321	289	58	1,240	8,763
Primary Schools (Year 1 - Year 7)	Controlled	57,813	3,401	2,657	418	10,437	74,726
	Catholic Maintained/Other Maintained	785	73,839	153	155	481	75,413
	Controlled Integrated	997	559	80	25	415	2,076
	Grant Maintained Integrated	1,715	2,035	282	53	720	4,805
	TOTAL	61,310	79,834	3,172	651	12,053	157,020
Prep. Departments (Year 1 - Year 7)	Controlled	239	24	#	*	51	335
	Voluntary	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Schools under Catholic Management	1,164	202	#	#	577	2,066
	Schools under Other Management	1,403	226	107	37	628	2,401
TOTAL	29,407	566	1,009	78	3,663	34,723	
Secondary (Non Grammar) Schools	Controlled	219	41,555	68	49	180	42,071
	Catholic Maintained/Other Maintained	1,283	386	70	15	247	2,001
	Controlled Integrated	3,452	3,975	488	79	731	8,725
	Grant Maintained Integrated	34,361	46,482	1,635	221	4,821	87,520
	TOTAL	11,476	922	861	55	1,437	14,751
Grammar Schools (Year 8 - Year 14)	Controlled	223	27,108	80	26	77	27,514
	Voluntary	13,767	1,951	985	153	3,124	19,980
	Schools under Catholic Management	25,466	29,981	1,926	234	4,638	62,245
	Schools under Other Management	1,792	1,701	#	#	#	4,258
Special Schools	Controlled	27	264	*	*	#	299
	Catholic Maintained/Other Maintained	1,819	1,965	78	15	680	4,557
	TOTAL	129,719	165,563	7,269	1,255	24,753	328,559
ALL NURSERY, PRIMARY, POST-PRIMARY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS		129,719	165,563	7,269	1,255	24,753	328,559

* Fewer than 5 cases.

Number suppressed.

¹ Not under Catholic management.

Table 6a: Ethnicity of children in funded pre-school education by centre type, 2006/07

	White (excluding Irish Traveller)	Chinese	Irish Traveller	Indian/Sri Lankan	Pakistani	Black	Other ethnic group	Mixed ethnic group	Total
Nursery Schools	5,900	#	6	25	#	6	36	56	6,053
Nursery Classes & Reception	8,541	36	15	40	9	16	55	51	8,763
Voluntary and Private Pre-School Centres (funded children only) ¹	6,149	#	37	21	*	22	34	40	6,327
ALL FUNDED PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION ¹	20,590	75	58	86	18	44	125	147	21,143

* Fewer than 5 cases.

Number suppressed.

¹ Revised 12 March 2007.

**Table 6b: Ethnicity of pupils by school type, 2006/07
Nursery, Primary, Post Primary and Special Schools**

	White (excluding Irish Traveller)	Chinese	Irish Traveller	Indian/Sri Lankan	Pakistani	Black	Other ethnic group	Mixed ethnic group	Total
Nursery Schools	5,900	#	6	25	#	6	36	56	6,053
Nursery Classes & Reception	8,541	36	15	40	9	16	55	51	8,763
Primary Schools & Prep. Departments (Year 1 - Year 7)	156,055	370	550	406	118	255	787	880	159,421
Secondary (Non Grammar) Schools	86,365	184	162	100	37	98	355	219	87,520
Grammar Schools (Year 8 - Year 14)	61,241	374	*	131	33	#	211	201	62,245
Special Schools	4,483	#	#	6	#	*	11	17	4,557
ALL NURSERY, PRIMARY, POST-PRIMARY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS	322,585	993	755	708	210	429	1,455	1,424	328,559

* Fewer than 5 cases.

Number suppressed.

Table 7: Percentage of children with Special Education Needs¹ at schools and funded pre-school education centres in 2006/07

	% Statemented children	% SEN children (non- statemented)	% SEN children (stage 1 - 5)
VOLUNTARY and PRIVATE PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION CENTRES²	0.2%	6.1%	6.3%
NURSERY SCHOOLS Total nursery school pupils	0.8%	16.5%	17.3%
PRIMARY SCHOOLS and PREPARATORY DEPARTMENTS			
Total nursery class pupils	0.5%	3.3%	3.8%
Primary: reception	*	1.4%	1.5%
Grammar Preparatory: reception	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total reception pupils	*	1.4%	1.5%
Primary schools (year 1 - 7)	2.8%	17.2%	19.9%
Grammar school Preparatory Depts.(year 1 - 7)	#	9.0%	10.0%
Total year 1 - 7 pupils	2.8%	17.0%	19.8%
Total primary pupils	2.6%	16.3%	18.9%
POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS			
Secondary (non grammar) schools	4.0%	15.9%	19.9%
Grammar Schools	0.5%	3.2%	3.7%
Total post primary pupils	2.6%	10.6%	13.2%
SPECIAL SCHOOLS	Total	91.2%	8.8%
HOSPITAL SCHOOLS³	Total	N/A	N/A
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS⁴	Total	N/A	N/A
ALL SCHOOLS⁵	Total	3.8%	13.6%
ALL SCHOOLS AND PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION CENTRES⁵		3.7%	17.2%

1. Children with Special Education Needs are assessed under the 5 stages of the SEN Code of Practice.
2. Voluntary and private centres funded under the Pre-school Education Expansion Programme.
3. Special needs data is not collected in respect of Hospital schools.
4. Special needs data is not collected in respect of Independent schools.
5. Excluding Hospital and Independent schools.

* Fewer than 5 cases.

Number suppressed.