



GREECE

| Question | Data | | | | | Notes and sources used | |
|---|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Number of compulsory school aged pupils (<i>including those with SEN</i>) | Public Sector | | Private Sector | | Total | Academic Year of Reference | Source: Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs: www.ypepth.gr |
| | 1,381,251 | | 65,047 | | | | |
| | Primary | Secondary | Primary | Secondary | | | |
| | 702,830 | 678,421 | 50,899 | 14,148 | 1,146,298 | 2009/2010 | |
| 2. Number of compulsory school aged pupils who have SEN (<i>in all educational settings</i>) | Public Sector | | Private Sector | | Total | Academic Year of Reference | Source: Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs. * Data on pupils with SEN in the private sector is not available. This applies to questions 2 to 5. |
| | 29,954 | | - * | | | | |
| | Primary | Secondary | Primary | Secondary | | | |
| | 22,347 | 7,607 | - | - | 29,954 | 2009/2010 | |
| 3. Pupils with SEN in segregated special schools | Public Sector | | Private Sector | | Total | Academic Year of Reference | Source: Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs. |
| | 7,483 | | - | | | | |
| | Primary | Secondary | Primary | Secondary | | | |
| | 3,642 | 3,841 | - | - | 7,483 | 2009/2010 | |
| 4. Pupils with SEN in segregated special classes in mainstream schools | Public Sector | | Private Sector | | Total | Academic Year of Reference | Source: Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs. * This is a change from 2008 data. A stricter application of the operational definition of inclusion has been applied. These pupils are placed in so called 'inclusive classes' (formerly called special classes). In inclusive classes special teaching is provided by specially trained teachers, outside the main school programme. This teaching covers 80% of the everyday school programme. |
| | 22,471 | | - | | | | |
| | Primary | Secondary | Primary | Secondary | | | |
| | 18,705 | 3,766 | - | - | 22,471 * | 2009/2010 | |
| 5. Pupils with SEN in fully inclusive settings | Public Sector | | Private Sector | | Total | Academic Year of Reference | * This is a change from 2008 data. Accurate figures on pupils with SEN who are fully included in mainstream classes are not available. |
| | - | | - | | | | |
| | Primary | Secondary | Primary | Secondary | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - * | - | |

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| 6. Compulsory age phase | Education in Greece is compulsory for all children between 5 to 15 years, i.e. pre-primary (Nipiagwgeio – 1 year), primary (Dimotiko – 6 years) and lower secondary (Gymnasio – 3 years). However, school age may begin from the age of 2.5 (pre-school age) to Kindergartens (private/public), which are called Childrens' Stations or Frefonipiakoi Stathmoi. Some of them also include pre-primary units, which are licensed to operate as pre-primary schools for one year. |
| 7. Clarification of Public - Private sector education | <p>All schools in Greece, including private, are under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, use the same curricula and, after graduation, all pupils take together the entrance examination for Tertiary Education.</p> <p>Pre-primary Education – No. of schools: 456, Teachers and specialists: 667, Pupils: 11,815</p> <p>Primary Education – No. of schools: 200, Teachers and specialists: 2,860, Pupils: 39,084</p> <p>Secondary Education – No. of schools: 119</p> <p>Reference: Ministry of Education Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs, 2009/2010: http://www.ypepth.gr/el_ec_categoryssm211.htm</p> |
| 8. Legal Definition of SEN | <p>The new Law 3699/2008 'Special Education and education of people with disability or special educational needs' (see * below) regulates all the issues concerning the degree of the learning difficulties that pupils may meet during the everyday education process either in the mainstream or in the special system education.</p> <p>According to the Law 3699/2008 'Special Education and education of people with disability or special educational needs', the following are referred to as special needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Difficulties in learning due to sensory, intellectual, cognitive, developmental, mental and neuro-psychiatric disorders which are localised after a scientific and pedagogical evaluation. These difficulties influence the process of learning and school adjustment. Pupils with special educational needs are considered those pupils who have disabilities in motion, vision, hearing, who suffer from chronic diseases, disorders in speech, attention deficit, and all pervasive developmental disorders. - Special needs are also considered behaviours due to complex factors, i.e. cognitive, emotional, mental and social disadvantages deriving from the family and social environment. - Special educational needs are also the educational needs of 'pupils who have one or more mental abilities developed to a degree that exceed a lot the expected abilities of their age range'. <p>NB: Difficulties in learning that derive from the social and economic background of the learner as well as low achievers are not considered as pupils with special needs.</p> <p>* ΝΟΜΟΣ 3699/2008 – ΦΕΚ 199/Α'/2.10.2008, Ειδική Αγωγή και Εκπαίδευση ατόμων με αναπηρία ή με ειδικές εκπαιδευτικές ανάγκες, http://www.disabled.gr/lib/?p=17947</p> |