

  


## IRELAND

Question	Data					Notes and sources used
<b>1. Number of compulsory school aged pupils (including those with SEN)</b>	<b>Public Sector</b>		<b>Private Sector</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>Academic Year of Reference</b>
	<b>649,166</b>		<b>- *</b>			
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	<b>649,166</b>	2008/2009
	406,518	242,648	-	-		
<b>2. Number of compulsory school aged pupils who have SEN (in all educational settings)</b>	<b>Public Sector</b>		<b>Private Sector</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>Academic Year of Reference</b>
	<b>33,908</b>		<b>- *</b>			
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	<b>33,908</b>	2008/2009
	20,556	13,352	-	-		
<b>3. Pupils with SEN in segregated special schools</b>	<b>Public Sector</b>		<b>Private Sector</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>Academic Year of Reference</b>
	<b>4,976</b>		<b>-</b>			
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	<b>4,976</b>	2008/2009
	4,976	-	-	-		
<p>Source: Department of Education and Skills.</p> <p>* The total figure provided applies to public sector schools only as private schools are not obliged to return data to the Department of Education and Skills.</p>						
<p>Source: Department of Education and Skills.</p> <p>* No breakdown is available for the private sector. This applies to questions 2–5.</p> <p>The figures provided here are totals for questions 3, 4 and 5. Please refer to explanatory notes provided for these questions.</p> <p>The figure for primary schools does not include children with high incidence SEN who are resourced under the General Allocation Model. These children receive additional support in schools without requiring formal diagnosis. Reliable figures for the number of children receiving additional support without a formal diagnosis are not available.</p>						
<p>Source: Department of Education and Skills.</p> <p>This figure refers to pupils of compulsory school age (6–16 years) in special schools.</p> <p>Special schools in Ireland are designated primary schools, but some special schools also provide education to children of secondary school age. Of the 4,976 pupils aged 6–16 years in special schools, 2,283 of these pupils are of secondary school age (13–16 years).</p> <p>In addition to the pupils of compulsory school age, 1,099 pupils outside of compulsory school age were enrolled in special schools i.e. pupils who are under the age of 6 years, or aged 17 years or over.</p> <p>The figures provided here for special schools refer only to special schools for pupils with assessed special</p>						

							educational needs. In the returns for previous years, the figures for special schools included schools for children with special educational needs, as well as other schools which cater for children who are not included in mainstream school environments, such as hospital schools, schools for members of the Traveller community and schools for young offenders. The latter categories are not included in this year's data.
<b>4. Pupils with SEN in segregated special classes in mainstream schools</b>	<b>Public Sector</b>		<b>Private Sector</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>Academic Year of Reference</b>	<p>Source: Department of Education and Skills.</p> <p>* There is a total of 2,931 pupils in special classes in mainstream primary schools. 2,380 is an estimate of those pupils aged 6–16, i.e. those who are in compulsory education.</p> <p>The figures provided here refer to primary schools only. Figures for pupils in special classes in mainstream secondary schools are not available for 2008/2009.</p>
	<b>2,380</b>		<b>-</b>				
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary			
	2,380	-	-	-	<b>2,380 *</b>	2008/2009	
<b>5. Pupils with SEN in fully inclusive settings</b>	<b>Public Sector</b>		<b>Private Sector</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>Academic Year of Reference</b>	<p>* The figure of 13,200 for primary refers to children with low incidence SEN, on whose behalf the NCSE has allocated resource teacher hours. This figure may not include a minority of children in the age range 6–12 years on whose behalf resource teacher hours were allocated before the NCSE assumed the resource allocation function in 2005.</p> <p>** The figure for Secondary includes children in receipt of resources through the NCSE for both low and high incidence SEN.</p>
	<b>26,522</b>		<b>-</b>				
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary			
	13,200 *	13,352 **	-	-	<b>26,552</b>	2008/2009	
<b>6. Compulsory age phase</b>	Education in Ireland is compulsory from age 6 to 16 or until students have completed three years of second level education.						
<b>7. Clarification of Public - Private sector education</b>	Public schools (including some fee-paying schools) are grant-aided by the State. Private schools do not receive funding from the State.						
<b>8. Legal Definition of SEN</b>	'Special educational needs' means, in relation to a person, a restriction in the capacity of the person to participate in and benefit from education on account of an enduring physical, sensory, mental health or learning disability, or any other condition which results in a person learning differently from a person without that condition' (Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act 2004).						