

SWEDEN

Question	Data					Notes and sources used
1. Number of compulsory school aged pupils (including those with SEN)	Public Sector		Private Sector		Total	Academic Year of Reference
	816,745		89,444			
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	906,189 *	2008/2009
	-	-	-	-		
2. Number of compulsory school aged pupils who have SEN (in all educational settings)	Public Sector		Private Sector		Total	Academic Year of Reference
	13,220		557			
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	13,777 *	2008/2009
	-	-	-	-		
<p>Source: Database of the Swedish National Agency for Education.</p> <p>* A breakdown of pupils in primary and secondary phases in both the public and private sectors is not available. This applies to questions 1 to 5. However, the breakdown of pupils across both sectors in primary and secondary education is as follows: Primary: 281 498; Secondary: 624,691.</p>						
<p>Source: Database of the Swedish National Agency for Education.</p> <p>It should be noted that there are no over-all statistics available for Sweden. In 2007 the Swedish National Agency for Education investigated the possibility of producing national statistics on pupils with disabilities. The National Agency found that such statistics would not be reliable, mainly because of the difficulty in defining what is to be counted as disability and how statistically to group the pupils and that it would shift focus from the responsibility of the school to support all pupils to the problems of the individual.</p> <p>* These pupils have cognitive disabilities who are enrolled in the special programmes and pupils who attend a national special school for pupils with visual impairment and additional disabilities or severe speech and language disorder or deafness or impaired hearing combined severe learning disabilities or congenital deaf-blindness. A breakdown of pupils in primary and secondary phases in each of the public and private sectors is as follows: Primary: 2,774; Secondary: 11,003. This figure includes 1,111 pupils above compulsory school age. These pupils are entitled</p>						

							to a voluntary tenth school year to broaden or deepen their knowledge.
3. Pupils with SEN in segregated special schools	Public Sector		Private Sector		Total	Academic Year of Reference	Source: Swedish National Agency for Education. * These pupils attend a national special school for pupils with visual impairment and additional disabilities or severe speech and language disorder or deafness or impaired hearing combined severe learning disabilities or congenital deaf-blindness. This figure includes 85 pupils above compulsory school age. These pupils are entitled to a voluntary tenth school year to broaden or deepen their knowledge.
	516		0				
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary			
	101	415	0	0	516 *	2008/2009	
4. Pupils with SEN in segregated special classes in mainstream schools	Public Sector		Private Sector		Total	Academic Year of Reference	Source: Swedish National Agency for Education. * These figures cover pupils with cognitive disabilities who are enrolled in the special programmes. These programmes are offered in every municipality and pupils are more or less included in the mainstream school. The breakdown of pupils across both sectors in primary and secondary education is as follows: Primary: 2,673; Secondary: 10,588. This figure includes 1,026 pupils above compulsory school age. These pupils are entitled to a voluntary tenth school year to broaden or deepen their knowledge.
	12,704		557				
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary			
	-	-	-	-	13,261 *	2008/2009	
5. Pupils with SEN in fully inclusive settings	Public Sector		Private Sector		Total	Academic Year of Reference	* In Sweden, there is an unknown number of pupils with SEN who are fully included in mainstream classes. Data is not collected relating to these pupils.
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	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary			
	-	-	-	-	- *	-	
6. Compulsory age phase	The compulsory age phase is 7 to 16 years. Primary age phase is 7 to 9 years. Secondary age phase is 10 to 16 years.						
7. Clarification of Public - Private sector education	A majority of Swedish schools are public, run by municipalities, but an increasing number are independent. Independent schools on the compulsory level need to be certified by the National Agency for Education and they are financed by municipality subsidies. The municipality where the student lives pays the school a 'per student, per year grant'. Independent schools are open to everyone and free of charge.						
8. Legal Definition	Please refer to notes above for a clear indication of which pupils the data refers to.						



of SEN	<p>There is no Legal Definition of SEN. In Sweden education follows the principle of 'a school for all' and the focus is on what kind of support the student needs – access to equivalent education for all. This means that pupils in need of special support should not be treated or defined as a group that is any different from other pupils and their rights are not stated separately. The obligation for schools to attend to all pupils' needs is, however, emphasised.</p> <p>Pupils in need of special support have the right to specialist provision. Special support shall be given to pupils who have difficulties in completing their education successfully. If a pupil needs special support an Action Plan shall be drawn up. The regulations regarding plans for pupils in need of special support have been further clarified. The pupil's need is to be assessed and the subsequent Action Plan shall contain information regarding the pupil's needs, what measures will be taken and how these measures will be followed up and evaluated. All education corresponds as far as possible to the National curricular, but with the emphasis upon meeting individual learning needs. In a few circumstances, this provision is offered in special settings, e.g. Special Schools with sign language communication are available for pupils with severe hearing impairments.</p> <p>Reference: All information is taken from Swedish school law and National curriculum documents, e.g. Education Act (1985:1100) Ch.1. General Provisions, Curriculum for the Pre-school Lpfo 98, Curriculum for the Compulsory School System, the Pre-School Class and the Leisure-time Centre Lpo 94, Curriculum for the Non-Compulsory School System Lpf 94.</p>
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