

FINLAND

| 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 |
| | 531,983 | | 13,205 | | | |
| | Primary | Secondary | Primary | Secondary | | |
| | 345,615 | 186,368 | 5,524 | 7,681 | 545,188 | 2010/2011 |
| 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 |
| | 45,178 | | 261 | | | |
| | Primary | Secondary | Primary | Secondary | | |
| | 25,884 | 19,294 | 94 | 167 | 45,439 | 2010/2011 |
| 3. Pupils with SEN in segregated special schools | Public Sector | | Private Sector | | Total | Academic Year of Reference |
| | 5,972 | | 261 | | | |
| | Primary | Secondary | Primary | Secondary | | |
| | 3,449 | 2,523 | 94 | 167 | 6,233 | 2010/2011 |
| 4. Pupils with SEN in segregated special classes in mainstream schools | Public Sector | | Private Sector | | Total | Academic Year of Reference |
| | 14,462 | | 0 * | | | |
| | Primary | Secondary | Primary | Secondary | | |
| | 9,317 | 5,145 | 0 | 0 | 14,462 | 2010/2011 |

Source: Statistics Finland.
WERA web reports:
<https://www.data.oph.fi/wera/wera>

Source: Statistics Finland.
In Finland learners with special needs are classified into two basic categories:
1. Those with an official decision (45,439). The data presented here refers to pupils with an official decision.
2. Those without an official decision. This second group includes learners with minor learning difficulties (dyslexia, maths, speech difficulties, etc.). There are 125,631 (2009/10) pupils who receive part-time special needs education.

Source: Statistics Finland.

Source: Statistics Finland.
* There are no pupils. In the private sector there are only few small special schools; other schools do not take in pupils with special needs.

| 5. Pupils with SEN in fully inclusive settings | Public Sector | | Private Sector | | Total | Academic Year of Reference | Source: Statistics Finland. Primary: 8,376 pupils study whole time in mainstream classes and 4,742 pupils study part of the school day in mainstream classes. Secondary: 5,179 pupils study whole time in mainstream classes and 6,447 pupils study part of the school day in mainstream classes. * There is no data on what proportion of the school day pupils are in this setting. ** There are no pupils. In the private sector there are only few small special schools; other schools do not take in pupils with special needs. |
|---|---|-----------|----------------|-----------|--------|----------------------------|---|
| | 24,744 * | | 0 ** | | | | |
| | Primary | Secondary | Primary | Secondary | | | |
| | 13,118 | 11,626 | 0 | 0 | 24,744 | 2010/2011 | |
| 6. Compulsory age phase | 7–16 years. | | | | | | |
| 7. Clarification of Public - Private sector education | In Finland private schools are financed by the government and their curriculum is based on National Core Curriculum. Almost all pupils are in public sector. | | | | | | |
| 8. Legal definition of SEN | <p>Basic education is governed by the Basic Education Act (628/1998), the Basic Education Decree (852/1998), the Government Decree on the objectives and time allocation in basic education (1435/2001) and the National Curriculum 2004 given by National Board of Education.</p> <p>Learners have special educational needs when their possibilities for growth, development or learning are decreased due to disability, sickness or decreased functioning. Learners with need of psychological or social support or at risk in these areas have the right to support for learning.</p> <p>Pupils with minor learning or adjustment difficulties have the right to receive part-time special needs education in conjunction with mainstream instruction.</p> <p>If a child cannot cope in mainstream education due to disability, illness, delayed development, emotional disorder or some other similar special need, he or she may be admitted to special needs education. Special education is provided primarily in conjunction with mainstream instruction or in a special class or at some other appropriate location.</p> <p>Act Amending the Basic Education Act (paragraphs concerning support for learning and school attendance) came into force on 1 January 2011. The National Board of Education revised the national core curriculum according to the new provisions so that they can be adopted on 1 January 2011 and on 1 August 2011 at the latest. This data was the last one that was gathered according to the old paragraphs.</p> <p>Source: Statistics Finland.</p> | | | | | | |