Schools, pupils and their characteristics: January 2020

Metadata guidance document

June 2020

Contents

Description

This document describes the data included in the 'Schools, pupils and their characteristics' National Statistics release's underlying data files. This data is released under the terms of the Open Government License and is intended to meet at least 3 stars for Open Data.

The publication methodology, available on the publication report, should be referenced alongside this data. It provides information on the data sources, their coverage and quality as well as explaining methodology used in producing the data.

Coverage

This release provides information on the number of schools and pupils in:

- state-funded primary schools
- state-funded secondary schools
- state-funded special schools
- non-maintained special schools
- pupil referral units
- independent schools
- local authority alternative provision

It includes information on:

- pupil numbers, including headcount and fte, gender, ethnicity, language and free school meals eligibility
- school numbers, including school type, academy status, denomination, admission policy, urban/rural and gender

The information is based on data collected via the pupil level spring school census, school level annual school census, general hospital schools census and alternative provision census.

File format and conventions

Rounding

This dataset has not had suppression applied.

Conventions

The following convention is used throughout the underlying data.

':' Not applicable.

Data files

This statistical release includes the following underlying data files in csv format:

File name	Content	Geographical levels	Years
spc_alternative_provision	Number of pupils in alternative provision, by age, gender, ethnicity and free school meal status	National; Regional; Local authority	2017/18 to 2019/20
class_size_2020	Class size information for state-funded primary and secondary schools including information on lawful and unlawful large class sizes.	National; Regional; Local authority	2015/16 to 2019/20
spc_pupils_fsm_eth_lang	Number of pupils in state-funded nursery, primary, secondary and special schools, non-maintained special schools and pupil referral units by free school meal eligibility, language and ethnicity.	National; Regional; Local authority	2015/16 to 2019/20
spc_pupils_ncyear_gender.csv	Number of pupils in state-funded nursery, primary, secondary and special schools, non-maintained special schools, pupil referral units and independent schools by national curriculum year and gender.	National; Regional; Local authority;	2015/16 to 2019/20
spc_pupils_age_gender.csv	Number of pupils in state-funded nursery, primary, secondary and special schools, non-maintained special schools, pupil referral units and independent schools by age and gender.	National; Regional; Local authority;	2015/16 to 2019/20

spc_school_pupils_characteristics.csv	Number of schools in England, by type, phase, denomination, admission policy, gender, urban/rural and academy status including headcounts and fte, ethnicity, fsm, age and national curriculum year breakdowns	National; Regional; Local authority;	2015/16 to 2019/20
spc_school_level_underlying_data.csv	School level file, containing one row per school included in the publication, including headcounts and fte, ethnicity, fsm, age and national curriculum year breakdowns	School	2019/20

Annex A: Variable listing and descriptions

Variable names and descriptions included across the underlying data files are provided below.

Variable name	Variable description
time_identifier	The type of time period covered
year_breakdown	The breakdown of the year covered
time_period	The year/s covered
geographic_level	The geographic level of the data
country_code	9 digit country code
country_name	Country name
region_code	Region code (Government Office Region) - 9 digit code
region_name	Region name (Government Office Region)
old_la_code	Local authority code (old)
new_la_code	Local authority code (new) - 9 digit code
la_name	Local authority name
estab	School establishment number
laestab	School LAEstab number
urn	School Unique Reference number
school_type	Type of school
Phase-type_grouping	Type of school
gender	Pupil gender
age	Pupil age
ethnicity	Ethnicity
FSM	Free school meals
number_of_pupils	Headcount of pupils
language	First language
headcount	Headcount of pupils
percent_of_pupils	Percentage of pupils
full_time	Full time pupils
part_time	Part time pupils
Headcount	Headcount
Ncyear	National curriculum year group
Sex_of_school_description	Sex of school description
Phase-type_grouping	School type
TypeOfEstablishment_(name)	School type (detailed)
Denomination	Denomination
Admissions_Policy	School admissions policy
Urban_rural	Urban or rural indicator
Academy_flag	Academy indicator
number_of_schools	Number of schools
headcount_of_pupils	Headcount - Total
part-time_girls_aged_X	Number of part time pupils aged X (girls)
full-time_girls_aged_X	Number of full time pupils aged X (girls)
part_time_boys_aged_X	Number of part time pupils aged X (boys)
full_time_boys_aged_X	Number of full time pupils aged X (boys)
Part_time_girls_Year_group_X	Number of part time pupils in year group X (girls)
Full_time_girls_Year_group_X	Number of full time pupils in year group X (girls)
Full_time_boys_Year_group_X	Number of full time pupils in year group X (boys)
Part_time_boys_Year_group_X	Number of part time pupils in year group X (boys)

Number_of_early_year_pupils_years_E1_and_E2	Number of early year pupils (years E1 and E2)
Number_of_nursery_pupils_years_N1_and_N2	Number of nursery pupils (years N1 and N2)
Number_of_reception_pupils_year_R	Number of reception pupils (year R)
Number_of_key_stage_1_pupils_years_1_and_2	Number of key stage 1 pupils (years 1 and 2)
Number_of_key_stage_2_pupils_years_3_to_6	Number of key stage 2 pupils (years 3 to 6)
Number_of_key_stage_3_pupils_years_7_to_9	Number of key stage 3 pupils (years 7 to 9)
Number_of_key_stage_4_pupils_years_10_and_11	Number of key stage 4 pupils (years 10 and 11)
Number_of_key_stage_5_pupils_years_12_to_14	Number of key stage 5 pupils (years 12 to 14)
Number_of_pupils_not_reception_or_key_stage_1_to_5	Number of pupils not reception or key stage 1 to 5
headcount_total_girls	Headcount - girls
headcount_total_boys	Headcount - boys
full_time_pupils	Full time pupils
part_time_pupils	Part time pupils
fte_pupils	FTE pupils
boy_boarders	Boy boarders
girl_boarders	Girl boarders
total_boarders	Total boarders
number_of_FSM_eligible_pupils_taking_a_free_school_meal_on_census_day	Number of FSM eligible pupils taking a free school meal on census day
number_of_pupils_known_to_be_eligible_for_free_school_meals	Known to be eligible for free school meals
Number_of_pupils_used_for_FSM_calculation_in_Performance_Tables	Number of pupils used for FSM calculation in Performance Tables
number_of_pupils_known_to_be_eligible_for_free_school_meals_Performance_Tables	Known to be eligible for free school meals Performance Tables
Infants_taken_a_free_school_meal_on_census_day	Infants taken a free school meal on census day
number_of_pupils_classified_as_white_British_ethnic_origin	White British ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_Irish_ethnic_origin	Irish ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_traveller_of_Irish_heritage_ethnic_origin	Traveller of Irish heritage ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_any_other_white_background_ethnic_origin	Any other white background ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_Gypsy/Roma_ethnic_origin	Gypsy or Roma ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_white_and_black_Caribbean_ethnic_origin	White and black Caribbean ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_white_and_black_African_ethnic_origin	White and black African ethnic background

number_of_pupils_classified_as_white_and_Asian_ethnic_origin	White and Asian ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_any_other_mixed_background_ethnic_origin	Any other mixed background ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_Indian_ethnic_origin	Indian ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_Pakistani_ethnic_origin	Pakistani ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_Bangladeshi_ethnic_origin	Bangladeshi ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_any_other_Asian_background_ethnic_origin	Any other Asian background ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_Caribbean_ethnic_origin	Black Caribbean ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_African_ethnic_origin	Black African ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_any_other_black_background_ethnic_origin	Any other black background ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_Chinese_ethnic_origin	Chinese ethnic background
number_of_pupils_classified_as_any_other_ethnic_group_ethnic_origin	Any other ethnic group ethnic background
number_of_pupils_unclassified	Unclassified
number_of_pupils_of_compulsory_school_age_and_above	Number of pupils of compulsory school age and above
number_of_pupils_whose_first_language_is_known_or_believed_to_be_English	First language is known or believed to be English
number_of_pupils_whose_first_language_is_known_or_believed_to_be_other_than_English	First language is known or believed to be other than English
number_of_pupils_whose_first_language_is_unclassified	First language is unclassified
ClassType	Primary or secondary class
KeyStage	Key stage of class
Size	Size of class
Number_of_classes	Number of classes
Number_of_pupils	Number of pupils
Average_class_size	Average class size
ExceptionAPupils	Number of Exception A pupils
ExceptionBPupils	Number of Exception B pupils
ExceptionCPupils	Number of Exception C pupils
ExceptionDPupils	Number of Exception D pupils
ExceptionEPupils	Number of Exception E pupils
ExceptionFPupils	Number of Exception F pupils
ExceptionGPupils	Number of Exception G pupils
ExceptionHPupils	Number of Exception H pupils
LargeExcludingExceptedClasses	Large excluding excepted classes
LargeExcludingExceptedPupils	Large excluding excepted pupils
LawfulClasses	Lawful classes
LawfulClassesPupils	Lawful classes pupils

UnlawfulClasses	Unlawful classes
UnlawfulClassesPupils	Unlawful classes pupils
LargeClassActivity	Large class activity
LargeClassActivityPupils	Large class activity pupils

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