



Enrolments September 2017 - Preliminary Results

This Statistical Bulletin presents first results on enrolments in mainstream primary and post-primary schools on 30th September 2017. The data has been taken from the Primary Online Database and the Post-primary Learners Database held in the Department of Education and Skills and is preliminary in nature. Final data will be published in June 2018.

Primary: Total enrolments in mainstream primary schools stood at 555,241 at September 2017, an increase of 5,041 pupils, or 0.9 per cent, on September 2016 (550,200). The number of girls rose by 2,529 pupils, from 269,283 to 271,812, while the number of boys rose by 2,512 from 280,917 to 283,429.

Figure 1 presents total enrolments by school ethos. Total enrolments in Catholic schools stood at 503,125 in September 2017, representing 90.6 per cent of all pupils. Enrolments in multi-denominational schools stood at 29,728, accounting for 5.4 per cent of the total, while Church of Ireland schools had enrolments of 16,540 representing 3.0 per cent of all pupils. Other faiths (including not stated) accounted for 5,848 pupils, or 1.1 per cent.

Figure 2 presents the absolute and percentage change by ethos. The fastest growing category in percentage terms was multi-denominational which increased by 9.0 per cent with an additional 2,448 pupils. This compares with Catholic schools which increased by 0.5 per cent, or 2,494 pupils.

Figure 1. Enrolments in mainstream primary schools by school ethos, September 2017

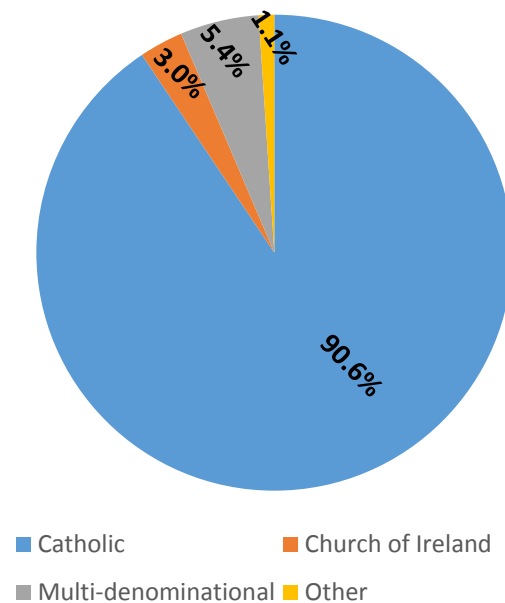


Figure 2. Absolute and percentage change in enrolment in mainstream schools, by ethos, 2016 and 2017

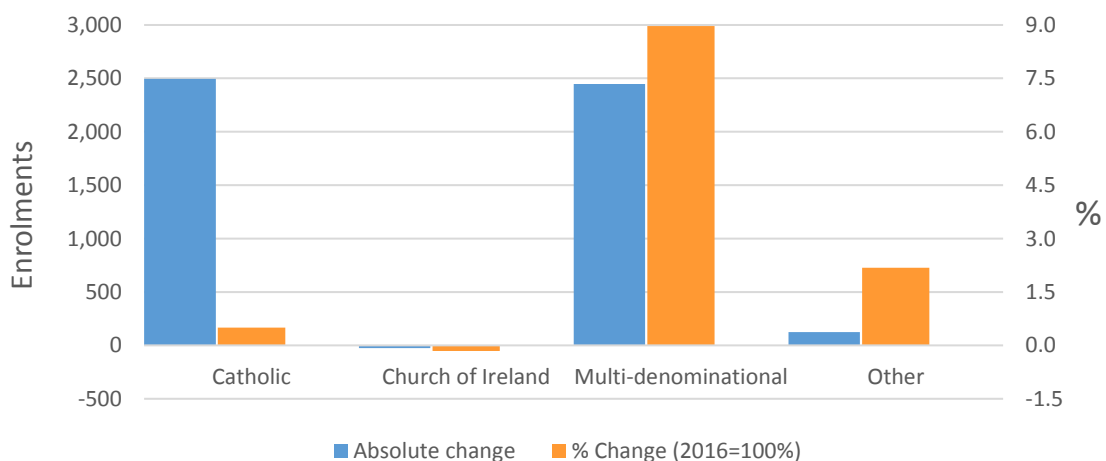


Figure 3 presents the change in enrolments by Irish language classification, and shows that the category “all subjects through Irish” had the largest increase, at 1.1 per cent, with a smaller increase in the other two categories.

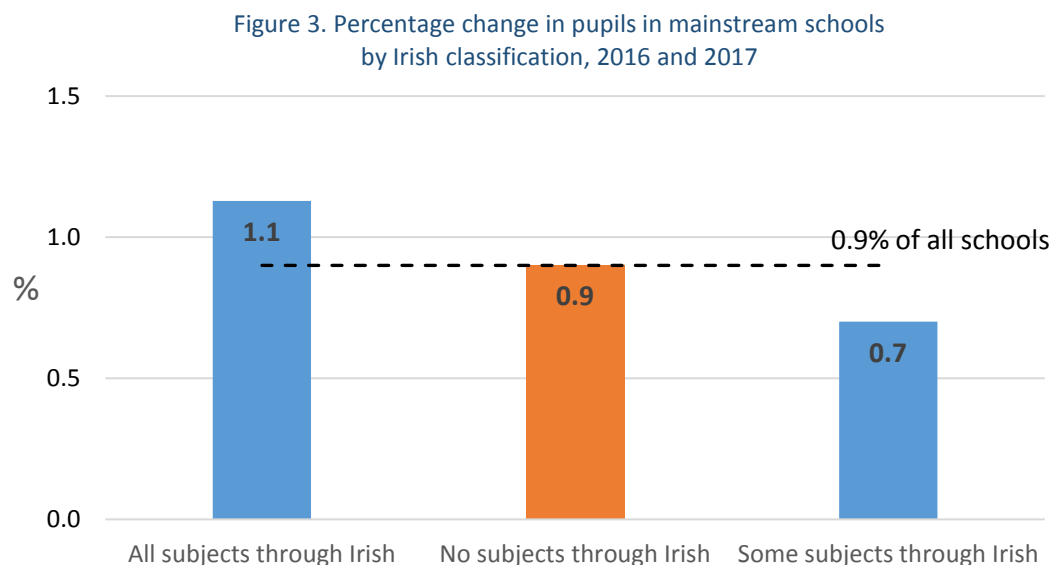


Figure 4 presents the change in enrolments by administrative county. Enrolments in multi-denominational schools outpaced those in Catholic schools in 9 areas with Kildare having the largest difference (316), followed by South Dublin (216) and Meath (183).

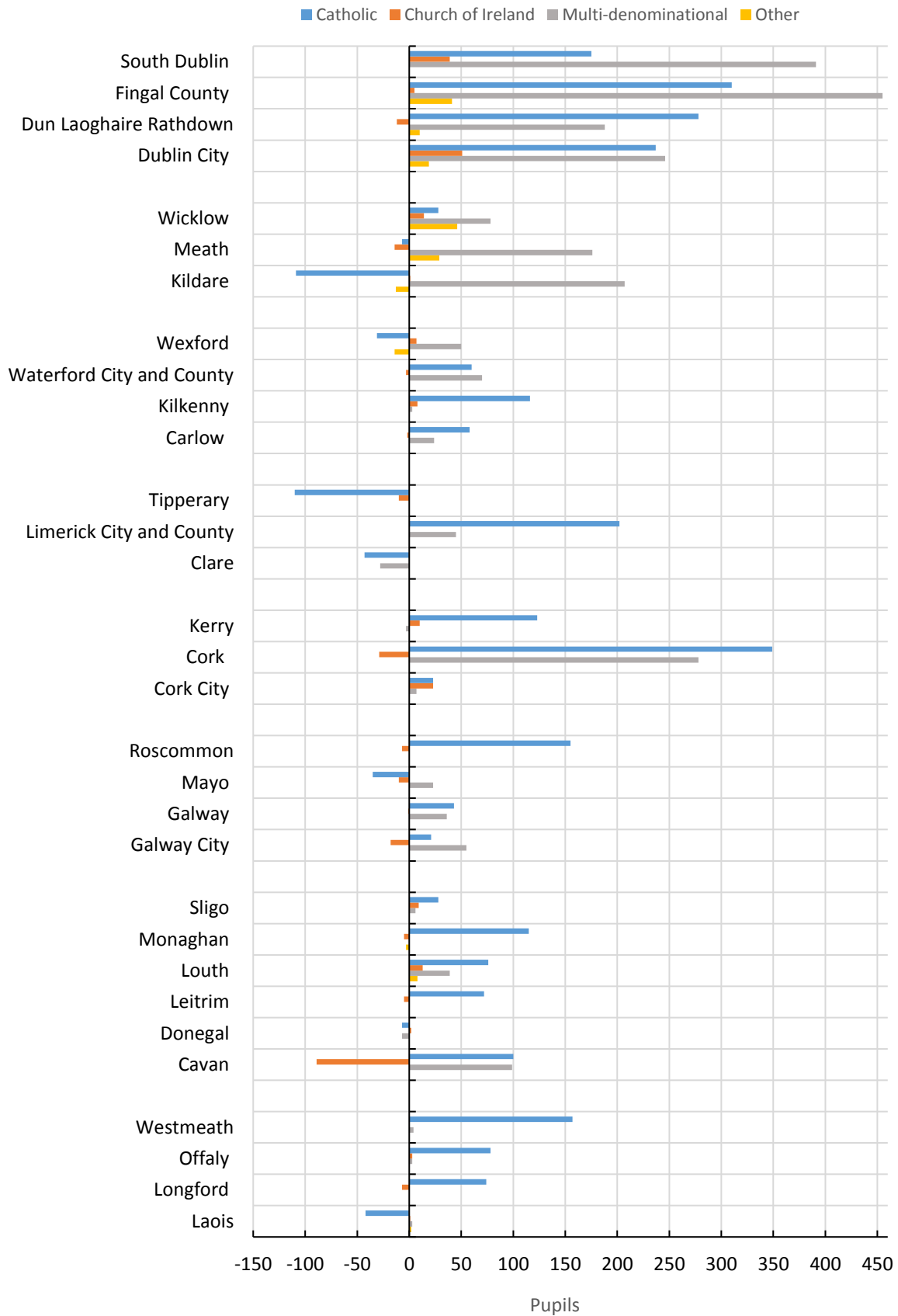
Fingal had the largest overall increase in multi-denominational schools with an additional 455 pupils, compared with 310 in Catholic schools. This was followed by South Dublin with an increase of 391 and Cork County with an increase of 278 pupils. Indeed, multi-denominational schools showed increases in every area with the exception of Clare, Kerry and Donegal where enrolments fell (by 28, 3 and 7 respectively).

The largest increases in Catholic schools were seen in Cork County (349), Fingal (310) and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown (278) while enrolments fell in 6 areas (Tipperary, Kildare, Clare, Laois, Mayo, and Wexford).

Table 1. Enrolments in mainstream primary schools by Irish classification and gender, 2016 and 2017

Irish classification	2016			2017		
	Girls	Boys	Total Pupils	Girls	Boys	Total Pupils
All subjects through Irish	22,359	21,766	44,125	22,717	21,906	44,623
No subjects through Irish	244,726	256,637	501,363	246,881	258,992	505,873
Some subjects through Irish	2,198	2,514	4,712	2,214	2,531	4,745
Total	269,283	280,917	550,200	271,812	283,429	555,241

Figure 4. Absolute change in enrolments in mainstream primary schools by school ethos and administrative county, 2016 and 2017



Post-primary: Total enrolments in post-primary schools stood at 357,442 at September 2017 - an increase of 5,185 pupils, or 1.5 per cent, on September 2016 (352,257). The number of girls stood at 177,354 while the number of boys stood at 180,088.

Figure 5 presents total enrolments by school ethos. Catholic schools dominated with 185,187 pupils, followed by inter-denominational schools with 143,507 pupils. There were 14,725 pupils in multi-denominational schools and 12,253 in Church of Ireland schools.

Figure 6 shows the absolute and percentage change by ethos. Pupils in multi-denominational schools increased by 20.3 per cent (2,486 pupils) over the twelve months, far ahead of the rise in Catholic schools which saw their numbers rise by just 1,562 (0.9%).

Schools where all subjects are taught through Irish grew at more than twice the rate (3.2%) of the general increase for all schools (1.5%), as in Figure 7.

Figure 8 shows the change in enrolments by administrative area. Increases in multi-denominational schools can be largely seen in the greater Dublin area led by South Dublin (333), Fingal (324), Kildare (295) and Louth (281). The largest increase in enrolments in Catholic schools was in Roscommon (up by 505 pupils), offset by a corresponding fall in Westmeath (-440).

Figure 5. Enrolments in post-primary schools by school ethos, September 2017

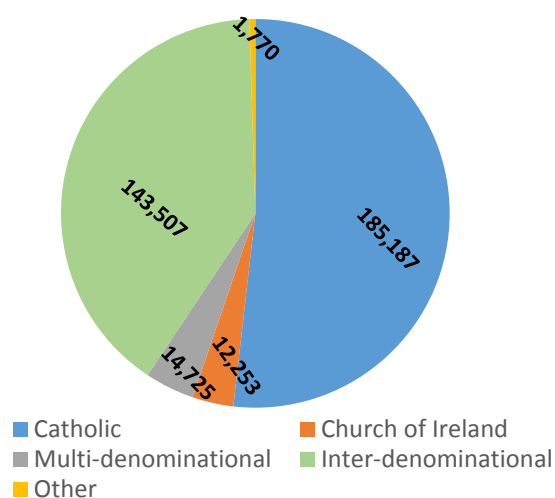


Figure 6. Absolute and percentage change in enrolments in post-primary schools by ethos, 2016 and 2017

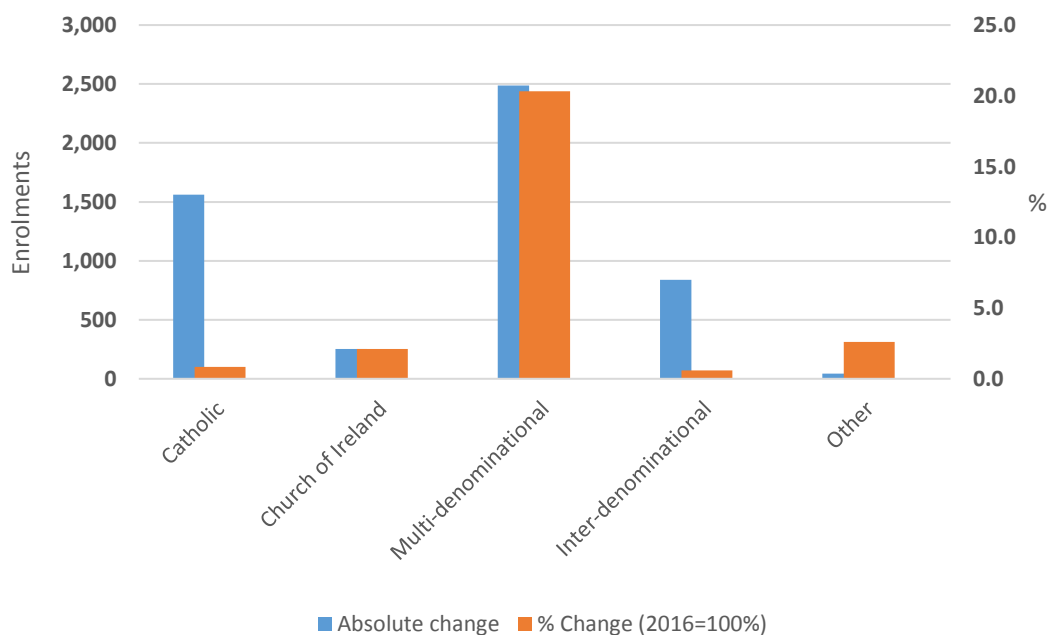


Figure 7. Percentage change in pupils enrolments in post-primary schools by Irish classification, 2016 and 2017

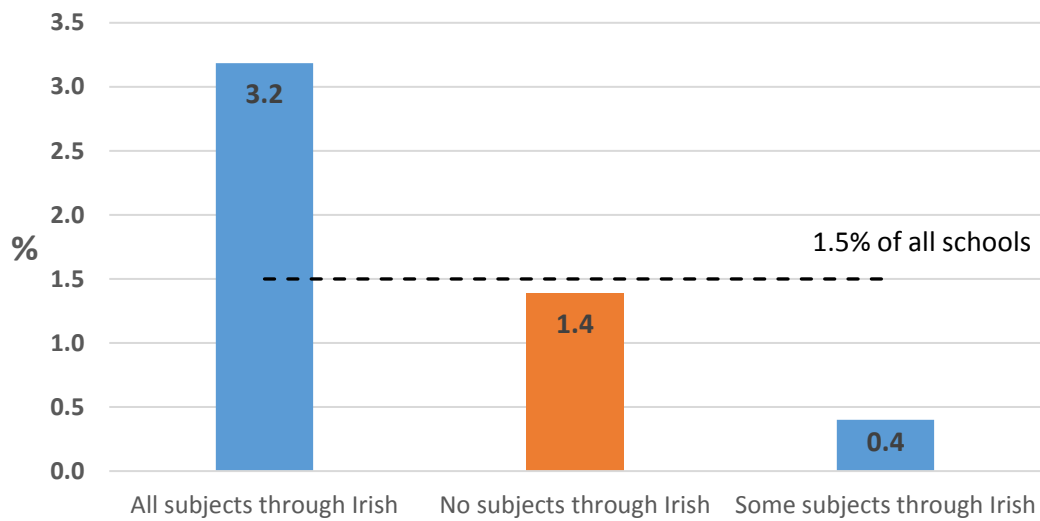


Table 2. Enrolments in post-primary schools by Irish classification and gender, 2016 and 2017

Irish classification	2016			2017		
	Girls	Boys	Total Pupils	Girls	Boys	Total Pupils
All subjects through Irish	9,247	9,625	18,872	9,469	10,004	19,473
No subjects taught through Irish	163,134	165,007	328,141	165,693	167,011	332,704
Some subjects through Irish	2,164	3,080	5,244	2,192	3,073	5,265
Total	174,545	177,712	352,257	177,354	180,088	357,442

Background Notes:

The source for this data is the Annual Census for 2017/2018, which is returned via the Primary/Post-Primary Online Database (POD/P-POD). The primary level data is reporting enrolments in mainstream schools only. Data is anchored on the census data of 30th September 2017. Note that only schools aided by the Department of Education and Skills are included in this report.

This data is provisional and was published on the 13th of February 2018. Final data will be published in June 2018. The final data will replace the provisional data.

Queries should be sent to statistics@education.gov.ie or by phone at 01-889 2085.

The detailed Excel data tables for previous years can be downloaded here: <https://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Statistics/Data-on-Individual-Schools/>

Figure 8. Absolute change in enrolments in post-primary schools, by school ethos and administrative county, 2016 and 2017

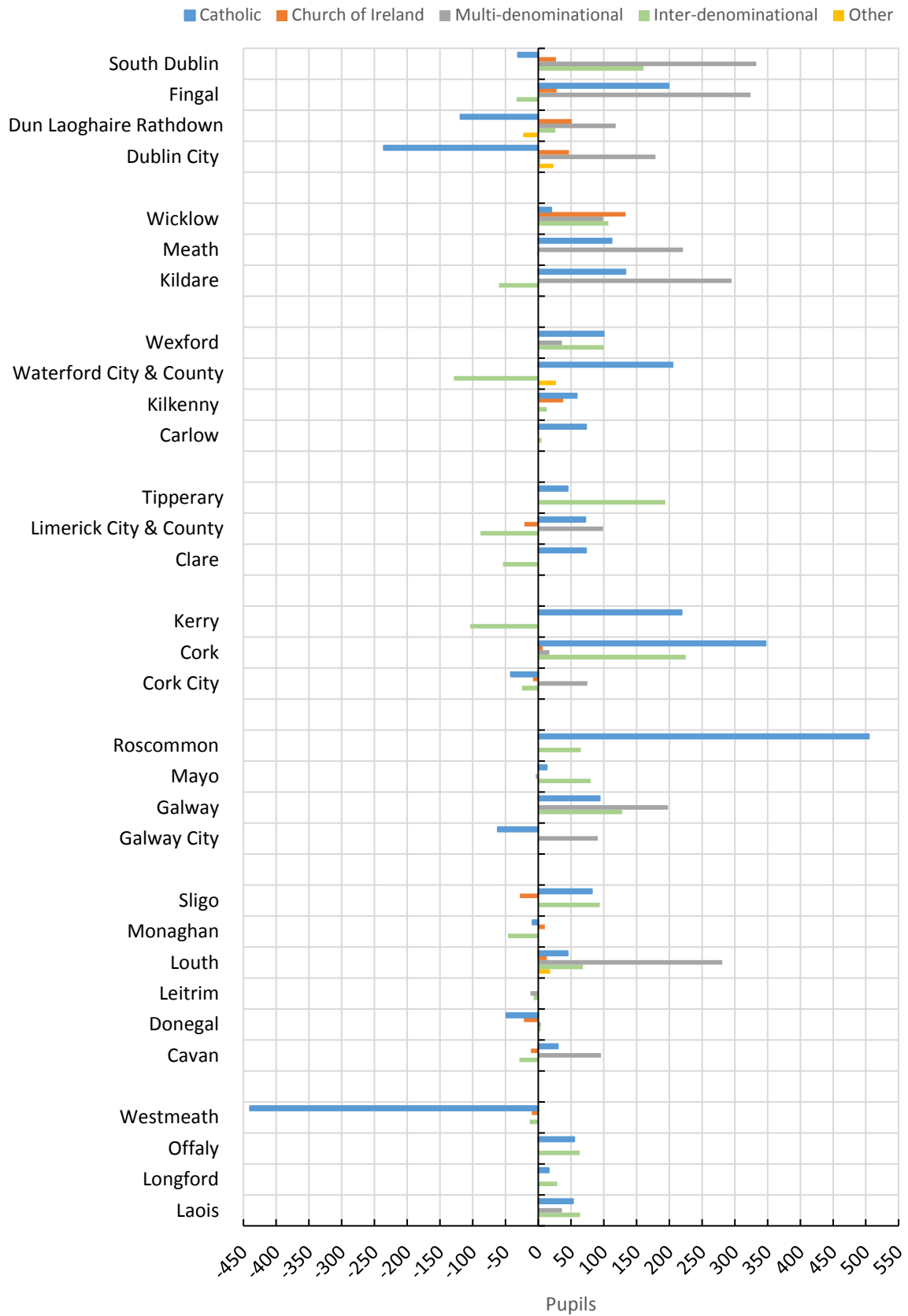


Table 3. Enrolments in mainstream primary schools by local authority and ethos, 2016-2017

Local Authority	2016					2017				
	Catholic	Church of Ireland	Multi-denominational	Other	Total	Catholic	Church of Ireland	Multi-denominational	Other	Total
South Dublin	30,680	984	3,310		34,974	30,855	1,023	3,701		35,579
Fingal	27,191	1,278	7,609	1,143	37,221	27,501	1,283	8,064	1,184	38,032
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	15,907	1,697	1,418	288	19,310	16,185	1,685	1,606	298	19,774
Dublin City	40,978	1,825	2,640	637	46,080	41,215	1,876	2,886	656	46,633
Wicklow	13,348	2,100	1,162	1,245	17,855	13,376	2,114	1,240	1,291	18,021
Meath	24,829	287	1,370	263	26,749	24,822	273	1,546	292	26,933
Kildare	26,424	658	1,692	605	29,379	26,315	659	1,899	592	29,465
Wexford	17,148	491	603	251	18,493	17,117	498	653	237	18,505
Waterford City & County	13,631	206	289	120	14,246	13,691	203	359	120	14,373
Kilkenny	10,557	237	239		11,033	10,673	245	242		11,160
Carlow	7,050	312	288		7,650	7,108	310	312		7,730
Tipperary	18,483	307			18,790	18,373	297			18,670
Limerick City & County	21,842	229	485		22,556	22,044	229	530		22,803
Clare	13,399	19	334		13,752	13,356	19	306		13,681
Kerry	15,825	66	92		15,983	15,948	76	89		16,113
Cork	45,349	1,611	1,831		48,791	45,698	1,582	2,109		49,389
Cork City	12,830	212	567		13,609	12,853	235	574		13,662
Roscommon	7,422	40			7,462	7,577	33			7,610
Mayo	14,303	86	49		14,438	14,268	76	72		14,416
Galway	21,965	21	629		22,615	22,008	20	665		22,693
Galway City	6,922	83	439		7,444	6,943	65	494		7,502
Sligo	7,152	333	26		7,511	7,180	342	32		7,554
Monaghan	7,152	297		245	7,694	7,267	292		242	7,801
Louth	15,750	214	949	84	16,997	15,826	227	988	92	17,133
Leitrim	3,573	87			3,660	3,645	82			3,727
Donegal	16,733	1,208	219	719	18,879	16,726	1,210	212	719	18,867
Cavan	9,105	649	32		9,786	9,205	560	131		9,896
Westmeath	10,426	212	409	86	11,133	10,583	212	413	86	11,294
Offaly	9,468	243	209		9,920	9,546	246	212		10,004
Longford	5,151	114			5,265	5,225	107			5,332
Laois	10,038	460	390	37	10,925	9,996	461	393	39	10,889
Total	500,631	16,566	27,280	5,723	550,200	503,125	16,540	29,728	5,848	555,241

Table 4. Enrolments in post-primary schools by local authority and ethos, 2016-2017

Local Authority	2016						2017					
	Catholic	Church of Ireland	Multi-denominational	Inter-denominational	Other	Total	Catholic	Church of Ireland	Multi-denominational	Inter-denominational	Other	Total
South Dublin	7,705	1,007	1,317	11,559		21,588	7,674	1,034	1,650	11,720		22,078
Fingal	6,674	317	3,599	10,968		21,558	6,873	345	3,923	10,935		22,076
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	9,673	2,109	121	1,884	930	14,717	9,554	2,160	239	1,910	907	14,770
Dublin City	23,992	2,289	86	3,614	120	30,101	23,756	2,336	265	3,617	143	30,117
Wicklow	4,345	762	241	5,687		11,035	4,365	895	340	5,794		11,394
Meath	4,271		691	9,302		14,264	4,383		912	9,300		14,595
Kildare	8,773		1,503	8,092		18,368	8,906		1,798	8,032		18,736
Wexford	7,254		632	4,324		12,210	7,354		668	4,424		12,446
Waterford City & County	6,215			2,334	372	8,921	6,420			2,205	399	9,024
Kilkenny	3,544	846		3,123		7,513	3,603	884		3,136		7,623
Carlow	3,424			2,066		5,490	3,497			2,071		5,568
Tipperary	8,632			4,661		13,293	8,677			4,855		13,532
Limerick City & County	6,680	587	1,179	6,724		15,170	6,752	566	1,278	6,636		15,232
Clare	4,248			3,952		8,200	4,321			3,898		8,219
Kerry	6,280			4,244		10,524	6,499			4,140		10,639
Cork	12,118	1,077	57	16,039		29,291	12,465	1,084	74	16,264		29,887
Cork City	8,854	526	45	1,869		11,294	8,812	518	120	1,844		11,294
Roscommon	2,071			1,181		3,252	2,576			1,246		3,822
Mayo	6,502		237	3,398		10,137	6,515		233	3,478		10,226
Galway	8,221		774	4,790		13,785	8,315		972	4,918		14,205
Galway City	3,849		366	816		5,031	3,787		457	815		5,059
Sligo	2,689	452		1,649		4,790	2,771	424		1,743		4,938
Monaghan	2,983	256		2,121		5,360	2,974	266		2,075		5,315
Louth	6,561	560	599	3,550	303	11,573	6,606	573	880	3,618	321	11,998
Leitrim			686	1,857		2,543			674	1,850		2,524
Donegal	3,353	594	38	8,984		12,969	3,304	572	42	8,988		12,906
Cavan	1,978	229	68	2,927		5,202	2,008	218	164	2,898		5,288
Westmeath	5,377	388		2,767		8,532	4,937	378		2,754		8,069
Offaly	3,444			3,622		7,066	3,499			3,685		7,184
Longford	2,099			1,700		3,799	2,115			1,729		3,844
Laois	1,816			2,865		4,681	1,869		36	2,929		4,834
Total	183,625	11,999	12,239	142,669	1,725	352,257	185,187	12,253	14,725	143,50	1,770	357,442