



Early Leavers – What Next?

Report on Early Leavers from Post-Primary schools – pupils enrolled in 2009/2010 and not in 2010/2011

May 2013

This report may be accessed at:

[Early Leavers - What Next?](#)

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Introduction

This report and its companion report ‘School Completers-What Next?’ are the first in a series of reports by the Department of Education and Skills (DES) which track school leavers a year after they leave school. Following the publication of the National Statistics Board report entitled ‘The Irish Statistics System: The Way Forward and Joined Up Government Needs Joined Up Data’ in December 2011, the Department of Education and Skills took the initiative to explore the potential of data matching to fill current data gaps. The tracking was carried out using data matching and was also supplemented with estimations for other destinations for which individualised data was not available.

The reports are based on a detailed analysis of the records held in the Department on students who were enrolled in DES-aided post-primary schools (on the Post-Primary Pupils Database), focusing on those pupils who were enrolled in post-primary schools in one academic year but not enrolled in one of these schools one year later. These pupils, using a unique personal identifier (a protected identifier key based on the Personal Public Service Number (PPSN)), were tracked to other data sources that were available at the time.

The cohort of pupils dealt with in this report was enrolled in the 2009/2010 academic year and are termed ‘Early Leavers’.

Acknowledgements

With thanks to the following for their help and assistance in the production and compilation of this report.

Central Statistics Office:	Berni Dunne
	John Dunne
Nevin Economic Research Institute:	Tom Healy
Quality and Qualifications Ireland:	Rhona Dempsey

And within the Department of Education and Skills:

Bridie Leonard, Diarmuid Reidy, Eva McEvoy, Gillian Golden, Helen Maxwell, Noel O’Connor, Patricia Dunne and Tracey Shanks.

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Executive Summary

This is the first of a series of annual reports by the Department of Education and Skills (DES) which tracks school leavers the year after they leave school. It is based on a detailed analysis of the records held in the Department on students who were enrolled in DES-aided post-primary schools (on the Post-Primary Pupils Database), focusing on those pupils who were enrolled in post-primary schools in the 2009/2010 academic year but not enrolled in one of these schools one year later in the 2010/2011 academic year, excluding those who were in the final year of senior cycle in 2009/2010. These pupils, using a unique personal identifier (based on the PPSN), were tracked to other data sources that were available at the time. The following sources were used to ascertain their education or economic status after they left school:

- The Higher Education Authority (HEA) Student Record System
- The Further Education and Training Awards Council (FETAC) awards database (now the Quality and Qualifications Ireland)
- FÁS dataset
- The Central Records System of the Department of Social Protection
- The P35 files (employer end-of-year returns) of the Revenue Commissioners

Table A: Number of Pupils Enrolled in Second-Level Schools Aided by the Department of Education and Skills 2009/2010 and Number of Which not Enrolled 2010/2011 (Excludes Those Enrolled in Final Year of Senior Cycle)

	Enrolled in 2009/2010 30 th Sep 2009	<i>Of Which not Enrolled in 2010/2011 i.e. Early Leavers 30th Sep 2010</i>
Junior Cycle		
Junior Cert. Year 1	55,547	582
Junior Cert. Year 2	53,755	771
Junior Cert. Year 3	52,702	1,445
Junior Cert. School Programme Year 1	3,688	77
Junior Cert. School Programme Year 2	3,619	143
Junior Cert. School Programme Year 3	3,333	332
Senior Cycle		
Transition Year Programme	28,635	1,064
Leaving Cert. Year 1	32,534	1,996
Leaving Cert. Applied Year 1	3,642	505
Leaving Cert. Vocational Programme Year 1	19,605	798
Total*	257,060	7,713

*Differs slightly from the published figures due to improvements in data quality.

*Excludes pupils enrolled in the final year of senior cycle.

In the 2009/2010 academic year there were 257,060 pupils enrolled in second-level schools aided by the Department of Education and Skills (excluding those enrolled in the final year of the senior cycle). Over 7,700 (7,713) were not enrolled in these schools in the following academic year. For the purposes of this report these are termed 'Early Leavers'.

The data linking was carried out in line with the Statistics Act 1993 in conjunction with the Central Statistics Office (CSO). In addition to tracking pupils across other databases, estimations and calculations have been used for other destinations using a mixture of data sources (e.g. students enrolled in the Youthreach Programme).

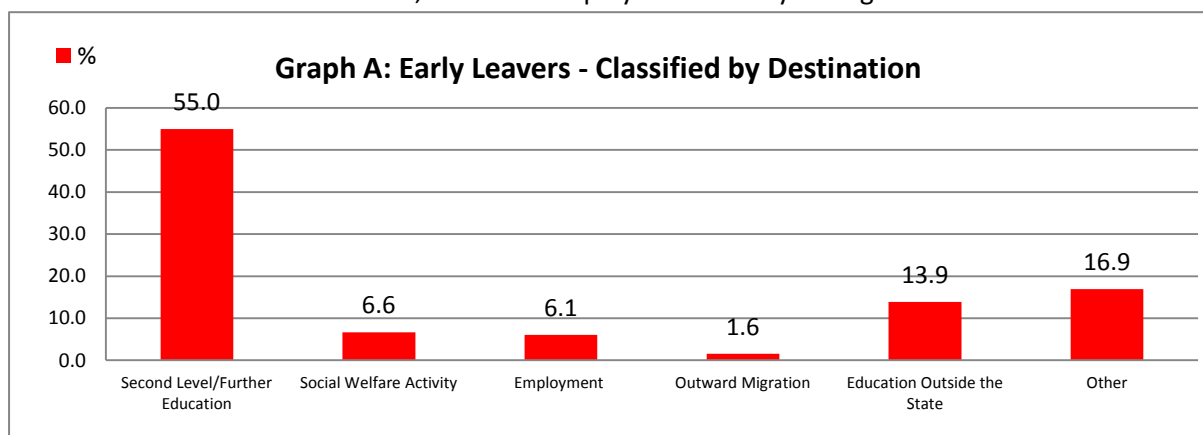
Table B: Early Leavers - Classified by Destination in 2010

	Number	% of Cohort
Total Cohort	7,713	100.0
<i>Of which enrolled in</i>		
Post-Leaving Cert. Course (PLC)	114	1.5
FÁS Course 2010	473	6.1
<i>Of those remaining</i>		
Social Welfare Activity on 31st December 2010	511	6.6
<i>Of those with no social welfare activity on 31st December 2010</i>		
Employment Activity During 2010	469	6.1
Outward Migration up to June 2010~	120	1.6
Enrolled in Education or Training Outside of the State	1,070	13.9
<i>Estimates for</i>		
Youthreach*	1,941	25.2
Enrolled in Private Educational Institutions*	1,711	22.2
Other (includes emigration, seasonal employment abroad and all other categories)	1,304	16.9

* See Background Notes.

~ Data source only covers why students left between 30th of September and 30th of June.

Table B (above) and Graph A (below) present data on the destination of Early Leavers. Over 50% (55.0%) of Early Leavers went on to further education or training or continued second-level education in Ireland. This includes students who were tracked to other databases and estimations for students enrolled in Youthreach courses and private educational institutions. A further 13.9% were enrolled in education or training outside of the State. Of those Early Leavers who did not continue in the education sector, 6.6% were seen to have social welfare activity at the end of December 2010. Of the remainder, 6.1% had employment activity during 2010.



Section 1: Early Leavers

Table 1.1: Early Leavers - Classified by Destination in 2010

	Number	% of Cohort
Total Cohort	7,713	100.0
<i>Of which enrolled in</i>		
Post-Leaving Cert Course (PLC)	114	1.5
FÁS Course 2010	473	6.1
<i>Of those remaining</i>		
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Enrolled in Private Educational Institutions*	1,711	22.2
Other (includes emigration, seasonal employment abroad and all other categories)	1,304	16.9

* See Background Notes.

Using data matching, 1.5% (114) and 6.1% (473) respectively, of Early Leavers were enrolled in PLC or FÁS courses in 2010. Using estimation techniques and aggregate administrative data, an additional 25.2% (1,941) were enrolled in Youthreach and 22.2% (1,711) were enrolled in private educational institutions. This accounts for 55.0% of the cohort. *See Table 1.1 above.*

Of the Early Leavers not accounted for in the PLC or FÁS databases, 6.6% had social welfare activity at the end of December 2010 and of those remaining, 6.1% had employment activity during 2010. *See Table 1.1 above.*

The Post-Primary Pupil Database captures information on why students leave school early. Of the Early Leavers not tracked to other databases, 1,190 were recorded as having left the schooling system to emigrate or to attend further education or training outside the State. This information only covers why a student left between the 30th of September 2009 and the 30th of June 2010, so does not take into account pupils who may have emigrated after that date. *See Table 1.1 above.*

Gender Differences in Destinations?

Table 1.2: Early Leavers - Classified by Sex and Destination in 2010

	Male	%	Female	%
Total Cohort	3,690	100.0	4,023	100.0
<i>Of which enrolled in</i>				
Post-Leaving Cert. Course (PLC)	73	2.0	41	1.0
FÁS Course 2010	172	4.7	301	7.5
<i>Of those remaining</i>				
Social Welfare Activity 31st December 2010	245	6.6	266	6.6
Employment Activity During 2010~	213	5.8	256	6.4
Outward Migration up to June 2010	63	1.7	57	1.4
Enrolled in Education or Training Outside of the State	602	16.3	468	11.6
<i>Estimates for</i>				
Youthreach*	1,155	31.3	786	19.5
Enrolled in Private Educational Institutions*	799	21.7	912	22.7
Other (includes emigration, seasonal employment abroad and all other categories)	368	10.0	936	23.3

~ Of those with no social welfare activity 31st December 2010.

* See Background Notes.

There is a higher proportion (2.0%) of male Early Leavers enrolled in PLC courses than females (1.0%). However a higher proportion of female Early Leavers (7.5%) are enrolled in FÁS and other second-level training courses than males (4.7%). The same proportion of males and females were seen to have social welfare activity as of the 31st of December 2010. Slightly more females than males had some employment activity during 2010. A far higher proportion (31.3%) of male Early Leavers were enrolled in Youthreach than females (19.5%). See Table 1.2 above.

At What Stage Did They Drop Out?

Table 1.3a: Early Leavers - Classified by Programme and Destination in 2010/2011

	Junior Certificate/JCSP		Transition Year	LC/LCVP/LCA Year 1	Total
	Year 1 or 2	Year 3			
Total Cohort	1,573	1,777	1,064	3,299	7,713
<i>Of which enrolled in</i>					
Post-Leaving Cert. Course (PLC)	0	17	23	74	114
FÁS Course 2010	16	107	41	309	473
<i>Of those remaining</i>					
Social Welfare Activity 31st December 2010	24	89	33	365	511
Employment Activity During 2010~	0	42	63	364	469
Outward Migration up to June 2010	44	24	20	32	120
Enrolled in Education or Training Outside of the State	369	161	229	311	1070
<i>Estimates for</i>					
Youthreach*	343	724	352	522	1,941
Enrolled in Private Educational Institutions*	0	318	201	1,192	1,711
Other (includes emigration, seasonal employment abroad and all other categories)	777	295	102	130	1,304

~ Of those with no social welfare activity 31st December 2010.

* See Background Notes.

Of the 7,713 Early Leavers, 4,414 (or 57.2%) left before entering the first year of one of the Leaving Certificate programmes (i.e. left after Junior Certificate or enrolment in Transition Year). Of the Early Leavers that left the schooling system to emigrate or attend education or training outside the State, the majority (70.8%) did so before enrolment in the first year of one of the Leaving Certificate programmes. *See Table 1.3a above.*

Female Early Leavers tend to leave at an earlier stage than their male counterparts. Over 20% (865) of females left after year 1 or 2 of the Junior Certificate or JCSP compared to under 20% (708) of males. A further 24.6% (990) of females left after year 3 of Junior Certificate/JCSP compared to 21.3% (787) of males. The majority of both male and female Early Leavers that were enrolled in PLC or FÁS courses left after enrolment in the first year of one of the Leaving Certificate programmes. Similarly of the leavers that had social welfare activity as of the 31st of December, or had employment activity during 2010, the majority (71.4% and 77.6% respectively) had left after enrolment in the first year of one of the Leaving Certificate programmes. *See Tables 1.3b and 1.3c.*

188 male and 181 female Early Leavers who left to enrol in education or training outside the State did so after enrolment in year one or two of the Junior Certificate or JCSP. This represents 31.2% and

38.6% respectively, of male and female leavers who left and proceeded to education or training outside of the State. *See Tables 1.3b and 1.3c.*

While Early Leavers who were enrolled in Youthreach programmes left at various stages throughout the education system, it is worth noting that 295 male and 227 female Early Leavers who left after enrolment in the first year of one of the Leaving Certificate programmes were enrolled in Youthreach in 2010. *See Tables 1.3b and 1.3c.*

Of the Early Leavers for whom information on destination was not available, the highest proportion left school after the first or second year of the junior cycle. In absolute terms the largest group (520) for whom destination after leaving school was not available were female Early Leavers, who left after enrolment in year 1 or 2 of the Junior Certificate or JCSP. *See Tables 1.3a, 1.3b and 1.3c.*

Table 1.3b: Male Early Leavers - Classified by Programme and Destination in 2010/2011

	Junior Certificate/JCSP		Transition Year	LC/LCVP/LCA Year 1	Total
	Year 1 or 2	Year 3			
Total Cohort	708	787	567	1,628	3,690
<i>Of which enrolled in</i>					
Post-Leaving Cert. Course (PLC)	0	17	12	44	73
FÁS Course 2010	5	37	8	122	172
<i>Of those remaining</i>					
Social Welfare Activity 31st December 2010	11	38	21	175	245
Employment Activity During 2010~	0	11	26	176	213
Outward Migration up to June 2010	18	12	15	18	63
Enrolled in Education or Training Outside of the State	188	99	140	175	602
<i>Estimates for</i>					
Youthreach*	229	421	210	295	1,155
Enrolled in Private Educational Institutions*	0	144	93	562	799
Other (includes emigration, seasonal employment abroad and all other categories)	257	8	42	61	368

~ Of those with no social welfare activity 31st December 2010.

* See Background Notes.

Table 1.3c: Female Early Leavers - Classified by Programme and Destination in 2010/2011

	Junior		Transition Year	LC/LCVP/LCA Year 1	Total
	Certificate/JCSP Year 1 or 2	Year 3			
Total Cohort	865	990	497	1,671	4,023
<i>Of which enrolled in</i>					
Post-Leaving Cert. Course (PLC)	0	0	11	30	41
FÁS Course 2010	11	70	33	187	301
<i>Of those remaining</i>					
Social Welfare Activity 31st December 2010	13	51	12	190	266
Employment Activity During 2010~	0	31	37	188	256
Outward Migration up to June 2010	26	12	5	14	57
Enrolled in Education or Training Outside of the State	181	62	89	136	468
<i>Estimates for</i>					
Youthreach*	114	303	142	227	786
Enrolled in Private Educational Institutions*	0	174	108	630	912
Other (includes emigration, seasonal employment abroad and all other categories)	520	287	60	69	936

~ Of those with no social welfare activity 31st December 2010.

* See Background Notes.

Table 1.4: Early Leavers with Social Welfare Activity* - Classified by Further Detail

	Junior Certificate /JCSP/ Transition Year	LC/LCVP/LCA Year 1	Total
Child Benefit/General Benefits/Supplementary Welfare	5	40	45
Pensions Including Disability – Long-Term Payments	121	132	253
Unemployment	20	193	213
Total	146	365	511

*Refers to most recent type of Social Welfare Activity, (i.e. a person receiving a Disability Pension might also be receiving Child Benefit)

As mentioned previously, of the Early Leavers not accounted for on PLC or FÁS courses, 511 were seen to have social welfare activity on the 31st of December 2010. The table above further classifies the type of social welfare activity.

What Type of School Did They Come From?

Table 1.5: Early Leavers - Classified by Characteristics of School Attended

	Total Enrolment*	All Early Leavers	% of Total Enrolment ¹
School Type			
Secondary Fee-Charging	25,867	988	3.8
Secondary Non-Fee-Charging	158,057	3,345	2.1
Vocational	75,213	2,282	3.0
Community	45,367	988	2.2
Comprehensive	7,649	110	1.4
Total	312,153	7,713	2.5
DEIS Status of School			
DEIS	61,859	2,427	3.9
Non-DEIS	250,294	5,286	2.1
Total	312,153	7,713	2.5
Medium of Instruction in School			
All Pupils Taught All Subjects Through Irish	9,611	94	1.0
No Subjects Taught Through Irish	293,030	7,350	2.5
Some Pupils Taught All Subjects Through Irish	5,468	134	2.5
Some Pupils Taught Some Subjects Through Irish	4,044	135	3.3
Total	312,153	7,713	2.5

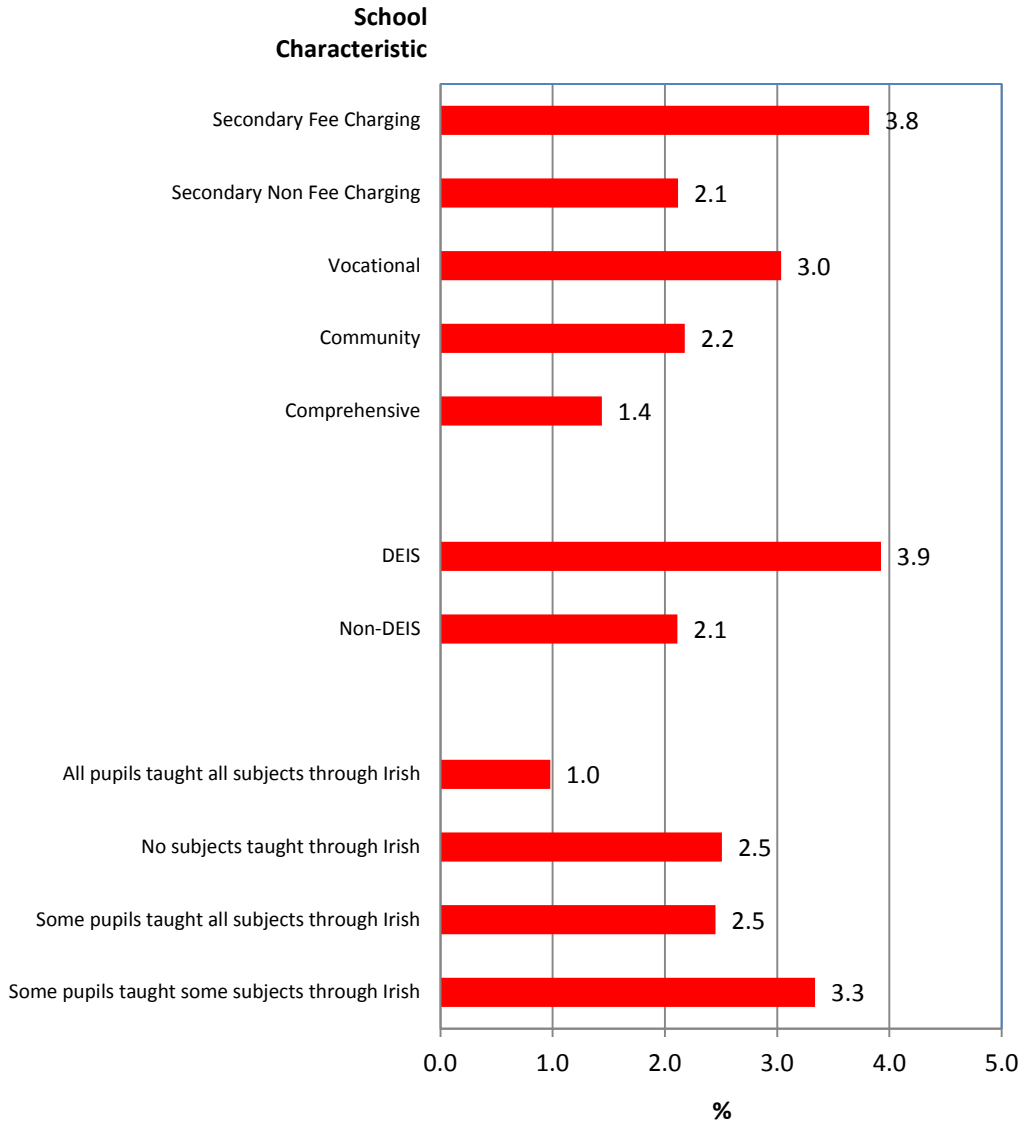
* Includes pupils in final year of senior cycle.

Table 1.5 above shows some characteristics of the schools that Early School Leavers attended. The Total Enrolment figure includes pupils in the final year of the senior cycle. Just under 4% (3.9%) of all pupils enrolled in DEIS schools in 2009/2010 left before enrolling in the final year of the senior cycle. This compares to 2.1% of pupils enrolled in non-DEIS schools (DEIS – Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools). Only 1% of pupils who were taught all subjects thorough Irish were Early Leavers whereas 2.5% of pupils who were taught no subjects through Irish were Early Leavers.

In terms of school type, 3.8% of those attending fee-charging secondary schools were Early Leavers, compared to 2.1% of those attending non-fee-charging secondary schools. *See Table 1.5 above and Graph 1.1 on the following page.*

¹ Percentage of Total Enrolment presented in this table and the tables following is based on Total Enrolment in each category including pupils in final year of senior cycle.

Graph 1.1: Percentage of Early Leavers from Schools with Various Characteristics



Demographic Characteristics of Early Leavers

Graph 1.2 below shows the percentage of Early Leavers from each Local Authority Area of the School they attended. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown had the highest percentage of Early Leavers at 4.3%, followed by Carlow County Council (3.8%), Galway City Council (3.6%), Cork City Council (3.2%) and Limerick City Council (3.2%). The lowest rates were observed in the areas of Clare County Council (1.5%) and Roscommon County Council (1.7%). See Graph 1.2 below.

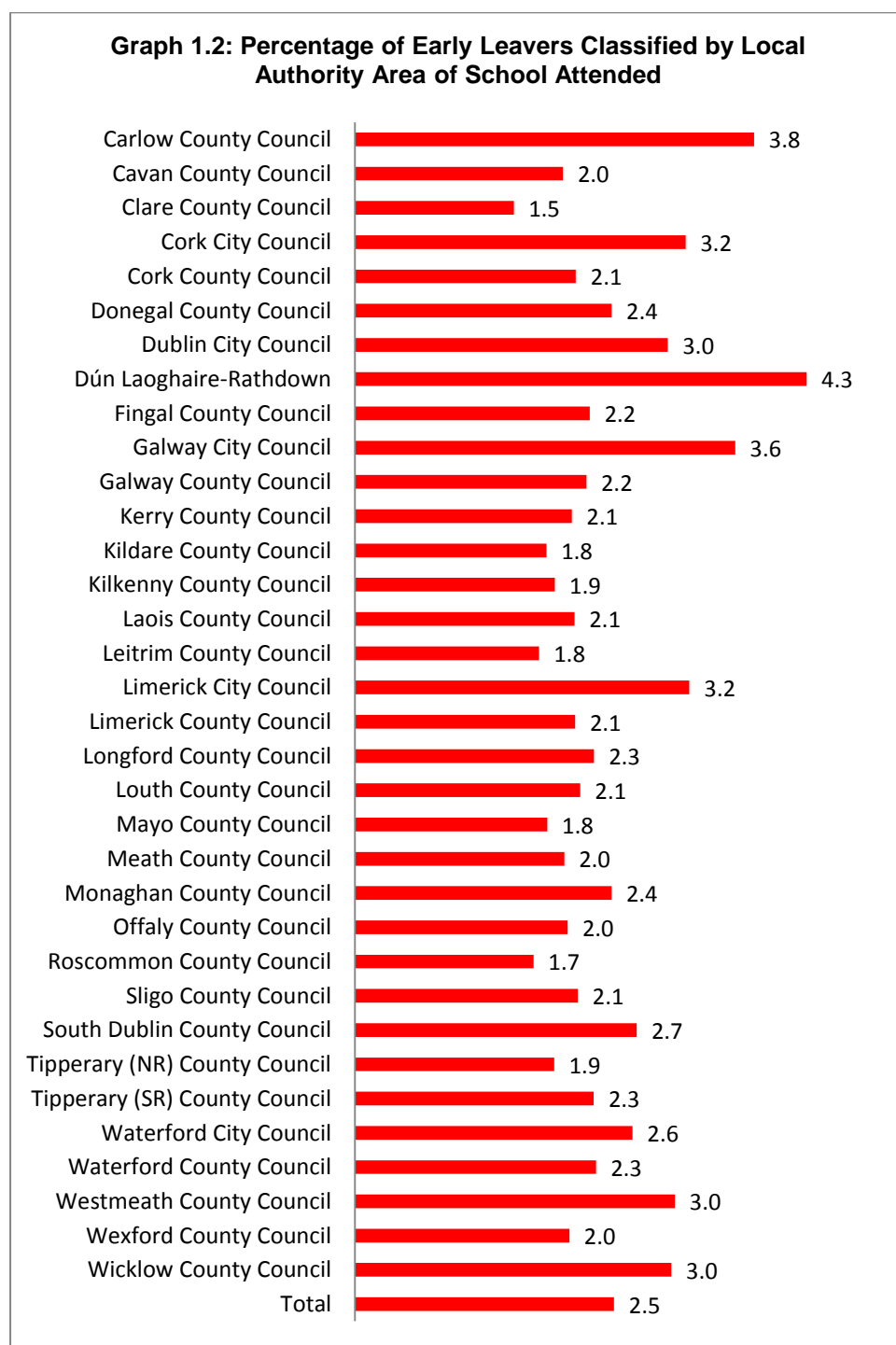


Table 1.6: Early Leavers - Classified by Nationality

	Total Enrolment*	All Early Leavers	% of Total Enrolment
Irish Nationality	283,721	4,895	1.7
British Nationality	6363	282	4.4
Nationality of a State in the EU 15 except Ireland and the United Kingdom	3,010	1,405	46.7
Nationality of State in the EU 12	8061	492	6.1
Nationality of Another State in Europe other than the EU 27	1106	55	5.0
Nationality of the USA or Canada	1404	103	7.3
Nationality of a Country in Latin or Southern America	442	71	16.1
Nationality of a Country in Asia	3754	198	5.3
Nationality of a Country in Africa	3989	177	4.4
Nationality of a Country in Australasia or Oceania	303	35	11.6
Total	312,153	7,713	2.5

* Includes pupils in final year of senior cycle.

The EU 15 comprises the countries before enlargement of the EU on 1 May 2004 (i.e. Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Portugal, United Kingdom).

The EU 12 is defined as the 10 accession countries that joined the EU on 1 May 2004 (i.e. Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia) and includes the two new accession states that joined the EU on 1 January 2007 (i.e. Bulgaria and Romania).

Table 1.6 above shows the breakdown of Early Leavers by nationality. A higher percentage of Early Leavers are from nationality groups other than Ireland. Nearly 50% (46.7%) of persons with a nationality from the EU 15 other than Ireland and the UK were Early Leavers. This compares to just 1.7% of persons with an Irish nationality.

Table 1.7 below shows that, of the 7,713 Early Leavers, 384 (or 5.0%) had been in receipt of Traveller Support. Of the 384 Early Leavers who had been in receipt of Traveller Support, 87 dropped out after the first or second year of the Junior Certificate or JCSP and a further 180 after the third year. See *Table 1.7*.

Table 1.7: Early Leavers - Classified by Programme and Whether in Receipt of Traveller Support*

	<i>Junior Certificate/JCSP</i>		Transition Year	LC/LCVP/LCA Year 1	Total
	Year 1 or 2	Year 3			
Total Cohort	1,573	1,777	1,064	3,299	7,713
<i>Of Which</i> In Receipt of Traveller Support	87	180	14	103	384

* See Background Notes

Section 2: Data for Earlier Years

Table 2.1: Number of Early Leavers - 2001/2002 to 2009/2010

Enrolled in	but not in	Early Leavers
2001/2002	2002/2003	11,498
2002/2003	2003/2004	10,278
2003/2004	2004/2005	10,313
2004/2005	2005/2006	10,249
2005/2006	2006/2007	10,158
2006/2007	2007/2008	10,299
2007/2008	2008/2009	9,085
2008/2009	2009/2010	8,047
2009/2010	2010/2011	7,713

Data availability and inconsistent data coverage of PPSNs on the datasets that are available mean that some of the analyses presented so far are not available for earlier years. Some data, however, is available. Table 2.1 above and Graph 2.1 below provide time-series data on the number of Early Leavers. The number of Early Leavers has decreased from 11,498 pupils, who were enrolled in the 2001/2002 academic year but not enrolled one year later in the 2002/2003 academic year, to 7,713 who left between enrolment in 2009/2010 and 2010/2011. *See Table 2.1 above and Graph 2.1 below.*

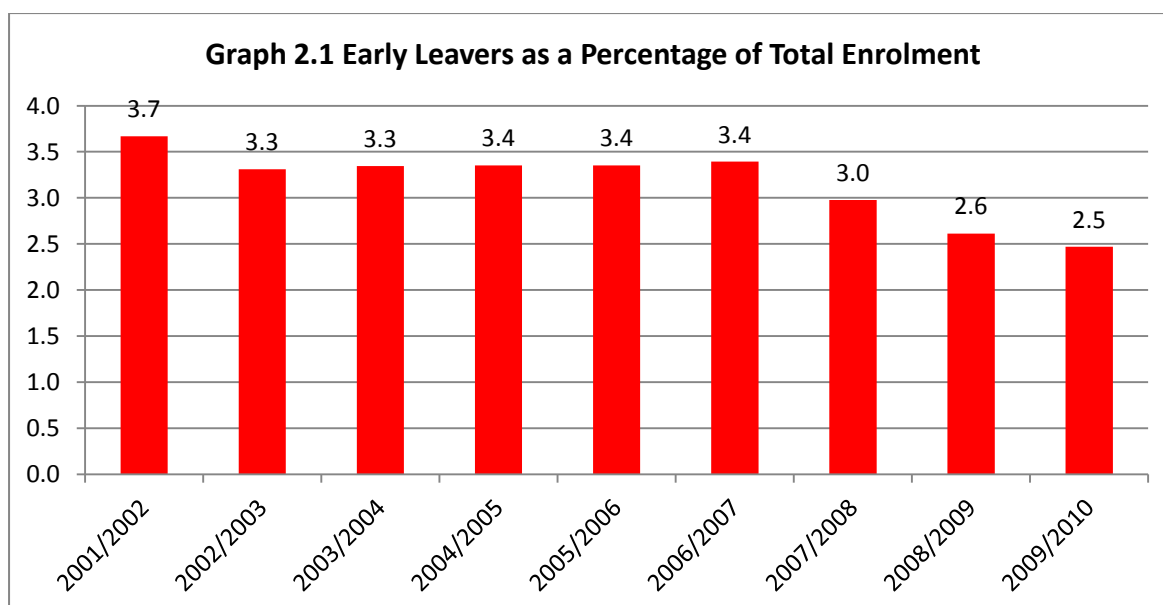
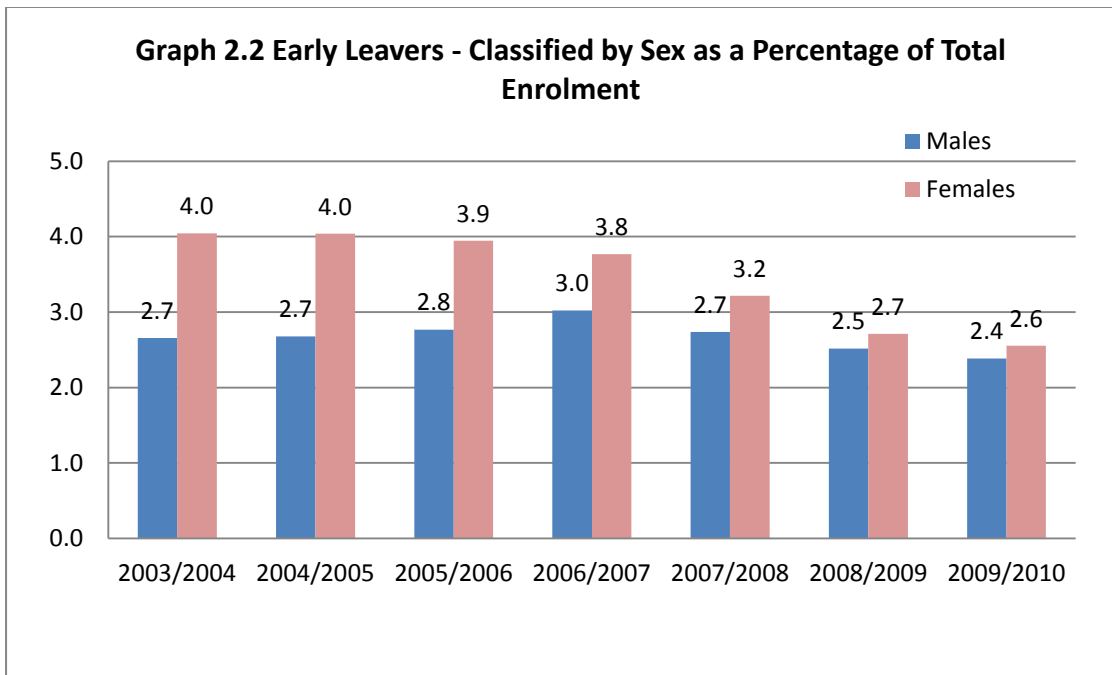


Table 2.2: Number of Early Leavers Classified by Sex, 2001/2002 to 2009/2010

Enrolled in	but not in	Males	Females	Total Males*	Total Females*
2003/2004	2004/2005	4,121	6,192	155,217	153,082
2004/2005	2005/2006	4,125	6,124	154,118	151,649
2005/2006	2006/2007	4,216	5,942	152,370	150,636
2006/2007	2007/2008	4,597	5,702	152,113	151,382
2007/2008	2008/2009	4,170	4,915	152,288	152,826
2008/2009	2009/2010	3,857	4,190	153,269	154,649
2009/2010	2010/2011	3,690	4,023	154,722	157,433

*Includes pupils in final year of senior cycle

Table 2.2 above and Graph 2.2 below present data on Early Leavers classified by sex. An interesting finding is that more females consistently exit the second-level schooling system earlier than males. This is true both in terms of absolute numbers and in percentage of the entire male and female school populations. See Table 2.2 and Graph 2.2².



² Percentage of Total Enrolment presented in this graph is based on Total Enrolment including pupils in final year of senior cycle.

Background Notes

Most of the data presented in this release is based on the results of a data-matching exercise. The study was carried out in line with the Statistics Act 1993 and the CSO Data Protocol governing data-matching exercises undertaken by the CSO (see <http://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/csodataprotocol/>).

The identifier used to match across the datasets was a protected identifier key (PIK) based on the PPSN. The PIK serves the purpose of hiding the original identifier while preserving the linking capabilities of the original identifier while preserving the linking capabilities of the identifier over time and across the sources it is deployed on. The coverage of PPSN varied across all data sources. As the coverage varies it is possible that some of the pupils in the 'Other' category should really appear in the other destinations.

Estimations were used to calculate the number of:

- students enrolled in Youthreach courses (*See page 19*)
- students enrolled in private educational institutions (*See page 19*)

Other data sources could be used to further enrich the data. The project focused on what was available at the time; for future iterations of the work, if further data sources are available they will be explored.

At all times during the data matching data project the protection against data disclosure was paramount. In order to protect against data disclosure no figures of less than 5 are presented in the report.

Origin of the Project

The data-matching project came about as a proposal from the Statistician in DES to the CSO. The CSO Administrative Data Centre held a meeting to explore potential data-matching projects. At the same time there was an emerging data gap on the destinations of School Leavers, particularly as the School Leaver Survey had not been repeated for a number of years.

Reference Period

Post Primary Pupil Database (PPPDB) - Students who were enrolled in post-primary schools on the 30th of September 2009 (2009/2010 academic year) were checked against enrolment records in post-primary schools as of the 30th of September 2010 (2010/2011 academic year). Those pupils not appearing in the files as of the 30th of September 2010 were treated as School Leavers. This cohort was then matched against the other data sources listed below.

HEA Student Record System – the 30th of November 2010.

FETAC awards database - the 2011 calendar year.

Central Records System of the Department of Social Protection – the 31st December 2010. Other reference periods in 2010 were also examined.

P35 files – Both the 2010 and 2011 data files were examined. The 2010 file was used for the tabulations presented in the report.

Definitions

Employment Activity

'Employment activity' for the purposes of this release includes any person appearing on the Revenue P35 files, or in the employment file within the Central Records System of the Department of Social Protection. The level of activity can vary from having worked one day in the year to working full time throughout the year.

Social Welfare Activity

'Social welfare activity' for the purposes of this release includes any person appearing in the claims files within the Central Records System of the Department of Social Protection. This includes one-off claims such as dental and optical benefits and ongoing claims, such as Jobseeker's Benefit or allowance pensions and illness payments.

Traveller Support

The Post-Primary Pupil Database contains information on whether an application has been made for a pupil for Traveller Support. Additional teaching hours are provided for children who are members of the Traveller community. Written consent is required by school authorities before they can include this in their returns to the Department. Note that this was first sought as part of the Post-Primary Pupil Database data collection in 2009/2010 so the data may be under-represented.

Enrolment in Youthreach Courses

Estimates were made for the number of Early Leavers enrolled in Youthreach courses based on the age profile, the length of time enrolled on the programme, the economic status of those on the programme upon entering and the highest educational attainment of those on the programme.

Enrolment in Private Educational Institutions

Estimates were made for the number of Early Leavers enrolled in private educational institutions based on information sourced from the Statistics Section Census of non-aided second-level colleges which classified pupils by sex and age.

Other Data Sources

Census of Population 2011 - Carers

The Census of Population 2011 (special tabulation) showed that in April 2011 there were 313 people aged between 15 and 19 whose full time education had ceased who provided regular unpaid personal help for a friend or family member with a long-term illness health problem or disability. The question on whether full time education has ceased was not asked to those aged under 15.

The Census also showed that there were 2,390 number of persons aged 10 to 14 and 4,244 aged 15 – 19 who provide regular unpaid personal help for a friend or family member with a long-term illness health problem or disability. The Census also showed that there were 103 persons under the age of 15 who provided more than 12 hours of unpaid care a week.

Number of persons who provide regular unpaid personal help for a friend or family member with a long-term illness health problem or disability, classified by sex and age

Age	Males	Females	Total	<i>of which whose full time education has ceased</i>		
10 - 14	1,150	1,240	2,390	n/a	n/a	n/a
15	316	337	653	6	7	13
16	367	403	770	14	10	24
17	395	403	798	32	17	49
18	456	497	953	89	73	162
19	490	580	1,070	155	158	313

Source: CSO Census of Population 2011

n/a Not Available

National Education Welfare Board (NEWB)

Data provided by the NEWB showed that in the school year 2009/10 there were 148 expulsions at post primary level. However, note that this does not mean that these pupils did not enrol in a different post primary school, and therefore would not be treated as Early Leavers.

Data from the NEWB also showed that in 2010, 640 children were registered with the Board as being home educated. This covers pupils from the age of 6 to 16. Data is not available as to whether these pupils were being home educated in the previous year.

DES Aided Children Detention Schools and High Support Units

In September 2010 there were 22 boys and 7 girls in Detention schools aided by the Department of Education and Skills. There were 37 boys and 25 girls enrolled in DES aided High Support Units in the same period. Data is not available on whether these pupils were enrolled in a DES post primary school in the previous year.