



Department of Education and Skills  
An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna

# Education Statistics *Staitisticí Oideachais*

2008/2009



Department of Education and Skills  
Statistics Section  
Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1, Ireland  
**Phone** +353 (0)1 889 2404  
**Fax** +353 (0)1 889 6419  
**Email** [statistics@education.gov.ie](mailto:statistics@education.gov.ie)  
**Website** [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie)

An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna  
Rannóg Staitistic  
Sráid Maoibhríde  
Baile Átha Cliath 1, Éire  
**Fón** +353 (0)1 889 2404  
**Facs** +353 (0)1 889 6419  
**Email** [statistics@education.gov.ie](mailto:statistics@education.gov.ie)  
**Suíomh gréasáin** [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie)



## Full-time Education in State Aided Institutions

Typical Age	TYPE OF INSTITUTION ATTENDED	1998/99	2008/09
4-12	<b>FIRST LEVEL</b>		
	Pupils in Mainstream Classes	436,735	482,593
	Pupils in Special Classes in Mainstream National Schools	8,412	9,668
	Pupils in Special Schools	7,386	6,653
	<b>TOTAL-First Level</b>	<b>452,533</b>	<b>498,914</b>
12-18	<b>SECOND LEVEL</b>		
	Junior Cycle	187,068	169,229
	Senior Cycle	151,160	138,715
	Aided by Other Departments (Agriculture/Defence)	1,372	918
	<b>*TOTAL-Second Level</b>	<b>339,600</b>	<b>308,862</b>
15+	<b>FURTHER EDUCATION</b>		
	Post Leaving Cert Course	23,823	33,368
	VTOS	4,580	5,568
	Youthreach	2,873	3,441
	Senior Traveller Training	740	1,070
	<b>TOTAL-Further Education</b>	<b>32,016</b>	<b>43,447</b>
18-23	<b>THIRD LEVEL</b>		
	University Sector	60,248	82,298
	Technology Sector	43,476	54,464
	Teacher Training Institutions	3,420	6,973
	Other Aided Institutions	1,365	2,333
	Aided by Other Departments (Justice/Defence)	1,249	2,129
	<b>TOTAL-Third Level</b>	<b>109,758</b>	<b>148,197</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>933,907</b>	<b>999,420</b>

\*Does not include second level courses in Institutes of Technology

## Part-time Education in State Aided Institutions

	1998/99	2008/09
<b>FURTHER EDUCATION</b>		
Back to Education Initiative	NA	28,194
Adult Literacy Programmes	13,000	49,966
Community Education	786	56,544
<b>TOTAL-Further Education</b>	<b>13,786</b>	<b>134,704</b>
<b>THIRD LEVEL</b>		
University Sector	10,921	14,703
Technology Sector	13,836	15,025
Teacher Training Institutions	0	1,356
Other Aided Institutions	3,007	1,943
Aided by Other Departments (Justice/Defence)	NA	108
<b>TOTAL-Third Level</b>	<b>27,764</b>	<b>33,135</b>

## Number of State Aided Institutions

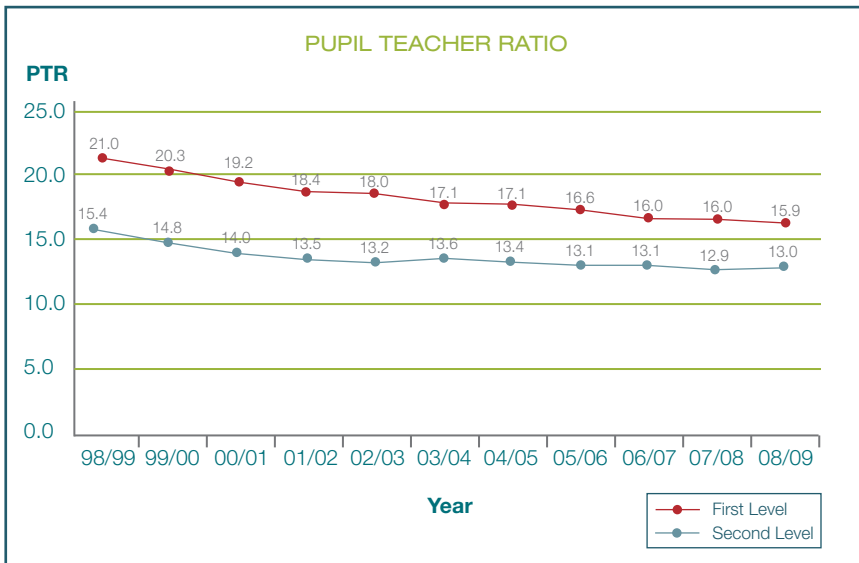
	1998/99	2008/09
<b>FIRST LEVEL:</b>		
National Schools (Mainstream)	3,181	3,175
Special Schools	122	128
<b>SECOND LEVEL:</b>		
Secondary Schools	432	388
Vocational Schools	245	253
Community Schools	66	77
Comprehensive Schools	16	14
Aided by other Departments (Agriculture/Defence)	18	10
<b>THIRD LEVEL:</b>		
University Sector	7	7
Technology Sector	14	15
Teacher Training Institutions	7	7
Other Aided Institutions	2	3
Aided by other Departments (Justice/Defence)	2	2

Number of Teachers & SNAs at First and Second Level

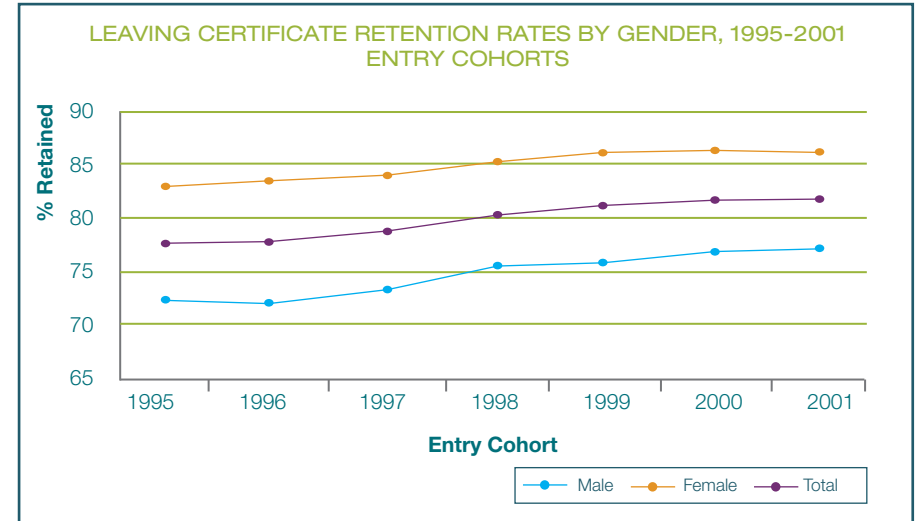
	1998/99	2008/09
<b>PRIMARY</b>		
Primary	21,500	31,349
SNAs	NA	8,582
<b>SECOND LEVEL</b>		
Secondary	13,223	13,594
Vocational	6,602	8,389
Community	3,026	3,659
Comprehensive	584	687
SNAs	NA	2,014

Data in respect of primary teachers relate to the number of allocated full-time teaching posts. Data for second level teachers relates to whole-time equivalent numbers and exclude teachers in non-main-stream second level courses but include PLC teachers. Only teachers paid from funds provided by the Department of Education & Skills are included at both levels.

Pupil Teacher Ratio



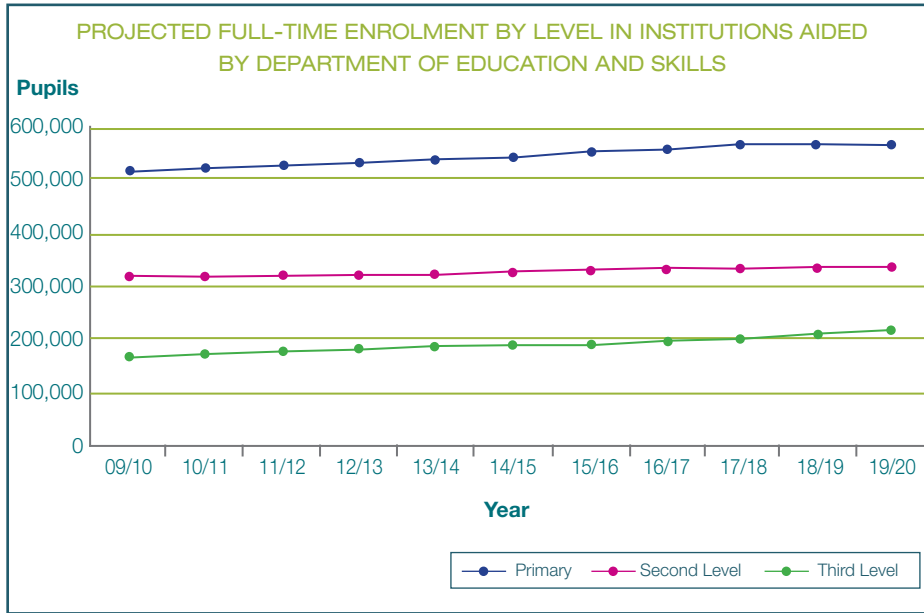
Leaving Certificate Retention Rates



Number of Junior and Leaving Certificate Examination Candidates

	1999	2009
Junior Certificate (excluding VTOS)	61,417	54,290
Junior Certificate (VTOS candidates)	1,242	1,267
<b>Overall Junior Certificate candidates</b>	<b>62,659</b>	<b>55,557</b>
Leaving Certificate School candidates (excluding VTOS and repeats)	53,349	46,728
Leaving Certificate school repeats	4,653	2,212
Leaving Certificate Applied	2,092	3,264
External candidates	4,089	4,361
VTOS/PLC candidates	753	896
<b>Overall Leaving Certificate candidates</b>	<b>64,936</b>	<b>57,461</b>

Projected Full-time Enrolment by Level in Institutions Aided by Department of Education and Skills

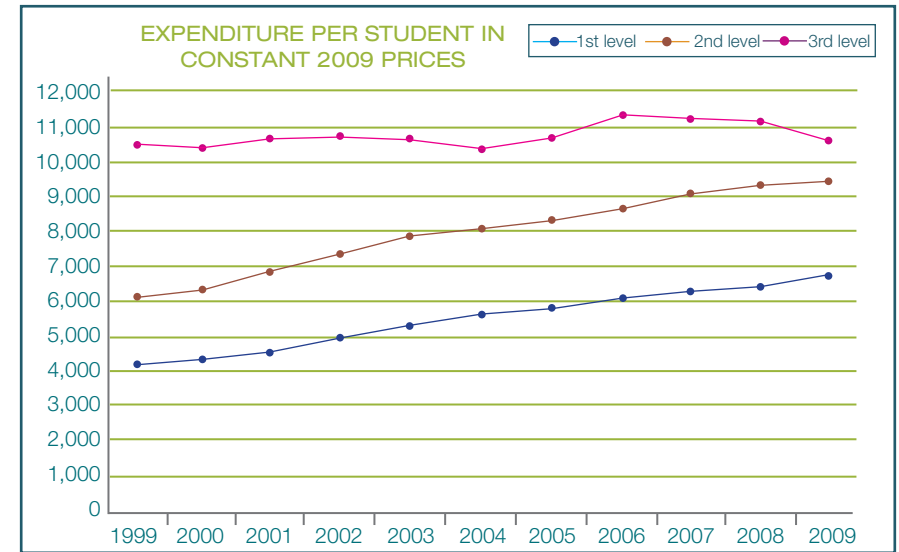


The projections above are based on the assumptions of zero net migration for the population as a whole and for each age-group within the population and fertility rates stabilising at a rate of 2.0 children per woman. For further information see [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie).

Full-time Undergraduate Students Entering for the First Time in 2008/2009

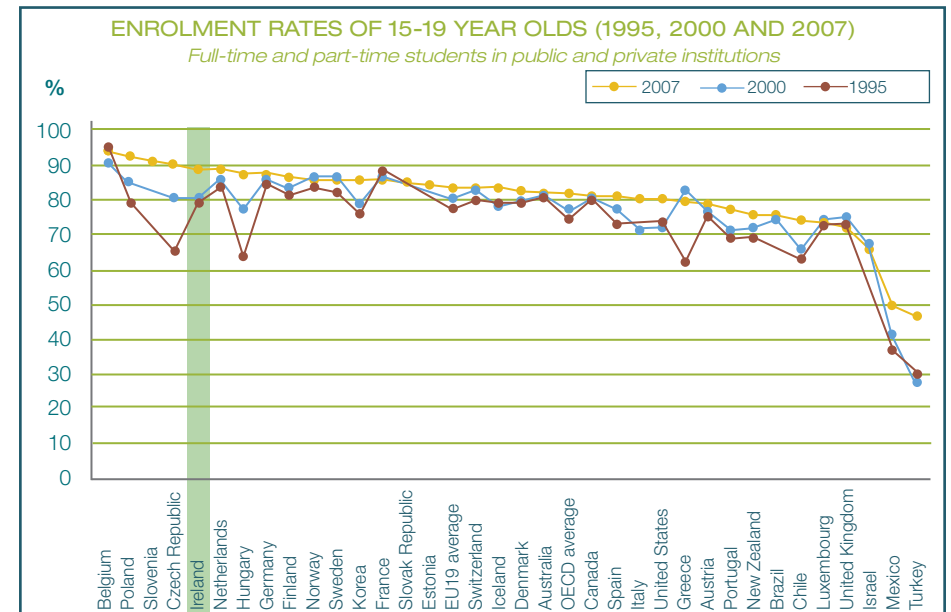
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Universities	8,650	11,110	<b>19,760</b>
Technology Sector	9,707	7,393	<b>17,100</b>
Teacher Training	329	1,551	<b>1,880</b>
Other Aided	315	352	<b>667</b>

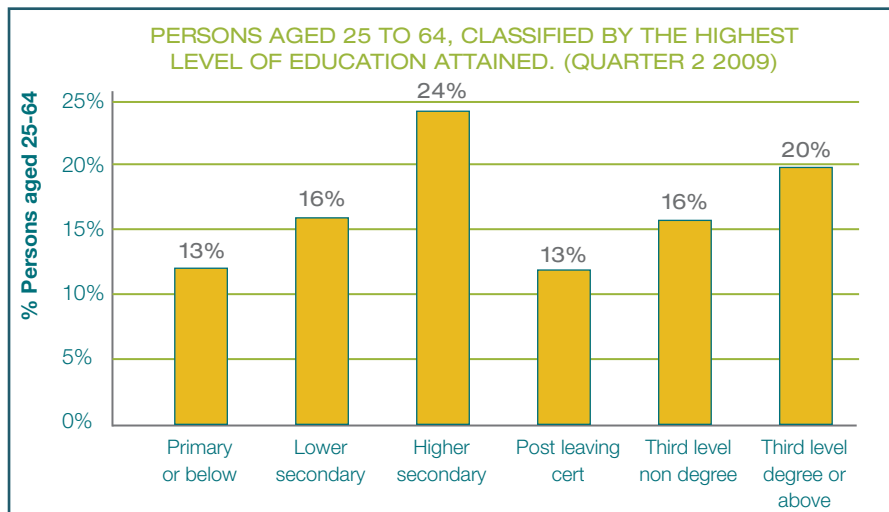
Expenditure per student in Constant 2009 Prices



Based on most current data at time of publication. May be subject to revision. Expenditure per student figures are based on annualised student numbers. Education deflators for first, second and third level sectors were provided by CSO.

15-19 year-olds as a percentage of the population aged 15 to 19





Source: CSO Quarterly National Household Survey

## IRELAND

	Ireland		EU average		EU Benchmarks		
	2000	2008	2000	2008	2010	2020	
<b>Participation in early childhood education</b> (4 years old - year before start of comp. primary)	-	-	85.6%	90.7% <sup>07</sup>	-	95%	
<b>Low achievers</b> (15 year-olds; PISA study results)	Reading	11.0%	12.1% <sup>06</sup>	21.3%	24.1% <sup>06</sup>	17 %	15%
	Mathematics	-	16.4% <sup>06</sup>	-	24.0% <sup>06</sup>	-	15%
	Science	-	15.5% <sup>06</sup>	-	20.2% <sup>06</sup>	-	15%
<b>Early leavers from education and training</b> (age 18-24)	14.6% <sup>02</sup>	11.3% b	17.6%	14.9%	10 %	10%	
<b>Upper secondary attainment</b> (age 20-24)	82.6%	87.7%	76.6%	78.5%	85 %	-	
<b>MST graduates</b> (higher education)	Increase since 2000	-	-3.6% <sup>07</sup>	-	33.6% <sup>07</sup>	+15 %	-
	Share of females	37.9%	31.3% <sup>07</sup>	30.7%	31.9% <sup>07</sup>	Improve gender balance	-
<b>Higher education attainment</b> (age 30-34)	27.5%	46.1%	22.4%	31.1%	-	40%	
<b>Adult participation in lifelong learning</b> (age 25-64; 4 weeks period)	5.9% <sup>03</sup>	7.1%	8.5% <sup>03</sup>	9.5%	12.5 %	15%	
<b>Investment in education</b> Public spending on education,% of GDP	4.28%	4.86% <sup>06</sup>	4.91%	5.05% <sup>06</sup>	-	-	

Year refers to 2000 and 2008 or latest available year.

### WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Dept. Education & Skills	<a href="http://www.education.ie">www.education.ie</a> and click on 'Statistics'	OECD	<a href="http://www.oecd.org/statistics">www.oecd.org/statistics</a>
Central Statistics Office	<a href="http://www.cso.ie">www.cso.ie</a>	Eurostat	<a href="http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu">epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu</a>