

SDR 121/2013

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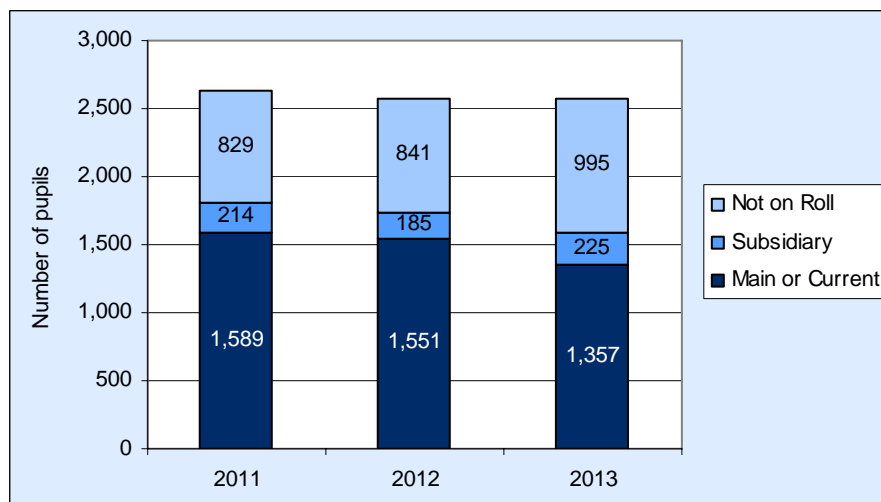
Pupils Educated Other than at School, 2012/13 (Experimental Statistics)

This annual Statistical First Release reports on the number of pupils receiving education outside of school funded by Welsh local authorities and the number of pupils receiving elective home education in Wales. The information relates to the number of pupils receiving these forms of education during a census week in January for the academic years 2009/10 to 2012/13. During the 2012/13 academic year the census week was 14th to 18th January 2013.

Data relating to the 2009/10 academic year excludes 2 local authorities who were unable to supply the relevant information. All 22 local authorities provided data for following years.

Key results

Chart 1: Pupils educated other than at school, by enrolment status at maintained or special schools



Pupils educated other than at school (not including home tuition)

- 2,577 pupils were recorded as being educated other than at school, with 1,220 of these receiving their main education outside of school (Table 1).
- The rate of pupils educated other than at school increased from 2.2 per 1,000 pupils in 2011/12 to 2.6 per 1,000 pupils in 2012/13, the highest that this value has been since 2010/11 (Table 2).
- 84.6 per cent of EOTAS pupils receiving their main education outside of school were recorded as having special educational needs in 2012/13, a decrease of 5.3 percentage points from 2011/12 (Table 4).
- Pupil referral units were the most frequently-used form of education provided to EOTAS pupils, accounting for 42.6 per cent of all education provisions (Table 7).

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Pupils educated at home

- 1,103 pupils of compulsory school age were reported to be educated at home during 2012/13 (Table 10).

Introduction

Chart 1 shows how the EOTAS pupils' enrolment statuses in maintained schools have changed since 2010/11 and Table 1 breaks down these data by local authority for the 2012/13 academic year.

Tables 2 and 3 break down the number of pupils whose main education is other than at school by local authority, gender and age for academic years 2009/10 to 2013/13 and show the rate per 1,000 pupils of these data, giving a more reliable measure of differences between groups of pupils.

Tables 4 to 6 break down the number and percentage of pupils whose main education is other than at school by special educational need, free school meal entitlement and ethnic background.

Table 7 shows the types of education being provided for pupils whose main education is other than at school and Chart 2 displays these data graphically.

Tables 8 and 9 display the number of pupils who are registered at a single pupil referral unit or who are dual registered at a pupil referral unit by age, gender and local authority.

Table 10 relates to pupils who are electively home educated and breaks down the figures by local authority. The pupils behind the elective home education data are not included in any other tables in this statistical release.

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Table 1: Number of pupils educated other than at school, by local authority, 2012/13 (a)

Local Authority	EOTAS pupils whose main education is outside of school and who			EOTAS pupils who have main or current enrolment status at a maintained school	All pupils receiving EOTAS provision
	are not on roll at a maintained school	have subsidiary enrolment status at a maintained school	Total		
Isle of Anglesey	40	0	40	7	47
Gwynedd	*	*	47	21	68
Conwy	*	*	60	55	115
Denbighshire	*	*	68	44	112
Flintshire	*	*	111	40	151
Wrexham	20	42	62	*	*
Powys	*	*	50	17	67
Ceredigion	20	0	20	15	35
Pembrokeshire	10	0	10	149	159
Carmarthenshire	13	10	23	109	132
Swansea	43	95	138	113	251
Neath Port Talbot	*	*	63	115	178
Bridgend	29	5	34	87	121
The Vale of Glamorgan	48	45	93	*	*
Rhondda Cynon Taff	84	0	84	112	196
Merthyr Tydfil	6	0	6	5	11
Caerphilly	*	*	45	189	234
Blaenau Gwent	7	6	13	31	44
Torfaen	19	0	19	52	71
Monmouthshire	5	0	5	23	28
Newport	69	9	78	51	129
Cardiff	*	*	151	119	270
Wales					
2012/13	995	225	1,220	1,357	2,577
2011/12	841	185	1,026	1,551	2,577
2010/11	829	214	1,043	1,589	2,632
2009/10	773	222	995	1,399	2,394

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government
Pupil Level Annual School Census, Welsh Government

(a) 2 local authorities failed to provide useable data for the 2009/10 academic year. All 22 local authorities provided data in following years.

- In 2012/13 2,577 pupils received local authority-funded education other than at school. Of these:
 - 995 pupils only received education other than at school;
 - 225 pupils had 'subsidiary' enrolment status in maintained schools in PLASC, meaning that their main education was outside of school; and
 - 1,357 pupils had 'main' or 'current' enrolment status in maintained schools in PLASC, which means that their main education was received in a maintained school.
- Although the total number of pupils receiving education other than at school didn't change between 2011/12 and 2012/13, the number of these pupils receiving their main education other than at school increased by nearly 200, from 1,026 in 2011/12 to 1,220 in 2012/13.

Table 2: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by local authority (a)

	Number				Rate (b)			
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Isle of Anglesey	..	15	6	40	..	1.6	0.6	4.2
Gwynedd	33	37	40	47	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.7
Conwy	55	67	55	60	3.4	4.2	3.4	3.7
Denbighshire	29	10	60	68	1.8	0.6	3.8	4.3
Flintshire	46	68	53	111	1.9	2.8	2.2	4.7
Wrexham	65	76	63	62	3.4	4.0	3.3	3.2
Powys	92	74	49	50	4.7	3.8	2.6	2.6
Ceredigion	31	27	24	20	3.1	2.7	2.5	2.1
Pembrokeshire	10	9	10	10	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6
Carmarthenshire	..	22	17	23	..	0.8	0.6	0.8
Swansea	153	141	150	138	4.4	4.0	4.3	3.9
Neath Port Talbot	37	38	39	63	1.8	1.8	1.9	3.1
Bridgend	25	28	22	34	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.5
The Vale of Glamorgan	63	53	67	93	2.9	2.4	3.0	4.2
Rhondda Cynon Taf	116	110	91	84	2.9	2.8	2.3	2.1
Merthyr Tydfil	11	14	8	6	1.2	1.5	0.9	0.7
Caerphilly	34	27	32	45	1.2	0.9	1.1	1.6
Blaenau Gwent	11	6	5	13	1.0	0.6	0.5	1.3
Torfaen	35	16	17	19	2.2	1.0	1.1	1.2
Monmouthshire	10	12	4	5	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.4
Newport	57	78	68	78	2.4	3.3	2.8	3.2
Cardiff	82	115	146	151	1.7	2.3	2.9	2.9
Wales	995	1,043	1,026	1,220	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.6

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government
School Census, Welsh Government

(a) 2 local authorities failed to provide useable data for the 2009/10 academic year. All 22 local authorities provided data in following years.

(b) Rate per 1,000 pupils. Full- and part-time pupils in maintained nursery, primary, secondary and special schools and pupils whose main education is other than at school as in the January School Census and EOTAS Pupil Census.

- The rate of pupils whose main education is other than at school remained the same between 2010/11 and 2011/12, but it has increased to 2.6 per 1,000 pupils in 2012/13.
- Flintshire had the highest rate of EOTAS pupils in 2012/13 (4.7 per 1,000 pupils), while Monmouthshire had the lowest rate (0.4 per 1,000 pupils).

Table 3: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by age and gender (a)

	Number				Rate (c)			
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Gender								
Boys	730	760	744	841	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.5
Girls	265	283	282	379	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.7
Pupils	995	1,043	1,026	1,220	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.6
Age (b)								
19 or over	0	1	0	*	0.0	6.9	0.0	*
18	6	11	13	20	5.2	7.4	8.4	12.8
17	17	28	27	45	1.3	2.2	2.1	3.6
16	32	43	64	65	1.9	2.6	4.0	4.2
15	419	427	428	493	11.5	12.1	12.4	13.7
14	216	209	168	233	6.1	6.0	4.7	6.7
13	117	111	114	120	3.4	3.1	3.3	3.6
12	58	79	75	77	1.6	2.3	2.2	2.4
11	46	34	34	47	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.5
10	26	29	30	23	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.7
9	19	27	17	27	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.9
8	14	17	25	14	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.4
7	10	16	9	15	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.5
6	10	8	9	11	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
5	4	2	5	8	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Under 5	1	1	8	*	-	-	0.1	*
Total	995	1,043	1,026	1,220	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.6

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government
School Census, Welsh Government

(a) 2 local authorities failed to provide useable data for the 2009/10 academic year. All 22 local authorities provided data in following years.

(b) Age as on 31 August at the start of the academic year.

(c) Rate per 1,000 pupils. Full- and part-time pupils in maintained nursery, primary, secondary and special schools, independent schools and pupils whose main education is other than at school as in the January School Census and EOTAS Pupil Census.

- In 2012/13 there were still more than twice as many boys whose main education is other than at school than girls.
- Between 2010/11 and 2011/12 the rate of girls who were educated other than at school remained the same, but in 2012/13 this rate increased by the same amount as the rate for boys (0.4 per 1,000 pupils) (calculated using unrounded data).
- Between 2010/11 and 2012/13 a trend has been seen in pupils of compulsory secondary school age (11-15). The older pupils of this age group are, the more likely they are to be educated other than at school.
- In 2012/13 13.7 out of every 1,000 pupils aged 15 were receiving their main education other than at school, which is the highest that this value has been for any age group in the past three years.

Table 4: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by special educational need (SEN) provision (a)

SEN provision	2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Statement of SEN	345	34.7	374	35.9	365	35.6	443	36.3
School Action Plus	412	41.4	456	43.7	503	49.0	553	45.3
School Action	51	5.1	58	5.6	54	5.3	36	3.0
No SEN	187	18.8	155	14.9	104	10.1	188	15.4
Total	995	100.0	1,043	100.0	1,026	100.0	1,220	100.0

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government Census, Welsh Government

(a) 2 local authorities failed to provide useable data for the 2009/10 academic year. All 22 local authorities provided data in following years.

- In 2012/13 84.6 per cent of pupils whose main education was other than at school had special educational needs, a decrease of 5.3 percentage points from 2011/12 and the lowest that this value has been since 2010/11.
- Since 2010/11 there have been more EOTAS pupils with school action plus than any other special educational need group, and this remains the same in 2012/13.

Table 5: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by free school meal (FSM) entitlement (a)

Free school meal entitlement	2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Entitled to FSM	646	64.9	689	66.1	711	69.3	841	68.9
Not entitled to FSM	349	35.1	354	33.9	315	30.7	379	31.1
Total	995	100.0	1,043	100.0	1,026	100.0	1,220	100.0

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

(a) 2 local authorities failed to provide useable data for the 2009/10 academic year. All 22 local authorities provided data in following years.

- The percentage of EOTAS pupils entitled to free school meals decreased from 69.3 per cent in 2011/12 to 68.9 per cent in 2012/13.

Table 6: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by ethnic background (a)

Ethnic background	2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
White	855	85.9	904	86.7	892	86.9	1,089	89.3
White - British	845	84.9	881	84.5	874	85.2	1,049	86.0
Traveller	5	0.5	8	0.8	7	0.7	6	0.5
Gypsy/Roma	2	0.2	0	0.0	1	0.1	5	0.4
Any other white background	3	0.3	15	1.4	10	1.0	29	2.4
Mixed	30	3.0	26	2.5	23	2.2	34	2.8
White and Black Caribbean	9	0.9	5	0.5	7	0.7	14	1.1
White and Black African	4	0.4	5	0.5	3	0.3	*	*
White and Asian	6	0.6	5	0.5	3	0.3	*	*
Any other mixed background	11	1.1	11	1.1	10	1.0	14	1.1
Asian	3	0.3	7	0.7	8	0.8	*	*
Indian	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Pakistani	0	0.0	4	0.4	4	0.4	*	*
Bangladeshi	1	0.1	1	0.1	2	0.2	*	*
Any other Asian background	2	0.2	2	0.2	2	0.2	*	*
Black	2	0.2	4	0.4	6	0.6	5	0.4
Caribbean	1	0.1	0	0.0	2	0.2	*	*
African	1	0.1	3	0.3	2	0.2	*	*
Any other Black background	0	0.0	1	0.1	2	0.2	*	*
Chinese or Chinese British	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	*	*
Any other ethnic group	1	0.1	3	0.3	2	0.2	14	1.1
Total with valid category	891	89.5	944	90.5	932	90.8	1,147	94.0
Unknown or not stated	104	10.5	99	9.5	94	9.2	73	6.0
All pupils	995	100.0	1,043	100.0	1,026	100.0	1,220	100.0

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government Census, Welsh Government

(a) 2 local authorities failed to provide useable data for the 2009/10 academic year. All 22 local authorities provided data in following years.

- Since 2010/11 the percentage of pupils whose main education is other than at school who were known to be from a White - British ethnic background has been increasing. This value increased by 0.8 percentage points from 85.2 per cent in 2011/12 to 86.0 per cent in 2012/13.
- The percentage of EOTAS pupils reported as minority ethnic origin (pupils whose ethnic backgrounds are known and are not white British) increased from 5.7 per cent in 2011/12 to 8.0 per cent in 2012/13, but this may be related to the fact that the ethnic background of a higher percentage of EOTAS pupils was known this year since the number of EOTAS pupil whose ethnic background was unknown or not stated decreased from 9.2 per cent in 2011/12 to 6.0 per cent in 2012/13.

Table 7: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by educational provision, 2012/13

Since pupils may attend more than one educational provision in a week, some pupils may be counted against more than one provision. That is why the number of enrolments is higher than the number of pupils whose main education is other than at school (1,220 pupils) in Table 1.

Educational provision	Number of enrolments	Percentage of enrolments	Average number of hours a pupil is scheduled to attend in a week
Pupil Referral Unit	574	42.6	22.1
Further Education College	78	5.8	19.5
Maintained school	56	4.2	16.8
Non-maintained special school	28	2.1	26.5
Individual tuition	171	12.7	11.0
Youth Gateway	14	1.0	5.7
Work-related education	34	2.5	8.9
Training provider	52	3.9	15.9
Voluntary organisation	0	.	.
Bought in private sector provision	23	1.7	18.6
Independent school	241	17.9	25.7
Provision not maintained by, or is outside of, authority	19	1.4	24.6
Awaiting provision or not currently in provision	13	1.0	.
Other	43	3.2	17.2
Total	1,346	100.0	19.9

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

- In 2012/13 42.6 per cent of pupil enrolments were at Pupil Referral Units, the most popular educational provision; the next most popular educational provision was at independent schools.
- 56 pupil enrolments took place in a maintained school as part of the local authority-funded EOTAS provision;
- The average number of hours of education provided to pupils whose main education is outside of school was 19.9 hours during the census week.

Chart 2: Pupil enrolments, by educational provision, 2012/13

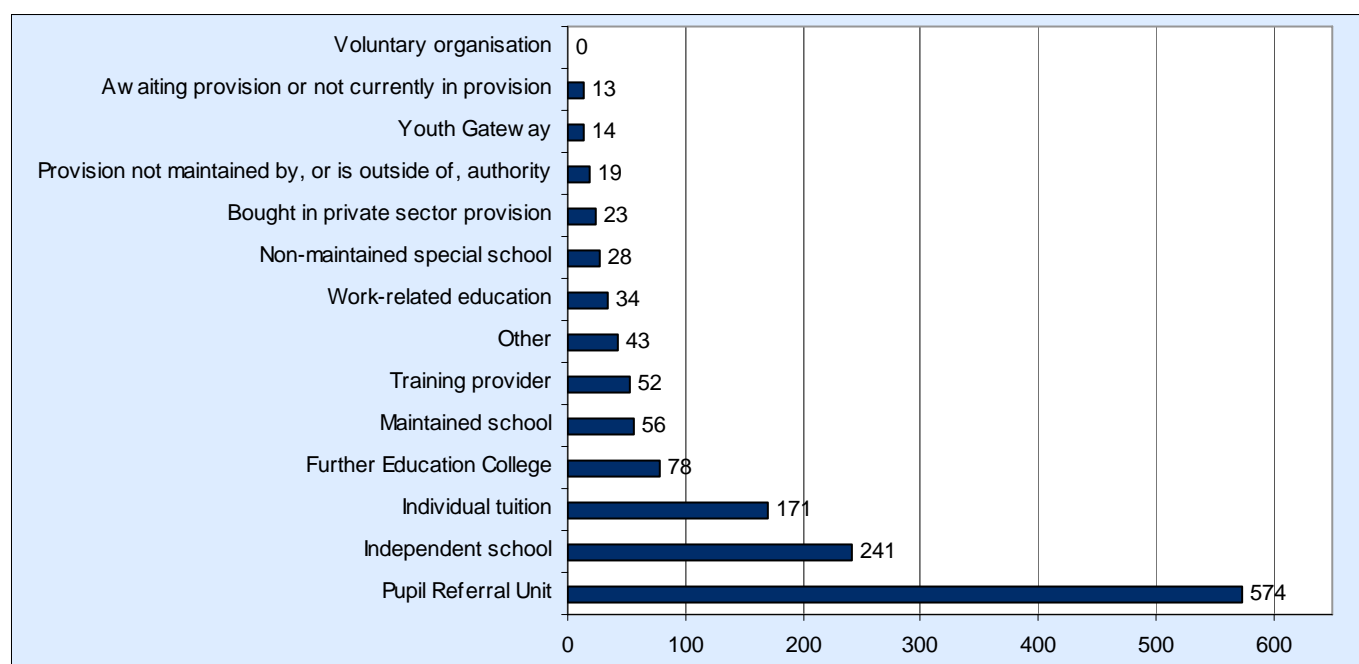


Table 8: Number of pupils attending pupil referral units in Wales, by age, 2012/13

Age (b)	Pupils who are registered at a single PRU (c)			Pupils who are dually registered at a PRU (d)		
	Boys	Girls	Pupil	Boys	Girls	Pupil
19 or over	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	*	*	*	0	0	0
16	*	*	12	*	*	*
15	158	100	258	80	41	121
14	94	31	125	78	46	124
13	52	12	64	73	32	105
12	35	8	43	55	14	69
11	*	*	26	18	5	23
10	*	*	15	*	*	34
9	*	*	16	25	0	25
8	*	*	8	11	0	11
7	11	0	11	*	*	15
6	6	0	6	*	*	11
5	*	*	*	*	*	5
Under 5	*	*	12	*	*	*
Total	430	171	601	399	148	547

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government
Pupil Level Annual School Census, Welsh Government

(a) Age as on 31 August 2012.

(b) Figures relate to pupils educated at only one PRU and include pupils receiving other EOTAS provisions or being recorded as having 'subsidiary' enrolment status at a maintained or special school in the 2012/13 Pupil-Level Annual School Census (PLASC), but exclude those with 'main' or 'current' enrolment in a maintained or special school in PLASC.

(c) Figures relate to pupils educated at more than one PRU or educated at a PRU while having 'main' or 'current' enrolment status at a maintained or special school in the 2012/13 PLASC.

- In the 2012/13 academic year 601 pupils were singly registered at a pupil referral unit, with a little over 70 per cent of these pupils being boys;
- Just over 40 per cent of those pupils singly registered at a pupil referral unit were aged 15;
- 547 pupils attending pupil referral units were dual registered.

Table 9: Number of pupils attending pupil referral units in Wales, by local authority, 2012/13

Local Authority (a)	Pupils who are registered at a single PRU (b)			Pupils who are dually registered at a PRU (c)		
	Boys	Girls	Pupil	Boys	Girls	Pupil
Isle of Anglesey	16	0	16	*	*	*
Gwynedd	14	6	20	17	0	17
Conwy	21	13	34	40	10	50
Denbighshire	11	13	24	33	9	42
Flintshire	69	38	107	25	15	40
Wrexham	30	26	56	*	*	*
Powys	*	*	19	*	*	*
Ceredigion	*	*	14	*	*	13
Pembrokeshire	*	*	*	41	17	58
Carmarthenshire	*	*	*	11	7	18
Swansea	75	20	95	*	*	18
Neath Port Talbot	*	*	*	16	5	21
Bridgend	5	5	10	26	26	52
The Vale of Glamorgan	35	7	42	*	*	*
Rhondda Cynon Taff	67	7	74	55	9	64
Merthyr Tydfil	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caerphilly	*	*	5	*	*	9
Blaenau Gwent	*	*	7	*	*	18
Torfaen	*	*	7	35	17	52
Monmouthshire	*	*	*	*	*	*
Newport	30	17	47	37	13	50
Cardiff	9	6	15	7	8	15
Wales	430	171	601	399	148	547

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government
Pupil Level Annual School Census, Welsh Government

- (a) Refers to the local authority in which pupils attended PRUs, not the local authority funding the provision.
- (b) Figures relate to pupils educated at only one PRU and include pupils receiving other EOTAS provisions or being recorded as having 'subsidiary' enrolment status at a maintained or special school in the 2012/13 Pupil-Level Annual School Census (PLASC), but exclude those with 'main' or 'current' enrolment in a maintained or special school in PLASC.
- (c) Figures relate to pupils educated at more than one PRU or educated at a PRU while having 'main' or 'current' enrolment status at a maintained or special school in the 2012/13 PLASC.

- Flintshire had the most number of pupils attending pupil referral units (147 pupils).

Table 10: Number of pupils of compulsory school age electively educated at home, by local authority (a) (b)

	Number				Rate (c)			
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Isle of Anglesey (d)	..	7	2	27	..	0.9	0.3	3.6
Gwynedd	34	36	53	55	2.4	2.5	3.8	3.9
Conwy	33	43	53	58	2.6	3.4	4.2	4.6
Denbighshire	34	66	50	43	2.6	5.2	4.0	3.5
Flintshire	27	30	40	51	1.4	1.6	2.2	2.7
Wrexham	31	26	20	21	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.4
Powys	42	84	99	101	2.6	5.4	6.5	6.7
Ceredigion	78	111	117	122	9.8	14.1	15.2	15.9
Pembrokeshire	94	55	70	92	6.4	3.8	4.9	6.5
Carmarthenshire	..	78	82	74	..	3.6	3.8	3.4
Swansea	49	72	69	69	1.8	2.6	2.5	2.5
Neath Port Talbot	44	36	36	41	2.6	2.1	2.1	2.5
Bridgend	15	22	43	38	0.9	1.3	2.5	2.2
The Vale of Glamorgan	28	28	17	32	1.7	1.7	1.0	1.9
Rhondda Cynon Taff	33	31	37	51	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.7
Merthyr Tydfil	8	9	9	14	1.1	1.3	1.3	2.0
Caerphilly	32	10	29	..	1.4	0.4	1.3	..
Blaenau Gwent	7	7	8	12	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.5
Torfaen	12	16	16	21	0.9	1.3	1.3	1.7
Monmouthshire	11	8	17	28	1.1	0.8	1.8	3.0
Newport	23	27	27	24	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.3
Cardiff	87	94	92	129	2.2	2.4	2.3	3.3
Wales	722	896	986	1,103	2.1	2.4	2.7	3.2

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

- (a) 2 local authorities failed to provide useable data for the 2009/10 academic year. All 22 local authorities provided data in 2010/11 and 2011/12. One local authority was not able to supply data for electively home educated pupils in 2012/13.
- (b) Data relate to pupils aged 5 to 15 on 31 August before the start of the academic year. Where local authorities do not know a pupil's age they were asked to provide an estimate.
- (c) Rate per 1,000 pupils aged 5-15 on 31 August before the start of the academic year. The denominator includes pupils whose main education is other than at school, pupils who had 'main' or 'current' enrolment status in the January PLASC and pupils who are known to be electively home educated.
- (d) Isle of Anglesey did not provide the ages of elective home educated pupils for 2012/13, so it is unknown whether their data include pupils outside of the 5-15 age range for this year. It was not mandatory to provide such information.
- ".." means that the data item is not available.

- In the 2012/13 academic year 1,103 children were known to be electively home educated in Wales.
- Of the local authorities who reported on their electively home educated children Newport had the lowest rate (1.3 per 1,000 pupils), while Ceredigion had the highest rate (15.9 per 1,000 pupils). Ceredigion has had the highest rate of electively home educated children since 2010/11.

Notes

1 Context

1.1 Policy/Operational

Local authorities are required to provide suitable education at school or otherwise than at school for those children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless such arrangements are made for them.

In practice, local authorities respond to that duty in widely varying ways, relating to their individual circumstances, such as their geography, socio-economic situation and educational policies. A key action within the Welsh Government's Behaviour and Attendance Action Plan is to raise the standards of EOTAS provision across Wales, through the implementation of a specific action plan relating to EOTAS. This can be found at the following link:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/schoolshome/pupilsupport/?lang=en>.

1.2 Related Publications

England publish the number of pupils on roll at Pupil Referral Units in the statistical release entitled 'Schools, Pupils and their Characteristics, January 2013'. The latest available statistics can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-pupils-and-their-characteristics-january-2013>.

2 Data Source

The EOTAS Pupil Census is carried out annually and collects data on pupils educated other than at school from local authorities electronically via a secure website. The collection is carried out by the school statistics team in Knowledge and Analytical Services within the Welsh Government.

3 Definitions

3.1 Coverage

The information in this Statistical First Release relates to pupils receiving local authority-funded education outside of the mainstream school environment during a census week each January and the number of pupils of compulsory school age (aged 5 to 15 on 31 August before the start of the academic year) known by local authorities to be electively home educated. For the 2012/13 academic year the census week was 14 to 18 January 2013.

Data for the 2009/10 academic year excluded 2 local authorities that were unable to supply useable data in time for publication and therefore gave an incomplete picture of the number of pupils educated other than at school in Wales. All 22 local authorities provided data for the following academic years.

In 2012/13 data were received on 2,577 pupils receiving education other than at school from all 22 local authorities in Wales. Of the 2,577 pupils receiving EOTAS provision 1,357 were recorded in the January 2013 Pupil-Level Annual School Census as having 'main' or 'current' enrolment status in maintained primary, secondary or special schools and were therefore considered to be receiving their main education in a maintained school. The remaining 1,220 pupils were considered to be receiving their main education outside of school. The focus of this Statistical First Release is on pupils mainly educated other than at school, but to give a complete picture it was necessary to include all pupils receiving EOTAS provision in Chart 1 and Tables 1, 8 and 9.

Local authorities reported that in 2012/13 1,190 pupils were being electively home educated. Of these pupils 87 were known to not be of compulsory school age so they were excluded from the figures contained in this release, leaving a total of 1,103 pupils.

From 2009/10 to 2011/12 Pembrokeshire did not provide a gender breakdown of their electively home educated pupils and in 2012/13 Isle of Anglesey did not provide the age of their electively home

educated pupils, meaning that it was not possible to determine whether they were of compulsory school age or not. In 2012/13 Caerphilly did not provide any information regarding electively home educated pupils. It is not mandatory for local authorities to provide this information.

3.2 Definitions of Pupils Educated Other than at School

In the context of this statistical release:

- a pupil being **educated other than at school (EOTAS)** was recorded as receiving or awaiting education provision funded by the local authority otherwise than in a maintained school setting during the census week of the EOTAS Pupil Census. A pupil may also be included in this category if they:
 - attend an independent or non-maintained special school for which the local authority is responsible for paying all or part of the tuition fees;
 - are placed in a maintained school as part of their education funded by the local authority.
- the phrase **EOTAS pupil** is used to refer to a pupil educated other than at school as defined above.
- an EOTAS pupil **whose main education is other than at school** is a pupil being educated other than at school who is either not on roll at a maintained school or is recorded as having a 'subsidiary' enrolment status at a maintained school in the January Pupil-Level Annual School Census.
- an EOTAS pupil **whose main education is in a maintained school** is a pupil being educated other than at school with a 'main' or 'current' enrolment status in the January Pupil-Level Annual School Census.
- pupils being **electively home educated** are children whose parents have decided to educate at home rather than at school and are not classed as EOTAS pupils. Although by definition they are educated other than at school, education for these pupils is not funded by the local authority and there is no legal basis under which the local authority can collect personal data about them. Data on electively home educated pupils are restricted to headcounts by local authority and are provided voluntarily by the local authority. Figures related to pupils electively home educated have been reported in separate tables to those relating to EOTAS pupils.

4 Rounding and Symbols

In tables where figures have been rounded to the nearest final digit, there may be an apparent discrepancy between the sum of the constituent items and the total shown.

The following symbols have been used throughout this publication:

- . data item is not applicable.
- .. data item is not available.
- data item is not zero, but would be rounded to zero because less than half the final digit is shown.
- * data item is disclosive.

5 Key Quality Information

This section provides a summary of information on this output against five dimensions of quality: Relevance, Accuracy, Timeliness and Punctuality, Accessibility and Clarity, and Comparability.

5.1 Relevance

The statistics are used both within and outside the Welsh Government to monitor educational trends and as a baseline for further analysis of the underlying data. Some of the key users are:

- Ministers and the Members Research Service in the National Assembly for Wales;
- other government departments;
- local authorities and schools;
- ESTYN, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education and Training in Wales;
- The Department for Education and Skills in the Welsh Government;
- other areas of the Welsh Government;
- the research community;
- students, academics and universities;
- individual citizens, private companies and the media.

These statistics are used in a variety of ways. Some examples of these are:

- advice to Ministers;
- to inform the education policy decision-making process in Wales;
- to inform ESTYN during school inspections;
- to assist in research in educational attainment.

5.2 Accuracy

The Welsh Government works closely with local authorities in order to ensure all data are validated before tables are published. Data is collated into an electronic return and submitted to the Welsh Government through DEWi, a secure online data transfer system developed by the Welsh Government. Various stages of automated validation and sense-checking are built into the process to ensure a high quality of data.

Starting in 2011/12, following the collection of the data an additional four week validation period was carried out in which local authorities were sent summary tables of their data and asked to check that they were correct. While most of the data were confirmed to be correct, these checking periods highlighted problems with several local authorities' data which were resolved, further improving the accuracy of the data.

The first edition of this statistical first release was labelled as 'experimental statistics', which are new official statistics undergoing evaluation. Experimental statistics are published in order to involve users and stakeholders in their development and as a means to build in quality at an early stage. Issues raised regarding the coverage and quality of the data behind the statistical first release 'Pupils Educated Other than at School, 2009/10' and some of the tables within have been addressed in the latest edition, improving the accuracy and usefulness of the statistics presented. Despite full coverage for the 2010/11 to 2012/13 academic years, and the improvement in data quality through increased validation and verification checks, the 'experimental statistics' label remains this year. Time constraints meant that the thorough evaluation needed to upgrade the data to 'official statistics' could not be carried out before publication the publication date, but it will hopefully be completed by the time the 2013/14 data are published.

5.3 Timeliness and Punctuality

DEWi was available for uploading files on 21 January 2013, with local authorities asked to submit data for all pupils receiving or awaiting local authority-funded education outside of the maintained school environment during the census week of 14 to 18 January 2013. Local authorities were then asked to validate their data within the validation period, which closed on 17 May 2013, nearly two months earlier than last year.

Despite several issues delaying the collection of certain data, it was possible to collect and validate them much earlier than last year. With the help of colleagues in local authorities we have therefore been able to move forward the publication of this release by more than two weeks.

5.4 Accessibility and Clarity

This Statistical First Release is pre-announced and then published on the Statistics section of the Welsh Government website. It will be accompanied by more detailed tables about the number of pupils at Pupil Referral Units on StatsWales, a free to use service that allows visitors to view, manipulate, create and download data.

5.5 Comparability

Two local authorities failed to provide useable data for the 2009/10 academic year and the data's quality was questionable, so caution should be used when comparing data with this year.

Tables 8 and 9 contain the number of pupils only on roll at Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) in Wales by gender, age and local authority, which in previous years have been published in the Welsh Government's publication entitled 'Schools in Wales: General Statistics.' Prior to 2009/10 the figures for this table were collected directly from PRUs via the STATS1 form. Tables 8 and 9 are now based upon data from the EOTAS Pupil Census and the January Pupil-Level Annual School Census. Because of the change in methodology used the number of pupils that would have been reported as only being on roll at a PRU in the STATS1 form may differ slightly from those that have been produced for this statistical first release.

In the 2009/10 edition of this release Table 4 presented the number of pupils only registered at a PRU (which included pupils registered at more than one PRU) and the number of pupils registered at a PRU and other educational institutions. To meet with user demand this table (now Table 8) was changed in the 2010/11 edition to present the number of pupils only registered at a single PRU and the number of pupils dual registered at more than one PRU or at a PRU and another maintained school. The new definitions have also been used in Table 9 and match the definitions previously used when presenting the number of pupils attending PRUs. Since Table 4 in the 2009/10 release and the same table in subsequent releases have different definitions for single and dual registered pupils it is not recommended that they be compared. Comparable data are available from the school statistics team within the Welsh Government on request.

Tables and charts in this statistical first release contain data about different groups of EOTAS pupils as defined in section 3.2. Whether the tables and charts are referring to EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school, whose main education is at a maintained school or all EOTAS pupils is clearly indicated, so before comparing two tables or charts please check that they are referring to the same group of EOTAS pupils.

Pupils by age (Table 3) and by SEN (Table 4) can be set in context by comparing to the general school population. The relevant data can be found in the publication of final school census results here: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/theme/schools/?lang=en>.

Due to the fact that Pembrokeshire didn't provide elective home education data by gender between 2009/10 and 2011/12 and Isle of Anglesey didn't provide these data by age in 2012/13 it was decided to remove the table presenting these data by age and gender because of issues with comparability between years. However, these data are available from the Welsh Government on request. In addition to this, Caerphilly didn't provide any electively home educated pupil data in 2012/13, whereas it did in previous years. Caution should therefore be used when comparing these data with other years.