

SDR 33/2012

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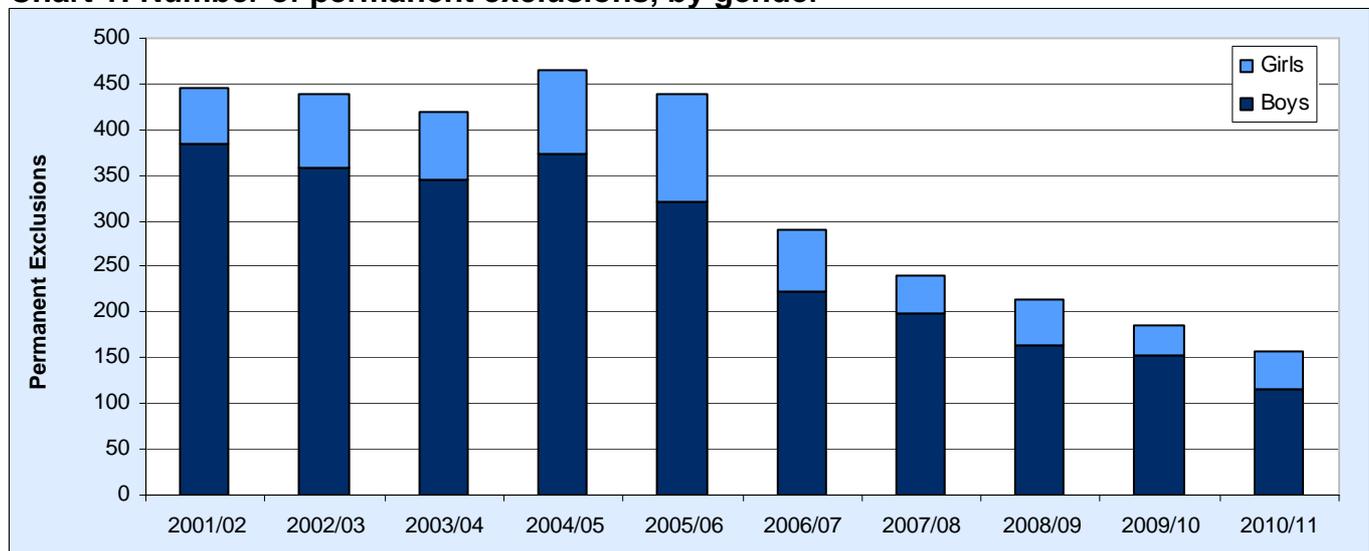
Exclusions from Schools in Wales, 2010/11

This annual Statistical First Release reports on exclusions of pupils from primary, secondary and special schools and pupil referral units in Wales. Information covers the academic years from 2001/02 to 2010/11. Note that exclusions relate to occurrences rather than pupils (i.e. a pupil excluded from two schools within a year would be recorded twice).

Key results

Permanent exclusions peaked in 2004/05 and have been decreasing every year since then. There was a large drop in 2006/07, largely due to the more widespread use of managed moves by some local authorities, but the permanent exclusions have been decreasing more gradually since then.

Chart 1: Number of permanent exclusions, by gender



Permanent exclusions

- In 2010/11 there were 158 permanent exclusions from maintained primary, secondary and special schools and pupil referral units in Wales, a decrease of 27 from 2009/10 (Table 1);
- Boys accounted for almost three quarters of permanent exclusions (Table 1);
- In 2010/11 Powys and Newport had the highest rate of permanent exclusions from maintained secondary schools (1.5 exclusions per 1,000 pupils) (Table 2);
- In 2009/10 the rate of permanent exclusions in Wales was lower than in England, but higher than in Scotland (Table 14);
- Assault or violence towards pupils and staff were the two largest causes for permanent exclusions, together accounting for over 40 per cent of permanent exclusions during 2010/11 (Table 9).

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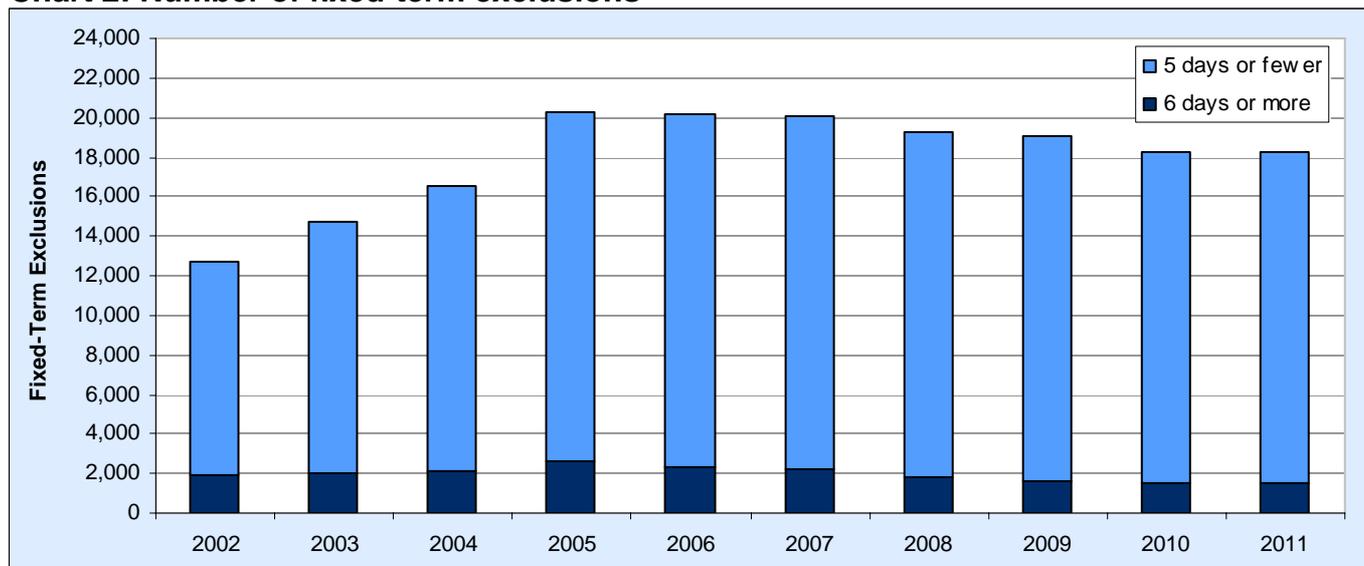
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Chart 2: Number of fixed-term exclusions



Fixed-term exclusions

- There were 18,298 fixed-term exclusions in 2010/11, an increase of 20 from 2009/10 (Tables 5 and 7);
- In 2009/10 Wales' rate of fixed-term exclusions was higher than in England, but lower than in Scotland (Table 14).

Introduction

Charts 1 and 2 show the change in the number of permanent and fixed term exclusions over time. Tables 1 to 13 present the number of permanent and fixed-term exclusions of pupils from schools in Wales and split them by various categories including local authority, reason for exclusion, school year and ethnic background. Table 14 compares the number of exclusions in Wales during the 2009/10 academic year with England and Scotland.

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Table 1: Permanent exclusions, by sector and gender

	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	
										Number	Rate (a)
Primary schools	73	65	56	53	40	20	21	14	19	14	0.1
Secondary schools	357	356	352	401	388	259	212	194	163	142	0.7
Special Schools	15	13	9	6	7	6	*	*	*	*	*
Pupil referral units (b)	..	5	*	5	*	6	7	*	*	*	.
of whom											
Boys	384	359	346	374	320	223	199	163	153	116	0.6
Girls	61	80	74	91	118	68	42	50	32	42	0.2
All exclusions	445	439	420	465	438	291	241	213	185	158	0.4

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) Rate per 1,000 pupils. Full time pupils aged 5 and over on 31 August 2010 as at January 2011.

(b) Exclusions data was first collected from Pupil Referral Units in 2002/03. Rate not given due to dual-registration of pupils.

- In 2010/11 there were 158 permanent exclusions from maintained primary, secondary and special schools and pupil referral units in Wales, a decrease of 27 from 2009/10;
- Boys accounted for almost three quarters of permanent exclusions;
- Although overall the number of permanent exclusions has decreased in 2010/11, the number of permanent exclusions of girls increased from 32 in 2009/10 to 42 in 2010/11.

Table 2: Permanent exclusions from maintained secondary schools, by local authority

Local Authority	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	
										Number	Rate (a)
Isle of Anglesey	8	20	15	12	18	*	*	0	*	0	.
Gwynedd	23	33	30	23	32	21	14	*	13	7	0.9
Conwy	12	15	19	31	34	*	*	*	*	*	*
Denbighshire	11	11	6	15	18	10	6	10	*	5	0.7
Flintshire	15	10	24	12	10	13	12	9	*	*	*
Wrexham	13	*	11	7	8	*	*	*	0	*	*
Powys	13	12	15	21	21	18	16	13	11	13	1.5
Ceredigion	6	5	10	7	12	18	9	5	0	0	.
Pembrokeshire	0	*	*	0	*	0	*	0	*	0	.
Carmarthenshire	19	15	8	21	17	22	7	11	5	7	0.6
Swansea	25	22	15	27	16	17	13	13	7	*	*
Neath Port Talbot	16	36	12	23	21	24	23	18	11	8	0.9
Bridgend	27	9	21	19	18	13	11	9	12	5	0.5
The Vale of Glamorgan	10	7	7	8	*	*	0	0	6	*	*
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	9	8	15	0.9
Merthyr Tydfil	10	13	7	7	*	*	*	8	*	*	*
Caerphilly	39	43	45	52	49	9	16	16	14	13	1.1
Blaenau Gwent	8	13	12	*	*	5	*	*	*	5	1.2
Torfaen	10	*	*	*	*	*	7	12	7	6	0.8
Monmouthshire	6	5	5	6	*	*	8	0	0	*	*
Newport	25	24	24	35	31	17	6	10	10	16	1.5
Cardiff	57	53	63	67	66	56	55	45	39	22	1.1
Wales	357	356	352	401	388	259	212	194	163	142	0.7

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) Rate per 1,000 pupils. Full time pupils aged 5 and over on 31 August 2010 as at January 2011.

- In 2010/11 Powys and Newport had the highest rate of permanent exclusions from maintained secondary schools (1.5 exclusions per 1,000 pupils);
- Isle of Anglesey, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire had no permanent exclusions from maintained secondary schools;
- Differing practices between local authorities with regard to managed moves means that comparisons of exclusion rates between local authorities should be treated with caution.

Table 3: Provision for pupils permanently excluded from all schools (a)

	<i>Number</i>									
	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
School (b)	91	103	81	66	79	59	54	48	40	24
Special School	*	*	9	14	17	8	5	5	5	*
Moved out of LA	19	24	21	17	11	10	*	11	9	7
College	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bridge course	25	44	26	31	30	5	8	11	9	*
Pupil Referral Unit	57	39	41	48	39	35	34	38	52	40
Home tuition	127	118	156	143	110	85	58	50	24	47
Independent Appeal										
Reinstatement (c)	..	*	*	6	7	9	*	..	..	..
Other	43	22	*	30	32	23	21	11	13	9
No Provision	..	50	38	37	36	14	13	39	33	24
Arrangements not finalised at date of data collection (c)	70	23	39	73	77	43	43	..	..	..
Total	445	439	420	465	438	291	241	213	185	158

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) Categories have changed during the past ten years.

(b) Maintained primary or secondary school.

(d) From 2008/09 data were collected after the decisions from all independent appeal panels had been finalised. Pupils reinstated after independent appeal are not counted as being excluded. At this point all alternative educational provisions would have also been finalised, which is why data on these two categories are no longer collected.

Table 4: Provision for pupils permanently excluded from all schools (a) (b)

	<i>Per cent</i>									
	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
School (c)	20	23	19	14	18	20	22	23	22	15
Special School	*	*	2	3	4	3	2	2	3	*
Moved out of LA	4	5	5	4	3	3	*	5	5	4
College	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bridge course	6	10	6	7	7	2	3	5	5	*
Pupil Referral Unit	13	9	10	10	9	12	14	18	28	25
Home tuition	29	27	37	31	25	29	24	23	13	30
Independent Appeal										
Reinstatement (d)	..	*	*	1	2	3	*	..	..	..
Other	10	5	*	6	7	8	9	5	7	6
No Provision	..	11	9	8	8	5	5	18	18	15
Arrangements not finalised at date of data collection (d)	16	5	9	16	18	15	18	..	..	..

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) Categories have changed during the past ten years.

(b) Columns may not total to 100 due to rounding to nearest percentage.

(c) Maintained primary or secondary school.

(d) From 2008/09 data were collected after the decisions from all independent appeal panels were finalised. Pupils reinstated after independent appeal are not counted as being excluded. At this point all alternative educational provisions would have also been finalised, which is why data on these two categories are no longer collected.

- In 2010/11 30 per cent of permanently excluded pupils were given home tuition as their education provision, the most frequently used provision; the second most popular education provision was being sent to a pupil referral unit;
- Special schools and bridge courses were the least used education provisions.

Table 5: Fixed-term exclusions of 5 days or fewer, by sector and gender

	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	
										Number	Rate (a)
Primary schools	1,378	1,439	1,636	1,747	1,580	1,678	1,660	1,612	1,735	1,698	8.9
Secondary schools	9,139	10,699	12,138	14,966	15,063	15,012	14,598	14,091	13,549	13,621	67.7
Special Schools	249	261	246	348	406	432	370	443	399	496	125.3
Pupil referral units (b)	..	251	382	600	753	723	737	1,287	1,053	1,003	.
of whom											
Boys	8,443	9,727	11,067	13,387	13,439	13,557	13,087	13,290	12,723	12,817	63.2
Girls	2,323	2,923	3,335	4,274	4,363	4,288	4,278	4,143	4,013	4,001	20.6
All exclusions	10,766	12,650	14,402	17,661	17,802	17,845	17,365	17,433	16,736	16,818	42.3

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) Rate per 1,000 pupils. Full time pupils aged 5 and over on 31 August 2010 as at January 2011.

(b) Exclusions data was first collected from Pupil Referral Units in 2002/03. Rate is not given due to dual-registration of pupils.

- There were 16,818 fixed-term exclusions of 5 days or fewer in 2010/11, an increase of 82 from 2009/10.

Table 6: Fixed-term exclusions of 5 days or fewer from maintained secondary schools, by local authority

Local Authority	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	
										Number	Rate (a)
Isle of Anglesey	175	227	260	333	314	241	215	217	265	160	38.0
Gwynedd	189	254	140	171	153	205	296	290	259	193	25.8
Conwy	390	356	464	801	950	690	426	305	246	264	36.4
Denbighshire	108	204	246	393	550	824	964	658	684	397	53.2
Flintshire	144	337	408	602	675	927	786	770	603	514	50.0
Wrexham	481	562	899	765	689	654	797	802	807	991	147.7
Powys	216	269	355	519	461	432	345	401	420	384	43.8
Ceredigion	173	220	221	182	254	321	207	301	168	132	27.9
Pembrokeshire	241	454	294	672	589	538	525	520	552	424	53.0
Carmarthenshire	212	244	290	259	219	266	546	627	482	363	30.2
Swansea	933	1,161	1,317	1,315	1,316	1,208	1,117	1,025	895	895	63.4
Neath Port Talbot	517	349	421	543	596	556	629	545	486	431	50.5
Bridgend	373	415	568	725	695	717	829	801	610	574	59.3
The Vale of Glamorgan	332	334	464	332	247	241	272	208	201	158	16.1
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	753	983	906	999	1,075	891	924	967	1,026	1,250	71.1
Merthyr Tydfil	166	177	232	273	264	308	311	249	288	366	94.9
Caerphilly	531	676	767	955	962	959	710	948	899	1,074	87.0
Blaenau Gwent	221	229	308	397	298	435	382	389	318	340	81.8
Torfaen	185	239	228	402	360	467	502	479	626	714	90.8
Monmouthshire	204	254	298	443	332	411	578	369	317	250	48.6
Newport	551	622	1,074	1,140	1,215	982	642	493	566	750	71.2
Cardiff	2,044	2,133	1,978	2,745	2,849	2,739	2,595	2,727	2,831	2,997	145.0
Wales	9,139	10,699	12,138	14,966	15,063	15,012	14,598	14,091	13,549	13,621	67.7

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) Rate per 1,000 pupils. Full time pupils aged 5 and over on 31 August 2010 as at January 2011.

- In 2010/11 Wrexham had the highest rate of fixed-term exclusions of 5 days or fewer (147.7 exclusions per 1,000 pupils);
- The Vale of Glamorgan had the lowest rate of fixed-term exclusions of 5 days or fewer (16.1 exclusions per 1,000 pupils).

Table 7: Fixed-term exclusions of 6 days or more, by sector and gender

	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	
										Number	Rate (a)
Primary schools	277	252	228	303	233	227	169	163	157	172	0.9
Secondary schools	1,564	1,670	1,766	2,125	1,923	1,888	1,591	1,324	1,286	1,200	6.0
Special Schools	83	48	73	84	82	69	54	55	32	46	11.6
Pupil referral units (b)	..	58	61	69	100	67	49	59	67	62	.
of whom											
Boys	1,584	1,615	1,702	1,996	1,800	1,714	1,457	1,226	1,176	1,119	5.5
Girls	340	413	426	585	538	537	406	375	366	361	1.9
All exclusions	1,924	2,028	2,128	2,581	2,338	2,251	1,863	1,601	1,542	1,480	3.7

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) Rate per 1,000 pupils. Full time pupils aged 5 and over on 31 August 2010 as at January 2011.

(b) Exclusions data was first collected from Pupil Referral units in 2002/03. Rate not given due to dual-registration of pupils.

- The total number of fixed-term exclusions of 6 days or more dropped by 62 to 1,480 in 2010/11.

Table 8: Fixed-term exclusions of 6 days or more from maintained secondary schools, by local authority

Local Authority	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	
										Number	Rate (a)
Isle of Anglesey	31	47	56	87	57	43	50	25	45	67	15.9
Gwynedd	45	41	28	52	26	25	34	30	36	14	1.9
Conwy	66	60	88	128	134	75	48	38	30	14	1.9
Denbighshire	16	66	43	44	60	63	27	17	14	7	0.9
Flintshire	98	112	149	152	114	111	123	73	83	77	7.5
Wrexham	93	80	116	155	116	107	121	91	67	113	16.8
Powys	31	24	86	81	62	76	62	49	42	28	3.2
Ceredigion	47	45	33	46	45	72	65	44	40	45	9.5
Pembrokeshire	53	51	34	57	34	29	31	32	23	7	0.9
Carmarthenshire	15	33	39	32	49	56	24	26	30	13	1.1
Swansea	130	207	194	227	181	182	130	112	83	98	6.9
Neath Port Talbot	111	76	81	106	102	83	80	80	62	56	6.6
Bridgend	133	64	83	81	65	60	51	59	45	35	3.6
The Vale of Glamorgan	35	38	54	49	37	45	40	34	38	28	2.9
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	122	110	100	96	100	103	55	58	56	83	4.7
Merthyr Tydfil	17	35	40	72	50	56	38	47	67	45	11.7
Caerphilly	85	130	142	125	136	130	104	99	102	97	7.9
Blaenau Gwent	35	13	36	38	61	52	23	28	22	30	7.2
Torfaen	59	67	61	68	62	61	92	90	51	53	6.7
Monmouthshire	32	25	27	41	52	37	66	20	18	12	2.3
Newport	82	84	105	133	123	80	68	47	79	40	3.8
Cardiff	228	262	171	255	257	342	259	225	253	238	11.5
Wales	1,564	1,670	1,766	2,125	1,923	1,888	1,591	1,324	1,286	1,200	6.0

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) Rate per 1,000 pupils. Full time pupils aged 5 and over on 31 August 2010 as at January 2011.

- Wrexham had the highest rate of fixed-term exclusions of 6 days or more from maintained secondary schools (16.8 exclusions per 1,000 pupils);
- The lowest rate of fixed-term exclusions of 6 days or more was seen in Denbighshire and Pembrokeshire (0.9 exclusions per 1,000 pupils).

Table 9: Reasons given for permanent and fixed-term exclusions, 2010/11 (a)

	<i>Per cent</i>			
	Permanent exclusions	Fixed-Term exclusions		
		5 days or fewer	6 days or more	
Assault/ Violence towards staff	19.6	5.8	12.0	
Assault/ Violence towards pupils	22.2	18.4	14.6	
Defiance of Rules	8.9	23.1	20.5	
Disruptive behaviour	3.8	13.4	9.8	
Bullying or Theft (b)	2.5	3.0	3.8	
Racial or Sexual Harassment (b)	2.5	1.1	1.5	
Verbal Abuse	3.2	17.0	8.0	
Threatening or dangerous behaviour	10.8	8.3	15.5	
Possession/ use of weapon	3.8	0.6	2.0	
Damage to property	1.3	2.6	2.2	
Substance misuse	14.6	1.9	4.5	
Other	7.0	4.9	5.7	

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) Columns may not total to 100 due to rounding to nearest percentage.

(b) Categories have been combined to ensure that the data are not disclosive.

- Assault or violence towards pupils and staff were the two largest causes for permanent exclusions, together accounting for over 40 per cent of permanent exclusions during 2010/11;
- Defiance of rules was the most common reason given for fixed-term exclusions of 5 days or fewer or 6 days or more.

Table 10: Permanent and fixed-term exclusions, by ethnicity, 2010/11

	Permanent Exclusions		Fixed-Term Exclusions			
	Number	Rate (a)	5 days or fewer		6 days or more	
			Number	Rate (a)	Number	Rate (a)
White	137	0.4	15,347	41.4	1,357	3.7
Mixed	7	0.9	411	51.2	38	4.7
Asian	6	0.8	124	16.4	12	1.6
Black	0	0.0	178	69.1	12	4.7
Any Other (b) (c)	*	.	375	.	31	.
Not Known (b)	*	.	383	.	30	.
Total	158	0.4	16,818	42.3	1,480	3.7

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

(a) Rate per 1,000 pupils. Full time pupils aged 5 and over on 31 August 2010 as at January 2011.

(b) Rates are not calculated for excluded pupils with 'Any Other' ethnic background or whose ethnic background is 'Not Known' because the number of pupils in these categories is too small for such rates to be reliable and some exclusions may have been incorrectly included in these categories.

(c) Pupils of Chinese or Chinese British ethnic background were included in this category to ensure that the data are not disclosive.

- With no permanent exclusions in 2010/11, pupils with black ethnic background had the lowest rate of permanent exclusions, while pupils with a mixed ethnic background had the highest rate (0.9 exclusions per 1,000 pupils);
- Pupils with a black ethnic background had the highest rate of fixed-term exclusions of 5 days or fewer (69.1 exclusions per 1,000 pupils) and pupils with a black or mixed ethnic background had the joint highest rate of fixed-term exclusions of 6 days or more (4.7 exclusions per 1,000 pupils);
- Asian pupils had the lowest rate of fixed-term exclusions of 5 days or fewer and of 6 days or more (16.4 and 1.6 exclusions per 1,000 pupils respectively).

Table 11: Permanent and fixed-term exclusions, by special educational needs, 2010/11

	<i>Number</i>		
	Permanent Exclusions	Fixed Term Exclusions	
		5 days or fewer	6 days or more
School Action/School Action Plus SEN	74	6,383	586
Statement of SEN	11	1,766	195
No SEN	73	8,669	699
Total	158	16,818	1,480

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

- Pupils with special educational needs accounted for about half of all exclusions during 2010/11.

Table 12: Permanent and fixed-term exclusions, by school year, 2010/11

	Permanent Exclusions		All Fixed-Term Exclusions	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Reception	0	0.0	78	0.4
Year 1	0	0.0	120	0.7
Year 2	*	*	150	0.8
Year 3	*	*	264	1.4
Year 4	*	*	325	1.8
Year 5	*	*	491	2.7
Year 6	*	*	610	3.3
Year 7	8	5.1	1,745	9.5
Year 8	32	20.3	3,121	17.1
Year 9	36	22.8	4,284	23.4
Year 10	42	26.6	4,307	23.5
Year 11	26	16.5	2,671	14.6
Year 12	0	0.0	95	0.5
Year 13	0	0.0	37	0.2
Total	158	100.0	18,298	100.0

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

- Over one quarter of all permanent exclusions and just less than one quarter of fixed-term exclusions were of pupils in year 10.

Table 13: Average number of days lost from school per fixed-term exclusion, by local authority, 2010/11

Local Authority	Average number of days lost per		Total fixed term exclusions
	Fixed term exclusion of 5 days or fewer	Fixed term exclusion of 6 days or more	
Isle of Anglesey	2.8	9.2	4.6
Gwynedd	2.8	10.8	3.5
Conwy	1.9	11.2	2.3
Denbighshire	2.1	7.4	2.1
Flintshire	2.3	13.1	3.5
Wrexham	2.1	10.8	3.1
Powys	2.0	10.7	2.6
Ceredigion	3.1	10.9	5.0
Pembrokeshire	1.9	10.8	2.3
Carmarthenshire	2.0	10.9	2.3
Swansea	2.2	10.2	3.0
Neath Port Talbot	2.3	9.4	3.0
Bridgend	1.6	6.5	1.9
The Vale of Glamorgan	2.1	11.7	3.2
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	2.0	10.1	2.5
Merthyr Tydfil	3.0	10.2	3.9
Caerphilly	2.0	10.9	2.8
Blaenau Gwent	2.2	10.5	2.9
Torfaen	1.8	7.9	2.2
Monmouthshire	2.2	9.2	2.7
Newport	2.3	9.6	2.8
Cardiff	2.1	10.0	2.6
Wales	2.1	10.2	2.8

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government

- Bridgend's average length of fixed-term exclusion for 5 days or fewer and 6 days or more were shorter than all other local authorities (1.6 and 6.5 days respectively);
- On average Ceredigion lost the most number of days per fixed-term of exclusion of 5 days or more (3.1 days), while Flintshire had the highest number of days lost per fixed-term exclusions of 6 days or less (13.1 days).

Table 14: Comparison with the United Kingdom, 2009/10 (a)

	Number of pupils	Permanent Exclusions		Fixed-Term Exclusions	
		Number	Rate (b)	Number	Rate (b)
Wales	399,850	184	0.5	17,158	42.9
Scotland	675,410	67	0.1	30,144	44.6
England (c)	7,235,390	5,150	0.7	302,740	41.8
Of which:					
Wales Secondary	203,907	163	0.8	14,835	72.8
England Secondary (c)	3,055,420	4,430	1.4	250,620	82.0

Source: Pupils' Exclusions Record, Welsh Assembly Government
Department for Children, Schools and Families
Scottish Government

(a) Data relate to primary, secondary and special schools during the academic year 2009/10.

(b) Rate per 1,000 pupils. Full time pupils aged 5 and over on 31 August 2009 as at January 2010 for Wales.

(c) Numbers for England given to the nearest 10 and exclude city technology colleges and academies.

- In 2009/10 Wales had a higher rate of permanent exclusions than Scotland, but a lower rate than England;
- In the same period, Wales' rate of fixed-term exclusions was higher than in England, but lower than in Scotland.

Notes

1 Context

1.1 Policy/Operational

Exclusion from Schools and Pupil Referral Units Circular No: 01/2004 provides guidance on exclusions and appeals procedures. The procedures set out in this guidance apply to all maintained schools and PRUs and all pupils in them. It is for individual schools to determine their behaviour policies and to work with their local authority on exclusions. Differing practices operating within the guidelines will affect the varying rates across Wales.

1.2 Related Publications

England publish exclusions data for maintained primary, secondary and special schools in the statistical release entitled 'Permanent and Fixed Period Exclusions from Schools in England 2009/10'. The latest available statistics can be found here:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001016/index.shtml>

Scotland publish exclusions data for maintained primary, secondary and special schools in the statistical bulletin 'Summary Statistics for Schools in Scotland, No. 2 | 2011 Edition'. The latest available statistics can be found here: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/12/06114834/0>

Northern Ireland publish the number of pupils expelled or suspended from primary, post-primary and special schools. The latest available statistics for Northern Ireland can be found here:

http://www.deni.gov.uk/index/21-pupils-parents-pg/pupils_parents-suspensions_and_expulsions_pg.htm

2 Data Source

Exclusions data for Wales are collected annually from local authorities via the Exclusion Monitoring Form. Pupil numbers used to calculate exclusion rates are taken from the January Pupil-Level Annual School Census (PLASC) and the Educated Other than at School (EOTAS) Pupil Census. All collections are carried out by Knowledge and Analytical Services within the Welsh Government.

Exclusions data and pupil numbers for England were taken from the following releases:

- [SFR17/2011 Permanent and Fixed Period Exclusions from Schools in England 2009/10](#) (Tables 1 and 2);
- [SFR09/2010 Schools, Pupils and their Characteristics: January 2010](#) (Table 2a).

Exclusions data for Scotland were taken from the following bulletin:

- [Statistics for Schools in Scotland, No. 2 | 2011 Edition](#) (Table 5.1).

3 Definitions

3.1 Coverage

The exclusions information in this Statistical First Release relates to the number of permanent and fixed-term exclusions of pupils of all ages from maintained primary, secondary and special schools and pupil referral units during the whole academic year. Local authorities are asked to report on exclusions from schools within their local authority. Only permanent exclusions upheld by the Governing Body's Pupil Discipline Committee are included in the data since they are collected after the outcome of all independent appeals have been finalised. Data on the number of exclusions overturned after independent appeal are also available on request.

Data relate to the number of exclusions, not the number of pupils excluded. For example, a pupil excluded twice during an academic year would appear twice for that year.

Pupil numbers used to calculate rates of exclusions within this Statistical First Release include all full-time pupils aged 5 and over in maintained primary, secondary and special schools and pupil referral units.

3.2 Types of Exclusion and Other Definitions

A **permanent exclusion** refers to a pupil who is excluded and their name is removed from the school register. Such a pupil would then be educated at another school or via some other form of provision.

A **fixed-term exclusion** refers to a pupil who is excluded from a school but remains on the register of that school because they are expected to return when the exclusion period is completed.

A **managed move** is an arrangement whereby parents of pupils in danger of exclusion agree with schools and local authorities that it is in the best interests of their child that they be removed from the roll of the current school and placed in another educational establishment.

Alternative provision information relates to the educational provision being made for excluded pupils on the sixteenth school day after exclusion. A single category is recorded for each case of exclusion.

3.3 Missing Data

- .. means that the data item is not available.
- . means that the data item is not applicable.
- * means that the data item is disclosive.

4 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. Between September and November 2010 we conducted a public consultation on our Education Statistics outputs in which we asked for feedback on the quality of the outputs. A summary of the responses has been published and is available here: <http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/statistics/education/?lang=en>

4.1 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;
- The Department for Education in England;
- other government departments;
- Local Authorities;
- ESTYN, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education and Training in Wales;
- Wales Audit Office;
- 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 and private companies.

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

- advice to Ministers;
- local authority comparisons and benchmarks;
- to inform the education policy decision-making process in Wales;
- to inform ESTYN during school inspections;
- contributes to the Core Strategic Indicators;

- international benchmarking;
- the education domain of the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation;
- to assist in research in educational attainment.

4.2 Accuracy

The Welsh Government works closely with local authorities to ensure all data are validated before tables are published. Data are collated by local authorities into a spreadsheet containing many automatic validation checks. The spreadsheet is then forwarded to the Welsh Government where further validation and sense-checking are carried out to ensure a high quality of data.

4.3 Timeliness and Punctuality

The Exclusion Monitoring Form is sent to local authorities 52 school days after the end of each term during the academic year, the earliest date on which the outcome of all independent appeals is known, to make sure that no exclusions are included that are overturned by the independent appeal panel. Local authorities are asked to supply their exclusions data within three weeks of the date that they received the Exclusion Monitoring Form.

4.4 Accessibility and Clarity

This Statistical First Release is pre-announced and then published on the Statistics section of the Welsh Government website.

4.5 Comparability

Due to the effect of managed moves, comparisons over time for permanent exclusions should be interpreted with caution. Changes have been made to the categories for alternative educational provisions made for permanently excluded pupils; please see footnotes for more information.

Figures published in this Statistical First Release differ slightly from performance indicators published by the Local Government Data Unit which relate to pupils in years 1-6 only for primary schools and years 7-11 only for secondary schools.

Exclusions data for Wales are based on the number of exclusions during the academic year whereas Northern Ireland publish the number of pupils excluded, so the two sets of data are not directly comparable.