



## Statistical Bulletin 4/2015

### School Meals in Northern Ireland, 2014/15.

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**Issued by:**  
Statistics & Research Team  
Department of Education  
Rathgael House  
Balloo Road  
Rathgill  
BANGOR BT19 7PR

**Telephone**  
Press Office:  
028 9127 9207  
Statistics & Research Team:  
028 9127 9638

**Statistician:** Stephen Paulin

**Email:** [statistics@deni.gov.uk](mailto:statistics@deni.gov.uk)

**Internet**  
[http://www.deni.gov.uk/index/  
facts-and-figures-new.htm](http://www.deni.gov.uk/index/facts-and-figures-new.htm)

The purpose of this statistical bulletin is to provide results of the annual data collection relating to the uptake of school meals in Northern Ireland schools in 2014/15.

#### Key points:

- Almost 180,700 school meals, both free and paid, were taken by pupils on census day, which equates to a school meals uptake level of 59.7% by pupils present for lunch on the day.
- The school meals uptake level for 2014/15 is 2.7 percentage points higher than the previous year.
- There has been an increase of 15.7% in the number of pupils entitled to free school meals. The majority of this increase is in post primary schools.
- The uptake level for free school meals by entitled pupils is 80.6%; this has not changed since 2013/14.



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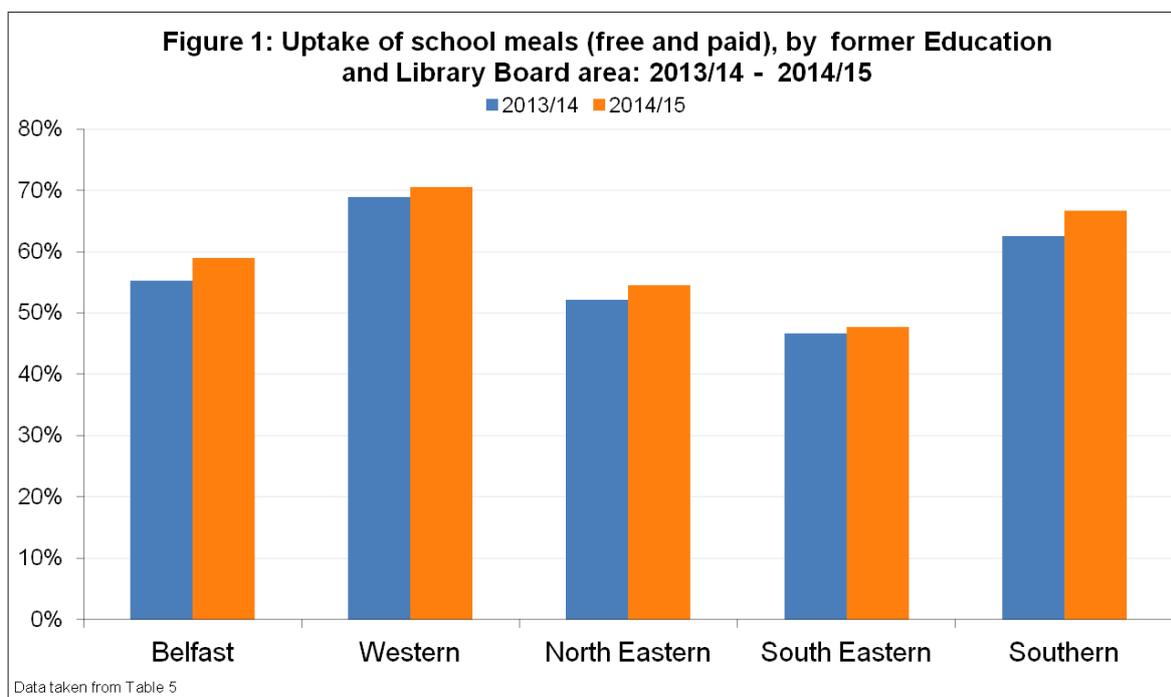
## Introduction

The purpose of this statistical bulletin is to provide results of the latest annual data collection relating to the uptake of school meals in Northern Ireland schools, commonly known as the school meals census. The information was collected with a reference point of 10 October 2014 and relates to all grant-aided schools in Northern Ireland.

Data collected through the school meals census are used by policy teams within the Department of Education and by other users across the education service, most notably by the Education Authority (formerly the Education and Library Boards). The data are also used to inform a number of Assembly questions. The Department is responsible for formulating and developing policy and the associated financial arrangements in relation to school meals.

## Section 1: Uptake of school meals (free and paid)

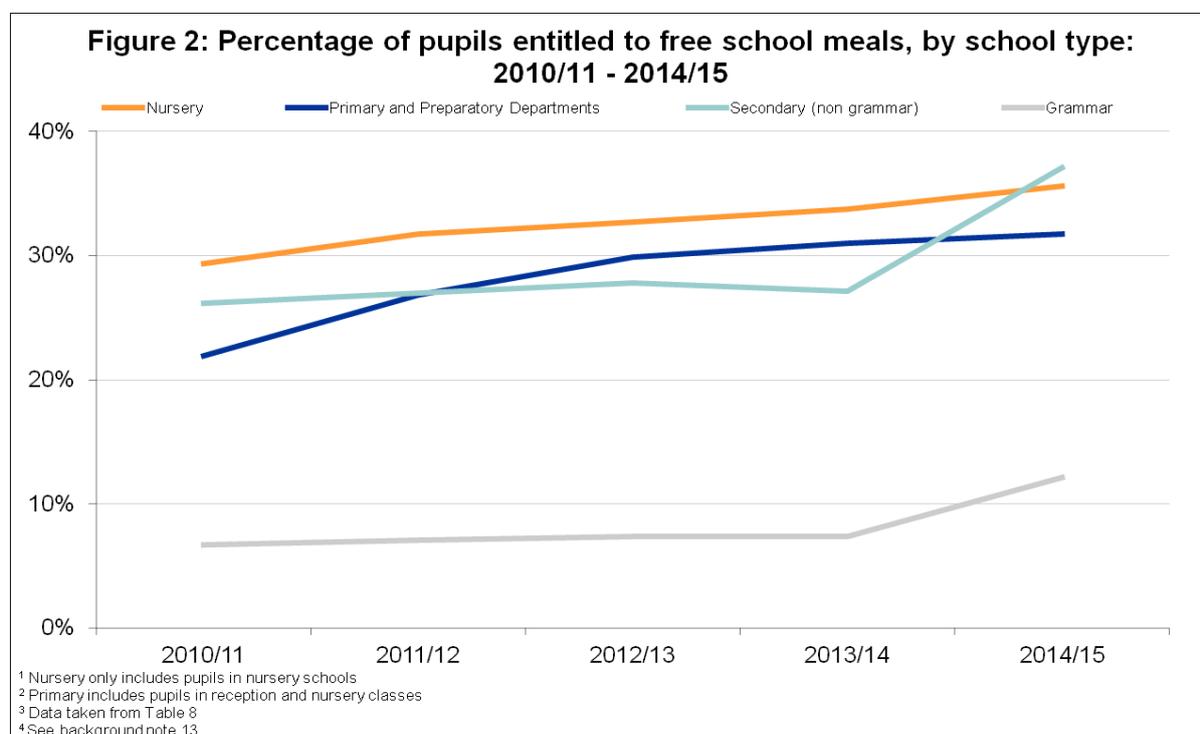
- There were 302,696 pupils present in school and availing of a lunch break on census day<sup>1</sup>. Almost 180,700 school meals, both free and paid, were taken by pupils on the day. Pupils not taking a school meal are making alternative arrangements for lunch, which can include bringing their own food into school. Around 40% of meals fall into this category (Tables 1-3).
- The school meals uptake level by pupils present for lunch on census day is 59.7%. The 2014/15 school meals uptake level is 2.7 percentage points higher than the previous year, mainly due to more pupils taking free school meals in post-primary schools (Table 4 and Table 5).
- There is variation in the level of uptake across school types with nursery schools having the highest uptake at 95.0%. This is followed by special schools with 71.2% and then post-primary and primary/preparatory schools at similar levels of uptake with 61.2% and 57.5% respectively (Table 4).
- There is also variation across the former Education and Library Board areas. This follows a similar pattern to previous years with uptake being highest in the Western Education and Library Board area (70.5%) and lowest in the South Eastern Education and Library Board area (47.8%) (Table 5).



<sup>1</sup> Excludes pupils present on school meals census day whose school day did not include a lunch break, including part-time nursery pupils and some P1 pupils (see background note 15)

## Section 2: Entitlement to free school meals

- Across all school types, including special schools, 97,518<sup>2</sup> pupils were entitled to free school meals. This represents 29.7% of the total school enrolment. This is an increase of 13,232 (15.7%) on the previous year (Table 8).
- The majority of this increase is in post primary schools, where the number of pupils entitled to free school meals has risen from circa 26,700 in 2013/14 to over 37,200 in 2014/15. The proportion of non-grammar pupils that are entitled to free school meals has risen by ten percentage points to 37.1%. Amongst grammar school pupils entitlement has increased by almost five percentage points from last year to 12.1% in 2014/15.
- This increase is likely to be a result of the extension of the Working Tax Credit free school meal criterion to post primary pupils from September 2014 (see background note 9).
- There has also been an increase in the percentage of pupils entitled to free school meals in all other school types; 35.6% of nursery pupils are entitled compared to 33.8% last year, 31.7% of primary/preparatory school pupils compared to 31.0% last year, and 52.5% of special school pupils compared to 50.9% in 2013/14<sup>3</sup>.



<sup>2</sup> This figure has been revised.

<sup>3</sup> 2013/14 figures for special schools were unvalidated.

- The former Belfast Education and Library Board and the Western Education and Library Board areas have the highest proportion of pupils entitled to free school meals at 38.8% and 37.6% respectively. The former North Eastern Education and Library Board area has the lowest proportion at 23.4% (Table 10).

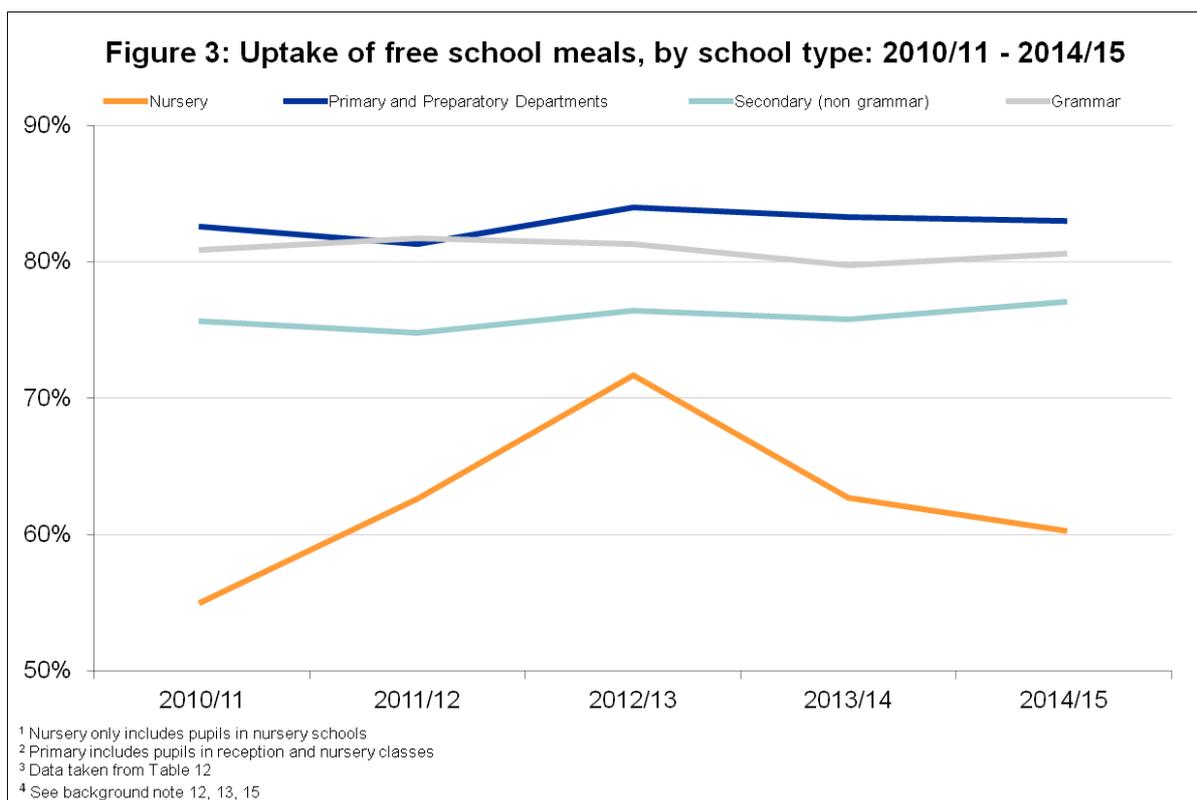
### Section 3: Uptake of free school meals

- There were 78,560 free school meals taken by pupils across all school types, this is an increase of 10,638 on the previous year (Tables 11 and 12). This represents 43.5% of all meals provided by schools, which is an increase from 39.7% the previous year.
- The former Belfast Education and Library Board area had the highest percentage, with 57.4% of school meals being provided free to pupils. The former Southern Education and Library Board area had the lowest percentage, with 36.4% of school meals being provided free to pupils (Table 11).
- When considering the number of free school meals provided as a proportion of the number of pupils entitled to free school meals, uptake of free school meals was 80.6%<sup>4</sup>. This is the same as the previous year (Table 12).
- There has been a small increase in the free school meal uptake level in post primary schools. This may be due, at least partly, to the extension of the Working Tax Credit free school meal criterion to post primary pupils from September 2014 (see background note 9) which appears to have led to an increase in the number of those pupils receiving entitlement to free school meals. The proportion of entitled non-grammar pupils that are taking a free school meal has risen by 1.3 percentage points to 77.1%. Amongst grammar school pupils the uptake level has increased by less than one percentage point from last year to 80.6% in 2014/15. (Table 12)
- There has also been an increase in the uptake level in special schools<sup>5</sup>. However uptake of free school meals decreased slightly in nursery schools while the level for primary schools remained similar to the previous year at 83.3%.(Table 12)

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<sup>4</sup> Includes special schools.

<sup>5</sup> Free school meal entitlement data for 2013/14 is unvalidated.



- Uptake of free school meals was highest in the former Western Education and Library Board area (85.0%) and lowest in the former South Eastern Education and Library Board area (73.1%) (Table 13).

## Notes for readers

### *Official Statistics*

1. This is an Official Statistics publication. Official statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.
2. For general enquiries about the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, contact the National Statistics Public Enquiry Service on 0845 601 3034

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3. You can also find Official Statistics on the Internet: [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk)

### *School meal provision*

4. The Education Authority (formerly Education and Library Boards (ELBs)) is responsible for the day to day operation of the school meals service in all grant-aided schools, with the exception of voluntary grammar schools and grant-maintained integrated schools, where the responsibility lies with the Trustees/Boards of Governors.
5. The service is provided in line with the Approved Arrangements for the Provision of Milk, Meals and Related Facilities made under Articles 58 and 59 of the Education and Libraries (NI) Order 1986 drawn up by the Department of Education (DE), which will be referred to as 'the Arrangements' in the remainder of this document.

[http://www.deni.gov.uk/index/support-and-development-2/5-schools\\_meals/school-milk-and-meals.htm](http://www.deni.gov.uk/index/support-and-development-2/5-schools_meals/school-milk-and-meals.htm)

6. Two main types of school meal service exist:
  - A traditional meal comprising a main course and dessert; and
  - A cash cafeteria service, where items are priced separately.

### *Free school meal provision*

7. With regard to free school meal provision the following terms are used:
  - Eligibility: When a pupil within a family meets one of the criteria contained in paragraph 6 of the Arrangements for the provision of milk, meals and related facilities.
  - Entitlement: When an application for free school meals is made on behalf of a pupil and the application is successful.
  - Uptake: When a pupil who is entitled to free school meals makes use of the free school meal provision by taking a free school meal.
8. Certain categories of pupils are entitled to free school meals. Details of the qualifying criteria are contained in paragraph 6 of the Arrangements. The Education Authority

(formerly ELBs) is responsible for administering the award of free school meals. Entitlement to free school meals is widely used as an indicator of deprivation.

9. From the start of the 2010/11 school year the eligibility criteria for free school meals was extended to include full-time nursery and primary school children whose parents are in receipt of Working Tax Credit and have an annual taxable income which does not exceed £16,190 (in 2014/15). The new criterion was introduced on a phased basis with nursery, foundation stage and key stage 1 pupils eligible from September 2010. This was extended in September 2011 to key stage 2 pupils. It was further extended to post-primary school pupils from September 2014.

### *School Meals Census*

10. The main statistics in this statistical bulletin have been derived from the annual school meals data collection, commonly known as the school meals census. The data collection for the 2014/15 school meals census was undertaken by the Department, with data collected directly from each grant-aided school. Prior to 2012/13 the former ELBs were responsible for the collection of data in relation to schools in the controlled and maintained sectors and provided a collated return for their area to the Department.
11. The 2014/15 school meals census figures in this statistical bulletin are based on information as at 10<sup>th</sup> October 2014<sup>6</sup>. Some tables in this statistical bulletin include data on school enrolments and the number of pupils entitled to free school meals. Data on school enrolments and free school meal entitlement (FSME) were collected as part of the annual school enrolments data collection exercise and are also based on information as at 10<sup>th</sup> October 2014.
12. In nursery and primary schools, new pupils often have a phased introduction to school with some pupils not starting school until late October. Also new pupils may have a shorter day initially, without a lunch break. The school meals census date is usually the Friday of the first full week in October. This means that not all pupils will have started school, or be staying for lunch break. While pupils due to start later in the month will be counted in school enrolment, and free school meal entitlement figures, they will not be present to take a meal and will not therefore be counted in school meals census figures. Figures presented for free school meal uptake in nursery and primary schools, but particularly nursery, will therefore be lower than would be the case with a later census date. In 2012/13 the school meals census date was delayed and took place on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2012. This is likely to explain the higher uptake of free school meals in nursery schools in 2012/13, which returned to previous levels in 2013/14.
13. From 2012/13, data collection and validation activities have been carried out by the Department rather than by each former Education and Library Board. Some changes were made to the methodology employed and data collected from schools in order to facilitate validation of the data and to improve the clarity of the information presented. These changes mainly affected the count of pupils present used in the calculation of school meal uptake figures, the number of equated paid meals and the number of pupils making other arrangements. **For this reason caution should be used in drawing any comparison between data from 2012/13 onwards and data from previous years.**

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<sup>6</sup> If school meals were not being provided by the school on census day the school could choose to conduct the census on the nearest day on which meals are provided.

14. In schools with a cash cafeteria system, school meal numbers are calculated from lunchtime income. Schools also include income from sales at morning break (and in previous years income from breakfast clubs may also have been included – this was excluded from the 2012/13 data collection onwards). The cost of a fixed price meal is used to convert income from lunch and break-time sales to equated meal numbers. Equated meal numbers will not exactly match pupils present for meals.
15. There were 8,647 pupils who were recorded as being present on census day but schools indicated they were not availing of a school lunch break. These pupils were mainly in nursery and primary schools. This will include part-time nursery pupils and primary pupils whose school day, by census date, did not yet include a lunch break. From the 2012/13 school meals census data onwards these pupils have been excluded from the count of pupils present for the purposes of calculating uptake of school meals.
16. There were 14 schools indicating that they do not provide a school meals service. Of these schools 10 are nursery schools where none of the pupils have a lunch break included as part of their hours of attendance. A total of 157 pupils at the remaining six schools do receive a lunch break. These 157 pupils are recorded as ‘making other lunch arrangements’ and are included in the count of pupils present for lunch when calculating percentage uptake of school meals (tables 4, 5 and 8).
17. For the 2013/14 data collection the categories of ‘other lunch arrangements’ and ‘taking own food’ were merged together to create a ‘pupils making other lunch arrangements’ category, which includes pupils taking their own food. This was due to difficulties, expressed by some schools, in capturing accurate data for the categories previously used.
18. Free school meal entitlement (FSME) data was not validated prior to 2014/15.
19. Figures for primary schools may include nursery and/or reception pupils attending primary schools and preparatory departments.
20. Information presenting uptake of school meals in Northern Ireland, England and Scotland has been discontinued as policy differences between the regions and availability of up-to-date information for other regions make comparisons difficult.
21. The figures in this statistical bulletin may be subject to minor revision and these will be notified in accordance with our revisions policy. This can be accessed at [http://www.deni.gov.uk/de\\_statement\\_on\\_statistical\\_revisions-2.doc](http://www.deni.gov.uk/de_statement_on_statistical_revisions-2.doc)  
Details of revisions are as follows:
  - 7 October 2015: to correct the number of pupils enrolled and entitled to free school meals in special schools (tables 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13, corrected figures are marked with an asterisk)
22. More detail about the collection of data on school meals can be found on the DE website. This can be accessed at [http://www.deni.gov.uk/school\\_meals\\_procedures.pdf](http://www.deni.gov.uk/school_meals_procedures.pdf)
23. The Facts and Figures section of the DE website ([www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk)) also presents data from the school meals census, summarised at Northern Ireland and former Education and Library Board area level. Statistics on school enrolments, school performance, pupil attendance, teacher numbers, pupil:teacher ratios, school leaver destinations and qualifications may also be accessed via the website.

### ***General***

24. The following symbols are used in the tables in this statistical bulletin:

\* = Relates to fewer than 5 cases

# = Number (5 or more) suppressed to prevent disclosure of small numbers elsewhere

- = Indicates no schools in this category

### **Further enquiries**

25. For more details about the statistics contained in this statistical bulletin, or to request further information and analysis, please contact:

Stephen Paulin  
Statistics and Research Team  
Department of Education  
Rathgael House  
Balloo Road  
Rathgill  
BANGOR BT19 7PR  
Tel. 028 9127 9638  
Fax 028 9127 9594  
Email [stephen.paulin@deni.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.paulin@deni.gov.uk)

26. DE Statistical Bulletins can be accessed on the DE website ([www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk)) under the Facts and Figures section.

27. Press enquiries should be made to the Department's Press Office at the same address, telephone (028) 9127 9701 / fax (028) 9127 9271.

28. Feedback on this publication can be provided directly to Stephen Paulin (contact details above).

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**Table 1: Pupils present and meals taken on school meals census day, by former Education and Library Board area: 2014/15**

	<b>All pupils present on census day<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Pupils present for lunch break<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>All meals<sup>3</sup> taken (school and other)<sup>4</sup></b>
Belfast	54,676	53,566	53,660
Western	53,406	52,245	52,371
North Eastern	68,936	66,242	66,142
South Eastern	60,984	58,338	58,345
Southern	73,341	72,305	72,639
<b>Total</b>	<b>311,343</b>	<b>302,696</b>	<b>303,157</b>

Source: NI school meals census 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> The number of pupils present on school meals census day was provided by each school.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes pupils present on school meals census day whose school day did not include a lunch break, including part-time nursery pupils and some P1 pupils (see background note 15).

<sup>3</sup> Meal figures presented are equated meals: Where schools have a cash cafeteria system for lunch the meal numbers are calculated based on lunchtime income. Income from morning break provision is also included in the calculation of meal numbers but breakfast club income is excluded (see background note 14).

<sup>4</sup> 'School' meals include free or paid meals supplied by the school, 'other' meals include where pupils bring their own food or make other arrangements, such as going home for lunch.

**Table 2: Number and type of meals taken on school meals census day, by school type and school management type: 2014/15**

School Type	Management Type	Meals provided by school			Other meals <sup>1</sup>	Total <sup>1</sup>
		Paid school meals <sup>2</sup>	Free school meals	All school meals <sup>2</sup>	Pupils making other lunch arrangements (including own food)	
Nursery <sup>3</sup>	Controlled	1,037	708	1,745	69	1,814
	RC Maintained	621	556	1,177	84	1,261
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,658</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>2,922</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>3,075</b>
Primary <sup>4</sup> and Preparatory Departments	Controlled	21,460	18,449	39,909	34,616	74,525
	Voluntary	1,057	11	1,068	522	1,590
	RC Maintained	22,135	24,051	46,186	28,780	74,966
	Other Maintained	730	1,250	1,980	1,059	3,039
	Controlled Integrated	775	1,038	1,813	1,769	3,582
	Grant Maintained Integrated	1,497	1,279	2,776	2,822	5,598
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47,654</b>	<b>46,078</b>	<b>93,732</b>	<b>69,568</b>	<b>163,300</b>	
Secondary (non grammar)	Controlled	8,925	6,412	15,337	9,527	24,864
	RC Maintained	11,515	12,850	24,365	11,388	35,753
	Other Maintained	69	289	358	192	550
	Controlled Integrated	382	519	901	1,310	2,211
	Grant Maintained Integrated	3,463	2,768	6,231	2,416	8,647
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24,354</b>	<b>22,838</b>	<b>47,192</b>	<b>24,833</b>	<b>72,025</b>	
Grammar	Controlled	6,537	1,250	7,787	7,328	15,115
	Voluntary	20,905	4,882	25,787	19,278	45,065
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27,442</b>	<b>6,132</b>	<b>33,574</b>	<b>26,606</b>	<b>60,180</b>
<b>Post-Primary Total</b>	<b>51,796</b>	<b>28,970</b>	<b>80,766</b>	<b>51,439</b>	<b>132,205</b>	
Special	Controlled	983	2,061	3,044	1,291	4,335
	RC Maintained	17	158	175	27	202
	Other Maintained	11	29	40	0	40
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,011</b>	<b>2,248</b>	<b>3,259</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>4,577</b>
All grant-aided schools	Controlled	38,942	28,880	67,822	52,831	120,653
	Voluntary	21,962	4,893	26,855	19,800	46,655
	RC Maintained	34,288	37,615	71,903	40,279	112,182
	Other Maintained	810	1,568	2,378	1,251	3,629
	Controlled Integrated	1,157	1,557	2,714	3,079	5,793
	Grant Maintained Integrated	4,960	4,047	9,007	5,238	14,245
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>102,119</b>	<b>78,560</b>	<b>180,679</b>	<b>122,478</b>	<b>303,157</b>	

Source: NI school meals census 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pupils present on school meals census day whose school day did not include a lunch break, including part-time nursery pupils and some P1 pupils (see background note 15).

<sup>2</sup> Paid meal figures presented are equated meals: Where schools have a cash cafeteria system for lunch the meal numbers are calculated based on lunchtime income. Income from morning break provision is also included in the calculation of meal numbers (see background note 14).

<sup>3</sup> Only includes pupils at nursery schools.

<sup>4</sup> Includes pupils in reception and nursery classes of primary schools

Table 3: Percentage and type of meals taken on school meals census day, by school type and school management type: 2014/15

School Type	Management Type	Meals provided by school			Other meals <sup>1</sup>	Total <sup>1</sup>
		Paid school meals <sup>2</sup>	Free school meals	All school meals <sup>2</sup>	Pupils making other lunch arrangements (including own food)	
		%	%	%	%	
Nursery <sup>3</sup>	Controlled	57.2	39.0	96.2	3.8	100.0
	RC Maintained	49.2	44.1	93.3	6.7	100.0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53.9</b>	<b>41.1</b>	<b>95.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Primary <sup>4</sup> and Preparatory Departments	Controlled	28.8	24.8	53.6	46.4	100.0
	Voluntary	66.5	0.7	67.2	32.8	100.0
	RC Maintained	29.5	32.1	61.6	38.4	100.0
	Other Maintained	24.0	41.1	65.2	34.8	100.0
	Controlled Integrated	21.6	29.0	50.6	49.4	100.0
	Grant Maintained Integrated	26.7	22.8	49.6	50.4	100.0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>42.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Secondary (non grammar)	Controlled	35.9	25.8	61.7	38.3	100.0
	RC Maintained	32.2	35.9	68.1	31.9	100.0
	Other Maintained	12.5	52.5	65.1	34.9	100.0
	Controlled Integrated	17.3	23.5	40.8	59.2	100.0
	Grant Maintained Integrated	40.0	32.0	72.1	27.9	100.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>31.7</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	
Grammar	Controlled	43.2	8.3	51.5	48.5	100.0
	Voluntary	46.4	10.8	57.2	42.8	100.0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>45.6</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>44.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Post-Primary Total</b>		<b>39.2</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>61.1</b>	<b>38.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Special	Controlled	22.7	47.5	70.2	29.8	100.0
	RC Maintained	8.4	78.2	86.6	13.4	100.0
	Other Maintained	27.5	72.5	100.0	0.0	100.0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>49.1</b>	<b>71.2</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>
All grant-aided schools	Controlled	32.3	23.9	56.2	43.8	100.0
	Voluntary	47.1	10.5	57.6	42.4	100.0
	RC Maintained	30.6	33.5	64.1	35.9	100.0
	Other Maintained	22.3	43.2	65.5	34.5	100.0
	Controlled Integrated	20.0	26.9	46.8	53.2	100.0
	Grant Maintained Integrated	34.8	28.4	63.2	36.8	100.0
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>33.7</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>40.4</b>

Source: NI school meals census 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pupils present on school meals census day whose school day did not include a lunch break, including part-time nursery pupils and some P1 pupils (see background note 15).

<sup>2</sup> Paid meal figures presented are equated meals: Where schools have a cash cafeteria system for lunch the meal numbers are calculated based on lunchtime income. Income from morning break provision is also included in the calculation of meal numbers (see background note 14).

<sup>3</sup> Only includes pupils at nursery schools.

<sup>4</sup> Includes pupils in reception and nursery classes of primary schools

**Table 4: Uptake of school meals (free and paid) - number and percentage of pupils present for lunch on school meals census day, by former Education and Library Board area, school type and school management type: 2014/15**

School Type	Management Type	Belfast		Western		North Eastern		South Eastern		Southern		Total	
		School meals provided <sup>1</sup>	Uptake <sup>2</sup> %	School meals provided <sup>1</sup>	Uptake <sup>2</sup> %	School meals provided <sup>1</sup>	Uptake <sup>2</sup> %	School meals provided <sup>1</sup>	Uptake <sup>2</sup> %	School meals provided <sup>1</sup>	Uptake <sup>2</sup> %	School meals provided <sup>1</sup>	Uptake <sup>2</sup> %
Nursery <sup>3</sup>	Controlled	467	100.0	312	87.9	184	96.8	328	98.8	454	96.6	1,745	96.2
	RC Maintained	657	98.5	-	-	46	76.7	203	79.0	271	97.8	1,177	93.3
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,124</b>	<b>99.1</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>87.9</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>92.0</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>90.2</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>97.1</b>	<b>2,922</b>	<b>95.0</b>
Primary <sup>4</sup> and Preparatory Departments	Controlled	5,860	61.3	5,655	70.3	11,112	51.5	7,883	39.6	9,399	61.6	39,909	53.7
	Voluntary	744	68.5	-	-	-	-	308	66.2	16	41.0	1,068	67.2
	RC Maintained	7,345	63.5	12,529	69.1	6,656	58.1	5,177	48.9	14,479	62.5	46,186	61.7
	Other Maintained	714	66.9	383	68.6	244	49.3	125	64.4	514	71.0	1,980	65.2
	Controlled Integrated	278	54.9	22	71.0	826	58.7	602	39.7	85	69.1	1,813	50.6
	Grant Maintained Integrated	266	45.2	714	62.0	574	48.9	543	38.5	679	53.3	2,776	49.6
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,207</b>	<b>62.4</b>	<b>19,303</b>	<b>69.1</b>	<b>19,412</b>	<b>53.8</b>	<b>14,638</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>25,172</b>	<b>62.0</b>	<b>93,732</b>	<b>57.5</b>
Secondary (non grammar)	Controlled	1,689	60.4	2,011	79.0	3,833	53.5	2,758	54.9	5,046	67.8	15,337	61.4
	RC Maintained	3,842	59.8	6,686	79.7	3,642	57.4	2,329	59.4	7,866	74.6	24,365	68.4
	Other Maintained	358	65.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	358	65.1
	Controlled Integrated	-	-	-	-	341	51.9	377	29.4	183	67.0	901	40.8
	Grant Maintained Integrated	1,061	83.2	1,311	74.7	1,485	72.4	1,575	63.5	799	77.7	6,231	72.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,950</b>	<b>62.9</b>	<b>10,008</b>	<b>78.9</b>	<b>9,301</b>	<b>57.3</b>	<b>7,039</b>	<b>55.4</b>	<b>13,894</b>	<b>72.0</b>	<b>47,192</b>	<b>65.6</b>	
Grammar	Controlled	1,215	48.8	1,641	64.3	2,031	47.1	1,544	48.0	1,356	54.9	7,787	51.8
	Voluntary	6,114	46.0	5,045	62.4	4,433	53.3	3,435	52.2	6,760	77.5	25,787	57.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,329</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>6,686</b>	<b>62.9</b>	<b>6,464</b>	<b>51.2</b>	<b>4,979</b>	<b>50.8</b>	<b>8,116</b>	<b>72.5</b>	<b>33,574</b>	<b>55.9</b>	
Post-Primary	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,279</b>	<b>53.2</b>	<b>16,694</b>	<b>71.6</b>	<b>15,765</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>12,018</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>22,010</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>80,766</b>	<b>61.2</b>
Special	Controlled	806	77.9	534	82.0	664	65.7	687	58.9	353	74.8	3,044	70.2
	RC Maintained	175	86.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	175	86.6
	Other Maintained	-	-	-	-	40	100.0	-	-	-	-	40	100.0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>79.4</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>82.0</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>67.0</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>74.8</b>	<b>3,259</b>	<b>71.2</b>
All grant-aided schools	Controlled	10,037	61.4	10,153	71.8	17,824	52.0	13,200	44.5	16,608	63.6	67,822	56.3
	Voluntary	6,858	47.7	5,045	62.4	4,433	53.3	3,743	53.1	6,776	77.4	26,855	57.7
	RC Maintained	12,019	63.7	19,215	72.5	10,344	57.9	7,709	52.2	22,616	66.5	71,903	64.2
	Other Maintained	1,072	66.3	383	68.6	284	53.1	125	64.4	514	71.0	2,378	65.5
	Controlled Integrated	278	54.9	22	71.0	1,167	56.6	979	35.0	268	67.7	2,714	46.8
	Grant Maintained Integrated	1,327	71.2	2,025	69.7	2,059	63.8	2,118	54.5	1,478	64.2	9,007	63.5
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>31,591</b>	<b>59.0</b>	<b>36,843</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>36,111</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>27,874</b>	<b>47.8</b>	<b>48,260</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>180,679</b>	<b>59.7</b>	

Source: NI school meals census 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Meal figures presented are equated meals: Where schools have a cash cafeteria system for lunch the meal numbers are calculated based on lunchtime income. Income from morning break provision is also included in the calculation of meal numbers (see background note 14).

<sup>2</sup> Uptake is expressed as the number of school meals provided (free and paid) as a percentage of the number of pupils present for lunch on census day. Pupils present for lunch excludes pupils present on school meals census day whose school day did not include a lunch break, including part-time nursery pupils and some P1 pupils (see background note 15).

<sup>3</sup> Only includes pupils at nursery schools.

<sup>4</sup> Includes pupils in reception and nursery classes of primary schools

- indicates no schools in this category

**Table 5: Uptake of school meals (free and paid) - number and percentage of pupils present for lunch, by former Education and Library Board area: 2012/13 - 2014/15**

		<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>
<b>Pupils present for lunch on census day<sup>1</sup></b>	Belfast	53,139	53,168	53,566
	Western	52,141	51,946	52,245
	North Eastern	66,100	66,233	66,242
	South Eastern	56,889	57,678	58,338
	Southern	70,272	71,219	72,305
	<b>Total</b>	<b>298,541</b>	<b>300,244</b>	<b>302,696</b>
<b>School meals provided on census day<sup>2</sup></b>	Belfast	29,221	29,430	31,591
	Western	35,249	35,815	36,843
	North Eastern	33,054	34,547	36,111
	South Eastern	26,377	26,885	27,874
	Southern	44,133	44,507	48,260
	<b>Total</b>	<b>168,034</b>	<b>171,184</b>	<b>180,679</b>
<b>School meals as % of all pupils present (Uptake)</b>	Belfast	55.0	55.4	59.0
	Western	67.6	68.9	70.5
	North Eastern	50.0	52.2	54.5
	South Eastern	46.4	46.6	47.8
	Southern	62.8	62.5	66.7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>56.3</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>59.7</b>

Source: NI school meals census 2012/13 - 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Pupils present for lunch excludes pupils present on school meals census day whose school day did not include a lunch break, including part-time nursery pupils and some P1 pupils (see background note 15).

<sup>2</sup> Meal figures presented are equated meals: Where schools have a cash cafeteria system for lunch the meal numbers are calculated based on lunchtime income. Income from morning break provision is also included in the calculation of meal numbers (see background note 14).

**Table 6: Percentage of school meals provided (free and paid) by type of meal provision, school type and school management type: 2014/15**

School Type	Management Type	Traditional meals	Cash cafeteria meals <sup>1</sup>
		%	%
Nursery <sup>2</sup>	Controlled	100.0	0.0
	RC Maintained	100.0	0.0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Primary <sup>3</sup> and Preparatory Departments	Controlled	98.9	1.1
	Voluntary	90.0	10.0
	RC Maintained	97.0	3.0
	Other Maintained	100.0	0.0
	Controlled Integrated	100.0	0.0
	Grant Maintained Integrated	100.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>98.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	
Secondary (non grammar)	Controlled	5.4	94.6
	RC Maintained	7.3	92.7
	Other Maintained	100.0	0.0
	Controlled Integrated	0.0	100.0
	Grant Maintained Integrated	7.2	92.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>92.8</b>	
Grammar	Controlled	0.0	100.0
	Voluntary	7.8	92.2
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>94.0</b>
<b>Post-Primary Total</b>		<b>6.7</b>	<b>93.3</b>
Special	Controlled	96.3	3.7
	RC Maintained	100.0	0.0
	Other Maintained	100.0	0.0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>96.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>
All grant-aided schools	Controlled	66.3	33.7
	Voluntary	11.1	88.9
	RC Maintained	66.7	33.3
	Other Maintained	100.0	0.0
	Controlled Integrated	66.8	33.2
	Grant Maintained Integrated	35.8	64.2
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>57.2</b>	<b>42.8</b>

Source: NI school meals census 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Cash cafeteria meal figures presented are equated meals: Where schools have a cash cafeteria system for lunch the meal numbers are calculated based on lunchtime income. Income from morning break provision is also included in the calculation of meal numbers (see background note 14).

<sup>2</sup> Only includes pupils at nursery schools.

<sup>3</sup> Includes pupils in reception and nursery classes of primary schools

**Table 7: Number of school meals provided (free and paid) by type of meal provision, former Education and Library Board area, school type and school management type: 2014/15**

School Type	Management Type	Belfast		Western		North Eastern		South Eastern		Southern		Total	
		Traditional meals	Cash cafeteria meals <sup>1</sup>										
Nursery <sup>2</sup>	Controlled	467	0	312	0	184	0	328	0	454	0	1,745	0
	RC Maintained	657	0	-	-	46	0	203	0	271	0	1,177	0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,124</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,922</b>	<b>0</b>
Primary <sup>3</sup> and Preparatory Departments	Controlled	5,851	9	5,504	151	11,061	51	7,722	161	9,344	55	39,482	427
	Voluntary	692	52	-	-	-	-	253	55	16	0	961	107
	RC Maintained	7,345	0	11,415	1,114	6,610	46	5,177	0	14,270	209	44,817	1,369
	Other Maintained	714	0	383	0	244	0	125	0	514	0	1,980	0
	Controlled Integrated	278	0	22	0	826	0	602	0	85	0	1,813	0
	Grant Maintained Integrated	266	0	714	0	574	0	543	0	679	0	2,776	0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,146</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>18,038</b>	<b>1,265</b>	<b>19,315</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>14,422</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>24,908</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>91,829</b>	<b>1,903</b>
Secondary (non grammar)	Controlled	239	1,450	418	1,593	0	3,833	0	2,758	176	4,870	833	14,504
	RC Maintained	1,604	2,238	0	6,686	0	3,642	164	2,165	0	7,866	1,768	22,597
	Other Maintained	358	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	358	0
	Controlled Integrated	-	-	-	-	0	341	0	377	0	183	0	901
	Grant Maintained Integrated	0	1,061	0	1,311	447	1,038	0	1,575	0	799	447	5,784
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,201</b>	<b>4,749</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>9,590</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>8,854</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>6,875</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>13,718</b>	<b>3,406</b>	<b>43,786</b>	
Grammar	Controlled	0	1,215	0	1,641	0	2,031	0	1,544	0	1,356	0	7,787
	Voluntary	953	5,161	0	5,045	199	4,234	501	2,934	357	6,403	2,010	23,777
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>6,376</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,686</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>6,265</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>4,478</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>7,759</b>	<b>2,010</b>	<b>31,564</b>
<b>Post-Primary Total</b>	<b>3,154</b>	<b>11,125</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>16,276</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>15,119</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>11,353</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>21,477</b>	<b>5,416</b>	<b>75,350</b>	
Special	Controlled	806	0	534	0	550	114	687	0	353	0	2,930	114
	RC Maintained	175	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	175	0
	Other Maintained	-	-	-	-	40	0	-	-	-	-	40	0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,145</b>	<b>114</b>
All grant-aided schools	Controlled	7,363	2,674	6,768	3,385	11,795	6,029	8,737	4,463	10,327	6,281	44,990	22,832
	Voluntary	1,645	5,213	0	5,045	199	4,234	754	2,989	373	6,403	2,971	23,884
	RC Maintained	9,781	2,238	11,415	7,800	6,656	3,688	5,544	2,165	14,541	8,075	47,937	23,966
	Other Maintained	1,072	0	383	0	284	0	125	0	514	0	2,378	0
	Controlled Integrated	278	0	22	0	826	341	602	377	85	183	1,813	901
	Grant Maintained Integrated	266	1,061	714	1,311	1,021	1,038	543	1,575	679	799	3,223	5,784
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>20,405</b>	<b>11,186</b>	<b>19,302</b>	<b>17,541</b>	<b>20,781</b>	<b>15,330</b>	<b>16,305</b>	<b>11,569</b>	<b>26,519</b>	<b>21,741</b>	<b>103,312</b>	<b>77,367</b>

Source: NI school meals census 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Cash cafeteria meal figures presented are equated meals: Where schools have a cash cafeteria system for lunch the meal numbers are calculated based on lunchtime income. Income from morning break provision is also included in the calculation of meal numbers (see background note 14).

<sup>2</sup> Only includes pupils at nursery schools.

<sup>3</sup> Includes pupils in reception and nursery classes of primary schools

- indicates no schools in this category

**Table 8: Number and percentage<sup>1</sup> of pupils entitled to free school meals by school type: 2010/11 - 2014/15**

		2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
<b>Total enrolment</b>	Nursery <sup>2</sup>	5,906	5,911	5,910	5,852	5,882
	Primary <sup>3</sup> and Preparatory Departments	163,378	164,746	168,034	171,548	175,042
	Secondary (non grammar)	85,769	84,193	83,059	81,339	79,840
	Grammar	62,133	62,554	62,599	62,634	62,713
	Special	4,458	4,549	4,653	4,832	5,064*
	<b>All grant-aided schools (excluding special schools)</b>	<b>317,186</b>	<b>317,404</b>	<b>319,602</b>	<b>321,373</b>	<b>323,477</b>
	<b>All grant-aided schools (including special schools)</b>	<b>321,644</b>	<b>321,953</b>	<b>324,255</b>	<b>326,205</b>	<b>328,541*</b>
<b>Entitlement to free school meals</b>	Nursery <sup>2</sup>	1,735	1,875	1,934	1,977	2,096
	Primary <sup>3</sup> and Preparatory Departments	35,835	44,293	50,175	53,197	55,526
	Secondary (non grammar)	22,419	22,724	23,094	22,046	29,626
	Grammar	4,150	4,422	4,607	4,606	7,610
	Special <sup>4</sup>	-	-	-	2,460	2,660*
	<b>All grant-aided schools (excluding special schools)</b>	<b>64,139</b>	<b>73,314</b>	<b>79,810</b>	<b>81,826</b>	<b>94,858</b>
	<b>All grant-aided schools (including special schools)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>84,286</b>	<b>97,518*</b>
<b>Percentage of pupils entitled to free school meals<sup>1</sup></b>	Nursery <sup>2</sup>	29.4	31.7	32.7	33.8	35.6
	Primary <sup>3</sup> and Preparatory Departments	21.9	26.9	29.9	31.0	31.7
	Secondary (non grammar)	26.1	27.0	27.8	27.1	37.1
	Grammar	6.7	7.1	7.4	7.4	12.1
	Special <sup>4</sup>	-	-	-	50.9	52.5
	<b>All grant-aided schools (excluding special schools)</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>29.3</b>
	<b>All grant-aided schools (including special schools)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>29.7</b>

Source: NI school census 2010/11 - 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Percentages express the number of pupils entitled to free school meals in a particular category (e.g. those at primary school) as a proportion of the total pupil enrolment in the same category.

<sup>2</sup> As school meals are not universally available to children in pre-school education, receipt of Income Support or Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance is used as a proxy for free school meal entitlement. Only includes pupils at nursery schools.

<sup>3</sup> Includes pupils in reception and nursery classes of primary schools

<sup>4</sup> Prior to 2014/15 free school meal entitlement data for special schools was not validated.

\* Figure revised

**Table 9: Number of pupils entitled to free school meals by school type and school management type: 2010/11 - 2014/15**

<b>School Type</b>	<b>Management Type</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>
<b>Nursery<sup>1</sup></b>	Controlled	1,018	1,129	1,151	1,150	1,268
	RC Maintained	717	746	783	827	828
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,735</b>	<b>1,875</b>	<b>1,934</b>	<b>1,977</b>	<b>2,096</b>
<b>Primary<sup>2</sup> and Preparatory Departments</b>	Controlled	14,180	17,949	20,725	22,209	23,150
	Voluntary	7	13	14	16	12
	RC Maintained	19,027	23,044	25,585	26,848	27,977
	Other Maintained	872	1,075	1,277	1,344	1,412
	Controlled Integrated	713	910	1,094	1,208	1,341
	Grant Maintained Integrated	1,036	1,302	1,480	1,572	1,634
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35,835</b>	<b>44,293</b>	<b>50,175</b>	<b>53,197</b>	<b>55,526</b>	
<b>Secondary (non grammar)</b>	Controlled	6,635	6,681	6,733	6,371	8,639
	RC Maintained	12,976	12,981	13,092	12,381	16,480
	Other Maintained	183	204	213	225	352
	Controlled Integrated	553	611	626	644	825
	Grant Maintained Integrated	2,072	2,247	2,430	2,425	3,330
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,419</b>	<b>22,724</b>	<b>23,094</b>	<b>22,046</b>	<b>29,626</b>	
<b>Grammar</b>	Controlled	728	842	879	903	1,599
	Voluntary	3,422	3,580	3,728	3,703	6,011
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,150</b>	<b>4,422</b>	<b>4,607</b>	<b>4,606</b>	<b>7,610</b>
<b>Post-Primary</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,569</b>	<b>27,146</b>	<b>27,701</b>	<b>26,652</b>	<b>37,236</b>
<b>Special<sup>3</sup></b>	Controlled	-	-	-	2,254	2,446*
	RC Maintained	-	-	-	173	181
	Other Maintained	-	-	-	33	33
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,460</b>	<b>2,660*</b>
<b>All grant-aided schools (excluding special schools)</b>	Controlled	22,561	26,601	29,488	30,633	34,656
	Voluntary	3,429	3,593	3,742	3,719	6,023
	RC Maintained	32,720	36,771	39,460	40,056	45,285
	Other Maintained	1,055	1,279	1,490	1,569	1,764
	Controlled Integrated	1,266	1,521	1,720	1,852	2,166
	Grant Maintained Integrated	3,108	3,549	3,910	3,997	4,964
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64,139</b>	<b>73,314</b>	<b>79,810</b>	<b>81,826</b>	<b>94,858</b>	
<b>All grant-aided schools (including special schools)</b>	Controlled	-	-	-	32,887	37,102*
	Voluntary	-	-	-	3,719	6,023
	RC Maintained	-	-	-	40,229	45,466
	Other Maintained	-	-	-	1,602	1,797
	Controlled Integrated	-	-	-	1,852	2,166
	Grant Maintained Integrated	-	-	-	3,997	4,964
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>84,286</b>	<b>97,518*</b>	

Source: NI school census 2010/11 - 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> As school meals are not universally available to children in pre-school education, receipt of Income Support or Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance is used as a proxy for free school meal entitlement. Only includes pupils at nursery schools.

<sup>2</sup> Includes pupils in reception and nursery classes of primary schools

<sup>3</sup> Prior to 2014/15 free school meal entitlement data for special schools was not validated.

\* Figure revised

Table 10: Number and percentage<sup>1</sup> of pupils entitled to free school meals, by former Education and Library Board area, school type and school management type: 2014/15

School Type	Management Type	Belfast		Western		North Eastern		South Eastern		Southern		Total	
		Pupils entitled to free school meals	Free school meal entitlement %	Pupils entitled to free school meals	Free school meal entitlement %	Pupils entitled to free school meals	Free school meal entitlement %	Pupils entitled to free school meals	Free school meal entitlement %	Pupils entitled to free school meals	Free school meal entitlement %	Pupils entitled to free school meals	Free school meal entitlement %
Nursery <sup>2</sup>	Controlled	403	59.5	281	37.9	226	17.7	173	28.4	185	23.4	1,268	31.0
	RC Maintained	468	55.6	-	-	36	27.7	202	48.3	122	30.6	828	46.3
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>37.9</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>36.5</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>2,096</b>	<b>35.6</b>
Primary <sup>3</sup> and Preparatory Department	Controlled	#	#	3,032	35.1	6,129	26.8	#	#	3,944	24.5	23,150	28.8
	Voluntary	#	#	-	-	-	-	*	*	0	0.0	12	0.7
	RC Maintained	6,068	49.7	8,019	41.3	2,668	21.5	3,503	30.7	7,719	31.7	27,977	35.1
	Other Maintained	619	55.5	285	48.4	162	30.1	105	50.0	241	29.6	1,412	43.2
	Controlled Integrated	288	47.2	17	50.0	488	33.5	492	30.8	56	44.8	1,341	35.1
	Grant Maintained Integrated	322	47.5	395	30.9	347	26.7	197	12.8	373	27.8	1,634	26.6
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,217</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>11,748</b>	<b>39.2</b>	<b>9,794</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>9,434</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>12,333</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>55,526</b>	<b>31.7</b>
Secondary (non grammar)	Controlled	1,485	45.2	1,024	37.0	2,475	30.6	1,821	31.6	1,834	22.8	8,639	30.9
	RC Maintained	3,932	54.3	4,686	50.3	1,878	27.0	1,582	37.3	4,402	38.0	16,480	41.9
	Other Maintained	352	60.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	352	60.6
	Controlled Integrated	-	-	-	-	245	31.7	422	29.8	158	50.6	825	33.0
	Grant Maintained Integrated	855	55.8	803	41.6	669	29.2	677	25.9	326	28.9	3,330	35.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,624</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>6,513</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>5,267</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>4,502</b>	<b>32.1</b>	<b>6,720</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>29,626</b>	<b>37.1</b>	
Grammar	Controlled	#	#	508	19.1	361	8.0	#	#	150	5.8	1,599	10.1
	Voluntary	#	#	1,633	19.4	735	8.5	#	#	1,461	16.2	6,011	12.8
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,017</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>2,141</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>1,096</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>1,611</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>7,610</b>	<b>12.1</b>
Post-Primary	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,641</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>8,654</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>6,363</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>8,331</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>37,236</b>	<b>26.1</b>
Special	Controlled	653	58.6	562	78.5	466	42.9	536*	42.5	229	39.2	2,446*	51.4
	RC Maintained	181	77.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	181	77.4
	Other Maintained	-	-	-	-	33	49.3	-	-	-	-	33	49.3
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>61.8</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>78.5</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>536*</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>39.2</b>	<b>2,660*</b>	<b>52.5</b>
All grant-aided schools (excluding special schools)	Controlled	7,073	41.5	4,845	32.7	9,191	25.0	7,434	23.2	6,113	22.2	34,656	27.0
	Voluntary	1,752	11.7	1,633	19.4	735	8.5	442	6.0	1,461	16.1	6,023	12.4
	RC Maintained	10,468	51.6	12,705	44.2	4,582	23.5	5,287	32.9	12,243	33.7	45,285	37.5
	Other Maintained	971	57.2	285	48.4	162	30.1	105	50.0	241	29.6	1,764	45.8
	Controlled Integrated	288	47.2	17	50.0	733	32.9	914	30.3	214	49.0	2,166	34.3
	Grant Maintained Integrated	1,177	53.2	1,198	37.3	1,016	28.3	874	21.0	699	28.3	4,964	31.8
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>21,729</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>20,683</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>16,419</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>15,056</b>	<b>23.9</b>	<b>20,971</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>94,858</b>	<b>29.3</b>	
All grant-aided schools (including special schools)	Controlled	7,726	42.5	5,407	34.8	9,657	25.5	7,970*	23.9	6,342	22.6	37,102*	27.9
	Voluntary	1,752	11.7	1,633	19.4	735	8.5	442	6.0	1,461	16.1	6,023	12.4
	RC Maintained	10,649	51.9	12,705	44.2	4,582	23.5	5,287	32.9	12,243	33.7	45,466	37.5
	Other Maintained	971	57.2	285	48.4	195	32.2	105	50.0	241	29.6	1,797	45.9
	Controlled Integrated	288	47.2	17	50.0	733	32.9	914	30.3	214	49.0	2,166	34.3
	Grant Maintained Integrated	1,177	53.2	1,198	37.3	1,016	28.3	874	21.0	699	28.3	4,964	31.8
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>22,563</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>21,245</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>16,918</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>15,592*</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>21,200</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>97,518*</b>	<b>29.7</b>	

Source: NI school census 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Percentages express the number of pupils entitled to free school meals in a particular category (e.g. those at primary school) as a proportion of the total pupil enrolment in the same category.

<sup>2</sup> As school meals are not universally available to children in pre-school education, receipt of Income Support or Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance is used as a proxy for free school meal entitlement. Only includes pupils at nursery schools.

<sup>3</sup> Includes pupils in reception and nursery classes of primary schools.

- indicates no schools in this category

\* Figure revised

Table 11 : Number and percentage<sup>1</sup> of pupils taking free school meals as a proportion of all school meals provided, by former Education and Library Board area, school type and school management type: 2014/15

School Type	Management Type	Belfast		Western		North Eastern		South Eastern		Southern		Total	
		Free school meals taken by pupils present	Free meals as a proportion of all school meals provided %	Free school meals taken by pupils present	Free meals as a proportion of all school meals provided %	Free school meals taken by pupils present	Free meals as a proportion of all school meals provided %	Free school meals taken by pupils present	Free meals as a proportion of all school meals provided %	Free school meals taken by pupils present	Free meals as a proportion of all school meals provided %	Free school meals taken by pupils present	Free meals as a proportion of all school meals provided %
Nursery <sup>2</sup>	Controlled	256	54.8	161	51.6	62	33.7	98	29.9	131	28.9	708	40.6
	RC Maintained	345	52.5	-	-	21	45.7	107	52.7	83	30.6	556	47.2
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>43.3</b>
Primary <sup>3</sup> and Preparatory Department	Controlled	#	#	2,643	46.7	4,978	44.8	#	#	3,311	35.2	18,449	46.2
	Voluntary	#	#	-	-	-	-	*	*	0	0.0	11	1.0
	RC Maintained	5,377	73.2	7,003	55.9	2,354	35.4	2,769	53.5	6,548	45.2	24,051	52.1
	Other Maintained	550	77.0	262	68.4	138	56.6	82	65.6	218	42.4	1,250	63.1
	Controlled Integrated	190	68.3	15	68.2	431	52.2	357	59.3	45	52.9	1,038	57.3
	Grant Maintained Integrated	201	75.6	342	47.9	269	46.9	155	28.5	312	45.9	1,279	46.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,261</b>	<b>67.5</b>	<b>10,265</b>	<b>53.2</b>	<b>8,170</b>	<b>42.1</b>	<b>6,948</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>10,434</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>46,078</b>	<b>49.2</b>	
Secondary (non grammar)	Controlled	1,060	62.8	835	41.5	1,829	47.7	1,277	46.3	1,411	28.0	6,412	41.8
	RC Maintained	2,830	73.7	3,881	58.0	1,344	36.9	1,211	52.0	3,584	45.6	12,850	52.7
	Other Maintained	289	80.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	289	80.7
	Controlled Integrated	-	-	-	-	165	48.4	223	59.2	131	71.6	519	57.6
	Grant Maintained Integrated	757	71.3	668	51.0	531	35.8	543	34.5	269	33.7	2,768	44.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,936</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>5,384</b>	<b>53.8</b>	<b>3,869</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>3,254</b>	<b>46.2</b>	<b>5,395</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>22,838</b>	<b>48.4</b>	
Grammar	Controlled	#	#	432	26.3	303	14.9	#	#	103	7.6	1,250	16.1
	Voluntary	#	#	1,335	26.5	590	13.3	#	#	1,227	18.2	4,882	18.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,566</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>1,767</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>1,330</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>6,132</b>	<b>18.3</b>	
Post-Primary	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,502</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>7,151</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>4,762</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>3,830</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>6,725</b>	<b>30.6</b>	<b>28,970</b>	<b>35.9</b>
Special	Controlled	597	74.1	485	90.8	386	58.1	407	59.2	186	52.7	2,061	67.7
	RC Maintained	158	90.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	158	90.3
	Other Maintained	-	-	-	-	29	72.5	-	-	-	-	29	72.5
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>77.0</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>90.8</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>52.7</b>	<b>2,248</b>	<b>69.0</b>
All grant-aided schools	Controlled	6,043	60.2	4,556	44.9	7,558	42.4	5,581	42.3	5,142	31.0	28,880	42.6
	Voluntary	1,379	20.1	1,335	26.5	590	13.3	362	9.7	1,227	18.1	4,893	18.2
	RC Maintained	8,710	72.5	10,884	56.6	3,719	36.0	4,087	53.0	10,215	45.2	37,615	52.3
	Other Maintained	839	78.3	262	68.4	167	58.8	82	65.6	218	42.4	1,568	65.9
	Controlled Integrated	190	68.3	15	68.2	596	51.1	580	59.2	176	65.7	1,557	57.4
	Grant Maintained Integrated	958	72.2	1,010	49.9	800	38.9	698	33.0	581	39.3	4,047	44.9
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>18,119</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>18,062</b>	<b>49.0</b>	<b>13,430</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>11,390</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>17,559</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>78,560</b>	<b>43.5</b>	

Source: NI school meals census 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Percentages express the number of pupils taking free school meals in a particular category (e.g. those at primary school) as a proportion of all school meals provided in the same category.

<sup>2</sup> Only includes pupils at nursery schools.

<sup>3</sup> Includes pupils in reception and nursery classes of primary schools

- indicates no schools in this category

**Table 12: Uptake of free school meals - number and percentage<sup>1</sup> of pupils entitled to free school meals, by school type: 2010/11 - 2014/15**

		2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
<b>Free school meals taken by pupils present</b>	Nursery <sup>2</sup>	956	1,174	1,386	1,240	1,264
	Primary <sup>3</sup> and Preparatory Departments	29,598	36,017	42,158	44,292	46,078
	Secondary (non grammar)	16,958	16,998	17,656	16,715	22,838
	Grammar	3,357	3,613	3,745	3,674	6,132
	Special	1,705	1,822	1,792	2,001	2,248
	<b>All grant-aided schools (excluding special schools)</b>	<b>50,869</b>	<b>57,802</b>	<b>64,945</b>	<b>65,921</b>	<b>76,312</b>
	<b>All grant-aided schools (including special schools)</b>	<b>52,574</b>	<b>59,624</b>	<b>66,737</b>	<b>67,922</b>	<b>78,560</b>
<b>Pupils entitled to free school meals</b>	Nursery <sup>2</sup>	1,735	1,875	1,934	1,977	2,096
	Primary <sup>3</sup> and Preparatory Departments	35,835	44,293	50,175	53,197	55,526
	Secondary (non grammar)	22,419	22,724	23,094	22,046	29,626
	Grammar	4,150	4,422	4,607	4,606	7,610
	Special <sup>4</sup>	-	-	-	2,460	2,660*
	<b>All grant-aided schools (excluding special schools)</b>	<b>64,139</b>	<b>73,314</b>	<b>79,810</b>	<b>81,826</b>	<b>94,858</b>
	<b>All grant-aided schools (including special schools)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>84,286</b>	<b>97,518*</b>
<b>Free school meals taken as a proportion of pupils entitled<sup>1</sup></b>	Nursery <sup>2</sup>	55.1	62.6	71.7	62.7	60.3
	Primary <sup>3</sup> and Preparatory Departments	82.6	81.3	84.0	83.3	83.0
	Secondary (non grammar)	75.6	74.8	76.5	75.8	77.1
	Grammar	80.9	81.7	81.3	79.8	80.6
	Special <sup>4</sup>	-	-	-	81.3	84.5
	<b>All grant-aided schools (excluding special schools)</b>	<b>79.3</b>	<b>78.8</b>	<b>81.4</b>	<b>80.6</b>	<b>80.4</b>
	<b>All grant-aided schools (including special schools)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>80.6</b>	<b>80.6</b>

Entitlement Source: NI school census 2010/11 - 2014/15

Uptake Source: NI school meals census 2010/11 - 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Percentages express the number of pupils entitled to free school meals in a particular category (e.g. those at primary school) as a proportion of the total pupil enrolment in the same category.

<sup>2</sup> As school meals are not universally available to children in pre-school education, receipt of Income Support or Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance is used as a proxy for free school meal entitlement. Only includes pupils at nursery schools.

<sup>3</sup> Includes pupils in reception and nursery classes of primary schools

<sup>4</sup> Prior to 2014/15 free school meal entitlement data for special schools was not validated.

\* Figure revised

Table 13: Uptake of free school meals - number and percentage<sup>1</sup> of pupils entitled to free school meals, by former Education and Library Board area, school type and school management type: 2014/15

School Type	Management Type	Belfast		Western		North Eastern		South Eastern		Southern		Total	
		Free school meals taken by pupils present	Free meals taken as a proportion of entitlement <sup>1</sup> %	Free school meals taken by pupils present	Free meals taken as a proportion of entitlement <sup>1</sup> %	Free school meals taken by pupils present	Free meals taken as a proportion of entitlement <sup>1</sup> %	Free school meals taken by pupils present	Free meals taken as a proportion of entitlement <sup>1</sup> %	Free school meals taken by pupils present	Free meals taken as a proportion of entitlement <sup>1</sup> %	Free school meals taken by pupils present	Free meals taken as a proportion of entitlement <sup>1</sup> %
Nursery <sup>2</sup>	Controlled	256	63.5	161	57.3	62	27.4	98	56.6	131	70.8	708	55.8
	RC Maintained	345	73.7	-	-	21	58.3	107	53.0	83	68.0	556	67.1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>69.0</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>57.3</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>31.7</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>69.7</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>60.3</b>
Primary <sup>3</sup> and Preparatory Department	Controlled	#	#	2,643	87.2	4,978	81.2	#	#	3,311	84.0	18,449	79.7
	Voluntary	#	#	-	-	-	-	*	*	0	0.0	11	91.7
	RC Maintained	5,377	88.6	7,003	87.3	2,354	88.2	2,769	79.0	6,548	84.8	24,051	86.0
	Other Maintained	550	88.9	262	91.9	138	85.2	82	78.1	218	90.5	1,250	88.5
	Controlled Integrated	190	66.0	15	88.2	431	88.3	357	72.6	45	80.4	1,038	77.4
	Grant Maintained Integrated	201	62.4	342	86.6	269	77.5	155	78.7	312	83.6	1,279	78.3
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,261</b>	<b>84.0</b>	<b>10,265</b>	<b>87.4</b>	<b>8,170</b>	<b>83.4</b>	<b>6,948</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>10,434</b>	<b>84.6</b>	<b>46,078</b>	<b>83.0</b>
Secondary (non grammar)	Controlled	1,060	71.4	835	81.5	1,829	73.9	1,277	70.1	1,411	76.9	6,412	74.2
	RC Maintained	2,830	72.0	3,881	82.8	1,344	71.6	1,211	76.5	3,584	81.4	12,850	78.0
	Other Maintained	289	82.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	289	82.1
	Controlled Integrated	-	-	-	-	165	67.3	223	52.8	131	82.9	519	62.9
	Grant Maintained Integrated	757	88.5	668	83.2	531	79.4	543	80.2	269	82.5	2,768	83.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,936</b>	<b>74.5</b>	<b>5,384</b>	<b>82.7</b>	<b>3,869</b>	<b>73.5</b>	<b>3,254</b>	<b>72.3</b>	<b>5,395</b>	<b>80.3</b>	<b>22,838</b>	<b>77.1</b>	
Grammar	Controlled	#	#	432	85.0	303	83.9	#	#	103	68.7	1,250	78.2
	Voluntary	#	#	1,335	81.8	590	80.3	#	#	1,227	84.0	4,882	81.2
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,566</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>1,767</b>	<b>82.5</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>81.5</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>1,330</b>	<b>82.6</b>	<b>6,132</b>	<b>80.6</b>
Post-Primary	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,502</b>	<b>75.2</b>	<b>7,151</b>	<b>82.6</b>	<b>4,762</b>	<b>74.8</b>	<b>3,830</b>	<b>73.0</b>	<b>6,725</b>	<b>80.7</b>	<b>28,970</b>	<b>77.8</b>
Special	Controlled	597	91.4	485	86.3	386	82.8	407	75.9*	186	81.2	2,061	84.3
	RC Maintained	158	87.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	158	87.3
	Other Maintained	-	-	-	-	29	87.9	-	-	-	-	29	87.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>90.5</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>86.3</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>83.2</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>75.9*</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>2,248</b>	<b>84.5</b>	
All grant-aided schools (excluding special schools)	Controlled	5,446	77.0	4,071	84.0	7,172	78.0	5,174	69.6	4,956	81.1	26,819	77.4
	Voluntary	1,379	78.7	1,335	81.8	590	80.3	362	81.9	1,227	84.0	4,893	81.2
	RC Maintained	8,552	81.7	10,884	85.7	3,719	81.2	4,087	77.3	10,215	83.4	37,457	82.7
	Other Maintained	839	86.4	262	91.9	138	85.2	82	78.1	218	90.5	1,539	87.2
	Controlled Integrated	190	66.0	15	88.2	596	81.3	580	63.5	176	82.2	1,557	71.9
	Grant Maintained Integrated	958	81.4	1,010	84.3	800	78.7	698	79.9	581	83.1	4,047	81.5
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>17,364</b>	<b>79.9</b>	<b>17,577</b>	<b>85.0</b>	<b>13,015</b>	<b>79.3</b>	<b>10,983</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>17,373</b>	<b>82.8</b>	<b>76,312</b>	<b>80.4</b>
All grant-aided schools (including special schools)	Controlled	6,043	78.2	4,556	84.3	7,558	78.3	5,581	70.0	5,142	81.1	28,880	77.8
	Voluntary	1,379	78.7	1,335	81.8	590	80.3	362	81.9	1,227	84.0	4,893	81.2
	RC Maintained	8,710	81.8	10,884	85.7	3,719	81.2	4,087	77.3	10,215	83.4	37,615	82.7
	Other Maintained	839	86.4	262	91.9	167	85.6	82	78.1	218	90.5	1,568	87.3
	Controlled Integrated	190	66.0	15	88.2	596	81.3	580	63.5	176	82.2	1,557	71.9
	Grant Maintained Integrated	958	81.4	1,010	84.3	800	78.7	698	79.9	581	83.1	4,047	81.5
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>18,119</b>	<b>80.3</b>	<b>18,062</b>	<b>85.0</b>	<b>13,430</b>	<b>79.4</b>	<b>11,390</b>	<b>73.1</b>	<b>17,559</b>	<b>82.8</b>	<b>78,560</b>	<b>80.6</b>

Entitlement Source: NI school census 2014/15  
Uptake Source: NI school meals census 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Percentages express the number of free school meals taken by pupils present in a particular category (e.g. those at primary school) as a proportion of the pupils entitled to free school meals in the same category.

<sup>2</sup> As school meals are not universally available to children in pre-school education, receipt of Income Support or Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance is used as a proxy for free school meal entitlement. Only includes pupils at nursery schools.

<sup>3</sup> Includes pupils in reception and nursery classes of primary schools.

\* Figure revised

**Table 14: Number of pupils making other lunch arrangements (including taking own food), by former Education and Library Board area and school type: 2014/15**

<b>Pupils making other lunch arrangements</b>						
<b>School Type</b>	<b>Belfast</b>	<b>Western</b>	<b>North Eastern</b>	<b>South Eastern</b>	<b>Southern</b>	<b>Total</b>
Nursery <sup>1</sup>	10	43	20	58	22	153
Primary <sup>2</sup> and Preparatory Departments	9,175	8,683	16,780	19,446	15,484	69,568
Secondary (non grammar)	4,179	2,734	6,727	5,666	5,527	24,833
Grammar	8,450	3,951	6,157	4,821	3,227	26,606
Special	255	117	347	480	119	1,318
<b>All grant-aided schools</b>	<b>22,069</b>	<b>15,528</b>	<b>30,031</b>	<b>30,471</b>	<b>24,379</b>	<b>122,478</b>

Source: NI school meals census 2014/15

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Only includes pupils at nursery schools.

<sup>2</sup> Includes pupils in reception and nursery classes of primary schools.

**Table 15: Adults taking school meals, by former Education and Library Board area and school type: 2014/15**

School Type	Belfast		Western		North Eastern		South Eastern		Southern		Total	
	Adults taking school meal (free or paid)	Adults taking free school meal <sup>1</sup> %	Adults taking school meal (free or paid)	Adults taking free school meal <sup>1</sup> %	Adults taking school meal (free or paid)	Adults taking free school meal <sup>1</sup> %	Adults taking school meal (free or paid)	Adults taking free school meal <sup>1</sup> %	Adults taking school meal (free or paid)	Adults taking free school meal <sup>1</sup> %	Adults taking school meal (free or paid)	Adults taking free school meal <sup>1</sup> %
Nursery <sup>2</sup>	116	100.0	39	100.0	24	100.0	42	100.0	95	100.0	316	100.0
Primary <sup>3</sup> and Preparatory Departments	773	94.3	1,307	90.1	1,341	88.9	933	95.5	1,720	89.0	6,074	90.9
Secondary (non grammar)	473	77.4	536	86.0	607	85.5	429	81.4	719	79.4	2,764	82.0
Grammar	398	57.3	345	65.5	395	62.3	267	68.9	377	63.1	1,782	63.0
Post-Primary Total	871	68.2	881	78.0	1,002	76.3	696	76.6	1,096	73.8	4,546	74.5
Special	223	98.7	289	100.0	110	92.7	59	100.0	37	83.8	718	97.6
<b>All grant-aided schools</b>	<b>1,983</b>	<b>83.7</b>	<b>2,516</b>	<b>87.2</b>	<b>2,477</b>	<b>84.1</b>	<b>1,730</b>	<b>88.2</b>	<b>2,948</b>	<b>83.6</b>	<b>11,654</b>	<b>85.2</b>

Source: NI school meals census 2014/15

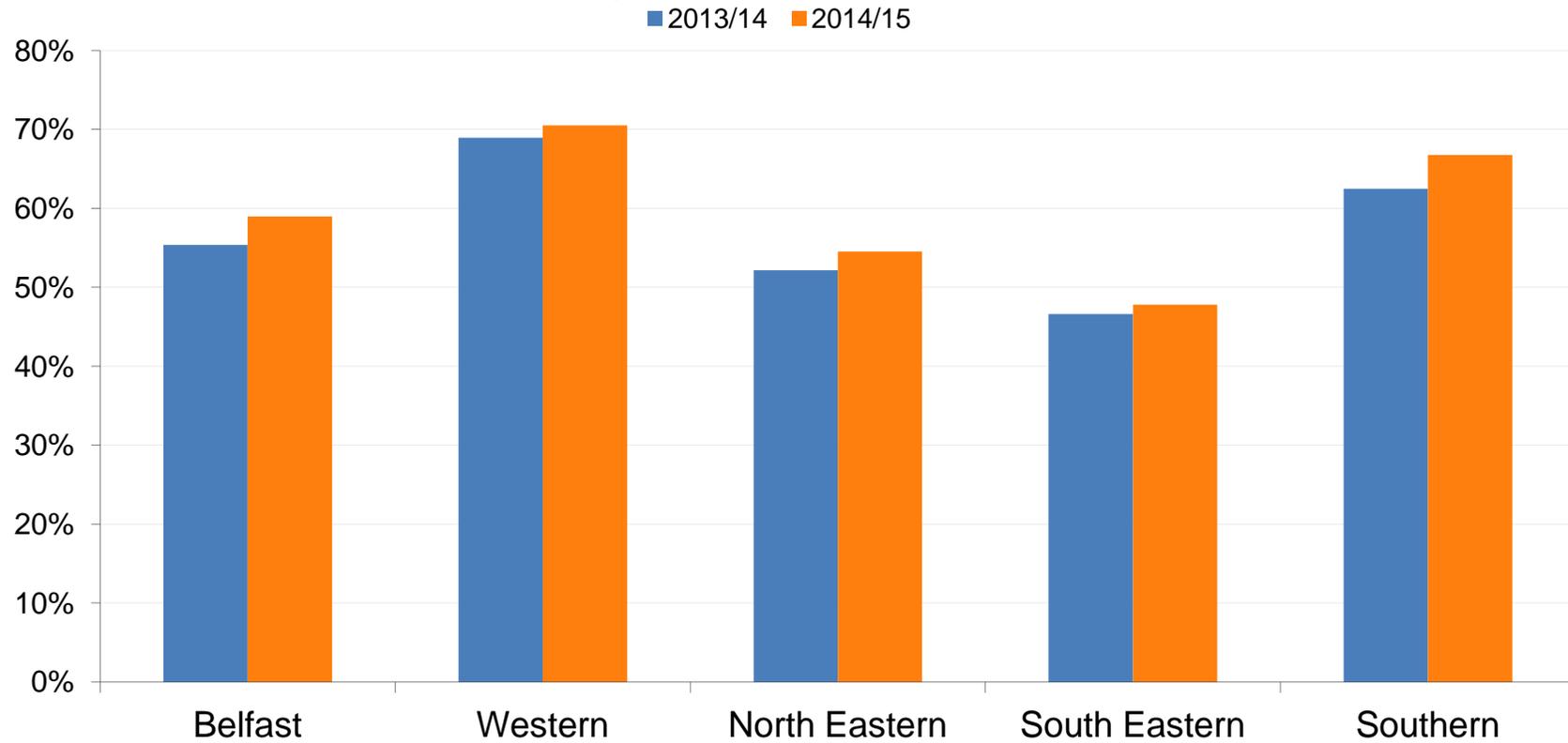
Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Depending on their terms and conditions kitchen staff and mid-day supervisors may be entitled to a free mid-day meal.

<sup>2</sup> Only includes nursery classes in nursery schools.

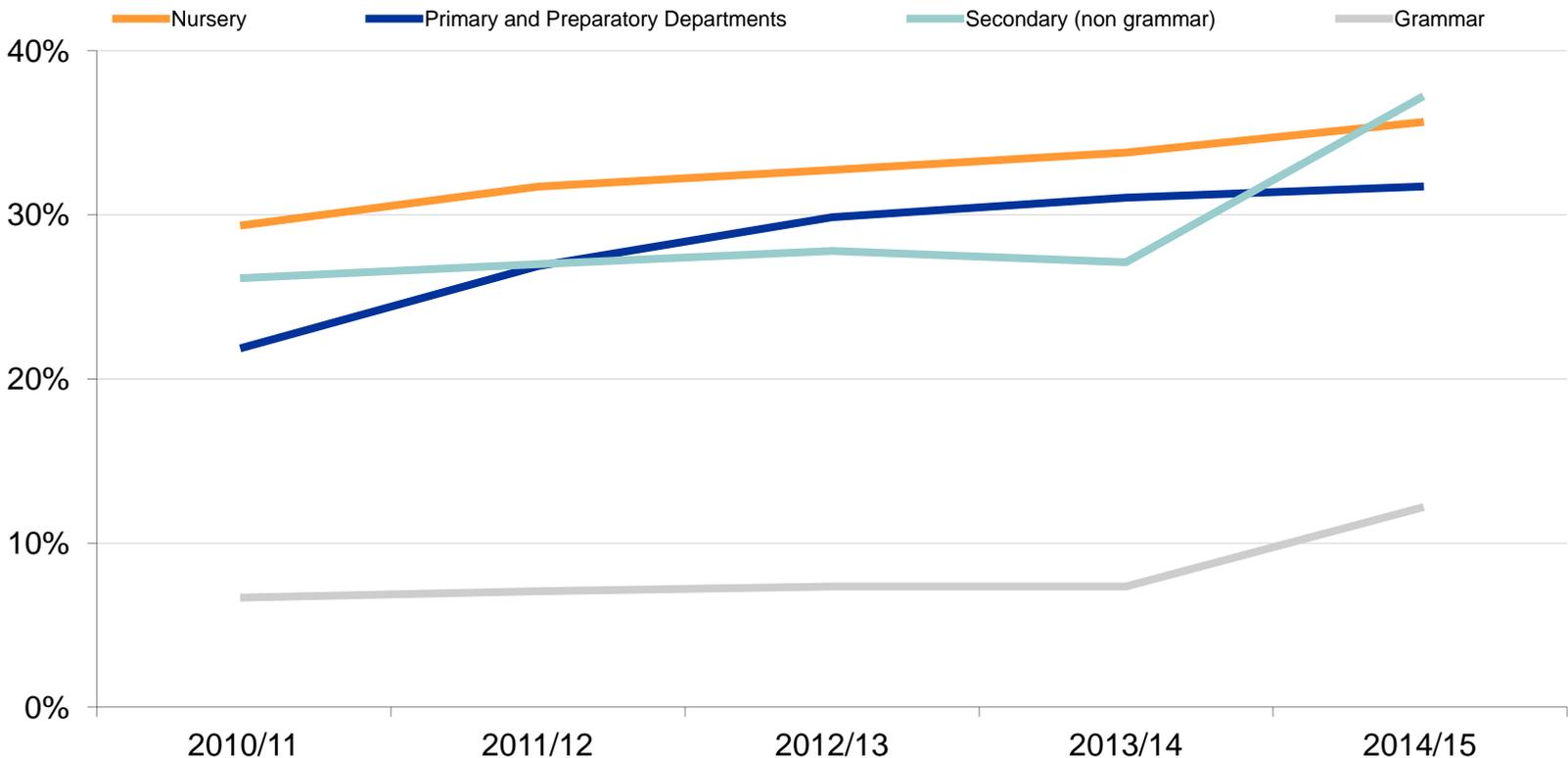
<sup>3</sup> Includes reception and nursery classes in primary schools.

**Figure 1: Uptake of school meals (free and paid), by former Education and Library Board area: 2013/14 - 2014/15**



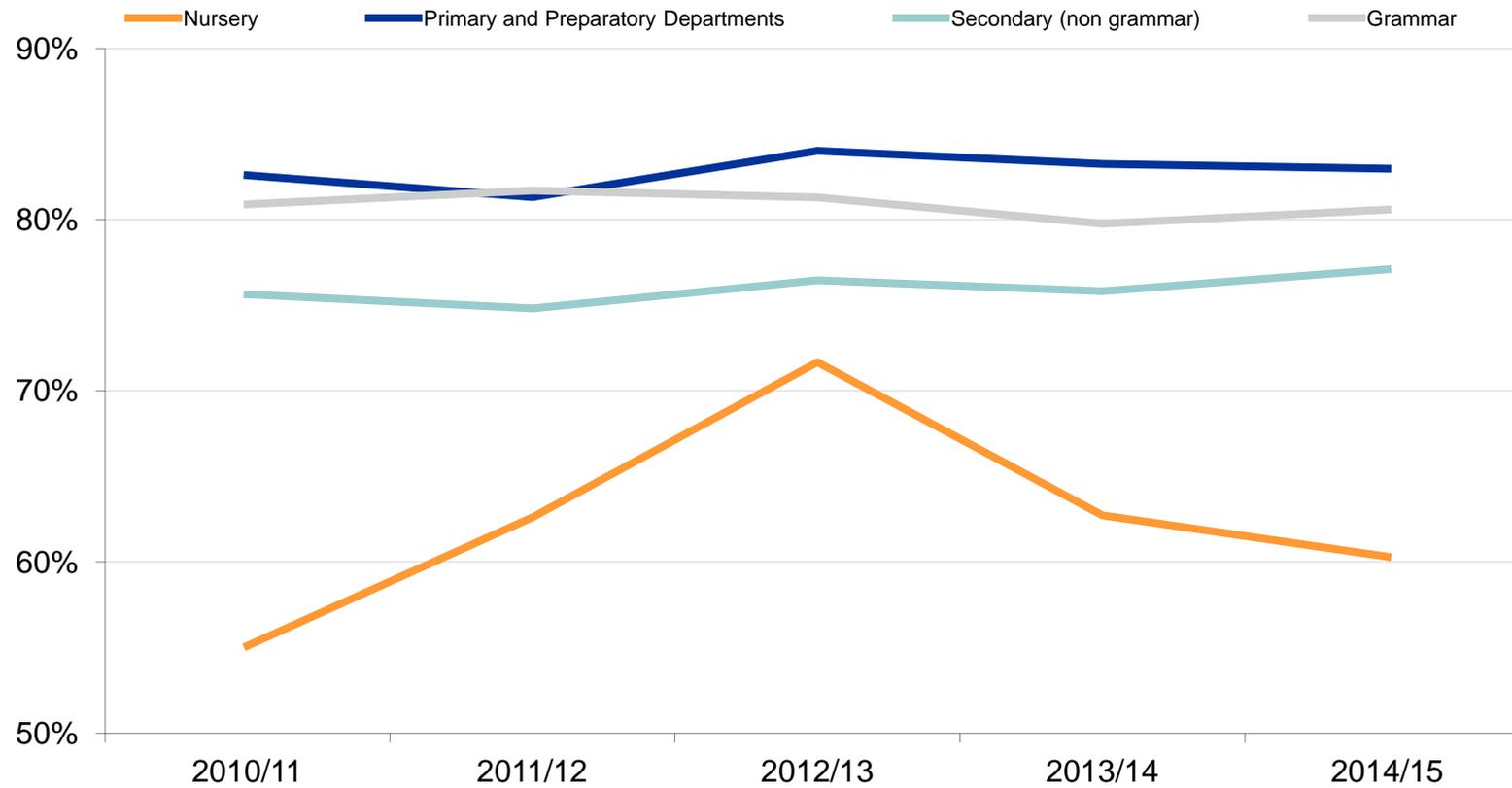
Data taken from Table 5

**Figure 2: Percentage of pupils entitled to free school meals, by school type:**



<sup>1</sup> Nursery only includes pupils in nursery schools  
<sup>2</sup> Primary includes pupils in reception and nursery classes  
<sup>3</sup> Data taken from Table 8  
<sup>4</sup> See background note 13

**Figure 3: Uptake of free school meals, by school type: 2010/11 - 2014/15**



<sup>1</sup> Nursery only includes pupils in nursery schools

<sup>2</sup> Primary includes pupils in reception and nursery classes

<sup>3</sup> Data taken from Table 12

<sup>4</sup> See background note 12, 13, 15