



Absence in schools

Impact Indicator 20: The percentage of overall absence in primary, secondary and special schools

About the indicator

The overall absence rate is defined as the total number of absences (authorised and unauthorised) as the percentage of the total number of possible sessions. Information is provided for the first two and a half terms of the academic year between 2008/09 to 2012/13 and for the full year from 2012/13.

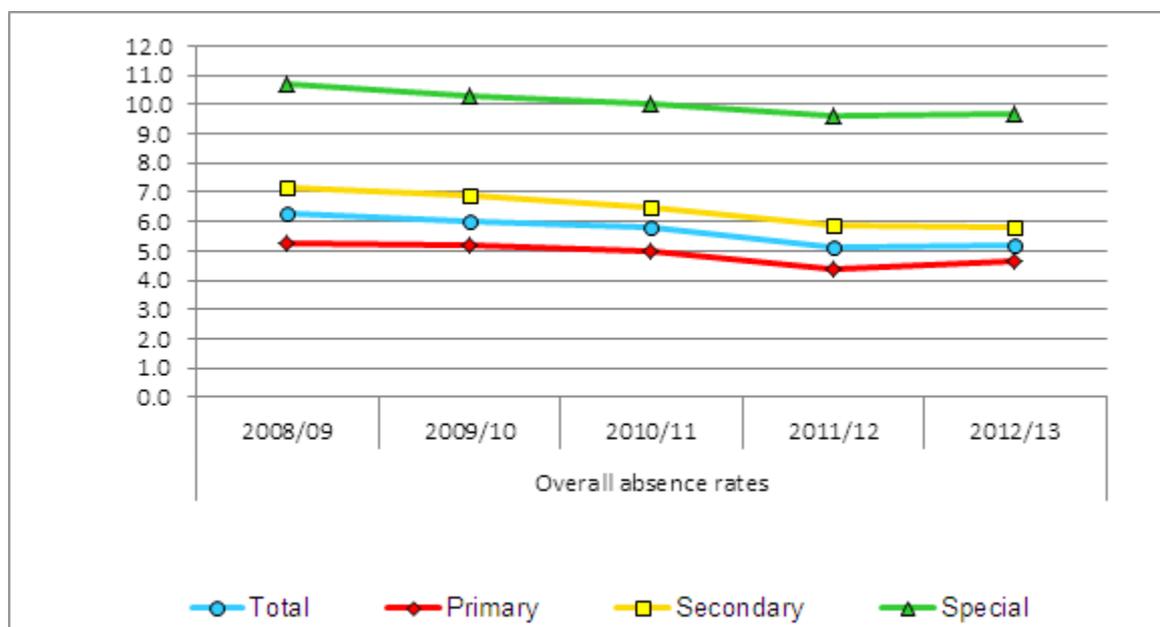
Why we measure it

It is the Government's policy that children attend schools regularly and absence is brought to a minimum. The measuring of absence gives us an indication nationally of how well schools are working to reduce pupil absence.

The data

State-funded primary, secondary and special schools: Overall absence rates for the first two and half terms by sector, 2008/09 to 2012/13, England

Source: School Census



	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Total	6.3	6.0	5.8	5.1	5.2
State-funded primary schools	5.3	5.2	5.0	4.4	4.7
State-funded secondary schools	7.2	6.9	6.5	5.9	5.8
Special schools	10.7	10.3	10.0	9.6	9.7

In addition, the overall absence rates for the full year in 2012/13 were:

Total: 5.3

State-funded primary schools: 4.7

State-funded secondary schools: 5.9

Special schools: 9.6

Further information

Further information on this indicator and associated data can be found within our [statistical first release](#).

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