



## Statistical First Release

### Permanent and Fixed Period Exclusions in England: 2013 to 2014

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The overall rate of permanent exclusions remained at six per 10,000 pupils

Longer term trends had shown a general decrease in the number and rate of permanent exclusions since 2004/05. However, the number of permanent exclusions across all schools has increased slightly since 2012/13.

The overall rate of fixed period exclusions remained broadly the same as last year at 350 per 10,000 pupils

Longer term trends had shown a general downward trend in the number and rate of fixed period exclusions since 2006/07. However, the number of fixed period exclusions across all schools has increased slightly since 2012/13. In particular, there has been an increase in the number and rate of fixed period exclusions in primary schools, with exclusion rates at their highest since 2007/08.

The percentage of pupils receiving at least one fixed period exclusion has decreased

The percentage of pupils receiving one or more fixed period exclusion has fallen from 1.92 per cent of pupils (146,070) in 2012/13 to 1.86 per cent of pupils (142,850) in 2013/14, which is the lowest figure since 2006/07.

Of those pupils who received one or more fixed period exclusion, the average number of fixed period exclusions per pupil has increased from 1.83 exclusions in 2012/13 to 1.89 exclusions in 2013/14.

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#### A National Statistics publication

National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.

## 1. Background and context

This National Statistics release reports on permanent and fixed period exclusions from state-funded primary, state-funded secondary and special schools during the 2013/14 academic year as reported in the School Census. All figures in this release are based on unrounded data; therefore constituent parts may not add up due to rounding.

Figures held in this release are used as a key indicator in behaviour and attendance policy. Good discipline in schools is essential to ensure that all pupils can benefit from the opportunities provided by education.

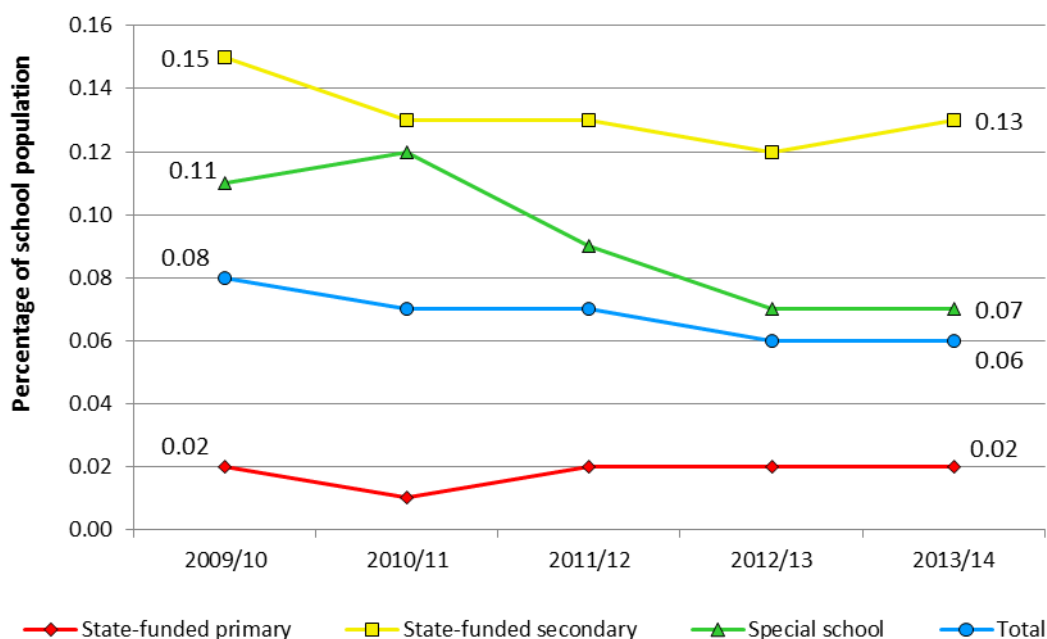
A “Guide to published exclusion statistics”, which provides historical information on exclusion statistics, technical background information to the figures and data collection, and definitions of key terms is also being published alongside this release for the first time.

## 2. Changes since last publication

In this year’s release exclusion rates have been calculated as a percentage of pupils who are sole or dual-main registered at a school as at January each year, in order to more accurately reflect the number of pupils who could be excluded. In previous releases rates have been calculated using solely registered pupils only. The change has a minimal effect on exclusion rates and any time series information presented within the release has been updated to reflect the new methodology. Further information on this change can be found in the “Guide to exclusion statistics”.

## 3. Permanent exclusions (Table 1)

Chart A: Overall permanent exclusion rates have remained the same as last year though the rate increased slightly in secondary schools

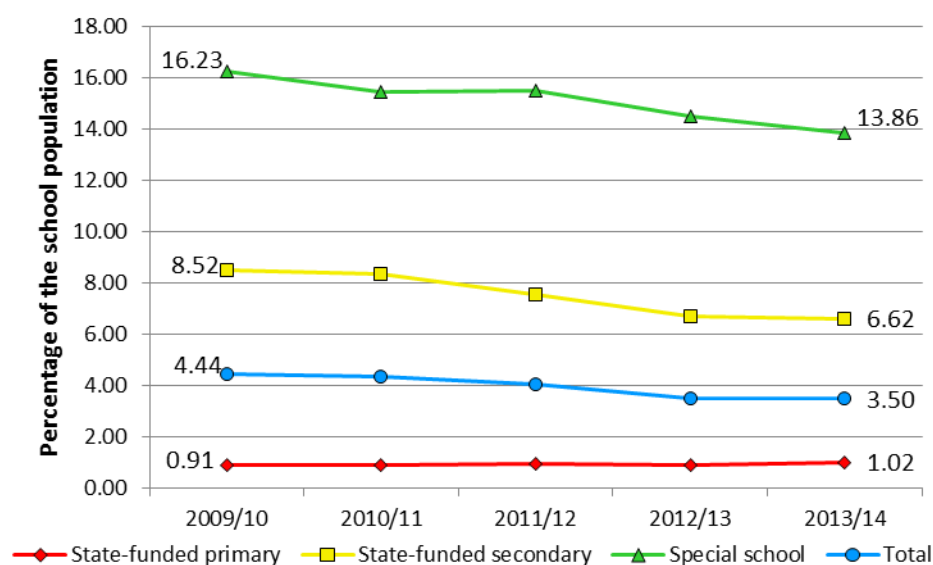


The rate of permanent exclusion is the same as last year	The rate of permanent exclusion has remained the same at 0.06 per cent of pupil enrolments since 2012/13 – equivalent to six pupils per 10,000. However, the number of permanent exclusions has increased from 4,630 in 2012/13 to 4,950 in 2013/14
	In 2013/14 there were on average around 26 permanent exclusions per day, compared to 24 permanent exclusions per day in 2012/13.
The number of permanent exclusions has increased across all school types, with the rate increasing slightly in secondary schools	The greatest increase in the number of permanent exclusions occurred in primary schools, where there were 870 permanent exclusions in 2013/14 compared to 670 in 2012/13. However, the rate remained the same at 0.02 per cent of pupil enrolments.  The rate of permanent exclusion increased in secondary schools, from 0.12 in 2012/13 to 0.13 in 2013/14.
The majority of permanent exclusions occur in secondary schools	Of the total number of permanent exclusions, 81 per cent occurred in secondary schools. This proportion has been decreasing over recent years, from a high of 87 per cent in 2009/10.
Persistent disruptive behaviour is the most common reason for permanent exclusion	Overall persistent disruptive behaviour is the most common reason for permanent exclusions, accounting for 32.7 per cent of all permanent exclusions up from 30.8 per cent of permanent exclusions in 2012/13.

#### 4. Fixed period exclusions (Table 2)

The total number of fixed period exclusions has increased slightly since last year, following a steady decline in both the number of fixed period exclusions and the rate of fixed period exclusion over recent years.

Chart B: The rate of fixed period exclusions have followed a downward trend since 2009/10



The number of fixed period exclusions has increased, though the overall rate decreased slightly

The number of fixed period exclusions has increased from 267,520 in 2012/13 to 269,480 in 2013/14, though the rate of fixed period exclusion has decreased slightly from 3.51 in 2012/13 to 3.50 in 2013/14 (equivalent to 350 pupils per 10,000), reflecting the increase in pupil numbers.

In 2013/14 there were on average around 1,420 fixed period exclusions per day, compared to 1,410 fixed period exclusions per day in 2012/13

The rate of fixed period exclusion decreased in secondary and special schools, but increased in primary schools

The rate of fixed period exclusions fell in state-funded secondary schools, from 6.72 in 2012/13 to 6.62 in 2013/14. The rate also decreased for special schools, from 14.51 in 2012/13 to 13.86 in 2013/14.

There was a considerable rise in the number of fixed period exclusions in primary schools from 37,870 in 2012/13 to 45,010 in 2013/14. The rate of fixed period exclusion has also increased from 0.88 in 2012/13 to 1.02 in 2013/14. This increase is driven by higher levels of fixed period exclusion for assault against an adult, persistent disruptive behaviour and assault against a pupil.

The majority of fixed period exclusions occur in secondary schools

Of the total number of fixed period exclusions, 78 per cent occur in secondary schools. This proportion has been decreasing over recent years, from 84 per cent in 2008/09.

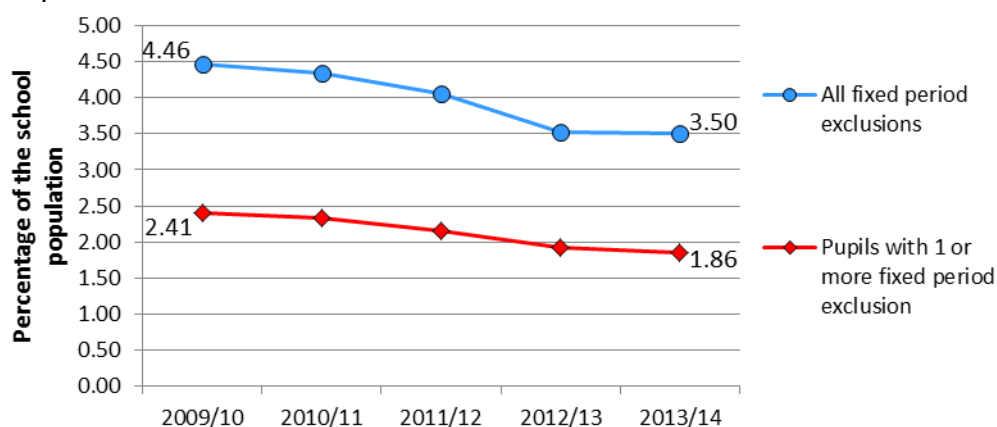
Persistent disruptive behaviour is the most common reason for fixed period exclusions

Persistent disruptive behaviour accounts for 25.3 per cent of all fixed period exclusions, up from 24.2 per cent in 2012/13.

## Number and length of fixed period exclusions

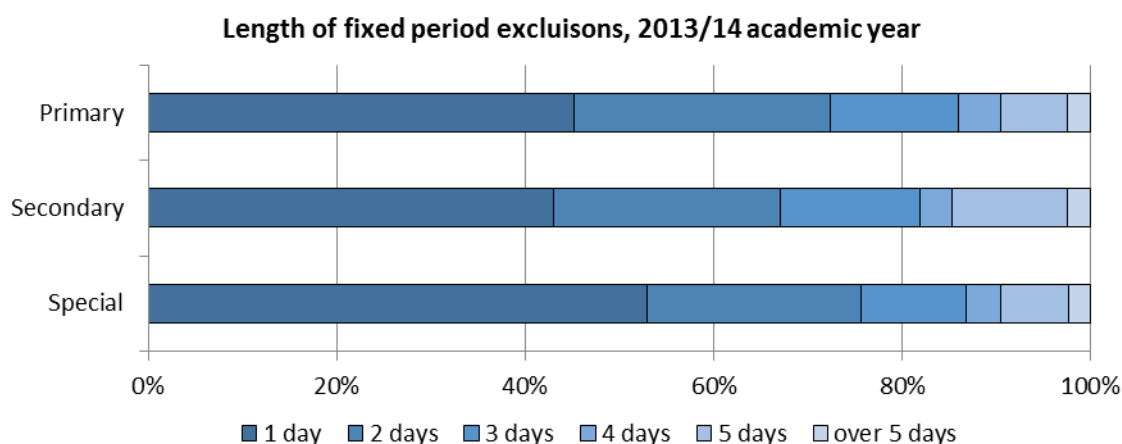
The number of pupils receiving one or more fixed period exclusion has decreased since last year, from 146,070 pupils (1.92 per cent) in 2012/13 to 142,850 pupils (1.86 per cent) in 2013/14.

Chart C: The percentage of pupils receiving at least one fixed period exclusion has followed a downward trend over recent years



The average length of fixed period exclusions in 2013/14 was 2.2 days, compared to 2.3 days in 2012/13. In 2013/14 the highest proportion of fixed period exclusions (43.9 per cent) lasted for only one day. Only 2.5 per cent of fixed period exclusions lasted for longer than one week and longer exclusions are more prevalent in secondary schools.

Chart D: Longer exclusions are more prevalent in secondary schools



## 5. Exclusions by characteristic (Tables 3 - 11)

Boys are more likely to be excluded than girls

Boys are over three times more likely to receive a permanent exclusion and almost three times more likely to receive a fixed period exclusion than girls; this has changed little over recent years.

SEN pupils have the highest rate of permanent exclusion

Pupils with special educational needs (SEN) (with and without statements) account for 7 in 10 of all permanent exclusions and 6 in 10 of all fixed period exclusions.

Pupils with SEN without statements have the highest permanent exclusion rate and are around 9 times more likely to receive a permanent exclusion than pupils with no SEN.

Pupils with statements of SEN have the highest fixed period exclusion rate and are around 9 times more likely to receive a fixed period exclusion than pupils with no SEN.

Pupils who are FSM eligible are more likely to be excluded

Pupils known to be eligible for and claiming free school meals (FSM) are around four times more likely to receive a permanent or fixed period exclusion than those who are not eligible; this is similar to previous years.

14 year olds have the highest rate of exclusion

Around a quarter of all permanent exclusions are given to pupils aged 14 and over 60 per cent of permanent exclusions are given to those aged between 12 and 14. 14 year olds also have the highest rate of fixed period exclusion, and the highest rate of pupils receiving one or more fixed period exclusions.

Exclusion rates vary by ethnic group

Pupils of Gypsy/Roma and Traveller of Irish Heritage ethnic groups have the highest rates of both permanent and fixed period exclusions, but as the population is relatively small these figures should be treated with some caution.

Pupils of Black Caribbean and White and Black Caribbean ethnic groups are around three times more likely to be permanently excluded than the school population as a whole. Pupils of Asian and Chinese ethnic groups have the lowest rates of exclusion.

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## **6. Independent exclusion reviews (Tables 17a and 17b)**

This release includes the second year of data from independent exclusion review panels, which replaced independent appeal panels from 1 September 2012. Further information on this can be found in the "Guide to exclusions statistics".

For maintained schools and academies in 2013/14, 400 reviews were lodged with independent review panels of which 370 (93.2%) were determined and 20 (5.7%) resulted in an offer of reinstatement. This compares to 320 reviews being lodged in 2012/13, of which 300 (93.1%) were determined and 20 (6.7%) resulted in an offer of reinstatement.

## 7. List of tables

This year the tables have been adjusted to a more logical order than in previous years, however no information has been lost, the tables are available in excel format on the department's statistics website: [Statistics: exclusions](#).

### National tables

1	Permanent exclusions by type of school, 2009/10 to 2013/14	10	Fixed period exclusions by ethnic group and gender, 2013/14
2	Fixed period exclusions by type of school, 2009/10 to 2013/14	11	Permanent and fixed period exclusions by free school meal eligibility, 2013/14
3	Permanent exclusions by age and gender, 2013/14	12a	Permanent exclusions by level of deprivation of school, 2013/14
4a	Fixed period exclusions by age and gender, 2013/14	12b	Fixed period exclusions by level of deprivation of school, 2013/14
4b	Pupil enrolments receiving one or more fixed period exclusion by age and gender, 2013/14	13	Duration of fixed period exclusions, 2013/14
5	Permanent exclusions by national curriculum year and gender, 2013/14	14	Number of times pupil enrolments were excluded for a fixed period, 2013/14
6a	Fixed period exclusions by national curriculum year and gender, 2013/14	15	Permanent exclusions by reason for exclusion, 2013/14
6b	Pupil enrolments receiving one or more fixed period exclusions by national curriculum year and gender, 2013/14	16	Fixed period exclusions by reason for exclusion, 2013/14
7	Permanent exclusions by special educational need, 2009/10 to 2013/14	17a	School exclusion independent review panels and exclusion appeals, 2009/10 to 2013/14
8a	Fixed period exclusions by special educational need, 2013/14	17b	School exclusion independent review panels, 2013/14
8b	Pupil enrolments receiving one or more fixed period exclusion by special educational need, 2013/14	18a	Permanent exclusions (academies), 2013/14
9	Permanent exclusions by ethnic group and gender, 2013/14	18b	Fixed period exclusions (academies), 2013/14

### Local authority tables

19	Permanent exclusions, 2013/14	22b	Fixed period exclusions by ethnic group (state-funded secondary schools), 2013/14
20	Fixed period exclusions and number of pupils with one or more episode of fixed period exclusion, 2013/14	22c	Fixed period exclusions by ethnic group (state-funded primary, state-funded secondary and special schools), 2013/14
21	Permanent exclusions by ethnic group, 2013/14	23	Permanent exclusions by reason for exclusion, 2013/14
22a	Fixed period exclusions by ethnic group (state-funded primary schools), 2013/14	24	Fixed period exclusions by reason for exclusion, 2013/14

When reviewing the tables, please note the following:

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We preserve confidentiality	The Code of Practice for Official Statistics requires that reasonable steps should be taken to ensure that all published or disseminated statistics produced by the Department for Education protect confidentiality.
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So we round numbers	Exclusion figures at national and regional levels have been rounded to the nearest 10. Exclusion figures of less than 5 have been suppressed to protect pupil confidentiality. Where any number is shown as 0, the original figure was also 0. Where the numerator or denominator of any percentage calculated on enrolment numbers is less than 5, the percentage has been suppressed. This suppression is consistent with the <a href="#">Departmental statistical policy</a> .
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And adopt symbols to help identify this	Symbols are used in the tables as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>0 zero</li><li>x small number suppressed to preserve confidentiality</li><li>. not applicable</li><li>.. not available</li></ul>
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Exclusion figures and headcount figures are taken from different time frames	The rate of exclusions are calculated using the sum of exclusions over the full 2013/14 academic year and the headcount of pupils as at 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2014. This is due to the way the exclusions are collected through the School Census; this difference will have negligible effect on exclusion rates.
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## 8. Background: Underlying/transparency data

This SFR is accompanied by underlying data, including national and local authority level information. The accompanying file includes a document which provides further information on the contents of these files. This data is released under the terms of the [Open Government License](#) and is intended to meet at least 3 stars for [Open Data](#).

School level data are not released because the Department does not hold individual schools to account based on their exclusions and due to likely high levels of suppression the data would be of little use.



## 9. Technical notes

A “Guide to exclusion statistics”, which provides historical information on exclusion statistics, technical background information to the figures and data collection, and definitions of key terms is also being published alongside this release for the first time.

The following technical notes are specific to this publication.

10.1 Exclusions data are collected two terms in arrears, meaning that where a school closes data are not collected for the last two terms that the school was open. The main impact in recent years is where a school closes and is replaced by a sponsored academy. In such cases data are not available for the last two terms that the predecessor school was open.

10.2 Prior to our analysis any predecessor school information which was submitted by sponsor led academies was removed. Of which, 6 permanent exclusions and 918 fixed period exclusions were removed as they had been submitted with an exclusion start date before their school open date. In addition to this, 6 permanent exclusions and 583 fixed period exclusions are omitted which were submitted by sponsor led academies which opened in the 2014/15 academic year.

## 10. Want more?

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Want previously published figures?

For recent pupil exclusion figures visit: [Statistics: exclusions](#)

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Want Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland?

The School Census only collects exclusions information from schools in England. For information for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, contact the departments below or access their statistics at the following links:

Wales: [school.stats@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:school.stats@wales.gsi.gov.uk) or

[Welsh Government - Statistics and Research](#)

Scotland: [school.stats@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:school.stats@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) or

[Scottish Government - School Education Statistics](#)

Northern Ireland: [statistics@deni.gov.uk](mailto:statistics@deni.gov.uk) or

[Department of Education - Education Statistics](#)

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For related publications

Chapter 5 of the '[Children with special educational needs: an analysis – 2013](#)' Statistical Release provides further analysis of exclusions from pupils with SEN.

The '[Pupil absence in schools in England: 2013 to 2014](#)' Statistical First Release reports on absence in schools.

More detailed analysis of exclusions, including a comparison of academies with schools in similar circumstances, can be found in the '[A profile of pupil exclusions in England](#)' research report.

The Department for Education conducted a 3-year school exclusion trial from 2011/12 to 2013/14. It involved schools in 11 volunteer local authorities taking greater responsibility for supporting children at risk of exclusion and those who had been permanently excluded. The final report of the trial evaluation is available [here](#).

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Revisions?

There are no planned revisions to this Statistical First Release, however, if at a later date we need to make a revision, this will comply with the [Departmental revisions policy](#).

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## 11. Got a query? Like to give feedback?

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If non-media                              Education Standards Evidence and Dissemination Division, Level 2, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BT  
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