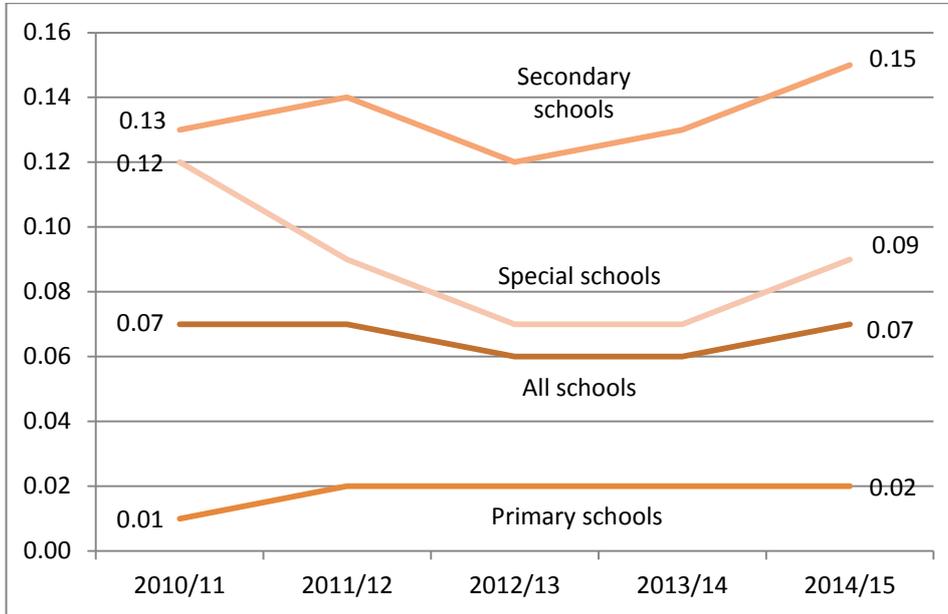




SFR 26/2016, 21 July 2016

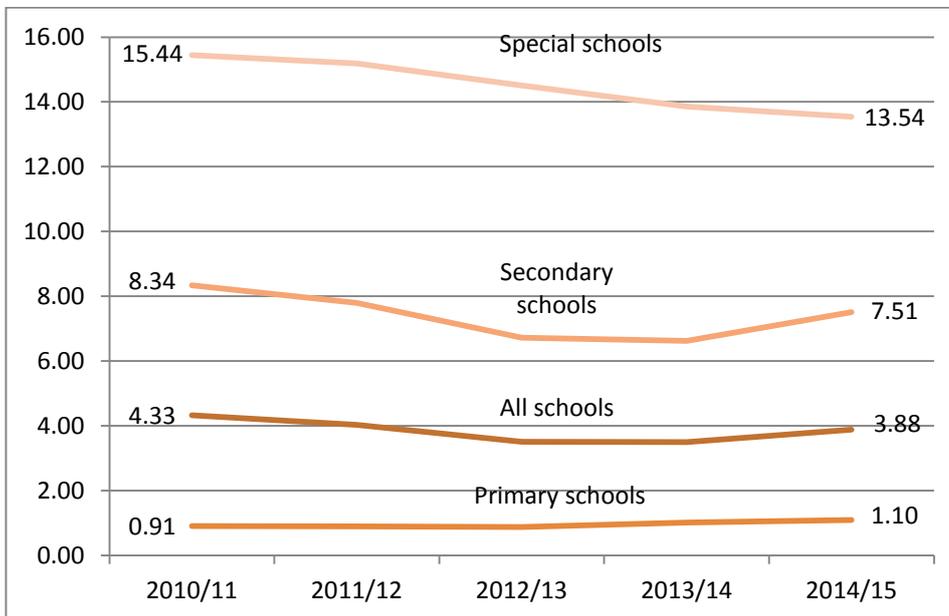
The number and rate of permanent exclusions have increased since last year



The overall rate of permanent exclusions has increased slightly from 0.06 per cent of pupil enrolments in 2013/14 to 0.07 per cent in 2014/15.

The rate of permanent exclusions has increased since 2013/14 for both state-funded secondary schools and special schools, but has remained the same for state-funded primary schools.

The number and rate of fixed period exclusions have increased since last year



The overall rate of fixed period exclusions increased, from 3.50 per cent of pupil enrolments in 2013/14 to 3.88 per cent in 2014/15.

The rate of fixed period exclusions increased for state-funded primary and secondary schools, but decreased for special schools.

Persistent disruptive behaviour remains the most common reason for both permanent and fixed period exclusions

Persistent disruptive behaviour is still the most common reason for both permanent and fixed period exclusions in state-funded primary, secondary schools and special schools. It accounts for just under a third of all permanent exclusions and just over a quarter of all fixed period exclusions.

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About this release

This National Statistics release reports on permanent and fixed period exclusions from state-funded primary, state-funded secondary and special schools during the 2014/15 academic year as reported in the School Census.

This release also includes school level exclusions figures for state-funded primary, secondary and special schools and national level figures on permanent and fixed period exclusions from pupil referral units for the first time.

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 key indicators in behaviour and attendance policy. Good discipline in schools is essential to ensure that all pupils can benefit from the opportunities provided by education.

An "[Exclusions statistics guide](#)", which provides historical information on exclusion statistics, technical background information to the figures and data collection, and definitions of key terms should be referenced alongside this release.

In this publication

The following tables are included in the SFR:

- SFR26_2016_National_tables (Excel .xls)
- SFR26_2016_Local_authority_tables (Excel .xls)
- Underlying data (open format .csv and metadata .txt)

Feedback

We are changing how our releases look and welcome feedback on any aspect of this document at schools.statistics@education.gsi.gov.uk.

1. Permanent exclusions (Table 1 & underlying data)

Permanent exclusion definition

Permanent exclusion refers to a pupil who is excluded and who will not come back to that school (unless the exclusion is overturned).

The number of permanent exclusions across all state-funded primary, secondary and special schools has increased from 4,950 in 2013/14 to 5,800 in 2014/15. This corresponds to an average of around 31 permanent exclusions per day in 2014/15, up from an average of 26 per day in 2013/14¹.

The rate of permanent exclusions across all state-funded primary, secondary and special schools has also increased slightly from 0.06 per cent to 0.07 per cent of pupil enrolments, which is equivalent to seven pupils per 10,000.

Of the total number of permanent exclusions, 83 per cent occurred in secondary schools, up slightly from 81 per cent in 2013/14.

The greatest increase in the number of permanent exclusions was in secondary schools, where there were 4,790 permanent exclusions in 2014/15 compared to 4,000 in 2013/14. This corresponded to an increase in the rate of permanent exclusions from 0.13 per cent in 2013/14 to 0.15 per cent (15 pupils per 10,000) in 2014/15.

The rate of permanent exclusions in special schools also increased between 2013/14 and 2014/15, from 0.07 per cent to 0.09 per cent but remained the same in primary schools at 0.02 per cent.

Looking at longer-term trends, the rate of permanent exclusions across all state-funded primary, secondary and special schools has followed a generally downward trend since 2006/07 when the rate was 0.12 per cent.

2. Fixed period exclusions (Table 1 & underlying data)

Fixed period exclusion definition

Fixed period exclusion refers to a pupil who is excluded from a school for a set period of time. A fixed period exclusion can involve a part of the school day and it does not have to be for a continuous period. A pupil may be excluded for one or more fixed periods up to a maximum of 45 school days in a single academic year. This total includes exclusions from previous schools covered by the exclusion legislation.

The number of fixed period exclusions in state-funded primary, secondary and special schools has increased from 269,480 in 2013/14 to 302,980 in 2014/15. This corresponds to an average of around 1,590 fixed period exclusions per day in 2014/15, up from an average of 1,420 per day in 2013/14².

The rate of fixed period exclusions across all state-funded primary, secondary and special schools has also increased from 3.50 per cent to 3.88 per cent (388 pupils per 10,000).

Of the total number of fixed period exclusions, 79 per cent occurred in secondary schools in 2014/15, up slightly from 78 per cent in 2013/14.

There were increases in the number and rate of fixed period exclusions for both state-funded primary and secondary schools:

¹ This is based on dividing the total number of permanent exclusions by 190 school days

² This is based on dividing the total number of fixed period exclusions by 190 school days

- In state-funded primary schools, the number of fixed period exclusions increased from 45,010 in 2013/14 to 49,650 in 2014/15, whilst the rate of fixed period exclusions increased from 1.02 per cent to 1.10 per cent.
- In state-funded secondary schools, the number of fixed period exclusions increased from 210,580 in 2013/14 to 239,240 in 2014/15, which corresponded to an increase in the rate of fixed period exclusions from 6.62 per cent to 7.51 per cent.

However, whilst the number of fixed period exclusions increased in special schools, the rate of fixed period exclusions decreased - from 13.86 per cent in 2013/14 to 13.54 per cent in 2014/15.

Looking at longer-term trends, the rate of fixed period exclusions across all state-funded primary, secondary and special schools decreased in each year between 2006/07 and 2013/14 – down from 5.65 per cent in 2006/07 to 3.50 per cent in 2013/14.

3. Number and length of fixed period exclusions (Table 11 & 12)

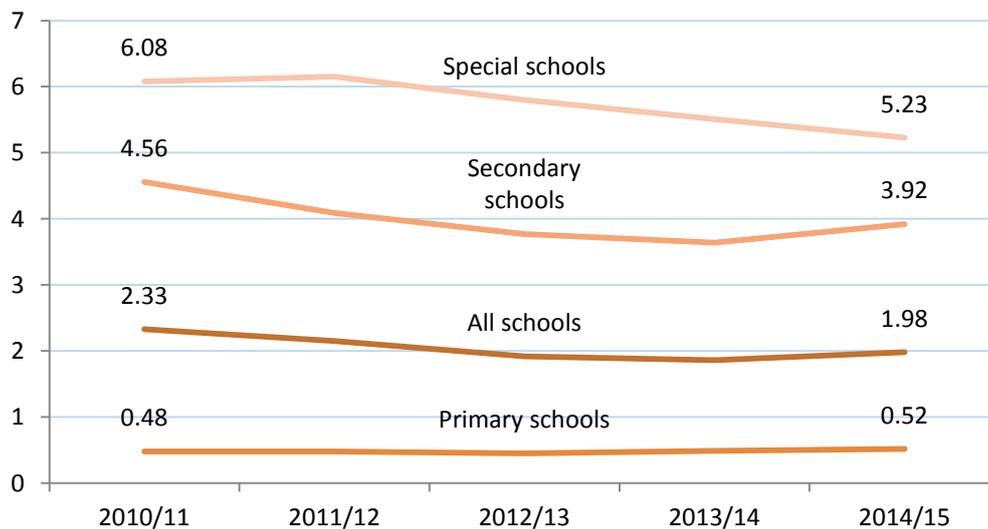
One or more fixed period exclusions

Pupils with one or more fixed period exclusions refer to pupil enrolments that had at least one fixed period exclusion across the full academic year. It includes those with repeated fixed period exclusions.

1.98 per cent of pupil enrolments in state-funded primary, secondary and special schools had one at least one fixed term exclusion in 2014/15, up from 1.86 per cent in 2013/14. Looking at longer term trends, there has been a generally downward trend in the percentage of pupil enrolments with one or more fixed period exclusions since 2010/11 (see chart 1) and since 2006/07 when 3.02 per cent of pupils at all state-funded primary, secondary and special schools had at least one fixed period exclusion.

60.7 per cent of those pupils with at least one fixed period exclusion were excluded only on one occasion, and less than one per cent received 10 or more fixed period exclusions during the year.

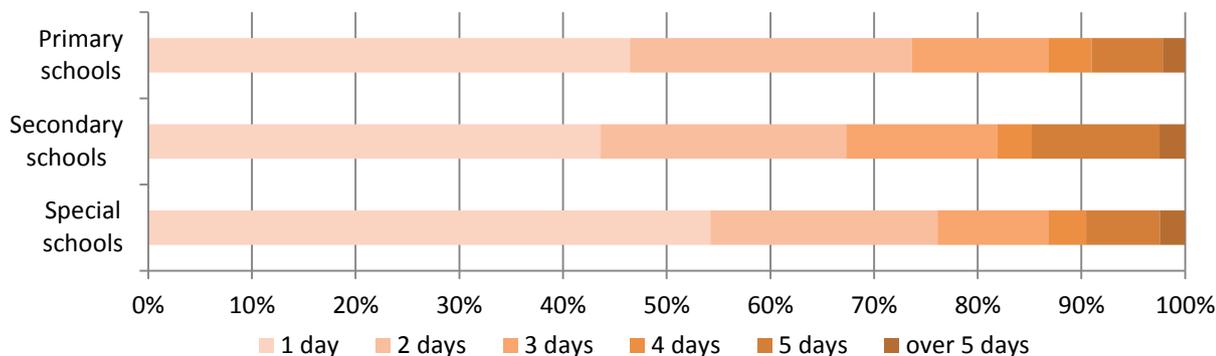
Chart 1: Pupil enrolments with at least one fixed period exclusion
England, 2010/11 to 2014/15



The average length of fixed period exclusions across state-funded primary, secondary and special schools in 2014/15 was 2.2 days, the same as in 2013/14.

The highest proportion of fixed period exclusions (44.6 per cent) lasted for only one day. Only 2.4 per cent of fixed period exclusions lasted for longer than one week and longer fixed period exclusions were more prevalent in secondary schools (see chart 2).

Chart 2: Length of fixed period exclusions
England, 2014/15



4. Reasons for exclusions (Table 4)

Persistent disruptive behaviour remained the most common reason for permanent exclusions in state-funded primary, secondary and special schools - accounting for 1,900 (32.8 per cent) of all permanent exclusions in 2014/15. This is equivalent to two permanent exclusions per 10,000 pupils.

It is also the most common reason for fixed period exclusions. The 79,590 fixed period exclusions for persistent disruptive behaviour in state-funded primary, secondary and special schools made up 26.3 per cent of all fixed period exclusions, up from 25.3 per cent in 2013/14. This is equivalent to around one fixed period exclusion per 100 pupils.

Physical assault against an adult is the most common reason for fixed period exclusion from special schools - accounting for around a third of permanent exclusions and a quarter of fixed period exclusions in 2014/15.

5. Exclusions by pupil characteristics (Tables 2, 3, 5, 8 & 9)

In 2014/15 we saw a similar pattern by pupil characteristics to previous years:

Age, national curriculum year group and gender

- Over half of all permanent and fixed period exclusions occur in national curriculum year 9 or above
- Just over a quarter of all permanent exclusions were for pupils aged 14, and pupils of this age group also had the highest rate of fixed period exclusion, and the highest rate of pupils receiving one or more fixed period exclusion.
- Boys were over three times more likely to receive a permanent exclusion and almost three times more likely to receive a fixed period exclusion than girls

Free school meals (FSM) eligibility

- Pupils known to be eligible for and claiming free school meals (FSM) were around four times more likely to receive a permanent or fixed period exclusion than those who are not eligible

Special educational need (SEN)

- Pupils with identified special educational needs (SEN) accounted for just over half of all permanent exclusions and fixed period exclusions
- Pupils with SEN support had the highest permanent exclusion rate and were over 7 times more likely to receive a permanent exclusion than pupils with no SEN

- Pupils with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan or with a statement of SEN had the highest fixed period exclusion rate and were almost 7 times more likely to receive a fixed period exclusion than pupils with no SEN

Ethnic group

- Pupils of Gypsy/Roma and Traveller of Irish Heritage ethnic groups had 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
- Black Caribbean pupils were over three times more likely to be permanently excluded than the school population as a whole. Pupils of Asian ethnic groups had the lowest rates of permanent and fixed period exclusion.

6. Independent exclusion reviews (Table 13)

Reviews definition

Parents (and pupils if aged over 18) are able to request a review of a permanent exclusion. An independent review panel's role is to review the decision of the governing body not to reinstate a permanently excluded pupil. The panel must consider the interests and circumstances of the excluded pupil, including the circumstances in which the pupil was excluded and have regard to the interests of other pupils and people working at the school.

In 2014/15 in maintained primary, secondary and special schools and academies there were 390 reviews lodged with independent review panels of which 360 (92.1%) were determined and 20 (4.3%) resulted in an offer of reinstatement. These numbers are very similar to those seen in 2013/14.

7. Exclusions from pupil referral units (Table 15)

The rate of permanent exclusion in pupil referral units increased slightly from 0.10 per cent in 2013/14 to 0.13 in 2014/15.

There were 19,410 fixed period exclusions in pupil referral units in 2014/15, up from 15,540 in 2013/14. This corresponds to an increase in the rate of fixed period exclusion from 120.50 per cent in 2013/14 to 142.89 per cent in 2014/15. 55.69 per cent of pupil enrolments in pupil referral units had one or more fixed period exclusions in 2014/15, up from 50.01 per cent in 2013/14.

8. Exclusions by local authority (Table 16)

There is considerable variation in the permanent and fixed period exclusion rate at local authority level (see charts 3 and 4).

The regions with the highest overall rates of permanent exclusion across state-funded primary, secondary and special schools are the West Midlands (at 0.11 per cent) and the North West (at 0.09 per cent). The regions with the lowest rates are the East of England and the South East (both at 0.05 per cent).

The region with the highest fixed period exclusion rate is Yorkshire and the Humber (at 5.28 per cent), whilst the lowest rate was seen in Outer London (3.15 per cent).

Chart 3: Permanent exclusion rate by local authority
 England, 2014/15

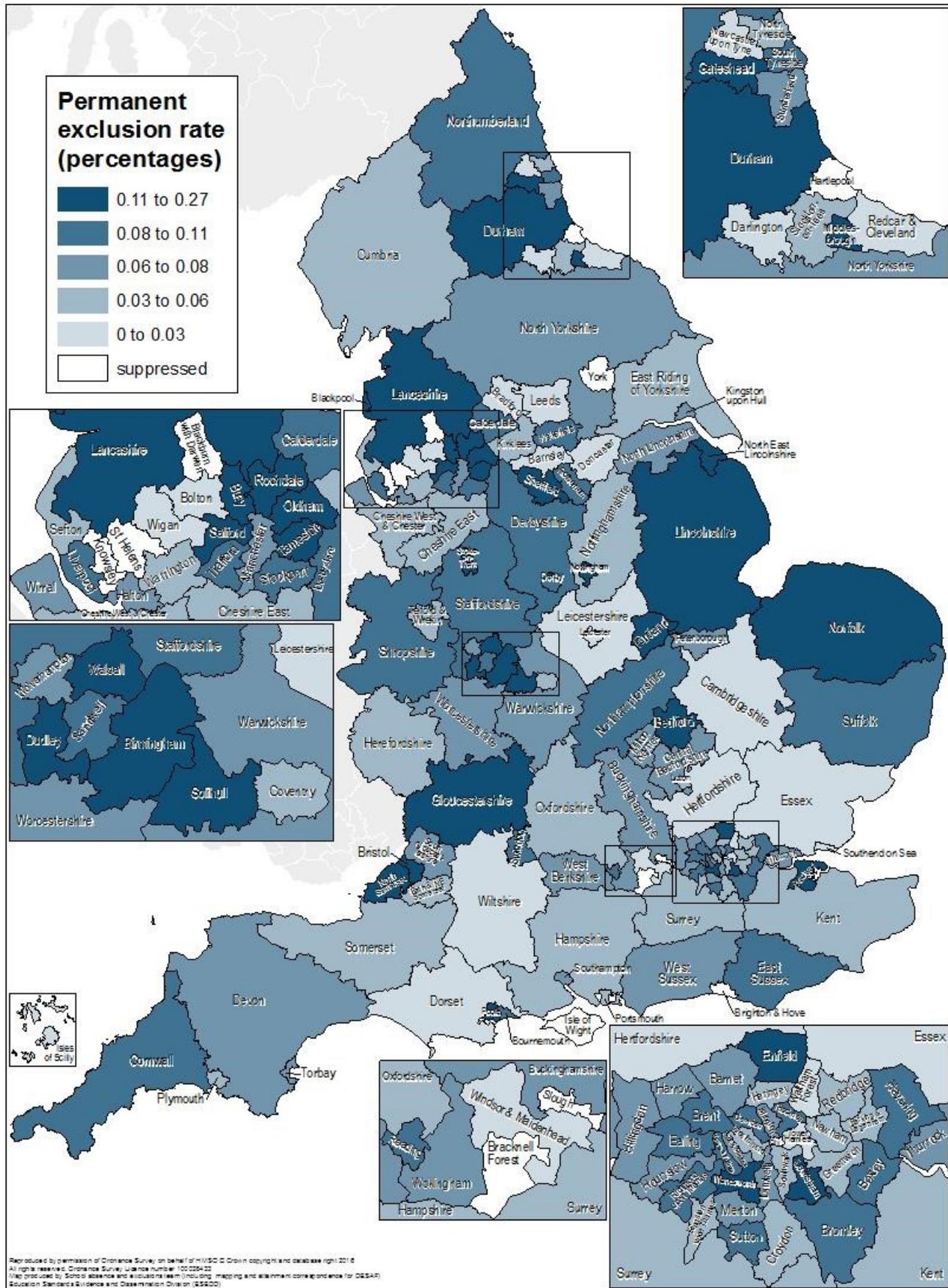
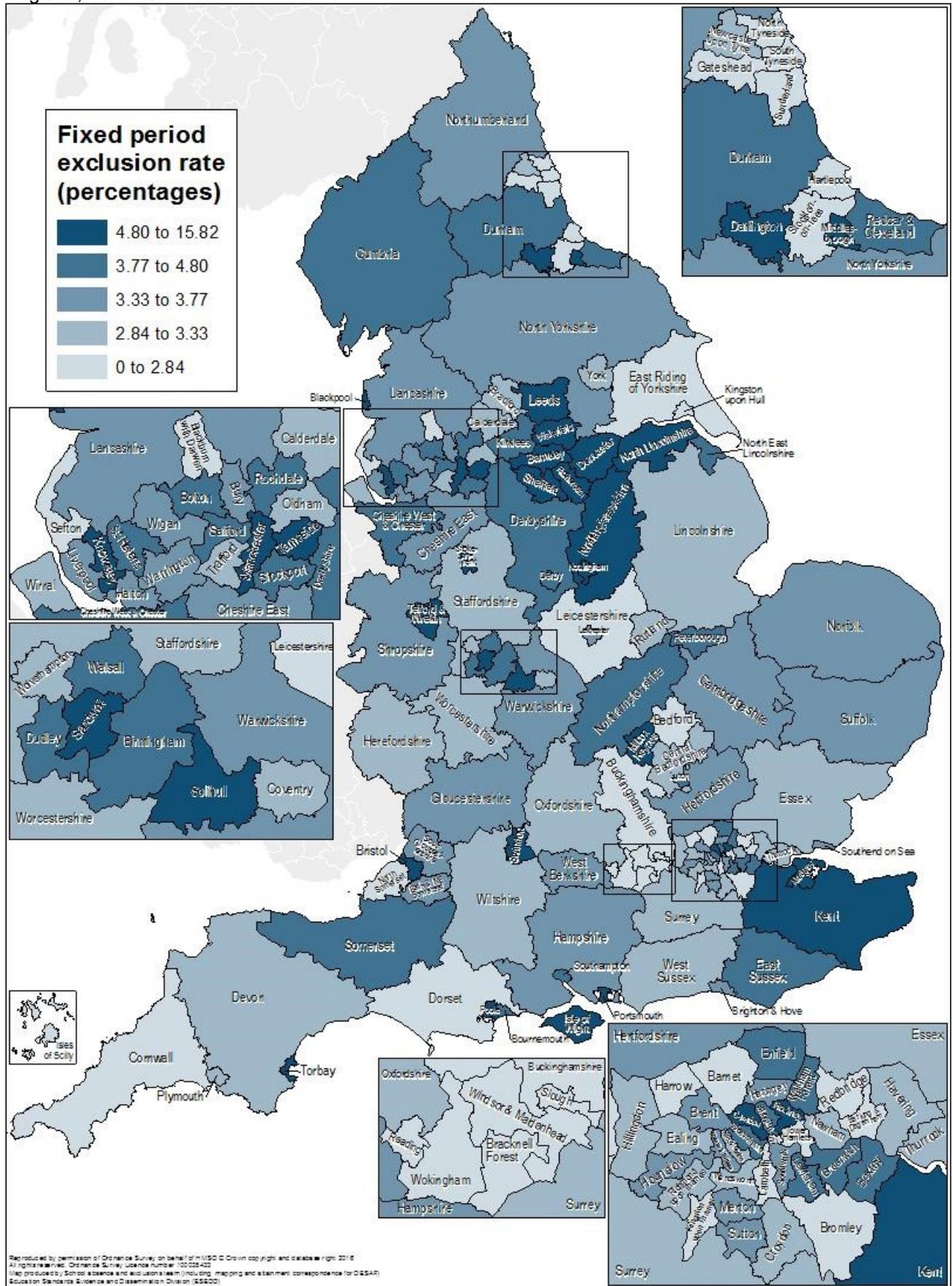


Chart 4: Fixed period exclusion rate by local authority
 England, 2014/15



9. Background: Additional information and updates

This SFR is accompanied by underlying data, including national, local authority and school level information. The accompanying file includes a metadata 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.

In preparing this release, we have undertaken a full review of exclusions data back to 2006/07 in order to ensure that all figures have been produced using a methodology that is consistent with the 2014/15 figures. This means that some historical figures published as part of the release (in Table 1 and the accompanying underlying data) may vary slightly from those published in earlier releases. It should be noted that these changes have not altered the general trends in permanent and fixed period exclusions seen over time.

10. Accompanying tables

This year, some of the tables have been amalgamated to reduce the overall number of tables, with all information published last year either found in one of the new tables or in the underlying data that accompanies the release. The tables are available in excel format on the [department's statistics website](#).

National tables

Table 1	Permanent and fixed period exclusions by type of school
Table 2	Permanent and fixed period exclusions by age and gender
Table 3	Permanent and fixed period exclusions by national curriculum year group and gender
Table 4	Permanent and fixed period exclusions by reason for exclusion
Table 5	Permanent and fixed period exclusions by special educational need
Table 6	Permanent and fixed period exclusions by type of special educational need
Table 7	Permanent and fixed period exclusions by reason by special educational need
Table 8	Permanent and fixed period exclusions by ethnic group and gender
Table 9	Permanent and fixed period exclusions by free school meal eligibility
Table 10	Permanent and fixed period exclusions by level of deprivation of school
Table 11	Duration of fixed period exclusions
Table 12	Number of times pupil enrolments were excluded for a fixed period
Table 13	School exclusion independent review panels
Table 14	Permanent and fixed period exclusions in academies
Table 15	Permanent and fixed period exclusions in pupil referral units

Local authority tables

Table 16	Permanent and fixed period exclusions by type of school
Table 17	Length and number of fixed period exclusions by type of school
Table 18	Permanent exclusions by reason for exclusion
Table 19	Fixed period exclusions by reason for exclusion

When reviewing the tables, please note that:

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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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 Departmental statistical policy .
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We adopt symbols to help identify suppression	Symbols are used in the tables as follows: 0 zero x small number suppressed to preserve confidentiality . not applicable .. not available
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Further information is available

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:
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Wales: school.stats@wales.gsi.gov.uk or

[Welsh Government - Statistics and Research](#)

Scotland: school.stats@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or

[Scottish Government - School Education Statistics](#)

Northern Ireland: statistics@deni.gov.uk or

[Department of Education - Education Statistics](#)

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. National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

The Department has a set of [statistical policies](#) in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

12. Technical information

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 should be referenced alongside this release.

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 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.

13. Get in touch

Media enquiries

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Tel: 020 7783 8300

Other enquiries/feedback

Education Standards Evidence and Dissemination Division, Level 2, Department for Education, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BT.

Email: schools.statistics@education.gsi.gov.uk



Department
for Education



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This document is also available from our website "[Statistics: exclusions](#)"

Reference: [SFR 26/2016]



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