



Department  
for Education

# The proportion of pupils in academies and free schools, in England, in October 2018

## Ad-hoc notice: January 2019

### Introduction

This publication uses school census information for October 2018 to provide the number and proportion of pupils in academies and free schools, including university technical colleges and studio schools<sup>1</sup>.

### Published Data

The school census is a statutory census that takes place during the autumn, spring and summer terms. The schools that take part in the census include all local authority maintained schools, academies, free schools, studio schools, university technical colleges and non-maintained special schools.

Information collected from the January School Census is published in the Schools, Pupils and their Characteristics publication, available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/schools-pupils-and-their-characteristics-january-2018>

This publication shows that in January 2018, there were 8,106,740 pupils in state-funded primary, state-funded secondary, state-funded special, and pupil referral units. Of these, 3,794,964 pupils were in academies and free schools.

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<sup>1</sup> Throughout this publication where the term 'free schools' is used, this includes university technical colleges and studio schools

Therefore, in January 2018, 46.8% of pupils studying in state-funded schools in England were in academies and free schools.

## **October School Census Data**

The October School Census shows that there are 8,166,038 pupils studying in state-funded schools in England. Of these, 4,091,312 pupils are studying in an academy or free school.

Therefore, as of October 2018, 50.1% of pupils studying in state-funded schools in England were in an academy or free school.

## **Future Publications**

The next publication providing an in-depth look into the number of pupils in schools will be published in June 2019 and will use data collected in the January 2019 School Census.

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