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SCHOOL CAPACITY 2010

INTRODUCTION

This document provides provisional school capacity figures for local authority maintained primary and secondary schools in England in 2010, together with data for 2009. The figures exclude academies. The number of academies increased between 2009 and 2010 and this should be taken into account when making year on year comparisons.

This is **not** a National Statistics publication. The statistics are presented as emerging findings (based on provisional data). This is the first time that these statistics have been released as Official Statistics.

KEY POINTS

Primary Schools

Of the 16,961 local authority maintained primary schools, there were:

- 3,444 schools, 20.3 per cent that were full or had pupils in excess of school capacity, compared to 19.8 per cent in 2009.
- 13,517 schools, 79.7 per cent with surplus places, compared to 80.2 per cent in 2009.

There were 4,226,780 school places, and there were:

- 41,680 pupils, 1.0 per cent, in excess of school capacity, compared to 1.0 per cent in 2009.
- 458,250 surplus places, 10.8 per cent, compared to 11.4 per cent in 2009.

Secondary Schools

Of the 3,122 local authority maintained secondary schools, there were:

- 916 schools, 29.3 per cent, that were full or had pupils in excess of school capacity, compared to 28.8 in 2009.
- 2,206 schools, 70.7 per cent, with surplus places, compared to 71.2 per cent in 2009.

There were 3,330,670 school places, and there were:

- 54,260 pupils, 1.6 per cent, in excess of school capacity, compared to 1.7 per cent in 2009.
- 303,750 surplus places, 9.1 per cent, compared to 9.1 per cent in 2009.

TABLES

Table 1 Local Authority Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools: School Capacity
2009-2010

TECHINICAL NOTES

Definitions

1. The Department collects school place data from local authorities (LAs) under The Education (Information as to the Provision of Education) (England) Regulations 2008. LAs provide data annually on the number of school places and numbers of pupils on roll on a school by school basis, together with LA pupil forecasts. Information presented in this Statistical Release is derived from two sources: the School Capacity Survey and the School Census. LAs provided school capacity data for all of their maintained primary and secondary schools via the School Capacity Survey. Figures relating to number of pupils are derived from the School Census.

2. Data on pupil forecasts are also collected from local authorities as part of the School Capacity Survey. These data are not routinely published but are used for planning purposes. Trends in pupil projections can be accessed at:
<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d000940/index.shtml>

Data Collection, Coverage and Quality

3. Provisional figures are subject to revision. Final figures will be published in an update to this SR in November. This will include additional information at Local Authority level as well as information relating to Academies.

Any further revisions to this Statistical First Release will comply with the departmental revisions policy which is published at <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/nat-stats.shtml>

General

4. The description 'maintained primary schools' refers to those schools maintained by the local authority, including middle schools deemed as primary. The description 'maintained secondary schools' refers to those schools maintained by the local authority, including middle schools deemed as secondary.

5. Numbers of pupils and places have been rounded to the nearest 10.

6. Enquiries (non-media) about information contained in this document should be addressed to Schools Data Unit, Room 1F Area H, Mowden Hall, Staindrop Road, Darlington, Co Durham, DL3 9BG or e-mail schools.statistics@education.gsi.gov.uk

7. Media enquiries about information contained in this Statistical First Release should be made to the Department's Press Office at DfE, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BT or telephone 020 7925 6789.

TABLE 1
LOCAL AUTHORITY MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (1)
SCHOOL CAPACITY

Provisional data

		Number of schools	Number of school places	Number of schools that are full or have pupils in excess of school capacity	Number of pupils in excess of school capacity	Excess as a percentage of total places	Number of schools with surplus places	Number of surplus places	Surplus as a percentage of total places
Primary schools	2010	16,961	4,226,780	3,444	41,680	1.0	13,517	458,250	10.8
	2009	17,062	4,239,540	3,376	40,850	1.0	13,686	482,930	11.4
Secondary schools (2)	2010	3,122	3,330,670	916	54,260	1.6	2,206	303,750	9.1
	2009	3,224	3,410,630	927	57,000	1.7	2,297	309,860	9.1

Source: School Capacity Survey and School Census

(1) Includes middle schools as deemed.

(2) The number of secondary schools are shown as falling between 2009 and 2010, this has been influenced by the opening of new academies.

Numbers of pupils and places have been rounded to the nearest 10.