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Education and Skills**

PUPIL ABSENCE IN SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND, AUTUMN TERM 2011 AND SPRING TERM 2012

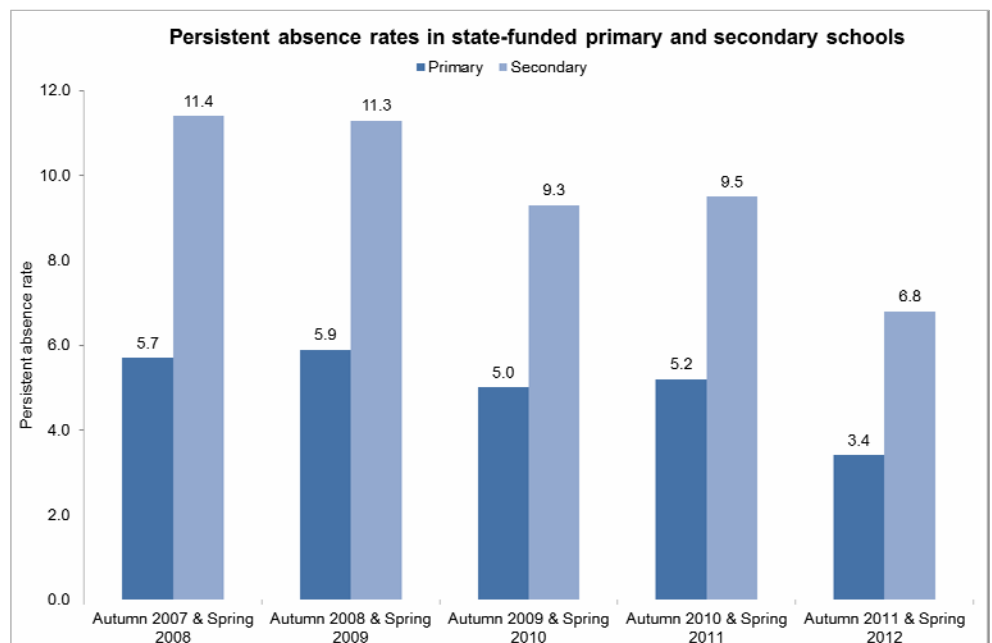
INTRODUCTION

This Statistical First Release reports on the latest rates of absence and the percentage of pupils who are persistent absentees in schools in England. Information on absence by reason and by pupil characteristics is also included. This release follows on from the published single term reports for autumn 2011 and spring 2012.

SUMMARY

There have been substantial decreases, in the last year and over the past five years, in two key measures of absence, the percentage of pupils who are persistent absentees (those who have missed around 15 per cent of possible sessions) and the overall absence rate – as shown in chart 1 and chart 2 below.

Chart 1: Persistent absence rates



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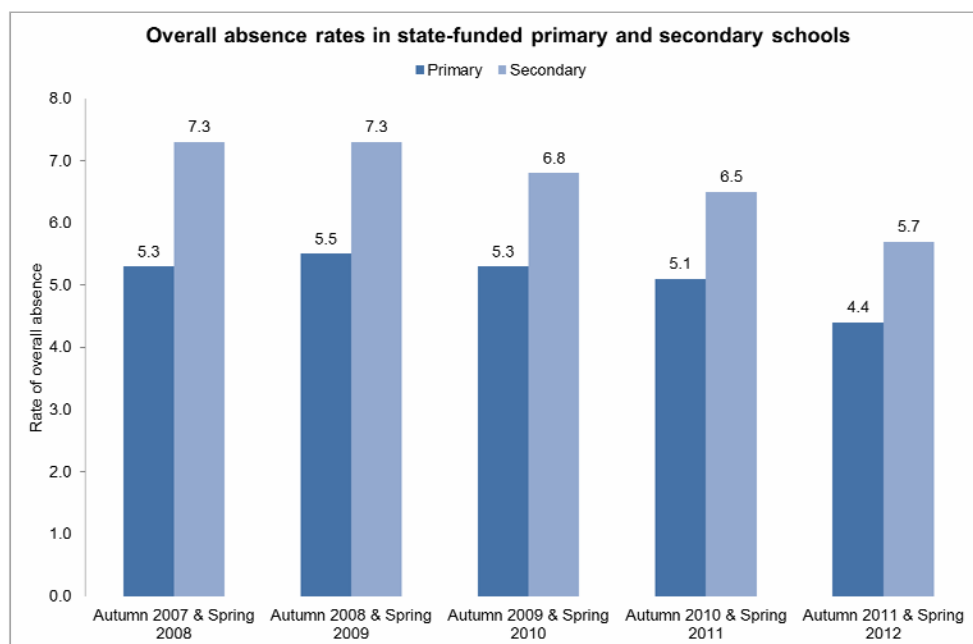
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<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001090/index.shtml>

Chart 2: Overall absence rates



This fall in absence levels in the combined autumn and spring term data was primarily due to autumn term 2011 levels being substantially lower than in previous autumn terms. By comparison, absence levels in spring term 2012 have changed little compared to levels in spring term 2011, i.e. showing the more gradual scale of change usually seen in absence data. A number of factors contributed to the low absence levels in autumn term 2011 including:

- A large decrease in absence rates for illness reasons – illness being by far the most common reason for pupil absence. Figures from the Health Protection Agency show substantially lower levels of flu-like illness around autumn 2011 than in previous years. Similarly, the proportion of calls to NHS Direct relating to colds/flu and fever was very low last winter compared with the previous year. This may explain some of the decrease in absence through illness.
- Eid fell out of term time, which may explain some of the relatively large fall in absence for religious observance.

KEY POINTS

Persistent Absentees (Table 2)

Across autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012, pupils are classed as persistent absentees if absent for around 15 per cent of all possible sessions (38 or more half days). Term lengths vary from year to year and this affects persistent absence rates, particularly when looking at data for just one or two terms. See Technical Note 18 for further details.

The latest figures show that, compared to autumn term 2010 and spring term 2011:

- In state-funded primary schools, the percentage of pupils who were persistent absentees decreased, from 5.2 per cent of pupils to 3.4 per cent of pupils, the lowest level in recent years.

- In state-funded secondary schools, the percentage of pupils who were persistent absentees decreased, from 9.5 per cent of pupils to 6.8 per cent of pupils, the lowest level in recent years.
- In state-funded primary schools, the rate of overall absence (the percentage of sessions missed through authorised or unauthorised absence) for persistent absentees was 21.8 per cent, nearly 5 times higher than the rate for all pupils.
- Similarly, in state-funded secondary schools, the rate of overall absence for persistent absentees was 27.1 per cent, nearly 5 times higher than the rate for all pupils.

Absence rates (*the percentage of possible sessions missed through absence*) (Table 1)

2. Comparisons between autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012 combined, compared to autumn term 2010 and spring term 2011 are reported below. Note that these reductions are primarily driven by the fall in absence levels in autumn 2011, which was discussed earlier.

Overall absence

- The overall absence rate across state-funded primary and secondary schools decreased, from 5.8 per cent to 5.0 per cent, the lowest level in recent years
- The overall absence rate in state-funded primary schools decreased, from 5.1 per cent to 4.4 per cent, the lowest level in recent years.
- The overall absence rate in state-funded secondary schools decreased, from 6.5 per cent to 5.7 per cent, the lowest level in recent years.

Authorised absence

- The authorised absence rate across state-funded primary and secondary schools decreased, from 4.8 per cent to 4.1 per cent, the lowest level in recent years.
- The authorised absence rate in state-funded primary schools decreased, from 4.4 per cent to 3.7 per cent, the lowest level in recent years.
- The authorised absence rate in state-funded secondary schools decreased, from 5.1 per cent to 4.4 per cent, the lowest level in recent years.

Unauthorised absence

- The unauthorised absence rate across state-funded primary and secondary schools was 0.9 per cent; there has been little change in recent years.
- The unauthorised absence rate in state-funded primary schools was 0.6 per cent; there has been little change in recent years.
- The unauthorised absence rate in state-funded secondary schools was 1.3 per cent; there has been a small decrease over recent years.

Reason for absence (Table 3)

- The most commonly reported reason for absence was “**illness (not medical or dental appointments)**”, the same as in the previous year, which accounted for 61 per cent of all absence. This accounts for 3.0 per cent of all possible sessions, compared to 3.5 per cent the previous year.
- Absence for family holidays accounted for 9.3 per cent of all absence, an increase from 8.6 per cent the previous year. Authorised absence for family holidays accounted for 6.2 per cent of all absence, similar to the previous year. Unauthorised absence accounted for 3.1 per cent of all absence, an increase from 2.5 per cent the previous year.

Absence by pupil characteristics (Tables 4a, 4b, 5a and 5b)

As in previous years, pupils with certain characteristics, e.g. special educational needs, tend to have higher levels of absence.

- The rate of overall absence for those pupils who are eligible for and claiming free school meals (7.3 per cent) was 1.6 times higher than that for those pupils not eligible for and claiming free school meals. (4.5 per cent). (Table 4a)
- Pupils who were known to be eligible for and claiming free school meals were more likely to be persistent absentees, 10.6 per cent of those pupils eligible and claiming compared with 3.7 per cent for those pupils not eligible for and claiming free school meals. (Table 4b)
- For pupils with special educational needs, the highest rate of overall absence was amongst those pupils at *School Action Plus* (7.6 per cent). This is 1.7 times that for those pupils with no identified special educational needs (4.5 per cent). The overall absence rate for pupils with a statement of special educational needs was 7.3 per cent and for pupils at *School Action* it was 6.3 per cent. (Table 4a)
- Of all pupils with a statement of special educational needs 11.1 per cent were persistent absentees, compared to 3.7 per cent of those pupils with no identified special educational need. Of pupils at *School Action* 8.1 per cent were persistent absentees and of pupils at *School Action Plus* 11.7 per cent were persistent absentees. (Table 4b)
- Absence rates start to increase at secondary school age. The rate of overall absence for pupils in national curriculum year group 11 (6.8 per cent) was 1.5 times the rate of overall absence for those pupils in national curriculum year group 7 (4.4 per cent). (Table 4a)
- Absence rates were highest for Traveller of Irish Heritage (21.1 per cent overall absence) and Gypsy /Roma (15.3 per cent overall absence) ethnic groups. The rates of overall absence for pupils of Mixed and White ethnic origin were above the national average (5.4 per cent and 5.1 per cent, respectively); for pupils of Black and Chinese ethnic origin the rates were well below the national average (3.7 per cent and 2.9 per cent, respectively). The overall absence rate for all pupils was 5.0 per cent. Caution is recommended in interpreting the data for Traveller of Irish Heritage children and Gypsy/Roma children due to potential under-reporting for these ethnic classifications. (Table 5a)

Full year data

- Final absence statistics relating to the full 2011/12 school year are intended for publication as National Statistics in March 2013. This product will add value to the emerging findings published in the termly reports and this release by presenting whole year findings (cumulative results from the three termly collections) and providing more detailed analyses of absence by pupil characteristics and persistent absentees.

TABLES

- Table 1** State-funded primary and secondary schools: Rates of absence in England, autumn term 2007 and spring term 2008 to autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012
- Table 2** State-funded primary and secondary schools: Persistent absentees in England, autumn term 2007 and spring term 2008 to autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012
- Table 3** State-funded primary and secondary schools: Absence by reason and gender in England, autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012
- Table 4a** State-funded primary and secondary schools: Pupil absence by characteristics in England, autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012
- Table 4b** State-funded primary and secondary schools: Persistent absentees - pupil absence by characteristics in England, autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012
- Table 5a** State-funded primary and secondary schools: Pupil absence by ethnic group in England, autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012
- Table 5b** State-funded primary and secondary schools: Persistent absentees - pupil absence by ethnic group in England, autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012

LOCAL AUTHORITY ANALYSIS

A supplementary table containing figures by local authority area and region is available on the DfE statistics website: <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001090/index.shtml>

- Table 6** State-funded primary and secondary schools: Pupil Absence by type of school, by local authority area and region in England, autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In line with the Government's data transparency agenda, underlying data will also be made available in the 'Publication's Underlying Data' section of this release.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001090/index.shtml>

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

DfE: Pupil Absence in Schools in England, Including Pupil Characteristics: 2010/11

<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001060/index.shtml>

DfE: Pupil Absence in Schools in England - Autumn Term 2011

<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001066/index.shtml>

DfE: Pupil Absence in Schools in England, Spring Term 2012

<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001083/index.shtml>

Guidance on school and pupil characteristics collected via the School Census is available on the DfE statistics website: <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/schoolcensus.shtml>

NATIONAL STATISTICS PUBLICATION

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*, these are published here: <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/nat-stats.shtml>.

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. Enrolment numbers at national and regional levels have been rounded to the nearest 5. Enrolment numbers of 1 or 2 have been suppressed, being replaced in the tables by an 'x'. Where any number is shown as zero (0), the original figure was also zero. Where the numerator or denominator of any percentage calculated on enrolment numbers is less than 3, this has been replaced by an 'x'. This suppression is consistent with the Departmental statistical policy which can be found at <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/ns-sp-confidentialityv3.pdf>.

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 which is published at <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/ns-sp-revisionsv3.pdf>.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Definitions

1. The measures of absence used here are rates of authorised, unauthorised and overall absence and persistent absentees. Some cases of unauthorised absence may change to authorised absence at a later stage (once an explanation has been reported to the school). However, if this is supplied to the school after the School Census database has closed, the absence will still be recorded as “no reason yet”. In this respect, using overall absence rates and the rate of persistent absentees gives more suitable data for performance reporting.
2. The Department has published specific guidance ‘Keeping Pupil Registers’, which provides guidance on applying the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006; and ‘Absence and Attendance Codes’ which provides guidance on the use of codes to record pupil attendance and absence in schools. Both are available at <http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/behaviour/attendance/schoolattendancedata/a0010008/pupil-registration-regulations-and-guidance>.
3. In law, parents of children of compulsory school age (aged 5 to 15 at the start of the school year) are required to ensure that they receive a suitable education by regular attendance at school or otherwise. Failure to comply with this statutory duty can lead to prosecution. Local Authorities are responsible in law for making sure that pupils attend school.
4. Schools are required to take attendance registers twice a day: once at the beginning of the morning session and once during the afternoon session. In their register, schools are required to distinguish whether pupils are present, engaged in an approved educational activity or are absent. Where a day pupil of compulsory school age is absent, schools have to indicate in their register whether the absence is authorised by the school or unauthorised.
5. Authorised absence is absence with permission from a teacher or other authorised representative of the school. This includes instances of absences for which a satisfactory explanation has been provided (for example, illness).
6. Unauthorised absence is absence without permission from a teacher or other authorised representative of the school. This includes all unexplained or unjustified absences. Arriving late for school, after the register has closed, is recorded as unauthorised absence.
7. The Department’s key measure of persistent absence relates to the school year. A pupil is classified as a persistent absentee for the school year if missing around 15 per cent of possible sessions. For combined autumn term and spring term figures, the persistent absence threshold is based on 38 or more sessions. For autumn term 2007 and spring term 2008 a persistent absentee was taken as being absent for 36 or more possible sessions. This reduction was needed because of the unusually short spring term in 2008. This term was shorter by approximately 20 possible sessions in the majority (82 per cent) of schools. To aid transparency and simplicity our termly persistent absence thresholds don’t tend to change from year to year (unless there are exceptional circumstances).

Presentation

8. The tables include city technology colleges, secondary sponsor-led and converter academies and secondary free schools along with local authority maintained schools in a category labelled “state-funded secondary”, and local authority maintained primary schools, primary sponsor-led and converter academies and primary free schools in a category labelled “state-funded primary”.

Data collection

9. In 2006 the School Census started to collect pupil level absence data on a termly basis (spring, summer and autumn collections) from maintained secondary schools, city technology colleges and academies relating to absence during the 2005/06 school year. For the 2006/07 school year the scope of collection of the School Census was extended to include maintained primary schools and special schools. The School Census collects information for a pupil's attendance in the term prior to the census. For example, the spring School Census collects information on absence during the autumn term. Special schools provide annual absence data in the autumn School Census and are therefore not included in this release.
10. Reason for absence was collected for the first time for the autumn term 2006. Schools are able to provide absence data using a reason code or by using total figures for the number of sessions missed due to authorised or unauthorised absence. A small proportion of schools have provided both a breakdown of absence by reason and totals. In addition, some schools do not have the required software to provide absence data by reason, and therefore are only able to provide overall totals. To derive absence rates, the sum of absence by reason has been used unless this is missing or is less than the total provided, in which case overall totals have been used.
11. Data are collected a term in arrears, meaning that where a school closes, data are not collected for the last term the school was open. For schools which close at the end of the autumn term, data for the autumn term will not be collected. Eleven sponsor-led academies opened at the beginning of January 2012 and incorrectly returned absence data for the previous term. The autumn term data for these schools has been excluded from this analysis. Also, sixteen sponsor-led academies opened half way through the spring term and incorrectly returned absence data for the previous term. As the absence data related to both the academy and their predecessor school it has been removed from this analysis. Year on year comparisons of local authority data may be affected by schools converting to academies.

Data coverage and quality

12. Schools have provided, via the School Census, individual level attendance data relating to the autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012 for pupils aged 5 to 15 (at the start of the school year), who are non-boarders at the time of the census. In each term, the School Census has collected the number of possible sessions of attendance; and the number of sessions missed, broken down by reason for absence, and overall totals of sessions missed due to authorised and unauthorised absence.
13. The School Census collects information for a pupil's attendance in the term prior to the census. Absence data for the autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012 have been derived by linking pupil records collected in the spring 2012 census and summer 2012 census to derive overall two-term totals for the number of possible sessions; the number of sessions missed by reason for absence and the number of sessions missed due to authorised and unauthorised absence for each enrolment. Derived two-term absence totals have been linked to a pupil's characteristic data at the time of the absence. Where characteristic data are missing, information collected in the following census has been used.
14. Information relating to pupil absence counts the number of pupil enrolments rather than the number of pupils. Where a pupil has moved school during the year, they will be counted more than once as they have recorded attendance data in more than one school. Pupil absence is recorded for the period a pupil is enrolled at a school. Where a pupil has a dual registration their

absence may be returned from both schools, if both schools return absence data via the School Census.

15. For a pupil enrolment, if the number of possible sessions in a term is zero/missing or is less than the total number of sessions missed due to authorised and unauthorised absence, or if the total number of possible sessions exceeds the limit for the term, then the absence variables have been set to zero for that term only, and that term's information has been discounted from this release. If the total number of possible sessions for each and every term equals zero, then the enrolment has not been included.
16. From September 2011 the way schools record attendance and absence for dually registered pupils changed. Attendance code D (Dual registered at another educational establishment) is no longer counted in the School Census as an attendance. Each school now only records the attendance and absence for the sessions a pupil is required to attend at their school, previously each school recorded all absence. This change affects a relatively small number of pupils and has only a marginal effect on absence rates.
17. Following changes to attendance regulations and procedures, from 2012 the School Census collects attendance information about pupils unable to attend school due to exceptional circumstances using attendance code Y. Schools use code Y to record the sessions where a pupil is unable to attend because:
 - The school site, or part of it, is closed due to an unavoidable cause;
 - The transport provided by the school or a local authority is not available, and their home is not within walking distance; or
 - A local or national emergency has resulted in widespread disruption to travel which has prevented the pupil from attending school.

These sessions, however, are not counted as possible attendance and account for a relatively small proportion of sessions.

18. Termly data can be affected by changes in term length and this appears to be the case for autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012 when compared to autumn term 2010 and spring term 2011. Data shows lower numbers of possible sessions across autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012 when compared to the previous autumn and spring. Lower numbers of possible sessions provide less opportunity for pupils to become persistent absentees based on the fixed threshold of 38 sessions, no adjustments have been made to account for this. Whole year results provide the definitive view of persistent absence.
19. In autumn term 2011 there was a very substantial decrease in absence levels which we believe was due to a combination of factors, including:
 - A large decrease in absence rates for illness reasons – illness being by far the most common reason for pupil absence. Figures from the Health Protection Agency suggest that lower levels of flu-like illness may be a factor;
 - Eid fell out of term time and explains some of the relatively large fall in absence for religious observance;
 - There was also a relatively large decrease in absence for agreed family holidays and for “other authorised” reasons. This may reflect a growing reluctance for absence to be approved.

20. The information shown for attendance and absence is for two terms of the 2011/12 academic year. Data for schools which have since closed is included for the reporting period prior to their closure.
21. The information in this release is based on data returned by schools as part of the School Census. It does not include data which has been submitted by local authorities or schools outside of the School Census data collection.
22. The data presented here are based on the attendance registers which are taken twice a day: once at the beginning of the morning session and once during the afternoon session. It therefore does not include "internal unauthorised absence". This is defined as unauthorised absence by pupils between the school's twice daily registrations, i.e. a pupil is effectively recorded as attending during morning or afternoon registration but is physically not present at another part of the relevant session. The Department's current data systems are limited insofar as they only record and measure the registrations, not any subsequent absence.
23. The data contained in this release relates only to those pupils on the roll of a state-funded primary or secondary school. It does not include those children who are not registered at a school or who attend special schools.

Symbols used

24. The following symbols have been used within this publication:
 - 0 – zero
 - x – small number suppressed to preserve confidentiality (see Confidentiality section above)
 - .

ENQUIRIES

25. 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
26. 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 7783 8300

Table 1

**STATE-FUNDED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (1)(2)(3):
RATES OF ABSENCE**Autumn Term 2007 and Spring Term 2008 to Autumn Term 2011 and Spring Term 2012
England

	Autumn term 2007 and spring term 2008	Autumn term 2008 and spring term 2009	Autumn term 2009 and spring term 2010	Autumn term 2010 and spring term 2011	Autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012
State-funded primary and secondary schools (1)(2)(3)					
Number of pupil enrolments (4)	6,352,355	6,287,410	6,265,000	6,267,410	6,278,520
Percentage of half days missed due to: (5)					
Overall absence	6.3	6.3	6.0	5.8	5.0
Authorised absence	5.3	5.3	5.0	4.8	4.1
Unauthorised absence	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9
State-funded primary schools (1)(2)					
Number of pupil enrolments (4)	3,377,685	3,346,350	3,344,410	3,368,745	3,418,560
Percentage of half days missed due to: (5)					
Overall absence	5.3	5.5	5.3	5.1	4.4
Authorised absence	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.4	3.7
Unauthorised absence	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6
State-funded secondary schools (1)(3)					
Number of pupil enrolments (4)	2,974,670	2,941,055	2,920,590	2,898,665	2,859,965
Percentage of half days missed due to: (5)					
Overall absence	7.3	7.3	6.8	6.5	5.7
Authorised absence	5.9	5.8	5.4	5.1	4.4
Unauthorised absence	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3

Source: School Census

- (1) Includes middle schools as deemed.
(2) Includes primary academies, including free schools.
(3) Includes city technology colleges and secondary academies, including free schools.
(4) Includes pupils aged 5 to 15 who were on roll for at least one session between 1 September and the end of the Spring term each year, even if they are no longer on the school roll, excluding boarders. Some pupils may be counted more than once (if they moved schools during the school year or are registered in more than one school). See Technical Notes 12 to 14.
(5) The number of sessions missed due to authorised/unauthorised/overall absence expressed as a percentage of the total number of possible sessions.

Totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component part because numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Table 2
STATE-FUNDED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (1)(2)(3):
PERSISTENT ABSENTEES, THOSE MISSING AROUND 15 PER CENT OF SESSIONS (4)
 Autumn Term 2007 and Spring Term 2008 to Autumn Term 2011 and Spring Term 2012
 England

	Autumn term 2007 and spring term 2008	Autumn term 2008 and spring term 2009	Autumn term 2009 and spring term 2010	Autumn term 2010 and spring term 2011	Autumn term 2011 and spring term 2012
State-funded primary and secondary schools (1)(2)(3)					
Number of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees (4)(5)	532,185	528,095	439,105	450,330	310,435
Total number of pupil enrolments (5)	6,352,355	6,287,410	6,265,000	6,267,410	6,278,520
Percentage of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees	8.4	8.4	7.0	7.2	4.9
Percentage of half days missed by persistent absentees due to (6):					
Overall absence	25.3	24.2	24.6	23.5	25.1
Authorised Absence	17.9	16.8	16.6	15.6	15.8
Unauthorised Absence	7.3	7.4	8.0	7.9	9.3
Percentage of absence for which persistent absentees are responsible (7):					
Overall absence	33.9	32.3	28.5	29.2	24.7
Authorised Absence	28.5	26.9	23.2	23.5	19.1
Unauthorised Absence	63.4	59.9	55.1	55.6	49.1
State-funded primary schools (1)(2)					
Number of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees (4)(5)	193,600	196,850	168,765	174,835	115,295
Total number of pupil enrolments (5)	3,377,685	3,346,350	3,344,410	3,368,745	3,418,560
Percentage of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees	5.7	5.9	5.0	5.2	3.4
Percentage of half days missed by persistent absentees due to (6):					
Overall absence	21.9	21.1	21.6	20.6	21.8
Authorised Absence	17.5	16.5	16.5	15.4	15.6
Unauthorised Absence	4.4	4.6	5.1	5.2	6.2
Percentage of absence for which persistent absentees are responsible (7):					
Overall absence	23.7	23.0	20.5	20.9	16.7
Authorised Absence	21.1	20.3	17.9	18.1	14.0
Unauthorised Absence	45.8	42.5	38.6	39.2	32.1
State-funded secondary schools (1)(3)					
Number of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees (4)(5)	338,585	331,245	270,340	275,500	195,140
Total number of pupil enrolments (5)	2,974,670	2,941,055	2,920,590	2,898,665	2,859,965
Percentage of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees	11.4	11.3	9.3	9.5	6.8
Percentage of half days missed by persistent absentees due to (6):					
Overall absence	27.2	26.0	26.4	25.3	27.1
Authorised Absence	18.2	17.0	16.7	15.7	16.0
Unauthorised Absence	9.0	9.0	9.7	9.7	11.1
Percentage of absence for which persistent absentees are responsible (7):					
Overall absence	42.3	40.2	35.7	36.8	32.1
Authorised Absence	35.3	33.0	28.3	29.0	24.3
Unauthorised Absence	71.2	68.6	64.2	64.9	59.5

Source: School Census

- (1) Includes middle schools as deemed.
 (2) Includes primary academies, including free schools.
 (3) Includes city technology colleges and secondary academies, including free schools.
 (4) Persistent Absentees are defined as having an overall absence rate of around **15 per cent** or more. This equates to 38 or more sessions of absence (authorised and unauthorised) across the two terms. (36 or more sessions in 07/08). See Technical Note 7.
 (5) Includes pupils aged 5 to 15 who were on roll for at least one session between 1 September and the end of the Spring term each year, even if they are no longer on the school roll, excluding boarders. Some pupils may be counted more than once (if they moved schools during the school year or are registered in more than one school). See Technical Notes 12 to 14.
 (6) The total number of sessions missed due to authorised/unauthorised/overall absence expressed as a percentage of the total number of possible sessions.
 (7) The total number of sessions missed due to authorised/unauthorised/overall absence by persistent absentees expressed as a percentage of the total number of sessions missed due to authorised/unauthorised/overall absence by all pupil enrolments.

Totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component parts because numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Table 3

STATE-FUNDED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (1)(2)(3):**ABSENCE BY REASON AND GENDER**

Autumn Term 2011 and Spring Term 2012

England

	State-funded primary schools (1)(2)			State-funded secondary schools (1)(3)			State-funded primary and secondary schools (1)(2)(3)		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
<u>DISTRIBUTION OF REASONS FOR ABSENCE</u>									
Percentage of absent sessions due to (4):									
Illness (NOT medical or dental appointments)	63.4	64.2	63.8	57.2	58.8	58.0	60.2	61.4	60.8
Medical/dental appointments	5.9	5.4	5.7	6.6	7.5	7.1	6.2	6.5	6.4
Religious observance	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
Study leave	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Traveller absence	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Agreed family holiday	9.1	9.5	9.3	3.1	3.0	3.1	6.0	6.1	6.0
Agreed extended family holiday	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Excluded, no alternative provision	0.7	0.1	0.4	3.5	1.2	2.3	2.1	0.7	1.4
Other authorised circumstances	5.0	4.8	4.9	6.7	6.4	6.5	5.9	5.6	5.7
Total Authorised Absence	85.3	85.3	85.3	77.9	77.8	77.9	81.5	81.3	81.4
Percentage of absent sessions due to (4):									
Family holiday not agreed	3.7	3.9	3.8	2.5	2.5	2.5	3.1	3.2	3.1
Arrived late	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3
Other unauthorised circumstances	7.9	7.7	7.8	15.5	15.8	15.6	11.8	12.0	11.9
No reason yet	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.3	2.2	2.3
Total Unauthorised Absence	14.7	14.7	14.7	22.1	22.2	22.1	18.5	18.7	18.6
Total Overall Absence	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<u>ABSENCE RATES BY REASON</u>									
Percentage of possible sessions missed due to (5):									
Illness (NOT medical or dental appointments)	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.1	3.0
Medical/dental appointments	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Religious observance	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Study leave	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Traveller absence	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Agreed family holiday	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Agreed extended family holiday	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Excluded, no alternative provision	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Other authorised circumstances	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Unclassified (6)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Authorised Absence	3.8	3.7	3.7	4.3	4.6	4.4	4.0	4.1	4.1
Percentage of possible sessions missed due to (5):									
Family holiday not agreed	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Arrived late	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other unauthorised circumstances	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.6
No reason yet	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Unclassified (6)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Unauthorised Absence	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.2	1.3	1.3	0.9	0.9	0.9
Total Overall Absence	4.4	4.4	4.4	5.6	5.9	5.7	4.9	5.0	5.0

Source: School Census

- (1) Includes middle schools as deemed.
(2) Includes primary academies, including free schools.
(3) Includes city technology colleges and secondary academies, including free schools.
(4) The number of sessions absent by reason expressed as a percentage of the total number of sessions absent as reported by reason (not overall totals). See Technical Notes 10 and 12.
(5) The number of sessions absent by reason expressed as a percentage of the total number of sessions possible. See Technical Notes 10 and 12.
(6) Includes absence returned as either authorised or unauthorised totals but not broken down by reason.

Table 4a
STATE-FUNDED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (1)(2)(3):
PUPIL ABSENCE BY CHARACTERISTICS (4)
Autumn Term 2011 and Spring Term 2012
England

	State-funded primary schools (1)(2)			State-funded secondary schools (1)(3)			State-funded primary and secondary schools (1)(2)(3)					
	Pupil enrolments in schools during autumn term 2011 and spring term 2011 (5)	Percentage of half days missed (6):			Pupil enrolments in schools during autumn term 2011 and spring term 2011 (5)	Percentage of half days missed (6):			Pupil enrolments in schools during autumn term 2011 and spring term 2011 (5)	Percentage of half days missed (6):		
		Overall absence	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence		Overall absence	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence		Overall absence	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence
Gender												
Boys	1,745,240	4.4	3.8	0.6	1,450,730	5.6	4.3	1.2	3,195,965	4.9	4.0	0.9
Girls	1,673,320	4.4	3.7	0.6	1,409,235	5.9	4.6	1.3	3,082,555	5.0	4.1	0.9
Total	3,418,560	4.4	3.7	0.6	2,859,965	5.7	4.4	1.3	6,278,520	5.0	4.1	0.9
Free School Meal (FSM) Eligibility												
Known to be eligible for FSM	649,430	6.1	4.7	1.4	458,155	9.0	5.9	3.1	1,107,585	7.3	5.2	2.1
Not eligible for FSM	2,745,190	4.0	3.5	0.5	2,390,005	5.1	4.2	0.9	5,135,190	4.5	3.8	0.7
Total (7)	3,418,560	4.4	3.7	0.6	2,859,965	5.7	4.4	1.3	6,278,520	5.0	4.1	0.9
National Curriculum Year Group:												
1 and below	608,735	5.1	4.4	0.7	2,635	5.8	4.6	1.2	611,370	5.1	4.4	0.7
2	595,365	4.5	3.8	0.7	2,315	5.1	4.1	1.0	597,680	4.5	3.8	0.7
3	580,660	4.1	3.5	0.6	2,260	4.4	3.4	0.9	582,920	4.1	3.5	0.6
4	562,650	4.1	3.5	0.6	2,120	4.6	3.6	1.0	564,770	4.1	3.5	0.6
5	524,350	4.2	3.5	0.6	17,980	4.1	3.7	0.4	542,330	4.2	3.5	0.6
6	520,080	4.2	3.6	0.6	21,920	4.5	4.1	0.5	542,000	4.2	3.6	0.6
7	2,645	4.6	4.1	0.5	541,955	4.4	3.8	0.6	544,600	4.4	3.8	0.6
8	75	4.4	4.0	0.4	559,950	5.3	4.4	0.9	560,025	5.3	4.4	0.9
9	20	4.4	4.2	0.3	565,720	5.9	4.7	1.2	565,735	5.9	4.7	1.2
10	15	3.1	3.1	0.0	576,590	6.2	4.6	1.6	576,605	6.2	4.6	1.6
11	20	3.5	3.1	0.5	554,095	6.8	4.7	2.0	554,115	6.8	4.7	2.0
12 and above	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	615	7.4	4.5	2.9	615	7.4	4.5	2.9
Total (7)	3,418,560	4.4	3.7	0.6	2,859,965	5.7	4.4	1.3	6,278,520	5.0	4.1	0.9
First Language												
First language is known or believed to be other than English	606,505	4.8	3.8	1.0	369,345	4.9	3.6	1.3	975,850	4.8	3.7	1.1
First language is known or believed to be English	2,805,210	4.3	3.7	0.6	2,480,545	5.8	4.6	1.3	5,285,755	5.0	4.1	0.9
Total (7)	3,418,560	4.4	3.7	0.6	2,859,965	5.7	4.4	1.3	6,278,520	5.0	4.1	0.9
Special Educational Needs												
Statements of SEN	51,195	6.7	5.9	0.8	58,225	7.9	6.0	1.9	109,420	7.3	5.9	1.4
School Action Plus	236,755	5.8	4.8	1.0	195,535	9.9	6.5	3.4	432,290	7.6	5.5	2.1
School Action	404,635	5.3	4.3	1.0	370,575	7.4	5.3	2.1	775,210	6.3	4.8	1.5
No identified SEN	2,702,035	4.1	3.5	0.5	2,223,825	5.0	4.1	0.9	4,925,855	4.5	3.8	0.7
Total (7)	3,418,560	4.4	3.7	0.6	2,859,965	5.7	4.4	1.3	6,278,520	5.0	4.1	0.9

Source: School Census

- (1) Includes middle schools as deemed.
(2) Includes primary academies, including free schools.
(3) Includes city technology colleges and secondary academies, including free schools.
(4) See Technical Note 13 for further information on how absence and pupil characteristic data have been linked.
(5) Includes pupils age 5 to 15 who were on roll for at least one session between 1 September and the end of the Spring term, even if they are no longer on the school roll, excluding boarders. Some pupils may be counted more than once (if they moved schools during the school year or are registered in more than one school). See Technical Notes 12 to 14.
(6) The number of sessions missed due to authorised/ unauthorised/ overall absence expressed as a percentage of the total number of possible sessions.
(7) Includes pupil enrolments for whom characteristic data were unclassified or missing. Total rates may be higher than rates for each subgroup.

Totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component parts because numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Table 4b
STATE-FUNDED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (1)(2)(3):
PUPIL ABSENCE BY CHARACTERISTICS (4): PERSISTENT ABSENTEES (5)
 Autumn Term 2011 and Spring Term 2012
 England

	State-funded primary schools (1)(2)					State-funded secondary schools (1)(3)					State-funded primary and secondary schools (1)(2)(3)				
	Number of persistent absentees having 38 or more sessions of absence (5)	Percentage of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees (6)	Percentage of half days missed by persistent absentees (7):			Number of persistent absentees having 38 or more sessions of absence (5)	Percentage of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees (6)	Percentage of half days missed by persistent absentees (7):			Number of persistent absentees having 38 or more sessions of absence (5)	Percentage of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees (6)	Percentage of half days missed by persistent absentees (7):		
		Overall absence	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence			Overall absence	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence			Overall absence	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence	
Gender															
Boys	60,165	3.4	22.1	15.9	6.2	94,815	6.5	27.0	15.9	11.1	154,985	4.8	25.1	15.9	9.2
Girls	55,130	3.3	21.5	15.3	6.2	100,325	7.1	27.2	16.0	11.2	155,455	5.0	25.2	15.8	9.4
Total	115,295	3.4	21.8	15.6	6.2	195,140	6.8	27.1	16.0	11.1	310,435	4.9	25.1	15.8	9.3
Free School Meal (FSM) Eligibility															
Known to be eligible for FSM	47,310	7.3	22.2	14.4	7.8	70,360	15.4	28.6	14.6	13.9	117,670	10.6	26.0	14.5	11.4
Not eligible for FSM	67,550	2.5	21.4	16.5	5.0	124,415	5.2	26.3	16.7	9.6	191,960	3.7	24.6	16.6	7.9
Total (6)	115,295	3.4	21.8	15.6	6.2	195,140	6.8	27.1	16.0	11.1	310,435	4.9	25.1	15.8	9.3
National Curriculum Year Group:															
1 and below	28,350	4.7	21.6	15.9	5.7	160	6.1	22.8	14.1	8.6	28,510	4.7	21.6	15.9	5.7
2	20,475	3.4	21.6	15.3	6.3	100	4.4	22.6	14.9	7.7	20,575	3.4	21.6	15.3	6.3
3	17,180	3.0	21.8	15.2	6.6	85	3.7	21.9	12.6	9.3	17,265	3.0	21.8	15.2	6.6
4	16,585	2.9	21.7	15.3	6.4	90	3.9	22.6	13.9	8.7	16,670	3.0	21.7	15.3	6.4
5	15,860	3.0	21.9	15.8	6.2	530	2.9	22.4	17.9	4.6	16,390	3.0	22.0	15.9	6.1
6	16,305	3.1	21.9	16.0	5.9	800	3.6	23.3	18.2	5.0	17,105	3.2	22.0	16.1	5.9
7	105	4.0	22.0	16.2	5.7	20,900	3.9	23.9	16.8	7.1	21,005	3.9	23.9	16.8	7.1
8	x	x	x	x	x	30,855	5.5	25.1	16.5	8.6	30,855	5.5	25.1	16.5	8.6
9	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	39,075	6.9	26.4	16.4	10.0	39,075	6.9	26.4	16.4	10.0
10	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	47,680	8.3	28.0	15.8	12.2	47,680	8.3	28.0	15.8	12.2
11	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	54,450	9.8	29.3	15.2	14.1	54,450	9.8	29.3	15.2	14.1
12 and above	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	60	3.7	27.8	15.2	12.6	60	3.7	27.8	15.2	12.6
Total (6)	115,295	3.4	21.8	15.6	6.2	195,140	6.8	27.1	16.0	11.1	310,435	4.9	25.1	15.8	9.3
First Language															
First language is known or believed to be other than English	24,545	4.0	21.6	14.0	7.7	17,320	4.7	25.2	13.5	11.7	41,865	4.3	23.1	13.8	9.3
First language is known or believed to be English	90,450	3.2	21.8	16.0	5.8	177,070	7.1	27.3	16.2	11.1	267,525	5.1	25.4	16.2	9.3
Total (6)	115,295	3.4	21.8	15.6	6.2	195,140	6.8	27.1	16.0	11.1	310,435	4.9	25.1	15.8	9.3
Special Educational Needs															
Statements of SEN	4,570	8.9	25.2	21.0	4.1	7,525	12.9	29.8	18.9	10.9	12,095	11.1	28.0	19.7	8.3
School Action Plus	16,060	6.8	23.3	16.9	6.4	34,445	17.6	31.7	16.7	15.1	50,505	11.7	29.0	16.7	12.3
School Action	22,160	5.5	21.9	14.8	7.1	40,965	11.1	27.1	15.0	12.1	63,125	8.1	25.3	14.9	10.4
No identified SEN	72,070	2.7	21.1	15.2	5.9	111,835	5.0	25.5	15.9	9.6	183,005	3.7	23.8	15.7	8.1
Total (6)	115,295	3.4	21.8	15.6	6.2	195,140	6.8	27.1	16.0	11.1	310,435	4.9	25.1	15.8	9.3

Source: School Census

(1) Includes middle schools as deemed.
 (2) Includes primary academies, including free schools.
 (3) Includes city technology colleges and secondary academies, including free schools.
 (4) See Technical Note 13 for further information on how absence and pupil characteristic data have been linked.
 (5) Persistent Absentees are defined as having an overall absence rate of around 15 per cent or more. This equates to 38 or more sessions of absence (authorised and unauthorised) across the two terms. See Technical Note 7.
 (6) The total number of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees expressed as a percentage of the total number of pupil enrolments with the same characteristic.
 (7) The number of sessions missed due to authorised/ unauthorised/ overall absence expressed as a percentage of the total number of possible sessions.
 (8) Includes pupil enrolments for whom characteristic data were unclassified or missing. Total rates may be higher than rates for each subgroup.

x - 1 or 2 pupils, or a percentage based on 1 or 2 pupils.
 Totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component parts because numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Table 5A
STATE-FUNDED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (1)(2)(3):
PUPIL ABSENCE BY ETHNIC GROUP (4)
Autumn Term 2011 and Spring Term 2012
England

	State-funded primary schools (1)(2)			State-funded secondary schools (1)(3)			State-funded primary and secondary schools (1)(2)(3)					
	Pupil enrolments in schools during autumn term 2010 and spring term 2011 (5)	Percentage of half days missed (6):			Pupil enrolments in schools during autumn term 2010 and spring term 2011 (5)	Percentage of half days missed (6):			Pupil enrolments in schools during autumn term 2010 and spring term 2011 (5)	Percentage of half days missed (6):		
Overall absence		Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence	Overall absence		Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence	Overall absence		Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence	
White	2,595,785	4.4	3.8	0.6	2,279,600	5.9	4.6	1.3	4,875,385	5.1	4.2	0.9
White British	2,419,330	4.2	3.7	0.5	2,161,525	5.9	4.6	1.2	4,580,855	5.0	4.1	0.9
Irish	10,165	4.8	4.0	0.8	9,710	6.4	4.9	1.4	19,875	5.6	4.5	1.1
Traveller of Irish heritage	3,550	20.1	13.8	6.3	1,190	24.1	13.3	10.7	4,740	21.1	13.6	7.5
Gypsy/ Roma	10,335	14.0	9.0	5.0	5,140	18.0	8.9	9.1	15,480	15.3	9.0	6.4
Any other White background	152,400	5.4	4.4	1.0	102,035	6.2	4.4	1.8	254,435	5.7	4.4	1.3
Mixed	164,360	4.8	3.9	0.9	112,130	6.1	4.6	1.6	276,485	5.4	4.2	1.2
White and Black Caribbean	47,260	5.2	4.0	1.2	37,920	7.2	5.1	2.1	85,180	6.1	4.5	1.6
White and Black African	19,985	4.5	3.7	0.9	12,365	5.5	4.2	1.3	32,350	4.9	3.9	1.1
White and Asian	37,055	4.6	3.9	0.7	23,720	5.4	4.3	1.2	60,775	4.9	4.0	0.9
Any other Mixed background	60,055	4.8	3.9	0.9	38,125	5.8	4.4	1.4	98,175	5.2	4.1	1.1
Asian	349,420	4.8	3.9	0.9	240,010	4.6	3.6	1.0	589,430	4.7	3.8	0.9
Indian	88,930	4.3	3.6	0.6	66,970	3.8	3.2	0.6	155,900	4.1	3.4	0.6
Pakistani	145,995	5.1	4.0	1.1	94,125	5.3	4.1	1.2	240,120	5.2	4.1	1.1
Bangladeshi	58,490	5.3	4.2	1.1	39,570	4.9	3.7	1.2	98,050	5.1	4.0	1.1
Any other Asian background	56,015	4.4	3.6	0.8	39,345	4.0	3.2	0.8	95,365	4.2	3.5	0.8
Black	186,510	3.6	2.7	0.8	135,400	4.0	3.0	1.0	321,905	3.7	2.8	0.9
Black Caribbean	46,025	4.4	3.3	1.2	39,350	5.2	3.8	1.4	85,375	4.8	3.5	1.3
Black African	117,130	3.1	2.5	0.6	80,950	3.3	2.5	0.8	198,080	3.2	2.5	0.7
Any other Black background	23,350	4.0	3.0	0.9	15,100	4.7	3.4	1.3	38,450	4.3	3.2	1.1
Chinese	12,265	3.3	2.9	0.5	10,160	2.4	2.1	0.4	22,425	2.9	2.5	0.4
Any other ethnic group	55,400	4.9	3.7	1.2	37,230	4.8	3.5	1.3	92,635	4.8	3.6	1.2
Minority Ethnic Pupils (7)	944,410	4.8	3.8	1.0	653,005	5.1	3.8	1.3	1,597,415	4.9	3.8	1.1
All pupils (8)	3,418,560	4.4	3.7	0.6	2,859,965	5.7	4.4	1.3	6,278,520	5.0	4.1	0.9

Source: School Census

(1) Includes middle schools as deemed.

(2) Includes primary academies, including free schools.

(3) Includes city technology colleges and secondary academies, including free schools.

(4) See Technical Note 13 for further information on how absence and pupil characteristic data have been linked.

(5) Includes pupils age 5 to 15 who were on roll for at least one session between 1 September and the end of the Spring term, even if they are no longer on the school roll, excluding boarders. Some pupils may be counted more than once (if they moved schools during the school year or are registered in more than one school). See Technical Notes 12 to 14.

(6) The number of sessions missed due to authorised/ unauthorised/ overall absence expressed as a percentage of the total number of possible sessions.

(7) Pupils who have been classified according to their ethnic group, excluding White British.

(8) Includes pupil enrolments for whom information on ethnic group was unclassified or missing.

Totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component parts because numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Table 5B
STATE-FUNDED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (1)(2)(3)
PUPIL ABSENCE BY ETHNIC GROUP (4): PERSISTENT ABSENTEES (5)
Autumn Term 2011 and Spring Term 2012
England

	State-funded primary schools (1)(2)					State-funded secondary schools (1)(3)					State-funded primary and secondary schools (1)(2)(3)				
	Pupil enrolments in schools during autumn term 2010 and spring term 2011 (5)	Percentage of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees (6)	Percentage of half days missed by persistent absentees (7):			Pupil enrolments in schools during autumn term 2010 and spring term 2011 (5)	Percentage of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees (6)	Percentage of half days missed by persistent absentees (7):			Pupil enrolments in schools during autumn term 2010 and spring term 2011 (5)	Percentage of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees (6)	Percentage of half days missed by persistent absentees (7):		
			Overall absence	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence			Overall absence	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence			Overall absence	Authorised absence	Unauthorised absence
White	85,675	3.3	21.9	16.2	5.7	167,470	7.3	27.3	16.2	11.2	253,145	5.2	25.5	16.2	9.3
White British	73,065	3.0	21.3	16.1	5.3	156,495	7.2	27.3	16.3	11.0	229,560	5.0	25.4	16.2	9.1
Irish	455	4.5	24.1	16.1	8.0	810	8.4	27.6	15.8	11.7	1,265	6.4	26.4	15.9	10.4
Traveller of Irish heritage	1,475	41.6	35.1	23.9	11.2	600	50.3	38.8	20.4	18.3	2,075	43.8	36.2	22.9	13.3
Gypsy/ Roma	3,065	29.7	28.3	17.5	10.9	2,010	39.1	32.3	14.4	17.9	5,080	32.8	29.9	16.2	13.7
Any other White background	7,610	5.0	22.1	15.1	7.0	7,550	7.4	26.2	13.6	12.6	15,160	6.0	24.1	14.4	9.8
Mixed	7,335	4.5	21.8	14.3	7.5	8,825	7.9	27.5	15.1	12.4	16,160	5.8	24.9	14.8	10.2
White and Black Caribbean	2,615	5.5	21.9	13.7	8.1	3,995	10.5	28.3	14.9	13.4	6,615	7.8	25.7	14.4	11.3
White and Black African	795	4.0	22.4	14.7	7.6	745	6.0	27.0	15.5	11.5	1,540	4.8	24.6	15.1	9.5
White and Asian	1,355	3.7	21.9	15.0	6.9	1,490	6.3	26.4	15.3	11.1	2,845	4.7	24.2	15.2	9.1
Any other Mixed background	2,570	4.3	21.6	14.4	7.3	2,595	6.8	27.1	15.3	11.7	5,165	5.3	24.3	14.8	9.5
Asian	14,260	4.1	20.7	13.8	6.9	9,575	4.0	23.8	14.6	9.2	23,835	4.0	22.0	14.1	7.8
Indian	2,730	3.1	20.1	14.4	5.7	1,695	2.5	23.3	15.9	7.3	4,425	2.8	21.3	15.0	6.3
Pakistani	6,805	4.7	20.9	13.4	7.5	4,785	5.1	23.7	14.5	9.2	11,590	4.8	22.1	13.8	8.2
Bangladeshi	2,885	4.9	20.6	13.6	6.9	1,825	4.6	24.2	13.9	10.3	4,710	4.8	22.0	13.7	8.2
Any other Asian background	1,835	3.3	21.3	14.6	6.7	1,270	3.2	24.6	14.7	10.0	3,105	3.3	22.6	14.6	8.0
Black	4,495	2.4	22.6	13.8	8.9	4,935	3.6	26.2	14.8	11.3	9,430	2.9	24.5	14.3	10.2
Black Caribbean	1,860	4.0	22.0	13.0	9.0	2,410	6.1	26.3	15.0	11.3	4,270	5.0	24.4	14.1	10.3
Black African	1,900	1.6	23.2	14.5	8.7	1,745	2.2	25.9	14.8	11.1	3,645	1.8	24.5	14.7	9.8
Any other Black background	735	3.1	22.9	13.8	9.0	780	5.2	26.4	14.4	11.9	1,515	3.9	24.7	14.1	10.5
Chinese	260	2.1	20.6	15.4	5.2	135	1.3	24.5	17.0	7.5	395	1.8	22.0	16.0	6.0
Any other ethnic group	2,165	3.9	22.4	13.9	8.5	1,620	4.4	25.8	13.5	12.3	3,785	4.1	23.9	13.7	10.2
Minority Ethnic Pupils (8)	41,125	4.4	22.5	14.8	7.8	36,060	5.5	26.4	14.6	11.8	77,185	4.8	24.3	14.7	9.6
All pupils (9)	115,295	3.4	21.8	15.6	6.2	195,140	6.8	27.1	16.0	11.1	310,435	4.9	25.1	15.8	9.3

Source: School Census

- (1) Includes middle schools as deemed.
(2) Includes primary academies, including free schools.
(3) Includes city technology colleges and secondary academies, including free schools.
(4) See Technical Note 13 for further information on how absence and pupil characteristic data have been linked.
(5) Persistent Absentees are defined as having an overall absence rate of around **5 per cent** or more. This equates to 38 or more sessions of absence (authorised and unauthorised) across the two terms. See Technical Note 7.
(6) The total number of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees expressed as a percentage of the total number of pupil enrolments with the same characteristic.
(7) The number of sessions missed due to authorised/ unauthorised/ overall absence expressed as a percentage of the total number of possible sessions.
(8) Pupils who have been classified according to their ethnic group, excluding White British.
(9) Includes pupil enrolments for whom information on ethnic group was unclassified or missing.

Totals may not appear to equal the sum of the component parts because numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5.