

## Official Statistics Release

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## **Introduction**

This official statistics release reports on the outcomes of school inspections that were conducted between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014. This release also includes the most recent inspection outcomes for all schools that have been inspected, as at 31 August 2014. This provides a picture of the 'state of the nation's schools' as indicated by inspection outcomes.

The purpose of these official statistics is to disseminate the data gathered about schools through Ofsted's role as an inspectorate. They provide information about how the judgements of schools have changed over time and vary across different phases of education and different parts of the country.

Schools were inspected in accordance with sections 5 or 8 of the Education Act 2005. The inspection framework was most recently revised on 1 September 2012. Under this framework, schools are judged as outstanding, good, 'requires improvement' or inadequate (either having serious weaknesses or requiring special measures). For further information regarding the current framework and recent changes please refer to the methodology section.

Throughout this release, the term 'schools' is used generically to cover all maintained schools, state-funded independent schools (including academies and free schools) and certain non-maintained special schools in England that Ofsted is required to inspect under section 5. The full list of schools subject to inspection under section 5 is found in the methodology section.

## **Key findings**

- Overall, 63% of schools inspected between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 were judged good or outstanding. This is a slight decline from the previous academic year, where 64% were good or outstanding.
- On 31 August 2014 the proportion of schools judged good or outstanding at their most recent inspection reached 81%. This is the highest proportion of good or outstanding school there has ever been.

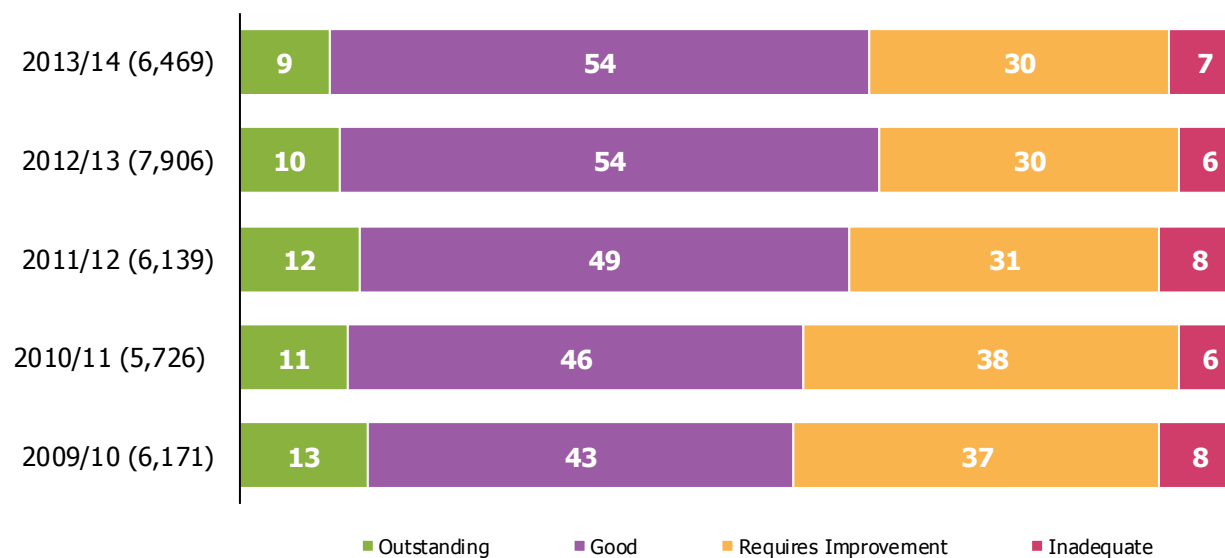
## **Inspections between 1 September and 31 August 2014**

- These statistics summarise the judgements made on 6,469 section 5 inspections conducted between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 where the inspection report was published by 6 October 2014.<sup>1</sup>
- Overall, 63% of schools inspected in the period were judged good or outstanding. This compares with 64% in 2012/13.
- The proportion of schools found inadequate this year increased by one percentage point, to 7%.
- This academic year, there were 1,690 inspections of schools which were previously judged as satisfactory and 711 inspections of schools which were previously judged as 'requires improvement'. Of these 'requires improvement' schools, 549 were eligible for a programme of support because their leadership and management grade was also less than good. Sixty seven per cent saw an improvement to good or outstanding. This compares with 50% of those previously satisfactory or requires improvement schools which improved and did not have this support.

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<sup>1</sup> On 6 October 2014, three reports were withheld from publication. These are excluded from this report.

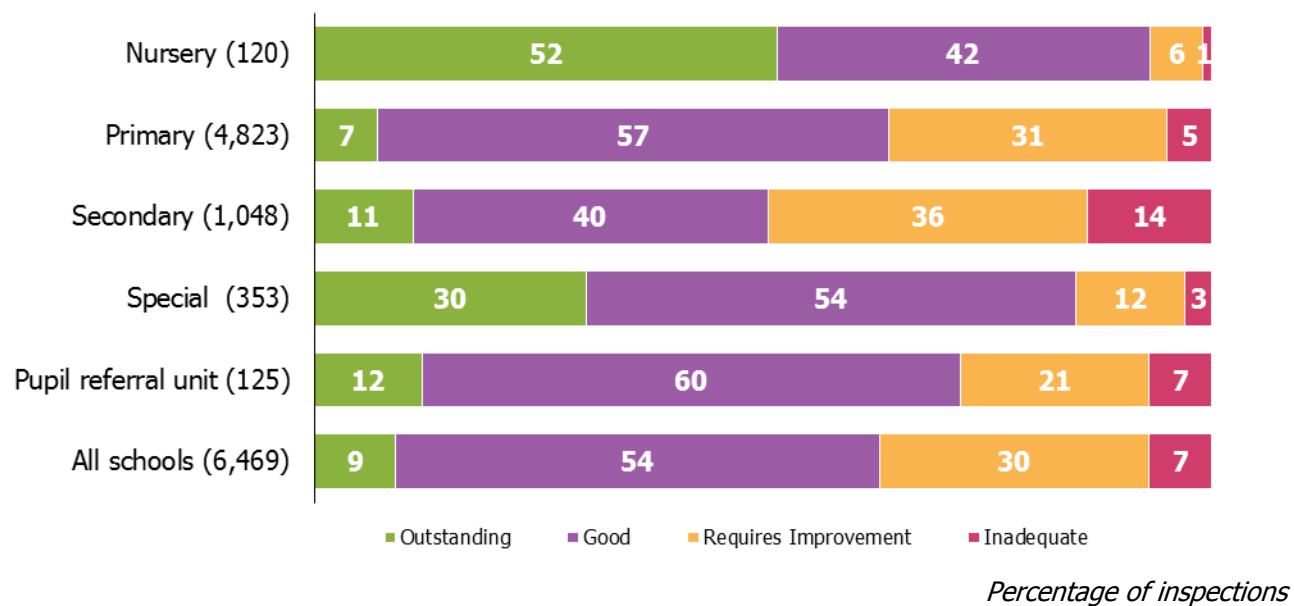
**Chart 1: Overall effectiveness of schools inspected between 1 September 2009 and 31 August 2014 (final)** <sup>1 2 3 4 5</sup>



*Percentage of inspections*

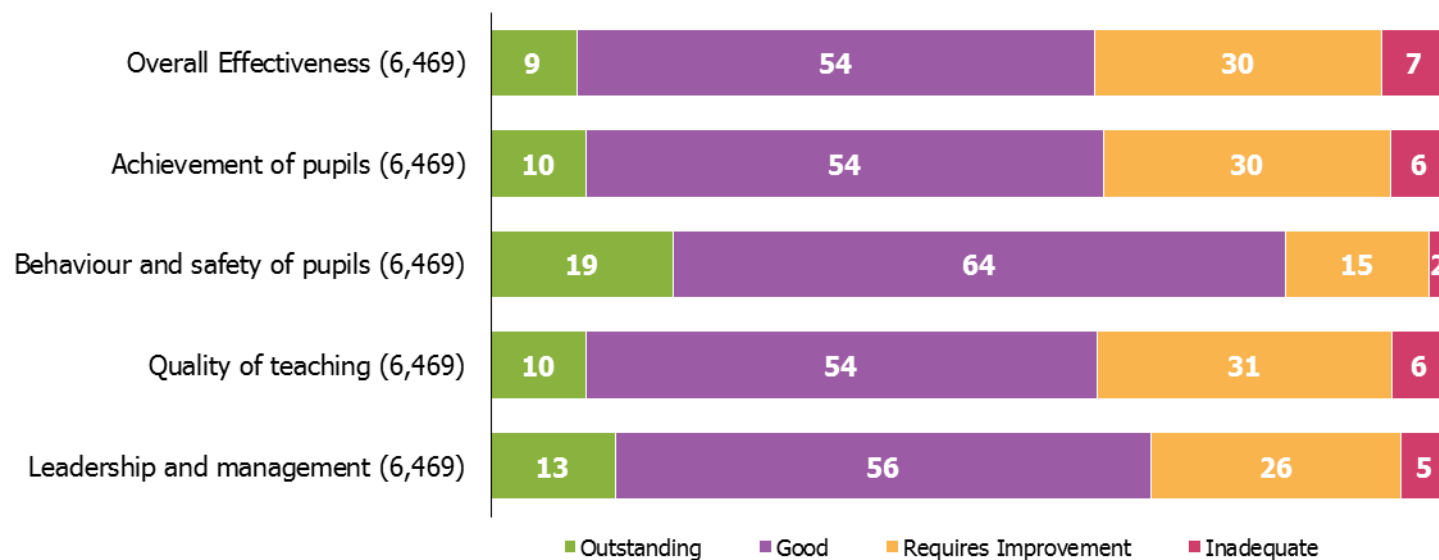
1. Percentages in the chart are rounded and may not add to 100.
2. These statistics exclude 3 schools inspected during the academic year 2013/14, but where the inspection report had not been published by 6 October 2014.
3. Data based on Edubase as at 2 October 2014.
4. The section 5 inspection framework was introduced on 1 September 2005. Subsequently revised frameworks have been introduced on 1 September 2009, 1 January 2012 and 1 September 2012.
5. Prior to 1 September 2012 schools graded 3 were judged as satisfactory. Since 1 September 2012 they are judged as 'requires improvement'.

**Chart 2: Overall effectiveness of schools inspected between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014, by phase (final)**<sup>1 2 3</sup>



1. Percentages in the chart are rounded and may not add to 100. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages should be treated with caution.
2. Data based on Edubase as at 2 October 2014.
3. These statistics exclude 3 schools inspected during the academic year, but where the inspection report had not been published by 6 October 2014.

**Chart 3: Key inspection judgements for schools inspected between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 (final)** <sup>1</sup>  
2 3



*Percentage of inspections*

1. Percentages in the chart are rounded and may not add to 100.

2. Data based on Edubase as at 2 October 2014.

3. These statistics exclude 3 schools inspected during the academic year, but where the inspection report had not been published by 6 October 2014.

## **Schools at their most recent inspection**

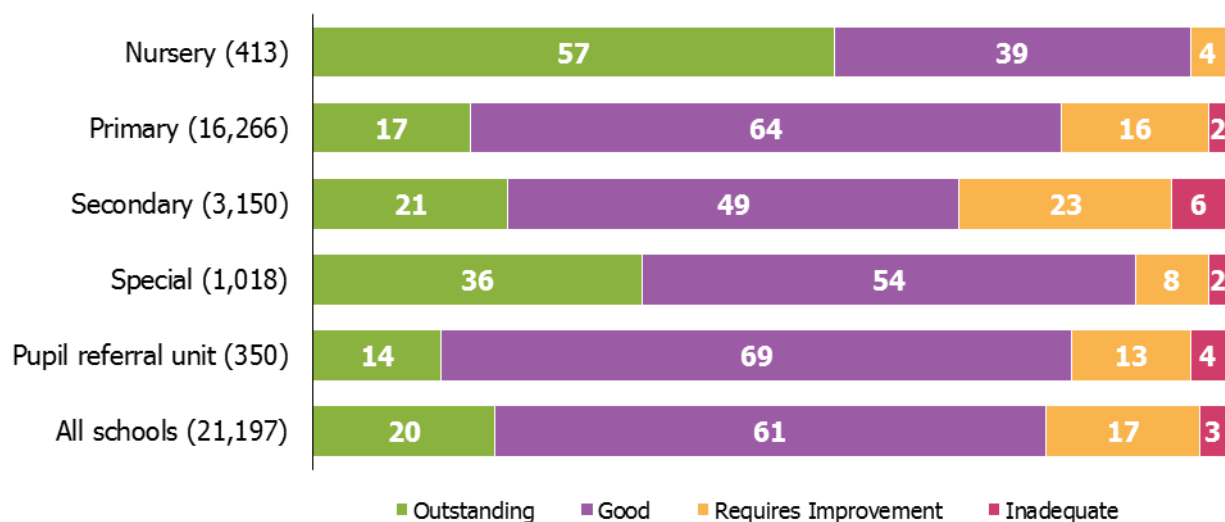
- On 31 August 2014 the proportion of schools judged good or outstanding at their most recent inspection reached 81% which continues the steady upward trend from 70% in August 2012 and 78% at 31 August 2013.
- Primary schools have shown improvement, from 78% good or outstanding last year, to 82% good or outstanding by August 2014. Secondary schools however, have remained the same, at 71%.
- By 31 August 2014, Ofsted had conducted 76 inspections of free schools. Eighteen of these were judged outstanding, 35 good, 19 judged as 'requires improvement' and four were judged inadequate.
- The proportion of primary academies<sup>2</sup> that were judged good or outstanding at their most recent inspection is 85%, compared with 81% for local authority maintained primary schools. For secondary academies the proportion of good or better schools is 77%, compared with 63% for local authority maintained secondary schools.
- All regions have seen improvements since last year. The East of England and the West Midlands have seen the largest increase in the proportion of schools judged good or better (5 percentage points each).
- In Yorkshire and the Humber, just 75% of schools had a most recent overall effectiveness judgement of good or outstanding. This region also has the highest proportion of schools that require improvement. The West Midlands has the highest proportion of inadequate schools, at 4%.

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<sup>2</sup> Include converter and sponsor-led academies, free schools, university technical colleges and studio schools.



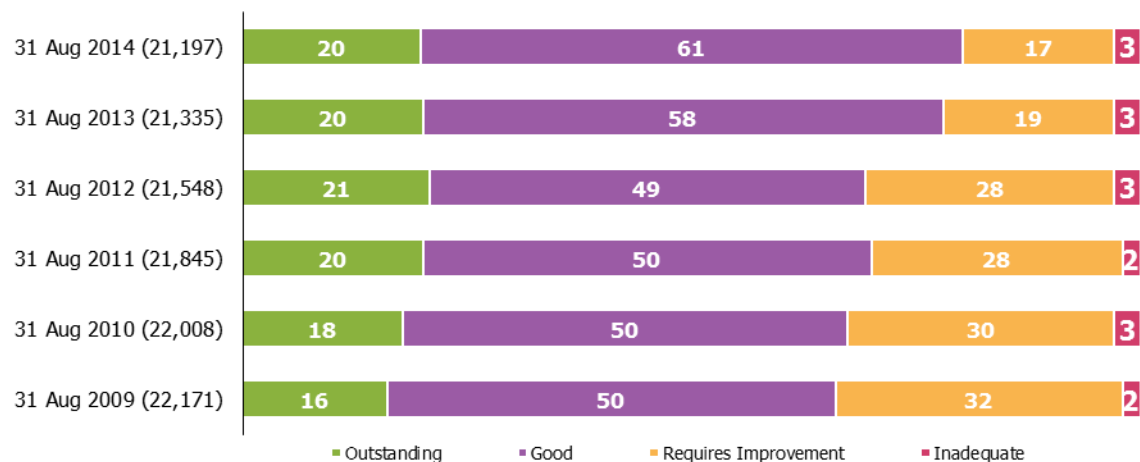
**Chart 4: Most recent overall effectiveness of schools as at 31 August 2014 (final)** <sup>1 2 3 4 5 6</sup>



*Percentage of schools*

1. Percentages in the chart are rounded and may not add to 100.
2. Data based on Edubase as at 3 September 2014.
3. Data include the most recent overall effectiveness judgements for predecessor schools of academy converters that have not been inspected since they opened as an academy.
4. Prior to 1 September 2012 schools graded 3 were judged as 'satisfactory'. Since 1 September 2012 they are judged as 'requires improvement'.
5. The section 5 inspection framework was introduced on 1 September 2005. Subsequently revised frameworks have been introduced on 1 September 2009, 1 January 2012 and 1 September 2012. Within these periods, frameworks have been refined to reflect new statutory requirements and/or current priorities.
6. These statistics exclude 3 schools inspected during the academic year 2013/14, but where the inspection report had not been published by 6 October 2014. For these schools the previous inspection is included.

**Chart 5: Most recent overall effectiveness of schools as at 31 August 2014 and at the end of previous academic years (final)** <sup>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</sup>



*Percentage of schools*

1. Percentages in the chart are rounded and may not add to 100.
2. Data from previous academic years based on Edubase at the end of each academic year (or as close as possible). Data from this academic year based on Edubase as at 3 September 2014.
3. Data include the most recent overall effectiveness judgements for predecessor schools of academy converters that have not been inspected since they opened as an academy.
4. Prior to 1 September 2012 schools graded 3 were judged as satisfactory. Since 1 September 2012 they are judged as 'requires improvement'.
5. The section 5 inspection framework was introduced on 1 September 2005. Subsequently revised frameworks have been introduced on 1 September 2009, 1 January 2012 and 1 September 2012. Within these periods, frameworks have been refined to reflect new statutory requirements and/or current priorities.
6. Inspections include pilot inspection outcomes occurring in the 2010/11 academic year.
7. These statistics exclude 3 schools inspected during the academic year 2013/14, but where the inspection report had not been published by 6 October 2014. For these schools the previous inspection is included.

**Table 1: Number of school inspections between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014, by inspection type (final) <sup>1</sup>**  
2 3 4 5

Number of schools						
<b>Inspection activity (section 5)</b>	<b>All phases</b>	<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Primary</b>	<b>Secondary</b>	<b>Special</b>	<b>Pupil referral unit</b>
Section 5 inspection	5,589	118	4,176	845	327	123
Section 8 deemed section 5 inspection	883	2	650	203	26	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,472</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>4,826</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>Inspection activity (section 8)</b>	<b>All phases</b>	<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Primary</b>	<b>Secondary</b>	<b>Special</b>	<b>Pupil referral unit</b>
Special measures monitoring inspection	1,041	9	673	288	43	28
Notice to improve monitoring inspection	0	0	0	0	0	0
Serious weaknesses monitoring inspection	259	0	134	120	3	2
Requires Improvement monitoring inspection	1,810	8	1,419	312	49	22
Section 8 No formal designation visit	65	1	27	32	2	3
Section 8 Due to complaint	14	0	7	6	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,189</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2,260</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>55</b>

*Source: Ofsted inspections*

1. Each phase of education includes different types of establishment; a more comprehensive list can be found in the glossary section of the commentary accompanying this release.
2. These statistics include 3 primary schools inspected during the academic year but where the inspection report had not been published by 6 October 2014.
3. Data based on Edubase as at 2 October 2014.
4. Notice to improve monitoring inspections have been discontinued. Please refer to the 'Key findings' methodology section for more information.
5. Ofsted may inspect a school under no formal designation procedures where information it holds or receives causes HMCI sufficient concern.

**Table 2: School inspection outcomes between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 (final) <sup>1 2 3 4 5</sup>**

	Total number inspected <sup>2 3</sup>	Number of inspections				Percentage of inspections			
		Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate
Overall Effectiveness	<b>6,469</b>	613	3,464	1,970	422	9	54	30	7
Achievement of pupils at the school	<b>6,469</b>	618	3,482	1,971	398	10	54	30	6
Behaviour and safety of pupils	<b>6,469</b>	1,227	4,122	988	132	19	64	15	2
Quality of teaching	<b>6,469</b>	616	3,516	1,974	363	10	54	31	6
Leadership and management	<b>6,469</b>	814	3,652	1,681	322	13	56	26	5
Overall effectiveness of the residential or boarding provision	<b>26</b>	7	16	2	1	27	62	8	4
Outcomes for residential or boarding pupils	<b>25</b>	13	12	0	0	52	48	0	0
The quality of residential or boarding provision and care	<b>26</b>	11	13	2	0	42	50	8	0
Residential and boarding pupils' safety	<b>26</b>	6	17	0	3	23	65	0	12
Leadership and management of the residential or boarding provision	<b>26</b>	7	16	2	1	27	62	8	4

*Source: Ofsted inspections*

1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100.
2. These data include all types of establishment subject to inspection under section 5, for example local authority maintained schools, academy converters and sponsor-led academies.
3. These statistics exclude 3 schools inspected during the academic year, but where the inspection report had not been published by 6 October 2014.
4. Data based on Edubase as at 2 October 2014.
5. One school did not receive a judgement for 'outcomes for residential or boarding pupils' because there were no boarders accommodated at the school.

**Table 3: Selected inspection judgements of schools at their most recent inspection up to at 31 August 2014 (final) <sup>1</sup>**  
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Outcome	Number of schools						Percentage of schools						
	All phases	Nursery	Primary	Secondary	Special	Pupil referral unit	All phases	Nursery	Primary	Secondary	Special	Pupil referral unit	
Overall effectiveness <sup>6</sup>	Outstanding	4,146	236	2,818	676	366	50	20	57	17	21	36	14
	Good	12,948	160	10,444	1,557	546	241	61	39	64	49	54	69
	Requires improvement <sup>5</sup>	3,529	15	2,670		86	44	17	4	16	23	8	13
	Inadequate	574	2	334	203	20	15	3	0	2	6	2	4
	<b>Total</b>	21,197	413	16,266	3,150	1,018	350	100	100	100	100	100	100
Achievement of pupils <sup>6 7</sup>	Outstanding	2,704	232	1,630	476	330	36	14	56	11	16	33	10
	Good	12,989	165	10,438	1,547	585	254	66	40	69	53	58	73
	Requires Improvement <sup>5</sup>	3,530	15	2,677	710	82	46	18	4	18	24	8	13
	Inadequate	539	1	314	194	17	13	3	0	2	7	2	4
	<b>Total</b>	19,762	413	15,059	2,927	1,014	349	100	100	100	100	100	100
How well do learners achieve? <sup>6 7 8</sup>	Outstanding	1,365	0	1,156	204	4	1	95	0	96	91	100	100
	Good	70	0	51	19	0	0	5	0	4	9	0	0
	Satisfactory <sup>5</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Inadequate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	1,435	0	1,207	223	4	1	100	0	100	100	100	100
Aggregate achievement <sup>6 7 8</sup>	Outstanding	4,069	232	2,786	680	334	37	19	56	17	22	33	11
	Good	13,059	165	10,489	1,566	585	254	62	40	64	50	57	73
	Requires Improvement <sup>5</sup>	3,530	15	2,677	710	82	46	17	4	16	23	8	13
	Inadequate	539	1	314	194	17	13	3	0	2	6	2	4
	<b>Total</b>	21,197	413	16,266	3,150	1,018	350	100	100	100	100	100	100

Outcome	Number of schools						Percentage of schools						
	All phases	Nursery	Primary	Secondary	Special	Pupil referral unit	All phases	Nursery	Primary	Secondary	Special	Pupil referral unit	
Quality of teaching <sup>6</sup>	<i>Outstanding</i>	3,614	235	2,480	521	335	43	17	57	15	17	33	12
	<i>Good</i>	13,550	162	10,817	1,741	583	247	64	39	67	55	57	71
	<i>Requires Improvement</i> <sup>5</sup>	3,538	15	2,669	722	85	47	17	4	16	23	8	13
	<i>Inadequate</i>	495	1	300	166	15	13	2	0	2	5	1	4
	<b>Total</b>	21,197	413	16,266	3,150	1,018	350	100	100	100	100	100	100
Behaviour and safety of pupils <sup>6,9</sup>	<i>Outstanding</i>	7,053	311	5,209	911	539	83	33	75	32	29	53	24
	<i>Good</i>	12,512	94	10,033	1,751	413	221	59	23	62	56	41	63
	<i>Requires Improvement</i> <sup>5</sup>	1,450	7	943	414	51	35	7	2	6	13	5	10
	<i>Inadequate</i>	173	1	74	72	15	11	1	0	0	2	1	3
	<b>Total</b>	21,188	413	16,259	3,148	1,018	350	100	100	100	100	100	100
Leadership and management <sup>6</sup>	<i>Outstanding</i>	4,842	237	3,294	862	384	65	23	57	20	27	38	19
	<i>Good</i>	12,889	159	10,388	1,565	545	232	61	38	64	50	54	66
	<i>Requires Improvement</i> <sup>5</sup>	3,027	15	2,324	576	71	41	14	4	14	18	7	12
	<i>Inadequate</i>	439	2	260	147	18	12	2	0	2	5	2	3
	<b>Total</b>	21,197	413	16,266	3,150	1,018	350	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Ofsted inspections

1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100.
2. These statistics exclude 3 primary schools inspected during the academic year 2013/14 but where the inspection report had not been published by 6 October 2014.
3. Data based on Edubase as at 3 September 2014.
4. Data include the most recent judgements for predecessor schools of academy converters that have not yet been inspected since they opened as an academy. For these schools the previous inspection is included.
5. Prior to 1 September 2012 schools graded 3 were judged as satisfactory. Since 1 September 2012 they are judged as 'requires improvement'.
6. Inspections include pilot inspection outcomes occurring in the 2010/11 academic year.
7. Pupils' achievement and the extent to which they enjoy their learning judgement was introduced on 1 September 2009. Prior to this a different judgement, 'How well do learners achieve?', was made. While these judgements are not the same, they have been aggregated in the table to present the state of the nation.
8. As a result of a proportionate inspection process, inspections of weaker schools are brought forward. These weaker schools will no longer have the 2005 achievement judgement and will instead have the 2009 judgement: 'Pupils' achievement and the extent to which they enjoy their learning'. 'How well do learners achieve?' judgement is therefore more positive.
9. In May and June of the 2006/07 academic year Ofsted completed a number of Phase 2 Reduced Tariff inspections which had no comparable behaviour judgement.

**Table 4: Number of schools placed into, removed from, and closing while in a category of concern between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 (final) <sup>1 2 3 4</sup>**

**i. Schools placed in, removed from and closing while in special measures between 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014**

Phase of Education	Total subject to special measures at 1 September 2013 <sup>2</sup>	Number made subject to special measures <sup>3</sup>	Number removed from special measures	Number closed while subject to special measures	Total subject to special measures at 31 August 2014
Nursery	3	1	2	0	2
Primary	332	194	107	160	259
Secondary	91	106	23	27	147
Special	20	12	12	2	18
Pupil Referral Unit	10	7	2	3	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>438</b>

**ii. Schools placed in, removed from and closing while having serious weaknesses between 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014**

Phase of Education	Total having serious weaknesses at 1 September 2013 <sup>2</sup>	Number identified with serious weaknesses	Number removed from serious weaknesses <sup>4</sup>	Number closed while having serious weaknesses	Total having serious weaknesses at 31 August 2014
Nursery	0	0	0	0	0
Primary	70	63	30	28	75
Secondary	53	35	25	7	56
Special	2	0	0	0	2
Pupil Referral Unit	1	2	0	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>136</b>

*Source: Ofsted inspections*

1. These statistics exclude schools inspected during the academic year, but where the inspection report had not been published by 6 October 2014.

2. Information on closed schools based on Edubase at 3 September 2014.

3. One school previously in special measures was found to require special measures after reinspection.

4. Five schools previously having serious weaknesses remained in a category after reinspection. Four were found to require special measures (one of which closed) and one school remained with serious weaknesses.

**Table 5: Most recent overall effectiveness of schools as at 31 August 2014 by region (final) <sup>1 2 3</sup>**

	Total number inspected <sup>4</sup>	Number of schools				Percentage of schools			
		Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement <sup>5</sup>	Inadequate	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement <sup>5</sup>	Inadequate
<b>ENGLAND</b>	<b>21,197</b>	<b>4,146</b>	<b>12,948</b>	<b>3,529</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>NORTH EAST</b>	1,154	250	745	140	19	22	65	12	2
<b>NORTH WEST</b>	3,149	692	1,960	411	86	22	62	13	3
<b>YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER</b>	2,165	340	1,285	468	72	16	59	22	3
<b>EAST MIDLANDS</b>	1,985	328	1,245	350	62	17	63	18	3
<b>WEST MIDLANDS</b>	2,312	406	1,424	401	81	18	62	17	4
<b>EAST OF ENGLAND</b>	2,478	424	1,483	495	76	17	60	20	3
<b>LONDON</b>	2,435	677	1,402	319	37	28	58	13	2
<b>SOUTH EAST</b>	3,266	617	1,939	602	108	19	59	18	3
<b>SOUTH WEST</b>	2,253	412	1,465	343	33	18	65	15	1

*Source: Ofsted inspections*

1. Percentages are rounded and may not add to 100.

2. Data based on Edubase as at 3 September 2014.

3. Data includes the most recent judgements for predecessor schools of academy converters that have not yet been inspected since they opened as an academy converter.

4. These statistics exclude 3 schools inspected during the academic year 2013/14 but where the inspection report had not been published by 6 October 2014. For these schools the previous inspection is included.

5. Prior to 1 September 2012 schools graded 3 were judged as satisfactory. Since 1 September 2012 they are judged as 'requires improvement'.



## **Methodology**

1. Data in this release are from inspections undertaken between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2014 or most recent inspections of open schools at 31 August 2014 under sections 5 and 8 of the Education Act 2005 where the inspection report was published by 6 October 2014. Under exceptional circumstances Ofsted may withhold publication of an inspection report. On 6 October 2014, three reports were withheld. These are excluded from this report.
2. Not all schools are inspected with equal regularity. Ofsted must inspect all schools to which section 5 of the Education Act 2005 (as amended) applies within prescribed intervals. However, Ofsted takes a proportionate approach to inspection. Some schools are selected for inspection because they are approaching the deadline for re-inspection as a result of their previous inspection outcomes. Other schools are selected on the basis of risk assessment. Those schools that Ofsted judge would benefit most from inspection are selected for more frequent inspection.
3. The impact of risk assessment is that a smaller proportion of previously good schools are inspected than the proportion of good schools nationally. Certain types of school previously judged to be outstanding are exempt from inspection under regulations and will not be inspected unless Ofsted has concerns about them; for example, concerns identified through risk assessment, a complaint, a serious safeguarding incident, or breakdown in discipline and leadership and management. Therefore, school inspections in the year are not representative of schools as a whole. More information about the selection of schools is found in the 'frequency of inspection' section of the glossary.
4. Ofsted reports on various phases of education which include different types of establishment:
  - Nursery schools include local authority maintained nursery schools and miscellaneous nursery schools.
  - Primary schools include converter academies, sponsor-led academies, free schools and local authority maintained primary schools. These include some middle schools which have been deemed to be primary schools because the majority of students are primary-age children.
  - Secondary schools include converter academies, sponsor-led academies, free schools, studio schools, city technology colleges, university technical colleges and local authority maintained secondary schools. These include some middle schools which have been deemed

to be secondary schools because the majority of students are secondary-age children. This category also includes all-through schools.

- Special schools include converter academies, sponsor-led academies and local authority maintained special schools. It also includes non-maintained special schools inspected under section 5 of the Education Act 2005;
  - Pupil referral units include alternative provision academies (both converter and sponsor-led) and local authority maintained pupil referral units.
5. The release contains key judgements and full details of published inspection outcomes which can be found in an underlying dataset in csv (comma separated value) and Microsoft Excel formats.
  6. From 1 September 2012 inspection events and their outcomes for maintained schools are reported under a revised framework in accordance with section 5 and 8 of the Education Act 2005 (as amended). Further information on the framework can be found in the glossary and can be read in full on the Ofsted website:  
[www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120100](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120100)
  7. Information about the previous inspection frameworks and how Ofsted inspects maintained schools can be found on the Ofsted website at:  
[www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/maintained-schools-inspection-documents-archive](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/maintained-schools-inspection-documents-archive)
  8. If an inspection report is not published by 6 October 2014 then the previous inspection will be reported as a school's most recent inspection.
  9. Revisions are published in line with Ofsted's revisions policy for official statistics. For more information about the policy please visit the Ofsted website:  
[www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/20110014](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/20110014)
  10. Early years provision within state funded schools may require separate registration with Ofsted. Where this provision is not registered it will be inspected as part of the section 5 inspection. Early years provision that is registered with Ofsted will be subject to an Ofsted early years inspection. For information on registered early year provision inspections please refer to the official statistics for early years and childcare.  
[www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/20110015](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/20110015)

11. The welfare provision for boarding and residential special schools is inspected at the same time as the section 5 inspection, where possible. Inspections of this type are referred to as integrated inspections. The evaluation schedule for the inspection of boarding and residential provision in schools can be found at:  
[www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/110096](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/110096)
12. Schools inspected after January 2012 no longer have the old achievement judgement: 'How well do learners achieve?'; instead they have the new judgement: 'Achievement of pupils at the school'. Weaker schools are inspected more regularly and so are more likely to have the new inspection judgement. This means that good and better schools are overrepresented under the old achievement judgement, and weaker schools are slightly overrepresented under the new judgement.
13. The programme of grade 3 monitoring inspections (schools judged as satisfactory) came to a conclusion at the end of the academic year 2011/12. All schools which were judged as satisfactory before September 2012 are due to be re-inspected under section 5 by the end of the academic year 2013/14, with some exceptions.
14. The programme of academy monitoring inspections was also concluded at the end of academic year 2011/12. This monitoring programme applied to sponsor-led academies which opened before 1 September 2011.
15. For the purposes of these aggregated statistics, where an academy converter school has not been inspected, the inspection judgements of the predecessor school are included. It is important to recognise that the academy and the predecessor school are different legal entities.
16. Sponsor-led academies open as new schools and are not linked to any previous schools. Therefore any sponsor-led academies that have not yet had an inspection will not be reported on in these statistics.
17. Warning notice data are added for any maintained school receiving a [warning notice from a local authority](#)<sup>3</sup> and for any academy receiving a [warning notice from the Department for Education](#)<sup>4</sup>.
18. Data in this release will be used to update Ofsted's [DataView tool](#)<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> For further details, see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-causing-concern--2>

<sup>4</sup> For further details, see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/list-of-letters-to-academy-trusts-about-poor-performance>

## **Glossary and further information**

### **Section 5 Inspection**

From 1 January 2012 inspections of maintained schools have taken place under a new framework, in accordance with sections 5 and 8 of the Education Act 2005 (as amended). This framework was revised on 1 September 2012 and under the revised framework, schools can be judged as outstanding, good, 'requires improvement' or inadequate.

The schools subject to section 5 inspection are:

- community, foundation and voluntary schools
- community and foundation special schools
- pupil referral units
- maintained nursery schools
- academies<sup>6</sup>
- city technology colleges
- city technology colleges for the technology of the arts
- certain non-maintained special schools approved by the Secretary of State under section 342 of the Education Act 1996.

Under section 5 Ofsted is required to report on the quality of the education provided in the school and must, in particular, cover:

- the achievement of pupils at the school
- the quality of teaching in the school
- the behaviour and safety of pupils at the school
- the quality of leadership in, and management of, the school.

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<sup>5</sup> See <http://dataview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

<sup>6</sup> This includes the following academy family schools: sponsor-led academies, academy converter schools, academy special converter schools, academy alternative provision, free schools, special free schools, university technical colleges, and studio schools.

In reporting, inspectors must also consider:

- the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils at the school
- the extent to which the education provided by the school meets the needs of the range of pupils at the school, and in particular the needs of disabled pupils<sup>7</sup> and those who have special educational needs.

In September 2012 the inspection framework for schools was revised, with the following key changes:

- schools cannot be judged as outstanding for overall effectiveness unless they have outstanding teaching
- an acceptable standard of education is defined as a good standard of education
- a school that is not yet good, but that is not judged inadequate, is a school judged as 'requires improvement'
- a school that is inadequate overall and that requires significant improvement, but where leadership and management are not inadequate, is a school with serious weaknesses
- a school that is inadequate overall, and where leadership and management are also inadequate, is a school requiring special measures

Since September 2012 there are two categories of schools causing concern:

**1. Serious weaknesses<sup>8</sup>** – where one or more of the key areas are 'inadequate' and/or there are serious weaknesses in the provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Normally, however, leaders, managers and governors are judged to be capable of securing improvement (this means that leadership and management are normally judged as 'requires improvement' or better). Prior to September 2012, schools in this category were given a 'notice to improve'. However, all schools which were previously in this category have since been re-inspected under the current framework or closed, so no more schools remain with notice to improve.

**2. Special measures<sup>9</sup>** – where a school is failing to give its pupils an acceptable standard of education, and the leaders, managers or governors are not demonstrating the capacity to secure the necessary improvement in the school.

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7 For the purposes of the Equality Act 2010

8 Under section 44(2) of the Education Act 2005 (as amended), a school judged to have serious weaknesses requires significant improvement because it is performing significantly less well than it might in all the circumstances reasonably be expected to perform. Prior to September 2012 schools in this category were given a notice to improve.

9 Under section 44(1) of the Education Act 2005 (as amended).

## Frequency of Inspection

The frequency of school inspections depends on the outcomes and overall effectiveness judgement of the previous inspection.

**Outstanding:** regulations provide for certain types of outstanding schools to be exempt from routine inspection under section 5. However, Ofsted may decide to inspect exempt schools if it has concerns about them.

**Good:** a school judged to be good at its last inspection will be inspected within five academic years from the end of the academic year in which it was last inspected under section 5, although it may be inspected earlier. Both good and outstanding schools are subject to a risk assessment process<sup>10</sup>.

**Requires Improvement:** schools that are judged as 'requires improvement' will be re-inspected within a period of two years. Ofsted conducts a range of support and challenge activities in these schools. Those 'requires improvement' schools where leadership and management is also judged as 'requires improvement' may receive up to three monitoring inspections under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 until they are re-inspected under section 5.

**Inadequate:** inadequate schools will normally be inspected under section 5 between 18 and 24 months of their last section 5 inspection. They will also receive monitoring inspections under section 8 of the Education Act.

## Section 8 inspection

Under section 8(2) of the Education Act 2005, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector (HMCI) has the discretionary power to inspect any school in England in circumstances where he is not required to do so by section 5 of the Act<sup>11</sup>. A section 8 inspection of a school may be for a variety of reasons, such as: to gather evidence for reports and advice on curriculum subjects; to assess specific themes and initiatives, for example, literacy and numeracy in primary schools; to monitor improvement in schools causing concern and schools judged as 'requires improvement', or to investigate particular concerns about the safety of pupils, behaviour or leadership or other aspects of the school. Monitoring inspections under section 8 are conducted in

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<sup>10</sup> For further information about the risk assessment process, see:  
[www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/110153](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/110153)

<sup>11</sup> Under section 8(1) of the Education Act 2005, the Chief Inspector must inspect a school, to which section 5 applies, if requested by the Secretary of State for Education.

accordance with [The framework for school inspection](#)<sup>12</sup> and the [School inspection handbook](#)<sup>13</sup>. However, they are selective in their focus and in how much of the evaluation schedule they report on. Section 8 inspections do not make a judgement on the overall effectiveness of the school. However, where the evidence indicates the need for an overall effectiveness judgement, the lead inspector may use the Chief Inspector's discretionary power under section 9 of the Education Act 2005 and elect to treat such inspection as if it were an inspection under section 5. In such cases the full evaluation schedule will be reported on, as required by section 5, and a section 5 report published.

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<sup>12</sup> <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/framework-for-school-inspection-january-2012>

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/school-inspection-handbook>