

SDR 88/2008

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## Pupils with Statements of Special Educational Needs January 2008

This Statistical First Release presents data on pupils with statements of special educational needs (SEN) in January 2008. The information, which is taken from the STATS2 survey of Local Education Authorities (LEAs), is analysed by age group, by type of school and by LEA. A more detailed report on pupils with statements of SEN, including data from the Schools Census, will be published later in the year in 'Schools Wales: General Statistics 2008'.

Please note that comparisons between LEAs should be treated with caution. The decision whether or not to issue a statement is a matter for individual LEAs, taking into account a child's individual needs.

See notes on next page for data sources and symbols used in this publication.

### Key points

#### *Pupils with statements*

- The number of pupils with a statement of SEN decreased by 3.8% during 2007, bringing the total number with a statement to 14,994 at January 2008 (Table 1).
- At January 2008 3.1 per cent of pupils on roll had statements of SEN. The percentage of pupils with statements on school rolls over the last seven years has decreased from 3.4 per cent. (Table 1)
- 1,404 pupils were newly assessed as requiring a statement during 2007, compared to 1,417 in the previous year (Table 5).

#### *Inclusion*

- Over 91 per cent (13,692 pupils) of the total with statements were educated within their "home" local authority rather than in other authorities (Table 1).
- Nearly 25 per cent of those educated within their "home" authority are educated in special schools (3,375 pupils). As in 2007, just over half the number of pupils with statements were educated in ordinary classes, and just over a fifth were taught in special classes, of mainstream schools (Table 1).
- The percentage of pupils educated in mainstream schools - whether in the "home" LEA or outside - varied considerably across LEAs, from 93.3 per cent in Ceredigion (which does not have a special school) to 17.6 per cent in Bridgend (Table 10).

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Next Update: June 2009 (provisional)



## Notes to Editors

- **Source of data - Annual STATS2 data collection from LEAs.**

The STATS 2 return is completed each January by LEAs. The form relates to those children for whom the LEA is responsible. It records the number of children for whom the LEA has a statement of special educational need as well as the provision made for them, whether within the LEA's area or elsewhere. The number of pupils assessed during the previous calendar year and the number of statements issued is also recorded.

- **Special Educational Needs pupil performance.**

Information on SEN performance was published for the first time in [Academic Achievement by Pupil Characteristics, 2005-2007](#) .

- **Definition of Special Educational Needs**

Children have special educational needs if they have a learning difficulty which calls for special educational provision to be made for them.

Children have a learning difficulty if they:

- (a) have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age; or
- (b) have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for children of the same age in schools within the area of the local education authority
- (c) are under compulsory school age and fall within the definition at (a) or (b) above or would so do if special educational provision was not made for them.

Special educational provision means:

- (a) for children of two or over, educational provision which is additional to, or otherwise different from, the educational provision made generally for children of their age in schools maintained by the LEA, other than special schools, in the area.
- (b) for children under two, educational provision of any kind.

For further information please see the [Special Educational Needs Code of Practise for Wales](#) .

## Key Quality Information

- There have been amendments to the publishing of independent and non-maintained special schools data following feedback from LEAs. They were experiencing difficulties separating pupils in independent schools and non-maintained schools so we have amalgamated both sets of figures.
- Caution should be used when comparing LEA data as the policy of issuing SENs differs between authorities. In addition a LEA may have changed its rules with regard to SENs from the previous year.
- There have been some significant decreases in the number of assessments resulting in new statements due to a change in SEN policy in some LEAs.

## Symbols

The following symbols have been used throughout the publication:

- . not applicable
- ~ not yet available

## Rounding

In tables where figures have been rounded to the nearest final digit there may be an apparent discrepancy between the sum of the constituent items and the total as shown.

Comments on the coverage or presentation of this release are welcome. Contact details can be found on the front page.

**Table 1: Pupils with statements, by place of education (a)**

	<i>Number of pupils</i>						
	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Pupils registered in their own authority and receiving education in that authority in:							
Ordinary schools:							
Mainstream classes	8,635	8,650	8,280	8,006	7,765	7,476	7,006
Special classes/units	3,626	3,604	3,473	3,481	3,403	3,056	2,913
Maintained special schools	3,198	3,200	3,167	3,142	3,251	3,350	3,375
Independent & Non-maintained special schools	27	51	50	37	50	51	54
Pupil referral units	144	126	124	149	165	123	133
Other than in school	237	265	243	239	245	235	211
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,867</b>	<b>15,896</b>	<b>15,337</b>	<b>15,054</b>	<b>14,879</b>	<b>14,291</b>	<b>13,692</b>
Pupils registered in their own authority but receiving education in another authority in:							
Ordinary schools:							
Mainstream classes	393	459	634	535	457	446	445
Special classes/units	120	151	272	174	83	85	79
Maintained special schools	465	435	445	454	434	449	459
Independent & Non-maintained special schools	259	283	251	267	303	284	302
Pupil referral units	2	3	2	6	1	0	2
Other than in school	12	24	18	29	26	24	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,251</b>	<b>1,355</b>	<b>1,622</b>	<b>1,465</b>	<b>1,304</b>	<b>1,288</b>	<b>1,302</b>
Total pupils with SEN statements	17,118	17,251	16,959	16,519	16,183	15,579	14,994
Total pupils on roll	510,178	508,642	505,717	500,926	494,534	489,646	~
Percentage of pupils with SEN statements (b)	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1

(a) At January each year. Schools which were grant maintained until 1<sup>st</sup> September 1999, subsequently included within ordinary school totals.

(b) 2007/08 percentage based on total pupils on roll at January 2007. Pupil numbers for January 2008 will be available in August 2008.

**Table 2: Percentage distribution of pupils with statements, by place of education and age group (a)**

	<i>Per Cent</i>						
	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Place of education:							
Ordinary schools:							
Mainstream classes	52.7	52.8	52.6	51.7	50.8	50.9	49.7
Special classes/units	21.9	21.8	22.1	22.1	21.5	20.2	20.0
Maintained special schools	21.4	21.1	21.3	21.8	22.8	24.4	25.6
Independent & Non-maintained special schools	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.8	2.2	2.2	2.4
Pupil referral units	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.9
Other than in school	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.5
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
of which in mainstream schools	74.6	74.6	74.6	73.8	72.3	71.0	69.6
Age group:							
Under 5	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.8
5-15	90.1	88.5	88.6	89.7	89.4	88.3	87.0
16 & over	6.1	7.7	7.5	6.3	6.9	8.0	9.2
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) At January each year. Percentages shown are the number of pupils with statements attending each place of education as a percentage of the total number of children with statements.

**Table 3: Pupils with statements, by place of education and age group (a)**

	<i>Number of pupils</i>						
	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Ordinary schools:							
Mainstream classes							
Under 5	315	317	338	363	268	268	252
5-15	8,328	8,264	8,145	7,869	7,665	7,275	6,760
16 & over	385	528	431	309	289	379	439
Total	9,028	9,109	8,914	8,541	8,222	7,922	7,451
Special classes/units:							
Under 5	165	161	166	158	165	146	154
5-15	3,515	3,488	3,429	3,397	3,210	2,906	2,751
16 & over	66	106	150	100	111	89	87
Total	3,746	3,755	3,745	3,655	3,486	3,141	2,992
Maintained special schools:							
Under 5	154	165	141	105	133	144	153
5-15	2,986	2,884	2,874	2,942	2,939	2,987	2,960
16 & over	523	586	597	549	613	668	721
Total	3,663	3,635	3,612	3,596	3,685	3,799	3,834
Independent & Non-maintained special schools							
Under 5	3	6	4	3	14	7	0
5-15	236	260	246	242	269	240	263
16 & over	47	68	51	59	70	88	93
Total	286	334	301	304	353	335	356
Pupil referral units:							
Under 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5-15	136	125	120	149	159	122	130
16 & over	10	4	6	6	7	1	5
Total	146	129	126	155	166	123	135
Other than in school:							
Under 5	18	10	16	26	18	23	10
5-15	218	245	209	223	225	222	188
16 & over	13	34	36	19	28	14	28
Total	249	289	261	268	271	259	226
Total numbers:							
Under 5	655	659	665	655	598	588	569
5-15	15,419	15,266	15,023	14,822	14,467	13,752	13,052
16 & over	1,044	1,326	1,271	1,042	1,118	1,239	1,373
Total	17,118	17,251	16,959	16,519	16,183	15,579	14,994

(a) At January each year.

(b) Independent schools also include non-maintained special schools.

**Table 4: Pupils with statements who transferred schools (a)**

	<i>Number of pupils</i>						
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Pupils with statements who transferred:							
from ordinary schools to special, independent or grant maintained schools (b)	206	141	200	222	169	217	222
from special or independent or grant maintained schools to mainstream classes in ordinary schools	30	17	24	19	13	23	13
from special or independent or grant maintained schools to designated special units/classes in ordinary school	54	32	17	38	19	13	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>249</b>

(a) Pupils with statements who transferred during the calendar year (transfers are made in the years following statementing).

**Table 5: Pupils newly assessed as requiring a statement (a)**

	<i>Number of pupils</i>						
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Pupils newly assessed in:							
Ordinary schools:							
Mainstream classes	1,199	1,114	1,207	1,059	930	826	755
Special classes/units	434	425	392	346	294	272	323
Maintained special schools	234	277	203	186	242	245	239
Independent & non-maintained special schools	11	27	25	21	22	16	16
Other than in school	48	48	26	36	31	38	17
Awaiting provision specified in statements	27	40	15	31	21	10	39
Pupil referral units	17	20	14	33	17	10	15
Pupils newly assessed aged:							
Under 5	415	466	437	394	361	384	347
5-15	1,546	1,472	1,438	1,314	1,191	1,028	1,042
16 & over	9	15	7	4	5	5	15
<b>Total newly assessed pupils</b>	<b>1,970</b>	<b>1,953</b>	<b>1,882</b>	<b>1,712</b>	<b>1,557</b>	<b>1,417</b>	<b>1,404</b>

(a) Pupils for whom statements of Special Educational Needs were made for the first time during the calendar year.

(b) Independent schools also include non-maintained special

**Table 6: Assessments, by LEA**

LEA	<i>Number of pupils</i>							
	Assessments Resulting in new statements		Assessments Completed, statements not issued		Assessments on-going at 31 Dec.		Total assessments completed or on-going	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
Isle of Anglesey	20	34	8	8	18	12	46	54
Gwynedd	20	23	5	3	17	14	42	40
Conwy	28	46	7	4	31	16	66	66
Denbighshire	31	35	2	5	26	20	59	60
Flintshire	64	62	8	6	16	6	88	74
Wrexham	93	105	3	2	7	26	103	133
Powys	105	36	2	14	16	2	123	52
Ceredigion	61	28	12	4	61	5	134	37
Pembrokeshire	15	20	4	4	25	17	44	41
Carmarthenshire	115	94	32	9	19	29	166	132
Swansea	136	169	3	0	30	76	169	245
Neath Port Talbot	48	75	7	3	15	31	70	109
Bridgend	71	43	1	0	29	51	101	94
The Vale of Glamorgan	61	46	3	0	26	22	90	68
Rhondda Cynon Taf	52	53	20	21	44	56	116	130
Merthyr Tydfil	24	16	6	4	2	7	32	27
Caerphilly	113	146	40	57	56	56	209	259
Blaenau Gwent	5	16	0	0	43	49	48	65
Torfaen	10	16	4	0	5	9	19	25
Monmouthshire	71	77	2	5	15	30	88	112
Newport	96	78	11	2	12	10	119	90
Cardiff	178	186	1	1	28	33	207	220
Wales	1,417	1,404	181	152	541	577	2,139	2,133

**Table 7: Assessments, by LEA: average number completed per week (a)**

LEA	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Isle of Anglesey	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.3	0.5	0.8
Gwynedd	1.8	2.2	1.8	2.3	1.6	0.5	0.5
Conwy	1.9	2.0	2.3	2.0	1.5	0.7	1.0
Denbighshire	1.2	2.4	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.8
Flintshire	4.2	2.0	2.3	2.2	1.4	1.4	1.3
Wrexham	1.9	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.8	2.1
Powys	2.6	2.0	2.3	2.8	2.4	2.1	1.0
Ceredigion	1.2	1.3	1.2	2.0	1.4	1.4	0.6
Pembrokeshire	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
Carmarthenshire	2.8	1.5	2.9	2.1	2.3	2.8	2.0
Swansea	2.0	2.9	3.1	2.4	2.8	2.7	3.3
Neath Port Talbot	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.5
Bridgend	1.0	1.5	0.9	0.6	1.1	1.4	0.8
The Vale of Glamorgan	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.7	0.9	1.2	0.9
Rhondda Cynon Taf	2.6	2.1	2.3	1.5	1.9	1.4	1.4
Merthyr Tydfil	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.4
Caerphilly	2.4	2.7	2.3	2.0	2.8	2.9	3.9
Blaenau Gwent	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.5	0.4	0.1	0.3
Torfaen	1.9	1.0	1.4	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.3
Monmouthshire	1.0	0.6	1.3	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.6
Newport	3.0	3.5	3.3	3.0	1.9	2.1	1.5
Cardiff	4.3	4.7	3.5	3.7	4.5	3.4	3.6
Wales	43.0	41.4	41.3	37.6	34.4	30.7	29.9

(a) Number of new statements plus the number of assessments completed but where a statement was not issued, divided by 52.

**Table 8: Pupils with statements, by LEA (a)**

LEA	Number of pupils							
	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Isle of Anglesey	519	472	490	492	496	467	427	391
Gwynedd	842	792	755	732	755	738	647	578
Conwy	887	860	806	808	784	735	642	557
Denbighshire	563	526	682	665	615	586	551	516
Flintshire	1,183	1,173	1,139	1,087	1,025	942	899	843
Wrexham	1,063	1,025	992	950	873	856	834	840
Powys	944	881	836	846	956	930	921	851
Ceredigion	420	411	420	437	482	462	472	419
Pembrokeshire	682	667	674	625	576	516	464	429
Carmarthenshire	1,201	1,179	1,078	1,077	1,147	1,208	1,133	1,135
Swansea	1,084	1,070	1,123	1,182	1,185	1,235	1,251	1,306
Neath Port Talbot	880	865	886	852	806	744	712	693
Bridgend	337	333	375	374	345	345	350	347
The Vale of Glamorgan	470	463	448	446	426	437	467	468
Rhondda Cynon Taf	656	683	677	666	656	643	627	615
Merthyr Tydfil	237	241	247	240	216	200	204	205
Caerphilly	1,048	1,096	1,178	1,034	957	989	956	984
Blaenau Gwent	540	481	466	464	485	426	384	354
Torfaen	614	585	536	507	452	427	389	349
Monmouthshire	476	491	430	435	449	456	478	492
Newport	993	1,033	1,159	1,286	1,119	1,069	1,021	959
Cardiff	1,776	1,791	1,854	1,754	1,714	1,772	1,750	1,663
Wales	17,415	17,118	17,251	16,959	16,519	16,183	15,579	14,994

**Table 9: Pupils with statements, by place of education and LEA, at January 2008**

LEA	Pupils with statements in:							Total Pupils with Statements
	Ordinary schools in:		Maintained special schools	Independent & non-maintained special schools	Pupil referral unit	Other than in school		
	Mainstream Classes	Special Classes /units						
Isle of Anglesey	284	8	77	14	0	8	391	
Gwynedd	366	63	123	11	1	14	578	
Conwy	252	113	161	15	9	7	557	
Denbighshire	264	38	199	9	2	4	516	
Flintshire	274	227	274	35	25	8	843	
Wrexham	211	389	217	18	0	5	840	
Powys	522	65	236	15	0	13	851	
Ceredigion	361	30	2	11	0	15	419	
Pembrokeshire	271	39	87	10	15	7	429	
Carmarthenshire	863	120	113	14	10	15	1,135	
Swansea	709	351	160	29	38	19	1,306	
Neath Port Talbot	154	312	190	15	8	14	693	
Bridgend	52	9	276	9	0	1	347	
The Vale of Glamorgan	121	143	179	15	7	3	468	
Rhondda Cynon Taf	136	34	403	17	8	17	615	
Merthyr Tydfil	27	25	143	4	4	2	205	
Caerphilly	557	246	132	15	3	31	984	
Blaenau Gwent	149	129	75	0	0	1	354	
Torfaen	176	92	67	14	0	0	349	
Monmouthshire	351	53	52	32	0	4	492	
Newport	523	262	131	28	3	12	959	
Cardiff	828	244	537	26	2	26	1,663	
Wales	7,451	2,992	3,834	356	135	226	14,994	

**Table 10: Pupils with statements, by place of education and LEA, at January 2008**

*Per cent*

LEA	Pupils with statements in:							
	Ordinary schools in:			Maintained special schools	Independent & non-maintained special schools	Pupil referral unit	Other than in school	Total Pupils with Statements
	Mainstream Classes	Special Classes /units	Total in mainstream schools					
Isle of Anglesey	72.6	2.0	74.7	19.7	3.6	0.0	2.0	100.0
Gwynedd	63.3	10.9	74.2	21.3	1.9	0.2	2.4	100.0
Conwy	45.2	20.3	65.5	28.9	2.7	1.6	1.3	100.0
Denbighshire	51.2	7.4	58.5	38.6	1.7	0.4	0.8	100.0
Flintshire	32.5	26.9	59.4	32.5	4.2	3.0	0.9	100.0
Wrexham	25.1	46.3	71.4	25.8	2.1	0.0	0.6	100.0
Powys	61.3	7.6	69.0	27.7	1.8	0.0	1.5	100.0
Ceredigion	86.2	7.2	93.3	0.5	2.6	0.0	3.6	100.0
Pembrokeshire	63.2	9.1	72.3	20.3	2.3	3.5	1.6	100.0
Carmarthenshire	76.0	10.6	86.6	10.0	1.2	0.9	1.3	100.0
Swansea	54.3	26.9	81.2	12.3	2.2	2.9	1.5	100.0
Neath Port Talbot	22.2	45.0	67.2	27.4	2.2	1.2	2.0	100.0
Bridgend	15.0	2.6	17.6	79.5	2.6	0.0	0.3	100.0
The Vale of Glamorgan	25.9	30.6	56.4	38.2	3.2	1.5	0.6	100.0
Rhondda Cynon Taf	22.1	5.5	27.6	65.5	2.8	1.3	2.8	100.0
Merthyr Tydfil	13.2	12.2	25.4	69.8	2.0	2.0	1.0	100.0
Caerphilly	56.6	25.0	81.6	13.4	1.5	0.3	3.2	100.0
Blaenau Gwent	42.1	36.4	78.5	21.2	0.0	0.0	0.3	100.0
Torfaen	50.4	26.4	76.8	19.2	4.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Monmouthshire	71.3	10.8	82.1	10.6	6.5	0.0	0.8	100.0
Newport	54.5	27.3	81.9	13.7	2.9	0.3	1.3	100.0
Cardiff	49.8	14.7	64.5	32.3	1.6	0.1	1.6	100.0
Wales	49.7	20.0	69.6	25.6	2.4	0.9	1.5	100.0

**Table 11: Pupils with statements, by age and LEA, at January 2008**

LEA	Rate per 1,000 pupils (a)	Pupils with statements aged:					Total
		Under 5 years	5 -10 years	11-15 years	16 and over		
Isle of Anglesey	38.9	15	153	209	14	391	
Gwynedd	31.2	24	246	283	25	578	
Conwy	31.3	15	176	328	38	557	
Denbighshire	30.4	18	168	270	60	516	
Flintshire	34.1	39	288	448	68	843	
Wrexham	44.1	27	316	417	80	840	
Powys	40.9	27	279	473	72	851	
Ceredigion	40.8	18	174	177	50	419	
Pembrokeshire	22.1	6	105	257	61	429	
Carmarthenshire	40.1	12	268	652	203	1,135	
Swansea	36.1	94	517	573	122	1,306	
Neath Port Talbot	32.0	52	255	362	24	693	
Bridgend	15.0	1	79	223	44	347	
The Vale of Glamorgan	21.0	19	194	205	50	468	
Rhondda Cynon Taf	15.0	11	155	335	114	615	
Merthyr Tydfil	20.9	11	64	82	48	205	
Caerphilly	32.7	52	276	614	42	984	
Blaenau Gwent	31.6	10	105	211	28	354	
Torfaen	21.2	4	109	209	27	349	
Monmouthshire	34.7	10	179	273	30	492	
Newport	37.9	31	393	496	39	959	
Cardiff	31.8	73	586	870	134	1,663	
Wales	30.6	569	5,085	7,967	1,373	14,994	

(a) Pupils with statements at January 2008 per 1,000 total pupils at January 2007. Pupil numbers for January 2008 will be available in August 2008.