Summary Quality Report:

Teacher Workforce Data

Department of Education & Youth

CSO Quality Report

For

DEY Teacher Workforce Data

This documentation applies to the reporting period:
2025 - 2026

Last edited: 06/02/2026

1. Table of Contents

2. Introduction

This Summary Quality Report provides detailed background information on the Teacher Workforce Data tables published by the Department of Education & Youth on the Central Statistics Office's (CSO) PxStat Open Data platform. These tables are based on data from the DEY and ETB's payroll systems, and the Teaching Council registration datasets. They provide data on teacher workforce counts in Irish schools funded by the state. The data is sourced by the Department of Education and Youth. This data is also used along with school data from the Primary Online Database (POD) and the Post Primary Online Database (PPOD) datasets in the "Workforce Data Bulletin" which is published by DEY annually.

3. Contact

Contact Organisation: **Department of Education & Youth**
Contact Name: **Olwyn Byrne**
Contact email address: **Statistics@education.gov.ie**

4. Metadata Update

4.1. Metadata last update

January 2026

5. Statistical Presentation

5.1. Data Description

The teacher workforce data tables consist of a total count of whole-time equivalent teachers broken down by contract type and school sector. They are presented on PX Stat as full time equivalent of full time or parttime teacher counts by school sector. They are further broken down by school type within each sector. The DEY annual publication tables also include total counts grouped by county or ETB level.

5.2. Classification System

The three main classifications used are School Sector, School Type, Full Time Equivalent (FTE).

School sector is Primary or Post Primary.

School Type is the type of Primary or Post Primary school grouping for example: "Ordinary with special classes" primary school or "Vocational" post primary school.

The FTE is a calculation of the total full time equivalent teachers. If a teacher only works half a school week, they are counted as 0.5 FTE, if they work full time they are counted as 1 FTE. FTEs are first calculated at school level, distinguished by their PPSN and the school's unique Roll Number. They are not published at this level. Calculations are aggregated to county level for DEY annual publication and "School Type" level for PX Stat publications.

5.3. Sector Coverage

Data covers all primary and post primary teachers who are paid by the Department of Education and Youth or ETBs and who are contracted in Primary (including Special Schools) or Post Primary schools funded by the state. Teachers who work in private schools are counted where their salary is paid by the Department of Education and Youth.

5.4. Statistical Concepts and definitions

School Sector:
Primary
Post Primary

School Type:

Primary level education institutions aided by the Department of Education and Skills
Ordinary
Ordinary with Special Classes
Special Education

Second level education institutions aided by the Department of Education and Skills
Secondary schools
Vocational schools
Community schools
Comprehensive schools

Contract Type:

Full-time Primary Level Teachers
All Full-time Equivalent Primary Level Teachers
Full-time Equivalent of Part-time Primary Level Teachers

Full-time Second Level Teachers
Full-time Equivalent of Part-time Second Level Teachers
All Full-time Equivalent Second Level Teachers

Roll Number:
All roll numbers of state funded schools who paid teachers in the given time period

PPSNs:
All PPSNs (pseudo) of teachers paid by DEY/ETBs in time period

FTE:
The corresponding FTE of the teacher who was paid e.g.: 1 for a full time teacher. This is detailed on the payroll file

County:
All counties in the state

School Year:
The school year is September to June e.g.: 2025/26

Year:
The year as of the end of the school year e.g.: 2026

5.5. Statistical Unit

The statistical unit is the full time equivalent (FTE) of the teachers

5.6. Statistical Population

All primary and post primary teachers paid by DEY/ETBs

5.7. Reference Area

State

5.8. Time Coverage

Annual

6. Unit of Measure

Numerical Unit

7. Reference Period

Calendar Year – based on the end of the school year
School Year – September to June

8. Institutional Mandate

8.1. Legal Acts and other agreements

Not applicable.

8.2. Data Sharing

Data sharing agreements are in place between the Teaching Council and the Department of Education & Youth and the sixteen individual Education and Training Boards (ETBs) and the Department of Education and Youth.
All files are transferred using a secure file transfer system. The data files are saved on a dedicated data server with restricted access.

8.3. Confidentiality – policy

The Department of Education & Youth's Statistics Unit has a confidentiality policy which is available at this link: https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/collections/quality-reports-and-metadata/

8.4. Confidentiality – data treatment

For reasons of confidentiality data is not published at roll number or PPSN level. No teachers or schools can be identified by this data.

9. Release Policy

9.1. Release Calendar

The date of dissemination of all statistics released by CSO can be found in the Statistical Work Plan published on CSO.ie. This calendar is regularly updated.

9.2. Release calendar access

The release calendar can be accessed via the CSO website, www.cso.ie, or directly from this link: https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/lgdp/cgt/ocg/swp/

10. Frequency of Dissemination

Annual

11. Quality Management

11.1. Quality Assurance

The Statistics Unit in the Department of Education & Youth has the following Quality Statement that outlines the processes that are carried out to ensure quality:

https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/collections/quality-reports-and-metadata/

12. Relevance

12.1. User Needs

There is considerable interest in Teacher Supply and Demand in Ireland. Publishing actual teacher FTEs for both DEY and ETB schools gives policy makers, media and other education stakeholders integral information regarding our teacher workforce.

12.2. Data Completeness

Not applicable

13. Accuracy and reliability

The main data source for this publication are administrative datasets. These datasets record individuals who have been paid or have paid a salary or registration fee and therefore the data is extremely accurate and reliable. Data is taken from these sources at multiple times throughout the year to allow for checking and verification. The business teams who produce the datasets carry out both technical and operational checks prior to providing the data to the statistics team, who in turn carry out their own verification.

14. Timeliness and punctuality

Data for the school year will be published during the current school year so there will be no lag.

15. Coherence & Comparability

15.1. Comparability – Geographical

Data will be grouped by county or ETB level on the DEY Workforce data bulletin.

15.2. Comparability over time

Data is comparable over time

15.2.1. Length of Comparable Time series

PX Stat tables have comparable data available for 2015-2025.
Workforce bulletin tables will have comparable data from school year 2024/25-2025/26

16. Revisions

16.1. Data Revision Policy

Our policy on revisions can be found on our Dissemination Policy, which can be accessed here:
https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/8ff978f9/Department_of_Education_and_Youth_Statistics_-_Data_Dissemination_Policy.pdf

16.2. Data Revision Practice

If an error is identified in the workforce data publication or PxStat tables after they have been published, it will be revised as quickly as possible. The corrected figure will be double-checked and Table updated. A

note will be added to the Table on PxStat and on the Department's site indicating the correction and the date when the revised data was published.

17.   Statistical processing

17.1. Source Type

Data is based on administrative datasets.

17.2.   Data Collection.

17.2.1. Data Capture

Payroll Data – Athlone Payroll – Secure file transfer
Teaching Council Register – Teaching Council – Secure file transfer
ETB Payroll – Education Shared Business Services – Secure file transfer
POD/PPOD school data – POD/PPOD databases BI

17.3.   Data Validation

All datasets are checked by appropriate technical teams to ensure technical extraction was carried out successfully, for example data integrity and completeness and data quality.

The operational teams then check actual contents of files to ensure correctness, for example comparisons to previous extractions and spot checks on individual entries. When they are confident that the files are accurate, they transfer to the statistics team.

The statistics team carry out their own checks on the files to ensure transfer was successfully completed with no errors. They also pseudonymise the data to ensure no individual can be identified. The files are stored in folders with restricted access.

The aggregate data is developed using R. The aggregate data is validated by the statistics team.

Our Quality statement can be found here:
 https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/collections/quality-reports-and-metadata/

17.4.   Data Compilation

Operations are performed on data to derive new information according to a given set of rules.

Each entry in the payroll files has an associated unique PPSN and either a school Roll Number or in the case of ETB schools a Cost Centre number. Roll numbers and Cost Centre numbers are unique to each school. The full time equivalent (FTE) value per PPSN is calculated. Then using the roll number/cost centre and the FTE value associated with each PPSN, total full time estimates per school are calculated.

Teaching Council data is used to verify teacher types in ETB schools to distinguish post primary teachers from other teaching staff.

POD and PPOD data is used to add additional school data to the calculations e.g.: school type, DEIS, Irish Medium School etc. POD/PPOD data is also used to check the open/closed status of the school. Longitude and latitude values are gathered using the school address data from these databases to allow for geographical mapping of results.

Aggregates are calculated by various groupings, contract types, school types, FTE verses allocated posts. All aggregates are dependent on the original FTE per PPSN calculation.

Results are compared to previous time periods and time series are recorded for this reason.

17.5. Adjustment

Not applicable.

18. Additional Notes