



Department
for Education

School capacity: Academic year 2018/19

Metadata guidance document

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Description

This document describes the data included in the 'School Capacity: Academic Year 2018/19' Official Statistics release's underlying data files. This data is released under the terms of the [Open Government License](#) and is intended to meet at least 3 stars for [Open Data](#).

The methodology accompanying this release should be referenced alongside this data. It provides information on the data sources, their coverage and quality as well as explaining methodology used in producing the data.

A description of how the school place planning estimates have been derived and how to interpret them is also provided in technical guidance document accompanying this release. Users should read this technical guidance to understand the practical applications and limitations of the data.

Coverage

This release reports on school capacity information in state-funded primary and secondary schools in England in the academic year 2018/19, as of 1 May 2019. Data are as reported by local authorities in the annual School Capacity (SCAP) Survey.

Information is included on:

- The numbers of primary and secondary school places from 2009/10 to 2018/19;
- Unfilled school places and pupils in places that exceed their school's capacity;
- Local authorities' pupil forecasts up to 2023/24 at primary level and 2025/26 at secondary level;
- Forecasts of places to be funded through housing developer contributions (HDCs) up to 2023/24 at primary level and 2025/26 at secondary level;
- Local authority planned places to 2021/22, including additional, bulge and removed places;
- Comparisons of forecasts with capacity to estimate the future number of places needed;
- Experimental statistics collected on sixth form capacity in schools from 2017/18 to 2018/19

File format and conventions

Rounding

These datasets have not had suppression applied.

Conventions

The following conventions are used throughout the underlying data.

'z' Not applicable.

':' Not available.

The following convention is used in the school sixth form capacity underlying data.

'u' Partial sixth form capacity data submitted. Sixth form capacity data has been submitted for some but not all schools with pupils on roll in year groups 12, 13, or 14 in the relevant geographic area.

Data files

This statistical release includes the following underlying data files in csv format:

File name	Content	Geographical levels	Academic years
school-capacity_200910-201819	Includes number of school places; number of pupils on roll from the May School Census; the number of schools at or in excess of capacity and the number of pupils in places that exceed their school's capacity; the number schools with one or more unfilled places and the number of unfilled places. All data includes sixth form places and excludes nursery places.	National; Regional; Local authority; School	2009/10 to 2018/19
school-capacity_200910-201819_national-only	Includes number of school places; yearly and cumulative change in the number of school places; number of pupils on roll from the May School Census; the number of schools at or in excess of capacity and the number of pupils in places that exceed their school's capacity; the number schools with one or more unfilled places and the number of unfilled places. All data includes sixth form places and excludes nursery places.	National	2009/10 to 2018/19

pupil-forecasts-and-forecast-hdc-places_201819	2018/19 pupil numbers on roll from the January 2019 School Census; pupil number forecasts by national curriculum year group as provided by local authorities; forecast number of pupils expected to attend places expected to be funded by housing developer contribution (HDC) agreements. Includes national curriculum year groups from reception to Year 14.	National; Regional; Local authority; Planning area	Actual pupil numbers for 2018/19; pupil number forecasts and forecast number of HDC funded places from 2019/20 to 2025/26
local-authority-planned-places_201819	Places reported by local authorities in summer 2019 as planned to be added or permanently removed from their school capacity. Includes only projects with firm plans for delivery. Includes sixth form places. Excludes nursesey places.	National; Regional; Local authority; Planning area	2019/20 to 2021/22
school-place-planning-estimates_201819	Estimates of future school places needed to meet modelled demand, calculated at planning area level and aggregated to local authority, regional and national level. Estimates reflect the position reported by local authorities at May 2019 through the School Capacity survey, supplemented with data from administrative sources on centrally funded programmes. Excludes sixth form and nursesey places.	National; Regional; Local authority; Planning area	2019/20 to 2025/26

<p>school-sixth-form-capacity_experimental-statistics_201718-201819</p>	<p>School sixth form capacity as reported by local authorities; sixth form pupil numbers on roll from the May School Census. School sixth form capacity was collected as a voluntary field in the 2018 and 2019 School Capacity surveys.</p>	<p>National; Regional; Local authority; School</p>	<p>2017/18 to 2018/19</p>
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Annex A: Variable listing and descriptions

Variable names and descriptions included across the underlying data files are provided below.

Variable name	Variable description
time_period	The academic year covered
time_identifier	The type of time period covered
geographic_level	The geographic level of the data
country_code	9 digit country code
country_name	Country name
region_code	9 digit region code (Government Office Region)
region_name	Region name (Government Office Region)
old_la_code	3 digit local authority code (old)
new_la_code	9 digit local authority code (new)
la_name	Local authority name
planning_area_code	Planning area code, either primary or secondary. Planning areas are groups of schools, often (but not exclusively) in a similar geographic area, reflecting patterns of provision. The planning areas for primary are different to the planning areas for secondary.
primary_planning_area_code	Primary planning area code. Schools may be assigned both a primary and a secondary planning area if they have pupils on roll in both primary and secondary year groups. This includes all-through schools, middle-deemed primary schools, and middle-deemed secondary schools.
secondary_planning_area_code	Secondary planning area code. Schools may be assigned both a primary and a secondary planning area if they have pupils on roll in both primary and secondary year groups. This includes all-through schools, middle-deemed primary schools, and middle-deemed secondary schools.
planning_area_name	Planning area name
planning_area_phase	Planning area phase. Primary planning areas include year groups from reception to year 6. Secondary planning areas include year groups from year 7 and above.
school_laestab	School LAEstab number
school_name	School name
school_main_phase	Identifies whether a school is classed as primary or secondary. Primary schools and primary-deemed middle schools are classed as primary. Secondary schools, secondary-deemed middle schools, and all-through schools are classed as secondary.
school_phase	The phase of education based upon national curriculum year group. Year groups from reception to year 6 are primary (PS); year 7 and above are secondary (SS). Primary-

	deemed middle schools are denoted by (MP); secondary-deemed middle schools are denoted by (MS); all-through schools are denoted by (AT)
nc_year_group	National curriculum year group
count_schools	The number of schools in a geographic area. Not applicable at school-level.
school_places	The capacity of a school. For local authority maintained schools this is based upon their net capacity assessment. For academies this is based upon their funding agreement, or an update to that figure from the local authority informed by a change which is not yet reflected in their funding agreement.
pupils_on_roll	The number of sole and dual main registered pupils recorded as on roll in the May (summer) school census
primary_capacity	The primary net capacity of a school based upon the local authorities' judgement. Middle and all-through schools have both primary and secondary net capacity. Collected and reported from 2012/13 onward.
secondary_capacity	The secondary net capacity of a school based upon the local authorities' judgement. Middle and all-through schools have both primary and secondary net capacity. Collected and reported from 2012/13 onward.
at_or_over_capacity_schools	The number of schools at capacity or in excess of capacity in a geographic area. A school is identified as at or in excess of capacity when their number on roll is greater than or equal to capacity. Not applicable at school-level.
pupils_over_capacity	The number of pupils in places that exceed their school's capacity. This is the difference between the number of pupils on roll and the school's capacity where the number of pupils on roll is greater than the capacity. It is calculated at school level, then aggregated to national, regional, and local authority level.
percent_pupils_over_capacity	The number of pupils in places that exceed their school's capacity as a percentage of the total number of school places.
under_capacity_schools	The number of schools with unfilled places in a geographic area. A school is identified as having unfilled places if the capacity is higher than the number of pupils on roll.
unfilled_places	The number of unfilled places. This is the difference between the capacity of a school and the number of pupils on roll, where the school's capacity is greater than the number of pupils on roll. It is calculated at school level then aggregated to national, regional and local authority level.

percent_unfilled_places	The number of unfilled places as a percentage of the total number of school places.
school_places_yearly_change	Net increase or decrease in the number of school places from the previous academic year.
school_places_change_from_200910	Net increase or decrease in the number of school places from 2009/10.
additional_places	Permanent places that will not move through the school with a specific cohort.
bulge_places	Places used to accommodate a specific large cohort. They move through the school with this cohort.
removed_places	Places that will be permanently removed from their school capacity.
pupil_forecast_and_201819_actuals	The number of sole and dual main registered pupils recorded as on roll in the January (spring) 2019 school census; Local authority reported forecasts for the number of pupils they expect to be on roll in academic years 2019/20 to 2023/24 for primary and 2019/20 to 2025/26 for secondary.
forecast_hdc_places	Forecast of pupils expected to be educated in new or expanded schools funded through housing developer contribution agreements.
pupil_forecasts	Local authority reported forecast for the number of pupils they expect to be on roll in the academic year.
estimated_capacity	Current capacity of the school deemed to be available to the national curriculum year group
la_additional_places	The collective addition to capacity of all local authority projects within a planning area
central_programme_places	Changes in capacity provided through central programme places which include free schools, CIF (condition improvement fund), PSBP (Priority Schools Building Programme 1), SSEF (selective school expansion fund) and academy & free school closures.
additional_need_minus_spare_places	Estimated number of places needed, including additional need as positives and spare places as negatives. Calculated at planning area level then aggregated to local authority level. National and regional figures are not provided as they would be unrepresentative because pockets of demand and pockets of spare places are lost in the aggregation.
additional_need_only	Estimated number of places needed, including additional need only as positives. Calculated at planning area level then aggregated to national, regional and local authority level.
reported_sixth_form_places	School sixth form capacity.
sixth_form_pupils_on_roll	Number of sole and dual main registered pupils on roll in year groups 12, 13, and 14 in the May (summer) school census.

total_school_places	The capacity of a school. For local authority maintained schools this is based upon their net capacity assessment. For academies this is based upon their funding agreement, or an update to that figure from the local authority informed by a change which is not yet reflected in their funding agreement.
total_pupils_on_roll	The number of sole and dual main registered pupils recorded as on roll in the May (summer) school census.



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