



Department of Children and Youth Affairs

Inventory of Data Sources on Children's Lives

A42 Post-Primary Student Absence Report

Data owner	Educational Welfare Services, Child and Family Agency (www.tusla.ie)
Brief description	Schools are obliged by law under the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000 to submit reports on school attendance to the Educational Welfare Services of the Child and Family Agency. There are two types of reporting required and they are (i) reports on individual students and (ii) reports on overall school attendance figures. The data on overall school attendance submitted by schools at the end of each school year is analysed and a national report produced by the Education Research Centre (ERC), St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra (www.erc.ie).
Primary function of data	To provide high-level national and county information in relation to the number of days lost through student absence, number of students who were absent for 20 days or more during the school year, number of students expelled and the number of students suspended.
Key classificatory variables	<i>Not applicable</i>
Themes/domains	Education; Demographics
Unit of observation	Individual post-primary student
Start date of data collection	2003/04 (first school year for collection of data)
Frequency of data collection	Annually
Data format	The ERC manages data processing in an Excel database.
Method of data collection	Paper-based and computerised data collection.
Access/further information	Educational Welfare Services, Child and Family Agency: www.tusla.ie Publications available at: http://www.tusla.ie/services/educational-welfare-services/publications/