



## Department of Children and Youth Affairs

### Inventory of Data Sources on Children's Lives

#### A5 & A7 Annual Return for Schools (Primary): Special Class

<b>Data owner</b>	Department of Education and Skills ( <a href="http://www.education.ie">www.education.ie</a> )
<b>Brief description</b>	Summary data of primary schools aided by the Department of Education and Skills in which children are taught by a recognised special class teacher or resource teacher.
<b>Primary function of data</b>	Data used for service planning, to determine payments and allocations (Social Inclusion, Schools Administration Division) and for reporting of statistics (national and international).
<b>Key classificatory variables</b>	ID Other; County <i>Annual Return for Schools (Primary): Special Class</i> also includes: Special Class type
<b>Themes/domains</b>	Education; Demographics
<b>Unit of observation</b>	Class taught by special class teacher
<b>Start date of data collection</b>	<i>Not available</i>
<b>Frequency of data collection</b>	Annual. Data collected on last working day of September every year, with a return deadline of 31st October.
<b>Data format</b>	Data are stored at school and class level. Database is not an individualised pupil one.
<b>Method of data collection</b>	Census forms may be downloaded from the Department of Education and Skills' website and returned via e-mail (from 2009). A minority of school returns are made by paper mail. Data are then integrated into an Oracle database.
<b>Access/further information</b>	Department of Education and Skills ( <a href="http://www.education.ie">www.education.ie</a> ) Publications available at: <a href="http://www.education.ie/en/Publications/">www.education.ie/en/Publications/</a>
<b>Notes</b>	Title of the overall Department of Education and Skills' database to which this source contributes is the Annual Census of National Schools.  The Annual Return for Special Schools is now captured as part of the Special Class form.