- In 2012, 33.9% of those aged between 15-64 had a third level qualification.
- At age 19, 67% of females and 60% of males were in full-time education in 2011/12.
- In 2011 total gross expenditure on education by the State was €8,866.4m.
- In 2012 there were 32,030 primary school teachers in the State, 86.1% of whom were females.
- In 2011/12 there were 25,808 full-time equivalent teachers in secondary, vocational and community/comprehensive schools.
- 53.6% of new entrants to universities and 50.1% of new entrants to all third level institutions were female in 2011/12.

# Contents

Introductory t	text	101
Table 6.1	Persons aged 15-64 by the highest level of education attained	104
Table 6.1a	Persons aged 15-64 by the highest level of education attained	105
Table 6.2	Persons in full-time education by level	106
Table 6.3	Persons receiving full-time education and estimated participation rates for ages 15-24, 2011/12	107
Table 6.4	Voted expenditure by sector for financial year ended 31 December 2011	108
Table 6.5	Pupils in first level schools by standard	108
Table 6.6	Teaching posts in first level schools on 30 June	108
Table 6.7	Teachers in secondary, vocational and community schools	109
Table 6.8	Second level state examination candidates	109
Table 6.9	Pupils in all second level schools taking each subject in the Leaving Certificate Programme, 2011/12	0-111
<b>Table 6.10</b>	Leaving Certificate candidates taking selected subjects at ordinary level	112
<b>Table 6.11</b>	Leaving Certificate candidates taking selected subjects at higher level	113
<b>Table 6.12</b>	Leaving Certificate ordinary level grades for most popular subjects, 2012	113
<b>Table 6.13</b>	Leaving Certificate higher level grades for most popular subjects, 2012	114
<b>Table 6.14</b>	First time entrants to third level courses in all institutions, 2011/12	115

# Introduction

The statistics in this chapter have been obtained from the Department of Education and Skills. Results from the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) on Educational Attainment are also included. The data include details of participation in and expenditure on first, second and third level education.

#### **Educational attainment**

In 2012, 33.9% of those aged 15-64 had a third level qualification. 70.6% of all persons aged 15-64 attained education levels of higher secondary level or above. 10.7% of persons aged 15-64 had not progressed beyond primary level education.

#### Persons in education

The number of students in first level education totalled 521,677 in 2011/12. This was a significant increase over 2010/11 but represented only 90.5% of the 576,576 figure recorded in 1985/86. The numbers at this level have fallen substantially since then, but have risen since 2001/02. In the case of second level students, the participation rate rose strongly from 1965/66 until 2011/12. Over the period 1965-2012, there was an increase of over 800% in the third level student population. However, there were 2,635 less places taken up in 2011/12 as compared with 2010/11.

In 2011/12, participation rates for males and females differed substantially over the age group 17-21, with more females than males in full-time education between the ages of 17 and 21 years. At the age of 19, 66.9% of females and 60.3% of males were in full-time education. This can be partially explained by a greater male participation in the labour force for the 17-21 age cohort. The education participation rates by gender became more balanced for the ages 22, 23 and 24.

Women accounted for 53.6% of new entrants to universities and 76.5% of new entrants to teacher training colleges in the year 2011/12, but accounted for only 44.2% of new entrants to the Institutes and Colleges of Technology.

#### **Teachers in education**

The number of teaching posts in first level education has increased from 23,935 in 2002 to 32,030 in 2012, although there was a drop of 570 on the 2011 figure. The number of teachers (full-time and full-time equivalents) in secondary, vocational and community/comprehensive schools has increased from 24,990 in 2004/05 to 25,808 in 2011/12, although there was a decrease of 377 compared with 2010/11.

#### **Examination results**

The number of examination candidates in second level schools has declined from 115,606 in 2004 to 114,614 in 2012. The percentage of students in 2012 taking higher level Leaving Certificate English was 65% compared to 32% in Irish and 22% in Mathematics. The percentage of students in 2012 achieving an A Grade in higher level English was 10%, in higher level Irish was 17% and in higher level Mathematics was 10%.

#### **Technical Notes**

#### **Tables 6.1 and 6.1a**

Tables 6.1 and 6.1a give details of the highest education attained by people in Ireland and are taken from the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS).

A break in continuity occurred in the Educational Attainment series and, therefore, data from 2009 is not directly comparable with previous years. The classification of education levels has been revised in order to facilitate the linking of education categories to the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), while also retaining links with the international educations classification, ISCED97. This affects the classification on a number of ways. One key difference is the distinction between ordinary and honours level degrees.

#### **Table 6.3**

The percentage of the population in full-time education may exceed 100% because the figures are from different periods (enrolments are in September of the academic year while population estimates are from the following April) and because the single year of age figures are estimates rather than exact figures.

#### **Table 6.4**

Administration and other services include school transport, teacher in-career development, schools information and communications technological activities, Child Abuse Commission and Residential Institutions Redress.

#### **Table 6.5**

As private schools are not funded by the Department of Education and Skills they are not obliged to return census forms. Therefore, the figure in respect of private primary schools in 2008/09 refers to the schools that returned the form only and not the overall number of private schools.

#### **Table 6.7**

Only teachers paid from funds provided by the Department of Education and Skills are included in this table.

Part-time teaching staff includes job-sharers, eligible part-time teachers and other part-time teachers.

The data in respect of vocational schools relate to day courses only.

Data for secondary, community and comprehensive schools are based on payroll figures. From 2009/10 Data for the vocational sector are based on allocated posts - the classification breakdowns are based on VEC utilisation figures.

For 2007/08 and 2008/09 the total number of vocational teachers is included in the grand total but because a detailed breakdown of the number of vocational teachers (into full-time and full-time equivalent of part-time) are not available for 2007/08 and 2008/09, vocational teachers are excluded from the full-time and full-time equivalent of part-time totals in the table.

#### Table 6.9

The information in this table refers to the number of second level pupils taking individual subjects in the Leaving Certificate programme.

#### **Tables 6.9-6.13**

Design and Communication Graphics is the new name for Technical Drawing.

#### **Table 6.10**

The percentages in this table are the proportion of Leaving Certificate examination candidates (excluding Leaving Certificate Applied) who took a particular subject at ordinary level.

#### **Table 6.11**

The percentages in this table are the proportion of Leaving Certificate examination candidates (excluding Leaving Certificate Applied) who took a particular subject at higher level.

Table 6.1 Persons aged 15-64 by the highest level of education attained

	102	

					Inousanas
Highest education level attained	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Males					
Primary or below	247.3	238.4	240.2	240.2	223.0
Lower secondary	315.3	307.5	313.3	317.5	325.6
Higher secondary	352.7	369.7	377.7	397.5	407.2
Post leaving certificate	123.1	132.3	137.6	144.8	146.3
Third level non-degree	109.4	111.6	117.4	119.3	128.3
Third level degree or above	209.3	222.8	230.0	254.1	269.0
Other	28.4	43.6	56.9	57.0	55.5
Total	1,385.4	1,425.9	1,473.1	1,530.4	1,554.9
Females					
Primary or below	213.2	197.7	198.6	199.8	180.2
Lower secondary	264.6	263.8	258.2	261.5	261.5
Higher secondary	382.2	392.0	390.2	408.1	422.0
Post leaving certificate	131.4	131.3	133.8	136.4	137.3
Third level non-degree	143.3	153.1	156.9	161.7	179.8
Third level degree or above	210.5	233.8	261.9	285.9	308.0
Other	26.3	30.7	40.4	42.4	45.9
Total	1,371.5	1,402.5	1,439.9	1,495.8	1,534.6
All persons					
Primary or below	460.5	436.1	438.8	440.0	403.2
Lower secondary	579.9	571.2	571.5	579.0	587.1
Higher secondary	734.8	761.7	767.9	805.6	829.3
Post leaving certificate	254.5	263.6	271.4	281.2	283.5
Third level non-degree	252.8	264.7	274.2	280.9	308.1
Third level degree or above	419.8	456.6	491.9	540.0	577.0
Other	54.6	74.4	97.3	99.4	101.4
TOTAL	2,756.8	2,828.3	2,913.0	3,026.2	3,089.5

Source: CSO

# Persons aged 15 to 64 with a third level qualification

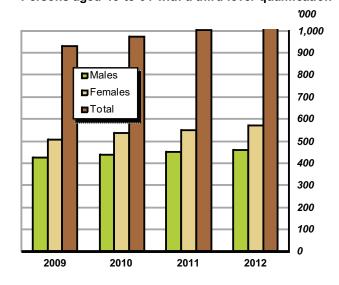


Table 6.1a Persons aged 15-64 by the highest level of education attained

Thousands

				Triousarius
Highest education level attained	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>3</b>				
Males				
Primary or below	204.0	190.8	174.8	172.8
Lower secondary	310.5	286.8	284.4	280.1
Higher secondary	393.2	402.1	400.0	379.9
Post leaving certificate	174.9	172.5	177.0	184.3
Third level non-honours degree	169.2	163.8	159.6	158.9
Third level honours degree or above	254.2	272.5	289.9	301.9
Other	48.4	50.0	43.8	31.9
Total	1,554.4	1,538.5	1,529.4	1,509.8
Females				
Primary or below	169.6	156.8	143.3	152.1
Lower secondary	248.5	239.8	234.8	226.4
Higher secondary	408.0	407.5	401.2	380.8
Post leaving certificate	169.2	155.4	170.0	173.9
Third level non-honours degree	241.3	238.9	221.9	223.6
Third level honours degree or above	266.3	298.8	329.5	345.6
Other	43.5	47.3	37.2	29.5
Total	1,546.5	1,544.5	1,538.0	1,531.8
All persons				
Primary or below	373.7	347.6	318.1	324.9
Lower secondary	559.0	526.6	519.3	506.5
Higher secondary	801.2	809.6	801.2	760.6
Post leaving certificate	344.0	327.9	347.0	358.2
Third level non-honours degree	410.5	402.8	381.5	382.5
Third level honours degree or above	520.6	571.3	619.4	647.5
Other	91.9	97.3	80.9	61.3
TOTAL	3,100.9	3,083.0	3,067.5	3,041.6

Source: CSO

Table 6.2 Persons in full-time education by level

Number

School year	First level	Second level	Third level
1965/66	504,865	142,983	20,698
1970/71	520,129	197,142	24,496
1975/76	550,078	270,956	33,148
1980/81	568,364	300,601	41,928
1985/86	576,576	338,207	55,088
1990/91	552,528	345,941	69,988
1995/96	485,923	373,665	102,662
2000/01	444,782	349,274	126,300
2001/02	447,446	344,720	131,812
2002/03	448,754	343,596	137,323
2003/04	451,755	341,724	143,271
2004/05	455,572	339,128	143,546
2005/06	462,811	335,134	145,287
2006/07	477,078	336,955	149,502
2007/08	490,838	338,682	148,014
2008/09	501,448	344,893	152,686
2009/10	510,460	354,235	164,843
2010/11	514,852	359,653	169,209
2011/12	521,677	363,136	166,574

Source: Department of Education and Skills

# Persons in full-time education by level

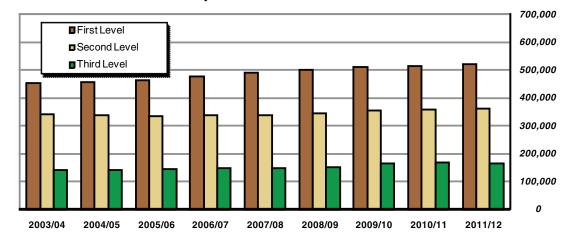


Table 6.3 Persons receiving full-time education and estimated participation rates for ages 15-24, 2011/12

	Ir	full-time educa	tion	As % of population		
Age	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	
15	30,117	28,551	58,668	101	101	
16	28,438	27,641	56,079	100	101	
17	26,037	25,741	51,778	91	94	
18	21,386	22,129	43,515	74	80	
19	17,232	19,067	36,299	60	67	
20	15,253	17,637	32,890	51	59	
21	13,952	15,653	29,605	49	54	
22	9,395	9,798	19,193	33	34	
23	5,771	5,726	11,497	20	19	
24	4,172	4,099	8,271	14	13	

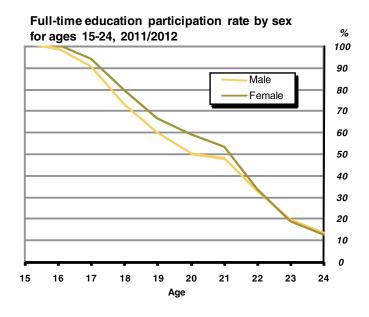


Table 6.4 Voted expenditure by sector for financial year ended 31 December 2011

€т

Sector	Current	Capital	Total
Administration and other services	376.7	2.7	379.4
First level education grants and services	3,080.9	-	3,080.9
Second level and further education grants and services	2,995.3	-	2,995.3
Third level and further education grants and services	1,661.7	-	1,661.7
Capital services	37.4	549.7	587.1
Skills development	158.0	4.0	162.0
Gross expenditure	8,310.0	556.4	8,866.4
Appropriations in aid	614.1	3.4	617.5
Net expenditure	7,695.9	553.0	8,248.9

Source: Department of Education and Skills

Table 6.5 Pupils in first level schools by standard

Number

Standard	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Infants standard	115,418	120,314	124,988	128,486	129,569	127,566	132,849
First standard	57,393	57,546	59,559	61,767	62,827	64,134	64,151
Second standard	56,435	57,913	58,159	59,625	61,636	62,416	64,477
Third standard	55,373	57,121	58,604	58,498	59,783	61,487	63,142
Fourth standard	52,891	56,027	57,871	58,884	58,595	59,605	61,987
Fifth standard	52,416	53,688	56,788	58,447	59,248	58,545	60,408
Sixth standard	51,832	52,705	54,115	56,715	58,162	58,989	59,202
Other standard	208	141	186	171	190	-	_
Special schools	6,627	6,578	6,619	6,653	6,905	7,178	7,420
Pupils with special needs in ordinary first level schools	9,296	9,486	9,555	9,668	9,083	9,732	2,822
Private primary schools	4,922	5,559	4,394	2,534	4,462	5,200	5,219
Total pupils	462,811	477,078	490,838	501,448	510,460	514,852	521,677

Source: Department of Education and Skills

Table 6.6 Teaching posts in first level schools on 30 June

Number

Sex	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Male Female	4,536 19,399	4,490 20,210	4,578 21.461	4,493 21,789	4,485 23,030	4,632 24,902	4,868 25,500	4,715 26,634	4,969 26,912	4,966 27.634	4,461 27,569
Total	23,935	24,700	26,039	26,282	27,515	29,534	30,368	31,349	31,881	32,600	32,030

Table 6.7 Teachers in secondary, vocational and community schools

Number

Category	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Socondani								
Secondary								
Full-time	11,553	11,477	11,501	11,506	11,630	11,323	11,442	9,125
Full-time equivalent of part-time	1,653	1,844	1,944	1,942	1,964	1,912	1,931	3,768
Vocational								
Full-time	5,994	6,482	7,132	n/a	n/a	6,130	6,506	6,332
Full-time equivalent of part-time	1,682	1,503	1,617	n/a	n/a	2,205	2,032	2,341
Community and comprehensive								
Full-time	3,487	3,452	3,452	3,482	3,522	3,428	3,464	2,956
Full-time equivalent of part-time	621	629	671	816	824	803	810	1,286
Total								
Full-time	21,034	21,411	22,085	14,988	15,152	20,881	21,412	18,413
Full-time equivalent of part-time	3,956	3,976	4,232	2,758	2,788	4,920	4,773	7,395
GRAND TOTAL								
Full-time and full-time equivalent	24,990	25,387	26,317	25,648	26,100	25,801	26,185	25,808

Source: Department of Education and Skills

Table 6.8 Second level state examination candidates

Number

Examination	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Junior Certificate	56,864	56,640	57,784	57,287	55,940	55,557	56,086	56,841	58,798
Male	28,495	28,627	29,273	28,812	28,308	28,361	28,523	29,182	29,907
Female	28,369	28,013	28,511	28,475	27,632	27,196	27,563	27,659	28,891
Leaving Certificate	58,742	57,391	54,111	53,893	55,543	57,461	57,837	57,539	55,816
Male	28,059	27,189	25,832	25,730	27,015	28,256	28,855	28,720	28,191
Female	30,683	30,202	28,279	28,163	28,528	29,205	28,982	28,819	27,625
ALL EXAMINATION CANDIDATES	115,606	114,031	111,895	111,180	111,483	113,018	113,923	114,380	114,614
Male	56,554	55,816	55,105	54,542	55,323	56,617	57,378	57,902	58,098
Female	59,052	58,215	56,790	56,638	56,160	56,401	56,545	56,478	56,516

Sources: State Examination Commission

Pupil / Teacher ratio

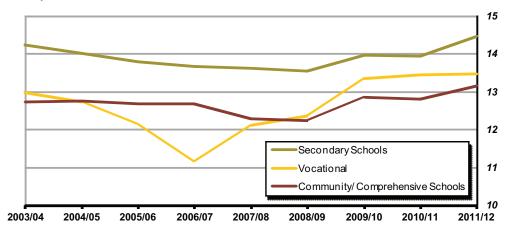


Table 6.9 Pupils in all second level schools taking each subject in the Leaving Certificate Programme, 2011/2012

Number

					Number
	Num	ber of pupil	s	% studyir	g subject
Subject	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Irish	45,491	45,676	91,167	82.2	83.3
English	52,056	50,766	102,822	94.1	92.6
Mathematics	52,055	50,589	102,644	94.1	92.3
History	14,304	10,333	24,637	25.9	18.9
Geography	28,408	23,075	51,483	51.4	42.1
Latin	339	99	438	0.6	0.2
Ancient Greek	32	11	43	0.1	0.0
Classical Studies	504	640	1,144	0.9	1.2
Hebrew Studies	112	53	165	0.2	0.1
French	26,086	30,923	57,009	47.2	56.4
German	6,685	7,734	14,419	12.1	14.1
Spanish	4,341	5,990	10,331	7.8	10.9
Italian	275	561	836	0.5	1.0
Dutch	52	35	87	0.1	0.1
Portuguese	7	3	10	0.0	0.0
Modern Greek	67	51	118	0.1	0.1
Applied Mathematics	1,756	699	2,455	3.2	1.3
Physics	10,125	3,201	13,326	18.3	5.8
Chemistry	7,640	8,702	16,342	13.8	15.9
Physics & Chemistry	530	317	847	1.0	0.6
Agricultural Science	8,248	4,560	12,808	14.9	8.3
Biology	25,093	37,279	62,372	45.4	68.0
Agricultural Economics	23	10	33	0.0	0.0
Engineering	10,165	709	10,874	18.4	1.3
Construction Studies	16,407	1,264	17,671	29.7	2.3
Accounting	5,947	5,787	11,734	10.7	10.6
Business	16,890	16,997	33,887	30.5	31.0
Economics	5,650	2,858	8,508	10.2	5.2
Swedish	2	1	3	0.0	0.0
Typewriting	102	67	169	0.2	0.1
Japanese (LC)	183	317	500	0.3	0.6
Arabic	4	8	12	0.0	0.0
Technology	1,748	366	2,114	3.2	0.7
Music	3,610	7,766	11,376	6.5	14.2
Art (with Design option)	3,511	4,760	8,271	6.3	8.7
Art (with Craftwork option)	4,542	8,808	13,350	8.2	16.1
Comp. Applic - Word Processing	0	160	160	0.0	0.3
Work and Communication Skills	36	0	36	0.1	0.0
History Early-Modern	11	86	97	0.0	0.2
Home Economics S&S (New Syllabus)	3,338	21,974	25,312	6.0	40.1
Russian (LC)	21	30	51	0.0	0.1
Keyboarding	430	577	1,007	0.8	1.1
Agriculture	249	129	378	0.5	0.2
Horticulture	141	0	141	0.3	0.0
Landscape Gardening	34	67	101	0.1	0.1

Table 6.9 Pupils in all second level schools taking each subject in the Leaving Certificate Programme, 2011/2012 (continued)

Number

	Nun	nber of pup	oils	% studying	subject
Subject	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Forestry	54	53	107	0.1	0.1
Fishing	146	120	266	0.3	0.2
Choir	186	2,640	2,826	0.3	4.8
Orchestra	50	102	152	0.1	0.2
Accountancy	55	25	80	0.1	0.0
Stenography	120	102	222	0.2	0.2
Lending & Securities	111	106	217	0.2	0.2
Business Calculations	0	1	1	0.0	0.0
Computer Studies	9,691	10,403	20,094	17.5	19.0
Project Mathematics	22,003	21,718	43,721	39.8	39.6
Physical Education	33,678	34,549	68,227	60.9	63.0
Religious Education	42,277	43,682	85,959	76.4	79.7
Social, Personal and Health Education	3,646	5,306	8,952	6.6	9.7
Preparation for the World of Work	17,157	18,865	36,022	31.0	34.4
Study Skills	1,698	1,500	3,198	3.1	2.7
Relationship & Sexuality Ed.	890	710	1,600	1.6	1.3
Design & Communication Graphics	10,159	1,392	11,551	18.4	2.5
Czech	0	3	3	0.0	0.0
Polish	51	72	123	0.1	0.1
Latvian	5	8	13	0.0	0.0
Lithuanian	11	20	31	0.0	0.0
Hungarian	5	2	7	0.0	0.0
Estonian	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
Romanian	8	3	11	0.0	0.0
Slovakian	0	2	2	0.0	0.0
Slovenian	1	0	1	0.0	0.0
Bulgarian	1	0	1	0.0	0.0
Total number of pupils in the leaving certificate programme	55,322	54,812	110,134	100.0	100.0

Table 6.10 Leaving Certificate candidates taking selected subjects at ordinary level

											%
Subject	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Mathematics	70	70	68	68	69	69	69	69	70	69	67
Irish	52	52	52	52	52	50	49	48	48	46	45
English	39	37	37	35	35	34	34	34	34	34	35
French	31	31	29	30	28	28	26	26	24	24	24
Biology	15	16	15	15	15	16	16	15	15	14	15
Business Studies	13	13	13	13	13	12	13	11	11	11	11
Geography	13	13	13	13	13	13	12	11	11	11	11
Mathematics (Foundation)	10	10	11	10	10	11	11	11	11	11	11
Irish (Foundation)	10	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	8	9	8
History	7	8	8	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8
Home Economics (S & S)	9	9	9	9	8	8	7	7	7	7	7
German	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5
Design and Communication	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3
Art	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	5
Physics	5	5	4	5	4	4	4	4	3	3	3
Construction Studies	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3
Accounting	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3
Spanish	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4
Engineering	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2
Economics	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Chemistry	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	3	3
Agricultural Science	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
Music	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
Physics and Chemistry	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Sources: State Examination Commission

# All Leaving Certificate students taking selected subjects, 2011/12

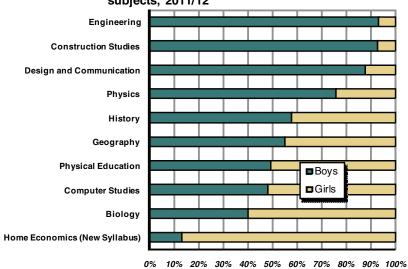


Table 6.11 Leaving Certificate candidates taking selected subjects at higher level

0/2

Subject	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
English	57	58	59	60	60	61	61	61	61	60	65
Geography	38	39	39	39	35	35	35	37	37	39	39
Biology	25	25	29	32	33	34	35	35	38	42	45
French	27	27	27	27	26	27	27	27	26	26	27
Irish	27	27	27	27	25	27	27	25	27	26	32
Business Studies	29	28	27	25	25	25	23	23	23	22	23
Home Economics (S & S)	24	23	19	18	16	16	17	17	16	16	17
Mathematics	17	17	17	18	18	16	16	16	15	15	22
Art	12	12	13	14	15	15	15	15	15	15	16
History	12	13	12	12	14	15	15	14	14	15	15
Construction Studies	11	12	12	12	13	12	13	13	13	13	13
Chemistry	10	10	11	11	11	11	11	11	12	12	13
Physics	11	11	11	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	9
Accounting	8	8	9	9	10	10	9	9	8	7	8
German	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	9
Music	6	6	7	8	8	9	9	8	10	10	11
Economics	7	7	7	7	7	5	7	8	7	7	7
Engineering	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	8
Agricultural Science	4	4	4	5	6	6	7	7	9	10	11
Design and Communication	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	8	7	8
Spanish	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	5
Applied Mathematics	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
Classical Studies	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Physics and Chemistry	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Sources: State Examination Commission

 Table 6.12
 Leaving Certificate ordinary level grades for most popular subjects, 2012

%

	Grade							
Subject	A	В	С	D	E or lower			
	_							
Mathematics	5	28	33	25	10			
Irish	3	31	38	22	4			
English	8	32	37	19	4			
French	2	24	39	28	7			
Biology	1	18	39	28	14			
Mathematics (Foundation)	6	30	36	20	7			
Business Studies	11	29	32	19	8			
Geography	4	28	44	21	4			
Irish (Foundation)	6	29	38	21	5			
History	17	29	30	20	4			
Home Economics (S & S)	2	23	39	26	9			
German	4	35	37	18	6			
Art	1	23	46	25	5			
Construction Studies	0	15	40	34	10			
Accounting	18	28	20	18	16			
Physics	15	32	25	17	11			
Design and Communication	9	32	32	18	10			
Spanish	3	30	36	24	7			
Chemistry	8	22	30	24	17			
Agricultural science	0	9	36	38	17			
Engineering	2	19	40	30	9			
Economics	11	33	31	19	6			

Sources: State Examination Commission

Table 6.13 Leaving Certificate higher level grades for most popular subjects, 2012

					%
Subject	A	В	С	D	E or lower
English	10	27	40	22	2
Biology	17	28	27	21	8
Geography	8	28	37	23	3
Irish	17	37	33	12	1
French	14	28	34	22	3
Business	11	29	31	22	7
Home Economics (S & S)	8	30	37	22	3
Mathematics	10	38	36	14	2
Art	5	33	41	20	2
History	13	33	34	18	3
Construction Studies	8	33	35	20	4
Chemistry	20	29	24	19	9
Music	15	54	26	5	0
Agricultural Science	10	26	30	26	9
Physics	21	30	25	18	7
German	15	28	34	21	2
Accounting	21	35	23	15	6
Design and Communication	14	34	36	14	2
Engineering	10	34	35	18	3
Economics	12	30	30	22	6
Spanish	15	33	34	16	1

Source: State Examination Commission

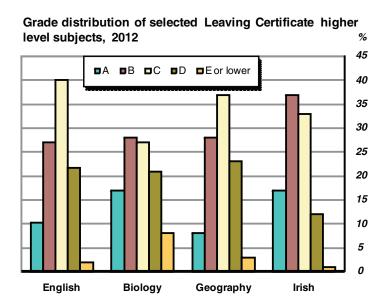


Table 6.14 First time entrants to third level courses in all institutions, 2011/2012

Number

Type of institution	Male	Female	Total
HEA Institutions	9,166	10,577	19,743
IOT/Technological Sector	10,695	8,467	19,162
Teacher Training Institutions	406	1,321	1,727
Other Colleges	383	352	735
Total	20,650	20,717	41,367