

## **Primary and lower secondary school 2006**

This series consists mainly of primary statistics, statistics from statistical accounting systems and results of special censuses and surveys. The series is intended to serve reference and documentation purposes. The presentation is basically in the form of tables, figures and necessary information about data, collection and processing methods, in addition to concepts and definitions. A short overview of the main results is also included

The series also includes the publications Statistical Yearbook of Norway and Svalbard Statistics

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## Preface

This publication provides documentation about the primary and lower secondary school data from Statistics Norway, and includes mainly primary and lower secondary statistics from 2005.

The main results are available on Statistics Norway's web site on the internet by subject: Education <http://www.ssb.no/04/02/>.

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## 1. Main results and use of the tables

### 2.2. Main result and use of the tables

The number of primary and lower secondary schools were at a peak in 1983/84 with 3 543 schools. The number of schools has gradually decreased since then and reached an all time low in 2005/06 with 3 160, an 11 per cent reduction. At the same time the number of pupils has grown with 8 per cent. The number includes both pupils at public and private institutions.

Private schools are more than tripled during the last twenty years, from the school year 1985/86 to 2005/06. The number of pupils at private schools has had a similar growth with an increase at 205 per cent. The largest expansion in the number of private institutions were 67 per cent from 2001/02 to 2005/06, the number of pupils grew 32 per cent in the same period.

There is a continuing reduction in pupils attending small and medium schools, schools with less than 299 pupils. 8.7 per cent pupils attended schools with less than 100 pupils in 2005/06, 38.3 per cent attended schools with pupil numbers in the range between 100 – 299, and 53 per cent attended schools with more than 300 pupils.

The same year there were 60 245 pupils in the 1 grade and 62 501 pupils in the 10 grade. There were 1 609 pupils in special groups and 968 pupils in foreign language classes. The total number of pupils in Norwegian primary and lower secondary schools were 619 640 in 2005/06.

Near 10 000 pupils receive native language training and/or bilingual education in 1993/94, the number has been rising since the beginning of the 1990ies and reached 20 171 pupils in 2005/06. 37 342 pupils received additional training in Norwegian in 2005/06, they amount to 6 per cent of the total number of pupils.

## 2. Background and purpose

### 2.1. Purpose and history

The Purpose of GSI is to collect all necessary information for planning and official statistics related to primary and lower secondary education in Norway. All information about education of children and adults on a primary and lower secondary level, in accordance with the Education Act, is to be covered by GSI. GSI was started in 1992 as a database developed and maintained by The Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research (KD). The database has been maintained and run by Statistics Norway since 1998.

Figures from GSI is linked with economic data and published as indicators in KOSTRA with the intention to provide information on municipal and county municipal activities. Both figures from GSI and KOSTRA are published at institutional level trough Skoleporten.no as well.

### 2.2. Users and applications

In addition to statistical purposes, the data collected through GSI provides an important information source for the work of KD and the Directorate for Primary and Secondary Education (Udir). The figures also provide important information for the municipal authorities through KOSTRA.

### 3. Statistics production

#### 3.1. Population

The population consists of all primary and lower secondary education under the Education Act as well as after-school care, adult education on primary and lower secondary level and public music and cultural schools, including the Norwegian schools abroad.

#### 3.2. Data sources

The annual collection of data through GSI

#### 3.3. Sampling

The whole population described in 3.1.

#### 3.4. Collection of data

The statistics are based on annual reports by the schools and municipal authorities to central authorities. Every autumn the schools report the situation on October 1<sup>st</sup> and their plans for the current school year. The reports are collected through the Internet using a web portal designed run by Waade information systems. The municipal authorities are responsible for the schools under their domain, the County Governors are responsible for privately run schools and the municipalities in their jurisdiction.

#### 3.5. Response burden

The response burden is estimated to two day's work for every school. That corresponds to an aggregate of about 7000 day's work annually. In addition comes the reporting and revisions done by municipal authorities.

#### 3.6. Control and revision

Municipal authorities and the education department in each corresponding County Governors office revise the data. There are also controls undertaken by Statistics Norway, and Udir.

#### 3.7. Analysis

### 4. Concepts, variables and classifications

#### 4.1. Definition of the main concepts

*Education Act.*

The Education Act regulates both primary, lower secondary and upper secondary education, including education of adults on corresponding educational levels. The Education Act is in force from the school year of 1999/00.

*Primary and lower secondary education.*

Children and young people are obliged to undertake primary and lower secondary education, and have the right public primary and lower secondary education. The municipality is responsible for the fulfilment of this right for children and youths under the age of 16, according to the Education Act section 13-1. Children are usually enrolled in primary schools the calendar year they complete 6 years of age, lower secondary school is usually finished after the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Primary and lower secondary education includes education of persons above primary and lower secondary school age, that receives education on corresponding levels.

<i>School year.</i>	The time allocated to teaching shall not be less than 38 weeks within a framework of 45 consecutive weeks during the school year. The school year normally starts on August 1 <sup>st</sup> each year.
<i>Pupil in primary and lower secondary school.</i>	Children and young people that, in accordance with the Education Act section § 2-1 have the right and obligation to undertake primary and lower secondary education. This usually applies to children and young people from 6 to 15 years of age. It also includes persons older than 15 who get education on primary or lower secondary school level.
<i>Grade.</i>	The grades in primary and lower secondary schools span from 1 <sup>st</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup> grade. All pupils are transferred to the next grade each year.
<i>Primary/ lower secondary.</i>	Primary school consists of 1 <sup>st</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> grade. Lower secondary school consists of 8 <sup>th</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup> grade.
<i>Primary and lower secondary schools.</i>	Primary and lower secondary schools are municipal, county municipal or state schools for primary and lower secondary education, according to the Education Act section 13-1, or private (chartered) primary and lower secondary schools approved under the Education Act.
<i>Special schools, institution schools and alternative schools.</i>	Special schools are schools for pupils who either do not or are unable to benefit satisfactorily from ordinary tuition, and are provided special education due to a decision by municipal or county authorities. Institution schools are primary and lower secondary education in hospitals and other treatment centres organized in own schools. Alternative schools are similar to special schools, but not all education in alternative schools need to be a result of decisions by a municipal or county authorities.
<i>Official form of Norwegian.</i>	The official form of Norwegian (bokmål, nynorsk or samisk) used by the school.
<i>Minority language pupils.</i>	Refers to persons with other mother tongue than Norwegian or Sami. Mother tongue refers to the language that is used in a person's home.
<i>Mother language training.</i>	Mother language training is training in the mother tongue of minority language pupils.
<i>Additional training in Norwegian (for minority language pupils).</i>	Additional training in Norwegian for minority language pupils is either an additional training in Norwegian for minority language pupils, or training in Norwegian for minority language pupils as a separate subject, or a combination of the above.
<i>The size of the tuition groups.</i>	The relation between the pupil's hours and the teacher's hours provide an indication of the pupil teacher ratio.

## 4.2. Definition of the main variables

### 4.3. Standard classifications

The Norwegian Standard Classification of Education, which was created by Statistics Norway in 1970, groups the educational activity. The standard has been revised; the latest version is from 2000. The type of educational institution is classified by the International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (NOS C 182).



## 5. Sources of error and uncertainty

### 5.1. Collection and processing errors

Errors in data collected from administrative registers can be caused by uncertainties in the definition of variables and values between those responsible for the registers and others responsible for data collection from the registers.

Other sources of error can be the quality of the personal and school data in the registers or the registration process of data input into the registers. Such errors can affect the quality of the data if the control and revision processes in Statistics Norway are not comprehensive enough.

### 5.2. Sampling errors

Education statistics is not based on sample surveys

### 5.3. Non-sampling errors

## 6. Comparability and coherence

### 6.1. Spatial comparability and comparability over time

GSI is the source of the primary and lower secondary school statistics from 1992 and later. Tables based on earlier statistics are comparable to tables based on GSI. The time series might be interrupted by changes succeeding amendments to the Education Act. There is no collection of data regarding classes after 2003, as teaching from then on was organized in groups rather than classes.

### 6.2. Coherence

Data from GSI is also published in KOSTRA and the internet site skoleporten.no.

## 7. Availability

### 7.1. Internet address

[http://www.ssb.no/utgrs\\_en/](http://www.ssb.no/utgrs_en/)

[http://www.ssb.no/privgrs\\_en/](http://www.ssb.no/privgrs_en/)

[http://www.ssb.no/emner/04/utdanning\\_as](http://www.ssb.no/emner/04/utdanning_as)

[http://www.ssb.no/kostra\\_en/](http://www.ssb.no/kostra_en/)

<http://www.wis.no/gsi>

<http://www.skoleporten.no>

### 7.2. Language (Bokmål/Nynorsk, English)

Nynorsk and English

### 7.3. Publications

The statistics are released on the Internet pages of Statistics Norway. The data are also available in Statbank. Some tables are published in the annual releases of Statistical yearbook of Norway.

### 7.4. Storing and use of basic material

All education statistics at Statistics Norway is stored in a proper, standardized manner in consultation with the Data Inspectorate.

## 7.5. Other documentation

### 1. Primary and lower secondary schools. Pupils in primary and lower secondary school. School years 1979/80-2005/06

School year	Schools, total	Type of school						Pupils in other groups <sup>2</sup>
		Primary schools	Combined primary and lower secondary schools	Lower secondary schools	Pupils, total	Primary school <sup>1</sup>	Lower secondary school <sup>1</sup>	
1979/80	3 500	2 464	570	466	593 767	395 123	195 785	2 859
1980/81	3 518	2 454	598	466	591 323	390 758	197 800	2 765
1981/82	3 526	2 439	609	478	586 141	384 121	199 392	2 628
1982/83	3 539	2 435	623	481	576 910	373 155	200 757	2 998
1983/84	3 543	2 408	646	489	565 497	362 146	199 656	3 695
1984/85	3 540	2 383	667	490	550 136	347 768	198 111	4 257
1985/86	3 525	2 374	667	484	534 000	335 373	195 058	3 569
1986/87	3 509	2 349	672	488	519 867	325 577	191 771	2 519
1987/88	3 500	2 331	678	491	505 942	317 228	186 454	2 260
1988/89	3 475	2 308	676	491	492 769	312 384	178 924	1 461
1989/90	3 442	2 280	674	488	482 964	310 600	171 130	1 234
1990/91	3 406	2 253	667	486	473 078	309 432	162 347	1 299
1991/92	3 389	2 242	660	487	467 501	308 516	157 993	922
1992/93	3 352	2 208	659	485	463 309	307 461	155 621	<sup>3</sup> 227
1993/94	3 325	2 172	669	484	466 605	309 889	156 485	<sup>3</sup> 231
1994/95	3 308	2 147	674	487	470 779	314 062	156 693	<sup>3</sup> 24
1995/96	3 285	2 129	675	481	477 236	320 752	156 484	-
1996/97 <sup>4</sup>	3 308	2 145	673	490	487 398	330 619	155 623	-
1997/98	3 273	2 088	700	485	558 247	401 640	155 112	1 495
1998/99	3 277	2 086	706	485	569 044	411 878	155 387	1 779
1999/00	3 272	2 075	709	487	580 261	419 805	158 279	2 177
2000/01	3 260	2 066	705	489	590 471	426 475	162 040	1 956
2001/02	3 248	2 051	709	488	599 468	429 445	168 095	1 928
2002/03	3 237	2 045	701	491	610 297	432 618	175 121	2 558
2003/04	3 209	1 999	717	493	617 577	432 345	181 934	3 298
2004/05	3 189	1 982	720	487	618 250	429 652	185 866	2 732
2005/06	3 160	1 944	736	480	619 640	429 207	187 856	2 577

<sup>1</sup> From 1979/80 to 1996/97 primary school contained 1st - 6th grades and lower secondary school 7th - 9th grades. From 1997/98 primary school contains 1st - 7th grades and lower secondary school 8th - 10th grades. <sup>2</sup> Pupils in 10th group 1979/80 - 1996/97. Pupils in special groups and foreign language groups from 1997/98. <sup>3</sup> Pupils in 10th grade covered by the school budget of the local authority. <sup>4</sup> 1996/97 pupils at Norwegian schools abroad and pupils in special groups and pupils in foreign language groups are included.

### 2. Primary and lower secondary pupils<sup>1</sup> and primary and lower secondary schools, by ownership. School years 1985/86-2005/06

School year	Total of schools	Of which private <sup>2</sup>	Total of pupils	Of which private
1985/86	3 524	38	534 000	4 356
1990/91	3 406	48	473 078	5 619
1995/96	3 285	63	477 236	7 268
2000/01	3 260	88	590 471	10 053
2005/06	3 160	145	619 640	13 269

<sup>1</sup> Primary and lower secondary school was extended by one class level from school year 1997/98 and school starting age was reduced from 7 to 6 years. <sup>2</sup> Primary and lower secondary schools authorised by the law for private schools of 2003-07-04 nr 84.

### 3. Pupils in primary school, by grade. School year 2003/04-2005/06. Final figures.

Grades	Pupils 2003/04	Pupils 2004/05	Pupils 2005/06
<b>Total</b>	<b>617 577</b>	<b>618 250</b>	<b>619 650</b>
1	60 902	59 303	60 222
2	62 317	61 008	59 609
3	61 649	62 495	61 297
4	61 316	61 809	62 729
5	61 181	61 461	62 026
6	62 194	61 246	61 667
7	62 786	62 330	61 559
8	62 216	62 696	62 437
9	60 854	62 267	62 914
10	58 864	60 903	62 497
Special groups	1 458	1 563	1 616
Minority language groups	1 840	1 169	1 077

**4. Pupils, by school size (number of pupils). School years 2000/01-2005/06. Per cent.**

School size (number of pupils)	School year					
	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Less than 100 pupils .....	9.6	9.2	9.0	8.7	8.7	8.7
100 - 299 pupils .....	42.9	41.6	40.8	39.3	38.3	38.3
300 pupils or more .....	47.5	49.1	50.2	52.0	52.9	53.0

**5. Pupils with native language training, bilingual education and additional training in Norwegian, by county. 1 October 2005<sup>1</sup>**

County	Total of pupils	Pupils with native language training <sup>1</sup>	Pupils with bilingual education <sup>2</sup>	Pupils with additional training in Norwegian <sup>3</sup>
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>619 640</b>	<b>11 824</b>	<b>14 350</b>	<b>37 342</b>
Østfold .....	34 242	1 112	1 826	2 517
Akershus .....	72 381	638	1 510	3 570
Oslo .....	52 998	1 140	3 985	11 248
Hedmark .....	24 014	432	303	840
Oppland .....	23 534	482	285	853
Buskerud .....	31 847	627	911	2 337
Vestfold .....	30 066	632	840	1 480
Telemark .....	21 618	481	655	1 196
Aust-Agder .....	14 585	185	228	653
Vest-Agder .....	23 568	121	619	1 514
Rogaland .....	58 973	1 618	642	2 976
Hordaland .....	62 513	1 790	503	2 539
Sogn og Fjordane .....	15 427	268	247	638
Møre og Romsdal .....	33 840	489	424	1 184
Sør-Trøndelag .....	36 779	769	705	1 630
Nord-Trøndelag .....	18 480	240	90	432
Nordland .....	32 939	328	287	856
Troms .....	21 259	309	134	454
Finnmark .....	10 385	163	156	408
Svalbard .....	192	-	-	17

<sup>1</sup> Native language training are additional training in the mother tongue of foreign language pupils. <sup>2</sup> Bilingual education are education where the pupil's mother tongue is used in the education. <sup>3</sup> Additional training in Norwegian are additional training in Norwegian or education in the subject 'Norwegian' for foreign language pupils.

**6. Pupils receiving mother language training or bilingual education<sup>1</sup>, by mother tongue. 1 October 2005.<sup>2</sup>**

Mother tongue	Number of pupils
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>20 717</b>
Urdu .....	2 521
Somali .....	2 175
Arabic .....	1 830
Kurdish .....	1 735
Vietnamese .....	1 551
Albanian .....	1 288
Turkish .....	1 026
Bosnian .....	806
Tamil .....	764
English .....	654
Russian .....	639
Spanish .....	572
Thai .....	531
Persian .....	519
Dari .....	493
Polish .....	353
Chechen .....	299
German .....	262
Punjabi .....	229
Dutch .....	180
Phillipine .....	172
Pashto .....	163
Serbian .....	155
Swahili .....	149
French .....	135
Chinese .....	121
Portuguese .....	107
Finnish .....	94
Tigrinia .....	82
Icelandic .....	76
Lithuanian .....	70
Burmesisk .....	58
Oromo .....	57
Berber .....	56
Amharic .....	54
Cantonese .....	51
Hindi .....	42
Croatian .....	38
Kirundi .....	36
Roumanian .....	25
Bengali .....	22
Greek .....	21
Malay .....	21
Other .....	485

<sup>1</sup> Mother language training are additional training in the mother tongue of foreign language pupils. Bilingual education are education where the pupil's mother tongue is used in the education. <sup>2</sup> Pupils counted by local governments are included in figures of foreign language pupils.