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INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY IN SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND: 2004 (PROVISIONAL)

INTRODUCTION

This Statistical First Release presents information on the numbers of computers used mainly for teaching and learning, numbers of pupils per computer (used mainly for teaching and learning), percentage of schools with electronic interactive whiteboards, average number of electronic interactive whiteboards per school, expenditure on Information and Communications Technology (ICT), and teachers' confidence in the use of ICT, in 2004. Figures for 1998-2004 are shown in the table. The figures were derived from a sample survey of maintained primary, secondary and special schools in England.

KEY POINTS

Primary Schools

Computers used mainly for teaching and learning

- The average number of computers per school increased from 13.3 in 1998 to 28.6 in 2003 and 31.6 in 2004.
- On average, there was one computer for 7.5 pupils in 2004 compared to 7.9 pupils in 2003 and 17.6 pupils in 1998.
- The percentage of schools with electronic interactive white boards increased from 48% in 2003 to 63% in 2004.
- The average number of interactive white boards per school increased from 1.0 in 2003 to 1.9 in 2004.
- The average expenditure on ICT per school was £14,800 in 2004 compared to £11,300 in 2003 and £3,600 in 1998.
- The percentage of teachers reported to feel confident in the use of ICT was 85% in 2004 compared to 87% in 2003; it was 65% in 1998.

Secondary Schools

Computers used mainly for teaching and learning

- The average number of computers per school increased from 100.9 in 1998 to 192.7 in 2003 and 217.6 in 2004.
- On average, there was one computer for 4.9 pupils in 2004 compared to 5.4 pupils in 2003 and 8.7 pupils in 1998.
- The percentage of schools with electronic interactive white

boards increased from 82% in 2003 to 92% in 2004.

- The average number of interactive white boards per school increased from 4.3 in 2003 to 7.5 in 2004.

- The average expenditure on ICT per school was £88,600 in 2004 compared to £65,100 in 2003 and £40,100 in 1998.

- The percentage of teachers reported to feel confident in the use of ICT was 81% in 2004 compared to 82% in 2003; it was 61% in 1998.

Special Schools

Computers used mainly for teaching and learning

- The average number of computers per school increased from 18.5 in 1998 to 31.3 in 2003 and 33.4 in 2004.

- On average, there was one computer for 3.1 pupils in 2004 compared to 3.0 pupils in 2003 and 4.5 pupils in 1998.

- The percentage of schools with electronic interactive white boards increased from 53% in 2003 to 71% in 2004.

- The average number of interactive white boards per school increased from 1.3 in 2003 to 2.6 in 2004.

- The average expenditure on ICT per school was £18,900 in 2004 compared to £13,600 in 2003 and £7,500 in 1998.

- 86% of teachers reported to feel confident in the use of ICT in both 2003 and 2004; it was 63% in 1998.

TABLE

The table contains figures for maintained primary, secondary and special schools in England from 1998 to 2004, the figures for 2004 are provisional.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Final results from the survey will be published later in 2004.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Statistical process

1. The annual ICT in Schools survey collects data on the availability and use of ICT in schools from maintained primary, secondary and special schools in England. For 2004, the survey collected data on the position at 31 March 2004 or, in the case of expenditure on ICT, the financial year 2003-04.

2. The survey is based on a stratified random sample with maintained primary, secondary and

special schools selected from Government Office regions and (pre-determined) school size bands. Participation is voluntary. For 2004, the sample comprised 2,426 primary schools, 2,628 secondary schools and 1,000 special schools. The figures in the table were based on returns from 1,015 or 42 per cent of primary schools in the sample, 818 or 31 per cent of secondary schools and 427 or 43 per cent of special schools.

3. Returns from schools were checked for validity in terms of a set of validation rules designed to detect inconsistencies and discrepancies. Schools were asked to check any invalid data and correct any errors.

4. Provisional figures for 2004 and comparable figures for 1998-2003, where these are available, are shown in the table. The figures on the full-time equivalent number of pupils per computer were derived from the full-time equivalent number of pupils from the Annual Schools' Census and the number of computers from the ICT in Schools survey. The Annual Schools' Census collects data on the position in January each year.

5. The figures are weighted estimates and confidence intervals. The weights are the number of schools in the population divided by the number of schools in the sample in each Government Office region and school size band. They've been adjusted for non-response in the sample. The number of schools in the population was derived from the Annual Schools' Census. For 2004, there were 17,595 maintained primary schools, 3,387 maintained secondary schools and 1,048 maintained special schools.

6. Statistical sampling error arises because the sample of schools has been selected from the population. As small differences can arise entirely because of sampling error, it is helpful to know the extent of the sampling error. The width of the confidence interval, which is the difference between the upper and lower confidence limits, reflects the sampling error. There is a probability of 0.95 that the 95% confidence interval contains the true value. For example, for 2004, for primary schools, the estimate of the number of computers used for teaching and learning per school is 31.6. There is a probability of 0.95 that the range 30.6 to 32.5 will contain the true value of the number of computers used for teaching and learning per school.

Average expenditure per school 1998-2004

7. The average cash expenditure for 2003 may not be wholly comparable with the expenditure figures shown for other years in the time series. In all years, the figures relate average ICT expenditure per school on teaching and learning and management and administration. However, the guidance note for 2003 did not specify the individual categories of expenditure to be included within this broad definition such as hardware, software, internet costs, ICT-related training and technical support. This clarification was reinserted into the 2004 survey. The absence of guidance on the inclusion criteria for expenditure on the 2003 survey form may have encouraged schools to record their ICT expenditure on a basis not wholly consistent with the remainder of the time series.

8. Figures on expenditure on ICT for all years have not been adjusted for inflation so care should be taken when comparing figures in the time series.

9. Public enquiries about this Statistical First Release should be addressed to earlyyears.statisticalunit@dfes.gsi.gov.uk. Press enquiries should be addressed to Tim Watkinson on 0207 925 5975.

Information and Communications Technology (1)
Maintained primary, secondary and special schools
England
1998 - 2004 (provisional)

		1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004 (provisional)
Computers used mainly for teaching and learning								
Number of computers per school								
primary (2)	estimate	13.3	16.1	17.8	20.7	24.9	28.6	31.6
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	24.1	28.0	30.6
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	25.7	29.3	32.5
secondary (3)	estimate	100.9	101.3	112.6	127.7	159.0	192.7	217.6
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	155.2	188.6	210.5
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	162.7	196.7	224.8
special	estimate	18.5	21.0	21.3	24.8	28.2	31.3	33.4
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	26.7	29.8	30.9
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	29.6	32.8	35.9
Full-time equivalent number of pupils per computer								
primary (2)	estimate	17.6	13.4	12.6	11.8	10.1	7.9	7.5
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	9.8	7.7	7.3
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	10.4	8.0	7.6
secondary (3)	estimate	8.7	8.4	7.9	7.1	6.5	5.4	4.9
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	6.3	5.3	4.7
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	6.6	5.5	5.1
special	estimate	4.5	3.7	3.7	3.2	3.4	3.0	3.1
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	3.2	2.8	2.9
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	3.6	3.1	3.3
Electronic interactive whiteboards								
Percentage of schools with electronic interactive whiteboards								
primary (2)	estimate	..	..	..	..	28	48	63
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	..	..	66
secondary (3)	estimate	..	..	..	..	65	82	92
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	..	..	90
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	..	..	94
special	estimate	..	..	..	..	35	53	71
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	..	..	67
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	..	..	75

Average number of electronic interactive whiteboards per school (7)								
primary (2)	estimate	..	..	..	..	0.4	1.0	1.9
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.8
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.1
secondary (3)	estimate					2.1	4.3	7.5
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.9
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	..	..	8.1
special	estimate	..	..	..	..	0.6	1.3	2.6
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.3
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.0
Average expenditure per school (4)								
primary (2)	estimate	3,600	7,000	8,300	10,300	12,900	*11,300* (8)	14,800
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	12,200	*10,700*	14,000
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	13,500	*11,800*	15,500
secondary (3)	estimate	40,100	45,400	50,100	60,300	75,300	*65,100* (8)	88,600
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	72,300	*62,600*	83,600
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	78,300	*67,700*	93,600
special	estimate	7,500	10,200	11,900	13,300	15,100	*13,600* (8)	18,900
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	14,200	*12,700*	17,300
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	16,000	*14,600*	20,500
Percentage of teachers reported to feel confident in the use of ICT								
primary (2)	estimate	65	68	67	76	81	87	85
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	79	85	84
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	83	88	87
secondary (3)	estimate	61	66	65	70	75	82	81
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	74	81	80
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	76	83	82
special	estimate	63	68	73	77	79	86	86
	LCL (5)	..	..	..	..	77	85	84
	UCL (6)	..	..	..	..	81	87	88

Source: DfES Annual Survey of Information and Communications Technology in Schools.

1. All figures are rounded, figures for expenditure are rounded to the nearest one hundred pounds.
2. Includes middle deemed primary schools.
3. Includes middle deemed secondary schools.
4. Includes expenditure on teaching and learning and management and administration.
5. Lower 95% confidence limit.
6. Upper 95% confidence limit.
7. Schools who reported that they had no interactive whiteboards are also included in the calculation of the average.
8. The average expenditure for schools in 2003 may not be comparable to other figures in the time series due to a change in the guidance note to the question (see para 7 Notes to Editors).

.. not available.