An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh
Central Statistics Office

Chart 1. Source of weekly income


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## CensusAtSchool 2014

## October 2014

## Over $\mathbf{8 0 \%}$ of students receive a weekly income

CensusAtSchool is a non-profit making international project funded by organisations interested in promoting good use of statistics, mathematics and data handling. Ireland became involved in CensusAtSchool in 2009 when the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST), the CSO, Project Maths and the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) collaborated to set-up the Irish website www.censusatschool.ie.

4,906 (1.3\%) from an estimated 368,000 secondary school students completed the Phase 13 questionnaire of the CensusAtSchool survey between September 2013 and August 2014. The questionnaire covered a variety of topics ranging from how much students earned each week to their favourite takeaway food and their resting heart rates.

## Interesting findings from Phase $\mathbf{1 3}$ results:

- Over four-fifths of students receive a weekly income. Pocket money ( $32 \%$ in females and $33 \%$ in males) and paid work ( $16 \%$ in females and $17 \%$ in males) are the most popular type of payments being received. (See Chart 1)
- Chinese (33\%), Pizza (28\%) and Chips (10\%) were student's favourite take-away foods. (See Chart 2)
- On average, students indicated they own 12 pairs of different types of footwear. Female students (16 pairs) indicated they own twice as many pairs of footwear as male students (8 pairs). (See Chart 3)
- When asked about the level of trust of a selection of social entities, students indicated they have the most trust in their classmates and the Gardai. Students indicated they had the least level of trust for politicians and the press. (See Chart 4)
- Physical education (13\%) and Art (12\%) were student's favourite subjects at non-fee paying secondary schools. In contrast, Mathematics (11\%) and English (9.5\%) were the favourite subjects of students attending fee paying secondary schools. (See Chart 5)
- $64 \%$ of students indicated they have read a book in the last month. Fantasy/ Sci-fi (18.7\%), Adventure (18.6\%) and Romance (12.8\%) were student's most popular genre of book. (See Table 1 and Table 2)
- Responses indicate that students in the more northerly counties of Donegal, Sligo, Cavan, Longford and Westmeath had the lowest resting heart rates ( $60-65$ beats per minute ( bpm )). When students measured their heart rate after a short burst of exercise it was students in Offaly that had the smallest percentage rise in their bpm (20-29\%). (See Map 1 and Map 2)

For more information, contact Felix Coleman at 0214535129 or Eoin McCuirc 0214535504.

## Chart 2. Students favourite takeaway food



Chart 3. Footwear type classified by student sex


Chart 4. Student's Level of trust


Chart 5. Students favourite subject classified by school type


Table 1 Student's reading and library use

|  | $\%$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Have you read a book in the last month ? | Yes |  |
| Have you read an e-book in the last month ? | 64 | 36 |
| Do you borrow books or e-books from your local library ? | 17 | 83 |

Table 2 Student's favourite type of books

|  |  |
| :--- | :---: |
|  | $\%$ |
| Fantasy/Sci-fi | 18.7 |
| Adventure | 18.6 |
| Romance | 12.8 |
| Crime | 9.9 |
| Horror | 8.8 |
| Other | 10.6 |
| don't read books | 20.6 |

## Map 1. Students average resting heart rate classified by school's county



Note 1: Only respondents with a resting heart rate of between 20 and 120 were included in the results.
Note 2: The map only includes survey response when the Roll number on the questionnaire response matched a school Roll number provided by the Department of Education and Skills.

Map 2. Average increase in students heart rate after 30 seconds of exercise (jogging) classified by school's county


Note 1: Only respondents with an increase of between 0 and $150 \%$ after exercise were included in the results.
Note 2: The map only includes survey response when the Roll number on the questionnaire response matched a school Roll number provided by the Department of Education and Skills.

## Background Notes

About The Royal Statistical Centre for Statistical Education (RSSCSE) started the CensusAtSchool project CensusAtSchools in 2000 in conjunction with the Office of National Statistics (ONS) in the UK. The project, originally a one-off, was linked to the UK population census of 2001. It has now developed into a dynamic, on-going and exciting initiative running in a number of countries.

Sample 4,906 secondary school attendees from 155 secondary schools completed the Phase 13 questionnaire of the CensusAtSchool survey between September 2013 and August 2014. Because the survey is voluntary and not part of a representative sampling process, the results of the survey are less reliable in providing inferences about the overall secondary school student population.

Questionnaire The CensusAtSchool Phase 13 questionnaire and more results from the survey can be found on the CensusAtSchool website at http://www.censusatschool.ie/en/take-part/questionnaires
A data tool for examining CensusAtSchool data can be found at: http://datatool.censusatschool.org.uk/datatool.swf

## Map 3. Student participation in CensusAtSchool Phase 13 questionnaire classified by school's county



Note: The map only includes survey response when the Roll number on the questionnaire response matched a school Roll number provided by the Department of Education and Skills.

