

NE LINCOLNSHIRE JSNA INDICATOR SUMMARY

TITLE:	Pupil absence in schools in England
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SUBTITLE:	1.3 Percentage of half-days missed by pupils due to overall absence (including authorised and unauthorised absence)
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Domain:	Improving the wider determinants of health
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Framework:	Public Health Outcomes Framework
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Time Period Of Data Analysis:	2013/14 and 2014/15 Academic years
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AVAILABLE COMPARISONS

TYPE	AVAILABLE
National, Regional or Peer Group	Yes
Electoral Ward / NELCCG Practice	No
Neighbourhood	No
Socioeconomic Differences	No
Targets, Trends & Projections	No

KEY POINTS

Overall absentee rates have increased by 0.1% in North East Lincolnshire from 4.5% in 2013/14 to 4.6% in 2014/15.

Overall absentee rates in North East Lincolnshire are in line with the rate of 4.6% for England.

Persistent absence across state-funded primary, secondary and specialist schools in North East Lincolnshire increased by 0.2% from (3.2%) in 2013/14 to (3.4%) in 2014/15.

North East Lincolnshire has the lowest persistent absentee rate at (3.4%), compared to the national average (3.7%), Yorkshire & the Humber (4.2%), and our statistical neighbours (4.1%).

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DESCRIPTION

Improving attendance (i.e. tackling absenteeism) in schools is a crucial part of the Government's commitment to increasing social mobility and to ensuring every child can meet their potential.

The numerator data for national, regional and local level data defines the number of sessions missed due to overall absence (including authorised and unauthorised absence); whilst the denominator is the total number of possible sessions. For the purpose of analysing absentee data, a session is defined as half a day.

Indicator data is based on state funded primary and secondary schools and includes those that are maintained, academies and special schools. Although data is collected termly this does not include attendance for special schools which is only included in end of year publications.

This release provides information on the levels of overall, authorised and unauthorised absence in:

- state-funded primary schools
- state-funded secondary schools

It includes information on:

- persistent absence

Overall absence is the aggregated total of all authorised and unauthorised absences.

Authorised absence is absence with permission from a teacher or other authorised representative of the schools. This includes instances of absence for which a satisfactory explanation has been provided e.g. illness.

Unauthorised absence is absence without permission from the school. This includes all unexplained or unjustified absences and arrivals after registration has closed.

Persistent absentees are defined as those pupils missing around 15% or more of possible sessions. The persistent absence threshold is identified as 15% or more of the typical amount of possible sessions across a given period. This equates to 56 or more sessions of absence (either authorised or unauthorised) for pupils aged 5 to 14 and 46 or more sessions of absence for pupils aged 15 during the full academic year.

Absence information for pupil referral units has also been provided. It is based on pupil level absence data collected via the school census.

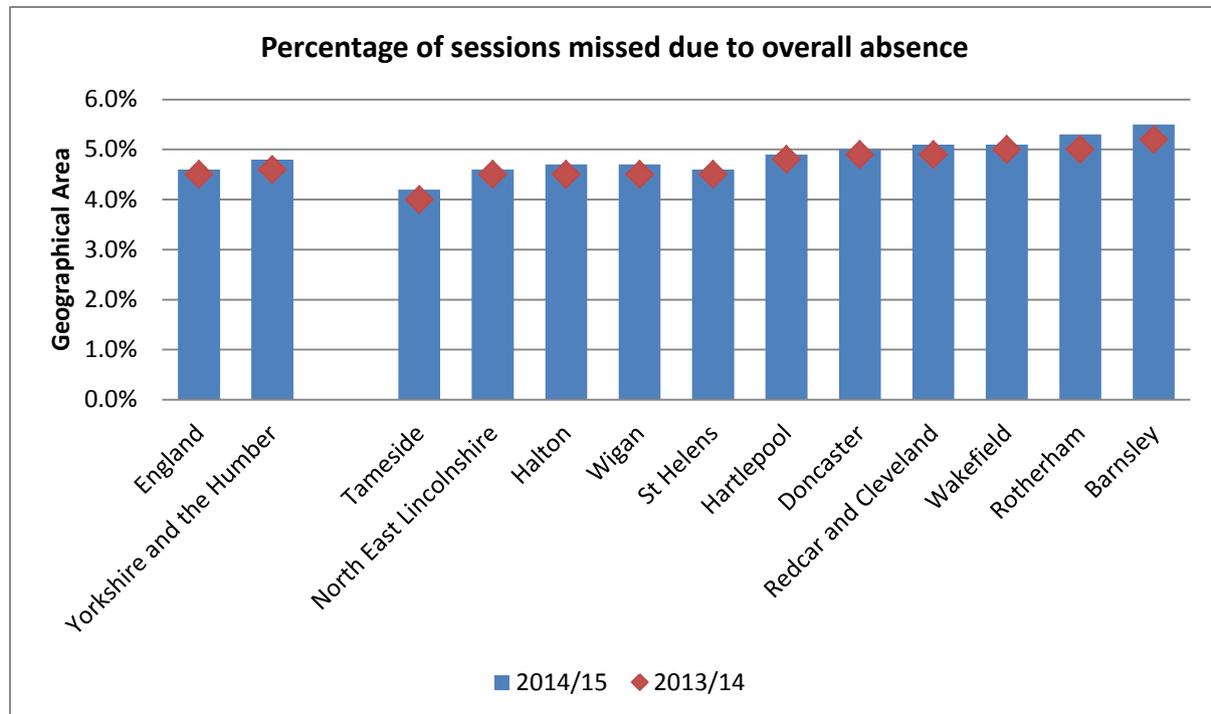
Absence information for four year olds (who are not of compulsory school age) has been collected since autumn term 2012.

The school year, generally the academic year is made up of three terms, autumn, spring and summer. Each term has two parts (half terms) which are usually separated by a half term break. The Department's key absence indicators are based on the full academic year's (six half term) data.

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NATIONAL, REGIONAL OR PEER GROUP

Figure 1. Percentage of sessions missed by pupils in both state-funded primary, secondary and special schools by Local Authority and England (2013-2015)



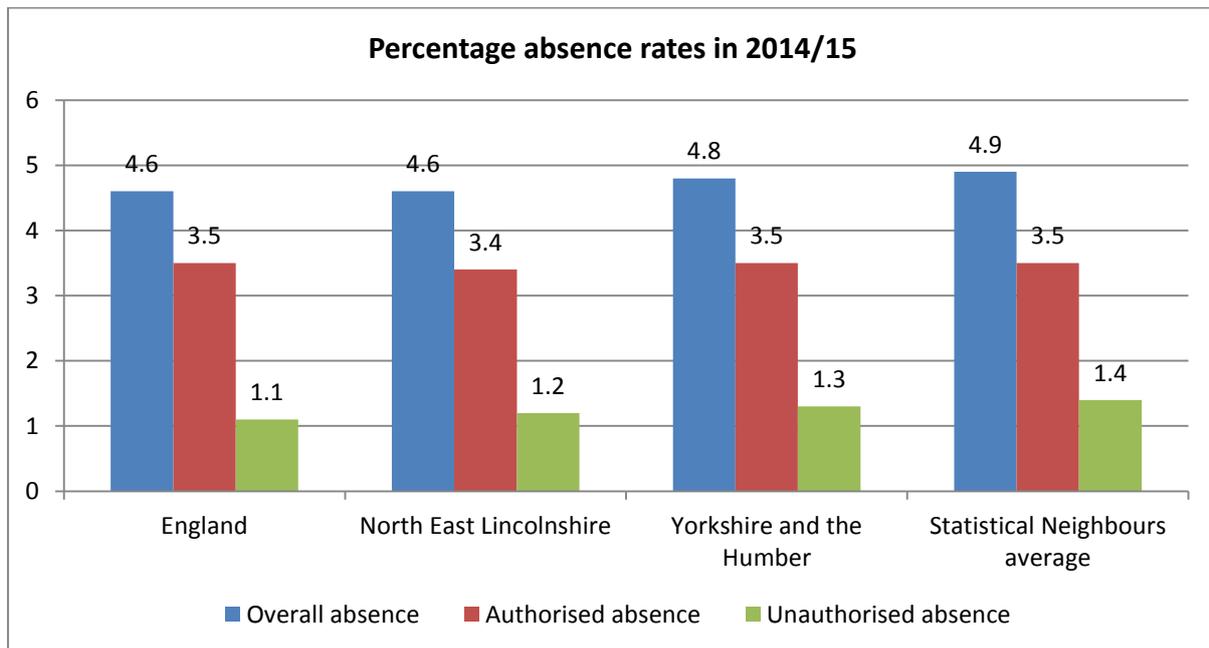
Source: DfE, Statistical First Releases, <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-pupil-absence>

Figure 1 shows a small increase both regionally and nationally from 2013/14 to 2014/15; absentee rates in North East Lincolnshire have also increased slightly from 4.5% to 4.6% which is in line with national levels.

When compared against the list of statistical neighbour authorities, North East Lincolnshire ranked 2nd lowest out of 11 with Tameside having the lowest rate (4.2%) and Barnsley with the highest (5.5%).

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Figure 2. Percentage of sessions missed by pupils in both state-funded primary, secondary and special schools by Local Authority and England (2014-15)



Source: DfE, Statistical First Releases, <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-pupil-absence>

Figure 2 shows that the overall absence rate for North East Lincolnshire is in line with the National figures (4.6%); Yorkshire and the Humber is higher at (4.8%) and our statistical neighbours are (4.9%).¹

North East Lincolnshire has lower authorised absence rates at (3.4%) than England, Yorkshire and the Humber and our statistical neighbours at (3.5%).

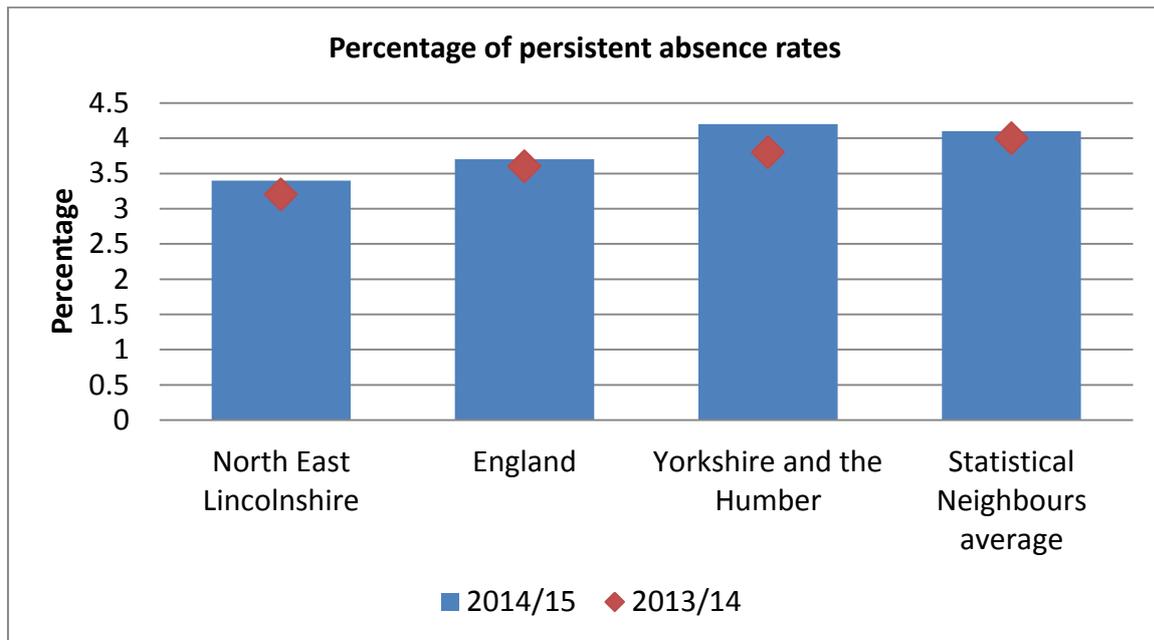
North East Lincolnshire is slightly above the national average (1.1%) for unauthorised absence rates at (1.2%), but it is lower than our statistical neighbours (1.4%) and Yorkshire and the Humber (1.3%).

¹ Published totals have been rounded to the nearest 5. There may be discrepancies between totals and the sum of constituent parts.

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Figure 3 shows that North East Lincolnshire and comparator groups reported increased rates of persistent absence from 2013/14 to 2014/15. During 2014/15 North East Lincolnshire had the lowest rate of persistent absentees rates at (3.4%) compared to national average (3.7%), Yorkshire & the Humber (4.2%), and our statistical Neighbours (4.1%).

Figure 3. Percentage of persistent absentees in both state-funded primary, secondary and special schools by Local Authority and England (2014-15)



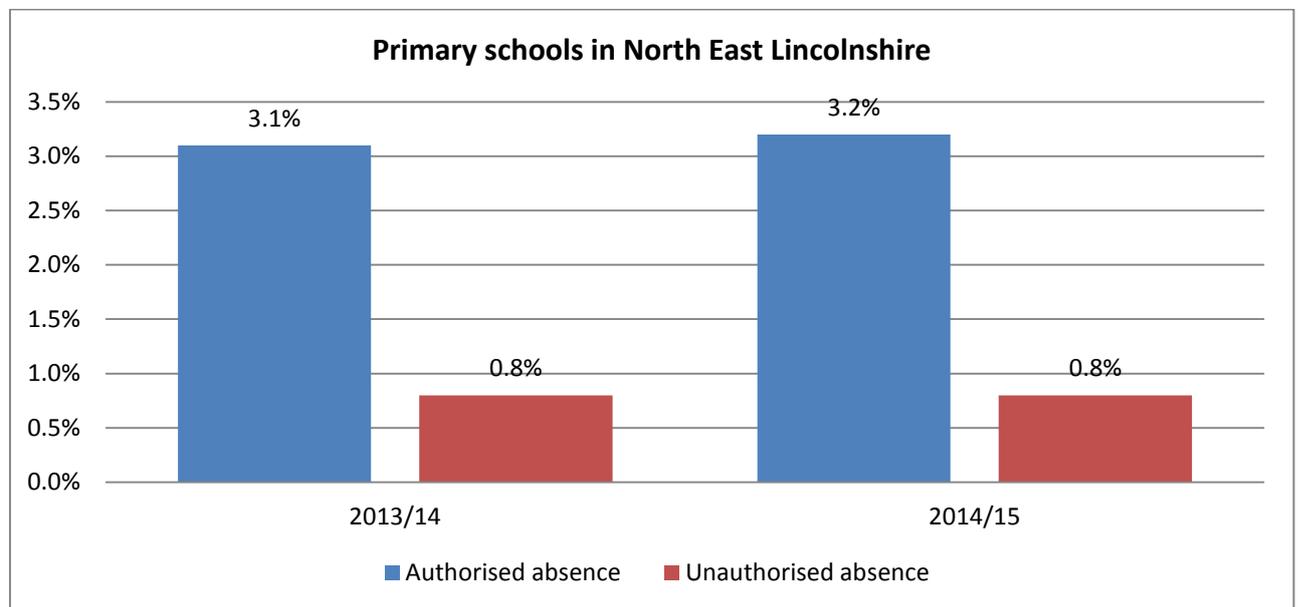
Source: DfE, Statistical First Releases, <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-pupil-absence>

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NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE

Primary Schools

Figure 4. Absence and unauthorised absence rates by pupils in primary schools in North East Lincolnshire (2013-2015)



Source: DfE, Statistical First Releases, <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-pupil-absence>

Figure 4 shows that Primary schools in North East Lincolnshire have seen an overall increase of 0.2% from 3.9% in 2013/14 to 4.1% in 2014/15².

Authorised absence rates have increased slightly from 3.1% in 2013/14 to 3.2% in 2014/15, but unauthorised absence rates have remained static at 0.8% in 2013/14 and 2014/15.

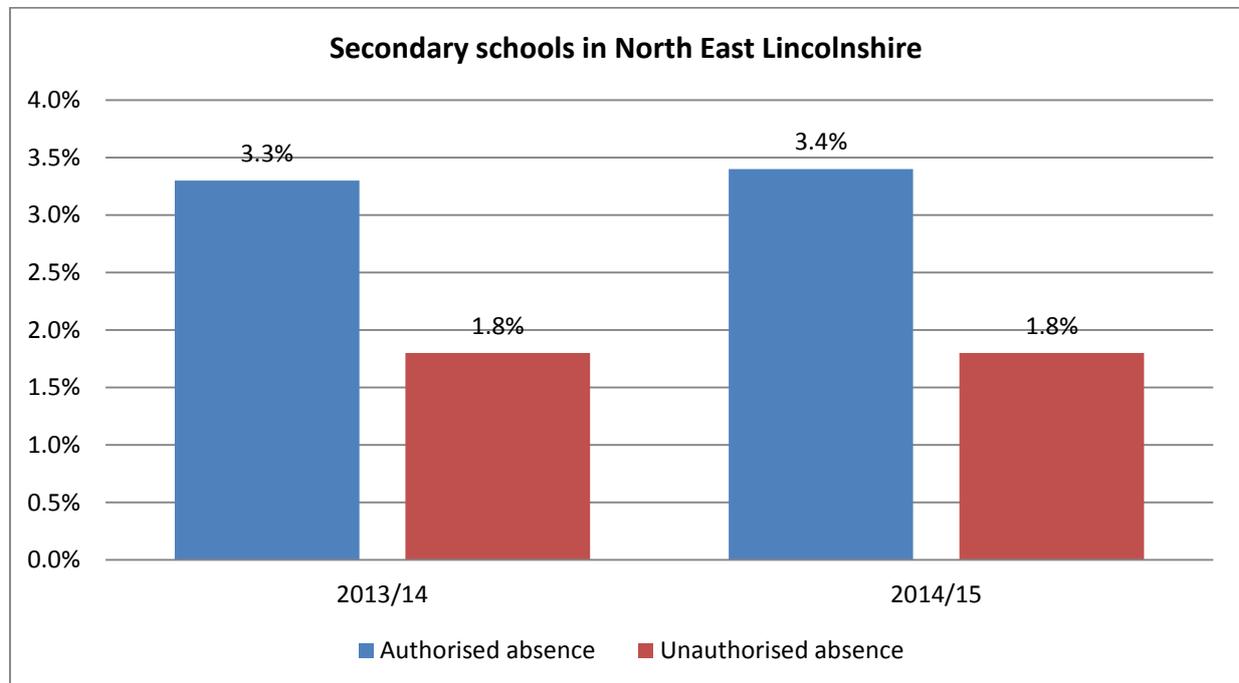
The percentage of persistent absentees has increased by 0.3% from 1.7% in 2013/14 to 2.0% in 2014/15.

² Published totals have been rounded to the nearest 5. There may be discrepancies between totals and the sum of constituent parts.

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Secondary Schools

Figure 5. Absence and unauthorised absence rates by pupils in secondary schools in North East Lincolnshire (2013-2015)



Source: DfE, Statistical First Releases, <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-pupil-absence>

Secondary schools in North East Lincolnshire have seen an overall increase of 0.1% from 5.1% in 2013/14 to 5.2% in 2014/15.

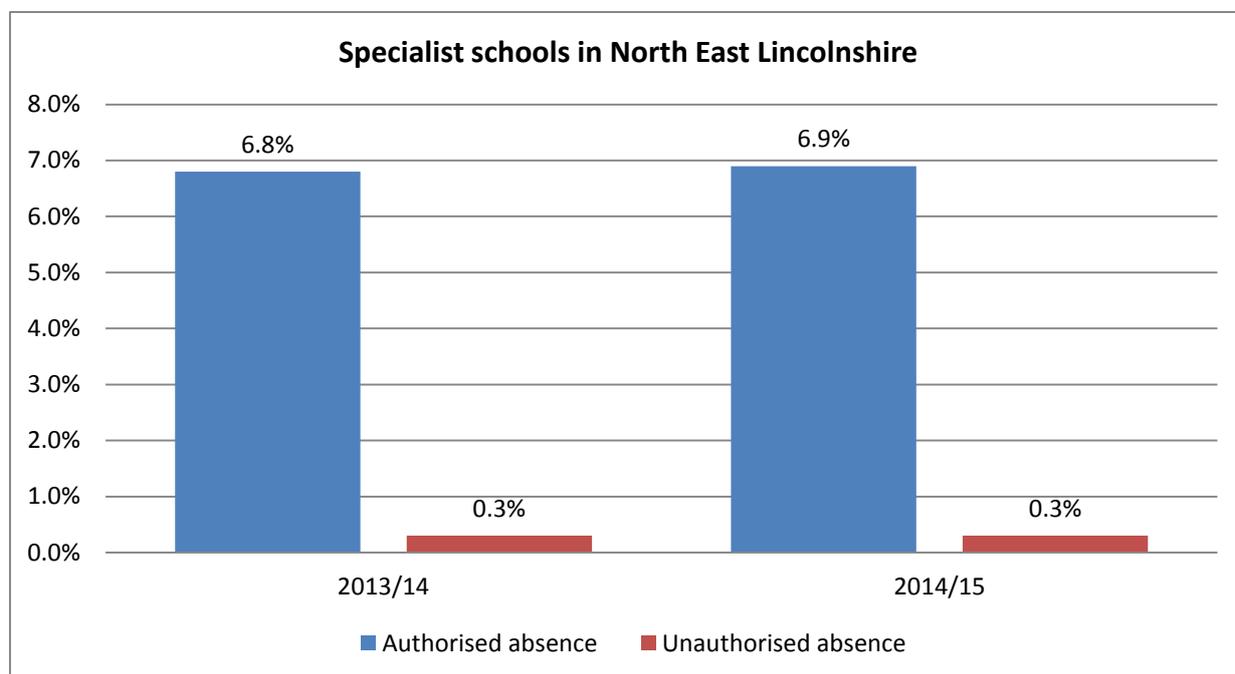
Authorised absence rates have increased slightly from 3.3% in 2013/14 to 3.4% in 2014/15, but unauthorised absence remained static at 1.8% in 2013/14 and 2014/15.

The percentage of persistent absentees has increased by 0.1% from 5.0% in 2013/14 to 5.1% in 2014/15.

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Specialist Schools

Figure 6. Absence and unauthorised absence rates by pupils in specialist schools in North East Lincolnshire (2013-2015)



Source: DfE, Statistical First Releases, <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-pupil-absence>

The overall absence rates at specialist schools in North East Lincolnshire has increased from 7.1% in 2013/14 to 7.2% in 2014/15.³

Authorised absence rates have increased slightly from 6.8% in 2013/14 to 6.9% in 2014/15, but unauthorised absence rates have remained static at 0.3% in 2013/14 and 2014/15.

The percentage of persistent absentees has decreased by 0.5% from 10% in 2013/14 to 9.5% in 2014/15.

Primary, Secondary and Specialist schools

Table 1: Overall absence rates have increased

	2013/14	2014/15
State-funded primary schools	3.9	4.1
State-funded secondary schools	5.1	5.2
Specialist schools	7.1	7.2
State-funded primary, secondary and specialist schools	4.5	4.6

Source: DfE, Statistical First Releases, <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-pupil-absence>

³ Totals have been rounded to the nearest 5. There may be discrepancies between totals and the sum of constituent parts.

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Table 1 shows the overall absence rate over the full academic year across state-funded primary, secondary, secondary and specialist schools has increased slightly from 4.5% in 2013/14, to 4.6% in 2014/15.

The increase in absence rates is due to a rise in authorised absence rates. These have risen from 3.2% in 2013/14, to 3.4% in 2014/15, across state-funded primary, secondary and specialist schools. Unauthorised absence rates have remained unchanged at 1.2%.

Persistent absentees

Table 2: The percentage of pupil enrolments that are persistent absentees has increased

	Percentage of persistent absentees 2013/14	Number of persistent absentees 2013/14	Percentage of persistent absentees 2014/15	Number of persistent absentees 2014/15
State-funded primary schools	1.7	201	2	236
State-funded secondary schools	5	432	5.1	442
Specialist schools	10	27	9.5	26
State-funded primary, secondary and specialist schools	3.2	660	3.4	705

Source: DfE, Statistical First Releases, <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-pupil-absence>

Table 2 shows that the percentage of pupils across state-funded primary, secondary and specialist schools classified as persistent absentees rose by 0.2% from 3.2% in 2013/14 to 3.4% in 2014/15 equating to 45 additional pupils.

Pupil referral unit absence

Absence data for pupil referral units (PRUs), including alternative provision academies and free schools, was collected termly for the first time in the spring of 2014 School Census, having previously only been collected annually. In the 2012/13 the PRU annual census was discontinued; therefore this is not comparable data available for the 2012/13 academic year.

The overall absence rate for pupils enrolled in PRUs in the full 2014/15 academic year was 21.4%, of which 9.6% of sessions were missed due to authorised absences, and 11.8% of sessions were missed because of unauthorised absence.

The percentage of pupil enrolments in PRUs classified as persistent absentees in 2014/15 was 36.6% (15 pupils)

Absence for four year olds

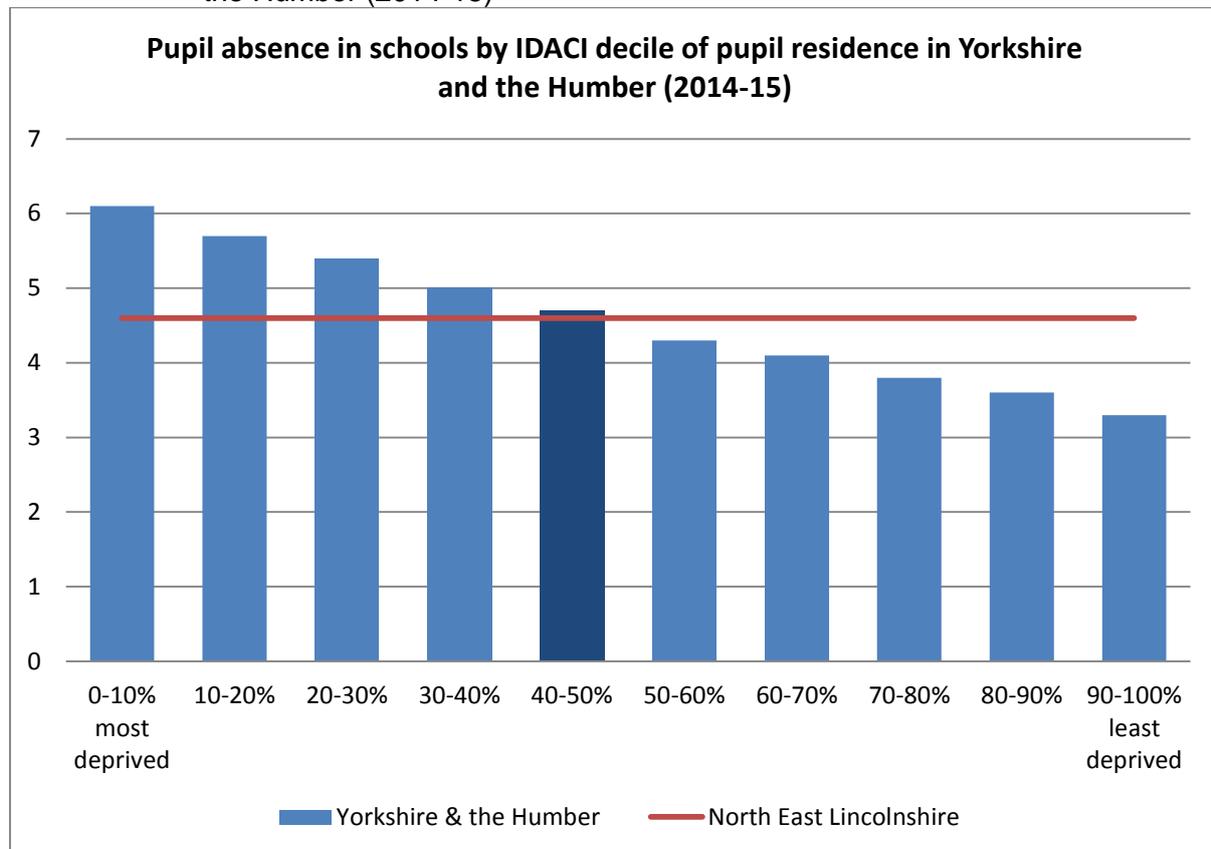
Overall absence rates for four year olds (who are not of compulsory school age) remained at 5.7% in 2014/15

Nationally, the overall absence rate for four year olds rose slightly from 5.1% in 2013/14 to 5.2% in 2014/15.

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Pupil absence in schools by IDACI decile of pupil residence

Figure 7. Pupil absence in schools by IDACI decile of pupil residence in Yorkshire and the Humber (2014-15)



Source: DfE, Statistical First Releases, <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-pupil-absence>

Figure 7 shows pupil absence in primary, secondary and specialist schools by IDACI⁴ decile of pupil residence in Yorkshire and the Humber in 2014-15. North East Lincolnshire has an overall absence rate of 4.6% a rate observed at the region of around the 40-50% deprivation level.

Public Data Sources:	Department for Education https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-pupil-absence
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⁴ Income Deprivation Affecting Children Indices based on pupil postcode