Primary education

Primary schools and resource centers
beginning of school year 2020/2021

Data in release are related to the number of departments, pupils, and teachers (by gender, class, and municipality), in primary schools and resource centres, at the beginning of school year 2020/2021.

The number of pupils who enrolled primary education in primary schools, at the beginning of school year 2020/2021 is 68,506, and in resource centres 123 pupils.

Of the total number of pupils who enrolled primary school (68,506), 47.9% or 32,787 are girls, and 52.1% or 35,719 are boys.

Graph 1. Pupils who enrolled primary education in primary schools
beginning of school year 2020/2021
The number of students enrolled in the first grade of primary school is 7 811, 48% or 3 747 are girls and 52% or 4 064 are boys. The number of students enrolled in the ninth grade is 7 002, of which 47.9% or 3 353 are girls and 52.1% or 3 649 are boys.

The number of departments in primary schools in Montenegro is 3 577. Ratio of the departments and pupils in regular primary education is 1:19; and ratio of the number of teachers and pupils 1:13.

The gender structure of teaching staff shows that 79.7% or 4 102 are women, and 20.3% or of 1 045 are men.
Most students attend elementary school in Podgorica municipality 22,657, of which 47.9% or 10,853 are girls and 52.1% or 11,804 are boys, while in Savnik municipality is the smallest number of students 94, of which 53.2% or 50 are girls, and 46.8% or 44 are boys.
Graph 4. Pupils with special educational needs who enrolled primary education 
beginning of school year 2020/2021

- Primary education pupils with special educational needs (in regular and special departments) and resource centres enrolled 1,027 pupils. Of that number, the girls are 360 (35.1%), while boys 667 (64.9%).

Graph 5. Pupils with special educational needs in regular and special departments 
elementary schools and resource centers 
- beginning of school year 2020/2021-

- 829 pupils with special educational needs enrolled primary education in regular departments of primary schools, 75 in special departments of primary schools, while 123 primary education enrolled in the resource centers.
METHODOLICAL EXPLANATIONS

The data on primary education in this release refer to the beginning of school year 2020/2021, and they are results of statistical processing of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports database (Montenegrin Education Information System – MEIS).

The statistical survey covered all primary schools, regardless they are central primary schools or separate departments and resource centers that work in accordance with the program of Ministry of Education.

**School year** is a period within which the regular classes are given and other types of educational work. School in the education statistics is a group of pupils organized in one school unit, with one or more teachers giving classes of certain type by defined program of instruction, regardless the school is independent, regional department or department in other type of school. School is also considered a territorially separate unit in the composition of primary school.

**Department** is a group of pupils instructed in the same time and in the same premise during a school year by a teacher or several teachers in a successive manner.

**Class** is level of education under which pupils obtain a certain scope of knowledge in a certain time period, during one school year, and in accordance with the program of instruction and program of appropriate School.

**Children with special educational needs**: children with physical, mental and sensor difficulties behavior disturbance; severe chronically diseases; emotional disturbances; combined difficulties; long time ill children and other children having difficulties in studying who need education according to educational program with adjusted teaching performance and additional professional assistance or special educational program.

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