

9.5 Education Occupations

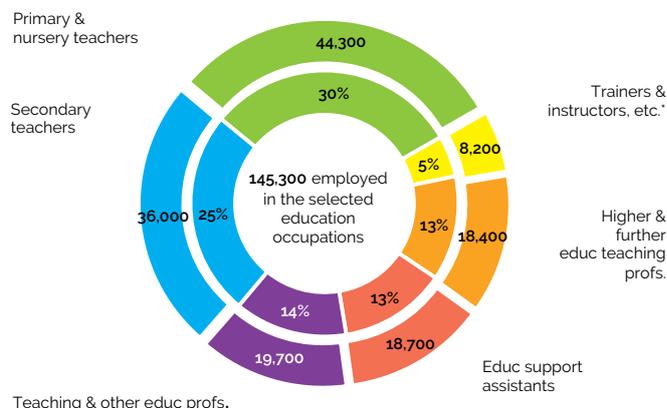
Overall employment: Approximately 145,300 persons (73% female) were employed in the selected education occupations, representing 6.4% of the national workforce

- **Sector:** 93% of overall employment was concentrated in the education sector
- **Employment growth (5-year):** Between 2013 and 2018, overall employment increased by 22,100 (3.4% on average annually compared to 3.1% nationally). The strongest rate of employment growth was observed for higher and further education teaching professionals (11.5%) during the period.
- **Age:** The 25-54 age group accounted for the majority of persons employed, at 77%. The share of employees aged 55 and over, at 18%, was slightly above the national average of 17%.
- **Education:** Those who had attained third level qualifications (86%) was significantly above the national average share (48%), while 12% had attained a higher secondary/FET qualification
- **Full-time/part-time:** Over 83% of education workers were in full-time employment
- **Nationality:** The share of non-Irish workers was well below the national average of 16%, while 93% of workers were Irish nationals

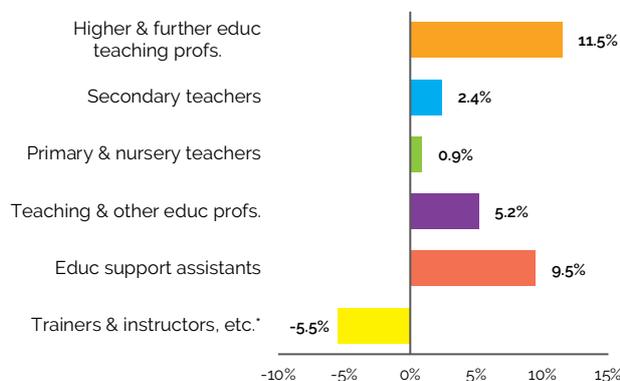
Overall outlook for these occupations:

Employment for these occupations is driven both by government funding and the demographic profile of the population. The fall in the number of children born in recent years will mean a lower demand for primary school teachers. On the other hand, the second level school population is expected to peak in 2024-2025; this will result in increased demand at second level within the next ten years, and later at third level as this cohort moves up through the education system. In addition, government initiatives in areas such as early childhood education and lifelong learning will impact on the demand for these occupations.

Numbers employed, 2018



Average growth rates (%) 2013-2018



Between 2013 and 2018, overall employment increased by 22,100 (3.4% on average annually compared to 3.1% nationally).

Source: SLMRU (SOLAS) analysis of CSO data

*See detailed occupation description in table overleaf

Occupation	Economic summary	Shortage	Occupation shortage details
Higher & further education teaching profs.	There is no shortage of higher and further education teaching professionals. However, some employers have experienced difficulties in recruiting staff with sufficient expertise in specialised areas.		
Secondary teachers	For some schools, difficulties are arising in sourcing suitably qualified teachers for certain subjects. The Teacher Supply Action Plan (DES 2018) recognises particular challenges in recruiting staff with expertise in Irish, maths, physics, chemistry, IT, modern languages and home economics.		— Secondary teachers
Primary & nursery teachers	Demand for primary and nursery teachers is expected to decline in line with the decrease in the relevant age cohort.		
Teaching & other educational profs.	No shortages have been identified for this occupation.		
Educational support assistants	Employment growth was above average for this occupation, with levels expected to remain strong in the coming years primarily due to the recent introduction of almost 800 new special needs assistant (SNA) posts from September 2019.		
Trainers & instructors, career guidance	No shortages have been identified for this occupation.		

**For detailed table see Appendix A*