

4th June 2021

Dear

ATISN 15195 / Teacher welfare stats

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on the 2nd of June 2021. You asked for:

Information regarding the number of teachers who left the profession, number of teachers on long-term sickness, and number of days off sick taken by teachers, due to wellbeing problems such as mental health difficulties, stress, increased workload, and other illnesses, over the last five years, in Wales.

Our response

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you require is not held by the Welsh Government.

However, published data on **teacher retention** over the last *five* years can be found here: [Teacher recruitment and retention \(gov.wales\)](#); whilst published data on **number of teachers taking sick leave** and **number of days off** over the last *four* years can be found here: [Teacher sickness absence \(gov.wales\)](#).

Unfortunately, the reasons behind leaving the profession, taking sick leave, and taking days off are not collected. Additionally, from these collections it is not possible to determine whether the sick leave taken is long-term or short-term, although the number of days off also includes the period length. Finally, the teacher sickness absence collection was suspended in 2019, due to the COVID-19 pandemic; both the 2019 and the 2020 data will be published and available on [StatsWales](#) in August. This explains why the published figures are dated 2018.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at: Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,

Cheshire,
SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely