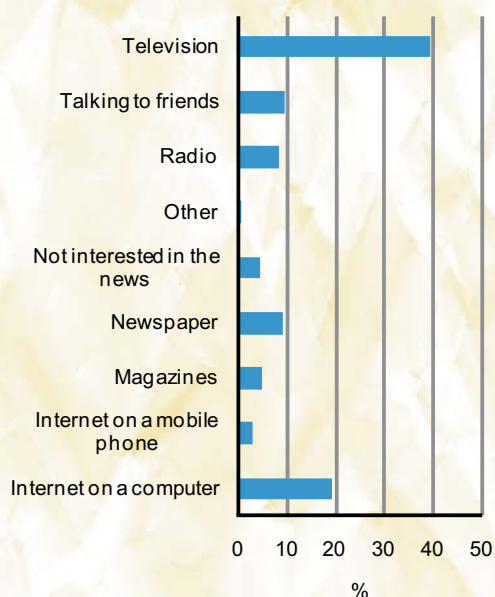




CensusAtSchool 2011 October 2011

Main News Sources used by Students



Less than 10% of students read newspapers

7,211 secondary school attendees completed the Phase 10 questionnaire of the CensusAtSchool survey between August 2010 and June 2011. This represents 1.9% of the overall secondary school population. The questionnaire asked a wide variety of questions ranging from favourite subjects, sports teams, methods of communication and travel to school times.

Details on the CensusAtSchool project and more results from Phase 10 can be found at the website <http://www.censusatschool.ie>.

Interesting Findings from Phase 10 results:

- 9.4% of students responding to the Phase 10 survey use newspapers as their main source for news. Television (39.5%) and the internet via a computer (19.3%) are the most popular sources for the news (*see Chart 5*).
- Celebrity, Music/Film and Sport are the favourite types of media stories enjoyed by students. Male students strongly prefer sports themes while female students' preferences were distributed more evenly between Celebrity, Fashion and Film themes.
- 87% of respondents to the survey had a computer with access to the internet.
- The most popular school subject for males was Physical Education (PE) and for females was Art. PE's popularity amongst male students declines as they progress through school (*see Chart 6*).
- Manchester United was significantly the most popular football team in Ireland. Liverpool, Chelsea and Arsenal were the next most popular. Together they accounted for over 60% of popularity.

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Chart 1: What electronic devices do you have?

87% of respondents to the survey had a home computer with access to the internet and 82% of the respondents had a games console. Of the respondents who had a computer with internet access 50% also responded that they owned their own computer.

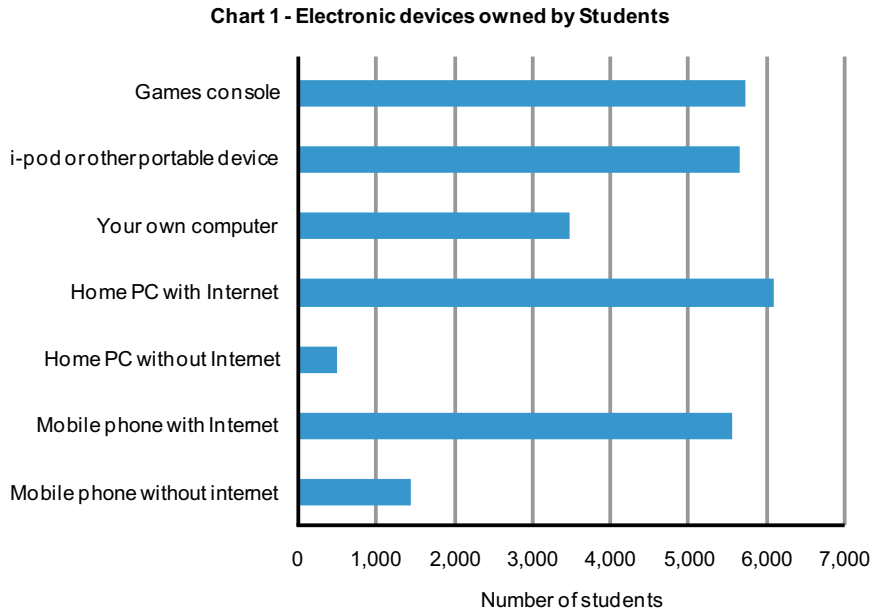


Chart 2: How do you communicate with your friends?

Male students in our questionnaire indicated that they spent a greater proportion of time communicating in person while female students use text messaging a greater proportion of the time.

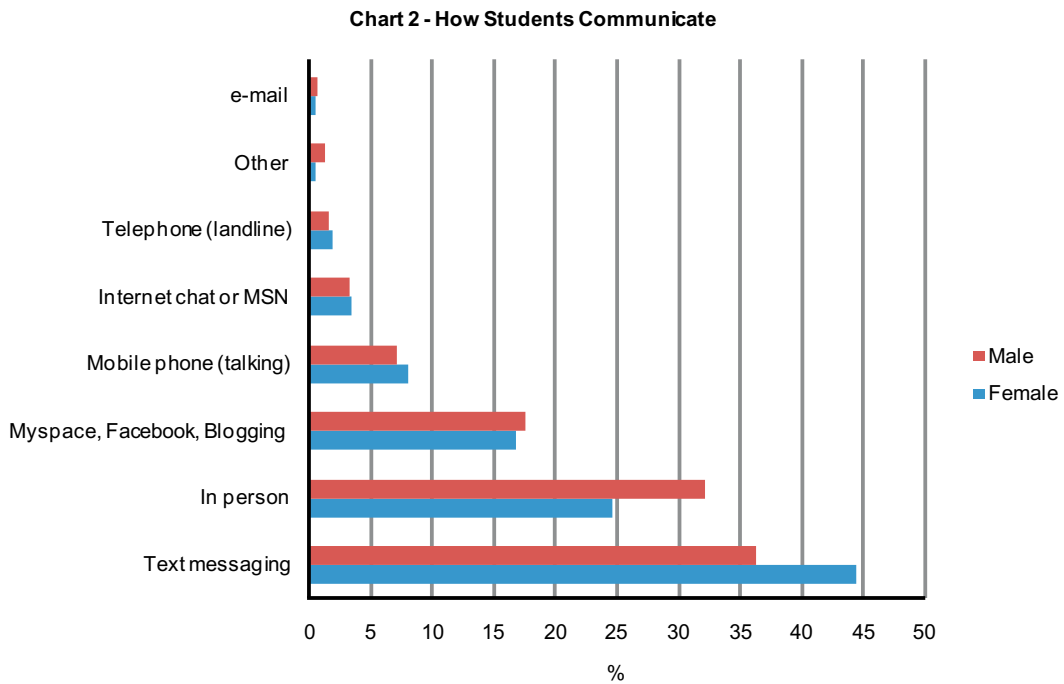


Chart 3: What is your favourite type of media story?

There was a strong difference in preferences between males and females when asked about their favourite type of media stories. Males preferred Sport stories while females preferred a mixture of Celebrity, Fashion and Films. When comparing female and male preferences, females' preferences were more widely distributed amongst the available choices than males.

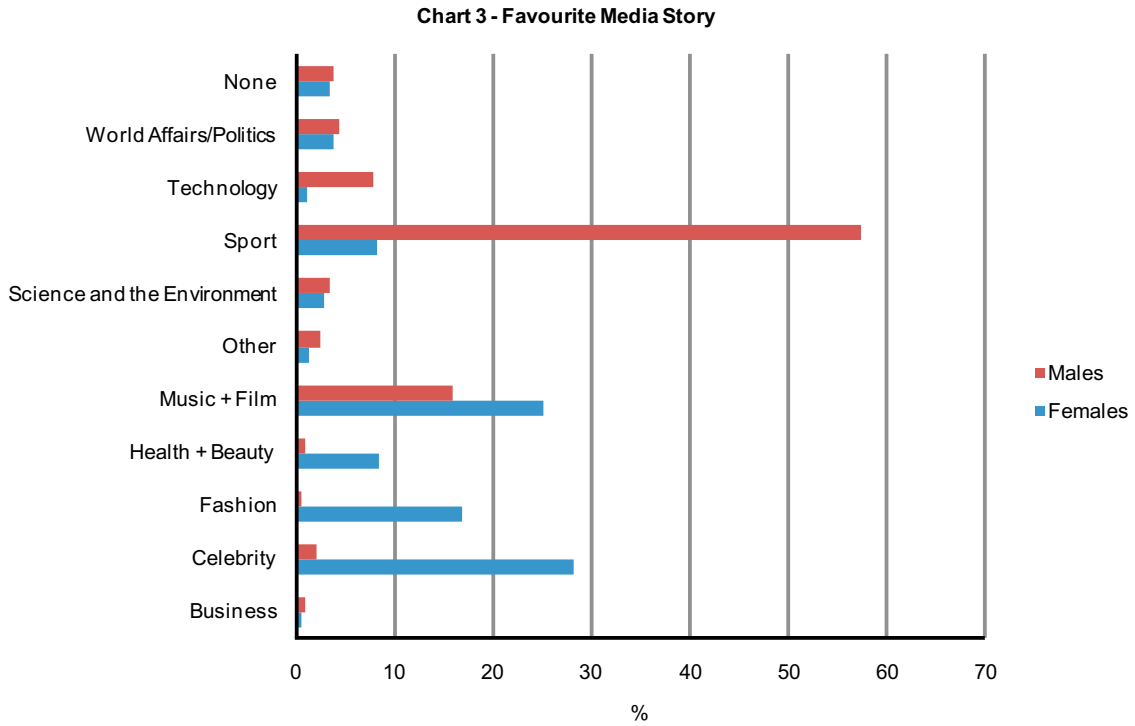


Chart 4: What is your favourite type of TV programme?

Comedy was popular amongst both males and females. However, when it comes to Sports and Soaps there was a strong difference in preference.

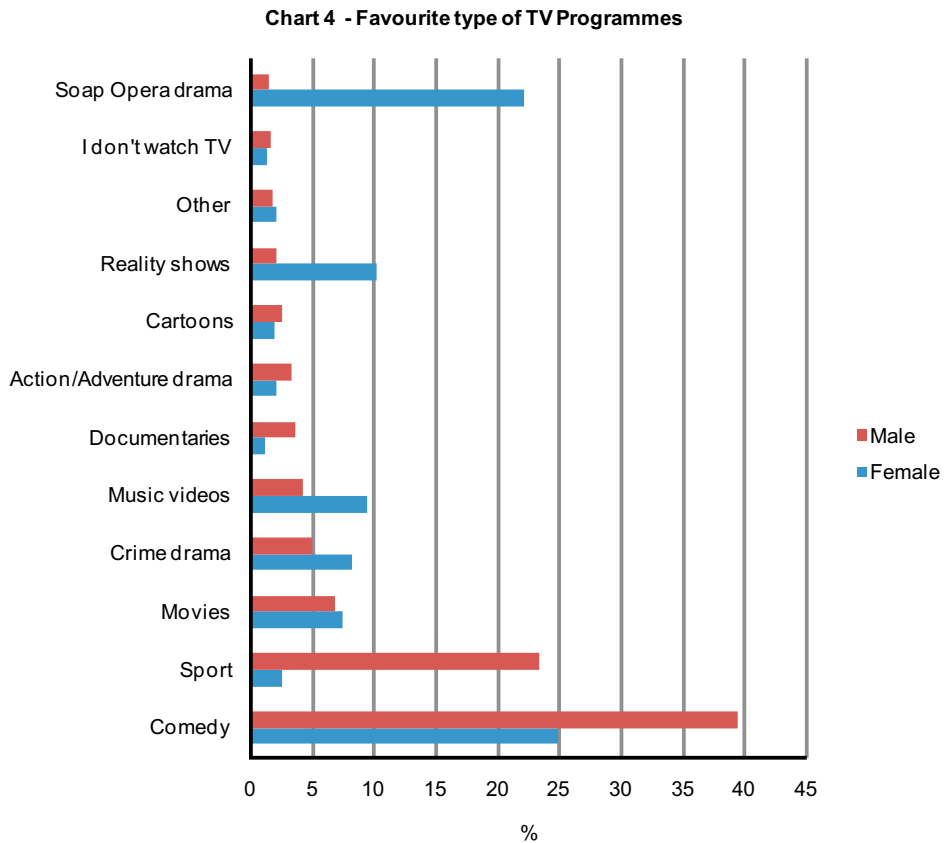


Chart 5: What is the main way you keep up with the news?

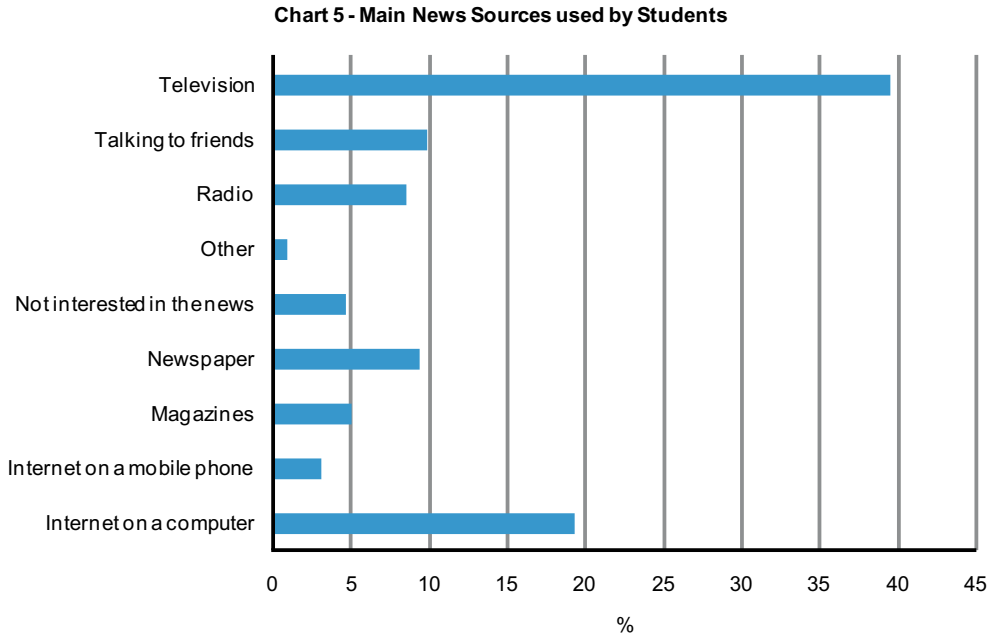


Chart 6: Students' favourite subject

Female students preferred Art, Music and English to male students. The male respondents' favourite subjects were Physical Education (PE) and technology subjects.

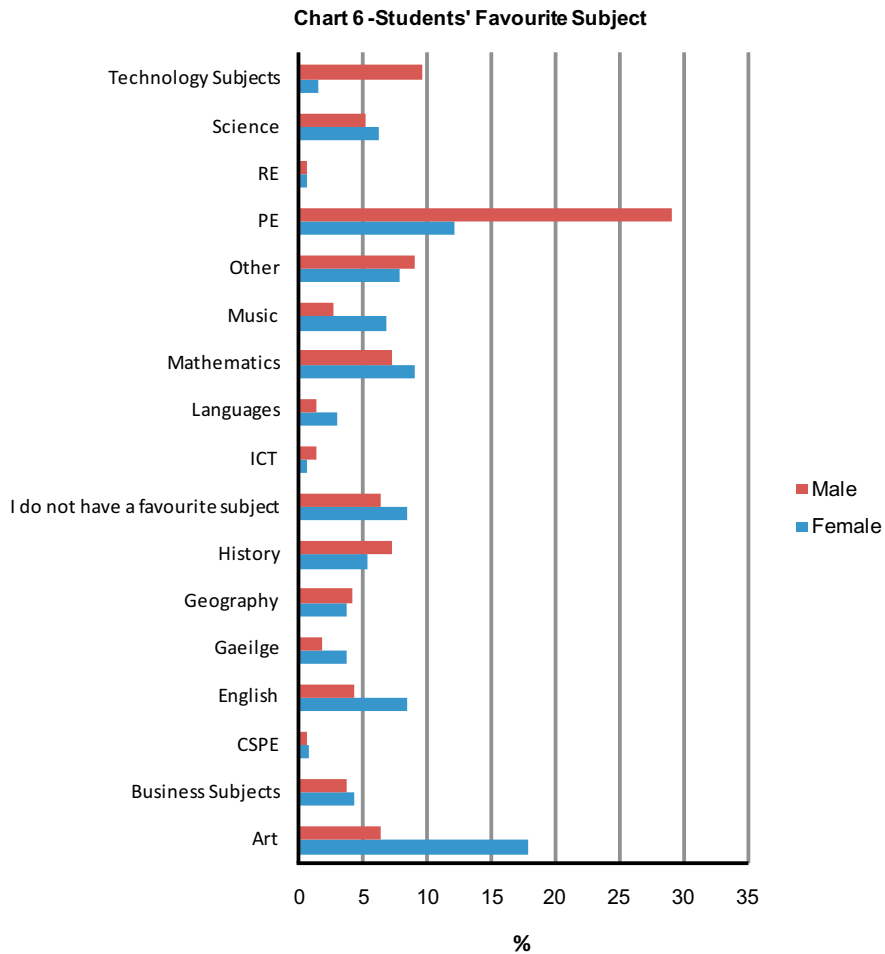


Chart 7: Popularity of a selection of subjects at school by age of respondent

The popularity of PE changed significantly depending on the age of the respondent. It drops from a high of 30.38 % at age 14 to 15% by the age of 18. The fall in popularity of PE is caused by a decline in preference amongst the male respondents as they age. PE's popularity amongst females remains relatively constant.

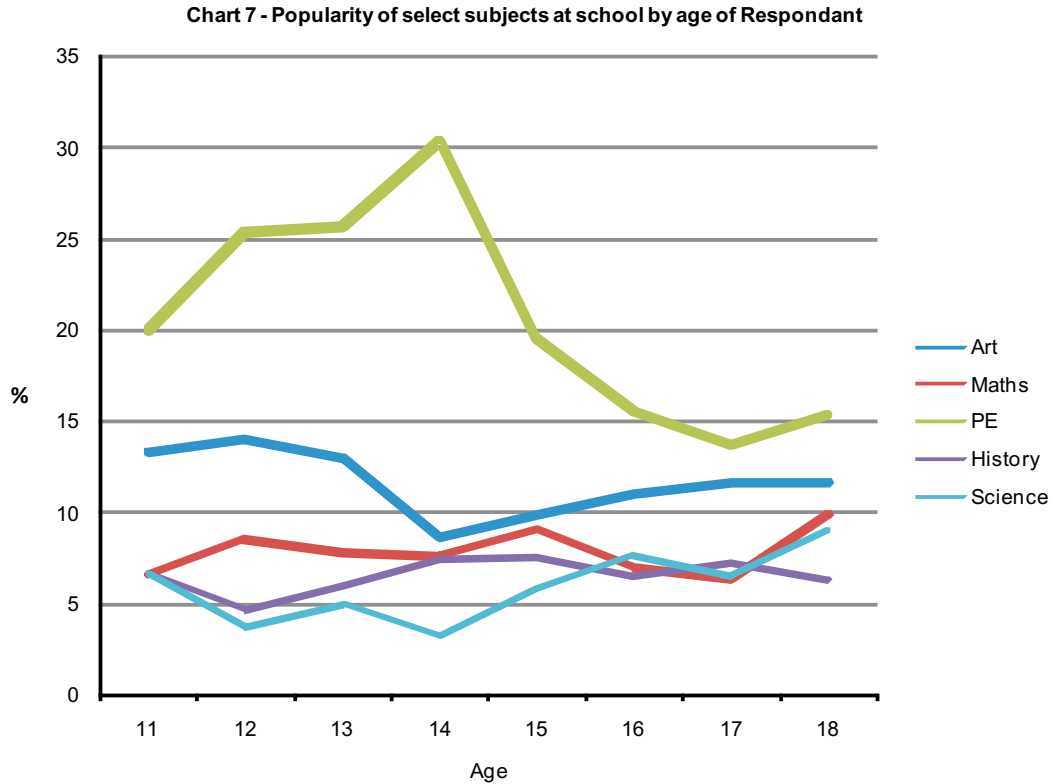


Chart 8: What pets do you have?

Dogs were a student's best friend (as long as they don't eat the homework).

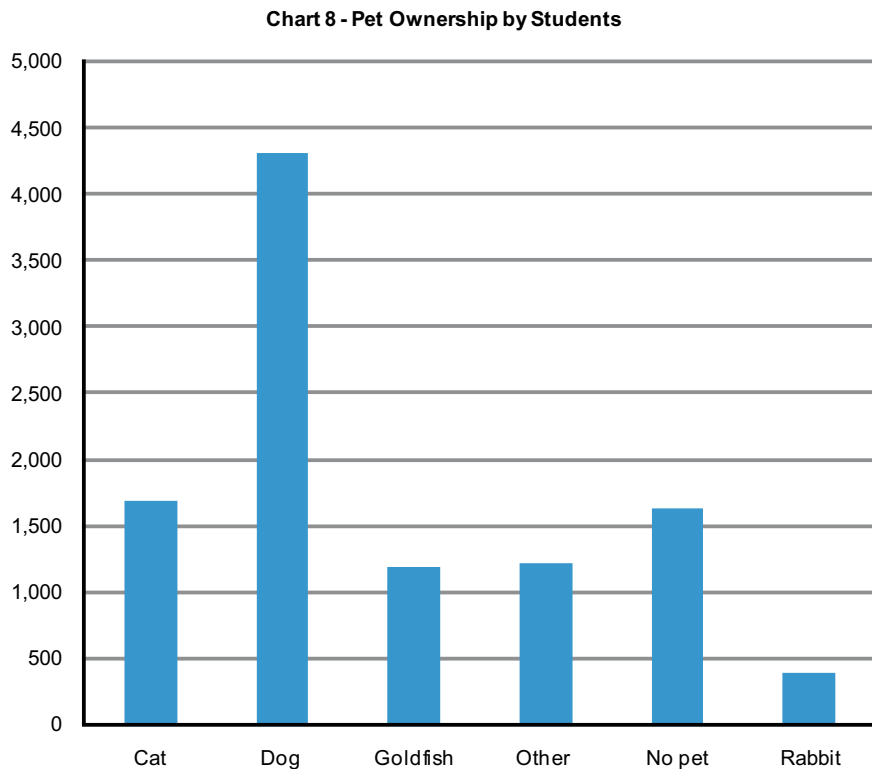


Chart 9: Favourite characteristics of pets

16% of male students liked to cuddle their pets while 35% of females also liked a cuddle with their animals

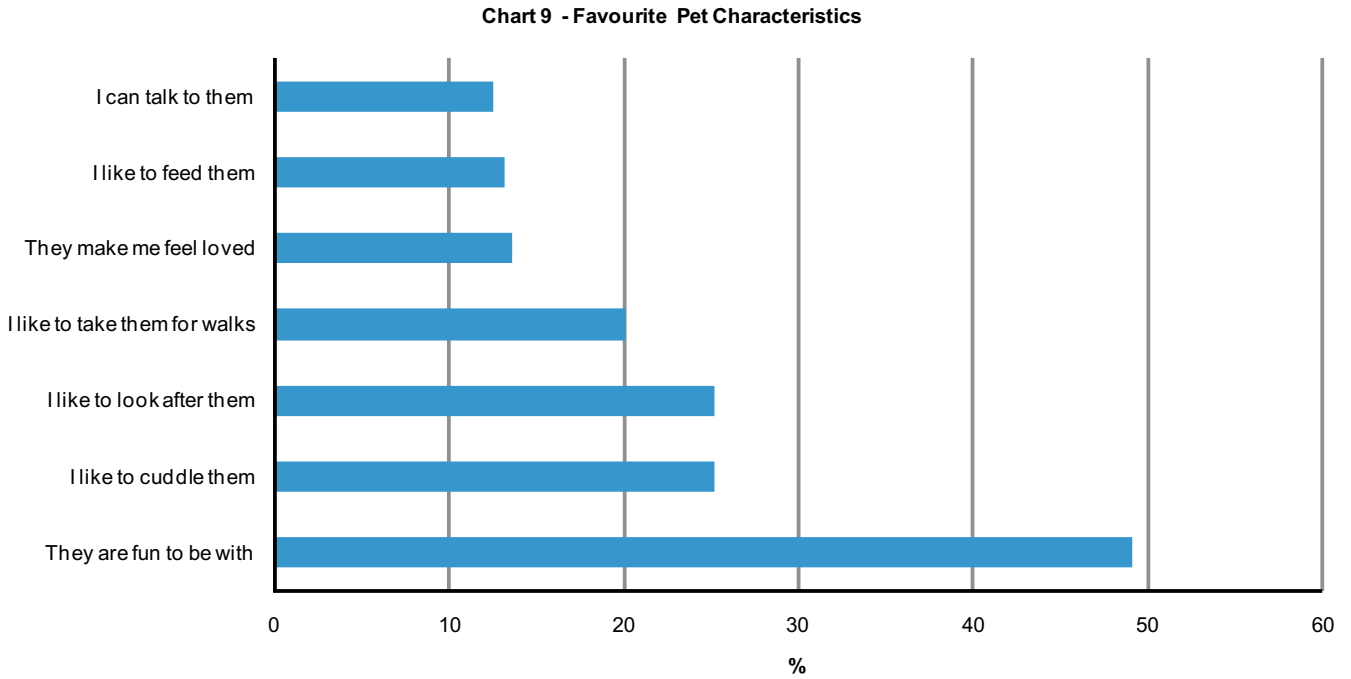


Chart 10: What is your favourite football team?

The most popular football team in the survey was Manchester United. 25% of the females that responded stated they had no interest in football while 12% of males stated they had no interest in football. A total 107 different football teams were entered in the survey. The remaining 95 teams had less than 0.5% support each.

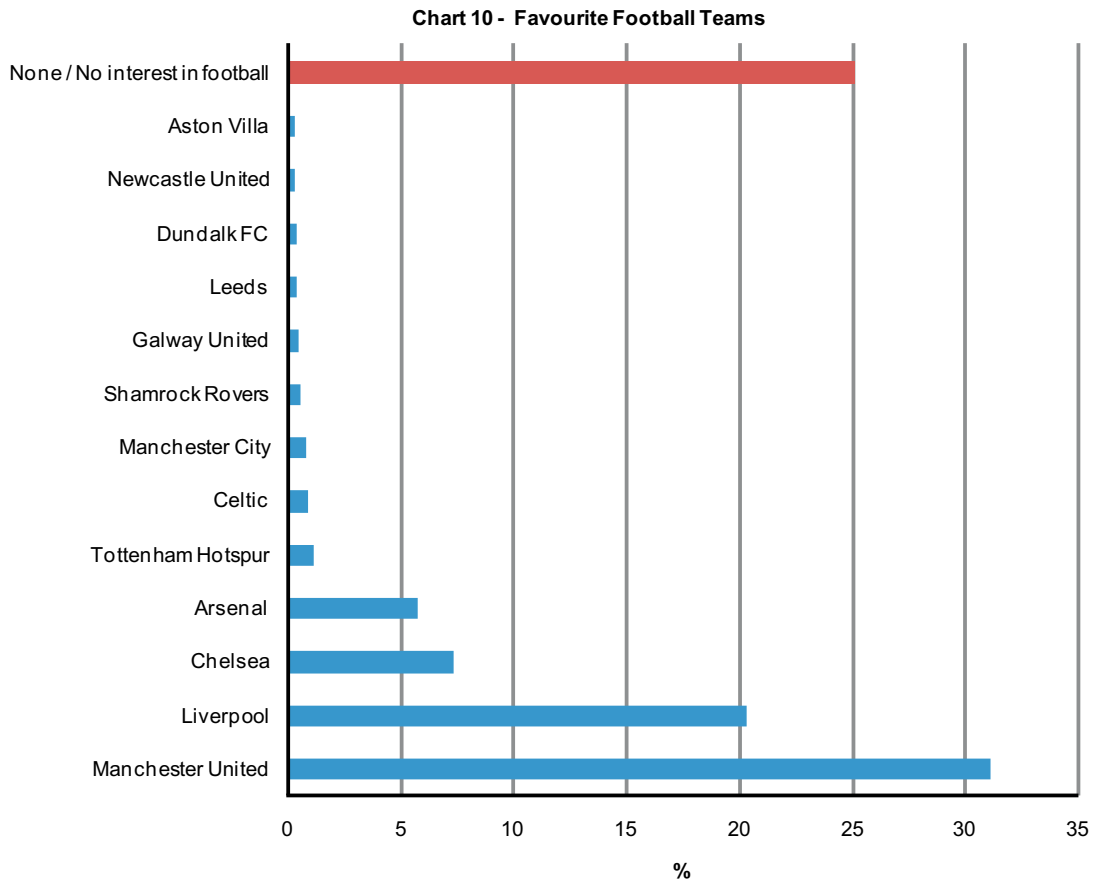


Chart 11: Which hand do you write with (female)

Students who responded were predominantly right handed. 82% of males and 86% of females write with their right hand. Interestingly 4% more males are left handed than females.

Chart 11 - Female Dexterity

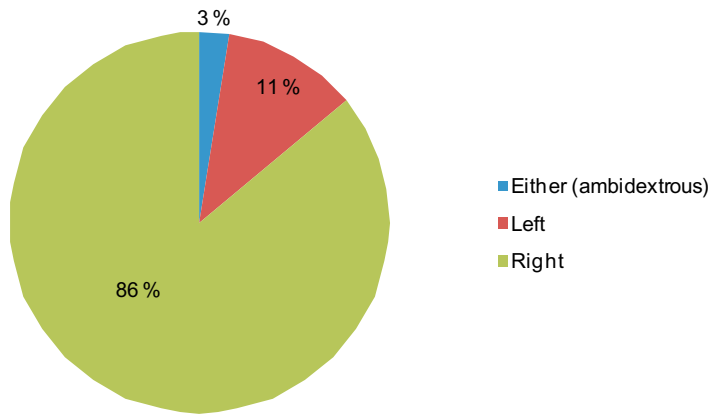


Chart 12: Which hand do you write with (male)

4% more males write with their left hands than females.

Chart 12 - Male Dexterity

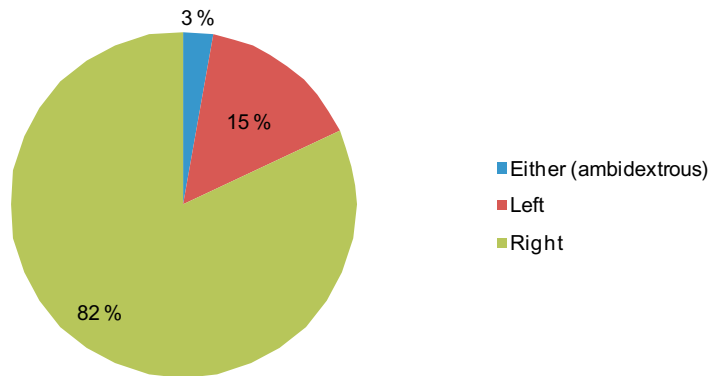
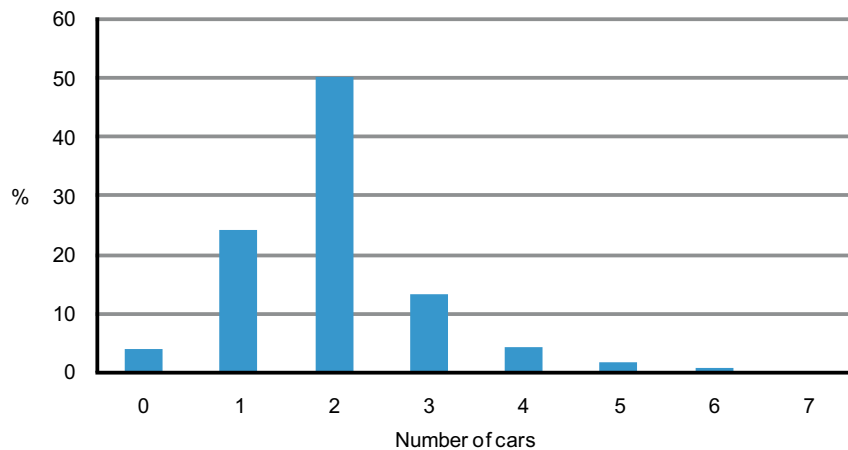


Chart 13: How many cars belong to people in your household?

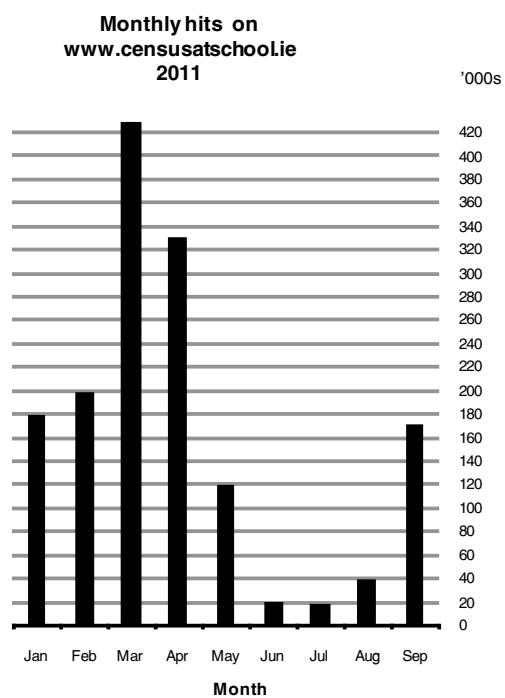
Chart 13 - Average Number of Cars per Household



Background Notes

Definition 7,211 secondary school attendees completed the Phase 10 questionnaire of the CensusAtSchool survey between August 2010 and June 2011. This represents 1.9% of the overall secondary school population. The data was collected using an online survey located on the CensusAtSchool website at <http://www.censusatschool.ie/>. The survey was advertised by Project Maths and CSO as part of the CensusAtSchool project.

The voluntary nature of the project means the students' responses were not selected using any randomised sampling procedure.



Questionnaire for phase 10 A copy of the Phase 10 CensusAtSchool questionnaire can be found on the final page.

Number of respondents of Phase 10 survey by county of school's location

County	No of Respondents
CARLOW	64
CAVAN	72
CLARE	381
CORK	730
DONEGAL	48
DUBLIN	1866
GALWAY	381
KERRY	98
KILDARE	413
KILKENNY	98
LAOISE	126
LEITRIM	33
LIMERICK	227
LONGFORD	26
LOUTH	405
MAYO	79
MEATH	662
OFFALY	41
ROSCOMMON	1
TIPPERARY N.R.	560
TIPPERARY S.R.	92
WATERFORD	87
WESTMEATH	128
WEXFORD	50
WICKLOW	315
Total	6983

Chart footnote 1: The number of respondents in this table refers to the population of the sample that could be matched to the Department of Education's School Roll number, in order to establish which county the school was based in using the Department's school address.

Chart footnote 2: No matched respondents from Monaghan or Sligo.

Phase 10 *CensusAtSchool* Questionnaire

<p>1. Are you:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> female? <input type="checkbox"/> male?</p>	<p>9. b) How many of the containers did you recycle?</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>17. What type of TV programme do you watch the most?</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>2. Please state your age in completed years.</p> <p>.....years</p>	<p>10. How many people live in your household? (Include yourself)</p> <p>..... people</p>	<p>18. What is your favourite subject at school?</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>3. What year are you in at school?</p> <p>Year e.g. 5th year</p>	<p>11. Have you moved house in the last year?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> moved within Ireland <input type="checkbox"/> moved from abroad</p>	<p>19. How do you usually travel to school?(Select one answer)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Walk <input type="checkbox"/> Bus <input type="checkbox"/> Car <input type="checkbox"/> Cycle <input type="checkbox"/> Luas/Train/Dart <input type="checkbox"/> Other (pls specify)</p>
<p>4. Where were you born?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Republic of Ireland <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Ireland <input type="checkbox"/> England <input type="checkbox"/> Scotland <input type="checkbox"/> Wales <input type="checkbox"/> Other European Country <input type="checkbox"/> Outside Europe</p>	<p>12. How many cars belong to people in your household?</p> <p>..... cars</p>	<p>20. How long does it usually take you to travel to school?</p> <p>.....minutes</p>
<p>5. What county do you live in?</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>13. Tick the box if you have: (You may tick more than one box)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a mobile phone without Internet <input type="checkbox"/> a mobile phone with Internet <input type="checkbox"/> a home computer without Internet <input type="checkbox"/> a home computer with Internet <input type="checkbox"/> your own computer <input type="checkbox"/> your own television <input type="checkbox"/> an i-pod/portable media player <input type="checkbox"/> a games console</p>	<p>21. There is a national census in Ireland in 2011. During which month is Census Day?</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>6. a) How tall are you without shoes? (Answer in centimetres)</p> <p>..... centimetres</p>	<p>14. Which of these methods do you most often use to communicate with your friends? (Select one)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> telephone (landline) <input type="checkbox"/> text messaging <input type="checkbox"/> e-mail <input type="checkbox"/> mobile phone (conversation) <input type="checkbox"/> Internet chat or MSN <input type="checkbox"/> Myspace, Facebook, blog <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>	<p>22. How important do you think the Census is to: (Give your views below by marking a point on the line.)</p> <p>Education? Very unimportant Very important ●-----●</p> <p>Public Services (eg police)? Very unimportant Very important ●-----●</p> <p>Environment? Very unimportant Very important ●-----●</p> <p>Community Facilities (eg sport centres)? Very unimportant Very important ●-----●</p>
<p>b) What is the length of your right foot to the nearest tenth of a centimetre?</p> <p>..... centimetres</p>	<p>15. What is the main way you keep up with the news/media? (Select one only)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> television <input type="checkbox"/> Internet on a computer <input type="checkbox"/> Internet on a mobile phone <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> magazines <input type="checkbox"/> talking to your friends <input type="checkbox"/> not interested in news <input type="checkbox"/> other</p>	<p>23. a) What pets do you have? (You may tick more than one box)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> dog <input type="checkbox"/> cat <input type="checkbox"/> rabbit <input type="checkbox"/> goldfish <input type="checkbox"/> other</p>
<p>c) What is your open arm span? (Answer in centimetres)</p> <p>.....centimetres</p>	<p>16. What is your favourite type of media story? (Select one only)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> business <input type="checkbox"/> fashion <input type="checkbox"/> sport <input type="checkbox"/> celebrity <input type="checkbox"/> technology <input type="checkbox"/> music + film <input type="checkbox"/> health + beauty <input type="checkbox"/> science and the environment <input type="checkbox"/> politics/world affairs <input type="checkbox"/> other <input type="checkbox"/> none</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> I have no pets</p>
<p>d) Which hand do you write with?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Right <input type="checkbox"/> Left <input type="checkbox"/> either (ambidextrous)</p>	<p>17. What is your favourite Olympic sport?</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>23. b) What do you like best about your pet(s)?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> They are fun to be with <input type="checkbox"/> I like to look after them <input type="checkbox"/> They make me feel loved <input type="checkbox"/> I like to take them for walks <input type="checkbox"/> I can talk to them <input type="checkbox"/> I like to cuddle them</p>
<p>7. What is your favourite football team ?</p> <p>Team name</p>	<p>9. a) State how many soft drinks you had in the last 2 days.</p> <p>.....</p>	