

# The prevalence of long-term illness in school-aged children



Written by: No Isolation

Last updated: April 29, 2019

*Cite this article:* No Isolation. (2018, April 30). The prevalence of long-term illness in school-aged children. Retrieved from: [www.noisolation.com/global/research/the-prevalence-of-long-term-illness-in-school-aged-children/](http://www.noisolation.com/global/research/the-prevalence-of-long-term-illness-in-school-aged-children/) (<http://www.noisolation.com/global/research/the-prevalence-of-long-term-illness-in-school-aged-children/>)

**In Norway**, about 6,000 children miss out on school (<http://www.noisolation.com/global/research/how-does-social-isolation-affect-a-childs-mental-health-and-development/>) due to long-term illness every year. In The EU (<http://www.noisolation.com/global/research/the-prevalence-of-social-isolation-in-europe/>), the same number amounts to 522,000. These are estimates made by the research team at No Isolation. In this article, we will explain how we came to these numbers, and show to external research that backs it up.

Many diseases, such as cancers, neuromuscular diseases, CFS/ME, and other rare illnesses, may lead to long periods of school absence due to being bedridden or hospitalised. In our estimates, we define severe long-term illness as a situation where children who, because of their disease, are absent from school for two months a year or more.

As there are no official statistics or research estimates on the number of children with long-term illness that are absent from school (<http://www.noisolation.com/global/research/the-impact-of-av1-on-children-with-long-term-illness-and-absence/>), we had to map this ourselves. We talked to health professionals, patient organisations, and researchers, to find the prevalence of affected people within each relevant disease, and how it differs between age groups. We then used these percentages and multiplied them by the total amount of children of school age (between the age of 5–19 in Norway). The total prevalence of children with long-term illness added up to 0.7 percent. When we multiply this number by the total amount of school-aged children living in Norway, we get 6,185.

We have then taken the prevalence estimate of children with long-term illness in Norway and applied it in other EU countries, giving us approximate numbers of children with long-term illness within the EU-28. We have reason to believe that the estimate is conservative; Data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics demonstrates that 1.6% of all students in Australia are affected by some form of long-term illness, while research data from the U.S. school system shows that 1.5% of American students suffer (<http://www.noisolation.com/global/research/consequences-of-social-isolation-for-children-and-adolescents/>) from the same (Gilmour, Hopkins, Meyers & Strafford, 2015).





Explore AV1 →

(<https://www.noisolation.com/global/av1/>)

## Bibliography

1. Gilmour, M., Hopkins, L., Meyers, G., Nell, C. & Stafford, N. (2015). School connection for seriously sick kids. Who are they, how do we know what works, and whose job is it? Canberra, Australia: Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth.

## Related articles

(<https://www.noisolation.com/global/research/the-impact-of-av1-on-children-with-long-term-illness-and-absence/>)

**Impact of AV1 on children with long-term illness and school absence**

Read → (<https://www.noisolation.com/global/research/the-impact-of-av1-on-children-with-long-term-illness-and-absence/>).



(<https://www.noisolation.com/global/research/consequences-of-social-isolation-for-children-and-adolescents/>)

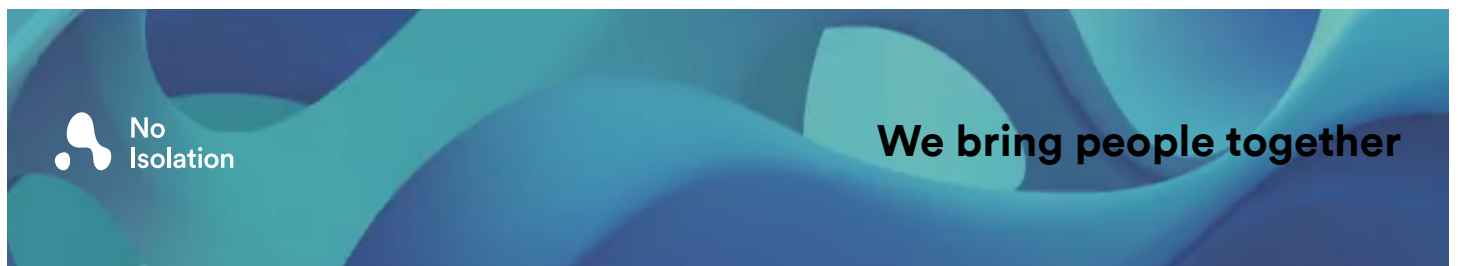
### **Consequences of social isolation for children and adolescents**

Read → (<https://www.noisolation.com/global/research/consequences-of-social-isolation-for-children-and-adolescents/>)

(<https://www.noisolation.com/global/research/how-does-social-isolation-affect-a-childs-mental-health-and-development/>)

### **How does social isolation affect a child's mental health and development?**

Read → (<https://www.noisolation.com/global/research/how-does-social-isolation-affect-a-childs-mental-health-and-development/>)



**AV1** (<https://www.noisolation.com/global/av1/>) **KOMP** (<https://www.noisolation.com/global/komp/>)

**Support** (<https://support.noisolation.com/hc/en-us>) **About us** (<https://www.noisolation.com/global/about-us/>)

**Our research** (<https://www.noisolation.com/global/research/>) **Join us** (<https://www.noisolation.com/global/join-us/>)

**Press kit** (<https://www.noisolation.com/global/press-kit/>)

**My Admin** (<https://www.noisolation.com/global/administration/>)

[book.com/No-42276441/](https://book.com/No-42276441/)



([https://twitter.com/\\_noisolation](https://twitter.com/_noisolation))



([https://www.instagram.com/\\_noisolation/](https://www.instagram.com/_noisolation/))



(<https://www.linkedin.com/com>)

## **Newsletter**



Keep yourself updated on our progress, products and campaigns with our monthly newsletter.

Your email

☐ Sign me up for news and offers. I am happy for my data to be used for marketing purposes.

Sign up

**Support:** [+44 20 3966 5397](tel:+442039665397) (tel:+44 20 3966 5397) **General:** [+44 20 3695 9242](tel:+442036959242) (tel:+44 20 3695 9242) [contact@noisolation.com](mailto:contact@noisolation.com) (mailto:contact@noisolation.com)

Trondheimsveien 2, 0560 Oslo, Norway. Entrance Herslebs street 1, building J. [Google maps](https://goo.gl/maps/LdDHC4FQBdE8jb2n6) (https://goo.gl/maps/LdDHC4FQBdE8jb2n6)

We give you [cookies](https://www.noisolation.com/global/legal/cookies/) (https://www.noisolation.com/global/legal/cookies/) Our [Privacy Statement](https://www.noisolation.com/global/legal/privacy-statement/) (https://www.noisolation.com/global/legal/privacy-statement/)

© No Isolation 2020

[Take me to the top](#)

