

Mathematics in the World of Work: Journalism

Imagine you are a journalist and you have to write a press release about a mass meeting in a local city. Organisers and public authorities have offered very different data about how many people that attended the meeting. However, data do differ significantly. How could you estimate the number of people at the event?

You should:

- 1. Devise a plan to estimate how many people there are in an area when a one-to-one counting is not possible.*
- 2. Pilot your plan, by estimating how many students are outside in the schoolyard during a break.*
- 3. Based on your results, optimize your plan if necessary, and conduct a new piloting.*
- 4. Write a brief note to your editor explaining your method and how you have used it to estimate how many students are outside in the schoolyard.*



Thanks to Fergal Carr

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