Taking Part Survey: England
Child Report, 2016/17

In 2016/17, the following proportions of children (aged 5-15) had engaged with cultural activities in the last 12 months:

- 97% Engaged with the arts
- 68% Visited a heritage site
- 63% Visited a museum
- 65% Visited a library

Proportion of children (aged 5-15) who engaged with culture in the last 12 months

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008/09</th>
<th>2016/17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
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<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museums</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

▲▼Statistically significant increase/decrease since 2008/09

Sport participation

Amongst all children (5-15 year olds), 88% had taken part in sport the four weeks prior to interview, a similar proportion to 2008/09 (90%).

Note: Changes over time and differences between groups are only reported on where they are statistically significant, i.e. where we can be confident that the differences seen in our sampled respondents are reflective of the population. Specifically, the statistical tests used mean we can be confident that if we carried out the same survey on different random samples of the population, 95 times out of 100 we would get similar findings. When sample sizes are smaller we can be less confident in our estimates so differences need to be greater to be considered statistically significant.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Culture</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Has engaged with the arts in the last year (5-10 year olds)</td>
<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<td>97.2</td>
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<td>98.2</td>
<td>98.6</td>
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<td>97.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Has engaged with the arts in the last year (11-15 year olds)</td>
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<td>98.8</td>
<td>99.1</td>
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<td>99.4</td>
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<td>99.1</td>
<td>98.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has visited a museum or gallery in the last year (5-10 year olds)</td>
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<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<tr>
<td>Has visited a museum or gallery in the last year (11-15 year olds)</td>
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<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<td>57.6</td>
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<td>60.4</td>
<td>58.7</td>
<td>63.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has visited a public library in the last year (5-10 year olds)</td>
<td>▼ □ □ □ □ □</td>
<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
<td>72.2</td>
<td>77.9</td>
<td>76.4</td>
<td>68.2</td>
<td>69.4</td>
<td>67.1</td>
<td>67.7</td>
<td>61.9</td>
<td>60.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has visited a public library in the last year (11-15 year olds)</td>
<td>▼ □ □ □ □ □</td>
<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<td>71.6</td>
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<td>73.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Has visited a heritage site in the last year (5-10 year olds)</td>
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<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<td>Has visited a heritage site in the last year (11-15 year olds)</td>
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<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<td>66.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Has visited an archive in the last year (11-15 year olds)</td>
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<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sport</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Has participated in any sport in the last 4 weeks (5-10 year olds)</td>
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<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<td>Has participated in any sport in the last 4 weeks (11-15 year olds)</td>
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<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Olympics &amp; Paralympics</strong> (Would you say that the UK hosting the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games has encouraged you to take part in sport?)</td>
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<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<td>46.4</td>
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<td>69.6</td>
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<td>17.9</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>13.4</td>
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<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<td>45.2</td>
<td>41.9</td>
<td>43.6</td>
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<td>45.2</td>
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<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
<td>□ □ □ □ □</td>
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<td>39.7</td>
<td>36.9</td>
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<td>51.1</td>
<td>39.7</td>
<td>36.9</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

: Data not available for this year
5-10 year old data relates to out of school activities only
11-15 year old data consists of activities participated in and out of school
Chapter 1: Arts

In 2016/17, almost all children aged 5-15 (97.4%) had engaged with the arts in the last 12 months. This is a similar proportion to 2008/09 (98.0%) when the data were first collected. If reading and writing are excluded from the list of arts activities, the overall arts engagement rate was 94.0% in 2016/17.

In 2016/17, 87.3% of children had engaged with the arts in the week prior to interview. This is a similar proportion to 2008/09 (85.9%).

What is arts engagement?

Taking Part asks respondents whether they (11-15) / their child (5-10) have attended or participated in a range of arts events and activities, such as playing a musical instrument, taking a dance lesson or going to a carnival. The full list of eligible activities can be found in Annex C.

5-10 year olds

In 2016/17, 96.9% of children aged 5-10 had engaged with the arts outside of school in the last 12 months, a similar proportion to 2008/09 (97.2%). There was no significant difference in engagement among boys and girls, with engagement rates of 96.2% and 97.6% respectively.

The proportion of children who had participated in specific arts activities varied:

- Reading and writing remains the most popular arts activity for 5-10 year olds, with 85.6% doing this activity in the last 12 months in 2016/17
- Other popular activities were arts and crafts (72.0%), and film or video activities (64.4%)

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1 The survey questions for 5-10 year olds are completed by an adult on behalf of the child and ask about activities done out of school only. The interview for 11-15 year olds is conducted with the young person themselves and the questions cover activities done both in school lessons and outside of school.

2 A confidence interval provides a range in which there is a specific probability that the true value for the population will fall. For the Taking Part survey, 95% confidence intervals are used which means, had the sampling been conducted 100 times, creating 100 confidence intervals, then 95 of these intervals would contain the true value for children in England. When sample sizes are smaller we can be less certain in our estimates so confidence intervals are wider.
There have been significant changes between 2008/09 and 2016/17 in the participation of 5-10 year olds in a number of arts activities. However, it is worth noting that the method of asking these questions changed in Q4 2010/11 which may have had an impact on responses\(^3\).

**Figure 1.3: Proportion of children aged 5-10 years old who had engaged with selected art forms\(^4\) outside of school in the last 12 months, 2016/17**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Art Form</th>
<th>First Year</th>
<th>Increase</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading and writing activities</td>
<td>85.6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and crafts activities</td>
<td>72.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film or video activities</td>
<td>64.4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street art events</td>
<td>37.8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music activities</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance activities</td>
<td>29.4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theatre and drama activities</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practised a musical instrument</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other media activities</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Played a musical instrument to an audience</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(\pm\) 95% confidence interval

**11-15 year olds\(^5\)**

In 2016/17, 98.1% of 11-15 year olds had engaged with the arts in the 12 months prior to interview, a similar proportion to 2008/09 (98.8%). There was no significant difference in engagement among boys and girls, with engagement rates of 97.4% and 98.9% respectively.

Like 5-10 year olds, **reading and writing** was the most popular arts activity for 11-15 year olds (89.3%). Other activities with high participation rates were film and video activities (76.6%), arts and crafts activities (73.4%), theatre and drama activities (63.5%), and music activities (60.9%).

There have been significant changes between 2008/09 and 2016/17 in the participation of 11-15 year olds in a number of arts activities. However, it is worth noting that the method of asking these questions changed in Q4 2010/11 which may have had an impact on responses\(^3\).

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\(^3\) Up to Q3 2010/11, respondents were shown a list of activities and asked whether they had done any of these. From Q4 2010/11, respondents were asked whether they had done each activity on the list.

\(^4\) Details of the activities included in each art form are available in Annex C

\(^5\) The survey questions for 11-15 year olds are completed by the young person themselves and relate to activities done both in and out of school.
**Figure 1.4: Proportion of children aged 11-15 years old who had engaged with selected art forms in school lessons and/or outside of school in the last 12 months, 2016/17**

![Proportion of children aged 11-15 years old who had engaged with selected art forms in school lessons and/or outside of school in the last 12 months, 2016/17](image)

- **Reading and writing activities**: 89.3%
- **Film or video activities**: 76.6%
- **Arts and crafts activities**: 73.4%
- **Theatre and drama activities**: 63.5%
- **Music activities**: 60.9%
- **Computer activities**: 40.1%
- **Street art events**: 37.7%
- **Dance activities**: 37.5%
- **Practised a musical instrument**: 29.3%
- **Played a musical instrument to an audience**: 18.3%
- **Radio activities**: 6.2%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>No change</th>
<th>Increase</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading and writing activities</td>
<td>89.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film or video activities</td>
<td>76.6%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and crafts activities</td>
<td>73.4%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theatre and drama activities</td>
<td>63.5%</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music activities</td>
<td>60.9%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer activities</td>
<td>40.1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street art events</td>
<td>37.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance activities</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practised a musical instrument</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Played a musical instrument to an audience</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio activities</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**95% confidence interval**

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**Engagement in and out of school**

Although reading and writing was the most popular activity undertaken by 11-15 year olds in 2016/17 overall, when participation in school only is excluded, film or video activities (67.9%) were the most popular.

**Figure 1.5: In school and out of school arts engagement in the last year, 11-15 year olds, 2016/17**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>In school only</th>
<th>Both in and out of school</th>
<th>Outside school only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading and writing activities</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
<td></td>
<td>47.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film or video activities</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td>45.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and crafts activities</td>
<td>33.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td>31.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theatre and drama activities</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
<td></td>
<td>17.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music activities</td>
<td>29.8%</td>
<td></td>
<td>20.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer activities</td>
<td>26.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street art events</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td></td>
<td>32.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance activities</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td></td>
<td>13.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 2: Heritage

In 2016/17, 68.2% of all children (aged 5-15) had visited a heritage site in the last 12 months, a similar proportion to 2008/09 (69.1%).

The proportion of children aged 5-15 who had visited a heritage site in the week prior to interview was 11.5%, a significant increase on 2008/09 (5.0%).

What is a heritage site?
Taking Part asks respondents whether they (11-15) / their child (5-10) have done any of the following:
- Visited a historic building, garden or landscape open to the public
- Visited historical monuments or sites of archaeological interest
- Visited a city or town with historic character
- Visited important modern buildings or public spaces

5-10 year olds
In 2016/17, 66.6% of children aged 5-10 had visited a heritage site outside of school in the last 12 months. This is not significantly different from 2008/09 (71.4%).

Between 2008/09 and 2016/17, the proportion of boys aged 5-10 who had visited a heritage site outside school in the last 12 months decreased significantly (from 72.9% in 2008/09 to 64.9% in 2016/17), but there was no significant change in engagement rates for girls (69.8% in 2008/09 and 68.4% in 2016/17). In 2016/17, engagement rates were not significantly different among boys (64.9%) and girls (68.4%).

11-15 year olds
In 2016/17, 70.4% of children aged 11-15 had visited a heritage site in the last 12 months, which is not significantly different from 2008/09 (65.1%).

The proportion of girls aged 11-15 who had visited a heritage site in the last 12 months significantly increased from 64.2% in 2008/09 to 73.7% in 2016/17, whereas heritage engagement for boys in 2016/17 (67.2%) was not significantly different from 2008/09 (65.9%). In 2016/17, there was no significant difference in heritage engagement rates for boys and girls aged 11-15.
Type of heritage site visited

Children aged 11-15 who had visited a heritage site in the last 12 months were also asked which types of heritage sites they had visited:

- 49.3% had visited a historic building, garden or landscape open to the public
- 33.8% had visited a historic monument or site of archaeological interest
- 46.3% had visited a city or town with historic character
- 23.9% had visited an important modern building or public space

The proportion of children aged 11-15 who had visited a **historic monument or site of archaeological interest** in the last 12 months significantly increased between 2013/14 (first year of data collection) and 2016/17, from 26.6% to 33.8%. There were no significant changes for the other types of heritage sites.

**Figure 2.3:** Proportion of children aged 11-15 years old who had visited different types of heritage sites in the last 12 months, 2016/17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Site</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Historic building, garden or landscape</td>
<td>49.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City or town with historic character</td>
<td>46.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic monument or site of archaeological interest</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Important modern building or public space</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ì 95% confidence interval

**In and out of school engagement**

Since 2012/13, data have been collected on whether children aged 11-15 have visited a heritage site during school lessons, out of school or both. In 2016/17, more 11-15 year olds had visited a heritage site outside school (61.7%) than in school (24.6%).

**Figure 2.4:** Proportion of 11-15 year olds that had visited a heritage site in the last 12 months split by in school and outside school engagement, 2016/17

- 49.3% in school only
- 33.8% outside school only
- 23.9% both
- 8.6% neither

Legend:

- In school only
- Outside school only
- Both
- Non-participants: 29.6
Chapter 3: Museums

In 2016/17, 63.3% of children aged 5-15 years old had visited a museum in the last 12 months. This is a similar proportion to 2008/09 (63.2%). In the week prior to interview, 4.0% of children aged 5-15 had visited a museum, a similar proportion to 2008/09 (3.9%).

**5-10 year olds**

In 2016/17, 63.0% of children aged 5-10 had visited a museum outside school. This is not significantly different from 2008/09 (66.0%).

There is no significant difference in museum engagement by sex for 5-10 year olds, with 64.1% of boys having visited a museum in the last 12 months and 61.9% of girls in 2016/17.

**11-15 year olds**

In 2016/17, 63.7% of children aged 11-15 had visited a museum in the last 12 months, a similar proportion to 2008/09 (59.4%). More children aged 11-15 had visited a museum outside of school (47.6%) than during school lessons (24.1%).

There is no significant difference in engagement by sex for 11-15 year olds, with rates of 62.0% and 65.5% for boys and girls respectively in 2016/17.

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**Legend:**

- In school only
- Outside school only
- Both

Non-participants: 35.4
Chapter 4: Libraries

In 2016/17, 64.7% of children aged 5-15 had visited a library in the last 12 months. This is a significant decrease from 2008/09 (75.3%).

The proportion of children aged 5-15 who had visited a library in the week prior to interview was 20.9%, similar to 2008/09 (20.7%).

What is included in library visits?
Visits to a library are not restricted to taking out books and include visits for the following:
- Read or taken out books
- Taken out CDs, DVDs etc
- Used computer services, photocopiers etc
- Used study areas
- Used reference materials or information services
- Attended an event in the library

5 to 10 year olds
In 2016/17, 60.8% of children aged 5-10 had visited a library outside of school in the last 12 months, a significant decrease from 2008/09 (72.2%).

This decrease was seen for both boys and girls. In 2016/17, 59.3% of boys aged 5-10 had visited a library in the last 12 months, which was significantly lower than in 2008/09 (70.1%). Over the same period the proportion of girls aged 5-10 who had visited a library decreased from 74.3% to 62.4%.

11-15 year olds
In 2016/17, 69.9% of 11-15 year olds had visited a library in the last 12 months. This is a significant decrease from 78.6% in 2008/09.

The proportion of boys aged 11-15 who had visited a library significantly decreased from 75.3% in 2008/09 to 67.0% in 2016/17. Over the same time period, the proportion of girls who had visited a library significantly decreased from 82.0% to 72.9%.
In and out of school engagement

A higher proportion of children aged 11-15 had visited a library during school time (53.6%) than outside of school (38.5%).

The proportion of 11-15 year olds who visited a library outside of school has significantly decreased from 48.1% in 2013/14 to 38.5% in 2016/17.

Figure 4.2: Proportion of 11-15 year olds that visited a library in the last 12 months split by in school and outside school engagement, 2016/17
Questions on whether a child has visited an archive or records centre were only asked of those aged 11-15.

In 2016/17, 4.6% of children aged 11-15 had visited an archive or records centre in the last 12 months, a significant decrease from 2008/09 (9.7%).

1.2% of children aged 11-15 had visited an archive or records centre in the week prior to interview, which is similar to in 2008/09.

**Figure 5.1: Proportion of children aged 11-15 years old who had visited an archive centre or records office, 2008/09 to 2016/17**

![Graph showing proportion of children aged 11-15 years old who had visited an archive centre or records office, 2008/09 to 2016/17]

- 95% confidence interval
- Note: Data on archive visits in the last week are not available for 2009/10

In 2016/17, 3.3% of 11-15 year olds had visited an archive or records centre during school time. This is a decrease from 5.9% in 2013/14.

**Figure 5.2: Proportion of 11-15 year olds that visited an archive centre records office in the last 12 months split by in school and outside school engagement, 2016/17**

![Venn diagram showing proportion of 11-15 year olds that visited an archive centre records office in the last 12 months split by in school and outside school engagement, 2016/17]

What is an Archives Centre?
Archives are documents that have been created by families, individuals and organisations that have been specifically chosen to be kept permanently. They can be written papers, maps, photographs, films or sound recordings. Places that keep archives are called an archive centre or records office. This is not the same as a registry office where births, deaths and marriages are registered.
Chapter 6: Sport

In 2016/17, 88.4% of 5-15 year olds had taken part in sport in the four weeks prior to interview, a similar proportion to in 2008/09 (89.9%). By age group, this is broken down as follows:

- 84.3% of 5-10 year olds had taken part in sport outside school in the four weeks prior to interview. This is a similar proportion to 2008/09 (84.5%).
- 94.0% of 11-15 year olds had taken part in sport in school lessons and/or outside school in the four weeks prior to interview, similar to in 2008/09 (96.0%).

78.0% of children aged 5-15 had participated in sport in the last week. This is not significantly different from 2008/09 (81.0%).

What counts as sport?
Taking Part asks respondents whether they (11-15) / their child (5-10) have done any of the sports or recreation activities outlined in Annex C. To count towards the indicators reported, respondents must have participated in these activities within the last 4 weeks. When measuring participation during the last week, the respondent must have participated in the activity for at least 30 minutes.

5-10 year olds
In 2016/17, a significantly higher proportion of boys aged 5-10 (87.8%) had participated in sport outside school in the last four weeks than girls (80.7%). Participation rates for both sexes were similar in 2016/17 to 2008/09.

‘Swimming, diving or lifesaving’ remained the most common sport undertaken by 5-10 year olds outside school, with 50.9% of children aged 5-10 having participated in swimming, diving or lifesaving in the four weeks prior to interview in 2016/17. This is a similar proportion to in 2010/11 (48.3%).

Participation in tennis, ‘cross country, jogging or road running’, table tennis, gymnastics, and walking or hiking all significantly increased between 2010/11 and 2016/17.
In 2016/17, a significantly higher proportion of boys aged 11-15 (96.0%) had participated in sport in the last four weeks than girls (91.8%). Participation rates for both sexes were similar in 2016/17 to 2008/09.

In 2016/17, the most popular sport undertaken by children aged 11-15 years old was football (including five-a-side) with 42.8% participating in this sport in the four weeks prior to interview. However, this is significant decrease from 50.0% in 2010/11.
Over the same time period, there has been a significant increase in the proportion of 11-15 year olds participating in dodgeball, athletics, gymnastics, and walking or hiking.

Figure 6.4: Proportion of children aged 11-15 years who had participated in individual sport activities in school lessons and/or outside of school in the last four weeks, 2016/17
Competitive sport

In 2016/17, 76.0% of children aged 5-15 had participated in competitive sport in and/or outside school in the last 12 months. This is a significant decrease from 80.0% in 2011/12. Split by in/outside school, this breaks down as follows:

- 72.7% of children had taken part in competitive sport in school, a significant decrease from 76.9% in 2011/12
- 36.8% of children had taken part in competitive sport outside school, a similar proportion to 2011/12 (37.0%).

What is included in Competitive sport?

Unlike the other sections in this report where data for 5-10 year olds relate to out of school activity only, competitive sport data are broken down by ‘in school’ and ‘out of school’ activities for both 5-10 year olds and 11-15 year olds. Questions on competitive sport cover the last 12 months rather than the last four weeks like the other sports questions. A list of the activities that are included in competitive sport can be found in Annex C.

Figure 6.5: Proportion of children aged 5-15 years who had participated in competitive sport in the last 12 months, split by in school and outside school, 2011/12 to 2016/17

Competitive sport in school

The proportion of children aged 5-15 who had played sport against other schools in organized competitions in the last 12 months was 26.1% in 2016/17. This is significantly lower than in 2011/12 when the rate was 31.0%.

Over the same time period, the proportion of 5-15 year olds who had taken part in National School Sports week also significantly decreased, from 14.4% in 2011/12 to 8.8% in 2016/17.

5-10 year olds

In 2016/17, 62.4% of children aged 5-10 had played sport in their school in organised competitions (e.g. a school sports day). This is similar to 2011/12 (64.0%).

11-15 year olds

In 2016/17, participation rates for 11-15 year olds for various competitive sporting activities in school were as follows:
- Played sport against other people in PE or games lessons: 68.4%
- Played sport in school in organised competitions: 41.7%
- Played for a sports team: 39.8%
- Been a member of a club that plays sport: 25.8%

Participation rates were significantly lower in 2016/17 than 2011/12 for all activities except playing for a sports team.

Figure 6.6: Proportion of children who had participated in competitive sport in school in the last 12 months, by type of activity, 2011/12 and 2016/17

Participation rates for all competitive sport activities in school were not significantly different between boys and girls.
**Competitive sport outside school**

Between 2011/12 and 2016/17, there were no significant changes in the proportion of 5-15 year olds who had participated in different types of competitive sport outside school. In 2016/17, participation rates were as follows:

- been a member of a club that plays sport: 24.7%
- played for a sports team: 20.8%
- a sports competition or one-off event: 15.8%

Figure 6.7: Proportion of children aged 5-15 years old who had participated in competitive sport outside school in the last 12 months, by type of activity, 2011/12 and 2016/17

95% confidence interval

In 2016/17, participation rates were significantly higher for boys than for girls across all three types of competitive sporting activity.

Figure 6.8: Proportion of children aged 5-15 years old who had participated in competitive sport outside school in the last 12 months, by gender and type of activity, 2016/17

95% confidence interval
Annex A: Background note

1. The Taking Part survey is commissioned by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and its partner Arm’s Length Bodies. For 2011 to 2017, these are Arts Council England, Historic England and Sport England.

2. The fieldwork for the Taking Part survey over the period 2005/06 to 2015/16 was conducted by TNS-BMRB and for 2016/17 was conducted by Ipsos Mori and NatCen Social Research.

3. The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

   Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:
   - meet identified user needs
   - are well explained and readily accessible
   - are produced according to sound methods
   - are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest

   Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics, it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

4. Stringent quality assurance procedures have been adopted for this statistical release. All data and analysis has been checked and verified by at least two different members of the DCMS team and NatCen Social Research to ensure the quality.

5. Guidance on the quality that is expected of Taking Part statistical releases is provided in a quality indicators document. These quality indicators outline how statistics from the Taking Part survey match up to the six dimensions of quality defined by the European Statistical System (ESS). These are: relevance, accuracy, timeliness, accessibility, comparability and coherence.

6. The Taking Part survey measures participation by adults (aged 16 and over) and children (aged 5-10 and 11-15) living in private households in England. No geographical restriction is placed on where the activity or event occurred. Further information on data for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland can be found in question 2 of the “Taking Part: Guidance Note”.

7. Sample sizes for each year and data breakdown can be found in the accompanying tables.

8. All estimates have been rounded to one decimal place.

9. Changes over time and differences between groups are only reported on where they are statistically significant at the 95% level. This means that we can be confident that the differences seen in our sampled respondents are reflective of the population. Specifically, the statistical tests used mean we can be confident that if we carried out the same survey on different random samples of the population, 95 times out of 100 we would get similar findings. When sample sizes are smaller we can be less confident in our estimates so differences need to be greater to be considered statistically significant.
10. The upper and lower bounds presented in this report have been calculated using a 95% confidence interval. This means that had the sample been conducted 100 times, creating 100 confidence intervals, then 95 of these intervals would contain the true value. When the sample size is smaller, as is the case for certain groups and in certain years, the confidence intervals are wider as we can be less certain that the individuals in the sample are representative of the population. This means that it is more difficult to draw inferences from the results.

11. The data are weighted to ensure representativeness of the Taking Part sample. There are two types of weighting:

- to compensate for unequal probabilities of selection
- to adjust for non-response

Weighting is based on mid-2016 population estimates from the Office for National Statistics.

12. For more information about the Taking Part survey and to access previous publications and the questionnaires, see the Taking Part survey webpages.

13. The responsible statistician for this release is Wilmah Deda. For enquiries on this release, please contact Wilmah on 0207 211 6376.

14. To be kept informed about Taking Part publications and user events, please sign up to the Taking Part online newsletter here. You can follow us on Twitter @DCMSInsight.
## Annex B: Key terms and definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definitions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008/09</td>
<td>This is the time period covering April 2008 to March 2009. In this release, this refers to the date that the interviews were conducted. The activities reported on took place in the year prior to interview.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>This is the time period covering April 2016 to March 2017. In this release, this refers to the date that the interviews were conducted. The activities reported on took place in the year prior to interview.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archives</td>
<td>Archives are collections of documents that have been created by families, individuals, businesses or organisations and have been specially chosen to be kept permanently. Further information is available in Annex C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>A list of activities that are classified as engagement with the arts is given in Annex C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confidence interval</td>
<td>A confidence interval provides a range in which there is a specific probability that the true value for the population will fall. For the Taking Part survey, 95% confidence intervals are used which means, had the sampling been conducted 100 times, creating 100 confidence intervals, then 95 of these intervals would contain the true value for children in England.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement</td>
<td>This refers to either attending and/or participating in the culture or arts sector, for example, going to a carnival or playing a musical instrument.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage</td>
<td>A list of activities that are classified as engagement with heritage is given in Annex C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant increase/decrease</td>
<td>A significant increase/decrease at the 95% level means that if we carried out the same survey on different random samples of the population, 95 times out of 100 we would observe the increase/decrease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting a library</td>
<td>The list of activities that are classified as visiting a library are given in Annex C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annex C: Sector definitions

Arts
The respondent was asked whether they (11-15) / their child (5-10) has engaged in any of the arts activities from a given list, including any helping out or volunteering. Eligible activities were as follows:

Dance activities
- Taken part in a dance club
- Taken part in a dance performance
- Created a new dance routine
- Attended a dance event
- Taken part in a dance lesson
Do not include: Danced at a disco or party

Music activities
- Sang to an audience or rehearsed for a performance
- Practiced and rehearsed a musical instrument
- Played a musical instrument to an audience
- Written music (includes writing lyrics or music)
- Attended a live music event
- Taken part in a music lesson

Theatre and drama activities
- Rehearsed or performed in a play/drama or drama club
- Taken part in a drama lesson
- Attended theatre performances such as plays, pantomime, opera, musicals, comedy

Reading and writing activities
- Written stories, plays or poetry (include adults helping/writing on behalf of child for 5-10)
- Read books for pleasure
- Taken part in a reading club (where people meet up to discuss and share books)
- Listened to authors talk about their work
- Taken part in an English Literature lesson
Do not include: Reading textbooks which are required for school (except those required for English Literature lessons)

Arts, crafts and design
- Painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture or model making
- Photography as an artistic activity
- Crafts such as pottery or jewellery making, woodwork, metal work
- Attended exhibition of arts, photography or other craft work
- Taken part in an arts, crafts, design or photography lesson
Film and video activities
- Made or appeared in films or videos for artistic purposes
- Watched and discussed film or videos in a lesson or film society (to know more about how films are made as well as the stories they tell)
- Attended the cinema or an outdoor film screening

Do not include: Watching films on television, DVD or the internet or talking about films with family and friends

Other media activities (5-10 only)
- Computer based activities such as: made, revised or wrote their own blog, website or podcast; made or revised their own computer game; used a computer to create original artworks or animation
- Radio activities such as: made radio broadcasts or programmes

Do not include: Playing computer games, Surfing the internet, Listening to the radio

Computer based activities (11-15 only)
- Made, revised or wrote your own blog, website or podcast
- Made or revised your own computer game
- Used a computer to create original artworks or animation

Do not include: Playing computer games; Surfing the internet

Radio activities (11-15 only)
- Made radio broadcasts or programmes

Do not include: Listening to the radio

Street arts, circus, carnival or festival activities
Taken part in or been to any of the following:
- Street arts (art in everyday surroundings like parks, streets or shopping centres)
- Outdoor sculptures and art works
- Circus
- Carnival
- Festivals

Heritage
The respondent was asked whether they (11-15) / their child (5-10) had done any of the following, including any helping out or volunteering:
- Visited a historic building, garden or landscape open to the public
- Visited historical monuments or sites of archaeological interest
- Visited a city or town with historic character
- Visited important modern buildings or public spaces

**Libraries**
The respondent was asked whether they (11-15) / their child (5-10) had visited a library to do activities such as the ones on the show card. The interviewer asked the following.

“By this we mean visiting a library to do activities like the ones on this card.
- Read or taken out books
- Taken out CDs, DVDs etc
- Used computer services, photocopiers etc
- Used study areas
- Used reference materials or information services
- Attended an event in the library”

**Museums**
The respondent was asked whether they (11-15) / their child (5-10) had visited a museum.

“By this we mean visiting a museum to do activities like the ones on this card.
- Visited exhibitions
- Attended an event held at the museum”

**Archive**
For those aged 11-15, the respondent was asked whether they had visited an archive. This question was not asked of those aged 5-10.

“By this we mean visiting an archive to do activities like the ones on this card.
- Searched records at the archive
- Used computer or microfilm services, photocopiers etc
- Used study areas
- Used reference materials
- Attended an event held at an archive”
Sport and active recreation

The respondent was asked about their (11-15) / their child’s (5-10) participation in sports. Eligible activities were as follows:

Games (include mini-sports and mini-games)
- Football (include five-a-side)
- Netball
- Hockey (include unihoc but not ice, roller and street hockey)
- Cricket (include kwik cricket, soft-ball cricket)
- Rugby (include League, Union, touch rugby or new image rugby)
- Rounders
- Basketball (include mini-basketball)
- Volleyball (include mini-volleyball)
- Baseball or softball
- Dodgeball
- Tennis (include racquet ball, short tennis, swingball)
- Badminton and other shuttlecock games
- Table tennis
- Golf, putting, pitch and putt
- Tenpin bowling
- Snooker, pool or billiards (11-15 only)
- Darts (11-15 only)
- Other games such as Squash (include mini-squash), bowls (carpet, lawn etc), street, ice or roller hockey (Please Specify)

Swimming
- Swimming, diving or lifesaving

Athletic and gymnastic activities
- Cross country, jogging or road running
- Athletics – track and field events, running races or jumping
- Gym, gymnastics, trampolining or climbing frame
- Other game skills (e.g. hoops, hopscotch, throwing and catching, bean bags, frisbee)
- Aerobics, keep fit (include skipping, dance exercise, exercise bike)
- Weight-training (11-15 only)
- Martial arts – Judo, Karate, Taekwondo and other Martial Arts
- Boxing or wrestling
- Other athletic and gymnastic activities such as yoga or pilates (Specify)

Skating
- Ice skating
- Roller skating/blading or skate boarding

Outdoor and adventurous activities
- Orienteering
- Walking (only include walking non-stop for more than 30 minutes for leisure purposes) or hiking
- Climbing (include indoor climbing), abseiling or potholing
- Cycling or riding a bike (include BMX and mountain biking)
• Horse riding or pony trekking
• Rowing or canoeing
• Angling or fishing
• Other outdoor and adventurous activities such as skiing (on snow or on artificial surface; on slopes or grass), fencing, waterskiing, sailing, windsurfing or boardsailing (Specify)

Do not include hobbies such as camping, dancing, gardening, birdwatching, photography etc at this question

To count towards the indicators reported, respondents must have participated in these activities within the last four weeks. When measuring participation during the last week, to obtain a measure of time spent participating in sport or active recreation, the respondent must have participated in the activity for at least 30 minutes.

Competitive Sport

The respondent was asked whether they (11-15) / their child (5-10) had taken part in any of the following activities in the last 12 months:

In school/organised by the school

• Played sport against children in other schools in organised competitions
• National School Sports Week
• Played sport in their school in organised competitions (e.g. a school sports day) (5-10)
• Played for a sports team (11-15)
• Been a member of a club that plays sport (11-15)
• Played sport against other people in PE or games lessons (11-15)
• Played sport in your school in organised competitions (e.g. a school sports day or competitions against other classes or houses) (11-15)

Outside school

• Played for a sports team
• A sports competition or one-off event
• Been a member of a club that plays sport

Only include activities not organised by the school