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CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN NEED IN ENGLAND, 2011-12

INTRODUCTION

This publication reports the numbers of:

- referrals and assessments carried out by children's social care services,
- children who are assessed to be in need, and;
- children who were the subject of a child protection plan.

These figures are used to monitor the workload and performance of local authority children's social care services, and to identify the numbers of children who are subject to safeguarding procedures.

Children in need are those who have been referred to the local authority and have been assessed to be in need of services. The number starting an episode of need, and the number ending an episode of need are higher than last year. The number of episodes of children in need ending in the year have increased by more than the number of episodes starting, so there has been an overall decrease in the number of children in need at the end of the year.

The latest statistics show that referrals have decreased slightly since last year. However annual fluctuations are not unusual. There have been increases across all types of completed assessment and a rise in the number of children becoming the subject of a child protection plan, continuing the trend of recent years.

KEY POINTS

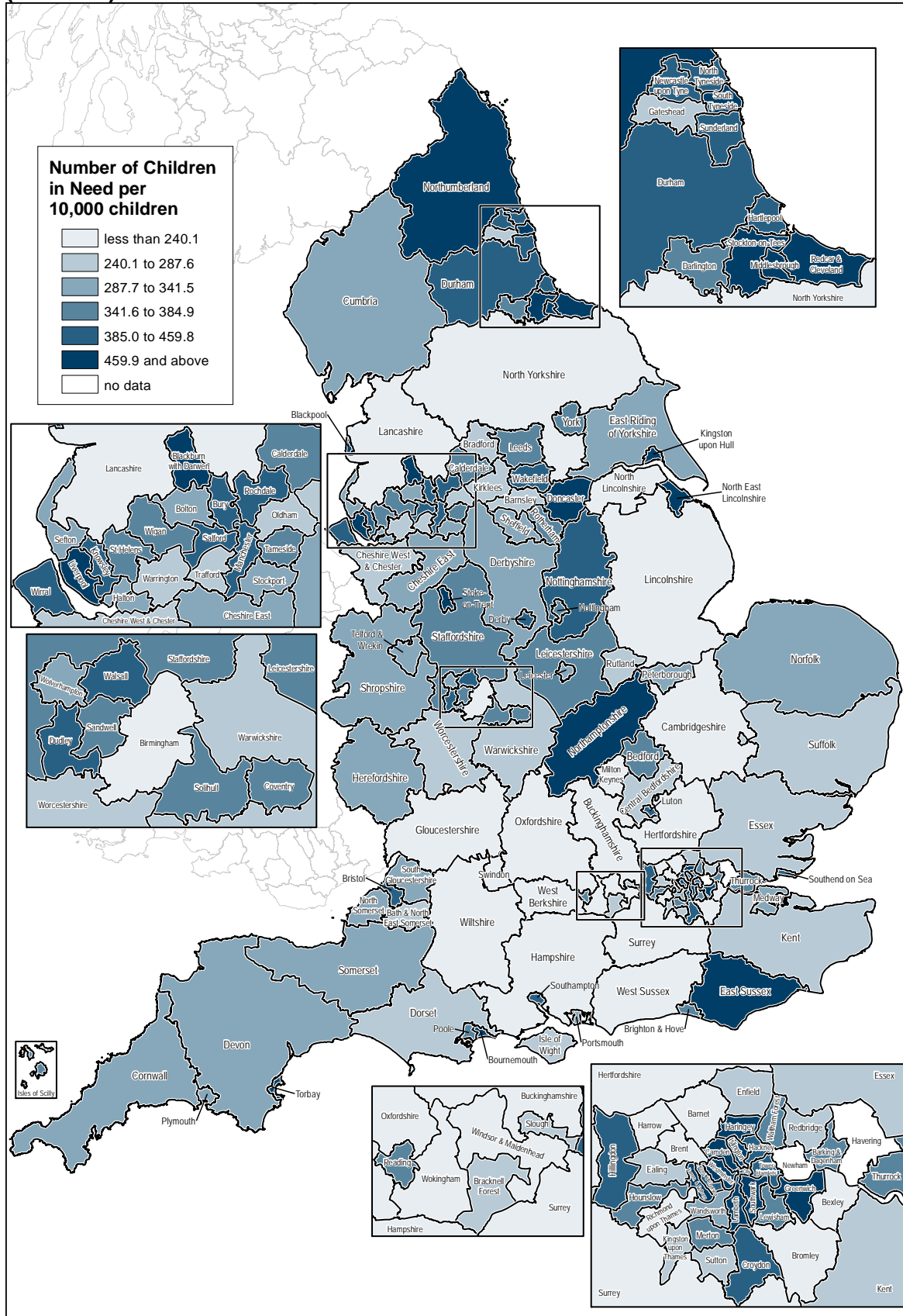
Children in Need

A child in need is one who has been assessed by children's social care to be in need of services. These services can include, for example, family support (to help keep together families experiencing difficulties), leaving care support (to help young people who have left local authority care), adoption support, or disabled children's services (including social care, education and health provision).

The figures below refer to the 31st March 2012.

- The number of children in need has decreased from the previous year, from 382,400 to 369,400.
- The rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years was 325.7. As we await updates to population estimates for previous years, we advise caution on comparing this rate with previous years (see technical note 11). The variation in this rate by local authority is shown overleaf.

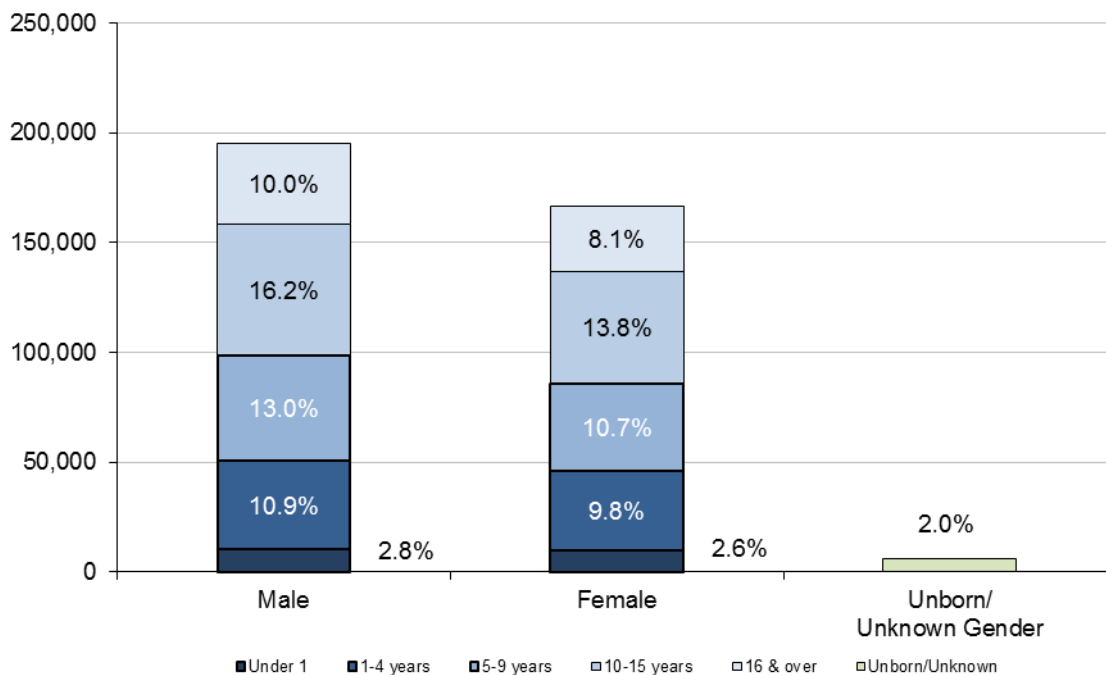
Figure 1: Rates of children in need per 10,000 children, at 31st March 2012, in England (Table B1)



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- As we would perhaps expect, local authorities with the highest rates of children in need tended to be concentrated in the major towns.
- At local authority level the rate per 10,000 children varied significantly. The highest was in Middlesbrough where the rate was 741.6 and the lowest was in Wokingham where the rate was 145.3.
- 95 per cent of local authorities had a rate lying between 200.0 and 635.0 children in need per 10,000 children aged under 18 years.
- The gender split of children in need remains the same as last year. 52.9 per cent were male, 45.1 per cent were female and 2.0 per cent were unborn or of unknown gender.
- The age split of children in need remains similar to last year. The largest age group was those aged 10-15 years accounting for 30.0 per cent of children in need; 26.1 per cent were under 5 years of age.

Figure 2: Children in Need at 31st March 2012 by Age and Gender (Table A3)

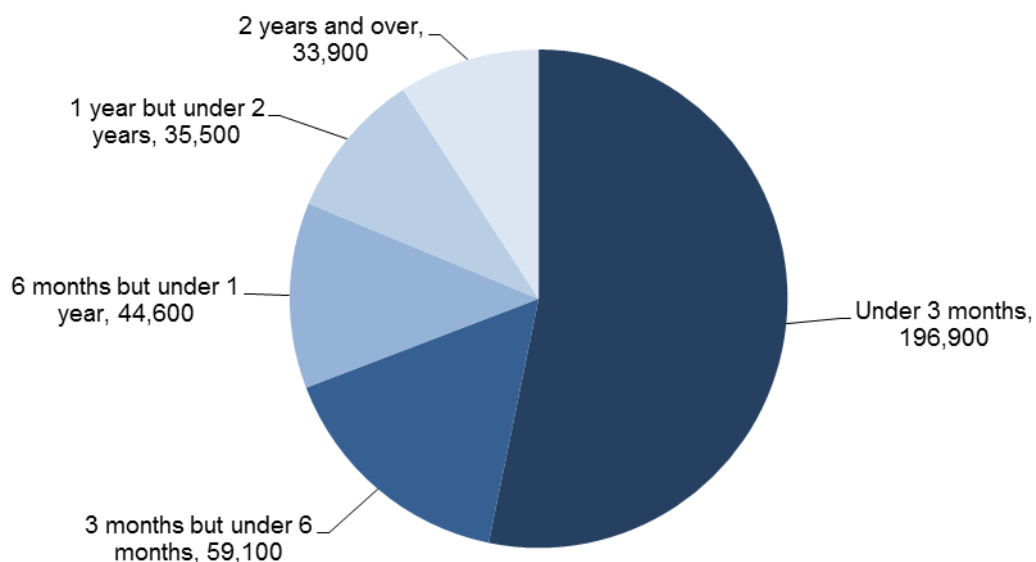


A child can be assessed to be in need more than once during the year and if they are, each episode will be counted separately in the figures. However a child should not have more than one episode of need at any point in time.

The figures below relate to the year ending 31 March 2012.

- Slightly more episodes of need began in 2012 than in 2011. 395,300 episodes of need started this year compared to 393,000 last year.
- The total number of episodes of need throughout the year continued to increase. In total, there were 739,300 episodes of need in 2012, compared to 735,500 in 2011 and 694,000 in 2010. This reflects an increased number of children being in need - the number of episodes per child has remained the same as last year (1.09 episodes per child).
- More episodes of need came to an end in 2012, than in 2011. 369,900 episodes ended in 2012 and over half (53.2 per cent) of those ending in the year had lasted for 3 months or less. However, 33,900 (9.2 per cent) had lasted for over 2 years. Figure 3 shows the full breakdown.

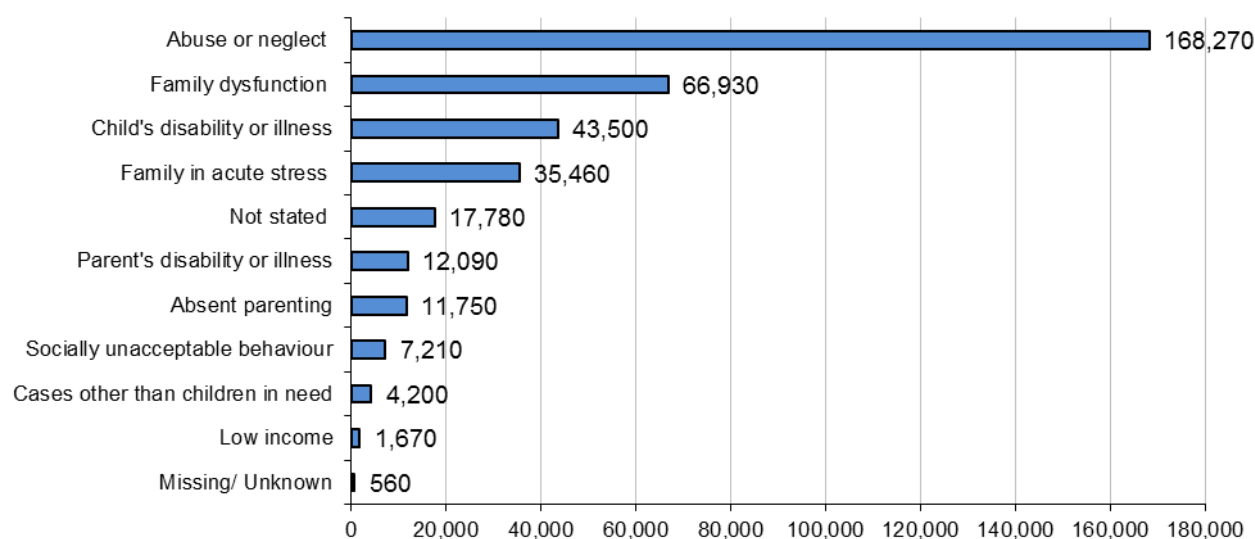
Figure 3: Duration of episodes of need ending in the year ending 31st March 2012 (Table B7)



A local authority carries out an initial assessment to determine if the child is in need. If the child is deemed to be in need at this initial assessment, the main reason why they started to receive services is recorded.

- 'Abuse or Neglect' continued to be the most common primary need, increasing from 44.0 per cent of new cases last year to 45.5 per cent this year (see Figure 4). Family dysfunction was the second most common need at similar levels to last year (17.1 per cent in 2011, 18.1 per cent in 2012).

Figure 4: Children In Need at 31st March 2012 by primary need at initial assessment (Table A3)



Referrals and assessments

A referral is defined as a request for services to be provided by children's social care and is in respect of a child who is currently not assessed to be in need. A referral may result in an initial assessment of the child's needs, the provision of information or advice, referral to another agency or no further action. New information relating to children who are already assessed to be a child in need is not counted as a referral. Section 7 of the accompanying methodology note gives further information on the different stages of assessment.

Figures below relate to the year ending 31st March 2012 unless otherwise stated.

- There was a small decrease in the number of referrals in 2012 compared to the previous year, however historically the number of referrals has fluctuated. There were 605,100 referrals to children's social care, compared to 615,000 referrals in 2011.
- 26.1 per cent of referrals were re-referrals (within 12 months of the previous referral), similar to last year (25.6 per cent).

An initial assessment is a brief assessment of the child's needs. It may lead to no further action, the direct provision of services and/or a more in depth core assessment within which section 47 enquiries may be encompassed (see next section for more details on Section 47).

- 451,500 initial assessments were completed, a rise on 439,800 reported in 2011

From 1 April 2010, statutory guidance states that local authorities are expected to complete an initial assessment within 10 working days.

- In 2012, the median number of days taken to complete an initial assessment was 7 working days. 95 per cent of local authorities had a median value of between 4 and 10 working days to complete an initial assessment.
- In 2012, 349,500 (77.4 per cent) initial assessments were completed within 10 working days, similar to last year (77.2 per cent).
- The number of initial assessments completed in the year as a percentage of all referrals received in the year has increased, from 65.5 per cent in 2010, to 71.5 per cent in 2011, to 74.6 per cent this year.

Where the outcome of the initial assessment requires a more in depth assessment of need to be carried out, statutory guidance states that local authorities are expected to complete this core assessment within 35 working days.

- The number of core assessment completed has increased by 19.0 per cent. 220,700 core assessments were completed this year compared to 185,400 last year. A core assessment is the means by which a section 47 enquiry is carried out. The increase in section 47 enquiries this year (see the section below) has contributed to this rise in core assessments, as has an improvement in local authorities reporting a separate core assessment alongside the section 47 enquiry.
- In 2012, the median number of days taken to complete a core assessment was 32 working days and 166,600 (75.5 per cent) core assessments were completed within 35 working days.

Section 47 enquiries and children who were the subject of a child protection plan

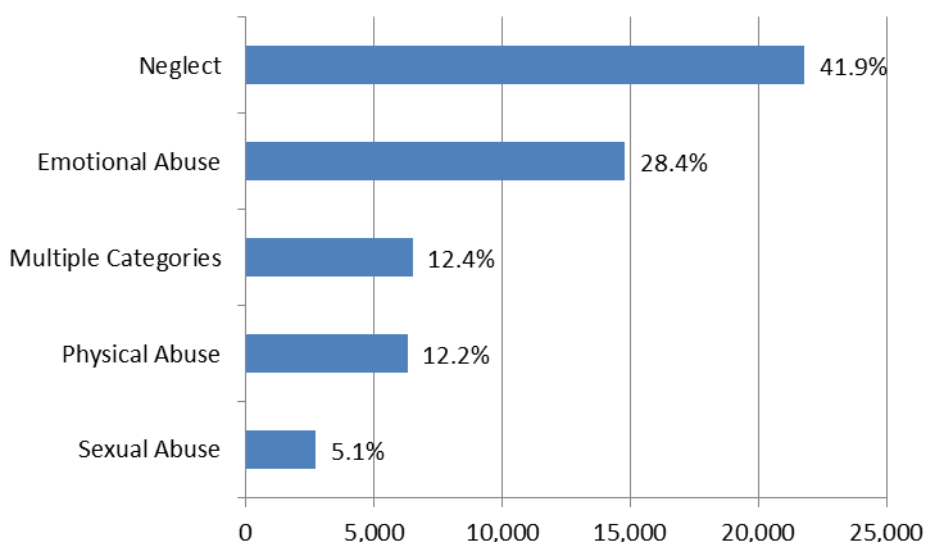
At an initial assessment the local authority should ascertain if there is reasonable cause to suspect the child is suffering, or is likely to suffer significant harm (section 47 of the Children Act 1989). If this is suspected then the local authority should carry out a section 47 enquiry to determine if it needs to take steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of the child. If concerns are substantiated and the child is judged to be at continuing risk of harm then an initial child protection conference will be convened.

- The number of section 47 enquiries carried out has increased by 11.6 per cent, from 111,700 last year to 124,600 this year.
- There were 56,200 initial child protection conferences, up from 53,000 in 2011. These include both conferences resulting from section 47 enquiries and children on existing plans who transferred local authorities.
- 40,600 (72.3 per cent) initial child protection conferences were held within 15 working days (the timescale set out in statutory guidance) up from 69.2 per cent last year.
- 41.8 per cent of section 47 enquiries initiated resulted in a child protection plan (compared to 43.9 per cent last year). This suggests the increase in section 47 enquiries could be due to local authorities are being more cautious when assessing cases.

At the initial child protection conference, the decision will be made as to whether the child needs to become the subject of a child protection plan and if they do, the initial category of abuse is recorded.

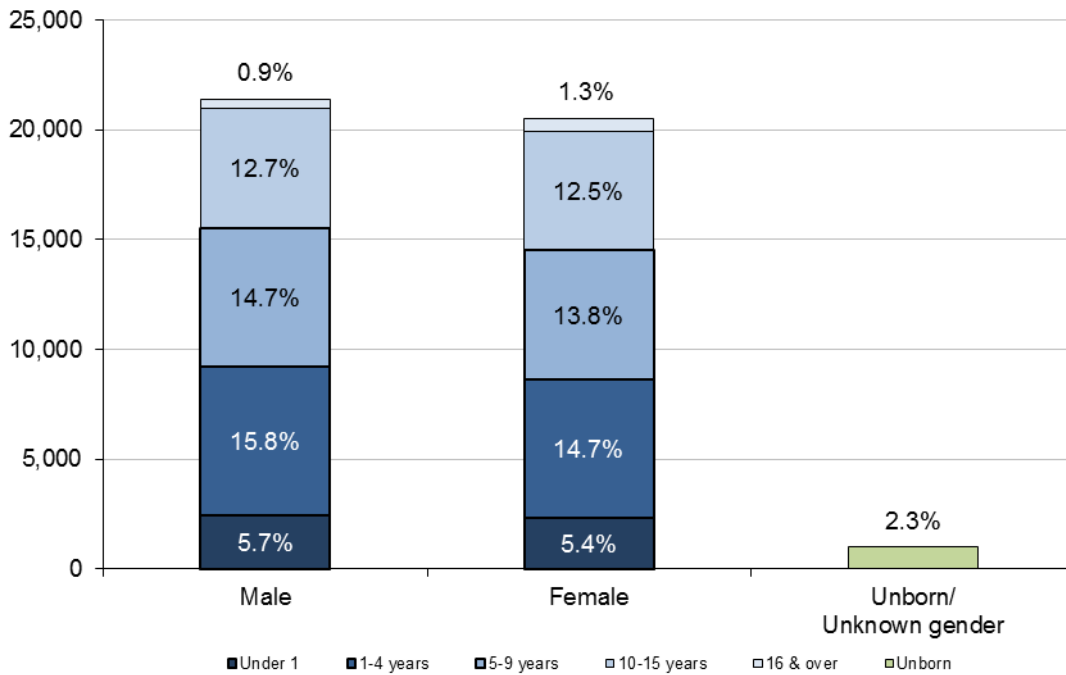
- The number of children becoming the subject of a child protection plan continued to increase. 52,100 children became the subject of a plan in 2012, an increase of 3,100 (6.4 per cent) on 2011.
- However, a similar proportion became the subject of a plan for the second or subsequent time, 13.8 per cent this year compared to 13.3 per cent last year.
- Neglect is the most common initial category of abuse under which children became the subject of a plan, at 41.9 per cent of cases. Emotional abuse is the next most common category (28.4 per cent) followed by physical abuse (12.2 per cent). These figures are similar to last year. Figure 5 shows the complete picture.

Figure 5: Children who became the subject of a child protection plan, by initial category of abuse, year ending 31st March 2012 (Table D2)



- The number of children who were the subject of a child protection plan at the end of the year has increased very slightly from 42,700 last year to 42,900 this year.
- 21,370 (49.9 per cent) were male, 20,490 (47.8 per cent) were female and 990 (2.3 per cent) were unborn/unknown gender, similar to in 2011.

Figure 6: Children who were the subject of a child protection plan at 31st March 2012, by age and gender (Table D6)



When a child becomes the subject of a child protection plan, their plan should be reviewed within the first three months and then subsequently at least every six months.

- The number of children who had been the subject of a plan at 31st March for at least 3 months also increased, from 30,200 last year to 30,600 this year.
- The proportion of children who had their plan reviewed in line with statutory guidance decreased, from 97.1 per cent in 2011 to 96.7 per cent in 2012, back to similar levels reported in 2010 (96.8 per cent).

A child should no longer be the subject of a child protection plan if it is judged they are no longer at risk of harm, the family moves permanently to another local authority, or if the child has reached 18 years, left the country or has died.

- More child protection plans came to an end in 2012, 51,600 compared to 45,500 in 2011, and slightly fewer had been the subject of a plan for two or more years (5.6 per cent in 2012, compared to 6.0 per cent in 2011).

TABLES

The tables in this statistical release are listed below. These figures are all **final**. All national tables (section A) and local authority tables B1, C1, C3, D1, D2 and D6 are included as part of this publication document. All the tables listed below can be found in the Excel workbook under the "Additional information" section on the publication website at:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001095/index.shtml> .

As part of a Government drive for data transparency in official publications and to make data more accessible, supporting underlying data for this publication will be available in the 'Publication's Underlying Data' section from the link above.

National Level tables

Table A1: Referrals and assessments carried out by children's social care services, years ending 31 March, England, 2010 to 2012.

Table A2 Number of section 47 enquiries and initial child protection conferences carried out by children's social care services, and the number of children who were the subject of a child protection plan, year ending 31 March, England, 2010 to 2012

Table A3: Numbers of children in need at 31 March 2012, by gender, age (at 31 March) and primary need at initial assessment, England

Table A4: Numbers of children in need at 31 March 2012, by age (at 31 March), gender and ethnicity, England

Table A5: Number of children who were the subject of a child protection plan at 31 March 2012, by age (at 31 March), gender and initial category of abuse, England

LA level tables

NUMBERS OF CHILDREN IN NEED

Table B1: Numbers of children in need. All children in need throughout the year, children starting, ending and at 31 March 2012, and rates per 10,000 children

Table B2: Numbers of children in need at 31 March 2012, by gender and age (at 31 March 2012)

Table B3: Numbers of children in need at 31 March 2012, by ethnicity

Table B4: Number of children in need at 31 March 2012, by disability

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Table B6: Numbers of children in need at 31 March 2012, by duration of open case

Table B7: Numbers of children ceasing to be in need in the year ending 31 March 2012, by duration of episode of need

Table B8: Numbers and percentages of children ceasing to be in need in the year ending 31 March 2012, by reason for case closure

REFERRALS AND ASSESSMENTS

Table C1: Numbers and percentages of referrals and initial assessments completed by children's social care services in the year ending 31 March 2012

Table C2: Number and percentage of referrals in the year ending 31 March 2012, within 12 months of a previous referral and the number and percentage which resulted in no further action

Table C3: Numbers and percentages of core assessments completed by children's social care services in the year ending 31 March 2012

Table C4: Number of children who were subject to section 47 enquiries and initial child protection conferences in the year ending 31 March 2012

CHILDREN WHO WERE THE SUBJECT OF A CHILD PROTECTION PLAN

Table D1: Numbers of children who were the subject of a child protection plan throughout, starting or ending during the year ending 31 March 2012, and at 31 March 2012

Table D2: Number of children who became the subject of a child protection plan during the year ending 31 March 2012, by initial and latest category of abuse

Table D3: Number of children who became the subject of a child protection plan during the year ending 31 March 2012, by gender and age (at 31 March 2012)

Table D4: Number of children who became the subject of a child protection plan during the year ending 31 March 2012 who became the subject of a plan for a second or subsequent time

Table D5: Number of children who were the subject of a child protection plan at 31 March 2012, by initial and latest category of abuse

Table D6: Number of children who were the subject of a child protection plan at 31 March 2012, by gender and age (at 31 March 2012)

Table D7: Number of children who were the subject of a child protection plan at 31 March 2012, by ethnicity

Table D8: Number of children who were the subject of a child protection plan at 31 March 2012, by length of time as the subject of a plan

Table D9: Number of children who were the subject of a child protection plan at 31 March 2012, who had been on a plan for at least three months and had reviews carried out within the required timescales

Table D10: Number of children who ceased to be the subject of a child protection plan during the year ending 31 March 2012, by length of time as the subject of a plan

Table D11: Numbers of children who ceased to be the subject of a child protection plan during the first six months of the year, by length of time the child remained in need

TECHNICAL NOTES

Background

1. The **2011-12 Children in Need (CIN) census** captured child level information on children referred to and assessed by children's social care services within the 12 month period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012. The census includes any child referred to children's social care services within the year and also any cases open at 1 April 2011, for whom local authorities were providing services, for example:

- Active case work
- Making regular payments
- Where funding or on-going services such as respite care has been agreed;
- Maintaining a child with care and accommodation
- A commitment to review the case at a predetermined date;
- Maintaining a child's name on a register that ensures the child and family receives targeted information or other special consideration

A child in need is defined under the Children Act 1989 as a child who is unlikely to reach or maintain a satisfactory level of health or development, or their health or development will be significantly impaired, without the provision of services, or the child is disabled. In these cases assessments by a social worker are carried out under section 17 of the Children Act 1989. The purpose of an assessment is to gather information and evidence about a child's developmental needs and the parents' capacity to meet these needs within the context of the wider family and community. This information should be used to inform decision about the help needed by the child.

Children who are looked after are a specific subset of children in need. Under the Children Act 1989, a child is looked after by a local authority if he or she:

- is provided with accommodation, for a continuous period of more than 24 hours, [Children Act 1989 Section 20 and 21], or
- is subject to a care order [Children Act 1989 Part IV].

More detailed information on children looked after is collected annually through the SSDA903 collection and information on the availability of these statistics is in section 13.

2. The data items collected in 2011 -12 included child identifiers and characteristics along with the dates of any referrals, initial or core assessments, section 47 enquiries and child protection plans and reviews. Local authorities submitted data to DfE in summer 2012 and information has been published in this Statistical Release. There were no new data items introduced for 2011-12.

3. 150 out of 152 local authorities have provided a CIN census return in summer 2012. Newham and the Havering were unable to make a full child level CIN census return.

4. Prior to the CIN census (up to and including 2008-09), aggregate information was collected on children referred and assessed by children's social care services through the Child Protection and Referrals 3 (CPR3) return. Figures for 2008-09 and earlier are available in the Statistical First Release 'Referrals, assessments and children who were the subject of a child protection plan, England, 2008-09' available at: <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000873/index.shtml>.

Methodology

5. Information on the data items, methodology and definitions used in this Statistical First Release are published in 'SFR27/2012 Methodology document' which can be found at: <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001095/index.shtml>.

Data Quality and Uses of the Data

6. Information on the users and the potential use made of these statistics, and information on the assessment of the quality of these statistics is available in 'SFR27/2012 Data Quality and Uses of Data Document' which has been published alongside these statistics. This can be found at: <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001095/index.shtml>.

7. To enhance the usability of the statistics at a local level, a data confidence indicator has been constructed for all local authority figures to highlight any known data issues (see section 4 of the data quality and uses of data document for further information).

Confidentiality

8. In order to ensure confidentiality of all Children in Need, the following suppression conventions have been used in this statistical release:

- Any numbers between 1 and 5 inclusive have been suppressed and have been replaced by a 'x'. To protect suppressed numbers, secondary suppression may be needed in some cases.
- Where there is a percentage reported and the difference between the numerator and denominator is between 1 and 5, the numerator and the denominator have been suppressed and replaced by a 'x'.
- England and Regional estimates rounded to the nearest 10 or 100.
- Where any number is shown as zero (0), the original figure submitted was zero.
- Percentages are displayed to 1 decimal place.
- Where data were not submitted by a local authority '..' has been used.

9. As part of a Government drive for data transparency in official publications, supporting data for this publication will be released on the DfE Research and Statistics Gateway at: <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001095/index.shtml>. Figures are suppressed to preserve confidentiality.

UK Comparability of Children's Social Services Statistics

10. Data is collected and published independently by each of the four countries in the UK. Although there are similarities between the data collected by the four nations, there are also differences which may be down to different policies and legislation, and differing historical data collections.

The Department for Education commissioned The Childhood Wellbeing Research Centre (CWRC) to undertake a study to draw together data on safeguarding children and to compare the current position of England with other countries. As part of the wider study, this research presents findings from preliminary work to explore the current availability and comparability of safeguarding and child protection data in the UK; this is of particular interest given that there have been shifts in policy and practice in recent years and these data have the potential to facilitate exploration of changes in levels of need and service responses in different parts of the UK over time. The document can be found at: <https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/publicationDetail/Page1/DFE-RB153>.

Population Estimates

11. Population estimates are used to calculate rates per 10,000 children throughout the publication. The population estimates used are based upon information provided by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), adjusted to academic years by the Department. Estimates for mid-2011 were released in October 2012 by ONS based upon the 2011 census. However, revised estimates for earlier years are not yet available so users should be cautious when comparing 2011-12 rates per 10,000 children with earlier years.

A National Statistics Publication

12. This is a National Statistics publication. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.

Related Publications

13. Related publications from the four nations can be found at:

England:

The results of the 2010 -11 CIN census can be found at:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d001041/index.shtml>

Statistics on 'Children Looked After by local authorities in England (including adoption and care leavers) - year ending 31 March 2012' were published on 25 September 2012 and are available at:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001084/index.shtml>

The Children Looked After Data (CLA) data is matched to the National Pupil Database and the resulting matched data is used to look at outcomes of children looked after, for example Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 outcomes, alongside further information on their characteristics, obtained from the School Census, for example prevalence of free school meals and special educational needs. This information is published annually in December each year in 'Outcomes for Children Looked After'. The latest figures for 2011 can be found at:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001046/index.shtml>

Scotland:

Child Protection Statistics for Scotland are available at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Children/PubChildProtection>

Wales:

Latest information can be found at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/theme/health/social-services/?lang=en>

Northern Ireland:

Children Order Statistical Tables for Northern Ireland are available on their website at:

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/stats_research/stats-cib-3/statistics_and_research-cib-pub/children_statistics/stats-cib-children_order.htm

Queries

14. We welcome any comments or suggestions on the existing content of this publication along with any suggestions on how future publications could better meet any user needs. Any feedback or queries about the figures contained in this release, or if you would like to be involved in future consultation about this publication, should be addressed to:

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Telephone Number: 0207 925789

**Table A1: Referrals and assessments carried out by children's social care services, years ending 31 March¹
England**

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Numbers of Children in Need²			
Number of children starting an episode of need	377,600	393,000	395,300
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years ³	342.9	355.8	..
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (2011 census) ⁴	..	..	348.5
Number of children in need throughout the year	694,000	735,500	739,300
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years ³	630.3	665.9	..
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (2011 census) ⁴	..	..	651.9
Number of children ending an episode of need	318,200	359,000	369,900
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years ³	288.9	325.0	..
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (2011 census) ⁴	..	..	326.2
Number of children in need at 31 March	375,900	382,400	369,400
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years ³	341.3	346.2	..
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (2011 census) ⁴	..	..	325.7
Referrals and assessments completed			
Number of referrals ⁵	603,700	615,000	605,100
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years ³	548.2	556.8	..
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (2011 census) ⁴	..	..	533.5
Number of initial assessments completed ⁶	395,300	439,800	451,500
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years ³	359.0	398.2	..
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (2011 census) ⁴	..	..	398.1
Initial assessments completed as a percentage of referrals	65.5	71.5	74.6
Number of core assessments completed ⁷	142,100	185,400	220,700
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years ³	129.0	167.8	..
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (2011 census) ⁴	..	..	194.6

Source: Children in Need census

1. Figures include estimates for missing data and are rounded to the nearest 100.

2. Figures have been calculated by DfE based upon all information provided in the CIN return. A child in need is one who has been referred to children's social care services, and who has been assessed, usually through an initial assessment, to be in need of social care services. A child can have more than one episode of need throughout the year but episodes should not overlap. If a child has more than one episode, then each is counted in the figures.

3. Based on the population aged 0 - 17 years, estimated at mid-2009 and mid-2010, based upon the 2001 census.

Source: Population Estimates Unit, ONS: Crown Copyright.

4. Based on the population aged 0 - 17 years, estimated at mid-2011, based upon the 2011 census. Source: Population Estimates Unit, ONS: Crown Copyright. Population estimates are included in the underlying data for the publication.

5. If a child has more than one referral in the year then each instance is counted.

6. An initial assessment is defined as a brief assessment of each child referred to children's social care with a request for services to be provided. If a child was the subject of more than one initial assessment during the reporting year, each assessment should be coded separately.

7. If a child has more than one core assessment in the year then each instance is recorded.

Table A2: Number¹ of section 47 enquiries² and initial child protection conferences carried out by children's social care services, and the number of children who were the subject of a child protection plan
Year ending 31 March
England

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Section 47 enquiries and initial child protection conferences			
Number of Children subject to s.47 enquiries which started during the year ending 31 March ³	89,300	111,700	124,600
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years ⁴	81.1	101.1	..
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (2011 census) ⁵	..	..	109.9
Number of Children who were the subject of an initial child protection conference which started during the year ending 31 March	43,900	53,000	56,200
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years ⁴	39.9	48.0	..
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (2011 census) ⁵	..	..	49.6
Children who were the subject of a child protection plan			
Children who were the subject of a plan at the end of March ⁶	39,100	42,700	42,900
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years ⁴	35.5	38.7	..
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (2011 census) ⁵	..	..	37.8
Of which:			
Number who had been the subject of a plan for 3 or more months ⁷	28,400	30,200	30,600
Number who had had reviews carried out within the required timescales ⁷	27,500	29,300	29,600
Percentage who had had reviews carried out within the required timescales	96.8	97.1	96.7
Children who became the subject of a plan throughout the year	44,300	49,000	52,100
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years ⁴	40.2	44.3	..
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (2011 census) ⁵	..	..	46.0
Of which:			
Number who became the subject of a plan for the second or subsequent time	6,000	6,500	7,200
Percentage who became the subject of a plan for the second or subsequent time	13.4	13.3	13.8
Children who ceased the subject of a plan throughout the year	37,900	45,500	51,600
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years ⁴	34.4	41.2	..
Rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 years (2011 census) ⁵	..	..	45.5
Of which:			
Number who were the subject of a plan for 2 or more years ⁸	2,300	2,700	2,900
Percentage who were the subject of a plan for 2 or more years	5.9	6.0	5.6

Source: Children in Need census

- All numbers in this table include unborn children. Figures include estimates for missing data and are rounded to the nearest 100.
- Refers to enquiries conducted under the provisions of section 47 of the Children Act 1989.
- If a child was the subject of section 47 enquiries on more than one occasion during the year, each occasion is recorded separately.
- Based on the population aged 0 - 17 years, estimated at mid-2009 and mid-2010, based upon the 2001 census. Source: Population Estimates Unit, ONS: Crown Copyright.
- Based on the population aged 0 - 17 years, estimated at mid-2011, based upon the 2011 census. Source: Population Estimates Unit, ONS: Crown Copyright. Population estimates are included in the underlying data for the publication.
- If a child is the subject of more than one child protection plan during the year, each will be counted.
- Statutory guidance states that a child should have a review of their child protection plan within the first three months of being the subject of the plan, and then subsequently at intervals of not more than six months.
- Durations are calculated from the date of the latest plan within the same Local Authority.

Table A3: Numbers of children in need at 31 March 2012, by gender, age (at 31 March) and primary need^d at initial assessment²
England

	Primary Need at Initial Assessment											
	Total Children in Need	N1 - Abuse or Neglect	N2 - Child's disability or illness	N3 - Parent's disability or illness	N4 - Family in acute stress	N5 - Family dysfunction	N6 - Socially unacceptable behaviour	N7 - Low income	N8 - Absent parenting	N9 - Cases other than children in need	N0 - Not stated	Missing/Unknown
Number of children in need at 31 March³	369,410	168,270	43,500	12,090	35,460	66,930	7,210	1,670	11,750	4,200	17,780	560
Of which:												
Unborn	5,910	3,120	10	280	530	1,410	60	10	10	50	420	0
Unknown gender ⁴	1,600	700	50	80	130	340	20	10	10	30	220	10
Total Male	195,410	83,980	28,520	6,000	18,400	33,440	4,290	880	8,380	2,120	9,110	290
Under 1	10,210	5,760	160	470	870	2,100	80	30	70	80	570	10
1-4 years	40,250	21,530	2,540	1,380	3,540	8,000	400	180	290	390	1,960	30
5-9 years	48,200	22,140	7,830	1,510	4,370	8,340	620	190	360	580	2,200	80
10-15 years	59,890	24,010	12,130	1,780	5,980	9,640	1,510	220	1,140	720	2,680	80
16 & over	36,860	10,530	5,850	870	3,650	5,350	1,680	270	6,520	350	1,700	90
Unknown age	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Female	166,490	80,460	14,920	5,720	16,400	31,750	2,840	770	3,350	2,000	8,020	260
Under 1	9,670	5,380	160	430	880	2,010	90	40	70	90	530	0
1-4 years	36,380	19,610	1,720	1,370	3,200	7,480	360	150	270	360	1,810	40
5-9 years	39,660	20,100	3,860	1,310	3,700	7,330	470	200	340	510	1,800	50
10-15 years	50,900	23,810	5,990	1,710	5,240	9,130	980	200	680	690	2,400	70
16 & over	29,850	11,550	3,190	900	3,390	5,780	950	200	1,990	350	1,470	90
Unknown age	20	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: 2011-12 Children in Need census

1. Primary need indicates the main reason why a child started to receive services. It should not be left blank and only one reason should be recorded.
2. An initial assessment is defined as a brief assessment of each child referred to children's social care with a request for services to be provided. If a child was the subject of more than one initial assessment during the reporting year, each assessment should be coded separately.
3. Figures include estimates for missing data and all figures are rounded to the nearest 10. Sub totals may not add up to totals due to rounding.
4. Includes children of indeterminate gender.

Table A4: Numbers of children in need at 31 March 2012, by age (at 31 March), gender and ethnicity¹
England

	Total Children in Need	Ethnicity					
		Total Known Ethnicity ²	White ³	Mixed ⁴	Asian or Asian British ⁵	Black or Black British ⁶	Other Ethnic Group ⁷
Number of children in need at 31 March⁸	369,410	347,970	269,590	24,640	20,120	25,480	8,150
Of which:							
Unborn	5,910	..	..	..	..	..	..
Unknown gender ⁹	1,600	1,030	600	100	100	200	30
Total Male	195,410	187,720	143,990	12,960	11,890	13,620	5,250
Under 1	10,210	9,120	7,250	900	360	480	130
1-4 years	40,250	37,790	29,460	3,330	1,800	2,510	690
5-9 years	48,200	46,510	35,990	3,340	2,750	3,620	810
10-15 years	59,890	58,160	46,390	3,490	3,300	3,890	1,090
16 & over	36,860	36,130	24,910	1,910	3,670	3,110	2,530
Unknown age	10	10	0	0	0	0	0
Total Female	166,490	159,230	124,990	11,570	8,140	11,660	2,860
Under 1	9,670	8,650	6,850	860	360	430	150
1-4 years	36,380	34,090	26,590	3,090	1,590	2,220	600
5-9 years	39,660	38,180	29,630	2,880	2,170	2,840	650
10-15 years	50,900	49,190	39,660	2,930	2,620	3,140	840
16 & over	29,850	29,100	22,250	1,810	1,400	3,030	610
Unknown age	20	10	10	0	0	0	0

Source: 2011-12 Children in Need census

1. Due to low numbers involved and to protect confidentiality, ethnicity is aggregated into groups.
 2. Excludes 15,530 children of refused/not known ethnicity. In addition there were 5,910 unborn children for whom ethnicity is not recorded
 3. White comprises of White British, White Irish, Traveller of Irish Heritage, Any Other White background and Gypsy/Roma.
 4. Mixed comprises of White and Black Caribbean, White and Black African, White and Asian, Any other Mixed background.
 5. Asian or Asian British comprises of Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, and Any other Asian background.
 6. Black or Black British comprises of Caribbean, African or Any other Black background.
 7. Other Ethnic Groups comprises of Chinese and Any other ethnic group.
8. Figures include estimates for missing data and all figures are rounded to the nearest 10. Sub totals may not add up to totals due to rounding.
9. Includes children of indeterminate gender.
- .. Ethnicity is not recorded for unborn children

Table A5: Number of children who were the subject of a child protection plan¹, by age (at 31 March), gender and initial category of abuse²
Year at 31 March 2012
England

	All categories of abuse	Neglect	Physical abuse	Sexual abuse	Emotional abuse	Multiple ³
All children⁴:	42,850	18,220	4,690	2,220	12,330	5,390
Breakdown by gender :						
Male	21,370	9,140	2,430	900	6,180	2,730
Female	20,490	8,490	2,140	1,290	6,010	2,560
Missing/Indeterminate ⁵	990	590	120	30	150	100
Breakdown by age at 31 March :						
Unborn	880	530	110	30	120	100
Under 1	4,850	2,360	780	190	1,060	470
1 - 4	13,090	5,720	1,560	470	3,720	1,620
5 - 9	12,250	4,960	1,170	630	3,970	1,530
10 - 15	10,820	4,270	990	810	3,240	1,510
16 and over	960	380	80	100	230	160
Unknown age	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: 2011-12 Children in Need census

1. If a child is the subject of more than one child protection plan during the year, each will be counted.
2. Category of abuse as assessed when the child protection plan commenced.
3. 'Multiple' refers to instances where there is more than one main category of abuse. These children are not counted under the other abuse headings, so a child can appear only once in this table.
4. The figures include estimates for missing data and all figures are rounded to the nearest 10. Sub totals may not add up to totals due to rounding.
5. Includes unborn children

Outer London^a	4,400	38.2	4,300	37.2	3,800	33.0			
301 Barking and Dagenham	226	42.0	274	50.9	227	42.2	2	2	2
302 Barnet	253	30.4	207	24.9	258	31.0	3	3	3
303 Bexley	126	23.2	97	17.9	113	20.8	2	3	2
304 Brent	306	43.4	242	34.3	148	21.0	1	1	1
305 Bromley	188	27.4	303	44.1	188	27.4	2	3	2
306 Croydon	346	38.8	389	43.6	288	32.3	3	3	3
307 Ealing	366	47.7	354	46.1	290	37.8	3	2	3
308 Enfield	284	36.0	251	31.8	234	29.7	3	2	3
203 Greenwich	388	63.1	359	58.4	378	61.5	3	3	3
310 Harrow	141	25.7	173	31.6	129	23.6	3	3	3
311 Havering ^d	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
312 Hillingdon	383	59.4	258	40.0	346	53.7	2	3	2
313 Hounslow	233	40.4	225	39.0	216	37.5	3	3	3
314 Kingston upon Thames	114	33.7	112	33.1	91	26.9	3	3	3
315 Merton	192	44.2	139	32.0	173	39.8	2	3	2
317 Redbridge	189	26.6	213	30.0	141	19.9	3	3	3
318 Richmond upon Thames	55	13.5	58	14.2	46	11.3	3	3	3
319 Sutton	177	41.0	187	43.3	173	40.0	2	3	2
320 Waltham Forest	218	35.4	227	36.8	184	29.9	3	2	3
South East^a	7,600	40.9	8,000	42.8	6,300	33.7			
867 Bracknell Forest	95	35.7	91	34.2	82	30.8	3	3	3
846 Brighton and Hove	377	75.6	512	102.6	308	61.7	3	3	3
825 Buckinghamshire	336	29.1	271	23.5	362	31.3	3	3	3
845 East Sussex	754	72.3	719	68.9	674	64.6	3	3	3
850 Hampshire	987	35.2	921	32.9	795	28.4	3	3	3
921 Isle of Wight	59	22.6	68	26.0	51	19.5	3	2	2
886 Kent	1,397	43.3	1,995	61.8	953	29.5	3	2	2
887 Medway	344	56.4	278	45.6	346	56.8	3	3	3
826 Milton Keynes	95	15.3	80	12.9	55	8.9	3	3	3
931 Oxfordshire	477	34.6	444	32.2	364	26.4	3	3	3
851 Portsmouth	192	45.2	193	45.4	180	42.4	3	3	3
870 Reading	207	62.0	194	58.1	194	58.1	3	2	3
871 Slough	224	59.9	157	42.0	209	55.9	3	3	3
852 Southampton	360	77.9	368	79.6	269	58.2	2	2	2
936 Surrey	902	36.5	734	29.7	794	32.1	3	3	3
869 West Berkshire	101	28.5	121	34.1	78	22.0	2	3	2
938 West Sussex	537	32.7	630	38.3	399	24.3	3	3	3
868 Windsor and Maidenhead	94	28.9	91	27.9	93	28.5	3	3	3
872 Wokingham	77	21.6	93	26.1	66	18.6	3	3	3
South West^a	4,600	43.7	4,300	40.2	3,800	36.3			
800 Bath and North East Somerse	74	22.0	110	32.7	70	20.8	2	2	2
837 Bournemouth	230	72.3	205	64.4	185	58.1	3	3	3
801 Bristol, City of	477	54.4	411	46.9	448	51.1	3	3	3
908 Cornwall	594	57.9	438	42.7	408	39.8	2	3	2
878 Devon	500	35.6	541	38.5	404	28.7	3	3	3
835 Dorset	386	49.8	361	46.6	322	41.5	3	3	3
916 Gloucestershire	409	33.5	434	35.5	400	32.7	2	2	2
420 Isles Of Scilly	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	..	..	..
802 North Somerset	147	35.4	157	37.8	118	28.4	3	3	3
879 Plymouth	385	75.7	343	67.4	288	56.6	3	2	3
836 Poole	172	58.9	124	42.5	127	43.5	2	2	2
933 Somerset	370	34.0	390	35.9	282	25.9	3	3	3
803 South Gloucestershire	221	38.8	175	30.7	225	39.5	3	3	3
866 Swindon	134	28.8	109	23.4	116	24.9	3	2	3
880 Torbay	288	116.0	221	89.0	285	114.8	3	3	3
865 Wiltshire	244	23.6	237	22.9	169	16.3	3	3	3

Source: 2011-12 Children in Need census

1. If a child is the subject of more than one child protection plan during the year, each will be counted.
2. The data confidence indicator gives a guide to the confidence we have in the data provided by each Local Authority. '3' denotes high confidence, '2' denotes medium confidence, '1' denotes low confidence and '.' denotes no data was supplied. Further details on the construction of the indicator are in section 4 of the 'Data Quality and Data Uses' document.
3. The total figures for England and regional totals include estimates for missing data and are rounded to the nearest 100. Sub totals may not add up to the England total and regional totals due to rounding.
4. Newham and Havering did not make a CIN return in 2011-12.

x Any number between 1 and 5 inclusive has been suppressed and replaced by x. There may be some secondary suppression to preserve confidentiality.
 .. No data available

883 Thurrock	194	120	x	x	37	24	0	116	x	x	42	26	0	3
London⁶	7,270	2,950	730	220	2,410	950	0	2,920	740	230	2,380	830	170	
Inner London⁶	2,840	1,100	210	90	920	520	0	1,120	270	90	870	490	0	
202 Camden	212	86	16	x	105	x	0	86	11	x	111	x	0	3
201 City of London	6	x	x	0	x	0	0	x	x	0	x	0	0	2
204 Hackney	252	93	x	x	38	103	0	93	x	x	38	103	0	2
205 Hammersmith and Fulham	144	48	24	7	33	32	0	48	24	8	32	32	0	3
309 Haringey	277	42	x	x	44	178	0	47	x	x	51	171	0	2
206 Islington	149	65	11	7	66	0	0	69	11	7	62	0	0	3
207 Kensington and Chelsea	96	50	x	x	38	0	0	46	x	x	41	0	0	3
208 Lambeth	296	245	8	7	36	0	0	253	x	x	33	0	0	2
209 Lewisham	238	84	44	16	82	12	0	83	45	16	81	13	0	3
316 Newham ⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
210 Southwark	291	107	14	7	62	101	0	102	13	7	65	104	0	3
211 Tower Hamlets	257	51	x	x	145	51	0	55	x	x	164	28	0	2
212 Wandsworth	180	53	9	x	115	x	0	63	79	10	28	0	0	3
213 Westminster	119	44	15	x	57	x	0	36	14	x	65	x	0	2
Outer London⁶	4,430	1,850	520	140	1,500	430	0	1,800	470	130	1,510	340	170	
301 Barking and Dagenham	226	73	37	10	99	7	0	80	30	9	100	7	0	2
302 Barnet	253	94	78	x	66	x	0	99	72	x	69	x	0	3
303 Bexley	126	69	x	x	37	16	0	62	0	0	42	22	0	2
304 Brent	306	114	24	6	106	56	0	47	10	x	59	x	169	1
305 Bromley	188	83	x	x	60	35	0	81	x	x	62	35	0	2
306 Croydon	346	153	91	21	81	0	0	159	96	20	71	0	0	3
307 Ealing	366	159	36	x	158	x	0	159	36	x	158	x	0	2
308 Enfield	284	148	29	8	90	9	0	158	23	7	87	9	0	3
203 Greenwich	388	172	9	0	173	34	0	173	9	0	179	27	0	3
310 Harrow	141	68	22	x	46	x	0	69	25	7	40	0	0	3
311 Havering ⁷	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
312 Hillingdon	383	145	22	10	127	79	0	137	21	10	156	59	0	2
313 Hounslow	233	109	52	0	72	0	0	112	39	0	82	0	0	3
314 Kingston upon Thames	114	56	8	6	30	14	0	61	8	6	31	8	0	3
315 Merton	192	48	16	17	41	70	0	47	17	18	47	63	0	2
317 Redbridge	189	81	17	x	85	x	0	77	17	x	93	x	0	3
318 Richmond upon Thames	55	26	x	x	8	16	0	26	x	x	13	12	0	3
319 Sutton	177	69	10	9	89	0	0	69	10	9	89	0	0	2
320 Waltham Forest	218	78	x	x	61	55	0	86	x	x	63	47	0	3
South East⁶	7,620	2,980	760	380	2,380	1,110	0	2,810	700	360	2,420	1,330	0	
867 Bracknell Forest	95	44	12	x	37	x	0	40	12	x	41	x	0	3
846 Brighton and Hove	377	134	21	16	174	32	0	132	20	16	179	30	0	3
825 Buckinghamshire	336	140	29	21	119	27	0	142	25	18	129	22	0	3
845 East Sussex	754	280	59	31	384	0	0	280	58	31	385	0	0	3
850 Hampshire	987	493	289	69	136	0	0	500	277	69	141	0	0	3
921 Isle of Wight	59	28	15	x	13	x	0	33	10	x	13	x	0	3
886 Kent	1,397	472	37	34	208	646	0	292	26	21	160	898	0	2
887 Medway	344	129	31	16	168	0	0	129	31	16	168	0	0	2
826 Milton Keynes	95	71	7	8	9	0	0	69	8	8	10	0	0	3
931 Oxfordshire	477	194	53	22	145	63	0	192	44	20	177	44	0	3
851 Portsmouth	192	67	33	x	88	x	0	64	24	x	101	x	0	3
870 Reading	207	147	18	x	28	x	0	148	18	x	27	x	0	3
871 Slough	224	136	15	x	60	x	0	136	15	x	60	x	0	3
852 Southampton	360	73	15	16	55	201	0	73	15	16	55	201	0	2
936 Surrey	902	260	37	67	422	116	0	263	34	63	437	105	0	3
869 West Berkshire	101	71	x	x	22	0	0	72	x	x	21	0	0	2
938 West Sussex	537	164	63	x	254	x	0	160	60	56	261	0	0	3
868 Windsor and Maidenhead	94	36	16	x	37	x	0	37	14	x	40	x	0	3
872 Wokingham	77	43	10	x	16	x	0	44	7	x	17	x	0	3
South West⁶	4,630	1,900	630	310	1,510	280	0	1,870	590	300	1,610	270	0	
800 Bath and North East Somerset	74	25	7	x	39	x	0	25	7	x	39	x	0	2
837 Bournemouth	230	108	38	8	76	0	0	108	38	8	76	0	0	2
801 Bristol, City of	477	179	68	36	188	6	0	178	61	34	204	0	0	3
908 Cornwall	594	345	80	x	124	x	0	339	81	x	132	x	0	2
878 Devon	500	253	66	24	157	0	0	246	49	24	181	0	0	3
835 Dorset	386	136	30	30	190	0	0	142	30	28	186	0	0	3
916 Gloucestershire	409	124	22	17	153	93	0	121	21	17	151	99	0	2
420 Isles Of Scilly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	..
802 North Somerset	147	49	27	x	56	x	0	48	25	x	59	x	0	3
879 Plymouth	385	194	92	33	66	0	0	194	90	29	72	0	0	3
836 Poole	172	52	69	19	32	0	0	43	67	19	43	0	0	2
933 Somerset	370	86	11	24	77	172	0	83	10	18	102	157	0	3
803 South Gloucestershire	221	58	44	x	114	x	0	59	31	8	123	0	0	3
866 Swindon	134	80	24	18	x	x	0	80	25	17	x	x	0	2
880 Torbay	288	89	28	18	153	0	0	89	28	16	155	0	0	3
865 Wiltshire	244	122	26	21	75	0	0	118	23	24	79	0	0	3

Source: 2011-12 Children in Need census

1. Category of abuse as assessed when the child protection plan commenced.

2. The most recent category of abuse assigned to the child protection plan.

3. If a child is the subject of more than one child protection plan during the year, each will be counted.

4. The multiple category is for when more than one category of abuse is relevant to the child's current protection plan. It is not for children who have been the subject of more than one child protection plan during the year.

5. The data confidence indicator gives a guide to the confidence we have in the data provided by each Local Authority. '3' denotes high confidence, '2' denotes medium confidence, '1' denotes low confidence and '..' denotes no data was supplied. Further details on the construction of the indicator are in section 4 of the 'Data Quality and Data Uses' document.

6. The total figures for England and regional totals include estimates for missing data and are rounded to the nearest 10. Sub totals may not add up to the England total and regional totals due to rounding.

7. Newham and Havering did not make a CIN return in 2011-12.

x Any number between 1 and 5 inclusive has been suppressed and replaced by x. There may be some secondary suppression to preserve confidentiality.

.. No data available

