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SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS: STATEMENTS ISSUED WITHIN 26 WEEKS IN 2009-10

INTRODUCTION

This publication presents national and local authority (LA) figures from 2009-10 for statements of special educational needs (SEN). This information is provided to help LAs assess comparative performance in meeting statutory time limits on finalising statements of SEN and to provide parents and other interested parties with this information. This publication complements earlier information on SEN in England which is detailed below.

There is considerable evidence of the benefits of early and timely intervention to address children's SEN. Parents are concerned that SEN statements should be completed within the statutory time limit so that appropriate intervention to meet their children's SEN can begin. This publication provides information to parents on the percentage of statements which are completed within the statutory time limit in their local areas.

Two local authority measures are included within this publication to provide detail on the timeliness of SEN statements:

Table A	The number of final statements of SEN issued within 26 weeks excluding exception cases as a proportion of all such statements issued in the year.
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Table B	The number of final statements of SEN issued within 26 weeks as a proportion of all such statements issued in the year.
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This information was submitted directly by LAs to the Department for Communities and Local Government.

KEY POINTS

This publication provides national and LA figures for both sets of SEN statements detailed above.

- Within Table A, 95 per cent of final statements of SEN in England in 2009-10 were issued within 26 weeks (excluding exception cases). Local authority performance varied from 45 per cent to 100 per cent.
- Within Table B, 87 per cent of final statements in England in 2009-10 were issued within 26 weeks. Local authority performance varied from 16 per cent to 100 per cent.

The publication these national and local level figures allow DfE policy and local authorities to monitor the length of time taken to issue the statements. We are publishing information on statements that are issued for the first time in the financial year – reassessments are not considered. This is **not** a National Statistics publication.

This publication provides 2009-10 figures for all local authorities in England. The technical definition for these indicators can be found within **Annex A**.

BACKGROUND

This information was collected and published for the first time in 2008-09. Comparative figures for 2008-09 are included within the tables of this release for information. The construction of these figures are based on the Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI) 43A and 43B which measured the percentage of draft SEN statements produced within 18 weeks. A link to the national and LA 2007-08 figures for the respective BVPIs are included in **Notes to Editors**.

The start of the 26 week period is the date on which a request for assessment is received from a parent or responsible body – school or early years setting – or the date on which the authority issues a notice to parents that a statutory assessment is being considered. A referral from another agency, such as Health, is not a request from a responsible body. In these circumstances, the timescale would start from the date that the authority issues a notice to parents that the assessment is being considered.

The 26-week limit is made up of;

Six weeks from receipt of a request to decide whether to conduct an assessment; ten weeks to conduct the assessment and decide whether to draw up a statement (including six weeks to seek and receive advice for the assessment); two weeks to draft a proposed statement; and eight weeks to finalise the statement. The Education (Special Educational Needs) (England) (Consolidation) Regulations 2001 allow for exceptions to these internal time limits, for example where the local authority has not received advice from those from whom it has been requested for the assessment within time. Indicator A excludes cases where exceptions have occurred and Indicator B includes all statements.

The 26-week indicators were included within the National Indicator Set for the previous Government as NI 103.

TABLES

Table 1: Number of final statements of special educational needs issued within 26 weeks excluding exception cases as a proportion of all such statements issued in 2008-09 and 2009-10 (England and local authorities).

Table 2: Number of final statements of special educational needs issued within 26 weeks as a proportion of all such statements issued in 2008-09 and 2009-10 (England and local authorities).

RELATED INFORMATION

Further information on children with special educational needs can be found at the following publications:

Children with Special Educational Needs 2010: an analysis
<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STA/t000965/index.shtml>

Special Educational Needs in England: January 2010
<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000939/index.shtml>

TABLE 1

Indicator A: Number of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks excluding exception cases² as a proportion of all such statements issued in 2008-09 and 2009-10
England and Local Authority figures¹

	2008-09			2009-10		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
ENGLAND	16,000	17,600	91	17,000	17,900	95
NORTH EAST	1,050	1,110	95	900	930	97
Darlington	25	25	100	20	20	100
Durham	270	275	98	285	285	100
Gateshead	60	75	82	80	85	95
Hartlepool	40	40	100	40	40	100
Middlesbrough	50	50	98	15	15	100
Newcastle Upon Tyne	65	70	91	75	80	93
North Tyneside	90	105	82	95	100	95
Northumberland	155	155	100	80	85	99
Redcar and Cleveland	65	70	90	45	45	100
South Tyneside	80	85	93	50	65	79
Stockton-On-Tees	75	75	100	60	60	100
Sunderland	80	80	100	55	55	100
NORTH WEST	1,850	2,070	90	1,950	2,120	92
Blackburn with Darwen	45	45	100	30	30	100
Blackpool	30	30	100	30	30	97
Bolton	105	105	100	65	75	88
Bury	115	135	83	100	130	77
Cheshire	140	165	84	.	.	.
Cheshire East	.	.	.	100	105	93
Cheshire West and Chester	.	.	.	125	125	98
Cumbria	175	175	100	170	175	99
Halton	.	.	.	15	15	100
Knowsley	35	55	66	90	90	100
Lancashire	240	255	93	290	290	100
Liverpool	110	110	100	140	140	100
Manchester	125	180	71	90	165	56
Oldham	40	40	100	55	60	89
Rochdale	30	30	100	25	25	100
Salford	100	155	66	100	115	87
Sefton	55	55	96	30	30	97
St Helens	40	40	100	25	25	100
Stockport	145	145	100	135	135	100
Tameside	40	40	100	50	50	100
Trafford	130	150	86	135	150	90
Warrington	30	30	100	65	65	100
Wigan	55	55	100	35	35	100
Wirral	70	70	97	55	55	100
YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER	1,270	1,330	95	1,420	1,460	97
Barnsley	95	95	99	100	100	100
Bradford	75	90	82	205	220	94
Calderdale	85	85	100	125	125	100
Doncaster	130	140	92	175	175	100
East Riding of Yorkshire	20	20	100	25	25	100
Kingston Upon Hull, City of	35	35	100	40	45	89
Kirklees	70	75	95	85	90	97
Leeds	100	110	92	150	155	96
North East Lincolnshire	55	55	100	55	55	100
North Lincolnshire	160	165	98	90	90	100
North Yorkshire	80	90	85	75	85	88
Rotherham	25	25	100	15	15	100
Sheffield	115	120	95	110	115	98
Wakefield	180	180	100	115	115	100
York	45	45	98	50	50	100

TABLE 1

Indicator A: Number of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks excluding exception cases² as a proportion of all such statements issued in 2008-09 and 2009-10
England and Local Authority figures¹

	2008-09			2009-10		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
EAST MIDLANDS	1,210	1,290	93	1,310	1,370	96
Derby	70	75	96	110	125	87
Derbyshire	120	135	87	130	145	89
Leicester	100	115	87	155	170	90
Leicestershire	280	280	100	255	255	100
Lincolnshire	130	140	93	115	120	97
Northamptonshire	335	350	97	340	345	99
Nottingham	60	60	94	65	70	93
Nottinghamshire	80	105	76	125	125	99
Rutland	30	30	94	20	20	100
WEST MIDLANDS	2,010	2,140	94	2,020	2,080	97
Birmingham	735	735	100	670	670	100
Coventry	105	105	100	145	145	100
Dudley	90	100	93	130	130	100
Herefordshire	50	50	100	65	65	100
Sandwell	20	20	100	105	105	100
Shropshire	205	205	100	60	60	97
Solihull	125	130	98	130	135	98
Staffordshire	65	65	100	145	145	100
Stoke-On-Trent	105	185	58	115	140	82
Telford and Wrekin	40	45	98	55	55	98
Walsall	100	100	100	125	125	100
Warwickshire	140	155	91	30	35	91
Wolverhampton	150	155	95	150	155	95
Worcestershire	85	100	83	100	110	90
EAST OF ENGLAND	2,180	2,330	94	2,280	2,360	96
Bedfordshire	130	135	99	.	.	.
Bedford Borough	.	.	.	55	.	100
Central Bedfordshire	.	.	.	80	85	99
Cambridgeshire	315	315	100	330	330	100
Essex	775	775	100	825	825	100
Hertfordshire	105	140	76	105	105	100
Luton	100	100	100	100	100	100
Norfolk	220	290	76	290	370	79
Peterborough	105	105	98	95	95	96
Southend-on-Sea	85	95	93	60	60	100
Suffolk	255	285	90	235	240	99
Thurrock	85	95	93	100	105	98
LONDON	2,480	2,790	89	2,690	2,910	92
INNER LONDON	1,110	1,220	91	1,190	1,250	95
Camden	60	75	82	15	20	71
City Of London
Hackney	120	125	98	100	100	97
Hammersmith and Fulham	30	40	82	60	60	98
Haringey	135	150	89	135	135	98
Islington	70	70	100	80	80	100
Kensington and Chelsea	.	5	.	10	10	90
Lambeth	110	115	96	105	110	97
Lewisham	75	110	67	160	165	99
Newham	55	55	100	40	40	100
Southwark	55	75	76	100	110	90
Tower Hamlets	175	175	98	190	190	100
Wandsworth	90	105	89	80	110	75
Westminster	125	125	100	110	110	99

TABLE 1

Indicator A: Number of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks excluding exception cases² as a proportion of all such statements issued in 2008-09 and 2009-10
England and Local Authority figures¹

	2008-09			2009-10		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
OUTER LONDON	1,370	1,570	87	1,500	1,670	90
Barking and Dagenham	55	60	93	70	70	96
Barnet	30	40	74	30	40	80
Bexley	50	55	93	10	10	91
Brent	115	185	62	160	200	80
Bromley	75	105	73	125	200	62
Croydon	140	140	99	195	200	99
Ealing	165	185	88	180	190	95
Enfield	30	40	74	10	10	100
Greenwich	35	35	95	35	35	100
Harrow	110	110	99	115	120	95
Havering	10	15	77	25	25	96
Hillingdon	130	145	90	145	145	99
Hounslow	60	60	98	25	25	96
Kingston Upon Thames	10	10	-	20	20	100
Merton	85	95	90	50	65	80
Redbridge	15	15	100	15	15	100
Richmond Upon Thames	95	95	97	80	80	100
Sutton	95	105	91	130	140	93
Waltham Forest	75	80	91	75	75	100
SOUTH EAST	2,360	2,670	88	2,830	2,990	95
Bracknell Forest	45	45	98	60	60	100
Brighton and Hove	65	75	87	115	120	99
Buckinghamshire	100	135	74	145	190	76
East Sussex	210	230	91	180	185	97
Hampshire	570	585	97	570	575	99
Isle Of Wight	10	20	57	15	15	100
Kent	290	355	81	300	360	83
Medway Towns	65	115	58	95	130	74
Milton Keynes	70	75	91	65	65	100
Oxfordshire	165	165	100	170	170	100
Portsmouth	75	75	100	70	75	96
Reading	65	65	100	300	300	100
Slough	55	55	100	65	65	100
Southampton	65	65	100	20	20	100
Surrey	250	255	98	320	325	98
West Berkshire	70	80	89	80	80	100
West Sussex	105	190	54	190	190	100
Windsor and Maidenhead	65	65	100	55	55	100
Wokingham	10	10	100	10	10	92
SOUTH WEST	1,600	1,830	87	1,580	1,710	92
Bath and North East Somerset	45	45	94	75	76	99
Bournemouth	90	95	95	75	78	96
Bristol, City of	85	90	91	30	32	100
Cornwall	140	140	99	170	170	99
Devon	240	270	89	175	200	87
Dorset	125	125	98	155	160	97
Gloucestershire	295	295	100	295	295	100
Isles Of Scilly	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Somerset	50	50	100	45	45	100
Plymouth	90	145	62	75	165	45
Poole	25	45	58	55	55	100
Somerset	95	110	89	70	70	100
South Gloucestershire	70	70	97	85	85	99
Swindon	115	205	55	150	150	100
Torbay	70	70	99	80	85	93
Wiltshire	80	80	100	55	55	100

(1) This information has been submitted by LAs to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)

(2) The Education (Special Educational Needs) (England) (Consolidation) Regulations 2001 allow for exceptions to these time limits, for example where the local authority has not received advice from those from whom it has been requested for the assessment within time

England numbers have been rounded to the nearest 100. Regional numbers have been rounded to the nearest 10 and Local Authority numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5. Numbers from 1 to 5 inclusive have been replaced by a hyphen (-). Percentages have been rounded to whole numbers unless the numerator was five or less or the denominator was 10 or less, in which case they had been replaced by a hyphen (-).

TABLE 2

Indicator B: Number of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks as a proportion of all such statements issued in 2008-09 and 2009-10
England and Local Authority figures¹

	2008-09			2009-10		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
ENGLAND	21,400	26,200	82	22,800	26,200	87
NORTH EAST	1,130	1,300	87	1,130	1,190	95
Darlington	25	25	96	20	20	91
Durham	285	295	98	305	310	99
Gateshead	75	90	80	90	95	96
Hartlepool	40	40	100	40	40	100
Middlesbrough	55	55	93	55	60	98
Newcastle Upon Tyne	65	85	72	75	85	88
North Tyneside	90	130	68	95	110	88
Northumberland	190	205	91	170	175	96
Redcar and Cleveland	65	75	90	50	50	100
South Tyneside	80	100	82	50	65	75
Stockton-On-Tees	75	80	93	60	65	94
Sunderland	90	115	80	110	115	99
NORTH WEST	2,730	3,180	86	2,800	3,150	89
Blackburn with Darwen	45	45	100	30	30	97
Blackpool	35	40	90	35	40	90
Bolton	105	115	92	85	110	78
Bury	115	145	80	100	135	74
Cheshire	265	310	87	.	.	.
Cheshire East	.	.	.	125	135	92
Cheshire West and Chester	.	.	.	135	165	84
Cumbria	175	175	100	175	175	99
Halton	30	30	100	30	30	100
Knowsley	35	55	66	90	90	100
Lancashire	435	510	85	525	550	96
Liverpool	110	125	86	140	145	98
Manchester	160	210	76	135	210	65
Oldham	125	130	97	115	165	70
Rochdale	130	130	99	105	105	100
Salford	110	190	58	105	130	81
Sefton	55	100	54	80	115	71
St Helens	55	55	97	55	55	96
Stockport	145	150	97	170	170	100
Tameside	65	65	100	55	55	100
Trafford	145	185	79	160	180	88
Warrington	60	70	83	70	90	78
Wigan	150	150	99	140	140	100
Wirral	175	195	91	125	125	99
YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER	1,830	2,160	85	1,960	2,150	91
Barnsley	160	155	98	135	135	99
Bradford	75	250	30	205	250	81
Calderdale	105	105	97	125	130	95
Doncaster	130	140	92	175	175	100
East Riding of Yorkshire	80	85	97	105	105	100
Kingston Upon Hull, City of	85	100	84	100	120	84
Kirklees	195	205	94	220	230	96
Leeds	210	245	86	205	215	97
North East Lincolnshire	60	60	100	65	65	100
North Lincolnshire	160	165	98	100	100	99
North Yorkshire	110	135	80	125	165	76
Rotherham	95	100	96	75	75	97
Sheffield	160	185	86	135	185	74
Wakefield	180	185	97	140	145	98
York	45	45	96	50	50	96

TABLE 2

Indicator B: Number of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks as a proportion of all such statements issued in 2008-09 and 2009-10
England and Local Authority figures¹

	2008-09			2009-10		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
EAST MIDLANDS	1,700	1,970	86	1,920	2,140	89
Derby	75	75	96	110	135	81
Derbyshire	285	345	82	315	375	84
Leicester	160	190	85	200	235	86
Leicestershire	290	290	99	325	325	100
Lincolnshire	330	405	82	330	365	92
Northamptonshire	385	425	91	415	440	95
Nottingham	60	75	76	65	90	69
Nottinghamshire	85	125	69	140	165	84
Rutland	30	30	94	20	20	100
WEST MIDLANDS	2,640	3,090	86	2,670	3,030	88
Birmingham	735	735	100	670	675	100
Coventry	130	150	87	165	170	97
Dudley	165	210	78	220	225	97
Herefordshire	50	50	98	65	65	100
Sandwell	20	30	65	105	170	64
Shropshire	205	210	96	185	200	94
Solihull	125	145	88	130	150	88
Staffordshire	275	305	90	310	360	89
Stoke-On-Trent	105	215	50	125	165	75
Telford and Wrekin	125	135	93	120	140	86
Walsall	105	105	100	125	125	98
Warwickshire	245	320	76	30	50	63
Wolverhampton	150	220	68	150	220	68
Worcestershire	210	265	81	260	325	79
EAST OF ENGLAND	2,700	3,320	81	2,830	3,110	91
Bedfordshire	130	150	87	-	-	-
Bedford Borough	-	-	-	55	60	97
Central Bedfordshire	-	-	-	80	90	93
Cambridgeshire	315	315	100	330	330	100
Essex	780	780	100	830	830	100
Hertfordshire	265	415	63	400	400	100
Luton	100	100	100	100	100	100
Norfolk	500	820	61	440	635	69
Peterborough	115	130	91	125	135	92
Southend-on-Sea	95	125	78	75	85	86
Suffolk	315	380	83	285	340	84
Thurrock	85	110	78	100	105	95
LONDON	3,260	4,370	75	3,390	4,230	80
INNER LONDON	1,190	1,680	71	1,380	1,700	81
Camden	60	105	60	80	130	63
City Of London	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hackney	150	230	66	135	180	75
Hammersmith and Fulham	55	60	89	65	65	98
Haringey	135	160	84	135	145	93
Islington	85	95	87	85	95	88
Kensington and Chelsea	-	50	-	10	55	16
Lambeth	110	190	57	175	230	76
Lewisham	95	185	51	170	170	99
Newham	55	55	100	40	40	100
Southwark	55	75	75	100	130	77
Tower Hamlets	175	225	77	190	200	97
Wandsworth	90	105	86	80	125	64
Westminster	125	150	83	110	135	83

TABLE 2

Indicator B: Number of final statements of special educational need issued within 26 weeks as a proportion of all such statements issued in 2008-09 and 2009-10
England and Local Authority figures¹

	2008-09			2009-10		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
OUTER LONDON	2,070	2,680	77	2,020	2,530	80
Barking and Dagenham	55	100	55	70	105	66
Barnet	80	165	50	85	150	55
Bexley	135	155	86	60	85	71
Brent	150	220	68	190	235	82
Bromley	75	245	31	125	295	42
Croydon	175	185	95	195	225	88
Ealing	210	230	90	195	205	95
Enfield	100	130	76	85	90	98
Greenwich	80	95	87	85	90	98
Harrow	125	130	96	130	140	93
Havering	25	30	77	50	50	98
Hillingdon	155	170	91	155	165	95
Hounslow	120	135	92	55	75	70
Kingston Upon Thames	40	75	55	60	85	71
Merton	85	100	87	50	70	72
Redbridge	135	155	87	105	115	91
Richmond Upon Thames	110	115	96	90	90	99
Sutton	95	130	74	130	150	85
Waltham Forest	110	125	89	100	120	83
SOUTH EAST	3,390	4,340	78	4,120	4,890	84
Bracknell Forest	55	65	84	80	90	87
Brighton and Hove	65	115	58	115	120	97
Buckinghamshire	255	380	67	280	420	67
East Sussex	250	300	84	230	265	87
Hampshire	570	595	97	570	580	98
Isle Of Wight	55	85	64	80	80	99
Kent	555	785	71	540	700	77
Medway Towns	110	190	57	145	200	74
Milton Keynes	110	215	51	95	150	62
Oxfordshire	165	165	100	170	170	100
Portsmouth	90	95	95	90	105	88
Reading	105	105	97	560	620	90
Slough	75	75	97	90	90	100
Southampton	85	90	98	75	75	100
Surrey	530	600	88	555	635	87
West Berkshire	70	80	89	80	85	90
West Sussex	105	255	40	260	335	78
Windsor and Maidenhead	75	90	85	75	80	89
Wokingham	60	65	97	30	85	34
SOUTH WEST	2,020	2,470	82	1,980	2,340	85
Bath and North East Somerset	45	50	96	75	80	95
Bournemouth	90	95	95	80	80	96
Bristol, City of	225	310	73	130	135	97
Cornwall	215	225	96	260	265	98
Devon	285	380	76	245	395	62
Dorset	125	130	95	155	160	96
Gloucestershire	295	300	99	295	295	100
Isles Of Scilly	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Somerset	50	55	89	45	55	89
Plymouth	90	160	55	75	170	44
Poole	25	50	55	55	55	100
Somerset	125	140	89	85	85	99
South Gloucestershire	90	120	77	90	140	66
Swindon	120	205	57	155	160	96
Torbay	70	70	99	80	90	90
Wiltshire	170	190	91	160	180	88

(1) This information has been submitted by LAs to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)

England numbers have been rounded to the nearest 100. Regional numbers have been rounded to the nearest 10 and Local Authority numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5. Numbers from 1 to 5 inclusive have been replaced by a hyphen (-). Percentages have been rounded to whole numbers unless the numerator was five or less or the denominator was 10 or less, in which case they had been replaced by a hyphen (-).

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. This is **not** a National Statistics publication. It has been produced to help local authorities assess comparative performance in meeting statutory time limits on finalising statements. It has also been produced to provide parents and other interested parties with this information.
2. Enquiries (non-media) about information contained in this document should be addressed to Andy Brook, Analysis and Research Division, 1st Floor Area H, Mowden Hall, Staindrop Road, Darlington, DL3 9BG, email Andrew.Brook@education.gsi.gov.uk or telephone 01325 735408.
3. Media enquiries about information contained in this Statistical Release should be made to the Department's Press Office at Department for Education, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BT or telephone 020 7925 6789.
4. Better Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) 43A and 43B for 2007-08 were published for England and all local authorities on the Audit Commission's website at:
<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/localgov/audit/BVPIs/Pages/200708bvpidataquartiles.aspx>.

ANNEX A: TECHNICAL DEFINITION FOR INDICATORS A AND B: STATEMENTS OF SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ISSUED WITHIN 26 WEEKS

A) The number of final statements of special educational needs issued within 26 weeks excluding exception cases as a proportion of all such statements issued in the year.

$$A = \frac{x_A}{y_A} \times 100$$

Where:

x_A = Final statements of special educational needs excluding exception cases issued within 26 weeks.

y_B = All final statements of special educational needs issued (excluding exception cases).

B) The number of final statements of special educational needs issued within 26 weeks as a proportion of all such statements issued in the year.

$$B = \frac{x_B}{y_B} \times 100$$

Where:

x_B = Final statements of special educational needs issued within 26 weeks, including exceptions.

y_B = All final statements of special educational needs.