

OSR 19/2011

19 October 2011

Coverage: England

Theme: Health, well-being and Care

Issued by
Department for Education
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3BT

Telephone:
Press Office
020 7925 6789
Public Enquiries
0870 000 2288

Statistician
Andy Brook

Email
info@dcfs.gsi.gov.uk

Internet
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/index.shtml>

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS: STATEMENTS ISSUED WITHIN 26 WEEKS IN 2010-11

INTRODUCTION

This official statistics publication presents national and local authority (LA) figures from 2010-11 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.
Table B	The number of final statements of SEN issued within 26 weeks as a proportion of all such statements issued in the year.

This information was submitted directly by LAs to the Department for Education.

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 2010-11 were issued within 26 weeks (excluding exception cases). Local authority performance varied from 39 per cent to 100 per cent.
- Within Table B, 88 per cent of final statements in England in 2009-10 were issued within 26 weeks. Local authority performance varied from 18 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 publication provides 2010-11 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. 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;
- 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 2010-11 (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 2010-11 (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 2011: an analysis

<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d001032/index.shtml>

Special Educational Needs in England: January 2011

<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001007/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 2010-11England and Local Authority figures¹

	2010-11		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
ENGLAND	17,285	18,170	95
NORTH EAST	925	930	99
Darlington	20	20	100
Durham	285	285	100
Gateshead	80	85	95
Hartlepool	30	30	100
Middlesbrough	25	25	100
Newcastle Upon Tyne	65	65	97
North Tyneside	95	95	100
Northumberland	65	65	100
Redcar and Cleveland	60	60	100
South Tyneside	80	85	96
Stockton-On-Tees	60	60	100
Sunderland	55	55	100
NORTH WEST	1,845	2,040	90
Blackburn with Darwen	25	25	100
Blackpool	40	40	100
Bolton	100	120	83
Bury	-	15	-
Cheshire East	125	130	94
Cheshire West and Chester	75	80	94
Cumbria	160	160	99
Halton	25	25	92
Knowsley	90	90	100
Lancashire	335	335	100
Liverpool	180	195	92
Manchester	70	180	39
Oldham	20	20	95
Rochdale	30	30	100
Salford	150	165	90
Sefton	25	25	100
St Helens	20	20	100
Stockport	70	70	100
Tameside	30	30	100
Trafford	175	175	100
Warrington	25	25	100
Wigan	45	45	100
Wirral	40	45	98

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 2010-11England and Local Authority figures¹

	2010-11		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER	1,480	1,535	96
Barnsley	115	115	99
Bradford	205	220	94
Calderdale	130	130	100
Doncaster	135	135	100
East Riding of Yorkshire	30	30	100
Kingston Upon Hull, City of	40	45	89
Kirklees	65	65	97
Leeds	205	210	98
North East Lincolnshire	65	65	100
North Lincolnshire	75	75	100
North Yorkshire	75	85	88
Rotherham	30	30	100
Sheffield	120	140	84
Wakefield	140	140	100
York	50	50	100
EAST MIDLANDS	1,370	1,405	98
Derby	100	115	88
Derbyshire	115	125	91
Leicester	155	160	96
Leicestershire	315	315	100
Lincolnshire	95	95	100
Northamptonshire	340	345	99
Nottingham	60	60	100
Nottinghamshire	170	170	100
Rutland	20	20	100
WEST MIDLANDS	2,330	2,365	99
Birmingham	740	740	100
Coventry	120	120	100
Dudley	150	150	99
Herefordshire	70	70	100
Sandwell	55	65	85
Shropshire	50	55	98
Solihull	125	140	89
Staffordshire	210	215	100
Stoke-On-Trent	125	125	100
Telford and Wrekin	30	30	100
Walsall	120	120	100
Warwickshire	245	245	100
Wolverhampton	170	170	100
Worcestershire	115	120	95

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 2010-11

England and Local Authority figures¹

	2010-11		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
EAST OF ENGLAND	2,410	2,505	96
Bedford Borough	70	70	100
Central Bedfordshire	110	110	100
Cambridgeshire	305	305	100
Essex	825	825	100
Hertfordshire	195	195	100
Luton	100	100	100
Norfolk	255	325	78
Peterborough	185	185	99
Southend-on-Sea	60	60	100
Suffolk	260	265	99
Thurrock	45	70	65
LONDON	2,670	2,905	92
INNER LONDON	1,165	1,275	92
Camden	90	105	84
City Of London	-	-	-
Hackney	65	65	98
Hammersmith and Fulham	65	65	100
Haringey	135	140	96
Islington	80	80	100
Kensington and Chelsea	35	35	97
Lambeth	105	110	97
Lewisham	85	90	96
Newham	40	40	100
Southwark	115	130	89
Tower Hamlets	205	205	100
Wandsworth	115	165	69
Westminster	35	45	73
OUTER LONDON	1,505	1,630	92
Barking and Dagenham	95	95	100
Barnet	30	40	80
Bexley	15	15	100
Brent	145	175	83
Bromley	100	155	64
Croydon	205	210	99
Ealing	140	145	97
Enfield	10	10	100
Greenwich	20	20	100
Harrow	105	105	97
Havering	60	65	98
Hillingdon	135	140	99
Hounslow	75	85	87
Kingston Upon Thames	25	25	100
Merton	80	85	91
Redbridge	20	20	100
Richmond Upon Thames	95	95	100
Sutton	100	100	99
Waltham Forest	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 2010-11England and Local Authority figures¹

	2010-11		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
SOUTH EAST	2,660	2,785	96
Bracknell Forest	60	60	98
Brighton and Hove	50	50	100
Buckinghamshire	165	200	82
East Sussex	245	255	96
Hampshire	505	505	100
Isle Of Wight	15	15	100
Kent	260	295	88
Medway Towns	95	95	96
Milton Keynes	95	95	100
Oxfordshire	215	215	100
Portsmouth	70	75	96
Reading	70	70	100
Slough	85	85	100
Southampton	80	80	100
Surrey	215	215	98
West Berkshire	85	85	99
West Sussex	280	305	92
Windsor and Maidenhead	60	60	100
Wokingham	15	25	70
SOUTH WEST	1,595	1,690	94
Bath and North East Somerset	70	75	99
Bournemouth	60	70	81
Bristol, City of	80	80	100
Cornwall	125	125	100
Devon	160	170	94
Dorset	115	115	98
Gloucestershire	305	305	100
Isles Of Scilly	-	-	-
North Somerset	35	35	100
Plymouth	120	180	66
Poole	60	60	100
Somerset	85	85	100
South Gloucestershire	120	120	100
Swindon	125	125	100
Torbay	75	80	93
Wiltshire	55	55	100

Source: Local Authority returns through DfE

1. This information has been submitted by LAs to the Department for Education (DfE).

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.

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 2010-11England and Local Authority figures¹

	2010-11		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
ENGLAND	22,975	26,020	88
NORTH EAST	1,115	1,180	95
Darlington	20	20	91
Durham	305	310	99
Gateshead	90	95	96
Hartlepool	30	40	78
Middlesbrough	65	65	97
Newcastle Upon Tyne	65	70	91
North Tyneside	100	105	96
Northumberland	105	125	87
Redcar and Cleveland	65	65	99
South Tyneside	80	85	96
Stockton-On-Tees	60	75	81
Sunderland	130	130	100
NORTH WEST	3,075	3,445	89
Blackburn with Darwen	25	25	100
Blackpool	50	50	92
Bolton	105	135	80
Bury	15	75	18
Cheshire East	175	190	92
Cheshire West and Chester	100	125	81
Cumbria	175	190	94
Halton	35	40	90
Knowsley	90	90	100
Lancashire	645	650	100
Liverpool	180	205	88
Manchester	170	285	61
Oldham	125	130	96
Rochdale	120	120	100
Salford	160	185	89
Sefton	90	115	78
St Helens	30	30	100
Stockport	170	170	100
Tameside	65	65	97
Trafford	180	180	100
Warrington	120	140	84
Wigan	135	135	100
Wirral	115	120	94

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 2010-11England and Local Authority figures¹

	2010-11		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER	1,880	2,060	91
Barnsley	150	150	98
Bradford	205	250	81
Calderdale	130	130	99
Doncaster	135	135	100
East Riding of Yorkshire	90	90	99
Kingston Upon Hull, City of	100	120	84
Kirklees	185	195	95
Leeds	205	215	96
North East Lincolnshire	70	70	100
North Lincolnshire	95	95	100
North Yorkshire	125	165	76
Rotherham	70	70	100
Sheffield	125	175	71
Wakefield	145	145	100
York	50	50	100
EAST MIDLANDS	1,860	2,005	93
Derby	100	125	79
Derbyshire	315	360	87
Leicester	215	235	91
Leicestershire	360	360	100
Lincolnshire	205	235	89
Northamptonshire	415	440	95
Nottingham	60	60	100
Nottinghamshire	175	175	99
Rutland	20	20	100
WEST MIDLANDS	2,990	3,245	92
Birmingham	740	740	100
Coventry	135	140	96
Dudley	235	235	100
Herefordshire	70	70	100
Sandwell	95	145	63
Shropshire	175	210	83
Solihull	125	140	89
Staffordshire	325	355	92
Stoke-On-Trent	135	140	96
Telford and Wrekin	140	145	95
Walsall	120	120	100
Warwickshire	245	300	82
Wolverhampton	170	185	91
Worcestershire	290	320	90

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 2010-11England and Local Authority figures¹

	2010-11		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
EAST OF ENGLAND	2,820	3,085	91
Bedford Borough	70	75	95
Central Bedfordshire	110	115	96
Cambridgeshire	310	315	100
Essex	830	830	100
Hertfordshire	380	380	100
Luton	100	100	99
Norfolk	385	535	72
Peterborough	215	220	98
Southend-on-Sea	75	85	86
Suffolk	300	355	83
Thurrock	45	75	61
LONDON	3,565	4,460	80
INNER LONDON	1,385	1,685	82
Camden	90	115	79
City Of London	-	-	-
Hackney	100	145	69
Hammersmith and Fulham	70	70	100
Haringey	135	145	91
Islington	85	95	88
Kensington and Chelsea	35	60	61
Lambeth	175	230	76
Lewisham	110	115	96
Newham	40	40	100
Southwark	115	145	79
Tower Hamlets	205	210	98
Wandsworth	120	190	61
Westminster	110	125	88
OUTER LONDON	2,180	2,775	79
Barking and Dagenham	95	105	87
Barnet	85	150	55
Bexley	85	135	61
Brent	145	265	54
Bromley	140	250	57
Croydon	205	215	95
Ealing	185	190	97
Enfield	85	90	98
Greenwich	95	100	92
Harrow	125	135	93
Havering	60	65	98
Hillingdon	150	155	95
Hounslow	135	200	67
Kingston Upon Thames	65	85	72
Merton	95	110	85
Redbridge	120	145	83
Richmond Upon Thames	100	100	96
Sutton	100	105	95
Waltham Forest	110	155	71

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 2010-11England and Local Authority figures¹

	2010-11		
	Number of statements issued within 26 weeks	Total number of statements	Percentage of statements issued within 26 weeks
SOUTH EAST	3,645	4,155	88
Bracknell Forest	65	75	88
Brighton and Hove	100	100	100
Buckinghamshire	315	430	73
East Sussex	300	330	91
Hampshire	505	510	98
Isle Of Wight	15	15	100
Kent	530	635	83
Medway Towns	150	160	92
Milton Keynes	110	115	98
Oxfordshire	215	215	100
Portsmouth	90	105	88
Reading	105	130	78
Slough	95	95	100
Southampton	90	90	100
Surrey	480	580	83
West Berkshire	85	90	98
West Sussex	310	335	93
Windsor and Maidenhead	60	65	98
Wokingham	30	90	34
SOUTH WEST	2,025	2,385	85
Bath and North East Somerset	80	80	99
Bournemouth	65	80	83
Bristol, City of	175	175	100
Cornwall	235	240	98
Devon	240	425	56
Dorset	115	125	91
Gloucestershire	305	305	100
Isles Of Scilly	-	-	-
North Somerset	40	45	93
Plymouth	120	200	60
Poole	70	70	100
Somerset	95	95	100
South Gloucestershire	120	135	88
Swindon	125	125	100
Torbay	75	95	79
Wiltshire	160	180	88

Source: Local Authority returns through DfE

1. This information has been submitted by LAs to the Department for Education (DfE).

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. The figures within this statistical release have been submitted by local authorities to the Department for Education. The SEN contact in Authorities with outlying figures and those with large changes from 2009-10 have confirmed their figures are correct. A handful of authorities reported severe struggles in the financial year with workload and turnover which resulted in percentages much lower than the national averages.
2. Local authorities have duties under the Education Act 1996 to assess children's SEN and to draw up SEN statements where necessary. Local authorities adopt different policies with regard to the provision of SEN support services, in-service training and the delegation of funding for statemented provision to schools. This means that the need to draw up statements varies between local authority areas and statementing rates between below one per cent of the school population to four per cent. Further details can be found in the Department's research publication, *Special Educational Needs and Disability: Understanding Local Variation in Prevalence, Service Provision and Support* which can be found at:
<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/RSG/SpecialEducationNeeds/Page1/DCSF-RR211>.
3. This is an Official Statistics publication which has been produced in accordance with the UK Statistics Authority's Code of Practice for official statistics. 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.
4. Enquiries (non-media) about information contained in this document should be addressed to Andy Brook, Analysis and Research Division, 1st Floor Area I, Mowden Hall, Staindrop Road, Darlington, DL3 9BG, email Andrew.Brook@education.gsi.gov.uk or telephone 01325 735408.
5. 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.
6. 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_A = 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.