

Fast facts

Summary and background

The Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) collates, analyses and publishes a range of statistics related to adult social care in England.

Our statistics give detail on topics such as the number of adults receiving social care, the types of social care being provided to adults, the amounts being spent on social care by local authorities, safeguarding, direct payments and the experiences of both those receiving social care and carers for adults who are receiving social care.

Our statistics are based on data sent to the HSCIC by local authorities with responsibility for providing social services in England and are usually broken down to local authority level.

There is also an HSCIC *Fastfacts* sheet on social care: spending and workforce, also available in the news and events section of the HSCIC website: <http://www.hscic.gov.uk/news-and-events>

Numbers of adults receiving social care

Figures on the numbers of people who are receiving social care and the type of care they are receiving are contained in the HSCIC's *Community Care Statistics, Social Services Activity, England* report. Key statistics from the latest report, covering the financial year 2012/13, are:

- A total of 1.3 million adults received social services in England in 2012-13, a reduction of nine per cent on 2011-12 and 25 per cent on 2007-8.
- Among these 1.3 million people, 1.1 million received community-based services (a fall of 10 per cent on 2011-12), 209,000 received residential care (down two per cent on 2011-12) and 87,000 received nursing care (less than a one per cent change on 2011-12).

Some of the 1.3 million people adults receiving support from social services received more than one sort of support, for instance some will have received both community-based services and nursing care.

- The number of new enquiries made to council social service departments in 2012-13 was 2.1m (down less than one per cent from 2011-12 and up one per cent from 2007-08).

An enquiry, also known as a 'contact', is a person visiting, writing, phoning or making a request of a council's social services department in some other way.

Self-directed support

Self-Directed support (also known as a personal budget) is a notional amount of social care funding for an individual's support which is allocated following an assessment in order to meet the needs determined by the assessment.

- The number of social service users receiving **self-directed support** in 2012-13 was **611,000** (an increase of 16 per cent on 2011-12). Of these 143,000 received a direct payment - up eight per cent on 2011-12.
- Additionally, the number of carers receiving self-directed support was 103,000 (an increase of 32 per cent from 2011-12). Of these, 71,000 received a direct payment, up 17 per cent from 2011-12.

Safeguarding

The HSCIC's Abuse of Vulnerable Adults in England 2012-13: Experimental Statistics report showed that:

- English councils referred **109,000 cases of alleged abuse against vulnerable adults for investigation**, a two per cent rise (from 107,000 in 2011-12) for the 152 councils submitting data in both years.
- Among the 108,000 (of 109,000) referred cases where key information on gender, age and client type is known just over three in five (62 per cent) were aged 65 or over, half (51 per cent) had a physical disability and just over three in five (61 per cent) were women.

Benchmarking social care

The HSCIC collects data on the extent to which councils providing social services to adults are performing against the measures set out in the Department of Health's Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF). We have published reports setting out councils' performance and in 2013 launched a new website to allow users to view their local council's scores online. The latest ASCOF data shows:

- On the overarching measure of social care-related quality of life in ASCOF, **the average score for England was 18.8 out of a possible 24**, compared to 18.7 in 2010-11 and 2011-12.

User experiences of adults receiving social care

The HSCIC undertakes surveys with adults who receive social care and with adults who care for someone receiving social care in England. The surveys assess issues such as how satisfied respondents are with council social services and quality of life.

- The 2012-13 **survey of adults receiving social care** showed that 28 per cent reported their quality of life was so good, it could not be better, or very good, 31 per cent reported it was good, 30 per cent said it was alright, 6 per cent bad and 3 per cent very bad or so bad, it could not be worse.
- The 2012-13 **surveys of adult carers** found that 36 per cent of respondents were either extremely or very satisfied with the support and services that they and the

person they care for received from Social Services in the last 12 months. And that 4 per cent stated they were either very or extremely dissatisfied.

More information

Access HSCIC information on a range of social care topics here:

<http://www.hscic.gov.uk/social-care>

Social care statistics on other aspects of social care, such as the workforce employed in social care or children's social care, are produced by the Department of Health, Skills for Care, the Department for Education, the Care Quality Commission and NICE. See the **HSCIC's Health and social care information sources – a guide for journalists, England 2014** for guidance on which source of statistics can help you with which topic:

<http://www.hscic.gov.uk/journalistinfo>

- For media enquiries contact 0845 2576990 or media@hscic.gov.uk
- For general enquires contact 0845 3006016 or enquiries@hscic.gov.uk