

# First Release

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

**OUTCOME INDICATORS FOR LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN:  
TWELVE MONTHS TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2004, ENGLAND**

National statistics providing figures on outcome indicators for looked after children in England were published today.

This release provides summary information that has been derived from statistical data supplied by the 150 local councils in England. It covers all children and young people in England who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months at 30 September.

**KEY POINTS****Context**

- At 30 September 2004 there were 45,000 children who had been looked after continuously for at least twelve months by English local authorities. This compares to 44,900 at 30 September 2003.
- 35,300 of these children were of school age and of these 27% had SEN statements, 12% missed at least 25 days of school, and 1% received a permanent exclusion. These percentages were similar to last year.

**Attainment**

- On average 55% of those looked after children in the appropriate age group achieved level 2 at Key Stage 1, 43% achieved level 4 at Key Stage 2 and 23% achieved level 5 at Key Stage 3. The comparable percentages for all children were 86%, 79% and 70% respectively.
- The proportion of children continuously looked after for at least 12 months aged 11 and achieving at least level 4 at KS2 English and Maths was 51% of the proportion of all children. This compares with 49% and 46% in 2003 and 2002 respectively.
- In school year 11, 56% of looked after children obtained at least one GCSE or GNVQ compared with 97% of all school children. These figures are slightly higher than last year. 41% did not sit an examination of this type in 2004, compared with 43% in 2003.
- 9% obtained at least 5 GCSE's (or equivalent) at grades A\*-C compared with 54% of all children. 19% of councils had at least 15% of their children achieving this level. This compares with 15% in 2003.

## **Education and Employment at 16**

- At the end of school year 11, 59% remained in full-time education compared to 73% of all school-leavers. 22% were unemployed the September after leaving school compared to 6% of all school-leavers.

## **Cautions and Convictions**

- 9% of these looked after children aged 10 or over, were cautioned or convicted for an offence during the year, 3 times the rate for all children of this age. This rate has stayed very similar over the past 3 years.

## **Health Outcomes**

- For 73% of these looked after children immunisations were up to date, 79% had a dental check, and 77% had an annual health assessment. In 2003, these figures were 72%, 75% and 75% respectively.

## **Notes to Editors**

1. The 2004 figures on outcome indicators for looked after children in England are the latest in a regular series. Data are collected on the OC2 statistical return, which provides the Department of Education and Skills with aggregate data on the outcomes of all children and young people in England who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months at 30 September.

2. The figures presented for the year ending 30 September 2004 are based on data provided by all 150 Local Authorities.

**Table A Number of children looked after at 30 September 2002 to 2004 who had been looked after for at least twelve months, and general information about education**

England	numbers and percentages								
	looked-after children						all children		
	number			percentages <sup>1</sup>			percentages <sup>2</sup>		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
Number of children looked after at 30 Sept. who had been looked after for at least twelve months	44,100	44,900	45,000	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>and of these:</b>									
Number eligible for full-time schooling	34,500	35,100	35,300	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>and of these:</b>									
Number with a statement of special educational needs	9,200	9,400	9,700	26.8	26.8	27.4	3.0	3.0	3.0
Number of permanent exclusions from school <sup>3</sup>	420	380	320	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.1
Number who missed at least 25 days of school <sup>4,5</sup>	4,100	4,400	4,300	12.0	12.4	12.3	..	..	..

<sup>1</sup> expressed as a percentage of the number eligible for full-time schooling

<sup>2</sup> source: DfES statistical bulletins: 'Statistics of Education: Special Educational Needs in England: January 2004 (provisional)', and 'Permanent Exclusions from Schools in England 2003/2004 (provisional estimates)'

<sup>3</sup> If a child was permanently excluded more than once in the previous school year, each occasion has been counted.

<sup>4</sup> Performance Assessment Framework Indicator C24: The percentage of children who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months and were of school age, who missed a total of at least 25 days during the previous school year of schooling for any reason.

<sup>5</sup> figures on this basis are not collected by DfES for all children

**Table B Eligibility and performance of looked-after children in Key Stage tasks and tests, compared with all children, school years ending 30 September 2002 to 2004**

England	numbers and percentages								
	looked-after children						all children <sup>1</sup>		
	numbers			percentages			percentages		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
<b>YEAR 2</b>									
Number eligible to sit Key Stage 1 tasks and tests	2,000	1,900	1,900	.	.	.	.	.	.
Number who attained at least Level 2 <sup>2</sup> in the following:									
Reading task/test <sup>3</sup>	935	970	1,100	46.2	50.8	54.4	84	84	85
Writing task	1,100	930	940	52.4	48.5	48.3	86	81	82
Spelling test <sup>4</sup>	905	..	..	44.8	..	..	78	..	..
Mathematics test	1,200	1,200	1,200	57.9	61.0	63.5	90	90	90
<b>YEAR 6</b>									
Number eligible to sit Key Stage 2 tasks and tests	2,900	3,000	2,900	.	.	.	.	.	.
Number who attained at least Level 4 <sup>2</sup> in the following:									
English	1,000	1,100	1,200	34.6	37.1	39.9	75	75	77
Mathematics	1,000	1,000	1,100	34.2	34.8	37.2	73	73	74
Science	1,500	1,600	1,600	51.7	52.9	53.0	86	87	86
<b>YEAR 9</b>									
Number eligible to sit Key Stage 3 tasks and tests	3,800	3,800	4,000	.	.	.	.	.	.
Number who attained at least Level 5 <sup>2</sup> in the following:									
English	835	850	900	22.1	22.3	22.5	67	69	71
Mathematics	810	890	1,000	21.4	23.3	25.8	67	71	73
Science	825	890	830	21.8	23.2	20.8	67	68	66

<sup>1</sup> source: DfES statistical first release 20/2003 'National curriculum assessments of 7, 11 and 14 year olds in England - 2004 (Provisional)' Includes all schools  
For Key stage 1, these figures are a result of combining task/test for non trial schools and teacher assessment for trial schools

<sup>2</sup> target level for age group

<sup>3</sup> the 'all children' Key stage 1 Reading task/test is derived by adding the pupils achieving level 2 in the reading task and level 3 in the reading comprehensive test

<sup>4</sup> From September 2003, the spelling test contributed to the writing task and was therefore not reported as a separate item.

**Table C GCSE performance or equivalents of looked-after children in Year 11 compared with all children, school years ending 30 September 2002 to 2004**

England	numbers and percentages								
	looked-after children						all children <sup>1</sup>		
	numbers			percentages <sup>2</sup>			percentages		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
Number in Year 11	4,300	4,600	4,800	.	.		.	.	
Number who sat at least one GCSE or GNVQ	2,500	2,600	2,900	57.9	56.8	59.1	96	96	97
Number who obtained at least:									
1 GCSE at grade A* to G or a GNVQ	2,300	2,400	2,700	53.2	52.9	56.0	95	95	96
5 GCSE's (or equivalent) at grade A* to G	1,500	1,700	1,900	36.3	36.8	39.4	89	89	89
5 GCSE's (or equivalent) at grade A* to C	320	400	450	7.5	8.7	9.4	52	53	54

<sup>1</sup> source: DfES statistical bulletin: GCSE/GNVQ and GCE A/AS/VCE/Advanced GNVQ Examination Results 2003/2004 - England. Issued January 2004. Includes all schools.

<sup>2</sup> expressed as a percentage of all looked after children in Year 11

**Table D Education and employment status at 30 September 2004 of looked-after children in Year 11 in 2003/2004 school year, compared with all children**

Government Office Region		total number of children in Year 11 in 2003/2004 school year	position at 30 September 2004, shown as a percentage of the total					unemployed	
			full-time education	full-time training	full-time employment with planned training	full-time employment with no planned training	part-time employment, education, or training	a result of ill-health or disability	other reason
<b>ENGLAND</b>	<b>looked after</b>	<b>4,800</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>
	<b>all children<sup>1,2</sup></b>	<b>625,998</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>NORTH EAST</b>	looked after	230	59	16	3	-	3	4	14
	all children <sup>1,2</sup>	34,830	68	11	3	3	1	8	
<b>NORTH WEST</b>	looked after	690	49	12	4	4	8	1	22
	all children <sup>1,2</sup>	94,778	71	9	6	3	1	6	
<b>YORKS &amp; THE HUMBER</b>	looked after	470	50	10	3	3	7	1	26
	all children <sup>1,2</sup>	65,107	68	9	6	4	1	7	
<b>EAST MIDLANDS</b>	looked after	280	54	6	5	-	10	-	21
	all children <sup>1,2</sup>	54,770	72	7	7	4	1	6	
<b>WEST MIDLANDS</b>	looked after	480	64	8	3	3	4	1	18
	all children <sup>1,2</sup>	71,336	71	9	4	4	1	7	
<b>EAST</b>	looked after	420	62	3	3	5	7	-	19
	all children <sup>1,2</sup>	68,838	76	5	7	2	1	5	
<b>LONDON</b>	looked after	1,200	64	6	2	1	5	1	22
	all children <sup>1,2</sup>	78,442	80	3	2	2	1	6	
<b>SOUTH EAST</b>	looked after	670	61	5	2	2	5	2	23
	all children <sup>1,2</sup>	96,421	76	4	5	3	0	5	
<b>SOUTH WEST</b>	looked after	390	60	6	5	3	9	-	17
	all children <sup>1,2</sup>							4	

<sup>1</sup> Source: The 'Connexions/Careers Service Annual Activity Survey 2004'. Covers all young people who were in year 11 during the school year ending August 2004, and is based on a survey carried out during October 2004.

<sup>2</sup> Percentages for 'all children' do not sum to 100 because the Connexions/Career Service Survey included an additional category of moved away 'no response' and 'refused to participate', which is not relevant to looked-after children.

**Table E Offending by looked-after children, twelve months ending 30 September 2002 to 2004**

England	numbers and percentages											
	looked after						all children <sup>1</sup>			PAF Indicator C18 <sup>2</sup>		
	number			percentage			percentages					
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
Number of children looked after for at least twelve months	44,100	44,900	45,000	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Number of children aged 10 or older at 30 September	28,200	29,100	29,800	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Number convicted or subject to a final warning or reprimand during the year	2,700	2,800	2,800	9.7	9.5	9.3	3.6	3.3	3.3	2.7	2.9	2.8

<sup>1</sup> Data for all children are from Home Office, and are for calendar years ending 31 December 2001 to 2003, expressed as a percentage of all children aged 10-17

<sup>2</sup> the proportion of children (aged 10 or over) who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months, who were convicted or subject to a final warning or reprimand during the year for an offence committed whilst they were looked after, expressed as a ratio of the proportion of all children and young people convicted or subject to a final warning or reprimand for an offence in the police force area.

**Table F Health care of looked-after children, twelve months ending 30 September 2002 to 2004**

England	numbers and percentages								
	number			percentage			PAF Indicator C19 <sup>1</sup>		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
number of children looked after for at least one year	44,100	44,900	45,000	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>of these:</b>									
number whose immunisations were up to date	32,400	32,300	33,000	73.4	71.9	73.3			
number who had their teeth checked by a dentist	31,800	33,800	35,400	72.2	75.3	78.8	} 71.6	75.2	77.9
number who had their annual health assessment	31,300	33,700	34,700	71.0	75.0	77.1			
number of children looked after for at least one year, and aged 5 or younger at 30 September:	7,400	7,100	7,000	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>of these:</b>									
number whose development assessments were up to date	5,500	5,700	5,700	74.5	80.7	81.5	.	.	.

<sup>1</sup> The average of the percentages of children looked after at 30 September who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months, who had their teeth checked by a dentist during the previous 12 months, and had an annual health assessment during the previous 12 months. In previous years this indicator also included immunisations. The figures shown here reflect the revised definition.