



Childstats

Statistics on children and young people

ChildStats is a digest of current statistics on children and young people, covering health, education, social care, youth justice, early years and more. It is updated quarterly and compiled from government and other published sources. Available on the members' page of the NCB's website, it contains just a sample of published data; fuller and more detailed information can be accessed via the web links listed in the sources.

Unless otherwise stated, most of the statistics refer to England.

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Population

- In 2008, the UK population numbered 61.4 million. (ONS 2009/10)
- There were 708,708 live births in England and Wales in 2008; the numbers have been increasing since 2001 and have now reached the highest level since 1972. (ONS 2009a)
- In England, there are almost 6.5million 10 to 19-year-olds and 600,000 new young people enter this age cohort each year. (Donaldson 2008)
- In the UK in mid 2008, the proportion of the population aged under 16 was 19% (11.5 million children). (ONS 2009/10)
- Between 1983 and 2008, the proportion of people in the UK aged under 16 fell from 21% to 19% of the total population. (ONS 2009d)
- In the UK in 2007 the population aged below 20 is just under 15 million. (ONS 2009b)
- As with the total population, more children and young people live in the South East (2 million), 1.7 million live in London and 1.7 million in the North West. (ONS 2009b)
- Nearly 82% of people under 20 in England live in urban areas; a further 9% each lived in areas classed as 'town and fringe' and 'village, hamlet and isolated dwelling'. (ONS 2009b)
- Babies born in England and Wales in 2008 were most likely to have a mother aged 25-34 (54% of mothers were in this age group). (ONS 2009e)
- In 2008 the total fertility rate in the UK was 1.96 children per woman, the highest since 1973 when it was 2.05. (ONS 2009/10)
- The percentage of live births outside marriage in 2007 was 44%. (Dunnell 2008)
- In 2008 in England and Wales, the proportion of live births to mothers born outside the UK accounted for 24% of live births. (ONS 2009a)
- For every 100 girls that are born each year in the UK, there are 105 boys born; however there are more females than males in the overall population. (ONS 2009/10)
- In 2007, Jack was the number one name for boys born in England and Wales for the 13th consecutive year, while Grace, which only joined the top five in 2006, was the most popular name for girls. (ONS 2009c)

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Mortality

- In 2008 in England and Wales, there were 3,370 infant deaths registered giving a rate of 4.8 deaths per 1,000 live births; this rate is unchanged from 2007 and is the lowest rate ever recorded. (ONS 2009a)
- In 2008, the West Midlands had the highest infant mortality rate among SHAs in England at 6.5 deaths per thousand live births. South East Coast had the lowest at 3.8 deaths per thousand live births. (ONS 2009d)
- In 2008, there were 3,617 stillbirths and 1,763 deaths at ages under seven days registered in England and Wales giving a total of 5,380 perinatal deaths. (ONS 2009d)
- In England and Wales in 2007, there were 264 unexplained deaths, a rate of 0.38 deaths per 1,000 live births. (ONS 2009c)
- Of all unexplained infant deaths in 2007, 76% occurred among babies born with a normal birth weight and 90% occurred between 28 days and one year of age. (ONS 2009c)
- The unexplained infant death rate in 2007 was highest for babies born outside marriage where only the mother registered the birth (1.42 per 1,000 live births); this rate was nearly eight times the rate for babies born inside marriage (0.18 per 1,000 live births). (ONS 2009c)
- The unexplained infant death rate in 2007 was highest for babies of mothers aged under 20 years at the time of birth. (ONS 2009c)

- In 2005, babies with fathers in semi-routine occupations were more than twice as likely to die in the first year of life compared with babies with fathers in managerial occupations. (Dunnell 2008)
- The mortality rate for married parents was 2.7 infants per 1,000 live births for infants with fathers in the large employers and managerial occupations. (Dunnell 2008)
- Teenage mothers (aged less than 20 years at delivery) had the highest neonatal mortality rate of 4.4 per 1,000 live births compared to other maternal age groups. (CEMACH 2009)
- The mortality rate for infants with unmarried parents and fathers in semi-routine occupations was 6.8 per 1,000 live births (Dunnell 2008)
- Approximately 1,600 10 to 19-year-olds die in a year. (Donaldson2008)
- In 2006, a survey of child deaths in the UK found that 77% of children had a previous history of a medical condition or some sort of medical delay, impairment or disability; 66% of deaths were certified in hospital and 2% in hospices. (CEMACH 2008)
- Overall death rates for children from families of Pakistani and Black African origin were significantly higher than the rate seen in White children; higher rates of congenital malformation were seen in children of families of Pakistani origin. (CEMACH 2008)
- 267 deaths per year from cancer in children aged under 15 were recorded on death certificates in England and Wales between 2000 and 2002; there were about 33% more deaths in boys than in girls. (Cancer Research UK)

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email: library@ncb.org.uk

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National Children's Bureau
8 Wakley Street
London EC1V 7QE

tel +44 (0)20 7843 6000
fax +44 (0)20 7278 9512

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