



Home Office

2003 Home Office Citizenship Survey: Top-level findings from the Children's and Young People's Survey

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Summary

This report presents top-level findings from a Children's (8 to 10 years) and Young People's (11 to 15 years) Survey which was an extension to the main 2003 Home Office Citizenship Survey. The Children's and Young People's Survey is a useful source of quantitative data on children's and young people's views on a range of issues surrounding civic participation and citizenship. Furthermore it is one of the few surveys whose sample includes a large number of children and young people drawn from minority ethnic groups. The 2003 Children's and Young People's Survey achieved a total sample of 2,698 people, comprising 1,032 children and 1,666 young people. Due to differences in capabilities and comprehension levels, separate questionnaires were developed for each age group, the young people's (11 to 15 years) questionnaire covering a greater breadth of material. This report focuses primarily on findings on young people, however where appropriate it also presents findings on children and adults for comparative purposes.

The report provides an overall picture of active citizenship amongst young people. It examines children's and young people's views on a variety of citizenship-related issues and the contributions they make within their communities and families. The report presents top-level data on seven key themes related to active citizenship:

- influencing decisions and trust;
- racial prejudice and discrimination;
- the neighbourhood and school;
- participation in social networks;
- participation in communities and family networks;
- politics and current affairs; and
- moral responsibility.

Promoting active citizenship and community participation amongst young people are key priorities across a number of government departments including the Home Office and the Department for Education and Skills. This report provides an overview of young people's participation at a variety of levels including within their social networks, their homes and families and their communities. The report also provides valuable information on young people's views on politics and current affairs.

Overall the main issues arising from the report are:

Young people play an active role in their communities

The report found that most young people play an active role in their communities, providing informal and formal help within their homes and families and to the wider community. Half of young people had engaged in civic activity, 63% had given help to groups, clubs or organisations in the last 12 months and the vast majority (90%) had given help in the home or to relatives.

Young people from minority ethnic groups in particular make contributions within their homes, families and communities. For example, black Caribbean and mixed race respondents were the most likely to have engaged in one or more specified civic activities or given help to groups, clubs or organisations in the last 12 months. Young

people from all minority ethnic groups were also more likely than white young people to give help in their home or to relatives on a regular basis. However, white and mixed race young people were the most likely to have given informal help to non-relatives.

Young people from deprived¹ areas were, however, less likely to participate formally in their communities by engaging in civic activities or giving help to groups, clubs or organisations.

Young people want a voice in formal politics

Overall the majority of young people (81%) agreed with the statement that there should be a way to give young people a voice in politics. The survey found that young people did take an interest in current affairs and social and political issues. Most young people had listened to or watched the news in the last week and furthermore, significant proportions of those aged 12 to 15 years reported being interested in a number of political and social issues. The issues most commonly referred to included wars taking place in the world (62%), terrorist attacks (60%) and hunger in poor countries (45%). The majority of young people also stated they would vote in a general election (69%).

However it appears that some young people do not trust politicians or feel they fully represent their concerns. Young people reported lower levels of trust in politicians than other groups (such as teachers and the police) and 41% of 12 to 15 year olds agreed with the statement that ‘none of our politicians are bothered about the problems facing young people today’.

Most young people have active social networks that include others from different ethnic backgrounds

The majority of children and young people socialised regularly with friends either at their homes or outside. The majority of young people (64%) also had friends from a different ethnic group. Young people from minority groups, particularly black Caribbean and mixed race young people, were more likely than white young people to have friends of a different race or colour.

However a minority of young people are socially isolated

Although this survey found that the majority of young people had good social networks, it identified a minority of young people who were ‘socially isolated’. Young people were judged to be socially isolated if they had contact with friends less than once a month or never. Bangladeshi and black African young people were more likely than other ethnic groups to come into this category.

Racial prejudice is an issue

The majority of young people (aged 12 to 15 years) believed there was racial prejudice in Britain today (94%). However, white young people were more likely than young people from minority ethnic groups to believe there was *a lot* of racial prejudice. Similarly, white young people (along with Asians) expressed the most

¹ Respondents were allocated to one of five quintile groups depending on the Index of Multiple Deprivation score for the ward in which they live. Respondents in the top quintile lived in the 20% least deprived areas in England, while those in the bottom quintile lived in the 20% most deprived areas.

negative views about racial prejudice in the future, with one-fifth believing that there would be more racial prejudice in five years time. Young people from lower socio-economic groups also expressed the most negative views about racial prejudice. They were most likely to believe there was a lot of prejudice in Britain today and that there would be more prejudice in five years time.

However in terms of experiences of racial discrimination, young people from minority ethnic groups were most likely to report being discriminated against. Overall, one in ten young people reported being discriminated against because of their race or colour. Black and Asian young people were three times as likely as their white counterparts to report being subject to racial discrimination.

A minority of young people also reported being subject to religious discrimination. Of this group the majority reported being discriminated against at school. Muslim young people were four times more likely than Christian young people to say they had experienced discrimination because of their religion.

In terms of discrimination by organisations, young people were most likely to believe the police would discriminate against them compared with a local school or GP practice. Young people from minority ethnic groups were most likely to believe the police would treat them worse than other races.

1 Introduction

Aims of the survey

This report presents top-level findings from a Children's (8 to 10 years) and Young People's (11 to 15 years) Survey which was an extension to the 2003 Home Office Citizenship Survey. Encouraging and promoting active citizenship and community participation amongst children and young people are key priorities across a number of government departments including the Home Office and the Department for Education and Skills (DfES). However there are few sources of quantitative data on children's and young people's views of citizenship issues and the contribution they make within their families and communities. The Children's and Young People's Survey addresses this knowledge gap and is a valuable source of quantitative information informing policy-making in this area. Furthermore, the Children's and Young People's Survey is one of the few major surveys whose sample includes a substantial proportion of young people from minority ethnic groups.

The 2003 Children's and Young People's Survey achieved a total sample of 2,698 people, comprising 1,032 children and 1,666 young people. Due to differences in capabilities and comprehension levels, different questionnaires were developed for each age group. The young people's questionnaire covered a greater breadth of material and examined a number of key issues in greater depth. We attempted to maximise opportunities for comparability between the young people's and main adult questionnaires. However due to differences in capabilities and levels of experience, generally it was not possible to include the same questions in both the young people's and adult's questionnaires. Furthermore a number of questions on the young people's questionnaire such as those pertaining to racial discrimination were only asked of young people aged 12 years and above as those from younger age groups had difficulty understanding the relevant concepts and issues. Where the same questions were asked, comparisons between the data for different age groups have been drawn out.

Report structure

The report primarily examines young people's views on a variety of citizenship issues and the extent to which they contribute and participate in their communities at a variety of levels including within social networks, their homes, family networks and the wider community. Where possible, comparisons are made between children's and young people's views.

The report addresses the following seven key themes:

- influencing decisions and trust (chapter 2);
- racial prejudice and discrimination (chapter 3);
- the neighbourhood and school (chapter 4);
- social networks (chapter 5);
- communities and family networks (chapter 6);
- politics and current affairs (chapter 7); and
- moral responsibility (chapter 8).

The final section (chapter 9) draws together and compares findings from the Young People and Adult surveys.

2 Influencing decisions and trust

Promoting active citizenship is an important objective within both the Home Office and DfES. The Home Office aims to build strong, active communities and encourage citizenship participation across all age groups whilst the DfES is specifically focussed upon promoting active citizenship amongst children and young people. Individual's views about the extent to which they can influence decisions and their levels of trust in key organisations such as the police, media and politicians can influence the extent and ways in which they participate within their communities.

This section sets out children's and young people's views on the extent to which they feel they can influence decisions in a variety of contexts including their household, school and local area and their levels of trust in key public sector organisations.

Key Findings

- Young people were most likely to feel able to influence decisions at the lower levels – 92% believed they could influence decisions affecting their family, 64% believed they could influence decisions affecting their school, whilst fewer young people believed they could influence decisions affecting their local area (33%) and Britain (15%).
- Young people were more likely to trust the police (87%) and teachers (81%) than politicians (39%), newspapers (24%) and television (62%).
- White (87%) and Asian (87%) young people expressed higher levels of trust in the police than young black people (76%).
- Young people living in deprived areas were less likely to express trust in the police than those living in more affluent areas - 82% of young people living in the most deprived areas said they trusted the police, compared with 93% of young people living in the least deprived areas.

Young people's views about influencing decisions

Overall, the vast majority of young people (92%) felt that their opinions were taken into account by their family a lot or a little. Just over a half of young people (54%) said that the extent to which their views were taken into account on family decisions was about right, while 31% said that they should be taken into account more¹.

Table 2.1, 2.2

¹ To encourage young people to answer honestly, the questions about influencing decisions in the home were self-completion. Young people were therefore able to give their answers in private.

Table 2.1 Whether opinions are taken into account by the family by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Whether opinions are taken into account by family	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
A lot	32	31	42	49	49	41
A little	55	59	52	46	46	51
Not at all	6	4	2	4	4	4
Don't know	7	6	4	1	1	4
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

Table 2.2 Whether views on family decisions should be taken into account more, less or is it about right by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Whether views on family decisions should be taken into account	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
More	29	33	32	29	29	31
Less	6	7	5	7	3	6
About right	52	45	50	59	62	54
Don't know	12	15	12	6	6	10
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

In relation to influencing decisions outside the home, young people were most likely to feel able to influence decisions affecting their school, followed by their local area and then Britain. Sixty-four per cent of young people agreed that they could influence decisions affecting their school. This proportion fell to 33% and to 15% for influencing decisions affecting their local area and Britain. A relatively large number of young people were unable to give a view on the questions about influencing decisions affecting their local area and Great Britain (18%).

Table 2.3

Table 2.3 Whether young people feel able to influence decisions affecting their school, local area and Great Britain

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
	Definitely agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Definitely disagree	Don't know	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
Can you influence decisions affecting your school?	%	14	50	21	7	8
Can you influence decisions affecting your local area?	%	5	28	33	16	18
Can you influence decisions affecting Great Britain?	%	3	12	25	42	18

Socio-demographic characteristics associated with young people's views about influencing decisions

Age

Older respondents were generally more likely than their younger counterparts to feel that their opinions were taken into account by their family. Almost half (49%) of 14 and 15 year olds said that their opinions were taken into account a lot, compared with about a third of 11 and 12 year olds (32% and 31% respectively).

In terms of influencing decisions affecting the school, local area, and Britain, the pattern was reversed. In relation to influencing decisions affecting their school, the proportion reporting favourable views remained high until the age of 13, after which point it decreased. Seventy per cent of 13 year olds agreed that they could influence decisions affecting their school, compared with 56% of 15 year olds.

In terms of influencing decisions affecting their local area and Britain young people aged 11 or 12 were most likely to feel able to influence decisions at these levels, after which point the proportion reporting positive views declined. For example, 38% of 11 year olds agreed that they could influence decisions affecting their local area, compared with 28% of 15 year olds. The corresponding proportions for influencing decisions affecting Britain were 19% and 11%.

Table 2.1, 2.4

Table 2.4 Whether young people feel able to influence decisions affecting their school, local area and Great Britain by age

	<i>England & Wales 2003</i>					
	Age					
	11	12	13	14	15	All
Percentage agreeing ¹ that they could influence decisions affecting their school	67	66	70	63	56	64
Percentage agreeing ¹ that they could influence decisions affecting their local area	38	37	30	33	28	33
Percentage agreeing ¹ that they could influence decisions affecting Great Britain	19	18	12	13	11	15
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	325	329	330	327	355	1,666

¹ Proportion saying that they definitely agreed or tended to agree.

Ethnic group

Young people from black or white ethnic groups were more likely than Asian young people to say that their opinions were taken into account a lot by their family (44% and 41% compared with 33%). The proportion for young people from a mixed ethnic group was also relatively low – 35%. There were no significant differences between the views of black Caribbeans and Africans but, within the Asian group, young people of Indian or Pakistani origin were more likely than those of Bangladeshi origin to feel able to influence decisions in the home (33% and 32% compared with 22%).

Indians were more likely than mixed race, Pakistani or Bangladeshi young people to feel they could influence decisions affecting their school (70% compared with 58%,

56% and 56%). The proportions for white and black young people were in between at 65% and 67%. Indians also reported positive views on the question about influencing decisions affecting their local area – 40% felt they could influence decisions.

Black Africans were more likely than most other groups to feel they could influence decisions affecting Great Britain. For example, 28% of black Africans said they could influence decisions affecting Britain compared with 19% of Pakistanis, 14% of whites and 13% of Indians. The proportion for black Caribbeans and Bangladeshis were in between at 23% and 22% respectively.

Tables 2.5, 2.6

Table 2.5 Percentage who said that their opinions were taken into account 'a lot' by the family by ethnic group

England & Wales 2003

Ethnic group	Percentage who said that their opinions were taken into account 'a lot' by family	
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
White	41	816
All Asian	33	492
Indian	33	190
Pakistani	32	148
Bangladeshi	22	103
All Black	44	207
Caribbean	46	95
African	47	97
Mixed race	35	75
All	41	1660

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Table 2.6 Whether young people feel able to influence decisions affecting their school, local area and Great Britain by ethnic group

England & Wales 2003

	White	Asian			Black			Mixed	All	
		All	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	All	Caribbean African			
Percentage agreeing ¹ that they could influence decisions affecting their school	65	63	70	56	56	67	69	67	58	65
Percentage agreeing ¹ that they could influence decisions affecting their local area	33	35	40	33	30	36	31	39	26	33
Percentage agreeing ¹ that they could influence decisions affecting Great Britain	14	17	13	19	22	24	23	28	11	15
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	817	493	190	148	104	209	95	98	75	1,664

¹ Proportion saying that they definitely agreed or tended to agree
The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Household type

Views about influencing decision-making varied by household type for three of the measures. Young people living in a two-parent household were more likely than those living with a lone parent to say that their opinions were taken into account a lot in their household (43% compared with 32%). The same pattern was observed for influencing decisions affecting school and the local area. Sixty-six per cent of young people living in a two-parent household agreed that they could influence decisions affecting their school, compared with 59% of those living with a lone parent. The proportions for influencing decisions affecting the local area were 36% and 26% respectively.

Tables 2.7, 2.8

Table 2.7 Percentage who said that their opinions were taken into account 'a lot' by the family by household type

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>			
Household type	Percentage who said that their opinions were taken into account 'a lot' by family		
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	
Couple with dependent child/children	43	1131	
Lone parent with dependent child/children	32	450	
Two or more single or multiple person family units	47	76	
All	41	1,662	

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Table 2.8 Whether young people feel able to influence decisions affecting their school, local area and Great Britain by household type

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
	Couple with dependent child/children	Lone parent with dependent child/children	Two or more single or multiple person family units	All
Percentage agreeing ¹ that they could influence decisions affecting their school	66	59	87	65
Percentage agreeing ¹ that they could influence decisions affecting their local area	36	26	44	33
Percentage agreeing ¹ that they could influence decisions affecting Great Britain	15	14	9	15
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,133</i>	<i>451</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>1,666</i>

¹ Proportion saying that they definitely agreed or tended to agree
The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Views about influencing decisions affecting school and school councils

Eighty-four per cent of young people said their school had a school council. Young people aged 13 to 15 were the most likely to have a school council while those aged 11 were the least likely to do so. About nine in ten 13, 14 and 15 year olds said their school had a school council (91%, 89% and 89%). The equivalent proportion for 11 year olds was 70%.

As we might expect, having a council at school increased the likelihood of young people feeling able to influence decisions affecting their school. Sixty-eight per cent of young people attending schools with school councils agreed that they could influence decisions, compared with 51% of young people attending schools without a school council.

Table 2.9, 2.10

Table 2.9 Whether respondent's school has a school council by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Whether school has a school council	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	70	81	91	89	89	84
No	20	7	4	7	8	9
Don't know	10	12	5	4	3	7
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>325</i>	<i>329</i>	<i>330</i>	<i>327</i>	<i>355</i>	<i>1,666</i>

Table 2.10 Whether young people feel able to influence decisions affecting their school by whether school has a school council

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>			
Whether has a school council	Percentage agreeing ¹ that they could influence decisions affecting their school		
	<i>Percentages</i>		<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
Yes - has a school council	68		1,351
No	51		176
All	65		1,666

¹ Proportion saying that they definitely agreed or tended to agree

Data for respondents who said that they did not know whether they had a school council is not shown. These are included in figures for All respondents.

Children's views about influencing decisions at school

About a third of children (35%) felt they had a say in how their school was run. Older children were more likely than younger respondents to feel they could influence decisions - forty-three per cent of 10 year olds said they had a say in how their school was run, compared with just 26% of 8 year olds.

Table 2.11

Table 2.11 Whether children feel they have a say in how their school is run by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether has a say in how their school is run	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	26	35	43	35
No	55	53	46	51
Don't know	18	12	11	14
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>386</i>	<i>309</i>	<i>1,032</i>

Views about influencing decisions affecting school and school councils

Sixty-five per cent of children said their school had a school council. As with young people, having a school council increased the likelihood of children feeling they had a say in how their school was run. Children attending schools with school councils were twice as likely as those attending schools without a school council to say they had a say in how their school (43% compared with 19%).

Table 2.12, 2.13

Table 2.12 Whether respondent's school has a school council by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether school has a school council	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	63	65	67	65
No	24	23	23	24
Don't know	13	11	11	12
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Table 2.13 Whether children feel they have a say in how their school is run by whether school has a school council

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>			
Whether has a school council	Percentage who felt they had a say in how their school was run		
	Percentages		Respondents aged 8 to 10
Yes - has a school council	43		638
No	19		232
All	35		984

Data for respondents who said that they did not know whether they had a school council is not shown. These are included in figures for All respondents.

Trusting organisations

As can be seen from figure 2.1, young people were most likely to trust the police and teachers. Eighty-six per cent of young people said they trusted the police and 81% trusted teachers 'a lot' or 'a fair amount'. The number of young people who trusted television was also relatively high (62%), however, trust in politicians (39%) and newspapers (24%) was low. The adult Citizenship Survey also asked adults about the extent to which they trusted the police. Variations between adult's and young people's views are discussed in chapter nine.

Figure 2.1, Table 2.14

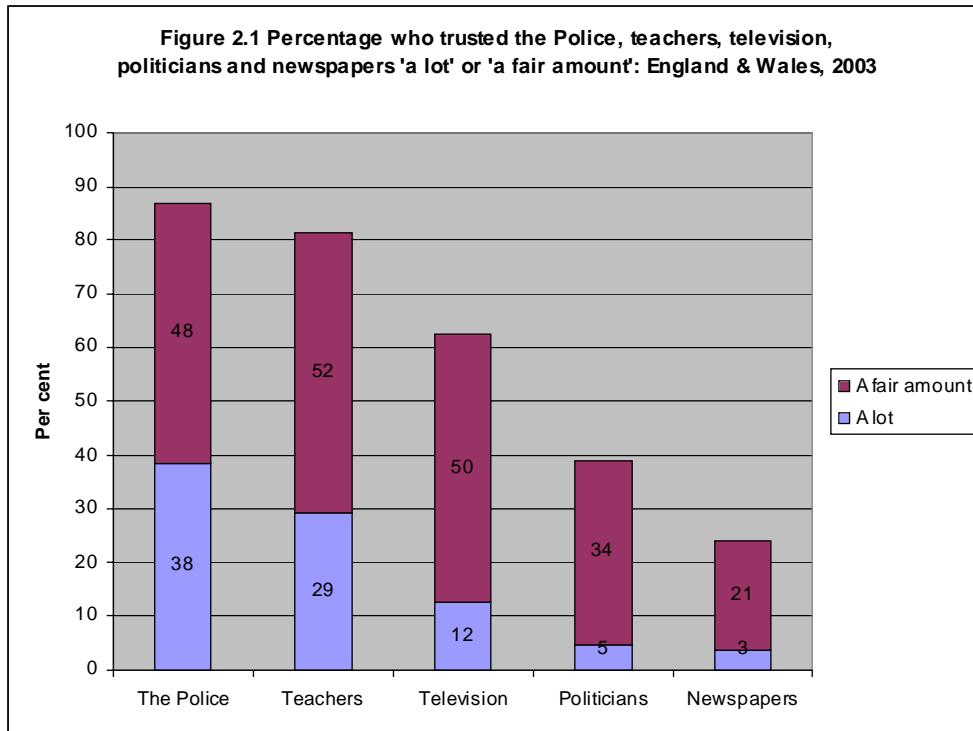


Table 2.14 Trust in teachers, the police, politicians, newspapers and television

England & Wales 2003

	Teachers	The police	Politicians	Newspapers	Television
A lot	29	38	5	3	12
A fair amount	52	48	34	21	50
Not very much	15	10	32	52	31
Not at all	3	2	9	20	4
Don't know	0	1	20	4	3
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	1,666	1,666	1,666	1,666	1,666

Demographic characteristics associated with trust

Age

Overall, younger respondents were more likely to express trust in organisations than older respondents. However, the decline in trust by age occurred at different ages for different organisations.

Trust in politicians and television was greatest among those aged 11 to 13 after which point it decreased. Between 66% and 67% of 11 to 13 year olds said they trusted television compared with 59% of 14 year olds and 54% of 15 year olds.

In terms of the police and newspapers, the proportion of young people expressing trust began to decline at 12 years of age. The proportion saying they trusted the police fell from 94% among 11 year olds to 74% among 15 year olds.

Table 2.15

Sex

Girls were slightly more likely than boys to say they trusted the police and politicians (90% compared with 84% and 41% compared with 37%). However, boys were more likely to trust the media than girls – 27% said they trusted newspapers compared with 20% of girls. Likewise, the proportion saying they trusted television decreased from 67% among boys to 57% among girls.

Table 2.15

Table 2.15 Trust in teachers, the police, politicians, newspapers and television by age and sex

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
	Teachers	The police	Politicians	Newspapers	Television	
	Percentages who trust a lot or a fair amount					Respondents aged 11 to 15
Age						
11	87	94	42	32	67	325
12	78	89	46	26	67	329
13	81	89	47	26	66	330
14	79	87	32	19	59	327
15	81	74	28	18	54	355
Sex						
Male	81	84	37	27	67	896
Female	82	90	41	20	57	770
All	81	87	39	24	63	1,666

Ethnic group

There were variations in the extent to which people from different ethnic groups trusted teachers, the police, politicians, newspapers and television.

Indians and Bangladeshis were more likely than most ethnic groups to trust teachers. Ninety-three percent of Indians and 90% of Bangladeshis said they trusted teachers compared with 81% of whites, 78% of black Africans and 74% of mixed race young people. The proportions for Pakistanis and black Caribbeans were in between (85%).

Young Indian people were the most likely to say they trusted the police (97%). The proportions for the other ethnic groups ranged from 72% of black Africans to 87% of young white people. The pattern was similar for trusting politicians - 48% of Indians said they trusted politicians, compared with 31% to 39% of young people from other ethnic groups.

Black African and Asian young people were the most likely to say they trusted the newspapers (39% and 34%). The proportions among white, black Caribbean and mixed race young people were lower (23%, 23% and 20%).

With regard to trusting television, young white people were most likely to report positive views. Sixty-four per cent of white young people said they trusted television, compared with 46% of black Caribbeans, 53% of Asians and 56% of black Africans.

Table 2.16

Table 2.16 Trust in teachers, the police, politicians, newspapers and television by ethnic group

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Ethnic group	Teachers	The police	Politicians	Newspapers	Television	
<i>Percentages who trust a lot or a fair amount</i>						<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
White	81	87	39	23	64	817
All Asian	88	87	43	34	53	493
Indian	93	97	48	33	50	190
Pakistani	85	81	37	33	54	148
Bangladeshi	90	78	33	30	50	104
All Black	79	76	33	29	53	209
Caribbean	85	79	31	23	46	95
African	78	72	33	39	56	98
Mixed race	74	81	35	20	52	75
All	81	87	39	24	62	1,666

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Variations by deprivation

As Table 2.17 shows, young people living in affluent areas were generally more likely to trust the police than those living in deprived² areas. Ninety-two per cent of young people living in the 20% least deprived areas said they trusted the police, compared with 81% of young people living in the 20% most deprived areas. There was no clear pattern of variation for the other measures.

Table 2.17

Table 2.17 Trust in teachers, the police, politicians, newspapers and television by Index of Multiple Deprivation

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Index of Multiple Deprivation for England ¹	Teachers	The police	Politicians	Newspapers	Television	
<i>Percentages who trust a lot or a fair amount</i>						<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
1 to 2 Least deprived	81	92	35	24	62	167
3 to 4	86	89	44	20	59	156
5 to 6	78	89	40	21	67	190
7 to 8	83	86	34	27	68	269
9 to 10 Most Deprived	79	81	40	25	60	774
All	81	87	39	24	63	1,615

¹ The Index is not available for Wales.

² Respondents were allocated to one of five quintile groups depending on the Index of Multiple Deprivation score for the ward in which they live. Respondents in the top quintile lived in the 20% least deprived areas in England, while those in the bottom quintile lived in the 20% most deprived areas.

3 Racial prejudice and discrimination

Promoting race equality and eradicating discrimination is a key part of building strong, cohesive communities. The Home Office has specifically defined targets relating to race equality and discrimination and recognising diversity and promoting race equality is an implicit and central element of policy delivery across all government departments. The Home Office and DfES are particularly concerned with promoting race equality amongst young people. The DfES aims to ensure equality of opportunity in education, whilst the Race Equality, Faith Community and Community Cohesion Units in the Home Office are all keen to ensure that young people engage with initiatives and policies.

The Children's and Young People's Survey is one of the few quantitative data sources available on young people's views and experiences of prejudice and discrimination.

Key Findings

- Ninety-four per cent of young people aged 12 to 15 years thought there was racial prejudice in Britain today.
- White young people were more likely to feel there was *a lot* of prejudice than those from minority ethnic groups - 44% of white respondents said there was a lot of racial prejudice in Britain, compared with 32% of black and mixed race respondents and 27% of Asian respondents.
- White and Asian young people had the most negative views about racial prejudice in the future - 22% of white and 23% of Asian young people expected there would be more racial prejudice in Britain in five years time compared with 15% of black and 14% of mixed race respondents.
- Of the young people who believed there was racial prejudice in Britain, half cited prejudice against black and Asian people (50% and 49%). The next most commonly mentioned were 'asylum-seekers' or 'refugees' (15%) and Chinese people (10%).
- Out of a range of public sector organisations, the police were considered to be most discriminatory: 17% of young people said the police would treat them worse or better than other races; the corresponding proportions for a school and GP practice were just 9% and 5%.
- Young people from minority ethnic backgrounds were much more likely than white young people to feel they had been discriminated against. Thirty-three per cent of black respondents and 31% of Asian respondents said they had been discriminated against because of their race or colour, compared with 8% of white respondents.
- Of young people who had a religion, 6% said they had been discriminated against because of their religion. Over a half (59%) of these respondents said they were discriminated against at school.
- Muslims were twice as likely as Hindus and four times as likely as Christians to say they had been discriminated against because of their religion (21% compared with 9% and 5%). The corresponding proportion for Sikhs was in between, at 14%.

Perceptions of racial prejudice

Ninety-four per cent of young people aged 12 to 15² thought there was racial prejudice in Britain today – 43% thought there was ‘a lot’ and 51% thought there was ‘some’. Only 2% thought there was no prejudice. The remaining 4% were unable to give a view.

Twenty-one per cent of young people aged 12 to 15 expected there would be more racial prejudice in Britain in five years time, 41% expected it to remain the same and 27% felt there would be less prejudice in the future. Eleven per cent of young people were unable to give an opinion.

Tables 3.1, 3.2

Table 3.1 Whether there is racial prejudice in Britain today by age

<i>England & Wales, 2003</i>					
Whether there is racial prejudice in Britain today	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%
There is a lot of racial prejudice	41	42	44	44	43
There is some racial prejudice	48	51	54	51	51
There is no racial prejudice	3	2	1	2	2
Don't know/Can't say	8	5	1	3	4
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	329	330	327	355	1,341

Table 3.2 Amount of racial prejudice there will be in Britain in five years time by age

<i>England & Wales, 2003</i>					
Amount of racial prejudice there will be in Britain in five years time	Age				All
	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%
Less racial prejudice than now	25	26	26	33	27
About the same amount	40	43	41	39	41
More than there is now	21	16	23	25	21
Don't know/Can't say	14	15	11	3	11
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	329	330	327	355	1,341

Socio-demographic characteristics associated with young people's perceptions of racial prejudice

Age and sex

Views about the extent of racial prejudice in Britain today differed little by age. Young people aged 15 expressed the most positive views about racial prejudice in the future. Thirty-three per cent of 15 year olds expected there to be less prejudice in Britain in the future, compared with 25% of 12 year olds and 26% of 13 and 14 year olds. Young people aged 15 were also the most likely to have expressed an opinion –

² Because of the complex subject matter, questions about racial prejudice and discrimination were only asked of young people aged 12 to 15. It was also anticipated that some young people may have difficulty understanding what was meant by ‘racial prejudice’ and ‘discrimination’. To try to ensure young people were aware of the meanings of these concepts, interviewers provided young people with a description of ‘racial prejudice’ before asking the questions.

only 3% said they didn't know or couldn't say, compared with between 11% and 15% of those aged 12 to 14.

Tables 3.1, 3.2

Girls had more negative perceptions about racial prejudice than boys. Forty-six per cent of girls thought there was a lot of prejudice in Britain today, compared with 39% of boys. Similarly, 24% of girls felt there would be more racial prejudice in five years time, compared with 18% among boys. The greater likelihood for females to express pessimistic views about racial prejudice in Britain was also observed among adults, although the question asked of adults was slightly different³.

Table 3.3

Table 3.3 Perceptions of racial prejudice by sex

<i>England & Wales, 2003</i>				
Sex	Percentage who said there was a lot of racial prejudice in Britain today	Percentage who said there would be more racial prejudice in five years time	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>
Male	39	18	728	
Female	46	24	613	
All	43	21	1,341	

Ethnic group

White and black Caribbean young people were more likely than black Africans, Pakistanis and Indians to say there was a lot of racial prejudice in Britain today (44% and 40% compared with 27%, 26% and 25%). The proportions for Bangladeshis and mixed race young people were in between at 33% and 32% respectively. Comparisons with the adult survey showed that white adults also had the most negative views about racial prejudice.

For the question about racial prejudice in the future, the pattern was different. Pakistanis were the most likely to say there would be more racial prejudice in Britain in the future (32%), followed by whites and black Caribbeans (22%), black Africans, Bangladeshis and people of mixed race (14%) and Indians (12%).

Figure 3.1, Table 3.4

Socio-economic group

Young people living in households where the Household Reference Person (HRP) was in a middle or lower socio-economic group expressed the most negative views about the extent of racial prejudice in Britain today. Among young people living in households where the HRP was in a semi-routine and routine occupations group, 47% said there was a lot of racial prejudice in Britain today compared with 37% of young people living in households where the HRP was in a managerial or professional occupations group.

³ On the adult survey, respondents were asked whether they thought there was less, more or about the same amount of racial prejudice in Britain today, compared with five years ago.

The pattern was more marked on the second measure. As figure 3.2 shows, young people living in households where the HRP had never worked or was long-term unemployed reported much more negative views than all other young people. Forty-nine per cent of young people living in households where the HRP had never worked or was long-term unemployed expected there to be more racial prejudice in the future. Among those living in households where the HRP was in a higher socio-economic group the proportions were considerably lower – between 19% and 24% expected there would be more racial prejudice in the future.

Figure 3.2, Table 3.5

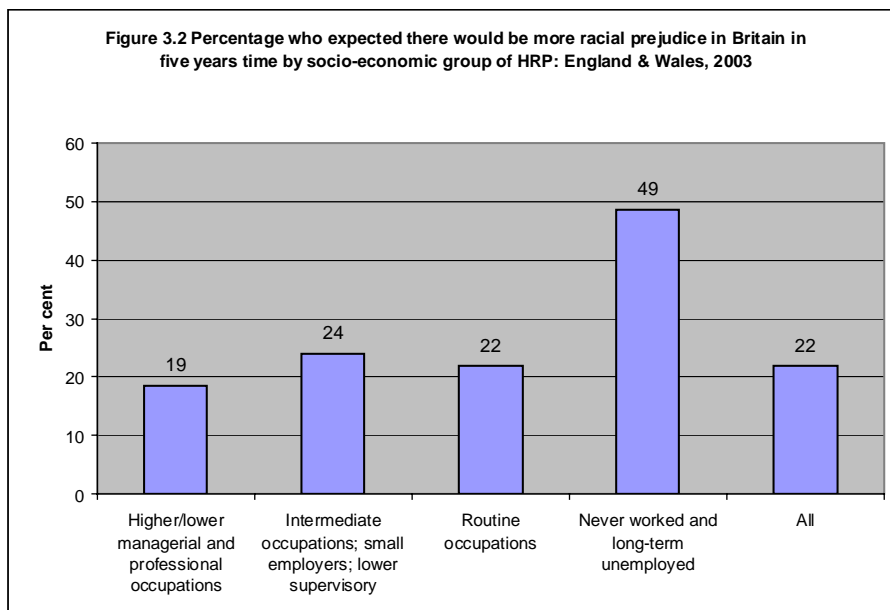
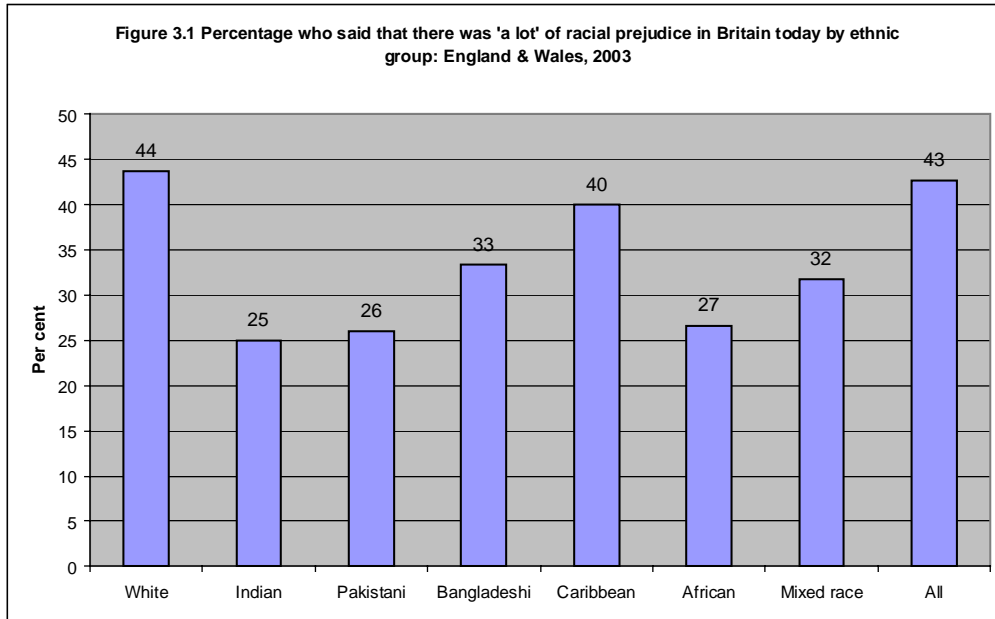


Table 3.4 Perceptions of racial prejudice by ethnic group

England & Wales, 2003

	White	Asian			Black			Mixed race	All	
	%	All	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	All	Caribbean	African	%	
Whether there is racial prejudice in Britain today										
There is a lot of racial prejudice	44	27	25	26	33	32	40	27	32	43
There is some racial prejudice	50	67	71	65	67	64	50	67	50	51
There is no racial prejudice	2	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	14	2
Don't know/can't say	4	3	4	4	0	4	10	7	5	5
Amount of racial prejudice there will be in Britain in five years time										
Less than there is now	27	26	28	23	43	38	33	36	24	27
About the same amount	41	38	48	32	29	27	33	29	57	41
More than there is now	22	23	12	32	14	15	22	14	14	21
Don't know/can't say	10	13	12	14	14	19	11	21	5	11
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	<i>653</i>	<i>403</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>122</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>161</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>1,339</i>

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Table 3.5 Perceptions of racial prejudice by socio-economic classification of HRP

England & Wales, 2003

Socio-economic classification of HRP	Percentage who said there was a lot of racial prejudice in Britain today	Percentage who said there would be more racial prejudice in five years time	Percentages	Respondents aged 12 to 15
Higher and lower managerial and professional occupations		37	19	419
Intermediate occupations; small employers and own account workers; lower supervisory and technical		47	24	351
Semi-routine and routine occupations		47	22	372
Never worked and long-term unemployed		53	49	106
All		43	22	1,255

Data for respondents living in households where the HRP is a full-time student are excluded due to small number of respondents. These are included in the figures for All respondents.

Household type

Young people living with a lone parent were more likely to hold negative views about racial prejudice than those living in a two-parent household. Fifty-three per cent of young people living with a lone parent thought there was a lot of racial prejudice in Britain today, compared with just 39% of those living with two parents. Similarly, young people living with a lone parent were more likely to expect there would be more prejudice in the future than those living with two parents (26% compared with 20%).

One possible reason for this difference is that young people living in lone parent households are less likely to live in households where the HRP is in a higher socio-

economic group. As discussed above, young people living in households where the HRP was in a managerial or professional occupations group were most likely to hold positive views. We undertook more detailed analysis to examine this⁴. The analysis suggests that the negative views among young people living with a lone parent is at least partly attributable to the socio-economic classification of the household. Therefore amongst households where the HRP was in a managerial or occupational professions group, there was no significant difference between the percentage of young people living in lone parent or two parent households who thought there was a lot of racial prejudice (34% and 36%).

Tables 3.6, 3.7

Table 3.6 Perceptions of racial prejudice by household type

England & Wales, 2003

Household type	Percentage who said there was a lot of racial prejudice in Britain today	Percentage who said there would be more racial prejudice in five years time	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>
Couple with dependent child/children	39	20	20	916
Lone parent with dependent child/children	53	26	26	356
Two or more single or multiple person family units	38	13	13	65
All	43	21	21	1,341

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Table 3.7 Percentage who said there was a lot of racial prejudice in Britain today, among those living in households where the HRP is in a managerial or professional occupations group, by household type

England & Wales, 2003

Household type	Percentage who said that there was a lot of racial prejudice in Britain today	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>
Couple with dependent child/children	36	36	339
Lone parent with dependent child/children	34	34	68
All	36	36	419

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Which groups is there perceived to be prejudice against today?

Young people who said there was racial prejudice in Britain were asked which groups there was a lot or some prejudice against⁵.

⁴ The views of young people living with lone parents and two parents were compared, in households where the HRP was in a managerial or professional occupations group.

⁵ To avoid leading respondents, no showcards were used and interviewers recorded respondents' unprompted answers to a concealed on screen list. In order to capture a wide range of answers, the list

Among young people who felt there was racial prejudice in Britain, one half cited prejudice against black and Asian people⁶ (50% and 49%). Next to prejudice against blacks and Asians, the most commonly mentioned groups were ‘asylum-seekers’ or ‘refugees’ (15%) and Chinese people (10%). A relatively large proportion of young people were unable to give a view (30%).

Table 3.8

Table 3.8 Groups there is racial prejudice against today by age

<i>England & Wales, 2003</i>					
Groups there is racial prejudice against	Age				All
	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%
Black people	48	53	54	43	50
Asian people	38	48	51	60	49
Asylum seekers/Refugees	9	13	20	17	15
Chinese people	9	11	12	10	10
New Immigrants	3	5	8	9	6
White people	3	4	9	6	6
Mixed race people	6	4	10	6	6
Jews	3	8	5	6	5
Sikhs	3	5	2	6	4
Hindus	2	4	2	6	3
Buddhists	1	1	1	4	2
Other (specify)	6	14	8	9	9
Don't know/Can't explain	30	33	25	31	30
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15 who said there was racial prejudice in Britain today</i>	293	303	309	336	1,241

Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one group.

Variations by age

Among young people who thought there was racial prejudice in Britain today, older respondents were more likely than younger respondents to feel there was more prejudice against Asian people and asylum-seekers or refugees. For example, among young people aged 15 who thought there was racial prejudice in Britain today, 60% cited prejudice against Asians and 17% cited prejudice against asylum-seekers or refugees. Among young people aged 12 who thought there was prejudice in Britain today, the equivalent proportions were 38% and 9%.

Table 3.8

Variations by ethnicity

Young people from minority ethnic groups who thought there was prejudice in Britain tended to be referring, primarily, to prejudice against their own ethnic groups. Hence, Bangladeshi and Pakistani young people were more likely than other young people to feel there was prejudice against Asian people – 73% and 68% cited prejudice against Asian people respectively. Among Indians, the proportion was very similar to that for whites (45%). Likewise, black young people who said there was prejudice in Britain

included racial groups, religious groups and generic groups such as ‘asylum seekers/refugees’ and ‘new immigrants’. Respondents could mention as many groups as they wished.

⁶ During the interview, references to Asian or black sub-groups, for example Pakistani, or African, were not recorded separately but coded to the relevant merged ethnic group, either Asian or Black.

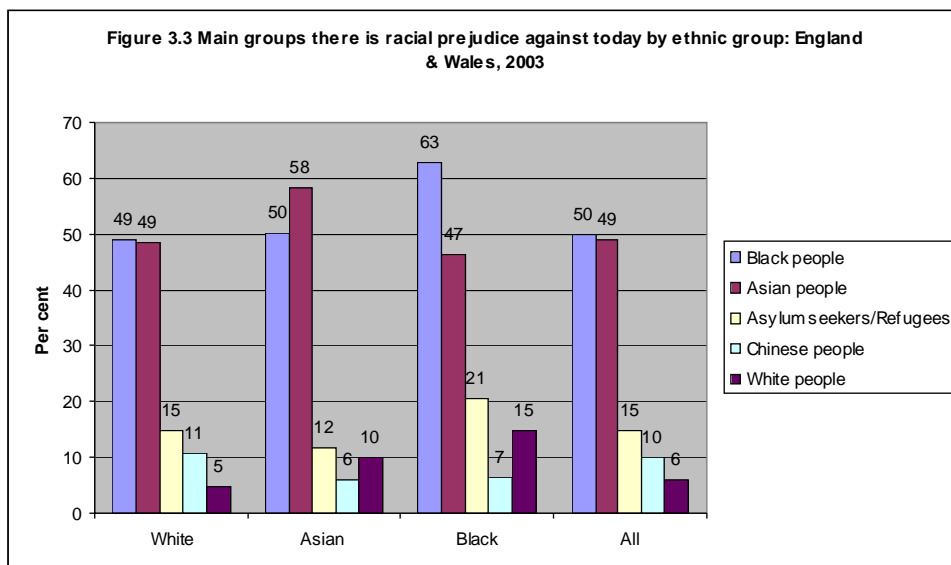
were more likely than white and Asian young people to cite prejudice against black people (63% compared with 49% and 50%).

Generally, young people from minority ethnic groups were also more likely to believe there was prejudice against white people than white young people. For example, among mixed race, Bangladeshi, black and Pakistani young people the proportions saying there was prejudice against white people were 25%, 18%, 15% and 12%. The proportion among young white people was just 5%. Conversely, mixed race and white young people were more likely than black African or Asian young people to cite prejudice against Chinese people (21% and 11% compared with 6%).

Figure 3.3, Table 3.9

Table 3.9 Groups there is racial prejudice against today by ethnic group

Groups there is racial prejudice against	England & Wales, 2003										
	White		Asian			Black			Mixed race		All
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Black people	49	50	53	42	55	63	64	66	73	50	
Asian people	49	58	45	68	73	47	51	47	59	49	
Asylum seekers/Refugees	15	12	17	6	16	21	25	19	15	15	
Chinese people	11	6	5	7	3	7	10	6	21	10	
New Immigrants	6	7	9	2	11	11	17	8	7	6	
White people	5	10	8	12	18	15	16	17	25	6	
Mixed race people	6	4	5	1	10	9	10	9	9	6	
Jews	5	5	9	2	6	8	13	5	4	5	
Sikhs	4	5	11	0	5	2	2	2	5	4	
Hindus	3	7	11	2	7	4	4	4	7	3	
Buddhists	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	
Other	9	7	7	6	2	5	2	3	10	9	
Don't know/can't explain	30	35	45	27	29	22	20	25	24	30	
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15 who said there was racial prejudice in Britain today</i>	617	369	147	114	69	145	67	69	58	1,239	

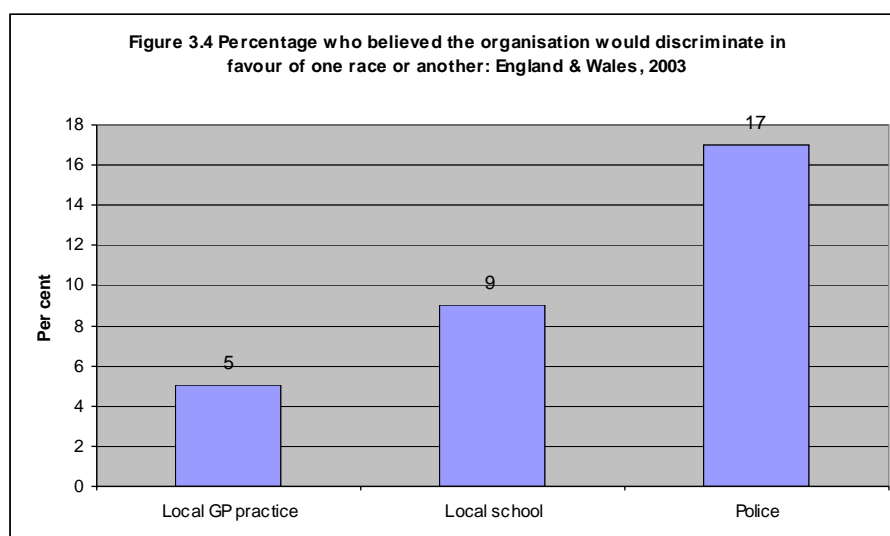


Do young people feel they would be treated worse, the same or better than people of other races by organisations

All young people aged 12 to 15 years were asked how they thought they would be treated by a local doctor's practice, a local school and the police⁷ compared with people of other races. Some young people felt unable to give a view. The proportion of young people who said 'don't know' was highest for the Police, with whom they probably have less contact.

The majority of all young people felt they would be treated the same as people of other races. However, young people expressed varying beliefs about how different organisations would treat them. Figure 3.4 shows the percentages of young people who expected the organisations to treat them better or worse than people of other races. By expressing either of these views, young people are judging the organisation to be discriminatory. Young people were most likely to believe the police would discriminate. Seventeen per cent said the police would treat them worse or better than other races, the corresponding proportions for a school and GP practice were just 9% and 5%.

Figure 3.4



Variations by age

Young people's views about a GP practice showed very little variation by age - between 4% and 6% of young people felt they would be treated worse or better than people of other races.

Young people aged 15 had heightened perceptions of discrimination with regard to the police - 21% believed they would be treated worse or better than people of other races. Among 12 to 14 year olds the proportions ranged from 13% to 16%.

Table 3.10

⁷ Young people were told it did not matter whether they had had any contact with the organisation, it was their 'perceptions' that were being sought.

Table 3.10 How young people would be treated by the police, doctor's practice and school by age

<i>England & Wales, 2003</i>					
How would be treated by organisation	Age				All
	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%
Local GP practice					
Treated worse than other races	0	1	1	1	1
Treated the same as other races	88	94	92	92	92
Treated better than other races	6	3	4	4	4
Don't know	6	1	3	3	3
Local school					
Treated worse than other races	7	2	4	5	4
Treated the same as other races	80	95	87	88	87
Treated better than other races	7	2	5	4	5
Don't know	6	1	4	4	4
Police					
Treated worse than other races	2	3	7	6	5
Treated the same as other races	72	79	73	71	74
Treated better than other races	14	10	9	15	12
Don't know	12	8	11	8	10
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	329	330	327	355	1,341

Variations by ethnic group

Variations between ethnic groups occurred mainly on the question about treatment by the police. Young people from minority ethnic groups were more likely than young white people to feel the police would treat them worse than other races and, conversely, white young people were more likely to feel they would be treated better than others. Among young people from minority ethnic groups, young black people were more likely than Indian, Pakistani and mixed race young people to feel they would be discriminated against (23% compared with 12%, 10% and 9%). The proportion for Bangladeshis was 17%. Their view was shared by white young people, 13% of whom believed that as white people they would be treated better by the police than other races.

As with views about the police, black Caribbeans were most likely to feel a school would discriminate against them – 11% reported this, compared with 4% and 3% of white and Asian young people.

Table 3.11

Table 3.11 Percentage who expect the police, local GP practice and local school to treat them worse or better than other races by ethnic group

How would be treated by organisation	England & Wales, 2003									
	White	Asian			Black			Mixed race	All	
		All	Indian	Pakistani	Banglade	All	Caribbea			African
<i>Percentages</i>										
Local GP practice										
treated worse than others	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
treated better than others	4	7	4	10	0	4	0	0	0	4
Local school										
treated worse than others	4	3	0	4	0	11	11	7	5	4
treated better than others	5	5	4	9	0	4	0	0	0	5
Police										
treated worse than others	4	14	12	10	17	23	22	21	9	4
treated better than others	13	5	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	12
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	<i>653</i>	<i>403</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>122</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>161</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>1,339</i>

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Young people's experience of religious and racial discrimination

Fifty per cent of young people said they had a religion. The religions mentioned by young people were Christian⁸ (87%), Islam (8%), Hinduism (2%), Judaism (2%) and Sikhism (1%). One per cent of young people said 'other'.

Table 3.12

Table 3.12 Whether respondent has a religion and respondent's religion

England & Wales, 2003	
	%
Whether has a religion	
Yes	50
No	46
Don't know	5
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,666</i>
Religion	
Christianity ¹	87
Islam (Muslim)	8
Hinduism	2
Judaism (Jewish)	2
Sikhism	1
Other	1
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who have a religion</i>	<i>1,133</i>

¹ Includes Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations

⁸ Christian included Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations.

Young people's experience of religious discrimination

Among young people aged 12 to 15 who had a religion, 6% said they had been discriminated against because of their religion. The majority of these young people (59%) said they were discriminated against at school, 10% said it happened somewhere else and 31% said it happened at school and somewhere else.

Tables 3.13, 3.14

Table 3.13 Whether discriminated against because of religion and race or colour

<i>England & Wales, 2003</i>	
	%
Whether discriminated against because of religion	
Yes	6
No	93
Don't know	
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15 who had a religion</i>	912
Whether discriminated against because of colour or race	
Yes	11
No	89
Don't know	1
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	1,316

Table 3.14 Place where religious discrimination and racial discrimination happened

<i>England & Wales, 2003</i>	
	%
Place where religious discrimination happened	
School	59
Somewhere else	10
School and somewhere else	31
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15 who said they had been discriminated against because of their religion</i>	106
Place where racial discrimination happened	
School	49
Somewhere else	29
School and somewhere else	22
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15 who said they had been discriminated against because of their race or colour</i>	245

Muslim young people were much more likely to say they had experienced religious discrimination than Hindu and Christian young people. Muslims were twice as likely as Hindu and four times as likely as Christians to say they had been discriminated against because of their religion (21% compared with 9% and 5%). The corresponding proportion for Sikhs was in between at 14 %.

Figure 3.5 Table 3.15

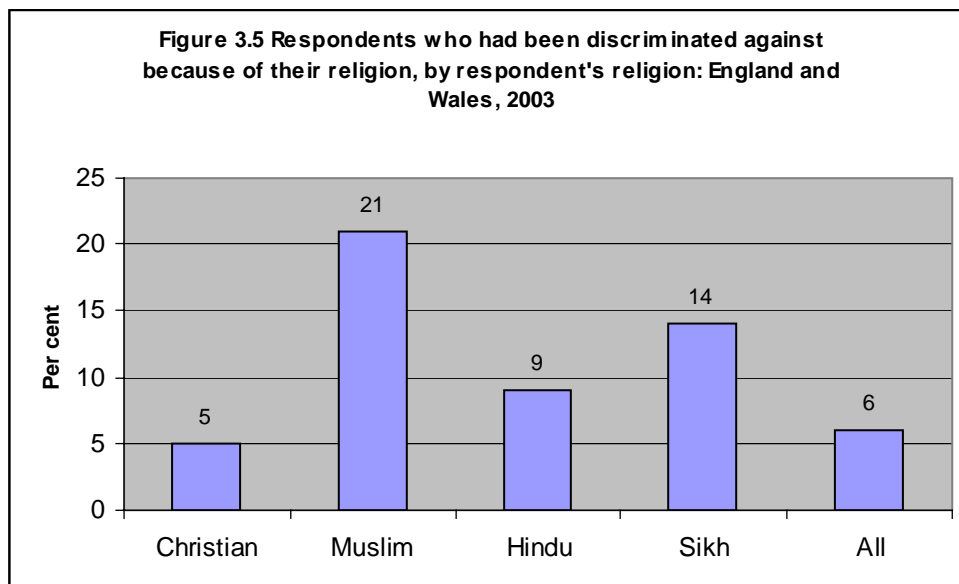


Table 3.15 Percentage who had been discriminated against because of their religion by respondents' religion

England & Wales, 2003

Religion	Had been discriminated against because of their religion	<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15 who had a religion</i>	
		<i>Percentages</i>	
Christianity ¹	5		452
Islam (Muslim)	21		298
Hinduism	9		80
Sikhism	14		54
All	6		911

Data for respondents who are Jewish or 'Other' are excluded due to small number of respondents. These are included in the figures for 'All' respondents.

¹ Includes Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations

Young people's experience of racial discrimination

Eleven per cent of young people aged 12 to 15 said they had been discriminated against because of their race or colour. Around a half of these young people (49%) said they had been discriminated against at school, 29% said somewhere else and 22% said at school and somewhere else.

Tables 3.13, 3.14

Young people from minority ethnic backgrounds were much more likely than white young people to feel they had been treated unfairly because of their race. Among young people aged 12 to 15 from minority ethnic groups, the proportion saying they had been discriminated against was highest among black Africans and mixed race young people (43% and 40%). The proportions for the other minority ethnic groups ranged from 22% of black Caribbeans to 33% of Pakistanis.

Table 3.16

Table 3.16 Percentage who had been discriminated against because of their race or colour by ethnic group

<i>England & Wales, 2003</i>		
Ethnic group	Had been discriminated against because of their race or colour	
	Percentages	Respondents aged 12 to 15
White	8	642
All Asian	31	394
Indian	25	157
Pakistani	33	119
Bangladeshi	29	77
All Black	33	157
Caribbean	22	72
African	43	74
Mixed race	40	61
All	11	1,314

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Perceptions of prejudice against young people

In order to gain a measure of perceptions of prejudice against young people, respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with the statement 'young people are always treated like second-class citizens in shops or cafes'. Overall, seventy-four per cent of young people agreed with the statement.

Table 3.17

Table 3.17 Agreement with statement about prejudice against young people by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>					
	Age				
	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%
Young people are always treated like second-class citizens in shops and cafes					
Definitely agree	24	25	22	22	23
Tend to agree	53	50	53	48	51
Tend to disagree	11	16	20	20	17
Definitely disagree	5	1	3	4	4
Don't know	7	7	2	7	6
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	329	330	327	355	1,341

Variations by ethnic group

Black Caribbean and mixed race young people were most likely to agree with the statement (89% and 83%). Among other groups, the proportions ranged from 68% to 74%.

Table 3.18

Table 3.18 Agreement with statement about prejudice against young people by ethnic group

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>		
	Young people are always treated like second-class citizens in shops or cafes	
	<i>Percentages saying they definitely or tend to agree</i>	<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>
White	74	653
All Asian	67	403
Indian	71	160
Pakistani	68	122
Bangladeshi	71	78
All Black	77	161
Caribbean	89	73
African	71	77
Mixed race	83	62
All	74	1,339

Variations by type of area (Non-rural or rural)

Young people living in non-rural areas were more likely to agree that young people were treated like second class citizens in shops or cafes than those living in rural areas - 77% compared with 67%.

Table 3.19

Table 3.19 Agreement with statement about prejudice against young people by whether respondent lives in a rural or non-rural area in England

<i>England 2003</i>			
	Non-rural	Rural	All
	<i>Percentages saying they definitely or tend to agree</i>		
Young people are always treated like second-class citizens in shops and cafes	77	67	74
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	<i>1,089</i>	<i>202</i>	<i>1,291</i>

The rural/non-rural classification is not available for Wales. Figures for 'All' include Wales.

4 Neighbourhood and school

People's attitudes to their neighbourhood, including the extent to which they feel safe in their neighbourhood and trust their neighbours, may influence the extent to which they participate in their communities. Similarly, ensuring that children and young people feel safe and enjoy school can promote their educational achievement and the extent to which they play an active, full role in their schools.

This chapter provides information on children's and young people's feelings of trust and safety in their neighbourhood and school.

Key Findings

- Ninety-three per cent of young people said they enjoyed living in their neighbourhood and 78% said many or some people in their neighbourhood could be trusted.
- The majority (92%) of young people felt either very safe (49%) or fairly safe (43%) walking alone in their neighbourhood during the day.
- Boys were more likely than girls to feel safe: 53% of boys said they felt very safe walking alone in the neighbourhood in the day, compared with 44% of girls.
- Young people from white or Asian ethnic groups were more likely than young black people to say they enjoyed living in their neighbourhood. Sixty-three per cent of Asian and 59% of white young people said they enjoyed living in their neighbourhood a lot, compared with 52% of black young people.
- White young people were more likely than young people from Asian or black ethnic groups to say many people in their neighbourhood could be trusted (33% compared with 24% and 21%).
- Young people living in more affluent areas were more likely than those living in deprived areas to express positive views about their neighbourhood. Sixty-four per cent of young people living in the least deprived areas said they enjoyed living in their neighbourhood a lot, compared with 57% of those living in the most deprived areas. Young people living in the least deprived areas were also twice as likely as those living in the most deprived areas to say that many people in their neighbourhood could be trusted (39% compared with 19%).
- Young people living in rural areas were more likely than those living in non-rural areas to believe many people in their neighbourhood could be trusted (46% compared with 26%).
- Seventy-one per cent of young people said that they enjoyed school and 95% of young people said that they felt safe at school.
- Enjoyment of school generally declined with age, the proportion of young people saying they enjoyed school a lot decreased from 26% among those aged 11 to 18% among those aged 15.

Young people's views about their neighbourhood

The vast majority of young people said they enjoyed living in their neighbourhood⁹ a lot or a little (93%) and that many or some people in their neighbourhood could be trusted (78%). Whilst the majority (55%) of young people believed that if they lost a bag in their neighbourhood it would not be returned, quite a high proportion of young people (45%) thought it would be returned to them intact.

The majority (92%) of young people said they felt either very safe (49%) or fairly safe (43%) walking alone in their neighbourhood during the day. Only 7% said they felt a bit unsafe and only 1% said they felt very unsafe. Similarly, a relatively high proportion, 76% said they went to the local shops or park on their own. Among those who said they felt unsafe in their neighbourhood, the most commonly cited reasons were fear of abduction or kidnapping by strangers (48%), bullying from other children or teenagers (35%), danger from cars or traffic (12%) and dogs (4%).

Tables 4.1 to 4.6

Table 4.1 Whether enjoys living in the neighbourhood by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Whether enjoys living in the neighbourhood	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes, a lot	67	56	63	57	53	59
Yes, a little	29	33	31	37	38	34
No	3	10	6	6	9	7
Just moved here	1	1	0	0	0	0
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>325</i>	<i>329</i>	<i>330</i>	<i>327</i>	<i>355</i>	<i>1,666</i>

Table 4.2 Number of people in the neighbourhood who could be trusted by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Number of people in the neighbourhood who could be trusted	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Many people	25	28	37	31	37	32
Some people	51	49	40	47	42	46
A few people	20	19	19	19	21	20
None	3	2	3	2	1	2
Just moved here	1	1	1	0	0	1
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>321</i>	<i>326</i>	<i>328</i>	<i>324</i>	<i>353</i>	<i>1,652</i>

⁹ The definition of 'neighbourhood' was left to the respondent.

Table 4.3 Likelihood of bag being returned if lost in neighbourhood by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Likelihood of bag being returned if lost in neighbourhood	Age					
	11	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very likely	11	6	6	6	5	7
Quite likely	42	36	38	40	34	38
Not very likely	33	35	35	36	40	35
Not at all likely	15	23	21	19	22	20
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	327	326	324	353	1,653

Table 4.4 Whether feels safe walking alone in neighbourhood in the daytime by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Whether feels safe walking alone in neighbourhood in the daytime	Age					
	11	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very safe	43	41	51	49	59	49
Fairly safe	48	49	41	41	37	43
A bit unsafe	7	8	6	8	5	7
Very unsafe	2	2	1	1	0	1
Never go out alone	0	0	0	1	0	0
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	325	329	330	327	355	1,666

Table 4.5 Reasons for feeling unsafe in the neighbourhood

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>	
Reasons for feeling unsafe	
	<i>Percentages¹</i>
Stranger danger/abduction/kidnapping	48
Children/teenagers/bullying	35
Cars/traffic	12
Dogs	4
Other (specify)	16
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who said they felt unsafe</i>	164

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could report more than one reason.

Table 4.6 Whether goes to the local shops or local park alone by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Whether goes to the local shop or local park alone	Age					
	11	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	62	72	79	79	90	76
No	38	28	21	21	10	24
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	325	329	330	327	355	1,666

Demographic characteristics associated with young people's views about their neighbourhood

Age

Older respondents were generally more likely than their younger counterparts to feel that people in their neighbourhood could be trusted. For example, 37% of 15 year olds said many people could be trusted compared with 25% of 11 year olds. The higher proportion among older respondents may be attributable to them knowing more people in the neighbourhood. Eleven year olds were most likely to say their bag would be returned intact if lost: 11% reported this compared with 6% of 12 to 14 year olds and 5% of 15 year olds.

As might be expected, as young people get older they are more likely to go out without their parents and begin to feel safer on their own. Thus, the proportion of young people who went to the local shops or park on their own increased from 62% among 11 year olds to 90% among 15 year olds. Similarly, 59% of 15 year olds said that they felt very safe walking alone in their neighbourhood during the daytime, compared with just 43% of 11 year olds.

Tables 4.1 to 4.4, 4.6

Sex

Views about the neighbourhood varied by sex. Girls were slightly more likely than boys to say that many people in their neighbourhood could be trusted (35% compared with 29%) and that it was very likely that if lost, their bag would be returned to them intact (9% compared with 4%).

On the questions about feeling safe walking alone in the neighbourhood during the day and going to the local shops or park on their own, the pattern was reversed. Fifty-three per cent of boys said that they felt very safe walking alone in the neighbourhood in the day, compared with 44% of girls. Likewise, the proportion of young people who went to the local shops or park alone was higher among boys than girls (81% compared with 72%). The greater likelihood of girls feeling unsafe was mainly attributable to their fear of abduction or kidnapping by strangers. Among those who said they felt unsafe walking alone in the neighbourhood in the day, 62% of girls cited fear of abduction or kidnapping by strangers compared with just 34% of boys.

Tables 4.7, 4.8

Table 4.7 Views about the neighbourhood by sex

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Sex	Enjoyed living in the neighbourhood 'a lot'	Thought 'many' people in neighbourhood could be trusted	Believed it 'very likely' that bag would be returned intact	Felt 'very safe' walking alone in the neighbourhood in the daytime	Went out to the local shops or park alone	
	<i>Percentages</i>					<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
Male	60	29	4	53	81	889
Female	58	35	9	44	72	763
All	59	32	7	49	76	1652

Table 4.8 Reasons for feeling unsafe in the neighbourhood by sex

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>			
Reasons for feeling unsafe	Male	Female	All
			<i>Percentages¹</i>
Stranger danger/abduction/kidnapping	34	62	48
Children/teenagers/bullying	48	22	35
Cars/traffic	13	11	12
Dogs	7	1	4
Other (specify)	16	16	16
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who said they felt unsafe</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>164</i>

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could report more than one reason.

Ethnic group

Pakistanis were the most likely to say they enjoyed living in their neighbourhood a lot (71%). The proportions among the other groups ranged between 50% and 60%.

The pattern was different for trusting people in the neighbourhood. White Young people were most likely to say many people in their neighbourhood could be trusted (33%). The proportions for young people from minority ethnic groups ranged from 13% to 26%.

One possible reason for young people from Asian or black ethnic groups being less likely than young white people to feel many people in their neighbourhood could be trusted is that they are more likely to live in deprived areas. As discussed in the next section, young people living in deprived areas were the least likely to hold positive views. Table 4.10 shows, for those living in the most deprived areas, the percentage who said many people in their neighbourhood could be trusted, analysed by ethnic group. The analysis indicates that the greater likelihood of white young people to believe many people in their neighbourhood could be trusted is at least partly attributable to the type of area they live in. Amongst young people living in the 20% most deprived areas, there was no significant difference between the percentage of white and Asian or black young people who said many people in the neighbourhood could be trusted (19% compared with 24% and 17%).

None of the Bangladeshi or black Caribbean young people believed it very likely that their bag would be returned. The proportion among the other groups ranged from 4% to 7%.

Young people of Bangladeshi origin were the least likely to feel very safe in the neighbourhood during the day (30%). The proportions among the other minority ethnic groups ranged from 44% of black Africans to 57% of black Caribbeans. Young black people were most likely to say they went to the local shops or park alone, while young Asian people were the least likely to do so (88% compared with 67%). The proportion for white young people was 77%.

Table 4.9, 4.10

Table 4.9 Views about the neighbourhood by ethnic group

England & Wales 2003

Ethnic group	Enjoyed living in the neighbourhood 'a lot'	Thought 'many' people in neighbourhood could be trusted	Believed it 'very likely' that bag would be returned intact	Felt 'very safe' walking alone in the neighbourhood in the daytime	Went out to the local shops or park alone		
						Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
White	59	33	7	49	77	813	
All Asian	63	24	4	46	67	487	
Indian	60	24	7	47	67	187	
Pakistani	71	26	4	50	67	147	
Bangladeshi	50	13	0	30	60	102	
All Black	52	21	3	47	88	208	
Caribbean	54	23	0	57	92	94	
African	50	18	6	44	89	98	
Mixed race	58	23	4	56	74	73	
All	59	32	7	49	76	1650	

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Table 4.10 Percentage of respondents living in the 20% most deprived areas who said many people in their neighbourhood could be trusted, by ethnic group

England 2003

Ethnic group	Thought that many people could be trusted		
		Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
White	19	198	
Asian	24	351	
Black	17	140	
All	19	767	

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Area characteristics associated with young people's views about their neighbourhood

Deprivation

As would be expected attitudes to the neighbourhood were related to area type. Young people living in more affluent areas were more likely than those living in deprived areas to say that they enjoyed living in their neighbourhood, thought people in their neighbourhood could be trusted and felt safe in their neighbourhood. For example, 64% of young people living in the top quintile¹⁰ (least deprived areas) enjoyed living in their neighbourhood a lot, compared with 57 % of those living in the bottom quintile (most deprived areas). The pattern was more marked for the other two

¹⁰ Respondents were allocated to one of five quintile groups depending on the Index of Multiple Deprivation score for the ward in which they live. Respondents in the top quintile lived in the 20% least deprived areas in England, while those in the bottom quintile lived in the 20% most deprived areas.

measures. Young people living in the top quintile were twice as likely as those living in the bottom quintile to say many people in their neighbourhood could be trusted (39% compared with 19%). Similarly, the proportion of young people saying they felt very safe walking alone in their neighbourhood during the day decreased from 51% among those living in the top quintile to 38% among those living in the bottom quintile.

Although young people living in the most deprived areas were most likely to feel very unsafe walking alone in their neighbourhood during the day, it did not prevent them from going out to the local shops or park alone. Seventy-eight per cent of young people living in the 20% most deprived areas said they went out to the local shops or park on their own compared with 71% of young people living in the 20% least deprived areas.

Table 4.11

Table 4.11 Views about the neighbourhood by Index of Multiple Deprivation

England 2003

Index of Multiple Deprivation ¹	Enjoyed living in the neighbourhood 'a lot'	Thought 'many' people in neighbourhood could be trusted	Believed it 'very likely' that bag would be returned intact	Felt 'very safe' walking alone in the neighbourhood in the daytime	Went out to the local shops or park alone	Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
1 to 2 Least deprived	64	39	4	51	71		167
3 to 4	66	44	7	62	72		155
5 to 6	57	40	8	53	76		188
7 to 8	53	25	7	41	77		265
9 to 10 Most Deprived	57	19	5	38	78		767
All	59	32	7	49	76		1,652

¹ The Index of Multiple Deprivation is not available for Wales. Figures for 'All' include Wales.

Type of area (Rural or Non-rural)

As can be seen from figure 4.1, views about the neighbourhood varied by whether the respondent lived in a rural or non-rural area for three of the measures. Young people living in rural areas were more likely than those living in non-rural areas to believe many people in their neighbourhood could be trusted (46% compared with 26%) and that it was very likely their bag would be returned intact if lost, although both proportions were relatively low (10% compared with 5%).

Young people living in rural areas were also more likely to say they felt very safe walking alone in their neighbourhood during the day than those living in non-rural areas (60% compared with 42%).

Figure 4.1, Table 4.12

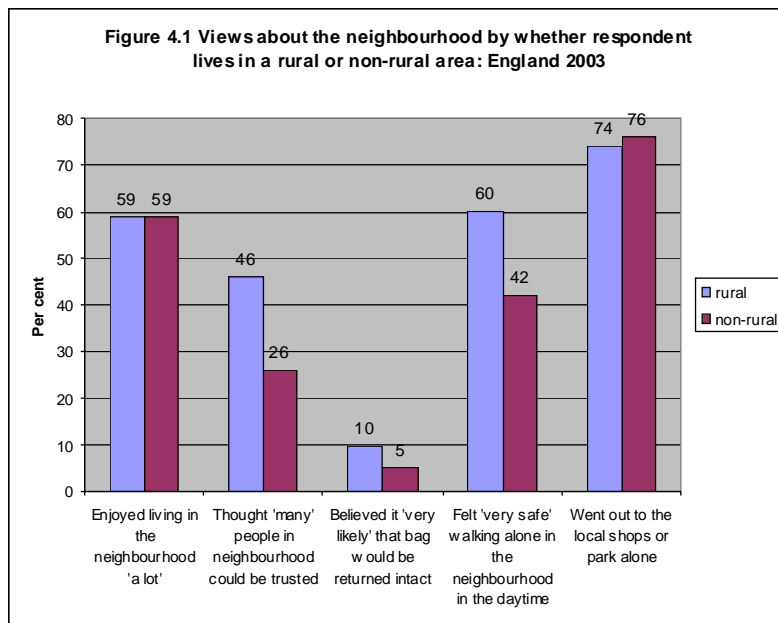


Table 4.12 Views about the neighbourhood by whether lives in rural or non-rural area in England

England 2003

Type of area ¹	Enjoyed living in the neighbourhood 'a lot'	Thought 'many' people in neighbourhood could be trusted	Believed it 'very likely' that bag would be returned intact	Felt 'very safe' walking alone in the neighbourhood in	Went out to the local shops or park alone	Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
Rural	59	46	10	60	74		1,337
Non-rural	59	26	5	42	76		255
All	59	32	7	49	76		1,652

¹ The rural/non-rural classification is not available for Wales. Figures for 'All' include Wales.

Children's views about their street or block

The vast majority of children (89%) said they enjoyed living in their street or block a lot or quite a lot. Sixty-six per cent said they felt very safe or fairly safe walking or playing alone there during the daytime, 23% said they felt a bit unsafe and 7% said they felt very unsafe. The remaining 4% said they never went out alone. Among those who said they felt unsafe, the most commonly cited reasons were fear of abduction or kidnapping by strangers (59%), danger from cars or traffic (23%) and bullying from other children or teenagers (20%). One third of children (33%) said they went to the local shops or park on their own.

Tables 4.13 to 4.16

Table 4.13 Whether enjoys living in the street or block by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether enjoys living in the street or block	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
A lot	43	53	47	48
Quite a lot	47	34	43	41
Not very much	7	10	8	9
Not at all	3	3	2	3
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	384	309	1,030

Table 4.14 Whether feels safe walking or playing alone in the street or block during the daytime by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether feels safe walking or playing alone in the street or block during the daytime	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Very safe	22	27	32	27
Fairly safe	28	41	49	39
A bit unsafe	30	22	17	23
Very unsafe	14	6	2	7
Never go out alone	7	5	1	4
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	336	386	309	1,031

Table 4.15 Reasons for feeling unsafe in the street or block

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>	
Reasons for feeling unsafe	
	<i>Percentages¹</i>
Stranger danger/abduction/kidnapping	59
Cars/traffic	23
Children/teenagers/bullying	20
Dogs	4
Don't know/ Can't explain	5
Other	10
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10 who felt unsafe in their street or block</i>	357

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could report more than one reason.

Table 4.16 Whether goes to the local shops or local park on their own by age

Whether goes to the local shops or local park on their own	England & Wales 2003			
	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	16	36	48	33
No	84	64	52	67
Respondents aged 8 to 10	337	386	309	1,032

Variations by age

As might be expected, older children were more likely than their younger counterparts to feel safe in their street or block on their own in the day and to go to the local shops or park alone. Eighty-one per cent of 10 year olds said they felt safe walking or playing alone in their street or block during the daytime, compared with 50% of 8 year olds. Likewise, the proportion of children who went to the local shops or park on their own increased from 16% among those aged 8 to 48% among those aged 10.

Tables 4.14, 4.16

Variations by deprivation

As with young people, children living in affluent areas were more likely to report positive views about their area than those living in deprived areas. Children living in the 20% least deprived areas were twice as likely as those living in the 20% most deprived areas to say that they felt very safe walking alone in their street or block during the day (38% compared with 19%).

Table 4.17

Table 4.17 Percentage who said they felt 'a bit' or 'very' unsafe in their neighbourhood alone during the day by Index of Multiple Deprivation

Index of Multiple Deprivation ¹	Enjoyed living in their neighbourhood 'a lot'	Felt 'very safe' in their neighbourhood	England & Wales. 2003	
			Percentages	Respondents aged 8 to 10
1 to 2 Least deprived	47	38		107
3 to 4	56	39		96
5 to 6	49	18		100
7 to 8	45	25		213
9 to 10 Most Deprived	41	19		465
All	47	27		1,011

¹ The Index of Multiple Deprivation is not available for Wales. Figures for 'All' include Wales.

Young people's views about their school

Seventy-one per cent of young people said they enjoyed school a lot or a little. Nearly all young people said they felt very safe or fairly safe at school (95%). Only 5% and 1% said that they felt a bit unsafe or very unsafe. Among the 76 young people who said they felt unsafe, the most commonly cited reason was bullying from other children or teenagers.

Tables 4.18 to 4.20

Table 4.18 Whether enjoys school by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Whether enjoys school	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
A lot	26	24	19	20	18	22
Quite a lot	45	50	56	47	47	49
Not very much	17	21	16	26	25	21
Not at all	12	6	9	7	10	9
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	324	328	328	327	353	1,660

Table 4.19 Whether feels safe in school by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Whether feels safe in school	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very safe	65	49	53	56	61	57
Fairly safe	30	41	42	40	35	38
A bit unsafe	5	8	3	4	3	5
Very unsafe	0	2	2	0	1	1
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	324	328	328	327	355	1,662

Table 4.20 Reasons for feeling unsafe in school

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>	
Reasons for feeling unsafe in school	%
Children/teenagers/bullying	83
Violence from strangers	6
Other	11
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who felt unsafe in their school</i>	76

Demographic characteristics associated with young people's views about their school

Age and sex

Enjoyment of school generally declined with age. The proportion of young people saying they enjoyed school a lot, or quite a lot, decreased from 71% among those aged 11 years to 65% among those aged 15 years.

Table 4.18

Despite expressing less positive views about safety in the neighbourhood (as described earlier in this chapter), girls were more likely than boys to say they felt very safe in school (59% compared with 54%). They were also more likely to enjoy school a lot (26% compared with 17%).

Table 4.21

Table 4.21 Views about school by sex

England & Wales 2003

Sex	Enjoyed school 'a lot'	Felt 'very safe' in school		
			<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
Male	17	54		892
Female	26	59		768
All	22	57		1,660

Ethnic group

Black African and Pakistani young people were the most likely to say they enjoyed school a lot, while white young people were the least likely to do so (61% and 56% compared with 20%). Between these two extremes, the proportions ranged from 29% to 40%. Pakistanis and black Africans also reported positive views on the question about safety at school – 70% and 67% said they felt very safe at school. Among the other groups, the proportions ranged from 56% to 65%.

Table 4.22

Table 4.22 Views about school by ethnic group

England & Wales 2003

Ethnic group	Enjoyed school 'a lot'	Felt 'very safe' in school		
			<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
White	20	56		815
All Asian	42	63		490
Indian	33	59		189
Pakistani	56	70		148
Bangladeshi	40	56		102
All Black	45	70		208
Caribbean	29	62		95
African	61	67		97
Mixed race	31	65		75
All	22	57		1,658

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Children's views about their school

Seventy-four per cent of children said they enjoyed school a lot or quite a lot and nearly all said they felt very or fairly safe at school (95%). Among the 42 children who said they felt unsafe, the most common reason was bullying.

Tables 4.23 to 4.25

Table 4.23 Whether enjoys school by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether enjoys school	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
A lot	36	32	32	33
Quite a lot	35	45	42	41
Not very much	18	16	20	18
Not at all	12	7	6	8
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>385</i>	<i>309</i>	<i>1,031</i>

Table 4.24 Whether feels safe at school by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether feels safe at school	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Very safe	72	70	74	72
Fairly safe	22	27	20	23
A bit unsafe	4	3	5	4
Very unsafe	2	0	1	1
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>385</i>	<i>309</i>	<i>1,031</i>

Table 4.25 Reasons for feeling unsafe in school

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>	
Reasons for feeling unsafe	
	%
Bullying	60
Teachers shouting	11
Parents are not there	4
Fear of people breaking into school	2
Teachers do not sort out trouble	2
Other	7
Don't know	13
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10 who said they felt unsafe in school</i>	<i>42</i>

Comparison of children's and young people's views about school

Children aged 8 to 10 were more likely than 11 to 15 year olds to enjoy school (33% compared with 22%) and much more likely to feel very safe there (72% compared with 57%).

Tables 4.18, 4.19, 4.23, 4.24

5 Social networks

The Government is keen to encourage young people to become active citizens and participate in their communities in a variety of ways, both formally and informally. Participating in social networks is an important form of informal participation as such networks can be an important source of social capital (Putnam, 2001). Furthermore, the extent to which young people have friendships and social contacts with people from different ethnic backgrounds can influence their attitudes to minority groups thereby helping to lessen divisions and increase cohesion within communities. The Children's and Young People's Survey provides us with information on the frequency and location of children's and young people's social contacts and the extent to which young people's friendship networks include young people from different ethnic groups.

Key Findings

- The majority of young people had good social networks - 90% had friends round to their home, 93% of young people went to friends' homes and 93% met friends outside the home.
- However, 12% of young people were 'socially isolated', that is to say they had contact with friends less than once a month or never. Bangladeshi and black African young people were most likely to fall into this group, 30% and 28% had contact with friends less than once a month or never compared with only 11% of white and 7% of mixed race young people.
- Sixty-four per cent of young people said they had friends who were of a different race or colour to them.
- Young people from minority ethnic groups were more likely than their white counterparts to have friends from a different ethnic group - all black Caribbean and 93% of mixed race young people said they had friends of a different race or colour, compared with just 61% of white young people.
- The majority of young people said they had participated in clubs or groups in the last twelve months, either at their school (82%) or outside school (73%).

Young people's social contact with friends

Ninety per cent of young people said they had friends¹¹ round to their home. Among this group, 69% said they had friends round at least once a week and 22% said they had them round at least once a month. The pattern was very similar for the question about going to friends' homes - 93% of young people said they went to friends' homes. Among this group, 68% said they went to their friends' homes at least once a week and 23% said they went there at least once a month.

¹¹ Relatives of a similar age were included if the young person regarded them as friends.

The vast majority of young people (93%) met friends outside the home¹². Among these young people, 76% said they met friends at least once a week, whilst 15% said they met them at least once a month. Among those who met friends outside the home, just 3% said an adult accompanied them all of the time, 43% said an adult was there some of the time and 53% said there was never an adult with them.

Table 5.3 and 5.4 show the proportions of young people who had contact at least once a week with friends inside and outside the home, analysed by age, sex and ethnic group. These variations are discussed in the text below. The tables also show the proportions who had contact with friends less than once a month or never in order to identify the most socially isolated groups.

Demographic characteristics associated with young people having contact with friends

Age

Young people aged 14 or 15 were more likely than those aged 11 to 13 to have friends round to the home. Sixty-seven per cent of 15 year olds had friends round to their home at least once a week, compared with 59% of 11 year olds. This pattern was repeated for the other two measures. Thus, among those aged 15, 73% said they went to their friends' homes at least once a week and 81% said they met friends outside the home at least once a week. The equivalent proportions among 11 year olds were just 52% and 60%.

Table 5.3

Table 5.1 Social contacts with friends inside the home

England & Wales 2003

Whether have friends round to the home	
Yes	90
No	10
Whether goes round to friends' homes	
Yes	93
No	7
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	1,663
Frequency of having friends round to the home	
At least once a week	69
At least once a month	22
Less often	8
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who had friends round to the home</i>	1,410
Frequency of going to friends' homes	
At least once a week	68
At least once a month	23
Less often	9
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who went to friends' homes</i>	1,463

¹² Meeting friends outside the home included going out to places and meeting up on the street.

Table 5.2 Social contacts with friends outside the home

England & Wales 2003

Whether meets friends outside the home	
Yes	93
No	7
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,663</i>
Frequency of meeting with friends outside the home	
At least once a week	76
At least once a month	15
Less often	8
Whether accompanied by an adult outside of the home	
All of the time	3
Some of the time	43
Never	53
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who met friends outside the home</i>	<i>1,457</i>

Table 5.3 Social contacts with friends by age and sex

England & Wales 2003

	Had friends round to the home at least once a week	Went to friends' homes at least once a week	Met with friends outside the home at least once a week	Had contact with friends less than once a month or never	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
11	59	52	60	15		325
12	60	63	68	12		327
13	57	58	69	14		330
14	68	70	79	9		326
15	67	73	81	7		355
Male	61	65	72	10		896
Female	63	62	71	14		770
All	62	63	71	12		1,663

Ethnic group

Young white (64%) and mixed race (63%) people were the most likely to have friends round to their home at least once a week, while young Indian and Bangladeshi people were the least likely to do so (33%). The proportions for young Pakistani and black people were in between at 48% and 47%

The pattern was similar for meeting friends outside the home. Seventy-seven per cent of young mixed race and 73% of white people said they met friends outside the home at least once a week, compared with just 40% of Indians and Bangladeshis. Between

these two extremes, the proportions ranged from 44% of black Africans to 52% of Pakistanis and 69% of black Caribbeans.

In terms of going to friends' homes, white and mixed race young people were most likely to say they had contact with friends at least once a week (65% and 59%), while Indian, black African and Bangladeshi young people were the least likely to do so (34%, 41% and 44%). The proportions for black Caribbeans and Pakistanis were 50% and 52%

Table 5.4

Socially isolated groups

For this analysis, young people were considered to be 'socially isolated' if they had contact with friends less than once a month or never. As Table 5.5 shows, 12% of young people were in this position.

Generally, younger respondents were less likely to have contact with friends. Fifteen per cent of 11 year olds had contact with friends less than once a month or never, compared with 7% of 15 year olds. Younger respondents may be more likely to require parent or adult supervision when socialising with friends which may explain their lower rate of social contact.

Girls were a little more likely than boys to have contact with friends less than once a month or never (14% compared with 10%).

Bangladeshi and black African young people were most likely to have contact with friends less than once a month or never 30% and 28% respectively, compared with only 11% of white and 7% of mixed race young people. The proportions for Indian, Pakistani and black Caribbean young people were in between (23%, 19% and 15%).

Young people living in households where the HRP was in a high occupations group were less likely to have contact with friends than those living in households where the HRP was in a low occupations group. For example, 13% of young people living in households where the HRP was in a managerial or professional occupations group had contact with friends less than once a month or never, compared with just 8% for those living in a household where the HRP was in a routine occupations group. Among those living in a household where the HRP had never worked or was long-term unemployed, the proportion was also relatively high (13%).

Tables 5.3 to 5.4

Table 5.4 Social contacts with friends by ethnic group

Ethnic group	Had friends round to the home at least once a week	Went to friends' homes at least once a week	Met with friends outside the home at least once a week	Had contact with friends less than once a month or never	Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
White	64	65	73	11	815	
All Asian	37	42	44	24	493	
Indian	33	34	40	23	190	
Pakistani	48	52	52	19	148	
Bangladeshi	33	44	40	30	104	
All Black	47	45	56	21	208	
Caribbean	50	50	69	15	94	
African	47	41	44	28	98	
Mixed race	63	59	77	7	75	
All	62	63	71	12	1,661	

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Table 5.5 Percentage who had contact with friends less than once a month or never by socio-economic classification of HRP

England & Wales, 2003

Socio-economic classification of HRP	Had contact with friends less than once a month or never	Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
Higher and lower managerial and professional occupations	13	528	
Intermediate occupations; small employers	12	280	
Lower supervisory and technical; semi-routine occupations	10	403	
Routine occupations	8	210	
Never worked and long-term unemployed	13	136	
All	12	1,567	

Data for respondents living in households where the HRP is a full-time student are excluded due to small number of respondents. These are included in the figures for 'All' respondents.

Children's social contact with friends

Fifty-one per cent of children said their friends¹³ played in their home or garden at least once a week and a further 39% played there less often. The remaining 10% said their friends never played in their home or garden. The pattern was nearly identical for playing at friends' homes or gardens – 50% of children said they played at friends' homes or gardens at least once a week and 39% played there less often.

¹³ Relatives of a similar age were included if the child regarded them as friends.

Eighty-three per cent of children said they met friends outside the home¹⁴ – 50% met them at least once a week and 33% met them less often. Among those who met friends outside the home, 21% said an adult accompanied them all of the time, 52% were accompanied some of the time and 28% said there was never an adult there.

Tables 5.6 to 5.9

Variations by age

As we might expect, older children were most likely to meet friends outside the home and meet them unaccompanied by an adult. Eighty-six per cent of 10 year olds said they met friends outside the home, compared with 79% of 8 year olds. Similarly, 33% of children aged 10 said an adult never accompanied them when they met friends, compared with just 21% of those aged 8.

Tables 5.8, 5.9

Children who do not have contact with friends

Table 5.10 shows the percentage of children who had no form of contact with friends. As can be seen from the table, only 2% of children were in this position, however there were significant ethnic variations.

Indian children were the most likely to have no contact with friends - 19% never had friends to their home or garden, never went to friends' homes or gardens and never met friends outside the home. The proportion was also relatively high for black Africans and Pakistanis (10% and 9%). All black Caribbeans and Bangladeshis had contact with friends and only 1% of young white people said they never had contact.

Table 5.10

Table 5.6 Friends playing in home or garden by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Frequency of friends playing in home or garden	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
At least once a week	53	48	52	51
Less often	38	42	36	39
Never	9	10	12	10
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Table 5.7 Playing in friends' homes or gardens by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Frequency of playing in friends' homes or gardens	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
At least once a week	47	51	52	50
Less often	42	39	35	39
Never	11	9	13	11
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

¹⁴ Meeting friends outside the home included going out to places and playing on the street.

Table 5.8 Meeting friends outside of the home by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Frequency of meeting friends outside the home	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
At least once a week	47	48	55	50
Less often	32	35	31	33
Never	21	16	14	17
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Table 5.9 Whether accompanied by an adult when meeting friends outside the home by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether accompanied by an adult	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
All of the time	29	21	14	21
Some of the time	51	51	53	52
Never	21	28	33	28
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10 who met friends outside the home</i>	240	293	239	772

Table 5.10 Percentage of children who had no social contact with friends by ethnic group

<i>England & Wales, 2003</i>		
Ethnic group	Had no social contact with friends	
	Percentages	Respondents aged 8 to 10
White	1	490
All Asian	13	288
Indian	19	106
Pakistani	9	85
Bangladeshi	0	51
All Black	10	137
Caribbean	0	58
African	10	66
Mixed race	5	67
All	2	1031

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Young people's participation in clubs and groups

Eighty-two per cent of young people said they had participated in clubs or groups at their school in the last twelve months. The five clubs or groups most commonly cited were sports clubs or teams (58%), after-school clubs (38%), art, drama, dance or music clubs (37%), computer clubs (20%) and youth clubs (19%).

Seventy-three per cent of young people had participated in clubs or groups outside of school in the last twelve months. As with clubs at school, young people were most likely to have been involved in sports clubs or teams (42%). Next to sports clubs, the most commonly mentioned were youth clubs (27%), art, drama, dance or music clubs (20%) and school holiday playschemes (9%).

The most commonly cited reasons for either not participating or not becoming more involved in clubs or groups were:

- too busy (18%);
- don't have time after homework (16%);
- no good groups or clubs locally (15%);
- don't want to (15%);
- no clubs or groups of interest (15%); and
- have no way of getting there (13%).

Tables 5.11 to 5.13

Table 5.11 Participation in clubs or groups at school in the twelve months prior to interview

England & Wales 2003

	%
Whether participated in clubs or groups at school	
Yes	82
No	18
Types of clubs or groups participated in¹	
Sports clubs/teams	58
After-school clubs	38
Art, drama, dance or music clubs/groups	37
Computer clubs/groups	20
Youth clubs	19
School /student councils	16
Groups for extra teaching or special lessons	14
School holiday playschemes	10
Safety , First Aid groups	7
Debating clubs/groups	6
Voluntary groups helping people	4
Environmental clubs/groups	4
Political clubs/groups	4
Religious groups or organisations	3
Local community or neighbourhood groups	3
Human rights groups	2
Animal (welfare) groups	2
Student Union	1
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,662</i>

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one group.

Table 5.12 Participation in clubs or groups outside school in the twelve months prior to interview

England & Wales 2003

	%
Whether participated in clubs or groups outside school	
Yes	73
No	27
Types of clubs or groups participated in¹	
Sports clubs/teams	42
Youth clubs	27
Art, drama, dance or music clubs/groups	20
School holiday playschemes	9
Religious groups or organisations	6
Computer clubs/groups	5
Local community or neighbourhood groups	4
Safety , First Aid groups	3
Animal (welfare) groups	2
Voluntary groups helping people	2
Environmental clubs/groups	1
Political clubs/groups	0
Debating clubs/groups	0
Human rights groups	0
Other clubs/groups	8
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,663</i>

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one group.

Table 5.13 Things that prevent respondent from either participating in clubs or groups or participating in more in clubs or groups outside school

England & Wales 2003

	%
Too busy	18
Don't have time after homework	16
No good groups or clubs locally	15
Doesn't want to	15
There are no clubs or groups of interest	15
Has no way of getting there	13
Can't afford to join clubs	5
Not allowed	5
Wouldn't feel safe travelling to and from clubs	4
Other reasons	5
None of these	29
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,028</i>

Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one item.

Variations by ethnicity

The proportion of young people participating in clubs and groups at school in the last twelve months ranged from 70% of Bangladeshi and 74% of Pakistani young people to 92% of black Caribbean young people. Among white young people the proportion was 83%.

Young people of mixed race were most likely to have participated in clubs or groups outside school in the last twelve months, while young Pakistani and Bangladeshi people were the least likely to have done so (88% compared with 50% and 40%). The proportions for other groups ranged from 61% to 73%.

Table 5.14

Table 5.14 Participation in clubs and groups at school and outside of school in the twelve months before interview by ethnic group

England & Wales 2003

Ethnic group	Participated in clubs or groups at school	Participated in clubs or groups outside of school	Did not participate in clubs or groups at school or outside of school		
				Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
White	83	73	9	815	
All Asian	80	56	15	492	
Indian	87	63	10	190	
Pakistani	74	50	19	148	
Bangladeshi	70	40	30	103	
All Black	85	67	9	208	
Caribbean	92	71	7	95	
African	78	61	12	98	
Mixed race	77	88	4	75	
All	82	73	9	1,660	

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Variations by Type of area (Rural/Non-rural)

Young people living in rural areas were more likely than those living in non-rural areas to have participated in clubs or groups at school in the last twelve months (85% compared with 81%). The same pattern was observed for participating in clubs or groups outside school (78% compared with 70%).

Table 5.15

Table 5.15 Participation in clubs and groups at school and outside of school in the twelve months before interview by whether respondents lives in a rural or non-rural area in England

England & Wales 2003

Type of area ¹	Participated in clubs or groups at school	Participated in clubs or groups outside of school	Did not participate in clubs or groups at school or outside of school		
				Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
Rural	85	78	8	255	
Non-rural	81	70	10	1,347	
All	82	73	9	1,602	

¹ Rural/non-rural classification is not available for Wales. Figures for 'All' include Wales.

Characteristics associated with young people not participating in clubs and groups

Age

Young people aged 15 were more likely than those aged 11 or 13 to have had no involvement in clubs or groups at school or outside school in the previous twelve months (14% compared with 9% and 3%). The proportions among 12 and 14 year olds were 11%.

Table 5.16

Table 5.16 Percentages who did not participate in clubs and groups at school and outside of school in the twelve months before interview by age

England & Wales 2003

Age	Did not participate in clubs or groups at school or outside of school	
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
11	9	324
12	11	329
13	3	328
14	11	326
15	14	355
All	9	1,662

Ethnic group

Bangladeshi and Pakistani young people included the highest proportion who had not taken part in clubs or groups either at school or outside of school in the twelve months prior to interview, while mixed race young people were included in the lowest proportion (30% and 19% compared with 4%). The proportions for Indian, white and black young people were in between (10%, 9% and 9%).

Table 5.14

Variations in the types of clubs and groups young people participated in

Age

Younger respondents were more likely than older respondents to have participated in after-school clubs and school holiday playschemes. Forty-seven per cent of 11 year olds said they had taken part in after-school clubs in the last twelve months, compared with just 34% of 15 year olds. Similarly, 17% of young people aged 11 said they had taken part in school holiday playschemes at school during the last twelve months compared with just 9% of young people aged 15. Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to need adult supervision after school and during school holidays, which probably explains, at least in part, their higher rate of participation in after-school clubs and school holiday playschemes.

Young people aged 11 years were less likely than their older counterparts to have participated in youth clubs. Twenty-five per cent of 11 year olds said they had taken part in youth clubs in the last twelve months, compared with 41% of 15 year olds. Some youth clubs require participants to have finished primary school before joining, which may explain the lower rate of participation among 11 year olds.

Young people aged 15 were more likely than their younger counterparts to have participated in groups for extra teaching or special lessons at school – 20% of 15 year olds reported this. Most of these young people were studying for their GCSEs at the time of interview, which may explain this.

Table 5.17

Sex

Boys were more likely than girls to have participated in sports clubs or teams. Seventy-two per cent of boys said they had taken part in sports clubs or teams in the last twelve months, compared with 62% of girls. Boys were also more likely than girls to have participated in computer clubs or groups in the last twelve months (25% compared with 16%).

Girls were more likely than boys to have taken part in art, drama or music clubs or groups (58% compared with 28%) and school or student councils (20% compared with 11%).

Table 5.18

Ethnic group

Young white people were more likely than young people from minority ethnic groups to have participated in youth clubs. Thirty-seven per cent of white young people said they had been involved in youth clubs in the last twelve months, compared with 31%, 26% and 20% of mixed race, black and Asian young people.

Young people from mixed race or black groups were most likely to have participated in art, drama, dance or music clubs in the prior twelve months, while young Asian people were the least likely to have done so (58% and 47% compared with 31%). The proportion among young white people was in between, 43%.

Young Asian people were more likely than young people from white or black ethnic groups to have participated in computer clubs and religious groups or organisations. Thirty-seven per cent of Asian young people said they had taken part in computer clubs in the last twelve months, compared with 30% of mixed race young people, 26% of black young people and 20% of white young people. In relation to religious groups, Asian young people were more than twice as likely as white or mixed race young people to have participated in the last twelve months (21% compared with 7%). The proportion for black young people was 15%.

Table 5.19

Table 5.17 Types of clubs and groups young people participated in the twelve months before interview by age

England & Wales 2003

Type of club	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Sports clubs/teams	66	65	72	71	64	68
Art, drama, dance or music clubs/groups	46	37	48	39	43	42
After-school clubs ¹	47	37	35	37	34	38
Youth clubs	25	36	43	34	41	36
Computer clubs/groups	24	20	27	17	16	21
School holiday playschemes	17	20	20	14	9	16
School /student councils ¹	13	12	17	20	14	15
Groups for extra teaching or special lessons ¹	14	12	14	9	20	14
Safety , First Aid groups	8	6	6	10	10	8
Religious groups or organisations	8	5	9	13	5	8
Debating clubs/groups	3	7	11	8	3	7
Environmental clubs/groups	5	4	6	4	4	5
Voluntary groups helping people	3	4	5	9	6	5
Local community or neighbourhood groups	7	5	6	4	5	5
Political clubs/groups	2	5	6	3	3	4
Animal (welfare) groups	5	3	4	4	3	4
Human rights groups	0	0	2	4	2	2
Student Union ¹	0	1	2	2	1	1
Other clubs/groups ²	8	9	8	7	7	8
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>324</i>	<i>329</i>	<i>328</i>	<i>326</i>	<i>355</i>	<i>1,662</i>

Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one club or group.

¹ These clubs were only asked about on the question about clubs at school.

² This clubs was only asked about on the question about clubs outside school.

Table 5.18 Types of clubs and groups young people participated in the twelve months before interview by sex

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>			
Type of club	Male	Female	All
	%	%	%
Sports clubs/teams	72	62	68
Art, drama, dance or music clubs/groups	28	58	42
After-school clubs ¹	37	39	38
Youth clubs	33	39	36
Computer clubs/groups	25	16	21
School holiday playschemes	16	17	16
School /student councils ¹	11	20	15
Groups for extra teaching or special lessons ¹	14	13	14
Safety , First Aid groups	7	8	8
Religious groups or organisations	6	9	8
Debating clubs/groups	6	7	7
Environmental clubs/groups	5	5	5
Voluntary groups helping people	3	7	5
Local community or neighbourhood groups	6	5	5
Political clubs/groups	4	4	4
Animal (welfare) groups	2	6	4
Human rights groups	1	2	2
Student Union ¹	1	1	1
Other clubs/groups ²	9	7	8
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>896</i>	<i>766</i>	<i>1,662</i>

Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one club or group.

¹ These clubs were only asked about on the question about clubs at school.

² This clubs was only asked about on the question about clubs outside school.

Table 5.19 Types of clubs and groups young people participated in the twelve months before interview by ethnic group

England & Wales 2003

Type of club	White	Asian	Black	Mixed	All
	%	%	%	%	%
Sports clubs/teams	68	62	67	62	68
Art, drama, dance or music clubs/groups	43	31	47	58	42
After-school clubs ¹	39	32	33	41	38
Youth clubs	37	20	26	31	36
Computer clubs/groups	20	37	26	30	21
School holiday playschemes	16	14	21	30	16
School /student councils ¹	15	15	18	22	15
Groups for extra teaching or special lessons ¹	14	14	12	7	14
Safety , First Aid groups	8	7	6	8	8
Religious groups or organisations	7	21	15	7	8
Debating clubs/groups	6	7	9	11	7
Environmental clubs/groups	5	7	6	12	5
Voluntary groups helping people	5	8	9	15	5
Local community or neighbourhood groups	5	4	6	7	5
Political clubs/groups	4	4	3	15	4
Animal (welfare) groups	4	1	3	11	4
Human rights groups	2	1	3	7	2
Student Union ¹	1	1	0	4	1
Other clubs/groups ²	8	3	3	0	8
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>815</i>	<i>208</i>	<i>492</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>1,660</i>

Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one club or group.

¹ These clubs were only asked about on the question about clubs at school.

² This clubs was only asked about on the question about clubs outside school.

Children's participation in clubs

Overall, 52% of children said they went to after-school clubs, 34% went to clubs in school hours and 8% went to school holiday clubs. The remaining 30% said they did not go to any school clubs.

Sixty-seven per cent of children said they went to clubs outside school¹⁵. The most commonly cited clubs were:

- Sports clubs or groups (57%);
- Youth clubs, including Cubs and Brownies (43%); and
- Art, drama, dance or music clubs (27%).

Fifty per cent of children said they would like to go to more clubs outside school.

Tables 5.20 to 5.23

¹⁵ Clubs outside school included clubs run in the evenings, weekends and school holidays.

Table 5.20 Participation in clubs at school by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Participation in clubs at school	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
After-school clubs	52	51	52	52
Clubs in school hours	29	31	40	34
School holiday clubs	7	10	8	8
None	33	31	27	30
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>384</i>	<i>309</i>	<i>1,030</i>

Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one type of club

Table 5.21 Participation in clubs outside of school by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Participation in clubs outside of school	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	69	68	65	67
No	31	32	35	33
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>384</i>	<i>309</i>	<i>1,030</i>

Table 5.22 Types of clubs children go to outside school by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Type of clubs	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Sports clubs/groups	59	59	53	57
Youth clubs (Cubs, Brownies etc)	41	45	43	43
Art, drama, dance or music clubs/groups	30	21	31	27
School holiday playschemes	15	8	13	12
Religious groups or organisations	8	7	7	7
Computer clubs/groups	1	1	5	2
Animal (Welfare) groups	0	0	2	1
Safety, First Aid groups	0	0	2	1
Environmental clubs/groups	0	0	0	0
Political clubs/groups	0	0	0	0
Voluntary groups helping people	0	0	0	0
Other clubs/groups	2	3	12	5
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10 who went to clubs outside school</i>	<i>183</i>	<i>214</i>	<i>168</i>	<i>565</i>

Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one type of club.

Table 5.23 Whether children would like to go to (more) clubs and groups outside school by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether they would like to go to clubs or go to (more) clubs	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	51	51	49	50
No	42	44	47	44
Don't know	7	5	4	6
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>384</i>	<i>309</i>	<i>1,030</i>

Variations by demographic characteristics

Age

Children aged 10 were slightly more likely than those aged 8 to have participated in clubs at school¹⁶ (73% compared with 67%). This is mainly attributable to a higher proportion of 10 year olds taking part in clubs in school hours - 40% said they went to clubs in school hours, compared with just 29% of 8 year olds. There was no variation by age for participating in clubs outside of school.

Table 5.20

Sex

Girls were a little more likely to have participated in clubs at school than boys (73% compared with 67%). There was little variation by sex for participating in clubs outside school.

Table 5.24

Table 5.24 Percentage who participated in clubs at school and outside school by sex

England & Wales, 2003

Sex	Participated in clubs at school	Participated in clubs outside school		
			<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>
Male	67	69		518
Female	73	66		512
All	70	67		1,030

Ethnic group

Bangladeshi and mixed race children were the least likely to participate in clubs at school (37% and 43%). Among the other groups, the proportions ranged from 63% of black Africans to 78% of black Caribbeans.

The pattern was different for participating in clubs outside of school. Young white people were the most likely to have taken part in clubs outside school, while black African, Pakistani and Bangladeshi children were the least likely to have done so (70% compared with 30%, 27% and 20%). The proportions for Indians, mixed race and black Caribbean children were in between at 50%, 53% and 56%.

Table 5.25

¹⁶ This could be both inside and outside normal school hours, based in school buildings/premises

Table 5.25 Percentage who participated in clubs at school and outside school by ethnic group

England & Wales, 2003

Ethnic group	Participated in clubs at school	Participated in clubs outside school		
			Percentages	Respondents aged 8 to 10
White	71	70		489
All Asian	64	38		287
Indian	67	50		106
Pakistani	69	27		85
Bangladeshi	37	20		50
All Black	70	43		137
Caribbean	78	56		58
African	63	30		66
Mixed race	43	53		67
All	70	67		1,030

Usual mode of transport

Children were asked about which mode of transport they normally used during evenings and weekends. The large majority of children (89%) said they used a car. Next to this, the most frequently mentioned mode of transport was walking (51%), followed by bike (20%), bus (18%) and train (7%).

Table 5.27 shows children's participation in clubs at school and outside of school by their usual mode of transport in the evenings and weekends. Children who usually travelled by car were more likely to participate in clubs than those who did not. This difference was greatest for participating in clubs outside school. Seventy-one per cent of children who usually travelled by car went to clubs outside of school, compared with just 39% of those who usually used a different mode of transport. The equivalent proportions for participating in clubs at school were 71% and 60%. Many children will need to be taken to and collected from clubs by a parent. Parents are probably more inclined to do this if they have their own transport.

Tables 5.26, 5.27

Table 5.26 Usual mode of transport in the evenings and at weekends

England & Wales 2003

Usual mode of transport	%
Car	89
Walking	51
Bike	20
Bus	18
Train	7
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	<i>1,029</i>

Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one mode of transport.

Table 5.27 Percentage who went to clubs at school and outside of school by usual mode of transport

England & Wales 2003

Usual mode of transport	Went to clubs at school	Went to clubs outside school		Respondents aged 8 to 10
		Percentages	Percentages	
Car		71	71	847
Other		60	39	182
All		70	67	1,029

Whether young people have friends from different ethnic backgrounds

The Cantle Report (2001) written after the disturbances in Bradford, Oldham and Burnley in 2001 argued that increasing cohesion within communities between diverse groups and in particular between those of different ethnic backgrounds was crucial to building strong, safe communities. There has been particular concern about the extent to which young people mix with others from different ethnic backgrounds. The Young People's Survey provides basic information about the extent to which young people mix with others from different ethnic backgrounds.

Sixty-four per cent of young people said they had friends who were of a different race or colour to them. Among this group, 65% said that more than a half of their friends were of the same race or colour to them and 20% said that about a half were of the same race or colour as them.

Figure 5.1, Table 5.28

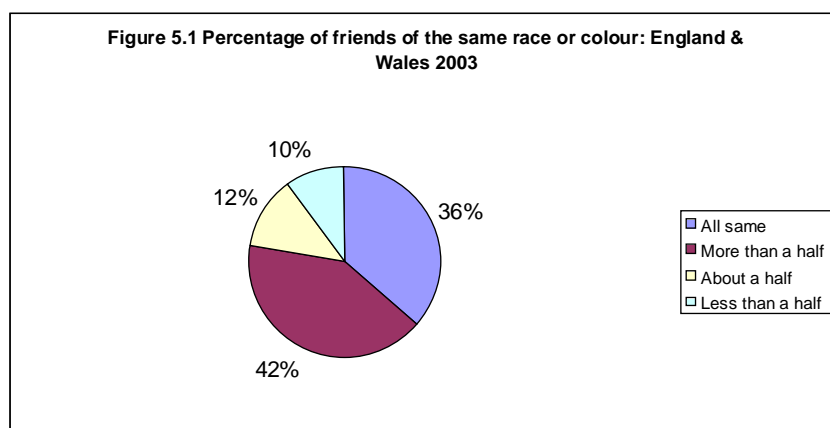


Table 5.28 Whether friends are the same race or colour as them

England & Wales, 2003

	%
Whether friends are the same race or colour as them	
All the same	36
Not the same	64
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,666</i>
What proportion of friends are the same race or colour as them	
More than a half	65
About a half	20
Less than a half	15
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who had friends who were a different race or colour</i>	<i>1,215</i>

Demographic characteristics associated with young people having friends from different ethnic backgrounds

Age

The proportion of young people who had friends who were of a different race or colour was highest among those aged 15 (69%). Among those under the age of 15 there was no consistent pattern – between 59% and 64% said they had friends who were of a different race or colour.

Table 5.29

Table 5.29 Whether had friends who were a different race or colour by age

England & Wales 2003

Age	Had friends of different race or colour	
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
11	62	325
12	59	329
13	64	330
14	63	327
15	69	355
All	64	1,666

Ethnic group

Young people from minority ethnic groups were more likely than their white counterparts to have friends from a different ethnic group. All black Caribbean and 93% of mixed race young people said they had friends of a different race or colour, compared with just 61% of white young people. Between these two extremes, the proportions ranged from 70% among Pakistanis, to 87% among Indians and 89% among Bangladeshis and black Africans.

Table 5.30

Table 5.30 Whether had friends who were a different race or colour by ethnic group

England & Wales 2003

Ethnic group	Had friends of different race or colour	
	Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
White	61	817
All Asian	81	493
Indian	87	190
Pakistani	70	148
Bangladeshi	89	104
All Black	94	209
Caribbean	100	95
African	89	98
Mixed race	93	75
All	64	1,664

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Area characteristics associated with young people having friends from different ethnic backgrounds

Ethnically diverse areas

There was a particularly strong relationship between area type and the likelihood of having friends from a different ethnic group. As we might expect, young people living in ethnically mixed areas were much more likely than those living in predominantly white areas to have friends from different ethnic backgrounds. Young people living in the 10% of areas with the highest concentration of minority ethnic households were twice as likely as those living in the 10% of areas with the lowest concentration of minority ethnic households to say they had friends who were of a different race or colour (83% compared with 40%).

Table 5.31

Region

Variations by region reflected minority ethnic density. Eighty-six per cent of young people living in London said they had friends from different ethnic groups, compared with just 35% of people living in Wales. Among those living in other areas, the proportion ranged from 53% to 76%.

Table 5.32

Table 5.31 Whether had friends who were a different race or colour by percentage of minority ethnic households in area

England & Wales 2003

Percentage of minority ethnic households in the area (deciles) ¹	Had friends of different race or colour	
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
1 (Lowest density)	40	66
2	50	46
3	46	74
4	54	113
5	47	102
6	65	113
7	71	134
8	82	142
9	78	146
10 (Highest density)	83	730
All	64	1,666

¹ The measure is based on the percentage of households in the postal sector headed by someone from a minority ethnic group, based on the 1991 Census

Table 5.32 Whether had friends who were a different race or colour by Government Office Region

England & Wales 2003

Government Office Region	Had friends of different race or colour	
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
North West	58	191
Yorkshire & Humberside	55	131
East Midlands	57	161
West Midlands	76	200
Eastern	71	108
London	86	515
South East	71	185
South West	53	87
All England	66	1,606
All Wales	35	60
All	64	1,666

Figures for the North East are not shown due to small sample numbers.
Figures for 'All' include the North East.

6 Participation in communities and the home

Civic and community participation is a key element of active citizenship. The Government is keen to encourage individuals to become involved in their communities at a variety of levels. At a formal level the Government wants to encourage individuals to engage in a variety of civic activities (such as participating in committees, attending public meetings, contacting councillors and MPs) and to participate in formal clubs and groups. However the Government is also keen to understand and facilitate the more informal contributions citizens make to their communities, such as the provision of informal help to people both within and outside their family network and home.

The Children's and Young People's Survey is one of the few sources of information we have on both formal and informal civic and community participation by young people. In terms of formal participation, the survey allows us to build up a picture of the type of civic activities young people engage in and the types of involvement they have in formal clubs and groups. It also provides important information on the informal contribution young people make to their communities, such as the frequency and type of help young people provide inside and outside of their home and family networks.

Key Findings

- Forty-nine per cent of young people had engaged in one or more of the civic activities - the majority of young people who had engaged in civic activities had been involved in a school or club committee (71%) or signed a petition (37%).
- Sixty-seven per cent of young people aged 12 to 15 years said they would engage in civic activities if they were worried about something.
- Black Caribbean and mixed race young people were the most likely to have participated in civic activities, while Pakistanis were the least likely to have done so (62% and 59% compared with 29%).
- Young people who held positive views about their neighbourhood were more likely than those with negative views to have engaged in civic activities – 53% of young people who enjoyed living in their neighbourhood a lot had engaged in civic activities, compared with just 41% of those who did not.
- Sixty-three per cent of young people said they had given help to a group, club or organisation in the last twelve months. Black Caribbean and mixed race young people were the most likely to have given help to a group, club or organisation (71% and 67%).
- Ninety per cent of young people said they had given help in the home or to relatives.
- Girls were more likely than boys to have given regular help in the home or to relatives – 68% of girls said they gave help in the home or to relatives at least once a week, compared with 57% of boys

- Young people from all minority ethnic groups were more likely than young white people to have given help in the home or to relatives on a regular basis – 78% and 77% of black African and Indian respondents said they gave help in the home or to relatives at least once a week compared 61% of white respondents.
- Mixed race young people were more likely than all other ethnic groups to have given help to non-relatives at least once a week.

Young people’s participation in civic activities

Overall, 49% of young people claimed to have engaged in one or more of the specified civic activities¹⁷ at some point in the past. The majority of young people who had engaged in civic activities had been involved in a school or club committee (71%). Next to this, the most commonly mentioned activity was signing a petition (37%). Twelve per cent said they had attended a public meeting or rally, 10% had taken part in a public demonstration or protest or contacted a local councillor or MP. The survey took part during a time of public protest against the war in Iraq and this may have impacted on these figures.

Sixty-seven per cent of young people aged 12 to 15 years said they would engage in civic activities if they were worried about something. Among those who said they would participate, 53% said they would join a group that was trying to change things and 52% said they would sign a petition. Other activities mentioned by a fifth or more young people included taking part in a public demonstration or protest (29%), contacting a local councillor or MP (23%) and going to a public meeting or rally (20%).

Tables 6.1, 6.2

Demographic characteristics associated with civic participation

Age and sex

Overall, older respondents were more likely to have engaged in civic activities than their younger counterparts. Fifty-four per cent of 15 year olds said they had engaged in one or more activity compared with 42% of 11 year olds.

Girls were more likely than boys to say they had participated in civic activities (52% compared with 46%).

Table 6.3

Ethnic group

Black Caribbean and mixed race young people were the most likely to have participated in civic activities, while Pakistanis were the least likely to have done so (62% and 59% compared with 29%). The proportions for other groups ranged from 39% among black Africans to 49% among young white people.

Table 6.4

¹⁷ Young people were asked whether they had ever engaged in any of the following activities: attending a public meeting or rally; taking part in a public demonstration or protest; signing a petition; contacting a local councillor or Member of Parliament; contacting a local council about something affecting the neighbourhood; and being involved with a school or club committee.

Table 6.1 Participation in civic activities*England & Wales 2003*

	%
Whether ever participated in civic activities?	
Yes	49
No	51
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,665</i>
Types of civic activities undertaken¹	
Been involved with a school committee or club committee	71
Signed a petition	37
Attended a public meeting or rally	12
Taken part in a public demonstration or protest	10
Contacted a local councillor or Member of Parliament (MP)	10
Contacted your local council about something affecting the neighbourhood	5
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who had participated in civic activities</i>	<i>799</i>

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents could report more than one activity.

Table 6.2 Whether would participate in civic activities if worried about something*England & Wales 2003*

	%
Whether would participate in civic activities if worried about something	
Yes	67
No	33
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	<i>1,333</i>
Types of civic activities would participate in if worried about something¹	
Join a group that was trying to change things	53
Sign a petition	52
Take part in a public demonstration or protest	29
Contact a local councillor or Member of Parliament	23
Go to a public meeting or rally	20
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15 who said they would participate in civic activities if worried about something</i>	<i>917</i>

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents could report more than one activity.

Table 6.3 Percentage who had participated in civic activities by age and sex

England & Wales 2003

Participated in civic activities		
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
11	42	324
12	49	329
13	50	328
14	49	327
15	54	355
Male	46	896
Female	52	767
All	49	1,663

Table 6.4 Percentage who had participated in civic activities by ethnic group

England & Wales 2003

Participated in civic activities		
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
White	49	816
All Asian	42	492
Indian	47	190
Pakistani	29	148
Bangladeshi	44	103
All Black	47	208
Caribbean	62	95
African	39	98
Mixed race	59	75
All	49	1,661

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Area characteristics associated with civic participation

Deprivation

Young people living in more affluent areas were more likely to have participated in civic activities than those living in deprived areas. For example, 55% of young people living in the 40% least deprived areas had engaged in civic activities, compared with 44% among those living in the 40% most deprived areas.

Table 6.5

Table 6.5 Percentage who had participated in civic activities by Index of Multiple Deprivation

England & Wales 2003

Index of Multiple Deprivation ¹	Participated in civic activities	
	Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
1 to 2 Least deprived	54	167
3 to 4	56	156
5 to 6	50	190
7 to 8	44	268
9 to 10 Most Deprived	44	774
All	49	1,614

¹ The Index of Multiple Deprivation is not available for Wales. Figures for 'All' include Wales.

Young people's civic participation and their attitudes to the neighbourhood

Chapter 4 discussed young people's views about their neighbourhood and the extent to which they enjoyed living and felt secure there. We would expect young people who had an attachment to their neighbourhood and community to be more likely to engage with issues of public concern.

Table 6.6 shows the percentage of young people who had participated in civic activities analysed by their attitudes to the neighbourhood. As anticipated, young people who held positive views about their neighbourhood were more likely than those with negative views to have engaged in civic activities. For example, 53% of young people who enjoyed living in their neighbourhood a lot had engaged in civic activities, compared with just 41% of those who did not enjoy living there. Likewise, the proportion who participated in civic activities decreased from 54% among those who said many people in the neighbourhood could be trusted to 40% among those considering none could be trusted.

Table 6.6

Table 6.6 Percentage who had participated in civic activities by views about their neighbourhood

England & Wales 2003

Views about the neighbourhood	Participated in civic activities	
	Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
Whether enjoys living in the neighbourhood		
Yes, a lot	53	967
Yes, a little	44	583
No	41	106
Number of people who can be trusted in the neighbourhood		
Many people can be trusted	54	442
Some people can be trusted	46	807
A few can be trusted	46	342
None can be trusted	40	45
All	49	1,652

Young people's involvement in groups, clubs and organisations

Overall, 63% of young people said they had given help to a group, club or organisation in the last twelve months. The results from the adult Citizenship Survey showed that this proportion is higher than that among adults (see chapter nine for further details). Among those who had given help, 60% said they had collected or raised money and the same proportion had taken part in a sponsored activity. Just over a third of young people (36%) had helped to organise or run an event and 13% had been a member of a committee.

Table 6.7

Young people's involvement in groups, clubs or organisations showed very similar patterns of variation with demographic and area characteristics as civic participation. Patterns of variation with attitudes to the neighbourhood were also similar.

Table 6.7 Help given to groups, clubs and organisations in the twelve months before interview

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>	
	%
Whether given help to groups, clubs or organisations in the 12 months before interview	
Yes	63
No	37
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,663</i>
Types of help given¹	
Collected or raised money for a group or club	60
Taken part in a sponsored activity for a group or club	60
Helped to organise or run an event	36
Been part of a committee for a group or club	13
Given any other help to a group or club	15
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who had given help to groups, clubs or organisations in the 12 months before interview</i>	<i>1,035</i>

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents could report more than one activity.

Demographic characteristics associated with young people giving help to groups, clubs and organisations

Sex

Girls were more likely than boys to have given help to groups, clubs and organisations in the twelve months prior to interview (70% compared with 56%).

Table 6.8

Ethnic group

The proportion of young people who had given help to groups, clubs or organisations was highest among black Caribbean and mixed race young people (71% and 67%). Among the other groups the proportions ranged from 52% among Pakistanis to 63% among young white and Indian people.

Table 6.9

Table 6.8 Percentage who had given help to groups, clubs or organisations in the twelve months before interview by age and sex

England & Wales 2003

Given help to groups, clubs or organisations		
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
11	66	324
12	61	329
13	61	328
14	66	327
15	61	355
Male	56	896
Female	70	767
All	63	1,663

Table 6.9 Percentage who had given help to groups, clubs or organisations in the twelve months before interview by ethnic group

England & Wales 2003

Given help to groups, clubs or organisations		
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
White	63	816
All Asian	60	492
Indian	63	190
Pakistani	52	148
Bangladeshi	56	103
All Black	65	208
Caribbean	71	95
African	61	98
Mixed race	67	75
All	63	1,661

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Area characteristics associated with young people giving help to groups, clubs and organisations

Deprivation

Young people living in the most deprived areas were the least likely to have given help to groups, clubs and organisations. For example, 54% of young people living in the 20% most deprived areas said they had given help to groups, clubs or organisations in the twelve months before interview, compared with 65% of those living in the 20% least deprived areas.

Table 6.10

Table 6.10 Percentage who had given help to groups, clubs or organisations in the twelve months before interview by Index of Multiple Deprivation

England & Wales 2003

Index of Multiple Deprivation ¹	Given help to groups, clubs or organisations	Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
1 to 2 Least deprived		65	166
3 to 4		71	156
5 to 6		71	190
7 to 8		59	269
9 to 10 Most Deprived		54	772
All		63	1,612

¹ The Index of Multiple Deprivation is not available for Wales. Figures for 'All' include Wales.

Young people's participation in clubs and groups and their attitudes to the neighbourhood

As with the finding on civic activities, young people who had positive views of their neighbourhood were more likely than those with negative views to give help to groups, clubs or organisations. Sixty-three per cent of young people who enjoyed living in their neighbourhood had given help in the twelve months before interview, compared with 56% of those who did not enjoy living there. Similarly, among those feeling many people in the neighbourhood could be trusted, 69% had given help in the previous twelve months, compared with 59% among those considering a few or none could be trusted.

Table 6.11

Table 6.11 Percentage who had given help to groups, clubs or organisations in the twelve months before interview by views about the neighbourhood

England & Wales 2003

Views about the neighbourhood	Given help to groups, clubs or organisations	Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
Whether enjoys living in the neighbourhood			
Yes, a lot		63	966
Yes, a little		63	581
No		56	106
Number of people who can be trusted in the neighbourhood			
Many people can be trusted		69	442
Some people can be trusted		61	805
A few can be trusted		59	342
None can be trusted		59	45
All		63	1,650

Children's participation in fundraising activities

Overall, 82% of children said they had participated in activities to raise money at some time in the past. Among this group, 89% said they had taken part in activities organised by their school and 16% said they had been involved in activities organised by another group.

Tables 6.12, 6.13

Table 6.12 Whether participated in fundraising activities by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether participated in fundraising activities	Age			All
	8	9	10	
	%	%	%	%
Yes	81	81	84	82
No	17	18	16	17
Don't know	2	2	1	1
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>384</i>	<i>309</i>	<i>1,030</i>

Table 6.13 Whether fundraising activity was organised by school by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether fundraising activity was organised by their school	Age			All
	8	9	10	
	%	%	%	%
Yes	92	91	86	89
No	13	14	19	16
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10 who had participated in fundraising activities</i>	<i>243</i>	<i>298</i>	<i>246</i>	<i>787</i>

Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents could mention more than one type of activity.

Young people's involvement in the home and outside the home

The vast majority of young people (90%) said they gave help in the home or to relatives - 14% of young people said they gave help in the home or to relatives every day, 48% gave help at least once a week and 28% gave help at least once a month or less often.

Table 6.14

Table 6.15 shows the types of help young people gave in the home or to relatives and the most common activities.

Table 6.14 Help given in the home or to relatives

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>	
	%
Frequency of giving help in the home or to relatives	
Every day	14
At least once a week	48
At least once a month	20
Less often	8
Does not give help	10
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,665</i>

Table 6.15 Types of help given in the home or to relatives

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>	
	<i>Percentages[†]</i>
Cleaning, vacuuming or gardening	76
Cooking or helping to prepare meals	56
Doing shopping for someone	44
Baby sitting or caring for children	41
Washing or ironing clothes	36
Taking care of someone who is sick	28
Decorating or repairs	24
Writing letters or filling in forms for someone who has problems reading or writing	9
Helping out in a family business	6
Anything else	10
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who gave help in the home or to relatives</i>	<i>1,522</i>

[†] Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents could report more than one activity.

Forty-seven per cent of young people said they gave help to non-relatives – 2% said they gave help every day, 15% gave help at least once a week and 30% gave help at least once a month or less often. Forty-five per cent of young people who gave help to non-relatives cited baby-sitting or caring for children, while 24% mentioned ‘doing shopping for someone’ and the same proportion mentioned ‘cleaning, vacuuming or gardening’. Other activities mentioned less frequently included taking care of someone who was sick (16%) and cooking or helping to prepare meals (14%).

Among young people who gave help to non-relatives, 56% received money – (14% always received money and 42% sometimes received money). The remaining 44% never received money.

The most commonly reported incentives for providing unpaid work were social or career related - 60% said they would be more likely to provide help if their friends were helping, 48% referred to improving skills or qualifications and 39% improving career prospects. The need for help in getting started was also commonly mentioned (31%).

Tables 6.16 to 6.18

Table 6.16 Help given to non-relatives

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>	
	%
Frequency of giving help to non-relatives	
Every day	2
At least once a week	15
At least once a month	19
Less often	11
Does not give help	53
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,665</i>
Whether received money for giving help to non-relatives	
Always received money	14
Sometimes received money	42
Never received money	44
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who gave help to non-relatives</i>	<i>731</i>

Table 6.17 Types of help given to non-relatives

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>	
	<i>Percentages¹</i>
Baby sitting or caring for children	45
Doing shopping for someone	24
Cleaning, vacuuming or gardening	24
Taking care of someone who is sick	16
Cooking or helping to prepare meals	14
Decorating or repairs	11
Writing letters or filling in forms for someone who has problems reading or writing	11
Washing or ironing clothes	4
Anything else	11
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who gave help to non-relatives</i>	<i>732</i>

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents could report more than one activity.

Table 6.18 Incentives for giving unpaid help

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>	
<i>Percentages¹</i>	
If my friends were helping	60
If it would help improve my skills or qualifications	48
If it would be good for my career	39
If someone already there could provide help to get me started	31
If there was more information about the things I could do	19
If someone could provide transport	17
If expenses could be paid	12
None of these	15
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,650</i>

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents could report more than one activity.

Tables 6.19 and 6.21 show the proportions of young people who gave help at least once a week in the home or to relatives and to non-relatives, analysed by age, sex and ethnic group. These variations are discussed in the text below. The tables also show the percentages who had did not give any help in the home or to relatives. This analysis is described separately in the following section.

Demographic characteristics associated with young people giving help in the home or to relatives and to non-relatives

Age

Young people aged 11 were the least likely to give regular help in the home or to relatives. Fifty-four per cent of 11 year olds said they gave help in the home or to relatives at least once a week, compared with between 64% and 67% of young people aged 12 to 15.

Table 6.19

Table 6.19 Help given in the home or to relatives and to non-relatives by age and sex

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
	Gave help in the home or to relatives at least once a week	Gave help at least once a week to non-relatives	Did not give help in the home or to relatives	
	<i>Percentages</i>			<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
11	54	14	15	325
12	64	22	9	329
13	67	13	7	330
14	64	18	9	325
15	64	19	10	355
Male	57	13	14	895
Female	68	21	6	769
All	62	17	10	1,664

Sex

Girls were more likely than boys to give regular help in the home or to relatives and to non-relatives. For example, 68 % of girls said they gave help in the home or to

relatives at least once a week, compared with 57% of boys. The equivalent proportions for giving help to non-relatives were 21% and 13%.

Figure 6.5 shows the types of help young people gave in the home or to relatives by sex. As can be seen from the chart, girls were generally more likely to mention housework-related activities than boys. For example, 65% of girls who gave help in the home or to relatives cited cooking or helping to prepare meals, compared with just 46% of boys. Similarly, girls were more than twice as likely as boys to mention washing or ironing clothes (50% compared with 21%). Girls were also more likely than boys to cite babysitting or caring for children (47% compared with 33%) and taking care of someone who was sick (35% compared with 21%). There was only one activity that boys were significantly more likely than girls to mention: decorating or doing repair work – 28% of boys cited this compared with 20% of girls. A similar pattern by sex was observed in relation to the types of help given to non-relatives (table not shown).

Tables 6.19, 6.20

Table 6.20 Types of help given in the home or to relatives by sex

	<i>England & Wales 2003</i>		
	<i>Percentages¹</i>		
	Male	Female	All
Cleaning, vacuuming or gardening	74	78	76
Cooking or helping to prepare meals	46	65	56
Doing shopping for someone	44	43	44
Baby sitting or caring for children	33	47	41
Washing or ironing clothes	21	50	36
Taking care of someone who is sick	21	35	28
Decorating or repairs	28	20	24
Writing letters or filling in forms for someone who has problems reading or writing	5	12	9
Helping out in a family business	7	6	6
Anything else	11	10	10
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who gave help in the home or to relatives</i>	<i>798</i>	<i>724</i>	<i>1,522</i>

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents could report more than one activity.

Ethnic group

Young people from all minority ethnic groups were more likely than white young people to give help in the home or to relatives on a regular basis. Thus, the proportion saying they gave help in the home or to relatives at least once a week ranged from 61% of white young people to 77% of Indian and 78% of black African young people.

The pattern was different for giving help to non-relatives. In this case, white young people were more likely than most of the minority ethnic groups to give help to non-relatives at least once a week. However, those of mixed race were the most likely to have given help (26%).

Table 6.21

Table 6.21 Help given in the home or to relatives and to non-relatives by ethnic group

England & Wales 2003

Ethnic group	Gave help in the home or to relatives at least once a week	Gave help at least once a week to non-relatives	Did not give help in the home or to relatives		
				<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>
White	61	17	10		817
All Asian	75	11	8		492
Indian	77	13	7		189
Pakistani	70	7	11		148
Bangladeshi	67	11	11		104
All Black	74	12	9		208
Caribbean	69	15	8		94
African	78	11	11		98
Mixed race	73	26	8		75
All	62	17	10		1,664

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Characteristics associated with giving no help in the home or to relatives

Age and sex

Young people aged 11 were the most likely to give no help in the home or to relatives (15%). Among those aged 12 to 15 the proportion ranged from 7% to 10%.

Boys were more than twice as likely as girls to give no help in the home or to relatives (14% compared with 6%).

Table 6.19

Socio-economic group

Young people living in households where the HRP had never worked or was long-term unemployed were the least likely to give 'no help' in the home or to relatives - only 2% of this group said they did not give help. Among those living in households where the HRP was in an occupations group, the proportion not giving help was higher - ranging from 8% to 12%.

Table 6.22

Table 6.22 Percentages who did not give help in the home or to relatives by socio-economic group of the HRP

England & Wales 2003

Socio-economic group of HRP	Did not give help in the home or to relatives	
	Percentages	Respondents aged 11 to 15
Higher and lower managerial and professional occupations	8	528
Intermediate occupations; small employers	12	280
Lower supervisory and technical; semi-routine occupations	11	403
Routine occupations	9	210
Never worked and long-term unemployed	2	135
All	10	1,566

Data for respondents living in households where the HRP is a full-time student are excluded due to the small number of respondents. These are included in the figures for All respondents.

Children's contribution to household chores

Children were most likely to have taken responsibility for tidying their bedroom – 37% of children said they usually tidied their bedroom and 25% said it was usually shared between themselves and others. Next to this, children were most likely to take responsibility for making their breakfast (37% respondent, 14% shared) and washing the dishes (4% respondent, 21% shared). As we might expect, the vast majority of children (90%) said that others usually did the cooking¹⁸.

Tables 6.23 to 6.26

Variations by age

Children were more likely to take responsibility for making their breakfast and tidying their bedroom as they got older. For example, the proportion saying they usually made their breakfast increased from 30% among those aged 8 to 48% among those aged 10. Similarly, 29% of 8 year olds said they usually tidied their bedroom, compared with 49% of 10 year olds.

Tables 6.23 to 6.26

Table 6.23 Person who usually tidies the child's bedroom by age

England & Wales 2003

Person who usually tidies the child's bedroom	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
The respondent	29	34	49	37
The respondent and others	24	28	22	25
Others	48	38	29	38
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	385	309	1,031

¹⁸ Pilot testing showed that when children were asked about how much help they gave in the home they were likely to exaggerate the amount. At the main stage, the questions were made more neutral and children were asked about tasks their parents were likely to do such as cooking, as well as those they may have done themselves, such as tidying their bedroom.

Table 6.24 Person usually makes child's breakfast in the morning by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Who usually makes child's breakfast in the morning	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
The respondent	30	33	48	37
The respondent and others	15	13	14	14
Others	54	53	39	49
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	385	309	1,031

Table 6.25 Person who usually washes the dishes by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Person who usually washes the dishes	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
The respondent	5	3	5	4
The respondent and others	18	23	21	21
Others	77	74	74	75
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	335	385	309	1,029

Table 6.26 Person who usually does the cooking by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Person who usually does the cooking	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
The respondent	5	3	6	5
The respondent and others	5	4	7	5
Others	90	93	87	90
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

7 Politics and current affairs

The Government is keen to encourage and support civic participation by young people. A key element of this is encouraging their interest in and awareness of politics and political issues. There is particular interest with encouraging young people's interest and engagement in politics and political processes. The Children's and Young People's Survey is a key source of information in this area. It provides a picture of young people's views about politics and voting and of the types of local, global and national issues in which they are interested. It also provides information about children's and young people's level of awareness of the news and current affairs. These issues are explored in this chapter.

Key Findings

- Forty-one per cent of 12 to 15 year olds agreed with the statement 'None of our politicians are bothered about the problems facing young people today'.
- Eighty-one per cent of 12 to 15 year olds believed there should be a way to give young people a voice in politics.
- Ninety-five per cent of young people said they had heard or seen the news in the last week and 85% said they discussed the news with others at least once a week.
- Sixty-nine per cent of young people said that they would vote in a general election when they were 18.
- Sixty per cent of young people felt that the current voting age should be lower.

Young people's views about politics

Young people aged 12 to 15 years were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with three statements about politics. These statements reflect reasons for political apathy and disengagement and were intended to provide a picture of young people's views of politics and the extent to which they feel young people's concerns are addressed within formal politics. The statements, and the responses to them were as follows:

- None of our politicians are bothered about the problems facing young people today (41% agreed).
- Young people are just not interested in politics (57% agreed).
- There should be a way to give young people a voice in politics (81% agreed).

Table 7.1

Table 7.1 Agreement with statements about politics by age

	<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
	Age				
	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%
None of our politicians are bothered about the problems facing young people today					
Definitely agree	10	10	12	7	10
Tend to agree	30	32	31	33	31
Tend to disagree	34	36	40	45	39
Definitely disagree	10	10	8	4	8
Don't know	17	11	10	11	12
Young people are just not interested in politics					
Definitely agree	19	13	13	14	15
Tend to agree	42	43	42	39	42
Tend to disagree	19	34	31	31	29
Definitely disagree	9	4	11	13	9
Don't know	11	5	3	4	5
There should be a way to give young people a voice in politics					
Definitely agree	41	36	45	38	40
Tend to agree	33	43	38	48	41
Tend to disagree	10	11	7	6	9
Definitely disagree	1	2	4	4	3
Don't know	15	7	5	5	8
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	329	330	327	355	1,341

Variations by age

- *Young people are just not interested in politics.*
Younger respondents were most likely to agree with this statement – 61% of 12 year olds definitely or tended to agree compared with 53% of 15 year olds.
- *There should be a way to give young people a voice in politics.*
Agreement with this statement was high across all age bands, however it was highest amongst older respondents. Among those aged 15, 86% definitely or tended to agree compared with 74% of those aged 12.

Table 7.1

Variations by ethnicity

- *None of our politicians are bothered about the problems facing young people today.*
Black Caribbean, Bangladeshi and Pakistani young people were most likely to agree with this statement (60%, 57% and 55%). Among black African, white and Indian young people the proportions were lower (43%, 41% and 40%).
- *Young people are just not interested in politics.*
The proportion agreeing with this statement was highest among black African, white and Bangladeshi young people (64%, 58% and 57%). Among Pakistani, Indian and black Caribbean young people the proportions were 50%, 44% and 44%.
- *There should be a way to give young people a voice in politics.*

Again, agreement was high across all young people, however mixed race, black Caribbean and Indian young people were most likely to agree with this statement (95%, 90% and 88%), while black Africans and Bangladeshis were least likely to do so (71%). The proportions for white and Pakistani young people were 80% and 77%.

Table 7.2

Table 7.2 Agreement with statements about politics by ethnic group

	<i>England & Wales 2003</i>									
	White	Asian				Black			Mixed race	All
		All	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	All	Caribbean	African		
	<i>Percentages saying they definitely or tend to agree</i>									
None of our politicians are bothered about the problems facing young people today	41	47	40	55	57	50	60	43	50	41
Young people are just not interested in politics	58	47	44	50	57	54	44	64	50	57
There should be a way to give young people a voice in politics	80	82	88	77	71	81	90	71	95	80
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	653	403	160	122	78	161	73	77	62	1,339

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Variations by type of area (Non-rural or Rural)

- *None of our politicians are bothered about the problems facing young people today.*

Young people living in non-rural areas were more likely to agree with this statement than those living in rural areas (43% compared with 35%).

Table 7.3

Table 7.3 Agreement with statements about politics by whether respondent lives in a rural or non-rural area in England

	<i>England 2003</i>		
	Non-rural	Rural	All
	<i>Percentages saying they definitely or tend to agree</i>		
None of our politicians are bothered about the problems facing young people today	43	35	41
Young people are just not interested in politics	56	58	56
There should be a way to give young people a voice in politics	80	82	81
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	1,089	202	1,291

The rural/non-rural classification is not available for Wales. Figures for 'All' include Wales.

Young people's views about voting

Overall, 69% of young people said they would vote in a general election when they were 18. Nineteen per cent said they would not vote and the remainder said they did not know (13%).

Thirty-six per cent of young people felt the current voting age was right, however most felt that the age should be lower (60%). Forty-one per cent of young people said the voting age should be 16 or 17 and 15% said that the age should be 13, 14 or 15.

Thirty-six per cent of young people had accompanied an adult when they went to vote in a general election (36%), while 73% had voted in an election, for example a club or school election, themselves.

Tables 7.4 to 7.7

Table 7.4 Whether will vote in a general election when 18 by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Whether will vote in a general election when 18	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	64	60	75	72	73	69
No	20	24	17	15	17	19
Don't know	16	17	9	13	10	13
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>325</i>	<i>329</i>	<i>330</i>	<i>327</i>	<i>355</i>	<i>1,666</i>

Table 7.5 Age people should be able to vote in a general election at by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Age people should be able to vote in a general election at ¹	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
10 to 12	7	12	3	1		4
13 to 15	25	18	17	10	4	15
16	29	41	37	43	41	38
17	2	2	5	4	2	3
18	31	23	36	41	50	36
Over 18	7	4	3	2	3	4
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>295</i>	<i>297</i>	<i>302</i>	<i>301</i>	<i>332</i>	<i>1,527</i>

¹ Excludes four per cent of respondents said that people should be able to vote at one or two years.

Table 7.6 Whether accompanied an adult when voting in a general election by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Whether accompanied an adult when voting in a general election	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	35	32	39	42	31	36
No	63	65	59	56	68	62
Don't know	2	3	1	2	1	2
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>325</i>	<i>329</i>	<i>330</i>	<i>327</i>	<i>355</i>	<i>1,666</i>

Table 7.7 Whether voted in any other type of election by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
Whether voted in any other type of election	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	74	70	75	73	72	73
No	26	30	25	27	28	27
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	325	327	330	326	355	1,663

Variations by age

Young people aged 13 to 15 were more likely to say they would vote in a general election when they were 18 than those aged 11 and 12. Between 72% and 75% of 13 to 15 year olds said they would vote in a general election, compared with 64% and 60% of 11 and 12 year olds. Those in the older age groups were also more likely to say the current voting age was right. Fifteen year olds were twice as likely as 12 year olds to say 18 was the right age (50% compared with 23%).

Across all ages, relatively high proportions of young people said the age for voting in a general election should be lower than 18, although the ages stated varied. Respondents from younger age groups were more likely to say that people should be able to vote under the age of 16 than those from older ages. Twenty-five per cent of 11 year olds said the voting age should be 13 to 15, compared with just 4% of 15 year olds. Conversely, older respondents were more likely to say the voting age should be 16 or 17 than younger respondents. The proportion of young people saying people should be able to vote at 16 or 17 fell from 43% among those aged 15 to 31% among those aged 11.

Tables 7.4, 7.5

Variations by sex

As can be seen from Table 7.8, girls generally reported more favourable views about voting than boys. Seventy-two per cent of girls said they would vote in a general election when they were 18, compared with 65% of boys. Similarly, the proportion of young people saying that they had voted in another type of election was slightly higher among girls than boys (76% compared with 69%).

Boys were a little more likely than girls to say that the current voting age was right (39% compared with 34%), while a higher proportion of girls than boys said the age should be 16 or 17 (45% compared with 37%).

Tables 7.8, 7.9

Table 7.8 Young people's views and experiences of voting by sex

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>			
	Male	Female	All
Percentage who said that they would vote in a general election when 18	65	72	69
Percentage who had accompanied an adult when voting in a general election	34	38	36
Percentage who had voted in an election	69	76	73
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>894</i>	<i>769</i>	<i>1663</i>

Table 7.9 Age people should be able to vote in a general election at by sex

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>			
Age people should be able to vote in a general election at ¹	Male	Female	All
	%	%	%
10 to 12	4	5	4
13 to 15	16	13	15
16	33	43	38
17	4	2	3
18	39	34	36
Over 18	4	3	4
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>834</i>	<i>693</i>	<i>1,527</i>

¹ Excludes four per cent of respondents said that people should be able to vote at one or two years.

Young people's awareness of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Less than one fifth of young people aged 12 to 15 (17%) said they had heard of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child¹⁹. There was little variation by age – the proportion saying they had heard of the Convention ranged from 15% to 19%.

Table 7.10

Table 7.10 Whether heard of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>					
Whether heard of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child	Age				All
	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	15	16	19	18	17
No	82	80	76	78	79
Don't know	3	4	5	4	4
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	<i>329</i>	<i>330</i>	<i>327</i>	<i>355</i>	<i>1,341</i>

¹⁹ The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, agreed by the countries of the United Nations, prescribes that young people should be guaranteed certain rights, including the right to express their views.

Issues that worry young people

Although young people may be disengaged from formal politics they can still take an active interest in current affairs and political issues. To examine the types of issues young people were concerned about, young people aged 12 to 15 years were asked whether there were any issues that worried them²⁰.

Young people expressed high levels of concern about wars taking place in the world (62%) and terrorist attacks in the world (60%). As mentioned in chapter six, the survey took part during a time of increased public protest against the war with Iraq and this may be reflected in these figures.

A high proportion of young people expressed concern about bullying (59%). This finding is consistent with young people's fears about bullying in their neighbourhood and school. As discussed in chapter four, among those who felt unsafe in their neighbourhood or school relatively high proportions cited bullying.

Young people also expressed concern about problems in their local area. Fifty-eight per cent said they were concerned about drug-taking in their town or village, while 48% and 47% worried about crime and racial prejudice in their town or village.

The other issues expressed by more than two-fifths of young people were global problems - 46% cited cruelty to animals and 45% mentioned hunger in poor countries.

Table 7.11

Table 7.11 Issues that worry young people by age

Issues that worry young people	England & Wales 2003				
	Age				
	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%
Wars taking place in the world	57	65	66	58	62
Terrorist attacks in the World	57	65	62	56	60
Bullying	60	65	56	53	59
Drug-taking in your town or village	65	59	54	52	58
Crime in your town or village	46	54	47	46	48
Racial prejudice in your town or village	44	47	49	49	47
Cruelty to animals	44	46	49	46	46
Hunger in poor countries	45	51	41	43	45
Taking exams or tests	32	31	42	45	38
Pollution	29	31	31	33	31
None of these	6	6	3	4	5
<i>Respondents aged 12 to 15</i>	328	328	326	355	1,337

Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one issue.

Variations by age

Younger respondents were more likely than their older counterparts to say they worried about drug-taking in their town or village and bullying. Sixty-five per cent of 12 year olds cited drug-taking in their town or village compared with 52% of 15 year olds. The equivalent proportions for worrying about bullying were 60% and 53%.

²⁰ To capture a wide range of answers, a showcard was used which listed global and local problems, as well as personal issues such as bullying and taking exams or tests.

Young people aged 14 or 15 were more likely than those aged 12 or 13 to say they worried about taking exams or tests (42% and 45% compared with 32% and 31%). Those aged 14 and 15 were studying for their GCSEs at the time of the survey which may explain their greater concern about exams.

Table 7.11

Young people's awareness of the news

The vast majority of young people (95%) said they had heard or seen the news in the last week. Among this group, 89% said they had watched a television news programme, 58% said they had read a newspaper, 49% had listened to a radio news programme and 12% had looked at the news on the Internet.

Eighty-five per cent of young people said they discussed the news with others at least once a week, usually talking with friends (78%) or parents (67%), or less frequently with other member of the family (28%) and teachers (31%).

Tables 7.12, 7.13

Variations by age

Young people aged 11 were slightly less likely than older respondents to say they had heard or seen the news in the last week (91% compared with 95% to 97%).

Older respondents were more likely than their younger counterparts to have read a newspaper in the last week. Hence, among those who had heard or seen the news in the last week, 67% of 15 year olds had read a newspaper, compared with just 44% of 11 year olds. The same pattern was observed in relation to listening to a radio news programme and looking at news on the Internet. Conversely, 15 year olds were less likely than younger people to say they had watched a television news programme in the last week (82% compared with 87% to 94%).

The proportion of young people who said they discussed news with others at least once a week showed no consistent age variation. Among those who discussed the news with others, older respondents were more likely than younger respondents to say they discussed the news with their friends and teachers. Eighty-two per cent of 15 year olds said they discussed the news with friends, compared with 71% of 11 year olds. The equivalent proportions for discussing the news with teachers were 34% and 24%.

Tables 7.12, 7.13

Table 7.12 How young people find out about things that are happening in the news by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
	Age					
	11	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Whether seen or heard the news in the last week						
Yes	91	95	97	96	95	95
No	9	5	3	4	5	5
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	325	329	330	327	355	1,666
Types of news seen or heard in the last week¹						
Watched a television news programme	91	87	93	94	82	89
Read a newspaper	44	53	53	72	67	58
Listened to a radio news programme	44	42	49	55	53	49
Looked at news on the internet	8	9	12	13	20	12
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who had seen or heard the news in the last week</i>	297	306	307	314	335	1,559

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one source.

Table 7.13 Whether young people discuss the news with others at least once a week by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>						
	Age					
	11	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Whether discusses the news with others at least once a week						
Yes	86	81	81	88	87	85
No	14	19	19	12	13	15
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	325	329	330	327	355	1,666
Groups respondent discusses the news with at least once a week¹						
Friends	71	75	79	82	82	78
Parents	70	62	66	69	66	67
Teachers	24	28	33	34	34	31
Anyone else in family	26	25	28	33	26	28
Anyone else	6	2	5	6	4	5
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15 who discuss the news with others at least once a week</i>	281	275	274	287	312	1,429

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one group.

Children's awareness of the news

Eighty-nine per cent of children said they had heard or seen the news. Among this group, the vast majority (92%) said they had watched a television news programme, 45% said they had listened to a radio news programme, 32% said they had read a newspaper and 6% said they had looked at news on the Internet.

Overall, 69% of children said they had talked to other people about things that had happened in the news. Among this group, children were most likely to have talked

about the news with friends (84%) and parents (53%) and less frequently with other family members (22%) and teachers (22%).

Variations by age

Children aged 10 were slightly more likely than those aged 8 or 9 to have seen or heard the news (93% compared with 86% and 87%). Thirty-six per cent of 10 year olds had read a newspaper compared with 25% of 8 year olds. The equivalent proportions for watching a television news programme were 95% and 90%.

Children aged 10 were also more likely than those aged 8 and 9 to have talked about the news with others (81% compared with 63% and 65%).

Tables 7.14 to 7.16

Table 7.14 How children find out about things that are happening in the news by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
	Age			All
	8	9	10	
	%	%	%	%
Whether seen or heard the news				
Yes	86	87	93	89
No	14	13	7	11
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	336	386	309	1,031
Types of news seen or heard¹				
Watch a television news programme	90	92	95	92
Listen to the radio news programme	44	47	44	45
Read a newspaper	25	34	36	32
Look at the news on the internet	6	8	5	6
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10 who had seen or heard the news</i>	277	333	280	890

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one group.

Table 7.15 Whether child talks about the news with others by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether talks about the news with others	Age			All
	8	9	10	
	%	%	%	%
Yes	63	65	81	69
No	37	35	19	30
Don't know	0	0	1	0
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Table 7.16 Groups children talk about the news with by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Groups children talk about the news with ¹	Age			All
	8	9	10	
	%	%	%	%
Friends	80	82	88	84
Parents	49	58	52	53
Other family members	15	23	26	22
Teachers	23	22	22	22
Other	1	3	1	2
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10 who talked to people about the news</i>	207	269	242	718

¹ Percentages sum to more than 100 per cent because respondents could mention more than one group.

8 Moral responsibility

Active citizenship not only involves a range of participation at different levels such as participation in social networks, civic engagement and the provision of formal and informal help, it also involves a series of responsibilities. The adult Citizenship Survey includes a series of questions about people's views of citizenship duties and their rights and responsibilities. Due to differences in comprehension levels between the young people and adults it was not possible to include the same questions regarding citizenship rights and responsibilities in the Children's and Young People's Survey. However a more limited picture of children's and young people's views of responsibilities was obtained by examining their views on whether certain actions were perceived as right or wrong.

Key Findings

- White young people were more likely to say it was okay to tell the police if someone was breaking the law (81%), while young people from a black or mixed race ethnic group were the least likely to do so (67% and 65%).
- When asked to select from a specific list of actions, which ones they considered to be the most wrong, young people were most likely to say that cheating in exams or tests would be most wrong (39%). Next to this, the most commonly cited wrong actions were smoking under the age of 16 (20%), buying alcohol to drink under the age of 18 (16%) and telling lies to a parent (13%).
- Bangladeshi, Pakistani and black African respondents were the most likely to say that buying alcohol to drink under the age of 18 would be most wrong (33%, 32% and 28%).

Young people's views about certain actions

Young people were asked 11 questions about whether it was okay to do certain things, for example, dropping litter in the street or breaking school rules²¹. On all of the questions there was a desirable answer²² - for most the desirable response was 'no', however, for three of the questions, it was 'yes'. The questions and the percentages of young people reporting desirable responses were as follows:

- Is it okay to cheat in exams or tests? (95% said no)
- Is it okay to drop litter in the street? (92% said no)
- Is it okay to tell a teacher if someone is being bullied? (90% said yes)
- Is it okay to break school rules? (81% said no)

²¹ In order to encourage young people to answer honestly, the questions were self-completion. Young people were therefore able to give their answers in private.

²² The desirable answer was the one generally perceived as morally correct.

- Is it okay to tell lies to a parent? (80% said no)
- Is it okay to tell the police if someone is breaking the law? (80% said yes)
- Is it okay to smoke under the age of 16? (80% said no)
- Is it okay to buy alcohol to drink under the age of 18? (76% said no)
- Is it okay to tell lies to a teacher? (73% said no)
- Is it okay to tell a teacher if someone is breaking school rules? (63% said yes)
- If you found £5 in school would it be okay to keep it? (61% said no)

Decisions about the acceptability of breaking school rules and reporting misbehaviour to teachers appeared to be less clear cut for older children. For example, 10% of young people aged 15 said they did not know whether it was okay to break school rules, compared with just 1% of young people aged 11 years. Similarly, 23% of 15 year olds said they did not know whether it was okay to tell a teacher if someone was breaking school rules compared with 13% of 11 year olds.

Tables 8.1 to 8.11

Table 8.1 Whether it is okay to cheat in exams or tests by age

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>						
	Age					
Whether it is okay to cheat in exams or tests	11	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	3	3	4	3	3	3
No	97	94	94	94	96	95
Don't know	0	3	3	3	1	2
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

Table 8.2 Whether it is okay to drop litter in the street by age

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>						
	Age					
Whether it is okay to drop litter in the street	11	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	5	4	3	4	3	4
No	90	89	93	94	91	92
Don't know	4	7	4	2	6	5
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

Table 8.3 Whether it is okay to tell a teacher if someone is being bullied by age

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>						
Whether it is okay to tell a teacher if someone is being bullied	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	86	93	92	89	90	90
No	8	3	4	6	4	5
Don't know	6	4	4	5	6	5
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

Table 8.4 Whether it is okay to break school rules by age

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>						
Whether it is okay to break school rules	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	7	10	12	16	15	12
No	91	85	78	73	76	81
Don't know	1	5	10	11	10	7
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

Table 8.5 Whether it is okay to tell lies to a parent by age

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>						
Whether it is okay to tell lies to a parent	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	11	8	12	14	15	12
No	81	82	79	80	76	80
Don't know	8	9	9	6	9	8
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

Table 8.6 Whether it is okay to tell the police if someone is breaking the law by age

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>						
Whether it is okay to tell the police if someone is breaking the law	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	83	84	83	74	76	80
No	6	11	10	11	12	10
Don't know	12	5	7	15	12	10
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

Table 8.7 Whether it is okay to smoke under the age of 16 by age

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>						
Whether it is okay to smoke under the age of 16	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	5	7	8	21	27	14
No	90	88	85	70	67	80
Don't know	4	5	7	9	6	6
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

Table 8.8 Whether it is okay to buy alcohol to drink under the age of 18 by age

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>						
Whether it is okay to buy alcohol to drink under the age of 18	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	8	11	12	22	31	17
No	87	85	80	72	59	76
Don't know	6	4	9	6	10	7
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

Table 8.9 Whether it is okay to tell lies to a teacher by age

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>						
Whether it is okay to tell lies to a teacher	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	9	13	14	23	24	16
No	84	77	74	65	65	73
Don't know	8	10	12	12	11	11
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

Table 8.10 Whether it is okay to tell a teacher if someone is breaking school rules by age

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>						
Whether it is okay to tell a teacher if someone is breaking school rules	Age					All
	11	12	13	14	15	
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	74	70	64	54	53	63
No	13	14	17	27	24	19
Don't know	13	16	20	19	23	18
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

Table 8.11 Whether it is okay to keep £5 found in school by age

Whether it is okay to keep £5 found in school	England and Wales 2003					
	Age					
	11	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Yes	16	24	24	27	29	24
No	70	59	65	58	55	61
Don't know	14	16	11	15	16	15
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	323	329	328	327	355	1,662

Variations by demographic characteristics

Age

There was no pattern of variation by age for the questions about whether it was okay to cheat in exams or tests and whether it was okay to drop litter.

Young people aged 12 to 15 years were a little more likely than those aged 11 to say it was okay to tell a teacher if someone was being bullied. For example, 93% of 12 year olds said it was okay to tell a teacher if someone was being bullied compared with 86% of 11 year olds.

For all of the other measures, younger respondents were more likely than their older counterparts to report 'desirable' responses. This disparity was greatest for the questions about buying alcohol to drink under the age of 18, smoking under the age of 16, and telling a teacher if someone was breaking school rules.

Eighty-seven per cent of 11 year olds did not agree with the statement it was okay to buy alcohol to drink under the age of 18, compared with just 59% of 15 year olds. Similarly, 90% of young people aged 11 said it was not okay to smoke under the age of 16, compared with 67% of young people aged 15 years. The equivalent proportions for the question about telling a teacher if someone was breaking school rules were 74% and 53%. Research shows that as young people get older they are more likely to drink alcohol or smoke²³ which probably explains, at least in part, the lower proportions of older respondents who felt these actions were wrong.

Tables 8.1 to 8.11

Sex

On the whole, girls tended to be more likely than boys to give the 'desirable' response. Girls were more likely than boys to say it was:

not okay to:

- cheat in exams or tests (97% compared with 93%);
 - tell lies to a parent (82% compared with 77%);
 - tell lies to a teacher (76% compared with 70%);
 - keep five pounds found in school (70% compared with 53%); and
- okay to:
- tell a teacher if someone was being bullied (92% compared with 88%).

²³ See for example, *The 2002 survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among secondary school pupils in England* from the official documents website (www.offical-documents.co.uk/document/deps/doh/sddr02/report.htm).

Conversely, boys were a little more likely than girls to say it was not okay to smoke under the age of 16 (82% compared with 78%). This variation probably reflects the higher smoking rate among girls; among those aged 13 to 15, girls are more likely to smoke than boys²⁴.

Table 8.12

Table 8.12 Percentages reporting desirable responses for questions about whether it is okay to do certain things, by sex

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>			
	Male	Female	All
	<i>Percentages</i>		
Percentages who said it was not okay to:			
Cheat in exams or tests	93	97	95
Drop litter in the street	91	92	92
Break school rules	80	81	81
Tell lies to a parent	77	82	80
Smoke under the age of 16	82	78	80
Buy alcohol to drink under the age of 18	76	77	76
Tell lies to a teacher	70	76	73
Keep five pounds found in school	53	70	61
Percentages who said it was okay to:			
Tell a teacher if someone is being bullied	88	92	90
Tell a teacher if someone is breaking school rules	62	64	63
Tell the Police if someone is breaking the law	79	80	80
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	895	767	1,662

Ethnic group

White young people were most likely to say it was okay to tell the police if someone was breaking the law (81%), while young people from a black or mixed race ethnic group were the least likely to do so (67% and 65%). The proportion for young Asian people was in between at 73%.

Asian young people were more likely than white or black young people to report desirable responses for the questions about dropping litter in the street, keeping £5 found in school and telling a teacher if someone was breaking school rules. For example, 96% of Asian young people disagreed with the statement it is okay to drop litter in the street compared with 91% of white and black young people. There were no differences between the Asian sub-groups, but within the black group, Caribbeans were more likely than Africans to say it was not okay to drop litter (93% compared with 83%). On the questions about keeping five pounds found in school, 72% of young Asian people disagreed with the statement it is okay to keep £5 found in school compared with just 62% and 61% of black and white young people and just 42% of mixed race young people.

²⁴ See for example, *The 2002 survey of smoking, drinking and drug use among secondary school pupils in England* from the official documents website (www.official-documents.co.uk/documents/deps/doh/sddr02.report.htm).

On the other questions, young people from Asian or black ethnic groups were generally more likely to report desirable responses than white young people. For example, among Asian and black young people, 89% and 88% disagreed with the statement it is okay to tell lies to a parent, compared with 79% of white young people. Similarly, 91% of Asian and black young people disagreed with the statement it is okay to smoke under the age of 16 compared with 79% of white and 73% of mixed race young people. The same pattern was observed on the questions about buying alcohol to drink under the age of 16 and telling lies to a teacher. Among young people of mixed race, the proportions reporting desirable responses on these measures were generally low.

Table 8.13

Table 8.13 Percentages reporting desirable responses for questions about whether it is okay to do certain things, by ethnic group

	England and Wales 2003									All
	White		Asian			Black			Mixed	
	All	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	All	Caribbean	African	race		
Percentages who said it was not okay to:										
Cheat in exams or tests	95	96	97	96	100	97	100	100	100	95
Drop litter in the street	91	96	93	100	100	91	93	83	96	92
Break school rules	80	89	90	93	100	88	92	89	74	81
Tell lies to a parent	79	89	90	89	90	88	92	88	85	80
Smoke under the age of 16	79	91	90	89	100	91	86	94	73	80
Buy alcohol to drink under the age of 18	75	88	87	85	100	88	92	89	81	76
Tell lies to a teacher	73	83	83	85	89	79	79	78	54	73
Keep five pounds found in school	61	72	73	70	70	62	57	65	42	61
Percentages who said it was okay to:										
Tell a teacher if someone is being bullied	90	86	87	93	80	88	85	89	93	90
Tell a teacher if someone is breaking school rules	63	71	67	74	80	56	54	56	63	63
Tell the Police if someone is breaking the law	81	73	73	74	78	67	69	67	65	80
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>816</i>	<i>492</i>	<i>190</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>103</i>	<i>207</i>	<i>95</i>	<i>97</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>1,662</i>

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Variations by household type

Overall, young people living in a two-parent household were more likely to report 'desirable' responses than those living with a lone parent. This difference was particularly marked for the questions about telling the police if someone was breaking the law, dropping litter in the street and telling lies to a teacher. Eighty-three per cent of young people living in a two-parent household said it was okay to tell the police if someone was breaking the law, compared with 71% of those living with a lone parent. Similarly, 94% of young people living in a two-parent household disagreed with the statement it is okay to drop litter in the street, compared with 86% of young people living with a lone parent. The equivalent proportions for the question about telling lies to a teacher were 76% and 65%.

Table 8.14

Variations by Deprivation

Young people living in affluent areas were more likely than those living in deprived areas to give the 'desirable' response for the questions about telling lies to a parent, keeping five pounds found in school, and telling the police if someone was breaking

the law. Seventy per cent of young people living in the 20% least deprived areas disagreed with the statement it was okay to keep five pounds found in school compared with just 53% of those living in the 20% most deprived areas. The corresponding proportions for saying it was okay to tell the police if someone was breaking the law were 85% and 73%.

Table 8.15

Table 8.14 Percentages reporting desirable responses for questions about whether it is okay to do certain things, by household type

England and Wales 2003

	Couple with dependent child/children	Lone parent with dependent child/children	Two or more single or multiple person family units	All
<i>Percentages</i>				
Percentages who said it was not okay to:				
Cheat in exams of tests	96	91	100	95
Drop litter in the street	94	86	84	92
Break school rules	82	76	87	81
Tell lies to a parent	81	77	77	80
Smoke under the age of 16	82	75	81	80
Buy alcohol to drink under the age of 18	78	72	74	76
Tell lies to a teacher	76	65	77	73
Keep five pounds found in school	63	56	56	61
Percentages who said it was okay to:				
Tell a teacher if someone is being bullied	91	87	87	90
Tell a teacher if someone is breaking school rules	65	57	74	63
Tell the Police if someone is breaking the law	83	71	75	80
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,131</i>	<i>450</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>1,662</i>

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Table 8.15 Percentages reporting desirable responses for questions about whether it is okay to do certain things by Index of Multiple Deprivation¹

England and Wales 2003

	Least deprived		Most deprived		All	
	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 6	7 to 8	9 to 10	All
Percentages who said it was not okay to:						
Cheat in exams of tests	97	96	91	96	96	95
Drop litter in the street	92	93	86	97	90	92
Break school rules	76	77	84	86	82	81
Tell lies to a parent	85	79	79	80	79	80
Smoke under the age of 16	80	85	77	82	79	80
Buy alcohol to drink under the age of 18	75	79	74	78	75	76
Tell lies to a teacher	73	74	72	77	72	73
Keep five pounds found in school	70	67	61	61	53	61
Percentages who said it was okay to:						
Tell a teacher if someone is being bullied	90	87	89	94	89	90
Tell a teacher if someone is breaking school rules	71	56	62	71	60	63
Tell the Police if someone is breaking the law	85	84	83	80	73	80
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>166</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>190</i>	<i>269</i>	<i>771</i>	<i>1,611</i>

¹ The Index is not available for Wales. Figures for 'All' include Wales.

Which action would be most wrong?

Young people were also asked which action would be most wrong²⁵. Overall, young people were most likely to say that cheating in exams or tests would be most wrong (39%). Next to this, the most commonly cited actions were: smoking under the age of 16 (20%), buying alcohol to drink under the age of 18 (16%) and telling lies to a parent (13%).

Table 8.16

Table 8.16 Which action would be most wrong by age

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>						
Which action would be most wrong	Age					
	11	12	13	14	15	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cheat in exams or tests	30	26	37	43	58	39
Smoke if you were under 16	31	26	22	11	8	20
Buy alcohol if you were under 18	22	21	14	14	8	16
Tell lies to a parent	7	11	13	21	15	13
Keep £5 that you found in school	3	6	6	4	5	5
Drop litter in the street	2	3	1	5	2	3
Tell lies to a teacher	2	1	2	0	1	1
Break school rules	2	1	0	1	0	1
Don't know/can't decide	1	4	4	2	4	3
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>324</i>	<i>329</i>	<i>328</i>	<i>327</i>	<i>355</i>	<i>1,663</i>

Variations by demographic characteristics

Age

Across all ages, the four actions most commonly considered to be unacceptable were cheating in exams or tests, smoking under the age of 16, buying alcohol to drink under the age of 18 and telling lies to a parent. However, the proportions reporting each action varied by age.

Older respondents were more likely than younger respondents to say that cheating in exams or tests and telling lies to a parent would be most wrong. For example, 58% of 15 year olds cited cheating in exams or tests compared with just 26% of 12 year olds. This variation may reflect the increased importance of exams as young people get older and begin studying for their GCSEs. Similarly, 15% of young people aged 15 said that telling lies to a parent would be least acceptable, compared with just 7% of young people aged 11.

Younger respondents were more likely than older respondents to say that smoking under the age of 16 and buying alcohol to drink under the age of 18 would be most wrong. Eleven year olds were more than three times as likely as those aged 15 to cite smoking under the age of 16 (31% compared with 8%) and over twice as likely to mention buying alcohol to drink under the age of 18 (22% compared with 8%). As mentioned earlier, research shows that as young people get older and approach the legal age for smoking and drinking alcohol, they are more likely to have drunk alcohol or smoked. Consequently, older respondents are probably less likely than younger respondents to perceive these actions as unacceptable.

Table 8.16

²⁵ Actions included those for which the most 'desirable' response was 'no'.

Sex

There was little variation between boys and girls for views about which action would be most wrong, although boys were slightly more likely than girls to mention smoking under the age of 16 (21% compared with 17%). This variation is probably reflecting the higher prevalence of smoking among girls discussed previously.

Table 8.17

Table 8.17 Which action would be most wrong by sex

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>			
Which action would be most wrong	Male	Female	All
	%	%	%
Cheat in exams or tests	38	39	39
Smoke if you were under 16	21	17	20
Buy alcohol if you were under 18	16	15	16
Tell lies to a parent	12	15	13
Keep £5 that you found in school	4	5	5
Drop litter in the street	2	3	3
Tell lies to a teacher	2	0	1
Break school rules	1	1	1
Don't know/can't decide	3	3	3
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>896</i>	<i>767</i>	<i>1,663</i>

Ethnic group

White, mixed race and black young people were more likely than Asian young people to say that smoking under the age of 16 would be most wrong (20%, 20% and 15% compared with 9%).

Bangladeshi, Pakistani and black African young people were the most likely to say that buying alcohol to drink under the age of 18 would be most wrong (33%, 32% and 28%). The proportions among Indian and black Caribbean and white young people were 20% and 15%. These variations are reflecting religious background. Most Pakistani and Bangladeshi young people and many black Africans were Muslims for whom alcohol is forbidden.

Table 8.18

Table 8.18 Which action would be most wrong by ethnic group

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>										
Which action would be most wrong	White	Asian				Black			Mixed race	All
		All	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	All	Caribbean	African		
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cheat in exams or tests	39	32	37	29	33	35	38	33	32	39
Smoke if you were under 16	20	9	10	7	0	15	15	11	20	20
Buy alcohol if you were under	15	27	20	32	33	21	15	28	16	16
Tell lies to a parent	13	20	20	21	22	15	15	17	8	13
Keep £5 that you found in sch	5	4	7	4	0	3	0	6	8	5
Drop litter in the street	3	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	16	3
Tell lies to a teacher	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Break school rules	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Don't know/can't decide	3	5	7	7	11	9	15	6	0	3
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>816</i>	<i>492</i>	<i>190</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>103</i>	<i>208</i>	<i>95</i>	<i>98</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>1,663</i>

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Variations by household type

There was little variation by household type in views about which action would be most wrong, although young people living in a two-parent household were a little more likely to mention telling lies to a parent than those living with a lone parent (15% compared with 10%).

Table 8.19

Table 8.19 Which action would be most wrong by household type

<i>England and Wales 2003</i>				
Which action would be most wrong	Couple with dependent child/children	Lone parent with dependent child/children	Two or more single or multiple person family units	All
	%	%	%	%
Cheat in exams or tests	38	41	29	39
Smoke if you were under 16	19	21	23	20
Buy alcohol if you were under 18	15	16	16	16
Tell lies to a parent	15	10	23	13
Keep £5 that you found in school	5	4	6	5
Drop litter in the street	2	4	0	3
Tell lies to a teacher	1	1	3	1
Break school rules	1	1	0	1
Don't know/can't decide	3	4	0	3
<i>Respondents aged 11 to 15</i>	<i>1,131</i>	<i>451</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>1,663</i>

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Children's views about certain actions

Children were asked the same questions as young people, although they were not asked whether it was okay to buy alcohol to drink under the age of 18 and smoke under the age of 16. On six of the questions the most desirable answer was 'no', however on the remaining three questions it was 'yes'.

The percentages of children reporting the most desirable answers were as follows:

- Is it okay to break school rules? (96% said no)
- Is it okay to cheat in exams or tests (95% said no)
- Is it okay to drop litter in the street (95% said no)
- Is it okay to tell lies to a teacher (94% said no)
- Is it okay to tell a teacher if someone is being bullied? (92% said yes)
- Is it okay to tell lies to a parent? (89% said no)
- Is it okay to tell the Police if someone is breaking the law? (83% said yes)
- Is it okay to tell a teacher if someone is breaking school rules? (81% said yes)

- If you found five pounds in school would it be okay to keep it? (76% said no)

As well as yielding the fewest desirable responses, the last three items also provoked the most uncertainty, with about 10% of children unable to decide whether the action was acceptable.

Tables 8.20 to 8.28

Table 8.20 Whether it is okay to break school rules by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether it is okay to break school rules	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	2	0	3	2
No	98	96	95	96
Don't know	1	4	2	2
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Table 8.21 Whether it is okay to cheat in exams or tests by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether it is okay to cheat in exams or tests	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	3	2	5	3
No	95	95	95	95
Don't know	2	4	0	2
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Table 8.22 Whether it is okay to drop litter in the street by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether it is okay to drop litter in the street	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	3	1	4	3
No	96	95	93	95
Don't know	1	4	3	3
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Table 8.23 Whether it is okay to tell lies to a teacher by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether it is okay to tell lies to a teacher	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	3	2	5	3
No	97	93	92	94
Don't know	0	5	4	3
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Table 8.24 Whether it is okay to tell a teacher if someone is being bullied by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether it is okay to tell a teacher if someone is being bullied	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	93	94	89	92
No	3	3	7	4
Don't know	5	3	4	4
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Table 8.25 Whether it is okay to tell lies to a parent by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether it is okay to tell lies to a parent	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	9	5	6	6
No	88	92	87	89
Don't know	3	3	7	4
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Table 8.26 Whether it is okay to tell the police if somebody is breaking the law by age

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether it is okay to tell the police if somebody is breaking the law	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	83	87	79	83
No	7	6	8	7
Don't know	9	7	13	10
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Table 8.27 Whether it is okay to tell a teacher if someone is breaking school rules

<i>England & Wales 2003</i>				
Whether it is okay to tell a teacher if someone is breaking school rules	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	82	82	79	81
No	11	9	11	10
Don't know	7	9	11	9
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Table 8.28 Whether it would be okay to keep £5 if found at school by age

Whether it would be okay to keep £5 if found at school	England & Wales 2003			
	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Yes	13	14	9	12
No	76	72	80	76
Don't know	11	13	10	11
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	386	309	1,032

Variations by age

Younger respondents were a little more likely than older respondents to give 'desirable' responses on the questions about telling lies to a teacher and telling a teacher if someone was being bullied. For example, 97% of 8 year olds said it was not okay to tell lies to a teacher, compared with 92% of 10 year olds. Ninety-three per cent of 8 year olds said it was okay to tell a teacher if someone was being bullied compared with 89% of 10 year olds. On most of the other measures, the proportion of children giving the desirable response showed little variation by age.

Tables 8.23, 8.24

Which action would be most wrong?

Children were also asked which action would be most wrong²⁶. Children were most likely to say that cheating in exams or tests was the most wrong (35%). Next to this, the most commonly cited actions were keeping £5 found in school (20%) and telling lies to a parent (17%).

Table 8.29

Table 8.29 What action would be most wrong by age

Which action would be most wrong	England & Wales 2003			
	Age			
	8	9	10	All
	%	%	%	%
Cheat in exams or tests	24	35	46	35
Keep £5 that you found in school	24	17	18	20
Tell lies to a parent	17	18	15	17
Drop litter in the street	6	9	5	7
Tell lies to a teacher	9	9	2	7
Break school rules	11	4	5	7
Don't know/can't decide	10	7	7	8
<i>Respondents aged 8 to 10</i>	337	385	309	1,031

Variations by age

Across all ages, the three actions most commonly considered to be unacceptable were cheating in exams or tests, keeping five pounds found in school and telling lies to a parent. However, the proportions reporting the former two actions varied by age. Older respondents were more likely than younger respondents to feel that cheating in exams or test was most wrong. Forty-six per cent of 10 year olds said that cheating in

²⁶ Actions included were those for which the most 'desirable' response was 'no'.

exams or tests was most wrong compared with just 24% and 35% of 8 and 9 year olds. Conversely, children aged 8 years were more likely than those aged 9 or 10 years to feel that keeping £5 was most wrong (24% compared with 17% and 18%).

Table 8.29

Comparison of children's and young people's views about whether certain actions are right or wrong

Younger respondents were more likely than their older counterparts to give 'desirable' responses about the acceptability of telling lies to a parent, breaking school rules, keeping £5 found in school, telling a teacher if someone was breaking school rules and telling lies to a teacher. The disparity was greatest on the last two measures. For example, the proportion saying it was 'not okay' to tell lies to a teacher decreased from 97% among 8 year olds to 65% among 15 year olds. Similarly, 82% of 8 year olds said it was okay to tell a teacher if someone was breaking school rules, compared with just 53% of 15 year olds. As discussed previously, decisions about the acceptability of breaking school rules and reporting misbehaviour to teachers appeared to be less clear cut for older respondents, relatively high proportions said they did not know whether it was okay to tell lies to a teacher or to tell a teacher if someone was breaking school rules.

Tables 8.9, 8.10, 8.23, 8.27

9 Comparisons between the young people and adult surveys

The 2003 adult Citizenship Survey is a biennial series which started in 2001 and provides information on a number of aspects of citizenship. The Children's and Young People's Survey was added as an additional component with households interviewed as part of the adult survey in 2003. Many of the topics covered on the surveys of adults, young people and children were similar²⁷. This chapter compares the findings for young people and adults on the following topics²⁸:

- trust in, and treatment by, the police;
- future trends in racial prejudice;
- friendships with people from different ethnic backgrounds; and
- help to groups, clubs and organisations.

The commentary focuses on comparison between young people (aged 11 to 15), older teenagers (16 to 19) and younger adults (20 to 24). However figures for older people (25 or over) are also presented in the tables for comparison.

Key Findings

- Overall, young people aged 11 to 15 expressed greater trust in the police than 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds- 87% trusted the police compared with 76% and 79%.
- Younger teenagers were more optimistic about improvements in racial prejudice than older teenagers and younger adults. The proportions believing that there would be more racial prejudice in Britain in five years time rose from 21% among 12 to 15 year olds to 32% and 35% among 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds.
- Comparisons between the Adult Citizenship Survey and Young People's Survey show that young teenagers were the most likely to have friends from different ethnic groups: 64% of young people aged 11 to 15 years had friends from a different race compared with 58% of 16 to 19 year olds and 54% of 20 to 24 year olds.
- Young people aged 11 to 15 were most likely to have given help to groups, clubs or organisations in the last twelve months (63%). The proportions among the older age groups ranged from 39% to 44%.

Trust in the police

Overall, young people aged 11 to 15 years expressed greater trust in the police than 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds - 87% said they trusted the police compared with 76% and 79%.

²⁷ Because of the need to word the questions more simply for young people, and particularly children, the questions or answer categories often differed and this limits the number of comparisons that can be made.

²⁸ The children's survey did not cover these topics so children were not included in the analysis.

Among Pakistani, Bangladeshi and black Caribbean young people, the proportion expressing trust in the police decreased between age groups 11 to 15 and 16 to 19 but then increased considerably among 20 to 24 year olds. For example, among Pakistanis, the proportion saying they trusted the police ‘a lot’ or ‘a fair amount’ decreased from 81% among 11 to 15 year olds to 64% among 16 to 19 year olds and then increased to 94% among those aged 20 to 24.

However, among black Africans, the proportion saying they trusted the police ‘a lot’ or ‘a fair amount’ actually increased between the age groups of 11 to 15 and 16 to 19 (from 72% to 100%) and then remained at this level among 20 to 24 year olds.

Figure 9.1, Table 9.1

Discrimination by the police

In general, teenagers’ and young adults’ views about how they would be treated by the police were consistent with how much they trusted them. The largest age variations occurred among black and Asian groups.

Among Indians, Pakistanis and Bangladeshis, the proportion feeling the police would discriminate against them was highest in the 16 to 19 age group. It then decreased among those aged 20 to 24. For example, among Indians, the proportion feeling the police would treat them worse than people of other races increased from 12% among those aged 12 to 15, to 29% among those aged 16 to 19, before decreasing to 20% among those aged 20 to 24.

Among black Caribbeans the expectation that the police would discriminate against them peaked among 20 to 24 year olds (42%). This is not consistent with the relatively high percentage in this age group saying that they trusted the police. There was a similar inconsistency for black Africans aged 16 to 19. As noted above, in other age/ethnic groups and in the adult sample as a whole, views about trust and discrimination were consistent - further research is needed to explore these discrepancies.

Table 9.2

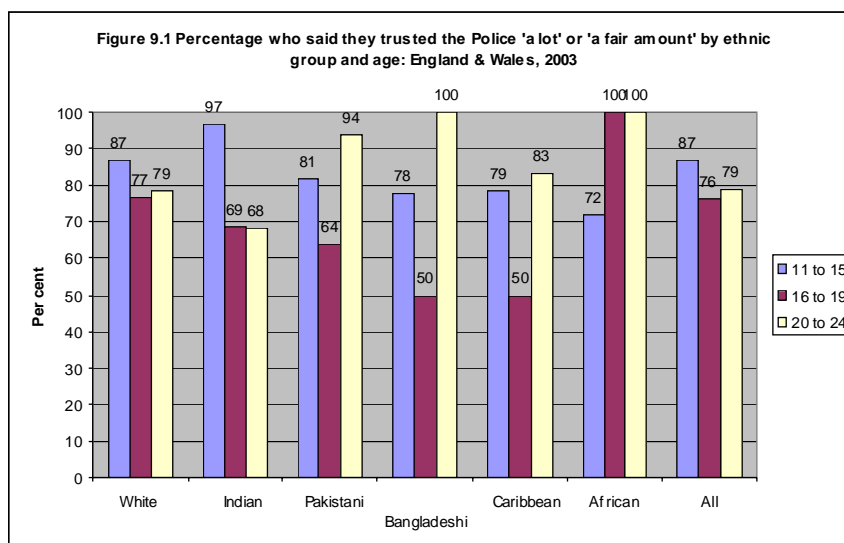


Table 9.1 Percentage who said they trusted the Police 'a lot' or 'a fair amount' by ethnic group and age

England & Wales, 2003

Ethnic group	Age				11 to 15	16 to 19	20 to 24	25 or over
	11 to 15	16 to 19	20 to 24	25 or over				
	<i>Percentages</i>				<i>Respondents</i>			
White	87	77	79	81	817	250	374	8,075
All Asian	87	67	77	81	493	209	258	2,151
Indian	97	69	68	80	190	65	103	960
Pakistani	81	64	94	87	148	76	68	558
Bangladeshi	78	50	100	65	104	48	61	314
All Black	76	69	83	69	209	87	101	1,444
Caribbean	79	50	83	64	95	35	51	803
African	72	100	100	75	98	47	46	582
All	87	76	79	80	1,666	623	830	12,421

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Table 9.2 Percentage who expect the Police to treat them worse than people of other races by ethnic group and age

England & Wales, 2003

Ethnic group	Age				12 to 15	16 to 19	20 to 24	25 or over
	12 to 15	16 to 19	20 to 24	25 or over				
	<i>Percentages</i>				<i>Respondents</i>			
White	4	4	5	6	653	250	374	8,120
All Asian	14	26	17	21	403	210	258	2,194
Indian	12	29	20	20	160	65	103	991
Pakistani	10	32	19	21	122	76	68	563
Bangladeshi	17	27	0	40	78	50	61	318
All Black	23	58	43	32	161	88	106	1,484
Caribbean	22	29	42	36	73	35	54	828
African	21	100	0	26	77	48	48	595
All	4	4	4	7	1,339	625	838	12,569

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Views about future trends in racial prejudice

Younger teenagers (12 to 15 years) were more optimistic about improvements in racial prejudice than older teenagers (16 to 19 years) and young adults (20 to 24 years). The proportions believing that there would be more racial prejudice in Britain in five years time rose from 21% among 12 to 15 year olds to 32% and 35% among 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds. The sharp increase between the 12 to 15 and 16 to 19 year olds was particularly marked in the three Asian subgroups, especially Bangladeshis. In this group, the proportion who thought there would be more prejudice in five years time increased from 14% to 70% between these age groups²⁹.

²⁹ It should be noted that some of these Asian subgroups had small sample sizes, however all contained a minimum number of 30 respondents or more.

However, only among white Indian and Pakistani young adults did the proportion continue to increase in the 20 to 24 age group. Black Africans had the most optimistic expectations; very few in any age group under 25 thought that racial prejudice would get worse in future. Among black Caribbeans there was no consistent age pattern.

Table 9.3

Table 9.3 Percentage who said there would be more racial prejudice in Britain in five years time by ethnic group and age

England & Wales, 2003

Ethnic group	Age							
	12 to 15	16 to 19	20 to 24	25 or over	12 to 15	16 to 19	20 to 24	25 or over
	<i>Percentages</i>				<i>Respondents</i>			
White	22	31	36	51	653	232	354	7,286
All Asian	23	46	46	38	403	193	218	1,715
Indian	12	36	46	40	160	61	90	798
Pakistani	32	48	50	47	122	71	54	449
Bangladeshi	14	70	45	25	78	46	53	225
All Black	15	17	15	22	161	81	82	1,227
Caribbean	22	25	17	24	73	35	45	714
African	14	0	0	20	77	41	34	464
All	21	32	35	49	1,339	570	730	10,792

The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Friendships with people from different ethnic backgrounds

The report of the adult Citizenship Survey³⁰ noted that younger adults were more likely than older people to have friends from different ethnic groups. The Young People's Survey shows that this pattern extends down to 11 to 15 year olds, 64% of whom had friends from a different race. Among 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 year olds the proportions were a little lower, 58% and 54%.

Within the minority ethnic groups, the variation with age was different from the overall (white) pattern. The proportion with friends from different ethnic groups either increased or showed no change between the 11 to 15 years and 16 to 19 years age groups but then, as for young white adults, decreased among 20 to 24 year olds. It is noteworthy that *all* black African and Bangladeshi young people aged 16 to 19 years reported having friends of a different race, as did all black Caribbean 11 to 19 year olds.

Figure 9.2, Table 9.4

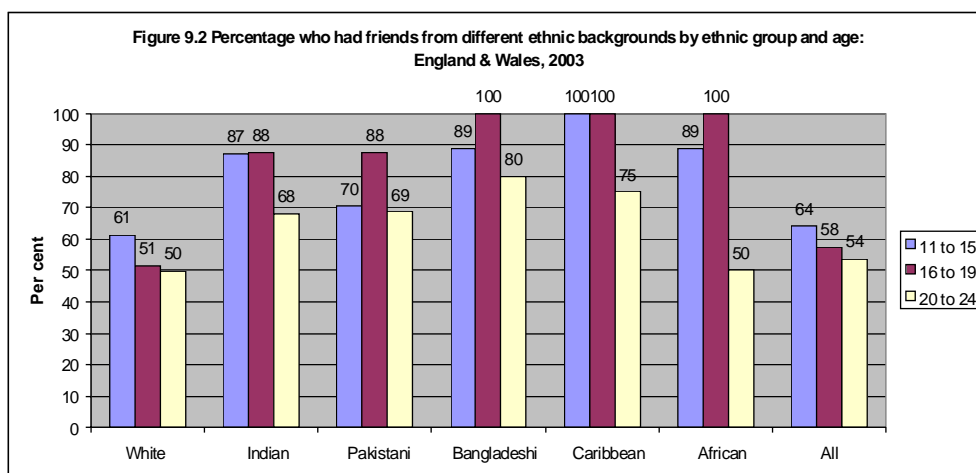


Table 9.4 Percentage who had friends from different ethnic backgrounds¹ by ethnic group and age

England & Wales, 2003

Ethnic group	Age				11 to 15	16 to 19	20 to 24	25 or over
	11 to 15	16 to 19	20 to 24	25 or over				
	<i>Percentages</i>				<i>Respondents</i>			
White	61	51	50	30	817	250	374	8,121
All Asian	81	91	71	60	493	212	259	2,196
Indian	87	88	68	58	190	66	104	991
Pakistani	70	88	69	58	148	76	68	562
Bangladeshi	89	100	80	53	104	50	61	321
All Black	94	100	71	80	209	88	106	1,482
Caribbean	100	100	75	78	95	35	54	827
African	89	100	50	83	98	48	48	595
All	64	58	54	33	1,664	627	839	12,570

¹ Young people were asked whether they had friends who were of a different race or colour to them. Adults were asked whether they had friends from a different ethnic group. The 'All' figures include data for groups not shown in the table.

Help given to groups, clubs and organisations

Young people aged 11 to 15 years were most likely to have given help to groups, clubs or organisations in the last twelve months (63%). The proportions among the older age groups ranged from 39% to 44%³¹.

Table 9.5

Table 9.5 Percentage who had given help to groups, clubs or organisations in the twelve months before interview by age

England & Wales, 2003

Age	Given help to clubs, groups or organisations ¹	
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Respondents</i>
11 to 15	63	1,663
16 to 19	44	627
20 to 24	39	838
25 or over	42	12,587

¹ Respondents aged 11 to 15 were asked if they had given any help to clubs, groups or organisations. Respondents aged 16 or over were asked if they had given any unpaid help.

³¹ People aged 16 or over were asked whether they had given any unpaid help to groups, clubs or organisations in the twelve months before interview. Young people aged 11 to 15 were asked whether they had given any type of help during this period so respondents may have included both unpaid and paid help. However, the types of activities listed were not the kinds for which payment would normally be given, for example, collecting or raising money.

Appendix A: Methodology

The main features of the survey methodology are summarised below. A more detailed description is included in the 2003 Citizenship Survey Technical report³¹.

The 2003 Citizenship Survey is the second in a biennial series which started in 2001. The 2001 Survey interviewed adults only. For the 2003 survey, the Home Office and DfES also required samples of children and young people.

The 2003 Survey was carried out by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

Sample design

The children and young people samples consisted of interviews with:

- 1,032 children aged 8 to 10 years; and
- 1,666 young people aged 11 to 15 years.

The samples of children and young people were generated by randomly selecting one child aged 8 to 15 years from households that were selected for the adult survey.

The adult sample had two components:

- The Core sample consisting of 9,486 interviews with a nationally representative sample of adults aged 16 or over living in England and Wales.
- The Minority Ethnic Boost sample consisting of 4,571 interviews with a sample of adults aged 16 or over living in England and Wales who identified themselves as black, Asian, Chinese or from any other non-white ethnic group.

The Core sample was selected from the Small User Postcode Address File (PAF). This file was stratified by region, socio-economic group of the head of household and the male unemployment rate to ensure that the sample represented these characteristics of the population in their correct proportions. A sample of postal sectors was selected and then, within these sectors, a sample of addresses was selected. At each eligible address, an adult aged 16 or over was randomly sampled by the interviewer. If the household contained a child (aged 8 to 10 years) or a young person (aged 11 to 15 years), the interviewer also randomly selected one 8 to 10 year old or one 11 to 15 year old for interview.

The Minority Ethnic Boost interviews were achieved by two methods:

- Focussed enumeration sample – two addresses to the left and to the right of each core address were screened for the presence of minority ethnic adults (1,817 interviews achieved)

³¹ The report can be accessed on the Home Office Citizenship Survey website - <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/citizensurvey.html>

- High concentration boost sample - achieved by screening a separate sample of addresses in postal sectors with an estimated non-white population of 18% or more based on the 1991 Census (2,754 interviews).

As with the core sample, if a household from the minority ethnic boost sample contained a child (aged 8 to 10 years) or a young person (aged 11 to 15 years), one was randomly selected for interview.

All children and young people were eligible for the survey, irrespective of their ethnicity and whether or not an interview was achieved with the sampled adult.

The sample design is cost efficient in that the child and young person samples are generated from the adult sample. It also yields larger numbers of minority ethnic children and young people than would a nationally representative sample. However, because of the complex sample design, relatively large weights are needed to correct for the different sampling probabilities for analyses based on the whole samples (i.e. the minority ethnic boost samples and the sampling of one child or young person per household). This results in larger sampling errors than for an equal probability sample³² of the same size.

Questionnaire

The questionnaire was designed jointly by ONS, the Home Office and DfES. The development work included cognitive testing and a full dress rehearsal.

One of the main challenges of the developmental work was to ensure the questionnaire was comprehensible to children and young people of different ages and from different ethnic groups. The following steps were taken to try to ensure this:

Filtering some young people's questions

Within the 11 to 15 age-group, some questions were filtered to exclude 11 year olds (for example, questions about global issues of concern and racial prejudice were considered too complex for the 11 years age group).

Simplifying the wording of questions on the children's questionnaire

The children's questionnaire had simpler questions than the young person's questionnaire. Fewer subjects were covered and some were omitted completely. The following topics were only included on the young person's questionnaire:

- views about influencing political decisions;
- trust of groups;
- friendships with people of different ethnic backgrounds;
- participation in civic activities;
- involvement in formal clubs and groups;
- help given to family and others;
- views about politics; and
- interest in global, local and national issues.

³² An equal probability sample is one in which all possible combinations of a given size are equally probable.

Interviewers stressed there was no 'right' answer

Cognitive testing showed that some children, particularly in the younger age groups, viewed the interview as a test and frequently asked the interviewer whether they had given the 'right' answer. To counteract this, interviewers repeatedly stressed there were no 'right' answers and it was their opinion that was required. They also reassured the children it was perfectly acceptable to say that they did not know the answer to a question. The showcards all included a 'Don't know' category.

Minimising showcards

Showcards were reduced in number and length as far as possible. Only two cards were used on the children's module. For the young people, topic headings were added to the showcards to help them remember the context of the questions while they browsed to select their answers. Interviewers read out the categories when children had difficulty.

Length of interview

Interviews were restricted to 20 minutes for 8-10 year olds and 30 minutes for 11-15 year olds.

Full copies of the Children's and Young People's questionnaires are included in the technical report of the Home Office Citizenship Survey.

Fieldwork for the survey

Interviews were carried out by ONS between mid March and the end of September 2003. The interviewers used Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (i.e. using a laptop computer). Prior to fieldwork, interviewers attended a full-day briefing which included exercises and practice interviews. In the briefing, particular attention was paid to the doorstep selection of adults and children.

In total, 2,698 interviews were achieved with 1,032 children aged 8 to 10 and 1,666 young people aged 11 to 15. The response rates were:

Core sample: 88%

Focussed enumeration sample: 83%

High concentration sample: 84%

The response rates were based on addresses that were known to contain an eligible adult and an eligible child/young person. Within core addresses all adults were eligible. In focussed enumeration and the minority ethnic boost households, only non-white adults were eligible. All children and young people were eligible regardless of their ethnicity.

A detailed analysis of response is given in the 2003 Citizenship Technical report.

Weighting

Weighting has been applied to the children's and young people's samples to correct for unequal sampling probabilities and for differential non-response among subgroups. The final stage of the weighting matched the sample distribution to population figures in terms of their age, sex and regional distribution. Further

information about the weighting process is provided in the main Technical Report of the 2003 Home Office Citizenship Survey.

Notes on the analysis and presentation

Missing information

Information may be missing because a respondent could not, or would not, answer a question or because they were unable to answer in the terms required for example, the respondent may not have felt their views were reflected in the answer categories available. These cases have been excluded from the analysis of the question concerned unless 'Don't know' was offered as a valid answer on a showcard or in a prompt.

Tables

Tables show weighted percentages and unweighted bases. Percentages have not been calculated on bases less than 30 because of the large sampling errors attached to small numbers. Percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding. The following convention has been used:

0 less than 0.5% or no cases.

Figures

All data shown in figures are included in tables which also show the base numbers of respondents.

Statistical significance

Changes and differences mentioned in the text are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level.

Sampling errors

The results presented in this report are estimates based on a sample survey. They are therefore subject to sampling error. As noted in the previous section on sample design, weighting for different sampling probabilities and different response rates results in larger sampling errors than for an equal-probability sample without weights, particularly as in this case, the weights are relatively large.

In addition, some minority ethnic groups contain small numbers and, because they tend to be concentrated in particular areas, the sampling errors are quite large. Sampling errors for key variables are given in the main Technical Report of the 2003 Home Office Citizenship Survey.

Classificatory variables

Definitions are given in Appendix B.

Appendix B: Definitions and Terms

Household

A household is defined as a single person or a group of people who have the address as their only or main residence and who either share at least one meal a day or share the living accommodation.

A person is regarded as living at the address if he or she (or the informant) considers the address to be his or her main residence. There are, however, certain rules which take priority over this criterion:

- Children aged 16 or over who live away from home for the purpose of either work or study and come home only for holidays are not included at the parental address under any circumstance.
- Children of any age away from home in a temporary job and children under 16 at boarding school are always included in the parental household.
- Anyone who has been away from the address continuously for six months or longer is excluded.
- Anyone who has been living continuously at the address for six months or longer is included even if he or she has his or her main residence elsewhere.
- Addresses used only as second homes are never counted as a main residence.

Household Reference Person (HRP)

The household reference person is defined as follows:

- in households with a sole householder that person is the household reference person;
- in households with joint householders the person with the highest income is taken as the household reference person;
- if both householders have exactly the same income, the elder is taken as the household reference person.

Household type

The classification of household type uses the following categories:

- couple with dependent children
- lone parent with dependent children
- two or more single, or multiple person family units (e.g. foster children, grandparents and children).

A *'couple with dependent children'* household consists of two parents (either married or cohabiting), living with their never-married children, provided these children have no children of their own.

A *'lone-parent with dependent children'* household consists of one parent, irrespective of sex, living with his or her never-married dependent children, provided these children have no children of their own.

A *family unit* is defined as one of:

- (a) a married couple or cohabiting couple with no children
- (b) a married or cohabiting couple/lone parent and their never married child(ren), provided these have no children of their own
- (c) one person

In general families cannot span more than two generations, i.e. grandparents and grandchildren cannot belong to the same family. The exception to this is where there is no parent in the household and it is established that a grandparent is acting in place of a parent.

Adopted and step-children belong to the same family as their adoptive/step-parents. Foster children, however, are not part of the foster-parents' family.

Index of Multiple Deprivation

Respondents in England were allocated to one of five quintile groups or one of ten decile groups according to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister Index of Multiple Deprivation score for the ward in which they lived. The Index combines a number of indicators including income, employment, health deprivation and disability, education, skills and training, housing and geographical Access to Services into a single deprivation score for each area. The Index cannot be equated to the Deprivation Index for Wales and so respondents living in Wales have been excluded from the analyses using this variable.

Further details about the index can be obtained from the ODPM website: www.odpm.gov.uk/research/summaries/03100/index.htm.

National Statistics Socio-economic classification (NS-SEC)

From April 2001 the National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC) was introduced for all official statistics and surveys. It has replaced Social Class based on occupation and Socio-economic Groups (SEG). The categories used for the analysis are shown below. More information can be obtained from the Office for National Statistics website: www.statistics.gov.uk.

Descriptive definition	NS-SEC
Categories	
Higher and lower managerial and professional occupations	L1, L2, L3, L4, L5, L6
Intermediate occupations and small employers and own account workers	L7, L8, L9
Lower supervisory and technical occupations; semi-routine occupations	L10, L11, L12
Routine occupations	L13
Never worked and long-term unemployed	L14

Rural classification

The rural classification developed by the Countryside Agency, categorises 8,414 wards in England as either rural or non-rural. The classification is based on a range of socio-economic variables (population density, economically active population, public transport to work, employment in agriculture/forestry/fishing, employment in primary production (mining/energy/water) and ethnicity). As the classification is not available

for Wales, respondents living in Wales were excluded from the analysis using this variable. Further details about the classification can be obtained from the National Statistics website:

www.statistics.gov.uk/geography/urban_rural.asp