



**ENGAGE
LONDON**

**Partnership
for Young
London**

**Full report,
December 2016**

Young People Count 2016

A collection of data
sources about young people

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Young People Count 2016
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Partnership for Young London, December 2016
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Introduction

This report is a follow up to our previous report from Engage London, Young People Count 2015, which details a guide to the different data sources that are available on the problems that young people face in the United Kingdom.

Drawn from official figures, such as the Office of National Statistics, and independent research by community and voluntary organisations, it covers the subjects of; health, youth employment, housing, crime, education, participation, and poverty.

The challenges that young people face are numerous, and interlinked, and are not easily addressed in isolation. Yet one thing is clear: **young people are at a disadvantage compared to the rest of the population on almost every area.**

Facing discrimination, worse employment opportunities and more crime, young people have been the worst impacted by the recession. This, coupled with a lack of affordable housing, makes one of the hardest situations facing the next generation to face in decades.

Guide to the data:

Young People Count is broken into ten different topics, and is drawn from organisations across the UK. The data collected is largely no more than 5 years old.

The data is divided into two types:

- A collection of data from various sources at the start of each section, marked by footnotes.
- A summary of different reports on that subjected, contained in a coloured box.

If any data is found to be wrong, or out of date, please contact matthew.walsham@cityoflondon.gov.uk.

Key figures

- The overwhelming majority (93%) of youth service employees told us that the local authority they were employed by had cut services since 2010.
- In the period February-April 2016, 27.7% of 16-17 year olds and 11.9% of 18-24 year olds were unemployed, compared with 4.7% of 25-34 year olds, 3.2% of 35-49 year olds, and 3.6% of 50- 64 year olds.
- Each year more than 200,000 young people in the UK start smoking. ¹⁵
- 1 in 3 young people aged 16 to 24 in England were overweight including obese compared with 3 in 5 adults aged 16 and over.⁷
- 7% of young people do not achieve five or more GCSE's and find their life chances significantly impacted³⁴
- 48% of pupils across England went on to higher education. ³⁰
- 47% of 2015 graduates moved back in with parents.
- The number of 16-24 year olds who are unemployed currently stands at 739,400 or 16.5% of the economically active population.⁴⁶
- Unemployment rates are three times higher for 16-25 year olds when compared with the rest of the UK population.⁵⁰
- 71% of UK businesses surveyed by the Princes Trust admit that jobless young people face stigma from employers, while 69% warn of a culture where unemployed young people and those without a degree are unfairly overlooked in the jobs market
- 16-34 year-olds saw the greatest growth in claims for sickness benefits over the last five years. Over half of that age group are unable to work due to poor mental health.
- Young people are more likely to be victims of crime than older people, with 16-24 year olds constituting 25% of victims of crime in 2013/14⁹⁶
- Young adults make up just over a quarter of the prison population. Half of all those who had offended in a given year will have recently been a victim of personal crime¹⁰¹
- One third of young people in custody have a mental health disorder 3 times higher than the general population. Many have a history of abuse or bereavement.
- 25% of young women (aged over 13) experience physical violence and 72% experience emotional abuse in their own relationships.¹¹⁴
- In the 2015 General Election, 18 to 21 year olds had turnout rate of around 40%, while those aged 65+ were almost double this.¹²⁷
- There are over 1.5m 16 and 17 year olds in the UK denied the vote. ¹²⁸
- 76% of press coverage of young people is negative.
- 30% of young people aged 14-24 living in the UK are living in poverty, approximately 2.7m.

Section 1: Context

AYPH's Key Data on Adolescence 2015

Key Data on Adolescence is published every two years with the support of the National Child and Maternal Health Intelligence Network, Public Health England.

- 11.4m 10-24 year-olds are currently in the UK, one fifth of the total population.
- They live in 4.8m households, 60% with married parents, 9% with cohabiting parents and 25% with lone parents. In 2011, a total of 35,936 young people aged 11-15 had parents who divorced. **(2015)**
- The UK has a higher percentage of households with three or more children than three-quarters of European Union countries. In total, there were 7.7 m families with dependent children in the UK in 2012, 1 in 7 of which had three or more dependent children.

The Damage, A future at risk - Cuts in youth services, Unison 2016

For this report Unison draw on three years of council budgets, surveying people working in youth services and asking them about the impact of those cuts on young people and their communities.

- The overwhelming majority (93%) of youth service employees told us that the local authority they were employed by had cut services since 2010.
- In the year 2016/17 and beyond, there is likely to be at least £26m more cuts in youth service spending, the loss of around 800 more jobs, more than 30 youth centres closed, and 45,000 more youth service places for young people removed.
- In the period February-April 2016, 27.7% of 16-17 year olds and 11.9% of 18-24 year olds were unemployed, compared with 4.7% of 25-34 year olds, 3.2% of 35-49 year olds, and 3.6% of 50- 64 year olds. The unemployment rate for everybody aged 16 and above was 5%.
- By 2015, almost a third of people (32.6%) in the UK aged under 18 UK were at risk of poverty or social exclusion, while 10.5% were experiencing material deprivation. By contrast, the corresponding figures for older people were 18.1% and 1.9%.
- The cuts in youth services in the two financial years 2014/15 and 2015/16 amounted to £123m. When added to figures from previous UNISON research, we estimate that between April 2010 and April 2016, £387m was cut from youth service spending across the UK.
- An Audit Commission report in 2009 on the benefits of sports and leisure activities in preventing anti-social behaviour among young people estimated that a young person in the criminal justice system costs the taxpayer over £200,000 by the time they are 16. But one who is given support to stay out of trouble costs less than £50,000

Section 2: Health

- There were around 2,300 new cases of cancer in teenagers and young adults each year, more than 6 cases diagnosed every day.¹
- There were around 280 cancer deaths in teenagers and young adults each year in the UK, that's more than 5 deaths every week.²
- Obvious decay experience in primary teeth was present in 31% of 5 year olds in England. In permanent teeth, obvious dental decay experience was found in 32% of 12 year olds and 44% of 15 year olds in England.³

AYPH's Key Data on Adolescence 2015

Key Data on Adolescence is published every two years with the support of the National Child and Maternal Health Intelligence Network, Public Health England.

- About 4% of teenagers suffer from attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder.
- Half of all lifetime cases of psychiatric disorders start by age 14 and three quarters by age 24. Some estimates suggest the majority start before age 18.
- 66% of 16-19 year olds are 'at risk' of pregnancy and 10% of those with a partner did not use contraception.
- The highest rates of sexually transmitted infections are among those aged 15-24 years. Those under 25 accounted for 63% of all new chlamydia diagnoses in 2014.
- Approximately 800,000 teenagers in the UK suffer from asthma.
- Diabetes affects approximately 35,000 under-19s.
- Approximately 63,000 young people under 19 have epilepsy.
- One in seven 11-15 year olds (15%) have a long term illness or disability.
- Young people aged 10-19 years account for more than half of hospital admissions for eating disorders, with the largest number among young women aged 15.
- Around 13% of boys and 10% of girls aged 11-15 have mental health problems, with 32% of 15 year old girls and 11% of 15 year old boys report self-harming.
- There were 41,921 hospitalisations for self-harm by poisoning or other methods among 10-24 year olds in England.
- The average age of first heterosexual intercourse is 16 years.
- The UK has a high rate of birth among 15-19 year olds compared with other countries.
- Young women aged 11-18 consume 2.7 portions of fruit and vegetables daily, compared with 3 for young men and 4.1 for adults.

Section 2: Health

Health and Wellbeing of 15 year olds in England: What About Youth? Survey 2014

The 'What About Youth?' Survey asked more than 100,000 15-year-olds to self-report on health and wellbeing indicators including self-esteem, alcohol and drug use, and overall health.

- One in six 15-year-olds who come from deprived areas reported having low life satisfaction compared with around one in 10 of those living in the least deprived areas.
- It found that 27% of young people in the most deprived communities had smoked, compared with 21% of young people in the least deprived areas.
- Young people from the most deprived areas were also three percentage points more likely to report they had been bullied.

Almost half of young people checking mobile phones in bed

A poll carried out by Digital Awareness UK of 2,750 11- to 18-year-olds has found one in 10 admitted checking their mobile phones for notifications at least 10 times a night.

- Of the 45% of survey respondents who check their phones when they should be sleeping, almost all (94%) are on social media - with a tenth saying they would feel stressed about missing out if they did not check their device before going to sleep.
- Of this group, 75% are listening to music and over half (57%) are watching films.
- A third (32%) of these youngsters say their parents are not aware that they check their mobile device after going to bed.

Section 2: Health

Obesity

- 31% of young men and 37% of young women aged 11-18 years-old are overweight.⁴
- 19.1% of children in England were obese.⁵
- 9% of reception age children (age 4-5) are obese, with a further 13% overweight. Higher still among year 6 children (age 10-11), with 19% being obese and 14% overweight.⁶
- 1 in 3 young people aged 16 to 24 in England were overweight including obese compared with 3 in 5 adults aged 16 and over.⁷
- Only 63% of 16-19 year olds participated in a sport once a week.⁸

Sexual health

- The cost of teenage pregnancy to the NHS alone is estimated to be £63 m a year.⁹
- The rate of sexually transmitted infections is higher in people from BME backgrounds¹⁰
- A quarter of secondary school children report they do not get enough sleep.¹¹
- Estimated number of conceptions aged under-18 (aged 15 to 17) was 22,653.¹²
- The estimated number of conceptions to women aged under-16 was 4,160.¹³
- The under-18 conception rate was 22.8 conceptions per 1000 women aged 15 to 17.¹⁴

Department of Health abortion statistics

The Department of Health has released a report sets out and comments on abortion statistics in England and Wales. A few key statistics from the report include:

- The abortion rate was highest for women aged 21 (at 28.7 per 1,000).
- The under-16 abortion rate was 2.0 per 1,000 women, under-18 rate was 9.9.
- There were 1,853 abortions to girls aged under-16.

Section 2: Health

Drugs

- Each year more than 200,000 young people in the UK start smoking.¹⁵
- Two thirds of adult smokers report that they started smoking before the age of 18, including two fifths who started smoking before the age of 16.¹⁶
- Alcohol-related hospital admissions of 15-24 year-old male patients increased by 57%.¹⁷
- In a sample of over 2000 15-16-year-olds from the UK, 11% had had sex under the influence of alcohol and regretted it.¹⁸

Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2014

This report contains results from an annual survey of secondary school pupils in England in years 7 to 11 (mostly aged 11 to 15), reaching 6,173 pupils in 210 schools, completed in 2014.

- 8% of pupils had drunk alcohol in the last week. Boys and girls were equally likely.
- 38% of 11 to 15 year olds in England reported having had an alcoholic drink.
- English pupils who drank alcohol in the last week consumed an average (mean) of 9.8 units. 22% of those had drunk 15 units or more.
- Pupils with low wellbeing were more likely to have drunk alcohol in the last week.

Statistics on Drug Misuse England, 2016

The NHS releases an annual statistic on the drug misuse in England, with a break down by age.

- Around 1 in 5 (18.0%) young adults aged 16 to 24 had taken an illicit drug in.
- Around one in 40 (2.6%) young adults aged 16 to 24 took a legal high.
- 15% of pupils had ever taken drugs, 10% had taken drugs in the last year and 6% had taken drugs in the last month.
- 6% of 11 year olds said they had tried drugs at least once.
- 86% of young people reported either primary or adjunctive cannabis use. Alcohol was the second most cited (51%), and fewer than 5% cited the use of a new psychoactive substance.

Section 2: Health

Disability in the United Kingdom 2016

The Papworth Trust releases an annual summary of statistics that highlight the challenges facing disabled people in the UK.

- 7% (or 0.9 m) of children under the age of 16 in the UK were disabled. Disabled children aged 0-16 are the fastest growing group among the population of disabled people.
- It is widely anticipated that the proportion of children and young people who are disabled will increase. Estimated 1.25m children reporting a disability by 2029.
- At 19 years of age, 28% of disabled people do not have a qualification higher than Level 2, compared to only 17% of non-disabled people in the same age group.
- At 19 years of age, disabled young people are twice as likely as their non-disabled peers to not be NEET, 28% compared to 13%.
- Between the ages of 16 and 19, disabled people are more likely than non-disabled people to be in the NEET group at least once (33% compared to 24%).
- The annual cost of bringing up a disabled child is 3 times greater than that of bringing up a non-disabled child.
- 1 in 6 families (17%) with disabled children go without food, 1 in 5 (21%) go without heating, 26% go without specialist equipment, and 86% go without leisure activities.
- Disabled young people are less likely to participate in exercise, sport, the arts and leisure activities – facing a lot or a little prejudice that remains unchanged since 1998.
- Children in families with at least 1 disabled person are more likely to live in absolute low income households than those in families with none (28% compared to 18%).
- Children in families containing 1 or more disabled person are twice as likely to live in households in combined low income and material deprivation (22% compared to 10%).
- Children in families where someone is disabled and in receipt of disability benefits had much lower rates of relative low income (15% and 23%).
- It is estimated that there will be over 1.25 m children reporting a disability by 2029.

Section 2a: Mental Health

- 10% of children and young people (aged 5-16 years) have a clinically diagnosable mental problem.¹⁹
- Half of all mental health problems have been established by the age of 14, rising to 75% by age 24.²⁰
- They are most likely to affect those aged between 14 and 25 and, if they go untreated for more than 3 to 5 years, the chances of recovery are greatly reduced.²¹
- Anorexia kills more than any other mental health illness.²²
- Over 8,000 children aged under 10 years-old suffer from severe depression.²³
- In 2013, 6,233 suicides were recorded in the UK for people aged 15 and older. Of these, 78% were male and 22% were female.²⁴
- 35% of young people with mental health problems were not referred on to adult services.²⁵
- 70% of children and adolescents who experience mental health problems have not had appropriate interventions at a sufficiently early age.²⁶
- National estimates suggest that 45% of looked after children aged 5 to 17 years' experience a mental health disorder, 37% have clinically significant conduct disorders, 12% have emotional disorders, such as anxiety or depression, and that 7% were are hyperkinetic.²⁷
- Data from Understanding Society shows that around 1 in 10 children aged 10 to 15 years old are unhappy with their appearance (11% in 2011 to 2012 and 10% in 2012 to 2013). The proportion of girls reporting that they are unhappy with their appearance is around double that of boys (14% of girls compared with 7% of boys in 2012 to 2013).²⁸

Boys 'unable to open up to fathers' about mental health

Mental health campaigners Time to Change surveyed a total sample size of 1,504 young men aged between 16-18 years old on how we think and talk about mental health.

- 49% of 16- to 18-year-olds who said they would not approach their father, more than a third (35%) said this was because their father "doesn't talk about feelings"
- 31% said they "wouldn't want to burden him".
- 54% who are experiencing mental health problems either "put a brave face on" or "keep it to themselves".
- The research also found that a quarter (27%) of those questioned experience mental health problems at least once a week.
- 70 % of sons felt "completely comfortable" talking about their mental health when this had been encouraged by their father.

Section 2a: Mental Health

ChildLine Review What's affected children in April 2014 – March 2015

NSPCC's Childline produce an annual insight into the data they collect from the 276,956 counselling sessions with children, and 9,856 sessions with children who had serious concerns about another child.

- ChildLine reported that the top three concerns counselled during 2014/15 were family relationships, low self-esteem/unhappiness and abuse. Four of the top ten issues relate to mental health, accounting for almost one third of total concerns. These are low self-esteem/unhappiness, self-harm, suicidal feelings and mental health/depressive disorders. **(2014/15)**
- The number of counselling sessions about low self-esteem/unhappiness increased by 9%. **(2014/15)**
- In 2012/13 over 1,400 young people across Britain told ChildLine that they were experiencing racist bullying, a 69% increase within a year (NSPCC, 2014).
- Childline reported (2014/15) that 59% of referrals on behalf of the most vulnerable and at risk children related to suicidal feelings.
- There were 29,126 ChildLine counselling sessions about all forms of abuse in 2014/15 Sexual/online sexual abuse saw an increase of 8% from 2013/14. Domestic/partner abuse saw an increase of 4% from 2013/14.
- There has been an increase of 124% over the last year since 2015 in the number of sexual abuse referrals from ChildLine.
- There were nearly 1,400 ChildLine counselling sessions with young people that mentioned 'sexting' in 2015/16.
- Around 1 in 7 young people have taken a semi-naked/naked picture of themselves. Over half went on to share the picture with someone else.

LGBT Mental Health Report

This report by RARE surveyed over 2000 people, asking about the LGB&T experience of mental health issues in the United Kingdom.

- 34% of young LGB people had attempted suicide, compared to 18% of heterosexual people
- 48% of transgender people had attempted suicide compared to 26% cisgender young people
- Lesbian and transsexual women were more likely to drink hazardous amounts of alcohol, or have a dependency issue

Section 2a: Mental Health

Marketing is responsible for creating body issues among boys, study finds

Brands must make a bigger contribution to the health and wellbeing of males aged 8-18, with many feeling pressured by advertising to look good.

- 53% of secondary school boys reveal advertising puts pressure on them to look good, along with friends, social media and celebrities.
- 23% of secondary boys say they have changed their exercise routine after seeing advertising
- 67% of respondents said it was not acceptable for brands or products to use digital techniques to change the bodyshape of a model within their advertising.

The fundamental Facts – Mental Health Foundation

The Mental Health Foundation has produced this comprehensive collection of statistics and data exploring the challenges for mental health in the United Kingdom.

- Women are more likely to have been treated for a mental health problem than men (29% compared with 17%).
- Doctors are more likely to treat depression in women than in men, even when they present with identical symptoms.
- Women are twice as likely to experience anxiety as men.
- Of people with phobias or OCD, about 60% are female.
- In general, rates of mental health problems are thought to be higher in minority ethnic groups in the UK than in the white population, but they are less likely to have their mental health problems detected by a GP.
- Depression in ethnic minority groups has been found to be up to 60% higher than in the white population.
- Young Asian women are three times as likely to kill themselves as young white women.

Girls' mental well-being

Girlguiding has published a report on the mental well-being of girls, finding that girls as young as seven are suffering self-esteem problems as a result of pressure to look “perfect”.

- 15% of girls aged 7 to 10 often feel embarrassed or ashamed about how they look, along with 42% of girls aged 11 to 16 and half of older teenagers.
- Nearly a quarter of girls aged 7 to 10 feel they need to appear perfect, 17% feel they need to lose weight and 15% think they are unattractive.
- The rates rise significantly with older girls, with two thirds believing that they are not pretty enough.

Section 2a: Mental Health

Self-harm, PTSD and mental illness soar among young women in England

This NHS survey of mental ill-health and treatment since 2007 has found that rates of self-harm, post-traumatic stress disorder and chronic mental illness are soaring among young women.

- One in eight young women (12.6%) aged 16-24 has PTSD. That is three times the rate of 4.2% recorded when the government-funded study was last conducted in 2007.
- Self harm in young women has also risen three-fold from 6.5% in 2000 to 11.7% in 2007 and 19.7% in 2014.
- Overall, 28.2% of young women told researchers they had some form of mental health condition, almost three times higher than the 10% of men from the same age group who did so.

Independent Mental Health Taskforce report to the NHS in England

This report from the NHS in England was produced by the Mental Health Taskforce looking at the growing issue of mental health for children and young people.

- One in ten children aged 5 – 16 has a diagnosable problem such as conduct disorder (6%), anxiety disorder (3%), attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) (2%) or depression (2%).
- Children with conduct disorder - persistent, disobedient, disruptive and aggressive behaviour - are twice as likely to leave school without any qualifications, three times more likely to become a teenage parent, four times more likely to become dependent on drugs and 20 times more likely to end up in prison.
- Yet most children and young people get no support. Even for those that do the average wait for routine appointments for psychological therapy was 32 weeks in 2015/16.

Children and young people's mental health

The House of Commons have released a briefing into the state of children and young people's mental health.

- Many young people with mental health problems miss out on education.
- Nearly one in four students (24%) did not attend school, college or university because they were concerned what other students would say and 15% of people experienced bullying as a result of mental health problems.
- Nearly a third (31%) of those had been subject to discriminatory language, including being called "crazy" and "attention seeking".
- Nearly half of respondents (48%) chose not to tell people about their mental health problems, instead saying they were absent due to physical illness.
- One in 5 new mothers develop a mental health problem around the time of the birth of their child and some 30,000 more women need specialist services. If untreated this can turn into a lifelong illness, proven to increase the likelihood of poor outcomes to the

Section 3: Education

- Most young people do not follow an academic route after age 16. Two thirds of young people in their early 20s do not have a degree.
- In England in 2013/14, of a total population of 1,285,800 16 and 17 year-olds, only 47% of young people (601,500 people) aged 16 and 17 started A-Levels, whereas 53% (684,300) did not do so.
- In 2015 only 269,942 young people entered the exam for at least one A-Level. A further 404,100 entered for at least one substantial Level 3 qualification.²⁹
- 48% of pupils across England went on to higher education.³⁰
- 8.4 m Pupils enrolled in state-funded and independent schools in England
- 2.7 m Pupils enrolled in academies in England in January 2015³¹
- UK educational attainment is ranked 23rd globally for reading, 26th for Maths and 20th for Science³²
- In 2010, the number of 16–24-year-olds not in employment or full-time education increased to 1.4 m³³
- 7% of young people do not achieve five or more GCSE's and find their life chances significantly impacted³⁴
- By 16, children receiving free school meals achieve 1.7 grades lower at GCSE than their wealthier peers³⁵
- In 2014 GCSE attainment fell and socio-economic gaps opened up for lower attainers.
- The proportion of secondary schools rated as having 'inadequate' leadership is also rising and almost doubled between 2012 and 2014
- 27.4 Average one-teacher infant class size in state-funded primary schools in England³⁶
- GCSE results are strongly linked to social-economic determinants with, for example, only 14.5% of looked after young people achieving five or more A*-C grade GCSEs. Only 6% of care leavers enter higher education, compared to 47% of the general population. .³⁷
- The 5 A*-C level the attainment of students on FSM fell 27.7% points³⁸
- In 2015 it costs an average of £115.45 to send a child aged under two to nursery for 25 hours a week in Britain, a total of £6,003 per year, £1,533 more than in 2010³⁹
- 27% of young carers (aged 11–15) miss school or experience educational difficulties. Over 39% of young carers had not informed their teacher or any member of staff that they were a young carer.⁴⁰
- In 2015, 17.4% of pupils in England did not have English as their first language.

Section 3: Education

Nisai Results

Nisai have compiled their recent findings into the education attainment for looked after children and SEN students.

- Only 14% of Looked After Children achieve 5 GCSEs or if you are a looked after child, you're 4 times more likely to have Special Educational Needs.
- In 2014/15, 5,800 children were excluded from primary, secondary or special schools – that's around 30 students per school day and a 17.2% increase on the previous year.
- Students with SEN are over 7 times more likely to receive a permanent exclusion than students without SEN.

Parents see boroughs as a vital part of the London education model

London Councils commissioned a survey which sought the views of parents on the schools that their children attend in London.

- 82% think London boroughs should have the power to influence and intervene in underperforming state, academy and free schools.
- 75% agree that London boroughs should have the final say in the location of new schools within their authority boundary. Only 11% disagree with this.
- 71% of parents asked feel that the UK government should increase the amount of money it spends on education and schools.
- 65% agree that free schools should be set up in areas of basic need

57% of schoolchildren feel that London 2012 encouraged them to play sport

The latest *Taking Part* survey in England looked into the uptake of sports by young people, specifically looking at the long term impact of London 2012.

- 57% of 11-15 year olds said the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games had encouraged them to take part in sport.
- Four weeks prior to being interviewed, 83.5% of 5-10 year olds had taken part in sport outside school, a similar proportion to 84.5% in 2008/09 and 81.1% in 2014/15.

Do The Maths 2016

London Councils' annual report into the pressures facing the school places planning system looks at the levels of funding needed, and places needed for London to meet schools demand.

- London received 42% of national school funding 2011/12, only 14% 2018/19.
- 110,364 new school places will be needed in London between 2016/17 and 2021/22.
- £1.8 billion will be needed to provide sufficient school places in London in that time.

Section 3a: Bullying in Education

- More than 16,000 young people are absent from school due to bullying⁴¹
- Around 1 in 8 children (12%) aged 10 to 15 in the UK reported being frequently bullied physically, in other ways, or both in 2011–12⁴²
- 1 in 4 children have experienced something upsetting on a social networking site⁴³
- A third of children have been a victim of cyber-bullying⁴⁴

Youth Index 2015

The Princes Trust's annual Youth Index, now in its seventh year, tracks the concerns of young people over time. It is clear from this year's findings that young people need our support as much as ever.

- 62% of 16-25 year olds have been bullied at school, with 10% of that lasting more than five years
- 68% of young carers are bullied in schools.
- More than 24% were physically attacked, while 94% were emotionally or verbally abused
- 13% experienced cyber bullying
- 22% did not attend school as a result of being bullied

Stonewall teachers report 2014

Stonewall's report looks into homophobic bullying in schools, surveying teachers and the level of provision and education of LGBT rights.

- 86% of secondary and 45% of primary school teachers surveyed say pupils in their schools have experienced homophobic bullying.
- 55% of secondary and 42% of primary school teachers say they don't challenge homophobic language when they hear it.
- Only 17% of secondary school teachers say their school stocks library books and information about LGBT people.
- 8% of primary schools or 17% in secondary have received specific training on tackling homophobic bullying.
- 29% of secondary and 37% of primary school teachers don't know if they are allowed to teach LGBT issues.
- Over half of lesbian, gay and bisexual young people have experienced homophobic bullying at school.

Section 3b: University

Councils ‘fail to equip’ care leavers to manage their money

The Children’s Society new report, *The Cost of Being Care Free* report, found Young people leaving the care system are falling into debt and losing benefits due to insufficient support.

- There is “significant variation” in the support provided by local authorities in England and “inconsistent” support from personal advisers.
- It found that out of 111 authorities, 47% do not commission or provide additional financial support for care leavers beyond the advice provided by personal advisers.
- Just 13% of these councils were found to offer one-to-one advice, while 40% commission or provide one-to-one support and group workshops.

SRE: Shh... No Talking

This report into sex and relationships education (SRE) surveyed over 900 young people aged 16-24, published by the Terrence Higgins Trust, highlights the need for SRE in schools.

- 99% of young people surveyed thought SRE should be mandatory in all schools.
- One in seven respondents had not received any SRE at all.
- Half of young people rated the SRE they received in school as either ‘poor’ or ‘terrible’.

Double Jeopardy

The NUS published a report into how the first £9,000 tuition fee students were faring.

- 47% of 2015 graduates moved back in with parents.
- 60% still had non-student consumer debt left over from their degree, the average amount being £2,600.
- Three times as many full-time working men than women graduates were earning over £30,000.
- Double the number of women than men were earning less than £15,000.

Brits Spend Billions on University Degrees they never use

The Knowledge Academy commissioned a study on University Degrees.

- 2,000 graduates found 64% felt their degree was not relevant to their current role
- Two thirds of British students don’t use their university degree
- A quarter of respondents from the study said that job roles that are completely different to the degree they completed
- One third said the content of their degree and the subjects studied are entirely irrelevant to the work they do now.

Section 3b: University

How satisfied are graduates with their degree choices?

HEFCE research has analysed the responses of 36,000 English graduates who were asked how satisfied they are with their undergraduate choices, finding that:

- One-third of graduates would consider choosing a different subject.
- Black and minority ethnic (BME) graduates are more likely to wish they had chosen a different university course.
- Female graduates are more satisfied with their choice of university.

Believing in Better

The Sutton Trust have released a report that explores evidence of young people's views and the importance they attach on going on to university.

- Students' aspirations, in terms of the importance they attach to getting a degree and their plans to go to university, are shaped from an early age by background, neighbourhood and educational influences.
- There are important differences among students in the general aspirations in terms of the importance they attach to getting a university degree, already evident at age 14.
- Around 61% of students believe it is very important to get a degree, and only 13% of students think it is of little or very little importance.
- Only 27% of disadvantaged students compared with 39% of those not experiencing disadvantage thought it likely they would go on to university for a degree.

Graduate earnings vary with gender, institution attended, and subject

The research led by the Institute for Fiscal Studies used anonymised tax data and student loan records for 260,000 students up to ten years after graduation.

- Based on a simple measure of parental income, students from higher income families have median earnings which are around 25% more than those from lower income families.
- Median earnings for male graduates ten years after graduation were £30,000. For non-graduates of the same age, median earnings were £22,000. The equivalent figures for women with significant earnings were £27,000 and £18,000
- Medical students were easily the highest earners at the median some ten years out, followed by those who studied economics.
- More than 10% of male graduates from LSE, Oxford and Cambridge were earning in excess of £100,000 a year ten years after graduation, with LSE graduates earning the most.

Section 4: Youth unemployment

Unemployment and NEETs

- 850,000 young people were 'NEET' in the UK at one point last year.⁴⁵
- The number of 16-24 year olds who are unemployed currently stands at 739,400 or 16.5% of the economically active population.⁴⁶
- A survey revealed that the majority of students aged 16 -18 expect a significant gap between education and paid employment, with 30% expecting to wait over a year before securing work.⁴⁷
- One in five long-term unemployed young people feel they have nothing to live for, and one in four have been prescribed antidepressants.⁴⁸
- By 2018, unemployment and underemployment is predicted to affect a third of all 16-25 year olds.⁴⁹
- Unemployment rates are three times higher for 16-25 year olds when compared with the rest of the UK population.⁵⁰

Youth Unemployment: A generation in crisis.

A report by Young Enterprise in March 2016 surveyed 1,000 16-18 year olds in full time education, looking at their attitudes to work.

- 58% of young people in school told us they believe they are not getting enough experience of work or education in entrepreneurship.
- With 31% said that they were not being taught the necessary key employment skills required in the workplace such as teamwork, confidence and problem solving.
- 16% of young people in school believe on paid internships are only accessible to individuals from high income families.
- 40% of young people in school say they lack the confidence to go for competitive jobs because they are not trained to pass interviews.
- 33%% of students said that they are not always given enough career.
- 33% of young people in school say they feel that their school could do more to prepare them for working life by offering more varied extracurricular activities.
- 32% of young people in school say that they feel that their school could do more to prepare them for working life by providing more financial education.
- 50% cited international competition for an inability to secure a job, while 46% still blame the on-going impact of the recession, saying that there are fewer jobs available.
- 48% of young people surveyed believe that it is harder for their generation to land a job than it was for their parents.
- 90% of respondents believe employers expect too much from school leavers, assuming they should be able to instantly adapt to the world of work.

Section 4: Youth unemployment

Young people's well-being and personal finance: UK, 2013 to 2014, ONS

ONS have published this insight into the well-being and personal finances of young people in the UK.

- Around 84% of 16 to 24 year olds lived with their parents in 2013 to 2014. However, this figure is around 98% for 16 to 18 year olds and 86% for 19 to 21 year olds.
- In 2014, 24% of UK university undergraduates surveyed opted to stay at home living with parents whilst studying, compared with 12% in 1996. Nearly half of 20 to 24 year olds lived with their parents in 2015.
- Around 32% of young people reported having debt in 2012 to 2014 but just 16% of those young people with financial liabilities felt their debt was a heavy burden in 2012 to 2014.
- In 2013 to 2014, young people who were unemployed were nearly 1.5 times more likely than those who were working and almost twice as likely as students to report being relatively dissatisfied with household income.
- Unemployed young people and those who were economically inactive were most likely to report finding it difficult to get by financially (26% and 18% respectively). Unemployed young people were around 6.5 times more likely to be finding it difficult than working young people.
- Unemployed young people were at least likely to report a high or very high sense that the things they do are worthwhile (72%) and were also less likely to report low or very low anxiety than young people who were working (60% compared with 69%).
- When asked how they think their financial situation will be in future, students were most likely to think they will be worse off (13%), despite being most likely to report being comfortable at present.
- Of those 20 to 24 year olds who were householders in 2015, 91% were living in rented accommodation and only 9% owned their homes (either outright or with a mortgage or loan) in 2015, down from 30% in 1996.
- Around 44% of 16 to 24 year olds in social renting reported their current financial situation as comfortable and around 60% of young people in private renting did the same; this compares with 72% of young people who live with their parents and 80% who own their own home.
- Around 1 in 5 young people in social rental housing rated their current financial situation as difficult or very difficult compared with an average of 1 in 14 young people in other accommodation types in 2013 to 2014.

Section 4: Youth unemployment

Number of young people sick and unable to work has increased

Reform has published a new report, Employment and Support Allowance: the case for change, which calls for structural reform of the ESA benefit.

- 16-34 year-olds saw the greatest growth in claims for sickness benefits over the last five years. Over half of that age group are unable to work due to poor mental health.
- Young people in the UK are more than twice as likely to be on sickness benefits than the OECD average.
- 35% of young people (aged 16-24) who claim Employment and Support Allowance have done so for more than two years.
- In 2010 (latest figures), young people in the UK were more than twice as likely to be claiming disability benefits as the OECD average (4% compared to an OECD average of 1.5%).
- Between 2008 and 2011 (latest figures), the level of self-reported working age disability in the UK rose seven times faster than the EU average.
- The Northern Powerhouse has the greatest numbers of people sick and unable to work.

NEET: Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training

The House of Commons library has released this briefing on young people with NEET status, including the characteristics of those who are NEET, and detailed policies to reduce the number.

- 848,000 people aged 16-24 were NEET in the third quarter of 2015, with 11.7% of all young people in the 16-24 age group were NEET.
- The number of young people NEET rose as the proportion of young people employed but not in full-time education decreased.
- Out of 622,000 unemployed 16-24 year olds in October-December 2015, 358,000 (57.5%) were NEET. However, under half (42.0%) of young people who were NEET were unemployed. The remaining 495,000 were economically inactive.
- Women made up 54.0% of 16-24 year olds classified as NEET, in Q4 2015.
- Key characteristics of people who are NEET and aged 19 in 2010:
 - Young people who have achieved five or more GCSEs grade A-C are less likely to be NEET than those who have not.
 - Those eligible for free school meals are more likely to be NEET than those not eligible.
 - Those who have been excluded or suspended from school are more likely to be NEET than those who have not.
 - Those with their own child are more likely to be NEET than those without.
 - Those who have a disability are more likely to be NEET than those who do not.

Section 4: Youth unemployment

Youth Unemployment: A Generation in Crisis

A study from Youth Enterprise which examines the challenges facing the next generation and preventing them from gaining the employment opportunities they deserve.

- The majority of students aged 16-18 expect to wait at least a few months after finishing education before finding a job, with nearly a third expecting to wait over one year.
- 90% also believe employers expect too much of school leaders, including more qualifications and more work experience.
- Half of this group cited more international competition for jobs as a reason for difficulty in the job market.

The employment landscape for young people in the UK

A report from EY highlights stark variations in youth unemployment levels across the UK could impact local economic growth.

- North East has the highest youth unemployment rate amongst UK regions (18.3%) compared to the lowest rate of 11.2% in the East of England
- Between 2004 and 2015, youth employment rose only in London and (marginally) in the South West, falling in the other seven English regions
- London's youth unemployment rate is high compared to other regions (17.9%), but on a positive note it also has the highest proportion of the population aged 18-24 who are in full-time education (39%)
- Youth employment levels declined by 166,000 from 2004 to 2015, with the biggest fall seen in the manufacturing sector, a decline of 109,000 (28%). In the same period decreases have also been seen in: construction (25%) and financial & business services (4%) have also reduced their employment of young people, along with transport & communications (26%), distribution, hotels & restaurants (4%).
- Two sectors that currently employ the highest proportions of young people – relative to their total employment – are set to grow.

Tackling Youth Unemployment Among Disadvantaged Young People

Centrepoint has released a report into unemployed among disadvantaged young people.

- Homelessness forces young people to focus on getting straight into paid, full-time work rather than gaining further qualifications which might advance their career in the long term
- Employers want to offer opportunities to disadvantaged young people but 76% of employers do not currently target any of their opportunities to this group
- Only 4% of employers provide traineeships to disadvantaged young people
- Lack of funding is the most common barrier preventing employers from offering opportunities to disadvantaged young people

Section 4: Youth unemployment

UK Labour Market: May 2016

The ONS releases estimates of employment, unemployment, economic inactivity and other employment-related statistics for the UK.

- For January to March 2016, the unemployment rate for 16 to 24 year olds was 13.7%.
- The unemployment rate for those aged from 16 to 24 has been consistently higher than that for older age groups.
- For January to March 2016, for people aged from 16 to 24, there were:
 - 3.99 m people in work (including 958,000 full-time students with part-time jobs)
 - 631,000 unemployed people (including 218,000 full-time students looking for part-time work)
 - 2.61 m economically inactive people, most of whom (1.99 m) were full-time students
- Since comparable records began in 1992:
 - the lowest youth unemployment rate was 11.6% for March to May 2001
 - The highest youth unemployment rate was 22.5% for late 2011
 - Between March to May 1992 (when comparable records began) and January to March 2016 the proportion of people aged from 16 to 24 who were in full-time education increased substantially from 26.2% to 43.8%.

Youth Index 2015

The Princes Trust's annual Youth Index, now in its seventh year, tracks the concerns of young people over time. It is clear from this year's findings that young people need our support as much as ever.

- 13% of young people feel too anxious to leave the house and this increases to 35% among NEETs.
- 36% often feel anxious about everyday situations, rising to 52% of NEETs.
- 20% claim they "fall apart" emotionally regularly. This increases to 33% of NEETs.
- 56% of respondents did not receive any help after their last setback in life, rising to 71% among those who didn't have anyone to talk to about their problems while growing up
- 50% of respondents claim that they lost confidence in themselves following a setback, increasing to 59% amongst those who are NEET
- As a result of a setback in life, 47% of NEETs felt that even if they tried, they would not succeed. This compares to 31% of all young people.

Section 4a: Skills gap

OECD Skills outlook 2015

The OECD does an annual outlook for different European countries, looking specifically at the skills and educational standards of young people in the United Kingdom.

- There was a 12.6% gap in literacy in England, double the OECD average of 6.5%.
- 9.6% difference between the problem-solving skills of UK young people in work.
- In 2013, 56% of NEETs have given up looking for work, deemed “inactive

Skills Crunch

The Prince's Trust conducted a survey of 616 senior directors of businesses in the UK with over 500+ employees, it explore the business view of skills shortages in the UK economy.

- 65% believe there are already skills shortages impacting the UK
- 53% admit that they are facing difficulties in filling vacancies
- 79% believe that skills shortages will limit the growth of the UK economy
- 60% of employers are struggling to recruit the leaders of tomorrow
- 71% of UK businesses surveyed by the Princes Trust admit that jobless young people face stigma from employers, while 69% warn of a culture where unemployed young people and those without a degree are unfairly overlooked in the jobs market

Young people are borrowing money off friends and family ‘just to buy food’

National Debtline released a survey into the challenges young people face borrowing money.

- More than a quarter of 18 to 24-year-olds who had borrowed money from family or friends said this had helped them to avoid financial problems.
- While 63% of people said they had turned to a parent for advice about money at some point in the past, just 2% had sought expert advice from a money or debt advice charity.
- Parents were found to be the most common sources of these informal loans, followed by friends and brothers or sisters.

Almost one in five jobs in London are low paid

Around 720,000 jobs in the capital are low paid said the New Policy Institute (NPI).

- Less than a third of part-time jobs in London were low paid in 2006, but that figure has jumped to 43%.
- The boroughs with the highest proportion of jobs paying below the London living wage (£9.75 per hour) were all in Outer London.
- Around 27% of low-paid jobs were in retail and wholesale, with a fifth in hotels and restaurants, said the report, funded by charitable foundation Trust for London.

Section 4b: Insecure pay & employment

- The incidence of zero-hours contracts is higher in young people aged between 16 and 24, with this age group accounting for 237,000 of zero-hours contracts.⁵¹
- Zero-hours contracts are a more prevalent form of employment (when compared to other forms of employment) for workers aged 16-24 and aged 65 and older.⁵²
- People on “zero-hours contracts” are more likely to be young, part time, women, or in full-time education when compared with other people in employment. Around 1 in 3 people (37%) on a “zero-hours contract” want more hours. In comparison 10% of other people in employment wanted more hours.⁵²
- People on zero-hours contracts are more likely to have GCSEs as their highest educational qualification (31%) compared to those with a degree (21%).⁵³
- Around three-quarters of 16 to 20-year-olds and 40% of 21 to 24-year-olds are paid below the London Living Wage. For older age groups, the figure is around 20%.⁵⁴
- The high levels of low pay among young adults are in part a reflection of the lower statutory minimum wage among those aged under 21. The ‘national living wage’ announced in the 2015 summer budget will only apply to those aged 25 and over.⁵⁵
- Full-time weekly earnings cumulatively fell more than 15% for men and women in their late 20s and even larger ones for those aged 16-19.⁵⁶
- Full-time employment for those of working age fell by a total of more than 10% for men and nearly 8% for women aged 20-24 between 2006-08 and 2013.⁵⁶
- 72% of 18-21 year olds are reported to be earning less than the living wage. 21% increase in young people’s calls to Citizens Advice regarding debt issues in the last year.⁵⁷

Zero Hours Contracts in London

The ONS looked into the use of zero-hours contracts, detailing the characteristics of those in them.

- 744,000 people are employed on a “zero-hours contract” in their main job. This represents 2.4% of all people in employment, an increase of 0.4% from the same period in 2014.
- People on a “zero-hours contract” are more likely to be women, in full-time education or in young or older age groups.
- People who report being on a “zero-hours contract” are more likely to be at the youngest or oldest ends of the age range. 34% of people on “zero-hours contracts” are aged 16 to 24 and 6% are aged 65 and over (compared with 12% and 4% respectively for other employed people)
- 20% of people on “zero-hours contracts” are in full-time education compared with 3% of other people in employment.

Section 4c: Equalities & employment

Race and employment

- Children and young people from black and minority ethnic communities are less likely to engage with services which could intervene early to prevent mental health problems escalating.⁵⁸
- Over the period from December 2015 to February 2016, the unemployment rate among black 16-24 year olds was 27.5%, more than double the rate for young white people.⁵⁹
- Even black and minority ethnic graduates from Russell Group universities still experience lower levels of employment early in their careers than their white peers.⁶⁰
- The number of young people from ethnic minority backgrounds who have been unemployed for more than a year has risen by almost 50% since 2010.⁶¹

Gender and employment

Unemployment among young women

The Young Women's Trust looked into unemployment for young women, and the destinations of young female apprentices.

- There are many more women than men as NEETS and this has been the case for more than a decade. Women are NEET for longer and the impact is deeper.
- 61% of female apprentices work in just five sectors, whilst the same proportions of men work in more than 10 sectors.
- Young women who are NEET are more likely to have caring responsibilities. More than 180,000 young women NEET say they are not looking for work because they are caring for children or other family members. Just 10,000 young men are NEET for the same reason.

Over 40% Of Young Women Expect To Face Discrimination At Work

A YouGov poll was commissioned by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors.

- 41% of women aged from 13 to 22 feel that their gender will impact negatively on their future career prospects, compared to only 4% of young men. Conversely, one in five young men expect a positive impact and to earn more because of their gender.

Disability and employment

- The low pay rate for disabled people with at least A-level education is 7% age points higher at 24%, and for those with an education below A-level is 8% age points higher.⁶²
- The cost of youth unemployment over the next decade has been estimated at £28 billion with just under £4.2 billion for 2012's total benefit bill for youth unemployment.⁶³
- 955,000 young people in the UK were Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET) in 2014⁶⁴

Section 4c: Equalities & employment

Care leavers and employment

Children's commissioner demands care leaver 'apprenticeship guarantee'

The Children's Commissioner has demanded care leaver 'apprenticeship guarantee' while revealing data which supports the argument.

- Almost four in ten (38%) care leavers are not in education, employment or training (NEET), compared with just 11% of all young people.
- 3% of care leavers aged between 19 and 21 were on apprenticeships in 2015 compared with 24% of young people in the general population.

Care leavers missing out

The Children's Commissioner looked into the routes to employment through apprenticeships for care leavers.

- Care leavers miss out on important routes to employment through apprenticeships because poor promotion and barriers act as deterrents
- For those not at university, 19 to 21 year olds care leavers are eight times less likely to be apprentices compared to the general population
- Overall, the number of children in care and care leavers on apprenticeships in England has been increasing – from 34 per 1,000 children in 2013/14 to 44 per 1,000 children in 2014/15.

Section 4d: Apprenticeships

FE Week Survey into traineeships and apprenticeships

FE Week has published figures, through a freedom of information (FoI) request, which revealed shockingly low progression rates from traineeships to apprenticeships.

- 70% of those questioned said traineeships should be renamed — with 29% favouring calling them “pre-apprenticeships” and a quarter preferring “access to apprenticeships”.
- 78% of respondents admitting that they saw poor progression onto apprenticeships as a problem.
- Only 16% of survey respondents supported the idea of creating a new pre-apprenticeship programme in addition to the existing traineeships scheme.
- 80% said the government should create a single funding pot for traineeships, as they have done for apprenticeships.

Levels of Success - The potential of UK apprenticeships

Report from the Sutton Trust looks at the earning potential of apprenticeships versus degrees, finding that the very best apprenticeships (at level 5) result in greater lifetime earnings than degrees from non-Russell Group universities.

- Higher apprenticeships at level 5 result in greater lifetime earnings than undergraduate degrees from non-Russell Group universities.
- Currently, the majority of apprenticeships are intermediate (level 2), many of which offer little value for the apprentice and only marginally better lifetime earnings than secondary school qualifications alone.
- Research by Oliver Wyman suggests that the most elite apprenticeships are disproportionately populated by those from wealthier backgrounds.
- There is a sharp gender divide in apprenticeships. For example, engineering apprenticeships remain male-dominated (96% are men); beauty therapy apprenticeships female-dominated (99% are women). It has recently been reported that, because of this imbalance, female apprentices earn over £1 less an hour than male.
- According to the latest data for 2014/15, less than a third (32%) of apprenticeship starts have been by those under 19, but over a third (36%) by those aged 25 or older. This limits the potential of apprenticeships as a vehicle of social mobility.

Section 5: Housing

- Young adults (aged 20 to 34) in the UK are more likely to be sharing a home with their parents than any time since 1996. There were 618,000 more young adults living with their parents in 2015 than in 1996 – 3.3 m compared with 2.7 m.⁶⁵
- 48% of young people live with their parents. 55% young men and 42% young women.⁶⁷
- Most children in poverty are in rented housing (more than 530,000), half with a registered social landlord and half with a private landlord. The number of children in poverty in private rented housing has more than doubled in ten years.⁶⁷
- Across England, there were 42,185 homes advertised that had at least two bedrooms and were affordable for families earning the median income in the local area. This was only 16.9% of all homes advertised in the country.⁶⁸
- 81% of supported accommodation residents (surveyed with an average age of 25) say they are worried about finding somewhere to live when they are ready to move on. More than half (56%) say they feel ready to move out but are unable to do so.⁶⁹
- The home ownership rate has halved for 25 year olds in the last 20 years.⁷⁰ Less than a third are unable to save any money towards a tenancy deposit.⁷¹
- In 2013-14, privately rented was the most common tenure for younger households.⁷²
- The average weekly rent for purpose-built student accommodation in the UK rose 23% from £120 to £147 between 2009-2010 and 2015-2016.⁷³

Housing in minority ethnic communities

- In 2011, there were 1.1 m overcrowded households in England and Wales, almost half (47.9%) of these households were from a minority ethnic group.⁷⁶
- Households from the Bangladeshi ethnic group included a higher percentage (30.2%) of overcrowded households than those with an HRP of any other ethnic group.⁷⁷
- Around 327,000 minority ethnic households lived in a home classified as poor housing.⁷⁸
- The estimated total annual treatment cost to the NHS is around £52 m per year.⁷⁹

Housing options and solutions for young people in 2020

Joseph Rowntree Foundation's report looks at future housing for young people.

- It is anticipated that the total number of young people owning their own properties in 2020 will decrease by approximately 1.1m to 1.3m in 2020.
- The total number of young people living in their own Private Rented Sector (PRS) tenancies in 2020 is predicted to increase by approximately 1.3m to 3.7m.
- The number of young people living with parents in owner-occupied accommodation will increase by approximately 550,000 to 3.7 m in 2020.
- The number of young people aged 18–24 following a chaotic housing pathway (including homelessness) will increase from 75,000 to 81,000 between 2008 and 2020.

Section 5: Housing

Housing And Inequality In London

The Centre for London report identifies a new driver of inequality in London: the rapid increase in house prices “the housing crisis”. The report key findings include:

- Traditional assumptions about poverty and housing tenure are being eroded.
- Rising house prices have inflated wealth disparities.
- Rising housing costs are suburbanising poverty.

Global Urban Millennial Survey 2016

Youthful Cities have released the results from their Global Urban Millennials Survey 2016.

- 58% of millennials plan to leave their city within the next 10 years specifically because of affordability, employment and safety.
- 17% of millennials feel that their city governments are listening to them.
- 55% of youth want to participate in meetings about the future of their city.

The impact of bad, or a shortage of, housing

- Children in temporary accommodation and poor housing suffer far higher rates of ill health, both physical and mental, and declining life chances and educational attainment. Children in poor housing:
 - Are between 1.5 and 3.5 times more likely to develop a cough.
 - Have a 25% higher risk of severe ill-health and disability.
 - Are 10 times more likely to contract meningitis in overcrowded homes.⁷⁴
- Children living in bad housing are twice as likely to suffer from fair, bad or very bad health than children in good housing. They are more likely to suffer from poorer respiratory health; and, from wheezing/whistling in the chest and more likely to suffer from shortness of breath. They are more likely to suffer from asthma and have sleep problems due to wheezing.⁷⁵

People living in bad housing

NatCen produced this report into people living in bad housing, the numbers and health impacts, for Shelter in August 2013.

- One in five children (2.3 m children) were living in ‘bad housing’ in Britain. “Bad housing” defined by the government are overcrowded, damp, have mould issues, or are cold.
- Children who lived in acutely bad housing were over twice as likely to have visited A&E more than once in the last year compared to children who did not live in bad housing.
- Three-quarters of severely overcrowded families also strongly agreed that their children’s health was affected by their living conditions.

Section 5a: Homelessness

- Around 35,000 young people are in homeless accommodation at any one time across the UK, with hostels always full or oversubscribed⁸⁰
- In England, more than 14,000 households headed by young people were accepted as homeless and in priority need during 2013/14.⁸¹
- At least 75,000 young people experienced homelessness in the UK in 2006–07, this number is expected to have risen greatly since⁸² with 1 in 100 young people in the UK now expected to experience homelessness.⁸³
- One in five of those who present as homeless get accommodated. The remaining four young people in every five do not receive assistance.⁸⁴
- Only one in five local authorities offer advocacy support for homeless young people.⁸⁵
- 57% of homeless young people are not in education, training or employment.⁸⁶

Young and Homeless

Homeless Link's third annual Young & Homeless report explores the reasons young people became homeless in 2015, the support available to them, and areas that need to be improved.

- Providers report seeing more young people who are homeless (68% reported an increase) whereas local authorities report seeing fewer young people (20% of people presenting as homeless).
- Parents or carers no longer willing to accommodate continues to be the leading cause of youth homelessness, a casual factor in nearly half of cases (47%) compared to 36% in 2014.
- The proportion of young women in homelessness services was 46%.
- Despite being homeless, large proportions of young people (65%) are studying, employed, or on a work/apprenticeship scheme, including 22% of young people in paid employment.
- This year 57% of services turned away young people because they had no recourse to public funds and young people with no local connection were turned away by 40% of services.

Section 5a: Homelessness

Preventing youth homelessness: What works?

Centrepoint's review examines the evidence for a range of interventions, alongside an analysis of the costs of not preventing youth homelessness. We share our evidence with politicians, practitioners and decision makers and call on them to improve services for young people at risk of homelessness.

- A young person not in education or employment costs the state £12,200 more if they are homeless
- 72% of councils say they offer services for families at risk of relationship breakdown to prevent youth homelessness
- 59% of Centrepoint young people became homeless because of family relationship breakdown

No Excuses, Preventing homelessness for the next generation 2013

Homeless link released a report into homelessness for the next generation, and how to prevent it.

- 14,000 young people across 161 local authorities sought help from their council.
- Local authorities were able to prevent homelessness for 16-17 year-olds in 41% of cases.
- Six out of ten young people become homeless because of a breakdown of a relationship⁸⁷

Section 6: Young people in care

- There are currently over 93,000 children in care in the UK, with more than half of children are taken into care because of abuse or neglect.⁸⁸
- In 2015, the main reason why social services first engaged with looked after children was because of abuse or neglect (61%), with family-related issues making up the majority of the rest of cases.⁸⁸
- There are approximately 11.6 m children living in England, of whom less than 5% are involved with children's services. Less than 1% are children looked after (69,530 children) or on a child protection plan (49,680 children).⁸⁹
- Children in need make up the largest % age of those involved with children's social care: just over 3% of all children in England are classified as children in need (390,960 children).⁹⁰
- The number of children in care has been increasing over the past few years. In the year ending 31 March 2015, a total of 69,540 children were looked after by local authorities in England, a rate of 60 per 10,000 children under 18 years. The number of looked after children has increased steadily over the past seven years and it is now higher than at any point since 1985.⁹¹
- 1 in 10 of care-leavers enter higher education, compared to the 40% average.⁹²
- 50% of the young people in prison have been in the care system.⁹³
- Fewer than 1% of all children in England are in care, but looked after children make up 33% of boys and 61% of girls in custody. They are three times more likely to be cautioned or convicted of an offence.⁹⁴
- Young people in care are five times less likely to achieve five good GCSEs, and eight times more likely to be excluded from school and less likely to go to university. One in five homeless people are care leavers.⁹⁵

Mental health and well-being of looked-after children

House of Commons Education Committee released this briefing into the mental health and well-being of looked after children.

- One child's unstable and unsupported experience of care cost £22,415 more per year (including health, social care and criminal justice costs) than another child's stable and well supported care journey.
- Children in care are four times more likely to have a mental health disorder. Almost half of children and young people in care meeting the criteria for a psychiatric disorder.
- Young people leaving care in the UK are five times more likely to attempt suicide.
- 23% of adult prisoners have been in care, and 40% of prisoners are under 21.

Section 7: Crime

- Young people are more likely to be victims of crime than older people, with 16-24 year olds constituting 25% of victims of crime in 2013/14⁹⁶
- 12% of children aged 10 to 15 in the UK reported being a victim of crime in 2013/14, half of whom were victims of violent crime⁹⁷
- Young people aged 10 to 17 were responsible for 23% of police recorded crime in 2009/10⁹⁸
- In 2014, the APPG found that encounters between young people and the police are often characterised by poor and unconstructive communications and a lack of mutual respect⁹⁹
- In 2009-13, across 26 police forces, over one m stop and searches were carried out on children under the age of 18. This made up between 13 to 28% of all stop and searched across all police forces and between one fifth and one quarter of all stop and searches.¹⁰⁰

Local perspectives in Ending Gang and Youth Violence Areas

Report published by the Home Office includes findings taken from interviews with practitioners.

- More 9-14-year-olds are getting involved with gangs compared with two years ago.
- The estimated the age of the majority of gang members now stands at 15 to 17, followed by 20 to 24 – slightly older than it was two years ago.
- Overall, the majority of survey respondents reported that there were between three and eight gangs in their EGYV area and more than 100 gang members.
- Concern was expressed about young people being recruited by gangs (particularly in London) to transport drugs around the country.

Youth Matters

The Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime (MOPAC) released findings from a survey of 9,492 young Londoners about their experiences of crime.

- The majority of the young people (81%) who responded to the survey had never been victims of crime.
- However the top three issues that affected young Londoners in school daily or regularly were violence and fights (27%); bullying (24%) and people stealing (21%).
- The survey also revealed that perceived pressure to join a gang was marked for those who had been victims of crime (21%) and attendees or former attendees of Pupil Referral Units (31%).
- Young Londoners are interested in what the police do, with 23% of survey respondents interested in becoming a Police Cadet.

Section 7: Crime

Serious Youth Violence

Published by the London Assembly Police and Crime Committee, the report assesses the reasons behind the rise in youth violence in the capital and examines other emerging trends.

- Serious youth violence is not solely a gang issue. Data provided to the Committee shows that gangs are involved in a relatively small amount of serious youth violence: just under 5% in 2015-16.
- Almost a quarter of all victims of serious youth violence in the capital—around 1,500—are young women.
- Under-reporting among young people is a problem and greater awareness of the different ways young people can report anonymously is needed.

Young people in the justice system

- Young adults make up just over a quarter of the prison population. Half of all those who had offended in a given year will have recently been a victim of personal crime¹⁰¹
- In January 2015, the number of children in custody was 981 – the first time on record the population has fallen below 1,000. 11% of children in prison have attempted suicide¹⁰²
- If we reduced youth reoffending by 10%, it would save £1 billion.¹⁰³

Education in Youth Custody

A parliamentary briefing looked at children in custody, finding that they are more likely than the general population to have needs that directly inhibit their ability to engage with education.

- Around 90% of children in custody have been excluded from school at any one time before entering custody (compared to 3-5% of the general population).
- Children in custody have higher incidences of neurodisabilities (atypical neurology development). For example, 20% of children in custody have learning disabilities (compared to 2-3% of the general population) and studies estimate that between 50 and 80% of children in custody have Traumatic Brain Injury (compared to 10% of the general population).
- Overall prevalence rates are broadly similar to that in the general population but rates for individual disorders are higher.

Children in trouble with the law

Barnardo's looked at the mental health consequences of young people in custody.

- 33% of young people in custody have a mental health disorder 3 times higher than the general population.
- 60% of young people in custody have significant speech, language or communication difficulties.
- Around a quarter have a learning disability, while many have a history of abuse or bereavement.

Section 7: Crime

Banardo's youth justice statistics

Banardo's report focus on children in the youth justice system, finding they are predominantly drawn from the poorest and most disadvantaged families and communities.

- 60% have significant speech, language or communication difficulties; around a quarter have a learning disability.
- One third of young people in custody have a mental health disorder 3 times higher than the general population. Many have a history of abuse or bereavement
- Around a half of young people in custody have been in local authority care at some point in their lives and a fifth are still subject to care orders.
- Children placed in custody face separation (sometimes by long distances) from family and friends, isolation from the community, and interruption to education, employment or training.
- Children do not always receive the support they need to cope and to turn their lives around. In particular, those leaving custody often have inadequate accommodation and are not supported in getting back into education or training.
- Reoffending rates remain stubbornly high. Custody is expensive and often ineffective. 72% of children released from custody go on to re-offend within one year.

Youth Justice Statistics 2014/15

The Youth Justice Board/Ministry of Justice release statistical bulletins on youth justice.

- In the year ending March 2015, the Police issued 20,080 youth cautions, with use of cautions rising by 12% in the year ending for possession of weapons.
- Overall young people were convicted of 87,160 proven offences (those resulting in a caution or conviction) in the year ending March 2015.
- The reoffending rate has increased (by 5.6 % age points since the year ending March 2008, to 38.0% in the year ending March 2014)
- In 2012/13, 167,995 young people were arrested in England and Wales. Of these, criminal proceedings were commenced against 57,881 of them and 33,661 people received out of court sanctions
- In 2012/13, 29,343 young people were given community sentences. And 2780 were given custodial sentences, for an average length of 13.5 months
- For the year ending March 2015, the number of proven offences has increased for violence against the person offences, criminal damage offences and sexual offences compared with the previous year.
- In 2014/15, arrests of 10-17 year olds accounted for 10% of all arrests. Young people from Black, Asian or other minority ethnic (BAME) groups accounted for 23% of arrests of young people in the year ending March 2015, compared with 75% for White young people. The majority of these (11%) were Black young people.

Section 7a: Crime & Equalities

Race and crime

- Black young adults are four times as likely as white young adults to be in prison and six times as likely as Asian young adults.¹⁰⁴
- Young people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds, or those from disadvantaged inner city areas more likely to be stopped and searched than other young people.¹⁰⁵
- Children and young people from black and minority ethnic communities are less likely to engage with services which could intervene early to prevent mental health problems escalating.¹⁰⁶

Youth Custody Data

The Youth Justice Board have released data around youth custody and ethnicity.

- White children and young people were slightly more likely to be approached by the police or a police community support officer compared with ethnic minority respondents in 2012/13 in England.
- Nevertheless, mixed ethnicity children and young people (9.5%) were more likely to report being stopped and searched compared with White respondents.
- During 2014-15, 40% of prisoners aged under 18 were from black, Asian, mixed race or “other” ethnicity backgrounds (BME)

Section 7a: Crime & Equalities

Widespread inequality risks increasing race tensions

The Equality and Human Rights Commission has looked into race equality in Britain on nearly every aspect of people's lives.

- The gap between Chinese/Indian and White pupils is growing – in Wales 79.8% of Chinese pupils and 60.8% of Asian pupils achieved A-C grade GCSEs compared with 55.9% of White pupils.
- Indians have the lowest unemployment rate among ethnic minority groups at 9.2% compared with 17.3% for Pakistanis/Bangladeshis.
- Indians are on average paid 8.9% more per hour than White people. Black people who leave school with A-levels typically get paid 14.3% less than their White peers.
- In England and Wales ethnic minority children and adults are more likely to be a victim of homicide. The homicide rate for Black people was 30.5 per m population, 14.1 for Asian people and 8.9 for White people.
- Both Gypsy/Traveller boys and girls in the youngest age group (0-15) had higher rates of 'health problems or disabilities' than any other ethnic minority.
- In 2014-15, the Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) received approximately 350 calls per month in total and gave advice or support relating to a possible forced marriage in 1,220 cases. The age profile was young, with one in three cases (35%) involving victims aged 17 or below (an increase from one in five cases in 2014). The majority of cases (980, or 80%) involved women.
- Poor White boys continue to have the worst GCSE results overall. Only 28.3% of those in England achieved at least five grade A-C GCSE results. Asian and Chinese school children have the lowest rate of exclusion.
- Just 6% of Black school leavers attended a Russell Group university, compared with 12% of Mixed and Asian school leavers and 11% of White school leavers.
- Black Caribbean and Mixed White/Black Caribbean children have rates of permanent exclusion about three times that of the pupil population as a whole.
- White women are more at risk of domestic abuse than ethnic minority women. 7.4% reported being victims of abuse compared with 4.4% of ethnic minority women.
- Race hate crimes on Britain's railway networks have risen by 37%.
- Evidence from the Young Review stated that many men said they experienced differential treatment because of their race, ethnicity or faith. In particular, 'Black prisoners felt they were stereotyped as drug dealers and Muslim prisoners as terrorists'
- The review identified that young ethnic minority adults feel less safe in prison.
- In 2010/11, at 17% of young ethnic minority respondents (16-24 year olds) in England had experienced harassment on the grounds of skin colour, ethnic origin or religion in the previous two years.
- Since 2010, there has been a 49% increase in the number of 16 to 24 year olds across the UK from ethnic minority communities who are long-term unemployed, compared with a fall of 2% if you are White.

Section 8: Safeguarding

- It has been estimated that there are more children suffering from abuse and/or neglect than are known to social services. It has been estimated that for every protection plan, another 8 children have suffered maltreatment.¹⁰⁷
- Number of children on child protection registers or subject to a child protection plan at 31 March 2014 (or 31 July 2014 in Scotland): 56, 231 in the UK, 48, 300 in England¹⁰⁸
- 1 in 14 children have been physically abused¹⁰⁹
- 48,300 in England abused with 4,760 of those physically abused.¹¹⁰
- 16 to 19 year olds are more likely to experience abuse from their partners than any other age group¹¹⁰
- Over 1,700 victims of FGM were referred to specialist clinics in the last two years¹¹¹
- The total cost of looked after children in England in 2009-2010 was £2,425,900,000 with the average cost per child £37,669¹¹²

Sexual exploitation and assault

- Females aged between 16 and 19 were at the highest risk of being a victim of a sexual offence (8.2%) and as age increased the risk of victimisation reduced.¹¹³
- Sexual violence is even more prevalent for younger women as one in three teenage girls has experienced some form of sexual violence from a partner.¹¹⁴
- 25% of young women (aged over 13) experience physical violence and 72% experience emotional abuse in their own relationships.¹¹⁴
- In 2014/15 6.6% of men aged 16-19 were victims of domestic abuse and 3.4% were victims of partner abuse. The figures were 2% and 1.4% for domestic and partner abuse respectively. For women, the equivalent figures were 5.4% and 3.9%.¹¹⁵
- In 2013, the police recorded at least 1,052 reports of sexual violence in schools, of which 134 were reported as rape.¹¹⁶
- A third of female students in Britain have endured a sexual assault or unwanted advances at university.¹¹⁷
- 43% of the women who had experienced sexual assault or abuse at university, did not report their ordeal, even to friends or family.¹¹⁷
- 24.1% of young adults has experienced sexual abuse (including contact and non-contact), by an adult or by a peer during childhood¹¹⁸.
- 60% of young people have been asked for a sexual image or video of themselves.¹¹⁹
- A survey of parents found that 50% did not know it was illegal for children to share naked or sexual pictures of themselves. Around one in 20 parents believed their child was likely to send explicit images or videos of themselves to someone else.¹²⁰

Section 8: Safeguarding

An Overview of Sexual Offending in England and Wales

This is an Official Statistics bulletin produced by the Ministry of Justice, Home Office and the Office for National Statistics.

- 31% of young women aged 18-24 report having experienced sexual abuse in childhood.
- In 2012-13, 22,654 sexual offences against under-18s were reported to police in England and Wales with four out of five cases involving girls
- Where age is known, 1,700 were aged 15 or under contacted their centres in **2015-16**, an increase of 13% on last year; those aged under 25 represented 33% of service users, an increase of 8%.

Report into scale of sexual harassment of young women in schools

The Women and Equalities Committee has released a report which exposes the scale of sexual harassment and sexual violence in English schools.

- 29% of 16-18 year old girls saying they have experienced unwanted sexual touching in school.
- 59% of girls and young women aged 13-21 in 2014 having faced sexual harassment at school or college.

Youth Index 2015

The Princes Trust's annual Youth Index, now in its seventh year, tracks the concerns of young people over time. It is clear from this year's findings that young people need our support as much as ever.

- 12% of young people say their childhood was "traumatic"
- 9% were physically attacked at home during their childhood
- 17% witnessed emotional abuse at home during their childhood
- 12% report being scared of the adults in their childhood
- 25% didn't have anyone to talk to about their problems while growing up
- 16,500 children and young people were experiencing or at risk of child sexual exploitation by groups or gangs¹²⁴
- Sexually abused children can suffer a range of psychological and emotional problems especially if the abuse is never uncovered¹²⁵
- 152 children were trafficked for sexual exploitation last year¹²⁶

Section 8: Safeguarding

80% of 18-year-olds believe young people are in danger of online sexual abuse

Perils and Possibilities: Growing up online is a new report by UNICEF based on an international opinion poll of more than 10,000 18-year-olds from 25 countries. The report found:

- In the UK, 88% of 18 year olds surveyed agree that children and adolescents are in danger of being sexually abused or taken advantage of online and would turn to their friends if they felt threatened or unsafe online. In comparison, 70% would talk to their parents or caregiver if they perceived a threat online while less than half, 42%, would talk to a teacher.
- More than five out of 10 think friends participate in risky behaviours while using the internet, a new Unicef study shows.
- Adolescents appear confident with their own ability to stay safe, with nearly 90% of interviewees believing they can avoid online dangers.
- Approximately six out of 10 said meeting new people online is either somewhat or very important to them, but only 36% strongly believe they can tell when people are lying about who they are online.
- More than two-thirds of girls, 67% strongly agree they would be worried if they received sexual comments or requests over the internet, this compares to 47% of boys.
- When online threats do occur, more adolescents turn to friends than parents or teachers, but less than half strongly agree they know how to help a friend facing an online risk.

Child sexual abuse

- Child sexual abuse costs the UK £3.2bn a year.¹²¹
- Over 5,500 sexual offences were recorded against children under 11 last year.¹²²
- The cost to the criminal justice services of dealing with young offenders in 2008/9 was £4bn.¹²³
- 16,500 children and young people were experiencing or at risk of child sexual exploitation by groups or gangs.¹²⁴
- Sexually abused children can suffer a range of psychological and emotional problems especially if the abuse is never uncovered.¹²⁵
- 152 children were trafficked for sexual exploitation last year.¹²⁶

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Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse investigated whether public bodies and other non-state institutions have taken seriously their duty of care to protect children from sexual abuse in England and Wales.

- The police caseload for reports of child sexual abuse has risen sharply over the past two years since 2015.
- In 2014 the police in England and Wales recorded over 28,000 sexual offences in which the victim was under the age of 16.
- By the end of 2015 it is projected to have shown an increase of 71% over the preceding three years.

Section 9: Participation

- In the 2015 General Election, 18 to 21 year olds had turnout rate of around 40%, while those aged 65+ were almost double this.¹²⁷
- There are over 1.5m 16 and 17 year olds in the UK denied the vote.¹²⁸
- Nearly three quarters of the 6.8m young people in the UK registered to vote in the 2015 General election - 14% more than in 2010.¹²⁹
- Young people are increasingly likely to participate in new forms of informal politics, often based on single issues and facilitated by the internet.¹²⁹
- 48% of 18-24 year olds disagreed that most unemployed people receiving benefits was 'for the most part unlucky rather than lazy' - whilst those over 65 only 25% disagreed.¹³⁰

Young Adults and Politics Today study

UCL Institute of Education produced a 2015 study into the attitudes of young people to politics.

- Almost 50% said '*it is every adult's duty to vote in elections*', over 80% of respondents said they have little or no trust in politicians.
- Almost as many young adults report being interested in politics as those who report being disengaged (33% versus 35%), and many are engaging in political discussions.
- Almost 90% of this age-group are members of a social networking site, and over half of this group use social media to engage with political or civic material.
- There was a clear 'engagement gap', it is also clear that all young adults get more interested in politics and in voting as they progress through adolescence. This upward trend is particularly marked between the ages of 16 and 20.
- There are also important differences *between* young adults. For example, almost 60% of young men told us they were very likely to vote in the next general election, whereas only 46% of young women reported likewise.
- When asked 'what is the single most important issue facing the country at the present time?' the most common responses from the young adults were: immigration (18.3%), unemployment (18.1%), and the state of the economy (11.8%).
- Housing was a widespread concern for young adults: almost 80% agreed or strongly agreed that 'the Government should make landlords do the repairs and charge fair rents.'
- The young adults who are concerned about unemployment were more likely to have low qualifications. Disadvantaged youths wanted to be given more opportunities to acquire practical skills, better qualifications, and routes into work.
- This group also wanted safer communities, more activities for children and young people, and services and centres that could bring communities together.

Section 9: Participation

A literature review on the participation of disabled children

Viper have done a comprehensive literature review into the participation of disabled children in the political process, especially at a local level.

- Only 57 out of 71 local authorities who responded indicated that disabled children and young people had participated in social care service decisions
- Franklin and Sloper's (2006, 2007, 2009) study illustrated that disabled children's participation was very fragile and often rested on a few specific individuals with a passion

Youth Chances report into the LGBTQ

This report provides an overview of the key findings from this five-year ground-breaking research project about the experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and questioning (LGBTQ) 16-25year olds in England.

- LGBTQ young people are twice as likely not to feel accepted in the area where they currently live, compared to heterosexual non-trans young people
- 59% of LGBTQ young people that would be interested in joining a religious organisation have stopped or reduced their involvement owing to their sexuality or gender identity.
- Over a third of LGBTQ young people (34%) are not able to be open about their sexuality or gender identity at a sports club they are involved in.

Half of young Londoners can't relate to mayoral hopefuls

A YouGov survey was conducted around the time at the London mayoral campaign.

- 47% of young people are put off from registering to vote because the candidates fail to connect with them.
- 27% of young people suggested things that are important to them are not being talked about such as: 62% said making London more affordable city to live in, 47% said the creation of better job opportunities and 49% said affordable housing.

Brexit: what will it mean for Britain?

Findings from British Social Attitudes 2015 looked into expectations for the youth vote, and attitudes of young people to the European Union and Brexit.

- Almost half (47%) of the youngest age group (aged 18-34) think that Britain's economy would be worse, were she to leave the EU, compared with nearly one-third (31%) of the oldest age group (aged 65+).
- Four in 10 (41%) of the youngest age group think Britain would have less influence in the world in the event of an EU exit, compared with less than three in 10 (26%) of the oldest age group.

Section 9a: Society, media, and charity

Society

- There are 166,000 young carers (aged 5-17) in England.¹³¹
- The average age of a young carer is 12.¹³²
- 13,000 of the UK's young carers care for over 50 hours a week.¹³³
- 24% of 18-24 year-olds disagreed that it's important to get to know your neighbors. Young people were also more likely to disagree that they were proud to be British¹³⁴
- 22% strongly agreed with the statement 'I like finding out about what's going on in my local area' this was a higher %age than any other age group except those over 55¹³⁴

Media representation

- 76% of press coverage of young people is negative.¹³⁵
- 85% of teen boys said newspapers portray them in a bad light.¹³⁵
- 79% of children and young people feel that adults see them in a negative light.¹³⁵
- In a survey, 81% of young people feel they are unfairly represented in the media.¹³⁶
- 85% go on to argue that negative stereotypes are affecting their job chances.¹³⁶

Charity and volunteering

- Those aged 16-24 are the least likely to be involved in charitable giving or social action, with only 42% having participated in any of the activities during the previous month.¹³⁷
- Despite an apparent online and social media focus, young donors are actually much more likely than average to give cash 66% compared to 55% overall.¹³⁷
- Young people give a over £100m per year to charity, with children aged between 9-11 years old giving nearly £20m, and young adults aged 16-18 giving nearly £100m¹³⁸
- When 1000 9-11 and 16-18 year olds were surveyed, 78% agreed with the statement: "I think charities play an important role in our country" ¹³⁸
- 68% agreed with: "Young people should give up some of their time to help others"¹³⁸
- And 61% of young people said 'school arranging for us to do some work for a charity' would encourage them¹³⁸
- 65% of young people wanted to develop their skills, 48% because it made them feel good, 41% because it is fun and 46% to make new friends. ¹³⁹
- Over two thirds of volunteers aged between 16-24 see volunteering as a way of enhancing their career prospects.¹³⁹
- 66% of charity trustees are aged 50+, only 0.5% of trustees aged between 18 and 24.¹⁴⁰

Section 2: Poverty

- 30% of young people aged 14-24 living in the UK are living in poverty, approximately 2.7m. ¹⁴¹
- 13% of young people live in families that are unable to keep their accommodation warm enough. ¹⁴¹
- Among children aged 14 and over, 8% do not have local access to outdoor space in which to play. ¹⁴¹
- At 30% the poverty rate among young people is higher than any other age group. ¹⁴¹
- 380,000 young people in poverty have a long standing illness or disability. ¹⁴¹
- Children from low income families are at highest risk of having a diagnosable mental problem, three times that of those from the highest. ¹⁴²
- Just under 1.1 m young people in poverty live in private rented accommodation, compared to 960,000 in social rented and 680,000 in owner-occupied. ¹⁴³
- 5.9 m young people in poverty are classed as 'working age adults' : 540,000 are in working, 420,000 are unemployed, 380,000 are inactive and 440,000 are students. ¹⁴³

Young people are borrowing money off friends and family 'just to buy food'

Two thirds of 18 to 24-year-olds are borrowing money from family or friends just to pay for basic expenses, like food, travel or rent, new research by National Debtline has found. The newly published based on a YouGov survey of 2,042 young people found:

- More than a quarter of 18 to 24-year-olds who had borrowed money from family or friends said this had helped them to avoid financial problems.
- While 63% of people said they had turned to a parent for advice about money at some point in the past, just 2% had sought expert advice from a money or debt advice charity.
- Parents were found to be the most common sources of these informal loans, followed by friends and brothers or sisters.

Poverty 'costs the UK £78bn a year' – report

Joseph Rowntree Foundation have released a report which calculates the cost of poverty in the UK at £78bn a year.

- The public service costs of poverty amount to around £69 billion, with identifiable knock-on effects of child poverty costing a further £6 billion and knock-on effects of adult poverty costing at least £2.7 billion.
- This gives a total cost of poverty in the UK of around £78 billion.
- A large proportion of what we spend publicly (about £1 in every £5 spent on public services) is making up for the way that poverty damages people's lives

Poverty among young people in the UK

This report, written by the New Policy Institute on behalf of StreetGames, considers the level and trends in poverty among people aged 14 to 24.

- Of the 9.0 million young people aged 14-24 living in the UK, approximately 2.7 million, or 30%, are living in poverty.
- This includes 1.9 million young people with an income considerably below the poverty threshold (below 50% of median income).
- A further 740,000 young people had incomes just above the poverty threshold (above the 60% of median income but below 70%).

London's Poverty Profile 2015

The fifth report in the series, London's Poverty Profile 2015 is a comprehensive look at the issue of poverty in London.

- 27% of Londoners live in poverty after housing costs are taken into account, compared with 20% in the rest of England. The cost of housing is an important factor in London's higher poverty rate.
- Half of 0 to 19-year-olds in London (1.1 million) live in a family that receives tax credits. 640,000 children benefit from in-work tax credits and are likely to be worse off when these are cut in April 2016.
- In every London borough pupils receiving free school meals performed better on average at GCSE than their peers in the rest of England

Child poverty

- Child poverty is estimated to cost the wider economy at least £29 billion a year¹⁴⁴
- 22% of 11-15 year-olds were living in families with the lowest levels of income¹⁴⁵
- In 2014 16.4% of children in the UK were living in out of work families¹⁴⁶

Office for National Statistics

The ONS's Labour Force Survey contains interesting statistics on working disability.

- There are currently 1.3 million disabled people in the UK who are available for and want to work.
- Only half of disabled people of working age are in work (50%), compared with 80% of non-disabled people.
- 23% of disabled people have no qualifications compared to 9% of non-disabled people.

Child Poverty Action Group poverty facts and figures

The Child Poverty Action Group has a collection of facts and figures that look at poverty.

- There were 3.7 m children living in poverty in the UK in 2013-14. That's 28% of children or 9 in a classroom of 30.
- Child poverty has long-lasting effects. By GCSE, there is a 28% gap between children receiving free school meals and their wealthier peers in terms of the number achieving at least 5 A*-C GCSE grades.
- As a direct result of tax and benefit decisions made since 2010, the Institute for Fiscal Studies project that the number of children in relative poverty will have risen from 2.3 to 3.6 m by 2020 (poverty figures before housing costs).
- Work does not provide a guaranteed route out of poverty in the UK. Two-thirds (64%) of children growing up in poverty live in a family where at least one member works.
- 60% of families in the bottom income quintile would like, but cannot afford, to take their children on holiday for one week a year.

The Greatest Divide

Published by the Fabian Society, details the effect on the UK if current government policies continue unchanged. The report examines the prospects for economic equality in Britain and finds that inequality is set to soar.

- 1.9 million more children are projected to be in poverty at Christmas 2030 than Christmas 2015, if decisions made this year go unchanged.
- The overall number of people in poverty is projected to rise by 3.6 million over the next 15 years.
- In the wake of policies announced by the government since May, the annual income of a family 10% from the bottom of the income distribution is projected to be just £90 (1%) higher in 2030 than today, after inflation

1 [Cancer Research UK \(website September 2016\)](#)
2 [Cancer Research UK \(website September 2016\)](#)
3 [Children's Dental Health Survey 2013. Country specific report: England](#)
4 [Key Data on Adolescents 2013 – AYPH](#)
5 [London Datastore updated May 2106](#)
6 [Obesity Statistics, House of Commons Library, Briefing paper, February 2016,](#)
7 [Exploring the Well-being of Young People in the UK, 2014](#)
8 [Exploring the well being of young people - ONS 2012](#)
9 [Teenage Pregnancy: Accelerating the Strategy to 2010 - NHS](#)
10 [STI annual data tables – Public Health England](#)
11 [Young People into 2012 – The schools and students health education unit](#)
12 [ONS Conceptions in England and Wales: 2014. Annual statistics](#)
13 [ONS Conceptions in England and Wales: 2014. Annual statistics](#)
14 [ONS Conceptions in England and Wales: 2014. Annual statistics](#)
15 [Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in 2014 - NatCen Social Research](#)
16 [Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in 2014 - NatCen Social Research](#)
17 [Young people and alcohol Factsheet – Institute of alcohol studies](#)
18 [Mentor -Thinking Prevention, Alcohol, drugs and sexual health](#)
19 [Fundamental Facts About Mental Health 2015, Mental Health Foundation](#)
20 [independent Mental Health Taskforce to the NHS in England, February 2016](#)
21 [Children and young people's mental health – House of Commons Briefing Paper 2016](#)
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