

October
2007

Opportunity for all:
Indicators update 2007

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Introduction

1. Tackling poverty and promoting equality of opportunity lie at the heart of the United Kingdom (UK) Government's policy agenda and its vision for the future. Since 1999, *Opportunity for all* has presented an annual overview of Government action to tackle poverty and social exclusion. During this time, there has been considerable progress in many areas as the indicators in this publication reveal.
2. However, the Government recognises that many challenges still remain. Tackling these challenges requires a new focus, with more emphasis on, for example, action at a local level and an increased focus on those for whom existing strategies may not have provided the necessary support. We are not publishing an updated account of the strategy in the traditional *Opportunity for all* format this year given the change in emphasis. We do intend, though, to continue to update the indicators included in this document on the Department for Work and Pensions' website, and our resolve to tackle the challenges of creating opportunity for all remains strong.
3. Other publications will provide information on key developments in our poverty and social exclusion strategy. For example, the UK's National Action Plan on Social Inclusion will be updated in 2008 and the Social Exclusion Task Force will continue its work on increasing and rationalising the support for the most excluded. And many strands of the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review (and the associated Public Service Agreements (PSAs)) will report how further progress will be made.
4. This report contains information on the indicators used to monitor our progress on poverty and social exclusion. The indicators chosen are designed to reflect the multi-dimensional nature of poverty and social exclusion at different stages in people's lives, including their health, education, housing, income and financial well-being. The indicators were first established in 1999, when we published the first annual *Opportunity for all* report.

The indicators

5. Generally, indicators are reviewed annually and are agreed by the *Indicators Steering Group* to ensure that they capture our evolving strategy and use the best available information.¹ Consequently, the original set of indicators has been added to and some definitions have been refined. We also ask for feedback on the indicators.² This year the indicators were not reviewed. This is because it was more appropriate to review the indicators following the introduction of the new cross-government PSAs outlined in the Comprehensive Spending Review. Whilst the *Opportunity for all* indicators differ from the existing PSAs, there are some close links between them. These are outlined in the Annex to this publication.
6. As in previous reports the indicators are organised according to stages of the life cycle. There are sets of indicators for children and young people, working-age people and older people. A set of communities' indicators monitors the progress of our strategies to narrow the gap between the areas with the worst performance and other areas.

7. The geographical coverage of the indicators is set out for each indicator. Some cover England only, whilst others (such as those for employment and low income) cover Great Britain. The indicators reported here concentrate on those matters that continue to be reserved to the UK Parliament. The Devolved Administrations of Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales report on their devolved strategies separately.

8. Changes have been made to a number of indicators to take account of changes in the way the data are analysed or collected. For example, a number of the indicators that use the *Labour Force Survey* as their source are now reported using calendar rather than seasonal quarterly data. This means that the data for several indicators this year are not directly comparable with the data reported in *Opportunity for all* in previous years. This affects employment- and worklessness-related Indicators 1, 19, 21 and 35. In addition, there are several indicators where an assessment of the trend since the baseline year has not been possible because there are insufficient data to do so or because changes to the methodology for calculating the data have been made between the baseline year and the latest available data. This affects Indicators 4, 7, 31 and 32b. In one case, Indicator 7, we have moved the baseline year to reflect a long-term move to the use of administrative rather than survey data in reporting progress. This will allow comparisons over time for future years.

Web-based indicators

9. The indicators are also available on a section of the Department for Work and Pensions' website.³ This means that we can update indicators as new data become available – rather than relying on the once-a-year publication of the hard-copy report. These updates will be available on the *Opportunity for all* website listed under 'What's New'.⁴

10. The website also includes additional information relevant to the indicator where appropriate. This is set out in a separate box at the end of each indicator labelled Further information. For example, the indicator on health inequalities (Indicator 39) provides web links to the source data and other information covering different aspects of the indicator, such as a breakdown by social class, as well as links to related research evidence.

11. We are also producing ethnicity and urban/rural breaks for a selected number of indicators.

National Action Plan

12. The Lisbon and Nice European Councils (in March and December 2000 respectively) set out a strategy for combating poverty and social exclusion in Europe. It was agreed that all member states of the European Union (EU) should aim to make a decisive impact on social exclusion by 2010. The strategy is built on the Open Method of Coordination, which requires member states to produce their own policies with European Union level guidelines. In 2006, all EU member states, including the UK, produced an annual National Report on strategies for social protection and social inclusion. These reports covered the period from 2006 to 2008. The UK's National Action Plan for Social Inclusion formed Chapter Two of the National Strategy Report. Given the importance that stakeholders attach to the social inclusion strategy in the UK, the National Action Plan was also published as a stand-alone document at www.dwp.gov.uk/publications/dwp/2006/nap

13. The National Action Plan sets out an account of action to tackle poverty and social exclusion across the UK. In addition to policies and services developed at UK national government level, the National Action Plan provides an account of work at the level of devolved and local government. The contribution of the voluntary and community sector and the views of people experiencing poverty also form an important part of the National Action Plan. Continuing engagement with people at grass-roots level and with people across government provides a significant contribution to the development of the anti-poverty strategy and to the next National Action Plan, which will be prepared in 2008.

14. The national action plans include a set of indicators which are common to all EU member states and which allow direct comparison of key poverty and social inclusion outcomes across the EU. The UK National Action Plan also includes UK-specific indicators to highlight areas of particular interest to this country. While some of the National Action Plan indicators are similar to the indicators reported in *Opportunity for all*, the sources are often different and, as a result, the data cannot always be directly compared.

Opportunity Age

15. *Opportunity Age* is the Government's strategy for an ageing society. The strategy aims to: end the perception of older people as dependent; ensure that longer life is healthy and fulfilling; and to ensure that older people can participate fully in society.

16. The effect of central and local government strategies on the lives of today's and tomorrow's older people will be measured using a suite of indicators of older people's independence and well-being. It will use some of the same indicators as those contained within this report to monitor poverty and social exclusion for those aged 50+. *Opportunity Age* indicators are designed to be the first stage in developing a balanced national assessment of quality of life for older people.⁵

17. Details of the indicators that have been selected are available on the DWP website: www.dwp.gov.uk/opportunityage/indicators/

18. A baseline report including data was published in summer 2006.

Improving the Life Chances of Disabled People

19. In 2005, the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit published *Improving the Life Chances of Disabled People*.⁶ The report clearly set out the Government's commitment to an ambitious programme of change to achieve its vision of equality for disabled people by 2025. It outlined the real and practical changes it would make to transform the lives of disabled people to ensure they have the same opportunities and choices as everyone else, are respected as equal members of society, and are able to participate as equals.

20. The Office for Disability Issues (ODI) was set up to make sure that government departments work together to deliver the fundamental shift in how public services are designed and delivered, and to bring about a real change in attitudes towards disabled people. ODI has involved disabled people and other stakeholders in developing measures of progress towards equality, including through a formal consultation in spring 2007.⁷

21. An initial set of indicators and baseline data will be included in the next ODI annual report, expected to be published in December 2007, along with plans for future development.

Indicator summary

Significant progress has been made on a range of indicators since the baseline (1997 for most indicators), with 34 of our indicators moving in the right direction. For example, we have seen improvements for: the proportion of children who live in housing below the set level of decency; smoking rates for manual socio-economic groups; the proportion of older people living in low income; and the attainment gap at Key Stage 2 (11-year-olds).

There are six indicators for which the data are not moving in the right direction: the education gap for looked-after children; infant mortality; obesity for children aged 2 to 10 years; families in temporary accommodation; people contributing to a non-state pension; and life expectancy at birth. Strategies are in place to tackle these problems.

There are 12 indicators for which no trend assessments are possible either because there are insufficient data available to determine a trend or because the data are not comparable with previous years.

Progress since the baseline (mostly 1997)	Numbers of indicators
Data moving in the right direction	34
Broadly constant trend	7
Data moving in the wrong direction	6
Cannot determine trend	12
Total	59

Note: There are 41 main indicators, some of which have sub-indicators. This means there are 59 indicators in total.

Indicator summary table

The table below provides a summary of the direction of movement of the data underlying the indicators. It assesses overall progress by looking at the trend since the baseline.

It also shows the direction of movement of the most recent data. It is important to note that, because many of the indicators draw on data from sample surveys, small changes in data could be attributed to sampling variability – it is particularly important to bear this in mind when looking at the direction of the latest data.

The most recent data reported range from 2002 to 2007, depending on the data source.

Key

- ✓ data moving in right direction
- × data moving in wrong direction
- ≈ data show broadly constant trend or no significant movement
- ▲ insufficient data available to determine a trend or no trend assessment possible as data not comparable with previous years

Children and young people					
	Indicator	Covers	Trend since baseline	Direction of latest data	See page
1	Children in workless households	GB	▲	▲	18
2	Low income:				
	a) Relative	GB	✓	×	20-22
	b) Absolute	GB	✓	≈	20-22
	c) Persistent	GB	✓	✓	20-22
3	Teenage pregnancy:				
	a) Teenage conceptions	England	✓	≈	23-24
	b) Teenage parents in education, employment or training	England	✓	✓	23-24
4	An increase in the proportion of children in disadvantaged areas with a 'good' level of development	England	▲	×	25-26
5	Key Stage 2 (11-year-olds) attainment	England	✓	≈	27
6	Attainment:				
	a) 16-year-olds' achievement	England	✓	✓	28-29
	b) Schools below floor target	England	✓	✓	28-29
7	19-year-olds with at least a Level 2 qualification	England	▲	✓	30
8	School attendance	England	≈	≈	31
9	Improvement in the outcomes for looked after children:				
	a) Education gap	England	×	×	32
	b) Not in education, employment or training	England	≈	≈	33
	c) Stability in the lives of looked after children	England	✓	≈	34
10	16–18-year-olds in learning	England	≈	✓	35-36
11	Infant mortality	England and Wales	×	≈	37-38
12	Serious unintentional injury	England	✓	✓	39
13	Smoking prevalence for:				
	a) Pregnant women	England	✓	✓	40
	b) Children aged 11-15	England	✓	≈	40-41

Children and young people				
Indicator	Covers	Trend since baseline	Direction of latest data	See page
14 Obesity for children aged 2-10	England	×	≈	42
15 Re-registrations on Child Protection Register	England	✓	≈	43
16 Housing that falls below the set standard of decency	England	✓	✓	44
17 Families in temporary accommodation	England	×	✓	45

People of working age					
	Indicator	Covers	Trend since baseline	Direction of latest data	See page
18	Employment rate	GB	✓	≈	50-51
19	Employment of disadvantaged groups:				
	a) Disabled people	GB	▲	▲	52-55
	b) Lone parents	GB	▲	▲	52-55
	c) Ethnic minority people	GB	▲	▲	52-55
	d) People aged 50 and over	GB	▲	▲	52-55
	e) Lowest qualified	GB	▲	▲	52-55
20	Working-age people in workless households	GB	✓	≈	56
21	Working-age people without a Level 2 NVQ qualification or higher	England	▲	▲	57
22	Long periods on income-related benefits	GB	✓	✓	58-59
23	Low income:				
	a) Relative	GB	≈	×	60-63
	b) Absolute	GB	✓	≈	60-63
	c) Persistent	GB	≈	≈	60-63
24	Smoking rates:				
	a) All adults	England	✓	≈	64-65
	b) Manual socio-economic groups	England	✓	≈	64-65
25	Death rates from suicide and undetermined injury	England	✓	✓	66-67
26	Rough sleepers	England	✓	≈	68
27	Drug use (16–24-year-olds):				
	a) Use of Class A drugs	England and Wales	≈	≈	69
	b) Frequent use of any illicit drug	England and Wales	✓	≈	70

People in later life					
	Indicator	Covers	Trend since baseline	Direction of latest data	See page
28	Low income:				
	a) Relative	GB	✓	≈	73-75
	b) Absolute	GB	✓	≈	73-75
	c) Persistent	GB	✓	✓	73-75
29	People contributing to a non-state pension	GB	×	≈	76
30	People making continuous contributions to a non-state pension	GB	≈	≈	77
31	Healthy life expectancy at age 65	England	▲	✓	78-79
32	Being helped to live independently:				
	a) Receiving intensive home care	England	✓	✓	80
	b) Receiving any community-based service	England	▲	✓	80-81
33	Housing that falls below the set standard of decency	England	✓	✓	82
34	Fear of crime	England and Wales	✓	≈	83

Communities					
	Indicator	Covers	Trend since baseline	Direction of latest data	See page
35	Employment rates in deprived areas	GB	▲	▲	87
36	Crime rates in high-crime areas	England and Wales	✓	✓	88
37	Housing that falls below the set standard of decency	England	✓	✓	89
38	Households in fuel poverty	England	✓	≈	90
39	Life expectancy at birth	England	×	≈	91-92
40	Attainment gap at Key Stage 2 (11-year-olds)	England	✓	✓	93
41	Road accident casualties in deprived areas	England	✓	✓	94

Children and young people

1. We know that poverty and social exclusion have an impact on children and young people and on their outcomes later in life. The particular issues faced by children living in poverty were highlighted in Chapter 2 of last year's *Opportunity for all* strategy publication. The beginning of this chapter summarises the *Opportunity for all* indicators for children and young people. It then goes on to describe each indicator in detail.

Children in workless households

2. The proportion of children living in working-age workless households in Great Britain stood at 18.4 per cent in 1997 and since then the overall trend has been falling, reaching a low of 15.3 per cent in 2006 (Indicator 1). In 2007 the *Labour Force Survey* moved from reporting its data in seasonal quarters to reporting in calendar quarters, and so the 2007 figure of 16 per cent of children living in workless households is not directly comparable with previous years.

3. Children in lone-parent and couple households in which no adult worked were more likely to live in low income than those in which one or more adults were in full-time or part-time work.⁸

Low income

4. Children living in low-income households is measured in three ways: via relative low income, absolute low income and persistent low income using a range of thresholds (Indicator 2). In this summary there is a focus on those with an income below 60 per cent of median income.

5. The proportion of children living in households with relative low income fell between 1998/99 and 2004/05, from 24 per cent to 19 per cent on the before housing costs measure and from 33 per cent to 27 per cent on the after housing costs measure. The latest data available, for 2005/06, shows a rise in the proportion of children living in households with relative low income for the first time since the baseline. The rise was from 19 to 20 per cent before housing costs and 27 to 29 per cent after housing costs, but these changes fall within the confidence intervals for the data and as such cannot be considered statistically significant.

6. The proportion of children living in households with absolute low incomes (below the 1998/99 median) showed a large fall from 24 per cent to 12 per cent on the before housing costs measure and from 33 per cent to 17 per cent on the after housing costs measure.

7. The proportion of children in persistent low income has fallen consistently between 1997-2000 and 2002-05. At the baseline (1997-2000) 17 per cent of children lived in a household with a low income in at least three out of four years, on the before housing costs measure, and this fell to 11 per cent in 2002-05. At the baseline (1997-2000), 22 per cent of children lived in a household with a low income in at least three out of four years, on the after housing costs measure, and this fell to 17 per cent in 2002-05.

8. The risk of experiencing persistent low income for children is higher for those living in lone-parent families, in rented accommodation and workless households. Whilst this is true on both before and after housing costs measures, the risks of poverty among these groups have declined markedly by 2002-05 when compared to the earlier time periods.⁹

9. The Government's long-term measure of child poverty – announced in *Measuring Child Poverty*¹⁰ – is calculated on a slightly different basis to that presented in the indicator for *Opportunity for all*. The long-term measure is based on the OECD-modified equivalisation scale, while the *Opportunity for all* indicator is based on the McClements scale.¹¹ The long-term measure is on a before housing costs basis only.

10. Whilst the OECD-modified figures capture a slightly larger proportion of children in low income, the trends over time are the same as when income is equivalised using the McClements scale. The proportion of children living in households with relative low incomes using the OECD scale (below 60% median) fell between 1998/99 and 2004/05, from 26 per cent to 21 per cent, but rose slightly in 2005/06 to 22 per cent.¹² Despite these improvements, child poverty rates in the UK are still relatively high compared with other OECD countries.

Health

11. Since the baseline (1998, based on the average of the three years 1997-99), infant mortality rates have fallen in all social groups (Indicator 11). Though the gap has fluctuated during the period, overall there has been a widening in the gap in mortality rates between routine and manual groups and the overall population since the baseline. The gap narrowed very slightly in the most recent period.

12. The mortality rate for babies of teenage mothers was around 60 per cent higher than for babies of older mothers.¹³ This group were also more likely to have low birth weight babies.¹⁴

13. Figures for 1990/91 to 1994/95 (not comparable with recent estimates) show a reduction over time in the rate at which children are admitted into hospital as a result of unintentional injury resulting in a hospital stay of longer than three days per 1,000 population (Indicator 12). The decline has continued in recent years with a fall in the admission rate from 1.22 per 1,000 in 1996/97 to 0.94 per 1,000 in 2000/01. Between 2000/01 and 2002/03 the admission rate remained fairly constant but since then it has fallen again to 0.83 per 1,000 in 2005/06.

14. Results for Great Britain indicate that rates of smoking during pregnancy (Indicator 13a) decreased from 30 per cent in 1985 to 23 per cent in 1995. The most recent *Infant Feeding Survey* reported that in 2005, 17 per cent of women continued to smoke throughout pregnancy in England (down from 19 per cent in 2000).

15. Smoking prevalence among children aged 11-15 has fluctuated between 13 per cent and 9 per cent since 1992, with no clear trend over time (Indicator 13b). The most recent estimate is 9 per cent in 2006.

16. Since the baseline there has been a clear upward trend in the prevalence of obesity among all children aged 2 to 10 (Indicator 14). At the 1997 baseline (as a percentage of all children aged 2 to 10), 11.1 per cent of boys aged 2 to 10 and 10.7 per cent of girls of the same age were obese. However in 2005 both boys and girls reported similar obesity levels of about 16.7 per cent.

17. The under-18 conception rate (Indicator 3a) fell between 1971 and 1981 and then rose until 1991. The rate fell again until 1995 but then rose following a contraceptive pill scare, reaching a peak in 1998. Between 1998 and the latest data (for 2005), the rate has fallen by 11.8 per cent from 46.6 to 41.1 conceptions per thousand females aged 15 to 17, the lowest rate for 20 years.

18. Re-registrations on the Child Protection Register fell from 20 per cent to 14 per cent between 1997/98 and 1999-2000. Re-registrations decreased to 13 per cent in 2002/03 and remained at 13 per cent until the latest rise to 14 per cent in 2005/06 (Indicator 15). However, it is worth noting that virtually all of the improvements from 1997/98 to 1998/99 were attributed to improvements in data quality. The 2005/06 figure shows that the gradual decrease seen since 1999/2000 has not continued.

Education

19. Overall attainment has improved for children at Key Stage 3, at GCSE and in the proportion of 19-year-olds achieving at least a Level 2 qualification.

20. Between 1997 and 2007, there has been an overall increase in the proportion of pupils achieving Level 4 or higher in the Key Stage 2 tests for both English and mathematics – from 63 per cent to 80 per cent for English and from 62 per cent to 77 per cent for mathematics (Indicator 5).

21. The proportion of 16-year-olds with at least five GCSEs at grades A*-C has risen from 45.1 per cent in 1997 to 58.5 per cent in 2006 (Indicator 6). The number of schools achieving below a floor target of 20 per cent and 25 per cent achievement has also been steadily declining since the baseline year of 1997.

22. There has been an overall increase in the percentage of 19-year-olds with at least a Level 2 qualification from 69.8 per cent in 1996 to 76.6 per cent in 2003 (Indicator 7). Data from 2004 onwards is not comparable with earlier years and therefore we have reassigned 2004 as the baseline for this indicator. In 2004, 66.3 per cent of 19-year-olds had at least a Level 2 qualification, which has since increased to 71.4 per cent in 2006.

23. The proportion of 16–18-year-olds in learning also increased from 59 per cent to 77 per cent between 1985 and 1994, and then remained broadly constant until 1996 (Indicator 8). Since then it has continued to be broadly constant (between 75 and 77 per cent) and stood at 77.3 per cent in 2006.

24. The proportion of teenage mothers who are in education, employment or training in England has risen from 23.1 per cent for the period 1997-99 to 31.5 per cent in the period 2005-07 (Indicator 3b).

25. There has also been an overall increase in school attendance from the baseline year of 1997 to 2005/06, although with some fluctuation in the intervening years (Indicator 10). However, for the most disadvantaged children, improvements in educational outcomes have been more mixed.

26. Between 2005 and 2006, the number of children in the most deprived areas who achieved a good level of development in maintained schools fell from 37 per cent to 33 per cent compared with a fall from 54 per cent to 50 per cent for children in the rest of England (Indicator 4). However, there are only two years' worth of data on which to compare the two groups, and since 2005 the improved rigour in assessment – particularly the reporting of those children achieving all, or working beyond, the Early Learning Goals (scale 8-9) – and better moderation practices have contributed to a downward shift in scores.

27. The attainment levels for children in care continue to be much lower than the average for all children (Indicator 9a).¹⁵ The proportion of young people in care for at least one year who obtained at least five GCSEs/GNVQs at grades A*-C in England increased from the baseline of 7.3 per cent in 1999/2000 to 11.8 per cent in 2005/06. However, the gap between the proportion of looked-after children achieving five GCSEs/GNVQs at grades A*-C and the proportion of all children achieving five GCSE and equivalent at grades A*-C has increased from 41.9 percentage points in 1999/2000 to 47.4 percentage points in 2005/06.

28. The proportion of care-leavers in England who were not in education, training or employment has been stable at around 30 per cent between 2002 and 2006 (Indicator 9b). However, in recent years, it has been possible to track the destinations of a greater proportion of care leavers. In doing so, it appears that of those whose destinations were not previously reported, a large proportion were in education, employment or training.

29. The percentage of looked-after children in the same placement for at least two and a half years or placed for adoption has increased from the baseline of 63 per cent in 2002 to 65 per cent in 2006 (Indicator 9c).

30. Recent research extends our understanding of the relationship between education and poverty.¹⁶ For example, providing insights into children's contrasting experiences of school and out-of-school activities based on their background, and discovering that, whilst children from all backgrounds see the benefits of school, deprived children are more likely to be concerned about the schooling they receive, and less confident about school.

Housing

31. In 1996, 41 per cent of children lived in a home that did not meet the set standard of decency (Indicator 16). This has since fallen to 23 per cent in 2005. Although, in general, households with children are less likely than other vulnerable household types to live in non-decent housing, particular groups of households with children, such as those on low incomes, minority ethnic households or lone-parent households, tend to experience poorer housing conditions.¹⁷

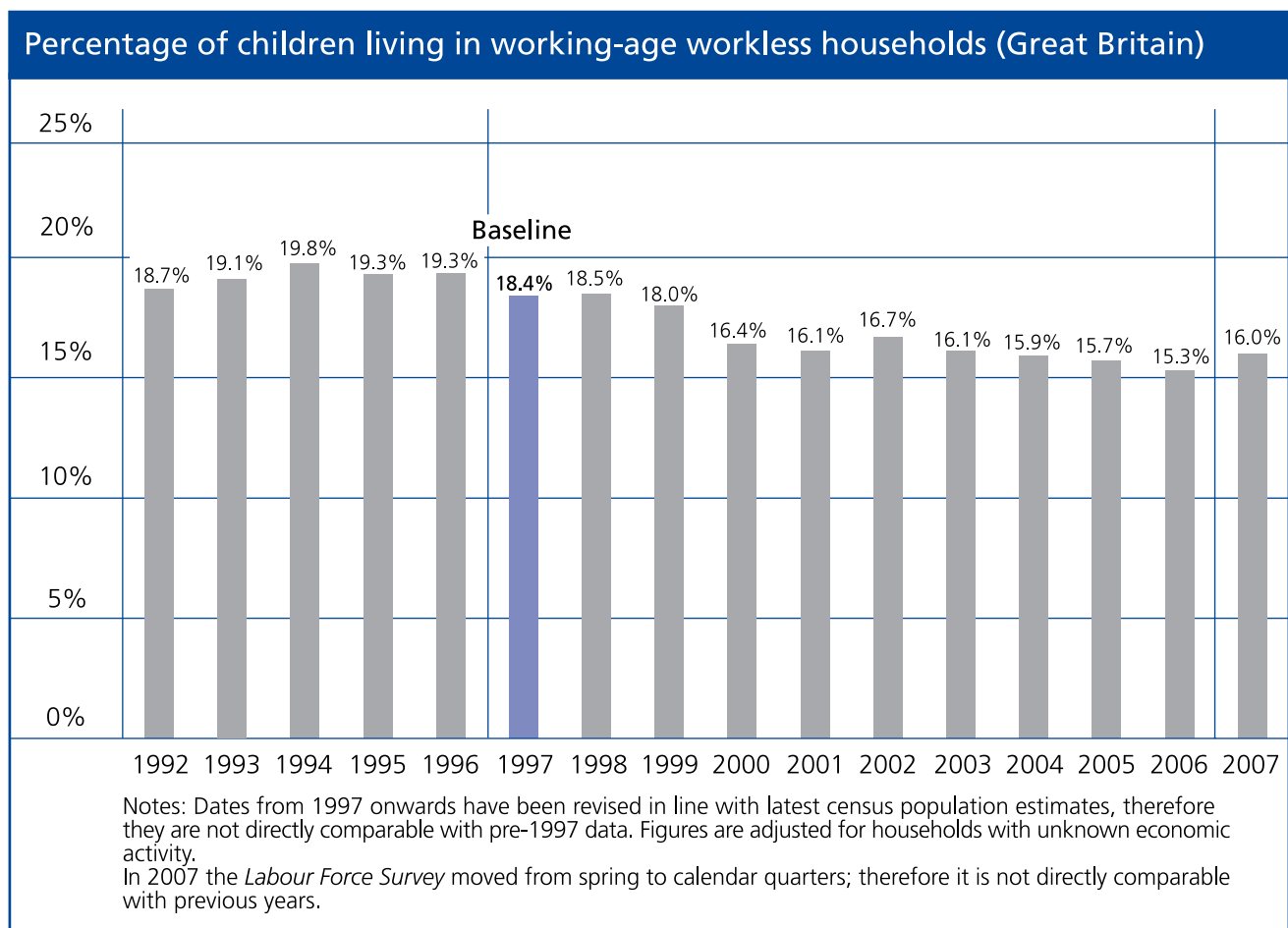
32. The number of homeless families with dependent children in temporary accommodation in England fell by 9 per cent between March 2006 and March 2007 (Indicator 17). However, between March 2002 (the baseline) and March 2007 there had been an increase of 19 per cent.

33. At the end of March 2007, 92 per cent of homeless households with dependent children were housed in self-contained accommodation – that is, with sole use of kitchen and bathroom facilities. Over half (59 per cent) were in private-sector houses and flats leased by local authorities and registered social landlords (also known as housing associations), while just over a fifth (21 per cent) were in social housing owned and managed by local authorities and registered social landlords. Therefore, a much smaller proportion is now in shared accommodation, for example bed and breakfast hotels, hostels and women’s refuges. (See also Indicator 26 on rough sleeping, which occurs predominantly among single male adults.)

Indicators for children and young people

1 A reduction in the proportion of children living in working-age workless households (Great Britain).

Trends: The proportion of children living in workless households stood at 18.4 per cent in 1997. Since then the overall trend has been falling. In 2006, the proportion of children living in workless households stood at 15.3 per cent. In 2007 the *Labour Force Survey* moved from spring to calendar quarters (Q2), consequently the 2007 figure of 16 per cent is not directly comparable with previous years.



Definition: Percentage of children aged under 16 in a working-age household where no adult works. A working-age household is a household that includes at least one person of working age (a woman aged between 16 and 59 or a man aged between 16 and 64). Workless individuals are those who are either unemployed (International Labour Organization definition) or economically inactive (that is, not in employment).

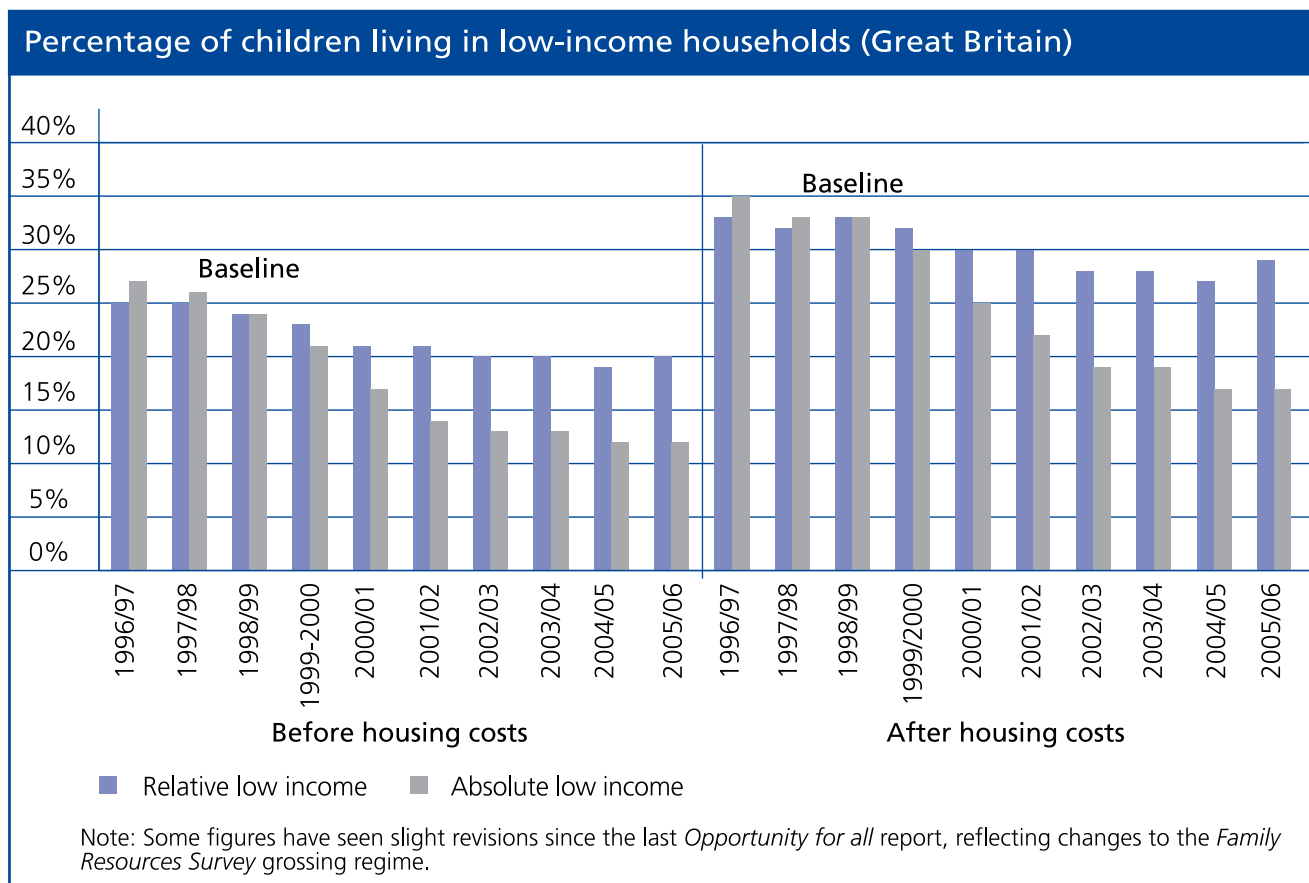
In line with the 2006 Eurostat directive, the *Labour Force Survey* has shifted away from the use of seasonal data (spring) and instead refers to second quarter (Q2) figures, in order to assess the progress of the Children in Workless Households target. The Q2 data covers the months April to June whereas the previous spring datasets covered the months March to May. Due to the slight difference in the time periods covered by the new datasets there are marginal differences between the seasonal and calendar data. Accordingly, the *Labour Force Survey* figures quoted in this report may differ from previous versions.

Data source: *Labour Force Survey*, spring quarters (before 2007)/second quarter data (Q2) for the year 2007.

2 Low-income indicators (Great Britain):

- a) a reduction in the proportion of children living in households with relative low incomes;
- b) a reduction in the proportion of children living in households with low incomes in an absolute sense; and
- c) a reduction in the proportion of children living in households with persistent low incomes.

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1998/99. Data for the three indicators are presented in the chart and tables below, though information for the persistent low-income indicator is only shown in the table. While the table aims to provide a comprehensive picture of progress by including data for a range of low-income thresholds, the chart and commentary focus on the 60 per cent of median income threshold for the relative and absolute indicators.



The proportion of children living in households with relative low incomes fell between 1998/99 and 2005/06, from 24 per cent to 20 per cent on the before housing costs measure and 33 per cent to 29 per cent on the after housing costs measure. The proportion of children living in households with absolute low incomes showed a large fall from 24 per cent to 12 per cent on the before housing costs measure and from 33 per cent to 17 per cent on the after housing costs measure. Seventeen per cent of children lived in a household with a low income in at least three out of four years, on the before housing costs measure, at the baseline (1997-2000) which fell to 11 per cent in 2002-05.

Twenty-two per cent of children lived in a household with a low income in at least three out of four years, on the after housing costs measure, at the baseline (1997-2000) which fell to 17 per cent in 2002-05.

Percentage of children living in low-income households (Great Britain)								
	Low-income threshold	Relative low income			Absolute low income			
		50% of median*	60% of median	70% of median	50% of median*	60% of median	70% of median	
Baseline	1996/97	12%	25%	35%	14%	27%	37%	
	1997/98	13%	25%	35%	14%	26%	36%	
	1998/99	13%	24%	35%	13%	24%	35%	
	1999/2000	12%	23%	35%	10%	21%	33%	
	Before housing costs	2000/01	11%	21%	33%	9%	17%	29%
	2001/02	10%	21%	33%	7%	14%	25%	
	2002/03	10%	20%	32%	7%	13%	22%	
	2003/04	11%	20%	32%	7%	13%	23%	
	2004/05	10%	19%	32%	7%	12%	21%	
2005/06	11%	20%	31%	7%	12%	21%		
Baseline	1996/97	23%	33%	41%	25%	35%	43%	
	1997/98	23%	32%	40%	24%	33%	41%	
	1998/99	23%	33%	40%	23%	33%	40%	
	1999/2000	22%	32%	40%	19%	30%	38%	
	After housing costs	2000/01	20%	30%	39%	15%	25%	34%
	2001/02	19%	30%	38%	12%	22%	31%	
	2002/03	19%	28%	37%	11%	19%	27%	
	2003/04	19%	28%	37%	11%	19%	27%	
	2004/05	17%	27%	37%	10%	17%	25%	
2005/06	19%	29%	38%	10%	17%	25%		

*Households reporting the lowest incomes may not have the lowest living standards. The bottom 10 per cent of the income distribution should not, therefore, be interpreted as having the bottom 10 per cent of living standards. This is a particular issue for lower thresholds, such as 50 per cent of median. Other higher thresholds are less affected by this.

Note: Some figures have seen slight revisions since the last *Opportunity for all* report, reflecting changes to the *Family Resources Survey* grossing regime, whilst other changes are due to methodological improvements.

Persistent low income (low income in three out of four years – Great Britain)													
		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
		-94	-95	-96	-97	-98	-99	-2000	-01	-02	-03	-04	-05
Before housing costs	Below 60% of median	20%	18%	17%	17%	17%	16%	17%	17%	17%	15%	13%	11%
	Below 70% of median	29%	29%	29%	28%	28%	27%	27%	26%	27%	26%	24%	22%
After housing costs	Below 60% of median	25%	23%	23%	24%	24%	23%	22%	22%	21%	19%	17%	17%
	Below 70% of median	33%	33%	32%	32%	31%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	28%	26%

Notes: Some of the figures have seen small revisions since the *Households Below Average Income (2004/05)* report. This is due to changes to the base dataset made by the data suppliers of the *British Household Panel Survey*.
Changes to Households Below Average Income data before 2003/04 were due to changes to the *Family Resources Survey* grossing regime, either through the method used or taking on board new, post-census population information. Further details are available at: www.dwp.gov.uk/mediacentre/pressreleases/2005/feb/iad-170205-frs.pdf
More recent changes since then are due to methodological improvements.

Definition: A child is an individual aged under 16, or an unmarried 16–18-year-old on a course up to and including A level standard (or up to and including Highers in Scotland).

Low-income thresholds are 50, 60 and 70 per cent of median household income (before and after housing costs):

- a) relative low income – median income moving each year;
- b) absolute low income – median income fixed at 1998/99 levels in real terms; and
- c) persistent low incomes – low incomes in three out of four years (60 and 70 per cent of median only).

Data for thresholds of median income and full definitions are available in Appendix 3, *Households Below Average Income 1994/95–2005/06*. Methodological improvements have led to some amendments to the data for persistent low income, though the trend has not changed.

Data source: *Households Below Average Income* information based on *Family Resources Survey* and *British Household Panel Survey* data.

3 Teenage pregnancy indicators (England):

- a) a reduction in the rate of conceptions for those aged under 18; and
- b) an increase in the proportion of teenage mothers who are in education, employment or training.

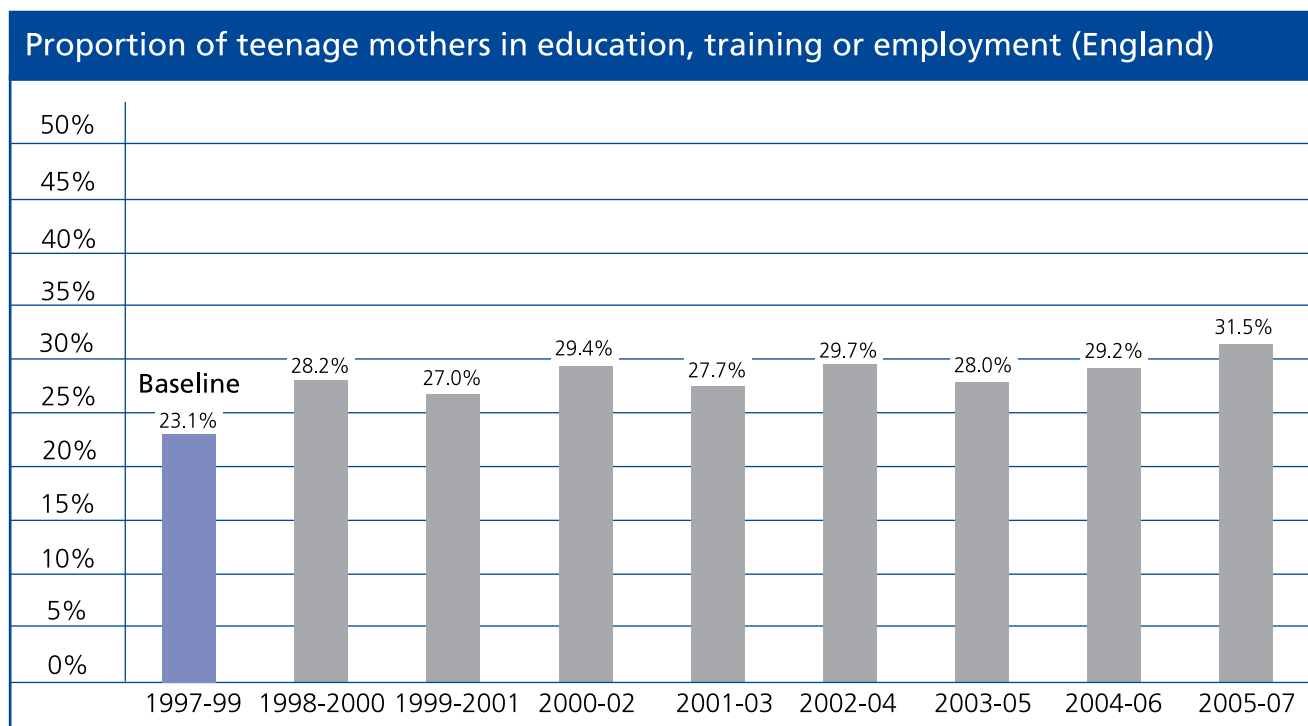
Baseline and trends:

a) Baseline year – 1998. The under-18 conception rate fell between 1971 and 1981 and then rose until 1991. The rate fell again until 1995 but then rose following a contraceptive pill scare, reaching a peak in 1998. Since 1998, the rate has fallen by 11.8 per cent. The rate for the year 2005 is 41.1 per thousand females aged 15 to 17, the lowest rate for 20 years.

b) Baseline data based on three-year average for the years 1997-99. The proportion of teenage mothers who are in education, employment or training in England has risen slightly from 23.1 per cent for the period 1997-99 to 31.5 per cent in the period from 2005-07.

Under-18 conception rates per thousand females aged 15-17 (England)																
1971	1981	Baseline														
		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
54.7	38.7	45.5	43.3	42.1	41.6	41.6	45.9	45.5	46.6	44.8	43.6	42.5	42.6	42.1	41.5	41.1

Note: Percentage change in rate calculated using un-rounded rates.



Definition: The under 18 conception rate is the number of conceptions (resulting in one or more live births or legal abortions) to females under 18, per 1,000 females aged 15-17. The figures on teenage mothers not in education, employment or training are for the 16–19-year-old age range.

These data present the proportion of teenage mothers who are in education employment or training, on a three-year average basis rather than individual year. This takes account of the relatively small sample sizes.

Data source: *Office for National Statistics Conception Statistics* (England) and *Labour Force Survey* – April-June quarters (England). Data for England are reported to reflect the coverage of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy.

Linked to Teenage Pregnancy Strategy goals: (1) To halve the rate of teenage conceptions among the under 18s in England by 2010 (in relation to a 1998 baseline); (2) To reduce the risk of long-term social exclusion by getting more teenage parents into education, training or employment, and specifically to increase the proportion of teenage mothers in education, training and employment to 60 per cent by 2010.

4 An increase in the proportion of children in disadvantaged areas with a 'good' level of development (England).

Baseline and trends: This indicator uses data derived from the Foundation Stage Profile. Since 2005 the improved rigour in assessment – particularly the reporting of those children achieving all, or working beyond, the Early Learning Goals (scale 8-9) – and better moderation practices have contributed to a downward shift in scores.

Percentage of children achieving a good level of development¹ at the end of the Foundation Stage in the Personal, Social and Emotional (PSE) and Communication, Language and Literacy (CLL) areas of learning

	Baseline 2005	2006
Children in the most deprived Super Output areas ²	37	33
Children in other areas	54	50
All children	48	44

Source: Ten per cent child level sample.

¹ Percentage of children achieving a good level of development as defined by the number of children achieving a score of 6 or more across the seven PSE and CLL scales.

² The 30 per cent most deprived Super Output areas as defined by the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004.

The 2005 figure for children in other areas has seen changes since the latest OFA publication to reflect the transition from provisional to final data.

The figures for 2006 are published on a provisional basis and will be revised and finalised when the complete data are available next year.

The table shows target estimates derived from the 10 per cent child level sample for 2005 and 2006. These estimates are subject to a margin of sampling error. In 2006, around one in three children in the most deprived areas achieved a good level of development in maintained schools compared with one in two children in the rest of England. The figure for all areas was 44 per cent.

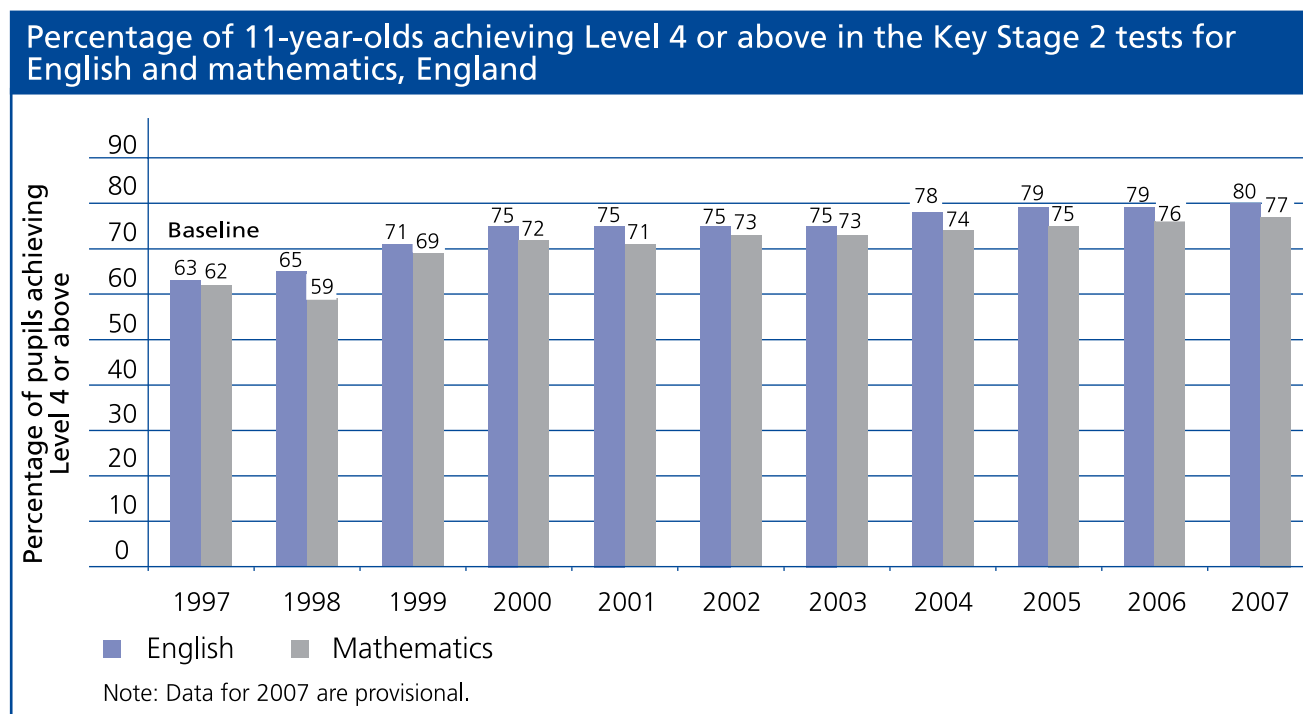
Definition: Previous measures represented the percentage of children achieving total scores of 24 or above in the communication, language and literacy area of learning, and 18 or above in the personal, social and emotional development area of learning. However, there are children who achieve these point scores without obtaining a score of 6 or above in all of the component scales, or working securely within the range of Early Learning Goals. Hence, a new Sure Start Spending Review 2004 PSA (PSA1) indicator evolved which expressed 'good development' as the percentage of children achieving a score of at least 6 in the assessment scales associated with the communication, language and literacy and personal, social and emotional development areas of learning. The choice of these areas of learning continued the theme of the previous indicator but redefined the measure.

Overall, the Foundation Stage Profile has 13 assessment scales covering physical, intellectual, emotional and social development. The scales are combined into six areas of learning including the two areas of learning used for the new Sure Start indicator. In each assessment scale, there are nine points showing how far a child has progressed towards achieving the Early Learning Goals. A score of 0-3 indicates working towards the Early Learning Goals, 4-7 working within the Early Learning Goals, 8 achieving the Early Learning Goals and 9 working beyond the Early Learning Goals.

Data source: Department for Children, Schools and Families.

5 An increase in the proportion of 11-year-olds achieving Level 4 or above in the Key Stage 2 tests for English and mathematics (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1997. Between 1997 and 2007, there has been an overall increase in the proportion of pupils achieving Level 4 or higher in the Key Stage 2 tests for both English and mathematics – from 63 per cent to 80 per cent for English and from 62 per cent to 77 per cent for mathematics.

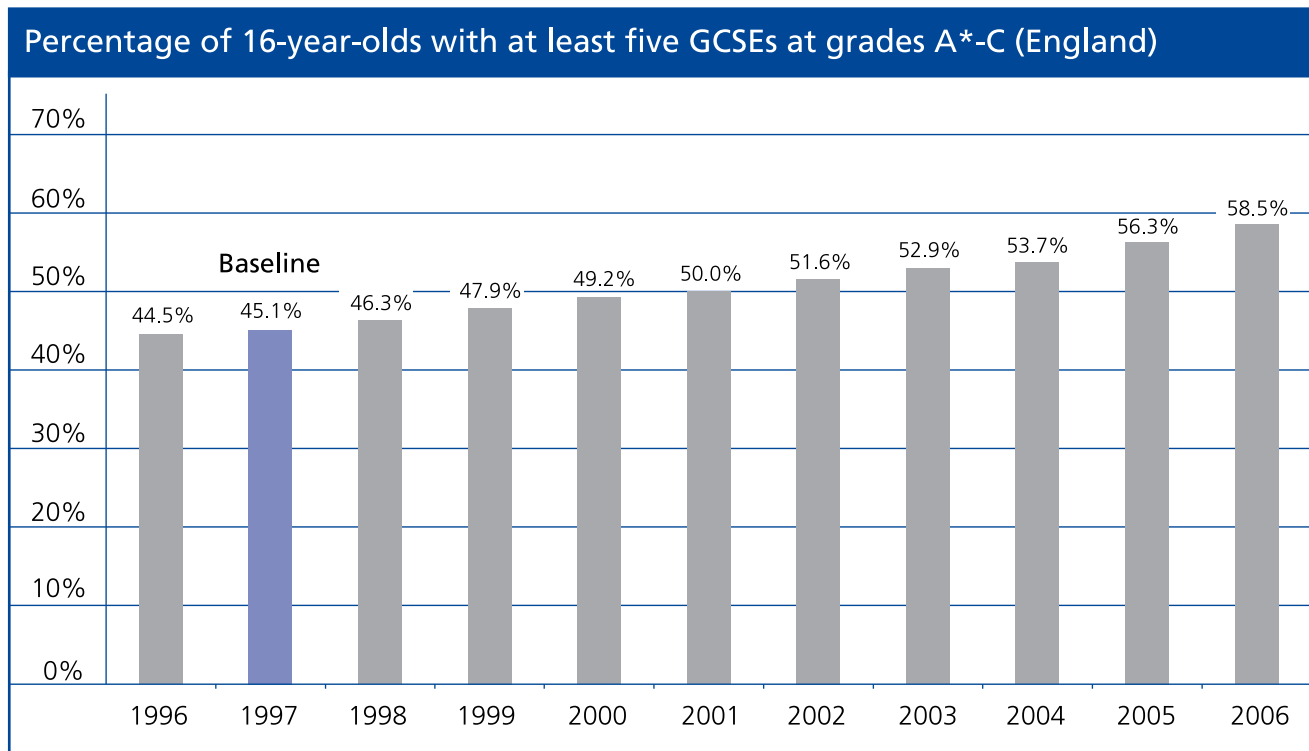


Definition: Percentage of 11-year-olds achieving Level 4 or above in Key Stage 2 English and mathematics tests. The 2007 data are provisional and the final data will be provided on the *Opportunity for all* website when it becomes available.

Data source: *National Curriculum Assessments, Key Stage 2*, Department for Children, Schools and Families.

6 An increase in the proportion of 16-year-olds with at least five GCSEs at grades A*-C, and in all schools at least 20 per cent reach this standard by 2004, rising to 25 per cent by 2006 (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1997. The proportion of 16-year-olds with at least five GCSEs at grades A*-C has risen from 45.1 per cent in 1997 to 58.5 per cent in 2006. The number of schools achieving below a floor target of 20 per cent or 25 per cent has also been steadily declining since the baseline year of 1997.



	Baseline 1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Below 20%	361	325	277	241	196	157	112	72	40	15
Below 25%	616	553	487	436	369	294	224	186	110	47

* For 2004 and 2005 only, results incorporate GCSEs, GNVQs and a wide range of other approved pre-16 qualifications. Prior to 2004 results are based on GCSEs and GNVQs only. Figures for 2006 have seen slight revisions since OFA 8 was last published.

Definition: Percentage of 16-year-olds (at the end of the academic year) with at least five GCSEs at grades A*-C or equivalents in all schools in England.

Data source: GCSE and equivalent examination results as collected for the School and College Achievement and Attainment tables.

7 An increase in the proportion of 19-year-olds with at least a Level 2 qualification or equivalent (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 2004. The baseline has changed in OFA 9 (from 1996 in OFA 8 to 2004 in OFA 9) to allow comparability of the baseline and the latest data. There has been an overall increase in the percentage of 19-year-olds with at least a Level 2 qualification from 69.8 per cent in 1996 to 76.6 per cent in 2003. Data from 2004 onwards is not comparable with earlier years, 66.3 per cent of 19-year-olds had at least a Level 2 qualification in 2004 (the baseline), which has since increased to 71.4 per cent in 2006.

Percentage of 19-year-olds with at least a Level 2 qualification (England)										
								Baseline		
1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
69.8%	72.5%	74.1%	75.2%	75.6%	75.0%	75.2%	76.6%	66.3%	69.3%	71.4%
Note: Data from 2004 onwards are not comparable with earlier years. Data up to 2003 are based on the <i>Labour Force Survey</i> and data from 2004 onwards are based on administrative data. Figures for 2004 and 2005 have been revised since last year due to more up-to-date data, better matching between data sources and improved source data quality.										

Definition: Until 2004 the related Department for Children, Schools and Families PSA target was monitored using the Labour Force Survey, but this source is no longer used for that purpose. Since 2004, the PSA target has instead been monitored using a new methodology based on matched administrative data. The move to this new method was implemented following a National Statistics Quality Review.

Up to 2003, people are counted as being qualified to Level 2 or above if they have achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A*-C, an Intermediate GNVQ, two or three AS Levels or an NVQ Level 2 or equivalent vocational qualification.

From 2004 onwards, people have been counted as being qualified to Level 2 or above if they have achieved at least five GCSEs at grades A*-C, an Intermediate GNVQ (though only in combination with other Intermediate GNVQs or GCSEs at A*-C), two or more AS Levels, an NVQ Level 2 or higher or a full VRQ at Level 2 or higher.

Data source: *Labour Force Survey*, autumn quarters, up to 2003. Matched administrative data, 2004 onwards, taken from *Pupil Level Schools Census*, awarding body data collected as a part of the Achievement and Attainment Tables exercise, National Information System for Vocational Qualifications and Individualised Learner Record.

Figures for 2004 and 2005 have been revised since last year due to more up-to-date data, better matching between data sources and improved source data quality.

8 An increase in overall school attendance (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1996/97. There has been an overall increase in school attendance from the baseline year to 2005/06, although with some fluctuation in the intervening years.

Percentage of attendances in schools (England)										
	Baseline									
1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/ 2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
92.4%	92.8%	92.7%	92.9%	93.2%	92.7%	93.0%	93.2%	93.4%	93.6%	93.3%

Definition: Authorised absence is absence that has been authorised by a teacher or other authorised representative of the school. Parents or guardians may provide an explanation for a particular absence, but only the school can authorise it. Unauthorised absence is absence without leave from a teacher or other authorised representative of the school. This includes all unexplained or unjustified absences. Authorised and unauthorised absences are measured in terms of percentage of half days missed. Attendance would then be 100 per cent minus these percentage points.

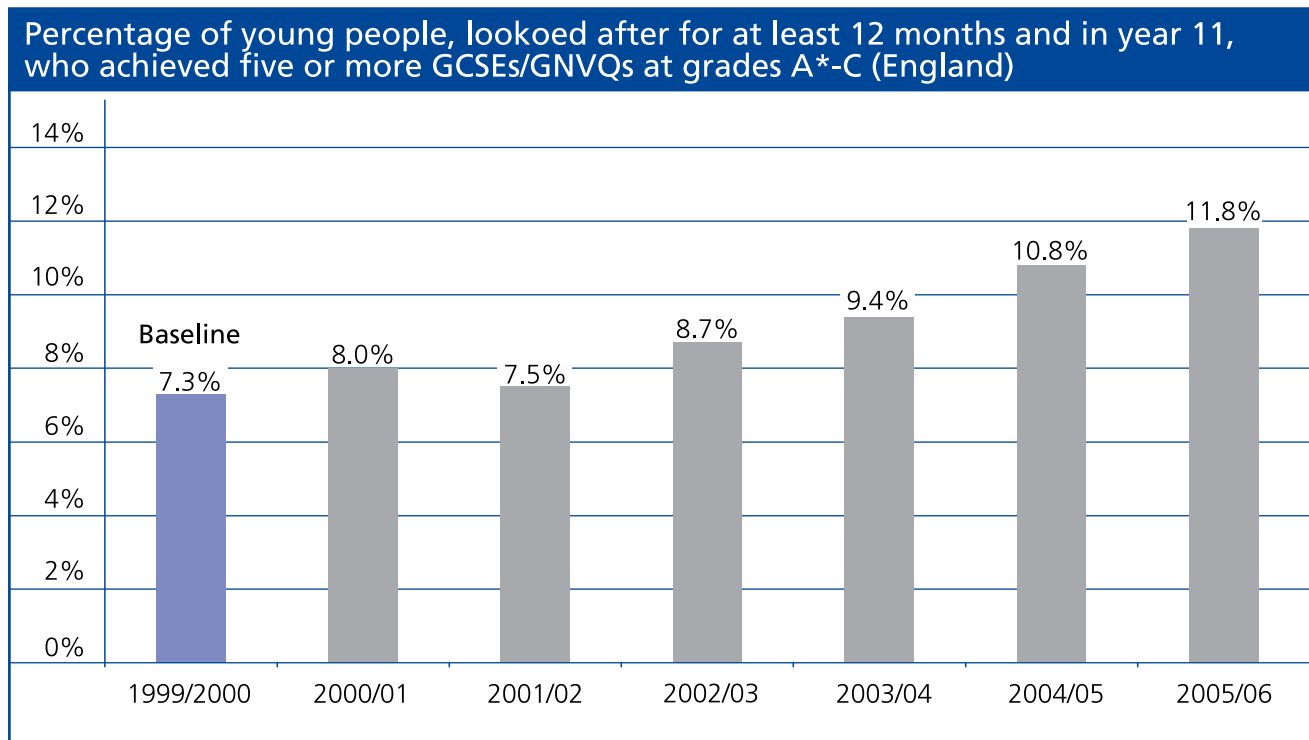
Data source: Department for Children, Schools and Families Pupil Absence Return.

9 An improvement in outcomes for children looked after by local authorities, and care-leavers through (England):

- a) a narrowing of the gap between the educational attainment and participation of looked after children and their peers;
- b) a reduction in the proportion of care-leavers who are not in education, employment or training; and
- c) an increase in stability in the lives of looked-after children.

a) A narrowing of the gap between the educational attainment and participation of looked-after children and their peers.

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1999/2000. The proportion of young people in care for at least one year who obtained at least five GCSEs/GNVQs at grades A*-C in England increased from the baseline of 7.3 per cent in 1999/2000 to 11.8 per cent in 2005/06. The gap between the proportion of looked-after children achieving five GCSEs/GNVQs at grades A*-C and the proportion of all children in achieving five GCSEs and equivalents at grades A*-C has changed from 41.9 percentage points in 1999/2000 to 47.4 percentage points in 2005/06.

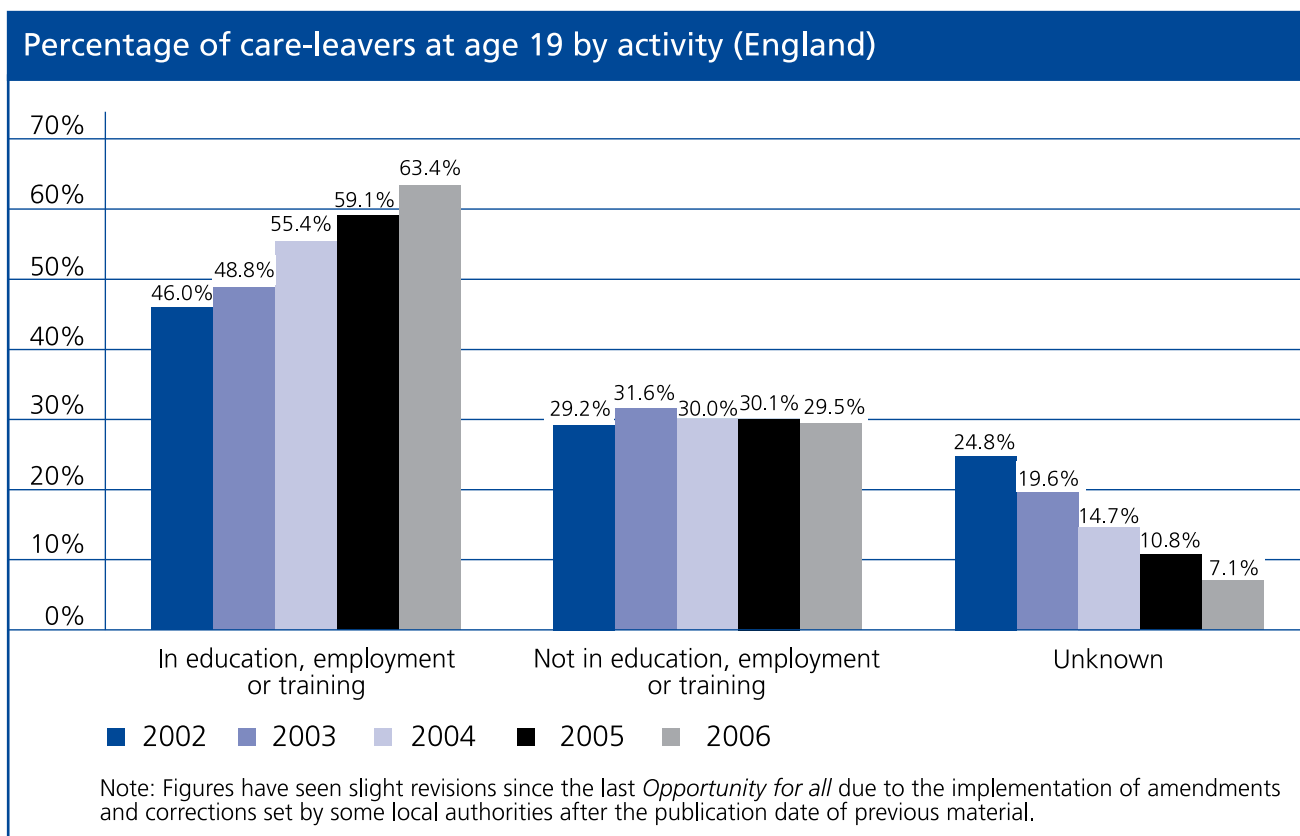


Definition: Percentage of young people in care for at least one year (year ending 30 September) with at least five GCSEs/GNVQs at grades A*-C or equivalent.

Data source: Outcome Indicator returns (OC2): returns completed annually at the request of the Department for Children, Schools and Families, based on year ending 30 September.

b) A reduction in the proportion of care-leavers who are not in education, employment or training.

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 2002. The proportion of care-leavers who were not in education, training or employment in England has been stable at around 30 per cent between 2002 and 2006. However, there has been an increase in the number of care-leavers in education, employment or training owing to the increase in accuracy in reporting care-leavers' destinations.



Definition: Care-leavers who are looked after when aged 16 (in their 17th year) who are not in education, employment or training activity on their 19th birthday.

Data source: Children Looked After returns (SSDA903) – returns completed annually at the request of the Department for Children, Schools and Families, based on year ending 31 March.

c) An increase in stability in the lives of looked-after children.

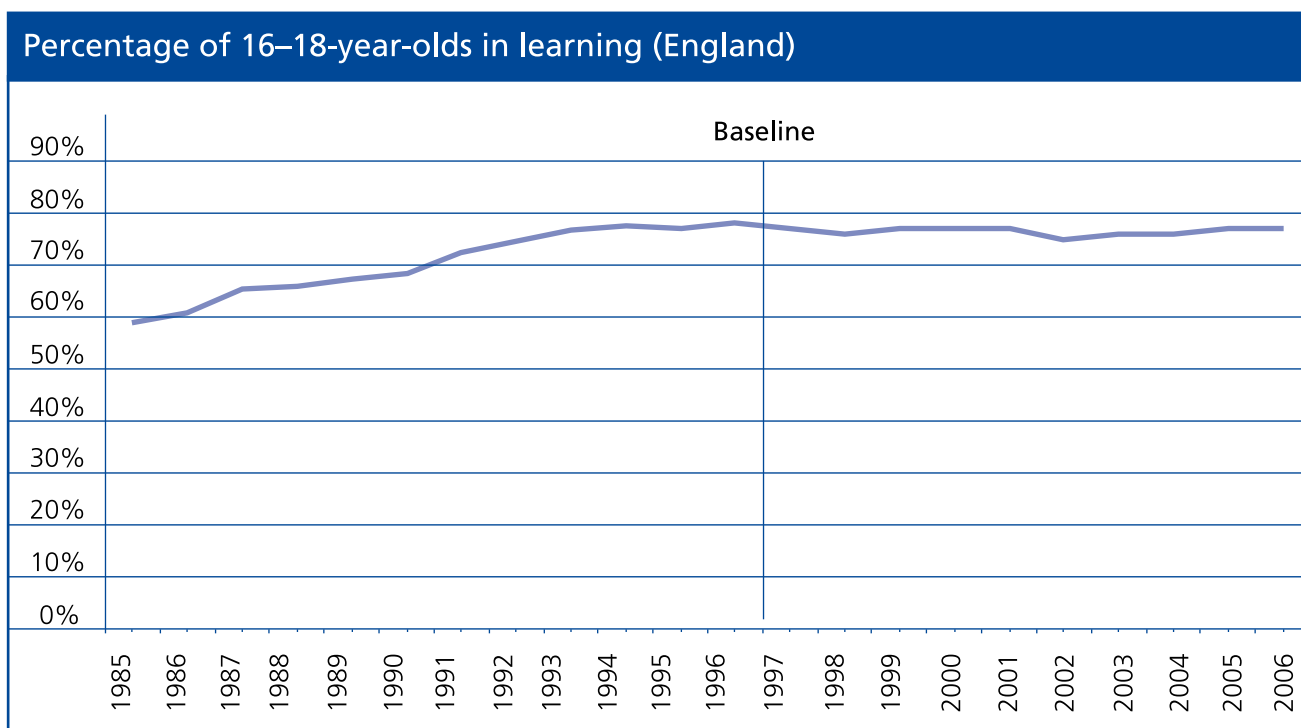
Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 2002. The percentage of children in the same placement for at least two and a half years or placed for adoption has increased from the baseline of 63 per cent in 2002 to 65 per cent in 2006.

Definition: Children aged under 16 who have been looked after continuously for at least two and a half years and, of those, the number and percentage who had been in the same placement for at least two years, or placed for adoption, between 31 March 2002 and 31 March 2005.

Data source: Children Looked After returns (SSDA903) – returns completed annually at the request of the Department for Education and Skills, based on year ending 31 March.

10 An increase in the proportion of 16–18-year-olds in learning (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1997. The proportion of 16–18-year-olds in learning increased from 59 per cent to 77 per cent between 1985 and 1994, then remained broadly constant until 1996. Since then it has continued to be broadly constant at 75 per cent to 77 per cent and stood at 77.3 per cent in 2006.



Percentage of 16–18-year-olds in learning (England)											
1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994(a) ¹	1994(b) ¹	1995
58.9%	60.8%	65.3%	65.9%	67.2%	68.4%	72.4%	74.5%	76.8%	77.2%	77.9%	77.4%
Baseline											
1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 (provisional)	
77.7%	76.8%	76.1%	76.8%	76.6%	75.3%	75.3%	75.6%	76.1%	76.8%	77.3%	
Note: The figure for 2006 is published on a provisional basis and will be revised and finalised when the complete data is in next year.											
¹ The break in time series is due to changes in the source of further and higher education data. Also overseas higher education students studying in England are included from 1994 onwards.											

Definition: Percentage of 16–18-year-olds in learning – defined as being in education or training.

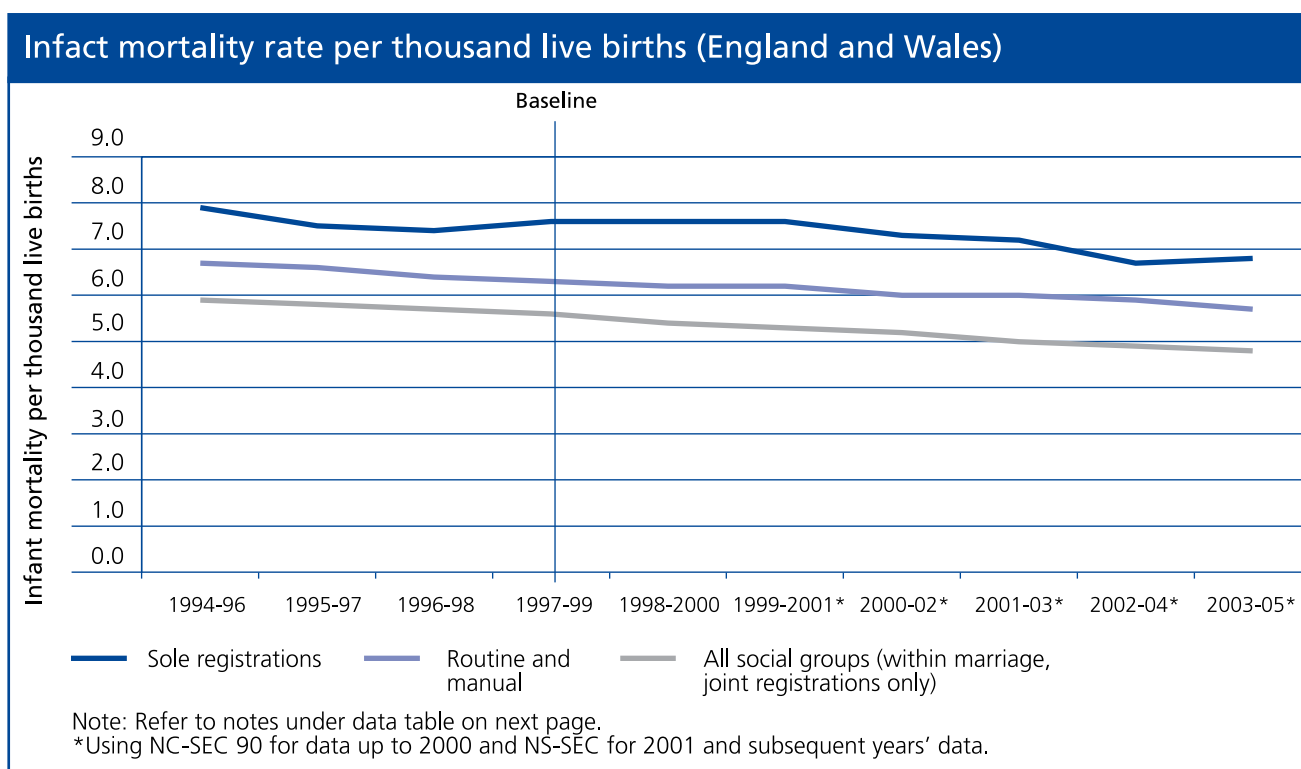
Participation estimates may be slightly underestimated for 16-year-olds between 1999 and 2000; 17-year-olds between 2000 and 2001; and 18-year-olds 2001 and 2002. For further information see paragraphs 9-11 of the *Statistical First Release 03/2005* available at: <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000551/index.shtml>

There is a break in the series in 1994 due to changes in the sources of higher and further education data; also overseas higher education students studying in England are included from 1994 onwards.

Data source: Schools' census, Further Education and Work Based Learning Individualised Learner Record, Higher Education Statistics Agency data, *Labour Force Survey*.

11 A reduction in the gap in mortality for children aged under 1 year between routine and manual groups and the population as a whole (England and Wales).

Baseline and trends: Baseline data – 1998 (based on the average of the three years 1997-99). Since the baseline, infant mortality rates have fallen in all groups. However, there has been a widening in the gap in mortality rates between routine and manual groups and the overall population since the baseline, though the gap has fluctuated during the period, narrowing very slightly in the most recent period.



Infant mortality rates per thousand live births ¹ (England and Wales)										
	NS-SEC 90					NS-SEC*				
	Baseline									
	1994 -96	1995 -97	1996 -98	1997 -99	1998 -2000	1999 -2001	2000 -02	2001 -03	2002 -04	2003 -05
Sole registrations	7.9	7.5	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.3	7.2	6.7	6.8
All social groups (within marriage, joint registrations only) ²	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.0	4.9	4.8
Routine and manual ³	6.7	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.7
Ratio: routine and manual/all	1.15	1.14	1.12	1.13	1.14	1.17	1.16	1.19	1.19	1.18
Notes:										
¹ Figures for live births are a 10 per cent sample coded for father's occupation.										
² Infants born inside marriage or outside marriage jointly registered by both parents. Information on the father's occupation is not collected for births outside marriage if the father does not attend the registration of the baby's birth.										
³ Routine and manual group includes lower supervisory and technical, semi-routine and routine occupations.										
*Using NS-SEC 90 for data up to 2000 and NS-SEC for 2001 and subsequent years' data.										

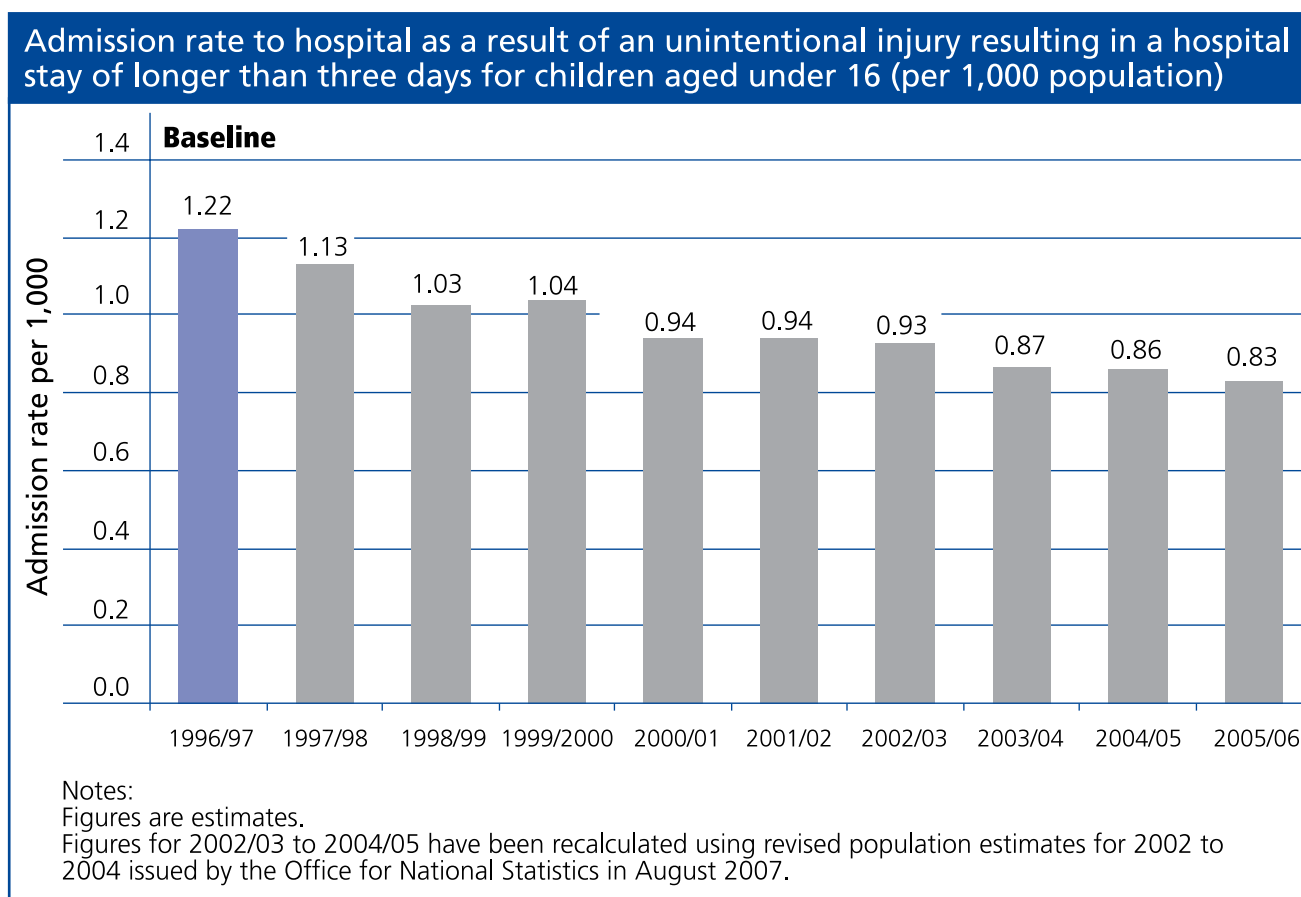
Definition: Infant deaths (deaths at age under 1) per 1,000 live births, England and Wales. Figures for the 'all social groups' and 'routine and manual' groups are for live births within marriage and joint registrations only, as social class can be allocated only to those groups where the father's occupation is identified. Therefore, information on infant mortality by the father's social class is not available for sole registrations. Although information is sought on the mother's occupation it is incomplete, hence social class is routinely determined by the father's occupation. It is intended to monitor trends in all social groups (including sole registrations) – as shown in the table – to check whether the gaps in mortality are narrowing.

The indicator was originally set using manual and non-manual social classes. It has now been re-set using the new National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC). NS-SEC was introduced in 2001, but comparable data for previous years have been produced using an approximation called the NS-SEC 90. At the highest level, three social groups are identified: managerial and professional, intermediate, and routine and manual.

Data source: Office for National Statistics (data cover England and Wales). Linked file – linking information on birth and death registrations.

12 A reduction in the rate at which children are admitted into hospital as a result of unintentional injury resulting in a hospital stay of longer than three days (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1996/97. Figures for 1990/91 to 1994/95 (not comparable with recent estimates) show a reduction over time in the admission rate per 1,000 population. The decline has continued in recent years with a fall in the admission rate from 1.22 per 1,000 in 1996/97 to 0.94 per 1,000 in 2000/01. Between 2000/01 and 2002/03 the admission rate remained fairly constant but since then it has fallen again to 0.83 per 1,000 in 2005/06.



Definition: Hospital admission rate for children aged under 16 with unintentional injury sufficiently serious to require a hospital stay exceeding three days (serious injury).

Data source: *Hospital Episode Statistics*, Department of Health and Office for National Statistics population estimates.

Linked to Department of Health *Our Healthier Nation* target: To reduce the rate of serious injury from accidents for all ages by at least 10 per cent by 2010 (baseline for target is 1995/96).

13 A reduction in smoking rates (England):

- a) during pregnancy; and
- b) among children.

a) A reduction in smoking rates during pregnancy.

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1995 – 23 per cent for England. Estimates are produced from the *Infant Feeding Survey*, conducted every five years. The most recent survey reported that in 2005, 17 per cent of women continued to smoke throughout pregnancy in England (down from 19 per cent in 2000).

Results for Great Britain from 1985, 1990 and 1995 indicate that rates of smoking during pregnancy decreased from 30 per cent in 1985 to 23 per cent in 1995.

Definition: Proportion of women who continued to smoke throughout pregnancy. This includes all women who smoke at all during their pregnancy or in the year before conception, and who were smokers at the time of the baby's birth.

The latest data shown on smoking in pregnancy are based on the *Infant Feeding Survey* (2005) which is currently carried out every five years. The Department of Health is planning to report smoking in pregnancy more frequently through health visitor returns, in due course. However, the quality of this information is still being assessed.

Data source: Office for National Statistics *Infant Feeding Surveys*, 1985, 1990 and 1995 (data for Great Britain only are available from the 1985 and 1990 surveys); British Market Research Bureau *Infant Feeding Survey* 2000 and 2005.

Linked to *Smoking Kills* White Paper target: To reduce the percentage of women in England who smoke during pregnancy from 23 per cent to 15 per cent by 2010, with a fall to 18 per cent by 2005.

b) A reduction in smoking rates among children.

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1996 – 13 per cent. Smoking prevalence has fluctuated between 13 per cent and 9 per cent since 1992, with no clear trend over time. The most recent estimate is 9 per cent in 2006.

Prevalence of smoking cigarettes among children aged 11-15 (England)													
	Baseline												
1984	1992	1993	1994	1996	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
13%	10%	10%	12%	13%	11%	9%	10%	10%	10%	9%	9%	9%	9%

Definition: Percentage of children aged 11–15 in England smoking cigarettes regularly. Regular smokers are defined as those who smoke at least one cigarette a week on average.

Data source: National Centre for Social Research/National Foundation for Educational Research, *Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2006: Headline figures*.

Linked to *Smoking Kills White Paper* target: To reduce smoking among children in England from 13 per cent in 1996 to 9 per cent or less by 2010, with a fall to 11 per cent by 2005.

14 A reduction in the proportion of children aged 2 to 10 years who are obese (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1997. Since the baseline there has been a clear upward trend in the prevalence of obesity among all children aged 2 to 10. Overall, levels of obesity were similar for both boys and girls aged 2 to 10 when the baseline was set. Boys obesity was higher in 2004 at 16.2 per cent, with girls at 11.9. However in 2005 both boys and girls reported similar obesity levels of about 16.7 per cent.

Obesity prevalence trends among those aged 2 to 10 by sex, based on national body mass index percentiles classification (England)

	Baseline										
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Boys	9.6%	11.0%	11.1%	11.4%	16.1%	12.2%	13.5%	15.2%	14.9%	16.2%	16.6%
Girls	10.3%	10.2%	10.7%	11.8%	13.0%	11.8%	12.7%	15.8%	12.5%	11.9%	16.7%
All	9.9%	10.6%	10.9%	11.6%	14.6%	12.0%	13.1%	15.5%	13.7%	14.3%	16.7%

Definition: Children aged 2 to 10 are classified as obese if their body mass index score lies above the 95th percentile of the United Kingdom reference curves (referred to as the national body mass index classification). Further details on the classification are available in the technical annex in the *Obesity among children under 11* report:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsStatistics/DH_4109245

There is no generally agreed definition of childhood obesity, but there are two widely used indicators: 1) international classification – based on reference points derived from an international survey; and 2) national body mass index percentile classification – based on the United Kingdom 1990 reference curves (as used here).

Although the figures produced by the two different definitions differ considerably (obesity estimates derived using the national body mass index percentiles classification are much higher than those derived by the international classification), the overall trends are not affected by the definition used.

Data source: The *Health Survey for England* is an annual survey that is designed to monitor the nation's health. Every year around 16,000 adults and 4,000 children, representative of the whole population, are interviewed.

15 A reduction in the proportion of children registered during the year on the Child Protection Register who had been previously registered (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1997/98. Re-registrations on the Child Protection Register fell from 20 per cent to 14 per cent between 1997/98 and 1999/2000. Re-registrations decreased to 13 per cent in 2002/03 and remained at 13 per cent until the latest rise to 14 per cent in 2005/06.

Virtually all of the improvements from 1997/98 to 1998/99 were attributed to improvements in data quality. The 2005/06 figure shows that the gradual decrease seen since 1999/2000 has not continued.

Re-registrations on the Child Protection Register (England)								
Baseline								
1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
20%	15%	14%	14%	14%	13%	13%	13%	14%

Definition: The percentage of children (defined as under 18 years old) registered during the year on the Child Protection Register, who had been previously registered.

Data source: Department for Children, Schools and Families *Child Protection Register (CPR3) Survey*. This is one of the Personal Social Services Performance Assessment Framework Indicators.

16 A reduction in the proportion of children who live in a home that falls below the set standard of decency (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1996. In 1996, 41 per cent of children lived in a home that did not meet the set standard of decency. This has since fallen to 29 per cent in 2001, 27 per cent in 2003, 25 per cent in 2004 and 23 per cent in 2005.

Definition: The proportion of dependent children (aged 0-15 or 16-18 in full-time education) who live in a home that does not meet the set standard of decency. The definition of a decent home is one that meets all of the following criteria:

- it is above the current statutory minimum standard for housing;
- it is in a reasonable state of repair;
- it has reasonably modern facilities and services; and
- it provides a reasonable degree of thermal comfort.

Data source: The *English House Condition Survey* (EHCS) was undertaken every five years up to and including 2001, from which date fieldwork was organised on a continuous basis. Results from the survey have been published annually since 2003 based on combined two-year data sets. The *EHCS 2005 Annual Report* was published in June 2007.

17 A reduction in the number of families with children in temporary accommodation (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 2002. The number of homeless families with dependent children in temporary accommodation in England fell by 9 per cent between March 2006 and March 2007, compared to a 2 per cent decrease between 2005 and 2006. Compared with the baseline, the increase between March 2002 and March 2007 was 19 per cent.

Number of homeless families with dependent children in temporary accommodation (England)			
		Families	Annual year-on-year increase/decrease
Baseline	March 2002	54,660	-
	March 2003	61,510	13%
	March 2004	70,580	15%
	March 2005	72,670	3%
	March 2006	71,560	-2%
	March 2007	65,210	-9%

Definition: Figures for the number of families in temporary accommodation are based on the number of families with dependent children accepted by local authorities as unintentionally homeless and in priority need living in temporary accommodation arranged by a local authority under the homelessness legislation.

At the end of March 2007, 92 per cent of homeless households with dependent children were housed in self-contained accommodation – that is, with sole use of kitchen and bathroom facilities. Over half (59 per cent) were in private-sector houses and flats leased by local authorities and registered social landlords (also known as housing associations), while just over a fifth (21 per cent) were in social housing owned and managed by local authorities and registered social landlords. Twelve per cent were in 'other' accommodation (mainly homes rented directly from private landlords). Finally, 8 per cent were in accommodation where facilities were shared with other households – this was usually a hostel or women's refuge (6 per cent); with the remaining 1.5 per cent in bed & breakfast-type units.

Data source: The data for the number of families in temporary accommodation are from P1(E) quarterly returns, as collected by the Housing and Communities Analysis Division of Communities and Local Government. Data on families in temporary accommodation with dependent children have only been collected since March 2002.

Linked to Communities and Local Government Homes for All target: In the *Sustainable Communities: Homes for all. A five Year Plan from the ODPM*, published in January 2005, the department announced that by 2010 the total number of households in temporary accommodation would be reduced to half its current level.

People of working age

34. This chapter gives a summary of progress on the indicators for people of working age and then goes on to describe each indicator in detail. Outcomes for this group are important as they determine some of the attributes that people carry with them through life. We know that those people who are poorer have worse life chances. They are likely to be poorly educated, poorly paid and have worse health than others. They are also likely to pass on these attributes to their children.

Employment

35. In the baseline year of 1997 the proportion of working-age adults in employment in Great Britain was 72.9 per cent (Indicator 18). The rate rose to reach a peak of 75.0 per cent in 2004 but since then, the rate has decreased slightly to a 2007 figure of 74.5 per cent (seasonally adjusted quarter 2 *Labour Force Survey* data). Employment rates for men were just over ten percentage points higher than for women in 1997, compared with 8.6 percentage points in 2006, indicating a narrowing of the gap. In 2007 the gap was 9.1 percentage points.

36. Some groups face particular barriers to entering, remaining in and progressing in employment. These disadvantaged groups include disabled people, lone parents, ethnic minority groups, people aged 50 and over, people with low or no qualifications, and those living in the most deprived areas. The employment rate for most of these disadvantaged groups has increased over time and the gap between their employment rate and the national employment rate has narrowed (Indicator 19).

37. However, progress has been made at different rates for different groups. Data for this year are not directly comparable with previous years because of the change from seasonal to quarterly reporting of the *Labour Force Survey*. Nevertheless, this year's data show that, while the overall employment rate in Quarter 2 of 2007 stood at 74.3 per cent¹⁸, the rate of other groups varied considerably with employment rates of 71.6 per cent for people over 50, 60.1 per cent for ethnic minority people, 57.2 per cent for lone parents, 50.1 per cent for the lowest qualified and 47.2 per cent for disabled people.

Worklessness

38. The proportion of working-age people living in workless households in Great Britain fell from 13.3 per cent in 1997 to 11.5 per cent in 2006 (Indicator 20). In 2007 the *Labour Force Survey* moved to calendar quarterly data. This means that the data for 2007 is not directly comparable for previous years, but the proportion of working-age people living in workless households in 2007 stood at 11.9 per cent.

39. The Office of National Statistics publishes the Statistical First Release *Work and Worklessness among households* twice a year, corresponding with the release of the *Household Level Labour Force Survey* data.¹⁹

40. The latest release reports that in April-June 2007 (Quarter 2), the rate of worklessness for all households without dependent children in the United Kingdom was 17.5 per cent, compared with 13.9 per cent for all households with dependent children. The rate of worklessness for lone parent households with dependent children was 39.8 per cent, whereas for couple households with dependent children the rate was 5.6 per cent.

41. In the three months to June 2007, the proportion of working-age people living in workless households was highest for the Chinese ethnic group, at 25.0 per cent, and lowest for the Indian ethnic group, at 10.0 per cent.

Education

42. The proportion of working-age people without a qualification at NVQ Level 2 or higher has fallen from 39.1 per cent in 1998 to 31.4 per cent in 2006 (Indicator 21). In 2007 data from the Labour Force Survey moved to a calendar quarter basis, and as such is not comparable with the previous data. The proportion of working-age people without NVQ Level 2 or higher in 2007 is 31.4 per cent.

Low income

43. The number of people living in families in receipt of Income Support or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance for two years or more peaked at around 2.3 million in early 1996. Since then, the numbers have fallen to 2.0 million in February 1997 (the baseline) and to around 1.8 million in 1999 and subsequent years. This year has seen a reduction from 1.79 million in 2006 to 1.77 million in 2007 (Indicator 22).

44. The proportion of working-age people living in households with relative low incomes (income below 60 per cent of the median equivalised household income in Great Britain) remained broadly constant between 1996/97 and 2005/06, on both before and after housing costs measures (Indicator 23). The latest data show a slight increase on both the before and after housing costs measures to 15 per cent and 20 per cent, respectively.

45. The proportion of working-age people living in households with absolute low incomes fell from 14 per cent in 1998/99 to 10 per cent in 2001/02 and has, before housing costs, remained at 10 per cent in subsequent years. On the after housing costs measure absolute low income fell from 19 per cent in 1998/99 to 13 per cent in 2004/05 but increased to 14 per cent in 2005/06.

46. The percentage of working-age people living in a household with a low income (below 60 per cent of median) in at least three out of four years has remained broadly constant since 1997 on both before and after housing costs measures, between 6-7 per cent, and 8-9 per cent, respectively.²⁰

47. Single adults without children were the most likely family type to exit persistent low income – at a rate of one in three (compared to around one in six for all individuals). Couples without children also had a relatively high exit rate (one in five). In terms of economic status, the self-employed had the highest exit rate (over one in four), along with families where all adults were in employment (around one in four). In contrast, workless families had a relatively high entry rate at 4 per cent (compared to just 1 per cent of all individuals).

48. Exits from persistent poverty were most commonly associated with a rise in the head of household's earnings and rises in benefit income.²¹

Health

49. Overall, people from lower socio-economic groups have a shorter life expectancy, higher infant mortality rates, and are more likely to smoke than those from other groups.²²

50. Smoking rates explain a large part of the difference in life expectancy between different socio-economic groups (Indicator 24). In England between 1998 and 2005 smoking prevalence has decreased slightly for all groups from 28 per cent to 24 per cent. Within this, smoking rates amongst manual groups at 29 per cent remain 10 percentage points higher than for non-manual groups who have a smoking rate of 19 per cent.

51. For the three years that set the baseline (1995-97) the suicide plus undetermined injury death rate for England was 12 per 100,000 working-age adults. Suicide rates showed a downward trend in the first half of the 1990s, but in the late 1990s there were modest increases. Since 1998-2000 rates have fallen, and are now 10.8 per 100,000 working-age adults, their lowest for at least 30 years (Indicator 25).

52. Class A drug use amongst young people (aged 16-24) in England and Wales has remained stable since 1998. The latest information for 2005/06 shows 8.4 per cent reporting use of any Class A drug during the last year and 4.0 per cent reporting use of a Class A drug in the last month. However, frequent use of any drug has decreased from 11.6 per cent in 2002/03 to 9.5 per cent in 2005/06 (Indicator 27).

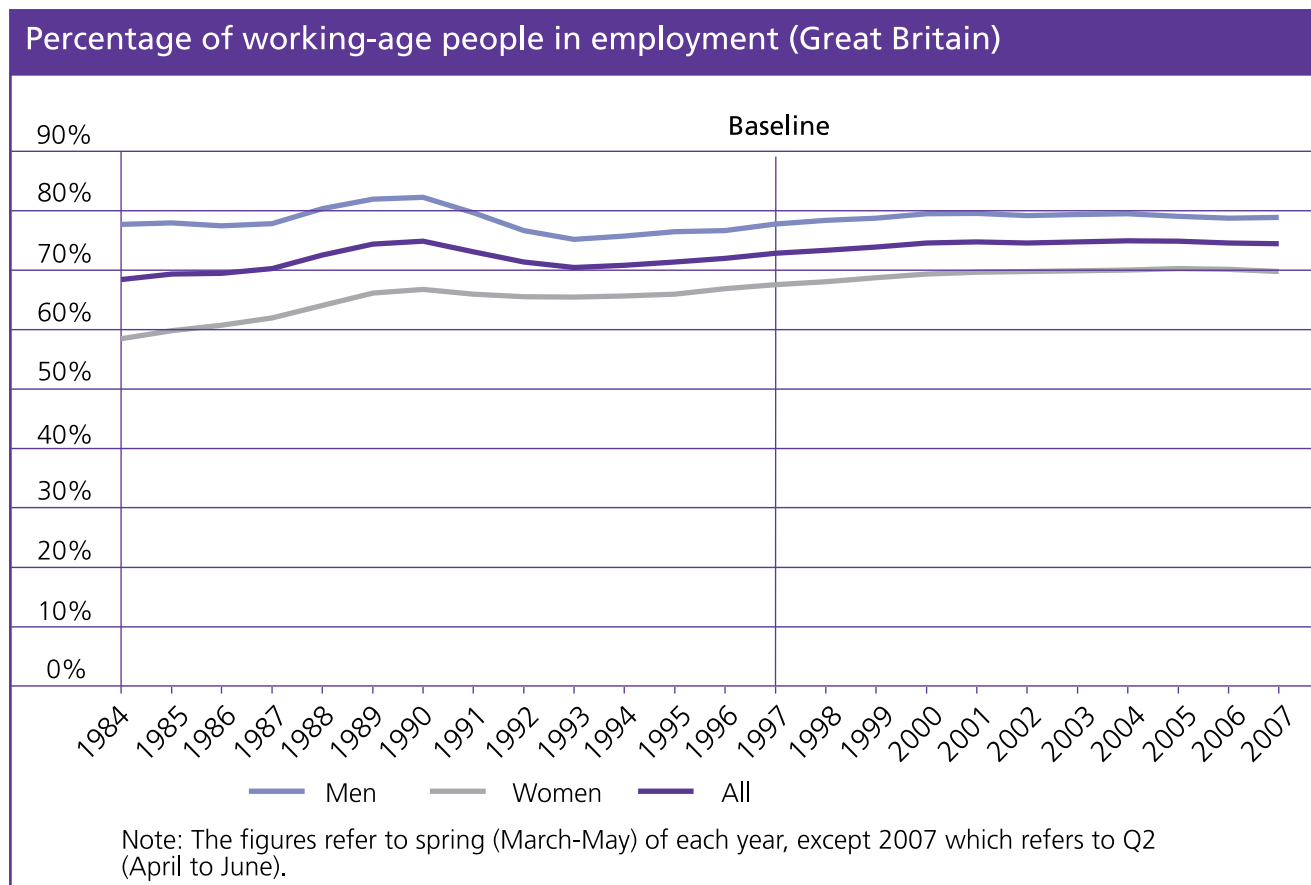
Homelessness

53. In June 1998, 1,850 people were estimated to be sleeping rough on the streets of England on any one night (Indicator 26). In June 2007, Housing Strategy and Statistical Appendix returns (supplied by local authorities) showed this level has fallen to 498 people – a figure which represents a 73 per cent reduction on the 1998 baseline level.

18 An increase in the proportion of working-age people in employment, over the economic cycle (Great Britain).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1997. The proportion of the working-age population in employment increased to a peak of 74.9 per cent in 1990, falling subsequently to 70.5 per cent in 1993 during the recession. The proportion in employment then rose to 72.9 per cent in 1997 (the baseline year) and continued to rise to 75.0 per cent in 2004. Since then, there has been a slight decrease in the employment rate to 74.6 per cent in 2006. Spring 2006 was the last *Labour Force Survey* quarter published on a seasonal basis. As of Quarter 2 2006, the *Labour Force Survey* moved to a calendar quarter basis (January to March, April to June, etc). However, seasonally-adjusted data are available at a national level throughout the period and so the figures remain comparable. The proportion of working-age people in employment in 2007 (the three months to June) was 74.5 per cent.

Employment rates for men were just over ten percentage points higher than for women in 1997, compared with 8.6 per cent in 2006, indicating a narrowing of the gap. In 2007 the gap was 9.1 percentage points.



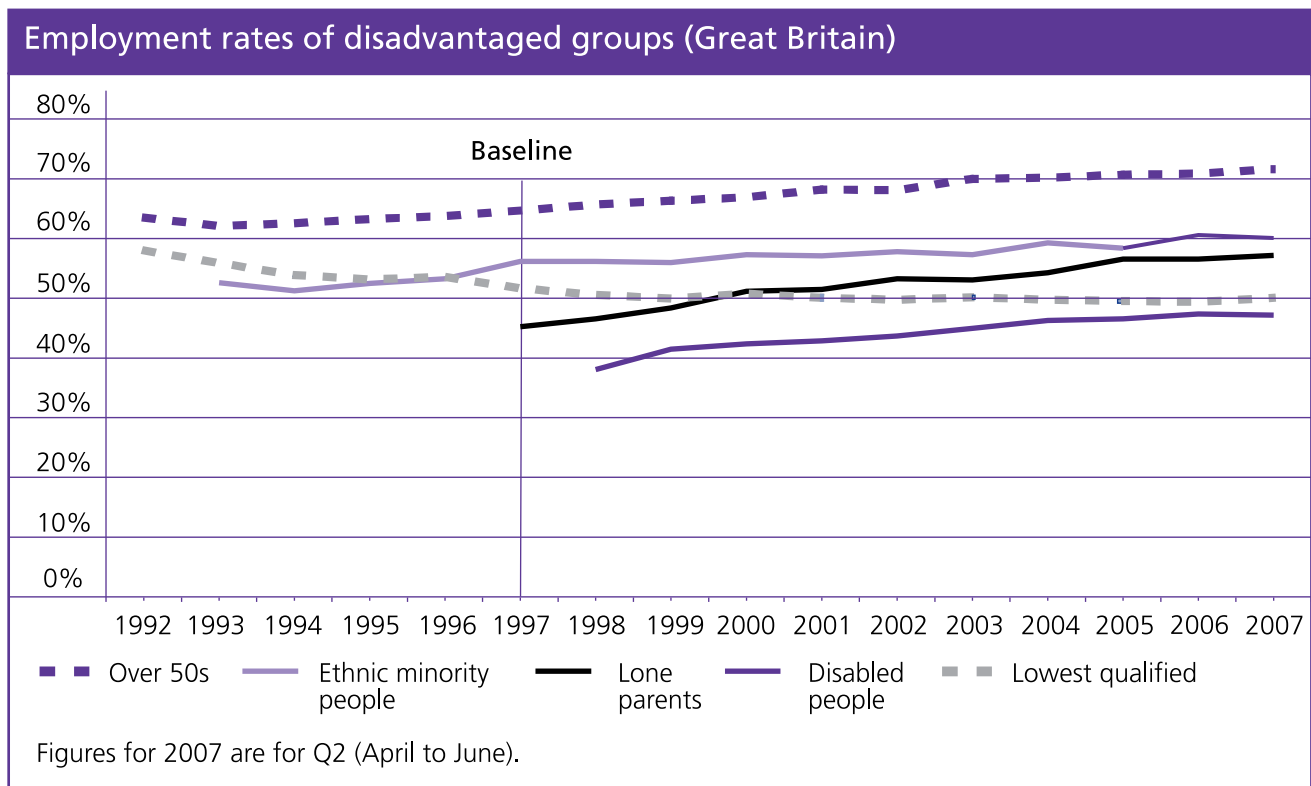
Percentage of working-age people in employment (Great Britain)											
	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
All	68.5%	69.4%	69.5%	70.3%	72.6%	74.4%	74.9%	73.1%	71.4%	70.5%	70.9%
Men	77.7%	78.0%	77.5%	77.9%	80.4%	82.0%	82.3%	79.7%	76.7%	75.2%	75.8%
Women	58.5%	59.9%	60.8%	62.0%	64.1%	66.2%	66.8%	66.0%	65.6%	65.5%	65.7%
Baseline											
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
All	71.4%	72.0%	72.9%	73.4%	73.9%	74.6%	74.8%	74.6%	74.8%	75.0%	74.9%
Men	76.5%	76.7%	77.8%	78.4%	78.8%	79.5%	79.6%	79.2%	79.4%	79.5%	79.1%
Women	66.0%	66.9%	67.6%	68.1%	68.8%	69.4%	69.7%	69.8%	69.9%	70.1%	70.3%
	2006	2007*									
All	74.6%	74.5%									
Men	78.8%	78.9%									
Women	70.2%	69.8%									
<p>Note: The figures for the years up to 1992 have not been seasonally adjusted, while those for 1992 onwards have been seasonally adjusted: the two sets are therefore not directly comparable. The figures for the years up to 1992 are for Great Britain and differ from the last <i>Opportunity for all</i> report which contained figures for the United Kingdom. Some figures from 1992 onwards differ slightly from the last <i>Opportunity for all</i> report due to population reweighting and seasonal adjustment by the Office for National Statistics.</p> <p>* The figures refer to spring (March-May) of each year, except 2007 which refers to Q2 (April to June).</p>											

Definition: Proportion of working-age people in employment. Working age is 16 to 59 for women and 16 to 64 for men.

Data source: Labour Force Survey, seasonally adjusted data, published on www.statistics.gov.uk and in Table 18 of the Office for National Statistics *Labour Market Statistics* First Release. 2007 data is drawn from calendar quarter (Q2) data.

19 An increase in the employment rates of disadvantaged groups – disabled people, lone parents, ethnic minority people, people aged 50 and over and the lowest qualified – and a reduction in the difference between their employment rates and the overall rate (Great Britain).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1997 for lone parents, the over 50s and the lowest qualified, 1998 for people with disabilities and ethnic minority people. The employment rates for all these groups were lower than the national employment rate. Between 1997 and 2006 there was a rise in the employment rates of the over 50s from 64.7 per cent to 70.9 per cent and of lone parents from 45.3 per cent to 56.6 per cent. The employment rate of disabled people has increased from 38.1 per cent in 1998 to 47.4 per cent in 2006, and the employment rate of ethnic minority people has increased from 56.2 per cent to 60.6 per cent over the same period. The employment rate for the lowest qualified has fallen from 51.7 per cent in 1997 to 49.4 per cent in 2006. Spring 2006 was the last *Labour Force Survey* spring quarterly dataset to be published. The *Labour Force Survey* moved to calendar quarters from Quarter 2 2006. Because the data is not seasonally adjusted, it is not possible to directly compare 2007 Quarter 2 with the spring quarters of previous years. The 2007 figures are 71.6 per cent for over 50s, 47.2 per cent for disabled people, 60.1 per cent for ethnic minorities, 57.2 per cent for lone parents, and 50.1 per cent for the lowest qualified. Note: While there is no comparable spring data for 2007, comparable Quarter 2 data are available back to 1997 for all series, except ethnic minorities (2001) and disabled (1999).

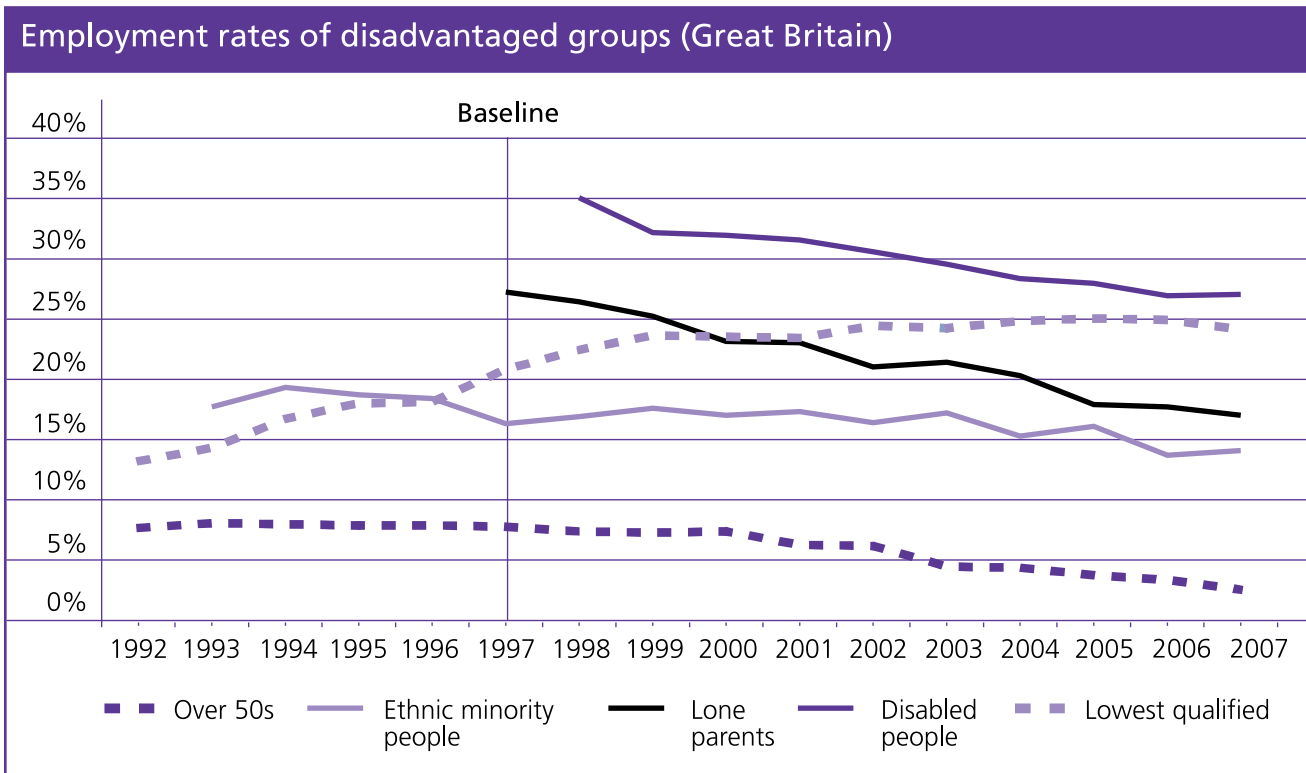


Employment rates of disadvantaged groups (Great Britain)								
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
All	71.2%	70.4%	70.7%	71.3%	71.8%	72.6%	73.2%	73.7%
Over 50s	63.5%	62.1%	62.6%	63.3%	63.8%	64.7%	65.7%	66.3%
Ethnic minorities	-	52.6%	51.3%	52.5%	53.3%	56.2%	56.2%	56.0%
Lone parents	-	-	-	-	-	45.3%	46.6%	48.4%
Disabled people	-	-	-	-	-	-	38.1%	41.5%
Lowest qualified	58.0%	55.9%	53.9%	53.2%	53.6%	51.7%	50.6%	50.0%
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
All	74.4%	74.5%	74.3%	74.6%	74.7%	74.6%	74.4%	74.3%
Over 50s	66.9%	68.2%	68.1%	70.0%	70.2%	70.7%	70.9%	71.6%
Ethnic minority people	57.3%	57.1%	57.8%	57.3%	59.3%	58.4%	60.6%	60.1%
Lone parents	51.2%	51.5%	53.3%	53.1%	54.3%	56.6%	56.6%	57.2%
Disabled people	42.4%	42.9%	43.7%	45.0%	46.3%	46.6%	47.4%	47.2%
Lowest qualified	50.8%	50.1%	49.8%	50.2%	49.8%	49.6%	49.4%	50.1%

Employment rate gaps (Great Britain)								
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Over 50s	7.7%	8.3%	8.1%	8.0%	8.0%	7.9%	7.5%	7.4%
Ethnic minorities	-	17.8%	19.4%	18.8%	18.5%	16.4%	17.0%	17.7%
Lone parents	-	-	-	-	-	27.3%	26.6%	25.3%
Disabled people	-	-	-	-	-	-	35.1%	32.2%
Lowest qualified	13.2%	14.5%	16.8%	18.1%	18.2%	20.9%	22.6%	23.7%
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Over 50s	7.5%	6.3%	6.2%	4.6%	4.5%	3.9%	3.5%	2.7%
Ethnic minority people	17.1%	17.4%	16.5%	17.3%	15.4%	16.2%	13.8%	14.2%
Lone parents	23.2%	23.0%	21.0%	21.5%	20.4%	18.0%	17.8%	17.1%
Disabled people	32.0%	31.6%	30.6%	29.6%	28.4%	28.0%	27.0%	27.1%
Lowest qualified	23.6%	24.4%	24.5%	24.4%	24.9%	25.0%	25.0%	24.2%

Note: Data from 2001 for ethnic minority people are not comparable with earlier years. The *Labour Force Survey* has been revised in line with Census 2001 population estimates. All gaps were calculated using the disadvantaged groups' employment rates and the employment rate for Great Britain. Comparable data for ethnic minorities was not available for 1992. Data for 1997 to 2006 are for spring (March to May). Figures for 2007 are for Q2 (April to June). Great Britain figures will differ from those shown for Indicator 18, as these are not seasonally adjusted.

The gap between the employment rate for most of these groups and the overall rate has narrowed between the baseline and 2006 – from 7.9 percentage points to 3.5 percentage points for the over 50s, 27.3 to 17.8 percentage points for lone parents, 35.1 to 27.0 percentage points for people with disabilities, and 17.0 to 13.8 percentage points for ethnic minority people. There has been an increase in the employment rate gap for the lowest qualified, from 20.9 percentage points in 1997 to 25.0 percentage points in 2007. In 2007 (Quarter 2 data) the figures are 2.7 percentage points for the over 50s, 17.1 percentage points for lone parents, 27.1 percentage points for people with disabilities, 14.2 percentage points for ethnic minority people, and 24.2 percentage points for the lowest qualified.



Definition: All of the targets are for the working-age population, males aged 16–64 and females aged 16–59. The over 50s are defined as those aged 50 and over but below State Pension age (that is, 50–59 for women and 50–64 for men). People with disabilities consist of those covered by the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 only (their day-to-day activities are substantially limited by a long-term current disability). Data for lone parents is based on lone parents with dependent children aged 0-18 years. Ethnic minority people are all those respondents to the Labour Force Survey who classify themselves as non-white. The lowest qualified are the 15 per cent of the working-age population with the lowest qualifications. Up to spring 2002 this covered only those without qualifications. It should be noted that the disadvantaged groups covered in this indicator (people with disabilities, lone parents, ethnic minority people, the lowest qualified and those aged 50 and over) are not mutually exclusive.

Ethnicity data from spring 2001 onwards are based on the new ethnicity variable in the Labour Force Survey – **ethcen15** – and are not directly comparable with previous years.

Disabled people are those covered by the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, but not those who have a work-limiting disability, as in *Spending Review 2002*. This new definition has been reflected in the charts and data above, and therefore data will differ from the last *Opportunity for all* report.

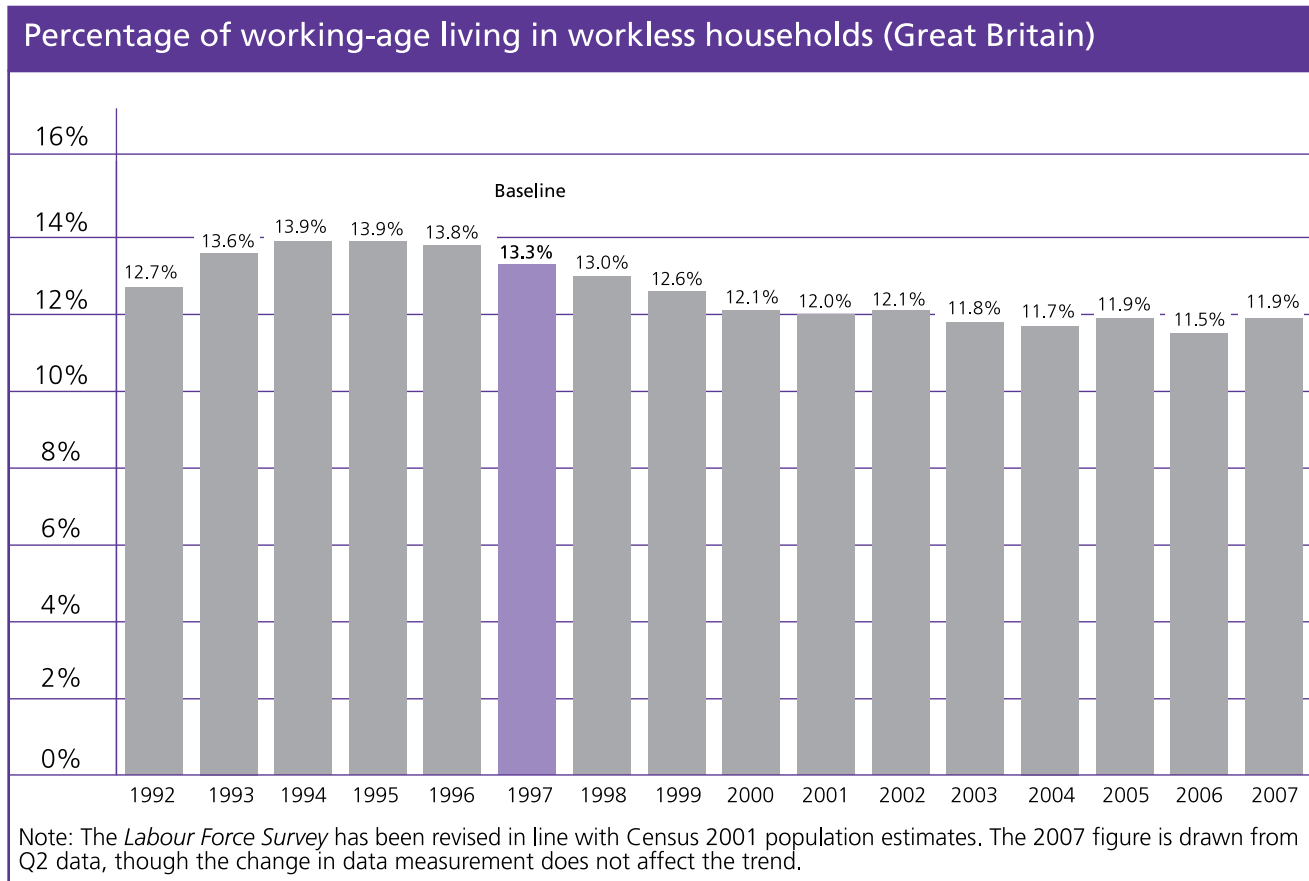
For *Spending Review 2004*, which covers the period spring 2005 to spring 2008, the over 50s are those aged between 50 and 69 (both male and female), which is different to the *Spending Review 2002* definition of those between 50 and State Pension age. This new definition is not reflected in the charts and data above, but will be included in future reports.

Data source: People with disabilities – quarterly *Labour Force Survey*, spring quarters 1998 onwards. Lone parents – *Household Labour Force Survey* spring release. Ethnic minority people – spring quarters from 1993 to 2006 *Labour Force Survey*. Over 50s and the lowest qualified – quarterly *Labour Force Survey* spring quarters 1992 to 2006. Employment rates are for all of working age (except for rates of the over 50s).

In 2007 all data from the *Labour Force Survey* moved to calendar quarter basis: Quarter 2 is measured April to June.

20 A reduction in the proportion of working-age people living in workless households (Great Britain).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1997. The proportion of working-age people living in workless households fell from 13.3 per cent in 1997 to 11.5 per cent in 2006. In 2007 the labour force survey moved to calendar quarter data: the proportion of working-age people living in workless households in 2007 was 11.9 per cent.

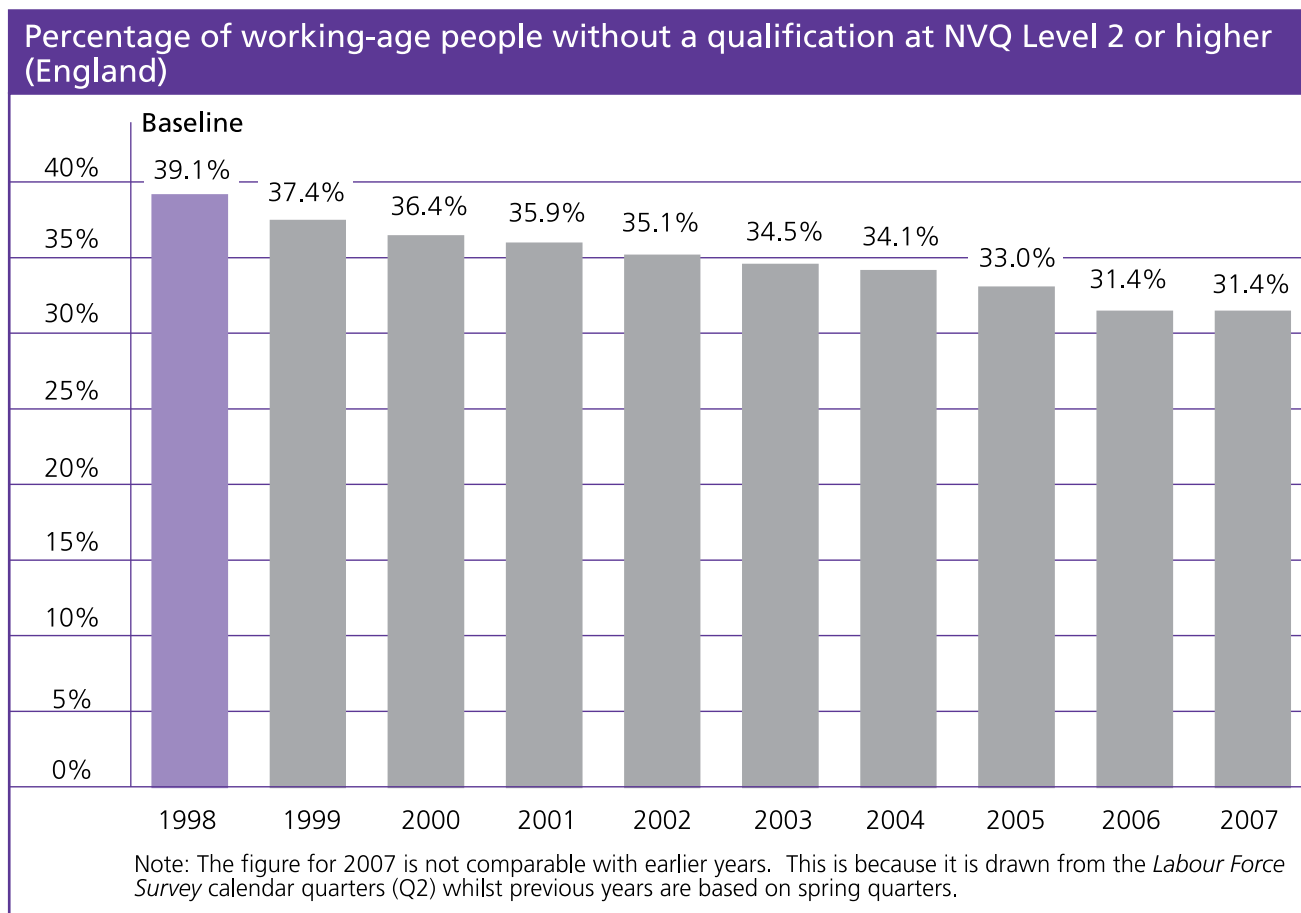


Definition: Proportion of working-age people living in working-age households where no one works. Working age is 16-59 for women and 16-64 for men. Workless individuals are those who are either International Labour Organization unemployed or economically inactive (that is, not in employment).

Data source: *Household Labour Force Survey*; spring quarters and calendar quarters (Quarter 2). In 2007 all data from the *Labour Force Survey* moved to calendar quarter basis (Quarter 2 data).

21 A reduction in the proportion of working-age people without a qualification at NVQ Level 2 or higher (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1998. The proportion of working-age people without a qualification at NVQ Level 2 or higher has fallen from 39.1 per cent in 1998 to 31.4 per cent in 2006. In 2007 data from the *Labour Force Survey* moved to calendar quarter basis, and as such is not comparable with the previous data. The proportion of working-age people without NVQ Level 2 or higher in 2007 is 31.4 per cent.

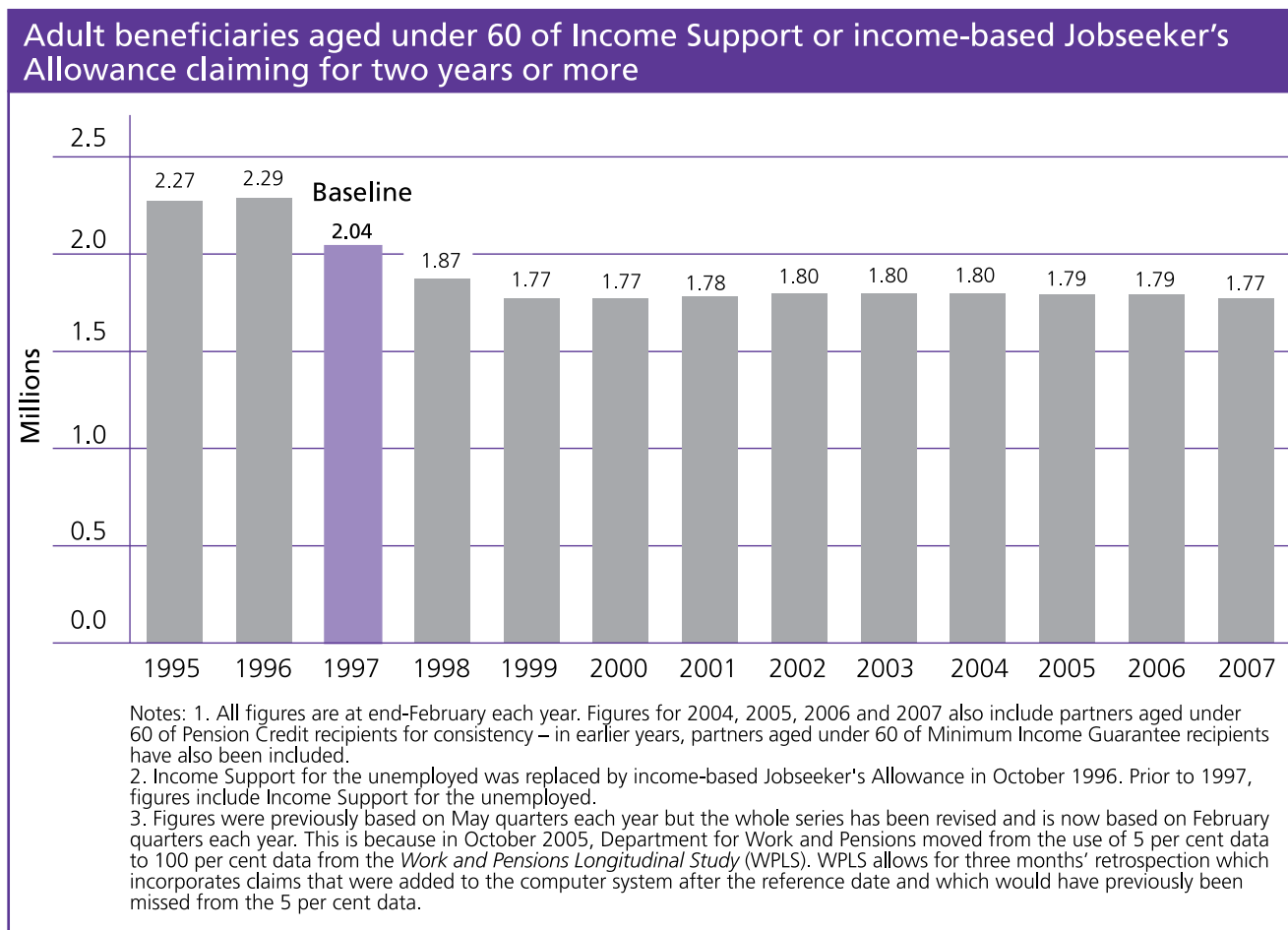


Definition: Proportion of working-age adults without a qualification at Level 2 or higher (England). The definition of working age used is 16-59 for women and 16-64 for men.

Data source: *Labour Force Survey*, spring quarters for data before 2007. For 2007, the figure refers to Quarter 2 data.

22 A reduction in the number of working-age people living in families claiming Income Support or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance who have been claiming these benefits for long periods of time (Great Britain).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1997. The number of people living in families in receipt of Income Support or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance for two years or more peaked at around 2.3 million in early 1996. Since then, the numbers have fallen to 2.0 million in February 1997 (the baseline) and to around 1.8 million in 1999 and subsequent years. This year has seen a reduction from 1.79 million in 2006 to 1.77 million in 2007.



Definition: Number of adults aged 16–59 in families that have been claiming Income Support (including Minimum Income Guarantee/Pension Credit) or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance for two years or more (claimants and partners). Figures are based on 100 per cent data for Income Support claimants from 2000 onwards and 5 per cent sample data rated up to 100 per cent totals for partners and income-based Jobseeker's allowance claimants and all figures prior to 2000. Income Support for the unemployed is taken directly from 5 per cent data. The figures are therefore subject to a degree of sampling variation.

The figures include partners aged under 60 of Pension Credit recipients who have been claiming Minimum Income Guarantee/Pension Credit for two years or more, who would previously have been included as Income Support beneficiaries. There were 57,000 partners aged under 60 of Pension Credit recipients at February 2006.

Data source: Income Support 100 per cent data, plus Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance and Pension Credit 5 per cent *Quarterly Statistical Enquiries*, February quarters.

23 Low-income indicators (Great Britain):

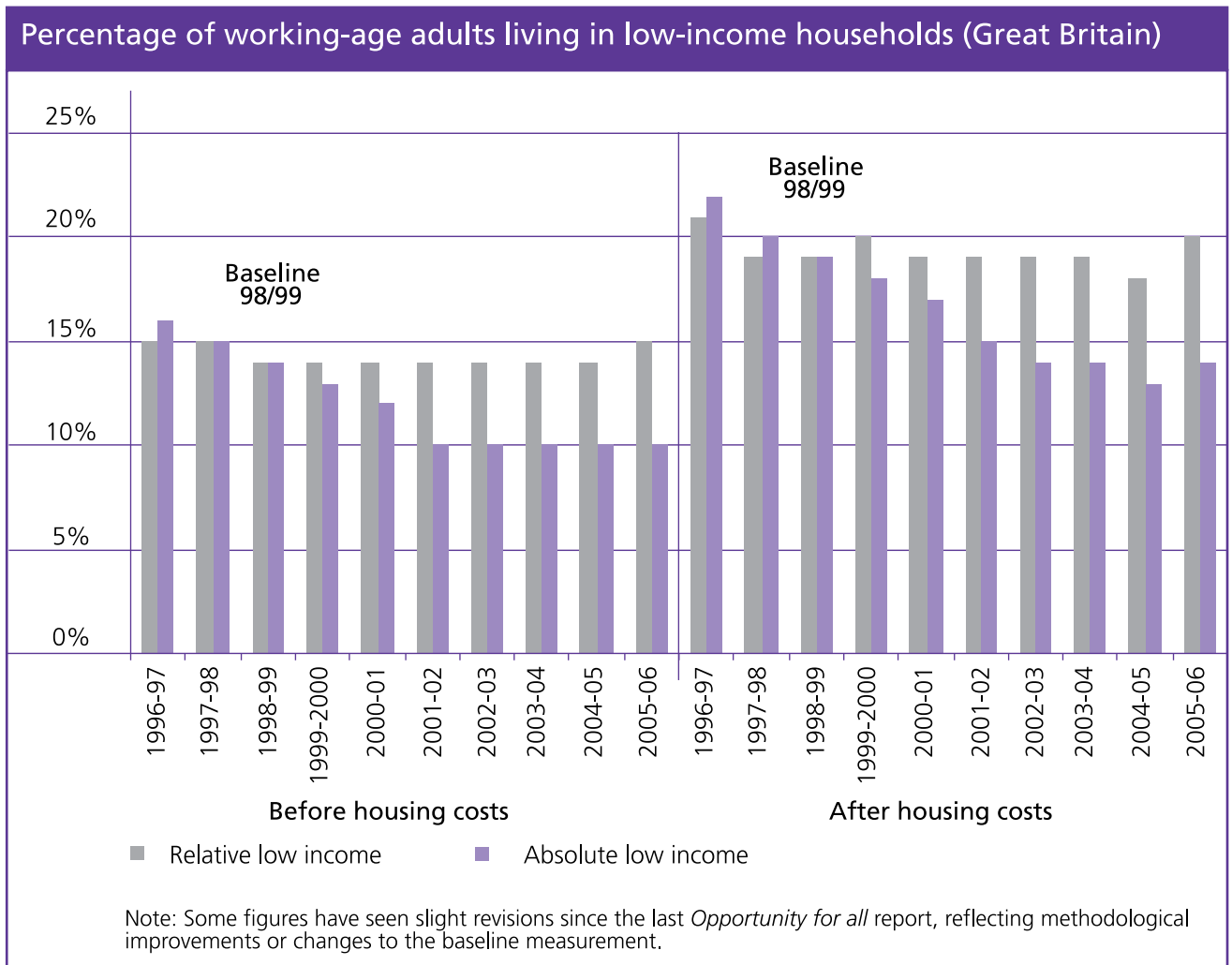
- a) a reduction in the proportion of working-age people living in households with relative low incomes;
- b) a reduction in the proportion of working-age people living in households with low incomes in an absolute sense; and
- c) a reduction in the proportion of working-age people living in households with persistent low incomes.

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1998/99. Data for the three indicators is presented in the chart and tables below, though information for the persistent low-income indicator is shown only in the table. While the tables aim to provide a comprehensive picture of progress by including data for a range of low-income thresholds, the chart and commentary focus on the 60 per cent of median income threshold for the relative and absolute indicators.

The proportion of working-age people living in households with relative low incomes remained broadly constant between 1996/97 and 2005/06 on both before and after housing costs measures. The latest data shows a slight increase from 14 per cent to 15 per cent before housing costs and 18 per cent to 20 per cent after housing costs.

The proportion of working-age people living in households with absolute low incomes fell from 14 per cent in 1998/99 to 10 per cent in 2001/02 and has remained at 10 per cent in subsequent years before housing costs. On the after housing costs measure absolute low income fell from 19 per cent in 1998/99 to 13 per cent in 2004/05 but increased to 14 per cent in 2005/06.

Seven per cent of working-age people lived in a household with a low income in at least three out of four years, on the before housing costs measure, at the baseline (1997-2000) which remained at 7 per cent until 2001-04 and fell to 6 per cent for 2002-05. The after costs housing measure saw a decrease from 9 per cent to 8 per cent for 2000-03 and has remained at 8 per cent subsequently.



Percentage of working-age people living in low-income households (Great Britain)							
	Low-income threshold	Relative low income			Absolute low income		
		50% of median*	60% of median	70% of median	50% of median*	60% of median	70% of median
Baseline Before housing costs	1996/97	8%	15%	22%	9%	16%	23%
	1997/98	8%	15%	21%	9%	15%	22%
	1998/99	8%	14%	21%	8%	14%	21%
	1999/2000	8%	14%	21%	8%	13%	20%
	2000/01	9%	14%	21%	8%	12%	18%
	2001/02	8%	14%	20%	6%	10%	16%
	2002/03	9%	14%	21%	6%	10%	15%
	2003/04	9%	14%	21%	6%	10%	15%
	2004/05	9%	14%	21%	6%	10%	14%
2005/06	9%	15%	21%	7%	10%	15%	
Baseline After housing costs	1996/97	15%	21%	26%	16%	22%	27%
	1997/98	14%	19%	24%	15%	20%	25%
	1998/99	14%	19%	24%	14%	19%	24%
	1999/2000	14%	20%	25%	13%	18%	23%
	2000/01	14%	19%	24%	12%	17%	21%
	2001/02	13%	19%	24%	10%	15%	19%
	2002/03	14%	19%	24%	9%	14%	18%
	2003/04	14%	19%	24%	10%	14%	18%
	2004/05	13%	18%	24%	9%	13%	17%
2005/06	15%	20%	26%	10%	14%	18%	

*Households reporting the lowest incomes may not have the lowest living standards. The bottom 10 per cent of the income distribution should not, therefore, be interpreted as having the bottom 10 per cent of living standards. This is a particular issue for lower thresholds, such as 50 per cent of median. Other higher thresholds are less affected by this.

Persistent low income (low income in three out of four years – Great Britain)													
		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
		-94	-95	-96	-97	-98	-99	-2000	-2001	-2002	-03	-04	-05
Before housing costs	Below 60% of median	8%	8%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	6%
	Below 70% of median	13%	14%	14%	13%	13%	13%	13%	13%	12%	13%	12%	12%
After housing costs	Below 60% of median	11%	11%	11%	11%	10%	10%	9%	9%	9%	8%	8%	8%
	Below 70% of median	15%	16%	16%	15%	15%	15%	14%	15%	14%	15%	14%	13%

Note: Some of the figures have seen small revisions since the *Households Below Average Income (2004/05)* report. This is due to changes to the base dataset made by the data suppliers of the *British Household Panel Survey*. Changes to *Households Below Average Income* data before 2003/04 were due to changes to the *Family Resources Survey* grossing regime, either through the method used or taking on board new, post-census population information. Further details are available at: www.dwp.gov.uk/mediacentre/pressreleases/2005/feb/iad-170205-frs.pdf. More recent changes are due to methodological improvements.

Definition: Working-age people include those who are not children – see definition of a child at Indicator 2 – and those who are below State Pension age (less than 65 for men, less than 60 for women).

Low-income thresholds are 50, 60 and 70 per cent of median household income (before and after housing costs):

- relative low income – median income moving each year;
- absolute low income – median income fixed at 1998/99 levels in real terms; and
- persistent low income – low income in three out of the last four years (60 and 70 per cent of median only).

Data for thresholds of median income and full definitions are available in *Households Below Average Income 1994/95–2005/06*. Methodological improvements have led to some amendments to the data for the persistent low-income indicator, though the trend has not changed.

Data source: Households Below Average Income and Low-Income Dynamics information based on *Family Resources Survey* and *British Household Panel Study* data.

24 A reduction in adult smoking prevalence and, in particular, a reduction in adult smoking prevalence in manual socio-economic groups (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year for adult smoking prevalence – 1996 – 28 per cent smoking prevalence for all adults. Baseline year for manual socio-economic group – 1998 – 32 per cent smoking prevalence in manual groups (compared with 27 per cent for all adults and 21 per cent in non-manual groups). Smoking prevalence fell steadily from 1974 to 1992, and remained broadly constant between 1992 and 1998. Between 1998 and 2005 (based on weighted data), smoking prevalence has decreased slightly for all groups. The trend for routine and manual groups (as defined by the new National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC) – see definition below) has remained broadly constant since 2001, the first year for which these data are available.

Smoking prevalence (England)							
Percentages (unweighted)*	1988	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	
All adults	31%	29%	28%	26%	28%	27%	
Non-manual groups	25%	24%	23%	21%	22%	21%	
Manual groups	37%	35%	33%	32%	34%	32%	
	1998*	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004*	2005*
All adults	28%	27%	27%	26%	25%	25%	24%
Non-manual groups	22%	23%	21%	20%	21%	20%	19%
Manual groups	33%	31%	32%	31%	31%	30%	29%
Routine and manual groups (NS-SEC)			33%	31%	32%	31%	31%

*General Household Survey data was weighted in 2000 and retrospectively for 1998 for comparative purposes. Weighted data cannot be reliably compared with unweighted data. See definition for full explanation. Manual/non-manual groups data relate to the old Socio-economic Group Classification. Routine and manual groups data relate to the National Statistics Socio-economic Classification, introduced in 2001.

Definition: Percentage of all adults and adults in manual socio-economic groups aged 16 and over in England who smoke cigarettes. Since 2000, figures have been based on the socio-economic group of the household reference person. Prior to 2000, figures were based on the head of the household. Members of the Armed Forces, persons in inadequately described occupations and all persons who have never worked have not been shown as separate categories but are included in the figures for all adults.

The manual socio-economic group category includes skilled manual (including foremen and supervisors) and own-account non-professional, semi-skilled manual, personal service and unskilled manual workers. Figures for 2001-03 are based on the new NS-SEC recoded to produce the manual/non-manual split from the old Socio-economic Group Classification, and should therefore be treated with caution.

The table also shows data since 2001 for routine and manual groups as defined by the new NS-SEC, to reflect the Department of Health's PSA target (set as part of the 2004 Spending Review). From April 2001 the NS-SEC was introduced for all official statistics and surveys. It replaced Social Class Based on Occupation and Socio-economic Groups. Full details can be found in *The National Statistics Socio-economic Classification User Manual 2002*, Office for National Statistics 2002.

The *General Household Survey* is a continuous survey that has been running since 1971 and is based each year on a sample of the general population resident in private households in Great Britain. In surveys prior to 2000, the results have been presented as unweighted data. However, in 2000 the decision was made by the Office for National Statistics to weight the data to compensate for under-representation of people in some groups, for example young men. The trend table shows weighted and unweighted data for 1998 to give an indication of weighting. Although the difference was slight (it increased prevalence of smoking by one percentage point), caution should be exercised when comparing weighted data for 2000 onwards with unweighted data for previous years.

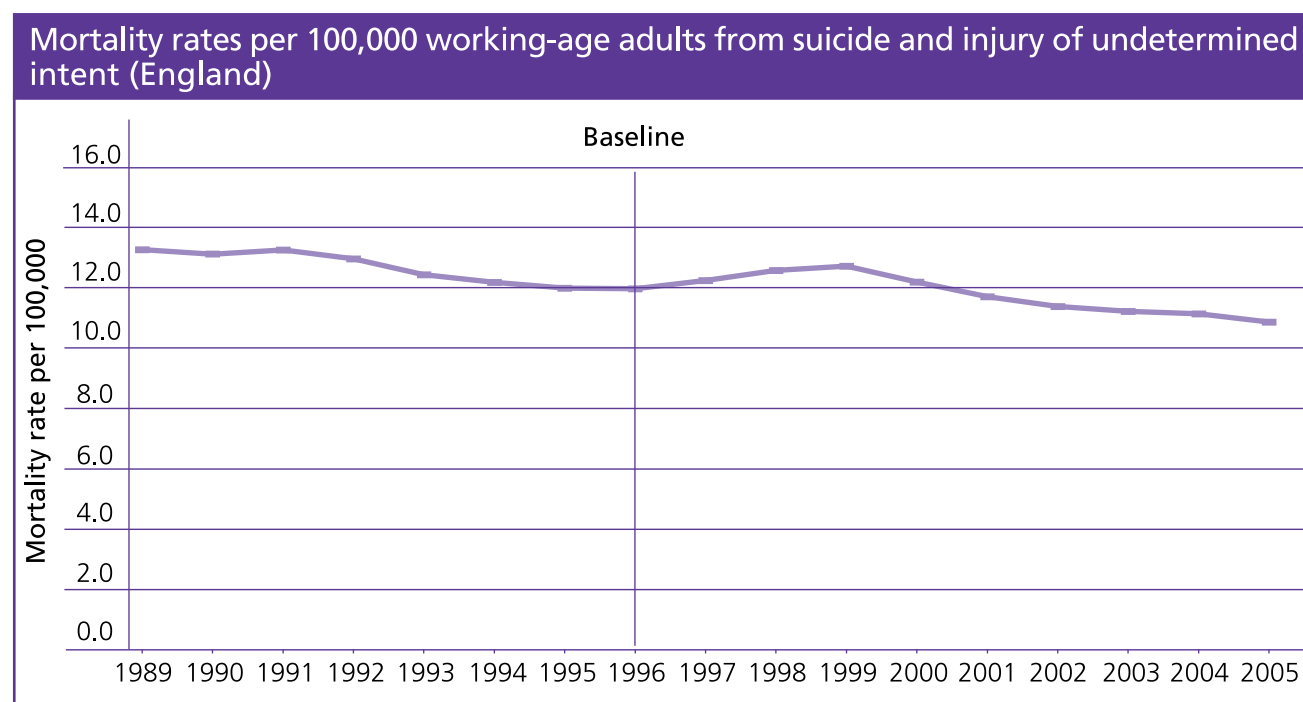
Data source: Office for National Statistics. Results from the 2005 *General Household Survey*, analysed for England.

Linked to *Smoking Kills White Paper* target: To reduce adult smoking in all social classes so that the overall rate falls from 28 per cent to 24 per cent or less by 2010; with a fall to 26 per cent by 2005.

Linked to *NHS Cancer Plan* target: To reduce smoking rates among manual groups from 32 per cent in 1998 to 26 per cent by 2010, so that we can narrow the gap between manual and non-manual groups.

25 A reduction in the death rates from suicide and injury of undetermined intent (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline data – 1995-97. For this period, the suicide plus undetermined injury death rate for England was 12 per 100,000 working-age adults. Suicide rates showed a downward trend in the first half of the 1990s, but in the late 1990s there were modest increases. Since 1998-2000 rates have fallen, and are now at their lowest for at least 30 years.



Suicide and injury of undetermined intent (England)							
<i>Rate per 100,000 adults of working age</i>							
							Baseline
1988-90	1989-91	1990-92	1991-93	1992-94	1993-95	1994-96	1995-97
13.2	13.1	13.2	12.9	12.4	12.2	12.0	12.0
1996-98	1997-99	1998-00	1999-01	2000-02	2001-03	2002-04	2003-05
12.2	12.6	12.7	12.2	11.7	11.4	11.2	11.1
2004-06							
10.8							

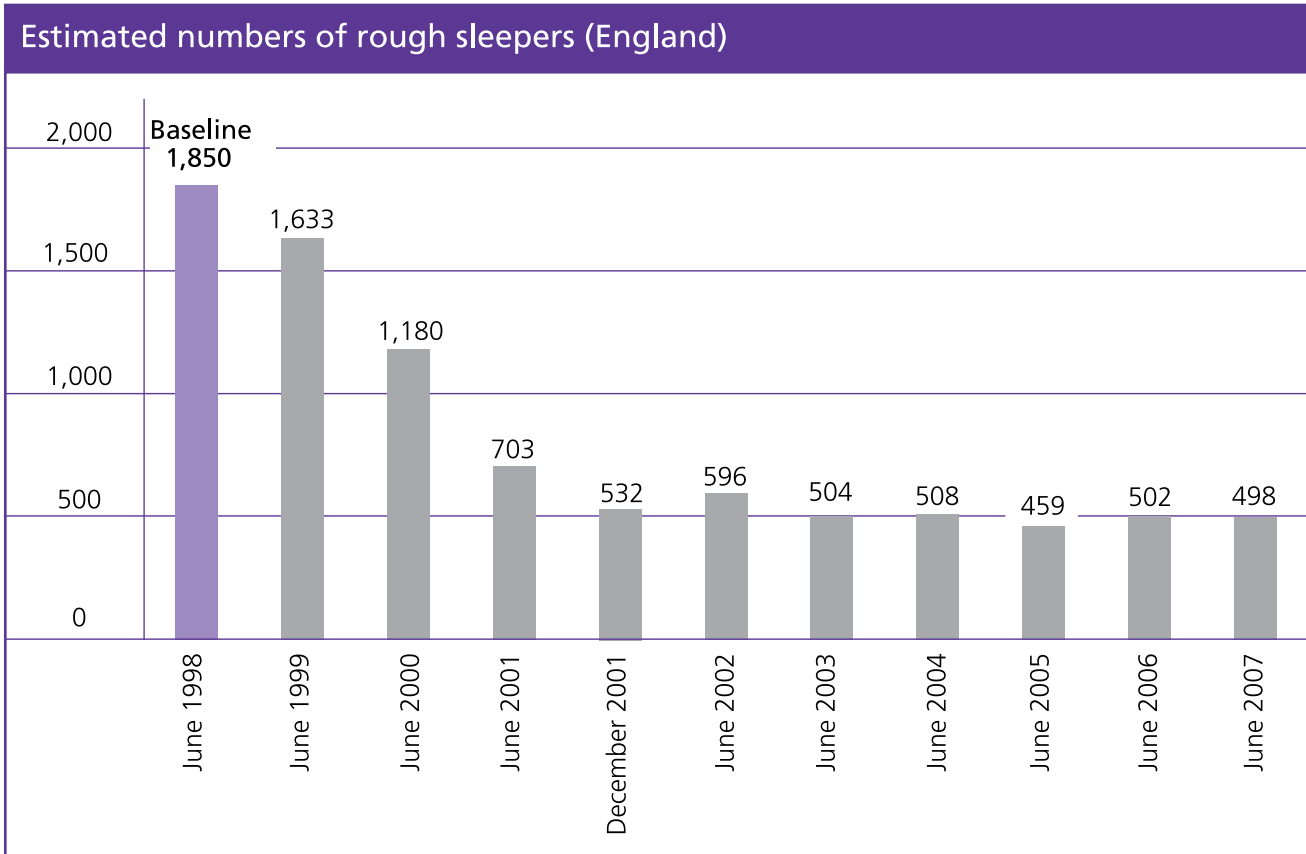
Note: Due to data limitations, the 15–64-year-old age group is used as a proxy for 16–64-year-olds. Data from 1993 onwards are not directly comparable with data from 1992 and earlier years due to changes in coding. There is a discontinuity between 2000 and 2001 due to a change in coding from ICD9 to ICD10, which may affect the comparability of the data. Figures involving data for 2000-05 have been recalculated using revised population estimates for 2002 to 2005 issued by the Office for National Statistics in August 2007.

Definition: Three-year average (age-standardised) rate of deaths from intentional self-harm and injury of undetermined intent – excluding cases where a verdict is pending. For original definition see Appendix 2 of *Saving Lives: Our Healthier Nation*, Department of Health White Paper. The indicator presented here is for 15–64-year-olds rather than the whole population.

Data source: Office for National Statistics data, calculations by the Department of Health.

26 A reduction in the number of people sleeping rough (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1998. In June 1998, 1,850 people were estimated to be sleeping rough on the streets of England on any one night. In June 2007, local authority Housing Strategy and Statistical Appendix returns showed this level has fallen to 498 people – a figure which represents a 73 per cent reduction on the 1998 baseline level. The Government is committed to reducing rough sleeping to as near to zero as possible.



Definition: Figures based on single night street counts and estimates.

Data source: Housing Strategy Statistical Appendix data supplied by local authorities.

27 A reduction in the use of drugs by 16–24-year-olds in the last year (England and Wales):

- a) use of Class A Drugs; and
- b) frequent use of any illicit drug.

a) Use of Class A drugs.

Baseline and trends: The baseline year is 1998, which marks the start of the Government's Drug Strategy. Class A drug use among young people has remained stable since 1998 (in England and Wales). The latest information for 2005/06 shows 8.4 per cent reporting use of any Class A drug during the last year and 4.0 per cent reporting use of a Class A drug in the last month.

Percentage of 16–24-year-olds reporting Class A drug use in the last year (England and Wales)

	1996	Baseline 1998	2000	2001/ 02	2002/ 03	2003/ 04	2004/ 05	2005/ 06
Class A drug use in the last year	9.2%	8.6%	9.7%	9.1%	8.9%	8.5%	8.3%	8.4%
Class A drug use in the last month	4.2%	3.6%	5.0%	4.9%	4.2%	4.5%	3.8%	4.0%

Figures for the period 2001/02 to 2004/05 have been revised to reflect amendments to weighting procedures.

Definition: The drug misuse self-completion component of the *British Crime Survey* asks about drug use over the respondent's lifetime, in the last year and in the last month. The data presented cover England and Wales. Class A drugs asked about in the survey are: cocaine, crack, ecstasy, hallucinogens (LSD and magic mushrooms) and opiates (heroin and methadone). There are other Class A drugs but their use is comparatively rare. The table includes revised figures for young people's drug use for the period 2001/02 to 2004/05 to reflect amendments to weighting procedures.

Information on drug use amongst children aged 11-15 is monitored using an annual survey of smoking, drinking and drug use amongst secondary school children. This provides a cross-check on progress towards the target.

After 2000, the *British Crime Survey* changed from reporting calendar years to financial years.

b) Frequent use of any illicit drug.

Baseline and trends: Questions have been asked about frequency of drug use in the *British Crime Survey* since 2002/03. Frequent use of any drug has decreased from 11.6 per cent in 2002/03 to 9.5 per cent in 2005/06.

Percentage of 16–24-year-olds reporting frequent use of any drug in the last year (England and Wales)				
	Baseline 2002/03	2003/ 04	2004/ 05	2005/ 06
Frequent use of any drug in the last year	11.6%	12.4%	10.3%	9.5%

Definition: The drug misuse self-completion component of the *British Crime Survey* asks about drug use over the respondent's lifetime, in the last year and in the last month. Frequent use is defined as taking a drug more than once a month. The data presented cover England and Wales. Any illicit drug includes: Class A drugs (detailed in part a above) and amphetamines, tranquilisers, anabolic steroids, cannabis, amyl nitrate and volatile substances. The table includes revised figures for young people's drug use for the period 2002/03 to 2004/05 to reflect amendments to weighting procedures.

Information on drug use among children aged 11-15 is monitored using an annual survey of smoking, drinking and drug use amongst secondary school children. This provides a cross-check on progress towards the target.

Data source: *British Crime Survey*, England and Wales.

People in later life

54. It is important for older people to be able to live secure, active and fulfilling lives. This chapter sets out a summary of selected areas of interest for older people and then goes on to describe each indicator in detail.

Low income

55. Low income amongst the pensioner group is measured in three ways: via relative low income, absolute low income and persistent low income using a range of thresholds (Indicator 28). In this summary there is a focus on those with an income below 60 per cent of median income.

56. The proportion of pensioners living in households with relative low income before housing costs has fluctuated between 1996/97 and 2001/02, fell between 2002/03 and 2004/05, and has remained at 19 per cent in 2004/05 and 2005/06. There is a clear downward trend on the after housing costs relative low income measure, from 28 per cent in 1998/99 to 17 per cent in 2005/06. In 2005/06, there were one million fewer pensioners living on an income below 60 per cent of the median (after housing costs) compared with 1996/97.²³

57. The proportion of pensioners living in households with absolute low incomes (below the 1998/99 median) showed a large fall from 25 per cent in 1996/97 to 10 per cent in 2005/06 before housing costs. On the after housing costs measure there was a large fall from 31 per cent to 8 per cent between 1996/97 and 2004/05. The latest data show that in 2005/06 the percentage remained stable at 8 per cent.

58. At the baseline (1997-2000) 20 per cent of pensioners lived in a household with a low income in at least three out of four years, on the before housing costs measure. This had fallen to 15 per cent by 2002-05. After housing costs, the decrease has been greater with a fall from a 1997-2000 baseline of 22 per cent to 13 per cent in 2002-05.

59. Pensioners have a higher risk of persistent poverty than children or working age adults. In addition, both couple and single pensioners were less likely to exit persistent low income than other family types. They also, however, experience lower entry rates into low income. These low exit and entry rates for pensioners suggest that they have relatively stable incomes.²⁴

Pensions

60. Between 1996/97 and 1998/99 the proportion of working-age people in Great Britain contributing to a non-state pension remained broadly constant (Indicator 29). Between 1999/2000 and 2005/06 (although these data are not fully comparable with earlier data), the proportion contributing showed a slight decline. More men are contributing than women (45 per cent of men, compared with 39 per cent of women in 2005/06).

61. Self-employed workers were far less likely to contribute to a pension scheme than employees. Sixty-eight per cent of all self-employed workers had no pension provision in 2005/06, compared to 47 per cent of employees.²⁵

62. Since the period 2001-04, estimates of the proportion of people in Great Britain contributing to non-state pensions in at least three years out of the last four have remained constant, at 49 per cent in 2002-05 (Indicator 30). Men were more likely to be consistently contributing than women (55 per cent compared to 44 per cent in the period 2002-05). The gap between the proportion of men and women making consistent contributions has decreased from 20 percentage points in 1994-97 to 11 percentage points in 2002-05.

Health

63. Healthy life expectancy at age 65 (based on self-reported health) is higher for women than for men (Indicator 31). Between 1981 and 1997 (the baseline year) healthy life expectancy at age 65 increased for both sexes – for men from 10.1 to 11.9 years and for women from 12.0 to 13.3 years. Since 1997 changes have been smaller and the 2003 healthy life²⁶ expectancy for men and women is 12.5 and 14.4 years respectively.

64. Projections suggest that life expectancy at these older ages will increase by a further three years or so by 2020. Life expectancy for people at 70 and 80 has also gone up. At present there are more older people than ever before.²⁷

Housing

65. In 1996, 46 per cent of older people lived in a home that did not meet the set standard of decency (Indicator 33). This has since fallen consistently, reaching 27 per cent in 2005.

Help to live independently

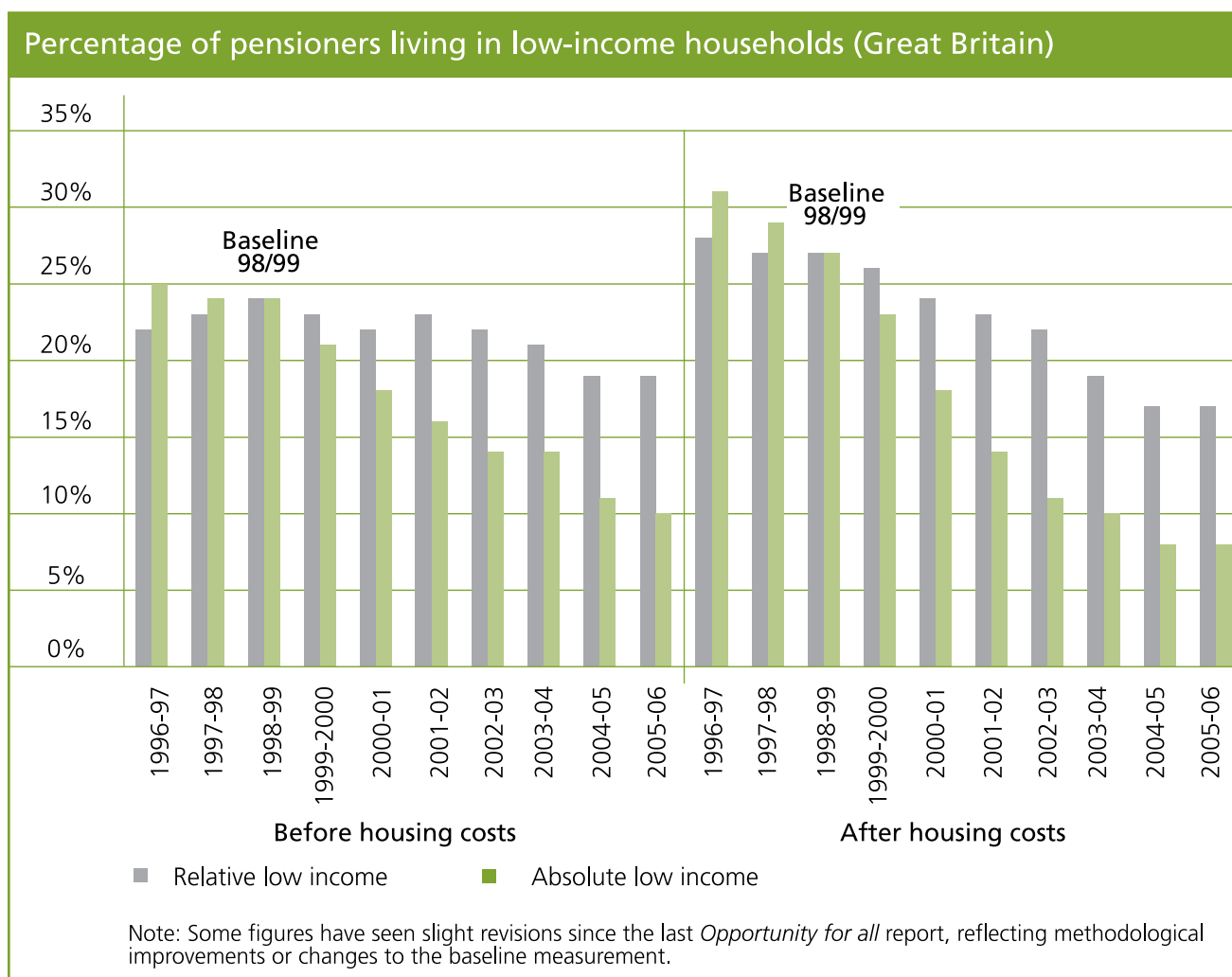
66. The number of households receiving intensive home care per 1,000 aged 65 and over has increased steadily since the baseline – 12.2 per 1,000 in 2005/06, up from 7.8 per 1,000 in 1998/99 (Indicator 32a). The number of people aged 65 or over receiving any community-based service was 81 per 1,000 in 2005/06, up one percentage point from the 2004/05 figure (Indicator 32b).

67. In 1998, 10 per cent of those aged 60 and over in England and Wales said that their life was greatly affected by fear of crime (Indicator 34). In 2006/07 this figure was 8 per cent, stable from the previous year (the apparent increase from 6 per cent is not statistically significant). In 2006/07, for those aged 60 years and over, 5 per cent of men stated that their lives were greatly affected by fear of crime compared with 10 per cent of women.

28 Low-income indicators (Great Britain):

- a) a reduction in the proportion of pensioners living in households with relative low incomes on the after housing costs measure;
- b) a reduction in the proportion of pensioners living in households with low incomes in an absolute sense; and
- c) a reduction in the proportion of pensioners living in households with persistent low incomes.

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1998/99. Data for the three indicators are presented in the chart and tables below, though information for the persistent low-income indicator is shown only in the table. Whilst the tables aim to provide a comprehensive picture of progress by including data for a range of low-income thresholds, the chart and commentary focus on the 60 per cent of median income threshold for the relative and absolute indicators.



The proportion of pensioners living in households with relative low incomes fluctuated between 1996/97 and 2001/02, fell between 2002/03 and 2004/05, and has remained at 19 per cent in 2005/06. There is a clear downward trend on the after housing costs measure, from 28 per cent to 17 per cent. The proportion of pensioners living in households with absolute low incomes showed a large fall from 25 per cent in 1996/97 to 10 per cent in 2005/06 before housing costs. On the after housing costs measure there was a large fall from 31 per cent to 8 per cent between 1996/97 and 2004/05, with 2005/06 remaining at 8 per cent.

Twenty per cent of pensioners lived in a household with a low income in at least three out of four years, on the before housing costs measure, at the baseline (1997-2000) which fell to 15 per cent in 2002-05.

Percentage of pensioners living in low-income households (Great Britain)							
	Low-income threshold	Relative low income			Absolute low income		
		50% of median*	60% of median	70% of median	50% of median*	60% of median	70% of median
Baseline before housing costs	1996/97	11%	22%	36%	13%	25%	39%
	1997/98	12%	23%	37%	13%	24%	38%
	1998/99	12%	24%	38%	12%	24%	38%
	1999/2000	12%	23%	36%	10%	21%	34%
	2000/01	11%	22%	35%	9%	18%	30%
	2001/02	11%	23%	35%	7%	16%	27%
	2002/03	11%	22%	34%	6%	14%	25%
	2003/04	10%	21%	33%	6%	13%	23%
	2004/05	9%	19%	32%	5%	11%	20%
2005/06	9%	19%	30%	5%	10%	19%	
Baseline after housing costs	1996/97	12%	28%	39%	15%	31%	41%
	1997/98	13%	27%	38%	14%	29%	40%
	1998/99	13%	27%	38%	13%	27%	38%
	1999/2000	12%	26%	37%	10%	23%	35%
	2000/01	11%	24%	36%	7%	18%	30%
	2001/02	11%	23%	37%	7%	14%	25%
	2002/03	10%	22%	37%	5%	11%	21%
	2003/04	10%	19%	34%	6%	10%	18%
	2004/05	8%	17%	29%	5%	8%	15%
2005/06	8%	17%	29%	4%	8%	13%	

*Households reporting the lowest incomes may not have the lowest living standards. The bottom 10 per cent of the income distribution should not, therefore, be interpreted as having the bottom 10 per cent of living standards. This is a particular issue for lower thresholds, such as 50 per cent of median. Other higher thresholds are less affected by this.

Changes to *Households Below Average Income* data before 2003/04 were due to changes to the *Family Resources Survey* grossing regime, either through the method used or taking on board new post-census population information. Further details are available at:
www.dwp.gov.uk/mediacentre/pressreleases/2005/feb/iad-170205-frs.pdf
 More recent changes are due to methodological improvements.

Persistent low income (low income in three out of four years – Great Britain)													
		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
		-94	-95	-96	-97	-98	-99	-2000	-2001	-2002	-03	-04	-05
Before housing costs	Below 60% of median	17%	17%	17%	19%	19%	20%	20%	21%	19%	18%	16%	15%
	Below 70% of median	35%	33%	34%	35%	35%	36%	37%	37%	37%	34%	34%	31%
After housing costs	Below 60% of median	18%	17%	17%	19%	21%	21%	22%	22%	18%	16%	15%	13%
	Below 70% of median	35%	34%	34%	34%	33%	33%	34%	34%	33%	31%	30%	27%

Notes: 1 Some of the figures have seen small revisions since the last *Households Below Average Income (2004/05)* report. This is due to changes to the base dataset made by the data suppliers of the *British Household Panel Survey*.

2 Changes to *Households Below Average Income* data before 2003/04 were due to changes to the *Family Resources Survey* grossing regime, either through the method used or taking on board new, post-census population information. Further details are available at:
www.dwp.gov.uk/mediacentre/pressreleases/2005/feb/iad-170205-frs.pdf
 More recent changes are due to methodological improvements.

Definition: A pensioner is a person of State Pension age or above (65 for men, 60 for women).

Low-income thresholds are 50, 60 and 70 per cent of median household income (before and after housing costs):

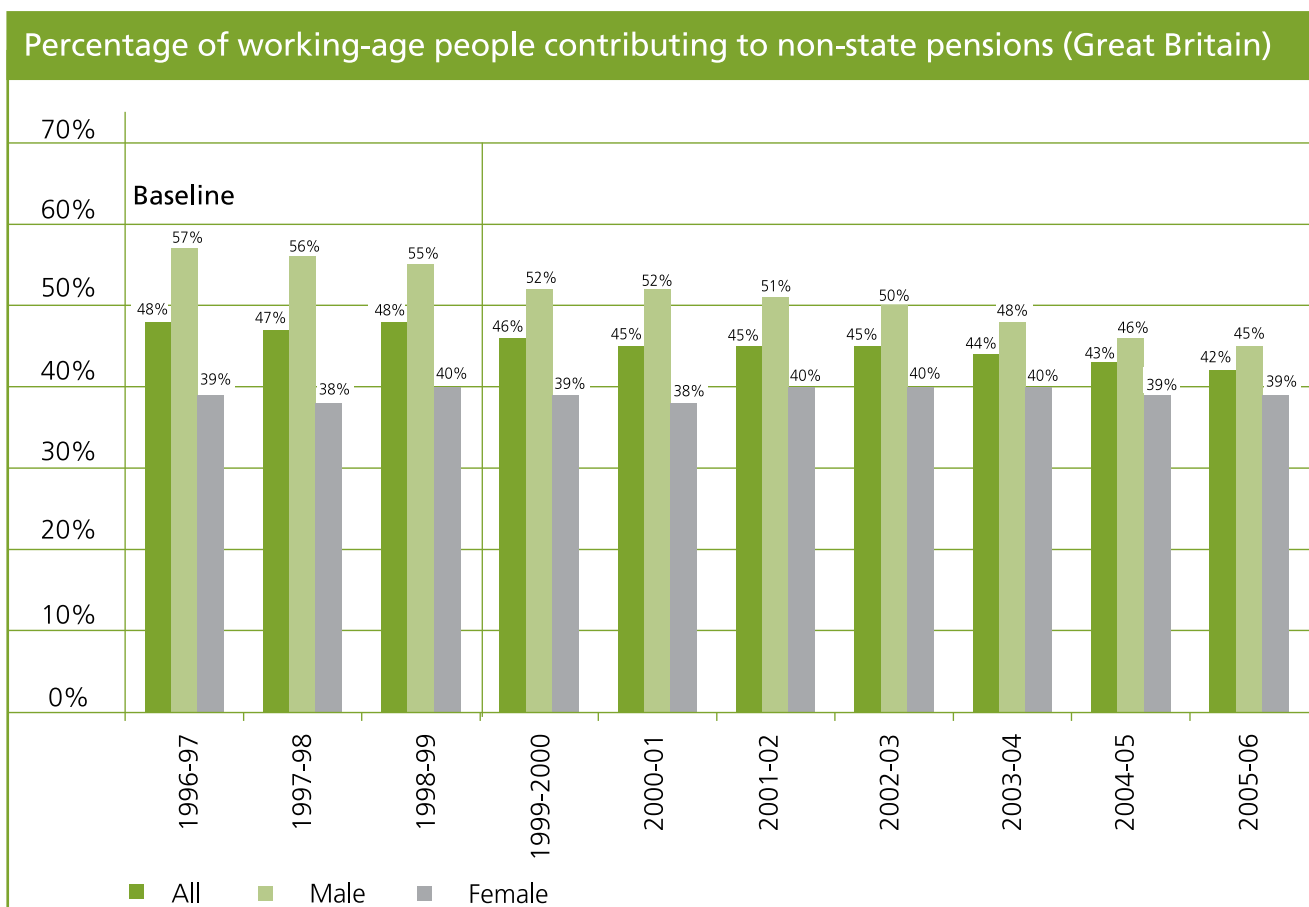
- relative low income – median income moving each year;
- absolute low income – median income fixed at 1998/99 levels in real terms; and
- persistent low income – low income in three out of the last four years (60 and 70 per cent of median only).

Data for thresholds of median income and full definitions are available in *Households Below Average Income 1994/95–2005/06*. Methodological improvements have led to some amendments to the data for the persistent low-income indicator, though the trend has not changed.

Data source: *Households Below Average Income* information based on the *Family Resources Survey* and the *British Household Panel Survey* data.

29 An increase in the proportion of working-age people contributing to a non-state pension (Great Britain).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1996/97. Between 1996/97 and 1998/99 the proportion contributing to a non-state pension remained broadly constant. Improvements in the collection of survey information covering pensions mean that data for the years 1999/2000 to 2005/06 are not fully comparable with earlier data. These changes do not affect an assessment of overall trend against the baseline. Between 1999/2000 and 2005/06, the proportion contributing showed a slight decline. More men are contributing than women (45 per cent of men, compared with 39 per cent of women in 2005/06).

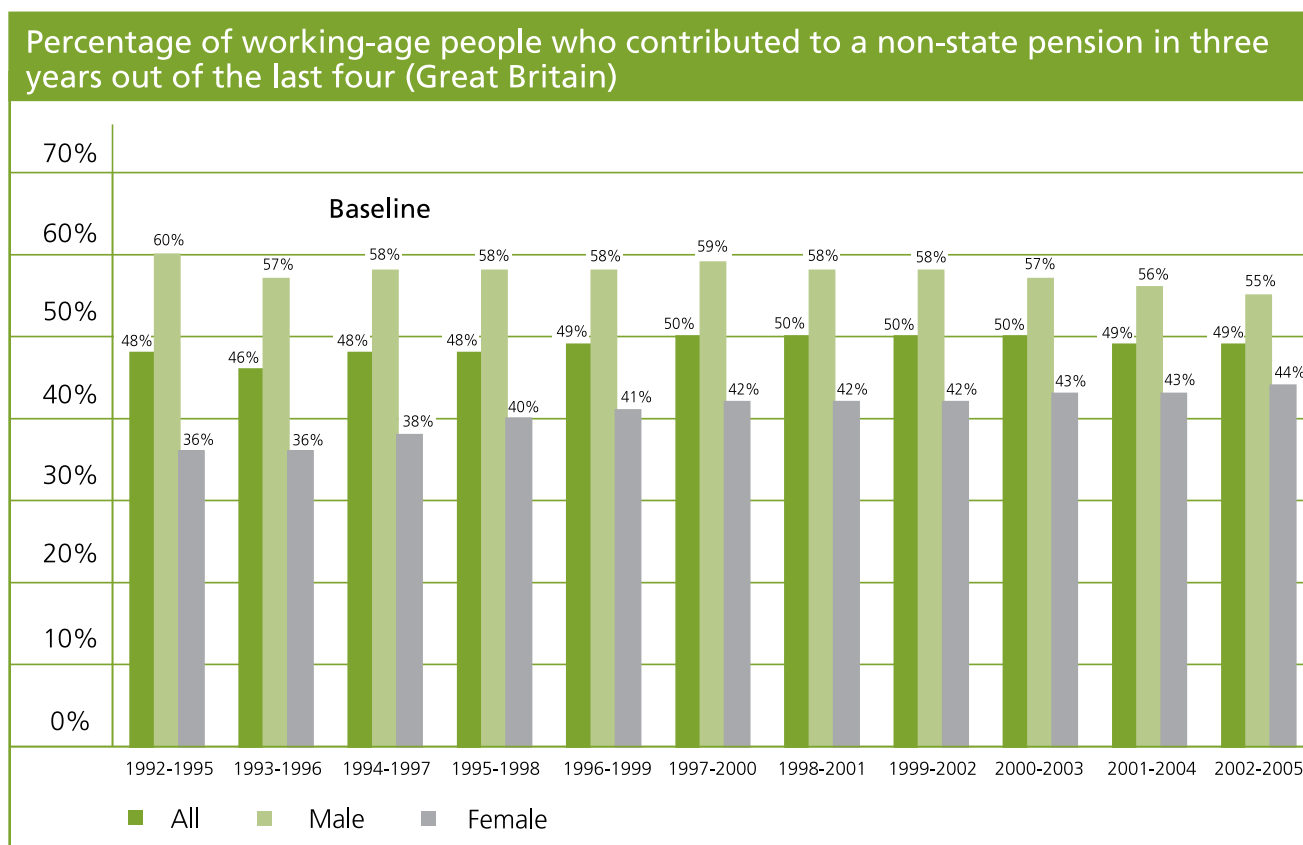


Definition: Includes people in an employees’ occupational scheme and/or personal pension scheme. Methodological work conducted by the Office for National Statistics and the National Centre for Social Research in 1996/97 resulted in a number of recommendations for improving pension questions across government surveys. These proposals were implemented on the *Family Resources Survey* in 1999/2000 and have led to a discontinuity in the series for pension contributions.

Data source: *Family Resources Survey*.

30 An increase in the proportion of working-age people contributing to a non-state pension in at least three years out of the last four (Great Britain).

Baseline and trends: Baseline data – 1994-97. Estimates of the proportion of people contributing to non-state pensions in at least three years out of the last four have remained constant at 49 per cent in 2002-05 since the period 2001-04. Men were more likely to be consistently contributing than women (55 per cent compared to 44 per cent in the period 2002-05). The proportion of working-age people who have contributed to a non-state pension in at least three out of four years increased slightly from 48 per cent in 1994-97 (the baseline) up to the period 1997-2000, and has levelled off since then. Improvements in the overall rate since the baseline have been driven by improvements for women rather than men. The gap between the proportion of men and women making consistent contributions has decreased from 20 percentage points (58 per cent for men compared to 38 per cent for women in 1994-97) to 11 percentage points (55 per cent for men compared to 44 per cent for women in 2002-05).

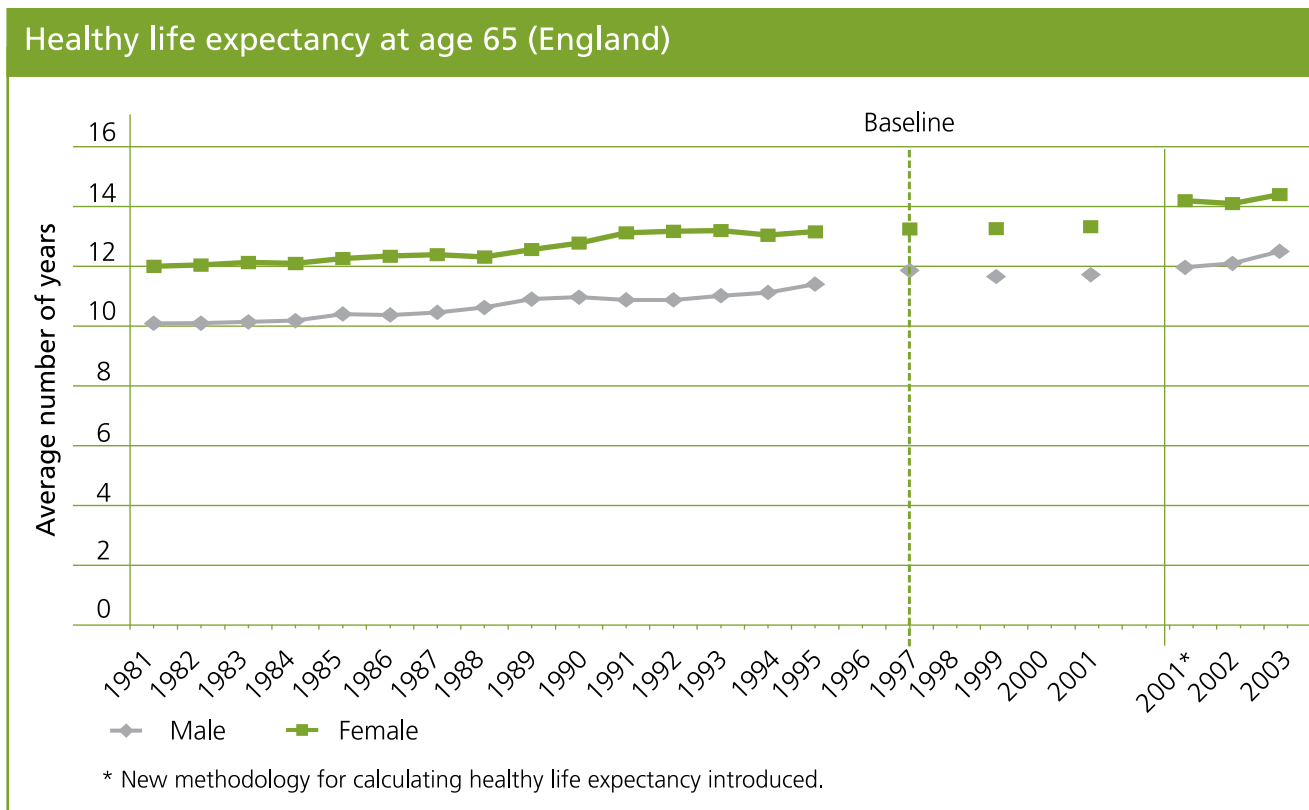


Definition: Proportion of those aged 20 years to State Pension age who have contributed to a non-state pension in at least three years out of the last four. It Includes people in an employees' occupational scheme and/or personal pension scheme.

Data source: British Household Panel Survey (data for Great Britain).

31 An increase in healthy life expectancy at age 65 (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1997 (based on *General Household Survey* data for 1996 and 1998). Healthy life expectancy at age 65 (based on self-reported health) is higher for women than for men. In 2003, men at age 65 could expect to live 12.5 years in good or fairly good health while the corresponding estimate for women was 14.4 years. Between 1981 and 1997 (the baseline year) healthy life expectancy at age 65 increased for both sexes – for men from 10.1 to 11.9 years and for women from 12.0 to 13.3 years. Since 1997 changes have been smaller. These take account of the updated calculation of healthy life expectancy since 2001.



Healthy life expectancy at age 65 (England)													
	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991		
Male	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.2	10.4	10.4	10.5	10.6	10.9	11.0	10.9		
Female	12.0	12.0	12.1	12.1	12.3	12.3	12.4	12.3	12.6	12.8	13.1		
Baseline													
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2001*	2002	2003
Male	10.9	11.0	11.1	11.4	-	11.9	-	11.7	-	11.7	12.0	12.1	12.5
Female	13.2	13.2	13.0	13.2	-	13.3	-	13.3	-	13.3	14.2	14.1	14.4

* New methodology for calculating healthy life expectancy introduced.

Note: Healthy life expectancy was not calculated for the years 1996, 1998 and 2000 as the *General Household Survey* was not conducted in 1997 and 1999. Furthermore, methodology for the calculation of healthy life expectancy was revised in 2001. Hence, two figures are shown for 2001, based on the old and new series. Some figures have seen small revisions in line with Census 2001 population estimates. Life expectancy estimates can be found on the Government Actuary's Department website and in the further information box on the *Opportunity for all* website.

Definition: Healthy life expectancy at age 65 is defined as the average number of years people aged 65 can expect to live in good or fairly good health (based on self-assessed general health) if they experienced the current age-specific good or fairly good health rates of older age groups during their life span. In other words, today's 65-year-olds having the good/fairly good health rates, in the future, of those aged above 65 today.

All data except the 1997 and 1999 points are three-year moving averages plotted on the central year (for example, 1995 uses data for 1994-96). There is no data for 1996, 1998 and 2000 as the General Household Survey was not undertaken in 1997 and 1999. Furthermore, healthy life expectancy estimates from 2001 onwards were calculated using revised methodology to incorporate improved 2001 Census population estimates and changes in the weighting methodology in the *General Household Survey*. They are therefore not directly comparable with previous years – a suitable adjustment needs to be made when comparing healthy life expectancy data for 1997 and 2003.

The next data update (2004) will be available in February 2008 and will be provided on the *Opportunity for all* website at that time.

Data source: Health status and population estimates from the Office for National Statistics; historical interim life tables for the period 1980-92 to 2001-03 from the Government Actuary's Department.

32 An increase in the proportion of older people being helped to live independently (England):

- a) receiving intensive home care; and
- b) receiving any community-based service.

a) Receiving intensive home care.

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1998/99. The number of households receiving intensive home care per 1,000 aged 65 and over has increased steadily since the baseline – 12.2 per 1,000 in 2005/06, up from 7.8 per 1,000 in 1998/99.

Proportion of older people being helped to live independently (England): Receiving intensive home care		
		<i>Number of households per 1,000 population aged 65 and over</i>
Baseline	1998/99	7.8
	1999/2000	8.9
	2000/01	9.3
	2001/02	9.9
	2002/03	10.3
	2003/04	11.0
	2004/05	11.5
	2005/06	12.2

Definition: The number of households receiving more than ten hours of contact and six or more visits during the survey week per 1,000 population aged 65 or over.

Data source: *Social Services Performance Assessment Framework Indicators 2005/06* (Indicators AO/C28).

b) Receiving any community-based service.

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1998/99. The number of people aged 65 and over receiving any community-based service was 81 per 1,000 in 2005/06, slightly higher than the 2004/05 value of 80 per 1,000. Data for 2004/05 onwards are not comparable to data for previous years. Previous data showed the number of people receiving any community-based service per 1,000 population aged 65 and over was 83 per 1,000 in 2003/04, slightly higher than the baseline of 82 per 1,000 in 1998/99. However, data for years prior to 2004/05 need to be interpreted with caution.

Proportion of older people being helped to live independently (England): Receiving any community-based service

		<i>People per 1,000 population aged 65 and over</i>	
		Old basis	New basis
Baseline	1996/97	83	
	1997/98	81	
	1998/99	71	82
	1999/2000		86
	2000/01		84
	2001/02		84
	2002/03		84
	2003/04		83
	2004/05		80
	2005/06		81

Note: Data for 2004/05 are not comparable to data for previous years. In 2004/05 restated guidance was issued to exclude people receiving services from grant-funded organisations who had not had a community care assessment. Data for 1998/99 and 1999/2000 on the new basis are estimates.

Definition: The number of people receiving any community-based service per 1,000 population aged 65 and over. There was a change in definitions in 1998/99. The new basis covers a wider variety of services to be counted as helping people to live at home. Additionally, measurement has changed slightly to include people who are registered, whereas previously it included only those actually in receipt of such services during a sample week.

Data for 2004/05 onwards are not comparable to data for previous years. In 2004/05, restated guidance was issued to exclude people receiving services from grant-funded organisations who had not had a community care assessment. Some councils will have reported lower values as a result. Data for years prior to 2004/05 need to be interpreted with caution as there is evidence that the indicator definition was interpreted differently by councils supplying the data. For further information, see *Social Services Performance Assessment Framework Indicators 2005/06*.

Data source: *Social Services Performance Assessment Framework Indicators 2005/06* (Indicators AO/C32).

33 A reduction in the proportion of older people who live in a home that falls below the set standard of decency (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1996. In 1996, 46 per cent of older people lived in a home that did not meet the set standard of decency. This has since fallen to 34 per cent in 2001, 32 per cent in 2003, 29 per cent in 2004 and 27 per cent in 2005.

Definition: The proportion of older people (aged 60 or over) who live in a home that is not decent. The definition of a decent home is one that meets all of the following criteria:

- it is above the current statutory minimum standard for housing;
- it is in a reasonable state of repair;
- it has reasonably modern facilities and services; and
- it provides a reasonable degree of thermal comfort.

Data source: The *English House Condition Survey* (EHCS) was undertaken every five years up to and including 2001, from which date fieldwork was organised on a continuous basis. Results from the survey have been published annually since 2003 based on combined two-year data sets. The *EHCS 2005 Annual Report* was published in June 2007.

34 A reduction in the proportion of older people whose lives are affected by fear of crime (England and Wales).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1998. In 1998, 10 per cent of those aged 60 and over said that their life was greatly affected by fear of crime. In 2006/07 this figure was 8 per cent, stable from the previous year (the apparent increase from 6 per cent is not statistically significant). In 2006/07, for those aged 60 years and over, 5 per cent of men stated that their lives were greatly affected by fear of crime compared with 10 per cent of women.

Percentage of older people reporting fear of crime (England and Wales)

	Baseline 1998	2000	2001	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
All	10%	10%	8%	8%	8%	6%	7%	6%	8%
Male	5%	7%	3%	6%	6%	6%	4%	4%	5%
Female	14%	12%	12%	9%	9%	6%	9%	8%	10%

Note: In 2001, the data collection method for the *British Crime Survey* changed to continuous interviewing with presentation of annual data based on the financial year. However, the changes do not affect comparability with previous years.

Definition: Proportion of those aged 60 or over who report that their lives are greatly affected by fear of crime. The respondents who are greatly affected by fear of crime constitute those responding 8, 9 or 10 on a scale of 1 to 10 of how much fear of crime affects quality of life, where 1 is no effect and 10 is total effect.

Data source: *British Crime Survey* (England and Wales).

Communities

68. Deprived areas are characterised by a multitude of linked problems. Opportunity for all means not only opportunity for all individuals regardless of their personal characteristics, but also regardless of the area in which they live. This chapter sets out a summary of progress on the indicators for communities and then goes on to describe each indicator in detail.

Employment

69. The overall working age employment rate in Quarter 2 of 2007 stood at 74.3 per cent for Great Britain (Indicator 35). Within this there has been a rise in the employment rate for the 25 most deprived local authority areas from 61.6 per cent in 2000 to 65.7 per cent in 2006. The overall employment rate was relatively stable over the period 2000-06, consequently the employment rate gap narrowed during this time from 12.8 to 9.0 percentage points. There is a break in the data from 2007 due to the move to quarterly *Labour Force Survey* data and so the figure for 2007 is not directly comparable with earlier data. However, the figure for 2007 is 66.3 per cent, which equates to an employment rate gap of 8.0 per cent.

Housing

70. In 1996, 44 per cent of households lived in a home that did not meet the set standard of decency (Indicator 37). This has since fallen steadily to 27 per cent in 2005.

71. Although there are greater numbers of owner-occupiers in non-decent homes, those who rent privately are more likely to be in non-decent homes.²⁸ The proportion of vulnerable households in non-decent private homes fell from 43 per cent in 2001 to 34 per cent in 2004.²⁹ Recent research also showed that “there have been substantial improvements over time in the number of dwellings failing to meet successively higher standards since 1971”, but that there are still considerable differences between the most and least deprived areas.³⁰

72. The number of households in fuel poverty has fallen significantly between 1996 and 2004 (Indicator 38). Analysis suggests that, between 1996 and 2003, 61 per cent of the reduction can be attributed to improvement in incomes, 22 per cent to energy price changes and 17 per cent to improved energy efficiency. Indications for 2004 figures are that the positive effect of energy price movements has lessened because of the increases in energy prices. Estimates published in the Energy White Paper 2007³¹ suggest the number of households in fuel poverty in England in 2006 had risen by approximately 1.2 million compared with 2004.

73. In 2002/03, the gap between the quartile of the Crime and Disorder Partnership areas that had the highest level of crime (the 94 partnerships with the highest rate of combined domestic burglary, vehicle crime and robbery in the baseline year) and the remaining three quartiles was 27.1 offences per 1,000 population (Indicator 36). This gap reduced to 17.1 offences per 1,000 population in 2006/07.³²

74. There are geographic patterns and concentrations of offences varied by crime type. For example, 45 per cent of recorded robbery offences occurred in London. Crucially, according to the 2006/07 *British Crime Survey*, people living in more deprived areas were more likely to be a victim of crime than those living in less deprived areas.³³

Education

75. Between 1997 and 2006 there has been an overall decrease in the proportion of schools in which fewer than 65 per cent of pupils achieve Level 4 or higher in the Key Stage 2 tests for English and mathematics (Indicator 40). The 2006 figures (based on revised data) show a decrease of one percentage point in English to 13 per cent and a decrease of two percentage points in mathematics to 19 per cent compared with the equivalent 2005 figures.

Health

76. The latest data, for 2003-05, show that while life expectancy has improved for England as a whole and the Spearhead Group (the fifth of local authorities with the worst health and deprivation indicators), it has improved more slowly in the Spearhead Group (Indicator 39). The gap in life expectancy between England and the Spearhead Group (in absolute and relative terms) is wider than at the baseline for both males and females.³⁴

Road accidents

77. There has been a greater reduction in the proportion of all road accident casualties in disadvantaged districts than in England as a whole (Indicator 41). The number of casualties in road accidents in disadvantaged districts has fallen by 23.1 per cent to 91,056 between the baseline (1999-2001) and 2006, compared with a 19.4 per cent fall to 228,557 casualties in England as a whole.^{35, 36}

35 A reduction in the difference between employment rates in the most deprived local authority areas and the overall employment rate, over the economic cycle (Great Britain).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 2000. There has been a rise in the employment rate for the 25 most deprived local authority areas from 61.6 per cent in 2000 to 65.7 per cent in 2006. There is a break in the data from 2007 due to the movement to Quarter 2 data. The figure for 2007 is 66.3 per cent. The overall employment rate was relatively stable over the period 2000-06 and consequently the employment rate gap narrowed. The employment gap for 2007 is eight percentage points.

Employment rates for the 25 most deprived local authority districts in target since 2001 compared to the overall employment rate (Great Britain)

	Employment rate for the 25 most deprived areas in target since 2001	Great Britain employment rate	Employment rate gap (percentage points)
Baseline 2000	61.6%	74.4%	12.8
2001	61.7%	74.7%	13.0
2002	62.6%	74.6%	12.0
2003	63.0%	74.7%	11.7
2004	63.3%	74.8%	11.5
2005	64.4%	74.9%	10.5
2006	65.7%	74.7%	9.0
2007	66.3%	74.3%	8.0

Note: Figures before 2007 are based on four-quarter averages to spring. The figure from 2007 is not comparable with previous years as it is drawn from calendar quarters (Q2 data).

Definition: Employment rates are for working-age people, aged 16-59 for women and 16-64 for men. The 25 most deprived areas are the local authority areas with the worst initial labour market position listed below. The employment rate for these areas is the total number of working-age people in employment in all 25 areas as a proportion of the total working-age population in all 25 areas.

The 25 local authority areas which have appeared consistently since 2001 are: Newham; Tower Hamlets; Hackney; Liverpool; Manchester; Haringey; Blaenau Gwent; Neath Port Talbot; Easington; Hartlepool; Knowsley; Glasgow City; Nottingham; Merthyr Tydfil; Islington; Middlesbrough; Rhondda, Cynon, Taff; Southwark; Redcar and Cleveland; Newcastle upon Tyne; Wear Valley; South Tyneside; Carmarthenshire; Caerphilly and Anglesey.

Data source: *Labour Force Survey*, Quarter 2 of each year and four-quarter averages to spring.

36 A decrease in the gap between the high crime quartile of Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership areas and the remaining three quartiles (England and Wales).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 2002/03. In 2002/03, the gap between the high crime quartile and the remaining three quartiles was 27.1 offences per 1,000 population. This reduced to 17.1 in 2006/07.

Crime rates in the highest crime quartile compared to the remaining three quartiles (England and Wales)

		<i>Rate per thousand population</i>		
		High crime quartile	Remaining three quartiles	Gap
Baseline	2002/03	45.6	18.5	27.1
	2003/04	40.6	17.3	23.3
	2004/05	32.7	14.8	18.0
	2005/06	31.4	13.6	17.8
	2006/07	30.6	13.5	17.1

Definition: Crime defined as domestic burglary, vehicle crime and robbery per 1,000 population. Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships with the highest levels of crime are those 94 partnerships with the highest rate of combined domestic burglary, vehicle crime and robbery in the baseline year. In most cases, these are similar to the areas covered by local authorities.

Data source: Police recorded crime statistics, Home Office – covers England and Wales. Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership data have been collected centrally since 1 April 2000. Population data from the Office for National Statistics.

37 A reduction in the proportion of households who live in a home that falls below the set standard of decency (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1996. In 1996, 44 per cent of households lived in a home that did not meet the set standard of decency. This has since fallen to 33 per cent in 2001, 30 per cent in 2003, 28 per cent in 2004 and 27 per cent in 2005.

Definition: The proportion of households who live in a home that did not meet the set standard of decency. The definition of a decent home is one that meets all of the following criteria:

- it is above the current statutory minimum standard for housing;
- it is in a reasonable state of repair;
- it has reasonably modern facilities and services; and
- it provides a reasonable degree of thermal comfort.

Data source: The *English House Condition Survey* (EHCS) was undertaken every five years up to and including 2001, from which date fieldwork was organised on a continuous basis. Results from the survey have been published annually since 2003, based on combined two-year datasets. The *EHCS 2005 Annual Report* was published in June 2007.

38 A reduction in the number of households in fuel poverty (England)

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1998. The number of households in fuel poverty has fallen significantly between 1996 and 2004. Analysis has been carried out to determine how much of this reduction has been due to increased income, energy prices and energy efficiency improvements. This analysis suggests that, between 1996 and 2003, 61 per cent of the reduction can be attributed to improvement in incomes, 22 per cent to energy price changes and 17 per cent to improved energy efficiency. Indications for 2004 figures are that the positive effect of energy price movements has lessened because of the increases in energy prices. Estimates published in the Energy White Paper 2007 suggest the number of households in fuel poverty in England in 2006 had risen by approximately 1.2 million compared with 2004.

Number and percentage of households in fuel poverty (England)*					
		All households		Vulnerable households	
		Number (millions)	Percentage	Number (millions)	Percentage
Baseline	1996	5.1	26%	4.0	30%
	1998	3.4	17%	2.8	20%
	2001	1.7	8%	1.4	10%
	2002	1.4	7%	1.2	8%
	2003	1.2	6%	1.0	7%
	2004	1.2	6%	1.0	6%

* Note: At the time of submission for printing, data for 2005 were not available.

Definition: Households are considered fuel poor if, in order to maintain a satisfactory heating regime, they would need to spend more than 10 per cent of their income on all household fuel use. The Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs usually publish numbers of those in fuel poverty, whereas in previous *Opportunity for all* reports the indicator has been expressed as a proportion. Both are presented here for comparison. Vulnerable households are households containing someone aged 60 or over or under 16, or someone who is disabled or has a long-term illness.

The income estimates include Housing Benefit and Income Support for Mortgage Interest.

A full explanation of the policies to tackle fuel poverty is given in *The UK Fuel Poverty Strategy, 4th Annual Progress Report*.³⁷ The figures for England in 2004 have used the rolling *English House Condition Survey*, which covers combined data sets for two-yearly periods.

Data source: *English House Condition Survey* 1996, 2001, 2003, 2004 and the *Energy Follow-up Survey* 1998.

Linked to the UK Fuel Poverty Strategy: Following the Warm Homes and Energy Conservation Act 2000, we have a legally binding commitment to publish and implement a strategy for England to reduce fuel poverty and set targets for its implementation. The priorities set out in *The UK Fuel Poverty Strategy* are to eradicate fuel poverty where practicable to do so, by 2010 for vulnerable and by 2016 for non-vulnerable households. That commitment was reaffirmed in the Government's Energy White Paper³⁸, published in 2007.

39 To reduce the gap in life expectancy at birth between the fifth of local authorities with the worst health and deprivation indicators and the population as a whole (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline data – 1995-97 (three-year average). Latest data for 2003-05 show that while life expectancy has improved for England as a whole and the Spearhead Group, it has improved more slowly in the Spearhead Group. The gap in life expectancy between England and the Spearhead Group (in absolute and relative terms) is wider than at the baseline for both males and females.

Life expectancy for males and females in England compared with the fifth of local authorities with the worst health and deprivation indicators (known as the Spearhead Group) (England)

	Baseline												
	1991 -93	1992 -94	1993 -95	1994 -96	1995 -97	1996 -98	1997 -99	1998 -2000	1999 -2001	2000 -02	2001 -03	2002 -04	2003 -05
Males													
Spearhead Group	71.89	72.20	72.32	72.56	72.69	72.90	73.09	73.40	73.73	74.06	74.25	74.56	74.91
Total population in England	73.69	74.02	74.18	74.44	74.61	74.84	75.09	75.38	75.71	76.01	76.24	76.55	76.92
Difference	1.80	1.82	1.86	1.88	1.92	1.94	2.00	1.98	1.98	1.95	1.99	1.99	2.01
% difference*	2.44%	2.46%	2.51%	2.53%	2.57%	2.59%	2.66%	2.63%	2.62%	2.57%	2.61%	2.60%	2.61%
Females													
Spearhead Group	77.70	77.94	78.04	78.23	78.28	78.38	78.49	78.69	78.93	79.16	79.21	79.37	79.59
Total population in England	79.12	79.37	79.44	79.64	79.69	79.84	79.97	80.19	80.42	80.66	80.72	80.91	81.14
Difference	1.42	1.43	1.40	1.41	1.41	1.46	1.48	1.50	1.49	1.50	1.51	1.54	1.55
% difference*	1.79%	1.80%	1.76%	1.77%	1.77%	1.83%	1.85%	1.87%	1.85%	1.86%	1.87%	1.90%	1.91%

* % difference = difference as a percentage of life expectancy in England.

Definition: Life expectancy at birth for an area in each time period is an estimate of the average number of years a newborn baby would survive if he or she experienced the particular area's age-specific mortality rates for that time period throughout his or her life. (It is not a forecast of how long babies born could actually expect to live, because the death rates of the area are likely to change in the future and because many of those born in the area will live elsewhere for at least some part of their lives.) The fifth of local authorities with the worst health and deprivation indicators, known as the Spearhead Group, was identified to support the Department of Health PSA health inequalities target in the 2004 Spending Review.

It is a fixed group of 70 local authorities identified as those that are in the worst fifth of authorities for three or more of the following five indicators:

- male life expectancy at birth;
- female life expectancy at birth;
- cancer mortality rate in under-75s;
- cardiovascular disease mortality rate in under-75s; and
- Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 (local authority summary), average score.

Life expectancy data are derived from deaths data and population estimates. The figures are rolling three-year averages, produced by aggregating deaths and population estimates for each successive overlapping three-year period. The life expectancy gap is presented in both absolute terms (the difference in life expectancy) and relative terms (the percentage difference in life expectancy).

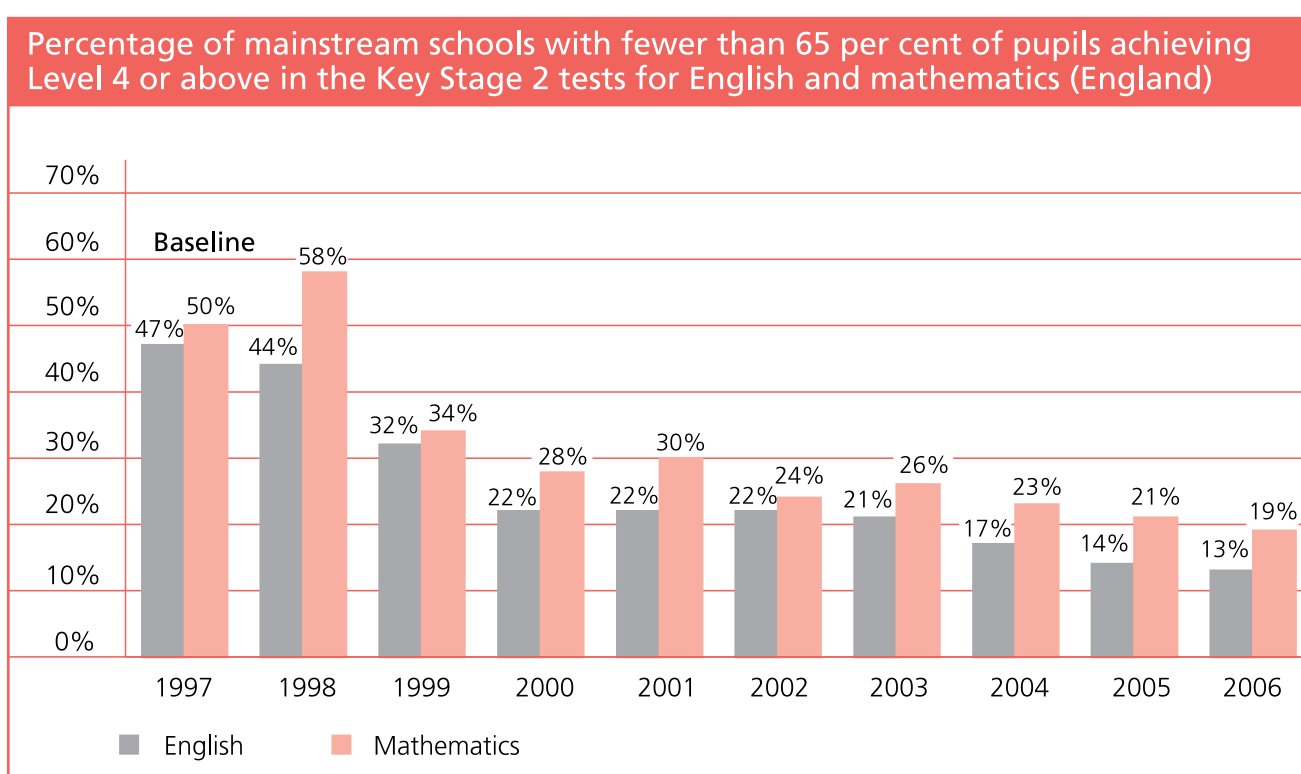
Data source: Office for National Statistics (life expectancy data based on population estimates and mortality statistics from death registrations).

*Tackling Health Inequalities – A Programme for Action*³⁹ was published in July 2003. It sets out plans to tackle health inequalities over the next three years, providing the basis for meeting the Department of Health PSA health inequalities target and addressing the wider causes of health inequalities. The programme for action includes a set of national headline indicators supporting the target, covering key wider determinants of health and relevant factors within and outside the National Health Service. These indicators will be monitored to check progress on key aspects of the inequality agenda.

40 A reduction in the proportion of schools in which fewer than 65 per cent of pupils achieve Level 4 or above in the Key Stage 2 tests for English and mathematics (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline year – 1997. Between 1997 and 2006 there has been an overall decrease in the proportion of schools in which fewer than 65 per cent of pupils achieve Level 4 or higher in the Key Stage 2 tests for English and mathematics.

The 2006 figures (based on revised data) show a decrease of one percentage point in English to 13 per cent and a decrease of two percentage points in mathematics to 19 per cent compared with the equivalent 2005 figures.



Definition: The proportion of schools in which fewer than 65 per cent of 11-year-olds achieve Level 4 or above in Key Stage 2 English and mathematics tests. The data are based on schools published in the Achievement and Attainment Tables.

Data source: National Curriculum Assessments, Key Stage 2, in England 2006 (revised), Department for Children, Schools and Families.

41 A greater reduction in the proportion of all road accident casualties in disadvantaged districts than that for England as a whole (England).

Baseline and trends: Baseline – 1999-2001 (average of figures for 1999, 2000 and 2001). There has been a greater reduction in the proportion of all road accident casualties in disadvantaged districts than in England as a whole. The number of casualties in road accidents in disadvantaged districts in 2006 has fallen by 23.1 per cent since the baseline, compared with a 19.4 per cent fall in England as a whole.

Percentage change in road accident casualties since the baseline (England)							
		Deprived areas		Other areas		England	
		Numbers	% change	Numbers	% change	Numbers	% change
Baseline	1999-2001	118,345	-	199,623	-	283,508	-
	1999	118,268	-0.1	202,042	1.2	285,126	0.6
	2000	120,565	1.9	199,718	0.0	285,721	0.8
	2001	116,201	-1.8	197,108	-1.3	279,678	-1.4
	2002	110,819	-6.4	191,786	-3.9	269,020	-5.1
	2003	105,761	-10.6	184,846	-7.4	257,899	-9.0
	2004	99,700	-15.8	181,140	-9.3	248,762	-12.3
	2005	95,599	-19.2	175,418	-12.1	240,484	-15.2
	2006	91,056	-23.1	167,348	-16.2	228,577	-19.4

Note: Baseline year 1999-2001 (average figures for 1999, 2000 and 2001).

Definition: An accident is defined as one that involves personal injury occurring on the public highway in which at least one road vehicle or a vehicle in collision with a pedestrian is involved. A casualty is defined as a person killed or injured in an accident. A deprived district is a district that is eligible for the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund. The latest data will be available at the end of 2007 and will be provided on the *Opportunity for all* website at that time.

Data source: Department for Transport STATS 19 personal injury accident database.

Annex – Public Service Agreements 2008-2011

Sustainable growth and prosperity

- 1 Raise the productivity of the UK economy
- 2 Improve the skills of the population, on the way to ensuring a world-class skills base by 2020
- 3 Ensure controlled, fair migration that protects the public and contributes to economic growth
- 4 Promote world-class science and innovation in the UK
- 5 Deliver reliable and efficient transport networks that support economic growth
- 6 Deliver the conditions for business success in the UK
- 7 Improve the economic performance of all English regions and reduce the gap in economic growth rates between regions

Fairness and opportunity for all

- 8 Maximise employment opportunity for all
- 9 Halve the number of children in poverty by 2010-11, on the way to eradicating child poverty by 2020
- 10 Raise the educational achievement of all children and young people
- 11 Narrow the gap in educational achievement between children from low income and disadvantaged backgrounds and their peers
- 12 Improve the health and well-being of children and young people
- 13 Improve children and young people's safety
- 14 Increase the number of children and young people on the path to success
- 15 Address the disadvantage that individuals experience because of their gender, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief
- 16 Increase the proportion of socially excluded adults in settled accommodation and employment, education or training
- 17 Tackle poverty and promote greater independence and well-being in later life

Stronger communities and a better quality of life

- 18 Promote better health and well-being for all
- 19 Ensure better care for all
- 20 Increase long-term housing supply and affordability
- 21 Build more cohesive, empowered and active communities
- 22 Deliver a successful Olympic Games and Paralympic Games with a sustainable legacy and get more children and young people taking part in high quality PE and sport
- 23 Make communities safer
- 24 Deliver a more effective, transparent and responsive Criminal Justice System for victims and the public
- 25 Reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs
- 26 Reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from international terrorism

A more secure, fair and environmentally sustainable world

- 27 Lead the global effort to avoid dangerous climate change
- 28 Secure a healthy natural environment for today and the future
- 29 Reduce poverty in poorer countries through quicker progress towards the Millennium Development Goals
- 30 Reduce the impact of conflict through enhanced UK and international efforts

Further detail is available at:

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/pbr_csr/pbr_csr07_index.cfm

Endnotes

Introduction

- ¹ The Indicators Steering Group is made up of analysts across government.
- ² <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/ofa/contact.asp>
- ³ <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/ofa/indicators>
- ⁴ <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/ofa/>
- ⁵ Details of the indicators that have been selected are available on the DWP website: www.dwp.gov.uk/opportunity_age/indicators/. A baseline report including data was published in summer 2006.
- ⁶ http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/strategy/work_areas/disability/
- ⁷ <http://www.officefordisability.gov.uk/consultations/>

Children and young people

- ⁸ Department for Work and Pensions, 2007, *Households Below Average Income – An analysis of the income distribution for 1995/95 – 2005/06*, DWP.
- ⁹ Department for Work and Pensions, 2007, *Low-Income Dynamics 1991 – 2005 (Great Britain)*, DWP.
- ¹⁰ Department for Work and Pensions, 2003, *Measuring child poverty*, DWP.
- ¹¹ Equivalisation is needed in order to make sensible income comparisons between households and has long been standard in income distribution analysis. This process reflects the common-sense notion that a family of several people needs a higher income than a single person in order for both households to enjoy a comparable standard of living.
- ¹² Department for Work and Pensions, 2007, *Households Below Average Income – An analysis of the income distribution for 1995/95 – 2005/06*, DWP.
- ¹³ Office for National Statistics, *Health Statistics Quarterly 28, winter 2005 (2004 data)*, ONS.
- ¹⁴ Office for National Statistics, 1998, *Birth Statistics*, ONS.
- ¹⁵ For further information, see: www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/VOL/v000655/index.shtml
- ¹⁶ Hirsch, D., 2007, *Experiences of poverty and educational disadvantage*, Joseph Rowntree Foundation. <http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/socialpolicy/pdf/2123.pdf>
- ¹⁷ Department for Communities and Local Government, 2006, *English House Condition Survey Annual Report*, DCLG.

People of working age

¹⁸ The overall employment rate of 74.3 per cent refers to the employment rate in Quarter 2 of 2007. This differs from the Quarter 2 employment rate of 74.5 per cent quoted in the first paragraph of this section which has been seasonally adjusted.

¹⁹ The most recent release can be found at: www.statistics.gov.uk/pdfdir/work0807.pdf

²⁰ The Persistent low income series is published in the report *Low Income Dynamics, 1991-2005*: http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/hbai/low_income/Low_income-dynamics_1991-2005.pdf

²¹ Department for Work and Pensions, 2007, *Low-Income Dynamics, 1991-2005 (Great Britain)*, DWP.

²² Office for National Statistics, 2000, *General Household Survey 2000: Disadvantaged households*, ONS.

Later life

²³ Department for Work and Pensions, 2007, *Households Below Average Income – An analysis of the income distribution for 1995/95 – 2005/06*, DWP.

²⁴ Department for Work and Pensions, 2007, *Low-Income Dynamics 1991-2005 (Great Britain)*, DWP.

²⁵ Department for Work and Pensions, 2007, *Family Resources Survey 2005-06*. http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/frs/2005_06/chapter7.pdf

²⁶ Which takes account of an updated healthy life expectancy calculation method since 2001.

²⁷ Office for National Statistics, 2004, *Focus on Older People*, ONS.

Communities

²⁸ Office for National Statistics, 2006, *Rise in proportion of over-85s living alone*, Population Trends 123, Spring 2006, ONS.

²⁹ Social Exclusion Unit, 2004, *Breaking the Cycle: Taking stock of progress and priorities for the future*, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

³⁰ Hills J., 2007, *Ends and Means: the future roles of social housing in England*. ESRC Research Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion. Available at <http://sticerd.lse.ac.uk/dps/case/cr/CASereport34.pdf>

³¹ Department for Trade and Industry, 2007, *Meeting the Energy Challenge*. A White Paper on Energy, Cm 7124, DTI.

³² Crime is defined as domestic burglary, vehicle crime and robbery.

³³ The latest trends and further information on recorded crime and the *British Crime Survey* can be found at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/crimeew0607.html>

³⁴ Data for life expectancy at birth for health and local authorities in the UK can be found at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=8841&Pos=1&ColRank=1&Rank=272>

³⁵ Road Casualties: English Local Authority Tables can be found at: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/accidents/casualtieslatables/roadcasualtiesenglishlocalau1836>

³⁶ *The Road Casualties Great Britain, 2005 Annual Report* can be found at: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/statistics/datatablespublications/accidents/casualtiesgbar/roadcasualtiesgreatbritain2005> and includes detailed information on the number of people killed and injured on the roads in Great Britain in 2005, based on information about accidents reported to the police.

³⁷ <http://www.berr.gov.uk/energy/fuel-poverty/strategy/index.html>

³⁸ <http://www.berr.gov.uk/energy/whitepaper/page39534.html>

³⁹ Department of Health, 2003, *Tackling Health Inequalities – A programme for action*, DH.

This report can be accessed online
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Published by the Department
for Work and Pensions

18 October 2007

www.dwp.gov.uk

978-1-84763-001-8