

Wales Children in Need Census, 2012

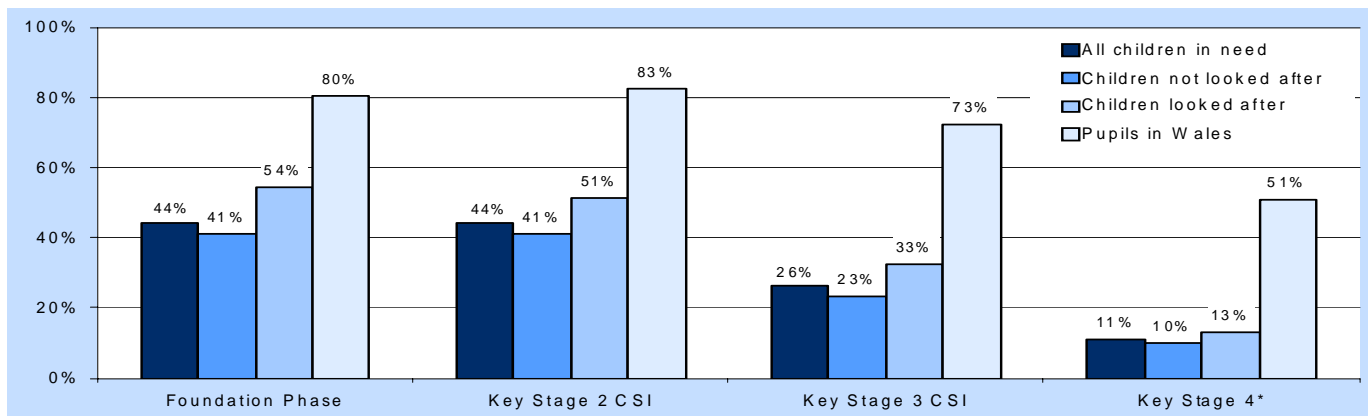
This Statistical Release presents information on the results of the latest annual Children in Need (CIN) census for Wales. The purpose of the CIN census is to collect data that measures the characteristics and attributes of children in need and their parents. The census focussed particularly on data about the reason that children receive help from social services departments; parenting capacity (factors related to the parents that might affect their ability to parent); and the health and education outcomes for each child. For this data collection, children in need are defined as those who receive social services from their local authorities, including children looked after by local authorities, and who had a case open for at least 3 months at the census date of 31 March 2012.

All the data in this release is derived from [Children in Need Census returns](#) submitted by Local Authorities and processed by the Welsh Government. See the [Quality Report](#) and the [Key Quality Information](#) section for more information about the data. Full details of individual Local Authority data are published today in [StatsWales tables](#) (links found in Annex). All statistics in this release can be regarded as final figures, not subject to further revision or update.

Key points

- The attainment gap between children in need and all pupils in Wales widens as they progress from the Foundation Phase to Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 as shown in Chart 1. At the Foundation Phase the difference in the proportion was 36 percentage points. This increases to 39 percentage points for Key Stage 2 and to 47 percentage points for Key Stage 3.
- In Key Stage 4 (Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A* - C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics) the difference was 40 percentage points.

Chart 1: The gap at Foundation Phase and Key Stages between the educational outcomes of children in need, looked after children, and all pupils at 31 March 2012



* Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A* - C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics

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Key Points:

- There were 20,240 children in need included in the CIN census at 31 March 2012, which was a rate of 320 per 10,000 children aged under 18 years, and 70 who were unborn. (*Section 1, Table 1*)
- 7,995 children in need (39 per cent) were either on the CPR (11 per cent) or looked after by a local authority (28 per cent). (*Section 1, Table 1*)
- More than a third (36 per cent) of referrals were from local authority departments and a further 29 per cent from the police and primary or community health services. (*Section 2, Table 2*)
- 9,210 (46 per cent) of children in need had one or more factors recorded at referral. (*Section 2*)
- Parental substance or alcohol misuse and domestic abuse were the most frequently recorded parenting capacity factors at referrals. (*Section 2, Table 2*)
- Amongst referrals from the police, domestic abuse featured in 43 per cent of referrals and parental substance or alcohol misuse in almost three-tenths of referrals (27 per cent). (*Section 2, Table 2*)
- Almost half of all children (9,545 or 47 per cent) had a need for services due primarily to the risk of, or actual, abuse or neglect. (*Section 3, Chart 3*)
- Parental substance misuse, domestic abuse and parental mental ill health were the most frequently, currently recorded parenting capacity factors. (*Section 4, Table 4*)
- Parental substance or alcohol misuse and parental mental ill health were the most frequently, currently recorded parenting capacity factors for children with mental health problems. (*Section 5, Table 6*)
- Parental substance or alcohol misuse and domestic abuse were the most frequently, currently recorded parenting capacity factors for children with substance misuse problems. (*Section 5, Table 7*)
- More than four-fifths (82 per cent) of children in need for whom information was provided had up to date immunisations. (*Section 5, Table 8*)
- A quarter (25 per cent) of children in need had a disability. (*Section 6, Table 9*)
- Almost three-quarters (72 per cent) of children in need with a disability had a primary need for services due to the child's disability or illness. (*Section 6, Table 10*)
- Lack of perception of the risk of physical danger was recorded for almost three-quarters (73 per cent) of the 5,055 children in need with a specified disability category. (*Section 6, Chart 5*)
- Autistic Spectrum Disorders were reported for 9 per cent (1,815) of the 20,170 children in need, excluding 70 unborn children. (*Section 6, Table 11*)
- Almost three-fifths (59 per cent) of children in need who were not looked after were eligible for free school meals compared to almost a quarter (24 per cent) of children who were in need and looked after. (*Section 7, Table 12*)
- The average proportion of children in need with a Statement of Special Educational Needs was 30 per cent (for all ages) compared to 3 per cent for pupils in Wales (for all ages). (*Section 7, Table 13*)
- The attainment of children in need at each Key Stage assessment was much lower than the average for all pupils. (*Section 7, Table 14*)
- The attainment gap between children in need and all pupils in Wales widens as they progress from the Foundation Phase to Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 as shown in Chart 1. At the Foundation Phase the difference in the proportion was 36 percentage points. This increases to 39 percentage points for Key Stage 2 and to 47 percentage points for Key Stage 3. (*Chart 1 and Section 7, Table 14*)
- In Key Stage 4 (Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A* - C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics) the difference was 40 percentage points. (*Chart 1 and Section 7, Table 14*)

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Section 1 – Numbers of children in need included in the CIN census

Table 1: Children in need by age and whether they were on the Child Protection Register (CPR) or looked after, at 31 March 2012¹

	All children in need in the CIN census	Children who were on the CPR	Children who were looked after ²	Other children in need ³
Total children in need	20,240	2,295	5,700	12,240
<i>Percentage</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>60</i>
Numbers				
Unborn	70	.	.	70
Under 1 year	890	225	290	375
1 - 4 years	4,200	730	1,160	2,310
5 - 9 years	4,945	670	1,235	3,045
10 - 15 years	6,610	605	2,160	3,845
16 - 17 years	2,305	70	840	1,395
18 - 20 years	1,075	*	10	1,060
21 years +	140	*	*	140
Percentage				
Total children in need (excluding unborn children)	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>1 - 4 years</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>5 - 9 years</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>10 - 15 years</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>16 - 17 years</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>18 - 20 years</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>21 years +</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>1</i>

¹ All the figures have been rounded and there may be discrepancy between the sum of the constituent items and the total

² Includes 290 children in the CIN census who were looked after and on the CPR

³ Children in need who were either unborn, or not looked after and not on the CPR

. Not applicable

* The data item is disclosive for publication

The numbers of children in need include only those children whose case had been open for 3 months or more at the census date of 31 March 2012. For information on the total numbers of children looked after and on the Child Protection Register, see the [social services theme pages](#).

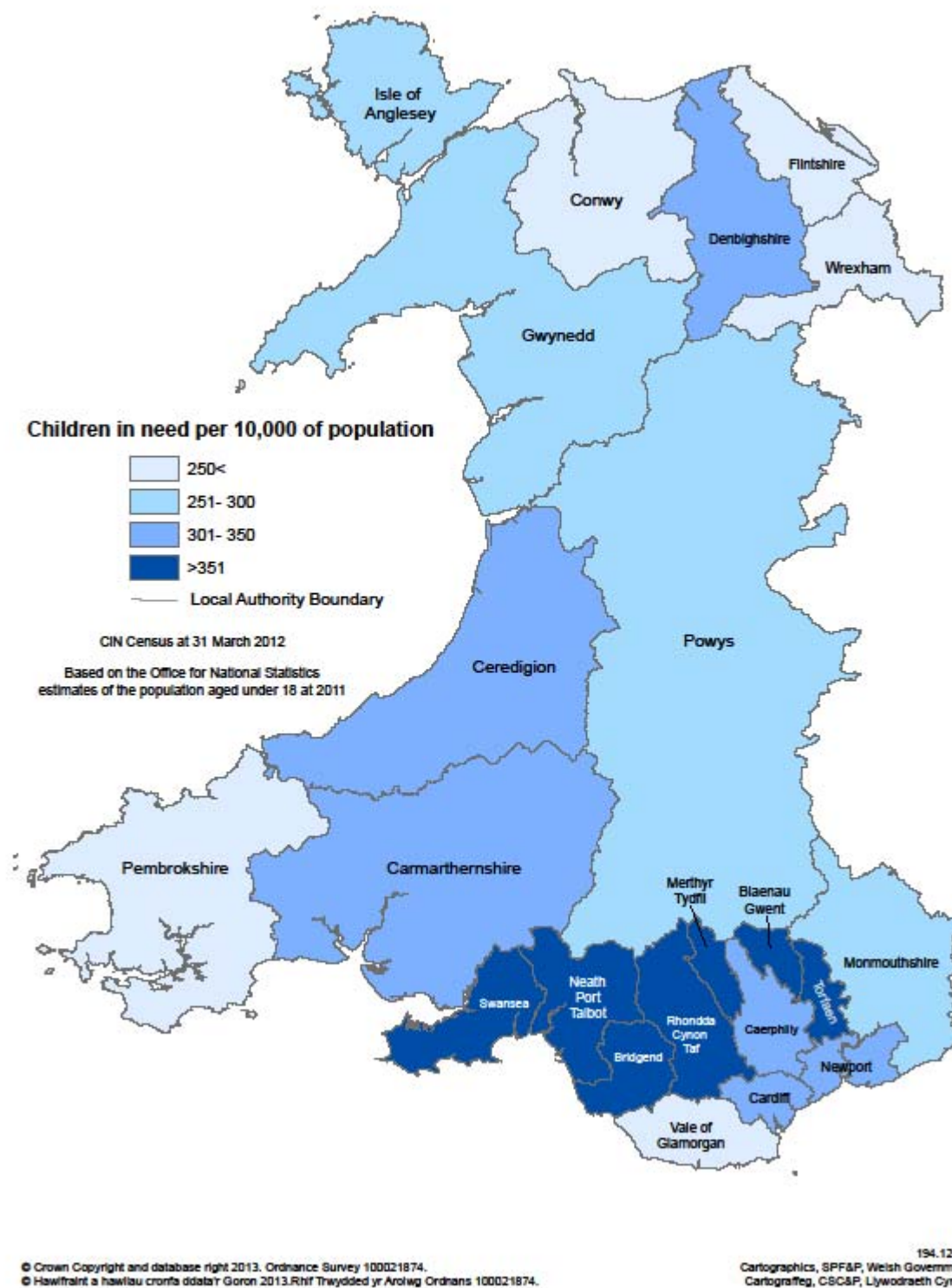
There were 70 children in need who were unborn. A quarter of children in need were aged under 5 years old, a further quarter were aged 5-9 years old and a third were aged 10-15 years. The remaining 17 per cent of children in need were aged 16 years or older.

7,995 children in need (39 per cent) were either on the CPR (11 per cent) or looked after by a local authority (28 per cent). Children in need who were on the CPR were generally younger than other children in need, with 41 per cent aged under 5.

290 (1 per cent) of the children in need in the CIN census were both looked after and on the CPR.

The definitions of a child in need, child looked after and the Child Protection Register can be found within the [Glossary](#).

Children in need included in the Census per 10,000 population aged 0 – 17 ^(a)

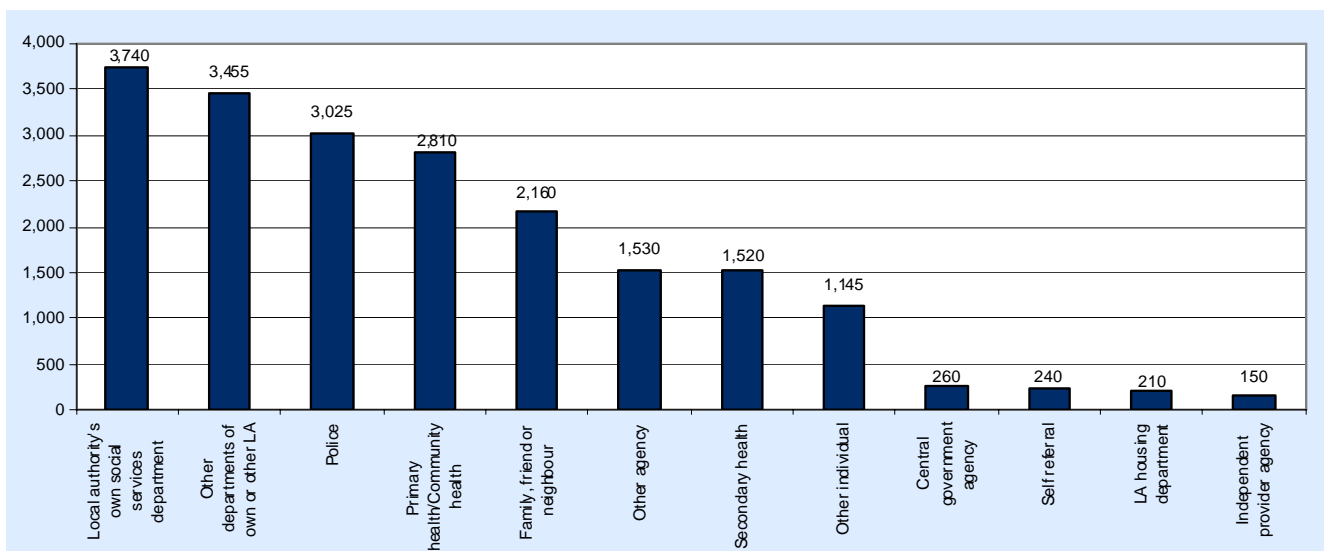


Figures for each Local Authority can be found in [Annex 1: Table A1](#) and in Statswales at this link: [Children in Need rates](#).

Section 2 – Referrals of children in need

Local authorities receive referrals, i.e. requests for services, for children from many sources as shown in Chart 2. Children will be assessed and a case may be opened as a result. For each child in the CIN census information was collected about the referral that led to the child's case being open at the CIN census date, ie the most recent referral. Referral information collected in the CIN census included the source of the referral, whether the child had previously been looked after or on the Child Protection Register (CPR) and parenting capacity factors recorded at referral.

Chart 2: Source of most recent referrals of children included in the CIN census, at 31 March 2012



Local authorities classified the sources of referrals into the twelve categories shown in Chart 2 (See [Glossary](#) for examples). Five of these categories accounted for three-quarters of all referrals. More than one-third (36 per cent) of all referrals were from the local authority's own social services department or another department of their own or another local authority. Referrals from the local authority's social services department accounted for the largest number with almost a fifth of all referrals (18 per cent), followed by other local authority departments (17 per cent), the police (15 per cent) and health organisations (14 per cent). Referrals from friends and family represented 11 per cent of the total.

The five most common sources of referral are presented separately in Table 2, which also shows factors present when the child was referred. These factors include whether the child had previously been on the CPR or had been a looked after child (LAC) and parenting capacity. For each child, one or more of these factors may have been recorded at referral and so children may be counted more than once in the table.

Table 2: Source of most recent referral and factors recorded for the referral, at 31 March 2012

	All sources of referral	Primary health / Community health	Police	Family, friend or neighbour	Local authority's own social services department	Other departments of own or other LA	Other ¹
Source of most recent referral	20,240	2,810	3,025	2,160	3,740	3,455	5,050
<i>Percentage</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>25</i>
<u>Numbers of children where the following factors were present</u>							
On CPR 12 months prior to referral	1,155	85	195	65	315	220	270
LAC 12 months prior to referral	1,195	105	180	85	350	180	300
Parental substance or alcohol misuse	3,865	495	815	315	790	505	945
Parental learning disabilities	1,015	150	110	85	255	140	275
Parental mental ill health	3,105	515	505	285	660	445	695
Parental physical ill health	1,405	190	180	175	305	190	370
Domestic abuse	4,570	490	1,310	320	880	620	950
<u>Percentage of children where the following factors were present</u>							
On CPR 12 months prior to referral	6	3	6	3	8	6	5
LAC 12 months prior to referral	6	4	6	4	9	5	6
Parental substance or alcohol misuse	19	18	27	15	21	15	19
Parental learning disabilities	5	5	4	4	7	4	5
Parental mental ill health	15	18	17	13	18	13	14
Parental physical ill health	7	7	6	8	8	5	7
Domestic abuse	23	17	43	15	24	18	19

¹ The other category includes: other agency, other individual, secondary health (e.g. hospital clinic), self referral, central government agency, independent provider agency (e.g. day care provider), local authority housing department or housing association

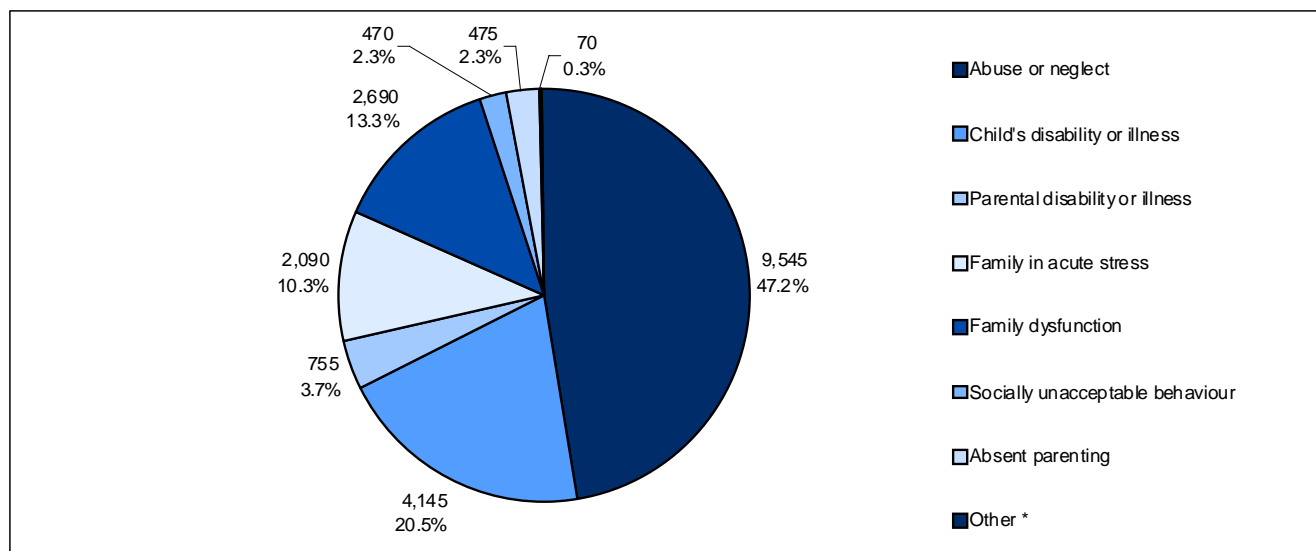
9,210 (46 per cent) of children in need had one or more factors recorded at referral. Amongst the factors present at referral, domestic abuse and parental substance or alcohol misuse appeared most frequently and were present in 23 per cent and 19 per cent of all referrals respectively. Parental mental ill health was the third most frequent factor and was recorded in 15 per cent of all referrals. There were differences in these proportions depending on the source of the referral.

Amongst referrals from the police, domestic abuse featured in 43 per cent of referrals and parental substance or alcohol misuse in over a quarter of referrals (27 per cent).

Section 3 – Primary Need

When a child is assessed to be in need, their primary need is identified, usually at the initial assessment. Primary need is the main reason why a child started to receive social services from the local authority. A full description of the primary need categories can be found in the [Guidance notes for the completion of Children in Need Census, 2012](#) (Code List E).

Chart 3 - Primary need of children included in the CIN census, at 31 March 2012



* Includes low family income and adoption disruption

Almost half of all children (9,545 or 47 per cent) had a need for services due primarily to the risk of, or actual, abuse or neglect.

For a fifth (4,145) of children in need their primary need was due to the child's disability or illness; for 13 per cent (2,690) and 10 per cent (2,090) their primary need was due to family dysfunction and family in acute stress respectively.

Table 3 - Primary need of children by whether they were on the Child Protection Register or looked after, at 31 March 2012

	All children in need in the CIN census	Children who were on the CPR	Children who were looked after ¹	Other children in need ²
Numbers	20,240	2,295	5,700	12,240
Abuse or neglect	9,545	1,480	3,750	4,310
Child's disability or illness	4,145	45	300	3,800
Parental disability or illness	755	55	230	470
Family in acute stress	2,090	245	415	1,430
Family dysfunction	2,690	405	730	1,555
Socially unacceptable behaviour	470	35	80	355
Low income	45	10	*	35
Absent parenting	475	25	170	275
Adoption disruption	25	*	10	10
Percentage	100	100	100	100
<i>Abuse or neglect</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>64</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>35</i>
<i>Child's disability or illness</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>31</i>
<i>Parental disability or illness</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Family in acute stress</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Family dysfunction</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Socially unacceptable behaviour</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Low income</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Absent parenting</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Adoption disruption</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

¹ Includes 290 children in the Census who were looked after and on the CPR

² Children in need who were either unborn, or not looked after and not on the CPR

* The data item is disclosive for publication

The proportion of children who had a need for services due primarily to the risk of, or actual, abuse or neglect was higher for children who were on the Child Protection Register or looked after (64 per cent and 66 per cent respectively). For other children in need, the proportion in need because of abuse was 35 per cent. This was closely followed by need for services due to the child's disability at 31 per cent.

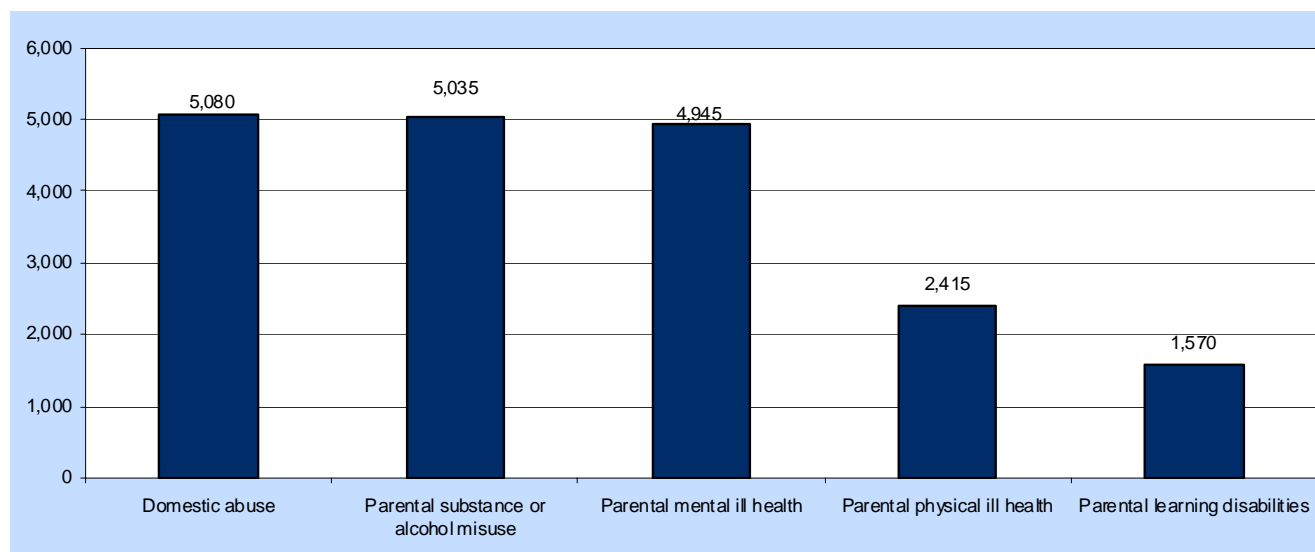
More than half (55 per cent) of all children in need because of the risk of, or actual, abuse or neglect were on the CPR or looked after. Nearly all (92 per cent) of the children in need due to the child's disability or illness were neither looked after nor on the CPR.

Section 4 – Parenting Capacity

For each child, information was recorded on five factors related to the parents that might affect their ability to parent. Each factor was recorded if it was present as a relevant factor in the case records at the CIN census date of 31 March 2012. These factors may have been present at referral, as shown in Section 2, or may have arisen since referral. For each child, one or more of these factors may have been recorded and so children may be counted more than once in the chart and tables.

A full description of the five factors can be found in the [Guidance notes for the completion of Children in Need Census, 2012](#) (Section 10).

Chart 4 - Children in need by parenting capacity factor, at 31 March 2012



For more than half of all children in need (52 per cent) at least one parenting capacity factor was currently recorded. Chart 4 and Table 4 show the numbers recorded for each parenting factor.

Parental substance misuse, domestic abuse and parental mental ill health were the most frequently, currently recorded parenting capacity factors.

Table 4 – Parenting capacity factors recorded in the CIN census, at 31 March 2012

	Number of children for whom information was provided	Number of children for whom the factor was present	Number of children for whom the factor was not present
Numbers			
Parental substance or alcohol misuse	19,955	5,035	14,920
Parental learning disabilities	19,965	1,570	18,390
Parental mental ill health	19,960	4,945	15,015
Parental physical ill health	19,955	2,415	17,535
Domestic abuse	19,945	5,080	14,865
Percentage			
<i>Parental substance or alcohol misuse</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>74</i>
<i>Parental learning disabilities</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>91</i>
<i>Parental mental ill health</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>74</i>
<i>Parental physical ill health</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>87</i>
<i>Domestic abuse</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>73</i>

Table 5 provides further information about the children in need for whom a parenting capacity factor was recorded. It shows for each parenting factor the proportions of children who were on the Child Protection Register or looked after.

Table 5 - Children in need by parenting capacity factor and whether they were on the Child Protection Register or looked after, at 31 March 2012

	Number of children for whom the factor was present	Children who were on the CPR	Children who were looked after ¹	Other children in need ²
Numbers				
Parental substance or alcohol misuse	5,035	935	1,965	2,130
Parental learning disabilities	1,570	190	700	680
Parental mental ill health	4,945	780	1,615	2,545
Parental physical ill health	2,415	335	725	1,355
Domestic abuse	5,080	1,120	1,660	2,305
Percentage				
<i>Parental substance or alcohol misuse</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>42</i>
<i>Parental learning disabilities</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>43</i>
<i>Parental mental ill health</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>52</i>
<i>Parental physical ill health</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>56</i>
<i>Domestic abuse</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>45</i>

¹ Includes 290 children in the CIN census who were looked after and on the CPR

² Children in need who were either unborn, or not looked after and not on the CPR

For 8 per cent (1,570) of children in need for whom information was available, parental learning disability was recorded. This group had the highest proportion (45 per cent) of children looked after for any of the parenting factors, followed by 39 per cent of the children for whom parental substance misuse or alcohol misuse had been recorded.

Section 5 – Health of children in need

For each child information was collected on mental health and substance misuse problems and also on how up to date children in the relevant age groups were with health surveillance checks, dental checks and immunisations.

Further descriptions of these child health indicators can be found in the [Guidance notes for the completion of Children in Need Census, 2012](#) (Section 8).

Table 6 - Children in need with mental health problems, by age, whether they were on the Child Protection Register or looked after and parenting capacity factors, at 31 March 2012

	All children in need in the CIN census ¹	Children who were on the CPR	Children who were looked after ²	Other children in need ³
Total children in need	20,170	2,295	5,700	12,170
Number with mental health problems	1,240	105	390	740
Under 1 year	15	10	5	*
1 - 4 years	90	15	35	40
5 - 9 years	215	30	70	115
10 - 15 years	525	45	185	295
16 - 17 years	255	10	95	150
18 - 20 years	125	*	*	125
21 years +	15	*	*	15
<i>Percentage with mental health problems</i>	6	5	7	6
Number of children with mental health problems and the following parenting factors:				
Parental substance or alcohol misuse	320	35	145	140
Parental learning disabilities	100	5	45	50
Parental mental ill health	435	40	140	255
Parental physical ill health	210	20	55	130
Domestic abuse	265	35	100	130

¹ Excludes 70 unborn children

² Includes 290 children in the Census who were looked after and on the CPR

³ Children in need who were not looked after and not on the CPR

. Not applicable

* The data item is disclosive for publication

Amongst the 20,170 children in need, six per cent (1,240) had mental health problems. Children in their adolescent and young adult years (over 10 years old) accounted for almost three quarters (74 per cent) of children in need with a mental health problem.

For 435 (35 per cent) of children in need with a mental health problem, a parental mental health problem was also recorded. This was greater than the 25 per cent average for all children in the CIN census (see Table 4).

For 265 of the children in need with mental health problems (21 per cent), domestic abuse was recorded; and for 320 (26 per cent) parental substance or alcohol misuse was recorded.

The proportion for parental substance or alcohol misuse recorded was similar to the average for all children in the CIN census (25 per cent) whilst the proportion for domestic abuse was four percentage points less the average for all children in the CIN census (see Table 4)

Table 7 - Children in need with substance misuse problems, by age, whether they were on the Child Protection Register or looked after and parenting capacity factors, at 31 March 2012

	All children in need in the CIN census ¹	Children who were on the CPR	Children who were looked after ²	Other children in need ³
Total children in need	20,170	2,295	5,700	12,170
Number with substance misuse problems	1,005	120	290	595
Under 1 year	30	10	10	10
1 - 4 years	120	30	35	55
5 - 9 years	120	30	40	50
10 - 15 years	285	40	100	145
16 - 17 years	265	10	100	155
18 - 20 years	160	*	*	160
21 years +	15	*	*	15
<i>Percentage with substance misuse problems</i>	5	5	5	5
Number of children with substance misuse problems and the following parenting factors:				
Parental substance or alcohol misuse	420	70	145	205
Parental learning disabilities	55	10	20	25
Parental mental ill health	300	40	105	160
Parental physical ill health	155	15	50	90
Domestic abuse	315	60	95	165

¹ Excludes 70 unborn children

² Includes 290 children in the Census who were looked after and on the CPR

³ Children in need who were not looked after and not on the CPR

. Not applicable

* The data item is disclosive for publication

Amongst the 20,170 children in need, five per cent (1,005) had a substance misuse problem recorded at 31 March 2012. For over two fifths of these children, 420 (42 per cent), a parental substance or alcohol misuse problem was also recorded; for 315 (32 per cent) and 300 (30 per cent) respectively, domestic abuse and parental mental health problems were recorded. All of these proportions were higher than the averages for all children in the CIN census (see Table 4).

Children in their adolescent and young adult years (over 10 years old) accounted for almost three quarters (73 per cent) of children in need with a substance misuse problem. 15 per cent of children in need with a substance misuse problem were aged 4 or younger.

Information on health surveillance checks, dental checks and immunisation was provided for a varying proportion of the relevant age groups of children in the CIN census – from 87 per cent for dental checks to 93 per cent for immunisation. Information about immunisation status was incomplete for 5 authorities, while information on dental checks and health surveillance was incomplete for 7 authorities in both cases. There was one authority who were unable to provide any data for health surveillance.

Table 8 shows the numbers of children who were up to date with checks and immunisation and those for whom information was not provided.

Table 8 - Children in need whose health surveillance checks were up to date; who had recent dental checks; and whose immunisations were up to date, at 31 March 2012

	Total in age group ¹	Children in need who were looked after	Other children in need who were not looked after
Health Surveillance Checks²			
Checks up to date	4,155	1,300	2,855
Checks not up to date	1,240	295	945
Information not provided	740	120	625
Total children in need aged 5 or younger	6,135	1,715	4,420
<i>Percentage of children with checks up to date</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>75</i>
Dental Checks			
Checks up to date	9,520	3,220	6,300
Checks not up to date	3,610	850	2,765
Information not provided	1,945	180	1,765
Total children in need aged 5 and over	15,080	4,245	10,830
<i>Percentage of children with dental checks up to date</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>79</i>	<i>70</i>
Immunisations			
Up to date	15,390	4,850	10,540
Not up to date	3,420	750	2,670
Information not provided	1,355	100	1,255
Total children in need	20,170	5,700	14,465
<i>Percentage of children with immunisations up to date</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>87</i>	<i>80</i>

¹ Excludes 70 unborn children

² Excludes Wrexham who were unable to provide data

There were 6,135 children in need aged 5 or younger and information on health checks was provided for 5,395 of these children. The proportion of children looked after who were up to date with health checks was higher than for other children in need.

There were 15,080 children in need aged 5 and over and information on dental checks was provided for 13,135 of these children. The proportion of children looked after who were up to date with dental checks was higher than for other children in need.

There were 20,170 children in need in total, excluding 70 unborn children and information on immunisations was provided for 18,810 of these children. More than four-fifths (82 per cent) of children in need for whom information was provided had up to date immunisations, suggesting somewhat lower rates than for the general child population – see the Statistical Release, [NHS Immunisation, 2011-12](#) for information about immunisation for all children.

Section 6 – Disabilities of children in need

Table 9 - Children with disabilities included in the CIN census who were on the Child Protection Register or were Looked After, at 31 March 2012

	All children in need in the CIN census ¹	Children with a disability ²	Children without a disability
Numbers	20,170	5,125	15,040
On the Child Protection Register	2,295	155	2,145
Looked After	5,700	830	4,870
Not on the CPR or looked after	12,170	4,145	8,025
Percentage	100	100	100
<i>On the Child Protection Register</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Looked After</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>Not on the CPR or looked after</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>53</i>

¹ Excludes 70 unborn children

² Includes 70 children where disability was recorded but no disability category was provided

5,125 (25 per cent) of children in need were recorded as disabled including 70 children where disability was recorded but no disability category was provided. Most children in need with a disability (81 per cent) were neither on the CPR nor looked after.

Table 10 - Children in need with disabilities by primary need for services, at 31 March 2012

	All children in need in the CIN census ¹	Children with a disability ²	Children without a disability
Numbers	20,170	5,125	15,040
Abuse or neglect	9,510	830	8,685
Child's disability or illness	4,145	3,670	475
Parental disability or illness	750	95	655
Family in acute stress	2,080	190	1,890
Family dysfunction	2,670	265	2,405
Socially unacceptable behaviour	470	45	420
Absent parenting	475	25	450
Other ⁴	70	10	60
Percentage	100	100	100
<i>Abuse or neglect</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>58</i>
<i>Child's disability or illness</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Parental disability or illness</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Family in acute stress</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Family dysfunction</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Socially unacceptable behaviour</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Absent parenting</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Other ³</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

¹ Excludes 70 unborn children

² Includes 70 children where a disability was recorded but no disability category provided

³ Includes low income and adoption disruption

* The data item is disclosive for publication

Almost three-quarters (72 per cent) of children in need with a disability had a primary need for services due to the child's disability or illness. Only 16 per cent of children in need with a disability had a

primary need recorded as the risk of, or actual abuse or neglect, compared to 58 per cent in this category for children without a disability.

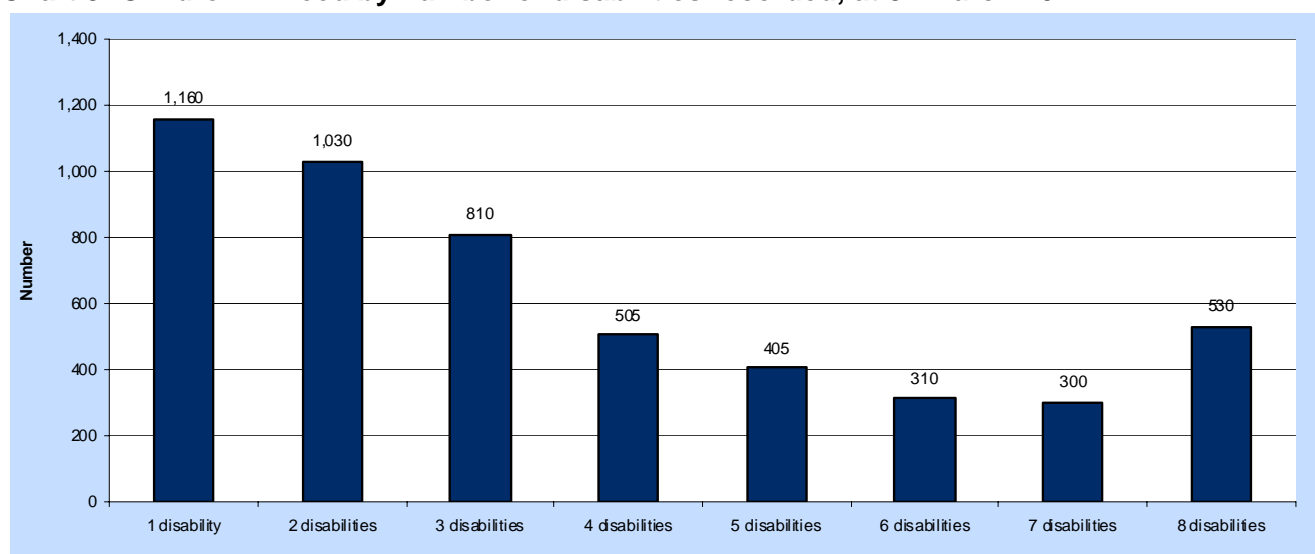
Disability information was recorded using categories corresponding to Disability Discrimination Act guidance (although the DDA has been replaced by the Equality Act 2010, the guidance has not been changed). These categories of disability are:

- Mobility
- Manual dexterity
- Physical co-ordination
- Continence
- Ability to lift, carry or move everyday objects
- Speech, hearing and eye sight
- Memory or ability to concentrate, learn or understand
- Perception of the risk of physical danger

Each child was recorded under each applicable category and so children may be counted more than once in the charts. There were 5,055 children in need with at least one type of disability.

Chart 5 shows the number of children with multiple disabilities and Chart 6 shows the numbers for each disability separately.

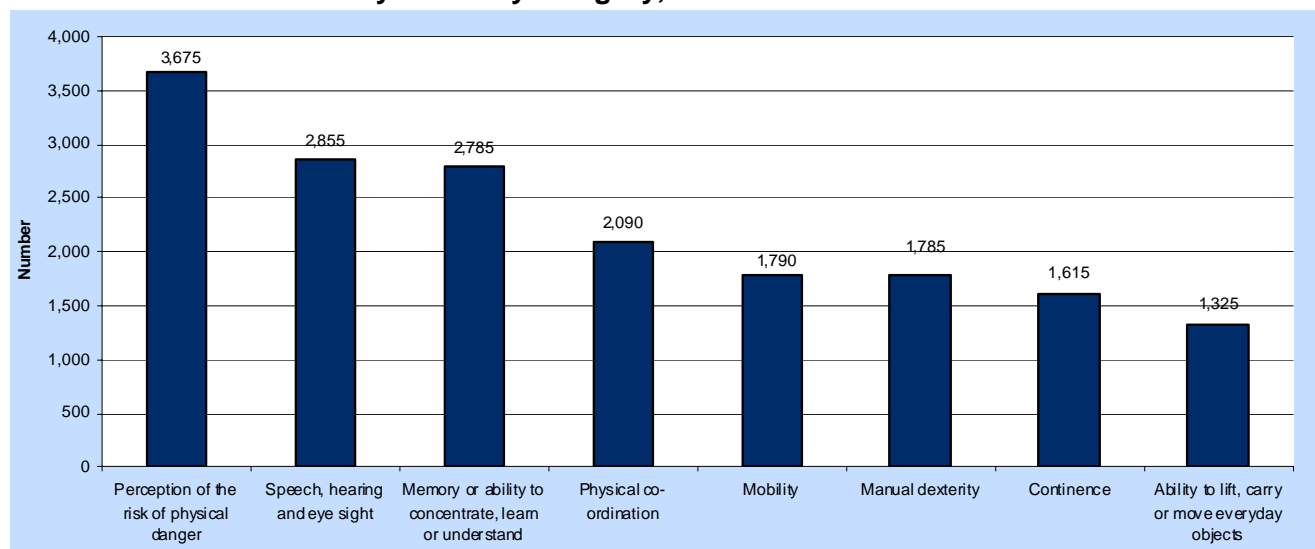
Chart 5: Children in need by number of disabilities recorded, at 31 March 2012 ¹



¹ Excludes 70 unborn children

For 1,160 (23 per cent) of children in need one disability category was recorded and for 530 children (10 per cent) disability was recorded in all eight categories.

Chart 6: Children in need by disability category, at 31 March 2012 ¹



¹ Excludes 70 unborn children

Lack of perception of the risk of physical danger was recorded for almost three-quarters (73 per cent) of the 5,055 children in need with a specified disability category whilst a disability with speech, hearing and eye sight was recorded for 56 per cent of these children.

Each of the separate disability categories was recorded for at least a quarter of children with a specified disability. The lowest percentage was for ability to lift, carry or move everyday objects, which was recorded for 26 per cent of children in need with a disability.

Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Information on whether children in need had an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (see Glossary) was collected in the CIN census. Autistic Spectrum Disorders were reported for 9 per cent (1,815) of the 20,170 children in need included in the CIN census.

1,325 of these children also had a physical or sensory disability. Over four-fifths (82 per cent) of the children in the census recorded as having an ASD were boys, and almost half (45 per cent) of children recorded with an ASD were aged 10 to 15 years.

Table 11 - Children in need with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder by age and gender, at 31 March 2012

	All children in need in the CIN census ¹	Male	Female
Total children in need	20,170	11,260	8,910
Number of children with autistic spectrum disorder	1,815	1,480	335
Under 1 year	10	5	5
1 - 4 years	120	85	30
5 - 9 years	470	385	85
10 - 15 years	825	705	120
16 - 17 years	315	245	70
18 - 20 years	70	55	15
21 years +	10	5	*
<i>Percentage with autistic spectrum disorder</i>	9	13	4

¹ Excludes 70 unborn children

* The data item is disclosive for publication

Section 7 – Education of Children in Need

For each child, the Unique Pupil Number (UPN) was collected to allow anonymous matching of children in the relevant age groups with the National Pupil Database (NPD), so that records about free school meals eligibility, attainment and special educational needs could be summarised for children in need without the need to collect this information from local authorities.

Overall there were 11,670 records for children who were already 5 or over at the time of the CIN census, but had not yet reached their 16th birthday at the end of the 2011-12 school year and were therefore of statutory school age. This is the basis for the majority of statistical analyses on schools as it removes the effect of differing local provision for the under 5s and sixth forms. Using this statutory school age (i.e. 5 to 15 years old) there were 10,205 (87per cent) children in need whose UPN matched with the education databases. There were 1,470 unmatched records with either no UPN (310) or a UPN that did not match the National Pupil Database (1,160).

A full definition of education terminologies can be found in the [Glossary](#).

Throughout this section of the release pupils' ages are quoted as at 31 August 2011. This refers to the start of the academic year and is a useful reference in that pupils normally transfer from maintained primary to secondary school, and move thereafter through the secondary school system, according to their age on 31 August.

Free School Meals (FSM)

Pupils are entitled to free school meals if their families receive a range of support payments such as Income Support or Income Based Job Seekers Allowance.

Almost three-fifths (59 per cent) of children in need who were not looked after were eligible for free school meals compared to a quarter of children who were in need and looked after.

Table 12 - Children in need by entitlement to Free School Meals and whether or not they were looked after ¹

	All children in need in the CIN census	Number of pupils entitled to free school meals	Percentage
Children in the Census matched to NPD (aged 5 to 15)	10,205	5,040	49
Children in need who were not looked after	7,270	4,320	59
Children in need who were looked after	2,935	720	24
All pupils of statutory school age	363,765	70,265	19

Source: 2012 CIN Census and National Pupil Database

¹ This refers to the pupils' ages as at 31 August 2011 and includes local authority maintained schools (i.e. nursery, primary, secondary and special) only. Pupils from Independent schools are not included as they are not required to provide the necessary data at pupil level to match to the CIN census.

Further information and statistics on pupils in Wales entitled to free school meals can be found in [School Statistics Compendium, 2012](#) and [Academic Achievement and Entitlement to Free School Meals, 2011](#) Statistical Releases.

Special Educational Needs (SEN)

A child has special needs if he or she has learning difficulties which require special educational provision to be made for him or her. A learning difficulty means that the child has significantly greater difficulty in learning than most children of the same age or that the child has a disability that needs different educational facilities from those that the school generally provides for children. Pupils with SEN may have statements issued by the Local Authority or may have their needs identified by the school. In the latter case they come under one of two further categories: School Action or School Action Plus.

In the School Census Statistical Releases the numbers of children with special education needs are published for all ages at the Wales level.

However, at the local authority level, published in Statswales, the numbers of children with special education needs are published for statutory school age only (5 to 15) to improve comparability between local authorities that may have different levels of provision for non-statutory ages.

Table 13 presents the results for all ages and at the compulsory school age, 5 to 15. The latter is the age range for which information for children in need is published in [Statswales](#).

Table 13 - Children in need by special educational provision and whether or not they were looked after, at 31 March 2012

	All children in need in the CIN census	Children in need who were not looked after	Children in need who were looked after	Pupils on roll in Wales
Children in the Census matched to NPD (all ages)	12,420	9,005	3,415	465,945
Numbers:				
No special educational needs	4,195	2,905	1,290	362,905
School Action or School Action Plus	4,440	3,000	1,440	89,940
Statement of Special Educational Needs	3,785	3,100	685	13,100
Percentage:				
No special educational needs	34	32	38	78
School Action or School Action Plus	36	33	42	19
Pupils with SEN statements	30	34	20	3
Children in the Census matched to NPD (aged 5 to 15)	10,205	7,270	2,935	367,765
Numbers:				
No special educational needs	3,055	2,060	995	270,470
School Action or School Action Plus	3,945	2,620	1,325	82,170
Statement of Special Educational Needs	3,205	2,590	615	11,125
Percentage:				
No special educational needs	30	28	34	74
School Action or School Action Plus	39	36	45	22
Pupils with SEN statements	31	36	21	3

Source: 2012 CIN Census and National Pupil Database

There were 12, 420 children in need in total whose UPN matched with the education databases, an addition of 2,215 children in need who fell outside the statutory school age compared to the 10,205 matched records for children of statutory school age.

The average proportion of children in need with a Statement of Special Educational Needs was 30 per cent (for all ages) compared to 3 per cent for pupils in Wales (for all ages).

Over two-thirds (68 per cent) of children in need of all ages who were not looked after had either a statement of SEN, School Action or School Action Plus, compared to 62 per cent for children in need who were looked after and 22 per cent for all pupils in Wales.

Further information and statistics on special education needs for all pupils can be found in [School Statistics Compendium, 2012](#) Statistical Release and [Special Educational Needs Code of Practice for Wales](#).

Education Attainment at Foundation Phase, Key Stages 2 and 3

This is the first year in which the Foundation Phase has fully replaced Key Stage 1. As a result, Foundation Phase Outcome results are only available for 2012 and year-on-year comparisons are not possible.

Overall attainment levels are shown in Table 14. These show the numbers of children who were eligible for assessment at the end of Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 and who achieved the Foundation Phase or core subject indicator.

In Foundation Phase, the mandatory Areas of Learning are “Personal and social development, well-being and cultural diversity” (PSD), “Language, literacy and communication skills” (in English (LCE) or Welsh (LCW)) and “Mathematical development” (MDT). A pupil achieves the Foundation Phase Indicator if they reach the expected outcome in LCE or LCW, PSD and MDT in combination.

A pupil achieves the core subject indicator if they reach the expected level on the national curriculum scale in Maths, Science and either English or Welsh first language. The expected levels are Outcome 5 at Foundation Phase, level 4 at Key Stage 2 and level 5 at Key Stage 3.

Key Stages - The 2012 National Curriculum is applied to Foundation Phase and three Key Stages of pupil development. Broadly these are:

	Pupils' ages	Year groups
Foundation Phase	3-7	Reception,1,2
Key Stage 2	7-11	3-6
Key Stage 3	11-14	7-9
Key Stage 4	14-16	10-11

Education attainment results for Key Stage 4 will be presented in the next section.

Table 14 - Children in need achieving the foundation phase and core subject indicator and whether they were looked after, at 31 March 2012

	Foundation Phase	Key Stage 2	Key Stage 3
Eligible children in the CIN census	825	900	1,005
Achieved level: number	365	395	265
Achieved level: percentage	44	44	26
Children in need who were not looked after	635	630	680
Achieved level: number	260	260	160
Achieved level: percentage	41	41	23
Children in need who were looked after	190	270	325
Achieved level: number	105	135	105
Achieved level: percentage	54	51	33
All pupils in Wales	32,960	31,985	34,520
Achieved level: number	26,520	26,410	25,035
Achieved level: percentage	80	83	73

Source: 2012 CIN Census and National Pupil Database

Children in need had lower attainment levels than the average for all pupils at the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3. Children in need who were looked after achieved slightly higher levels than children in need who were not looked after.

The attainment gap between children in need and all pupils in Wales widens as they progress from the Foundation Phase to Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 as shown in Chart 1. At the Foundation Phase the difference in the proportion was 36 percentage points. This increases to 39 percentage points for Key Stage 2 and to 47 percentage points for Key Stage 3.

In Key Stage 4 (Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A* - C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics) the difference was 40 percentage points.

Tables 15, 16 and 17 compare the performance of boys and girls at Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3. Girls performed better than boys at all Key Stages.

Table 15 - Children in need achieving the foundation phase indicator at Foundation Phase by gender and whether they were looked after, at 31 March 2012

	Foundation Phase	Boys	Girls
Eligible children in the CIN census	825	485	340
Achieved level: number	365	180	180
Achieved level: percentage	44	37	54
Children who were not looked after	635	375	260
Achieved level: number	260	130	130
Achieved level: percentage	41	35	50
Children who were looked after	190	110	80
Achieved level: number	105	50	55
Achieved level: percentage	54	46	66
All pupils in Wales	32,960	16,940	16,020
Achieved level: number	26,520	12,790	13,730
Achieved level: percentage	80	76	86

Source: 2012 CIN Census and National Pupil Database

Table 16 - Children in need achieving the core subject indicator at Key Stage 2 by gender and whether they were looked after, at 31 March 2012

	Key Stage 2	Boys	Girls
Eligible children in the CIN census	900	545	355
Achieved level: number	395	215	180
Achieved level: percentage	44	39	52
Children who were not looked after	630	390	240
Achieved level: number	260	140	120
Achieved level: percentage	41	36	49
Children who were looked after	270	155	110
Achieved level: number	135	75	65
Achieved level: percentage	51	47	57
All pupils in Wales	31,985	16,480	15,500
Achieved level: number	26,410	13,080	13,330
Achieved level: percentage	83	79	86

Source: 2012 CIN Census and National Pupil Database

Table 17 - Children in need achieving the core subject indicator at Key Stage 3 by gender and whether they were looked after, at 31 March 2012

	Key Stage 3	Boys	Girls
Eligible children in the CIN census	1,005	590	420
Achieved level: number	265	110	155
Achieved level: percentage	26	19	37
Children who were not looked after	680	410	270
Achieved level: number	160	70	85
Achieved level: percentage	23	18	32
Children who were looked after	325	175	150
Achieved level: number	105	40	70
Achieved level: percentage	33	21	46
All pupils in Wales	34,520	17,725	16,795
Achieved level: number	25,035	11,905	13,130
Achieved level: percentage	73	67	78

Source: 2012 CIN Census and National Pupil Database

Further information and statistics on Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 for all pupils can be found in [End of Foundation Phase Outcomes and National Curriculum Teacher Assessment of Core Subjects at Key Stages 2 and 3](#) Statistical Release.

Attainment at Key Stage 4

At Key Stage 4 attainment is shown using the percentage of pupils aged 15 who achieve the level 2 threshold, and the level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A* to C in English or Welsh first language and Maths.

Table 18 - Children in need by Key Stage 4 attainment indicators, at 31 March 2012

	Level 2 threshold ¹	Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A* - C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics
Eligible children in the CIN census	980	980
Achieved level: number	240	110
Achieved level: percentage	24	11
Children who were not looked after	645	645
Achieved level: number	140	65
Achieved level: percentage	22	10
Children who were looked after	335	335
Achieved level: number	100	45
Achieved level: percentage	29	13
All pupils in Wales	35,405	35,405
Achieved level: number	25,700	18,085
Achieved level: percentage	73	51

Source: 2012 CIN Census and National Pupil Database

¹ a volume of qualifications at Level 2 equivalent to the volume of 5 GCSEs at grade A*-C

Table 19 - Children in need Key Stage 4 attainment by gender and whether they were looked after, at 31 March 2012

	Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A* - C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics	Boys	Girls
Eligible children in the CIN ensus	980	515	465
Achieved level: number	110	50	55
Achieved level: percentage	11	10	12
Children who were not looked after	645	335	305
Achieved level: number	65	30	35
Achieved level: percentage	10	9	11
Children who were looked after	335	180	155
Achieved level: number	45	20	20
Achieved level: percentage	13	12	14
All pupils in Wales	35,405	18,180	17,225
Achieved level: number	18,085	8,535	9,550
Achieved level: percentage	51	47	55

Source: 2012 CIN Census and National Pupil Database

Further information and statistics on Key Stage 4 for all pupils can be found in the Statistical Release: [Examination Results, 2011-12](#).

Section 8 – Comparative Analysis

There have been increases in the number of children in need in each of the last two years. In 2010, 38 per cent of children in need were either looked after or on the Child Protection Register. This increased to 40 per cent in 2012.

The proportion of children looked after has increased whilst the proportion of children on the Child Protection Register has remained unchanged over the last two years.

Table 20 – Number and percentage of Children in need, unborn and whether they were on the Child Protection Register (CPR) or looked after, at 31 March.

	2010	2011	2012
All Children in Need			
Number	18,865	19,710	20,240
Per cent	100.0	100.0	100.0
Unborn Children in Need			
Number	45	55	70
Per cent	0.2	0.3	0.3
Children on the Child Protection Register			
Number	2,015	2,225	2,295
Per cent	10.7	11.3	11.3
Looked After Children			
Number	5,090	5,410	5,700
Percent	27.0	27.5	28.2
Other Children in Need			
Number	11,710	12,020	12,170
Per cent	62.1	61.0	60.1

This is the first year in which the Foundation Phase has fully replaced Key Stage 1. As a result, Foundation Phase Outcome results are only available for 2012 and year-on-year comparisons are not possible.

Chart 7 to Chart 9 present the proportions of children that achieved Key Stage 2, Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A* - C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics respectively, for the last three years.

For Key Stage 2 the gap between children in need and all pupils achieving the core subject indicator is closing. In 2010, the percentage point difference between children in need and all pupils was 45 percentage points and in 2012, the difference was 38 percentage points. This means there has been an improvement of seven percentage points over the last two years. Comparing children looked after and all pupils the percentage point difference in 2010 was 37 percentage points whilst in 2012 the difference was 31 percentage points.

For Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 the gaps remained largely unchanged between children in need and all pupils. For Key Stage 3, the difference between children in need and all pupils in 2010 was 45 percentage points and in 2012, the difference was 46 percentage points. The corresponding figures for Key Stage 4, level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A* - C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics were 41 percentage points for 2010 and 40 percentage points for 2012.

Similarly, for the gaps remained largely unchanged between children looked after and all pupils. For Key Stage 3, the difference between children looked after and all pupils in 2010 was 42 percentage points and in 2012, the difference was 40 percentage points. The corresponding figures for Key Stage 4, level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A* - C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics were 37 percentage points for 2010 and 38 percentage points for 2012.

Chart 7: Percentage of children achieving the core subject indicator at Key Stage 2

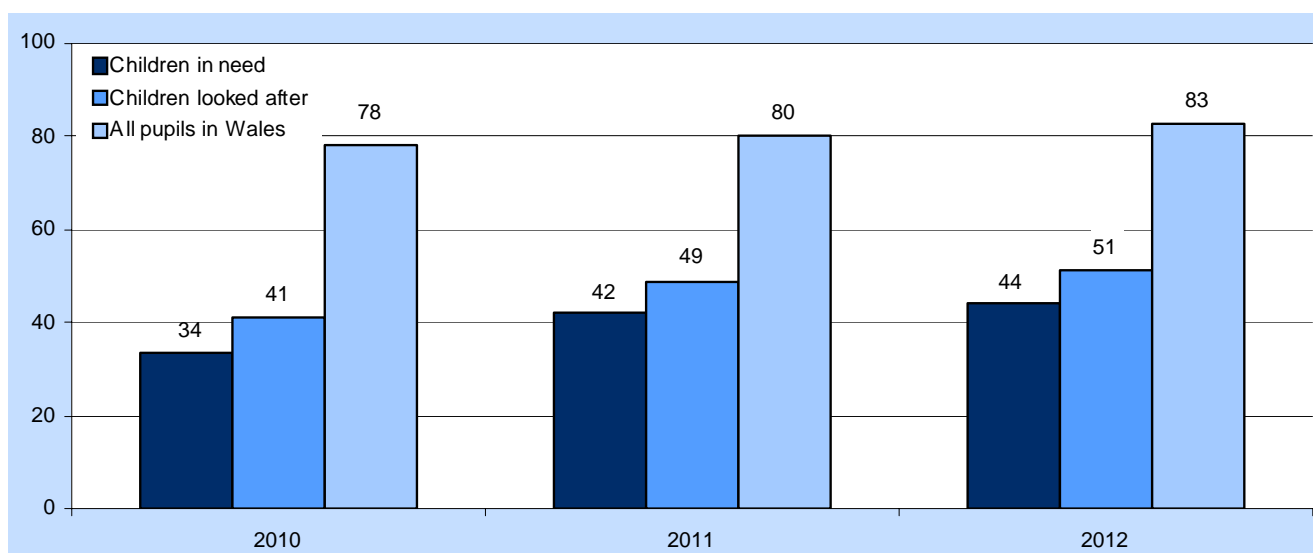


Chart 8: Percentage of children achieving the core subject indicator at Key Stage 3

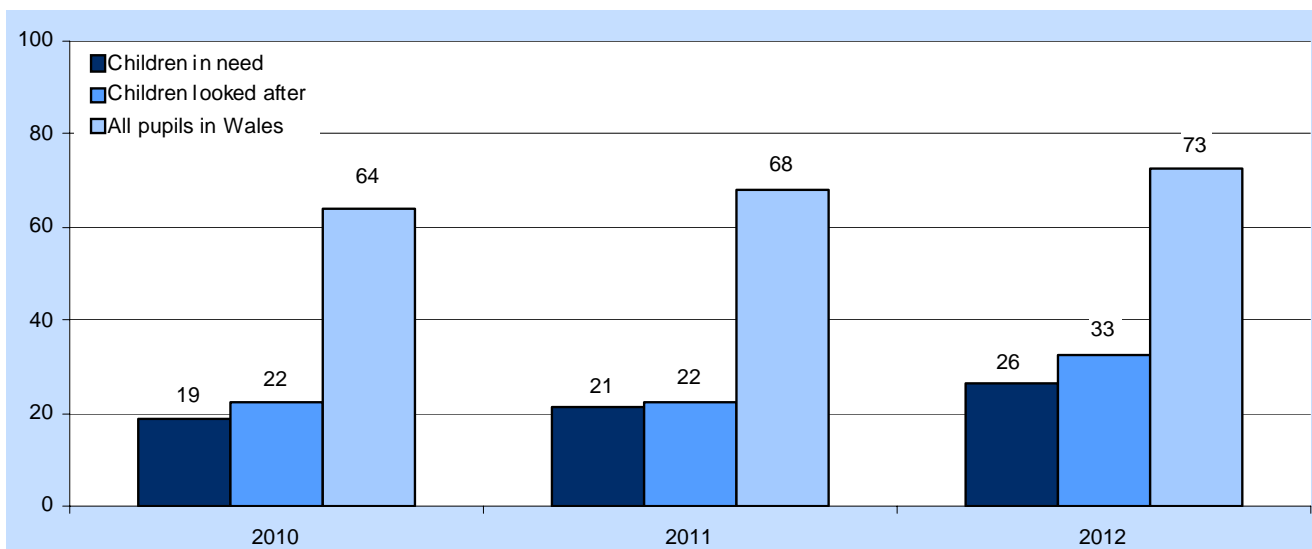
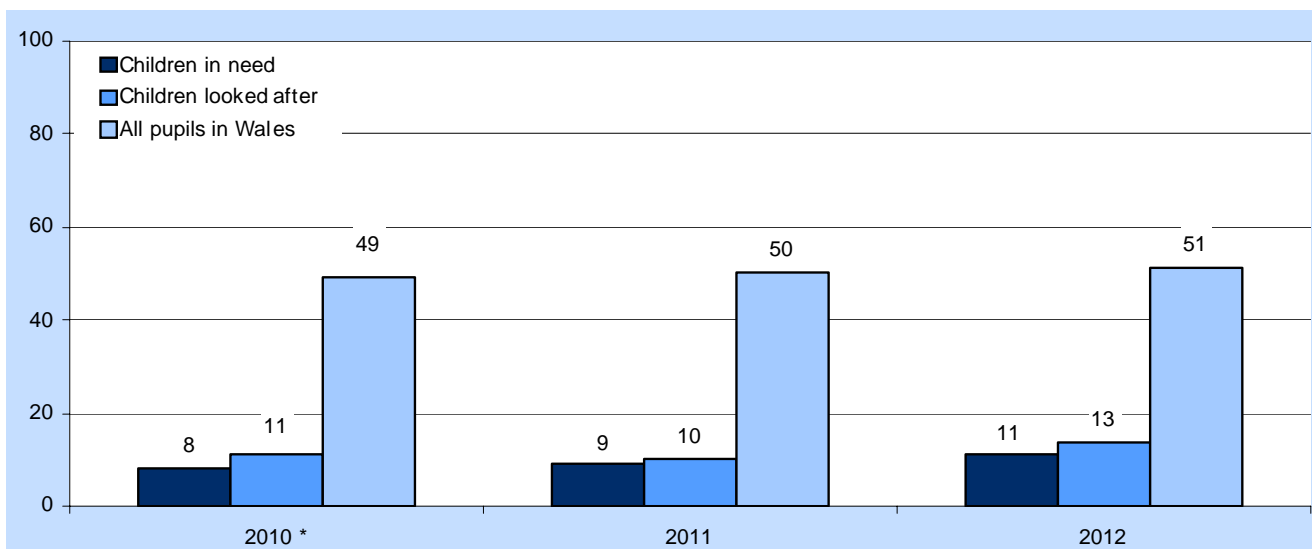


Chart 9: Percentage of children achieving the Key Stage 4 level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A* - C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics



* The 2010 figures have been revised from the first [Wales Children in Need Census, 2010](#) statistical release. The change was made to the denominator where all children in need pupils aged 15 at 31 August (start of the academic year) replaced only those that sat the examinations. The change took place in the [Wales Children in Need Census, 2011](#) statistical release and is consistent with the publication in the Education Examination Results Statistical Releases.

Chart 10: Flow of Children in need

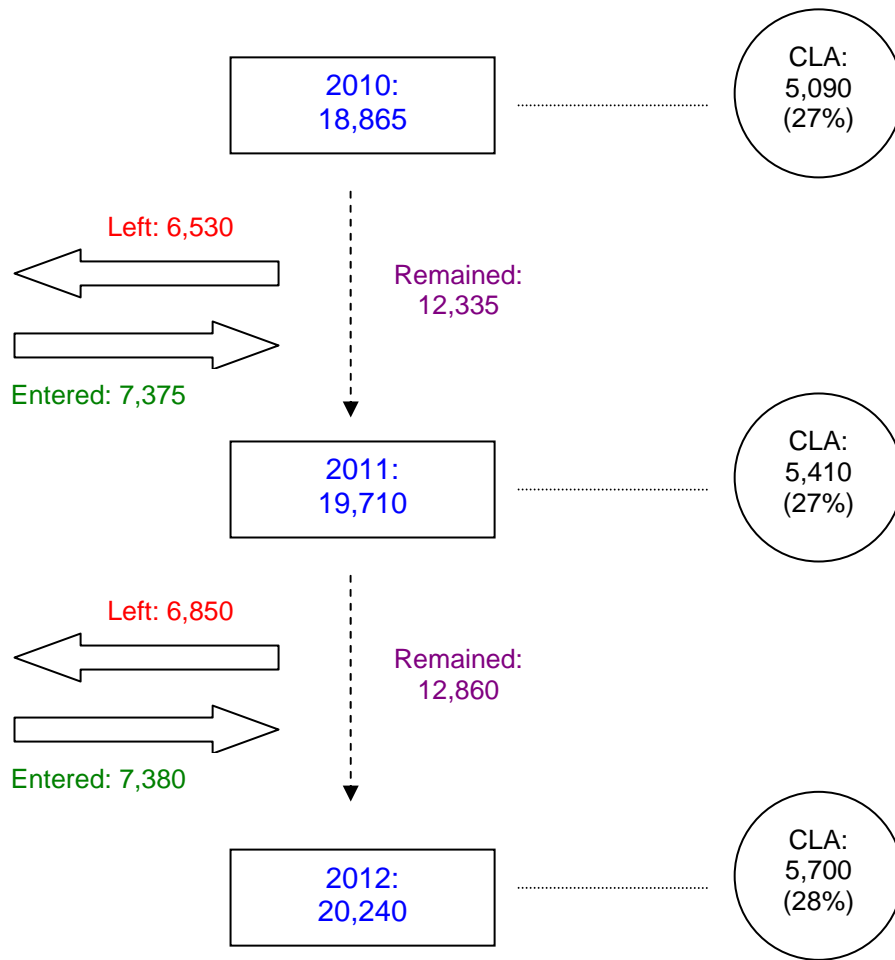


Chart 10 presents the flow of the number of children in need since 2010. At 31 March 2010 there were 18,865 children in need. By the following census over a third (6,530) had left and were no longer considered as in need.

At 31 March 2011, there were 19,710 children in need, of which 7,375 were new children whose case had been open for 3 months or more at the census date of 31 March 2011 and 12,335 remained from the previous census. During 2011-12 the percentage of children who left the children in need census was exactly the same, 35 per cent, as 2010-11.

At 31 March 2012, there were 20,240 children in need, of which 7,380 were new children whose case had been open for 3 months or more at the census date of 31 March 2012 and 12,860 remained from the previous 12 months.

Glossary

Age of pupils – throughout the education section pupils' ages are quoted as at 31 August. This refers to the start of the academic year and is a useful reference in that pupils normally transfer from maintained primary to secondary school, and move thereafter through the secondary school system, according to their age on 31 August.

Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) - Autistic spectrum disorders (ASD) are a range of related developmental disorders that begin in childhood and persist throughout adulthood. ASD can cause a wide range of symptoms, which are grouped into three broad categories:

- Problems and difficulties with social interaction, such as a lack of understanding and awareness of other people's emotions and feelings.
- Impaired language and communication skills, such as delayed language development and an inability to start conversations or take part in them properly.
- Unusual patterns of thought and physical behaviour. This includes making repetitive physical movements, such as hand tapping or twisting. The child develops set routines of behaviour, which can upset the child if the routines are broken.

The [Children Act 1989](#) legislates for children in England and Wales – The intention of the legislation is that children's welfare and developmental needs are met, including the need to be protected from harm. Key principles of the Act reflect aspects of the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) (UNCRC); protection from harm, respect for a child's race, culture and ethnicity, parents' responsibility for bringing up children and the duty to take account of a child's wishes and feelings in decisions taken that affect them.

Children in Need (CIN): the term 'child in need' has a specific meaning defined by the Children Act 1989, which placed a statutory duty on local authorities to 'safeguard and promote the welfare of children within their area who are in need'. The Act defines a child in need as a child that is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision of services by a local authority.

Children Looked After (CLA): is the term used to describe any child who is in the care of the local authority or who is provided with accommodation by the local authority social services department for a continuous period of more than 24 hours. This covers children in respect of whom a compulsory care order or other court order has been made. It also refers to children accommodated voluntarily, including under an agreed series of short-term placements which may be called short breaks, family link placements or respite care.

Child Protection Register (CPR): each local authority maintains a Child Protection Register to provide a record of all children in the area for whom there are unresolved child protection issues and who are currently the subject of an inter-agency protection plan.

Disability Discrimination Act 2005 – The [Disability Discrimination Act 2005](#) defines a disabled person as a person with a “physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.” The condition must have lasted or be likely to last at least 12 months in order to be counted as a disability.

Equality Act 2010 - The [Equality Act 2010](#) has replaced much of the Disability Discrimination Acts (DDA) but the guidance is still applicable and covers categories of disability with examples

Foundation Phase: The Foundation Phase has brought together what was previously known as the Early Years (from 3 to 5-year-olds) and Key Stage 1 (from 5 to 7-year-olds) of the National Curriculum to create one phase of education for children aged between three and seven which is set out in the [Foundation Phase: Framework for Children's Learning for 3 to 7 year-olds in Wales](#)

In Foundation Phase, the mandatory Areas of Learning are “Personal and social development, well-being and cultural diversity” (PSD), “Language, literacy and communication skills” (in English (LCE) or Welsh (LCW)) and “Mathematical development” (MDT).

The general expectation is that the majority of 7 year olds will attain outcome 5 in each area of learning. At end of Foundation Phase, the **Foundation Phase Indicator** (FPI) represents the percentage of pupils achieving at least the expected outcome in LCE or LCW, PSD and MDT in combination.

Free School Meal Entitlement - Pupils are entitled to free school meals if their families receive Income Support or Income Based Job Seekers Allowance or Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 or the guarantee element of State Pension Credit. They are also eligible if their parents are in receipt of Income Related Employment and Support Allowance (IR). Children who receive Income Support or Income Based Job Seekers Allowance in their own right are also eligible to receive free school meals. Children whose families are in receipt of Child Tax Credit, providing they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit, and have an annual income, as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs that does not exceed £16,190 are also eligible for free school meals.

Further information can be found here:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/schoolshome/foodanddrink/freeschoolmeals/?lang=en>

Initial assessment: is defined as a brief assessment of each child referred to social services with a request for services to be provided. The assessment should address the dimensions of the Assessment Framework, determining whether the child is in need, the nature of any services required, from where and within what timescales, and whether a further, more detailed core assessment should be undertaken.

Key Stages - The 2012 National Curriculum is applied to Foundation Phase and three Key Stages of pupil development. Broadly these are:

	Pupils' ages ¹	Year groups
Foundation Phase	3-7	Reception,1,2
Key Stage 2	7-11	3-6
Key Stage 3	11-14	7-9
Key Stage 4	14-16	10-11

¹ This refers to the pupils' ages as at 31 August, start of the academic year.

Local Authority Maintained Schools: Schools maintained by the local authorities. The authorities meet their expenditure partly from council tax and partly from general grants made by the Welsh Government.

National Pupil Database

Since 2005, the National Pupil Database has brought together pupil level data from the annual school census, national curriculum assessments at key stages 1 to 3, public examinations at key stage 4 and attendance records. Only pupils at LA maintained schools are included. Pupils at independent schools are not required to provide the data at pupil level.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) - A child has special needs if he or she has learning difficulties which requires special educational provision to be made for him or her. A learning difficulty means that the child has significantly greater difficulty in learning than most children of the same age or that the child has a disability that needs different educational facilities from those that the school generally provides for children. Pupils with SEN may have statements issued by the LA or may have their needs identified by the school. In the latter case they come under one of two further categories: School Action or School Action Plus.

i. Pupils with statements: Pupils for whom the LA maintains a statement of SEN under Part IV of the Education Act 1996. A statement may be issued by the LA after assessment of a child's needs.

ii. School Action: When a class or subject teacher identifies that a pupil has SEN they provide interventions that are additional to or different from those provided as part of the school's usual curriculum.

iii. School Action Plus: When the class or subject teacher and the SEN Co-ordinator are provided with advice or support from outside specialists, so that alternative interventions additional or different to those provided for the pupil through School Action can be put in place. The SEN Co-ordinator usually takes the lead although day-to-day provision continues to be the responsibility of the class or subject teacher.

Sources of most recent referrals: There are twelve categories which local authorities classified the sources of most recent referrals. The table (below) provide examples for a number of the categories.

Primary health / Community health	E.g. GP, Health Visitor
Secondary health	E.g. Accident & Emergency Department
Self referral	
Family, friend or neighbour	
Central government agency	E.g. UK Border Agency
Local authority's own social services department	
Independent provider agency	E.g. Day care provider
LA housing department or housing association	
Other departments of own or other LA	
Police	
Other agency	E.g. Voluntary agency
Other individual	E.g. Councillor

Statutory School Age: The statutory school age means any age between 5 and 16 years. See Section 35 of the Education Act 1944, the Education (School Leaving Date) Act 1976 and the Education Act 1996.

Unique Pupil Number (UPN) - A Unique Pupil Number (UPN) is automatically allocated to each child in maintained schools in England and Wales. It is an identifier only for use in an educational context during a child's school career and it is subject to Data Protection restrictions that prevent its use outside the education context.

Key Quality Information

1. The Welsh Government has been working with local authorities to collect statistics on children in need in Wales since 2008-09. This is the third Statistical Release on Children in Need in Wales that has been published.
2. The statistics are published as experimental statistics as this is only the third year of collection and they remain subject to further consideration in terms of their completeness and ability to meet customer needs. We want to engage with users of our statistics and we invite you to send your comments on the publication to stats.pss@wales.gsi.gov.uk.
3. The CIN census is a requirement for all 22 local authorities. An individual return is required for each child in need and local authorities generally derive these data from local authority case recording systems. The definitions and guidance for the CIN census can be accessed at <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/about/data-collection/social/child/childneed/?lang=en>
4. For this collection, local authorities were required to submit data for children whose cases were open on the census date of 31 March 2012 and had been open for the previous 3 months, i.e. the case was open on or before 1 January 2012 and remained open at 31 March 2012. This requirement means that the total number of children in need included in the CIN census is less than the total number of children in need receiving services. The number of children included in the CIN census, because they had a case open for 3 months, represents about 78 per cent of the total number of children in need on 31 March 2012 recorded in another statistical data collection: [Referrals, Assessments and Social Services for Children, 2011-12 \(Table 6\)](#).
5. The CIN census covers all children receiving support that is financed from children's social services budgets, including those supported in their families or independently, children on the child protection register and looked after children. Children in need will have had an initial assessment. Children receiving respite care should be included in the count of children in need.
6. The Equality Act 2010 has replaced much of the Disability Discrimination Acts (DDA) but the guidance is still applicable and covers categories of disability with examples. http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/guidance_on_matters_to_be_taken_into_account_in_determining_questions_relating_to_the_definition_of_disability.pdf
7. Information about parenting capacity and other information about characteristics of the children, such as a mental health problem, was taken from the social services department records. Whether an issue was recorded or not thus depended on the assessment of the individual social worker completing the case records and was not derived from other data collections such as medical records.
8. However, educational data in Section 7 was obtained from educational databases by record linkage using the Unique Pupil Number, age and gender.
9. Local authorities will be able to use the census data in conjunction with other information to analyse and plan their patterns of activity children's social services and compare their children in need populations with that of other local authorities. A focus on outcomes such as this census provides will enable local authorities to develop a clear picture of the effectiveness of their current social work practice and commissioned services. It may also help them to find the right balance between the services for children in need, and those more intensive services, such as for looked after children. The information on educational and health outcomes should provide further insight into patterns and outcomes of services. This information will be crucial to planning in partnership, to achieve the targets for children and young people set out in the Welsh Government's [Seven Core Aims for Children and Young People](#).
10. The Census has provided information that will enable users to compare outcomes for looked after children with outcomes for children in need, or on the threshold of being looked after who remain at home, or otherwise within their families and communities. In order to encourage continuous service

improvement and to meet the objective of reducing the number of children looked after in Wales, all partners must have access to data about the outcomes for children in need who receive services.

Accessing the data electronically

11. The data behind the charts and tables in this release can be found on Statswales (a free-to-use internet service that allows visitors to view, manipulate, create and download tables).

What are the potential uses of these statistics?

12. These statistics will be used in a variety of ways. Some examples of these are:

- advice to Ministers;
- local authority comparisons and benchmarks;
- to inform the social services policy decision-making process in Wales;
- to inform the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales;
- to model the financial consequences of changes in the population or the care system;
- to assist in research on children in need.

A number of indicators for local authority performance and the Welsh Government's Programme for Government are based on the data underlying this release – indicators are listed in Annex 3.

Who are the key potential users of this data?

13. These statistics will be useful both within and outside the Welsh Government. Some of the key potential users are:

- Ministers and the Members Research Service in the National Assembly for Wales;
- Local authorities;
- The third sector (e.g. charities);
- The Department for Health and Social Services in the Welsh Government;
- Other areas of the Welsh Government;
- The research community;
- Students, academics and universities;
- Individual citizens and private companies.

The statistics may also be useful for other UK governments:

- The Northern Ireland Executive's Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety ;
- The Scottish Government's Education Analytical Services Division;
- The Department for Education in England.

Symbols and rounding conventions

14. All the figures are rounded to the nearest 5 for confidentiality. Where figures have been rounded there may be an apparent discrepancy between the sum of the constituent items and the total.

The following symbols are used in the tables:

- the data item is not exactly zero, but is less than half the final digit shown.
- . the data item is not applicable.
- .. the data item is not available.
- * the data item is disclosive or not sufficiently robust for publication.

Comparability

Statistics collected in each United Kingdom country may differ and the detailed guidance available from each country's website should be consulted before using these statistics as comparative measures.

Further information on comparability is available at the web page [UK Comparability of Children's Social Services Statistics](#)

Sources of education information for Wales

School Statistics Compendium, 2012:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/schools2012/120911/?lang=en>

End of Foundation Phase Outcomes and National Curriculum Teacher Assessment of Core Subjects at Key stages 2 and 3:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/schools2012/1208141/?lang=en>

Examination Results, 2011/12:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/schools2012/121206/?lang=en>

Related publications

England

Children in Need statistics are produced by the Department for Education. The most recent data, published on 31 October 2012, can be found at the following link:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/statistics-by-topic/childrenandfamilies/a00215043/characteristics-children-in-need>

Wales

Other Personal Social Services statistical releases are available on the Welsh Government's Statistics for Wales website: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/theme/health/social-services/?lang=en>

User Feedback

We want to engage with users of our statistics and we invite you to send your comments on the publication to stats.pss@wales.gsi.gov.uk

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Annexes

Annex 1: Tables

Table A1: Children in need by local authority and gender, at 31 March 2012

	All children in need in the CIN census ¹	Male	Female	Rate per 10,000 population aged 0-17 ²
Isle of Anglesey	375	215	160	275
Gwynedd	665	360	305	280
Conwy	535	285	250	245
Denbighshire	605	335	265	310
Flintshire	425	255	170	130
Wrexham	645	340	300	225
Powys	715	420	295	270
Ceredigion	445	250	190	345
Pembrokeshire	535	315	220	215
Carmarthenshire	1,135	630	495	300
Swansea	1,690	930	750	360
Neath Port Talbot	1,450	795	650	515
Bridgend	1,140	625	505	395
The Vale of Glamorgan	635	345	285	230
Cardiff	2,370	1,355	1,010	335
Rhondda Cynon Taf	1,880	1,080	795	375
Merthyr Tydfil	555	320	230	440
Caerphilly	1,355	715	635	340
Blaenau Gwent	520	295	225	365
Torfaen	995	545	445	500
Monmouthshire	490	270	220	260
Newport	1,090	575	515	330
Wales	20,240	11,260	8,910	320

¹ The total includes 70 unborn children

² Based on the ONS mid year population 2011

There were 20,240 children in need included in the Census at 31 March 2012, which was a rate of 320 per 10,000 children aged under 18 years. At a Local Authority level, the rate per 10,000 children varied from 130 children in need per 10,000 children in Flintshire to 515 in Neath Port Talbot.

Table A2: Children in need by ethnicity, gender and asylum status, at 31 March 2012

	All children in need in the CIN census	Male	Female
Total children in need	20,240	11,260	8,910
Number of unaccompanied asylum seekers	140	125	15
Number of accompanied asylum seekers	25	15	10
Information not available or not applicable	645	340	300
<i>Percentage of asylum seekers</i> ¹	1	1	0
Number of children of known ethnicity	19,440	10,870	8,570
<i>Percentage</i>	96	97	96
Numbers			
White	18,245	10,150	8,095
Mixed	550	300	250
Asian or Asian British	270	175	95
Black or Black British	175	110	65
Other Specific Ethnic Groups	200	135	65
Not available / refused / unknown	800	385	340
Percentages ²			
<i>White</i>	94	93	95
<i>Mixed</i>	3	3	3
<i>Asian</i>	1	2	1
<i>Black</i>	1	1	1

¹ Percentages are based upon children of known asylum status

² Percentages are based upon children of known ethnicity

Local authorities were required to provide this information and ethnicity information was known and recorded for 96 per cent of children in need included in the Census. The figures in Table A2 refer to children for whom ethnicity was known.

94 per cent of children in need were White, 3 per cent were Mixed, 1 per cent were Asian and 1 per cent were Black.

The ethnic groupings for 2012 have been revised such that it is consistent with the [Reference Guide to Harmonised Concepts and Questions for Government Social Surveys](#). All the data on Statswales have been revised to reflect this change. The changes affect two groupings: Asian or Asian British and Other Specific Ethnic group where Chinese moved from 'Other Specific Ethnic groups' to 'Asian or Asian British'.

Annex 2: A List of Tables and Data Items Provided in Statswales

1. [Children in need by local authority and age group](#)
(Chart 1 of the Release)
2. [Children in need by local authority and source of most recent referral](#)
(Chart 2 and part of Table 2 of the Release)
3. [Children in need by local authority and category of need](#)
(Chart 3 and Table 3 of the Release)
4. [Parental factors of children in need by measure and year](#)
(Chart 4 and Table 5 of the Release)
5. Table 4 only available in the Release
6. [Mental health status of children in need by local authority and measure](#)
(Table 6 of the Release)
7. [Substance misuse status of children in need by local authority and measure](#)
(Table 7 of the Release)
8. [Child health surveillance checks by local authority and measure](#)
(Table 8 of the Release)
9. [Dental checks of children in need by measure and looked after status](#)
(Table 8 of the Release)
10. [Immunisation status of children in need by local authority and measure](#)
(Table 8 of the Release)
11. [Disabilities of children in need by measure and year](#)
(Table 9 and Chart 5 of the Release, Table 10 only available in the Release)
12. Chart 4 only available in the Release
13. [Health of children in need by measure and year](#)
(Table 11 of the Release)
14. [Eligibility for free school meals and special educational needs of children in need by measure and year](#)
(Table 12 and Table 13 of the Release)
15. [Educational attainment of children in need by measure and year](#)
(Table 14 to Table 19 of the Release)

Datasets only available on Statswales

16. [School attendance of children in need by measure and year](#)
17. [School exclusions of children in need by measure and year](#)
18. [Youth offending of children in need by measure and year](#)

Annex 3: A list of related Welsh Government indicators Programme for Government Indicators

- The gap at Key Stage 4 between the educational outcomes of children in need, looked after children, and the general child population
- Percentage of children classified as in need

Further information on the Programme for Government can be found at <http://wales.gov.uk/about/programmeforgov/?lang=en>