



Estimates of Bullying of Year 9 Pupils in England

Estimates of how many fewer year 9 pupils were being bullied in 2013 compared with 2004. These are based on the percentage point reduction in the rate of each type of bullying between LSYPE1 (2004) and LSYPE2 (2013).

This ad-hoc statistical release describes a calculation which has been made in order to estimate how many fewer year 9 pupils were being bullied in 2013 compared with 2004. The estimates presented have been calculated using responses from interviews with year 9 pupils who are taking part in the Longitudinal Study of Young People (LSYPE). The 2004 figures come from the first LSYPE (known as 'Next Steps') which first surveyed 15,700 young people in 2004. The 2013 figures come from the second LSYPE (known as 'Our Future') which is following the lives of 13,100 young people who were in year 9 in 2013. The initial set of findings from the second LSYPE are being published simultaneously with this release in a [research report](#).

Bullying questions in the Longitudinal Study of Young People in England (LSYPE)

The questions asked of year 9 pupils were designed to be the same in LSYPE1 and LSYPE2, wherever possible, so that the two surveys can be compared. Young people were asked whether they had experienced any of five forms of bullying in the last year including: name calling; social exclusion by peers; being made to hand over money or possessions; threats of violence; and actual violence. They could answer 'Yes', 'No', 'don't know' or 'Don't want to answer'. For each form they said 'Yes' to, they were asked how often it had happened: every day; a few times a week; once or twice a week; once a fortnight; once a month; less often; or with variable frequency. They could also answer 'don't know' or refuse to say. The responses to these questions have been used to calculate how many fewer young people report any kind of bullying; being bullied daily; or actual violence in LSYPE2 compared with LSYPE1 (shown in Table 1 below). Young people were counted as being bullied daily if they answered 'every day' or 'a few times a week' when asked how often they experienced one or more forms of bullying, or if they answered 'once or twice a week' for two or more forms of bullying.

Changes in bullying - calculations

The overall bullying percentage has been estimated as the number of respondents reporting experiencing any of the types of bullying in the last year as a proportion of all those asked the questions. The actual violence and daily bullying percentages have been calculated similarly.

The percentages saying they experienced any bullying, daily bullying and actual violence for 2004 and 2013 and the percentage point differences between them are shown in Table 1 below. These changes have then been multiplied by the 2013 year 9 English School Census population, which is approximately 610,000 combining all state funded and independent schools, including special schools, and pupil referral units. The 2013 English School Census figures are available [here](#).

The calculations have been made using unrounded percentages, with the results then rounded to the nearest 10,000. The results have been rounded in this way because, as with all survey estimates, they are subject to sampling variability and cannot be precise.

The formula for the calculations can be expressed as:

$(2004 \text{ bullying percentage} - 2013 \text{ bullying percentage}) \times 2013 \text{ year 9 population}$.

Table 1 Changes in year 9 pupils reporting experiencing bullying in the previous 12 months

	Any bullying	Daily bullying	Actual violence
(A) LSYPE1 (2004)	45%	10%	18%
(B) LSYPE2 (2013)	40%	8%	13%
Change from the 2004 to 2013 (percentage points): (A)-(B)	5	2	5
Estimated of how many fewer year 9 pupils are being bullied in 2013 compared to what would have been the case if percentages had stayed the same as in 2004: $((A)-(B)) \times 610,000 / 100$ (rounded to the nearest 10,000)	30,000	10,000	30,000

Sources: Longitudinal Study of Young People in England, cohorts 1 and 2, wave 1; 2013 English School Census.

So we estimate that 30,000 fewer year 9 pupils experienced both any bullying and actual violent bullying in 2013 than would have been the case if the percentages had not fallen since 2004. The corresponding estimate for daily bullying is 10,000 fewer year 9 pupils.

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