# Home Office Statistical Bulletin

# Children's experience and attitudes towards the police, personal safety and public spaces: Findings from the 2009/10 British Crime Survey interviews with children aged 10 to 15

**Supplementary Volume 3 to Crime in England and Wales 2009/10**

Jacqueline Hoare, Jenny Parfrement-Hopkins, Andrew Britton, Philip Hall, Matthew Scribbins (Editor) and John Flatley (Editor)

19 May 2011                                            08/11

# Children's experience and attitudes towards the police, personal safety and public spaces:
# Findings from the 2009/10 British Crime Survey interviews with children aged 10 to 15

**Supplementary Volume 3 to Crime in England and Wales 2009/10**

**Jacqueline Hoare, Jenny Parfrement-Hopkins, Andrew Britton, Philip Hall, Matthew Scribbins (Editor) and John Flatley (Editor)**

**May 2011**

# Acknowledgements

# Further information

Copies of other Home Office publications are available from the Home Office Science Internet pages: http://homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/research-statistics/

This includes the User Guide to Home Office Crime Statistics, a useful reference guide with explanatory notes regarding the issues and classifications which are key to the production and presentation of the crime statistics:
http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/user-guide-crime-statistics/?view=Standard&pubID=866666

The dates of forthcoming publications are pre-announced and can be found via the UK National Statistics Publication Hub: http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/index.html

For further information about the British Crime Survey or for information about police recorded crime statistics, please e-mail crimestats.rds@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk or write to Home Office Statistics, 5th Floor, Peel Building, Home Office, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF.

**Home Office Responsible Statistician**
David Blunt, Chief Statistician and Head of Profession for Statistics
Contact via crimestats.rds@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

# Contents

# List of figures and tables

**Chapter 3          Personal safety and bullying experience of children**

**Chapter 4**     **Children in public places and access to leisure activities**

# 1  Introduction

*Jacqueline Hoare*

## 1.1  BACKGROUND

The British Crime Survey (BCS) is a face-to-face victimisation survey of around 46,000 adults resident in households in England and Wales. The survey has been carried out since 1982[1], asking adults aged 16 or over about their experiences of crime in the 12 months prior to interview as well as their attitudes towards different crime-related issues such as the police, criminal justice system, and perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour.

One of the key recommendations of crime statistics reviews carried out in 2006 was that the BCS should be extended to include populations currently not covered by the survey, for example, people aged under 16 (Smith, 2006; Statistics Commission, 2006).

An announcement was made in May 2008 that the BCS would be extended to include children aged 10 to 15 following independent expert advice (Pickering *et al.*, 2008). After a period of testing, development and consultation, data collection began in January 2009. A methodological report detailing all aspects of this process was published on 21 October 2010 (see Fitzpatrick *et al.*, 2010).

The primary objective of extending the survey was to provide estimates of the levels of crime experienced by children and their risk of victimisation. Experimental statistics on victimisation of 10 to 15 year olds were published in June 2010 using the first 12 months of data (year to December 2009) (Millard and Flatley, 2010). Children's victimisation figures from the 2009/10 and 2010/11 BCS will be published in July 2011 within the annual Crime in England and Wales 2010/11 volume.

In addition to questions about experience of crime, the survey extension also gathers information from children aged 10 to 15 on a number of crime-related topics such as experience and attitudes towards the police, personal safety, being in public spaces and access to leisure facilities. It is these topics that are covered in detail in this bulletin using the 2009/10 BCS. Figures from interviews with 10 to 15 year olds have not yet been considered for accreditation as National Statistics but have been produced in compliance with the Official Statistics Code of Practice.

## 1.2  DETAILS OF THE 10 TO 15 YEAR OLD SURVEY

The core BCS sample is designed to be representative of the population of households in England and Wales and *adults aged 16 or over* living in those households. The children's sample is designed to be representative of *children aged 10 to 15* resident in households in England and Wales.[2]

The sample is obtained from within those households having already participated in the core survey and in any 12 month period the aim is to achieve around 4,000 interviews with children aged 10 to 15. The current sample size is designed to be able to provide reliable estimates of crimes and crime-related attitudes and experiences at a national level on an annual basis; to

---

[1] Prior to 2001 when the survey became continuous, British Crime Surveys were carried out in 1982, 1984, 1988, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998 and 2000.
[2] Further information on all aspects of the BCS including sampling and response rates can be found in the BCS 2009/10 Technical Report (TNS-BMRB, 2010).

provide more detailed breakdowns would require a large expansion of the sample at substantial cost.[3]

Overall, 68 per cent of eligible children within households responding to the core BCS took part in the children's survey (the BCS has a relatively high response rate to the core survey, 76% in 2009/10). The 'true' response rate (taking into account first stage non-response to the main BCS) is in the region of 52 per cent[4]. As with the adult survey, adjustment is made for possible non-response bias through weighting.

BCS estimates are produced from face-to-face interviews carried out by interviewers recording responses to the questionnaire on laptop computers. The survey is designed to be able to capture as much information as possible while keeping the interview at a reasonable length (the average time of an interview with a 10 to 15 year old is 20 minutes), so not all questions are asked of all respondents.

**Figure 1.1  Modular structure of the interview for 10 to 15 year olds, 2009/10 BCS**

| Background |
| --- |
| Victimisation module |

| Crime prevention module | Public spaces module | Policing module |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Internet module | Bullying module | Street gangs module |

| Personal security (13-15s) |
| --- |
| Experience at school |
| Use of alcohol module |
| Use of cannabis module |
| Demographics module |

1. Shaded boxes denote the use of self-completion.

After asking background and victimisation questions of all child respondents, the sample is then randomly assigned to one of three equal modules which comprise questions on: attitudes to and experience of the police; being in public spaces and access to leisure activities; and crime prevention (Figure 1.1).

The modular structure is retained at the start of the self-completion section which takes place at the end of the face-to-face interview (99% of 10 to 15 year olds continued into the self-completion section). For child respondents the self-completion section covers issues such as personal security, street gangs, bullying, truancy and use of alcohol and cannabis.

Children can complete the self-completion modules on the interviewer's laptop by themselves (using CASI, computer-assisted self-interviewing) or they have the option of Audio-CASI which allows them to listen to questions via headphones which can help those with literacy problems (64% did not use this option at all). The use of self-completion on laptops allows respondents to feel more at ease when answering questions on sensitive issues due to increased confidence in the privacy and confidentiality of the survey.

The original structure of the 10 to 15 year old survey was continued into 2010/11 but has subsequently been revised for the 2011/12 survey. These revisions have taken into account the development of the method of counting crime against children[5] and hence a re-structuring of the victimisation modules.

---

[3] The children's sample is naturally constrained by the size of the core sample; to expand the children's sample would require an even greater expansion of the core sample (as less than 15% of households have children in the eligible age range) at substantial cost.
[4] This probably understates the actual true response rate since it assumes that households with eligible children have the same level of response as for all households. It is likely that such households form a relatively smaller proportion of the non-responding sample than in the responding sample.
[5] See Millard and Flatley (2010) which includes four proposed methods for counting crime; the 2010/11 survey has been adapted to focus on collecting data to count crime using the 'All in law' and 'Norms based' approaches.

## 1.3 ESTIMATES AND CAUTIONS AROUND 10 TO 15 YEAR OLD ANALYSIS

A total of 3,762[6] valid interviews were conducted with children aged 10 to 15 during the 2009/10 BCS. Due to the modular structure of the questionnaire, approximately a third of the sample (that is, around 1,250 children) participated in each module.

### Considerations around the make-up of the 10 to 15s sample

The sample size is naturally much smaller than the core BCS, which interviews around 46,000 adults annually. The breakdown of the 10 to 15 year old sample by personal[7], household and area characteristics is provided in Table 1.01.

As envisaged with a random sample taken from the core survey (which is also based on a random sample) when comparing the main features of the two samples there is widespread consistency among the proportion of each type of characteristics associated with respondents (Table 1.02).

Analyses presented in the following chapters investigate differences between behaviours or attitudes according to personal, household or area characteristics that are associated with the child respondent. However, some of these demographic and socio-economic characteristics will be closely associated (for example, with age) so caution is needed in the interpretation of the effect of these different characteristics when viewed in isolation.

In addition, questions designed to be indicative of potentially problematic behaviours (ie, truanting, suspension/exclusion from school, and experience of being drunk or taking cannabis (all in the last year)) were included on the survey. Preliminary findings have been presented where analyses indicated there may be a difference among children who display these behaviours compared with those who don't. However, these behaviours are likely to themselves be closely associated with other factors such as age and area characteristics and findings presented later do not control for the effect of one factor on another.

### Considerations around the size of the 10 to 15s sample

Due to the smaller size of the 10 to 15s sample, close attention has been paid to the number of cases upon which estimates are based, particularly when looking at demographic variations in attitudes or experiences among children. As such, percentages are presented without decimal places to avoid spurious accuracy. Estimates are not reported at all when the unweighted base is fewer than 50, as is standard convention for Home Office Statistics publications.

In general throughout this bulletin, caution should used when interpreting estimates that are based on a low number of cases. This is notably true for uncommon behaviours associated with children, such as having truanted, been suspended or excluded, having felt drunk or taken cannabis (all in the last year). In some cases the number of children who have a certain attitude or experience as well as one of these characteristics is too low to publish an actual estimate, but where a relationship may exist this has been noted in the text (and that it may be possible to explore with further data, for example, combining 2009/10 and 2010/11 samples).

Being based on a sample survey, BCS estimates are subject to a margin of error. Unless otherwise specified, any differences in BCS estimates that are described in this bulletin are statistically significant at the five per cent level (see Section 8 of the User Guide to Home Office Crime Statistics). Tests of statistical significance are related to sample size; it may be

---

[6] A total of 3,803 interviews with 10 to 15 year olds were reported in the BCS 2009/10 Technical Report but this includes cases in the issued sample whose outcomes were yet to be finalised in the achieved sample.
[7] Victimisation status has not been presented as a personal characteristic of children as these data from the 2009/10 BCS have not yet been published and remain designated as experimental statistics; publication is due in July 2011. First results from the year to December 2009 BCS have been published (Millard and Flatley, 2010).

that some apparently large differences are not statistically significant here, but would be so with a larger sample.

**Table 1.01  BCS sample sizes for personal, household and area characteristics and potentially problematic behaviours of 10 to 15 year olds interviewed**

Numbers                                                                                                              England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS

| Personal characteristics | Unweighted base [1] | Household and area characteristics | Unweighted base [1] |
|---|---|---|---|
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | 3,762 | **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | 3,762 |
| | | | |
| **Age** | | **Structure of household** | |
| 10-12 | 1,813 | Single adult & child(ren) | 642 |
| 10 | 528 | Adults & child(ren) | 3,120 |
| 11 | 619 | | |
| 12 | 666 | **Total household income** | |
| 13-15 | 1,949 | Less than £10,000 | 279 |
| 13 | 634 | £10,000 less than £20,000 | 638 |
| 14 | 678 | £20,000 less than £30,000 | 545 |
| 15 | 637 | £30,000 less than £40,000 | 497 |
| | | £40,000 less than £50,000 | 359 |
| **Boys** | **1,915** | £50,000 or more | 760 |
| 10-12 | 920 | No income stated or not enough information provided | 684 |
| 13-15 | 995 | | |
| | | **Tenure** | |
| **Girls** | **1,847** | Owners | 2,569 |
| 10-12 | 893 | Social renters | 656 |
| 13-15 | 954 | Private renters | 531 |
| | | | |
| **Ethnic group** | | **Accommodation type** | |
| White | 3,320 | Houses | 3,551 |
| Ethnic group other than White | 437 | *Detached* | 1,095 |
| | | *Semi-detached* | 1,363 |
| **Religion** | | *Terraced* | 1,093 |
| Christian | 2,304 | Flats/maisonettes | 153 |
| Religion other than Christian | 267 | | |
| No religion | 1,149 | **Output area classification** | |
| | | Blue collar communities | 772 |
| **School year[2]** | | City living | 73 |
| Year 5 | 254 | Countryside | 601 |
| Year 6 | 566 | Prospering suburbs | 957 |
| Year 7 | 617 | Constrained by circumstances | 307 |
| Year 8 | 654 | Typical traits | 714 |
| Year 9 | 693 | Multicultural | 338 |
| Year 10 | 586 | | |
| Year 11 | 361 | **Area type** | |
| | | Urban | 2,750 |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | Rural | 1,012 |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 327 | | |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 3,425 | **Level of physical disorder** | |
| | | High | 237 |
| **Truanting** | | Not high | 3,494 |
| Truanted for a day or longer in last 12 months | 270 | | |
| Did not truant in last 12 months | 3,354 | **Employment deprivation index** | |
| | | 20% most deprived output areas | 666 |
| **Suspension/exclusion** | | Other output areas | 2,023 |
| Suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 189 | 20% least deprived output areas | 738 |
| Not suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 3,509 | | |
| | | **Crime deprivation index** | |
| **Drinking behaviour** | | 20% most deprived output areas | 557 |
| Felt drunk in last 12 months | 453 | Other output areas | 2,011 |
| Did not feel drunk in last 12 months | 3,068 | 20% least deprived output areas | 859 |
| | | | |
| **Cannabis taking** | | | |
| Taken cannabis in last 12 months | 81 | | |
| Not taken cannabis in last 12 months | 3,590 | | |

1. Unweighted bases are given where a valid weight is assigned and the respondents gave valid information about each characteristic to show the size of the achieved sample.
2. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
3. See Section 7 of the User Guide to Home Office Crime Statistics for definitions of personal, household and area characteristics.

**Table 1.02 Comparison between adult (16+) and 10 to 15 year old BCS for personal, household and area characteristics**

| Numbers | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS | |
|---|---|---|
| **Personal characteristics** | *10-15s unweighted base [1]* | *Adults unweighted base [1]* |
| | | |
| **ALL (AGED 10-15/16+)** | *3,762* | *44,610* |
| | | |
| **Boys/Men** | *1,915* | *20,079* |
| **Girls/Women** | *1,847* | *24,480* |
| | | |
| **Ethnic group** | | |
| White | *3,320* | *41,226* |
| Ethnic group other than White | *437* | *3,255* |
| | | |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | *327* | *12,715* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | *3,425* | *31,761* |
| | | |
| **Household and area characteristics** | *10-15s unweighted base [1]* | *Adults unweighted base [1]* |
| | | |
| **Structure of household** | | |
| Single adult & child(ren) | *642* | *2,254* |
| Adults & child(ren) | *3,120* | *9,694* |
| | | |
| **Total household income** | | |
| Less than £10,000 | *279* | *6,227* |
| £10,000 less than £20,000 | *638* | *8,829* |
| £20,000 less than £30,000 | *545* | *6,123* |
| £30,000 less than £40,000 | *497* | *4,543* |
| £40,000 less than £50,000 | *359* | *2,983* |
| £50,000 or more | *760* | *6,076* |
| No income stated or not enough information provided | *684* | *9,778* |
| | | |
| **Tenure** | | |
| Owners | *2,569* | *30,659* |
| Social renters | *656* | *7,445* |
| Private renters | *531* | *6,343* |
| | | |
| **Accommodation type** | | |
| Houses | *3,551* | *38,180* |
| *Detached* | *1,095* | *11,788* |
| *Semi-detached* | *1,363* | *14,152* |
| *Terraced* | *1,093* | *12,240* |
| Flats/maisonettes | *153* | *5,606* |
| | | |
| **Output area classification** | | |
| Blue collar communities | *772* | *7,531* |
| City living | *73* | *2,033* |
| Countryside | *601* | *6,892* |
| Prospering suburbs | *957* | *10,737* |
| Constrained by circumstances | *307* | *4,504* |
| Typical traits | *714* | *9,148* |
| Multicultural | *338* | *3,765* |
| | | |
| **Area type** | | |
| Urban | *2,750* | *33,027* |
| Rural | *1,012* | *11,583* |
| | | |
| **Level of physical disorder** | | |
| High | *237* | *2,389* |
| Not high | *3,494* | *41,800* |
| | | |
| **Employment deprivation index** | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | *666* | *7,781* |
| Other output areas | *2,023* | *24,588* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | *738* | *8,412* |
| | | |
| **Crime deprivation index** | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | *557* | *7,136* |
| Other output areas | *2,011* | *23,763* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | *859* | *9,882* |

1. Unweighted bases are given where a valid weight is assigned and the respondents gave valid information about each characteristic to show the size of the achieved sample.
2. Variables which appear on both datasets are provided for comparison.

# 2 Children and the police

*Jenny Parfrement-Hopkins*

## 2.1 SUMMARY

Questions about police visibility in the 2009/10 BCS showed that 83 per cent of children had seen a police officer or Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) in or around their school in the last 12 months and 69 per cent had seen an officer on foot patrol in the local area in the last 12 months. Just under half of children (46%) said they knew a local officer by name, sight or both. Older boys (aged 13 to 15) were more likely to have seen an officer on foot patrol than younger boys or girls of any age. Other groups of children who were more likely to have seen an officer on foot patrol in the last 12 months included:

- children from an ethnic group other than White (compared with White children);
- children who had a religion other than Christian (compared with Christian children);
- children who lived in urban areas (compared with children who lived in rural areas); and
- children who lived in high-crime areas (compared with children who lived in low-crime areas).

Specific questions about children's contact with the police showed that around a quarter (23%) had had contact with the police in the last 12 months. Contact was most commonly initiated by the police (this was the case for 52% of children who had contact with the police), whilst 30 per cent of children said that they had contacted or approached an officer (18% said it varied at different times). Children's contact with the police varied with personal, household and area characteristics. Older children (aged 13 to 15), and particularly older boys, were more likely to have had contact with the police than younger children, as were:

- children who had no religion compared with children who were Christian or who were from another religious background; and
- White children compared with children from an ethnic background other than White.

Although the likelihood of seeing a police officer on foot patrol was linked to the level of crime in an area, children's contact with the police was not; children who lived in low-crime areas were less likely to have seen an officer on foot patrol but there was no difference in their likelihood of having had contact with the police compared with children who lived in high-crime areas.

The majority of children were satisfied with the contact they had with the police; this did not vary by whether the child or the police had initiated the contact (79% of children were satisfied with contact they had initiated with the police and 77% with contact initiated by the police).

The 2009/10 survey also included a set of questions asking children to say whether they agreed with a number of policing-related statements; some related specifically to the police's interaction with young people and others covered more general issues. Children's responses were generally supportive of the police, although children tended to respond more positively to the broader statements than those specifically relating to young people. For example:

- 87 per cent of children agreed that 'the police would help if you need them'; compared with
- 65 per cent of children who agreed that 'the police are dealing with the things that matter to young people in the local area'.

## 2.2 INTRODUCTION

This chapter is based on data collected from 10 to 15 year olds who took part in the 2009/10 British Crime Survey (BCS). Around 3,800 children were randomly selected from within households already taking part in the survey. For more information on the BCS extension to 10 to 15 year olds, see Chapter 1 and the User Guide to Home Office Crime Statistics.

All children who were interviewed were asked questions about their experience of crime (see Millard and Flatley, 2010) but the other modules of questions were randomly allocated to sub-samples. A third of the overall sample of children (around 1,200) was asked questions about their experiences and attitudes towards the police. This is large enough to provide robust national estimates for questions asked of the whole sub-sample but caution should used when interpreting responses to questions asked on further sub-samples as these are sometimes based on a low number of cases.

Any differences in BCS estimates that are described in this chapter are statistically significant at the five per cent level (see Section 8 of the User Guide). Tests of statistical significance are related to sample size; it may be that some apparently large differences are not statistically significant here, but would be so with a larger sample.

This chapter discusses children's experiences of seeing the police, both at school and in the local area, their contact with the police and the reasons for the contact. In addition, the chapter examines children's attitudes towards a range of police-related issues as well as their general opinion of the police in their area. Adult respondents to the BCS are asked similar questions about their awareness of, their contact with and their attitudes towards the local police[1] and comparisons are made where possible.

This chapter explores each of these topics and, wherever possible, examines variations in responses according to personal, household and area characteristics.

## 2.3 EXPERIENCE OF SEEING THE POLICE

### Visibility of the local police

Many schools invite the police to assist in crime prevention education. In some areas, there are formal agreements between the police and schools, called Safer School Partnerships (SSPs), where a police officer or Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) is based within a school to help reduce crime and the fear of crime and improve behaviour in schools and their communities. Typically SSPs involve a police officer regularly working at a school or across a number of schools on a full-time or part-time basis.

The 2009/10 BCS showed that 83 per cent of children had seen a police officer or PCSO in or around their school in the last 12 months. A small proportion of children (5%) said that they had seen an officer more than once a day; about a tenth saw an officer once a day (9%), whilst larger proportions saw officers less frequently: 24 per cent said once a week and 23 per cent once a month (Table 2.01).

The proportion of children who had seen a police officer or PCSO on patrol[2] in their local area in the last year (69%) was lower than in school. However, this compares with 54 per cent of adult respondents to the 2009/10 BCS (see Scribbins et al., 2010).

While a lower proportion of children had seen police on patrol locally than in or around school, the distribution was similar. Just three per cent said they had seen officers more than once a day, seven per cent said once a day and 26 and 21 per cent respectively said once a week or once a month (Tables 2.01 and 2.02).

---

[1] For figures from the 2009/10 BCS see Scribbins et al. (2010).
[2] Includes seeing an officer on patrol by foot or on a bicycle in the local area.

Children with certain personal and household characteristics[3] were more likely than others to have seen an officer on foot patrol in the previous 12 months (Tables 2.03 and 2.04; see Box 2.1 for preliminary analysis of potentially problematic behaviours). As might be expected, a general finding was that age was associated with a higher likelihood of having seen an officer. For example:

- 72 per cent of 13 to 15 year olds had seen an officer on foot patrol compared with 66 per cent of 10 to 12 year olds (this pattern was driven by marked differences among older and younger boys while there was not a statistically significant difference by age among girls);

- children from an ethnic group other than White (77% compared with 67%)[4];

- having a religion other than Christian (82% compared with 67% of Christian children and 69% of children who had no religion); and

- living in a household with an income of less then £10,000 (78%) when compared with an income of £40,000 or more (64%).

There were also notable differences by area type; these are likely to reflect higher levels of policing in urban areas more generally:

- 73 per cent of children who lived in urban areas had seen an officer on foot patrol compared with 52 per cent of children who lived in rural areas;

- 82 per cent of children who lived in areas classified (by the ONS Output Area Classification[5]) as Multicultural had seen an officer on foot patrol compared with 43 per cent of children who lived in areas classified as Countryside;

- 58 per cent of children who in the least deprived[6] areas had seen an officer compared with 72 per cent of children in more deprived areas; and

- 75 per cent of children who lived in high-crime[7] areas had seen an officer compared with 55 per cent of children in low-crime areas.

Many of the above factors are known to be correlated and further multivariate analysis is needed to tease out the strength and nature of the relationships.

---

[3] Many of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics will be closely associated so caution is needed in the interpretation of the effect of these different characteristics when viewed in isolation.
[4] Due to the numbers of children interviewed, it is not possible to split further by ethnic group.
[5] See section 7.1 of the User Guide for details of Output Area Classification.
[6] As indicated by Employment Domain of the English Indices of Deprivation (see Section 7.1 of the User Guide for more information).
[7] As indicated by the Crime Domain of the English Indices of Deprivation (see Section 7.1 of the User Guide for more information).

**Box 2.1 Seeing an officer on foot patrol, by potentially problematic behaviours**

Preliminary analysis of questions designed to be indicative of potentially problematic behaviours (i.e. truanting, exclusion from school and experience of being drunk (all in the last year)) indicated that those with such experience were more likely to have seen the police (Table 2a, below). These behaviours are likely to themselves be correlated with other factors such as age and area characteristics and the initial analysis presented here has not controlled for the effect of one on the other. Preliminary findings showed:

- 78 per cent of children who had felt drunk in the last 12 months had seen an officer on foot patrol compared with 66 per cent of children who had not felt drunk.

While not being statistically significant, the differences in the likelihood of having seen an officer on foot patrol by whether the child had truanted or had been suspended or excluded in the last 12 months showed a clear pattern, with children who had experienced these behaviours being more likely to have seen an officer on foot patrol than those who had not.

**Table 2a Awareness and familiarity of police in local area amongst children aged 10 to 15, by children's behaviour**

| Percentages | | | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | Seen officers on foot patrol in last 12 months | Seen officers on foot patrol[1] at least once a month | Knows officer by name/sight | Unweighted base[2] |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | 69 | 57 | 46 | 1,206 |
| **Truanting** | | | | |
| Truanted for a day or longer in last 12 months | 77 | 66 | 60 | 95 |
| Did not truant in last 12 months | 68 | 55 | 44 | 1,076 |
| **Suspension/exclusion** | | | | |
| Suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 78 | 71 | 66 | 57 |
| Not suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 68 | 56 | 44 | 1,130 |
| **Drinking behaviour** | | | | |
| Felt drunk in last 12 months | 78 | 65 | 53 | 147 |
| Did not feel drunk in last 12 months | 66 | 55 | 44 | 980 |

1. Includes seeing an officer on a bicycle in the local area. Reference period is the last 12 months.
2. Unweighted base refers to whether child had seen a police officer or PCSO on foot patrol in the local area in the last 12 months. Other bases will be similar.

As expected, the characteristics associated with having seen an officer on foot patrol on a regular basis (at least once a month) were similar to whether they had seen an officer in the last 12 months (Tables 2.03 and 2.04). Although there was no difference in the likelihood of boys and girls having seen an officer on foot patrol in the last 12 months, boys were more likely than girls to have seen officers on a regular basis (61% compared with 53%).

How often children saw officers on foot patrol in the local area also differed by the level of crime[8] in an area; 67 per cent of children who lived in the highest-crime areas said that they had seen an officer on foot patrol at least once a month compared with 45 per cent in the lowest-crime areas (Figure 2.1 and Table 2.04). This replicates previous analysis based on adult respondents to the BCS which also showed an association between the level of crime in an area and how often adults saw officers on foot patrol (adults who lived in higher-crime areas were more likely to see an officer at least once a month than those who lived in lower-crime areas; see Scribbins *et al.*, 2010).

---

[8] As indicated by the Crime Domain of the English Indices of Deprivation (see Section 7.1 of the User Guide for more information).

However, although there was a general downward trend in how regularly children had seen police officers on foot patrol with decreasing levels of crime the pattern was not quite as strong as for adults; possibly because children may be less likely than adults to see officers on some of their foot patrols (for example, late at night in town centres).

**Figure 2.1 Seeing an officer on foot patrol at least once a month, by level of recorded crime[1], 2009/10 BCS**
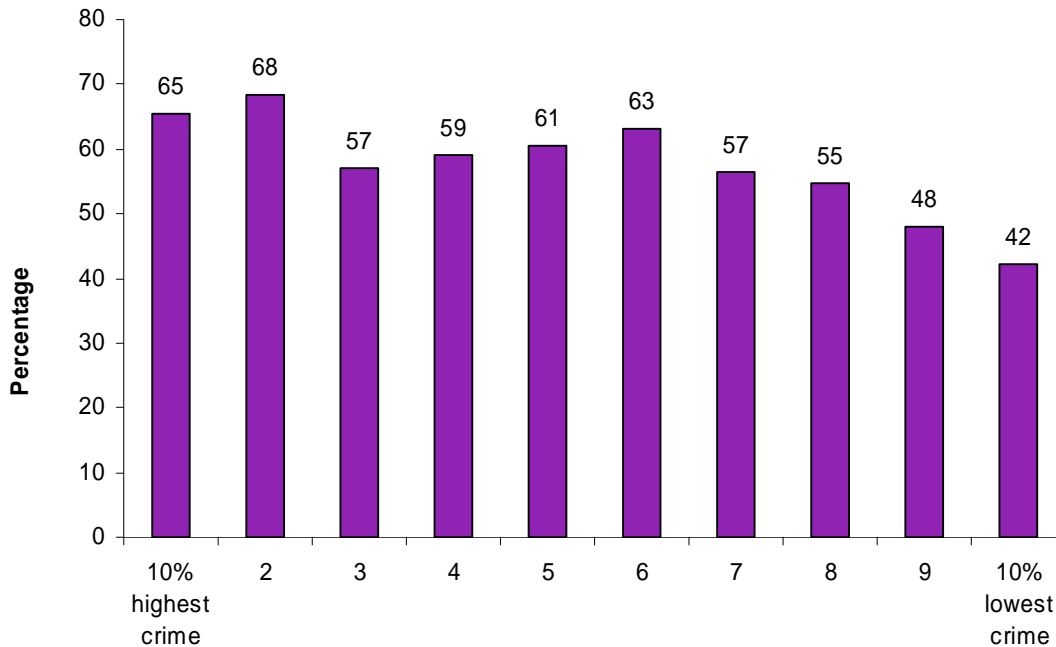


1. As indicated by the Crime Domain of the English Indices of Deprivation (see Section 7.1 of the User Guide for more information).

## Children's familiarity with the local police

As an indication of the extent to which the police were engaging with children in their local communities, respondents were also asked how familiar they were with the police officers and PCSOs in their local area. Just under half of children (46%) said that they knew any of their local officers, with five per cent knowing officers by name, 21 per cent by sight and 20 per cent by both name and sight. The remaining 54 per cent did not know any of the local police officers or PCSOs in the area (Table 2.05).

Given that over half of the children said that they did not know any of their local officers, there was less variation by personal, household and area characteristics[9] than for whether or not they had *seen* an officer on foot patrol in the last 12 months. For example, there was little difference in the likelihood of knowing an officer by age and no difference by children's sex. Box 2.2 gives an overview of preliminary analysis of familiarity with the police by potentially problematic behaviours.

Despite being more likely to have seen a police officer or PCSO in the last 12 months and to have seen officers on foot patrol on a regular basis, children from an ethnic group other than White were less likely to know an officer by name or sight than children from a White background (33% compared with 48%). Children from an ethnic background other than White were also less likely to have contact with the police (see section 2.4 below).

The only area characteristic to show any differences in the likelihood of knowing an officer was Output Area Classification[10], with children from areas classified as Countryside or Multicultural being the least likely to know an officer by sight and/or name. This is in keeping

---

[9] Many of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics will be closely associated so caution is needed in the interpretation of the effect of these different characteristics when viewed in isolation.
[10] See section 7.1 of the User Guide for details of Output Area Classification.

with the finding that children in rural areas were less likely to see an officer on foot patrol in the local area and with the differences observed by ethnicity, as discussed above; Tables 2.03 and 2.04.

---

**Box 2.2 Knowing an officer by name/sight, by potentially problematic behaviours**

Preliminary analysis of questions designed to be indicative of potentially problematic behaviours (i.e. truanting, exclusion from school and experience of being drunk (all in the last year)) indicated that those with such experience were more likely to know an officer by name and/or sight (see Table 2a in Box 2.1). These behaviours are likely to themselves be correlated with other factors such as age and area characteristics and the initial analysis presented here has not controlled for the effect of one on the other. Preliminary findings showed:

- 60 per cent of children who had truanted for a day or longer knew an officer by name or sight compared with 44 per cent of children who had not; and

- 66 per cent of children who had been suspended or excluded from school in the last 12 months knew an officer by name and/or sight compared with 44 per cent of children who had not.

The apparent differences in the likelihood of knowing an officer by name and/or sight by whether the child had felt drunk in the last 12 months were not statistically significant.

---

## 2.4 CONTACT WITH THE POLICE

Around a quarter of children (23%) aged 10 to 15 said that they had had contact with the police in the last 12 months. Contact with the police was most commonly initiated by the police (this was the case for 52% of children), whilst 30 per cent said that they had contacted or approached the police and a further fifth said that it varied at different times (Table 2.06).

On occasions where children had approached the police, the most common reasons were to report a crime or attempted crime (cited by 33% of those who had police contact) or for a general chat (cited by 24%; Table 2.07). When contact was initiated by the police, this was most commonly when giving a talk at a school or youth club (cited by 33%), to stop the child on the street (including to search the child mentioned by 19% of those with contact) or to tell the child off or to move on[11] (16%); Table 2.08.

Whether a child had contact with the police in the previous 12 months varied by different personal and household characteristics, but less so by area characteristics[12] (Tables 2.09 and 2.10; see Box 2.3 for preliminary analysis of potentially problematic behaviours). For example, the following groups were more likely to have had contact with the police:

- older children (aged 13 to 15) and particularly older boys, compared with younger children (aged 10 to 12); possibly as a result of behaviours or experiences associated with age that lead to higher contact with the police;

- White children compared with children from an ethnic background other than White (25% compared with 12%);

- children who had no religion compared with children who were Christian or had another religion (33% compared with 21% and 7% respectively);

---

[11] See Chapter 4 for a discussion of children's experiences of being moved on by the police (33% said that they had been moved on by the police when hanging around with friends in public places).
[12] Many of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics will be closely associated so caution is needed in the interpretation of the effect of these different characteristics when viewed in isolation.

- children with a long-standing illness or disability (38%) compared with children with no long-standing illness or disability (22%); and

- children from a one-adult household (32%) compared with children from households with more than one adult (21%).

There were some statistically significant differences in contact with the police by Output Area Classification[13], with children who lived in areas classified as Blue Collar Communities being generally more likely to have contact with the police than children from other areas (32%). Despite being less likely to have seen a police officer on foot patrol in the local area, children from areas classified as Countryside were no less likely to have had contact with the police than children from most other areas[14]. Children who lived in rural areas and those who lived in low-crime[15] areas were less likely to see an officer on foot patrol, but there were no statistically significant differences in the likelihood of having had contact with the police than children who lived in urban areas and children who lived in high-crime areas respectively.

---

**Box 2.3 Contact with the police, by potentially problematic behaviours**

Preliminary analysis of questions designed to be indicative of potentially problematic behaviours (i.e. truanting, exclusion from school and experience of being drunk (all in the last year)) indicated that those with such experience were more likely to have had contact with the police in the last 12 months (Table 2b, below). These behaviours are likely to themselves be correlated with other factors such as age and area characteristics and the initial analysis presented here has not controlled for the effect of one on the other. Preliminary findings showed:

- 40 per cent of children who had truanted from school for a day or longer in the last 12 months had contact with the police compared with 21 per cent of children who had not;

- 64 per cent of children who had been suspended or excluded from school in the last 12 months had contact with the police compared with 21 per cent of children who had not; and

- 43 per cent of children who had felt drunk in the last 12 months had contact with the police compared with 20 per cent of children who had not.

Although children who experienced these behaviours were more likely to have had contact with the police it is not possible to say whether the contact was as a result of these behaviours or for another reason.

---

[13] See Section 7.1 of the User Guide for details of Output Area Classification.
[14] Excluding children from areas classified as Blue Collar Communities.
[15] As indicated by the Crime Domain of the English Indices of Deprivation (see Section 7.1 of the User Guide for more information).

**Box 2.3 Contact with the police, by potentially problematic behaviours (cont.)**

**Table 2b Contact with the police amongst children aged 10 to 15, by children's behaviour**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| | Child had contact with the police in last 12 months | Unweighted base |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | 23 | 1,211 |
| **Truanting** | | |
| Truanted for a day or longer in last 12 months | 40 | 95 |
| Did not truant in last 12 months | 21 | 1,080 |
| **Suspension/exclusion** | | |
| Suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 64 | 57 |
| Not suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 21 | 1,135 |
| **Drinking behaviour** | | |
| Felt drunk in last 12 months | 43 | 147 |
| Did not feel drunk in last 12 months | 20 | 985 |

## Satisfaction with police contact

Those who reported having had contact with the police were asked additional questions about how satisfied they were with that contact. The 2009/10 BCS showed that the majority of children were satisfied with the contact they had with the police. Levels of satisfaction did not vary by whether the child or the police had initiated the contact; 79 per cent of children were satisfied with contact they had initiated with the police and 77 per cent with contact initiated by the police. Only small proportions were dissatisfied with the contact they had with the police (10% of children who had initiated contact and 11% of children who had been approached by the police). Similar questions were also asked of adults, but the findings differed; satisfaction was higher for police-initiated contact than for respondent-initiated contact (83% compared with 72%, see Flatley *et al.,* 2010).

Children were also asked whether their experience of contact with the police had changed their opinion of the police. About half of children who had initiated contact with the police said that the contact had not changed their opinion (48%), 45 per cent said it had improved their opinion and only a small proportion (8%) said that their opinion of the police was less positive as a result of the contact. Opinions of the police as a result of police-initiated contact appeared slightly less favourable (but were not statistically significantly different[16]); 35 per cent of children said the contact had made their opinion more favourable, 57 per cent said it had not changed their opinion and nine per cent said it had made their opinion less favourable (Figure 2.2 and Table 2.11).

---

[16] As statistical significance is related to sample size, it may be that real differences were simply not detected due to low numbers.

**Figure 2.2 Levels of satisfaction with police contact and change in opinion based on contact, 2009/10 BCS**
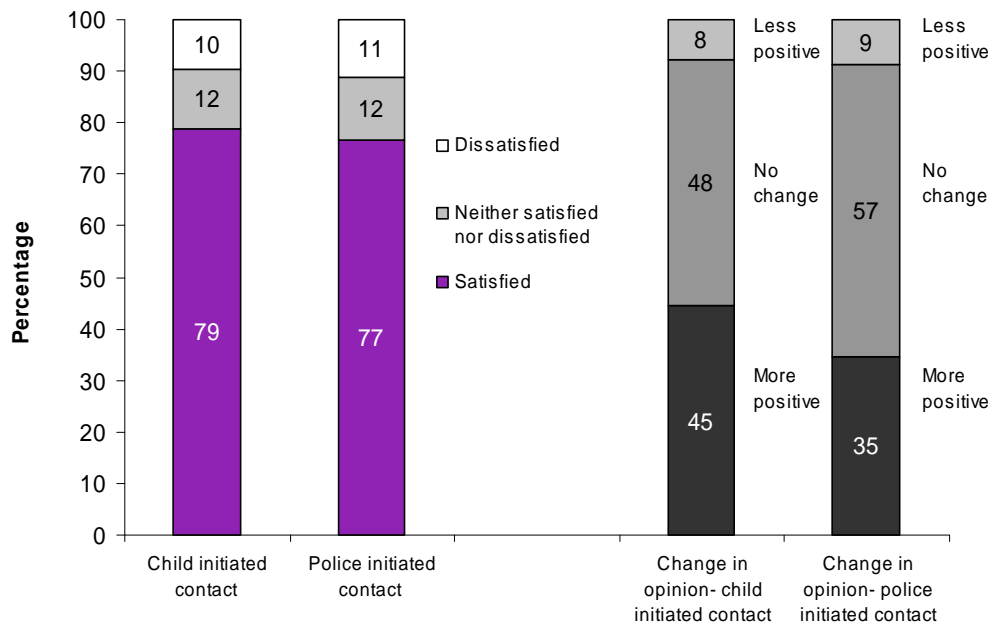


## 2.5 PERCEPTIONS OF THE LOCAL POLICE

A set of six questions asking about children's attitudes towards a range of police-related issues[17] were included in the 2009/10 BCS. These questions asked children to say whether they agreed with a number of policing-related statements, with some relating specifically to young people and others covering more general issues (see Box 2.4 for details of these questions).

---

**Box 2.4 Attitudes towards the police: questions used in the children's BCS**

Children were asked whether they agreed, neither agreed nor disagreed, or disagreed with the following statements:

- the police will help you if you need them;

- the police are helpful and friendly towards young people in your area;

- the police treat young people the same as they treat adults;

- the police treat everyone fairly whatever their skin colour or religion;

- the police understand the problems faced by young people in the area;

- the police are dealing with the things that matter to young people who live in the area.

Children were also asked whether their general opinion of the police was positive, neutral or negative.

---

Overall responses were generally supportive of the police; most statements were agreed with by more than half of children. However, children generally tended to respond more positively

---

[17] A similar set of attitudinal questions were asked of adult respondents to the BCS; see Scribbins *et al.* (2010) for a detailed history of these questions and Flatley *et al.* (2010) for the most recent figures.

to the broader statements than those specifically relating to young people (to which they were more likely to respond that they neither agreed nor disagreed; data not shown).

The 2009/10 BCS showed there were high levels of agreement that:

- 'the police would help if you need them' (87%); and
- 'the police treat everyone fairly whatever their skin colour or religion' (86%).

There were relatively high levels of agreement that:

- 'the police are helpful and friendly towards young people' (75%);
- 'the police understand the problems faced by young people' (69%); and
- 'the police are dealing with the things that matter to young people in the local area' (65%).

There was lower agreement that 'the police treat young people the same as they treat adults' (43% of children agreed with this statement; Figure 2.3 and Table 2.12).

Although the questions are not directly comparable, similar questions asked of adults yielded generally less positive opinions of the police, for example:

- 50 per cent of adults agreed that 'the police can be relied on when you need them';
- 48 per cent of adults agreed that 'the police can be relied on to deal with minor crimes'; and
- 56 per cent of adults agreed that 'the police are dealing with the things that matter to people in the community'.

Of the statements asked of adults, there were higher levels of agreement that the police treat people with respect (84%) and fairly (65%) as well as understanding the issues that affect the local community[18] (67%).

**Figure 2.3 Perceptions of the local police, 2009/10 BCS**



---
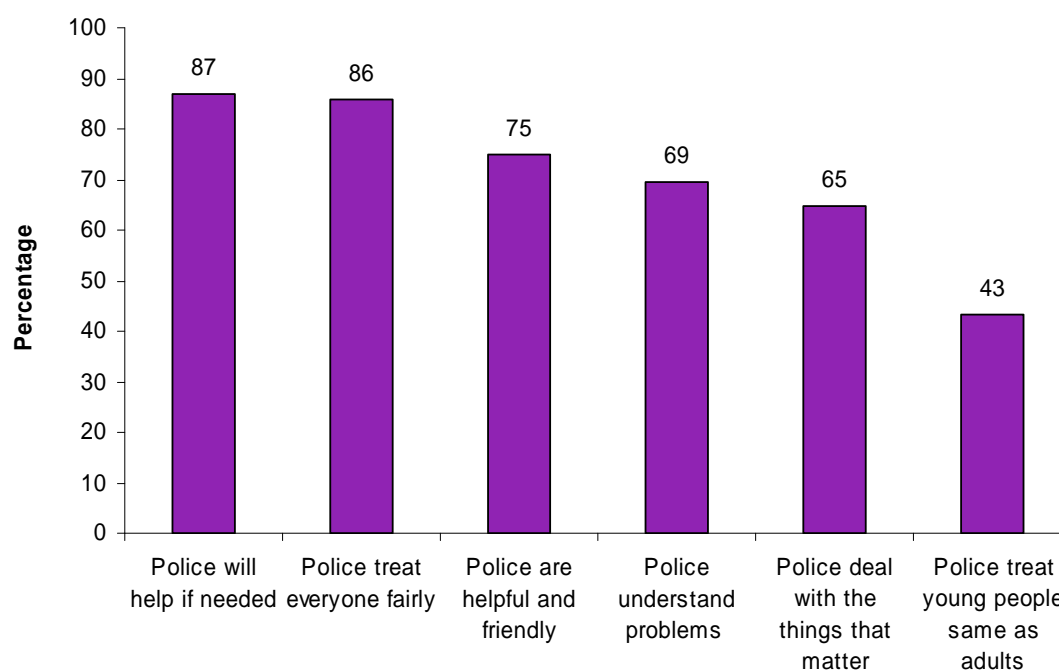
[18] See Scribbins *et al.* (2010) for a detailed history of these questions and Flatley *et al.* (2010) for the most recent figures.

Children were also asked about their overall opinion of the police in their local area. Most children had either a positive or neutral opinion of the police (48% and 45% respectively). Only a very small proportion of children (7%) said that they had a negative opinion of the local police (Table 2c).

**Table 2c Opinion of the local police**

| Percentages | England & Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
| --- | --- |
| *Opinion of the local police* | |
| Positive | 48 |
| Neutral | 45 |
| Negative | 7 |
| *Unweighted base* | *1,189* |

Children's attitudes and opinions of the police varied by different personal characteristics[19] (Table 2.12; see Box 2.5 for preliminary analysis of potentially problematic behaviours). Agreement generally declined with age (children aged 10 to 12 were more likely than children aged 13 to 15 to agree with all of the statements). For example:

- 83 per cent of children aged 10 to 12 agreed that the police are helpful and friendly towards young people compared with 68 per cent of children aged 13 to 15; and

- 73 per cent of children aged 10 to 12 agreed that the police deal with the things that matter to young people who live in the area compared with 57 per cent of children aged 13 to 15.

There was a greater difference by age amongst boys than girls. For example:

- 91 per cent of boys aged 10 to 12 and 83 per cent of boys aged 13 to 15 agreed that the police will help you if you need them, compared with 88 per cent of girls aged 10 to 12 and 86 per cent of girls aged 13 to 15.

However, there was no statistically significant difference by sex alone for any of the statements.

There were also some differences in children's attitudes by area characteristics (Table 2.13). Children who lived in areas classified[20] as Multicultural were generally less likely to agree, although this was not the case for all of the statements:

- 69 per cent of children who lived in areas classified as Multicultural agreed that the police treat everyone fairly whatever their skin colour or religion, lower than children from all other area types (in which at least 85% of children agreed); and

- 64 per cent of children who lived in areas classified as Multicultural agreed that the police were dealing with the things that matter to young people who live in the area; a similar level compared with children from all other area types (in which between 62% and 69% agreed).

There were very few differences between children who lived in urban areas and children who lived in rural areas. Children who lived in the most deprived areas[21] were generally less likely to agree with most of the statements than children who lived in less deprived areas. For example:

---

[19] Many of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics will be closely associated so caution is needed in the interpretation of the effect of these different characteristics when viewed in isolation.
[20] See Section 7.1 of the User Guide for details of Output Area Classification.
[21] As indicated by the Employment Domain of the English Indices of Deprivation (see Section 7.1 of the User Guide for more information).

- 35 per cent of children who lived in the most deprived areas had a positive opinion of the police compared with 60 per cent of children who lived in the least deprived areas.

The level of crime[22] in an area had less of an effect on responses; there were statistically significant differences in responses to only two statements. Children who lived in higher-crime areas were less likely to:

- agree that the police will help if you need them (81% compared with 90% of children in low-crime areas); and

- have a positive opinion of the police (38% compared with 53% of children in low-crime areas).

---

**Box 2.5 Attitudes to the police, by potentially problematic behaviours**

Preliminary analysis of questions designed to be indicative of potentially problematic behaviours (i.e. truanting, exclusion from school and experience of being drunk (all in the last year)) indicated that those with such experience were generally less likely to agree with most of the statements than those who had not (Table 2d, below). These behaviours are likely to themselves be correlated with other factors such as age and area characteristics and the initial analysis presented here has not controlled for the effect of one on the other. In this particular instance, children's attitudes to the police may also reflect a general negative attitude towards authority. Preliminary findings showed:

- children who had been suspended or excluded from school in the last 12 months were less likely to agree with all but one of the statements (that the police treat everyone fairly);

- this difference was particularly marked for the statement 'the police understand the problems faced by young people in the area'; and

- the likelihood of agreeing with all of the statements was also lower for children who had felt drunk in the last 12 months than for those who had not.

**Table 2d Perceptions of the local police amongst children aged 10 to 15, by children's behaviour**

| Percentages | | | | | | | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Police will help if needed | Police are helpful and friendly towards young people | Police treat young people same as adults | Police treat everyone fairly | Police understand problems faced by young people | Police deal with the things that matter to young people | Positive opinion of police in local area | *Unweighted base*[1] |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **87** | **75** | **43** | **86** | **69** | **65** | **48** | *1,189* |
| **Truanting** | | | | | | | | |
| Truanted for a day or longer in last 12 months | 78 | 67 | 38 | 83 | 62 | 71 | 37 | *95* |
| Did not truant in last 12 months | 87 | 76 | 44 | 86 | 71 | 64 | 50 | *1,059* |
| **Suspension/exclusion** | | | | | | | | |
| Suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 67 | 59 | 24 | 77 | 38 | 49 | 15 | *57* |
| Not suspended/excluded from school in last 12 month | 88 | 76 | 44 | 86 | 72 | 65 | 50 | *1,114* |
| **Drinking behaviour** | | | | | | | | |
| Felt drunk in last 12 months | 75 | 56 | 23 | 77 | 56 | 46 | 32 | *148* |
| Did not feel drunk in last 12 months | 89 | 79 | 47 | 87 | 73 | 67 | 51 | *963* |

1. Unweighted base refers to positive opinion of police in local area. Other bases will be similar.

---

[22] As indicated by the Crime Domain of the English Indices of Deprivation (see Section 7.1 of the User Guide for more information).

## Contact with the police and attitudes

There were also some differences in attitudes towards the police based on children's experiences of and contact[23] with the police. Children who had had contact with the police in the last 12 months were less likely to agree with the statements specifically relating to the police's interactions with young people than children who had not. For example, children who had contact with the police were less likely to think:

- that the police are helpful and friendly towards young people (67% compared with 77% of children who had not had contact with the police);

- that the police treat young people the same as they treat adults (35% compared with 46% of children who had not had contact); and

- that the police deal with the things that matter to young people in the area (58% compared with 67% of children who had not had contact).

However, contact with the police was not associated with any difference in children's overall opinion of the police[24]; the same also applied to the more general attitude statements that did not specifically relate to young people. Previous analysis of the 2008/09 BCS showed that adults' contact with the police did not affect their levels of confidence in the local police[25] but that agreement was influenced by the level of satisfaction[26] adults had with this contact (see Walker *et al.,* 2009).

Although contact with the police seemed to have a negative impact on children's attitudes to some aspects of policing, whether children knew an officer by name and/or sight seemed to have a positive impact on others. For example, children who knew an officer were more likely to think that the police treat young people the same as adults and to have an overall positive opinion of the local police than those who did not know an officer (47% compared with 40% and 52% compared with 44% respectively; Table 2.14).

There were no statistically significant differences in agreement with the any of the attitude statements based on children's experiences of seeing an officer on foot patrol. Previous analysis[27] of the adults' survey showed that seeing a police officer on foot patrol at least once a month was associated with higher levels of confidence in the local police.

---

[23] Due to the numbers of children interviewed, it is not possible to split further by reason for contact.
[24] Contact with the police is likely to be closely associated with many of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics will be so caution is needed in the interpretation of the effect of these different characteristics when viewed in isolation.
[25] Based on agreement with the question 'the police and local council are dealing with the anti-social and crime issues that matter in the local area'.
[26] Due to the numbers of children interviewed, it is not possible to split children's data further by satisfaction with police contact.
[27] See Chapter 1 of Scribbins *et al.* (2010) for a review of research into the factors relating to confidence in the police.

**Table 2.01 Awareness of local police in/around school premises amongst children aged 10 to 15**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| **Whether child saw police officers/PCSOs[1] in/around school premises in last 12 months[2]** | |
| Seen officers in/around school premises | 83 |
| *In school* | 61 |
| *In the areas around school* | 51 |
| Not seen officers in/around school premises | 17 |
| | |
| *Unweighted base* | *1,194* |
| | |
| **How often child saw police officers/PCSOs[1] in/around school premises in last 12 months** | |
| More than once a day | 5 |
| About once a day | 9 |
| About once a week | 24 |
| About once a month | 23 |
| Less than once a month | 20 |
| Never | 17 |
| | |
| *Unweighted base* | *1,184* |

1. Police Community Support Officer.
2. Totals add to more than 100 per cent as more than one response possible.

**Table 2.02 Awareness of local police on foot patrol amongst children aged 10 to 15**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| **Child saw police officers/PCSOs[1] on foot patrol[2] in local area in last 12 months** | 69 |
| | |
| *Unweighted base* | *1,206* |
| | |
| **How often child saw police officers/PCSOs[1] on foot patrol[2] in local area in last 12 months** | |
| More than once a day | 3 |
| About once a day | 7 |
| About once a week | 26 |
| About once a month | 21 |
| Less than once a month | 11 |
| Never | 32 |
| | |
| *Unweighted base* | *1,195* |

1. Police Community Support Officer.
2. Includes seeing an officer on a bicycle in the local area.

**Table 2.03 Awareness and familiarity of police in local area amongst children aged 10 to 15, by personal characteristics**

| Percentages | | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | Seen officers on foot patrol in last 12 months | Seen officers on foot patrol[1] at least once a month | Knows officer by name/sight | *Unweighted base [2]* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **69** | **57** | **46** | *1,206* |
| **Age** | | | | |
| 10-12 | **66** | **53** | **43** | *585* |
| 10 | 68 | 53 | 47 | *167* |
| 11 | 65 | 50 | 43 | *197* |
| 12 | 65 | 55 | 39 | *221* |
| 13-15 | **72** | **61** | **48** | *621* |
| 13 | 66 | 55 | 45 | *198* |
| 14 | 72 | 61 | 47 | *219* |
| 15 | 76 | 66 | 52 | *204* |
| **Boys** | **71** | **61** | **45** | *606* |
| 10-12 | 64 | 52 | 44 | *288* |
| 13-15 | 77 | 70 | 46 | *318* |
| **Girls** | **67** | **53** | **46** | *600* |
| 10-12 | 67 | 54 | 41 | *297* |
| 13-15 | 66 | 51 | 50 | *303* |
| **Ethnic group** | | | | |
| White | 67 | 55 | 48 | *1,061* |
| Ethnic group other than White | 77 | 67 | 33 | *142* |
| **Religion** | | | | |
| Christian | 67 | 55 | 43 | *749* |
| Religion other than Christian | 82 | 72 | 44 | *96* |
| No religion | 69 | 55 | 53 | *345* |
| **School year[3]** | | | | |
| Year 5 | 68 | 49 | 45 | *90* |
| Year 6 | 72 | 60 | 45 | *167* |
| Year 7 | 58 | 47 | 41 | *205* |
| Year 8 | 68 | 56 | 44 | *222* |
| Year 9 | 67 | 58 | 46 | *210* |
| Year 10 | 76 | 66 | 47 | *189* |
| Year 11 | 74 | 61 | 51 | *117* |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 65 | 50 | 54 | *86* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 69 | 58 | 45 | *1,115* |

1. Includes seeing an officer on a bicycle in the local area. Reference period is the last 12 months.
2. Unweighted base refers to whether child had seen a police officer or PCSO on foot patrol in the local area in the last 12 months. Other bases will be similar.
3. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
4. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 2.04 Awareness and familiarity of police in local area amongst children aged 10 to 15, by household and area characteristics**

| Percentages | | | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Seen officers on foot patrol[1] in last 12 months | Seen officers on foot patrol[1] at least once a month | Knows officer by name/sight | *Unweighted base[2]* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **69** | **57** | **46** | *1,206* |
| | | | | |
| **Structure of household** | | | | |
| Single adult & child(ren) | 74 | 61 | 46 | *198* |
| Adults & child(ren) | 68 | 56 | 45 | *1,008* |
| | | | | |
| **Total household income** | | | | |
| Less than £10,000 | 78 | 69 | 47 | *90* |
| £10,000 less than £20,000 | 70 | 59 | 46 | *207* |
| £20,000 less than £30,000 | 70 | 58 | 49 | *175* |
| £30,000 less than £40,000 | 68 | 56 | 45 | *162* |
| £40,000 less than £50,000 | 62 | 51 | 43 | *120* |
| £50,000 or more | 64 | 50 | 42 | *241* |
| No income stated or not enough information provided | 72 | 59 | 45 | *211* |
| | | | | |
| **Tenure** | | | | |
| Owner-occupied | 67 | 56 | 45 | *823* |
| Social-rented | 75 | 63 | 48 | *216* |
| Private-rented | 67 | 54 | 44 | *165* |
| | | | | |
| **Accommodation type** | | | | |
| Houses | 68 | 56 | 46 | *1,154* |
| *Detached* | 60 | 46 | 42 | *360* |
| *Semi-detached* | 69 | 57 | 46 | *455* |
| *Terraced* | 74 | 64 | 48 | *339* |
| Flats/maisonettes | - | - | - | *39* |
| | | | | |
| **Output area classification** | | | | |
| Blue collar communities | 73 | 61 | 53 | *258* |
| City living | - | - | - | *22* |
| Countryside | 43 | 29 | 38 | *177* |
| Prospering suburbs | 62 | 49 | 45 | *335* |
| Constrained by circumstances | 69 | 59 | 52 | *104* |
| Typical traits | 77 | 66 | 42 | *208* |
| Multicultural | 82 | 71 | 39 | *102* |
| | | | | |
| **Area type** | | | | |
| Urban | 73 | 62 | 46 | *893* |
| Rural | 52 | 39 | 44 | *313* |
| | | | | |
| **Level of physical disorder** | | | | |
| High | 77 | 68 | 52 | *87* |
| Not high | 68 | 56 | 45 | *1,111* |
| | | | | |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Employment)** | | | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 72 | 66 | 47 | *220* |
| Other output areas | 72 | 57 | 45 | *654* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 58 | 45 | 44 | *224* |
| | | | | |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Crime)** | | | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 75 | 67 | 46 | *184* |
| Other output areas | 72 | 58 | 44 | *634* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 55 | 45 | 47 | *280* |

1. Includes seeing an officer on a bicycle in the local area. Reference period is the last 12 months.
2. Unweighted base refers to whether child had seen a police officer or PCSO on foot patrol in the local area in the last 12 months. Other bases will be similar.
3. See Sections 7.1 and 7.2 of the User Guide for definitions of area and household characteristics.

**Table 2.05 Familiarity of local police amongst children aged 10 to 15**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| Child knows any local police officers/PCSOs[1] | 46 |
| *Both by name and sight* | 20 |
| *By name only* | 5 |
| *By sight only* | 21 |
| Child does not  know any local police officers/PCSOs[1] | 54 |
| *Unweighted base* | *1,206* |

1. Police Community Support Officer.

**Table 2.06 Contact with the police amongst children aged 10 to 15**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| **Child had contact with a police officer/PCSOs[1] in last 12 months** | **23** |
| *Unweighted base* | *1,211* |
| | |
| **Contact initiated by** | |
| Child contacted/approached police | 30 |
| Police contacted/approached respondent | 52 |
| Varied at different times | 18 |
| *Unweighted base* | *277* |

1. Police Community Support Officer.

**Table 2.07 Reasons for child-initiated contact with the police (amongst children aged 10 to 15)**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| To report a crime/attempted crime | 33 |
| General chat | 24 |
| Because child felt unsafe/needed somewhere safe to go | 9 |
| Gave a talk at child's school or youth club | 8 |
| To report anti-social behaviour | 0 |
| Other reason | 31 |
| *Unweighted base* | *129* |

1. Totals add to more than 100 per cent as more than one response possible.
2. Other reason includes: to report an accident or medical emergency, to ask for directions or the time, to ask about the job role, to ask about crime/attempted crime child involved in, to ask for other information, to report any other type of problem and because the officer was known to the child.

**Table 2.08 Reasons for police-initiated contact with child (amongst children aged 10 to 15)**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| Gave a talk at child's school or youth club | 33 |
| Child stopped by police (including to stop and search child) | 19 |
| To tell child off/to move on | 16 |
| Other reason | 46 |
| *Unweighted base* | *188* |

1. Totals add to more than 100 per cent as more than one response possible.
2. Other reason includes: to ask about a crime/attempted crime child involved in/witnessed, at a gathering nearby, to ask about what child was doing, to ask for opinions about problems in the area and to escort the child home.

**Table 2.09 Contact with the police amongst children aged 10 to 15, by personal characteristics**

| Percentages | Child had contact with the police in last 12 months | Unweighted base |
|---|---|---|
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **23** | *1,211* |
| | | |
| **Age** | | |
| 10-12 | **18** | *588* |
| 10 | 17 | *169* |
| 11 | 18 | *200* |
| 12 | 20 | *219* |
| 13-15 | **27** | *623* |
| 13 | 28 | *199* |
| 14 | 20 | *219* |
| 15 | 34 | *205* |
| | | |
| **Boys** | **23** | *608* |
| 10-12 | 17 | *289* |
| 13-15 | 29 | *319* |
| | | |
| **Girls** | **23** | *603* |
| 10-12 | 20 | *299* |
| 13-15 | 26 | *304* |
| | | |
| **Ethnic group** | | |
| White | 25 | *1,065* |
| Ethnic group other than White | 12 | *143* |
| | | |
| **Religion** | | |
| Christian | 21 | *753* |
| Religion other than Christian | 7 | *96* |
| No religion | 33 | *346* |
| | | |
| **School year[1]** | | |
| Year 5 | 12 | *92* |
| Year 6 | 19 | *168* |
| Year 7 | 21 | *206* |
| Year 8 | 22 | *222* |
| Year 9 | 25 | *210* |
| Year 10 | 28 | *189* |
| Year 11 | 32 | *118* |
| | | |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 38 | *88* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 22 | *1,118* |

1. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
2. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 2.10 Contact with the police amongst children aged 10 to 15, by household and area characteristics**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| | Child had contact with the police in last 12 months | Unweighted base |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | 23 | 1,211 |
| | | |
| **Structure of household** | | |
| Single adult & child(ren) | 32 | 199 |
| Adults & child(ren) | 21 | 1,012 |
| | | |
| **Total household income** | | |
| Less than £10,000 | 28 | 90 |
| £10,000 less than £20,000 | 25 | 208 |
| £20,000 less than £30,000 | 27 | 176 |
| £30,000 less than £40,000 | 21 | 164 |
| £40,000 less than £50,000 | 18 | 120 |
| £50,000 or more | 24 | 241 |
| No income stated or not enough information provided | 19 | 212 |
| | | |
| **Tenure** | | |
| Owner-occupied | 22 | 826 |
| Social-rented | 29 | 218 |
| Private-rented | 21 | 165 |
| | | |
| **Accommodation type** | | |
| Houses | 23 | 1,159 |
| *Detached* | 20 | 362 |
| *Semi-detached* | 22 | 456 |
| *Terraced* | 27 | 341 |
| Flats/maisonettes | - | 39 |
| | | |
| **Output area classification** | | |
| Blue collar communities | 32 | 260 |
| City living | - | 22 |
| Countryside | 21 | 177 |
| Prospering suburbs | 21 | 336 |
| Constrained by circumstances | 21 | 105 |
| Typical traits | 24 | 209 |
| Multicultural | 16 | 102 |
| | | |
| **Area type** | | |
| Urban | 23 | 898 |
| Rural | 25 | 313 |
| | | |
| **Level of physical disorder** | | |
| High | 21 | 87 |
| Not high | 23 | 1,116 |
| | | |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Employment)** | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 27 | 221 |
| Other output areas | 21 | 658 |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 25 | 224 |
| | | |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Crime)** | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 24 | 185 |
| Other output areas | 23 | 636 |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 24 | 282 |

1. See Sections 7.1 and 7.2 of the User Guide for definitions of area and household characteristics.

**Table 2.11 Satisfaction with police contact (amongst children aged 10 to 15)**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---:|
| **Child-initiated contact** | |
| Satisfied | 79 |
| Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied | 12 |
| Dissatisfied | 10 |
| | |
| **Change in opinion based on contact (child-initiated)** | |
| More positive | 45 |
| Less positive | 8 |
| Did not change your opinion of the police | 48 |
| | |
| *Unweighted base [1]* | *130* |
| | |
| **Police-initiated contact** | |
| Satisfied | 77 |
| Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied | 12 |
| Dissatisfied | 11 |
| | |
| **Change in opinion based on contact (police-initiated)** | |
| More positive | 35 |
| Less positive | 9 |
| Did not change your opinion of the police | 57 |
| | |
| *Unweighted base [2]* | *193* |

1. Unweighted base refers to satisfaction with child-initiated contact. Bases for change in opinion based on contact will be similar.
2. Unweighted base refers to satisfaction with police-initiated contact. Bases for change in opinion based on contact will be similar.

**Table 2.12 Perceptions of the local police amongst children aged 10 to 15, by personal characteristics**

**Percentages**                         **England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS**

| | Police will help if needed | Police are helpful and friendly towards young people | Police treat young people same as adults | Police treat everyone fairly | Police understand problems faced by young people | Police deal with the things that matter to young people | Positive opinion of police in local area | Unweighted base [1] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **87** | **75** | **43** | **86** | **69** | **65** | **48** | *1,189* |
| **Age** | | | | | | | | |
| 10-12 | **89** | **83** | **52** | **90** | **76** | **73** | **54** | *570* |
| 10 | 90 | 89 | 55 | 93 | 80 | 74 | 61 | *160* |
| 11 | 90 | 83 | 55 | 92 | 79 | 72 | 49 | *194* |
| 12 | 89 | 76 | 47 | 85 | 70 | 74 | 53 | *216* |
| 13-15 | **84** | **68** | **36** | **82** | **63** | **57** | **42** | *619* |
| 13 | 87 | 83 | 42 | 88 | 71 | 73 | 50 | *195* |
| 14 | 85 | 62 | 34 | 77 | 59 | 51 | 37 | *219* |
| 15 | 82 | 58 | 32 | 82 | 61 | 48 | 41 | *205* |
| **Boys** | **87** | **76** | **43** | **87** | **70** | **65** | **47** | *597* |
| 10-12 | 91 | 86 | 51 | 93 | 74 | 72 | 54 | *277* |
| 13-15 | 83 | 67 | 36 | 83 | 65 | 59 | 41 | *320* |
| **Girls** | **87** | **74** | **44** | **84** | **69** | **65** | **49** | *592* |
| 10-12 | 88 | 80 | 53 | 87 | 78 | 75 | 54 | *293* |
| 13-15 | 86 | 68 | 35 | 81 | 61 | 55 | 44 | *299* |
| **Ethnic group** | | | | | | | | |
| White | 86 | 76 | 43 | 87 | 69 | 63 | 48 | *1,047* |
| Ethnic group other than White | 88 | 72 | 44 | 79 | 69 | 71 | 49 | *139* |
| **Religion** | | | | | | | | |
| Christian | 87 | 77 | 43 | 87 | 72 | 66 | 49 | *735* |
| Religion other than Christian | 93 | 75 | 59 | 77 | 73 | 72 | 57 | *94* |
| No religion | 84 | 70 | 37 | 87 | 62 | 58 | 42 | *344* |
| **School year [2]** | | | | | | | | |
| Year 5 | 93 | 89 | 57 | 92 | 84 | 81 | 61 | *87* |
| Year 6 | 90 | 87 | 57 | 93 | 80 | 69 | 60 | *158* |
| Year 7 | 90 | 82 | 50 | 89 | 72 | 75 | 49 | *206* |
| Year 8 | 85 | 77 | 46 | 88 | 72 | 77 | 46 | *217* |
| Year 9 | 87 | 75 | 38 | 81 | 67 | 60 | 49 | *207* |
| Year 10 | 82 | 57 | 31 | 76 | 58 | 47 | 32 | *190* |
| Year 11 | 82 | 60 | 29 | 85 | 59 | 48 | 46 | *118* |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | | | | | | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 89 | 73 | 54 | 89 | 74 | 62 | 46 | *86* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 87 | 75 | 43 | 86 | 69 | 65 | 48 | *1,098* |

1. Unweighted base refers to positive opinion of police in local area. Other bases will be similar.
2. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
3. Adults are asked a similar set of questions about their attitudes towards the police but they are not directly comparable to those asked of children.
4. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 2.13 Perceptions of the local police amongst children aged 10 to 15, by household and area characteristics**

| Percentages | | | | | | | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Police will help if needed | Police are helpful and friendly towards young people | Police treat young people same as adults | Police treat everyone fairly | Police understand problems faced by young people | Police deal with the things that matter to young people | Positive opinion of police in local area | Unweighted base [1] |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **87** | **75** | **43** | **86** | **69** | **65** | **48** | *1,189* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Structure of household** | | | | | | | | |
| Single adult & child(ren) | 83 | 69 | 39 | 83 | 67 | 59 | 46 | 192 |
| Adults & child(ren) | 88 | 76 | 44 | 86 | 70 | 66 | 48 | 997 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Total household income** | | | | | | | | |
| Less than £10,000 | 82 | 73 | 38 | 83 | 61 | 63 | 47 | 86 |
| £10,000 less than £20,000 | 85 | 76 | 45 | 89 | 71 | 66 | 47 | 206 |
| £20,000 less than £30,000 | 82 | 72 | 47 | 86 | 70 | 64 | 41 | 172 |
| £30,000 less than £40,000 | 89 | 72 | 37 | 83 | 69 | 68 | 40 | 158 |
| £40,000 less than £50,000 | 88 | 81 | 52 | 91 | 74 | 68 | 50 | 116 |
| £50,000 or more | 90 | 77 | 43 | 87 | 71 | 67 | 60 | 246 |
| No income stated or not enough information provided | 89 | 73 | 41 | 80 | 68 | 57 | 46 | 205 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Tenure** | | | | | | | | |
| Owner-occupied | 87 | 75 | 43 | 87 | 69 | 65 | 48 | 809 |
| Social-rented | 82 | 76 | 41 | 82 | 68 | 63 | 41 | 216 |
| Private-rented | 94 | 74 | 51 | 86 | 78 | 68 | 59 | 162 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Accommodation type** | | | | | | | | |
| Houses | 87 | 75 | 44 | 86 | 70 | 65 | 48 | 1,139 |
| *Detached* | 91 | 79 | 45 | 88 | 75 | 68 | 56 | 351 |
| *Semi-detached* | 86 | 74 | 46 | 87 | 69 | 66 | 49 | 448 |
| *Terraced* | 84 | 73 | 40 | 83 | 66 | 61 | 39 | 340 |
| Flats/maisonettes | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 38 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Output area classification** | | | | | | | | |
| Blue collar communities | 82 | 75 | 43 | 85 | 67 | 62 | 39 | 254 |
| City living | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 22 |
| Countryside | 92 | 79 | 49 | 90 | 74 | 66 | 49 | 169 |
| Prospering suburbs | 91 | 81 | 45 | 90 | 73 | 68 | 58 | 328 |
| Constrained by circumstances | 88 | 74 | 43 | 88 | 68 | 69 | 46 | 104 |
| Typical traits | 86 | 76 | 37 | 90 | 69 | 62 | 52 | 210 |
| Multicultural | 83 | 61 | 42 | 69 | 66 | 64 | 39 | 102 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Area type** | | | | | | | | |
| Urban | 86 | 74 | 42 | 85 | 69 | 64 | 47 | 884 |
| Rural | 89 | 78 | 47 | 90 | 71 | 65 | 52 | 305 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Level of physical disorder** | | | | | | | | |
| High | 88 | 80 | 50 | 81 | 75 | 68 | 37 | 83 |
| Not high | 87 | 75 | 43 | 86 | 69 | 64 | 49 | 1,099 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Employment)** | | | | | | | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 77 | 66 | 39 | 82 | 61 | 60 | 35 | 215 |
| Other output areas | 89 | 77 | 44 | 86 | 71 | 66 | 49 | 644 |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 92 | 79 | 43 | 89 | 71 | 67 | 60 | 223 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Crime)** | | | | | | | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 81 | 71 | 42 | 83 | 65 | 59 | 38 | 181 |
| Other output areas | 87 | 75 | 42 | 85 | 70 | 65 | 49 | 624 |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 90 | 78 | 45 | 90 | 70 | 68 | 53 | 277 |

1. Unweighted base refers to positive opinion of police in local area. Other bases will be similar.
2. Adults are asked a similar set of questions about their attitudes towards the police but they are not directly comparable to those asked of children.
3. See Sections 7.1 and 7.2 of the User Guide for definitions of area and household characteristics.

**Table 2.14 Perceptions of the local police amongst children aged 10 to 15, by contact with the police**

Percentages                                                                                                                                    **England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS**

| | **Police will help if needed** | **Police are helpful and friendly towards young people** | **Police treat young people same as adults** | **Police treat everyone fairly** | **Police understand problems faced by young people** | **Police deal with the things that matter to young people** | **Positive opinion of police in local area** | *Unweighted base [1]* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **87** | **75** | **43** | **86** | **69** | **65** | **48** | *1,189* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Contact with the police in last 12 months** | | | | | | | | |
| Any contact with police | 83 | 67 | 35 | 84 | 64 | 58 | 46 | *283* |
| No contact with police | 88 | 77 | 46 | 87 | 71 | 67 | 48 | *888* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Whether seen police in/around school in last 12 months** | | | | | | | | |
| Seen police in/around school | 86 | 74 | 42 | 85 | 67 | 63 | 48 | *962* |
| Not seen police in/around school | 89 | 78 | 52 | 89 | 79 | 71 | 48 | *193* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **How often seen police in/around school in last 12 months** | | | | | | | | |
| Once a month or more | 86 | 73 | 42 | 84 | 67 | 63 | 47 | *691* |
| Less than once a month | 85 | 77 | 42 | 88 | 70 | 64 | 50 | *261* |
| Never | 89 | 78 | 52 | 89 | 79 | 71 | 48 | *193* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Whether seen police on foot patrol[2] in local area in last 12 months** | | | | | | | | |
| Seen police on foot patrol | 87 | 74 | 43 | 86 | 70 | 66 | 49 | *782* |
| Not seen police on foot patrol | 85 | 76 | 46 | 86 | 66 | 62 | 45 | *385* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **How often seen police on foot patrol[2] in last 12 months** | | | | | | | | |
| Once a month or more | 88 | 73 | 42 | 86 | 70 | 67 | 49 | *629* |
| Less than once a month | 86 | 78 | 45 | 86 | 71 | 60 | 46 | *143* |
| Never | 85 | 76 | 46 | 86 | 66 | 62 | 45 | *385* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Whether know officer by name/sight** | | | | | | | | |
| Know by name/sight | 89 | 77 | 47 | 86 | 68 | 67 | 52 | *544* |
| Does not know by name/sight | 85 | 73 | 40 | 86 | 70 | 62 | 44 | *622* |

1. Unweighted base refers to positive opinion of police in local area. Other bases will be similar.
2. Includes seeing an officer on a bicycle in the local area.

# 3 Personal safety and bullying experience of children

*Jacqueline Hoare*

## 3.1 SUMMARY

Estimated from the 2009/10 BCS, one per cent of children aged 13 to 15 had carried a knife for their own protection in the last year. Thirteen per cent of 13 to 15 year olds reported that they knew someone who carried a knife for their own protection.

When asked whether they agreed or disagreed that carrying a knife meant they were more likely to get stabbed themselves, 69 per cent of 13 to 15 year olds agreed that it did, although 17 per cent disagreed with the statement and one in seven children (14%) didn't know.

Younger children were more likely to *strongly agree* that carrying a knife increased the chance of being stabbed (33% of 13 year olds, higher than the 26% of 14 and 24% of 15 year olds).

According to the 2009/10 BCS, 22 per cent of children aged 10 to 15 reported being bullied in a way that frightened or upset them in the last year. Younger children aged 10 to 12 (26%) were more likely to have experienced bullying than older children aged 13 to 15 (18%).

Levels of bullying were the same overall for boys and girls (both 22%), but this masks some differences between the sexes: boys aged 10 to 12 were most likely to have been bullied (30%).

The following describes some of the nature of bullying experienced by 10 to 15 year olds in the year prior to interview.

- The majority of incidents took place at school: nine in ten of those bullied reported that at least some bullying occurred at school (53% said that *all* bullying did while 37% said *some* did).

- Regarding specific behaviours asked about, most commonly children were called names or sworn at (79%) and least commonly children were made to hand over money or other things (7%).

- In almost all cases (99%) someone knew about the bullying, most often parents (76%) followed by teachers (60%) and friends (59%). Around nine in ten children reported that they had personally told the people who had come to know about the bullying.

Six per cent of all children aged 10 to 15 reported being cyber-bullied (having been sent unwanted and nasty emails, texts or messages or having something nasty posted about them on a website) in the year prior to interview, that is, a quarter (27%) of children who had been bullied.

Questions were asked of children about whether they took any precautions to keep their valuable personal property safe. The most common way that children reported keeping electronic items safe was to keep them hidden or out of sight (mobile phones, 34%; iPods/MP3 players, 40%; games consoles, 54%, of those who owned the items).

Three-quarters (76%) of children who owned a bicycle said they stored their bike in a house or locked garage or shed, the most frequent means of protecting it. Around half (52%) of bike-owning children said they locked their bike up when it was not being used in public, but around a quarter (26%) said they never did this.

## 3.2 INTRODUCTION

This chapter is based on data collected from 10 to 15 year olds resident in households in England and Wales who took part in the 2009/10 British Crime Survey (BCS). Around 3,800 children were randomly selected from within households already taking part in the survey. For more information see Chapter 1 and the User Guide to Home Office Crime Statistics.

All children who were interviewed were asked questions about their experience of crime (see Millard and Flatley, 2010) but other modules of questions were randomly allocated to sub-samples. About a third of the overall sample of children (around 1,200) was asked questions about their personal safety experiences. This is large enough to provide robust national estimates for questions asked of the whole sub-sample but caution should be used when interpreting responses to questions asked of further sub-samples as these are sometimes based on a low number of cases.

Any differences in BCS estimates that are described in this chapter are statistically significant at the five per cent level (see Section 8 of the User Guide). Tests of statistical significance are related to sample size; it may be that some apparently large differences are not statistically significant here, but would be so with a larger sample.

Analyses are presented in this chapter on questions relating to personal safety experiences of children. The chapter firstly covers the experience of and attitude toward carrying knives. The other topics explored in this chapter comprise:

- the extent of bullying, the children that were most likely to experience it, the nature of their experience; and

- ownership of valuable electronic items (mobile phones, iPods/MP3 players and portable games consoles) and bikes and whether children took any particular precautions to safeguard these items.

## 3.3 EXPERIENCE OF AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS KNIFE CARRYING

### Experience of knife carrying

There has been growing concern about knife crime among young people in recent years, in particular fuelled by a number of high-profile homicides in some inner city areas. Previous surveys have produced different estimates of the proportion of young people carrying a knife. The 2009/10 BCS estimates that one per cent of children aged 13 to 15 carried a knife for their own protection in the last year (data not shown; see Box 3.1 for further discussion).[1]

---

[1] It was not possible to break down this estimate further (for example, by personal characteristics) due to the small number of children on the survey who reported carrying a knife.

**Box 3.1 Estimating levels of knife carrying among children**

Children aged 13 to 15 were asked on the BCS:

- In the last 12 months, have <u>you</u> carried a knife for your own protection, in case you got into a fight or for any other reason?

Levels of knife carrying among children are difficult to estimate. Various surveys have attempted to do so and have produced a range of figures which vary according to the methodology of the survey and the exact question being asked.

The figure produced from 13 to 15 year olds on the BCS is a similar level to the one per cent of 12 to 13 year olds who reported carrying a knife for their own protection based on the 2006 Offending Crime and Justice Survey (Roe and Ashe, 2008). It is, however, considerably lower than the Youth Survey's estimate that 23 per cent of 11 to 16 year old school children reported carrying a knife in the previous 12 months (Anderson *et al.*, 2009). It should be noted that the question on the Youth Survey included all types of knives (such as penknives) and did not specify that carrying the knife should be related to protection. As such, 30 per cent of knife-carrying 11 to 16 year olds reported using the knife for a hobby, activity or sport.

The proportion of children carrying a knife should be considered in the context of the type of knives carried and the reasons for doing so (e.g. hobbies). Questions on frequency of and reasons for knife carrying were asked on the BCS, but it is not possible to analyse this due to the low numbers who reported carrying a knife for protection.

Thirteen per cent of 13 to 15 year olds reported that they knew someone who carried a knife for their own protection.[2] There were few differences seen by personal characteristics (see Box 3.2 for preliminary analysis by potentially problematic behaviours).

There was no difference in the proportion of boys or girls who said they knew someone who carried a knife (both 13%). However, the proportion of 15 year olds who said they knew someone who carried a knife (19%) was higher than for both 13 and 14 year olds (7% and 13% respectively). Commensurate with findings by age, children in school years 10 and 11 were most likely to know someone who carried a knife (17% and 19% respectively).

A quarter of children (25%) who had been bullied in the last year knew someone who carried a knife, higher than the one in nine children (11%) who had not been bullied (Table 3.01).

**Box 3.2 Children who knew someone who carried a knife, by potentially problematic behaviours**

Preliminary analysis of questions designed to be indicative of potentially problematic behaviours (i.e. truanting, exclusion from school and experience of being drunk (all in the last year)) indicated that those with such experience were more likely to have known someone who carried a knife for their own protection (Table 3a). These behaviours are likely to themselves be correlated with other factors such as age and area characteristics and the initial analysis presented here has not controlled for the effect of one on the other. Preliminary findings showed:

- Compared with children who hadn't truanted (11%) or been suspended or excluded from school (12%) in the last year, those who had were more likely to know someone who carried a knife (29% and 27% respectively).

- Those aged 13 to 15 who had felt drunk in the last year were more than twice as likely to know someone carrying a knife than those who hadn't (26% and 9% respectively).

---

[2] This figure includes situations where others have boasted about carrying knives, or rumours have been spread, without the responding child actually seeing evidence of a knife on a person.

**Box 3.2 Children who knew someone who carried a knife, by potentially problematic behaviours (cont.)**

Due to the small number of children reporting having personally carried a knife for protection, it was not possible to determine whether children who carried knives were more likely to know someone who carried a knife for protection.

**Table 3a Proportion of children aged 13 to 15 who knew someone who carried a knife for their own protection, by children's behaviour**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS | |
|---|---|---|
| | | *Unweighted base* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 13-15** | **13** | *1,732* |
| **Truanting** | | |
| Truanted for a day or longer in last 12 months | 29 | *158* |
| Did not truant in last 12 months | 11 | *1,542* |
| **Suspension/exclusion** | | |
| Suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 27 | *114* |
| Not suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 12 | *1,609* |
| **Drinking behaviour** | | |
| Felt drunk in last 12 months | 26 | *378* |
| Did not feel drunk in last 12 months | 9 | *1,252* |

## Attitude towards knife carrying

There have been public information campaigns which have included messages to children about the dangers of carrying a knife. The survey therefore asked children aged 13 to 15 whether they agreed or disagreed that carrying a knife meant they were more likely to get stabbed themselves. In total, 69 per cent agreed with this, and two in five of those agreeing *strongly* believed that by carrying a knife they would be increasing the likelihood of getting stabbed. However, seventeen per cent disagreed with the statement and one in seven children (14%) said they didn't know if carrying a knife meant they were more likely to be stabbed themselves.

Due to small numbers of children reporting having personally carried a knife for protection, it was not possible to determine whether children who carried knives were more likely to agree or disagree with the statement.

There were very few differences in attitudes to knife carrying based on personal characteristics of children. Younger children were more likely to *strongly agree* that carrying a knife increased the chance of getting stabbed: 33 per cent of 13 year olds *strongly agreed* with the statement, higher than the 26 per cent of 14 year olds and 24 per cent of 15 year olds (Figure 3.1 and Table 3.02).

**Figure 3.1 Variation in children's agreement with: carrying a knife meant they were more likely to get stabbed themselves, by age, 2009/10 BCS**
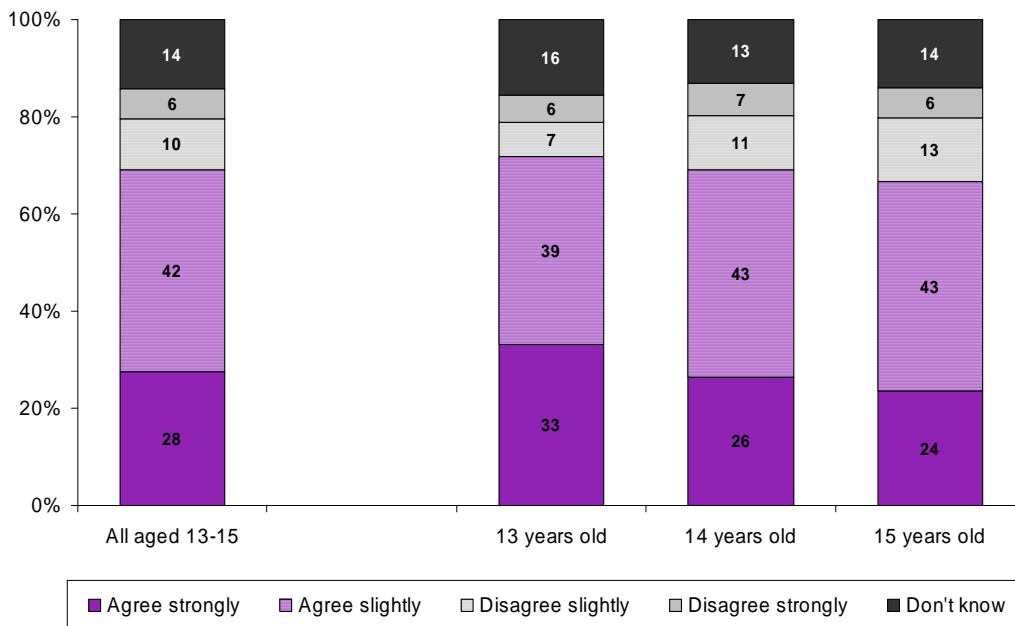


## 3.4 EXPERIENCE OF BULLYING

### Extent of bullying

These questions were randomly assigned to around a third of the sample of children aged 10 to 15 and were asked via a self-completion module (some children may not be comfortable disclosing such experiences in a face-to-face interview). The question asked whether they had been bullied in a way which 'frightened or upset you' (see Box 3.3). This is a subjective measure based on the belief held by the child: any behaviour which makes a child feel afraid or uncomfortable can be considered bullying. Some of the reported bullying experience may overlap with victimisation experience reported elsewhere in the questionnaire[3], such as incidents of physical assault, but in these analyses all situations where a child felt they had been bullied are included.

Overall, 22 per cent of children aged 10 to 15 reported being bullied in a way that frightened or upset them in the last year.[4] Younger children aged 10 to 12 (26%) were more likely to have experienced bullying than older children aged 13 to 15 (18%; Table 3.03).

Levels of bullying were the same overall for boys and girls (both 22%), but this masks some differences between the sexes (Figure 3.2).

- Boys were twice as likely to have experienced bullying at ages 10 to 12 (30%) than at ages 13 to 15 (15%) but there was no difference between girls aged 10 to 12 or 13 to 15 (22% for both age groups).

- In the older age group, girls (22%) were more likely to have experienced bullying than boys (15%). The apparent difference in levels of bullying among boys and girls in the younger age group (30% and 22% respectively) was not statistically significant.

---

[3] In the BCS, at the end of the questions on children's victimisation experiences, 10 to 15 year olds are specifically asked if they thought the incident they had described was part of a series of bullying. These data can be further explored once headline crime figures from the 2009/10 and 2010/11 BCS are published in July 2011.
[4] If a child had experienced a longer series of bullying behaviours, it may be that they no longer felt frightened or upset. The response is based on the child's perception and in this situation would possibly not be considered bullying in the context of the question.

**Figure 3.2  Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 experiencing bullying in the last year, by age and sex, 2009/10 BCS**



---
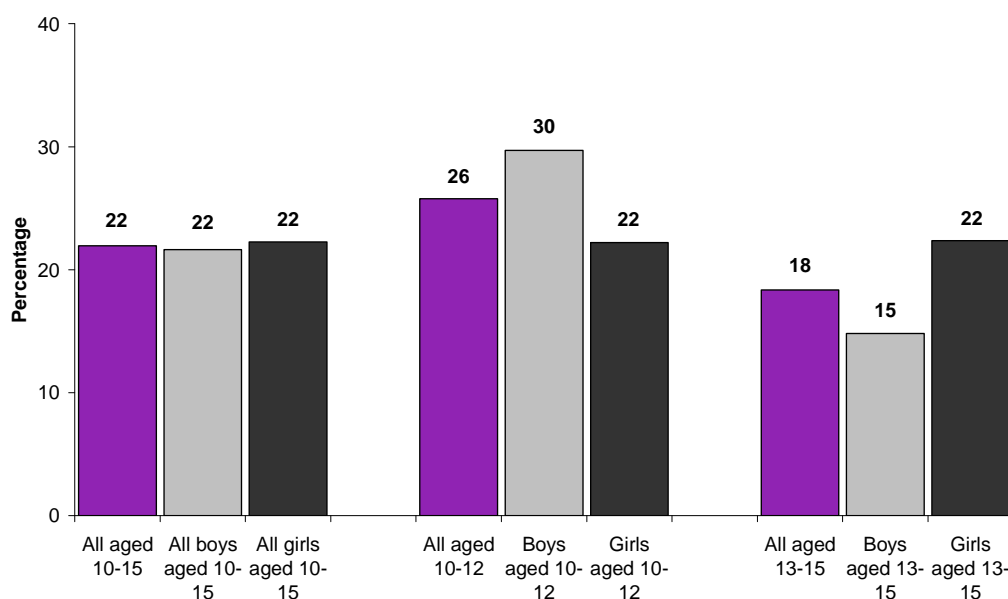
**Box 3.3 Experience of bullying: questions used in the children's BCS**

Children aged 10 to 15 were asked:

- In the last 12 months, has anyone bullied you in a way that frightened or upset you?

Children who reported being bullied were asked about specific behaviours they may have experienced:

- [Has the bully/Have the bullies] done any of these things to you?
  o Physically hurt you or tried to hurt you
  o Pushed or shoved you
  o Threatened to hurt you
  o None of these things

- And [has the bully/have the bullies] done any of these things to you?
  o Stole your money or other belongings
  o Made or tried to make you give them money or other things
  o Damaged your belongings
  o None of these things

- And [has the bully/have the bullies] done any of these things to you?
  o Called you names, swore at you or insulted you
  o Ignored you on purpose or left you out of things
  o Spread rumours about you
  o None of these things

All children who reported being bullied were subsequently asked:

- Have you experienced cyber-bullying? For example [has the bully/have the bullies] sent you unwanted and nasty emails, texts or messages or posted something nasty about you on a website.

The data show that levels of bullying were higher among younger children. Although some of the individual differences were not statistically significant (likely due to sample size), 10 and 11 year olds were generally most likely to have been bullied (31% and 26% respectively) compared with older children (for example, 15% of 14 year olds).

The age differences described above were reflected in analysis by school year, with levels of bullying highest among children in Year 5 (37%) which includes 10 year olds[5] and Year 7 (33%) which is often when children transfer to secondary school. Levels of bullying were lower in Year 6 (21%) compared with both Year 5 and Year 7.

There were few further statistically significant differences in levels of bullying by other personal characteristics[6] (Table 3.03). There were however some differences when considering levels of bullying in relation to background characteristics of children.[7]

Generally there was a negative association between being bullied and household income levels. Not all differences were statistically significant but children in households with an income of between £10,000 and £19,999 were more likely to have been bullied (28%) than those in households of £20,000 to £29,999 and £50,000 or more (both 18%).

Consistent with the above findings, in areas defined (by the ONS Output Area Classification[8]) as Blue collar communities or Constrained by circumstances, levels of bullying experienced by 10 to 15 year olds were among the highest (27% and 33% respectively). Conversely, children in areas determined to be Countryside or Prospering suburbs had the lowest levels (16% and 17% respectively) (Table 3.04).

## Extent of cyber-bullying

Children who reported being bullied were asked specifically about their experience of cyber-bullying, that is, having been sent unwanted and nasty emails, texts or messages or having something nasty posted about them on a website (see Box 3.3). This is a relatively new form of bullying, hence the question was asked in order to provide an estimate from a nationally representative survey.

Six per cent of all children aged 10 to 15 reported being cyber-bullied in the year prior to interview, that is, a quarter (27%) of children who had been bullied (Table 3.03).

As shown above for bullying, overall there was little difference in levels of cyber-bullying by sex but contrary to the pattern shown for bullying, prevalence of cyber-bullying generally increased in line with age. Girls aged 13 to 15 were more likely to have experienced cyber-bullying (9%) than boys in the same age group (4%) and younger girls in the 10 to 12 age group (also 4%). Levels of cyber-bullying were similar among boys aged 10 to 12 and 13 to 15 (6% and 4% respectively) (Table 3.03). This is likely related to greater availability and use of technology among older children.

Similar to the findings for bullying, children living in areas defined as Constrained by Circumstances were most likely to have experienced cyber-bullying (12%) and those in Countryside and Prospering Suburbs were least likely (3% and 4% respectively; Table 3.04).

---

[5] Both nine and ten year olds are commonly in Year 9, but the BCS does not interview children under the age of ten.
[6] As statistical significance is related to sample size, it may be that real differences were simply not detected due to low numbers.
[7] Many of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics will be closely associated so caution is needed in the interpretation of the effect of these different characteristics when viewed in isolation
[8] See Section 7.1 of the User Guide for details of Output Area Classification.

## Nature of bullying

Children aged 10 to 15 years who reported being bullied in the last year were asked additional questions about the nature of the bullying they had experienced.

As expected, the majority of incidents took place at school: nine in ten reported that at least some bullying occurred whilst at school. Half of children who had been bullied in the last year (53%) said that *all* the bullying took place at school while 37 per cent said that *some* took place at school (Table 3.05). The Department for Education has lead responsibility within government for providing advice and assistance to reduce levels of bullying; their anti-bullying policies have been focussed through schools and teachers.[9]

The frequency of bullying experienced by children aged 10 to 15 varied widely; 30 per cent said they were bullied at least once a week, while 41 per cent were bullied less often than once a month. Around one in seven children (14%) said that the bullying varied too much to be able to define its exact frequency (Table 3.05).

Children who had experienced bullying were asked how many people had bullied them; around two in five children (42%) said one person only. A quarter of 10 to 15 year olds (25%) reported that they had been bullied by four or more people in the last year. Although the proportions varied slightly, there were no clear differences by age or sex of children in the number of people that children reported had bullied them (Table 3.06).

Regarding specific behaviours asked about (see Box 3.3) there was variation in the types of behaviours experienced; most commonly children were called names or sworn at (79%) and least commonly children were made to hand over money or other things (7%) (Figure 3.3 and Table 3.07).

**Figure 3.3 Proportion of different bullying experienced by children aged 10 to 15 experiencing bullying in the last year, 2009/10 BCS**
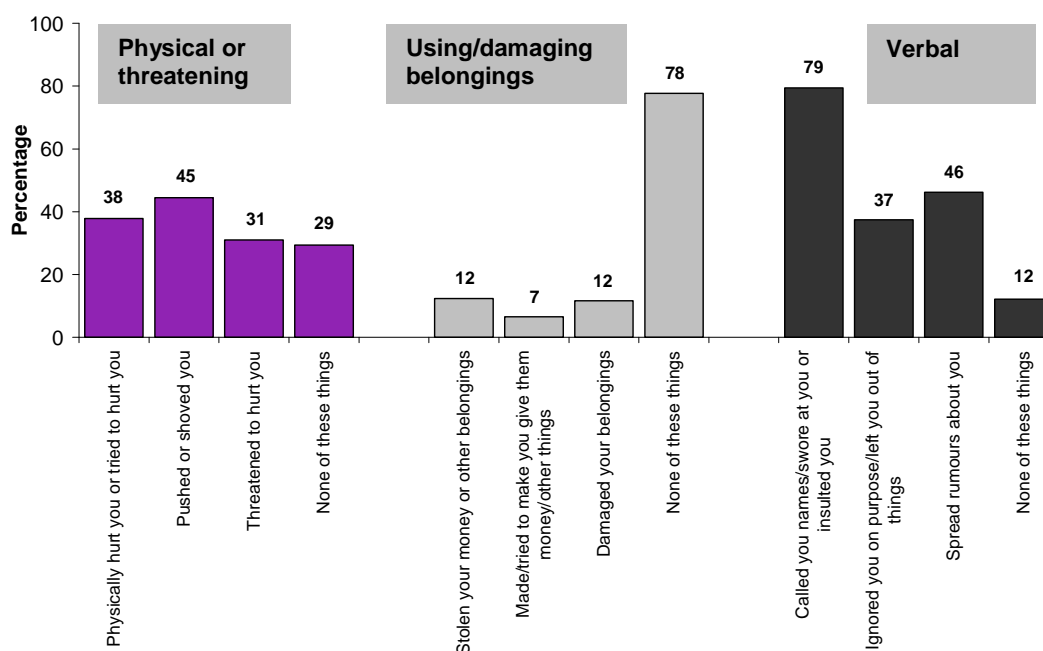


1. Children who had been bullied were asked three separate sets of questions about the types of bullying behaviours they had experienced; these bullying behaviours can be summarised as 'physical or threatening', 'using/damaging belongings', or 'verbal'.

[9] The Department for Education is creating powers for teachers in the Education Bill currently before Parliament and has recently updated advice to schools regarding legal obligations and powers held by schools.

A quarter of children aged 10 to 15 who had been bullied said that they had been injured as a result. Due to the low number of children these data are based on, it is not possible to produce robust estimates of the type of injuries sustained, but analysis of aggregate data suggest that of those injured, three-quarters of children had minor[10] injuries inflicted, whilst one-third received a serious[7] injury (Table 3.07).

Children who were bullied in the last year were further asked whether anyone knew about the bullying and in almost all cases children said someone knew (99%). Parents most commonly knew about bullying experienced by children (76%), followed by teachers (60%) and friends (59%) (Table 3.08).

Around nine in ten children reported that they had personally told the people who had come to know about the bullying; these levels remained similar according to the age or sex or the child that was bullied (for example, 89% of 10 to 12 year olds personally told someone about being bullied, compared with 90% of 13 to 15 year olds) (Table 3.09).

The vast majority of children had personally told people about the bullying when specifically considering how parents (91%), teachers (88%) and friends (82%) found out[11] (Figure 3.4 and Table 3.10).

**Figure 3.4  How people found out about bullying experienced by children aged 10 to 15 in the last year, 2009/10 BCS**
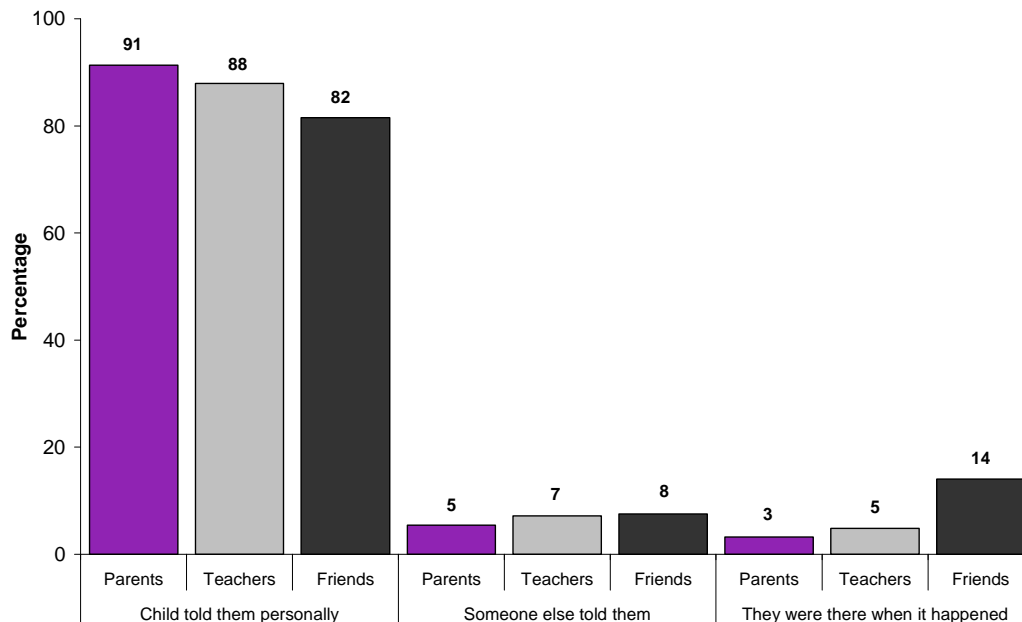


[10] Due to low cell sizes responses were combined into 'minor' and 'serious' injuries. Minor injuries comprise bruises/black eye, nosebleed, scratches, cuts. Serious injuries comprise severe bruising, knife/stab wounds, broken bones, gunshot wounds. Children can report more than one type of injury, so totals add up to more than 100 per cent.
[11] Figures include cases where one person only knew about the bullying, or where there was just one way in which people found out.

### 3.5 OWNERSHIP OF AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS TAKEN WITH PERSONAL PROPERTY

Compared with adults, children own less personal property but the items they do own can be of considerable value. Public safety messages have been focussed on encouraging young people to protect their personal property. The survey investigated what types of safety precautions were taken by children with regard to valuable items commonly owned, that is, mobile phones, iPods/MP3 players, portable games consoles and bicycles.

## Ownership of electronic items and bikes

The majority of children aged 10 to 15 owned a mobile phone (86%), an iPod or MP3 player (66%), a portable games console (71%) or a bike (78%). As expected levels of ownership varied with age (Table 3.11).

- Children aged between 12 and 15 were most likely to own mobile phones (around 9 in 10), while children aged 10 (67%) and 11 (78%) were least likely.[12]

- Fifteen year olds were most likely to own an iPod or MP3 player (76%).

- Young children aged 10 were most likely to own a portable games console (84%).

- Older children aged 14 and 15 were least likely to be bike owners (72% and 65% respectively).

Questions were asked of owners to gauge awareness of personal security issues concerning each of these items.

## Safety precautions taken with electronic items and bikes

There are some actions that children could take if they were looking to protect their electronic items and bikes when they are out and about. Regarding electronic items, children were asked whether they avoided using the item in public, kept the item hidden or out of sight, and whether they avoided using the item in certain places (such as on public transport or at school).

The majority of children carried out at least some of these precautionary behaviours: very few said they never did any of those things (mobile phones, 4%; iPod/MP3 player, 5%, games console, 8%). Most care was taken of games consoles, with a third of children reporting that they took all three safety precautions all of the time. iPods/MP3 players were also looked after with mobile phones the least cared for (15% and 3% of children carried out all three behaviours respectively) (Table 3.12).

Focussing on the proportion of children who reported that they took a precaution all of the time, the most common way that children reported keeping electronic items safe was to keep them hidden or out of sight. Thirty-four per cent of children did this with their mobile phones, 40 per cent with iPods/MP3 players and 54 per cent with games consoles.

As the second most common behaviour, children avoided using electronic items in certain places, but the least-employed behaviour was to avoid using the item in public all of the time. Again it was clear that safety precautions were more likely to be followed with regard to games consoles than for other electronic items, although this may be age-related as younger children were more likely to carry out precautionary behaviours and also own games consoles (Figure 3.5 and Tables 3.13 to 3.15).

---

[12] This is in line with previously published findings from the 2007/08 BCS which reported 73 per cent of 10 to 13 year olds being mobile phone owners, and 94 per cent of those aged 14 to 17 (Flatley *et al.*, 2009).

**Figure 3.5  Safety precautions carried out all the time by children looking after electronic items, 2009/10 BCS**
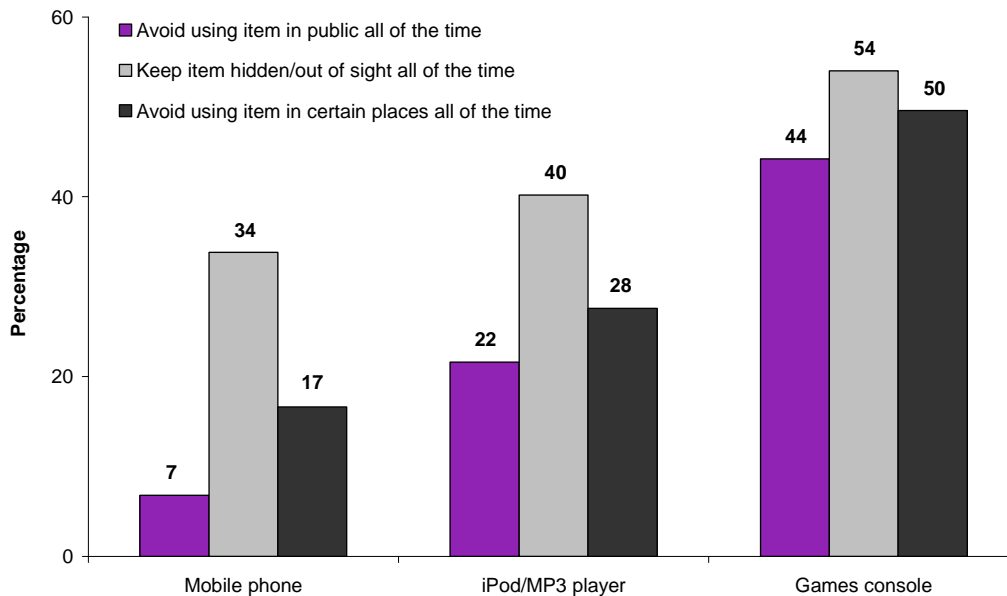


It is not possible to determine from these data whether this is related to cost of electronic items or their inherent value to the owner. But patterns seem to be related to age – in general younger owners were more likely to take safety precautions *all of the time*, for example (Tables 3.13 to 3.15):

- Children aged ten were more likely to *avoid using their mobile phone in public* all of the time compared with 14 and 15 year olds.

- Ten year old children were the most careful when it came to *not using their mobile phone in certain places*: 40 per cent did this, more than children of any other age.

- Children aged ten were more likely to *avoid using their iPod/MP3 player in public* all of the time compared with 13, 14 and 15 year olds.

- Older children aged 15 were the least likely to *keep their iPod/MP3 player hidden or out of sight* all the time, just 27 per cent, compared with 10 to 12 year olds (for example, 47% of ten year olds).

- The likelihood of children *avoiding using their iPod/MP3 player in certain places* decreased significantly by age, starting with 56 per cent of ten year olds, to 11 per cent of 15 year olds.

The exception to this is for games consoles, where care was taken at all ages and there were no differences by age in whether children took safety precautions all of the time.

Bicycle owners were given four statements relating to safety of their bikes, whether they: stored the bike in house or locked garage/shed, locked it up when not being used in public, took off part of the bike to make it harder to ride away or, took off removable parts that could be stolen.

Three-quarters of 10 to 15 year old bike owners (76%) stored their bike in a house or locked garage or shed, the most common behaviour. Around half (52%) of bike-owning children said they locked up their bike when it was not being used in public but around a quarter (26%) said that they never did this.

The least likely behaviours to be carried out by children were to take off parts of the bike, either to make it harder to ride away or so parts couldn't be stolen: 91 per cent and 85 per cent respectively never did this (Table 3.16). Only one per cent of children aged 10 to 15 said they did all four of these things all of the time to protect their bike (Table 3.12).

**Table 3.01  Proportion of children aged 13 to 15 who knew someone who carried a knife for their own protection, by personal characteristics**

| Percentages | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|---|
| | | *Unweighted base* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 13-15** | 13 | *1,732* |
| **Age[1]** | | |
| 13 | 7 | *571* |
| 14 | 13 | *596* |
| 15 | 19 | *565* |
| **Sex** | | |
| Boys | 13 | *877* |
| Girls | 13 | *855* |
| **Ethnic group** | | |
| White | 12 | *1,550* |
| Ethnic group other than White | 16 | *182* |
| **Religion** | | |
| Christian | 10 | *1,021* |
| Religion other than Christian | 14 | *109* |
| No religion | 19 | *587* |
| **School year[1,2]** | | |
| Year 8 | 7 | *275* |
| Year 9 | 9 | *616* |
| Year 10 | 17 | *515* |
| Year 11 | 19 | *311* |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 15 | *150* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 13 | *1,580* |
| **Experience of bullying[3]** | | |
| Bullied in last 12 months | 25 | *103* |
| Not bullied in last 12 months | 11 | *477* |

1. Question asked in self-completion module of all children aged 13 to 15.
2. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 11 represents only pupils aged 15.
3. Question asked in the self-completion module of a third of the sample.
4. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 3.02  Proportion of children aged 13 to 15 who agreed or disagreed that carrying a knife meant they were more likely to get stabbed themselves, by personal characteristics**

Percentages                                                                                                                      England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS

| | Agreed | Agreed strongly | Agreed slightly | Disagreed | Disagreed slightly | Disagreed strongly | Don't know | Unweighted base |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 13-15** | **69** | **28** | **42** | **17** | **10** | **6** | **14** | *1,916* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Age[1]** | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | **72** | 33 | 39 | **13** | 7 | 6 | 16 | *618* |
| 14 | **69** | 26 | 43 | **18** | 11 | 7 | 13 | *670* |
| 15 | **67** | 24 | 43 | **19** | 13 | 6 | 14 | *628* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Boys | **69** | 28 | 41 | **17** | 11 | 6 | 14 | *975* |
| Girls | **69** | 27 | 42 | **16** | 10 | 6 | 15 | *941* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Ethnic group** | | | | | | | | |
| White | **70** | 28 | 42 | **17** | 10 | 6 | 14 | *1,706* |
| Ethnic group other than White | **66** | 26 | 40 | **17** | 11 | 6 | 17 | *210* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Religion** | | | | | | | | |
| Christian | **69** | 27 | 42 | **16** | 10 | 7 | 15 | *1,122* |
| Religion other than Christian | **67** | 26 | 41 | **15** | 10 | 6 | 17 | *129* |
| No religion | **69** | 29 | 40 | **18** | 13 | 6 | 13 | *651* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **School year[1,2]** | | | | | | | | |
| Year 8 | **72** | 35 | 37 | **11** | 5 | 5 | 18 | *298* |
| Year 9 | **71** | 30 | 40 | **16** | 9 | 7 | 13 | *679* |
| Year 10 | **66** | 23 | 43 | **19** | 13 | 6 | 15 | *573* |
| Year 11 | **69** | 24 | 45 | **20** | 14 | 6 | 12 | *349* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | | | | | | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | **68** | 32 | 36 | **15** | 8 | 6 | 18 | *167* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | **69** | 27 | 42 | **17** | 11 | 6 | 14 | *1,745* |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **Experience of bullying** | | | | | | | | |
| Bullied in last 12 months | **69** | 34 | 35 | **18** | 10 | 9 | 13 | *111* |
| Not bullied in last 12 months | **73** | 27 | 46 | **15** | 9 | 6 | 13 | *537* |

1. Question asked in self-completion module of children aged 13 to 15.
2. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 11 represents only pupils aged 15.
3. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 3.03  Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who experienced bullying in the last year, by personal characteristics**

| Percentages | | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Experience of bullying | *Unweighted base* | Experience of cyber-bullying[1] | *Unweighted base* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **22** | ***1,241*** | **6** | ***1,228*** |
| **Age** | | | | |
| 10-12 | **26** | ***586*** | **5** | ***578*** |
| 10 | 31 | *169* | 3 | *167* |
| 11 | 26 | *203* | 6 | *199* |
| 12 | 21 | *214* | 5 | *212* |
| 13-15 | **18** | ***655*** | **6** | ***650*** |
| 13 | 21 | *204* | 6 | *203* |
| 14 | 15 | *243* | 7 | *241* |
| 15 | 19 | *208* | 7 | *206* |
| **Boys** | **22** | ***637*** | **5** | ***634*** |
| 10-12 | 30 | *297* | 6 | *294* |
| 13-15 | 15 | *340* | 4 | *340* |
| **Girls** | **22** | ***604*** | **7** | ***594*** |
| 10-12 | 22 | *289* | 4 | *284* |
| 13-15 | 22 | *315* | 9 | *310* |
| **Ethnic group** | | | | |
| White | 23 | *1,106* | 6 | *1,095* |
| Ethnic group other than White | 17 | *135* | 2 | *133* |
| **Religion** | | | | |
| Christian | 22 | *734* | 6 | *726* |
| Religion other than Christian | 17 | *80* | 4 | *80* |
| No religion | 23 | *417* | 6 | *412* |
| **School year[2]** | | | | |
| Year 5 | 37 | *75* | 5 | *74* |
| Year 6 | 21 | *193* | 1 | *191* |
| Year 7 | 33 | *193* | 9 | *188* |
| Year 8 | 17 | *202* | 5 | *201* |
| Year 9 | 19 | *240* | 8 | *240* |
| Year 10 | 17 | *212* | 5 | *210* |
| Year 11 | 20 | *111* | 8 | *109* |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 27 | *124* | 9 | *120* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 21 | *1,116* | 5 | *1,107* |

1. Cyber-bullying is considered here as a subset of bullying; respondents who say they have been bullied in the last 12 months are subsequently asked whether they have experienced cyber-bullying (that is, bullies sending unwanted and nasty emails, texts or messages, or posting something nasty about the respondent on a website).
2. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
3. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 3.04  Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who experienced bullying in the last year, by household and area characteristics**

| Percentages | | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Experience of bullying | *Unweighted base* | Experience of cyber-bullying[1] | *Unweighted base* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **22** | *1,241* | **6** | *1,228* |
| | | | | |
| **Structure of household** | | | | |
| Single adult & child(ren) | 24 | *222* | 7 | *219* |
| Adults & child(ren) | 22 | *1,019* | 5 | *1,009* |
| | | | | |
| **Total household income** | | | | |
| Less than £10,000 | 29 | *94* | 9 | *94* |
| £10,000 less than £20,000 | 28 | *217* | 6 | *215* |
| £20,000 less than £30,000 | 18 | *179* | 3 | *176* |
| £30,000 less than £40,000 | 23 | *149* | 9 | *148* |
| £40,000 less than £50,000 | 19 | *126* | 3 | *123* |
| £50,000 or more | 18 | *259* | 4 | *256* |
| No income stated or not enough information provided | 21 | *217* | 7 | *216* |
| | | | | |
| **Tenure** | | | | |
| Owner-occupied | 20 | *853* | 5 | *843* |
| Social-rented | 25 | *206* | 8 | *204* |
| Private-rented | 24 | *181* | 4 | *180* |
| | | | | |
| **Accommodation type** | | | | |
| Houses | 22 | *1,168* | 6 | *1,157* |
| *Detached* | 17 | *341* | 2 | *336* |
| *Semi-detached* | 24 | *458* | 8 | *456* |
| *Terraced* | 22 | *369* | 6 | *365* |
| Flats/maisonettes | 29 | *53* | 8 | *52* |
| | | | | |
| **Output area classification** | | | | |
| Blue collar communities | 27 | *247* | 6 | *244* |
| City living | . | *25* | . | *25* |
| Countryside | 16 | *197* | 3 | *195* |
| Prospering suburbs | 17 | *309* | 4 | *306* |
| Constrained by circumstances | 33 | *100* | 12 | *99* |
| Typical traits | 25 | *257* | 8 | *255* |
| Multicultural | 20 | *106* | 4 | *104* |
| | | | | |
| **Area type** | | | | |
| Urban | 23 | *905* | 6 | *894* |
| Rural | 18 | *336* | 4 | *334* |
| | | | | |
| **Level of physical disorder** | | | | |
| High | 22 | *70* | 14 | *70* |
| Not high | 22 | *1,163* | 5 | *1,150* |
| | | | | |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Employment)** | | | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 29 | *218* | 6 | *215* |
| Other output areas | 19 | *651* | 6 | *645* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 18 | *264* | 3 | *262* |
| | | | | |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Crime)** | | | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 26 | *181* | 5 | *175* |
| Other output areas | 20 | *658* | 6 | *656* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 20 | *294* | 3 | *291* |

1. Cyber-bullying is considered here as a subset of bullying; respondents who say they have been bullied in the last 12 months are subsequently asked whether they have experienced cyber-bullying (that is, bullies sending unwanted and nasty emails, texts or messages, or posting something nasty about the respondent on a website).
2. See Sections 7.1 and 7.2 of the User Guide for definitions of area and household characteristics.

**Table 3.05  The nature of bullying experienced in the last year by children aged 10 to 15**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| **Where bullying took place** | |
| All took place at school | 53 |
| Some took place at school | 37 |
| None took place at school | 10 |
| *Unweighted base* | *258* |
| | |
| **Frequency of bullying** | |
| At least once a week | 30 |
| Once every 2 weeks/once a month | 16 |
| Less often than once a month | 41 |
| Varies too much to say | 14 |
| *Unweighted base* | *227* |


**Table 3.06  The number of people who children aged 10 to 15 who were bullied by in the last year**

| Percentages | Age | | Sex | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | All |
| | 10-12 | 13-15 | Boys | Girls | |
| **Number of people bullying** | | | | | |
| One | 45 | 38 | 42 | 42 | **42** |
| Two | 21 | 20 | 16 | 24 | **20** |
| Three | 12 | 15 | 15 | 11 | **13** |
| Four or more | 22 | 28 | 27 | 22 | **25** |
| *Unweighted base* | *137* | *96* | *117* | *116* | ***233*** |

**Table 3.07  The types of bullying experienced in the last year by children aged 10 to 15 who experienced bullying in the last year**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|

**Type of bullying behaviour[1]**

| | |
|---|---|
| Physically hurt you or tried to hurt you | 38 |
| Pushed or shoved you | 45 |
| Threatened to hurt you | 31 |
| None of these things | 29 |
| *Unweighted base* | *266* |
| | |
| Stole your money or other belongings | 12 |
| Made or tried to make you give them money or other things | 7 |
| Damaged your belongings | 12 |
| None of these things | 78 |
| *Unweighted base* | *256* |
| | |
| Called you names/swore at you or insulted you | 79 |
| Ignored you on purpose/left you out of things | 37 |
| Spread rumours about you | 46 |
| None of these things | 12 |
| *Unweighted base* | *266* |

**Number of bullying behaviours experienced**

| | |
|---|---|
| One or two | 42 |
| Three or four | 41 |
| Five or more | 17 |
| *Unweighted base* | *255* |

**Whether received injury[1]**

| | |
|---|---|
| No injury | 75 |
| Any injury | 25 |
| *Of which:* | |
| Minor[2] | 76 |
| Serious[2] | 33 |
| Other | 15 |
| *Unweighted base* | *63* |

1. Totals add to more than 100 per cent as more than one response possible.

2. Due to low cell sizes responses were combined into 'minor' and 'serious' injuries. Minor injuries comprise bruises/black eye, nosebleed, scratches, cuts. Serious injuries comprise severe bruising, knife/stab wounds, broken bones, gunshot wounds.

**Table 3.08  People who knew about the bullying experienced by children aged 10 to 15 in the last year**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| **Type of people who knew[1,2]** | |
| Parents | 76 |
| Teacher | 60 |
| Friends | 59 |
| Other pupils at same school | 25 |
| Other relatives | 15 |
| Boyfriend/girlfriend | 12 |
| Neighbours | 4 |
| Police | 4 |
| Someone else | 1 |
| No-one | 1 |
| | |
| **Number of people who knew** | |
| None | 1 |
| One | 28 |
| Two | 24 |
| Three | 21 |
| Four or more | 26 |
| | |
| *Unweighted base* | *261* |

1. Totals add to more than 100 per cent as more than one response possible.

2. This includes people who were told about the bullying by the child or because they found out about it in another way.

**Table 3.09  How people who knew about the bullying experienced by children aged 10 to 15 in the last year found out**

| Percentages[1] | Age | | Sex | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS<br>All |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 10-12 | 13-15 | Boys | Girls | |
| Child told them personally | 89 | 90 | 87 | 91 | 89 |
| Someone else told them | 20 | 16 | 20 | 17 | 18 |
| They were there when it happened | 25 | 38 | 30 | 31 | 31 |
| *Unweighted base* | *141* | *107* | *123* | *125* | *248* |

1. Totals add to more than 100 per cent as more than one response possible.

**Table 3.10  How people who knew about the bullying experienced by children aged 10 to 15 in the last year found out, by person who came to find out**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| | All |
| **How any people came to find out[1]** | |
| Child told them personally | 89 |
| Someone else told them | 18 |
| They were there when it happened | 31 |
| *Unweighted base* | *248* |
| **How parents came to find out[2]** | |
| Child told them personally | 91 |
| Someone else told them | 5 |
| They were there when it happened | 3 |
| *Unweighted base* | *130* |
| **How teachers came to find out[2]** | |
| Child told them personally | 88 |
| Someone else told them | 7 |
| They were there when it happened | 5 |
| *Unweighted base* | *95* |
| **How friends came to find out[2]** | |
| Child told them personally | 82 |
| Someone else told them | 8 |
| They were there when it happened | 14 |
| *Unweighted base* | *83* |

1. Total adds to more than 100 per cent as more than one response possible.

2. Figures include cases where one person only knew about the bullying, or where there was just one way in which people found out (totals may add to more than 100 per cent). Base sizes too low to provide breakdown by age and sex.

**Table 3.11  Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who owned personal electronic items or a bicycle, by personal characteristics**

| Percentages | | | | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Mobile phone | iPod/MP3 player | Portable games console | Bike | Unweighted base [1] |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **86** | **66** | **71** | **78** | *1,236* |
| **Age** | | | | | |
| 10-12 | **78** | **62** | **79** | **85** | *592* |
| 10 | 67 | 61 | 84 | 82 | *173* |
| 11 | 78 | 61 | 75 | 90 | *200* |
| 12 | 89 | 65 | 80 | 82 | *219* |
| 13-15 | **93** | **69** | **64** | **72** | *644* |
| 13 | 90 | 63 | 73 | 78 | *221* |
| 14 | 93 | 69 | 63 | 72 | *206* |
| 15 | 96 | 76 | 55 | 65 | *217* |
| **Boys** | **84** | **60** | **72** | **82** | *638* |
| 10-12 | 75 | 55 | 80 | 85 | *312* |
| 13-15 | 92 | 64 | 65 | 79 | *326* |
| **Girls** | **88** | **72** | **71** | **73** | *598* |
| 10-12 | 82 | 70 | 79 | 84 | *280* |
| 13-15 | 94 | 75 | 63 | 63 | *318* |
| **Ethnic group** | | | | | |
| White | 88 | 69 | 75 | 82 | *1,087* |
| Ethnic group other than White | 75 | 46 | 55 | 57 | *147* |
| **Religion** | | | | | |
| Religion | 85 | 64 | 71 | 77 | *856* |
| No religion | 89 | 71 | 73 | 80 | *366* |
| **School year [2]** | | | | | |
| Year 5 | 65 | 56 | 79 | 85 | *78* |
| Year 6 | 69 | 61 | 83 | 85 | *194* |
| Year 7 | 86 | 64 | 76 | 84 | *199* |
| Year 8 | 88 | 64 | 78 | 81 | *216* |
| Year 9 | 95 | 65 | 64 | 78 | *235* |
| Year 10 | 94 | 69 | 69 | 69 | *176* |
| Year 11 | 94 | 80 | 47 | 61 | *129* |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | | | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 79 | 52 | 70 | 80 | *111* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 87 | 67 | 72 | 78 | *1,122* |

1. Unweighted base given for question about mobile phone ownership; other bases will be similar.
2. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
3. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 3.12 Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who carried out a number of precautions relating to safety of electronic items or bicycles**

| Percentages | | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 behaviours all of the time | Variety of behaviours | Never did any of the 3 behaviours | *Unweighted base* |
| **Electronic items[1]** | | | | |
| Mobile phone | 3 | 93 | 4 | *1,078* |
| iPod/MP3 player | 15 | 80 | 5 | *838* |
| Games console | 33 | 60 | 8 | *885* |
| | 4 behaviours all of the time | Variety of behaviours | Never did any of the 4 behaviours | *Unweighted base* |
| Bicycle[2] | 1 | 94 | 5 | *967* |

1. See Tables 3.13 to 3.15 for the three precautionary behaviours that children were asked about in relation to safety of electronic items.

2. See Table 3.16 for the four precautionary behaviours that children were asked about in relation to safety of bicycles.

**Table 3.13  Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who took safety precautions relating to mobile phones, by personal characteristics**

| | Avoided using mobile phone in public | | | | | Kept mobile phone hidden/out of sight | | | | | Avoided using mobile phone in certain places | | | | | Unweighted base [1] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **7** | **17** | **25** | **23** | **29** | **34** | **42** | **13** | **6** | **6** | **17** | **20** | **25** | **17** | **22** | *1,082* |
| **Age** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10-12 | **9** | **24** | **26** | **18** | **22** | **39** | **40** | **13** | **3** | **5** | **25** | **19** | **25** | **12** | **19** | *478* |
| 10 | 11 | 23 | 24 | 18 | 23 | 42 | 38 | 12 | 2 | 6 | 40 | 8 | 20 | 10 | 22 | *117* |
| 11 | 10 | 26 | 25 | 19 | 21 | 43 | 38 | 14 | 2 | 2 | 26 | 17 | 31 | 8 | 18 | *157* |
| 12 | 6 | 24 | 29 | 18 | 23 | 34 | 43 | 12 | 5 | 5 | 14 | 27 | 24 | 16 | 19 | *204* |
| 13-15 | **5** | **11** | **23** | **27** | **34** | **29** | **43** | **13** | **8** | **7** | **10** | **22** | **24** | **20** | **24** | *604* |
| 13 | 8 | 18 | 23 | 26 | 25 | 29 | 49 | 11 | 6 | 5 | 15 | 27 | 25 | 19 | 15 | *202* |
| 14 | 4 | 9 | 23 | 33 | 31 | 35 | 38 | 12 | 9 | 6 | 12 | 21 | 26 | 19 | 21 | *193* |
| 15 | 4 | 5 | 24 | 23 | 45 | 25 | 40 | 16 | 9 | 11 | 3 | 17 | 22 | 22 | 35 | *209* |
| **Boys** | **8** | **19** | **23** | **26** | **25** | **37** | **41** | **13** | **4** | **5** | **17** | **21** | **24** | **16** | **22** | *540* |
| 10-12 | 8 | 26 | 23 | 19 | 24 | 43 | 36 | 12 | 2 | 7 | 24 | 19 | 24 | 12 | 21 | *239* |
| 13-15 | 7 | 13 | 23 | 31 | 26 | 32 | 45 | 13 | 6 | 4 | 12 | 23 | 24 | 19 | 22 | *301* |
| **Girls** | **6** | **14** | **26** | **21** | **32** | **31** | **42** | **13** | **8** | **7** | **16** | **19** | **25** | **17** | **22** | *542* |
| 10-12 | 9 | 23 | 29 | 18 | 21 | 36 | 44 | 13 | 5 | 2 | 26 | 19 | 26 | 12 | 17 | *239* |
| 13-15 | 3 | 8 | 24 | 23 | 42 | 27 | 40 | 13 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 20 | 25 | 22 | 25 | *303* |
| **Ethnic group** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| White | 7 | 16 | 24 | 23 | 30 | 34 | 41 | 13 | 6 | 6 | 16 | 20 | 24 | 17 | 22 | *969* |
| Ethnic group other than White | 8 | 22 | 29 | 22 | 19 | 30 | 48 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 19 | 23 | 26 | 13 | 20 | *113* |
| **Religion** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Religion | 5 | 18 | 25 | 24 | 27 | 35 | 40 | 13 | 6 | 6 | 17 | 21 | 26 | 14 | 22 | *743* |
| No religion | 7 | 16 | 23 | 21 | 32 | 31 | 45 | 12 | 7 | 6 | 15 | 18 | 22 | 23 | 21 | *327* |
| **School year [2]** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Year 5 | 12 | 26 | 18 | 17 | 27 | 54 | 31 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 49 | 8 | 17 | 12 | 14 | *52* |
| Year 6 | 8 | 24 | 30 | 18 | 21 | 39 | 39 | 12 | 2 | 7 | 29 | 14 | 25 | 10 | 22 | *137* |
| Year 7 | 10 | 30 | 26 | 15 | 18 | 39 | 45 | 13 | 3 | 1 | 24 | 25 | 23 | 13 | 15 | *178* |
| Year 8 | 7 | 19 | 27 | 22 | 26 | 33 | 43 | 13 | 6 | 5 | 13 | 29 | 26 | 14 | 17 | *195* |
| Year 9 | 5 | 13 | 20 | 32 | 30 | 28 | 46 | 12 | 9 | 6 | 16 | 19 | 28 | 21 | 17 | *223* |
| Year 10 | 5 | 6 | 24 | 26 | 39 | 30 | 38 | 13 | 10 | 8 | 4 | 25 | 18 | 18 | 35 | *167* |
| Year 11 | 5 | 5 | 22 | 24 | 44 | 28 | 39 | 16 | 5 | 11 | 4 | 11 | 26 | 26 | 34 | *122* |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 6 | 16 | 40 | 23 | 16 | 43 | 37 | 11 | 7 | 1 | 25 | 18 | 18 | 25 | 14 | *92* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 7 | 17 | 23 | 23 | 30 | 33 | 42 | 13 | 6 | 6 | 16 | 21 | 25 | 16 | 22 | *988* |

1. Unweighted base given for question about avoiding using mobile phone in public; other bases will be similar.
2. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
3. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 3.14  Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who took safety precautions relating to iPod/MP3 players, by personal characteristics**

Percentages | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS

| | Avoided using iPod/MP3 player in public | | | | | Kept iPod/MP3 player hidden/out of sight | | | | | Avoided using iPod/MP3 player in certain places | | | | | *Unweighted base [1]* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **22** | **18** | **14** | **20** | **27** | **40** | **31** | **14** | **7** | **8** | **28** | **16** | **20** | **17** | **21** | *842* |
| **Age** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10-12 | **31** | **21** | **17** | **15** | **16** | **48** | **27** | **14** | **4** | **6** | **40** | **18** | **18** | **11** | **14** | *377* |
| 10 | 37 | 21 | 9 | 19 | 13 | 47 | 35 | 10 | 2 | 7 | 56 | 16 | 13 | 6 | 9 | *106* |
| 11 | 30 | 19 | 17 | 16 | 18 | 49 | 26 | 14 | 5 | 5 | 41 | 21 | 18 | 5 | 15 | *122* |
| 12 | 26 | 23 | 22 | 12 | 17 | 48 | 23 | 17 | 6 | 5 | 27 | 16 | 21 | 19 | 16 | *149* |
| 13-15 | **14** | **15** | **11** | **24** | **35** | **34** | **33** | **14** | **10** | **10** | **17** | **14** | **21** | **21** | **27** | *465* |
| 13 | 21 | 20 | 10 | 22 | 27 | 37 | 37 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 23 | 17 | 24 | 16 | 20 | *148* |
| 14 | 15 | 13 | 12 | 28 | 31 | 38 | 24 | 22 | 9 | 7 | 19 | 11 | 25 | 25 | 20 | *147* |
| 15 | 8 | 12 | 12 | 22 | 46 | 27 | 37 | 11 | 11 | 14 | 11 | 13 | 16 | 23 | 37 | *170* |
| **Boys** | **25** | **18** | **11** | **22** | **25** | **45** | **31** | **11** | **6** | **6** | **29** | **17** | **18** | **15** | **21** | *392* |
| 10-12 | 35 | 16 | 11 | 20 | 18 | 55 | 26 | 10 | 4 | 4 | 44 | 19 | 15 | 6 | 16 | *177* |
| 13-15 | 16 | 19 | 10 | 24 | 31 | 37 | 35 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 17 | 15 | 21 | 22 | 25 | *215* |
| **Girls** | **19** | **18** | **17** | **18** | **28** | **36** | **30** | **16** | **8** | **10** | **26** | **14** | **21** | **18** | **20** | *450* |
| 10-12 | 27 | 25 | 22 | 11 | 15 | 42 | 29 | 18 | 5 | 7 | 36 | 16 | 21 | 15 | 11 | *200* |
| 13-15 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 24 | 40 | 30 | 32 | 15 | 11 | 12 | 18 | 13 | 21 | 21 | 28 | *250* |
| **Ethnic group** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| White | 22 | 18 | 14 | 20 | 26 | 41 | 31 | 14 | 7 | 8 | 27 | 15 | 20 | 18 | 21 | *774* |
| Ethnic group other than White | 23 | 15 | 8 | 22 | 32 | 37 | 26 | 16 | 12 | 10 | 33 | 18 | 18 | 9 | 22 | *67* |
| **Religion** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Religion | 16 | 19 | 14 | 20 | 26 | 40 | 30 | 15 | 7 | 8 | 29 | 16 | 19 | 16 | 21 | *575* |
| No religion | 23 | 17 | 15 | 20 | 29 | 39 | 31 | 13 | 8 | 9 | 25 | 15 | 21 | 19 | 21 | *262* |
| **School year [2]** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Year 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | *43* |
| Year 6 | 37 | 20 | 13 | 12 | 17 | 49 | 33 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 56 | 17 | 10 | 9 | 8 | *123* |
| Year 7 | 29 | 23 | 21 | 14 | 13 | 49 | 22 | 20 | 4 | 4 | 36 | 19 | 21 | 15 | 10 | *127* |
| Year 8 | 23 | 22 | 13 | 16 | 26 | 44 | 31 | 12 | 5 | 7 | 23 | 17 | 26 | 12 | 22 | *146* |
| Year 9 | 14 | 16 | 12 | 27 | 30 | 33 | 31 | 18 | 11 | 7 | 20 | 14 | 22 | 22 | 22 | *164* |
| Year 10 | 13 | 12 | 13 | 21 | 41 | 32 | 32 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 12 | 15 | 19 | 24 | 30 | *128* |
| Year 11 | 7 | 13 | 11 | 25 | 44 | 31 | 35 | 14 | 8 | 12 | 14 | 8 | 17 | 24 | 38 | *105* |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 29 | 16 | 19 | 12 | 24 | 54 | 27 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 36 | 12 | 22 | 15 | 16 | *64* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 21 | 18 | 13 | 21 | 27 | 39 | 31 | 14 | 8 | 8 | 27 | 16 | 19 | 17 | 21 | *777* |

1. Unweighted base given for question about avoiding using iPod/MP3 player in public; other bases will be similar.
2. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
3. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 3.15  Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who took safety precautions relating to portable game consoles, by personal characteristics**

Percentages                                                                                                                England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS

| | Avoided using portable games console in public | | | | | Kept portable games console hidden/out of sight | | | | | Avoided using portable games console in certain places | | | | | Unweighted base [1] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **44** | **15** | **12** | **8** | **21** | **54** | **22** | **9** | **5** | **11** | **50** | **15** | **12** | **6** | **17** | *891* |
| **Age** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10-12 | **46** | **17** | **11** | **6** | **19** | **56** | **22** | **8** | **4** | **10** | **52** | **18** | **10** | **4** | **15** | *481* |
| 10 | 47 | 15 | 13 | 6 | 20 | 54 | 24 | 10 | 3 | 8 | 57 | 12 | 13 | 5 | 13 | *146* |
| 11 | 49 | 21 | 9 | 5 | 16 | 58 | 20 | 6 | 5 | 10 | 52 | 23 | 6 | 2 | 18 | *156* |
| 12 | 43 | 16 | 11 | 7 | 22 | 57 | 22 | 8 | 3 | 11 | 49 | 18 | 12 | 6 | 15 | *179* |
| 13-15 | **42** | **13** | **12** | **10** | **23** | **51** | **21** | **9** | **7** | **12** | **46** | **12** | **14** | **9** | **19** | *410* |
| 13 | 44 | 16 | 10 | 9 | 21 | 49 | 23 | 11 | 7 | 10 | 46 | 13 | 11 | 10 | 19 | *159* |
| 14 | 43 | 13 | 14 | 9 | 21 | 55 | 20 | 7 | 5 | 14 | 48 | 9 | 17 | 6 | 20 | *131* |
| 15 | 39 | 9 | 12 | 12 | 27 | 51 | 20 | 8 | 8 | 12 | 45 | 14 | 15 | 10 | 16 | *120* |
| **Boys** | **46** | **15** | **11** | **8** | **19** | **56** | **21** | **9** | **4** | **10** | **53** | **13** | **13** | **5** | **17** | *454* |
| 10-12 | 47 | 17 | 9 | 7 | 21 | 58 | 19 | 7 | 4 | 11 | 54 | 15 | 9 | 2 | 20 | *250* |
| 13-15 | 45 | 13 | 14 | 10 | 18 | 54 | 23 | 10 | 4 | 9 | 51 | 10 | 17 | 7 | 14 | *204* |
| **Girls** | **42** | **16** | **12** | **8** | **23** | **51** | **22** | **9** | **6** | **11** | **46** | **18** | **11** | **8** | **17** | *437* |
| 10-12 | 45 | 18 | 14 | 6 | 18 | 54 | 25 | 10 | 3 | 8 | 51 | 21 | 12 | 6 | 10 | *231* |
| 13-15 | 39 | 13 | 10 | 10 | 29 | 48 | 19 | 8 | 10 | 15 | 41 | 14 | 10 | 11 | 23 | *206* |
| **Ethnic group** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| White | 43 | 16 | 11 | 8 | 21 | 54 | 21 | 8 | 6 | 11 | 49 | 15 | 12 | 6 | 17 | *811* |
| Ethnic group other than White | 52 | 9 | 16 | 6 | 17 | 55 | 24 | 11 | 1 | 8 | 52 | 12 | 13 | 7 | 15 | *80* |
| **Religion** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Religion | 40 | 17 | 10 | 8 | 22 | 54 | 21 | 10 | 5 | 10 | 50 | 15 | 12 | 6 | 17 | *616* |
| No religion | 46 | 15 | 16 | 8 | 20 | 54 | 23 | 5 | 5 | 13 | 48 | 14 | 12 | 7 | 18 | *268* |
| **School year [2]** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Year 5 | 37 | 12 | 17 | 11 | 23 | 45 | 32 | 12 | 5 | 6 | 51 | 11 | 20 | 6 | 11 | *63* |
| Year 6 | 48 | 21 | 10 | 4 | 18 | 61 | 15 | 10 | 4 | 10 | 56 | 14 | 9 | 2 | 18 | *164* |
| Year 7 | 51 | 20 | 9 | 5 | 14 | 53 | 29 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 50 | 26 | 8 | 6 | 10 | *155* |
| Year 8 | 40 | 16 | 13 | 7 | 23 | 52 | 23 | 11 | 2 | 11 | 46 | 16 | 11 | 6 | 20 | *169* |
| Year 9 | 44 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 23 | 51 | 22 | 8 | 8 | 11 | 49 | 10 | 12 | 10 | 19 | *150* |
| Year 10 | 36 | 12 | 12 | 10 | 30 | 53 | 18 | 6 | 7 | 17 | 43 | 13 | 16 | 4 | 24 | *124* |
| Year 11 | 44 | 8 | 14 | 13 | 20 | 55 | 16 | 9 | 8 | 12 | 47 | 8 | 17 | 16 | 12 | *59* |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 49 | 15 | 6 | 8 | 22 | 67 | 12 | 10 | 5 | 7 | 55 | 12 | 12 | 5 | 16 | *83* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 44 | 15 | 12 | 8 | 21 | 53 | 23 | 9 | 5 | 11 | 49 | 15 | 12 | 6 | 17 | *807* |

1. Unweighted base given for question about avoiding using portable games console in public; other bases will be similar.
2. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
3. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 3.16  Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who took safety precautions relating to bicycles, by personal characteristics**

Percentages                                                                                                                                          England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS

| | Stored bike in a house or locked garage/shed | | | | | Locked up bike when not being used in public | | | | | Took off part of bike to make it harder to ride away | | | | | Took off removable parts that could be stolen | | | | | Unweighted base [1] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | All of the time | Most of the time | Some-times | Not that often | Never | |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **76** | **10** | **3** | **2** | **9** | **52** | **11** | **6** | **6** | **26** | **3** | **2** | **1** | **3** | **91** | **4** | **4** | **3** | **4** | **85** | *992* |
| **Age** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10-12 | **74** | **12** | **5** | **1** | **8** | **51** | **9** | **5** | **5** | **30** | **2** | **2** | **1** | **2** | **93** | **4** | **3** | **2** | **3** | **88** | *518* |
| 10 | 76 | 9 | 8 | 0 | 6 | 49 | 10 | 2 | 5 | 34 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 92 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 92 | *150* |
| 11 | 70 | 14 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 50 | 10 | 7 | 5 | 28 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 92 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 86 | *183* |
| 12 | 77 | 11 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 53 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 29 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 96 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 88 | *185* |
| 13-15 | **78** | **8** | **2** | **3** | **9** | **54** | **12** | **6** | **7** | **21** | **4** | **2** | **1** | **5** | **89** | **5** | **5** | **4** | **5** | **82** | *474* |
| 13 | 78 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 11 | 50 | 10 | 9 | 7 | 24 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 90 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 83 | *177* |
| 14 | 73 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 10 | 52 | 14 | 5 | 7 | 22 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 86 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 75 | *152* |
| 15 | 84 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 60 | 11 | 4 | 9 | 16 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 90 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 86 | *145* |
| **Boys** | **77** | **11** | **3** | **2** | **8** | **51** | **13** | **6** | **7** | **23** | **4** | **2** | **1** | **4** | **89** | **5** | **5** | **4** | **4** | **82** | *536* |
| 10-12 | 73 | 12 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 50 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 28 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 93 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 88 | *273* |
| 13-15 | 80 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 52 | 16 | 6 | 7 | 19 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 85 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 76 | *263* |
| **Girls** | **76** | **9** | **4** | **2** | **10** | **53** | **8** | **5** | **5** | **29** | **1** | **2** | **1** | **2** | **94** | **3** | **2** | **2** | **4** | **89** | *456* |
| 10-12 | 76 | 11 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 51 | 10 | 3 | 3 | 33 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 94 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 89 | *245* |
| 13-15 | 76 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 14 | 55 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 24 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 95 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 89 | *211* |
| **Ethnic group** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| White | 76 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 52 | 11 | 6 | 6 | 26 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 92 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 85 | *904* |
| Ethnic group other than White | 77 | 12 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 51 | 10 | 4 | 7 | 28 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 86 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 86 | *87* |
| **Religion** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Religion | 79 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 49 | 10 | 6 | 7 | 28 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 92 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 87 | *685* |
| No religion | 75 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 59 | 11 | 5 | 4 | 20 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 90 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 80 | *297* |
| **School year [2]** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Year 5 | 82 | 8 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 55 | 7 | 2 | 7 | 29 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 88 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 91 | *70* |
| Year 6 | 75 | 12 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 48 | 10 | 4 | 5 | 33 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 94 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 92 | *173* |
| Year 7 | 68 | 16 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 52 | 11 | 8 | 3 | 26 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 93 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 82 | *170* |
| Year 8 | 75 | 9 | 0 | 2 | 14 | 46 | 11 | 5 | 8 | 30 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 96 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 87 | *180* |
| Year 9 | 76 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 10 | 52 | 11 | 7 | 6 | 24 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 86 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 77 | *186* |
| Year 10 | 82 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 58 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 19 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 89 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 85 | *123* |
| Year 11 | 85 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 61 | 14 | 1 | 11 | 14 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 92 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 86 | *83* |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 77 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 56 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 25 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 92 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 83 | *91* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 76 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 52 | 11 | 6 | 6 | 26 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 91 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 85 | *898* |

1. Unweighted base given for question about storing bike in a house or locked garage/shed; other bases will be similar.
2. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
3. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

# 4  Children's use of public space and leisure activities

*Andrew Britton and Philip Hall*

## 4.1  SUMMARY

Questions in the 2009/10 BCS about children's use of public space showed the majority (81%) of 10 to 15 year olds said that they hung around in public spaces with friends; around half (52%) said they did this at least once a week. Personal characteristics appear to be more strongly related than household characteristics to frequency of hanging around in public.

- Boys were more likely to have hung around with their friends in a public space three times a week or more (25%) than girls (17%).

Only one in five (20%) 10 to 15 year olds had been moved on from a public space where they were hanging around with their friends. Children who had hung around with friends more frequently were more likely to have been moved on but most children who had been moved on said it hadn't happened that often (58%). Children were most frequently moved on by a member of the public (41%).

When asked, around a third (35%) of children aged 10 to 15 perceived that teenagers hanging around were a problem in their local area. This contrasts with around a quarter of adults (27%). Among 10 to 15 year olds, household and area characteristics appear to be more closely related than personal characteristics to the perception of teenagers hanging around being a problem.

- Thirty-seven per cent of children who lived in urban areas perceived teenagers hanging around to be a problem compared with 26 per cent of children who lived in rural areas.

- Children who lived in households within the most deprived output areas (45%) were more likely to have perceived teenagers hanging around as a problem compared with those in the least deprived areas (23%) and the other output areas (35%).

The majority of children aged 10 to 15 had used public transport in the last year and 73 per cent had used buses (including school and local buses). Of children who had used buses:

- younger girls aged 10 to 12 were twice as likely as their male counterparts to say they avoided using buses at certain times due to being worried about their personal safety or because other people were causing trouble (20% and 10% respectively); and

- older girls aged 13 to 15 (22%) were almost three times as likely as boys in the same age group (8%) to report having avoided travelling on buses at certain times.

Around three in five (59%) children thought that there was enough to do in their area for children their age. When examining whether children believed there was enough to do by personal characteristics, similar patterns arise to those found when looking at both the frequency of children hanging around and whether they had been moved on by personal characteristics. Additionally:

- children who had been moved on were less likely to think that there was enough to do in the area (42%) than those who hadn't (60%); and

- children who perceived teenagers hanging around to be a problem were less likely to think that there was enough to do in the area (53%) than those who didn't (61%).

## 4.2   INTRODUCTION

This chapter is based on data collected from 10 to 15 year olds who took part in the 2009/10 British Crime Survey (BCS). Around 3,800 children were randomly selected from within households already taking part in the survey and asked a series of questions relating to their experience of crime and attitudes and behaviours on other crime-related topics.

All children who were interviewed were asked questions about their experience of crime (see Millard and Flatley, 2010) but the other modules of questions were randomly allocated to sub-samples. About a third of the overall sample of children (around 1,200) was asked questions about their use of public space including their use of, and concerns towards, using public transport. Questions were also included about children's access to and use of leisure activities as these are seen as important diversionary activities for some children who may otherwise be at risk of being drawn into crime or anti-social behaviour.

The size of the national sample is large enough to provide robust national estimates for questions asked of the whole sub-sample but caution should be used when interpreting responses to questions asked of further sub-samples as these are sometimes based on a low number of cases. Any differences in BCS estimates that are described in this chapter are statistically significant at the five per cent level (see Section 8 of the User Guide). Tests of statistical significance are related to sample size; it may be that some apparently large differences are not statistically significant here, but would be so with a larger sample. For more information on the BCS extension to 10 to 15 year olds, see Chapter 1 and the User Guide to Home Office Crime Statistics.

## 4.3   CHILDREN'S USE OF PUBLIC SPACE

Adult respondents to the BCS are asked a number of questions about different aspects of anti-social behaviour. One of these relates to perceptions of problems with 'teenagers hanging around' in the local area. This indicator of ASB has been subject to some criticism on the basis that the question does not specifically ask whether those hanging around are actually engaged in anti-social behaviour.

These issues were investigated with additional questions in the adult survey on why teenagers hanging around were considered a problem, the results of which were reported in Moon *et al.* (2009). To supplement this, when the BCS was extended to children aged 10 to 15, it was decided to include some questions on this issue. The first two sections of this chapter explores children's own experience of hanging around in public spaces to give greater insight and understanding of these issues.

### Hanging around in public spaces

The 2009/10 BCS shows the majority (81%) of 10 to 15 year olds reported that they hung around in public spaces with friends. Around half (52%) of children said they did this at least once a week and around a fifth said that they hung around three or more times a week (21%). Hanging around in public spaces with friends seems to be influenced more by personal characteristics than household and characteristics (Table 4.01; for preliminary analysis by potentially problematic behaviours see Box 4.1).

- Older children were more likely to hang around than younger children; for example 13 to 15 year olds were more likely to hang around once or twice a week (34%) compared with 11 to 12 year olds (27%).

- Ten year olds were more likely never to have hung around outside with friends in public spaces (34%) than any other age group (for example, 10% of 15 year olds).

- Boys were more likely to have hung around with friends in public spaces three times a week or more (25%) than girls (17%).

- White children were more likely to have hung around outside with friends three or more times a week (23%) and less likely to have never hung around (18%) than children from other ethnic groups (13% and 25% respectively).

---

**Box 4.1 Children hanging around in public spaces, by potentially problematic behaviours**

Preliminary analysis of questions designed to be indicative of potentially problematic behaviours (i.e. truanting, exclusion from school and experience of being drunk (all in the last year)) indicated that those with such experience had a greater frequency of hanging around in public (Table 4a). These behaviours are likely to themselves be correlated with other factors such as age and area characteristics and the initial analysis presented here has not controlled for the effect of one on the other. In addition, some of the estimates are based on small numbers of respondents and should be treated with caution. The main findings were:

- Thirty-six per cent of children who had truanted in the last 12 months had hung around in public spaces three or more times a month compared with 20 per cent of children who had not truanted.

- Forty-two per cent of children who had been suspended or excluded from school in the last 12 months had hung around in public spaces three or more times a week compared with 20 per cent of children who had not been suspended or excluded.

- Thirty-six per cent of children who had felt drunk in the last 12 months had hung around in public spaces three or more times a week compared with 18 per cent of children who had not felt drunk.

**Table 4a Frequency of children hanging around with friends in public spaces, by children's behaviour**

| Percentages | Had hung around with friends | Three or more times a week | Once or twice a week | Once or twice a month | Less than once a month | Had not hung around with friends | Unweighted base |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Truanting** | | | | | | | |
| Truanted for a day or longer in last 12 months | **82** | 36 | 26 | 8 | 12 | **18** | *101* |
| Did not truant in last 12 months | **81** | 20 | 31 | 19 | 11 | **19** | *1,150* |
| **Suspension/exclusion** | | | | | | | |
| Suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | **83** | 42 | 31 | 6 | 4 | **17** | *57* |
| Not suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | **80** | 20 | 31 | 18 | 11 | **20** | *1,216* |
| **Drinking behaviour** | | | | | | | |
| Felt drunk in last 12 months | **93** | 36 | 43 | 11 | 3 | **7** | *166* |
| Did not feel drunk in last 12 months | **78** | 18 | 28 | 19 | 12 | **22** | *1,052* |

England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS

---

The frequency of children hanging around in public spaces varied more by personal characteristics, however there was some variation by household or area characteristics (Table 4.02). For example,

- Children who lived in a household with one adult were more likely to have hung around with friends in public spaces three or more times a week (31%) than those children who lived in a household with more than one adult (19%).

- Children who lived in social-rented accommodation (35%) were most likely to have hung around in public spaces three times a week or more compared with those living in either private-rented (20%) or owner-occupied accommodation (18%).

Children who reported that they did hang around outside with their friends were asked where they did so. The most common spaces to hang around were parks, greens, scrublands or playgrounds (65%), shopping or local town centres (30%) and on streets near home (27%; Table 4.03).

Questions on how often 10 to 15 year olds hang around outside in the evening without adult supervision produced very similar results to those asked about how often children hang around in public spaces with friends (as above). Older children (aged 13 to 15) and boys were more likely to hang around with friends in the evening three times or more a week (Tables 4.04 and 4.05).[1] The most common reasons given for not going outside without adult supervision in the evening were not being allowed to (43%), having no reason to (32%) and not wanting to (24%). Less than one in ten (8%) specifically mentioned a fear of crime as a reason (Table 4.06).

## Children being moved on from public spaces

To get an indication of whether hanging around might have been perceived as problematic by adults, children who hung around with friends in public spaces were asked if they had ever been 'moved on' by anyone. Although most 10 to 15 year olds reported that they had hung around in public spaces with friends (81%), only one in five (20%) of those children said they had been moved on.

There were similar patterns in the personal characteristics associated with being moved on as those seen above for children hanging around with friends in public spaces and in the evening (Figure 4.1 and Table 4.07; see Box 4.2 for preliminary analysis by potentially problematic behaviours).

- Children aged 13 to 15 were around twice as likely to have been moved on from a public place (26%) than those aged 10 to 12 (12%).

- Boys (24%) were more likely to have been moved on than girls (16%).

- Children who hung around with friends three or more times a week had been moved on more than other groups (35%, compared with for example, 14% of those who had hung around once or twice a month).

---

[1] These questions were included in the personal safety module that is asked of a different group of children to other questions in this chapter. As a result, it is not possible to examine the responses to these questions by other responses covered in this chapter.

**Figure 4.1 Proportion of children who had been moved on, by personal characteristics, 2009/10 BCS**



---
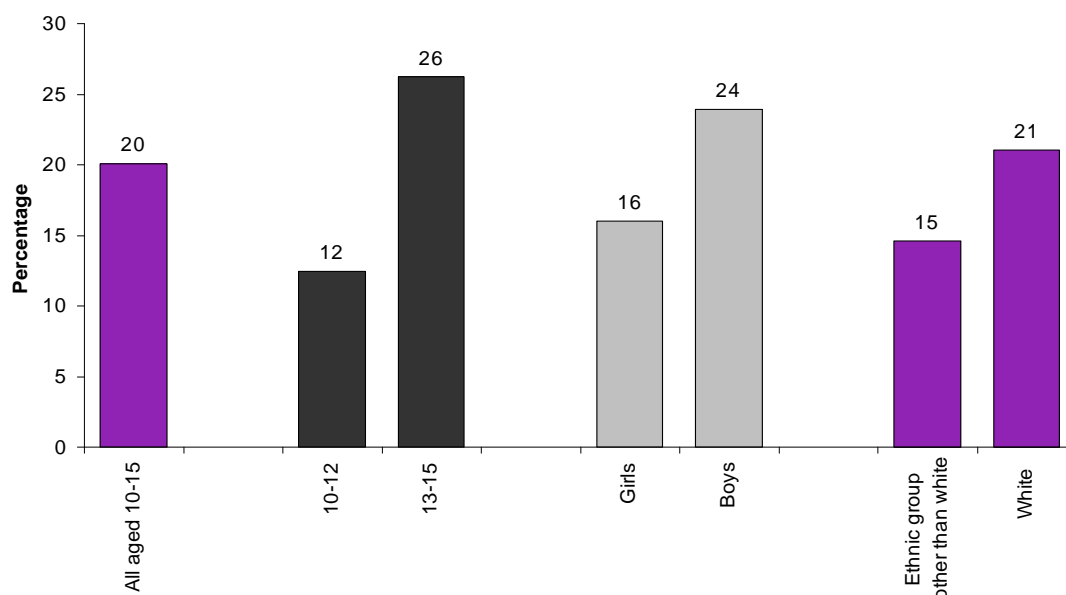
**Box 4.2 Children being moved on from hanging around with friends, by potentially problematic behaviours**

Preliminary analysis of questions designed to be indicative of potentially problematic behaviours (i.e. truanting, exclusion from school and experience of being drunk (all in the last year)) indicated that those with such experience were more likely to have been moved on (Table 4b). These behaviours are likely to themselves be correlated with other factors such as age and area characteristics and the initial analysis presented here has not controlled for the effect of one on the other. Preliminary findings were:

- Children who had truanted (42%) or been suspended or excluded from school (45%) in the last 12 months were around twice as likely to have been moved on as those who had not (both 19%).

- Children who had been drunk in the last 12 months (49%) were around three times as likely to have been moved on as those who hadn't (14%).

**Table 4b Proportion of children who have been moved on while hanging around with their friends, by children's behaviours**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS | |
|---|---|---|
| | | *Unweighted base* |
| **Truanting** | | |
| Truanted for a day or longer in last 12 months | 42 | *87* |
| Did not truant in last 12 months | 19 | *931* |
| **Suspension/exclusion** | | |
| Suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 45 | *49* |
| Not suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 19 | *985* |
| **Drinking behaviour** | | |
| Felt drunk in last 12 months | 49 | *155* |
| Did not feel drunk in last 12 months | 14 | *825* |

There appear to be fewer relationships between children being asked to move on and their household and area characteristics. Differences that are statistically significant reflect similar patterns to those highlighted previously for those hanging around with friends in public spaces, suggesting that indicators associated with low income were more likely to be moved on (Table 4.08).

Children aged 10 to 15 who had been moved on were asked further questions about their experiences of having been moved on. According to the 2009/10 BCS, of children that had been moved on at some point (Tables 4.09 to 4.12):

- around six in ten (58%) said that it happened 'not that often' while very few said that it happened 'all of the time' (2%) or 'most of the time' (6%);

- children had most commonly been moved on by a member of the public (41%) or the police/PCSO[2] (33%);

- of the reasons children thought they were moved on, the most frequently cited were related to being noisy (31%), an adult not wanting a group hanging around (24%) or some other reason (27%); and

- children were fairly evenly divided in their views of whether it was fair that they were moved on the last time they were moved on (48% thought it was fair and 52% thought it not fair).

The majority of children had hung around with friends in public spaces but only a fifth had been moved on and the majority of children who had been moved reported that it happened 'not that often'. This suggests that although most children do hang around in public spaces with friends, very little of this is considered problematic to the area.

## 4.4 CHILDREN'S PERCEPTION OF TEENAGERS HANGING AROUND

Children were asked a similar question to adult respondents to the BCS about their perception of teenagers hanging around on the streets being a problem in their local area. In the 2009/10 BCS, around a third (35%) of children aged between 10 and 15 perceived that teenagers hanging around were a problem in their local area (Table 4.13). This proportion was higher than that found among adults (27%) (Flatley *et al.*, 2010). This may reflect children spending more time in public spaces and thus being more aware of such problems. Also, children may have interpreted the question with regards to teenagers not having access to alternative activities.

Children's perception of teenagers hanging around being a problem varied little by the personal characteristics of 10 to 15 year olds, with none of the apparent differences by age and sex being statistically significant. However, there were differences in the perception of teenagers being a problem by ethnicity and disability.[3]

- Children from ethnic backgrounds other than White were more likely (44%) to perceive teenagers hanging around to be a problem than White children (33%).

- Children with a long-standing illness or disability were more likely to perceive teenagers hanging around to be a problem (46%) than children without a long-standing illness or disability (34%).

Greater differences were found in the perception among children of problems with teenagers hanging around by household and area characteristics. A general pattern was that indicators associated with low income were associated with higher levels of perceived problems with teenagers hanging around (Figure 4.2 and Table 4.14). For example;

---

[2] Police Community Support Officer.
[3] Many of the demographic and socio-economic characteristics will be closely associated so caution is needed in the interpretation of the effect of these different characteristics when viewed in isolation.

- Children who lived in a household with one adult were more likely to perceive teenagers hanging around as problem (42%) than children who lived with more than one adult (33%).

- Those who lived in social-rented housing were more likely to perceive teenagers hanging around to be a problem (45%) than children who lived in owner-occupied housing (31%).

- Thirty-seven per cent of children who lived in urban areas perceived teenagers hanging around as a problem compared with 26 per cent of children who lived in rural areas.

- Children who lived in the most deprived output areas[4] were more likely to perceive teenagers hanging around to be a problem (45%) than those in the least deprived areas (23%) or other output areas (35%).

- Children who lived in high-crime areas[5] were more likely to perceive teenagers hanging around as a problem (45%) than those who lived in low-crime areas (26%).

- Children who lived in areas defined (by the ONS Output Area Classification[6]) as Constrained by circumstances (58%) and Blue collar communities (47%) were more likely to think that teenagers hanging around was a problem than those who were lived in areas defined as Countryside (19%).

**Figure 4.2 Proportion of children perceiving teenagers hanging around to be a problem, by household and area characteristics, 2009/10 BCS[7]**
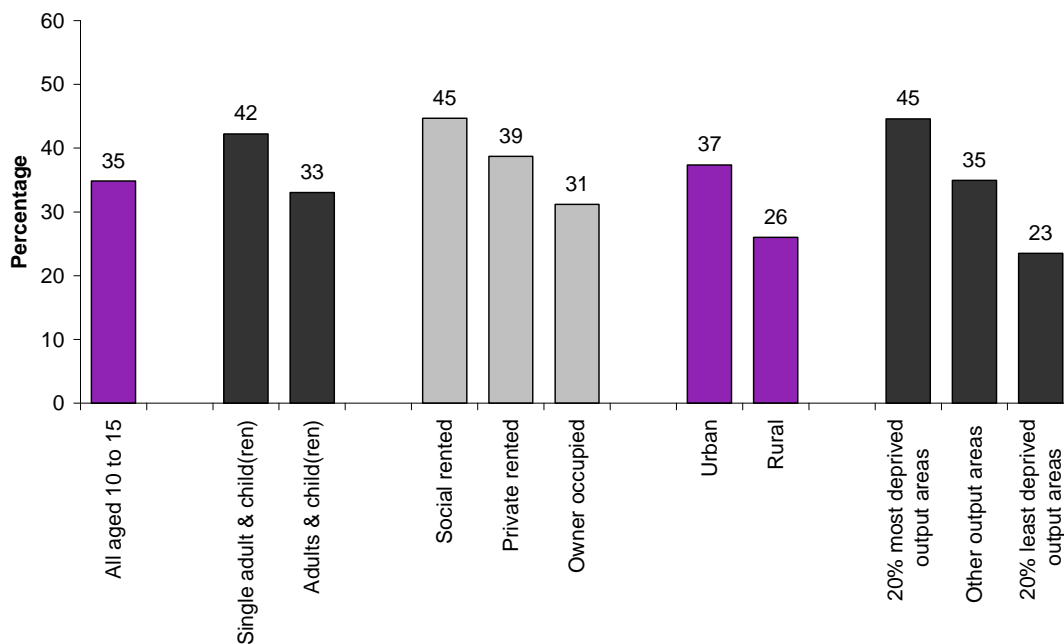


It might be expected that the more time children spend hanging around in public spaces, the more likely they are to perceive teenagers hanging around being a problem. However, there

---

[4] As indicated by Employment Domain of the English Indices of Deprivation (see Section 7.1 of the User Guide for more information).
[5] As indicated by the Crime Domain of the English Indices of Deprivation (see Section 7.1 of the User Guide for more information).
[6] See Section 7.1 of the User Guide for details of Output Area Classification.
[7] Deprivation measured by the Employment Domain of the English Indices of Deprivation.

appears to be no relationship between the perception of teenagers hanging around and the frequency of children hanging around with friends in public (Table 4.01).

## 4.5  CHILDREN AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Children can be much more reliant upon public transport than adults and questionnaire development work with 10 to 15 year olds indicated concerns among some children about their safety while on public transport. Therefore, the 2009/10 BCS included questions on this topic with a particular focus on bus travel as the most common form of public transport used by children.

### Use of public transport

The majority of children aged 10 to 15 had used public transport in the last year; only 16 per cent reported that they hadn't. Three-quarters of children (73%) had used buses (including local buses and school buses) and half of children (48%) had used trains in the last year.

Of the 73 per cent using buses, one in five children travelled on buses every day (20%) and a further 13 per cent used buses almost every day. Around one in five children (19%) travelled on buses just once or twice a year (Table 4.15).

### Worry about travelling on buses

Considering those who had used buses in the last year (73% of children), 15 per cent said they avoided travelling on buses at certain times of day because they were worried about their safety or because other people were causing trouble.

Of children using buses, girls (21%) were much more likely than boys (9%) to report avoiding travelling at certain times; this held true when controlling for age. However, there was no clear pattern by age in avoidance of using buses because of worry about safety.

- Younger girls aged 10 to 12 were twice as likely as their male counterparts to say they avoided using buses at certain times (20% and 10% respectively).
- Older girls aged 13 to 15 (22%) were almost three times as likely as boys in the same age group (8%) to report having avoided travelling on buses at certain times.

Children in an ethnic group other than White (22%) were more likely than White children (14%) to avoid travelling on buses at certain times of the day because they were worried about their safety or other people causing trouble (Table 4.16).

As expected, those who were worried about using buses tended to avoid travelling in the late evening (49%) and at night (45%), or even any time it was dark (23%). Daytimes were less of a concern with less than one in ten children having avoided travelling on buses in the morning (3%), in the afternoon (8%) or when schools came out (8%; Table 4.17).

## 4.6  AVAILABILITY AND USE OF LEISURE ACTIVITIES

Promoting access to and use of leisure activities by children can be considered part of a package of measures aimed at crime prevention; questions were therefore included in the survey to obtain information on this topic. It should be noted that these activities were selected by respondents from a pre-defined list and that other activities (such as a shopping centre) were not listed explicitly but may have been mentioned as an 'other' type of activity.

According to the 2009/10 BCS, the most common types of activities reported by children as being *available* in their local area were parks and playgrounds (84%), after school clubs (67%), youth clubs (61%), sports and leisure centres (61%), and outside sports grounds (60%; Figure 4.3 and Table 4.18).

**Figure 4.3 Activities available and used by children aged 10 to 15, 2009/10 BCS**
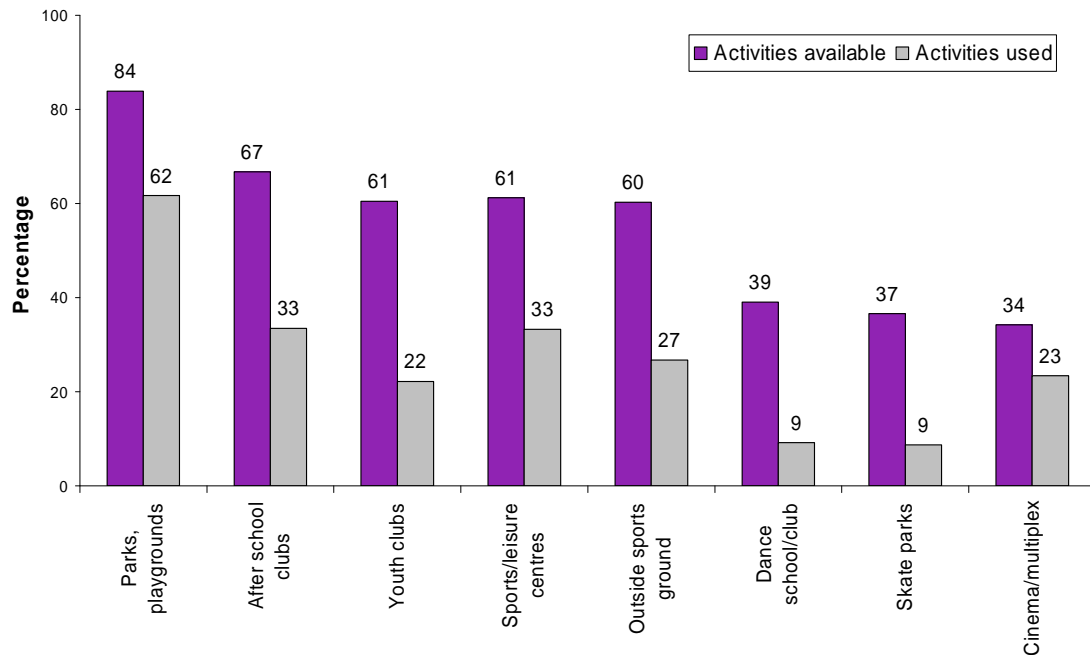


The pattern found when examining the types of activities used differs slightly to the pattern found with activities that were available to children. The most common types of activities that had been *used* by children were parks and playgrounds (62%), after school clubs (33%), sports centres (33%) and outside sports grounds (27%).

The availability and use of such activities could potentially divert children from being drawn into crime or anti-social behaviour. However, children hanging around in parks and playgrounds, for example, may be perceived as being problematic for the local area by just being there or because children may carry out other undesirable activities (e.g. vandalism, drinking alcohol) while there.

Calculating the ratio between the perceived availability and usage of shows that parks and playgrounds (72%), and cinemas and multiplexes (66%) had particularly high levels of usage compared with their availability to children. Skate parks and dance clubs have low ratios of usage to availability (both 23%; data not shown).

According to the 2009/10 BCS, around three in five (59%) 10 to 15 year olds thought there were enough activities in their local area for children their age. The main variation in personal characteristics (see Box 4.3 for preliminary analysis by potentially problematic behaviours) were as follows (Table 4.19).

- Younger children (aged 10 to 12) were more likely (67%) to have said that there were enough activities in their area than 13 to 15 year olds (51%).

- Those who had been moved on (42%) were less likely to have thought that there was enough to do in the area than those who hadn't (60%).

- Those who perceived teenagers hanging around to be a problem (53%) were less likely to have felt that there was enough to do in the area than those who didn't (61%).

These last two points suggest a connection between perceptions of anti-social behaviour and diversionary activities. However, these observations are likely to themselves be correlated with other factors such as age and area characteristics and the initial analysis presented here has not controlled for the effect of one on the other.

**Box 4.3 Perceived availability of leisure activities, by potentially problematic behaviours**

Preliminary analysis of questions designed to be indicative of potentially problematic behaviours (i.e. truanting, exclusion from school and experience of being drunk (all in the last year)) indicated that those with such experience were less likely to think there were enough activities in their area (Table 4c, below). These behaviours are likely to themselves be correlated with other factors such as age and area characteristics and the initial analysis presented here has not controlled for the effect of one on the other. Preliminary findings showed:

- Thirty-seven per cent of children who had truanted in the last 12 months thought there were enough activities available compared with 60 per cent of children who had not truanted.

- Forty-two per cent of children who had been suspended or excluded from school in the last 12 months thought there were enough activities available compared with 59 per cent of children who had not been suspended or excluded.

- Thirty-two per cent of children who had felt drunk in the last 12 months thought there were enough activities available compared with 62 per cent of children who had not felt drunk.

**Table 4c Proportion of children who felt that there are enough activities for children their age in the area, by children's behaviours**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| | | *Unweighted base* |
| **Truanting** | | |
| Truanted for a day or longer in last 12 months | 37 | *100* |
| Did not truant in last 12 months | 60 | *1,128* |
| **Suspension/exclusion** | | |
| Suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 42 | *57* |
| Not suspended/excluded from school in last 12 months | 59 | *1,192* |
| **Drinking behaviour** | | |
| Felt drunk in last 12 months | 32 | *164* |
| Did not feel drunk in last 12 months | 62 | *1,030* |

Household and area characteristics appear to have a limited effect on what compared with personal characteristics. This slightly more mixed picture could be as a result of expectations being an important factor when the children consider if there is enough to do; for example, children from more affluent backgrounds may have higher expectations than those from less comfortable (Table 4.20):

- Children who lived with more than one adult were more likely to think that there was enough to do in the local area for children their age (61%) than children who lived with one adult (51%).

- Children who lived in social-rented accommodation were less likely to feel that there were enough activities in the area (47%) than children who lived in either private-rented (52%) or owner-occupied accommodation (63%).

- Children living in the most deprived output areas[8] were less likely to feel that there was enough to do in the area (48%) than children who lived in either the least deprived (63%) or other areas (62%).

---

[8] As indicated by Employment Domain of the English Indices of Deprivation (see Section 7.1 of the User Guide for more information).

**Table 4.01 Frequency of children aged 10 to 15 hanging around with friends in public spaces, by personal characteristics**

| Percentages | Had hung around with friends | | | | | Had not hung around with friends | Unweighted base |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Three or more times a week | Once or twice a week | Once or twice a month | Less than once a month | | |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **81** | **21** | **30** | **18** | **11** | **19** | *1,296* |
| **Age** | | | | | | | |
| 10-12 | **74** | 20 | 27 | 16 | 11 | **26** | *621* |
| 10 | **66** | 17 | 25 | 10 | 14 | **34** | *181* |
| 11 | **77** | 15 | 32 | 18 | 12 | **23** | *216* |
| 12 | **78** | 27 | 23 | 19 | 9 | **22** | *224* |
| 13-15 | **87** | 23 | 34 | 20 | 11 | **13** | *675* |
| 13 | **79** | 19 | 26 | 23 | 11 | **21** | *212* |
| 14 | **93** | 23 | 37 | 22 | 10 | **7** | *251* |
| 15 | **90** | 25 | 40 | 14 | 11 | **10** | *212* |
| **Boys** | **83** | **25** | **30** | **18** | **10** | **17** | *661* |
| 10-12 | **77** | 26 | 26 | 16 | 10 | **23** | *315* |
| 13-15 | **88** | 25 | 33 | 21 | 9 | **12** | *346* |
| **Girls** | **79** | **17** | **31** | **17** | **12** | **21** | *635* |
| 10-12 | **71** | 15 | 28 | 16 | 13 | **29** | *306* |
| 13-15 | **87** | 20 | 36 | 19 | 12 | **13** | *329* |
| **Ethnic group** | | | | | | | |
| White | **82** | 23 | 30 | 18 | 11 | **18** | *1,149* |
| Ethnic group other than White | **75** | 13 | 31 | 18 | 12 | **25** | *147* |
| **Religion** | | | | | | | |
| Religon | **79** | 19 | 31 | 17 | 12 | **21** | *853* |
| No religion | **86** | 26 | 31 | 19 | 10 | **14** | *432* |
| **School year[1]** | | | | | | | |
| Year 5 | **61** | 15 | 19 | 12 | 15 | **39** | *81* |
| Year 6 | **71** | 16 | 29 | 12 | 14 | **29** | *201* |
| Year 7 | **77** | 21 | 30 | 18 | 7 | **23** | *207* |
| Year 8 | **84** | 27 | 27 | 20 | 10 | **16** | *214* |
| Year 9 | **88** | 23 | 32 | 21 | 12 | **12** | *247* |
| Year 10 | **90** | 19 | 34 | 24 | 13 | **10** | *218* |
| Year 11 | **85** | 26 | 41 | 12 | 6 | **15** | *112* |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | | | | | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | **82** | 30 | 28 | 20 | 5 | **18** | *126* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | **81** | 20 | 31 | 18 | 12 | **19** | *1,168* |
| **Perceptions of teenagers hanging around being a problem** | | | | | | | |
| Very/fairly big problem | **79** | 20 | 27 | 20 | 11 | **21** | *438* |
| Not very big/not a problem at all | **82** | 22 | 32 | 17 | 11 | **18** | *850* |
| **Whether been moved on when hanging around with friends[2]** | | | | | | | |
| Yes | **20** | 46 | 35 | 15 | 4 | **-** | *205* |
| No | **80** | 22 | 38 | 24 | 16 | **-** | *847* |

1. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
2. The question about being 'moved on' was only asked of children who said they had hung around with friends.
3. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 4.02 Frequency of children aged 10 to 15 hanging around with friends in public spaces, by household and area characteristics**

| | Had hung around with friends | Three or more times a week | Once or twice a week | Once or twice a month | Less than once a month | Had not hung around with friends | Unweighted base |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **81** | **21** | **30** | **18** | **11** | **19** | *1,296* |
| **Structure of household** | | | | | | | |
| Single adult & child(ren) | **83** | 31 | 28 | 12 | 12 | **17** | *234* |
| Adults & child(ren) | **80** | 19 | 31 | 19 | 11 | **20** | *1,062* |
| **Total household income** | | | | | | | |
| Less than £10,000 | **75** | 23 | 33 | 11 | 8 | **25** | *100* |
| £10,000 less than £20,000 | **81** | 24 | 34 | 16 | 7 | **19** | *222* |
| £20,000 less than £30,000 | **77** | 26 | 25 | 11 | 15 | **23** | *188* |
| £30,000 less than £40,000 | **88** | 31 | 26 | 22 | 9 | **12** | *154* |
| £40,000 less than £50,000 | **79** | 18 | 29 | 21 | 11 | **21** | *129* |
| £50,000 or more | **84** | 15 | 32 | 24 | 13 | **16** | *269* |
| No income stated or not enough information provided | **79** | 17 | 32 | 17 | 12 | **21** | *234* |
| **Tenure** | | | | | | | |
| Owner-occupied | **81** | 18 | 32 | 19 | 12 | **19** | *889* |
| Social-rented | **77** | 35 | 22 | 17 | 5 | **23** | *217* |
| Private-rented | **81** | 20 | 35 | 14 | 13 | **19** | *188* |
| **Accommodation type** | | | | | | | |
| Houses | **81** | 22 | 30 | 18 | 11 | **19** | *1,217* |
| *Detached* | **79** | 14 | 27 | 22 | 16 | **21** | *359* |
| *Semi-detached* | **82** | 24 | 32 | 16 | 9 | **18** | *474* |
| *Terraced* | **81** | 25 | 30 | 17 | 10 | **19** | *384* |
| Flats/maisonettes | **78** | 20 | 34 | 16 | 8 | **22** | *58* |
| **Output area classification** | | | | | | | |
| Blue collar communities | **86** | 29 | 32 | 14 | 10 | **14** | *255* |
| City living | **-** | - | - | - | - | **-** | *26* |
| Countryside | **78** | 17 | 24 | 20 | 18 | **22** | *204* |
| Prospering suburbs | **81** | 19 | 31 | 22 | 10 | **19** | *322* |
| Constrained by circumstances | **79** | 25 | 31 | 17 | 5 | **21** | *103* |
| Typical traits | **84** | 21 | 32 | 20 | 11 | **16** | *268* |
| Multicultural | **69** | 18 | 28 | 13 | 11 | **31** | *118* |
| **Area type** | | | | | | | |
| Urban | **81** | 23 | 30 | 17 | 11 | **19** | *947* |
| Rural | **81** | 17 | 31 | 22 | 12 | **19** | *349* |
| **Level of physical disorder** | | | | | | | |
| High | **76** | 28 | 27 | 6 | 16 | **24** | *73* |
| Not high | **81** | 21 | 31 | 19 | 11 | **19** | *1,214* |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Employment)** | | | | | | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | **77** | 25 | 29 | 12 | 10 | **23** | *228* |
| Other output areas | **81** | 20 | 31 | 18 | 12 | **19** | *674* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | **82** | 18 | 31 | 24 | 10 | **18** | *277* |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Crime)** | | | | | | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | **77** | 23 | 31 | 10 | 13 | **23** | *191* |
| Other output areas | **83** | 21 | 31 | 20 | 11 | **17** | *681* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | **77** | 19 | 28 | 20 | 10 | **23** | *307* |

1. See Sections 7.1 and 7.2 of the User Guide for definitions of household and area characteristics.

**Table 4.03 Where children[1] aged 10 to 15 hang around with their friends**

| Percentages[2] | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| Parks/greens/scrublands/playgrounds | 65 |
| Shopping centres/local town centre | 30 |
| On the streets outside/near their home | 27 |
| On the streets but not outside/near their home | 12 |
| Outside local shops | 8 |
| At home or at friend's home | 2 |
| At railway/underground stations/bus stops | 1 |
| Leisure centre/swimming pool/other sports facilities | 1 |
| In car parks | 1 |
| At/near cinema | 1 |
| Somewhere else | 4 |
| *Unweighted base* | *1,050* |

1. The question was only asked of those children who said they had hung around with friends.

2. Totals add to more than 100 per cent as more than one response possible.

**Table 4.04 Frequency of children aged 10 to 15  hanging around in the evening without adult supervision, by personal characteristics**

| Percentages | Had hung around with friends | | | | | Had not hung around with friends | *Unweighted base* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Every day / Almost everyday | Two or three times a week | Once a week / Every other week | Once a month or less | | |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **66** | **18** | **24** | **17** | **7** | **34** | *1,119* |
| | | | | | | | |
| **Age** | | | | | | | |
| 10-12 | **54** | **14** | **19** | **16** | **5** | **46** | *540* |
| 10 | **43** | 10 | 17 | 13 | 4 | **57** | *158* |
| 11 | **53** | 15 | 19 | 13 | 6 | **47** | *184* |
| 12 | **64** | 17 | 20 | 21 | 6 | **36** | *198* |
| 13-15 | **77** | **22** | **29** | **18** | **8** | **23** | *579* |
| 13 | **66** | 17 | 25 | 18 | 6 | **34** | *199* |
| 14 | **78** | 19 | 28 | 21 | 11 | **22** | *185* |
| 15 | **88** | 31 | 33 | 17 | 9 | **12** | *195* |
| | | | | | | | |
| **Boys** | **72** | **21** | **24** | **20** | **7** | **28** | *580* |
| 10-12 | **61** | 18 | 19 | 19 | 5 | **39** | *280* |
| 13-15 | **82** | 23 | 30 | 20 | 8 | **18** | *300* |
| | | | | | | | |
| **Girls** | **60** | **15** | **23** | **14** | **7** | **40** | *539* |
| 10-12 | **47** | 10 | 19 | 12 | 5 | **53** | *260* |
| 13-15 | **72** | 20 | 27 | 17 | 8 | **28** | *279* |
| | | | | | | | |
| **Ethnic group** | | | | | | | |
| White | **68** | 19 | 24 | 18 | 7 | **32** | *984* |
| Ethnic group other than White | **55** | 12 | 21 | 15 | 7 | **45** | *134* |
| | | | | | | | |
| **Religion** | | | | | | | |
| Religon | **63** | 18 | 22 | 16 | 7 | **37** | *765* |
| No religion | **72** | 20 | 26 | 19 | 6 | **28** | *341* |
| | | | | | | | |
| **School year**[1] | | | | | | | |
| Year 5 | **32** | 8 | 16 | 5 | 3 | **68** | *73* |
| Year 6 | **55** | 16 | 19 | 15 | 4 | **45** | *178* |
| Year 7 | **56** | 13 | 18 | 17 | 7 | **44** | *180* |
| Year 8 | **65** | 17 | 26 | 19 | 3 | **35** | *190* |
| Year 9 | **71** | 17 | 22 | 22 | 11 | **29** | *215* |
| Year 10 | **80** | 24 | 32 | 18 | 6 | **20** | *156* |
| Year 11 | **91** | 33 | 32 | 16 | 10 | **9** | *118* |
| | | | | | | | |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | | | | | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | **58** | 17 | 25 | 14 | 2 | **42** | *104* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | **67** | 18 | 24 | 18 | 7 | **33** | *1,012* |

1. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
2. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 4.05 Frequency of children aged 10 to 15 hanging around in the evening without adult supervision, by household and area characteristics**

Percentages

| | Had hung around with friends | | | | | Had not hung around with friends | Unweighted base |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Everyday / Almost everyday | Two or three times a week | Once a week / Every other week | Once a month or less | | |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **66** | **18** | **24** | **17** | **7** | **34** | *1,119* |
| **Structure of household** | | | | | | | |
| Single adult & child(ren) | **74** | 24 | 23 | 19 | 8 | **26** | *189* |
| Adults & child(ren) | **64** | 17 | 24 | 17 | 6 | **36** | *930* |
| **Total household income** | | | | | | | |
| Less than £10,000 | **62** | 24 | 19 | 13 | 6 | **38** | *81* |
| £10,000 less than £20,000 | **73** | 25 | 27 | 17 | 4 | **27** | *192* |
| £20,000 less than £30,000 | **66** | 20 | 26 | 11 | 10 | **34** | *164* |
| £30,000 less than £40,000 | **66** | 20 | 24 | 15 | 8 | **34** | *158* |
| £40,000 less than £50,000 | **69** | 12 | 30 | 19 | 8 | **31** | *104* |
| £50,000 or more | **58** | 8 | 20 | 23 | 7 | **42** | *203* |
| No income stated or not enough information provided | **66** | 19 | 22 | 20 | 5 | **34** | *217* |
| **Tenure** | | | | | | | |
| Owner-occupied | **66** | 14 | 26 | 18 | 8 | **34** | *754* |
| Social-rented | **66** | 29 | 22 | 12 | 3 | **34** | *209* |
| Private-rented | **67** | 22 | 17 | 21 | 7 | **33** | *154* |
| **Accommodation type** | | | | | | | |
| Houses | **66** | 18 | 24 | 18 | 6 | **34** | *1,047* |
| *Detached* | **64** | 10 | 26 | 19 | 9 | **36** | *321* |
| *Semi-detached* | **69** | 23 | 23 | 18 | 6 | **31** | *388* |
| *Terraced* | **66** | 19 | 25 | 17 | 5 | **34** | *338* |
| Flats/maisonettes | **55** | 21 | 13 | 11 | 11 | **45** | *51* |
| **Output area classification** | | | | | | | |
| Blue collar communities | **73** | 28 | 25 | 16 | 4 | **27** | *239* |
| City living | **-** | **-** | **-** | **-** | **-** | **-** | *23* |
| Countryside | **57** | 8 | 23 | 23 | 4 | **43** | *186* |
| Prospering suburbs | **66** | 15 | 26 | 16 | 8 | **34** | *258* |
| Constrained by circumstances | **76** | 30 | 31 | 12 | 3 | **24** | *93* |
| Typical traits | **71** | 16 | 26 | 22 | 7 | **29** | *211* |
| Multicultural | **54** | 17 | 14 | 12 | 10 | **46** | *109* |
| **Area type** | | | | | | | |
| Urban | **66** | 19 | 24 | 16 | 7 | **34** | *812* |
| Rural | **65** | 17 | 22 | 21 | 6 | **35** | *307* |
| **Level of physical disorder** | | | | | | | |
| High | **67** | 32 | 21 | 12 | 1 | **33** | *74* |
| Not high | **66** | 17 | 24 | 18 | 7 | **34** | *1,033* |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Employment)** | | | | | | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | **64** | 25 | 22 | 13 | 3 | **36** | *208* |
| Other output areas | **65** | 16 | 24 | 18 | 8 | **35** | *619* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | **68** | 16 | 24 | 20 | 9 | **32** | *191* |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Crime)** | | | | | | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | **63** | 19 | 22 | 17 | 6 | **37** | *170* |
| Other output areas | **66** | 18 | 25 | 16 | 7 | **34** | *624* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | **64** | 17 | 21 | 20 | 6 | **36** | *224* |

1. See Sections 7.1 and 7.2 of the User Guide for definitions of area and household characteristics.

**Table 4.06 Reasons for children aged 10 to 15 not going out in the evening without adult supervision**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| Not allowed to | 43 |
| Have no reason to | 32 |
| Don't want to | 24 |
| Fear of crime | 8 |
| Fear of the dark/night | 6 |
| | |
| Other reasons (including homework and being too young) | 10 |
| | |
| *Unweighted base* | *467* |

**Table 4.07 Proportion of children[1] aged 10 to 15 who had been moved on while hanging around with their friends, by personal characteristics**

| Percentages | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|---|
| | | *Unweighted base* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **20** | ***1,052*** |
| | | |
| **Age** | | |
| 10-12 | **12** | ***466*** |
| 10 | 14 | *123* |
| 11 | 8 | *167* |
| 12 | 15 | *176* |
| 13-15 | **26** | ***586*** |
| 13 | 17 | *170* |
| 14 | 23 | *230* |
| 15 | 38 | *186* |
| | | |
| **Boys** | **24** | ***548*** |
| 10-12 | 16 | *246* |
| 13-15 | 30 | *302* |
| | | |
| **Girls** | **16** | ***504*** |
| 10-12 | 9 | *220* |
| 13-15 | 22 | *284* |
| | | |
| **Ethnic group** | | |
| White | 21 | *941* |
| Ethnic group other than White | 15 | *111* |
| | | |
| **Religion** | | |
| Religon | 20 | *676* |
| No religion | 20 | *369* |
| | | |
| **School year[2]** | | |
| Year 5 | 16 | *54* |
| Year 6 | 9 | *144* |
| Year 7 | 12 | *161* |
| Year 8 | 17 | *178* |
| Year 9 | 22 | *218* |
| Year 10 | 28 | *194* |
| Year 11 | 37 | *94* |
| | | |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 24 | *106* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 20 | *945* |
| | | |
| **Perceptions of teenagers hanging around being a problem** | | |
| Very/fairly big problem | 24 | *345* |
| Not very big/not a problem at all | 18 | *704* |
| | | |
| **How often children hang around with friends** | | |
| Three or more times a week | 35 | *283* |
| Once or twice a week | 19 | *402* |
| Once or twice a month | 14 | *231* |
| Less than once a month | 6 | *136* |

1. The question about being 'moved on' was only asked of children who said they had hung around with friends.
2. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
3. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 4.08 Proportion of children[1] aged 10 to 15 who have been moved on while hanging around with their friends, by household and area characteristics**

| Percentages | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|---|
| | | *Unweighted base* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **20** | *1,052* |
| | | |
| **Structure of household** | | |
| Single adult & child(ren) | 26 | *195* |
| Adults & child(ren) | 19 | *857* |
| | | |
| **Total household income** | | |
| Less than £10,000 | 18 | *81* |
| £10,000 less than £20,000 | 21 | *183* |
| £20,000 less than £30,000 | 24 | *142* |
| £30,000 less than £40,000 | 24 | *133* |
| £40,000 less than £50,000 | 23 | *104* |
| £50,000 or more | 17 | *222* |
| No income stated or not enough information provided | 17 | *187* |
| | | |
| **Tenure** | | |
| Owner-occupied | 18 | *721* |
| Social-rented | 27 | *175* |
| Private-rented | 20 | *154* |
| | | |
| **Accommodation type** | | |
| Houses | 21 | *990* |
| *Detached* | 16 | *282* |
| *Semi-detached* | 22 | *391* |
| *Terraced* | 23 | *317* |
| Flats/maisonettes | 11 | *45* |
| | | |
| **Output area classification** | | |
| Blue collar communities | 24 | *214* |
| City living | - | *25* |
| Countryside | 22 | *163* |
| Prospering suburbs | 17 | *259* |
| Constrained by circumstances | 22 | *80* |
| Typical traits | 25 | *228* |
| Multicultural | 12 | *83* |
| | | |
| **Area type** | | |
| Urban | 21 | *774* |
| Rural | 17 | *278* |
| | | |
| **Level of physical disorder** | | |
| High | 12 | *57* |
| Not high | 21 | *987* |
| | | |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Employment)** | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 25 | *176* |
| Other output areas | 18 | *552* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 20 | *227* |
| | | |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Crime)** | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 18 | *150* |
| Other output areas | 21 | *566* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 19 | *239* |

1. The question about being 'moved on' was only asked of children who said they had hung around with friends.

2. See Sections 7.1 and 7.2 of the User Guide for definitions of area and household characteristics.

**Table 4.09 How often children[1] aged 10 to 15 were moved on when hanging around with friends**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| All of the time | 2 |
| Most of the time | 6 |
| Sometimes | 33 |
| Not that often | 58 |
| *Unweighted base* | *204* |

1. Of those children who said they had been moved on when hanging around with friends.


**Table 4.10 Who the children[1] aged 10 to 15 were moved on by, the last time they were moved on when hanging around with friends**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| A member of the public | 41 |
| The police/PCSOs[2] | 33 |
| A shop owner/manager | 12 |
| Security guards | 9 |
| Someone else | 7 |
| *Unweighted base* | *200* |

1. Of those children who said they had been moved on when hanging around with friends.
2. Police Community Support Officer.


**Table 4.11 Reasons children[1] aged 10 to 15 were moved on when hanging around with friends**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| Making too much noise | 31 |
| Just didn't want a group hanging around | 24 |
| Blocking an entrance or being in the way | 8 |
| Playing ball games | 5 |
| Some other reason | 27 |
| No reason given | 16 |
| *Unweighted base* | *202* |

1. Of those children who said they had been moved on when hanging around with friends.


**Table 4.12 Children's[1] perceived fairness of being moved on when hanging around with friends**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|
| Yes | 48 |
| No | 52 |
| *Unweighted base* | *197* |

1. Of those children who said they had been moved on when hanging around with friends.

**Table 4.13 Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who perceived teenagers hanging around as being a problem, by personal characteristics**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS | |
|---|---|---|
| | | *Unweighted base* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **35** | ***1,289*** |
| | | |
| **Age** | | |
| 10-12 | **35** | ***614*** |
| 10 | 37 | *179* |
| 11 | 34 | *216* |
| 12 | 33 | *219* |
| 13-15 | **35** | ***675*** |
| 13 | 34 | *212* |
| 14 | 31 | *251* |
| 15 | 40 | *212* |
| | | |
| **Boys** | **37** | ***657*** |
| 10-12 | 37 | *311* |
| 13-15 | 37 | *346* |
| | | |
| **Girls** | **33** | ***632*** |
| 10-12 | 33 | *303* |
| 13-15 | 33 | *329* |
| | | |
| **Ethnic group** | | |
| White | 33 | *1,143* |
| Ethnic group other than White | 44 | *146* |
| | | |
| **Religion** | | |
| Religon | 36 | *845* |
| No religion | 33 | *432* |
| | | |
| **School year**[1] | | |
| Year 5 | 39 | *80* |
| Year 6 | 36 | *200* |
| Year 7 | 32 | *204* |
| Year 8 | 33 | *214* |
| Year 9 | 32 | *247* |
| Year 10 | 38 | *218* |
| Year 11 | 37 | *112* |
| | | |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 46 | *124* |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 34 | *1,163* |

1. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
2. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 4.14 Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who perceived teenagers hanging around as being a problem, by household and area characteristics**

| Percentages | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|---|
| | | *Unweighted base* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **35** | *1,289* |
| **Structure of household** | | |
| Single adult & child(ren) | 42 | *234* |
| Adults & child(ren) | 33 | *1,055* |
| **Total household income** | | |
| Less than £10,000 | 38 | *99* |
| £10,000 less than £20,000 | 41 | *222* |
| £20,000 less than £30,000 | 40 | *186* |
| £30,000 less than £40,000 | 26 | *153* |
| £40,000 less than £50,000 | 34 | *129* |
| £50,000 or more | 30 | *268* |
| No income stated or not enough information provided | 34 | *232* |
| **Tenure** | | |
| Owner-occupied | 31 | *885* |
| Social-rented | 45 | *216* |
| Private-rented | 39 | *186* |
| **Accommodation type** | | |
| Houses | 34 | *1,210* |
| *Detached* | 26 | *354* |
| *Semi-detached* | 35 | *472* |
| *Terraced* | 39 | *384* |
| Flats/maisonettes | 52 | *58* |
| **Output area classification** | | |
| Blue collar communities | 47 | *255* |
| City living | - | *25* |
| Countryside | 19 | *201* |
| Prospering suburbs | 26 | *320* |
| Constrained by circumstances | 58 | *103* |
| Typical traits | 35 | *268* |
| Multicultural | 36 | *117* |
| **Area type** | | |
| Urban | 37 | *944* |
| Rural | 26 | *345* |
| **Level of physical disorder** | | |
| High | 44 | *72* |
| Not high | 34 | *1,208* |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Employment)** | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 45 | *228* |
| Other output areas | 35 | *672* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 23 | *274* |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Crime)** | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 45 | *191* |
| Other output areas | 35 | *678* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 26 | *305* |

1. See Sections 7.1 and 7.2 of the User Guide for definitions of household and area characteristics.

**Table 4.15  Levels of public transport use in the last year among children aged 10 to 15**

| Percentages | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
| --- | --- |
| **Types of public transport used[1]** | |
| Bus (including local and school bus) | 73 |
| Train | 48 |
| London Underground/tube/metro | 29 |
| Tram | 8 |
| None of these | 16 |
| *Unweighted base* | *1,235* |
| **Frequency of travelling on buses** | |
| Every day | 20 |
| Almost every day | 13 |
| Two or three times a week | 10 |
| Once a week | 12 |
| Two or three times a month | 12 |
| Once a month | 14 |
| Once or twice a year | 19 |
| *Unweighted base* | *890* |

1. Totals add to more than 100 per cent as more than one response possible.

**Table 4.16 Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who avoided travelling on buses at certain times of day, by personal characteristics**

| Percentages | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|---|
| | | *Unweighted base* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **15** | **876** |
| | | |
| **Age** | | |
| 10-12 | **15** | **364** |
| 10 | 13 | 92 |
| 11 | 21 | 110 |
| 12 | 12 | 162 |
| 13-15 | **15** | **512** |
| 13 | 14 | 161 |
| 14 | 19 | 170 |
| 15 | 12 | 181 |
| | | |
| **Boys** | **9** | **449** |
| 10-12 | 10 | 193 |
| 13-15 | 8 | 256 |
| | | |
| **Girls** | **21** | **427** |
| 10-12 | 20 | 171 |
| 13-15 | 22 | 256 |
| | | |
| **Ethnic group** | | |
| White | 14 | 766 |
| Ethnic group other than White | 22 | 108 |
| | | |
| **Religion** | | |
| Christian | 15 | 539 |
| Religion other than Christian | 15 | 277 |
| No religion | 16 | 53 |
| | | |
| **School year**[1] | | |
| Year 5 | - | 41 |
| Year 6 | 14 | 97 |
| Year 7 | 16 | 137 |
| Year 8 | 13 | 157 |
| Year 9 | 15 | 181 |
| Year 10 | 18 | 146 |
| Year 11 | 11 | 112 |
| | | |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 13 | 77 |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 15 | 798 |

1. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 11 only pupils aged 15.
2. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 4.17  Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who avoided using buses, by when**

| Percentages[1] | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---:|
| In the late evening | 49 |
| At night | 45 |
| Any time it is dark | 23 |
| In the early evening | 18 |
| When schools come out | 8 |
| In the afternoon | 8 |
| In the morning | 3 |
| *Unweighted base* | *126* |

1. Totals add to more than 100 per cent as more than one response possible.

**Table 4.18 Activities available to and used by children aged 10 to 15 in their local area**

| Percentages[1] | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| | **Activities available** | **Activities used[2]** |
| Parks, playgrounds | 84 | 62 |
| After school clubs | 67 | 33 |
| Youth clubs | 61 | 22 |
| Sports/leisure centres | 61 | 33 |
| Outside sports ground | 60 | 27 |
| Dance school/club | 39 | 9 |
| Skate parks | 37 | 9 |
| Cinema/multiplex | 34 | 23 |
| Other activities | 1 | 2 |
| None of these | 2 | 9 |
| *Unweighted base* | *1,289* | *1,257* |

1. Totals add to more than 100 per cent as more than one response possible.

2. The percentage of activities used is an absolute figure, independent of whether the acitivity was available or not.

**Table 4.19 Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who felt that there were enough activities for children their age in the local area, by personal characteristics**

| Percentages | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|---|
| | | *Unweighted base* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **59** | **1,270** |
| | | |
| **Age** | | |
| 10-12 | **67** | **604** |
| 10 | 70 | 175 |
| 11 | 67 | 212 |
| 12 | 64 | 217 |
| 13-15 | **51** | **666** |
| 13 | 57 | 209 |
| 14 | 52 | 247 |
| 15 | 42 | 210 |
| | | |
| **Boys** | **59** | **651** |
| 10-12 | 63 | 309 |
| 13-15 | 56 | 342 |
| | | |
| **Girls** | **58** | **619** |
| 10-12 | 71 | 295 |
| 13-15 | 45 | 324 |
| | | |
| **Ethnic group** | | |
| White | 58 | 1,128 |
| Ethnic group other than White | 61 | 142 |
| | | |
| **Religion** | | |
| Religon | 59 | 835 |
| No religion | 58 | 424 |
| | | |
| **School year[1]** | | |
| Year 5 | 65 | 78 |
| Year 6 | 75 | 198 |
| Year 7 | 61 | 200 |
| Year 8 | 64 | 209 |
| Year 9 | 50 | 245 |
| Year 10 | 50 | 215 |
| Year 11 | 42 | 110 |
| | | |
| **Long-standing illness or disability** | | |
| Long-standing illness or disability | 48 | 124 |
| No long-standing illness or disability | 60 | 1,144 |
| | | |
| **Whether been moved on when hanging around with friends[2]** | | |
| Yes | 42 | 202 |
| No | 60 | 828 |
| | | |
| **Perception of teenagers hanging around being a problem** | | |
| Very/fairly big problem | 53 | 430 |
| Not very big/not a problem at all | 61 | 832 |

1. As the BCS includes 10 to 15 year olds, Year 5 represents only pupils aged 10 and Year 9 only pupils aged 15.

2. The question about being 'moved on' was only asked of children who said they had hung around with friends.

3. See Section 7.3 of the User Guide for definitions of personal characteristics.

**Table 4.20 Proportion of children aged 10 to 15 who felt that there were enough activities for children their age in the local area, by household and area characteristics**

| Percentages | | England and Wales, 2009/10 BCS |
|---|---|---|
| | | *Unweighted base* |
| **ALL CHILDREN AGED 10-15** | **59** | *1,270* |
| | | |
| **Structure of household** | | |
| Single adult & child(ren) | 51 | *230* |
| Adults & child(ren) | 61 | *1,040* |
| | | |
| **Total household income** | | |
| Less than £10,000 | 42 | *97* |
| £10,000 less than £20,000 | 50 | *219* |
| £20,000 less than £30,000 | 67 | *183* |
| £30,000 less than £40,000 | 59 | *150* |
| £40,000 less than £50,000 | 56 | *129* |
| £50,000 or more | 72 | *264* |
| No income stated or not enough information provided | 55 | *228* |
| | | |
| **Tenure** | | |
| Owner-occupied | 63 | *871* |
| Social-rented | 47 | *213* |
| Private-rented | 52 | *184* |
| | | |
| **Accommodation type** | | |
| Houses | 59 | *1,191* |
| *Detached* | 66 | *350* |
| *Semi-detached* | 59 | *465* |
| *Terraced* | 54 | *376* |
| Flats/maisonettes | 50 | *58* |
| | | |
| **Output area classification** | | |
| Blue collar communities | 55 | *250* |
| City living | - | *26* |
| Countryside | 56 | *200* |
| Prospering suburbs | 68 | *316* |
| Constrained by circumstances | 37 | *99* |
| Typical traits | 61 | *261* |
| Multicultural | 58 | *118* |
| | | |
| **Area type** | | |
| Urban | 60 | *931* |
| Rural | 54 | *339* |
| | | |
| **Level of physical disorder** | | |
| High | 52 | *73* |
| Not high | 59 | *1,188* |
| | | |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Employment)** | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 48 | *223* |
| Other output areas | 62 | *660* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 63 | *273* |
| | | |
| **English Indices of Deprivation (Crime)** | | |
| 20% most deprived output areas | 54 | *188* |
| Other output areas | 62 | *667* |
| 20% least deprived output areas | 58 | *301* |

1. See Sections 7.1 and 7.2 of the User Guide for definitions of area and household characteristics.

# Bibliography

**Anderson, F., Worsely, R., Nunney, F., Maybanks, N. and Dawes, W.** (2009) *Youth Survey 2009.* London: Youth Justice Board for England and Wales.
http://www.yjb.gov.uk/publications/Resources/Downloads/Ipsos%20MORI%20Youth%20Survey%202009.pdf

**Fitzpatrick, A., Grant, C., Bolling, K., Owen, R. and Millard, B.** (2010) *Extending the British Crime Survey to children: a report on the methodological and development work.* London: TNS-BMRB and the Home Office.
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110220105210/http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/bcschildren.pdf

**Flatley, J. (Ed), Moon, D. (Ed), Roe, S., Hall, P. and Moley, S.** (2009) *Home security, mobile phone theft and stolen goods: Supplementary Volume 3 to Crime in England and Wales 2007/08.* Home Office Statistical Bulletin 10/09. London: Home Office.
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110218135832/rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs09/hosb1009.pdf

**Flatley, J., Kershaw, C., Smith, K., Chaplin, R. and Moon, D. (Eds.)** (2010). *Crime in England and Wales 2009/10: Findings from the British Crime Survey and police recorded crime.* Home Office Statistical Bulletin 12/10. London: Home Office.
http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/hosb1210/

**Home Office** (2010) *User Guide to Home Office Crime Statistics.* London: Home Office.
http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/user-guide-crime-statistics/?view=Standard&pubID=866666

**Millard, B. and Flatley, J.** (2010) *Experimental statistics on victimisation of children aged 10 to 15: Findings from the British Crime Survey for the year ending December 2009.* Home Office Statistical Bulletin 11/10. London: Home Office.
http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/hosb1110

**Pickering, K., Smith, P., Bryson, C. and Farmer, C.** (2008) *British Crime Survey: options for extending the coverage to children and people living in communal establishments.* Home Office Research Report 06. London: Home Office.
http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/science-research-statistics/research-statistics/crime-research/horr06/?view=Standard&pubID=865048

**Roe, S. and Ashe, J.** (2008) *Young people and crime: Findings from the 2006 Offending, Crime and Justice Survey.* Home Office Statistical Bulletin 09/08. London: Home Office.
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110218135832/rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/hosb0908.pdf

**Scribbins, M. (Ed), Flatley, J. (Ed), Parfrement-Hopkins, J. and Hall, P.** (2010) *Public perceptions of policing, engagement with the police and victimisation: Supplementary Volume 1 to Crime in England and Wales 2009/10.* Home Office Statistical Bulletin 19/10. London: Home Office.
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110218135832/rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb1910.pdf

**Smith, A.** (2006) *Crime statistics: An independent review.* Independent Report. London: Home Office.
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110218135832/rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs06/crime-statistics-independent-review-06.pdf

**Statistics Commission** (2006) *Crime statistics: User perspectives.* Statistics Commission Report No. 30. London: Statistics Commission.
http://www.statscom.org.uk/uploads/files/reports/Crime_Statistics_Review-final.pdf

**TNS-BMRB** (2010) *British Crime Survey 2009-10 Technical Report.* TNS-BMRB. London: Home Office.
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110220105210/rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/bcs0910tech1.pdf

**Walker, A., Flatley, J., Kershaw, C. and Moon, D. (Eds.)** (2009). *Crime in England and Wales 2008/09.* Home Office Statistical Bulletin 11/09. London: Home Office.
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110220105210/http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/crimeew0809.html

Copies of Home Office publications are available from the Home Office Science internet pages: http://homeoffice.gov.uk/science-research/research-statistics/