

Acknowledgements

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Foreword

This is a very important report. It provides a unique insight into the perceptions of children and young people who were held in Prison Service custody during 2001–3. It summarises the responses to confidential surveys, specially adapted for juveniles, which sought the views of under-18s in all the establishments where they were held, between November 2001 and March 2003.

It paints a very varied picture, where a young person's experience of custody was very different depending on where he or she was held. It draws out some contrasts between the experience of boys and girls, for example in relation to education, employment and bullying by other young people. But it also points out some differentials between establishments:

- ◆ 99% of girls in one establishment had daily access to showers, compared to only 20% in another
- ◆ the proportion of boys involved in education ranged from 100% to 46%
- ◆ in some YOIs, 70% of boys had access to association five times a week; in others it was as low as 3% or 9%

However, there are also some general, and some specific, points that policy-makers and Prison Service managers need to be aware of:

- ◆ just over a third of young people (both boys and girls) had felt unsafe at some time; and this included all the 15-year-old girls. It is welcome that 15-year-old girls are no longer held in YOIs (and the Inspectorate supports the view that no girls should be held in prison establishments)
- ◆ girls in the smallest units were the most negative about their experience. Unlike boys, they are held in adult female establishments, where it is much more difficult to meet their specific needs. Responses from the small number of girls held in Holloway were negative on almost all counts
- ◆ 16% of boys and 12% of girls were held on remand, sometimes for lengthy periods: of the remanded boys, 13% had spent more than 6 months on remand
- ◆ young people are still held far too far away from home: only 30% of boys and 23% of girls said it was easy for their families to visit
- ◆ school exclusion and care continue to be fertile recruiting grounds for custody: 83% of boys had been excluded, and 43% of girls had been in care or foster homes
- ◆ substance abuse is also a major concern across both sexes: as many girls as boys (1 in 6) reported having an alcohol problem on arrival in prison, and significantly more (40%) admitted to a drugs problem. These figures are likely to under-report the actual problem
- ◆ 72% of boys and 91% of girls were involved in some form of education, with 34% of boys and 10% of girls involved in some type of employment which may have included skills training
- ◆ both boys and girls believed that finding a job was the thing most likely to prevent them reoffending. 32% of boys and 44% of girls felt that they had done something in custody that would help them find employment – though only 6% of girls had jobs to go to
- ◆ the great majority of young people – 91% of girls and 89% of boys – wanted to stop offending in the future. But nearly a third of those about to be released said that they still needed help with resettlement problems

Executive summary

The purpose of this survey was to give young people held in custody the opportunity to comment on their experiences, especially the way in which they are treated, and the conditions in which they are held. Over an 18-month period (November 2001 to March 2003) all establishments holding people under the age of 18 have been surveyed on at least one occasion, usually as part of a formal inspection. This report aims to synthesise this information for the first time, and look at emerging themes and trends across the entire juvenile estate.

In general, it has been very difficult to compare establishments, which are in many ways different from each other in terms of their size, location and population. The variance in responses, however, across establishments within both the male and female estates, highlights that juveniles have vastly different experiences of custody, which can only partly be explained through differences in establishment type.

Main findings

- ◆ establishments holding the smallest number of girls tended to produce the most negative responses across the female estate. The specialist units and smaller prisons in the male estate tend to be specifically designed and resourced to deal with their populations, whereas in the female estate, establishments with small populations of juveniles are adult prisons, with no specific resources or facilities to deal with juveniles
- ◆ 83% of boys and 65% of girls had been previously excluded from school. Furthermore, 37% of boys and 43% of girls had previously spent time either in a care or foster home or both

Safety – Main findings

- ◆ about a quarter of all young people reported that they had received insulting remarks from staff
- ◆ over a third of all young people said they had felt unsafe at some point during their time in custody
- ◆ boys were more than three times as likely to have experienced control and restraint techniques
- ◆ significantly more boys said they had been insulted and assaulted by other young people

Respect – Main findings

- ◆ boys rated the healthcare in their establishments as being significantly better than did girls
- ◆ nearly half of all girls reported being on medication compared to under a quarter of boys
- ◆ access to showers every day was poor for boys (under half) and much less than that for girls, though access varied considerably across girls' establishments, from 99% to 20%

Purposeful activity – Main findings

- ◆ boys were significantly more likely to be employed within their establishment whereas much higher numbers of girls were involved in education and learning skills or a trade
- ◆ boys reported having much better access to the gym, but girls reported having more association and exercise outside

Resettlement – Main findings

- ◆ significantly more girls said they received help for drug and alcohol problems than boys
- ◆ a quarter of all young people said they had not received a visit. This is consistent with a concern long held by the Inspectorate regarding the distance young people are held from their home and family
- ◆ of those young people aged over 16 and being released in the next two months (at the time of survey), nearly a third said they still needed help with resettlement issues

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Section 1: Introduction

1.1 Introduction

Between September 2001 and March 2003, a team of researchers from HM Inspectorate of Prisons, visited 21 young offender institutions, 16 male establishments (including the Oswald and Carlford Units¹) and five female establishments, on behalf of the Youth Justice Board². The aim of these visits was to give a proportion of the young people held at each establishment their chance to comment on the treatment and conditions in which they were being held. Over 1200 young people either completed a questionnaire or attended interviews to give us their opinions of the establishments in which they were living.

This is the first time a representative sample of the under-18 prisoner population has been systematically consulted concerning their treatment and conditions in Prison Service custody in England and Wales.

1.2 The healthy prison

The healthy prison concept was introduced in our thematic review *Suicide is Everyone's Concern*, published in 1999. The phrase itself was first introduced by the World Health Organisation, but the precise definition used in this report belongs to the Inspectorate. The four criteria regarding the treatment of and conditions for prisoners in a healthy prison are:

- ◆ prisoners are held in safety
- ◆ prisoners are treated with respect, as fellow human beings
- ◆ prisoners are expected to improve themselves, and are given the opportunity to engage in purposeful activities
- ◆ prisoners are helped to reduce the likelihood of their re-offending and prepare for release

The results from this survey are presented using the healthy prison concept. The report is divided into two sections: one for the male juvenile population, the other the female population. Each section is split into the four healthy prison components (referred to as safety, respect, purposeful activity and resettlement), with an initial breakdown of the type of population surveyed as an introduction.

1.3 Background and scope of the report

From 1 April 2000, the Detention and Training Order (DTO) replaced previous procedures for the detention of under 18s, as the main method of detaining a juvenile to custody³. A DTO can be for any length of time between four months and two years, with the first half spent in custody and the second half spent under the supervision of a youth offending team (YOT) in the community. Under the terms of the DTO juveniles can be sentenced to attend a young offender institution (YOI), a secure training centre (STC) or a local authority secure children's home (LASCH).

This report covers exclusively those juvenile offenders who were sentenced to a young offender institution (YOI). YOIs are generally managed by the Prison Service⁴ and often hold both under-18 offenders and offenders aged 18–21 (although almost always on split sites). YOIs have lower ratios of staff to young people than STCs and LASCHs and normally accommodate larger numbers of young people. Consequently, juvenile offenders who are placed in LASCHs and STCs are usually considered to be more vulnerable, or younger

¹ These units are based at Castington and Warren Hill respectively but operate completely separate regimes and cater exclusively for young people who have committed the most serious offences and are sentenced to periods in excess of two years. These young people are held under Section 92 of the Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 (which was previously Section 53 (1 & 2) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933).

² This figure represents all male and female establishments that were holding juveniles at the inception of the project in September 2001. Since this date Parc has started to take juveniles on remand from the Welsh courts, and Styal periodically holds very small numbers (typically one or two) of female remands.

³ Juveniles convicted of crimes for which an adult would serve a minimum of 14 years have separate sentencing guidelines.

⁴ With the exception of Ashfield, which is managed on a private contract.

(typically aged from 12–15) than those who are placed in YOIs. However, during inspections we have found that allocation decisions are somewhat more arbitrary than this in practice.

Male and female juvenile offenders are always held separately from one another within the YOIs (as opposed to the mixed accommodation of STCs and some LASCHs). For this reason the report treats each group as distinct, and reports on each separately.

1.4 Methodology

Choosing a sample size

The baseline for the sample size was calculated using a robust statistical formula provided by a Home Office statistician. The formula was set at the 95% confidence level (with a standard error margin of 3% either way). Essentially the formula indicates the sample size that is required and the extent to which the findings from a sample of that size reflect the experiences of the whole population.

This baseline was always taken as a minimum. Above the baseline, the number of questionnaires distributed was resource driven. The proportion of juveniles surveyed generally ranged from one third up to 100% depending on the size of the total population. Surveying more than the minimum also accounted for any non-responses.

Over-sampling was always carried out on the healthcare and segregation units, as the numbers on these units were generally very low. This also applied to the smaller accommodation units.

Selecting the sample

Establishments were asked to provide a printout of their population on the morning of our visit, including the name and location of each young person. The respondents were then randomly selected from the printout using a stratified systematic sampling method. For instance, every second person is selected if 50% of the population is to be sampled. If respondents refused to complete a questionnaire they were counted as refusals and were not replaced. If, however, a chosen respondent was for any reason outside the establishment (e.g. at court) then the next person on the list was given the opportunity to complete a questionnaire.

Interviews were carried out with all those juveniles who had literacy difficulties.

Methodology

Questionnaires were distributed and collected from each respondent individually. The independence of the Inspectorate and the purpose of the questionnaire were explained at the time of distribution and respondents were given the opportunity to ask questions. All completed questionnaires were confidential – only members of the Inspectorate saw them. In order to ensure this confidentiality, respondents were asked either to have their questionnaire ready to hand back to a member of the research team, or to put their completed questionnaire in the envelope provided and hand it to a member of staff if they were agreeable, or to leave it in their room for collection. The questionnaire responses were also anonymous – respondents were not asked to report their names on their questionnaire.

Juvenile survey visits lasted for approximately two days and were attended by at least two members of the research team. Questionnaires were distributed at a time convenient to the establishment, for example, before lunchtime or teatime lock-up, and were collected the same day or the following day depending on the time of distribution.

1.5 Response rates

Overall, a total of 1222 young people completed and returned surveys, which represented 44% of the juvenile prison population. Table 1 outlines the overall sample sizes and response rates for both male and female establishments (individual establishment sample sizes and response rates can be found in the introduction to their respective sections).

Table 1: Breakdown of response rates from both male and female establishments

	Population at time of survey	Sample size	Percentage of population sampled	Response rate
Male establishments (n=16)	2667	1089	41%	91%
Female establishments (n=5)	138	133	96%	91%
Total (n=21)	2805	1222	44%	91%

We found that our methodology worked well, particularly for a population that was generally difficult to engage. However, for the female estate in particular, there were occasions when the numbers of respondents to a question were below 50. Where this occurred, a footnote has been inserted to bring this to attention.

1.6 Treatment of data

All data from each establishment have been weighted, in order to mimic a consistent percentage sampled in each establishment.

Missing data (respondents who have not answered questions) have been omitted from all statistical tables. Each table shows the overall number of respondents to the question as the 'total' and in the footnote the overall population for the question and any missing respondents. Percentage scores are calculated without including these 'missing' respondents.

This report has been split into four sections including the introduction. Section two looks at responses from the under-18 male estate, section three looks at the female under-18 estate and section four at comparisons between the under-18 male estate and the under-18 female estate.

Section 2: Male establishments

This section of the report covers responses from male participants to the survey, across the 16 male establishments visited. Table 2 below shows the responses from each establishment visited.

Table 2: Male young people in Prison Service accommodation: the population, sample size and survey dates

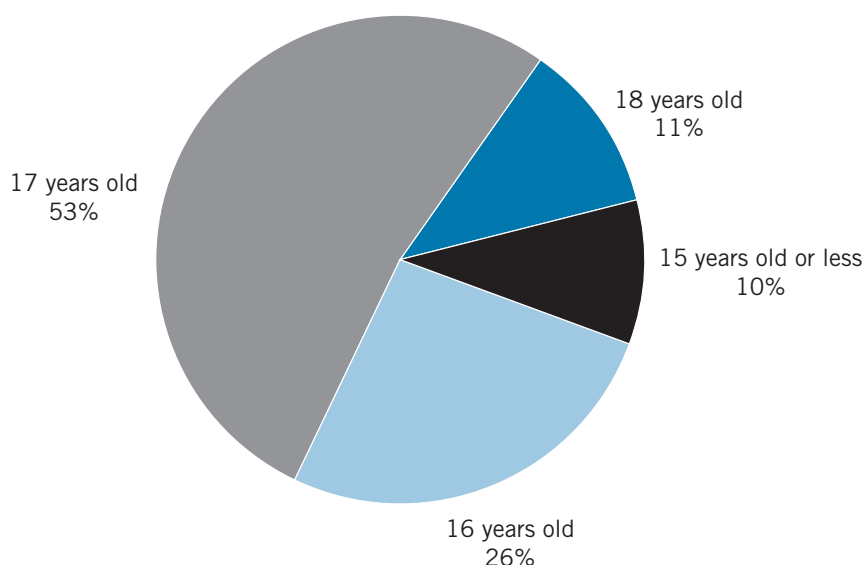
Establishment	Population at time of survey	Sample size	Percentage of population sampled	Date of survey
Ashfield	287	84	29%	30–31 May 2002
Brinsford	212	98	46%	30–31 Oct 2002
The Carlford Unit	28	26	93%	7–8 Oct 2002
Castington	144	75	52%	27–28 Feb 2002
Feltham	260	75	29%	18–19 Feb 2003
Hindley	171	74	43%	5–6 Sept 2002
Huntercombe	338	103	30%	20–21 Sept 2001
Lancaster Farms	108	62	57%	1 Feb 2002
Onley	205	102	50%	2–3 Dec 2002
The Oswald Unit	32	14	44%	27–28 Feb 2002
Portland	86	42	49%	9–10 Oct 2001
Stoke Heath	175	81	46%	11–12 Sept 2002
Thorn Cross	30	20	67%	23–24 Sept 2002
Warren Hill	182	81	45%	7–8 Oct 2002
Werrington	107	64	60%	11–12 Mar 2003
Wetherby	302	88	29%	19 Feb 2002
Total	2667	1089	41%	

2.1 Profile of the male population and background information

Respondents were asked to give some basic demographic information about themselves, their family/ educational background and their individual situation when first arriving in custody.

2.2 Age

Figure 1: Age of boys



The highest proportion of respondents who were aged 15 or under⁵ was at Brinsford (18%) and the highest proportion of 18-year-olds was at Thorn Cross (39%).

2.3 Status

Overall, 84% of respondents were sentenced and 16% were held on remand. Feltham had the highest proportion of juveniles on remand with 49% of the sample⁶. Of those respondents who were sentenced, 61% were serving sentences of one year or more. Of the remanded respondents, 66% had been on remand for less than three months and 13% said they had been held on remand for more than six months.

2.4 Previous experience of custody

Overall, 44% of respondents said they had previously been to a prison or secure training centre on a different sentence. Castington had the highest proportion of young people who had been in custody before at 63% of the sample. Only 16% of respondents in the Oswald Unit and 19% of respondents in the Carlford Unit had been in a prison before.

2.5 Family background

Across all establishments, 37% of respondents had previously spent time in either a children's home or foster home or both. Of those who had spent time in care, 38% had spent at least two years in care.

Of all respondents, 12% said they had children of their own.

⁵ There was one respondent who said he was 14 years of age.

⁶ Six establishments did not have any young people on remand: Oswald Unit, Carlford Unit, Portland, Warren Hill, Thorn Cross and Werrington.

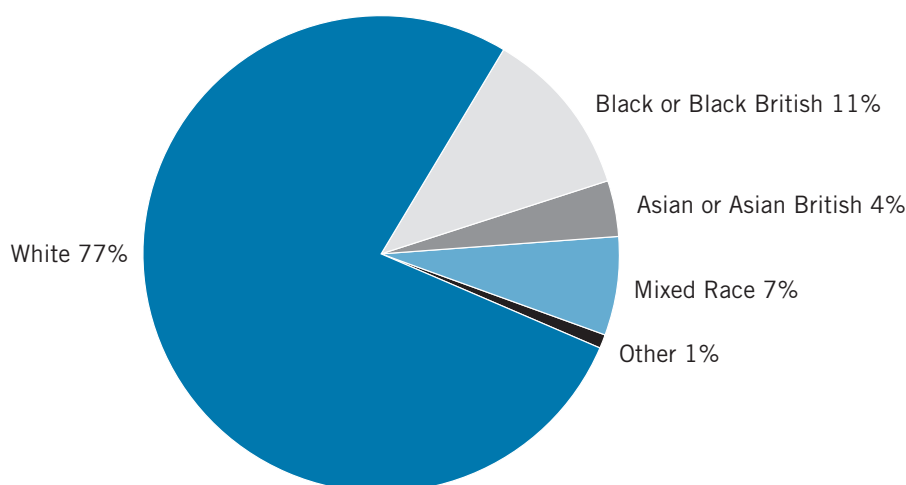
2.6 Educational background

Overall, 41% of respondents were aged 14 or younger when they were last in school. Furthermore, 83% of all respondents had been excluded from school at some time in their past (61% of these had been excluded more than twice), and 79% of respondents admitted to having played truant from school in the past (around half of these said they played truant every day).

Just over a third of respondents (34%) felt they needed help with reading, writing or maths.

2.7 Ethnicity

Figure 2: Ethnicity of boys



Overall, 23% of respondents were from black and minority ethnic groups⁷. The highest proportion of respondents from black and minority ethnic groups was at Feltham (56%).

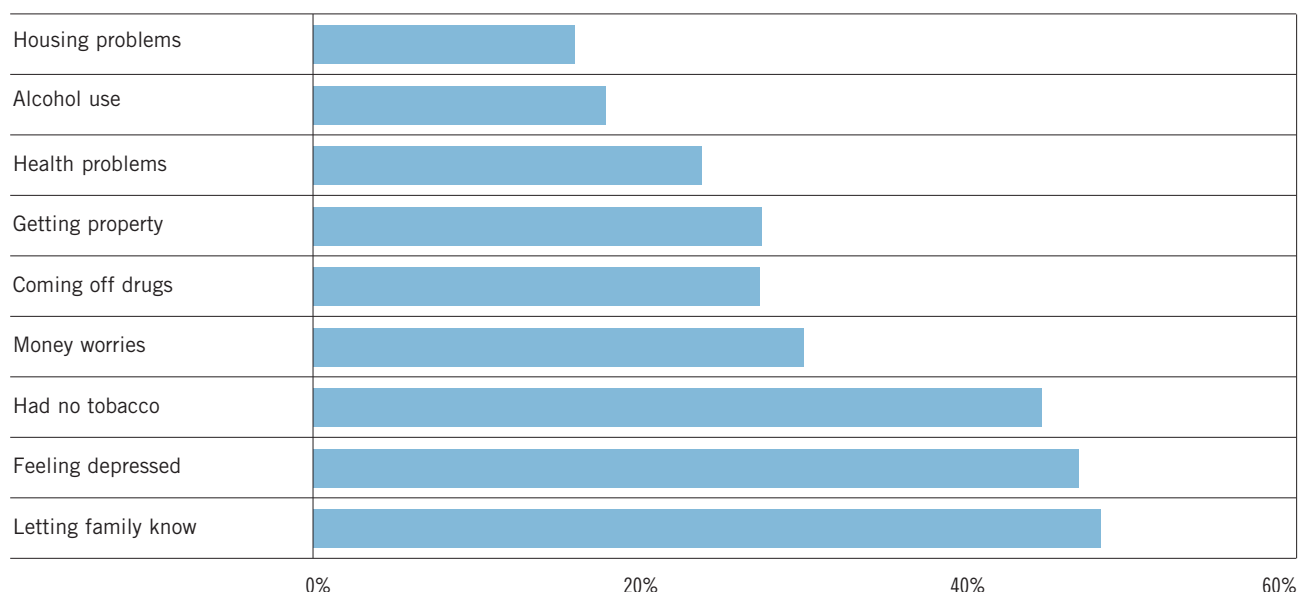
2.8 On arrival in custody

On average, 35% of young people said that they knew other young people or staff from a previous time in a prison or secure training centre, and 77% said they had friends in the prison.

Across all establishments, 57% of respondents said they had problems that needed dealing with as soon as they arrived. Thorn Cross had the lowest proportion of those who said they had problems on arrival (30%). These respondents were then asked what their problems were, and were given nine options from which they could tick as many or as few as they liked. The responses are shown below.

⁷ Two respondents said they were of Chinese origin.

Figure 3: Key issues for boys who said they had problems that needed to be dealt with on arrival in custody



Of those respondents who said they had problems, Werrington had the highest proportion of respondents who said they needed help with coming off drugs (42% compared with the average of 27%)⁸. Although housing problems had the smallest overall percentage of respondents, this was the most pressing issue for respondents from Thorn Cross⁹.

2.9 Safety

Respondents were asked whether they had ever been bullied/insulted or assaulted by other young people or staff, starting from their first few days on induction. They were also asked about their experiences, and views of, good order and discipline within the establishment.

2.10 Arrival in custody

Overall, 10% of respondents¹⁰ said they were bullied during their first few days in custody. This was consistently low throughout all establishments (the highest proportion being 13% at Ashfield).

2.11 Good order and discipline

Just under half of all respondents (49%) had had an adjudication, and 20% of all respondents had been physically restrained by a member of staff. Of those respondents who had been restrained by staff, 37% had been restrained three times or more.

Overall, 21% of respondents had spent a night in the segregation unit (60% of these had been restrained by staff). Of those who had spent a night in segregation, 74% said this was for an adjudication. Around a quarter said they thought they were treated 'well' in segregation, 38% said they were treated 'neither well nor badly', and 35% said they were treated 'badly'.

⁸ Werrington had the highest percentage of respondents who had received help for their drug problems (see Resettlement section, p.17).

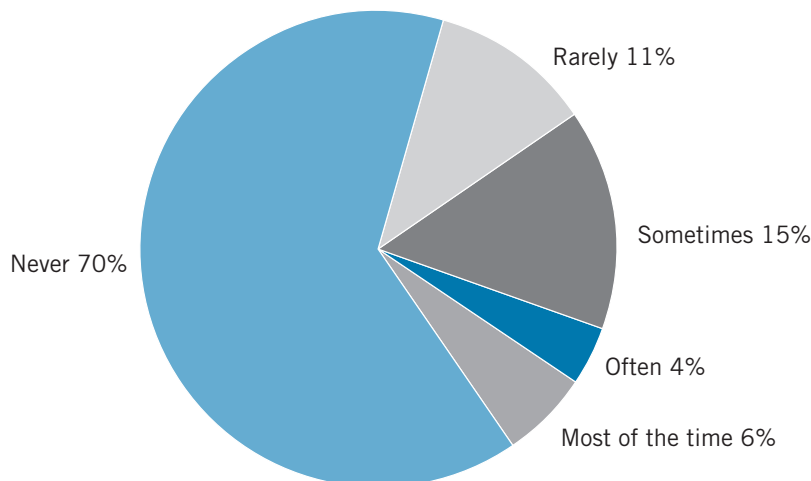
⁹ Along with having no tobacco. Note there were very small numbers from Thorn Cross on this question (n=4).

¹⁰ This question was not asked at Huntercombe.

2.12 Personal safety within the establishment

Young people were asked whether they had ever felt unsafe while in custody. Figure 4 gives the responses to this question.

Figure 4: Percentage of boys who said they had felt unsafe while in custody



Overall, 36% of respondents said that at some time they had felt unsafe. The Carlford Unit (48%), Ashfield (48%) and Portland (46%) had the highest proportions of respondents who said they had, at some time, felt unsafe. Wetherby (76%) and Feltham (75%) had the highest proportions of those who had never felt unsafe.

On average, 49% of male respondents said that when they first arrived other young people shouted through the windows at them. This increased to 66% at the Oswald Unit and 64% at Huntercombe, and declined to 7% at Thorn Cross. Of those who said other young people shouted through the windows at them, 37% said they found this shouting threatening. Thirty-three per cent of respondents said that other young people shouted through the windows at them now (when the questionnaires were issued). Shouting was most prevalent at Portland and Castington (both 45%), and least prevalent at Thorn Cross (7%). Twenty-two per cent of these respondents said they found the shouting threatening. Hindley was the only establishment that reported more respondents finding shouting threatening now (when the questionnaires were distributed) compared to during their first few days of custody.

On average, 35% of all respondents admitted to shouting through the windows at others (again this was highest at Castington and lowest at Thorn Cross).

Overall, 17% of respondents said they were put through an initiation test of some sort by other young people when they first arrived in custody. This rose to 28% at the Oswald Unit and fell to 6% at Feltham.

Overall, 41% of young people said they had had insulting remarks made about them by other young people. This increased to 56% at Onley, and fell to 19% at the Carlford Unit. Of those who had had insulting remarks made about them, 30% said this happened on a daily basis. Twenty-two per cent of young people said they had had insulting remarks made about them by members of staff. This increased to 32% at Stoke Heath and fell to 11% at Warren Hill. Fifteen per cent of these said that this happened on a daily basis.

Just under one quarter of young people (24%) said they had been hit, kicked or assaulted by other young people while in custody. This rose to 33% at Ashfield, and dropped to 14% at Feltham and 15% at Hindley. Of those who had been hit, kicked or assaulted, 55% (n=127) said this had happened once and 7% (n=18)

said it happened regularly¹¹. Overall, 9% of young people said they had been hit, kicked or assaulted by a member of staff. This rose to 16% (n=4) at the Oswald Unit, and 15% at Castington (n=11)¹² and Feltham (n=10). Nearly two-thirds of these respondents said this had happened once.

Overall, 7% of young people said that they had been made to hand something over to another young person while in custody. This rose to 17% at Thorn Cross (n=3), and fell to 3% at Feltham (n=2), and 4% at Huntercombe (n=4) and Castington (n=3). Just over half of these young people said this had happened once¹³.

Overall, 9% of young people said other young people had picked on them because of their race or ethnic background. This rose to 17% at Thorn Cross (n=3) and 16% at Ashfield (n=13), and fell to 1% at Castington (n=1)¹⁴. Just over half of these respondents said this happened 'occasionally (2 to 3 times a week)'. Overall, 5% of young people said they had been picked on because of their race or ethnic background by staff. This remained under 10% for all establishments.

Overall, 13% of young people said they had been picked on by other young people for other reasons. This rose to 23% at Ashfield (n=18) and 22% at the Oswald Unit (n=3)¹⁵. Just under half of these young people said this happened 'occasionally (2 to 3 times a week)'. Furthermore, 7% of respondents said they had been picked on by staff for other reasons. This rose to 22% at the Oswald Unit.

Overall, 35% of respondents said that within the last week a member of staff had checked on them personally to see how they were getting on. Of these respondents, 40% said this had happened once, and 60% said this had happened more than once.

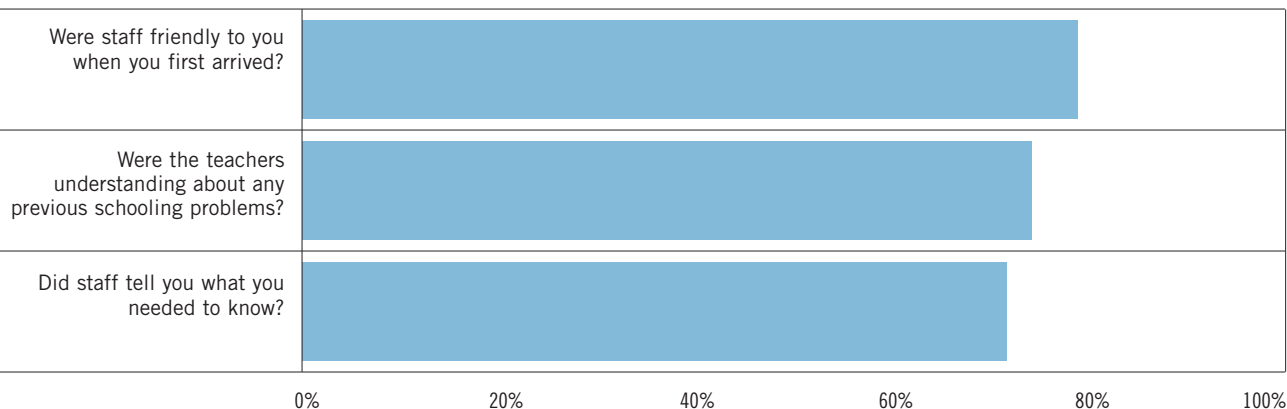
2.13 Respect

Young people were asked whether they thought they were treated with respect, starting from their initial experiences in reception, and throughout their day-to-day experiences of life within their establishment.

2.14 Arrival in custody

Respondents were asked questions about how welcoming and helpful staff were, when they first arrived in the establishment. Average scores for each of these questions are shown below in Figure 5.

Figure 5: Average percentage of boys who said staff were friendly, understanding and informative when they first arrived in custody



11–14 Please note the small number of respondents for these questions.

15 Please note the small number of respondents for this question.

Across each establishment, all respondents at the Carlford Unit, 94% at the Oswald Unit and 92% at Werrington thought the staff were friendly when they first arrived, compared with the lowest proportion of 67% at Brinsford (the average was 79%). The majority of respondents at the Oswald Unit (94%) and Thorn Cross (90%) said they were told what they needed to know by staff, compared with 49% at Ashfield (the average was 72%). Of those who had attended education and had previous problems¹⁶, 89% at Stoke Heath, and 84% at Warren Hill said the teachers were understanding, but this fell to 64% at Onley (the average was 74%).

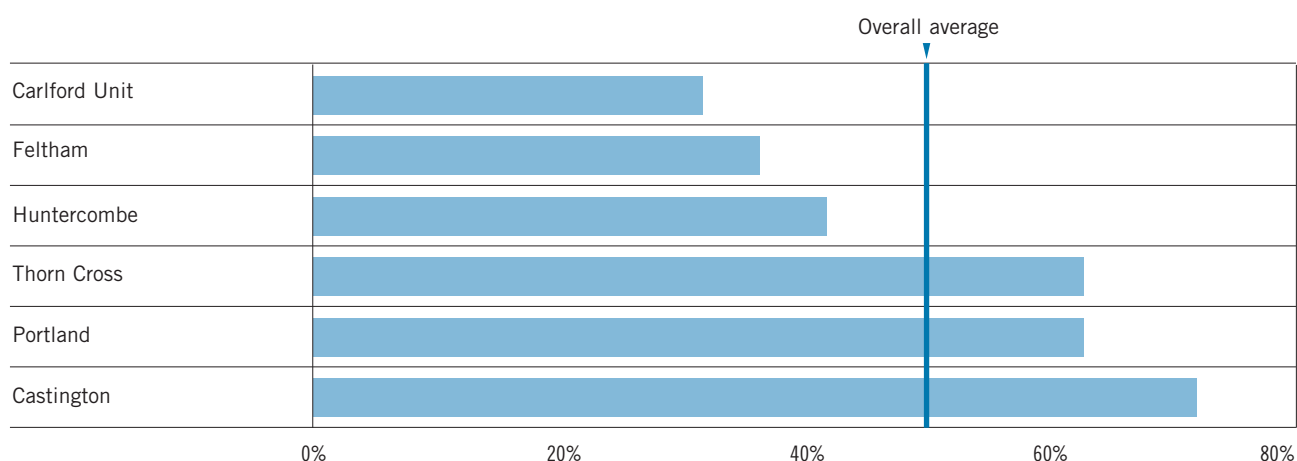
Overall, 82% of respondents were able to make a telephone call on their first day in custody. However, this fell to 47% at Lancaster Farms, but rose to 91% at Hindley, and 90% at Wetherby and the Carlford Unit.

On average, 82% of respondents said they were in reception for less than two hours. This fell to 62% at the Carlford Unit and 68% at Ashfield. All respondents at the Oswald Unit were in reception for less than two hours.

Just under one quarter of all male respondents said they were treated 'well' in reception. This rose to 59% at Werrington and fell to 7% at the Carlford Unit.

Half of all male respondents said they felt 'settled in' by the end of their first week in prison. The difference between the highest and lowest three establishments is shown below in Figure 6.

Figure 6: Percentage of boys who said they felt 'settled in' at their establishments by the end of the first week



Overall, 60% of respondents said they had signed a compact during their first few days at their establishment. This rose to 93% at Portland and fell to 38% at Ashfield. Of those respondents who had signed a compact, 79% thought the compact was fully explained to them, 86% thought it explained what was expected of them and 64% thought it explained what the establishment should be doing for them.

2.15 Life within the establishment

On average, 64% of respondents said they found it 'easy' to attend religious services. This was highest at the Oswald Unit (91%) and lowest at Brinsford (51%).

Half of all respondents said the shop or canteen sold a wide enough variety of products. This rose to 72% at Lancaster Farms and fell to 30% at the Carlford Unit.

On average, 21% of respondents had spoken to an advocate since they had been in custody.

¹⁶ Those who had not yet been to education or said they had not had any previous schooling problems were excluded from overall percentages.

2.16 Food

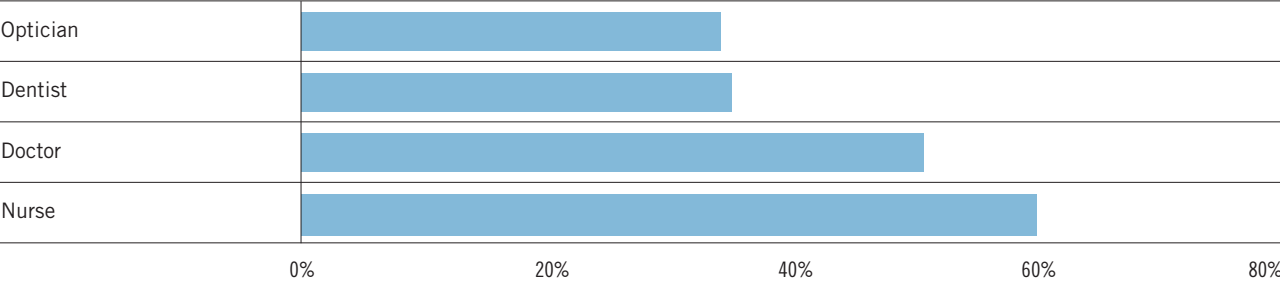
The food came in for criticism at most establishments, with only 15% of respondents overall reporting it as ‘good’. The highest levels of satisfaction were at Thorn Cross where 67% described the food as ‘good’. This compares with 3% at Hindley, 5% at Stoke Heath and 7% at the Carlford Unit. Those respondents who thought the food was ‘good’ were most likely to cite the choice of menu as their main reason for thinking this, and those who thought the food was ‘bad’ were most likely to cite the quality of the food as their main reason.

2.17 Healthcare

Of the respondents who had been to healthcare, 54% said that they thought the overall quality of healthcare was ‘good’. This rose to 84% at Werrington and fell to 37% at Thorn Cross. Over one third of respondents at Hindley, Warren Hill and Thorn Cross thought the overall quality of the healthcare was ‘bad’.

Most respondents overall found it easy to get access to the doctor and nurse, although respondents seemed to find it less easy to get access to the dentist and optician. The proportions of respondents who thought the quality of healthcare from the different practitioners was ‘good’ is shown in Figure 7 below¹⁷.

Figure 7: Quality of provision by different healthcare professionals rated as ‘good’ by boys



- ◆ Respondents at Feltham and Huntercombe were the least happy with the healthcare provided by nursing staff. Those at the Oswald Unit and Werrington were the happiest.
- ◆ Respondents at Feltham and Hindley were the least likely to say that the quality of the healthcare from the doctor was of a good standard. Respondents at Werrington and the Carlford Unit were happiest with the healthcare from the doctor.
- ◆ Respondents at the Oswald Unit were by far the happiest with the quality of healthcare from the dentist. This was lowest at Hindley and the Carlford Unit.
- ◆ Lancaster Farms and the Oswald Unit were the only two establishments to have a majority of respondents who thought the optician was ‘good’. This was lowest at Hindley and Thorn Cross.

Overall, 23% of respondents were taking prescription medication and, of these, 28% said they had had problems getting their medication (this was highest at Thorn Cross and Castington).

2.18 Access to showers

Just under half of all male respondents said they could have a shower every day if they wanted to. This was highest at Thorn Cross (94%), the Carlford Unit (91%) and Warren Hill (87%), and lowest at Castington (22%), Hindley (25%) and Huntercombe (28%).

¹⁷ Those respondents who said they had not seen any of these people, were excluded from the overall percentages.

2.19 Smoking

Of the 16 establishments visited, only Werrington and Stoke Heath were non-smoking establishments. Ninety-two per cent of respondents at Werrington and 87% at Stoke Heath smoked before they arrived in custody and, of these, just under three quarters in each establishment found the non-smoking rule a problem.

2.20 Complaints

Overall, 80% of respondents said they knew how to make a complaint and 19% said they had made a complaint. Feltham, Onley and Ashfield all had the highest numbers of respondents having made complaints (just over one third). Of those respondents who had made a complaint, 58% said it was 'easy' to make the complaint, 22% said it was 'neither easy or difficult' and 21% said it was 'difficult'.

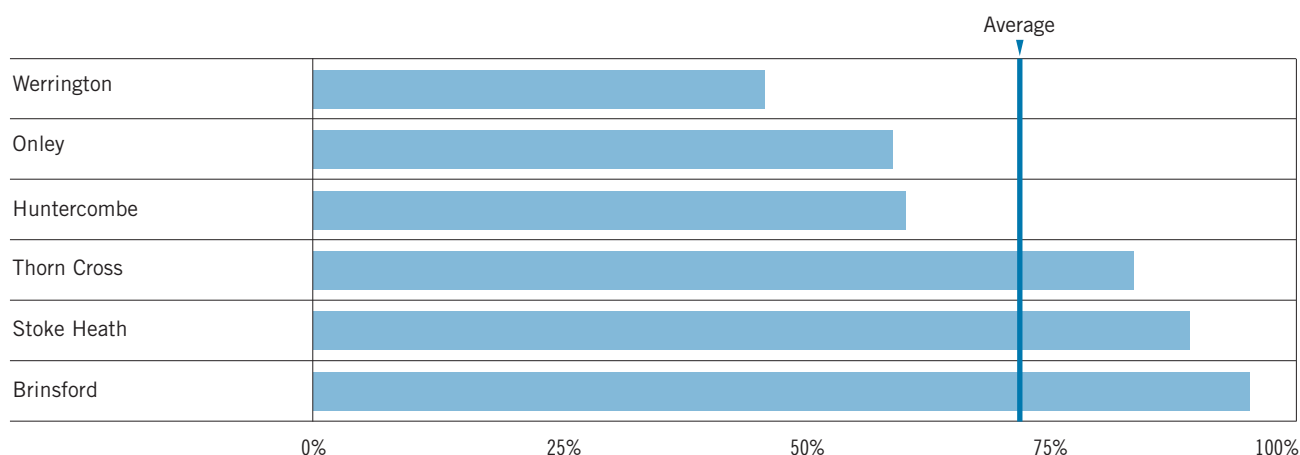
2.21 Purposeful activity

Respondents were asked whether they were doing any education or work. They were also asked about weekly access to a range of recreational activities.

2.22 Education

Overall, 72% of all respondents said they were involved in education. In the Oswald Unit, all young people said they were involved in education and, in the Carlford Unit, 96% said they were doing education. In the other YOI establishments, the difference between the highest and lowest three establishments is shown below in Figure 8¹⁸. Of those respondents who were aged 15 or under, 90% were involved in education.

Figure 8: Percentage of boys in each establishment who said they were involved in education



Of the 34% of respondents who said they needed help with reading, writing or maths, just over one quarter (26%) said they were not doing any education. Of those respondents who were involved in education, 63% said this was helping them. This was highest in the Oswald Unit (93%) and Carlford Unit (91%) and lowest in Lancaster Farms (45%).

2.23 Employment within prison

Thirty-four per cent of respondents overall said they had a job. This rose to 88% at Wetherby and 61% at Werrington, and fell to 8% at Stoke Heath and 9% at Brinsford.

¹⁸ Note the average shown in Figure 8, includes responses from the Carlford and Oswald Units.

Excluding Portland and Huntercombe (where questions about training and employment were not asked), 11% of all respondents said they were not doing any education or any form of work.

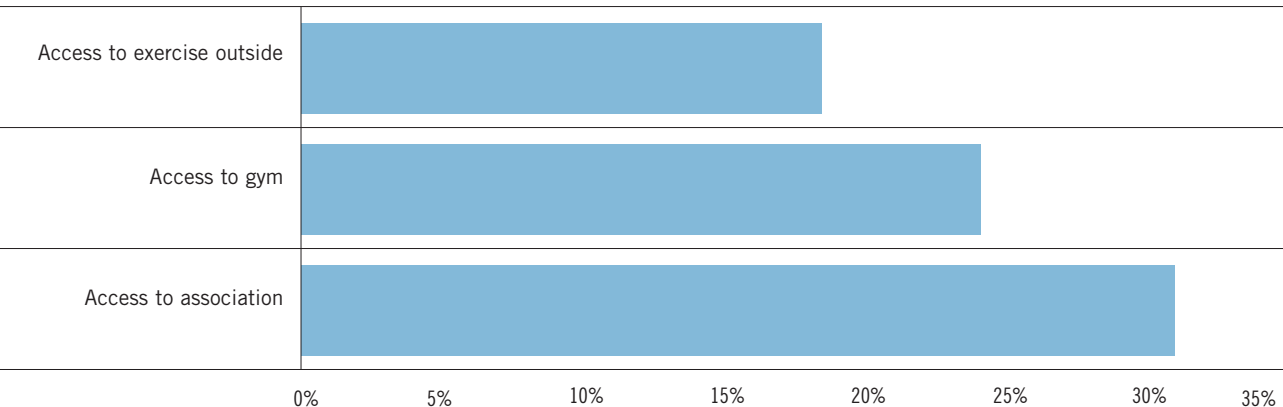
2.24 Recreation (access to gym, association and exercise outside)

Just under a quarter of respondents said on average they could go to the gym more than five times a week. This rose to 62% at Thorn Cross and 53% at Portland, and fell to 1% at Feltham and 9% at Stoke Heath. Furthermore, 7% of all respondents said they did not go to the gym at all.

Overall, 31% of respondents said that on average they could go on association more than five times a week. Almost 95% of respondents in the Carlford and Oswald Units said they went on association more than five times a week. In the other YOI establishments, Thorn Cross (70%) and Warren Hill (69%) reported the highest proportions of young people going on association more than five times a week, and Huntercombe (3%) and Hindley (9%) had the lowest proportions. Overall 5% of respondents said they did not go on association at all (this was highest at Ashfield with 11%).

Overall, 18% of respondents said they could go outside for exercise each day. However, this rose to 93% at Thorn Cross and 76% at Ashfield, and fell to 2% at Huntercombe and 3% at Brinsford (see Figure 9 below).

Figure 9: Average percentage of boys with access to recreational facilities more than five times a week



2.25 Resettlement

Respondents were asked about the help they had received within their establishments concerning their preparation for release, and the impact this help had had on them. Aspects covered in this section include personal officers, training plans and how the incentives and earned privileges (IEP) scheme had had an effect on their behaviour. They were also asked about their access to family and friends and YOT workers.

2.26 Substance use

Overall, 15% of all respondents admitted to having had alcohol problems when they arrived in custody and, of these, 36% said they had received help in their establishments.

On average, 28% of respondents said they had had drug problems either on arrival in custody or in the past, and 45% of these said they had received help in their establishments.

2.27 Incentives and earned privileges scheme

Of those respondents who knew about the existence of the reward scheme, 35% said they were on enhanced level, 58% said they were on standard level and 5% said they were on basic. Thorn Cross had the highest

proportion of young people on enhanced level, at 63% of the sample, and Brinsford and Hindley had the fewest, each at 23%. Ashfield had the highest proportion of young people on basic level (15%). Overall, 61% of respondents said the different levels of the IEP scheme made them change their behaviour. Nearly all the respondents knew how to move up and down the levels.

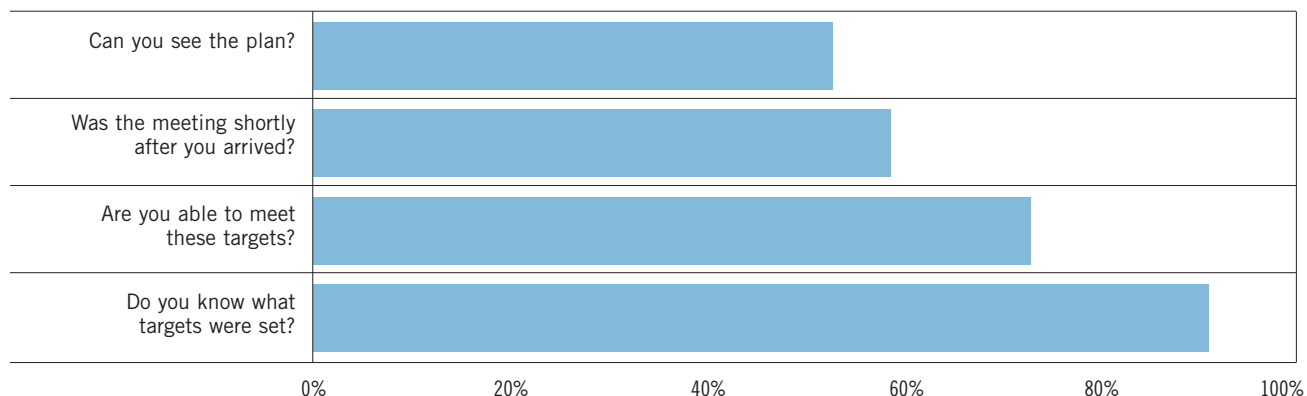
2.28 Personal officers

Seventy-two per cent of young people said they had a personal officer. This rose to 96% in the Carlford Unit, 94% in the Oswald Unit and 91% at Stoke Heath, and fell to 37% at Brinsford and 47% at Ashfield. Of those respondents who had personal officers, just under half (49%) had met them within their first week in prison, 13% said they had not met their personal officers yet, although just over one quarter of these respondents (26%) had been in custody for less than one month. Furthermore, 43% of respondents said that their personal officers asked at least once a week how they were getting on. This fell to 19% at Ashfield, but rose to 80% at Thorn Cross. Finally, 59% said overall they felt helped by their personal officer, rising to 89% at Thorn Cross and falling to 39% at Ashfield.

2.29 Training/sentence plans

Overall, 86% of all sentenced respondents said they had a training or sentence plan. This fell to 75% at Brinsford and rose to 100% at the Carlford Unit and Thorn Cross. Of those who had a training plan, 96% had had a training plan meeting. Thorn Cross had the lowest number of respondents with training plans who had had meetings (89%). Further details regarding the training plan meetings are shown below (Figure 10).

Figure 10: Average percentage of boys who had had sentence plan meetings, whose initial meetings were held soon after their arrival, who knew their targets, could meet their targets, and could see their plan



2.30 Access to YOT workers

Three quarters of all respondents said their YOT worker, social worker or probation officer had been in touch with them at some point during their time in custody. Furthermore, 60% of respondents said they knew how to get in touch with their YOT/social worker or probation officer if they wanted to.

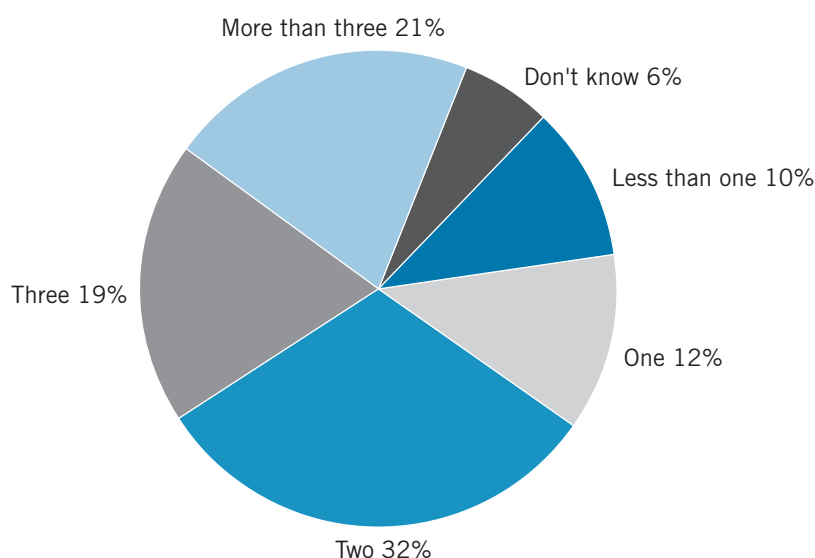
2.31 Keeping in touch with family and friends

One third of all respondents said they had had problems using the telephones. This rose to 46% at Brinsford, and fell to 7% at Thorn Cross and 8% at the Carlford Unit.

Overall, 17% of respondents said they had had problems sending or receiving letters. This was highest at the Oswald Unit (28%) and lowest at the Carlford Unit (4%).

In total, 30% of respondents said it was 'easy' for their family and friends to visit them. This rose to 59% at Thorn Cross and 56% at the Oswald Unit, and fell to 8% at the Carlford Unit and 17% at Portland and Stoke Heath. Overall, 75% of male respondents said they had received a visit. The Oswald Unit (94%), Thorn Cross (93%) and the Carlford Unit (92%) had the highest proportions of those who had received visits, and Stoke Heath (58%) and Warren Hill (59%) had the lowest proportions of young people who had received visits. Of those who had received at least one visit, the average number of visits they had each month is shown in Figure 11.

Figure 11: Percentage of visits per month for all boys who had had at least one visit

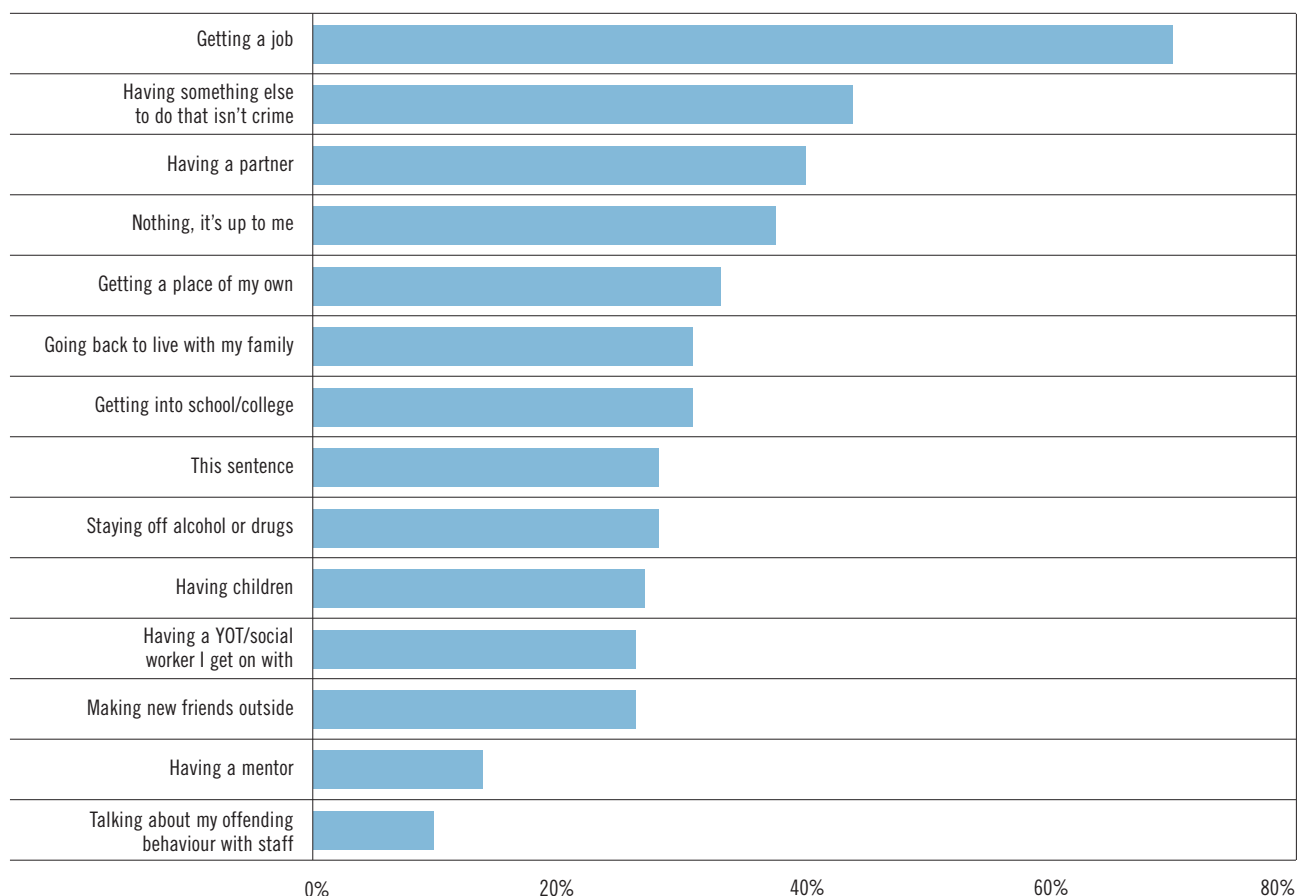


Of those who had received visits, 83% of respondents said they arrived on time. All respondents at Wetherby, the Carlford Unit and Thorn Cross said they arrived on time for their visits. Huntercombe (63%) had the smallest proportion of respondents who said they arrived on time for visits. Also, 55% of respondents said they thought their family and friends were treated 'well' by visits staff. This was highest in Werrington (86%), the Carlford Unit (81%) and the Oswald Unit (77%), and lowest in Feltham, Brinsford and Hindley (all 47%).

2.32 Preparation for release

Of all sentenced respondents, 89% said they wanted to stop offending in the future. This figure was consistently high across all establishments. Sentenced respondents were then asked what was most likely to stop them from offending in the future. They were given 14 options from which they could tick as many or few as they liked. The responses are shown in Figure 12.

Figure 12: Relative importance of aspects which may help to prevent sentenced boys from reoffending on release



There were 37% of male respondents who said they were going home or back into the community within the next two months. This rose to 68% at Thorn Cross and 54% at Warren Hill, and was lowest at the Oswald Unit (7%) and the Carlford Unit¹⁹ (15%).

Of those respondents who were being released in the following two months, and were aged 15 or under, 94% said they were going to live with a family member, and 47% said they would be going on to do some education when released²⁰.

Respondents who were being released in the **next two months** and were **aged 16 or over**, were asked a series of questions about their preparations for release. Average responses to all these questions are shown below²¹:

- ◆ 62% said they had had a say in what would happen to them when they were released
- ◆ 74% said they were going to live with a family member on release (11% said they did not know)
- ◆ of those respondents who said they wanted help finding accommodation, 31% said they had received some help with this
- ◆ of those who were not at school or college before arriving in prison, 39% said they had had jobs
- ◆ of those who were not going to school or college on release, 32% said they had a job to go to on release

¹⁹ This is because of the longer sentences served by young people in these units.

²⁰ NB: there were only 47 respondents who were aged 15 or under, who said they were going to be released in the next two months.

²¹ Percentages for individual establishments have not been given in this section, because of the small number of respondents being released in the following two months.

- ◆ 32% of young people said they had done something during their time in prison which they thought would help them to get a job on release
- ◆ 17% of respondents said someone had spoken to them about getting a job on release or the New Deal scheme
- ◆ 26% said someone had spoken to them about going to college on release
- ◆ 21% of respondents said they had a Connexions personal adviser, 35%, however, said they did not know what the Connexions scheme was about
- ◆ 31% of respondents said they would like some help with resettlement issues before they were released

Section 3: Female establishments

The Youth Justice Board and HM Prison Service consider it a priority for female young people under the age of 18 not to be held in prison establishments. This has been a huge challenge for the Prison Service, and has been largely successful for 15- and 16-year-olds. However, this has not been as successful for 17-year-olds, but their removal from Prison Service custody remains the intention of the YJB and the Prison Service.

Girls made up just 5% of the under-18 prison population at the time of our survey.

Table 3: Female young people in Prison Service accommodation: the population, sample size and survey dates

Establishment	Population at time of survey	Sample size	Percentage of population sampled	Date of survey
Brockhill	16	15	94%	14 November 2001
Bullwood Hall	46	37	80%	19 November 2002
Eastwood Park	10	10	100%	2 October 2001
Holloway	11	9	82%	28–29 May 2002
New Hall	54	53	98%	1–4 October 2002
Total	137	124	91%	

The total number of respondents was 124. The number is lower than that of the male juveniles, but as the table above shows, 91% of the population was sampled.

In all establishments, 100% of the population were asked to complete the questionnaire. In total, 13 girls did not participate. Of these, six young people did not return their questionnaires, four declined to participate, and three were returned blank.

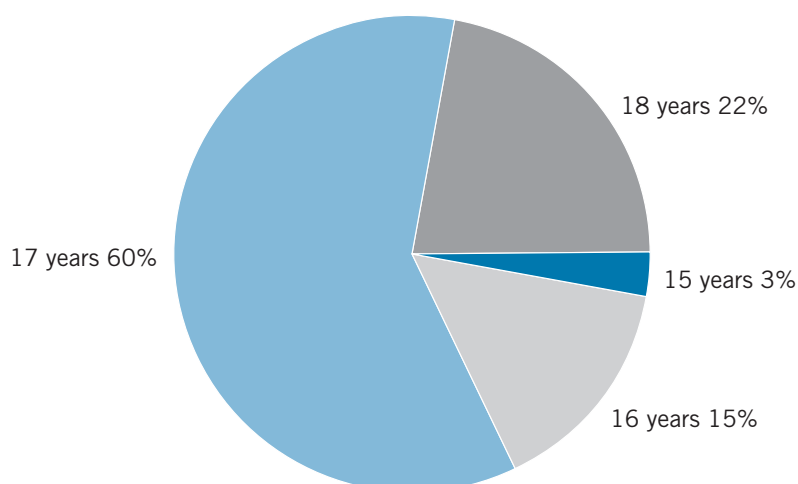
Where the total number of respondents is less than 50, the figure from the whole female population is given without any further breakdown by establishment. Furthermore, where there are small numbers involved, this is highlighted by a footnote.

3.1 Profile of the female population and background information

Respondents were asked to give some basic demographic information about themselves, their family/educational background and their individual situation when first arriving in custody.

3.2 Age

Figure 13: Age of girls



New Hall was the only establishment to hold 15-year-olds and they made up 8% of its population. At Holloway, all nine respondents were 17-years old.

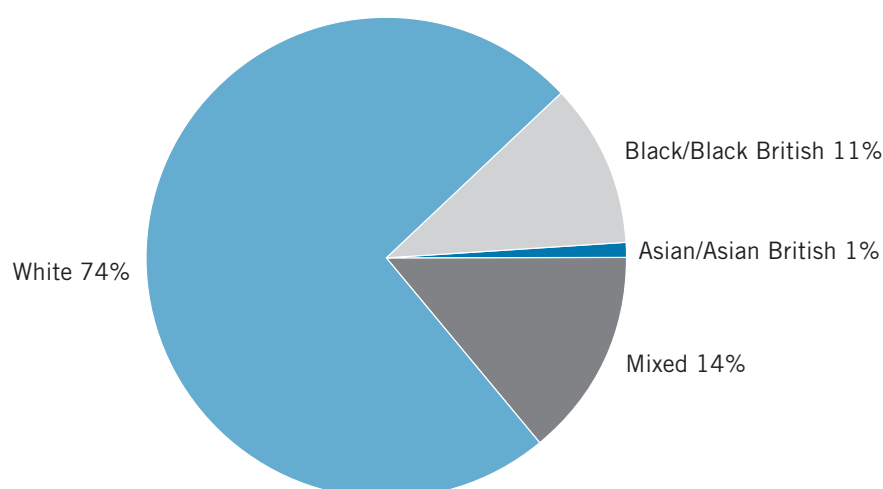
3.3 Status

In total, 88% of respondents were sentenced²² and 12% were on remand. Holloway had the highest proportion of juveniles on remand, at 82% of the sample.

Of those who were sentenced, just 1% were sentenced to less than three months. Conversely, 35% of respondents were sentenced to over two years imprisonment. This rose to 48% of young people at Bullwood Hall and fell to 17% at Eastwood Park.²³

3.4 Ethnicity

Figure 14: Ethnicity of girls



²² Only sentenced girls under the age of 17 may be held in Prison Service custody. Remanded girls under 17 must be held in other types of secure accommodation.

²³ The length of time served for those on remand was not calculated due to the small number of young people on remand (n=14).

Overall, black and minority ethnic groups made up 26% of the female juvenile population. This was highest at Holloway with 44%, followed by Bullwood Hall (40%). Brockhill had the lowest black and minority ethnic group population (7%).

3.5 Previous experience of custody

Twenty-seven per cent of young people had been in a prison or a secure training centre before on a different sentence. This was highest at Eastwood Park (70%), followed by Brockhill (60%).

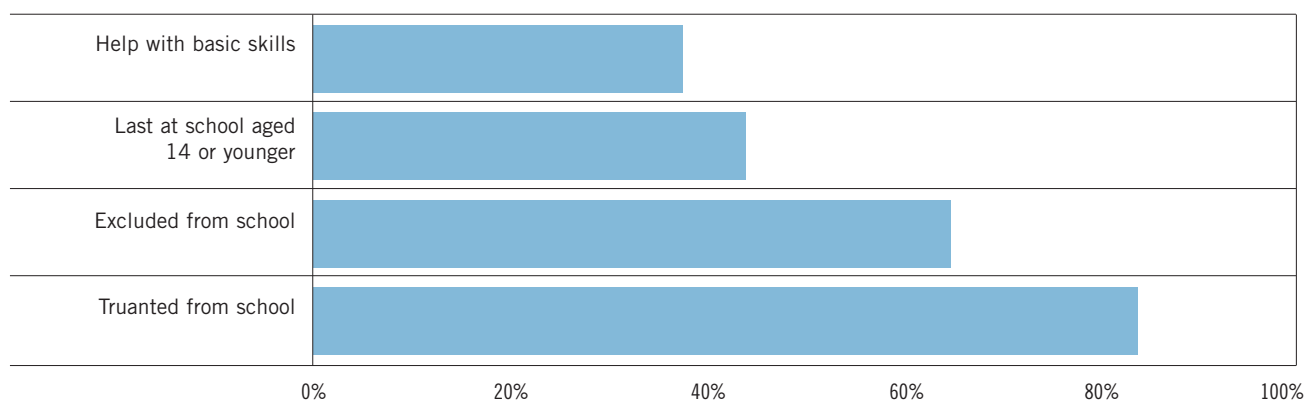
3.6 Family background

Overall, 5% of young people had children of their own and a further 3% were pregnant at the time of the survey.

In total, 43% of respondents had previously spent time in a children's home, a foster home or both.

3.7 Educational background

Figure 15: Educational background of girls



Of the 65% of young people who said they had been excluded from school, 48% had been excluded more than twice. Furthermore, of the 84% of young people who said they used to truant from school, 54% said they used to truant every day.

3.8 On arrival in custody

Upon arrival, 72% of young people said they had problems that needed to be dealt with when they first arrived. Of these, the most common problems were not having any tobacco, feeling depressed, not having property and contacting family.²⁴

New Hall was the only establishment to prohibit smoking for some young people. Of these, two thirds considered it a problem that they were not allowed to smoke.

3.9 Safety

Respondents were asked whether they had ever been bullied/insulted or assaulted by other young people or staff, starting from their first few days on induction. They were also asked about their experiences, and views of, good order and discipline within the establishment.

²⁴ The type of problems are not all reported due to the small numbers involved.

3.10 Arrival in custody

Overall, 13% of respondents said that they had been bullied in their first few days in custody. This rose to 40% at Eastwood Park and 31% at Brockhill.

3.11 Good order and discipline

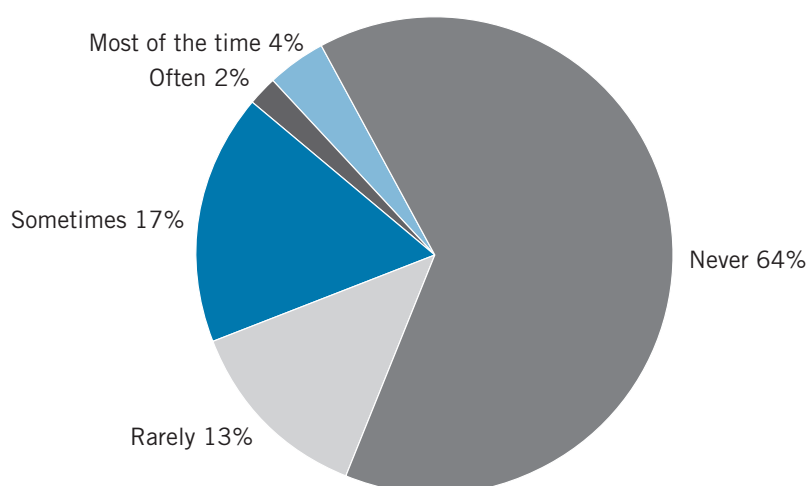
In total, 41% of respondents said they had been subject to an adjudication during their time in custody. This rose to 61% at Bullwood Hall, but fell to 20% at Brockhill and 10% at Eastwood Park.

Overall, 6% of young people said they had been physically restrained by staff.

Nine per cent of respondents said they had spent a night in the segregation unit. This figure was highest at Bullwood Hall with 18%. However, no one at Eastwood Park or at Holloway said they had spent a night in the segregation unit.

3.12 Personal safety within the establishment²⁵

Figure 16: Percentage of girls who had felt unsafe

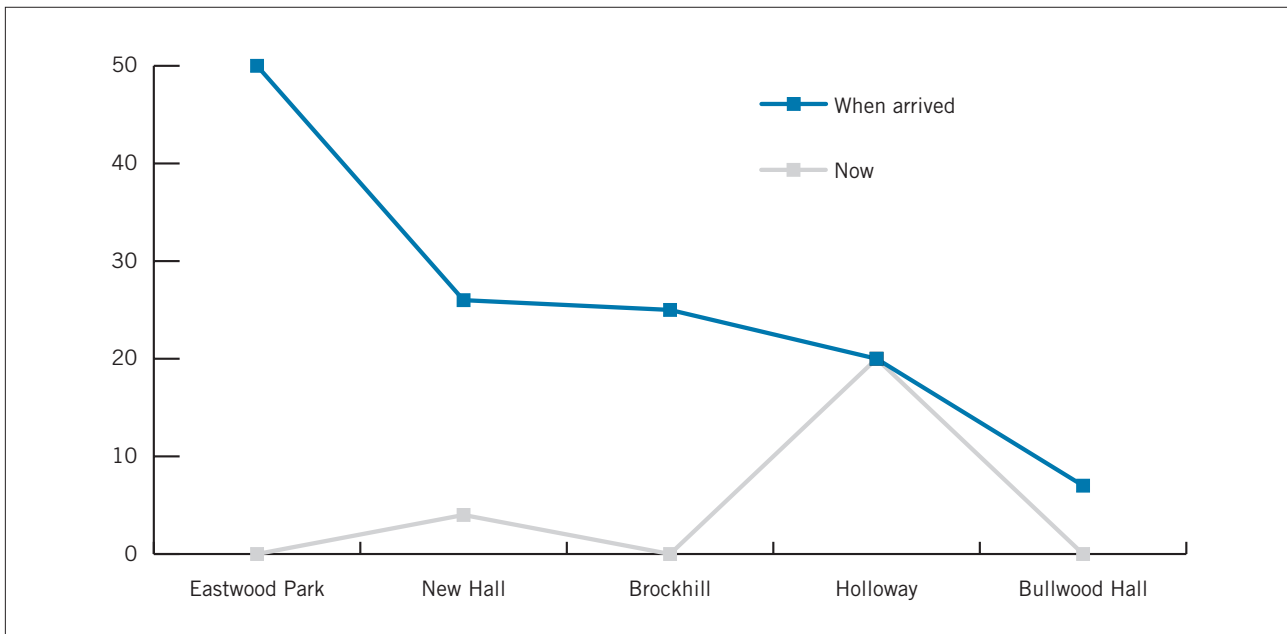


In total, 36% of young people said they had felt unsafe at some point in their establishment. This rose to 60% at Eastwood Park. The four respondents in the sample who were aged 15, all said they had felt unsafe at some point.

Overall, 38% of respondents said that upon arrival in their establishments they experienced other young people shouting through the windows at them. This was most prevalent at Brockhill (64%) and least prevalent at Eastwood Park (20%). The overall figure rose to 47% when asked if other young people shouted through the windows at them now. Again this rose to 64% at Brockhill, but fell to 10% at Eastwood Park.

²⁵ In this section, the frequency of incidents has not been included due to the very small numbers involved.

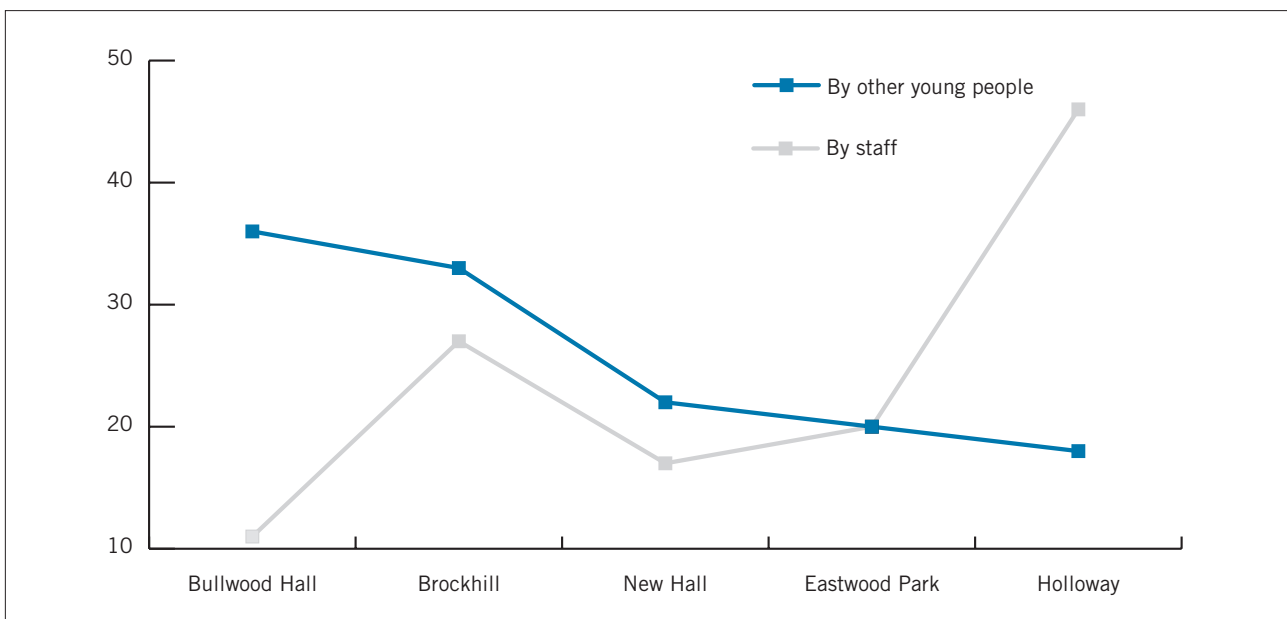
Figure 17: Percentage of girls who found shouting through windows by other young people threatening when they first arrived compared to now (at the time of the survey)



Overall, 20% of respondents said they found the shouting threatening upon arrival. This fell to 3% when asked if they still found the shouting threatening.

In total, 11% of respondents said other young people put them through some sort of test when they arrived. No one at either Brockhill or Holloway said this had happened.

Figure 18: Percentage of girls who said they had received insulting remarks from young people and staff



Overall, 27% of respondents said they had received insulting remarks from other young people. This was the same figure (27%) for young people who said they had received insulting remarks from staff, but note the wide variation in responses underlying the second figure.

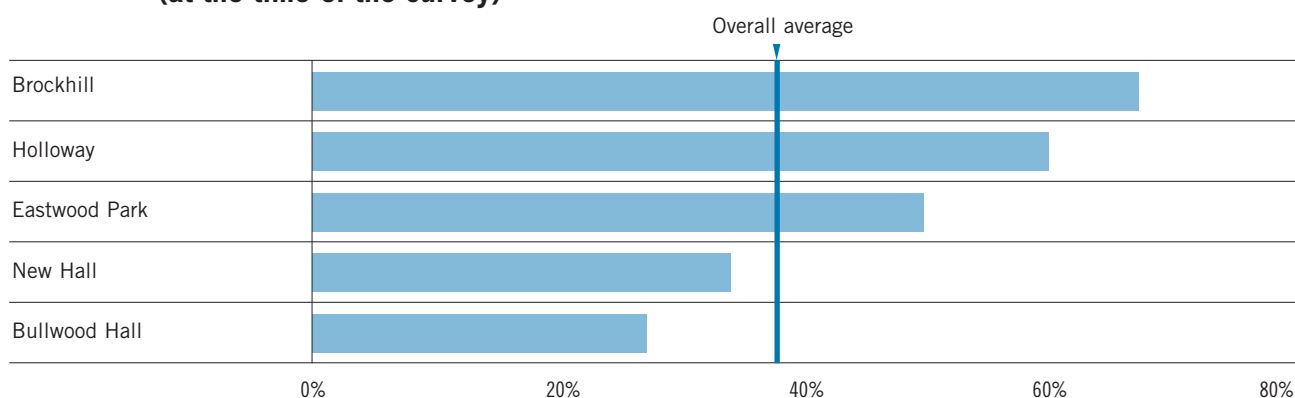
Twelve per cent of respondents said other young people had physically assaulted them. However, no-one at Eastwood Park said they had been assaulted by other young people. Two per cent of young people said staff had physically assaulted them.

In total, 2% of young people said they had been made to hand something over by other young people.

Four per cent of respondents said other young people had picked on them because of their race or ethnic background. Another 4% said they had been picked on for the same reason by staff.

Overall, 12% of respondents said young people had picked on them for some other reason. Furthermore, 3% said they had been picked on for some other reason by staff. This figure rose to 13% at Holloway.

Figure 19: Percentage of girls who said staff had checked on them in the last week (at the time of the survey)



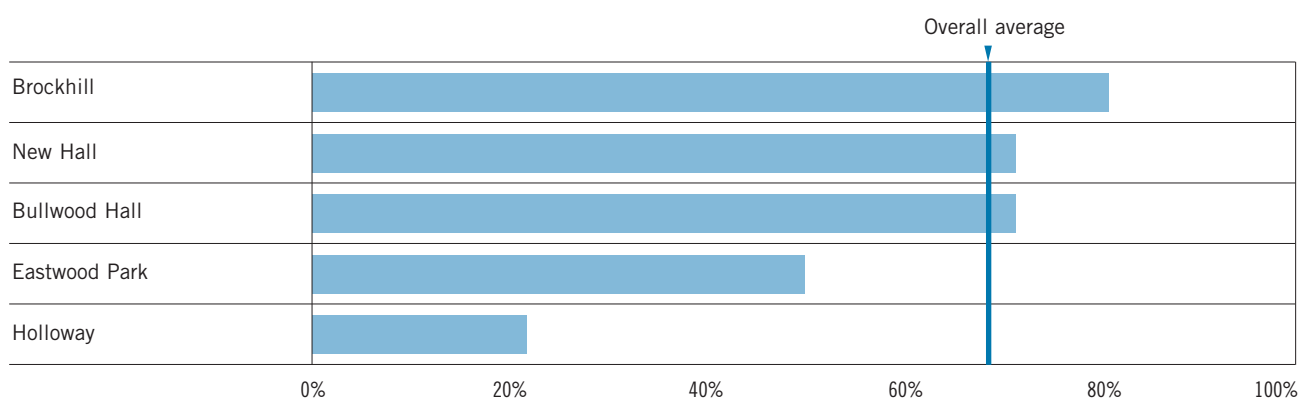
Overall, 38% said that a member of staff had checked on them in the previous week. This rose to 67% at Brockhill, but fell to 26% at Bullwood Hall. Of those who said staff had checked on them, 65% said they were checked on more than once in the week.

3.13 Respect

Young people were asked whether they thought they were treated with respect, starting from their initial experiences in reception, and through to their day-to-day experiences of life within their establishment.

3.14 Arrival in custody

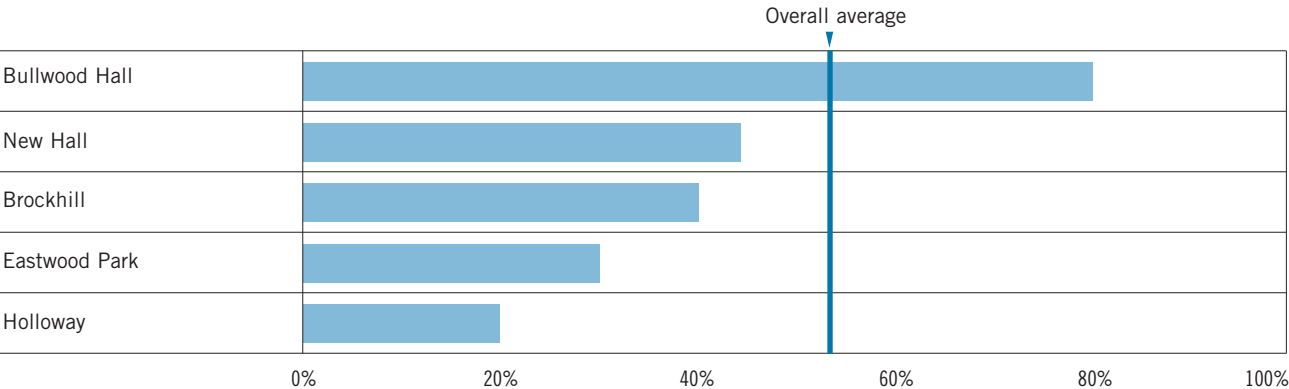
Figure 20: Percentage of girls who said staff informed them of what they needed to know



Overall, 83% of young people thought staff were friendly when they first arrived in custody. However, this fell to 40% at Holloway.

In total, 76% of respondents said they were able to make a telephone call on their first day in custody. This was highest at Brockhill with 94%, but fell to 25% at Holloway.

Figure 21: Percentage of girls who spent less than one hour in reception

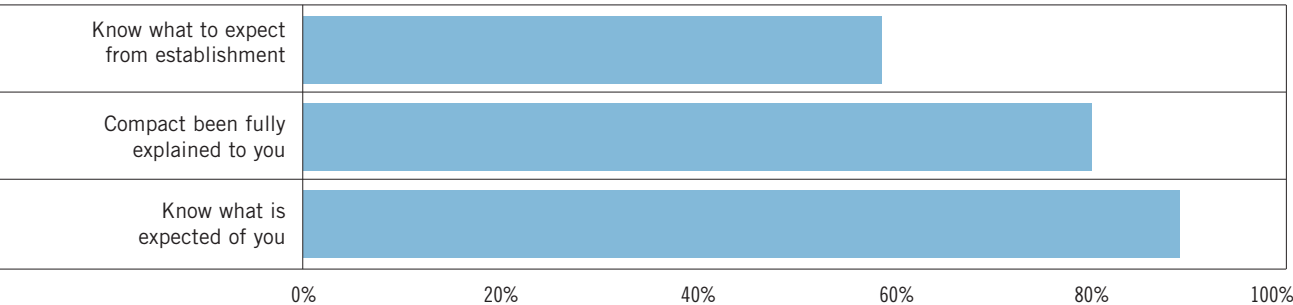


Overall, 53% of young people spent less than an hour in reception. At Eastwood Park 30% said they were in reception for more than three hours. Furthermore, 21% of all respondents felt they were treated 'well' in reception. This rose to 33% at Bullwood Hall, but fell to 10% at Eastwood Park and 9% at Holloway. Overall, 5% of respondents felt they were treated 'badly' in reception.

The total number of respondents who felt they had settled in by the end of their first week was 40%. This was highest at Brockhill (69%) and Eastwood Park (60%), and lowest at New Hall (28%) and Holloway (0%).

Overall, 70% of young people said they had signed a compact. This rose to 86% at Bullwood Hall, but fell to 46% at Holloway.

Figure 22: Percentage of girls who thought their compact had been fully explained, who knew what was expected of them, and what they could expect from their establishment



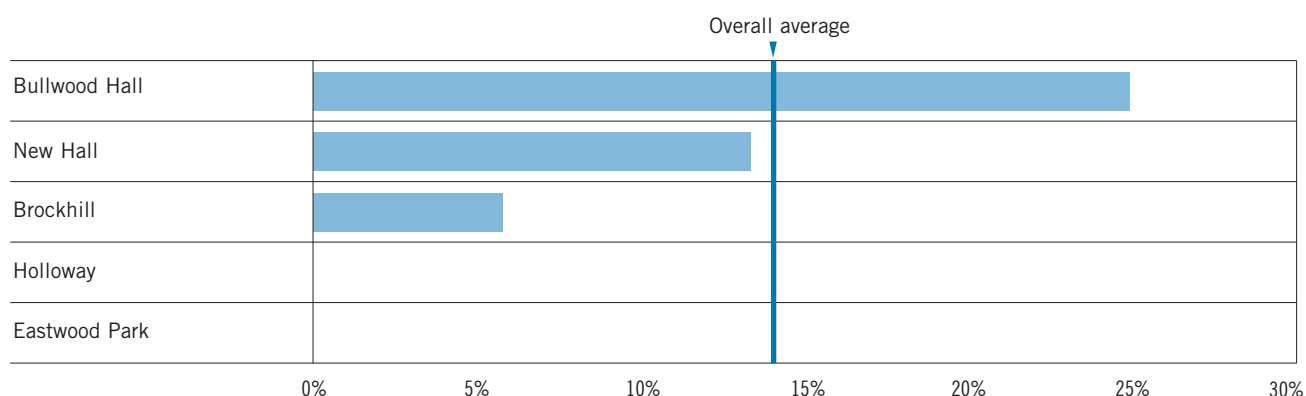
3.15 Life within the establishment

Of all those who wanted to go to religious services, 60% of respondents said it was easy to attend. This was highest at Eastwood Park (86%). However, the figure fell to 48% at Bullwood Hall and to 43% at Brockhill.

Just under half of the respondents (47%) thought that the canteen/prison shop sold a wide enough variety of products. The respondents at Holloway were the most satisfied at 70%. However, satisfaction was much lower at Brockhill at 27%.

3.16 Food

Figure 23: Percentage of girls who rated the food as 'good'.

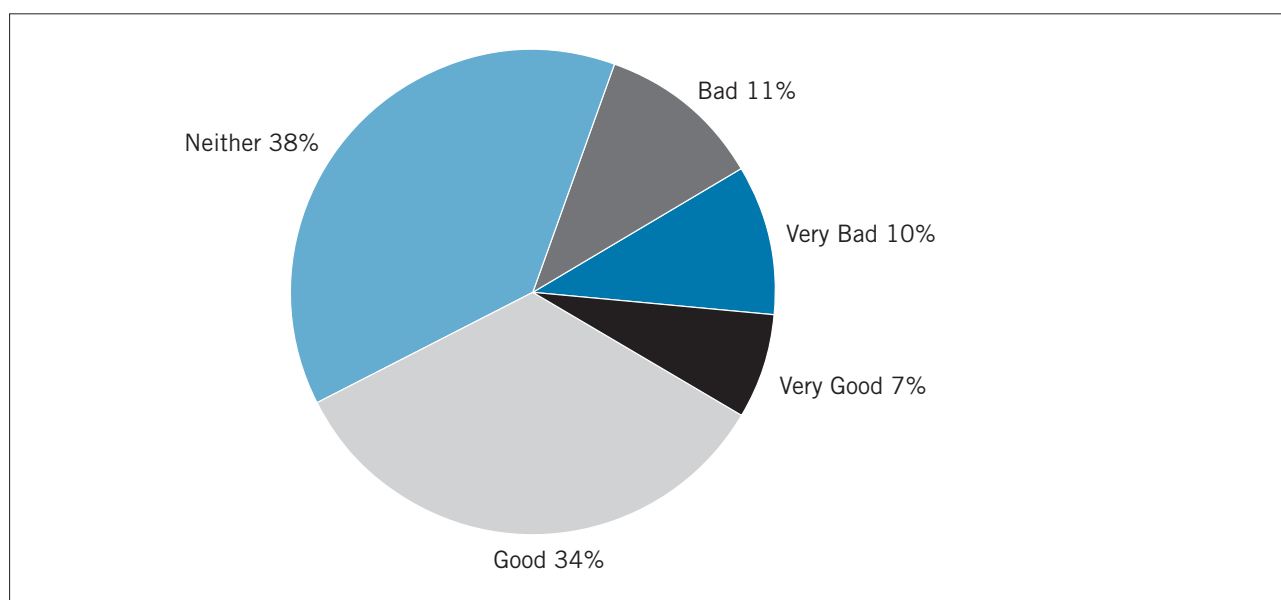


Overall, 14% thought the food was 'good'. All respondents at Eastwood Park rated the food as bad, as did 69% at Brockhill and 55% at Holloway.

The most common reason given by those who thought the food was good was the amount of choice. The most common reasons given by those who thought the food was bad was the portion size, followed closely by the quality of the food.

3.17 Healthcare

Figure 24: Girls' ratings of the quality of healthcare provision²⁶



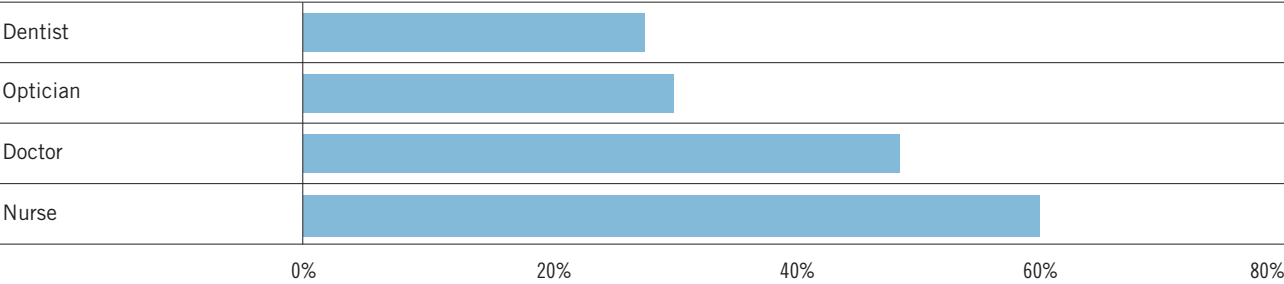
In total, 41% of the respondents rated the quality of healthcare as 'very good' or 'good'. This rose to 58% at New Hall, but fell to 31% at Bullwood Hall. Furthermore, no one at Holloway rated the healthcare as either 'very good' or 'good'.

In total, 53% said it was easy to see the doctor. This was highest at New Hall (70%), but lowest at Eastwood Park (13%) and at Holloway (10%). Overall, 77% said it was easy to see the nurse. This rose to

²⁶ Please note, this question was not asked in Eastwood Park or Brockhill.

92% at New Hall, but fell to 58% at Brockhill and 25% at Eastwood Park. At Brockhill, half of the respondents said it was easy to see the dentist. However, no one at Holloway said this was the case. This compares to the overall figure of 15%. Thirteen per cent of respondents said it was easy to see the optician. This rose to 50% at Brockhill, but no one at Eastwood Park or Holloway considered this to be easy.

Figure 25: Percentage of girls rating the quality of provision by healthcare professionals as ‘good’.

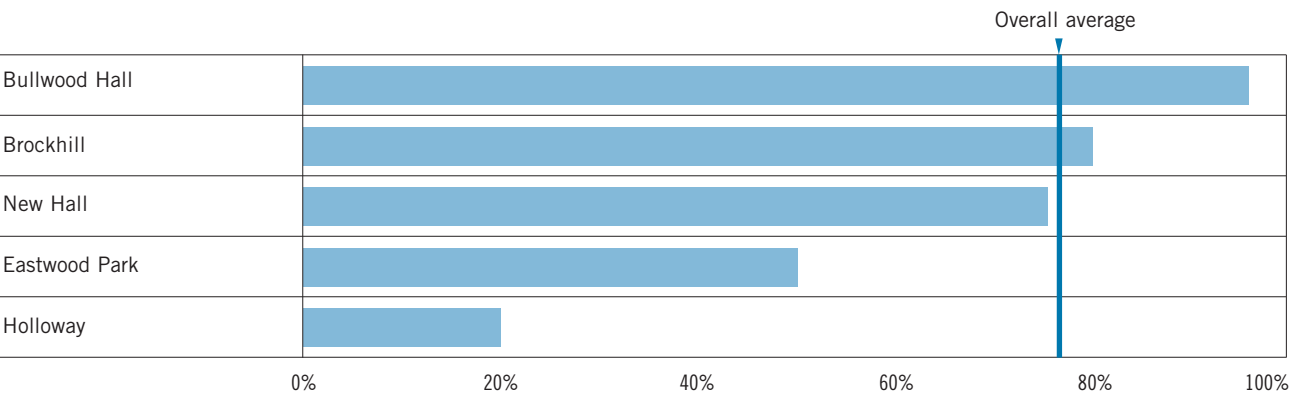


Overall, 43% of the respondents rated the quality of provision by the doctor as ‘good’. This was highest at New Hall with 68%. However, 24% at Bullwood Hall and no one at Holloway classed the treatment by the doctor as good. In total, 54% of young people rated the quality of provision by the nurse as ‘good’. This rose to 77% at New Hall, but fell to 25% at Holloway. In total, 24% of respondents thought the quality of provision by the dentist was ‘good’. This was again highest at New Hall (35%). However, no one at Holloway or Eastwood Park thought the treatment was good. Overall, 28% of young people thought the quality of provision from the optician was ‘good’. This rose to 43% at New Hall, but no one at Brockhill or Holloway rated the treatment as good. Furthermore, at Eastwood Park no one reported having seen an optician.

In total, 48% of respondents said they were taking prescribed medication. This rose to 67% at Eastwood Park and fell to 27% at Brockhill. Of those on medication, 28% said they had had problems receiving their medication. This was particularly the case at Holloway, where 83% said they had had problems. No respondents at Eastwood Park said they had experienced any problems with receiving medication.

3.18 Access to showers

Figure 26: Percentage of girls who said they had access to showers every day



Overall, 77% of young people said they had access to a shower every day. This rose to 96% at Bullwood Hall, but fell to 20% at Holloway.

3.19 Complaints

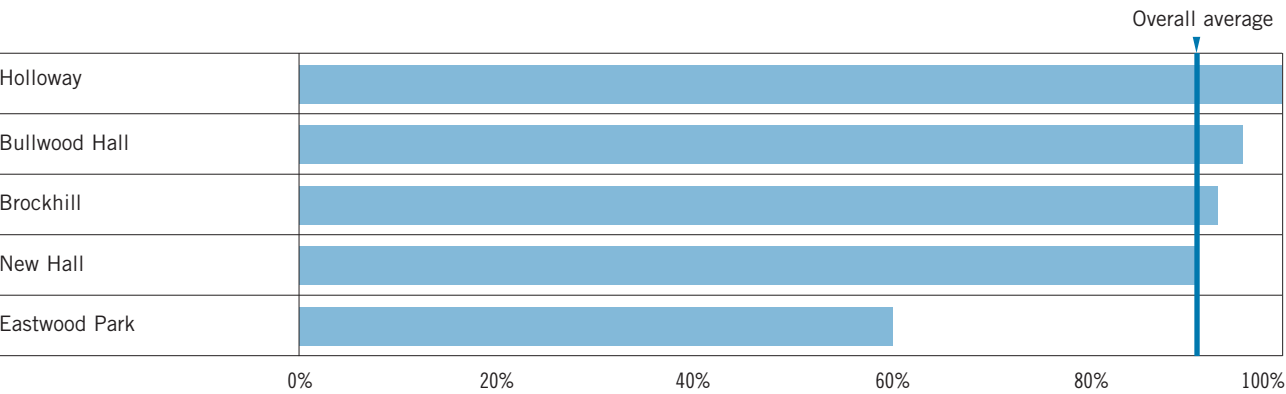
Overall, 83% of respondents said they knew how to make a complaint. However, this figure dropped to 55% at Holloway and 50% at Eastwood Park. In total, 34% of respondents said they had made a complaint.

3.20 Purposeful activity

Respondents were asked whether they were doing any education or work. They were also asked about weekly access to a range of recreational activities.

3.21 Education and work

Figure 27: Percentage of girls who said they were involved in education

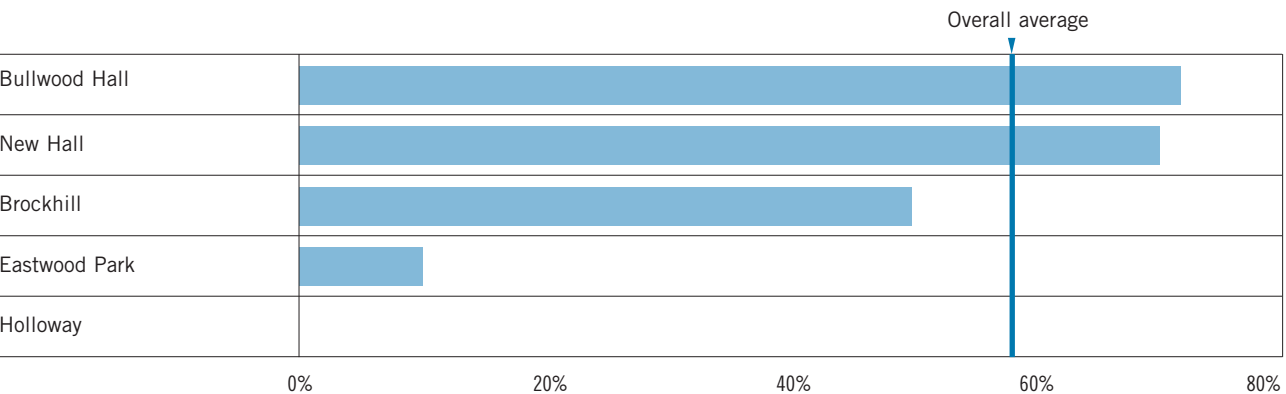


Overall, 91% of young people said they were involved in education. Of those who said they were involved in education, 72% said they felt it was helping them. Only 10% of respondents said they had a job.

3.22 Recreation (access to gym, association and exercise outside)

Overall, 8% of young people said they had access to the gym five times or more a week. No one at Eastwood Park, Brockhill or Holloway said they had access to the gym five times or more a week. Furthermore, 44% of young people said they could access the gym only once or twice a week. This represented 60% of young people in New Hall and Brockhill.

Figure 28: Percentage of girls who said they were able to have association more than five times a week



Overall, 50% of young people said they could go outside for exercise every day. This rose to 91% at Bullwood Hall and fell to 7% at Brockhill.

3.23 Resettlement

Respondents were asked about the help they had received within their establishments concerning their preparation for release and the effects this help had had on them. Aspects covered in this section include personal officers, training plans and how the incentives and earned privileges scheme had had an effect on their behaviour. They were also asked about their access to family and friends and YOT workers.

3.24 Substance use

In total, 16% of all respondents said they had a problem with alcohol when they arrived in custody. No one at Holloway said alcohol was a problem, but 40% of the young people at Eastwood Park said alcohol was a problem for them. Of those who said they had an alcohol problem, 58% said they had received help from their establishment for this²⁷.

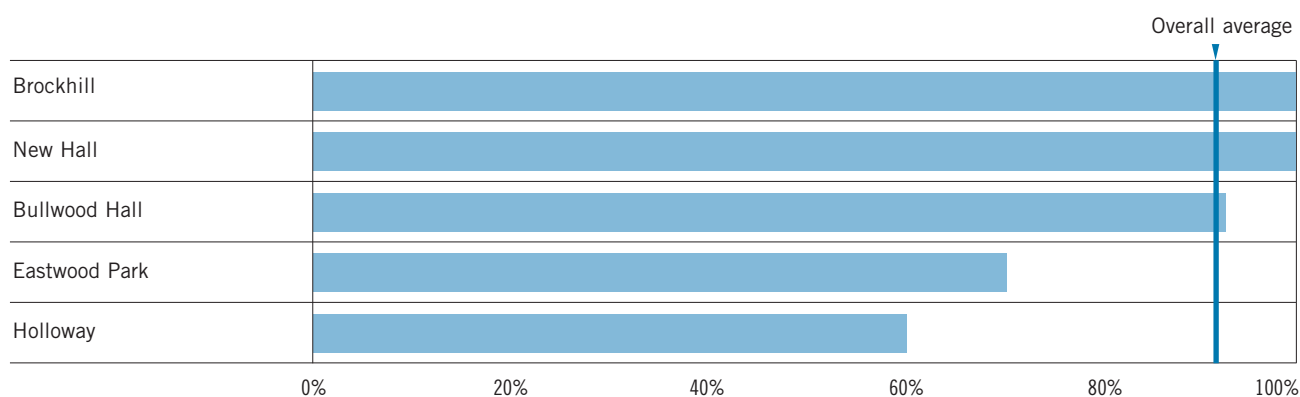
Overall, 40% of respondents said they had a problem with drugs either on arrival in custody or in the past. Again, this was higher for Eastwood Park at 60% and lower at Bullwood Hall at 21%. Of those who had had a problem, 69% said they had received help from their establishment²⁸.

3.25 Incentives and earned privileges scheme

On average, 85% of respondents were aware of the rewards and 'incentives and earned privileges' scheme. This rose to 95% at Bullwood Hall, and fell to 70% at Eastwood Park and 55% at Holloway. Of those who were aware of the scheme, 34% were on the top or 'enhanced' level of the scheme and 4% were on the bottom or 'basic' level. Sixty-seven per cent said they knew how to move up and down the levels and 49% said the scheme had made them change their behaviour.

3.26 Personal officers

Figure 29: Percentage of girls who reported having a personal officer



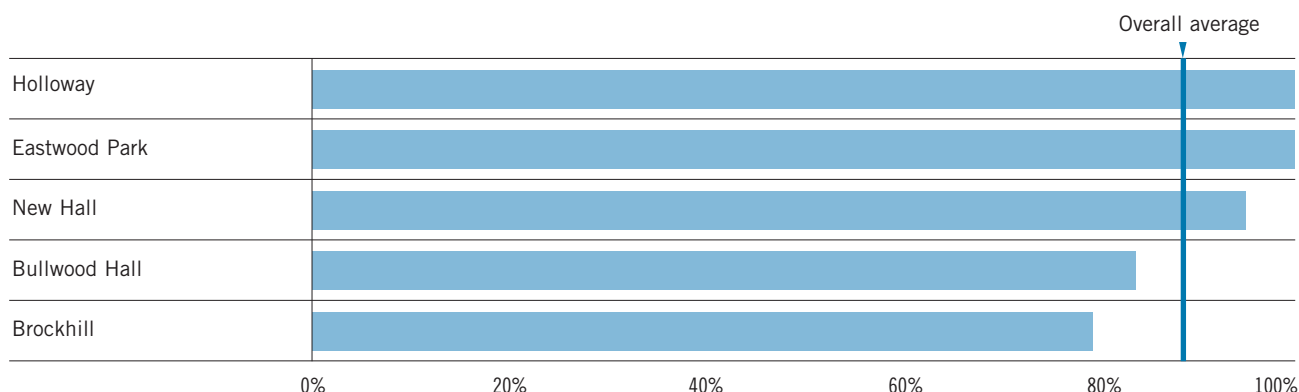
Overall, 92% of young people said they had a personal officer. Of these, 51% said they had met them within their first week, 26% said their personal officer asked them how they were every day. This rose to 58% in Brockhill. However, all respondents in Holloway said they had never been asked how they were by their personal officer. Furthermore, 47% said they felt helped by their personal officer. This rose to 83% at Brockhill, but dropped to 29% at Eastwood Park and 0% at Holloway.

²⁷ Please note: this calculation is based on a small number of respondents. For those with an alcohol problem n=19. For those that received help n=11.

²⁸ Please note: this calculation is based on a small number of respondents. For those with a drug problem n=49. For those that received help n=34.

3.27 Training/sentence plans

Figure 30: Percentage of girls who reported having a training plan



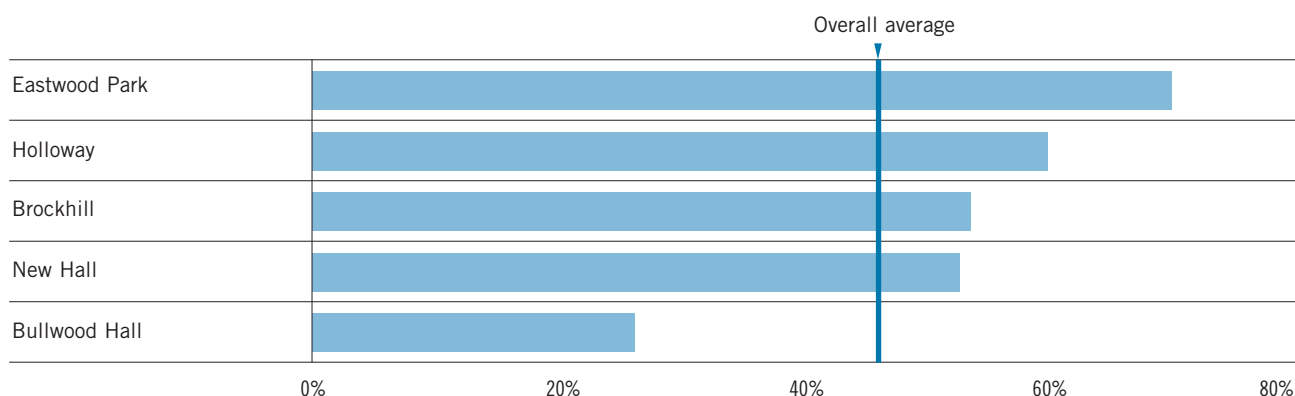
Overall, 88% of sentenced young people said they had a training/sentence plan²⁹. Of these, 98% said they had had a training/sentence plan meeting. Of those who had a meeting, 62% said this was within the first two to three weeks of being at the establishment. Ninety-seven per cent of young people knew their targets in the plan, but only 76% felt these were achievable. Also, 50% thought they could see the plan if they wanted to, while 47% did not know they could see their plan.

3.28 Access to YOT workers

In total, 70% of young people said their youth offending team worker, social worker or probation officer had been in touch. This figure rose to 87% at Brockhill, but fell to 55% at Holloway and 50% at Eastwood Park. Moreover, 60% of young people knew how to get in touch with their YOT/social worker if they wanted to.

3.29 Keeping in touch with family and friends

Figure 31: Percentage of girls who reported having had problems using the telephones



Overall, 31% of respondents reported having had problems sending or receiving letters. This was highest at New Hall (43%) and Holloway (40%). At all the other establishments the figure was 20%.

In total, 23% of respondents said it was 'easy' for family and friends to visit them; this was highest at Brockhill (50%). However, 39% of respondents said it was 'difficult' for family and friends to visit. In total,

²⁹ Holloway has been excluded from further analysis due to the high proportion of remands in their population.

76% of respondents said they had received a visit. This was highest at Brockhill at 93%, and was lowest at Holloway at 64%. Of those who had received a visit, 29% said they had received more than three visits per month, 72% said they arrived on time for their visits, and 50% said they and their visitors were treated 'well' by staff.

3.30 Preparation for release

Overall, 91% of sentenced young people reported that they wanted to stop offending. These respondents were then asked what was most likely to stop them from offending in the future. By far the single most important aspect was 'getting a job', which 66% of all young people identified as being likely to stop them from offending in the future. The next two most important aspects were 'going to college' (48%) and 'having something else to do that is not crime' (47%). Furthermore, 31% of young people thought that there was no single thing that could stop them from offending in the future, and that it was up to them alone.

Overall, 46% of the young people **over 16** were due to be **released in the next two months**³⁰. This set of respondents were then asked a series of questions about their preparation for release:

- ◆ 65% felt they had had a say in what was going to happen to them
- ◆ 56% were planning to live with their family, although 42% said they had not received any help finding accommodation
- ◆ 19% said they had a job before they arrived in custody, but only 6% had jobs to go to on release. However, 44% of respondents felt they had done something while in custody that would help them find a job on their release
- ◆ 24% said someone had spoken to them about the New Deal programme
- ◆ 46% said someone had spoken to them about going to college
- ◆ 19% reported having a Connexions personal advisor
- ◆ however, 30% still had problems or issues that they wanted help with resolving before they were released

³⁰ Please note: this section is based on a sub group and therefore applies to a small number of respondents.

Section 4: Comparisons between the responses from males and females.

Key questions from each of the five sections – profile of the population, safety, respect, purposeful activity and resettlement – were compared for the male and female respondents. Results marked with an asterisk indicate that a test for statistical significance has been performed³¹ and there is a significant relationship between the variable at a 95% confidence level. In other words, if the same question was asked 100 times in subsequent surveys of the population, you could be confident of obtaining the same result at least 95 times out of 100.

4.1 Profile of the population and background information

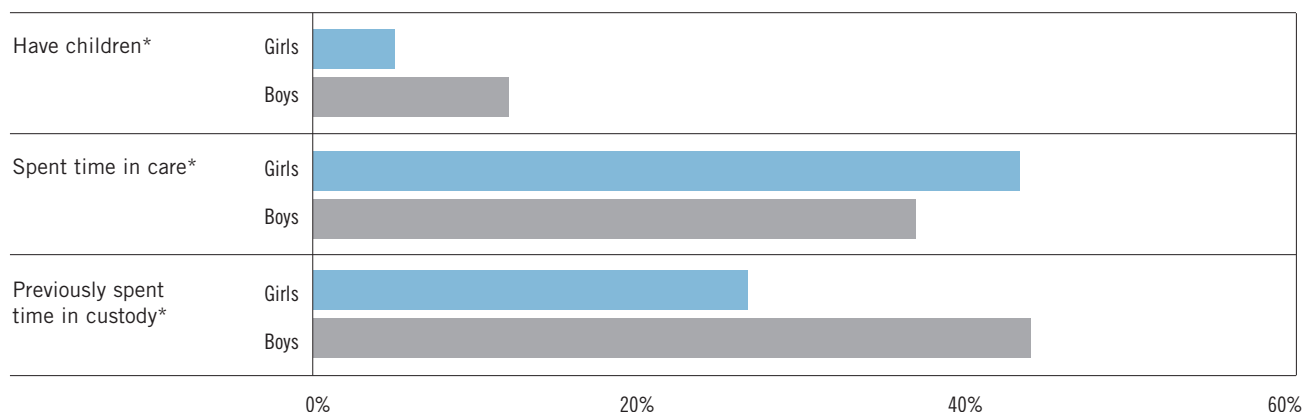
Respondents were asked to give some basic demographic information about themselves, their family/educational background and their individual situation when first arriving in custody.

Sixteen-year-olds made up 26% of the male population, compared to 15% of the female population.

Overall, 84% of boys said they were sentenced, a similar figure to the girls (88%). Of those who were sentenced, 61% of boys and 65% of girls were serving sentences of at least one year.

Respondents were asked questions about whether they had been in a prison or secure training centre before, whether they had spent time in care, and if they had children of their own. The responses can be seen in Figure 32.

Figure 32: Percentage of respondents who had spent time in custody, care, and had children of their own, by gender



Overall, 44% of girls and 41% of boys said they were 14 years old or less when they last attended school. More boys (83%) said they had been excluded from school than girls (65%). Just over a third of all respondents reported needing help with reading, writing or maths.

Black and minority ethnic young people made up 23% of the male population and 26% of the female population.

Girls (72%) reported more problems that needed to be dealt with on arrival in their establishment than boys (57%).

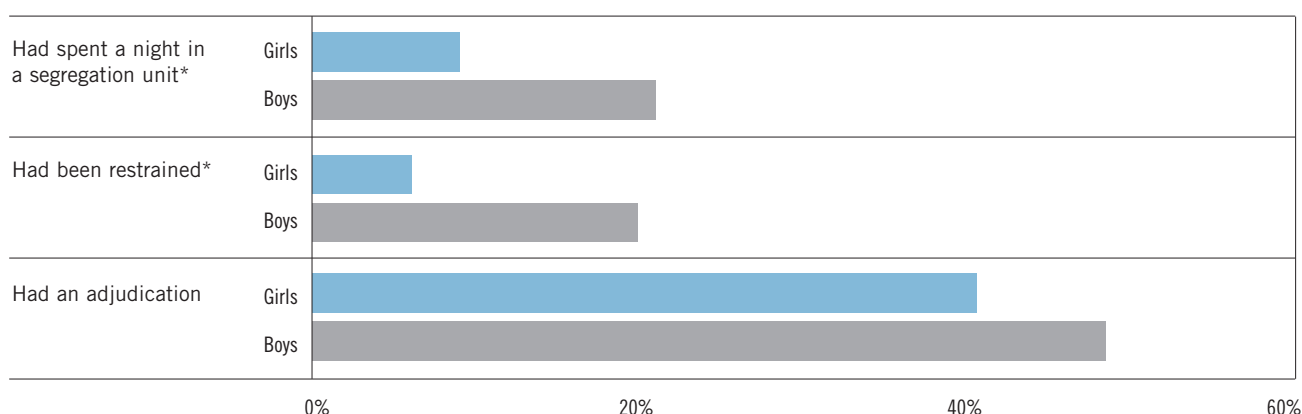
³¹ Chi-square tests were used where appropriate.

4.2 Safety

Respondents were asked whether they had ever been bullied/insulted or assaulted by other young people or staff, starting from their first few days on induction. They were also asked about their experiences, and views of, good order and discipline within the establishment.

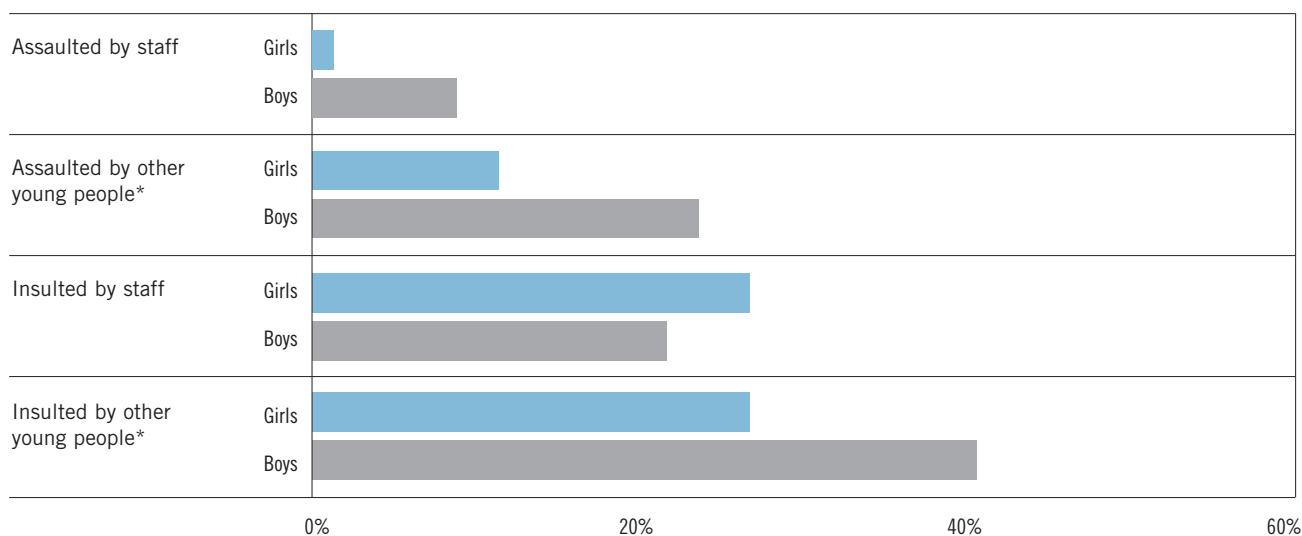
Some of the questions young people were asked included whether they had received an adjudication or had been physically restrained, and whether they had spent the night in a segregation unit. The responses can be seen in the following figure.

Figure 33: Percentage of respondents who said they had received an adjudication, been physically restrained, and spent a night in a segregation unit, by gender



Respondents were also asked about their personal safety, including whether they had received insulting remarks from other young people or from staff, and whether they had been hit, kicked or assaulted by other young people or by staff. The responses are displayed in the following figure.

Figure 34: Percentage of respondents who had been insulted or assaulted by other young people or by staff, by gender



Overall, 36% of young people said they had felt unsafe at some point since being in their establishment. There was no difference in the figure for boys or girls.

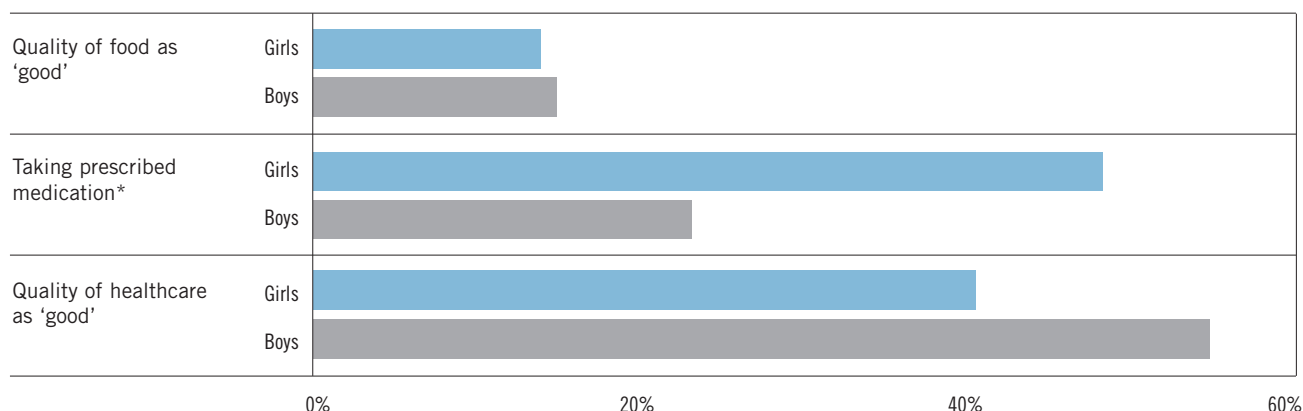
4.3 Respect

Young people were asked whether they thought they were treated with respect, starting from their initial experiences in reception, and throughout their day-to-day experiences of life within their establishment.

Just under a quarter of respondents (24% boys, 22% girls) felt they were treated 'well' in reception. After a week, half of all boys felt they had 'settled in' compared to 40% of girls*.

Respondents were asked to rate the quality of food, and of healthcare, and whether they were taking prescribed medication. The responses can be seen in Figure 35.

Figure 35: Percentage of respondents who rated the quality of food as 'good', who rated the quality of healthcare as 'good', and who took prescribed medication, by gender



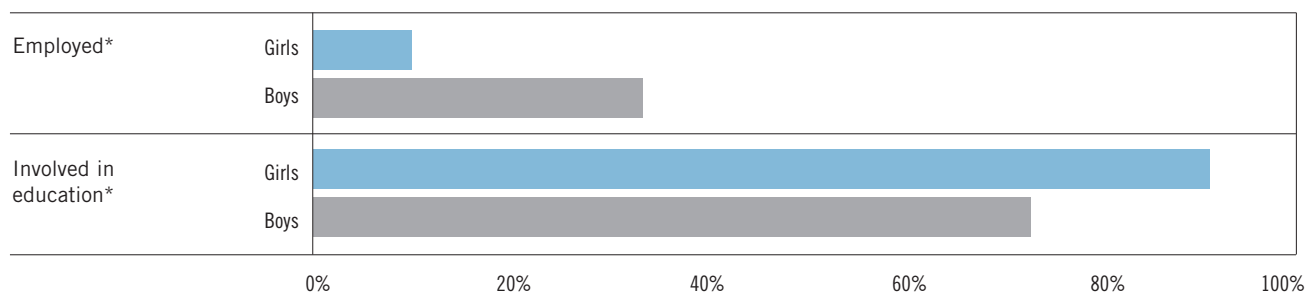
Overall, the proportion of girls (77%) reporting being able to shower every day was much higher than that for boys (49%)*.

4.4 Purposeful activity

Respondents were asked whether they were doing any education or work. They were also asked about weekly access to a range of recreational activities.

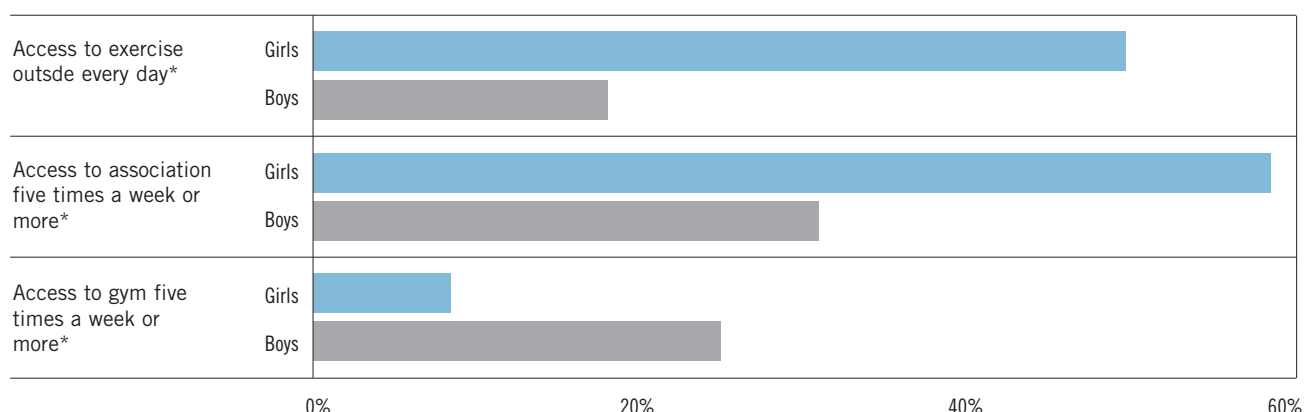
There were some quite striking differences in the proportion of boys and girls who were involved in education and employment, as can be seen below.

Figure 36: Percentage of respondents who said they were involved in education and employment within their establishment, by gender



There were also some quite stark differences between the genders in relation to recreation activities, including how often they could go to the gym, on association, and have exercise outside.

Figure 37: Percentage of respondents who could go to the gym five times a week or more, for association five times a week or more, and outside for exercise every day, by gender



4.5 Resettlement

Respondents were asked about the help they had received within their establishments concerning their preparation for release, and the impact this help had had on them. Aspects covered in this section include personal officers, training plans and how the incentives and earned privileges scheme had had an effect on their behaviour. They were also asked about their access to family and friends and YOT workers.

Overall, 15% of boys and 16% of girls admitted to having had problems with alcohol when they first arrived in custody. This increased for those admitting having, or having had a problem with drugs, with more girls reporting problems (40%) than boys (28%)*.

A higher percentage of girls said they had a personal officer (92%) than boys (72%)*, but the number of respondents reporting having a training/sentence plan was similar boys (66%), girls (63%).

In total, 30% of boys and 23% of girls said it was 'easy' for their family and friends to visit them, and three quarters of all respondents said they had received a visit.

Overall, 89% of boys and 91% of girls said they wanted to stop offending in the future.