



## **TellUs3 National Report**

Issue date: September 2008

## **TellUs3 Survey**

The TellUs3 survey was a survey of children and young people across England, asking their views about their local area, and including questions which covered the five Every Child Matters outcomes. The survey was carried out in Spring 2008. A sample of schools was selected within each local authority, representing the different types of schools in each area. The schools were then provided with guidance detailing how to select pupils to take part in the survey.

The report presents the questions in the same way they were presented to respondents. The questions were developed through cognitive testing with children, to ensure that they understood the questions and answered them in a meaningful way. This means that some of the questions, such as self-defining a disability, may not give data consistent with 'standard' definitions.

The responses from the survey were weighted to ensure that the report at local authority and national level represents the population of Year 6, 8 and 10 children within that area in terms of the following characteristics: gender, proportion of children eligible for free school meals in the school (as a proxy for deprivation) and type of school. Population data for 2007 from the Pupil Level Annual School Census was used to derive the weights, and the number of children attending Pupil Referral Units was obtained from the 2007 School Level Annual School Census.

## **The National Report**

The national report provides data for the selected questions at national level. 148,988 individual responses from children and young people across 145 local authorities contributed to the national figures.

### Sample characteristics (Section 1: About you)

This section gives details of the demographic characteristics of respondents to the survey (unweighted sample information). The rest of the survey data has been weighted, to account for any disproportionality between the sample and the population.

### The five Every Child Matters Outcome sections (2: Being healthy, 3: Staying safe, 4: Enjoying and achieving, 5: Making a positive contribution, 6: Achieving economic well-being)

Data at national level within these sections of the report have been weighted to take account of differences between our sample population and the population of the 145 local authorities who took part in the survey. Differences were calculated in terms of gender, type of school and free school meals (as a proxy for deprivation). This means effectively that the national data is representative of the population of 145 local authorities, rather than all 150 local authorities. However, there were no substantive differences in terms of demographic and socio-economic characteristics of those local authorities which did take part and those which did not, so weighting the national data separately to be representative of the whole country would make very little difference.

Questions which were only asked of secondary school children are identified after the question as such (YEAR 8 & 10 ONLY).

Further details of the survey design and methodology can be found in the technical report.

## National Report

1: About You	
	NAT
Category	All (%)
<b>1a: Are you:</b>	
Male	50
Female	50
<b>1b: How old are you?</b>	
Year 6 (Aged 8 - 11)	40
Year 8 (Aged 12 - 13)	32
Year 10 (Aged 14 - 16)	28
<b>1c: Which one of these best describes you?</b>	
White	77
Mixed race	4
Asian or Asian British	10
Black or Black British	5
Chinese or other	1
Prefer not to say	0
Don't know	1
<b>1d: Do you have a learning difficulty?</b>	
Yes	9
No	82
Don't know	9
<b>1e: Do you have a disability?</b>	
Yes	4
No	92
Don't know	4
<b>1f: Which one of these best describes you?</b>	
I live with one or more of my birth parent(s)	96
I live with adoptive parent(s)	1
I live with foster parent(s)	1
I live in a children's home	0
Other	2
Don't know	1
<b>1g: Do you receive free school meals?</b>	
Yes	16
No	82
Don't know	3
<b>1h: Did you have help filling in this form such as from a teacher, teaching assistant or learning mentor?</b>	
No	86
Yes, I had help with just some of it	11
Yes, I had help with all or most of it	3

2: Being Healthy	
	NAT
Category	All (%)
<b>2a: How healthy are you most of the time? (Tick one option only)</b>	
Very healthy	28
Quite healthy	58
Not very healthy	11
Don't know	3
<b>2b: How many portions of fruit and vegetables do you usually eat each day? (Tick one option only)</b>	
None	4
1-2	27
3-4	42
5 or more	23
Don't know	5
<b>2c: In the last 7 days, on how many days have you spent at least 30 minutes doing sports or other active things? (Tick one option only)</b>	
None	4
1-2 days	21
3-5 days	35
6-7 days	36
Don't know	4
<b>2d: Have you ever had alcohol? (Tick one option only)</b>	
I have never had an alcoholic drink	25
I have never been drunk	35
I have been drunk but only once or twice and not recently	17
I have been drunk once within the last four weeks	6
I have been drunk twice within the last four weeks	4
I have been drunk three or more times in the last four weeks	6
Prefer not to say	8
<b>2e: Have you ever smoked cigarettes? (Tick one option only)</b>	
I have never smoked a cigarette	75
I have smoked cigarettes only once or twice	11
I used to smoke cigarettes regularly but I don't now	3
I sometimes smoke cigarettes, but I don't smoke every week	2
I smoke cigarettes regularly, once a week or more	1
I smoke cigarettes everyday	4
Prefer not to say	4
<b>2f: Have you ever taken drugs? (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>	
Yes	11
No	86
Prefer not to say	4

2: Being Healthy (continued)	
	NAT
Category	All (%)
<b>2g: In the last four weeks, how often have you taken any of the following drugs? (Don't worry if you don't know exactly, just give us a rough idea) (Tick one option for each section) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>	
<i>Cannabis or skunk</i>	
Never in the last four weeks	89
Once	2
Twice	1
Three or more times	3
Prefer not to say	4
Don't know/can't remember	1
<i>Solvents, glue or gas (to inhale or sniff)</i>	
Never in the last four weeks	92
Once	1
Twice	0
Three or more times	1
Prefer not to say	4
Don't know/can't remember	1
<i>Other drugs (like cocaine, LSD, ecstasy, heroin, crack, speed, magic mushrooms etc.)</i>	
Never in the last four weeks	92
Once	1
Twice	1
Three or more times	1
Prefer not to say	4
Don't know/can't remember	1
<b>2h: What do you think of the information and advice you get on the following things? (Tick one option for each section) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>	
<i>Eating healthy food</i>	
It's good enough	76
Need better information and advice	20
Don't know	4
<i>Alcohol</i>	
It's good enough	67
Need better information and advice	25
Don't know	7
<i>Smoking</i>	
It's good enough	70
Need better information and advice	23
Don't know	7
<i>Drugs</i>	
It's good enough	67
Need better information and advice	25
Don't know	7
<i>Sex and relationships</i>	
It's good enough	55
Need better information and advice	37
Don't know	8

Note: For clarity and formatting purposes a few questions and answer options from the questionnaire are modified or trimmed in this report.

National Report

2: Being Healthy (continued)	
Category	NAT All (%)
<b>2i: Which of the following things, if any, do you worry about the most? (Tick all options that apply)</b>	
Being bullied	27
School work	31
Exams	57
Girlfriends/boyfriends/sex (Year 8 & 10 only)	26
Being healthy	30
Money	28
Friendships	34
My future	49
Getting into trouble	27
My parents or family	30
Crime	27
My body	32
Something else	11
Don't know	3
Nothing	5
<b>2j: For each of the following sections please tick the option that best describes you. (Tick one option for each section)</b>	
<i>I feel happy about life at the moment</i>	
True	69
Neither true nor not true	20
Not true	8
Don't know	2
<i>I have one or more good friends</i>	
True	95
Neither true nor not true	3
Not true	2
Don't know	1
<i>When I'm worried about something I can talk to my mum or dad</i>	
True	66
Neither true nor not true	16
Not true	15
Don't know	3
<i>When I'm worried about something I can talk to my friends</i>	
True	71
Neither true nor not true	17
Not true	10
Don't know	3
<i>When I'm worried about something I can talk to an adult other than my mum or dad</i>	
True	52
Neither true nor not true	20
Not true	23
Don't know	5

3: Staying Safe	
Category	NAT All (%)
<b>3a: How safe from being hurt by other people do you feel? (Tick one option for each section)</b>	
<i>Around the local area</i>	
Very safe	28
Quite safe	47
A bit unsafe	19
Very unsafe	5
Don't know	1
<i>On public transport</i>	
Very safe	23
Quite safe	47
A bit unsafe	22
Very unsafe	5
Don't know	3
<i>Going to and from school</i>	
Very safe	49
Quite safe	39
A bit unsafe	9
Very unsafe	2
Don't know	1
<i>In school</i>	
Very safe	55
Quite safe	33
A bit unsafe	8
Very unsafe	3
Don't know	1
<b>3b: How often, if at all, have you been bullied? (Tick one option for each section)</b>	
<i>At school</i>	
Never	56
Once or more in the last year	25
Once or more in the last four weeks	5
About once a week	3
Most days	6
Don't know	4
<i>Somewhere else (including on your journey to or from school)</i>	
Never	75
Once or more in the last year	13
Once or more in the last four weeks	3
About once a week	2
Most days	3
Don't know	4
<b>3c: How well does your school deal with bullying? (Tick one option only)</b>	
Very well	14
Quite well	21
Not very well	28
Badly	16
Bullying is not a problem in my school	11
Don't know	10

4: Enjoying and Achieving	
Category	NAT All (%)
<b>4a: For each of the sections below, please tick the option that best describes you. (Tick one option on each section)</b>	
<i>I enjoy school</i>	
Always	8
Most of the time	42
Sometimes	43
Never	7
Don't know	1
<i>I try my best at school</i>	
Always	33
Most of the time	48
Sometimes	17
Never	1
Don't know	0
<i>I learn a lot at school</i>	
Always	23
Most of the time	46
Sometimes	28
Never	3
Don't know	1
<b>4b: Which of the things below, might help you do better in school? (Tick all options that apply)</b>	
More help from teachers	39
More fun/interesting lessons	81
A quieter/better behaved class or group	38
Smaller classes/groups	34
Fewer bullies	25
More help from family and friends	16
Somewhere quiet at home to do homework (e.g. with homework)	16
Something else	13
None of these	2
<b>4c: How easy it is to get help with your work at school when you need it? (Tick one option only)</b>	
Very easy	14
Quite easy	58
Quite difficult	19
Very difficult	4
Don't know	4
<b>4d: Which of these, if any, would you like to go to that you don't at the moment? (Tick all that apply)</b>	
Local park or playground	18
Cinema or theatre	37
A music concert or gig	39
Swimming pool (not in school lessons)	29
Sports club or class (where I've done sport not just watched it)	20
Gym	38
A youth club or youth group with organised activities run by adults	16
Faith or community group	6
A youth centre/café to meet friends (with few or no organised activities)	18
Art, craft, dance, drama, film/video-making group or class (not in school lessons)	26
Music group or lesson (not in school lessons)	14
Library/museum	14
Residential course (e.g. outward bound)	13
Something else	21
Nothing (I don't want to go to anything else)	11

Note: For clarity and formatting purposes a few questions and answer options from the questionnaire are modified or trimmed in this report.

4: Enjoying and Achieving (continued)	
Category	NAT All (%)
<b>4e: Overall, what do you think of the activities and things to do in your area? (Tick one option only)</b>	
Very good	14
Fairly good	35
Neither good nor poor	22
Fairly poor	14
Very poor	12
Don't know	3
<b>4f: In the last four weeks, have you participated in any group activity led by an adult outside school lessons (such as sports, arts, or a youth group)? (Tick one option only)</b>	
Yes	62
No	34
Don't know	5
<b>4g: Which of these things have you been to in the last four weeks (not including things as part of school lessons)? (Tick all options that apply)</b>	
Local park or playground	74
Cinema or theatre	56
A music concert or gig	15
Swimming pool (not in school lessons)	46
Sports club or class (where I've done sport not just watched it)	58
Gym	27
A youth club or youth group with organised activities run by adults	32
Faith or community group	13
A youth centre/café to meet friends (with few or no organised activities)	36
Art, craft, dance, drama, film/video-making group or class	27
Music group or lesson (not in school lessons)	19
Library/museum	34
Residential course (e.g. outward bound)	10
Something else	68
<b>5: Making a Positive Contribution</b>	
<b>5a: How much are children and young people's views listened to in decisions about the local area? (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>	
A great deal	4
A fair amount	22
Not very much	37
Not at all	20
Don't know	17
<b>5b: In the last year, have you ever given your views about the local area in any of these ways? (Tick all options that apply) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>	
Filled in questionnaire	29
Given your views to a school council	19
Given your views to a youth council or youth parliament	7
Been to a meeting outside school about making things better in your local area	6
Something else	7
Don't know	17
None of these	36

5: Making a Positive Contribution (continued)	
Category	NAT All (%)
<b>5c: In the last year, have you given your time to help a charity, a local voluntary group, a neighbour or someone else in the local area? (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>	
Yes	61
No	28
Don't know	11
<b>5d: How much do you feel children and young people's views are listened to in the running of your school? (Tick one option only)</b>	
A great deal	12
A fair amount	47
Not very much	27
Not at all	7
Don't know	7
<b>6: Achieving Economic Well-being</b>	
<b>6a: What do you think of your local area as a place to live in? (Tick one option only)</b>	
Very good	32
Fairly good	43
Neither good nor poor	16
Fairly poor	5
Very poor	4
Don't know	1
<b>6b: What do you hope to do when you leave school? (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>	
Get a job at 16	13
Study then get a job at 18	19
Study to go to university	54
Something else	6
Don't know yet	9
<b>6c: What do you think of the information and help you get to plan your future? For example help from a teacher or careers adviser to choose subject options and think about jobs and careers. (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>	
It's good enough	28
Need a little more	42
Need a lot more	20
Don't know what there is	10

6: Achieving Economic Well-being (continued)	
Category	NAT All (%)
<b>6d: Which of these things would do the most to make your area a better place for you to live? (Tick all options that apply)</b>	
Better shops	45
Cleaner and less litter	48
Better sports clubs or centres	44
Better public transport (such as buses, trains, underground)	25
Safer roads	37
Better activities for children and young people	46
Safer area or less crime	39
Better parks and play areas	47
Fewer young people hanging around	27
Something else	10
Don't know	3
None (the area is fine as it is)	4
<b>6e: What do you think of the parks and play areas in your area? (Tick one option only)</b>	
Very good	10
Fairly good	34
Neither good nor poor	23
Fairly poor	15
Very poor	15
Don't know	3
<b>6f: Thinking about all of the things that have been covered in the survey, what if anything, would do most to make your life better? (Tick one option only)</b>	
More help to do better at school	11
Better school lessons	11
Less bullying	9
More organised activities and things to do	8
More places where I can go to spend time with my friends	22
More say in how things are run at school or in the local area	3
More ways I can volunteer or help people	2
More advice about being healthy	2
More help to plan for my future	15
More help to feel safer at school and in the local area	4
Something else	4
Don't know	5
None of these	4