

Sustainable development indicators in your pocket **2007**



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An update of the
UK Government Strategy indicators



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'Sustainable development indicators in your pocket 2004 – A selection of the UK Government's indicators of sustainable development' (A6 size PB9541, A4 size PB9541A)

This document and supporting data and material are also available on the Government sustainable development website www.sustainable-development.gov.uk.

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The UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy, *Securing the future*, was launched by the Prime Minister in March 2005, and builds on the 1999 strategy, *A better quality of life*. It sets out the goal of sustainable development as enabling all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life, without compromising the quality of life of future generations.

The Strategy outlined 68 indicators through which to review progress, along with other evidence, in four priority areas:

- Sustainable consumption and production
- Climate change and energy
- Natural resource protection and enhancing the environment
- Creating sustainable communities and a fairer world

This National Statistics booklet presents and assesses the indicators – measures of everyday concerns including health, housing, jobs, crime, education and our environment.

It aims to be a useful and accessible reference for experts, to help illustrate the breadth and challenges of sustainable development to those less familiar with the concept, and to encourage readers to find out more.

For the first time this edition includes some provisional measures associated with wellbeing. Some of these are presented alongside existing indicators, whilst the background and other measures are presented as part of indicator number 68 on wellbeing.


For further information visit:

www.sustainable-development.gov.uk


Overall messages from the indicators

Not everyone is able to look at a chart and immediately understand the messages, so it is useful to be able to summarise what the indicator measures tell us. To highlight whether or not things are moving in the right or wrong direction, a set of 'traffic lights' is used:

 = clear improvement

 = little or no change

 = clear deterioration

 = insufficient or no comparable data

The traffic lights are determined by comparing the measure in the latest year with its position in an earlier base year – in most cases 1990 and 1999 (when the previous Strategy was introduced). Between the base year and current position the measure may have deteriorated and then improved, or vice versa. However, the traffic lights only reflect the overall change in the measure from the base year to the latest position and do not reflect fluctuations during the intervening years.

From page 23 onwards each indicator is represented as a chart, with traffic light assessments and commentary to explain the main messages and support the assessments.

Many of the indicators are comprised of more than one component measurement. As a result there are currently 127 assessed indicator measures in total making up the 68 indicators.

The indicators are first and foremost intended to communicate and highlight progress in key issues for sustainable development and for the priority areas, and along with other evidence to help identify where action is required.

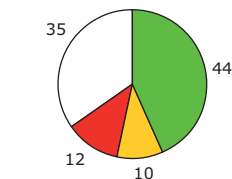
It may be also desirable to use the indicators to gain an overall impression of progress but it is not practicable or meaningful to combine all 127 disparate measure assessments into a single index of sustainable development. Aside from the technical difficulties involved, some indicator measures are more important or challenging than others and key messages would be lost.

However to gain some indication of the extent to which overall change is in the right or wrong direction, it may be informative to quantify the number of traffic lights that are green, amber or red across all the indicator measures. This approach forms the basis of the following summaries.

Pages 10 to 15 present summaries of the accumulative traffic lights for all 68 indicators in the Strategy and separately for each of the four priority areas. A number of indicators support more than one priority area, so there is some overlap in the messages the summaries convey.

Indicator measures do not contribute to the summaries if (a) they are used in another indicator and are already counted within the same summary; (b) their trends are strongly influenced by or directly reflect other measures within the same summary; or (c) they are for contextual purposes. For more details see the sustainable development website.

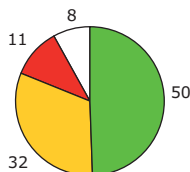
Changes in measures since 1990



■ Showing improvement

■ Showing little or no change

Changes in measures since 1999



■ Showing deterioration

□ Insufficient data

¹ Based on 101 of 127 measures, comprising 68 indicators

Compared with the position in 1999, 50 measures show improvement (representing over half of those for which it is possible to make an assessment), and 32 show little or no change.

A wide range of measures show improvement including renewable electricity, emissions of air pollutants, manufacturing and public sector emissions, waste recycling, agricultural emissions and land stewardship, biodiversity loss, land recycling, community participation, vehicle crime and burglary, fear of crime, poverty measures, mortality rates, road accidents, housing conditions and fuel poverty, rough sleepers and local environmental quality.

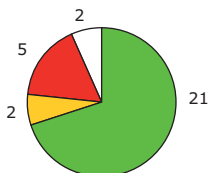
Those measures showing deterioration since 1999 are specifically

- aviation emissions of greenhouse gases
- fossil fuels used for electricity generation
- nitrogen oxide emissions from electricity generation
- energy supply (consumption exceeding UK production)
- water loss through leakages
- robbery
- difference in life expectancy between local authorities
- childhood obesity
- walking and cycling
- ozone pollution in urban areas
- households living in temporary accommodation

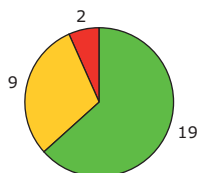
Other background measures showing deterioration but not included in the summaries, as they are already reflected by other measures, are:

- carbon dioxide emissions from transport
- carbon dioxide emissions from road transport
- electricity generation (to meet demand)
- carbon dioxide emissions from electricity generation
- ozone pollution in rural areas

Changes in measures since 1990



Changes in measures since 1999



■ Showing improvement

■ Showing deterioration

■ Showing little or no change

□ Insufficient data

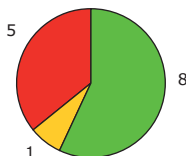
¹ Based on 30 of 49 measures, comprising 25 indicators

Indicators for *sustainable consumption and production* (SCP) mainly cover emissions, resource use and waste. 19 measures (over half) show improvement compared with 1999, rising to 21 measures compared with 1990. Those showing improvement include emissions of air pollutants from the manufacturing, service and public sectors, waste recycling, agricultural emissions, and land recycling. Compared with 1990, water resource use has improved, while domestic CO₂ emissions, domestic material consumption and water leakage losses have deteriorated.

Measures showing deterioration since 1999 are greenhouse gases from aviation and water leakage.

Indicators supporting SCP are highlighted by the vertical tab on the edge of each page.

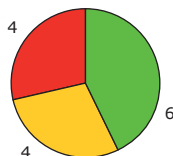
Changes in measures since 1990



■ Showing improvement

■ Showing little or no change

Changes in measures since 1999



■ Showing deterioration

□ Insufficient data

¹ Based on 14 of 23 measures, comprising 14 indicators

Indicators for *climate change and energy* (CCE) mainly cover greenhouse gas emissions, electricity generation and energy supply. 6 measures show improvement since 1999 and 4 show deterioration. Since 1990, 8 measures show improvement and 5 show deterioration.

Those showing improvement since 1999 include renewable electricity, sulphur dioxide emissions from electricity generation, carbon dioxide emissions from manufacturing and the public sector, and methane emissions from agriculture.

Those showing deterioration are aviation emissions of greenhouse gases, energy supply, fossil fuels used in electricity generation, and nitrogen oxide emissions from electricity generation (though improved since 1990).

Indicators supporting CCE are highlighted by the vertical tab on the edge of each page.

SCP

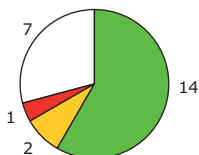
CCE

NRP

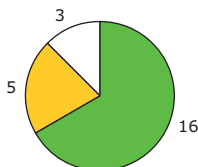
CSC

Natural resource protection and enhancing the environment (NRP)¹

Changes in measures since 1990



Changes in measures since 1999



■ Showing improvement

■ Showing deterioration

■ Showing little or no change

□ Insufficient data

¹ Based on 24 of 29 measures, comprising 16 indicators

Indicators for *natural resources protection* (NRP) mainly cover wildlife and biodiversity, farming, land use, fish stocks, air pollution and rivers. 16 measures show improvement since 1999, 5 little or no change and none deterioration.

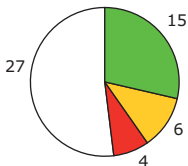
Those showing improvement since 1999 include biodiversity loss, fish stocks, river water quality, farming management and emissions, land recycling, air pollution, and the impact of acidification from air pollution. Bird populations and area of sensitive habitats affected by nitrogen show little or no change.

Compared with 1990, farmland bird populations show a decline.

Indicators supporting NRP are highlighted by the vertical tab on the edge of each page.

Creating sustainable communities and a fairer world (CSC)¹

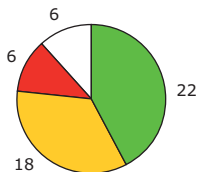
Changes in measures since 1990



■ Showing improvement

■ Showing little or no change

Changes in measures since 1999



■ Showing deterioration

■ Insufficient data

¹ Based on 52 of 68 measures, comprising 39 indicators

Indicators for *sustainable communities* (CSC) mainly cover poverty, health, crime, access, mobility, and local and domestic environments. 22 measures show improvement since 1999, 18 show little or no change, and 6 show a deterioration.

Those showing improvement include poverty and housing conditions, rough sleepers, local environmental quality, community participation, vehicle crimes, burglary, fear of crime, mortality rates, and road accidents.

Those showing deterioration are robbery, the difference in life expectancy between local authorities, the number of households in temporary accommodation, child obesity, walking and cycling and ozone pollution in urban areas.

Indicators supporting CSC are highlighted by the vertical tab on the edge of each page.

SCP

CCE

NRP

CSC

UK framework indicators

Another means of getting an overview of progress is to select a small set of key indicators. A framework for sustainable development *One future – different paths* is shared by the UK Government and the devolved administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Twenty 'UK Framework indicators' (all included in the UK Strategy's 68 indicators) cover key impacts and outcomes that reflect the priority areas shared across the UK. A summary of these indicators is below.

Indicator number and title		Change since 1990	Change since 1999	Direction in latest year*
1. Greenhouse gas emissions				≈
13. Resource use				✓
18. Waste arisings				≈
20. Bird populations	Farmland			≈
	Woodland			≈
	Coastal			≈
27. Fish stocks sustainability				✓
28. Ecological impacts of air pollution	Acidity			≈
	Nitrogen			✓
30. River quality	Biological			≈
	Chemical			✓

Indicator number and title		Change since 1990 ¹	Change since 1999 ²	Direction in latest year*
32. Economic growth		✓	✓	✓
37. Active community participation		...	✓	≈
38. Crime	vehicles & burglary	✓	✓	✓
	Robbery	✗	✗	✗
40. Employment		≈	≈	≈
41. Workless households		✓ ₁₉₉₂	✓	✓
43. Childhood poverty		✓	✓	✗
45. Pensioner poverty		✓	✓	✓
47. Educational attainment		✓	✓ ₂₀₀₄	✓
49. Health inequality	Infant mortality gap	✗ ₁₉₉₄	≈	✓
	Life expectancy gap	✗ ₁₉₉₁	✗	✗
55. Mobility	Walking/cycling	✗ ₁₉₉₅₋₇	✗	✗
	Public transport use	≈ ₁₉₉₅₋₇	≈	≈

¹ Year as shown if not 1990


² Year as shown if not 1999

Indicator number and title	Change since 1990	Change since 1999	Direction in latest year*
59. Social justice
60. Environmental equality
68. Wellbeing

 = clear improvement since base year

 = little or no change since base year

 = clear deterioration since base year

 = insufficient or no comparable data

*The third column, *Direction of change in latest year* (comparing the latest and penultimate years for which data are available) is provided to give an indication only and may not represent a clear improvement or deterioration. This is presented only in this summary table and not within the body of this booklet and only for the UK Framework Indicators. Indication of change is based on a 1 per cent threshold over which change in the indicator value was deemed to warrant a tick or cross. Exceptions are where recent figures are known not to represent a genuine change owing to methodological issues.

Presentation of the indicators

For each indicator, one or more charts are provided that show the data from 1990, or the earliest available year after 1990. In many cases a small chart additionally will be shown within the main chart to illustrate the longer-term change – going back as far as 1970 if data are available. The presentation of the charts has been simplified as far as possible. For example on the x-axis not all years for which data are presented have been indicated.

The indicator measures may be shown as an index, which means that the value of the measure for a base year, mainly 1990, is treated as representing 100 (per cent). Subsequent or preceding values of the measure are then shown in relation to that base value – in effect as a percentage of it. This allows trends in measures with different units to be more easily compared.

The traffic lights assessments are shown beneath the charts. If trends in individual measures are moving in the same direction then for ease of presentation traffic lights may be shared, although the measures will have been assessed individually.

A short statistical commentary on the indicator is then provided to highlight and explain the trends and assessment.

Deciding the traffic lights

For most indicator measures it will be very clear whether there has been an improvement or a deterioration, and hence whether a green or red traffic light is warranted. However where the amounts of change are small it can be difficult to judge whether they are sufficient to indicate that there has been a clear improvement or deterioration.

So as a basic rule of thumb where an indicator measure has changed by less than 3 per cent, the traffic light has been set at amber, indicating little or no change. The choice of 3 per cent as the threshold is arbitrary but has proven to be helpful in deciding on the most appropriate traffic light. There are a few exceptions to this rule, where for example the indicator measure has been historically stable and / or almost at the level it can be expected to achieve. In such cases a smaller amount of change may be regarded as indicating an improvement or deterioration. In one or two cases the level of change may be greater than 3 per cent but the traffic light is nevertheless amber. This will apply where the limits of data collection imply that a larger percentage change is necessary for it to be regarded as showing a clear change.

For each indicator, where possible, two traffic light assessments of progress have been made by comparing the latest data with the position at two baselines (or the closest year available):

- since 1990
- since 1999

The 'since 1999' assessment reflects the change that has occurred since the earlier strategy *A better quality of life*, and also for the moment provides a short-term assessment of change.

Determining the baselines

The choice of baselines is of course also to some extent arbitrary. We could just as reasonably use 1991 and 2000 as baselines, but the assessments are after all only intended to help communicate the more detailed information shown by the indicators themselves.

However, owing to year on year variation the position in 1990 or 1999 may be unrepresentative of the trend and could unduly influence our assumptions about the degree of progress made. To reduce the impact of the precise baseline year where possible a three-year average around the baseline year has been used. So the assessment of change since 1990 will be based on a comparison of the latest year's data with the average of data for 1989-1991, and similarly change since 1999 based on a comparison with an average of 1998-2000, if data are available.

Geographic coverage

Within the indicator set there is some variation in the geographic coverage of the indicators. Though the aim has been to cover the whole of the UK i.e. England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, where it is appropriate to do so, for some indicators it has been necessary to restrict the presentation to England, England and Wales, or Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland).

Data collection must be related to the specific policy and monitoring needs of each administration, and so it will not be necessarily possible for indicators to be applied consistently across the UK.

The administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland each have their own strategy document for sustainable development and these are supported by indicators. See www.scotland.gov.uk, www.wales.gov.uk and www.doeni.gov.uk respectively.

International indicators

Research has been commissioned to develop the data required to estimate the level of emissions “embedded” in traded goods. In due course it is intended to develop indicators which measure the wider impacts of the consumption of UK residents.

A set of comparative international indicators has been developed to complement the 68 national indicators published in this booklet. Owing to limits in data availability it was only possible to produce equivalent international indicators for 32 of the 68 indicators. These are published on the UK Sustainable Development website. In addition there are links to a wide range of international websites that provide comparative data and analysis.

Data used for the indicators

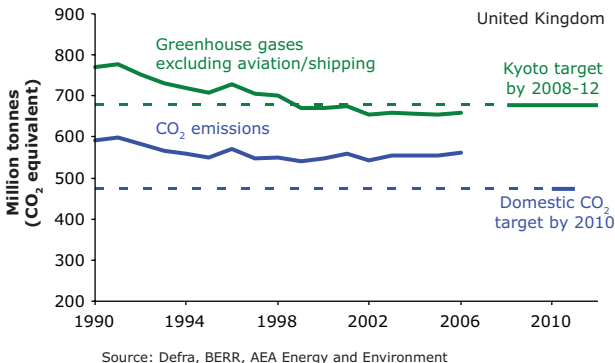
Most of the data used to compile the indicators come from Government sources and are National Statistics. The assessments of progress and the compilation of the compendium and website have been undertaken by statisticians within the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), in collaboration with statisticians and other colleagues within other Government departments and within the Devolved Administrations.

All the indicators are presented on the sustainable development website, along with the data, information on data sources, and the basis of assessment. Contact details for enquiries are at the back of this booklet.

See www.sustainable-development.gov.uk

1. Greenhouse gas emissions

Kyoto target and carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, 1990 to 2012



Greenhouse gas emissions

since: 1990



1999



CO₂ emissions

since: 1990



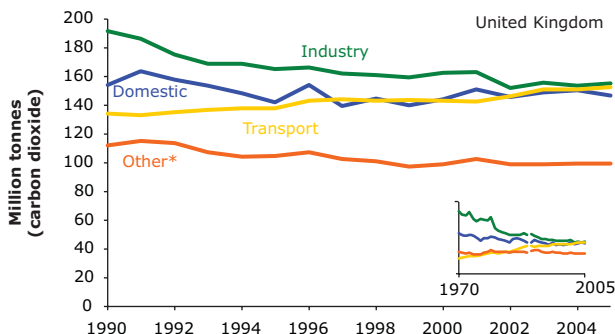
1999



- Emissions of the 'basket' of six greenhouse gases in 2006 were provisionally estimated to have been about 15 per cent below the base year. (The base year is 1990 for carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide, and 1995 for fluorinated compounds.)
- Emissions of carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas, were provisionally estimated at some 561 million tonnes (CO₂ equivalent), just over 5 per cent lower than in 1990. Emissions increased by about 1.2 per cent between 2005 and 2006, owing to an increased use of coal in electricity generation.

2. Carbon dioxide emissions by end user

CO₂ emissions from industry, domestic, transport sectors (excluding international aviation and shipping), 1990 to 2005



Notes: *Mostly commercial and private sector.

End user breakdown sectors were changed in 2007 to better reflect the sectors defined by the IPC, therefore data before 1990 are no longer directly comparable.

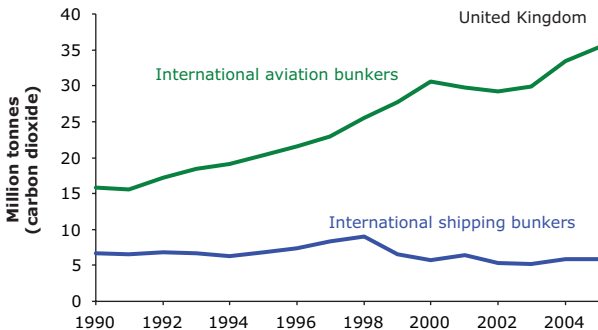
Source: AEA Energy and Environment

Industry	since: 1990	✓	1999	✓
Domestic	since: 1990	✓	1999	≈
Transport	since: 1990	✗	1999	✗

- End user emissions include emissions from electricity generation and fuel processing reassigned to consumers. By 2005 industrial sector carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions were 19 per cent below 1990 levels. Domestic sector emissions were 5 per cent lower than in 1990, although they have fluctuated recently and have been as low as 9 per cent below 1990 levels (in 1999).
- In 2005 transport emissions were 14 per cent higher than in 1990. However in recent years the growth in emissions has slowed.

3. Aviation and shipping emissions

Greenhouse gases from UK-based international aviation and shipping fuel bunkers, 1990 to 2005



Source: AEA Energy and Environment

Aviation bunkers	since: 1990	✗	1999	✗
Shipping bunkers	since: 1990	✓	1999	✓

- Greenhouse gas emissions from international aviation and shipping can be estimated from refuelling from bunkers at UK airports and ports (whether by UK or non-UK operators).
- Between 1990 and 2005 emissions from aviation fuel use more than doubled to 35 million tonnes (carbon dioxide equivalent). High altitude aviation has a greenhouse effect over and above that of these greenhouse gas emissions alone, but is not reflected in this indicator. Emissions from UK shipping bunker fuel use fell slightly, but UK shipping operators purchase most of their bunker fuel outside the UK.

SCP

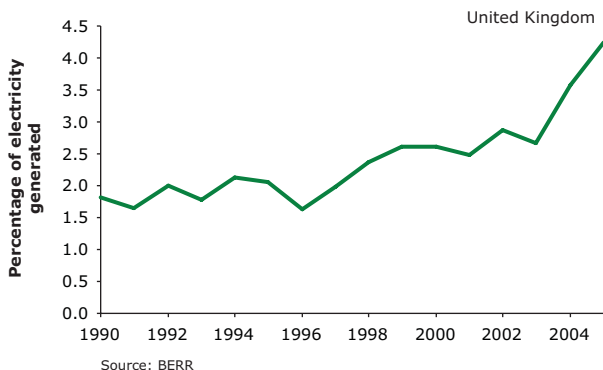
CCE

NRP

CSC

4. Renewable electricity

Renewable electricity generated as a percentage of total electricity, 1990 to 2005

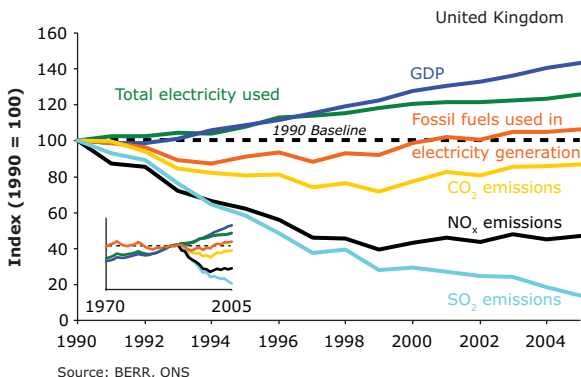


Renewable electricity since: 1990 ☒ 1999 ☒

- In 2005, renewable sources represented 4.2 per cent of all electricity generated, increasing from 1.8 per cent in 1990.
- Between 1990 and 2005 generation from non-hydro sources (wind, wave, solar and biofuels) increased from being 10 per cent of all renewable electricity generated to 71 per cent.

5. Electricity generation

Electricity generated, CO₂, NO_x and SO₂ emissions by electricity generators and GDP, 1990 to 2005

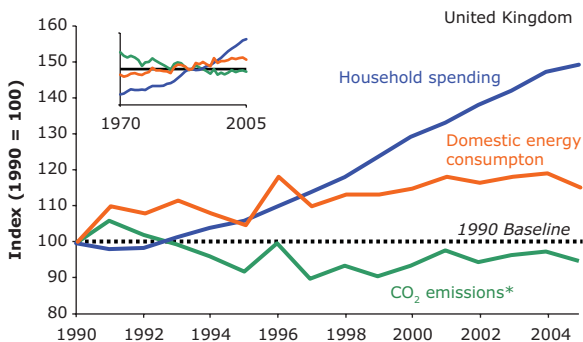


Electricity, fossil fuels	since: 1990	✗	1999	✗
CO ₂ , NO _x	since: 1990	✓	1999	✗
SO ₂	since: 1990	✓	1999	✓

- Between 1990 and 2005 electricity consumption rose by 26 per cent, and fossil fuel used in electricity generation rose by 6.5 per cent, though it had fallen in the early 1990s.
- Associated carbon dioxide (CO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) emissions from electricity generators all fell between 1990 and 1999, by 28 per cent, 61 per cent and 72 per cent respectively. However, CO₂ and NO_x have both increased since then, reflecting an increase in the use of fossil fuels.

6. Household energy use

Domestic CO₂ emissions, domestic energy consumption and household spending, 1990 to 2005



*Includes an estimate of share of energy industry emissions.

Source: AEA Energy and Environment, BERR, ONS

Domestic CO₂
emissions

since: 1990



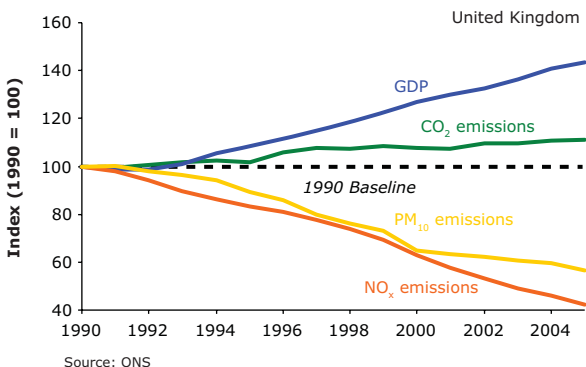
1999



- Household energy consumption increased by 15 per cent between 1990 and 2005, but the associated domestic carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions have decreased by 5 per cent since 1990. This is largely the result of electricity generators switching from coal to gas or nuclear fuels.
- Following a drop in domestic CO₂ emissions in the late 1990s, there has been little change in emissions between 1999 and 2005.
- There are links between energy use and household spending (through the purchase of domestic appliances and direct spending on electricity and gas). Household spending (household final consumption expenditure) increased by 50 per cent between 1990 and 2005.

7. Road Transport

CO₂, NO_x, PM₁₀ emissions and Gross Domestic Product, 1990 to 2005

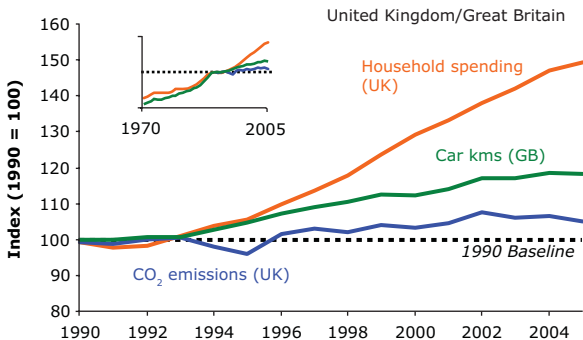


CO ₂ emissions	since: 1990	⊗	1999	⊗
NO _x , PM ₁₀ emissions	since: 1990	✓	1999	✓

- Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from all road transport rose roughly in line with economic growth (GDP) until 1993, but then grew more slowly and between 1990 and 2005 increased by 11 per cent, compared with GDP growth of 43 per cent. Emissions have increased by 3 per cent since 1999. (Supporting indicators overleaf show the emissions from private cars and heavy goods vehicles included in the total above).
- By 2005 emissions of both nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and particulates (PM₁₀) were respectively 58 per cent and 44 per cent lower than in 1990.

8. Private cars

Private car CO₂ emissions and car-kilometres and household spending, 1990 to 2005



Notes: Data for 1993 onwards are not directly comparable with figures for 1992 and earlier.

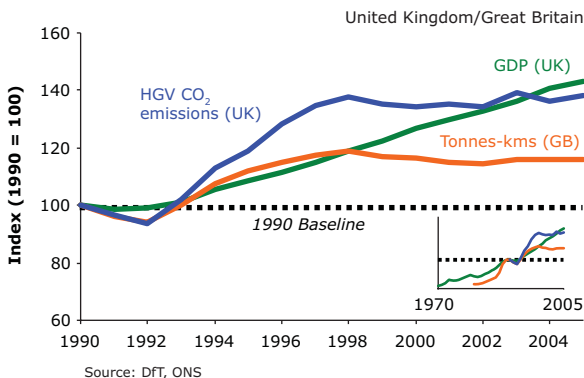
Source: DfT, ONS

CO₂ emissions since: 1990  1999 

- Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from private cars increased by 6 per cent between 1990 and 2005.
- Over the same period road traffic volume (measured as total car-kilometres travelled) increased by 18 per cent. Road traffic volume increased in line with household spending (household final consumption expenditure) until the mid-1990s but this relationship has since weakened.

9. Road freight

Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) CO₂ emissions, freight moved and Gross Domestic Product, 1990 to 2005



CO₂ emissions

since: 1990



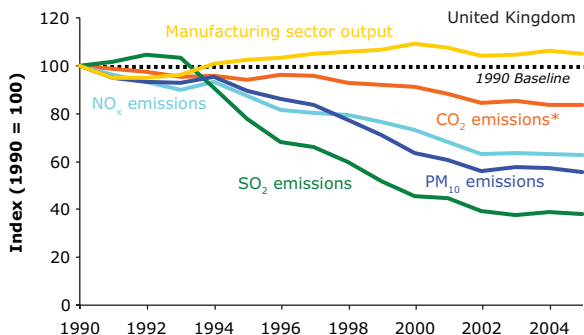
1999



- Freight moved (tonne-kilometres) increased in line with economic growth (Gross Domestic Product) until 1998. Since then freight moved has declined by 2 per cent while GDP has increased by 21 per cent.
- Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV) rose broadly in line with economic growth until 1998 and have stabilised since then. Overall, emissions increased by 38 per cent between 1990 and 2005, compared with economic growth of 43 per cent over the same period.

10. Manufacturing sector

CO₂, NO_x, SO₂, PM₁₀ emissions and output, 1990 to 2005



*Includes an estimate of share of emissions from electricity generation

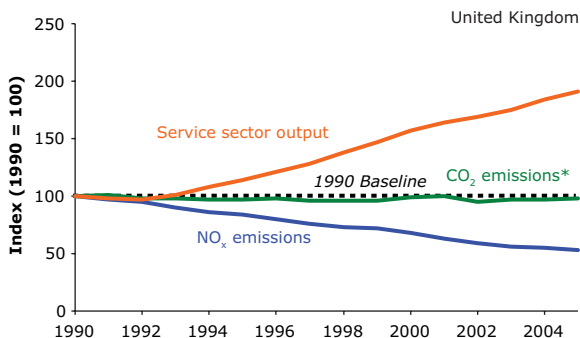
Source: ONS

CO₂, NO_x, SO₂, PM₁₀ since: 1990 ✓ 1999 ✓

- Manufacturing accounts for roughly 14 per cent of UK Gross Value Added (monetary output), employs about 10 per cent of UK workers and is responsible for 24 per cent of UK carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions.
- Manufacturing GVA rose by 5 per cent between 1990 and 2005. However reductions in emissions of CO₂ by 16 per cent, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) by 33 per cent, particulates (PM₁₀) by 44 per cent and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) by 62 per cent, were made over the same period.

11. Service sector

CO₂, NO_x emissions and output, 1990 to 2005



*Includes an estimate of share of emissions from electricity generation

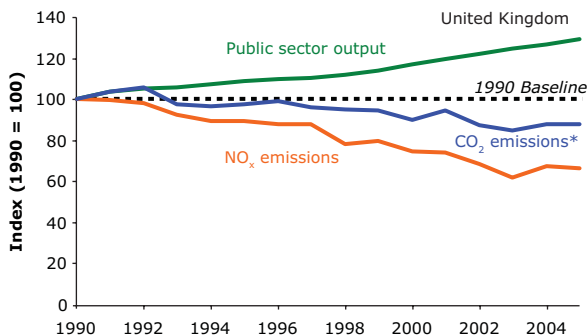
Source: ONS

CO ₂ emissions	since: 1990	⌘	1999	⌘
NO _x emissions	since: 1990	✓	1999	✓

- The service sector is the largest and fastest growing UK sector. It employs about half of the workforce and generates just under half of Gross Value Added (monetary output).
- Service sector GVA increased rapidly in the 1990s and in 2005 was 91 per cent higher than in 1990. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from the sector's energy use showed little or no change between 1990 and 2005. Emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) reduced steadily over the period and by 2005 were 47 per cent less than in 1990. (Figures for the public sector are overleaf.)

12. Public sector

CO₂, NO_x emissions and output, 1990 to 2005



*Includes an estimate of share of emissions from electricity generation

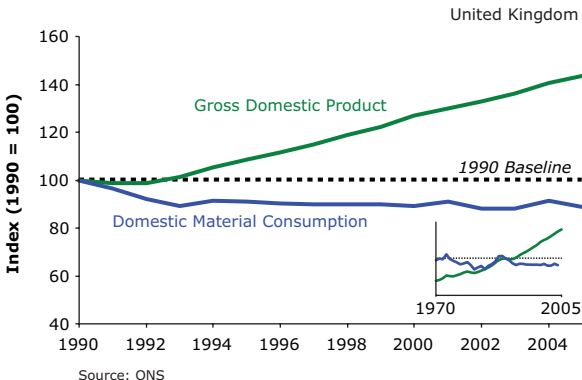
Source: ONS

CO₂, NO_x emissions since: 1990 ✓ 1999 ✓

- The public sector generates roughly a fifth of UK Gross Value Added (monetary output), employs a quarter of workers, and produces 4 per cent of UK carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions.
- Public sector GVA rose by 33 per cent between 1990 and 2005. CO₂ emissions from the sector's energy use and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) emissions, fell by 14 per cent and 39 per cent respectively.

13. Resource Use

Domestic Material Consumption and Gross Domestic Product, 1990 to 2005



Resource use

since: 1990



1999



- Domestic Material Consumption (DMC) is the total mass of materials directly consumed by the economy (it excludes waste from manufacture of imported goods).
- The economy (Gross Domestic Product) grew by 43 per cent in real terms between 1990 and 2005. In contrast DMC was 11 per cent lower in 2005 than in 1990 having remained relatively stable since 1993 – with reductions in use of UK resources balanced by increases in imports. Whilst this shows that the economy has grown without an associated increase in resources, the UK is still consuming the same amount of the world's resources every year as it did in 1993.

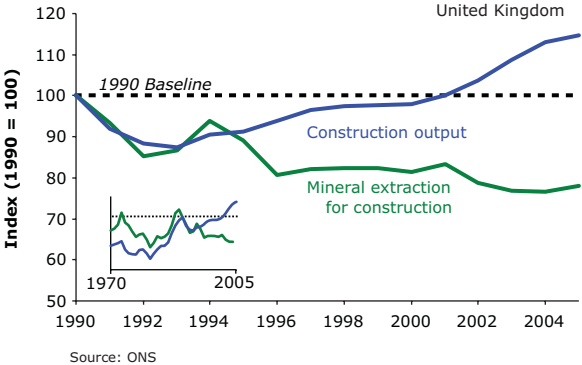
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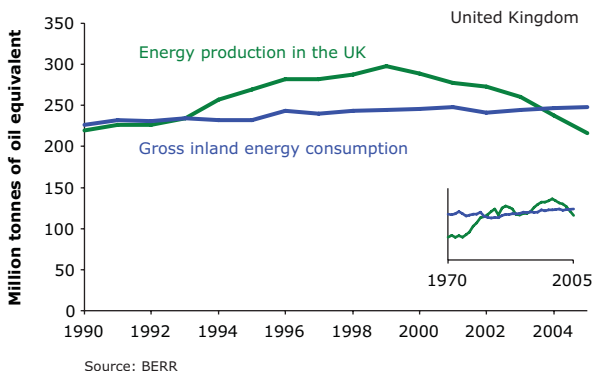
Stone, sand and gravel extraction: construction output and extraction of construction materials, 1990 to 2005



- This is a contextual indicator for Domestic Material Consumption (DMC) overleaf. Mineral extraction, primarily used for construction, accounted for 39 per cent of DMC in 2005. The level of construction mineral extraction decreased by 22 per cent between 1990 and 2005.
- The amount of material extracted and the value of output (GVA) from the construction industry were closely linked until the late 1980s. However, since 1994 the two have diverged markedly, with output value increasing steadily whilst being less dependent on minerals extraction.

14. Energy supply

UK indigenous energy production and gross inland energy consumption, 1990 to 2005



Production over
consumption

since: 1990



1999



- The UK's indigenous energy production (i.e. within the UK) has broadly met or exceeded gross inland energy consumption during the 1990s.
- Since 1999 indigenous energy production has fallen from being 22 per cent above consumption, with the UK a net exporter of energy, to 13 per cent less than consumption, with the UK a net importer of energy (provisional figures for 2005).

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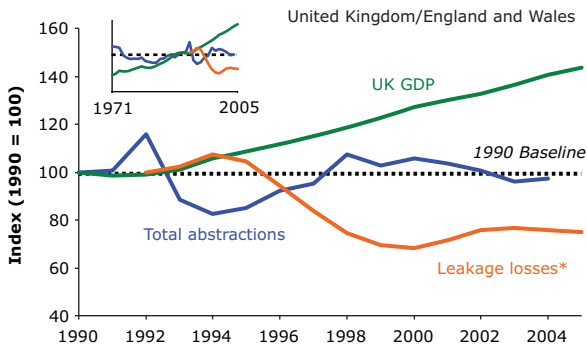
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15. Water resource use

Total abstractions from non-tidal surface and ground water, leakage losses and Gross Domestic Product, 1990 to 2005



*Most water companies are now operating at their Economic Level of Leakage. This is the level of leakage at which it would cost more for a water company to further reduce its leakage than to produce water from an alternative source, and balances the needs of consumers and the environment.

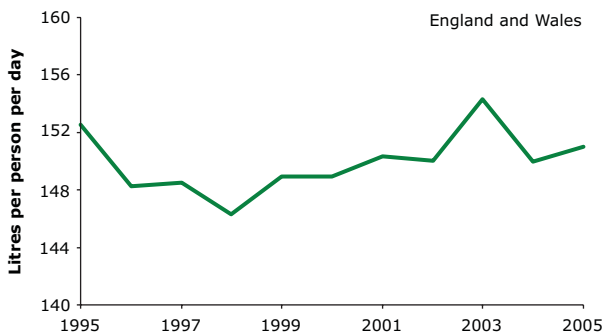
Source: EA, OFWAT, ONS

Abstractions	since: 1990	⚡	1999	✓
Leakage losses	since: 1992	✓	1999	✗

- In 2004 38 billion litres of water were abstracted per day from non-tidal surface and ground water sources in England and Wales. Although this is a decrease since 1971, abstraction had been lower during the 1970s and 1980s.
- In the mid-1990s abstractions increased in line with economic growth. The abstractions in 2003 and 2004 declined slightly and were similar to 1990 levels.
- Leakage losses increased in the early 1990s but by 2000/1 had decreased by 32 per cent compared with 1992. In 2005-6 leakage losses were 25 per cent lower than in 1992.

16. Domestic water consumption

Litres per person per day, 1995 to 2005



Source: OFWAT

Water consumption since: 1995 1999

- Household water consumption accounts for around two-thirds of water in the public supply (excluding leaks).
- Households consumed an average of 151 litres per person each day in 2005. Annual changes in consumption rates are largely owing to summer weather, and 2003 was particularly warm and dry. It is believed that there has been no clear underlying increase in per person consumption rates. (Data prior to 1995 are less reliable owing to early data collection systems and have been excluded.)

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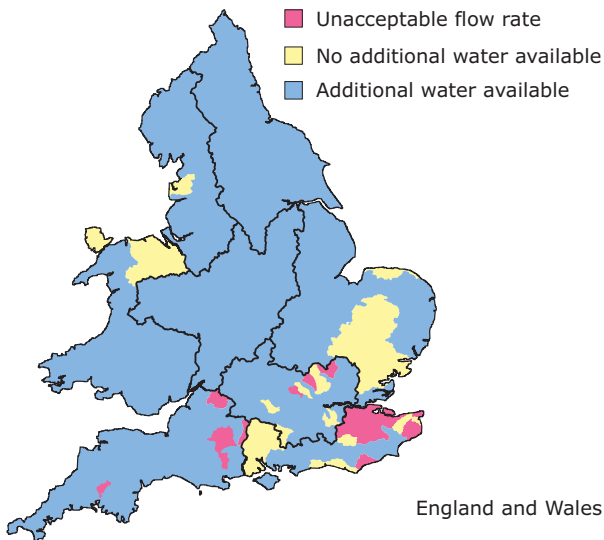
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17. Water stress

To be developed to monitor the impacts of water shortages

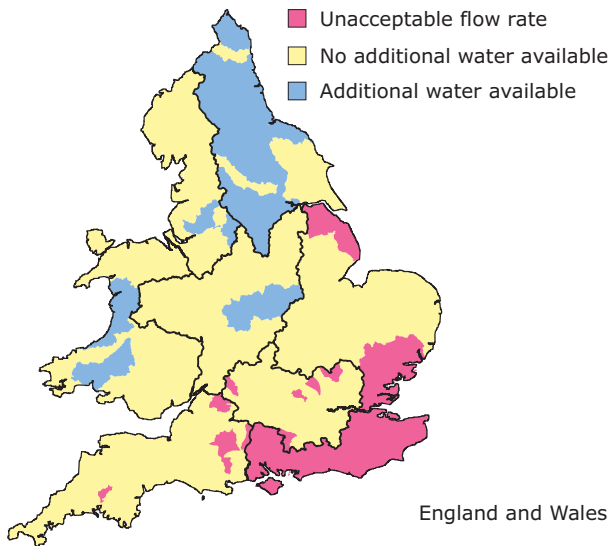
Assessments of water availability:

Winter surface water



- The UK is commonly perceived as wet, but the population density is high, and rainfall varies across the country. Therefore, for each person, there is relatively little water available, especially in the South East and some other urban areas.
- In the Thames region, annual abstractions of water for public supply, industry and agriculture typically use almost 60 per cent of the average annual renewable surface and ground water resources, compared with about 10 per cent in the North West.

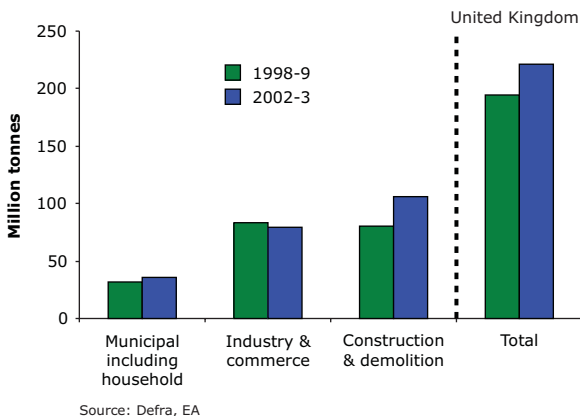
Assessments of water availability: Summer surface water



- Over-abstraction may damage rivers, wildlife and habitats
- The maps of assessments of water availability show that abstractions from surface water are already at their limit in the summer for much of England and Wales and also in the winter for parts of the South and East. The maps will be updated when new information from catchment studies is complete.

18. Waste

(a) arisings by sector, 1998-9 to 2002-3



Waste arisings

since: 1990

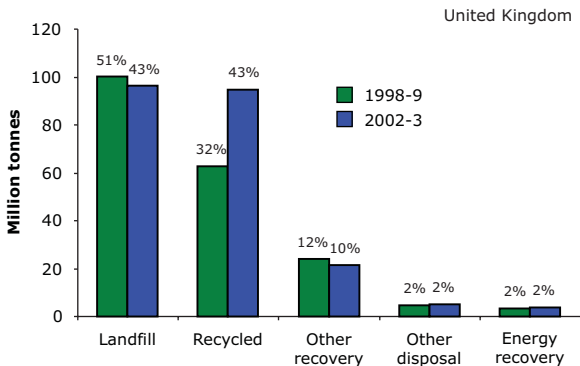


1999



- In 2002-3, around 220 million tonnes of waste were produced by households, commerce and industry (including construction and demolition). (This is estimated from waste survey data and the apparent increase in total arisings from 1998-9 to 2002-3 is not regarded as showing a clear increase.)
- In 2002-3, municipal waste (household and other waste collected by local authorities) made up about 16 per cent of total waste: industry and commerce accounted for a third, and construction and demolition made up about half.

(b) arisings by disposal, 1998-9 to 2002-3



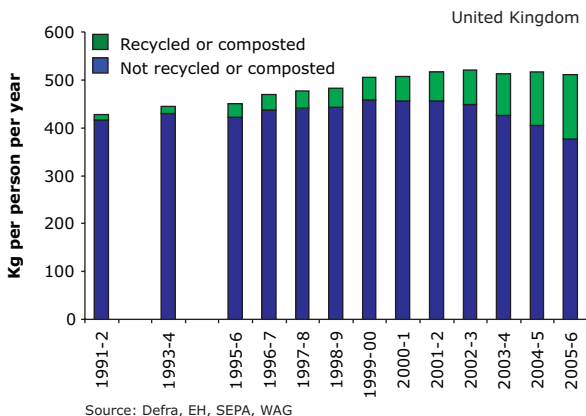
Note: Percentages show the percentage of the total waste for that year disposed of in this way

Source: Defra, EA, DCLG

- In 2002-3 43 per cent of the waste was disposed of in landfill sites, and the amount disposed of in this way did not change between the two years.

19. Household waste per person

(a) arisings (b) recycled or composted, 1991-2 to 2005-6



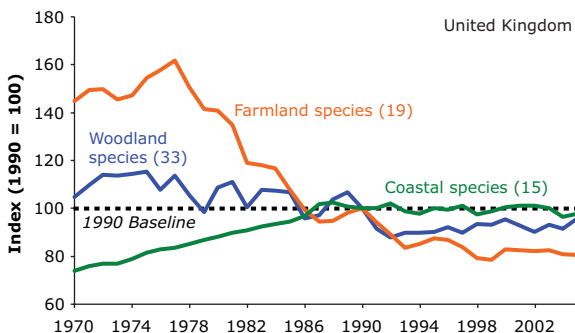
Waste arisings since: 1991-2  1999 

Recycled or composted since: 1991-2  1999 

- Between 1999-00 and 2005-6 household waste per person increased by only 1.2 per cent, with each person generating half a tonne on average.
- The amount of waste recycled or composted has increased, and accounted for 27 per cent of household waste in 2005-6.
- There has been a year on year decrease in the amount of non-recycled waste per person over the last four years. It is now at the lowest level since estimates were first made in 1983-4 – most of this goes to landfill.

20. Bird Populations

Bird population indices: (a) farmland birds
(b) woodland birds (c) coastal birds, 1970 to 2005



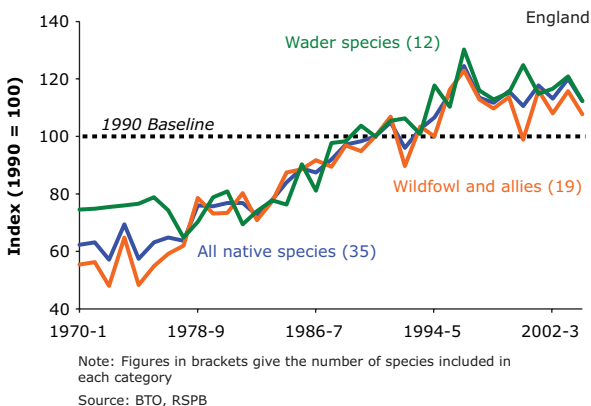
Note: Figures in brackets give the number of species included in each category

Source: BTO, Defra, RSPB

Farmland birds	since: 1990	⊗	1999	≈
Woodland birds	since: 1990	≈	1999	≈
Coastal birds	since: 1990	≈	1999	≈

- Farmland bird populations fell by 42 per cent between 1970 and 1993, but remained fairly stable thereafter.
- Woodland bird populations in 2005 were about 20 per cent lower than the peak of the early 1970s but remained fairly stable from 1991.
- The UK's breeding coastal bird populations are of international importance. Populations increased between 1970 and 1987 by 37 per cent and have remained stable since then.

Bird population indices: (d) wintering wetland birds, 1970-1 to 2004-5

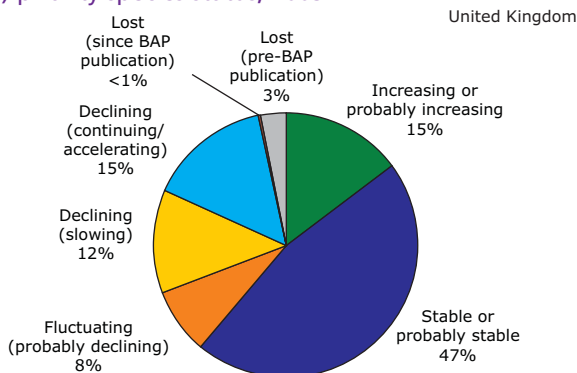


Wintering wetland birds since: 1990  1999 

- The UK is internationally important for wintering wetland birds. Within England, between 1970-1 and 1996-7, wading bird populations increased by 75 per cent and waterfowl by 122 per cent. The overall wetland birds index increased by 100 per cent.
- Although the index fell by 12 per cent between 1996-7 and 2004-5, it was 12 per cent higher than in 1990.

21. Biodiversity conservation

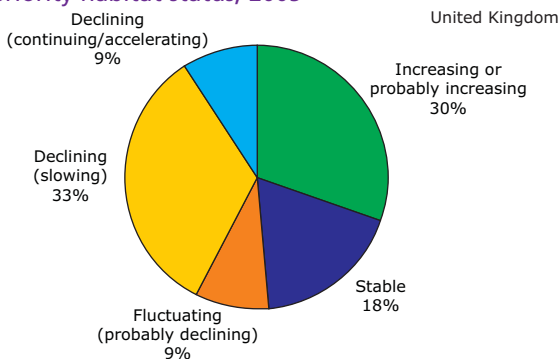
(a) priority species status, 2005



Based on 288 species and 1 species-group for which the status was known in 2005. 93 species and 9 species-groups are not included, of which the status of 56 is unknown, a further 38 species show no clear trend and 8 are no longer classified as true species.

Source: JNCC, Natural England

(b) priority habitat status, 2005



Based on 33 habitats for which the status was known in 2005.

12 habitats are not included, of which the status of 11 is unknown and the status of 1 shows no clear trend.

The total includes habitats assessed as fluctuating for ease of comparison with other Defra publications.

Source: JNCC, Natural England

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Species and habitat status since: 2002

- UK priority species and habitats are those that have been identified as being most threatened. Biodiversity Action Plans have been put in place to establish the factors for their decline and the work necessary for recovery.
- There were 288 assessed species for which the status was known in 2005 (as shown) and 176 (62 per cent) were assessed as stable or increasing. There were 33 assessed habitats for which the status was known in 2005 (as shown) and 16 (48 per cent) were assessed as stable or increasing.
- For 189 species (including 1 species-group) and 16 habitats the status was known in both 2002 and 2005 (not shown separately). Of the 189 species, 81 (43 per cent) were declining or lost in 2005 compared with 95 species (50 per cent) in 2002. Of the 16 habitats, 8 were declining or lost in both 2005 and 2002.
- Based on the comparison of species and habitats status in 2002 and 2005 there has been a reduction in the number of species lost or declining and little change for habitats. On this basis the assessment is that there has been a clear improvement. However the way trends in this indicator are assessed will be kept under review.

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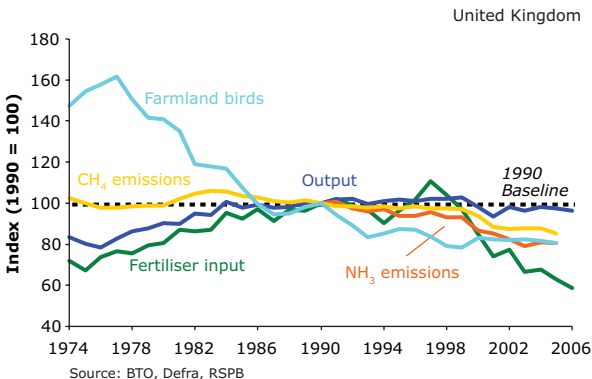
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22. Agriculture sector

Fertiliser input, farmland bird population, and ammonia and methane emissions and output, 1974 to 2006

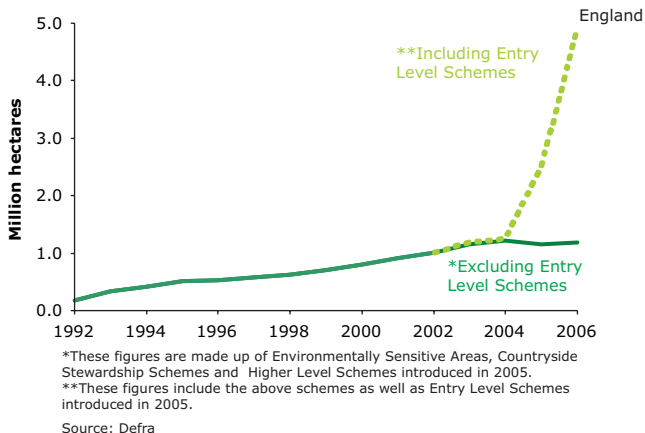


Fertiliser, NH ₃ , CH ₄	since: 1990	✓	1999	✓
Farmland birds	since: 1990	✗	1999	≈

- Between 1990 and 2006 output from UK agriculture changed little, but in 2006 it was 17 per cent higher than in the mid-1970s. By 1997 fertiliser use had risen by over half compared with the mid-1970s but thereafter was considerably reduced. Methane (CH₄) and ammonia (NH₃) emissions have fallen – by 14 and 19 per cent respectively since 1990.
- In 2005 farmland bird populations were 19 per cent lower than in 1990, and were 45 per cent lower than in the mid-1970s.

23. Farming and environmental stewardship

Land covered by environmental schemes, 1992 to 2006



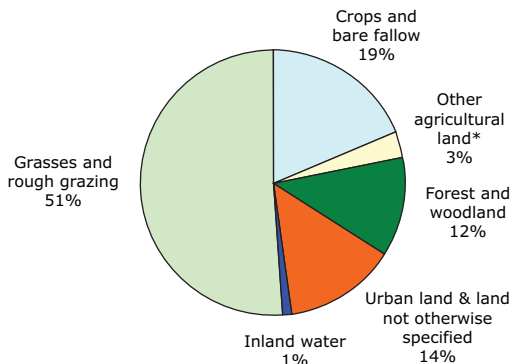
Stewardship schemes since: 1992 ✓ 1999 ✓

- Environmental schemes require farmers to demonstrate good environmental practice.
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas and Countryside Stewardship Schemes have been replaced by Environmental Stewardship. These schemes plus the Higher Level component of Environmental Stewardship currently cover 1.2 million hectares.
- In addition, an Entry Level component of Environmental Stewardship has been introduced. These schemes require implementation of simple and effective environmental farm management and cover 4 million hectares.
- Since 1999 the area of land covered by environmental schemes has increased by almost 70 per cent excluding Entry Level Schemes, and increased seven-fold if these schemes are taken into account.

24. Land use

Area covered by agriculture, woodland, water or river, urban, 2005

United Kingdom



*Set aside and other land on agricultural holdings. Excludes woodland.

Source: Defra, Ordnance Survey, Forestry Commission, Forest Service

Contextual indicator

- In 2005, 51 per cent of land in the UK was either grass or rough grazing, and 19 per cent of land was covered by crops or left as bare fallow. Other forms of agriculture accounted for 3 per cent of land.
- Twelve per cent of UK land area was forest and woodland whilst 14 per cent of land area was urban land or 'land not otherwise specified'. Inland water covered 1 per cent of UK land area.

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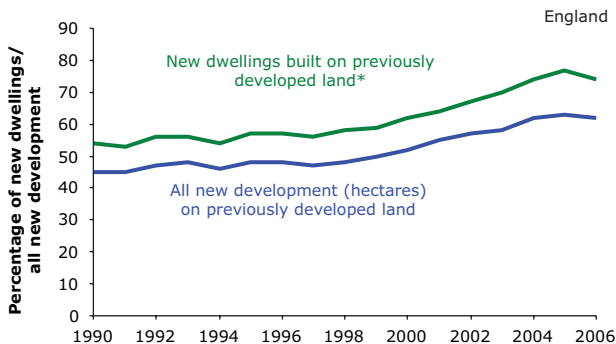
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25. Land recycling

(a) new dwellings built on previously developed land or through conversions (b) all new development on previously developed land, 1990 to 2006



*Includes conversions. Up to 2002 the conversion of existing buildings was estimated to add three percentage points, from 2003 the process of estimation has been refined.

Source: DCLG

Land recycling

since: 1990



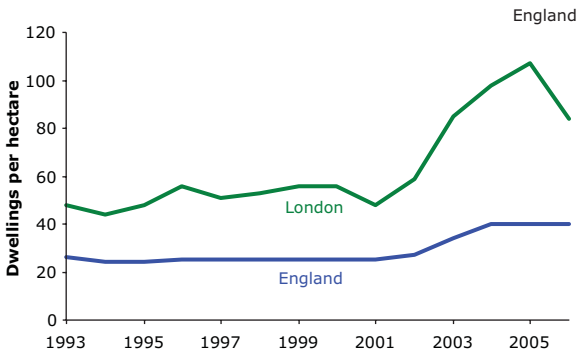
1999



- The percentage of new dwellings arising from building on previously developed land or through the conversion of existing buildings increased from 54 per cent in 1990 to 74 per cent in 2006 (provisional estimate).
- The percentage of all new development (not just residential) occurring on previously developed land (measured by land area) also increased: from 45 per cent in 1990 to 62 per cent in 2006.

26. Dwelling density

Average density of new housing, 1993 to 2006



Note: 2006 data are provisional.

Source: DCLG

New dwelling density

since 1993



1999



- The density of newly built dwellings in England remained fairly constant between 1993 and 2001, at an average of 25 new dwellings per hectare. Recently, however, density has increased and in 2006 the figure was 40 new dwellings per hectare (provisional estimate).
- For London, dwelling density rose from 48 new dwellings per hectare in 1993 to 56 in 2000. After a drop in 2001, density rose to 84 new dwellings per hectare in 2006 (provisional estimate), although this is a drop from 107 dwellings per hectare in 2005.

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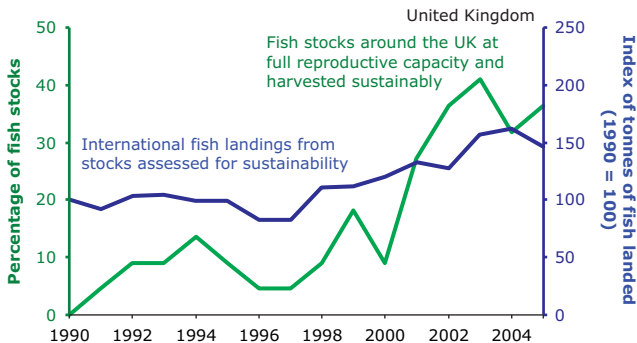
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27. Fish Stocks

Sustainability of fish stocks around the UK 1998 to 2005



Notes: Based on results for 22 stocks.

Stock figures relate to finfish stocks only and are derived from ICES ACFM stock assessment reports.

Source: ICES, CEFAS

Fish stocks

harvested sustainably

since 1990



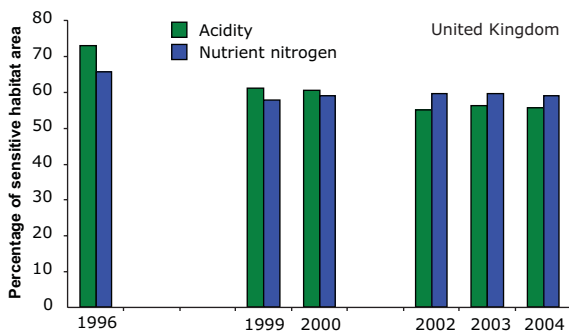
1999



- During the 1990s the percentage of fish stocks considered to be harvested sustainably was no more than 20 per cent. By 2000 this was 10 per cent, but has increased to 35 per cent in 2005.
- Despite such increases, these trends show that around 70 to 75 per cent of fish stocks in seas around the UK have suffered reduced reproductive capacity and have been harvested unsustainably each year since 2001.
- Between 1990 and 2005 landings from the 22 UK fish stocks rose by 46 per cent to 3.6 million tonnes.

28. Ecological impacts of air pollution

Area of sensitive UK habitats exceeding critical loads for acidification and eutrophication, 1996 to 2004



Notes: Since 2000 inclusion of nitric acid deposition increases the area of critical load exceedence compared with earlier periods; 3-year average deposition is used to reduce substantial year to year variability.

Source: Centre for Ecology and Hydrology

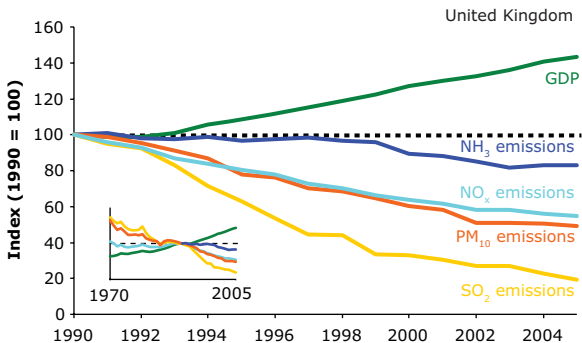
Area affected by acidity since: 1990 (⋯) 1999 (✓)

Area affected by nitrogen since: 1990 (⋯) 1999 (≈)

- Critical loads are thresholds above which the deposition of pollutants causing acidification and eutrophication (e.g. excessive freshwater algae growth due to nitrogen) causes significant harm to the environment. The pollutants come mainly from burning fossil fuels and waste from farm animals. Around a third of UK land area is sensitive to acid deposition, and a third to eutrophication (with some sensitive to both).
- In 1996, the percentage of sensitive habitat area where acid deposited exceeded critical loads was 73 per cent. Between 2000 and 2004 this declined from 60 to 56 per cent.
- The percentage of sensitive habitat area subject to critical loads of nitrogen pollution remained at 59 per cent between 2000 and 2004, down from 66 per cent in 1996.

29. Emissions of air pollutants

NH_3 , NO_x , PM_{10} and SO_2 emissions and GDP, 1990 to 2005

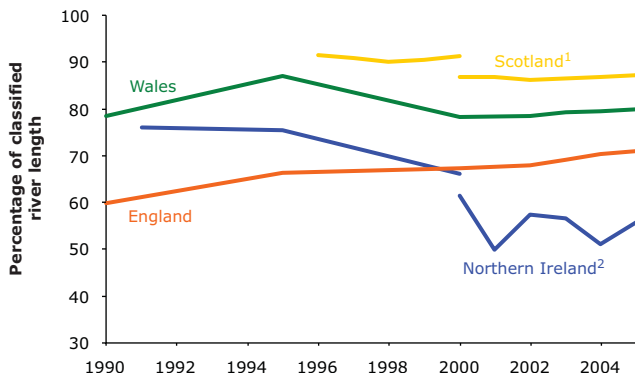


NH_3 , NO_x , PM_{10} , SO_2 since: 1990 ✓ 1999 ✓

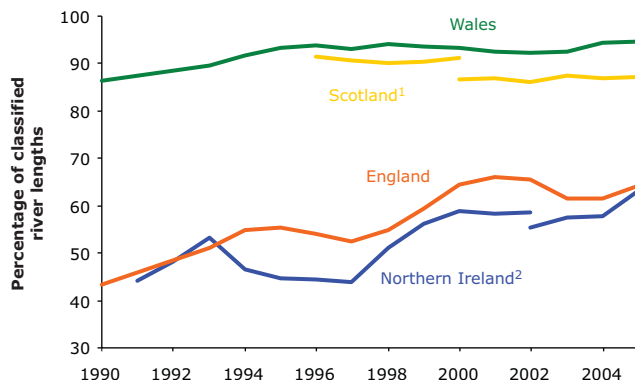
- Between 1990 and 2005 emissions of air pollutants were reduced: ammonia (NH_3) by 17 per cent, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) by 45 per cent, particulates (PM_{10}) by 51 per cent and sulphur dioxide (SO_2) by 81 per cent.
- The reduction in these pollutants occurred at the same time as the economy (Gross Domestic Product) grew by 44 per cent.

30. River quality

(a) Rivers of good biological quality, 1990 to 2005



(b) Rivers of good chemical quality, 1990 to 2005



1. Scottish river classification is based on a combined chemical, biological and aesthetic assessment and is not directly comparable with other countries. The Scottish classification network changed in 2000.
2. Northern Ireland classified network significantly expanded in 2002. 2002 figures are shown for both expanded in 2002. 2002 figures are shown for both the new and the old basis.

Source: EA, SEPA, EHS

Biological and
chemical quality

since: 1990



1999



- Between 1990 and 2005 the percentage of rivers of good biological quality in England rose from 60 to 71 per cent. In 2005, 56 per cent of rivers in Northern Ireland and 80 per cent of rivers in Wales were of good biological quality.
- In 2005, 64 per cent of English rivers were of good chemical quality, compared with 43 per cent in 1990. In Northern Ireland 63 per cent of rivers were of good chemical quality in 2005 compared with 44 per cent in 1991. In all years since 1993 over 90 per cent of rivers in Wales have been of good chemical quality.
- In Scotland, the percentage of rivers of good quality has remained stable at around 87 per cent between 2000 and 2005, based on a combined chemical, biological and aesthetic assessment.
- The traffic light assessments above are based on the biological and chemical quality of rivers in England and Wales only. It is not possible to produce aggregate UK measures.
- This indicator will in due course be changed to reflect assessments of ecological status as required by the EU Water Framework Directive.

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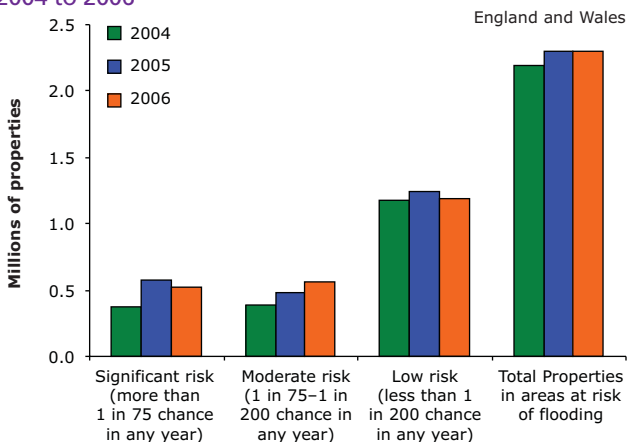
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31. Flooding

Number of properties in areas at risk of flooding, 2004 to 2006



Source: EA, Defra

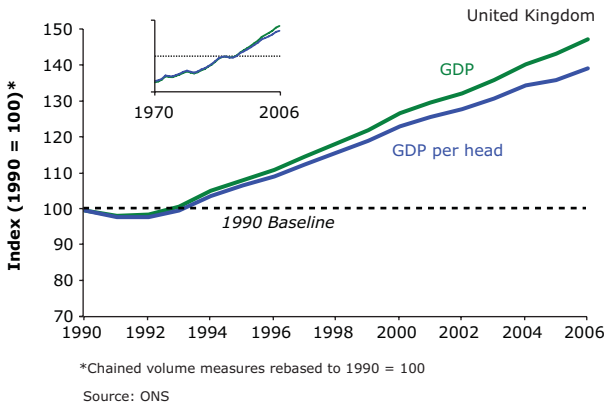
Properties at risk of flooding

since: 1990 ... 1999 ...

- In England and Wales an estimated 2.3million properties (9 per cent of all properties) lie in areas at risk of flooding in 2006. Of these, just over 500,000 are in areas where the risk of flooding is greater than a 1 in 75 chance in any year.
- Risks are the likelihood of flooding occurring given existing flood defences and do not reflect the extent to which flooding may be serious enough to cause damage.
- To compile this indicator the Environment Agency used a new National Property dataset based on the extent of properties in 2005. It does not therefore take account of properties built after 2004.

32. Economic growth

Gross Domestic Product, 1990 to 2006



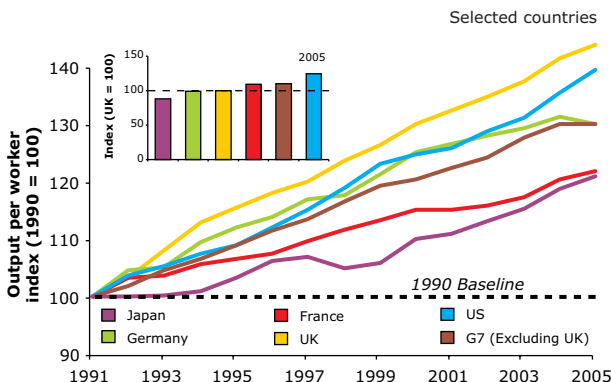
Contextual indicator

Economic growth since: 1990 1999

- Between 1990 and 2006, GDP grew in real terms by 48 per cent. GDP increased steadily from the early 1990s, with a 21 per cent rise between 1999 and 2006.
- GDP per head increased by 40 per cent between 1990 and 2006 and 17 per cent from 1999 to 2006.

33. Productivity

International comparisons of productivity growth, 1991 to 2005



These comparisons are based on GDP per worker.

Source: ONS. To be published in the August 2007 edition of the ONS publication 'Economic and Labour Market Review'.

Bar chart data are from ONS ICP First Release (February 2007).

Contextual indicator

Output per worker

since: 1991



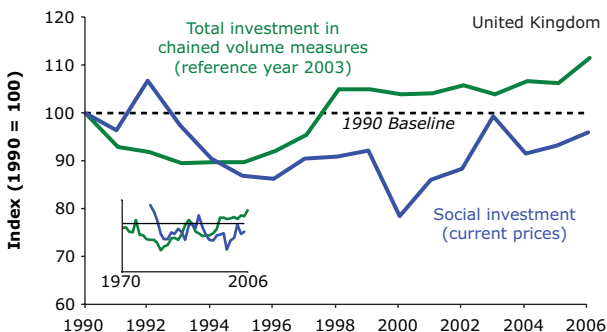
1999



- UK output per worker has risen steadily and in 2005 was 35 per cent higher than in 1991. During the same period labour productivity in other G7 countries increased on average by 23 per cent. Over this period, the UK experienced productivity growth similar to the US and greater than all other selected countries.
- In 2005 GDP per worker in the UK was lower than in France and the US (by 25 per cent and 9 per cent respectively), similar to Germany and 12 per cent higher than in Japan.

34. Investment

(a) Total investment (b) social investment relative to GDP, 1990 to 2006



Source: ONS

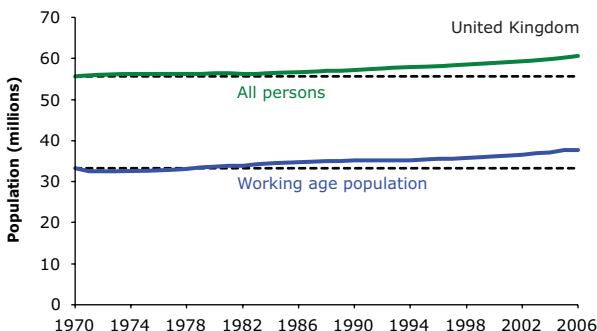
Contextual indicator

Total investment	since: 1990	✓	1999	✓
Social investment	since: 1990	...	1999	...

- Total investment relative to GDP grew by 9 per cent in real terms between 1990 and 1998, and has since remained relatively stable until 2006 when it rose to a 15 per cent increase on 1990 levels.
- In 2006 social investment, defined here as government investment in new buildings, vehicles and other capital expenditure for the health sector, schools, higher education, water, sewerage, rail and buses, was 1.6 per cent of GDP at current prices.
- An increasing proportion of social investment now comes from the private sector. This makes the current indicator difficult to assess. A more meaningful measure will be developed.

35. Demography

Population and population of working age, 1970 to 2006



Source: GAD, ONS

Contextual indicator

- The overall population of the UK is projected to be 60.5 million in 2006, up from 55.6 million in 1970 and 57.2 million in 1990.
- The working age population of the UK is projected to be 37.6 million in 2006, up from 35.1 million in 1990 and 32.5 million in 1972 (the current definition of working age was introduced in this year).
- In 2006, 62 per cent of the total population is projected to be of working age. The corresponding figures for 1972 and 1990 were 58 and 61 per cent respectively.

SCP

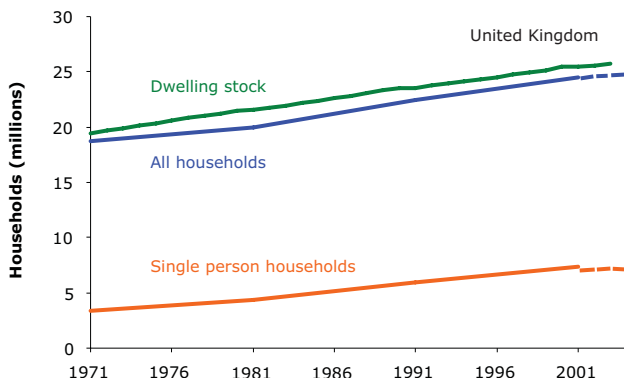
CCE

NRP

CSC

36. Households and dwellings

Households, single person households and dwelling stock, 1971 to 2004



Note: Household numbers from 2001 are from the Labour Force Survey

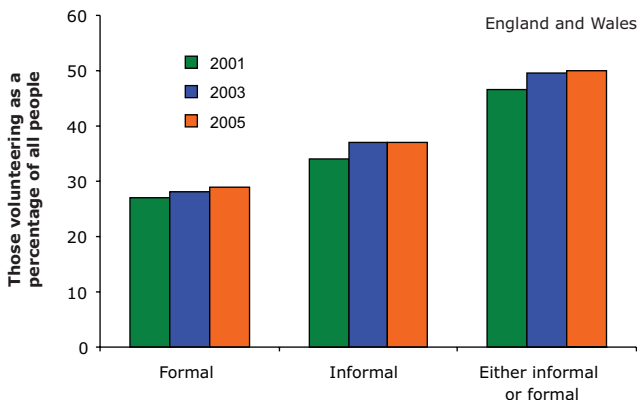
Source: DCLG, ONS, GROS, NICB

Contextual indicator

- The number of UK households increased by 5.7 million between 1971 and 2001, from 18.7 to 24.5 million. Almost 70 per cent of the increase was due to an increase in the number of single person households, from 3.4 million in 1971 (18 per cent of households) to 7.4 million in 2001 (30 per cent of households).
- In 1971 there were about 700,000 more dwellings than households, rising to one million by 2001.

37. Active community participation

Informal and formal volunteering at least once a month in the last 12 months, 2001 to 2005



Active community participation

since: 1990



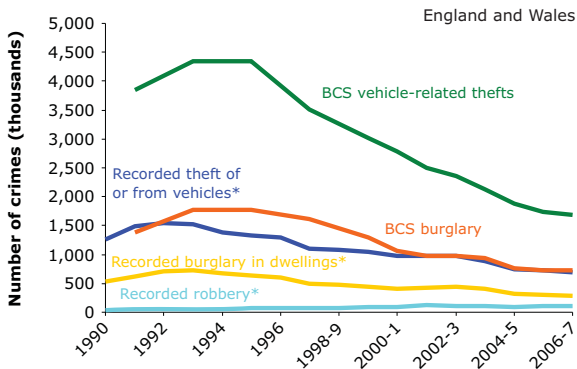
2001



- In 2005, 29 per cent of people volunteered *formally* at least monthly (giving unpaid help through groups, clubs, organisations, to benefit other people or the environment), an increase of 2 percentage points from 2001. In Scotland (not shown) 23 per cent of people *formally* gave up time to help as an organiser or volunteer in the past year.
- Thirty-seven per cent of people volunteered *informally* (giving unpaid help as an individual to people who are not relatives), an increase of 3 percentage points from 2001. Overall 50 per cent of people were regular formal or informal volunteers in 2005. Sixty-eight per cent of people had volunteered informally at least once per year (not shown) changing little since 2001.

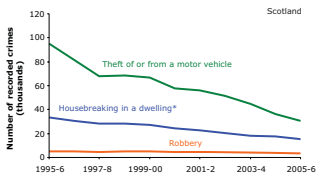
38. Crime

Crime survey and recorded crime for (a) vehicles (b) domestic burglary (c) robbery, 1990 to 2006-7



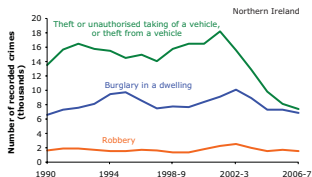
*The coverage and rules for recording crimes were changed in 1998 and a new National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002

Source: Home Office



Notes: *This is the Scottish crime category most equivalent to burglary in a dwelling. The Scottish Crime Recording Standard was introduced with effect from April 2004

Source: Scottish Executive



Notes: The coverage and rules for recording crimes were changed in 1998 and a new National Crime Recording Standard was introduced in April 2002

Source: PSNI

Vehicles and burglary

since: 1990



1999



Robbery

since: 1990



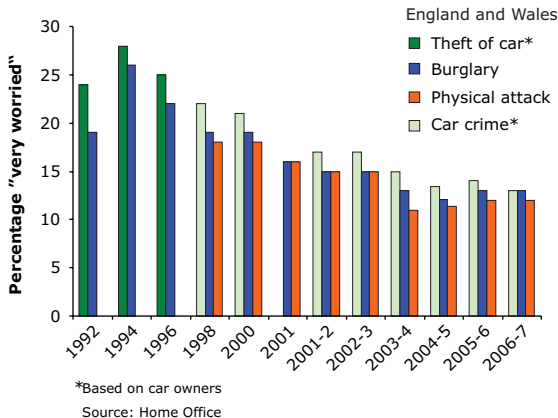
1999



- In England and Wales, from the British Crime Survey (BCS), vehicle thefts fell by 56 per cent and burglary fell by 47 per cent between 1991 and 2006-7. Of the crimes recorded by the police, vehicle crime fell by 46 per cent, and burglary in dwellings fell by 45 per cent between 1990 and 2006-7.
- The number of robberies recorded by the police increased from 36,195 in 1990 to 84,277 in 1999-2000 and 121,359 in 2001-2. There were then year on year declines until 2004-5, when 90,747 robberies were recorded. However, in 2005-6, and 2006-7 there were increases and the figure now stands at 103,370 recorded robberies. However, trends have been influenced by counting rule changes in 1998 and, from 2002, the introduction of the National Crime Recording Standard and the inclusion of British Transport Police figures, all of which have tended to increase the number of crimes recorded.
- Recorded burglary increased in Northern Ireland between 1990 and 2006-7 by 4 per cent (from 1995 burglary included attempted burglary). Recorded vehicle theft and robbery in Northern Ireland decreased by 45 and 3 per cent respectively over this period.
- Differences in legal systems and police recording mean that the recorded crime figures for Scotland are not directly comparable with recorded crime figures for England and Wales. In Scotland, recorded vehicle theft decreased by 68 per cent and recorded robbery by 34 per cent between 1995-6 and 2005-6. Recorded house-breaking in a dwelling fell by 54 per cent between 1995-6 and 2005-6.

39. Fear of crime

(a) car theft (b) burglary (c) physical attack, 1992 to 2006-7



Fear of crime

since: 1992

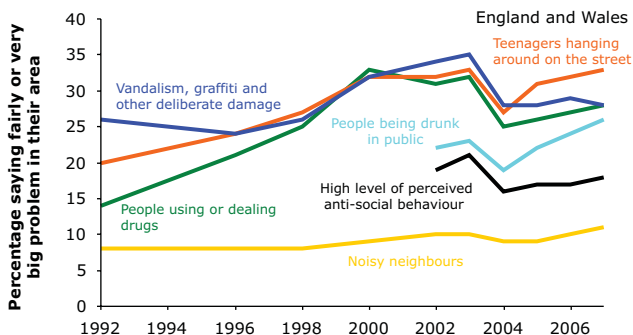


1999



- Fear of crime has fallen over time. The percentage of people saying that they were "very worried" about car crime fell from 22 per cent in 1998 to 13 per cent in 2006-7, and those "very worried" about burglary fell from 26 per cent in 1994 to 13 per cent. In 2006-7, 12 per cent of people were "very worried" about physical attack, down from 18 per cent in 1998.
- Fear of all three types of crime have fallen for both men and women, although a higher proportion of women were worried about these crimes than men.

Perceptions of anti-social behaviour, 1992 to 2007



Notes: The overall measure, high level of perceived anti-social behaviour, is a composite of the other individual measures shown, and two others – burnt out vehicles and litter lying around

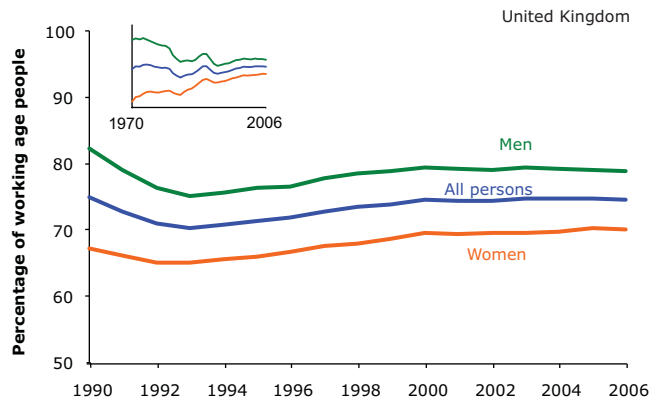
Source: Home Office

- Between 2002 and 2007 the overall percentage of people perceiving anti-social behaviour to be a fairly or very big problem in their area changed little, from 19 to 18 per cent.
- Perceptions of drug taking being a fairly or very big problem rose between 1992 to 2000 from 14 to 33 per cent but has since fallen and in 2007 was 28 per cent. Similarly, perceptions of teenagers hanging around on streets being a fairly or very big problem rose between 1992 and 2000 from 20 to 32 per cent but has since remained relatively stable.

*Contextual wellbeing measure – see indicator 68 on page 111 for more details.

40. Employment

People of working age in employment, 1990 to 2006



Note: Rate as in May-July quarter each year

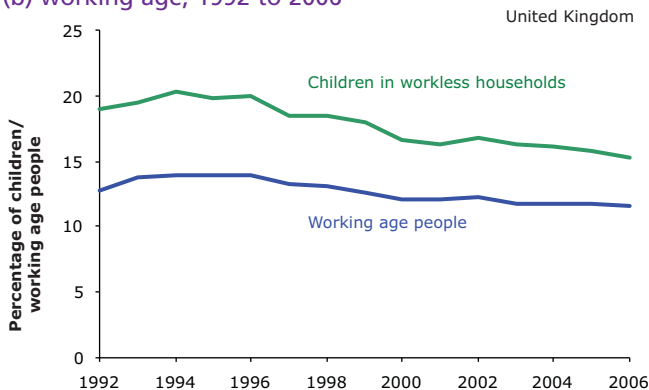
Source: ONS

Employment rate since 1990  1999 

- In 2006, the percentage of working age people in work was 74.6 per cent, almost the same level as in 1990, and just slightly higher than in 1999, when it was 73.9 per cent.
- There was a reduction in the percentage of working age men in employment between 1970 and 1993, from 90.7 to 75.1 per cent. The percentage has increased a little subsequently and was 78.8 per cent in 2006.
- Between 1970 and 2006, the percentage of women in employment rose steadily, from 53.5 to 70.1 per cent.

41. Workless households

Population living in workless households (a) children (b) working age, 1992 to 2006



Note: Percentage as in March-May quarter each year

Source: ONS

Workless households since: 1992 ✓ 1999 ✓

- The percentage of working-age people who live in households where no-one works has fallen gradually since the mid 1990s, and was 11.5 per cent in 2006.
- The percentage of children living in working age households where no-one works has fallen in a similar way, from 20.3 per cent in 1994 to 15.3 per cent in 2006.

SCP

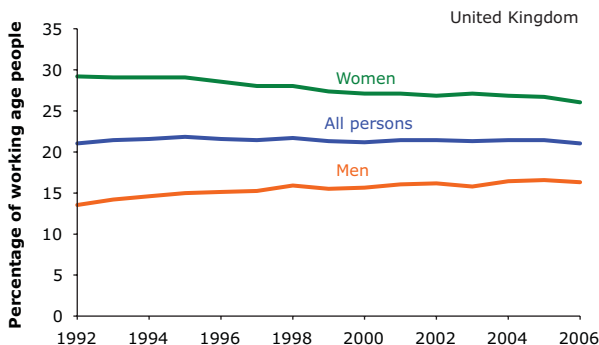
CCE

NRP

CSC

42. Economically inactive

Percentage of people of working age who are economically inactive, 1992 to 2006



Notes: Percentage as in Apr-Jun quarter each year. The 2006 edition used Mar-May quarters but changes to ONS reporting means all Labour Force Survey series are now on a calendar quarter basis

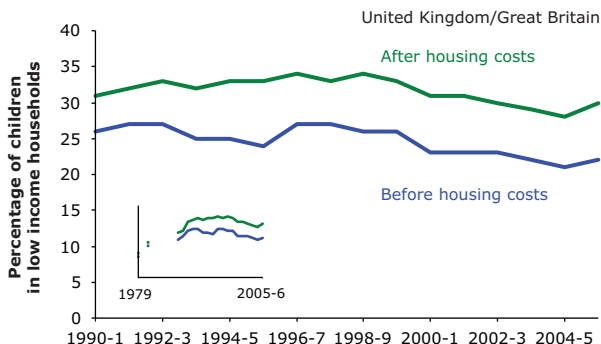
Source: ONS

Economically inactive since: 1992 1999

- People who are economically inactive (neither employed nor actively seeking work) have represented between 21 and 22 per cent of the working age population since 1992.
- 7.8 million people were economically inactive in 2005, up from 7.3 million in 1992. Of these 7.8 million, 40 per cent were male and 60 per cent female.
- The percentage of men economically inactive rose from 13.5 per cent to 16.3 per cent. The percentage for women fell from 29.2 per cent to 26.0 per cent.

43. Childhood poverty

Children in relative low-income households (a) before housing costs (b) after housing costs, 1990-1 to 2005-6



Notes: Based on 60 per cent of median income relative income thresholds. Data prior to 1994-5 are from the Family Expenditure Survey for the UK. Data from 1994-5 are from the Family Resources Survey for Great Britain

Source: DWP

Childhood poverty

since: 1990



1999



- In 2005-6 22 per cent of children were living in households with relative low-incomes before taking housing costs into account, down from 27 per cent in 1996-7.
- After additionally taking housing costs into account, 30 per cent of children were regarded as living in households with relative low incomes, down from 34 per cent in 1996-7.

SCP

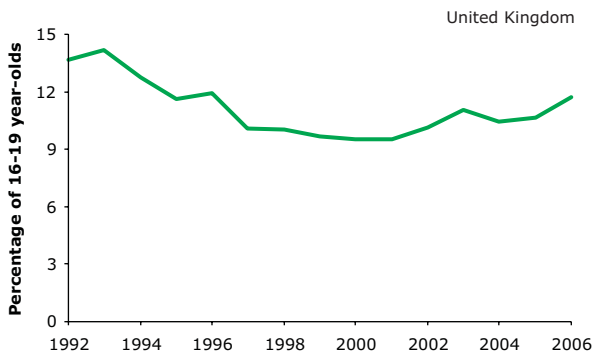
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44. Young adults

16–19 year-olds not in employment, education or training, 1992 to 2006



Note: Percentage as in March-May quarter each year

Source: ONS

Not in employment,
education, or training

since: 1992



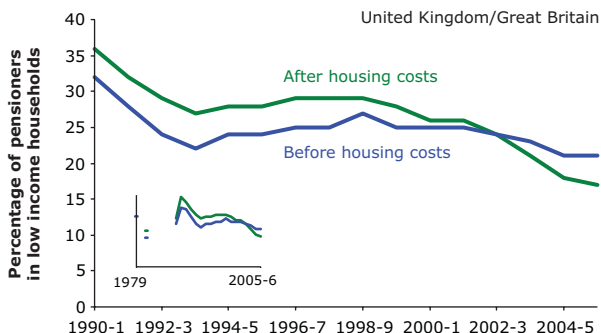
1999



- The percentage of 16-19 year olds not in employment, education or training decreased from 13.7 per cent in 1992 to 9.5 per cent in 2000 and 2001.
- Recently, however, the proportion has increased and in 2006 was 11.7 per cent.

45. Pensioner poverty

Pensioners in relative low-income households (a) before housing costs (b) after housing costs, 1990-1 to 2005-6



Notes: Based on 60 per cent of median income relative income thresholds. Data prior to 1994-5 are from the Family Expenditure Survey for the UK. Data from 1994-5 are from the Family Resources Survey for Great Britain

Source: DWP

Pensioner poverty

since: 1990



1999



- In 2005-6 21 per cent of pensioners were living in households with relative low-incomes before taking housing costs into account, down from 32 per cent in 1990-1.
- After additionally taking housing costs into account, 17 per cent of pensioners were living in households with relative low incomes, down from 37 per cent in 1990-1.

SCP

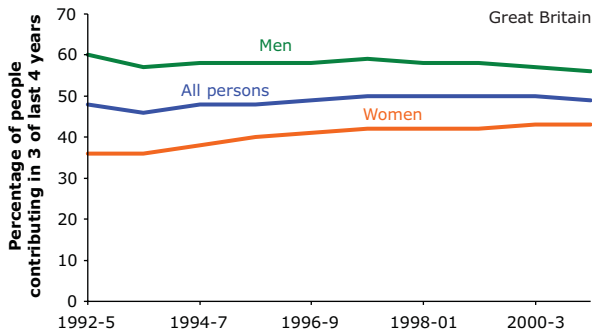
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NRP

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46. Pension provision

Proportion of working age people contributing to a non-state pension in at least three years out of the last four, 1992-5 to 2001-4



Source: DWP

People contributing to a non-state pension

since: 1992



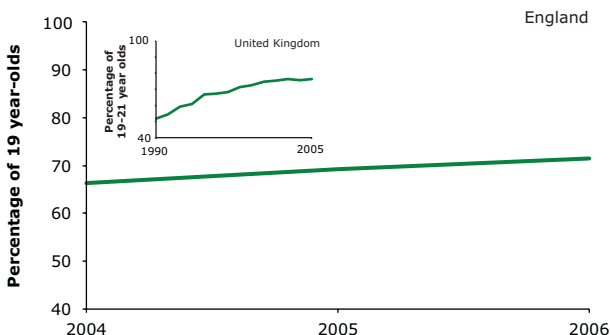
1999



- In 2001-4, 49 per cent of all working age people in Great Britain had contributed to a non-state pension in at least three years out of the last four. This figure has remained fairly constant over the past decade.
- The proportion of men contributing to a pension has remained fairly stable over this period and was 56 per cent in 2001-4. For women the proportion increased from 36 per cent in 1992-5 to 43 per cent in 2001-4.

47. Education

19 year-olds with level 2 qualifications and above, 1990 to 2006



Note: The methodology used changed in 2004. Therefore data from 2004 are not comparable with previous years. The new methodology gives consistently lower figures as the criteria for level 2 qualifications are stricter than previously, and figures relate to 19-year-olds rather than 19-21-year-olds

Source: ONS, DCSF

Percentage with

Level 2 qualifications

since: 1990



2004



- Level 2 qualification refers to achievement of 5 GCSEs A* to C, NVQ2 or equivalent.
- The method of data collection for this indicator changed in 2004, therefore data for 2004 and later are not directly comparable with previous years.
- In 1990 52 per cent of 19-21 year olds in UK had achieved Level 2 qualifications. In 2006 the figure for 19 year olds in England was 71 per cent, indicating an increase generally.
- Between 2004 and 2006 the percentage of 19 year olds attaining Level 2 qualifications increased from 66 per cent to 71 per cent.

SCP

CCE

NRP

CSC

48. Sustainable development education

Indicator to be developed

- The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), working with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, is aiming to launch an indicator of learners' capability to contribute to a sustainable society. DCSF consulted with the Sustainable Development Commission and other stakeholders to determine how this indicator should be defined and established.
- It is envisaged that the indicator will measure the degree to which schools (and potentially other places of learning) are successful at developing learners' skills, knowledge and values and will be informed by the results of an Ofsted preliminary survey on Sustainable Development in schools which will be available in late 2007.

SCP

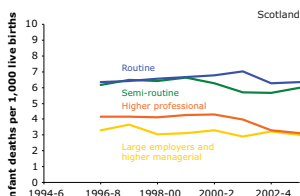
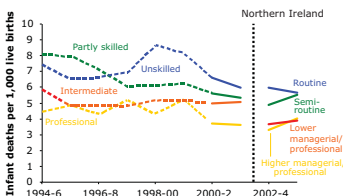
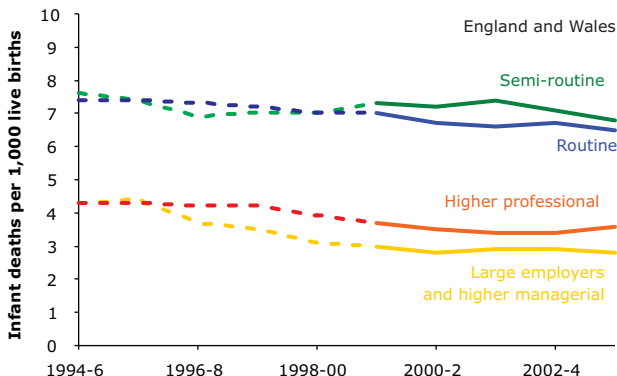
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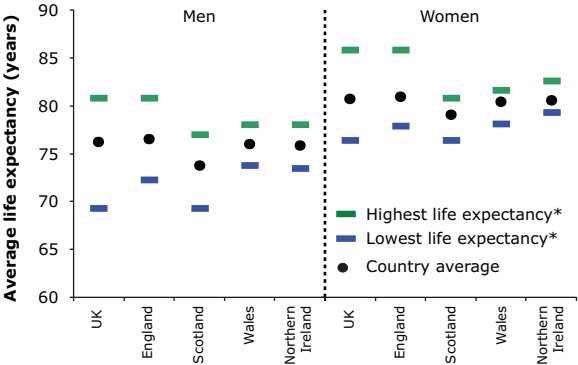
CSC

49. Health inequality

(a) Infant mortality: differences between socio-economic groups, 1994-6 to 2003-5



(b) Life expectancy: differences in average life expectancy between local authority areas, 2003-5



*Highest and lowest average amongst Local Authority Districts

Source: ONS

Infant mortality differences

since: 1994



1999



Life expectancy differences

since: 1991



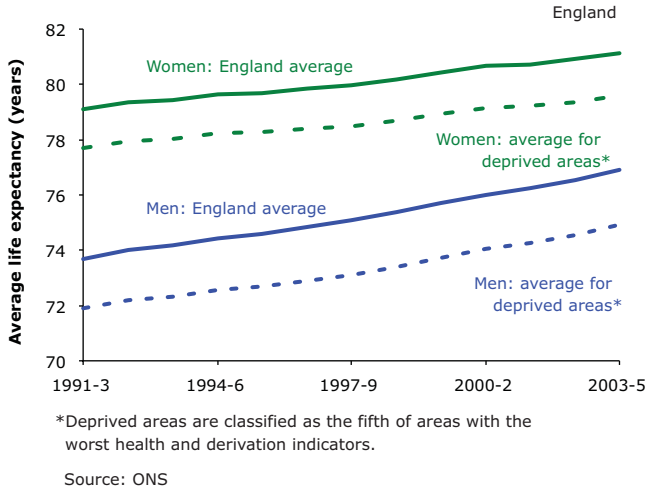
1999



- Although infant mortality rates have fallen for all socio-economic groups in England and Wales, the difference between those socio-economic groups with the lowest and highest rates has widened. In England and Wales in 1994-6, there were 3.3 more infant deaths per 1,000 live births for those in 'semi-routine' occupations than for those who were large employers or higher managerial. In 2003-5 the difference was 4 infant deaths per 1000 live births, although the difference had narrowed slightly since the previous year.

- In Scotland, overall infant mortality rates have declined slightly since 1996-8. However, the difference between socio-economic groups with the highest and lowest rates has not changed. In 2003-5 there were 3 more infant deaths per 1,000 live births for those in routine occupations compared with large employers or higher managerial, the same as in 1996-98.
- In Northern Ireland the overall infant mortality rate fell between 1994-6 and 2003-5. During this period, the difference narrowed between those with the highest rate, in routine occupations, and those with the lowest, in higher managerial or professional occupations.
- Average life expectancy can be estimated for each local authority area. Comparing across the UK, overall average life expectancies in England, Wales and Northern Ireland are broadly similar, but the average is lower in Scotland.
- Although overall average life expectancy has increased (see Healthy life expectancy on page 83), the differences in average expected years of life between local authorities with the highest and lowest averages have widened.
- In 1991-3 (not shown) the difference in average life expectancy for men between local authority areas in the UK with the highest and lowest average life expectancy was 9.7 years. This widened to 12.3 years in 2003-5. For women the difference was 7.5 years in 1991-3 and widened to 9.5 years in 2003-2005.

(c) Life expectancy: differences in average life expectancy between deprived areas in England and the national average, 1991-3 to 2003-5

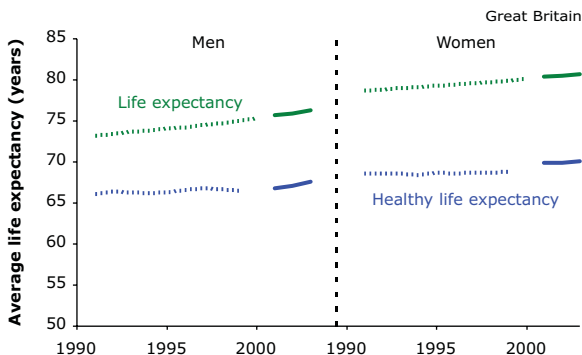


Contextual indicator

- In 2003-5, in comparison with average life expectancy in England, life expectancy in areas with the worst health and deprivation was 2.0 fewer years for men, and 1.6 fewer years for women.
- The gap between life expectancy in men and women is greater in areas with the worst health and deprivation; in 2003-5 it was 4.7 years compared with the England average of 4.2 years.

50. Healthy life expectancy

Healthy life expectancy (a) men and (b) women, 1991 to 2003



Note: Healthy life expectancy estimates not available for 1996, 1998 and 2000. The methodology was revised in 2001

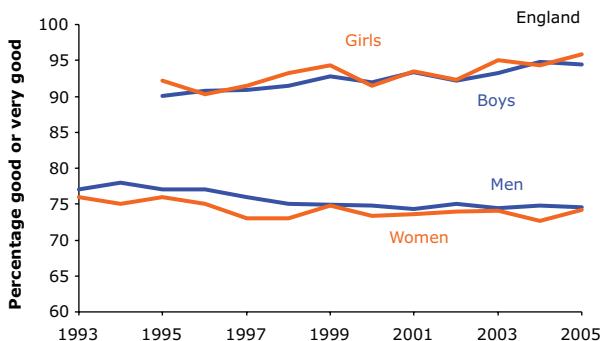
Source: ONS

Healthy life expectancy since: 1991 ≈ 1999 ≈

- Average life expectancy for men in 2003 was 76.3 years and for women 80.7 years. Since 1991 average life expectancy had increased by 3.1 years for men and by 2.0 years for women.
- In 2003 average healthy life expectancy (based on self-assessed general health from the General Household Survey) was 67.6 years for men, an increase of 1.5 years since 1991, and was 70.1 years for women, an increase of 1.5 years since 1991.
- Over the period 1991 to 2003, both life expectancy and healthy life expectancy increased. However, healthy life expectancy did not increase at the same rate as life expectancy meaning not all the extra years of life gained were healthy.

Self-reported general health*

Self-reported general health, 1993 to 2005



Notes: The boys and girls categories encompass those aged 0-15

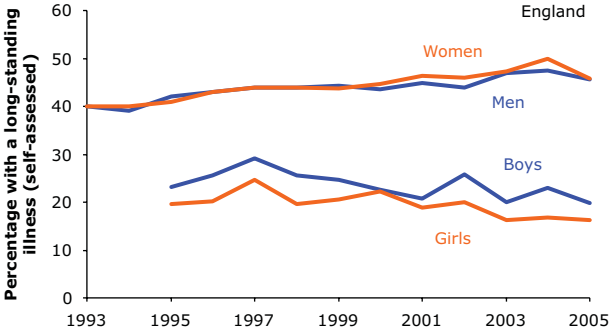
Source: DH

- In 2005 75 per cent of men self-assessed their general health as very good or good, compared with 74 per cent of women. In 1993 the percentages were 77 per cent for men and 76 per cent for women.
- Since 1995, the proportion of boys reporting their health as fairly or very good has risen from 90 per cent to 94 per cent. Similarly, the proportion of girls has risen from 92 to 96 during the same period.

*Contextual wellbeing measure – see indicator 68 on page 111 for more details.

Self-reported long-standing illness*

Self-reported long-standing illness, 1993 to 2005



Notes: The boys and girls categories encompass those aged 0-15

Source: DH

- The proportion of adults reporting at least one long-standing illness rose from 40 per cent for both men and women in 1993 to 46 per cent for both in 2005.
- In 2005 the proportion of boys self-reporting a long-standing illness was 20 per cent, compared with 16 per cent of girls. The proportions in 1995 were 23 per cent and 20 per cent respectively.

*Contextual wellbeing measure – see indicator 68 on page 111 for more details.

SCP

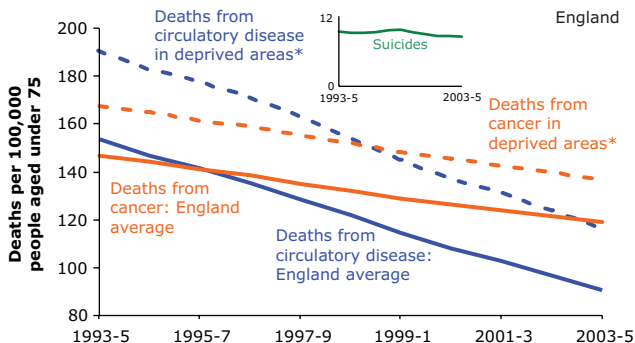
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CSC

51. Mortality rates

Death rates from (a) circulatory disease and (b) cancer, below 75 years and for deprived areas, and (c) suicides, 1993-5 to 2003-5



*Deprived areas are classified as the fifth of areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators

Source: DH, ONS

Death rates

since: 1993



1999



- Deaths from circulatory diseases and cancer (below 75 years) decreased by 41 and 19 per cent respectively between 1993-5 and 2003-5. The decline in death rates is also reflected in deprived areas, but they remain higher than the England average: 117 compared with 90 people per 100,000 from circulatory diseases and 137 compared with 119 people per 100,000 from cancer.
- The death rate from suicide and undetermined injury in England fell from 9.4 per 100,000 in 1993-5 to 8.5 in 2003-5.

Mortality rates for those with severe mental illness*

Measure to be developed

- The Department of Health is exploring the development of an indicator relating to people with Severe Mental Illness (SMI). This will involve combining mortality and mental illness data. It will focus attention on looking after the physical health of people with SMI.
- The indicator will emphasise the interconnection between mental and physical health. For example, taking regular exercise should be beneficial in improving the physical health of those with SMI but, in addition, there may well be a direct benefit with their mental health.
- The indicator would also be important from an inequalities perspective because, for example, those on lower incomes or the unemployed are more likely to have SMI, and ultimately higher mortality rates for those with SMI compared to the general population.
- This would be a new data set requiring linkage between ONS mortality data and the Mental Health Minimum Data Set (MHMDS), and therefore this indicator is currently under development.

*Contextual wellbeing measure – see indicator No. 68 on page 111 for more details.

SCP

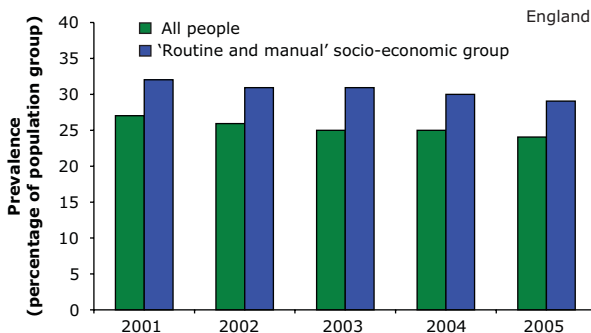
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NRP

CSC

52. Smoking

Prevalence of smoking (a) all adults (b) 'routine and manual' socio-economic groups, 2001 to 2005



Source: DH

Difference in prevalence
of smoking

since: 1990



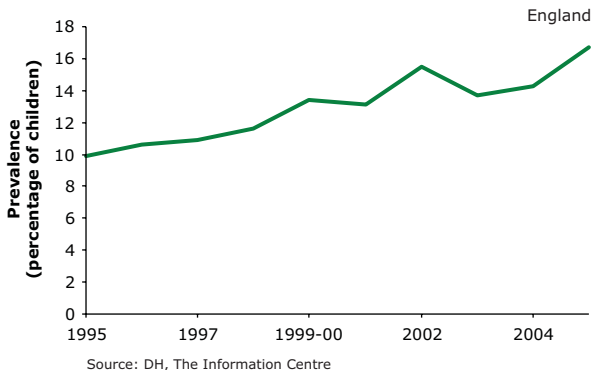
2001



- Between 2001 and 2005 the prevalence of smoking in both the routine and manual socio-economic group and the population as a whole showed a reduction of 3 percentage points.
- Smoking was more common in lower socio-economic groups. In 2005, 29 per cent of 'routine and manual' workers smoked compared with 24 per cent of the population as a whole.
- This difference in prevalence showed little change since 2001, remaining between 5 and 6 percentage points.

53. Childhood obesity

Prevalence of obesity in 2-10 year-olds, 1995 to 2005



Prevalence of obesity since: 1995 ☒ 1999 ☒

- Childhood obesity has been linked to a number of illnesses later on in life.
- The prevalence of obesity in 2-10 year-olds increased from 10 per cent to 17 per cent between 1995 and 2005.

SCP

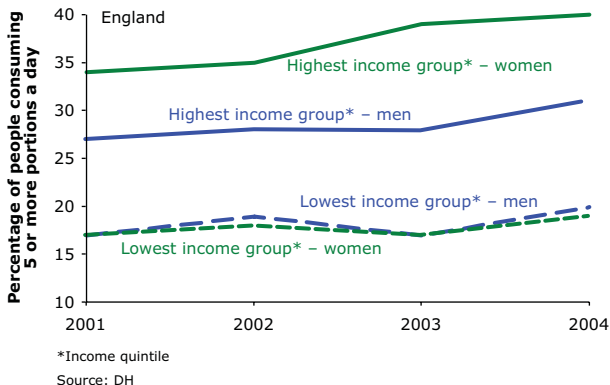
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NRP

CSC

54. Diet

Proportion of people consuming (a) five or more portions of fruit and vegetables per day and (b) in low income households, 2001 to 2004



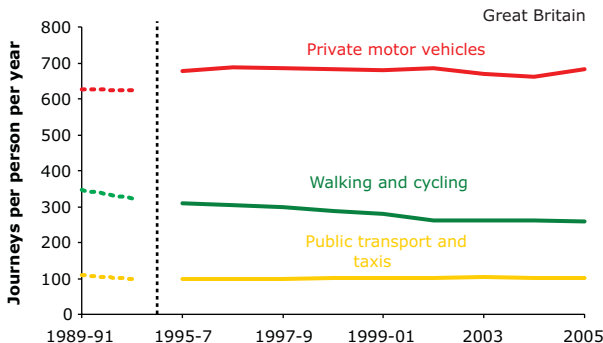
Consumption in low income groups

since: 1990 ... 2001

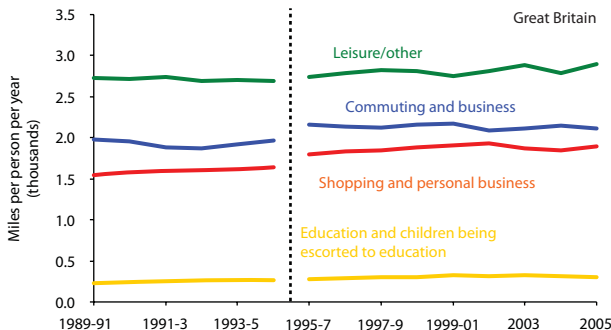
- Overall, in each year from 2001 to 2004, more women consumed five or more portions of fruit and vegetables per day than did men, and consumption was greatest in the highest income groups.
- In 2004, 20 per cent of men and 19 per cent of women in the lowest income group were consuming five or more portions compared with 17 per cent for both in 2001. However, this is below the 31 per cent of men and 40 per cent of women in the highest income group consuming five or more portions a day in 2004.

55. Mobility

(a) Number of trips per person by mode, 1989-91 to 2005



(b) Distance travelled per person per year by broad trip purpose, 1989-91 to 2005



Note: Figures for 1995 onwards are based on weighted data and are not directly comparable with earlier years. The effect of weighting is broadly to uplift the distance travelled by approximately 4%. The sample size of the survey tripled in 2002

Source: DfT

SCP

CCE

NRP

CSC

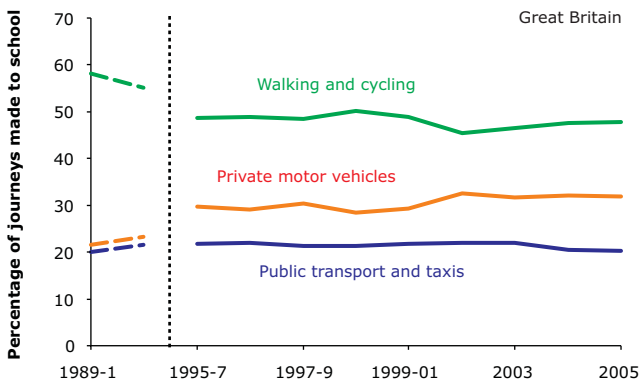
Walking and cycling since: 1995-7  1999-01 

Public transport and taxis since: 1995-7  1999-01 

- The average number and percentage of total trips made by walking or cycling has declined. In terms of number, the decline was from 311 trips per person (29 per cent of all journeys) in 1995-7 to 256 trips per person (25 per cent of all journeys) in 2005.
- There has been little change in the average number of trips made by private motor vehicles. However owing to declines in trips by other modes, in percentage terms such trips increased from 62 per cent of trips in 1995-7 to 65 per cent in 2005. The number and percentage of trips using public transport changed little between 1995-7 and 2005.
- In 2005, an average of 7,208 miles were travelled per person, up by 3 per cent since 1995-7. (This is domestic travel by residents in Great Britain. It excludes international travel and travel by visitors to the UK.) The greatest total distance travelled was for leisure purposes (2,894 miles), an increase of 5 per cent since 1995-7.
- Between 1995-7 and 2005 total distance travelled increased for shopping, personal business and other escort trips by 5 per cent (due to greater distance travelled for other escort trips, rather than for shopping and personal business). During the same period there was a 9 per cent increase in distance travelled for education and escorting children to education, and little change in distance travelled for commuting and business.
- There are other transport-related indicators showing environmental and other impacts in this booklet.

56. Getting to school

How children get to school, 1989-91 to 2005



Note: Figures for 1995 onwards are based on weighted data and are not directly comparable with earlier years. One of the effects of weighting is to reduce the proportion of school trips which are walked by about 1 percentage point and to increase the proportion by car by a similar amount. Short walks are believed to be under-recorded in 2002 and 2003

The sample size of the survey tripled in 2002

Source: DfT

Children walking or cycling to school

since: 1995-7



1999



- Walking or cycling are still the main ways for children to get to school. The percentage doing so was 49 per cent in 1995-7, and although it fell to 46 per cent in 2002, it has since risen to 48 per cent in 2005.
- Those going to school by private motor vehicle increased from 30 per cent in 1995-7 to 32 per cent in 2005. The percentage of children travelling to school by public transport remained relatively constant over this period.

SCP

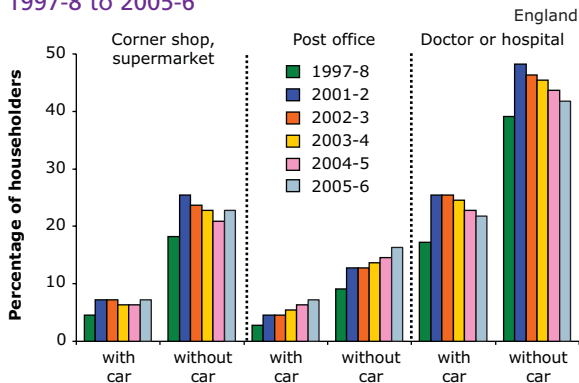
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CSC

57. Accessibility

Access to key services (households perceiving difficulty), 1997-8 to 2005-6



Note: People perceiving getting to amenities to be fairly or very difficult

Source: DCLG

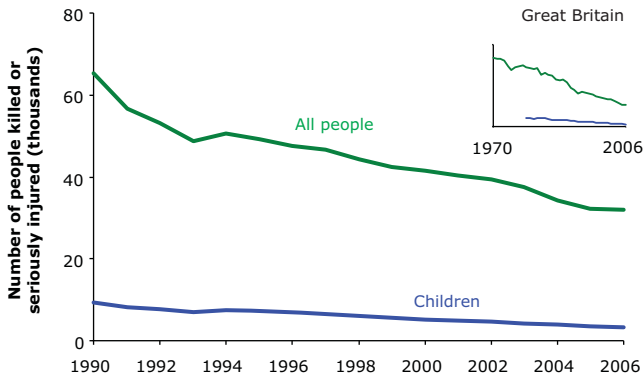
Differences in access
with and without car

since: 1990 (⋯) 1999 (≈)

- The gap between households with and without cars in perceiving difficulty in accessing key services has changed little between 1997-8 and 2005-6.
- The proportions of households in 2005-6 perceiving difficulties in accessing corner shops or supermarkets showed little change since 1997-8 for those with and without cars.
- Between 1997-8 and 2005-6 there was an increase in households perceiving difficulty in accessing post offices (from 10 per cent to 18 per cent for households without cars). During this period perceived difficulty in accessing a doctor or a hospital changed little for households with and without cars, although higher percentages saw difficulty in intervening years.
- This indicator may be further developed as analysis using journey time modelling becomes available.

58. Road accidents

Number of people and children killed or seriously injured, 1990 to 2006



Source: DfT

Number killed or seriously injured

since: 1990



1999



- In 1970 over 100,000 people were killed or seriously injured in road accidents. In 2006 the total was just over 31,800 – a decrease of 68 per cent.
- The number of children killed or seriously injured in accidents fell from 12,500 in 1979 to 3,300 in 2006 (a drop of 74 per cent).

SCP

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NRP

CSC

59. Social justice

Indicator to be developed

- Social justice is about tackling inequalities and striving for a fair, tolerant and cohesive society. A large number of issues are potentially integral to social justice and hence it is a very difficult concept to measure.
- At present there is no nationally agreed set of indicators available. Further work is needed.

SCP

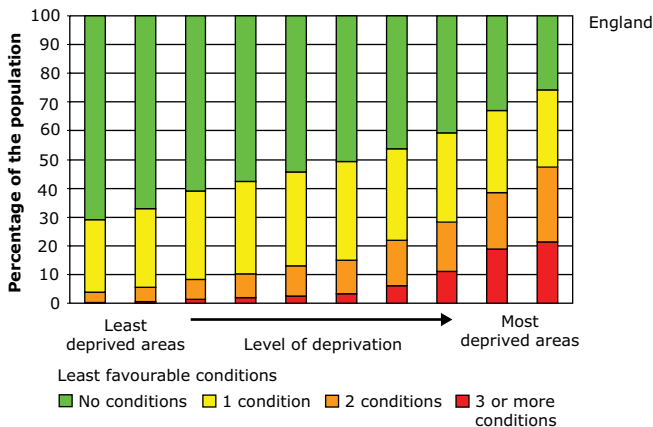
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CSC

60. Environmental equality

Populations living in areas with, in relative terms, the least favourable environmental conditions, 2001-6



Note: Level of deprivation is determined by the Index of Multiple Deprivation. Environmental conditions are ambient air pollution, industrial airborne releases, green space, habitat favourable to bio-diversity, derelict land, flood risk, river water quality, and housing quality. For each of these conditions the population living in areas with, in relative terms, the 10 per cent least favourable conditions have been determined. Data range from 2001 to 2006.

Source: Defra, Environment Agency, DCLG

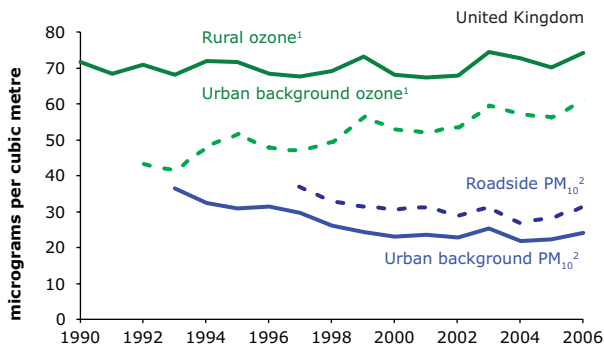
Environmental equality since: 1990 (●●●) 1999 (●●●)

- Some preliminary analysis of selected environmental conditions provides evidence that a higher proportion of people in the most deprived areas in England may live in areas with multiple environmental conditions that are in relative terms the 'least favourable', compared with populations living in less deprived areas.

- Less than 0.5 per cent of populations in the least deprived areas experience 3 or more environmental conditions that are ‘least favourable’. This rises to around 22 per cent of populations in the most deprived areas.
- Further work is needed. ‘Environmental Equality’ is a ‘UK Framework Indicator’. Its future development will need to reflect the different needs and issues in each country of the UK.

61. Air quality and health

(a) annual levels of particles and ozone, 1990 to 2006

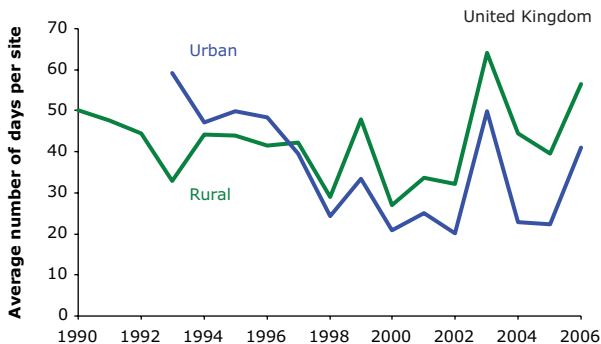


1. Ozone index shows annual mean of the daily maximum 8 hour running mean

2. PM₁₀ index shows annual average

Source: Defra, AEA Energy and Environment

(b) days when air pollution is moderate or higher, 1990 to 2006



Source: Defra, AEA Energy and Environment

SCP

CCE

NRP

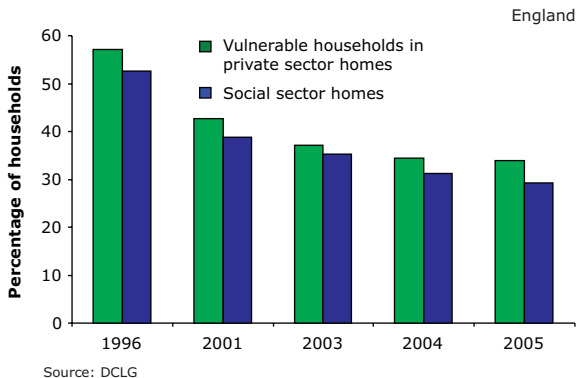
CSC

PM ₁₀ concentrations	since: 1993		1999	
Urban ozone concentrations	since: 1992		1999	
Rural ozone concentrations	since: 1990		1999	

- The two types of air pollution believed to have the most significant impacts on public health are long-term exposure to particulate matter (PM₁₀) and daily peak ozone levels.
- Annual average particulate levels have been decreasing, since monitoring began in 1997 although the trend has been reversed in each of the last two years. There is an upward trend in background ozone levels, and a more marked increase in urban areas, due to the reduction in urban emissions of nitrogen oxides, which destroy ozone close to their emission source.
- The number of days when air pollution was assessed as being moderate or higher at rural sites has gradually increased since 1993. Urban sites show a high degree of variability between years.
- The weather can cause significant variation from year to year in the number of days of moderate or higher air pollution. The hot summer and other pollution episodes in 2003 and 2006 led to an unusually high number of pollution days.

62. Housing conditions

(a) social sector homes (b) vulnerable households in the private sector in homes below the decent homes standard, 1996 to 2005



Homes below standard since: 1991 ✓ 1999 ✓

- Between 1991 (not shown) and 1996 there was no change in housing conditions across a broad range of measures. However, in 2005 1.16 million dwellings, 29 per cent of those in the social sector, were below the Decent Homes Standard, down from 2.3 million in 1996.
- 25 per cent of owner-occupied and 41 per cent of private rented dwellings were below the Standard in 2005 (not shown).
- 1.1 million vulnerable households, 34 per cent of those living in private sector properties, were in dwellings that were below the Standard in 2005.

SCP

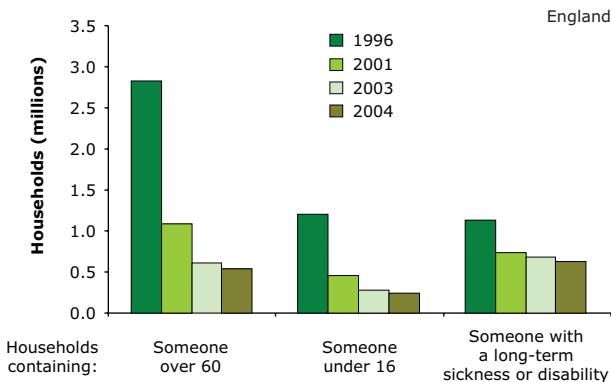
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63. Households living in fuel poverty

Households living in fuel poverty with someone (a) aged 60 or over (b) aged under 16 (c) disabled / long-term sick, 1996 to 2004



Source: BERR. DCLG

Households in
fuel poverty

since: 1990



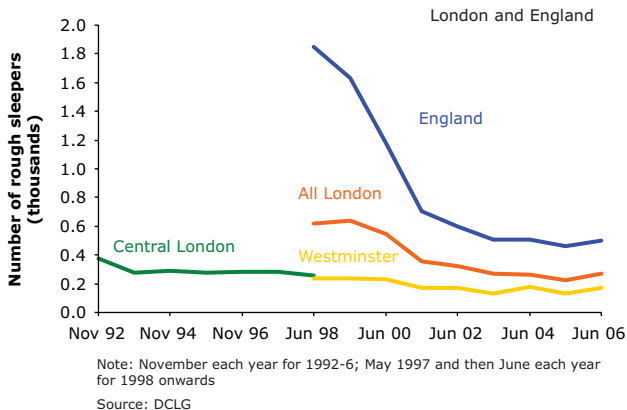
1999



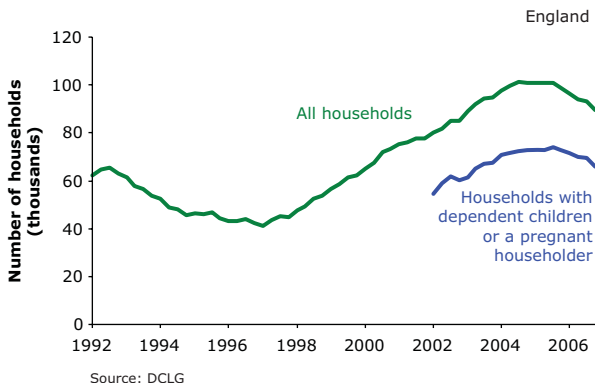
- Fuel poverty is defined as needing to spend more than 10 per cent of income, excluding housing benefit, on fuel to maintain an adequate standard of heating.
- In 2004, 0.5 million households with someone over 60 (7 per cent of such households) were fuel poor, down from 2.9 million households (43 per cent) in 1996. The number of fuel poor households with someone under 16 or with a long-term sickness or disability has also decreased.
- The total number of households living in fuel poverty changed little between 2003 and 2004.





64. Homelessness

(a) number of rough sleepers, 1992 to 2006



(b) number of households in temporary accommodation (i) total (ii) households with children, 1992 to 2006

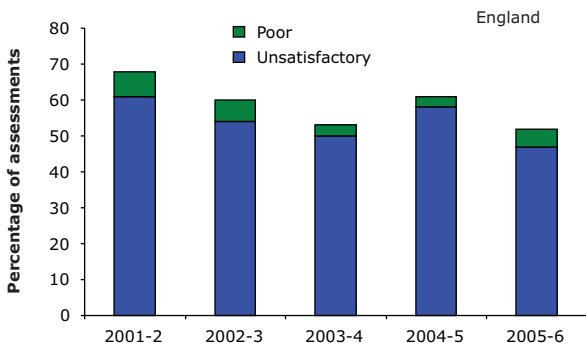


Rough sleepers	since: 1992		1999	
Homeless households	since: 1992		1999	

- In June 1998 there were 621 rough sleepers in London and 1,850 in England overall.
- By June 2006, the number of rough sleepers had fallen to 267 in London and 502 in England overall.
- There were 89,510 households in temporary accommodation in England as at December 2006. This figure increased from 41,250 in 1997, but has fallen from 101,030 in 2004. (This relates to households statutorily recognised as homeless by local authorities under Homelessness legislation, or awaiting a decision on their formal application.)

65. Local environmental quality

Assessment of local environmental quality, 2001-2 to 2005-6



Source: Defra, ENCAMS

Unsatisfactory or
poor quality

since: 1990



2001



- A sample of sites were assessed in terms of litter, dog-fouling, detritus, weeds, fly-tipping, fly-posting, graffiti, physical appearance, condition and maintenance etc.
- Fifty-two per cent of local environments in England were deemed to be of 'unsatisfactory' (47 per cent) or 'poor' (5 per cent) quality in 2005-6. This had decreased from 61 per cent of sites in the previous year and from 68 per cent of sites in 2001-2.
- In 2005-6 the remaining 47 per cent of assessed sites were classed as 'satisfactory' (21 per cent) or 'good' (26 per cent).

SCP

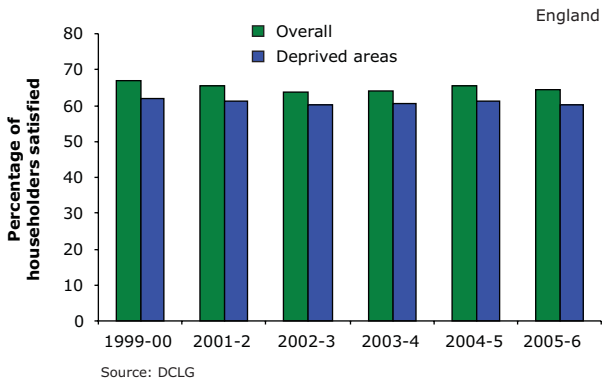
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66. Satisfaction in local area

Percentage of households satisfied with the quality of the places in which they live (a) overall (b) in deprived areas, 1999-00 to 2005-6



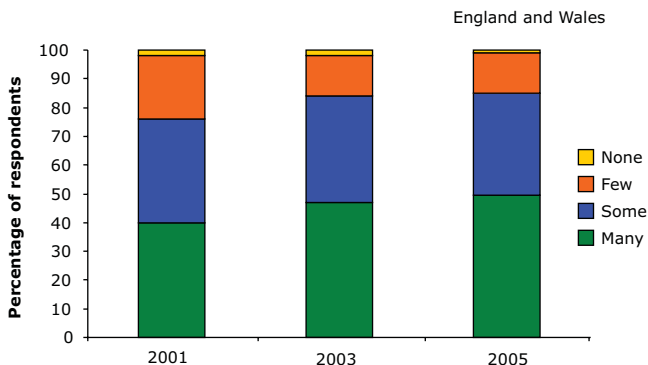
All households satisfied since: 1990 ... 1999

Neighbourhood Renewal Fund Areas satisfied since: 1990 ... 1999

- Across a range of issues, an average of 65 per cent of households were satisfied with their local area in 2005-6, little changed from 67 per cent in 1999-2000. Traffic was identified as a problem by 53 per cent of households, litter/rubbish by 43 per cent and vandalism/hooliganism by 41 per cent.
- Across the same range of issues, an average of 60 per cent of households in Neighbourhood Renewal Fund Districts were satisfied with their local area in 2005-6. This had shown little change since 1999-2000.

Trust in neighbourhoods*

Number of people in the neighbourhood that residents feel can be trusted, 2001 to 2005



Source: DCLG

- Between 2001 and 2005 the percentage of people who said they trusted many people in their neighbourhood rose from 40 per cent to 47 per cent.
- The percentage of people who said they trusted some people remained at approximately 35 per cent.

*Contextual wellbeing measure – see indicator 68 on page 111 for more details.

SCP

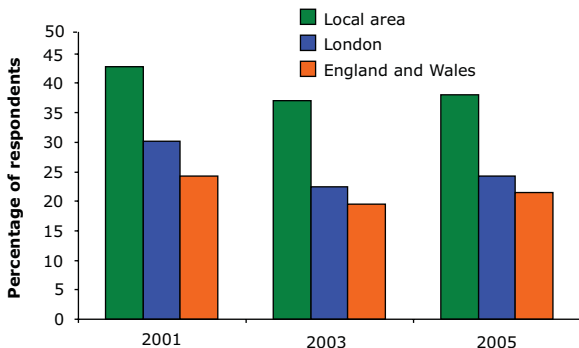
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CSC

Influence in local area*

Number of people who agree they are able to influence decisions affecting their local area, London and Great Britain, 2001 to 2005



Notes: Only those who lived in London were asked about decisions affecting London

Source: DCLG

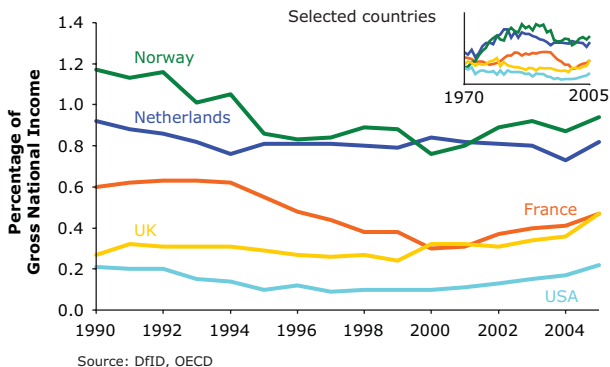
- Between 2001 and 2005 the percentage of people who agreed they felt able to influence decisions affecting their local area fell from 44 per cent to 39 per cent.
- The percentage of people who agreed they felt able to influence decisions affecting London fell from 31 per cent to 25 per cent, and the percentage of people who agreed they felt able to influence decisions affecting Great Britain fell from 25 per cent to 22 per cent.

*Contextual wellbeing measure – see indicator 68 on page 111 for more details.

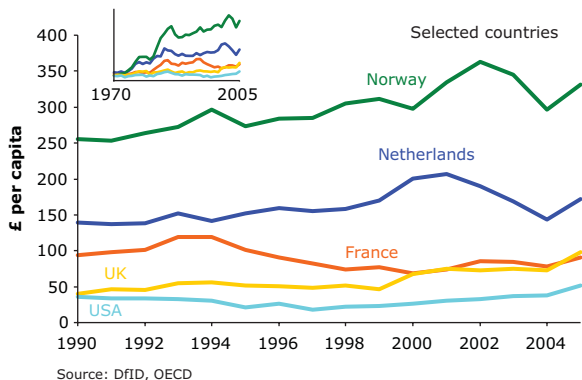
67. UK International assistance

Net Official Development Assistance

(a) per cent of Gross National Income, 1990 to 2005



(b) per capita, 1990 to 2005



Level of UK assistance

since: 1990



1999



- In 2005 the UK Government contributed 0.47 per cent of Gross National Income (GNI) as official development assistance (ODA), an increase from 0.27 per cent of GNI in 1990. In 2005 France also contributed 0.47 per cent, the Netherlands 0.82 per cent and Norway 0.94 per cent of their GNI.
- The UK contribution in 2005 was the equivalent (at 2005 constant prices) of £98 per person, an increase of 145 per cent on the equivalent of £40 per person in 1990. France contributed the equivalent of £91, the Netherlands £172 and Norway £331 per person in 2005.

The 2005 Sustainable Development Strategy *Securing the Future* set out a commitment for Government to explore the concept of wellbeing.

Wellbeing is a broad concept with many varying definitions. Here, it is understood to be “a positive physical, social and mental state; it is not just the absence of pain, discomfort and incapacity. It requires that basic needs are met, that individuals have a sense of purpose, that they feel able to achieve important personal goals and participate in society. It is enhanced by conditions that include supportive personal relationships, strong and inclusive communities, good health, financial and personal security, rewarding employment, and a healthy and attractive environment.”

The Strategy highlighted the possible extension of existing sustainable development indicators to include issues such as mental health; access to sport, culture and green space; and neighbourliness and in due course to develop a more comprehensive set of wellbeing indicators.

A cross-departmental group was set up in September 2005 to oversee research and work on wellbeing. Four projects were commissioned to review existing research and evidence and consider their implications for policy. They reviewed wellbeing measures and the strength of the evidence on what promotes wellbeing; the relationship between sustainable development and wellbeing; and overseas experiences of taking a wellbeing focus.

A second cross-departmental group was set up in December 2006, consisting of analysts and academic experts. The group has used the research results on what

influences wellbeing as a framework for developing the indicators.

Wellbeing is also a UK Framework indicator, shared by the UK Government and the Devolved Administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (see page 16). The provisional set of measures presented here only relate to the UK Government Strategy; furthermore much of the data currently available relate to England only. In due course, in discussion with the Devolved Administrations, measures will be developed to integrate wellbeing into the UK Framework Indicators.

A new performance framework for local government is being developed, including a set of national indicators covering a wide range of local government responsibilities and against which all local authorities will report. They will not be required to report on or adopt the national wellbeing measures presented here. However these measures may influence any additional indicators local authorities choose to adopt. At the local level, separate work is being undertaken by the Audit Commission and the Young Foundation to explore how wellbeing might be assessed by local authorities.

Wellbeing cannot be fully measured by any single indicator. There are numerous factors that influence an individual's wellbeing. It is only possible at this stage to identify and measure some of them.

Wellbeing is already integral to sustainable development and so there are a number of existing indicators, presented earlier in this booklet, that have been identified as being particularly relevant to understanding wellbeing. These existing indicators have been selected based on evidence

for an influence on wellbeing, and wherever possible, are those that indicate the number and / or types of people affected rather than general conditions.

The wellbeing measures that have been identified include the following:

- Selected existing sustainable development indicators.
- Some related measures now included earlier in this booklet to support the relevant existing sustainable development indicator.
- New survey results on life satisfaction, which in due course may be developed into measures of wellbeing, and are presented later in this section.
- Measures of participation in sport and culture, and a measure of positive mental wellbeing also presented in this section.

The full provisional set of wellbeing measures for this publication is listed overleaf. Whilst the measures are not now being formally consulted on, comments are invited via the contact details on the last page of this booklet.

Measures of the wellbeing of specific groups within society are already being used by Government in a number of policy areas. It is important that the measures presented here also encompass the perspectives of important groups within society. For example, it is intended to extend these to include measures of wellbeing and satisfaction for children and young people, which will be developed from work undertaken by both the Department for Children, Schools and Families and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

Provisional wellbeing measures

Those measures that are numbered are the existing sustainable development indicators included earlier in this booklet. New measures are highlighted with an asterisk.

39. Fear of crime

- Perceptions of anti-social behaviour*

41. Workless households

43. Childhood poverty

45. Pensioner poverty

47. Education

50. Healthy life expectancy

- Self-reported general health*
- Self-reported long-standing illness*

51. Mortality rates (suicide)

- Mortality rates for those with severe mental illness*

57. Accessibility

59. Social justice

60. Environmental equality

62. Housing conditions

66. Satisfaction with local area

- Trust in people in neighbourhood*
- Influencing decisions in the local area*

68. Wellbeing

- Overall life satisfaction*
- Satisfaction with aspects of life*
- Frequency of feelings or activities which may have a positive or negative impact on wellbeing*
- Level of participation in sport*
- Access to greenspace*
- Level of participation in cultural activities*
- Positive mental health*

Life satisfaction

Survey questions about overall life satisfaction and satisfaction with different aspects of life resonate well as 'headline' measures of wellbeing. In some ways they are an overall 'outcome' measure reflecting economic wellbeing, health, education, access to services etc. Such measures like these are widely used around the world.

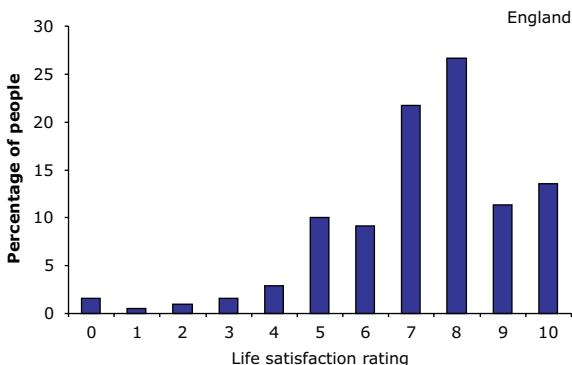
It is acknowledged that they have some limitations. In particular the measures are numerically constrained (typically as a score between 0 and 10) so that comparisons over longer periods of time and between countries are difficult. However, the independent research commissioned by Defra concluded that life satisfaction measures should provide reliable information about wellbeing in a policy context. As a result, some specific survey questions have been developed and included as a module in Defra's *2007 Survey of behaviours and attitudes in relation to the environment*, with the intention that they may be repeated in due course.

It is too early to determine whether the results from the survey are suitable for formal adoption as indicators of wellbeing, not least as they may not be sensitive to change over time. However, they are presented here on a provisional basis and as a starting point for possible further development. Summary results are set out from pages 117 to 126.

It should be also noted that in isolation the survey should not be regarded as the primary source of data on any of the issues covered. Other data sources may have been specifically designed to gather information on particular aspects of life including those covered by the survey. The purpose of the survey was to be able to bring these aspects together within the overall context of life satisfaction. For various reasons, relating to sample size, context, questionnaire design etc. results from the survey for a given aspect may in some cases differ from the results of other surveys designed specifically to explore that aspect.

(a) Overall life satisfaction

Percentage of people reporting overall life satisfaction ratings, on a scale from 0 to 10, 2007



Source: Defra

- When people were asked to rate their satisfaction with their lives, by using a scale from 0 – 10 (with 0 meaning very dissatisfied and 10 very satisfied), the average overall life satisfaction rating for England was 7.3 out of 10. This is supported by provisional results from the 2007 European Social Survey using the same question, which gave an average for Great Britain of around 7.
- Forty-nine per cent of people rated their overall life satisfaction as 7 or 8 out of 10.
- Research suggests that average overall life satisfaction changes little over time in developed countries. However at present there is no clear consensus about why this is the case.

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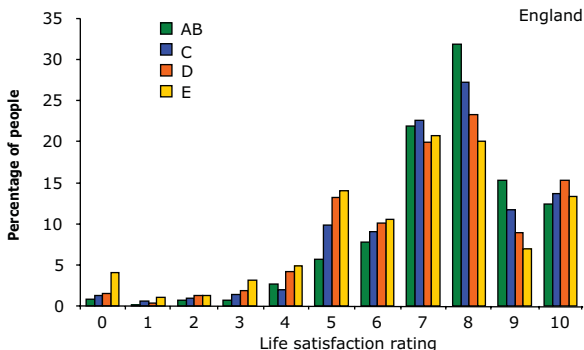
CCE

NRP

CSC

(b) Overall life satisfaction, by social grade

Percentage of people reporting overall life satisfaction ratings, on a scale from 0 to 10, by social grade, 2007



Notes: Social grade is a classification based on occupation developed from the National Readership Survey. Examples of occupation in each grade include:

AB: Doctor, solicitor, accountant, teacher, nurse, police officer;

C: Junior manager, student, clerical worker, foreman, plumber, bricklayer;

D: Manual workers, shop workers, apprentices;

E: Casual labourers, state pensioners, unemployed.

Separate grades A and B, and C1 and C2, have been joined (to AB and C) owing to very similar distributions.

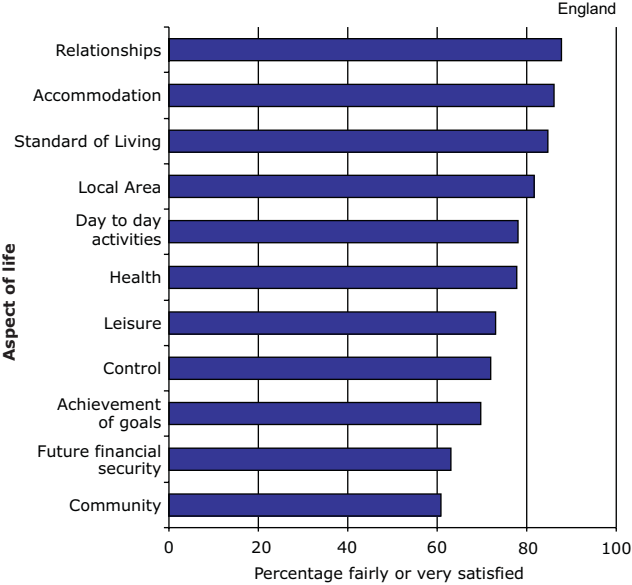
Source: Defra

- The satisfaction rating becomes more informative when looked at by socio-demographic variables, for example by 'social grading', which is determined by occupation.
- For the combined social grades of 'A' and 'B' (hitherto referred to as social group AB, e.g. A: doctors, solicitors, accountants and B: teachers, nurses, police officers) making up 23 per cent of the population, the average rating was 7.6. For group E (e.g. casual labourers, state pensioners, unemployed), making up 15 per cent of the population, the average rating was 6.7.

- For both group D (e.g. manual workers, shop workers, apprentices), making up 15 per cent of the population, and group E the proportions of these groups rating themselves as 5 (which could be interpreted as neither satisfied nor dissatisfied) were higher than for other groups, and the proportion rating themselves as around 7 or 8 (broadly interpreted as satisfied) were lower than for other groups.
- Combined social grades C1 and C2 (hitherto referred to as group C, e.g. C1: junior manager, student, clerical worker and C2: foreman, plumber, bricklayer) together make up 47 per cent of the population, and in showing similar characteristics, strongly affect and reflect the overall averages for life satisfaction.
- Overall when asked what are the most important things affecting their lives (not shown), the most common responses people gave were "Being able to spend time with friends and family", mentioned by 44 per cent of people, "Health", 31 per cent, "Personal relationships", 23 per cent, "Work life, Study and/or Day to Day activities", 20 per cent and "Standard of living or Money", 13 per cent (all not shown).

(c) Overall satisfaction with selected aspects of life

Percentage of people fairly or very satisfied with selected aspects of life, 2007

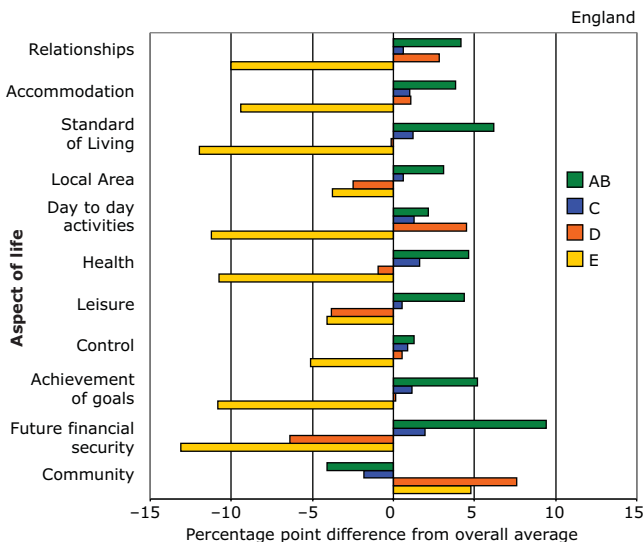


Source: Defra

- Overall, when prompted, the highest proportions of people said that they were fairly or very satisfied with their 'relationships' or their 'accommodation', with over 85 per cent of people fairly or very satisfied with these aspects of their life.
- Fewest people were fairly or very satisfied with their 'future financial security' and with 'feeling part of a community', with less than 65 per cent being fairly or very satisfied with these aspects.

(d) Satisfaction with aspects of life, by social grade

Percentage of people fairly or very satisfied with selected aspects of life, by social grade, 2007



Notes: Social grade is a classification based on occupation developed from the National Readership Survey. Examples of occupation in each grade include:

AB: Doctor, solicitor, accountant, teacher, nurse, police officer;

C: Junior manager, student, clerical worker, foreman, plumber, bricklayer;

D: Manual workers, shop workers, apprentices;

E: Casual labourers, state pensioners, unemployed.

Separate grades A and B, and C1 and C2, have been joined (to AB and C) owing to very similar distributions.

The results presented here show the difference between each group and the overall average

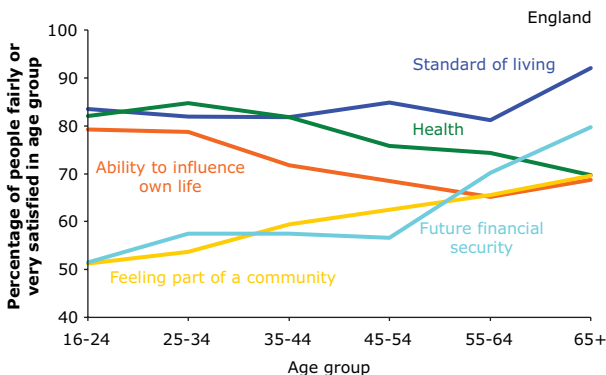
Source: Defra

- Within social group E (e.g. casual labourers, state pensioners, unemployed) proportionately fewer people were fairly or very satisfied with almost all of the selected aspects of life, compared with other social grades.

- For ‘standard of living’, ‘day to day activities’, ‘health’, ‘achievement of goals’ and ‘future financial security’, the proportions of people in group E who were fairly or very satisfied were at least 10 percentage points below the overall average.
- For most aspects of life the proportions of people in group AB (e.g. doctors, solicitors, accountants and teachers, nurses, police officers) who were fairly or very satisfied were higher than in all other groups. The exceptions were for ‘day to day activities’, for which a slightly higher proportion of people in group D (e.g. manual workers, shop workers, apprentices) were fairly or very satisfied and for ‘feeling part of the community’ for which proportions fairly or very satisfied in both groups D and E were higher. Sixty-nine per cent of those in group D and 65 per cent of those in group E were fairly or very satisfied with ‘feeling part of the community’, compared with 57 per cent of those in group AB.
- In terms of dissatisfaction (not shown in charts) the highest proportions of people were dissatisfied with their ‘future financial security’, ‘feeling part of a community’ or their ‘health’ – with over 10 per cent of people fairly or very dissatisfied with these aspects of their life.
- A greater proportion of people in group E expressed dissatisfaction with all aspects of life compared with other social grades. This was particularly marked for ‘future financial security’ and ‘health’. Although group E showed a comparatively high proportion of people being satisfied with ‘feeling part of their community’, group E also showed the highest proportion, 18 per cent, who were dissatisfied.

(e) Satisfaction with aspects of life, by age

Percentage of people fairly or very satisfied with selected aspects of life, by age, 2007

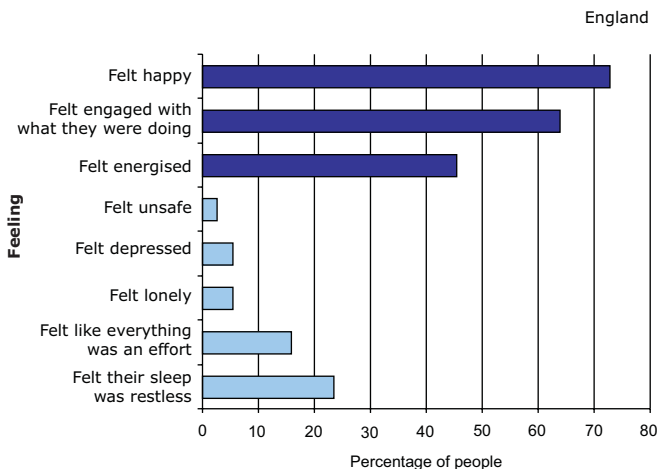


Source: Defra

- Ninety-two per cent of those aged 65 and over were fairly or very satisfied with their 'standard of living', and 80 per cent were with their 'future financial security'. These were higher than respective overall averages of 85 per cent and 63 per cent fairly or very satisfied with these aspects of life.
- The group with the highest proportion of people fairly or very satisfied with their health was 25-34 year olds – 85 per cent compared with an overall average of 78 per cent. Proportions of those fairly or very satisfied tended to decline with age for this aspect of life and similarly with their 'ability to influence their own life'.
- Older age groups were more likely to be fairly or very satisfied with 'feeling part of a community' – 70 per cent of those aged 65 and over being satisfied with this aspect of life compared with an overall average of 61 per cent, and 51 per cent of 16-24 year olds.

(f) Frequency of positive and negative feelings

Percentage of people experiencing selected feelings everyday or most days in the last two weeks, 2007

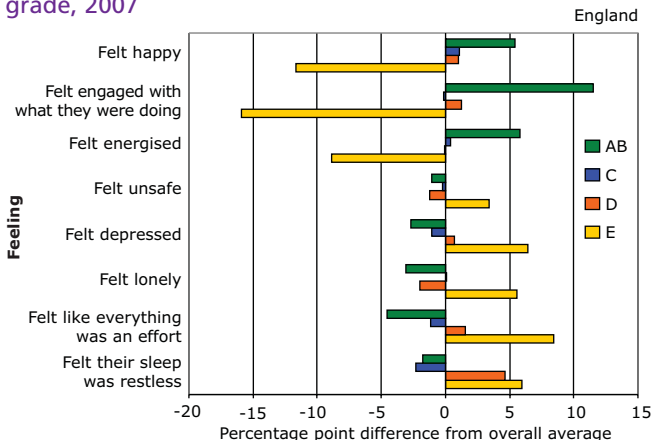


Source: Defra

- Seventy-three per cent of people said that they had felt 'happy' everyday or most days during the past two weeks.
- Five per cent of people said that they had felt 'depressed', 6 per cent 'lonely' and 3 per cent 'unsafe', everyday or most days during the last two weeks.
- Slightly more people said they had felt like 'everything was an effort', 16 per cent, or that their 'sleep was restless', 24 per cent, everyday or most days in the last two weeks.

(g) Positive and negative feelings, by social grade

Percentage of people experiencing selected feelings everyday or most days in the last two weeks, by social grade, 2007



Notes: Social grade is a classification based on occupation developed from the National Readership Survey. Examples of occupation in each grade include:

AB: Doctor, solicitor, accountant, teacher, nurse, police officer;

C: Junior manager, student, clerical worker, foreman, plumber, bricklayer;

D: Manual workers, shop workers, apprentices;

E: Casual labourers, state pensioners, unemployed.

Separate grades A and B, and C1 and C2, have been joined (to AB and C) owing to very similar distributions.

The results presented here show the difference between each group and the overall average

Source: Defra

SCP

CCE

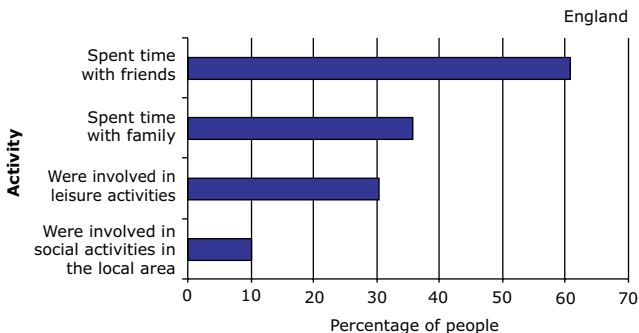
NRP

CSC

- By social grade, the proportion of social group E (e.g. casual labourers, state pensioner, unemployed) experiencing positive feelings everyday or most days was much lower than the average, and the proportion of group AB (e.g. doctors, solicitors, accountants and teachers, nurses, police officers) experiencing positive feelings everyday or most days was much higher than the average. In particular in feeling 'engaged with what they were doing', 76 per cent of group AB had felt this way everyday or most days during the last two weeks compared with 58 per cent of group E.
- The proportion of people in group E regularly experiencing negative feelings was much higher than average with 12 per cent feeling 'depressed', 11 per cent feeling 'lonely' and 24 per cent feeling like 'everything was an effort' everyday or most days during the last two weeks.

(h) Frequency of engagement in positive activities

Percentage of people engaging in selected activities everyday or most days in the last 2 weeks, 2007



Source: Defra

- Overall, 61 per cent of people 'spent time with family' everyday or most days, and 36 per cent of people 'spent time with friends' every day or most days during the last two weeks.
- Overall, 30 per cent of people said that they had 'participated in leisure activities' everyday or most days in the last two weeks, and 10 per cent of people said that they had 'engaged in social activities in the local area' everyday or most days.
- There was little difference between social grades.

SCP

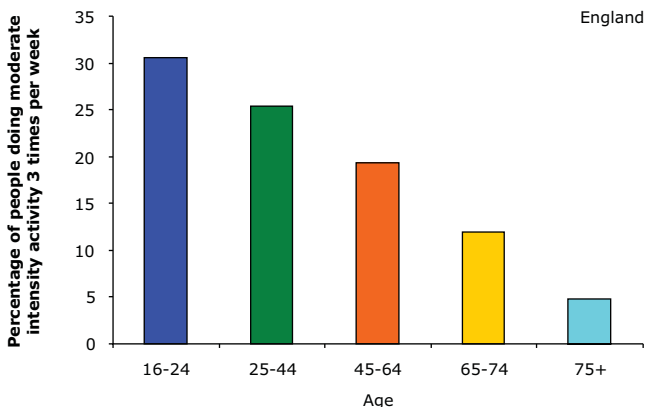
CCE

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CSC

(i) Physical activity

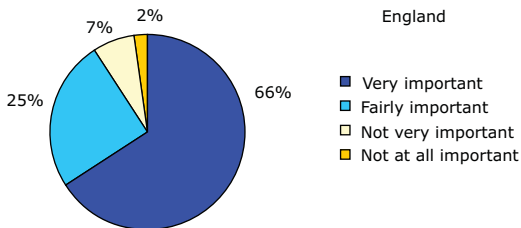
Number of people participating regularly in sporting activity in 2005-6



- During 2005-6 20 per cent of all adults took part in moderate intensity sporting activity for at least 30 minutes 3 times per week.
- This rose to thirty per cent for 16-24 year olds. Regular physical activity tended to be lower with age. However 5 per cent of those aged 75 and over took part in moderate intensity sporting activity 3 times per week.

(j) Green space

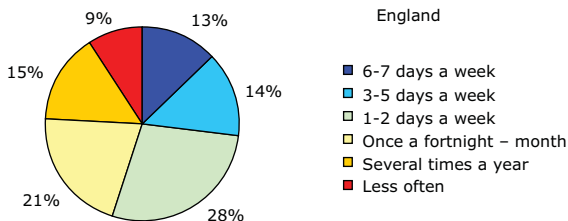
Importance of green space, 2007



Source: Defra

- Over 90 per cent of people thought that it was very or fairly important to have green spaces near to where they live.

Frequency of green space use, 2007

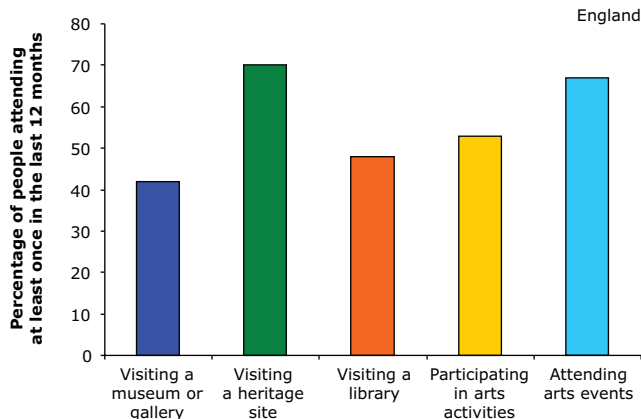


Source: Defra

- Twenty-seven per cent of people visited green space 3 or more times a week. 24 per cent visited less than once a month.

(k) Cultural participation

Number of people participating in cultural activities at least once in the last 12 months, 2005-6



Source: DCMS

- During 2005-6 42 per cent of all adults visited a museum or gallery; equivalent to approximately 16.8 million adults.
- Around 70 per cent (27.7 million adults) visited a heritage site and 48 per cent (19.1 million adults) visited a library.
- In 2005-6 around 67 per cent of adults (26.4 million adults) attended an arts event and 53 per cent (21.2 million adults) participated in an arts activity.

(I) Positive mental health

Measure to be developed

- Measuring mental health from a positive perspective would be a significant development from the traditional measurement of negative mental health or mental illness. The Department of Health is building on research commissioned by NHS Health Scotland to develop and test the suitability of a measure of positive mental health at population level.
- The new measure developed through this research is the Warwick Edinburgh Mental Well Being Scale (WEMWBS), which asks respondents to score how often a set of 14 positive statements of mental wellbeing applies to them.
- WEMWBS covers most aspects of positive mental health currently in the academic literature, including both 'hedonic' and 'eudaemonic' perspectives: positive affect (feelings of optimism, cheerfulness, relaxation), satisfying interpersonal relationships and positive functioning (energy, clear thinking, self acceptance, personal development, mastery and autonomy). Items are summed to give an overall score.
- Results for England should become available once WEMWBS has been introduced into a health survey.

SCP

CCE

NRP

CSC

This publication has been produced by Environment Statistics and Indicators (ESI) Division, Defra.

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