

Child protection plan statistics: England 2013 – 2017

March 2018

Children and young people who were the subject of a child protection plan by category of abuse at 31 March

Category of abuse	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Neglect	17,930	20,970	22,230	23,150	24,590
Physical abuse	4,670	4,760	4,350	4,200	3,950
Sexual abuse	2,030	2,210	2,340	2,370	2,260
Emotional abuse	13,640	15,860	16,660	17,770	17,280
Multiple	4,870	4,500	4,110	2,810	3,010
Total	43,140	48,300	49,690	50,310	51,080

Source:

Table D4 in Department for Education (2017) Characteristics of children in need in England, 2016-17. London: Department for Education (DfE).

Available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/characteristics-of-children-in-need-2016-to-2017>

Please note:

- the figures relate to the initial category of abuse assigned to the child protection plan rather than the most recent category of abuse
- figures may not add due to rounding
- these figures include unborn children
- the compilation methods of the statistics can change from year-to-year and from region-to-region, so the figures are not always comparable.

Further information:

Regional data (at a local authority level) is available in the [Excel tables](#).

The [Statistical release \(PDF\)](#) contains advice on how to interpret the statistics.

Children and young people who were the subject of a child protection plan by age and gender at 31 March 2017.

Age (years)	Boys	Girls	All children
Unborn	-	-	1,130
Under 1	2,590	2,370	4,980
1 - 4	7,020	6,510	13,540
5 - 9	7,950	7,160	15,120
10 - 15	7,200	7,100	14,300
16 and over	850	1,160	2,010
Total	25,610	24,300	51,080

Source:

Figures broken down by age and gender provided to the NSPCC by the Department for Education.

Please note:

- figures may not add due to rounding and a number of cases where the gender or age of the child was unknown
- the compilation methods of the statistics can change from year-to-year and from region-to-region, so the figures are not always comparable.

Further information:

Regional data (at a local authority level) is available in the [Excel tables](#).

The [Statistical release \(PDF\)](#) contains advice on how to interpret the statistics.

Contact the NSPCC's Knowledge and Information Service with any questions about child protection or related topics:

Tel: 0808 800 5000 | Email: help@nspcc.org.uk | Twitter: [@NSPCCpro](https://twitter.com/NSPCCpro)

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