



RESEARCH PAPER 08/37  
24 APRIL 2008

# Social Indicators

This Research Paper summarises a wide range of social statistics. Subjects covered include crime and justice, defence, education, elections, health and population. This edition of Social Indicators for the first time includes an article from an overseas Parliamentary Library, New South Wales, Australia.

This edition includes:

## Articles:

- Gambling in New South Wales, Australia
- A new era for UK official statistics: the launch of the UK Statistics Authority

## Topical subject page:

- World food prices
- The weather in 2007
- Excess winter mortality

Julien Anseau - Editor

SOCIAL & GENERAL STATISTICS

HOUSE OF COMMONS LIBRARY

## Recent Library Research Papers:

<b>08/22</b>	Economic Indicators, March 2008	04.03.08
<b>08/23</b>	Private Equity (Transfer of Undertakings and Protection of Employment) Bill 2007-08	04.03.08
<b>08/24</b>	Planning Bill: Committee Stage Report	07.03.08
<b>08/25</b>	Animals Act 1971 (Amendment) Bill	12.03.08
<b>08/26</b>	Direct taxes: rates and allowances 2008-09	13.03.08
<b>08/27</b>	Pensions Bill: Committee Stage Report	14.03.08
<b>08/28</b>	Housing and Regeneration Bill: Committee Stage Report	18.03.08
<b>08/29</b>	Unemployment by Constituency, February 2008	19.03.08
<b>08/30</b>	Education and Skills Bill: Committee Stage Report	27.03.08
<b>08/31</b>	Parliamentary Pay, Allowances and Pensions	31.03.08
<b>08/32</b>	Economic Indicators, April 2008	01.04.08
<b>08/33</b>	Unemployment by Constituency, March 2008	16.04.08
<b>08/34</b>	Special Educational Needs (Information) Bill: Committee Stage Report	16.04.08
<b>08/35</b>	Food Products (Marketing to Children) Bill [Bill 19 of 2007-08]	16.04.08
<b>08/36</b>	Transport in London	21.04.08

*Research Papers are available as PDF files:*

- *to members of the general public on the Parliamentary web site,  
URL: <http://www.parliament.uk>*
- *within Parliament to users of the Parliamentary Intranet,  
URL: <http://hcl1.hclibrary.parliament.uk>*

Library Research Papers are compiled for the benefit of Members of Parliament and their personal staff. Authors are available to discuss the contents of these papers with Members and their staff but cannot advise members of the general public. Any comments on Research Papers should be sent to the Research Publications Officer, Room 407, 1 Derby Gate, London, SW1A 2DG or e-mailed to PAPERS@parliament.uk

ISSN 1368-8456

## CONTENTS

<b>I</b>	<b>Introduction to Social Indicators</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>II</b>	<b>Contacts for further information</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>III</b>	<b>Gambling in New South Wales, Australia</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>IV</b>	<b>A new era for UK official statistics: the launch of the UK Statistics Authority</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>V</b>	<b>World food prices</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>VI</b>	<b>The weather in 2007</b>	<b>xi</b>
<b>VII</b>	<b>Excess winter mortality</b>	<b>xii</b>
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Regular subject pages</b>	
	<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Crime</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>Defence</b>	<b>9</b>
	<b>Education</b>	<b>12</b>
	<b>Elections</b>	<b>19</b>
	<b>Environment and energy</b>	<b>23</b>
	<b>Health</b>	<b>28</b>
	<b>Housing</b>	<b>34</b>
	<b>Local government</b>	<b>38</b>
	<b>Population and migration</b>	<b>40</b>
	<b>Social security</b>	<b>45</b>
	<b>Transport</b>	<b>47</b>

## List of regular subject pages

### Agriculture

Agricultural incomes and subsidies	1
Agriculture in the home countries	2

### Crime and justice

Police numbers	3
Police funding	4
Crime	5
Crime: international comparisons	6
Prison population	7
Drug use, seizures and offending	8

### Defence

Defence employment	9
Defence exports	10
Defence expenditure	11

### Education

Schools and class sizes	12
Teachers	13
Examination results	14
Participation in education and training: 16-18 year olds	15
Applicants and entrants to higher education	16
Participation in higher education	17
Education expenditure	18

### Elections

General Election results	19
Turnout	20
Other elections	21
Opinion polls	22

### Environment and energy

Energy use	23
Greenhouse gas emissions	24
Domestic gas and electricity prices	25
Road fuel prices	26
Weather	27

**Health**

Waiting lists	28
NHS staff	29
Beds and activity	30
Health expenditure	31
Community care	32
Public health	33

**Housing**

House prices	34
Housebuilding	35
Homelessness	36
Rough sleepers	37

**Local government**

Local government finance	38
Council tax	39

**Population and migration**

Population	40
International migration	41
Asylum seekers	42
Asylum decisions	43
Ethnicity and religion	44

**Social security**

Social security benefits and expenditure	45
Pensions and pensioners' incomes	46

**Transport**

Road accident casualties	47
Road traffic	48
Passenger transport	49
National rail usage and performance	50

# I Introduction to Social Indicators

Social Indicators consists of a series of subject pages that cover a wide range of social statistics. The pages are individual Standard Notes, available to MPs and staff on the parliamentary intranet, and are updated when new statistics are available. The subject pages are combined in a printed Research Paper three times a year. Each edition of the Research Paper includes articles and topical subject pages.

The Social Indicators intranet pages enable MPs and staff to download underlying data in the form of spreadsheet files.<sup>1</sup> These files often include more detailed statistics and longer time series.

Subjects have been chosen from those that receive the most public attention and those that we think are most useful to MPs. These include some international comparisons alongside nationally based statistics. Every attempt has been made to match the geographical coverage of these topics to the powers of the UK parliament. Where possible, links are included on the intranet pages to statistics that cover the rest of the UK.

The coverage of Social Indicators is intended to be complementary to the Economic Indicators Research Paper, which is produced by the Economic Policy and Statistics section.

The range of topics included in Social Indicators and the content of the intranet pages is regularly reviewed. If you have views on either, please contact the Head of Section, Richard Cracknell (x4632) or the editor, Julien Anseau (x4310).

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://hcl1.hclibrary.parliament.uk/sections/stats/socialindicators/socialindicators.htm>

## II Contacts for further information

Members and staff who require further information on a particular subject should contact the relevant statistician as detailed below. A comprehensive guide to the subject coverage of Research Service specialists is available in *Using the Library*.<sup>2</sup>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Statistician</b>	<b>Tel.</b>	<b>Alternative</b>	<b>Tel.</b>
Agriculture	Matthew Whittaker	2454	Paul Bolton	6789
Charities (inc voluntary orgs)	Rachael Harker	5061	Gavin Berman	3851
Civil Service	Richard Cracknell	4632	Matthew Whittaker	2454
Crime & Justice	Gavin Berman	3851	Ross Young	4313
Defence	Sophie Gick	6969	Gavin Berman	3851
Deprivation	Julien Anseau	4310	Gavin Berman	3851
Education	Paul Bolton	6789	Sophie Gick	6969
Elections	Ed Tetteh	2938	Ross Young	4313
Energy	Paul Bolton	6789	Julien Anseau	4310
Environment	Paul Bolton	6789	Julien Anseau	4310
Gambling/Lottery	Gavin Berman	3851	Rachael Harker	5061
Health services	Rachael Harker	5061	Matthew Whittaker	2454
Health (status, public, diseases etc)	Julien Anseau	4310	Matthew Whittaker	2454
Housing	Rachael Harker	5061	Matthew Whittaker	2454
Immigration	Ross Young	4313	Julien Anseau	4310
Local Government Finance	Gavin Berman	3851	Paul Bolton	6789
Media/Arts	Gavin Berman	3851	Rachael Harker	5061
Monarchy	Richard Cracknell	4632	Paul Bolton	6789
Parliament	Richard Cracknell	4632	Ross Young	4313
Parliament (MPs' activity, divisions)	Jeremy Hardacre	3741	Ross Young	4313
Pensions	Richard Cracknell	4632	Sophie Gick	6969
Population	Julien Anseau	4310	Richard Cracknell	4632
Religion	Gavin Berman	3851	Richard Cracknell	4632
Social Security	Richard Cracknell	4632	Rachael Harker	5061
Social Services	Matthew Whittaker	2454	Rachael Harker	5061
Sport	Gavin Berman	3851	Sophie Gick	6969
Statistics (Policy)	Richard Cracknell	4632	Ross Young	4313
Technology (inc. R&D)	Matthew Whittaker	2454	Paul Bolton	6789
Transport	Ross Young	4313	Sophie Gick	6969

<sup>2</sup> [http://hcl1.hclibrary.parliament.uk/general\\_pdf/usingthelibrary.pdf](http://hcl1.hclibrary.parliament.uk/general_pdf/usingthelibrary.pdf)

### III Gambling in New South Wales, Australia

The gambling industry is big business in Australia, with Australians losing A\$17.5 billion on gambling in 2005-06.<sup>1</sup> The industry has grown substantially in the last twenty years following the legalisation of casinos and the widespread introduction of gaming machines. The proportion of household disposable income directed towards gambling has escalated, as has the amount of taxation revenue provided to governments from gambling.

Australian statistics divide gambling into three categories: racing (horses and greyhounds); gaming (casinos, gaming machines, keno and lotteries); and sports betting (wagering on approved local, national or international sporting activities – other than horses or greyhounds). This article discusses the extent and regulation of gambling in New South Wales, Australia.

#### The prevalence of gambling in NSW

Using the Canadian Problem Gambling Index, a 2006 survey found that 0.8 percent of the NSW adult population falls in the problem gambling group. A further 1.6 percent are considered moderate risk gamblers and 2.1 percent low risk gamblers, equating to less than 5 percent of the population with some level of gambling risk. The majority of the population (64.5 percent) are non-problem gamblers and 31 percent did not participate in any form of gambling.

Overall participation across gambling activities is highest for lottery products (56 percent), followed by gaming machines (31 percent) and horse/dog races (20 percent). While lottery products attract highest participation, they are just as likely or more likely to be purchased by non-problem gamblers (85 percent) as those identified as risk gamblers (77 percent). It is gaming machines that pose most risk in terms of problem

gambling. Problem gamblers (95 percent) and moderate risk gamblers (87 percent) are all significantly more likely to use gaming machines than non-problem gamblers (69 percent).

A national study in 1999 found that a small percentage of the population is responsible for the bulk of expenditure on gambling. 70 percent of gambling expenditure can be attributed to 10 percent of gamblers, with problem gamblers losing an average of 22.1 percent of their household income before tax.<sup>2</sup>

#### The amount spent on gambling

In NSW, on average each adult lost \$1,357 due to gambling in 2005-06. This is higher than the national average of \$1,122, but significantly less than in the Northern Territory, where per capita losses were the highest in the nation at \$2,196. In contrast, Western Australia had the lowest losses, at only \$551 per adult. The defining difference is that, apart from within its casino, Western Australia has no gaming machines. In NSW, gaming machines are widely accessible to adults in clubs and hotels. Per capita, each NSW adult lost nearly \$1000 on gaming machines alone in 2005-06.

The gambling expenditure (losses) figures tend to mask the high turnover amounts of gambling in Australia (Table 2). NSW has the second highest gambling turnover of all the States and Territories, with \$12,229 gambled per adult in 2005-06. However, this is small compared to the highest, the Northern Territory, with \$31,249 gambled per adult. In contrast, in the lowest turnover state, Western Australia, just \$2,423 was gambled per adult. In all states, real per capita gambling turnover has significantly increased over the last 25 years, especially since 1990 to the present.

<sup>1</sup> Queensland Government, Australian Gambling Statistics 1980-81 to 2005-06, 2007.

<sup>2</sup> Productivity Commission, Australia's Gambling Industries, Inquiry Report, Report No 10, 26 November 1999.

Table 1 - Per capita gambling expenditure by type of gambling and State, 2005-06

	A\$								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
Total Gaming	914	1,204	1,281	924	831	699	1,000	393	974
of which:									
Casino	75	122	678	191	104	270	264	223	187
Gaming Machines	764	964	391	585	624	295	635	0	663
Instant Lottery	8	13	11	29	10	9	6	22	15
Interactive Gaming	0	0	101	0	0	0	0	0	1
Keno	3	16	0	28	11	55	2	0	13
Lotteries	4	10	0	0	0	2	2	0	4
Lotto	59	78	99	90	72	67	92	135	88
Minor Gaming	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	14	2
Pools	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total Racing	107	144	629	102	88	75	157	153	138
Total Sports Betting	0	10	287	3	2	2	14	5	11
<b>Total All Gambling</b>	<b>1,022</b>	<b>1,357</b>	<b>2,197</b>	<b>1,029</b>	<b>922</b>	<b>776</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>1,123</b>

Table 2 - Real per capita total gambling turnover by State, 1980-81 - 2005-06

	A\$								
	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
1980-81	3,212	5,964	3,358	1,610	1,359	2,301	1,901	1,440	3,255
1990-91	4,849	5,832	5,770	2,121	1,947	2,238	1,762	2,380	3,392
2000-01	11,132	11,227	15,983	6,826	6,059	6,838	12,159	2,393	9,319
2005-06	10,609	12,230	31,249	8,128	7,487	6,497	9,709	2,424	9,491

## Gaming machines

Gaming machines were permitted in NSW clubs in 1956, and in hotels from 1984. Until 1992, NSW and the Australian Capital Territory were the only jurisdictions to allow them. As shown in Table 3, NSW has half of the 200,000 gaming machines in Australia, estimated at some 20 percent of comparable machines in the world.<sup>3</sup>

Table 3 - Total gaming machines operating as at 30 June 2006

ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
5,150	100,034	1,862	45,396	13,581	3,680	29,647	1,500	200,850

<sup>3</sup> Productivity Commission, Australia's Gambling Industries, Inquiry Report, Report No 10, 26 November 1999.

In 1991-92, gaming accounted for 79 percent of all gambling expenditure (losses) in NSW. As shown in Table 1, by 2005-06 this had increased to 89 percent, at the expense of racing, which decreased as a proportion by 10 percent.

Gaming machine players tend to be younger and middle income earners.<sup>4</sup> Whilst equal numbers of men and women play gaming machines, it is a relatively popular form of gambling for women in comparison to other forms of gambling.

## Casinos

There are currently 13 casinos in Australia, of which NSW has one, Star City, in Sydney. The casino, which opened in 1994, has 210 gaming tables and 1,500 gaming machines. 8.7 million people visited the casino in 2005-06. Casino gamblers tend to be male, aged between 18 and 24 years and often members of an Asian community. The Sydney casino, as part of the Darling Harbour precinct, is an important tourist attraction. Tourism authorities estimate that (i) about 10 percent of Star City's customers are tourists, including interstate visitors and day-trippers from other parts of NSW; (ii) about 16 percent of international visitors to NSW visit the casino during their trip, and (iii) 37 percent of tourists from Malaysia, Hong Kong and China visit Star City.

After gaming machines, casinos were the second largest source of per capita loss on gambling, with \$122 lost per adult in NSW.

## Lotteries

Lotteries are the most popular form of gambling with players generally being representative of the population.<sup>5</sup> This is possibly because many do

<sup>4</sup> Productivity Commission, Australia's Gambling Industries, Inquiry Report, Report No 10, 26 November 1999.

<sup>5</sup> Productivity Commission, Australia's Gambling Industries, Inquiry Report, Report No 10, 26 November 1999.

not view lotteries as 'real' gambling. Per capita, adults in NSW spent more than \$100 on lotteries in 2005-06.

### Wagering

Wagering is gambling on racing and sporting events. Most participants in this form of gambling are men. Adults in NSW spent \$143 each on racing and sports betting in 2005-06.

### Gambling as a proportion of household expenditure

In 2005-06, Australians spent 2.93 percent of household disposable income<sup>6</sup> on gambling compared to 1.48 percent in 1980-81. For NSW, these figures were higher than the national average at 3.44 percent and 2.4 percent respectively. A number of factors have contributed to the rise in gambling expenditure, including the legalisation of gaming machines in most states and territories, which caused the most rapid rise in spending.<sup>7</sup>

### Government revenue

Concern has been expressed at the reliance of State Governments on gambling revenue. In 2005-06, NSW revenue from gambling was over \$1.5 billion, accounting for some 10 percent of total NSW Government tax revenue. Real NSW government revenue<sup>8</sup> from gambling has increased by approximately 50 percent from 1980-81 to 2005-06. As shown in Table 4, this is a relatively small increase compared to some of the other Australian States or Territories, notably the Northern Territory.

<sup>6</sup> Defined as gross household income less income taxes, consumer debt interest.

<sup>7</sup> Productivity Commission, Australia's Gambling Industries, Inquiry Report, Report No 10, 26 November 1999.

<sup>8</sup> After having accounted for the effects of inflation.

Table 4 - Real government revenue from total gambling by State, 1980-81 - 2005/06

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Australia
1980-81	8	1,023	8	132	78	37	570	76	1,929
1990-91	39	1,232	21	340	181	55	695	221	2,784
2000-01	55	1,367	35	585	344	66	1,464	251	4,167
2005-06	55	1,522	55	835	408	75	1,460	283	4,694

### The regulation of gambling in New South Wales

In Australia, State Governments bear primary responsibility for the regulation of gambling. The Commonwealth Government has enacted legislation in relation to financial transactions and interactive gambling. In NSW, the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing administers some 20 pieces of legislation that regulate the gambling industry.

The *Casino Control Act 1992* provides for the establishment of one casino and the control of its operations. The Act established the Casino Control Authority, a statutory body which amongst other duties, must investigate and determine every three years whether the casino operator is a suitable person to hold the casino licence, and whether it is in the public interest that the casino licence should continue.

The Act requires the casino to pay 2 percent of its gaming revenue into the Responsible Gambling Fund. In 2005-06, this amounted to \$11.83 million. The Fund provides grants for services, projects and activities relating to problem gambling. This includes the establishment of G-Line, a 24 hour phone counselling, information and referral service for gamblers.

The principal law regulating gaming machines in NSW is the *Gaming Machines Act 2001*. The primary objectives of the Act are to minimise harm associated with the misuse and abuse of gambling activities, and fostering the responsible conduct of gambling in venues.

The Act sets a cap on the number of gaming machines in the State (104,000), both for hotels (25,980) and registered clubs (78,020). The Act provides a regulatory environment for the issue of gaming machine

licences and the transfer of these licences between hotels and clubs. Other harm minimisation measures included in the Act include:

- New hotels or clubs seeking to install gaming machines must submit a social impact assessment;
- Mandatory shutting down of gaming machines between 4.00am and 10.00am each day of the week;
- Prohibition on gaming machine advertising and gambling related signage outside a venue;
- Venues are required to establish and maintain links with an approved gambling counselling service.

The *Gaming Machine Tax Act 2001* provides for a taxation regime on gaming machine profits from hotels and registered clubs. Taxation rates differ between the two. For instance, 2006 hotelier tax rates on gaming machine profits ranged on a six point sliding scale from 5.5 percent on profits between \$0 and \$25,000, up to 39.1 percent for profits over \$5 million. By the 2010 and subsequent tax years, the tax rate will be 5 percent and 50 percent respectively.

The 2006 tax rates on registered clubs gaming profits range from 10 percent in the first category to 27.7 percent in the fifth. For example, if the profits from all gaming machines kept on the premises of a registered club in a tax year exceed \$20 million tax is payable:

- on \$800,000 of those profits at tax rate 1 (10 percent) for the tax year, and
- on \$4,000,000 of those profits at tax rate 2 (21 percent) for the tax year, and
- on \$5,000,000 of those profits at tax rate 3 (25.5 percent) for the tax year, and
- on \$10,000,000 of those profits at tax rate 4 (27.7 percent) for the tax year, and
- on so much of those profits as exceeds \$20,000,000 at tax rate 5 (27.7 percent) for the tax year.

Under the Community Development and Support Expenditure Scheme, registered clubs earning more than \$1 million per year in gaming machine

profit are eligible for a 1.5 percent rebate on gaming machine tax if these clubs provide equivalent amounts to approved community development and support projects. The Scheme supports schools, sporting clubs, charities and agencies working with the disadvantaged. Since the inception of the Scheme in 1998, over \$538 million has been allocated to these community projects.

Note: **A\$1 = £0.47** (As at 22 April 2008, *Financial Times, Companies and Markets*)

**Further information:**

Contact Stewart Smith: [stewart.smith@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:stewart.smith@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

#### IV A new era for UK official statistics: the launch of the UK Statistics Authority

“Good and honest statistics are vital for understanding our society and our economy, and for well-founded policy making. If you can’t trust official statistics, you are in the dark, not knowing where you are or where you are going. We need to have good numbers – accurate and accessible, comprehensive and clear, and we need to be able to trust them”.<sup>1</sup>

*Sir Michael Scholar, Chair, UK Statistics Authority*

\*\*\*\*\*

The *Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007* established an independent statutory body to promote, improve, and safeguard the production and publication of UK official statistics, and in doing so “to serve the public good”.

The UK Statistics Authority assumed its full statutory responsibilities on 1 April 2008. The Office for National Statistics is the executive office of the UK Statistics Authority.<sup>2</sup>

At an event to mark the launch of the UK Statistics Authority, Sir Michael Scholar, Chair of the new Authority, observed that this was “one of the foremost dates in the history of British statistics”. At the heart of its work, the Authority’s most important task is to rebuild public trust in UK official statistics. Sir Michael found that he was presented with a “real conundrum”

– an internationally-renowned Government Statistical Service yet consistently low levels of public trust in government statistics.<sup>3</sup>

A recent survey found that just one-third (36 per cent) of people thought that official statistics were “generally accurate”. When respondents were asked how they thought official statistics were used only 16 per cent agreed with the statement that “the government uses figures honestly when talking about its policies” while just 20 per cent thought that official figures were compiled without political interference.

The most common reasons given by those who disagreed that official statistics were generally accurate were that they perceived they had been manipulated for political purposes, or that they were misrepresented by politicians or the media.<sup>4</sup>

At the launch of the UK Statistics Authority, Sir Michael emphasised:

“It will be the Authority’s task to identify and neutralise the sources of this mistrust, and at the same time systematically to improve the quality, intelligibility, and accessibility of UK statistics, so that government statisticians fully deserve the higher level of public trust...”

One of the central powers of the new UK Statistics Authority will be the assessment and designation of UK official statistics as “National Statistics”, including the removal of the National Statistics kite mark where they are not produced or released according to the exacting professional standards set out in a new Code of Practice that the Authority will adopt in the coming months.

<sup>1</sup> UK Statistics Authority New UK Statistics Authority launches (1 April 2008) <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/news/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> *Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007* (ch. 18) <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2007/20070018.htm>

<sup>3</sup> UK Statistics Authority *Sir Michael Scholar at the UK Statistics Authority launch* (1 April 2008)

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/news/index.html>

<sup>4</sup> Office for National Statistics *Public confidence in official statistics still low* (17 March 2008) <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pdfdir/pco0308.pdf>



Responsibility for the assessment and designation process will rest with a Head of Assessment who will report directly to the governing board of the Authority. The Head of Assessment will monitor and report on the quality and comprehensiveness of all official statistics.

The Head of Assessment and their team will (re)assess, for approval as National Statistics, existing National Statistics against the new Code. The Authority will also, at the request of the Minister responsible, assess other official statistics for approval as National Statistics. A list of non-Crown bodies that currently produce official statistics that would be subject to assessment against the Code was recently set out in the *Draft Official Statistics Order 2008*, currently before Parliament.<sup>5</sup> Where the Authority considers that a set of official statistics is not currently designated as National Statistics should be subject to assessment and the Minister responsible has so far not requested assessment, the Authority will make a request to the appropriate Minister. The Minister is required to publish a statement as to whether s/he will comply, and to set out any reasons for not complying with the Authority's request.

The Authority recently established a new Publication Hub in order to separate statistical analysis from political comment. The aim of the Hub, which is available online at [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk), is to provide a one-stop shop for statistics which are accessible, clear, and free from political commentary.

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2008/draft/ukdsi\\_9780110810027\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2008/draft/ukdsi_9780110810027_en_1)

The *Statistics and Registration Service Bill* (Bill 8 of 2006-07) was published in December 2006. For further information regarding the Bill and its consideration in the House of Commons Public Bill Committee, see House of Commons Library Research Papers 06/66 and 07/25.<sup>6</sup>

The Bill's passage through Parliament was unexpectedly protracted. While completing its House of Commons stages relatively smoothly with only a small number of inconsequential "tidying-up" amendments, the Bill was subject to prolonged debate and significant amendment in the House of Lords. While the Government accepted some of the Lords' amendments, they did not agree with others, and the Bill was subjected to "ping pong" before the Lords withdrew those contentious amendments to allow the Bill to pass. The Act was brought into force by two commencement orders.<sup>7</sup>

The Act provides for the creation of a UK Statistics Authority (formally referred to as "the Statistics Board" in the provisions of the Act) which will be the legal successor to the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The ONS's former responsibilities, with the exception of various functions with respect to civil registration, have now transferred to the Authority. The non-statutory Statistics Commission ceased to exist on 31 March 2008.

The UK Statistics Authority is a Non-Ministerial Department. Residual ministerial responsibility for the Authority rests with the Cabinet Office. The Authority will formally report to Parliament, typically through the House of

<sup>6</sup> House of Commons Library Research Paper 06/66 *Statistics and Registration Service Bill (Bill 8 of 2006-07)*

<http://www.parliament.uk/commons/lib/research/rp2006/rp06-066.pdf>

House of Commons Library Research Paper 07/25 *Statistics and Registration Service Bill: Committee Stage Report*

<http://www.parliament.uk/commons/lib/research/rp2007/rp07-026.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> *Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 (Commencement No. 1) Order 2007*

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/uksi\\_20073388\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/uksi_20073388_en_1)

*Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 (Commencement No. 2 and Transitional Provision) Order 2008*

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2008/uksi\\_20080839\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2008/uksi_20080839_en_1)

Commons Public Administration Select Committee, but also to other committees as necessary.

The governing body of the UK Statistics Authority is composed of a majority of non-executive members appointed by Ministers following consultation with the Authority's Chair. Alongside Sir Michael Scholar as Chair, the non-executive directors are:

- Lord Rowe-Beddoe of Kilgety who is Deputy Chair with responsibility for the governance of the Office for National Statistics
- Professor Adrian Smith who is Deputy Chair with responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the production and publication of all official statistics across the UK
- Professor David Rhind, formerly Chairman of the Statistics Commission, and Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the City University in London
- Partha Dasgupta, Chief Executive of the Pension Protection Fund
- Sir Alan Langlands, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dundee, and formerly Chief Executive of the National Health Service in England (1994-2000)
- Moira Gibb, Chief Executive Officer of Camden Borough Council
- Professor Steve Nickell, Warden of Nuffield College, Oxford and formerly a member of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (2006-06)

The governing board includes three executive members, of which one is automatically the National Statistician as the chief executive of the Authority. The governing board of the Authority has recently agreed that the other executive members will be the Head of Assessment and the ONS's current Director of Finance. An announcement regarding the person appointed as the first Head of Assessment is expected imminently.

**Ross Young (x4313)**



## World food prices

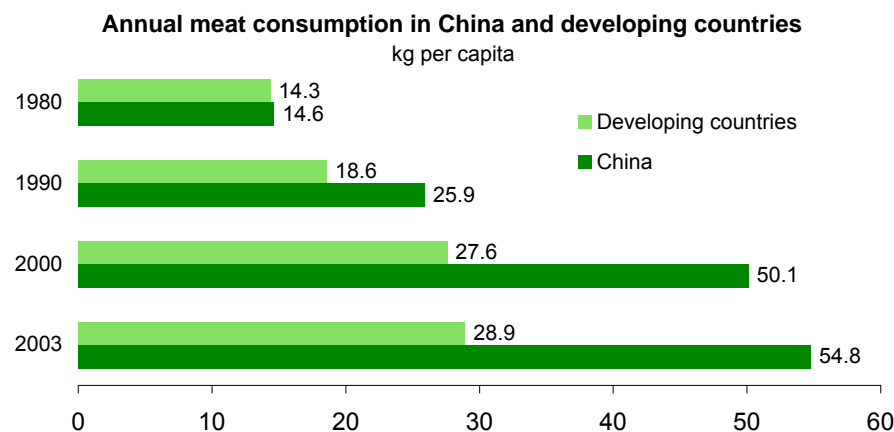
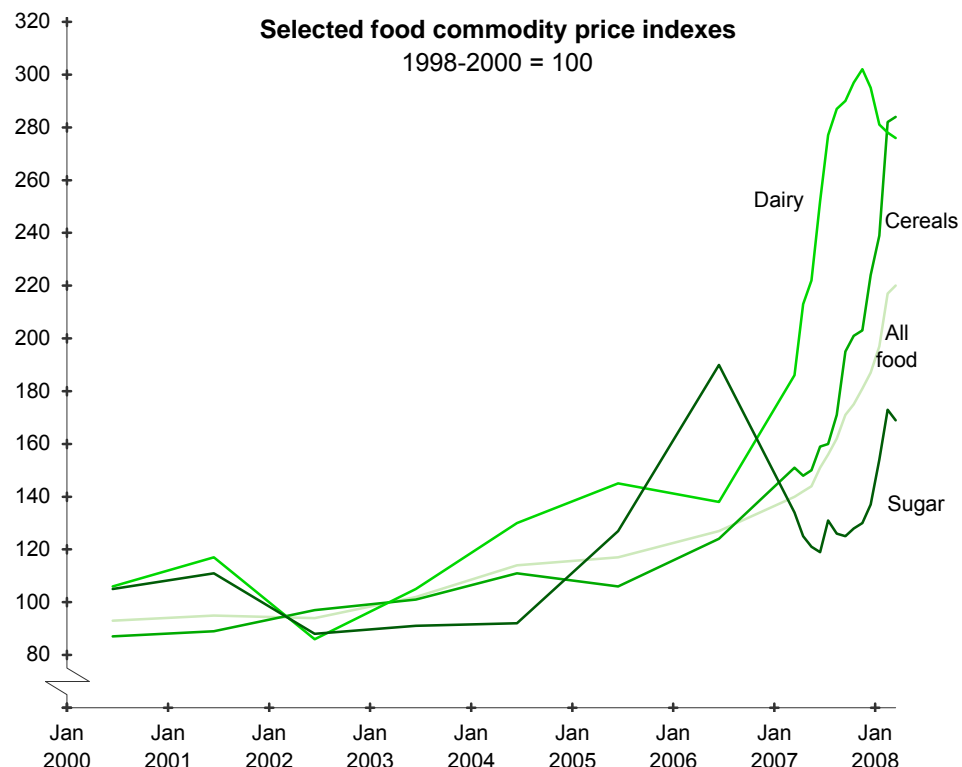
- Global food prices have been affected in recent years by a number of factors. Droughts and floods have reduced harvests; changing diets in rapidly developing countries such as China have boosted consumption of meat and, by association, animal feed; the new market for biofuels has raised grain prices; and the high cost of oil has increased the cost of fertiliser as well as food processing and transportation costs.
- Prices for a basket of food commodities in March 2008 were 120% higher than in 1998-2000. Within the general trend, increases were greatest for dairy, oils and fats, and cereals. Price increases have been particularly marked in the year to March 2008.
- The USDA projects that ethanol production in the US will rise from 5 billion gallons in 2005 to over 10 billion gallons by 2009. 14% of the US corn crop was used to produce ethanol in 2005/06; this is set to rise to 30% by 2009/10.
- Meat consumption in developing countries increased from 47 million tonnes in 1980 (14kg per person) to 143 million tonnes (29kg per person) in 2003. The increase was most marked in China.
- Food prices also continue to be affected by the rising world population, which increased from 2.5 billion in 1950 to 6.5 billion in 2005. It is forecast to increase to 9.2 billion by 2050.

### Food price indices: 1998-2000 = 100

	All food price index	Meat	Dairy	Cereals	Oils and fats	Sugar
2000	93	100	106	87	72	105
2001	95	100	117	89	72	111
2002	94	96	86	97	91	88
2003	102	105	105	101	105	91
2004	114	118	130	111	117	92
2005	117	121	145	106	109	127
2006	127	115	138	124	117	190
2007	157	121	247	172	174	129
Mar-07	140	121	186	151	138	134
Mar-08	220	133	276	284	285	169

Source: FAO, *Crop Prospects and Food Situation*, No 2, April 2008, p13

Next update: On request

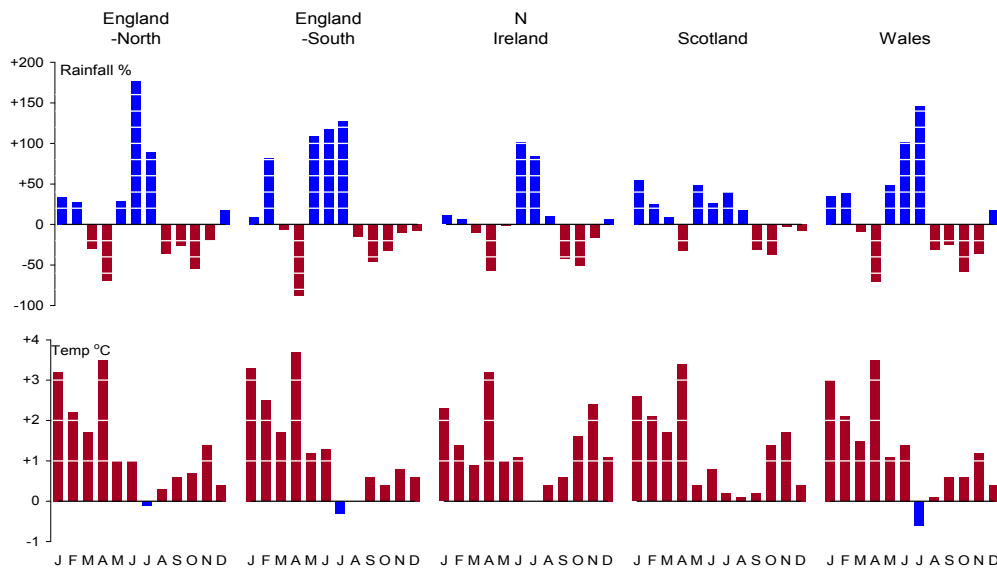


Contact: Matthew Whittaker x2454 or Sophie Gick x6969

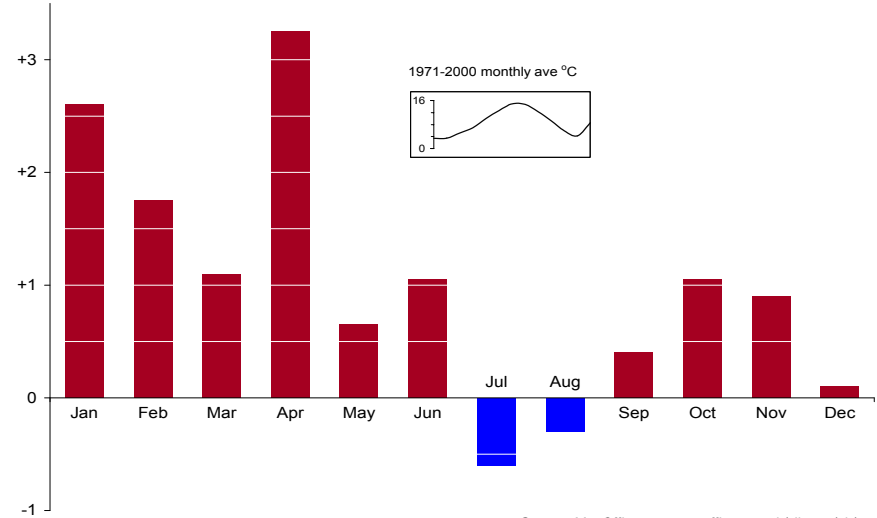
## The weather in 2007

- 2007 was the second warmest year on record for the UK; 0.15°C below the 2006 record. This series has been produced since 1914 and the last six years have been the warmest in this series.
- 2007 saw mean temperature records for April and Spring. Summer temperatures were generally below average.
- Central England Temperature (CET) has been recorded since 1659. 2007 was the 10th warmest year on the CET series.
- UK mean rainfall levels in 2007 were highly variable. After a very dry April, May to July was especially wet. Overall rainfall was 6% above the 1971-2000 average. Hours of sunshine were 8% above average.
- The regional data show some monthly variations in rainfall -South England had three months (May-July) where rainfall was more than double the average and levels in Scotland were generally close to average for the whole year.
- Annual average temperatures in Northern Ireland were the greatest margin above average (1.1°C) although there was little regional variation. Northern Ireland was the only region to record below average rainfall (-0.2%) and rainfall in South England was above average by the largest amount (+14%).

2007 rainfall and temperature anomalies for Met Office regions

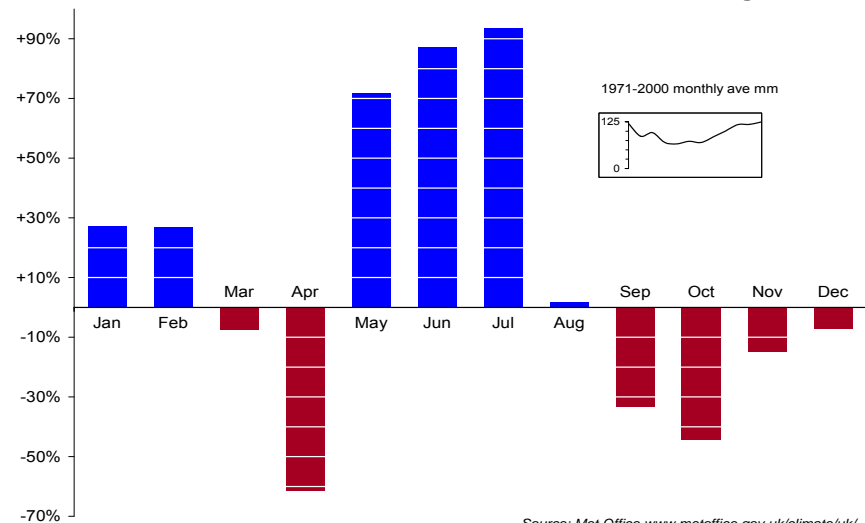


UK mean temperatures in 2007 -difference from the 1971-2000 average °C



Source: Met Office [www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate/uk/](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate/uk/)

UK mean rainfall in 2007 -difference from the 1971-2000 average

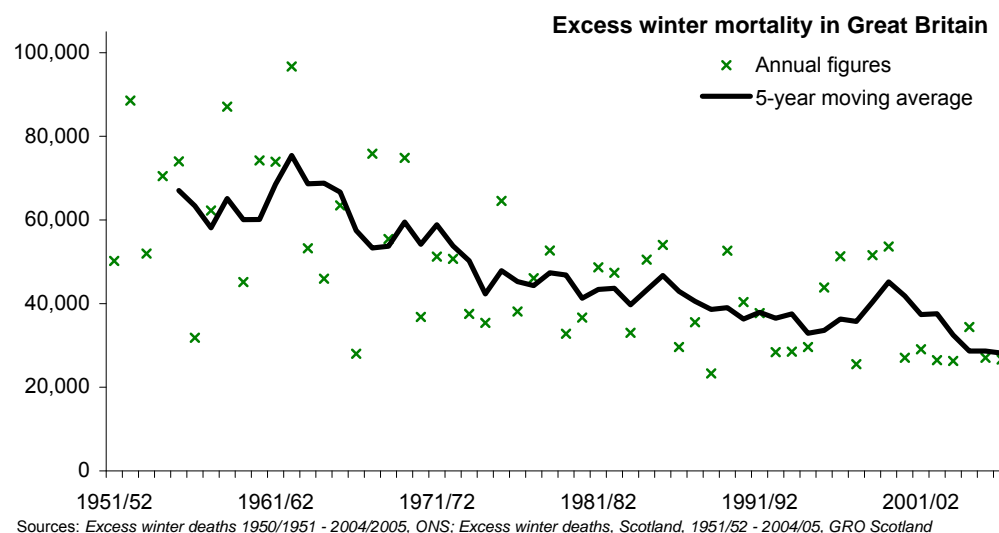


Source: Met Office [www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate/uk/](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate/uk/)

Contact: Paul Bolton x6789

## Excess Winter Mortality

- Excess winter mortality (EWM) is a measurement of the additional deaths that occur in the winter months.
- The standard method of calculating EWM compares the number of deaths in December to March with the average number in the preceding August-November and following April to July periods.
- EWM is associated with the severity of the winter and the levels of disease in the population, especially influenza.
- There have been very marked year-on-year variations in EWM over the last 50 years, but the long-term trend is downwards.
- The highest EWM level in recent years was 53,700 in 1999-00
- The provisional 2006-07 total of 26,650 was one of the lowest levels ever seen.
- Average EWM over the last five winters, when expressed as a percentage, has varied slightly by region within England and Wales from 15.2-17.2. Scotland had the lowest figure at 14.0%.



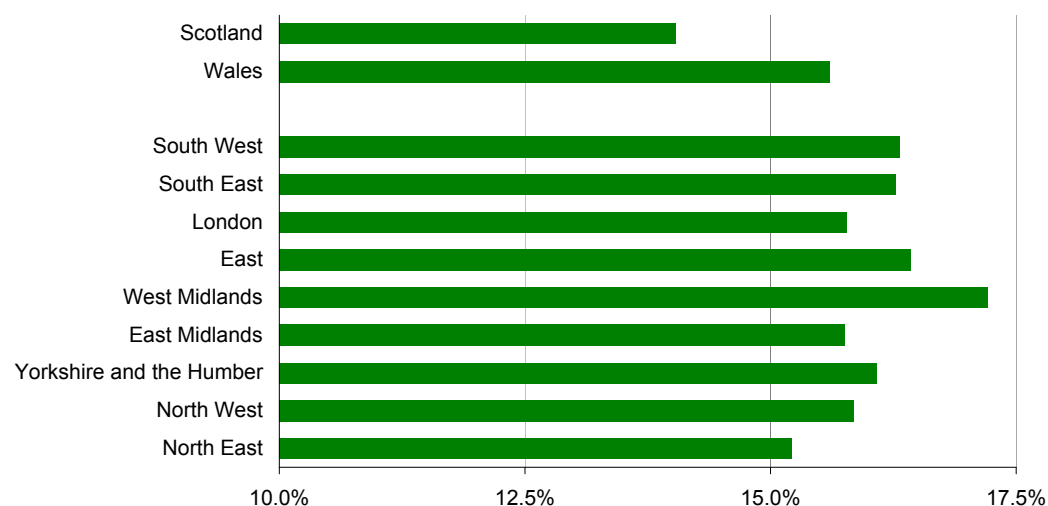
### Excess winter mortality in Great Britain, by age

	0-64	65-74	75-84	85+	All ages
1997-98	1,870	4,930	8,820	9,890	<b>25,510</b>
1998-99	3,480	7,740	18,000	22,370	<b>51,590</b>
1999-00	4,420	8,410	18,660	22,140	<b>53,630</b>
2000-01	2,030	3,710	9,360	11,940	<b>27,060</b>
2001-02	1,750	3,580	10,130	13,600	<b>29,070</b>
2002-03	2,130	3,350	8,900	12,100	<b>26,480</b>
2003-04	1,890	3,650	9,430	11,330	<b>26,290</b>
2004-05	<b>2,660</b>	<b>4,430</b>	<b>11,840</b>	<b>15,470</b>	<b>34,400</b>
2005-06	<b>2,290</b>	<b>3,210</b>	<b>8,590</b>	<b>12,950</b>	<b>27,050</b>
2006-07 (provisional)	<b>1,890</b>	<b>3,510</b>	<b>8,580</b>	<b>12,770</b>	<b>26,650</b>

Note: Excess Winter Mortality is the number of deaths in December to March minus the average number in the preceding and following four months.

Sources: Excess Winter Mortality - By Age Group and Region, ONS  
Increased Winter Mortality in Scotland, 2006/07, General Register Office for Scotland

### Excess winter mortality by region, 2000-01 to 2004-05 as a percentage of average non-winter deaths



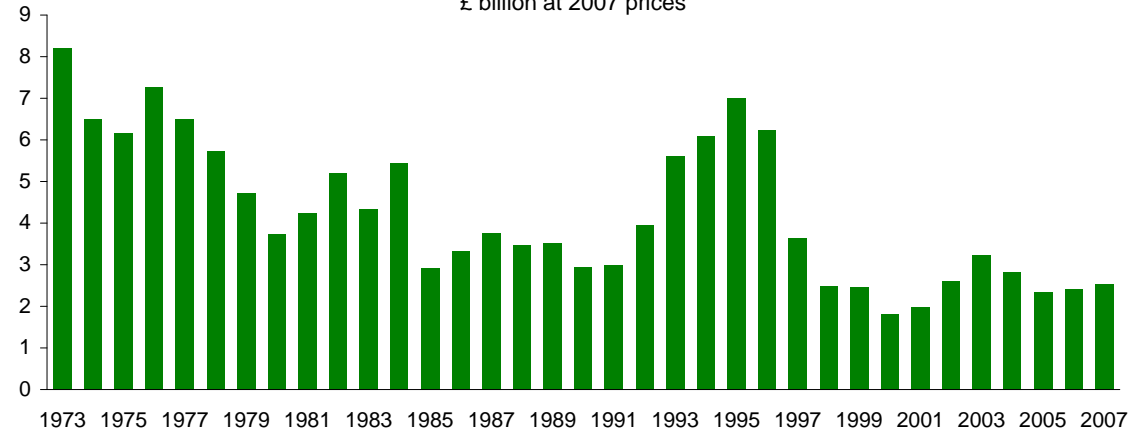
Contact: Paul Bolton x6789

## Agricultural incomes and subsidies

- Provisional 2007 data suggests that total income from farming (TIFF) increased by 5.7% in real terms year-on-year.
- TIFF per full time person equivalent also increased, by 8.1% to £13,300.
- The largest increases in TIFF in recent years were in the early 1990s. TIFF increased by over a third in 1993 alone, in 1995, it reached £7.0 billion at 2007 prices.
- Total public subsidies under the CAP and national schemes increased dramatically in the early 1990s with the introduction of arable area payments.
- The total value of direct payments to farmers was £2.9 billion in 2007.
- The introduction of the Single Payment Scheme in 2005 resulted in a major shift in subsidies away from those coupled to production.

**Total income from farming 1973-2007**

£ billion at 2007 prices



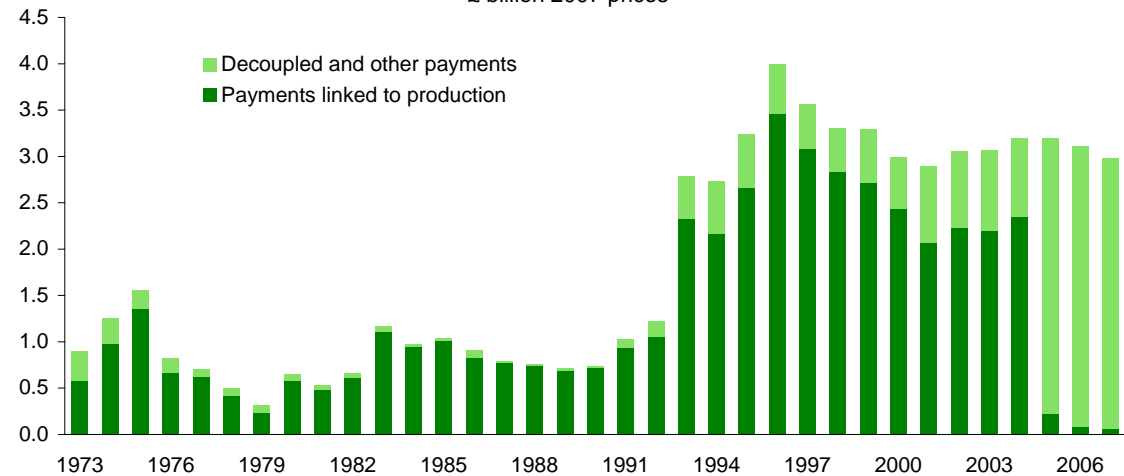
### Real farm incomes in the UK: 1990 - 2007

At 2007 prices

Year	Total income from farming (TIFF) £ million	TIFF per whole-time person equivalent £ per head
1990	2,936	11,500
1996	6,237	28,700
2000	1,818	8,300
2001	1,978	9,100
2002	2,612	12,400
2003	3,235	15,800
2004	2,830	14,000
2005	2,337	11,600
2006	2,402	12,300
2007	2,538	13,300

**Subsidies and other payments made to farmers in the UK**

£ billion 2007 prices

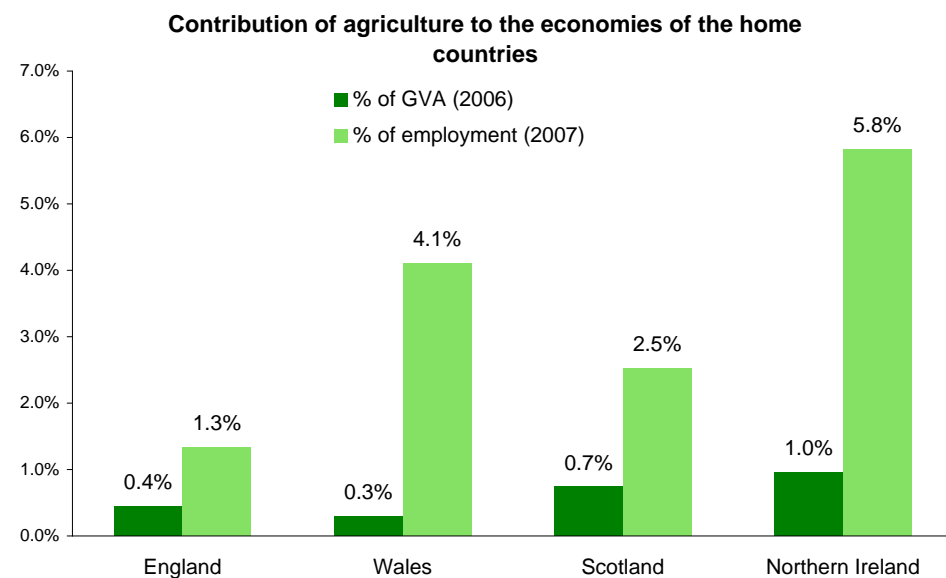


Source: Agriculture in the UK 2006, Defra

Source: Defra, Agriculture in the United Kingdom 2007, Table 2.1

## Agriculture in the home countries

- In 2006 the value of agriculture to the economy - as measured by its contribution to Gross Value Added (GVA) - was smallest in Wales at 0.3%, and highest in Northern Ireland at 1.0%
- In 2007, agriculture's share of each country's employment followed a similar pattern, although the figure for Wales was relatively high (given its contribution to GVA) at 4.1%
- In the last 10 years agriculture's share of UK GVA has fallen from 1.4% to 0.5% and employment from 2.3% to 1.7%.
- At June 2007, agriculture in England tended to be characterised by a greater concentration on crops, especially cereals.
- Holdings in Scotland were, on average, much larger than elsewhere in the UK and had a disproportionately large area of rough grazing.
- Holdings in Wales had the smallest (%) area of crops and by far the largest number of sheep per hectare.
- The broad breakdown of land use in Northern Ireland was similar to that in Wales, but beef and dairy farming dominated and the number of cattle per hectare was above any of the other home countries.



Next update: November 2008

### Summary measures of agriculture: 2006 or 2007

	England	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland	UK
<b>Gross value added at basic prices (2006/2007)</b>					
£ million (2007)	4,455	802	143	353	<b>5,753</b>
% of country total (2006)	0.4%	0.7%	0.3%	1.0%	<b>0.5%</b>
<b>Total labour force in agriculture (2007)<sup>(a)</sup></b>					
Thousands	353	68	57	49	<b>526</b>
% of country total	1.3%	2.5%	4.1%	5.8%	<b>1.7%</b>
<b>Area of agricultural holdings (2007)<sup>(b)</sup></b>					
Thousand ha.	9,291	5,595	1,640	1,016	<b>17,363</b>
% of total area	71.3%	71.8%	79.1%	74.8%	<b>71.6%</b>
<b>Holdings (2007)</b>					
Number (thousands)	200	51	38	26	<b>315</b>
Average size (ha.)	46	109	44	39	<b>55</b>
<b>Land use (2007)</b>					
% of area on holdings under:					
Crops	40%	9%	4%	5%	<b>25%</b>
Grassland	36%	22%	67%	78%	<b>34%</b>
Rough grazing <sup>(b)</sup>	6%	61%	13%	14%	<b>25%</b>
<b>Livestock (2007)</b>					
Number per ha. of agricultural holdings					
Sheep	1.7	1.3	5.5	2.0	<b>2.0</b>
Cattle	0.6	0.3	0.7	1.6	<b>0.6</b>
Pigs	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.4	<b>0.3</b>

Notes: Totals may not sum due to rounding

(a) Includes farmers, partners, spouses, salaried managers, regular workers and casual/gang labour

(b) Excludes common rough grazing

Sources: Defra, *Agriculture in the UK 2007*, Table 2.2

Defra, *Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture: 1 June 2006 England & 1 June 2007 England*

Scottish Executive, *Final Results of the June 2007 Agricultural Census*

Scottish Executive, *Abstract of Scottish Agricultural Statistics 1982 to 2007*

NAW, *Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture, 1 June 2007: final results*

NAW, *Welsh Agricultural Statistics 2006*, Table 3.1

DARDNI, *Northern Ireland Agriculture Census 2007: final results*

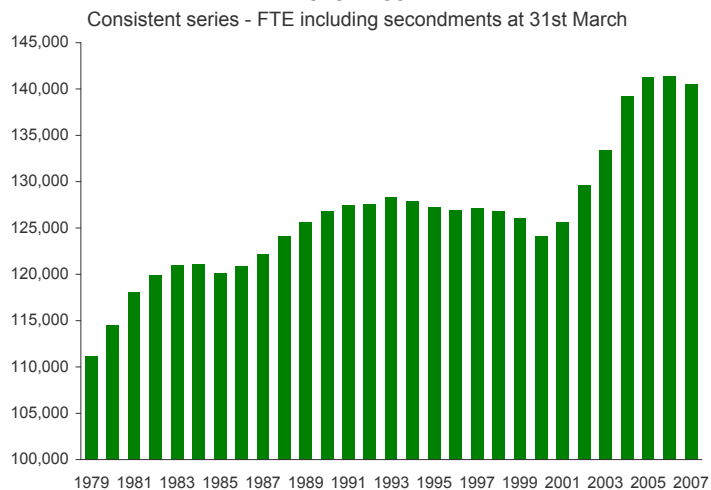
DARDNI, *Farm numbers*

Contact: Matthew Whittaker x2454 or Sophie Gick x6969

## Police numbers

- As measured under the data collection system introduced from March 2003, there were 141,731 police officers in England and Wales on 30 September 2007.
- Adjusted police strength in the 43 police forces, for comparison with figures prior to March 2003, stood at 139,262 at September 2007/140,028 the highest recorded figure.
- Police forces recruited 8,671 officers in the 12 months to March 2007, with 8,121 officers leaving.
- The proportion of female police officers in England and Wales has increased from 7 percent in 1977 to 23 percent by 2007.
- On 31 March 2007, there were 5,540 minority ethnic officers in the 43 police forces of England and Wales. These figures are not comparable to those for years prior to 2003, as the later figures are based on FTE rather than headcount data. Ethnic minority strength as a proportion of total police service strength increased from 1.0 percent in 1989 to 3.7 percent in March 2006.

### Police officer strength, England and Wales 1979 - 2007



Next update: July 2008

### Total police officer strength, England and Wales 1997-2007

Full Time Equivalent at 31 March

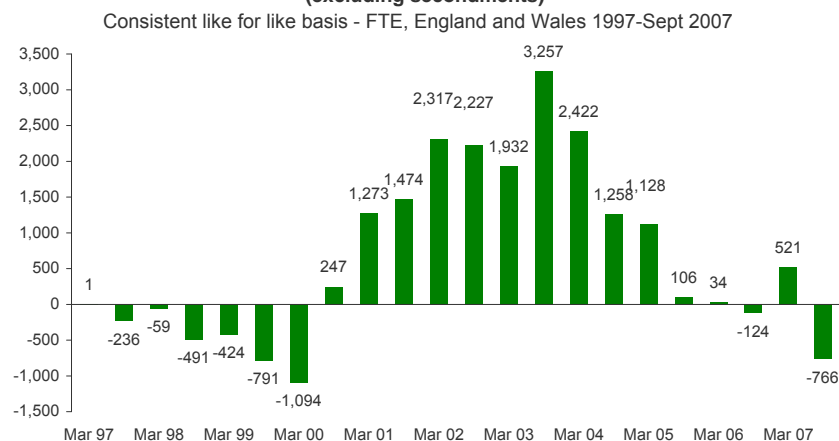
	Total excluding secondments	Of which:				Total strength
		Female Number	%	Ethnic minority Number	%	
1997	125,051	18,781	15.0%	2,150	1.7%	127,158
1998	124,756	19,606	15.7%	2,483	2.0%	126,814
1999	123,841	19,885	16.1%	2,520	2.0%	126,096
2000	121,956	20,155	16.5%	2,734	2.2%	124,170
2001	123,476	21,174	17.1%	2,955	2.4%	125,682
2002	127,267	22,784	17.9%	3,362	2.6%	129,603
2003	131,426	25,139	19.1%	3,915	2.9%	133,366
2004	137,105	26,956	19.7%	4,646	3.3%	139,200
2005	139,491	28,898	20.7%	5,017	3.5%	141,230
2006	139,631	30,307	21.7%	5,297	3.7%	141,381
2007	140,028	31,914	22.8%	5,540	3.9%	140,510
Sept 2007	139,262	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	139,710

Note: From March 2007 total strength no longer includes staff employed by NCS and NCIS following the launch of SOCA.

Source: Home Office Statistical Bulletin, *Police Service Strength, England & Wales*

### Six month changes in police officer strength

(excluding secondments)



Contact: Gavin Berman x3851 or Ross Young x4313

## Police funding

- Formula grant for police forces in England and Wales consists of all HO police grants, Revenue Support Grant (RSG) and Business Rates (NNDR). Provisional figures suggest that police forces will receive approximately £7.9bn, £8.1bn and £8.3bn in formula grant in the three years of the current settlement.
- Real terms gross revenue expenditure increased in every year between 1996/97 and 2006/07 except 2005/06. Provisional data suggests there was a slight fall in 2007/08.
- In 1996/97, almost 85 percent of police forces' gross revenue expenditure was financed through formula grant. In 2007/08 this proportion was expected to be 61 percent, the inclusion of specific grants increases this to 71 percent.
- The amount of police expenditure financed through council tax has almost doubled, in real terms, since 2001/02. Council tax now accounts for over 22 percent of police force expenditure finance, compared to 13 percent in 2001/02.

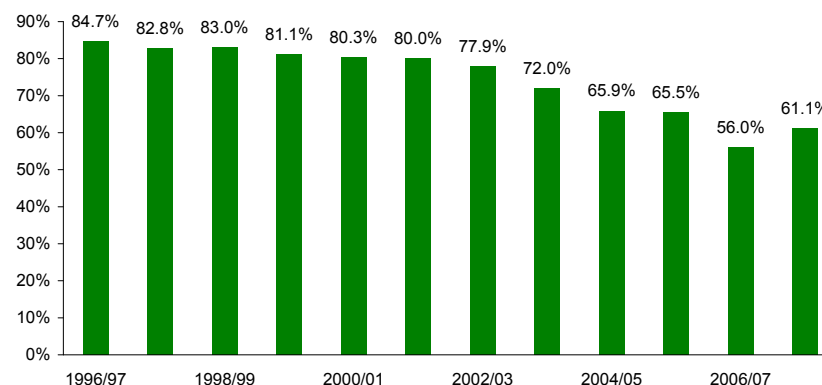
**Police funding and expenditure, England and Wales 1996/97 to 2010/11**  
£ million (2006/07 prices)

	Business rates	Revenue support grant	Home Office grants	Specific grants	Total Government provision	Council Tax	Other income	Gross revenue expenditure
1996/97	1,320	1,807	4,156	n/a	7,282	1,020	297	8,599
1997/98	1,234	1,811	4,142	n/a	7,187	1,127	363	8,677
1998/99	1,194	1,787	4,313	n/a	7,293	1,212	284	8,789
1999/00	1,277	1,746	4,291	n/a	7,314	1,297	409	9,020
2000/01	1,323	1,378	4,906	103	7,711	1,253	511	9,475
2001/02	1,137	1,184	5,673	267	8,261	1,220	508	9,989
2002/03	1,207	1,089	5,611	390	8,297	1,370	481	10,148
2003/04	832	2,107	4,753	537	8,228	2,156	296	10,680
2004/05	762	2,237	4,747	573	8,318	2,379	1,059	11,757
2005/06	897	2,234	4,545	949	8,624	2,488	1,252	11,727
2006/07	2,048	1,129	4,046	1,315	8,537	2,582	1,783	12,902
2007/08	Est. 2,693	544	4,008	1,235	8,479	2,659	717	11,855
2008/09	Est. 3,197		4,001	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009/10	Est. 3,195		4,004	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010/11	Est. 3,194		4,006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

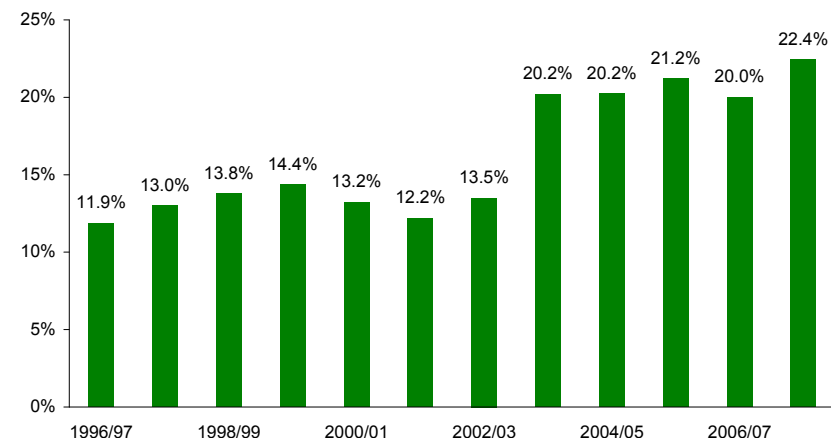
Note: Adjusted using December 2006 GDP deflator  
Source: CIPFA, *Police statistics*;

Next update: Autumn 2008

**Proportion of expenditure financed through formula grant**



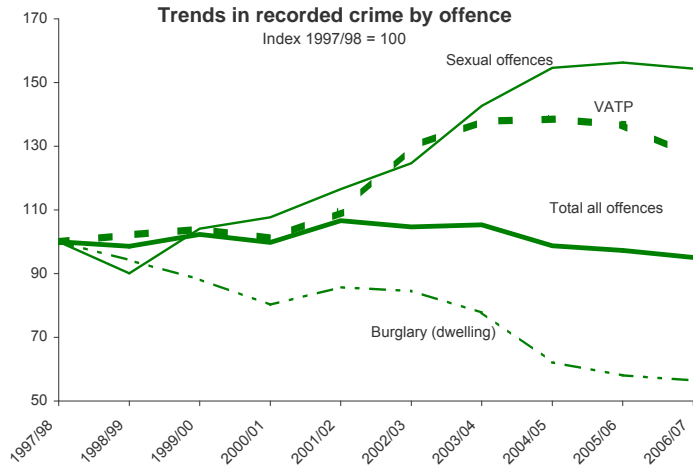
**Proportion of expenditure financed through council tax**



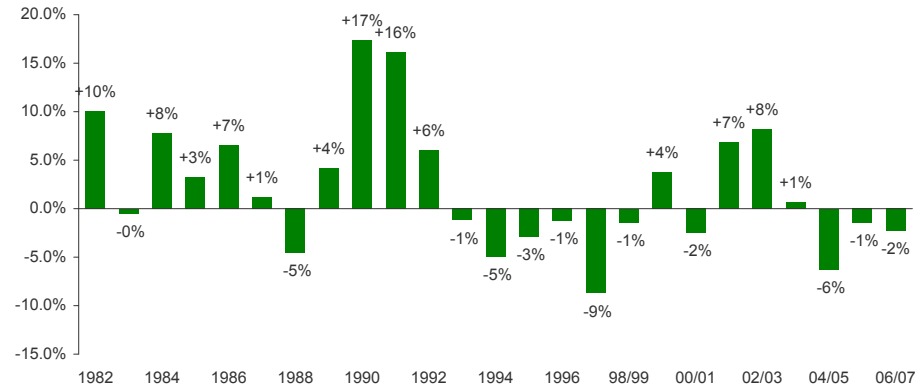
Contact: Gavin Berman x3851 or Ross Young x4313

## Crime

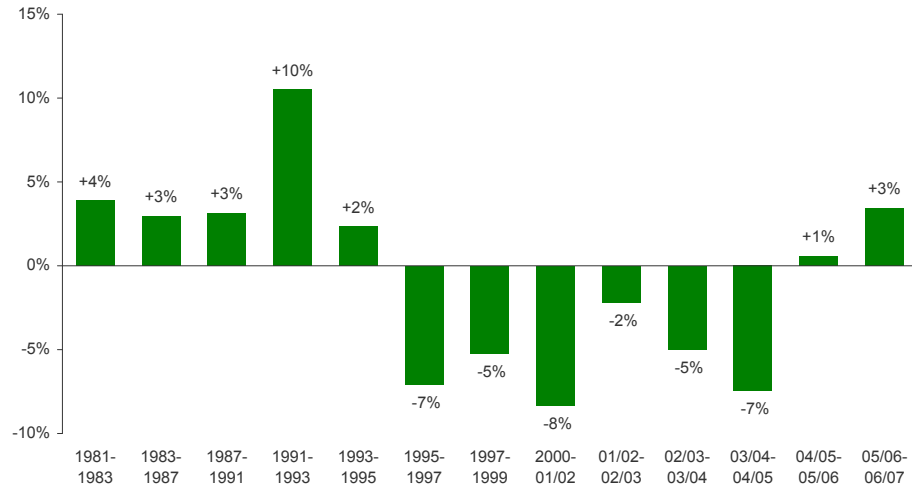
- There are two main measures of crime: the number of crimes recorded by the police and crimes measured under the British Crime Survey (BCS).
- The BCS measures crimes against adults living in private households in England and Wales. In the year to December 2007 the BCS crime estimate was 10.4 million, this is 6 percent below the estimate for the year to December 2006.
- BCS interviews for the year to December 2007 showed statistically significant falls in the number of vandalism and vehicle related thefts compared with the previous year.
- During Q4 2007 the police recorded 1.2 million offences, a 12 percent fall on the same period in 2006.
- The total number of 'most serious violence against the person' offences recorded by the police fell by 15 percent between Q4 2007 and Q4 2006. Over the same period recorded robberies fell by 21 percent, sexual offences fell by 8 percent with recorded domestic burglaries falling by 5 percent. The number of drug offences recorded by the police rose by 20 percent over the same period.



Annual % change in police recorded crime: 1982 - 2006/07



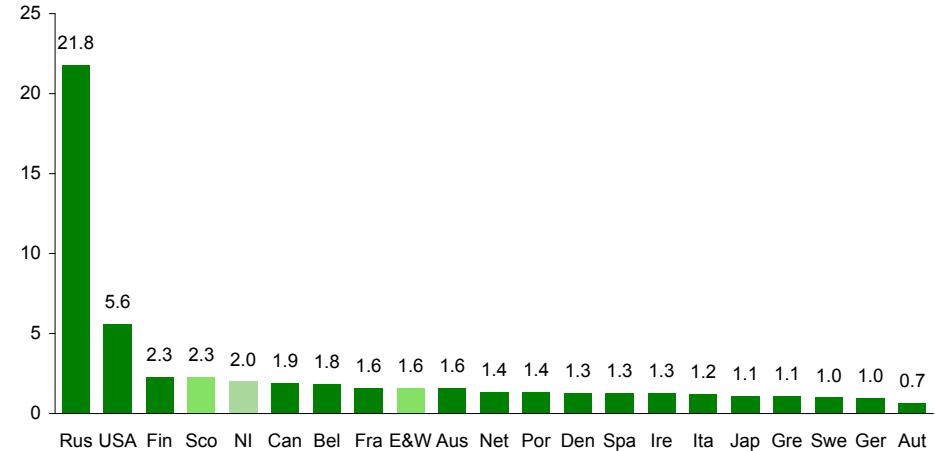
Annual % change in BCS crime 1981 - 2006/07



## Crime: international comparisons

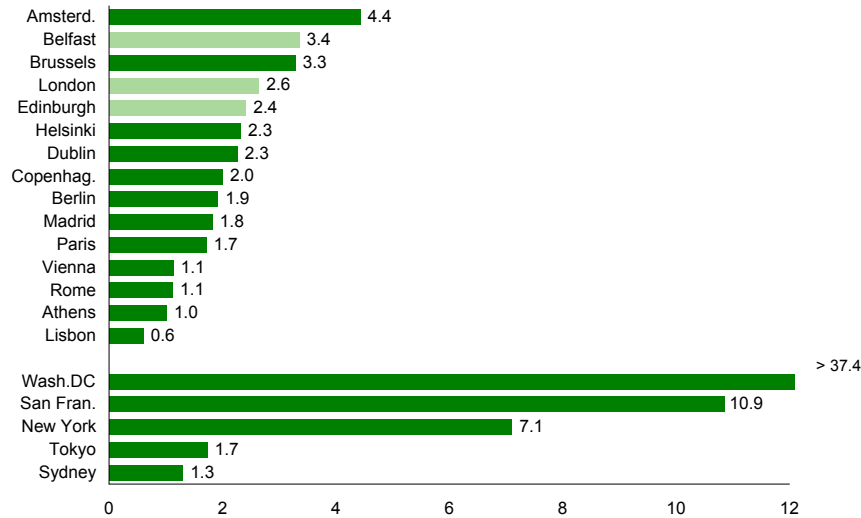
- Due to differences in the methods of recording offences, it is unwise to make direct comparisons between the levels of crime reported by national police forces. However as the definition of homicide is similar in most countries comparisons may be made.
- The police in England and Wales recorded 1.6 homicides per 100,000 population in 2003-2005. In Scotland 2.3 homicides per 100,000 population were recorded, compared with 2.0 in Northern Ireland.
- In the Russian Federation there were almost 22 homicides per 100,000 population in 2003-05. The homicide rate was also very high in the Baltic states of Lithuania (11.1) and Latvia (7.9) as well as Turkey (7.2). The United States had the highest homicide rate in the West, 5.6 per 100,000.
- The homicide rate in London is above that in Paris and Berlin but below that of Washington, San Francisco and New York.

Homicides per 100,000 population, 2003-2005



Source: Crime and Criminal Justice, Eurostat 15/07

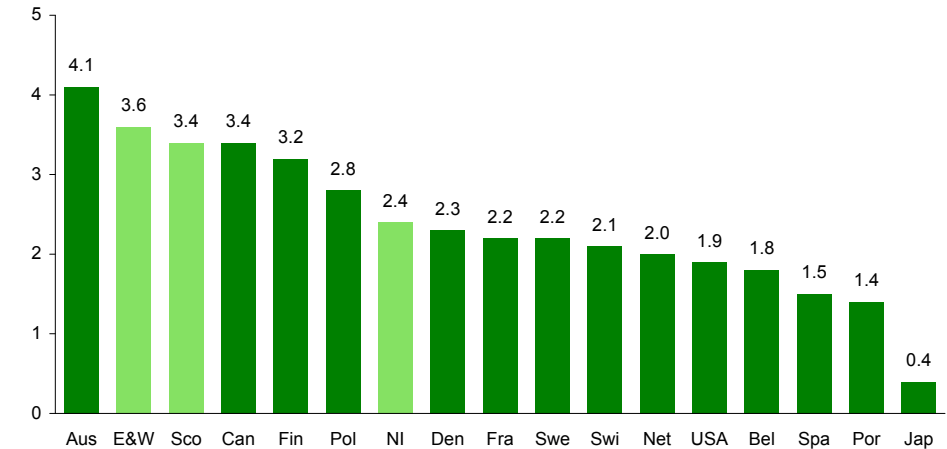
Homicides per 100,000 population, 2003-2005



Source: Crime and Criminal Justice, Eurostat 15/07

Victimisation rate

% victim of contact crime once or more in 1999

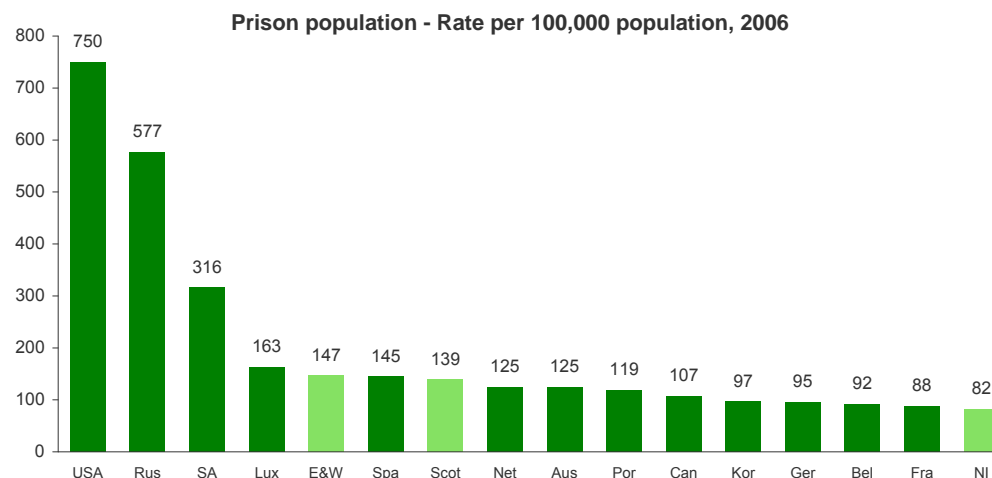


Source: Home Office Statistical Bulletin 12/03

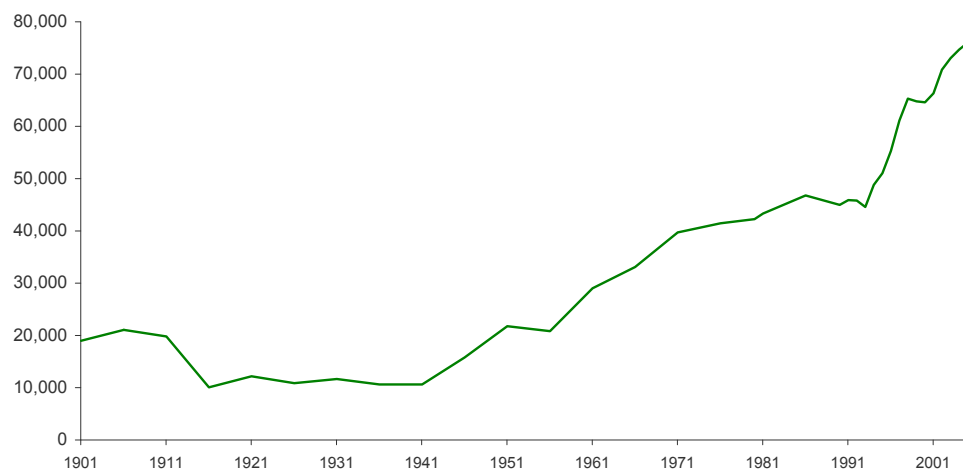
Contact: Gavin Berman x3851 or Ross Young x4313

## Prison population

- On 28 March 2008 there were 81,720 prisoners in prison or police cells, approximately 900 below the operational capacity of the prison estate. The prison population reached a record high of 82,180 prisoners on 29 February 2008, including the 266 held in police cells. This was 290 places above the operational capacity.
- The prison population in post-war England and Wales has risen steadily. Over the past decade, however, this increase has become more marked: the average prison population has increased by almost two-thirds.
- The latest Home Office projections suggest that the prison population will reach between 88,800 and 101,900 by 2014.
- The UK had 146 prisoners per 100,000 population in 2006. The rate for England and Wales (147) is the second highest in Western Europe, below Luxembourg (163). The US has the highest rate in the developed world (750) while Iceland (39) has the lowest.



**Prison population, England and Wales, 1901-2007**



**Prison estate population 1980-2007 by sex of prisoner**  
England and Wales, average of monthly totals

	Males		Females		Total
	Count	%	Count	%	
1980	40,748	96.4%	1,516	3.6%	42,264
1990	43,378	96.4%	1,597	3.6%	44,975
1997	58,439	95.6%	2,675	4.4%	61,114
1998	62,194	95.2%	3,105	4.8%	65,299
1999	61,523	95.0%	3,247	5.0%	64,770
2000	61,252	94.8%	3,350	5.2%	64,602
2001	62,560	94.4%	3,741	5.6%	66,301
2002	66,544	93.9%	4,299	6.1%	70,843
2003	68,613	93.9%	4,425	6.1%	73,038
2004	70,209	94.0%	4,449	6.0%	74,657
2005	71,513	94.1%	4,467	5.9%	75,980
2006	73,680	94.3%	4,447	5.7%	78,145
2007	75,940	94.6%	4,374	5.4%	80,314
Feb 2007	75,356	94.6%	4,343	5.4%	79,699
Feb 2008	77,691	94.6%	4,454	5.4%	82,145

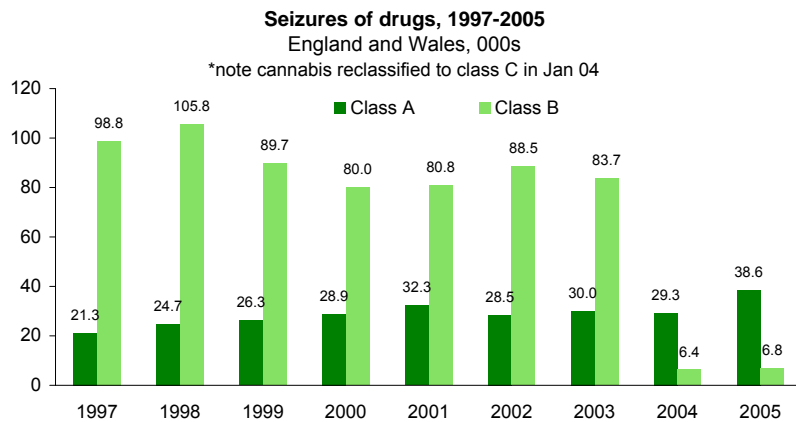
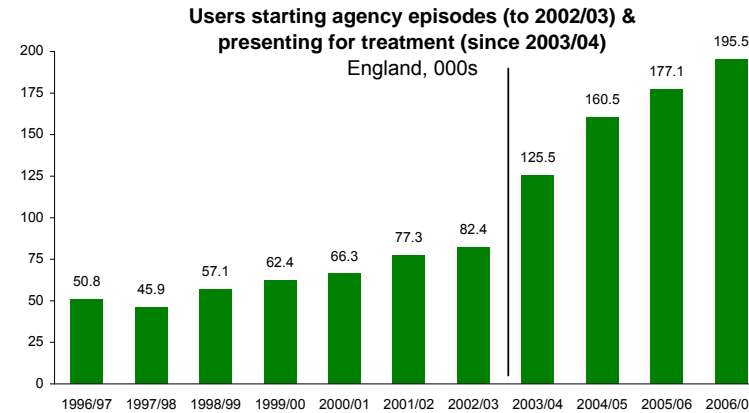
Sources: Home Office, *Prison statistics, England & Wales*  
*Prison population brief, England & Wales*

Next update: May 2008

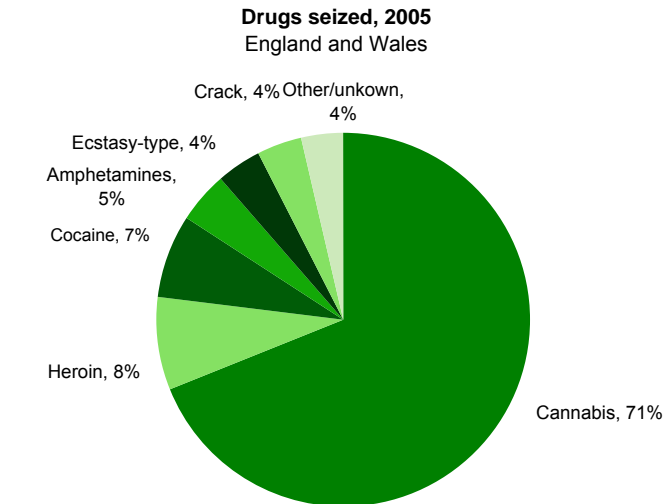
Contact: Gavin Berman x3851 or Ross Young x4313

## Drug use, seizures and offending

- In 2006/07, 195,500 individuals were in contact with drug treatment services in England, an increase of 10 percent compared with 2005/06. Of those discharged from treatment during 2006/07, 42 percent had successfully completed their treatment. Heroin was the most frequently reported drug of misuse by adults (66 percent) in 2006/07, while cannabis misuse was more common among young people under 18 (75 percent).
- In 2006/07 there were 194,300 drug offences recorded in England and Wales, an increase of 9 percent on the previous year. 54 percent of those convicted of production, supply and possession with intent to supply in 2006 were given a custodial sentence. 90 percent of convicted drug offenders were male.
- The total number of seizures fluctuates from year to year. Although the 2005 figure of 161,000 seizures is the largest in ten years, there was a second peak in 1998 of 126,500. Cannabis was the commonly seized controlled substance accounting for 71 percent of all seizures in 2005, compared with heroin (8 percent), cocaine (7 percent) and amphetamines (5 percent).
- The average purity of heroin seized by HMRC in 2005 was 49 percent. The purity of 'crack' and cocaine has tended to be much higher. In 2005, the average purity of cocaine seized by HMRC was 68 percent while the average purity of crack was 73 percent.



Next update: October 2008



Note: As a seizure can involve more than one drug, sum of the percentages is greater than 100%

Contact: Ross Young x4313 or Gavin Berman x3851

## Defence employment

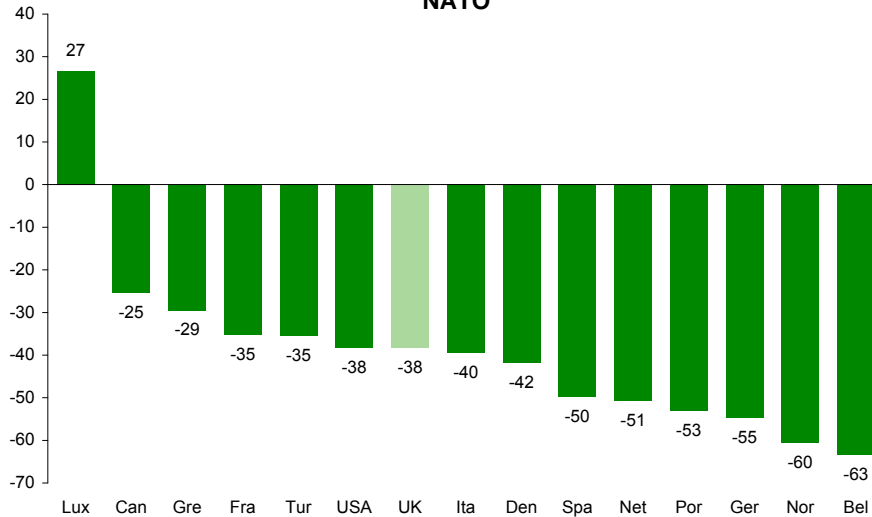
- On 21 July 2004 the Secretary of State for Defence presented to Parliament the command paper *Delivering Security in a Changing World - Future Capabilities*.
- The command paper suggested that the Army trained establishment would be reduced to a target of 102,000 by 2008. The RAF trained strength would be reduced to approximately 41,000 by April 2008. The Navy would see reductions in its strength from 37,500 to 36,000.
- It was also envisaged that there would be reductions of around 10,000 in the number of civilian jobs.
- Between April 1997 and April 2007, the number of UK regular forces declined 10 percent. Naval service employment fell 14 percent, RAF by 20 percent, and Army employment by 2 percent. Further declines have occurred in all Services since April 2007.
- Since 1990, Royal Navy strength has fallen by 39 percent, RAF by 49 percent, and British Army strength by 30 percent.

### UK regular armed forces manpower at 1 April

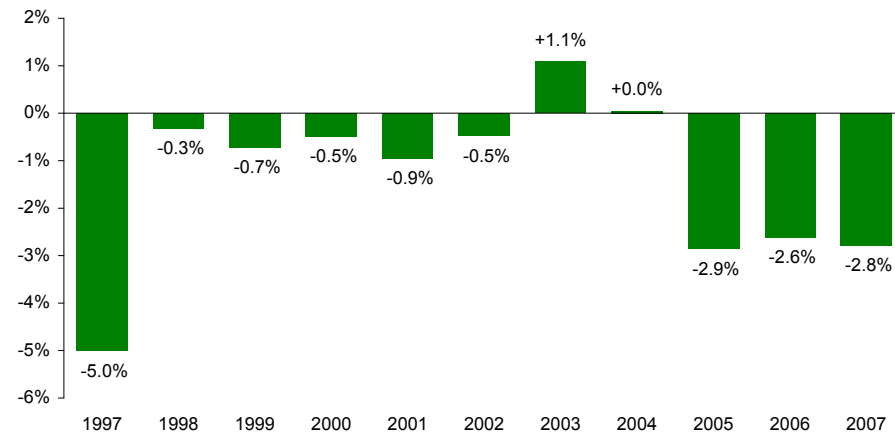
	Navy	Army	RAF	Total Regular Forces		
				Officers	Ranks	Total
1997	45,100	108,800	56,900	32,700	178,200	210,900
1998	44,470	109,830	55,840	32,620	177,510	210,130
1999	43,700	109,720	55,210	32,240	176,400	208,640
2000	42,850	110,050	54,720	32,520	175,100	207,620
2001	42,420	109,530	53,700	32,630	173,020	205,650
2002	41,630	110,050	53,000	32,750	171,940	204,690
2003	41,550	112,130	53,240	33,160	173,770	206,930
2004	40,880	112,750	53,390	33,450	173,580	207,030
2005	39,940	109,290	51,870	33,000	168,090	201,090
2006	39,390	107,730	48,730	32,700	163,150	195,850
2007	38,860	106,170	45,370	32,100	158,290	190,400
Feb-08	38,570	105,110	43,500	31,840	155,350	187,190

Sources: MoD Statistical Bulletin TSP1, March 2008 & previous editions

% change in armed forces personnel 1990-2007 selected NATO



Annual % change in UK armed forces manpower at April



Next update: Summer 2008

Contact: Sophie Gick x6969 or Gavin Berman x3851

## Defence exports

- The real value of global arms deliveries rose by 3.1% in 2006 after falling 22.8 percent in 2005. The real value of deliveries has fallen in four of the seven years between 2000 and 2006 – the peak value was US\$ 45.9bn in 1999. These figures are in constant 2006 US\$.
- In 1987 the USSR accounted for over one third of the value of arms deliveries. By contrast, Russia accounted for just 6.5 percent in 1998, and its market share has averaged 16 percent since 2000.
- The US accounted for 51.9 percent of the real value of global arms deliveries in 2006, an historical high. The UK market share remained broadly stable, at 12.2 percent in 2006.

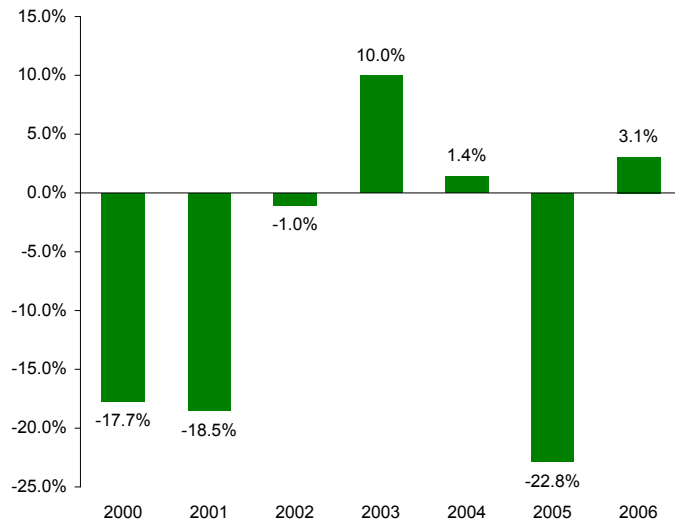
### Value of arms deliveries and market share

Constant 2006 US\$m / percentage of total in italics

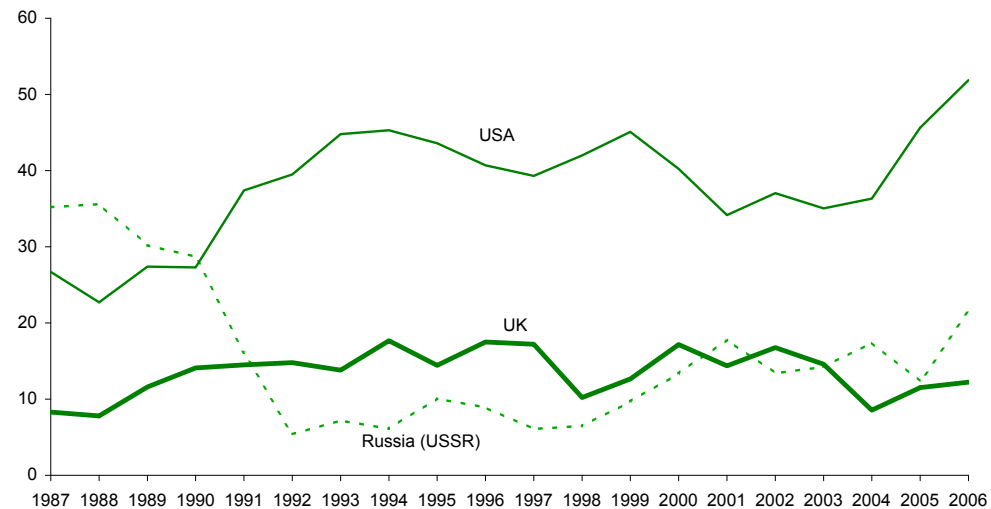
	1999		2003		2004		2005		2006	
US	20,678	<i>45.1</i>	11,733	<i>35.0</i>	12,336	<i>36.3</i>	11,955	<i>45.6</i>	14,008	<i>51.9</i>
UK	5,805	<i>12.7</i>	4,883	<i>14.6</i>	2,904	<i>8.6</i>	3,016	<i>11.5</i>	3,300	<i>12.2</i>
Russia	4,446	<i>9.7</i>	4,772	<i>14.3</i>	5,917	<i>17.4</i>	3,224	<i>12.3</i>	5,800	<i>21.5</i>
France	5,064	<i>11.0</i>	2,664	<i>8.0</i>	5,701	<i>16.8</i>	2,288	<i>8.7</i>	400	<i>1.5</i>
Germany	1,440	<i>5.4</i>	2,220	<i>6.6</i>	1,936	<i>5.7</i>	624	<i>2.4</i>	1,000	<i>3.7</i>
All Others	4,817	<i>10.5</i>	4,662	<i>13.9</i>	1,936	<i>5.7</i>	2,392	<i>9.1</i>	1,300	<i>4.8</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,873</b>		<b>33,486</b>		<b>33,959</b>		<b>26,204</b>		<b>27,008</b>	

Source: Table 42, The Military Balance 2008, International Institute for Strategic Studies

Annual % change in real value of global arms deliveries



Arms deliveries market share, %



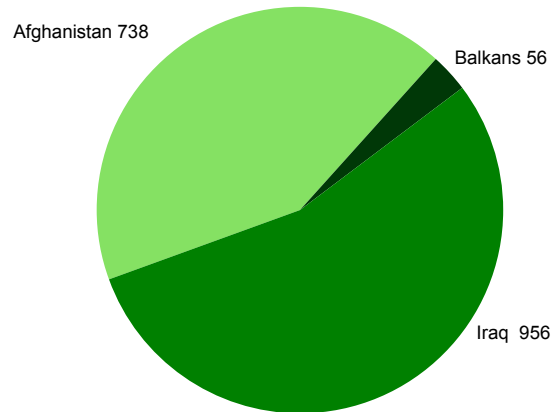
Next Update: January 2009

Contact: Sophie Gick x6969 or Gavin Berman x3851

## Defence expenditure

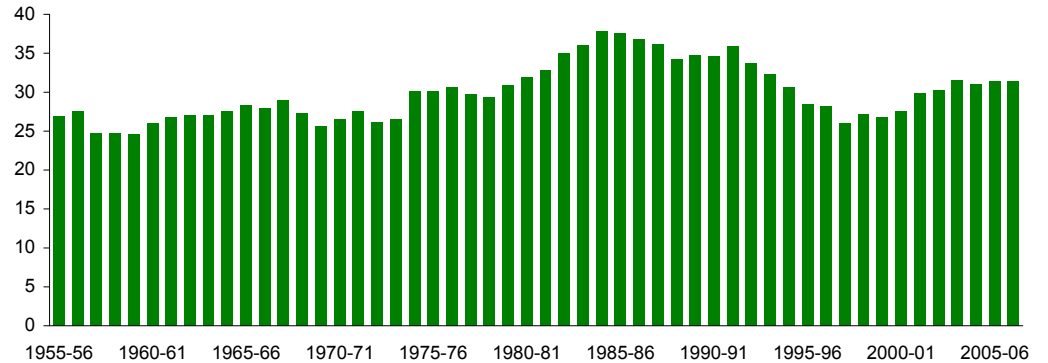
- On 25 July 2007 the Secretary of State for Defence announced the Comprehensive Spending Review outcome for defence: total departmental expenditure limit of £34bn in 2008/09, £35.3bn in 2009/10 and £36.9bn in 2010/11. Plans exclude expenditure on ongoing military operations.
- In real terms defence expenditure in 2006/07 was 17 percent below the figure in 1984/85, when expenditure was at a post war high.
- The MoD spent almost £1.8bn on operations in Afghanistan, Iraq and The Balkans in 2006/07, up 43 percent on 2005/06.
- Expenditure as a proportion of GDP has fallen since the 1980s in all NATO member countries except Turkey.
- At an estimated 2.3 percent of GDP in 2007, the UK spends a greater proportion of its output on defence than all but five other current NATO members.

**MoD peacekeeping costs, £m  
2006/07**

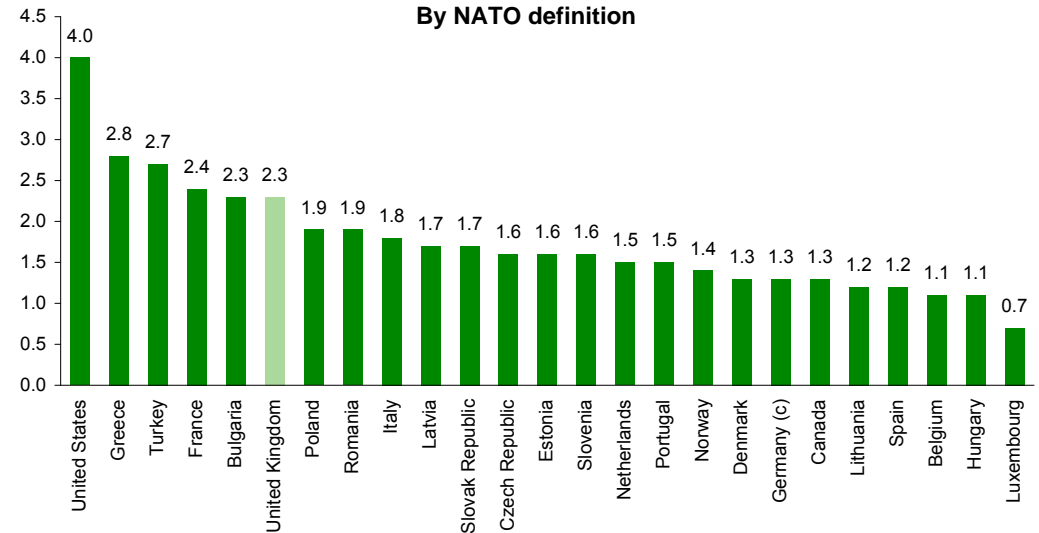


Next update: Summer 2008

**UK defence expenditure  
£bn, constant 2006/07 prices**



**Military expenditure 2007 (% of GDP) est.  
By NATO definition**

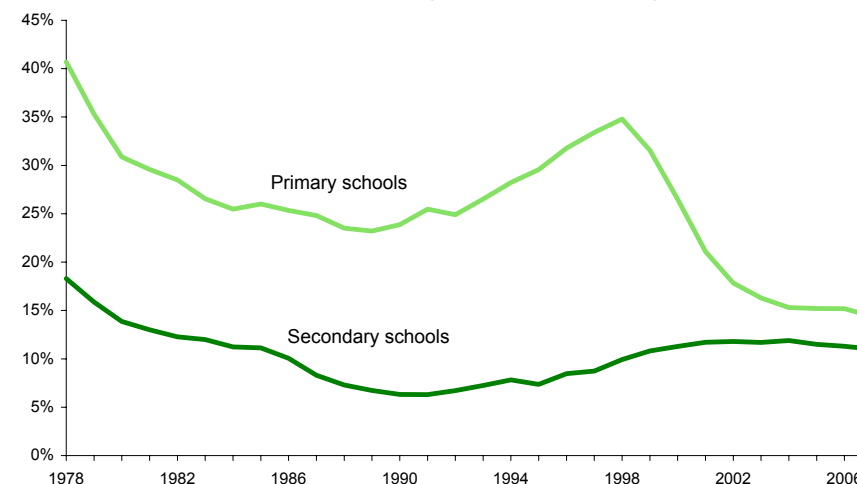


Contact: Sophie Gick x6969 or Gavin Berman x3851

## Schools and class sizes

- The number of primary schools declined by 4,800 (18%) between 1970/71 and 2006/07.
- The number of secondary schools fell by 1,800 (31%) over the same period.
- Since 1950 the average size of a primary school has gone through a cyclical trend in a range of 180 to 220 pupils.
- Over the same period the average size of secondary schools has also gone through cycles based on changes in pupil numbers, but the dominant trend has been to increase. In 2006 the average size was nearly 950 pupils.
- The proportion of primary school pupils in England in large classes peaked at nearly 35% in 1998. It subsequently declined sharply to 18% in 2002 and has continued a more gradual decline since then.
- In the secondary sector the trend was upwards during most of the 1990. The proportion of pupils in large class sizes rose from below 9% (1997) to fluctuate between 11 and 12% since 2000.

Proportion of pupils in large classes (>30), England 1978-



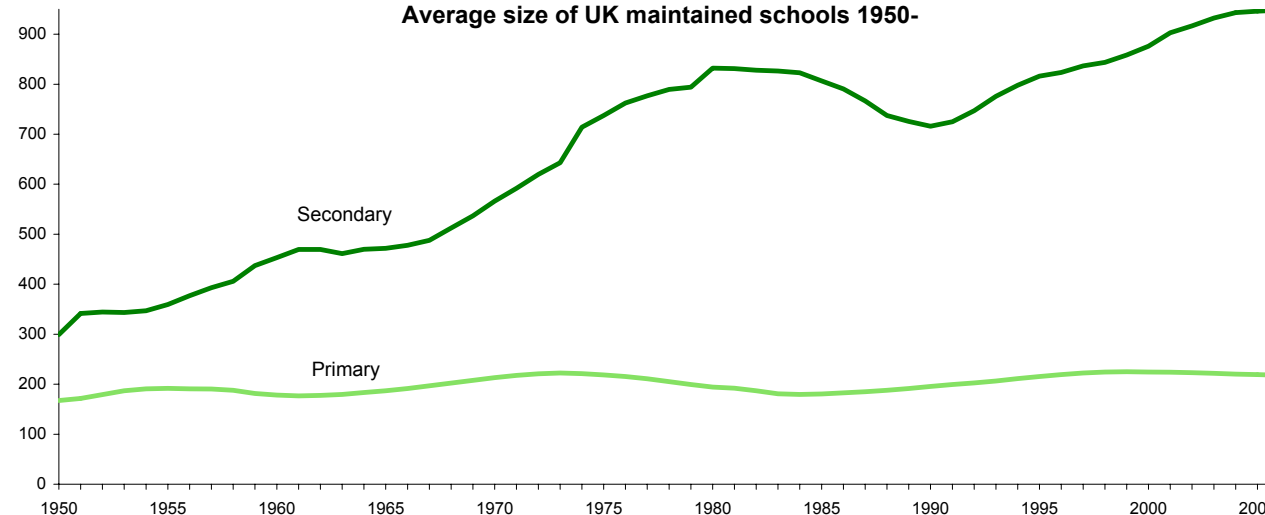
### Public sector primary and secondary schools

UK, 1970/71-

	Primary	Secondary	Total
1970/71	26,799	6,010	32,809
1980/81	26,504	5,542	32,046
1990/91	24,135	4,790	28,925
1997/98	23,230	4,434	27,664
1998/99	23,125	4,418	27,543
1999/00	23,036	4,405	27,441
2000/01	22,902	4,337	27,239
2001/02	22,800	4,306	27,106
2002/03	22,638	4,284	26,922
2003/04	22,509	4,255	26,764
2004/05	22,343	4,230	26,573
2005/06	22,156	4,206	26,362
2006/07	21,968	4,176	26,144

Source: ONS, *Annual Abstract of Statistics*, various

Average size of UK maintained schools 1950-

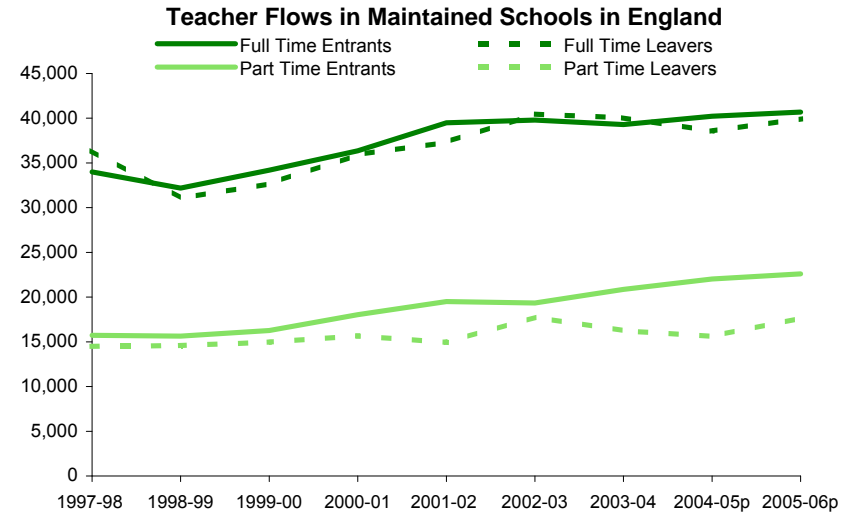


Next update: Spring 2008

Contact: Paul Bolton x6789 or Gavin Berman x3851

## Teachers

- The number of primary school teachers in the UK increased by 1% in 2006 after three consecutive year of decreases.
- Secondary teacher numbers rose by just under 1% 248,500 in 2006; the eighth consecutive year of increase and the highest total for 20 years.
- The recent peak in teacher vacancy rates was 4,700 or 1.4% in 2001. Vacancies have fallen since then to 1,880, or 0.5% in 2007.
- The 1990 peak in teacher vacancies was almost 6,500, well above the 2001 level. The latest vacancy rates are similar to those seen in the mid 1990s.
- Entrants to full-time teaching have increased over time and reached 40,700 in 2005-06. The number of full-time leavers has also increased and there has been relatively little net change in most of the last 10 years.
- Entrants to part-time teaching have increased by 44% since 1997-98, reaching 22,600 (including those moving from full-time service) in 2005-06. The gap between part-time entrants and leavers has widened in recent years.

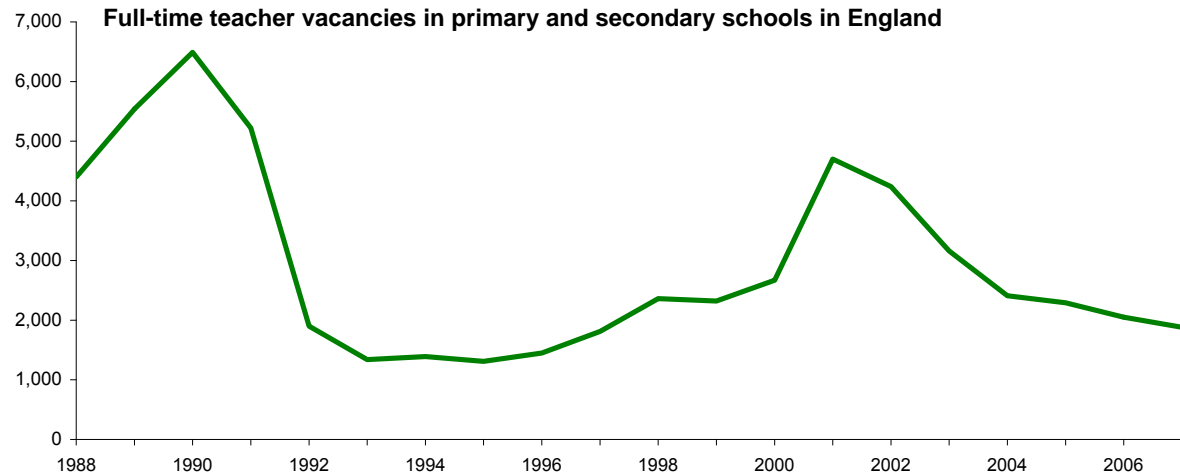


### Fte teachers in UK primary and secondary schools

	Teachers ('000s)		Pupils per teacher	
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary
1979	241.2	281.8	22.9	16.5
1990	219.0	236.6	21.7	14.8
1997	227.0	228.9	22.8	16.2
1998	225.4	228.7	23.1	16.4
1999	226.7	230.4	22.9	16.5
2000	228.0	232.9	22.7	16.6
2001	229.6	237.0	22.3	16.5
2002	231.5	241.2	22.0	16.4
2003	228.9	243.3	21.9	16.4
2004	224.9	243.8	22.0	16.5
2005	224.2	246.6	21.8	16.2
2006p	226.6	248.5	21.3	16.0

Note: January each year, except Wales (to 1998) and Scotland (Sep)  
Excludes pupils and teachers in sixth form colleges in England and Wales from 1994 onwards.

Source: ONS, Annual Abstract 2007



Sources: DfES Statistical first release 15/2007 School Workforce in England 2007 -and earlier editions  
School Teachers' Review Body report, various years  
DES news release 13 August 1991 Marked improvement in teacher vacancy rates

Next update: May 2008

Contact: Paul Bolton x6789 or Sophie Gick x6969

## Examination results

- The percentage of pupils achieving level 4 or above at Key Stage 2 (KS2) rose sharply between 1997 and 2000. In 2007, attainment reached 80% in English, 77% in Mathematics, and 88% in Science.
- The 2006 target of 85% achieving level 4+ in English and mathematics was missed by a clear margin.
- The percentage of pupils achieving five or more GCSEs grades A\*-C rose by nearly two percentage points to reach a new high of 60.8% in 2006/07.
- The percentage of pupils passing at least five GCSEs/equivalents at grades A\*-G increased slightly to 90% in 2006/07.
- The percentage 16-18 year old candidates with three or more A level passes rose almost twenty percentage points between 1997/98 and 2004/05.
- Approaching one-third of independent school pupils and around quarter of selective school pupils gained three or more A grades in 2006/07. At comprehensive schools one in thirteen pupils achieved this – up from one in twenty in 1997/98.

### Percentage achieving Key Stage 2, level 4+

England, all schools 1997-2007

	English	Mathematics	Science
1997	63	62	69
1998	65	59	69
1999	71	69	78
2000	75	72	85
2001	75	71	87
2002	75	73	86
2003	75	73	87
2004	78	74	86
2005	79	75	86
2006	79	76	87
2007	80	77	88

Source: *Trends in Education and Skills, 5.3 National Curriculum Key Stage 2*

### Performance in GCSE and equivalent exams, % of 15 year olds achieving: England

	5 or more grades A* to C	5 or more grades A* to G	no passes <sup>(a)</sup>
1997/98	46.3	87.5	6.6
1998/99	47.9	88.5	6.0
1999/00	49.2	88.9	5.6
2000/01	50.0	88.9	5.5
2001/02	51.6	88.9	5.4
2002/03	52.9	88.8	5.2
2003/04	53.7	88.8	4.1
2004/05	56.3	89.0	3.6
2005/06	58.5	89.4	3.3
2006/07p	60.8	90.0	2.7

(a) From 2003/04 includes any approved pre-16 qualifications

Sources: *GCSE and Equivalent Examination Results in England 2006/07 (Revised)*, DCSF  
*GCSE and equivalent results in England 2005/06 (revised) and earlier*, DFES

### A-level and equivalent achievements in schools and colleges

England 1997/98 to 2006/07

	% of examinees with A- level or equivalent passes		% achieving at least three A grades, by school type		
	2+	3+	Comprehensive	Selective	Independent
1997/98	81.4	57.1	4.7	12.7	16.9
1998/99	82.0	58.4	4.8	13.7	17.3
1999/00	83.2	59.6	5.0	14.1	18.3
2000/01	86.5	61.2	4.9	15.5	19.4
2001/02	88.9	70.3	5.3	18.6	23.3
2002/03	89.7	71.1	5.5	18.7	24.7
2003/04	92.0	74.3	5.7	20.3	25.9
2004/05	93.2	76.8	6.0	21.5	27.1
2005/06	95.1	-	6.7	23.1	29.1
2006/07p	95.1	-	7.5	24.7	31.1

Sources: *GCE/VCE A/AS and Equivalent Examination Results in England, 2006/07 (Revised)* DCSF  
*GCE/VCE A/AS and Equivalent Examination Results in England, 2005/06 (Revised) and earlier*, DFES

Next update: Autumn 2008

Contact: Paul Bolton x6789 or Sophie Gick x6969

## Participation in education and training: 16-18 year olds

- The percentage of the 16-18 age group continuing in full-time education rose almost five percentage points to 61% from 1997 to 2006.
- Whilst the 2006 full-time education rate for 18 year olds was only slightly above the 1997 level, participation rose eight points for 16 year olds (to 78%) and six points for 17 year olds (to 65%).
- Changes to the collection of data on further and higher education means there is a series break in 1994. Figures in the chart incorporate both points. Data in the table use the revised method.
- In 2006 an estimated 23% of 16-18 year olds were not in any education or training – down half a percentage point on 2005. The proportion who were also not in employment fell from 10.9% in 2005 to 10.3% in 2006, although the latest figure was still above pre-2005 levels.
- In 2005 the UK had just over 60% of 18 year olds in some form of education on this international measure. This was below all other EU25 states apart from Cyprus and Malta. This was largely due to a much lower than average proportion still in secondary education as higher education participation was above average.

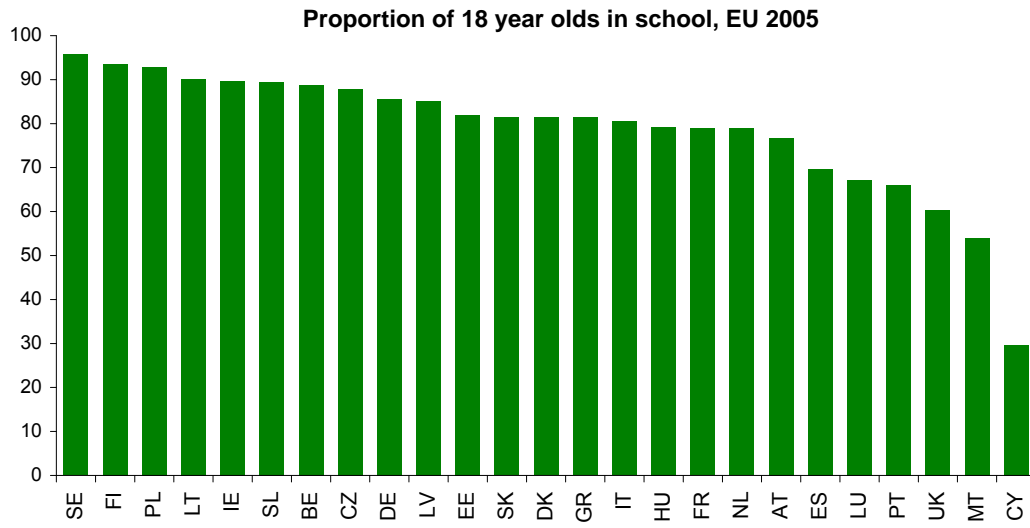
### 16, 17 and 18 year olds in education and training in England

Percentages at the end of the year

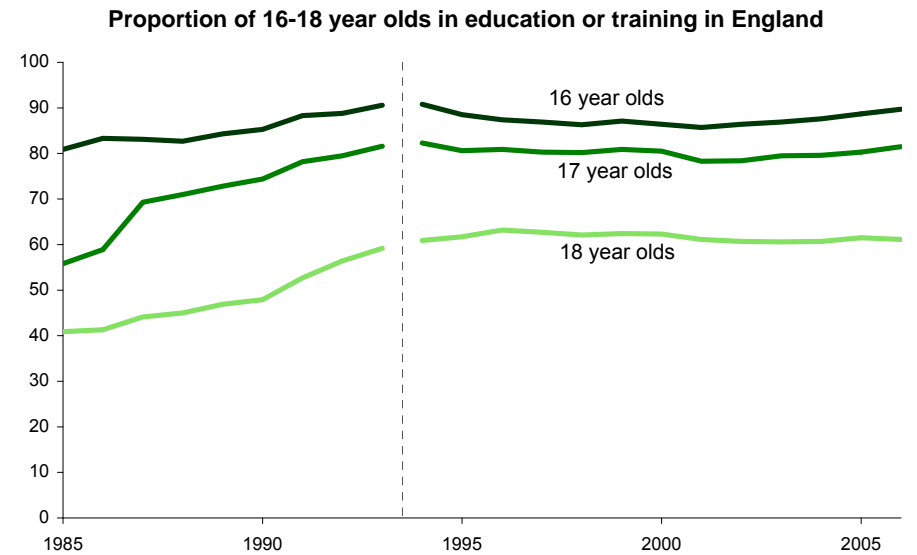
	Full time education				All education and training			
	16	17	18	16-18	16	17	18	16-18
1997	70.2	58.7	40.0	56.4	86.9	80.3	62.7	76.8
1998	70.2	58.5	39.1	55.8	86.3	80.2	62.1	76.1
1999	71.8	59.7	39.2	56.9	87.1	80.9	62.4	76.8
2000	71.0	60.0	39.3	57.0	86.4	80.5	62.3	76.6
2001	70.8	58.5	38.2	56.1	85.7	78.3	61.1	75.3
2002	72.0	59.0	38.3	56.5	86.4	78.4	60.7	75.3
2003	72.1	59.9	38.2	56.7	86.9	79.5	60.6	75.6
2004	73.8	60.5	39.0	57.9	87.6	79.6	60.7	76.1
2005	75.8	62.7	40.6	59.7	88.7	80.3	61.5	76.8
2006p	78.1	65.0	40.8	61.1	89.7	81.5	61.1	77.3

Ages at 31 August

Source: *Participation in education, training and employment by 16-18 year olds in England: 2005 and 2006*, DfES



Source: EUROSTAT



## Applicants and entrants to higher education

- The total number of home applications via the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) has risen in each year between 1999 and 2005. This was followed by a 4.1% drop in 2006, the first year after the introduction of variable fees.
- The drop in 2006 was greater than that seen in 1998 -when the last major change to tuition fees was introduced. Both changes were preceded by relatively large increases in applications.
- 2007 data show a return to the upward trend across all major groups. Both applicants and acceptances reached new record levels.
- In 2007 home accepted applicants made up 88% of the total; 54% of all accepted applicants were women and 78% were aged under 21.
- UCAS processes applications for full-time and sandwich undergraduate courses only. As they are disproportionately likely to study part-time, a significant number of mature students are excluded from these statistics.

### Home applicants through UCAS, 1994-2007

	Applicants		Accepted		% accepted
	number	change	number	change	
1994	365,323	..	251,292	..	69
1995	369,701	+1.2%	265,536	+5.7%	72
1996	364,885	-1.3%	268,289	+1.0%	74
1997	398,327	+9.2%	303,318	+13.1%	76
1998	389,588	-2.2%	298,220	-1.7%	77
1999	388,691	-0.2%	303,065	+1.6%	78
2000	389,091	+0.1%	308,718	+1.9%	79
2001	399,645	+2.7%	325,472	+5.4%	81
2002	401,854	+0.6%	331,725	+1.9%	83
2003	409,968	+2.0%	333,942	+0.7%	81
2004	413,334	+0.8%	334,295	+0.1%	81
2005	444,630	+7.6%	360,244	+7.8%	81
2006	432,196	-2.8%	345,564	-4.1%	80
2007	454,148	+5.1%	364,544	+5.5%	80

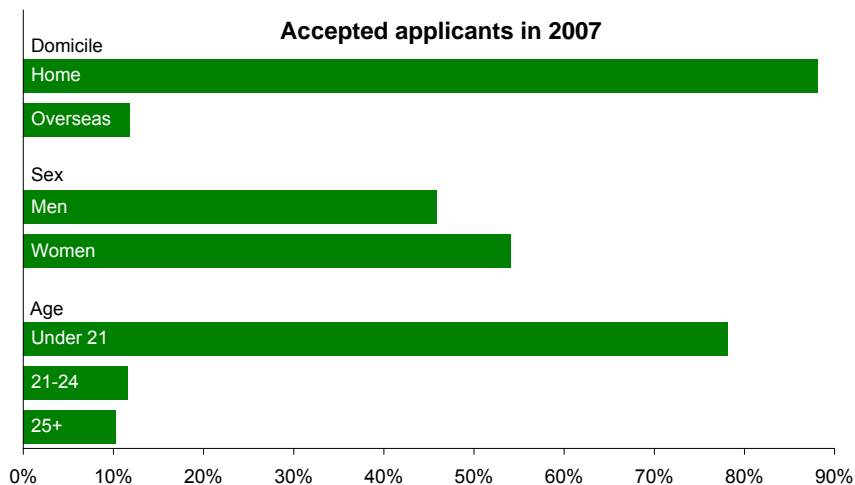
Source: UCAS annual datasets

Next update: June 2008

### Accepted applicants by age, sex and domicile

	Thousands						% Change on 1997
	1997	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	
<b>Age</b>							
Under 21	258	290	294	316	305	323	+25%
21-24	37	44	44	46	45	48	+29%
25+	41	40	39	42	41	42	+3%
<b>Sex</b>							
Female	164	198	202	217	210	224	+36%
Male	172	176	176	188	181	190	+10%
<b>Domicile</b>							
Home	303	334	334	360	346	365	+20%
EU	17	13	15	17	18	21	+23%
Other overseas	16	28	28	28	27	28	+73%
<b>Total</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>+23%</b>

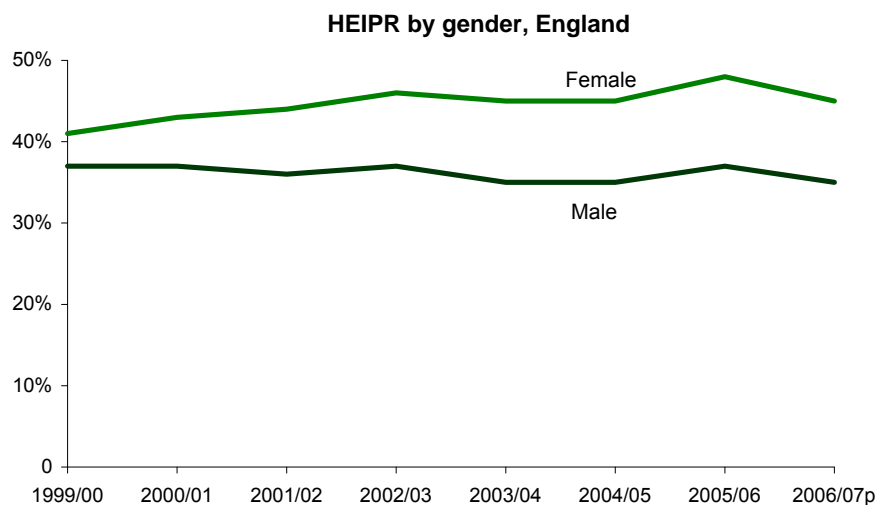
Source: UCAS Annual Datasets



Contact: Paul Bolton x6789 or Sophie Gick x6969

## Participation in higher education

- The current participation methodology is termed the Higher Education Participation Rate (HEIPR). It measures initial participation for 17 to 30-year-old English domiciled first-time entrants to Higher Education.
- The overall HEIPR in England increased gradually from 39% in 1999/00 to 42% in 2005/06 before falling to 40% in 2006/07. The Government's target is 50% by 2010.
- Male participation in 2006/07 was lower than in 1999/00, but female participation is four percentage points higher. Overall, the female HEIPR is 10 percentage points above the male rate.
- The HEIPR replaced the Age Participation index. This was based on entrants aged under 21 in Great Britain and increased from 12% in 1979 to 30% in the early 1990s and 32% in 1999/00
- Between 2001/02 and 2005/06 there were gradual increases in each under represented group -those from state schools, socio-economic groups 4-7 and low participation neighbourhoods- as a proportion of all young entrants. This was despite small falls in 2004/05



Next update: Summer 2008

### HEIPR by gender: 1999/00-2006/07

	Entrants ('000s)			HEIPR		
	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All
1999/00	113	125	238	37	41	39
2000/01	112	128	238	37	43	40
2001/02	112	131	244	36	44	40
2002/03	117	138	255	37	46	41
2003/04	116	141	257	35	45	40
2004/05	118	143	261	35	45	40
2005/06	127	155	281	37	48	42
2006/07p	121	148	269	35	45	40

Source: Participation Rates in Higher Education: Academic Years 1999/2000-2006/07 (Provisional), DIUS

### Trends in participation from under represented groups, UK

Percentage of young entrants to full-time first degree courses from:

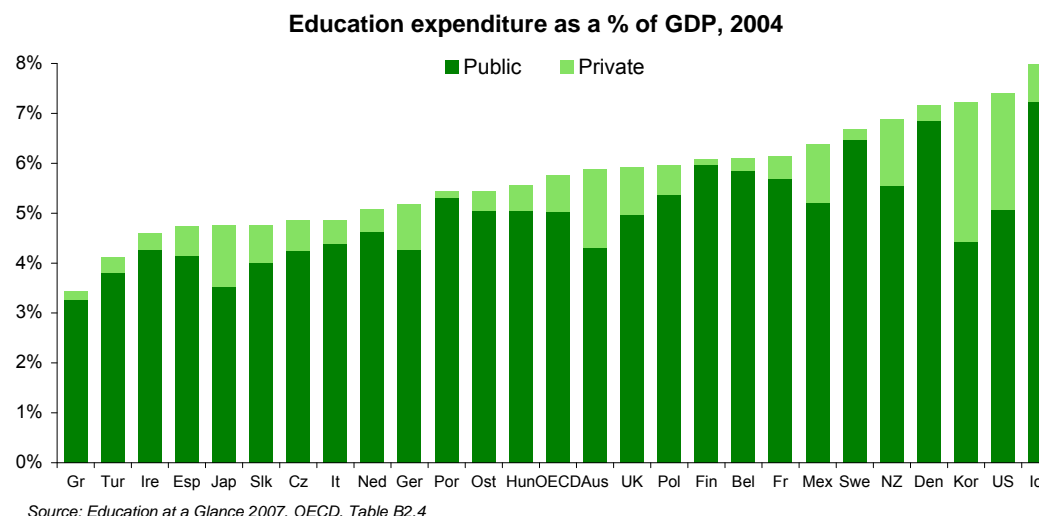
	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
State schools	86.0	87.2	86.8	86.7	87.4
NS-SEC 4-7	..	28.4	28.6	28.2	29.3
Low participation neighbourhoods	13.1	13.3	13.9	13.7	14.0

Source: Performance indicators in higher education in the UK 2005/06, HESA

Contact: Paul Bolton x6789 or Sophie Gick x6969

## Education expenditure

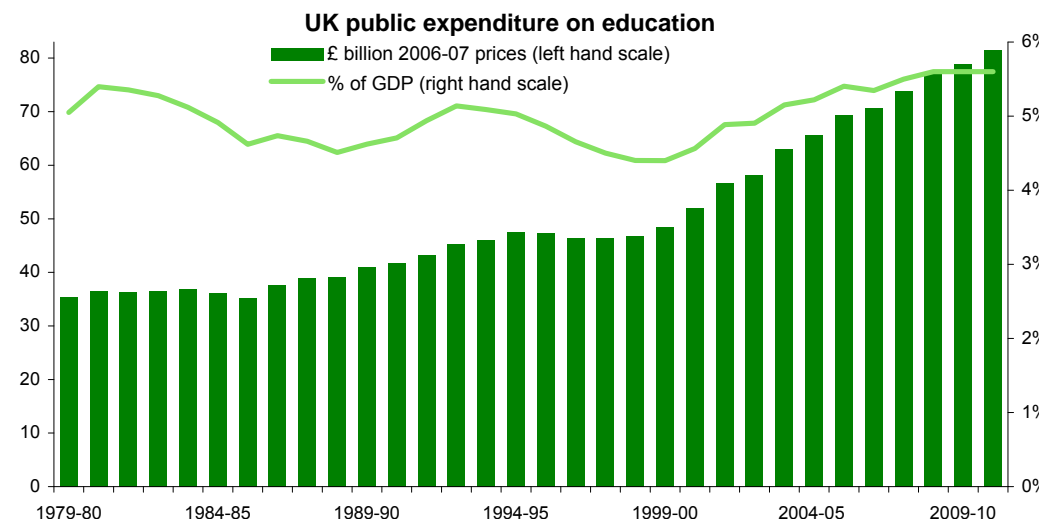
- In 2007-08 education expenditure is planned to reach 5.5% of GDP, the highest level in the last 25 years.
- The CSR settlement for education sees education spending remain at 5.6% of GDP to 2010-11.
- Substantial increases in education spending as a proportion of GDP occurred in the early 1990s and from 1999-00 onwards.
- Spending has increased in real terms in most years since 1979-80. The only periods where it fell for two or more consecutive years were in the mid-1980s and mid-1990s.
- The OECD ranked the UK 12th out of 26 states in terms of education expenditure as a percentage of GDP in 2004.
- At 5.9% of GDP (on the OECD measure), UK expenditure on education was 0.2 percentage points higher than the OECD average of 5.7%



### UK Expenditure on education

		£ billion	£ billion at 2006-07 prices	Annual % increase in real terms	Percent of GDP
1997/98	outturn	37.3	46.4	-0.2%	
2001-02	outturn	49.6	56.7	+9.3%	4.9%
2005-06	outturn	67.5	69.4	+5.6%	5.4%
2006-07	outturn	70.7	70.7	+1.9%	5.3%
2007-08	plans	76.2	73.8	+4.4%	5.5%
2008-09	plans	81.9	77.0	+4.3%	5.6%
2009-10	plans	86.1	78.8	+2.3%	5.6%
2010-11	plans	91.5	81.5	+3.4%	5.6%

Sources: HM Treasury, PESA 2007, Cm 7091 and earlier editions  
 Budget 2008, HM Treasury  
 Public spending by function, HM Treasury



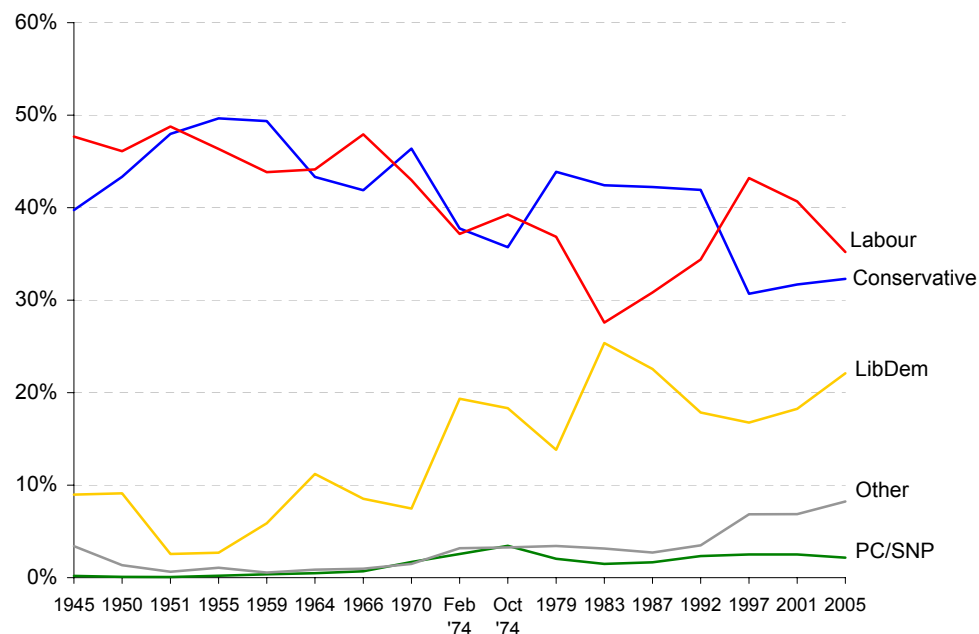
Next update: Autumn 2008

Contact: Paul Bolton x6789 or Sophie Gick x6969

## General Election results

- Since 1945, Labour have been the largest party in terms of seats won on nine occasions, and the Conservatives eight.
- The Conservatives' best result since 1945 in terms of seats was 1983 when they won 397. Their highest share of the vote was in 1955 when they polled 49.6 percent.
- Labour's 418 seats won in 1997 was their highest ever while their highest share since 1945 was 48.8 percent in 1951, an election that they lost.
- In the 2005 General Election the Liberal Democrats won 62 seats, the highest post war total by the party or its predecessors.

Share of the vote: UK: 1945-2005



### General Election results: 1979-2005: UK

	Con	Lab	Lib(a)	PC/SNP	Other	Total
<b>Share of vote (%)</b>						
1979	43.9%	36.9%	13.8%	2.0%	3.4%	100%
1983	42.4%	27.6%	25.4%	1.5%	3.1%	100%
1987	42.2%	30.8%	22.6%	1.7%	2.7%	100%
1992	41.9%	34.4%	17.8%	2.3%	3.5%	100%
1997	30.7%	43.2%	16.8%	2.5%	6.8%	100%
2001	31.7%	40.7%	18.3%	2.5%	6.9%	100%
2005	32.3%	35.2%	22.1%	2.2%	8.2%	100%

#### Seats won

1979	339	268	11	4	13	635
1983	397	209	23	4	17	650
1987	375	229	22	6	18	650
1992	336	271	20	7	17	651
1997	165	418	46	10	20	659
2001	166	412	52	9	20	659
2005	197	355	62	9	22	645

#### Votes (millions)

1979	13.7	11.5	4.3	0.6	1.1	31.2
1983	13.0	8.5	7.8	0.5	1.0	30.7
1987	13.7	10.0	7.3	0.5	0.9	32.5
1992	14.1	11.6	6.0	0.8	1.2	33.6
1997	9.6	13.5	5.2	0.8	2.1	31.3
2001	8.4	10.7	4.8	0.7	1.8	26.4
2005	8.8	9.5	6.0	0.6	2.2	27.1

(a) Liberal/SDP Alliance 1983-87; Liberal Democrats from 1992  
 Source: House of Commons Library Research Papers 04/61 and 05/33

## Turnout

- Turnout at the 2005 General Election was 61.4 percent, higher than in 2001 but still the second lowest since the introduction of universal suffrage.
- UK turnout at the last parliamentary election is low relative to other EU countries.
- UK turnout at the 2004 European Parliament election was the highest recorded, but was still below the EU average.

### Turnout at most recent elections

Percentages of registered electorate

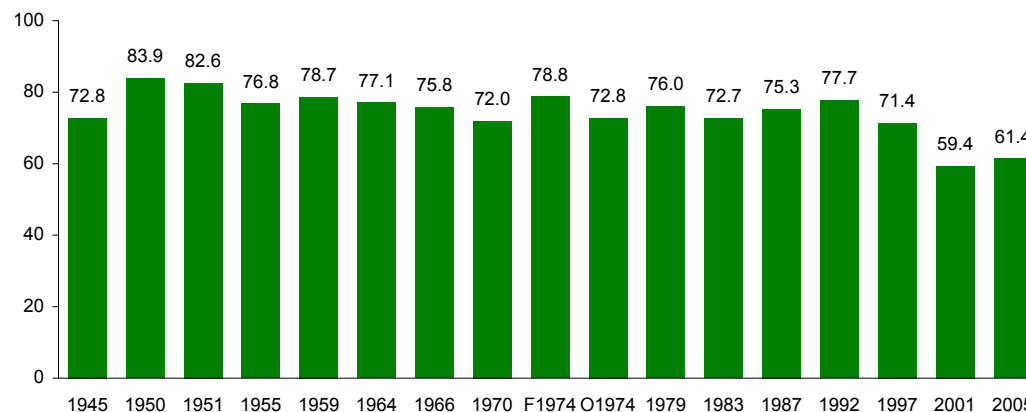
Election	Year	Turnout %
General	2005	61.4
European Parliament	2004	38.4
Scottish Parliament	2007	52.4
Welsh Assembly	2007	43.5
Northern Ireland Assembly	2007	62.3
Greater London Assembly	2004	36.0
London Mayor	2004	35.9
English local	2005	64.0
London boroughs	2006	39.5
Metropolitan boroughs	2007	34.9
County councils	2005	64.0
Unitary councils	2007	39.0
Shire district councils	2007	39.1
Scottish unitary councils	2007	52.8
Welsh unitary councils	2004	43.2
Northern Ireland district councils	2005	62.8

Notes: Turnout at the 2005 local elections was boosted by the General Election being held on the same day. Likewise, turnout at the Scottish local elections was increased by the concurrent Scottish Parliament elections.

Sources: Rallings and Thrasher, *British electoral facts 1832-1999*  
Rallings and Thrasher, *Local elections handbook* series

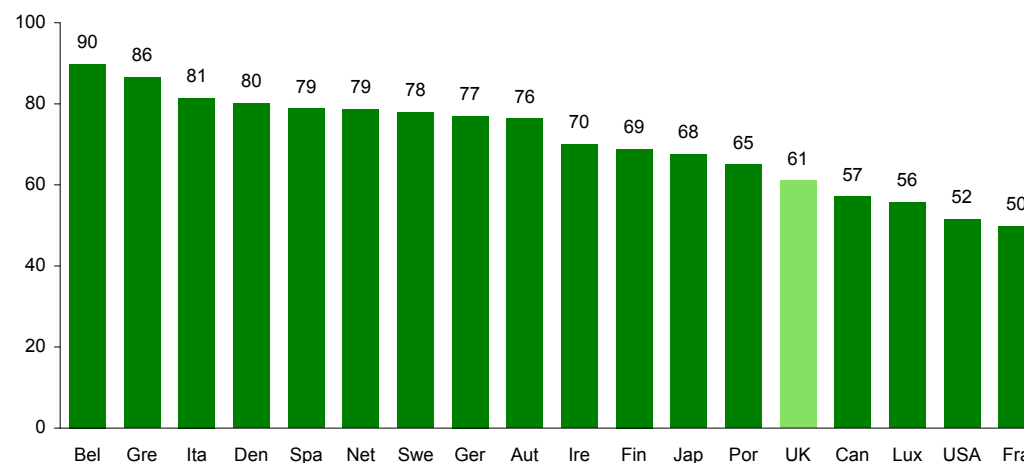
### % Turnout at General Elections 1945-2005

Percentage of registered electorate



### % Turnout at last parliamentary election: EU-15 and G7

Percentage of estimated voting age population



Source: International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, [www.idea.int](http://www.idea.int)

## Local, Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly and European Parliament elections

- The Conservatives overtook Labour in terms of councillors in Great Britain in 2003, for the first time since 1991, and now have 9,400 councillors. They were briefly the third party during the mid-1990s.
- Labour's total number of councillors has fallen by over 5,000 since 1997, while the Liberal Democrats are some 670 councillors below their 1996 peak.
- Labour won 26 of the 60 seats in the 2007 Welsh Assembly elections, after their vote share fell by 7.4 percentage points compared to 2003. Plaid Cymru were second (15 seats). Labour and Plaid have formed a coalition government.
- The Scottish National Party became the largest party (47 seats) in the Scottish Parliament after the 2007 elections after their share of the vote rose by 9 percentage points. Labour fell back to second (46 seats) and their vote share fell by 1.2 percentage points. The SNP formed a minority government in Scotland.
- The Conservatives won 27 of the 78 UK seats at the 2004 European Parliament elections compared to Labour's 19. UKIP made large gains, and now have 12 MEPs, the same number as the Liberal Democrats.

### European Parliament election results: 1979-2004: Great Britain

	CON	LAB	LD	UKIP	PC/SNP	Other	Total
<b>Share of vote (%)</b>							
1979	50.6%	33.0%	13.1%	-	2.6%	0.7%	100%
1984	40.8%	36.5%	19.5%	-	2.5%	0.7%	100%
1989	34.7%	40.1%	6.2%	-	3.4%	15.6%	100%
1994	27.9%	44.2%	16.7%	1.0%	4.2%	6.0%	100%
1999	35.8%	28.0%	12.7%	7.0%	4.5%	12.0%	100%
2004	26.7%	22.6%	14.9%	16.2%	2.4%	17.2%	100%
<b>Seats won</b>							
1979	60	17	0	-	1	0	78
1984	45	32	0	-	1	0	78
1989	32	45	0	-	1	0	78
1994	18	62	2	0	2	0	84
1999	36	29	10	3	4	2	84
2004	27	19	12	12	3	2	75

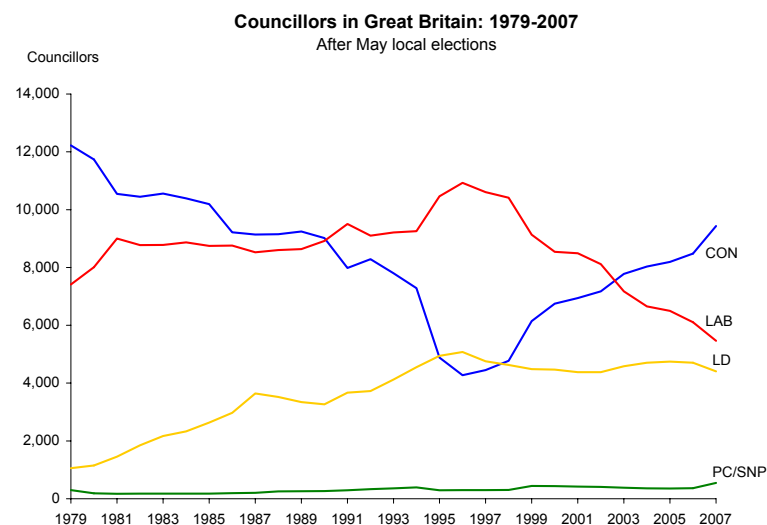
Source: Parliamentary Research Services, *British Electoral Facts 1832-1999*

### Forthcoming elections

**May 2008** London Assembly and London mayoral  
Metropolitan borough councils in England  
District and unitary councils in England  
Local councils in Wales

**May 2009** County councils in England  
Local councils in Northern Ireland

**June 2009** European Parliament elections



Next update: May 2008

Contact: Ross Young x4313 or Edmund Tetteh x2938

## Opinion polls

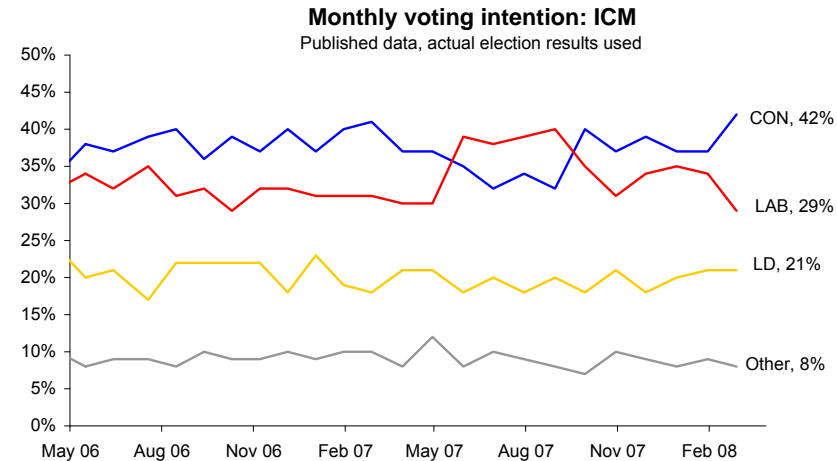
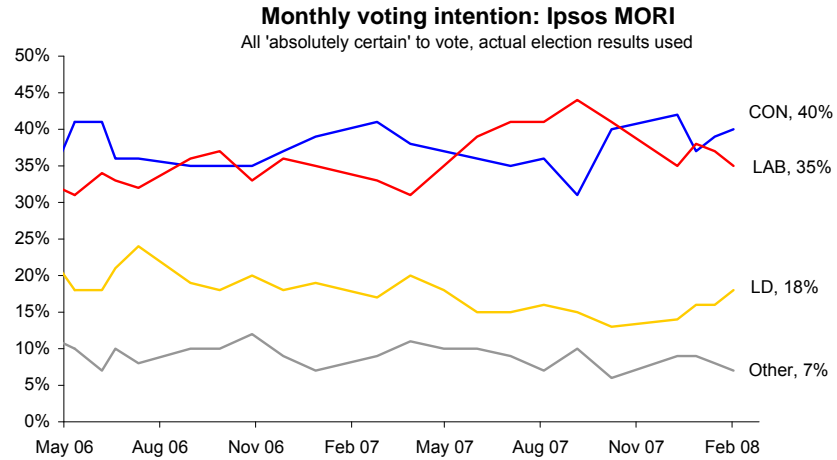
- Ipsos MORI's March 2008 poll gave the Conservatives a lead of 5% points over Labour.
- ICM's 14-16 March poll put the Conservatives 13% points ahead of Labour.
- YouGov survey on 10-11 April put the Conservatives ahead on 44%, Labour 28% and Liberal Democrats 17%.
- A Populus poll on 4-6 April put the Conservatives on 39%, Labour on 33%, and Liberal Democrats on 17%.
- "Race relations, immigration and immigrants" is rated as most important issue among voters in Ipsos MORI's regular poll, rising by 8% points since April 2007. "Crime, law & order, violence and vandalism" has stayed the same since April 2007.

### Ipsos MORI: Issues facing Britain: March 2008

Issues polling 9% or more

	Most or other important issue %
Race Relations/Immigration/Immigrants	44
Crime/Law & Order/Violence/Vandalism	40
NHS / Hospitals / Health Care	24
Economy/Economic Situation	23
Defence/Foreign Affairs/International Terrorism	17
Education/Schools	17
Inflation/Prices	11
Taxation	11
Housing	10
Pollution/Environment	10
Morality/Individual Behaviour	9

Source: Ipsos MORI, *Political Attitudes in Great Britain*, [www.mori.co.uk](http://www.mori.co.uk)



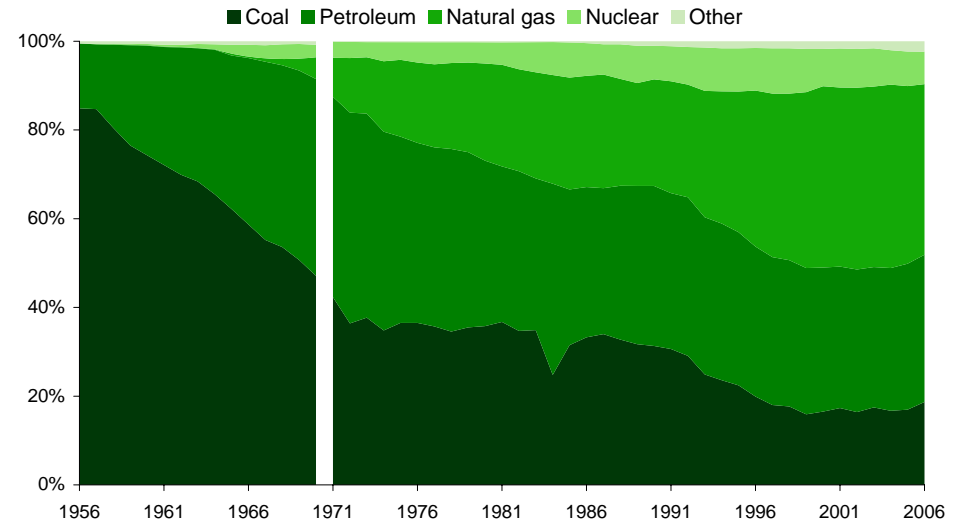
Next update: October 2008

Contact: Ross Young x4313 or Edmund Tetteh x2938

## Energy use

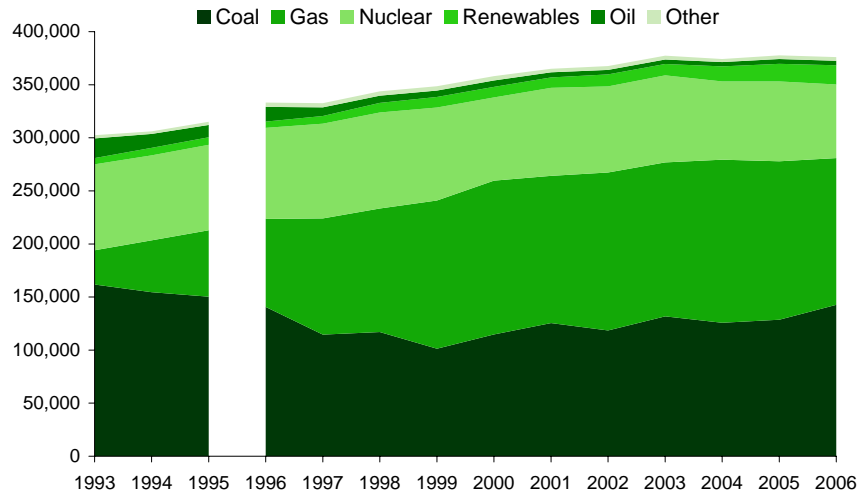
- Final UK energy consumption increased by an average of 0.2% a year between 1970 and 2006. The rate of increase has been slightly higher over the last decade.
- Transport became the largest energy consuming sector in 1988 and accounted for 38% of final consumption in 2006. Consumption by industry has halved since 1973.
- In 1956 coal supplied 85% of the UK's energy needs, growth in the use of petroleum for the transport sector, gas and nuclear to generate electricity and gas for heating have seen its share of energy supplied fall below 50% from 1970 onwards and below 20% from 1996 onwards.
- In 2006 gas supplied 38% of UK energy, petroleum 33% and coal 19% of UK energy.
- Generation from gas started to increase in the early 1990s. In 1993 it stood at 11%, by 1999 it had reach more than 40% (with a break in series). It has declined since 2004 due to falling UK production and higher prices.
- Renewable generation made up 4.6% of UK electricity supply in 2006.

## Consumption of primary fuels and equivalents energy supplied basis



Sources: Digest of energy statistics, Ministry of Technology; Digest of UK Energy statistics,

## Electricity supplied by fuel/type (GWh)



Source: Digest of UK energy statistics, DTI -various years

## Final energy consumption by sector (energy supplied basis), UK

Million tonnes of oil equivalent

	Industry	Transport	Domestic	Other <sup>(a)</sup>	Total
1970	62.3	28.2	36.9	18.6	146.0
1980	48.3	35.5	39.8	18.7	142.4
1990	38.7	48.6	40.8	19.2	147.3
2000	35.4	55.5	46.9	21.5	159.2
2001	35.4	55.1	48.2	22.2	160.9
2002	34.0	55.7	47.0	19.8	156.5
2003	34.2	56.5	47.7	19.7	158.0
2004	33.2	57.8	48.6	20.3	159.8
2005	33.6	59.1	47.2	20.3	160.1
2006	32.6	59.8	45.6	19.9	157.8

(a) Mainly agriculture, public administration and commerce

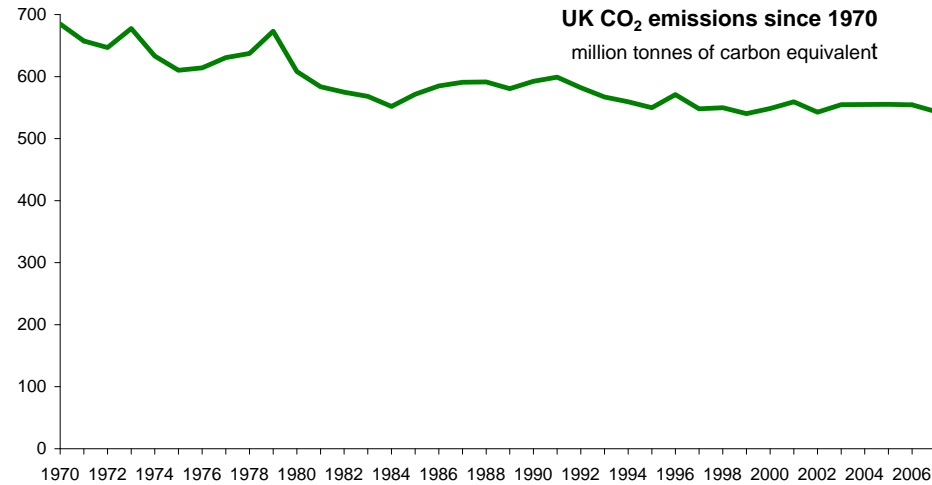
Source: DTI, Digest of United Kingdom Energy Statistics 2007. Table 1.1.5

Next update: Spring 2008

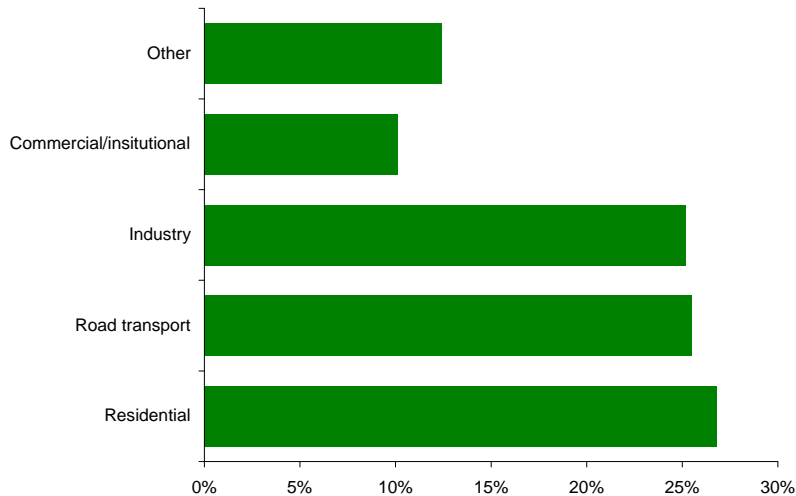
Contact: Paul Bolton x6789 or Ross Young x4313

## Greenhouse gas emissions

- Provisional UK emissions of greenhouse gases stood at 639 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent in 2007. This was 17% less than 1990, but the rate of decline has slowed in recent years.
- UK carbon dioxide emissions fell by 21% between 1970 and 2006. More recently the decline in emissions has halted. There has been no sustained trend, up or down, since the mid 1990s.
- Much of the decline in carbon emissions has come from a reduction in emissions attributable to industry and power generation, while emissions caused by domestic users have also declined slightly. Emissions attributable to transport have doubled since 1970.
- Emissions of carbon by end user in 2006 show that the three largest sectors -residential, road transport and industry all had very similar total emissions at just over 25%.
- The UK is on course to meet its Kyoto target but current projections are that carbon dioxide emissions will be around 11% below their baseline by 2010, compared to the 20% reduction target.



UK CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by end user: 2006



Source: e-Digest of Environmental Statistics, Defra, climate change table 5

Estimated total emissions of UK 'basket' greenhouse gases on an IPCC basis

Million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent

								Targets	
		1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007p	2010 CO <sub>2</sub> target	2008-2012 Kyoto target <sup>(a)</sup>
Carbon dioxide (net)	CO <sub>2</sub>	592.4	549.8	548.6	555.2	554.5	543.7	473.9	
Methane	CH <sub>4</sub>	103.5	90.2	68.4	49.6	49.1	-		
Nitrous oxide	N <sub>2</sub> O	63.8	53.0	43.6	39.8	38.3	-		
HFCs	HFC	11.4	15.5	9.1	9.2	9.2	-		
PFCs	PFC	1.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	-		
Sulphur hexafluoride	SF <sub>6</sub>	1.0	1.2	1.8	1.1	0.9	-		
<b>Kyoto basked total<sup>(b)</sup></b>		<b>770.8</b>	<b>709.0</b>	<b>671.4</b>	<b>655.5</b>	<b>652.3</b>	<b>639.4</b>		<b>682.4</b>

(a) The 1990 baseline, is the sum of 1990 totals for all gases other than HFCs, PFCs and sulphur hexafluoride where 1995 data are used.

(b) The Kyoto basket totals differ slightly from the sum of the 6 individually reported gases shown above due to differences in the coverage of land use change and forestry, and the inclusion of the UK Overseas Territories

Source: e-Digest of Environmental Statistics, Defra, climate change table 4

2007 greenhouse gas emissions, provisional figures, Defra

## Domestic gas and electricity prices

- Both domestic gas and electricity prices have increased in recent years after around a decade of falling prices.
- The average standard credit gas bill for a typical consumer was £552 in 2007. This was 60% above the 2001 low in real terms and the highest real level in this series (from 1990).
- The average standard credit electricity bill for a typical consumer was £383 in 2007. This was almost 40% above the 2003 low, but still below the early 1990s.
- 2007 average standard credit bills for those with the former monopoly suppliers were 5% higher for electricity and 7% higher for gas.
- Data on average bills are based on average prices in the year to September. The 2007 figures thus take only partial account of the price falls announced in 2007 and do not include those in 2008.
- Monthly RPI data give more detail. Real prices fell in 2007, but rose again in early 2008. March 2008 electricity and gas prices were 44% and 70% above their respective April 2003 and November 2000 lows.

### Average annual domestic gas and electricity bills for a typical standard credit consumer, UK

£ 2007 prices

	Gas			Electricity		
	Home suppliers	Non-home suppliers	All	Home suppliers	Non-home suppliers	All
1990	..	..	462	..	..	397
1995	..	..	447	..	..	409
2000	373	314	356	314	291	310
2004	372	335	360	287	264	278
2005	425	375	409	312	288	302
2006	526	440	489	354	342	349
2007	569	531	552	391	372	383

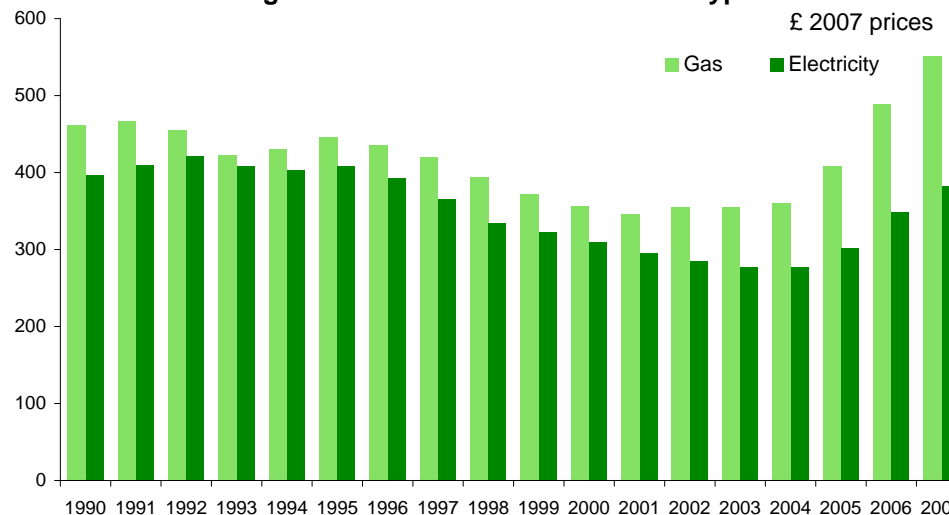
Notes: Former public electricity suppliers/ British Gas are home supplier within their own areas, non home suppliers are all others

Data adjusted to 2007 prices using March 2008 GDP deflators

Source: Quarterly energy prices March 2008, BERR, Tables 2.2.1 and 2.3.1

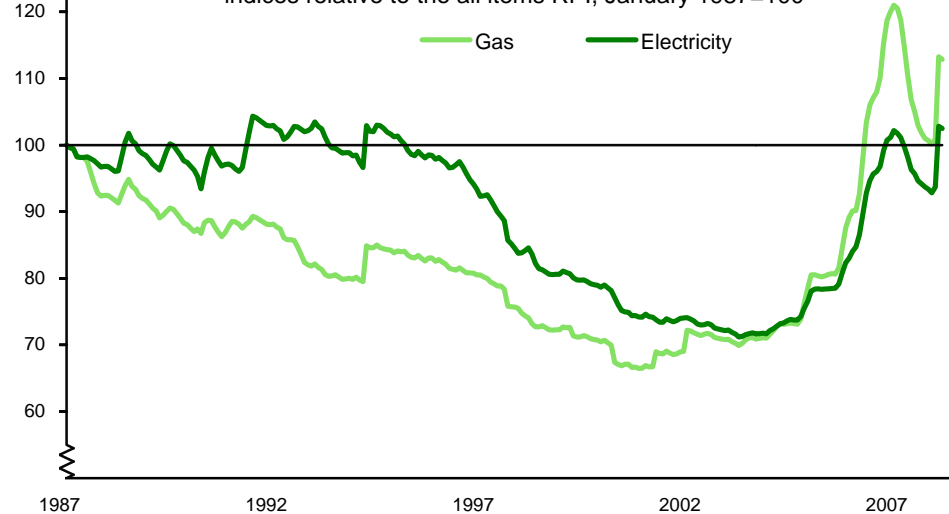
### Average annual standard credit bills for typical consumers

£ 2007 prices



### Index prices for gas and electricity

indices relative to the all items RPI, January 1987=100



Source: ONS series DOBY, DOBX, and CHAW

## Road fuel prices

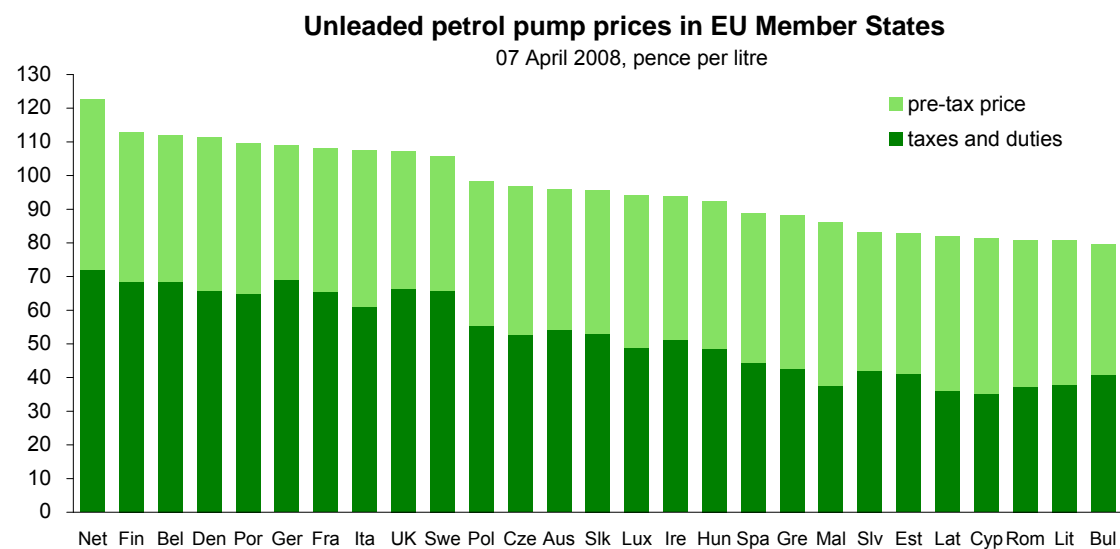
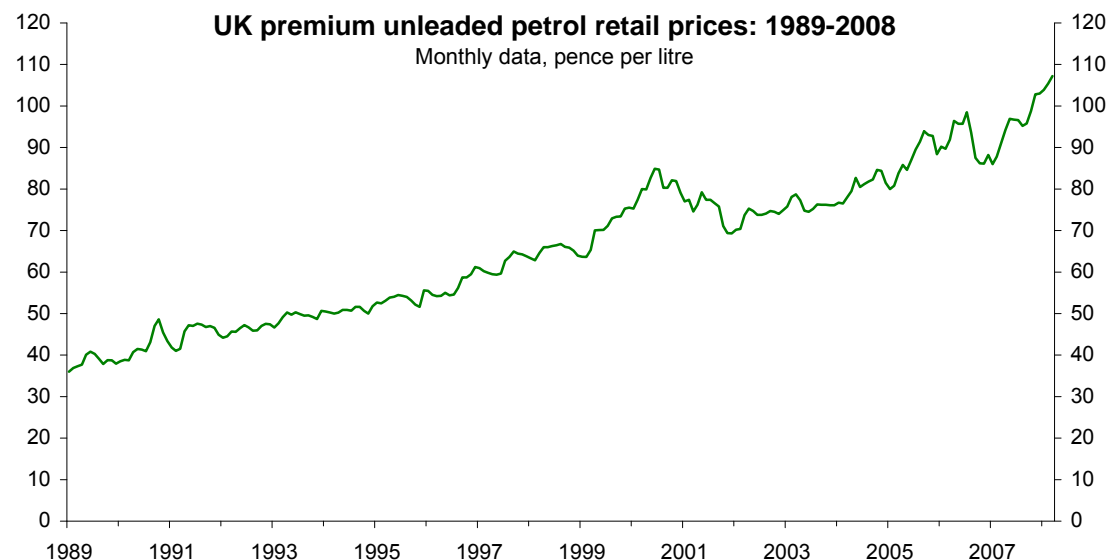
- Unleaded petrol retailed at an average of 107.2p/litre in March 2008. The average diesel price was 115.4p/litre.
- March 2008 prices were above the previous month's peaks. There were clear falls in both prices during the second half of 2006, but they subsequently rose through much of 2007 and 2008.
- The UK had the ninth highest pump price for unleaded petrol in the European Union. The UK's diesel pump price was the highest in the EU. Comparisons are affected by recent falls in the £/€ exchange rate.
- 62% of the UK's unleaded petrol pump price was accounted for by taxes and duties, the second highest in the EU.
- 58% of the UK's diesel pump price was accounted for by taxes and duties, the highest in the EU.
- Excluding tax and duties, the 7 April 2008 prices for unleaded petrol and diesel were 41p/litre and 48p/litre respectively.

### UK retail prices for unleaded petrol and diesel

Pence per litre

	Petrol	Diesel
Jan 1997	61.0	62.0
Jan 2001	77.0	81.5
Jan 2005	80.0	84.8
Jan 2007	86.0	90.1
Oct 2007	98.8	101.7
Nov 2007	102.8	107.6
Dec 2007	103.0	108.0
Jan 2008	103.9	108.9
Feb 2008	105.4	110.1
Mar 2008	107.2	115.4

Sources: *UK petrol prices 1902-1997, Energy Institute;*  
*Petroleum Statistics 12, Energy Institute*



Source: *EU Oil Bulletin*

## The weather

- 2007 was the second warmest year on record for the UK after 2006.
- Central England Temperature (CET) has been recorded since 1659. The CET temperature in 2007 was the ninth highest level.
- 2007 started off relatively warm, spring was the second warmest on record, but the summer saw below average temperatures and was particularly wet.
- Mean CET in all the first five months of 2007 were above the 1971-2000 average and higher than in 2006. January and April were more than 3°C above average. Temperatures in July and August were below average and the July 2006 mean was 4.5°C below the 2006 level.
- The England and Wales precipitation series starts in 1766 -the longest of its kind in the world. In 2007, after a dry April, rainfall the each of the next three months was double the 1971-2000 average. Annual rainfall was the highest since 2002 and around 100mm above average.
- June 2007 was the second wettest June since 1766. May to July 2007 was the wettest such period ever recorded.

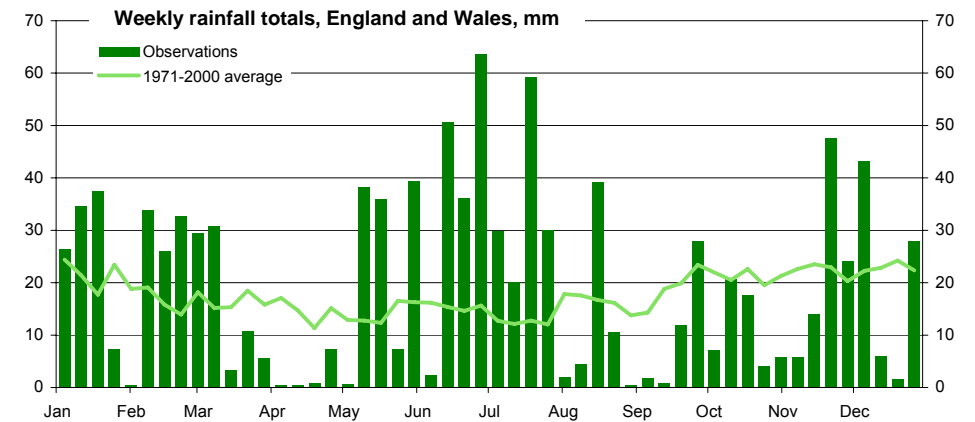
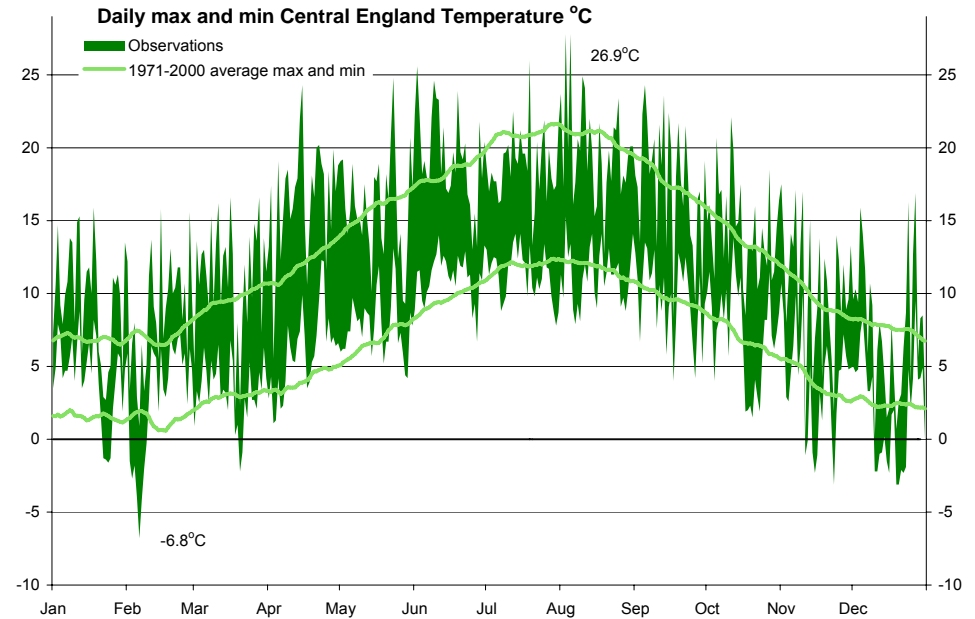
### 2007 -selected averages for the home countries

	Mean temp °C	Sunshine hours	Rainfall (mm)
<b>Actual</b>			
UK	9.6	1,453	1,197
England	10.4	1,590	937
Wales	9.9	1,496	1,492
Scotland	8.2	1,234	1,564
N Ireland	9.8	1,349	1,112
<b>Differences from 1971-2000 averages, °C or %</b>			
UK	+1.0	+8.5%	+6.4%
England	+1.1	+9.1%	+11.8%
Wales	+1.0	+10.1%	+4.1%
Scotland	+0.9	+6.3%	+2.9%
N Ireland	+1.1	+10.6%	+0.0%

Source: Met Office UK climate and weather statistics  
[www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate/uk/](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate/uk/)

Next Update: Spring 2008

### Temperature and rainfall variations, 2007



Source: Adapted from Crown copyright data supplied by the Met Office

Contact: Paul Bolton x6789

## Waiting lists

- In England, 591,000 people were waiting for inpatient admission at the end of December 2007 - 567,000 fewer than in March 1997. This represents a 49% reduction. The number of people waiting for inpatient admission in the UK fell from 1.36 million to 0.75 million between March 1997 and December 2007: a reduction of 45 percent.
- The Government has almost achieved its aim of zero waits of over six months in England – although outside its end of 2005 target.
- In England, 99.8 percent of outpatients were seen within 13 weeks of a written GP referral in the quarter ended 31 December 2007. The proportion of outpatients not being seen within 13 weeks fell from 15.8 percent in the quarter to 31 March 2005, to 0.2 percent in the quarter to 31 December 2007.

### Outpatient waiting times: 1997-2007

England (provider based), 000s, at 31 March

	Patients seen	% seen		000s waited over 13 weeks, not yet seen
		within 13 weeks	after 26 weeks	
1997	1,880.2	83.1%	2.9%	247.5
1998	1,919.0	81.2%	4.1%	334.0
1999	1,929.6	77.2%	5.5%	456.0
2000	2,028.7	74.0%	7.2%	401.6
2001	2,098.2	76.0%	5.8%	283.8
2002	2,111.6	75.0%	6.0%	194.6
2003	2,092.7	76.7%	0.5%	120.3
2004	2,093.2	80.3%	0.1%	43.8
			after 13 weeks	
2005	1,976.7	84.2%	15.8%	32.1
2006	2,007.6	96.4%	3.6%	1.6
2007	1,950.1	98.7%	1.3%	1.4
31 Dec 2007	751.4	99.8%	0.2%	0.0

Source: DH, *Hospital Waiting Lists in England, Red Book*

Next update: May 2008

### Inpatient waiting lists: 1997-2007

England (provider based) at 31 March

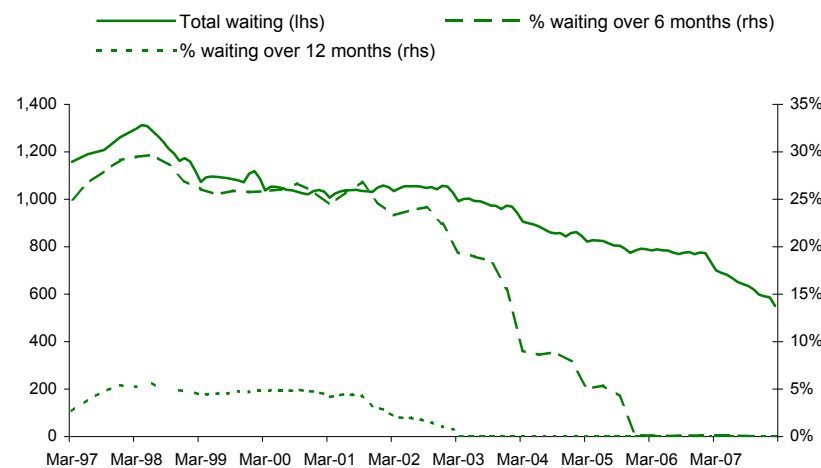
	000s Waiting	% of patients waiting (months)			
		<3	3-5	6-11	12-17
1997	1,157.9	50.8	24.2	22.3	2.7
1998	1,297.7	46.7	23.9	24.2	5.2
1999	1,072.9	50.6	23.3	21.7	4.4
2000	1,037.1	50.6	23.6	21.1	4.7
2001	1,006.5	51.8	23.8	20.3	4.2
2002	1,034.7	51.4	25.3	21.2	2.1
2003	992.0	54.6	26.0	19.4	0.0
2004	905.6	63.7	27.2	9.0	0.0
2005	821.7	68.0	26.9	5.0	0.0
2006	784.5	75.2	24.7	0.1	0.0

	000s Waiting	% of patients waiting (weeks)		
		0-13	13-26	26+
2007	700.6	83.5	16.4	0.1
31 Dec 2007	591.3	91.2	8.8	0.1

Source: DH, *Hospital Waiting Lists in England, Green Book*

### Inpatient waiting list: England since 1997



Contact: Matthew Whittaker x2454 or Rachael Harker x5061

## NHS staff

- The NHS in England employed 322,000 full time equivalent qualified nursing staff in 2007: 66,000 or 25.8 percent more than in 1997.
- The NHS in England employed 121,000 full time equivalent doctors in 2007: 36,000 or 42.6 percent more than in 1997.
- The number of NHS managers and senior managers in England declined from 38,000 in 2005 to 35,000 in 2007. This still represented a 63.1 percent increase on 1997. In 2007, managers comprised 3.2 percent of the HCHS workforce, up from 2.5 percent in 1997.
- There have been increases in NHS nurse and doctor numbers in Scotland and Wales in recent years. Similar data are available on request.

### NHS Staff in England 1997-2006

Full time equivalents, at 30 September

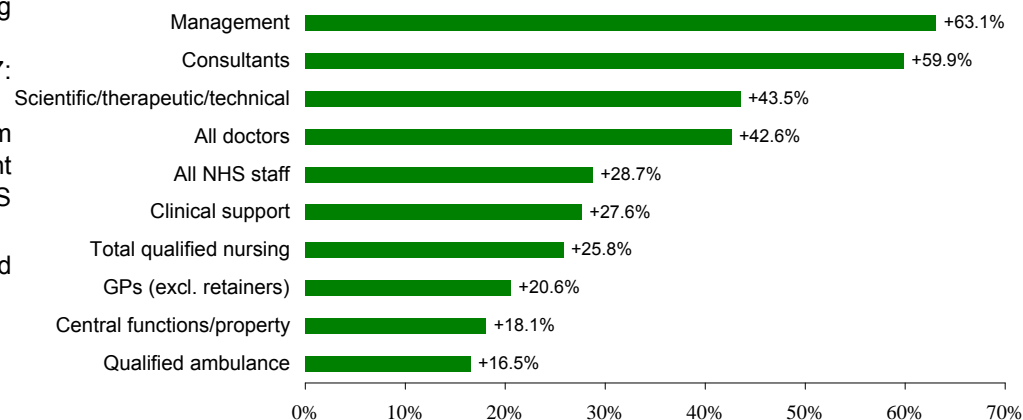
	1997	2002	2007
Total qualified nursing staff	256,093	291,285	322,182
Qualified nursing, midwifery and HV staff	246,011	279,287	307,628
GP practice nurses	10,082	11,998	14,554
All doctors (excl retainers)	84,758	96,999	120,878
GPs (excl retainers)	26,359	26,833	30,936
Consultants (incl. directors of public health)	19,661	24,756	31,430
Qualified scientific, therapeutic & technical staff	81,601	98,397	117,107
Qualified ambulance staff	14,193	14,978	16,535
Support to clinical staff	215,129	262,671	274,608
NHS infrastructure support	141,637	158,026	176,858
Central functions	60,643	72,730	86,772
Hotel, property and estates	59,560	54,382	55,131
Manager & senior manager	21,434	30,914	34,955
Total employed staff (inc GPs & Practice staff)	846,298	978,376	1,089,436

Source: NHS Information Centre, *NHS Staff 1997-2007*, Master Table

Next update: May 2009

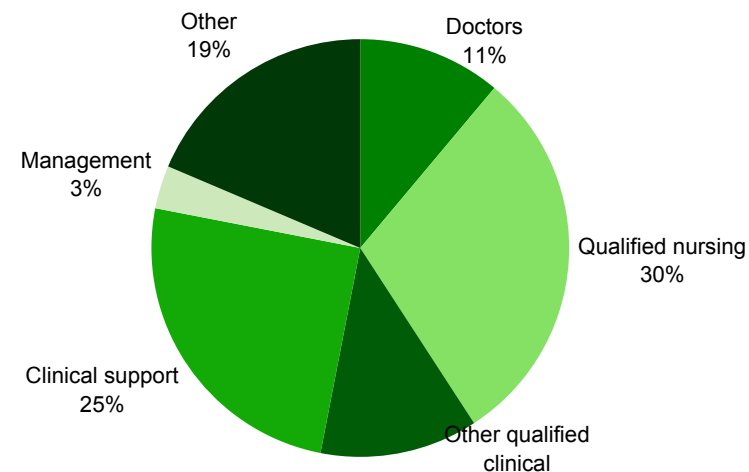
### Change in NHS staff numbers by group 1997-2007

England, whole time equivalents at 30 September



### NHS staff by group, 2007

England, whole time equivalents at 30 September



Contact: Matthew Whittaker x2454 or Rachael Harker x5061

## Beds and activity

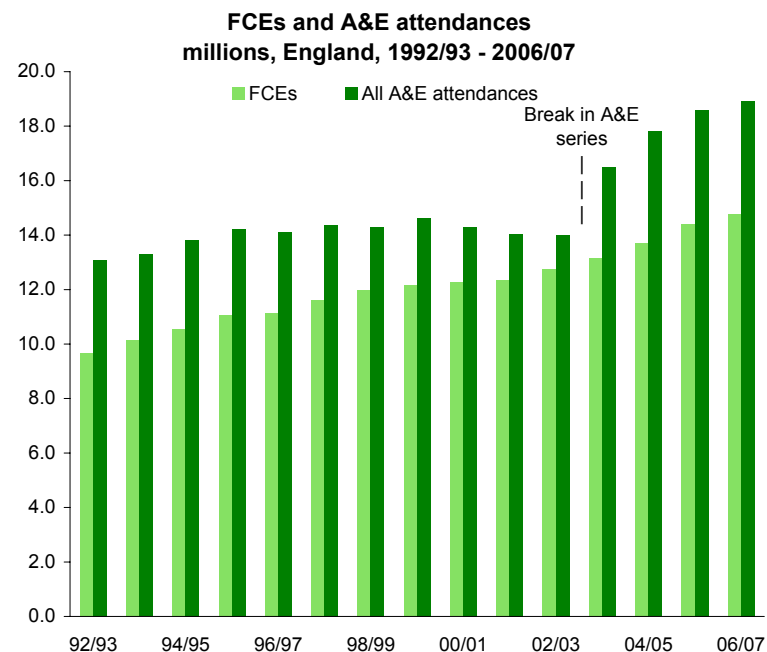
- During 2006/07 there were on average 167,000 beds available in wards open 24 hours a day in NHS hospitals in England. That is approximately half the average 20 years ago and 26,500 fewer than in 1997/98.
- The decline has been less pronounced in general and acute specialties than in mental illness and learning disabilities.
- There were 14.8 million finished consultant episodes (FCEs) in 2006/07, 2.5 percent more than in 2005/06. The biggest rise was 6.5 percent in 1991/92.
- There were 18.9 million A&E attendances in 2005/06. This is a 1.7 percent increase on the previous year. The apparently sharp increase in 2003/04 is due to the inclusion of minor injury unit and walk-in centre visits in first attendance data.

### Bed availability in England: 1979 to 2006/07

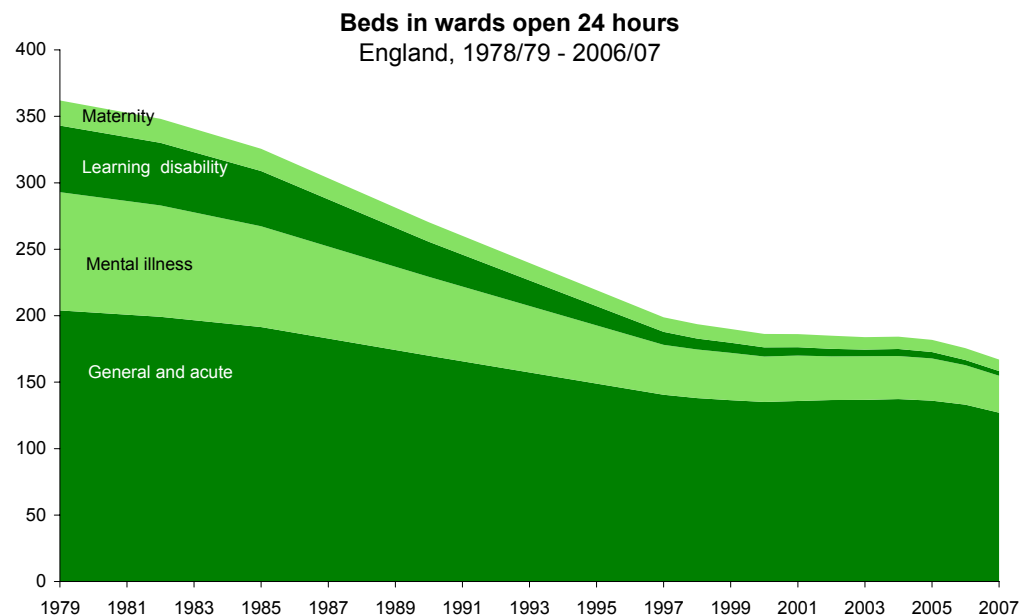
Average daily available beds in wards open 24 hours

	1997/98	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
General & Acute	138,000	136,600	136,700	137,300	136,100	133,000	126,976
Acute	107,800	108,500	108,700	109,800	109,500	108,100	104,079
Geriatric	30,200	28,000	28,000	27,400	26,600	24,900	22,897
Mental Illness	36,600	32,800	32,800	32,400	31,700	29,800	27,914
Learning disability	8,200	5,700	5,000	5,200	4,900	3,900	3,486
Maternity	10,800	9,800	9,400	9,300	9,000	8,900	8,643
Total	193,600	184,900	183,800	184,100	181,800	175,600	167,019

Source: DH *Bed Availability and occupancy, England, 2006/07*



Next update: May 2008

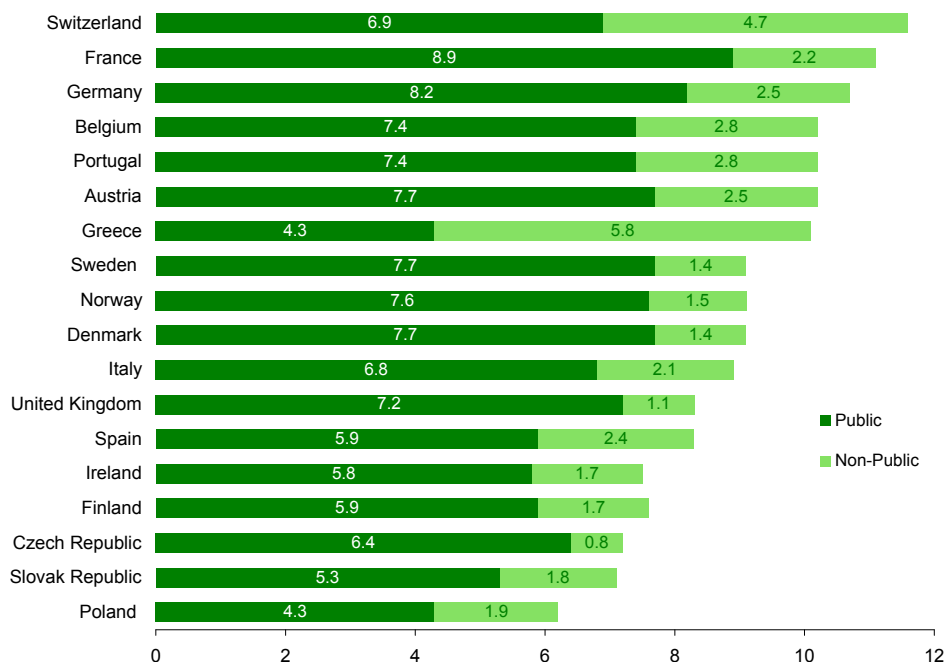


Contact: Matthew Whittaker x2454 or Rachael Harker x5061

## Health expenditure

- The government spent an estimated £82 billion on the NHS in England in cash terms in 2006/07.
- That is a real expenditure increase of 4.8 percent compared with the outturn for 2005/06. An increase of 8.1 percent is planned in 2007/08.
- Expenditure in the table is measured on a cash basis from 1997/98 to 1999/00. From 1999/00 to 2002/03 (one year overlap) it is on a Stage 1 resource accounting basis. It is shown in Stage 2 resource accounting terms from 2002/03 onwards.
- According to the OECD, approximately 8.3 percent of UK GDP was accounted for by health expenditure (public and private) in 2005. On this basis, the UK ranked 12th out of 18 European countries for which data were available.
- The Government estimates that public spending on health represented 7.3 percent of GDP in 2006/07. It plans to increase this proportion to 7.6 percent in 2007/08.

**Health expenditure as % of GDP, selected European countries 2005**



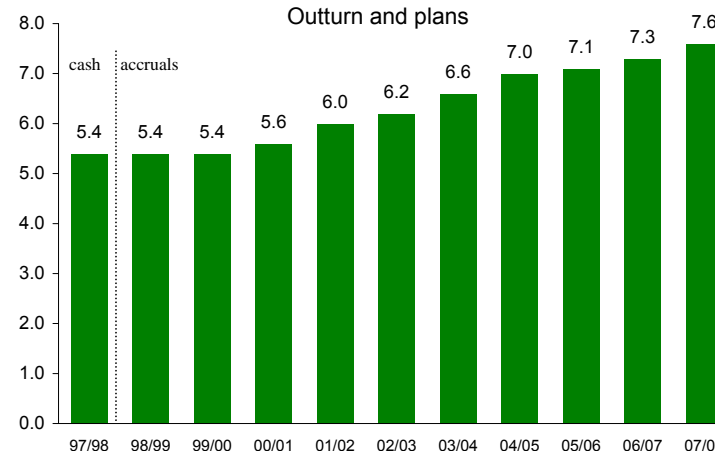
## Net NHS public spending: England

		£ billion	£ billion at 2006/07 prices	Annual % increase in real terms
1997/98	outturn	34.7	43.1	+2.1%
1998/99	outturn	36.6	44.4	+3.0%
1999/00	outturn	39.9	47.4	+6.8%
<i>Stage 1 Resource Basis</i>				
1999/00	outturn	40.2	47.8	..
2000/01	outturn	43.9	51.5	+7.7%
2001/02	outturn	49.0	56.1	+9.0%
2002/03	outturn	54.0	60.0	+6.9%
<i>Stage 2 Resource Basis</i>				
2002/03	outturn	57.2	63.4	..
2003/04 <sup>1</sup>	outturn	64.2	69.2	+6.4%
2004/05	outturn	69.1	72.5	+4.7%
2005/06	est outturn	75.8	77.9	+7.5%
2006/07	plan	81.7	81.7	+4.8%
2007/08	plan	90.7	88.3	+8.1%

Sources: Health Select Committee, *Public Expenditure on Health and Personal Social Services 2007*, Table 1; DH, *Departmental Report 2007*, Figure 9.1; HMT, *PESA 2007*, Table 1.12

Note: <sup>1</sup> 2003/04 increase is 6.4%, not 9.1% due to classification changes by HMT.

**Public spending on health as % of UK GDP**  
Outturn and plans



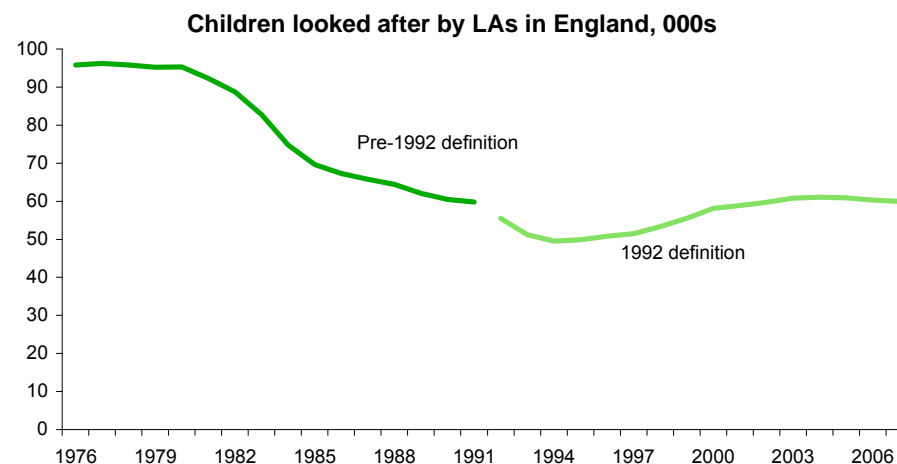
## Community care

- At 31 March 2007, there were a total of 250,000 permanent and temporary local authority (LA) supported adult residents in England.
- The major change in recent years was a 7% increase in 2003. This was largely due to the inclusion of people formerly in receipt of preserved rights. Since then, numbers have declined year-on-year.
- Numbers in LA staffed homes have fallen throughout the period.
- 60,000 children were looked after in England at 31 March 2007, of whom 71 percent were in foster placements. 3,300 looked after children were adopted in the year to the end of March 2007.
- 3,300 unaccompanied asylum seeking children were looked after at 31 March 2007.
- In 2006-07 an estimated 1.77 million adults received packages of care from social service departments; 86% of which were community based services.
- The most common community based services were home care, equipment and adaptations and professional support.

**Local Authority supported adult residents by home type: 1997-2007**  
England, at 31 March

	Local Authority staffed	Independent residential	Independent Nursing	Unstaffed and other	Total
1997	58,747	111,530	66,058	5,804	242,139
1998	54,610	121,925	72,905	6,065	255,505
1999	20,060	131,160	73,465	6,040	260,725
2000	47,250	138,575	73,860	5,750	265,430
2001	42,300	142,070	71,845	5,590	261,805
2002	37,115	149,450	72,630	5,630	264,825
2003	34,115	166,340	78,400	5,280	284,135
2004	31,845	164,695	75,805	5,605	277,950
2005	27,785	160,505	73,880	4,050	266,220
2006	25,160	157,125	73,520	3,365	259,175
2007	23,535	152,340	70,065	4,265	250,210

Source: NHS Information Centre, *Community Care Statistics 2007: Supported Residents (Adults)*, England, 30 October 2007, Table S1



Source: DFES, *Children looked after in England: year ending 31 March 2007*

**Estimated number of adults receiving social services, by type and age: England**

	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		
	(000s)	All ages	All ages	All ages	18-64	65+	All ages
Community-based services	<b>1,455</b>	85%	<b>1,494</b>	85%	497	1,025	<b>1,522</b> 86%
Day Care	<b>242</b>	14%	<b>244</b>	14%	107	131	<b>238</b> 13%
Meals	<b>176</b>	10%	<b>165</b>	9%	10	139	<b>150</b> 8%
Home Care	<b>584</b>	34%	<b>596</b>	34%	106	480	<b>586</b> 33%
Overnight respite	<b>70</b>	4%	<b>68</b>	4%	16	41	<b>57</b> 3%
Short term residential	<b>63</b>	4%	<b>64</b>	4%	13	49	<b>62</b> 3%
Direct payments	<b>24</b>	1%	<b>37</b>	2%	31	17	<b>48</b> 3%
Professional Support	<b>420</b>	24%	<b>444</b>	25%	249	254	<b>503</b> 28%
Transport	<b>63</b>	4%	..	..	..	..	.. ..
Equipment and adaptations	<b>479</b>	28%	<b>499</b>	29%	109	382	<b>491</b> 28%
Other	<b>95</b>	5%	<b>120</b>	7%	51	75	<b>126</b> 7%
Residential care	<b>206</b>	12%	<b>207</b>	12%	49	154	<b>203</b> 11%
Total number of clients	<b>1,720</b>	100%	<b>1,748</b>	100%	<b>543</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>1,774</b> 100%

Source: NHS Information Centre, *Community Care Statistics 2006-07: Referrals, assessments and packages of care for adults*, England: 28 February 2008, Table 4.1

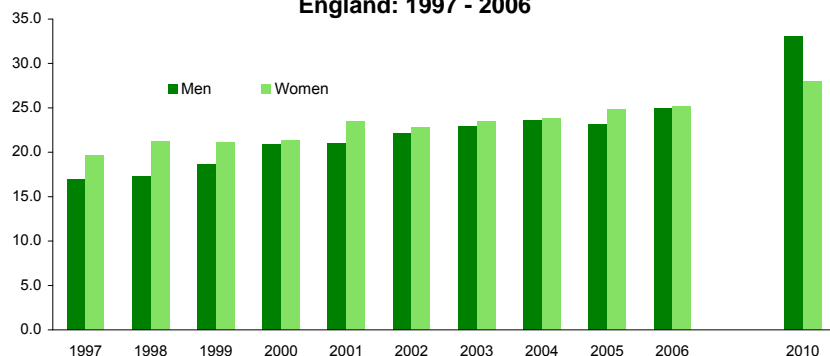
Next update: September 2008

Contact: Matthew Whittaker x2454 or Rachael Harker x5061

## Public health

- Inequalities in life expectancy persist across the UK.
- Around 11 million adults smoke in the UK. Smoking prevalence is higher among those aged 20-24 and in manual socio-economic groups. 106,000 persons die each year from smoking-attributable causes across the UK (23% of male deaths from all causes are due to smoking; 12% for females).
- Binge drinking is prevalent among young people and seems to be a distinctive characteristic of British drinking culture. 30% and 25% of young men and women binge drink at least once a week, particularly at weekends. 22,000 premature deaths per year are associated with alcohol misuse, mainly resulting from stroke, cancer, liver disease, accidental injury and suicide.
- More than half of all adults are overweight or obese. If current trends continue, it is estimated that more than a quarter of adults in the UK will be obese by 2010. Nearly one in three children are either overweight or obese. Obesity can reduce overall quality of life and lead to premature death.

**Proportion of adults who are obese  
England: 1997 - 2006**

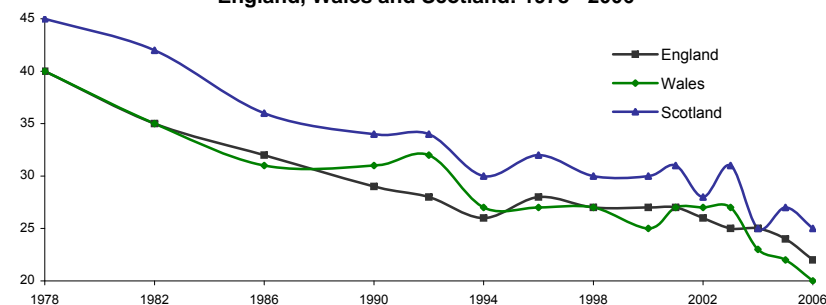


**Local authorities with highest and lowest life expectancy at birth  
United Kingdom, 2004-2006**

Males		Females		
Local Authority	Years	Local Authority	Years	
1	Kensington and Chelsea	83.1	Kensington and Chelsea	87.2
2	East Dorset	81.4	East Dorset	84.7
3	Hart	80.7	Christchurch	84.4
4	Rutland	80.6	Rochford	84.3
5	Elmbridge	80.4	South Cambridgeshire	84.2
6	Wokingham	80.3	Epsom and Ewell	84.2
7	Christchurch	80.3	East Cambridgeshire	84.1
8	Westminster	80.2	New Forest	84.1
9	South Norfolk	80.2	Westminster	84.0
10	Winchester	80.1	Rutland	84.0
432	Glasgow City	70.5	Glasgow City	77.0
431	West Dunbartonshire	71.8	West Dunbartonshire	77.7
430	Inverclyde	72.2	Inverclyde	77.8
429	Manchester	73.0	East Dunbartonshire	78.2
428	North Lanarkshire	73.0	North Lanarkshire	78.2
427	Eilean Siar	73.0	Liverpool	78.3
426	Clackmannanshire	73.2	Hartlepool	78.3
425	Blackpool	73.3	Halton	78.4
424	Renfrewshire	73.4	Renfrewshire	78.4
423	Dundee City	73.6	Manchester	78.6

Source: ONS, Life expectancy at birth in local authorities, UK, 2004 - 2006

**Proportion of adults who smoke  
England, Wales and Scotland: 1978 - 2006**



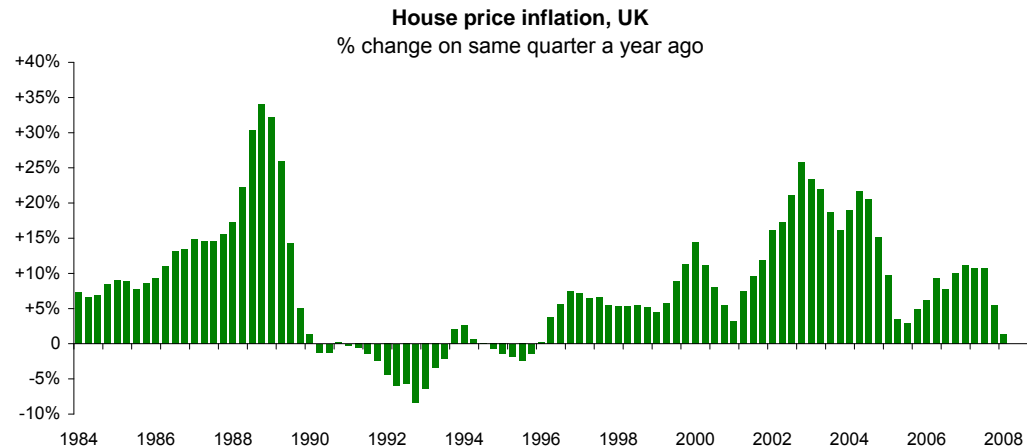
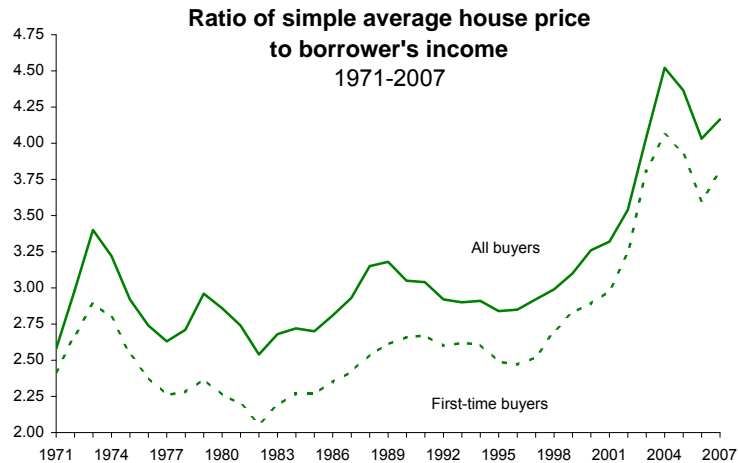
## House prices

- The average property price in the UK increased from £192,300 to £194,900 in the year to 2008 Q1, a 1% increase.
- House prices rose fastest in Scotland (5%), Northern Ireland, the South East and the North (4% in each area). Prices decreased by over 1 per cent in Wales (-6%), the West Midlands (-4%) and the South West (-3%).
- The simple house price to borrower's income ratio reached its highest point over the period shown in 2004, but fell in 2005 and 2006. It began to rise again in 2007.
- The Halifax *House Price Index* is one of several measures of house prices. Alternatives include HM Land Registry, DCLG, Nationwide and the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors.

**Average property prices for all property types by Halifax HPI region**  
£, seasonally adjusted

	2002 Q1	2003 Q1	2004 Q1	2005 Q1	2006 Q1	2007 Q1	2008 Q1
East Anglia	109,278	135,531	149,258	161,741	167,366	187,918	193,845
East Midlands	85,145	114,052	132,213	148,375	153,592	162,921	167,069
Greater London	185,512	219,501	239,439	241,918	258,511	297,132	304,781
North	64,105	83,600	113,953	130,053	140,166	148,167	153,543
North West	71,852	85,934	112,384	129,533	141,556	151,341	153,278
South East	155,191	194,096	208,624	218,102	221,907	248,268	258,529
South West	122,999	153,533	172,198	181,826	185,216	212,277	205,487
West Midlands	94,781	120,057	144,087	158,354	165,597	181,030	174,591
Yorks & Humber	64,814	82,997	106,545	122,946	134,307	145,419	145,965
Wales	73,563	92,828	125,285	137,564	150,527	168,279	158,707
Scotland	66,565	73,085	85,675	105,397	113,955	138,655	145,531
Northern Ireland	77,761	76,811	93,982	117,666	152,483	206,495	214,266
UK	101,133	124,753	148,399	162,840	172,979	192,314	194,893

Source: Halifax House Price Index



Next update: July 2008

Contact: Rachael Harker x5061 or Matthew Whittaker x2454

## Housebuilding

- 218,500 permanent dwellings were completed in the UK in 2006/07, an increase of 2 percent on 2005/06. It is the fifth successive annual increase.
- Around 250 local authority dwellings were completed in the UK in 2006/07, well below the 16,600 recorded in 1990/91.
- Dwellings completed by registered social landlords have considerably decreased since the peak of 38,500 in 1995/96, although they have risen for the third consecutive year.
- Until recently, the number of private dwellings built in the UK has fluctuated. Since 2000/01, numbers have increased. The total of 191,050 in 2006/07 was the highest in the period shown.

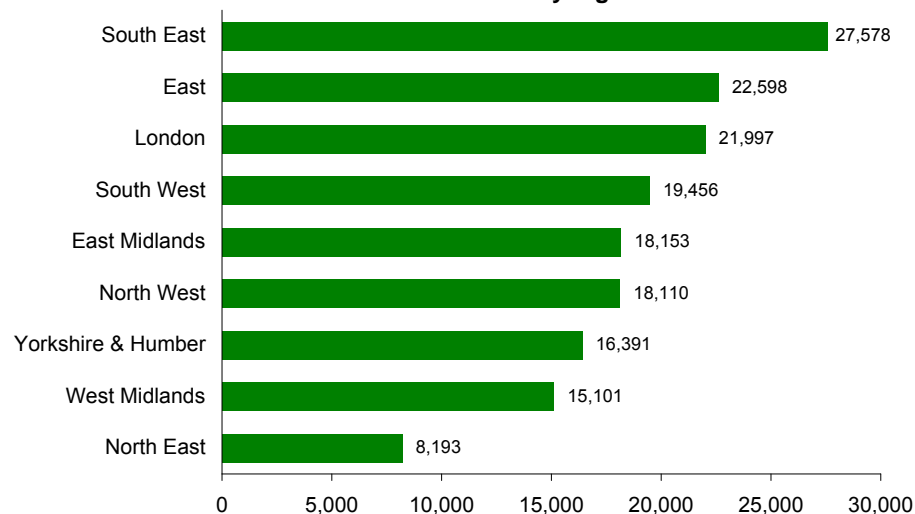
**Permanent dwellings completed, UK 1990/91 - 2006/07**

	Private enterprise	Registered social landlords	Local authority	All dwellings
1990/91	162,211	19,342	16,382	<b>197,935</b>
1991/92	160,619	21,134	9,903	<b>191,656</b>
1992/93	144,424	30,155	4,428	<b>179,007</b>
1993/94	146,821	36,671	3,590	<b>187,082</b>
1994/95	156,246	37,597	3,002	<b>196,845</b>
1995/96	156,936	38,551	3,038	<b>198,525</b>
1996/97	153,446	30,951	1,538	<b>185,935</b>
1997/98	160,681	28,554	1,519	<b>190,754</b>
1998/99	154,557	22,867	865	<b>178,289</b>
1999/00	160,491	24,313	317	<b>185,121</b>
2000/01	152,590	23,850	382	<b>176,734</b>
2001/02	153,308	21,678	225	<b>175,211</b>
2002/03	163,993	19,586	301	<b>183,880</b>
2003/04	171,995	18,375	207	<b>190,577</b>
2004/05	183,717	22,716	131	<b>206,564</b>
2005/06	190,305	24,393	326	<b>215,024</b>
2006/07	191,050	27,242	251	<b>218,543</b>

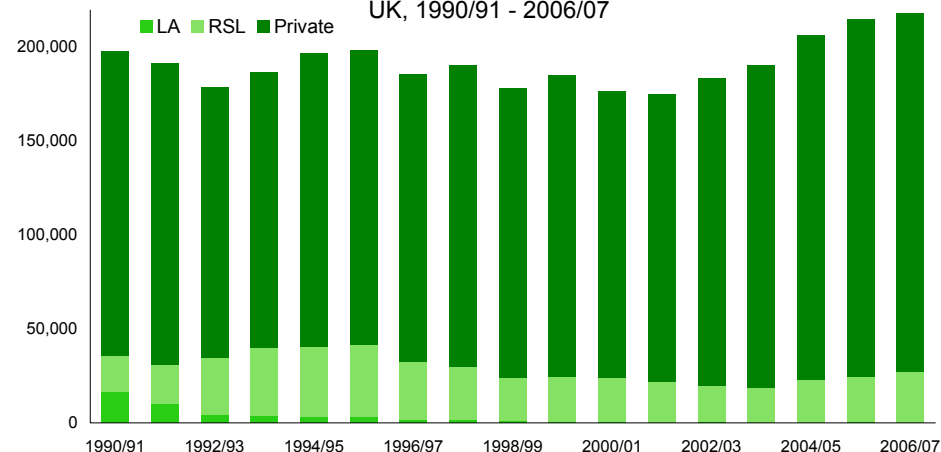
Source: DCLG, *Housing Statistics Live Tables*

Next update: June 2008

**Permanent dwellings completed in 2006/07 by region**



**Dwellings completed by tenure UK, 1990/91 - 2006/07**



Contact: Rachael Harker x5061 or Matthew Whittaker x2454

## Homelessness

- Around 65,000 households were accepted as homeless and in priority need in 2007. This is a decrease of 15 percent on the previous year.
- In 2007, 73 per cent of acceptances were from households classified as White, 10 per cent from African/Caribbean households, 6 per cent from Indian/Pakistani/Bangladeshi households, 5 per cent from other ethnic origin households and the remaining 6 per cent from households where the ethnic origin was not known. This pattern is consistent with previous years.
- In 2007, 36 per cent of acceptances arose because parents, relatives or friends were no longer able, or willing, to accommodate them. 21 per cent were due to the breakdown of a relationship with a partner, while 15 per cent were due to households losing accommodation through the ending of an assured shorthold. 4 per cent resulted from mortgage arrears, compared with a peak of 11 percent during 1991.

Annual % change in households accepted as homeless and priority need, England



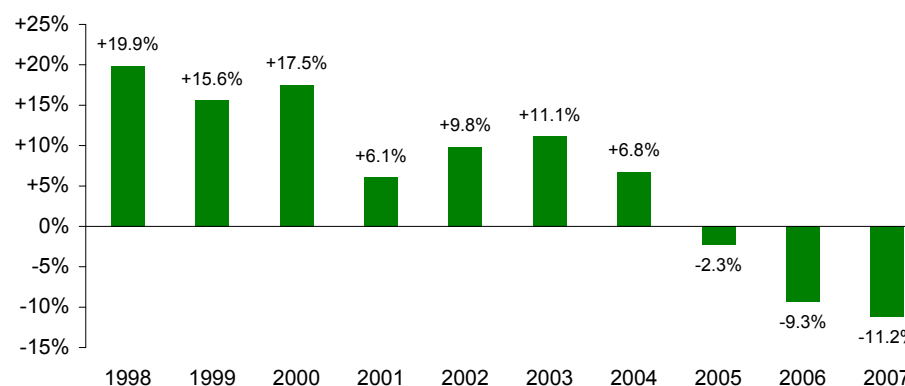
### Households in temporary accommodation arranged by LAs

England, period end, 1997-2007

	Bed and Breakfast Hotels	Hostels/ Woman's Refuges	Leased dwellings	Other	Total
1997	4,520	8,730	14,040	17,580	44,870
1998	7,240	9,760	17,400	19,390	53,790
1999	8,000	9,660	19,820	24,700	62,180
2000	9,870	10,790	25,260	27,160	73,080
2001	11,890	9,850	25,740	30,550	77,510
2002	13,240	9,640	33,010	29,250	85,140
2003	8,420	10,370	46,310	29,520	94,610
2004	6,450	10,060	55,590	28,920	101,020
2005	4,950	9,230	54,830	29,720	98,730
2006	4,210	7,840	52,120	25,340	89,510
2007	3,530	6,620	45,690	23,670	79,500

Sources: DCLG Live Tables, Table 622 & Table 625

Annual % change in households in accommodation arranged by LAs at period end, England



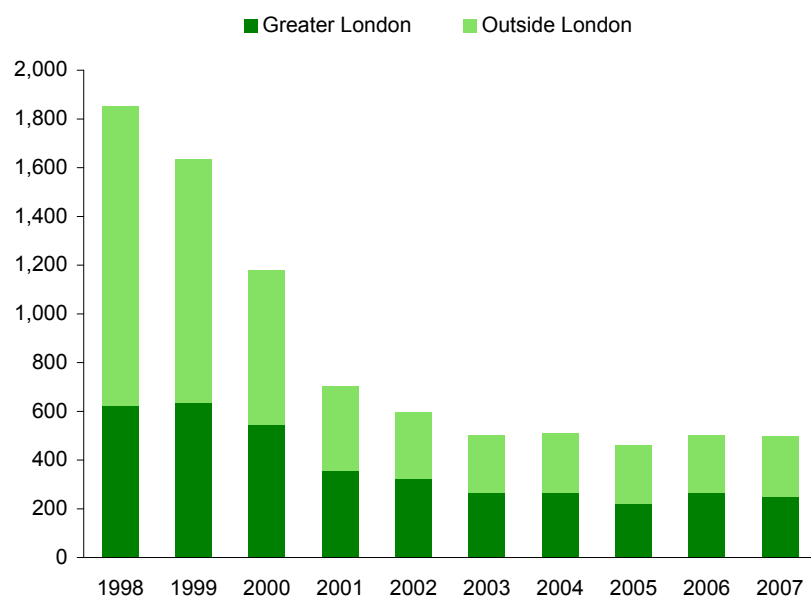
Next update: July 2008

Contact: Rachael Harker x5061 or Matthew Whittaker x2454

## Rough sleeping

- The number of people sleeping rough in England fell in 2007, and is nearly one-quarter of the 1998 level.
- It is estimated that there are around 500 people sleeping rough in England compared with 1,850 in 1998.
- Around 25 percent of rough sleepers are aged between 18 and 25, while 6 percent are over 60. Nine out of every ten rough sleepers are male.
- Some 30-50 percent of rough sleepers suffer from mental health problems. The great majority (88 percent) of those with mental health problems became ill before they were homeless.
- As many as 50 percent of rough sleepers have a serious alcohol problem and one in five misuse drugs.

Estimated number of rough sleepers



Regional numbers of rough sleepers, June

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Greater London</b>	621	635	546	357	321	267	265	221	267	248
<i>of which</i>										
Westminster	237	234	227	169	169	133	175	133	173	112
Camden	59	66	54	38	28	13	5	17	10	6
City of London	41	36	40	30	41	36	22	12	25	45
Lambeth	20	46	47	23	12	11	12	7	9	15
Kensington & Chelsea	23	28	14	15	6	6	10	12	10	13
Southwark	31	26	7	13	2	17	6	7	6	11
<b>Outside London</b>	1,229	998	634	346	275	237	243	238	235	250
<i>of which</i>										
Oxford	39	52	31	24	7	5	7	5	11	11
Bristol	42	32	21	23	21	10	5	4	1	7
Brighton & Hove	44	43	26	20	9	9	9	9	12	12
Birmingham	56	43	23	19	2	14	7	7	8	5
Reading	13	5	9	18	7	4	6	11	2	15
Manchester	31	44	23	17	19	9	18	7	5	7
Cambridge	30	21	21	16	19	9	3	7	2	6
Bournemouth	44	18	21	14	7	4	12	7	8	5
Liverpool	17	30	19	13	19	19	10	8	9	12
Exeter	27	19	19	10	7	18	8	8	6	10
<b>England</b>	<b>1,850</b>	<b>1,633</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>498</b>

Source: DCLG, National Rough Sleeping Estimate 2007

## Local government finance

- The Local Government Financial Settlement for the period 2008/09 to 2010/11 was confirmed by the DCLG on 24 January 2008. This is the first three-year settlement for local authorities.
- Total revenue grants to English local authorities will be £70.4bn in 2008/09. Formula grant finances £27.5bn of this with the remainder financed through special grants. £36bn of the special grants are ring fenced. A ring fenced grant is paid to local authorities with conditions attached to it restricting the purposes for which it may be spent.
- Formula Grant comprises revenue support grant, redistributed business rate income and police grant.
- Although LAs continue to receive above inflation increases, there is real concern that the rise in grant is not keeping up with the increase in the costs they face.

### Funding of revenue expenditure 1997/98 - 2007/08

#### England and Wales

	Total gross expenditure (£ million)	% of total		
		Gov't grants	Non-domestic rates	Council tax
1997/98	61,190	61%	21%	18%
1998/99	63,872	61%	21%	18%
1999/00	66,341	59%	22%	19%
2000/01	69,595	58%	23%	19%
2001/02	73,778	59%	21%	20%
2002/03	78,437	58%	22%	20%
2003/04	88,544	62%	18%	20%
2004/05	100,767	65%	16%	19%
2005/06	107,674	63%	17%	19%
2006/07	116,151	63%	16%	21%
2007/08	123,638	63%	16%	21%

Source: *Finance and General Statistics*, CIPFA

Next update: June 2008

### Formula Grant allocations by political control of LAs

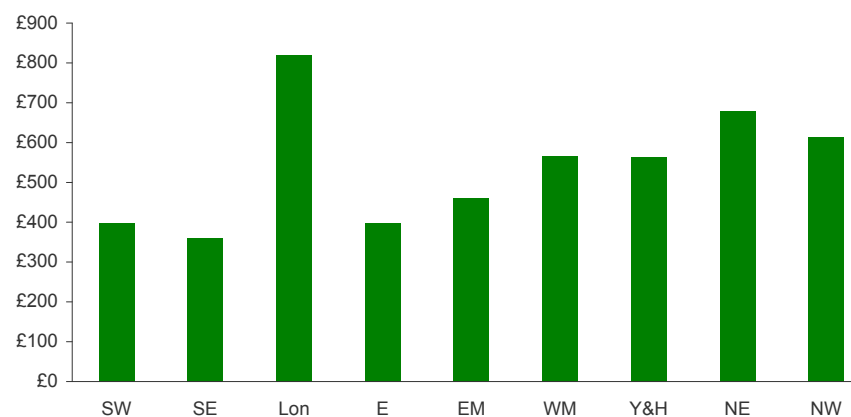
	Number of authorities	2008/09		2009/10		2010/11	
		£ per capita	% change	£ per capita	% change	£ per capita	% change
County Council							
Conservative	23	166.10	4.1%	170.44	3.4%	175.01	3.4%
Labour	6	227.93	7.8%	239.08	5.4%	249.60	4.9%
Liberal Democrat	3	215.75	7.7%	225.76	5.7%	235.79	5.4%
NOC	2	210.27	6.2%	218.94	4.8%	227.59	4.5%
Shire Districts							
Conservative	146	71.82	1.7%	72.40	1.4%	73.00	1.4%
Labour	13	101.89	1.2%	102.35	0.6%	102.75	0.6%
Liberal Democrat	18	82.50	1.4%	82.93	1.0%	83.37	1.1%
NOC	55	87.56	1.8%	88.26	1.5%	88.91	1.4%
Independent	6	93.07	1.8%	93.75	1.3%	94.36	1.3%
Single Tier (excluding City of London & Isle of Scilly)							
Conservative	36	359.54	3.4%	367.02	2.7%	373.86	2.4%
Labour	29	585.88	3.8%	600.63	2.8%	613.37	2.4%
Liberal Democrat	8	465.31	3.1%	475.63	2.4%	484.75	2.1%
NOC	41	469.37	3.7%	480.35	2.8%	490.02	2.5%

Note: Political control after elections on 3 May. Control is defined as party having majority of councillors

Source:

Local Government Finance Settlement, ODPM  
Local Authority Control, LGA factsheet

### Formula grant per capita by GOR, 2008/09



Contact: Gavin Berman x3851 or Paul Bolton x6789

## Council tax

- To compare year-on-year increases, council taxes are expressed in terms of the average Band D council tax for a 2 adult dwelling. This ensures a like-for-like comparison is being made as the mix of dwellings by value will differ from one authority to another.
- The average Band D council tax in the North East (£1,429) is higher than in any other Government Office Region, while London has the lowest rate (£1,292).
- Sedgefield local authority had the highest Band D council tax bill (£1,613) in Great Britain.
- Wandsworth and Westminster local authorities have the lowest Band D council tax bills (£687 and £688 respectively).
- The average council tax per dwelling in England is £1,146 in 2008/09, significantly less than the average for a Band D dwelling. The average bill per dwelling in Wales is £908 and in Scotland is £983.

### Headline council tax by class of authority

£, 2 adults at Band D

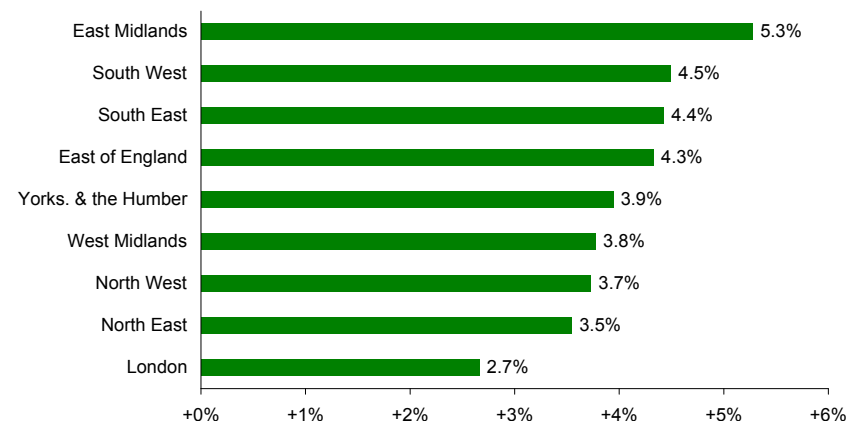
	1997/98	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	Annual % change in 2008/09
Inner London	646	1,020	1,059	1,090	1,112	+2.0%
Outer London	654	1,247	1,308	1,361	1,402	+3.0%
Metropolitan Districts	779	1,190	1,237	1,284	1,328	+3.4%
Shire areas	671	1,234	1,290	1,348	1,408	+4.4%
Unitary Authorities	698	1,197	1,251	1,302	1,358	+4.3%
Shire Districts	667	1,246	1,303	1,362	1,424	+4.5%
<b>England</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>1,214</b>	<b>1,268</b>	<b>1,321</b>	<b>1,374</b>	<b>+4.0%</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>783</b>	<b>1,094</b>	<b>1,129</b>	<b>1,149</b>	<b>1,149</b>	<b>-0.0%</b>
<b>Wales</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>962</b>	<b>1,005</b>	<b>1,044</b>	<b>+3.9%</b>

Amounts shown are headline taxes, before transitional relief and benefits/ rebates

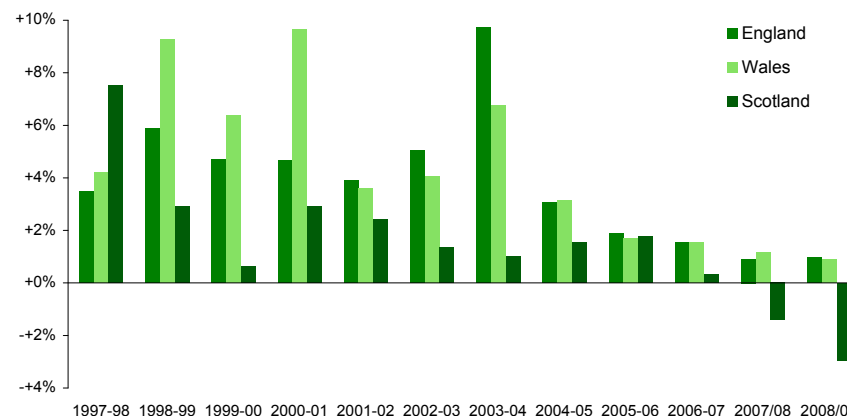
Sources: DCLG, Scottish Executive, National Assembly for Wales

Next update: March 2009

### Change in band D council tax levels by English region 2008/09



### Real annual % change in average Band D council tax

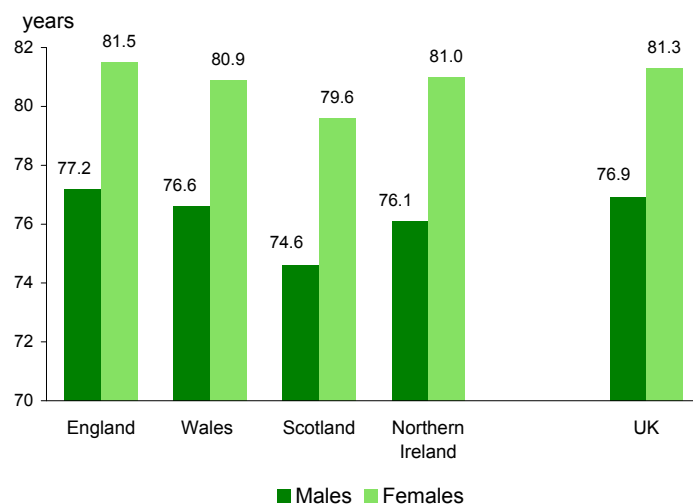


Contact: Gavin Berman x3851 or Paul Bolton x6789

## Population

- The population of the UK is estimated at 60.6 million.
- The population of the UK is growing and is projected to reach 65 million by 2016. The population of England is projected to grow by 8 percent by 2016, that of Northern Ireland by 7 percent and Wales 5 percent. The population of Scotland is projected to grow less rapidly, by 3 percent by 2016.
- The UK has an ageing population. There are over 11 million people of pensionable age today. The number of elderly people is projected to rise further in the future. By 2031 over one fifth of the population will be of pensionable age.
- Natural change (births and deaths) has traditionally been the main driver of population growth in the UK. Since the mid-1990s, net international migration into the UK has been the most important factor in population change.

**Life expectancy at birth in the UK and constituent countries, 2005**



Next update: August 2008

## Resident population: 1960-2031

Thousands

	England	Wales	Scotland	N Ireland	UK
1960	43,146	2,629	5,178	1,420	52,372
1980	46,787	2,816	5,194	1,533	56,330
1990	47,699	2,862	5,081	1,596	57,238
2000	49,167	2,904	5,063	1,683	58,817
2001	49,390	2,908	5,064	1,689	59,051
2002	49,652	2,920	5,055	1,697	59,324
2003	49,866	2,931	5,057	1,703	59,557
2004	50,111	2,946	5,078	1,710	59,846
2005	50,466	2,954	5,095	1,724	60,238
2006	50,763	2,966	5,117	1,742	60,587
<b>Projections</b>					
2011	52,706	3,038	5,206	1,812	62,761
2021	56,757	3,186	5,326	1,922	67,191
2031	60,432	3,296	5,374	1,999	71,100

Source: ONS, 2006-based projections  
ONS Mid-year population estimates

## Population age structure: UK, 1951, 2006 and 2031

Thousands

	Under 18	18 to pension age	Pension age + of which 75+	All ages	
1951	13,248 26%	30,149 60%	6,828 14%	1,779 4%	50,225 100%
2006	13,120 22%	36,124 60%	11,344 19%	4,659 8%	60,587 100%
2031	14,399 20%	41,774 59%	14,927 21%	8,223 12%	71,100 100%

Note: Pension age for women is to rise between 2010 and 2020 from 60 to 65  
Pension age is to rise in 3 stages from 65 to 68 years for both sexes between 2024 and 2041

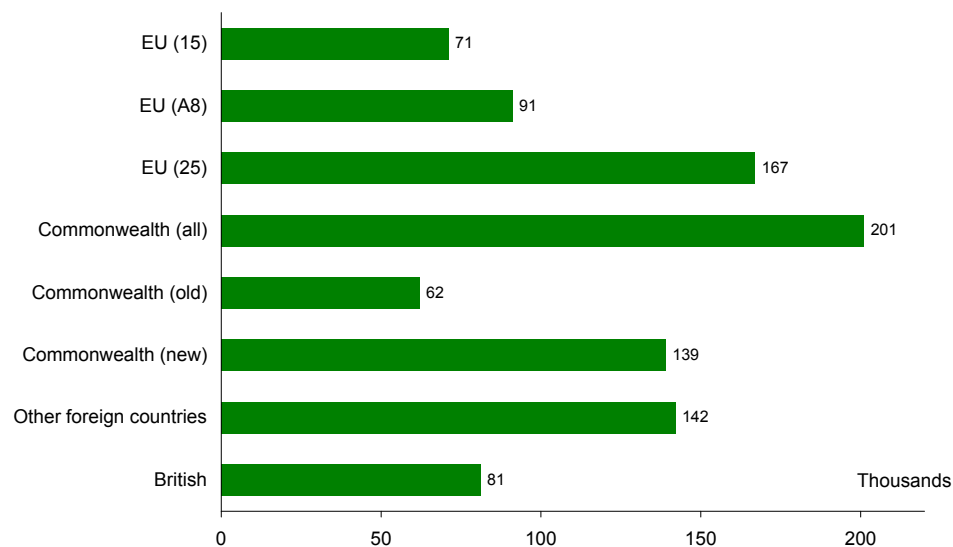
Source: ONS Mid-year population estimates & 2006-based projections

Julien Anseau x4310

## International migration

- In 2006, 191,000 more people migrated to the UK than emigrated from it, a decline from the record estimate of 244,000 in 2004. This decline in net migration was due to emigration increasing more than immigration.
- Historically, more people have tended to emigrate from the UK than migrate to it. Since the mid-1980s, however, this trend has been reversed and there has been a consistent gain in the population from net immigration.
- The UK had 167,000 immigrants from the EU25 in 2006, 28 percent of the total. Net immigration of New Commonwealth citizens was 115,000 in 2006 and almost 80% of New Commonwealth immigrants were from the Indian subcontinent. Emigration from the UK totaled 400,000 in 2006, or which 207,000 were British citizens. Almost two-thirds of emigrating British citizens went to live in Australia, New Zealand, Spain, France or the United States.
- London was the destination for 29 percent of all immigrants to the UK in 2006, a decrease of 43 percent from 2000.

**Inflow: migration to the UK by citizenship - 2006**



**Total international migration, UK 1994-2006**  
000s

	Inflow	Outflow	Balance
1994	315	238	77
1995	312	236	76
1996	318	264	55
1997	327	279	48
1998	391	251	140
1999	454	291	163
2000	479	321	158
2001	479	306	173
2002	513	358	154
2003	508	361	147
2004	586	342	244
2005	563	359	204
2006	591	400	191

**Total international migration: 2006**  
000s by destination or origin within the UK

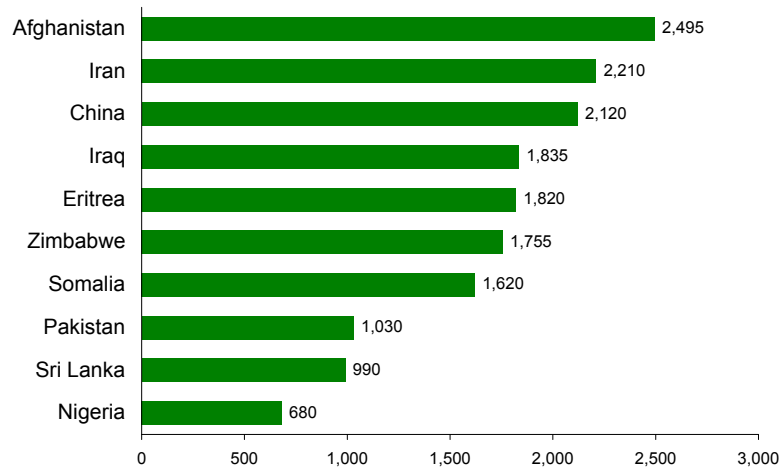
	Inflow	Outflow	Balance
North East	15	14	1
North West	43	36	7
Yorks & Humbs	49	29	20
E Midlands	37	21	16
W Midlands	33	29	4
East	60	36	23
London	170	117	53
South East	81	53	28
South West	43	26	17
Wales	15	10	5
Scotland	38	26	12
Northern Ireland	7	3	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>191</b>

Source: ONS, *International Migration*

## Asylum seekers

- Provisional Home Office data for 2007 identified that there were 23,430 principal applications for asylum (i.e. excluding dependants), 1 percent less than in 2006. 84 percent applied in country, with 16 percent applying at UK ports of entry.
- The 23,385 applications in Q4 2002 and the 8,900 in October 2002 are the highest quarterly and monthly totals recorded.
- The backlog of applications waiting to be determined rose slightly to 6,900 in December 2006, up by 8 percent compared with the previous year.
- The top five applicant nationalities in 2006 were Afghanistan (11 percent), Iran (9 percent), China (9 percent), Iraq (8) and Eritrea (8 percent).
- UNHCR data show the UK had the second highest number of asylum applications, including dependants, of EU-27 countries in 2007; France had the highest number of applications. However, in terms of asylum applications per 1,000 inhabitants, the UK ranks 11th.

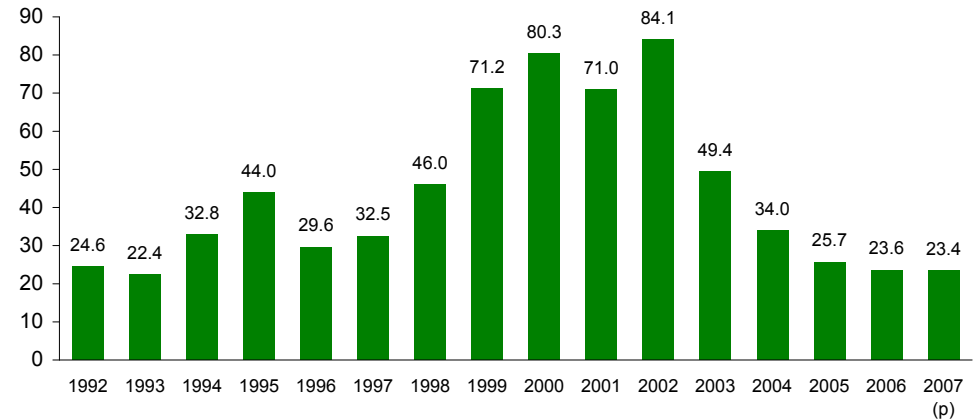
**Nationality of asylum applicants**  
UK 2007



Source: Home Office, *Asylum statistics*

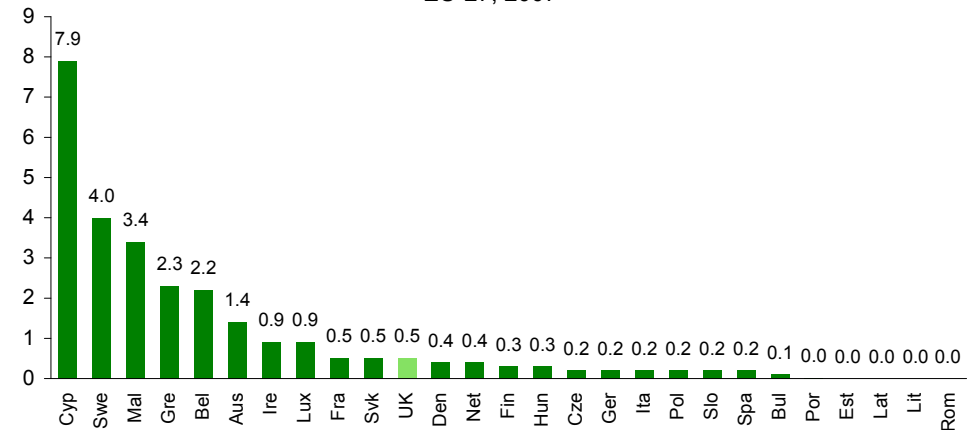
Next update: October 2008

**Applications for asylum, UK 1992-2007**  
000s excluding dependants



Source: Home Office, *Asylum statistics*

**Persons applying for asylum per 1,000 inhabitants**  
EU-27, 2007



Source: UNHCR

Contact: Ross Young x4313 or Julien Anseau x4310

## Asylum decisions

- 21,660 initial asylum decisions were made in 2007, 3 percent higher than in 2006, and fewer than the number of applications (23,430).
- 3,540 principal applicants were granted asylum, 16 percent of the total. A further 2,210 people were granted discretionary leave to remain or humanitarian protection, 11% of all initial decisions.
- Of those granted asylum in 2007, 36 percent were from Eritrea, 22 percent were from Somalia and 7 percent were from Zimbabwe.
- Data for 2006/07 suggests that the Home Office's Public Service Agreement target of reaching and serving initial decisions on 75 percent of applications within two months was not met. 61% of applications received during 2006/07 were decided within two months of application.
- 14,895 asylum appeals were determined by asylum and immigration judges in 2007, a fall of 7 percent compared to 2006. 3,385 (23 percent) of appeals determined were allowed, an increase of one percentage point compared to the previous year.

### Initial asylum application decisions made in-year: 1995-2007

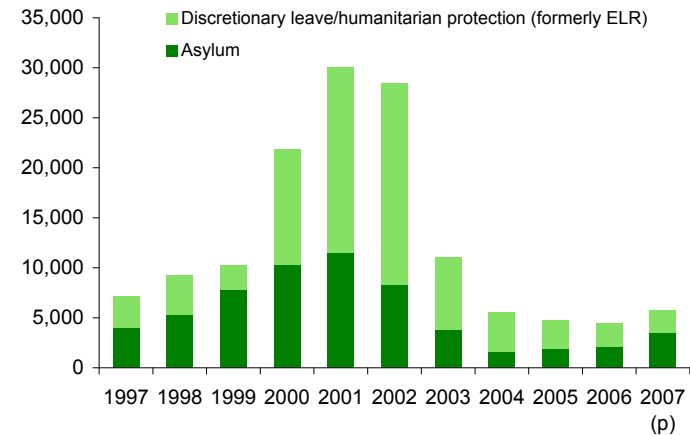
Cases considered under normal procedures

	Recognised as refugee and granted asylum		Not recognised as refugee but given leave to remain		Refused	
	Number	% of initial decisions	Number	% of initial decisions	Number	% of initial decisions
1995	1,295	5%	4,410	16%	21,300	79%
1996	2,240	6%	5,055	13%	31,670	81%
1997	3,985	11%	3,115	9%	28,945	80%
1998	5,345	17%	3,910	12%	22,315	71%
1999	7,815	37%	2,465	12%	11,025	52%
2000	10,605	12%	11,495	13%	75,680	75%
2001	13,495	11%	20,190	17%	89,310	72%
2002	10,205	12%	20,135	24%	55,130	64%
2003	3,865	6%	7,210	11%	53,865	83%
2004	1,565	3%	3,995	9%	40,465	88%
2005	1,940	7%	2,880	10%	22,655	82%
2006	2,170	10%	2,304	11%	16,459	79%
2007(p)	3,540	16%	2,210	10%	15,915	73%

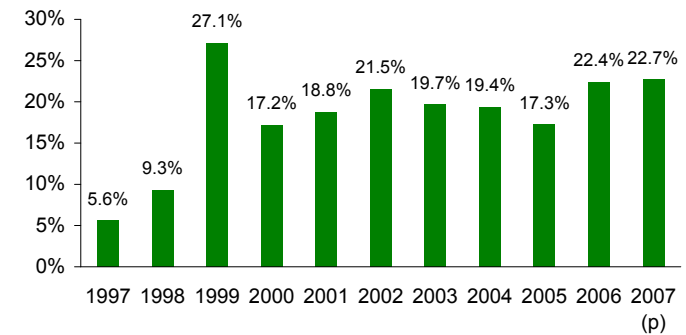
Decisions are not necessarily related to applications made in same period; excludes dependants

Source: Home Office *Asylum Statistics*  
 Next update: October 2008

Principal applicants granted asylum or Discretionary Leave/Humanitarian Protection: UK, 1997-2007



Appeals allowed, % of appeals determined: UK, 1997-2007

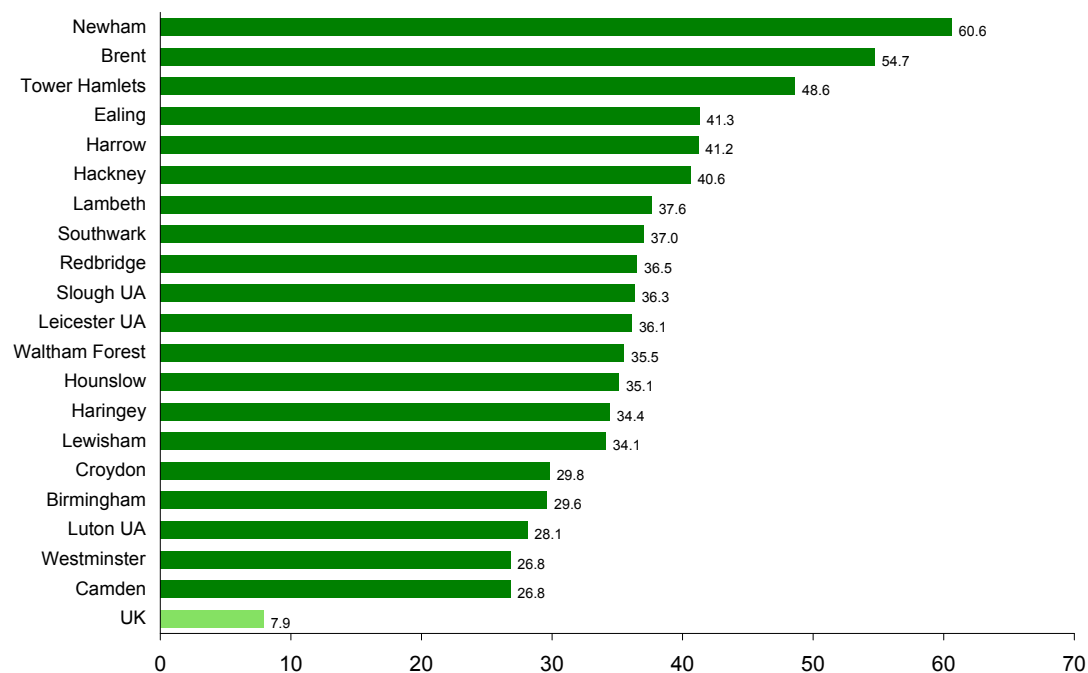


Contact: Ross Young x4313 or Julien Anseau x4310

## Ethnicity and religion

- Almost 8 percent of the UK population are non-white, including over half the population of Newham and Brent.
- 26 percent of Leicester’s population are Indian, the highest share of any local authority in the UK. 33 percent of the Tower Hamlets population are Bangladeshi while 15 percent of Bradford’s population are Pakistani. 12 percent of Lewisham’s population are Black Caribbean and 16 percent of Southwark’s population are Black African.
- Over 70 percent of the UK’s population describe themselves as Christian. There are 1.6 million Muslims in the UK, accounting for 2.7 percent of the population.

**Non-white population as % of total**  
Top 20 UK local authorities, 2001



**Population by ethnic group: UK 2001**

	000s	%
White	54,152	92.1%
Indian	1,054	1.8%
Pakistani	747	1.3%
Black Caribbean	566	1.0%
Black African	485	0.8%
Bangladeshi	283	0.5%
Chinese	247	0.4%
Mixed	677	1.2%
Other	577	1.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,789</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: ONS [www.statistics.gov.uk/census](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census) 2001

**Population by religion: UK 2001**

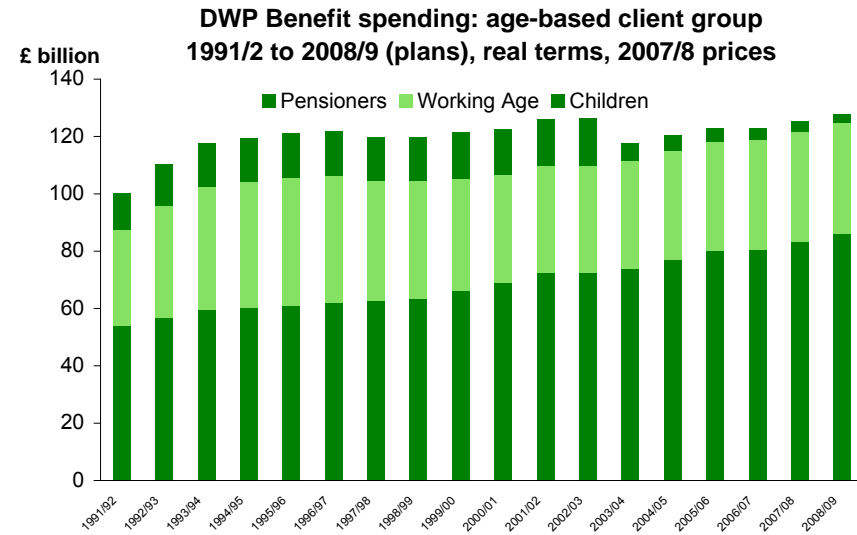
	000s	%
Christian	42,079	71.6%
Muslim	1,591	2.7%
Hindu	559	1.0%
Sikh	336	0.6%
Jewish	267	0.5%
Buddhist	152	0.3%
Other	179	0.3%
No Religion / not stated	13,626	23.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,789</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: ONS [www.statistics.gov.uk/census](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census) 2001

Contact: Julien Anseau x4310

## Social security benefits and expenditure

- Spending on social security accounts for just over one fifth of all public expenditure in 2007/8 and is equivalent to just under 9 percent of GDP.
- Contributory benefits account for 54 percent of total benefit expenditure in 08/9, compared to 70 percent in the 1960s and 1970s.
- Income-related benefits have grown from 8 percent of benefit expenditure in the 1960s to 30 percent in 2008/09.
- The proportions of benefit spending focused on children and those of working age have fallen, partly as benefits for these groups have been replaced by credits administered by the tax authorities, outside the benefits budget.
- There are just over 12 million people receiving a retirement pension. Those over working age account for two-thirds of total benefit spending.
- In 2005/6, between 31% and 40% of those entitled are not taking-up Pension Credit; they are losing £26.40 pw on average.



Take up of income-related benefits - Great Britain  
2005/6 - Estimated range: % caseload



Source: DWP *Income Related Benefits Estimates of Take-up in 2005/6*

Next update: Autumn 2008

## Public expenditure on social security Great Britain

	£ billion cash	£ billion 07/8 prices	% GDP
1997/98	93.3	119.8	11.3%
1998/99	95.6	119.6	10.9%
1999/00	99.0	121.5	10.7%
2000/01	101.4	122.6	10.4%
2001/02	106.7	126.1	10.5%
2002/03	110.3	126.3	10.3%
2003/04	105.8	117.8	9.3%
2004/05	111.1	120.4	9.3%
2005/06	115.9	122.9	9.3%
2006/07	119.2	123.1	9.0%
2007/08 plans	125.4	125.4	8.9%
2008/09 plans	131.2	127.7	8.9%

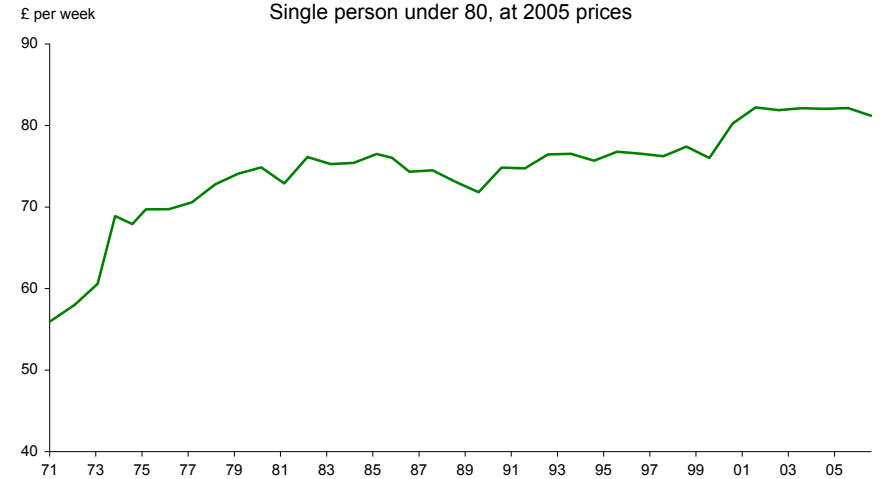
Source: DWP Benefit Expenditure Tables, HM Treasury

Contact: Richard Cracknell x4632 or Rachael Harker x5061

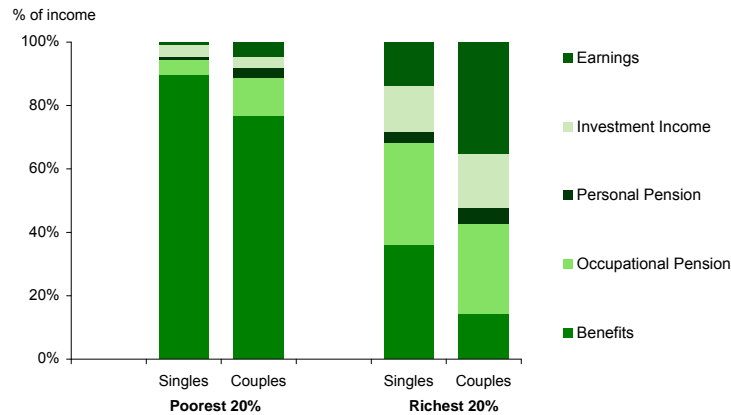
## Pensions and pensioners' incomes

- On average across all pensioners, incomes have roughly doubled in real terms since 1979.
- Over the last 10 years, net income for pensioners has grown by 27% in real terms, compared to 16% real growth in average earnings over the same period.
- Between 1979 and 1996/7 incomes rose more quickly at the upper end of the pensioner income distribution than the lower. Between 1979 and 1996/7 median net income of the poorest fifth of pensioners grew by 28% in real terms, compared to 76% for the top fifth. Since then growth has been more evenly spread across the income distribution.
- This is partly due to the poorest pensioners being more dependent on state benefits for their income than richer ones.
- While the real value of the basic state pension has grown in recent years, it has been falling in relation to average earnings. By April 2007 the basic pension for a single person was 16 percent of average f/t earnings, compared with 25 percent in 1980.

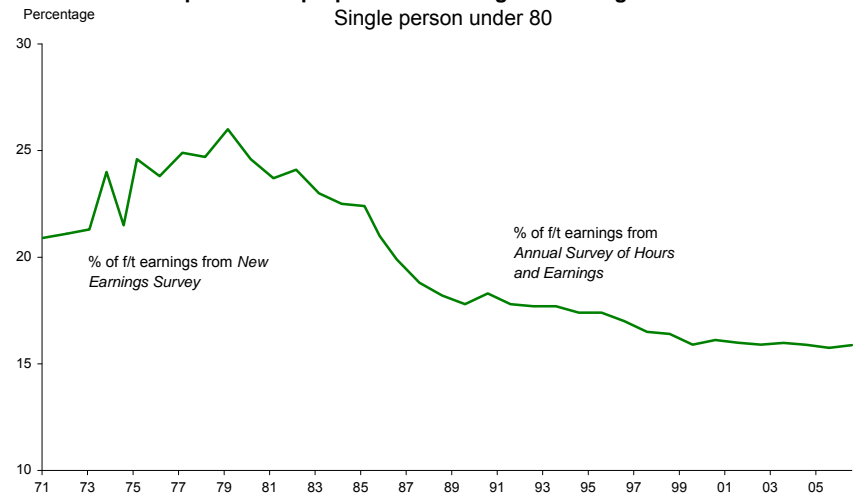
**Real value of the basic state pension: 1971-2007**  
Single person under 80, at 2005 prices



**Income sources of rich and poor pensioners**  
2005/6



**State pension as proportion of average f/t earnings : 1971-2007**  
Single person under 80



Source: DWP Pensioner Income Series

Next Update: December 2008

Contact: Richard Cracknell x4632 or Sophie Gick x6969

## Road accident casualties

- There was little change in overall annual road accident casualty numbers in the 1980s and 1990s, but the recorded number has fallen by 60,000 (19%) over the last five years.
- There is known to be under reporting of non-fatal accidents and some serious casualties are classified as slight.
- There were 3,172 road deaths in Great Britain in 2006, the third consecutive fall taking the total to the lowest its lowest level in modern times.
- The number of children killed or seriously injured on foot or on bicycles has fallen consistently over the last decade. Their total number stood at 2,528 in 2006 compared to an average of 5,296 a year between 1994 and 1998.
- Motorcycle users were the only group where there was an increase in the number of fatal or serious casualties between the 1994-98 average and 2006. Their number has fallen in recent years, but this did not fully cancel out earlier increases.
- The UK's 2004 road accident fatality rate per million population was 40% below the EU average. Rates in the Netherlands/ Sweden were broadly similar and only Malta had a clearly lower level.<sup>1</sup>

### Road accident casualties, by severity

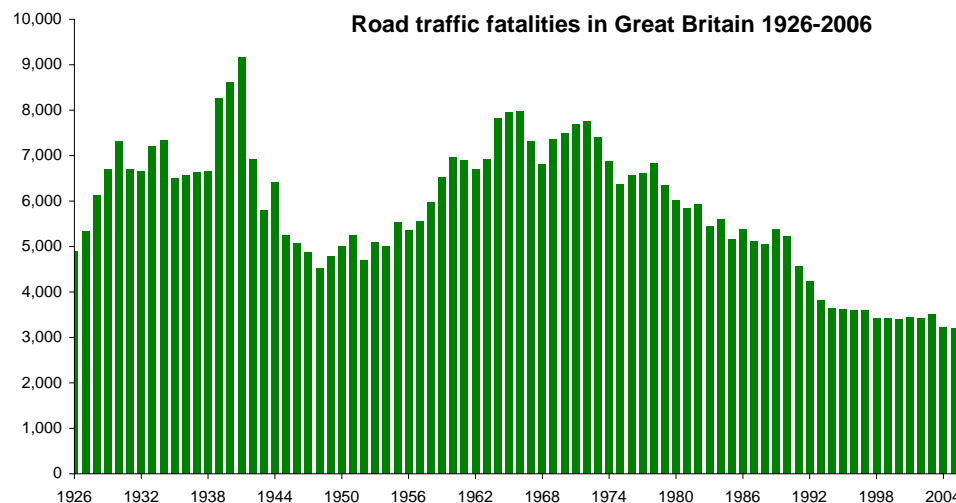
Great Britain				
	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total
1994-98 average	3,578	44,078	272,272	319,928
2001	3,450	37,110	272,749	313,309
2002	3,431	35,976	263,198	302,605
2003	3,508	33,707	253,392	290,607
2004	3,221	31,130	246,489	280,840
2005	3,201	28,954	238,862	271,017
2006	3,172	28,637	226,559	255,196
<i>Change 1994-98 to 2006</i>	<i>-11.3%</i>	<i>-35.0%</i>	<i>-16.8%</i>	<i>-20.2%</i>

Sources: DfT, Road Casualties Great Britain:2006 -Annual Report

### Casualties killed or seriously injured, by road user type

Great Britain								
	Pedestrians		Pedal cyclists		Motorcycle users	Car users	Other	Total
	Children	Adults	Children	Adults				
1994-98 average	4,167	7,329	1,129	2,557	6,475	23,254	2,744	<b>47,656</b>
2001	3,144	5,745	674	1,951	7,305	19,424	2,317	<b>40,560</b>
2002	2,828	5,644	594	1,801	7,500	18,728	2,312	<b>39,407</b>
2003	2,381	5,422	595	1,776	7,652	17,291	2,098	<b>37,215</b>
2004	2,339	5,005	577	1,697	6,648	16,144	1,941	<b>34,351</b>
2005	2,134	4,847	527	1,787	6,508	14,617	1,735	<b>32,155</b>
2006	2,025	4,894	503	1,898	6,484	14,254	1,787	<b>31,845</b>
<i>Change 1994-98 to 2006</i>	<i>-51.4%</i>	<i>-33.2%</i>	<i>-55.4%</i>	<i>-25.8%</i>	<i>+0.1%</i>	<i>-38.7%</i>	<i>-34.9%</i>	<i>-33.2%</i>

Sources: DfT, Road Casualties Great Britain:2006 -Annual Report



<sup>1</sup> European Commission Community Road Accident Database

Next update: October 2008

Contact: Ross Young x4313 or Sophie Gick x6969

## Road traffic

- Road vehicle traffic has increased in all but three years since 1950. The total distance travelled in Great Britain in 2006 was more than nine times greater than in 1950.
- The biggest growth in traffic in recent years came in the late 1980s. Between 1985 and 1989 road traffic grew by one third.
- The small fall in Car/taxi traffic in 2005 was reversed in 2006.
- At the end of 2006 there were 33.4 million licensed vehicles in Great Britain. 27.8 million were body type cars.
- In 2006 the average distance travelled per car was 14,110 kilometres.<sup>1</sup>
- 60% of car journeys in 2006 had only one occupant. The average occupancy rate was 1.6 people per car.<sup>1</sup>
- 75% of all households had access to a car. 32% had two or more cars.<sup>1</sup>

### Motor vehicle traffic in Great Britain

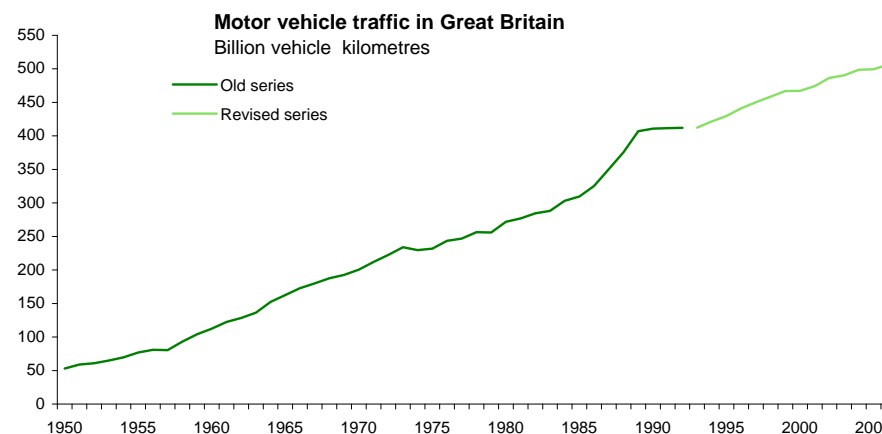
Billion vehicle kilometres

	Cars and taxis	Light vans	Goods vehicles	Other vehicles	All motor vehicles
1950	25.6	7.8	11.2	8.5	<b>53.1</b>
1960	68.0	15.0	15.3	14.0	<b>112.3</b>
1970	155.0	20.3	17.6	7.5	<b>200.5</b>
1980	215.0	26.1	19.7	11.2	<b>271.9</b>
1990	335.9	39.9	24.9	10.1	<b>410.8</b>
2000 <sup>(a)</sup>	376.8	52.3	28.2	9.7	<b>467.1</b>
2001	382.8	53.7	28.1	10.0	<b>474.4</b>
2002	392.9	55.0	28.3	10.3	<b>486.5</b>
2003	393.1	57.9	28.5	11.0	<b>490.4</b>
2004	398.1	60.8	29.4	10.4	<b>498.6</b>
2005	397.2	62.6	29.0	10.6	<b>499.4</b>
2006	402.4	64.3	29.1	10.6	<b>506.4</b>

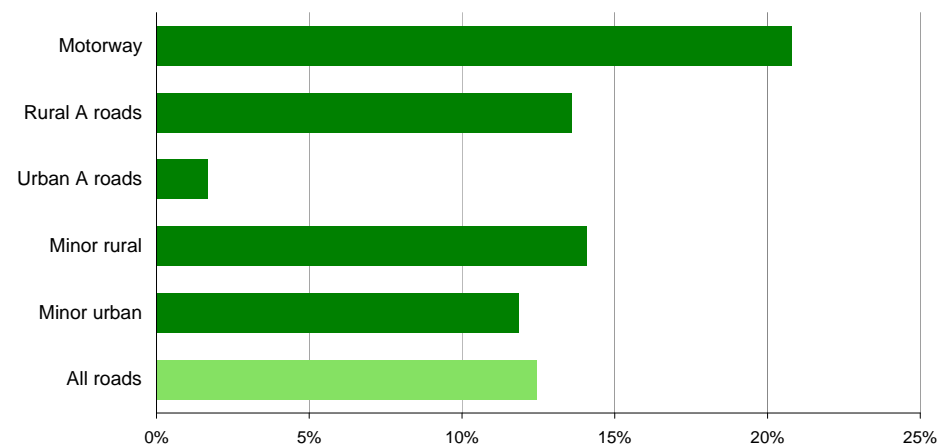
Notes: Figures from 1993 onwards have been produced on a new basis and are not directly comparable with earlier figures

(a) Figures affected by the September fuel protest

Sources: Road Statistics 2006: Traffic, Speeds and Congestion, DfT



### Percentage change in road traffic by road type 1997-2006



<sup>1</sup> National Travel Survey 2006: DfT

Next update: October 2008

Contact: Ross Young x4313 or Sophie Gick x6969

## Passenger transport

- Transport by cars, vans and taxis constituted 85 percent of the total distance travelled by passengers in 2006. In 1952 such transport accounted for just over one quarter of the total distance travelled.
- Buses and coaches accounted for 6 percent of the total distance travelled by passengers in 2005. This compares to 42 percent in the early 1950s.
- Rail travel is at a historically high level but the rapid growth in private road transport means that rail travel accounted for 6.8 percent of all passenger transport, compared with 17 percent in the early 1950s.
- On average people in Great Britain in 2006 made 658 trips as a car driver or passenger covering a total of over 9,200 kilometres.
- Walking was the main mode of travel in an average of 249 trips per person in 2006, down by around one seventh since the early 1990s. People walked an average of around 320 kilometres in 2006.

### Share of passenger transport by mode, Great Britain

Percentage of total

	Cars, vans and taxis	Buses and coaches	Rail <sup>(a)</sup>	Motor cycles	Pedal cycles	Air
1960	49.3%	28.0%	14.2%	3.9%	4.3%	0.3%
1970	73.7%	14.9%	8.9%	1.0%	1.1%	0.5%
1980	79.0%	10.6%	7.1%	1.6%	1.0%	0.6%
1990	85.2%	6.6%	5.8%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%
2000	85.4%	6.2%	6.2%	0.7%	0.6%	1.0%
2001	85.5%	6.1%	6.2%	0.7%	0.6%	1.0%
2002	85.7%	5.9%	6.1%	0.7%	0.6%	1.1%
2003	85.3%	6.0%	6.2%	0.8%	0.6%	1.2%
2004	85.2%	6.0%	6.4%	0.7%	0.5%	1.2%
2005	84.9%	6.1%	6.5%	0.7%	0.5%	1.2%
2006	84.5%	6.2%	6.8%	0.7%	0.6%	1.2%

Note: Figures for some modes have been produced on a new basis from 1993 onwards and are not directly comparable to earlier figures

(a) National railways plus underground and metro systems

Source: *Transport Statistics Great Britain 2007*, DfT Tables 1.1 & 6.2

### Average distance travelled and number of trips per person

Great Britain 2006

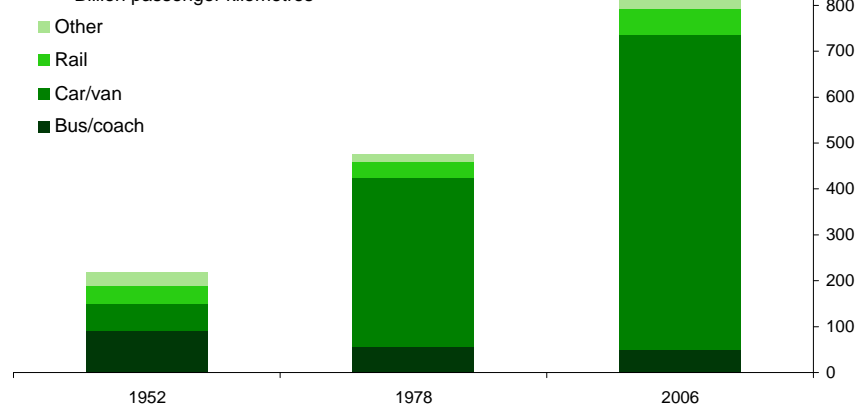
	Distance (km)	Trips (main mode)	Average trip length (km)
Car/van user	9,162	658	13.9
National Rail	750	16	51.2
Local bus	476	65	7.3
Walk (50 yards+)	323	249	1.1
London Underground	121	8	13.8
Non-local bus	101	1	151.0
Taxi/minicab	84	10	7.5
Bicycle	63	16	3.9
Motorcycle/moped	55	3	15.9
Other	344	11	30.0
<b>All modes</b>	<b>11,479</b>	<b>1,037</b>	<b>10.9</b>

Totals may not sum due due to rounding

Source: *National Travel Survey: 2006*, DfT. Tables 3.1 and 3.2

### Passenger transport by mode, Great Britain

Billion passenger kilometres

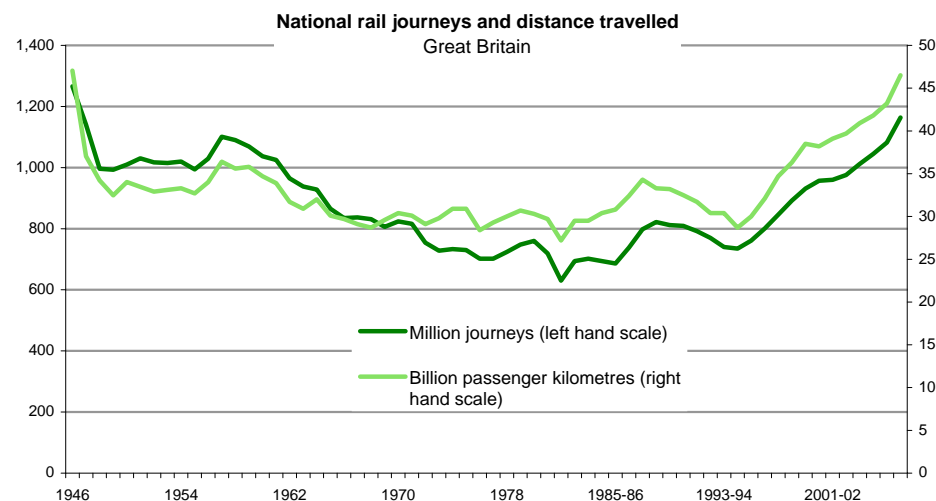


Next update: October 2008

Contact: Ross Young x4313 or Sophie Gick x6969

## National rail usage and performance

- The number of journeys on national railways and the distance travelled by passengers has increased consistently during the last decade.
- The distance travelled by passengers and the total number of journeys in 2006-07 were both at their highest levels since 1946.
- Second quarter 2007-08 journey and passenger kilometre totals were 6.9% and 6.6% higher than at the same time in 2006-07.<sup>1</sup>
- The Public Performance Measure (PPM) was introduced as the main measure of performance in 2000. The PPM measures the performance of individual trains against their planned timetable, combining reliability and punctuality.
- Speed restrictions imposed after the Hatfield derailment caused a significant reduction in the PPM. The measure fell below 50 percent from October to December 2000 for long distance operators.
- The PPM has steadily improved over the last four years. It went from 83.6% in 2004-05 to 88.1% in 2006-07 the highest level since 1997-98.



### National rail: passenger usage

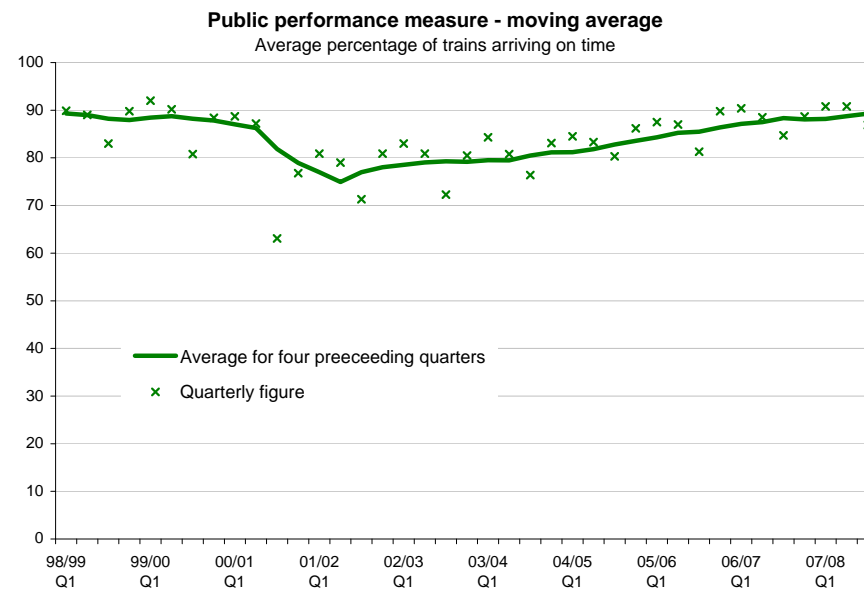
	Journeys (million)	Passenger kilometres (billion)
1950	1,010	34.0
1960	1,037	34.7
1970	824	30.4
1980	760	30.3
1990-91	809	33.2
2000-01	957	38.2
2004-05	1,045	41.8
2005-06	1,082	43.2
2006-07	1,164	46.5
<b>Change 1990-91 to 2006-07</b>	<b>+43.9%</b>	<b>+40.1%</b>

Note: There was a break in the series between 1998-99 and 1999-00

Sources: Transport statistics Great Britain 2006, DfT, and earlier editions  
National Rail trends yearbook 2006-2007, ORR

<sup>1</sup> National Rail Trends 2007-2008 quarter two, ORR

Next update: October 2008



Contact: Ross Young x4313 or Sophie Gick x6969