

Children and Young People's Strategic Indicators

October 2015



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# Our Children and Young People - Our Pledge

October 2015 Indicator Update

KEY FINDINGS

## Healthy



**934** young people waiting for first mental health outpatient appointment



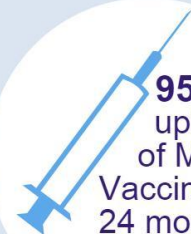
**21,303** dental extractions performed on under 18's



**5%** of primary 1 pupils are obese



**84** births to mothers aged under 17



**95.7%** uptake of MMR Vaccine at 24 months



**23%** of children living in relative low income poverty (before housing costs)

**6,194** families presented as homeless



## Economic & Environmental Wellbeing

## Enjoying, Learning & Achieving



**82%** of Year 12 pupils achieved 5+ GCSEs at grades A\* - C



**77.2%** of school leavers are entering further or higher education

Pupils achieving level 4 or above in Key Stage 2



Maths  
**80.3%**



English  
**79.8%**

## Number of young people entering custody



Age	Location	Prison/Young Offenders Centre	Juvenile Justice Centre
Under 17		<b>0</b>	<b>36</b>
17-20 years		<b>192</b>	<b>37</b>



**13 weeks** - average time taken to process a child (aged 10-17) through the court system

## Positive & Valued Contribution



**94%** of half days at post primary schools were attended

## Living in Safety & with Stability



**70** - number of children killed or seriously injured on our roads

**386** re-registrations on child protection register



P7 Pupils bullied in previous 2 months...

**22%** Physically

**13%** By mobile phone/internet

# **Children and Young People's Strategic Indicators**

## **October 2015 Update**

### **BACKGROUND**

A set of strategic indicators was developed under the high level outcomes of the Ten Year Children and Young People's Strategy 2006-2016 'Our Children and Young People – Our Pledge'. The high level outcomes are:

- *Healthy*
- *Economic and environmental well-being*
- *Enjoying, learning and achieving*
- *Positive and valued contribution*
- *Safety and stability*

The indicators were first published in the Strategy document in 2006. The purpose of the indicators is to measure the success of the strategy.

The commentary below highlights some of the findings from the indicators and provides an indication of the trend identified from analysing the data. More detailed information on the indicators can be found in the accompanying tables.

- Infant death rates (deaths of children aged under one) have improved significantly over the years<sup>1</sup>, falling from 13.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 1981 to 3.5 in 2012 (the lowest infant death rate on record). In 2014 there were 118 infant deaths, a rate of 4.8 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. More than two-thirds (68%) of infant deaths occurred in the first week of life.
- The proportion of **babies born weighing less than 2.5kg** has tended to only fluctuate slightly from baseline in 2004 to 2014. Of live births in 2014, 6.1 % were below 2.5kg, this compares to 6.1% in 2004.
- A measles outbreak in September 2010 prompted the Public Health Agency to undertake considerable work to promote **MMR immunisation** among children and continue in its overall aim of trying to meet the World Health Organisation (WHO) target of 95% coverage. The NI uptake for MMR at 24 months meets the WHO target as 2014/15 figures show it to be 95.7%, this is slightly less than the uptake rate of 96.1% recorded in 2013/14 which was the highest rate since the baseline in 2004/05. A simplification of the routine childhood immunisation schedule may have contributed to this continued improvement in uptake rates for MMR; a change was introduced in November 2010 allowing 3 vaccines (Hib/MenC, PCV booster vaccine and the first dose of MMR) to be offered at the same visit for children aged 13 months.
- The number of extractions performed on children aged under 18 is used as a proxy indicator of children's dental health in this set of indicators. During 2014/15, 21,303 **dental extractions** were performed on children under 18 years in high street general dental practices; this is the lowest number of extractions since the 2008/09 baseline.
- At baseline in 2004 there were 6.4 child deaths due to accidents or suicide per 100,000 persons aged Under 18 years. In 2014 this figure dropped to 3.9 per 100,000, this is the lowest figure recorded over the 11 years of data and is the third consecutive year that the figure is below the baseline. However, it should be noted that all suicides are referred to the coroner and take time to be fully investigated. Therefore there is a period of time between when a suicide occurs and when the death is registered. Figures provided will subsequently include deaths that occurred before the period of interest, and exclude those that occurred within the period but have yet to be registered. On average it is up to two years after the suicide has occurred that it is registered.
- On the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014, there were 934 **young people waiting for a first mental health outpatient appointment**. This is an increase of 31.7% compared to 2013 when 709 young people were waiting for this. Of these 934 young people, 31% were waiting longer than 6 weeks for their appointment (294 young people).

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<sup>1</sup> When infant death rates are low a relatively small fluctuation in the actual number of deaths can alter the death rate considerably. It therefore the longer term trend which is of importance.

- **Births to mothers aged under 17** reached a new record low in 2014 with 84 births recorded, a rate of 2.4 per 1,000 females aged under 17. This compares to the 2004 rate of 4.4 per 1,000 females aged under 17 (172 births).
- Over the eleven years of monitoring data since 2004, rates of **sexually transmitted infections**<sup>2</sup> (STIs) for those aged Under 16 and 16-19 year olds have tended to fluctuate. The rate amongst Under 16s has ranged from a low of 21 new episodes of STIs per 100,000 in 2005 to 46 per 100,000 the following year. The rate in 2014 was 24 per 100,000 aged Under 16 years. For 16-19 year olds the diagnostic rate of new STIs for those seen at genitourinary clinics was at its lowest at baseline in 2004 with 635 per 100,000 and at its highest in 2008 at 756 per 100,000. In 2014 the rate was 652 per 100,000.
- The percentage of Primary 1 pupils considered obese has averaged at 5.1% over the 6 years monitoring data for the updated Child Health System methodology. In 2013/14, 5.0% of Primary 1 pupils were recorded as being **obese**, a similar proportion to that observed at baseline for the revised methodology in 2008/09 (4.9%).

## ***ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING***

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### **Poverty**

- **Absolute child poverty** for 2013/14, at 26%, is four percentage points higher than in 2012/13 (22%). This compares to the 2002/03 baseline figure of 25%.
- In 2013/14, the percentage of children in **relative poverty** (before housing costs) increased by three percentage points from the previous year to 23%. This is one percentage point lower than the 2002/03 baseline figure of 24%.

### **Housing**

- 324 families more declared themselves as being **homeless** in 2014/15 compared to the previous year; a 5.5% increase from 5,870 to 6,194. This latest figure puts an end to the downward trend occurring for number of families presenting as homeless since 2010/11.
- In previous years the number of families living in **temporary accommodation** has tended to fluctuate a little, but on average around 2,000 families find themselves in such a situation each year. However, during 2014/15 1,378 families were provided with temporary accommodation, this latest figure is the lowest it has been over the 9 years of available monitoring data<sup>3</sup> since 2005/06. This follows from the high of 2,367 families in 2012/13.

<sup>2</sup> Selected STIs – chlamydia - uncomplicated genital chlamydial infection; gonorrhoea - uncomplicated gonorrhoea; syphilis - primary and secondary infectious syphilis; herpes -anogenital herpes simplex (first attack); warts - anogenital warts (first attack).

<sup>3</sup> No figure is available for 2013/14 as it could not be calculated due to a change in NIHE computer systems mid-year. The reduced figure may, therefore, be partly due to the new system being used by NIHE.

### **School Leavers**

- Generally speaking there has been a decline in the proportion of **school leavers** entering employment or training. In 2003/04 12.5% of those leaving school chose to enter employment compared to 6.9% in 2013/14, a slight increase on the 2012/13 figure of 6.4%. The equivalent figures for those going on to training were 18.5% at baseline in 2003/04 and 10.4% in 2013/14, the lowest percentage recorded over the 11 years of data.
- Rather than enter employment or training, more school leavers are tending to choose Further and Higher Education courses. Over the eleven year period examined there has been an increase in the proportion of school leavers entering Further and Higher Education from 62.7% in 2003/04 to more than 3 out of 4 school leavers opting for this choice in 2013/14 (77.2%).

### **Educational Attainment**

- Since 2012/13 Key Stage data are based on the new Levels of Progression meaning that these results are not directly comparable with Key Stage Assessment outcomes from previous years. The Department recognises that these new arrangements will need time to embed and has recommended caution in analysing data and benchmarking performance. Given this, in 2013/14 79.8% of pupils achieved level 4 or above in **Key Stage 2 English** and 80.3% achieved level 4 or above in **Key Stage 2 Maths**.
- Due to a poor response rate for 2013/14 Key Stage Two data the received data was weighted for non response. This process yielded NI averages and gender breakdowns but did not allow for a figure to be produced for the % of pupils in the most disadvantaged primary schools. Consequently figures relating to **most disadvantaged primary schools** are not included in this update.
- Over four-fifths (82%) of Year 12 pupils achieved 5 or more GCSEs (or equivalent) at grades A\*-C in 2013/14. Over the ten years of data there has been a considerable **increase in this level of attainment**, going from 61% at baseline (2004/05) to the latest figure of 82%.
- If you consider 5 or more GCSEs (or equivalent) at grades A\*-G over the same period, levels of attainment have also shown an improvement from 89% in 2004/05 to 98% in the three most recent years (2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14). For pupils attending Secondary/non Grammar schools the 2003/04 baseline figure was 82%, this has increased each year with the most recent year (2013/14) figure being 97%, reducing the attainment gap from the 2004/05 level of 7 percentage points to just 1 percentage point.
- Sixty-five percent of Year 14 pupils have achieved **3 or more A levels** (or equivalent) at grades A\*-C each year since 2009/10, the percentage of pupils obtaining such grades has changed little since 2004/05 when 62% achieved this.

## Engagement

- The percentage of qualifying<sup>4</sup>, eligible<sup>5</sup>, relevant<sup>6</sup> and former relevant<sup>7</sup> **looked after young people being in education, employment or training** have all tended to fluctuate since the baseline, however, there has been an upward trend with each overall.

## POSITIVE & VALUED CONTRIBUTION

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- **Attendance rates** of post-primary pupils have remained stable over the eleven year reporting period (2003/04 to 2013/14) with on average, 93% of half day sessions being attended (attendance is measured for every pupil in half day sessions; am and pm). In 2013/14 94% of half day sessions were recorded as being attended.
- Taking into account the correction in the data collection for this indicator, there has been limited change in the proportion of young people aged 4-18 years **participating in youth activities** over the period of 2005/06 to 2013/14 with the highest recorded rate of 43.7% in 2007/08 and the lowest recorded rate of 39.1% in 2011/12. In the most recent year (2013/14) the participation rate was 40.1%.
- The average **waiting time for youth defendants** going through our youth courts from date of summons to date of disposal was at the lowest recorded rate of 13.0 weeks in 2014; this is down on the 2013 figure of 13.9 weeks. In 2008, the NI Courts and Tribunal Services introduced Case Progression Officers to work with other criminal justice agency officials and the judiciary to ensure that all procedural matters are effectively progressed by parties involved in a case in an attempt to minimise delay in the Criminal Courts. Prior to 2008, the processing time for a child from summons to disposal averaged 20.1 weeks and from 2009 it has averaged 15.3 weeks.

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<sup>4</sup> Young people looked after for any period less than 13 weeks since aged 14 which may include a period of being looked after whilst 16 or 17 years old.

<sup>5</sup> Young people aged 16 or 17 years old, who have been looked after for more than 13 weeks since the age of 14 and who are still looked after.

<sup>6</sup> Relevant young people are those aged 16 or 17 who were previously eligible young people and are no longer looked after.

<sup>7</sup> Former relevant young people are those aged 18-21 years who were previously relevant or eligible young people.



## ***SAFETY & STABILITY***

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- In 2014, recorded traffic collisions resulting in injury to a child (under 16) accounted for 897 casualties, of whom 4 were killed, 66 were seriously injured and 827 were slightly injured. Over the 11 years of monitoring data there has generally been a downward trend in the number of **children killed or seriously injured on our roads**. In 2014 there were 81 fewer children killed or seriously injured than that recorded at baseline in 2004; 70 compared to 151.
- There were 386 re-registrations to the **Child Protection Register** during 2013/14. Re-registrations increased by 15% (50) from the previous year and since baseline in 2004/05 re-registrations have increased by 138% from 162.
- In 2013/14, 64% of **care leavers aged 19** in contact with Trusts and whose **economic activity** was known, were in education, training or employment; a decrease of 5 percentage points compared to the 2012/13 of 69%. The proportion of care leavers in education, training or employment has tended to fluctuate over recent years, with a low of 47% recorded in 2007/08 and a high of 69% recorded in 2012/13. Trusts reported contact with 93% of care leavers in 2013/14.
- In 2014, 22% of Year 7 pupils said they had been **physically bullied within the previous 2 months** of being asked, this is equivalent to the 2008 baseline figure, however, it is 6 percentage points higher than the 2012 figure of 16%.
- 31 per cent of Year 7 pupils in 2014 stated that they had been **bullied in other ways** such as being called names, being left out of games, or having nasty stories spread about them. The 2014 figure is the lowest recorded since the 2008 baseline figure of 39 per cent.
- The 2014 figure for Year 7 pupils reporting being **bullied by someone via mobile phone or internet** of 13% remained unchanged from the 2013 figure. This figure has tended to fluctuate between 10 and 13 since the 2008 baseline.

## INDICATOR TABLES

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The accompanying tables provide a summary of the direction of movement of the data underlying the indicators. Overall progress is assessed by looking at the general trend since baseline and also by showing the direction of movement of the most recent data. It is important to note that several of the indicators draw on data from sample surveys and so small changes in data could be attributed to sampling variability rather than representing a true change – it is particularly important to bear this in mind when looking at the direction of the latest data.

### KEY

✓	Data moving in right direction
✗	Data moving in wrong direction
≈	Data shows broadly constant trend or no significant movement
▲	Insufficient data available to determine a trend / trend unclear

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