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## **CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER IN ENGLAND (INCLUDING ADOPTIONS AND CARE LEAVERS), 2005-06**

This Statistical First Release provides the earliest information about children looked after in England for the year ending 31 March 2006. The data are collected from all 150 local authorities. The tables show national totals for children looked after on 31 March 2006, children looked after adopted in 2005-06, children who left care in 2005-06 aged 16 or over, and 19 year old former care leavers looked after on 1 April 2003. New information is collected on the local authority of placement at 31 March 2006. This follows the introduction, in 2004-05, of the distance between home and placement of children looked after at 31 March.

### **KEY POINTS**

#### **Children looked after**

- 60,300 children were looked after at 31 March 2006, a decrease of 1% on the previous year's figure of 60,900 but an increase of 1% from 2002.
- The largest category of placements for children looked after on 31 March 2006 was foster care, accounting for 70% of all placements. The number of children in foster placements has increased by 7% since 2002.
- 3,200 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children were looked after at 31 March 2006. 63% of the Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children were located in London, with a further 15% located elsewhere in the South East. Since last year, the number of looked after asylum seeking children at 31 March 2006 in London and the South East has fallen by 3% whilst the Midlands and the North have seen a rise of 35%.
- 65% of the 23,000 children under 16 who have been looked after for 2.5 or more years had been living in the same placement for at least 2 years or were placed for adoption. This is 1% higher than the updated figure for last year (see paragraph 4 in "Notes for Editors"). The Government's target is that by 2008, 80% of these children will have been living in the same placement for at least 2 years, or are placed for adoption.

#### **Adoptions**

- 3,700 children were adopted in the year ending 31 March 2006. This represents a decrease of 3% since last year.
- The Government's target for adoptions, included in the Priorities and Planning Framework 2003-06, was to increase by 40% the number of looked after children who were adopted by 2004-05 and to exceed this by achieving, if possible, a 50% increase by 2006, from 1999-00. During 2005-06, 900 more children were adopted than in 1999-00. This represents an increase of 34%.

- The Government's target, contained in the Priorities and Planning Framework 2003-06, was by 2004-05, to increase the proportion of children looked after who were placed for adoption within 12 months of the decision that adoption is in the child's best interests, to 95% and to maintain this level (95%) up to 2006. From 2000-01 this figure remained stable at around 80% reaching 81% in 2004-05. In 2006 this figure decreased to 77% whilst the proportion of looked after children placed for adoption over 12 months of the decision that adoption is in the child's best interests, increased from 19% in 2005 to 23% in 2006.
- 64% of children adopted were aged between 1 and 4 (compared with 62% in 2004-05) while 26% were aged between 5 and 9 (compared with 24% in 2004-05). The average age at adoption in 2005-06 was 4 years 1 month and has remained relatively stable over the last five years.

### **Care leavers**

- More children are tending to stay in care until their 18<sup>th</sup> birthdays with 55% leaving care aged 18 in 2006 compared with 53% in 2005. There has also been a reduction in the number of children leaving care at age 16, down from 28% in 2005 to 26% in 2006. There has been an increase in the number of children who ceased to be looked after during 2005-06 to 8,100 from 7,600 during 2004-05. This is consistent with the fall in the number of children looked after between 31 March 2005 and 31 March 2006.
- 43% of the 8,100 children leaving care aged 16 or over during 2005-06 had at least one GCSE or GNVQ on leaving care. This was a slight increase of 2% since last year. When Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children looked after for less than 2 years at the time of leaving care are excluded, along with children who would not have usually sat their exams at the time of leaving care, the equivalent figure is 49%.
- 7% left care with at least 5 GCSEs at grades A\*- C, an increase of 1 percentage point since 2004-05.

### **Activity of care leavers on their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday**

- 5,300 former looked after children were aged 19 in 2005-06 and had been looked after on 1 April 2003 (in their 17<sup>th</sup> year). Local Authorities were in touch with 93% of these children. In 2003-04 and 2004-05 the in touch rates were 85% and 89% respectively.
- The largest category of accommodation for 19 year old former care leavers is independent living, which accounts for 43% of the cohort. The increase in the proportion of former care leavers in independent living over the last few years is largely the result of the improved in touch rate.
- 63% of former care leavers were in education, employment or training on their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday. In 2003-04 and 2004-05 the rates of former care leavers who were in education, training or employment, were 55% and 59% respectively. This increase can also be attributed to the improved in touch rate.

### **Mothers**

- There were 320 mothers aged 12 and over who were looked after at 31 March 2006. This is the same as in 2004-05. The percentage of females in care who were mothers increased with age from 1% among 15 year olds to 7% among 17 year olds, although there was a slight fall of 3%, since 2004-05, in the proportion of looked after girls who were mothers in the 15 to 17 year old age group (94% of all mothers). However, in the 12 to 14 age group (6% of all mothers), there was an increase from 10 to 20 looked after females who were mothers.

## **Reviews**

- Of the children who had statutory reviews arranged and were required to participate in each of their reviews (children aged four and over), 56% spoke for themselves at their latest review. 10% did not attend the arranged review and did not have their views conveyed. Of the children, aged four and over, who attended their reviews 99% participated. This compares to 98% in 2005.

## **New information collected in this year's collection**

Information on the local authority of placement at 31 March was collected for the first time in 2005-06. This was in addition to the distance between home and placement, first collected in 2004-05.

## **Distance between home and placement and local authority of placement**

- 72% of looked after children were living in placements 20 miles or less from their home at the time they were taken into care, 23% of whom, at 31 March 2006, were in a placement outside the area of the local authority responsible for their care. 21% of looked after children who were in a placement more than 20 miles from their home at 31 March 2006, were still within the area of the local authority responsible for their care.

## Tables

- Table 1: Children looked after at 31 March by age, sex, legal status and placement, 2002-2006
- Table 2: Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children looked after at 31 March by sex and region, 2002-2006
- Table 3: Children looked after adopted in the year ending 31 March by age at adoption, sex, and time between best interest decision and placement for adoption, 2002-2006
- Table 4: Children who ceased to be looked after during the year ending 31 March aged 16 or over, by age, sex and level of qualification achieved, 2002-2006
- Table 5: Care leavers at age 19 who were looked after on 1 April 1999, 1 April 2000, 1 April 2001, 1 April 2002, 1 April 2003, aged 16 (in their 17th year) by sex, activity and accommodation
- Table 6: Children looked after at 31 March 2006 by distance between home and placement and locality of placement
- Table 7: Teenage Mothers looked after at 31 March 2006 by placement and age
- Table 8: Children who were required to have a review during the year ending 31 March 2006, by age at 31 March and method of participation at the last review
- Table 9: Children aged under 16 who have been looked after continuously for at least two and a half years, and of those the number and percentage who had been in the same placement for at least two years, or placed for adoption, at 31 March 2003-2006
- Table 10: Summary of Performance Assessment Framework (PAF) indicators for 2004-05 and 2005-06

## Notes to editors

1. The 2006 figures for children looked after are the latest in a regular series. Data are collected on the SSDA903 return, which provides the Department for Education and Skills with data on children looked after in England. It also covers adoptions and looked after children, educational qualifications of care leavers and the activity of former care leavers aged 19.
2. The figures presented for the year ending 31 March 2006 are based on data reported by all 150 local authorities.
3. This was the third year the SSDA903 data collection was carried out using a web based system.
4. The database used to collect this information is longitudinal with one record for every child. As local authorities are continually updating the database every year, previous years figures have also been amended where there have been changes.
5. Between 1998 and 2003 local authorities were required to submit a CLA100 return along with the SSDA903 return. The CLA100 was an aggregate return completed for all children looked after at 31 March while the SSDA903 was a one-in-three sample survey. In 2004, 2005 and 2006 the SSDA903 covered all children looked after and so the CLA100 was not required.

Between 1998 and 2003, the AD1 return was completed for all children adopted during the year; the OC1 return collected data on the qualifications achieved at the point of leaving care for young people leaving care in the year aged 16 and over; and the OC3 return collected data on the activity and accommodation of former care leavers at age 19 who were looked after on 1 April aged 16 (in their 17th year). In 2004, 2005 and 2006 these returns were collected as part of the SSDA903 data collection.

6. Figures have been rounded to the nearest 100 if they exceed 1,000 and to the nearest 10 otherwise, with the exception numbers from 1 to 5 inclusive which for confidentiality purposes have been replaced in the published tables by a hyphen (-). Where any number is shown as zero (0), the original figure submitted was zero (0).
7. This publication is one of three children's social services publications being released at the same time. The others cover children on the Child Protection Register and Private Fostering. Further details of these publications may be found in the annex.

Detailed local authority data on Looked After Children are expected to be released in March 2007. A selection of these data as they become ready for publication will be made available in the new year on the Department's website at: <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/whatsnew.shtml>

**TABLE 1 Children looked after at 31 March by age, sex, legal status and placement, 2002-2006<sup>1</sup>**

England		numbers, percentages and rates per 10,000 children under 18									
		numbers					percentages				
		2002 <sup>2</sup>	2003 <sup>2</sup>	2004 <sup>3</sup>	2005 <sup>3</sup>	2006 <sup>3</sup>	2002 <sup>2</sup>	2003 <sup>2</sup>	2004 <sup>3</sup>	2005 <sup>3</sup>	2006 <sup>3</sup>
<b>All children<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>59,700</b>	<b>60,800</b>	<b>61,200</b>	<b>60,900</b>	<b>60,300</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Rates per 10,000 children under 18		54	55	55	55	55					
Sex	Male	33,200	33,600	33,900	33,700	33,400	56	55	55	55	55
	Female	26,500	27,200	27,200	27,200	26,900	44	45	45	45	45
Age	Under 1	2,300	2,600	2,700	2,800	2,900	4	4	4	5	5
	1-4	9,200	9,200	8,900	8,600	8,500	15	15	15	14	14
	5-9	13,300	13,300	12,600	12,100	11,500	22	22	21	20	19
	10-15	25,300	26,100	26,600	26,500	26,100	42	43	43	44	43
	16 and over	9,500	9,600	10,400	10,800	11,300	16	16	17	18	19
Legal status	Care orders	38,400	39,600	39,600	39,700	39,300	64	65	65	65	65
	Interim	8,800	10,200	8,800	9,200	9,700	15	17	14	15	16
	Full	29,600	29,300	30,800	30,600	29,600	50	48	50	50	49
	S20 CA 1989	19,000	18,900	18,800	18,400	18,300	32	31	31	30	30
	Freed for adoption	1,800	1,900	2,500	2,500	2,100	3	3	4	4	3
	Other <sup>4</sup>	500	500	300	200	600	1	1	0	0	1
Placement	Foster	39,200	41,100	41,200	41,300	42,000	66	68	67	68	70
	Children's homes <sup>5</sup>	6,800	6,600	7,000	7,000	6,600	11	11	11	11	11
	With parents	6,700	6,400	5,900	5,700	5,300	11	10	10	9	9
	Placed for adoption	3,600	3,400	3,600	3,400	2,900	6	6	6	6	5
	Other <sup>6</sup>	3,400	3,300	3,500	3,500	3,600	6	5	6	6	6

1. Figures exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term placements
2. Figures are taken from the CLA100 return
3. Figures are taken from the SSDA903 return
4. Includes children who are on remand, committed for trial or detained, and children subject to emergency orders or police protection
5. Includes secure units, homes and hostels but excludes residential schools
6. Includes residential schools, lodgings and other residential settings

**TABLE 2 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children looked after at 31 March  
by sex and region, 2002-2006<sup>1</sup>**

England		numbers and percentages									
		numbers					percentages				
		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>All children<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>2,200</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Sex	Male	1,700	1,900	2,100	2,100	2,200	78	76	70	69	70
	Female	490	580	890	950	960	22	24	30	31	30
Region	North <sup>2</sup>	50	100	150	200	270	2	4	5	6	8
	Midlands <sup>3</sup>	160	230	270	330	440	7	9	9	11	14
	London	1,600	1,700	2,100	2,100	2,000	72	71	70	67	63
	South East (excl. London)	410	390	490	510	460	19	16	16	16	15

1. Figures exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term agreements
2. Includes North East, North West, Merseyside and Yorks & Humber
3. Includes East Midlands, West Midlands, South West and Eastern

**TABLE 3 Children looked after adopted in the year ending 31 March by age at adoption, sex and time between best interest decision and placement for adoption, 2002-2006**

		England									
		numbers					percentages				
		2002 <sup>1</sup>	2003 <sup>1</sup>	2004 <sup>2</sup>	2005 <sup>2</sup>	2006 <sup>2</sup>	2002 <sup>1</sup>	2003 <sup>1</sup>	2004 <sup>2</sup>	2005 <sup>2</sup>	2006 <sup>2</sup>
<b>All children<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>3,400</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>3,700</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Percentage of looked after children adopted		6	6	6	6	6					
Sex	Male	1,700	1,900	1,900	1,900	1,900	50	53	51	51	51
	Female	1,700	1,700	1,900	1,800	1,800	50	47	49	49	49
Age	Under 1	180	230	220	210	190	5	6	6	5	5
	1-4	2,000	2,100	2,200	2,300	2,300	60	59	58	62	64
	5-9	1,010	1,000	1,100	1,100	900	29	29	30	28	26
	10-15	190	180	210	170	180	5	5	6	4	5
	16 and over	10	10	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	0
	Average age (yrs: mths)	4:5	4:4	4:5	4:2	4:1					
Timing of adoption placement	Placed within 12 months of best interest decision	2,700	2,900	3,000	3,000	2,800	80	81	79	81	77
	Placed over 12 months of best interest decision	700	690	790	720	830	20	19	21	19	23

1. The all children figure is taken from the AD1 return. All other figures are derived from the SSSDA903 return

2. From 2004, the AD1 returns were collected as part of the SSSDA903 data collection

**TABLE 4 Children who ceased to be looked after during the year ending 31 March aged 16 or over, by age, sex and level of qualification achieved, 2002-2006<sup>1</sup>**

England		numbers and percentages									
		numbers					percentages				
		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>All children<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>6,600</b>	<b>6,700</b>	<b>6,900</b>	<b>7,600</b>	<b>8,100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Sex	Male	3,700	3,700	3,900	4,300	4,700	56	55	57	57	58
	Female	2,900	3,000	3,000	3,300	3,400	44	45	43	43	42
Age on leaving care	16	2,100	2,000	2,000	2,100	2,100	32	29	29	28	26
	17	1,100	1,000	960	1,100	1,200	16	16	14	15	15
	18th birthday	3,100	3,400	3,500	4,000	4,400	47	50	51	53	55
	Older than 18th birthday	290	320	370	350	340	4	5	5	5	4
Qualifications	At least 1 GCSE or GNVQ	2,700	2,900	2,900	3,200	3,500	41	43	43	42	43
	At least 5 GCSEs at grade A*-C	350	390	400	460	530	5	6	6	6	7

1. Figures exclude children who ceased to be looked after during the year aged 16 or over who had been looked after under an agreed series of short term placements.

**TABLE 5 Care leavers at age 19 who were looked after on 1 April 1999, 1 April 2000, 1 April 2001, 1 April 2002 and 1 April 2003 aged 16 (in their 17th year) by sex, activity and accommodation<sup>1</sup>**

England		numbers and percentages									
		numbers					percentages				
		2002 <sup>2</sup>	2003 <sup>3</sup>	2004 <sup>4</sup>	2005 <sup>5</sup>	2006 <sup>6</sup>	2002 <sup>2</sup>	2003 <sup>3</sup>	2004 <sup>4</sup>	2005 <sup>5</sup>	2006 <sup>6</sup>
<b>All Former Care Leavers<sup>1</sup></b>		4,700	4,900	5,100	5,200	5,300	100	100	100	100	100
Sex	Male	2,600	2,700	2,800	2,900	3,000	55	55	55	56	57
	Female	2,100	2,200	2,300	2,300	2,300	45	45	45	44	43
Activity	In education, training or employment	2,200	2,400	2,800	3,100	3,300	46	49	55	59	63
	Not in education, training or employment	1,400	1,600	1,500	1,600	1,600	29	32	30	30	30
	Not in touch	1,200	970	750	560	380	25	20	15	11	7
Accommodation	With parents or relatives	470	540	570	690	700	10	11	11	13	13
	Community home	200	200	230	230	260	4	4	4	4	5
	Supported accommodation <sup>7</sup>	580	710	800	860	920	12	15	16	17	17
	Lodgings	310	270	250	190	250	6	6	5	4	5
	Independent living	1,600	1,800	2,100	2,200	2,300	35	37	41	42	43
	In custody	110	120	120	150	170	2	2	2	3	3
	Other <sup>8</sup>	270	300	320	310	350	6	6	6	6	7
	Not in touch	1,200	970	750	560	380	25	20	15	11	7

1. Figures exclude children who were looked after on 1 April aged 16 (in their 17th year) under an agreed series of short term placements.
2. Looked after on 1 April 1999
3. Looked after on 1 April 2000
4. Looked after on 1 April 2001
5. Looked after on 1 April 2002
6. Looked after on 1 April 2003
7. Includes supported hostels, trainer flats, supported lodgings, foyers
8. Includes bed & breakfast and emergency accommodation

**TABLE 6 Children looked after at 31 March 2006 by distance between home and placement and locality of placement<sup>1,2,3</sup>**

England		numbers and percentages					
		numbers					
	All Children <sup>2</sup>	Foster Placements	Children's homes and hostels <sup>4</sup>	Living independently	Placed with Parents <sup>5</sup>	Other	Placed for Adoption
<b>All children<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>60,300</b>	<b>42,000</b>	<b>6,600</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>5,300</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,900</b>
<b>Distance and locality of placement<sup>3</sup></b>							
<b>20 miles or less</b>	<b>43,400</b>	<b>33,200</b>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>4,900</b>	<b>650</b>	
Inside boundary	33,200	25,000	2,900	640	4,400	320	
Outside boundary	10,200	8,200	930	180	480	330	
<b>Over 20 miles<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>10,300</b>	<b>6,600</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>1,200</b>	
Inside boundary	2,200	1,700	310	30	50	50	
Outside boundary	8,100	4,900	1,700	80	270	1,100	
Not Known <sup>7</sup>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>170</b>	
Not Recorded <sup>8</sup>	<b>2,900</b>						<b>2,900</b>
		percentages					
	All Children <sup>2</sup>	Foster Placements	Children's homes and hostels <sup>4</sup>	Living independently	Placed with Parents <sup>5</sup>	Other	Placed for Adoption
<b>All children<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Distance and locality of placement<sup>3</sup></b>							
<b>20 miles or less</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>32</b>	
Inside boundary	55	60	43	41	84	16	
Outside boundary	17	20	14	11	9	16	
<b>Over 20 miles<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>59</b>	
Inside boundary	4	4	5	2	1	3	
Outside boundary	13	12	26	5	5	57	
Not Known <sup>7</sup>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	
Not Recorded <sup>8</sup>	<b>5</b>						<b>100</b>

1. Figures exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term placements

2. Figures are taken from the SSDA 903 return

3. Placement locality denotes whether or not the placement at 31 March is within the geographical boundary of the responsible local authority

4. Includes homes and hostels, but excludes residential schools

5. Placed with parents or other person with parental responsibility

6. Over 20 miles concurs with the definition of the Performance Framework Indicator PAF C69

7. "Home" address unknown or unavailable may occur with UASC or child missing from main placement

8. For reasons of confidentiality distance is not recorded for children who were placed for adoption

**TABLE 7 Teenage Mothers looked after at 31 March 2006 by placement and age<sup>1</sup>**

England		numbers and percentages				
		Age at 31 March				
		12-14	15	16	17	18
<b>All females<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>13,500</b>	<b>5,900</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Teenage mothers<sup>4</sup></b>	320	20	40	100	170	0
<b>Percentage of teenage mothers</b>	2	0	1	4	7	0
<b>Placements</b>						
Foster placements	150	10	30	60	40	0
Children's homes and hostels <sup>2</sup>	50	-	-	20	30	0
Living Independently	70	-	-	10	60	0
Placed with parents	20	-	0	-	20	0
Other	20	-	-	10	10	0

1. Figures exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term placements

2. Includes homes and hostels, but excludes residential schools

3. All females in care aged 12 and over.

4. All Teenage mothers in care aged 12 and over

**Table 8 Children who were required to have a review during the year ending 31 March 2006, by age at 31 March and method of participation at the last review<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>**

England		numbers and percentages							
	All Children	Numbers				Percentages			
		Age at 31 March				Age at 31 March			
		Under 4 <sup>2</sup>	4 - 9	10 - 15	16 & over	Under 4 <sup>2</sup>	4 - 9	10 - 15	16 & over
<b>All Children looked after at 31 March<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>60,300</b>	<b>9,500</b>	<b>13,400</b>	<b>26,100</b>	<b>11,300</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Child looked after for less than 28 days and not required to have a review <sup>1</sup>	1,600	530	320	600	130	6	2	2	1
<b>All children required to have a review</b>	<b>58,800</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>13,100</b>	<b>25,500</b>	<b>11,200</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>Method of Participation</b>									
Child aged under 4 at time of review and not required to participate <sup>2</sup>	8,900	8,600	340	0	0	90	3	0	0
Child physically attends and speaks for him or herself <sup>4,5</sup>	26,900	0	2,900	15,800	8,100	0	22	61	72
Child physically attends and an advocate speaks on his or her behalf <sup>4,5</sup>	1,200	0	390	540	270	0	3	2	2
Child attends and conveys his or her view symbolically (non-verbally) <sup>4,5</sup>	420	0	130	210	80	0	1	1	1
Child physically attends but does not speak for him or herself, does not convey his or her view symbolically (nonverbally) and does not ask an advocate to speak for him or her <sup>5</sup>	350	0	180	130	40	0	1	1	0
Child does not attend physically but briefs an advocate to speak for him or her <sup>4,5</sup>	8,100	0	3,700	3,500	940	0	28	13	8
Child does not attend but conveys his or her feelings to the review by a facilitative medium <sup>4,5</sup>	6,400	0	2,900	2,900	620	0	22	11	5
Child does not attend nor are his or her views conveyed to the review <sup>5</sup>	5,000	0	2,200	2,000	880	0	16	7	8
Review information not available	1,500	390	320	470	280	4	2	2	2

1. Only children who have been looked after for 4 weeks or more are required to have a review

2. Participation is only required by children from the age of 4

3. Figures exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term placements

4. Figures represent the numerator of C63 of the Performance Assessment Framework

5. Figures represent the denominator of C63 of the Performance Assessment Framework

**Table 9 Children aged under 16 who have been looked after continuously for at least two and a half years, and of those the number and percentage who had been in the same placement for at least two years, or placed for adoption, at 31 March 2003-2006<sup>1,2</sup>**

numbers and percentages												
	All children looked after for at least two and a half years				Number of children in the same placement for at least two years, or placed for adoption				Percentage of children in the same placement for at least two years or placed for adoption <sup>3</sup>			
	2003 <sup>4</sup>	2004 <sup>5</sup>	2005 <sup>5</sup>	2006 <sup>5</sup>	2003 <sup>4</sup>	2004 <sup>5</sup>	2005 <sup>5</sup>	2006 <sup>5</sup>	2003 <sup>4</sup>	2004 <sup>5</sup>	2005 <sup>5</sup>	2006 <sup>5</sup>
<b>All Children<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>23,200</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>23,100</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>14,900</b>	<b>14,900</b>	<b>14,800</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>65</b>
Age												
Under 5	1,500	1,400	1,300	1,300	1,100	1,000	940	910	74	73	74	72
5-9	6,500	6,100	5,900	5,700	4,500	4,300	4,100	4,000	70	70	70	71
10-15	15,200	15,500	16,000	15,900	9,200	9,600	9,800	10,000	60	62	61	63

1. Figures exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term placements
2. Historical data may differ from older publications. This is mainly due to the implementation and corrections sent by some local authorities after the publication date of previous materials
3. Percentages represent the stability aspect of PSA5 of the spending review 2004
4. Figures are derived from the SSDA903 one third sample survey. Some caution is therefore needed when making comparison at LA level, particularly when the number of children involved is small.
5. In 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 the SSDA903 covered all children looked after.

**TABLE 10 Summary of Performance Assessment Framework (PAF) indicators for 2004-05 and 2005-06**

England		percentages	
		2004-05	2005-06
<b>A1</b>	<b>Stability of placements of children looked after<sup>1</sup></b> % of children looked after at 31 March with three or more placements during the year	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>A2</b>	<b>Educational qualifications of children looked after<sup>1,2</sup></b> % of young people leaving care aged 16 or over with at least 1 GCSE at grade A*-G or a GNVQ	<b>50</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>A4</b>	<b>Employment, education and training for care leavers<sup>1</sup></b> % of 19 year old former care leavers who were engaged in education, training or employment	<b>59</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>B7</b>	<b>Children looked after in foster placements or placed for adoption<sup>1,3</sup></b> % of children looked after at 31 March in a foster placement or placed for adoption	<b>81</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>C23</b>	<b>Adoptions of children looked after<sup>1,4</sup></b> The number of children adopted in the year as a percentage of the number of children looked after continuously for 6 months or more at 31 March	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>C63</b>	<b>Participation of looked after children in statutory reviews<sup>1,5</sup></b> % of children and young people who communicated their views at all of their statutory reviews in the year as a percentage of the number of children and young people who had been looked after at March 31st for more than four weeks.	<b>81</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>C69</b>	<b>Looked after children who were placed more than 20 miles from their home address<sup>1,6</sup></b> % of children who started to be looked after during the year and whose placement at 31 March was more than 20 miles from home.	<b>N/A</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>D35</b>	<b>Long term stability of children looked after<sup>1</sup></b> % of children looked after continuously for 4 years or more who were currently in a foster placement which had lasted for 2 or more years	<b>50</b>	<b>51</b>

1. Figures exclude children looked after under an agreed series of short term agreements
2. Figures exclude unaccompanied asylum seeking children looked after continuously for less than two years and children who left before they would have sat their exams
3. Figures exclude children looked after placed with parents
4. Figures exclude unaccompanied asylum seeking children
5. In 2005 the definition of PAF C63 required participation at the child's latest review only
6. New data item collected in 2006

Annex

**Other DfES Publications on Children's Social Services Statistics published in November 2006**

**Private Fostering Arrangements in England, year ending 31 March 2006.** This can be downloaded from the Department's website at: <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000690/index.shtml>

**Referrals, Assessments, and Children and Young People on Child Protection Registers, England - Year ending 31 March 2006.** This can be downloaded from the Department's website at: <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000692/index.shtml>