



TellUs3 Local Authority Report

Essex

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Tellus3 Survey

The TellUs3 survey was a survey of children and young people across England, asking their views about their local area, and including questions covering the five Every Child Matters outcomes. The survey was carried out in Spring 2008. A sample of schools was selected within each local authority, representing the different types of schools in each area. The schools were then provided with guidance detailing how to select pupils to take part in the survey.

The report presents the questions in the same way they were presented to respondents. The questions were developed through cognitive testing with children, to ensure they understood the questions and answered them in a meaningful way. This means that some of the questions, such as self-defining a disability, may not give data consistent with 'standard' definitions.

The responses from the survey were weighted to ensure that the report at local authority and national level is representative of the population of Year 6, 8 and 10 children within that area in terms of the following characteristics: gender, proportion of children eligible for free school meals in the school (as a proxy for deprivation) and type of school. Population data for 2007 from the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) was used to derive the weights, and the number of children attending Pupil Referral Units is obtained from the 2007 School Level Annual School Census (SLASC).

The Local Authority Report

The local authority report provides data for all the questions asked at both local authority and national level. Where insufficient numbers of pupils or schools took part in a local authority, their results are not presented at local authority level. Where there are insufficient responses in one age group, the local authority report excludes this age group. Data for these local authorities is not weighted and no statistical testing is carried out for comparison against national results. Also, in some cases the response rate is relatively low. Results have been reported for a local authority wherever possible, where there are sufficient responses to provide some useful evidence. This should be taken into account when interpreting the results. All responses are included in the national report.

Sample characteristics (Section 1: About you)

This section gives details of the demographic characteristics of respondents to the survey (i.e. unweighted sample information). The rest of the survey data has been weighted, to account for any disproportionality between the sample and the population.

The five Every Child Matters Outcome sections (2: Being healthy, 3: Staying safe, 4: Enjoying and achieving, 5: Making a positive contribution, 6: Achieving economic well-being)

Data at local authority level within these sections of the report has been weighted to take account of differences from our sample population to the local authority population in terms of gender, type of school and free school meals eligibility (as a proxy for deprivation).

Where a difference between the local authority figure and the national figure is statistically significant, the cell is highlighted. This will indicate that the result obtained by this analysis is significantly different to the national average (at the 95% level). Where it is clear that there is a positive or negative outcome of the significant difference between the local authority figure and the national figure, the local authority figure is traffic-lighted either green or red respectively. If there is a difference but does not necessarily have a clear positive or negative outcome then the local authority figure is coloured grey. Local authorities with incomplete data for all year groups have not had significance testing applied. This is due to the unequal basis of comparison between the local authority and national figures.

Questions which were only asked of secondary school children are identified after the question as such (YEAR 8 & 10 ONLY).

Further details of the survey design and methodology can be found in the technical report.

1: About You		
Category	LA All (%)	NAT All (%)
1a: Are you:		
Male	48	50
Female	52	50
1b: How old are you?		
Year 6 (Aged 8 - 11)	34	40
Year 8 (Aged 12 - 13)	41	32
Year 10 (Aged 14 - 16)	26	28
1c: Which one of these best describes you?		
White	92	77
Mixed race	2	4
Asian or Asian British	2	10
Black or Black British	1	5
Chinese or other	1	1
Prefer not to say	1	0
Don't know	1	1
1d: Do you have a learning difficulty?		
Yes	10	9
No	82	82
Don't know	8	9
1e: Do you have a disability?		
Yes	4	4
No	91	92
Don't know	5	4
1f: Which one of these best describes you?		
I live with one or more of my birth parent(s)	97	96
I live with adoptive parent(s)	0	1
I live with foster parent(s)	1	1
I live in a children's home	0	0
Other	1	2
Don't know	0	1
1g: Do you receive free school meals?		
Yes	9	16
No	89	82
Don't know	2	3
1h: Did you have help filling in this form such as from a teacher, teaching assistant or learning mentor?		
No	89	86
Yes, I had help with just some of it	9	11
Yes, I had help with all or most of it	2	3

2: Being Healthy		
Category	LA All (%)	NAT All (%)
2a: How healthy are you most of the time? (Tick one option only)		
Very healthy	29	28
Quite healthy	59	58
Not very healthy	10	11
Don't know	2	3
2b: How many portions of fruit and vegetables do you usually eat each day? (Tick one option only)		
None	3	4
1-2	25	27
3-4	42	42
5 or more	26	23
Don't know	5	5
2c: In the last 7 days, on how many days have you spent at least 30 minutes doing sports or other active things? (Tick one option only)		
None	3	4
1-2 days	19	21
3-5 days	37	35
6-7 days	38	36
Don't know	3	4
2d: Have you ever had alcohol? (Tick one option only)		
I have never had an alcoholic drink	20	25
I have never been drunk	38	35
I have been drunk but only once or twice and not recently	18	17
I have been drunk once within the last four weeks	5	6
I have been drunk twice within the last four weeks	4	4
I have been drunk three or more times in the last four weeks	7	6
Prefer not to say	9	8
2e: Have you ever smoked cigarettes? (Tick one option only)		
I have never smoked a cigarette	76	75
I have smoked cigarettes only once or twice	10	11
I used to smoke cigarettes regularly but I don't now	3	3
I sometimes smoke cigarettes, but I don't smoke every week	3	2
I smoke cigarettes regularly, once a week or more	1	1
I smoke cigarettes everyday	3	4
Prefer not to say	4	4
2f: Have you ever taken drugs? (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 & 10 ONLY)		
Yes	11	11
No	86	86
Prefer not to say	3	4

2: Being Healthy (continued)		
Category	LA All (%)	NAT All (%)
2g: In the last four weeks, how often have you taken any of the following drugs? (Don't worry if you don't know exactly, just give us a rough idea) (Tick one option for each section) (YEAR 8 & 10 ONLY)		
<i>Cannabis or skunk</i>		
Never in the last four weeks	90	89
Once	3	2
Twice	2	1
Three or more times	3	3
Prefer not to say	3	4
Don't know/can't remember	0	1
<i>Solvents, glue or gas (to inhale or sniff)</i>		
Never in the last four weeks	93	92
Once	1	1
Twice	0	0
Three or more times	2	1
Prefer not to say	3	4
Don't know/can't remember	1	1
<i>Other drugs (like cocaine, LSD, ecstasy, heroin, crack, speed, magic mushrooms etc.)</i>		
Never in the last four weeks	92	92
Once	1	1
Twice	1	1
Three or more times	1	1
Prefer not to say	3	4
Don't know/can't remember	1	1
2h: What do you think of the information and advice you get on the following things? (Tick one option for each section) (YEAR 8 & 10 ONLY)		
<i>Eating healthy food</i>		
It's good enough	77	76
Need better information and advice	19	20
Don't know	4	4
<i>Alcohol</i>		
It's good enough	68	67
Need better information and advice	24	25
Don't know	8	7
<i>Smoking</i>		
It's good enough	70	70
Need better information and advice	23	23
Don't know	7	7
<i>Drugs</i>		
It's good enough	70	67
Need better information and advice	23	25
Don't know	7	7
<i>Sex and relationships</i>		
It's good enough	59	55
Need better information and advice	35	37
Don't know	7	8

Notes: (1) Figures with a traffic-lighted background indicate that the local authority figure is significantly different from the national average, at the 95% confidence level. If the difference indicates a positive outcome for children and young people in the local authority then the local authority's result is traffic-lighted green. If it indicates a negative outcome then it is traffic-lighted red. If there is a difference but does not necessarily have a clear positive or negative outcome then the local authority figure is coloured grey. (2) Unweighted data in the 'About You' section has not had significance testing applied. (3) Where reports only include data for only one or two year groups surveyed, unweighted data is used and significance testing has not been applied as it is less valid to compare the local authority results with the national data. (4) For clarity and formatting purposes a few questions and answer options from the questionnaire are modified or trimmed in this report.

2: Being Healthy (continued)

	LA	NAT
Category	All (%)	All (%)
2i: Which of the following things, if any, do you worry about the most? (Tick all options that apply)		
Being bullied	28	27
School work	32	31
Exams	54	57
Girlfriends/boyfriends/sex (Year 8 & 10 only)	29	26
Being healthy	29	30
Money	28	28
Friendships	35	34
My future	47	49
Getting into trouble	28	27
My parents or family	30	30
Crime	24	27
My body	32	32
Something else	9	11
Don't know	3	3
Nothing	5	5
2j: For each of the following sections please tick the option that best describes you. (Tick one option for each section)		
<i>I feel happy about life at the moment</i>		
True	68	69
Neither true nor not true	21	20
Not true	9	8
Don't know	1	2
<i>I have one or more good friends</i>		
True	93	95
Neither true nor not true	5	3
Not true	2	2
Don't know	0	1
<i>When I'm worried about something I can talk to my mum or dad</i>		
True	64	66
Neither true nor not true	17	16
Not true	17	15
Don't know	2	3
<i>When I'm worried about something I can talk to my friends</i>		
True	71	71
Neither true nor not true	17	17
Not true	9	10
Don't know	2	3
<i>When I'm worried about something I can talk to an adult other than my mum or dad</i>		
True	50	52
Neither true nor not true	19	20
Not true	28	23
Don't know	4	5

3: Staying Safe

	LA	NAT
Category	All (%)	All (%)
3a: How safe from being hurt by other people do you feel? (Tick one option for each section)		
<i>Around the local area</i>		
Very safe		30 28
Quite safe		47 47
A bit unsafe	17	19
Very unsafe	5	5
Don't know	1	1
<i>On public transport</i>		
Very safe		20 23
Quite safe		49 47
A bit unsafe		22 22
Very unsafe		6 5
Don't know		3 3
<i>Going to and from school</i>		
Very safe		49 49
Quite safe		38 39
A bit unsafe		9 9
Very unsafe		3 2
Don't know		1 1
<i>In school</i>		
Very safe		52 55
Quite safe		35 33
A bit unsafe		7 8
Very unsafe		5 3
Don't know		1 1
3b: How often, if at all, have you been bullied? (Tick one option for each section)		
<i>At school</i>		
Never		53 56
Once or more in the last year		27 25
Once or more in the last four weeks		5 5
About once a week		4 3
Most days		8 6
Don't know		4 4
<i>Somewhere else (including on your journey to or from school)</i>		
Never		74 75
Once or more in the last year		13 13
Once or more in the last four weeks		4 3
About once a week		3 2
Most days		4 3
Don't know		3 4
3c: How well does your school deal with bullying? (Tick one option only)		
Very well	10	14
Quite well	21	21
Not very well	29	28
Badly	17	16
Bullying is not a problem in my school	11	11
Don't know	11	10

4: Enjoying and Achieving

	LA	NAT
Category	All (%)	All (%)
4a: For each of the sections below, please tick the option that best describes you. (Tick one option on each section)		
<i>I enjoy school</i>		
Always	5	8
Most of the time	44	42
Sometimes	44	43
Never	5	7
Don't know	1	1
<i>I try my best at school</i>		
Always		30 33
Most of the time		49 48
Sometimes		19 17
Never		1 1
Don't know		0 0
<i>I learn a lot at school</i>		
Always		20 23
Most of the time		46 46
Sometimes		30 28
Never		3 3
Don't know		1 1
4b: Which of the things below, might help you do better in school? (Tick all options that apply)		
More help from teachers	38	39
More fun/interesting lessons	79	81
A quieter/better behaved class or group	36	38
Smaller classes/groups	27	34
Fewer bullies	24	25
More help from family and friends (e.g. with homework)	15	16
Somewhere quiet at home to do homework	14	16
Something else	13	13
None of these	3	2
4c: How easy it is to get help with your work at school when you need it? (Tick one option only)		
Very easy	13	14
Quite easy	61	58
Quite difficult	19	19
Very difficult	3	4
Don't know	4	4
4d: Which of these, if any, would you like to go to that you don't at the moment? (Tick all that apply)		
Local park or playground	14	18
Cinema or theatre	36	37
A music concert or gig	42	39
Swimming pool (not in school lessons)	24	29
Sports club or class (where I've done sport not just watched it)	16	20
Gym	34	38
A youth club or youth group with organised activities run by adults	12	16
Faith or community group	5	6
A youth centre/café to meet friends (with few or no organised activities)	13	18
Art, craft, dance, drama, film/video-making group or class (not in school lessons)	20	26
Music group or lesson (not in school lessons)	13	14
Library/museum	12	14
Residential course (e.g. outward bound)	8	13
Something else	21	21
Nothing (I don't want to go to anything else)	13	11

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4: Enjoying and Achieving (continued)

Category	LA	NAT
	All (%)	All (%)
4e: Overall, what do you think of the activities and things to do in your area? (Tick one option only)		
Very good	13	14
Fairly good	38	35
Neither good nor poor	21	22
Fairly poor	14	14
Very poor	12	12
Don't know	3	3

4f: In the last four weeks, have you participated in any group activity led by an adult outside school lessons (such as sports, arts, or a youth group)? (Tick one option only)

Yes	70	62
No	26	34
Don't know	5	5

4g: Which of these things have you been to in the last four weeks (not including things as part of school lessons)? (Tick all options that apply)

Local park or playground	79	74
Cinema or theatre	58	56
A music concert or gig	14	15
Swimming pool (not in school lessons)	51	46
Sports club or class (where I've done sport not just watched it)	65	58
Gym	28	27
A youth club or youth group with organised activities run by adults	36	32
Faith or community group	11	13
A youth centre/café to meet friends (with few or no organised activities)	38	36
Art, craft, dance, drama, film/video-making group or class	30	27
Music group or lesson (not in school lessons)	20	19
Library/museum	31	34
Residential course (e.g. outward bound)	9	10
Something else	72	68

5: Making a Positive Contribution**5a: How much are children and young people's views listened to in decisions about the local area? (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 & 10 ONLY)**

A great deal	3	4
A fair amount	21	22
Not very much	41	37
Not at all	19	20
Don't know	16	17

5b: In the last year, have you ever given your views about the local area in any of these ways? (Tick all options that apply) (YEAR 8 & 10 ONLY)

Filled in questionnaire	25	29
Given your views to a school council	20	19
Given your views to a youth council or youth parliament	8	7
Been to a meeting outside school about making things better in your local area	5	6
Something else	6	7
Don't know	17	17
None of these	38	36

5: Making a Positive Contribution (continued)

Category	LA	NAT
	All (%)	All (%)
5c: In the last year, have you given your time to help a charity, a local voluntary group, a neighbour or someone else in the local area? (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 & 10 ONLY)		
Yes	63	61
No	26	28
Don't know	10	11

5d: How much do you feel children and young people's views are listened to in the running of your school? (Tick one option only)

A great deal	10	12
A fair amount	46	47
Not very much	30	27
Not at all	7	7
Don't know	7	7

6: Achieving Economic Well-being**6a: What do you think of your local area as a place to live in? (Tick one option only)**

Very good	36	32
Fairly good	39	43
Neither good nor poor	16	16
Fairly poor	4	5
Very poor	4	4
Don't know	1	1

6b: What do you hope to do when you leave school? (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 & 10 ONLY)

Get a job at 16	13	13
Study then get a job at 18	22	19
Study to go to university	49	54
Something else	5	6
Don't know yet	11	9

6c: What do you think of the information and help you get to plan your future? For example help from a teacher or careers adviser to choose subject options and think about jobs and careers. (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 & 10 ONLY)

It's good enough	25	28
Need a little more	42	42
Need a lot more	22	20
Don't know what there is	12	10

6: Achieving Economic Well-being (continued)

Category	LA	NAT
	All (%)	All (%)
6d: Which of these things would do the most to make your area a better place for you to live? (Tick all options that apply)		
Better shops	48	45
Cleaner and less litter	40	48
Better sports clubs or centres	37	44
Better public transport (such as buses, trains, underground)	23	25
Safer roads	31	37
Better activities for children and young people	44	46
Safer area or less crime	30	39
Better parks and play areas	42	47
Fewer young people hanging around	19	27
Something else	11	10
Don't know	3	3
None (the area is fine as it is)	3	4

6e: What do you think of the parks and play areas in your area? (Tick one option only)

Very good	11	10
Fairly good	40	34
Neither good nor poor	24	23
Fairly poor	13	15
Very poor	10	15
Don't know	3	3

6f: Thinking about all of the things that have been covered in the survey, what if anything, would do most to make your life better? (Tick one option only)

More help to do better at school	11	11
Better school lessons	10	11
Less bullying	10	9
More organised activities and things to do	6	8
More places where I can go to spend time with my friends	23	22
More say in how things are run at school or in the local area	4	3
More ways I can volunteer or help people	2	2
More advice about being healthy	2	2
More help to plan for my future	15	15
More help to feel safer at school and in the local area	4	4
Something else	3	4
Don't know	6	5
None of these	5	4

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