

Health and Wellbeing Assessment

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for Northumberland

Children and Young People Providing Unpaid Care Statistical Profile

Introduction

Health and Well-being Assessment profiles pull together statistics about groups of people with health and care needs in the County and form the evidence base in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Northumberland. This profile provides statistics about children and young people who provide unpaid care.

The provision of information on young carers is important as highlighted in the ONS article 'Providing unpaid care may have an adverse affect on young carers' general health' (2013)¹ which states, "...there is growing evidence pointing to the adverse impact on the health, future employment opportunities and social and leisure activities of those providing unpaid care, particularly in young carers." It is also suspected that Census figures may underestimate the number of young carers, Hounsell (2013)² states that "Many young carers remain hidden from official sight for a host of reasons, including family loyalty, stigma, bullying, not knowing where to go for support."

Data used in this profile is available from the Nomis website 2011 Census - Local Characteristics tables (LC3304EW - Provision of unpaid care by age). The ONS Census definition of an unpaid care provider is a person who looks after or gives help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of long-term physical or mental ill health or disability, or problems related to old age. This does not include any activities as part of paid employment.

No comparison has been provided between 2011 and 2001 Census results as changes to tables provided by ONS mean that you cannot compare the statistics at local authority level. No breakdown by sex or ethnicity is provided in this profile; however it may be possible to get additional and more detailed breakdowns from ONS via their commissioned table service.

Figures for Northumberland's statistical neighbours (as defined by Department for Education for statistics relating to children and young people) are included in this profile and in the accompanying spread sheets that are available on the [Northumberland Knowledge](#) website. View the spread sheets on-line and the following [document on the www.gov.uk](#) for more details.

Key Points

- In Northumberland 544 (or 1.4 per cent of) children aged 5 to 15, and 1,517 (or 4.9 per cent of) young people aged 16 to 24 provide unpaid care.
- Bendlingtonshire Community High School catchment area (64) has the highest number looked after children aged 5 to 16 when it is compared against the other catchment areas in Northumberland while Bede Academy has the lowest number (19).
- The Blyth Academy catchment area (171) has the highest number looked after children aged 16 to 24 when it is compared against the other catchment areas in Northumberland while Bede Academy has the lowest number (64).

¹ Providing unpaid care may have an adverse affect on young carers' general health. (2013). ONS. Retrieved May 12, 2014, from <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/census/2011-census-analysis/provision-of-unpaid-care-in-england-and-wales--2011/sty-unpaid-care.html>

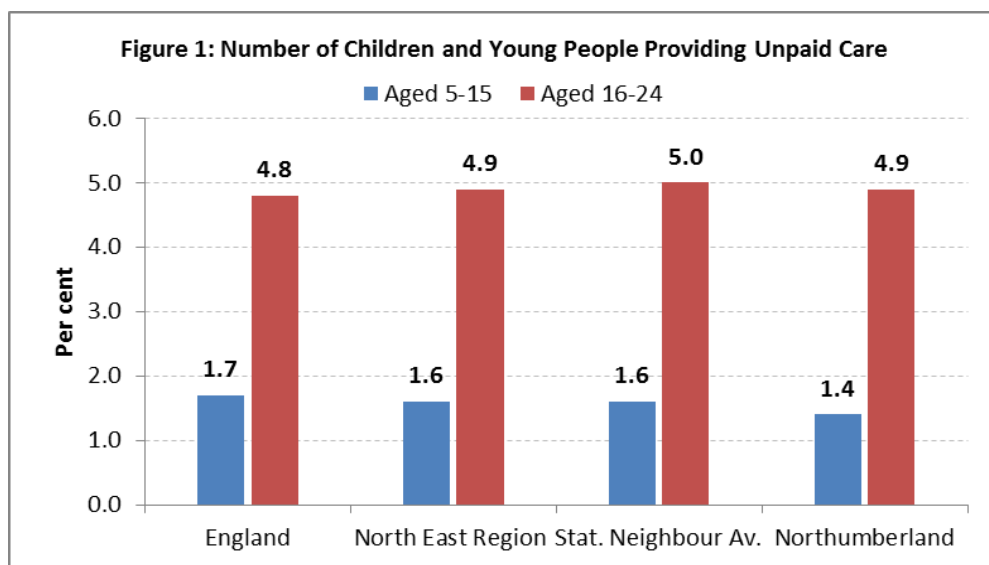
² Hounsell, D. (2013). Hidden from view: The experiences of young carers in England. The Children's Society. Retrieved May 12, 2014, from http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/sites/default/files/tcs/hidden_from_view_-_final.pdf

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Figure 1 below shows the percentage of 5 to 15 and 16 to 24 year olds who provide unpaid care in Northumberland compared to the National, North East Region and Statistical Neighbour averages.



Children Aged 5 to 15 Providing Unpaid Care

In Northumberland 544 children aged 5 to 15 provide unpaid care. In the North East Region only Durham (1,054) and Sunderland (621) have more children who provide unpaid care. However Northumberland (1.4 per cent) has a lower percentage of children providing care than other local authorities in the region with the exception of Newcastle (1.3 per cent) and Stockton-on-Tees (1.4 per cent). The percentage of children providing unpaid care in England (1.7 per cent) and North East Region (1.6 per cent) is higher than Northumberland as is the statistical neighbour average (1.6 per cent).

Of the 544 children providing unpaid care in Northumberland 437 (80.3 per cent) provide between 1 and 19 hours of care per week, while 55 (10.1 per cent) provide between 20 and 49 hours, and 52 (9.6 per cent) provide more than 50 hours of care. The proportion of children providing unpaid care who provide the most unpaid care (more than 50 hours) per week in Northumberland (9.6 per cent) is higher than the statistical neighbour average (8.3 per cent) and England (9.1 per cent) but lower than in the North East Region (10.4 per cent).

Young People Aged 16 to 24 Providing Unpaid Care

1,517 (or 4.9 per cent of) Young people aged 16 to 24 in Northumberland provide unpaid care. This is in line with the England (4.8 per cent), North East (4.9 per cent) and Statistical Neighbour (5.0 per cent) averages. Of the 1,517 young people providing care 1,139 (75.1 per cent) provide between 1 and 19 hours of care per week, while 220 (14.5 per cent) provide between 20 and 49 hours, and 158 (10.4 per cent) provide more than 49 hours of care.

Of the 1,517 young people providing unpaid care in Northumberland 1,139 (75.1 per cent) provide between 1 and 19 hours of care per week, while 220 (14.5 per cent) provide between 20 and 49 hours, and 158 (10.4 per cent) provide more than 50 hours of care. The proportion of young people providing unpaid care who provide the most unpaid care (more than 50 hours) per week in Northumberland (10.4 per cent) is lower than the statistical neighbour average (11.4 per cent) and England (11.4 per cent) and the North East Region (12.5 per cent).

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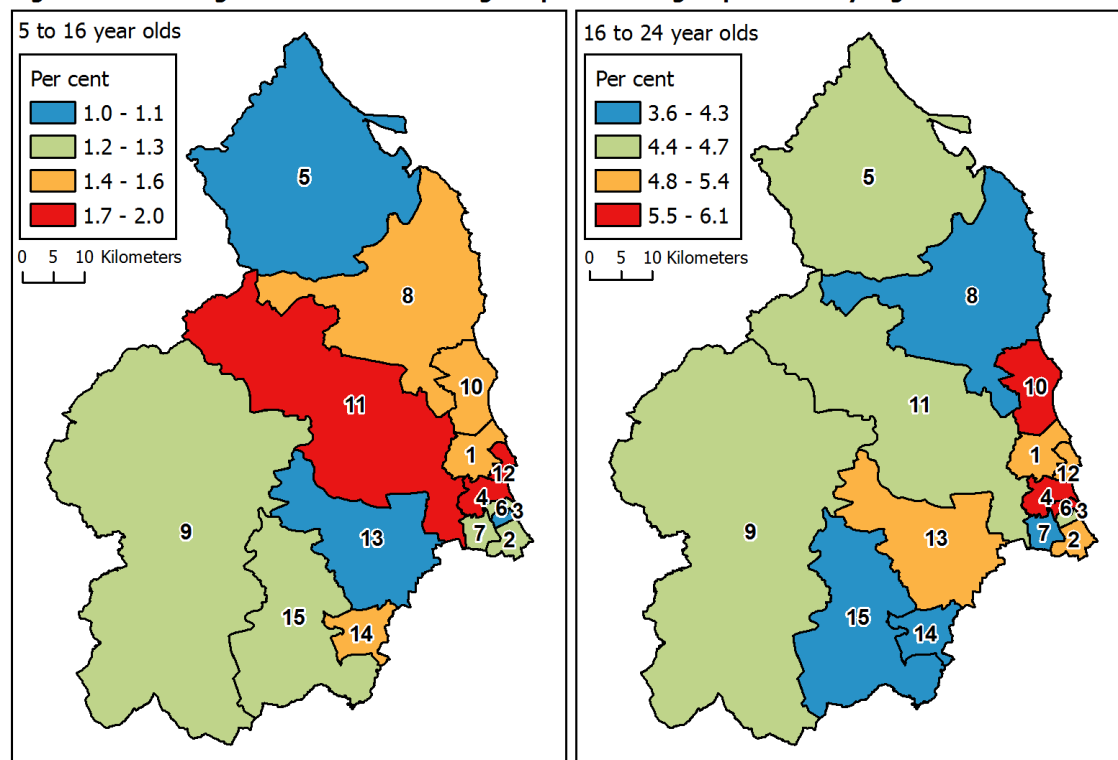
High School Catchment Areas

Statistics are available at Census Output Area level and these have been best fitted and amalgamated up to provide figures for the High School Catchment Areas in Northumberland.

Bendlingtonshire Community High School catchment area (64) has the highest number looked after children aged 5 to 16 when it is compared against the other catchment areas in Northumberland while Bede Academy has the lowest number (19). In terms of the percentage of the population aged 5 to 16 Ponteland Community High School has the lowest (1.0) followed by Bede Academy (1.0) and Berwick Academy (1.1), while the Northumberland Church of England Academy in Ashington (2.0) has the highest percentage followed by Bedlingtonshire Community High School (1.8) and The King Edward VI School (1.7).

The Blyth Academy catchment area (171) has the highest number looked after children aged 16 to 24 when it is compared against the other catchment areas in Northumberland while Bede Academy has the lowest number (64). In terms of the percentage of the population aged 16 to 24 Queen Elizabeth High School has the lowest (3.6) followed by The Duchess's Community High School (4.1) and Prudhoe Community High School (4.2), while Blyth Academy (6.1) has the highest percentage followed by James Calvert Spence College (5.9) and The King Edward VI School (5.7). The statistical tables available on the Health and Wellbeing website provide numbers and percentages for all High School Catchment Areas in Northumberland. Figure 2 shows the percentage of children and young people by high school catchment area.

Figure 2: Percentage of Children and Young People Providing Unpaid Care by High School Catchment Area Map



1 Ashington Community High School Sports College | 2 Astley Community High School | 3 Bede Academy | 4 Bedlingtonshire Community High School | 5 Berwick Academy | 6 The Blyth Academy | 7 Cramlington Learning Village | 8 The Duchess's Community High School | 9 Haydon Bridge High School | 10 James Calvert Spence College - Acklington Road | 11 The King Edward VI School | 12 The Northumberland C of E Academy | 13 Ponteland Community High School | 14 Prudhoe Community High School | 15 Queen Elizabeth High School
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