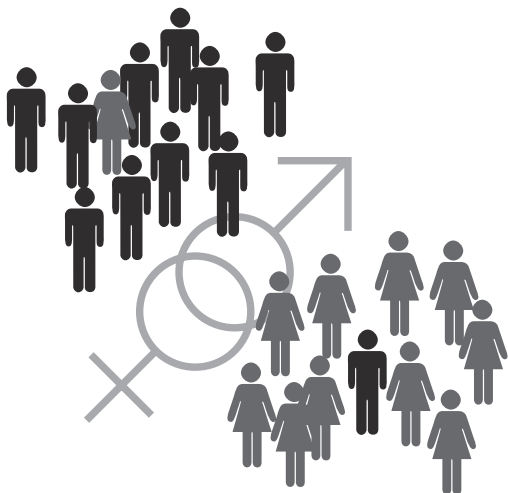


FOCUS ON Gender



Focus on Gender paints a picture of the relative lives of men and women in contemporary UK society. It includes information on their characteristics, experiences and lifestyles, placing particular emphasis on gender differences.

In many ways, the lives of women and men have become more similar, as more and more women have entered the labour market. Despite this, differences remain. Although the pay gap has narrowed, women still earn less than men and follow very different career paths. Furthermore, the majority of the responsibility for household chores and childcare is still the province of women. Women can expect to live longer than men but these extra years of life may not be years of healthy life.

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Population

From age 22 women outnumber men

More boys than girls are born each year but there are more women than men overall in the UK population: 30.3 million females compared with 28.9 million males in mid-2002.

There are around 20,000 more boys than girls at each age from birth through to the late teens. By age 22 the number of young women overtakes the number of young men. This is partly because of higher net in-migration among women than men in recent years. Also, death rates from accidents and suicide are much higher for young men than for young women.

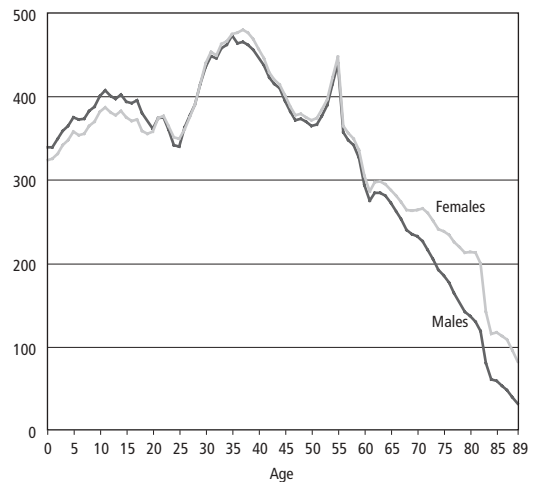
This difference between the sexes increases through the 20s and 30s age groups, but is smaller again for those in their 40s. The gap narrows mainly due to higher net inward migration among men in the older working ages.

For people in their late 50s and onwards, the difference between the sexes increases, as the death rates are greater among men than among women. This is most pronounced in the very elderly, as women tend to live longer than men. The Second World War has also had an impact on the number of men aged over 80. In 2002 there were three and half times as many women as men aged 90 or over.

The pattern of women outnumbering men is projected to continue in the future, although the gap is expected to narrow as death rates among men continue to improve. The ratio of men to women varies across the ethnic groups. There are more women than men in the White, Black and Indian groups in England and Wales. By contrast, there are more men than women in the Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Chinese, and Other groups.

Population: by age and sex, 2002

United Kingdom
Thousands



Source:

Census, April 2001, Office for National Statistics;
Census, April 2001, General Register Office for Scotland;
Census, April 2001, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency;
Mid-2002 Population Estimates: United Kingdom; estimated resident population by single year of age and sex - provisional results from the Manchester matching exercise, Office for National Statistics;
Population Projections, Government Actuary's Department.



Living Arrangements

9 in 10 lone parents are women

Around six out of ten men and women in the UK live in a couple. Five in ten men and women are married and one in ten are cohabiting.

Men are more likely than women to be single (never married), while women are more likely than men to be divorced or widowed. There are over three times as many widows as widowers in the population as women tend to live longer than men.

The pattern of partnership formation has changed over the last 30 years. The proportion of married people has fallen, while the proportions of single and divorced people have increased. The average age at marriage in England and Wales increased by seven years from 1971 to 2001 for both men and women, to nearly 35 years of age for men and 32 years for women.

Cohabitation has increased over the past twenty five years as marriage has declined. Single women are more likely than single men to be cohabiting. However, separated and widowed men are around twice as likely to cohabit than women of the same marital status. A slightly greater proportion of divorced men cohabit than divorced women.

As with marriage, women tend to cohabit at younger ages than men. Women aged between 16 and 24 are over twice as likely as men to cohabit, while men over 25 years are more likely than women of the same age to cohabit.

With the long-term rise in divorce, the numbers of divorced people in England and Wales has also increased. There were 1.5 million divorced men and 2.0 million divorced women in 2001, compared with 187,000 and 296,000 divorced men and women, respectively, in 1971.

Almost 70 per cent of divorces in England and Wales in 2001 were granted to the wife. Women were most likely to be granted a divorce on the grounds of unreasonable behaviour, whereas for men, the most likely reason was two years separation with consent.

There has been a doubling in the proportion of households headed by a lone parent with dependent children in the UK since the early 1970s, to 6 per cent in 2002. Up to the mid-1980s a large part of the rise was due to divorce. More recently, the number of single, lone mothers has grown at a faster rate, because of the rise in the proportion of births outside marriage. Lone mothers headed the majority of lone parent families in spring 2002, with just one in ten headed by a lone father.

The majority of stepfamilies consist of a couple with one or more children from the previous relationship of the woman only. This reflects the tendency for children to stay with their mother following the break up of a partnership. In just under one in ten stepfamilies in Great Britain the children came from the father's previous relationship in 2001.

Living arrangements, April 2001

United Kingdom
Percentages



People cohabiting within each marital status, 2000-02

Great Britain

Percentages

	Single	Widowed	Divorced	Separated
Men				
Cohabiting	22	18	34	22
Not cohabiting	78	82	66	78
All men	100	100	100	100
Women				
Cohabiting	29	8	30	12
Not cohabiting	71	92	70	88
All women	100	100	100	100

Source:

Census, April 2001, Office for National Statistics;
 Census, April 2001, General Register Office for Scotland;
 Census, April 2001, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency;
 Labour Force Survey, spring 2002, Office for National Statistics;
 General Household Survey, 2000/01 to 2001/02, Office for National Statistics.

Notes:

The data relate to all people aged 16 and over unless otherwise stated.



Housing

1 in 2 lone mothers live in social housing

Living arrangements for men and women are broadly similar. Most live in a couple and 81 per cent of couple households live in owner occupied accommodation. However, there are differences between the sexes for those living alone.

In 2001 a higher proportion of single men than single women were owner-occupiers in Great Britain (54 and 40 per cent, respectively). The pattern was reversed for widowers and widows, particularly for those owning their homes outright: 57 per cent of women compared with 51 per cent of men. For divorced or separated men and women there was no difference in owner occupation, with half of both sexes owning their home, whether with a mortgage or outright.

Nine out of ten lone parent families are headed by a woman and nearly half of lone mothers are single (never married). Lone parents receive a high priority for social sector housing and are more likely than any other type of household to be renting from this sector. Half of lone mothers with dependent children live in social sector housing. Lone mothers are more likely than lone fathers to be living in any sort of rented accommodation, while a higher proportion of lone fathers, who tend to be divorced, are owner-occupiers.

Following separation it is common for either one or both partners to leave the former matrimonial home. A partner may also need to leave their home after the death of their partner. In 1998 two thirds of men had left their former matrimonial home after divorce, separation, or after the death of their partner, compared with just over half of women.

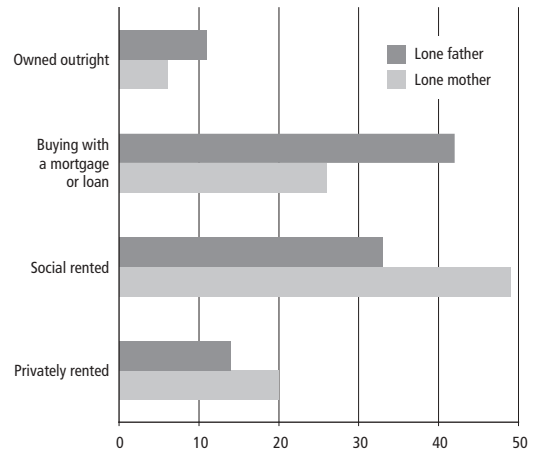
On Census night in 2001, there were 890,000 adult residents, aged 16 and over, living in communal establishments in Great Britain: 406,000 men and 483,000 women. Educational establishments, which include students' halls of residence, formed the single largest category overall, with equal numbers of residents from both sexes.

However there are substantial differences between the sexes living in other types of establishment. There were around 17 times as many men as women in prisons and over seven times as many men in defence establishments.

Over half of women in communal establishments lived in residential care and nursing homes and the majority of these women (87 per cent) were over state pension age. There were two and half times as many women in residential care and nursing homes compared with men: 269,000 women and 104,000 men.

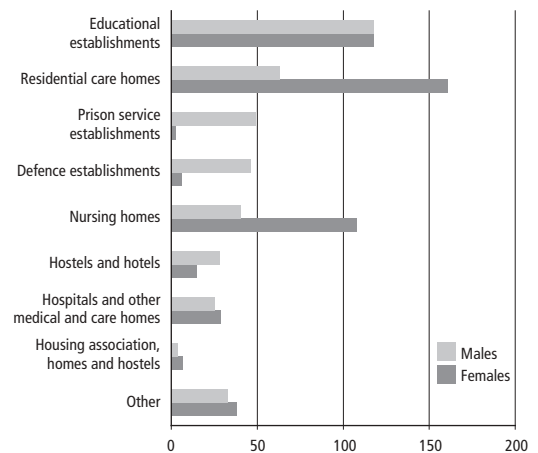
Lone parents with dependent children: by tenure, April 2001

Great Britain
Percentages



Residents aged 16 and over in communal establishments, April 2001

Great Britain
Thousands



Source:

General Household Survey, 1998 and 2001, Office for National Statistics; Census, April 2001, Office for National Statistics; Census, April 2001, General Register Office for Scotland.

Notes:

Buying with a mortgage or loan includes shared ownership. Privately rented includes rent-free accommodation. Hospital and other medical and care homes includes psychiatric hospitals/homes.



Education

Girls outperform boys at GCSE and A level

Girls generally perform better than boys at GCSE and at GCE A level (or equivalent) in the UK. In 2001/02, 58 per cent of girls in their last year of compulsory education achieved five or more GCSE grades A*-C, compared with 47 per cent of boys. Forty three per cent of young women gained two or more A levels or equivalent compared with 34 per cent of young men.

The difference in achievement between the sexes starts at an early age. In England from key stage 1 (5-7 years old) through to key stage 4 (14-16 years old) girls score consistently higher than boys, though the difference is much less marked in maths and science than in English.

Over recent years there has been an increase in the proportion of both young women and young men in the UK who gain two or more GCE A levels (or equivalent). This increase has been more marked among women. Between 1992/93 and 2001/02 the proportion of women gaining this result more than doubled from 20 per cent to 43 per cent. Over the same period the proportion of men increased from 18 per cent to 34 per cent.

At A level, women outperformed men in virtually all subject groups in 2000/01. With the exception of only General Studies, English Literature and some languages, a greater proportion of women than men achieved grades A-C.

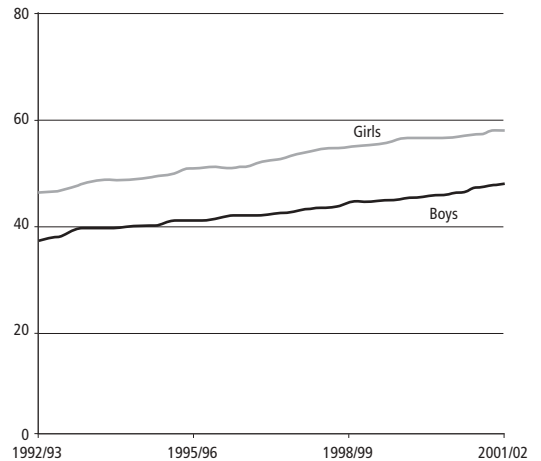
Women also outperform men in vocational qualifications - 29 per cent of young women in schools and colleges gained a distinction for their Advanced General National Vocational Qualification (GNVQ) in 2000/01, compared with 17 per cent of young men.

Although Business was the most popular subject for both men and women taking an Advanced GNVQ, the next most popular subjects differed between the sexes. Twenty five per cent of women took Health and Social Care compared with 1 per cent of men, whereas 22 per cent of men took Information Technology compared with 4 per cent of women.

Among those who took first degrees in 2002, men and women were almost equally likely to gain a first - 10 per cent of men compared with 9 per cent of women. However, a greater proportion of women achieved an upper second - 49 per cent of women compared with 40 per cent of men.

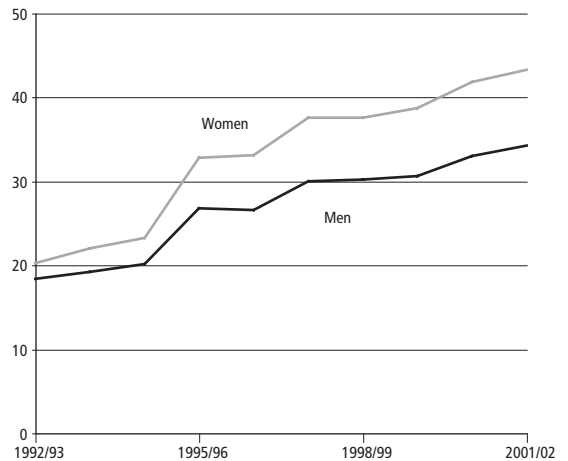
Pupils achieving five or more GCSE grades A*-C or equivalent

United Kingdom
Percentages



Young people achieving two or more GCE A levels or equivalent

United Kingdom
Percentages



Source:

Education and Training Statistics for the United Kingdom, 2002, Department for Education and Skills; National Assembly for Wales; Scottish Executive; Northern Ireland Department of Education; Higher Education Statistics Agency.

Notes:

Data for pupils attaining five or more GCSE grades A*-C are as a percentage of all pupils in their last year of compulsory education. Data for 1992/93 to 1994/95 are for Great Britain. Data for GCE A level achievement count 2 AS levels as 1 A level pass. Data from 2000/01 are not on the same basis as earlier years and data prior to 1995/96 refer to school pupils only.



Working Lives

Men managers twice as likely as women

A greater proportion of men than women of working age are in employment or actively looking for, and available to start, work. In spring 2003 the economic activity rate was 84 per cent for men, compared with 73 per cent for women in the UK. However, the rates for men have fallen over the past decade while the rates for women have risen.

Economic activity was highest for men aged 25 to 34 at 93 per cent, while for women it was highest for 35 to 49 year olds at 78 per cent. For women, the presence of a dependent child has a substantial impact on economic activity – see related page ‘Work and Family’ for more information.

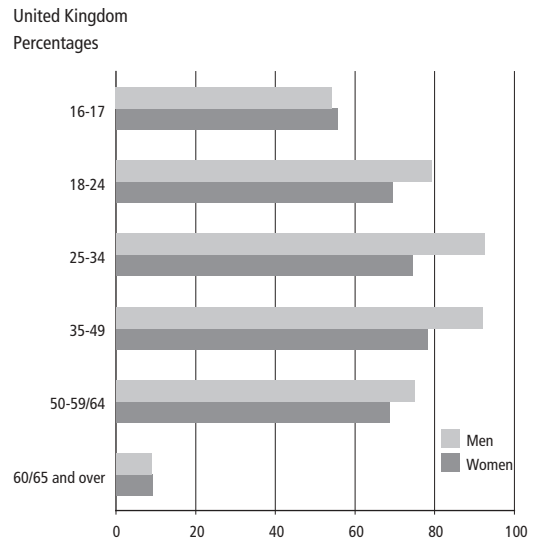
Twenty years ago one in three employee jobs held by men were in manufacturing. By June 2003 this had fallen to under one in five. The proportion of jobs held by women in this sector dropped from nearly one in five to less than one in ten. In contrast, there was a substantial rise in jobs in the finance and business services industry for both men and women.

Other changes in the labour force over the last two decades include a marked increase in the number of employee jobs performed by women. In 1983 men filled 2.5 million more jobs than women. In June 2003 the numbers were almost equal with men performing 13.0 million jobs and women 12.8 million, although almost half of the female jobs were part time.

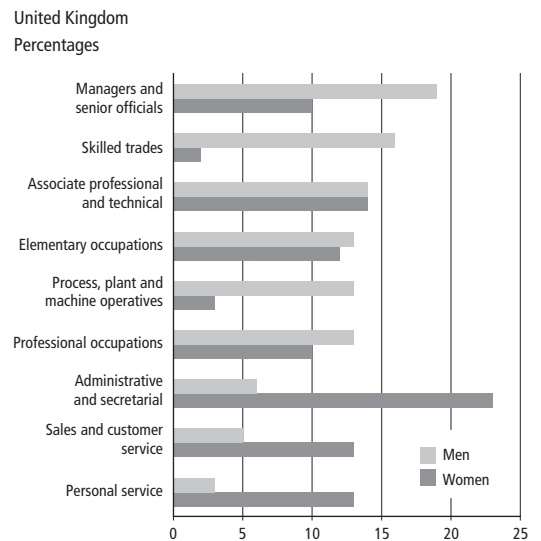
But men and women still follow very different career paths. About a quarter of female employees do administrative or secretarial work. Men are twice as likely as women to be managers and senior officials, and far more likely to be in skilled trades. Similar proportions of men and women work in ‘associate professional and technical’ occupations, such as computer programmers, technicians and nurses.

Men are more likely than women to be self-employed. Nearly three quarters of the 3 million self-employed people in spring 2003 were male.

Economic activity rates: by age, 2003



Employees: by occupation, 2003



Source:

Labour Force Survey, spring 2003, Office for National Statistics; Labour Market Trends, November 2003, Office for National Statistics.

Notes:

Economic activity rate – the percentage of the population in a given age group which is in work or actively looking for, and available to start, work. Data are at spring and seasonally adjusted.
Data for employees by occupation are at spring and are not seasonally adjusted.
Working age is men aged 16 to 64 and women aged 16 to 59.



Work and Family

1 in 2 mums of under 5s are in labour force

Working age women with dependent children are less likely than those without to be economically active: 68 per cent compared with 76 per cent in spring 2003 in the UK.

The age of the youngest child affects the economic activity of mothers. Fifty five per cent of working age women with children under 5 were in the labour force. This compares with 73 per cent whose youngest child was aged 5 to 10 and 80 per cent whose youngest child was aged 11 to 15. Around 76 per cent of working age women without dependent children were in the labour force.

Conversely, men with dependent children are more likely than those without to be in the labour force. The age of their children has no impact. Around 93 per cent of men with dependent children are in the labour force regardless of the age of their youngest child.

Women are more likely than men to work part time, particularly if they have dependent children. Nearly 40 per cent of women with dependent children work part time compared with 23 per cent of those without. Only 4 per cent of men with dependent children and 9 per cent of men without dependent children work part time.

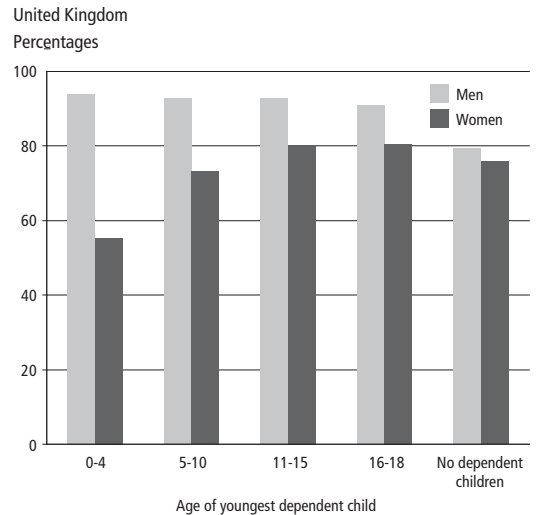
A smaller proportion of lone mothers are in the labour force than mothers who are married or cohabiting. In spring 2003, 56 per cent of lone mothers were economically active, compared with 72 per cent of married or cohabiting women with dependent children.

The age of the youngest dependent child has a striking impact on the economic activity of lone mothers. Only 38 per cent of those with a child aged under 5 were involved in the labour market compared with 60 per cent of those with a child aged 5 to 10. The difference in economic activity rates between lone mothers and married or cohabiting women narrows as the age of the youngest child rises, to almost disappear for women with dependent children aged 16 to 18.

Women spend more time caring for their children than men, and this is true even for full-time workers. In 2000-01 women living in a couple and working full time spent on average nearly four and a half hours on childcare and other activities with their children on a weekday. For men in the same circumstances the comparable figure was just over three and a half hours.

Both men and women working full time spent just over six and a half hours a day with their children at the weekend. Nevertheless, the time with their children is spent in different ways. Women spent around two hours on housework while with their children, compared with 1 hour and 20 minutes spent by men. In contrast, men spent around 1 hour and 20 minutes watching TV in the company of their children, compared with around 50 minutes by women.

Economic activity: by age of youngest dependent child, 2003



Source:

Labour Force Survey, spring 2003, Office for National Statistics; UK Time Use Survey, 2000, Office for National Statistics.

Notes:

Economically active (labour force) – adults (aged 16 or over) in work, or actively looking for and available to start, work.
 Economic activity rate - the percentage of the population there is in the labour force.
 The chart relates to people of working age - men aged 16 to 64 and women aged 16 to 59, and is at spring 2003.
 Dependent children are children aged 0 to 15 and those aged 16 to 18 in full-time education.



Personal Finances

Women's hourly pay is 82% of men's

Women continue to earn less than men in Great Britain. Since 1999 women's hourly earnings have remained at just over 80 per cent of men's earnings.

The gap between men's and women's average hourly earnings among full-time employees narrowed between 2002 and 2003 to the lowest value since records began. In 2003 women's average hourly pay was 82 per cent of men's, compared with 81 per cent in 2002 and 79 per cent in 1993.

While average hourly pay provides a useful comparison between the earnings of men and women, it does not necessarily indicate differences in rates of pay for comparable jobs. As well as engaging in a different mix of occupations, other variations in the working patterns of men and women can affect pay, such as the length of time they have been in their jobs.

Women with children are less likely to be in work and more likely to work part time than those without children (see 'Work and Families') and this influences the proportion of their total income which comes from benefits. For women below pension age and living in a couple in 2001/02, those with children received 14 per cent of their income from benefits compared with 5 per cent for those without children.

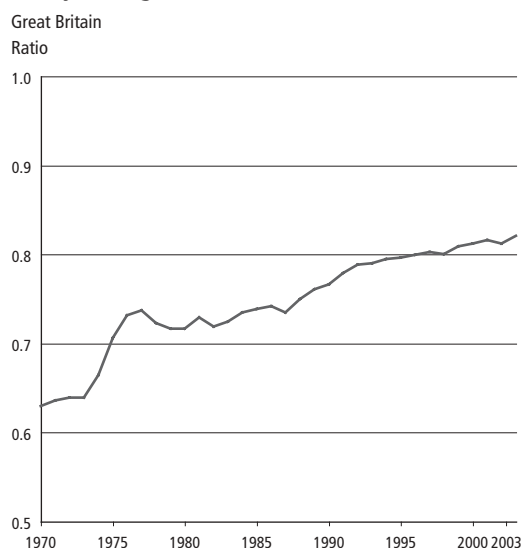
The proportion of income for men below pension age and living in a couple which comes from benefits is similar for both those with and without children, at around 3 per cent. The proportion of men's income from earnings is higher for those with children (80 per cent, compared with 72 per cent for those without children).

Single mothers were in receipt of the highest level of benefits among all people of working age in 2001/02, receiving 37 per cent of their total weekly income from benefits and 42 per cent from earnings. There are no comparable data available for single fathers.

In 2001/02 women over pension age were more likely than men to be receiving benefits and less likely to be receiving income from an occupational or personal pension, reflecting previous employment patterns and previous membership of pension schemes.

Male full-time workers are slightly more likely to contribute to a pension scheme than female full-time workers, although membership of pension schemes has increased slightly for women in recent years compared with a slight reduction for men. The proportion of female full-time employees who had either an occupational or personal pension scheme or both increased from 63 per cent in 1998 to 65 per cent in 2001. The figures for men decreased from 71 per cent to 67 per cent over the same period.

Hourly earnings sex differential



Source:

Individual Incomes, 1996/97-2001/02, Women and Equality Unit;
New Earnings Survey, 2003, Office for National Statistics;
Family Resources Survey, 2001-02, Department for Work and Pensions.

Notes:

Hourly earning sex differential is the ratio of women's to men's gross hourly earnings (excluding overtime) for full-time employees at April each year. Until 1982, women aged 18 and over, men aged 21 and over. From 1983 onwards for employees on adult rates whose pay for the survey period was not affected by absence.
Gross hourly pay excludes overtime and is for full-time employees on adult rates whose pay for the survey week was unaffected by absence. Data are for April each year.
The New Earnings Survey is based on a 1 per cent sample of employees in Great Britain and in 2002 information was collected for the pay period that included 10 April.



Health

Women live almost 5 years longer than men

In 2001 the average life expectancy at birth of females born in the UK was 80 years compared with 76 years for males. However, the gap is smaller in terms of the number of years they can expect to live in good health. Healthy life expectancy for women in 1999 averaged 69 years compared with 67 years for men. Consequently, while women can expect to live longer than men they are also more likely to have more years in poor health.

A higher proportion of men than women in the UK reported their health to be good at all ages. Not surprisingly, among both sexes the proportion of people reporting good health declined with age.

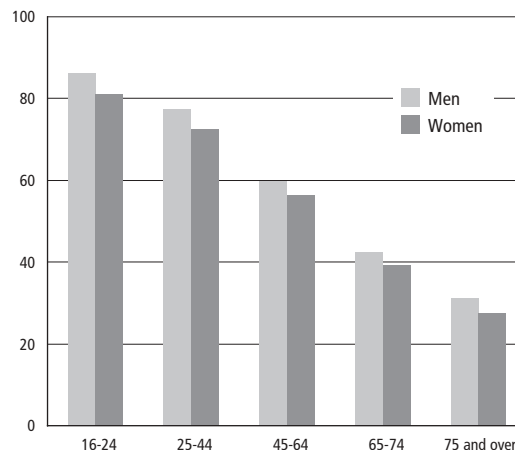
Many people in the older age groups still considered themselves to be in good health, even if they had a limiting long-term illness or disability which restricted their daily activity. Around one in ten of both men and women aged between 65 and 74 who considered themselves in good health had such a disability. Of those aged 75 and over in good health, the percentages reporting such a disability rose to 23 per cent for men and 26 per cent for women.

Causes of death vary between the sexes. Cancers are now the most common cause of death in women and the second most common cause in men, accounting for only slightly fewer deaths in men than circulatory disease (which includes heart disease and stroke). However, as a result of greater falls in deaths from other illnesses, the proportion of deaths caused by cancer has risen. In 2001 cancers were responsible for 28 per cent of male deaths in England and Wales and 24 per cent of female deaths, compared with 16 per cent among both males and females in 1951.

The trends in lung cancer deaths are closely linked to the prevalence of cigarette smoking among men and women in the UK. The decline in smoking among men has led to a reduction in lung cancer deaths (see related links: Health-risk behaviours for more information on smoking patterns). The male lung cancer death rate fell sharply from the mid-1970s, halving between 1976 and 2001. In contrast, the rate among women rose from the 1970s before levelling off in the late 1980s.

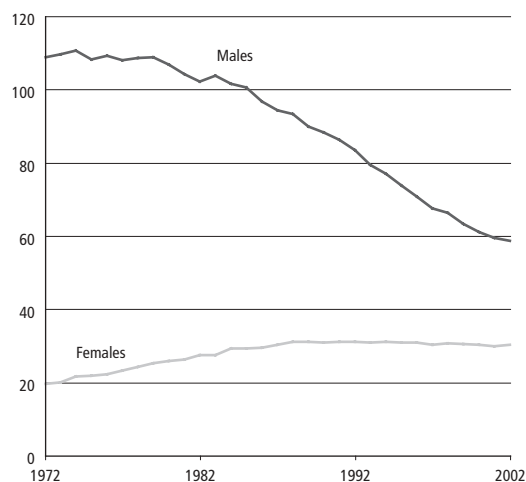
Self-reported good general health of people living in households: by age, April 2001

United Kingdom
Thousands



Death rates from lung cancer

United Kingdom
Rates per 100,000 population



Source:

Census, April 2001, Office for National Statistics, General Register Office for Scotland, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency; Life tables, 2000-02, Government Actuary's Department.

Notes:

Life expectancy at birth: the average number of years which a new born baby could be expected to live if its rates of mortality at each age were those experienced in the year of its birth.

The term disability has been used for limiting long-term illness or disability which restricted daily activities.

Death rates for lung cancer are for all ages and age standardised to the European standard population.



Health Related Behaviour

More overweight men than women

In recent years the proportion of men and women who are obese or overweight has risen. In 2001 over a fifth of men and women (aged 16 and over) in England were classified as obese. This compares with around a sixth of both in 1993. In 2001, although obesity was at similar levels for both men and women, nearly half of men were considered overweight compared with a third of women.

A small proportion of both men and women are underweight: 4 per cent and 6 per cent of men and women, respectively. Those aged 16 to 24 years are far more likely than any other age group to be underweight, at around one in six of both men and women. Young people are also the most likely age group to be of 'desirable' weight, with half of these men and women being so.

Men are almost twice as likely as women to exceed the recommended daily benchmarks for consumption of alcohol. The current Department of Health advice on alcohol is that consumption of between three and four units a day for men and two to three units a day for women should not lead to significant health risks. In 2001 almost two fifths of men aged 16 and over exceeded this recommended limit on their heaviest drinking day in the previous week, compared with just over one fifth of women.

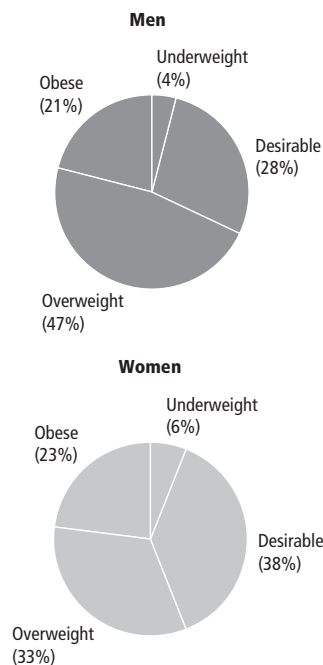
Young people drink less frequently than older people but those aged 16 to 24, particularly young men, were more likely to binge drink. Around 50 per cent of young men in Great Britain exceeded the recommended number of daily units on their heaviest drinking day in 2001, compared with around 40 per cent of women. Among students, there was no difference between the sexes, with around a third of men and women exceeding the recommended levels.

The proportion of men and women who smoke has fallen greatly in the last thirty years or so. In 1974, 51 per cent of men and 41 per cent of women in Great Britain reported that they were regular cigarette smokers. The gap has narrowed so that by 2001 the proportions had fallen to 28 per cent of men and 26 per cent of women. Falls were greater among older age groups.

Young men are more likely than young women to take drugs. Cannabis is the most commonly used drug in England and Wales. In 2001, around a third of men and a fifth of women aged 16 to 24 had used the drug in the last year. Class A drugs (including heroin, cocaine and ecstasy) were used less frequently, but again men were far more likely to use these drugs than women (12 per cent of young men compared with 5 per cent of young women).

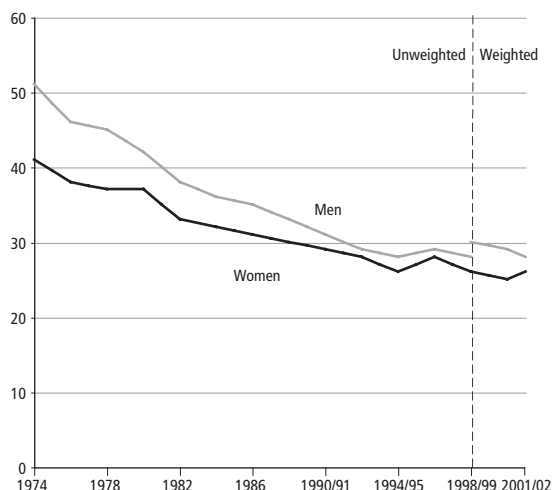
Body mass, 2001

England
Percentages



Prevalence of adult cigarette smoking

Great Britain
Percentages



Source:

Health Survey for England, 2001, Department of Health;
British Crime Survey, 2001/02, Home Office;
General Household Survey, 2001/02, Office for National Statistics.

Notes:

Body Mass Index (BMI): the body mass index for people aged 16 and over standardises weight for height and is calculated as weight (kg)/height (m²). Underweight is defined as a BMI score of 20 or less, desirable between 20 to 25, overweight over 25 to 30 and obese as over 30. Adult cigarette smoking: refers to those aged 16 and over. From 1988 data are for financial years. Data from 1998 are weighted to compensate for non-response and to match known population distributions. Class 'A' drugs: include heroin, cocaine (both cocaine powder and 'crack'), ecstasy, magic mushrooms, LSD and un-prescribed use of methadone.



Lifestyles

Women do more chores than men

In the UK in 2000/01 women spent more time than men on household chores, while men spent more time than women in paid employment.

On average, women spend over 2 hours 30 minutes a day doing housework, cooking, washing up, cleaning and ironing - 1 hour 30 minutes more than men. Both sexes spend similar lengths of time gardening or looking after pets. DIY and car maintenance are the only chores that men, in general, spend more time on than women.

Overall men have an extra half hour of free time each day than women. However, how men and women used their free time varies. The amount of free time they have is also influenced by their employment status.

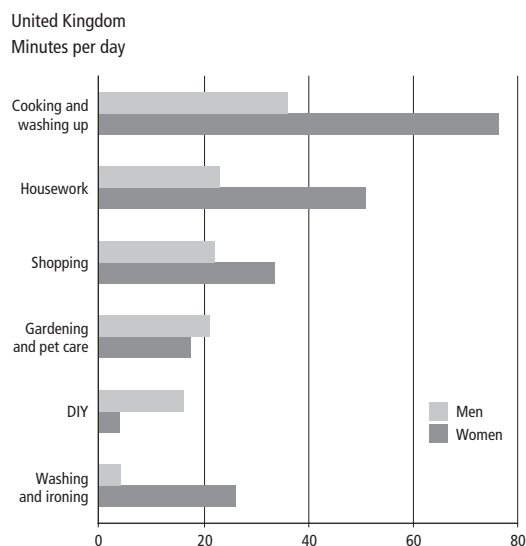
Men in full-time work have more free time on a weekday than women who work full time. Men spend more time than women watching the TV or a video, or listening to the radio. In contrast, women spend more time socialising than men.

At the weekend the amount of free time that people who work full time have increases to just under six hours a day for men and five hours a day for women. Participation in sports and exercise accounts for more of men's free time than women's.

In 2002 over 90 per cent of both men and women said that they were interested in watching the news on TV. Men were more likely to be interested in watching factual programmes than women (89 per cent compared with 79 per cent) and women were more likely than men to be interested in watching drama (88 per cent compared with 73 per cent). Over a third of women expressed interest in watching children's programmes compared with a quarter of men, while three quarters of men were interested in sports programmes compared with a third of women.

In 2002 a slightly higher proportion of men than women read newspapers: 87 per cent compared with 82 per cent. In contrast, a higher proportion of women read magazines: 64 per cent of women compared with 57 per cent of men. Two thirds of men and women said they read a book because the subject matter interested them. Women were more likely than men to act on the recommendations of a friend and were also more likely to read a book to relax.

Division of household chores, 2000/01



Time spent on selected free time activities of full-time workers, 2000/01

United Kingdom
Hours & minutes per day

	Weekday		Weekend	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
TV, video and radio	2:02	1:39	2:52	2:13
Socialising	0:34	0:45	1:24	1:33
Reading	0:15	0:16	0:24	0:27
Games/hobbies /computing	0:14	0:07	0:22	0:12
Sports and exercise	0:11	0:09	0:26	0:15
Arts and cultural events	0:05	0:06	0:17	0:13
Total	3:21	3:02	5:45	4:53

Source:

UK Time Use Survey, 2000, Office for National Statistics;
The Public's View, 2002, Independent Television Commission;
National Reading Campaign Survey, 2002, National Literacy Trust.

Notes:

Time-use data are for adults aged 16 and over. DIY includes vehicle repair and maintenance.
Free time – time spent on activities other than: work, sleep, household tasks, personal care and travel.



Travel

Shopping accounts for 1 in 4 women's trips

Both men and women make roughly the same number of trips each year, over 1,000. There are differences in the reasons for travel. For men, commuting is the most common reason for travelling, while for women it is shopping.

In 1999-2001 men made 65 per cent more business and commuting trips each year than women. Women made 20 per cent more shopping trips a year than men and over 40 per cent more escort trips (where the main purpose is to accompany someone else, such as taking a child to school). These patterns reflect, in part, differences in working and childcare patterns between the sexes (see related page: Work and Family).

Men travel further than women for almost all purposes. The average length of men's trips was 14 kilometres in 1999-2001, compared with 10 kilometres for women. Consequently, men travel considerably further within Great Britain each year than women: an average of 14,800 kilometres in 1999-2001 compared with 9,900 kilometres.

This difference has narrowed in recent years. The distance travelled annually by both sexes increased between 1989-91 and 1999-2001, but the increase for women was greater at 10 per cent than that for men at 4 per cent.

The car is by far the most dominant form of transport for both men and women. In 1999-2001, 67 per cent of trips made by men were by car, compared with 62 per cent of trips made by women. Women are more likely to live in households with no access to a car (25 per cent compared with 17 per cent of men). Women are more likely to walk than men, making around a quarter of their trips on foot, compared with around a fifth for men.

More men than women hold full car driving licences, although the number of women with a licence has gradually increased since the mid-1970s. In 1975-76, 69 per cent of men held a car driving licence, compared with only 29 per cent of women. By 1999-2001 these figures had risen to 82 per cent and 60 per cent, respectively.

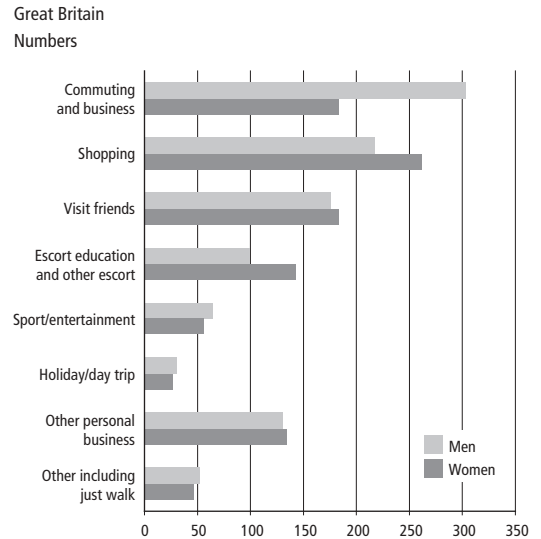
Men are also more likely to be the main driver of a car than women. In 1999-2001, 66 per cent of men were the main driver, compared with 42 per cent of women.

The greater use men make of cars may be one reason why they are more likely than women to be a casualty in a road traffic accident. In 2001 the annual casualty rate (those killed, or seriously or slightly injured) was over 44 per cent higher for men than women.

Men are more than twice as likely as women to be killed or seriously injured in a road accident: 99 per 100,000 men in 2001, compared with 44 per 100,000 women. The rates are higher for men irrespective of the mode of transport they are using.

Although men and women make almost the same number of visits abroad each year for leisure purposes, 25.2 million compared with 24.9 million in 2001, they make many more business trips - 6.7 million compared with 1.5 million for women.

Trips per adult per year: by purpose, 1999-2001



Source:

National Travel Survey, 1999-2001, Department for Transport; Road Casualties Great Britain, 2002, Department for Transport.

Notes:

Adults are aged 16 and over.

Trip: A trip is defined as a one way course of travel having a single main purpose. The purpose of a trip is usually taken to be the activity at the destination, unless that destination is 'home' in which case the purpose is defined by the origin of the trip. Other personal business trips include those for education purposes.

Main driver: The main driver of a household car is the household member which drives the furthest in that car in the course of a year.



Crime

4 in 5 offenders are male

Men commit more crimes than women. In 2002 male offenders in England and Wales outnumbered female offenders by more than four to one.

In 2000 the peak age of offending was 18 for males and 15 for females. Slightly higher proportions of male than female offenders (59 per cent compared with 56 per cent) were aged 21 and over. People aged 35 and over, particularly women, are much less likely to be found guilty of, or cautioned for, indictable offences.

Men outnumber women in all major crime categories. Between 85 and 95 per cent of offenders found guilty of burglary, robbery, drug offences, criminal damage or violence against the person are male. Although the number of offenders are relatively small, 98 per cent of people found guilty of, or cautioned for, sexual offences are male.

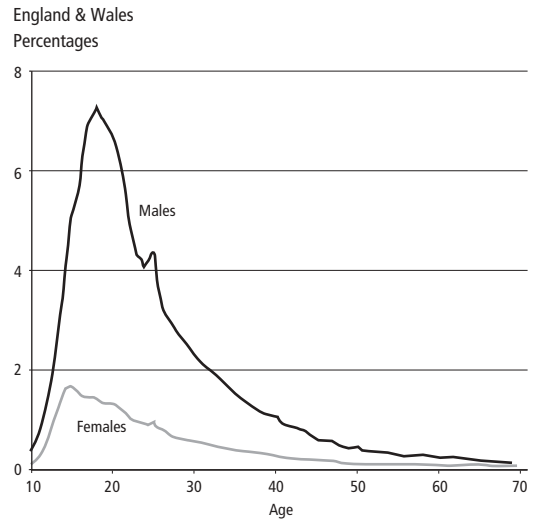
Theft was the most commonly committed offence by both men and women in 2002. For indictable offences, 57 per cent of female offenders were found guilty of or cautioned for theft and handling stolen goods compared with 34 per cent of male offenders.

Men are more likely to be the victims of violent crime than women. Over 5 per cent of men and just under 3 per cent of women aged 16 and over in England and Wales were the victims of some sort of violence in the twelve months prior to interview in 2002/03. Men and women aged 16 to 24 are the most at risk age group. Around 15 per cent of men and 7 per cent of women of this age reporting that some sort of violence had been used against them.

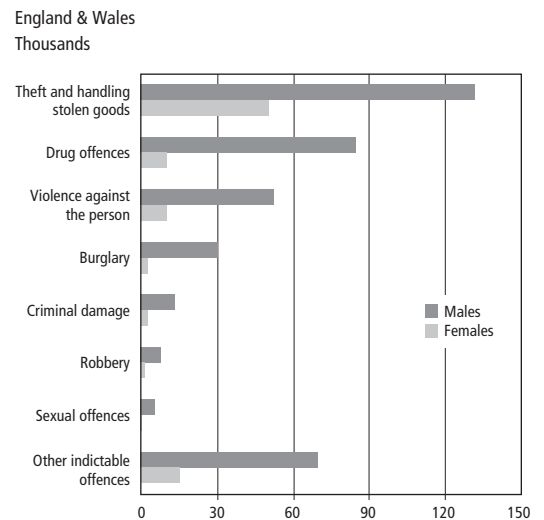
Domestic violence is the only category of violence where the risks for women are higher than for men. Risks of stranger violence remain substantially greater for men than for women, with men four times more likely than women to suffer this form of attack.

Despite being more likely to be the victim of crime, men are less worried than women about most types of crime. Women are between two and three times more likely than men to be very worried about being mugged or physically attacked and five times more likely than men to be very worried about being raped. Roughly equal proportions of men and women are worried about theft of, or from, a car.

Offenders as a percentage of the population: by age, 2000



Offenders found guilty or cautioned for indictable offences by type of offence, 2002



Source:

Criminal Statistics, England and Wales, 2001, Home Office; Crime in England and Wales, 2002/2003, Home Office.

Notes:

The chart on offenders as a percentage of the population relates to people found guilty or cautioned for indictable offences in 2000.

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