

Children On Child Protection Registers 1997/98

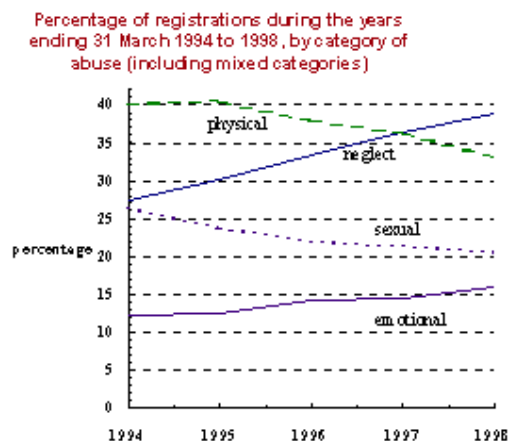
SUMMARY

Main findings for the year ending 31 March 1998

1. There were 31,600 children on child protection registers at 31 March 1998, 2% fewer than a year earlier. This figure represents 28 children per 10,000 population aged under 18.
2. There were 30,000 additions to the registers (registrations) during the year ending 31 March 1998 and 30,200 children were de-registered over the same period, an increase of 3% in registrations and an increase of 5% in de-registrations compared to the previous year.
3. There were more boys than girls on the register at the end of the year, a reversal of the position a decade ago.
4. Younger children were more likely to be on the registers than older children. Of the children on the registers at 31 March 1998, 9% were aged under one, 30% aged one to four and 31% aged five to nine.
5. 8,000 (25%) of the children on the register at 31 March 1998 were also looked after by local authorities.

6. 39% of registrations during 1997/98 related to children considered at risk of neglect; this proportion has been rising steadily since 1994. In contrast the use of the categories physical injury and sexual abuse has fallen (see chart).

7. 19% of children registered during 1997/98 had been registered before; this proportion has increased slowly since 1992.



8. 13% of children leaving the register had been on it for over 2 years; this proportion has declined in recent years.

9. The proportion of child protection conferences not leading to registration continues to fall.