

Report 08: Changes in children's and young people's mental health symptoms: March 2020 to January 2021

Date: 17 February 2021

**Report Authors: Simona Skripkauskaitė,
Adrienne Shum, Samantha Pearcey, Jasmine
Raw, Polly Waite and Cathy Creswell**



Cite this report: Skripkauskaitė, S., Shum, A., Pearcey, S., Raw, J., Waite, P., & Creswell, C. (2021). *Changes in children's and young people's mental health symptoms: March 2020 to January 2021 (Report 08)*. Co-SPACE study. <https://cospaceoxford.org/findings/changes-in-children-mental-health-symptoms-from-march-2020-to-jan-2021/>

For further information or to request specific analyses, please visit www.cospaceoxford.org/ or contact the research team at co-space@psy.ox.ac.uk

The Co-SPACE Study

Background

COVID-19 has caused major disruptions to families' lives in many ways, including through social distancing, home learning requirements, and lockdown. This is also a rapidly changing situation where different pressures have arisen and continue to arise for children, young people and their families over time.

The Co-SPACE project is tracking the mental health of school-aged children and young people aged 4-16 years (at the beginning of the study) throughout the COVID-19 crisis. An online survey is sent out and completed on a monthly basis by parents/carers and young people (if aged 11-16 years at baseline) throughout the pandemic. The study has full ethical and data protection approval (ethical approval ref: R69060) and is fully GDPR compliant.

The findings will help identify what protects children and young people from deteriorating mental health over time, and at particular stress points. Findings are being shared directly with health and education services to inform the development and provision of effective support for children and families.

Recruitment

The study sample has been recruited through a variety of means, including social media, distribution through partner organisations, networks and charities, the media and targeted online advertising. The self-selecting nature of recruitment means that *this will not be a nationally representative sample*. In the current report, 91.7 % of 8,225 participants included were female. Furthermore, the majority of the sample was employed, either part-time (35.3 %) or full-time (36.4 %), had an average income of >16,000 (83.9 %), were white (92.7 %), and resided in Southern England (46.5 %). Further information about participants' characteristics can be found at the end of the report.

We remain keen to recruit as many families as possible to the study. Parents/carers can sign up and take part at any point: <https://cospaceoxford.com/survey>

Funding

This research is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) as part of the UK Research and Innovation's rapid response to COVID-19 and the Westminster Foundation, and supported by the NIHR Oxford Health Biomedical Research Centre, the Oxford and Thames Valley NIHR Applied Research Consortium and the UKRI Emerging Minds Network Plus.

Focus of this report

We review parent/carer reports of their children’s mental health symptoms at monthly intervals from March 2020 to January 2021. This report focuses, in particular, on not previously examined changes between November 2020 and January 2021 (see [Report 6](#) for children’s mental health symptoms from March to October 2020)¹.

Participants

To date, over 12,500 parents/carers and 1,300 adolescents have taken part in the Co-SPACE survey at baseline. We continue to collect data at baseline and on a monthly basis.

This report provides an overview of monthly data from 8,225 parents/carers. These participants completed² the survey at least once since the start of the UK lockdown (between 30/03/2020 and 31/01/2021). Further information about overall participant characteristics can be found at the end of the report (Appendix A).

Participants were able to join the study at any point from March 2020. They then received each follow up questionnaire every month after completing the baseline survey. Of the overall sample, 4,557 (55 %) have completed the questionnaire twice or more (up to ten times so far). Information on characteristics of participants included each month can also be seen at the end of the report (Appendix B). Each month represents the surveys completed at any point during that calendar month.

Data analysed

In this report, we focus on the following mental health outcomes as measured by the Strengths & Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ). This is a well-validated behavioural screening questionnaire. It exists in several versions allowing both reporting by parents/carers (the focus of this report) and self-reporting by adolescents.

To examine ‘caseness’ (see below) we also used the SDQ impact supplement, which assesses impairment of the identified problems across four domains (the child’s home life, friendships, school-life and leisure activities) and distress. Impact items are scored on a 4 point scale from 0 if either “not at all” or “only a little”, 1 if “quite a lot” and 2 if “a great deal”. Scores on the impairment and distress items are totalled, leading to a maximum total impact score of 10.

The following subscales were used:

¹ Note. Report 6 did not include Co-SPACE participants residing in Scotland. Therefore, minor differences in demographic information for March to October as well as average symptom severity between the reports may be present.

² ‘Completion’ of the survey is based on participants having completed items up to and including the pre-defined main outcome measure (the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire – parent reporting on child).

- **Behavioural difficulties** (conduct problems subscale): items relate to the child doing what they are asked, having tantrums, fighting, lying or stealing things (e.g. whether the child “often lies, or cheats”, or is “generally obedient, usually does what adults request”);
- **Emotional difficulties** (emotional symptoms subscale): items relate to the child being worried, afraid, unhappy, clingy and having physical symptoms of anxiety (e.g. whether the child is “Often unhappy, down-hearted or tearful”, or has “many worries, often seems worried”);
- **Restless/attentional difficulties** (hyperactivity/inattention subscale): items relate to the child being restless, fidgety, distractible, impulsive and having a good attention span (e.g. whether the child “sees tasks through to the end, good attention span”, or is “restless, overactive, cannot stay still for long”).

Parent-reported behavioural, emotional, and restless/attentional difficulties were looked at in terms of:

- **Symptom severity** (i.e., continuous SDQ scores) - each subscale consists of 5 items which are summed to compute a total subscale score (ranging from 0-10, with 10 indicating the most severe difficulties).
- **‘Caseness’** (i.e., SDQ scores categorised on the basis of symptoms/interference) – a combination of SDQ symptom score and rated interference in daily life were used to determine the likelihood (i.e., possible or probable) of meeting diagnostic criteria for an emotion problems (e.g. anxiety or depression), a conduct problems (e.g. conduct disorder or oppositional defiant disorder) or hyperactivity/inattention problems (e.g. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder; ADHD). In this report, we categorised participants as being either ‘possible’/‘probable’ or ‘unlikely’ cases, to err on the side of being inclusive to those who might be a potential ‘case’.

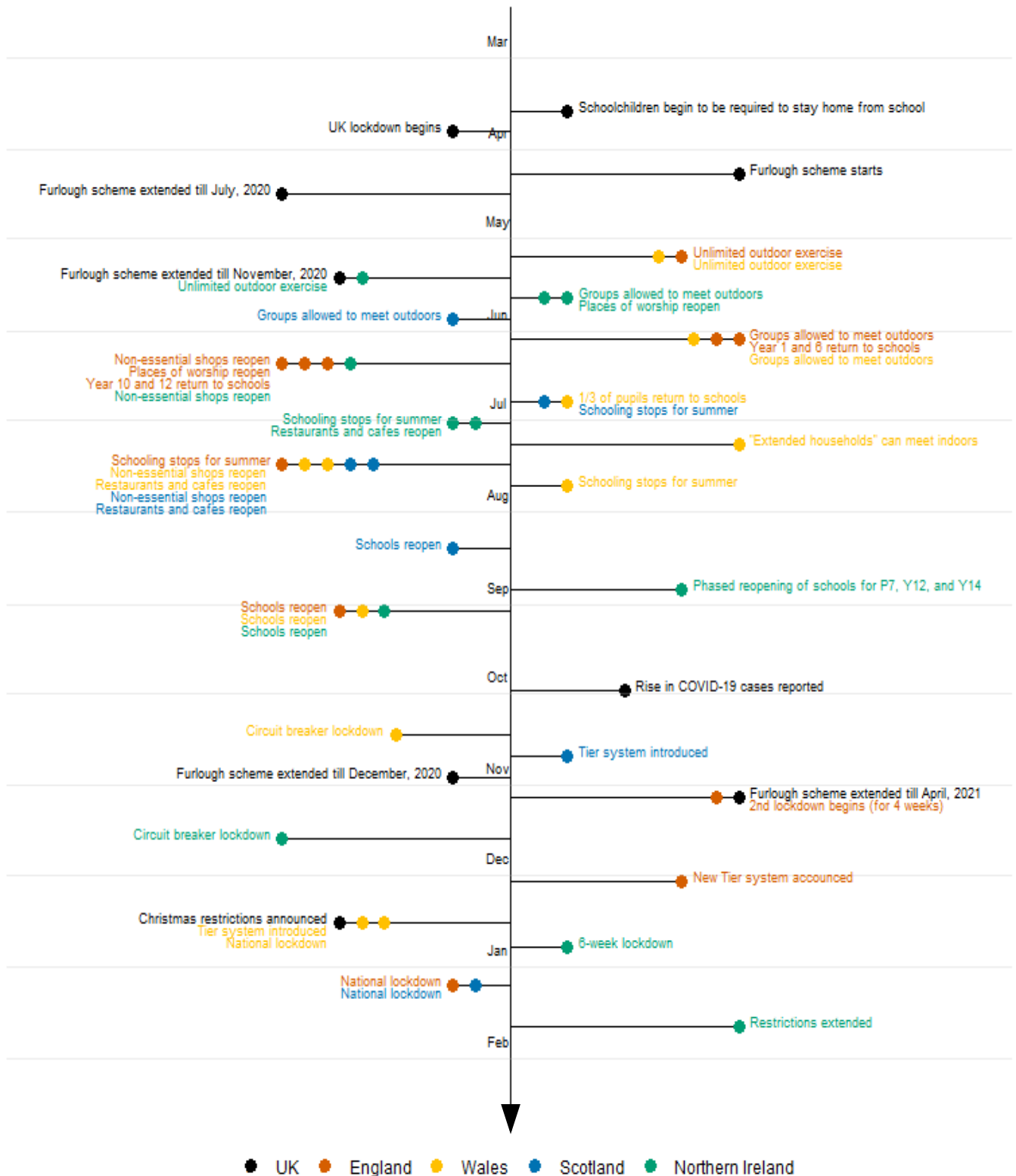
These outcomes were examined for groups based on:

1. **Age** (primary school aged [4-10 years] or secondary school aged [11-17 years]);
2. **Age and gender** (primary aged female or male and secondary aged female or male³);
3. **Special educational needs and/or neurodevelopmental disorders** (SEN/ND or no SEN/ND)⁴;
4. **Household income** (more or less than £16,000 per year, i.e., below the poverty line);
5. **Single adult household** (single or non-single adult household);
6. **Presence of siblings** (living with siblings or without siblings).

³ A small number (0.7 %) of parents/carers indicated “Other/prefer not to say” option when reporting on their child’s gender. Due to the small number these cases were excluded from the ‘Age and Gender’ analysis.

⁴ **The parents/carers are asked to report whether the child has a diagnosis of Attention-Deficit Disorder (ADD)/Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). To reflect the diagnostic criteria in this question, we use an umbrella term of neurodevelopmental disorders in line with DSM-5.**

Timeline of significant events



Key findings

Based on parent/carer reports within the Co-SPACE sample:

- **Behavioural, emotional, and restless/attentional difficulties have increased again** since the latest national lockdown was introduced in January. This was especially the case in **primary school aged children** (4-10 years old).
- Proportion of secondary **school aged girls** with **emotional problems has increased** in recent months, and in January 2021 these were at the highest level reported for our sample since March 2020.
- Children with **SEN/ND** and those from **low-income** or **single adult households** have continued to **show elevated mental health symptoms throughout the pandemic**, with higher levels of behavioural, emotional, and restless/attentional difficulties.
- **Not having a sibling** was associated with **higher levels of restless/attentional difficulties throughout the pandemic** (but was not associated with differences in behavioural or emotional symptoms).

Findings

Notes for interpretation

In the figures, the dots represent the average SDQ scores for all surveys completed within that calendar month. As each follow-up survey asks parents/carers to report on experiences in the past month, parents/carers will be partially reporting on some of the experiences of the previous month.

The shaded areas in the figures represent the confidence intervals (95% CI) around these scores, which indicate the range of values that the true population average score may fall in. As average scores are heavily affected by the variability in the data, a larger sample size will result in narrower and more accurate estimations of the population mean. This means that the true population mean is less accurately represented for the smaller groups (e.g. SEN/ND and <£16,000 household income groups in this report). Overlapping confidence intervals should be interpreted with caution.

The accompanying tables provide further information on the variability of the data by reporting means and standard deviations (SD) of parent reported difficulties. Standard deviations represent how spread out individual responses are around the average scores. A low standard deviation indicates that the values tend to be close to the average score, while a high standard deviation indicates that the values are spread out over a wider range. Changes in average scores with high SDs should also be interpreted cautiously.

Explanation of the findings is provided based on statistical analysis rather than just graphical representation. Each analysis evaluated the effect of group and/or change from month to month. When possible, within family dependency over time was included in the analysis (i.e. over time scores from one family will be more similar than another). This allowed a more reliable estimation of month-to-month changes, where changes were mostly modelled based on full data (in this case, change in people who have both data points at each month-to-month comparison), but adjusted for partial and missing data too.

Additionally, this report investigates SDQ 'caseness'. Figures in this part of the analysis represent the percentage of participants that month who were classified as possible/probable cases for conduct, emotional, or hyperactivity/inattention problems as opposed to those where such problems are less likely. Please note that the sample of participants slightly differed each month (see Appendix B). Thus, small changes in percentages could reflect changes in sample rather than pandemic-induced effects and should be interpreted with caution.

1. Age

Figure 1. Means and 95% CI's of parents/carers reported SDQ scores per month and age

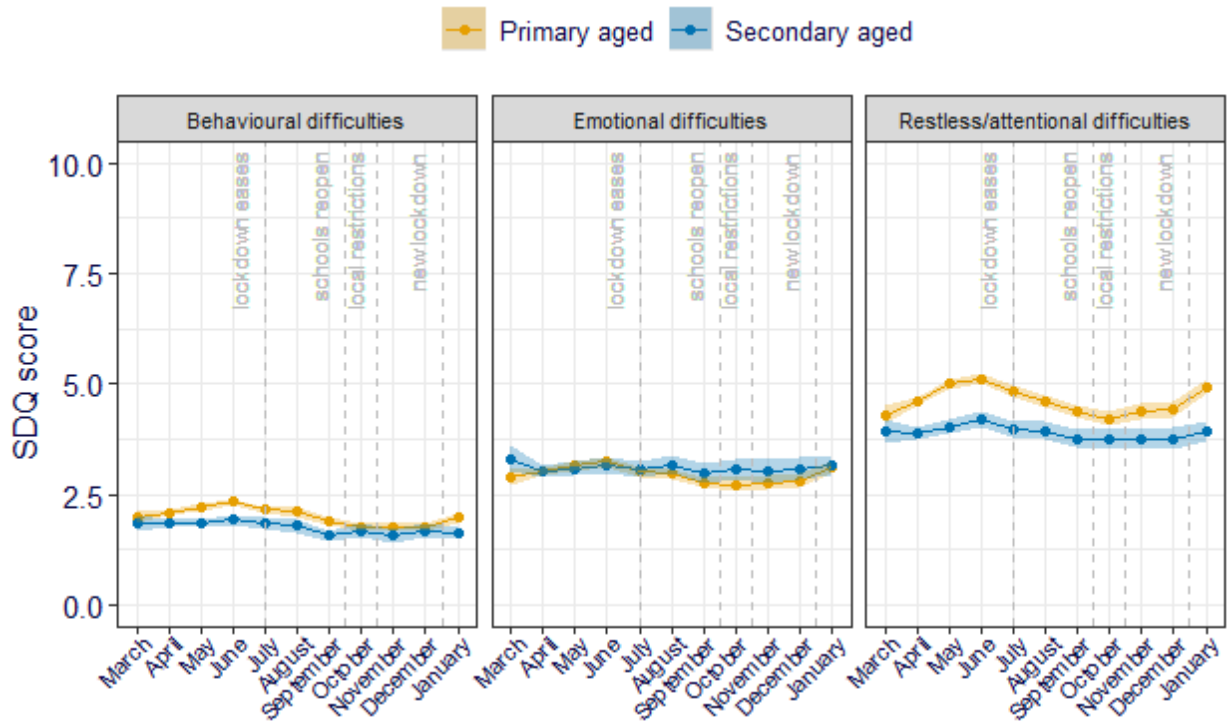
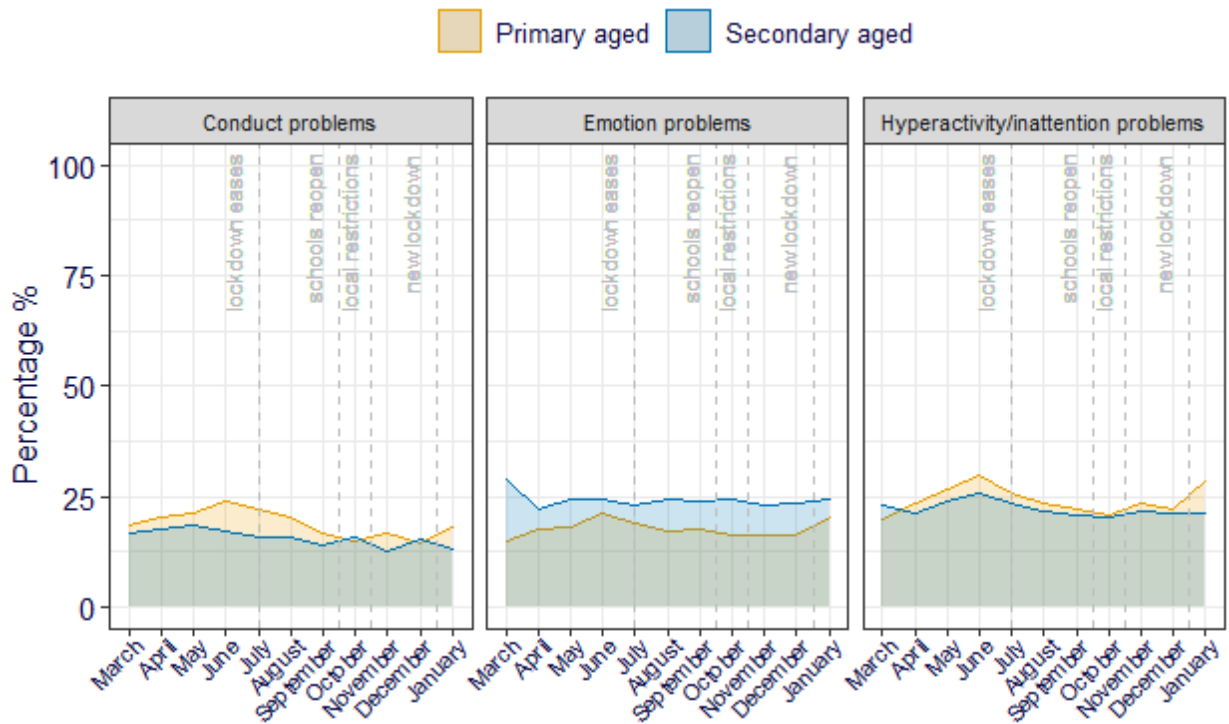


Figure 2. Percentage of possible/probable SDQ cases per month and age group



On average (throughout the pandemic), parents/carers reported higher levels of behavioural and restless/attentional difficulties for primary (4-10 years old) than secondary (11-17 years old) school aged children. However, they reported higher levels of emotional difficulties for secondary than primary school aged children.

Between October and December 2020 (see [Report 6](#) for interpretation of data from March to October 2020), behavioural and emotional difficulties were relatively stable in both age groups. However, from December 2020 to January 2021 there was an increase in reported symptom severity, especially in the primary school aged children. Restless/attentional symptoms were reported to have increased from November onwards in both groups, but especially in the primary school aged children.

According to parents/carers who took part in the study in January, 18.2% of primary aged school children and 12.9% of secondary school aged children were classified as possible/probable cases for conduct problems. More primary (28.5%) than secondary (21.2%) school aged children were classified as possible/probable cases for hyperactivity/inattention problems. However, more secondary aged school children (24.2%) were classified as possible/probable cases for emotional problems, in comparison to 20.4% of primary school aged children.

Table 1. Means and standard deviations (SD) of parent/carer reported SDQ scores per month and age

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Behavioural difficulties											
Primary aged											
Mean	1.98	2.09	2.22	2.33	2.15	2.11	1.90	1.75	1.79	1.77	1.97
(SD)	(1.84)	(1.86)	(1.84)	(1.89)	(1.85)	(1.86)	(1.78)	(1.74)	(1.74)	(1.68)	(1.81)
Secondary aged											
Mean	1.86	1.87	1.85	1.93	1.85	1.79	1.56	1.69	1.57	1.68	1.63
(SD)	(1.90)	(1.98)	(1.83)	(1.94)	(1.89)	(1.92)	(1.76)	(1.88)	(1.83)	(1.86)	(1.82)
Emotional difficulties											
Primary aged											
Mean	2.88	3.02	3.15	3.24	3.02	2.96	2.78	2.73	2.77	2.82	3.13
(SD)	(2.42)	(2.47)	(2.55)	(2.57)	(2.49)	(2.51)	(2.58)	(2.52)	(2.58)	(2.51)	(2.55)
Secondary aged											
Mean	3.32	3.04	3.09	3.15	3.07	3.18	2.99	3.08	3.02	3.08	3.16
(SD)	(2.99)	(2.71)	(2.79)	(2.85)	(2.83)	(2.86)	(2.87)	(3.00)	(2.94)	(2.96)	(2.89)
Restless/attention difficulties											
Primary aged											
Mean	4.30	4.62	5.01	5.12	4.83	4.63	4.38	4.21	4.38	4.43	4.95
(SD)	(2.70)	(2.74)	(2.74)	(2.78)	(2.74)	(2.78)	(2.78)	(2.78)	(2.84)	(2.80)	(2.81)
Secondary aged											
Mean	3.93	3.89	4.05	4.21	3.97	3.95	3.77	3.74	3.75	3.77	3.94
(SD)	(2.84)	(2.75)	(2.78)	(2.78)	(2.79)	(2.71)	(2.67)	(2.77)	(2.73)	(2.78)	(2.73)

Table 2. Percentage of possible/probable SDQ cases per month and age group

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Conduct problems											
Primary aged											
Probable/possible %	18.4	20.2	21.1	23.9	22.1	20.3	16.6	14.8	16.5	14.6	18.2
Unlikely %	81.6	79.8	78.9	76.1	77.9	79.7	83.4	85.2	83.5	85.4	81.8
Secondary aged											
Probable/possible %	16.7	17.6	18.4	17.2	15.9	15.8	13.8	15.9	12.7	15.4	12.9
Unlikely %	83.3	82.4	81.4	82.8	84.1	84.2	86.2	84.1	87.3	84.6	87.1
Emotional problems											
Primary aged											
Probable/possible %	15.0	17.5	18.2	21.3	18.9	17.1	17.5	16.1	16.3	16.2	20.4
Unlikely %	85.0	82.5	81.8	78.7	81.1	82.9	82.5	83.9	83.7	83.8	79.6
Secondary aged											
Probable/possible %	28.7	22.0	24.2	24.6	23.2	24.6	23.8	24.2	23.1	23.5	24.2
Unlikely %	71.3	78.0	75.8	75.4	76.8	75.4	76.2	75.8	76.9	76.5	75.8
Hyperactivity/inattention problems											
Primary aged											
Probable/possible %	19.8	23.6	26.8	30.0	25.7	23.5	22.3	20.8	23.3	22.1	28.5
Unlikely %	80.1	76.4	73.2	70.0	74.3	76.5	77.7	79.2	76.7	77.9	71.5
Secondary aged											
Probable/possible %	23.2	21.5	24.1	25.6	23.3	21.9	20.7	20.4	21.7	21.4	21.2
Unlikely %	76.8	78.5	75.8	74.4	76.7	78.1	79.3	79.6	78.1	78.6	78.8

2. Age and Gender

(a) Primary aged by gender

Figure 3. Means and 95% CI's of primary school aged children's parents/carers reported SDQ scores per month and gender

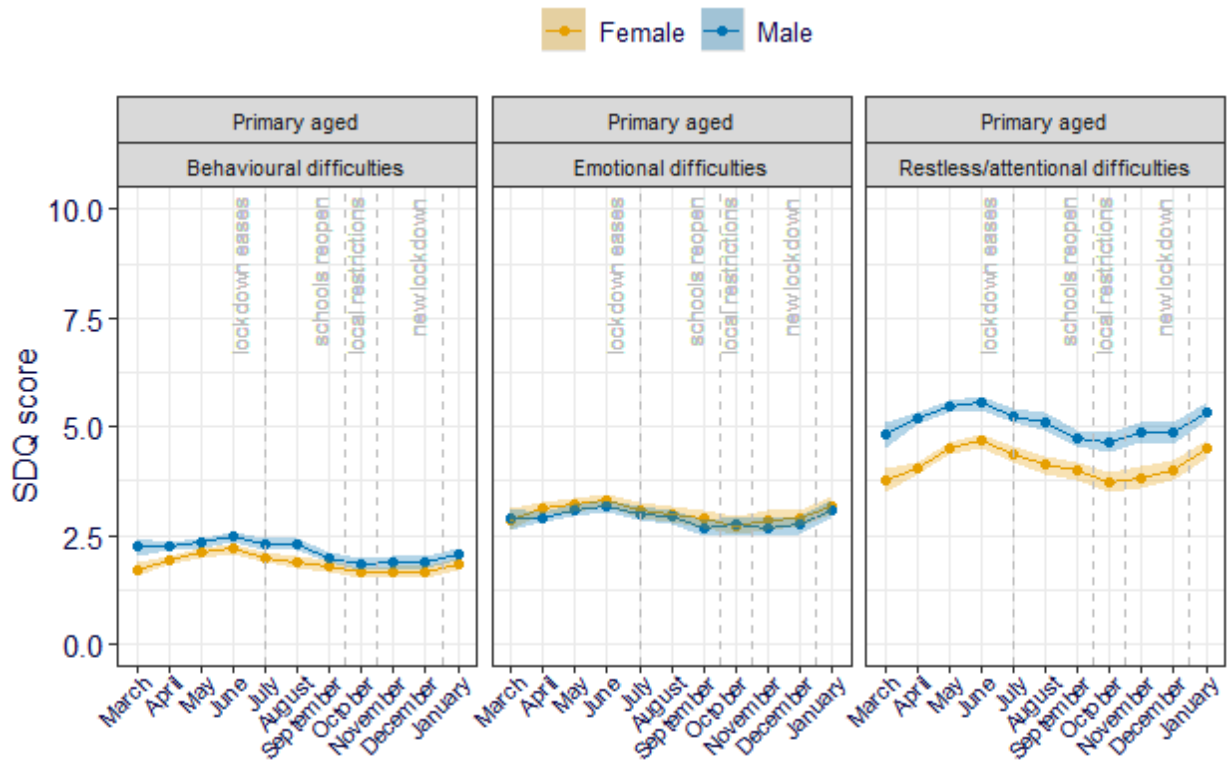
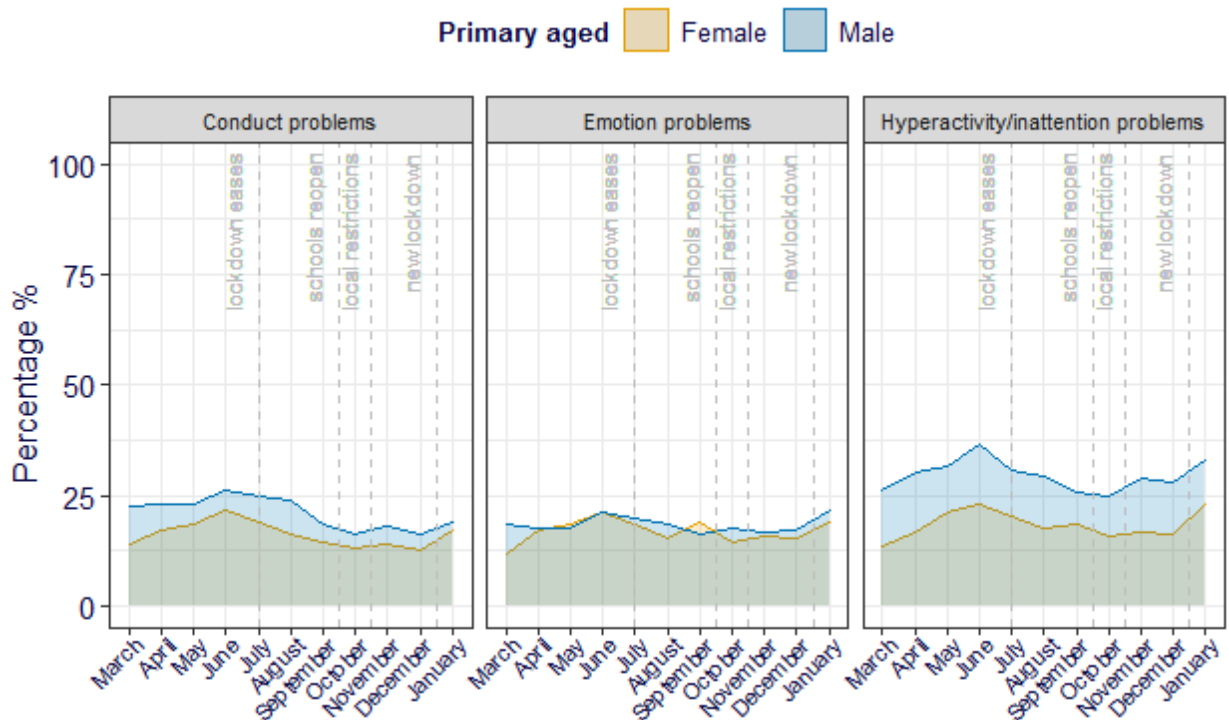


Figure 4. Percentage of possible/probable SDQ cases in primary school aged children per month and gender



The patterns of difficulties over time were broadly similar for primary-aged boys and girls. For both, restless/attentional difficulties increased between November and January and behavioural and emotional difficulties increased from December to January.

While on average, parents/carers reported similar levels of emotional difficulties for both groups, they reported higher levels of behavioural and restless/attentional difficulties for primary school aged boys than girls.

Relatively similar proportion of primary-aged boys and girls in January were classified as possible/probable cases for conduct (male: 19%, female: 17%) or emotional problems (male: 21.5%, female: 19.2%). However, more boys (33%) than girls (23.1%) were classified as possible/probable cases for hyperactivity/inattention problems.

Table 3. Means and standard deviations (SD) of primary school aged children’s parent/carer reported SDQ scores per month and gender

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Behavioural difficulties											
Primary aged girls											
Mean	1.72	1.92	2.10	2.20	1.99	1.90	1.79	1.64	1.67	1.64	1.86
(SD)	(1.64)	(1.81)	(1.84)	(1.86)	(1.79)	(1.76)	(1.74)	(1.63)	(1.67)	(1.64)	(1.83)
Primary aged boys											
Mean	2.24	2.27	2.33	2.48	2.30	2.31	2.00	1.84	1.87	1.90	2.06
(SD)	(1.99)	(1.89)	(1.83)	(1.92)	(1.88)	(1.93)	(1.82)	(1.80)	(1.77)	(1.71)	(1.79)
Emotional difficulties											
Primary aged girls											
Mean	2.86	3.13	3.21	3.31	3.08	3.01	2.89	2.72	2.85	2.90	3.18
(SD)	(2.39)	(2.55)	(2.63)	(2.63)	(2.51)	(2.56)	(2.68)	(2.53)	(2.64)	(2.44)	(2.54)
Primary aged boys											
Mean	2.88	2.92	3.08	3.18	3.00	2.93	2.68	2.74	2.68	2.75	3.10
(SD)	(2.46)	(2.39)	(2.47)	(2.50)	(2.47)	(2.47)	(2.49)	(2.53)	(2.52)	(2.57)	(2.55)
Restless/attention difficulties											
Primary aged girls											
Mean	3.78	4.03	4.50	4.67	4.38	4.13	3.99	3.72	3.84	4.00	4.48
(SD)	(2.57)	(2.56)	(2.70)	(2.74)	(2.71)	(2.68)	(2.75)	(2.78)	(2.67)	(2.69)	(2.77)
Primary aged boys											
Mean	4.82	5.20	5.47	5.54	5.26	5.11	4.73	4.65	4.88	4.85	5.34
(SD)	(2.73)	(2.78)	(2.68)	(2.76)	(2.69)	(2.80)	(2.78)	(2.71)	(2.90)	(2.85)	(2.77)

Table 4. Percentage of possible/probable SDQ cases in primary school aged children per month and gender

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Conduct problems											
Primary aged girls											
Probable/possible %	14.2	17.1	18.7	21.6	19.1	16.3	14.5	13.0	14.1	12.9	17.0
Unlikely %	85.8	82.9	81.3	78.4	80.8	83.7	85.5	87.0	85.9	87.1	83.0
Primary aged boys											
Probable/possible %	22.6	23.2	23.1	26.4	25.0	24.0	18.5	16.1	18.1	16.4	19.0
Unlikely %	77.4	76.7	76.9	73.6	75.0	76.0	81.5	83.9	81.9	83.6	81.0
Emotional problems											
Primary aged girls											
Probable/possible %	11.9	17.1	18.7	21.2	18.3	15.4	18.8	14.3	15.9	15.2	19.2
Unlikely %	88.1	82.9	81.3	78.8	81.7	84.6	81.2	85.7	84.1	84.8	80.8
Primary aged boys											
Probable/possible %	18.4	17.8	17.5	21.4	19.7	18.6	16.3	17.7	16.8	17.3	21.5
Unlikely %	81.6	82.2	82.4	78.6	80.3	81.4	83.7	82.3	83.2	82.7	78.5
Hyperactivity/inattention problems											
Primary aged girls											
Probable/possible %	13.6	16.7	21.1	23.2	20.3	17.6	18.5	15.7	16.7	16.1	23.1
Unlikely %	86.1	83.2	78.9	76.8	79.7	82.4	81.5	84.3	83.3	83.9	76.9
Primary aged boys											
Probable/possible %	26.1	30.3	31.9	36.5	30.7	29.3	25.6	25.1	29.1	28.1	33.0
Unlikely %	73.9	69.7	68.1	63.5	69.3	70.7	74.4	74.9	70.9	71.9	67.0

(b) Secondary aged by gender

Figure 5. Means and 95% CI's of secondary school aged children's parents/carers reported SDQ scores per month and gender

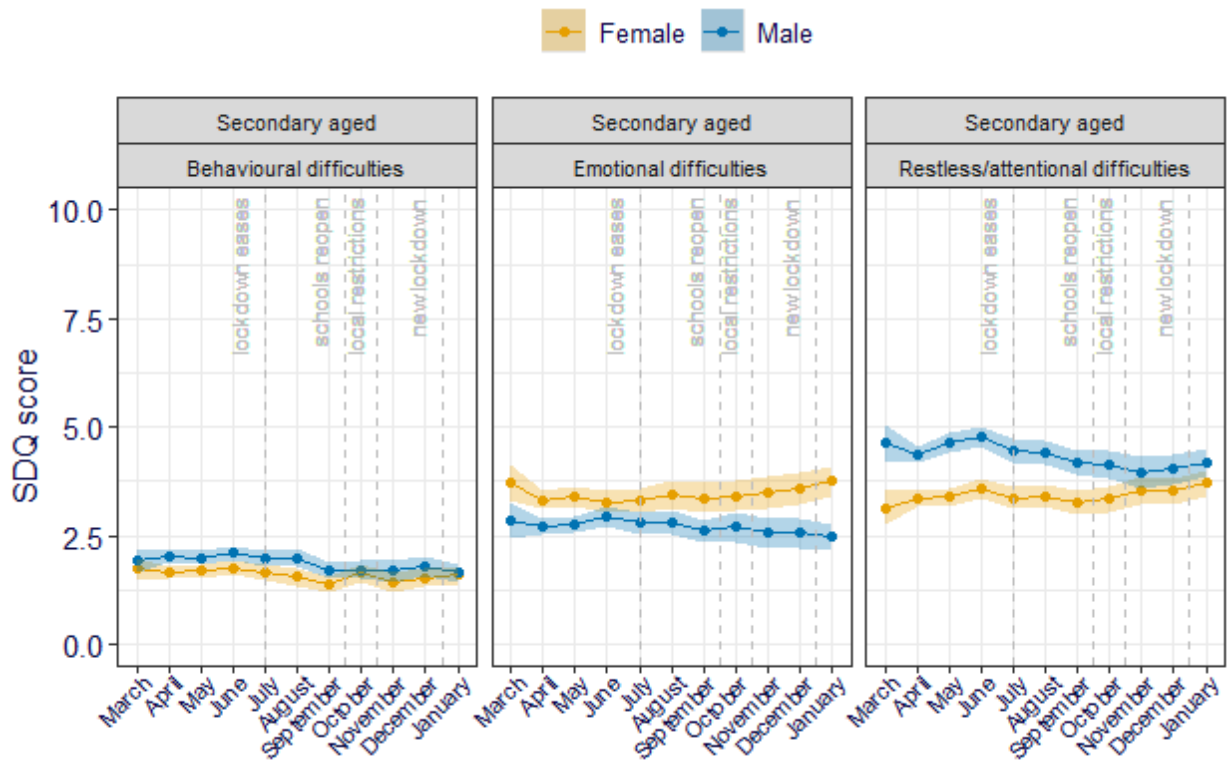
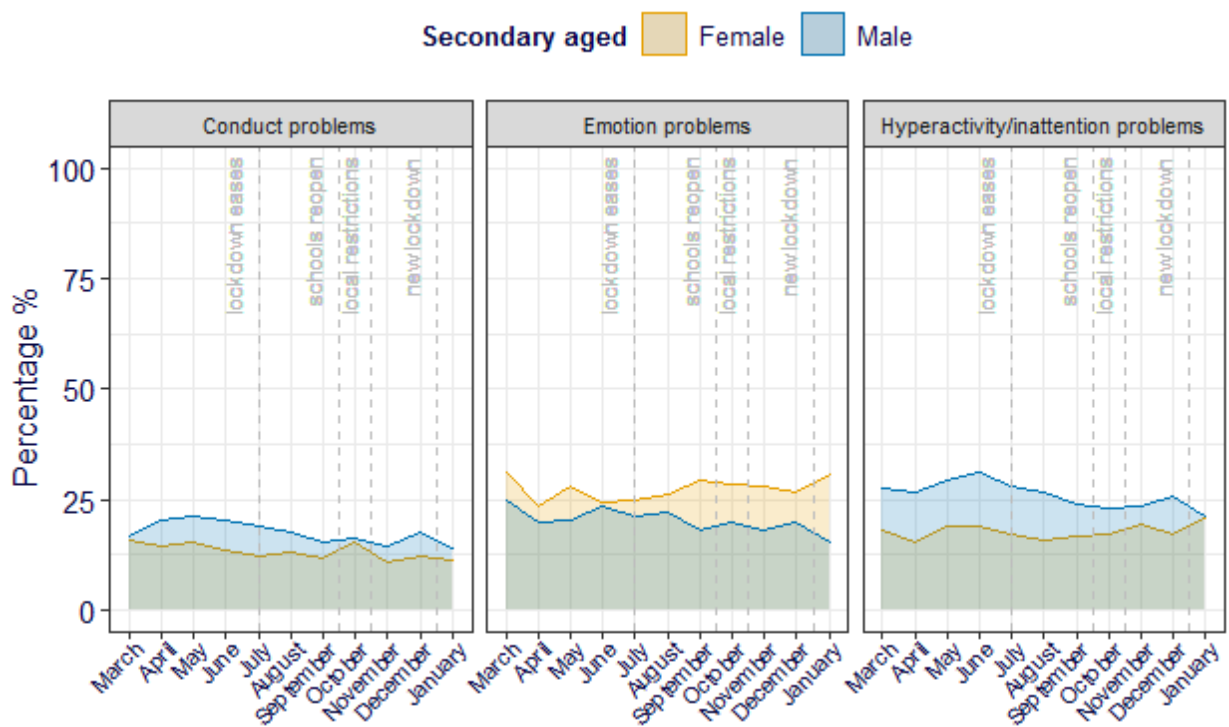


Figure 6. Percentage of possible/probable SDQ cases in secondary school aged children per month and gender



On average, parents/carers reported higher levels of behavioural and restless/attentional difficulties for secondary school aged boys than girls, but higher levels of emotional difficulties for girls than boys.

Levels of behavioural and restless/attentional difficulties have remained relatively stable since October for both secondary school aged boys and girls. However, for both groups, emotional difficulties were reported to slightly increase from October to November.

Similar percentages of secondary school aged boys (21.5%) and girls (20.7%) were classified as possible/probable cases for hyperactivity/inattention problems in January. Slightly more boys (14.2%) than girls (11.5%) were classified as possible/probable cases for conduct problems. However, twice as many girls (30.8%) as boys (15.6%) in this age group were classified as possible/probable cases for emotional problems in January.

Table 5. Means and standard deviations (SD) of secondary school aged children’s parent/carer reported SDQ scores per month and gender

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Behavioural difficulties											
Secondary aged girls											
Mean	1.74	1.66	1.69	1.76	1.68	1.55	1.39	1.65	1.44	1.55	1.60
(SD)	(1.76)	(1.84)	(1.73)	(1.86)	(1.81)	(1.80)	(1.67)	(1.86)	(1.75)	(1.75)	(1.74)
Secondary aged boys											
Mean	1.95	2.05	2.00	2.10	1.99	1.99	1.71	1.72	1.69	1.80	1.64
(SD)	(2.00)	(2.09)	(1.90)	(2.00)	(1.96)	(1.99)	(1.83)	(1.89)	(1.92)	(1.95)	(1.86)
Emotional difficulties											
Secondary aged girls											
Mean	3.73	3.32	3.42	3.28	3.31	3.45	3.38	3.42	3.49	3.59	3.76
(SD)	(2.97)	(2.77)	(2.85)	(2.87)	(2.91)	(2.90)	(3.04)	(3.05)	(2.98)	(3.04)	(2.99)
Secondary aged boys											
Mean	2.84	2.73	2.76	2.94	2.80	2.81	2.60	2.70	2.57	2.57	2.47
(SD)	(2.89)	(2.60)	(2.68)	(2.76)	(2.71)	(2.74)	(2.65)	(2.88)	(2.84)	(2.79)	(2.64)
Restless/attention difficulties											
Secondary aged girls											
Mean	3.15	3.35	3.39	3.58	3.38	3.43	3.28	3.35	3.54	3.52	3.71
(SD)	(2.64)	(2.49)	(2.52)	(2.58)	(2.53)	(2.45)	(2.49)	(2.63)	(2.58)	(2.56)	(2.68)
Secondary aged boys											
Mean	4.64	4.36	4.64	4.79	4.48	4.41	4.19	4.13	3.96	4.03	4.19
(SD)	(2.85)	(2.89)	(2.88)	(2.83)	(2.89)	(2.87)	(2.75)	(2.85)	(2.84)	(2.95)	(2.78)

Table 6. Percentage of possible/probable SDQ cases in secondary school aged children per month and gender

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Conduct problems											
Secondary aged girls											
Probable/possible %	15.8	14.5	15.2	13.8	12.4	13.3	11.6	15.5	10.8	12.4	11.5
Unlikely %	84.2	85.5	84.7	86.2	87.6	86.7	88.4	84.5	89.2	87.6	88.5
Secondary aged boys											
Probable/possible %	16.8	20.4	21.4	20.3	18.8	17.6	15.6	16.1	14.6	17.8	14.2
Unlikely %	83.2	79.6	78.4	79.7	81.2	82.4	84.4	83.9	85.4	82.2	85.8
Emotional problems											
Secondary aged girls											
Probable/possible %	31.1	23.7	28.1	24.4	24.7	26.4	29.2	28.3	28.2	26.7	30.8
Unlikely %	68.9	76.3	71.9	75.6	75.3	73.6	70.8	71.7	71.8	73.3	69.2
Secondary aged boys											
Probable/possible %	25	19.9	20.2	23.4	21.1	22.1	18.3	19.7	18.1	20.1	15.6
Unlikely %	75	80	79.8	76.6	78.9	77.9	81.7	80.3	81.9	79.9	84.4
Hyperactivity/inattention problems											
Secondary aged girls											
Probable/possible %	18	15.5	18.7	19.2	17.4	15.9	16.7	17.2	19.5	17.1	20.7
Unlikely %	82	84.5	81.1	80.8	82.6	84.1	83.3	82.8	80.1	82.9	79.3
Secondary aged boys											
Probable/possible %	27.6	26.6	29.2	31.4	28.1	26.9	24	23	23.6	25.7	21.5
Unlikely %	72.4	73.4	70.8	68.6	71.9	73.1	76	77	76.4	74.3	78.5

3. Special Educational Needs and Neurodevelopmental Disorders

Figure 7. Means and 95% CI's of parents/carers reported SDQ scores per month and Special Educational Needs (SEN) or Neurodevelopmental Disorders (ND)

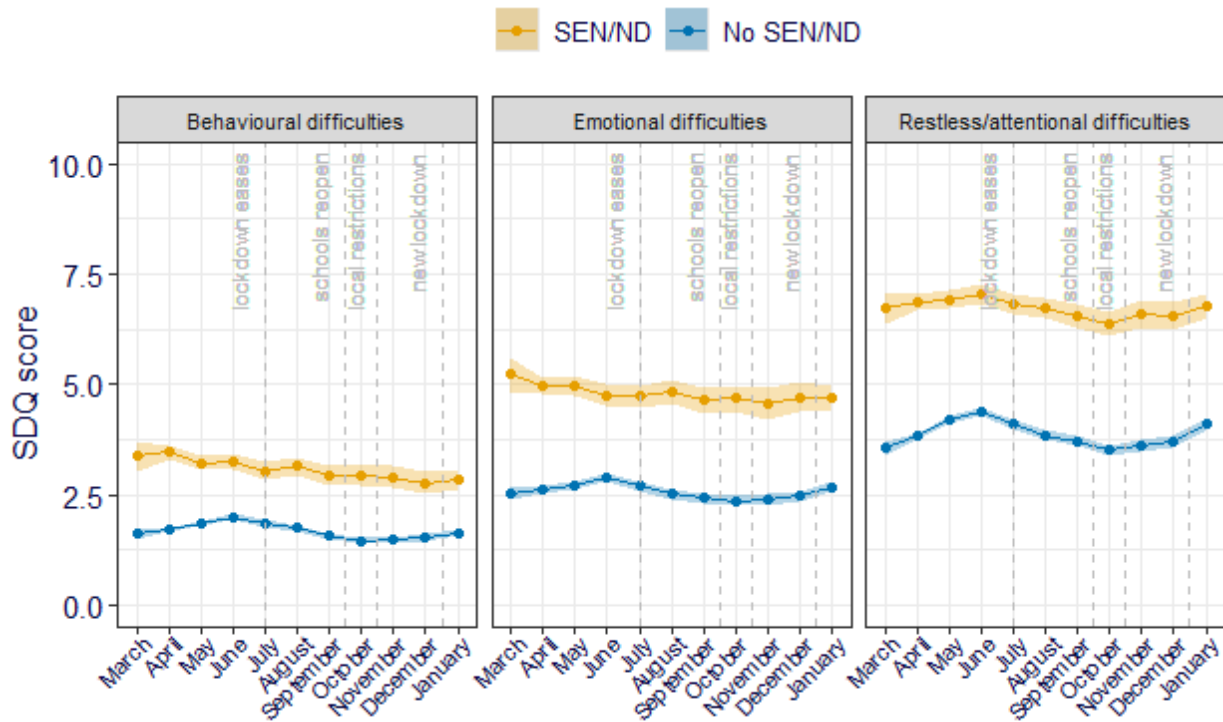
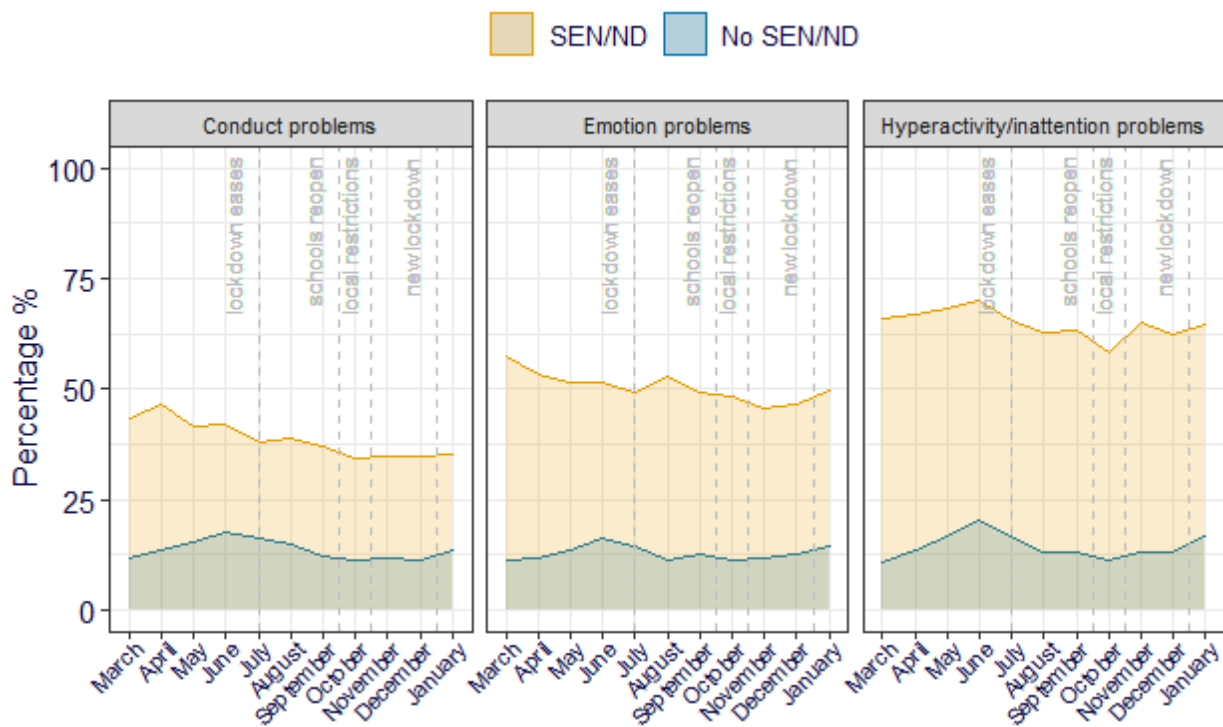


Figure 8. Percentage of SDQ possible/probable cases per month and Special Educational Needs (SEN) or Neurodevelopmental Disorders (ND)



On average (throughout the pandemic), parents/carers reported substantially higher levels of all (behavioural, emotional, and restless/attentional) difficulties for children with SEN/ND than children without SEN/ND.

In children with and without SEN/ND, restless/attentional difficulties were reported to increase between November and January and behavioural and emotional difficulties - between December and January.

Nearly two thirds of children with SEN/ND (64.6%) were classified as possible/probable cases for hyperactivity/inattention problems, in comparison to 16.7% of those without SEN/ND. Half of the children with SEN/ND (49.9%) and 14.5% of children without SEN/ND were classified as possible/probable cases for emotion problems in January. More than a third of children with SEN/ND in January (35.1%) were classified as possible/probable cases for conduct problems, in comparison to 13.4% of children without SEN/ND.

Table 7. Means and standard deviations (SD) of parent/carer reported SDQ scores per month and Special Educational Needs (SEN) or Neurodevelopmental Disorders (ND)

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Behavioural difficulties											
SEN/ND											
Mean	3.38	3.46	3.23	3.26	3.04	3.16	2.95	2.93	2.92	2.77	2.86
(SD)	(2.33)	(2.39)	(2.18)	(2.20)	(2.17)	(2.29)	(2.19)	(2.19)	(2.18)	(2.06)	(2.18)
No SEN/ND											
Mean	1.61	1.71	1.85	1.99	1.85	1.75	1.57	1.46	1.48	1.53	1.64
(SD)	(1.56)	(1.63)	(1.66)	(1.78)	(1.73)	(1.70)	(1.61)	(1.57)	(1.59)	(1.62)	(1.67)
Emotional difficulties											
SEN/ND											
Mean	5.24	4.98	4.98	4.75	4.73	4.85	4.64	4.70	4.57	4.71	4.71
(SD)	(2.81)	(2.73)	(2.88)	(2.91)	(2.81)	(2.83)	(2.96)	(2.93)	(3.04)	(2.90)	(2.75)
No SEN/ND											
Mean	2.53	2.62	2.73	2.90	2.69	2.52	2.43	2.36	2.41	2.47	2.67
(SD)	(2.33)	(2.33)	(2.40)	(2.49)	(2.41)	(2.38)	(2.44)	(2.43)	(2.45)	(2.44)	(2.49)
Restless/attention difficulties											
SEN/ND											
Mean	6.74	6.87	6.92	7.05	6.83	6.74	6.57	6.38	6.61	6.54	6.78
(SD)	(2.63)	(2.66)	(2.64)	(2.61)	(2.65)	(2.65)	(2.68)	(2.64)	(2.65)	(2.70)	(2.61)
No SEN/ND											
Mean	3.57	3.82	4.18	4.38	4.09	3.86	3.71	3.51	3.63	3.72	4.12
(SD)	(2.42)	(2.48)	(2.57)	(2.64)	(2.57)	(2.47)	(2.48)	(2.48)	(2.52)	(2.57)	(2.59)

Table 8. Percentage of SDQ possible/probable cases per month and Special Educational Needs (SEN) or Neurodevelopmental Disorders (ND)

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Conduct problems											
SEN/ND											
Probable/possible %	43.2	46.6	41.7	42.2	38.1	38.7	36.9	34.3	34.8	34.8	35.1
Unlikely %	56.8	53.4	58.2	57.8	61.9	61.3	63.1	65.7	65.2	65.2	64.9
No SEN/ND											
Probable/possible %	11.9	13.5	15.5	17.7	16.4	15	12	11.5	11.7	11.2	13.4
Unlikely %	88.1	86.5	84.5	82.3	83.5	85	88	88.5	88.3	88.8	86.6
Emotional problems											
SEN/ND											
Probable/possible %	57.3	53.4	51.5	51.5	49.3	52.7	49.5	48.4	45.6	46.6	49.9
Unlikely %	42.7	46.6	48.3	48.5	50.7	47.3	50.5	51.6	54.4	53.4	50.1
No SEN/ND											
Probable/possible %	11.4	11.9	13.5	16.5	14.3	11.3	12.8	11.1	12	12.5	14.5
Unlikely %	88.6	88	86.5	83.5	85.7	88.7	87.2	88.9	88	87.5	85.5
Hyperactivity/inattention problems											
SEN/ND											
Probable/possible %	65.8	66.8	68.3	70.3	65.6	63.1	63.1	58.5	65.2	62.4	64.6
Unlikely %	34.2	33.2	31.7	29.7	34.4	36.9	36.9	41.5	34.8	37.6	35.4
No SEN/ND											
Probable/possible %	10.7	13.6	16.6	20.2	16.5	13	13.2	11.2	12.9	13.3	16.7
Unlikely %	89.2	86.4	83.3	79.8	83.5	87	86.8	88.8	87	86.7	83.3

4. Household Income

Figure 9. Means and 95% CI's of parents/carers reported SDQ scores per month and household income

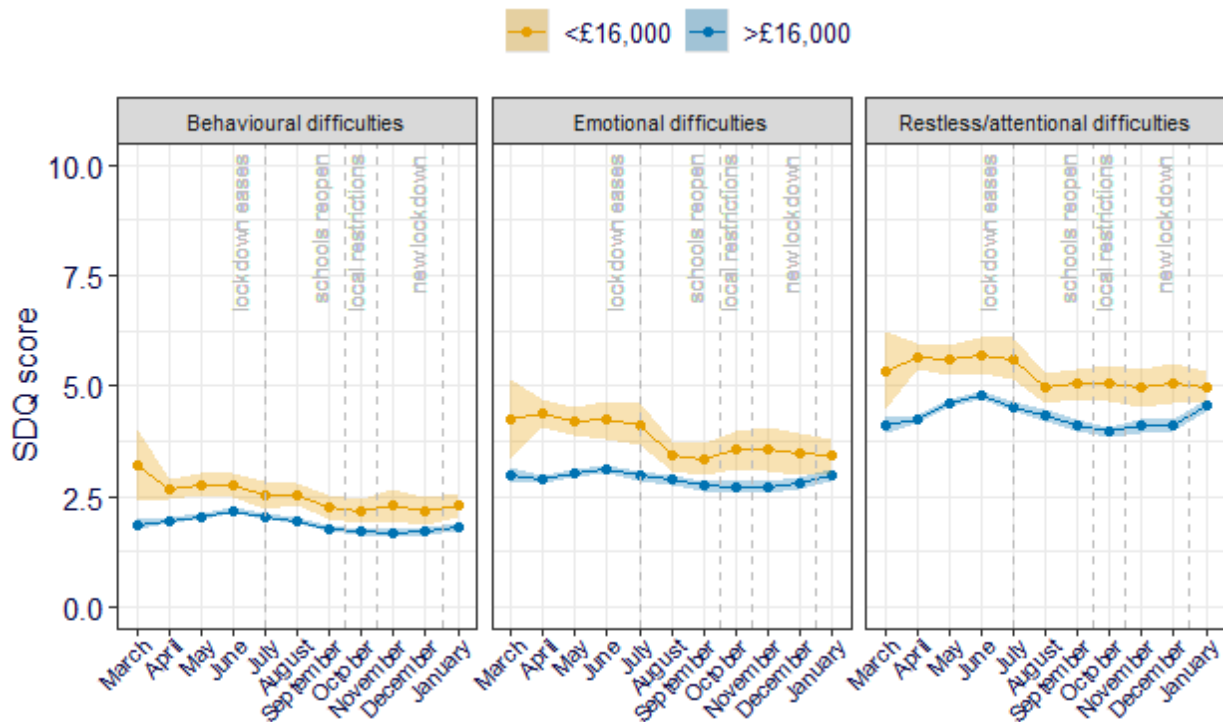
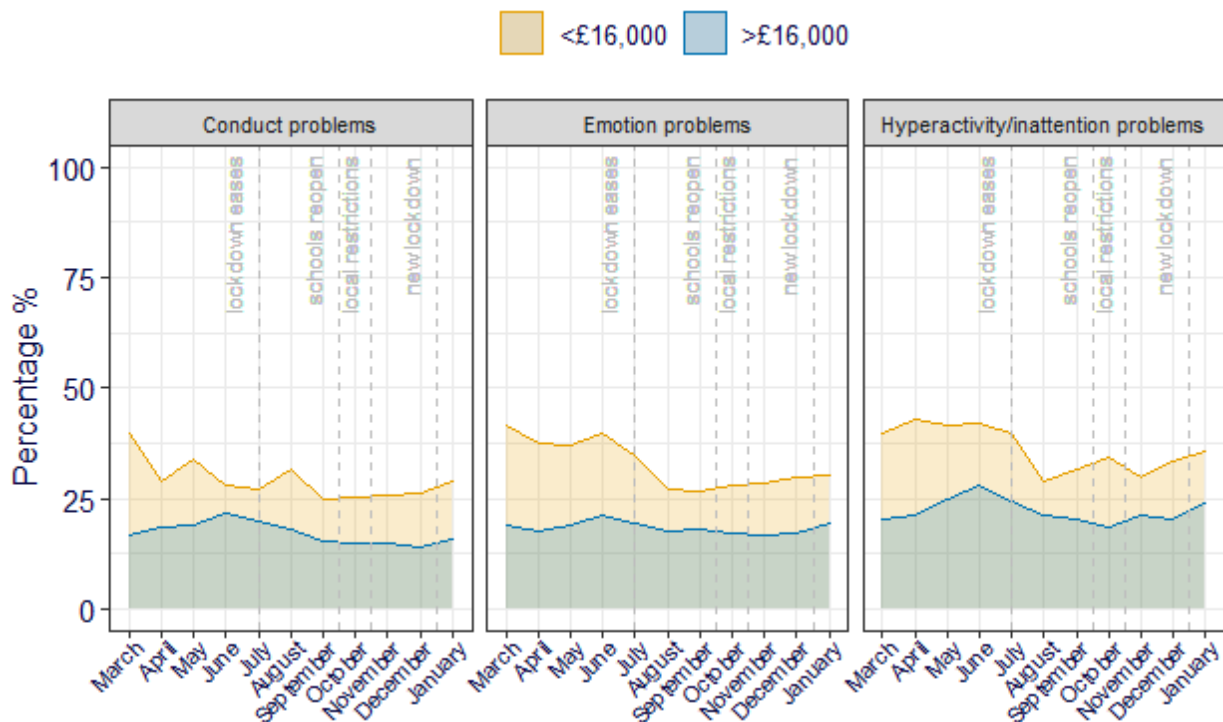


Figure 10. Percentage of SDQ possible/probable cases per month and household income



On average (throughout the pandemic), parents/carers from households with lower annual incomes (< £16,000 p.a.) reported higher levels of all behavioural, emotional, and restless/attentional difficulties than parents/carers from households with higher annual income (> £16,000 p.a.).

Both behavioural and emotional difficulties have been relatively stable since October when examining groups by household income. However, reported restless and attentional symptoms have increased in children from households with higher annual incomes (> £16,000 p.a.), but not lower annual incomes (< £16,000 p.a.).

In January, a larger proportion of children from households with lower (< £16,000 p.a.), compared to higher (> £16,000 p.a.), annual incomes were classified as possible/probable cases for conduct (29% versus 15.9%), emotion (30.4% versus 19.5%), or hyperactivity/inattention (35.9% versus 23.9%) problems.

Table 9. Means and standard deviations (SD) of parent/carer reported SDQ scores per month and household income

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Behavioural difficulties											
< £16,000 p.a.											
Mean	3.21	2.67	2.78	2.76	2.52	2.55	2.26	2.19	2.31	2.17	2.31
(SD)	(2.75)	(2.05)	(2.05)	(2.08)	(1.99)	(2.13)	(2.01)	(1.86)	(2.18)	(1.93)	(2.12)
> £16,000 p.a.											
Mean	1.88	1.95	2.04	2.18	2.05	1.96	1.77	1.70	1.69	1.70	1.82
(SD)	(1.77)	(1.88)	(1.81)	(1.90)	(1.86)	(1.85)	(1.76)	(1.78)	(1.75)	(1.74)	(1.78)
Emotional difficulties											
< £16,000 p.a.											
Mean	4.25	4.37	4.21	4.23	4.13	3.42	3.35	3.55	3.57	3.46	3.43
(SD)	(3.06)	(2.88)	(2.78)	(2.96)	(2.83)	(2.92)	(2.69)	(2.93)	(2.99)	(3.04)	(2.85)
> £16,000 p.a.											
Mean	2.98	2.90	3.05	3.13	2.96	2.88	2.74	2.72	2.69	2.79	2.98
(SD)	(2.63)	(2.49)	(2.60)	(2.62)	(2.57)	(2.58)	(2.64)	(2.64)	(2.63)	(2.60)	(2.63)
Restless/attention difficulties											
< £16,000 p.a.											
Mean	5.35	5.67	5.59	5.71	5.63	4.96	5.05	5.07	4.95	5.08	4.97
(SD)	(2.99)	(2.72)	(2.95)	(2.82)	(2.79)	(2.83)	(2.58)	(2.73)	(2.67)	(2.80)	(2.70)
> £16,000 p.a.											
Mean	4.10	4.26	4.62	4.79	4.52	4.34	4.11	3.96	4.09	4.10	4.56
(SD)	(2.73)	(2.73)	(2.76)	(2.81)	(2.78)	(2.71)	(2.72)	(2.72)	(2.78)	(2.78)	(2.78)

Table 10. Percentage of SDQ possible/probable cases per month and household income

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Conduct problems											
< £16,000 p.a.											
Probable/possible %	39.6	29.1	33.9	28	27.1	31.8	24.8	25.5	25.7	26.1	29
Unlikely %	60.4	70.9	66.1	72	72.9	68.2	75.2	74.5	74.3	73.9	71
> £16,000 p.a.											
Probable/possible %	16.6	18.4	19.1	21.5	19.9	17.9	15.6	15	15.1	14	15.9
Unlikely %	83.4	81.6	80.8	78.5	80	82.1	84.4	85	84.9	86	84.1
Emotional problems											
< £16,000 p.a.											
Probable/possible %	41.7	37.6	37	40	34.7	27	26.7	28.3	28.4	30.1	30.4
Unlikely %	58.3	62.4	63	60	65.3	73	73.3	71.7	71.6	69.9	69.6
> £16,000 p.a.											
Probable/possible %	18.8	17.5	19	21.1	19.2	17.7	18.2	17	16.6	17.1	19.5
Unlikely %	81.2	82.4	81	78.9	80.8	82.3	81.8	83	83.4	82.9	80.5
Hyperactivity/inattention problems											
< £16,000 p.a.											
Probable/possible %	39.6	42.8	41.8	42	39.6	28.8	31.4	34.2	29.7	33.3	35.9
Unlikely %	60.4	56.9	58.2	58	60.4	71.2	68.6	65.8	70.3	66.7	64.1
> £16,000 p.a.											
Probable/possible %	20.1	21.2	24.8	27.9	24.3	21.2	20.4	18.6	21.4	20.5	23.9
Unlikely %	79.7	78.8	75.2	72.1	75.7	78.8	79.6	81.4	78.5	79.5	76.1

5. Single adult household

Figure 11. Means and 95% CI's of parents/carers reported SDQ scores per month and single/non-single adult households

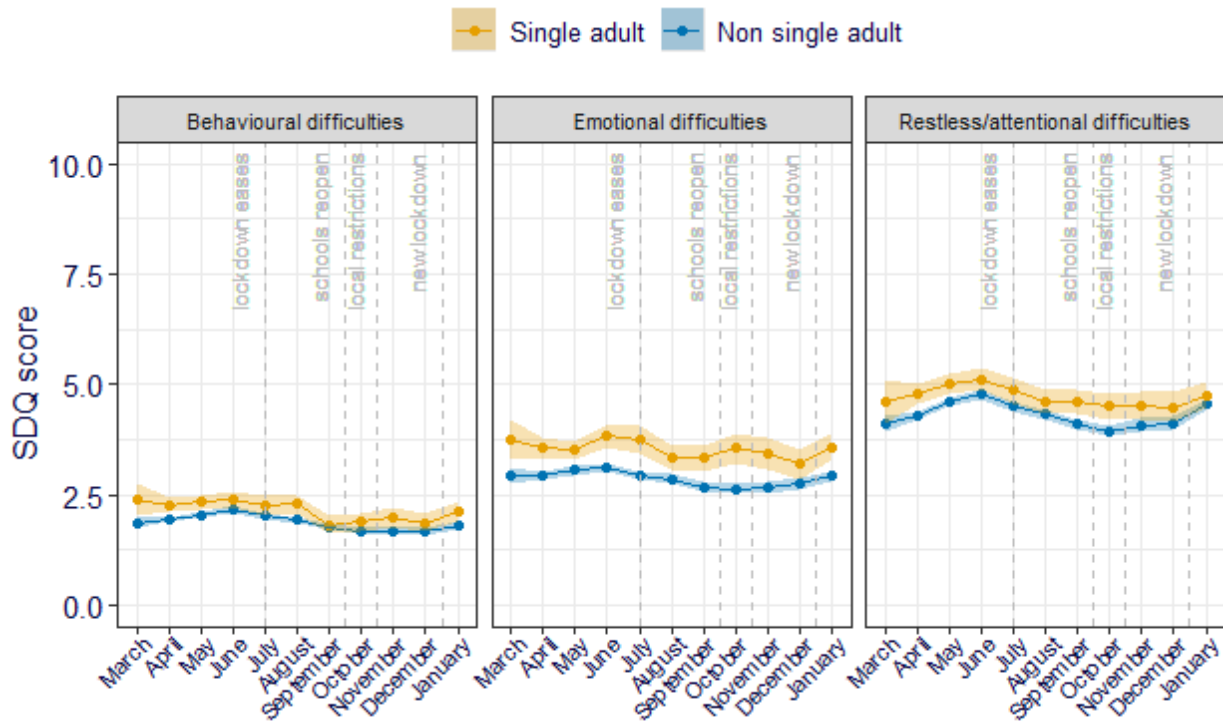
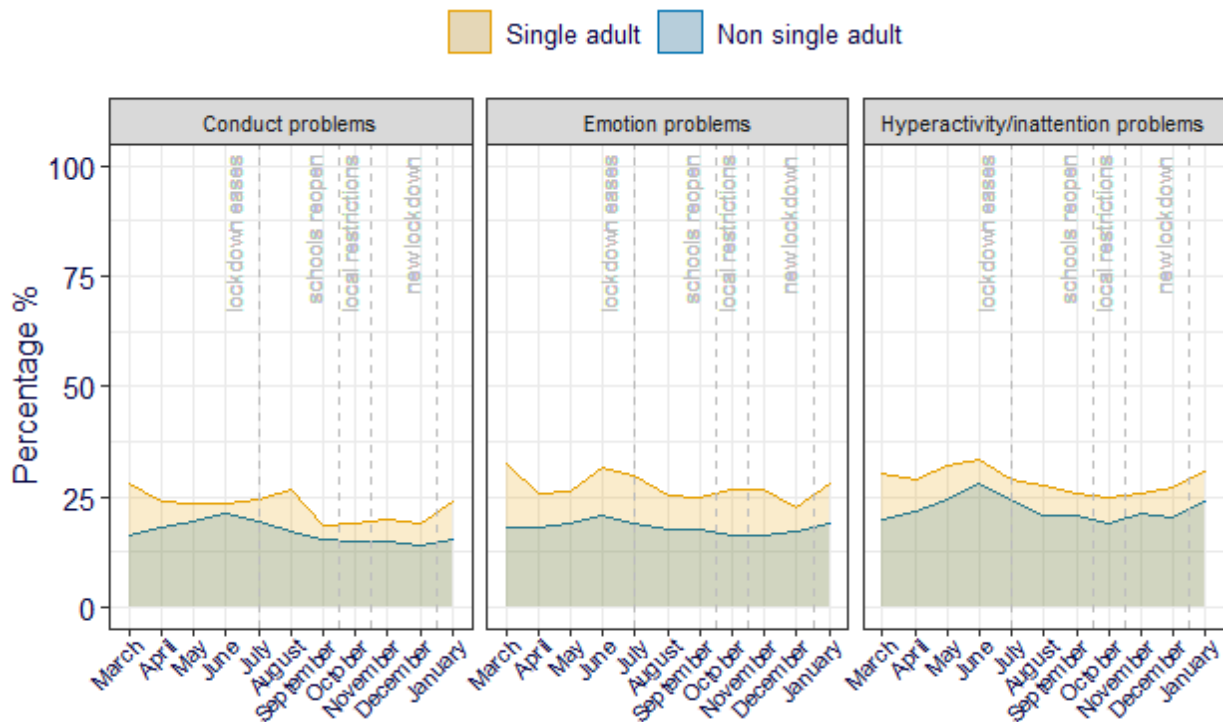


Figure 12. Percentage of SDQ possible/probable cases per month and single/non-single adult households



Parents/carers from single adult households reported higher levels of all behavioural, emotional, and restless/attentional symptoms than parents/carers from non-single parent households throughout the pandemic.

Patterns were broadly similar over time for both groups; behavioural and emotional difficulties increased from December to January and restless/attentional symptoms increased from November to January.

In January, a larger proportion of children from single adult households than those from non-single adult households were classified as possible/probable cases for: conduct (24.1% versus 15.5%), emotional (28.3% versus 19.2%) or hyperactivity (30.7% versus 24%) disorders.

Table 11. Means and standard deviations (SD) of parent/carer reported SDQ scores per month and single adult household

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Behavioural difficulties											
Single adult											
Mean	2.41	2.28	2.33	2.40	2.25	2.29	1.83	1.89	1.99	1.87	2.12
(SD)	(2.12)	(2.12)	(2.00)	(2.06)	(2.06)	(2.15)	(1.90)	(1.87)	(2.03)	(1.83)	(2.05)
Non-single adult											
Mean	1.86	1.95	2.04	2.17	2.02	1.93	1.78	1.69	1.67	1.69	1.80
(SD)	(1.81)	(1.86)	(1.81)	(1.89)	(1.83)	(1.83)	(1.76)	(1.76)	(1.72)	(1.73)	(1.77)
Emotional difficulties											
Single adult											
Mean	3.74	3.57	3.51	3.82	3.76	3.35	3.33	3.56	3.43	3.19	3.58
(SD)	(2.70)	(2.71)	(2.68)	(2.85)	(2.88)	(2.87)	(2.85)	(2.99)	(3.06)	(2.92)	(2.90)
Non-single adult											
Mean	2.95	2.94	3.05	3.11	2.93	2.86	2.68	2.64	2.66	2.77	2.92
(SD)	(2.62)	(2.52)	(2.63)	(2.61)	(2.54)	(2.56)	(2.60)	(2.58)	(2.59)	(2.59)	(2.58)
Restless/attention difficulties											
Single adult											
Mean	4.60	4.79	5.02	5.12	4.87	4.62	4.60	4.51	4.53	4.49	4.77
(SD)	(2.84)	(2.77)	(2.92)	(2.75)	(2.76)	(2.80)	(2.67)	(2.75)	(2.60)	(2.89)	(2.73)
Non-single adult											
Mean	4.11	4.28	4.60	4.78	4.52	4.33	4.10	3.95	4.09	4.13	4.55
(SD)	(2.75)	(2.76)	(2.76)	(2.82)	(2.78)	(2.72)	(2.74)	(2.74)	(2.82)	(2.78)	(2.79)

Table 12. Percentage of SDQ possible/probable cases per month and single/non-single adult households

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Conduct problems											
Single adult											
Probable/possible %	27.8	23.8	23.6	23.4	24.2	26.6	18.5	19.2	20.1	18.8	24.1
Unlikely %	72.2	76.2	76.4	76.6	75.8	73.4	81.5	80.8	79.9	81.2	75.9
Non-single adult											
Probable/possible %	16.3	18.1	19.4	21.4	19.5	17.3	15.4	14.7	14.9	14.1	15.5
Unlikely %	83.7	81.9	80.5	78.6	80.5	82.7	84.6	85.3	85.1	85.9	84.5
Emotional problems											
Single adult											
Probable/possible %	32.3	25.7	26.2	31.7	30	25.2	25.1	26.5	26.8	22.5	28.3
Unlikely %	67.7	74.3	73.8	68.3	70	74.8	74.9	73.5	73.2	77.5	71.7
Non-single adult											
Probable/possible %	18.2	18	19.1	20.7	18.8	17.5	17.7	16.2	16.1	17.2	19.2
Unlikely %	81.8	82	80.9	79.3	81.2	82.5	82.3	83.8	83.9	82.8	80.8
Hyperactivity/inattention problems											
Single adult											
Probable/possible %	30.1	29.1	32	33.3	29.1	27.6	25.6	25	25.7	26.9	30.7
Unlikely %	69.9	70.9	68	66.7	70.9	72.4	74.4	75	74.3	73.1	69.3
Non-single adult											
Probable/possible %	20	21.8	24.6	27.9	24.3	21	20.7	19.2	21.4	20.4	24
Unlikely %	79.9	78.2	75.4	72.1	75.7	79	79.3	80.8	78.5	79.6	76

6. Presence of Siblings

Figure 13. Means and 95% CI's of parents/carers reported SDQ scores per month and presence of siblings

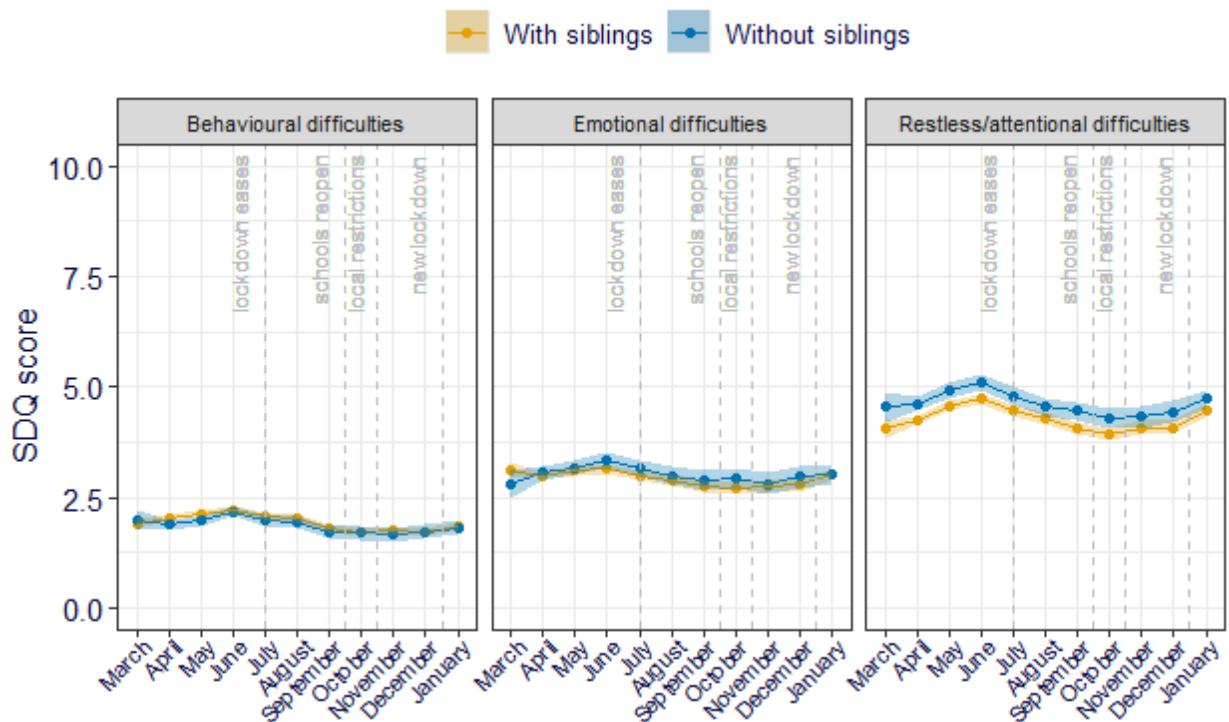
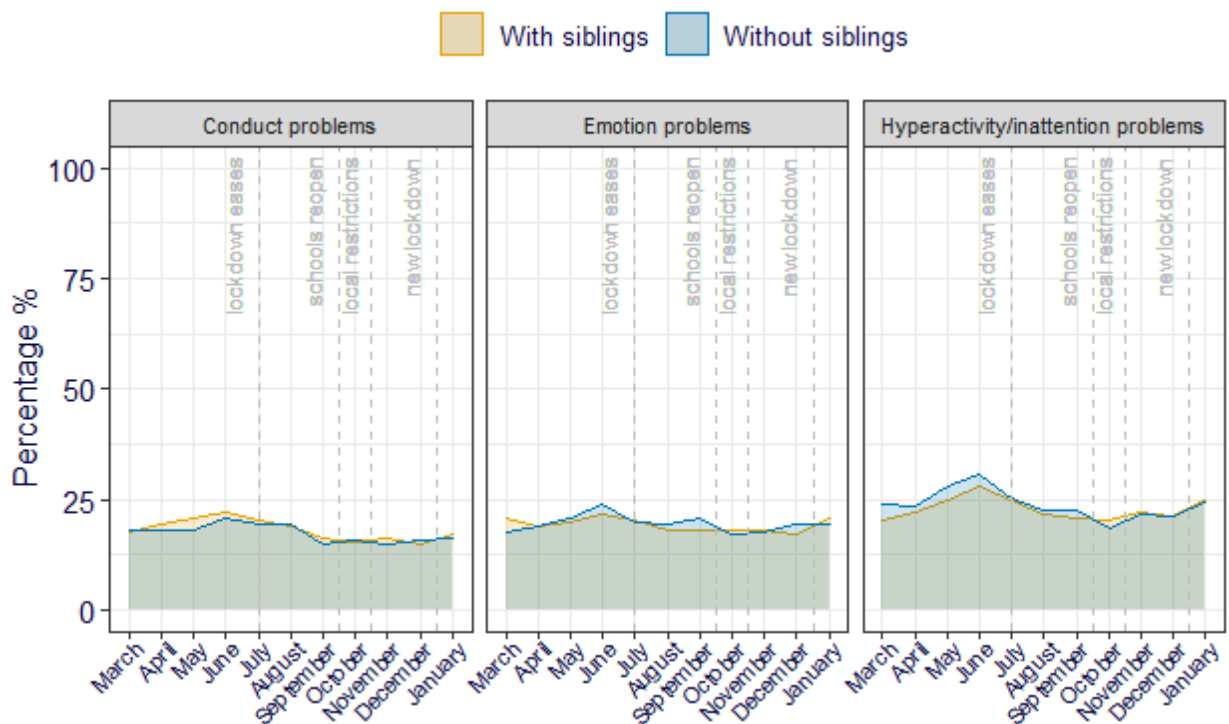


Figure 14. Percentage of SDQ possible/probable cases per month and presence of siblings



In general (across the pandemic), parents/carers from households with more than one child reported less restless/attentional symptoms for their index child, in comparison to parents/carers from single child households. However, they reported similar behavioural and emotional symptom severity.

Overtime, children with and without siblings were reported to follow a similar pattern. Behavioural and emotional difficulties increased from December to January and restless/attentional difficulties have increased since November.

Similar proportions of those with and without siblings were classified as possible/probable cases for conduct, emotional, and hyperactivity/inattention problems.

Table 13. Means and standard deviations (SD) of parent/carer reported SDQ scores per month and presence of siblings

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Behavioural difficulties											
With siblings											
Mean	1.92	2.04	2.13	2.21	2.07	2.02	1.82	1.73	1.76	1.73	1.86
(SD)	(1.87)	(1.91)	(1.88)	(1.92)	(1.89)	(1.91)	(1.78)	(1.79)	(1.76)	(1.72)	(1.81)
Without siblings											
Mean	1.99	1.89	1.97	2.19	1.98	1.94	1.74	1.70	1.65	1.73	1.83
(SD)	(1.86)	(1.85)	(1.74)	(1.90)	(1.80)	(1.88)	(1.83)	(1.79)	(1.87)	(1.84)	(1.86)
Emotional difficulties											
With siblings											
Mean	3.10	3.00	3.10	3.16	2.99	2.90	2.75	2.73	2.76	2.78	3.01
(SD)	(2.70)	(2.56)	(2.66)	(2.66)	(2.60)	(2.61)	(2.65)	(2.68)	(2.69)	(2.63)	(2.66)
Without siblings											
Mean	2.81	3.07	3.18	3.36	3.16	3.00	2.90	2.94	2.81	2.97	3.02
(SD)	(2.48)	(2.57)	(2.56)	(2.66)	(2.58)	(2.63)	(2.68)	(2.68)	(2.72)	(2.72)	(2.61)
Restless/attention difficulties											
With siblings											
Mean	4.05	4.25	4.58	4.73	4.48	4.30	4.06	3.93	4.08	4.09	4.50
(SD)	(2.76)	(2.77)	(2.81)	(2.83)	(2.81)	(2.74)	(2.75)	(2.78)	(2.83)	(2.84)	(2.81)
Without siblings											
Mean	4.55	4.63	4.92	5.10	4.80	4.56	4.46	4.29	4.33	4.44	4.73
(SD)	(2.72)	(2.70)	(2.72)	(2.74)	(2.71)	(2.70)	(2.66)	(2.61)	(2.66)	(2.68)	(2.68)

Table 14. Percentage of SDQ possible/probable cases per month and presence of siblings

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Conduct problems											
With siblings											
Probable/possible %	17.7	19.4	20.8	22.1	20.3	18.9	16.5	15.5	16.1	14.9	17.4
Unlikely %	82.3	80.6	79.1	77.9	79.7	81.1	83.5	84.5	83.9	85.1	82.6
Without siblings											
Probable/possible %	18.2	18.2	18.1	20.9	19.3	19.5	15.1	15.8	14.9	15.7	16.4
Unlikely %	81.8	81.7	81.8	79.1	80.5	80.5	84.9	84.2	85.1	84.3	83.6
Emotional problems											
With siblings											
Probable/possible %	20.6	19	20	21.7	20.3	18.1	18	18	17.9	17.4	20.8
Unlikely %	79.4	81	80	78.3	79.7	81.9	82	82	82.1	82.6	79.2
Without siblings											
Probable/possible %	17.8	19.2	20.6	24.2	19.9	19.6	20.8	17.3	17.5	19.6	19.5
Unlikely %	82.2	80.7	79.3	75.8	80.1	80.4	79.2	82.7	82.5	80.4	80.5
Hyperactivity/inattention problems											
With siblings											
Probable/possible %	20.1	22.3	25	27.8	24.7	21.6	20.7	20.2	22.2	21.5	24.9
Unlikely %	79.7	77.6	75	72.2	75.3	78.4	79.3	79.8	77.8	78.5	75.1
Without siblings											
Probable/possible %	24.2	23.5	28.1	30.7	25.4	22.4	22.8	18.7	21.7	21.1	24.4
Unlikely %	75.8	76.5	71.9	69.3	74.6	77.6	77.2	81.3	78.3	78.9	75.6

Appendix A

Participants' demographics: overall

Overall		(N = 8225)
<i>Location</i>	Greater London	832 (10.1%)
	Northern England	1625 (19.8%)
	Northern Ireland	122 (1.5%)
	Scotland	529 (6.4%)
	Southern England	3824 (46.5%)
	The Midlands	974 (11.8%)
	Wales	319 (3.9%)
<i>Relationship to Child</i>	Grandparent	60 (0.7%)
	Other	68 (0.8%)
	Parent	8039 (97.7%)
	Step-parent	58 (0.7%)
<i>Parent/carer Gender</i>	Female	7546 (91.7%)
	Male	625 (7.6%)
	Other/Missing	54 (0.7%)
<i>Employment Status</i>	Self employed	868 (10.6%)
	Unemployed/Other	1461 (17.8%)
	Working full time	2994 (36.4%)
	Working part time	2902 (35.3%)
<i>Household Income (per year)</i>	< £16,000	752 (9.1%)
	> £16,000	6900 (83.9%)
	Missing	573 (7.0%)
<i>Parent/carer Ethnicity</i>	Other ethnic backgrounds	384 (4.7%)
	White: British, Irish, other	7627 (92.7%)
	Missing	214 (2.6%)
<i>Child Gender</i>	Female	3950 (48.0%)
	Male	4215 (51.2%)
	Other/Missing	60 (0.7%)
<i>Child Age Range</i>	Adolescent (11-17 years)	3091 (37.6%)
	Child (4-10 years)	5134 (62.4%)
<i>SEN/ND Status</i>	No SEN/ND	6766 (82.3%)
	SEN/ND	1459 (17.7%)
<i>Presence of Siblings in the Household</i>	Yes	6023 (73.2%)
	No	2150 (26.1%)
	Missing	52 (0.6%)
<i>Single Adult Household</i>	No	6718 (81.7%)
	Yes	1355 (16.5%)
	Missing	152 (1.8%)
<i>Child's Pre-Existing Mental Health Problems</i>	Depression, anxiety, or other	480 (5.8%)
	No	7731 (94.0%)
	Missing	14 (0.2%)

Appendix B: Participants' demographics March to January

		March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	
		(N=1061)	(N=4445)	(N=3705)	(N=3225)	(N=2653)	(N=2617)	(N=2336)	(N=2026)	(N=1699)	(N=1758)	(N=2196)	
Location	Greater London	99 (9.3%)	466 (10.5%)	364 (9.8%)	321 (10.0%)	266 (10.0%)	251 (9.6%)	236 (10.1%)	199 (9.8%)	174 (10.2%)	162 (9.2%)	217 (9.9%)	
	Northern England	173 (16.3%)	828 (18.6%)	737 (19.9%)	605 (18.8%)	473 (17.8%)	540 (20.6%)	483 (20.7%)	414 (20.4%)	328 (19.3%)	339 (19.3%)	426 (19.4%)	
	Northern Ireland	9 (0.8%)	60 (1.3%)	42 (1.1%)	33 (1.0%)	28 (1.1%)	37 (1.4%)	29 (1.2%)	24 (1.2%)	20 (1.2%)	21 (1.2%)	26 (1.2%)	
	Scotland	55 (5.2%)	261 (5.9%)	243 (6.6%)	176 (5.5%)	165 (6.2%)	143 (5.5%)	120 (5.1%)	106 (5.2%)	70 (4.1%)	92 (5.2%)	120 (5.5%)	
	Southern England	589 (55.5%)	2173 (48.9%)	1753 (47.3%)	1602 (49.7%)	1310 (49.4%)	1197 (45.7%)	1099 (47.0%)	955 (47.1%)	837 (49.3%)	865 (49.2%)	1051 (47.9%)	
	The Midlands	89 (8.4%)	491 (11.0%)	439 (11.8%)	384 (11.9%)	320 (12.1%)	353 (13.5%)	288 (12.3%)	257 (12.7%)	224 (13.2%)	227 (12.9%)	227 (12.9%)	287 (13.1%)
	Wales	47 (4.4%)	166 (3.7%)	127 (3.4%)	104 (3.2%)	91 (3.4%)	96 (3.7%)	81 (3.5%)	71 (3.5%)	46 (2.7%)	52 (3.0%)	52 (3.0%)	69 (3.1%)
Parent/carer Gender	Female	977 (92.1%)	4110 (92.5%)	3474 (93.8%)	3024 (93.8%)	2449 (92.3%)	2396 (91.6%)	2173 (93.0%)	1847 (91.2%)	1560 (91.8%)	1605 (91.3%)	1998 (91.0%)	
	Male	76 (7.2%)	319 (7.2%)	213 (5.7%)	188 (5.8%)	176 (6.6%)	202 (7.7%)	149 (6.4%)	164 (8.1%)	128 (7.5%)	143 (8.1%)	189 (8.6%)	
	Other/Missing	8 (0.8%)	16 (0.4%)	18 (0.5%)	13 (0.4%)	28 (1.1%)	19 (0.7%)	14 (0.6%)	15 (0.7%)	11 (0.6%)	10 (0.6%)	9 (0.4%)	
Employment Status	Self employed	109 (10.3%)	499 (11.2%)	375 (10.1%)	332 (10.3%)	270 (10.2%)	257 (9.8%)	219 (9.4%)	212 (10.5%)	171 (10.1%)	182 (10.4%)	210 (9.6%)	
	Unemployed/Other	136 (12.8%)	718 (16.2%)	595 (16.1%)	510 (15.8%)	389 (14.7%)	511 (19.5%)	441 (18.9%)	396 (19.5%)	324 (19.1%)	311 (17.7%)	412 (18.8%)	
	Working full time	408 (38.5%)	1645 (37.0%)	1331 (35.9%)	1113 (34.5%)	925 (34.9%)	830 (31.7%)	757 (32.4%)	653 (32.2%)	528 (31.1%)	568 (32.3%)	720 (32.8%)	
	Working part time	408 (38.5%)	1583 (35.6%)	1404 (37.9%)	1270 (39.4%)	1069 (40.3%)	1019 (38.9%)	919 (39.3%)	765 (37.8%)	676 (39.8%)	697 (39.6%)	854 (38.9%)	
Household Income (per year)	< £16,000	48 (4.5%)	306 (6.9%)	292 (7.9%)	200 (6.2%)	144 (5.4%)	274 (10.5%)	210 (9.0%)	184 (9.1%)	148 (8.7%)	153 (8.7%)	217 (9.9%)	
	> £16,000	943 (88.9%)	3818 (85.9%)	3139 (84.7%)	2786 (86.4%)	2309 (87.0%)	2165 (82.7%)	1967 (84.2%)	1702 (84.0%)	1437 (84.6%)	1489 (84.7%)	1829 (83.3%)	
	Missing	70 (6.6%)	321 (7.2%)	274 (7.4%)	239 (7.4%)	200 (7.5%)	178 (6.8%)	159 (6.8%)	140 (6.9%)	114 (6.7%)	116 (6.6%)	150 (6.8%)	
Parent/carer Ethnicity	Other ethnic backgrounds	47 (4.4%)	154 (3.5%)	114 (3.1%)	104 (3.2%)	78 (2.9%)	109 (4.2%)	93 (4.0%)	78 (3.8%)	66 (3.9%)	62 (3.5%)	85 (3.9%)	
	White: British, Irish, other	991 (93.4%)	4188 (94.2%)	3516 (94.9%)	3047 (94.5%)	2514 (94.8%)	2455 (93.8%)	2185 (93.5%)	1907 (94.1%)	1598 (94.1%)	1662 (94.5%)	2058 (93.7%)	
	Missing	23 (2.2%)	103 (2.3%)	75 (2.0%)	74 (2.3%)	61 (2.3%)	53 (2.0%)	58 (2.5%)	41 (2.0%)	35 (2.1%)	34 (1.9%)	53 (2.4%)	
Child Gender	Female	520 (49.0%)	2132 (48.0%)	1745 (47.1%)	1537 (47.7%)	1248 (47.0%)	1246 (47.6%)	1102 (47.2%)	959 (47.3%)	810 (47.7%)	864 (49.1%)	1039 (47.3%)	
	Male	533 (50.2%)	2282 (51.3%)	1905 (51.4%)	1645 (51.0%)	1366 (51.5%)	1334 (51.0%)	1210 (51.8%)	1047 (51.7%)	871 (51.3%)	884 (50.3%)	1133 (51.6%)	

	Other/Missing	8 (0.8%)	31 (0.7%)	55 (1.5%)	43 (1.3%)	39 (1.5%)	37 (1.4%)	24 (1.0%)	20 (1.0%)	18 (1.1%)	10 (0.6%)	24 (1.1%)
Child Age Range	11-17 years	383 (36.1%)	1639 (36.9%)	1318 (35.6%)	1081 (33.5%)	904 (34.1%)	1050 (40.1%)	888 (38.0%)	794 (39.2%)	681 (40.1%)	716 (40.7%)	924 (42.1%)
	4-10 years	678 (63.9%)	2806 (63.1%)	2387 (64.4%)	2144 (66.5%)	1749 (65.9%)	1567 (59.9%)	1448 (62.0%)	1232 (60.8%)	1018 (59.9%)	1042 (59.3%)	1272 (57.9%)
SEN/ND Status	No SEN/ND	862 (81.2%)	3674 (82.7%)	3043 (82.1%)	2687 (83.3%)	2199 (82.9%)	2154 (82.3%)	1954 (83.6%)	1650 (81.4%)	1403 (82.6%)	1468 (83.5%)	1823 (83.0%)
	SEN/ND	199 (18.8%)	771 (17.3%)	662 (17.9%)	538 (16.7%)	454 (17.1%)	463 (17.7%)	382 (16.4%)	376 (18.6%)	296 (17.4%)	290 (16.5%)	373 (17.0%)
Presence of Siblings in the Household	Yes	819 (77.2%)	3344 (75.2%)	2740 (74.0%)	2387 (74.0%)	1963 (74.0%)	1890 (72.2%)	1674 (71.7%)	1442 (71.2%)	1236 (72.7%)	1282 (72.9%)	1572 (71.6%)
	No	236 (22.2%)	1070 (24.1%)	946 (25.5%)	823 (25.5%)	678 (25.6%)	719 (27.5%)	654 (28.0%)	571 (28.2%)	457 (26.9%)	470 (26.7%)	615 (28.0%)
	Missing	6 (0.6%)	31 (0.7%)	19 (0.5%)	15 (0.5%)	12 (0.5%)	8 (0.3%)	8 (0.3%)	13 (0.6%)	6 (0.4%)	6 (0.3%)	9 (0.4%)
Single Adult Household	No	916 (86.3%)	3785 (85.2%)	3061 (82.6%)	2743 (85.1%)	2291 (86.4%)	2146 (82.0%)	1929 (82.6%)	1659 (81.9%)	1414 (83.2%)	1464 (83.3%)	1801 (82.0%)
	Yes	133 (12.5%)	604 (13.6%)	618 (16.7%)	457 (14.2%)	347 (13.1%)	417 (15.9%)	379 (16.2%)	328 (16.2%)	269 (15.8%)	271 (15.4%)	361 (16.4%)
	Missing	12 (1.1%)	56 (1.3%)	26 (0.7%)	25 (0.8%)	15 (0.6%)	54 (2.1%)	28 (1.2%)	39 (1.9%)	16 (0.9%)	23 (1.3%)	34 (1.5%)