

## Youth Social Action Survey Wave 4

### Topline results

The following results are based on 2,030 interviews with young people aged 10-20 years.

- 2,030 interviews conducted and data processed among young people aged 10-20 across the UK.
- Interviews were conducted in the home and administered by interviewers between 1st-15th September 2017.
- Results are based on young people from England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- A random location quota design was used to achieve a nationally representative sample. Boost sampling was also used to achieve a minimum number of interviews in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- The data is weighted by age within gender, region and family socio-economic status, derived from 2012 census information from the Office of National Statistics.
- Where results do not sum to 100%, this is due to multiple responses or computer rounding.
- 'Any social action' includes respondents who answered Q1B-Q1G.

Q.1	So firstly in the past 12 months have you...	2017	2016	2015	2014
	Base: All	2030	2082	2021	2038
	Donated money or goods	60%	53%	54%	59%
	Done any fundraising or a sponsored event	43%	43%	43%	40%
	Helped improve your local area	15%	15%	16%	14%
	Campaigned for something you believe in	8%	11%	10%	10%
	Tutored, coached or mentored anyone	18%	20%	21%	17%
	Supported other people who aren't friends or relatives	23%	27%	28%	25%
	Given time to help a charity or cause	30%	31%	32%	30%
	None of these	26%	30%	29%	26%
	Any activity (including donating)	74%	70%	71%	74%
	Any activity (excluding donating)	58%	58%	59%	57%
	Donated only, no activity	16%	13%	12%	17%
	<b>Meaningful social action</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>40%</b>

Q.2a	Please think about the thing you've done <u>most often</u> in the past 12 months to help other people or the environment ... Roughly how often did you do this in the past 12 months?	2017	2016	2015	2014
	Base: All doing any social action in past 12 months	1150	1206	1175	1154
	Once a week or more	17%	21%	19%	22%
	Once a fortnight or more	5%	7%	6%	7%
	Once a month or more	12%	17%	14%	15%
	Every few months or more	31%	27%	30%	24%
	Once /one-off activity	33%	27%	29%	30%
	Don't know	1%	2%	1%	1%
	Once a month/more	35%	45%	39%	44%
	Less often	64%	53%	59%	54%

Q.2b	And thinking about the thing you did <u>most often</u> , how long did you usually spend doing it each time?	2017	2016	2015	2014
	Base: All doing any social action in past 12 months	1150	1206	1175	1154
	12 months or more	3%	3%	3%	6%
	A few months	4%	4%	4%	4%
	A month	4%	3%	3%	4%
	A fortnight	3%	2%	3%	2%
	A week	5%	4%	4%	4%
	A few days	7%	9%	8%	9%
	A whole day	23%	19%	23%	21%
	A few hours	50%	53%	52%	48%
	Don't know	1%	1%	1%	0%
	A few months/12 months or more	7%	7%	6%	10%
	A few days to a month	20%	19%	18%	20%
	A whole day or less	73%	72%	75%	70%

Q.3	Thinking overall about the things that you've mentioned. How did you get involved in the activities?	2017	2016	2015	2014
	Base: All doing any social action in past 12 months	1150	1206	1175	1154
	School	59%	62%	68%	56%
	College	6%	9%	10%	7%
	University (16+ ONLY)	4%	4%	3%	2%
	Job (e.g. days supported by your employer or through an apprenticeship)*	3%	4%	4%	2%
	Local community	9%	7%	9%	9%
	Place of worship	6%	7%	6%	5%
	A club or group	11%	10%	17%	17%
	A uniformed group	7%	9%	8%	1%**
	A programme through a charity	6%	2%	5%	
	A development programme for young people	4%	6%	3%	
	Full time volunteering such as a service year or gap year	*	1%	0%	0%
	Friends	15%	18%	20%	20%
	Family	15%	21%	27%	21%
	By yourself (e.g. finding or creating your own opportunity to get involved)	7%	5%	5%	7%
	Through a website, social media, or chatroom (e.g. Vinspired, Do-it)	2%	2%	3%	5%
	Other	5%	4%	5%	5%
	Don't know	*	0%	0%	0%

\* NB category has changed. In 2015/2014 apprenticeship was a separate code.

\*\* NB categories have changed. Code in 2014 *a structured programme* is *a uniformed youth group*, *programme through a charity*, and *development programme for young people* in 2015 questionnaire.

Q.4a	Thinking about the past year, have you taken part in any activities to help other people or the environment with any of the following:	2017	2016
	Base: All doing any social action in past 12 months	1150	1206
	A uniformed group	14%	17%
	A programme through a charity	11%	9%
	A development programme for young people	8%	13%
	Full time volunteering such as a service year or gap year	2%	2%
	A volunteering programme in a health and social care setting	5%	-
	Not been involved in any of these	67%	64%
	Any	33%	36%

Q.4b	In the past year, how many of these groups or programmes have you been involved in?	2017
	Base: All who have taken part in programmes in past year	375
	1	58%
	2	29%
	3	5%
	4 or more	8%
	More than one	41%

Q.5	Thinking overall about all the things you've done. How much do you feel you personally benefitted from taking part in activities to help others or the environment?	2017	2016	2015	2014
	Base: All doing any social action in past 12 months	1150	1206	1175	1154
	A lot	35%	45%	47%	44%
	A fair amount	42%	36%	40%	44%
	A little	19%	13%	9%	9%
	Not at all	3%	2%	2%	1%
	Don't know	1%	4%	3%	2%
	A lot/fair amount	77%	81%	87%	88%
	A little/not at all	22%	16%	11%	10%

Q.6	And overall how much do you feel other people or the environment benefitted from the things you've done?	2017	2016	2015	2014
	Base: All doing any social action in past 12 months	1150	1206	1175	1154
	A lot	34%	48%	45%	42%
	A fair amount	46%	37%	43%	43%
	A little	16%	11%	8%	10%
	Not at all	1%	1%	0%	1%
	Don't know	3%	3%	4%	4%
	A lot/fair amount	80%	86%	87%	85%
	A little/not at all	17%	11%	9%	11%

	Thinking about the activity you did most often in the past 12 months ...do you agree or disagree with the following statement?		
Q.7(1)	I learned something new	2017	2016
	Base: All doing any social action in past 12 months	1150	1206
	Definitely agree	46%	51%
	Tend to agree	39%	36%
	Tend to disagree	10%	7%
	Definitely disagree	4%	4%
	Don't know	2%	2%
	Agree	85%	87%
	Disagree	13%	11%

	Thinking about the activity you did most often in the past 12 months ...do you agree or disagree with the following statement?		
Q.7(2)	I was recognised for the difference I made, for example through a ceremony, certificate or award	2017	2016
	Base: All doing any social action in past 12 months	1150	1206
	Definitely agree	29%	33%
	Tend to agree	31%	27%
	Tend to disagree	19%	13%
	Definitely disagree	18%	24%
	Don't know	3%	3%
	Agree	60%	60%
	Disagree	37%	37%

	Thinking about the activity you did most often in the past 12 months ...do you agree or disagree with the following statement?		
Q.7(3)	I had a say in the activity	2017	2016
	Base: All doing any social action in past 12 months	1150	1206
	Definitely agree	32%	38%
	Tend to agree	33%	30%
	Tend to disagree	18%	14%
	Definitely disagree	14%	17%
	Don't know	3%	2%
	Agree	65%	67%
	Disagree	32%	31%

	Thinking about the activity you did most often in the past 12 months ...do you agree or disagree with the following statement?		
Q.7(4)	After I took part in this activity, I was told about other similar activities that I could do to help other people or the environment	2017	2016
	Base: All doing any social action in past 12 months	1150	1206
	Definitely agree	30%	36%
	Tend to agree	32%	33%
	Tend to disagree	20%	13%
	Definitely disagree	14%	15%
	Don't know	4%	4%
	Agree	62%	68%
	Disagree	34%	28%

	Thinking about the activity you did most often in the past 12 months ...do you agree or disagree with the following statement?	
Q.7(5)	Taking part in the activity encouraged me to do more sport and exercise in my day-to-day life	2017
	Base: All doing any social action in past 12 months	1150
	Definitely agree	28%
	Tend to agree	27%
	Tend to disagree	23%
	Definitely disagree	18%
	Don't know	3%
	Agree	56%
	Disagree	41%

Q.8	Thinking about the activity you did most often in the past 12 months ... was your participation rewarded in any of the following ways:	2017
	Base: All doing any social action in past 12 months	1150
	Somebody thanked me	70%
	I received a certificate/badge or award/prize/accreditation	31%
	I was invited to a ceremony or a celebration event	8%
	I received public recognition (e.g. in a local paper)	3%
	I received a gift	5%
	I met a celebrity	1%
	Other	3%
	I was not rewarded	13%
	Any	87%

Q.9a	Please can you say why haven't you been involved in these kinds of activities in the past 12 months?	2017	2016	2015	2014
	Base: All not doing any social action or donating in past 12 months	532	610	573	536
	My friends aren't doing this type of thing	22%	20%	11%	9%
	Don't have enough time	24%	31%	33%	24%
	Can't afford it	7%	6%	-	-
	I don't know how to get involved / no one has asked me	19%	21%	13%	18%
	Few / no opportunities in my area	4%	6%	6%	11%
	I have a health problem/ disability that makes it difficult to take part	1%	1%	1%	1%
	It never occurred to me to take part	26%	14%	32%	32%
	I'm not interested	24%	22%	19%	20%
	I tried but am too young	1%	2%	-	-
	It's not as important as school	5%	5%	-	-
	It's not as important as work experience	2%	2%	-	-
	I applied but didn't hear from anyone	*	1%	-	-
	It's not cool	1%	1%	-	-
	No one thanked me or recognised my contribution	1%	-	-	-
	It was too hard/difficult to get to	1%	-	-	-
	Other	13%	7%	8%	7%
	Don't know	9%	9%	10%	5%

Q.9b	Thinking overall about types of activities that benefit other people or the environment, which of these would encourage you to take part in them?	2017	2016
	Base: All not doing any social action or donating in past 12 months	532	610
	<b>If it was easier for me</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>32%</b>
	If it was close to where I live	18%	15%
	If I could do it from home	6%	6%
	If could do it in person	3%	2%
	If I could do it at school/college/university/work	18%	18%
	If I could do it online	6%	-
	Other	1%	2%
	<b>If I had more encouragement</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>37%</b>
	If I could do it with my friends *	36%	33%
	If I had an adult to help me	8%	10%
	If I was thanked or received an award	2%	-
	Other	0%	0%
	<b>If I had more Information about it</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>24%</b>
	If I could find more about it online	12%	6%
	If someone asked me to get involved	15%	19%
	Other	0%	1%
	<b>If it fitted more with my interests</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>23%</b>
	If it related to my interests eg sports / drama	20%	18%
	If it was linked to getting into university or a job	7%	6%
	If it was to support a cause I cared about	11%	-
	If it meant I could get outdoors	1%	-
	Other	0%	0%
	Nothing/Not interested (Unprompted)	2%	19%
	Other	4%	3%
	None of these things	7%	12%
	Don't know	25%	12%

Q.10a	Apart from donating money or goods, please can you say why haven't you been involved in any other kinds of activities in the past 12 months?	2017	2016	2015	2014
	Base: All who donated money or goods but no social action in past 12 months	348	266	273	348
	My friends aren't doing this type of thing	22%	19%	13%	11%
	Don't have enough time	44%	24%	37%	33%
	Can't afford it	7%	3%	-	-
	I don't know how to get involved / no one has asked me	19%	23%	19%	15%
	Few / no opportunities in my area	5%	11%	10%	11%
	I have a health problem/ disability that makes it difficult to take part	1%	1%	2%	1%
	It never occurred to me to take part	24%	18%	23%	29%
	I'm not interested	13%	16%	11%	10%
	I tried but am too young	1%	1%	-	-
	It's not as important as school	4%	5%	-	-
	It's not as important as work experience	2%	0%	-	-
	I applied but didn't hear from anyone	0%	3%	-	-
	It's not cool	1%	1%	-	-
	No one thanked me or recognised my contribution	1%	-	-	-
	It was too hard/difficult to get to	0%	-	-	-
	Other	6%	5%	2%	2%
	Don't know	7%	12%	9%	9%

Q.10b	Thinking overall about types of activities that benefit other people or the environment, apart from donating money or goods, which of these would encourage you to take part in them?	2017	2016
	Base: All who donated money or goods but no social action in past 12 months	348	266
	<b>If it was easier for me</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>58%</b>
	If it was close to where I live	20%	31%
	If I could do it from home	8%	13%
	If could do it in person	3%	4%
	If I could do it at school/college/university/work	22%	27%
	If I could it online	7%	-
	Other	1%	2%
	<b>If I had more encouragement</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>53%</b>
	If I could do it with my friends	37%	48%
	If I had an adult to help me	6%	14%
	If I was thanked or received an award	1%	-
	Other	0%	0%
	<b>If I had more Information about it</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>38%</b>
	If I could find more about it online	11%	8%
	If someone asked me to get involved	18%	32%
	Other	1%	2%
	<b>If it fitted more with my interests</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>29%</b>
	If it related to my interests eg sports / drama	12%	22%
	If it was linked to getting into university or a job	4%	12%
	If it was to support a cause I cared about	11%	-
	If it meant I could get outdoors	2%	-
	Other	0%	0%
	Nothing/Not interested (Unprompted)	12%	9%
	None of these things	4%	4%
	Other	2%	1%
	Don't know	7%	9%

Q.11	Have you ever done any of these activities? Have you done any of these activities more than 12 months ago?	2017	2016	2015
	Base: All not doing any social action or donated only in past 12 months	880	876	846
	Yes	29%	31%	25%
	No	69%	64%	70%
	Don't know	2%	4%	5%

Q.12	What causes or issues would you be interested in supporting or getting involved with in the future?	2017
	Base: All not doing any social action or donated only in past 12 months	880
	Health & social care	23%
	Social inequality	20%
	Local community	24%
	The environment	15%
	Other countries	8%
	Education, careers, employability	11%
	Animal protection	29%
	Something else	5%
	None of these	33%
	Don't know	2%

Q.13a	How likely is it, if at all, that you'll do activities to benefit other people or the environment in the next 12 months?	2017	2016	2015	2014
	Base: All	2030	2082	2021	2038
	Definitely will	26%	29%	30%	27%
	Very likely	20%	20%	19%	24%
	Fairly likely	23%	18%	20%	22%
	Not that likely	8%	7%	8%	8%
	Not at all likely	5%	6%	4%	4%
	Definitely won't	4%	3%	3%	3%
	Don't know	14%	16%	15%	12%
	Likely	68%	67%	70%	74%
	Not likely	17%	17%	15%	15%

Q.13b	And why is that?	2017
-------	------------------	------

	Base: All likely /definitely getting involved and did any named activity in past 12 months	1063
	I enjoyed helping other people	66%
	I helped a charity/ cause/ group that I believe in	27%
	I had fun	40%
	I felt better about myself	28%
	I met new people	25%
	I felt I made a difference	28%
	I learnt new skills	15%
	It added to my CV/ job opportunities	15%
	I felt valued as part of a team	22%
	I gained confidence/ self-esteem	15%
	I learnt about things that affect me/ my community/ the environment	12%
	The activity was related to personal interest e.g. sports	9%
	Other people's lives / the environment were improved	11%
	Money was raised for a good cause/ charity	37%
	Awareness of the issue/ charity has improved	10%
	Something else/other	3%
	Don't know	1%

Q.13c	And why is that?	2017
	Base: All not likely to get involved and did any named activity in past 12 months	36*
	I didn't think it was a worthwhile cause/ charity	4%
	I didn't have any say in the activity	1%
	I didn't find it fun/ engaging/ interesting	12%
	I didn't think it helped the community	5%
	I didn't learn anything	0%
	It didn't help build my experience/ CV	0%
	It was a one-off activity/ event	24%
	It hasn't made a difference to anyone's lives/ the environment	0%
	It didn't raise awareness about the issue/ cause/ charity	0%
	The area/ issue/ cause did not need help	3%
	It seemed a pointless activity	0%
	It was not well planned/ organised	0%
	Not enough time/ activity was too short	34%
	Something else/other	12%
	Don't know	22%

\*Note the base size here is very small so results should be seen as indicative.

Q.14	How much do you think that doing activities to help other people or the environment will help you get a job in the future?	2017	2016
	Base: All	2030	2082
	A great deal	23%	27%
	A fair amount	38%	35%
	Not very much	14%	12%
	Not at all	9%	9%
	Don't know	17%	18%

Q.15	Do any of your friends take part in activities to help other people or the environment	2017
	Base: All	2030
	All of my friends	9%
	Some of my friends	53%
	None of my friends	28%
	Don't know	10%

<b>Q.16</b>	<b>Does any of your family take part in activities to help other people or the environment</b>	<b>2017</b>
	Base: All	<b>2030</b>
	All of my family	10%
	Some of my family	48%
	None of my family	35%
	Don't know	7%

<b>Q.17</b>	<b>Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays, where nought is 'not at all satisfied' and 10 is 'completely satisfied'?</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	Base: All	<b>2030</b>	<b>2082</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2038</b>
	10 - Completely satisfied	26%	34%	34%	31%
	...9	17%	18%	17%	19%
	...8	25%	22%	24%	21%
	...7	18%	14%	14%	16%
	...6	7%	6%	6%	8%
	...5	5%	3%	3%	4%
	...4	1%	1%	1%	1%
	...3	0%	1%	1%	0%
	...2	0%	0%	0%	0%
	...1	0%	0%	0%	0%
	0 - Not at all satisfied	0%	0%	0%	0%
	High	44%	52%	51%	50%
	Medium high	43%	36%	38%	36%
	Medium low	12%	9%	10%	12%
	Low	2%	3%	1%	2%



**Youth Social Action Survey Wave 4**  
**Meaningful Social Action Results**

% participating in meaningful social action in past 12 months		2017	2016	2015	2014	Significance 2017 - 2016	Significance 2017 - 2014
	Total	39%	42%	42%	40%	YES	NO
Gender	Male	35%	38%	39%	35%	NO	NO
	Female	43%	47%	45%	46%	NO	NO
Age	Age 10-15	42%	41%	40%	42%	NO	NO
	Age 16-20	36%	44%	44%	38%	YES	NO
Social grade	ABC1	44%	46%	45%	45%	NO	NO
	C2DE	33%	38%	38%	34%	YES	NO
Ethnicity	White	38%	43%	43%	40%	YES	NO
	BME	45%	35%	36%	39%	YES	NO
Religion	Religion	41%	41%	45%	43%	NO	NO
	No religion	38%	44%	39%	37%	YES	NO
Disability/SEN	Disability	45%	48%	43%	40%	NO	NO
	SEN	51%	45%	49%	43%	NO	NO
Area	Urban	38%	41%	42%	42%	NO	YES
	Rural	39%	47%	42%	36%	YES	NO
Location	England	39%	42%	42%	39%	NO	NO
	Scotland	38%	52%	44%	49%	YES	YES
	Wales	53%	48%	42%	39%	NO	YES
	Northern Ireland	23%	18%	24%	36%	NO	YES
Region (England)	North East	54%	54%	45%	36%	NO	YES
	Yorks & Humber	17%	26%	40%	31%	NO	YES
	North West	38%	31%	44%	45%	NO	NO
	West Mids	34%	42%	31%	35%	NO	NO
	East Mids	36%	47%	50%	54%	NO	YES
	South West	52%	58%	54%	38%	NO	YES
	East	36%	30%	41%	25%	NO	NO
	South East	55%	64%	49%	54%	YES	NO
	Gtr London	33%	33%	33%	35%	NO	NO
Occupation	School	42%	42%	41%	42%	NO	NO
	College	45%	47%	51%	46%	NO	NO
	University	46%	53%	50%	54%	NO	NO
	Apprenticeship	18%	45%	40%	33%	YES	NO
	Employment	26%	33%	36%	26%	NO	NO
	Unemployed	19%	26%	29%	21%	NO	NO