TRENDS: Young people's worries (1991-2003)*

Their health, the way they look and school problems

The charts presented below are drawn from data from surveys across the UK carried out by the Schools Health Education Unit between 1991-2003 and report on the findings from over 250,000 young people.

Health problems

Data from 1991 - 2003 reveal that, since the early 1990s if anything, slightly fewer young people report worrying ‘quite a lot/a lot’ about health problems. Females consistently worry more than males about this problem.


School problems

Data from 1991 - 2003 reveal that, since the early 1990s more young people report worrying about school problems. From the mid-1990's an upward trend can be seen from the 14-15 year olds which has been as high as 29% (2001) for males and 39% (2001) for females. Data from 1996 onward show that at least 30% of 14-15 year old females reported worrying ‘quite a lot/a lot’.

Figures from the younger males suggest there has been an increasing trend to worry more but the 12-13 year old females appear no more concerned now about school problems than they were in the 1990s.