

Find out about the 926 voluntary and community organisations that work in this field.

OVERVIEW

There are **926 voluntary and community organisations** which have children and young people as their primary beneficiary group. Total income for 2003/04 is estimated to be **£124.16 million**.

79% of all children and young people's organisations included in this research have an income of less than £100,000 per annum.

There are approximately **6,961 paid employees** working in the children and young people's sector with a further **21,249 volunteers** directly involved on a formal basis with these organisations (management committees etc).

ROLE

Northern Ireland has the youngest population in the UK with 27% of the population under the age of eighteen ([Save the Children](#), 2005).

Organisations in the children and young people's sector provide a range of services for families and children - beginning with playgroups and after school clubs - which focus on the poorest and most marginalised communities in society. In addition, these organisations lobby on behalf of all children with the aim of making policy work for the benefits of children and young people.

FUNDING

The children and young people's sector is particularly dependent on government departments and agencies as a source of income. Of the £124.16 million accessed by the children and young people's sector, 48% comes from the government.

Organisations in this field received **£24.93 million from the public** in 2003/04 which represents 20.1% of total income.

PEACE II funding has also been a significant source of income, this sector draws 13.3% of its total income from this source. Funding under PEACE II measures for the children and young people's sector represents 28% of the total PEACE II expenditure in 2003/04.

Almost a quarter of organisations which receive funding from government sources are dependent on 75% or more of their income from this source. Across each of the other income sources there is not the same degree of dependency on one individual source with perhaps the exception of donations from the general public.

PEOPLE

The children and young people's sector employs **6,961 paid employees** and represents **24.1% of the total sector's workforce** (one out every four employees in the voluntary and community sector work in the children and young people's sector).

Almost half of all employees (46.8%) in the children and young people's sector are part time, which is much higher than the sector as whole where part time employees make up 36% of the workforce.

There are **21,249 volunteers** involved in the children and young people's sector.

The number of volunteers is approximately 28% of the total number of volunteers operating in the whole of the voluntary and community sector.