

GCSE Sociology Key Facts & Statistics

Family

42% of marriages in the UK end in divorce.

Divorce Reform Act - 1969

Equal Pay Act - 1970

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act - 2013

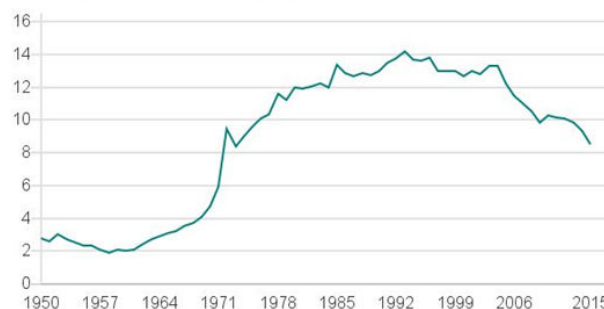
Family Gender Roles

1971 - men spend **15 minutes** per day caring for children

2011 - men spend **2.7 hours** per day caring for children

Divorce rate in England and Wales

Divorces per thousand married people



Source: ONS - We have taken an average of the rates for men and women.

BBC

65% of families were married couples (still largest family type but decreasing)

18% of families were cohabiting couples (increasing)

0.7% of families were same sex couples (increasing)

15% of families in the UK are single parent families

85% of single parent families are headed by mothers - only **15%** by fathers

Average age of motherhood is now **over 30** in the UK. In **90%** of families, women are the primary carers for children.

Secularisation - Census 2021 showed for the first time ever that Christians were in the minority in the UK with only 46% of people saying that they were Christian.

Education

7% of students go to private schools

93% of students go to state schools

29% of MPs went to private school

Girls **outperform** boys at all levels of education now and in all subjects apart from Maths.

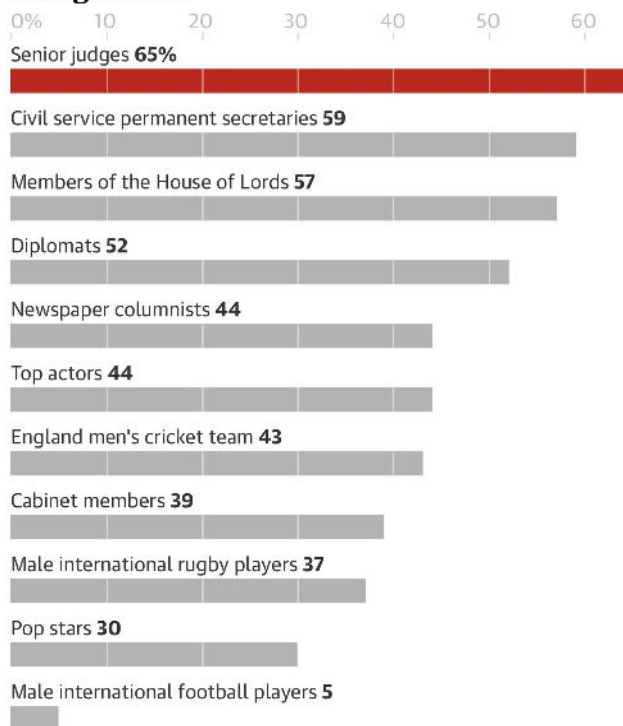
Chinese and Asian ethnic group pupils have the **highest** educational achievement.

Black ethnic group students and Gypsies/Travellers are the **lowest** performing ethnic groups.

75% of upper middle class pupils achieve 5 or more grade 9 - 4 GCSEs - only **30%** of pupils from lower working-class backgrounds achieve the same.

1988 Education Reform Act - league tables, GCSEs, parental choice and the **marketisation** of education.

65% of senior judges come from private school backgrounds



Guardian graphic | Source: Sutton Trust

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Social Stratification (poverty)

Britain has **171** billionaires

Top 10% of richest people in Britain hold **43%** of all the wealth.

Bottom 50% of people in Britain hold only **9%** of the wealth.

Only **8 of the top 100** (FTSE 100) companies in Britain have a female CEO (boss) - 8%, men make up 92% of CEOs

Social mobility = moving up (or down) the social ladder/hierarchy

Meritocracy = jobs and pay are allocated based upon a person's talent and hard work, not social status

The 'gender pay gap' has been stuck at **10%** (in favour of men) for the past three years.

Equal Pay Act 1970 - made it illegal to pay men and women differently for the same job

Equalities Act 2010 - 9 protected characteristics which make it illegal to discriminate against certain groups of people (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation).

Lord Alan Sugar - example of social mobility, started off working class (working on a market) but is now a billionaire member of the House of Lords and star of The Apprentice on BBC, after a successful career in business.

Crime

Minority ethnic total UK population is **14%**

Minority ethnic people make up **25%** of the total prison population

Women **5%** of prisoners

Men **95%** of prisoners

Black people **9 times** more likely to be stopped and searched by the police compared to white people

Peak age of offending in England and Wales is **age 17**.

Criminal age of responsibility is **10 years old**.

25% of adults reoffend after prison and **32%** of young people reoffend when out of prison.