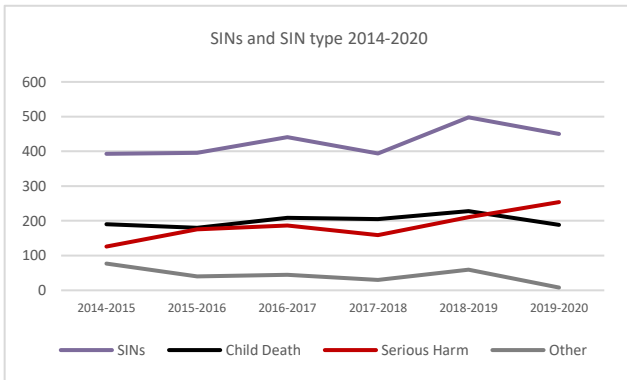


Written evidence submitted by the Department for Education

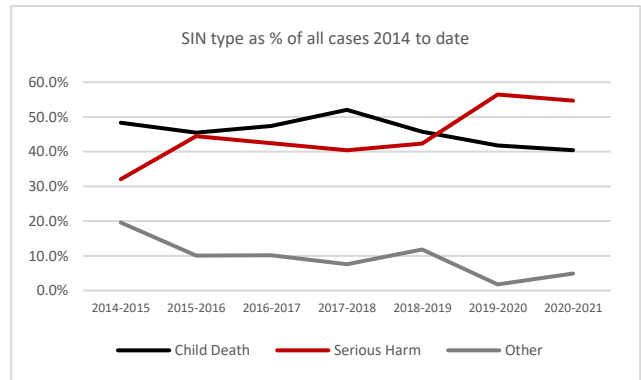
Children's Serious Incident Response Team

Serious Incident Analysis
April-August 2019 and 2020

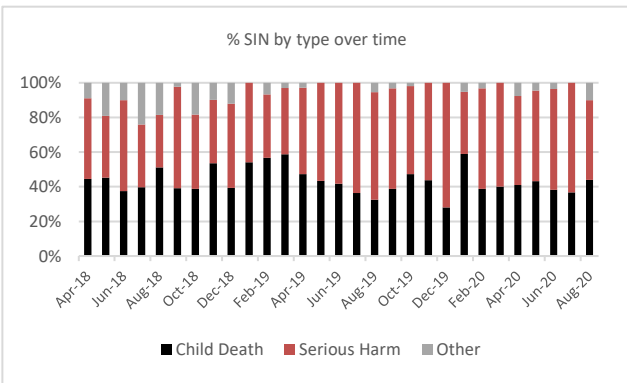
Annual positions 2014 to 2020



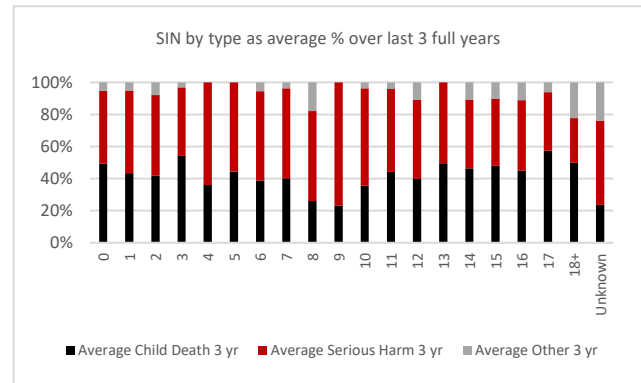
- 2019-2020 – more serious harm than child death cases
- General trend of increasing SINs numbers



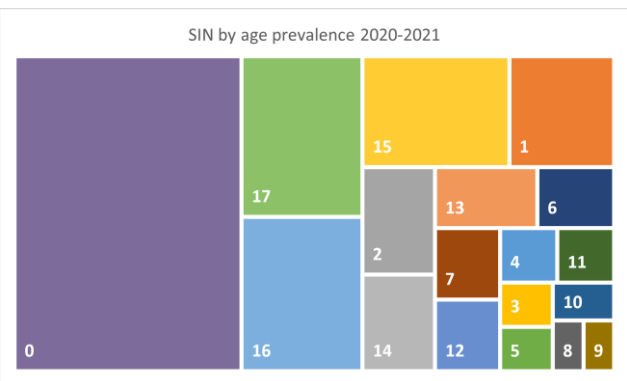
- Prevalence of serious harm is increasing
- May 2020 maintained this prevalence, but we will monitor the trend



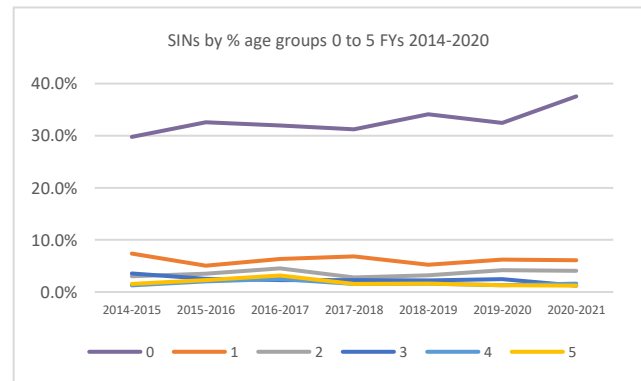
- There seems to be an upward trend in serious harm in the Autumn months
- Winter months seem to see more child death



- Disparity between type of SIN for age group is clear with 5 to 13yr olds experiencing more serious harm than younger/older children



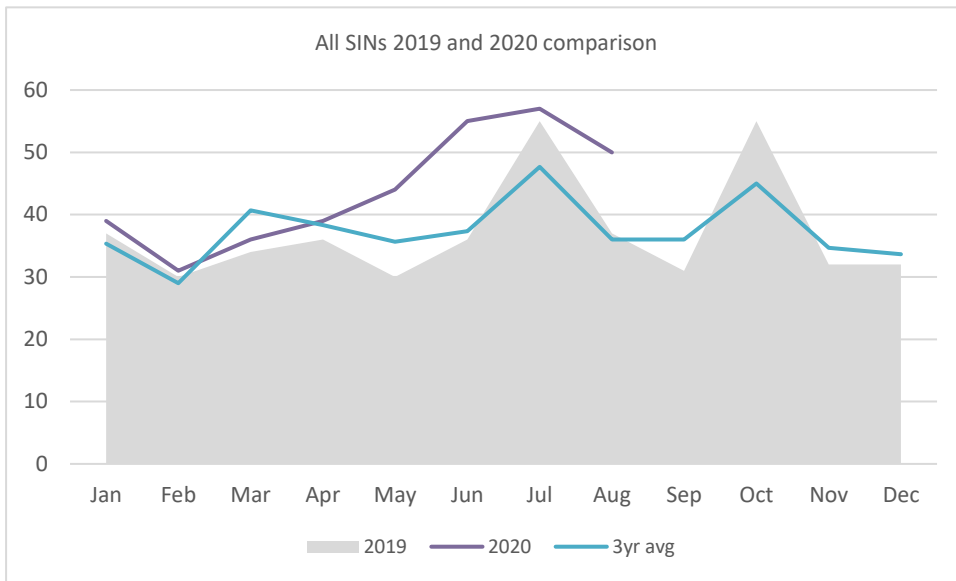
- Under 1s continue to make up most Sins.
- 1, 2, 13, 15, 16, and 17yr olds are the next most prevalent age ranges



- Under 1 rate % remains high and increasing
- 1yr olds remain next most vulnerable group
- Recent increase in % of 2yr olds notified

Serious incident notifications

The chart below shows calendar year information for the total number of serious incidents received each month in 2019 and 2020. It also includes the 3yr average number of total serious incident notifications received in those months.

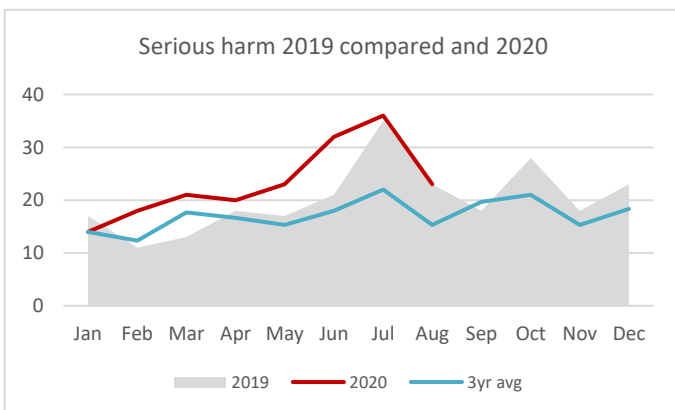
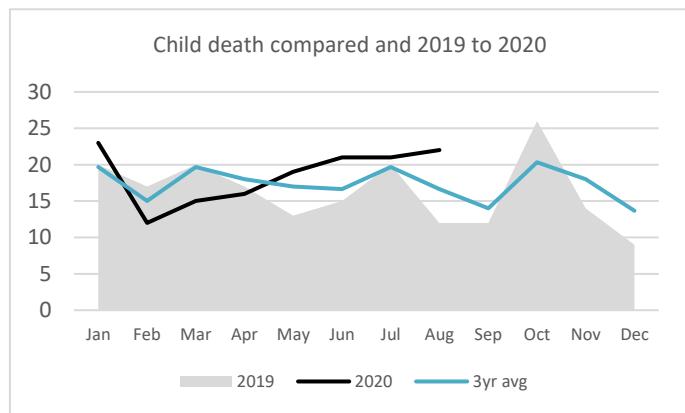


We have received more serious incident notifications in each calendar month in 2020 than in 2019. There have also been more notifications than the 3yr average for May, June, July, and August.

Child deaths

The chart shows those serious incident notifications relating to child deaths by month in 2019 and 2020, and the 3yr average.

We have received more SINs for child death in May, June, July, and August 2020 than we did in 2019. We have also received more child death SINs in those months than the 3yr average, from a relatively low February to April.



Serious harm

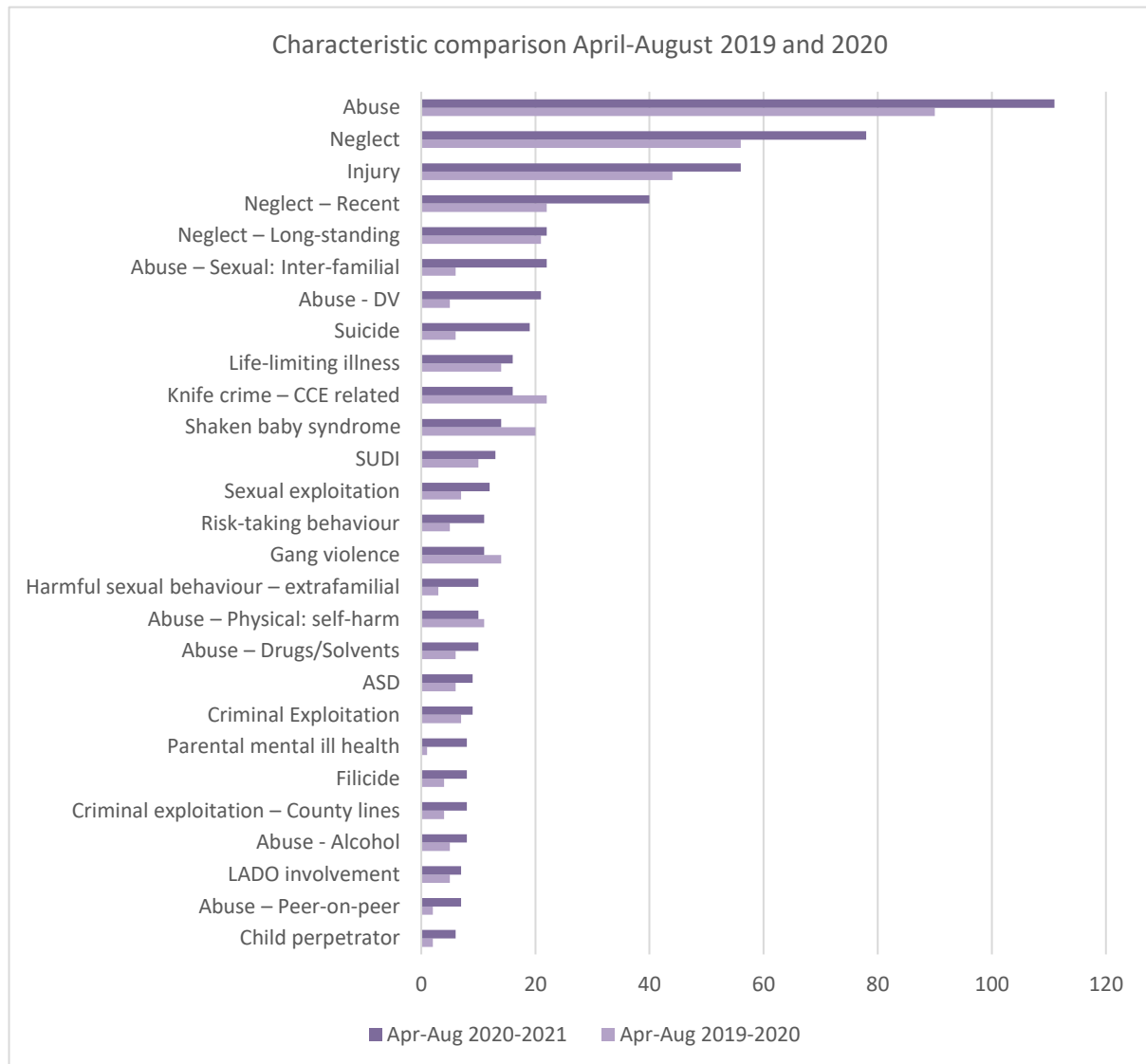
The chart shows those serious incident notifications relating to serious harm by month in 2019 and 2020, and the 3yr avg.

We have received more SINs for serious harm each month from February to June 2020 than we did in 2019. We have also received more serious harm SINs in those months than the 3yr average, from January to June. July and August 2020 were in line with July and August 2019.

SIN characteristics

The following information is a composite of all characteristics chosen by local authorities when submitting serious incident notifications. The characteristics are not mutually exclusive, and authorities can choose as many or as few are relevant to the case.

This relies on diligence by the authorities when completing a notification and therefore some caution should be shown when interpreting the information, particularly as authorities become more familiar with the system.



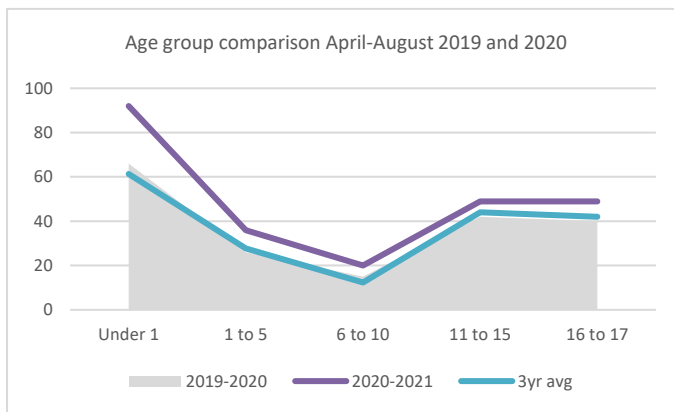
‘Abuse’ continues to be the single most prevalent characteristic and there were more instances recorded in the 2020 April to August period than in the same 2019 timeframe. ‘Neglect’ and ‘injury’ follow a similar pattern.

There have been more declarations of ‘inter-familial sexual abuse’, ‘suicide’, ‘domestic violence’, ‘SUDI’, ‘extra-familial harm’, and ‘filicide’ in the 2020 April to August period than 2019.

Local authorities have declared fewer instances of ‘knife crime’ and ‘gang violence’ in the April to August 2020 period than in cases received in the same timeframe in 2019.

‘Life-limiting illness’, ‘criminal exploitation’ and ‘self-harm’ all remain relatively static.

Age



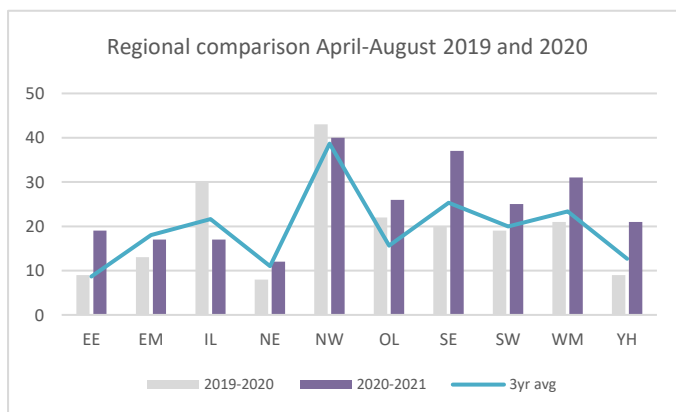
The chart shows aggregated numbers of SINS for April to August in 2019 and 2020, and the 3yr average.

There have been more SINS received in April to August 2020 than 2019 or against 3yr averages, in every age group. Under have seen the largest disparity between this year's cohort and last year. 'Under 1' volumes have increased from 66 to 92. Other ages largely in line with 2019 and the 3yr averages.

Regions and local authorities

The chart below outlines the number of serious incident notifications received by region for the period April to June in 2019 and 2020, and the 3yr average for those regions.

Regions



The East of England, East Midlands, North East, Outer London, South East, South West, West Midlands, and Yorkshire and the Humber have notified more SINS in the cohort period in 2020 than in 2019. Six regions have made more notifications than the 3yr averages for those months.

Inner London and the North West have notified fewer SINS in the period. Inner London and the East Midlands have made fewer notifications than 3 year averages.

September 2020