

Planned changes to official statistics

Early years and childcare inspections and outcomes

Age group: 0–8

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Introduction

1. Ofsted publishes quarterly statistics on the number and outcomes of inspections of providers registered with Ofsted on the Early Years Register (EYR) and the Childcare Register (CCR).
2. From the next publication of these statistics, scheduled for 8 March 2012 and covering inspections up to 31 December 2011, we intend to make changes to the published statistics.

In accordance with Protocol 1, Practice 7 of the UK Statistics Authority *Code of practice for official statistics*,¹ this paper describes the proposed changes in full and invites comment. The proposed changes follow a substantial increase in the content of this statistical publication during 2011 and are intended to focus the analysis it contains on those elements that generate most interest.

Coverage and presentation

3. The statistics are presented with three main components:
 - a) key findings and commentary to help users understand the main messages arising from the information
 - b) a number of tables providing flexible analyses covering the most commonly asked questions and areas of interest
 - c) .csv files providing the data underlying the analyses, allowing users to conduct their own analysis if required.
4. The items a) and c) above are intended to remain unchanged.
5. A number of changes are proposed to item b). Full details of the proposed changes are shown at Annex A and involve:
 - the removal of four tables where the analysis is repeated elsewhere within the publication or covers types of inspection that tend to generate lower levels of interest
 - the removal of the local authority filter from a further six tables
 - the removal of the month-by-month breakdown for table 9a, which typically covers a very small number of inspections.
6. In all cases, even though removal or modification of the tables is proposed, it is intended that the underlying data will remain as part of the publication.

¹ *Code of practice for official statistics*, UK Statistics Authority, 2009;
www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html.

Frequency

7. These changes do not affect the frequency of publication.

Periodicity

8. In the main, it is proposed that data will be presented on a monthly basis, which is unchanged. The only exception to this is the proposed removal of a monthly breakdown from table 9a, which covers 'No Children on Roll' inspections within the quarter and usually has very small inspection numbers.

Timing

9. The timing of these publications is unchanged by these proposals.

Feedback

10. If you have any questions or comments about the planned changes to official statistics outlined in this document, please contact the responsible statistician by email at steve.ball@ofsted.gov.uk, or by writing to:

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Annex A. Proposed changes to the content of early years and childcare inspections and outcomes statistical publication

Publications from March 2012 – changes from previous quarters marked in yellow

Table No.	Table Contents	Inspection type	In quarter or latest inspection	Active or Closed providers	----- Filter or Breakdown -----			
					Inspection type	Local Authority	Month	Provider Type
1	Inspection volumes in the quarter	All	In quarter	All	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
2	Inspection outcomes, all judgements	EYR	In quarter	All	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
3a	Inspection outcomes, overall effectiveness	EYR	Most recent	Active	No	No	No	Yes
3b	Inspection outcomes, overall effectiveness	EYR	Most recent	Closed	No	No	No	Yes
3c	Inspection outcomes, all judgements	EYR	Most recent	Active	No	Yes	No	Yes
3d	Inspection outcomes, all judgements	EYR	Most recent	Closed	No	No	No	Yes
4a	Compliance with CR for EYR providers	EYR	In quarter	All	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
4b	Compliance with CR for providers not on EYR	CR	In quarter	All	No	No	Yes	Yes
5	Compliance with the CR for EYR providers	EYR	Most recent	Active	No	No	No	Yes
5b	Compliance with the CR for previous EYR providers	EYR	Most recent	Closed	No	No	No	Yes
6	Compliance with the CR for providers on CR only	CR	Most recent	Active	No	No	No	Yes
6b	Compliance with the CR for providers prev on CR only	CR	Most recent	Closed	No	No	No	Yes
7	Actions issued at EYR inspections	EYR	In quarter	All	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
8	Recommendations made at EYR inspections	EYR	In quarter	All	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
9a	EYR inspections with NCOR	EYR	In quarter	All	No	No	No	Yes
9b	EYR inspections with NCOR	EYR	Most recent	Active	No	No	No	Yes
9c	EYR inspections with NCOR	EYR	Most recent	Closed	No	No	No	Yes
9c	Re-inspected inadequate providers with NCOR	EYR	Most recent	Active	No	Yes	No	Yes
10a	Overall Effectiveness, EYR providers, by LA	EYR	In quarter	All	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
10b	Overall Effectiveness, EYR providers, by LA	EYR	Most recent	Active	No	Yes	No	Yes