

Early Childhood Education and Care: Aggregate NMDS 2012

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Early Childhood Education and Care: Aggregate NMDS 2012

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Data Set Specification

METEOR identifier: 466521

Registration status: [Early Childhood](#), Superseded 08/04/2013

DSS type: National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

Scope: This data set has been developed to support the collection of data under the National Information Agreement for Early Childhood Education and Care. Responsibility for early childhood learning and care is shared between the Australian Government and the state and territory governments, and involves a wide range of service providers including government, local government, community, schools and the private sector.

The Agreement provides a framework for cooperation between the Commonwealth, state and territory jurisdictions and information agencies to develop the early childhood education and care (ECEC) information base required for the Council of Australian Government (COAG) early childhood reform agenda.

Data and information in scope of the Agreement include:

- Activity under the National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education (NP ECE)
- ECEC information required to support the information needs of other National Agreements and National Partnerships, including the National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Early Childhood Development and the National Indigenous Reform Agreement
- Outcomes in relation to the COAG Participation and Productivity Agenda
- Other national reporting purposes, including but not limited to the Report on Government Services, Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage, Report to COAG Reform Council, and National Headline Indicators on Children's Health, Development and Wellbeing
- Monitoring, research and evaluation related to children, families and early childhood development services under the Early Childhood Development Strategy (ECDS)

Service provider organisations for the purposes of this collection are agencies directly providing services to children at a specific location. This includes organisations providing preschool, and other early childhood education and direct care services.

Organisations may provide multiple services, however for the purpose of reporting against the NP ECE, only preschool programs are included.

A preschool program is a structured, play based learning program, delivered by a degree qualified teacher aimed at children in the year or two before they commence full-time schooling, irrespective of the type of institution that provides it or whether it is government funded or privately provided. Programs may be delivered in a variety of service settings including separate preschools or kindergartens, long day care centres, in association with a school etc.

The terms most commonly used to describe preschool programs in the states and territories are:

- Kindergarten – Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania
- Kindergarten or Preschool – Victoria, South Australia
- Preschool – New South Wales, Northern Territory, Australian Capital Territory

A preschool program may or may not be delivered in such a way that meets the Universal Access goal. The requirements for Universal Access are listed below.

The National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education is a commitment to joint Commonwealth, State and Territory action to deliver universal access to quality early childhood education in the year before formal schooling.

Universal access means that every child, in the year before they commence full-time schooling, has access to a preschool program that is:

- delivered by a four year university qualified early childhood teacher in accordance with the National Early Years Learning Framework
- available for at least 15 hours a week, 40 weeks a year
- delivered across a diversity of settings that meets the needs of parents and at a cost that does not present a barrier to participation

The aggregate level collection supports information to be collected at the teacher and service provider organisation level.

The information is to be collected within the reference period in August 2012 to enable comparison with schools' data collected in August each year.

Collection and usage attributes

Statistical unit: Service provider organisation
Employed person (Teacher)

Implementation start date: 01/07/2012

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Early Childhood Data Sub Group (ECDSG)

Steward: [Early Childhood Data Sub Group \(ECDSG\)](#)

Origin: National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education

Reference documents: National Information Agreement for Early Childhood Education and Care, 2009-2013

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Early Childhood Education and Care: Aggregate NMDS 2011 Early Childhood](#), Superseded 09/03/2012

Has been superseded by [Early Childhood Education and Care: Aggregate NMDS 2013 Early Childhood](#), Superseded 28/05/2014

See also [Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2012 Early Childhood](#), Superseded 08/04/2013

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Early Childhood Education and Care DSS 2012 Early Childhood](#), Superseded 08/04/2013
Implementation start date: 01/07/2012

Metadata items in this Data Set Specification

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	Early childhood education and care worker cluster	Mandatory	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
1	Person (employed)—paid employment indicator, code N DSS specific information: 'Yes' includes early childhood education and care workers who receive wages or salary. They can include contract workers or relief workers. 'No' includes workers who are not paid, but who may be receiving in-kind benefits in recognition or exchange for their work. Unpaid staff may include volunteers, unpaid work trainees, parents and family members and students on work experience. In-kind benefits such as free child care or the reimbursement of work-related expenses in full or part (for example, token payments or small gifts such as t-shirts) are not regarded as payment of salary, and people who receive these are considered to be unpaid workers.	Mandatory	1
2	Person (employed)—type of work activity, early childhood education and care, code N Conditional obligation: Conditional on responding '1 Yes' to whether the person is in paid employment.	Conditional	1
3	Person (employed)—role of early childhood education and care worker, code N Conditional obligation: Conditional on responding '1 Yes' to whether the person is in paid employment.	Conditional	1
4	Person (employed)—education field of highest relevant qualification, in early childhood education and care, code N[N] Conditional obligation: Conditional on being a paid early childhood education and care contact worker.	Conditional	1
5	Person (employed)—level of highest qualification in early childhood education and care, code N[N] Conditional obligation: Conditional on being a paid early childhood education and care contact worker.	Conditional	1
6	Person (employed)—preschool program delivery indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described, code N Conditional obligation: Conditional on being a paid early childhood education and care contact worker.	Conditional	1
7	Person (employed)—hours worked in preschool program delivery, total hours NNN Conditional obligation: Conditional on being a paid early childhood education and care contact worker who delivered a preschool program.	Conditional	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	Address—Australian postcode, Australian postcode code (Postcode datafile) {NNNN} DSS specific information: Should be reported for the physical location at which the preschool program is delivered.	Mandatory	1
-	Address—statistical area, level 1 (SA1) code (ASGS 2011) N(11) DSS specific information: This item should be collected for the physical location at which the early childhood education and care service is delivered.	Mandatory	1
-	Address—suburb/town/locality name, text X[X(45)] DSS specific information: Should be reported for the physical location at which the preschool program is delivered.	Mandatory	1
-	Organisation—organisation name, text X[X(199)] DSS specific information: This item should be used to report the operating or trading name of the early childhood education and care service which delivers a preschool program to children. The registered business name should not be used if it is different from the name of early childhood education and care service that it manages or owns. A campus name or satellite school name (e.g. where the service provider organisation operates preschool programs at multiple geographical locations using the same service provider name) may also be used. Each service provider must have a discrete service provider organisation name to allow identification of each individual location for provision of a preschool program. The organisation name type data item is not required.	Mandatory	1
-	Person—age, total years N[NN] DSS specific information: Age should be collected for children referenced to their age at 1 July in the year of data collection.	Mandatory	1
-	Person—estimated resident population of Australia, total people N[N(7)]	Mandatory	1
-	Person—Indigenous status, code N DSS specific information: The parent or guardian should be asked to declare the child's Indigenous status on their behalf.	Mandatory	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	Service provider organisation (address)—address line, text X[X(179)]	Mandatory	1
	DSS specific information: Should be reported for the physical location at which the preschool program is delivered only.		
-	Service provider organisation—Australian state/territory identifier, code N	Mandatory	1
	DSS specific information: Should be reported for the physical location at which the preschool program is delivered.		
-	Service provider organisation—geographic location (CD), code (ASGC 2011) NNNNNNN	Mandatory	1
	DSS specific information: Should be reported for the physical location at which the preschool program is delivered only.		
-	Service provider organisation—government funding type, early childhood education and care code N	Mandatory	1
-	Service provider organisation—management type, early childhood education and care, code N[N]	Mandatory	1
	DSS specific information: The legal or social entity responsible for managing the delivery of early childhood education and care services is the entity responsible for the day to day running of early childhood education and care services, including task such as the design and the delivery of the preschool program, the hiring and firing of staff, the care of the children, etc.		
-	Service provider organisation—maximum preschool program hours available per week, total hours N[N]	Mandatory	1
-	Service provider organisation—number of children attending a preschool program, total N[NNNN]	Mandatory	1
-	Service provider organisation—number of Indigenous children attending a preschool program, total number N[NNNN]	Mandatory	1
-	Service provider organisation—number of Indigenous children enrolled in a preschool program, total N[NNNN]	Mandatory	1
-	Service provider organisation—number of preschool program enrolments, total number N[NNNN]	Mandatory	1
-	Service provider organisation—number of preschool program hours enrolled, total hours N[NNNN]	Mandatory	1
-	Service provider organisation—number of preschool program service operation weeks (calendar year), total NN	Mandatory	1
-	Service provider organisation—organisation identifier, X(15)	Mandatory	1
	DSS specific information: Should be reported for the location at which the preschool program is delivered. A discrete identifier should be supplied for each preschool program operated as a separate campus or 'satellite' of a parent service provider organisation.		
-	Service provider organisation—preschool program attendance hours, total hours N[NNNN]	Mandatory	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	Service provider organisation—preschool program weekly tuition fee schedule amount, total Australian currency N[NNNNN].NN	Mandatory	1
-	Service provider organisation—service activity type, early childhood education and care, code N[N]	Mandatory	1
-	Service provider organisation—service delivery setting, early childhood education and care, code N	Mandatory	1