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Introduction

This official statistics release reports on early years and childcare inspections that occurred between 1 September 2008 and 30 June 2012 under Section 59 and 60 of the Childcare Act 2006.

Data for inspections carried out between 1 April 2012 and 30 June 2012 are provisional and subject to change. Ofsted will release final statistics for this period in due course on a date to be confirmed in the near future.

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Key findings

Latest quarter

- Ofsted carried out 4,426 inspections of childcare provision between 1 April 2012 and 30 June 2012. A large majority (75%) were inspections of providers on the Early Years Register who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Of the 3,338 inspections of early years registered providers carried out, three quarters (75%) were judged good or outstanding for overall effectiveness and almost all (98%) were at least satisfactory. Two per cent were judged inadequate.
- A higher proportion of childcare providers on non-domestic premises were judged to be good or outstanding for overall effectiveness compared to the childminders inspected, at 81% and 72% respectively. The greatest difference is in the proportion of providers judged outstanding, where 15% of providers of childcare on non-domestic premises were found to be outstanding compared to 6% of childminders. This is a similar picture to the last quarter. However, a very similar proportion of childcare providers on non-domestic premises and childminders were found to be inadequate, 3% and 2% respectively.
- Ninety-one per cent of the 3,338 early years registered providers inspected were also monitored for their compliance with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. Of these 88% met the requirements and 12% were set actions to meet the requirements.
- Of the 493 providers inspected on the Childcare Register only, just over three quarters (78%) met the requirements of the register.

All providers inspected (1 September 2008 to 30 June 2012)

- As at 30 June 2012, 66,413 active early years registered providers had received an inspection since the introduction of the Early Years Foundation Stage in September 2008. Just under two-thirds (65%) of these providers were childminders.
- At their most recent inspection, 74% of all childcare providers were judged as good or outstanding for overall effectiveness and almost all (99%) were judged to be at least satisfactory. The proportion of providers judged inadequate at their most recent inspection is lower than the proportion of inspections with inadequate outcomes in this quarter, or those that precede it. This is because inadequate providers are re-inspected within the period and improve or leave the sector.
- A higher proportion of childcare providers on non-domestic premises were judged to be good or outstanding for overall effectiveness compared to the childminders inspected, at 78% and 71% respectively.
- Ninety per cent of the 66,413 early years registered providers inspected were also monitored for their compliance with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. Of these 88% met the requirements of the register.

- Since the introduction of the Early Years Foundation Stage, 11,204 early years providers have been inspected and were no longer active at 30 June 2012. Of these providers, 8% were inadequate at their last inspection.

Actions and recommendations

- Inspectors raise actions to ensure the statutory requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage or the requirements of the Childcare Register are being met. Usually actions result in one or more inspection judgements being inadequate. However in some cases where the inspector considers that not meeting the requirement or part of a requirement has a limited impact on the children, the provider may still be judged to be 'satisfactory' or, on very rare occasions, 'good'. Providers are given a short timescale to put things right.
- One or more actions to meet the statutory requirements of the Early Years Register were set in 21% of Early Years Foundation Stage inspections carried out between 1 April 2012 and 30 June 2012. A higher proportion of inspections had actions set against the Safeguarding and welfare requirement than other requirements, with one or more actions set against this requirement at 9% of inspections.
- Between 1 April 2012 and 30 June 2012, a higher proportion of inspections had recommendations set against the organisation requirement (39%) than against other requirements. This was followed by the educational programmes requirement (29%) and the early learning goals requirement (24%).

Methodology

1. The data in this release are from inspections carried out between 1 September 2008 and 30 June 2012.
2. Statistics relating to inspections carried out in the latest quarter are provisional and include inspections in the period where the inspection report was published within one month of the end of the quarter. Where an inspection report is published later than one month after the end of the quarter in which the inspection took place, it will be included in the final release of the statistics.
3. Statistics relating to the most recent inspection outcome of providers include inspections up to the end of the period, where the inspection report was also published at that date. This means that where the most recent inspection outcome of a provider took place during the period, but the report was not published at the end of the period, it will be excluded from the analysis. Where there is one, the outcome of the next most recent inspection will be included in the analysis instead.
4. Early years and childcare providers are allocated to local authority areas according to their postcode, using the National Statistics Postcode Directory. For a small number of providers, local authority and region information was not available at the time of analysis. These providers are categorised as 'Local authority not recorded' and 'Region not recorded'.
5. A small proportion of early years registered providers are inspected as part of a school inspection. The outcomes from these providers are not included in this release, but will be covered within Ofsted's official statistics on maintained schools inspection and outcomes and independent schools inspections and outcomes.
6. Final data for inspections completed between 1 January 2012 and 31 March 2012 is published at the same time as provisional data for the following quarter. Revisions are published in line with Ofsted's revisions policy for official statistics. For more information about the policy please visit the Ofsted website:

www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/statistical-notice-ofsted-revisions-policy-for-official-statistics

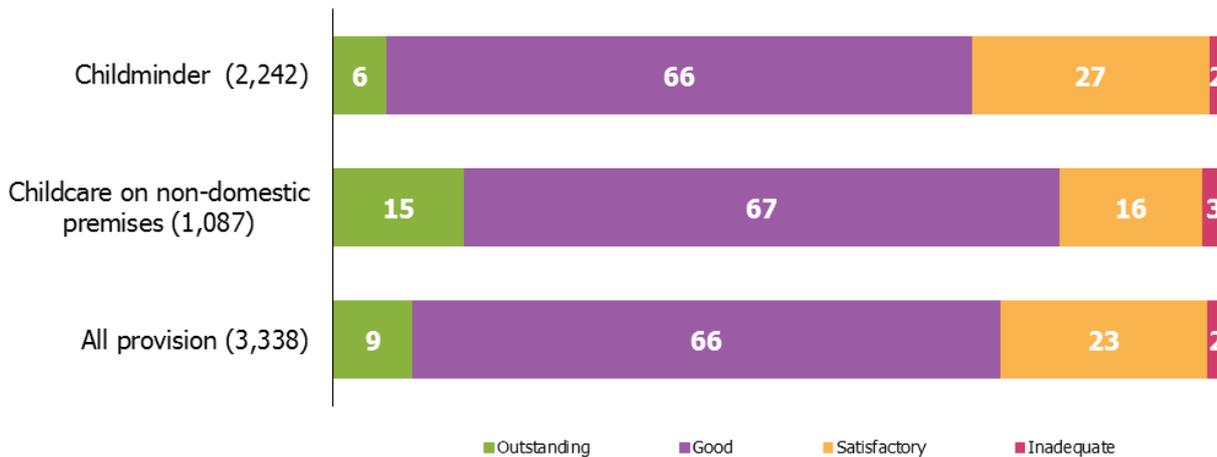
7. The inspection frameworks for providers on the Early Years Register and providers on the Childcare Register were published in September 2008. For more information about these frameworks and how Ofsted regulates and inspects childcare providers please go to the Ofsted website:

www.ofsted.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare/for-early-years-and-childcare-providers/inspecting-early-years-and-childcares

Additional information

All the tables and charts shown in this release, along with additional analysis by month, provider type, at regional and local authority level, and about other aspects of Ofsted's inspection of early years and childcare providers, are available in Excel format on the Ofsted website in the same location as this document.

Chart 1: Overall effectiveness of early years registered providers inspected between 1 April 2012 and 30 June 2012, by provider type (provisional) ^{1 2}



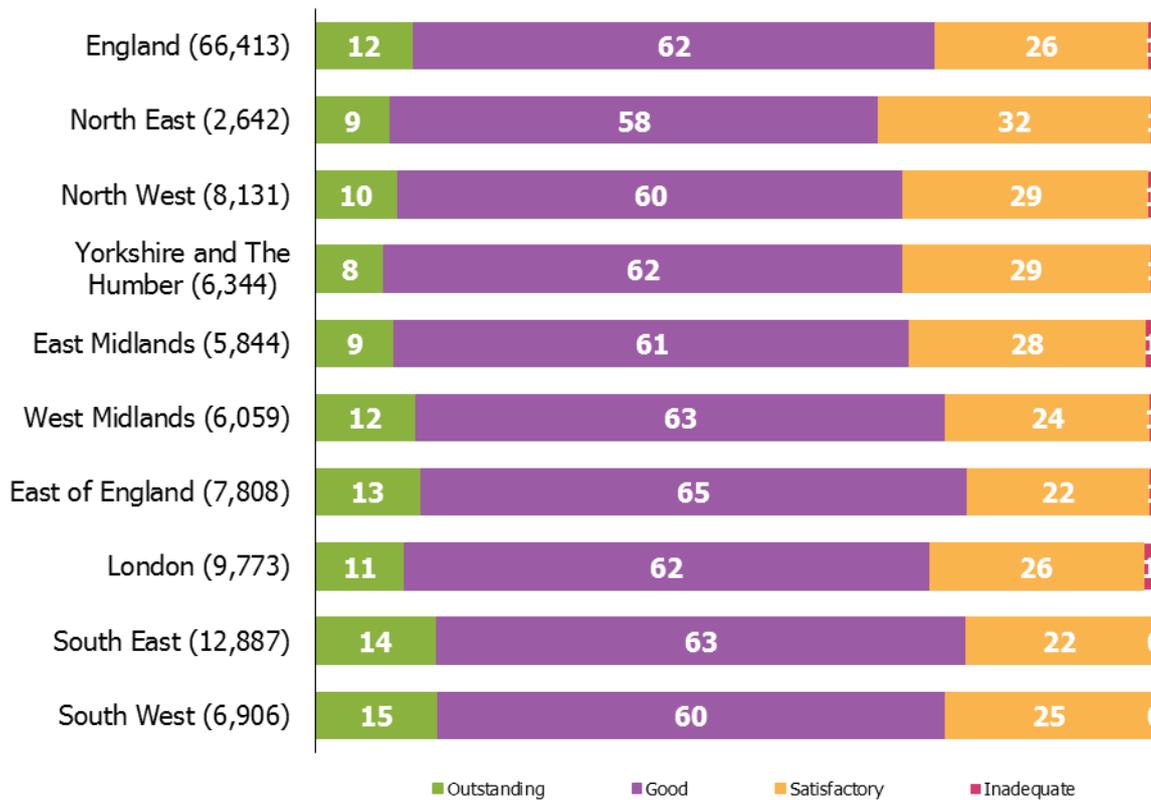
1. Percentages are rounded and do not always add exactly to 100.
2. Childcare on domestic premises are not shown due to the small number of inspections.

Chart 2: Overall effectiveness of active early years registered providers at their most recent inspection as at 30 June 2012, by provider type (provisional) ^{1 2 3}



1. Percentages are rounded and do not always add exactly to 100.
2. Data are based on inspections carried out since the introduction of the Early Years Foundation Stage in September 2008.
3. Childcare on domestic premises are not shown due to the small number of inspections.

Chart 3: Overall effectiveness of active early years registered providers at their most recent inspection as at 30 June 2012, by region (provisional)^{1 2}



1. Percentages are rounded and do not always add exactly to 100.

2. Data are based on inspections carried out since the introduction of the Early Years Foundation Stage in September 2008

Table 1: Number of early years and childcare provider inspections between 1 April 2012 and 30 June 2012, by inspection type (provisional)

	All provision	Childminder	Childcare on non-domestic premises	Childcare on domestic premises	Home childcarer
Early years register (full inspection)	3,338	2,242	1,087	9	–
Early years register (no children on roll)	595	554	41	0	–
Childcare register	493	88	209	0	196
Total	4,426	2,884	1,337	9	196

Source: Ofsted inspections

1. There has been one provider which has since changed to a Home Childcarer following an Early years register (no children on roll) inspection. This provider has not been included within this table.

Table 2: Inspection outcomes of early years registered providers inspected between 1 April 2012 and 30 June 2012 (provisional)

	Total number inspected	Outstanding		Good		Satisfactory		Inadequate	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Overall effectiveness:									
How well does the setting meet the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage¹	3,338	297	9	2,200	66	776	23	65	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3,338	324	10	2,146	64	808	24	60	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	3,338	308	9	2,190	66	775	23	65	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3,338	332	10	2,146	64	800	24	60	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3,338	461	14	2,146	64	700	21	31	1
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3,338	389	12	2,156	65	758	23	35	1
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3,338	419	13	2,148	64	711	21	60	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3,338	321	10	2,083	62	873	26	61	2
The effectiveness of partnerships	3,338	571	17	2,091	63	654	20	22	1
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	3,338	394	12	1,536	46	1,386	42	22	1
The quality of provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3,338	327	10	2,217	66	736	22	58	2
Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3,338	338	10	2,221	67	730	22	49	1
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3,338	394	12	2,190	66	719	22	35	1
The extent to which children feel safe	3,338	445	13	2,164	65	675	20	54	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3,338	488	15	2,181	65	652	20	17	1
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	3,338	451	14	2,163	65	702	21	22	1
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	3,338	381	11	2,197	66	723	22	37	1

Source: Ofsted inspections

1. Percentages are rounded and do not always add exactly to 100.
2. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages are not shown.

Table 3: Inspection outcomes of active early years registered providers at their most recent inspection as at 30 June 2012 (provisional)

	Total number inspected	Outstanding		Good		Satisfactory		Inadequate	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Overall effectiveness:									
How well does the setting meet the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	66,413	7,749	12	41,166	62	16,960	26	538	1
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	66,413	8,348	13	39,400	59	18,166	27	499	1
The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	66,413	7,998	12	40,706	61	17,157	26	552	1
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	48,377	6,618	14	29,090	60	12,236	25	433	1
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	48,377	7,961	16	30,005	62	10,198	21	213	0
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	66,413	9,695	15	40,493	61	15,976	24	249	0
The effectiveness of safeguarding	66,413	9,534	14	40,602	61	15,572	23	705	1
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	66,413	8,000	12	36,651	55	21,207	32	555	1
The effectiveness of partnerships	66,413	12,835	19	40,434	61	12,981	20	163	0
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	48,377	7,175	15	25,206	52	15,836	33	160	0
The quality of provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	48,377	6,107	13	30,396	63	11,462	24	412	1
How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	18,036	2,408	13	10,435	58	5,132	28	61	0
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	18,036	2,278	13	11,208	62	4,484	25	66	0
Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	48,377	6,347	13	30,694	63	10,979	23	357	1
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	66,413	10,526	16	40,835	61	14,764	22	288	0
The extent to which children feel safe	66,413	10,429	16	41,311	62	14,171	21	502	1
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	66,413	10,874	16	42,693	64	12,639	19	207	0
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	66,413	11,020	17	41,246	62	13,981	21	166	0
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	66,413	9,246	14	40,972	62	15,923	24	272	0

Source: Ofsted inspections

1. Percentages are rounded and do not always add exactly to 100.
2. Data are based on inspections carried out since the introduction of the Early Years Foundation Stage in September 2008.
3. Where the number of inspections is small, percentages are not shown.
4. Judgement only made at inspections from 1 September 2009 onwards.
5. Between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009 this judgement was called "How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?"
6. Judgement only made at inspections between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009.
7. Titles of other judgements changed on 1 September 2009 but the criteria for assessing them remained unchanged. Data are amalgamated for inspections conducted before and after this date.

Table 4: Actions at early years registered inspections between 1 April 2012 and 30 June 2012, by the statutory requirements of the Early Years Register (provisional)

	Total number of inspections	Number with actions	Percentage with actions
Any action	3,338	687	21
Learning and development requirements			
Early learning goals	3,338	11	0
Educational programmes	3,338	7	0
Assessment arrangements	3,338	2	0
Welfare requirements			
Safeguarding and welfare	3,338	303	9
Promoting good health	3,338	83	2
Behaviour management	3,338	6	0
Suitability of adults	3,338	27	1
Qualifications, training, knowledge and skills	3,338	30	1
Staffing arrangements	3,338	5	0
Premises, environment & equipment	3,338	158	5
Organisation	3,338	62	2
Documentation	3,338	253	8

Source: Ofsted inspections

Table 5: Recommendations made at early years registered inspections between 1 April 2012 and 30 June 2012, by the statutory requirements of the Early Years Register (provisional)

	Total number of inspections	Number with recommendations	Percentage with recommendations
Any recommendation	3,338	3,088	93
Learning and development requirements			
Early learning goals	3,338	786	24
Educational programmes	3,338	978	29
Assessment arrangements	3,338	535	16
Welfare requirements			
Safeguarding and welfare	3,338	372	11
Promoting good health	3,338	167	5
Behaviour management	3,338	13	0
Suitability of adults	3,338	13	0
Qualifications, training, knowledge and skills	3,338	78	2
Staffing arrangements	3,338	18	1
Premises, environment & equipment	3,338	588	18
Organisation	3,338	1,312	39
Documentation	3,338	100	3

Source: Ofsted inspections

Glossary

Actions

Inspectors raise actions to bring about compliance with the statutory requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage where these are not met at inspection. Usually actions result in one or more judgements being inadequate. In some cases where a specific requirement or part of a requirement is not met but the inspector considers that the overarching general legal requirement is met, the provider has a history of compliance and the impact on children is not significant, then the inspector may judge the relevant judgement to be 'satisfactory' or, on very rare occasions, 'good'. Providers are given a short timescale to put things right.

Childminder

This is a person who is registered to look after one or more children, to whom they are not related, for reward. Childminders work with no more than two other childminders or assistants.

They care for:

- children on domestic premises that are not usually the home of one of the children, unless they care for children from more than two families wholly or mainly in the homes of the families
- at least one individual child for a total of more than two hours in any day. This is not necessarily a continuous period of time.

Childcare providers

Childcare providers care for at least one individual child for a total of more than two hours in any day. This is not necessarily a continuous period of time. They must register to care for children under the age of eight, unless they are not required to do so; and can choose to register to care for older children. The early years and childcare sector comprises four main categories of provider: childminders, childcare providers on non-domestic premises, childcare providers on domestic premises and home childcarers. A childcare provider may be inactive because they have resigned or they have had their registration suspended or cancelled by Ofsted.

Childcare providers on domestic premises

These are people providing care on domestic premises with at least three other people. They can provide the care directly or employ people to work with them. The difference between childminding and childcare on domestic premises is the number of people involved; if four or more people look after children at any time they are providing childcare on domestic premises, not childminding.

Childcare providers on non-domestic premises

These are people or organisations providing care for individual children in premises that are not someone's home. These premises can range from converted houses to purpose built nurseries.

Childcare Register

The Childcare Register has providers who care for children from birth to 17 years. It has two parts:

- **the compulsory part**

Providers must register if they care for one child or more from the 1 September following their fifth birthday until they reach their eighth birthday for a period of more than two hours in any day.

- **the voluntary part**

Providers who are not eligible for compulsory registration may choose to register here. These are mainly people looking after children aged eight and over, or providing care in the child's home like a nanny.

Ofsted inspects a random 10% sample of providers who are registered only on the Childcare Register, and not on the Early Years Register, each year.

Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is a comprehensive statutory framework introduced in September 2008 that sets the standards for the learning, development and care of children from birth to five.

Early Years Register

The Early Years Register records providers who look after children from birth to school age (that is 31 August after the child's fifth birthday). It is compulsory for such providers. Providers on this register must meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Ofsted inspects all providers on this register at least once in a 47-month period to judge each provider's overall effectiveness.

Home childcarers

Home childcarers are usually nannies who care for children of any age up to their 18th birthday wholly or mainly in the child's own home, and care for children from no more than two families. They are not required to register with Ofsted but may choose to do so on the voluntary part of the Childcare Register.

No children on roll inspections

If an inspection is scheduled and there are no children on roll at the time of the inspection it should be deferred and the no children on roll letter EYL 409 sent to the provider. This letter explains to the provider that the inspection is being deferred as there are no children on roll. The provider must inform Ofsted when they start to care for children. The only exceptions to this are:

- if it is towards the end of a provider's prescribed period for inspection and an inspection needs to be carried out for Ofsted to fulfil its regulatory role
- it is a reinspection of those judged inadequate for overall effectiveness at their last inspection and it has reached the trigger point for the reinspection
- if the provider is scheduled for inspection as part of the 10% Childcare Register inspections because they are only registered on that register. In these cases the inspection is not carried out unless the provider is selected as part of the random selection in future or because there is a complaint about the provider relating to the requirements for registration.

Recommendations

Inspectors make recommendations to improve the quality of the provision. These recommendations relate to the principles, practice guidance and statutory guidance of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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