



Department
for Education

Early years benchmarking

User Guide

November 2014

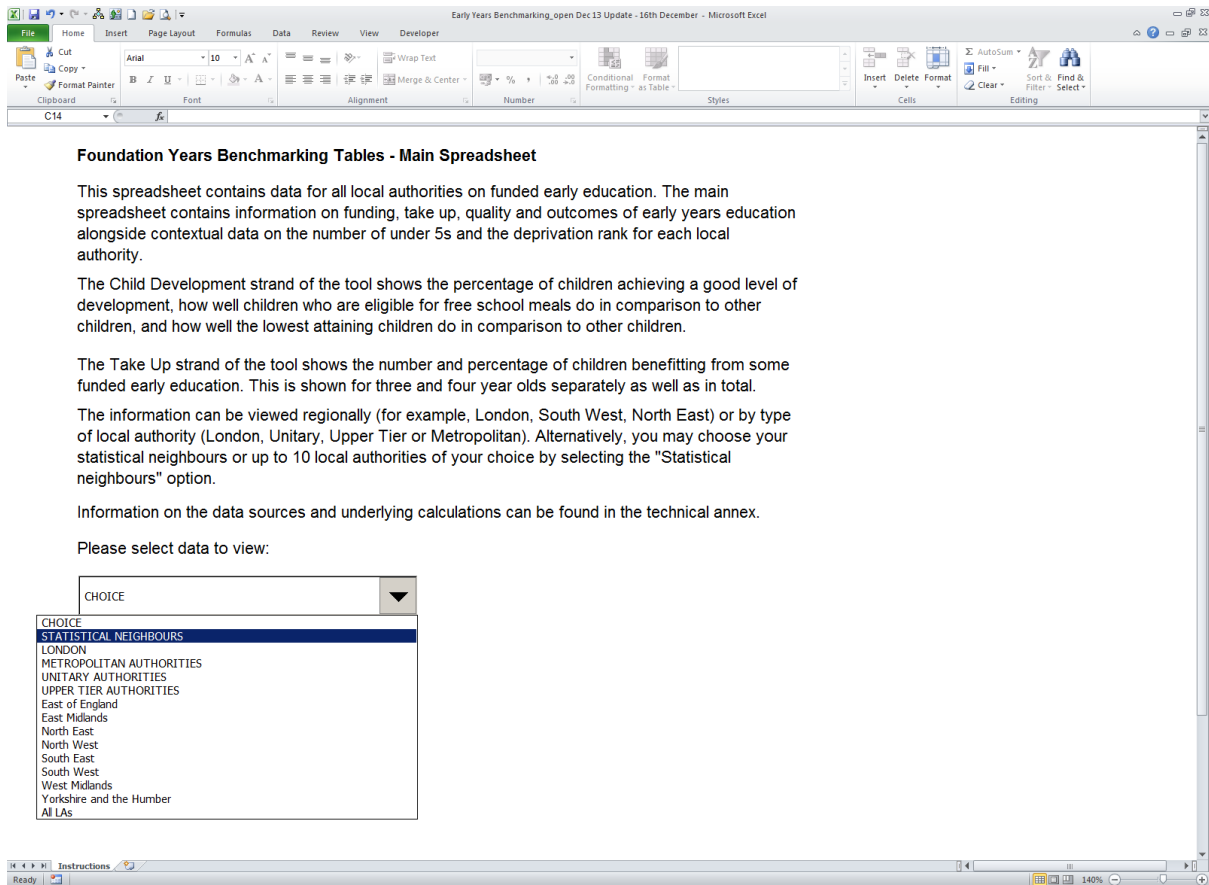
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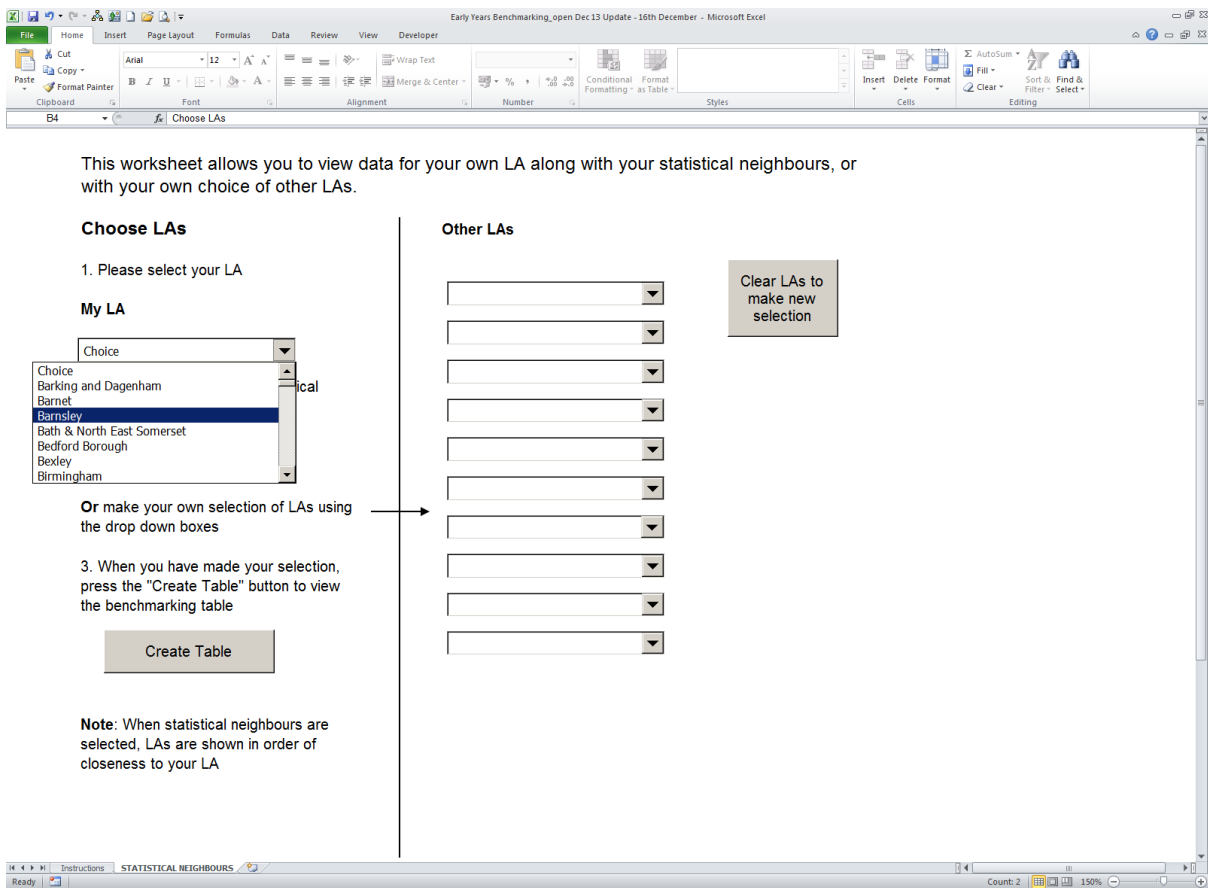
Introduction

This document contains a brief explanation of how to use the benchmarking tool and details of the data used within it. For a more detailed explanation of the methodology employed in the calculation of these spreadsheets please see the technical note.

For each of the different strands it is possible to view information for different regions and by type of local authority. Please note the main early years benchmarking tables will be updated with 2014-15 data in December 2014.



In addition you can chose to compare your chosen local authority with its statistical neighbours or a selection of up to ten local authorities of your choice. Once you have chosen your local authority and those local authorities to compare it with, you can use the create table button to view the data.



Statistical neighbours are designated local authorities which are deemed to have similar characteristics, using a detailed set of criteria. A more detailed explanation of statistical neighbours can be found here:

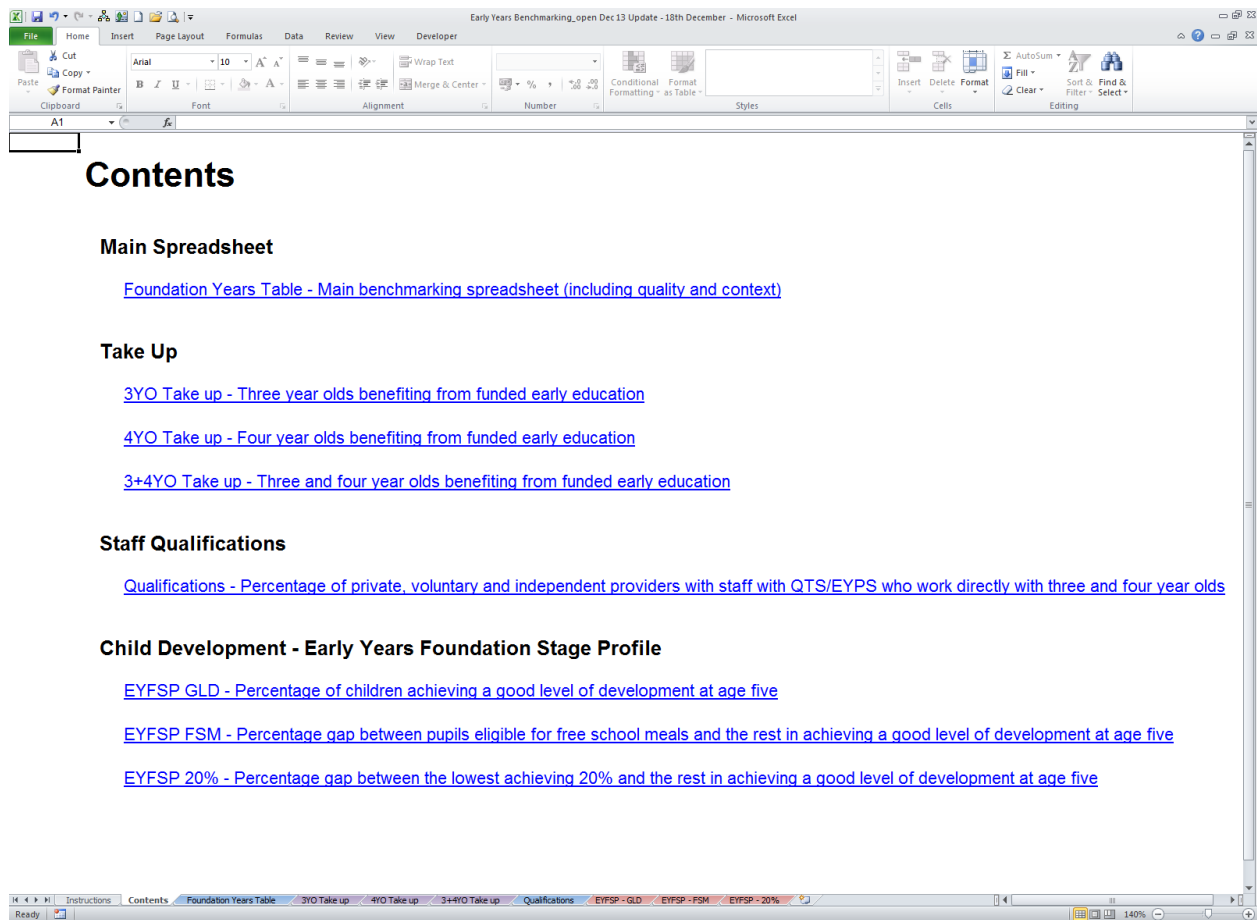
<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110809101133/http://education.gov.uk/rsgateway/db/sta/t000712/index.shtml>

The benchmarking tool is formed of three main spreadsheets. The main benchmarking tool provides summary information on funding alongside detailed information on quality, take up and child development, as measured by the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) profile outcomes, as well as contextual data for each local authority.

In addition to the main benchmarking tool the Early Years funding tool provides more analysis on the projected spend in 2014-15 to deliver early learning places for two, three and four-year-olds. More detailed information on spend is also provided in the Early Years pro forma which complements the information in the benchmarking tool.

Main benchmarking tool

Once an LA is selected the user is taken to the contents page.



The user can then click on the hyperlinks to view the different tables.

Main Spreadsheet

The **funding** columns in this spreadsheet show the average planned spend per hour on two year olds and three and four year olds for each local authority. This data is from 2013-14 section 251 returns.

Early Years Benchmarking_open Dec13 Update - 18th December - Microsoft Excel

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A1

Foundation Years Benchmarking - Main Spreadsheet

Upper Tier Authorities

To print use the buttons below.

View Print Preview

Print Table

	Funding		Quality		Qualifications	Take Up ⁴	
	Planned spend on 2 year olds - average rate per hour ¹ (2013-14)	Planned spend on 3 and 4 year olds - average rate per hour ² (2013-14)	% of childcare and early years settings, rated good or outstanding by Ofsted ⁴ (As at 31st August 2013)	% of children's centres rated good or outstanding by Ofsted ⁵ (As at 31st August 2013)	% of PVI ⁶ providers with staff with QTS/EYPS who work directly with three and four year olds (2013)	% of three and four year olds ⁷ benefiting from funded early education ^{8,9} (2013)	% of achievement in development
England - Average (mean) or Total	£5.25	£4.21	77%	69%	39%	96%	
England - Average (median)	£5.00	£4.05	76%	75%	40%	97%	
England - Minimum	£2.94	£2.99	57%	0%	0%	79%	
England - Maximum	£9.99	£604.77	100%	100%	73%	115%	
Selection - Average (median)	£5.06	£4.00	80%	63%	39%	98%	
Selection - Minimum	£4.74	£3.34	71%	14%	0%	94%	
Selection - Maximum	£6.79	£4.72	86%	100%	53%	103%	
825 Buckinghamshire	£5.31	£4.21	80%	33%	40%	96%	
873 Cambridgeshire	£5.36	£4.25	79%	42%	31%	95%	
909 Cumbria	£4.85	£3.69	86%	100%	41%	103%	
830 Derbyshire	£4.85	£4.32	80%	59%	32%	99%	
878 Devon	£5.48	£3.92	84%	63%	39%	102%	
835 Dorset	£6.79	£3.70	79%	14%	43%	99%	
845 East Sussex	£5.21	£3.66	78%	87%	37%	97%	
881 Essex	£5.00	£4.08	80%	69%	29%	98%	
916 Gloucestershire	£5.22	£3.39	78%	59%	0%	99%	
850 Hampshire	£5.56	£4.44	80%	90%	39%	96%	
919 Hertfordshire		£4.72	84%	65%	46%	96%	
886 Kent	£4.85	£4.25	82%	79%	39%	96%	
888 Lancashire	£4.78	£4.47	77%	91%	53%	98%	
855 Leicestershire	£4.85	£3.56	73%	20%	34%	98%	
925 Lincolnshire	£6.61	£3.81	76%	86%	37%	101%	

The **quality** columns show the percentage of early years settings and the percentage of children's centres in a particular local authority that received a good or outstanding rating at their last Ofsted inspection. Ofsted inspects all early years providers at least once every three to four years. Early years registered providers that are inspected as part of a school inspection are not included.

The **qualifications** column shows the percentage of private, voluntary and independent (PVI) settings providing funded early education who have staff with Qualified Teacher Status or Early Years Professional Status working directly with three and four year olds.

The **take up** column shows the percentage of three and four year olds benefiting from some funded early education this year. Please note: some local authorities are shown as having take up of over 100%. An explanation of why this occurs is provided in the take up section below.

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[Return to instructions](#)

Upper Tier Authorities

To print use the buttons below.

View Print Preview

Print Table

	Child Development (EYFSP) ¹⁰			Context		
	% of children achieving a good level of development ^{11,12} (2013)	% gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and the rest ^{12,13} (2013)	% gap between the lowest achieving 20% and the rest ^{12,14} (2013)	Number of 0-4 year olds ¹⁵ (Mid-2012)	Deprivation rank ^{16,17} (2010)	% of three and four year olds ⁷ benefiting from funded early education ^{8,9} in PVI ⁶ providers (2013)
England - Average (mean) or Total	52%	19%	36.6%	3,328,750		40%
England - Average (median)	51%	20%	35.5%	17,500	77	36%
England - Minimum	28%	2%	10.5%	100	1	3%
England - Maximum	100%	34%	44.6%	90,800	149	66%
Selection - Average (median)	52%	22%	33.6%	41,700	115	51%
Selection - Minimum	44%	17%	25.2%	19,500	79	30%
Selection - Maximum	65%	26%	38.1%	90,800	147	66%
825 Buckinghamshire	55%	25%	32.6%	32,700	142	51%
873 Cambridgeshire	51%	22%	33.9%	37,800	132	55%
909 Cumbria	50%	23%	35.6%	25,300	85	34%
830 Derbyshire	50%	21%	37.4%	42,100	99	36%
878 Devon	64%	19%	26.0%	38,300	104	52%
835 Dorset	61%	23%	26.2%	19,500	125	63%
845 East Sussex	44%	20%	37.2%	28,100	90	61%
881 Essex	53%	21%	33.2%	83,600	119	58%
916 Gloucestershire	52%	21%	33.7%	34,100	126	66%
850 Hampshire	59%	24%	28.9%	78,700	139	64%
919 Hertfordshire	61%	23%	28.8%	76,600	138	31%
886 Kent	63%	19%	25.2%	90,800	101	58%
888 Lancashire	59%	24%	33.6%	69,200	79	46%
855 Leicestershire	46%	24%	33.5%	36,500	136	65%
925 Lincolnshire	65%	21%	29.6%	38,800	95	51%

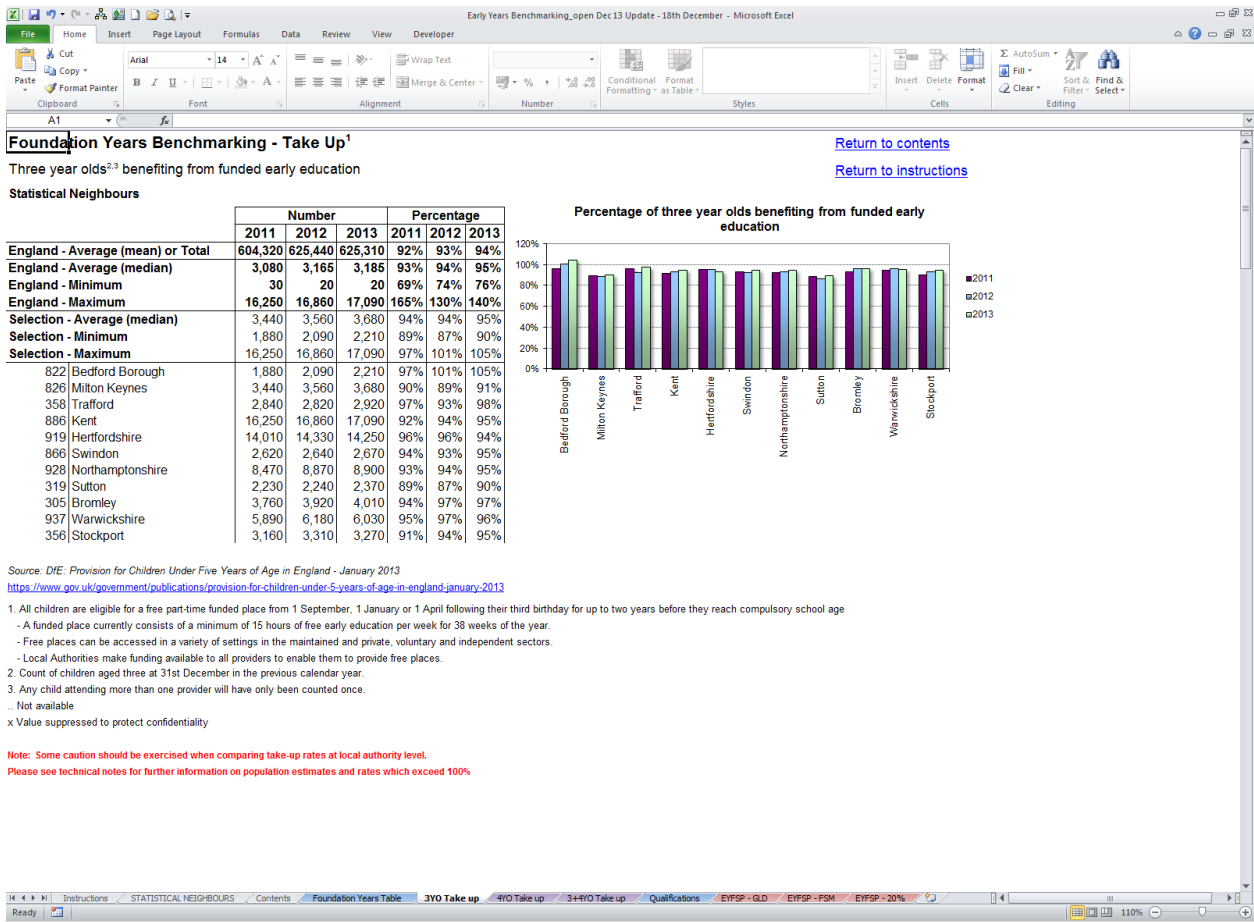
The **EYFSP outcomes at age five** columns show the percentage of all children achieving a good level of development at age five across the local authority; the difference between the level of attainment for children who qualify for free school meals compared with other children; and the gap between the lowest achieving 20% of children compared with the rest.

There is also a range of **context** data. This includes the number of 0-4 year olds in a local authority, a deprivation rank (where 1 is the most deprived) and the percentage of three and four year olds taking up funded early education in PVI settings to give an indication of the local childcare market.

Above each table hyperlinks are available to take the user back to the content page or to the instructions sheet to make the tool easier to navigate.

Take Up

The sheets covering take up show the number and percentage of children benefitting from funded early education in each local authority. The first sheet covers **three year old** children taking up the entitlement in the last three years; the second covers **four year old** children taking up the entitlement in the last three years; and the third covers **three and four year old** children combined taking up the entitlement in the last three years.

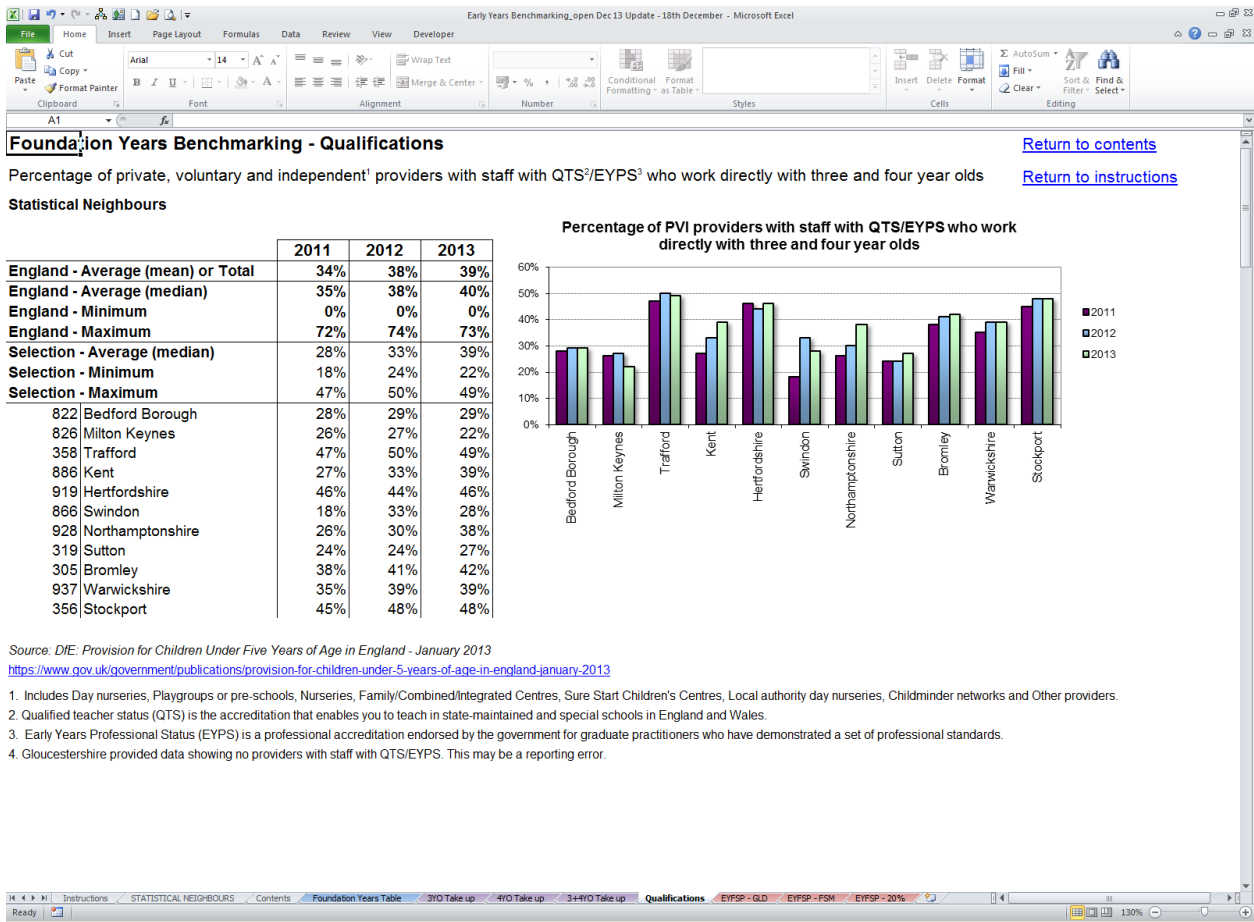


Why some figures are over 100 per cent:

Population estimates at lower geographic levels, such as a local authority, are subject to a greater degree of uncertainty than at national level. The estimates used here are derived from mid-year estimates and projections provided by the Office for National Statistics. They are estimates and are not directly comparable to the Early Years Census data. So, although the figures for the number of children taking up the free entitlement are accurate, when these are used in conjunction with the population estimates, there is less certainty about the accuracy. In some cases, this has resulted in local authority take-up rates exceeding 100 per cent. The figures here should therefore be viewed as an approximate basis for comparison between local authorities and on a year on year basis, rather than as accurate estimates of take up rates.

Staff Qualifications

This sheet shows the percentage of private, voluntary and independent settings providing funded early education who have staff with Qualified Teacher Status or Early Years Professional Status working directly with three and four years olds in each of the last three years.



Child Development: Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

The EYFS Profile assesses each child's progress against a set of 17 early learning goals. All early years providers must complete an EYFS profile for each child during the academic year in which they reach the age of five. The profile describes the child's level of development at the end of the EYFS and identifies their learning needs for the next stage of school.

The first sheet shows the percentage of all children achieving a good level of development at age five across the local authority. It contains figures for the last three years.

The second sheet shows the achievement gap for the most deprived children compared to other children. This is calculated by comparing the results of children who qualify for Free School Meals to the achievements of all other children.

The third sheet shows the gap between the lowest achieving 20% and the other 80% of children in achieving a good level of development.

Early Years Benchmarking - Child Development: Early Years Foundation Stage Profile¹ [Return to contents](#)
 Percentage of children achieving a good level of development^{2,3} at age five [Return to instructions](#)
 Statistical Neighbours ***Figures for 2013 not comparable with earlier years**

	2010	2011	2012	2013*
England - Average (mean) or Total	56%	59%	64%	52%
England - Average (median)	56%	59%	63%	51%
England - Minimum	42%	48%	51%	28%
England - Maximum	79%	87%	78%	100%
Selection - Average (median)	61%	61%	68%	54%
Selection - Minimum	54%	56%	61%	41%
Selection - Maximum	66%	69%	75%	63%
822 Bedford Borough	54%	56%	61%	48%
826 Milton Keynes	62%	61%	67%	49%
358 Trafford	66%	69%	75%	61%
886 Kent	61%	65%	72%	63%
919 Hertfordshire	61%	61%	68%	61%
866 Swindon	54%	60%	63%	55%
928 Northamptonshire	58%	61%	64%	50%
319 Sutton	63%	65%	68%	41%
305 Bromley	54%	58%	68%	61%
937 Warwickshire	62%	66%	67%	45%
356 Stockport	63%	66%	69%	54%

Percentage of children achieving a good level of development

* A new profile was introduced in September 2012 which is substantially different from the old profile. Figures for 2013 are therefore not comparable with earlier years.

Source: DfE: Early Years Foundation Stage Profile Results in England 2012/13
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-profile-results-2012-to-2013>

- For more information on the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile please see technical notes.
- Percentage of children achieving a good level of development:
 - 2010 to 2012** - children achieving 6 or more points across the 7 scales of personal, social and emotional development and communication, language and literacy and who also achieve 78 points or more across all 13 scales.
 - 2013** - children achieving at least the expected level within the three prime areas of learning: communication and language, physical development and personal, social and emotional development and the early learning goals within the literacy and mathematics areas of learning.
- Only includes pupils with a valid result for every achievement scale.

A new profile was introduced in September 2012 which is substantially different from the old profile. Figures for 2013 are therefore not comparable with earlier years.

Early Years Funding

All funding for early learning for two, three and four-year-olds is in the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), which is ring-fenced for education purposes for children aged 2 to 16. The Department for Education calculates a total amount of DSG for each local authority and distributes it to them. There is not a separately identified amount of funding for early learning for three and four-year-olds at national level, but the Department published the individual local authority allocations for supporting early learning for eligible two-year-olds:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/la-allocations-for-early-learning-for-2-year-olds-2014-to-2015>

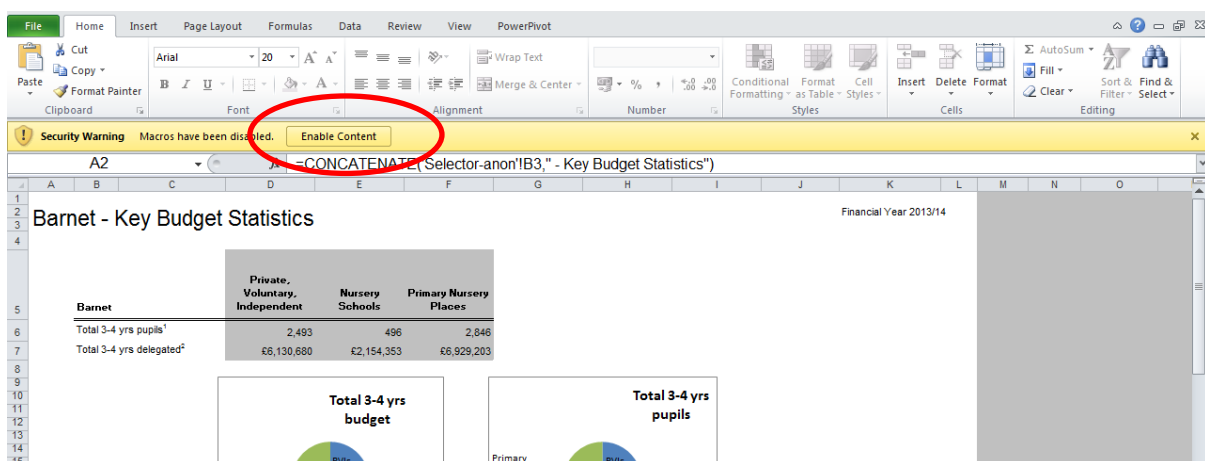
All decisions about the amount of DSG to be spent on early learning are made by local authorities in consultation with their schools forum.

The Department is publishing an **early years funding benchmarking toolkit** and an **early years proforma** for each local authority. Both tools include the projected spend in 2014-15 to deliver early learning places for two, three and four-year-olds and is based on the budget information from the Section 251 data provided by the local authorities.

Early years funding benchmarking toolkit

The funding benchmarking table includes the projected spend on early years providers to deliver early learning places for two, three and four-year-olds. The information is broken down into provider types and includes budget per pupil and budget per hour information.

Before you start, click the “Enable Content” to start using the toolkit.



The benchmarking toolkit allows you to view data for a chosen local authority, with the added option to view data for up to ten of its statistical neighbours.

This worksheet allows you to view data for your own LA along with your statistical neighbours, or with your own choice of other LAs.

Choose LAs

1. Please select your LA

My LA

Choice

2. Then either select your statistical neighbours:

Click here to show your Statistical Neighbours

Or make your own selection of LAs using the drop down boxes

3. When you have made your selection, press the "Create Table" button to view the benchmarking table

Create Table

Other LAs

Clear LAs to make new selection

1. Click the drop-down button to choose the local authority.

2. If you want to see the data for statistical neighbours click on the button "Click here to show your statistical neighbours"

3. Click "Create Table" to generate the funding data tables.

In this example, the data for Bexley and its statistical neighbours is selected.

This worksheet allows you to view data for your own LA along with your statistical neighbours, or with your own choice of other LAs.

Choose LAs

1. Please select your LA

My LA

Bexley

2. Then either select your statistical neighbours:

Click here to show your Statistical Neighbours

Or make your own selection of LAs using the drop down boxes

3. When you have made your selection, press the "Create Table" button to view the benchmarking table

Create Table

Other LAs

Clear LAs to make new selection

Havering

Medway

Swindon

Essex

Kent

Thurrock

Southend-on-Sea

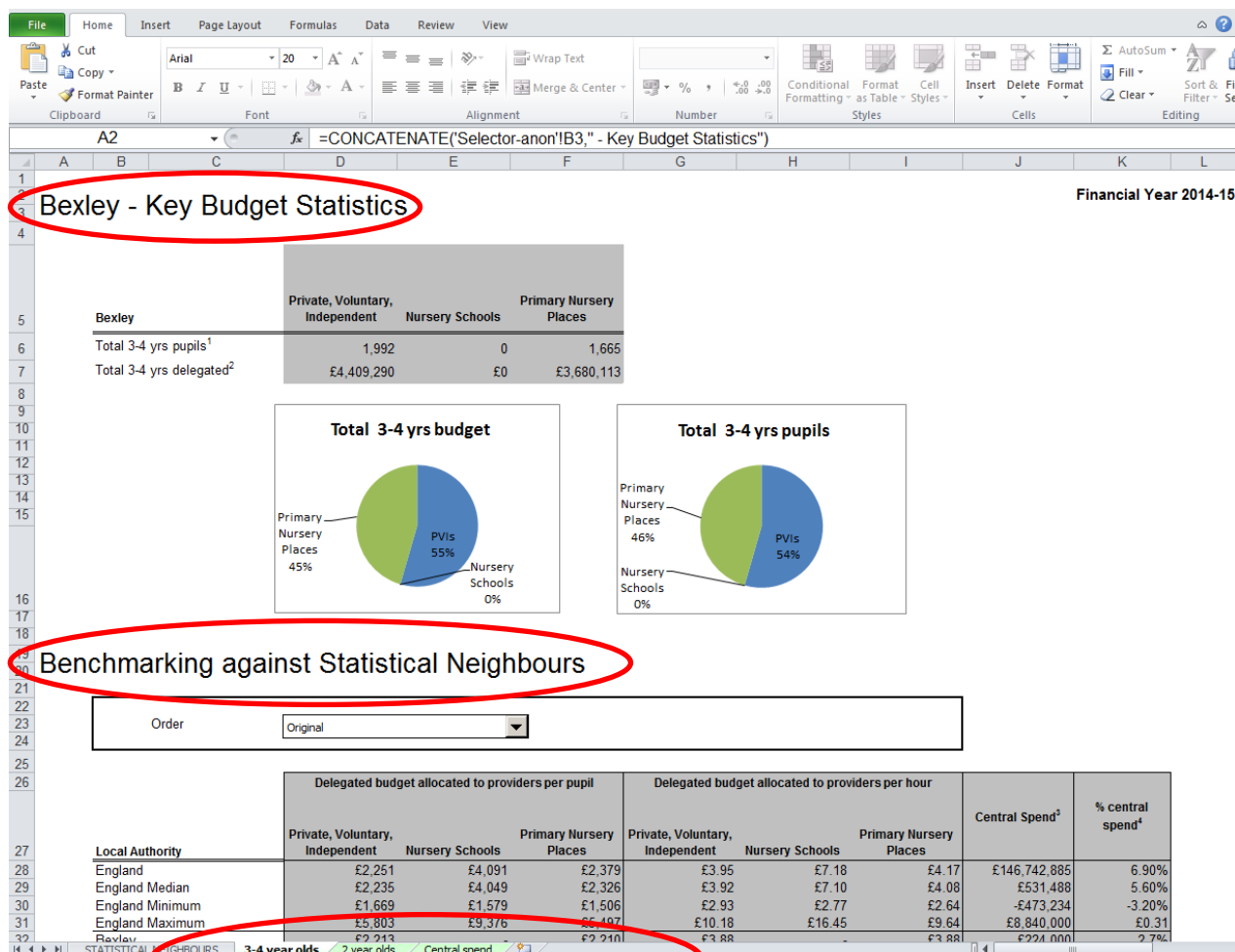
Stockport

Sutton

West Sussex

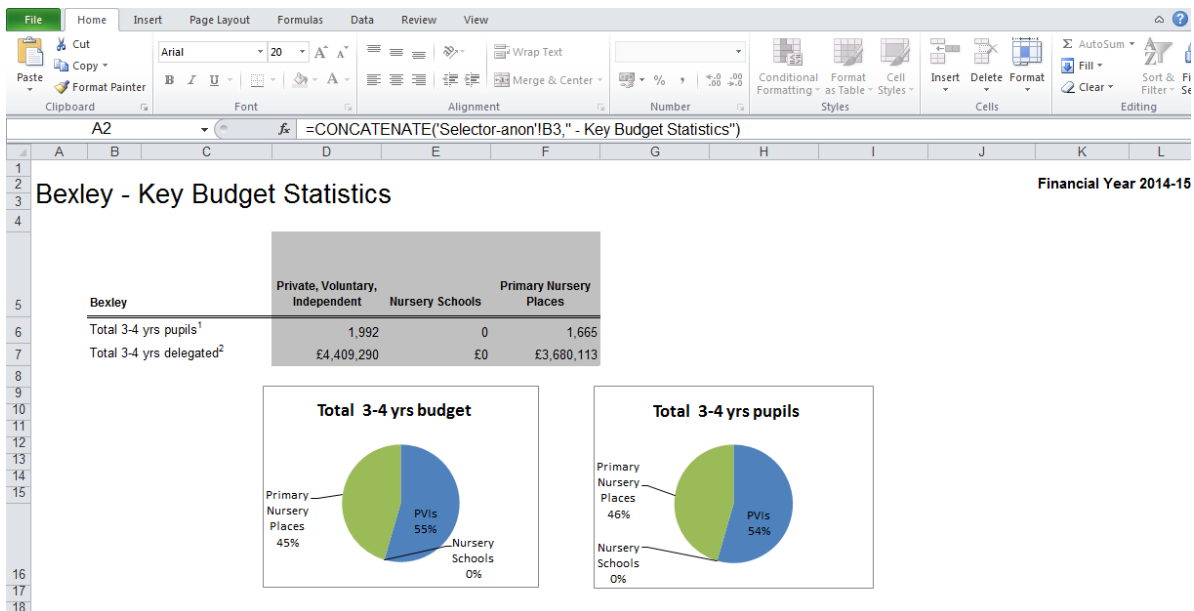
Note: When statistical neighbours are selected, LAs are shown in order of closeness to your LA

The toolkit includes separate worksheets for three and four-year-olds, two-year-olds and central spend information. Each worksheet is split into two sections: key budget statistics and benchmarking against statistical neighbours.



Key budget statistics

The key budget statistics table shows gives the total number of pupils and the total projected spend (in £000s) on each of the provider types: PVI (Private, Voluntary & Independent), maintained nursery schools and nursery classes within a primary school. For the purposes of this spreadsheet, a child is considered to be the equivalent of 15 hours provision a week for 38 weeks, or 570 hours of provision, that being the same as one child taking their full entitlement for the year. The total delegated budget and the total early years pupils are also represented as pie charts and show in percentages.



Benchmarking against statistical neighbours

The benchmarking against statistical neighbours section includes a table showing the average cost per pupil and per hour by early years provider types; and the same information represented in a bar graph form.

It is important to note that the hourly rate may not be the actual rate a provider receives. The data presented here is an average for each provider type across individual local authorities.

The benchmarking table also shows the England mean, median, maximum and minimum for each provider type. The mean, median, maximum and minimum of the selected local authorities is also included, where possible.

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A2 =CONCATENATE("Selector-anon!B3," - Key Budget Statistics")

Benchmarking against Statistical Neighbours

Order: Original

Local Authority	Delegated budget allocated to providers per pupil			Delegated budget allocated to providers per hour			Central Spend ¹	% central spend ¹
	Private, Voluntary, Independent	Nursery Schools	Primary Nursery Places	Private, Voluntary, Independent	Nursery Schools	Primary Nursery Places		
England	£2,251	£4,091	£2,379	£3.95	£7.18	£4.17	£146,742,885	6.90%
England Median	£2,235	£4,049	£2,326	£3.92	£7.10	£4.08	£531,488	5.60%
England Minimum	£1,669	£1,579	£1,506	£2.93	£2.77	£2.64	-£473,234	-3.20%
England Maximum	£5,803	£9,376	£5,497	£10.18	£16.45	£9.64	£8,840,000	£0.31
Bexley	£2,213	-	£2,210	£3.88	-	£3.88	£224,000	2.7%
Havering	£2,276	-	£2,667	£3.99	-	£4.68	£56,669	0.7%
Medway	£2,205	-	£2,264	£3.87	-	£3.97	£2,481,573	21.7%
Swindon	£2,194	£2,180	-	£3.85	£3.83	-	£0	0.0%
Essex	£2,295	£3,098	£2,500	£4.03	£5.44	£4.39	£1,277,669	2.7%
Kent	£2,353	£3,871	£2,865	£4.13	£6.79	£5.03	£6,413,242	11.0%
Thurrock	£2,233	-	£2,211	£3.92	-	£3.98	£26,450	0.4%
Southeast-on-Sea	£2,333	-	£2,732	£4.09	-	£4.79	£500,000	7.2%
Stockport	£2,436	£4,219	£2,454	£4.27	£7.40	£4.31	£0	0.0%
Sutton	£2,206	£5,119	£2,438	£3.87	£8.98	£4.28	£769,395	9.3%
West Sussex	£2,234	£3,902	£2,526	£3.92	£6.85	£4.43	£745,100	2.8%
Selection Median	£2,234	£3,887	£2,477	£3.92	£6.82	£4.35	£500,000	2.7%
Selection Minimum	£2,194	£2,180	£2,210	£3.85	£3.83	£3.88	£0	0.0%
Selection Maximum	£2,436	£5,119	£2,865	£4.27	£8.98	£5.03	£6,413,242	21.7%

3-4 yrs per hour

3-4 yrs delegated budget per hour

Local Authority	PVIs	Nursery schools	Nursery places
Bexley	£3.88	-	£3.88
Havering	£3.99	-	£4.68
Medway	£3.87	-	£3.97
Swindon	£3.85	£3.83	-
Essex	£4.03	£5.44	£4.39
Kent	£4.13	£6.79	£5.03
Thurrock	£3.92	-	£3.98
Southeast-on-Sea	£4.09	-	£4.79
Stockport	£4.27	£7.40	£4.31
Sutton	£3.87	£8.98	£4.28
West Sussex	£3.92	£6.85	£4.43

STATISTICAL NEIGHBOURS 3-4 year olds 2 year olds Central spend

The table can be sorted by each of the columns by using the drop down box.

Microsoft Excel interface showing a spreadsheet titled "Benchmarking against Statistical Neighbours". The formula bar shows: `=CONCATENATE("Selector-anon!B3," - Key Budget Statistics")`.

The spreadsheet contains a table with the following columns: Local Authority, Voluntary, Independent, Nursery Schools, Primary Nursery Places, Private, Voluntary, Independent, Nursery Schools, Primary Nursery Places, Central Spend, and % central spend.

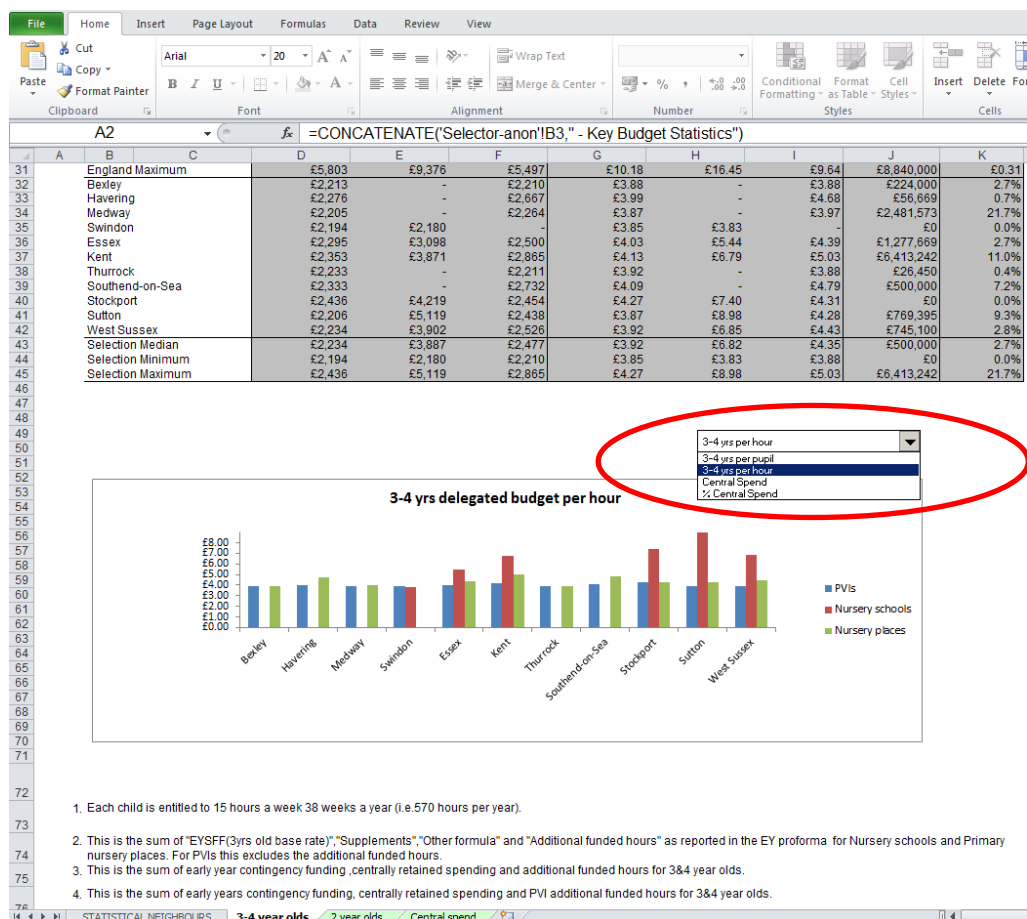
A dropdown menu is open over the "Order" column, showing options: Original, PVI rate, Nursery rate, Primary Place rate, Central spend, and % Central spend. The "Original" option is selected.

Below the table is a bar chart titled "3-4 yrs delegated budget per hour". The chart compares budget per hour for PVI, Nursery schools, and Nursery places across various local authorities. The Y-axis ranges from £0.00 to £8.00. The X-axis lists local authorities: Bexley, Havering, Medway, Swindon, Essex, Kent, Thurrock, South-on-Sea, Stockport, Sutton, and West Sussex.

The chart shows that Sutton has the highest delegated budget per hour for PVI (around £7.50), while West Sussex has the lowest (around £3.50). Nursery schools generally have higher budgets than nursery places across most authorities.

At the bottom of the Excel window, the navigation bar shows: STATISTICAL NEIGHBOURS, 3-4 year olds, 2 year olds, Central spend.

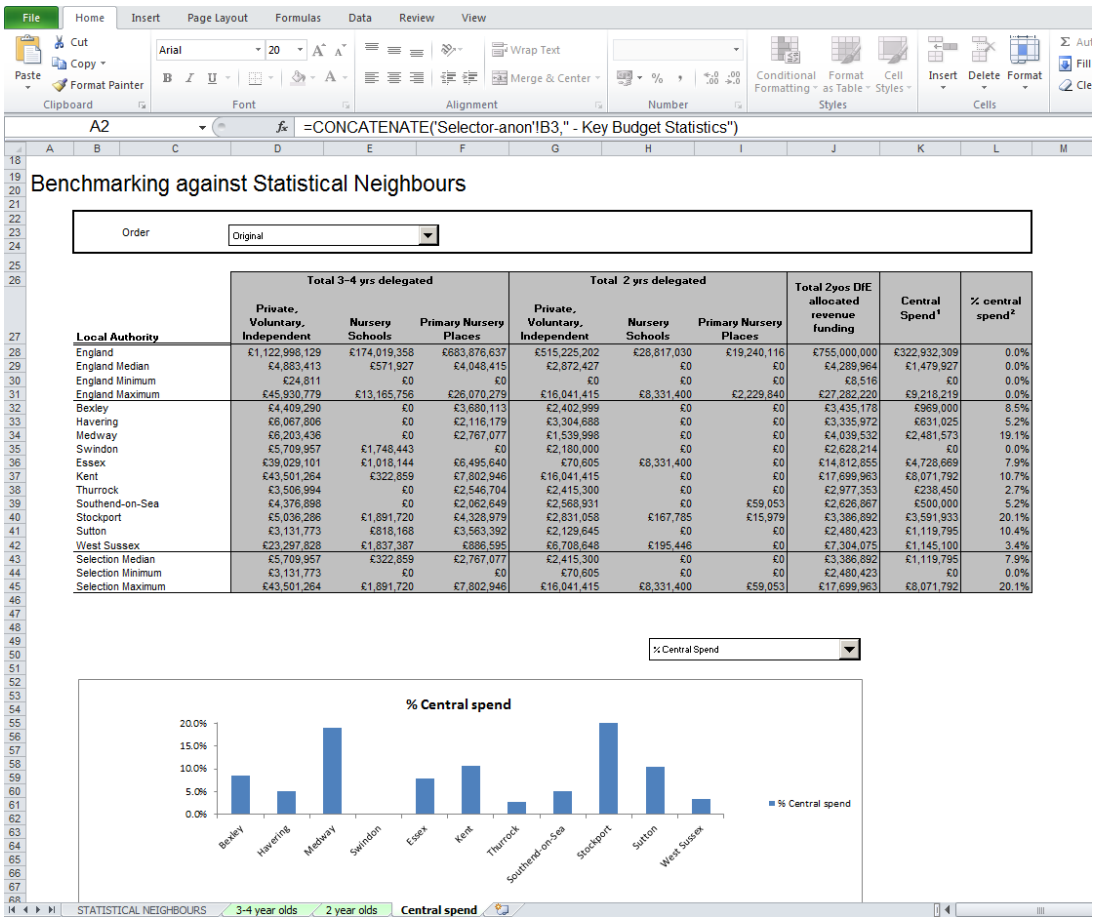
The graph can be viewed by per pupil, per hour data or central spend data.



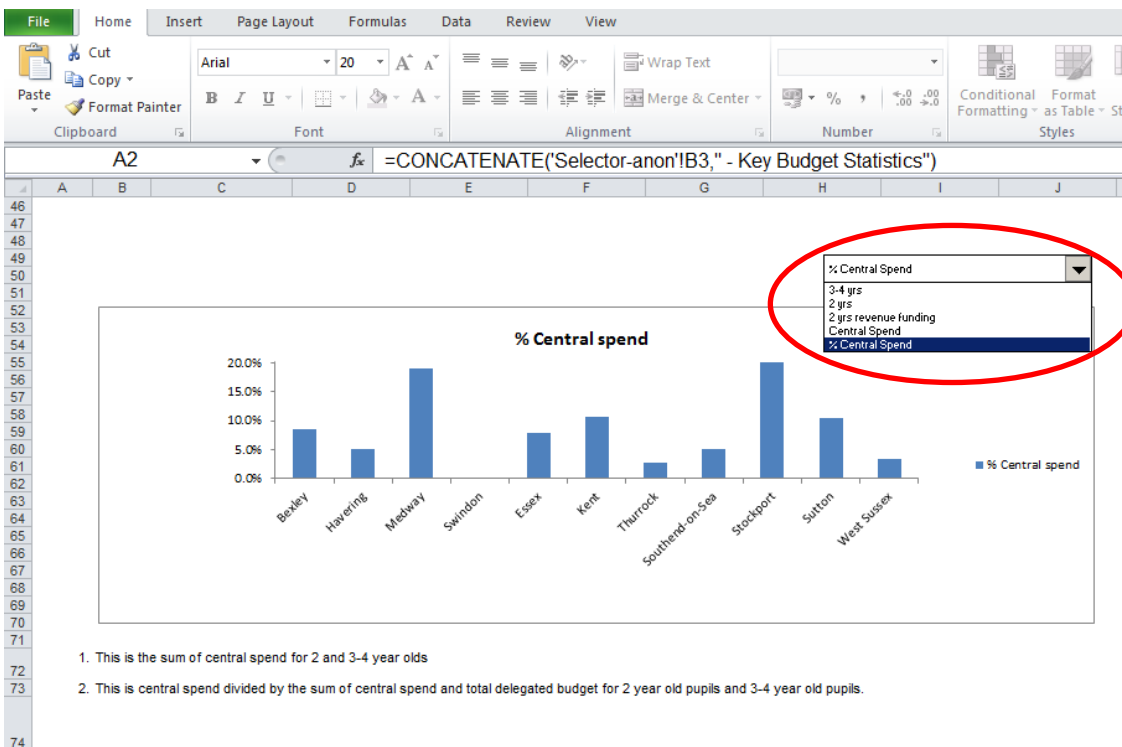
Central spend

The benchmarking table for the central spend worksheet includes:

- 3 & 4-year-olds total delegated budget to each provider
- 2-year-olds total delegated budget to each provider
- Total DfE allocated revenue funding for 2-year-olds
- Central spend (this is the sum of early years contingency, early years central retained and additional funded hours beyond the statutory 15 hours a week for PVI's)
- % of central spend against delegated budget for 2, 3 and 4-year-olds



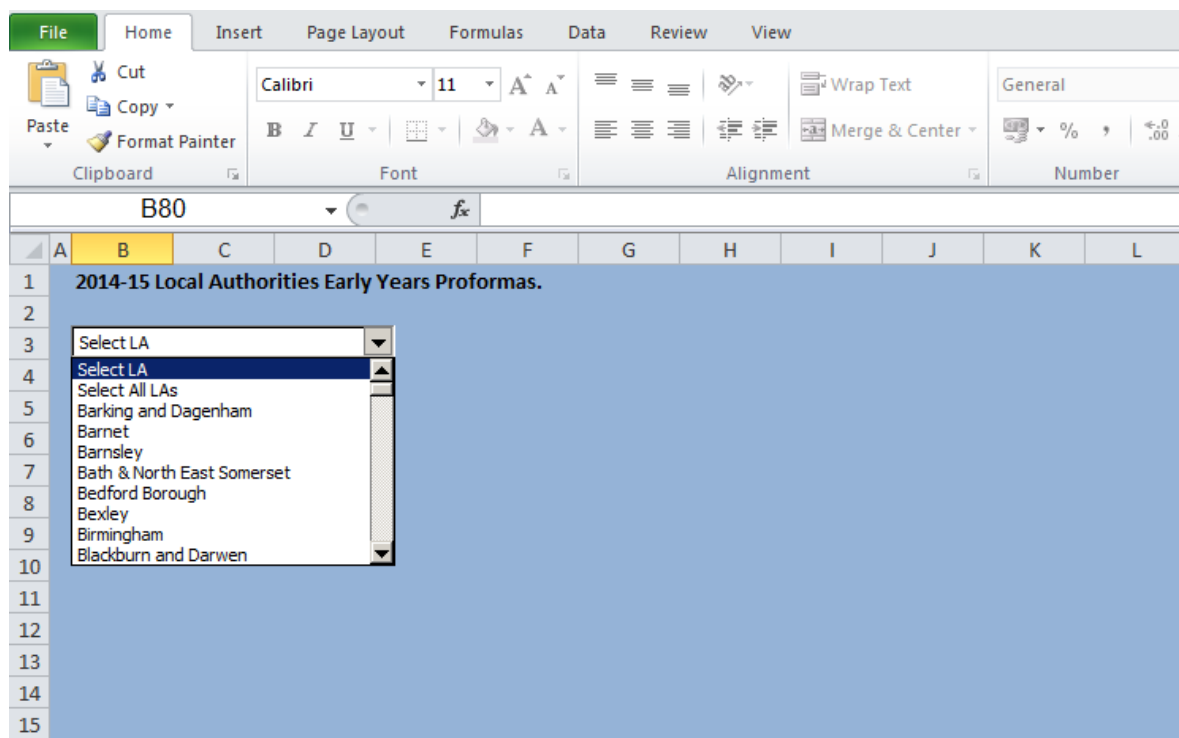
As with the 2-year-olds and 3 and 4-year olds worksheets, the benchmarking table can be sorted by each of the columns by using the drop down box; and the graph can be viewed for each of the columns.



Early years proforma

This has been produced by the Department based on the same section 251 returns as the benchmarking tables, i.e. projected spend in 2014-15.

Select the LA from the drop down box:



The early years proforma includes more detailed information on how each local authority allocates early education funding. The proforma is intended to complement the benchmarking tables.

The early years proforma contains, for each local authority, details of:

- The early years single funding formula (EYSFF) for two, three and four year olds, setting out the base rates, supplements and lump sums paid;
- Details on any additional hours funded by the authority;
- Information on how early years central spend is utilised; and
- The size of early years contingency funding.

EY Table: FUNDING PERIOD (2014-15)													
Bolton		350											
Row Heading	Description	Unit Value			UnitType	Number of Units			Anticipated Budget			Total Budget	Proportion of Funding
		PVI	Nursery School	Primary Nursery Class		PVI	Nursery School	Primary Nursery Class	PVI	Nursery School	Primary Nursery Class		
1. EYFF (three and four year olds)	With Professional	£3.60	£4.36	£3.60	PerHour	814,517	189,321	1,186,246	£2,932,260.01	£825,440.00	£4,270,484.02	£8,028,184.03	
	Base Rate(s) per hour, per provider type												
	Without Professional	£2.50			PerHour	529,767			£1,324,418.00			£1,324,418.00	
	Childminders	£3.32			PerHour	15,002			£49,805.98			£49,805.98	
													50.21%
2a. Supplements: Deprivation	Per Pupil	£0.88	£0.88	£0.88	PerHour	534,425	120,291	659,330	£470,294.00	£105,856.00	£580,210.00	£1,156,360.00	
	Childminders	£0.88			PerHour	4,643			£4,086.02			£4,086.02	
													6.20%
2b. Supplements: Quality	No budget lines entered												
													0.00%
2c. Supplements: Flexibility	Between 7 and 8 hours - professional	£0.36			PerHour	85,756			£30,872.00			£30,872.00	
	More than 8 hours - professional	£0.54			PerHour	568,822			£307,164.00			£307,164.00	
	Open 50 weeks or more - professional	£0.54	£0.65		PerHour	498,207	190,369		£269,032.00	£123,740.00		£392,772.00	
	Between 7 and 8 hours - no professional	£0.25			PerHour	5,700			£1,425.00			£1,425.00	
	More than 8 hours - no professional	£0.37			PerHour	384,903			£142,414.00			£142,414.00	
	Open 50 weeks or more - no professional	£0.37			PerHour	366,362			£135,554.00			£135,554.00	
	More than 8 hours - Childminder	£0.50			PerHour	14,930			£7,465.00			£7,465.00	
	Open 50 weeks or more - Childminder	£0.50			PerHour	10,190			£5,095.00			£5,095.00	
													5.46%
2d. Supplements: Sustainability	No budget lines entered												
													0.00%
3. Other formula	No budget lines entered												
													0.00%
4. Additional funded free hours	No budget lines entered												
													0.00%
TOTAL FUNDING FOR EARLY YEARS SINGLE FUNDING FORMULA (3s AND 4s)									£5,679,885.01	£1,055,036.00	£4,850,694.02	£11,585,615.03	61.86%



Department
for Education

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