

Child—early childhood education program hours enrolled (per week), total hours N[N]

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Child—early childhood education program hours enrolled (per week), total hours N[N]

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Early childhood education program hours enrolled (total)
Synonymous names:	Preschool program hours enrolled (total)
METEOR identifier:	763021
Registration status:	Early Childhood , Standard 05/07/2022
Definition:	The total number of hours of an early childhood education program that a child is enrolled to receive per week.
Data Element Concept:	Child—early childhood education program hours enrolled
Value Domain:	Total hours N[N]

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Total
Data type:	Number
Format:	N[N]
Maximum character length:	2
Unit of measure:	Hour (h)

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	Total hours expressed as 0, 1, 2, 25, 60 etc.
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Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
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Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: A child is considered to be enrolled if they have been offered a place and formally enrolled and registered in an early childhood education program, and the child:

- has attended an early childhood education program for at least one hour during the reference period (including attended an early childhood education program online or remotely due to COVID-19 impacts) **OR**
- was absent during the reference period due to illness or extended holiday leave or due to COVID-19 impacts, but expected to return.

Exclude a child who:

- has only completed enrolment procedures at the service
- has left the service (e.g. has ceased education or changed services), or has been absent without explanation for four continuous weeks (excluding school vacations) prior to the reference period.

Non-instructional times such as recess, tea breaks and lunch breaks should be included if the child was under the supervision of the service provider organisation.

The hours enrolled may be less than or equal to the maximum number of hours available for children to attend the early childhood education program, but may exceed the number of hours the child attended at the service in the reference period.

If the number of hours attended per week is unknown, record 99.

Collection methods: The hours of an early childhood education program a child is enrolled to receive should be reported for the specified reference period.

Jurisdictions which adopt a two week reference period are required to derive their data to a representative reference week.

Enrolment hours should include all enrolled sessions even those that were not attended or delivered due to COVID-19 impacts.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Department of Education

Steward: [Early Childhood Policy Group \(ECPG\)](#)

Origin: Council on Federal Financial Relations (CFFR) 2021. Preschool Reform Agreement. Canberra: CFFR, viewed 4 August 2022
<https://federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/agreements/preschool-reform-agreement>

Reference documents: Australian Government (2018). National information agreement on early childhood education and care. Canberra: Australian Government

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Child—early childhood education program hours enrolled \(per week\), total hours N\[N\]](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 05/07/2022

Has been superseded by [Child—early childhood education program hours enrolled \(per week\), total hours N\[N\]](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Recorded 24/05/2024

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2022](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 15/08/2023
Implementation start date: 01/07/2022

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2023](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 15/08/2023
Implementation start date: 01/07/2023