

# Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2012

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Data Set Specification

**METEOR identifier:** 466523

**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- [Early Childhood](#), Superseded 08/04/2013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 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 unit record level collection supports information to be collected at the child, 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.

Note: Queensland services not funded by the state government to deliver approved kindergarten programs will be collecting the ECEC Aggregate NMDS for 2012.

## Collection and usage attributes

**Statistical unit:** Child  
Service provider organisation  
Employed person (Teacher)

**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2012

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** 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:** See also [Early Childhood Education and Care: Aggregate NMDS 2012](#)

- [Early Childhood](#), Superseded 08/04/2013

Supersedes [Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2011](#)

- [Early Childhood](#), Superseded 09/03/2012

Has been superseded by [Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2013](#)

- [Early Childhood](#), Superseded 28/05/2014

**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 [Show more detail](#)

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<a href="#">Early childhood education and care worker cluster</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) cluster 2011</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Address—Australian postcode, Australian postcode code (Postcode datafile) {NNNN}</a>	Mandatory	2
-	<a href="#">Address—statistical area, level 1 (SA1) code (ASGS 2011) N(11)</a>	Mandatory	2
-	<a href="#">Address—suburb/town/locality name, text X[X(45)]</a>	Mandatory	2
-	<a href="#">Child—maximum preschool program hours available, total hours N[N]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Child—preschool program attendance indicator, yes/no code N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Child—preschool program enrolment indicator, yes/no code N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Child—preschool program fees charged per week, total Australian currency N[N(8)]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Child—preschool program hours attended (per week), total hours N[N]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Child—preschool program hours enrolled (per week), total hours N[N]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Child—preschool program received from a qualified teacher indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Child—preschool program repeater indicator, yes/no/unknown/not stated/inadequately described code N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Organisation—organisation name, text X[X(199)]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—area of usual residence, geographical location CD code, (ASGC 2011) NNNNNNN</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—Australian state/territory identifier, code N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—estimated resident population of Australia, total people N[N(7)]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—Indigenous status, code N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—letters of family name, text XXX</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—letters of given name, text XX</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—sex, code N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Record—linkage key, code 581 XXXXXDDMMYYYYN</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation (address)—address line, text X[X(179)]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—government funding type, early childhood education and care code N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—management type, early childhood education and care, code N[N]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—number of preschool program service operation weeks (calendar year), total NN</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—organisation identifier, X(15)</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—service activity type, early childhood education and care, code N[N]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—service delivery setting, early childhood education and care, code N</a>	Mandatory	1