

# Official Statistics Release

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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 2013 under Section 59 and 60 of the Childcare Act 2006. The arrangements for the regulation and inspection of providers on the Early Years Register changed in September 2012.

Inspections carried out between 1 January 2013 and 31 March 2013 are reported separately and these data are final. Data for inspections carried out between 1 April 2013 and 30 June 2013 under the new arrangements are provisional and subject to change.

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## Key findings

- Between 1 April 2013 and 30 June 2013, there have been 3,582 full inspections of Early Years registered providers, a further 85 inspections of providers with no children on roll and 316 childcare register inspections.
- Of the 3,582 full Early Years inspections, 68% of providers were judged good or better for overall effectiveness, which is the same as in the last quarter. Sixty nine per cent of childminders were judged good or better compared to 68% of non-domestic providers.
- A new inspection framework began in September 2012. There are 10,606 providers who have been inspected under the new framework, had their inspection report published, and were still on the early years register at the end of June 2013. Sixty nine per cent of these had been graded good or better at their most recent inspection.
- The gap between inspection outcomes for childminders and non domestic providers has narrowed under the new framework. Sixty seven per cent of childminders have been judged good or better compared to 70% of non-domestic providers. In the 2011/12 academic year these figures were 72% and 79% respectively. This closing of the gap is due to a combination of factors (see below).
- Just over half of the providers inspected under the new framework (and who were still on the early years register at the end of June 2013) had been inspected by Ofsted under the previous framework. These providers have not performed as well as new providers (63% good or better compared to 75%). Inspections of new providers make up a greater proportion of the total number of inspections for childminders than for non domestic providers. The registration process for childminders has also been strengthened and they now undertake training prior to registering with Ofsted. The grade profile for childminders who registered since September is slightly higher than for other new providers who registered under the old framework. This is starting to have an impact on the overall grade profile for childminders.
- The lower grade profile seen for providers who had been inspected under the previous framework is likely to be because weaker providers were prioritised for re-inspection in the first year of the new framework. Out of the providers who had previously been inspected, 61% had only been judged satisfactory at their last inspection under the previous framework. Fifty eight per cent of these satisfactory providers have improved to good or better at their latest inspection under the new framework.
- Between 1 September 2008 and 30 June 2013, Ofsted has inspected 67,708 Early Years providers. Seventy seven per cent of active providers were judged good or better for overall effectiveness at their most recent inspection. This is an increase of three percentage points since the end of August 2012. This is partly due to providers improving at their most recent inspection (see above), and weaker providers leaving the register.

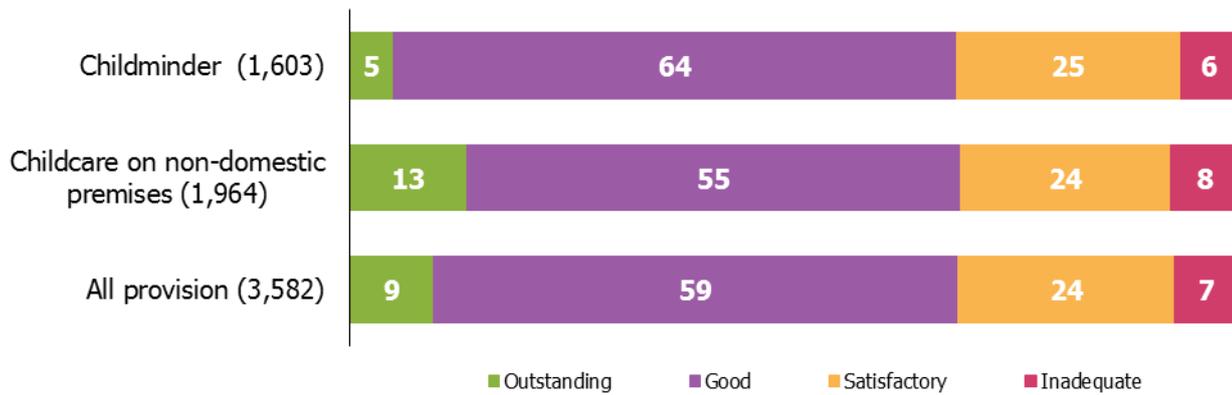
## Methodology

1. The data in this release are from inspections carried out between 1 September 2008 and 30 June 2013.
2. This report includes data from inspections carried out since September 2012 under the new inspection arrangements for Early Years providers. A key change is the reduction in the number of judgements that are reported. From September there are now four, including an overall effectiveness judgement. This judgement is comparable with the overall effectiveness judgement made in the previous inspection cycle.
3. Statistics relating to inspections carried out between 1 April 2013 and 30 June 2013 are provisional and include inspections in the period where the inspection report was published by 31 July 2013.
4. Statistics relating to the most recent inspection outcome of providers include inspections up to the end of the period (30 June 2013), 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. Data for the new framework to date is also calculated in this way.
5. 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'.
6. 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.
7. 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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/statistical-notice-ofsted-revisions-policy-for-official-statistics)
8. A new inspection framework for providers on the Early Years Register and providers on the Childcare Register commenced in September 2012. This replaced the framework published in September 2008. For more information about the new framework please go to the Ofsted website:  
<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/framework-for-regulation-of-provision-early-years-register>

## **Additional information**

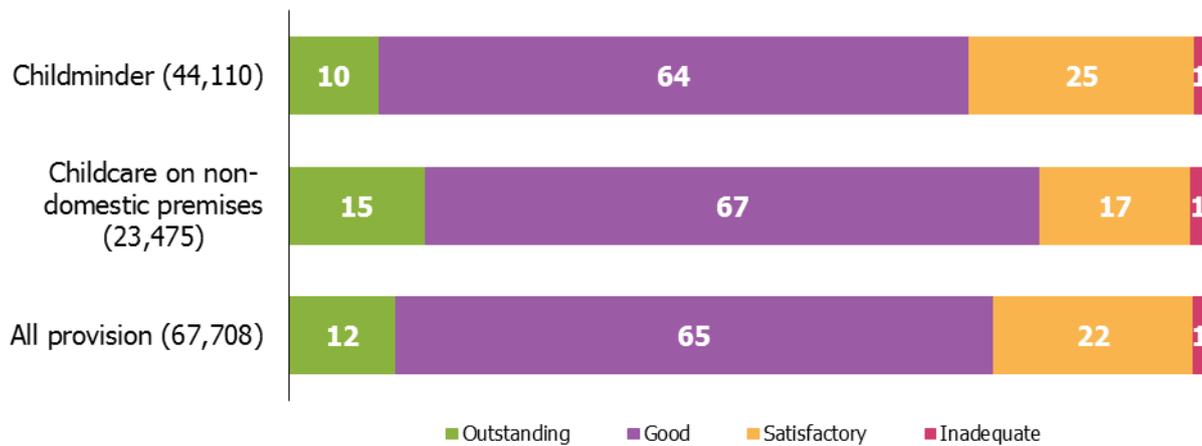
All the tables and charts shown in this release, along with additional analysis by provider type, at regional and local authority level, and about other aspects of Ofsted's inspection of early years and childcare providers, are available in Excel format on the Ofsted website in the same location as this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

**Chart 1: Overall effectiveness of early years registered providers inspected between 1 April 2013 and 30 June 2013, by provider type (provisional)** <sup>1 2 3</sup>



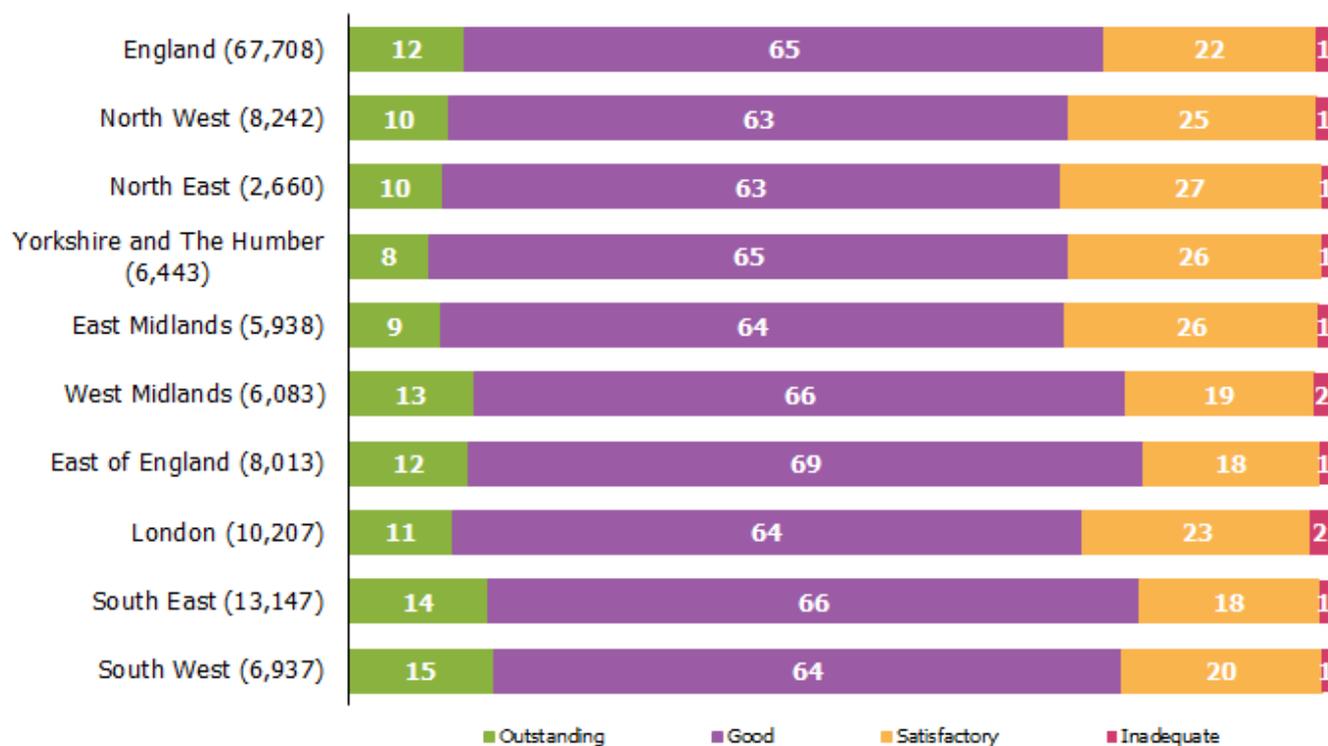
1. Percentages are rounded and do not always add exactly to 100.
2. Childcare on domestic premises is not shown due to the small number of inspections.
3. Includes inspections published by 31 July 2013.

**Chart 2: Overall effectiveness of active early years registered providers at their most recent inspection as at 30 June 2013, by provider type (provisional)** <sup>1 2 3</sup>



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 and includes inspections carried out under the new arrangements introduced in September 2012. Includes inspections published by 30 June 2013.
3. Childcare on domestic premises is 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 2013, by region (provisional) <sup>12</sup>**



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 and includes inspections carried out under the new arrangements introduced in September 2012. Includes inspections published by 30 June 2013.

**Table 1: Number of early years and childcare provider inspections between 1 April 2013 and 30 June 2013, by inspection type (provisional) <sup>12</sup>**

	All provision	Childminder	Childcare on non-domestic premises	Childcare on domestic premises	Home childcarer
Early years register (full inspection)	3,582	1,603	1,964	15	–
Early years register (no children on roll)	85	80	5	0	–
Childcare register	316	38	98	0	180
Total	3,983	1,721	2,067	15	180

Source: Ofsted inspections

1. Figures represent all inspections in this period, including re-inspections and inspections of providers who have since closed.

2. Includes inspections published by 31 July 2013.

**Table 2: Inspection outcomes of early years registered providers inspected between 1 April 2013 and 30 June 2013 (provisional)<sup>1 2 3</sup>**

	Total number inspected	Number of Providers				Percentage of Providers			
		Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Inadequate	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Inadequate
Overall effectiveness: the quality and standards of the provision	3,582	340	2,114	873	255	9	59	24	7
The quality of leadership and management	3,582	341	2,114	872	255	10	59	24	7
The contribution of the provision to the wellbeing of children	3,582	376	2,148	813	245	10	60	23	7
How well the provision meets the needs of the children who attend	3,582	350	2,211	816	205	10	62	23	6

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

2. Figures represent all inspections in this period, including re-inspections and inspections of providers who have since closed.

3. Includes inspections published by 31 July 2013.

**Table 3c: Inspection outcomes of active early years registered providers at their most recent inspection as at 30 June 2013 (provisional)**  
1 2 3

	Total number inspected	Number of Providers				Percentage of Providers			
		Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Inadequate	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Inadequate
Overall effectiveness: the quality and standards of the provision	67,708	7,934	44,176	14,789	809	12	65	22	1
The quality of leadership and management	10,606	732	6,521	2,738	615	7	61	26	6
The contribution of the provision to the wellbeing of children	10,606	863	6,874	2,333	536	8	65	22	5
How well the provision meets the needs of the children who attend	10,606	740	6,672	2,659	535	7	63	25	5

*Source: Ofsted inspections*

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

2. This judgement includes the outcome *'How well does the setting meet the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?'* from the previous EYFS framework that began in September 2008. Includes outcomes for the most recent inspections that were published by 30 June 2013.

3. Judgement only made at inspections from 1 September 2012 onwards.

## **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 under exceptional circumstances; 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.

#### **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 financial 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

## **Inactive providers**

A childcare provider may be inactive because they have resigned or they have had their registration suspended or cancelled by Ofsted.

## **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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