



Official Statistics Revisions and Corrections Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This policy is issued in accordance with the requirement set out in the *UK Statistics Authority Code of Practice for Official Statistics* to publish a revisions policy for official statistics outputs subject to scheduled revision. The policy builds on the *National Statistician's Guidance on Presentation and Publication of Official Statistics*.

2. Policy statement

2.1 For revisions (applies to official statistics outputs subject to scheduled revisions) we will:

- 2.2 Pre-announce revisions to data where these are expected and scheduled. Typically, the publication of revised data would be timed to coincide with the latest release of related new data.
- 2.3 Summarise the key impact, nature and extent of revisions, typically at the national level. Where revisions impact on targets, this will be described.
- 2.4 Make available on request explanations for individual revisions, for example to data originally reported by an individual NHS trust.
- 2.5 Confine all final decisions on revisions to official statistics product leads, for example we reserve the right not to publish minor revisions if the resources required to issue them outweigh the benefits to stakeholders.

2.6 For corrections (applies to amendments to published data caused by error or which are out with the scope of scheduled revisions) we will:

- 2.7 Explain corrections to statistics at the earliest opportunity and in a way that provides most benefit to stakeholders.
- 2.8 Issue corrections in an orderly way, for example with the next version of the amended statistic or, if appropriate, by way of an earlier release of data.
- 2.9 Summarise the key impact, nature and extent of corrections, typically at the national level. Where corrections impact on targets, this will be described.

2.10 Confine all final decisions on corrections to official statistics product leads, for example we reserve the right not to publish minor corrections if the resources required to issue them outweigh the benefits to stakeholders.

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 This policy has been compiled by the Public Health England (PHE) Head of Profession for Statistics. The Head of Profession is professionally accountable to the National Statistician for compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics and other professional standards.

3.2 The policy applies to all staff with responsibility for the production and release of official statistics in PHE.

4. Related PHE standards and policies

4.1 PHE Statement of Compliance with the Pre-release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008.

4.2 PHE Statement of Administrative Sources.

Appendix A: Other related standards and policies

UK Statistics Authority Code of Practice for Official Statistics:
<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/>

National Statistician's Guidance on the Presentation and Publication of Official Statistics:
<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/national-statistician/ns-reports--reviews-and-guidance/national-statistician-s-guidance/index.html>

Table of updates

Date	Summary of update(s)	Reason for update(s)
November 2014	First published	To comply with the UK Statistics Authority Code of Practice for Official Statistics.
July 2017	<p>In section 3.1:</p> <p>Replaced 'Public Health England (PHE) Lead Official' with 'Public Health England (PHE) Head of Profession'.</p> <p>Removed text: 'via the Department of Health Head of Profession for Statistics'.</p>	PHE Lead Official for Statistics appointed to the role Head of Profession for Statistics for PHE.

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