Department for Education

School Applications and Offers Local Authority Level Data

Underlying data time series metadata specification

Description

This document describes the data contained in the 2019 school applications and offers underlying data file. The file contains national, regional and local authority data for both primary and secondary level applications and offers. The information contained in the underlying data is based upon the data returned by local authorities.

This year, for the first time, this document includes the underlying data both for this year, 2019, and also for all years since 2014, to provide an easily accessible time series. In the near future this dataset will be further expanded to include key percentages.

Overview

The information collected in the file relates to the school applications and offers made each year on the respective national offer days, 1 March for secondary level and 16 April for primary level (in both cases or the next working day).

A full description of the methods used in the collection of this data can be found in the main text of the statistical release and the separate methodology document.

File format and conventions

Format

2019Release_Apps & Offers_TimeSeries_UD.csv – rows in this file relate to individual local authorities or regions.

Rounding

Suppression and rounding at regional level was applied in 2014 only: from 2015 onwards no suppression or rounding has been applied.

Coverage

The data includes returns from 151 local authorities. The Isles of Scilly has been excluded as it has one school where the normal point of entry for all children is at age 3 and pupils continue until aged 16.

Abbreviations and definitions

Abbreviation	Definition
LA	Local Authority
NC	National Curriculum

Field name descriptions

Field name	Description
level	Whether national, regional or local authority figure
quarter	Full academic year
year	Academic year of entry
version	Whether final, provisional or revised data
country code	Country code
country	Country Name
region	Region (previously government office region) name
region code	Region (previously government office region) code
new_la_code	New 9-digit local authority code
old_la_code	Old 3-digit local authority code
la_name	Name of the local authority
school_phase	Phase (primary or secondary)
NC_year_admission	National Curriculum year of admission for appropriate school phase
admission_numbers	Total number of admission places for all mainstream schools in local authority for appropriate school phase
applications_received	Number of applications received from parents of children living in the local authority area
online_applications	Number of applications received online
no_of_preferences	Number of preferences offered by the local authority
first_preference_offers	The number of first preference offers
second_preference_offers	The number of second preference offers
third_preference_offers	The number of third preference offers
one_of_the_three_preference_offers	The number of first, second and third preference offers
preferred_school_offer	The total number of offers of a preferred school

non_preferred_offer	The number of home applicants offered a school which was not one of their preferences
no_offer	The number of home applicants not made an offer
schools_in_la_offer	The number of offers which were of a school in the local authority area
schools_in_another_la_offer	The number of offers which were of a school in another local authority area
offers_to_nonapplicants	Number of offers made to children for whom an application was not made

Calculations used in the underlying data or Statistical Release

Percentage of online applications – Online_Applications expressed as a percentage of Applications_received

Percentage of first preference offers – First_preference_offers expressed as a percentage of Applications_received

Percentage of second preference offers – Second_preference_offers expressed as a percentage of Applications_received

Percentage of third preference offers – Third_preference_offers expressed as a percentage of Applications_received

Percentage of one of the three preference offers – One_of_the_three_preference_offers expressed as a percentage of Applications_received

Percentage of preferred school offers – Preferred_school_offer expressed as a percentage of Applications_received

Percentage of offers of a non-preferred school – Non_Preferred_Offer expressed as a percentage of Applications_received

Percentage of home applicants who did not receive an offer – No_Offer expressed as a percentage of Applications_received

Percentage of offers which were of a school in the area of the local authority – Schools_in_LA_offer expressed as a percentage of the sum of Schools_in_LA_offer and Schools_in_another_LA_offer

Percentage of offers which were of a school in another local authority – Schools_in_another_LA_offer expressed as a percentage of the sum of Schools_in_LA_offer and Schools_in_another_LA_offer