

Release practice policy for Official Statistics

As part of our commitment to transparency and public accountability, we will:

- publish all Official Statistics in line with the principles outlined in the UK Statistics Authority's [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) (also see our [Statement of compliance with the Code of Practice for Statistics](#))
- maintain a full list of upcoming official statistics, and their release dates [Statistical publications schedule | Department of Education](#) and [GOV.UK](#).
- schedule publication dates in a timely manner, for as soon as practical after the source data becoming available
- confirm publication dates at least four weeks prior to publication, and subsequently being transparent on the reasons for any changes to those dates
- have all statistical publications formally approved by Statistical Analysis Team (SAT) Senior Principal Statistician before they are made available to the public
- prior to publication, strictly limit access to only those directly involved in the production or quality assurance of the statistics (to minimise risks of external interference), or to those in receipt of up to 24 hours pre-release access (enabling them to prepare responses to questions that may arise from the release)
- publish all our statistical publications on [Statistics | Department of Education](#) and on [GOV.UK](#) at 9:30am on a weekday, using accessible and open document formats such as HTML and ODS
- focus on presenting text, tables and charts in an accessible manner, enabling access to as wide a range of needs as possible, according to relevant accessibility guidelines (such as those provided by the [Government Analysis Function](#))
- be transparent on known caveats, limitations, and sources of uncertainty in the source data and methodologies used for analysis
- follow our [Corrections and revisions policy for official statistics](#), which describes how we will update publications if new information comes to light
- include contact details in all our releases, as well as clearly signposted opportunities for users to provide feedback that will help us improve our

releases with user needs in mind

- subject to DE's retention policy, continue to make past publications available on our website

Last updated: May 2026