

Description

April 2012

2 April	Requirements for Assay Offices in the UK to respond to ONS business surveys, in particular as a result of changes to the National Accounts classifications
2 April	Methods used by ONS to produce the Material Flow Accounts, and the need for a statistical product in this area
2 April	The need for publication of ad hoc statistical analyses produced by the ONS and government departments
3 April	Media reporting of claims that the Mayor of London had made statements about a reduction in knife crime that appeared to be at odds with published official statistics
16 April	Quoted estimates of the typical cost of cases administered by the Child Support Agency, and public ministerial statements in respect of costs of such cases
30 April	The appropriateness of using the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) indicator for schools funding formulae

May 2012

30 May	Comments, based on statistics produced by the Employment Related Services Association, made by the Minister for Employment in a speech about the Work Programme
31 May	Public availability of data from the Department for Work and Pensions on the number of jobs created under the Youth Contract
31 May	Methods and presentation of numerical information in a Department for Energy and Climate Change research document on the estimated impacts of energy and climate change policies

June 2012

11 June	Statistical basis for statements made by the Minister of State for Housing and Local Government regarding housing and homelessness
11 June	The reliability of estimates, produced by Manchester City Council, of the size of crowds at public events in Manchester
12 June	Statistical source for comments made by the Minister of State for Health during a BBC Radio 4 Today programme discussion about NHS patient satisfaction, and whether the comments breached pre-release rules

July 2012

4 July	Statistical disaggregation of non-UK born students in published ONS migration estimates
7 July	The statistical evidence base for understanding the reliability of biometric measures used by the Home Office
7 July	Potential statistical implications of the reclassification of students from overseas in the official estimates of migration
18 July	Accuracy of comments made by the Shadow Work and Pensions Secretary regarding the number of long term Jobseeker's Allowance claims among young people
30 July	Whether ministerial statements that there had been 800,000 new jobs created in the private sector since the current Government took office are supported by the available official statistics

August 2012

3 August	The coherence and accuracy of waiting time statistics available for a particular hospital trust via the NHS Choices website and Department for Health published statistics
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September 2012

4 September	The statistical basis for statements made by the Chief Inspector of Schools regarding the UK's position in international educational rankings
11 September	The accessibility of certain time series via the ONS website, compared with the accessibility of similar statistics on the websites of the National Statistics Institutes of other countries
12 September	The adequacy of the formula by which it is proposed to assess the needs of local authorities for central funding for public health
18 September	The implications, for users of regional statistics, of a decision by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to cease the collection and publication of statistics on a regional basis

October 2012

- 15 October Government statements about job creation in the private sector, and claims that a proportion of the increase in the number of jobs resulted from a statistical classification change
- 22 October The Department for Transport's use of National Statistics from the 1999 – 2001 National Travel Survey and the 2002 New Earnings Survey, rather than more recent statistics from the National Travel Survey and the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, to derive an estimate of business users' value of time in the Department for Transport's analysis of the economic case for the proposed new high speed railway, HS2
- 29 October The statistical basis for ministerial statements about the number and cost of 'troubled families'

November 2012

- 1 November The statistical evidence for statements regarding trends in health expenditure made by the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Health, and on the Conservative Party's website
- 23 November Concerns that official statistics on hospital waiting times may not be well enough understood by users and may need to be presented in different ways or better explained

December 2012

- 11 December Statistical basis for Government statements about the net increase in private sector jobs since the General Election in May 2010
- 14 December Use of numerical information about the price and level of consumption of alcohol in a Home Office consultation document
- 17 December Validity of comparisons made in a ministerial statement about the value of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) payments and the forecast value of Personal Independence Payment (PIP) payments

January 2013

- 2 January The release to the Sunday Times of crime figures described as new official statistics, and the interpretation of those figures
- 14 January Further representations about the coherence and accuracy of hospital waiting time statistics
- 16 January Methods and presentation of official statistics on road accidents at safety camera sites in Scotland and the interpretation of such statistics as indicative of the effectiveness of safety cameras
- 24 January Statements about public sector debt made by the Prime Minister in a Party Political Broadcast by the Conservative Party, broadcast on the evening of 23 January
- 31 January Statistical evidence for a statement by the Leader of the Opposition that "Only crisis-hit Spain has higher numbers of young unemployed than the UK"

February 2013

- 11 February The quality of house price indices produced by the Land Registry
- 12 February Accuracy of a statement made by the Financial Secretary to the Treasury that "under the last Labour Government the national debt almost trebled"
- 14 February Apparent differences in the statistics about the number of police officers in London presented in the Mayor of London's Draft Police and Crime Plan and published on the Greater London Authority London Datastore website
- 14 February The merit of using the Summary Hospital-level Mortality Indicator (SHMI) as the basis for the Government to publicly identify a group of hospitals for further investigation
- 18 February The release and presentation of School and College (Key Stage 5) Performance Tables, published by the Department for Education
- 18 February An article published in the Sun on Sunday newspaper on 17 February 2013, which appeared to have been informed by prior knowledge of statistics about child support that were subsequently published by the Department for Work and Pensions on 20 February 2013
- 21 February Numerical results from a pilot scheme to take audio recordings of work capability assessments, and subsequent reporting of these results on an Atos Healthcare blog
- 28 February The treatment in the Public Sector Finance statistics of the Bank of England Asset Purchase Facility in light of a decision on statistical classification

March 2013

1 March	The number of cases of asbestos related deaths recorded as 'site not specified'
14 March	The reasons for unequal quintiles presented on the Ofsted Data Dashboard
14 March	Interpretation of comments by the Minister of State for Schools that a pupil who manages a low Level 4 by the end of primary school is unlikely to go on to achieve five good GCSEs
14 March	Comments about trends in immigration made by the Prime Minister during Prime Minister's Questions on 13 March 2013
15 March	Lack of available official statistics on weekly alcohol consumption, previously funded by the Department of Health
19 March	Accuracy of ministerial comments about changes to the level of fuel duty outlined in the March 2011 Budget
22 March	Availability of statistics about the lifetime earnings of graduates compared with those who pursue an apprenticeship
31 March	Statistical basis for statements made in the Sunday Telegraph on 30 March 2013 that 878,300 people who were on Incapacity Benefit decided to end their claim to the payments rather than undergo an official assessment for Employment and Support Allowance