

Issues raised with the UK Statistics Authority in the year 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011

Description

April 2010

	7 April 13 April 27 April	Concern about media reports that the British Crime Survey under-records crimes affecting 16-25 year olds The need for documentary evidence of the use made of European agriculture statistics produced to meet European Union requirements Plans for the development of a "cost of fires index" by Communities and Local Government and the statistical validity of such an index
	May 2010 11 May 20 May	Methods for calculating the conviction rate for offences of rape The importance of plans for the 2011 Census and work to investigate alternatives to traditional census-taking
	June 2010 16 June 23 June 28 June	Presentation of statistical information in a Cabinet Office report State of the Nation: poverty, worklessness and welfare dependency in the UK, published on 3 June Availability of key statistics produced by the Government Statistical Service using the 2010 electoral geography for Westminster parliamentary constituencies Publication by the Cabinet Office (18 June) of numerical information about the number of people employed to support the work of Government
	July 2010 7 July 20 July 29 July	Remarks by the Prime Minister about violent crime statistics during Prime Minister's Questions on 7 July Linkage, analysis and dissemination of national-level birth and maternity data for England and Wales Timeliness of the registration of deaths subject to investigation by coroners in England, and related presentation of data, compared to Scotland
	August 2010 6 August	Use of statistics about the number of households receiving income from benefits and tax credits above the annual average wage contained in a Department for Work and Pensions ministerial statement
	16 August 25 August 25 August 25 August	Use of statistics about the number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit for 10 years in a Department for Work and Pensions ministerial statement Prominence of statistical commentary about the Consumer Prices Index in statistical releases about inflation and consumer prices published by the ONS Calculation of inflation indices using arithmetic and geometric means, and the impact of the "formula effect" on the Retail Prices Index Need for the work of the National Statistician's Consumer Prices Advisory Committee to be more transparent
September 2010		
	9 September 14 September 27 September	Reliability of data on hospital mortality and comparisons between the Hospital Standardised Mortality Ratio and the proposed Summary Hospital-level Mortality Indicator Presentation of statistics in Special educational needs and disability review - a statement is not enough, published by Ofsted on 14 September Lack of top-centile drinking water safety measurement data published by the Drinking Water Inspectorate
	October 2010 5 October 5 October 7 October	Confidentiality of personal information provided by respondents to the 2011 Census Presentation of statistics on benefits duration and worklessness in Department for Work and Pensions ministerial statements and press releases Availability of 1921 Census records

- 8 October Lack of Office for National Statistics plans to digitally archive historical volumes of the Annual Abstract of Statistics, drawing comparison with international practice and Sea Fisheries Statistical Tables published by Defra back to 1830s
- 11 October Presentation of statistics on the gender pay gap in a report published by the Equalities and Human Rights Commission, How Fair is Britain, published on 11 October
- 14 October Methology underpinning research into the effect of 20mpg speed restrictions in reducing road accident and casualty rates in local authority areas



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28 October	Adjustment to Department for Communities and Local Government published statistics on new dwellings completed, and related matters regarding accreditation as National Sta	atistics
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November 2010

24 November	Availability of evidence on pensioners' experience of inflation and prices in support of ministerial claims that the Consumer Prices Index is a better and more stable measure for the uprating of the
	Basic State Pension
OC May reach an	Diana fay an independent process to reach a discovery size between 2014 Concerns providing counts for level or the rite size of level or the rite of any concertations

- 26 November Plans for an independent process to resolve discrepancies between 2011 Census population counts for local authority areas and local authorities' own expectations
- 28 November Withdrawal of September 2010 Jobcentre vacancy data published by the Department for Work and Pensions

December 2010

- 6 December Availability of data underpinning estimates published by the Department for Work and Pensions in respect of the effect of the introduction of Universal Credit on the number of workless households
- 7 December Access to data underpinning calculations by the Department for Communities and Local Government of the Area Cost Adjustment for local authority areas
- 8 December Statistical methodology of the Peterborough Prison pilot scheme to reduce reoffending
- 13 December Ministerial and Opposition statements regarding school children's participation in sporting activities
- 13 December Presentation of statistics about the number of women killed in domestic violence incidents
- 23 December Presentation of information about local government finance, in particular ministerial comparisons between Revenue Spending Power and formula grant allocations
- 27 December Availability of weekly data on H1N1 'swine flu' infection rates produced by the Health Protection Agency
- 30 December Presentation of forecasts by the Department for Work and Pensions regarding the number of people currently alive who are expected to reach the age of 100 years

January 2011

- 13 January Presentation of statistics by the Department for Education showing school-level pupil attainment at GCSE, including the proposed English Baccalaureate
- 18 January Presentation of statistics about drug treatment from the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System in the National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse Annual Report

February 2011

1 February	Media reporting of statistics on the number of residents of care homes who have died as a result of dehydration, and presentation of statistics using underlying cause of death and contributory
	factors
16 February	Accuracy of statistics about the Welsh language used in leaflets distributed by groups supported by the Welsh Language Board

22 February Further representations about the presentation of about the purpose of price indices, and the extent to which their use should be taken into account in designing indices for a range of user needs

March 2011

- 8 March Availability of four-letter codes in published statistical datasets to aid further analysis, and lack of availability of Retail Price Index for pensioners data in rates format, rather than indices, on a monthly basis
- 10 March Interpretation of statistics about youth unemployment, and the appropriateness of denominators used by the Office for National Statistics to produce totals for the number of unemployed young people, taking account of those engaged in tertiary education
- 11 March Reliability of statements about the "immigration cap" drawing on UK Border Agency management information, including statements about the number of visas issued to colleges not accorded "highly trusted" status
- 16 March Publication of statistics by the Mayor of London about statistics on crime on the London transport network ahead of their normal release date in Transport for London's regular quarterly statistical bulletin
- 18 March Media reporting of statistics about eligibility for Employment and Support Allowance and fitness for work

23 March Proposals by the Department of Health/NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care to cease funding to the Office for National Statistics for the collection of data on smoking, drinking and use of health services