



2024 Early Childhood Education and Care National Workforce Census Privacy Notice for Preschools and Kindergartens

Please ensure that this notice is made available to all persons employed at your service/s that are included in the National Workforce Census and a copy is posted in a prominent place for parents/guardians.

The Australian Department of Education (the Department) invites all preschools and kindergartens to complete the 2024 Early Childhood Education and Care National Workforce Census (NWC). The Social Research Centre is conducting the NWC on behalf of the Department.

The importance and benefits of participating in the NWC are many. Data collected through the NWC is used for policy and program planning, data analysis and statistical and research purposes including:

- for early childhood education and care workforce analysis and related policy development;
- for policies and programs administered by state and territory education departments that support the early childhood education and care sector;
- to support the delivery and administration of the Preschool Reform Agreement;
- to link with other information to improve programs, policies and outcomes for the early childhood education and care workforce and young children.

With the inclusion of preschools and kindergartens, the NWC is able to capture an all-encompassing representation of the early childhood education and care workforce and working environment. This will inform decisions by the Australian, State and Territory Governments on early childhood education and care programs and policy and staffing considerations.

No other collection secures the same magnitude and breadth of information as the NWC to help decision makers appreciate what is happening in the sector.

Information collected as part of the NWC

The NWC collects information on:

- the type of service and operational matters relating to the service such as the service's preschool program delivery.
- in aggregate form (**totals numbers only**), children attending the service and the characteristics of those children (such as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status or long term additional needs). If you do not want your child included in the count, please advise your service by 15 April 2024.
- information on persons employed by the service, including qualifications held and demographics (including Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status).

Please note; the NWC **does not** collect the names of any employees or children.

The NWC asks services to nominate a nickname or codename for each workers submitted as part of the NWC that will only ever be used by the Social Research Centre in the provision of follow up with services to ensure data quality. Once the data quality control period ends, the nickname or codename of workers is destroyed. The Department is not held or provided with this information.

Use and disclosure of NWC data

All data published is at the national, state and territory level only. You can see how NWC data is published by visiting the Department's NWC website at <https://www.education.gov.au/early-childhood/early-childhood-data-and-reports/national-workforce-census>

Information collected as part of the NWC may be disclosed to:

- other Australian Government departments, authorities and agencies with responsibility for early childhood education and care policy development;
- State and Territory government departments, authorities and agencies with responsibility for early childhood education and care policy development or administration of the Education and Care Services National Law, for the purposes of that responsibility or administration;
- the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) for the purposes of the ABS, including but not limited to statistical analysis of child care providers or services;
- researchers with a genuine interest in the field of early childhood education and care, for the purposes of research of interest to the Department.

The Department and the Social Research Centre will not disclose any information submitted as part of the NWC to any overseas recipients.

More information

For any queries in relation to the matters contained in this notice, or the NWC more broadly, please contact:

The Social Research Centre on 1800 800 996 (free call) or
The Social Research Centre email: nwc@srcentre.com.au or
The Department at: ecec-nwc@education.gov.au

Detailed information on the 2024 NWC can be found at <https://srcentre.com.au/project/national-workforce-census>

Information collected as part of the NWC will be treated in accordance with the Department's strict Privacy Policy, noting that the Department's employees, contractors and agents are subject to the [Privacy Act 1988](#) and the requirements of the [Australian Privacy Principles](#).

Further information on the Department's privacy policy, including further information in relation to how the Department handles personal information and privacy matters can be found at: <https://www.education.gov.au/using-site/privacy>