

# Appendix B – Performance Indicator Specifications (2024 – 2027)

## Preschool Reform Agreement

Appendix B - Performance Indicator Specifications will be updated as required over the course of the Preschool Reform Agreement. This version of the Specifications applies to performance indicators for the 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027 program years.

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## Acknowledgments

These Performance Indicator Specifications for the Preschool Reform Agreement have been developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and Australian Government Department of Education (Department of Education).

## Abbreviations

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
CCSS	Child Care Subsidy System
CSYBFS	Child-specific year before full-time school
ECEC	Early Childhood Education and Care
ERP	Estimated resident population
IRSD	Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage
METEOR	AIHW's Metadata Online Registry
NECECC	National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection
NMDS	National Minimum Data Set
NPAC	National Preschool Attendance Collection
PI	Performance Indicator
PRA	Preschool Reform Agreement
SA	Statistical Area
SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas
SLK	Statistical linkage key
UANP	Universal Access National Partnership (National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education)
URL	Unit record level
YBFS	Year before full-time school

## Introduction

These specifications have been developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and the Department of Education to guide measurement of performance under the Preschool Reform Agreement (PRA).

The objective of the PRA is to facilitate children's early learning and development and transition to school by:

- maintaining universal access to affordable, quality preschool programs for all children
- improving participation in preschool programs
- maximising the benefit of the preschool year by improving outcomes for children.

The following Performance Indicators (PI) inform the measurement of achievement of PRA objectives.

1: Proportion of children in the year before full-time school who are attending a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours.

2.1: Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the year before full-time school who are enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours.

2.2: Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the year before full-time school who are attending a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours.

3.1: Proportion of disadvantaged children in the year before full-time school who are enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours.

3.2: Proportion of disadvantaged children in the year before full-time school who are attending a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours.

Performance Indicators are operationalised as targets as follows:

- For enrolment indicators: a target improvement from the baseline proportion of children in the year before full-time school who are enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours.
- For attendance indicators: a target improvement from the baseline proportion of children in the year before full-time school (x%) who attend a preschool program (or programs) for a proportion of 600 hours (y%, where y is an agreed reasonable proportion of 600 hours).

Performance Indicator and target specifications are based on the PRA Appendix A.1 Enrolment and Attendance. The details of targets are agreed bilaterally in Implementation Plans.

Performance data will be collected to establish baselines from 2024 and measure performance against targets from 2025-2027.

Data for the National Preschool Attendance Collection (NPAC) will be collected for the reference period of Term 2. Data for the National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection (NECECC) will be collected for the reference period in August. Submission timing will be confirmed through annual Implementation Plans. Jurisdictions may provide contextual information to aid data interpretation.

The PI specifications have been developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and the Department of Education.

## ***National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection (NECECC)***

The NECECC aims to provide nationally comparable information on early childhood education. Historically it assisted in progress reporting for the:

- 2008-13 National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education
- 2013-14 National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education
- 2015 National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education
- 2016-17 National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education
- 2018-21 National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education

The NECECC will be used to measure performance against **enrolment** targets.

Data from the NECECC have been published annually by the ABS and are available on their website: <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/preschool-education/latest-release> for the latest release and previous releases.

Supporting information is available in Preschool Education methodology publication available on the ABS website: <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/preschool-education/latest-release#methodology><sup>1</sup>

## ***National Preschool Attendance Collection (NPAC)***

From 2024, detailed attendance data will be collected separately as part of the National Preschool Attendance Collection (NPAC). Summary data from NPAC will be published annually by the ABS in a new Preschool Attendance publication, available on their website:

<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/preschool-attendance/latest-release>

Supporting information is available in the Preschool Attendance methodology publication available on the ABS website: <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/preschool-attendance/latest-release#methodology><sup>1</sup>

The NPAC will be used to measure performance against **attendance** targets.

## ***National Minimum Data Set (NMDS) specifications***

The NECECC and NPAC are underpinned by data standards specified in a National Minimum Data Set (NMDS), maintained by the AIHW in the online metadata registry, METEOR.

NECECC and NPAC each have a distinct NMDS: the Early Childhood Education and Care National Minimum Data Set (ECEC NMDS) available via <https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/809768>, and the National Preschool Attendance Collection National Minimum Data Set (NPAC NMDS) available via <https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/809757>. Further information on each is available via <https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/344846>.

Relevant NMDS data element names and corresponding METEOR identifiers are included in the PI Specifications. Further information on these can be found in the NMDS for each collection.

## ***Definitions***

A number of terms have been defined and used within the PRA. These definitions have been operationalised, where required, for implementation in each NMDS. Although definitions may be expressed differently in the respective NMDS, their interpretation is consistent with the PRA.

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<sup>1</sup> The Commonwealth will update the methodology to align with data collection in relevant year.  
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Definitions of the following terms underpin the PI Specifications and should be read in conjunction with the PRA and its appendices.

### **Qualified early childhood teacher**

An early childhood education and care contact worker<sup>2</sup> who is a degree qualified early childhood teacher who meets the requirements of the National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care (the National Quality Framework)<sup>3</sup>.

### **Early childhood education program/ Preschool program**

An early childhood education program<sup>4</sup> or preschool program is a structured, play-based learning program, delivered by a qualified teacher in accordance with the Early Years Learning Framework and the National Quality Standard<sup>5</sup> and is aimed at children in the year or two before they commence full-time schooling, irrespective of the type of institution that provides it or whether it is government funded or privately provided. Programs may be delivered in a variety of service settings including separate preschools or kindergartens, long day care centres, in association with a school, etc.<sup>4</sup>

It is possible for multiple programs to be offered by the same service provider; however, the lowest reporting level common to all states and territories within the NECECC is the service provider level. Information is therefore collected at the service provider level for reporting in the NECECC, as specified in the ECEC NMDS, and the service provider is used in the PI Specifications as a proxy for 'programs'.

### **Child-specific year before full-time school (CSYBFS)**

The child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS)<sup>6</sup> indicates whether the child is in a YBFS preschool program and is defined by the child's date of birth, as well as the state-specific eligibility age for preschool and state-specific compulsory school age.

A child will be counted as being in the child-specific YBFS if, according to state rules, their birthdate means they are:

- eligible for preschool, and they become eligible for school the following year, but school is not compulsory the following year ('YBFS - school optional next year'), or
- eligible for preschool, and school is compulsory the following year ('YBFS - school compulsory next year'); and
- if they were in the YBFS-age range in the previous year, they were not enrolled in a YBFS preschool program offering 600 hours or more in the previous year.

### **Year before full-time school (YBFS) population**

The new Estimated (predicted) YBFS will be used as a denominator for the enrolment performance indicators (PI 2.1 and 3.1).

The Estimated (predicted) YBFS is produced using a regression model, which uses ERP and historical Measured YBFS to estimate the YBFS for the current year.

The Measured YBFS uses pre-year 1 (foundation year) school enrolment data, lagged by one year, as the basis of the YBFS population. The schools' data is sourced from the National Schools Statistics Collection (NSSC).

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<sup>2</sup> NMDS METEOR ID 763273

<sup>3</sup> NMDS METEOR ID 763336

<sup>4</sup> NMDS METEOR ID 762661

<sup>5</sup> NMDS METEOR ID 763288, or National Quality Framework/state equivalent as per Appendix A.1.

<sup>6</sup> NMDS METEOR ID 793225

To account for population changes between the YBFS year and the pre-year 1 year (foundation year) due to migration, an adjustment is made based on the latest estimated resident population (ERP) for the relevant ages.

The Estimated (predicted) YBFS enables an estimate to be provided for the current year, in a timely manner. Depending on confidence intervals and data availability, alternative estimation methods may be used, as agreed multilaterally.

## Summary of Performance Indicator data sources

All data sources are supplied by the ABS.

Performance Indicator	Numerator source	Denominator source	Numerator measure	Denominator measure
1: Proportion (x%) of children attending a preschool program (or programs) for y% of 600 hours in the child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS).	NPAC	NPAC	CSYBFS <i>Attending y% of 600 hours</i>	CSYBFS <i>Attending at least 1 hour</i>
2.1: Proportion (x%) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours or more, in the child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS).	NECECC	YBFS population	CSYBFS <i>Enrolled 600 hours (or more)</i>	Estimated (predicted) YBFS
2.2: Proportion (x%) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children attending a preschool program (or programs) for y% of 600 hours in the child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS).	NPAC	NPAC	CSYBFS <i>Attending y% of 600 hours</i>	CSYBFS <i>Attending at least 1 hour</i>
3.1: Proportion (x%) of disadvantaged children enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours or more, in the child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS).	NECECC	YBFS population	CSYBFS <i>Enrolled 600 hours (or more)</i>	Estimated (predicted) YBFS
3.2: Proportion (x%) of disadvantaged children attending a preschool program (or programs) for y% of 600 hours in the child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS).	NPAC	NPAC	CSYBFS <i>Attending y% of 600 hours</i>	CSYBFS <i>Attending at least 1 hour</i>

## Performance Indicator 1 All Children Attending

Indicator details	
Description	Proportion (x%) of children attending a preschool program (or programs) for y% of 600 hours in the child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS).
Numerator	The number of children in the child-specific YBFS who were enrolled at the enrolment reference point in Term 2 in a preschool program (or programs) offering at least 600 hours in the year, whose attendance hours during the attendance reference period are extrapolated to estimate annual hours greater than or equal to the agreed state or territory target of y% of 600 hours.
Numerator data elements	<p>Elements provided by the <b>jurisdictions</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrolment in a preschool program code [<math>\geq</math> 600 hours, &lt; 600 hours, 2YBFS program] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792727</a>)</li> <li>• Maximum annual preschool program hours available (conditional - answer if child is enrolled in a program for &lt; 600 hours) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792742</a>)</li> <li>• Date of birth (<a href="#">METEOR Id 287007</a>)</li> <li>• YBFS preschool repeater flag – provided [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792086</a>)</li> <li>• Child-specific preschool program start date for the year (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792750</a>)</li> <li>• Child-specific preschool program end date for the year (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792759</a>) Attendance reference period start date (Term, or CCSS weeks – may vary by setting) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792768</a>)</li> <li>• Attendance reference period end date (Term, or CCSS weeks – may vary by setting) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792780</a>) Hours attended in attendance reference period (Term, or CCSS weeks) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792788</a>)</li> <li>• Operationally unavailable hours (within attendance reference period) [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792798</a>)</li> <li>• Program weeks (annual) (regardless of child enrolment date) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792808</a>)</li> <li>• Service provider organisation – Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792734</a>)</li> <li>• Service provider organisation – service activity type, early childhood education and care (<a href="#">METEOR Id 762656</a>)</li> </ul> <p>Elements derived by the <b>ABS</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrolment reference point in Term 2</li> <li>• Enrolment at the enrolment reference point in Term 2 indicator</li> <li>• Child-specific enrolment status</li> <li>• YBFS eligibility</li> <li>• Child-specific YBFS status</li> <li>• YBFS preschool repeater flag - derived</li> <li>• Program weeks (attendance reference period)</li> <li>• Record—Average weekly hours (attended)</li> <li>• Record—Total attendance hours Child – Estimated total annual attendance hours (extrapolated)</li> </ul> <p>Other data elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State-specific target y% of 600 hours<sup>7</sup></li> <li>• Policy target hours (annual)</li> </ul>
Denominator	The number of children in the child-specific YBFS enrolled in a 600 hour or more preschool program (or programs) at the enrolment reference point in Term 2, who attended at least one hour in Term 2.
Denominator data elements	<p>Elements provided by the <b>jurisdictions</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrolment in a preschool program code [<math>\geq</math> 600 hours, &lt; 600 hours, 2YBFS program] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792727</a>)</li> </ul>

<sup>7</sup> To be agreed as part of the annual bilateral implementation plan discussion

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum annual preschool program hours available (conditional- answer if child is enrolled in a program for &lt; 600 hours) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792742</a>)</li> <li>Date of birth (<a href="#">METEOR Id 287007</a>)</li> <li>YBFS preschool repeater flag – provided [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792086</a>)</li> <li>Child-specific preschool program start date for the year (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792750</a>)</li> <li>Child-specific preschool program end date for the year (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792759</a>)Hours attended attendance reference period (Term, or CCSS weeks) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792788</a>)</li> <li>Operationally unavailable hours (within attendance reference period) [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792798</a>)</li> <li>Service provider organisation – Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792734</a>)</li> <li>Service provider organisation – service activity type, early childhood education and care (<a href="#">METEOR Id 762656</a>)</li> </ul> <p><u>Elements derived by the ABS:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enrolment reference point in Term 2</li> <li>Enrolment at the enrolment reference point in Term 2 indicator</li> <li>Child-specific enrolment status</li> <li>YBFS eligibility</li> <li>Child-specific YBFS status</li> <li>YBFS preschool repeater flag – derived</li> </ul> <p><u>Other data elements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy target hours (annual)</li> </ul>
Computation	<p>Numerator ÷ Denominator × 100 = Proportion</p> <p>Refer to flowcharts 1 and 2.</p> <p>Flowchart 1: Episode to child process flow, and calculation of child attendance hours.</p> <p>Flowchart 2: Proportion (x%) of children attending a preschool program (or programs) for y% of 600 hours in the child-specific YBFS.</p>
Presentation	Proportion
Identifiers	<p>Person ID (Statistical Linkage Key (SLK) 581):</p> <p>The SLK will provide a unique identifier for the vast majority of children. For the small percentage who may have the same SLK, legitimate duplicates can be flagged by jurisdictions (within a dataset), by using a child/student database to check the name, date of birth, and sex of each child with an identical SLK. Matching SLKs that are not coincidental should be detected and flagged appropriately by jurisdictions.</p> <p><u>Geographic information:</u></p> <p>Child level geographic information will be used to assist with matching episode records to enable estimation of attendance and enrolment information at the child level. Jurisdictions to supply a list of child addresses to ABS for geo-coding (timing to be negotiated bilaterally). Where agreed, child addresses will not be retained by the ABS.</p> <p>Service provider information will be used to determine the <i>Home-state</i> of the child and may be used to assist with matching episode records.</p>
Identifier and geographic data elements	<p><b>Child URL data elements:</b></p> <p><u>Provided by jurisdictions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Record – Statistical linkage key 581 (<a href="#">METEOR Id 349895</a>)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Record – SLK Sequential Match code (<a href="#">METEOR Id 809763</a>)<sup>8</sup></li> <li>Address – Address line (<a href="#">METEOR Id 594217</a>) Address – Suburb/town/locality name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 429889</a>)</li> <li>Address – Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792734</a>)</li> <li>Address – Australian postcode (<a href="#">METEOR Id 611398</a>)</li> </ul> <p>Derived by the ABS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address – statistical area, mesh block code (ASGS Edition 3)</li> <li>Address – statistical area, level 1 (SA1) code (ASGS Edition 3)</li> </ul> <p><b>Service level data elements:</b></p> <p>Provided by jurisdictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Service provider organisation – Organisation identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 731385</a>)</li> <li>Organisation – organisation name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 453823</a>)</li> <li>Address – Address line (<a href="#">METEOR Id 594217</a>)</li> <li>Address – Suburb/town/locality name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 429889</a>)</li> <li>Address – Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792734</a>)</li> <li>Address – Australian postcode (<a href="#">METEOR Id 611398</a>)</li> </ul>
Calculation rules	<p><u>Child level data:</u></p> <p>This performance indicator requires child level data. Children may attend more than one episode of preschool. To estimate child level attendance hours, attendance hours must first be estimated at the episode level, and then summed, where a child has more than one episode of preschool. Child level attendance hours will be estimated using the following steps:</p> <p><b>Step 1 – Estimate annual attendance hours for each episode</b></p> <p>Annual attendance hours for each episode will be estimated using the following steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If provided, 'Operationally unavailable hours (within attendance reference period)' are added to 'Hours attended in attendance reference period (Term, or CCSS weeks)'</li> <li>'Hours attended in attendance reference period (Term, or CCSS weeks)' (where CCSS weeks are aggregated to the term level), will be divided by 'Program weeks (attendance reference period)' to calculate 'Record—Average weekly hours (attended)'</li> <li>To extrapolate to the program-year, 'Record—Average weekly hours (attended)' will then be multiplied by total 'Program weeks (annual)' for that episode to calculate 'Record—Total attendance hours'.</li> </ul> <p><b>Step 2 – Where a child has multiple episodes of preschool, sum 'Record—Total attendance hours' for each episode, and assign to the Home-state (based on Appendix A.1. rules).</b></p> <p><i>The Home-State is the state of the child's service address for the enrolment reference point or period, where that service records the greatest number of program hours for the child [up to 600hrs]. If a child has equal program hours across two or more states, for the purposes of the attendance performance indicators the Home-State is the state for which the greatest number of attendance hours have been recorded (Appendix A1 glossary).</i></p> <p>For children who were enrolled simultaneously across more than one jurisdiction at the enrolment reference point in Term 2, attendance hours in each state will be extrapolated according to the state specific attendance reference period. Extrapolated hours for each jurisdiction will be summed and assigned to the <i>Home-state</i> (Appendix A1. 4.10.2)).</p>

<sup>8</sup> Sequential match code for NPAC requires more allocated characters than NECECC due to the expanded reference period and weekly provision of CCSS data, requiring more children be allocated a sequential match code. The purpose of this item is the same across both collections.

For further information on creating unique child records from episode data, including how to treat duplicate episodes, multiple attendance reference periods and consecutive and simultaneous interstate enrolments, see 'Flowchart 1: Episode to child process flow, and estimation of annual child attendance hours'.

#### Determining the child-specific YBFS

A child will be counted as being in the child-specific YBFS if, according to state rules, their birthdate means they are:

- eligible for preschool, and they become eligible for school the following year, but school is not compulsory the following year ('YBFS - school optional next year'), or
- eligible for preschool, and school is compulsory the following year ('YBFS - school compulsory next year'); and
  - if they were in the YBFS-age range in the previous year, they were not enrolled in a YBFS preschool program in the previous year. This will be established by using the data element: YBFS preschool repeater flag – derived (derived by linking unit level preschool data with the previous year's preschool data).

This will be operationalised through the following steps:

1. Children will be grouped into the following three categories (described in data element 'YBFS eligibility') according to their date of birth, age at which children become eligible for YBFS preschool (state-specific), and compulsory school age (state-specific):
    1. = Younger than the YBFS-age range
    2. = YBFS-school optional next year
    3. = YBFS-school compulsory next year
  2. If a child is:
    - categorised as YBFS-school optional next year and
    - they are enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs)
    - Then, child-specific YBFS status = 'Yes'.
- Or, if a child is:
- categorised as YBFS-school compulsory next year and
  - they are enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs), and
  - in the previous year they were not enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs) or were enrolled in a 2YBFS program (as determined by linking to preschool enrolment data for the previous year)
  - Then, child-specific YBFS status = 'Yes'

All other combinations result in a child-specific YBFS status of 'No'.

Note: Where an alternative definition of preschool has been agreed in a state's Implementation Plan, consistent with the PRA, only programs that are consistent with the definition will be counted when calculating performance indicators.

#### Numerator:

The numerator will be calculated by summing all children who are in the child-specific YBFS who:

- Have an 'Enrolled in a preschool program of 600 hours or more' (code 1) response to the data element 'Enrolment in a preschool program code', or
- Have an 'Enrolled in a preschool program of less than 600 hours' (code 2) response for 'Enrolment in a preschool program code' but for matched episodes, the element 'Maximum annual preschool program hours available' totals at least 600 hours, and
- Are enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) at the enrolment reference point in Term 2, and
- Whose attendance hours during the attendance reference period are extrapolated to estimate annual hours equal to or greater than the agreed state or territory target of y% of 600 hours.

	<p><u>Denominator:</u> The denominator will be calculated by summing all children in the child-specific YBFS who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have an 'Enrolled in a preschool program of 600 hours or more' (code 1) response to the data element 'Enrolment in a preschool program code', or</li> <li>• Have an 'Enrolled in a preschool program of less than 600 hours' (code 2) response for 'Enrolment in a preschool program code' but for matched episodes, the element 'Maximum annual preschool program hours available' totals at least 600 hours, and</li> <li>• Are enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) at the enrolment reference point in Term 2, and</li> <li>• Attended at least 1 hour of a preschool program in the reference period.</li> </ul>
Data collection details	
Data source(s)	<p><u>Numerator:</u> NPAC <u>Denominator:</u> NPAC</p>
Frequency of data source collection	<p><u>Numerator:</u> Annual <u>Denominator:</u> Annual</p>

## Performance Indicator 2.1 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children Enrolled

Indicator details	
Description	Proportion (x%) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours or more, in the child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS).
Numerator	The number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the child-specific YBFS who were enrolled in a 600-hour (or more) program (or programs) during the enrolment reference period in August.
Numerator data elements	<p><u>Elements provided by the jurisdictions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child - Early childhood education program enrolment indicator (<a href="#">METEOR Id 793267</a>)</li> <li>• Child - Early childhood education program hours enrolled (per week) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 793277</a>)</li> <li>• Child - Early childhood education program 2YBFS indicator [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 793322</a>)</li> <li>• Child - Early childhood education program repeater indicator (<a href="#">METEOR Id 602323</a>)</li> <li>• Person - Date of birth (<a href="#">METEOR Id 287007</a>)</li> <li>• Person - Indigenous status (<a href="#">METEOR Id 809873</a>)</li> <li>• Service provider - Number of early childhood education program service operation weeks (<a href="#">METEOR Id 602358</a>)</li> <li>• Service provider organisation - Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 289083</a>)</li> </ul> <p><u>Elements derived by the ABS:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YBFS eligibility</li> <li>• Child-specific YBFS status</li> <li>• YBFS preschool repeater flag – derived</li> <li>• Total enrolled hours</li> </ul>
Denominator	The estimated number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the YBFS, for each jurisdiction as at the collection year.
Denominator data elements	<p><u>Elements derived by the ABS:</u></p> <p>The estimated number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the YBFS, for each jurisdiction as at the collection year.</p> <p>Element will be based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools, student enrolments</li> <li>• Estimated Resident Population (ERP) of children aged 4, 5, or 4 and 5</li> </ul> <p>Or,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If required, other method as agreed multilaterally (Appendix A1 6.15).</li> </ul>
Computation	<p>Numerator ÷ Denominator × 100 = Proportion</p> <p>Refer to Flowchart 3: Proportion (x%) of children enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours or more in the child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS).</p>
Presentation	Proportion
Identifiers	<p><u>Person ID (Statistical Linkage Key (SLK) 581):</u></p> <p>The SLK will provide a unique identifier for the vast majority of children. For the small percentage who may have the same SLK, legitimate duplicates can be identified by jurisdictions by using a child/student database to check the name, date of birth, sex, and state of each child with an identical SLK. Matching SLKs that are not coincidental should be detected and flagged appropriately by jurisdictions.</p> <p><u>Geographic information:</u></p> <p>Child level geographic information will be used to assist with matching episode records to enable estimation of attendance and enrolment information at the child level. Jurisdictions to supply a list of</p>

	<p>child addresses to ABS for geo-coding (timing to be negotiated bilaterally). Where agreed, child addresses will not be retained by the ABS.</p> <p>Service provider information will be used to determine the <i>Home-state</i> of the child and may be used to assist with matching episode records.</p>
Identifier and geographic data elements	<p><b>Child/URL data elements:</b></p> <p>Provided by jurisdictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Record – Statistical Linkage Key 581 (<a href="#">METEOR Id 349895</a>)</li> <li>• Record – SLK Sequential Match code (<a href="#">METEOR Id 793024</a>)</li> <li>• Address - Address line (<a href="#">METEOR Id 594217</a>)</li> <li>• Address - Suburb/town/locality name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 429889</a>)</li> <li>• Person - Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 793297</a>)</li> <li>• Address - Australian postcode (<a href="#">METEOR Id 611398</a>)</li> </ul> <p>Derived by the ABS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Person – area of usual residence, geographic location (Mesh Block) code</li> <li>• Address – statistical area level 1 (SA1) code (ASGS Edition 3)</li> </ul> <p><b>Service level data elements:</b></p> <p>Provided by jurisdictions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service provider organisation – Organisation identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 731385</a>)</li> <li>• Organisation- organisation name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 453823</a>)</li> <li>• Address - Address line (<a href="#">METEOR Id 594217</a>)</li> <li>• Address - Suburb/town/locality name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 429889</a>)</li> <li>• Service provider organisation- Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 289083</a>)</li> <li>• Address – Australian postcode (<a href="#">METEOR Id 611398</a>)</li> </ul>
Calculation rules	<p><b>Child level data:</b></p> <p>This performance indicator requires child level data. Children may be enrolled in more than one [episode of a] preschool program. To determine the total enrolled hours for the child, episode records will be matched using SLK [and other information, such as geography]. Where a child is enrolled in more than one preschool program, all enrolled hours for all [episodes of a] preschool program (or programs) will be summed.</p> <p>For more information on creating unique child records from episode data, including how to treat multiple enrolments and repeat enrolments over time, see Appendix B.1: ‘Creating unique child records from episode records’.</p> <p><b>Determining the child-specific YBFS</b></p> <p>A child will be counted as being in the child-specific YBFS if, according to state rules, their birthdate means they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• eligible for preschool, and they become eligible for school the following year, but school is not compulsory the following year (‘YBFS - school optional next year’), or</li> <li>• eligible for preschool, and school is compulsory the following year (‘YBFS - school compulsory next year’); and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ if they were in the YBFS-age range in the previous year, they were not enrolled in a YBFS preschool program in the previous year. This will be established by using the data element: YBFS preschool repeater flag – derived (derived by linking unit level preschool data with the previous year’s preschool data).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>This will be operationalised through the following steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Children will be grouped in to the following three categories (described in data element ‘YBFS eligibility’) according to their date of birth, age at which children become eligible for YBFS preschool (state-specific), and compulsory school age (state-specific): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. = Younger than the YBFS-age range</li> <li>2. = YBFS–school optional next year</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<p>3. = YBFS–school compulsory next year</p> <p>2. If a child is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o categorised as YBFS–school optional next year and</li> <li>o they are enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs)</li> <li>o Then, child-specific YBFS status = 'Yes'.</li> </ul> <p>Or, if a child is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o categorised as YBFS–school compulsory next year and</li> <li>o they are enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs), and</li> <li>o in the previous year they were not enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs) or were enrolled in a 2YBFS program (as determined by linking to preschool enrolment data for the previous year)</li> <li>o Then, child-specific YBFS status = 'Yes'</li> </ul> <p>All other combinations result in a child-specific YBFS status of 'No'.</p> <p>Note: Where an alternative definition of preschool has been agreed in a state's Implementation Plan, consistent with the PRA, only programs that are consistent with the definition will be counted when calculating performance indicators.</p> <p><u>Numerator:</u> The numerator will be obtained by summing all children in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population who are in the child-specific YBFS and who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a 'Yes' response to the child level data element 'Child- Early childhood education program enrolment indicator', and</li> <li>• Are enrolled in a 600-hour (or more) program (or programs), determined using the data element 'Child - Early childhood education program hours enrolled (per week)' multiplied by the data element 'Service provider - Number of early childhood education program service operation weeks' to get total hours enrolled in the year.</li> </ul> <p><u>Denominator:</u> The denominator will be based on the estimated (predicted) year before full-time school (YBFS) population for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. Estimated (predicted) YBFS refers to the estimates obtained by a regression model using 4-year-old estimated resident population (ERP), 5-year-old ERP, or 4 and 5-year-old ERP (chosen based on the highest explanatory power) and historical measured YBFS. Measured YBFS is determined using pre-year 1 school enrolment data lagged by one year and adjusted for net migration using ERP.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Another method, agreed multilaterally (Appendix A1 6.15)</p>
Data collection details	
Data source(s)	<p><u>Numerator:</u> NECECC</p> <p><u>Denominator:</u> Estimates and Projections, Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples/estimates-and-projections-australian-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-population/2011-2031">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples/estimates-and-projections-australian-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-population/2011-2031</a>; Schools (latest) <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/schools">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/schools</a></p> <p>Note: One, or both data sources may be used, as agreed multilaterally.</p>
Frequency of data source collection	<p><u>Numerator:</u> Annual</p> <p><u>Denominator:</u> Annual</p>

## Performance Indicator 2.2 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children Attending

Indicator details	
Description	Proportion (x%) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children attending a preschool program (or programs) for y% of 600 hours in the child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS).
Numerator	The number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the child-specific YBFS who were enrolled at the enrolment reference point in Term 2 in a preschool program (or programs) offering at least 600 hours in the year, whose attendance hours during the attendance reference period are extrapolated to estimate annual hours greater than or equal to the agreed state or territory target of y% of 600 hours.
Numerator data elements	<p>Elements provided by the <b>jurisdictions</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enrolment in a preschool program code [<math>\geq</math> 600 hours, &lt; 600 hours, 2YBFS program] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792727</a>)</li> <li>Maximum annual preschool program hours available (conditional- answer if child is enrolled in a program for &lt; 600 hours) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792742</a>)</li> <li>Date of birth (<a href="#">METEOR Id 287007</a>)</li> <li>Indigenous status (<a href="#">METEOR Id 809873</a>)</li> <li>YBFS preschool repeater flag – provided [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792086</a>)</li> <li>Child-specific preschool program start date for the year (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792750</a>)</li> <li>Child-specific preschool program end date for the year (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792759</a>)</li> <li>Attendance reference period start date (Term, or CCSS weeks – may vary by setting) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792768</a>)</li> <li>Attendance reference period end date (Term, or CCSS weeks – may vary by setting) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792780</a>)</li> <li>Hours attended in attendance reference period (Term, or CCSS weeks) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792788</a>)</li> <li>Operationally unavailable hours (within attendance reference period) [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792798</a>)</li> <li>Program weeks (annual) (regardless of child enrolment date) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792808</a>)</li> <li>Service provider organisation- Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792734</a>)</li> <li>Service provider organisation – service activity type, early childhood education and care (<a href="#">METEOR Id 762656</a>)</li> </ul> <p>Elements derived by the <b>ABS</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enrolment reference point in Term 2</li> <li>Enrolment at the enrolment reference point in Term 2 indicator</li> <li>Child-specific enrolment status</li> <li>YBFS eligibility</li> <li>Child-specific YBFS status</li> <li>YBFS preschool repeater flag – derived</li> <li>Program weeks (attendance reference period)</li> <li>Record—Average weekly hours (attended)</li> <li>Record—Total attendance hours</li> <li>Child – Estimated total annual attendance hours (extrapolated)</li> </ul> <p>Other data elements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State-specific target y% of 600 hours<sup>9</sup></li> <li>Policy target hours (annual)</li> </ul>

<sup>9</sup> To be agreed as part of the annual bilateral implementation plan discussion.

Denominator	The number of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children in the child-specific YBFS enrolled in a 600 hour or more preschool program (or programs) who attended at least one hour, as at the enrolment reference point in Term 2.
Denominator data elements	<p><u>Elements provided by the jurisdictions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrolment in a preschool program code [<math>\geq</math> 600 hours, &lt; 600 hours, 2YBFS program] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792727</a>)</li> <li>• Maximum annual preschool program hours available (conditional- answer if child is enrolled in a program for &lt; 600 hours) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792742</a>)</li> <li>• Date of birth (<a href="#">METEOR Id 287007</a>)</li> <li>• Indigenous status (<a href="#">METEOR Id 809873</a>)</li> <li>• YBFS preschool repeater flag – provided [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792086</a>)</li> <li>• Child-specific preschool program start date for the year (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792750</a>)</li> <li>• Child-specific preschool program end date for the year (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792759</a>)</li> <li>• Hours attended in attendance reference period (Term, or CCSS weeks) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792788</a>)</li> <li>• Operationally unavailable hours (within attendance reference period) [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792798</a>)</li> <li>• Service provider organisation- Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792734</a>)</li> <li>• Service provider organisation – service activity type, early childhood education and care (<a href="#">METEOR Id 762656</a>)</li> </ul> <p><u>Elements derived by the ABS:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrolment reference point in Term 2</li> <li>• Enrolment at the enrolment reference point in Term 2 indicator</li> <li>• Child-specific enrolment status</li> <li>• YBFS eligibility</li> <li>• Child-specific YBFS status</li> <li>• YBFS preschool repeater flag – derived</li> </ul> <p><u>Other data elements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy target hours (annual)</li> </ul>
Computation	<p><math>\text{Numerator} \div \text{Denominator} \times 100 = \text{Proportion}</math></p> <p>Refer to flowcharts 1 and 2.</p> <p>Flowchart 1: Episode to child process flow, and calculation of child attendance hours.</p> <p>Flowchart 2: Proportion (x%) of children attending a preschool program (or programs) for y% of 600 hours in the child-specific YBFS.</p>
Presentation	Proportion
Identifiers	<p><u>Person ID (Statistical Linkage Key (SLK) 581):</u></p> <p>The SLK will provide a unique identifier for the vast majority of children. For the small percentage who may have the same SLK, legitimate duplicates can be flagged by jurisdictions (within a dataset), by using a child/student database to check the name, date of birth, and sex of each child with an identical SLK. Matching SLKs that are not coincidental should be detected and flagged appropriately by jurisdictions.</p> <p><u>Geographic information:</u></p> <p>Child level geographic information will be used to assist with matching episode records to enable estimation of attendance and enrolment information at the child level. Jurisdictions to supply a list of child addresses to ABS for geo-coding (timing to be negotiated bilaterally). Where agreed, child addresses will not be retained by the ABS.</p>

	Service provider information will be used to determine the <i>Home-state</i> of the child and may be used to assist with matching episode records.
Identifier and geographic data elements	<p><b>Child/URL data elements:</b></p> <p><u>Provided by jurisdictions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Record – Statistical linkage key 581 (<a href="#">METEOR Id 349895</a>)</li> <li>Record – SLK Sequential Match code (<a href="#">METEOR Id 809763</a>)<sup>10</sup></li> <li>Address – Address line (<a href="#">METEOR Id 594217</a>)</li> <li>Address – Suburb/town/locality name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 429889</a>)</li> <li>Address – Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792734</a>)</li> <li>Address – Australian postcode (<a href="#">METEOR Id 611398</a>)</li> </ul> <p><u>Derived by the ABS:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address – statistical area, mesh block code (ASGS Edition 3)</li> <li>Address – statistical area, level 1 (SA1) code (ASGS Edition 3)</li> </ul> <p><b>Service level data elements:</b></p> <p><u>Provided by jurisdictions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Service provider organisation – Organisation identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 731385</a>)</li> <li>Organisation – organisation name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 453823</a>)</li> <li>Address – Address line (<a href="#">METEOR Id 594217</a>)</li> <li>Address – Suburb/town/locality name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 429889</a>)</li> <li>Address – Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792734</a>)</li> <li>Address – Australian postcode (<a href="#">METEOR Id 611398</a>)</li> </ul>
Calculation rules	<p><u>Child level data:</u></p> <p>This performance indicator requires child level data. Children may attend more than one episode of preschool. To estimate child level attendance hours, attendance hours must first be estimated at the episode level, and then summed, where a child has more than one episode of preschool. Child level attendance hours will be estimated using the following steps:</p> <p><b>Step 1 – Estimate annual attendance hours for each episode</b></p> <p>Annual attendance hours for each episode will be estimated using the following steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If provided, ‘Operationally unavailable hours (within attendance reference period)’ are added to ‘Hours attended in attendance reference period (Term, or CCSS weeks)’</li> <li>‘Hours attended in attendance reference period (Term, or CCSS weeks)’ (where CCSS weeks are aggregated to the term level), will be divided by ‘Program weeks (attendance reference period)’ to calculate ‘Record—Average weekly hours (attended)’.</li> <li>To extrapolate to the program-year, ‘Record—Average weekly hours (attended)’ will then be multiplied by total ‘Program weeks (annual)’ for that episode to calculate ‘Record—Total attendance hours’.</li> </ul> <p><b>Step 2 – Where a child has multiple episodes of preschool, sum ‘Record—Total attendance hours’ for each episode, and assign to the Home-state (based on Appendix A.1. rules).</b></p> <p><i>The Home State is the state of the child’s service address for the enrolment reference point or period, where that service records the greatest number of program hours for the child [up to 600hrs]. If a child has equal program hours across two or more states, for the purposes of the attendance performance indicators the Home-State is the state for which the greatest number of attendance hours have been recorded (Appendix A1 glossary).</i></p>

<sup>10</sup> Sequential match code for NPAC requires more allocated characters than NECECC due to the expanded reference period and weekly provision of CCSS data, requiring more children be allocated a sequential match code. The purpose of this item is the same across both collections.

For children who were enrolled simultaneously across more than one jurisdiction at the enrolment reference point in Term 2, attendance hours in each state will be extrapolated according to the state specific attendance reference period. Extrapolated hours for each jurisdiction will be summed and assigned to the *Home-state* (Appendix A1 4.10.2).

For further information on creating unique child records from episode data, including how to treat duplicate episodes, multiple attendance reference periods and consecutive and simultaneous interstate enrolments, see 'Flowchart 1: Episode to child process flow, and estimation of annual child attendance hours'.

#### Determining the child-specific YBFS

A child will be counted as being in the child-specific YBFS if, according to state rules, their birthdate means they are:

- eligible for preschool, and they become eligible for school the following year, but school is not compulsory the following year ('YBFS - school optional next year'), or
- eligible for preschool, and school is compulsory the following year ('YBFS - school compulsory next year'); and
  - if they were in the YBFS-age range in the previous year, they were not enrolled in a YBFS preschool program in the previous year. This will be established by using the data element: YBFS preschool repeater flag – derived (derived by linking unit level preschool data with the previous year's preschool data).

This will be operationalised through the following steps:

1. Children will be grouped in to the following three categories (described in data element 'YBFS eligibility') according to their date of birth, age at which children become eligible for YBFS preschool (state-specific), and compulsory school age (state-specific):

1. = Younger than the YBFS-age range
2. = YBFS–school optional next year
3. = YBFS–school compulsory next year

2. If a child is:

- categorised as YBFS–school optional next year and
- they are enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs)
- Then, child-specific YBFS status = 'Yes'.

Or, if a child is:

- categorised as YBFS–school compulsory next year and
- they are enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs), and
- in the previous year they were not enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs) or were enrolled in a 2YBFS program (as determined by linking to preschool enrolment data for the previous year)
- Then, child-specific YBFS status = 'Yes'

All other combinations result in a child-specific YBFS status of 'No'.

Note: Where an alternative definition of preschool has been agreed in a state's Implementation Plan, consistent with the PRA, only programs that are consistent with the definition will be counted when calculating performance indicators.

#### Numerator:

The numerator will be calculated by summing all children in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population who are in the child-specific YBFS and who:

- Have an 'Enrolled in a preschool program of 600 hours or more' (code 1) response to the data element 'Enrolment in a preschool program code', or

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have an 'Enrolled in a preschool program of less than 600 hours' (code 2) response for 'Enrolment in a preschool program code' but for matched episodes, the element 'Maximum annual preschool program hours available' totals at least 600 hours, and</li> <li>• Are enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) at the enrolment reference point in Term 2, and</li> <li>• Whose attendance hours during the attendance reference period are extrapolated to estimate annual hours equal to or greater than the agreed state or territory target of y% of 600 hours.</li> </ul> <p><u>Denominator:</u> The denominator will be calculated by summing all children in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in the child-specific YBFS and who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have an 'Enrolled in a preschool program of 600 hours or more' (code 1) response to the data element 'Enrolment in a preschool program code', or</li> <li>• Have an 'Enrolled in a preschool program of less than 600 hours' (code 2) response for 'Enrolment in a preschool program code' but for matched episodes, the element 'Maximum annual preschool program hours available' totals at least 600 hours, and</li> <li>• Are enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) at the enrolment reference point in Term 2, and</li> <li>• Attended at least 1 hour of a preschool program in the reference period.</li> </ul>
Data collection details	
Data source(s)	<u>Numerator:</u> NPAC <u>Denominator:</u> NPAC
Frequency of data source collection	<u>Numerator:</u> Annual <u>Denominator:</u> Annual

## Performance Indicator 3.1 Disadvantaged Children Enrolled

Indicator details	
Description	Proportion (x%) of disadvantaged <sup>11</sup> children enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours or more, in the child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS)
Numerator	The number of children resident in a Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) Quintile 1 in the child-specific YBFS, who were enrolled in a 600-hour (or more) program (or programs) during the enrolment reference period in August.
Numerator data elements	<p>Elements provided by the <b>jurisdictions</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child - Early childhood education program enrolment indicator (<a href="#">METEOR Id 793267</a>)</li> <li>• Child - Early childhood education program hours enrolled (per week) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 793277</a>)</li> <li>• Child - Early childhood education program 2YBFS indicator [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 793322</a>)</li> <li>• Child - Early childhood education program repeater indicator (<a href="#">METEOR Id 602323</a>)</li> <li>• Person - Date of birth (<a href="#">METEOR Id 287007</a>)</li> <li>• Service provider - Number of early childhood education program service operation weeks (<a href="#">METEOR Id 602358</a>)</li> <li>• Service provider organisation - Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 289083</a>)</li> </ul> <p>Elements derived by the <b>ABS</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEIFA (2021 Census, ASGS Edition 3) cluster</li> <li>• YBFS eligibility</li> <li>• Child-specific YBFS status</li> <li>• YBFS preschool repeater flag – derived</li> <li>• Total enrolled hours</li> </ul>
Denominator	The estimated number of YBFS children resident in a Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) Quintile 1 for each jurisdiction as at the collection year.
Denominator data elements	<p>Elements derived by the <b>ABS</b>:</p> <p>The estimated number of YBFS children resident in a Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) Quintile 1 as at the collection year for each jurisdiction.</p> <p>Element will be based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools, student enrolments</li> <li>• Estimated Resident Population (ERP) of children aged 4, 5 or 4 and 5</li> </ul> <p>Or,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If required, other method as agreed multilaterally (Appendix A1 6.15).</li> </ul>
Computation	<p>Numerator ÷ Denominator × 100 = Proportion</p> <p>Refer to Flowchart 3: Proportion (x%) of children enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours or more in the child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS)</p>
Presentation	Proportion
Identifiers	<p>Person ID (Statistical Linkage Key (SLK) 581):</p> <p>The SLK will provide a unique identifier for the vast majority of children. For the small percentage who may have the same SLK, legitimate duplicates can be identified by jurisdictions by using a child/student database to check the name, date of birth, sex, and state of each child with an identical SLK. Matching SLKs that are not coincidental should be detected and flagged appropriately by jurisdictions.</p>

<sup>11</sup> States may use an alternative to Socio-Economic Index for Areas (Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage) for their performance reporting where agreed bilaterally with the Australian Government in Implementation Plans as per 3.1 of Appendix A.1.

	<p><u>Geographic information:</u> Child level geographic information will be used to assist with matching episode records to enable estimation of attendance and enrolment information at the child level. Jurisdictions to supply a list of child addresses to ABS for geo-coding (timing to be negotiated bilaterally). Where agreed, child addresses will not be retained by the ABS.</p> <p>Service provider information will be used to determine the <i>Home-state</i> of the child and may be used to assist with matching episode records.</p>
Identifier and geographic data elements	<p><b><u>Child/URL data elements:</u></b> <u>Provided by jurisdictions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Record – Statistical Linkage Key 581 (<a href="#">METEOR Id 349895</a>)</li> <li>• Record – SLK Sequential Match code (<a href="#">METEOR Id 793024</a>)</li> <li>• Address – Address line (<a href="#">METEOR Id 594217</a>)</li> <li>• Address – Suburb/town/locality name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 429889</a>)</li> <li>• Person – Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 793297</a>)</li> <li>• Address – Australian postcode (<a href="#">METEOR Id 611398</a>)</li> </ul> <p><u>Derived by the ABS:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Person – area of usual residence, geographic location (Mesh Block) code</li> <li>• Address – statistical area level 1 (SA1) code (ASGS Edition 3)</li> <li>• SEIFA (2021 Census, ASGS Edition 3) cluster</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Service level data elements:</u></b> <u>Provided by jurisdictions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service provider organisation – Organisation identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 731385</a>)</li> <li>• Organisation- organisation name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 453823</a>)</li> <li>• Address – Address line (<a href="#">METEOR Id 594217</a>)</li> <li>• Address – Suburb/town/locality name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 429889</a>)</li> <li>• Service provider organisation- Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 289083</a>)</li> <li>• Address – Australian postcode (<a href="#">METEOR Id 611398</a>)</li> </ul>
Calculation rules	<p><u>Child level data:</u> This performance indicator requires child level data. Children may be enrolled in more than one [episode of a] preschool program. To determine the total enrolled hours for the child, episode records will be matched using SLK [and other information, such as geography]. Where a child is enrolled in more than one preschool program, all enrolled hours for all [episodes of a] preschool program (or programs) will be summed.</p> <p>For more information on creating unique child records from episode data, including how to treat multiple enrolments and repeat enrolments over time, see Appendix B.1: ‘Creating unique child records from episode records’.</p> <p><u>Determining the child-specific YBFS</u> A child will be counted as being in the child-specific YBFS if, according to state rules, their birthdate means they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• eligible for preschool, and they become eligible for school the following year, but school is not compulsory the following year (‘YBFS – school optional next year’), or</li> <li>• eligible for preschool, and school is compulsory the following year (‘YBFS – school compulsory next year’); and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ if they were in the YBFS-age range in the previous year, they were not enrolled in a YBFS preschool program in the previous year. This will be established by using the data element: YBFS preschool repeater flag – derived (derived by linking unit level preschool data with the previous year’s preschool data)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>This will be operationalised through the following steps:</p>

	<p>1. Children will be grouped in to the following three categories (described in data element 'YBFS eligibility') according to their date of birth, age at which children become eligible for YBFS preschool (state-specific), and compulsory school age (state-specific):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. = Younger than the YBFS-age range</li> <li>2. = YBFS–school optional next year</li> <li>3. = YBFS–school compulsory next year</li> </ol> <p>2. If a child is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o categorised as YBFS–school optional next year and they are enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs)</li> <li>o Then, child-specific YBFS status = 'Yes'.</li> </ul> <p>Or, if a child is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o categorised as YBFS–school compulsory next year and they are enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs), and</li> <li>o in the previous year they were not enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs) or were enrolled in a 2YBFS program (as determined by linking to preschool enrolment data for the previous year)</li> <li>o Then, child-specific YBFS status = 'Yes'</li> </ul> <p>All other combinations result in a child-specific YBFS status of 'No'.</p> <p>Note: Where an alternative definition of preschool has been agreed in a state's Implementation Plan, consistent with the PRA, only programs that are consistent with the definition will be counted when calculating performance indicators.</p> <p><u>Numerator:</u> The numerator will be obtained by summing all children in the child-specific YBFS who reside in areas with a SEIFA IRSD quintile of 1 and who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a 'Yes' response to the child level data element 'Child - Early childhood education program enrolment indicator', and</li> <li>• Are enrolled in a 600-hour (or more) program (or programs), determined using the data element 'Child - Early childhood education program hours enrolled (per week)' multiplied by the data element 'Service provider - Number of early childhood education program service operation weeks' to get total hours enrolled in the year.</li> </ul> <p><u>Denominator:</u> The denominator will be based on the estimated (predicted) year before full-time school (YBFS) population for children who reside in SEIFA IRSD quintile 1. Estimated (predicted) YBFS refers to the estimates obtained by a regression model using 4-year-old estimated resident population (ERP), 5-year-old ERP, or 4 and 5-year-old ERP (chosen based on the highest explanatory power) and historical measured YBFS. Measured YBFS is determined using pre-year 1 school enrolment data lagged by one year and adjusted for net migration using ERP.</p> <p>Or, Another method, agreed multilaterally (Appendix A1 6.15)</p>
Data collection details	
Data source(s)	<p><u>Numerator:</u> NECECC</p> <p><u>Denominator:</u> ABS Estimated Resident Population, available from National, state and territory population published on <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/national-state-and-territory-population/latest-release">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/national-state-and-territory-population/latest-release</a>; Schools (latest) <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/schools">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/schools</a></p> <p>Note: One, or both data sources may be used, as agreed multilaterally.</p>

Frequency of data source collection	Numerator: Annual Denominator: Annual
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## Performance Indicator 3.2 Disadvantaged Children Attending

Indicator details	
Description	Proportion (x%) of disadvantaged <sup>12</sup> children attending a preschool program (or programs) for y% of 600 hours in the child-specific year before full-time school (YBFS).
Numerator	The number of children resident in a Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) Quintile 1 in the child-specific YBFS who were enrolled at the enrolment reference point in Term 2 in a preschool program (or programs) offering at least 600 hours in the year, whose attendance hours during the attendance reference period are extrapolated to estimate annual hours greater than or equal to the agreed state or territory target of y% of 600 hours.
Numerator data elements	<p>Elements provided by the <b>jurisdictions</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrolment in a preschool program code [<math>\geq</math> 600 hours, &lt; 600 hours, 2YBFS program] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792727</a>)</li> <li>• Maximum annual preschool program hours available (conditional- answer if child is enrolled in a program for &lt; 600 hours) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792742</a>)</li> <li>• Date of birth (<a href="#">METEOR Id 287007</a>)</li> <li>• YBFS preschool repeater flag – provided [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792086</a>)</li> <li>• Child-specific preschool program start date for the year (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792750</a>)</li> <li>• Child-specific preschool program end date for the year (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792759</a>)</li> <li>• Attendance reference period start date (Term, or CCSS weeks – may vary by setting) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792768</a>)</li> <li>• Attendance reference period end date (Term, or CCSS weeks – may vary by setting) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792780</a>)</li> <li>• Hours attended in attendance reference period (Term, or CCSS weeks) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792788</a>)</li> <li>• Operationally unavailable hours (within attendance reference period) [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792798</a>)</li> <li>• Program weeks (annual) (regardless of child enrolment date) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792808</a>)</li> <li>• Service provider organisation- Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792734</a>)</li> <li>• Service provider organisation – service activity type, early childhood education and care (<a href="#">METEOR Id 762656</a>)</li> </ul> <p>Elements derived by the <b>ABS</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrolment reference point in Term 2</li> <li>• Enrolment at the enrolment reference point in Term 2 indicator</li> <li>• Child-specific enrolment status</li> <li>• YBFS eligibility</li> <li>• Child-specific YBFS status</li> <li>• YBFS preschool repeater flag - derived</li> <li>• Program weeks (attendance reference period)</li> <li>• Record—Average weekly hours (attended)</li> <li>• Record—Total attendance hours</li> <li>• SEIFA (2021 Census, ASGS Edition 3) cluster</li> <li>• Child – Estimated total annual attendance hours (extrapolated)</li> </ul> <p>Other data elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State-specific target y% of 600 hours<sup>13</sup></li> </ul>

<sup>12</sup> States may use an alternative to Socio-Economic Index for Areas (Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage) for their performance reporting where agreed bilaterally with the Australian Government in Implementation Plans as per 3.1 of Appendix A.1.

<sup>13</sup> To be agreed as part of the annual bilateral implementation plan discussion

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy target hours (annual)</li> </ul>
Denominator	The number of children resident in Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) Quintile 1 in the child-specific YBFS who were enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs) and who attended at least one hour, as at the enrolment reference point in Term 2.
Denominator data elements	<p>Elements provided by the <b>jurisdictions</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enrolment in a preschool program code [<math>\geq</math> 600 hours, &lt; 600 hours, 2YBFS program] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792727</a>)</li> <li>Maximum annual preschool program hours available (conditional- answer if child is enrolled in a program for &lt; 600 hours) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792742</a>)</li> <li>Date of birth (<a href="#">METEOR Id 287007</a>)</li> <li>YBFS preschool repeater flag – provided [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792086</a>)</li> <li>Child-specific preschool program start date for the year (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792750</a>)</li> <li>Child-specific preschool program end date for the year (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792759</a>)</li> <li>Hours attended in attendance reference period (Term, or CCSS weeks) (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792788</a>)</li> <li>Operationally unavailable hours (within attendance reference period) [optional] (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792798</a>)</li> <li>Service provider organisation- Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792734</a>)</li> <li>Service provider organisation – service activity type, early childhood education and care (<a href="#">METEOR Id 762656</a>)</li> </ul> <p>Elements derived by the <b>ABS</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enrolment reference point in Term 2</li> <li>Enrolment at the enrolment reference point in Term 2 indicator</li> <li>Child-specific enrolment status</li> <li>YBFS eligibility</li> <li>Child-specific YBFS status</li> <li>YBFS preschool repeater flag – derived</li> <li>SEIFA (2021 Census, ASGS Edition 3) cluster</li> </ul> <p>Other data elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy target hours (annual)</li> </ul>
Computation	<p>Numerator <math>\div</math> Denominator <math>\times</math> 100 = Proportion</p> <p>Refer to flowcharts 1 and 2.</p> <p>Flowchart 1: Episode to child process flow, and calculation of child attendance hours.</p> <p>Flowchart 2: Proportion (x%) of children attending a preschool program (or programs) for y% of 600 hours in the child-specific YBFS.</p>
Presentation	Proportion
Identifiers	<p>Person ID (Statistical Linkage Key (SLK) 581):</p> <p>The SLK will provide a unique identifier for the vast majority of children. For the small percentage who may have the same SLK, legitimate duplicates can be flagged by jurisdictions (within a dataset), by using a child/student database to check the name, date of birth, and sex of each child with an identical SLK. Matching SLKs that are not coincidental should be detected and flagged appropriately by jurisdictions.</p> <p>Geographic information:</p> <p>Child level geographic information will be used to assist with matching episode records to enable estimation of attendance and enrolment information at the child level. Jurisdictions to supply a list of</p>

	<p>child addresses to ABS for geo-coding (timing to be negotiated bilaterally). Where agreed, child addresses will not be retained by the ABS.</p> <p>Service provider information will be used to determine the <i>Home-state</i> of the child and may be used to assist with matching episode records.</p>
Identifier and geographic data elements	<p><b>Child/URL data elements:</b>  Provided by jurisdictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Record – Statistical linkage key 581 (<a href="#">METEOR Id 349895</a>)</li> <li>Record – SLK Sequential Match code (<a href="#">METEOR Id 809763</a>)<sup>14</sup></li> <li>Address – Address line (<a href="#">METEOR Id 594217</a>)</li> <li>Address – Suburb/town/locality name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 429889</a>)</li> <li>Address – Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792734</a>)</li> <li>Address – Australian postcode (<a href="#">METEOR Id 611398</a>)</li> </ul> <p>Derived by the ABS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address – statistical area, mesh block code (ASGS Edition 3)</li> <li>Address – statistical area, level 1 (SA1) code (ASGS Edition 3)</li> </ul> <p><b>Service level data elements:</b>  Provided by jurisdictions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Service provider organisation – Organisation identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 731385</a>)</li> <li>Organisation – organisation name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 453823</a>)</li> <li>Address – Address line (<a href="#">METEOR Id 594217</a>)</li> <li>Address – Suburb/town/locality name (<a href="#">METEOR Id 429889</a>)</li> <li>Address – Australian state/territory identifier (<a href="#">METEOR Id 792734</a>)</li> <li>Address – Australian postcode (<a href="#">METEOR Id 611398</a>)</li> </ul>
Calculation rules	<p><b>Child level data:</b>  This performance indicator requires child level data. Children may attend more than one episode of preschool. To estimate child level attendance hours, attendance hours must first be estimated at the episode level, and then summed, where a child has more than one episode of preschool. Child level attendance hours will be estimated using the following steps:</p> <p><b>Step 1 – Estimate annual attendance hours for each episode</b>  Annual attendance hours for each episode will be estimated using the following steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If provided, ‘Operationally unavailable hours (within attendance reference period)’ are added to ‘Hours attended in attendance reference period (Term, or CCSS weeks)’</li> <li>‘Hours attended in attendance reference period (Term, or CCSS weeks)’ (where CCSS weeks are aggregated to the term level), will be divided by ‘Program weeks (attendance reference period)’ to calculate ‘Record—Average weekly hours (attended)’.</li> <li>To extrapolate to the program-year, ‘Record—Average weekly hours (attended)’ will then be multiplied by total ‘Program weeks (annual)’ for that episode to calculate ‘Record—Total attendance hours’.</li> </ul> <p><b>Step 2 – Where a child has multiple episodes of preschool, sum ‘Record—Total attendance hours’ for each episode, and assign to the Home-state (based on Appendix A.1. rules).</b>  <i>The Home-State is the state of the child’s service address for the enrolment reference point or period, where that service records the greatest number of program hours for the child [up to 600hrs]. If a child has equal program hours across two or more states, for the purposes of the attendance</i></p>

<sup>14</sup> Sequential match code for NPAC requires more allocated characters than NECECC due to the expanded reference period and weekly provision of CCSS data, requiring more children be allocated a sequential match code. The purpose of this item is the same across both collections.

performance indicators the Home-State is the state for which the greatest number of attendance hours have been recorded (Appendix A1 glossary).

For children who were enrolled simultaneously across more than one jurisdiction at the enrolment reference point in Term 2, attendance hours in each state will be extrapolated according to the state specific attendance reference period. Extrapolated hours for each jurisdiction will be summed and assigned to the *Home-state* (Appendix A1. 4.10.2).

For further information on creating unique child records from episode data, including how to treat duplicate episodes, multiple attendance reference periods and consecutive and simultaneous interstate enrolments, see 'Flowchart 1: Episode to child process flow, and estimation of annual child attendance hours'.

#### Determining the child-specific YBFS

A child will be counted as being in the child-specific YBFS if, according to state rules, their birthdate means they are:

- eligible for preschool, and they become eligible for school the following year, but school is not compulsory the following year ('YBFS - school optional next year'), or
- eligible for preschool, and school is compulsory the following year ('YBFS - school compulsory next year'); and
  - if they were in the YBFS-age range in the previous year, they were not enrolled in a YBFS preschool program in the previous year. This will be established by using the data element: YBFS preschool repeater flag – derived (derived by linking unit level preschool data with the previous year's preschool data).

This will be operationalised through the following steps:

1. Children will be grouped in to the following three categories (described in data element 'YBFS eligibility') according to their date of birth, age at which children become eligible for YBFS preschool (state-specific), and compulsory school age (state-specific):
  1. = Younger than the YBFS-age range
  2. = YBFS–school optional next year
  3. = YBFS–school compulsory next year

2. If a child is:
  - categorised as YBFS–school optional next year and
  - they are enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs)
  - Then, child-specific YBFS status = 'Yes'.

Or, if a child is:

- categorised as YBFS–school compulsory next year and
- they are enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs), and
- in the previous year they were not enrolled in a 600-hour or more preschool program (or programs) or were enrolled in a 2YBFS program (as determined by linking to preschool enrolment data for the previous year)
- Then, child-specific YBFS status = 'Yes'

All other combinations result in a child-specific YBFS status of 'No'.

Note: Where an alternative definition of preschool has been agreed in a state's Implementation Plan, consistent with the PRA, only programs that are consistent with the definition will be counted when calculating performance indicators.

#### Numerator:

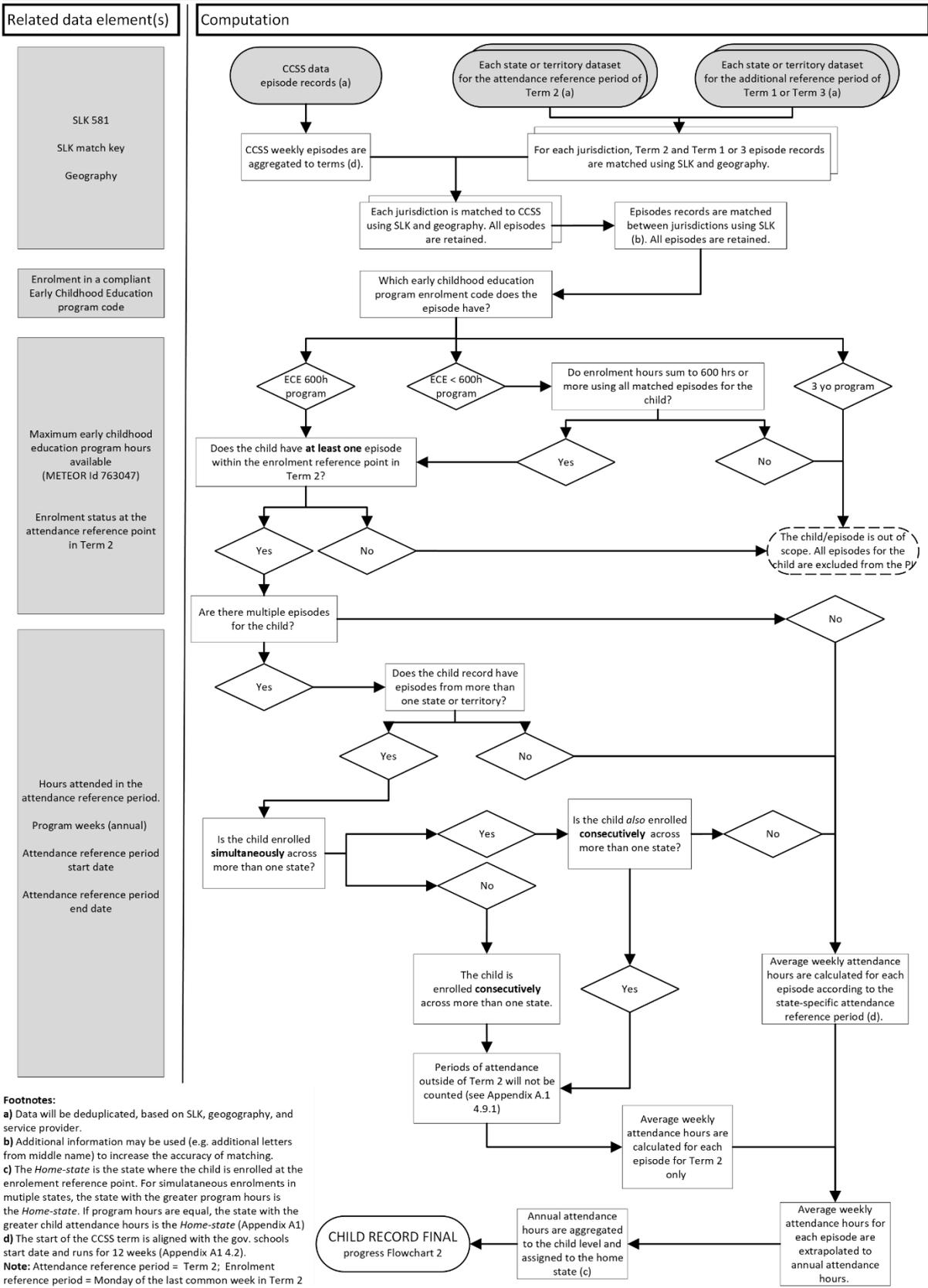
The numerator will be calculated by summing all children in the child-specific YBFS who reside in areas with a SEIFA IRSD quintile of 1 and who:

- Have an 'Enrolled in a preschool program of 600 hours or more' (code 1) response to the data element 'Enrolment in a preschool program code', or

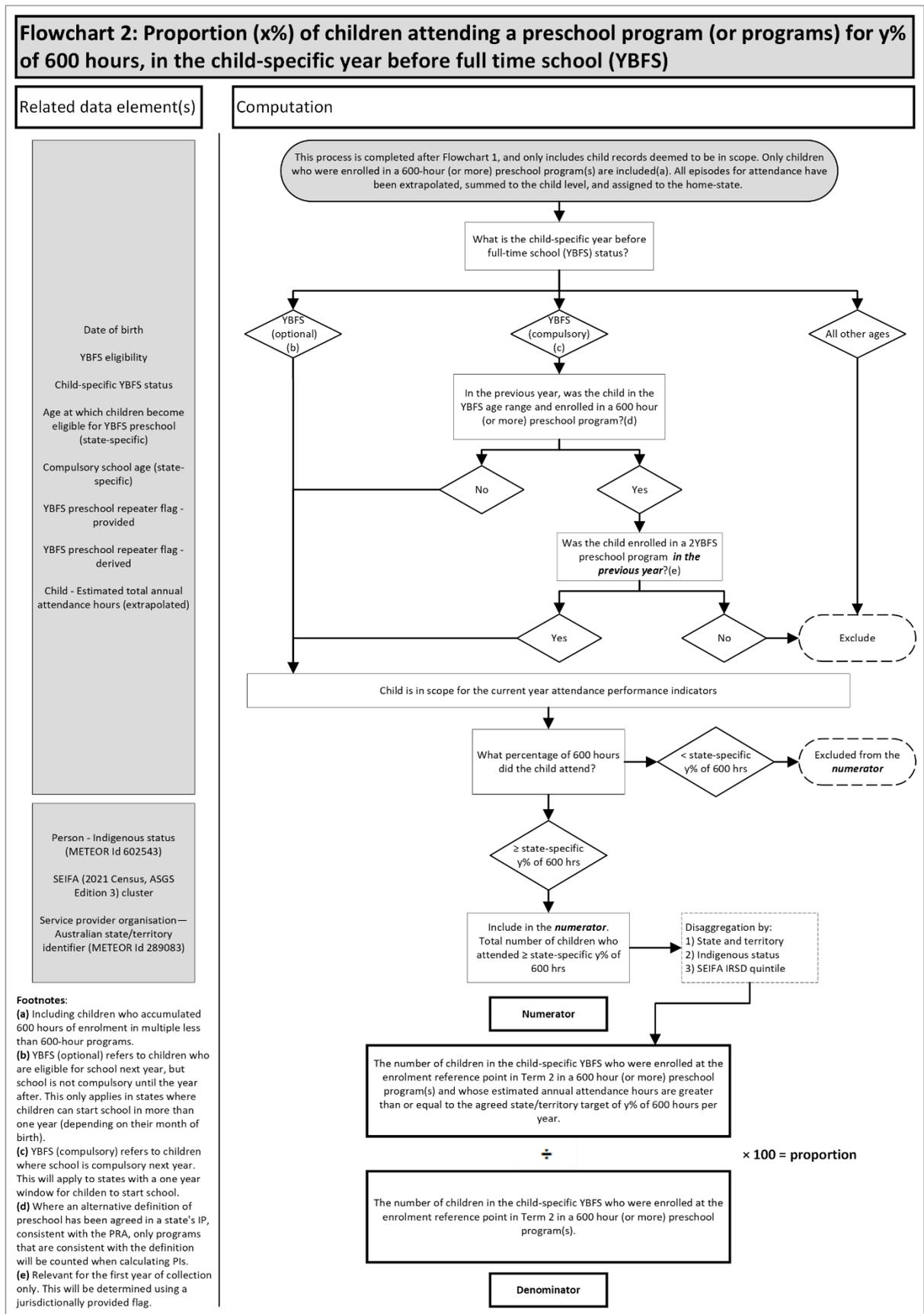
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have an 'Enrolled in a preschool program of less than 600 hours' (code 2) response for 'Enrolment in a preschool program code' but for matched episodes, the element 'Maximum annual preschool program hours available' totals at least 600 hours, and</li> <li>• Are enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) at the enrolment reference point in Term 2, and</li> <li>• Whose attendance hours during the attendance reference period are extrapolated to estimate annual hours equal to or greater than the agreed state or territory target of y% of 600 hours.</li> </ul> <p><u>Denominator:</u> The denominator will be calculated by summing all children who reside in areas with a SEIFA IRSD quintile of 1 in the child-specific YBFS and who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have an 'Enrolled in a preschool program of 600 hours or more' (code 1) response to the data element 'Enrolment in a preschool program code', or</li> <li>• Have an 'Enrolled in a preschool program of less than 600 hours' (code 2) response for 'Enrolment in a preschool program code' but for matched episodes, the element 'Maximum annual preschool program hours available' totals at least 600 hours, and</li> <li>• Are enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) at the enrolment reference point in Term 2, and</li> <li>• Attended at least 1 hour of a preschool program in the reference period.</li> </ul>
Data collection details	
Data source(s)	<u>Numerator:</u> NPAC <u>Denominator:</u> NPAC
Frequency of data source collection	<u>Numerator:</u> Annual <u>Denominator:</u> Annual

# Flowchart 1: Episode to child process flow, and calculation of child level attendance hours

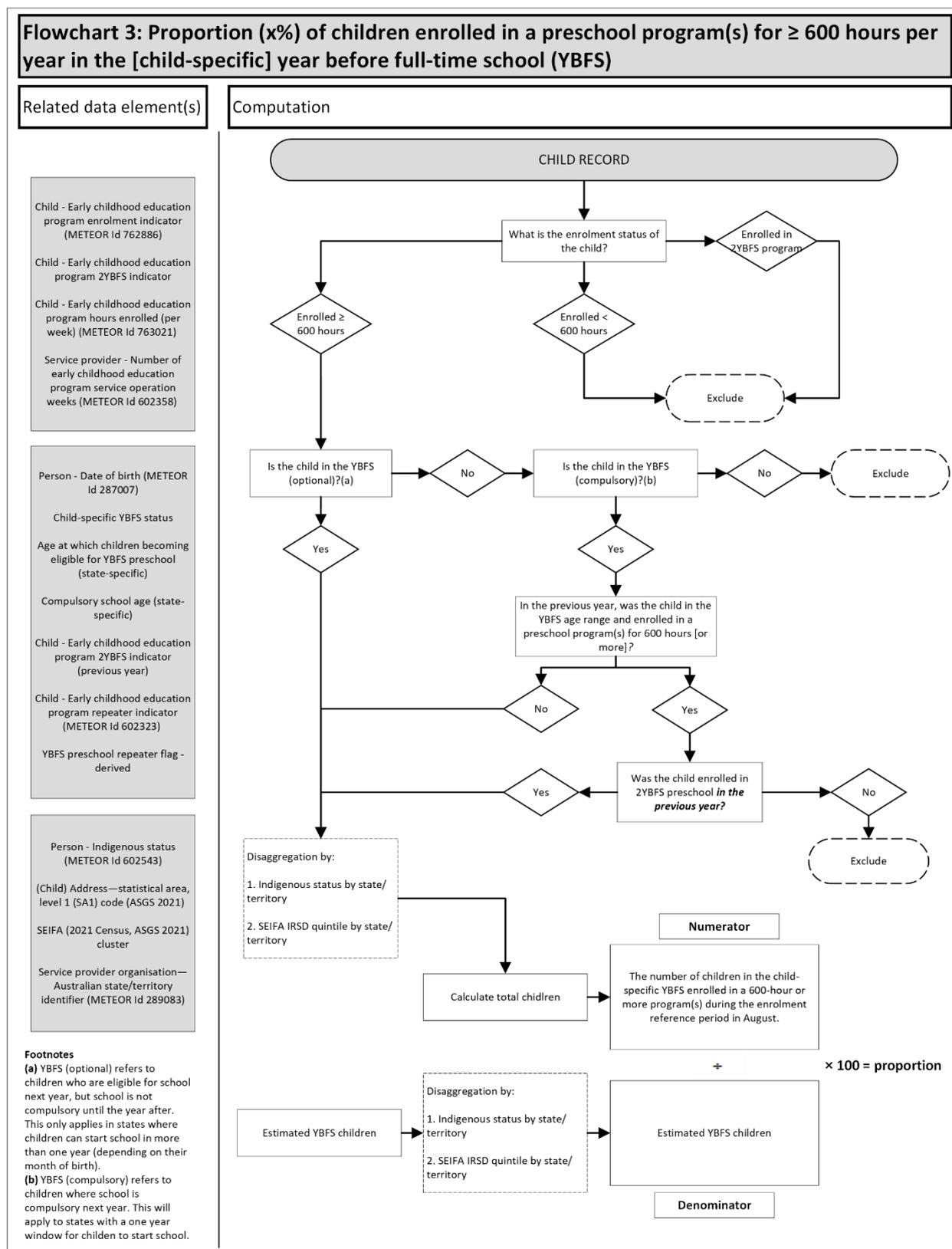
**Flowchart 1: Episode to child process flow, and calculation of child level attendance records**



# Flowchart 2: Proportion (x%) of children attending a preschool program(s) for y% of 600 hours per year, in the (child-specific) year before full-time school (YBFS)



# Flowchart 3: Proportion (x%) of children enrolled in a preschool program (or programs) for 600 hours or more in the (child-specific) year before full-time school (YBFS)



## **Appendix B.1: Creating unique child records from episode records**

This appendix summarises, for background purposes only, how unique child records have been created from episode records in the NECECC. Methods have improved over time in order to maximise the accuracy of this process and may continue to do so.

### ***Linking records across data sources***

The NECECC utilises and combines data from different sources. Within and across the individual data files supplied by data providers, there may be more than one episode record for a single child. These records consequently need to be matched in order to produce accurate child statistics. The following data elements have been used for matching records between multiple data sources:

- Statistical Linkage Key (SLK)
- SLK Match Code
- Geographic location of child's residence

When linking within a state, territory or Commonwealth submissions, if two records have the same SLK and the same SLK Match code, then they are considered as belonging to the same child. If the same SLK does not link on the SLK Match code, or no Match code is supplied, they are considered as being separate children.

When linking across state, territory and Commonwealth submissions, the SLK and child geography are used to identify records that belong to a single child.

These linking processes occur after the ABS has identified and reconciled/removed duplicate episode records from the different data sources. This reconciliation uses service provider names and address information.

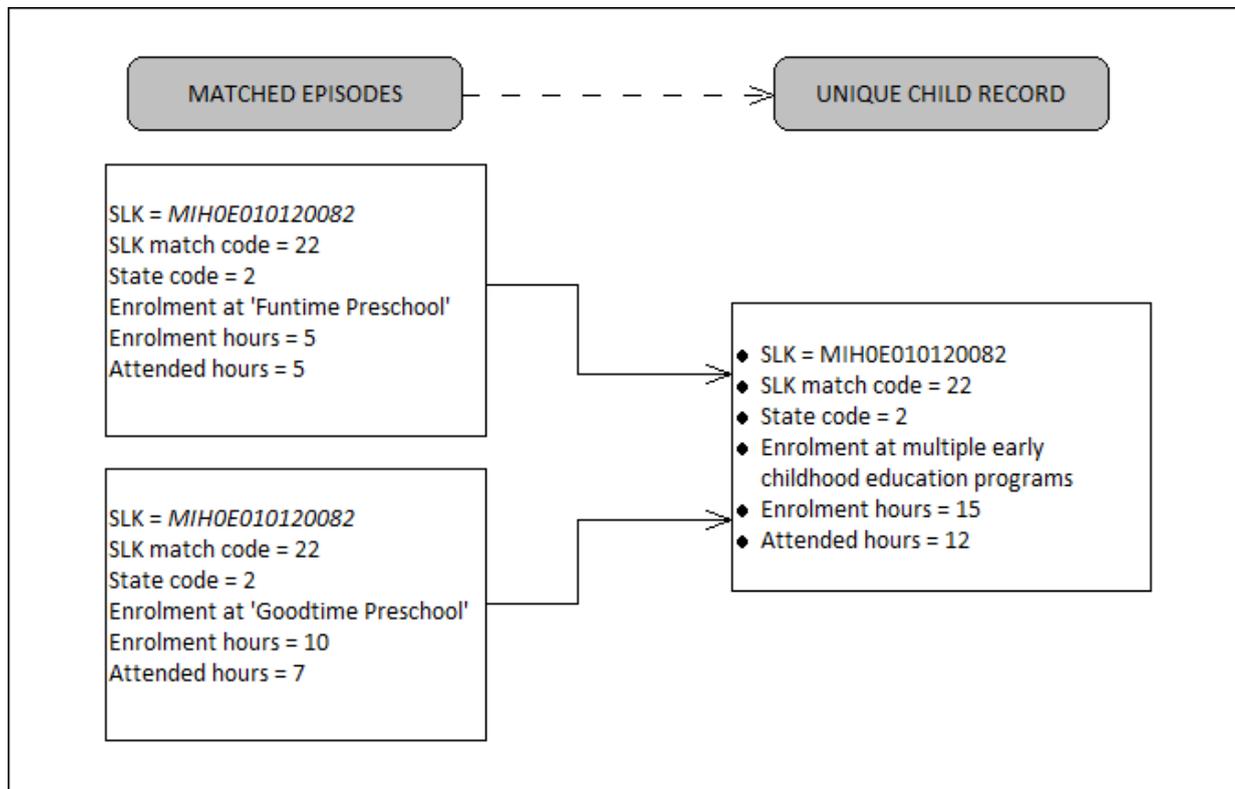
### ***Reporting Child Counts***

After completing linking, a data item is created to mark a child with records:

- solely from a state/territory source
- solely from a CCSS source
- from both a state/territory and a CCSS source.

Where two or more child episodes are linked, the unique characteristics within each episode are used to formulate the characteristics of the corresponding unique child record. Flowchart 1 provides an example of how the child level data items are produced from episode level information (e.g. total hours enrolled is calculated from the child's individual episodes).

**Figure A.1: Episode to child level process flow (example for the August collection)**



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AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 2025. National Preschool Attendance Collection Data Set Specification. <https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/809757>.

Data from the NECECC have been published annually by the ABS and are available on their website: <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/preschool-education/latest-release> for the latest release and previous releases, and in TableBuilder or on request via DataLab.

Data from NPAC will be published annually by the ABS, available on their website:

<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/preschool-attendance/latest-release>, and on request via DataLab.

NECECC and NPAC are underpinned by data standards specified in the Early Childhood Education and Care National Minimum Data Set (ECEC NMDS) and the National Preschool Attendance Collection National Minimum Data Set (NPAC NMDS), which are maintained by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) in the online metadata registry, METEOR.