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National Strategic Indicators, 2015-16

National Strategic Indicators (NSIs) are used to measure the performance of local authorities. Each indicator is aligned to one of more of the Welsh Government's strategic priorities and is captured for each local authority. The indicators were chosen for their focus on outcomes.

The 2015-16 NSIs will be the final set collected by the Welsh Government and this release is the last in this series of statistical outputs.

Key results:

The data for 2015-16 NSIs showed an overall picture of improvement over 2014-15 in the performance measured by the Welsh average, with an improvement in performance for seventeen indicators and twelve indicators showing a decline in performance



Improvement in
performance for
17 indicators

Decline in
performance for
12 indicators

Between 2014-15 and 2015-16, where applicable the Welsh average;

- Improved in seven out of the eight comparable indicators for education;
- Improved in three out of the four comparable indicators for environment and transport;
- Improved in seven of the twelve comparable indicators for social care;
- Declined in both of the two comparable indicators for housing;
- Declined in both of the two comparable indicators for leisure and culture;
- Declined in the one comparable indicator for planning and regulatory services.
- Declined in five of the twelve comparable indicators for social care;
- Declined in one out of the four comparable indicators for environment and transport;
- Declined in one out of the eight comparable indicators for education.

The performance of each NSI indicator as well as data for individual local authorities can be found on [StatsWales](#).

About this release

This statistical release summarises National Strategic Indicators (NSIs) data for 2015-16.

Following a Welsh Government [consultation](#) in March 2016, the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government recently issued a [written statement](#). This statement advised that, following due consideration of consultation responses, a decision to revoke the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) (Wales) Order 2012 had been taken. This removes the legal duty on local authorities to collect NSI data.

In this release

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Key quality information

1. Relevance

The selection of National Strategic Indicators (NSIs) was chosen to cover the Welsh Government's strategic priorities in place at the time. In 2015-16, there were indicators covering social care, education, leisure and culture, housing, planning and regulatory services, environment and transport.

Local authorities have also used these performance indicators, along with a range of other information, in order to plan and deliver improved services.

2. Timeliness

The indicators are collected by the Welsh Government from each individual local authority. The data generally covers the financial year 2015-16, i.e. from 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016. However, some indicators are based on different time periods.

Once submitted data has been finalised, this release is drafted and published as soon as possible.

3. Accessibility and clarity

This statistical first release is pre-announced and then published in the Statistics and Research section of the Welsh Government website. It is accompanied by more detailed tables on [StatsWales](#), a free to use service that allows visitors to view, manipulate, create and download data.

4. Comparability and coherence

The current set of National Strategic Indicators has been created and amended over several years. In 2012-13, the definition of seven indicators changed which meant that they were no longer directly comparable to previous years. In addition seven new indicators were added in 2012-13.

Data for indicator HHA/013 (*"The percentage of all potentially homeless households for whom homelessness was prevented for at least 6 months"*) was not collected for 2015-16. Otherwise, the set of indicators have remained unchanged from last year.

Up to 2012-13, a sample of the National Strategic Indicators was audited by the WAO. The nature and extent of the audit testing varied according to the auditor's assessment of risk of performance indicators collected and reported by authorities. On occasions, for various reasons, data was not deemed robust enough and was therefore qualified by the WAO. This data is included in the StatsWales tables. However, it is clearly labelled and users should be aware of this when using the data.

Prior to the 2013-14 National Strategic Indicator data collection, the Wales Audit Office (WAO) decided that there will no longer be a mandatory data quality review at each authority in every year. WAO will instead consider, from time to time, whether a data quality review is required, and if so undertake one as part of their work on performance management.

The data in this release are outside the scope of National Statistics.

5. Revisions

We follow the [Welsh Government's statistical revisions policy](#).

Well-being of Future Generations Act (WFG)

The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act puts in place seven well-being goals for Wales. These are for a more equal, prosperous, resilient, healthier and globally responsible Wales, with cohesive communities and a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language. Under section (10)(1) of the Act, the Welsh Ministers must (a) publish indicators (“national indicators”) that must be applied for the purpose of measuring progress towards the achievement of the Well-being goals, and (b) lay a copy of the national indicators before the National Assembly. The 46 national indicators were laid in March 2016.

Information on indicators and associated technical information: [How do you measure a nation's progress? - National Indicators](#)

Further information on the [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#).

This release does not contain data on any of the specified National Indicators but the statistics included in this release could provide supporting narrative to the national indicators and be used by public services boards in relation to their local well-being assessments and local well-being plans.

Further details

The document is available at: <http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/national-strategic-indicators/?lang=en>

From 2010-11 the NSI dataset has been collected directly by the Welsh Government. Data for 2009-10 and prior years were collected by the Data Unit – Wales on behalf of the Welsh Government and the historic dataset is available from the Data Unit Wales website.

All the data for each local authority is available to download from the [NSI area of the StatsWales website](#).

[The Welsh Government's Local Authority Services Performance website](#) presents key performance indicators (including National Strategic Indicators).

[The National Survey for Wales](#) collects information on citizens' satisfaction with public services in Wales.

Next update

There will be no further updates of this release.

However, there will be a new set of personal social services indicators published for 2016-17. These indicators will include NSIs SCA/001, SCC/002 and SCC/004.

We want your feedback

We welcome any feedback on any aspect of these statistics which can be provided by email to stats.inclusion@wales.gsi.gov.uk.

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