Australian Bureau of Statistics submission to the Productivity Commission's Inquiry into Childcare and Early Childhood Learning

Introduction

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is Australia's national statistical agency, and aims to assist and encourage informed decision making, research and discussion within governments and the community by leading a high quality, objective and responsive national statistical service. The ABS conducts a comprehensive program of social and economic data collections that provide statistics on a range of matters related to work, family, and child care.

The ABS is committed, within available resources, to regularly collecting a range of information on employment, child care, education participation, and return to work in order to meet the information needs of governments, researchers, and the community. The ABS regularly seeks advice on statistical priorities and work program from the Australian Statistical Advisory Council, data users, and through regular engagement with the Australian Government and State and Territory Governments to ensure its work program remains relevant.

The purpose of this submission is to outline the main data sources produced by the ABS that may be relevant to the Inquiry and that may inform public debate on the topic; and to detail future initiatives to improve the information base on early childhood education and its outcomes.

Data sources related to child care

Background

The ABS uses sample surveys, censuses and administrative data to collect information from a population about characteristics of interest. Censuses involve the collection of information from all units in the target population, while sample surveys involve the collection of information from only a part (sample) of the target population. In the fields of child care, families and employment, the ABS collects data using sample surveys of both households and businesses, administrative collections, and the Census of Population and Housing.

Sample surveys have both advantages and disadvantages when compared with censuses. Some advantages are reduced costs (as less time is needed to collect, process and produce data), reduced burden on the community, improved timeliness and the potential to gather more detailed information from each respondent. A disadvantage of sample surveys is that estimates are subject to sampling error which occurs because data were obtained from only a sample, rather than the entire population. Further, as a result of obtaining only a small number of observations in particular geographical areas and sub-populations, detailed crosstabulations may be subject to high levels of sampling error and be of limited use. Censuses are generally used when broad level information is sought for many fine sub-groups of the

population, whereas sample surveys are used to collect detailed information to estimate for broader levels of the population.

ABS conducts a monthly population survey to produce labour force estimates, with short supplementary surveys being conducted in most months at the end of each labour force survey. ABS also conducts a number of 'Special Social Surveys' to collect detailed information on particular topics. For example the National Health Survey collects information on health conditions, risk factors, and use of health services. The range of ABS surveys generally use standard questions and concepts, meaning data from different surveys can be brought together to provide information on various aspects of particular issues or groups of interest.

Existing data, such as administrative data held by government or other organisations, can be used to obtain information about the population as a whole and as individual units. An advantage of using administrative data is that it can save both time and money by removing the need to collect the information directly from respondents. Administrative collections can also be useful in collecting information on complex concepts that are not suitable for self-report (for example, where a person may not know if they receive a particular kind of Government benefit). Disadvantages of using administrative data are that: often the data quality is below usual quality standards, requiring substantial manipulation and checking before the data can be used (adding to the expense); the underlying concepts relate to administrative procedures rather than statistical constructs; and sometimes not all the data required for statistical purposes have been collected, or they have not been collected in a manner suitable for the compilation of statistics.

The key ABS data sources that may be relevant to the Inquiry are listed below. Note that the key summary publication containing aggregate data from each collection is listed in this submission. For most surveys, detailed microdata (confidentialised information for each individual or household, such as responses to individual questions on the questionnaire) is also available. Further data not contained in the summary publications or microdata releases is available on request.

The ABS is committed to maintaining the relevance of the labour force, unpaid work, family and child care content across its collections to ensure the highest priority information requirements are collected at the appropriate frequency and in the most effective and efficient way.

Childhood Education and Care Survey

The primary source of information on child care and related issues produced by the ABS is the Childhood Education and Care Survey.

Formerly known as the Child Care Survey, the Childhood Education and Care Survey has been conducted on 14 occasions since 1969. It has been conducted every three years since

1993, with the most recent survey in 2011 and the next survey due to be conducted in June 2014. Data from that collection is expected to be available in early to mid 2015.

The survey collects information on children aged up to 12 years and their families, including detailed information on use of formal and informal care; cost and duration of care; reasons for using care; education, income and working patterns of parents; working arrangements used by parents to help care for their children (eg use of flexible working hours or home based work); and unmet demand for formal care or preschool. The survey also collects information on informal learning activities in which children may participate, the communication of preschool learning outcomes to parents, and parental assessment of school performance and adjustment to school, along with a range of demographic and background characteristics of children and their parents such as Indigenous status, language spoken at home, country of birth, and year of arrival.

Data is published in *Childhood Education and Care*, *Australia* (cat. no. 4402.0). Analytical work using data from the Childhood Education and Care Survey is produced by the ABS on an irregular basis, such as in *Australian Social Trends* (cat. no. 4102.0).

Survey of Income and Housing

The Survey of Income and Housing is primarily designed to collect information on the income, assets, liabilities, net worth, and other characteristics of households and individuals in Australia, including the distribution of income and wealth across the population. The survey also collects information on housing occupancy and costs, tenure, family composition of household, and dwelling structure. The survey was conducted annually between 1994-5 and 1997-98, and 1999-2000 to 2002-03. Since 2003-04, the survey has been conducted every two years, with a range of rotating content. Every six years, the survey is integrated with the Household Expenditure Survey, which allows an analysis of child care expenses in the context of other household expenses.

The rotating content included in the Survey of Income and Housing includes information on housing mobility and dwelling conditions, such as length of time in dwelling, number of times moved in last five years, reasons for moving, and characteristics of the previous dwelling occupied. They also include aspects of the dwelling occupied, such as any major structural problems, repairs and maintenance carried out in the past 12 months, and sources of energy and water. For first home buyers, data on home deposits paid and any monetary assistance received for the purchase were collected.

Data on child care including usage, costs, and barriers to labour force participation due to child care related reasons were included in the SIH for the first time in 2007–08. These topics were added to the SIH to facilitate analysis of the interactions between child care use, income and labour force participation. Data was also collected on these topics in the survey in 2011-12 and again in 2013-14. Data for 2013-14 is expected to be released in July 2015.

Data on barriers to labour force participation due to child care related reasons was collected from parents/guardians of children aged up to 12 years in the selected household who were

unemployed, did not have a job or worked part time. The data collected includes: whether people would like a job if child care was available; whether they would like to work more hours if child care was available; whether child care prevents them from working/working more hours; and what are all the reasons and the main reason child care prevents them for working/working more hours.

Child care content from the Survey of Income and Housing is published in a number of publications, including *Household Income and Income Distribution*, *Australia* (cat. no. 6523.0).

Pregnancy and Employment Transitions

The Pregnancy and Employment Transitions Survey collects information on employment transitions from mothers of children under two years of age. It collects information on leave arrangements of women and partners for the birth of the child; discrimination in the workplace during pregnancy; work arrangements on return to work; whether women had a partner during pregnancy; and the work transitions of these partners. It also collects women's job during pregnancy; first job started or returned to after the birth; current job details; partners job while the woman was pregnant; partners first job started or returned to after the birth; and partners current job details, along with characteristics such as income, industry, occupation, age, country of birth, and the number and age of any other children.

The Pregnancy and Employment Transitions Survey was first collected in 2005, and repeated in 2011. It is due to be collected again in November 2017.

Data is published in *Pregnancy and Employment Transitions, Australia* (cat. no. 4913.0).

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey collects information on a range of topics from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, including income, education, language and culture, crime and justice, and child care, along with a number of demographic and social characteristics.

The survey includes a number of questions on use of formal and informal care; education, income and working patterns of parents; unmet demand for formal care, main reason attends formal care, whether prefers to use Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child care services, and reasons for not using formal care.

The survey was conducted in 1994, 2002 and 2008 and will next be conducted in 2014.

Data is published in *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey* (cat. no. 4714.0)

Survey of Employment Arrangements, Retirement and Superannuation

The Survey of Employment Arrangements, Retirement and Superannuation was previously conducted in 2007. It followed the similar Survey of Employment Arrangements and Superannuation conducted in 2000. The survey included the collection of detailed information about the diversity of employment arrangements in Australia, including the types of employment people have, aspects of job stability and flexibility, and working patterns; the working arrangements that people use, or would like to use to balance their work and caring responsibilities; the nature and extent of their caring responsibilities, including use of leave and type of leave used, types of child care used, and frequency and duration of care; and characteristics of care recipients (both children and adults) such as age, relationship to the carer, and for adults, the reason for providing care. It also included questions on whether people felt rushed or pressed for time, and why; and whether people felt that work and family life were in balance.

Data from the Survey of Employment Arrangements, Retirement and Superannuation can be cross-classified by a range of demographic and labour force characteristics such as age, sex, marital status, education, labour force status, and occupation and industry of multiple jobs. Data is published in *Employment Arrangements, Retirement and Superannuation*, (cat. no. 6361.0).

Time Use Survey

The Time Use Survey was previously conducted in 1992, 1997 and 2006. Time use surveys collect detailed information on the daily activity patterns of people in Australia. The information is used to examine how people allocate time to activities such as paid work, unpaid work (including child care), leisure, and activities such as eating, sleeping and shopping. Detailed information on time of day and day of week are collected for each activity. As with the Survey of Employment Arrangements, Retirement and Superannuation, it also included questions on whether people felt rushed or pressed for time, and why; and their perceptions about whether their work and family life are in balance. The Time Use Survey also included information on family composition, number and age of children, use of formal and informal care, and income. Data is published in *How Australians Use Their Time*, (cat. no. 4153.0).

Census of Population and Housing

The Census of Population and Housing provides a rich source of information on family composition (including age and number of children), labour force status, educational attainment and participation, and a range of other demographic characteristics (such as country of birth, language, Indigenous status, and ancestry). The Census also collects information on provision of unpaid child care (either to your own child or to someone else's child), and attendance at pre-school.

The question on unpaid child care was first asked for the 2006 Census, alongside a suite of other questions relating to unpaid work, including time spent on unpaid domestic work, care of persons with a disability, a long-term illness or problems related to old age, and unpaid voluntary work. The question on provision of unpaid child care records whether a person spent any time caring for a child aged less than 15 years without pay in the two weeks prior to Census Night. While the current question on provision of unpaid child care was first asked in this format 2006, a question on "child minding" was also asked in the 1976 Census for children aged five years and under.

Since the Census aims to collect information from the entire population (rather than just a small subset of the population as occurs in a sample survey) it is not subject to sampling error. Consequently, while less detailed questions are asked, Census data is particularly useful in providing data for small areas (for example, which suburbs have particularly low or high employment participation rates for women with young children), data for small groups (for example, data on women from particular minority groups), and allows more accurate conclusions to be drawn about small differences over time or between groups (as differences between groups or over time may not be large enough to be statistically significant in a sample survey that only goes to a relatively small number of respondents).

Due to the large number of records, highly detailed disaggregations are possible. For example, Census data could show hours worked for women in single parent families by the age in years of their youngest child, by detailed industry or occupation.

The Census was conducted in 1911, 1921, 1933, 1947, 1954, 1961 and every five years thereafter, with the most recent Census being conducted in 2011. A range of options for accessing Census data (including historical data) are available at www.abs.gov.au/census.

The ABS is currently in the process of assessing topics for inclusion in the 2016 Census.

Australian Census Longitudinal Dataset

A 5% random sample of person records from the 2006 Census has been brought together with corresponding records from the 2011 Census using statistical data linkage techniques (ie without name and address, using characteristics common to both datasets such as age, sex, geographic region and country of birth) to form a longitudinal dataset. This allows information for the same individual to be reported over time, meaning analysis can be performed showing the 2011 situation for particular groups of people from 2006. For example, analysis could be undertaken on the labour force status for women with young children who were partnered in 2006 but not in 2011.

While the dataset contains only a subset of Census records, the Australian Census Longitudinal Dataset is still many times larger than even the largest sample surveys, meaning that detailed analysis can be performed. While some care needs to be taken in the interpretation of results due to potential inaccuracies in the linkage process, this will not generally affect statistical conclusions drawn from the linked data.

Family Characteristics Survey

The Family Characteristics Survey is designed to collect information on household and family composition, along with demographic and labour force characteristics of persons within households and families. A particular focus of the collection is families with younger children. For those families, additional information is collected about family structures, the social marital status of parents, and contact arrangements for children with a natural parent living elsewhere. In the 2009-10 survey, information was also collected about children's contact with their grandparents, and about child support arrangements for children with a natural parent living elsewhere.

The survey was first conducted in 1982 and is currently conducted every three years, with the most recent data available being from the 2009-10 collection.

Every six years, the survey is labelled the Family Characteristics and Transitions Survey, and contains additional information on family transitions such as relationship history, relationship expectations, children ever born, reasons for leaving home, and fertility expectations. Data from the 2012-13 iteration of the Family Characteristics and Transitions Survey is expected to be released in late 2014 in *Family Characteristics and Transitions, Australia*, (cat. no. 4402.0).

Labour Force Survey

The Labour Force Survey collects information about Australia's labour market activity, providing official estimates of employment, unemployment and labour force participation. It has been conducted since 1960, initially in capital cities only and on a quarterly basis. In 1964 the Labour Force Survey was extended to the whole of Australia, and then in 1978 it was expanded to a monthly frequency.

Monthly data on labour force status by sex and relationship in household (ie allowing analysis of labour force status of parents of children under 15) is published in *Labour Force Australia*, *Detailed - Electronic Delivery* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) back to April 2001.

More detailed family data allowing analysis of labour force participation by sex, family composition, and age of children, including the labour force status of both parents in couple families, is included in *Labour Force Australia: Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families* (cat. no. 6224.0.55.001). It is currently published annually, with data for June 2013 expected to be published in mid 2014. Data is available monthly between August 2004 and December 2008, and annually from June 2009.

Microdata from the Labour Force Survey is available in the Longitudinal Labour Force Survey (LLFS) file, which provides details on the transitions into and out of employment of individuals over the period they are included in the survey.

Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation

The Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation topic presents information on people aged 18 years and over who are either not employed or who usually worked less than 35 hours per week. It provides information on the factors that may influence people to join the labour force, or work a greater number of hours. Information can be cross-classified by demographics such as age, sex, country of birth and age of youngest child, and by income and educational attainment.

The survey allows analysis of those for whom caring for children is a barrier to working more hours or being available for such work. It allows analysis of the reason for caring for children is a barrier, such as unavailability of childcare, the cost of childcare, consider their children are too young, or the respondent prefers to look after their children themselves.

The survey also includes questions on unpaid work a person may have undertaken in the last four weeks, such as caring for own children, caring for others children, caring for someone with a long term illness or disability, caring for an elderly person, or undertaking voluntary work.

The collection has been conducted every two years since 2004-05, with 2012-13 being the most recent information available.

Data is published in *Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation*, *Australia* (cat. no. 6239.0).

Other Labour Market Surveys

Underemployed Workers

The Underemployed Workers Survey collects information about employed persons who in time-related underemployment; that is people employed part-time who want, and are available for more hours of work than they currently have, and full-time workers who worked part-time hours during the reference week for economic reasons (such as being stood down or insufficient work being available).. Along with the number of unemployed people, the number of underemployed workers is an important component of underutilised labour resources in the economy.

A range of information on underemployed workers is collected, including the number of hours usually worked, number of preferred hours, steps taken to find work with more hours and difficulties finding work with more hours, along with a range of demographic characteristics, occupation, and industry. Analysis is possible on those who were looking for more work but reported difficulties finding child care, or other family responsibilities as being their main difficulty in finding work with more hours.

The Underemployed Workers Survey is conducted annually, with the latest data available being from September 2012. Data for September 2013 will be released on 26 February 2014. Data is published in *Underemployed Workers*, (cat. no. 6265.0).

Note that underemployment by age and sex (but not the more detailed information collected in the Underemployed Workers Survey) has been collected quarterly in the Labour Force Survey since February 1978, and is published in *Labour Force Australia*, (cat. no. 6202.0). This data will be collected monthly from July 2014.

From 2015, the Underemployed Workers Survey will be incorporated in a new survey on Participation, Job Search and Mobility, to be conducted in February each year.

Persons Not in the Labour Force

The Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey is conducted annually, in parallel with the Underemployed Workers Survey. It collects information from people aged 15 years and over who are not in the labour force: that is, neither employed nor unemployed. Information collected in the survey includes details about whether people not in the labour force wanted to work; reasons why they were not actively looking for work, or were not available for work; and their main activity while not in the labour force. A range of demographic characteristics are collected, including age of youngest child and number of children (by age).

Many people not in the labour force are what is known as "marginally attached" to the labour force. For example, they may want a job, but for a variety of reasons are not actively looking for work even though they are available to start a job. It is possible that many of these people could move into the labour force in the short term, or could do so if labour market conditions changed.

The survey collects the main activity undertaken for people who are marginally attached, such as home duties or caring for children. The survey also collects reason for leaving last job, which may be due to pregnancy or to have children. It includes the reason people were not looking for work, which may include caring for children, and the main reason not looking for work due to caring for children, such as unavailability of child care or cost of child care.

Data is published in *Persons Not in the Labour Force*, (cat. no. 6220.0), with the latest available data from September 2012. Data for September 2013 will be released in March 2014. Data on the number of persons not in the labour force by age and sex is published monthly in *Labour Force Australia*, (cat. no. 6202.0).

As with the Underemployed Workers Survey, the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey will be incorporated in a new survey on Participation, Job Search and Mobility, to be conducted in February each year.

Job Search Experience

The Job Search Experience Survey collects information about the experiences of unemployed persons in seeking employment, in terms of the steps they have taken to find employment and the difficulties they have encountered. It also presents information about employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months. For this group, information on the steps taken to attain work and current job details are provided. Additional information is presented about persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months, including steps taken to find work and difficulties in finding work. Further, the survey provides information about owner managers who started their current business in the previous 12 months including the reasons for starting or purchasing their business. In addition, demographic information is provided for all of these groups, including number of children in family aged under 15 years.

Analysis is possible on those who had difficulties with finding work (or finding another job) due to difficulties finding child care and other family responsibilities.

Data is published in *Job Search Experience, Australia* (cat. no. 6222.0), with the latest data from July 2012. Data for July 2013 will be published on 5 February 2014.

The Job Search Experience Survey was first conducted in July 2002 and is conducted annually. Similar surveys on the job search experience of unemployed people were conducted annually between 1984 and 2001, except for 1987 and 1989. Information on people who had started work for an employer for wages or salary during the 12 months up to the end of the reference week was collected in June 1986 and two-yearly from July 1990 to July 2000 and was published in *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience*, *Australia* (cat. no. 6245.0).

From 2015, Job Search Experience Survey will be incorporated (along with the Underemployed Workers Survey and the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey) in a broader survey on Participation, Job Search and Mobility, to be conducted in Feburary each year.

Working Time Arrangements

The Working Time Arrangements Survey collects information from employed persons(excluding those still at school) on working arrangements including hours worked, whether entitled to paid leave, whether guaranteed a number of hours, whether able to work flexible hours, whether income varied from one pay period to the next, whether able to choose when holidays are taken, whether worked shift work, whether worked extra hours or overtime (and whether/how compensated), days of the week usually worked, and start and finish times, including whether worked after 7pm or before 7am. This can be cross-classified by demographic characteristics including age, sex, relationship in household, and number of children.

The Working Time Arrangements Survey is currently conducted every 3 years, with the latest collection having taken place in 2012. Data is published in *Working Time Arrangements*, *Australia* (cat. no. 6342.0).

From 2014-15, the content of this survey will be incorporated into the Characteristics of Employment Survey, which will run annually, though much of the detailed content currently collected in the Working Time Arrangements Survey is likely to be collected every 2 years.

Administrative Collections

National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection

The National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection is an administrative data collection that compiles counts of children enrolled in, and attending preschool in Australia, along with the hours they attend and the costs of the program.

The Collection also compiles statistics on workers and services providers from all establishments delivering a preschool program, including the number of workers and the number of workers with a 'three year bachelor degree or above' in a field relevant to Early Childhood Education. Data is sourced from state and territory education departments and compiled together with data from the Australian Government.

The collection covers all service providers delivering a preschool program, irrespective of the type of institution that provides it, or whether it is government funded, or privately provided. Long Day Care that includes a preschool program is in scope of collection. Data from the Child Care Management System (CCMS) is used in addition to state and territory supplied datasets as a supplementary data source for Long Day Care centres in most states and territories. The CCMS is a national child care administrative system that enables the payment of Child Care Benefit (CCB) fee reductions on behalf of parents, to approved child care services. It also provides for the collection of information about the supply and usage of child care across Australia. The Australian Government Departments of Social Services, Education, and Human Services all share responsibility for the operation of the CCMS.

Data from the collection is published in *Preschool Education, Australia* (cat. no. 4240.0), and is also used in reporting towards the National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education (NP ECE), the National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education (NP UAECE), the National Indigenous Reform Agreement (NIRA) and the Report on Government Services (RoGS).

Business collections

Economic Activity Survey

The Economic Activity Survey, combined with Business Activity Statement (BAS) data provided by businesses to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), provides information on the

economic and financial performance of Australian industry. The scope of the collection is mainly private sector businesses.

A range of characteristics are available, including income (by source), purchasing expenses, labour expenses such as wages and salaries, capital expenditure, employment, operating profit, profit margin, interest coverage, and EBITDA. Data is presented by industry, state and territory, and business size.

Data is published annually in *Australian Industry* (cat. no. 8155.0) around 11 months after the end of the financial year. Data is published down to the industry subdivision level of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) classification, though data at the industry group level (allowing Child Care Services to be separately identified) is available on request, subject to confidentiality constraints.

Survey of Community Services businesses

ABS also maintains a series of more in depth business surveys targeting particular industries on an irregular basis. A survey of Community Services was conducted in 2008-09, which included the Child Care Services industry. This survey collected a range of information including the number of child care businesses (including how many were for profit and how many were not-for-profit), the number and key characteristics of persons employed (such as age, sex, and qualifications of those delivering services), sources of income, and region.

This information was published in *Community Services*, (cat. no. 8696.0).

Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits

The publication contains counts of businesses, including rates of business entries to and exits from the Australian economy, and rates of business survival. These data are sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Business Register. Information is available for the Child Care Services industry by state or territory, type of legal organisation, number of employees and annual turnover.

The publication was initially released in February 2007, and it is planned to release updated counts, including entries and exits, on an annual basis in *Counts of Australian Businesses*, *including Entries and Exits*, (cat. no. 8165.0). The latest data is for June 2013, with the next release currently scheduled for March 2014.

Other data developments

The ABS is working towards improving quality, accessibility and utility of a range of education and training data (including early childhood education and care data) through the Transforming Education and Training Information in Australia (TETIA) initiative.

TETIA provides a framework to coordinate continued improvements to early childhood, education, school education, higher education and training information in Australia. The development of a strategic plan and work program for TETIA is currently being led by the ABS, through extensive consultation with stakeholders. This work is being undertaken on behalf of the Strategic Cross-sectoral Data Committee (SCDC) which ultimately reports to the Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood and the Ministerial Council for Industry and Skills (formerly the Standing Council on Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment).

Whilst there has been significant effort to improve the scope, quality and national comparability of early childhood education and care data, there are still limitations and gaps in the quality of data available for policy and research, notably in terms of outcome measures. TETIA aims to maximise use of existing data sets, promote access to data for analysis and research needed to underpin policy, and improve the quality and coherence of data across collections.

Bringing data together across jurisdictions and sectors through data linkage is a central element of TETIA. The ABS has commenced consultation with stakeholders and data custodians to deliver data integration projects that aim to produce methodological and analytical outputs, and clarify data access and governance issues for the benefit of future projects. Current data integration projects led by the ABS aim to link Census of Population and Housing with various education and training data sets including National Early Childhood Education and Care Collection, school enrolments, National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), and Vocational Education and Training in Schools data for selected jurisdictions.

Linking datasets longitudinally and between sectors will deliver improved information on key transitions between different types of education and training, and on outcomes such as the impact of various factors (including participation in early childhood education and care and household composition) on early childhood development, school performance, and ultimately labour market participation and social inclusion.

Contact information

For further information on the availability of statistics that might support the work of the Inquiry, or if you have questions about the information above, please contact:

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