

Tourism Statistics Branch (TSB), NISRA Revision Policy

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority (UKSA) Code of Practice for Official Statistics requires all producers of Official Statistics to publish transparent guidance on the policy for revisions. The Code of Practice can be found at:

www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html

TSB aims to avoid the need for unscheduled revisions to publication unless they are absolutely necessary and put systems and processes in place to minimise the number of revisions.

Types of Revisions

Scheduled revisions

Planned revisions take place on receipt of subsequent information that is expected. For example, when figures are originally published as 'provisional' and then updated to 'final'.

Administrative systems and some data collections can receive updated information following their original publication. This means that some information relating to a period already published is subsequently inputted.

Where a substantial methodological change is planned, TSB will announce its intentions before the release of the statistics based on the new methods. For any key statistics, TSB will provide background information and an explanation about the changes.

Non-scheduled revisions

Many of the revisions TSB make are a normal, unremarkable and inevitable feature of statistical life and users are able to absorb and plan for those revisions accordingly. They reflect the receipt of fuller and more complete information.

However, some revisions are 'avoidable' in the sense that they are a consequence of errors or weaknesses in procedures or systems, or are the results of errors in source material. If an error is found in any of our statistics we will assess the impact of the change and if it is significant we will announce our intention to correct the data and planned dates to do so as soon as the error becomes apparent.

All electronic versions of publications with the affected error will be updated as soon as possible. If the correction is minor or insignificant we will carry out the changes without alerting anyone. However, if the error is significant we will notify all recipients we are aware use the data to let them know a revised version is now available.

Where major changes to source data are pre-planned and for changes in statistical methods we will, where possible, consult with users on the changes and treat these as a change of methodology.

The decision on whether to republish the figures is made on a case by case basis by the Senior Principal Statistician responsible for tourism statistics.

Handling of Revisions

Our policy in handling revisions is to be transparent with users about:

- The need for revisions
- How and when to expect revisions as part of our standard processes
- The processes by which other revisions will be communicated and published.

To meet these commitments, all our statistical publications will:

- Explain the specific revisions policy for that where a revision is scheduled
- Ensure that the need for major revisions for any series are pre-announced on the website
- Detail how users will be informed of the need for revisions
- Give explanations as to the nature and extent of revisions that were necessary.

Tourism Statistics Branch

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Table 1: Details of any revisions to Tourism Statistics

Date	Source	Revision	Timeframe	Publications Impacted	Explanation
August 2016	Household Travel Survey (Central Statistics Office)	Improved Weighting Scheme	Data revised from Q1 2012 to Q4 2015	Northern Ireland Annual Tourism Statistics External Overnight trips to Northern Ireland	Please find information on the Revisions Webpage