
Employer Responsive Known Issues 2008/09

Including outstanding and resolved issues

Outstanding

Ref No 15 **Acedemic Year** 2008/2009

Issue Title Duplicate programmme aims

Issue Decription There are instances of duplicate programme aims in the 2008/09 Employer responsive datasets. In 2008/09 a programme learning aim record was introduced to the ILR to record information about a learners programme.

A learner should have 1 programme record for programme they are participating in. A data quality issue has arisen where a number of provider have recorded duplicate apprenticeship programme aims in their 2008/09 ILR data. This issue will effect all Employer Responsive datasets prepared in 2008/09.

This will have an impact of reporting starts and completions on apprenticeship programmes. There are approximatley 300 duplicate learning aims in the Employer Responsive W12 data set prepared on 7 August 2009. This issue effects 42 providers.

Additional Info The following sample code can be used to identify duplicate programme aims.

```
GET  
FILE='...ILR0809_E_AIMS.SAV'.
```

*select programme records only (data set identifier code, field A04 = 35, programme aim)

```
SELECT IF (A04 = 35).
```

*Sort cases by Provider number, Learner reference number, programme type and sector framework code, start period and leave period

```
Sort cases by L01 L03 A15 A26 A_STARTP A_LEAVEP.
```

*Aggregate by Provider number, Learner reference number, programme type and sector framework code, start period and leave period and count the number of programme aims for each programme we'd normally expect there to be 1 per programme

*the variable "Aimsperprog" is created and added to the dataset this variable contains the number of

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duplicate aims per programme.

```
AGGREGATE
/Outfile = * Mode = ADDVARIABLES
/Break =L01 L03 A15 A26 A_STARTP A_LEAVEP
/Aimsperprog= n.
```

*select all programme aims which are part of a programme containing duplicate aims

Select if Aimsperprog >1.

```
SAVE OUTFILE='...Dupprogaims_Aim0910.sav'
/Keep L01 L03 PRV_NAME PRV_REG A05 A10 A15 A26
A27 A28 A31 A34 A35 A40 A48a A48b A_STARTP
A_LEAVEP Aimsperprog.
**Aggreagate to programme level
```

```
AGGREGATE
/Outfile = *
/Break =L01 PRV_NAME PRV_REG L03 A15 A26
A_STARTP A_LEAVEP
/Max_Aimsperprog=max(Aimsperprog)
/N_BREAK=n.
```

**calculate the number of duplicate aims by subtracting 1 from the number of aims per unquie programme.

Compute Dupaims = Max_Aimsperprog - 1.

*Save at programme level

```
SAVE OUTFILE='\\Warstt001\spssdata\Local\National
Office\Personal\Richard\Dupprogaims_Prog0809.sav'.
```

*aggregate to provider level

```
AGGREGATE
/Outfile = *
/Break =L01
/Dupaims2=sum(Dupaims).
```

```
SAVE OUTFILE='..Dupprogaims_Prov0809.sav'.
```

Execute.

Suggested Workaround

None be aware of this issue when using the data.

The LSC data defintions group considered this issue

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and decided it was not appropriate to amend reporting definitions to resolve this issue. It was decided to contact providers to ask them to correct by the close date for employer responsive 2008/09 collections on 13 November 2009.

Resolve Description

Issue Resolved No

Notes for LSC users

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Ref No 3 **Academic Year** 2008/2009

Issue Title The Derived variable L_ATYPE - In Year Aim Type for a Learner is not set to -1 where the Derived variable L_ACTIVE Learner Active for the current academic year is 0.

Issue Description The L_ATYPE derived variable should account be set to the missing value of -1 where the learner has no aims which are active during the current academic year. This is defined by L_ACTIVE is equal to 0.

The 0809 Employer Responsive dataset W04 prepared on 5 December 2008 populates L_ATYPE regardless of the value of L_ACTIVE. This affects 6,946 learners.
The 0809 Learner Responsive dataset F01 prepared on 2 December 2008 populates L_ATYPE regardless of the value of L_ACTIVE. This affected 2270 learners

This issue will effect all datasets prepared in 2008/09.

Additional Info

Suggested Workaround Include a check for L_ACTIVE= 1 when using L_ATYPE.

Resolve Description This issue is considered to be low impact and there are no plans to fix this issue.

Issue Resolved No

Notes for LSC users

Outstanding

Ref No 1 **Acedemic Year** 2008/2009

Issue Title Issues with providers incorrectly recording programme Aims and Learning Aims.

Issue Decription In 2008/09 a programme learning aim record was introduced to the Employer Responsive ILR to hold information about a learners programme. A learner should have 1 programme aim per programme. There are a number of learners where their learning aims indicate they have participated in more than one programme but they have a single programme aim. This may be because they have participated in two programmes there is a missing programme aim or because the learning aims making up the programme have been miscoded, indcating the learner is on more than one programme when they are not.

Analysis of the 0809 Employer responsive W12 data showed that there were around 3,000 learners that may have missing programme aims or mis-coded learning aims in their ILR return.

There is a validation rule which enforces the recording of a programme aim for any learner with an aim where the programme type, field A15 indicates the aim is part of an apprenticeship. The rule does not check that there is a programme aim with the same Programme type, A15, and sector frame work code field A26, combination.

This issue will impact on starts and completions figures, and performance reporting. This issue will be present in all Employer responsive data sets produed during 2008/09.

The ILR validation has been tightened in for 2009/10 to prevent this issue occuring.

Additional Info The following sample code can be used to identify this issue.

```
GET  
FILE='..ILR0809_E_AIMS.SAV'.
```

```
** Select records that are part of an apprenticeship  
programme.
```

```
SELECT IF(any(A15,2,3,10) ).
```

```
Sort Cases by L01 L03 A15 A26.
```

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***A programme is comprised of aims with a common programme type and and sector framework code.
***Aggregate up to programme level by aggregatong by provider number, learner reference programme type and sector framework code taking the maximum the A04 (data set identifier) to identify which programmes have a
**programme record - the programme aims have an A04 of 35 so programmes with an A04_max of 30 have no associated programme record

```
AGGREGATE
/OUTFILE=*
MODE=ADDVARIABLES
/BREAK=L01 L03 A15 A26
/A04_max = MAX(A04).
```

***calculate a flag to indicate whether the programme has no programme record.

Compute A_errorflag = 0.

If A04_max = 30 A_errorflag = 1.

***Aggregate to learner level adding variables to identify every learner who appears to have a incorrectly recorded programme.

```
AGGREGATE
/OUTFILE=*
MODE=ADDVARIABLES
/BREAK=L01 L03
/L_Errorflag = max(A_errorflag).
```

**Select those learners with incorrectly recorded programme. Note this will include all aims for the learners who appear to have aims that are part of a programme with no associated programme records
**this will include aims for that learner that do have an associated programme record.

select if L_Errorflag = 1.

SAVE OUTFILE='...Progissue_prd12aims.sav'.

***Aggreate to learner level

SORT CASES BY L01 L03 A15 A26 A_errorflag

```
AGGREGATE
/OUTFILE=*
/BREAK=L01 L03
```

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/programs=N.

**This file contains learner who

SAVE OUTFILE='...Progissue_prd12leaners.sav'.

***Aggregate to provider level

AGGREGATE
/OUTFILE=*
/BREAK=L01
/learners=N.

Exe.

Suggested Workaround

None. Be aware of this issue when using the data.

The Information Authority and the Data Service issued a joint communication via the LSC regional offices in March 2009 explaining this issue and asking them to contact providers to correct their data.

Resolve Description

Issue Resolved No

Notes for LSC users

Resolved

Ref No	19	Acedemic Year	2008/2009
Issue Title	The funding information contained in the Employer responsive ILR_E_AIMS_DLF dataset is incorrect for some providers.		
Issue Decription	There is an issue with the underlying views used to create ILR datasets which is resulting some funding information missing from the dataset. Work is on going to correct this issue. It is not yet known what the impact on funding figure is. Note this issue only affect MI data and will does not impact on funding systems of payments to providers.		
Additional Info			
Suggested Workaround			
Resolve Description	This issue has been corrected in the Employer responsive W13 dataset prepared on 30 September 2009.		
Issue Resolved	Yes		
Notes for LSC users	The Freeze of W13 data scheduled for 7 September did not take place due to this issue. The period 13 feeeze for 2008/09 was taken on 30 September 2009.		

Resolved

Ref No 17 **Academic Year** 2008/2009

Issue Title Error with the calculation of the derived variable
A_SFLP - Skills for life participation

Issue Description There is an error with the derivation of A_SFLP - Skill
for life participation.

The derived variable should be set to a value of 1 (counts as skills for life participation) if the aim counts towards the skills for life target or is funded as a skills for life aim (defined as having a cost weighting factor of 'F'). The current derivation of the DV incorrectly excludes aims that are cost weighting factor F but don't count towards the skills for life targets.

It effects about 12,300 aims on the Employer responsive W12 dataset prepared on 7 August 2009. It doesn't appear to effect LR as there are no aims that meet that criteria.

Additional Info The full definition of A_SFLP is available of the Data Dictionary at the following address

http://www.thedataservice.org.uk/datadictionary/technicaldefinitions/derivedvariables/0809/A_SFLP.htm

Suggested Workaround The derived variable can be corrected using the following sample code.

```
GET  
FILE='..ILR0809_E_AIMS.SAV'.
```

Sort cases by A09.

```
Match files  
/FILE=*  
/TABLE  
='\\Warstt001\spssdata\National\ILR\2008_09\LOOKUP  
PS\LAD\LAD_0809.sav'  
by A09.
```

```
COMPUTE A_SFLPCH = 0.  
IF (A_SFL=1 or A_LR_ADULT_WGT_FACT="F" or  
A_LR_1618_WGT_FACT = "F") A_SFLPCH = 1.
```

```
VARIABLE LABELS A_SFLPCH 'A_SFLP Skills for Life  
Participation'.  
VALUE LABELS A_SFLP  
0 'No'
```

Resolved

1 'Yes'.

Compute check =(A_SFLP <> A_SFLPCH).

Select if check = 1.

Execute.

Resolve Description

A fix has been applied to the 2008/09 Employer responsive W13 dataset prepared on 30 September to correct variable. This fix will be applied to subsequent 2008/09 Employer responsive datasets.

Issue Resolved

Yes

Notes for LSC users

This variable has been fixed when the ILR200809_E_AIMS standard file was created user who are accessing this data directly via MI views will need re-derive the variable as described in the suggested work around above.

Resolved

Ref No 9 **Acedemic Year** 2008/2009

Issue Title IY_SLN_PAYMENT and PRIOR_SLN_PAYMENT are not populated in some files

Issue Description The learner level in-year and prior SLN payment derived variables are not populated in the Aim, Aim_DLF and Learner files.
The programme level in year and prior SLN payment derived variables are not populated in the Aim_DLF file.
The fields exist, but contain zero or null in all cases

Additional Info

Suggested Workaround Apply the SPSS code shown below for correcting the A_IY_SLN_PAYMENT and A_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT. This will populate the variables correctly.
/*correct aims level variables.
comp A_IY_SLN_PAYMENT=(A_TOTAL_SLN_Y2D > 0 OR A_TOTAL_PAYMENT_Y2D>0).
comp
A_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT=(A_PRIOR_SLN_PAYMENT >0 OR A_IY_SLN_PAYMENT >0)

Resolve Description This issued was corrected on 2 March 2009.

Issue Resolved Yes

Notes for LSC users

Resolved

Ref No 8 **Academic Year** 2008/2009

Issue Title The postcode file used to calculate geographic derived variables was updated on 2 March 2009.

Issue Description The postcode file used to calculate geographic derived variable was updated on 2 March 2009. Which will have changed the geographical DVs describing region and local LSC values from this date.

Additional Info

Suggested Workaround None. Be ware of this issue when using the data.

Resolve Description Postcode file was updated on 2 March 2009.

Issue Resolved Yes

Notes for LSC users

Resolved

Ref No 7 **Acedemic Year** 2008/2009

Issue Title Learners with no aim records.

Issue Decription There was a bug in the Validation rules on OLDC which meant that a learner with an aim having a LAD status that was not valid for use in 2008/09 was accepted as valid. The affected aim is then not available to the view, resulting in a learner without an aim. This affects one learner in the 0809 Employer Responsive W03 dataset prepared on 11 November 2008 and 143 Learners in the Learner Responsive F01 dataset prepare on 2 December 2008.

Additional Info

Suggested Workaround None. Be aware of this issue when using the data.

Resolve Description The validation rule has been corrected and a fix applied to correct the data in all susqeent datasets.

Issue Resolved Yes

Notes for LSC users

Resolved

Ref No 6 **Acedemic Year** 2008/2009

Issue Title The devired variable A_STARTP - Start Period is showing as 0 for three aims.

Issue Decription Due to a temporary issue with the Provider On-Line system, three learners entered with starts in October 2008 show a start period of 0. The issue effected the Employer Responsive W04 dataset prepared 11 December 2008.

Additional Info

Suggested Workaround None. Be aware of this issue when using the data.

Resolve Description The issue was fixed in the 2008/09 Employer Responsive W04 dataset prepared on 5 December 2008 and all subsequent 08/09 datasets.

Issue Resolved Yes

Notes for LSC users

Resolved

Ref No 5 **Acedemic Year** 2008/2009

Issue Title In Learning DVs are incorrect when the actual end date is set to the first of the month

Issue Decription Where an aim has a Learning Actual End Date (field A31) set to the first of a month, it is not included in the corresponding A_IL_Px DV for that period. This affects a total of 5 aims in periods one to three. This has a knock-on effect to the A_ILPY2D, A_ILAVY2D and A_IL_IY variables for these aims. The aggregated programme- and learner-level Derived Variables for these aims may also be affected

Additional Info

Suggested Workaround None. Be aware of this issue when using the data.

Resolve Description This issue was resolved for the Employer Responsive W04 data set prepared on 5 December 2008 and in all subsequent Empolyer Responsice datasets.

Issue Resolved Yes

Notes for LSC users

Resolved

Ref No 4 **Acedemic Year** 2008/2009

Issue Title The derived variables A_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT - Aim generated SLN or received a Payment in Previous Years or in this Year and A_IY_SLN_PAYMENT Aim generated SLN or received a Payment in this Year were incorrectly calculated.

Issue Decription The A_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT derived variable should indicate if the aim has had any DLF funding. It appears that in many cases this is being marked as zero even where there are SLN payments made during the current year. This affects around 136,000 aims in the 0809 E03 freeze of 7 November 2008, and around 192,000 aims in the 0809 E04 freeze of 5 December 2008, so could lead to significant under-reporting. This issue also affects aims in the Learner Responsive (LR) standard files.

Additional Info

Suggested Workaround

```
Use the following code to derive the correct result:
/*match the relevant aims and aims dlf files
Match files /file =.....AIMS.sav'
/table=.....AIMS_DLF.sav'
By L01 L03 A05.

/*remove existing programme and learner level files.
Delete variables P_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT
P_IY_SLN_PAYMENT L_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT
L_IY_SLN_PAYMENT.

/*correct aims level variables.
comp A_IY_SLN_PAYMENT=(A_TOTAL_SLN_Y2D > 0
OR A_TOTAL_PAYMENT_Y2D>0).
comp
A_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT=(A_PRIOR_SLN_PAYMENT
>0 OR A_IY_SLN_PAYMENT >0).

/*re-derive learner and programme level variables.
SORT CASES L01 L03 A15 A26.
AGGREGATE
/OUTFILE = *
MODE=ADDVARIABLES
/PRESORTED
/BREAK = L01 L03 A15 A26
/P_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT=
max(A_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT)
/P_IY_SLN_PAYMENT= max(A_IY_SLN_PAYMENT).
```

Resolved

```
AGGREGATE
  /OUTFILE = *
  MODE=ADDVARIABLES
  /PRESORTED
  /BREAK = L01 L03
  /L_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT=
max(A_TO_DATE_SLN_PAYMENT)
  /L_IY_SLN_PAYMENT= max(A_IY_SLN_PAYMENT).
```

Resolve Description

A fix has been applied to the Learner Responsive F01 dataset prepared on 15 December 2008 and all subsequent 08/09 Learner responsive datasets so these DVs are calculated correctly.

The same fix was applied to the Employer Responsive W01 dataset prepared on the 8 January and all subsequent 08/09 Employer Responsive datasets.

Issue Resolved

Yes

Notes for LSC users

The fix was only applied to the L01 freeze dated 15 December and onwards but not to the MI views or the freeze dated 2 December 2008.
The fix has only been applied to the E05 freeze dated 8 January and those following, and not to the MI views or the earlier freezes.

Resolved

Ref No 2 **Acedemic Year** 2008/2009

Issue Title The derived variable A_NVQLEV - The Notional NVQ level of the aim was incorrect in a small number of cases.

Issue Decription There is a bug with the calculation of the A_NVQLEV derived variable, meaning that there are 17 aims using a Learning Aim Reference (A09) of '00243119' (Foundation Degree in Computing) that show an A_NVQLEV of 9, but they should be shown as 3 and there are 16 aims using a Learning Aim Reference (A09) of '00243116' (Foundation Degree in Aeronautical Engineering) that show an A_NVQLEV of 9, but they should be shown as 4.

Additional Info

Suggested Workaround None. Be aware of this issue when using the data.

Resolve Description This issue was corrected on 2 March 2009 and will not effect datasets prepared after this date.

Issue Resolved Yes

Notes for LSC users