

# How complete is the Community Services Dataset for understanding health visiting service delivery?

What

What we found

Only 24% of postnatal mandated HV contacts reported in government metrics were recorded in the CSDS in 2016-2020. This increased to 45% after we applied our age-based supplementation methods.

Almost half (42%) had complete CSDS data for at least one quarter in 2016-2020. LAs with complete CSDS data were broadly representative in terms of region, deprivation and indicators.

complete for that LA and quarter.

To address under-recording of mandated contacts in the CSDS, we developed methods to supplement recording based on a child's age at time of contact.

To understand the utility of the subset of CSDS data, we explored the representativeness, longitudinal completeness and levels of missing data for key HV variables. Work is ongoing to explore completeness of child development (ASQ) data.

To understand the barriers to submitting complete data to the CSDS and to identify possible solutions, we consulted data managers and other relevant professionals across three LAs or NHS Trusts in England.