

Measurement template

Field	Notes
Short title	Proportion of trains running on time
Technical definition	<p>The Public Performance Measure (PPM) combines figures for punctuality and reliability into a single performance record. It covers all scheduled franchised passenger services, seven days a week and measures the arrival punctuality of individual trains against their planned timetable. These plans, technically called “plan of the day”, are usually the same as the published timetable with amendments reflecting pre-published engineering amendments; however, they may differ from their originally published timetable. The reliability figure records the percentage of services that are cancelled.</p> <p>PPM is therefore the percentage of trains which are “punctual” compared to the total number of trains planned. A train is defined as punctual if it arrives at its destination within five minutes of the scheduled destination arrival time for London and South East and regional operators; or within ten minutes for long-distance operators.</p> <p>PPM data can be expressed as either for the time period, or as a Moving Annual Average (MAA) which is an average for the most recent 13 four-week reporting periods. MAA figures smooth out short-term fluctuations and highlight the annual background.</p>
Rationale	This indicator will allow the public to compare the performance of train operating companies against one another, and better hold to account operators and the Department on rail performance.
Formula	<p><u>Network Rail data</u></p> <p>Network Rail publishes PPM by franchise, by four-week period, every four weeks, once the figures have been confirmed. These data are subject to correction, although the corrections are usually minor. Corrections arise because the “plan of the day” can change up to 10pm the night before, and there may be a manual process to match train performance with the “plan of the day”, and this can take some time to complete. Corrections occur most often after periods of significant perturbation.</p> <p><u>ORR data</u></p>

	<p>ORR uses the same Network Rail data but will publish on their web portal slightly later following a brief period whilst data are updated and quality assured.</p>
Start date	May 2011
Latest data	<p>Data are available every 4 weeks, publishing 3 to 4 weeks after the rail period end.</p> <p>At 13/4//2011 - Period 12 (6 February to 5 March) data available</p>
Performance <i>(optional if relevant)</i>	<p>The public should be looking for the PPM percentage to increase to demonstrate improved performance.</p> <p>PPM fluctuates widely period-by-period for many reasons, many of which are not the 'fault' of the train operators. Poor PPM performance can be due to TOC on self, TOC on TOC, or Network Rail. However, adding this breakdown would make the data and its interpretation considerably more complex. To assist in interpretation, links will be provided to TOCs' websites.</p>
Behavioural impact	No behavioural impact is expected.
Comparability	This indicator is not comparable across countries. This indicator enables comparison across Train Operating Companies (TOCs).
Collection frequency	4-weekly
Time lag	Typically 4 to 6 weeks after the end of the period
Data source	<p>Initially DfT internal management information (from Network Rail)</p> <p>Then ORR data portal (link not yet available)</p>
Type of data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network Rail data are Management information • These are official statistics when published on ORR's data portal
Robustness and data limitations	<p><u>Network Rail data – management information</u></p> <p>Network Rail publishes PPM by franchise, by four week period, every four weeks (although sometimes data are published late). These data are subject to correction, although the corrections are usually minor. Corrections arise because the "plan of the day" can change up to 10pm the night before, and there may be a manual</p>

	<p>process to match train performance with the “plan of the day”, and this can take some time to complete. Corrections therefore most often happen after periods of significant perturbation.</p> <p><u>4-weekly data via the ORR data portal (when available) – official statistics</u></p> <p>From May 2011, ORR will make PPM by franchise, by four week period, available through its data portal. These data will be the Network Rail data, generally with any corrections made. They will be subject to some correction, although this will decrease with time. ORR plans to publish final data a maximum of six weeks after the end of the period. These data will be official statistics, so we will have greater confidence in their quality.</p>
Collecting organisation	Network Rail
Return format	Percentage
Geographical coverage	By DfT franchise (Great Britain)
How indicator can be broken down	By DfT franchise
Further guidance	