

## National Indicators 8, 9, 10 and 11: Supplementary data for local authorities

### Statistical release

18 June 2009

#### Purpose of release

This statistical release presents estimates relating to National Indicators 8, 9, 10 and 11 for all 353 local authorities<sup>1</sup>. The new estimates are intended to support existing information by providing the latest available data at both upper-tier and district level. This method uses the most recent 12 months of data collected between April 2008 and April 2009 via the Active People survey.

#### Supplementing NI 8

In November 2008, Sport England published baseline estimates for National Indicator 8 – participation in sport and active recreation – for all local authorities using data collected between October 2005 and October 2006.

This release of new estimates provides an interim assessment of progress against the baseline estimates by indicating any statistically significant changes.

#### Supplementing NI 9, 10 and 11

In December 2008, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport published baselines estimates for National Indicators 9, 10 and 11 – participation in libraries, museums/galleries and the arts – for upper-tier local authorities using data collected between April and October 2008.

This release of new estimates is intended to help upper-tier authorities understand the variations that exist within their area. The estimates do not provide a reliable assessment of progress because half of the fieldwork period overlaps with that for the upper-tier baselines.

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<sup>1</sup> DCMS now has responsibility for publishing first releases of NI 8 data, however previous releases, including the baseline estimates and other Active People data, are available from Sport England's website:  
[http://www.sportengland.org/index/get\\_resources/research/active\\_people/aps\\_ni8.htm](http://www.sportengland.org/index/get_resources/research/active_people/aps_ni8.htm)

### Next release of data

The next data release for all four indicators will be available in December 2009. For NI 8, the release will be based on data collected between October 2007 and October 2009. For NI 9, 10 and 11, the release will be based on data collected between October 2008 and October 2009. Interim progress will be assessed for all the indicators against the relevant baseline estimates.

Final progress will be assessed in December 2010.

### **Supplementary data**

The estimates are available in the accompanying workbook. A series of maps are also provided, showing participation across the unitary and district authorities of England.

## National Indicators 8, 9, 10 and 11

In June 2008, local authorities agreed Local Area Agreements (LAAs) with Government and their partners. The LAAs include targets to improve public services and the quality of life for people living and working in the area. Local authorities chose up to 35 targets from a possible 198 in the National Indicator Set (the Set has since reduced to 188).

DCMS has four National Indicators (NIs) within the set:

NI 8 Participation in sport and active recreation

NI 9 Use of public libraries

NI 10 Visits to museums and galleries

NI 11 Engagement in the arts

The cultural and sport NIs relate to DCMS's broad Departmental Strategic Objective to encourage more widespread enjoyment of culture and sport, and support talent and excellence. Their aim is, by 2010, to increase the take-up of cultural opportunities by those aged 16 and above living in a local authority (LA).

- NI 8 measures the percentage of adults in a LA who have participated in sport and active recreation, at moderate intensity, for at least 30 minutes on at least 12 days out of the past four weeks (equivalent to 30 minutes on three or more days in the past week)<sup>2</sup>.
- NI 9 measures the percentage of adults in a LA who have used a public library service in the past 12 months. Use is for leisure purposes, including informal learning and studying or research for personal interests.
- NI 10 measures the percentage of adults in a LA who have visited a museum or gallery in the past 12 months. Visits are for leisure purposes, including informal learning and studying or research for personal interests. Online access to collections and outreach services are not counted.
- NI 11 measures the percentage of adults in a LA who have either attended an arts event or participated in an arts activity at least three times in the past 12 months. Engagement must be for leisure purposes.

There is no geographical restriction placed on where the activity occurs, and it could therefore occur outside the respondent's local area. All museums, galleries, arts activities and events are included, not only those funded by local authorities (however, NI 9 relates specifically to public library services).

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<sup>2</sup> See the NI 8 Technical Note, [http://www.sportengland.org/2008-03-06\\_ni8\\_technical\\_note\\_for\\_las\\_final.doc](http://www.sportengland.org/2008-03-06_ni8_technical_note_for_las_final.doc)

## Methodology

1. The Active People Survey was commissioned by Sport England in 2005 to measure adult (aged 16 and over) participation in sport and active recreation in every local authority in England. The survey was established to provide the performance measurement framework for National Indicator 8, participation in sport and active recreation, and for the Comprehensive Performance Assessment.
2. On 14 April 2008 the scope of the survey was extended to collect data for participation in cultural activities for the purposes of National Indicators 9, 10 and 11.
3. Active People provides a minimum sample of 500 telephone interviews per local authority over a 12-month, October to October, period. Fieldwork for this data release occurred between 14 April 2008 and on 13 April 2009, and represents the most recent 12 months of available data (the second six months of the 2007/08 survey and the first six months of the 2008/09 survey).
4. Data in the workbooks reflect local government structures post-April 2009.
5. The survey measures involvement in cultural activities where the purpose is for recreation or leisure, including informal learning and studying or research for personal interests. It excludes involvement in activities where the prime motivation is paid work, formal education or formal volunteering.
6. Participation in sport covers a wide range of activities, including recreational walking and cycling. The effort put into the activity needs to be of moderate intensity, i.e. raises the breathing rate (or for walking it needs to be done at a brisk or fast pace). The only exception to this is for those adults aged 65 and over, where some light intensity activities are in scope as they are considered to be of moderate intensity for this age group – indoor and outdoor bowls, yoga, Pilates, croquet and archery.
7. The range has been calculated using a 95% confidence interval. This means there is a 95% probability the true percentage lies in the range given. The best estimate available is the mid-point. Assuming a normal distribution, the actual figure is most likely to be around the mid-point but it could be at either end of the range.
8. The difference between the baseline estimate and the final estimate must be statistically significant at the 95% level. This means the probability that the difference happened by chance is low (1 in 20).
9. In relation to NI 8, a number of factors will affect the level of change required in order for the survey to register a statistically significant change from the baseline. One of these is the number of interviews conducted – the greater the size the more sensitive it is to detecting change. Another factor is the baseline percentage, with those nearer to 50 per cent requiring more change to occur. The minimum change calculated for each area assumes the

number of interviews conducted in the assessment year is not less than in the baseline year.

10. 'Don't know' responses have been included in the total count, although in most cases these were less than 0.1 per cent.

11. For more information about the Active People Survey, see:  
[http://www.sportengland.org/index/get\\_resources/research/active\\_people.htm](http://www.sportengland.org/index/get_resources/research/active_people.htm)

12. For more information about National Indicators for local authorities, see:  
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/performanceframeworkpartnerships/nationalindicators/>

13. DCMS also collects data on participation in culture and sport via its national household survey, Taking Part. Assessment of progress against national performance targets is measured using the Taking Part survey. See [http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/research\\_and\\_statistics/4828.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/research_and_statistics/4828.aspx)

14. The fieldwork for the survey is being conducted by Ipsos MORI. For more information, see: <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/>

15. This report has been produced by Michelle Jobson. Acknowledgement goes to colleagues within the DCMS, partner NDPBs and Ipsos MORI for their assistance with the quality assurance. For enquiries contact:

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