

EXPERIMENTAL STATISTICS

Integrated Household Survey April 2010 to March 2011: Experimental Statistics

Coverage: **UK**

Date: **28 September 2011**

Geographical Area: **Local Authority and County**

Theme: **People and Places**

Theme: **Health and Social Care**

Headline experimental statistics

- 1.5% of adults in the United Kingdom identified themselves as Gay/Lesbian or Bisexual.
- 69% of people in Great Britain stated that they had a religious affiliation with Christianity.
- 89% of people in the United Kingdom consider themselves in the White ethnic group.
- Across the UK, 80% of men and 78% of women report that they perceive themselves to be in good health.

Summary about the IHS

The Integrated Household Survey (IHS) is the largest social survey ever produced by the Office for National Statistics.

The survey is comprised of a core suite of questions from five current ONS household surveys and contains information from over 420,000 individual respondents - the biggest pool of UK social data after the census.

The survey covers a number of themes including health, education, migration, housing and employment. Information and statistics about these themes can be found on the ONS website.

In April 2011 the ONS started to measure 'subjective well-being' i.e. asking individuals to provide their own assessment of their own well-being. Four questions were added to the IHS from the start of April 2011, with the first annual experimental dataset available from July 2012.

All IHS statistics are designated as experimental. Experimental statistics are new official statistics undergoing evaluation. They are published in order to involve customers and stakeholders in their development and as a means to build in quality at an early stage.

ONS continue to publish the rolling IHS dataset quarterly and plan to submit the survey for assessment to become a National Statistic by the UK Statistics Authority in due course.

Sexual Identity

The question on sexual identity was developed and tested on a number of surveys in 2008 and was added to the IHS in 2009. The data have been collected to provide accurate statistics to underpin the equality monitoring responsibilities of public sector organisations and to assess the disadvantage or relative discrimination experience by the lesbian, gay and bisexual population.

The sexual identity question was asked to respondents aged 16 years and over when they first entered all component IHS surveys, and was not asked by proxy. Proxy interviews are defined as those when answers are supplied by a third party, who is a member of the respondent's household. A valid response was provided by 95 per cent of eligible responders.

The IHS data indicate that:

- 94 per cent of adults identified themselves as Heterosexual/Straight,
- 1 per cent of the surveyed population, approximately 490,000 adults, identified themselves as Gay or Lesbian,
- 0.5 per cent of the surveyed population, approximately 239,000 adults, identified themselves as Bisexual,
- 0.4 per cent as 'Other',
- 3.6 per cent of adults stated they 'Don't know' or Refused the question,
- 0.7 per cent of respondents provided 'No response' to the question.

The 'Other' option on the question was to address the fact that not all people will fall in the first three categories.

A comparison by gender showed that 93.6 per cent of men and 94.3 per cent of women identified themselves as Heterosexual/Straight, the equivalent figures last year were 94.0 per cent of men and 94.5 per cent of women. Similar to last year, there was a larger proportion of men stating they were Gay, at 1.3 per cent, compared to women at 0.6 per cent.

Table 1

Sexual Identity: by Gender, April to March 2009/10 and 2010/11

United Kingdom					Percentages	
	Men	Women		Total		
	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11
Heterosexual / Straight	94.0	93.6	94.5	94.3	94.2	94.0
Gay / Lesbian	1.3	1.3	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.0
Bisexual	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5
Other	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.4
Don't know / Refusal	3.1	3.6	3.3	3.6	3.2	3.6
No response	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7

Table notes:

1. The total number of eligible responders to the question was 226,958 of which 216,593 provided a valid response. The question was asked to respondents aged 16 and over when they first entered all component IHS surveys, and was not asked by proxy.
2. The 'no response' category includes respondents who were aged 15 in wave 1 of the LFS/APS but are now aged 16 in the April 2010 to March 2011 field period.
3. Percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding

Source: Office for National Statistics

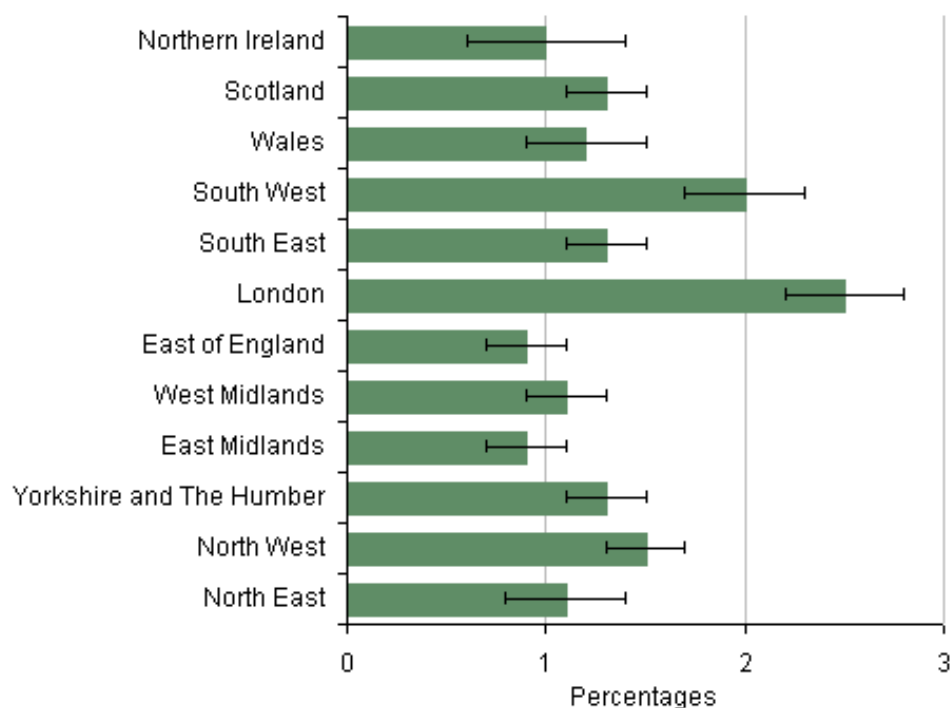
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At the regional level of England and the constituent countries of the UK, IHS data showed that in April 2010 to March 2011:

- 2.5 per cent of adults who live in London said they were gay/lesbian or bisexual,
- less than 1 per cent of adults in the East of England and in East Midlands identified themselves as gay/lesbian or bisexual.

Figure 1 - Proportion of Gay/Lesbian or Bisexual adults: by Region of England and Countries of the UK, April 2010 to March 2011



Source: Integrated Household Survey - Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. The total number of eligible responders to the question was 226,958 of which 216,593 provided a valid response. The question was asked to respondents aged 16 and over when they first entered all component IHS surveys, and was not asked by proxy.
2. The 'no response' category includes respondents who were aged 15 in wave 1 of the LFS/APS but are now aged 16 in the April 2010 to March 2011 field period.
3. Percentages might not add to 100 per cent due to rounding
4. The whisker bars represent the confidence intervals for each estimate

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A comparison by age group showed that 2.1 per cent of those aged 16 to 24 identified themselves as gay/lesbian or bisexual, compared to 0.6 per cent of those aged 65 and over.

Table 2

Sexual Identity by Age Group, April 2010 to March 2011

Age groups	Percentages				
	16-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Heterosexual / Straight	91.4	93.6	94.0	95.2	94.7
Gay / Lesbian	1.1	1.4	1.4	0.7	0.3
Bisexual	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3
Other	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5
Don't know / Refusal	4.9	3.4	3.2	2.9	3.9
No response	1.3	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.3

Table source: Office for National Statistics**Table notes:**

1. The total number of eligible responders to the question was 226,958 of which 216,593 provided a valid response. The question was asked to respondents aged 16 and over when they first entered all component IHS surveys, and was not asked by proxy.
2. The 'no response' category includes respondents who were aged 15 in wave 1 of the LFS/APS but are now aged 16 in the April 2010 to March 2011 field period.
3. Percentages might not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.

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Religion

The IHS data showed that in April 2010 to March 2011:

- 69 per cent of people in Great Britain stated that they had a religious affiliation with Christianity,
- 4 per cent of people stated that they had a religious affiliation with being a Muslim,
- 23 per cent of people stated that they had no religious affiliation.

Table 3

Religion by country, April 2010 to March 2011

Great Britain				Percentages
	England	Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Christian	68.5	66.1	69.6	68.5
Buddhist	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4
Hindu	1.5	0.5	0.3	1.3
Jewish	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.4
Muslim	4.9	1.2	1.3	4.4
Sikh	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.7
Any other religion	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1
No religion at all	22.4	30.6	27.2	23.2

Table source: Office for National Statistics**Table notes:**

1. Respondents were asked the question 'What is your religion, even if you are not currently practising?' which measures religious affiliation - that is identification with a religion irrespective of actual practice or belief.
2. The total number of eligible responders to the question was 413,832.
3. There are differences in the question for religious affiliation in Northern Ireland, therefore estimates are only for Great Britain rather than UK.
4. Changes have been made to religion questions in January 2011 in line with Census 2011 data collection.
5. Percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.

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A comparison down by age group showed:

- people aged 25 to 34 had the lowest level of religious affiliation at 67 per cent, whilst people aged over 65 had the highest at 92 per cent.

Table 4

Religion by Age Group, April 2010 to March 2011

Great Britain	Percentages					
	Under 16	16-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Christian	59.7	58.9	55.4	66.8	78.3	87.6
Buddhist	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.1
Hindu	1.3	1.5	2.4	1.4	1.1	0.6
Jewish	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7
Muslim	7.9	5.5	6.4	4.0	1.9	1.1
Sikh	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.4
Any other religion	0.8	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.1
No religion at all	29.0	31.6	32.5	25.0	15.9	8.4

Table source: Office for National Statistics**Table notes:**

1. Respondents were asked the question 'What is your religion, even if you are not currently practising?' which measures religious affiliation - that is identification with a religion irrespective of actual practice or belief.
2. The total number of eligible responders to the question was 413,832.
3. There are differences in the question for religious affiliation in Northern Ireland, therefore estimates are only for Great Britain rather than UK.
4. Changes have been made to religion questions in January 2011 in line with Census 2011 data collection.
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Ethnicity

The IHS data show that in April 2010 to March 2011:

- 89 per cent of people in the UK identified themselves as belonging to the White ethnic group,
- 5 per cent identified themselves Asian or Asian British,
- 3 per cent identified themselves Black or Black British,
- 3 per cent identified themselves in an other ethnic group (Mixed, Chinese or Other Ethnic Group).

Similar to last year, the data showed that the most ethnically diverse Region in the UK was London, with:

- 64 per cent identifying themselves in the White ethnic group,
- 14 per cent identifying themselves in the Asian or Asian British ethnic group,
- 11 per cent identifying themselves in the Black or Black British ethnic group,
- 11 per cent identified themselves in an other ethnic group (Mixed, Chinese or Other Ethnic Group).

The next most ethnically diverse region was the West Midlands with 10 per cent of respondents identifying themselves as Asian or Asian British and 3 per cent as Black or Black British.

Table 5

Ethnicity by Region, April 2010 to March 2011

United Kingdom	Percentages					
	White	Mixed	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Chinese	Other ethnic group
North East	96.0	0.5	1.8	0.6	0.4	0.8
North West	90.9	0.9	5.1	1.4	0.4	1.2
Yorkshire and The Humber	90.4	1.0	6.0	1.3	0.3	1.1
East Midlands	90.6	1.0	5.3	1.6	0.4	1.1
West Midlands	84.7	1.2	9.6	2.8	0.3	1.4
East of England	91.6	1.4	3.6	1.9	0.4	1.2
London	63.9	3.0	14.2	11.2	1.2	6.5
South East	92.0	1.3	3.8	1.3	0.3	1.4
South West	96.3	0.8	1.2	0.6	0.1	1.0
Wales	96.2	0.7	1.6	0.4	0.2	0.9
Scotland	96.6	0.5	1.6	0.4	0.3	0.6
Northern Ireland	98.3	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.5
UK	88.7	1.2	5.4	2.5	0.4	1.8

Table source: Office for National Statistics

Table notes:

1. The total number of eligible responders to the question was 420,695.
2. The six category aggregated ethnicity variable is reported in the table.
3. Changes have been made to ethnicity questions in January 2011.
4. Percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.

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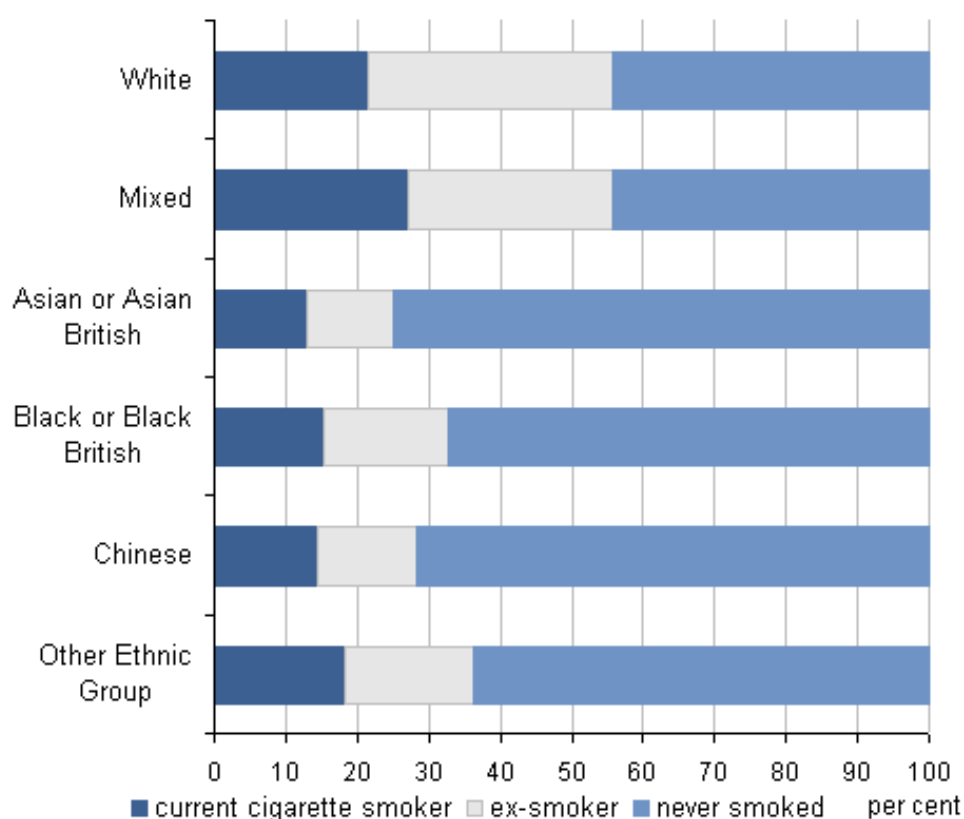
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Smoking prevalence by ethnic group for April 2010 to March 2011 showed:

- people who considered themselves in the mixed ethnic group had the highest level of current cigarette smokers at 27 per cent, with Asian or Asian British having the lowest at 13 per cent,
- people who considered themselves in the White ethnic group had the highest level of ex cigarette smokers at 34 per cent, with Asian or Asian British having the lowest at 12 per cent,
- people who considered themselves in the Asian or Asian British ethnic group had the highest level of those who have never smoked at 75 per cent, with those in the White and Mixed ethnic groups having the lowest at 44 per cent.

Figure 2 - Smoking Prevalence by Ethnicity, April 2010 to March 2011



Source: Integrated Household Survey - Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. The total number of eligible responders to the question was 327,473. This question was asked to respondents aged 18 and over and by proxy.
2. The six category aggregated ethnicity variable is reported in the table.
3. Changes have been made to ethnicity questions in January 2011.
4. Percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding

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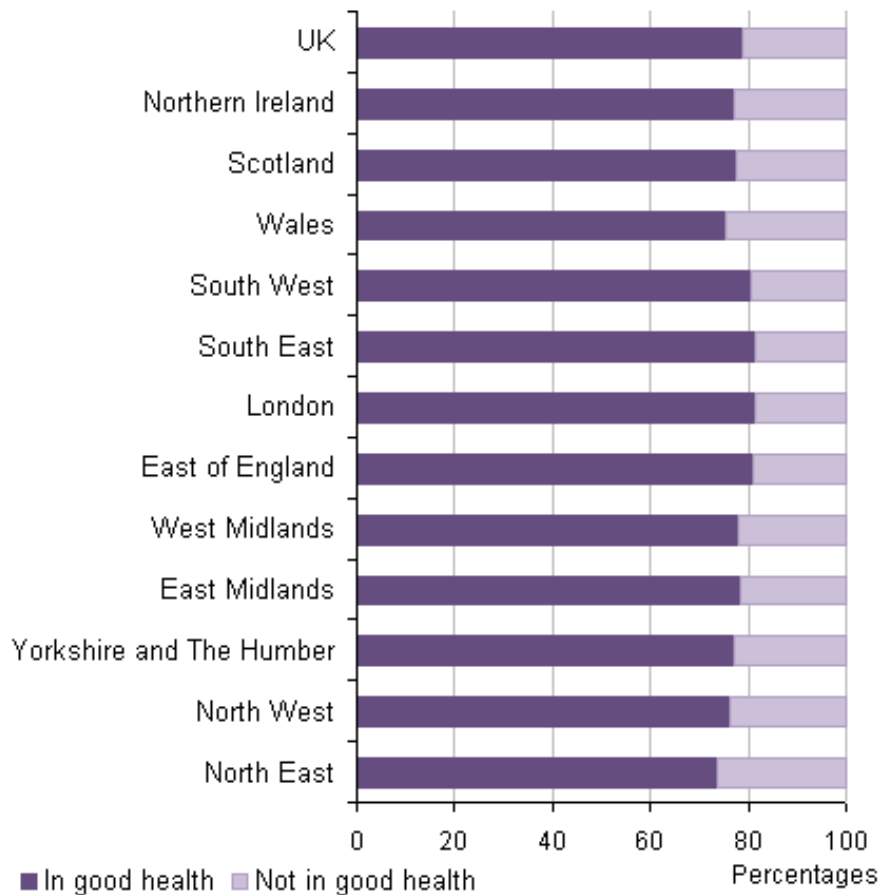
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Perceived General Health

The survey asked people about their perception of their health in general. The IHS data show that, across the UK in April 2010 to March 2011:

- 80 per cent of men and 78 per cent of women perceive themselves to be In good health,
- as in April 2009 to March 2010, of the constituent countries, Wales reported the lowest rate of perceived good health, at 75 per cent,
- at the regional level the North East of England reported the lowest rate of perceived good health at 74 per cent, with London and the South East of England reporting the highest at 82 per cent.

Figure 3 - Perceived General Health by Region and Constituent Country, April 2010 to March 2011



Source: Integrated Household Survey - Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. The total number of eligible responders to the question was 338,368. The question was asked to respondents aged 16 and over.
2. The health categories were dichotomised using the approach applied by Eurostat. The category 'In good health' comprises the 'very good' and 'good' perceived health categories; the category 'Not in good health' comprises the categories 'fair', 'bad' and 'very bad'.
3. Percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding

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Estimates of perceived health by socio-economic position based on occupation using IHS data show that:

- people working in managerial and professional occupations reported the highest level of perceived very good health at 51 per cent, with those working in routine and manual occupations reporting the lowest at 40 per cent,
- people working in the managerial and professional occupations reported the lowest level of perceived bad health at 1.5 per cent, with those working in routine occupations reporting the highest at 3.6 per cent.

Table 6

Perceived General Health: by National Statistics Socio-Economic Classification (NS-SEC), April 2010 to March 2011

United Kingdom	Percentages				
	Very good	Good	Fair	Bad	Very bad
Managerial and professional occupations	50.9	38.4	8.8	1.5	0.4
Intermediate occupations	44.5	40.9	11.7	2.5	0.5
Routine and manual occupations	40.1	41.3	14.2	3.6	0.8

Table source: Office for National Statistics

Table notes:

1. The total number of eligible responders to the question was 338,368 of which 213,998 provided a valid response. The question was asked to respondents aged 16 and over.
2. Percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.

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Estimates of smoking prevalence by occupational type using IHS data show that:

- those working in routine and manual occupations are twice as likely to currently smoke than those working in managerial and professional occupations.

Table 7

Smoking Prevalence by: National Statistics Socio-Economic Classification (NS-SEC), April 2010 to March 2011


United Kingdom	Percentages		
	current smoker	ex-smoker	never smoked
Managerial and professional occupations	14.9	34.9	50.2
Intermediate occupations	20.4	32.4	47.2
Routine and manual occupations	30.0	28.9	41.1

Table source: Office for National Statistics

Table notes:

1. The total number of eligible responders to the question was 327,473 of which 203,494 provided a valid response. This question was asked to respondents aged 18 and over and by proxy
2. Percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.

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2011 User Feedback Survey

We are currently carrying out a user feedback survey for the Integrated Household Survey April 2010 to March 2011 : Experimental Statistics Statistical Bulletin.

The survey provides an opportunity for you to tell us about your use of Integrated Household Survey April 2010 to March 2011 : Experimental Statistics estimates and your perceptions of the quality of the statistical bulletin.

Take part in our [user survey](#).

Background notes

1. Integrated Household Survey

The Integrated Household Survey is formed from 'core' questions on a number of ONS Household Surveys. Data for this release were obtained from the following survey months:

IHS Component Surveys

	English Housing Survey ¹	Life Opportunities Survey	General Lifestyle Survey	Living Costs and Food Survey	Annual Population Survey ²
Apr 2010	X		X	X	X
May 2010	X		X	X	X
Jun 2010		X	X	X	X
Jul 2010	X		X	X	X
Aug 2010	X		X	X	X
Sep 2010		X	X	X	X
Oct 2010	X		X	X	X
Nov 2010	X		X	X	X
Dec 2010		X	X	X	X
Jan 2011	X		X	X	X
Feb 2011	X		X	X	X
Mar 2011		X	X	X	X

Table source: Office for National Statistics

Table notes:

1. The English Household Survey (EHS) runs for 2 months every quarter, followed by the Life Opportunities Survey (LOS) in the remaining month of each quarter. Further information on the IHS can be found on the ONS website.
2. The Annual Population Survey includes waves 1 and 5 of the Labour Force Survey.

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2. Sexual identity

While the Equality Act 2010 and relevant legislation in the past refers to sexual orientation, ONS has focused on collecting data on sexual identity. The sexual identity question measures how people see themselves and not how others see them.

The sexual identity question was asked in both face to face and telephone interviews. During the face to face interviews, adults were asked; 'Which of the options on this show card best describes how you think of yourself?' For telephone interviews, a slightly different way of collecting the information was used; 'I will now read out a list of terms that people use to

describe how they think of themselves'. The list was read out to the respondents twice. On the second reading, the respondent had to say 'stop' when an appropriate term they identified with was read out. In both modes, the order in which the terms appeared or were read out was unique for each respondent to ensure confidentiality and no proxy interviews were allowed.

Information regarding the development of the sexual identity question can be found on the ONS website.

3. Religious affiliation

The National Statistics for Religion are currently provided by the APS and the Census. The Census estimates on religion are only available every ten years. The APS provides more timely estimates with annual datasets being produced every quarter from 2004.

Caution should be used when comparing IHS data against census data as the questions differ, although they both ask about affiliation. The 2001 census question asks 'What is your religion?' The wording of the question can have considerable impact on the response because of the respondents' understanding of the terminology used. Often, when data is collected using differently worded questions, the findings are not comparable. As well as questions on affiliation and practise, survey questions can also ask about belief and belonging.

Religious belief includes beliefs typically expected to be held by followers of a religion and how important those beliefs are to a person's life. Belonging can be interpreted as both loose self-identification and active or formal belonging to a religious group. As such, some people may respond that they have a religious affiliation but not that they belong to a religion.

4. Ethnic Group

The National Statistics for Ethnic Group are currently provided by the APS and the Census. The Census estimates on ethnic group are only available every ten years. The APS provides more timely estimates with annual datasets being produced every quarter from 2004.

In Northern Ireland, the respondents who state their ethnic group as White are not asked further detail (for example British, Other etc). So, for UK level outputs, it is not possible to break the 'White' group down into the more detailed level for people in Northern Ireland. The White group also includes 'White' ethnic minority groups.

5. Subjective Well-Being

The ONS started, in April 2011, to measure what is termed 'subjective well-being' i.e. asking individuals to provide their own assessment of their own well-being. Four questions were added to the IHS from the start of April, the four questions are as follows:

- overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays?
- overall, how happy did you feel yesterday?
- overall, how anxious did you feel yesterday?
- overall, to what extent do you feel the things you do in your life are worthwhile?

(All questions use a 0 – 10 scale.)

The first annual experimental dataset will be available from these questions in July 2012.

Subjective well-being concerns peoples' self-reported assessment of their own well-being. Survey questions of this nature aim to capture an individual's well-being by measuring how people think and feel, for example, by asking about their life satisfaction, happiness, and psychological well-being.

6. Other Sources of Data

Information on mental well-being, self-assessed health, smoking, sexual identity, religion and ethnicity for Scotland were published on 27 September in the 'Scottish Health Survey 2010'. This report and the Scottish Household Survey are recommended for users primarily interested in Scottish data without UK wide comparison. In Scotland the statistical contact for general health is Julie Ramsay (0131) 2442368 and for sexual identity, religion and ethnicity is Amy Wilson (0131) 2447571.

The Welsh Government Statistical Directorate have published a headline '[Sexual Identity, Ethnicity and Religion - Experimental Results from the Integrated Household Survey, April 2010 to March 2011](#)' to correspond with the release of data from ONS. Data on [sexual identity by local authority](#) is also available on the StatsWales website. More detailed data on [self-assessed general health](#) was published for Wales in the Welsh Health Survey 2010 report, and this is recommended for users primarily interested in Welsh data.

7. Access to the Data

IHS data will be made available through the End User Licence at the UK Data Archive. The End User Licence is an agreement between the user and the University of Essex to provide users with the right to use the data held at the Data Archive. The End User Licence dataset can be accessed on the [UK Data Archive \(UKDA\)](#).

A more detailed file can be accessed if Approved Researcher Status is sought and agreed. More information on the UK Data Archive and the Approved Researcher process are provided on the ONS website.

8. Experimental Statistics

Experimental statistics are those which are in the testing phase, are not yet fully developed and have not been submitted for assessment to the UK Statistics Authority. In the first year of publication the IHS is designated as experimental statistics. Further information on experimental statistics can be found on the ONS website.

9. Quality

Detailed information on sampling variability can be found on the ONS website, which provides sampling errors and confidence intervals for the estimates described in this Bulletin.

10. Publication Policy

Details of the policy governing the release of new data are available from the Media Relations Office. A list of the names of those given pre-publication access to the contents of this bulletin is available on the [ONS website \(40.2 Kb Pdf\)](#).

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11. Contact Details

Telephone: 0845 604 1858

Email: media.relations@ons.gov.uk

Statistical Contact Details

IHS Survey - Caroline Jones 01633 456734 or Dean Fletcher 01633 455716

Sexual Identity, Religion and Ethnicity - Angela Potter-Collins 01633 455281

Perceived General Health - Chris White 01633 455865

12. Details of the policy governing the release of new data are available by visiting www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html or from the Media Relations Office email: media.relations@ons.gsi.gov.uk

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Statistical contacts

Name	Phone	Department	Email
Simon Woodsford	+44 (0)1633 6525917	Integrated Household Survey	simon.woodsford@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Issuing Body:

Office for National Statistics

Media Contact Details:

Telephone: 0845 604 1858
(8.30am-5.30pm Weekdays)

Emergency out of hours (limited service): 07867 906553

Email:

media.relations@ons.gsi.gov.uk