



**LABOUR FORCE SURVEY  
PERFORMANCE AND QUALITY  
MONITORING REPORT**

**March - May 2003  
Quarter**

June 24, 2003

*For query resolution reference LFS User Guides link, Volume-1, on PQM web page.*

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# LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

## PERFORMANCE AND QUALITY MONITORING REPORT

March - May 2003

### 1 Delivery dates of data to LMD

In the quarter, March - May 2003, the dates for delivery of data files to LMD are as follows:

#### 1.1 Client file: UK data

Scheduled delivery date for file: June 20, 2003

Achieved delivery date for file: June 20, 2003

#### 1.2 Data file for other users

Scheduled availability date for public user files: July 15, 2003

to:

SPSSMR:	Quanvert, ASCII, Qsetup
ESRC:	SPSS
DfES	SPSS, Quanvert
Employment Policy Institute:	SPSS
DTI:	SPSS
Northern Ireland (DETI NI):	SPSS, Quanvert
HSE:	SPSS
Home Office:	Quanvert
DWP:	SPSS, SAS
Bank of England	SPSS
HMT	SPSS
Scottish Executive	SPSS, SAS
National Learning and Skills Council	SPSS
Low Pay Commission	SPSS
Inland Revenue	SAS
National Assembly for Wales	Quanvert

Scheduled availability date for UACounty user files: July 15, 2003

to:

DfES	Quanvert, SPSS
DWP	SAS, SPSS
DTI:	SPSS
Northern Ireland (DETI NI):	SPSS
Bank of England	SPSS
Scottish executive	SAS
HM Treasury	SPSS
Inland Revenue	SAS
House of Commons Library	SPSS
National Assembly for Wales	Quanvert

### 1.3 PQM Report

Scheduled delivery date: June 20, 2003

Achieved delivery date: June 24, 2003

## 2 Sample size: Great Britain

Achieved number:

	<b>Includes imputed</b>	<b>Excludes imputed</b>
Private Households	54,111	51,640
Individuals in private households	125,157	117,542
NHS Households	13	13
Individuals in NHS households	16	16

### 3 Overall Response rates

#### 3.1 Great Britain

Wave 1	Numbers			Percentages		
	Total	Face-to-face	*Telephone	Total	Face-to-face	Telephone
Eligible	15425	15353	72	100.0	100.0	100.0
Interviewed	11821	11769	52	76.6	76.7	72.2
Refusal	2540	2527	13	16.5	16.5	18.1
Non contact	1064	1057	7	6.9	6.9	9.7

\*Interviews North of the Caledonian Canal

Waves 2-5	Numbers			Percentages		
	Total	Face-to-face	Telephone	Total	Face-to-face	Telephone
Eligible	45399	8932	36467	100.0	100.0	100.0
Interviewed	42303	6653	35650	93.2	74.5	97.8
Refusal	1811	1163	648	4.0	13.0	1.8
Non contact	1285	1116	169	2.8	12.5	0.5

Notes: Households for which a response is imputed at Waves 2-5 recall are recorded in the above tables as 'interviewed'. In March - May 2003, for GB 1347 households shown as circumstantial refusals were imputed responses; and 1124 households shown as non-contacts were imputed responses.

#### 3.2 Greater London

Wave 1	Numbers			Percentages		
	Total	Face-to-face	Telephone	Total	Face-to-face	Telephone
Eligible	1891	1891	0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Interviewed	1269	1269	0	67.1	67.1	0.0
Refusal	351	351	0	18.6	18.6	0.0
Non contact	271	271	0	14.3	14.3	0.0

Waves 2-5	Numbers			Percentages		
	Total	Face-to-face	Telephone	Total	Face-to-face	Telephone
Eligible	5400	1912	3488	100.0	100.0	100.0
Interviewed	4688	1302	3386	86.8	68.1	97.1
Refusal	335	262	73	6.2	13.7	2.1
Non contact	377	348	29	7.0	18.2	0.8

Notes: Households for which a response is imputed at Waves 2-5 recall are recorded in the above tables as 'interviewed'. In March - May 2003, for London 178 households shown as circumstantial refusals were imputed responses; and 215 households shown as non-contacts were imputed responses.

## 4 Partial household response rates

Interviews were achieved with one or more, but not all, adult members at 3850 households, or 6.3% of all eligible households. This figure includes imputed partial interviews brought forward from the previous wave.

## 5 Response rates at National Health Service (NHS) accommodation

	<i>Numbers</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Eligible	18	100.0
Interviewed (full/part)	13	72.2
Refusal	2	11.1
Non contact	3	16.7

Note: This includes imputed households and eligible households from the previous wave.

## 6 Question-specific response rates

	<b>Variable</b>	<b>Eligible</b>	<b>No Answer</b>	<b>%</b>
Ethnicity	Eth01	125188	51	0.04
Whether ever had paid job	EVERWK	40397	16	0.04
Industry	INDM92M	57838	20	0.03
Occupation	SOC2KM	6927	0	0.00
Supervisor	SUPVIS	64285	77	0.12
Management level	MANAGE	64285	64	0.10
Employees at establishment	MPNE01	64057	0	0.00
Self-employed on own or with employees	SOLO	8775	4	0.05
Full or part time work	FTPTWK	72784	35	0.05
Whether job permanent	JOBTYP	50278	31	0.06
Whether off sick in reference week	ILLWK	57822	0	0.00
Whether ever do overtime	EVEROT	57642	55	0.10
Total usual hours (never do overtime)	TOTUS1	33576	689	2.05
Usual hours (excluding overtime)	USUHR	24190	155	0.64
Total hours actually worked in reference week (no overtime)	TOTAC1	30681	527	1.72
Actual hours (excluding overtime)	ACTHR	22393	160	0.71
Whether had second job	SECJOB	57642	14	0.02
Whether looking for different or additional	DIFJOB	57650	28	0.05
Education and training in last 4 weeks - in employment	ED4WK	16019	64	0.40
Education and training in last 4 weeks- not in employment	FUTUR4	2371	4	0.17
Ask health questions or too ill to continue	HPRMB	2211	0	0.00

## 7 Forced response questions

The following questions were forced response, and the interview could not proceed without the information:

HHA	Relationship to head of household and to other household members
SEX	Sex of respondent
AGE	Age of respondent
MARSTT	Marital condition of respondent
MARCHK	Is spouse a member of the household
LIVTOG	Whether respondent living together with someone as a couple
HRPID	Person in which accommodation is owned or rented
SCHM99	Whether respondent on a government scheme in the reference week
NEWDEAL	For those respondents on New Deal, the type of option in which they were participating
TECLEC	Whether respondent was on a TEC, LEC or other scheme
WRKING	Whether respondent did any paid work in the reference week
JBAWAY	Whether respondent was away from paid working the reference week
OWNBUS	Whether respondent did any unpaid work in the reference week for a business owned by herself/himself
RELBUS	Whether respondent did any unpaid work in the reference week for a business owned by a relative
STAT	Whether respondent was working as an employee or self-employed
LOOK4	Whether respondent was looking for paid work in the previous 4 weeks
LKYT4	Whether respondent was looking for a place on a government scheme in the previous 4 weeks
METHMP	Method of looking for work
METHSE	“ “
METHAL	“ “
MAINME	Main method of looking for work
MAINMA	“ “
MAINMS	“ “
METHM	“ “

## 8 Proxy responses

### 8.1 Great Britain

		All responses	Proxy	%
<b>Age</b>	Total (16+)	98280	30363	31
	16-17	3263	2562	79
	16-19	2847	1774	63
	20+	92170	26027	29
<b>Sex</b>	Total	98280	30363	31
	Male	46602	17724	39
	Female	51678	12639	25
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Total	98280	30363	31
	White	91689	27803	31
	N-White	6551	2551	39
	Refused	40	9	21
<b>Economic activity (INECACA)</b>	Total	98280	30363	31
	Employees	50609	16383	33
	Self Emp	6930	2396	35
	Govt sch.	176	101	61
	UPFW	180	39	21
	ILO Unemp	2842	915	33
	Inactive	37543	10529	28



## 8.2 London

		<b>All responses</b>	<b>Proxy</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Age</b>	Total (16+)	10545	3224	31
	16-17	342	257	75
	18-19	329	205	62
	20+	9874	2762	28
<b>Sex</b>	Total	10545	3224	31
	Male	4910	1690	34
	Female	5635	1534	27
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Total	10545	3224	31
	White	7622	2152	28
	N-White	2917	1071	37
	Refused	6	1	17
<b>Economic activity</b>	Total	10545	3224	31
	Employees	5134	1526	30
	Self Emp	921	278	30
	Govt sch.	15	7	47
	UPFW	26	4	15
	ILO Unemp	432	131	30
	Inactive	4017	1278	32

## **9 Commentary section**

### **9.1 The sample**

- 9.1.1 The reference period covered by the first quarter of the 2003 LFS was from Monday, February 24, 2003 to Sunday, May 25, 2003. The period comprised 13 reference weeks, each ending on a Sunday and each represented proportionally in the sample. Most of the fieldwork was carried out in the following week, with a small amount of work which could not be completed then being done in the course of a further 8 days ending on a Sunday.
- 9.1.2 The LFS is designed as a 5-wave quarterly panel survey with sample rotation, in which all new sample (Wave 1) households are interviewed face-to-face. The recall waves (Waves 2-5) are by telephone, where respondents agree to its use.

### **9.2 Questionnaire development**

- 9.2.1 There were no significant changes to the core questionnaire in March to May.
- 9.2.2 The March-May 2003 questionnaire saw the inclusion of the Eurostat ad-hoc module on Life Long Learning.

### **9.3 Delivery and quality of data files**

- 9.3.1 The Client data file for the quarter for the United Kingdom was delivered on time (June 20, 2003).

### **9.4 Response rates**

Response rates in March-May 2003 were slightly up on those of December to February. The wave 1 response rate was 76.6%, an increase of 0.3 percentage points on the previous quarter; the wave 2-5 response rate was 93.4% a fall of 0.1 percentage points on the previous quarter. The wave 1 response rate for London rose 3.3 percentage points to 70%. The response rate for NHS accommodation fell 13 percentage points to 72.2%. The response rate in Northern Ireland fell from 62.6% to 57.7%. The Central Survey Unit (part of the Dept. for Finance and Personnel Northern Ireland) reported that this is due to resource problems and that these are being urgently addressed.

### **9.5 GB Income response rates**

The response rates for respondents who were eligible for the income section, which is asked only at waves 1 and 5, are:

<b>Wave</b>	<b>Response rate %</b>
Wave 1	77.2
Wave 5	88.6
Overall	82.5

## 10 Target Response Rates

The table shows the target response rates given in the Service Level Agreement and those achieved in March - May 2003:

	<b>Target %</b>	<b>Achieved %</b>
Overall Response Rate - Wave 1	84	76.6
Overall Response Rate - Waves 2-51	96	93.2
Response Rate in Greater London - Wave 1	76	67.1
Response Rate in Greater London - Waves 2-51	93	86.8
Response Rate for NHS Hospital Accommodation	84	72.2
Response Rate for Income Section2	90	88.6

Notes

- 1 Includes household where responses were imputed from previous wave
- 2 Response Rate for Income Section at Wave 5 only

## 11 Response Rates by Wave

	<b>Response Rate %</b>	<b>% of cases done face-to- face</b>	<b>% of cases done by telephone</b>
Wave 1	77	100	0
Wave 2	67	22	78
Wave 3	65	16	84
Wave 4	62	14	86
Wave 5	62	13	87

## 12 United Kingdom sample size and response rates

### 12.1 Sample size

Achieved number:

	<b>Includes imputed</b>	<b>Excludes imputed</b>
Private Households	56089	53481
Individuals in private households	130401	122410
NHS Households	13	13
Individuals in NHS households	16	16

### 12.2 Overall response rates - United Kingdom

<b>Wave 1</b>	<i>Numbers</i>			<i>Percentages</i>		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Face-to-face</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Face-to-face</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
Eligible	16059	15987	72	100.0	100.0	100.0
Interviewed	12187	12135	52	75.9	75.9	72.2
Refusal	2656	2643	13	16.5	16.5	18.1
Non contact	1216	1209	7	7.6	7.6	9.7

Interviews North of the Caledonian Canal

<b>Waves 2-5</b>	<i>Numbers</i>			<i>Percentages</i>		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Face-to-face</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Face-to-face</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
Eligible	47306	10839	36467	100.0	100.0	100.0
Interviewed	43915	8265	35650	92.8	76.3	97.8
Refusal	1905	1257	648	4.0	11.6	1.8
Non contact	1486	1317	169	3.1	12.2	0.5

Notes: Households for which a response is imputed at Waves 2-5 recall are recorded in the above tables as 'interviewed'. In March - May 2003 for the UK, 1353 of the households shown as circumstantial refusals were imputed responses; and 1255 shown as non-contacts were imputed responses.

### 12.3 Proxy responses - United Kingdom

		<b>All responses</b>	<b>Proxy</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Age</b>	Total 16+	102184	32061	31
	16-17	3438	2732	79
	18-19	3005	1904	63
	20+	95741	27425	29
<b>Sex</b>	Total	102184	32061	31
	Male	48439	18755	39
	Female	53745	13306	25
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Total	102183	32060	31
	White	95562	29483	31
	N-White	6582	2569	39
	Refused	39	8	21
<b>Economic Activity (INECACA)</b>	Total	102184	32061	31
	Employees	52493	17306	33
	Self Emp	7212	2549	35
	Govt sch.	212	130	61
	UPFW	188	40	21
	ILO Unemp	2960	971	33
	Inactive	39119	11065	28

See section 8.1 for an explanation of the lower total numbers for the Ethnicity question.

### 12.5 UK Income response rates

The UK response rates for respondents who were eligible for the income section, which is asked only at waves 1 and 5, are:

<b>Wave</b>	<b>Response Rate %</b>
Wave 1	77.4
Wave 5	87.9
Overall	82.3

### 13 United Kingdom Response Rates by Government Office Region

The United Kingdom response rates at Wave 1 for eligible households, by Government Office Region, were:

<b>GOR</b>	<b>Eligible n</b>	<b>Response Rate %</b>
Tyne & Wear	302	76.8
Rest of North East	400	81.5
Greater Manchester	658	83.1
Merseyside	349	83.7
Rest of North West	790	87.2
South Yorkshire	350	79.1
West Yorkshire	555	80.9
Rest of Yorkshire & The Humber	435	80.0
East Midlands	1129	77.6
West Midlands Metropolitan County	679	69.7
Rest of West Midlands	727	76.2
East of England	1448	77.1
Inner London	739	63.6
Outer London	1152	69.4
South East	2160	77.4
South West	1356	71.5
Wales	779	82.4
Strathclyde	618	73.0
Rest of Scotland	799	80.0
Northern Ireland	634	57.7
England	13229	76.3
Scotland	1417	76.9
Great Britain	15425	76.6
United Kingdom	16059	75.9