31 March 2011

Correction Notice

New ONS Integrated Household Survey: Experimental Statistics

April 2009 to March 2010 Statistical Bulletin

As part of the testing process for experimental statistics, user feedback prompted a review of the weighting classes and these have subsequently been revised for the Integrated Household Survey April 2009 – March 2010 Statistical Bulletin published on 23 September 2010. The data has been updated and re-weighted which has affected the estimates previously produced.

Relevant tables, figures and commentary have been amended in this Statistical Bulletin, the Measuring Sexual Identity: an evaluation report and the IHS April 2009 – March 2010 News Release, together with the tables in appendix 1 Geographic Breakdown and in appendix 2 Sampling Errors.

ONS apologises for any inconvenience caused.

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New ONS Integrated Household Survey: Experimental Statistics

September 2011

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Coverage: UK  Theme: People and Places

For the survey period April 2009 to March 2010.

The Integrated Household Survey (IHS), the largest social survey ever produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), is published today for the first time.

The survey is comprised of a core suite of questions from six current ONS household surveys and contains information from nearly 450,000 individual respondents – the biggest pool of UK social data after the census.

Headline experimental statistics from this survey include:

- 1.4 per cent of adults in the UK identified themselves as Gay/Lesbian or Bisexual
- 71 per cent of people in Great Britain stated their religion was Christianity, 8 per cent any other religion and 21 per cent No religious affiliation
- 89 per cent of people in the UK consider themselves in the White ethnic group
- across the UK, 80 per cent of men and 78 per cent of women report that they perceived themselves to be In good health

The survey covers a number of themes including education, migration, housing, employment and income. Information and statistics about these themes published by ONS can be found at www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=15381.

In its first year of publication 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 intends to publish the rolling IHS dataset quarterly and submit the survey for assessment to become a National Statistic by the UK Statistics Authority in 2012.
1. Sexual Identity

This is the first time that ONS has published data on self perceived sexual identity. A question 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 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 96 per cent of eligible responders. A more comprehensive evaluation of the implementation of the sexual identity question is available in the Measuring Sexual Identity: Evaluation Report.

The IHS data indicate that:
- 94 per cent of adults identified themselves as Heterosexual/Straight
- 1 per cent of adults identified themselves as Gay or Lesbian
- 0.5 per cent of adults identified themselves as Bisexual
- 0.5 per cent as ‘Other’
- 3 per cent of adults stated they ‘Don’t know’ or Refused the question
- fewer than 1 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.

Breaking the data down by gender showed that 94 per cent of men and nearly 95 per cent of women identified themselves as Heterosexual/Straight. There was larger proportion of men stating they were Gay, at just over 1 per cent, than women at just over 0.5 per cent.

Table 1.
Sexual Identity: by Gender, April 2009 to March 2010
United Kingdom

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>All adults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heterosexual / Straight</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>94.5</td>
<td>94.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay / Lesbian</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bisexual</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know / Refusal</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No response</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 The total number of eligible responders to the question was 247,623 of which 238,206 provided a valid response. The question was asked to respondents aged 16 and over and was not asked by proxy.
2 ONS defines no response as no data provided to the question by an eligible responder.

Source: Office for National Statistics

1 www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=15381
At the level of Government Office Region (GOR) of England and the constituent countries of the UK, (see figure 1) IHS data shows that in April 2009 to March 2010:

- just over 2 per cent of adults who live in London said they were gay/lesbian or bisexual
- less than 1 per cent of adults in Northern Ireland identified themselves as gay/lesbian or bisexual

Figure 1

Proportion of Gay/Lesbian or Bisexual adults: by Government Office Region (GOR) of England and Countries of the United Kingdom, April 2009 to March 2010

Percentages

1 The total number of eligible responders to the question was 247,623 of which 238,206 provided a valid response. The question was asked to respondents aged 16 and over and was not asked by proxy.
2 The Gay / Lesbian and Bisexual categories have been combined for this analysis.
3 The whisker bars represent the confidence intervals for each estimate (See annex 3 for more details)

Source: Office for National Statistics
2. Religion

The IHS data show that in April 2009 to March 2010:

- 71 per cent of people in Great Britain stated their religion was Christianity
- 4 per cent stated their religion was Muslim
- 21 per cent stated they had No religious affiliation

Table 2
Religion: by country, April 2009 to March 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>England</th>
<th>Wales</th>
<th>Scotland</th>
<th>Great Britain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>71.4</td>
<td>68.9</td>
<td>72.3</td>
<td>71.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buddhist</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindu</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muslim</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikh</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other religion</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No religion</td>
<td>19.7</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>24.6</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 442,266.
4 A respondent’s religious affiliation is not asked in Northern Ireland therefore estimates are for Great Britain only rather than UK.

Source: Office for National Statistics

Data at the Unitary Authority or County level show that in April 2009 to March 2010:

- Slough had the highest level of religious affiliation in England, at 92 per cent whilst Brighton and Hove had the lowest at 61 per cent
- Inverclyde had the highest level of religious affiliation in Scotland at 92 per cent whilst Midlothian had the lowest at 64 per cent
- Flintshire had the highest level of religious affiliation in Wales at 80 per cent whilst Blaenau Gwent shared the lowest at 66 per cent

Estimates for all Unitary Authorities or Counties from the IHS are available in Appendix 1.
3. Ethnicity

The IHS data show that in April 2009 to March 2010:

- 89 per cent of people in the UK considered themselves in the White ethnic group
- about 5 per cent consider themselves Asian or Asian British
- about 3 per cent consider themselves Black or Black British
- just over 3 per cent identified themselves in another ethnic group

The data show that the most ethnically diverse Government Office Region in the UK was London, with:

- 64 per cent identifying themselves in the White ethnic group
- 15 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
- 10 per cent identified themselves in another ethnic group (Mixed, Chinese or Other Ethnic Group)

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

Table 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnic group:1,2,3</th>
<th>Government Office Region (GOR) of England and other Constituent Countries of the UK, April 2009 to March 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Percentages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>95.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>90.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yorkshire and The Humber</td>
<td>90.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>90.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>84.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East of England</td>
<td>91.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>64.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>92.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West</td>
<td>96.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>96.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>96.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>98.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>88.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 The total number of eligible responders to the question was 449,330.
2 The six category aggregated ethnicity variable is reported in the table. More detailed breakdowns are available.
3 The National Statistics source for Ethnicity is the Annual Population Survey and 2001 Census of Population.

Source: Office for National Statistics
Data at the Unitary Authority or County level showed that in April 2009 to March 2010:

- Slough was the most ethnically diverse in England with 51 per cent reporting in an ethnic group other than White
- Cardiff was the most ethnically diverse in Wales with 14 per cent in an ethnic group other than White
- Glasgow City was the most diverse in Scotland with ten per cent in an ethnic group other than White

Further analysis at the Unitary Authority / County level is provided in Appendix 1.

4. 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 2009 to March 2010:

- 80 per cent of men, and
- 78 per cent of women perceive themselves to be in good health
- of the constituent countries, Wales reported the lowest rate of perceived good health at 75 per cent

Figure 2
Perceived General Health: by Constituent Country and Gender, April 2009 to March 2010

United Kingdom Percentages

1. The total number of eligible responders to the question was 295,154. The question was asked to respondents aged 16 and over. The question was not asked on the APS from April to June 2009.
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'.
Source: Office for National Statistics
Data at the Unitary Authority or County level showed that:

- Bracknell Forest had the highest level of perceived good health in England at 86 per cent whilst Middlesbrough had the lowest at 71 per cent.
- East Dunbartonshire had the highest level of perceived good health in Scotland at 84 per cent whilst Inverclyde had the lowest at 72 per cent.
- Cardiff had the highest level of perceived good health in Wales at 80 per cent whilst Blaenau Gwent had the lowest at 65 per cent.

More data about perceived general health in Great Britain from this survey is available at the Unitary Authority or County level in Appendix 1. However, data at Unitary Authority level is not available for Northern Ireland. The source for the National Statistic on Health in Northern Ireland is the Continuous Household Survey Northern Ireland. The source for the National Statistic on perceived general health in Great Britain is the General Lifestyle Survey.
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Opinion Survey</th>
<th>English Housing Survey</th>
<th>Life Opportunities Survey</th>
<th>General Lifestyle Survey</th>
<th>Living Costs and Food Survey</th>
<th>Annual Population Survey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 2009</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>May 2009</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2009</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 2009</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 2009</td>
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<td>Nov 2009</td>
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<td>Dec 2009</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Opinions survey (OPN) did not contribute to the IHS core from January 2010. 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 at: www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=15381

2. Notes on the themes

2.1 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 at the following link: www.ons.gov.uk/about-statistics/measuring-equality/equality/sexual-identity-project/index.html

2.2 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 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.

2.3 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.

3. 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) through the following link:
www.esds.ac.uk/aandp/access/access.asp

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 in the following link:
www.ons.gov.uk/about/who-we-are/our-services/unpublished-data/access-to-ons-data-service/how-to-become-an-approved-researcher--word-version-.doc

4. 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 website at:
www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=173

5. Quality

Detailed Information on sampling variability can be found in Appendix 2, which provides sampling errors and confidence intervals for the estimates described in the Bulletin. This can be found at:
6. Publication Policy

Details of the policy governing the release of new data are available from the Media Relations Office.

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Website  www.ons.gov.uk