

Original survey information , United Kingdom 2004

Generic information	
Name of survey	Family Resources Survey (FRS)
Institution responsible	Commissioned by Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), carried out by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the National Centre for Social Research
Main objective	The survey collects information on household characteristics; income and receipt of Social Security benefits; tenure and housing costs; assets and savings; carers and those needing care; and employment.
Survey structure	cross-sectional, with rotating modules (block of questions)
Frequency	yearly
Survey year / Wave	2004-2005 survey
Coverage	Private households in United Kingdom (incl. area to the North of the Caledonian Canal and all of the Scottish Highlands and Islands, as well as Northern Ireland).
Sampling	
Sampling design	Stratified two-phase sample: first, postcode sectors (PSU), stratified according to region, socio-economic group, economic activity rate and male unemployment rate, are selected (one half of the PSUs are retained from one sample year to the other to ensure comparability); then, addresses selected from each sector
Sampling frame	Royal Mail's small users Postcode Address File (PAF)
Final sample size	28,041 households containing 65,232 individuals who completed the interview
Collection	
Collection period	Between 28th March 2004 and 17th May 2005
Instruments and main contents	Household Questionnaire: household schedule for household level information. Benefit Unit questionnaire: individual schedule (for each adult) about employment, benefits, pensions, investments and other income. Assets Questionnaire: value of investments for relevant respondents. All answer collected by means of CAPI. Separate questionnaires exist for Northern Ireland. Eligibility : everybody for the majority of the main demographics, those 16 or more for labour market, and those 16 till 74 (or 4 till 74) for education.
Definitions	
Household	All individuals registered at the same address.
Household head	Main income earner
Data quality aspects	
Unit response rate	-
Item non-response / imputation	Total imputation (closing down routes, hotdecking, algorithms, mopping-up) for variables, which are components of key derived variables, such as total household income and housing costs, and areas key to the work of the Department, such as benefit receipt
Weighting	Grossing factor that yields estimates for the overall population (with controls for variables at both household level and benefit unit level)
Labour market information	
Source	Interview data
Reference period	the last 12 months for most questions, whereas at present (last week or last four weeks) for pclfs, pcmas and psearch.
Definition of employment	Any work or any attachment to a job during the last week
Treatment of military personnel	excluded
Income	
Source	Interview data
Reference period	Different reference periods: for most regular incomes it is the period covering the last payment received, for less regular ones it is either the last 6 or the last 12 months .
Unit of collection	Different levels : income can be recorded per pension, job, type of benefit, account, etc. Individual for most other income sources. Household mostly for items relating to the dwelling (rent, Council Tax, etc).
Unit of time	Any period between one week and last 12 months. All amounts are weeklized by the data provider. Lump sums are separately marked.
Restrictions	none
Gross/net	Amounts are collected gross of taxes and contributions together with detailed info on taxes and contributions