

Original survey information, *United Kingdom 1999*

Generic information	
Name of survey	Family Resources Survey (FRS)
Responsible institution	Commissioned by Department for Social Security (DSS), carried out by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and the National Centre for Social Research (formerly SCPR).
Main objective	Modeling Social Security benefit entitlement is central to many of the DSS uses of FRS information and the data collected reflects this; focusing on income, including receipt of Social Security benefits, housing costs and circumstances of household members such as whether someone gives or receives care or has child care costs.
Structure of data source	Cross-sectional, with rotating modules.
Frequency	Annual.
Survey year / Wave	1999-2000 survey
Coverage	Private households in Great Britain (excl. area to the North of the Caledonian Canal and all of the Scottish Highlands and Islands, i.e. 0.25% of delivery points in Great Britain).
Sampling	
Sampling procedure	Stratified two-phase clustered probability 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).
Sample size	24,988 households.
Collection	
Collection period	Continuous survey organised on a quarterly basis and ran over the fiscal year (April 1999-March 2000)
Collection mode	Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI)
Description of instruments	(1) <i>Household Questionnaire</i> : household schedule for household level information; (2) <i>Benefit Unit questionnaire</i> : individual schedule (for each adult) about employment, benefits, pensions, investments and other income; (3) <i>Assets Questionnaire</i> : value of investments for relevant respondents.
Definitions	
Household	A single person or group of people living at the same address who either share one meal a day or share the living accommodation. A household will consist of one or more benefit units, which in turn consists of a number of individuals (adults and children). "Benefit unit" is a standard DSS term, which relates to the tighter family definition of "a single adult or couple living as married and any dependent children". A dependent child is aged under 16 or under 19 if still in full time non-advanced education. It should be noted that "benefit unit" is used throughout the publication as a description of groups of individuals regardless of whether they are in receipt of any Social Security benefits.
Household head	In a household containing only husband, wife and children under 16 (and boarders) the husband is always the head of household. Similarly, when a couple have been recorded as living together/cohabiting the male partner is treated as the head of household. In all situations where there are other relatives in the household or where some or all of the household are unrelated, except that a husband always takes precedence, the person in whose name the accommodation is owned or rented is taken as the head. When the accommodation is supplied with a job or provided rent free for some other reason, the person to whom the accommodation is given in this way becomes the head. Occasionally more than one person will have equal claim to be the head, in these cases, where they are of the same sex, the oldest is the head; where they are of different sexes, the male is the head.
Data quality aspects	
Non-response error	Of the effective sample, 66% households fully co-operated, 1% only partially co-operated, 29% refused to proceed with the interview, and the interviewer was unable to make contact with 4% of households. This brings total non-response rate to 34%.
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	
Eligibility	Individuals aged 16 and older.
Employment	Any work or any attachment to a job during the last week.
Income	
Reference period	Different reference periods: for most regular incomes it is the period covering the last payment received; for less regular ones, including the self-employed, it is the last 12 months.
Unit of time	(see above reference period)
Unit of collection	Individual for most income sources (household for those items strictly relating to the dwelling, such as rent, Council Tax, charges, income from subletting)
Taxes and contributions	Amounts are collected gross of taxes and contributions together with detailed info on taxes and contributions.
Restrictions	-
Additional remarks	
Additional remarks	-

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