

# Make sense of the documentation

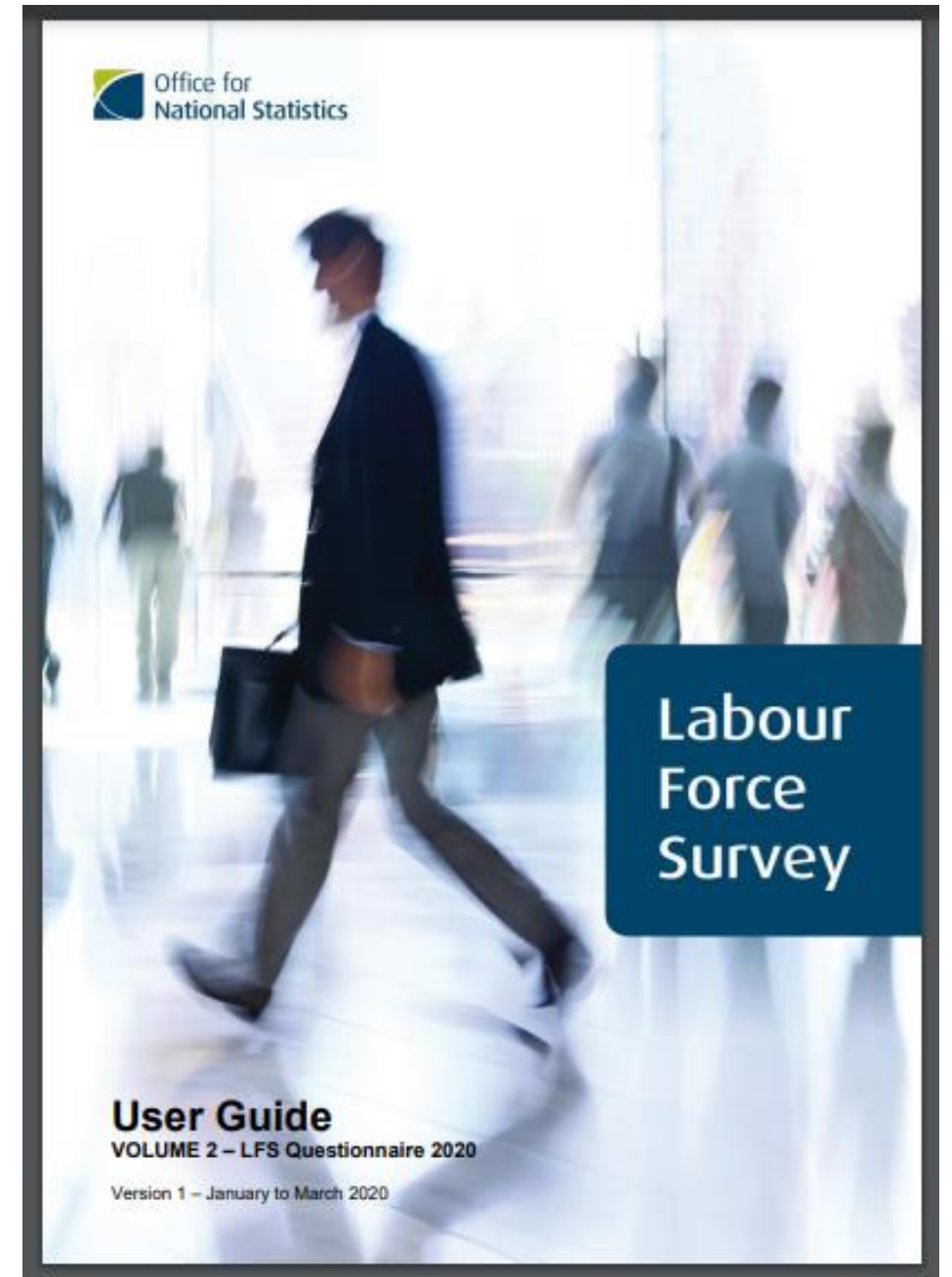
Jen Buckley  
UK Data Service, User Support and Training

Introduction to the Labour Force Survey and Annual Population  
Survey

20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

# What?

- 11 Volume User Guide!
- Plus
  - Additional data reports
  - Data dictionary



# What for?

- Study design, weights and different datasets
  - (Information from previous session)
- Understanding variables
  - What's asked when (waves and quarters)
  - What's changed over time
  - Derived variables
  - Which variables are in which datasets

# Where is the documentation?

- Catalogue records
- ONS website (google LFS user guide)
- In data downloads

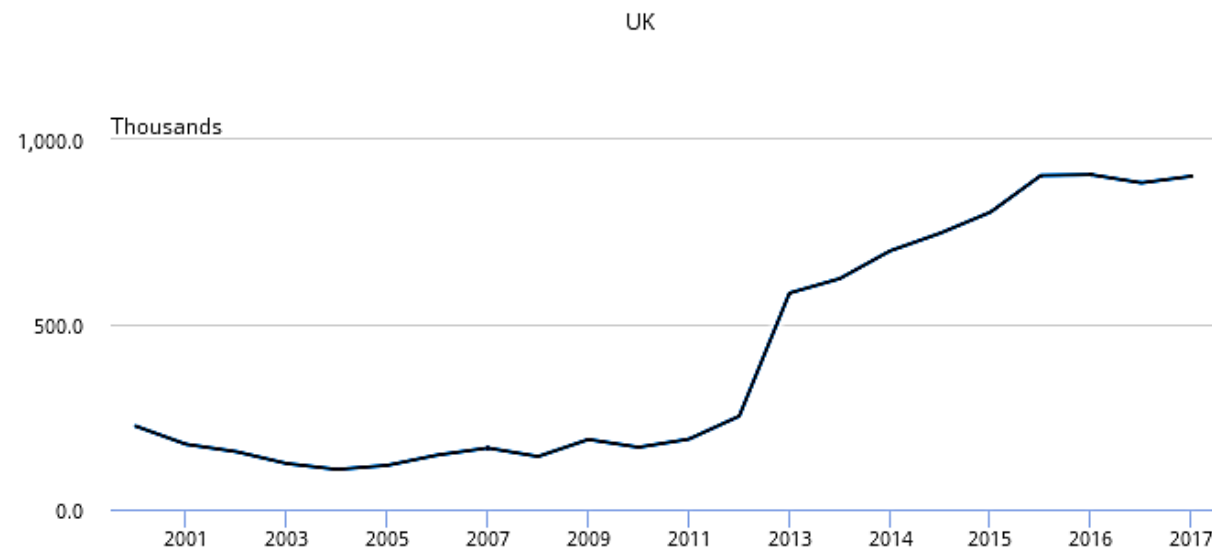
# Documentation relating to variables

- LFS User Guide Vol. 2 - Questionnaire 2020
- LFS User Guide Vol. 3 - Details of LFS Variables 2020
- LFS User Guide Vol. 4 - Standard Derived Variables 2016
- UK Data Archive Data Dictionaries
- [Let's look](#)

# Practical exercise

- Zero-hour contracts
  - Use the documentation to review variables and options for analysis
- See handout

Figure 1: Number (thousands) of people in employment reporting they are on a zero-hours contract, October to December 2000 to October to December 2017



Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS) - Office for National Statistics

# Explore the data

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# What? Recreate ONS estimates

- Practical 1: Estimates of temporary employment
  - [EMP07 Temporary Employees](#)
  - Quarterly Labour Force Survey, October - December, 2020
- Practical 2: The distribution of weekly earnings of full-time employees
  - [EARN04: Gross weekly earnings of full-time employees](#)
  - Quarterly Labour Force Survey, October - December, 2020
- Practical 3: Examining Labour Market Flows.
  - [Labour market flows NSA: sheet in dataset X02](#)
  - Two-Quarter Longitudinal Dataset, July - December, 2020



# Get started: open syntax file

- Zip file: LFS\_workshop
  - sent in advance
  - on miro board
- Extract contents
- Open file for first exercise
  - LFS\_workshop\Explore\_LFS\SPS  
S\_syntax
- Where is your data saved?
  - 'LFS\_workshop' folder

