Introduction to the Labour Force Survey and Annual Population Survey

Online workshop (MS Teams)

9.45-14.30 26 January 2022

# Preparation

# Supporting in session data access

Use Access Agreement for Teaching

* Information for R users regarding packages to install
* SPSS – users – consider alternative syntax to avoid Custom Tables
* Practice breakout rooms in teams again??
* Prepare – pre-course information – Send by 17th January
  + Information about getting registered/data access
  + Information about software requirements
    - SPSS custom tables or are we doing an alternative
    - R packages
    - Update Stata
  + Log-in for the day

## Miroboard

* Area for name badges
* Area for programme and links to resources
* Area for questions

# Information for participants

We will send information to participants in advanced of the workshop around the 17 Jan.

# Access to data

We ask participants to access the data for the workshop before they join. We will also offer an alternative way to get the data for anyone who is not able to do access the data in advance. We will ask them to complete a form where they agree the conditions. As part of this form we will collect their emails. We then need to email a message to all those who complete it.

Hello,

Thank you for completing the access agreement for teaching. You can download the data that you need from the following link. If using SPSS or R, download the SPSS files and download the Stata files if using Stata.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/4w04h3gkjklzwgc/AACOaeYBuEuECHcpeUQVhOr8a?dl=0>

# Abstract

Would you like to know more about using the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and Annual Population survey (APS) in research?

This free online workshop will give background information needed to work with LFS and APS data confidently. The workshop will be led by experts from the Office for National Statistics and the UK Data Service. It will include presentations and practical sessions along with opportunities to ask questions and meet other LFS and APS users. Topics will include the survey design, methodological considerations when using the data, how to navigate the documentation and the contents and structure of available datasets.

By the end of the session, attendees will

* understand the survey design including sampling and methods of data collection (before and through the COVID-19 pandemic)
* have an overview of the strengths and weaknesses of the LFS and APS as a source of data
* understand the different types of LFS/APS datasets available
* be able to navigate and use the LFS documentation
* know about using the weighting variables for different types of analyses
* be familiar with the structure and contents of the datasets

*This online workshop includes a practical data analysis session designed to give you familiarity with features of the data. To participate, you will need to have access to a computer with relevant software installed. We will lead the session in SPSS but equivalent materials will be provided in Stata and R.*

# Programme

**9.45 Welcome and introduction**

**10.00-10.30**  **Survey history and design, ONS (30min)**

*ONS session on survey background, current survey designs, adaptations due to*  *COVID and the future of the LFS and APS*

**10.30-11.00**  **Methodological considerations when using the LFS and APS (30min)**

*ONS session covering strengths and weaknesses of the LFS/APS as a source of data,*  *which datasets to use when, issues around linking and merging files and weighting.*

**11.00-11.15 Comfort break**

**11.15-11.45 LFS data via the UK Data Service including the secure lab, UK Data Service (30min)**

What files are available, how to access, locating relevant information and how to access and use the secure lab.

**11.45-12.15 Make sense of the LFS and APS the documentation (30min)**

*Overview, demonstration, and exercise on LFS and APS documentation*

**12.15-1.00 Break for lunch (45 min)**

**1.00-1.45 Explore the data 1 including comfort break**

**1.45-2.20 Explore the data 2 (70 min + 5 min comfort break)**

**2.20- 2.30 Final questions and Close**

# Session descriptions and times

Introduction Survey history and design

Methodological considerations when using the LFS and APS

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| **Introduction to session/housekeeping – led by UKDS**   * Introductions * Plan for the day * Miro: Who you are? What are you interested in using the LFS/APS for? Something you’d like to know more about? * Check about data |
| **Survey history and design (ONS presentation 1)**   * background/history * current survey design: sample design, data collection, questionnaire contents, use of imputation * overview of outputs * How the LFS has adapted during COVID * The future of the LFS |
| **Methodological considerations when using the LFS and APS (ONS presentation 2)** Strengths and weaknesses of the LFS/APS as a source of data (cover contents, sample (including attrition))   * Which datasets to use when * Weights * Can files be linked/merged – e.g. pooling repeated cross * Which variables go in which datasets (and why?) |
| **LFS data via the UK Data Service including introduction to the secure lab (UK Data Service presentation)**   * *Cover files available: quarterly, longitudinal, household, secure (include details about access), How to access and locating relevant information and helpdesk* * *Information on secure access including the how secure lab works* |
| **Make sense of the LFS and APS documentation**  Overview, demonstration, and exercise on LFS and APS documentation |
| **Explore the data: practical analysis activities – UKDS** |
| **Wrap up – what next? Questions** |

# Plan for the day

* Log-in around 9.30
* Record ONS sessions

# Introduction – Jen and Alle

@ 9.45 Welcome and introduction using micro board

* + Who is everyone – Get Alle to do example?
  + Go through data access
  + Workshop software form

# ONS presentations and questions

@10.00

Jen and Alle – field questions to ONS

Sorcha – can you email data link to anyone who needs it

@UKDS presentations and practical

# Labour Force Survey workshop practical session (data)

## Session 1

### Introduction and demonstration (10min)

* Introduce session. Explain general aims and format.
* Inspect the data in SPSS
* Inspect the code files
* Show review questions
* Will open breakout rooms for 20 min

### Activity Time in breakout rooms

### Break

## Session 2

* After break recap, some elements from session 1.
* Introduce additional activity with the longitudinal final/give participant choice to start new or continue with Quarterly File.