

Understanding Society & BHPS

Content and Access

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Questionnaires

- Household
- Individual (CAPI – computer aided personal interview) (includes some proxy respondents)
- Adult self-complete (& shows variable names)
- Youth self-complete

<https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/documentation/mainstage/questionnaires>

Content

- Number of modules
- Annual (about 50%), others mostly every 2 or 3 years or at entry.

See:

Understanding Society Long term questionnaire content plan

<https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/documentation/mainstage/long-term-content-plan>

Adult Questionnaire

Theme	Module name	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	W10
HH Composition	Household Grid	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Household Questionnaire			x							
Housing Characteristics	HH: Structural Characteristics	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Housing Characteristics	HH: Home Tenure	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Expenditure	HH: Fuel Type & Expenditure	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Housing Characteristics	HH: Taxation	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Financial behaviour & attitudes	HH: Financial Strain	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Consumption	HH: Consumer Durables	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Consumption	HH: Expenditure	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Environment related behaviour	HH: Environmental Behaviour	x			x			x			x
Local Neighbourhood	HH: Neighbourhood Conditions			x			x			x	
Financial behaviour & attitudes	HH: Material Deprivation	x	x		x		x		x		x
Financial behaviour & attitudes	HH: Child Deprivation	x	x		x		x		x		x
Financial behaviour & attitudes	HH: Pensioner Deprivation				x		x		x		x
Wealth & debts	HH: assets				x				x		
Individual Interview, repeated annually											
Basic Demographics	Demographics	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Expectations	Educational Aspirations		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Young adults	Future plans		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Health Status	Self-assessed health status	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Health Status	Disability		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Caring	Caring	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Change in Characteristics	Annual Events History		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Employment	Current employment	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Employment	Employees	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Employment	Self employment	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Employment	Job satisfaction	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Adult self-completion

	Wave 1	Wave 2	Wave 3
GHQ-12	X	X	X
Sleep	X		
Environmental attitudes and beliefs	X		
Neighbourhood belonging	X		X
Trust	X		
Life satisfaction	X	X	X
S-WEMWBS	X		
Relationship: quality and happiness	X		X
SF-12	X	X	X
Alcohol consumption		X	
Big 5 personality			X
Feelings of control		X	

Datafiles (19 in total)

Datafile	Content
hhresp	Household data from respondent households
indresp	Individual interview, self completion interview, observations, timings, proxy
egoalt	Kin and other relationships between pairs of individuals
youth	Youth self completion questionnaire data
income	Income and payment information
hhsamp	Sample and Household level data for issued households
marriage	Information about previous marriages

File naming conventions

- a_indresp, b_indresp, c_indresp waves 1, 2,3 for individual data
- BHPS is aindresp (wave 18 is r)

Variable naming

- a_variable name (wave 1)
- BHPS no underscore
- Derived variables
 - Copied from one file to another, or computed from >1 variable
 - e.g. age group, bmi) end in dv
- Imputed variables end in if

Identifiers

- w_hidp (household identified, wave specific)
- pidp (individual identifier, constant)

Health & Biomedical data

- Questionnaire collects range self-reported health measures
- Anthropometric measures and whole blood collection at waves 2 and 3 (2010 to 2012)
- Collection by trained nurses in respondent's homes
- Cognitive measures and personality traits collected from all respondents at wave 3 (memory recall, processing, numeracy)
- Diagnoses: disease status, medical or diagnostic results –via record linkage (NHS, pensions, education..)

Biomarker collection

The Wave 2 Nurse Health Assessment, 2010-2011

- Adult participants from the General Population component in England, Scotland or Wales who completed a full Wave 2 interview.
- 15,591 nurse health assessments
- 10,175 blood samples

The Wave 3 Nurse Health Assessment, 2011-2012

- BHPS
- 5,053 assessments
- 3,342 blood samples

Data derived from the blood samples will be released at a later date.

Protocols for collection:

<http://data.understandingsociety.org.uk/files/data/documentation/wave2/Nurse-Protocols.pdf>

Description of measures

Measure	Application
Height and weight Waist circumference Percent body-fat	BMI and assessment of excess body fat: obesity and risk factor for range of major chronic conditions and social outcomes
Lung function	To detect both obstructive and restrictive respiratory diseases including COPD.
Diastolic and systolic blood pressure Resting pulse rate	Risk factor for stroke and heart conditions Risk cardio-vascular disease
Grip strength	Indicator muscle strength. Functional limitations and disability in older ages.
Blood samples (non-fasting)	Markers associated with health conditions. DNA extraction

Getting the data

- Wave 1, 2 & 3 (2009-2012) data are available
- Nurse visit data available (waves 2-3)
- Special access (e.g. geographical data, school codes), and secure access (finer geographic data, date of birth)
- Analyses and GWAS data available soon

- See UK Data Service website:
 - <http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/>
- How to access MCS video by John Holmes
 - https://www.shef.ac.uk/polopoly_fs/1.349153!/file/How_to_access_the_MCS.swf
- For documentation see <https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/documentation>

Example 1: USoc as a control group

- As control group for observation study on families with a child with ADHD (Wave 1 data)
 - Look at parents/carers
 - Match to observational group (CEM, coarsened exact matching)
 - Use employment status of individual and couple
 - Able to link to children in the household (and SDQ scores of 10-15 year olds)
 - Can link parents education attainment to child

Example 2:

BHPS to explore impact of caring

- Waves 4-18
- Use personal and household characteristics 2 years prior to starting a caring role to help control for selection effects into caring.

Where next?

- Free 2 day training course on stata 11-12 June 2014
 - <https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/events/2014/06/11/introduction-to-understanding-society-using-stata-june-2014>
- Podcasts e.g. Stephaine McFall on health, cognitive, personality and biomarkers
 - <https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/podcasts/2014/03>