

Data Management and Analysis Group

The London Household Survey

Guide to accessing the LHS at the ESRC Data Archive



DMAG Briefing 2005/14

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The London Household Survey Guide to accessing the LHS at the ESRC Data Archive

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Background to the London Household Survey

The London Household Survey provides reliable information at London-wide, sub-regional and GLA constituency level on key housing, household characteristics and income data. Uses include:

- Providing vital baseline information for a number of the Mayor's strategies and policy priorities – spatial planning, transport, economic development, health, diversity and social inclusion
- Underpin the development of housing and planning policies and their implementation
- Support the case for resources for London
- Provide a comparative framework for local borough surveys and studies
- Highlight the needs of particular household groups
- Supplement information from the 2001 Census, especially household incomes

The survey achieved 8,158 interviews with the Household Reference Person or Partner. The survey fieldwork was undertaken by TN Sofres during February-September 2002.

Topics

- Standard housing needs questions such as tenure, housing costs and affordability, preferences/aspirations, extent of sharing and potential households, aspects of unsatisfactory housing.
- Specific issues such as vehicle ownership and parking, energy efficiency, household formation, social exclusion/poverty, disability, income, employment, age, ethnicity, etc.

Wherever possible, questions are harmonised with government surveys and the 2001 Census. For a full list of question topics see the Appendix.

The survey seeks broad compatibility with the range of borough-level housing needs and affordability studies, in order to allow subsequent analysis and comparison of borough results with regional or sub-regional data.

The survey fieldwork was undertaken during February–September 2002. The survey results were validated against the 2001 Census results rolled forward to mid-2002 and any necessary weighting/grossing revisions were applied.

The Datasets

The LHS comprises a mixture of household-level data (for example, the respondent's views on the local area) and individual-level data (for example, the age, sex and ethnicity of each individual in the household). All the individuals in the Household File are also in the Person File.

- The Household File – containing household-level data plus some key individual data usually for respondent or partner only (such as incomes). The File contains 773 variables and 8,158 cases
- The Person File – containing all the household data and all the individual data. The File contains 20,910 cases and 685 variables – fewer than the household file, as some variables are just household specific.

Weighting

A number of weights are included in each dataset. For both files the weight titled “main weight plus grossing”, corrects the sampling and response errors in the datasets and grosses the data to the GLA population as recorded in the 2001 Census, but rolled forward to mid-2002.

A detailed user guide is provided for download at the Data Archive. The guide covers (amongst other things): sampling, fieldwork, response rates, data coding and weighting.

Ordering Data

How to Register

Access to LHS data is via registration with the Economic and Social Data Service (ESDS) – it is a simple online one-time process:

1. Go the ESDS website (<http://www.esds.ac.uk/>) and click on the [Login/register](#) link:
 - either enter your personal Athens id
 - or use the 'Alternative login procedures and help with logging in' link - if your institution is listed on the [AthensDA](#) web page, you can use your local network login details (the GLA does not have one). If you don't have an existing UKDA account, please proceed to the [Athens registration form](#) (http://www.esds.ac.uk/aandp/access/online_form.asp).
2. Complete the online registration form and agree to an End User Licence outlining the terms and conditions of use of the data.
3. Wait for a confirmation email. If prompted, visit the web page indicated to complete registration.

For more information about Athens and obtaining an Athens id, see [Athens help](#) (<http://www.esds.ac.uk/aandp/access/athensh.asp>) on the ESDS web site.

Download/Order

1. Go straight to the LHS page by clicking on the following link:
<http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/findingData/snDescription.asp?sn=5149&key=&flag=%20true>
and then click on the 'Download/Order' link.
2. Or search via [Search catalogue](#) and [Major studies](#). Do a search by study number: for the LHS the number is **SN5149**.
3. Select a registered use of data or register a new use of data. This includes a brief description of intended use of data and is required by the Archive's funders. Each usage is set to expire two years from the registration date and can be extended upon request.
4. Download, request for download, or request data by other media (e.g. CD)
or
Go to *Usage details* in your UKDA account (use the Login link on every web page), select the usage to work on and click on *Datasets for this usage*. From there, add the study number of the dataset you require (i.e. SN5149).

Charges (as at April 2005)

All users requiring data for non-commercial purposes can download data free of charge. Where data is required for commercial purposes there is a per study number fee of £500.

For all CD orders there is a flat media fee of £7.50, a per study number handling fee of £2.50 and a flat rate postage and packing fee (£3 in the UK, £4 rest of EU, £5 rest of world). All packages are sent first class via Royal Mail.

User Support

For further information relating to finding, accessing (including costs) or using data please contact the Data Archive Help Desk:

Email: help@esds.ac.uk

Tel: 01206 872143

All other queries regarding the LHS should be directed to:
Lovedeep Vaid (Data Management and Analysis Group, GLA)

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Appendix. Summary List of Question Topics

Note that not everyone was asked all the questions (eg renters will not be asked owners' questions)

Section A – Household structure

Whether own or rent

Age, sex, relationship to respondent, of every person in household

Date respondent moved in

If moved within last two years, where moved from (borough, South-East, east, rest of UK, outside UK)

Age and sex of anyone leaving in previous 12 months

Section B – Accommodation etc

Tenure, number of bedrooms, borough/LA of previous residence

Reasons for moving here (all, and single most important)

Type of accommodation (structure eg terraced, and purpose eg nursing home)

Entry level (front door)

Number of floors in building

Date property built

Council Tax band

Whether tied accommodation

Type of landlord

Who rent is paid to (type of organisation eg employer)

Satisfaction with accommodation

Numbers and types of rooms, and whether any shared with other households; if so, how many households

Satisfaction with sharing

Satisfaction with number of rooms

Type of room heating

Main fuel used for heating

Type of hot water supply

Whether can afford to heat home

Energy measures (double glazing, roof insulation etc)

Use of garden (exclusive; shared; if none, whether this is a problem)

Car and van use; where parked overnight

Use of bikes, prams, etc

Section C – Moving intentions

Whether anyone in household is on a housing list

Does anyone in household need to, and/or likely to, move within next five years; if so, who

Number of homes needed; when; and number of bedrooms needed

Household formation in new homes (including whether anyone not currently in household)

Destination (borough, South-East, east, rest of UK, outside UK) – both for 'like and expect'

Reasons for moving out (all, and single most important)

Preferred tenure if moving, and expected tenure

Preferred type of housing, and expected type; whether any types not acceptable (eg shared housing)

Views on sharing with other households

Section D – Housing costs (owners)

Whether freehold or leasehold; if latter, number of years on lease
Mortgage costs, and ease of paying
Outstanding value of property after mortgage

Section E – Housing costs (renters)

Type of tenancy
Rental costs and amount of any HB contribution
Whether HB claim outstanding
Whether rent holiday
Items included in rent (heating, lighting, etc)
Whether would consider moving to rented accommodation outside London

Section F – Second homes

Whether have second home, and county
Reason for having second home

Section G – Health

Overall state of health
Nature of any disability, and to whom it applies
How best could accommodation or services best be adapted to meet needs

Section H – Neighbourhood

Satisfaction with neighbourhood
Views on local quality of life (crime, graffiti, pollution, etc)
Views on different sources of noise (road traffic, aircraft, etc)
Whether area got better or worse in last two years
Satisfaction with local facilities (parks, schools, transport, etc)
Whether experienced any harassment in last 12 months; if so, reasons
Attitude to, and experience of, crime

Section J (no Section I) – Poverty and wealth

Overall view on whether income adequate
Access to essential household items (clothing, food, etc); if not, whether it is a problem
Degree of Internet access
Access to essential children's items (toys, food, etc); if not, whether it is a problem
Use of daytime childcare; if so, cost, who looks after them, number of hours/days per week

Section K – Alcohol consumption and effect

Amount, frequency, and (if been drunk) effect of drink

Section L – Employment etc

Highest qualifications (of all in household)
Ethnic group of all
Country of origin of all
When moved to UK, of all
Working status of all
Mode of travel to work, of all
Where park vehicle at work, of respondent and partner
Place of work of respondent and partner

Type of occupation of respondent and partner
If not working, whether would like to work full or part time; reasons for not doing so

Section M – Income etc

Sources of income
Household income (in bands)
Personal incomes of respondent and partner (in bands)
Sources of benefits
Savings of respondent and partner (in bands)
Willingness to be re-contacted for further views etc

Regular Briefings from the GLA Data Management and Analysis Group

Latest DMAG Briefings:

DMAG 2005/1	County of Birth and Labour Market Outcomes	Lorna Spence
DMAG 2005/2	2001 Census: London Country of Birth Profiles	Giorgio Finella
DMAG 2005/3	2001 Census: Economic Activity in London	Giorgio Finella
DMAG 2005/4	2001 Census: Pakistanis in London	Gareth Piggott
DMAG 2005/5	Indices of Deprivation 2004: Ward analysis	Lovedeep Vaid
DMAG 2005/6	London – The World in a City	Marian Mackintosh
DMAG 2005/7	Claimant Count Model: Technical Note	Lorna Spence/ Georgia Hay
DMAG 2005/8	London Pupil Dataset	David Ewens
DMAG 2005/9	Borough Fertility Rates 2000-02	John Hollis/ Georgia Hay
DMAG 2005/10	Borough Life Tables 2000-02	John Hollis/ Georgia Hay
DMAG 2005/11	Demography Team Workplan 2005-06	John Hollis
DMAG 2005/12	Ethnic Diversity Indices	Baljit Bains
DMAG 2005/13	London Borough and Sub-Regional Demographic Profiles (2003)	Georgia Hay

Recent DMAG Briefings:

DMAG 2004/1	2003 Round Ward Population Projections	Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/2	London's Workers Part 1: 2001 Census results	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2004/3	Borough Demographic Profiles	Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/4	DMAG Annual Review 2003	Jackie Maguire/ Rob Lewis
DMAG 2004/5	2003 Round Demographic Projections	John Hollis
DMAG 2004/6	Londoners' Qualifications: Analysis of 2001 Census data	Gareth Piggott
DMAG 2004/7	The Parliamentary General Election, 2001	Michael Minors/ Dennis Grenham/ Jackie Maguire
DMAG 2004/8	Constituency Demographic Profiles	Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/9	Measuring Unemployment	Lorna Spence
DMAG 2004/10	Measures of Income	Rachel Leeser/ Lorna Spence
DMAG 2004/11	2001 Census Profiles: The Irish in London	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2004/12	Health in London Age-standardised Rates	Gareth Piggott
DMAG 2004/13	Data Sources on Refugees and Asylum Seekers	Ed Klodawski
DMAG 2004/14	Census Information Note 2004-1	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2004/15	2001 Census: Local Authority Population Studies	John Hollis
DMAG 2004/16	2001 Census Profiles: Bangladeshis in London	Gareth Piggott
DMAG 2004/17	London Plan Sub-Regional Demographic Profiles	Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/18	Indices of Deprivation 2004	Rachel Leeser
DMAG 2004/19	2001 Census Profiles: Muslims in London	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2004/20	ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates: 2001 and 2002 (revised) and 2003	John Hollis/ Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/21	School Register	Shen Cheng
DMAG 2004/22	Census Information Note 2004-2	Gareth Piggott
DMAG 2004/23	ONS Mid-year Population Estimates: 1991 to 2003	John Hollis/ Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/24	Fertility of Ethnic Groups in London, 2002/03	Ed Klodawski
DMAG 2004/25	ONS 2003-based Subnational Projections	John Hollis/ Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/26	Census Information Note 2004-3	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2004/27	PayCheck 2004	Lovedeep Vaid
DMAG 2004/28	Greater London Demographic Review	Georgia Hay

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Please use the above descriptions in deciding whom to contact to assist you with your information needs.