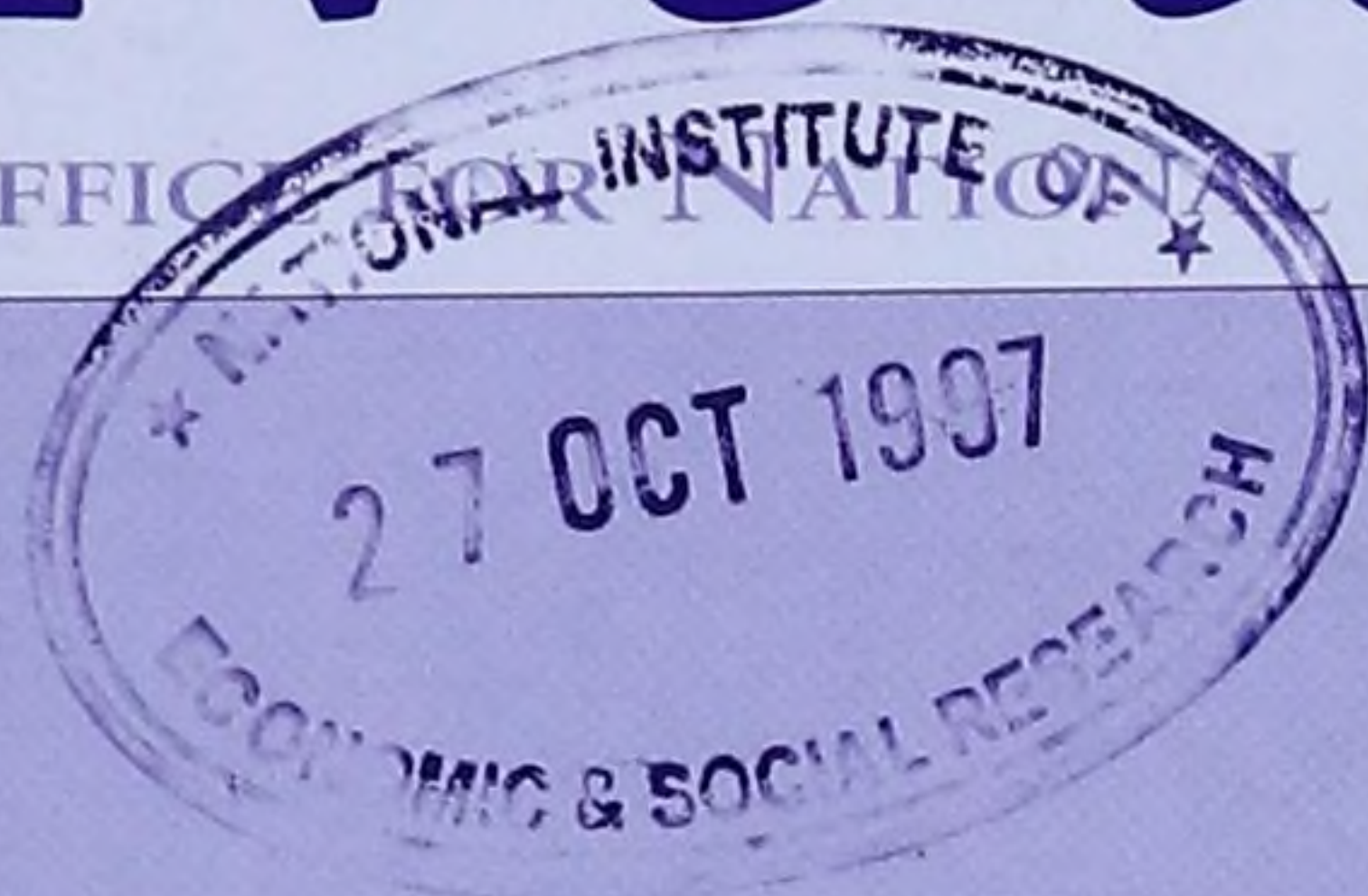


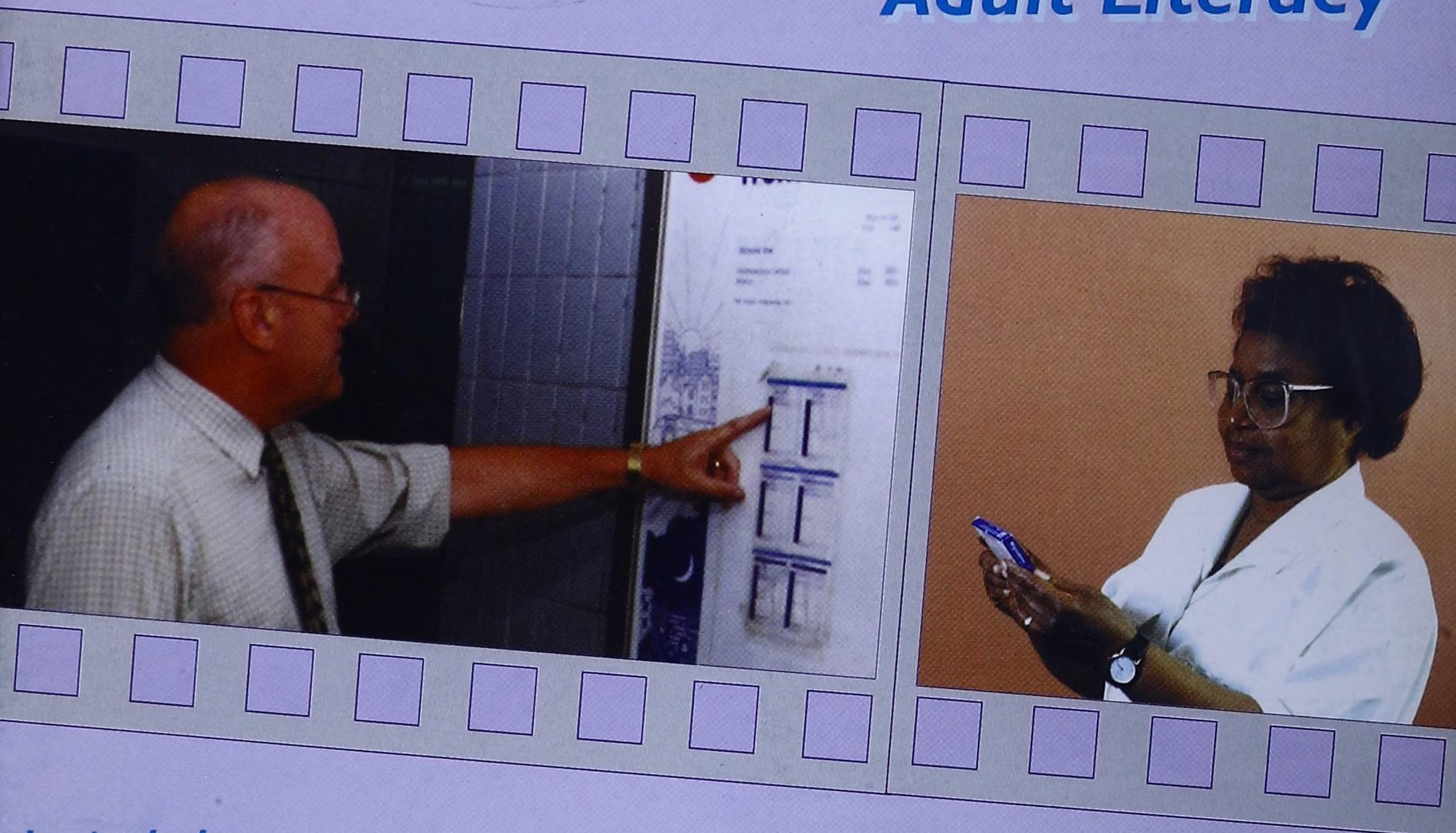
Statistical News

SUMMER 1997 - ISSUE 116

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS
ECONOMIC & SOCIAL RESEARCH



Adult Literacy



also includes ...

- **Statistics Advice to the Countries in Transition**
- **Countdown to the 2001 Census**

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STATISTICAL NEWS

DEVELOPMENTS IN BRITISH OFFICIAL STATISTICS

Summer 1997 - No. 116



THE GOVERNMENT STATISTICAL SERVICE MISSION

*'To provide Parliament, government and the wider community
with the statistical information, analysis and advice needed to
improve decision making, stimulate research and inform debate'*

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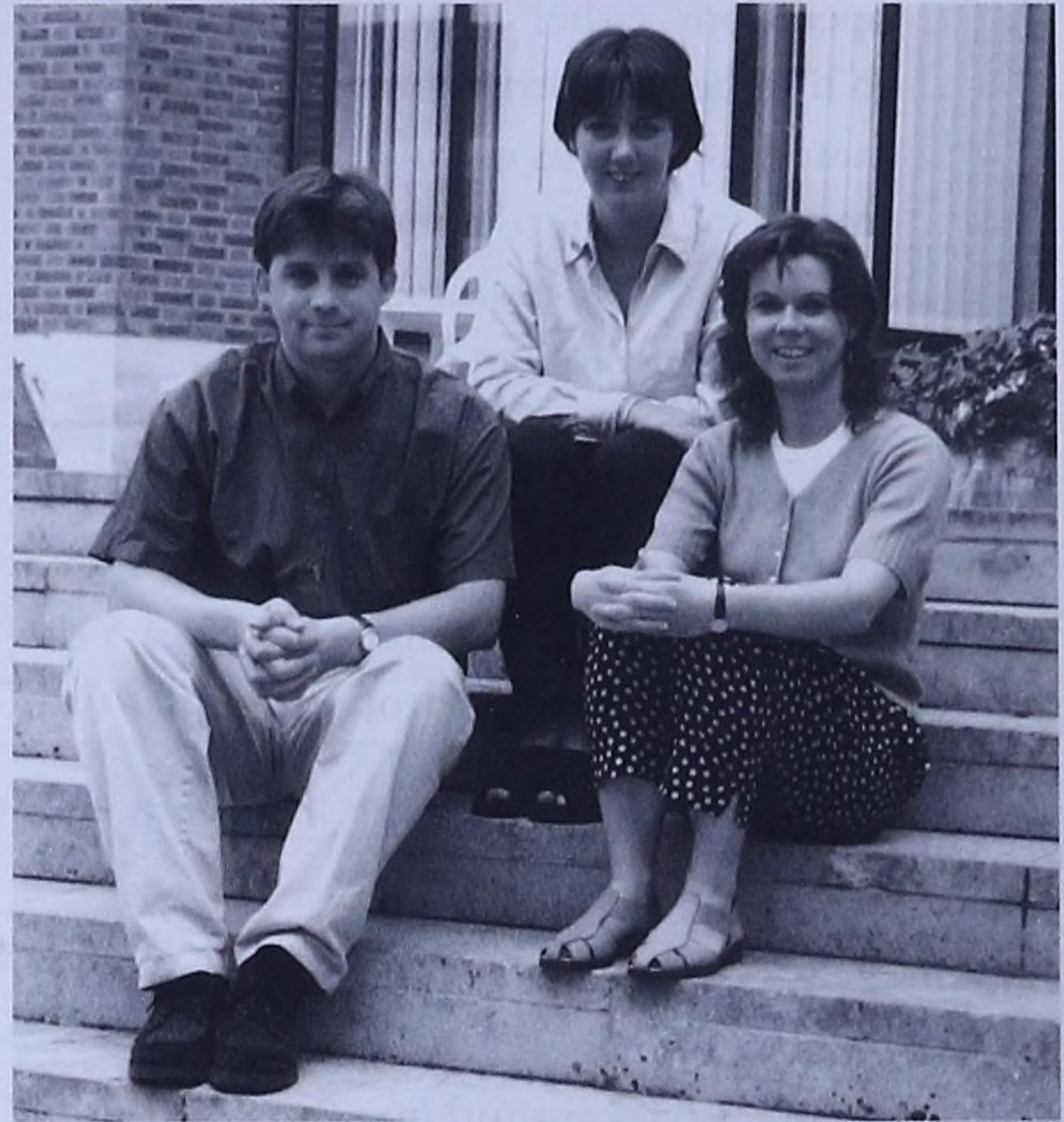
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ADULT LITERACY IN BRITAIN

Social Survey Division of the Office for National Statistics carried out a survey of Adult Literacy in Britain in 1996 and the main findings were published in a report in September 1997. The survey forms part of an international programme of surveys known as the International Adult Literacy Survey (IALS). Seven countries carried out the survey in 1994 (Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Poland, the USA and Canada). A second round of data collection was carried out in 1996 involving the UK, Australia, New Zealand and Belgium (Flemish community). By the end of 1998 over 20 countries will have participated in the study worldwide.

The British survey was commissioned by a consortium of Government Departments and the Basic Skills Agency, the main funding being provided by the Department for Education and Employment. Other contributing departments included the Department for Trade and Industry, the Scottish Office, the Department for Social Security and Socio-Economic Statistics and Analysis Group of the Office for National Statistics. It differed from most of the work carried out by Social Survey Division in that we took a pro-active role in approaching the various departments to ask them to fund the survey after we had heard about IALS through our research contacts.

This survey is the first literacy survey to be carried out in Britain on a national random probability sample of adults of working age. It set out to profile the literacy abilities of adults aged 16-65 using an internationally agreed measurement instrument and survey implementation protocols which covered, among other things, interviewer instructions and scoring procedures.



by Sampson Low, Siobhán Carey & Jacqui Hansbro

HOW IS LITERACY DEFINED?

In IALS, literacy is not defined as something that people either have or do not have, but rather as a broad range of skills required in a varied range of contexts. It is defined as:

Using printed and written information to function in society, to achieve one's goals and to develop one's knowledge and potential.

Three dimensions of literacy skill are measured:

- **Prose literacy:** the knowledge and skills required to understand and use information from texts such as passages of fiction and newspaper articles.
- **Document literacy:** the knowledge and skills required to locate and use information contained in various formats such as timetables, graphs, charts and forms.

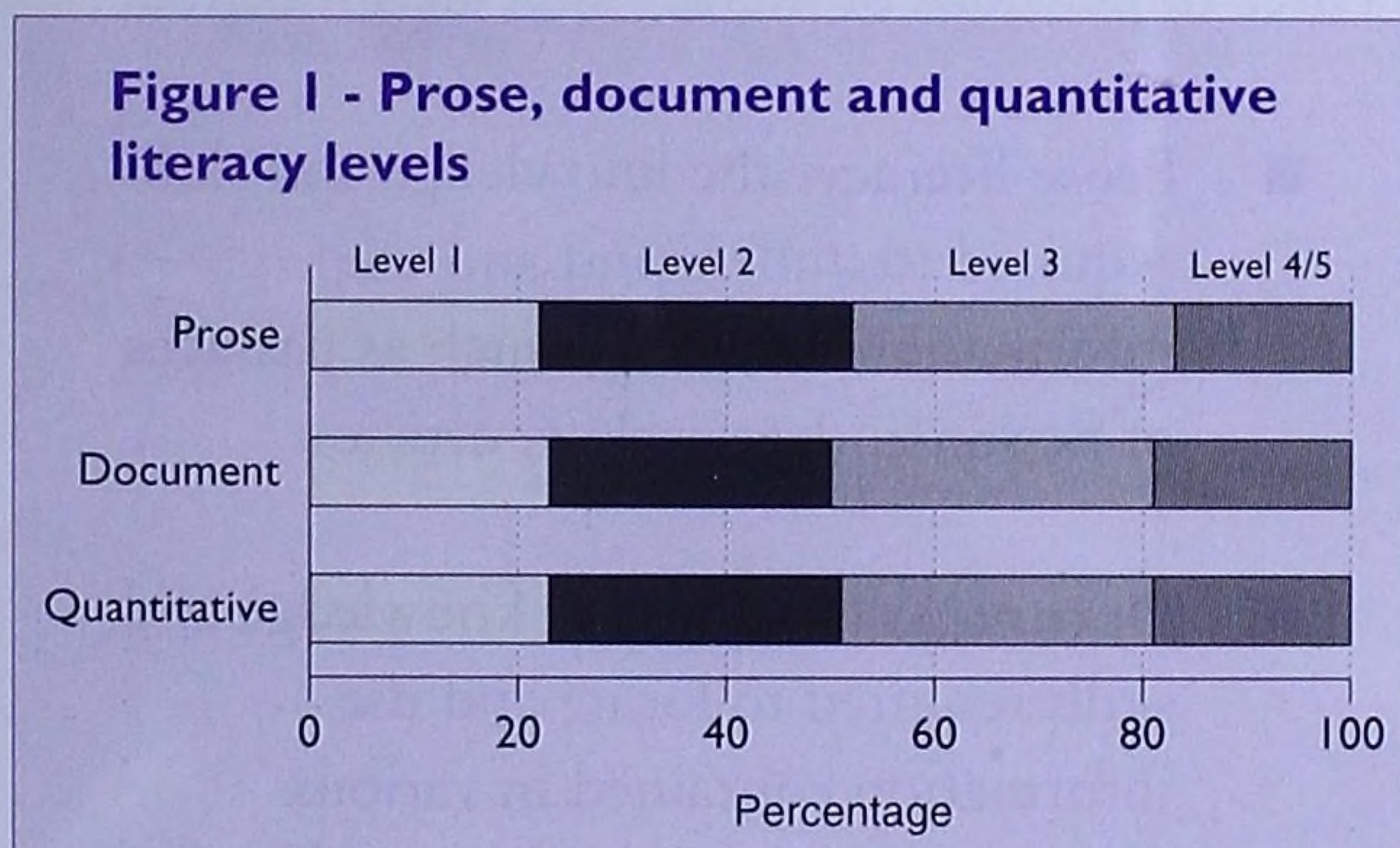
- **Quantitative literacy:** the knowledge and skills required to apply arithmetic operations, either alone or sequentially, to numbers embedded in printed materials, such as calculating savings from a sale advertisement or working out the interest rate required to achieve a desired return on an investment.

Performance on each of these dimensions has been grouped into five literacy levels; Level 1 represents the lowest ability range and Level 5 the highest. Because of the small proportion of people at the highest level, Level 5, data are presented for Levels 4 and 5 combined (Level 4/5).

The survey was conducted by personal interview in respondents' homes and consisted of two main elements, a background questionnaire and a literacy assessment. The fieldwork was carried out by interviewers from our General Field Force. The overall achieved sample in Britain was 3,811, 68% of eligible respondents.

DISTRIBUTION OF LITERACY SKILLS

Twenty two per cent of the population aged 16-65 performed at Level 1 on the prose scale, 30% at Level 2, 31% at Level 3 and 17% at Level 4/5. The distribution was similar on the document and quantitative scales.



Among men, performance on the prose scale was poorer than on either the document or

quantitative scales whereas women performed better on the prose scale. Significantly higher proportions of women than men were at Level 1 on both document and quantitative literacy (27% and 29% of women compared with 20% and 18% of men).

On all three scales there was a higher proportion performing at the lowest literacy level, Level 1, in the two oldest age-groups, that is, those aged over 45 than in the younger age-groups. The performance of those in the three youngest age-groups, 16-25, 26-35 and 36-45 was very similar.

Literacy and education

Literacy was strongly associated with education, the percentage of people performing at the higher literacy levels increasing with more extended education. Those with lower levels of education were much more likely to be at literacy Levels 1 and 2. Education however was not always a good predictor of literacy; among those with higher education there was a small proportion of individuals who performed at Level 1 and among those with qualifications below vocational level 2 or with no qualifications there was a small proportion who were at Level 4/5.

Literacy and work

Those in employment and full-time students were more likely than the unemployed or economically inactive to perform at the highest literacy levels, Level 4/5, on all three dimensions. The unemployed were twice as likely as those in employment to perform at Level 1.

On all three literacy scales those in manual social class groups were much more likely than others to perform at the lower literacy levels. Over a third (36%) of those in Social Classes IV and V and 29% of those in Social Classes III (manual) were at Level 1 on prose compared with 12% or less for other social class groups.

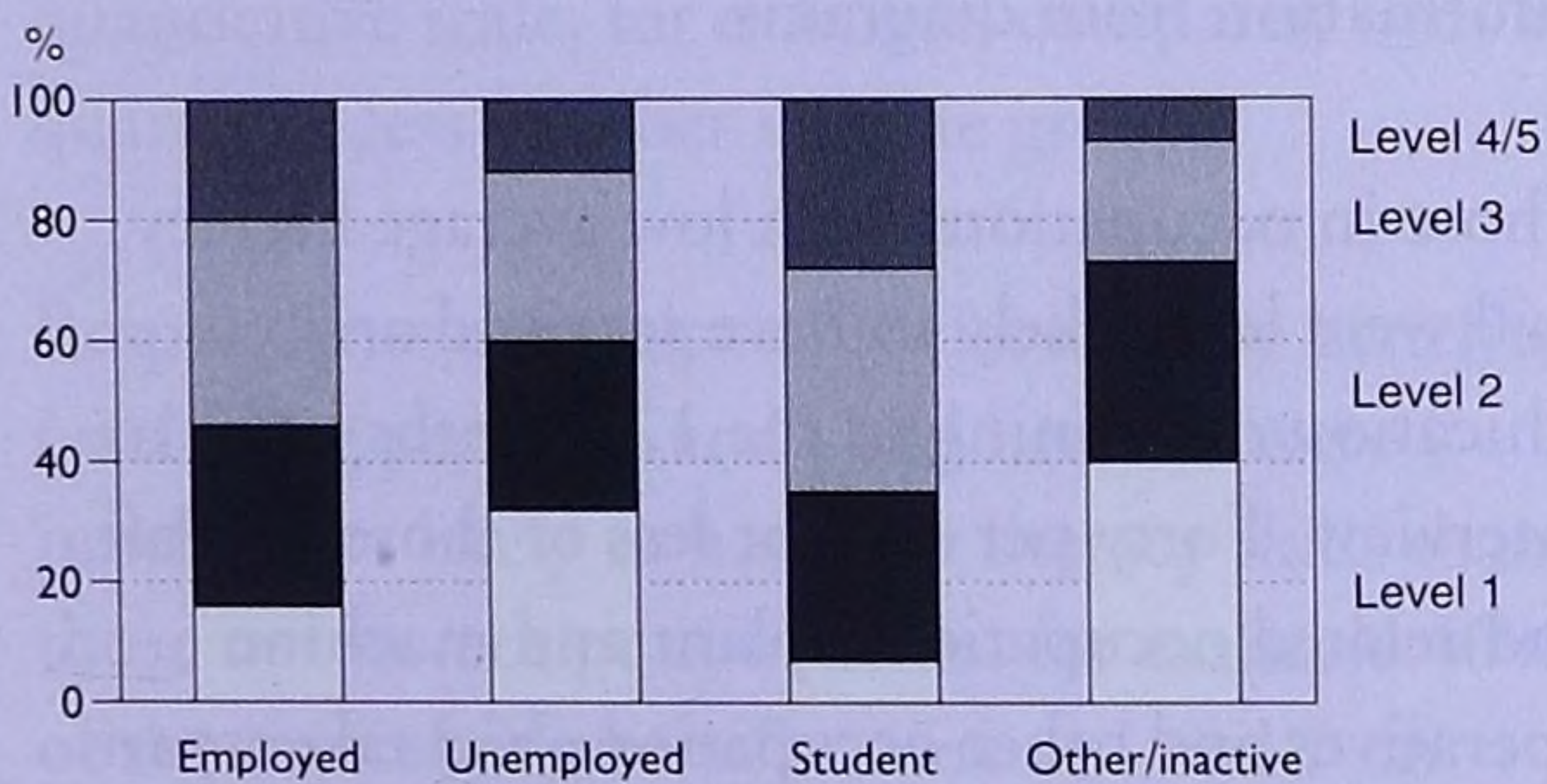
Table 1 - Prose literacy level by age and sex

Prose Literacy	Level 1 %	Level 2 %	Level 3 %	Level 4/5 %	Total %	Base
Men						
16-25	18	31	34	17	100	251
26-35	18	27	36	19	100	405
36-45	16	29	34	21	100	406
46-55	20	27	35	18	100	335
56-65	37	37	20	6	100	333
Total	21	30	32	17	100	1730
Women						
16-25	16	30	32	22	100	298
26-35	18	31	32	19	100	586
36-45	19	28	32	21	100	438
46-55	25	31	34	10	100	389
56-65	40	36	18	6	100	370
Total	22	31	30	16	100	2081

Table 2 - Document literacy by level of highest qualification

	Level 1 %	Level 2 %	Level 3 %	Level 4/5 %	Total %	Base
Degree or equivalent	4	12	35	50	100	539
Other Higher Education below degree level	7	20	45	28	100	415
A-Levels, vocational level 3 & equivalents	7	20	41	32	100	454
Trade apprenticeships	30	33	30	8	100	335
GCSE/O Level grade A*-C, vocational level 2 & equivalents	10	28	39	23	100	668
Qualifications below level 2	18	43	30	9	100	275
Other qualifications - level unknown	49	23	25	3	100	135
No qualifications	49	32	15	4	100	990
Total	23	27	31	19	100	3811

Figure 2 - Prose literacy level by economic activity status



Those in managerial, professional or technical occupations were more likely to perform at the higher literacy levels than those in other occupations. Workers in clerical and secretarial

occupations were more evenly distributed over the literacy skill levels with some workers at every level, although few (11 - 14%) were at Level 1. Workers in personal and protective service occupations, sales and skilled engineering occupations were more likely to perform at the middle literacy levels, Levels 2 or 3, while those in occupations such as machine operators and other elementary occupations were more likely to be at the two lowest literacy levels, Levels 1 and 2.

All occupations involve the use of reading, writing and mathematical skills to some extent, although some occupations require them a lot less frequently than others and some tasks are more predominant in certain occupations for example:

Table 3 - Percentage of workers in each occupational group who reported engaging in each of several workplace reading tasks at least once a week

People who had worked in the 12 months prior to interview

Occupation group	Letters or memos	Reports, articles, magazines or journals	Manuals or reference books, including catalogues	Diagrams	Bills, invoices, spreadsheets or budget tables	Directions or instructions for medicines, recipes or other products	Use information from computers	Base
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Managers and administrators	93	85	72	48	85	38	73	388
Professional occupations	94	90	82	60	49	37	79	353
Associate professional and technical occupations	93	88	78	46	53	45	76	280
Clerical and secretarial occupations	91	65	60	23	65	18	83	413
Craft and related occupations	63	40	52	59	35	19	32	292
Personal and protective service occupations	59	47	37	22	26	51	27	305
Sales occupations	63	49	51	27	48	23	47	211
Plant and machine operatives	54	36	35	36	25	23	34	263
Other occupations	33	19	13	15	15	14	10	234
Total	73	59	54	37	47	30	54	2739

- reading diagrams is more frequently undertaken by professionals and skilled craft workers than by some other occupational groups;
- reading directions or instructions for medicine, recipes or other products is an activity carried out more frequently by workers in personal service and associate professional occupations than other occupational groups;
- reading or using information from a computer is more commonly required in managerial, professional and associate professional occupations with only small percentages of those in some other occupations being required to do so.

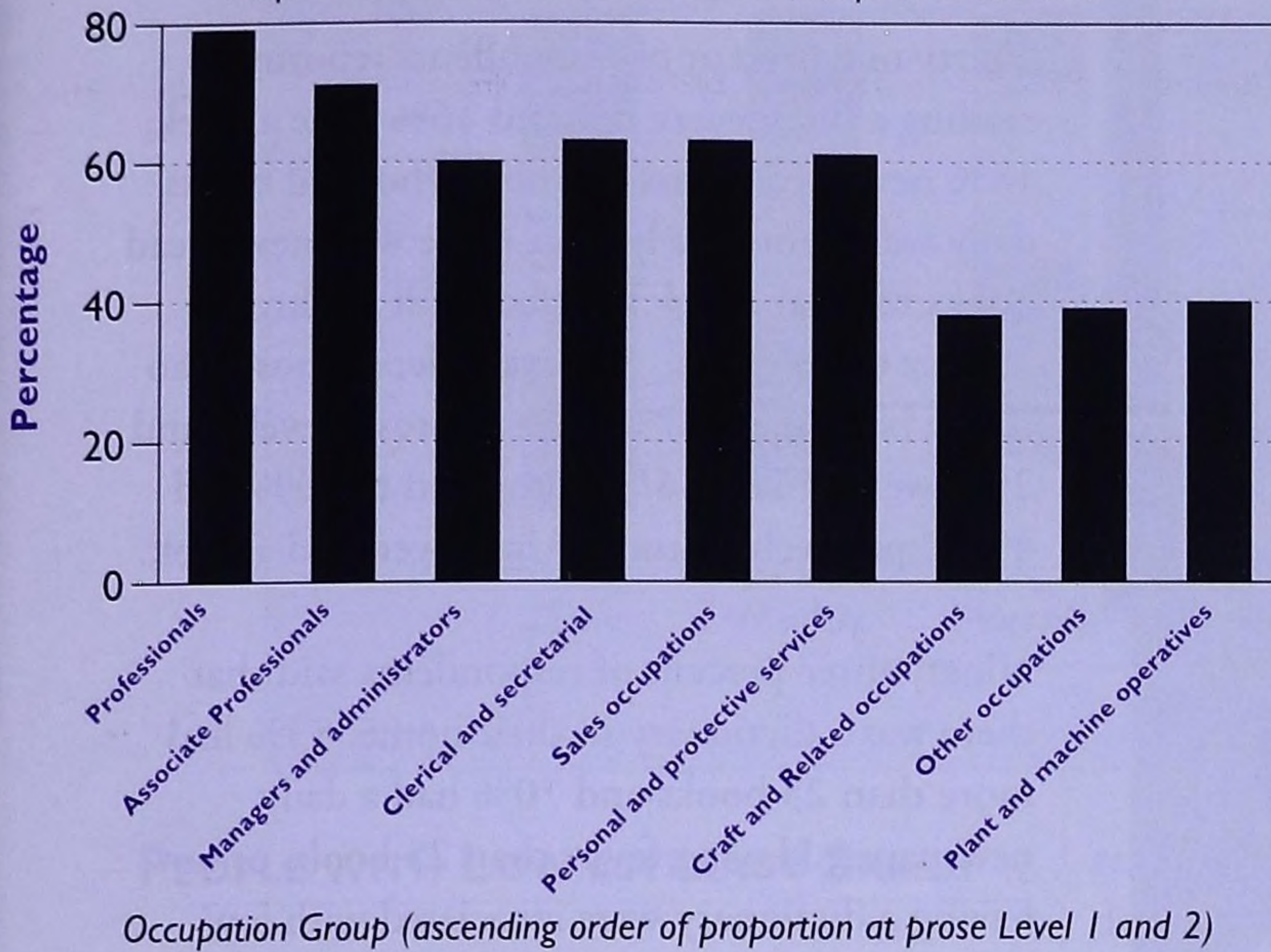
What is clear however, is that even in those occupations with poor average proficiency levels on the three literacy dimensions, substantial proportions of workers are regularly required to

undertake activities that require these skills. For example, among plant and machine operators, a third of whom were at Level 1 on prose and a further 41% at Level 2, over half of the respondents in these occupations were required to read letters or memos at least once a week as part of their job. Over a third were required to read reports, articles, magazines or journals, or to read manuals/ reference books or read or use information from diagrams.

Those in occupations with low average literacy skill were least likely to have received any education or training in the 12 months prior to interview. Forty per cent or less of those in craft and related occupations, plant and machine operatives and other occupations had taken part in any education or training in the previous 12 months. This compared with 79% of professionals, 71% of associate professionals and between 60 and 63% of those in the remaining occupational groups.

Figure 3 - Percentage who participated in adult education or training in the 12 months prior to interview by occupation

People who had worked in the 12 months prior to interview



looked at in the main report but the analysis is limited because the estimates are based on small sub-populations of the main sample.

DISTRIBUTION OF LITERACY SKILLS IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES

On all three dimensions there were significant differences between England and Wales in the proportion of adults at Level 4/5 with no significant differences between England and Scotland in the proportion

Literacy and income

Those with a personal income (from all sources) in the lowest quintile (less than £2,704 per year) were more likely to perform at Level 1 than those with a personal income in the highest two quintiles (over £10,400 per year).

Those with the greatest income from employment were also those with the highest literacy skills, almost half of people in the top income quintile performed at Level 4/5 on the quantitative scale, for example, compared with a quarter or less in other income groups.

Respondents in receipt of social security benefits (excluding pensions and child benefit) were much more likely to have low literacy skills than those not in receipt of benefits, for example 40% of those receiving benefits were at Level 1 on prose compared with 17% of those not receiving benefits.

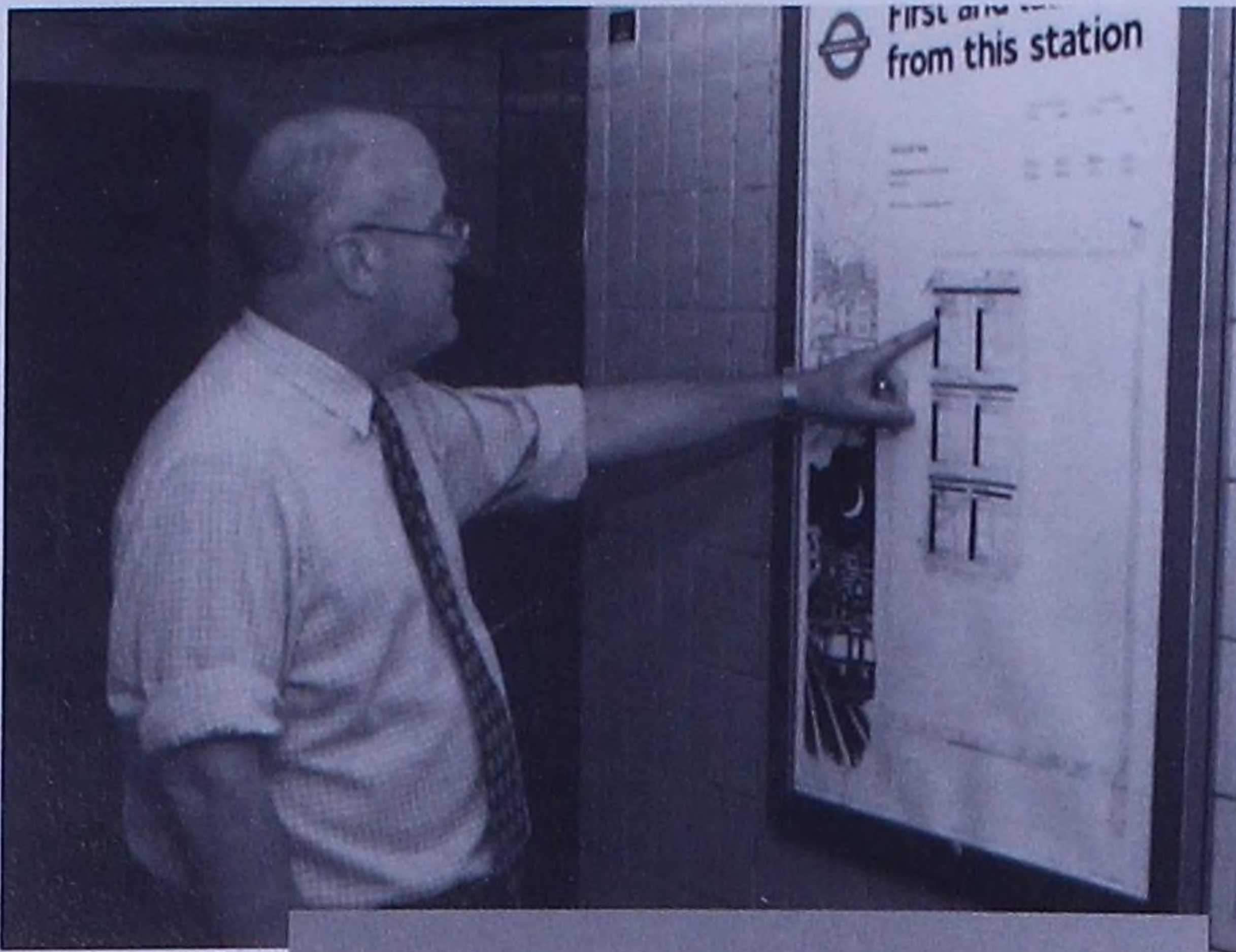
The relationship between literacy skills, country of birth and language first spoken as a child is

of adults who were at this level. The biggest difference was on prose with 17% of those living in England performing at Level 4/5 compared with 9% of those living in Wales.

SELF-ASSESSMENT OF LITERACY SKILLS

Generally, respondents were very pleased with their literacy skills in the context of their daily lives, with 46% considering their reading skills as 'excellent' and a further 40% describing them as 'good' even though 52% of all respondents were at the lowest two levels on the prose scale.

Only a small proportion of respondents (2-15%) felt that their reading, writing or mathematics skills were limiting their job opportunities - either job advancement or getting another job. Those at the lower literacy levels were more likely to consider their skills as limiting their opportunities.

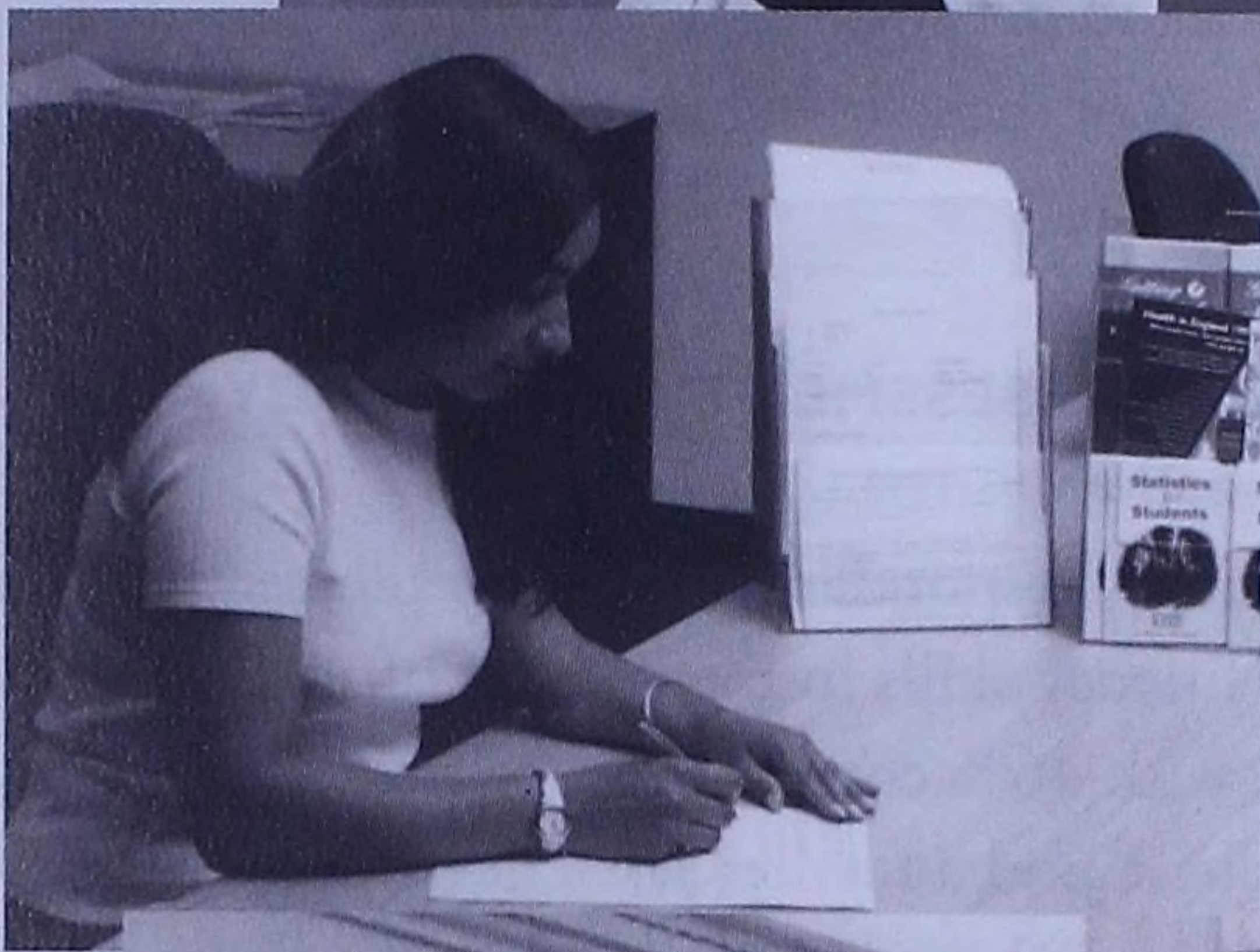


LITERACY IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Thirty one percent of respondents reported reading a book every day and 16% once a week; 18% never read books. Those who read books daily were more likely than those who never read books to be at Level 3 or above on all three literacy dimensions. For example, of those who read a book daily 37% were at prose Level 3 and 25% were at Level 4/5, compared to 16% and 4% respectively of those who never read a book.



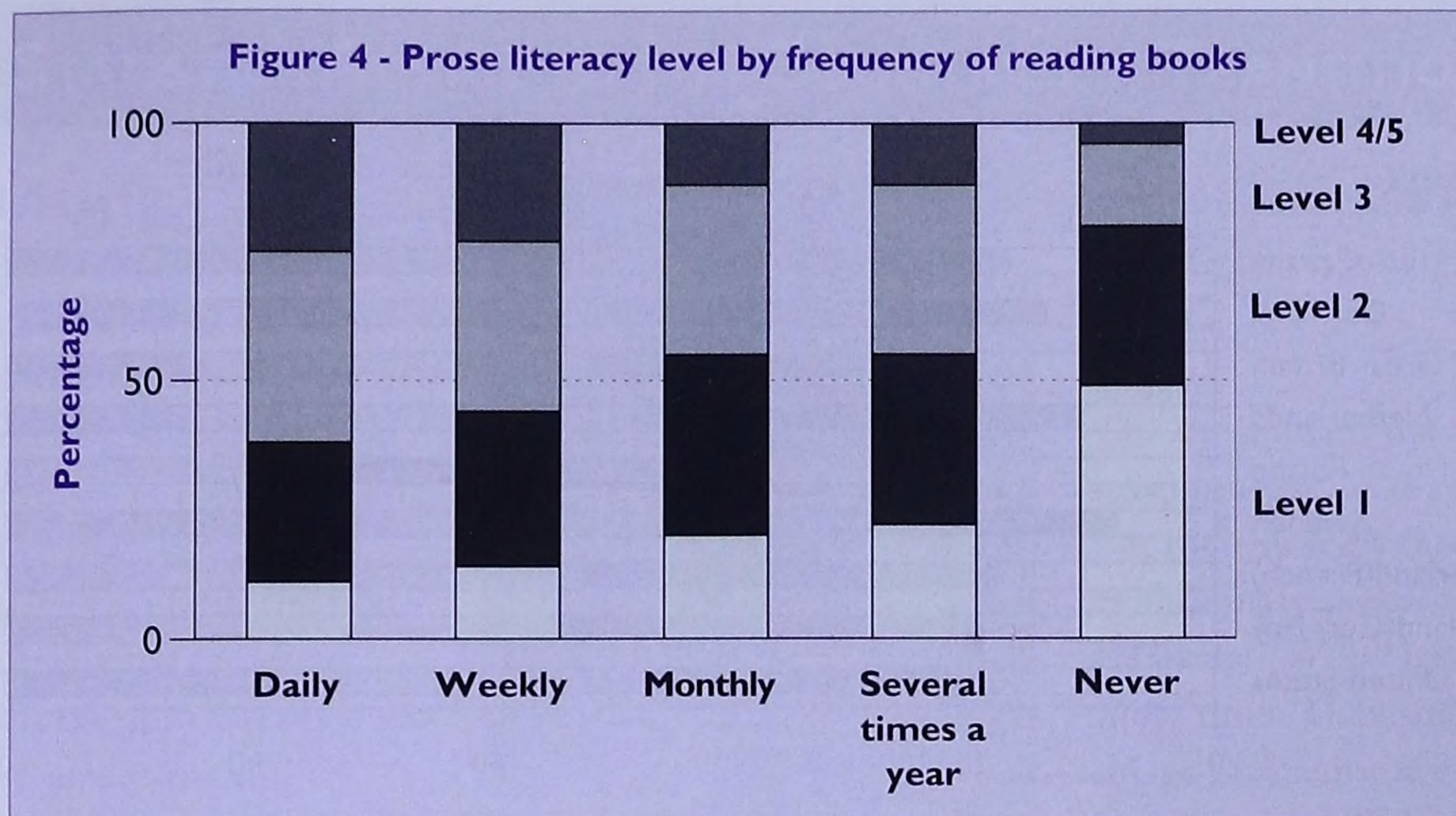
Ninety three percent of respondents said that there was a dictionary in their home, 83% had more than 25 books and 70% had a daily newspaper. Having fewer than 25 books or not having a dictionary were associated with low literacy levels. Fifty one percent of respondents whose household did not have at least 25 books were at prose Level 1 whilst only 3% were at Level 4/5. Similarly among respondents whose household did not have a dictionary, 53% were at prose Level 1 and only 6% at Level 4/5.



Of those who watched more than 5 hours of television per day 42% were at prose Level 1 compared with only 5% at Level 4/5. In contrast almost a third (30%) of those who watched one hour or less per day were at Level 4/5 and 12% were at Level 1. While there is an association between literacy level and the amount of time spent watching television, it does not necessarily imply that watching television causes low literacy skill, it is just as plausible that watching a lot of television is a consequence of having low literacy skills.



Respondents at Level 1 were less likely than those at higher literacy levels to report that their children would often see the respondent or their partner reading. Almost all the respondents at prose Level 4/5 said their children would often see them or their partner reading.



PEOPLE WITH LOW LITERACY SKILLS

People at each end of the literacy distribution - those with low literacy skills (Level 1) and those with high literacy skills (Level 4/5) - each form a clearly defined, relatively homogenous group while people at Levels 2 and 3 are more diverse in their characteristics and are less clearly defined as a group.

People performing at Level 1 on the literacy scales were predominantly older people with low levels of education. They were more likely than people at higher levels to be unemployed, to belong to the manual rather than the non-manual social class groups and to be on a low income. Not all those with these characteristics however will have low literacy skills.

People at Level 1 were also less likely than those at Level 4/5 to say they read a book at least once a week (10% compared with 23% on the prose scale).

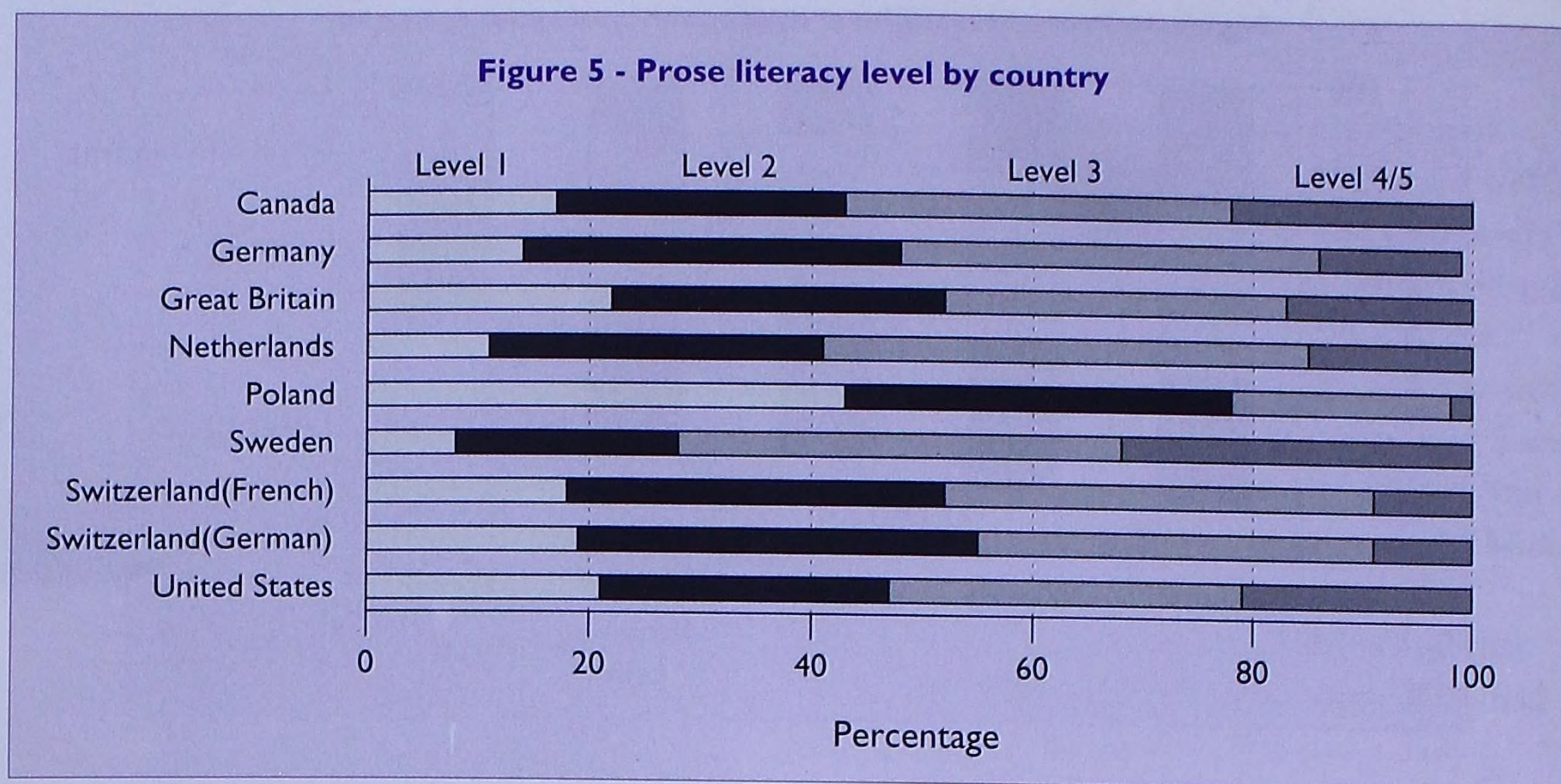
Although people at Level 1 were on the whole satisfied with their literacy skills they were more likely than those at the higher levels to say that they sometimes or often needed help with various literacy tasks, particularly filling out forms and

reading information from government departments, businesses and other institutions (almost half sometimes or often needed help with one or more tasks).

LITERACY SKILLS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The distribution of prose, document and quantitative literacy skills differs between countries. Britain's distribution is similar to that in the other English speaking countries, the United States and Canada, with slightly higher proportions at Levels 2 and 3 than there are at Levels 1 and Level 4/5. Relative to other countries, the skill distributions in Britain and the United States appear more polarised and although the majority of the population were at the middle skill levels, large proportions of the population were at the lowest or highest literacy levels. Although a higher proportion of Britons were at Level 1 on prose compared with all countries except Poland, only Sweden, the Netherlands and Germany had significantly lower proportions than Britain at Level 1. The proportion of Britons at prose Level 1 was not significantly different from the proportion at that

Figure 5 - Prose literacy level by country



level in the US, Canada or either of the two language groups in Switzerland.

The relative position of Britain to other countries improves when considering the proportion of the population at the highest prose literacy levels. Only Sweden and the US had significantly higher proportions at Level 4/5 on prose compared with Britain, 32% of Swedes and 21% of the US population performed at Level 4/5 on prose compared with 17% of the British population.

The main report examines the differences in literacy skill between countries in more detail by looking at the age and education distributions in the different countries and then comparing literacy skills across countries when age and education are held constant. The report also looks at the differences in the distribution of occupations between the different countries and compares the literacy levels within occupations as well as the demands made for literacy skills in the workplace.

For more information about the survey contact:

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STATISTICS ADVICE TO THE COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION

AN UPDATE

I hesitated when asked to write this article, given the fact that I only recently started working with countries in transition, but I have benefited from a great deal of advice and information from colleagues with much greater experience than my own. However, any errors and misinterpretations are my responsibility, and I apologise in advance for them.



*by Phil Crook, Statistics Adviser
Department for International Development*

In the Spring 1993 issue of *Statistical News*, a special International Edition, Jenny Church wrote an article entitled "Sharing GSS Know-How with Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union" in which she reviewed the reasoning behind assistance given to statistical offices in transition countries and described some of the work which had been done. Her article contained two main sections - Why Statistics? and How is the GSS helping? In an introduction, she described the UK Know-How Fund (KHF), which provides funding for advice and expertise to assist countries during the transition period.

In the part Why Statistics?, Jenny described the functions of statistical offices in countries with a command economy and the major challenges these offices faced when coming to terms with the introduction of market forces. Economic statistics in particular needed urgent reform, and the statistical offices were confronted with the need to take on board new and unfamiliar techniques such as business registers, sample surveys of establishments, price collection by survey and dealing with non-response. They also needed to collect new types of data, on

unemployment, for example, and the newly emerging private sector.

The pressure on the statisticians was immense, as they tried to put their systems through an evolutionary process for which we in the "West" had a lot more time. They suffered from image problems, needing to be seen as politically independent and needing to establish a relationship of trust with providers of information.

In the second section, How is the GSS Helping?, Jenny described the system by which programmes of assistance had been developed with statistical offices and the role which statisticians in what was then the ODA played in programme management and evaluation. Typically, programmes of assistance were a mixture of study visits to the UK and advisory visits to the countries concerned. It is here that the GSS resource came into its own. Who better to advise statisticians in the transition countries than other government statisticians? Jenny noted that it was not only the CSO, as it then was, who provided expertise. OPCS, MAFF, Employment Department and Customs and Excise, amongst others, were also active.

She ended her article with the question: "How successful have we been in transferring our know-how?" and commented that only time would tell.

TIME PASSES . . .

It is Spring 1997, and there have been some changes in the world of statistical cooperation



with the countries in transition. To start with, most of the titles have changed. The UK now refers to "Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union" as "Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia" (CEE/CA); the Office for National Statistics (ONS) has been formed; and more recently ODA became DFID, the Department for International Development.

But fortunately the statisticians are still in touch. The difference is in the scale of this contact. In 1993, the UK had bilateral programmes of statistical assistance with five countries - Hungary, the Czech and Slovak Republics, Bulgaria and Ukraine. We now have statistical programmes with five more - Macedonia, Armenia, the Russian Federation, Moldova and Croatia - and GSS experts have assisted Albania, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Belarus through EC programmes. Our cooperation is rippling outwards into the countries which were formerly part of the Soviet Union. Statisticians from many other Departments: the Northern Ireland, Scottish and Welsh Offices; Education and Employment; the

Inland Revenue, to name but a few, have joined those from the departments mentioned above.

At the time of writing, the UK has provided through the Know-How Fund over 40 weeks of advisory time, study visits to more than 200 people, and training courses and workshops to a further 160. In addition, the EC Phare and Tacis programmes regularly use the UK statistical resource. The subjects for cooperation cover the whole gamut of statistics, from agriculture, through business registers, computing, dissemination, employment, foreign trade, industry, management, national accounts and prices, to questionnaire design, surveys and transport.

What else has changed? Certainly, with our long-established partners, the type of know-how we are asked for is changing in three main ways. In those fields which have received the most attention, the questions naturally are becoming more diverse and more demanding. GSS experts frequently find themselves stretched to the limit when being cross-questioned by their colleagues.

However, in areas where perhaps earlier attention was being given to detail, we are now advising on strategy and the wider picture.

But interestingly enough, there are aspects of running a statistical operation - completely non-technical - which our partners are asking about more and more. Perhaps we forget the things which help to make our statistical system actually work: communication, delegated responsibility, public accountability. Perhaps we forget too how lucky we are to work in a statistical system which is (generally) perceived to be independent.

There is no doubt that sharing our statistical expertise with others is not sufficient on its own. We also need to talk about the context in which we operate, and try to understand the culture of our partner organisations.

This is, I think, the difference between the position now and that of four years ago. In 1993, countries were still in the first throes of an enormous process of change. Statisticians were grappling heroically with the new demands on them as professionals, with changing political structures, with restructuring their own personal lives; and assistance from our side, while not exactly fire-fighting, was part of a relatively short-term strategy. Although everyone knew that long-term development was the aim, something needed to be done first about the major macro-economic indicators and to try to plug the most pressing gaps on labour market statistics and enterprises.

Now, though, we have collected more experience of cooperation of this type, particularly with those statistical offices who started their change process earliest, and it is worth examining areas where we should review what we are doing and how it is being done.

DELIVERY MECHANISMS

Study tours and advisory visits are still the mainstay of our cooperation, but it is right to look at this structure to see if there is more we can do. Certainly, the feedback we receive is never less than complimentary, but we are now in a better position to assess the impact of our assistance as the years have passed by.

We can go further and ask whether a study tour is an adequate way of providing assistance, when we look at the staff turnover rates of some of the offices. Will the knowledge depart with the staff member? This is where the office culture is especially important, as regards the existence or not of internal mechanisms for sharing and storing information.

How, then, can we add to our present pattern of assistance to make it more effective? I touched above on one aspect, which is being more aware of the cultural differences and not taking the non-statistical aspects for granted. Alongside our presentation of statistical techniques, it is equally important for us to explain statistical practice and the UK culture which has fostered it.

We need to look at study visits with an eye to raising their impact. I know that colleagues in the GSS often provide manuals and other documents to their visitors, on a personal basis, but we need to examine whether this needs to be increased. We should also look at training of trainers. This was done to great effect with the Hungarian CSO, regarding the introduction of SAS, but we can also do it for technical areas of statistics. An initiative of the ONS and DFID are workshops, which allow several study visits to be combined, with many advantages, not least that staff from different transition countries can meet to discuss their problems and a larger number of

The PECO Panel Survey

The PECO Panel Survey is a survey of business activity in 11 countries of central and eastern Europe. The panel was made up of a sample of 92,000 enterprises on the business registers for Albania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovak, Slovenia. The first survey was carried out in September/October 1995 by the national statistical offices using a common questionnaire and methodology. The results of this survey were published in the summer of 1996. The published results received wide coverage in the press, television and radio in the participating countries. They provide information on the businesses operating in each of the countries. The survey is also the sole source of information on persons setting up enterprises, and the origin and development of those enterprises.

The second survey, covering newly created enterprises in 1995, was run towards the end of 1996 and the results were published in the summer of 1997. The third survey has just started.

John Perry, Office for National Statistics

people can be accommodated with less pressure on the ONS. Workshops have been held so far on UK Quarterly Accounts; UK Accounts for the Institutional Sectors; and Statistical Methodology, and plans are being made to repeat some of these and add others, particularly on aspects of population censuses.

Another possibility is to make our contacts more frequent but less formal. More and more statisticians are connected through the Internet, and where we have a common language we can continue our discussion outside the confines of the study tour or advisory visit. It has become clear over the last few years that some GSS members have formed strong and lasting relationships with colleagues in transition



John Perry (ONS) and Ebbo Petrikovits (Czech Statistical Office) discussing a statistical sampling issue during a working group meeting in Bratislava for the Eurostat-funded panel survey of newly-created enterprises in central and eastern Europe



Representatives from the Baltic Countries and from Slovakia during an official dinner near Bratislava during a meeting of the working group for the Eurostat-funded panel survey of newly-created enterprises in central and eastern Europe

countries, and these can continue with benefits for all concerned

TARGET GROUPS

Statisticians have always tended to talk to other statisticians, but the producer/user relationship the GSS now enjoys involves a great deal of formal and informal communication with others. We speak to our data providers, seeking to minimise the burden on respondents; we speak to statisticians in other departments; we speak directly to the press; we speak to users about their needs.

This may not be the case elsewhere. As was said in the earlier article, statistical offices in transition countries are facing an uphill struggle to detach themselves in the minds of the public from the state, and to be accepted as professional independent bodies. Part of the problem lies with the aspects of communication which I mentioned in the previous paragraph. We had to make changes to our own statistical culture, and we cannot expect others to change overnight - even if it is appropriate that they should do so - but in our contacts with transition countries we can help the statistical offices to raise their profile. In development terminology, this is part of the process of empowerment, and I feel that the GSS has a real role to play.

One thing we can do is to see whether there is greater opportunity to expand our activities to embrace more of the main players in a particular sector. Certainly, during advisory visits, we should continue to try to meet those supplying and those using the data, in company with the statisticians. But we should also examine our projects to see if we should maybe concentrate on fewer sectors but try to do more inside them, involving more people from different institutions. On study tours, more emphasis should be placed on including visitors in producer/user liaison meetings and press briefings, wherever possible, to get a flavour of accountability in action.

STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

We have always tried to set our assistance into a wider strategy, because the problem with a study tour and an advisory visit is if they take place in isolation, and are not part of a strategy for developing a particular sector of statistics. We now engage with our partners in discussions about their longer-term needs, and whether we

should be focusing our efforts on one or two key sectors.

UK statistical departments are getting used to the idea of business plans, objective setting, development targets; and using these to formulate human resource strategies, IT strategies, training plans, marketing strategies, and so on. We are in control, to a large extent, of our statistical destiny.

What of the countries in transition? They have received over the years much advice on what their priorities ought to be - to meet international reporting requirements to WHO, ILO, FAO, IMF; to satisfy pre-accession criteria for the European Union; to monitor the transition process; to measure economic reform, social welfare, human rights, democratisation; to conduct the 2000 round of censuses. Much of this advice has been given through sector-specific papers, conferences, and workshops, and this has led to conflicting priorities for the statistical offices, not least with those arising from their own internal national needs.

The UK has tried to respond to requests which arise from national needs, and the message we try to convey is that a national statistical strategy is vitally important to the long-term future of a statistical office. GSS staff have advised directly on developing strategies, while of course stressing the fact that strategies do not come off the peg ready-made, but need to be developed and owned by the office concerned. This wider vision should be at the back of all our minds when we are dealing with offices in transition, and it is important to discover the context in which our particular piece of advice is situated.

An interesting case study is that of the Hungarian CSO, who are working with the ONS Human Resource Development section to develop a

leadership and management programme tailored to Hungarian needs and culture. This project will take about 18 months from start to finish, and an important part of it is the training of Hungarians, who will then themselves train the remaining staff. We hope that a genuinely sustainable system will be in place by the end of the project. It may seem odd to focus on a non-statistical strategy - I could have mentioned the advice we are giving Moldova on their agricultural statistics development plan instead - but I wanted to highlight the wider aspects of statistical cooperation.

Are we in a position yet to answer Jenny's question? I think that a lot depends on the measure of success we choose.

On one hand, it is clear that a great deal of know-how has been successfully transferred to many people. One only has to look at the data now being published and the systems which have been established (and, more importantly, are being maintained), to see the major changes that have taken place. Users, and especially international users, are aware of this. On the other hand, there are still major gaps in the data, particularly in social statistics; offices still face problems with data collection and analysis; and national users may still need assistance to make the best use of the new types of statistics.

We can draw on evidence from a growing number of comparative assessments, by international agencies and individual donors, to support these conclusions, but we are also amassing more and more feedback from GSS members who have visited these countries, and who remark the changes which are taking place. Much credit should be given to GSS members for their work, including those who are now operating as private consultants.

What can we say about the impact of the GSS input? It is impossible, and wrong, to look at this in isolation. We must recognise that the changes we see are largely due to the enormous efforts being made by the statisticians of the transition countries themselves. We also need to take into account the contribution of advisers from other countries and agencies. We can say, however, that the GSS input is welcomed and produces very positive feedback from our partners. Our monitoring visits and reviews lead us to conclude that we are contributing to meeting national needs, as well as the needs generally for countries newly entered into the international arena.

This article was inspired by a paper which was given by Tony Williams and Phil Crook at a meeting of the Royal Statistical Society Official Statistics Section on April 23rd 1997. Copies of the RSS paper, which reviews UK assistance to CEE/CA countries, can be obtained from Tony or Phil at DFID. Due acknowledgement should be given to our colleagues, in particular Anne Harrison at OECD and Neil Fantom, DFID seconded to Eurostat, who have commented on drafts of the RSS paper, and whose ideas have formed the basis for many of the questions being asked.

The questions posed in this article, and others, were tabled for a seminar held in June in Budapest and hosted by the Hungarian Central Statistical Office. The title of the seminar was "Results and Prospects of the Transition Period", and statisticians from the UN Statistical Office, OECD, UNECE, UK, France, Denmark, Eurostat and Canada joined colleagues from the statistical offices of Hungary, the Czech and Slovak Republics, Slovenia and Poland. Tim Holt lead the UK delegation, accompanied by Alwyn Pritchard and Phil Crook. A report on the outcome of the meeting will be available from Alwyn Pritchard.

Readers are also referred to the recently issued *GSS International Strategy*, which describes the importance of international work to the GSS, of which cooperation with CEE/CA countries is but a small part.

Phil Crook is a statistician in the Department for International Development responsible for statistical cooperation with CEE/CA countries. He is the latest in a long line who have worked on this programme, and who include Dick Allen, Jenny Church, Neil Fantom, Elizabeth Robin, Malcolm Walmsley and Tony Williams.

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INTRODUCTION

Responsibility for the conduct of the Census in England and Wales rests with the Registrar General - that is Tim Holt, who is also Director of the Office for National Statistics. Responsibility for conducting the Censuses in Scotland and Northern Ireland rests with the respective Registrars General of those countries.



*by Graham C Jones, Director Census,
Office for National Statistics*

consider the Census to be central to official statistics and fundamental to national planning and the only national source of data available at the hundred per cent level and for small areas, then it is important that we consider further, within these simple statements, the principle uses to which the Census will be put. There is the allocation of billions of pounds worth of government expenditure to regional and local authorities and the health service, and a

The 2001 Census, the first of the new millennium, is being planned, however, as one operation throughout the United Kingdom by the three Census Offices:

- The Office for National Statistics (ONS) in England and Wales;
- The General Register Office for Scotland in Scotland (GRO(S)), and
- The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) in Northern Ireland.

To facilitate the close co-operation which the Census Offices enjoy, the work is overseen by the United Kingdom Census Committee which is chaired by John Fox of ONS with appropriate representation from the three Census Offices.

PRINCIPLES

It is instructive to consider why we are conducting a Census, for if we did not then there would be no focus of attention, no consultation procedure and no defined requirement. If we

substantial amount of information provided in relation to the provision of education and numerous other local services. It is these which are the basic business drivers behind the Census but whilst none of this is new, it does need to be shown that there is a sustained case for all of the information to be collected if we are not to place an overwhelming burden on the public.

DEFINING THE REQUIREMENT

In considering the questions to be included in the Census therefore, it is vital to determine what the information is to be used for, by whom and whether or not there are alternative sources which might provide better value. In preparing for the 2001 Census, consultation procedures have been, and continue to be, conducted through several advisory groups which have contributed to the debate. These comprise representatives of census users from central government, local government, the health service, the academic community and the business sector,

and from two groups providing specific input in respect of Scotland and Northern Ireland.

These have spawned several working groups whose proposals and suggestions, particularly in the area of question content and wording, have been given serious consideration in the run up to the 1997 Census Test. There are clear issues emerging from that consultation and, in addition to the more regular questions which one would expect to find on the Census form, there is now demand for information to be collected about income, educational qualifications and other issues reflecting considerable social and technological change.

The Census is a balance of the demand for information against the burden which can legitimately be placed upon respondents, and all issues need to be considered within an overall planning framework to which, it is clear, we cannot devote unlimited resources. There will, therefore, inevitably be, conflict and compromise. But what is equally clear is that that compromise cannot rear its head in terms of the quality of the product - that is vital, for it is important that the users of the Census information are absolutely confident of the quality of the data with which they are being provided. In that respect, there are lessons to be learned from 1991 and the Census policy evaluation and re-appraisal conducted in 1992.

THE LESSONS FROM 1991

Having established that we do need to conduct a Census and having noted we are right to seek the correct balance in terms of question and public burden to fulfil the defined requirement, then we do need also to be entirely clear that we are also producing the right output, at the right level of detail to the right timetable on the right range of

products - and here also, the role of consultation described above will be vital in that respect.

There were some major successes in 1991 - the successful introduction of a question on ethnicity, a high overall level of coverage and a brand new product in the form of samples of anonymised records - and these cannot and should not be ignored. The latter is a fine example of how we work closely with a wide range of users, in this instance colleagues from the University of Manchester. There were however some downsides, which too cannot be ignored; there was high under-enumeration in the inner cities, poorly answered questions and delays to the production of the results. Additionally, some of these results were produced on the basis of a 10 per cent sample only which for many users was clearly less than satisfactory.

PLANNING FOR 2001

The only effective way to plan such a large task as the Census is to break it down into smaller projects, each of which is involved with looking at new methods of conducting the business of the Census. Some of these though still represent substantial programmes of work:

- **The Geography Project** will be using new GIS systems and digital mapping to plan enumeration districts and output areas;
- **The Data Collection Project** is investigating postal methods for distribution and collection of the Census forms for the first time in the United Kingdom;
- **The Data Capture Project** is considering automatic scanning in of the data through Optical Mark Reading (OMR)

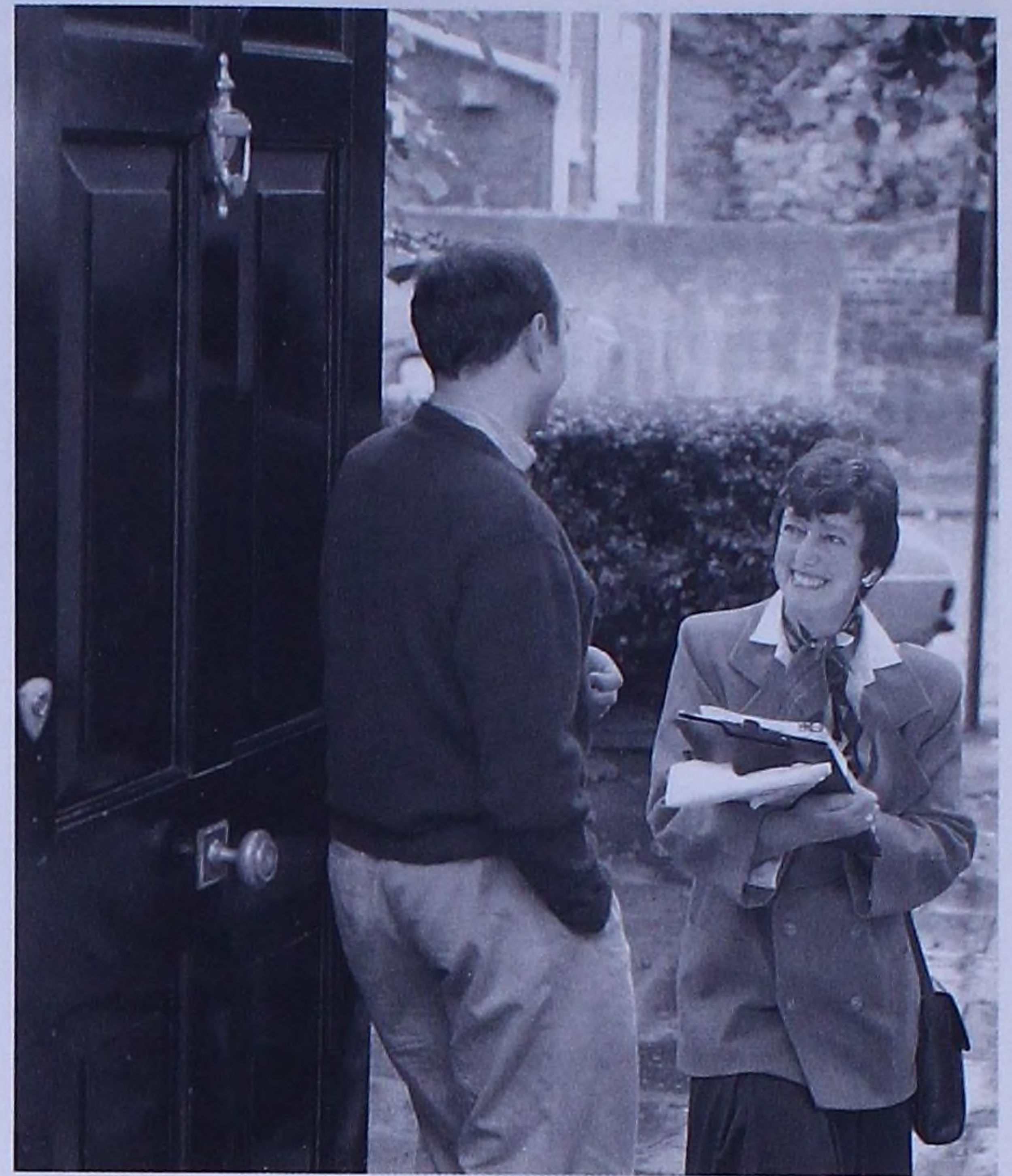
techniques and is introducing automatic coding to facilitate 100 per cent processing;

- **The Information System Strategy Project** is charged with ensuring an integrated system design far removed from the old mainframe computer environment;
- **The Output Production Policy and Marketing Project** is looking at new outputs on new forms of media; flexibility is vital in this respect - we are very conscious of technological change and the need to keep our options open. We would also wish to identify further partnerships so that we can offer a full range of value-added products;
- **The Data Requirement Project** has looked at potential new questions and new questionnaire design integrated with the requirements for scanning and design of the forms;
- **The Legislation Project** is essential to our relationship with the European Union and a common approach to international censuses being conducted at the turn of the century.

In addition to these there are two major statistical projects which are primarily devoted to resolving the problems surrounding the quality of our product and addressing the principle issues arising from the 1991 Census. These cover *Under-enumeration and Disclosure* and the *Data Quality and Imputation*, and are discussed in a little more detail in the following paragraphs.

UNDER-ENUMERATION

Although the 1991 Census achieved a high level of overall coverage - almost 98 per cent - there



was a considerable problem with the differential undercount whereby the under-enumeration was not evenly distributed throughout the whole population. Under-enumeration was high among certain population sub-groups (such as young males aged 20-29 in inner city areas, infants under 1, armed forces and their dependents, and elderly women aged over 85) and was concentrated in particular areas. This differential under-coverage causes severe problems for the fundamental use of such census data at small area level and significant problems in relation to the allocation of resources.

A major problem occurs where there are concentrations of multi-occupancy - that is where there is more than one household at one address. It is expected that in 2001, the coverage problems will be at least the order of magnitude of those experienced in 1991 but probably greater. We expect more one-person households, more people absent during the day, and more households which may be difficult to enumerate because of increased security such as entry phones. The mobile population - that is those

who reside at more than one address - is also likely to have increased.

We addressing these problems for 2001 specifically by looking at:

- the definition of the population base, which will not simply need to be comprehensive to avoid the holes which might lead to an under-enumeration, but also be understood and communicated both to the public and to field staff;
- the date of the Census, which is now being planned in term time with students at universities and colleges and schoolchildren at boarding schools being enumerated at those places (and additionally included on their respective household forms);
- the difficulties of defining residents in communal establishments to ensure that they are correctly enumerated, particularly in respect of the elderly, for it is believed that this is a particular source of under-enumeration for that group;
- improvements to our geographical planning with the introduction of customised maps, the use of pre-printed address lists, and updated information from local authorities - all aspects which are included and incorporated within the 1997 Census Test;
- the design and content of the Census form to improve response rates and the quality of the data collected. The appearance, layout and wording of the form have all been researched to enable it to be completed more easily, and the 1997 Census Test will assess those questions which might have an adverse effect on coverage and this will additionally be part of our follow-up enquiries;

- improvements in the training of field staff and closer co-operation with the local authorities and community organisations to address directly the problems of coverage in the inner cities; and
- better publicity aimed at targeting particular problem groups such as young adults, recent mothers and the elderly.

DATA QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

One innovation for the 2001 Census is the introduction of the Data Quality Management Programme as a means of improving and measuring data quality. The programme itself is an aspect of our interpretation of the Total Quality Management approach adopted so successfully in Australia.

A key aspect is the development of a system to monitor and measure data quality during the Census operation taking inputs from various Census operations as well as from external data sources to enable pre-determined quality standards to be monitored and to provide ad hoc interrogation facilities. Specifically, the Programme aims to:

- co-ordinate all areas of the 2001 Census to examine data quality issues and to develop quality standards in consultation with processing specialists;
- monitor and measure data quality during the Census operation to enable problems to be identified and acted upon;
- inform the user of the quality of the published data, such as the degree of imputation of missing data carried out;

- collect data to feed into the One Number Census estimation procedures (about which more follows below).

IMPUTATION

There is an on-going research work on the comparative evaluation of different imputation methods and systems. It has already been established that the 1991 hotdeck system (as an imputation system) has merits over neural networks. Currently an improvement of the 1991 hotdeck system in the form of a joint imputation method is being investigated. The main difference between the 1991 system and the joint imputation method is that in the former the variables are imputed sequentially in a pre-determined order whereas in the latter the variables are imputed concurrently. The initial results are encouraging - the joint imputation method has shown substantial improvements over the 1991 system. Future research work will concentrate on the choice of matching variables using statistical modelling techniques, definition of the imputation blocks (geographical search area for donors), imputation of complex variables such as occupation and industry, and the efficient design of donor search algorithms. The system will be extensively tested on simulated and real demographic data before application to the 2001 Census data.

THE ONE NUMBER CENSUS

The Census provides the benchmark against which we re-base the annual population estimates. These figures are vital in the allocation of public funds and it is therefore of the utmost importance that all of our users have complete confidence in the information that we are providing. If there is room for doubt or question about the Census-based estimates at the local

level and indeed how these compare for one area with another, then all of the uses to which the Census is put are in jeopardy.

We have therefore decided that one of the principal objectives of the Office for National Statistics in the run up to the 2001 Census will be to undertake research to produce information from the Census at all levels on one common basis. In essence, this means adjusting the Census database for net undercoverage. The estimation procedures for such a project will be complex and use data from a variety of sources including a post enumeration Census coverage survey, demographic analyses and probably administrative records. This will not simply require substantial technical expertise, it will also need to be fully maintained and carefully managed. The handling of the difficulties in producing such a dataset should not be underestimated.

The project is being undertaken under Professor Ian Diamond's direction at Southampton University and will report to the Project Board chaired by Tim Jones, Director of Statistical Methodology in the Office for National Statistics, under a Steering Committee chaired by John Fox. User consultation will also be vital to the endorsement of the approach.

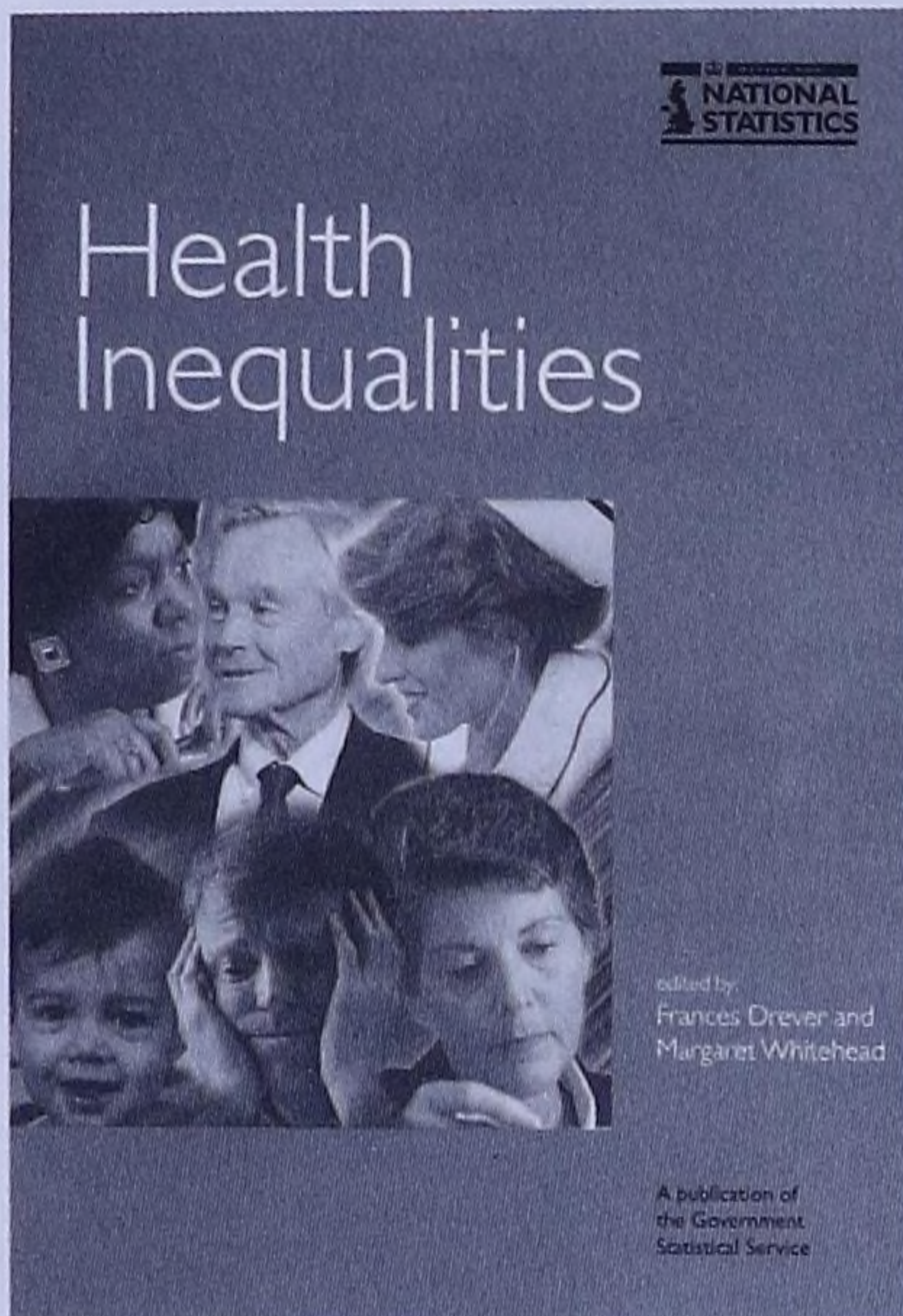
CONCLUSION

There are a number of changes and innovations in respect of conducting the 2001 Census which I have outlined in this article. The 1997 Census Test, which was carried out in June, is a vital cog in our decision-making process. It will help us to decide crucial issues prior to the 1999 Dress Rehearsal and provide input into the Government's proposals for the 2001 Census to be published in a White Paper prior to the debate in Parliament.

OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS

NEW PUBLICATIONS

■ Health Inequalities



People living in different socio-economic environments have very different chances of enjoying good health and long life according to a major analysis of the risks of death and ill health in England and Wales published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in September.

People at the lower end of the social scale classified by occupation tend not only to have shorter lives but also to have greater risk of ill-health and disability. This is still the case in the 1990s even though death rates have improved for all groups over the last 20 years.

The volume presents the latest evidence on the situation. Some of the main findings include:

- life expectancy is five years less for men at the bottom of the social class scale than for those at the top (70 and 75 years

respectively). For women, life expectancy is three years less for those at the bottom of the social scale (77 years compared to 80 years);

- mortality rates of men at the bottom of the social scale are three times higher than for those at the top. This difference has increased since the early 1970s (806 and 280 deaths per 100,000 in 1991-93 compared to 897 and 500 deaths per 100,000 in 1970-72);
- mortality rates for women in lower social classes are one and a half times greater than that in higher social classes (418 deaths per 100,000 compared to 270 per 100,000);
- mortality rates from lung cancer are five times higher for men, and three times higher for women, in the lower compared with higher social classes (82 and 17 deaths per 100,000 for men and 47 and 16 deaths per 100,000 for women);
- in the early 1970s men at the bottom of the social scale had twice the mortality rate from suicide as men at the top; by the early 1990s this had increased to four times (32 and 16 deaths per 100,000 in 1970-72; 47 and 13 per 100,000 in 1991-93);
- in the early 1980s, women in the higher social classes had one and a half times higher mortality from breast cancer than those in lower social classes. By the late 1980s, there was no such difference;

- mortality for some groups of male migrants was higher than for the population of England and Wales as a whole. Those born in Bangladesh had a 37 per cent excess mortality; in Ireland 35 per cent; in Scotland 29 per cent;
- in 1994, 32 per cent of British men in the professional occupations reported suffering from a long-standing illness, compared with 42 per cent of unskilled manual workers. For women, the figures were 27 and 48 per cent respectively.

Health Inequalities - Decennial Supplement (series DS No.15)

The Stationery Office

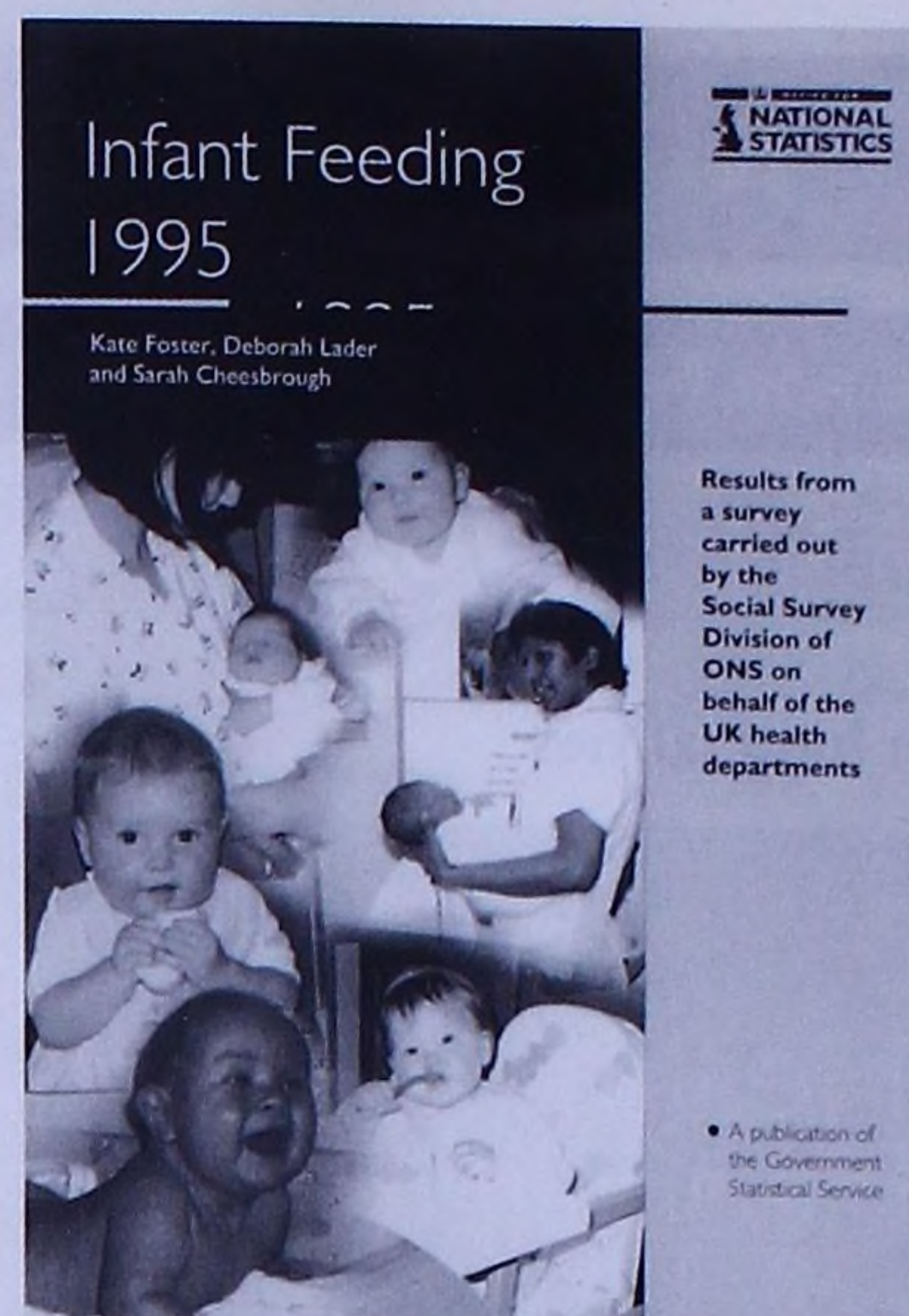
Price £35 / ISBN 0 11 620942 9

For more information contact:

Julia Bunting
Office for National Statistics
Zone B7/08
1 Drummond Gate
London, SW1V 2QQ
☎ 0171 533 5237

■ Infant Feeding Survey 1995

The Office for National Statistics has recently published the fifth national survey of infant feeding practices, which followed the early feeding practices of babies born in 1995 to mothers in the UK until they were about nine months old. The survey was carried out by the Social Survey Division of ONS, on behalf of the four United Kingdom Health Departments. Fieldwork in Northern Ireland was carried out by the Central Survey Unit of the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). The previous four surveys were published in 1975, 1980, 1985 and 1990.



The survey is of interest to the many professional, voluntary and consumer groups concerned to support the new mother. Previous surveys had revealed that rates of breastfeeding were not improving and that there was a high rate of early discontinuation of breast feeding.

The report gives information on how infants were being fed, the factors associated with mother's feeding intentions and with the feeding practices adopted in the early weeks, the age at which solid foods were introduced and weaning practices up to nine months. Results are shown for mothers classified according to various characteristics such as residency, social class, age at which mother completed education, birth order and region. Trends in infant feeding practices over recent years, particularly since 1990, are examined.

Mothers completed a questionnaire on three occasions to collect information about how they fed their baby, and sources of help and advice. Stage one was when the babies were aged 6 to 10 weeks, stage two when they were aged 4 to 5 months and stage three at 8 to 9 months.

The survey revealed, among other findings, that breastfeeding in the UK increased significantly

between 1990 and 1995, from 62 per cent to 66 per cent of mothers who breastfed their babies initially. Mothers of first babies were more likely to breastfeed initially (72 per cent) than mothers of second and later babies (60 per cent).

Infant Feeding 1995

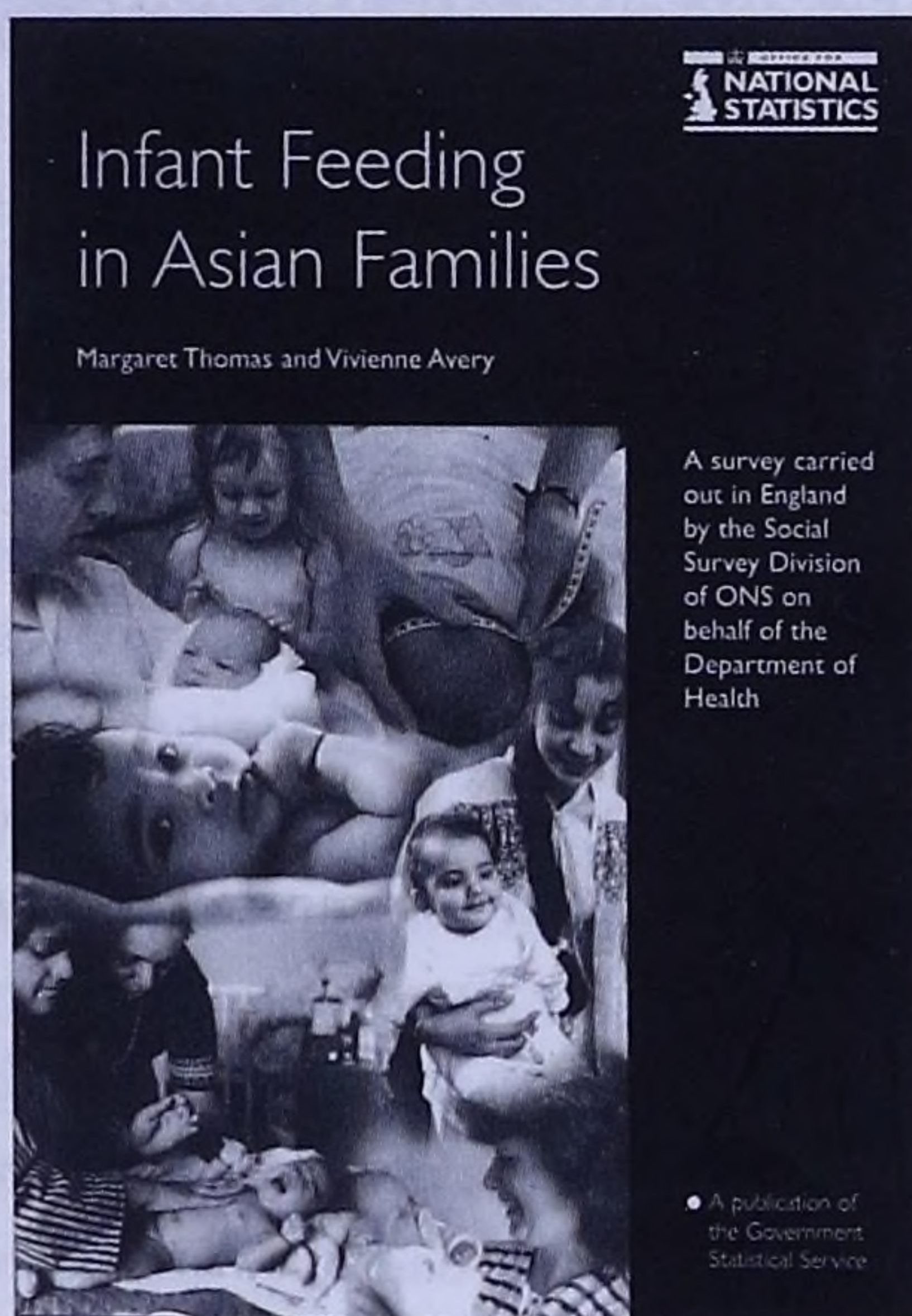
The Stationery Office

Price £29.95 / ISBN 0 11 620918 8

For more information contact:

Kate Foster
Office for National Statistics
Zone D1/24
1 Drummond Gate
London, SW1V 2QQ
☎ 0171 533 5316

■ Infant Feeding in Asian Families



Ninety per cent of Bangladeshi mothers breastfeed their babies, compared with 82 per cent of Indian and 76 per cent of Pakistani mothers. First time mothers from all ethnic groups were more likely to breastfeed than those having second or subsequent babies, according to the first national survey of infant feeding practices in Asian families living in England.

The report was carried out by the ONS Social Survey Division on behalf of the Department of Health. The survey followed the early feeding practices and growth of babies born to mothers of Indian, Pakistani, and Bangladeshi origin until they were 15 months old. Fieldwork was completed between October 1994 and January 1996.

The mothers were interviewed on four occasions to collect information about how they fed their baby, and sources of help and advice. At each interview the baby was weighed and measured.

For comparison, a sample of white mothers living in the same areas as the Asian families was included.

Infant Feeding in Asian Families: Early feeding practices and growth

The Stationery Office

Price £40.00 / ISBN 0 11 691693 1

For more information contact:

Margaret Thomas
Office for National Statistics
Zone D2/23
1 Drummond Gate
London, SW1V 2QQ
☎ 0171 533 5385

HARMONISATION OF SURVEY OUTPUTS - USER CONSULTATION

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) aims to improve the coherence of its products in order to present ever clearer information. Harmonising key elements in major regular social surveys is an important element of this work, allowing customers to use and interpret data more easily and to plan their data collection and analyses more effectively.

The results of the work in this area to date are published as the booklet *Harmonised Concepts and Questions for Government Social Surveys*.

During 1997, further proposals for harmonisation have been drawn up and are being circulated to a range of customers, producers and users of official social statistics for their comments over the summer. The aim is to publish further harmonised concepts and questions by the end of 1997, and for the new questions and concepts to be incorporated in 1998/99 surveys where appropriate. The topics covered in this year's consultation pack are:

- reference period
- geography
- gender
- age
- income
- qualifications
- length of time since last job
- length of time in present job
- usual hours worked
- disability related issues

Harmonised Concepts and Questions for Government Social Surveys
Office for National Statistics
Price £10 / ISBN 1 85774 233 8

Available from:

☎ ONS Sales Office 0171 533 5678

For more information contact:

Magdalen Williams
Office for National Statistics
Zone B2/11
1 Drummond Gate
London, SW1V 2QQ
☎ 0171 533 5786
email: magdalen.williams@ons.gov.uk

LABOUR MARKET ENQUIRY HELPLINE

The ONS Labour Market Division have now established a single enquiry point for all enquiries relating to claimant unemployment, vacancies and the Labour Force Survey.

The helpline number is:

0171 533 6176 or GTN 3042 6176

The main aim of a centralised helpline is to enable us to advise users on the most appropriate source of data for their request, for example whether they should be using the Labour Force Survey or the claimant count measure of unemployment.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS

ROAD TRAVEL SPEEDS IN ENGLISH URBAN AREAS, 1996

Is congestion really increasing at an alarming rate? How are average traffic speeds in urban areas changing? Studies of average traffic speeds in London have been conducted since 1968; by the Greater London Council (GLC) up to 1986, and by the Department of Transport and now the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions since that time. During the period 1968 to 1994, the average traffic speed over the whole London road network decreased by around 2 mph, equivalent to around a 12 per cent increase in the time taken to cover a fixed distance. Results from the latest survey indicate a levelling out of speeds after successive falls in the 1980s.

The Urban Speed Survey, launched in October last year, aims to shed light on this issue in urban

areas outside London. Its purpose is to provide new indicators of traffic congestion on a consistent basis. It is the second in what will be a triennial survey, the first one having been carried out in 1993. The survey measures the average speed in the 19 largest conurbations in England, along with 5 randomly chosen smaller urban areas. It uses the 'floating car' method, whereby a specially-equipped car travels with the traffic stream and attempts to balance the number of vehicles overtaking and being overtaken. Its occupants record the distance and time taken to travel around a defined network of major roads. Each link on the network is covered at least 4 times; once in each direction in both peak and off-peak periods.

In addition, a Global Positioning System is being used to provide grid references of every junction on each of the networks. Using this data in conjunction with a Geographical Information System (GIS) will ease the increasing demands on mapping and updating the routes currently done by hand. It is also envisaged that a GIS will allow integration, mapping and analysis of this survey data with other geographically referenced data.

The survey has recently completed the fieldwork stage, and validation of the data is currently being undertaken. The report, to be published in late-summer, will include an investigation of the change in traffic speeds since 1993.

REFERENCES

Road Travel Speeds in English Urban Areas
Transport Statistics Report
HMSO August 1994 / Price £6.70

London Traffic Monitoring Report:
1996 Edition
Transport Statistics Report
HMSO June 1996 / Price £14

For more information contact:

Melanie McCready
Department of the Environment,
Transport and the Regions
☎ 0171 271 3797

LONDON JOURNEY SURVEY TIMES

The survey is intended to provide a basis for monitoring, in a standardised way, long-term trends in average door-to-door journey times in London using a variety of modes of transport. The first cycle of three annual surveys of journeys in different parts of London ran from 1993 to 1995. This survey was the first of the new cycle, and consisted of short radial journeys between central and inner London, and journeys entirely in central London. The same journeys were also surveyed in 1993, so the first comparisons over time can now be made.

Since the routes are 'door-to-door', the times taken to park, and to walk to and from the parking place are included in the total time for car journeys. For public transport journeys, walking times to and from bus stops and stations are included, and also the time spent waiting for services.

To allow meaningful comparisons between modes and journey types, the journeys from the same origins to the same destinations were travelled by each mode using surveyors. All journeys were travelled by car, bicycle, bus and rail (either London Underground, surface rail or Docklands Light Railway, or combinations of these). In addition, central journeys were travelled by taxi.

Comparing 1996 with 1993, there were increases in total journey times by all modes except bicycle. The largest was an increase from 28 to 33 minutes (18 per cent) in the total time for

central car journeys, for journeys averaging 2.7 miles on-road.

The survey shows indications of increased congestion from 1993 to 1996. However, not all the change found is likely to be due to this. Some of the increase in journey times is likely to be caused by the choice of public transport routes or parking places, or by other factors. The survey report was published on 28 May.

REFERENCE

Journey Times Survey 1996, Inner and Central London

The Stationery Office, May 1997

(revised June 1997)

Price £14 / ISBN 0 11 551926 2

For further information contact:

Chris Morrey
Department of the Environment,
Transport and the Regions
☎ 0171 271 3796
GTN 271 3796

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

THE HEALTH SURVEY FOR ENGLAND

The report of the 1995 Health Survey for England was published in February 1997. The Survey was the fifth annual survey undertaken to improve information on the state of the population's health, risk factors for diseases and the precursors of ill-health.

The survey asked 16,055 adults and 3,773 children (or, in the case of younger children, their parents) detailed questions about their health and lifestyle. Respondents were also weighed and measured, blood pressure and lung

function measured and blood samples taken to bring together comprehensive information in a single survey.

The survey majored on asthma, accidents and disability as well as monitoring the Health of the Nation targets on blood pressure and obesity, and giving information on general health, smoking, alcohol and prescribed medicines.

The main findings of the 1995 survey were that:

- the mean systolic blood pressure fell from 139mmHg in 1991 to 136mmHg in 1995 (the Health of the Nation target is 133mmHg by 2005);
- the proportion of adults with high blood pressure also fell between 1991 and 1995 from 24.2 per cent to 22.4 per cent;
- the proportion of those with high blood pressure who were on treatment rose from 52 per cent in 1991 to 61 per cent in 1995;
- 15 per cent of adult men and 16.5 per cent of adult women were classified as obese compared to 12.7 per cent and 15 per cent respectively in 1991. (The Health of the Nation target is 6 per cent of men and 8 per cent of women by 2005);
- 11 per cent of adults and 20 per cent of children at some time in the past had been diagnosed by a doctor as having asthma; and
- it is estimated that 21 per cent of adult men and 15 per cent of adult women had had a major accident (ie one which involved subsequent contact with the medical profession) in the last year. The estimates for children were 31 per cent among boys and 22 per cent among girls.

The 1996 survey also majored on asthma and accidents and special measures of general health. The results are due to be published in late 1997 or early 1998. The 1997 survey is currently in the field and is focusing on children and young adults.

REFERENCE

Health Survey for England 1995

The Stationery Office

Price £14 / ISBN 0 11 322021 9

A summary of key findings booklet is also available, free of charge, from:

Department of Health
PO Box 410
Wetherby, LS23 7LN
Fax 01937 845381

For further information contact:

Richard Bond
Department of Health
☎ 0171 972 5675

HOME OFFICE

FIRE STATISTICS: UNITED KINGDOM

This Home Office Statistical Bulletin published on 10 April 1997 presents summary provisional information on fires and casualties from fires attended by local authority fire brigades in the United Kingdom in 1995. *Summary Fire Statistics: United Kingdom 1995* contains chapters on fires; casualties; and analyses of automatic fire alarms and fires where smokers' materials were the source of ignition. It also contains historical tables (including finalised 1994 fire data) and more detailed annual tables concerning the location of fires and information about fatal and non-fatal casualties in 1995. Published on the

same day was, *Fires in the Home: Results from the British Crime Survey* containing information from a sample survey of nearly 16,500 householders in England and Wales.

Summary of Content

Fires (Chapter 1)

- UK fire brigades attended 603,600 fires in 1995, more than ever previously recorded. This was mainly the result of the hot summer leading to 174,500 grassland and heathland fires, an increase of 131 per cent compared with 1994. August was the peak month.
- Building fires increased marginally by two per cent to 111,000, mainly due to more fires in private sheds and garages.
- Accidental fires in all buildings increased slightly to 76,000. In dwellings this was mainly due to an increase in cooking fires (the largest cause) despite a decrease in chip pan fires.
- Numbers of fires vary by time of day. Accidental building fires peaked around 5pm with a lesser peak around midday, mainly due to cooking fires. Malicious building fires peaked around 8pm. The greatest numbers of casualties per fire occurred some hours later, between 2am and 5am.

Casualties (Chapter 2)

- Fire brigades reported 808 deaths, an increase of 16 per cent on the 1994 total (which was the lowest since 1962). The rise in deaths in 1995 occurred across all types of locations and not solely from outdoor fires. When adjusted for comparability, the 1995 figure was below that in 1992 and earlier years.

- Fire death rates were highest for males and the elderly (over 79). The largest increase in fire death rates was among women aged over 79.
- There were no fire-related brigade deaths in 1995 or 1994. There had been 14 in the period 1985 to 1993. Three are known to have occurred in 1996 (other detailed information not yet available).
- Fire death totals and rates fell in most years between 1985 and 1994. The 1995 figures were higher than in 1993 and 1994 but below those of many earlier years.
- The number of non-fatal casualties in 1995 was 17,200, a rise of 2 per cent. The increased number of dwelling fires, which caused over three quarters of non-fatal casualties, outweighed the reduction in the number of casualties per dwelling fire.
- Cooking fires were the most common (58 per cent), but they were less often attended by brigades than other fires.
- Although 40 per cent of fires in the home caused no real damage, the estimated gross cost to householders was £355m with those that brigades were called to costing an estimated £355m
- Households most at risk were those with children, and with smokers or heavy drinkers. Risks were also higher for those in financial difficulty and whose homes were in poor condition.

For more information contact:

Home Office Fire Statistics Section
 Room 311, Building 3
 Building Research Establishment
 Bucknalls Lane
 Garston
 Watford
 Hertfordshire, WD2 7JR
 ☎ 01923 892900

All fire statistics publications are available from:

Information and Publications Group
 Research and Statistics Directorate
 Home Office
 Room 1308
 Apollo House
 36 Wellesley Road
 Croydon
 Surrey, CR9 3RR.
 ☎ 0181 760 8340

Other Analyses (Chapter 3)

- Automatic fire alarms continue to discover dwelling fires more quickly, leading to lower casualty rates and less damage by fire.
- Missing batteries accounted for over half the cases of alarm failure in dwelling fires.

Fires in the Home in 1995: Results from the British Crime Survey

- An estimated 3.4 per cent of householders in England and Wales experienced a fire in the home in 1995, compared with 3.9 per cent in 1993.
- Of these, between 12 per cent and 19 per cent were estimated to have been attended by fire brigades.

RESTRUCTURING WITHIN THE NORTHERN IRELAND STATISTICS AND RESEARCH AGENCY

EDUCATION STATISTICS DIVISION: FLAGSHIP PUBLICATIONS

In order to bring a greater focus to the development of professional work on demography (particularly in the lead-up to the 2001 Census) and to strengthen work on public expenditure and policy evaluation, a new professional Branch has been formed within the Agency and two existing Branches merged.

The new Branch, Demography and Methodology Branch, will be headed by Mr Robert Beatty, on promotion to Grade 7. The Branch will be responsible for demographic analysis and statistical support to Census Office 2001 Census preparations. It will also provide advice on statistics to the General Register Office and will act as the Survey Control Unit for Northern Ireland.

Two Branches, Economic Statistics and Briefing Branch and Expenditure and Evaluation Branch have merged to form a single Regional Reporting and Evaluation Branch headed by Dr Paul Geddis. This will provide a focus for Northern Ireland regional social and economic statistics and public expenditure analysis.

The changes took effect from 3 February 1997.

Official statistics on the numbers of schools, pupils and teachers in Scotland have been disseminated since 1872. In August 1996, the Education Statistics Division (ESD) produced a package of three flagship publications, comprising the following:

- a composite publication of summary information titled Scottish Education Statistics;
- a Scottish Education Statistics Fact Card and
- a divisional guide to our data sources.

This article describes the content of these publications, and how they will develop.

SCOTTISH EDUCATION STATISTICS

This publication, which was the first in a new series, contains a summary of the key relating to each sector of education in Scotland.

All the tables had already been released in one of the statistical bulletins produced by ESD during the previous 12 months.

This publication provides a reference source for the wide range of education statistics which are available for Scotland.

In preparing the 1997 edition, we will review the content and re-align the focus of the summary to provide greater depth on some topic areas, and to provide a consistent basis for contributing to other GSS publications such as *Regional Trends*, *Social Trends* and the *Scottish Abstract of Statistics*.

SCOTTISH EDUCATION STATISTICS FACTCARD

The Fact Card, which has been produced for a number of years, provides key summary indicators, on a single sheet of A4, on all aspects of Scottish Education for 1984-85, 1989-90 and 1993-94 to 1994-95.

GUIDE TO SOURCES

The Guide to Sources describes the range of statistical sources used by ESD to generate information on the Scottish education system. It provides a comprehensive list of the statistical information collected and processed by ESD on behalf of the department, for the benefit of data suppliers and our customers.

In the next version of this publication, we plan to extend the information given on each survey to include a note on the validation checks that we use internally; to provide specimen sets of the survey forms; and to include additional background on ESD and the GSS in terms of data collection and dissemination issues. We also plan to re-align the format of the Guide to better reflect the structure of the *GSS Official Guide to Statistics*.

DISSEMINATION POLICY

A policy has been formulated to provide a consistent approach to dissemination of information by the Division. A separate document provides detailed procedural instructions to branches. Together they provide a

consistent framework for producing all publications by ESD. These documents have been written for:-

- **customers** - showing them what they can expect from us and potentially giving them the information to demand improvements in service.
- **statisticians** - showing best practice and providing a basis for a coordinated dissemination strategy.

Key features include:

- setting realistic target dates for releasing information into the public domain;
- producing outputs in a form specifically targeted to customer needs;
- having mechanics for dissemination in place;
- establishing consistent quality assurance; and procedures.

THE PARENTS' CHARTER

Under the Regulations put in place to underpin the Parents' Charter (1991), the Secretary of State for Scotland provides each school in November with summary statistics on their pupils' attendance and absence, budgeted running costs, examination results and on the destinations of their school leavers. Education authority and national averages are also provided. Schools are then required to include the information in their school handbooks; education authorities are required to provide the information for all of their secondary schools to the parents of children who will be starting secondary school in the following session; and the Audit Unit of HM Inspectors of Schools publish national reports of information on all schools in Scotland. The national reports attract

a great deal of attention from the local and national media each year.

The Education Statistics Division has the task of collecting, validating, analysing and then disseminating all of the Parents' Charter data sets. This involves assembling around a third of a million data items from several sources, including the Scottish Qualifications Authority, careers service companies, Education Authorities, schools and the Division's own datasets. All of this has to be done to very tight timescales, and the data has to be subjected to vigorous and extensive checking. Where possible, the data is captured electronically, incorporating checks to eliminate minor errors at an early stage and to lessen the burden on data providers. All further validation and analysis stages are conducted within SAS, from where the summary sheets for the school handbooks are produced using an electronic data feed. Schools and education authorities are also involved in the checking process.

The whole process is a challenging and intensive task for a small branch to undertake, with most of the activity concentrated by necessity into a few hectic months in the autumn. To date, the information has always been issued on schedule and with very few subsequent queries on the accuracy of the figures involved - no small feat, given the volume of data and the potential for errors. Future challenges include hosting briefing seminars for the various data providers to improve the quality of the information provided in the first stage of the process, and to automate the processing, analysis, printing and distribution stages still further.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM PROJECT

The National Management Information System Project is looking at how the wide range of data held by the many partners in the Scottish

education system could be used more effectively. It aims to reduce the burden on data providers, who have historically had to produce a variety of aggregate returns for different data consumers, by facilitating the electronic interchange of low level data. Schools and education authorities already hold much of this information in their management systems (hence the Project's title).

The Project has developed a data model for secondary schools, covering students, staff (both teaching and non-teaching) and the curriculum. This dataset is designed to meet the needs of The Scottish Office, Education Authorities and others for analyses to monitor the operation of the education system and policy changes. However, schools must be convinced of the benefits to them of holding and maintaining the data, if the Project is to succeed.

A small number of secondary schools have provided data for a pilot electronic data exchange in 1996 and initial results are encouraging. A further strand of the Project is developing electronic tools which will allow schools and education authorities to see tables of their examination results, which have been available for a number of years in printed form. The Project Team has also developed a draft interchange agreement which covers how the data might be exchanged and used by partners. Future challenges are to involve more schools in exchanging data and to develop data models for nursery, primary and special schools.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION STATISTICS

The Scottish Office Education and Industry Department (SOEID) decided that statistics were required on community education. Having agreed on this, colleagues from HM Inspectorate and Education Statistics division then faced the first of many questions: what is community education?

Community education covers an extremely diverse range of activities, from adult education classes to the promotion of voluntary organisations to after-school care to youth information services. The work is carried out by local authority staff, who are often spread over a wide geographic area.

The question of how to collect community education data was not an easy one to answer. It was relatively simple for local authorities to provide information on staff and budgets on an annual basis, using their central records. However, the varied and geographically dispersed nature of community education services made the collection of data on participation in community education more onerous, and the provision of data on all participants over an entire year unrealistic. In addition, pronounced seasonal differences in community education participation meant that the collection of one-off snapshot data would produce unreliable results. The procedure eventually agreed by a joint SOEID/local authority group was for local authorities to collect participation data in 4 weekly surveys, one in each quarter, with the authority having freedom to choose the survey week.

Deciding on what information to collect was another challenge, with the desire for vast amounts of information having to be balanced against the difficulty of collecting reliable information for all community education activities and the burden being placed on local authority staff in collecting this information. In the end, the collection was restricted to a small number of core data items (e.g. the number of participants in given age groups by level of involvement of community education staff) which local authorities would wish to collect for their own purposes.

The collection is now in its third year, with further complications having been created by local government reorganisation, which has seen the transfer of responsibility from 12 regional/island authorities to 32 councils. Data for 1994-95 and 1995-96 have recently been published, with the collection of 1996-97 data (the first from the new councils) currently nearing completion.

FURTHER EDUCATION STATISTICS

This note reports on some recent developments within further education (FE) statistics in Scotland.

FE colleges in Scotland are required to make several data submissions to The Scottish Office Education and Industry Department. Two of these collections, the Further Education Statistics (FES) return and the collection of course data for funding purposes included an element of duplication. In an effort to reduce the burden on data suppliers, SOEID decided in 1994 to combine these surveys into one data collection. At the same time, the calculation of 'SUMs' would be automated. (A SUM, or student unit of measurement, is the unit used to calculate the allocation of funding to colleges. Each SUM is equivalent to around 40 hours tuition.)

A working group was set up to provide a specification of the revised 'FES/SUMs' return. The group included representatives from colleges and SOEID. Some of the group members were knowledgeable in the FE funding methodology, others were experts in the college management information systems and the remainder were statisticians. The group, however, did not have any members who were expert in all 3 fields.

The group produced a specification in Autumn 1994 which was passed to the three software suppliers involved. Five colleges then took part in pilot testing of the new system in the Summer of 1995 and almost all colleges took part in a trial run of the new system in Autumn 1995 when they returned their funding and statistical data for 1995-96. As part of the trial run, colleges were asked to reconcile the funding and statistical returns and comment on any differences between the 2 sets of figures. The results showed several colleges with a very close match while for other colleges the two sources were further adrift, for a variety of reasons. Some amendments have since been made to the system to correct some of the discrepancies observed and colleges have been informed of areas which require manual intervention.

The revised FES/SUMs system will have its first live run this summer. If it is successful, we expect the linking of statistical data to funding information to result in a higher profile for our statistics in the colleges, which should lead to improvements in data quality.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

ENERGY STATISTICS

Energy is a major natural resource and a key factor in the economy and environment of the United Kingdom. Data on energy supply and demand, energy prices and values and trade in energy are essential components of this country's main economic and environmental indicators and are published on a regular basis by the Department of Trade and Industry.

Energy Trends is a monthly publication produced by the Department of Trade and Industry which began in the 1960s. It has recently been reviewed and redesigned to improve its usefulness, and now includes an increased range of graphs. With

tables, charts and commentary covering all the major aspects of energy, it provides a comprehensive picture of energy production and use over recent months. It allows readers to monitor trends during the year and as such complements the annual publications. It is available on annual subscription, priced £30 for UK subscribers.

Digest of United Kingdom Energy Statistics and *The Energy Report* (Volumes 1 and 2) are the annual energy statistics publications produced by the Department. *The Digest of United Kingdom Energy Statistics* provides detailed annual data and analysis, with key series going back to the 1960s. It includes detailed information on production and consumption for individual fuels and for energy as a whole. The latest edition was published by The Stationery Office in July.

The Energy Report Volume 1 provides an update on Government policy and details the evolution of the energy sector towards full competition. Volume 2, often referred to as the 'Brown Book', gives details of oil and gas resources in the United Kingdom. The latest edition of Volume 1 contains a chapter on energy indicators. Energy statisticians in DTI would welcome comments on this initial set. The indicators cover key energy issues such as the role of energy in the economy, depletion of fossil fuel resources, developments in the intensity of final energy use, fuel prices, competition, the environmental impact of energy use as well as international comparisons. The indicators chapter is also available free of charge as a booklet. Volume 2 of *The Energy Report* was published by The Stationery Office in April and Volume 1 in July.

The pocket size booklet *UK Energy in Brief* summarises the key energy statistics and gives an overall view of energy. It provides a quick and easy reference guide and is available free of charge.

FUTURE WORK

Over the coming year energy statisticians in the Department of Trade and Industry will be working to develop stronger links between energy statistics and environmental issues. They will also be working to develop the energy section for PRODCOM, the EU wide survey collecting production and sales data.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Enquiries for further information, including copies of the free *UK Energy in Brief* and *Energy indicators* publications, and subscriptions to *Energy Trends* should be addressed to:

Gillian Purkis
DTI Energy Policy and Analysis Unit
☎ 0171 215 2697

To obtain the publications produced by The Stationery Office contact the:

Publications Centre ☎ 0171 873 9090

REGIONAL COMPETITIVENESS INDICATORS

A set of Regional Competitiveness Indicators were published by the DTI on 30 July in a consultation document. The purpose was to present statistical information which illustrates the factors which determine regional competitiveness and to seek views on a range of indicators which can be published regularly to help to:

- establish a framework for future work on regional competitiveness
- identify underlying regional characteristics influencing regional competitiveness.

The indicators are divided into five main sections: overall competitiveness, the labour market, education & training, capital and land & infrastructure.

They are not intended to measure the performance of Government Offices or territorial departments, but have been designed to assist those responsible for developing regional development strategies and others who have an interest in competitiveness. In due course, they should support the work of the Regional Development Agencies which are to be established in each English region.

The closing date for responses to the consultation is 17 October 1997, with the results being made available early in 1998.

For further information and copies of the publication please contact:

Linda Oldfield ☎ 0171 215 3279

WELSH OFFICE

1997 WELSH HOUSE CONDITION SURVEY

The Welsh Office is currently in the early stages of conducting the latest *Welsh House Condition Survey*. The survey is being carried out in two stages: a household interview survey followed by a detailed survey of the physical characteristics of homes in Wales. The results will be used to assess the condition of Welsh housing stock, in terms of its state of repair and fitness for habitation. Similar surveys were carried out in 1986 and 1992-93.

The first stage - "the household interview survey" - involves a short (approximately 15 minutes) interview with the householder, to obtain

information on a range of characteristics. These include dwelling characteristics such as:

- type of dwelling;
- age of dwelling;
- house condition;
- number of rooms; and
- tenure

and information about the people in the household, for example:

- age;
- sex;
- marital status;
- employment status;
- benefits; and
- income and savings

For the interview survey, a sample of 50,000 addresses has been selected at random, from the residential (small-user) properties contained in the Post Code Address File. This means that on average, around 1 in 20 households in Wales will be included although the exact proportion will vary from area to area. The physical condition survey will be conducted on a sub-sample of the addresses visited in the interview stage.

The interview stage is scheduled to be completed by the end of September 1997, by which time fieldwork on the physical survey will be underway. Further information on the survey will be reported on in a future issue of *Statistical News*. It is expected that a published report on the survey will be released mid 1998.

Contact:

Lisa Dunsford
SD6
Welsh Office
Cathays Park
Cardiff, CF1 3NQ
☎ 01222 825067 / GTN: 1208 5067

WELSH STATISTICAL LIAISON COMMITTEE

The Welsh Statistical Liaison Committee (WSLC) is composed of representatives of the local authorities, the local authority association and the Welsh Office and is chaired by the Chief Statistician of the Welsh Office.

A meeting held in Cardiff on 27 February 1997 discussed the following topics: population and household projections; measures of socio-economic conditions; the European NUTS classification; local area travel patterns; the ONS review of travel-to-work areas; the Welsh Local Area Statistics (published on 23 April); the 2001 Census; and the role of the Committee in relation to statistics indicators in the revenue support grant settlement.

Two working groups have been meeting to look at Population and household projections, and Data sources for use in calculating indices of socio-economic conditions.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 9 October 1997. Further details about the activities of the WSLC and copies of papers discussed at meetings are available from the Secretary:

David Blair
SD1
Welsh Office
Cathays Park
Cardiff, CF1 3NQ
☎ 01222 825085 / GTN: 1208 5085

BANK OF ENGLAND

EUROPEAN MONEY AND BANKING STATISTICAL METHODS

The most recent version of European Money and Banking Statistical Methods (the 'Purple Book') has now been published by the EMI. The aim of the manual, which covers all EU states, is to provide a description of the different national banking systems and statistical collection methods from the point of view of the compilation of monetary statistics.

Contributions are submitted by national central banks. Among the topics covered are the measures of money, banking business and products, reporting procedures, sectoral breakdowns and publication policy.

Previous editions of the 'Purple Book' were not made publicly available. Following an EMI decision, the latest version will be made available to the public, and copies can be obtained from the Bank of England.

INFLATION REPORT

The May *Inflation Report* provided a detailed analysis of recent monetary, price and demand developments in the UK economy, and offered the Bank of England's current assessment of the prospects for inflation over the following two years. It included analysis of recent money and credit growth and of the latest news on output, the labour market and earnings.

QUARTERLY BULLETIN

In addition to regular articles providing commentaries on the operation of UK monetary policy, developments in the world economy and in financial markets, the May issue of the Bank's *Quarterly Bulletin* contained the following items:

- **Comparing the monetary transmission mechanism in France, Germany and the United Kingdom: some issues and results** (by Erik Britton and John Whitley of the Bank's Conjunctural Assessment and Projections Division). In this article, Erik Britton and John Whitley analyse the importance of structural differences between the economies of the United Kingdom, France and Germany for the response of output and prices to changes in monetary policy. They review previous studies and report results from a complementary empirical approach, summarising the evidence as inconclusive. They argue that some of the commonly cited differences are not really structural and that even where they are, they do not automatically imply that one economy will be more sensitive than another to a change in monetary policy.
- **Economic models and policy-making** (by John Whitley of Conjunctural Assessment and Projections Division). In this article, John Whitley describes and

evaluates the role of macroeconomic models at the Bank of England in the process of policy advice. He outlines how large macroeconomic models were used in the 1970s and 1980s; the reasons why they did not meet the needs of policy-makers; and how the need to incorporate uncertainty about the workings of the economy into policy-making has led to a more eclectic and judgmental approach to models at the Bank of England.

- **The information in money** (by Mark S Astley of the Bank's Structural Economic Analysis Division and Andrew G Haldane of the Bank's Monetary Assessment and Strategy Division). The monetary and credit aggregates are among many indicators used to consider future prospects for inflation. This article assesses the information contained in money and credit about future real activity and inflation. Some of the sectoral components of money and credit are found to have explanatory power over certain disaggregated components of spending. But none of the aggregates is sufficiently reliable to justify looking only at money when formulating an inflation assessment.
- **Features of a successful contract: financial futures on LIFFE** (by Allison Holland and Anne Fremault Vila of the Bank's Markets and Trading Systems Division). The success of a futures contract, defined as its long-term

survival, has generally been linked to the existence of a large and volatile spot market and to a design that makes the contract highly effective for hedging purposes. This article examines the importance of these and other factors, using data on the financial futures contracts introduced by LIFFE between 1982 and 1994.

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New Surveys & Departmental Listings

SUPPLEMENT



NEW SURVEYS NOTIFIED TO SURVEY CONTROL UNIT

JANUARY 1997 - MARCH 1997

For further information about the survey listed, the appropriate contact may be obtained from Robert Palmer, Survey Control Unit, Office for National Statistics, Zone D2/11, 1 Drummond Gate, London SW1V 2QQ. ☎ 0171 533 6247.

NEW SURVEYS ASSESSED

SCU No.	Title	Dept.	Ass	Activity of Dept	Number of respondents	Location respondents	Freq
12500116	Survey into Business Spending on Capital Goods	ONS		Business	2500	UK	AH
12500117	IMF Co-Ordinated Portfolio Investment Survey	ONS		Finance	1000	UK	AH
12500118	Follow Up Survey of Marginal Workers	ONS		Business	1550	GB	AH
12500120	Survey into Stockholding Periods	ONS		Business	1500	UK	Y5
13400087	Food Hygiene Research	DH	COI	Food & Drink	1350	E	AH
13900262	Northern Uplands Objective 5b Interim Evaluation	DoE		Business	1160	N	AH
13900263	Making a Corporate Commitment - Top Management Attitudes	DoE		Business	950	UK	AH
13900266	Energy Consumption Guide for the Carpets Industry	DoE		Fuel	100	UK	Y3
13900267	Bus and Coach Fuel Efficiency Survey	DoE		Fuel	2500	UK	AH
13900268	Review of the Operation of Hardship Relief from Non-Domestic Rates	DoE		Social Services	400	E	AH
13900269	Strategic Development of Benchmarking for Construction - Feasibility	DoE		Construction	400	GB	AH
13900273	Low Income Home Owners: Long Term Need for supporting them	DoE		Housing	25	GB	N/K
13900274	Combatting Underoccupation of Housing owned by LAs and Social Landlords	DoE		Housing	40	GB	N/K
13900275	Assessment of LA Data on Housing Stock Flows	DoE		Housing	165	GB	N/K
13900276	Conversion or Demolition (and Redevelopment): Processes and Potential	DoE		Housing	60	GB	N/K
13900277	An Assessment of Evaluations of Rough Sleeping outside London	DoE		Social Services	140	GB	N/K
13900278	Leader II 1994-99: Programme Interim Evaluation (1 Project)	DoE		Housing	6670	GB	N/K
13900279	Interreg 1 1990-93: Programme Ex-Post Evaluation (1 Project)	DoE		Housing	265	GB	N/K
13900280	Local Housing Needs Assessment Guidance	DoE		Housing	110	GB	N/K
13900281	Housing Management and the regeneration of Social Housing Estates: Gpg	DoE		Housing	120	GB	N/K
13900282	Evaluation of Group Repair	DoE		Housing	205	GB	N/K
13900283	Demolition and New Building on Local Authority Estates	DoE		Housing	140	GB	N/K
13900284	Updating of HIP Data Sheets and Analysis of HECA Reports;	DoE		Housing	408	GB	N/K
13900285	Environmental Statements: July 1988 to March 1997	DoE		Planning	410	E	AH
13900286	Advertisement Discontinuance Notices 1996/97	DoE		Planning	375	E	AH
13900288	Compliance Cost Assessment for the Proposed EC Directive on Emissions	DoE		Chemicals	120	UK	AH
13900289	An Energy Consumption Guide for the Textile, Dyeing and Finishing Inds	DoE		Textiles	600	UK	Y3
13900290	PINS Customer Satisfaction Survey	DoE		Customer	900	EW	AH
13900291	Nationwide Survey of Community Heating	DoE	BRE	Fuel	1200	UK	AH
13900292	Lincolnshire Objective 5 (B) SPD Interim Evaluation	DoE		Business Services	42	EM	AH

SCU No.	Title	Dept.	Ass	Activity of Dept	Number of respondents	Location respondents	Freq
13900293	Midlands Uplands Objective 5(B) SPD Interim Evaluation	DoE		Business Services	42	EM	AH
13900295	Citizens Charter Survey - Cites Licensing Section	DoE		Business Services	500	GB	A
14200097	Disability Discrimination Act: Service Providers	DSS		Disabled	2161	GB	AH
14200098	Survey of Supported Accommodation Providers	DSS		Housing	3300	GB	AH
14200099	Employers/Service Providers Knowledge of the Disability Discrimination Act	DSS		Disabled	1000	GB	AH
14200105	Work Incentives and Intermediaries	DSS		Social Services	1500	GB	AH
14400114	Third Survey of Industrial Tribunal Applications - 3rd Sita	DTI		Employer	4500	GB	Y4
14400115	Workplace Industrial Relations Survey 1997	DTI		Employer	37625	GB	I
14400116	Networking Survey	DTI		Business	84	E	AH
14400118	Assessment of Size and Health of UK Space Industry - 1996 Update	DTI		Business	65	UK	AH
14400119	Evaluation of APAG Trade Mission to Burma	DTI		Business Services	31	UK	AH
14400120	Potential Use Of Wood Waste Generated by Local Authorities	DTI		Service	80	E	AH
14400121	Warrior Supply Chain Analysis Survey	DTI		Business Services	221	UK	AH
14400122	Design Council Evaluation and Tracking Pilot Study	DTI		Professional	50	UK	AH
14400123	Sources of UK & European Assistance to the New & Renewable Energy Industry	DTI		Business Services	450	UK	AH
14400124	Interim Assessment of South West Business Networking Scheme	DTI		Business	175	SW	AH
14400125	Wind Component Industry Survey	DTI		Business Services	189	UK	AH
14400126	Survey of UKAEA Contractors	DTI		Engineering	161	UK	AH
14400129	Survey of Industrial Requirements of Concrete Cube Testing	DTI		Construction	100	UK	AH
14500216	Survey on Access Buggies in Pedestrian Precincts	DTI		Transport	460	GB	AH
14500219	Methods of Payment for Traffic Area Customers	DoT		Transport	1000	GB	AH
14500220	Trip End Facilities for Cyclists	DoT		Cyclist	1000	E	AH
14500222	Driver Preferences for Road Use Charging Survey	DoT		Driver	432	GB	AH
16600016	Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme: Survey of Applicants etc.	HO		Customer	500	GB	A
16800058	Dev/Eval of Aids for Initial Medical Assessment of Upper Limb Disorder	HSE		Patient	80	S	AH
17900165	The Agronomic and Environmental Evaluation of Set-Aside	MAFF		Farming	3000	E	AH
17900167	Viability of Agriculture in Hampshire	MAFF		Farming	2996	SE	AH
17900168	Beef Assurance Scheme Questionnaire	MAFF		Farming	400	EW	AH
17900170	Organic Conversion Information Service (OCIS) Satisfaction Survey	MAFF		Farming	110	E	AH
20400011	Central Register of Charities: Annual Return	N Gov		Social Services	154000	EW	A
23200026	Survey to Verify the Market for a Prototyping Skills Centre	SO		Business	220	S	AH
23200027	Fatal Accident Data	SO		Transport	0	S	W
23200028	Retailing and Small Shops	SO		Retail	124	S	AH
23200029	Review of Training and Employment Grants Scheme, (TEGS)	SO	SE	Finance	190	S	AH
23200031	Transport Cost in the Highlands	SO		Transport	6080	UK	AH
23200034	Investigation into the Dynamics of the Labour Market SEO Research	SO		Employer	600	S	AH
23200039	Survey of Mental Health Officer (MHO) Deployment and Training	SO		Social Services	32	S	AH
23700029	Foster Care and Foster Carers	SOHH		Social Services	96	S	AH

SCU No.	Title	Dept.	Ass	Activity of Dept	Number of respondents	Location respondents	Freq
23800043	Comparative Employment Costs	SOID		Business Services	1350	UK	Y2
23800044	Multimedia Company Survey	SOID		Business	55	S	AH
23800045	Scottish Service Sector Survey	SOEID		Business Services	1025	S	Y5
24900044	Evaluation of the Welsh Development Agency Technology Transfer Programme	WO	WDA	Business Services	212	W	AH
24900045	A Survey of Companies in the Welsh Environmental Goods and Services Sector	WO		Business	108	W	AH
26000041	Evaluation of better advice to Employers on Technology	DfEE		Employer	0	N/K	N/K
26000092	Survey of Employment and Self Employment	DfEE		Construction	450	GB	AH
26000093	Open Learning in Public Libraries	DfEE		Education	177	N/K	AH
26000094	Improving the Operation of the Accreditation of Learning(Apl)In N/Svq	DfEE		Education	0	UK	AH
26000095	Human Factor Management in Large Service Organisations	DfEE		Employee	24	GB	AH
26000096	Initial Diagnostic Assessment Tools in ENVQS Survey	DfEE		Education	2300	UK	AH
26000097	User-Friendliness Of The Special Educational Needs(SEN)Code Of Practice	DfEE		Education	287	E	AH
26000098	Provision for Children with Emotional and Behaviourial Difficulties	DfEE		Education	175	E	AH
26000100	Out-Of-School Child Care Initiative	DfEE	ONS	Social Services	120	GB	AH
26000101	Adjustments for Disabled Employees	DfEE		Employer	800	UK	AH

HOUSEHOLD AND INDIVIDUAL SURVEYS ASSESSED

12500119	Census Evaluation Survey	ONS		Adult	2500	ES	AH
13400088	Men's Health Research	DH	COI	Man	68	E	AH
13400089	Exploring Doner Registration (Rs 3827)	DH	COI	Professional	96	E	AH
13400090	Attitudes to Organ Donor Register	DH		Health	2000	UK	AH
13400091	Samaritans Pilot Radio Campaign Creative Development	DH		Councillor	72	N	AH
13400092	Transplant Co-Ordination Research	DH	COI	Health	370	UK	AH
13400093	Nursing Campaign Evaluation	DH	COI	Nurse	96	E	AH
13400094	Young Women's Health	DH	COI	Woman	86	UK	AH
13800033	Premium Bonds Questionnaires - Prizes	DNS		Service	1000	GB	AH
13900264	EST Advertising Tracking	DoE		Fuel	1800	E	AH
13900265	Umbrella Ad Campaign Pre/Post Evaluation	DoE		Retail	4000	GB	AH
13900270	Safer Cities - Evaluation Of Phase 2	DoE		Social Services	5000	SE	AH
13900271	Disability Discrimination Act Booklet Research	DoE	COI	Adult	42	GB	AH
13900287	Impact of Negative and Low Equity on the Housing Market	DoE		Housing	500	E	AH
13900296	Radon Postal Survey	DoE		Service	9400	E	AH
14200095	AA and DLA Claim Pack Research	DSS	COI	Claimant	60	GB	AH
14200096	Pensioners' Awareness of Benefits	DSS	COI	Claimant	900	GB	AH
14200100	I B Leavers Survey	DSS		Social Services	5000	GB	AH
14200101	War Pensions Agency Customer Satisfaction Survey 1996	DSS		Social Services	2025	GB	AH
14200102	Methodological Work on Pensions Questions	DSS		Finance	88	GB	AH

SCU No.	Title	Dept.	Ass	Activity of Dept	Number of respondents	Location respondents	Freq
14200103	ETU Mailing Research	DSS	COI	Finance	40	E	AH
14200104	Benefit News Qualitative Research	DSS	COI	Social Services	72	E	AH
14400127	Redundancy Payments Service Customer Survey (Part 1)	DTI		Customer	500	E	AH
14500214	Study of Hazard Perception Candidates	DoT		Driver	2000	UK	AH
14500215	Survey of Attitudes to Traffic Calming in Costessey - Before Study	DoT		Transport	100	EA	AH
14500217	Becoming a Responsible Pedestrian (Experiment 3)	DoT		Pedestrian	60	SE	AH
14500218	Urban Street Activity in 20 Mph Zones	DoT		Traveller	200	E	AH
14500221	Driver Preferences for Road Use Charging	DoT		Driver	1800	GB	AH
14500223	Survey of Novice Car Drivers And Motorcyclists - 2nd Phase	DoT		Driver	10000	GB	AH
14500224	Survey of Driving Knowledge : 1st Phase	DoT		Driver	350	GB	AH
14500225	Road Tax Survey	DoT	COI	Carowner	2000	GB	AH
14500226	Survey of Attitudes to Traffic Calming in Gloucester - Before Study	DoT		Transport	1600	SW	AH
14500227	Journey Time Reliability	DoT		Transport	210	EA	AH
14500229	Child Pedestrian Exposure to Risk - Pilot Study	DoT		Pedestrian	120	E	AH
14500230	Evaluation of One Step Ahead - Booklet 1	DoT		Child	100	SE	AH
15600054	Dornoch Visitor Survey 1996/97	FC		Forestry	150	S	AH
15600055	Glen Affric Visitor Survey 1996	FC		Forestry	300	S	AH
15600056	Chambers Forest Nature Reserve Visitor Survey	FC		Forestry	200	EM	AH
15600057	Willingham Visitor Survey	FC		Forestry	200	EM	AH
15600058	Chopwell Visitor Survey	FC		Forestry	150	N	AH
15600059	West Walk Visitor Survey	FC		Forestry	150	SE	AH
15600060	Kingswood, Challock Visitor Survey	FC		Forestry	150	SE	AH
15600061	Peninsula Fd. and Eggesford Garden Centre Visitor Survey	FC		Forestry	300	SW	AH
15600062	Fforest Fawr Cycling Survey	FC		Forestry	150	W	AH
15600063	Fforest Fawr Visitor Survey	FC		Forestry	150	W	AH
15600064	Parkwood Visitor Survey	FC		Forestry	150	W	AH
15600065	Garwnant Visitor Survey	FC		Forestry	200	W	AH
15600066	Halloween Horrors Evaluation	FC		Forestry	30	E	AH
15600067	Public Opinion of Forestry	FC		Forestry	2000	GB	AH
15600068	Firewood Usage	FC		Forestry	2000	GB	AH
15600069	Forest Enterprise Holidays Campsite Survey	FC		Forestry	1000	GB	AH
15600070	Horse Riding Survey	FC		Forestry	450	S	AH
15600071	Biblins Campsite Survey	FC		Forestry	100	GB	AH
15600072	Forest of Dean Educational Survey (Pilot)	FC		Forestry	75	SW	AH
15600073	Kylerhea Visitor Survey 1996	FC		Forestry	413	S	AH
15600074	Northants Visitor Survey 1996	FC		Forestry	250	EM	AH
15600075	Kielder Campsite Survey	FC		Forestry	300	N	AH
15600076	Kielder Cycling Survey Pilot	FC		Forestry	30	N	AH
16600014	'Specials' Tracking 1997	HO	COI	Adult	450	EW	AH

SCU No.	Title	Dept.	Ass	Activity of Dept	Number of respondents	Location respondents	Freq
16600015	Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme Survey of Applicants etc.	HO		Applicant	5000	GB	AH
16800057	Musculoskeletal Disorders among the Users of Floor Cleaning Machines	HSE		Health	5030	GB	AH
17900164	Survey of Storage Conditions for Food in Cans and Plastic	MAFF		Food & Drink	832	GB	AH
17900169	Joint Imports Omnibus Survey	MAFF	COI	Import	2000	GB	AH
17900171	Joint Imports Leaflet Research	MAFF		Traveller	24	E	AH
17900172	National Diet and Nutrition Survey	MAFF	DH	Food & Drink	1850	GB	AH
17900173	Society's Value for Programmes to Improve Welfare of Animals in UK	MAFF		Farming	300	NI	AH
17900174	Public Understanding of Biotechnology (FS0221)	MAFF		Food & Drink	2000	GB	AH
18600039	Army Advertising Tracking - Extension 3	MoD		Forces	2000	GB	AH
18600040	Creative Development Research for Soldier Advertising	MoD		Forces	162	GB	AH
18600041	Image of the Army	MoD		Forces	278	GB	AH
18600042	Royal Navy Advertising Evaluation and Attitude Survey	MoD		Forces	2000	GB	AH
18600043	Wales and West Marketing Trial Research	MoD		Forces	42	GB	AH
18600044	Ad Tracking: Be The Best	MoD		Forces	2000	GB	AH
18600045	Be The Best: Ad Tracking and Attitude Survey	MoD		Forces	2000	GB	AH
18600046	Navy Advertising Evaluation	MoD		Forces	2000	GB	AH
18600047	Be The Best: Tracking Survey	MoD	CoI	Forces	2000	GB	AH
18600048	RAF Attitude Survey and Advertising Tracking	MoD	CoI	Adult	2000	GB	AH
20400012	Gas Competition Campaign Research	NGOV	COI	Adult	300	E	AH
20400013	Awareness of Serious Fraud Office	NGOV	COI	Adult	1000	GB	AH
23200032	Retailing and Small Shops Survey	SO		Shopper	1000	S	AH
23200033	The Effectiveness of Leaflets in Road Safety	SO		Transport	1540	S	AH
23200035	The Strategic Governance of Further Education Colleges in Scotland	SO		Education	700	S	AH
23200036	Scots Language Census Question	SO		Resident	3000	S	AH
23200037	Scots Language Cognitive Research	SO		Research	110	S	AH
23200038	Car Dependence in Rural Scotland	SO		Carowner	1190	S	AH

Abbreviation

FR-Frequency

LOC-Location

APAG - Asia Pacific Advisory Group
ASS - Associate Government Department
BUS - Business
COI - Central Office of Information
ETU - Earnings Top Up
GPG - Good Practice Guidance
HECA - Housing Energy Conservation Act
HIP - Housing Investment Programme
HLD - Household
IMF - International Monetary Fund
IND - Individual
LA - Local Authority
OTH - Other
SPD - Single Programme Document

A - Annual
AH - Ad hoc
N/K - Not known
I - Irregular
Y2 - Every 2 years
Y3 - Every 3 years
Y4 - Every 4 years
Y5 - Every 5 years

E - England
EA - East Anglia
EM - East Midlands
ES - England and Scotland
EW - England and Wales
GB - Great Britain
N - North
NW - North West
N/K - Not Known
S - Scotland
SW - South West
SE - South East
UK - United Kingdom
WM - West Midlands
W - Wales

SURVEY CONTROL UNIT

In accordance with survey control procedures, most regular surveys of businesses or local authorities are subject to thorough review at least every five years. Surveys conducted more frequently than annually are reviewed every three years. The following reviews have recently been completed.

SURVEYS TO BUSINESSES

DoE Survey of Mortgage Lenders

SURVEYS TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DfEE Survey of Schools Admission Appeals

DfEE Aid to Students

DfEE Special Educational Needs

DfEE School Admissions Appeals

DfEE Schools Census

For more information contact:

Robert Palmer
Survey Control Unit
Office for National Statistics
☎ 0171 533 6247

OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS

RECENTLY AVAILABLE SOCIAL STATISTICAL SERIES AND PUBLICATIONS

Population Trends No.89 - Autumn 1997

The Stationery Office, September

Price £16.50

ISBN 0 11 620902 X

Includes the following articles:

- Trends in conceptions before and after the 1995 pill scare;

- Spouses with identical residential addresses before marriage: an indicator of premarital cohabitation;
- An overview of the population in Europe and North America;
- The re-based 1991 population estimates by marital status;
- The ESRC review of Government Social Classifications.

English Life Tables No.15

The Stationery Office, July

Price £25.00

ISBN 0 11 620925 9

Fifteenth in a series of reports on mortality experience, and life expectation, by the Government Actuary. For more information, see the Government Actuary's Department listing on page 52.

Ethnicity in the 1991 Census Volume 4:
Employment, education and housing among the ethnic minority populations of Britain

The Stationery Office, July

Price £29.95

ISBN 0 11 691658 3

Edited by Professor Valerie Karn, with contributions from a wide range of researchers and academics, this is the final volume in a series which has examined a variety of aspects of the different minority ethnic populations in Britain using data from the 1991 Census.

Regional Trends 1997 No.32

The Stationery Office, July

Price £37.50

ISBN 0 11 620838 4

A comprehensive source of official statistics about the regions of the United Kingdom. Statistics are presented by Government Office Region for the first time.

Social Focus on Families

The Stationery Office, August

Price £30.00

ISBN 0 11 620919 4

Data collected from a wide range of sources painting a picture of the lives of Britain's families today and how they have changed.

ANNUAL REFERENCE VOLUMES

Marriage and divorce statistics 1994:

series FM2 no. 22

The Stationery Office, July

Price £20.00

ISBN 0 11 620930 5

Mortality statistics, childhood, infant and perinatal 1995: series DH3 no. 28

The Stationery Office, July

Price £30.00

ISBN 0 11 620933 X

Mortality statistics, injury and perinatal 1995: series DH4 no.20

The Stationery Office, July

Price £30.00

ISBN 0 11 620932 1

POPULATION AND HEALTH MONITORS

Key population statistics 1991-1995, Unitary authorities and two-tier counties in England coming into effect on 1 April 1997

(KPS 97/1, June, price £4.00)

Infant and perinatal mortality 1996: health authorities and regional offices

(DH3 97/1, June, price £4.00)

Legal abortions in England and Wales 1996

(AB 97/4, July, price £4.00)

Legal abortions 1996: residents of regions and health authorities (AB 97/5, July, price £4.00)

Infectious diseases, December quarter 1996

(MB2 97/2, price £4.00)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS

Transport Statistics Bulletins, Reports and Press Notices since January 1997

All Transport Bulletins are free of charge

Traffic in Great Britain: 4th Quarter 1996

Department of Transport Statistics Bulletin (97) 5

ISSN 0269 0093

Traffic in Great Britain: 1st Quarter 1997

Department of Transport Statistics Bulletin (97) 6

ISSN 0269 0093

These bulletins contain information on quarterly and annual road traffic by vehicle type and by road class.

For more information contact:

Taj Gul

Department of the Environment,

Transport and Regions

☎ 0171 271 3794

GTN 271 3794

Road Goods Travelling to Mainland Europe: 3rd Quarter 1996

Department of Transport Statistics Bulletin (97) 1

ISSN 0952 1156

This bulletin contains tables and charts on numbers of goods vehicles travelling to Europe broken down by country of registration, country

of disembarkation, and by UK port group (North Sea, Dover Strait, English Channel). It also details road goods vehicles carried via the Channel Tunnel to Europe. The statistics are based upon figures supplied by Eurotunnel and by all operators of Roll-on-Roll-off ferry services from UK ports.

For more information contact:

Derek Brewer
Department of the Environment,
Transport and the Regions
☎ 01179 878484

National Road Maintenance Condition Survey (NRMCS): Report on the 1996 Survey

Transport Statistics Bulletin (97) 9

ISBN 1 85112 813 1

An annual report on the condition of roads in England and Wales, based on the results of the NRMCS Visual Survey of road condition and on the NRMCS Structural Survey. Contains tables and charts showing the overall defects index for each road class and also individual categories of defect, plus a 'residual life' analysis for motorways, trunk roads and principal roads.

For more information contact:

Lee Taylor
Department of the Environment,
Transport and the Regions
☎ 0171 271 3817
GTN 271 3817

Punctuality of Flights at United Kingdom Airports

Department of Transport Press Notice 15
15 January 1997

The statistics in this quarterly report are based on information obtained from the Civil Aviation

Authority relating to arrivals and departures of flights at 7 major UK airports (Heathrow, Gatwick, Stanstead, Luton, Manchester and Birmingham). Specifically, the percentage of flights that arrive or depart within 15 minutes of their scheduled time. Figures are available separately for scheduled and chartered flights. Future reports will include information on flights at Newcastle and Edinburgh airports.

For more information contact:

Department of the Environment, Transport
and the Regions Press Office
☎ 0171 271 5780
GTN 271 5780

Port Statistics

Department of Transport Press Notice 96
29 April 1997

This notice provides a foretaste of the annual publication 'Port Statistics 1996' due to be published in September. It contains statistics of traffic through the ports of the United Kingdom. The figures are based on annual freight returns by port authorities and undertakings to the Department of Transport. It includes a table on the weight of cargo inwards and outwards for all ports, and also a table outlining the tonnage of imports, exports and domestic traffic by commodity.

For more information contact:

Bill Foreman
Department of the Environment,
Transport and the Regions
☎ 0171 271 3758
GTN 271 3758

Information about other Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions Press Notices can be viewed on the Internet at:

<http://www.coi.gov.uk/coi/depts/GDT/GDT.html>

GOVERNMENT ACTUARY'S DEPARTMENT

English Life Tables No. 15

The *English Life Tables 15*, produced by the Government Actuary, were published by ONS in July. These tables are the fifteenth in a series which are associated with the decennial population censuses, beginning with the Census of 1841.

The Tables are based on the mortality experience in England and Wales during the years 1990, 1991 and 1992. Data on the numbers of deaths and numbers in the population at each age are used to determine crude death rates which are then graduated to give a series of rates which form a smooth progression over the whole range

of ages covered but still retain the general shape of the mortality curve. The methodologies used for deriving the crude population mortality rates and for the graduation are described in the publication. Both the crude and the graduated rates are presented in the Tables, together with the resulting life tables and the expectations of life at each age, derived from the smoothed mortality rates. The publication also contains comparisons with the results of earlier English Life Tables going back to 1911 and shows the increasing longevity of the population of England and Wales since the turn of the century.

The *English Life Tables* are used as a standard for various purposes. They also allow comparison with the mortality experience of other countries and other groups of people.

For more information contact:

Adrian Gallop or Steve Smallwood
Government Actuary's Department
22 Kingsway
London, WC2B 6LE
☎ 0171 211 2635 or 0171 211 2667

FULL LIST OF DH STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS

Statistical Bulletin (Price £2.00) - all annual and relating to England only unless otherwise stated

	Compiler	Copies held by
FHS RELATED		
1 Statistics for general medical practitioners in England	STATS (GMS)	H
2 Statistics of prescriptions dispensed in Family Health Service Authorities	SD1E	H
3 General Pharmaceutical Services	SD1C	H
4 Community pharmacies England and Wales (<i>six monthly</i>)	SD1C	H
5 Ophthalmic Services	SD1D	H
6 Cervical Cancer Screening	SD2B	H
7 Breast Cancer Screening	SD2B	H
HCHS RELATED		
8 NHS Hospital Activity Services	FPA-PA	
9 Elective admissions and patients waiting (<i>six monthly</i>)	FPA-PA	
10 HCHS medical staff	STATS (W) A	H
11 HCHS non-medical staff	STATS (W) B	H
12 Waiting times for first outpatient appointments in England (<i>quarterly</i>)	FPA-PA	
13 Ambulance Services, England	SD2B	H
14 Sexually Transmitted Diseases, England	SD2B	H
PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES		
15 Community Care Statistics: Personal Social Services: Day and Domiciliary Services for Adults	SD3B	H
16 Residential Accommodation Statistics: Personal Social Services: Residential care homes and supported residents, England	SD3B	H
17 Detailed Statistics on Local Authority Personal Social Services for Adults	SD3B	H
18 Children looked after by Local Authorities	SD3A	H
19 Personal Social Services: Current and capital expenditure in England: 1994-95	SD3C	H
20 In-patients formally detained in hospital under the Mental Health Act 1983 and other legislation	SD2C	H
21 Drug Misuse Statistics (<i>six monthly</i>)	SD2J	H
22 Bulletin on Smoking (<i>occasional</i>)	SD2D	H

OTHER PUBLICATIONS (ENGLAND ONLY AND ANNUAL EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE STATED)

PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES: ADULT SERVICES

- 23 Residential Accommodation for elderly and for younger physically disabled people - all residents in LA voluntary and private homes - LA supported residents. Last published for year ending March 1994. (*Free*) SD3B H
- 24 Residents in LA voluntary and private registered homes - LA supported residents. Last published for year ending March 1994. (*Free*) SD3B H
- 25 Residential Accommodation: Detailed statistics on residential care homes and supported residents. First published for year ending March 1995. (*Free*) SD3B H
- 26 Community Care: Detailed statistics on Local Authority Personal Social Services for Adults. First published for 1994. (*Free*) SD3B H

PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES: CHILDRENS, SERVICES¹

- 27 Childrens day care facilities (*Annual free*) SD3A
- 28 Children in Care/Children looked after by local authorities SD3A
- 29 Children and Young People on Child Protection Registers (*Annual free*) SD3A
- 30 Private fostering and place of safety orders³ SD3A
- 31 Supervision Orders (*Annual free*) SD3A
- 32 Children accommodated in secure units (*Annual free*) SD3A
- 33 Childrens' homes SD3A

PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES: STAFFING

- 34 Staff of Local Authority Social Services Departments (*Annual free*) SD3C
- 35 Personal Social Services: A historical profile of reported current and capital expenditure 1983-84 to 1993-94 England SD3C

PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES: KEY INDICATORS

- 36 Key Indicators of Local Authority Social Services (includes printed publication, disk version, and graphical presentation package as disk only with printed user guide). (*Twice yearly free*) SD3K

GENERAL

- 37 Health Service Indicators (a variety of computerised systems are used to disseminate these; there is no printed publicaton). (*Price on application*) FPA-PA

HOSPITAL ACTIVITY AND FACILITIES

38	Summary of bed availability. <i>Annual £6.00, ISBN 1 85839 660 3</i>	FPA-PA	H
39	Written complaints by or on behalf of patients. (<i>Internal reference version</i>)	FPA-PA	H
40	Outpatients and ward attenders. <i>Annual £8.00, ISBN 1 85839 622 X</i>	FPA-PA	H
41	Ordinary admissions and day case admissions <i>Annual £6.50, ISBN 1 85839 661 1</i>	FPA-PA	H
42	Private hospitals, homes and clinics - England Regional Health Authority and Regional Office Areas registered under Section 23 of the Registered Homes Act 1984, Vol 1. <i>Annual £7.00, ISBN 1 85839 495 3</i>	SD3B	H
43	Private hospitals, homes and clinics - District Health Authority summaries registered under section 23 of the Registered Homes Act 1984, Vol 2. <i>Annual £11.00, ISBN 1 85839 496 1</i>	SD3B	H
44	Section 17(3) of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act, 1970 (<i>Internal reference version</i>).	SD3B	H
45	Diagnostic departments. <i>Annual £6.00, ISBN 1 85839 343 4</i>	FPA-PA	H
46	Wheelchairs and artificial limbs. <i>Annual £3.00, ISBN 1 85839 345 0</i>	FPA-PA	H

NHS STAFFING

47	NHS workforce in England. <i>Annual £5.00, ISBN 1 85839 363 9</i>	STATS (W) B	H
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COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

48	Immunisation programmes. (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
49	Maternity services - midwife clinics and domiciliary visits. (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
50	Health visitor activity. (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
51	District nurses activity. (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
52	Community psychiatric nurses activity. (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
53	Community mental handicap nurses activity (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
54	Community specialist care nurses activity (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
55	Chiropody services (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
56	Clinical psychology services (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
57	Dietetic services (<i>Last summary produced is for 94-95. Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
58	Occupational therapy services (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
59	Physiotherapy services (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
60	Speech and language therapy services (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	
61	Family planning clinic services (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD2B	

OTHER

62	Registered blind and partially sighted people (<i>Triennial</i>)	SD3B	
63	Registers of physically disabled persons (general classes) (<i>Triennial</i>)	SD3B	
64	People registered as the deaf or hard of hearing (<i>Triennial</i>)	SD3B	
65	Guardianship under the Mental Health Act (1983) (<i>Annual free</i>)	SD3B	
66	Survey of age, sex and length of stay characteristics of residents of homes for elderly and younger people who are physically handicapped (<i>1988 only</i>)	SD3B	
67	NHS Day care facilities. (<i>Annual £2.00, ISBN 1 85839 510 0</i>)	SD2C	H
68	In-patients formally detained in hospitals under the Mental Health Act 1983 and other legislation regional figures. (<i>Annual £2.00, ISBN 1 85839 437 6</i>)	SD2C	H
69	Data from the Addicts Index	SD2J	H
70	NHS Spectacle Voucher Scheme - results of 1996 survey	SD1D	
71	Electro-convulsive therapy (ECT) ³	SD2C	
72	Hospital Episode statistics: Vol 1: Finished Consultant episodes by diagnosis, operation and speciality	SD2 HES	H
	Vol 2: Finished Consultant episodes by time of elective admissions, injuries/poisoning by external sources	SD2 HES	H
73	Mental Health in England (<i>Annual £2.00, ISBN 1 85839 429 5</i>)	SD2C	H
74	Hospital Waiting List Statistics: England. (<i>Six monthly £12.80, ISBN 1 85839 684 0</i>)	FPA-PA	
75	Quarterly Review.	FPA-PA	HLL
76	Waiting times for first out-patient appointments in England: Detailed statistics (<i>£12.80, ISBN 1 85839 668 3</i>)	FPA-PA	
77	Prescription Cost Analysis - prescription items dispensed in England and listed alphabetically within therapeutic class. (<i>Annual, £10</i>).	SD1E	H

HEALTH OF THE NATION RELATED PUBLICATIONS

HEALTH OF THE NATION: A STRATEGY FOR HEALTH IN ENGLAND

78	The White Paper. (<i>Free</i>)	HP1	
79	Specification of National Indicators. (<i>Free</i>)	HP1 CHMU	

THE HEALTH SURVEY FOR ENGLAND

An annual survey reporting on the different aspects of the health of people in England. The survey monitors the Health of the Nation targets on blood pressure and obesity. The 1991-1994 surveys also majored on cardiovascular disease and the 1995 and 1996 surveys majored on asthma and accidents. The 1995 survey also covered disability.

80	Health Survey for England 1991 £27.50. (<i>ISBN 0 11 691532 3</i>)	SD3S	TSO
81	Health Survey for England 1992 £27.50. (<i>ISBN 0 11 691569 2</i>)	SD3S	TSO
82	Health Survey for England 1993 £38.00. (<i>ISBN 0 11 691614 1</i>)	SD3S	TSO

83	Health Survey for England 1994 £40.00. (ISBN 0 11 321895 8)	SD3S	TSO
84	Health Survey for England 1995 £60.00. (ISBN 0 11 322021 9)	SD3S	TSO

In addition a Summary of Key Findings booklet is available for the 1994 and 1995 surveys.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMON DATA SET INCORPORATING INDICATORS FROM THE 'HEALTH OF THE NATION'

85	Public Health Common Data Set, data definitions and user guide for computer files available from the years 1990 to 1996. From 1992 onwards, includes indicators from the 'Health of the Nation' and from 1995 'Population Health Outcome Indicators'. Issued annually, the 1996 version includes England and Wales, England, Regional Office areas, DHAs, new HAs, FHSAs and LAs. (Not available outside the NHS.)	SD2F	
86	Public Health Common Data Set National Volumes available for the years 1990 to 1996. From 1992 onwards, includes indicators from the 'Health of the Nation' and from 1995 'Population Health Outcome Indicators'. Issued annually, the 1996 edition covers England and Wales, England, Regional Office areas and new HAs. (Price for four volumes, 1996 edition, £135, ISBN 1 852 371978)	SD2F	NIE

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OVERVIEWS

87	Asthma. (£11.00, ISBN 0 11 321897 4)	HP1 CHMU	TSO
88	Coronary Heart Disease (£11.00, ISBN 0 11 321667 X)	HP1 CHMU	TSO
89	Stroke. (£11.00, ISBN 0 11 321668 8)	HP1 CHMU	TSO
90	Health of Elderly People. (£10.30, ISBN 0 11 321485 5)	HP1 CHMU	TSO
91	Elderly People Companion Papers. (£6.00, ISBN 0 11 321486 3)	HP1 CHMU	TSO

FORMAL PUBLICATIONS

92	Health and Personal Social Service statistics (Annual £11.95)	SD3C	TSO
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OTHER REPORTS (STATUTORY PUBLICATIONS)

93	Annual report under Section 83(6) of the Children Act 1989 (formerly section 79(3) of the Child Care Act 1980) on children in care in England and Wales. (For periods following the implementation of the Children Act 1989, this publication will cover a wide range of children's services.) ⁴ (Annual £6.80, ISBN 0 10 128782 8)	SD3A	TSO
94	Annual statement under Section 18(3) of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970, on handicapped persons in residential care in England and Wales	SD3B/CS	TSO

**OTHER STATUTORY PUBLICATIONS NOT PRODUCED BY SD
BUT WHICH HAVE A STATISTICAL INPUT PROVIDED BY SD**

95	Annual statement under section 17(2) of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970: Separation of younger patients from older patients in hospitals. (<i>December. ISBN 0 10 206395 8</i>)	SD2A	TSO
96	Report under section 11 of the Disabled Persons (Services, Consultation and Representation) Act 1986 on the development of services for people with learning disabilities (mental handicap) or mental illness in England.	SD2C	TSO
97	The NHS Performance Guide. (<i>Annual Free</i>)	FPA-PA	HLL

¹ *The forms which underlie items 27-33 have been revised to accord with the Children Act 1989 (implemented October 1991)*

² *Last publication for 1991; successor publication will relate to periods following the implementation of the Children Act.*

³ *This publication has been discontinued following the 1991 publication.*

⁴ *This publication has been discontinued following the 1994 publication.*

H = Department of Health
PO Box 410
Wetherby, LS23 7LN
☎ 01937 840250
fax: 01937 845381

HLL = Health Literature Line
☎ 0800 555 777

NIE = National Institute of Epidemiology
☎ 01483 450450

TSO = The Stationery Office
☎ 0171 873 9090

CONTACTS AND PHONE NUMBERS FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PUBLICATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Skipton House

80 London Road

London, SE1 6LW

☎ 0171 97 (followed by ext number)

FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES (BRANCH SD1)

General Dental and

Community Dental Services *Ext 25392*

General Pharmacy Services *Ext 25504*

General Ophthalmic Services *Ext 25507*

Prescription Analysis *Ext 25515*

HOSPITAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES (BRANCH SD2)

Mental illness/handicap *Ext 25545*

Community and cross-sector services *Ext 25524*

Public Health Common Dataset *Ext 25562*

Drug misuse *Ext 25550*

Legal status *Ext 25545*

Smoking and Alcohol *Ext 25551*

PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES (BRANCH SD3)

Childrens' services *Ext 25689*

Adults' services *Ext 25585*

Staffing *Ext 25595*

Financial (Revenue out-turn
expenditure) data *Ext 25595*

Key Indicators *Ext 25599*

Quarry House, Quarry Hill

Leeds, LS2 7UE

☎ 011325 (followed by ext number)

WORKFORCE (BRANCH STATS(W))

NHS medical staff *Ext 45892*

NHS non-medical staff *Ext 45895*

General Medical Services *Ext 45909*

Waiting lists (Branch FPA-PA) *Ext 45549*

Health Service Indicators
(Branch FPA-PA) *Ext 45555*

NHS Expenditure (FPB-FMA) *Ext 45389*

Richmond House

79 Whitehall

London, SW1A 2NS

☎ 0171 210 (followed by ext number)

PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES FINANCIAL STATISTICS (BRANCH F6)

PSS Budget Data and Public
Expenditure Survey *Ext 5699*

Wellington House

133-155 Waterloo Road

London, SE1 8UG

☎ 0171 97 (followed by ext number)

CENTRAL HEALTH MONITORING UNIT

Health of the Nation target
monitoring *Ext 24645*

National Institute of Epidemiology

14 Fredric Sanger Road

Surrey Research Park

Guildford

Surrey, GU2 5YL

☎ 01483 450540

THE HEALTH LITERATURE LINE

☎ 0800 555 777

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS DIRECTORATE PUBLICATIONS Q1 1997

- HORS 161 - Reducing criminality among young people: a sample of the relevant programmes in the UK
- HORS 165 - Enforcing financial penalties
- HORS 166 - Assessing offenders' needs: assessment scales for the probation service
- HORS 168 - Managing courts effectively: The reasons for adjournments in magistrates' courts
- HORS 162/
RF 38 - Imprisoned women and mothers
RF 48 - Magistrates' views of the probation service
- RF 50 - Persistent drug-misusing offenders
- HOSB 1/97 - Restricted Patients - Reconvictions and Recalls by the end of 1995, England and Wales
- HOSB 2/97 - Life Licensees - Reconvictions and Recalls by the end of 1995, England and Wales
- HOSB 3/97 - Notifiable Offences England and Wales 1996
- HOSB 4/97 - Statistics on the Operation of the Prevention of Terrorism Legislation, Great Britain 1996
- HOSB 5/97 - Reconvictions of Prisoners Discharged from Prison in 1993, England and Wales
- HOSB 6/97 - Reconvictions of those commencing Community Penalties in 1993, England and Wales

- HOSB 7/97 - Projections of Long Term Trends in the Prison Population to 2005
- HOSB 8/97 - Summary Fire Statistics, United Kingdom, 1995
- HOSB 9/97 - Fires in the Home in 1995: Results from the British Crime Survey
- HOSB - Home Office Statistical Bulletin
- HORS - Home Office Research Study
- RF - Research Findings

For more information contact:

Home Office
Information and Publications Group
Room 1308
Apollo House
36 Wellesley Road
Croydon
Surrey, CR9 3RR
☎ 0181 760 8340
rsd.ho.apollo@gtnet.gov.uk
http://www.open.gov.uk/home_off/rsd/rsdhome.htm

NORTHERN IRELAND DEPARTMENTS

NORTHERN IRELAND STATISTICS AND RESEARCH AGENCY

The Quarterly Return of the Registrar General for Q/E 31st December 1996 is available free of charge, from:

General Register Office
Oxford House
49-55 Chichester Street
Belfast, BT1 4HL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Central Statistics and Research Branch produce quarterly publications on Housing and Construction and Transportation. Details are as follows:

- Northern Ireland Housing and Construction Bulletin - March 1997
- Northern Ireland Road Transport Statistics Bulletin - March 1997

Both publications are provided free of charge and can be obtained from:

Central Statistics and Research Branch
Clarence Court
10-18 Adelaide Street
Belfast, BT2 8GB

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

- Family Credit Quarterly Tables - October 1995. Price £5
- Family Credit Quarterly Tables - February 1996. Price £5
- Disability Living Allowance - August 1996: Price £5

Available from:

Social Security Statistics Branch
Department of Health and Social Services
Annex 1, Castle Buildings
Stormont
Belfast, BT4 3SG

SURVEYS NOTIFIED TO NORTHERN IRELAND SURVEY CONTROL UNIT JANUARY TO MARCH 1997

For further information about the surveys listed, please contact: *Deborah Heenan, Survey Control Unit, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, 2nd Floor, Arches Centre, 11-13 Bloomfield Avenue, Belfast, BT5 5HD. ☎ 01232 526972.*

SURVEYS TO BUSINESS

Title	Department	Those approached	Approximate number	Frequency
Education survey of farm businesses	DANI	Farm businesses	11,000	R
Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation; survey of district partnerships and projects	DFP	The district partnerships and projects who applied for funding	276	AH
Evaluation of District Council Community Relations programme	DFP	Individuals involved in the programme	AH	234
Impact of NVQ programmes within hospitality and catering	DENI	Hotel, restaurant and public houses	200	AH

SURVEYS TO HOUSEHOLDS AND INDIVIDUALS

Driver and Vehicle Testing Agency - Customer Survey	DOE	Users of DVTA services	1,600	AH
Driver and Vehicle Testing Agency - Disabled Customer Survey	DOE	Disabled users of DVTA services	250	AH
Glenfield Estate Residents Survey	DOE	Tenant and owner occupiers within Glenfield Estate	230	AH

Abbreviations

Departments	DANI	Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland
	DENI	Department of Education for Northern Ireland
	DFP	Department of Finance and Personnel
	DOE	Department of the Environment

Frequency AH - Ad Hoc R - Regular

Location All surveys were carried out in Northern Ireland

1994-BASED POPULATION PROJECTIONS FOR WALES

A booklet containing the latest population projections for Wales was published on 14 May 1997. It gives national and sub-national population projections up to the year 2016 based on the 1994 mid-year estimates and recent trends in fertility, mortality and migration. Being trend-based they illustrate what the population would be if these patterns were to continue. These are the first set of projections for the 22 new unitary authority and 5 new health authority areas. Included are tables which give the base year population (1994) and projected population in 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011 and 2016 for each authority by sex and quinary age groups.

The methodology and assumptions used to calculate the projections are also described. The Government Actuary's Department (GAD) produced the national projections and the Office for National Statistics provided the necessary sub-national data which enabled the Welsh Office to disaggregate the GAD figures to give sub-national population projections.

These population projections will form the basis of the household projections for local authorities in Wales, updating the base to 1994. The booklet giving the household projections is expected to be published by mid August.

DIGEST OF WELSH LOCAL AREA STATISTICS 1997

The second edition of the annual Digest of Welsh Local Area Statistics (DWLAS) was published on Wednesday 23 April 1997. It is fully bilingual.

DWLAS is a compendium of the latest available official statistics for areas within Wales, predominantly the unitary authorities, and complements the annual Digest of Welsh Statistics which, primarily, provides data for Wales as a whole over a run of years.

Tables in some sections give data for, effectively, groupings of unitary authorities - the 5 health authorities, 7 TEC, 4 police force and 3 fire brigade areas respectively - where figures by unitary authority are not current available. The new edition of DWLAS also contains a map and statistical profile for each of the 22 unitary authorities.

Topics covered comprise population and vital statistics, economics, education and training, health and personal social services, housing and local government finance, agriculture and forestry, transport and environment and law, order and protective services.

DWLAS will continue to be developed and users are encouraged to provide the Welsh Office with comments and suggestions which will help direct the work. It is proposed that the publication should appear in January or February of each year.

ARTICLES IN RECENT ISSUES OF STATISTICAL NEWS

- No 108 Summer 1995**
 New Head for the GSS
 Towards a Statistical Profile of the UK Environmental Industry
 A New Statistics Code
 Customer Satisfaction with Labour Force Survey Local Area Data Services
 Dr Tim Holt
 Richard Tilling/Sandra Tudor
 Nigel Edison
 Peter Newman
- No 109 Autumn 1995**
 The mobility of disabled adults
 The Labour Force Survey? - What do they want all that information for?
 Small and medium size enterprises - How many and how important
 The Inter-Departmental Business Register
 The Central Statistical Office's distribution of Income Estimates
 Kerrick Macafee
 Frances Sly
 Ian Dale
 John Perry
 Eloise Critchley
- No 110 Winter 1995/96**
 Occupational ill health
 Getting it right first time
 The MAFF Reference Database
 Documenting the Labour Force Survey
 Survey of the Miscellaneous Mechanical Engineering Sector (Activity Heading 3289 in SIC 80)
 Business Statistics Users' Conference
 Trevor Benn
 Beccy Wallace
 Ian Webb
 Richard Laux
 Nick Rudoe
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- No 111 Spring 1996**
 Introducing the Office for National Statistics
 The new face of statistics in Northern Ireland
 Electronic dissemination of official statistics
 Users' views of GSS Social and Regional Publications
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Copies of the above and earlier articles may be obtained from:

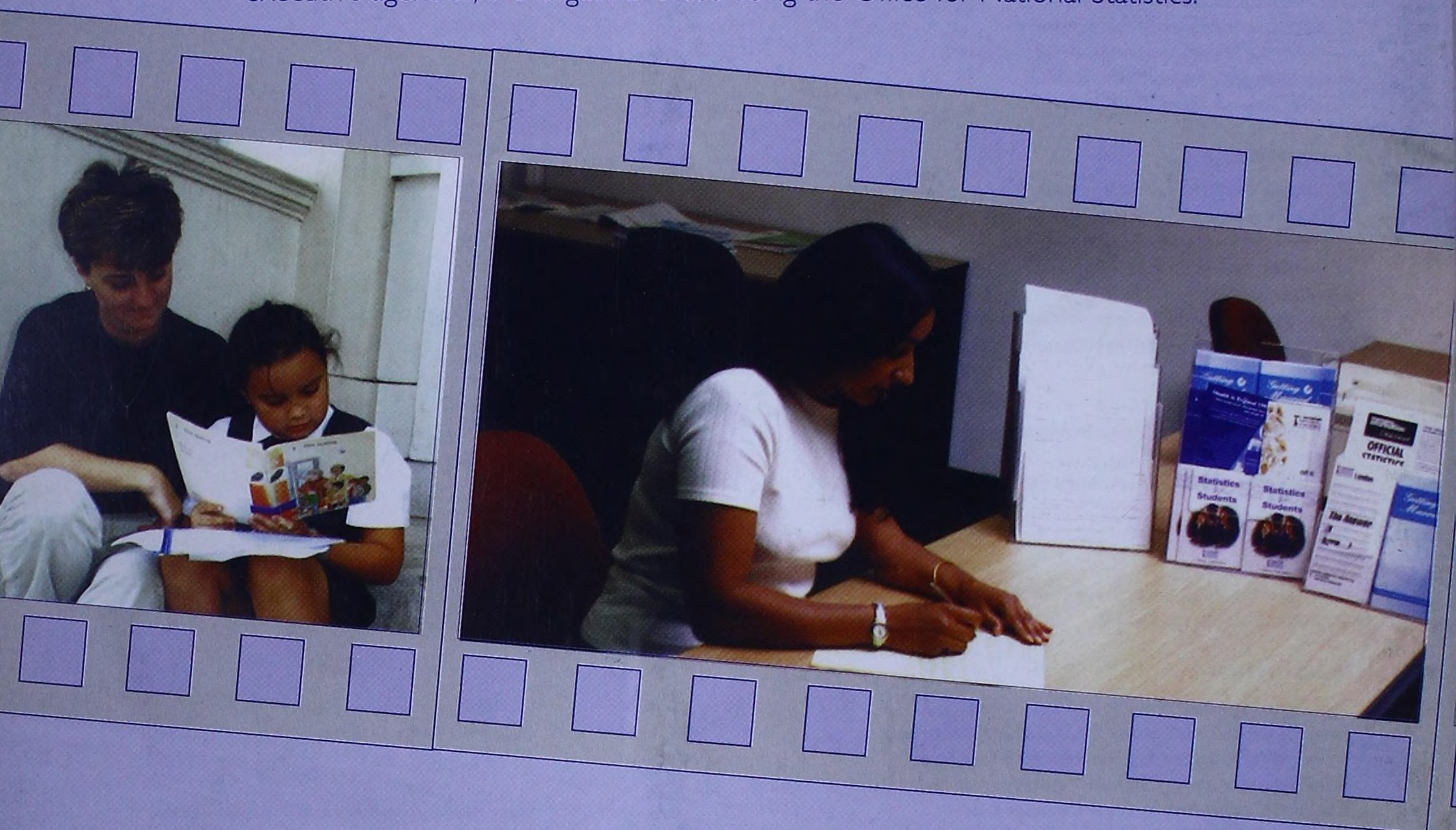
The Library, Room 1.001, Office for National Statistics, Government Buildings, Cardiff Road, Newport, South Wales NP9 1XG

The cost is £5 a copy, inclusive of postage and handling, for the articles listed, and for articles from earlier issues.
 The appropriate remittance should accompany each order. Cheques, etc., should be made payable to 'Office for National Statistics'.

STATISTICAL NEWS provides a comprehensive account of new developments in British official statistics, and it is designed to help and inform all with an interest in these statistics. It is essential reading for everyone who needs to keep up-to-date with the latest in this wide-ranging and dynamic area.

Official statistics in United Kingdom are produced by the Government Statistical Service (GSS) and other official bodies such as the Bank of England and Northern Ireland government departments.

The GSS comprises around 5,000 staff located in over 30 departments and executive agencies, the largest of these being the Office for National Statistics.



Every quarter Statistical News includes four or more articles which describe a subject in depth; these subjects range from the latest surveying techniques to statisticians' projects in Zambia. The News from around the GSS and beyond section carries shorter articles from each department and associated organisations on their latest statistical ventures and plans. The Supplement of New Surveys and Departmental Publications is a reference source for all recent output and products.

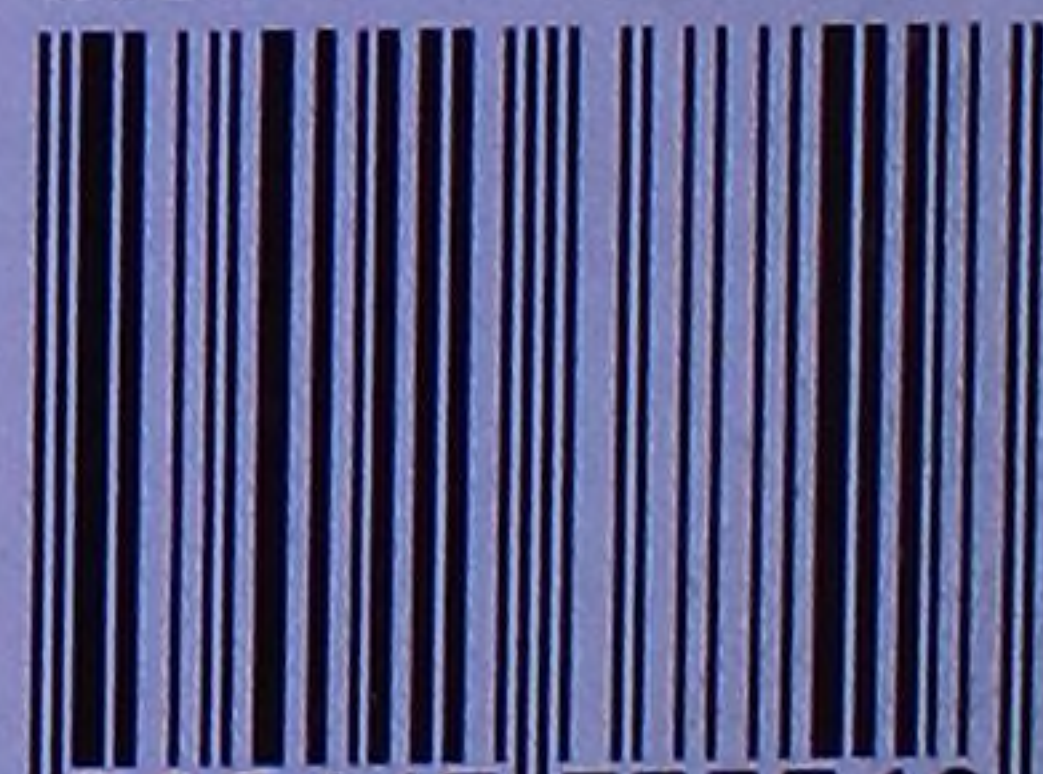
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