

Analysis and training needs

Discussion Group 3

LFS/APS Conference
November 24th, 2020



Introduction

- The aim of this sessions is to hear your views on the discussion topic.
- To help facilitate discussion, please share your video if you are able, but remain on mute unless you are speaking. You can view the other participants by selecting Gallery View.
- To contribute, please raise your hand in your video or write QUESTION/COMMENT in the chat box before typing your full question. Please wait for the facilitator to invite you to speak.
- We have posed a number of questions to guide the discussion but we do not have to stick to those questions or get through all of them.
- We would like up to 10 key points to feedback after the session. The facilitator will note those as we go along and we will agree them as a group at the end of the session.
- We are not reporting back during the conference, the notes from the session will be available from the UKDS website after the conference
- Session ends promptly at 13:00 (5-minute warning from organiser)

UKDS User Support and Training

"Can you show me
how to do that?"



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UK Data Service: Guides – Videos – Webinars – Data Skills Modules

Discussion points:

- What do you think would help new LFS users with using the data?
- What did you find difficult/confusing when you started to use LFS data?
- Is there any training you would like in order to use these surveys?
- How can researchers and data depositors work together to ensure the needs of researchers are met?
- Experiences of teaching with the APS/LFS – is there anything you need?
- What is your preferred training format e.g: hands-on workshops, seminars/webinars or materials for self-learning.

Key points from discussion (up to 10 points to feed back)

- **More guidance on weighting:** weighting is an important and confusing issue, especially in situations where researchers want to combine datasets for longitudinal analysis or to increase the sample size. ONS advice does not match with what many researchers do in practice.
- **Hands-on training:** A practical training course running through key features of the LFS would be useful.
- **Insight into ONS uses of LFS:** There is interest in seeing how the ONS create their headline statistics and opportunities to recreate analyses and explore further.
- **Software:** LFS users use a range of software. Stata, R and SPSS were all mentioned.
- **APS information and advice:** APS specific guidance and training would be useful. Topics of interest include linkages between APS and LFS, use of APS versus LFS, and any specific methodological considerations when using the APS (e.g. what weights for three-year APS for sub-regional analysis).
- **Variables:** Some interest in information and resources for understanding the availability of variables in different dataset including change of time and decisions about what is in the EUL data
- **User discussion/forum:** Interest in a user group for researchers to ask each other questions and to get input from the ONS and UK Data Service.
- **Useful resources:** LFS users might find the following mailing lists useful
 - Stat User net useful for discussion
 - [UK Data Service JISCMail](#) list for updates on training and resources.