

# **LFS & APS User Update**

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# Coverage

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1. Recent developments?
2. What's happening in 2018?
3. What's on the longer term horizon?

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# **1. Recent Developments**



# Recent developments

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- **Annual Reweighting Programme Complete (PWT17 based on 2015 MYE and 2014 SNPPs)**
  - LFS Person micro data published in May
  - APS Person micro data published in June
  - LFS and APS Household micro data published in Autumn (flexible)
  - Longitudinal micro data published in June
- **Published 3 year dataset (J14D16) on 17th Aug. Plan to publish this annually**
  - January to December basis
  - Contains all possible APS variables (i.e. that have been in survey for those 3 years)
  - Requires usage of specific 'pooled' weight
  - Sample size around 550,000 respondents (compared to 300,000 in single year)
- **Added more granularity to the Country of birth and Nationality variables on the EUL dataset**
- **Bias research**
  - Ongoing work into potential bias on the LFS. Paper due to be published in the near future.

# Recent work

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- **Dress rehearsal**

- 2017 Dress Rehearsal complete
- Areas for improvement for some modules identified e.g. social mobility and the Gig economy- to be taken forward in 2018

- **IESS investigations**

- Various consultations with Eurostat over proposed changes due to IESS
- Uncertainty over compliance requirements after Brexit

- **Actions to improve response**

- Through November testing a shortened LFS with same model as current LFS to inform future discussions.
- Working with the field team to improve calling patterns, provide additional training around avoiding refusals
- Moved Wave 1 cases out of the TO into the field from January
- Restinting
- Commissioned a Behavioural Insights Team to experiment with respondent materials for the LFS and Census e.g. envelope design
- Incentives testing – monetary and non-monetary

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## **2. What's happening in 2018?**



# Work in 2018

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- **Change to reweighting based on the SNPP data very other year**
  - Reweighting will begin after availability of Sub-National Population Projection data and the latest Mid-Year Estimates (around July)
  - Re-weighted LFS microdata and aggregates published 6 months later towards the end of the year.
  - Next re-weighting exercise to begin in July 2018, and re-weighted LFS microdata and aggregates published at the end of 2018.
  - Investigations into a 'trigger' for decisions on re-weighting in the intermediate year.
- **Incentive trial continues**
  - Half the sample to receive £5 and half to receive £10
  - Analysis work ongoing
- **Restinting**
  - Work underway to restructure field collection geographies to be more efficient
  - No impact to data geographies
  - Potential to improve response

# Work in 2018

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- **Eurostat carry out 'Ad hoc Modules' once a year on specific topics**

- Range of additional questions and derived variables on the LFS

Year	Theme
2008	Labour market situation of migrants and the immediate descendents of migrants
2009	Transition from school to work life
2010	Reconciliation between work and family life
2011	Employment of disabled people
2012	Transition from work into retirement
2013	Accidents at work and other work-related health problems
2014	Labour market situation of migrants and their descendents
2015	None
2016	Young people on the Labour Market
2017	Self employment
2018	Reconciling between work and family life

- Range of additional questions only asked in wave 1 of the LFS

- **Both these variable types to be added to APS person EUL**

- Added to January to December periods
- Need to use specific weight (EWEIGH\*\*)
- Added to UKDS along with APS reweighting micro data (June'17)



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### **3. Longer term horizon**



# Transformation of Social Survey Data Collection

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- **Financial challenges imposed by last Spending Review**
  - Office wide programme to 'transform' Business & Social survey data collection
  - Savings from the LFS is key given its size and cost
- **Various strands to 'transformation' of the LFS**
  - Information from 'Admin' data ?
  - Improvements in methodology and logistic approaches
  - Making LFS questionnaire 'online' ready
  - Improving respondent engagement
- **'Online' Questionnaire design challenges**
  - Transformation, not translation
  - Prioritise core requirements of the survey, maintaining quality
  - Rationale design of the questionnaire content and flow
  - Make it a better respondent experience
- **Coincides with other related challenges for the LFS**
  - Improving response rates
  - Impact of Eurostat's IESS project

# Thank you

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- Please use [ifs@ons.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ifs@ons.gsi.gov.uk) for queries