

The Opinions and Lifestyle survey

(OPN)





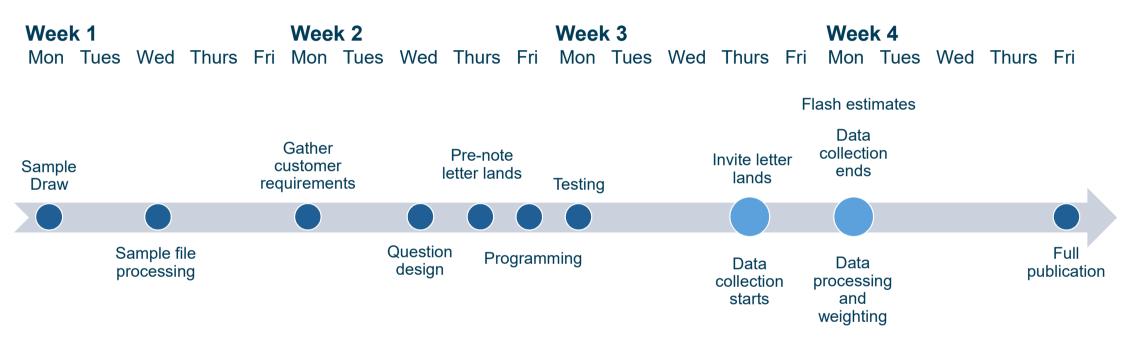
Becky Samuel & Tim Vizard

What is the OPN?

Setting up the surveys

- Weekly surveys
- Sample: 2,500 cases (originally 2,010) from Great Britain
- Online collection with a telephone element
- Field period: 4 days (originally 10 days)

Survey timeline

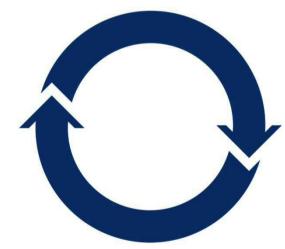


Sampling

- Wave 2 Labour Market Survey (LMS)
- Wave 6 Labour Force Survey (LFS)
- Opinions and Lifestyle survey (Wave 7)

Data requirements and question design

- Question requirements: government departments, universities and advisory groups
- Core questions and rotated questions
- Expertise in online question design
- Feedback from testing scenarios



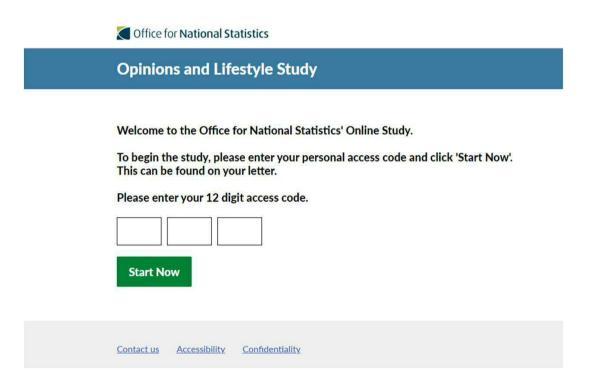
UKSA – Rapid review

We welcome the rapid development of these statistics so they could support the UK Government's pandemic management, demonstrating their high relevance to policy makers. Following their publication, their public good will be further demonstrated by helping a wider range of organisations and the general public to understand how citizens have adapted their behaviours in response to the pandemic.

https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/correspondence/rapid-review-of-ons-opinions-and-lifestyle-survey-covid-19-questions/

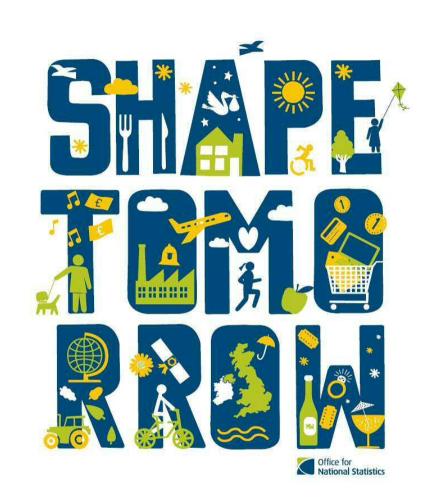
Collecting timely data

- Programming and testing changes
- Field period changes
- Data processing and analysis

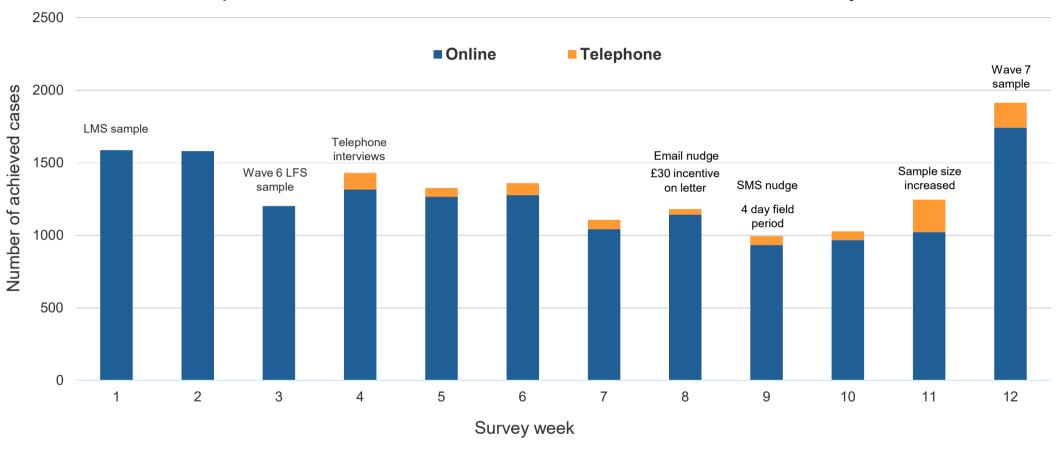


Survey response

- Field period changes
- Sample changes
- **Incentives**
- Telephone, email and text 'nudging'



Response count across 12 weeks of OPN COVID-19 surveys



Representativeness of data

- Data weighted to match population totals (age, sex and region)
- Non-response weighting to account for those who are unable to take part
- Data representative at population level, however some groups are under-represented (young adults, adults of Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds)

Analysis of data

- Results made available to Civil Contingencies Secretariat, with data feeding into the Number 10 daily briefings (when they took place)
- Weekly results published in the "Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain" bulletin
- More focused articles also published on different themes.

Themes in the data

The survey has collected info on the following themes:

- Demographics
- Well-being, loneliness and support
- Health status
- Work status and caring responsibilities
- Concerns and effects on life, finances and work
- Self isolation, social contact and facemasks
- Perceptions of country and community

Key findings from OPN

Social distancing (Great Britain)

Opinions and Lifestyle Survey 21 May to 24 May



88%

of adults avoided contact with older and vulnerable people



98%

of adults said they had tried to stay at least 2 metres away from other people when outside their home



29%

of adults used a face covering when outside their home to slow the spread of COVID-19



39%

of adults in employment worked from home compared to around 12% last year





Source: Opinions and Lifestyle Survey, Office for National Statistics. Further details on data sources can be found here: https://www.uov.uk/government/collections/slides-end-datasets-to-accompany-coronavirus-oress-conferences



Availability of data

- Reference tables for key findings are published each week on <u>ONS website</u>.
- Data is available in the <u>ONS Secure Research Service</u>.
- Search for "Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain"
- Available in STATA and SPSS format

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Thank you