

Analysis of Consumer Durables

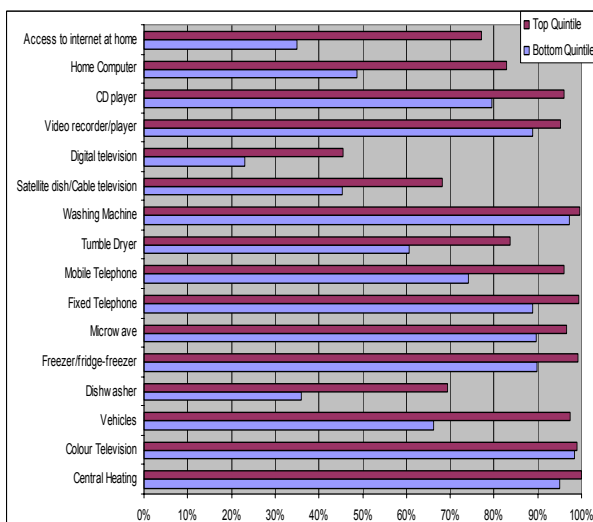
For 2003/04, information on consumer durables has been included in the survey. In most households, income would be the major indicator of current living standards. For some households, however, actual or potential living standards are influenced by their possession of consumer durables, amongst other things. Estimates of current income and housing costs may not fully capture the benefits which arise from the ownership of consumer durables as they may have been purchased at an earlier period of time.

For the purpose of these analyses, it is assumed that members of the same household share common facilities. No distinction has been made as to whether the item has been purchased outright or rented. There also is no information on the age and condition of the item. Information on cars and vans includes those provided by employers and available for private use.

It should be bore in mind that in some cases the absence of consumer durables may be more to do with consumer choice than affordability. For example, a person may not have car because they wouldn't have much use for it, as apposed to not having the income to purchase and run the car.

In general, households in the top quintiles were more likely to have access to consumer durables, except for access to a colour television, where those in lower quintiles are equally as likely to have access to this, as those in middle and upper quintiles.

Figure A3.1 (BHC): Access to consumer durables for all individuals in top and bottom quintiles, 2003/04



Generally, access to consumer durables increased as we moved up through the quintiles, although in some cases this increase was only slight. Figure A3.1 looks at access to consumer durables of individuals in the top and bottom quintiles. This shows that access to a dishwasher, a home pc and the internet at home shows the largest differentials between the upper and lower quintile.

Pensioners are less likely to have access to consumer durables across all quintiles than working-age adults and children. An exception to this is pensioners' access to a fixed telephone and colour television. This group were shown to be more likely to have access to these items.

Compared to other groups, households with children had greater access to satellite/cable and digital television, video recorder, home pc and access to the internet.

When comparing access to consumer durables on a BHC and AHC basis, there is a slight increase in the proportions with access across all quintiles after housing costs have been deducted, although this increase was generally only slight. In some cases there was no change.

Table A3.1(BHC): Percentage of Individuals living in households with access to consumer durables for groups by income quintile

Percentage of individuals	Net equivalised disposable household income					All individuals
	Bottom quintile	Second quintile	Third quintile	Fourth quintile	Top quintile	
Central Heating						
Pensioners	92	95	96	100	99	95
Working-age adults	95	98	97	100	100	98
Children	97	99	100	100	100	99
All Individuals	95	98	98	100	100	98
Colour Television						
Pensioners	100	100	100	100	99	100
Working-age adults	98	100	99	100	99	99
Children	98	100	97	100	98	99
All Individuals	98	100	98	100	99	99
Vehicles						
Pensioners ¹						
Working-age adults	70	81	84	96	98	85
Children	69	81	89	98	98	84
All Individuals	66	76	80	93	97	81
Dishwasher						
Pensioners	23	22	20	47	59	29
Working-age adults	40	33	42	54	69	47
Children	38	38	53	67	74	50
All Individuals	36	33	42	56	69	45
Freezer/fridge-freezer						
Pensioners	83	88	90	96	98	89
Working-age adults	90	94	97	98	99	96
Children	94	98	96	100	99	97
All Individuals	90	94	96	98	99	95
Microwave						
Pensioners	75	86	83	90	92	83
Working-age adults	92	93	96	92	97	94
Children	94	92	94	95	96	94
All Individuals	90	91	94	92	97	92
Fixed Telephone						
Pensioners	98	97	100	99	100	99
Working-age adults	85	93	94	93	99	93
Children	89	94	95	97	100	94
All Individuals	89	94	95	95	99	94
Mobile Telephone						
Pensioners	39	44	46	73	86	51
Working-age adults	81	86	91	92	96	89
Children	85	91	94	99	98	92
All Individuals	74	79	85	91	96	84

¹ Pensioners' access to vehicles is not presented. Questions on vehicle ownership are no longer asked of respondents aged 75 and over

Table A3.1(AHC): Percentage of Individuals living in households with access to consumer durables for groups by income quintile

Percentage of individuals	Net equivalised disposable household income					All individuals
	Bottom quintile	Second quintile	Third quintile	Fourth quintile	Top quintile	
Central Heating						
Pensioners	95	94	93	98	99	95
Working-age adults	95	96	98	100	100	98
Children	96	99	100	100	100	99
All Individuals	96	96	98	99	100	98
Colour Television						
Pensioners	100	100	100	100	99	100
Working-age adults	98	100	99	100	99	99
Children	98	100	97	100	99	99
All Individuals	98	100	98	100	99	99
Vehicles						
Pensioners ¹						
Working-age adults	65	82	84	95	98	85
Children	64	83	89	99	98	84
All Individuals	62	75	81	91	97	81
Dishwasher						
Pensioners	21	20	27	37	55	29
Working-age adults	34	38	41	54	67	47
Children	36	39	53	65	75	50
All Individuals	33	34	43	54	67	45
Freezer/fridge-freezer						
Pensioners	84	86	90	92	99	89
Working-age adults	89	95	95	98	99	96
Children	94	97	97	100	99	97
All Individuals	90	94	95	98	99	95
Microwave						
Pensioners	75	82	88	85	90	83
Working-age adults	93	92	96	93	97	94
Children	95	91	93	95	96	94
All Individuals	91	90	94	92	96	92
Fixed Telephone						
Pensioners	97	98	99	100	100	99
Working-age adults	82	93	94	95	99	93
Children	85	97	95	97	100	94
All Individuals	85	95	95	96	100	94
Mobile Telephone						
Pensioners	37	41	45	67	83	51
Working-age adults	80	86	91	92	95	89
Children	84	89	95	98	98	92
All Individuals	75	77	86	89	95	84

¹ Pensioners' access to vehicles is not presented. Questions on vehicle ownership are no longer asked of respondents aged 75 and over

Table A3.2(BHC): Percentage of Individuals living in households with access to consumer durables for groups by income quintile

Percentage of individuals	Net equivalised disposable household income					All individuals
	Bottom quintile	Second quintile	Third quintile	Fourth quintile	Top quintile	
Tumble Dryer						
Pensioners	38	32	47	64	73	45
Working-age adults	64	63	64	69	83	68
Children	70	72	77	85	90	77
All Individuals	61	60	65	72	84	67
Washing Machine						
Pensioners	92	94	92	97	100	94
Working-age adults	98	97	98	99	99	98
Children	100	99	100	100	100	100
All Individuals	97	97	98	99	100	98
Satellite dish/Cable television						
Pensioners	23	35	32	41	55	33
Working-age adults	50	61	56	63	68	59
Children	52	60	51	77	73	59
All Individuals	45	56	51	63	68	55
Digital television						
Pensioners	10	26	17	23	43	20
Working-age adults	26	32	36	40	44	35
Children	27	32	34	44	51	35
All Individuals	23	31	33	38	45	33
Video recorder/player						
Pensioners	74	78	74	88	87	78
Working-age adults	91	93	94	95	96	94
Children	95	93	96	97	95	95
All Individuals	89	90	92	95	95	92
CD player						
Pensioners	37	47	46	71	88	51
Working-age adults	86	89	94	96	97	92
Children	95	95	98	100	97	97
All Individuals	79	83	88	93	96	87
Home Computer						
Pensioners	13	15	16	31	62	21
Working-age adults	53	55	66	68	84	65
Children	64	66	76	78	88	72
All Individuals	49	51	61	65	83	60
Access to internet at home						
Pensioners	9	15	14	30	63	19
Working-age adults	38	40	56	61	78	54
Children	47	48	65	71	80	58
All Individuals	35	37	53	58	77	50

Table A3.2(AHC): Percentage of Individuals living in households with access to consumer durables for groups by income quintile

Percentage of individuals	Net equivalised disposable household income					All individuals
	Bottom quintile	Second quintile	Third quintile	Fourth quintile	Top quintile	
Tumble Dryer						
Pensioners	37	32	46	58	73	45
Working-age adults	58	67	66	67	84	68
Children	68	72	80	80	91	77
All Individuals	58	61	67	68	84	67
Washing Machine						
Pensioners	91	93	93	96	100	94
Working-age adults	96	98	99	99	99	98
Children	100	99	100	100	100	100
All Individuals	96	97	98	99	100	98
Satellite dish/Cable television						
Pensioners	19	33	31	39	48	33
Working-age adults	47	65	56	63	66	59
Children	51	59	54	72	73	59
All Individuals	44	56	52	61	66	55
Digital television						
Pensioners	9	22	17	22	40	20
Working-age adults	25	36	34	40	43	35
Children	27	31	35	40	51	35
All Individuals	23	31	32	37	44	33
Video recorder/player						
Pensioners	72	75	80	83	88	78
Working-age adults	89	93	95	95	96	94
Children	93	95	96	97	96	95
All Individuals	88	90	93	93	95	92
CD player						
Pensioners	36	44	44	67	80	51
Working-age adults	85	90	94	96	96	92
Children	94	96	98	100	97	97
All Individuals	81	82	88	92	95	87
Home Computer						
Pensioners	16	10	20	26	51	21
Working-age adults	51	57	65	69	81	65
Children	59	69	75	81	87	72
All Individuals	49	50	62	64	79	60
Access to internet at home						
Pensioners	10	10	17	27	50	19
Working-age adults	36	43	53	64	74	54
Children	45	49	62	72	80	58
All Individuals	35	38	50	59	73	50

