

Section

2

Household Characteristics

Introduction

This section contains information on the main characteristics of households, benefit units and individuals with splits for age, ethnic group, sex and region.

The information shown is important for interpreting tables in other chapters of the report.

For example, characteristics such as the size and age distribution of the household will affect income and housing costs. Please see Methodology for further information on the nature of the sample and data quality.

Contents and points to note when interpreting tables

Tables 2.1 to 2.7 analyse households by size, region, composition and age of head. Tables showing the composition of households are extended to include, for example, households with one or more sick or disabled adults under pension age.

Tables 2.8 and 2.9 refer to information on consumer durables. Questions on consumer durables have been rotated on for the 2003-04 survey year.

Table 2.10 refers to households by Council Tax band. Since this information has not been

collected in Northern Ireland, this table has been omitted.

Table 2.11 looks at the number of benefit units in a household by Government Office Region.

Tables 2.12 to 2.19 look at benefit units by family and economic status, region and age and marital status of head.

Table 2.20 provides analysis of individuals by sex, age and region.

Table 2.21 contains information on medical treatment, age and sex.

Key definitions used

(for a full explanation of all definitions please refer to Glossary)

- Adult
- Age
- Child
- Consumer durables
- Economic status
- Ethnic group
- Family status
- Government Office Region
- Head of household
- Head of benefit unit
- Household
- Household Composition
- Individual
- Marital status
- Medical Treatment
- Pension Age
- Sick or disabled adults

Changes to tables between 2002-03 and 2003-04

Table 2.8 (Households by access to consumer durables and region) and Table 2.9 (Households by composition and access to consumer durables) have been rotated back onto the questionnaire for 2003-04.

Section 2 Summary

The average number of persons per household is 2.6 in NI compared to 2.3 in the UK.

NI has a lower percentage of single-person households (24%) compared to the UK (29%).

NI has the highest percentage of households with children (37%), with the next highest regions being West Midlands (30%) and North West & Merseyside (30%). The UK average is 29%.

There are also more households with sick or disabled adults under pension age in NI (26%), compared to the UK average (21%).

NI has however a lower percentage of households with one or more adults over pension age (29%), compared to the UK average (31%).

NI has a lower percentage of households with a home computer (50%), than the UK (57%). 48% of households in the UK have access to the internet, compared to only 42% in NI.

95% of NI households with one or more adults over pension age have central heating, falling slightly below the NI average for all households (regardless of composition) of 97%.

NI has a higher percentage of households with 2 benefit units or more (23%), compared to the UK (17%).

NI has a higher percentage of households with 'Couple with children' (21%) and 'Single with children' (7%), compared to in the UK (17% and 6% respectively).

NI has a lower percentage of households with 'Single or Couple, all in full time work' (28%), compared to the UK (30%).

There are however, more 'Self-employed' households in NI (9%), compared to the UK (7%).

55% of heads of households are aged 44 or under in NI compared to 50% in the UK.

A lower proportion of individuals in NI (29%) received something on prescription compared to the UK (31%).

A higher proportion of females (32%) than males (26%) received something on prescription in NI.

Table 2.1: Households by size and region

Size	Government Office Region							Percentage of households
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London	
1 person	30	28	29	27	29	26	36	
2 persons	36	36	38	39	36	39	32	
3 persons	16	17	14	15	16	15	14	
4 persons	13	13	13	14	12	13	12	
5 or more persons	5	6	5	5	7	7	6	
Average number of persons per household	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.2	
Sample size (=100%)	1,215	2,936	2,200	1,903	2,208	2,248	2,670	

Table 2.1: Households by size and region (continued)

Size	Government Office Region						Northern Ireland	United Kingdom	Percentage of households
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland				
1 person	26	28	29	27	33	24	29		
2 persons	38	41	37	40	34	33	37		
3 persons	15	14	15	14	16	19	15		
4 persons	14	13	13	13	11	14	13		
5 or more persons	7	5	6	6	5	10	6		
Average number of persons per household	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.6	2.3		
Sample size (=100%)	3,370	2,120	20,870	1,278	4,795	1,917	28,860		

The information presented in Table 2.2 has been omitted from NI Report due to small sample size of ethnic groups.

Table 2.3: Households by age of head and size

Age	Percentage of households					Sample size (=100%)
	Number of persons					
	One	Two	Three	Four	Five or more	
16 to 24	.	.	.	.	.	74
25 to 29	17	40	24	12	8	123
30 to 34	16	25	27	19	13	204
35 to 39	12	20	19	31	18	209
40 to 44	14	13	21	27	25	207
45 to 49	16	13	24	24	22	157
50 to 54	20	27	26	16	11	159
55 to 59	27	41	25	3	4	158
60 to 64	24	51	18	5	2	140
65 to 69	29	57	11	3	0	133
70 to 74	41	51	6	0	1	133
75 and Over	52	44	3	0	1	220
All households	24	33	19	14	10	1,917

Table 2.4: Households by age of head and region

Percentage of households

Age	Government Office Region						
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London
16 to 19	1	1	-	1	-	-	1
20 to 24	3	3	4	4	4	3	4
25 to 29	6	6	7	6	7	6	10
30 to 34	9	9	9	9	9	9	13
35 to 39	10	11	10	11	11	10	13
40 to 44	11	10	10	10	10	10	11
45 to 49	10	9	9	9	9	9	9
50 to 54	9	9	9	8	8	10	7
55 to 59	8	10	8	10	9	9	7
60 to 64	7	7	7	7	7	7	6
65 to 69	6	6	7	6	6	6	5
70 to 74	6	7	6	7	7	7	5
75 to 79	6	5	6	5	6	6	4
80 to 84	4	4	5	5	4	5	3
85 or over	3	3	2	2	3	3	2
Sample size (=100%)	1,215	2,936	2,200	1,903	2,208	2,248	2,670

Table 2.4: Continued

Percentage of households

Age	Government Office Region						Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland			
16 to 19	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	
20 to 24	3	3	4	5	4	3	4	
25 to 29	6	5	7	6	7	7	7	
30 to 34	10	9	10	8	9	10	10	
35 to 39	11	10	11	9	11	11	11	
40 to 44	11	9	10	10	10	10	10	
45 to 49	9	9	9	9	9	10	9	
50 to 54	8	8	8	9	9	9	8	
55 to 59	10	10	9	9	9	9	9	
60 to 64	7	7	7	9	7	7	7	
65 to 69	6	7	6	6	7	6	6	
70 to 74	6	7	6	8	6	6	6	
75 to 79	5	6	5	5	5	5	5	
80 to 84	5	6	4	5	4	3	4	
85 or over	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	
Sample size (=100%)	3,370	2,120	20,870	1,278	4,795	1,917	28,860	

Table 2.5: Households by composition and region

Percentage of households

Household composition	Government Office Region						
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London
Households without children							
One adult							
adult male over pension age	4	4	4	4	4	3	4
adult female over pension age	11	11	11	10	10	11	9
adult male under pension age	10	9	9	8	10	8	14
adult female under pension age	5	5	5	5	5	4	9
Two adults							
both over pension age	10	10	10	11	10	12	5
one over pension age	5	5	5	4	5	4	3
both under pension age	18	18	20	22	18	21	20
Three or more adults	9	9	7	9	8	8	8
Households with children							
One adult							
one child	4	3	3	2	3	2	4
two children	2	3	2	2	2	1	2
three or more children	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Two adults							
one child	7	8	7	6	8	8	7
two children	8	8	9	10	8	9	6
three or more children	3	3	3	4	4	4	3
Three or more adults							
one child	2	2	2	2	3	2	2
two children	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
three or more children	-	1	1	-	1	-	1
All households without children	71	70	71	72	70	71	72
All households with children	29	30	29	28	30	29	28
<i>Households with one or more adults over pension age</i>	32	32	31	31	32	32	24
<i>Households with one or more sick or disabled adults under pension age</i>	27	23	24	21	20	20	18
<i>Households with one or more unemployed adults under pension age</i>	6	4	5	3	4	4	6
Sample size (=100%)	1,215	2,936	2,200	1,903	2,208	2,248	2,670

Table 2.5: Households by composition and region (continued)

Household composition	Government Office Region						United Kingdom
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	
Percentage of households							
Households without children							
One adult							
adult male over pension age	3	3	4	4	4	2	4
adult female over pension age	10	11	10	11	12	8	10
adult male under pension age	8	8	9	9	11	9	10
adult female under pension age	5	5	6	4	7	4	6
Two adults							
both over pension age	11	12	10	11	8	9	10
one over pension age	5	5	4	6	4	5	5
both under pension age	21	21	20	20	18	15	20
Three or more adults	9	7	8	7	9	10	8
Households with children							
One adult							
one child	2	2	3	3	3	3	3
two children	2	2	2	2	3	2	2
three or more children	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Two adults							
one child	7	7	7	7	7	9	7
two children	10	8	8	8	7	9	8
three or more children	4	4	4	3	3	5	4
Three or more adults							
one child	3	2	2	2	2	4	2
two children	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
three or more children	-	0	-	1	-	1	-
Total households without children	71	73	71	71	73	63	71
Total households with children	29	27	29	29	27	37	29
Households with one or more adults over pension age	32	35	31	34	31	29	31
Households with one or more sick or disabled adults under pension age	17	21	21	25	24	26	21
Households with one or more unemployed adults under pension age	3	4	4	5	5	4	4
Sample size (=100%)	3,370	2,120	20,870	1,278	4,795	1,917	28,860

The information presented in Table 2.6 has been omitted from NI Report due to small sample size of ethnic groups.

Table 2.7: Households by ethnic group of head and region

Ethnic group	Government Office Region							Percentage of households
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London	
	White	99	97	95	95	91	96	73
Mixed	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	
Asian or Asian British	1	2	3	3	4	2	9	
Black or Black British	-	-	1	1	3	1	11	
Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	-	1	1	1	1	1	5	
Sample size (=100%)	1,215	2,936	2,200	1,903	2,208	2,248	2,670	

Table 2.7: Continued

Ethnic group	Government Office Region						Percentage of households
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
	White	95	98	92	98	98	99	93
Mixed	1	1	1	1	-	-	1
Asian or Asian British	2	-	3	-	1	1	3
Black or Black British	1	-	3	1	-	-	2
Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	1	-	2	1	1	-	1
Sample size (=100%)	3,370	2,120	20,870	1,278	4,795	1,917	28,860

Table 2.8: Households by access to consumer durables and region

Consumer durables	Percentage of households						
	Government Office Region						
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London
Cars/light vans	62	69	68	74	72	78	59
Central heating	97	90	89	95	90	95	94
Deep Freeze or Fridge/freezer	96	96	96	96	95	97	93
Washing machine	95	94	94	96	94	95	89
Tumble dryer	53	57	56	59	59	57	41
Dishwasher	21	26	25	29	30	40	31
Microwave	93	90	91	89	91	88	80
Television	99	99	99	98	99	99	98
Satellite dish/Cable/Digital	54	52	47	47	49	51	49
Video recorder	91	90	89	89	90	90	85
Telephone	90	92	91	92	92	95	91
Mobile Telephone	77	80	79	82	82	82	83
Compact disc player	83	82	81	84	81	85	81
Home computer	51	54	52	58	56	63	61
Internet Access	40	45	42	47	44	55	52
Sample size (=100%)	1,215	2,936	2,200	1,903	2,208	2,248	2,670

Table 2.8: Continued

Consumer durables	Percentage of households						
	Government Office Region/ Country						
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Cars/light vans	77	75	71	71	64	72	70
Central heating	94	91	93	94	94	97	93
Deep Freeze or Fridge/freezer	96	95	95	96	94	92	95
Washing machine	95	93	94	94	95	96	94
Tumble dryer	59	58	55	57	57	59	55
Dishwasher	43	35	32	25	28	38	32
Microwave	88	88	88	93	89	90	88
Television	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
Satellite dish/Cable/Digital	52	48	50	58	51	49	50
Video recorder	89	91	89	90	88	87	89
Telephone	94	93	92	90	90	93	92
Mobile Telephone	84	81	81	79	77	77	81
Compact disc player	86	86	83	82	84	79	83
Home computer	65	59	58	52	51	50	57
Internet Access	57	50	49	41	43	42	48
Sample size (=100%)	3,370	2,120	20,870	1,278	4,795	1,917	28,860

Table 2.9: Households by composition and access to consumer durables

Percentage of households

Household composition	Consumer durables							
	Cars/ light vans	Central heating	Deep Freeze or Fridge- freezer	Washing machine	Tumble dryer	Dish- washer	Micro- wave	Tele- vision
Households without children								
One adult								
adult male over pension age	35	88	75	78	14	4	71	97
adult female over pension age	19	94	81	91	33	14	76	100
adult male under pension age	51	94	80	88	35	18	84	95
adult female under pension age	62	96	88	98	42	28	87	98
Two adults								
both over pension age	67	95	93	94	53	32	86	100
one over pension age	75	97	93	99	48	33	91	100
both under pension age	87	98	97	97	64	44	96	100
Three or more adults	89	98	95	99	65	54	94	99
Households with children								
One adult								
one or more children	44	98	93	99	65	23	93	99
Two adults								
one child	84	100	96	100	72	47	96	99
two children	98	99	98	99	81	61	95	98
three or more children	94	99	98	100	84	63	94	98
Three or more adults								
one or more children	96	96	96	100	75	47	94	100
Total households without children	66	96	90	94	50	33	88	99
Total households with children	82	99	96	100	75	47	95	99
<i>Households with one or more adults over pension age</i>								
	54	95	88	94	43	27	83	100
<i>Households with one or more sick/disabled adults under pension age</i>								
	70	96	91	98	59	32	94	98
<i>Households with one or more unemployed adults under pension age</i>								

All Households	72	97	92	96	59	38	90	99

Table 2.9: Continued

Percentage of households

Household composition	Consumer durables							Sample size (=100%)
	Satellite Dish/ Cable/ Digital	Video recorder	Tele- phone	Mobile Tele- phone	Compact disc player	Home computer	Internet access	
Households without children								
One adult								
adult male over pension age	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	72
adult female over pension age	14	58	97	26	31	6	8	195
adult male under pension age	35	73	74	69	74	35	29	186
adult female under pension age	39	85	88	72	84	36	32	128
Two adults								
both over pension age	33	84	100	53	51	22	19	185
one over pension age	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	96
both under pension age	57	92	94	93	90	57	51	250
Three or more adults	65	96	94	86	91	60	49	123
Households with children								
One adult								
one or more children	45	88	82	82	90	47	34	167
Two adults								
one child	62	96	94	91	96	68	58	161
two children	63	97	99	97	98	80	67	164
three or more children	65	96	98	94	99	80	67	109
Three or more adults								
one or more children	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	81
Total households without children	43	82	92	68	70	37	33	1,235
Total households with children	60	95	93	92	96	71	58	682
<i>Households with one or more adults over pension age</i>	32	76	98	49	50	20	19	593
<i>Households with one or more sick/disabled adults under pension age</i>	56	87	91	75	84	45	37	467
<i>Households with one or more unemployed adults under pension age</i>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	63
All Households	49	87	93	77	79	50	42	1,917

Table 2.10 has been omitted from NI Report due to Council Tax being non-applicable.

Table 2.11: Number of benefit units per household by region

Number of benefit units	Government Office Region							Percentage of households
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London	
1 benefit unit	82	82	85	83	82	84	80	
2 benefit units	13	13	12	13	13	13	14	
3 benefit units	4	4	2	3	4	3	4	
4 benefit units	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	
5 benefit units or more	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Average number of benefit units per household	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	
Sample size (=100%)	1,215	2,936	2,200	1,903	2,208	2,248	2,670	

Table 2.11: Continued

Number of benefit units	Government Office Region						Northern Ireland	United Kingdom	Percentage of households
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland				
1 benefit unit	83	85	85	83	83	77	83		
2 benefit units	13	11	11	14	14	17	13		
3 benefit units	4	3	3	3	3	5	3		
4 benefit units	-	1	1	1	-	1	1		
5 benefit units or more	-	0	0	0	-	-	-		
Average number of benefit units per household	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2		
Sample size (=100%)	3,370	2,120	20,870	1,278	4,795	1,917	28,860		

Table 2.12: Benefit units by family status and region

Family status	Government Office Region							Percentage of benefit units
	North West		and Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London	
	North East	Merseyside						
Pensioner couple	9	10	10	10	10	11	6	
Single male pensioner	4	3	4	4	4	3	3	
Single female pensioner	11	11	11	10	11	10	9	
Couple with children	16	17	17	18	18	20	14	
Couple without children	20	20	21	23	21	23	18	
Single with children	8	7	7	5	6	4	7	
Single male without children	20	20	19	18	19	17	26	
Single female without children	12	12	12	12	11	11	17	
Sample size (=100%)	1,474	3,484	2,547	2,232	2,611	2,634	3,404	

Table 2.12: Continued

Family status	Government Office Region						Percentage of benefit units
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Pensioner couple	11	12	10	11	8	8	10
Single male pensioner	3	4	3	4	4	3	3
Single female pensioner	10	11	10	11	12	10	11
Couple with children	19	17	17	17	15	21	17
Couple without children	22	23	21	21	20	17	21
Single with children	4	5	6	7	6	7	6
Single male without children	18	17	20	18	20	21	20
Single female without children	12	11	12	11	14	14	13
Sample size (=100%)	3,942	2,432	24,760	1,487	5,660	2,336	34,243

Table 2.13: Benefit units by economic status and region

Economic status	Government Office Region						
	North West and Merseyside		Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London
	North East	Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London
Self employed	4	5	5	6	6	9	8
Single or couple, all in full time work	28	30	27	31	29	30	34
Couple, one in full time work, one in part time work	8	8	9	9	9	9	5
Couple, one in full time work, one not working	7	7	9	8	8	9	7
One or more in part time work	9	9	10	8	9	8	10
Head or spouse aged 60 or over	26	24	24	24	24	24	17
Head or spouse unemployed	4	3	4	2	3	3	4
Head or spouse sick/disabled	9	8	6	6	6	4	6
Others	4	5	6	5	5	4	9
Sample size (=100%)	1,474	3,484	2,547	2,232	2,611	2,634	3,404

Table 2.13: Continued

Economic status	Government Office Region						
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
	Self employed	8	7	7	6	5	9	7
Single or couple, all in full time work	32	29	30	28	30	28	30
Couple, one in full time work, one in part time work	10	9	8	8	8	7	8
Couple, one in full time work, one not working	8	8	8	8	7	7	8
One or more in part time work	9	11	9	7	9	9	9
Head or spouse aged 60 or over	23	25	23	27	24	21	23
Head or spouse unemployed	2	2	3	4	4	4	3
Head or spouse sick/disabled	4	5	6	7	7	10	6
Others	5	4	6	5	5	5	5
Sample size (=100%)	3,942	2,432	24,760	1,487	5,660	2,336	34,243

Table 2.14: Benefit units by ethnic group of head and region

Ethnic group	Percentage of benefit units						
	Government Office Region						
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London
White	98	96	95	94	90	95	71
Mixed	-	1	-	-	1	1	2
Asian or Asian British	1	2	3	3	5	3	11
Black or Black British	-	-	1	1	3	1	11
Chinese and Other Asian	-	1	1	1	1	1	6
Sample size (=100%)	1,474	3,484	2,547	2,232	2,611	2,634	3,404

Table 2.14 Continued

Ethnic group	Percentage of benefit units						
	Government Office Region / Country						
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
White	94	98	91	98	98	99	92
Mixed	1	1	1	1	-	-	1
Asian or Asian British	2	1	4	-	1	1	3
Black or Black British	1	1	3	-	-	-	2
Chinese and Other Asian	2	1	2	1	1	-	2
Sample size (=100%)	3,942	2,432	24,760	1,487	5,660	2,336	34,243

Table 2.15: Benefit units by age of head and family status

Age	Percentage of benefit units								All benefit units
	Family status								
	Pensioner couple	Single male pensioner	Single female pensioner	Couple with children	Couple without children	Single with children	Single male without children	Single female without children	
16 to 19	0	.	0	1	0	4	18	16	6
20 to 24	0	.	0	1	3	16	27	32	12
25 to 29	0	.	0	9	10	11	13	11	9
30 to 34	0	.	0	17	8	22	9	6	9
35 to 39	0	.	0	24	8	18	8	4	10
40 to 44	0	.	0	21	4	17	6	7	9
45 to 49	0	.	0	17	10	7	6	6	8
50 to 54	0	.	0	8	18	3	4	8	7
55 to 59	0	.	0	2	21	2	6	11	7
60 to 64	5	.	15	1	17	1	4	0	6
65 to 69	30	.	18	0	0	0	0	0	5
70 to 74	30	.	18	0	0	0	0	0	5
75 and Over	35	.	49	0	0	0	0	0	9
Sample size (=100%)	216	90	258	487	340	193	432	320	2,336

Table 2.16: Benefit units by age of head and region

Age	Government Office Region							Percentage of benefit units
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London	
16 to 19	7	5	4	5	5	4	4	
20 to 24	8	10	11	9	10	9	11	
25 to 29	7	7	7	7	8	7	13	
30 to 34	8	8	9	9	8	8	12	
35 to 39	9	10	9	10	9	9	11	
40 to 44	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	
45 to 49	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	
50 to 54	7	7	8	7	7	8	6	
55 to 59	7	8	7	9	8	8	6	
60 to 64	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	
65 to 69	6	5	6	5	5	5	4	
70 to 74	6	6	5	6	6	6	4	
75 to 79	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	
80 to 84	3	4	4	4	4	4	3	
85 or over	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	
Sample size (=100%)	1,474	3,484	2,547	2,232	2,611	2,634	3,404	

Table 2.16: Continued

Age	Government Office Region						Percentage of benefit units
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
16 to 19	4	4	5	5	6	6	5
20 to 24	10	9	10	10	9	12	10
25 to 29	7	7	8	7	8	9	8
30 to 34	9	8	9	8	8	9	9
35 to 39	10	9	10	8	9	10	9
40 to 44	9	8	9	8	9	9	9
45 to 49	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
50 to 54	7	7	7	8	7	7	7
55 to 59	8	9	8	8	7	7	8
60 to 64	6	6	6	7	6	6	6
65 to 69	5	6	5	5	6	5	5
70 to 74	5	6	5	7	5	5	5
75 to 79	5	5	5	5	4	4	5
80 to 84	4	5	4	4	4	3	4
85 or over	3	3	2	3	2	2	2
Sample size (=100%)	3,942	2,432	24,760	1,487	5,660	2,336	34,243

Table 2.17 Benefit units by age of head and economic status

Age	Economic status				Percentage of benefit units	
	Self employed	Single or couple, all in full time work	Couple, one in full time work, one in part time work	Couple, one in full time work, one not working	One or more in part time work	
16 to 19	1	43	0	0	21	
20 to 24	3	55	-	1	14	
25 to 29	7	55	6	6	9	
30 to 34	12	41	10	10	7	
35 to 39	14	36	14	10	8	
40 to 44	13	25	16	10	9	
45 to 49	21	35	11	12	7	
50 to 54	17	21	12	14	5	
55 to 59	12	8	9	9	17	
60 to 64	16	4	6	8	11	
65 to 69	2	0	1	2	11	
70 to 74	1	0	0	1	2	
75 and Over	0	0	0	0	0	
All benefit units	9	28	7	7	9	

Table 2.17: Continued

Age	Economic status				Percentage of benefit units	
	Head or spouse aged 60 or over	Head or spouse unemployed	Head or spouse sick or disabled	Others	Sample size (=100%)	
16 to 19	0	9	7	19	115	
20 to 24	0	8	6	12	213	
25 to 29	0	7	5	5	171	
30 to 34	0	4	9	6	231	
35 to 39	0	4	10	4	226	
40 to 44	0	7	16	4	220	
45 to 49	0	-	12	2	165	
50 to 54	1	2	26	1	167	
55 to 59	3	2	34	6	167	
60 to 64	55	0	0	0	147	
65 to 69	86	0	0	0	139	
70 to 74	97	0	0	0	141	
75 and Over	100	0	0	0	234	
All benefit units	21	4	10	5	2,336	

Table 2.18: Benefit units by marital status of head and family status

Marital status	Percentage of benefit units								All benefit units
	Family status						Single male without children	Single female without children	
	Pensioner couple	Single male pensioner	Single female pensioner	Couple with children	Couple without children	Single with children			
Married	100	.	0	93	86	0	0	0	42
Cohabiting	-	.	0	7	14	0	0	0	4
Single	0	.	15	0	0	47	84	78	34
Widowed	0	.	76	0	0	4	2	6	10
Separated	0	.	3	0	0	29	8	5	5
Divorced	0	.	6	0	0	21	6	11	5
Sample size (=100%)	216	90	258	487	340	193	432	320	2,336

Table 2.19: Benefit units by marital status of head and economic status

Percentage of benefit units

Marital status	Economic status				
	Self employed	Single or couple, all in full time work	Couple, one in full-time work, one in part time work	Couple, one in full-time work, one not working	One or more in part-time work
Married	78	27	96	92	32
Cohabiting	3	7	4	8	2
Single	15	55	0	0	45
Widowed	1	1	0	0	6
Separated	1	6	0	0	7
Divorced	2	5	0	0	8
Sample size (=100%)	203	607	157	146	214

Table 2.19: Continued

Percentage of benefit units

Marital status	Economic status				All benefit units
	Head or spouse aged 60 or over	Head or spouse unemployed	Head or spouse sick or disabled	Others	
Married	42	.	25	6	42
Cohabiting	0	.	2	0	4
Single	11	.	42	73	34
Widowed	41	.	3	2	10
Separated	2	.	14	9	5
Divorced	3	.	13	9	5
Sample size (=100%)	580	83	239	107	2,336

Table 2.20: Individuals by sex, age and region

Percentage of individuals

Individuals by age and sex	Government Office Region						
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London
Male							
4 and under	6	7	6	6	6	6	7
5 to 10	8	7	8	8	8	8	8
11 to 15	8	8	7	7	8	7	6
16 to 19	6	5	5	5	5	5	5
20 to 24	5	6	7	6	7	5	7
25 to 29	5	6	6	6	6	6	10
30 to 34	7	7	7	7	7	7	11
35 to 39	8	8	8	8	8	8	10
40 to 44	8	8	7	8	7	8	8
45 to 49	7	7	7	7	7	7	6
50 to 54	7	6	6	6	6	7	5
55 to 59	6	7	7	7	7	7	5
60 to 64	5	5	5	5	5	5	4
65 to 69	4	4	5	4	4	5	3
70 to 74	4	4	4	4	4	4	3
75 to 79	3	3	3	3	3	3	2
80 to 84	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
85 or over	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sample size (=100%)	1,344	3,360	2,414	2,152	2,481	2,586	3,063
Individuals by age and sex	Government Office Region						
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London
Female							
4 and under	5	5	6	5	5	5	7
5 to 10	7	7	7	8	8	7	7
11 to 15	7	7	7	6	6	7	6
16 to 19	6	5	4	4	6	4	5
20 to 24	6	6	7	6	6	6	8
25 to 29	5	6	6	6	6	6	9
30 to 34	7	7	7	7	7	7	10
35 to 39	8	8	8	8	8	8	9
40 to 44	8	7	7	7	7	7	8
45 to 49	7	6	6	7	6	7	6
50 to 54	6	6	7	7	6	7	5
55 to 59	7	6	6	7	7	7	5
60 to 64	5	5	5	5	6	5	4
65 to 69	5	5	5	4	4	4	3
70 to 74	5	4	4	4	4	4	3
75 to 79	4	4	4	4	4	4	3
80 to 84	3	3	3	3	3	3	2
85 or over	2	2	2	1	2	2	1
Sample size (=100%)	1,470	3,569	2,628	2,301	2,665	2,779	3,321

Table 2.20: Individuals by sex, age and region (continued)

Individuals by age and sex	Government Office Region							Percentage of individuals
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London	
Total individuals								
4 and under	5	6	6	5	6	6	7	
5 to 10	7	7	8	8	8	8	7	
11 to 15	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	
16 to 19	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	
20 to 24	5	6	7	6	6	6	7	
25 to 29	5	6	6	6	6	6	10	
30 to 34	7	7	7	7	7	7	10	
35 to 39	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	
40 to 44	8	7	7	7	7	7	8	
45 to 49	7	7	7	7	6	7	6	
50 to 54	7	6	7	6	6	7	5	
55 to 59	7	7	6	7	7	7	5	
60 to 64	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	
65 to 69	5	5	5	4	4	5	3	
70 to 74	5	4	4	4	4	4	3	
75 to 79	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	
80 to 84	2	2	3	3	2	3	2	
85 or over	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Sample size (=100%)	2,814	6,929	5,042	4,453	5,146	5,365	6,384	

Table 2.20: Continued

		Government Office Region						Percentage of individuals
Individuals by age and sex	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom	
Male								
4 and under	7	5	6	6	6	7	6	
5 to 10	7	8	8	7	7	10	8	
11 to 15	7	7	7	8	8	8	7	
16 to 19	5	5	5	5	5	6	5	
20 to 24	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	
25 to 29	6	5	6	5	6	6	6	
30 to 34	7	7	8	7	7	7	8	
35 to 39	8	8	8	7	8	8	8	
40 to 44	8	7	8	7	8	7	8	
45 to 49	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
50 to 54	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	
55 to 59	7	8	7	8	7	6	7	
60 to 64	5	6	5	6	5	5	5	
65 to 69	4	5	4	4	5	3	4	
70 to 74	4	5	4	5	3	3	4	
75 to 79	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	
80 to 84	2	3	2	2	2	1	2	
85 or over	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Sample size (=100%)	3,891	2,328	23,619	1,356	5,006	2,245	32,226	
		Government Office Region						
Individuals by age and sex	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom	
Female								
4 and under	6	5	6	5	5	7	6	
5 to 10	7	7	7	7	7	8	7	
11 to 15	6	6	6	7	6	7	6	
16 to 19	4	5	5	4	5	6	5	
20 to 24	6	5	6	7	6	7	6	
25 to 29	6	5	6	5	6	6	6	
30 to 34	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
35 to 39	8	8	8	7	8	8	8	
40 to 44	8	7	7	7	8	7	7	
45 to 49	7	7	6	6	7	6	7	
50 to 54	6	6	6	7	7	5	6	
55 to 59	7	7	6	7	6	6	6	
60 to 64	5	6	5	6	5	5	5	
65 to 69	4	5	4	4	5	4	4	
70 to 74	4	5	4	4	5	4	4	
75 to 79	4	4	4	4	3	3	4	
80 to 84	3	4	3	3	3	2	3	
85 or over	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	
Sample size (=100%)	4,193	2,478	25,404	1,519	5,528	2,446	34,897	

Table 2.20: Individuals by sex, age and region (continued)

Individuals by age and sex	Government Office Region						Percentage of individuals
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Total individuals							
4 and under	6	5	6	6	6	7	6
5 to 10	7	7	7	7	7	9	7
11 to 15	7	6	7	8	7	7	7
16 to 19	5	5	5	5	5	6	5
20 to 24	6	6	6	6	6	7	6
25 to 29	6	5	6	5	6	6	6
30 to 34	7	7	8	7	7	7	7
35 to 39	8	8	8	7	8	8	8
40 to 44	8	7	7	7	8	7	7
45 to 49	7	7	7	6	7	6	7
50 to 54	6	6	6	7	7	6	6
55 to 59	7	7	7	7	7	6	7
60 to 64	5	6	5	6	5	5	5
65 to 69	4	5	4	4	5	4	4
70 to 74	4	5	4	5	4	4	4
75 to 79	3	4	3	4	3	3	3
80 to 84	2	3	2	3	2	2	2
85 or over	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Sample size (=100%)	8,084	4,806	49,023	2,875	10,534	4,691	67,123

Table 2.21: Individuals by Medical treatment, age and sex

Percentage of individuals

Individuals by age and sex	Medical treatment in the 4 weeks prior to interview					Sample size (=100%)
	Received something on prescription	Visited dentist for NHS examination/treatment	Had an eyesight test	Visited hospital for NHS treatment	Purchased glasses or contact lenses	
Male						
4 and under	22	4	1	3	0	163
5 to 10	14	13	3	4	2	243
11 to 15	17	17	3	6	3	208
16 to 19	5	7	2	3	2	130
20 to 24	12	3	2	-	1	112
25 to 29	16	8	2	5	1	102
30 to 34	22	8	3	4	3	175
35 to 39	18	4	1	3	2	165
40 to 44	26	10	7	3	5	168
45 to 49	22	9	5	2	4	122
50 to 54	31	11	5	4	5	130
55 to 59	40	10	3	5	2	121
60 to 64	45	11	3	12	1	109
65 to 69	.	.	.	.	.	91
70 to 74	.	.	.	.	.	91
75 and Over	65	8	7	15	0	115
All males	26	9	3	5	2	2,245
Individuals by age and sex	Medical treatment in the 4 weeks prior to interview					Sample size (=100%)
	Received something on prescription	Visited dentist for NHS examination/treatment	Had an eyesight test	Visited hospital for NHS treatment	Purchased glasses or contact lenses	
Female						
4 and under	30	5	2	5	-	174
5 to 10	13	14	2	1	1	208
11 to 15	10	17	3	3	2	177
16 to 19	18	8	5	2	4	135
20 to 24	14	5	2	2	3	129
25 to 29	21	11	1	5	3	152
30 to 34	27	12	3	10	2	179
35 to 39	24	10	2	5	-	200
40 to 44	31	9	2	5	1	179
45 to 49	30	14	3	7	4	151
50 to 54	32	12	3	10	1	121
55 to 59	50	10	3	9	2	142
60 to 64	58	9	5	9	5	118
65 to 69	64	9	6	16	3	109
70 to 74	59	10	7	13	5	101
75 and Over	72	5	9	12	5	171
All Females	32	10	3	7	2	2,446

Table 2.21: Individuals by Medical treatment, age and sex (continued)

Percentage of individuals

Individuals by age and sex	Medical treatment in the 4 weeks prior to interview					Sample size (=100%)
	Received something on prescription	Visited dentist for NHS examination/treatment	Had an eyesight test	Visited hospital for NHS treatment	Purchased glasses or contact lenses	
All individuals						
4 and under	26	5	1	4	-	337
5 to 10	13	13	3	3	2	451
11 to 15	14	17	3	5	3	385
16 to 19	12	8	4	2	3	265
20 to 24	13	4	2	1	2	241
25 to 29	19	10	1	5	2	254
30 to 34	24	10	3	7	3	354
35 to 39	21	7	2	4	1	365
40 to 44	29	9	5	4	3	347
45 to 49	26	11	4	4	4	273
50 to 54	32	11	4	7	3	251
55 to 59	45	10	3	7	2	263
60 to 64	52	10	4	10	3	227
65 to 69	60	11	5	11	3	200
70 to 74	61	10	7	12	4	192
75 and Over	69	6	8	13	3	286
All individuals	29	9	3	6	2	4,691