

# 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.

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 refers to information on medical treatment. Questions on medical treatment have been rotated off for the 2004-05 survey year.

### **Key definitions used**

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

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

## ***Changes to tables between 2003-04 and 2004-05***

Due to small sample sizes of ethnic groups, Tables 2.7 and 2.24 now present ethnic groups analysis as a three year average.  
(see Introduction for further details).

Questions on NHS treatment have been rotated off for the 2004/05 survey year. Table 2.21 therefore has been omitted from this years report.

Tables 2.8 and 2.9 refer to information on consumer durables. These questions have been permanently dropped from the FRS as of the 2004/05 survey year. They have been replaced by a new suite of questions on deprivation.  
(see Methodology for more details).

## ***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 (26%) compared to the UK (29%).
- NI has the highest percentage of households with children (35%), with the next highest regions being West Midlands (30%). The UK average is 29%.
- There are also more households with sick or disabled adults under pension age in NI (25%), compared to the UK average (20%).
- NI has however a lower percentage of households with one or more adults over pension age (30%), compared to the UK average (31%).
- NI has a higher percentage of households with at least 2 benefit units (22%), compared to the UK (17%).
- NI has a higher percentage of households with 'Couple with children' (20%) 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' (27%), compared to the UK (30%).
- There are however, more 'Self-employed' households in NI (10%), compared to the UK (7%).
- 54% of heads of households are aged 44 or under in NI compared to 49% in the UK.



**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	31	30	29	27	29	27	35	
2 persons	36	37	38	39	36	38	33	
3 persons	14	15	16	15	15	15	15	
4 persons	14	12	12	14	12	14	11	
5 or more persons	5	6	6	6	8	6	7	
<b>Average number of persons per household</b>	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.2	
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>2,992</b>	<b>2,015</b>	<b>1,843</b>	<b>2,170</b>	<b>2,215</b>	<b>2,553</b>	

**Table 2.1: Households by size and region (continued)**

Size	Government Office Region						Percentage of households
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
1 person	26	31	29	27	32	26	<b>29</b>
2 persons	39	38	37	38	37	32	<b>37</b>
3 persons	15	14	15	16	14	16	<b>15</b>
4 persons	14	12	13	13	13	14	<b>13</b>
5 or more persons	6	5	6	6	5	11	<b>6</b>
<b>Average number of persons per household</b>	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.6	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>3,296</b>	<b>2,164</b>	<b>20,352</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>4,523</b>	<b>1,927</b>	<b>28,041</b>

**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	.	.	.	.	.	<b>77</b>
25 to 29	23	37	26	11	3	<b>128</b>
30 to 34	16	27	23	23	10	<b>187</b>
35 to 39	14	16	19	31	21	<b>209</b>
40 to 44	10	22	15	27	26	<b>217</b>
45 to 49	17	19	17	30	18	<b>157</b>
50 to 54	18	34	22	10	17	<b>192</b>
55 to 59	23	43	16	8	10	<b>163</b>
60 to 64	33	47	14	3	3	<b>157</b>
65 to 69	37	51	11	0	2	<b>127</b>
70 to 74	46	46	7	2	0	<b>110</b>
75 and Over	62	33	4	0	1	<b>203</b>
<b>All households</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1,927</b>

**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	-	-	1
20 to 24	3	4	5	4	3	3	4
25 to 29	6	6	6	6	7	6	10
30 to 34	8	9	8	8	9	8	12
35 to 39	10	10	10	11	11	10	13
40 to 44	11	10	10	10	10	11	11
45 to 49	10	9	9	9	9	9	9
50 to 54	8	8	9	9	8	9	7
55 to 59	10	10	9	9	9	9	7
60 to 64	6	8	7	7	8	8	6
65 to 69	7	7	6	6	7	6	5
70 to 74	7	6	6	5	6	6	5
75 to 79	6	5	5	6	5	6	4
80 to 84	5	5	5	5	5	5	4
85 or over	3	3	3	2	3	3	2
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>2,992</b>	<b>2,015</b>	<b>1,843</b>	<b>2,170</b>	<b>2,215</b>	<b>2,553</b>

**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	1	1	
20 to 24	3	3	4	3	4	3	4	
25 to 29	6	5	7	7	6	7	7	
30 to 34	9	8	9	8	9	10	9	
35 to 39	11	11	11	9	11	11	11	
40 to 44	10	10	10	9	10	11	10	
45 to 49	9	8	9	9	10	10	9	
50 to 54	9	9	8	9	9	9	9	
55 to 59	9	10	9	10	9	8	9	
60 to 64	7	8	7	7	7	7	7	
65 to 69	6	7	6	7	6	6	6	
70 to 74	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	
75 to 79	6	6	5	6	5	5	5	
80 to 84	5	6	5	5	4	4	5	
85 or over	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>3,296</b>	<b>2,164</b>	<b>20,352</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>4,523</b>	<b>1,927</b>	<b>28,041</b>	

**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
<b>Households without children</b>							
One adult							
adult male over pension age	5	4	4	3	3	3	4
adult female over pension age	12	11	11	10	11	10	9
adult male under pension age	10	9	9	9	10	9	14
adult female under pension age	4	5	5	5	5	5	7
Two adults							
both over pension age	11	9	10	11	11	12	5
one over pension age	4	5	5	5	5	5	3
both under pension age	18	19	20	20	17	19	20
Three or more adults	8	9	8	9	8	9	8
<b>Households with children</b>							
One adult							
one child	3	4	3	3	3	2	4
two children	2	3	2	2	2	2	2
three or more children	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Two adults							
one child	6	6	8	6	7	7	7
two children	9	7	8	9	7	10	7
three or more children	3	4	3	4	4	4	3
Three or more adults							
one child	3	2	1	2	2	2	2
two children	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
three or more children	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
<b>All households without children</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>All households with children</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>
<b><i>Households with one or more adults over pension age</i></b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>
<b><i>Households with one or more sick or disabled adults under pension age</i></b>	<b>25</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>
<b><i>Households with one or more unemployed adults under pension age</i></b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>2,992</b>	<b>2,015</b>	<b>1,843</b>	<b>2,170</b>	<b>2,215</b>	<b>2,553</b>

**Table 2.5: Households by composition and region (continued)**

Household composition	Government Office Region						Percentage of households
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
<b>Households without children</b>							
One adult							
adult male over pension age	3	3	4	4	4	3	4
adult female over pension age	10	12	11	11	11	10	11
adult male under pension age	8	9	10	7	10	9	10
adult female under pension age	5	6	5	5	7	5	5
Two adults							
both over pension age	11	12	10	11	9	8	10
one over pension age	4	5	4	5	5	5	5
both under pension age	21	19	19	19	19	15	19
Three or more adults	9	7	8	9	8	10	8
<b>Households with children</b>							
One adult							
one child	2	2	3	3	4	4	3
two children	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
three or more children	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Two adults							
one child	7	7	7	7	7	8	7
two children	10	8	8	8	7	10	8
three or more children	3	3	3	4	3	5	3
Three or more adults							
one child	2	2	2	3	3	4	2
two children	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
three or more children	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
<b>Total households without children</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Total households with children</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Households with one or more adults over pension age</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Households with one or more sick or disabled adults under pension age</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Households with one or more unemployed adults under pension age</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>3,296</b>	<b>2,164</b>	<b>20,352</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>4,523</b>	<b>1,927</b>	<b>28,041</b>

**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	98	96	95	94	91	95	73
Mixed	-	1	-	1	-	1	2	
Indian	-	1	1	2	3	1	5	
Asian or Asian British	-	1	2	1	2	1	3	
Black or Black British	-	1	1	1	3	1	10	
Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>3,485</b>	<b>8,895</b>	<b>6,484</b>	<b>5,568</b>	<b>6,560</b>	<b>6,702</b>	<b>7,913</b>	

Source: 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 Family Resources Survey, United Kingdom

**Table 2.7: Continued**

Ethnic group	Government Office Region						Percentage of households
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
	White	96	98	99	92	98	99
Mixed	1	-	-	1	1	-	<b>1</b>
Indian	1	-	-	2	-	-	<b>1</b>
Asian or Asian British	1	-	-	1	-	-	<b>1</b>
Black or Black British	1	1	-	3	-	-	<b>2</b>
Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	1	1	-	2	-	-	<b>2</b>
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>10,134</b>	<b>6,422</b>	<b>62,163</b>	<b>3,841</b>	<b>14,013</b>	<b>5,594</b>	<b>85,611</b>

Source: 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 Family Resources Survey, United Kingdom

**Table 2.8 has been permanently removed from the NI FRS Report.**

**Table 2.9 has been permanently removed from the NI FRS Report.**

**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	83	83	83	84	82	83	81
2 benefit units	12	12	13	12	13	13	14
3 benefit units	4	4	3	4	4	3	4
4 benefit units	-	1	1	1	1	1	1
5 benefit units or more	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Average number of benefit units per household</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>2,992</b>	<b>2,015</b>	<b>1,843</b>	<b>2,170</b>	<b>2,215</b>	<b>2,553</b>

**Table 2.11: Continued**

Number of benefit units	Government Office Region					Percentage of households	United Kingdom
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	
1 benefit unit	83	85	83	81	83	78	<b>83</b>
2 benefit units	13	12	13	14	13	14	<b>13</b>
3 benefit units	3	3	3	4	4	6	<b>4</b>
4 benefit units	1	-	1	-	-	1	<b>1</b>
5 benefit units or more	-	0	-	-	-	-	<b>-</b>
<b>Average number of benefit units per household</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.2</b>
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>3,296</b>	<b>2,164</b>	<b>20,352</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>4,523</b>	<b>1,927</b>	<b>28,041</b>

**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	the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern				
Pensioner couple	9	9	10	11	10	11	6			
Single male pensioner	4	4	4	3	4	3	4			
Single female pensioner	11	11	11	10	11	10	9			
Couple with children	16	16	17	17	18	19	15			
Couple without children	21	21	21	23	20	22	18			
Single with children	7	8	7	6	6	5	7			
Single male without children	19	20	19	19	20	18	25			
Single female without children	12	12	12	11	12	12	17			
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>3,552</b>	<b>2,355</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>2,578</b>	<b>2,590</b>	<b>3,194</b>			

**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	9	8
Single male pensioner	3	4	3	3	3	3	<b>3</b>
Single female pensioner	10	12	10	11	11	10	<b>11</b>
Couple with children	19	18	17	17	15	20	<b>17</b>
Couple without children	22	21	21	20	20	17	<b>21</b>
Single with children	5	5	6	6	7	7	<b>6</b>
Single male without children	18	18	20	19	20	21	<b>20</b>
Single female without children	12	11	12	11	14	14	<b>13</b>
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>3,881</b>	<b>2,455</b>	<b>24,051</b>	<b>1,462</b>	<b>5,312</b>	<b>2,377</b>	<b>33,202</b>

**Table 2.13: Benefit units by economic status and region**

Economic status	Government Office Region							Percentage of benefit units
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London	
	Self employed	5	5	5	6	6	9	9
Single or couple, all in full time work	26	29	29	30	28	30	34	
Couple, one in full time work, one in part time work	8	8	9	9	9	10	6	
Couple, one in full time work, one not working	7	7	8	9	8	8	7	
One or more in part time work	10	10	10	9	9	10	9	
Head or spouse aged 60 or over	26	24	23	24	24	23	18	
Head or spouse unemployed	3	3	3	3	4	2	4	
Head or spouse sick/disabled	8	8	7	6	6	4	5	
Others	6	6	5	5	6	4	10	
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>3,552</b>	<b>2,355</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>2,578</b>	<b>2,590</b>	<b>3,194</b>	

**Table 2.13: Continued**

Economic status	Government Office Region						United Kingdom	Percentage of benefit units
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland		
	Self employed	9	8	7	8	5	10	7
Single or couple, all in full time work	31	28	30	27	31	27	30	
Couple, one in full time work, one in part time work	10	10	9	7	8	6	8	
Couple, one in full time work, one not working	8	7	8	9	7	6	8	
One or more in part time work	10	10	9	8	10	10	9	
Head or spouse aged 60 or over	23	27	23	25	23	22	23	
Head or spouse unemployed	3	2	3	3	4	3	3	
Head or spouse sick/disabled	3	4	6	9	7	9	6	
Others	4	3	6	4	5	5	6	
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>3,881</b>	<b>2,455</b>	<b>24,051</b>	<b>1,462</b>	<b>5,312</b>	<b>2,377</b>	<b>33,202</b>	

**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	93	89	95	71
Mixed	-	1	-	1	1	1	2
Indian	-	1	1	3	4	1	7
Pakistani and Bangladeshi	1	1	2	1	2	1	3
Black or Black British	-	1	1	1	3	1	10
Other Ethnic Groups (inc Chinese and Other Asian)	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>4,155</b>	<b>10,512</b>	<b>7,572</b>	<b>6,518</b>	<b>7,803</b>	<b>7,813</b>	<b>10,000</b>

Source: 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 Family Resources Survey, United Kingdom

**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	95	98	91	98	98	99	<b>92</b>
Mixed	1	-	1	-	-	-	<b>1</b>
Indian	1	-	2	-	-	-	<b>2</b>
Pakistani and Bangladeshi	1	-	2	-	1	-	<b>1</b>
Black or Black British	1	1	2	-	-	-	<b>2</b>
Other Ethnic Groups (inc Chinese and Other Asian)	2	1	2	1	1	1	<b>2</b>
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>11,892</b>	<b>7,345</b>	<b>73,610</b>	<b>4,489</b>	<b>16,506</b>	<b>6,836</b>	<b>101,441</b>

Source: 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 Family Resources Survey, United Kingdom

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

Age	Percentage of benefit units								All benefit units
	Family status							Single male without children	
	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	0	0	1	3	17	17	<b>6</b>
20 to 24	0	0	0	1	4	10	27	33	<b>12</b>
25 to 29	0	0	0	8	8	14	14	11	<b>8</b>
30 to 34	0	0	0	17	8	16	11	5	<b>9</b>
35 to 39	0	0	0	26	5	18	7	5	<b>10</b>
40 to 44	0	0	0	20	7	20	6	7	<b>9</b>
45 to 49	0	0	0	17	11	10	6	6	<b>8</b>
50 to 54	0	0	0	8	19	8	4	9	<b>7</b>
55 to 59	0	0	0	3	20	-	5	7	<b>6</b>
60 to 64	8	0	15	1	17	0	4	0	<b>6</b>
65 to 69	34	26	16	0	0	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
70 to 74	28	25	18	0	0	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
75 and Over	30	49	51	0	0	0	0	0	<b>9</b>
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>2,377</b>

**Table 2.16: Benefit units by age of head and region**

Age	Government Office Region							Percentage of benefit units
	North East	North West	Yorkshire and the Humber	East		Eastern	London	
		and Merseyside		Midlands	West Midlands			
16 to 19	6	6	5	5	5	5	4	
20 to 24	10	9	10	10	10	10	11	
25 to 29	6	7	7	7	8	8	12	
30 to 34	7	9	8	8	8	8	12	
35 to 39	8	9	9	9	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	6	7	8	8	7	8	6	
55 to 59	8	8	8	8	8	8	6	
60 to 64	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	
65 to 69	6	6	5	6	6	5	4	
70 to 74	6	5	5	5	5	5	4	
75 to 79	5	4	5	5	5	5	3	
80 to 84	4	4	5	5	5	5	3	
85 or over	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>3,552</b>	<b>2,355</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>2,578</b>	<b>2,590</b>	<b>3,194</b>	

**Table 2.16: Continued**

Age	Government Office Region						Percentage of benefit units
	South East	South West	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern	United
						Ireland	Kingdom
16 to 19	5	5	5	6	7	6	5
20 to 24	9	9	10	9	9	12	10
25 to 29	7	6	8	7	7	8	8
30 to 34	8	7	9	8	8	9	8
35 to 39	10	9	10	9	9	10	9
40 to 44	9	9	9	8	9	9	9
45 to 49	8	7	8	8	8	8	8
50 to 54	8	8	7	8	7	7	7
55 to 59	8	8	8	9	7	6	8
60 to 64	6	7	6	6	6	6	6
65 to 69	5	6	5	6	5	5	5
70 to 74	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
75 to 79	5	6	4	5	4	4	4
80 to 84	4	5	4	4	4	3	4
85 or over	3	3	2	3	2	2	2
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>3,881</b>	<b>2,455</b>	<b>24,051</b>	<b>1,462</b>	<b>5,312</b>	<b>2,377</b>	<b>33,202</b>

**Table 2.17 Benefit units by age of head and economic status**

Age	Percentage of benefit units				
	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
16 to 19	1	39	1	1	22
20 to 24	5	50	1	1	19
25 to 29	7	54	5	8	7
30 to 34	18	40	10	8	7
35 to 39	15	32	15	11	7
40 to 44	16	32	12	7	12
45 to 49	19	27	12	11	9
50 to 54	12	21	12	12	15
55 to 59	18	17	9	10	14
60 to 64	8	6	3	12	11
65 to 69	3	0	0	2	6
70 to 74	1	1	0	0	4
75 and Over	1	0	0	0	1
<b>All benefit units</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>

**Table 2.17: Continued**

Age	Percentage of benefit units				Sample size (=100%)
	Economic status				
	Head or spouse aged 60 or over	Head or spouse unemployed	Head or spouse sick or disabled	Others	
16 to 19	0	9	4	23	123
20 to 24	0	8	5	12	240
25 to 29	0	4	8	7	178
30 to 34	0	3	10	5	213
35 to 39	0	4	11	5	224
40 to 44	-	2	16	3	229
45 to 49	0	3	15	3	163
50 to 54	1	2	22	3	199
55 to 59	3	2	21	6	170
60 to 64	60	0	0	0	163
65 to 69	89	0	0	0	136
70 to 74	94	0	0	0	119
75 and Over	99	0	0	0	220
<b>All benefit units</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2,377</b>

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

Marital status	Family status								Percentage of benefit units
	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	All benefit units
Married	99	0	0	93	81	0	0	0	<b>40</b>
Cohabiting	1	0	0	7	19	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
Single	0	29	21	0	0	40	88	81	<b>36</b>
Widowed	0	50	71	0	0	4	2	4	<b>10</b>
Separated	0	12	2	0	0	38	4	8	<b>5</b>
Divorced	0	9	6	0	0	19	6	7	<b>4</b>
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>2,377</b>

**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	73	25	90	89	27
Cohabiting	6	7	10	11	2
Single	16	56	0	0	48
Widowed	1	1	0	0	6
Separated	1	6	0	0	10
Divorced	1	4	0	0	8
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>248</b>

**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	40	.	25	6	<b>40</b>
Cohabiting	1	.	2	0	<b>5</b>
Single	14	.	46	79	<b>36</b>
Widowed	38	.	3	3	<b>10</b>
Separated	3	.	14	8	<b>5</b>
Divorced	5	.	11	5	<b>4</b>
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>2,377</b>

**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
<b>Male</b>							
4 and under	6	6	6	6	7	6	7
5 to 10	7	8	8	8	7	7	7
11 to 15	8	7	8	7	7	7	6
16 to 19	5	6	5	6	5	5	5
20 to 24	6	6	7	6	6	6	7
25 to 29	5	6	6	6	6	6	10
30 to 34	6	7	7	7	7	7	10
35 to 39	7	8	8	8	8	8	10
40 to 44	8	8	7	8	7	8	8
45 to 49	7	7	7	7	6	7	6
50 to 54	6	6	7	7	6	7	5
55 to 59	8	7	6	7	7	7	5
60 to 64	5	5	5	5	5	5	4
65 to 69	4	5	5	4	5	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
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>1,196</b>	<b>3,349</b>	<b>2,211</b>	<b>2,128</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>2,507</b>	<b>2,885</b>
Individuals by age and sex	Government Office Region						
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London
<b>Female</b>							
4 and under	5	5	6	5	6	6	7
5 to 10	7	8	7	7	7	7	7
11 to 15	6	7	7	6	7	6	5
16 to 19	6	5	5	5	5	5	4
20 to 24	6	6	6	6	6	6	8
25 to 29	5	6	6	5	6	6	9
30 to 34	6	7	7	7	7	7	9
35 to 39	7	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	6	6	7	6	6	7	5
55 to 59	7	7	6	7	7	7	5
60 to 64	4	6	5	5	5	5	4
65 to 69	6	4	5	5	5	5	3
70 to 74	4	4	4	4	4	4	3
75 to 79	4	3	3	3	3	4	3
80 to 84	3	3	4	4	3	4	3
85 or over	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>1,322</b>	<b>3,622</b>	<b>2,395</b>	<b>2,278</b>	<b>2,672</b>	<b>2,660</b>	<b>3,241</b>

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

Individuals by age and sex	Government Office Region						
	North East	North West and Merseyside	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London
<b>Total individuals</b>							
4 and under	6	6	6	5	6	6	7
5 to 10	7	8	7	8	7	7	7
11 to 15	7	7	7	7	7	7	6
16 to 19	6	6	5	5	5	5	4
20 to 24	6	6	7	6	6	6	8
25 to 29	5	6	6	5	6	6	10
30 to 34	6	7	7	7	7	7	10
35 to 39	7	8	8	8	8	8	9
40 to 44	8	7	7	8	7	8	8
45 to 49	7	7	7	7	6	7	6
50 to 54	6	6	7	6	6	7	5
55 to 59	7	7	6	7	7	7	5
60 to 64	5	6	5	5	5	5	4
65 to 69	5	4	5	5	5	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	3	3	3	3	3	2
85 or over	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>2,518</b>	<b>6,971</b>	<b>4,606</b>	<b>4,406</b>	<b>5,172</b>	<b>5,167</b>	<b>6,126</b>

**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	
<b>Male</b>								
4 and under	6	6	6	6	6	7	6	
5 to 10	8	7	8	8	7	9	8	
11 to 15	7	7	7	7	7	9	7	
16 to 19	5	6	5	6	6	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	6	7	6	7	7	7	
35 to 39	8	7	8	7	8	8	8	
40 to 44	8	7	8	7	8	7	8	
45 to 49	7	7	7	6	7	7	7	
50 to 54	6	7	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	6	4	5	5	4	4	
70 to 74	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	
75 to 79	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	
80 to 84	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	
85 or over	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>3,823</b>	<b>2,348</b>	<b>22,947</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>4,674</b>	<b>2,246</b>	<b>31,247</b>	
<b>Female</b>								
4 and under	6	5	6	6	5	7	6	
5 to 10	7	7	7	6	6	8	7	
11 to 15	6	6	6	6	6	7	6	
16 to 19	5	4	5	6	5	5	5	
20 to 24	5	6	6	6	6	7	6	
25 to 29	6	5	6	5	6	6	6	
30 to 34	7	6	7	6	7	7	7	
35 to 39	8	7	8	7	8	8	8	
40 to 44	8	7	7	7	8	7	7	
45 to 49	7	7	6	6	7	7	7	
50 to 54	7	6	6	7	7	6	6	
55 to 59	6	7	6	6	6	5	6	
60 to 64	5	6	5	6	5	5	5	
65 to 69	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	
70 to 74	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
75 to 79	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	
80 to 84	3	4	3	4	3	2	3	
85 or over	2	3	2	2	2	1	2	
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>4,005</b>	<b>2,532</b>	<b>24,727</b>	<b>1,457</b>	<b>5,237</b>	<b>2,564</b>	<b>33,985</b>	

**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
<b>Total individuals</b>							
4 and under	6	6	6	6	5	7	<b>6</b>
5 to 10	7	7	7	7	7	8	<b>7</b>
11 to 15	7	6	7	7	6	8	<b>7</b>
16 to 19	5	5	5	6	6	6	<b>5</b>
20 to 24	6	6	6	6	6	7	<b>6</b>
25 to 29	6	5	6	5	6	6	<b>6</b>
30 to 34	7	6	7	6	7	7	<b>7</b>
35 to 39	8	7	8	7	8	8	<b>8</b>
40 to 44	8	7	8	7	8	7	<b>8</b>
45 to 49	7	7	7	6	7	7	<b>7</b>
50 to 54	7	7	6	7	7	6	<b>6</b>
55 to 59	7	7	7	7	7	6	<b>7</b>
60 to 64	5	6	5	6	5	5	<b>5</b>
65 to 69	4	5	4	5	5	4	<b>4</b>
70 to 74	4	4	4	4	4	3	<b>4</b>
75 to 79	3	4	3	3	3	3	<b>3</b>
80 to 84	3	4	3	3	2	2	<b>3</b>
85 or over	2	2	1	2	1	1	<b>1</b>
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>7,828</b>	<b>4,880</b>	<b>47,674</b>	<b>2,837</b>	<b>9,911</b>	<b>4,810</b>	<b>65,232</b>

**Table 2.21 has been rotated off for the 2004-05 Survey Year.**

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