

The Annual Population Survey datasets were updated on 17 July 2018 with new figures for the Apr 2017 - Mar 2018 survey period. Country of birth estimates are not included in this initial release; they will be released at a later date in line with the ONS coherent reporting policy for migration statistics ([more details below](#)).

Publication of health and disability variables remain suspended from the October 2016 to December 2017 period onwards, whilst further quality assurance of the estimates continues. For further information contact the [ONS Subnational Labour Market team](#)

The next update is scheduled for 16 October 2018 when data for the Jul 2017 - Jun 2018 survey period will be released.

Accessing APS data

Headline APS figures for an area are available in [local authority profiles](#) and [parliamentary constituency profiles](#).

The [headline national and regional figures](#) are available as a separate spreadsheet download (xls).

Use the [query tool](#) to access the full APS datasets which contain a much wider range of variables than provided in the profiles:

- [Annual Population Survey](#): the main data set with the largest set of variables. Use this to get information about people living in an area.
- Annual Population Survey - workplace analysis: use this to get employment information about the population working in an area.

Topics covered in the APS dataset include:

- Country of birth
- Disability level
- Economic activity (employment, unemployment and economic activity)
- Ethnic group
- Health problems
- Hours worked weekly
- Industry of employment
- Job-related training
- National identity and Welsh language
- Nationality
- Occupation of employment
- Public and private sector employment
- Qualifications

Regional APS

There are Regional APS data sets with detailed data on country of birth, employment by occupation, ethnicity by industry, labour market status by age and also nationality data.

About the APS

The Annual Population Survey (APS) is a combined survey of households in Great Britain. Its purpose is to provide information on key social and socioeconomic variables between the 10-yearly censuses,

Annual Population Survey

with particular emphasis on providing information relating to sub-regional (local authority) areas. Due to sample size limitations, APS data is not available below local authority level i.e. data is not available for wards and super output areas.

The first publication of APS data covered the survey period January to December 2004. Subsequently, APS data has been published on a quarterly basis, but with each publication covering a year's data. For example, data relating to the survey period April 2004 to March 2005 was published in September 2005, whereas data relating to July 2004 to June 2005 was published in December 2005.

Sample Size

When the APS was introduced in 2004 it comprised the annual Local Area Labour Force Survey (LALFS) supplemented by an extra boost, the APS(B), designed to obtain a sample of 500 economically active adults in each local authority district. As a cost saving measure, the APS(B) was scaled back in mid-2005 and was withdrawn from January 2006.

APS estimates for the April 2005 to March 2006 period onwards revert to the sample used for the previous annual LALFS. The last period which contains APS(B) cases is that covering January to December 2005, as this is the last period for which a complete year's boost is available.

Sample sizes by local authority are available in a spreadsheet from the link below.

- [APS sample size by local authority](#)

Country of Birth

New measures to improve the way in which population and migration statistics are reported across government were announced on 26 February 2008. This is the first step towards a new coherent reporting programme for demographic statistics, a key recommendation of the 2006 Interdepartmental Task Force on Migration Statistics. The initiative aims to ensure that related demographic data from different government departments are presented in a coordinated manner on a limited number of dates throughout the year.

Qualification Data

Qualification data are only be available from the APS for calendar year periods (i.e. Jan to Dec periods). This is because the questions in the survey relating to qualifications change. From Jan 2006, these changes occur at the start of January each year, so the calendar year will be the only period not be affected by them. Qualifications figures will be shown as missing in other periods.

Further Information

The ONS Labour Market Guide has a section about the Annual Population Survey:

- [ONS Labour Market Guide: Annual Population Survey](#)

The LFS user guide is available from the link below and Volume 6 covers local area data and covers the APS. The methodology for the APS is the same as for the former local area annual LFS. - [LFS User Guide](#)