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Public confidence in official statistics – Appendices to report

Authors: Ian Simpson & Kelsey Beninger

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NatCen Social Research
35 Northampton Square
London EC1V 0AX
T 020 7250 1866
www.natcen.ac.uk

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Appendix A. Detailed survey tables

Awareness of ONS and other organisations

Table A.1 Ever heard of ONS on radio, TV, newspapers, or somewhere else?					
Base: All respondents					
Age of respondent		Yes	No	Don't know	Unweighted bases
	18-24	51	49	1	103
	25-34	67	29	4	254
	35-44	75	25	*	317
	45-54	75	25	1	354
	55-64	79	20	1	330
	65+	73	26	1	549
Total		71	28	1	1907

Table A.2 Ever heard of ONS on radio, TV, newspapers, or somewhere else?					
Base: All respondents					
Sex		Yes	No	Don't know	Unweighted bases
	Male	75	24	1	810
	Female	67	31	2	1097
Total		71	28	1	1907

Table A.3 Ever heard of ONS on radio, TV, newspapers, or somewhere else?					
<i>Base: All respondents where socio-economic classification possible</i>					
Socio-economic class		Yes	No	Don't know	<i>Unweighted bases</i>
	Managerial and professional occupations	88	11	*	703
	Intermediate occupations	76	22	2	253
	Employers in small organisations; own account workers	65	34	1	203
	Lower supervisory and technical occupations	63	35	2	147
	Semi-routine and routine occupations	55	42	2	529
Total		73	26	1	1835

Table A.4 Ever heard of ONS on radio, TV, newspapers, or somewhere else?					
<i>Base: All respondents</i>					
Highest educational qualification obtained		Yes	No	Don't know	<i>Unweighted bases</i>
	Degree	88	11	1	390
	Higher education below degree	79	19	1	240
	A level or equivalent	75	25	*	286
	O level or equivalent	71	28	1	364
	CSE or equivalent	62	38	0	156
	Foreign or other	62	35	3	32
	No qualification	47	49	3	431
	Don't know	70	30	0	8
Total		71	28	1	1907

Awareness of UK Statistics Authority

Table A.5 To what extent did you know the UK Statistics Authority before this survey?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Age	I knew it well	I knew it somewhat	I have only heard the name	I have never heard of it	Don't know	
18-24	1	11	21	56	13	103
25-34	2	9	20	59	11	254
35-44	2	12	21	55	10	317
45-54	3	11	17	65	5	354
55-64	1	18	22	53	6	330
65+	2	10	20	58	10	549
Total	2	11	20	58	9	1907

Table A.6 To what extent did you know the UK Statistics Authority before this survey?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Sex	I knew it well	I knew it somewhat	I have only heard the name	I have never heard of it	Don't know	
Male	2	13	21	56	8	810
Female	1	10	19	59	10	1097
Total	2	11	20	58	9	1907

Table A.7 To what extent did you know the UK Statistics Authority before this survey?						
<i>Base: All respondents with socio-economic classification</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Socio-economic class	I knew it well	I knew it somewhat	I have only heard the name	I have never heard of it	Don't know	
Managerial and professional occupations	2	15	21	57	5	703
Intermediate occupations	2	13	18	62	5	253
Employers in small organisations; own account workers	2	13	25	54	6	203
Lower supervisory and technical occupations	2	11	17	62	7	147
Semi-routine and routine occupations	2	7	18	58	16	529
Total	2	12	20	58	8	1835

Table A.8 To what extent did you know the UK Statistics Authority before this survey?						
<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Highest educational qualification obtained	I knew it well	I knew it somewhat	I have only heard the name	I have never heard of it	Don't know	
Degree	3	13	23	55	6	390
Higher education below degree	2	15	21	60	2	240
A level of equivalent	2	13	20	60	6	286
O level or equivalent	2	12	23	56	7	364
CSE or equivalent	1	10	17	59	12	156
Foreign or other	0	14	16	49	22	32
No qualification	*	6	14	60	19	431
DK/Refusal	0	0	27	27	36	8
Total	2	11	20	58	9	1907

Participation in the Census

Table A.9 Have you participated in the Census?				
<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total			<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Age	Yes	No	Don't Know	
18-24	28	73	0	103
25-34	52	48	0	254
35-44	63	37	*	317
45-54	72	28	0	354
55-64	75	25	0	330
65+	68	31	*	549
Total	62	38	*	1907

Table A.10 Have you participated in the Census?				
<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total			<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Sex	Yes	No	Don't Know	
Male	62	38	*	810
Female	62	38	*	1097
Total	62	38	*	1907

Table A.11 Have you participated in the Census?				
<i>Base: All respondents where socio-economic classification possible</i>	Total			<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Socio-economic class	Yes	No	Don't Know	
Managerial and professional occupations	73	27	*	703
Intermediate occupations	65	35	0	253
Employers in small organisations; own account workers	64	36	0	203
Lower supervisory and technical occupations	50	49	1	147
Semi-routine and routine occupations	54	46	0	529
Total	64	36	*	1835

Table A.12 Have you participated in the Census?				
<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total			<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Highest educational qualification obtained	Yes	No	Don't Know	
Degree	68	32	0	390
Higher education below degree	72	28	0	240
A level or equivalent	59	41	*	286
O level or equivalent	61	39	*	364
CSE or equivalent	51	49	0	156
Foreign or other	65	35	0	32
No qualification	56	44	0	431
DK/Refusal	55	44	0	8
Total	62	38	*	1907

Use of official statistics

Table A.13 Have you ever used or referred to statistics produced by ONS for any purpose, such as study, work or personal interest?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Age	Yes, Frequently	Yes, occasionally	Yes, at least 5 years ago	No	Don't know	
18-24	4	18	3	75	0	103
25-34	5	14	8	73	0	254
35-44	4	21	6	68	*	317
45-54	4	18	6	71	*	354
55-64	5	13	6	76	*	330
65+	1	6	3	90	*	549
Total	4	14	6	76	*	1907

Table A.14 Have you ever used or referred to statistics produced by ONS for any purpose, such as study, work or personal interest?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Sex	Yes, Frequently	Yes, occasionally	Yes, at least 5 years ago	No	Don't know	
Male	4	16	6	74	*	810
Female	3	11	5	80	*	1097
Total	4	14	6	76	*	1907

Table A.15 Have you ever used or referred to statistics produced by ONS for any purpose, such as study, work or personal interest?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Socio-economic class	Yes, frequently	Yes, occasionally	Yes, at least 5 years ago	No	Don't know	
Managerial and professional occupations	7	23	10	60	*	703
Intermediate occupations	4	11	3	81	0	253
Employers in small organisations; own account workers	2	9	5	84	0	203
Lower supervisory and technical occupations	2	7	7	83	0	147
Semi-routine and routine occupations	1	7	1	91	0	529
Total	4	14	6	76	*	1835

Table A.16 Have you ever used or referred to statistics produced by ONS for any purpose, such as study, work or personal interest?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Highest educational qualification obtained	Yes, frequently	Yes, occasionally	Yes, at least 5 years ago	No	Don't Know	
Degree	9	29	12	50	*	390
Higher education below degree	5	19	7	70	0	240
A level or equivalent	4	15	5	75	*	286
O level or equivalent	1	8	2	88	*	364
CSE or equivalent	0	6	3	91	0	156
Foreign or other	3	3	8	87	0	32
No qualification	*	3	1	96	0	431
DK/Refusal	0	27	64	0	9	8
Total	4	14	6	76	*	1907

Trust in ONS

Table A.17 Do you tend to trust or tend not to trust the ONS?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Age	Trust it a great deal	Tend to trust it	Tend to distrust it	Distrust it greatly	Don't know	
18-24	9	57	5	1	29	103
25-34	11	58	6	2	23	254
35-44	11	62	7	*	20	317
45-54	10	63	7	1	20	354
55-64	6	63	10	3	17	330
65+	5	54	10	2	28	549
Total	8	59	8	2	23	1907

Table A.18 Do you tend to trust or tend not to trust the ONS?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Sex	Trust it a great deal	Tend to trust it	Tend to distrust it	Distrust it greatly	Don't Know	
Male	10	59	9	2	20	810
Female	7	59	7	1	25	1097
Total	8	59	8	2	23	1907

Table A.19 Do you tend to trust or tend not to trust the ONS?

<i>Base: All respondents with socio-economic classification</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Socio-economic class	Trust it a great deal	Tend to trust it	Tend to distrust it	Distrust it greatly	Don't Know	
Managerial and professional occupations	14	67	7	1	11	703
Intermediate occupations	6	67	5	3	19	253
Employers in small organisations; own account workers	5	55	7	2	31	203
Lower supervisory and technical occupations	4	62	7	3	25	147
Semi-routine and routine occupations	5	49	10	2	34	529
Total	9	60	8	2	22	1835

Table A.20 Do you tend to trust or tend not to trust the ONS?						
<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Highest educational qualification obtained	Trust it a great deal	Tend to trust it	Tend to distrust it	Distrust it greatly	Don't Know	
Degree	16	65	5	1	12	390
Higher education below degree	6	69	7	1	17	240
A level or equivalent	8	66	6	1	18	286
O level or equivalent	6	65	8	1	20	364
CSE or equivalent	8	48	8	3	32	156
Foreign or other	8	51	5	5	30	32
No qualification	3	40	13	3	41	431
DK/Refusal	-	-	-	-	-	8
Total	22	53	7	2	17	1907

Trust in ONS statistics

Table A.21 How much trust do you have in statistics produced by ONS?						
<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Age	Trust them greatly	Tend to trust them	Tend not to trust them	Distrust them greatly	Don't know	
18-24	14	55	6	1	23	103
25-34	13	59	10	1	16	254
35-44	13	59	10	1	17	317
45-54	11	56	15	2	16	354
55-64	7	61	16	3	13	330
65+	5	53	19	4	19	549
Total	10	56	13	2	18	1907

Table A.22 How much trust do you have in statistics produced by ONS?						
<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Sex	Trust them greatly	Tend to trust them	Tend not to trust them	Distrust them greatly	Don't know	
Male	12	54	14	3	16	810
Female	8	57	13	2	19	1097
Total	10	56	13	2	18	1907

Table A.23 How much trust do you have in statistics produced by ONS?						
<i>Base: All respondents with socio-economic classification</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Socio-economic class	Trust them greatly	Tend to trust them	Tend not to trust them	Distrust them greatly	Don't know	
Managerial and professional occupations	15	63	11	1	10	703
Intermediate occupations	8	60	15	3	15	253
Employers in small organisations; own account workers	9	52	15	3	21	203
Lower supervisory and technical occupations	6	56	19	4	16	147
Semi-routine and routine occupations	7	51	13	3	25	529
Total	10	57	13	2	17	1835

Table A.24 How much trust do you have in statistics produced by ONS?						
<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Highest educational qualification obtained	Trust them greatly	Tend to trust them	Tend not to trust them	Distrust them greatly	Don't know	
Degree	22	58	8	1	11	390
Higher education below degree	7	64	18	2	9	240
A level or equivalent	9	62	13	2	13	286
O level or equivalent	6	62	15	2	15	364
CSE or equivalent	6	54	12	3	25	156
Foreign or other	3	42	13	5	37	32
No qualification	6	42	17	4	30	431
DK/Refusal	-	-	-	-	-	8
Total	10	56	13	2	18	1907

Accuracy of official figures

Table A.25 How strongly do you agree or disagree that official figures are generally accurate?						
<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Age	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
18-24	10	57	10	2	22	103
25-34	8	54	14	4	20	254
35-44	5	62	11	4	18	317
45-54	6	51	20	5	17	354
55-64	7	48	23	8	14	330
65+	5	44	20	6	25	549
Total	7	52	17	5	19	1907

Table A.26 How strongly do you agree or disagree that official figures are generally accurate?						
<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Sex	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Male	8	54	17	6	15	810
Female	6	50	17	5	23	1097
Total	7	52	17	5	19	1907

Table A.27 How strongly do you agree or disagree that official figures are generally accurate?

<i>Base: All respondents with socio-economic classification</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Socio-economic class	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Managerial and professional occupations	9	59	16	4	11	703
Intermediate occupations	5	57	14	7	16	253
Employers in small organisations; own account workers	5	47	21	6	21	203
Lower supervisory and technical occupations	7	44	21	7	20	147
Semi-routine and routine occupations	5	43	17	5	29	529
Total	7	52	17	5	19	1835

Table A.28 How strongly do you agree or disagree that official figures are generally accurate?						
<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Highest educational qualification obtained	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Degree	12	60	14	3	12	390
Higher education below degree	6	57	21	2	14	240
A level or equivalent	6	60	16	6	13	286
O level or equivalent	6	51	19	7	17	364
CSE or equivalent	6	44	16	8	26	156
Foreign or other	5	43	14	8	30	32
No qualification	4	36	18	6	35	431
DK/Refusal	-	-	-	-	-	8
Total	7	52	17	5	19	1907

Presentation of official statistics

Table A.29 How strongly do you agree or disagree that the Government presents official figures honestly when talking about its policies?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Age	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
18-24	4	34	36	11	16	103
25-34	2	23	41	20	15	254
35-44	1	25	37	22	15	317
45-54	3	18	43	27	9	354
55-64	1	21	40	29	9	330
65+	1	20	38	26	15	549
Total	2	23	39	23	13	1907

Table A.30 How strongly do you agree or disagree that the Government presents official figures honestly when talking about its policies?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Sex	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Male	2	24	39	25	10	810
Female	2	21	40	22	16	1097
Total	2	23	39	23	13	1907

Table A.31 How strongly do you agree or disagree that the Government presents official figures honestly when talking about its policies?

<i>Base: All respondents where socio-economic class classified</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Socio-economic class	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Managerial and professional occupations	2	23	46	22	7	703
Intermediate occupations	*	25	36	27	11	253
Employers in small organisations; own account workers	1	23	33	26	17	203
Lower supervisory and technical occupations	2	22	35	27	14	147
Semi-routine and routine occupations	3	20	37	23	18	529
Total	2	22	40	24	12	1835

Table A.32 How strongly do you agree or disagree that the Government presents official figures honestly when talking about its policies?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Highest educational qualification obtained	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Degree	3	24	44	21	9	390
Higher education below degree	3	19	44	26	8	240
A level or equivalent	1	26	42	22	9	286
O level or equivalent	*	23	44	24	9	364
CSE or equivalent	4	24	33	23	15	156
Foreign or other	0	30	14	32	25	32
No qualification	3	20	28	24	25	431
DK/Refusal	0	10	40	10	30	8
Total	2	23	39	23	13	1907

Table A.33 How strongly do you agree or disagree that newspapers presents official figures honestly?						
<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Age	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
18-24	1	20	46	24	9	103
25-34	2	17	42	29	10	254
35-44	*	16	45	28	10	317
45-54	1	15	44	33	7	354
55-64	2	12	42	37	6	330
65+	1	18	42	28	11	549
Total	1	16	43	30	9	1907

Table A.34 How strongly do you agree or disagree that newspapers presents official figures honestly?						
<i>Base: All participants</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Sex	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Male	1	18	44	31	6	810
Female	1	15	43	30	12	1097
Total	1	16	43	30	9	1907

Table A.35 How strongly do you agree or disagree that newspapers presents official figures honestly?

<i>Base: All respondents where socio-economic class classified</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Socio-economic class	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Managerial and professional occupations	1	15	47	32	5	703
Intermediate occupations	0	19	36	36	9	253
Employers in small organisations; own account workers	0	20	39	32	9	203
Lower supervisory and technical occupations	0	16	44	33	7	147
Semi-routine and routine occupations	2	17	42	27	11	529
Total	1	17	43	31	8	1835

Table A.36 How strongly do you agree or disagree that newspapers presents official figures honestly?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Highest educational qualification obtained	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Degree	1	16	44	33	7	390
Higher education below degree	2	12	45	37	4	240
A level of equivalent	1	12	50	30	7	286
O level or equivalent	*	19	44	30	7	364
CSE or equivalent	1	20	48	21	10	156
Foreign or other	0	14	42	25	19	32
No qualification	2	19	34	27	17	431
DK/Refusal	0	10	50	10	30	8
Total	1	16	43	30	9	1907

Whether statistics produced by ONS are free from political interference

Table A.37 How strongly do you agree or disagree that statistics produced by ONS are free from political interference?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Age	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
18-24	9	43	22	2	26	103
25-34	6	42	18	8	26	254
35-44	7	50	21	3	21	317
45-54	7	44	23	5	20	354
55-64	9	44	24	7	16	330
65+	8	37	22	5	28	549
Total	8	43	21	5	23	1907

Table A.38 How strongly do you agree or disagree that statistics produced by ONS are free from political interference?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Sex	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Male	9	44	23	6	18	810
Female	6	42	19	5	27	1097
Total	8	43	21	5	23	1907

Table A.39 How strongly do you agree or disagree that statistics produced by ONS are free from political interference?						
<i>Base: All respondents with socio-economic classification</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Socio-economic class	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Managerial and professional occupations	10	52	20	5	12	703
Intermediate occupations	7	45	19	4	25	253
Employers in small organisations; own account workers	7	40	25	6	23	203
Lower supervisory and technical occupations	7	33	30	5	25	147
Semi-routine and routine occupations	6	35	20	6	33	529
Total	8	43	21	5	22	1835

Table A.40 How strongly do you agree or disagree that statistics produced by ONS are free from political interference?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Highest educational qualification obtained	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Degree	11	53	17	4	15	390
Higher education below degree	6	51	26	5	12	240
A level or equivalent	8	45	27	4	16	286
O level or equivalent	7	42	22	5	23	364
CSE or equivalent	5	40	21	5	29	156
Foreign or other	5	24	16	8	46	32
No qualification	6	29	19	8	39	431
DK/Refusal	-	-	-	-	-	8
Total	8	43	21	5	23	1907

Release of official statistics

Table A.41 Under the current rules, Government ministers are shown official statistics the day before [in England] / five days before [in Scotland / Wales] they are released to the public. Which of these statements comes closer to your view?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>					
Age of respondent		The current rules are right; Government ministers alone should be shown official statistics before they are released to the public	The current rules should be changed; Official statistics should be made equally available to everybody, including the public, at the same time	Don't know	<i>Unweighted bases</i>
	18-24	22	73	6	103
	25-34	26	70	4	254
	35-44	23	72	5	317
	45-54	24	74	2	354
	55-64	23	74	4	330
	65+	29	66	5	549
Total		25	71	4	1907

Table A.42 Under the current rules, Government ministers are shown official statistics the day before [in England] / five days before [in Scotland / Wales] they are released to the public. Which of these statements comes closer to your view?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>					
Sex		The current rules are right; Government ministers alone should be shown official statistics before they are released to the public	The current rules should be changed; Official statistics should be made equally available to everybody, including the public, at the same time	Don't know	<i>Unweighted bases</i>
	Male	28	69	3	810
	Female	22	73	5	1097
Total		25	71	4	1907

Table A.43 Under the current rules, Government ministers are shown official statistics the day before [in England] / five days before [in Scotland / Wales] they are released to the public. Which of these statements comes closer to your view?

Base: All respondents where socio-economic classification possible					
Socio-economic class		The current rules are right; Government ministers alone should be shown official statistics before they are released to the public	The current rules should be changed; Official statistics should be made equally available to everybody, including the public, at the same time	Don't know	Unweighted bases
	Managerial and professional occupations	32	67	2	703
	Intermediate occupations	25	71	4	253
	Employers in small organisations; own account workers	25	72	4	203
	Lower supervisory and technical occupations	18	81	1	147
	Semi-routine and routine occupations	19	74	6	529
Total		25	71	3	1835

Table A.44 Under the current rules, Government ministers are shown official statistics the day before [in England] / five days before [in Scotland / Wales] they are released to the public. Which of these statements comes closer to your view?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>					
Highest educational qualification obtained		The current rules are right; Government ministers alone should be shown official statistics before they are released to the public	The current rules should be changed; Official statistics should be made equally available to everybody, including the public, at the same time	Don't know	<i>Unweighted bases</i>
	Degree	30	67	3	390
	Higher education below degree	23	76	1	240
	A level or equivalent	23	74	2	286
	O level or equivalent	22	75	2	364
	CSE or equivalent	22	74	4	156
	Foreign or other	17	75	8	32
	No qualification	26	65	9	431
	Don't know	30	40	30	8
Total		25	71	4	1907

Importance of official statistics to the country

Table A.45 How strongly do you agree or disagree that statistics produced by ONS are important to understand our country?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Age	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
18-24	20	57	3	1	19	103
25-34	23	55	4	2	16	254
35-44	22	56	3	17	17	317
45-54	25	52	8	1	15	354
55-64	22	52	13	2	11	330
65+	19	47	8	1	25	549
Total	22	53	7	2	17	1907

Table A.46 How strongly do you agree or disagree that statistics produced by ONS are important to understand our country?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Sex	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	End to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't Know	
Male	23	54	6	2	15	810
Female	21	51	7	1	20	1097
Total	22	53	7	2	17	1907

Table A.47 How strongly do you agree or disagree that statistics produced by ONS are important to understand our country?						
<i>Base: All respondents with socio-economic classification</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Socio-economic class	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't Know	
Managerial and professional occupations	30	56	4	1	9	703
Intermediate occupations	24	56	7	1	12	253
Employers in small organisations; own account workers	17	55	6	2	20	203
Lower supervisory and technical occupations	19	48	8	1	25	147
Semi-routine and routine occupations	14	50	9	2	26	529
Total	22	53	6	1	17	1835

Table A.48 How strongly do you agree or disagree that statistics produced by ONS are important to understand our country?

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Highest educational qualification obtained	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	End to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't Know	
Degree	31	56	3	1	9	390
Higher education below degree	26	54	8	1	12	240
A level or equivalent	23	61	6	2	9	286
O level or equivalent	18	56	8	1	16	364
CSE or equivalent	21	50	6	1	23	156
Foreign or other	14	36	3	6	42	32
No qualification	12	41	10	2	36	431
DK/Refusal	22	33	11	0	33	8
Total	22	53	7	2	17	1907

Importance of USKA

Table A.49 It is important for an independent body such as the UK Statistics Authority to ensure that official statistics are produced without political interference.

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Age	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
18-24	59	22	4	0	15	103
25-34	56	25	1	1	17	254
35-44	61	25	3	*	11	317
45-54	59	27	3	1	11	354
55-64	62	23	4	*	11	330
65+	51	32	2	*	15	549
Total	57	26	3	*	13	1907

Table A.50 It is important for an independent body such as the UK Statistics Authority to ensure that official statistics are produced without political interference.

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Sex	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Male	59	24	4	*	12	810
Female	56	28	2	*	14	1097
Total	57	26	3	*	13	1907

Table A.51 It is important for an independent body such as the UK Statistics Authority to ensure that official statistics are produced without political interference.

<i>Base: All respondents with socio-economic classification</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Socio-economic class	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Managerial and professional occupations	71	21	2	*	6	703
Intermediate occupations	60	27	1	1	11	253
Employers in small organisations; own account workers	52	28	5	1	15	203
Lower supervisory and technical occupations	50	28	4	1	17	147
Semi-routine and routine occupations	45	31	3	*	20	529
Total	58	26	3	*	13	1835

Table A.52 It is important for an independent body such as the UK Statistics Authority to ensure that official statistics are produced without political interference.

<i>Base: All respondents</i>	Total					<i>Unweighted bases</i>
Highest educational qualification obtained	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	
Degree	74	20	1	0	6	390
Higher education below degree	65	26	3	*	6	240
A level or equivalent	62	27	2	1	8	286
O level or equivalent	59	26	3	1	11	364
CSE or equivalent	42	33	5	1	19	156
Foreign or other	41	32	0	0	27	32
No qualification	35	32	4	*	29	431
DK/Refusal	20	0	0	0	70	8
Total	57	26	3	*	13	1907

Appendix B. Technical summary

In 2014, the sample for the British Social Attitudes survey was split into three equally-sized portions. Each portion was asked a different version of the questionnaire (versions A, B and C). Depending on the number of versions in which it was included, each 'module' of questions was thus asked either of the full sample (2,878 respondents) or of a random third or two-thirds of the sample. The questions funded by the UK Statistics Authority were asked on version B and Version C of the questionnaire (1,907 respondents).

Sample design

The British Social Attitudes survey is designed to yield a representative sample of adults aged 18 or over. Since 1993, the sampling frame for the survey has been the Postcode Address File (PAF), a list of addresses (or postal delivery points) compiled by the Post Office.

For practical reasons, the sample is confined to those living in private households. People living in institutions (though not in private households at such institutions) are excluded, as are households whose addresses were not on the PAF. The sampling method involved a multi-stage design, with three separate stages of selection.

Selection of sectors

At the first stage, postcode sectors were selected systematically from a list of all postal sectors in Britain. Before selection, any sectors with fewer than 500 addresses were identified and grouped together with an adjacent sector; in Scotland all sectors north of the Caledonian Canal were excluded (because of the prohibitive costs of interviewing there). Sectors were then stratified on the basis of:

- 37 sub-regions;
 - population density, (population in private households/area of the postal sector in hectares), with variable banding used in order to create three equal-sized strata per sub-region; and
 - ranking by percentage of homes that were owner-occupied.
- This resulted in the selection of 261 postcode sectors, with probability proportional to the number of addresses in each sector.

Selection of addresses

Twenty-six addresses were selected in each of the 261 sectors or groups of sectors. The issued sample was therefore $261 \times 26 = 6,786$ addresses, selected by starting from a random point on the list of addresses for each sector, and choosing each address at a fixed interval. The fixed interval was calculated for each sector in order to generate the correct number of addresses.

The Multiple-Occupancy Indicator (MOI) available through the PAF was used when selecting addresses in Scotland. The MOI shows the number of accommodation spaces sharing one address. Thus, if the MOI indicated more than one accommodation space at a given address, the chances of the given address being selected from the list of addresses would increase so that it matched the total number of accommodation spaces. The MOI is largely irrelevant in England and Wales, as separate dwelling units (DUs) generally appear as separate entries on the PAF. In Scotland, tenements with many flats tend to appear as one entry on the PAF. However, even in Scotland, the vast majority (98.9 per cent) of MOIs in the sample had a value of one. The remainder had MOIs greater than one. The MOI affects the selection probability of the

address, so it was necessary to incorporate an adjustment for this into the weighting procedures (described below).

Selection of individuals

Interviewers called at each address selected from the PAF and listed all those eligible for inclusion in the British Social Attitudes sample – that is, all persons currently aged 18 or over and resident at the selected address. The interviewer then selected one respondent using a computer-generated random selection procedure. Where there were two or more DUs at the selected address, interviewers first had to select one DU using the same random procedure. They then followed the same procedure to select a person for interview within the selected DU.

Weighting

The weights for the British Social Attitudes survey correct for the unequal selection of addresses, DUs and individuals, and for biases caused by differential non-response. The different stages of the weighting scheme are outlined in detail below.

Non-response model

It is known that certain subgroups in the population are more likely to respond to surveys than others. These groups can end up over-represented in the sample, which can bias the survey estimates. Where information is available about non-responding households, the response behaviour of the sample members can be modelled and the results used to generate a non-response weight. This non-response weight is intended to reduce bias in the sample resulting from differential response to the survey.

The data was modelled using logistic regression, with the dependent variable indicating whether or not the selected individual responded to the survey. Ineligible households¹ were not included in the non-response modelling. A number of area-level and interviewer observation variables were used to model response. Not all the variables examined were retained for the final model: variables not strongly related to a household's propensity to respond were dropped from the analysis.

The variables found to be related to response were: Government Office Region (GOR), the relative condition of the immediate local area, the relative condition of the address, population density, the percentage of owner-occupied households in the local area (according to the 2011 Census), and whether there were entry barriers to the selected address.

The non-response weight was calculated as the inverse of the predicted response probabilities saved from the logistic regression model. The top 0.5 per cent of the weight was trimmed to avoid a small number of very high weights in the sample; such weights would inflate standard errors, reducing the precision of the survey estimates and causing the weighted sample to be less efficient.

Selection weights

Selection weights are required because not all the units covered in the survey had the same probability of selection. The weighting reflects the relative selection probabilities of the individual at the three main stages of selection: address, DU and individual. First, because addresses in Scotland were selected

¹ This includes households not containing any adults aged 18 or over, vacant dwelling units, derelict dwelling units, non-resident addresses and other deadwood.

using the MOI, weights were needed to compensate for the greater probability of an address with an MOI of more than one being selected, compared with an address with an MOI of one. (This stage was omitted for the English and Welsh data). Secondly, data were weighted to compensate for the fact that a DU at an address that contained a large number of DUs was less likely to be selected for inclusion in the survey than a DU at an address that contained fewer DUs. (We used this procedure because in most cases where the MOI is greater than one, the two stages will cancel each other out, resulting in more efficient weights). Thirdly, data were weighted to compensate for the lower selection probabilities of adults living in large households, compared with those in small households. At each stage the selection weights were trimmed by less than one per cent.

Calibration weighting

The final stage of weighting was to adjust the combined non-response and selection weight so that the weighted sample matched the population in terms of age, sex and region. Only adults aged 18 or over are eligible to take part in the survey, therefore the data have been weighted to the British population aged 18+ based on 2013 Census data from the Office for National Statistics/General Register Office for Scotland.

The survey data were weighted to the marginal age/sex and GOR distributions using raking-ratio (or rim) weighting. As a result, the weighted data should exactly match the population across these three dimensions.

The calibration weight is the final weight to be used in the analysis of the 2014 survey; this weight has been scaled to the responding sample size (resulting in the weight being standardised around an average of one).

Effective sample size

The effect of the sample design on the precision of survey estimates is indicated by the effective sample size (neff). The effective sample size measures the size of an (unweighted) simple random sample that would achieve the same precision (standard error) as the design being implemented. If the effective sample size is close to the actual sample size, then we have an efficient design with a good level of precision. The lower the effective sample size is, the lower the level of precision. The efficiency of a sample is given by the ratio of the effective sample size to the actual sample size. Samples that select one person per household tend to have lower efficiency than samples that select all household members. The final calibrated non-response weights have an effective sample size (neff) of 2216 and efficiency of 77 per cent.

All the percentages presented in this report are based on weighted data.

Fieldwork

Interviewing was carried out between August and November 2014.

Fieldwork was conducted by interviewers drawn from NatCen Social Research's regular panel and conducted using face-to-face computer-assisted interviewing. Some interviewers attended a one-day briefing conference to familiarise them with the selection procedures and questionnaires. More experienced interviewers completed a self-briefing containing updates to the questionnaire and procedures.

For the versions of the questionnaire on which the UK Statistics Authority questions appeared, interviewers achieved an overall response rate of between 46.8 and 47.3 per cent. Details are shown in Table B.1.

Table B.1

	Number	Lower limit of response (%)	Upper limit of response (%)
Addresses issued	4524		
Out of scope	451	%	%
Upper limit of eligible cases	4073	100.0	
Uncertain eligibility	39	1.0	
Lower limit of eligible cases	4034		100.0
Interview achieved	1907	46.8	47.3
Interview not achieved	2127	52.2	52.7
Refused	1634	40.1	40.5
Non-contacted	239	5.9	5.9
Other non-response	254	6.2	6.3

1 Response is calculated as a range from a lower limit where all unknown eligibility cases (for example, address inaccessible, or unknown whether address is residential) are assumed to be eligible and therefore included in the unproductive outcomes, to an upper limit where all these cases are assumed to be ineligible and therefore excluded from the response calculation

2 'Refused' comprises refusals before selection of an individual at the address, refusals to the office, refusal by the selected person, 'proxy' refusals (on behalf of the selected respondent) and broken appointments after which the selected person could not be recontacted

3 'Non-contacted' comprises households where no one was contacted and those where the selected person could not be contacted

Advance letter

Interviewers were supplied with letters describing the purpose of the survey and the coverage of the questionnaire, which they posted to sampled addresses before making any calls.

Appendix C. Questionnaire

United Kingdom Statistics Authority 2014

Intro

I'm now going to ask some questions about official statistics. I would like to re-iterate that I work for NatCen Social research, an independent research organisation.

AwGP, AWBoE, AwRCN, AwIBM, AwDWP, AwONS

I will give you the names of some organisations. Have you ever heard of them on radio, TV, newspapers, or somewhere else?

[READ OUT]

- o Greenpeace
- o The Bank of England
- o Royal College of Nursing
- o IBM
- o The Department for Work and Pensions
- o The Office for National Statistics (ONS)

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

{ASK IF 1 AT **AwONS**}

ONSaw

CARD H1

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is the organisation that produces official statistics on the state of our economy, society, and our environment. To what extent did you know ONS before this survey?

- 1 I knew it well
- 2 I knew it somewhat
- 3 I have only heard the name
- 4 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

{IF 2 OR 3 AT **AwONS** READ OUT}

ONSkw

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is the organisation that produces official statistics on the state of our economy, society, and our environment.

ONSus

CARD H2

Have you ever used or referred to statistics produced by ONS for any purpose, such as study, work, or personal interest?

- 1 Yes, frequently
- 2 Yes, occasionally
- 3 Yes, at least 5 years ago
- 4 No

{ASK IF 1 AT **ONSus**}

FULong

CARD H3

For approximately how long have you been using figures from ONS?

- 1 Not a current user
- 2 For less than 1 year
- 3 For 2-5 years
- 4 For 6-10 years
- 5 For more than 10 years
- 6 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

{ASK IF 1 AT **ONSus**}

FUOf

CARD H4

Approximately how often have you used or referred to figures from ONS during the last year?

- 1 Daily
- 2 A few times a month
- 3 A few times a year
- 4 Never
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

ONSpa1 – ONSpa6

CARD H5

Have you participated in any of the ONS surveys listed on this card?

INTERVIEWER: CODE ALL THAT APPLY

[NO & NOT SURE ARE EXCLUSIVE CODES AND CANNOT BE USED IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER ANSWERS]

[INTERVIEWER: FOR MORE INFO ABOUT THE CENSUS, LFS AND IPS, SEE HELPSCREEN]

[INTERVIEWER HELP SCREEN]:

If respondent is unsure whether a survey they have taken part in is an ONS survey, please consult this list of ONS surveys:

{Crime Survey for England & Wales

Dental Health Survey of Children and Young People

Family Resources Survey (FRS)
General Lifestyle Survey (GLS)
Health Interview Survey (HIS)
Household Assets Survey (HAS)
Life Opportunities Survey (LOS)
Living Costs and Food Survey (LCF)
Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OPN)
Survey on Living Conditions}

Census - The Census was last conducted in 2011, and is a count of all people and households. It is conducted every 10 years. In 2011, all households were asked to either completed a paper form, or submit their answers online.

Labour Force Survey - The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is a survey of the employment circumstances of the UK population and is conducted by an interviewer either over the phone or in person.

International Passenger Survey - The International Passenger Survey collects information about passengers entering and leaving the UK. It is carried out at all major airports and sea routes, at Eurostar terminals and on Eurotunnel shuttle trains.

- 1 Census
- 2 Labour Force Survey
- 3 International Passenger Survey
- 4 Other survey (carried out by ONS) (please specify)
- 5 No
- 6 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or Don't know

{ASK IF 4 AT **ONSpa**}

ONSpaO

What other ONS survey have you participated in?

{ASK IF 1, 2, 3, 4 AT **ONSpa**}

ConfO

CARD H6

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I believe that the personal information I provide to ONS will be kept confidential."

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

{ASK IF 5 OR 6 AT **ONSpa**}

ConfNO

CARD H6

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I believe that personal information that is provided to ONS will be kept confidential."

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

TrstCS, Tstparl, Tstgov, Trstmed, Trststat, Trstct, Trstpol, TrstBoE, Trstbank

CARD H7

I will name a list of institutions. For each, please indicate whether you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

[READ OUT]

- o The **civil service**?; ...
- o The **UK Parliament**?; ...
- o The **Government**?; ...
- o The **media**?; ...
- o The **ONS**?; ...
- o The **courts**?; ...
- o The **police**?; ...
- o The **Bank of England**?; ...
- o **High street Banks and financial institutions**?; ...

- 1 Trust it a great deal
- 2 Tend to trust it
- 3 Tend to distrust it
- 4 Distrust it greatly
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

TrstONS

CARD H8

Personally, how much trust do you have in statistics produced by ONS? For example, on unemployment, inflation, economic growth, or life expectancy?

- 1 Trust them greatly
- 2 Tend to trust them
- 3 Tend not to trust them
- 4 Distrust them greatly
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

{ASK IF 1 OR 2 AT *TrstONS*}

TrONSY1 – TrONSY8

What are your main reasons for saying that?

[UNPROMPTED: CODE AS APPROPRIATE]

[RECORD UP TO THREE MAIN REASONS. PROBE WHERE NECESSARY]

TRUST:

- 1 Trust the figures, from personal experience
- 2 Heard / read something good about the figures
- 3 The figures are easy to count or measure; are always recorded; are based on clear definitions
- 4 ONS does not have vested interest in the results / does not manipulate production or collection
- 5 The Government does not have vested interest in the results / does not interfere in production or collection
- 6 Understand figures or statistics
- 7 Don't understand figures or statistics
- 8 Other (please specify)
 - 1)

{ASK IF 8 AT **TrstONSY**}

TrONSYO

What is the main other reason for saying that?

{ASK IF 3 OR 4 AT *TrstONS*}

TrONSN1 – TrONSN10

What are your main reasons for saying that?

[UNPROMPTED: CODE AS APPROPRIATE]

[RECORD UP TO THREE MAIN REASONS. PROBE WHERE NECESSARY]

DISTRUST:

- 1 Don't trust figures, from personal experience
- 2 Heard / read something bad about the figures
- 3 Figures are difficult to count or measure; not always recorded; unclear or complex definitions
- 4 ONS has vested interest in results / manipulates production or collection
- 5 The Government has vested interest in the results / interferes in production or collection
- 6 The figures are misrepresented or spun by politicians or the media
- 7 Figures alone do not tell whole story / there is more to it than just the figures
- 8 Understand figures or statistics
- 9 Don't understand figures or statistics
- 10 Other (please specify)

{ASK IF 10 AT **TrstONSN**}

TrONSNO

What is the main other reason for saying that?

{ASK IF MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE AT **TrstONSY** OR **TrstONSN**}

TrONSW

And which of those is the most important reason?

INTERVIEWER: If necessary, inform the respondent of the categories you recorded in their previous answer

CenUse

CARD H9

Next, I would like to ask you about some specific statistics published by ONS.

Let us start with the Census.

Have you ever used or referred to the Census for any purpose, such as study, work, or personal interest?

- 1 Yes, within the last 5 years
- 2 Yes, but not in the last 5 years
- 3 No

{ASK IF 1 OR 2 AT **CenUse**}

CenHelp

CARD H10

Which of the following statements express your views about the Census.

It gives me useful information?;

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

{ASK IF 1 OR 2 AT **CenUse**}

Cenquick

CARD H10

(Which of the following statements express your views about the Census).

It gets released quickly?;...;

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

{ASK IF 1 OR 2 OR 3 AT **CenUse**}

Cenchang

CARD H10

Still thinking about the Census, which of the following statements express your views about the Census.

Changes over time in the statistics accurately reflect what is changing in the UK?; ...

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

*{ASK IF 1 OR 2 OR 3 AT **CenUse**}*

Cenpoli

CARD H10

(Which of the following statements express your views about the Census).

It is free from political interference?; ...

INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT IS NOT CLEAR ABOUT THE MEANING OF 'POLITICAL INTERFERENCE', EXPLAIN THAT IT OCCURS WHEN POLITICIANS SUCCESSFULLY APPLY PRESSURE ON ONS TO CHANGE STATISTICS, THEIR DATE OF RELEASE, OR THEIR ANALYSIS

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

CPIUse

CARD H11

Now I would like you to think about statistics on inflation, called the Consumer Price Index or CPI.

Have you ever used or referred to this for any purpose, such as study, work, or personal interest?

- 1 Yes, within the last 5 years
- 2 Yes, but not in the last 5 years
- 3 No

*{ASK IF 1 OR 2 AT **CPIUse**}*

CPIHelp

CARD H12

Which of the following statements express your views about the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

It gives me useful information?;

-
- 1 Strongly agree
 - 2 Tend to agree
 - 3 Tend to disagree
 - 4 Strongly disagree
 - 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

*{ASK IF 1 OR 2 AT **CPIUse**}*

CPIquick

CARD H12

(Which of the following statements express your views about the Consumer Price Index (CPI)).

It gets released quickly?;

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

*{ASK IF 1 OR 2 OR 3 AT **CPIUse**}*

CPIchang

CARD H12

Still thinking about the CPI, which of the following statements express your views about the CPI.

Changes over time in the statistics accurately reflect what is changing in the UK?;

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

*{ASK IF 1 OR 2 OR 3 AT **CPIUse**}*

CPIpoli

CARD H12

(Which of the following statements express your views about the Consumer Price Index (CPI)).

It is free from political interference?; ...

INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT IS NOT CLEAR ABOUT THE MEANING OF 'POLITICAL INTERFERENCE', EXPLAIN THAT IT OCCURS WHEN POLITICIANS SUCCESSFULLY APPLY PRESSURE ON ONS TO CHANGE STATISTICS, THEIR DATE OF RELEASE, OR THEIR ANALYSIS

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree

- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

EmpUse

CARD H13

Now I would like you to think about employment and unemployment statistics. Have you ever used or referred to them for any purpose, such as study, work, or personal interest?

- 1 Yes, within the last 5 years
- 2 Yes, but not in the last 5 years
- 3 No

*{ASK IF 1 OR 2 AT **EmpUse**}*

EmpHelp

CARD H14

Which of the following statements express your views about the employment and unemployment statistics.
It gives me useful information?;

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

*{ASK IF 1 OR 2 AT **EmpUse** }*

Empquick

CARD H14

(Which of the following statements express your views about the employment and unemployment statistics)
It gets released quickly?;...;

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

*{ASK IF 1 OR 2 OR 3 AT **EmpUse**}*

Empchang

CARD H14

Still thinking about the employment and unemployment statistics, which of the following statements express your views about the employment and unemployment statistics.

Changes over time in the statistics accurately reflect what is changing in the UK?; ...

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

{ASK IF 1 OR 2 OR 3 AT **EmpUse**}

Emppoli

CARD H14

(Which of the following statements express your views about the employment and unemployment statistics)

It is free from political interference?; ...

INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT IS NOT CLEAR ABOUT THE MEANING OF 'POLITICAL INTERFERENCE', EXPLAIN THAT IT OCCURS WHEN POLITICIANS SUCCESSFULLY APPLY PRESSURE ON ONS TO CHANGE STATISTICS, THEIR DATE OF RELEASE, OR THEIR ANALYSIS

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

GDPUse

CARD H15

Now I would like you to think about the Gross Domestic Product or GDP.

Have you ever used or referred to it for any purpose, such as study, work, or personal interest?

- 1 Yes, within the last 5 years
- 2 Yes, but not in the last 5 years
- 3 No

{ASK IF 1 OR 2 AT **GDPUse**}

GDPHelp

CARD H16

Which of the following statements express your views about the Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

It gives me useful information?;

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree

-
- 4 Strongly disagree
 - 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

{ASK IF 1 OR 2 AT **GDPUse**}

GDPquick

CARD H16

(Which of the following statements express your views about the Gross Domestic Product (GDP))
It gets released quickly?;...;

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

{ASK IF 1 OR 2 OR 3 AT **GDPUse**}

GDPchang

CARD H16

Still thinking about the GDP, which of the following statements express your views about the GDP.

Changes over time in the statistics accurately reflect what is changing in the UK?; ...

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

{ASK IF 1 OR 2 OR 3 AT **GDPUse**}

GDPpoli

CARD H16

(Which of the following statements express your views about the Gross Domestic Product (GDP))

It is free from political interference?; ...

INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT IS NOT CLEAR ABOUT THE MEANING OF 'POLITICAL INTERFERENCE', EXPLAIN THAT IT OCCURS WHEN POLITICIANS SUCCESSFULLY APPLY PRESSURE ON ONS TO CHANGE STATISTICS, THEIR DATE OF RELEASE, OR THEIR ANALYSIS

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

CriUse

CARD H17

Finally, I would like you to think about crime statistics.

Have you ever used or referred to them for any purpose, such as study, work, or personal interest?

- 1 Yes, within the last 5 years
- 2 Yes, but not in the last 5 years
- 3 No

*{ASK IF 1 OR 2 AT **CriUse**}*

CriHelp

CARD H18

Which of the following statements express your views about crime statistics.

It gives me useful information?;

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

*{ASK IF 1 OR 2 AT **CriUse**}*

Criquick

CARD H18

(Which of the following statements express your views about crime statistics)

It gets released quickly?;...;

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

*{ASK IF 1 OR 2 OR 3 AT **CriUse**}*

Crichang

CARD H18

Still thinking about the crime statistics, which of the following statements express your views about the crime statistics.

Changes over time in the statistics accurately reflect what is changing in the UK?; ...

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree

-
- 4 Strongly disagree
 - 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

{ASK IF 1 OR 2 OR 3 AT **CriUse**}

Cripoli

CARD H18

(Which of the following statements express your views about crime statistics)
It is free from political interference?; ...

INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT IS NOT CLEAR ABOUT THE MEANING OF 'POLITICAL INTERFERENCE', EXPLAIN THAT IT OCCURS WHEN POLITICIANS SUCCESSFULLY APPLY PRESSURE ON ONS TO CHANGE STATISTICS, THEIR DATE OF RELEASE, OR THEIR ANALYSIS

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

StatImp

CARD H18

Now I'm going to read out several statements. Please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with each statement.

So, firstly, how strongly do you agree or disagree that...

Statistics produced by ONS are important to understand our country?

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS – Not sure or don't know

StatPI

CARD H18

(how strongly you agree or disagree that)

Statistics produced by ONS are free from political interference?

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

StatAcc

CARD H18

(how strongly you agree or disagree that)
Official figures are generally accurate?

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

StatHon

CARD H18

(how strongly you agree or disagree that)
The Government presents official figures honestly when talking about its policies?

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

StatNews

CARD H18

(how strongly you agree or disagree that)
Newspapers present official figures honestly?

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

UKSAKn

CARD H19

The UK Statistics Authority is the independent watchdog whose role is to safeguard official statistics and speak out publically against the misuse of statistics. To what extent did you know the UK Statistics Authority before this survey?

- 1 I knew it well
- 2 I knew it somewhat
- 3 I have only heard the name
- 4 I had never heard of it
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

UKSAPoI

CARD H20

Now I'm going to read out two statements. Please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with each statement.

It is important for an independent body such as the UK Statistics Authority to ensure that official statistics are produced without political interference?

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Tend to disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 SPONTANEOUS - Not sure or don't know

UKSAsp

CARD H20

(Please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree)

It is important for an independent body such as the UK Statistics Authority to speak out publically against the misuse of official statistics?

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- SPONTANEOUS - Don't know

PreRel

CARD H21

Under the current rules, Government ministers are shown official statistics (the day before[in England]/five days before[in Scotland or Wales]) they are released to the public.

Which of these statements comes closer to your view:

- 1 The current rules are right; Government ministers alone should be shown official statistics before they are released to the public; or,
- 2 The current rules should be changed; Official statistics should be made equally available to everybody, including the public, at the same time.

Appendix D. Results of regular user survey

Have you ever heard of any of the following organisations on radio, TV, newspapers, or somewhere else? [Greenpeace]

Yes – 300 **(98%)**

Not answered – 6 **(2%)**

Total – 306

Have you ever heard of any of the following organisations on radio, TV, newspapers, or somewhere else? [The Bank of England]

Yes – 303 **(99%)**

Not answered – 3 **(1%)**

Total – 306

Have you ever heard of any of the following organisations on radio, TV, newspapers, or somewhere else? [Royal College of Nursing]

Yes – 291 **(95%)**

Not answered – 15 **(5%)**

Total – 306

Have you ever heard of any of the following organisations on radio, TV, newspapers, or somewhere else? [IBM]

Yes – 294 **(96%)**

Not answered – 12 **(4%)**

Total – 306

Have you ever heard of any of the following organisations on radio, TV, newspapers, or somewhere else? [The Department of Work and Pensions]

Yes – 299 **(98%)**

Not answered – 7 **(2%)**

Total – 306

Have you ever heard of any of the following organisations on radio, TV, newspapers, or somewhere else? [The Office for National Statistics (ONS)]

Yes – 302 **(99%)**

Not answered – 4 **(1%)**

Total – 306

Have you ever used or referred to statistics produced by ONS for any purpose, such as study, work, or personal interest?

Yes, frequently – 238 **(78%)**

Yes, occasionally – 53 **(17%)**

Yes, at least 5 years ago – 9 **(3%)**

No – 6 **(2%)**

Total – 306

For approximately how long have you been using figures from ONS?

More than 10 years – 131 **(43%)**

6-10 years – 54 **(18%)**

2-5 years – 48 **(16%)**

Less than 1 year – 4 **(1%)**

Not a current user – 1 **(*)**

Not answered – 68 **(22%)**

Total – 306

Have you participated in any of the ONS surveys listed below? [Census]

Yes – 230 **(75%)**

No – 76 **(25%)**

Total – 306

Have you participated in any of the ONS surveys listed below? [Labour Force Survey]

Yes – 17 **(6%)**

No – 289 **(94%)**

Total – 306

Have you participated in any of the ONS surveys listed below? [International Passenger Survey]

Yes – 20 **(7%)**

No – 286 **(93%)**

Total – 306

Have you participated in any of the ONS surveys listed below? [Other survey (carried out by ONS)]

Yes – 18 **(6%)**

No – 288 **(94%)**

Total – 306

I have not participated in any ONS surveys

Yes – 70 **(23%)**

No – 236 **(77%)**

Total – 306

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is an organisation that produces official statistics on the state of our economy, society, and our environment. To what extent did you know the Office for National Statistics before this survey?

I knew it well – 271 **(89%)**

I knew it somewhat – 31 **(10%)**

Not answered – 5 **(2%)**

Total - 306

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I believe that the personal information I provide to ONS will be kept confidential."

Strongly agree – 225 **(74%)**

Tend to agree – 75 **(25%)**

Tend to disagree – 5 **(2%)**

Strongly disagree – 1 **(*%)**

Total – 306

For each of these institutions, please indicate whether you tend to trust it, or tend not to trust it. | The civil service

Trust a great deal – 62 **(20%)**

Tend to trust – 199 **(65%)**

Tend to distrust – 42 **(14%)**

Distrust greatly – 3 **(1%)**

Total – 306

For each of these institutions, please indicate whether you tend to trust it, or tend not to trust it. | The UK Parliament

Trust a great deal – 20 **(7%)**

Tend to trust – 166 **(54%)**

Tend to distrust – 100 **(33%)**

Distrust greatly – 20 **(7%)**

Total – 306

For each of these institutions, please indicate whether you tend to trust it, or tend not to trust it. | The Government

Trust a great deal – 11 **(4%)**

Tend to trust – 122 **(40%)**

Tend to distrust – 124 **(41%)**

Distrust greatly – 49 **(16%)**

Total – 306

For each of these institutions, please indicate whether you tend to trust it, or tend not to trust it. | The media

Trust a great deal – 0 **(0%)**

Tend to trust – 47 **(15%)**

Tend to distrust – 172 **(56%)**

Distrust greatly – 87 **(28%)**

Total – 306

For each of these institutions, please indicate whether you tend to trust it, or tend not to trust it. | The ONS

Trust a great deal – 157 **(51%)**

Tend to trust – 141 **(46%)**

Tend to distrust – 5 **(2%)**

Distrust greatly – 3 **(1%)**

Total – 306

For each of these institutions, please indicate whether you tend to trust it, or tend not to trust it. | The courts

Trust a great deal – 80 **(26%)**

Tend to trust – 201 **(66%)**

Tend to distrust – 25 **(8%)**

Distrust greatly – 0 **(0%)**

Total – 306

For each of these institutions, please indicate whether you tend to trust it, or tend not to trust it. | The police

Trust a great deal – 28 **(9%)**

Tend to trust – 180 **(59%)**

Tend to distrust – 82 **(27%)**

Distrust greatly – 16 **(5%)**

Total – 306

For each of these institutions, please indicate whether you tend to trust it, or tend not to trust it. | Bank of England

Trust a great deal – 67 **(22%)**

Tend to trust – 189 **(62%)**

Tend to distrust – 42 **(14%)**

Distrust greatly – 8 **(3%)**

Total – 306

For each of these institutions, please indicate whether you tend to trust it, or tend not to trust it. | High Street Banks / financial institutions

Trust a great deal – 67 **(22%)**

Tend to trust – 189 **(62%)**

Tend to distrust – 42 **(14%)**

Distrust greatly – 8 **(3%)**

Total – 306

Personally, how much trust do you have in statistics produced by ONS? For example, on unemployment, inflation, economic growth, or life expectancy?

Trust greatly – 158 **(52%)**

Tend to trust – 136 **(44%)**

Tend not to trust – 11 **(4%)**

Distrust greatly – 1 **(*)**

Total – 306

What are your main reasons for your distrust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [Don't trust figures, from personal experience]

Mentioned – 6

What are your main reasons for your distrust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [Heard / read something bad about the figures]

Mentioned – 0

What are your main reasons for your distrust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [Figures are difficult to count or measure; not always recorded; unclear or complex definition]

Mentioned – 6

What are your main reasons for your distrust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [ONS has vested interest in results / manipulates production or collection]

Mentioned – 5

What are your main reasons for your distrust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [The Government has vested interest in the results / interferes in production or collection]

Mentioned – 3

What are your main reasons for your distrust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [The figures are misrepresented or spun by politicians or the media]

Mentioned – 2

What are your main reasons for your distrust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [Figures alone do not tell whole story / there is more to it than just the figures]

Mentioned – 3

What are your main reasons for your distrust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [Understand figures or statistics]

Mentioned – 4

What are your main reasons for your distrust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [Don't understand figures or statistics]

Mentioned – 0

What are your main reasons for your distrust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [Other (please specify)]

Mentioned – 4

What are your main reasons for your trust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [Trust the figures, from personal experience]

Mentioned – 160

What are your main reasons for your trust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [Heard / read something good about the figures]

Mentioned – 17

What are your main reasons for your trust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [The figures are easy to count or measure; are always recorded; are based on clear definitions]

Mentioned – 95

What are your main reasons for your trust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [ONS does not have vested interest in results / does not manipulates production or collection]

Mentioned – 230

What are your main reasons for your trust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [The Government does not have vested interest in the results / does not interfere in production or collection]

Mentioned – 25

What are your main reasons for your trust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [Understand figures or statistics]

Mentioned – 168

What are your main reasons for your trust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [Don't Understand figures or statistics]

Mentioned – 0

What are your main reasons for your trust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [I have no reason not to trust them]

Mentioned – 0

What are your main reasons for your trust of ONS statistics (please select up to three main reasons)? [Other]

Mentioned – 36

Have you ever used or referred to the Census for any purpose, such as study, work, or personal interest?

Yes, within last 5 years – 248 **(81%)**

Yes, but not in last 5 years – 16 **(5%)**

No – 42 **(14%)**

Total – 306

Which of the following statements express your views about the Census? | It gives me useful information

Strongly agree – 186 **(70%)**

Tend to agree – 75 **(28%)**

Tend to disagree – 1 **(*)**

Strongly disagree – 1 **(*)**

Don't know – 1 **(*)**

Not asked – 42

Total – 306

Which of the following statements express your views about the Census? | It gets released quickly

Strongly agree – 24 **(9%)**

Tend to agree – 100 **(38%)**

Tend to disagree – 100 **(38%)**

Strongly disagree – 30 **(11%)**

Don't know – 10 **(4%)**

Not answered – 42

Total - 306

Which of the following statements express your views about the Census? | Changes over time in the statistics accurately reflect what is changing in the UK

Strongly agree – 94 **(31%)**

Tend to agree – 174 **(57%)**

Tend to disagree – 23 **(8%)**

Strongly disagree – 4 **(1%)**

Don't know – 11 **(4%)**

Total – 306

Which of the following statements express your views about the Census? | It is free from political interference

Strongly agree – 118 **(39%)**

Tend to agree – 143 **(47%)**

Tend to disagree – 31 **(10%)**

Strongly disagree – 4 **(1%)**

Don't know – 10 **(3%)**

Total - 306

The Consumer Price Index or CPI is a measure of inflation. Have you ever used or referred to CPI statistics for any purpose, such as study, work, or personal interest?

Yes, within last 5 years – 186 **(61%)**

Yes, but not in last 5 years – 21 **(7%)**

No – 99 **(10%)**

Total – 306

Which of the following statements express your views about the CPI? | It gives me useful information

Strongly agree – 79 **(38%)**

Tend to agree – 116 **(56%)**

Tend to disagree – 8 **(4%)**

Strongly disagree – 2 **(1%)**

Don't know – 3 **(1%)**

Not answered – 98

Total - 306

Which of the following statements express your views about the CPI? | It gets released quickly

Strongly agree – 84 **(41%)**

Tend to agree – 98 **(47%)**

Tend to disagree – 3 **(1%)**

Strongly disagree – 0 **(0%)**

Don't know – 22 **(11%)**

Not answered – 99

Total - 306

Which of the following statements express your views about the CPI? | Changes over time in the statistics accurately reflect what is changing in the UK

Strongly agree – 56 **(18%)**

Tend to agree – 157 **(51%)**

Tend to disagree – 29 **(9%)**

Strongly disagree – 10 **(3%)**

Don't know – 54 **(18%)**

Total - 306

Which of the following statements express your views about the CPI? | It is free from political interference

Strongly agree – 54 **(18%)**

Tend to agree – 97 **(32%)**

Tend to disagree – 67 **(22%)**

Strongly disagree – 31 **(10%)**

Don't know – 57 **(19%)**

Total - 306

Have you ever used or referred to employment and unemployment statistics for any purpose, such as study, work, or personal interest?

Yes, within last 5 years – 222 **(73%)**

Yes, but not in last 5 years – 24 **(8%)**

No – 60 **(20%)**

Total – 306

Which of the following statements express your views about employment and unemployment statistics? | It gives me useful information

Strongly agree – 125 **(51%)**

Tend to agree – 110 **(45%)**

Tend to disagree – 9 **(4%)**

Strongly disagree – 0 **(0%)**

Don't know – 2 **(1%)**

Not answered – 60

Total – 306

Which of the following statements express your views about employment and unemployment statistics? | It gets released quickly

Strongly agree – 92 **(37%)**

Tend to agree – 121 **(49%)**

Tend to disagree – 15 **(6%)**

Strongly disagree – 0 **(0%)**

Don't know – 18 **(7%)**

Not answered – 60

Total - 306

Which of the following statements express your views about employment and unemployment statistics? | Changes over time in the statistics accurately reflect what is changing in the UK

Strongly agree – 63 **(21%)**

Tend to agree – 173 **(56%)**

Tend to disagree – 38 **(12%)**

Strongly disagree – 9 **(3%)**

Don't know – 23 **(8%)**

Total - 306

Which of the following statements express your views about employment and unemployment statistics? | It is free from political interference

Strongly agree – 58 **(19%)**

Tend to agree – 109 **(36%)**

Tend to disagree – 76 **(25%)**

Strongly disagree – 33 **(11%)**

Don't know – 30 **(10%)**

Total - 306

Have you ever used or referred to Gross Domestic Product or GDP statistics for any purpose, such as study, work, or personal interest?

Yes, within last 5 years – 161 **(53%)**

Yes, but not in last 5 years – 35 **(11%)**

No – 110 **(36%)**

Total – 306

Which of the following statements express your views about GDP statistics? | It gives me useful information

Strongly agree – 68 **(35%)**

Tend to agree – 105 **(54%)**

Tend to disagree – 16 **(8%)**

Strongly disagree – 5 **(3%)**

Don't know – 2 **(1%)**

Not answered - 110

Total – 306

Which of the following statements express your views about GDP statistics? | It gets released quickly

Strongly agree – 40 **(20%)**

Tend to agree – 105 **(54%)**

Tend to disagree – 27 **(14%)**

Strongly disagree – 6 **(3%)**

Don't know – 18 **(9%)**

Not answered - 110

Total - 306

Which of the following statements express your views about GDP statistics? | Changes over time in the statistics accurately reflect what is changing in the UK

Strongly agree – 44 **(14%)**

Tend to agree – 155 **(51%)**

Tend to disagree – 35 **(11%)**

Strongly disagree – 11 **(4%)**

Don't know – 61 **(20%)**

Total - 306

Which of the following statements express your views about GDP statistics? | It is free from political interference

Strongly agree – 60 **(20%)**

Tend to agree – 117 **(38%)**

Tend to disagree – 51 **(17%)**

Strongly disagree – 17 **(6%)**

Don't know – 61 **(20%)**

Total - 306

Have you ever used or referred to crime statistics for any purpose, such as study, work, or personal interest?

Yes, within last 5 years – 141 **(46%)**

Yes, but not in last 5 years – 24 **(8%)**

No – 141 **(46%)**

Total – 306

Which of the following statements express your views about crime statistics? | It gives me useful information

Strongly agree – 42 **(25%)**

Tend to agree – 108 **(65%)**

Tend to disagree – 10 **(6%)**

Strongly disagree – 2 **(1%)**

Don't know – 3 **(2%)**

Not answered - 141

Total - 306

Which of the following statements express your views about crime statistics? | It gets released quickly

Strongly agree – 19 **(12%)**

Tend to agree – 88 **(53%)**

Tend to disagree – 31 **(19%)**

Strongly disagree – 1 **(1%)**

Don't know – 26 **(16%)**

Not answered - 141

Total - 306

Which of the following statements express your views about crime statistics? | Changes over time in the statistics accurately reflect what is changing in the UK

Strongly agree – 32 **(10%)**

Tend to agree – 130 **(42%)**

Tend to disagree – 67 **(22%)**

Strongly disagree – 13 **(4%)**

Don't know – 64 **(21%)**

Total - 306

Which of the following statements express your views about crime statistics? | It is free from political interference

Strongly agree – 28 **(9%)**

Tend to agree – 84 **(27%)**

Tend to disagree – 97 **(32%)**

Strongly disagree – 37 **(12%)**

Don't know – 60 **(20%)**

Total - 306

**Please select how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements |
Statistics produced by ONS are important to understand our country**

Strongly agree – 257 **(84%)**

Tend to agree – 46 **(15%)**

Tend to disagree – 1 **(*)**

Strongly disagree – 0 **(0%)**

Don't know – 2 **(1%)**

Total - 306

**Please select how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements |
Statistics produced by ONS are free from political interference**

Strongly agree – 115 **(38%)**

Tend to agree – 149 **(49%)**

Tend to disagree – 31 **(10%)**

Strongly disagree – 5 **(2%)**

Don't know – 6 **(2%)**

Total - 306

**Please select how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements |
Official figures are generally accurate**

Strongly agree – 115 **(38%)**

Tend to agree – 149 **(49%)**

Tend to disagree – 31 **(10%)**

Strongly disagree – 5 **(2%)**

Don't know – 6 **(2%)**

Total - 306

**Please select how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements |
The Government presents official figures honestly when talking about its policies**

Strongly agree – 11 **(4%)**

Tend to agree – 70 **(23%)**

Tend to disagree – 137 **(45%)**

Strongly disagree – 79 **(26%)**

Don't know – 9 **(3%)**

Total - 306

**Please select how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements |
Newspapers present official figures honestly**

Strongly agree – 4 **(1%)**

Tend to agree – 53 **(17%)**

Tend to disagree – 146 **(48%)**

Strongly disagree – 94 **(31%)**

Don't know – 9 **(3%)**

Total - 306

**The UK Statistics Authority is the independent watchdog which safeguards
official statistics and speaks out publically against the misuse of statistics. To
what extent did you know the UK Statistics Authority before this survey?**

I knew it well – 162 **(53%)**

I knew it somewhat - 101 **(33%)**

I have only heard the name – 24 **(8%)**

I had never heard of it – 19 **(6%)**

Total - 306

Please select how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following statements | It is important for an independent body such as the UK Statistics Authority to ensure that official statistics are produced without political interference.

Strongly agree – 273 (89%)

Tend to agree – 27 (9%)

Tend to disagree – 4 (1%)

Strongly disagree – 1 (*%)

Don't know – 1 (*%)

Total - 306

Please select how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following statements | It is important for an independent body such as the UK Statistics Authority to speak out publically against the misuse of official statistics.

Strongly agree – 288 (94%)

Tend to agree – 16 (5%)

Tend to disagree – 1 (*%)

Strongly disagree – 0 (0%)

Don't know – 1 (*%)

Total - 306

Government ministers can be shown official statistics before they are released to the public (the day before in England and Northern Ireland or five days before in Scotland or Wales). Do you think:

The current rules are right; Government ministers alone should be shown official statistics before they are released to the public – 108 (35%)

The current rules should be changed; Official statistics should be made equally available to everybody, including the public, at the same time – 173 (57%)

Don't know – 25 (8%)

Total - 306

Appendix E. International comparator surveys

In June 2008, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation (OECD) Committee on Statistics discussed "How to Monitor Trust in Official Statistics" and found that a number of different countries were undertaking surveys on trust in official statistics, and a degree of comparability among national surveys would considerably improve their analytical usefulness. In 2009, the OECD developed, cognitively tested and published a Model Questionnaire for measuring trust in official statistics².

This OECD Model Questionnaire formed the basis for the questions relating to statistics asked on the 2014 British Social Attitudes survey. NatCen worked with the UK Statistics Authority to ensure that the questions worked in the UK context. A small number of questions that were not in the OECD Model questionnaire were also included.

Other countries have also used the Model Questionnaire to form the basis of their own surveys, though the OECD has not yet picked up on the results of studies in each country, and it has only been possible to compare with the countries we have identified through bilateral contact.

Sweden (2014)

Data was collected by telephone as part of survey company Sifo's weekly omnibus survey. The omnibus survey interviews 1,000 randomly selected individuals each week.

Statistics Sweden commissioned Sifo to interview a nationally representative sample of 1,500 people in Sweden over the age of 15. The interviewees were selected through taking a random sample of telephone numbers which are evenly distributed across the country. For each telephone number selected either 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 was added to it to give a different number. This allows for unlisted numbers to be reached. Mobile numbers were also been included in the sample.

The interviewee in the household is selected using the Trolldahl-Carter method. This uses a two-question selection sequence:

- i) how many people 18 years or older live in your household, counting yourself?; and
- ii) how many of them are men?

The interviewer then used a computer to randomly select either the oldest or youngest male or female. If that person was not available then the computer will randomly select another person in the household. The data was then weighted to reflect the Swedish population.

The interviews took place between 13 and 21 October 2014. Similar surveys were also conducted in 2012 and 2013.

² <http://www.oecd.org/std/Stat%20newsletter%20final%20for%20the%20web.pdf>

Denmark (2012)

Data was collected as part of Statistics Denmark omnibus survey which took place in September 2012, with data weighted to the Danish population.³

The survey was conducted by Statistics Denmark itself. This probably means respondents are likely to have answered more positively than they would have otherwise done if the research was conducted by an independent organisation. In 2001, Statistics Denmark ran an experiment in which two of the questions from the survey were also asked in a survey by another organisation. The experiment showed the 'interviewer effect', with the independent organisation receiving more negative responses than those gathered by Statistics Denmark. Since 2008, Statistics Denmark has conducted this questionnaire over the phone and online, which is likely to reduce, although not eliminate, the interviewer effect.

Of the 1,512 people selected to participate 882 responded (58 per cent response rate). Data was collected by telephone (62 per cent) and online (38 per cent).

Australia (2010)

A total of 2,242 interviews were conducted in May and June, 2010, across Australia, including cities, regional centres and rural areas.⁴ The interviews were conducted using a Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing system. The response rate was 26 per cent based on the number of respondents divided by the total in-scope contacts. This is much lower than the usual level of response that is experienced in surveys conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The response of this survey is comparable to similar market research studies conducted by commercial survey organisations. These surveys do not attract the same level of respondents' cooperation as ABS surveys.

The community sample was selected using a stratified, quota sampling plan. Within each dwelling, the respondent was randomly selected from members in the household. The sample quota was allocated by location (state and territory, and section of state) and demographic characteristics, including age, sex and whether the respondent was of indigenous origin and whether they were from a non-English speaking background.

The sample frame was the electronic 'white pages' in each region of Australia. This frame excludes households who have an unlisted number or do not have a fixed-line home phone. The Australian Communication and Media Authority (ACMA) estimates that approximately 10 per cent of Australian households do not have a fixed-line home phone. This frame under coverage could result in a small, unknown bias to the results.

³ <http://www.dst.dk/~media/Kontorer/16-Formidlingscenter/maal-og-resultater/borgerundersogelsen-2012.pdf>

⁴ [http://www.nss.gov.au/nss/home.nsf/0/553dde916ab833e9ca2577b50072bf2f/\\$FILE/Trust%20in%20ABS%20and%20ABS%20Statistics.pdf](http://www.nss.gov.au/nss/home.nsf/0/553dde916ab833e9ca2577b50072bf2f/$FILE/Trust%20in%20ABS%20and%20ABS%20Statistics.pdf)

Awareness of the National Statistical Institute

	Australia 2010	Sweden 2014	Denmark 2012
I know it well	16	4	33
I know it somewhat	33	35	42
I know a little bit about it	42	42	<i>(not an option)</i>
I have only heard the name / very little	15	12	18
Not at all	7	7	6
Don't know	.	.	1

Trust in the National Statistical Institute

	Australia 2010	Sweden 2014*	Denmark 2012
Trust it a great deal	40	22	36
Tend to trust it	48	57	47
Tend to distrust it	6	13	3
Distrust it greatly	1	2	0
Don't know	5	7	14

*Sweden only asked those who had heard of the Swedish NSI

Trust in the statistics produced by the National Statistical Institute

	Australia 2010	Sweden 2014*
Trust them greatly	26	26
Tend to trust them	58	56
Tend not to trust them	11	13
Distrust them greatly	2	2
Don't know	3	4

Statistics produced by the National Statistical Institute on our economy and society are important to understand the country

	Australia 2010	Denmark 2012
Strongly agree	45	24
Tend to agree	48	58
Tend to disagree	5	5
Disagree strongly	1	2
Not sure / don't know	2	11