Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey (NILT)

NILT Teaching Dataset 2006: Politics and Community Relations

Introduction

ARK has prepared a special Teaching Dataset based upon the 2006 Northern Ireland Life & Times Survey. The NILT 2006 Teaching Dataset is a SPSS datafile that has been designed to be used on courses teaching quantitative statistical analysis in the social sciences. The Teaching Dataset contains over 150 variables and gives the answers of all 1,230 respondents to the NILT 2006 Survey. The large number and variety of variables from a complete large-scale representative and contemporary sample means that students have the capacity to learn about Northern Ireland while gaining experience in the analysis of 'real world' data.

In developing this Teaching Dataset, ARK made a number of modifications to the original NILT2006 dataset in order to enhance its teaching capacity and make it easier for students to use:

- The data are taken mainly from the 'Community Relations' and 'Political Attitudes' modules of the survey, along with general sociological information for each respondent. This allows students to develop an overview of the scope of the data while retaining the capacity for carrying out a variety of analyses, particularly in the interesting area of political opinions. The number of variables are sufficient so that no two students need duplicate the same work;
- The data have been subjected to a secondary cleaning process to simplify its structure, remove anomalies that could confuse the novice and make the dataset in general more 'user friendly';
- Each variable as been identified as either nominal/categorical, ordinal, or 'scalar' (interval/ratio) to help students use data that is appropriate for a given statistical procedure;
- Each variable that comes directly from a question in the interview has the question number given in its label. Students can view or print the complete questionnaires located at the web address: http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2006/quest06.html and thereby see the exact question wordings and response options that respondents to the survey were given;
- ARK derived additional 'scalar' variables for the Teaching Dataset that greatly increase the scope for using parametric statistical procedures such as correlation or regression.
- The list of these scalar variables is available on page 10;
- A weight factor is included in the dataset – details on how to apply it are on page 12.

The NILT2006 Teaching dataset can be accessed for downloading at
http://www.ark.ac.uk/teaching

All variables within dataset

Variable	Label	Measurement Level	Missing values
serial	Interview number	Nominal	
livearea	Q1.How long have you lived in the town (city, village) where you live now?	Scale	
placeliv	Q3.Would you describe the place where you live as ...	Ordinal	
rsex	Gender of respondent	Nominal	
numhome	Q2.Do you look after or help one person living with you or is it more than one?	Scale	-1
caresep	Q3.What about people not living with you, do you provide some regular service or help for any sick, disabled or elderly relative, friend or neighbour not living with you?	Nominal	-1
numsep	Q4.Do you look after or help one person not living with you?	Scale	-1
carehour	Q11.Taking account of all the help you give, about how long do you spend looking after in an average week?	Scale	-1
caredays	Q12 How many days per week do you usually look after or help?	Scale	-1, 8
rlrelago	Q1.What about relations between Protestants and Catholics? Would you say they are better than they were 5 years ago, worse, or about the same now as then?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
rlrelfut	Q2.And what about in 5 years time? Do you think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better than now, worse than now, or about the same as now?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
mxrlgngh	Q3.If you had a choice, would you prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only your own religion, or in a mixed-religion neighbourhood?	Nominal	8
mxrlgwrk	Q4.If you were working and had to change your job, would you prefer a workplace with people of only your own religion, or a mixed religion workplace?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
ownmxsch	Q5.If you were deciding where to send your children to school, would you prefer a school with children of only your own religion, or a mixed-religion school?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
ninatid	Q6.Which of these best describes the way you think of yourself?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
omarrrlg	Q7.Do you think most people in N.I. would mind if one of their close relatives were to marry someone of a different religion?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9

smarrrlg	Q8.And you personally, would you mind or not mind?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
whatflag	Q9.The Union Jack is normally flown outside public buildings on special occasions like public holidays. On future special occasions, what flag do you think should be flown outside public buildings?	Nominal	6, 8, 9
repmural	Q10.Has there been any time in the last year when you personally have felt intimidated by republican murals, kerb paintings, or flags?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
repmur2	Q11.Has there been any time in the last year when you personally have felt annoyed by republican murals, kerb paintings, or flags?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
morrflag	Q12.Do you think there are more republican murals and flags on display these days than there were five years ago?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
loymural	Q13.Has there been any time in the last year when you personally have felt intimidated by loyalist murals, kerb paintings, or flags?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
loymur2	Q14.Has there been any time in the last year when you personally have felt annoyed by Loyalist murals, kerb paintings, or flags?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
morlflag	Q15.Do you think there are more Loyalist murals and flags on display these days than there were five years ago?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
flaglamp	Q16.Do you support flag flying on lampposts in your own neighbourhood?	Nominal	-1, 3, 8
morujack	Q17.Thinking about the Union Jack being flown on lampposts in public streets, do you think this happens more than it did five years ago, less, or is it just the same?	Ordinal	-1, 4, 8
eqnow1	Q18.Equality laws unfair to Catholics	Nominal	-1
eqnow2	Q18.Equality laws unfair to Protestants	Nominal	-1
eqnow3	Q18.Equality laws unfair to Gays, lesbians or bi-sexuals	Nominal	-1
eqnow4	Q18.Equality laws unfair to Disabled	Nominal	-1
eqnow5	Q18.Equality laws unfair to Elderly	Nominal	-1
eqnow6	Q18.Equality laws unfair to Travellers	Nominal	-1
eqnow7	Q18.Equality laws unfair to Other ethnic minorities	Nominal	-1
eqnow8	Q18.Equality laws unfair to Women	Nominal	-1
eqnow9	Q18.Equality laws unfair to Men	Nominal	-1
eqnow10	Q18.Equality laws unfair to Children	Nominal	-1
eqnone	Q18.Equality laws fair to all groups	Nominal	-1
mattrel	Q19.Suppose you were applying for a job, how much would it matter to you how many people there were of your own religion at the workplace?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9

avoidpwk	Q20.Suppose you were applying for a job, would you avoid workplaces situated in a mainly Protestant area?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
avoidcwk	Q21.Suppose you were applying for a job, would you avoid workplaces situated in a mainly Catholic area?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
iswkneut	Q22.These days, many employers try to make their workplaces 'neutral spaces' - that is where there are no symbols on display of either Protestant or Catholic culture and traditions. Thinking of your own workplace, would you say that it was	Ordinal	-1, 5, 8
sdwkneut	Q23.Do you think that it should be a neutral space?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
isngneut	Q24.And thinking of the neighbourhood where you live, would you say that it was a 'neutral space'?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
sdngneut	Q25.Do you think that it should be a neutral space?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
isspneut	Q26.Thinking of the shops where you and your family do your main weekly shopping and the area around the shops, would you say that this was a 'neutral space'?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
sdspneut	Q27.Do you think that it should be a neutral space?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
islsneut	Q28.Thinking of your local shops or garage where you might go to buy bread or milk, would you say that this was a 'neutral space'?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
sdlsneut	Q29.Do you think that it should be a neutral space?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
srelfrnd	Q30.About how many of your friends would you say are the same religion as you?	Ordinal	6 to 8
srelrel	Q31.What about your relatives, including relatives by marriage? About how many are the same religion as you?	Ordinal	6 to 8
srelngh	Q32.What about your neighbours? About how many are the same religion as you?	Ordinal	6 to 8
feelcath	Q33.How favourable or unfavourable do you feel about people from the Catholic community?	Ordinal	-1, 8
feelprot	Q34.How favourable or unfavourable do you feel about people from the Protestant community?	Ordinal	-1, 8
cathcult	Q35.How much do you understand about the Catholic community's culture and traditions? Would you say...	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
protcult	Q36.How much do you understand about the Protestant community's culture and traditions? Would you say...	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9

respcath	Q37.How much respect do you have for the Catholic community's culture and traditions? Would you say...	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
respprot	Q38.How much respect do you have for the Protestant community's culture and traditions? Would you say...	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
target1	Q39.N.I. is a normal civic society in which all individuals are equal, where differences are resolved through dialogue and where all people are treated impartially	Ordinal	-1, 98
target2	Q39.N.I. is a place free from displays of sectarian aggression.The questions relate to how the government has achieved the targets etc and not the respondent's opinions of the targets.	Ordinal	-1, 98
target3	Q39. Towns and city centres in N.I. are safe and welcoming places for people of all walks of life. The questions relate to how the government has achieved the targets	Ordinal	-1, 98
target4	Q39. Schools in N.I. are effective at preparing pupils for life in a diverse society. The questions relate to how the government has achieved the targets etc and not the respondent's opinions	Ordinal	-1, 98
target5	Q39. Schools in N.I. are effective at encouraging understanding of the complexity of our history. The questions relate to how the government has achieved the targets etc and not the respondent's	Ordinal	-1, 98
target6	Q39. The government is actively encouraging integrated schools. The questions relate to how the government has achieved the targets etc and not the respondent's opinions.	Ordinal	-1, 98
target7	Q39. The government is actively encouraging schools of different religions to mix with each other by sharing facilities. The questions relate to how the government has achieved the targets.	Ordinal	-1, 98
target8	Q39. The government is actively encouraging shared communities where people of all backgrounds can live, work, learn and play together. The questions relate to how the government has achieved the targets.	Ordinal	-1, 98
workcult	Q40.Thinking about your workplace, is it a place where you feel you can be open about your own cultural identity?	Ordinal	5, 8
nghcult	Q41.Thinking of the neighbourhood where you live, is it a place where you feel you can be open about your own cultural identity?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9

schlcult	Q42.Thinking about the schools that your children attend, are these schools places where your children feel free they can be open about their own cultural identity?	Ordinal	-1, 6, 8
healthyr	Q7.Over the last 12 months, compared to people of your own age, would you say that your health has on the whole been...	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
disab1	Q8.Do you have a long-standing illness, disability or infirmity?	Nominal	
ninatid2	Q2.What nationality are you?	Nominal	-1
racprej	Q3.Thinking of people from minority ethnic communities, do you think there is a lot of prejudice against them in N.I. nowadays?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
racprejm	Q4.Do you think there is generally more racial prejudice in N.I. now than there was 5 years ago?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
racprejf	Q5.Do you think there will be the same amount of racial prejudice in N.I. in 5 years time compared with now?	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
racprg2	Q6.Which group do you think there is most prejudice against?	Nominal	-1
racownkd	Q7.How much do you agree with the statement, "In relation to colour and ethnicity, I prefer to stick with people of my own kind"	Ordinal	-1
raccomp	Q8.In relation to colour and ethnicity, which of these statements BEST describes how you feel about mixing with people from a different background to your own?	Nominal	-1, 4, 8
niptyid1	Q3.To which political party do you feel closest?	Nominal	999
uninatid	Q5.Do you think of yourself as a unionist or a nationalist?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
uninatst	Q6.Would you call yourself a strong unionist/nationalist?	Ordinal	-1
nireland	Q7.Do you think the long-term policy for N.I. should be to remain part of the U.K. or to reunify with the rest of Ireland?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
future1	Q8a.If the majority of people in N.I. ever voted to become part of a United Ireland, do you think you...	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
future2	Q8b.If the majority of people in N.I. NEVER voted to become part of a United Ireland do you think you...	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
howvote	Q9.How did you vote in 1998 when the referendum on the Good Friday Agreement was held?	Nominal	3 to 9, -1

votesta	Q10.The St Andrew's Agreement gives a timetable for the restoration of devolved government in N.I.. How do you think you would vote in 2007 if there was a referendum on the St. Andrew's Agreement?	Nominal	3 to 9, -1
futureni	Q11.Which of these statements comes closest to your view?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
tenshort	Q1.Do you (or your family) own or rent this house or flat or bungalow?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
rage	Respondent's age	Scale	
househld	How many people live in your household including yourself	Scale	
rmarstat	Q4.Respondent's marital status	Nominal	
highsted	Q5.Respondent's highest Educational Qualification you have achieved	Ordinal	
tea	Q5a How old were you when you completed your continuous full-time education?	Ordinal	6 to 98
rhourswk	Q6a.How many hours a week do you normally work in your job?	Scale	-1, 999
tunion	Q6b.Are you currently a member of a trade union?	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
rmany	Q12a.How many people do or did you manage or supervise?	Scale	-3 to -1
rsect	Q13.Do or did you work in the public, private or voluntary sector?	Nominal	-2, -1, 8
shourswk	Q15a.How many hours a week does your spouse work in his/her job?	Scale	375, -1, -2
famrelig	Q23c.In what religion were you brought up?	Nominal	-1
chattend	Q24.Apart from special occasions, how often do you attend services or meetings connected with your religion?	Ordinal	-2, -1, 8
prtnrrlg	Q25 Does your (husband/wife/partner) regard themselves as belonging to any particular religion?	Nominal	-1, -2
mumrelig	Q26a What was your mother's religion when you were a child?	Nominal	-1, -2
dadrelig	Q26b What was your father's religion when you were a child?	Nominal	-1, -2
chdmxsch	Q29.Has any child in your care ever attended a mixed or integrated school in N.I.?	Nominal	3 to 8, and -1
hhldincm	Total household income	Ordinal	-1, 13, 98
persincm	Q30.Personal income before tax and national insurance contributions	Ordinal	-1, 13, 98
protrcmx	Q.15 OPINION AS TO WHAT METHOD BRINGS BETTER RELATIONS BETWEEN PROTESTANTS AND CATHOLICS IN N.I.	Nominal	-1, 3, 9

mixdprim	Q.16 LEVEL OF FAVOURABILITY TOWARDS MORE MIXNG OR SEPARATION IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
mixdgram	Q.16 LEVEL OF FAVOURABILITY TOWARDS MORE MIXNG OR SEPARATION IN SECONDARY AND GRAMMAR SCHOOLS	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
mixdliv	Q.16 LEVEL OF FAVOURABILITY TOWARDS MORE MIXNG OR SEPARATION IN WHERE PEOPLE LIVE	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
mixdwork	Q.16 LEVEL OF FAVOURABILITY TOWARDS MORE MIXNG OR SEPARATION IN WHERE PEOPLE WORK	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
mixdleis	Q.16 LEVEL OF FAVOURABILITY TOWARDS MORE MIXNG OR SEPARATION IN PEOPLE'S LEISURE OR SPORTS ACTIVITIES	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
mixdmarr	Q.16 LEVEL OF FAVOURABILITY TOWARDS MORE MIXNG OR SEPARATION IN PEOPLE'S MARRIAGES	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
whenuflg	Q.19 WHEN IS IT LEGITIMATE TO DISPLAY UNION FLAGS ON MAIN STREETS	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
whentri	Q.20 WHEN IS IT LEGITIMATE TO DISPLAY IRISH TRICOLOUR FLAGS ON MAIN STREETS	Nominal	-1, 8, 9
shopuflg	Q.21 LIKELIHOOD TO SHOP IN NEIGHBOURHOODS WITH DISPLAYS OF LOYALIST FLAGS OR MURALS	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
shoptri	Q.22 LIKELIHOOD TO SHOP IN NEIGHBOURHOODS WITH DISPLAYS OF REPUBLICAN FLAGS OR MURALS	Ordinal	-1, 8, 9
wtfactor	Sampling weight correction	Nominal	
religcat	Respondent's religion - categorised	Nominal	
ansseca	NS-SEC Social Class - Respondent	Ordinal	9
anssecb	NS-SEC Social Class - Partner	Ordinal	-1
caring	No. of caring tasks performed by R for dependent	Scale	
provisits	No. of caring visits from social services that dependent receives	Scale	
privisits	No. of non-state carers for dependent	Scale	
travsocdist	Social distance from Travellers (high = LESS distance)	Scale	
eesocist	Social distance from East Europeans (high = LESS distance)	Scale	
mussocdist	Social distance from Muslims (high = LESS distance)	Scale	
ethniccoworkers	No. of minority groups R works with	Scale	-1.00
nkids	No. of children in household (aged LT 18)	Scale	
nelderly	No. of elderly in household (65+)	Scale	

adultkids	No. of grown children in household	Scale	
nparents	No. of parents & in-laws in household	Scale	
notherrels	No. of other relations in household	Scale	
nnonrels	No. of non-related people in household	Scale	
nwomen	No. of women in household	Scale	
reconact	Economic status of Respondent	Nominal	-1.00
seconact	Economic status of Spouse	Nominal	-1.00
ethnicneigh	No. of ethnic groups living nearby	Scale	
spage	Spouse's age	Scale	-1.00, 1.00, 10.00
asiansocdist	Social distance from Asians (high = LESS distance)	Scale	
ethnicfriends	No. of minorities mixed with socially	Scale	
percapti1	Per capita income based on all in household	Scale	
percapti2	Percapita income based on related adults in household	Scale	
mental	Mental illness index (high = POOR)	Scale	
gprating	Rating of GPs (high = GOOD)	Scale	
miginfra	Migrants' effect on infrastructure (Low = ADVERSE)	Scale	
hosrating	Hospital rating (high = GOOD)	Scale	
waittimes	Waiting times in NHS (high = SATISFIED)	Scale	
migeffect	Migrants' effects on NI economy & culture (high = BAD effects)	Scale	
govtcare	Government, not self, should provide care (high = Government)	Scale	
nhsuse	No of types of NHS services used in last 2 years	Scale	
bigotry	Amount of ethnic name-calling by R & friends	Scale	
work	Work status	Nominal	-1.00
contacts	Different types of contacts with minorities	Scale	

'Scalar' variables derived for teaching purposes:

- TRAVSOCDIST. Respondent's felt social distance from Travellers (a high score implies LESS social distance);
- EESOCDIST. Respondent's felt social distance from migrants from eastern Europe (a high score implies LESS social distance);
- MUSSOCDIST. Respondent's felt social distance from Muslims (a high score implies LESS social distance);
- ASIANSOCDIST. Respondent's felt social distance from Chinese, Indian sub-continent and other Asian origin people (a high score implies LESS social distance);
- CONTACTS. Number of different types of contacts with ethnic minorities. Ranges from none up to 3.
- BIGOTRY. Index of amount of ethnic name-calling by the Respondent or friends. Ranges from none up to 6.
- ETHNICCOWORK. Number of types of minority groups that the Respondent has contact with at work;
- ETHNICNEIGH. Number of different ethnic groups who live in the Respondent's neighbourhood;
- ETHNICFRIENDS. Number of different ethnic groups with whom the Respondent mixes socially;
- MIGINFRA. An index score of the Respondent's opinion on the effects of migrants on Northern Ireland infrastructure provision. A low score indicates an adverse effect;
- MIGEFFECT. An index score of the Respondent's opinion on the effects of migrants on Northern Ireland's economy and culture. A high score indicates the Respondents believes they have adverse effects;
- NKIDS. Number of children aged less than 18 living in the household;
- NELDERLY. Number of people aged 65 or more living in the household;
- ADULTKIDS. Number of adult children of the Respondent living in the household;
- NPARENTS. Number of parents and in-laws of the Respondent living in the household;
- NOTHERRELS. Number of other persons related to the Respondent living in the household;
- NNONRELS. Number of persons not related to the Respondent living in the household;
- PERCAPTI1. Total household income divided by all the persons in the household;
- PERCAPTI2. Total household income divided by the number of adults related to each other in the household;
- MENTAL. An index score of recent changes in mental health, derived from the 12-item General Health Questions (GHQ-12). A high score indicates a deterioration in mental health.
- GPRATING. A rating of the quality of General Practitioners. A high score indicates a favourable rating;
- HOSRATING. A rating of the quality of hospital provisions. A high score indicates a favourable rating;
- WAITTIMES. A rating of waiting times in the NHS. A high score indicates the respondent is satisfied with waiting times;
- NHSUSE. The number of types of NHS services the Respondent has personally used during the last 2 years. Ranges from 0 to 4;

- GOVTCARE. An index of the Respondent's opinion that care and support for the elderly and other dependents should be the responsibility of Government or the social services rather than a private or family responsibility. A high score indicates the Respondent believes the support/care should come from Government;
- CARING. Number of types of caring tasks performed by the respondent for a named dependent. Ranges from 0 to 10;
- PROVISITS. Number of different types of visitor the named dependent receives from social services. Ranges from 0 to 5;
- PRIVISITS. Number of different types of visitor the named dependent receives from 'non-professionals' (e.g., family members etc.). Ranges from 0 to 4.

2006 Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey

While the Teaching Datasets are valid representations of the data, users should be aware that they are modified versions of the data. In particular, some of the variables have been simplified and the derived variables have been generated solely for teaching purposes. Researchers wishing to use the original NILT2006 data should access the main datasets instead of this teaching dataset. These are available online at
http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/datasets/

The entry web page for NILT2006 is located at http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2006/

The questionnaires for NILT2006 can be viewed at
http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2006/question06.htm

Technical notes about the 2006 Life and Times Survey can be found at
http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2006/tech06.pdf, and provide information about topics such as:
- the overall design of the 2006 survey;
- the content of the complete dataset; a report on fieldwork;
- the sample design, response rate and sampling errors and confidence intervals;
- data preparation;
- general advice about using the data

All analyses of the data should be weighted to allow for disproportionate sample size. The weighting variable is called WTFACTOR and is switched on in the teaching version of the dataset. The only exceptions that do not require weighting are the few household variables (for example, household tenure and income).

For information about the full range of teaching datasets and other teaching resources created by ARK, see http://www.ark.ac.uk/teaching

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