

# **2012 Northern Ireland Life & Times Survey Teaching Resources**

*Funded as part of the HEA Social Sciences strategic project 2012–13*

## Table of Contents

Acknowledgements .....	3
Introduction .....	4
Codebook overview .....	5
Levels of measurement .....	5
Navigating the codebook (example section) .....	6
Section 1: Background/common variables .....	7
Section 2: Good Relations variables.....	13
Section 3: LGBT Variables .....	19
Technical report summary.....	22
Aims and objectives .....	22
Links with other surveys.....	22
Ethical approval.....	22
Survey content.....	22
Technical details.....	22
Sampling design .....	22
Fieldwork.....	23
Response rate.....	23
Weighting .....	24
Confidentiality .....	24
Variable information .....	24
Missing values .....	24
Social class construction .....	25
Categorisation of Religion .....	25
Finding out more about NILT results .....	26
Appendix.....	27
Sampling errors and confidence intervals .....	27
Comparison with other surveys (selected variables) .....	28

## Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the support of the Higher Education Academy in producing these teaching resources, in particular Jenni Carr. We are also grateful for the advice and guidance provided by the other project partners, especially our “critical friends” at the University of Ulster, Dr Ciaran Acton and Dr Bernadette McCreight.

Claire Cole, Oisín McCann and Lisa Wilson, doctoral students in the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work, have used the resources in draft form with current undergraduate students and have helpfully alerted us to errors and points of clarification.

## Introduction

ARK, a joint resource between the two Northern Ireland universities, is dedicated to making social and political information on Northern Ireland available to the widest possible audience. ARK runs a suite of annual attitudinal surveys that aim to provide time-series attitudinal data across age groups.

The Higher Education Academy supported the creation of updated teaching resources, including teaching datasets developed from the 2012 *Northern Ireland Life and Times* (NILT) survey. These resources are intended to aid teaching and learning quantitative research skills.

This document is in two parts: a codebook (data dictionary) and a summary of the 2012 NILT technical report. Please note that this document refers to the NILT teaching datasets only. For the full dataset, please consult the resources at [www.ark.ac.uk/nilt](http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt).

### 2012 *Northern Ireland Life and Times* teaching datasets

- The original dataset contains a large set of variables, therefore two separate teaching datasets have been created, made available in SPSS format:
  - 1) **GOOD RELATIONS**: This dataset contains the “core” NILT questions asked on a nearly annual basis, including Community Relations and Political Attitudes.
  - 2) **LGBT**: This dataset contains most of the questions from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Module.
- Both teaching datasets contain background information concerning the respondent, spouse and household.
- The two teaching datasets can be merged by the variable SERIAL.
- Some variables have been constructed and/or simplified for this teaching dataset – notes are provided in the codebook.
- While the teaching datasets contains the total number of respondents, they are intended for teaching purposes only; it is advisable to use the original 2012 dataset for research.

### Queries

For queries/further information about the teaching resources, please contact Dr Emma Calvert ([e.calvert@qub.ac.uk](mailto:e.calvert@qub.ac.uk)).

For queries relating to the NILT surveys or ARK, please contact Dr Paula Devine, Deputy Director, ARK ([p.devine@qub.ac.uk](mailto:p.devine@qub.ac.uk)).

## Codebook overview

The codebook (data dictionary) aims to provide information on the variables in the teaching dataset. However, it is recommended to consult the questionnaires as well. The NILT has two questionnaires: a Main Questionnaire and a Self-Complete questionnaire (<http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/quests/>).

The codebook has 3 sections:

1. BACKGROUND variables (common to both teaching datasets).
2. GOOD RELATIONS variables (Good Relations dataset).
3. LGBT variables (LGBT dataset).

## Levels of measurement

The codebook and the teaching datasets have tried to indicate the levels of measurement of all variables, for teaching purposes. SPSS recognises Scale, Ordinal and Nominal measures. However, please note that some of the labelling should be considered with caution (e.g. consideration of the TARGET variables as scale rather than ordinal etc). There are also some variables where recoding is necessary for treatment as ordinal variables (marked by asterisk).

Please be aware that in most datasets, the variables are set up as nominal by default and it is up to the researcher to decide the appropriate measure and appropriate analysis.

In order to maximise the number of scale variables in the dataset, we have constructed new variables. For example, the mid-point of each range was used to construct income as a scale variable (see questionnaire for original coding). These new variables are intended for use in teaching rather than for research purposes.

## Navigating the codebook (example section)

This column contains the survey question and will usually be included in the *Variable Label* field in SPSS

Nominal and ordinal variables will have *Value Labels* (Values field in SPSS).

NB. In the SPSS dataset, the questionnaire section is also indicated in the *Variable Label* field (s1 = Section 1, s2 = Section 2 etc).

Scale variables may have value labels for missing values.

This column contains the variable names and corresponds to the *Name* field in SPSS.

The heading will help you find the question in the questionnaire.

This variable has been altered (recoded) from the raw data.

This column contains information about the Level of Measurement and corresponds to the *Measure* field in SPSS.

Variable Name	Variable Label	Values	Measure
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section 1</b>			
HOUSEHLD	Q1. How many people are there in your household, that is, people whose main residence this is and who share at least one meal a day, or share living accommodation with you?	Numeric	Scale
RAGE	Q1. Household grid: Age of respondent	Numeric (years)	Scale
RSEX	Q1. Household grid: Gender of respondent	1 Male 2 Female	Nominal
RMARSTAT (recode)	Q2. Are you... Marital status	1 Single 2 Married 3 Living as married 4 Divorced 5 Separated 6 Widowed 9 Missing	Nominal

## Section I: Background/common variables<sup>1</sup>

Variable Name	Variable Label	Values	Measure
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section I</b>			
SERIAL	Serial number of respondent.	Numeric	Scale
HOUSEHLD	Q1. How many people are there in your household, that is, people whose main residence this is and who share at least one meal a day, or share living accommodation with you?	Numeric (number of people)	Scale
RAGE	Q1. Household grid: Age of respondent.	Numeric (years) -999 Not answered	Scale
SPAGE	Q1. Household grid: Age of respondent's spouse/partner.	Numeric (years) -9 Non Applicable -999 Not answered/refused	Scale
RSEX	Q1. Household grid: Gender of respondent.	1 Male 2 Female	Nominal
NADULT (compute)	Q1. Household grid: Number of adults aged 18 years or over living in the household.	Numeric (number of people) -99 Don't know	Scale
NKIDS (compute)	Q1. Household grid: Number of children aged under 18 years living in the household.	Numeric (number of people) -99 Don't know	Scale
NELDERLY (compute)	Q1. Household grid: Number of adults aged 65 years or over living in the household.	Numeric (number of people) -99 Don't know	Scale
NFAMILY (compute)	Q1. Number of people living in the household who are related to the respondent	Numeric (number of people) -99 Don't know	Scale
RMARSTAT (recode)	Q2. Marital/civil partnership status.	1 Single (never married) 2 Married/civil partnership 3 Living as married 4 Separated 5 Divorced/dissolved civil partnership 6 Widowed -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
LIVEAREA	Q3. How long have you lived in the town (city, village) where you live now?	Numeric (years) 0 Less than 1 year	Scale
PLACELIV	Q4. Would you describe the place where you live as...?	1 A big city 2 The suburbs or outskirts of a big city 3 A small city or town 4 A country village 5 A farm or home in the country -99 Don't know	Ordinal
HINCPAST	Q6. Looking back over the last year or so, would you say that your household's income has...?	1 Fallen behind the prices 2 Kept up with prices 3 Gone up by more than prices -99 Don't know	Ordinal

<sup>1</sup> The Background/common variables are found in **both** 2012 NILT teaching datasets.

Variable Name	Variable Label	Values	Measure
INTWWW	Q7. Does anyone have access to the internet or World Wide Web from this address?	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know	Nominal
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section 2</b>			
UMINETH	Q1. Do you consider yourself to be a member of a minority ethnic community?	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know	Nominal
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section 4</b>			
	Q37. Equality laws have been drawn up in Northern Ireland to make sure that everyone is treated equally. In your view, are any of the groups on this card generally treated unfairly when compared with other groups?		
EQNOW1	a Catholics.	1 Yes 2 No -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
EQNOW2	b Protestants.		
EQNOW3	c Gays/lesbians/bisexuals.		
EQNOW4	d Disabled people.		
EQNOW5	e Elderly people.		
EQNOW6	f Travellers.		
EQNOW7	g Other ethnic minorities.		
EQNOW8	h Women.		
EQNOW9	i Men.		
EQNOW10	j Children.		
EQNOW11	k Transgender people.		
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section 5</b>			
	Q1. Thinking about each of these groups in turn, do you think they are generally treated better than they were five years ago, worse, or are they treated the same as they were five years ago?		
EQPAST1	a Catholics.	1 Treated better than 5 years ago 2 Treated the same as 5 years ago 3 Treated worse than 5 years ago -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal
EQPAST2	b Protestants.		
EQPAST3	c Gays/lesbians/bisexuals.		
EQPAST4	d Disabled people.		
EQPAST5	e Elderly people.		
EQPAST6	f Travellers.		
EQPAST7	g Other ethnic minorities.		
EQPAST8	h Women.		
EQPAST9	i Men.		
EQPAST10	j Children.		
EQPAST11	k Transgender people.		
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section 7</b>			
TENSHORT (compute)	Derived from Q1 – Q4 Housing tenure status.	1 Own it outright 2 Buying with help of a mortgage or loan 3 Pay part rent and part mortgage (Co ownership) 4 Rent – Housing Executive 5 Rent – Housing Association 6 Rent – Private landlord 7 Other -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal



Variable Name	Variable Label	Values	Measure
HIGHQUAL (recode)	Derived from Q6 Highest Educational qualification.	1 Degree level or higher 2 Higher education 3 GCE A level or equivalent 4 GCSE A-C or equivalent 5 GCSE D-G or equivalent 6 No qualifications 7 Other, level unknown 9 Unclassified	Nominal
TEA	Q7. How old were you when you completed your continuous full-time education?	1 15 or under 2 16 3 17 4 18 5 19 or over 6 Still at school 7 Still at college or university 8 Other -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
WORK (compute)	Derived from Q10,11,Q14 Work status.	1 Employee 2 Foreperson or supervisor 3 Self-employed 4 Manager -9 Non applicable/refused	Nominal
RHOURLWK	Q10b. How many hours per week do you normally work in your job?	Numeric (hours per week) -9 Non applicable -999 Not answered/refused	Scale
RSUPER	Q12. In your job, do/did you have formal responsibility for supervising the work of other employees?	1 Yes 2 No -9 Non applicable -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
RMANY	Q12a. How many people do/did you supervise?	Numeric (number of people) -9 Non applicable	Scale
RSECT	Q12b. Do/did you work in the public, private or voluntary sector?	1 Public sector 2 Private sector 3 Voluntary/ charity sector 4 Other -9 Non applicable -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
TUNIONSA (compute)	Derived from Q22 - Q22a Trade union membership.	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal

Variable Name	Variable Label	Values	Measure
ANSSECA (compute)	Derived from Q10c – 10e Social class (NS SEC).	1 (1.1) Large employers and higher managerial occupations 2 (1.2) Higher professional occupations 3 (2) Lower managerial and professional occupations 4 (3) Intermediate occupations 5 (4) Small employers and own account workers 6 (5) Lower supervisory and technical occupations 7 (6) Semi-routine occupations 8 (7) Routine occupations 9 (8) Never worked and long-term unemployed 10 (9) Not classified -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
SHOURSWK	Q17b. How many hours a week does your partner/spouse normally work in their job?	Numeric (hours per week) -9 Non applicable -999 Not answered/refused -9999 Other answer	Scale
SSUPER	Q19. In their job, did your partner/spouse have formal responsibility for supervising the work of other employees?	1 Yes 2 No -9 Non applicable -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
SMANY	Q19a. How many people do/did your partner/spouse supervise?	Numeric (number of people) -9 Non applicable -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Scale
SSECT (recode)	Q19b. Do/did your partner/spouse work in the public, private or voluntary sector?	1 Public sector 2 Private sector 3 Voluntary/ charity sector 4 Other -9 Non applicable -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
RELIGCAT (recode)	Derived from Q23 Do you regard yourself as belonging to any particular religion?	1 Catholic 2 Protestant 3 No religion -999 Not answered/Other	Nominal
FAMRELIG (recode)	Derived from Q24 In what religion, if any, were you brought up?	1 Catholic 2 Protestant 3 No religion -999 Not answered/Other	Nominal
PRTNRRLG (recode)	Derived from Q25 Does your husband/wife/partner regard themselves as belonging to any particular religion?	1 Catholic 2 Protestant 3 No religion -9 Non applicable -999 Not answered/Other	Nominal

Variable Name	Variable Label	Values	Measure
CHATTND2	Q26. Apart from special occasions such as weddings, funerals, baptisms and so on, how often nowadays do you attend services or meetings connected with your religion?	1 Several times a week 2 Once a week 3 2 or 3 times a month 4 Once a month 5 Several times a year 6 Once a year 7 Less frequently 8 Never -9 Non applicable/Skip from RELIGCAT -99 Don't know	Ordinal
CAREHOME	Q31. Is there anyone living with you who is sick, disabled or elderly whom you look after or give special help to (for example a sick, disabled or elderly relative, wife, husband, partner , child, friend)?	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know	Nominal
CARESEP	Q32. Do you provide some regular service or help for any sick, disabled or elderly relative, friend or neighbour not living with you?	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know	Nominal
ANYHCOND	Q33. Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last for 12 months or more?	1 Yes 2 No -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
HCONDUCT	Q34. Does your condition or illness/do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry-out day-to-day activities?	1 Yes, a lot 2 Yes, a little 3 Not at all -9 Non applicable/Skip from ANYHCOND	Ordinal
PERSINC2 (compute)	Q35. What is your personal income before tax and national insurance contributions?	Numeric (£ per year, computed from midpoint of income band) -999 Not answered/refused	Scale
HHLDINC2 (compute)	Q36. And what is the total income of your household from all sources before tax and national insurance contributions?	Numeric (£ per year, computed from midpoint of income band) -999 Not answered/refused	Scale
PERCAPTI1 (compute)	Total household income divided by all the people living in the household.	Numeric (£ per year, computed from midpoint of income band) -999 Not answered/refused -9999 Not enough information	Scale
PERCAPTI2 (compute)	Total household income divided by all the adults (aged 18 years or over) living in the household who are related to the respondent.	Numeric (£ per year, computed from midpoint of income band) -999 Not answered/refused -9999 Not enough information	Scale
ORIENT	Q37. Can you tell me which of these best describes you? Sexual orientation.	1 I am heterosexual or straight 2 I am gay or lesbian (homosexual) 3 I am bi-sexual 4 Other -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal

Variable Name	Variable Label	Values	Measure
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section 6</b>			
POLPART2	Q1. If there were a general election tomorrow, which political party do you think you would be most likely to support?	1 DUP 2 Sinn Féin 3 UUP 4 SDLP 5 Alliance 6 Other answer/party 7 None of these -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
<b>SELF-COMPLETE QUESTIONNAIRE</b>			
RUHAPPY	Q24. If you were to consider your life in general these days, how happy or unhappy would you say you are, on the whole?	1 Very happy 2 Fairly happy 3 Not very happy 4 Not at all happy 8 Can't choose -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal*
HEALTHYR	Q25. Please think back over the last 12 months about how your health has been. Compared to people of your own age, would you say that your health has on the whole been...?	1 Excellent 2 Good 3 Fair 4 Poor 5 Very poor 8 Can't choose -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal*

\*Please note that for these variables, value 8 ("can't choose") must be recoded/set as missing in order to treat as ordinal.

## Section 2: Good Relations variables<sup>2</sup>

Variable Name	Label	Values	Measure
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section 2</b>			
RACPREJ	Q3. Thinking of people from minority ethnic communities, do you think there is a lot of prejudice against them in Northern Ireland nowadays, a little, or hardly any?	1 A lot 2 A little 3 Hardly any -99 Don't know	Ordinal
RACPREJM	Q4. Do you think there is generally more racial prejudice in Northern Ireland now than there was 5 years ago, less, or about the same amount?	1 More now 2 Less now 3 About the same	Nominal
RACPREJF	Q5. Do you think there will be more, less or about the same amount of racial prejudice in Northern Ireland in 5 years time compared with now?	1 More in 5 yrs 2 Less in 5 yrs 3 About the same	Nominal
RACOWNKD	Q6. How much do you agree or disagree with the statement, "In relation to colour and ethnicity, I prefer to stick with people of my own kind"?	1 Strongly agree 2 Agree 3 Neither agree not disagree 4 Disagree 5 Strongly disagree	Ordinal
TRAVSOCDIST (compute)	Computed from Q7 (6 variables, count of <i>not willing to accept</i> ) Traveller social distance.	Numeric (high-more distance)	Scale
EESOCDIST (compute)	Computed from Q8 (6 variables, count of <i>not willing to accept</i> ) Eastern European social distance.	Numeric (high-more distance) -9 Non Applicable (Respondent is Eastern European)	Scale
MEGSOCDIST (compute)	Computed from Q9 (6 variables, count of <i>not willing to accept</i> ) Asian social distance.	Numeric (high-more distance)	Scale
MUSSOCDIST (compute)	Computed from Q11 (6 variables, count of <i>not willing to accept</i> ) Muslim social distance.	Numeric (high-more distance) -9 Non Applicable (Respondent is Muslim)	Scale
CONTEGRP (compute)	Computed from Q12 (4 variables) Number of groups respondent has regular contact with (at least once a month).	Numeric (number of groups)	Scale
UPREJMEG	Q14. How would you describe yourself...as very prejudiced against people of minority ethnic communities, a little prejudiced, or not prejudiced at all?	1 Very prejudiced 2 A little prejudiced 3 Not prejudiced at all 4 Other -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal*

<sup>2</sup> These variables are found in the Good Relations teaching dataset only.

Variable Name	Label	Values	Measure
LIVWKEU	Q16. One of the rights of being part of the European Union is that people from Northern Ireland are free to live and work in any other part of the EU. How welcome is this to you personally?	1 Very welcome 2 Fairly welcome 3 Neither welcome nor unwelcome 4 Fairly unwelcome 5 Very unwelcome	Ordinal
LIVWKEU2	Q17. And what about the fact that other EU citizens are free to live and work in Northern Ireland. How welcome is this to you personally?		
UMWORKER	Q18. Do you consider yourself to be a migrant worker?	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know	Nominal
MIL10YRS	Q19. On a scale of 0 to 10 how good or bad you think the settlement of migrants in the last ten years has been for Northern Ireland?		
MIECONO	Q20. On a scale of 0 to 10 would you say it is generally bad or good for Northern Ireland's economy that migrants come to Northern Ireland from other countries?	Numeric (high=good) -999 Not answered/refused	Scale
MICULTUR	Q21. On a scale of 0 to 10, would you say that Northern Ireland's cultural life is generally undermined or enriched by migrants coming to live here from other countries?		
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section 4</b>			
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?	1 Better 2 About the same 3 Worse 4 Other -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal*
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?		
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?		
MXRLGWRK	Q4. And 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?	1 Own religion 2 Mixed religion 3 Other -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
OWNMXSCH	Q5. And 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?		

Variable Name	Label	Values	Measure
NINATID	Q8. Which of these best describes the way you think of yourself? National identity.	1 British 2 Irish 3 Ulster 4 Northern Irish 5 Other -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
OMARRRLG	Q9. Do you think most people in Northern Ireland would mind or not mind if one of their close relatives were to marry someone of a different religion?	1 Would mind a lot 2 Would mind a little 3 Would not mind -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal
SMARRRLG	Q10. And you personally, would you mind or not mind if one of your close relatives were to marry someone of a different religion?		
REPMURAL	Q11. Has there been any time in the last year when you personally have felt intimidated by republican murals, kerb paintings, or flags?	1 Yes 2 No -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
REPMUR2	Q12. And has there been any time in the last year when you personally have felt annoyed by republican murals, kerb paintings, or flags?	1 Yes 2 No -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
MORRFLAG	Q13. Do you think there are more republican murals and flags on display these days than there were five years ago, less, or about the same number?	1 More 2 Less 3 About the same -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
LOYMURAL	Q14. Has there been any time in the last year when you personally have felt intimidated by loyalist murals, kerb paintings, or flags?	1 Yes 2 No -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
LOYMUR2	Q15. Has there been any time in the last year when you personally have felt annoyed by loyalist murals, kerb paintings, or flags?	1 Yes 2 No -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
MORLFLAG	Q16. Do you think there are more loyalist murals and flags on display these days than there were five years ago, less, or about the same number?	1 More 2 Less 3 About the same -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
FLAGLAMP	Q17. In general, would you, or do you support flag flying on lampposts in your own neighbourhood?	1 Yes 2 No -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
COMDIV	Q21. In some areas the communities are divided and Protestants and Catholics tend to go to different local shops or use different GP surgeries and other services. Thinking about this area, would you say that this happens a lot, a little or not at all?	1 A lot 2 A little 3 Not at all -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal
COMMOPEN (compute)	Computed from Q24 (4 variables) Number of shared and open local facilities.	Numeric (high = number of facilities)	Scale

Variable Name	Label	Values	Measure
AVOIDPWK	Q28. Suppose you were applying for a job, would you avoid workplaces situated in a mainly Protestant area?	1 Yes, definitely 2 Yes, probably 3 Probably not 4 Definitely not	Ordinal
AVOIDCWK	Q29. Suppose you were applying for a job, would you avoid workplaces situated in a mainly Catholic area?	-99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	
SRELFNRD	Q30. How many of your friends are the same religion as you?	1 All 2 Most 3 Half 4 Less than half	Ordinal
SRENGH	Q31. How many of your neighbours are the same religion as you?	5 None -999 Not answered/refused	
	Q36. People have ideas for the kind of society Northern Ireland should become. For each of the following statements, can you tell me on a scale of 1 to 10 whether you think that the idea has been achieved. You can give a score of 1 if you think that it has definitely not been achieved and a score of 10 if you think that it definitely has been achieved, or you can give a score somewhere between 1 and 10 if you think it has been partly achieved. You might not personally agree with some of the ideas but please score them anyway.		
TARGET1A	a Northern Ireland is a normal civic society in which all individuals are equal, where differences are resolved through dialogue and where all people are treated impartially.	Numeric (high = definitely achieved)	Scale
TARGET2A	b Northern Ireland is a place free from displays of sectarian aggression.		
TARGET3A	c Towns and city centres in Northern Ireland are safe and welcoming places for people of all walks of life.		
TARGET4A	d Schools in Northern Ireland are effective at preparing pupils for life in a diverse society.		
TARGET5A	e Schools in Northern Ireland are effective at encouraging understanding of the complexity of our history.		
TARGET6A	f The government is actively encouraging integrated schools.		
TARGET7A	g The government is actively encouraging schools of different religions to mix with each other by sharing facilities.		
TARGET8A	h The government is actively encouraging shared communities where people of all backgrounds can live, work, learn and play together.		
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section 6</b>			
IRBRIT	Q2. Some people think of themselves first as British. Others may think of themselves first as Irish. Which, if any, of the following best describes how you see yourself? British/Irish identity.	1 Irish not British 2 More Irish than British 3 Equally Irish and British 4 More British than Irish 5 British not Irish 6 Other -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal



Variable Name	Label	Values	Measure
UNINATID	Q3. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a unionist, a nationalist or neither? Unionist/Nationalist identity.	1 Unionist 2 Nationalist 3 Neither -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
UNINATST	Q3a. Would you call yourself a very strong (unionist/nationalist), fairly strong, or not very strong?	1 Very strong 2 Fairly strong 3 Not very strong -9 Non applicable/Skip from uninatid -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal
NIRELND2	Q5. Do you think the long-term policy for Northern Ireland should be for it to...?	1 Remain part of UK, with direct rule 2 Remain part of UK, with devolved government 3 Reunify with rest of Ireland 4 Independent stage 5 Other answer (please specify) -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
SATMLAS	Q6. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Northern Ireland MLAs are doing their job?	1 Very satisfied 2 Fairly satisfied 3 Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied 4 Fairly dissatisfied 5 Very dissatisfied -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal
PUBVOICE	Q7. From what you have seen and heard so far, do you think that having a Northern Ireland Assembly is giving ordinary people ...	1 More say in how Northern Ireland is governed 2 Less say 3 Is making no difference -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
AACHIEVE	Q8. Overall, do you think that the Northern Ireland Assembly has achieved...	1 A lot 2 A little 3 Nothing at all -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal
<b>SELF-COMPLETE QUESTIONNAIRE</b>			
	Q5. And are you in favour of more mixing or more separation in...		
MIXDPRIM	a Primary schools.	1 Much more mixing 2 Bit more mixing 3 Keep things as they are 4 Bit more separation 5 Much more separation -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal
MIXDGRAM	b Secondary/grammar schools.		
MIXDLIV	c Where people live.		
MIXDWORK	d Where people work.		
MIXDLEIS	e People's leisure or sport activities.		
MIXDMARR	f People's marriages.		
SUPPINT (compute)	Computed from Q5 (6 variables) Number of scenarios respondent in which respondent would support more mixing.	Numeric (number of scenarios)	Scale

Variable Name	Label	Values	Measure
WHNUFLG2	Q8 And thinking about flags flown on lampposts on main streets in NI, when do you think it is legitimate to display Union flags on main streets?	1 All year round 2 Only for a few weeks around special events 3 For the months around special events 4 Never 5 It depends 8 Can't choose -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
WHENTRI2	Q9. And thinking about flags flown on lampposts on main streets in NI, when do you think it is legitimate to display Irish Tricolours on main streets?	1 Less willing 2 Would make no difference 3 More willing -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal
SHOPUFLG (recode)	Q10. Would you be less willing to shop in neighbourhoods with displays of loyalist flags or murals, more willing or would it make no difference?	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
SHOPTRI (recode)	Q11. Would you be less willing to shop in neighbourhoods with displays of republican flags or murals, more willing or would it make no difference?	1 A specific incident 2 It's a response to being provoked 3 People like the excitement 4 Paramilitaries organise it 5 Something else 8 Can't choose -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
RIOTNGH	Q12. Have there been any riots or sectarian troubles in this neighbourhood in the last twelve months?		
WHYRIOT	Q13. In your opinion, what is the main reason that some people get involved in rioting or sectarian trouble?		

\* Please note that for these variables, value 4 ("other") or value 8 "(can't choose)" must be recoded/set as missing in order to treat as ordinal.

### Section 3: LGBT Variables<sup>3</sup>

Variable Name	Label	Values	Measure
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section 5</b>			
UPREJGAY	Q2. Thinking now about gay men (that is men who are homosexual), would you describe yourself as very prejudiced against gay men, a little prejudiced, or not prejudiced at all?	1 Very prejudiced 2 A little prejudiced 3 Not prejudiced at all 4 Other -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal*
UPREJLES	Q3. And now thinking about lesbians (that is women who are homosexual), would you describe yourself as very prejudiced against lesbians, a little prejudiced, or not prejudiced at all?		
	Q4. How comfortable would you feel personally if each of the following were gay or lesbian?		
GLCOLL	a A work colleague.	1 Very comfortable 2 Fairly comfortable 3 Neither comfortable nor uncomfortable 4 Fairly uncomfortable 5 Very uncomfortable -9 Non applicable -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal
GLMP	b Your MP.		
GLBOSS	c Your boss in a new job.		
GLFRND	d A close friend.		
GLSIB	e Your brother or sister.		
GLREL	f Another relative.		
GLUMAN	g Someone that you manage in a new job.		
GLGP	h Your GP.		
GLCHILD	i Your child.		
GLTEACH	j Your child's teacher.		
GLRELREP	k Your local religious representative.		
GLSOCDIST (compute)	Q4 (11 variables) Social distance: Number of situations would feel (very/fairly) uncomfortable if person was gay or lesbian.	Numeric (number of situations)	Scale
	Q5. How much do you agree or disagree with each of these statements?		
GEXPRESS	a Gay men should be able to express who and what they are.	1 Strongly agree 2 Agree 3 Neither agree nor disagree 4 Disagree 5 Strongly disagree -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal
GHAND	b I would find it offensive to see two men holding hands in the street.		
LEXPRESS	c Gay men should be able to express who and what they are.		
LHAND	d I would find it offensive to see two women holding hands in the street.		

<sup>3</sup> These variables are found in the LGBT teaching dataset only.

Variable Name	Label	Values	Measure
	Q6. We are interested in how 'visible' same sex couples are in Northern Ireland society. Do you think that there should be more or less of the following or is it about right the way it is now?		
SSEXAD	a Same-sex couples in advertisements.	1 Definitely more 2 Probably more 3 About right the way it is now 4 Probably less 5 Definitely less -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal
SSEXSOAP	b Same-sex couples appearing in TV soaps.		
GAYPRIDE	c Gay Price marches.		
GLVIS (compute)	Computed from Q6 (3 variables) Number of scenarios where same sex couples should be more visible.	Numeric (number of scenarios)	Scale
SSEXMARR	Q7. Do you think marriages between same-sex couples should or should not be recognized by the law as valid, with the same rights as traditional marriages?	1 Should be valid 2 Should not be valid -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
TEACHEGL	Q8. At the moment schools in Northern Ireland are required to teach children about equality among groups in society, for example equality between different religions and different ethnic groups. Do you think that schools should also have to teach about equality for gay men and lesbians with other groups in society?	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
BARGL	Q9. Do you think that clubs and bars should be allowed to refuse entry to a couple because they are gay or lesbian?		
BARNOTGL	Q10. And do you think that gay clubs should be allowed to refuse entry to a couple because they are not gay or lesbian?		
	Q11. Traditional family life has changed over the last few decades. Which of the following do you think counts as 'a family'?		
FAMILY1	a A lesbian couple with a child.	1 Yes, definitely 2 Yes, probably 3 No, probably not 4 No, definitely not -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal
FAMILY2	b A gay couple with a child.		
FAMILY3	c A heterosexual lone mother with a child.		
FAMILY4	d A lesbian lone mother with a child.		
FAMILY5	e A heterosexual lone father with a child.		
FAMILY6	f A gay lone father with a child.		
FAMILY7	g An unmarried heterosexual couple with a child.		
FAMILY8	h A married heterosexual couple with a child.		

Variable Name	Label	Values	Measure
GLBORN	Which of these two statements comes closest to your own view?	1 Lesbians and gay men are born that way and their sexual orientation is not something that can be changed 2 Lesbians and gay men choose their sexual orientation they can change it if they want to -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
<b>SELF-COMPLETE QUESTIONNAIRE</b>			
KNOWGL (compute)	Computed from Q17 Do you personally know anyone who is gay or lesbian?	1 Know someone who is gay/lesbian 2 Do not know someone -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
KNOWTG (compute)	Computed from Q23 Do you personally know anyone who is transgender?	1 Know someone who is transgender 2 Do not know someone -99 Don't know -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
LADOPT	Q20. Do you approve or disapprove of allowing lesbian couples to adopt children?	1 Strongly approve 2 Approve 3 Neither approve nor disapprove 4 Disapprove 5 Strongly disapprove 8 Can't choose -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal*
GADOPT	Q21. Do you approve or disapprove of allowing two gay men to adopt children?		
LESIVF	Q22. Do you think that lesbians who want to have a child themselves should have access to IVF treatment or 'test-tube babies' on equal terms as heterosexual women?	1 Yes, definitely 2 Yes, probably 3 No, probably not 4 No, definitely not 8 Can't choose -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal*
SEXBFMAR	Q14. Do you think it is wrong or not wrong if a man and a woman have sexual relations before marriage?	1 Always wrong 2 Almost always wrong 3 Wrong only sometimes 4 Not wrong at all 8 Can't choose -999 Not answered/refused	Ordinal*
ADULTERY	Q15. What about a married person having sexual relations with someone other than his or her husband or wife?		
SEXHOMO	Q16. And what about sexual relations between two adults of the same sex?		

\* Please note that for these variables, value 4 ("other") or value 8 ("can't choose") must be recoded/set as missing in order to treat as ordinal.

## Technical report summary

Please note that this is a summary technical report designed to accompany the teaching resources. For the full documentation, please see [www.ark.ac.uk/nilt](http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt).

### Aims and objectives

The Northern Ireland Life and Times (NILT) Survey was launched in 1998. Its mission is to monitor the attitudes and behaviour of people in Northern Ireland and provide a time-series of how attitudes and behaviour develop on a wide range of social policy issues. The survey is run on a modular format and while two modules are repeated every year (Political Attitudes and Community Relations) the rest of the survey varies annually, with all the modules designed to be repeated in years to come.

### Links with other surveys

NILT is a direct descendent of the Northern Ireland Social Attitudes Survey (NISA) which ran from 1989 to 1996. NISA was a sister survey to the British Social Attitudes Survey (BSA) and therefore provided a time-series of social attitudes allowing comparisons with Britain. Now, NILT carries on the tradition of a time-series of attitudes but has shifted the focus away from comparisons with Britain although every year includes a substantial component which either continues an old NISA time-series, or replicates a BSA module.

### Ethical approval

The 2012 NILT received ethical approval from the Ethics Committee of the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work, Queen's University Belfast, where the survey coordinator is based.

### Survey content

The full 2012 NILT survey consists of a number of different modules, each based on a specific topic. The complete modules included in the 2012 survey are:

- Background information on the respondents
- Autism (*this module is not included in the teaching datasets*)
- Community relations
- Attitudes to minority ethnic people and migrant workers
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) issues
- Political attitudes

## Technical details

### Sampling design

The sample for the 2012 survey consisted of a systematic random sample of addresses selected from the Postcode Address File database of addresses. This is the most up-to-date and complete listing of addresses. Private business addresses were removed from the

database prior to sample selection. A total of 2350 addresses were selected for interview with 224 ineligible (e.g. vacant or derelict), leaving 2126 eligible respondents.

While the Postcode Address File provides a good sampling frame of addresses, it does not contain information about the number of people living at an address. Further selection stages were therefore required to convert the listing of addresses to a listing of individuals from which one person (the 'selected respondent') is chosen to complete the questionnaire.

The person to be interviewed was randomly selected using the 'next birthday' rule. The interviewer asked the householder to list the birthdays of all members of the household eligible for inclusion in the sample (all persons aged 18 or over living at the address). The person with the next birthday, at the time of the call, was the person with whom the interview was to be conducted. Where the selected respondent was not available, an appointment was made to call back to interview them at a more suitable time.

### **Fieldwork**

The 2012 NILT involved 1204 face-to-face interviews with adults aged 18 years or over.

An advance letter was issued to all sampled addresses prior to the interviewer calling at each address. The letter explained the purpose and rationale for the survey as well as contact details for the staff managing the project. All interviews were conducted in the respondents' homes. The main stage of the fieldwork was carried out during the period 1st October 2012 to 10th January 2013. The main interview was carried out using computer assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) and the respondent was then asked to complete a self-completion questionnaire using CASI (Computer Assisted Self-Interviewing) questionnaire.

On agreeing to complete the CASI questionnaire, the respondent was shown how to use the interviewer's iPad to enter answers by completing some example questions. If a respondent did not wish to complete the self-completion questionnaire on the iPad they were given the option to complete a paper version. The paper self-completion questionnaire was completed and handed back to the interviewer at the time of the main interview. If a respondent could not complete the self-completion questionnaire on the iPad or by paper, due to literacy or health issues, the interviewer completed the self-completion questionnaire on the iPad where consent was granted by the respondent.

### **Response rate**

The response rate, expressed as a percentage, is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Response rate} = \frac{\text{number of useable questionnaires}}{\text{number of actual eligible respondents}} \times 100$$

The response rate for the 2012 survey is 57% (see Table I for more details).

Table 1: Response rate

	N	%
Total number of useable questionnaires	1204	57
Refusal to co-operate	677	32
Non-contact	245	12
Total	2126	100

Notes: Total does not add up to 100% owing to cell rounding.

### **Weighting**

Please note that all analyses of the adult data should be weighted in order to allow for disproportionate household size. The weighting variable is named WTFACOR. The only exceptions are the few household variables (for example, tenure and household income), which do not need to be weighted.

### **Confidentiality**

In order to maintain confidentiality, demographic variables relating to other people in the household are excluded from the dataset, as is the RACE2 variable. Variables relating to religion are also excluded, and are replaced by the recoded versions. Tables of results for the original variables can be found on the NILT website ([www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2012](http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2012)).

### **Variable information**

#### **Missing values**

Respondents may not always provide answers to all the questions included in the survey: we can say that they are “missing” for the particular question. There are various reasons for missing values in the survey. Some questions are non-applicable to particular respondents (for example, if the respondent does not have a spouse, the spousal-related questions are non-applicable). Respondents may refuse to answer a question. Alternatively, respondents may not know the answer to a particular question. Where possible, the reasons for the missing value have been included in the teaching dataset and codebook.

In the 2012 NILT teaching dataset, missing values have generally been set as follows<sup>4</sup>:

- -9 Non applicable/Skip from previous question
- -99 Don't know/unsure
- -999 Not answered/refused/refused
- -9999 Not enough information

However, please note that for reasons of anonymity or computation, the different types of missing value have not been differentiated for all the variables in the teaching datasets.

<sup>4</sup> Please note that this differs from the missing value coding found in the questionnaires.



In the teaching datasets, missing values have been set as **negative numbers** so that it is harder to confuse with “real” data. However, every dataset will have its own conventions with regards missing values.<sup>5</sup>

### ***Social class construction***

Occupational information was derived using the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) 2010. The SOC2010 information was also used to derive the National Statistics Socio-Economic (NS SEC) and the ISCO 88 COM variables both of which are contained in this dataset.

### ***Categorisation of Religion***

At the back of this documentation is a list of other variables on the dataset. This includes the variable RELIGCAT, which categorises the variable RELIGION into 3 groups: Catholic, Protestant and No religion. The original RELIGION variable has been removed from the dataset in order to protect anonymity of respondents. The Protestant category within the RELIGCAT variable was created by grouping together the following denominations:

- Church of Ireland/Anglican/Episcopal
- Baptist
- Methodist
- Presbyterian
- Free Presbyterian
- Brethren
- United Reform Church (URC)/Congregational
- Pentecostal
- Church of Scotland
- Elim Pentecostal
- Reformed Presbyterian
- Non-subscribing Presbyterian
- Salvation Army
- Church of Nazarene
- Jehovah’s Witness
- Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (Mormon)
- Other Protestant
- Other Christian
- Protestant – no denomination
- Christian – no denomination

---

<sup>5</sup> In SPSS, there is another type of missing data called system-missing. You might encounter this when you recode/compute new variables: system missing is noted in the data view as a dot.

## Finding out more about NILT results

There are a number of ways of finding out about the results from the NILT surveys.

- Consult the range of ARK policy briefs/research reports available here: <http://www.ark.ac.uk/publications/>
- Consult the online tables/charts: <http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/results/>
- Download the original data from here: <http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/datasets/>
  - The surveys are available to download in SPSS portable file format. To open in SPSS, **change** the file extension from .por to .sav.

## Appendix

### Sampling errors and confidence intervals

Table 2 sets out sampling errors and confidence intervals at the 95% confidence level relating to a Systematic Random Sample design as used in the survey. Note that the margin of error for all sample estimates is within the parameters of + 2.8%.

Table 2: Sampling errors and confidence intervals for key variables (unweighted data)

	Percentage (%)	Standard Error	95% Confidence Limits
<i>Age</i>			
18 – 24	8.6	0.8	7.0 – 10.2
25 – 34	16.4	1.1	14.3 – 18.5
35 – 44	18.0	1.1	15.8 – 20.2
45 – 54	17.4	1.1	15.3 – 19.5
55 – 64	14.7	1.0	12.7 – 16.7
65 plus	25.0	1.2	22.6– 27.4
<i>Gender</i>			
Male	44.7	1.4	41.9 – 47.5
Female	55.3	1.4	52.5 – 58.1
<i>Religion</i>			
Catholic	40.8	1.4	38.0 – 43.6
Protestant	41.1	1.4	38.3 – 43.9
None	15.0	1.0	13.0 – 17.0
Other	3.2	0.5	2.2 – 4.2

## Comparison with other surveys (selected variables)

Table 3: Comparison of individual characteristics (weighted data)

	NILT 2012	CHS 2011/12 18+	NI Census 2011
<i>Gender</i>			
	Per cent (%)		
Male	45	48	49
Female	55	52	51
<i>Age</i>			
18-24	11	12	13
25-34	16	18	18
35-44	19	18	18
45-54	18	33*	18
55-64	15	-	14
65 and over	21	19	19
<i>n</i>	1,204	5,211	1,380,100
<i>Marital Status</i>			
Single	28	31	36
Married/Civil Partner	56	55	48
Widowed	7	-	7
Divorced/Separated	9	15**	9
Refused/ Don't know	0		
<i>n</i>	1,204	5,205	1,431,540
<i>Religion</i>			
Protestant	40	47	48
Catholic	43	44	45
Other or no religion***	15	9	6
Missing/refused	2	1	1
<i>n</i>	1204	6,943	1,108,63

\*The percentage of respondents aged 45 to 64

\*\*Includes those divorced, separated and widowed