



***2014 Northern Ireland  
Life & Times Survey  
AGEING module***

**Teaching Resources**

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## 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.

This document is in two parts: a codebook (data dictionary) and a summary of the 2014 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).

### **2014 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) **AGEING**: This dataset contains most of the questions included in the Attitudes to Older People module, which focuses on ageing and ageism. This documentation relates to the AGEING module.
  - 2) **DEMENTIA**: This dataset contains most of the questions from the Dementia 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 2014 dataset for research.

### **Queries**

For queries, 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. AGEING variables (AGEING 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. 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

**NB.** In the SPSS dataset, the questionnaire section and the question number is often indicated in the *Variable Label* field (B1 = Section B, question 1 etc).

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

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.

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

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

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

Variable Name	Variable Label	Values	Measure
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section A</b>			
SERIAL	Serial number of respondent.	Numeric	Scale
HOUSEHLD	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	Household grid: Age of respondent.	Numeric (years) -999 Not answered	Scale
SPAGE	Household grid: Age of respondent's spouse/partner.	Numeric (years) -9 Non Applicable -999 Not answered/refused	Scale
RSEX	Household grid: Gender of respondent.	1 Male 2 Female	Nominal
NADULT (compute)	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)	Household grid: Number of children aged under 18 years living in the household.	Numeric (number of people) -99 Don't know	Scale
NELDERLY (compute)	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)	Household grid: Number of people living in the household who are related to the respondent	Numeric (number of people) -99 Don't know	Scale
RMARSTAT (recode)	A2. 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	A3. How long have you lived in the town (city, village) where you live now?	Numeric (years) 0 Less than 1 year	Scale
PLACELIV	A4. 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	A6. 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** 2014 NILT teaching datasets.

Variable Name	Variable Label	Values	Measure
INTWWW	A7. 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 5</b>			
UMINETH	E1. 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 D</b>			
	D3E. 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 G</b>			
TENSHORT (compute)	Derived from G1 – G3 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
HIGHQUAL (recode)	Derived from G5-G6 Highest Educational qualification.	1 Degree level or higher 2 Further 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	G6. 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

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Variable Label</b>	<b>Values</b>	<b>Measure</b>
WORK (compute)	Derived from G10-G14 Work status.	1 Employee 2 Foreperson or supervisor 3 Self-employed 4 Manager -9 Non applicable/refused	Nominal
RHOURSWK	G9b. 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	G11. 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	G11a. How many people do/did you supervise?	Numeric (number of people) -9 Non applicable	Scale
RSECT	G11b. 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
ANSSECA (compute)	Derived from G9c – G9e Social class (NS SEC).	1.2 Higher professional occupations 2 Lower managerial and professional occupations 3 Intermediate occupations 4 Small employers and own account workers 5 Lower supervisory and technical occupations 6 Semi-routine occupations 7 Routine occupations 8 Never worked and long-term unemployed 9 Not classified -999 Not answered/refused	Nominal
SHOURSWK	G16b. 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	G18. 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	G18a. 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



Variable Name	Variable Label	Values	Measure
SSECT (recode)	G18b. 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 G21 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 G22 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 G23 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
CHATTND2	G24. 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	G28. 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	G29. 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	G30. 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	G31. Does your condition or illness/do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry-out day-to-day activities? (Only asked if response to ANYHCOND is 'Yes')	1 Yes, a lot 2 Yes, a little 3 Not at all -9 Non applicable/Skip from ANYHCOND	Ordinal

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Variable Label</b>	<b>Values</b>	<b>Measure</b>
PERSINC2 (compute)	G32. 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
HHDINC2 (compute)	G33. 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
PERCAP11 (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
PERCAP12 (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
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section 6</b>			
POLPART2	F1c. 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 COMPLETION QUESTIONNAIRE</b>			
ORIENT	SCI3. 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

## Section 2: Ageing variables<sup>2</sup>

Variable Name	Label	Values	Measure
<b>MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE: Section B</b>			
OTREAT	B1. Do you think that older people are, on the whole, treated better or worse than people in the general population in this country because of their age?	1 Better 2 The same 3 Worse -99 Don't know	Ordinal
ORESPECT	B2. As you get older, do you find that people treat you with more respect or less respect?	1 More respect 2 About the same 3 Less respect -99 Don't know	Ordinal
	B3. What do you think are the main problems facing older people in Northern Ireland today?		
OPROB1	Making ends meet	1 Yes – is a problem 2 No – not a problem -99 Don't know	Nominal
OPROB2	Fear of crime		Nominal
OPROB3	Loneliness		Nominal
OPROB3A	Isolation		Nominal
OPROB4	Transport		Nominal
OPROB5	Lack of respect		Nominal
OPROB6	Keeping warm in winter		Nominal
OPROB7	Getting employment		Nominal
OPROB8	Access to healthcare		Nominal
OPROB9	Access to suitable housing		Nominal
ORPOB10	Boredom		Nominal
OPROB11	Elder abuse	Nominal	
NUMOPROB (compute)	Derived from B3. Number of problems facing older people	-99 Don't know	Scale
	B4. For each of these statements about older people, I would like you to tell me if you agree strongly, agree slightly, disagree slightly, or disagree strongly.		
OPADMIRE	Older people are admired and respected by young people	1 Agree strongly 2 Agree slightly 3 Disagree slightly 4 Disagree strongly -99 Don't know	Ordinal
GIVUPW60	People in their 60s should give up work to make way for younger people	1 Agree strongly 2 Agree slightly 3 Disagree slightly 4 Disagree strongly -99 Don't know	Ordinal

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

<b>Variable Name</b>	<b>Label</b>	<b>Values</b>	<b>Measure</b>
OPSETWAY	Older people are too set in their ways and ideas	1 Agree strongly 2 Agree slightly 3 Disagree slightly 4 Disagree strongly -99 Don't know	Ordinal
OPLSTNYP	Older people are not willing to listen to young people's views.	1 Agree strongly 2 Agree slightly 3 Disagree slightly 4 Disagree strongly -99 Don't know	Ordinal
OPPRICES	All older people should be given reduced prices for things like gas, electricity, telephone and transport.	1 Agree strongly 2 Agree slightly 3 Disagree slightly 4 Disagree strongly -99 Don't know	Ordinal
NOTRECOP	Society doesn't recognise the contribution that many older people are still able to make.	1 Agree strongly 2 Agree slightly 3 Disagree slightly 4 Disagree strongly -99 Don't know	Ordinal
WRKLONG	People should be allowed to work for as long as they want to and are able to	1 Agree strongly 2 Agree slightly 3 Disagree slightly 4 Disagree strongly -99 Don't know	Ordinal
OLDPBTR	Older people are treated better than younger age groups in terms benefits and financial help	1 Agree strongly 2 Agree slightly 3 Disagree slightly 4 Disagree strongly -99 Don't know	Ordinal
WNTRFUEL	B5. Do you think that <u>all</u> older people should get Winter fuel payments?	1 Yes, definitely 2 Yes, probably 3 It depends 4 No, probably not 5 No, definitely not -99 Don't know	Ordinal
FREETRV	B5. Do you think that <u>all</u> older people should get free travel after age 60?	1 Yes, definitely 2 Yes, probably 3 It depends 4 No, probably not 5 No, definitely not -99 Don't know	Ordinal
FREETV	B5. Do you think that <u>all</u> older people should get free TV licence after age 75?	1 Yes, definitely 2 Yes, probably 3 It depends 4 No, probably not 5 No, definitely not -99 Don't know	Ordinal
HSCWOPN1	B6. Do you think that health and social care workers treat older people differently with regard to their attitudes to them?	1 Yes, treated worse 2 No 3 Yes, treated better -99 Don't know	Ordinal
HSCWOPN2	B6. Do you think that health and social care workers treat older people differently with regard to the treatment of their illnesses?	1 Yes, treated worse 2 No 3 Yes, treated better -99 Don't know	Ordinal

Variable Name	Label	Values	Measure
HSCWOPN3	B6. Do you think that health and social care workers treat older people differently with regard to when placing them on waiting lists for tests and operations	1 Yes, treated worse 2 No 3 Yes, treated better -99 Don't know	Ordinal
HSCWORK (compute)	Derived from B6. Number of ways health and social care workers treat older people worse	-99 Don't know	Scale
ULESSDIG	B7. Have you ever felt that you were treated with less dignity and respect by people in the health and social care professions because of your age? (Only asked if aged 50 or over)	1 Yes 2 No -9 Not applicable/Skip from RAGE -99 Don't know	Nominal
UNOTMED	B9. And have you ever felt that you were not offered medical treatment that might have helped you because of your age? (Only asked if aged 50 or over)	1 Yes 2 No -9 Not applicable/Skip from RAGE -99 Don't know	Nominal
FLESSDIG	B11. Have you ever felt that a friend or family member was treated with less dignity and respect by people in the health and social care professions because of their age?	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know	Nominal
FNOTMED	B12. And have you ever felt that a friend or family member was not offered medical treatment that might have helped you because of their age?	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know	Nominal
OPLKWORK	B13. Do you think that people in their 50's and 60's who are looking for work are generally treated better or worse than younger people by prospective employers?	1 Better 2 The same 3 Worse -99 Don't know	Ordinal
UDISCFS	B14. Have you ever felt that you were not treated as well as you might have been by people in the financial sector because of your age?	1 Yes 2 No -9 Not applicable/Skip from RAGE -99 Don't know	Nominal
FDISCFS	B16. Have you ever felt that a friend or family member was not treated as well as they might have been by people in the financial sector because of their age?	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know	Nominal
PDEMP65	B17. Do you think that people over 65 years of age should be <u>encouraged</u> to stay in paid employment, <u>discouraged</u> from staying in paid employment, or neither?	1 Encouraged 2 Neither 3 Discouraged -99 Don't know	Ordinal
	B18. Let's talk about older people who are working. Do you think that older workers are discriminated against with regard to		
OWJBREC	Job recruitment	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know	Nominal
OWJBPROM	Job promotion		Nominal
OWJBTRAN	Job training		Nominal
OWDISC (compute)	Derived from B18 Number of ways in which older workers are discriminated	-99 Don't know	Scale
UDISC (compute)	Derived from B7, B9, B14 and B19 Number of ways in which respondent feels they have been discriminated against	-99 Don't know	Scale

Variable Name	Label	Values	Measure
PENI1310*	B22. In general, do you think that a pension of £113.10 per week for someone with a full contribution record is a good deal, a reasonable deal or a poor deal?	1 A good deal 2 A reasonable deal 3 A poor deal 4 Other answer -99 Don't know	Ordinal
STFINPEN*	B23. And, taking account of other benefits provided for pensioners, do you think that the financial provision made by the state is ...	1 Very adequate 2 Adequate 3 Inadequate 4 Other answer -99 Don't know	Ordinal
	B24. Some people think that Northern Ireland is a good place to live in for older people but other people disagree. How much do you agree or disagree that Northern Ireland is a good place for older people in each of the following ways? In Northern Ireland		
OLDVALUD	Older people are valued	1 Agree strongly	Ordinal
OLDHLTHC	Older people have equal access to health care	2 Agree 3 Neither agree nor disagree	Ordinal
OLDSOCAR	Older people have good access to social care if needed	4 Disagree 5 Disagree strongly	Ordinal
OLDDIGNT	The dignity of older people is upheld	-99 Don't know	Ordinal
OLDRIGHT	The rights of older people are upheld		Ordinal
NIGDOLD (compute)	Derived from B24 Number of ways in which Northern Ireland is a good place to live in for older people	-99 Don't know	Scale
AGEOLD2	At what age do you start to think of someone as an 'older person'?	-99 Don't know	Scale
HEARDCOM	Have you heard of the Commissioner for Older People for Northern Ireland?	1 Yes 2 No -99 Don't know	Nominal
COMIMPRV	Do you think that having a Commissioner for Older People has improved the lives of older people in Northern Ireland? (Only asked if response to HEARDCOM is 'Yes')	1 Yes, definitely 2 Yes, probably 3 No, probably not 4 No, definitely not -99 Don't know	Ordinal

\* Please note that for these variables, value 4 (other answer) 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 2014 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 2014 NILT survey consists of a number of different modules, each based on a specific topic. The complete modules included in the 2014 survey are:

- Background information on the respondents
- Attitudes to older people
- Attitudes to dementia
- Community relations (*this module is not included in the teaching datasets*)
- Attitudes to minority ethnic people and migrant workers (*this module is not included in the teaching datasets*)
- Political attitudes

## Technical details

### Sampling design

The sample for the 2014 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 189 ineligible (e.g. vacant or derelict), leaving 2161 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 2014 NILT involved 1211 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 22<sup>nd</sup> September to 26 December 2014. 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 2014 survey is 56% (see Table I for more details).



Table 1: Response rate

	N	%
Total number of useable questionnaires	1211	56
Refusal to co-operate	469	22
Non-contact	481	22
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/2014](http://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2014)).

### **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 2014 NILT teaching dataset, missing values have generally been set as follows<sup>3</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>3</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>4</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.

### ***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

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<sup>4</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	9.6	0.8	7.9 - 11.3
25 – 34	15.4	1.0	13.4 - 17.4
35 – 44	16.4	1.0	14.3 - 18.5
45 – 54	16.1	1.0	14.0 - 18.2
55 – 64	15.4	1.0	13.4 - 17.4
65 plus	27	1.2	24.5 - 29.5
<i>Gender</i>			
Male	44.0	1.4	41.2 - 46.8
Female	56.0	1.4	53.2 - 58.8
<i>Religion</i>			
Catholic	41.3	1.4	38.5 - 44.1
Protestant	39.1	1.4	36.4 - 41.9
None	16.6	1.0	14.5 - 18.7
Other	1.5	0.3	0.8 - 2.2

## Comparison with other surveys (selected variables)

Table 3: Comparison of individual characteristics (weighted data)

	NILT 2014	CHS 2013/14 18+	NI Census 2011
<i>Gender</i>			
	Per cent (%)		
Male	46	47	49
Female	54	53	51
<i>Age</i>			
18-24	13	12	13
25-34	15	15	18
35-44	16	18	18
45-54	17	19	18
55-64	15	14	14
65 and over	23	22	19
<i>n</i>	1,211	5,032	1,380,100
<i>Marital Status</i>			
Single	29	30	36
Married/Civil Partner	52	54	48
Widowed	8	7	7
Divorced/Separated	10	9**	9
Refused/ Don't know	0		
<i>n</i>	1,211	5,032	1,431,540
<i>Religion</i>			
Protestant	38	49	48
Catholic	44	42	45
Other or no religion***	17	8	6
Missing/refused	2	-	1
<i>n</i>	1211	6,943	1,108,63

\*The percentage of respondents aged 45 to 64

\*\*Includes those divorced, separated and widowed