

Changes from 1998/99 to 1999/2000 FRS Datasets

Amendments to the derived variables in Release d of 1999-2000 FRS dataset:

- ININV (ADULT-Investment income). Interest from Individual Savings Accounts included.
- NININV (ADULT-Net Investment income). Interest from Individual Savings Accounts included.

New variables:

- SSPADJ/SMPADJ (ADULT) These calculate the amount of statutory sick pay and statutory maternity pay. Should be used in place of SMPAMT and SSPAMT (JOB table).
- SSPSPMPFG (JOB) Shows whether an adjustment made for SSP and SMP in UGRSPAY. Formated to output 0 = neither, 1 = SSP only, 2 = SMP only, 3 = Both.
- ISACTI/B/H (ADULT, BENUNIT, HOUSEHOLD) These are created for the new ISA accounts (ACCOUNT = 21). Flag up whether an adult has an ISA account.
- HDINDINC HDBUINC HDHHINC (ADULT, BENUNIT, HOUSEHOLD) Banded income variables for hot deck imputation.
- JOBHOURS (JOB) This gives total hours worked in each job. It also uses the individual components of hours instead of DVTOThr which is an incorrectly calculated base variable.
- ACTACCI/B/H (ADULT, BENUNIT, HOUSEHOLD) Shows whether an adult has a bank account that can be used for ACT.

Deleted variables:

- FSMHH, FSMLKHH, FWMLKHH (HOUSEHOLD) The free school meals, milk and welfare milk on a household level have been removed. The individual and benefit unit level versions exist with the benefit level variables being added in to the head of benefit units (UPERSON = 1) income.
- CHILD ACCOUNT Flags (CHILD) These have been deleted as children no longer asked account questions.
- CHINV (CHILD) As the child account records are no longer asked there is no way of calculating child income from investment.
- TOTCAPCH (CHILD) As child account variables have been deleted the total child savings variable has also been deleted
- DEDUCTS (ADULT) Deductions from pay excluding Income Tax, National Insurance Contributions and deductions for superannuation/pension schemes or AVCs. This variable has been removed. It can be calculated by summing DEDUC3 – DEDUC8 and DEDOTH.

- EQAHCBU/EQBHCBU (BENUNIT) Deleted because not relevant. Should use household level variables.
- GROSSPAY (ADULT) Deleted as used last pay and usual pay. Should use UGRSPAY for individual jobs or INEARNNS for adult income from employment.
- HHSTATUS (BENUNIT) Flags up which households have one benefit unit and in multi-benefit unit households which one is the first benefit unit. *NB this has been used in analysis in the past.*
- BUHDBEN (BENUNIT) HHHDBEN (HOUSEHOL) Flags up (for hot decking) whether any income related benefits are received by an individual in a BU or HH – no longer necessary. Note - HDBEN (individual flag) is still present on ADULT table
- TTWCOSTS (ADULT) and TTWMODE (ADULT) travel to work costs and mode of transport for travel to work. These deleted for V36 as questions not asked about them. (However, they are back in the questionnaire for 2000/01 (V37)).

Changes to current DVs:

Earnings related

- UGRSPAY (JOB - Gross weekly pay from a job) This was rewritten to be consistent with HBAI. This has been backdated to 1996-97. It also now includes the new SSP/SMP variables. Charity deductions is now DEDUC8 instead of CHRAMT
- INEARNNS (ADULT - Gross income from employment) This now sums all occurrences of UGRSPAY pay. This shouldn't change its output.
- NINEARNNS (ADULT - Net income from employment) uses SSPADJ/SMPADJ variables and only makes an adjustment when one is made to UGRSPAY using the new SSPSPMPFG (Adults with an SMP or SSP adjustment) variable.

Employment related

- TOTHOURS (ADULT - Total usual hours worked in all jobs). This now use the JOB level variable JOBHOURS.
- EMPSTATI (ADULT - Employment Status-ILO definition) Due to the variable WAIT (“whether waiting to take up job”) not being present (in error) for 1999-00, a small number of cases may not be rightfully classed as unemployed. There were 52 cases in the 1998/99 dataset out of 1419 classed as unemployed – 3.7% of this group. Without the variable WAIT, these cases are classified as OTHER.

Benefit related

- HBINDBU (BENUNIT - BU in receipt of HB CTB IS indicator) uses the WHOSESTB to assign CTB to correct benefit unit and not just to the 1st BU.
- INIRBEN/HDBEN (ADULT –IRB/IRB indicator) assign CTB to correct person (in line with changes to HBINDBU) and also include VAR2 = 4 (edited income based) for JSA cases

- INOTHBEN (ADULT - Other benefits) assign CTB to correct person using new WHOSECTB variable (in line with changes to HBINDBU).
- INRINC (ADULT - Remaining income) add in new benefits 81 (permanent health insurance) and 82 (any other sickness insurance).
- DEPDEDS (BENUNIT - Non-dependency Class) add in JSA(IB) (non-dependent deduction type).

Savings related

- TOTSABU (BENUNIT – Total savings of BU) This now includes the new category for TOTSAB = 2. This shouldn't effect the output.

Mortgage/housing related

- MORTINT (HOUSEHOLD -Mortgage interest) Reset MIRAS amount for each new household. This should mean a slight change for certain mortgage amounts.
- HSCOSTHH (HOUSEHOLD) Remove adjustments made for rent holidays for water rates as made already in earlier code. Should have the effect of increasing housing costs very slightly for a few cases.

Household/BU composition related

- FAMTYPBU (BENUNIT) Use ADULTB to calculate how many adults there are in a benefit unit.
- HHCOMP/HHCOMPS (HOUSEHOLD) Change how 2nd adult in household found.
- FAMTHBAI (BENUNIT) Uses Adultb instead of calculating number of adults in code.
- EMP/HOH, PENAGE/HOH, SICK/HOH (HOUSEHOLD) These variables are used to create publication totals. They now look at either the HoH or any other person.
- BUKIDS (BENUNIT) This now uses ADULTB and DEPCHLDB, no change to output
- DEPCHLDB/H ADULTB/H (BENUNIT/HOUSEHOLD) Uses first.sernum to be consistent with other DV code. No effect on output.

Care related

- CARE HOUR variables (ADULT) These now use the midpoints of bands as care questions now asked in bands and not as amounts. These are banded variables (eg 1 = 0-4 hr/wk, 7 = 100hrs+/wk, 8 = varies but under 20). Also includes new categories of carers.
- HOURCARE (ADULT) This now includes HOUR17-19 which are additional outside household care variables.

Other

- EQUIVAHC/EQUIVBHC (HOUSEHOL) These have been rewritten using variables from the benefit unit level. This was in order to correct how the second adult was accounted for (whether in 1st BU).

Other changes:

- Newly designed specs with access to code. More wordy and less like SAS code
- Some integer variables changed from integer type to categorical (this won't have any effect as they were in effect categorical in previous years).

INTERVIEWER'S GUIDE
to
CHANGES

Family Resources Survey 1999-2000

FRS v.36

April 1999

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to another year of the 'Family Resources Survey'.

This booklet describes what is different about the questionnaire being issued in April 1999, describing...

What's Gone?

As in previous years, the research and policy staff at the Department of Social Security have taken notice of what interviewers say about how the survey is received in the field. In particular they are very aware of the negative effects an overlong interview can have on respondents as well as interviewers. Result: some sections of the survey have been deleted (a total of xx questions have gone); while others have been 'rotated off' (ie. taken off for this year: a total of xx questions).

What's New?

We have a handful of new questions, mainly reflecting new policy initiatives (eg. the introduction of Working Families Tax Credit, and Individual Savings Accounts), as well as other new areas of interest.

What's changed?

One section, Pensions, has undergone a major re-write. Elsewhere there are a number of amendments, many of them first suggested by interviewers, which should help make the interview flow more smoothly.

Overall there are fewer changes than last year, but we hope that the changes that have been made are helpful and represent an improvement. We are aware that some interviewers have made suggestions for changes which we haven't been able to implement. Usually the reason is that we ran out of time, with all the other changes taking place. Sometimes there were technical problems, or unanticipated knock-on effects. If possible, when we send you the next Field Report questionnaire we will try to explain about these in more detail.

Note

this booklet describes only changes which have a significant impact on interviewers. There are other changes, such as new derived variables, minor amendments, and technical fixes, which are not covered here.

SHOWCARDS

You'll remember that last year, in the interest of saving both cost and trees, we did not re-print the whole pack of show cards but replaced some of the old cards with amended new ones. We also included some blank cards, with the instruction 'THIS CARD NOT IN USE'.

This year, we have re-printed **all** the cards - so the new set replaces the old set entirely.

But in order to save on costs and trees, you will only receive **one set** of show cards this year. Many interviewers have told us that two packs are not really necessary, and it will be one less thing to carry out with you when interviewing!

BENEFIT RATES

The benefit amounts in the 'checks' have been amended in line with the new amounts starting in April 1999. However, some don't come in until 12 April, so at the beginning of the month, you may find yourself being 'checked' erroneously. If this occurs, suppress the check and continue.

WHAT'S GONE?

This covers only **major** removals. The deletion of individual questions is described in 'What's Changed?', section by section.

CONTRIBUTIONS BETWEEN HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

In previous years, for both conventional and shared households, respondents were asked about any regular payments that household members paid towards housing / food/ fuel/ general contributions. This year, users agreed to delete these questions from the questionnaire as the information was rarely being used.

Name	Question	
ConvIn	"Now I'd like to ask how much other adults in the household pay to you for certain things...."	DELETED
Contrib (for conventional households)	"SHOW CARD I Does ^Name make a regular contributions to [HoH] towards any of the things listed on this card?"	DELETED
ConAmt	"How much does [Name] pay altogether?"	DELETED
ConPd	"How long does that cover?"	DELETED
ConIt	"SHOW CARD I Which of these things is it intended to contribute to? Housing / rent / mortgage Food Fuel 4. General Contribution	DELETED
SharePay (for shared households)	SHOW CARD I How much does [Name] pay towards any of the things listed on this card?"	DELETED
SharePd	"How long does that cover?"	DELETED

CHILDREN'S SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS

DSS analysts concluded that they did not need the finer detail of children's savings, both in the Benefit Unit questionnaire and the Assets block. These questions have therefore been deleted. This means **children will never enter the Assets Block**.

Name	Question	
ChInc	<p>SHOW CARD OO</p> <p>"In the last 12 months, that is since [date], has your child [name] received any income from any of the sources on this card?"</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National Savings Bank (Post Office) - Ordinary account 2. National Savings Bank (Post Office) - Investment account 3. Bank or Building society account 4. Government gilt-edged stock 5. Unit Trusts 6. Stocks, shares or securities 	DELETED
Acclnt	"How much interest/dividend has [name] received altogether from any account/investment in the last 12 months?"	DELETED
OtlncC	<p>SHOW CARD PP</p> <p>"Does [Name] at present have money in any of the investments shown on this card?"</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National Savings Capital Bonds 2. Index-linked National Savings Certificates 3. Fixed Interest National Savings Certificates 4. Children's Bonus Bonds 5. Premium Bonds 6. National Savings Income Bonds 7. National Savings Deposit Bonds 8. Yearly Plan 	DELETED

However we still need to know the total amount of savings held for each child, which requires a **new 'lead in' question** just before 'Totsave', as shown below:

ChSave	<p>"Thinking of your child [name], does he/she have any savings in a bank or building society account; or any National Savings, such as Children's Bonus Bonds; or any stocks and shares, or other investments?"</p> <p>Yes / No</p>	NEW QUESTION
IF YES: Totsave	<p>"SHOW CARD</p> <p>Thinking of [Child Name's] savings, in total roughly what would you say is the current value held by [name]?"</p>	Amended wording

'ROTATION' OF QUESTION BLOCKS

'Rotation' is an idea suggested by DSS research staff as a way to reduce the respondent burden of an overlong interview. 'Rotated' sections of the questionnaire will be asked every *other* year, rather than every year. This can often still yield enough data for useful analysis. FRS users have agreed to rotate two sections this year, which are described below.

ROTATION OF QUESTIONS ABOUT NHS TREATMENT

The NHS questions will be 'rotated off' the questionnaire for this year, and brought back in for the next update in April 2000. So the following questions will not be appearing on the questionnaire this year:

Name	Question	
NHS	"In the past 4 weeks, have any of you..READ OUT...CODE ALL THAT APPLY... ... received something on prescription, ...visited the dentist for an NHS examination or treatment, ...had an eyesight test, ...purchased glasses or contact lenses, ...or been to hospital for NHS treatment?"	REMOVED
Per	"Who received the item on prescription?"	REMOVED
Prlt	"How many items did [name] receive during the past 4 weeks?"	REMOVED
Free	"Were the items free of charge or did [name] have to pay for them?"	REMOVED
WhyFree	"What was the main reason for that being free of charge?"	REMOVED
Voucher	"For the glasses/contact lenses, was an NHS voucher used to help with the cost?"	REMOVED
Trav	"Did [name] get any money back at the hospital, for travel costs?"	REMOVED
WhyFree	"What was the main reason for that being free of change?"	REMOVED
XIntro	"Has anyone else had anything... (etc) ..."	REMOVED

Minor Change

As a result of rotating this block of questions, this section now begins by asking about free welfare or school milk or meals, so a new introductory screen has been added before the question 'FreeItem', which reads:

"QUESTIONS ABOUT FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND WELFARE MILK"

ROTATION OF TRAVEL TO WORK QUESTIONS

These questions, in the benefit unit, have been rotated 'off' for this year.

Name	Question	
TtWFar	"About how far do you travel to your usual place of work?"	REMOVED
TtWFrq	"On how many days of the week do you usually travel to your normal place of work?"	REMOVED
TtWMod	"How do you usually travel to work?"	REMOVED
TtWPss	"Do you have a season ticket, bus pass or travelcard?"	REMOVED
PssAmt	"How much does the season ticket/bus pass/travelcard cost?"	REMOVED
PssDate	"And how long is it valid for?"	REMOVED
OthDate	"Please specify...?"	REMOVED
Fare	"How much does the journey by bus/train/tube etc... cost each time?"	REMOVED
OneWay	"Is that the one way or return fare?"	REMOVED
TtWPay	"Do you pay for ALL, SOME or NONE of the costs of taking the [vehicle] to work?"	REMOVED
TtWCode	INTERVIEWER: PROBE AND CODE... 1. Respondent is passenger and contributes money to others 2. Respondent is driver and receives money from passengers/employer etc 3. Some other arrangement (none of the above)	REMOVED
TtWCost	"How much do you pay per week?"	REMOVED
TtWRec	"How much do you receive per week?"	REMOVED

WHAT'S NEW?

HOUSEHOLD GRID SECTION

HIGHEST INCOME HOUSEHOLDER

For many years the Head of Household has been used by data analysts as the 'Household Reference Person'. But Head of Household has been criticised for being outdated and sexist, since it is nearly always a man who ends up as the HoH. Therefore as of **next year** (survey year 2000-2001), for government surveys and many other surveys, there will be a new definition of the Household Reference Person: the **Highest Income Householder**.

But this doesn't begin for another year. For the moment the FRS will continue with Head of Household. What we **are** doing this year is a **trial run** of Highest Income Householder as a 'lead in' for next year. This has involved the addition of some new questions and routing.

The questions have been developed and tested by ONS, including a tryout on the Omnibus Survey, where interviewers found no major difficulties. Note that there is no requirement to find out *how much* income people have; just who has the *highest*. (If two or more people have the same income - or if the answer is *don't know* or *refuse*, then the **eldest householder** is chosen.)

How does it work? As with HoH, we start with the people 'in whose name the accommodation is owned or rented': the householders. Where there is only one, that person will automatically become the new reference person, without needing to ask about income. Where there are 2 or more householders, this question comes up:

HiHNum

"You have told me that [names] jointly own or rent the accommodation. Which of you / who has the highest income (from earnings, benefits, pensions and any other sources)?

INTERVIEWER: THESE ARE THE JOINT HOUSEHOLDERS:

[display of names and person numbers, up to 14]

ENTER PERSON NUMBER - IF TWO OR MORE HAVE SAME INCOME,
ENTER 15

IF RESPONDENT ASKS FOR PERIOD TO AVERAGE OVER - ONE YEAR.

PROMPT AS NECESSARY FOR JOINT HOUSEHOLDERS:

IS ONE OF THEM THE SOLE PERSON WITH PAID WORK OR
OCCUPATIONAL PENSION."

If you code one person, there are no more questions. If two or more householders have the **same income** you enter code 15, in which case you then need to enter the **eldest** at the next screen. (By this stage you will have already recorded ages, in the household grid. If two or more people are the same age in years, you'll need to *ask* who is the eldest.)

JntEldA

"ENTER PERSON NUMBER OF THE ELDEST JOINT HOUSEHOLDER FROM THOSE WITH THE SAME HIGHEST INCOME.
ASK OR RECORD."

If you had entered Don't know or Refuse to the first question about who has the highest income, this screen appears:

JntEldB

"ENTER PERSON NUMBER OF THE ELDEST JOINT HOUSEHOLDER.
ASK OR RECORD."

BENEFITS SECTION

WORKING FAMILIES TAX CREDIT

As from October 1999, **Family Credit** – the benefit for working parents on low income - is being phased out, and replaced with the new **Working Families Tax Credit**, administered by the Inland Revenue rather than the DSS. Eventually it will be received through the wage packet, as a tax adjustment, rather than as a cash benefit. When that happens (ie. from October 2000) we will probably stop asking about it in the Benefits section. However, for the **first year** the Inland Revenue will continue to pay people the benefit as before, by cheque or direct credit.

So people on Family Credit could experience little change in the way they receive the benefit after October – and they may continue to refer to it by the old name. Also, Family Credit claims starting before October will continue for 6 months under the old name. To cover all situations, the showcard entries (Ben3Q, 5Q) simply say:

Family Credit / Working Families Tax Credit

The new payments will generally be higher than the old Family Credit.

DISABLED PERSONS TAX CREDIT

Just like Family Credit, in October the Disability Working Allowance is being replaced by the Disabled Persons Tax Credit. This too will be administered by the Inland Revenue, but in the first year will continue as a cash benefit rather than a tax adjustment. The showcard entries (Ben3Q, 5Q) now read:

Disability Working Allowance / Disabled Persons Tax Credit

ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS SECTION

NEW "ANY ACCOUNTS" QUESTION

There has been a concern for some time that the FRS on average has picked up fewer savings accounts and investments than the FES and some other surveys. There could be a number of reasons for this, but one theory is that the method of questioning is having an effect. To check for this, we have added a Yes/No question at the start of the 'accounts' section to pick up **any type of account**:

"Now there are some questions about CURRENT accounts and SAVINGS accounts. These could be with a bank, a building society, the post office, supermarkets, or other organisations.

Do you have now, or have you had at any time in the last 12 months, any current account or savings account? This could be in your own name only, or held jointly with someone else."

- 1 Yes - any account
- 2 No

INDIVIDUAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT (ISA)

In April 1999 the government discontinues the PEP and the TESSA, and introduces the ISA, 'Individual Savings Account'. (It will still be possible to continue holding an existing PEP or TESSA, but not to open a new one.)

Like a PEP, an ISA is a tax shelter, offering tax exemption for up to £5,000 per year (£7,000 in the first year). The money can be held in any of three ways:

1. Cash.
2. Stocks & shares. Can also include unit trusts, bonds, gilts.
3. Life Insurance. As a premium, but repayable on closure of the ISA.

ISAs are provided by managers such as banks and building societies, either as a **maxi ISA** (which must include Stocks & shares; the other two elements are optional) or a **mini ISA**. You can open up to 3 separate **mini ISAs** with different managers, one for each element. A maxi ISA can be held with only one provider.

Please note: Money held in the Life Insurance option is not of concern to DSS. So you will need to exclude it from the 'interest' question (which should be easy as providers will not offer interest on insurance), as well as on the 'amount held' question in the Assets block. (If someone *only* holds a life insurance ISA there are no further questions in Assets.)

Also, in Assets, respondents will not be asked 'AccTax' (whether they received interest before or after tax) or 'AccName' (whether it is held jointly with a spouse or partner). ISA's are tax-exempt and cannot be held jointly with anyone.

We ask about ISAs under 'accounts' rather than 'investments'. The follow-up questions are:

After 'Accounts' <i>ISAtype</i> (multicode)	"There are different types of ISA. Do you have... INTERVIEWER: READ OUT, CODE ALL THAT APPLY .. "...Cash in an ISA?" "...stocks and shares (in an ISA)?" "...Life Insurance (in an ISA)?"	new question
<i>AccInt</i>	"Record the total interest received (or credited) in the last 12 months for all accounts/investments of this type. For ISAs, record the COMBINED interest from the Cash account and and the Securities account (stocks and shares etc)."	New help screen
In Assets block		
<i>MuchAcc</i>	"How much is in the ISA?" "For an ISA, DO NOT INCLUDE any savings held as Life Insurance."	New help screen
<i>AccTax</i>	"Can I check, is that interest after tax - or do you have an arrangement to get the interest before	Not asked

	tax?"	for ISA's
AccName	"Is this account in your own name only, or held jointly with someone else?"	Not asked for ISA's

WHAT'S CHANGED?

HOUSEHOLD GRID SECTION

CHILDREN AND DEPENDENT ADULTS IN BENEFIT UNITS

Interviewers warned us about a problem whereby a very few children and dependent adults ended up being sent to the 'adult' questions, either in a benefit unit on their own, or as an adult in someone else's benefit unit. (Usually it happened because they lived with just their grandparents who were not legal guardians.) DSS have now told us what to do with various 'waifs and strays' and the program has been fixed as follows:

- A hard check, if a child under 16 years has nobody coded as their parent or legal guardian. The check asks you to code as parent/guardian the person who receives Child Benefit for them.
- As for cohabiting 16-18 year-olds in full time further education, the DSS classifies them as 'young people' rather than dependent adults. So the questionnaire will now treat them as adults, and allow them to form a benefit unit with their partner.
- A soft check, if a dependent adult (aged 16-18 and in full time further education) has nobody coded as their parent/legal guardian.
- For children under 15 who are cohabiting with someone, a hard check asks you instead to code someone as their parent/guardian.
- A household consisting only of children age 15 or younger is *not eligible* for the survey, and a hard check informs you of this (and explains which outcome code to use).

DATE OF INTERVIEW

The date of interview now appears automatically, so you don't have to type it in. You are asked to confirm the date is correct (if you say 'no', you can

change it). The date is then fixed, and it won't change if you re-enter the questionnaire later.

CHECK ON HOH

A new Hard Check has been added to prevent '0' being entered as the person number of the head of household.

RENT / ACCOMMODATION SECTION

ROOMS IN THE HOUSE USED FOR BUSINESS

Interviewers commented in last year's Field Report that the question wording didn't mention rooms used *partly* for business should also be included. The wording is now: "*Are any of the rooms you have mentioned used wholly or partly for business because you are self employed?*"

SERVICES INCLUDED IN RENT

We have fixed a routing error in last year's questionnaire which prevented Scottish households being routed to the question 'SerInc' asking if any of a list of services was included in their rent.

ADDITION TO THE HELP SCREEN AT 'LANDLORD'

Interviewers commented in the Field Report that if the respondent rented from a letting agent or estate agent they did not know whether to code this as 'A private landlord' or as something else. A new harmonised Help screen now clarifies this:

"If property is let through a letting agent or estate agent, the question refers to the owner not the agent, so please probe to try and find out who actually owns the property."

There has also been an extension to code 2 at 'Landlord': It now says "*A housing association, charitable trust or Local Housing Company*". The Help screen explains:

"Code 2 (housing association etc.) includes Registered Social Landlords. Nearly all housing associations are now Registered Social Landlords but continue to be known as housing associations."

COUNCIL TAX SECTION

COUNCIL TAX VALUATIONS PRINTED ON SHOWCARDS

The showcard for the question 'CTBand' asking for the Council Tax band of the property now lists the band valuation amounts, in line with the FES. Because there are different valuation amounts in England, Wales and Scotland, we now have **three cards**. All three are called 'Card F' and you'll need to use whichever one is appropriate to your area.

CHECK ON COUNCIL TAX AMOUNT

The new charges are announced too late for the FRS launch in April, so we will (as in previous years) supply a program update in May, with checks for 'CTAmt' based on the new charges. Until then we have just added 10% to the old checked amounts.

NEW HELP SCREEN FOR 25% OR 50% COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNT

Some interviewers asked for a Help screen explaining the difference between a council tax discount of 25% and 50% (at the question 'CT25D50D'). This is complicated, because some people are 'exempt' individuals who are not counted for the tax. The 'Help' now reads:

"Some households get a discount on their Council Tax because of the TYPE of person living there. Usually this is a 25% discount. The rules are very detailed, but in general:

- **25%** for Single adult households
- **25%** for one adult, plus: a student/ student nurse/ person aged under 18 / apprentice/ YT trainee/ care worker / severely mentally impaired
- **50%** when a household is made up of a mixture of those who are exempt (e.g student/ student nurse / person aged under 18 / apprentice/ YT trainee/ care worker / severely mentally impaired)

Note: Households wholly occupied by students or under 18 year olds are entirely EXEMPT from Council Tax.

COUNCIL TAX WORDING AMENDMENT

Last year, for shared households, instead of asking for the amount of council tax paid by the household, the question 'CTAmt' asked just the Head of Household what they themselves paid. This has been fixed and the question now asks what the *household* pays.

INSURANCE POLICIES

In last year's Field Report some interviewers asked for a Help screen on insurance policies, as they were often unsure what should be included at the question "Do you/ does anyone in your household have any insurance policies which cover you for any of the things shown on this card?" ('NumPols').

The insurance information is mainly used by the 'Households Below Average Income' (HBAI) team at the DSS, who are interested in insurance which will provide a regular income. However, there are other FRS users of the insurance data, so we cannot restrict policies just to those which provide a regular income. The showcard has been amended as follows:

1. Personal accident **insurance**
2. Private medical
3. Permanent health **insurance**
4. **Critical illness cover**
5. Friendly society sickness benefit
6. To provide ~~cover~~ **an income** while in hospital
7. Nursing home/ long term care
8. Any other sickness insurance
9. **Unemployment / Redundancy** ~~policy~~

CARING SECTION: HELP GIVEN AND RECEIVED

NEW INTRODUCTION

Government departments using the FRS 'care' data are concerned that the FRS seems to record fewer people giving or receiving than the General Household Survey. Interviewer feedback from the Field Report also highlighted that some of the questions are difficult for interviewers and/or respondents.

It's possible that some respondents are not counting people very close to them who they care for (or are cared for by) routinely. So we have added a new on-screen instruction at 'NeedHelp', that may be read out:

"In some households, there are people who regularly receive help or looking after, for example because they are sick, disabled or elderly.
SHOW CARD Is there anyone in this household who receives any of these kinds of help or looking after? This could be help from outside or from anyone who lives here."

INTERVIEWER: INCLUDE HELP FROM WIFE / HUSBAND / PARTNER, OTHER FAMILY MEMBER, ETC.

CARING FOR MORE THAN ONE PARENT OUTSIDE THE HOUSEHOLD

Another change implemented as a result of interviewers' comments is the addition of a new category at the question "*Who is receiving help or being looked after?*" ('NeedPer'). This is in case someone provides care for more than one parent outside of the household, potentially at different times and locations.

(1-14: members of household)

15. Parent outside household

16. Other parent outside household

17. Child outside household

18. Spouse outside household

19. Other relative

20. Friend/neighbour

21. Client of voluntary organisation

22. Other non-household

FORMAL CARE

There is policy interest in 'formal' as well as informal care provision, to consider the relationship between the two types, and to inform the debate about long-term care. At the question "*Who looks after, or provides help for [name]?*" ('WhoLook') this was covered by one code: "Other outside helpers". Now three new codes have been added:

(1-14: household members)

15. Relative

16. Friend/Neighbour

17. **Local Authority home help or home care worker**

18. **Private domestic help**

19. **District nurse, health visitor or other kind of nurse**

20. Other outside helpers

PERIOD OF TIME HELP HAS BEEN RECEIVED FOR

FRS data users agreed that the data from "*How long has [name] received this amount of help?*" ('Long') was not being used. There were also problems of interpretation; if the amount of care provided had recently changed, respondents might answer with the shorter period, rather than the total time care had been required. As a result, **the question 'Long' has been deleted.**

TYPE OF HELP RECEIVED

Again, FRS data users were not using the information from “*What kind of things does [name] usually receive help with?*” (‘NeedTask’) so it was agreed that the question could be **deleted**.

HELP RECEIVED DURING THE DAY OR AT NIGHT

The DSS are interested in *when* help is received, and so a **new question** has been added. This comes up only if help is received ‘continuously’ or ‘several times a day’ (at the question ‘Freq’). Knowing whether the person is being cared for in the day and/or night will also help editors to impute missing amounts of DLA and AA.

DayNight

“And does [name] receive help during the daytime; or at night; or both in the day and at night?”

1. ‘Daytime only’
2. ‘At night only’
3. ‘Both day and night’

HOURS OF CARE PROVIDED

Interviewers had asked whether the hours of care could be banded, and this was agreed. In the interest of harmonisation, categories were chosen that correspond to those used on the GHS:

1. 0-4 hours per week
2. 5-9 hours per week
3. 10-19 hours per week
4. 20-34 hours per week
5. 35-49 hours per week
6. 50-99 hours per week
7. 100 or more hours per week
8. Varies - under 20 hours per week
9. Varies - 20-34 hours per week
10. Varies - 35 hours a week or more

HEALTH SECTION

STOPPING WORKING DUE TO AN ILLNESS OR DISABILITY

Last year we added a question “*Can I check, in which year did you stop working because of this injury/illness/disability?*” but failed to add a code for people who had never worked: interviewers were asked to code them as ‘don’t know’. This year a ‘never worked’ code has been added.

EDUCATION

PARENTAL CONTRIBUTIONS: WORDING CHANGE

The DSS expressed concern about possibly missing out on parental contributions due to question wording. The question PareAmt asks how much parental contribution they received “*last time*”. The worry is that we may pick up an irregular / one off payment received “last time” they saw their parents, instead of any more regular payments received. (Analysis shows a lot of payments of less than £50 which covered one week.) To try and solve this, an on-screen instruction has been added.

INTERVIEWER: INCLUDE ALL CONTRIBUTIONS - IF NECESSARY ADD THEM TOGETHER AND CALCULATE AN AVERAGE WEEKLY, MONTHLY OR ANNUAL AMOUNT

DOUBLE COUNTING OF INCOME

Our editors noticed that for some students, rent contributions from their parents were being entered at the question about “Any parental contributions received in the last 12 months” (‘PareAmt’), in the education section, but this money then made a second appearance at the question about “Any regular allowances received from a friend or relative outside of the household” (‘Allow’), in the ‘Other Income’ section.

This year, if a student says that they receive parental contributions at ‘PareAmt’, the later question ‘Allow’ will begin: “*Apart from any income already mentioned...*”

NEW HELP SCREENS AT EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT QUESTIONS

You may remember last year the addition of 3 new questions asking about highest educational attainment. The Help screens at these questions have been simplified:

EdAttn1

“Do you have any educational qualifications for which you received a certificate?”

HELP:

“If the respondent is unsure, then educational qualifications are usually obtained at school, college or university.

EdAttn2

“Do you have any professional, vocational or other work-related qualifications for which you received a certificate?”

HELP:

Respondent need not have the certificate in their possession NOW - just must have received one once.”

EdAttn3

“Was your highest qualification....

- 1 ...Degree level or above
- 2 Or another kind of qualification?

HELP: Do not attempt to give any guidance, or express any opinion of your own about any of the terms used. If respondents say they are unsure what counts as a "certificate" or "degree-level" (or any other term), reassure them that we would like them to make their own best judgement of how to answer."

CHILDREN OUTSIDE THE HOUSEHOLD

Interviewers had commented that even quite young respondents were asked whether they had any children living outside the household. The DSS noted this and as a result the age filter for this question has been raised, so that only respondents aged 40 years and over are asked it ('NHHChild').

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

DELETION OF 'WAIT'

The question for non-working people, “*Were you waiting to take up a job that you had already obtained?*” ('Wait') has been deleted. This information will already have been recorded earlier at 'JobAway'.

MONTH OF RETIREMENT

The DSS are interested in knowing the month of retirement for those who have retired in the last 12 months, so a **new question** “*In which month did you retire?*” (Retire1) has been added.

REASON FOR EARLY RETIREMENT

For those very few respondents who are under the state retirement age, and have retired within the last 12 months, a **new question** has been added asking for the reason they retired early.

Looking at this card, what was your main reason for retiring below the State Pension Age (currently 60 for women and 65 for men)?

1. Because of my own ill-health
2. Ill-health of a family member, other relative or friend
3. Compulsory redundancy / dismissed
4. I had reached my employer's fixed retirement age
5. I was offered reasonable financial terms to retire early or take voluntary redundancy
6. To spend more time with my family
7. I wanted to give up work / wanted a change
8. Other reason - involving own choice
9. Other reason (none of the above)

EMPLOYEE PAY

ASKING THE HOURS OF WORK QUESTIONS BEFORE THE PAY SECTION

At the SCPR Refresher briefings and in the Field Report, interviewers suggested ways in which the pay section could be improved. It was felt that it would be good to 'ease' respondents into the detailed pay section, by covering less intrusive work issues first, such as number of hours worked. We have therefore re-ordered these blocks of questions, so that hours of work comes *before* asking about employee (or self employed) pay.

DEDUCTIONS FOR CHARITIES

This change was suggested by interviewers. Previously we had a separate question asking whether there were any deductions from their wage or salary for charitable donations. Now, charity donations are on the same list as all the other deductions from pay, and the separate question ('Charity') has been **deleted**.

MILEAGE ALLOWANCE AND MOTORING EXPENSES

At interviewers' request a new Help screen has been added to the question on items included in pay ('InclPay'), to explain the difference between mileage allowance, and motoring expenses:

"MILEAGE ALLOWANCE: is a specified amount paid for each mile the vehicle travels (eg. 20p per mile). A fixed allowance is a specified set amount per week or month etc. paid regardless of the number of miles travelled.

MOTORING EXPENSES: this covers such items as parking fees, repairs etc.

PERMANENT HEALTH INSURANCE AND CRITICAL ILLNESS COVER

Interviewers had requested a Help screen explaining the difference between permanent health insurance and critical illness cover at the question 'InsType', dealing with insurance policies provided by the employer. The Help screen says:

"PERMANENT HEALTH insurance or PHI is insurance to cover loss of income in the event of a classifiably permanent health impairment or injury.

CRITICAL ILLNESS cover pays a lump sum on diagnosis of a critical or terminal condition. Policies can cover many conditions, but core conditions include cancer, coronary artery by-pass surgery, heart attack, kidney failure, major organ transplant and stroke."

BONUS IN PAY

We have been alerted by one or two interviewers that the question asking about bonuses paid by employers ('BonAmt') did not have enough space for a 7-figure bonus, so the range has now been extended.

HOURS OF WORK

ASK FOR UNPAID WORKERS AND PEOPLE ON TRAINING SCHEMES

From April onwards, in line with Harmonisation, hours of work, including details of overtime, will be asked of all respondents participating in a government training scheme. Total hours of work (excluding any details of overtime) will be asked of respondents who were doing any unpaid work, either for a business that they owned, or that a relative owned. Previously these two groups weren't asked anything about hours of work.

PENSIONS SECTION

RE-WRITE OF THIS SECTION

There are major changes to the pensions questions this year.

Methodological work conducted by ONS and SCPR in 1996/7 resulted in a number of recommendations for improving pensions questions across government surveys. These proposals are now being implemented on FRS. The work was carried out because pensions questions were known to cause confusion and it is hoped that the new questions will be more easily understood.

The two main differences are:

- A single question to begin with, asking about Company/ Occupational pension schemes, *and* Personal Pensions;
- An emphasis on *current* pension schemes/plans, ie. those *receiving contributions*. Questions about past schemes are mostly deleted.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO A PENSION

ASK IF EMPLOYEE OR SELF-EMPLOYED;
OR NOT WORKING, BUT HAS EVER WORKED AND IS UNDER 65 YEARS

<i>EmpPay</i>	<p>SHOW CARD</p> <p>"Now I have some questions about your pension arrangements. Are you (<i>if employee: 'or your employer'</i>) paying contributions to any of the pension arrangements shown on this card?"</p> <p>INTERVIEWER, READ OUT AND PROMPT EACH ITEM; CODE 1 & 2 IF BOTH APPLY.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "A personal or private pension fund, or retirement annuity " 2. "a company or occupational pension scheme run by my employer" 3. "none of these" <p>HELP SCREEN: "Superannuation" schemes should be treated as a company or occupational pension (code 2).</p> <p>Check: if "company of occupational scheme" then respondent must currently be an employee</p>	<p>NEW QUESTION</p> <p>NEW HELP SCREEN</p> <p>NEW CHECK</p>
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EMPLOYER PENSION SCHEMES

ASK IF *EmpPay* = CODE 2

<i>EpLong</i>	<i>Date they joined employer's scheme</i>	Existing question
<i>EpType</i>	<i>Whether employer's scheme is contributory or non-contributory</i>	Existing question (minor showcard re-wording)
<i>Ep1Avc</i> <i>AVCType</i>	<i>Whether pays into an AVC</i> <i>Is AVC arranged through employer</i>	Existing questions
<i>KeepPen</i>	<i>Whether they could keep the pension if they changed job</i>	Existing question
<p>IF EMPLOYEE BUT NO COMPANY / OCC SCHEME</p> <p><i>EpCur</i></p>	<p>"Does your employer currently run a company or occupational pension scheme for any employees?"</p> <p>Yes/No</p>	NEW QUESTION
<p>IF <i>EpCur</i> = YES:</p> <p><i>ChkPen</i></p>	<p>"May I check, do you belong to that scheme?" :</p> <p>Yes/No (<i>IF Yes THEN GO BACK TO <i>EmpPay</i> AND ASK COMPANY PENSION QUESTIONS.</i>)</p>	NEW QUESTION

A number of questions about employer's pension schemes have been **deleted**:

EpPres	(Ever belonged to scheme run by present employer)	DELETED
EpRghts	(What happened to the pension rights in scheme)	DELETED
EpPrev	(Ever belonged to scheme run by previous employer)	DELETED
EpPrNum	(How many belonged to, run by previous employers)	DELETED
EpPrRgts	(What happened to pension rights in that scheme)	DELETED
EpTran	(Pension rights transferred into ...)	DELETED

The Personal Pensions section has also changed:

CURRENT PERSONAL PENSION

IF RESPONDENT OR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTES TO A PERSONAL PENSION
(EmpPay = CODE 1):

<i>PPNumc</i>	"How many PERSONAL or PRIVATE pensions are you (if employee: or your employer) contributing to at present?"	NEW QUESTION
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FOR EACH OF UP TO 3 PERSONAL PENSIONS ASK THE FOLLOWING:

<i>PPDat</i>	When they started the pension	Existing question
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IF EMPLOYEE:

<i>PPCon</i>	"Who contributes to this personal pension - you, or your employer, or both of you? 1. "Respondent only" 2. "Employer only" 3. "Both contribute"	NEW QUESTION
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IF EMPLOYEE:

<i>PPHelp</i>	"Did your employer arrange or help to arrange your personal pension?" Yes / No	NEW QUESTION
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IF *PPCon* = "respondent only" or "both"; OR *PPCon* NOT ASKED (ie. is not an

employee):

PPPay PPPd	“How much was your last payment?” “How long did that cover?”	Existing questions
PPMort	(Check screen if they have a pension mortgage)	Existing question
IF EMPLOYEE: PPDss	“In the last twelve months, has any money been paid into this pension by the DSS, that is a rebate of part of your National Insurance contributions?” Yes / No	NEW QUESTION

There are up to three new questions for everyone in work who entered the Pensions section. These questions are trying to locate personal pensions which are ‘contracted out only’, ie. they are opted out of SERPS and receive a once-a-year rebate from the DSS. The research found that these are often overlooked by respondents.

CONTRACTED-OUT PERSONAL PENSION

NEW QUESTIONS, FOR ALL IN WORK, EXCEPT THOSE WHO ALREADY HAVE A CONTRACTED-OUT PERSONAL PENSION (‘Yes’ AT QUESTION ‘Ppdss’)

PPReb	“Some people have a personal pension that is opted out of SERPS. This type of pension receives a contribution paid in once a year, from the DSS. Have you ever had a pension of this type?” : Yes / No	NEW QUESTION
IF YES: PPRebDSS	“In the last 12 months has the DSS paid in a contribution to this pension?” : Yes / No	NEW QUESTION
IF YES: PPRebDat	“When did you start this pension?”	NEW QUESTION

Some of the personal pensions questions have been deleted:

PerPen	(Are you currently contributing to personal pension)	DELETED
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PPTYPE	(NI contribs; whether contracted out of SERPS)	DELETED
PPEMCON	(Who pays In contributions)	DELETED
PPOtCON	(Made any contributions in last 12 months)	DELETED
PPOut	(What happened to that personal pension)	DELETED

Overall, we hope that these changes, which are based on a lengthy investigation, will make the Pension questions easier for respondents to answer, and for you to ask.

STATE BENEFITS AND OTHER BENEFITS

CHECKS ON FIXED RATE BENEFITS: AA, DLA (CARE AND MOBILITY)

For fixed rate benefits such as Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance, which are paid at fixed rates, the DSS has requested that respondents are probed if they say Don't know, and presented with information on the flat rate amounts, and guidance about which rates apply for day and night time care.

At present we have such checks on AA and DLA Mobility (but not Care). Also, DSS wish to ensure that respondents in the Motability scheme are recorded as receiving the higher rate of payment (this is a qualifying condition).

Amended Attendance Allowance check, if amount is 'DK'	"There are 2 rates of Attendance Allowance, a HIGHER rate (for day AND night care) of £52.95 and a LOWER rate (day OR night care) of £35.40. If the respondent knows which one RATE they get, please put in the amount make a note ."
Amended Attend'ce Allowance check, if non-standard amount	"Are you sure? This comes to £xx per week. The rate for Attendance Allowance is normally £52.95 (higher rate for day AND night care) or £35.40 (lower rate, for day OR night care). Please resolve or explain in a Note."
Amend DLA (Care Component) check on non-standard amounts	"Are you sure? This comes to £xx per week. The rate for Disability Living Allowance (Care Component) is normally £14.05 (the lowest rate) or £35.40 (the middle rate) or £52.95 (the highest rate) a week. Amend to one of these amounts unless you have evidence to the contrary: explain in a Note."
New check on DLA (Care Component) if	"Interviewer: the following info may help resolve missing amount - Disability Living Allowance (Care Component) is usually paid at a LOWER rate of

amount is 'DK'	£14.05, or a MIDDLE rate of £35.40, or a HIGHER rate of £52.95 a week. If the respondent knows which RATE they get, please put in the amount."
Amended DLA (Mobility Component) check on non-standard amount	"Are you sure? This comes to £xx per week. The rate of Disability Living Allowance (mobility component) is normally £14.05 (the lower rate) or £37.00 (the higher rate). Remember: money paid to Motability should be INCLUDED here (and those in Motability will be on higher rate DLA). Please resolve or explain in a Note."
Amended check on DLA (Mobility Component) if amount is 'DK'	"Interviewer: the following info may help resolve missing amount - there are 2 rates of DLA Mobility : the higher rate is 37.00 pw, the lower rate is 14.05 pw (higher rate is for people unable to walk or severely restricted). Remember, money paid to Motability should be included here - and those in Motability will be on higher rate DLA. "

CHECK ON AMOUNT OF ICA

Last year a soft check was erroneously calculating the amount of Invalid Care Allowance respondents were entitled to. The rules are tricky: the basic rate which all eligible respondents are entitled to is not means tested, but the additional payments for each child are means-tested. The check now calculates the four possible amounts and displays them to you:

"Are you sure? For this Benefit Unit, weekly Invalid Care Allowance would normally be either **the basic rate of either £xxx, or £xxx with possible child additions, £xxx with dependent adults, or £xxx with both.** Please check ~~with respondent~~. Is it combined with another benefit, perhaps? If you suppress this check, please make a note."

INSURANCE POLICIES AT Ben7Q

Interviewers had asked for guidance about what should be included at the question 'NumPols' in the household schedule. For consistency, the list of insurance policies at 'Ben7Q' has also been amended. Because DSS are mainly interested in insurance which will provide a regular income the word "regular" is added to Ben7Q.

BenQ7	" In the last 12 months (that is since Date), have you received any regular payments from any of these insurance schemes?"	wording and Card change
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unemployment/ redundancy insurance 2. Trade Union sick pay or strike pay 3. Private sickness medical scheme 4. Personal accident insurance 5. Permanent health insurance 	

6. Hospital Savings Scheme
7. Friendly Society **sickness benefit**
8. **Any other sickness insurance**

Soft Check at 'BenQ7' amount	"INTERVIEWER: the question asks about REGULAR payments, so the period code should not be LUMP SUM or NONE OF THESE. Please check your answer and if necessary explain in a Note."	NEW CHECK
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WORKING FAMILIES TAX CREDIT REPLACES FAMILY CREDIT

This has already been described in the 'What's New' section.

DISABLED PERSONS TAX CREDIT

This has already been described in the 'What's New' section.

MAINTENANCE PAYMENTS IN INCOME SUPPORT

This question was introduced into the Benefits section last year but a wording mistake in the interviewer instruction slipped through: this has now been amended.

Maint

"Can I just check, does your Income Support include any payment from the Child Support Agency, for your child(ren)? :
INTERVIEWER: ~~ONLY INCLUDE IF PAID DIRECT TO C.S.A.~~ (THIS MAY BE THROUGH A COURT ORDER, C.S.A. ASSESSMENT, OR WRITTEN MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT)"

INCOME FROM PENSIONS, ROYALTIES etc.

TYPES OF PENSION

In the Field Report, interviewers asked for more guidance on different types of pension. The following Help screen has been added at the question "Are you at present receiving an income from any of the sources shown on this card?" ('AnyPen')

CODE 1 OR 2:

"An occupational pension from an OVERSEAS GOVERNMENT OR COMPANY should be accepted at this question, if paid in STERLING.

If paid in FOREIGN CURRENCY, the pension should be treated as unearned income and entered later at 'Royal'.

CODE 5:

Regular income from an insurance policy or from equity release (and not purchased from pension funds) should be included under 'ANNUITY'. Under equity plan release schemes (such as Home Income Plan, Reversion schemes, Retirement Home Plan) elderly property owners may take out a loan secured on their home and use it to buy an annuity, part of which provides them with an income. Such a loan/mortgage should be record as a second mortgage in the household questionnaire (provided income on the loan is being paid)."

AMENDMENT TO THE QUESTION 'ROYAL'

An interviewer told us about a Lloyd's "Name" who hadn't been prompted to mention his income from this source anywhere in the questionnaire. So there is now a new help screen at 'Royal', reminding you that such amounts are 'income as a sleeping partner in a business'.

" 'Sleeping partner in a business': this includes income from, for example, being a Lloyd's name."

SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS

NEW "ANY ACCOUNTS" QUESTION

This has been covered under 'What's New'.

Because of this new question, the wording to 'Accounts' has been cut down to ask:

'Accounts'

SHOW CARD

"Which of these accounts do you have now, or have you had in the last 12 months?

CODE ALL THAT APPLY."

INDIVIDUAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT (ISA).

This has been covered under 'What's New'.

ADDITIONAL INCOME BANDS AT 'TOTSAV' / 'TOTSAVE'

A DSS request for an additional band at the £3,000 mark for both adults and children ('TotSav' and 'TotSave') has been implemented:

1. From £1,500 **up to £3,000**
2. **From £3,000** up to 8,000
3. From £8,000 up to £20,000
4. Over £20,000:

12 MONTHS' INTEREST ON CURRENT ACCOUNTS

Interviewer feedback has described problems with the question "*How much interest did you receive from your account...in the last 12 months?*" In theory, for accurate figures on interest earned on bank current accounts, respondents should add up figures from their 12 previous bank statements, which is unrealistic to expect in many cases.

So from now on, for *current accounts*, the interviewer can instead 'probe' whether the respondent has had the account(s) for the last 12 months, and if so, ask them *for last month's interest only*, and then **multiply this by 12 to estimate a year's worth**. A new interviewer instruction has been added, prompting this action:

IF ACCOUNT HAS BEEN HELD FOR 12+ MONTHS, AND INTEREST IS MONTHLY,
ACCEPT MOST RECENT MONTH'S INTEREST AND MULTIPLY BY 12 FOR 1 YEAR'S
WORTH .

INTEREST ON ACCOUNTS BEFORE OR AFTER TAX

The question 'AccTax' has been amended to include an extra code. The Inland Revenue want to use the FRS to estimate the number of non-taxpayers who have tax deducted from their current and savings account interest, and the amount of this tax (ie. people who *should* be non-taxpayers but haven't registered).

AccTax

"Can I just check, is that interest after tax, or before tax?"

IF BEFORE TAX, ASK: have you signed a form to get the interest without paying tax?

1. After tax
2. Before tax - but tax is payable
3. Before tax - signed form to get interest without tax

INTERVIEWER: IF REGISTERED AS A NON-TAXPAYER, USE CODE 3

THE NON RESPONSE FORM

Some of you will remember that we conducted an experiment (which ran between August and November 1998) with the Non Response Form. This involved testing 4 versions of the form in the Field. Response for all forms increased significantly compared with the previous version; many thanks for your efforts here. Based on the results of the experiment the DSS have decided to use Version 4 of the Form from April 1999 after removing the two questions relating to 'tenure'. So the form now includes:

Questions

- Number of adults and children
- Age and sex of each adult
- Types of benefit unit; and number
- Any adult in paid work; and number

From observation

- Type of accommodation
- if flat:* floor level, entryphone
- Ethnic group(s)

AMENDMENTS TO THE ADMIN BLOCK

Some minor changes in the Admin Block.

For non responding households we no longer ask you for a separate text description of the reason why the household was a refusal or non contact, if you had selected the 'Other reason' code.

For SCPR interviewers, we have reinstated the questions about 'Duration of call'.

SHOW CARD AMENDMENTS IN DETAIL

OLD CARD (question name)	AMENDMENT (in bold) OR 'KEEP'	NEW CARD
A ('Ethgrp')	KEEP	A
B ('Tenure')	KEEP	B
C ('OthWay')	KEEP	C
D ('SerInc')	KEEP	D
E ('RMPur', 'OthPur', 'OthPur3')	KEEP	E
F ('CTBand')	AMEND: add house prices; and have 3 versions of card F for England, Scotland and Wales	F
G ('CTDisc')	KEEP	G
H ('Charge')	KEEP	H
I ('Contrib', 'SharePay')	DELETE: questions dropped	
J ('PropRent')	"CARD NOT IN USE": DELETE	
K ('Premium', 'NumPols', 'PolMore')	AMEND: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Personal accident insurance 2. Private medical 3. Permanent health insurance 4. Critical illness cover 5. Friendly society sickness benefit 6. To provide an income while in hospital 7. Nursing home/ long-term care 8. Any other sickness insurance 9. Unemployment / Redundancy 	I
L ('UseVcl')	KEEP	J
M ('VehPrice')	"CARD NOT IN USE": DELETE	
N (NeedHelp, GiveHelp)	KEEP	K
O (Rstrct)	KEEP	L
P (Train)	KEEP	M
	NEW CARD (Retreas) REASONS FOR EARLY RETIREMENT: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Because of my own ill-health 2. Ill-health of a family member, other relative or 	N

OLD CARD (question name)	AMENDMENT (in bold) OR 'KEEP'	NEW CARD
	<p>friend</p> <p>3. Compulsory redundancy / dismissed</p> <p>4. I had reached my employer's fixed retirement age</p> <p>5. I was offered reasonable financial terms to retire early or take voluntary redundancy</p> <p>6. To spend more time with my family</p> <p>7. I wanted to give up work / wanted a change</p> <p>8. Other reason - involving own choice</p> <p>9. Other reason (none of the above)</p>	
Q (Etype)	KEEP	O
R (InclPay, InclPay1)	KEEP	P
S (HHInc)	KEEP	Q
T (InKind)	KEEP	R
U ('OwnSum')	KEEP	S
V (EpRights, EpPrRgts)	DELETE: questions dropped	
	<p>NEW CARD (EmpPay)</p> <p><u>Do you (or your employer) pay contributions to:</u></p> <p>1. a personal or private pension fund, or retirement annuity</p> <p>2. a company or occupational pension scheme run by my employer</p> <p>3. none of these</p>	T
W ('EpType')	<p>AMEND:</p> <p>1. Contributions are taken out of my pay each week or month</p> <p>2. The scheme is called non-contributory, but I do pay something to make additional provision for myself or my dependants</p> <p>3. The scheme is non-contributory. No-one takes money off my pay each week or month</p>	U
X ('PPType')	DELETE: question dropped	
Y ('PPOut')	DELETE: question dropped	
Z ('Ben1Q')	<p>AMEND:</p> <p>Child Benefit</p> <p>Guardian's Allowance</p> <p>Invalid Care Allowance</p> <p>Retirement Pension (NI), or Old Person's Pension</p>	V

OLD CARD (question name)	AMENDMENT (in bold) OR 'KEEP'	NEW CARD
	Widow's Pension or Widowed Mother's Allowance (NI) War Disablement Pension or War Widow's Pension (and any related allowances) Severe Disablement Allowance Disability Working Allowance / Disabled Persons Tax Credit None of these	
AA ('Ben2Q', 'Ben2QFut')	KEEP	W
BB ('Ben3Q', 'Ben3QFut')	AMEND Jobseekers Allowance (Unemployment Benefit) Income Support Family Credit / Working Families Tax Credit Incapacity Benefit (Invalidity or Sickness Benefit) Maternity Allowance Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit	X
CC (Ben4Q/Ben4QFut)	"THIS CARD NOT IN USE": DELETE	
DD ('Ben5Q')	AMEND: Family Credit / Working Families Tax Credit - paid in a lump sum A grant from the Social Fund for funeral expenses Grant from Social Fund for maternity expenses A Social Fund Loan or Community Care Grant A Back to Work Bonus Extended Payment of Housing Benefit/rent rebate, or Council Tax Benefit (4 week payment only) Widows payment - paid in a lump sum Any National Insurance or State benefit not mentioned earlier	Y
EE (DSSPay)	KEEP	Z
FF (Ben7Q)	AMEND: 1. Unemployment / redundancy insurance 2. Trade Union sick pay or strike pay 3. Private medical scheme 4. Personal accident insurance 5. Permanent health insurance 6. Hospital savings scheme 7. Friendly Society sickness benefit 8. Any other sickness insurance 9. None of these	AA
GG (AnyPen)	KEEP	BB
HH (Royal)	KEEP	CC
II (PropRent)	KEEP	DD

OLD CARD (question name)	AMENDMENT (in bold) OR 'KEEP'	NEW CARD
JJ (Allow)	KEEP	EE
KK (OddJob)	KEEP	FF
LL (Accounts)	<p>AMEND SHOW CARD</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current account with a bank, Building society or other organisation 2. National Savings Bank (Post Office) - Ordinary Account 3. National Savings Bank (Post Office) - Investment account 4. TESSA (Tax-Exempt Special Savings Account) 5. ISA (Individual Savings Account) 6. Savings account, investment account/bond, any other account with bank, building society or other organisation 	GG
MM (Invests)	KEEP	HH
NN (OtInvA)	KEEP	II
OO (ChInc)	DELETE; questions dropped	
PP (OtInvC)	DELETE: questions dropped	
QQ (TotSav,Totsave)	<p>AMEND</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Less than £1,500 2. From £1,500 up to £3,000 3. From £3,000 up to 8,000 4. From £8,000 up to £20,000 5. Over £20,000 	JJ
RR ('IncChnge')	KEEP	KK
SS ('NSAmt')	KEEP	LL

Changes to the FRS data series

1996-97 to 2001-02

25th November Release

The FRS series from 1996-97 through to 2001-02 has been reissued to take on board harmonisation and updates to derived variables and minor data changes.

2001-02 Release C: Changes since Release B

Summary

No.	Change	Reason
1.	Deprivation Band Indicator removed for non-English Local Authorities.	Deprivation Band information is not available for non-English authorities.
2.	Amendment of travel to work costs to use dual mileage rates.	Harmonisation
3.	Family Type (FAMTHBAI) definition adjusted to be in line with HBAI definition introduced in 2001-02.	Harmonisation
4.	Correction made to usual Gross pay to stop double counting deductions.	Error in derived variable code since 1999-2000
5.	Include Back to Work Bonus and Child Maintenance Bonus in benefit income.	Incorrectly removed in 2000-01
6.	Correct format for TENTYPE	Error in derived variable formats since 1996-1997
7.	Cases on the adult table that were not weeklyised	Oversight in period code editing for quarter 4 of 2001-02
8.	VAR2 =.b for benefit=14 (JSA)	Missed in editing
9.	Incorrect HOWBEN imputed for benefit=18	Over –zealous editing
10.	Child Maintenance Bonus –cases with inappropriate period code	Editing oversight
11.	Imputation of missing values in PenAmt	Missed in editing
12.	Removal of variable VEHNUMB	Replaced by USEVCL

Details of changes

Paragraph numbers refer to the edits highlighted in the table above.

1. Misleading Deprivation Band Indicator (DEPBAND) removed for non-English Local Authorities. See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.
2. Amendment of travel to work costs to use dual mileage rates (TTWCOST). See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.
3. Family Type (FAMTHBAI) definition adjusted to be in line with HBAI definition introduced in 2001-02. See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.

4. Correction made to usual Gross pay to stop double counting deductions. (UGRSPAY). See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.
5. Undo change made to INIRBEN and INOTHBEN in 2000-01 to removed benefit types 26 and 51 (Back to Work Bonus and child maintenance bonus) and instead include within benefit income and weeklyise the lump sums. This amendment is in line with HBAI treatment
6. In 1996-97 the derived variable for specific household tenure types (TENTYPE) was changed from ten categories to eight. The format attached to this variable was not updated. This has now been corrected for all affected years.
7. There were 11 cases where PareAmt was not weeklyised and one case where NiAmt was not weeklyised in the 2001-02 dataset. This was a result of an oversight in period code editing for quarter 4 of 2001-02.
8. One case missed a VAR2 edit (Income Based or Contributory, response or imputed). Now corrected.
9. During period code editing one case edited to a set period, in error. Transaction now un-applied.
10. Child Maintenance bonuses should be edited into lump sums before release, as this is the only way these can be received. This has now been achieved and all rogue cases have had the benefits amounts converted to the lump sum amount and their period edited to 95.
11. When the Release B of the 2001-02 dataset was released, an oversight in the way data was being supplied for the PenProv table was corrected. This resulted in six additional records being inserted into the PenProv table. Three of these records contained missing PenAmt (amount paid into the pension) amounts, which were not imputed before Release B was released. These three PenAmt values have now been imputed and there are no longer any Don't Know or Refused values for PenAmt.
12. The variable VEHNUMB has been removed from the HOUSEHOL table. This variable was replaced by the variable USEVCL in 2001-02 and although VEHNUMB remained it did not contain any useful information.

2000-01 Release E: Changes since Release D

Summary

No.	Change	Reason
1.	Deprivation Band Indicator removed for non-English Local Authorities.	Deprivation Band information is not available for non-English authorities.
2.	Amendment of travel to work costs to use dual mileage rates.	Harmonisation
3.	Correction made to usual Gross pay to stop double counting deductions.	Error in derived variable code since 1999-2000
4.	Include Back to Work Bonus and Child Maintenance Bonus in benefit income.	Incorrectly removed in 2000-01
5.	Correct format for TENTYPE	Error in derived variable formats since 1996-1997

Paragraph numbers refer to the edits highlighted in the table above.

1. Misleading Deprivation Band Indicator (DEPBAND) removed for non-English Local Authorities. See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.
2. Amendment of travel to work costs to use dual mileage rates (TTWCOST). See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.
3. Correction made to usual Gross pay to stop double counting deductions. (UGRSPAY). See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.
4. Undo change made to INIRBEN and INOTHBEN in 2000-01 to removed benefit types 26 and 51 (Back to Work Bonus and child maintenance bonus) and instead include within benefit income and weeklyise the lump sums. This amendment is in line with HBAI treatment
5. In 1996-97 the derived variable for specific household tenure types (TENTYPE) was changed from ten categories to eight. The format attached to this variable was not updated. This has now been corrected for all affected years.

1999-00 Release F: Changes since Release E

No.	Change	Reason
1.	Deprivation Band Indicator removed for non-English Local Authorities.	Deprivation Band information is not available for non-English authorities.
2.	Correction made to usual Gross pay to stop double counting deductions.	Error in derived variable code since 1999-2000
3.	Correct format for TENTYPE	Error in derived variable formats since 1996-1997

Paragraph numbers refer to the edits highlighted in the table above.

1. Misleading Deprivation Band Indicator (DEPBAND) removed for non-English Local Authorities. See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.

2. Correction made to usual Gross pay to stop double counting deductions. (UGRSPAY). See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.
3. In 1996-97 the derived variable for specific household tenure types (TENTYPE) was changed from ten categories to eight. The format attached to this variable was not updated. This has now been corrected for all affected years.

1998-99 Release G: Changes since Release F

Summary

No.	Change	Reason
1.	Deprivation Band Indicator removed for non-English Local Authorities.	Deprivation Band information is not available for non-English authorities.
2.	Amendment of travel to work costs to use dual mileage rates.	Harmonisation
3.	Correct format for TENTYPE	Error in derived variable formats since 1996-1997

Paragraph numbers refer to the edits highlighted in the table above.

1. Misleading Deprivation Band Indicator (DEPBAND) removed for non-English Local Authorities. See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.
2. Amendment of travel to work costs to use dual mileage rates (TTWCOST). See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.
3. In 1996-97 the derived variable for specific household tenure types (TENTYPE) was changed from ten categories to eight. The format attached to this variable was not updated. This has now been corrected for all affected years.

1997-98 Release G: Changes since Release F

Summary

No.	Change	Reason
1.	Amendment of travel to work costs to use dual mileage rates.	Harmonisation
2.	Correct format for TENTYPE	Error in derived variable formats since 1996-1997

Note: No Deprivation Indicator information was provided with the 1997-98 dataset.

Paragraph numbers refer to the edits highlighted in the table above.

1. Amendment of travel to work costs to use dual mileage rates (TTWCOST). See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.
2. In 1996-97 the derived variable for specific household tenure types (TENTYPE) was changed from ten categories to eight. The format attached to this variable was not updated. This has now been corrected for all affected years.

1996-97 Release G: Changes since Release F

Summary

No.	Change	Reason
1.	Deprivation Band Indicator removed for non-English Local Authorities.	Deprivation Band information is not available for non-English authorities.
2.	Amendment of travel to work costs to use dual mileage rates.	Harmonisation
3.	Correct format for TENTYPE	Error in derived variable formats since 1996-1997

Paragraph numbers refer to the edits highlighted in the table above.

1. Misleading Deprivation Band Indicator (DEPBAND) removed for non-English Local Authorities. See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.
2. Amendment of travel to work costs to use dual mileage rates (TTWCOST). See 2002-03 Changes documentation for full details.
3. In 1996-97 the derived variable for specific household tenure types (TENTYPE) was changed from ten categories to eight. The format attached to this variable was not updated. This has now been corrected for all affected years.