Office for
National Statistics

**Annual Population Survey Household Datasets**

**Information Sheet**

The APS household datasets are very similar to the APS (person) datasets which you already receive. However, there are some important differences you should be aware of before you begin using the datasets.

1. APS Boost Cases

The boost cases have not been included in the household datasets, even though the APS(B) was in place for some of the periods covered by the datasets. This is due to the complicated nature of processing the APS(B) cases, particularly in the weighting.

2. Non-responders

All non-responders in the local boosts of the APS (person) level datasets are removed before processing begins. However, in the APS household datasets, the non-responders in households where at least one person responds, remain in the dataset and their missing data is imputed. Households that are fully comprised of non-responders are deleted from the dataset.

3. Imputation

CANCEIS editing and imputation software has been used to perform imputation on the datasets. Donors for cases with no economic activity status were identified using several matching variables, and the information for all but system and demographic variables was copied over from the donors to the recipients.

Cases from both the LFS and the LLFS have been imputed using the same donor imputation methodology.

For more information on the imputation methodology please refer to Sexton, C. & Wagstaff, H. "Correcting for Missingness of Economic Activity in the Annual Population Survey", a copy of which is available from the APS Outputs team.

4. Weights

A set of weights were derived for each dataset which met the following criteria:

(a) When applied to persons in the household the weights recover the correct population totals for 5-year age groups (max 70-74, then 75+) by sex; and separately for LAD totals (combining sexes and all age groups) in the UK.

(b) Each person in a household has the same weight.

(c) At the household level, subject to (a) and (b), minimise the variance of the weight ratios, i.e. the ratio of the final to the initial weight. GREG (Generalised Regression) estimation is the weighting procedure used.

5. Missing Values

Due to the nature of the processing of the APS household datasets, system missing values, DNAs and NAs have all had to be merged into one category. This is -10 on the SPSS and SAS datasets. On SuperCross, the labelling varies, but you should be aware that all missing values have been grouped. We are investigating this issue and hope to correct it to allow the various categories of missing values to be distinguished in the production of JD08.

6. Household Variables

After the imputation has taken place, the household economic activity variables have been re-derived taking into account the imputed economic activities for cases previously with no economic activity. These variables are: heacomb, heahead, heawife, hndk, hnemp, hnunemp and hninact/hninac05.

7. Analysis

For information on the types of analysis usually undertaken using household datasets please refer to Volume 8 of the LFS/APS User Guides: Household & Family Data which can be found on the internet at http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_labour/LFSUGvol8.pdf

8. User Guide

An APS user guide has also been developed and will be available online alongside the final release of the JD04/05/06/07 datasets on the 11th September 2008. To access this user guide when released, please refer to the 'Labour Force Survey User Guide Volume 10: APS Household Data' available online at http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=1537 or contact the APS Outputs team.

9. Contact Details

If you have any questions regarding the APS household datasets please contact one of the following people:

APS Outputs – Social & Vital Statistics Division
William Barnes william.barnes@ons.gsi.gov.uk 01633 455711
Kathryn Ashton kathryn.ashton@ons.gsi.gov.uk 01633 455932

Labour Market Analysis – Labour Market Division
Jamie Jenkins jamie.jenkins@ons.gsi.gov.uk 01633 455840
Katherine Kent Katherine.kent@ons.gsi.gov.uk 01633 455829