

FAMILY RESOURCES SURVEY

2015/16

Dataset and Changes Summary

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INTRODUCTION

This summary report is produced in conjunction with the 2015/16 Family Resources Survey (FRS) and provides users with detailed information on proposed changes to:-

- Dataset structure
- Variables
- Treatment within processing (validation, editing, and derivation of variables)
- Methodology

The information provided in this report should be used in conjunction with the standard FRS documentation, which can be accessed via the UK Data Service.

If at any point you would like to discuss any issues or require further information or clarification, please contact the FRS team in Surveys Branch (via email to: team.frs@dwp.gsi.gov.uk).

DATA STRUCTURE

The Northern Ireland migration questions and table were removed from the Family Resources Survey dataset in 2015/16.

OVERVIEW OF VARIABLE CHANGES

The variable changes are listed below with reference to the relevant page in the **'Interviewers Guide to Changes'** listed in brackets, which will provide further detail.

Changes in the Family Resources Survey (FRS) data can affect three main areas of processing:-

- Editing
- Imputation
- Derived Variables

Information on all the changes to the questionnaire for 2015/16 can be found in the document **'Interviewers Guide to Changes'**. New and deleted questions are highlighted below (i.e. new variables and removed variables). Full details on how changes to the questionnaire have been treated within the dataset are provided in the 'Treatment within processing' section of this report. Significant changes to sections of the FRS questionnaire include the following;

New/changed sections

- Education, awards and loans (page 9)
- Income from Pensions, Trusts, Royalties and Allowances (page 24)
- Social and Cultural Participation (page 33)

Deleted sections

- Adult and child social deprivation and household items (page 28)

TREATMENT WITHIN PROCESSING

Changes in the data collected and the structure of that data needs to be taken into account within the processing of the FRS dataset. Most of these changes can be treated by introducing new systems or through extending our current methodologies, and are detailed in this section across the four processing areas:-

- Benefit Editing
- Non-Benefit Editing
- Imputation
- Derived Variables

BENEFIT EDITING

No changes were made to benefit editing processing for 2015/16.

NON-BENEFIT EDITING

No changes were made to any of the processing stages for 2015/16.

IMPUTATION

The following changes have been made to the imputation process.

Bulk Edits

Changes to existing edits

No changes to existing bulk edits.

New edits

TABLE	VARIABLE	LABEL	DESCRIPTION
HOUSEHOL	SERPAY5	Services paid for: combined electricity and gas	Impute to "No" if missing

Algorithms

Changes to existing edits

No significant changes were made to existing algorithms.

Hotdecks

Changes to existing edits

No changes to existing hotdecks.

New edits

TABLE	VARIABLE	LABEL
HOUSEHOL	SERAMT5	Amount paid for services: combined electricity and gas

DERIVED VARIABLES

INOTHBEN (Adult - Other benefits (gross)) has been changed to account for the removal of grants from the DWP/DSD and grants from local authorities (benefits 100 and 101)

The following have been amended to account for changes in training schemes in Northern Ireland (NI2TRAIN):

- **CHBFLG** (Child Benefit eligibility)
- **EMPSTATB** (adult – employment status)
- **EMPSTATC** (adult – employment status)
- **EMPSTATI** (adult – employment status)
- **NINDINC** (adult – net earnings)

EMPSTATB (adult – employment status) derivation has been amended due to a change in the routing of the variables used (would you like work (LIKEWK) and reason for not wanting/looking work (NOWANT)).

The variable **NHHNIRBN** (non income related benefits (net of High Income Child Benefit Charge)) has been removed following the removal of the High Income Child Benefit Charge amount question (CBTAXAMT).