

Statistics Publication Notice

Scottish Household Survey (2003 – Quarter 1)

This is the second in a series of quarterly Statistics Publication Notices which announces the availability of the Scottish Household Survey for a particular quarter. In accordance with National Statistics, this will help to ensure orderly and open access to the Scottish Household Survey (SHS). In practice, this means that the SHS survey for this quarter can be used to answer questions to inform policy from people within and outwith the Scottish Executive.

The SHS is a rich source of information covering social justice, transport and housing. This publication notice presents a range of results based on the main findings from the survey. Further details on the trends over time for the above topics can be found at the [Data Trends](#) section of the SHS website.

Social Justice

- Since the question was introduced, the percentage of adults who make use of the internet for personal use has risen steadily from 29 per cent in the first quarter of 2001 to 40 per cent in the first quarter of 2003. Men make greater use of the internet than women with the figures for men being on average eight percentage points higher than those for women.
- The results from 2000 onwards, which have remained steady, show that generally just over a quarter of adults give up their time to volunteer. Figures show that women are more likely to volunteer than men.
- Since the survey started, there are between 85 per cent (in the first quarter of 1999) and 88 per cent (in the first quarter of 2003) of households where either the respondent or their partner has a bank or building society account.
- Since the survey started, there are some 12 per cent of households containing at least one person who needs regular help or care.

Transport

- Since the survey started, the percentage of households without a car has fallen from about 37 per cent to around 34 per cent, and the percentage with two cars has risen from roughly 15 per cent to 19 per cent.
- Slightly over three-quarters of men aged 17+ have a full driving licence (there has been little change since 1999) compared with just over half of women (for whom the percentage has been increasing slowly).
- The percentage of employed adults aged 16+ working at or from home has risen from under 8 per cent to about 10 per cent.

- Around two-thirds of those who travel to work usually go by car or van, roughly 1 in 7 walk and about 1 in 8 take the bus - figures which have not changed greatly over the period since the survey started.

Housing

- Data on tenure from the Scottish Household Survey show gradual but relatively consistent changes for owning one's home outright and renting from local authorities or Scottish Homes: the proportion of respondents owning their homes outright was 22 per cent in the first quarter of 1999 compared to just over 26 per cent in the first quarter of 2003, while the proportion of respondents renting decreased from over one quarter in 1999 to nearly a fifth for the first quarter of 2003.
- The other data on tenure show a situation of relative stability, with just under 40 per cent of respondents buying their home with the help of a mortgage.
- The data on respondents' perceptions of their neighbourhood as a good place to live showed very little change over the three-year period, with approximately half saying it was a *very good* place to live, and a further 40 per cent agreeing that it was a *good* place to live.

Detailed results from the 2001/2002 surveys are available in the [Annual Report](#).

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National Statistics publications are grouped under a number of broad subject headings (themes). This publication belongs to the Social and Welfare theme.

Details of pre-release access will be provided in the Scottish Executive Statistics Website under 'Forthcoming Publications'.

Background

The Scottish Household Survey is a continuous survey based on a sample of the general population in private residences in Scotland. The survey started in 1999 and is financed by the Scottish Executive and undertaken by a partnership of NFO Social Research and MORI Scotland.

The aim of the survey is to provide representative information about the composition, characteristics and behaviours of Scottish households, both nationally and at a more local level. The survey covers a wide range of topics to allow links to be made between different policy areas. There is a particular focus on information to inform policy on Transport, Social Justice and Housing. Results are reported in a series of bulletins, annual reports and other Scottish Executive publications which can be found on the survey's website at www.scotland.gov.uk/shs.

Anonymised copies of the survey are deposited with the [UK Data Archive](#) after each calendar year, together with supporting documentation to facilitate wider access to, and analysis of, the information gathered.