

Series 3 - British Social Attitudes Survey

Description: The series is designed to produce annual measures of attitudinal movements which will complement large-scale government surveys such as the General Household Survey and the Labour Force Survey, which deal largely with facts and behaviour patterns, as well as the data on party political attitudes produced by the polls. One of its main purposes is to allow the monitoring of patterns of continuity and change, and the examination of the relative rates at which attitudes, in respect of a range of social issues, change over time. Some questions are asked regularly, others less often. In 1994, 1998 and 2003, the BSA survey was accompanied by the Young People's Social Attitudes Survey (YPSA), which was designed to explore the attitudes and values of children and young people, and where possible to make comparisons with those held by adults. A compilation of BSA data and documentation, including interactive descriptive statistics, is available via the Britsocat web site (www.britsocat.com), maintained by the Centre for Comparative European Survey Data.

- **Available years:** 1983-2005
- **Principal investigator:** National Centre for Social Research (<http://www.natcen.ac.uk/>)
- **Notes:** The questionnaire normally has two parts, one administered and one left for self-completion and later return. Each year the interview questionnaire contains a number of 'core' questions on major topic areas (usually repeated every year), and a series of m

#3:18 – British Social Attitudes Survey 1983

Universe: Adults (18 and over) living in private households in Great Britain (excluding the 'crofting counties' north of the Caledonian Canal).

Sample size: 1761.

Methods: Face-to-face interview; Self-completion.

Sample: Multi (four)-stage stratified random sample drawn from the Electoral Register; weighting used.

Fieldwork: March - June 1983.

Geography: Standard Regions; Postcode Sectors; Health Authority Regions/Districts; Parliamentary Constituencies; Local Authority Districts; Counties; Scottish Regional Councils.

Access: SN 1935.

Alcohol consumption

Consumption: n/a.

Single occasion: n/a.

Other drinking

None.

Other alcohol variables

- Cause of harm - health (whether would recommend an unhealthy man/woman to cut their alcohol intake as the first/second most useful course of action to improve their health)

Health status and behaviour:

- Self-reported health (Low, whether respondent is permanently sick or disabled)
- Smoking (Low - quit smoking as action to improve health)
- Drugs (Low, whether cannabis should be legalised)
- Sexual behaviour (High, sexual morals)

Other variables

- Personality (Medium)
- Political opinions (High)
- Use of services (High)
- Attitude (fear) of crime (High, crime and the police section)
- Victim of crime (High, crime and the police section)

Demographics

- Material quality of life (High)
- Income (High)
- Household type/composition (High)
- Finances/taxes/benefits (High)
- Employment (High)
- Education (High)
- Ethnicity and religion (High)

#3:19 – British Social Attitudes Survey 1990

Universe: Adults (18 and over) living in private households in Great Britain (excluding the 'crofting counties' north of the Caledonian Canal).

Sample size: 2797.

Methods: Face-to-face interview; Self-completion.

Sample: Multi (four) -stage stratified random sample drawn from the Electoral Register; weighting used.

Fieldwork: March - June 1990.

Geography: Standard Regions; Postcode Sectors; Health Authority Regions/Districts; Parliamentary Constituencies; Local Authority Districts; Counties; Scottish Regional Councils.

Access: SN 2840.

Alcohol consumption

Consumption: n/a.

Single occasion: n/a.

Other drinking

None.

Other alcohol variables

- Cause of harm - health (whether would recommend a young person to cut their alcohol intake as the first/second/third

most useful course of action to improve their health and (separately) to avoid getting heart disease)

Health status and behaviour:

- Self-reported health (Low, whether respondent is permanently sick or disabled)
- Smoking (High)
- Sexual behaviour (High, sexual morals)

Other variables

- Personality (Medium)
- Political opinions (High)
- Use of services (High)
- Attitude (fear) of crime (High, crime and the police section)
- Victim of crime (High, crime and the police section)

Demographics

- Material quality of life (High)
- Income (High)
- Household type/composition (High)
- Finances/taxes/benefits (High)
- Employment (High)
- Education (High)
- Ethnicity and religion (High)

#3:20 – British Social Attitudes Survey 1991

Universe: Adults (18 and over) living in private households in Great Britain

(excluding the 'crofting counties' north of the Caledonian Canal).

Sample size: 2918.

Methods: Face-to-face interview; Self-completion.

Sample: Multi (four) -stage stratified random sample drawn from the Electoral Register; weighting used.

Fieldwork: March - June 1991.

Geography: Standard Regions; Postcode Sectors; Health Authority Regions/Districts; Parliamentary Constituencies; Local Authority Districts; Counties; Scottish Regional Councils.

Access: SN 2952.

Alcohol consumption

Consumption: frequencyn/a.

Single occasion: n/a.

Other drinking

- Self-perceived drinking (Type of drinker respondent would describe themselves as)
- Self-reported change (Change in level of drinking from two to three years ago, predicted level of drinking in two to three years)

Other alcohol variables

None.

Health status and behaviour:

- Self-reported health (Low, whether respondent is permanently sick or disabled)
- Smoking (High)
- Sexual behaviour (High, sexual morals)

Other variables

- Personality (Medium)
- Political opinions (High)
- Use of services (High)
- Attitude (fear) of crime (High, crime and the police section)
- Victim of crime (High, crime and the police section)

Demographics

- Material quality of life (High)
- Income (High)
- Household type/composition (High)
- Finances/taxes/benefits (High)
- Employment (High)
- Education (High)
- Ethnicity and religion (High)

#3:21 – British Social Attitudes Survey 1994

Universe: Adults (18 and over) living in private households in Great Britain (excluding the 'crofting counties' north of the Caledonian Canal).

Sample size: 3469.

Methods: CAPI; self-completion.

Sample: Multi (four) -stage stratified random sample drawn from the Postcode Address File; weighting used.

Fieldwork: May - October 1994.

Geography: Standard Regions; Postcode Sectors; Health Authority Regions/Districts; Parliamentary Constituencies; Local Authority Districts; Counties; Scottish Regional Councils.

Access: SN 3572.

Alcohol consumption

Consumption: n/a.

Single occasion: n/a.

Other drinking

None.

Other alcohol variables

Health status and behaviour:

- Self-reported health (Low, whether respondent is permanently sick or disabled)

- Smoking (High)
- Drugs (Medium)
- Sexual behaviour (High, sexual morals)

Other variables

- Caring (Low)
- Personality (Medium)
- Political opinions (High)
- Use of services (High)
- Attitude (fear) of crime (High)

- Victim of crime (High)

Demographics

- Material quality of life (High)
- Income (High)
- Household type/composition (High)
- Finances/taxes/benefits (High)
- Employment (High)
- Education (High)
- Ethnicity and religion (High)

#3:22 – British Social Attitudes Survey 1996

Universe: Adults (18 and over) living in private households in Great Britain (excluding the 'crofting counties' north of the Caledonian Canal).

Sample size: 3662.

Methods: CAPI; self-completion.

Sample: Multi (four) -stage stratified random sample drawn from the Postcode Address File; weighting factors used.

Fieldwork: May 1996-August 1996.

Geography: Standard Regions; Postcode Sectors; Health Authority Regions/Districts; Parliamentary Constituencies; Local Authority Districts; Counties; Scottish Regional Councils.

Access: SN 3921.

Alcohol consumption

Consumption: n/a.

Single occasion: n/a.

Other drinking
None.

Other alcohol variables

Health status and behaviour:

- Smoking (High)
- Drugs (Low)
- Fitness (Low)
- Sexual behaviour (High, sexual morals)

Other variables

- Socialising (Low)
- Leisure (Low)
- Caring (Medium)
- Personality (Medium)
- Political opinions (High)
- Use of services (High)
- Attitude (fear) of crime (High)

Demographics

- Material quality of life (High)
- Income (High)
- Household type/composition (High)
- Finances/taxes/benefits (High)
- Employment (High)
- Education (High)
- Ethnicity and religion (High)

#3:23 – British Social Attitudes Survey 1998

Universe: Adults (18 and over) living in private households in Great Britain (excluding the 'crofting counties' north of the Caledonian Canal).

Sample size: 3146.

Methods: CAPI; self-completion.

Sample: Multi-stage stratified random sample; sampling is conducted in four stages and is drawn from the Postcode Address File; weighting factors used.

Fieldwork: April 1998-September 1998.

Geography: Standard Regions; Postcode Sectors; Health Authority Regions/Districts; Parliamentary Constituencies; Local Authority Districts; Counties; Scottish Regional Councils.

Access: SN 4131.

Alcohol consumption

Consumption: n/a.

Single occasion: n/a.

Other drinking

None.

Other alcohol variables

Health status and behaviour:

- Smoking (High)
- Drugs (Low)
- Fitness (Low)
- Sexual behaviour (High, sexual morals)

Other variables

- Socialising (Low)
- Leisure (Low)
- Caring (Medium)
- Personality (Medium)
- Political opinions (High)
- Use of services (High)
- Attitude (fear) of crime (High)

Demographics

- Material quality of life (High)
- Income (High)
- Household type/composition (High)
- Finances/taxes/benefits (High)
- Employment (High)
- Education (High)
- Ethnicity and religion (High)

#3:24 – British Social Attitudes Survey 1999

Universe: Adults (18 and over) living in private households in Great Britain (excluding the 'crofting counties' north of the Caledonian Canal).

Sample size: 3143.

Methods: CAPI; self-completion.

Sample: Multi-stage stratified random sample; sampling is conducted in four stages and is drawn from the Postcode Address File; weighting factor used.

Fieldwork: June 1999-November 1999.

Geography: Standard Regions; Postcode Districts; Local Authority Districts.

Access: SN 4318.

Alcohol consumption

Consumption: n/a.

Single occasion: n/a.

Other drinking

None.

Other alcohol variables

- Alcohol - misc (Whether respondent thinks that most people who beg spend what they are given on alcohol and drugs (self-completion))

Health status and behaviour:

- Smoking (High)
- Drugs (Medium)
- Sexual behaviour (High, sexual morals)

Other variables

- Caring (Medium)
- Personality (Medium)
- Political opinions (High)
- Use of services (High)

- Attitude (fear) of crime (High)

Demographics

- Material quality of life (High)
- Income (High)

- Household type/composition (High)
- Finances/taxes/benefits (High)
- Employment (High)
- Education (High)
- Ethnicity and religion (High)

#3:25 – British Social Attitudes Survey 2001

Universe: Adults (18 and over) living in private households in Great Britain (excluding the 'crofting counties' north of the Caledonian Canal).

Sample size: 3287.

Methods: CAPI; self-completion.

Sample: Multi-stage stratified random sample; sampling is conducted in four stages and is drawn from the Postcode Address File; weighting factor used.

Fieldwork: June 2001-November 2001.

Geography: Countries; Local Authority Districts; Parliamentary Constituencies; Postcode Districts; Standard Regions; Government Office Regions.

Access: SN 4615.

Alcohol consumption

Consumption: n/a.

Single occasion: n/a.

Other drinking
None.

Other alcohol variables

- Cause of harm - health (Whether alcohol is amongst the three drugs that are more harmful to frequent users)
- Experience of harm (Whether drink or drugs were the most common cause of

accidents or health damage at respondent's place of work)

- Drink driving (How much respondent agrees or disagrees that people should never drive after drinking, whatever the amount)

Health status and behaviour:

- Self-reported health (Low)
- Smoking (High)
- Drugs (High)
- Fitness (Low)

Other variables

- Socialising (Low)
- Leisure (Low)
- Caring (Medium)
- Personality (Medium)
- Political opinions (High)
- Use of services (High)
- Attitude (fear) of crime (High)

Demographics

- Material quality of life (High)
- Income (High)
- Household type/composition (High)
- Finances/taxes/benefits (High)
- Employment (High)
- Education (High)
- Ethnicity and religion (High)

#3:26 – British Social Attitudes Survey 2004

Universe: Adults (18 and over) living in private households in Great Britain (excluding the 'crofting counties' north of the Caledonian Canal).

Sample size: 3199.

Methods: CAPI; self-completion.

Sample: Multi-stage stratified random sample; sampling is conducted in four stages and is drawn from the Postcode Address File; weighting factor used.

Fieldwork: June 2004-September 2004.

Geography: Government Office Regions (GORs); Westminster Parliamentary Constituencies (England); Westminster Parliamentary Constituencies (Wales); Westminster Parliamentary Constituencies (Scotland); Local Authority Districts; Standard Regions.

Access: SN 5329.

Alcohol consumption

Consumption: n/a.

Single occasion: n/a.

Other drinking

None.

Other alcohol variables

▪ Polices - attitudes and knowledge (whether should limit someone's access to free NHS treatment if their illness was

due to a heavy smoking or drinking habit)

Health status and behaviour:

▪ Smoking (Low)

Other variables

- Caring (Medium)
- Personality (Medium)
- Political opinions (High)
- Use of services (High)

Demographics

- Material quality of life (High)
- Income (High)
- Household type/composition (High)
- Finances/taxes/benefits (High)
- Employment (High)
- Education (High)
- Ethnicity and religion (High)