



## CSU Survey Research

CSU manages the Northern Ireland fieldwork on a number of regular national and European surveys, such as:

- Labour Force Survey
- Expenditure and Food Survey
- Family Resources Survey

The Unit also conducts large scale commissioned surveys for Departments and non-Departmental bodies. Some examples of commissioned surveys include:

- Young Persons' Behaviour and Attitudes Survey
- NI Safe Community Survey
- Continuous Household Survey
- NI Household Panel Survey
- Health and Social Well Being Survey
- International Adult Literacy Survey

## Fieldwork

CSU recruits, trains and maintains its own dedicated field force of interviewers. CSU has around 300 interviewers spread across NI.

## CSU Website

The CSU website currently contains background information on all the main CSU surveys as well as details of survey content and methodology and, where available, copies of questionnaires, tables of results and publications.

[www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/central-survey-unit](http://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/central-survey-unit)

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Additional copies of this leaflet are available on our website. Microsoft Word, large print or Braille copies can also be made available on request.



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## Have you been asked to take part in a survey?

### Why do we need your help?

Your contribution is vital to the success of our surveys. By taking part you can help us to provide an accurate picture of how changes in society, government policy, services and the economy affect you.

For example, accurate information is regularly needed to help plan future public services and to evaluate how well current public services meet the needs of the population. The information gathered can relate to a wide range of areas such as health, housing, education, cost of fuel, child care, cost of living, lifestyles, and so forth.

It is also very important that we talk to a wide cross-section of people in all age groups. For example, the elderly, young families, single parents, those in or out of work, people with health difficulties and disabled people are all included in our surveys. Without this information, the circumstances of people in these groups may not be fully taken into account in the development and evaluation of public services or policy.

### Why was I selected?

As it is not possible to interview everyone in Northern Ireland a sample of addresses is selected at random to represent everyone. This approach provides a representative sample of households in Northern Ireland and gives every household an equal chance of being selected for one of our surveys.

We cannot substitute another address for yours, as this would affect how representative the sample is. We would therefore appreciate it if you could help us with this survey.

### How was my address chosen?

Your address was selected at random from the Pointer Database. This up-to-date list of private households in NI is made available to CSU for research purposes.

### What happens to the information I provide?

Central Survey Unit places great emphasis on confidentiality and goes to considerable lengths to guarantee such privacy.

Any information given to an interviewer is strictly confidential and the survey team will not release any identifiable information about you or your household to any government department, or anyone else.



### Who are Central Survey Unit?

**Central Survey Unit (CSU)** are the leading social survey research organisation in Northern Ireland and is one of the main business areas of the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA), an Agency within the Department of Finance.

### Computer Assisted Interviewing

Most of our surveys are carried out using computer assisted interviewing. Central Survey Unit was the first survey organisation in the UK to move all of its survey activities to Computer Assisted Interviewing (CAI) in 1991.

### Access to Survey Results

Survey results and publications can easily be accessed on our website and are updated on an ongoing basis as they become available.

Contact details are also provided for each survey, to assist with any queries you might have.