

Your address is one of these and was selected at random from a list of all of the addresses in Northern Ireland. If you have previously participated in the survey we will have had your permission to contact you again.

We are interested in people from all age groups and all parts of Northern Ireland, whether families or those who live on their own. We cannot substitute another address for yours as this would bias the results, so your contribution is vital to the survey. By taking part you help us provide an accurate picture of how changes in the economy and government policy affect you and your community.

## Who uses the results?

- The results are used by a wide range of Government departments for monitoring areas such as education, housing and poverty. The results are also used by charities and other groups to help support their work.
- ONS and Eurostat (the statistical office of the European Union) use the results to produce EU-wide comparative statistics on poverty, employment and living conditions.
- The results are also available to researchers and analysts (including in schools and universities) via the UK Data Service for the study of many different subjects.

## Contact us

Freephone: 0800 298 5313

NGT Service: (18001) 0800 298 5313

Lines are open: Monday to Thursday 9am–9pm, Friday 9am–8pm, and Saturday 9am–1pm.

### Alternatively, you can write to:

SLC Field Office  
Room 4100W  
Office for National Statistics  
Segensworth Road  
Titchfield  
Hampshire  
PO15 5RR

To find out more, visit our website:  
[www.ons.gov.uk/surveys](http://www.ons.gov.uk/surveys)

 [twitter.com/ons](https://twitter.com/ons)

 [facebook.com/ons](https://facebook.com/ons)

We would like to know if you are happy with the service you have received, or have any suggestions. You can email us at [surveyfeedback@ons.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:surveyfeedback@ons.gsi.gov.uk)

### Thank you for your help.

**To request a large print or Braille leaflet, phone us for free on 0800 298 5313.**

# Survey on Living Conditions



Why your help  
is important

# Survey on Living Conditions

This leaflet answers some of the questions you may have about taking part in this survey.

## Who are we?

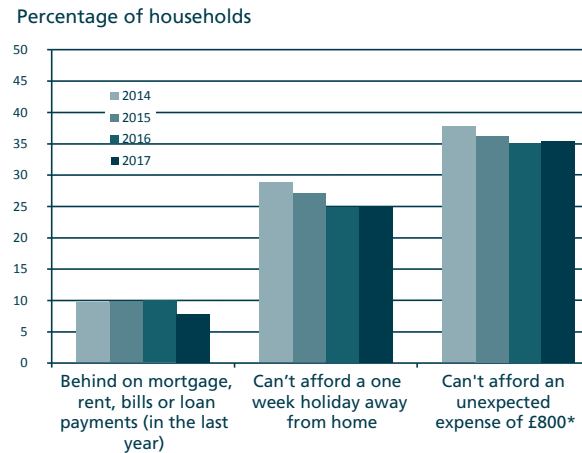
The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) is the Government agency responsible for collecting and publishing statistics on many aspects of everyday life. It is responsible for carrying out the Census every ten years, and for the registration of births, deaths and marriages. The Central Survey Unit of the agency carries out many independent surveys throughout Northern Ireland.

## What is the Survey on Living Conditions?

The Survey on Living Conditions (SLC) collects information about household resources, housing, employment, pensions, health and well-being. The survey is designed to allow the results to be compared with other countries across Europe. This means that the SLC can be used by Government to understand how people are managing in the UK today and also how living standards compare with other countries.

The SLC is conducted throughout the year across the UK. All sectors of society are represented, ensuring that the results reflect the population of the country. NISRA collects the data for SLC in Northern Ireland on behalf of the Office for National Statistics (ONS) who has primary responsibility for this UK survey.

## UK households that are unable to afford household bills, a holiday and an unexpected expense



\*Unexpected expense increased from £750 to £800 in 2015  
Source: ONS, Survey on Living Conditions (SLC)

## Why does this survey matter?

By taking part in this survey, you will help us to produce statistics about matters which affect the whole community, including work, health, living conditions and household resources.

The SLC is used as a key source for measuring poverty and social exclusion in the UK. It helps the Government understand how different sections of society are managing today, allowing them to plan for the future, assess the impact of policy changes in the UK, and measure the state of the economy over time.

It is important that these decisions are based on up-to-date information, and reflect the changes that take place from year to year.

## Is the survey confidential?

UK legislation allows us to collect and process your data to produce statistics for the public good.

Your information will be treated as confidential as directed by the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. It will only be held for as long as it is being used for producing statistics. The statistics produced will not identify you or anyone in your household.

Survey information is also provided to other government departments, approved organisations and approved researchers for statistical purposes only. Details on who can access this information can be found at [www.ons.gov.uk/surveys](http://www.ons.gov.uk/surveys). All statistics produced will be subject to the Code and the same standards of protection will be applied to your data at all times.

## Why did we choose you?

As it is not possible to ask everyone to take part in the survey, a sample of addresses is selected to represent all of Northern Ireland