

Summary Quality Report – Self-efficacy, Locus of
Control & Life Satisfaction in Northern Ireland,
2016/17

PfG Analytics

May 2018

Dimension	Assessment by the author.
Introduction	Context for the quality report.
	<p>As an official statistics publication ‘Self-efficacy, Locus of Control & Life Satisfaction in Northern Ireland, 2016/17’ complies with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Statistics.¹</p> <p>The report provides figures for Northern Ireland for 2016/17 on three metrics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-efficacy – a person’s belief about their capabilities to exercise influence over events that affect their lives. • Locus of Control (LOC) – the degree to which a person feels in control of their life. Individuals with an internal LOC believe in their own influence and control while those with an external LOC believe control over their lives is determined by outside factors. • Life Satisfaction – relates to a person’s satisfaction with their life overall. <p>The data in this report are derived from the Continuous Household Survey (CHS). The CHS is a continuous, representative survey which is designed, conducted and analysed by the Central Survey Unit, part of the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). In 2016/17 the CHS was based on a systematic random sample of 4,500 addresses drawn from the Pointer list of domestic addresses. The Pointer address database for Northern Ireland is maintained by Land & Property Services (LPS), with input from Local Councils and Royal Mail. The addresses are sorted by district council and ward, so the sample is effectively stratified geographically.</p> <p>The data are collected by personal interview primarily using computer assisted personal interviewing (CAPI), with the interviews being spread equally over the 12 months from April to March. The response rate for 2016/17 was 63%.</p>
Relevance	The degree to which the statistical product meets the user needs in both coverage and content.
	<p>The report provides baseline data for Northern Ireland for three metrics: self-efficacy; locus of control; and life satisfaction. For each of these metrics, the report has included a population level analysis and also a breakdown by various sections of society, including those under Section 75 categories, where possible.</p> <p>In addition, self-efficacy has been included as an indicator in the Executive’s draft Programme for Government. It is proposed that this will be measured by the proportion of the Northern Ireland population with low self-efficacy. The report provides estimates for this and also disaggregates by various sections of society.</p>

¹ UK Statistics Authority, Code of Practice for Statistics, <https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/code-of-practice/>

	<p>This analysis has included various infographics, charts, tables and associated commentary to communicate the findings to the end user. Likewise, notes within the tables and a technical annex have been included to provide the end user with additional information.</p>
<p>Accuracy and Reliability</p>	<p>The proximity between an estimate and the unknown true value.</p> <p>In 2016/17, the CHS was based on a systematic random sample of 4,500 addresses drawn each year from the Pointer list of domestic addresses. In 2016/17 the overall response rate was 63%.</p> <p>As the CHS is a sample survey, there is a degree of sampling error associated with each of the estimates made within the report, i.e. the actual proportion of the population with a particular characteristic may differ from the proportion within the CHS sample. As a result data has been weighted to make considerations for this sampling error. The adjustment made to any data may be less than or greater than 1, but will generally be reasonably close to 1. All reported means/proportions have been <u>weighted</u>.</p> <p>The 95% confidence intervals for each estimate have been included in the additional data tables which accompany the report. These confidence intervals represent the ranges either side of the CHS proportions which are 95% certain to include the true values for the population.</p> <p><i>For example, it was estimated that the mean self-efficacy score for the NI population in 2016/17 was 19.2; we can be 95% certain that the true NI population mean for 2016/17 falls between 19.0 and 19.3 on the self-efficacy scale.</i></p> <p>It is the nature of sampling variability that the smaller the group whose size is being estimated, the (proportionately) less precise that estimate is. Estimates for groups where the achieved sample is less than 100 have been omitted from the report, as they are unlikely to be reliable. These instances have been denoted by an asterisk (*) in the tables.</p>
<p>Timeliness and Punctuality</p>	<p>Timeliness refers to the time gap between publication and the reference period. Punctuality refers to the gap between planned and actual publication dates.</p> <p>PfG Analytics, who produce the report, usually receive the validated CHS dataset in the summer of each year, although the 2016/17 dataset was received in May 2017.</p> <p>‘Self-efficacy, Locus of Control & Life Satisfaction in Northern Ireland, 2016/17’, was published in November 2017 – seven months after the end of the reference period.</p> <p>The report was published on the planned date, as pre announced on the Executive Office’s ‘National Statistics Protocol and Compliance’ page and Gov.uk.</p>

<p>Accessibility and Clarity</p>	<p>Accessibility is the ease with which users are able to access the data, also reflecting the format in which the data are available and the availability of supporting information. Clarity refers to the quality and sufficiency of the metadata, illustrations and accompanying advice.</p> <p>The ‘Self-efficacy, Locus of Control & Life Satisfaction in Northern Ireland, 2016/17’ report was published, in PDF format, on the Executive Office website on the pre-announced publication date. The report is also available in alternative formats upon request. Within the report, a number of charts have been provided with titles, axis names and footnotes added to help clarify certain information where applicable. Additionally, the report includes a ‘Technical Notes’ section which provides summary background information, definitions and methodological explanations.</p> <p>Accompanying data tables, in Microsoft Excel and OpenDocument Spreadsheet format, are also available on the Executive Office’s website.</p> <p>The key findings from the report have been summarised within an infographic and this has been included within the report.</p> <p>The contact details of the responsible statisticians have also been included in the main report.</p>
<p>Coherence and Comparability</p>	<p>Coherence is the degree to which data that are derived from different sources or methods, but refer to the same topic, are similar. Comparability is the degree to which data can be compared over time and domain.</p> <p>The statistics contained within the report on are derived solely from the CHS. The relevant questions have been included since 2014/15 and three years of data are currently available for analysis. Standard questions are included each year, allowing for comparability over time.</p> <p>Comparable data for self-efficacy and locus of control are not available for the UK or the Republic of Ireland. While self-efficacy data are collected as part of the UK longitudinal study, Understanding Society, these are not comparable with the data in this report due to differences in question design.</p> <p>Life satisfaction data for Northern Ireland has also been collected by the Office of National Statistics (ONS), as part of the Annual Population Survey (APS), which covers the whole of the UK.² The APS uses the same life satisfaction question as the CHS, with the same eleven point Likert scale for measurement. The headline results for life satisfaction scores between the two are broadly similar; the ONS reported a life satisfaction score for NI in 2016/17 of 7.88, while ‘Self-efficacy, Locus of Control & Life Satisfaction in Northern Ireland, 2016/17’ reported a life satisfaction score of 7.8 for the same period.</p>

² Personal well-being in the UK: April 2016 to March 2017, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/wellbeing/bulletins/measuringnationalwellbeing/april2016tomarch2017#people-in-northern-ireland-report-the-highest-personal-well-being>

Trade-offs between output quality components	Trade-offs are the extent to which different aspects of quality are balanced against each other.
	<p>In a number of cases, sub-population analysis was not possible due to small sample sizes (n<100). Estimates for these groups were not included in the report, and are denoted by an asterisk (*). It may be possible, in some cases, to roll years of data together to provide reliable estimates for certain sub-groups.</p>
Assessment of user needs and perceptions	The process for finding out about users and uses, and their views on the statistical products.
	<p>Contact details for the responsible statisticians have been provided within the main report.</p> <p>An online user survey is available at the following link: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Common_Metrics_Feedback</p>
Performance, cost and respondent burden	The effectiveness, efficiency and economy of the statistical output.
	<p>The total cost for the inclusion of the eleven common metrics questions within the 2016/17 CHS was £8,500. The overall cost of running the CHS cannot be provided as this is commercial-in-confidence.</p>
Confidentiality, transparency and security	The procedures and policy used to ensure sound confidentiality, security and transparent practices.
	<p>NISRA follows the ‘National Statistician’s Guidance: Confidentiality of Official Statistics’ in the collection and dissemination of these statistics. This can be found at: https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/archive/national-statistician/ns-reports--reviews-and-guidance/national-statistician-s-guidance/confidentiality-of-official-statistics.pdf.</p> <p>Standard disclosure control methodology is applied to the data. This ensures that information attributable to an individual is not identifiable in any published outputs and that the outputs are only seen by authorised staff prior to their publication.</p>