

# Health Surveys Programme

## E-Bulletin

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**Information and technology**  
**for better health and care**

# Contents

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<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Current Surveys</b>	<b>3</b>
Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey (APMS): Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing 2014	3
Survey of the Mental Health of Children and Younger People	4
Health Survey for England	4
Smoking Drinking and Drug Use Among Young People in England (SDD)	6
<b>Other NHS Digital Surveys</b>	<b>8</b>
Adult Dental Health Survey	8
Children's Dental Health Survey 2013 (CDHS)	8
What About YOUth?	8
Survey of Carers in Households	9
Infant Feeding Survey	9

## Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of the rebranded Health Survey's Programme E-Bulletin.

NHS Digital commissions and manages a programme of surveys on different aspects of health and social care. This bulletin provides updates on all the surveys we are currently working on as well as brief information on other surveys in the NHS Digital Programme.

## Current Surveys

### Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey (APMS): Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing 2014

The Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey series provides data on the prevalence of both treated and untreated psychiatric disorder in the English adult population (aged 16 and over). This 2014 survey is the fourth in a series and was conducted by NatCen Social Research in collaboration with the University of Leicester.

The report on this survey was published on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and is available on the NHS Digital Website: <http://content.digital.nhs.uk/catalogue/PUB21748>. The report was covered extensively in the media, making the headlines on the BBC 6pm and 10pm news and the front page of the Guardian.

The document [About APMS 2014](#) provides more detailed information about APMS 2014 including:

- the 2014 questionnaire content and any significant changes from the 2007 survey
- the content that is covered in the main report
- what additional content will be available through the UK Data Services Catalogue

The publication was recently assessed by the UK Statistics Authority which has confirmed its continued designation as National Statistics.

An anonymised version of the survey dataset is expected to be archived in the UK Data Service (for secondary analysis) early in the New Year.

NHS Digital is planning a consultation exercise to obtain feedback from users on the APMS publication and statistics. The consultation will inform the design, content and reporting of any future survey and will be available in the consultations section of our [public health webpage](#) in early November 2016.

The University of Leicester has provided funding for a Phase III follow-up study into Adult Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and the application for ethical approval is currently underway.

## Survey of the Mental Health of Children and Younger People

The Department of Health (DH) is funding this survey in England. We have commissioned NatCen Social Research and the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to carry out the survey and report on the results.

The purpose of the new survey is to collect robust data on a range of topics relating to the mental health of children and young people. This will be used to inform the design and improvement of mental health services, and to improve our understanding of the state of children and young people's mental health and wellbeing.

The 2004 survey report described the prevalence of mental disorders among 5 to 16 year olds in Great Britain in 2004 and any changes since the previous survey in 1999. It profiled children in each of the main disorder categories (emotional, conduct, hyperkinetic and autistic spectrum disorders) and, where the sample size permitted, profiled subgroups within these categories. It reported if parents had sought help for their child's problems and if the child had special educational needs. It also described the characteristics of children with multiple disorders. The 2004 survey found that the prevalence of disorders was low varying from 0.25% to 3.5% for individual disorders. Overall, around 10% of children had one or more disorders. Prevalence of disorders was higher among 11-16 year olds than among 5-10 year olds.

The new survey will update the 2004 survey and measure the prevalence of development and mental health conditions among 2-19 year olds. It will cover most or all of the topics covered in the 2004 survey. New topics and questions planned include wellbeing, bullying and cyber-bullying, stigma, and whether the child has caring responsibilities for others. A report on the public consultation about the content of the new survey is available here: <http://www.natcen.ac.uk/taking-part/studies-in-field/mental-health-of-children-and-young-people-2016/>

## Health Survey for England

The Health Survey for England (HSE) has been monitoring the nation's health since 1991. It is used by the government to plan health services and in policy development.

### HSE 2015

The 2015 survey is currently in the reporting phase, with publication planned for December 2016.

A child boost (funded by Public Health England (PHE)) was included in the survey and will increase the core child sample of 2,000 to 6,000. This increase in the sample will enhance the scope for analysis of child data and will allow regional analysis and more detailed breakdown of age groups. The inclusion of additional physical activity questions in the boost will update measures of child physical activity levels collected in 2012.

Reporting will have a Child Health focus. The publication will include trends and population estimate tables for adults and children and nine topic reports covering;

- Child Physical Activity
- Child Obesity

- Child Smoking
- Child Alcohol Consumption
- Child Wellbeing
- Adult Smoking
- Adult Alcohol Consumption
- Adult Obesity
- Adult Social Care (need and receipt, and provided by others).

The NHS Digital funded core covered social care and fruit and vegetable consumption, and additionally funded modules covered the following topics;

- Wellbeing (WEMWBS) (funded by DH)
- Average weekly alcohol consumption (funded by PHE)
- Learning Disability questions (funded by DH)
- Problem Gambling (funded by the Gambling Commission)
- Varicella (shingles) and associated long term conditions (funded by University College London)

An anonymised version of the associated dataset will be archived with the UK Data Service (for secondary analysis) within approximately 3 months of publication of the report.

The link to the latest report can be found here:

<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/catalogue/PUB19295>

## **HSE 2016**

Fieldwork is still being undertaken for the 2016 survey and is expected to continue until February/March 2017. Additionally sponsored modules included in the survey are;

- Physical Activity adult module (funded by DH)
- Diet and Weight Management questions (funded by DH)
- Problem Gambling (funded by the Gambling Commission)
- Questions to separate cider consumption from beer/lager consumption (funded by PHE)
- Liver and Kidney Disease modules (additional analytes and questions - funded by Kidney Research UK).

Following the HSE consultation in 2013, some small changes have been made to the NHS Digital funded core modules, but these still allow for the monitoring of trend data. The main changes are;

- Self-reported height & weight – to collect once every 5 years

- Personal care plans – to collect in alternate years (retain key Q's to identify whether respondent has a care plan)
- Hypertension – retain annual collection (key Q's to identify diagnosed/undiagnosed hypertension)
- Diabetes – retain annual collection (key Q's to identify diagnosed/undiagnosed diabetes)
- Social Care – retain annual collection of social care needs, receipt of care and payment module every year, change the provision of care module to alternate years
- Fruit & Veg – to be added to the core content, and included every year
- Smoking – retain annual collection
- Alcohol (HDD) – retain annual collection
- Alcohol (AWC) – to be added to the core content, and included every year
- WEMWBS – to be added to the core content, but only included in alternate years
- ONS Life Satisfaction Question – to be added to the core content, and included every year
- Physical Activity (IPAQ) – to be added to the core content, and included every year
- Perception of own weight – to collect once every 5 years
- Parents perception of child's weight – to collect once every 5 years
- Urine Measures – to collect once every 5 years, but to include testing for kidney function as well as sodium intake.

Reporting of HSE 2016 is anticipated to be in late 2017.

### **HSE Ethnic Boost**

There is no immediate funding available for an ethnic boost, but we are continuing to raise awareness of the importance of these data with colleagues in DH, PHE and NHS England.

## **Smoking Drinking and Drug Use Among Young People in England (SDD)**

This survey is completed by pupils in years 7-11 in participating schools across England to provide national estimates and information on the smoking, drinking and drug use behaviours of young people aged 11-15.

### **SDD 2016**

The pilot for the survey is complete and fieldwork for 2016 is now underway. The 2016 survey is using a new methodology which will generate a significantly larger sample than in previous years. Around 500 schools are being invited to take part in the survey with three classes in each school selected to complete the questionnaires. The larger sample generated by the new design will enable SDD 2016 to cover in-depth questions on both

smoking and drinking and on drug use. In previous years, the survey has focused on smoking and drinking or on drug use.

Following a recent consultation with users, NHS Digital plan to replace the text report for 2016 with a PowerPoint report which uses infographics and reduced commentary. There will be an annex containing the methodological details for the survey to ensure no details are lost.

NHS Digital will work with our SDD Steering Group to reformat the report and ensure results cannot be misinterpreted. We would also like to hear from anyone who would like to comment on more specific proposals around reporting generated by this group. If you would like to be involved then please email [enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk](mailto:enquiries@nhsdigital.nhs.uk) stating "SDD Feedback" as the email subject.

A report on the 2016 findings is planned for publication in July 2016.

### **SDD 2017**

NHS Digital fund the SDD survey in alternate years and so the next NHS Digital funded survey will be in 2018. A survey in 2017 would require funding from external sponsors and NHS Digital are raising awareness of this with other government bodies.

The link to the latest report can be found here:

<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/catalogue/PUB17879>

## Other NHS Digital Surveys

### Adult Dental Health Survey

The Adult Dental Health Survey tracks changes in adult dental health and behaviours over time. The last survey was undertaken in 2009 and covered England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It was the fifth in a series that was established in 1968. Like the Child Dental Health survey, it is conducted every ten years. Respondents take part in a face to face interview which is followed by a short dental examination in their home.

The next survey is expected in 2019 and NHS Digital is raising awareness of this with colleagues in DH, PHE and NHS England.

The link to the latest report can be found here:-

<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/pubs/dentalsurveyfullreport09>

### Children's Dental Health Survey 2013 (CDHS)

This survey was carried out in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and measured changes in oral health since the 2003 survey. It provides detailed information about the dental health of children (aged 5, 8, 12 & 15), and about children's experiences of dental care and treatment and their oral hygiene. The survey collected information via an examination, a parental/carer's questionnaire and a new self-completion questionnaire (for 12 and 15 year olds only).

The reports were published on 19 March 2015 see:

<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/catalogue/PUB17137> and an infographic is at

<http://visual.ons.gov.uk/page/12/>.

The dataset is now available via the UK Data Service archive at:

[ukdataservice.ac.uk/sn=7774](http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/sn=7774)

### What About YOUth?

The What About YOUth? survey was the first of its kind and collected data from 15 year olds across England on topics including general health, diet, use of free time, physical activity, smoking, drinking, emotional wellbeing, drugs and bullying. The survey was designed to produce outputs that are reliable and robust at a local authority level and allows comparisons against the national position.

The main report was published on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December 2015 and is available at: <http://content.digital.nhs.uk/catalogue/PUB19244>. A short report covering the smoking prevalence findings was published in August 2015 and is available through the same link.



## Survey of Carers in Households

The Survey of Carers in Households was run in England in 2009 to establish the prevalence of caring in England, the demographic profile of carers and the impact of caring duties upon them. The survey report is available from the NHS Digital website:

<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/pubs/carersurvey0910>

## Infant Feeding Survey

The Infant Feeding Survey has been discontinued. This follows a decision by the Department of Health and the health departments in Northern Ireland and Wales to focus resources on providing more up to date, high quality information from electronic care records in line with the government's information strategy for health and care. Links to alternative sources of official statistics about breastfeeding and other infant feeding practices can be found at:

<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/media/20585/IFS-Notice/pdf/IFSNotice.pdf>

The report on the last Infant Feeding Survey in 2010 is available here:

<http://content.digital.nhs.uk/catalogue/PUB08694>