Who are NatCen?

NatCen, the National Centre for Social Research, is Britain’s largest independent social research organisation. We carry out research studies in the areas of social and public policy, covering topics such as health, education, crime and employment.

We are completely independent and do not operate in order to make a profit. Our aim is a society better informed through high quality research. We carry out studies for government departments, research councils and other charitable institutions.

Further information

For further information about taking part in this study, please contact a member of the Yellow team at:

NatCen
101-135 Kings Road
Brentwood
Essex CM14 4LX
Tel: 0800 652 4569 (freephone)
Email: info@natcen.ac.uk
www.natcen.ac.uk

Further details about the study can be found at www.europeansocialsurvey.org

22% of people in the UK worry at least some of the time about being a victim of violent crime. Concern about being a victim of violent crime is lower in many other European countries; in Denmark and Holland, only 7% and 15% worry about it.

Internet use in the UK has changed dramatically over the last few years. In 2002, 36% of people went online at least once a week. By 2006, this had risen to more than half (51%).

Over a third (36%) of people in the UK watch television for 3 or more hours on an average weekday. This is one of the highest rates in Europe; in Ireland and France 21% of people watch this amount of television, and in Sweden only 10% do so.

The 2006 survey found that four in ten people (41%) in the UK had signed a petition over the previous year, one of the highest rates in Europe. Nearly a quarter (24%) had boycotted or avoided buying particular products over the same period.

A half of people in the UK (50%) agree strongly with the statement “if a man is suspected of planning a terrorist attack in the UK, the police should have the power to keep him in prison until they are satisfied he was not involved”.

Here are some examples of the findings from previous studies.

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What is the study about?

This is an important study that seeks to understand what people living in England really think. It is an opportunity for you to give your opinion on issues affecting people in your area – such as crime, immigration and ageing - the kind of things that concern us all.

This study has been carried out every two years since 2002 and so helps us to understand how our society is changing over time. Similar studies are taking place in other European countries.

What is the study for?

The results of this study will be used by lots of different groups to make sure they know what the public really think. Results from the previous studies have been used by the government, politicians, academics, journalists and students to keep in touch with public opinion.

We are conducting this study on behalf of the Centre for Comparative Social Surveys at the City University in London. It is being funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the UK’s leading research funding agency addressing economic and social concerns.

Why have you been chosen to take part?

We are very keen to represent the views of everyone in England. Your address was randomly selected from the central list of addresses kept by the Post Office. This means that the interviewer does not know anything in advance about you or your household. A person is then randomly selected from everyone living at that address. To make sure the results are accurate, we have to rely on the people chosen to take part - no one else can take their place.

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P2814

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What is the study about?

This is an important study that seeks to understand what people living in Scotland really think. It is an opportunity for you to give your opinion on issues affecting people in your area – such as crime, immigration and ageing - the kind of things that concern us all.

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P2814
What is the study about?

This is an important study that seeks to understand what people living in Wales really think. It is an opportunity for you to give your opinion on issues affecting people in your area – such as crime, immigration and ageing – the kind of things that concern us all.

This study has been carried out every two years since 2002 and so helps us to understand how our society is changing over time. Similar studies are taking place in other European countries.

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Why have you been chosen to take part?

We are very keen to represent the views of everyone in Wales. Your address was randomly selected from the central list of addresses kept by the Post Office. This means that the interviewer does not know anything in advance about you or your household. A person is then randomly selected from everyone living at that address. To make sure the results are accurate, we have to rely on the people chosen to take part - no one else can take their place.

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Who are NISRA?

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) is an Executive Agency within the Department of Finance and Personnel (DFP) and has been in existence since 1996. NISRA is the principal source of official information on Northern Ireland’s population and socio-economic conditions.

Further information

For further information about taking part in this study, please contact McAuley House at:

Central Survey Unit
McAuley House
Castle Street
Belfast BT1 1SY
Tel: 02890 348277
Email: ryan.duddy@dfpni.gov.uk
www.nisra.gov.uk

P2814
What is the study about?

This is an important study that seeks to understand what people living in Northern Ireland really think. It is an opportunity for you to give your opinion on issues affecting people in your area – such as crime, immigration and ageing – the kind of things that concern us all.

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