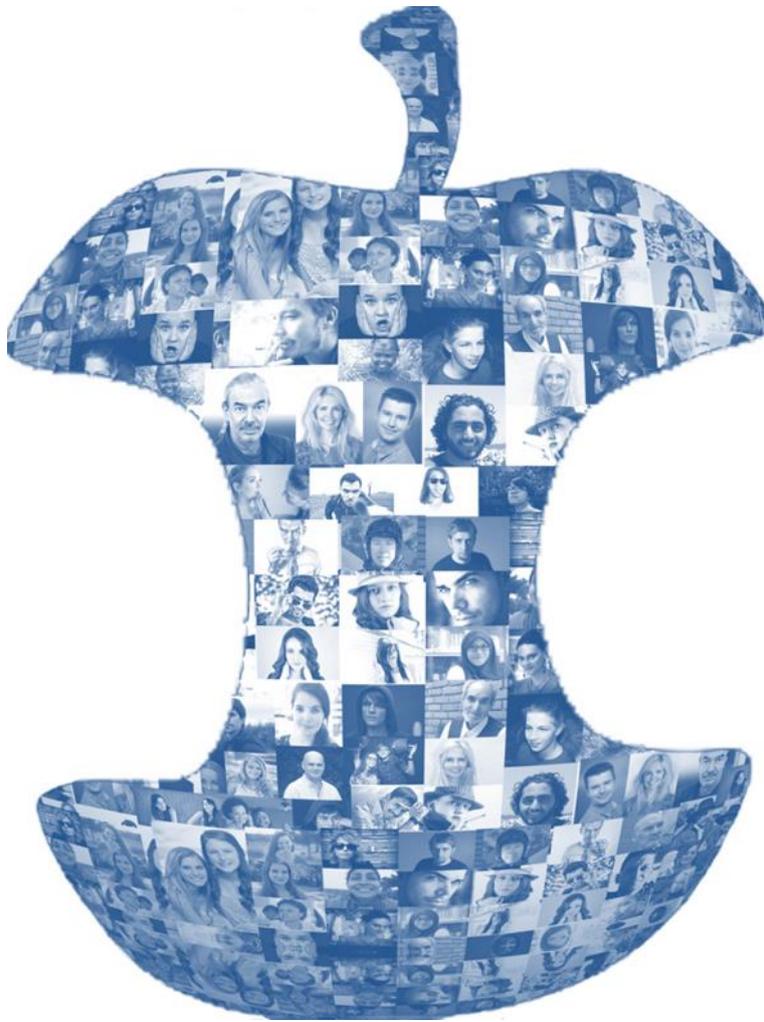


**PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES AND PLACES**

**Scottish Surveys Core Questions  
2015**

**Technical Report**

# Scottish Surveys Core Questions 2015 <sup>1</sup>



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<sup>1</sup> Image Source: <https://pixabay.com/en/social-media-faces-social-networks-550766/>

# Scottish Surveys Core Questions 2015

The publication of data from the Scottish Surveys Core Questions (SSCQ<sup>2</sup>) 2015 marks the fourth release of pooled data from the three major household surveys in Scotland. Official Statistics from SSCQ 2015 are published as online tables on [www.gov.scot/sscq](http://www.gov.scot/sscq) and [www.statistics.gov.scot](http://www.statistics.gov.scot).

SSCQ provides reliable and detailed information on the composition, characteristics and attitudes of Scottish households and adults across a number of topic areas including health, mental wellbeing, disability, smoking, and perceptions of crime and policing.

SSCQ gathers survey responses from identical questions in the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey, the Scottish Health Survey and the Scottish Household Survey into one output. The pooling of Core Questions results in an annual sample of around 20,000 respondents, providing unprecedented precision of estimates at national level.

This sample size enables the detailed and reliable analysis of key national estimates by country of birth, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, age and sex, marital status, disability, caring responsibility, smoking status, education level and economic activity, as well as tenure, car access and household type. SSCQ also enables a detailed sub-national analysis by Local Authority, urban-rural classification and Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation. A guide to content is provided on page v.

The Scottish Surveys Core Questions 2015 cover:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• self-assessed general health</li><li>• disability and long-term conditions</li><li>• smoking</li><li>• perception of local crime rate</li><li>• perceptions of police performance</li><li>• highest qualification held</li><li>• economic activity</li><li>• household type</li><li>• housing tenure</li><li>• mental well-being</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• car access</li><li>• country of birth</li><li>• ethnicity</li><li>• religion</li><li>• marital status</li><li>• sexual orientation</li><li>• gender</li><li>• age</li><li>• unpaid provision of care</li></ul> |
|--|--|

All SSCQ data and publications are available through the SSCQ website, and are distributed across a range of platforms. Please go to [www.gov.scot/SSCQ](http://www.gov.scot/SSCQ) for further information.

Jamie Robertson, Sarah Martin, Michael Davidson, Julie Wilson, Dette Cowden  
Surveys Branch, Strategic Analytical Policy Unit  
Office of the Chief Statistician and Strategic Analysis, The Scottish Government

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<sup>2</sup> About the Scottish Surveys Core Questions: [www.gov.scot/sscq](http://www.gov.scot/sscq)

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# Overview of Tables

The tables listed below are published in the form of an Excel workbook for 2015, available online at [www.gov.scot/SSCQ](http://www.gov.scot/SSCQ). The layout of these tables is identical to that in previous releases.

The remainder of this report relates to the technical details of SSCQ data, its compilation, weighting and the banding of equalities group categories in the published tables.

Figure 1: Overview of Tables

		Indicators																								
		Health & W'being					Crime						H'hold			Individual				Econ		Area				
		1.1 General Health	1.2 Longterm Conditions	1.3 Smoking	1.4 Care	1.5 Mental Wellbeing	2.1 Crime in Area	2.2 Police Confidence A	2.3 Police Confidence B	2.4 Police Confidence C	2.5 Police Confidence D	2.6 Police Confidence E	2.7 Police Confidence F	3.1 Household Type	3.2 Tenure	3.3 Car Access	4.1 Country of Birth	4.2 Ethnic Group	4.3 Religion	4.4 Sexual Orientation	4.5 Age	4.6 Marital Status	5.1 Economic Activity	5.2 Highest Qualification	S1 SIMD Quintiles	S2 Urban/Rural Classification
Scotland Overview																										
Area	Deprivation: SIMD Quintiles																									
	Urban/Rural Classification																									
	Local Authority																									
	Police Scotland Division																									
	Health Board																									
H'hold	Household Type																									
	Detailed Tenure																									
	Car Access																									
Individual Characteristics	Country of Birth																									
	Ethnic Group																									
	Religion																									
	Sexual Orientation																									
	Respondent Age and Sex																									
	Respondent Age																									
	Marital Status																									
	Economic Activity																									
	Highest Qualification Held																									
	Long Term Condition																									
	Currently Smokes																									
	Unpaid Caring																									

included in the published data tables  
 not included  
 household data not crossed with respondent variables  
 cross with same variable

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# 1 Topics in SSCQ

A number of variables in the SSCQ relate closely to key monitoring information for local and national government performance. In general, the key source for these indicators is a single established survey which provides data at national level.

Note that SSCQ national estimates may differ from the national performance indicator or longer-running time series sources. SSCQ is designed to provide a dataset for comparison between subgroups of the core questions, particularly where the individual surveys cannot produce such estimates due to insufficient sample sizes or other methodological reasons. SSCQ national point estimates do not replace the accepted statistics from established sources.

## 1.1 Self-assessed General Health

Self-assessed general health is a critical measure of the population's overall health status and a key marker of health inequalities. One of the Scottish Government's National Outcomes is the overall strategic objective for health: We live longer, healthier lives<sup>3</sup>. This is supported by a number of National Indicators including 'improve self-assessed general health'<sup>4</sup>.

Respondents to the SSCQ are asked:

How is your health in general? Would you say it was...

- very good
- good
- fair
- bad
- very bad

The preferred source of statistics for time series at Scotland level is the Scottish Health Survey<sup>5</sup>.

## 1.2 Long-term Limiting Health Conditions

In the Scottish Government's National Action Plan on long-term conditions, long-term conditions are defined as 'health conditions that last a year or longer, impact on a person's life, and may require on-going care and support'. Conditions include a wide range of mental and physical health conditions.

<sup>3</sup> [www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome](http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome)

<sup>4</sup> [www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/indicator/generalhealth](http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/indicator/generalhealth)

<sup>5</sup> SHeS 2015: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2016/09/2764/332548>

Long-term conditions account for 80% of all GP consultations and for 60% of all deaths in Scotland<sup>6</sup>. The link with deprivation, lifestyle factors and wider health determinants is also of importance in Scotland, given its persistent health inequalities. Long-term conditions therefore represent personal, social and economic costs both to individuals and their families and to Scottish society more widely. Details of long-term conditions are discussed in full in Chapter 2 of the Scottish Health Survey<sup>7</sup>.

Respondents to the SSCQ are asked:

Do you have a physical or mental health condition or illness lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?

(If "Yes"): Does your condition or illness reduce your ability to carry out day-to-day activities?

The preferred source of statistics for time series at Scotland level is the Scottish Health Survey<sup>8</sup>.

### 1.3 Smoking

Reducing smoking is a major priority for improving health. The Scottish Government's Tobacco Control Strategy sets a target to reduce smoking prevalence to 5% or lower by 2034. The actions taken by the Scottish Government to tackle the harm caused by tobacco include legislation to prohibit smoking in public places, which came into effect in March 2006, raising the age of sale for tobacco from 16 to 18 in 2007, implementation of a tobacco retail register in 2011, a ban on self-service sales from vending machines in 2013, the introduction of a tobacco display ban in shops from 2013.

Two of the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework (NPF) National Indicators are relevant to smoking.<sup>9</sup> There is a specific indicator on reducing the proportion of adults who are current smokers, as well as a more general indicator on reducing premature mortality (deaths from all causes in those aged under 75), for which smoking is a significant contributory factor. Details of smoking behaviour are discussed in full in Chapter 5 of the Scottish Health Survey<sup>10</sup>.

Respondents to SSCQ are asked, excluding cigarettes that do not contain tobacco and electronic cigarettes:

Do you smoke cigarettes nowadays?

The preferred source of statistics on smoking for time series at Scotland level is the Scottish Health Survey.

<sup>6</sup> Improving the Health and Wellbeing of People with Long Term Conditions in Scotland: A National Action Plan. Edinburgh: Scottish Government, 2009. <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2009/12/03112054/11>

<sup>7</sup> SHeS 2015, <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2016/09/2764/332548>

<sup>8</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/indicator/smoking>

<sup>10</sup> SHeS 2015: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2016/09/2764/332571>

## 1.4 Mental Wellbeing

Wellbeing is measured in the Scottish Health Survey using the Warwick–Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (WEMWBS) questionnaire<sup>11</sup>. It has 14 items designed to assess: positive affect (optimism, cheerfulness, relaxation) and satisfying interpersonal relationships and positive functioning (energy, clear thinking, self-acceptance, personal development, mastery and autonomy)<sup>12</sup>. The scale uses positively worded statements with a five-item scale ranging from '1 - none of the time' to '5 - all of the time'. Total score is the sum of these responses across the 14 questions. The scale therefore runs from 14 for the lowest levels of mental wellbeing to 70 for the highest.

WEMWBS is used to monitor the National Indicator 'improve mental wellbeing'. It is also part of the Scottish Government's adult mental health indicator set, and the mean score for parents of children aged 15 years and under on WEMWBS is included in the mental health indicator set for children<sup>13</sup>. The Scottish Health Survey provides a timeseries of WEMWBS scores from 2008<sup>14</sup>.

SWEMWBS is a shortened version of WEMWBS used by SSCQ. This question set is Rasch compatible, meaning the seven items included have undergone a more rigorous test for internal consistency than the 14 item scale and have superior scaling properties. The seven items relate more to functioning than to feeling and therefore offer a slightly different perspective on mental wellbeing<sup>15</sup>. However, the correlation between WEMWBS and SWEMWBS is high at 95.4%<sup>16</sup>. The SWEMWBS scale runs from 7 for the lowest levels of mental wellbeing to 35 for the highest.

The SWEMWBS question set was harmonised across surveys from 2014. Respondents to the SSCQ are asked to rate each of the following statements:

- I've been feeling optimistic about the future
- I've been feeling useful
- I've been feeling relaxed
- I've been dealing with problems well
- I've been thinking clearly
- I've been feeling close to other people
- I've been able to make up my own mind about things

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<sup>11</sup> © NHS Health Scotland, University of Warwick and University of Edinburgh, 2006, all rights reserved. The Warwick–Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale was funded by the Scottish Government National Programme for Improving Mental Health and Wellbeing, commissioned by NHS Health Scotland, developed by the University of Warwick and the University of Edinburgh, and is jointly owned by NHS Health Scotland, the University of Warwick and the University of Edinburgh.

<sup>12</sup> Further information about WEMWBS is available here: [www.healthscotland.com/scotlands-health/population/Measuring-positive-mental-health.aspx](http://www.healthscotland.com/scotlands-health/population/Measuring-positive-mental-health.aspx)

<sup>13</sup> See: [www.healthscotland.com/scotlands-health/population/mental-health-indicators.aspx](http://www.healthscotland.com/scotlands-health/population/mental-health-indicators.aspx)

<sup>14</sup> SHeS 2015: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2016/09/2764/332536>

<sup>15</sup> Warwick Medical School, Guidance on Scoring  
<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/research/platform/wemwbs/researchers/guidance/>

<sup>16</sup> WEMWBS User Guide v2 – NHS Health Scotland,  
<http://www.healthscotland.com/uploads/documents/26787-WEMWBS%20User%20Guide%20Version%202%20May%202015.pdf>

Unlike the full WEMWBS metric, SWEMWBS scores undergo a metric conversion to correct somewhat for this effect and produce a distribution that is closer to normal. This conversion follows the schema in Table 1. After transformation, the distribution of scores is approximately normal and the boundary effect at the scale maximum of 35 is reduced.

Table 1: SWEMWBS Scoring - Metric Conversion<sup>17</sup>

Raw Score	Metric Score	Raw Score	Metric Score	Raw Score	Metric Score
7	7	17	16.88	27	24.11
8	9.51	18	17.43	28	25.03
9	11.25	19	17.98	29	26.02
10	12.4	20	18.59	30	27.03
11	13.33	21	19.25	31	28.13
12	14.08	22	19.98	32	29.31
13	14.75	23	20.73	33	30.7
14	15.32	24	21.54	34	32.55
15	15.84	25	22.35	35	35
16	16.36	26	23.21		

## 1.5 Provision of Unpaid Care

The provision of unpaid care is a key indicator of care needs and has important implications for the planning and delivery of health and social care services.

From 2014, respondents to the SSCQ have been asked:

Apart from anything you do as part of paid employment, do you look after, or give any regular help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either long-term physical, mental ill-health, disability; or problems related to old age?

Caring can have a detrimental effect on the health and wellbeing of a carer and this can subsequently impact on the person that is being cared for<sup>18</sup>. Local authorities have a duty to assess a carer's ability to care and the power to provide support where necessary. NHS boards can also be required to publish a carer information strategy setting out how carers will be informed of their right to request an assessment.

The Carers (Scotland) Bill was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 4 February 2016 and sets out a range of measures intended to improve the support given to carers<sup>19</sup>. This includes the introduction of new duties on local authorities to support carers who are assessed as needing support and who meet eligibility criteria.

<sup>17</sup> Stewart-Brown et al. Health and Quality of Life Outcomes 2009 7:15 doi:10.1186/1477-7525-7-15 [http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/research/platform/wemwbs/researchers/guidance/swemwbs\\_raw\\_score\\_to\\_metric\\_score\\_conversion\\_table.pdf](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/research/platform/wemwbs/researchers/guidance/swemwbs_raw_score_to_metric_score_conversion_table.pdf)

<sup>18</sup> SPICe Briefing, Carers (Scotland) Bill, [http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB\\_15-24\\_Carers\\_Scotland\\_Bill.pdf](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB_15-24_Carers_Scotland_Bill.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> Carers (Scotland) Bill, <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/86987.aspx>

## 1.6 Perceptions of Change in Local Crime Rate

Respondents to the SSCQ who have lived in their current neighbourhood for 2 or more years are asked:

How much would you say the crime rate in your local area has changed since two years ago? Would you say it is more, less, or about the same?

- A lot more
- A little more
- About the same
- A little less
- A lot less

Individuals who have lived in their neighbourhood for less than two years are excluded from analysis.

The preferred source of statistics on time series of the perception of crime is the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS).<sup>20</sup>

## 1.7 Confidence in Police

Respondents to the SSCQ, regardless of whether they had ever been in contact with the police, were asked:

How confident are you in the ability of the Police in your local area to:

- A: prevent crime
- B: respond quickly to appropriate calls and information from the public
- C: deal with incidents as they occur
- D: investigate incidents after they occur
- E: solve crimes
- F: catch criminals

Response options were 'very', 'fairly', 'not very', or 'not at all' confident.

The preferred source for these statistics is the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS), which provides a time series back to 2008-09. The results of the SCJS are which are used for National Indicators<sup>21</sup> and Justice Outcome Indicators<sup>22</sup>.

<sup>20</sup> [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/crime-and-justice-survey](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/crime-and-justice-survey)

<sup>21</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/indicator/crimerate>

<sup>22</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/partnerstories/Justice-Dashboard>

## 2 Technical Notes

This chapter provides additional background on the methodology and reporting conventions of the SSCQ and its constituent surveys:

### 2.1 Source surveys and core questions

Three large-scale Scottish Government population surveys are published separately as National Statistics:

- Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS)  
[www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/crime-and-justice-survey](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/crime-and-justice-survey)
- Scottish Health Survey (SHeS)  
[www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Health/scottish-health-survey](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Health/scottish-health-survey)
- Scottish Household Survey (SHS)  
[www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002)

Further information on Population Surveys in Scotland can be found here:

[www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/Surveys](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/Surveys)

Since the beginning of 2012 each of the surveys has included a set of 20 core questions that provide information on the composition, characteristics and attitudes of Scottish households and adults across a number of topic areas including equality characteristics, housing, employment and perceptions of health and crime. Responses on these questions from all three surveys have been pooled to provide the Scottish Surveys Core Questions dataset with a sample size of around 20,000 responses.

The website contains further information about the SSCQ project and its development.

<http://www.gov.scot/SSCQ>

Data from SSCQ 2015 publication was pooled from the third and fourth quarter year<sup>23</sup> of the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2014/15 and all four quarters each of the Scottish Health Survey 2015 and the Scottish Household Survey 2015. Responses from adults aged 16 and over were included. Due to the different sampling nature to suit the primary aims of each survey, the number of respondents vary between different SSCQ questions. The questions were hence batched into three groups: household questions, individual questions and crime questions, and three different sets of weights calculated to ensure representative results. Sampling, weighting and pooled sample numbers are described separately for each survey below.

#### 2.1.1 Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) technical notes

Sampling, survey response and weighting are described in full in the SCJS 2014/15 technical report: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/crime-and-justice-survey/publications/scjs2014-15technicalreport>

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<sup>23</sup> This equates to half the SCJS sample and enables a consistent sample size in each SSCQ publication for 2012-15, while the SCJS is produced biennially on a financial year basis. From 2016/17 onwards, the SCJS will be produced annually, which will enable data pooled on a calendar year basis.

Briefly, in 2014/15 the survey consisted of a simple random sample designed to achieve a minimum effective sample size of 640 interviews in the fourteen Police Divisions (PDs), enabling robust analysis at this level. One random adult per household was interviewed and asked all SSCQ and SCJS questions.

The response rate was 63.8%, resulting in 11,472 interviews during the 2014/15 financial year field work. Of these, 5,777 interviews (completed in the second two quarters of the financial year) were pooled into the SSCQ 2015 dataset. The subset was re-weighted to be in itself representative of the adult Scottish population distribution, as described for the SCJS publication.

Roughly half of the SCJS sample is incorporated into the SSCQ. This enables a consistent sample size in each SSCQ publication for 2013-15, while the SCJS is produced biennially on a financial year basis. From 2016/17 onwards, the SCJS will be produced annually, which will enable data pooled on a calendar year basis.

### **2.1.2 Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) technical notes**

Sampling, survey response and weighting are described in full in the SHeS 2015 technical report: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2016/09/3878>

The SHeS sample is clustered in each calendar year and unclustered over four years. All adults and up to two children in each household are eligible for interview. Only one adult in each household was asked the crime and household questions, to remain in line with the SCJS sampling procedure. The SCJS sample is boosted with additional households to increase the number of children participating in the survey. However, these households were excluded from the SSCQ dataset: equality questions are not asked of children in the SHeS and SSCQ results cover only adult participants.

The response rate was 59% and 3,301 households were interviewed in the main and health board boost samples. 4,998 resulting adult interviews were pooled into the SSCQ 2015 dataset. Of these, 3,298 were asked the crime questions. The subset of households (excluding the child boost), and adult respondents were re-weighted to be representative of the Scottish private household and population distribution, as described for the SHeS publication.

### **2.1.3 Scottish Household Survey (SHS) technical notes**

Sampling, survey response and weighting are described in full in the forthcoming SHS 2015 technical report.

The SHS consists of a simple random sample with a target minimum effective sample size of 250 per local authority. The SSCQ household questions are asked of the highest income householder or their spouse/partner, and one adult is randomly selected to answer the individual and crime questions, in line with the other two surveys.

64.0% of eligible households responded, leading to 10,325 household interviews. The response for the random adult interview was 58.3%, yielding 9,408 interviews. Weighting is fully described in the SHS technical report.

## 2.2 Weighting

Datasets from the three source surveys were combined into three new SSCQ datasets: SSCQ household variables (19,403 responses), SSCQ individual variables (20,183 responses) and SSCQ crime variables (18,483 responses), see Table 1.

Each variable response category in each of the surveys carries a different design effect. If we were solely seeking the most efficient estimate for each variable separately then separate scale factors could be derived for each one. However, this would restrict the use and understanding of the dataset. Rather, for each constituent survey dataset the design effects were estimated for each response category and then the median design effect over all response categories for all variables was used as the representative design effect of that survey. These design effects were then used along with the sample sizes to calculate the effective sample sizes (neff) and scaling factors for combining the three datasets.

Table 1: Numbers of sample and effective sample pooled from the source surveys

	SCJS		SHeS		SHS		SSCQ	
	sample	neff	sample	neff	sample	neff	sample	neff
Household responses <sup>24</sup>	5,777	4,886	3,301	2,183	10,325	8,587	19,403	15,657
Individual responses <sup>25</sup>	5,777	4,196	4,998	2,513	9,408	6,397	20,183	13,106
Crime responses <sup>26</sup>	5,777	3,975	3,298	1,419	9,408	6,279	18,483	11,673

To combine the data the scale factors were applied to the grossing weights for the individual surveys (described in section 2.1). The neff of each survey contribution formed the basis for the scaling factors:

survey A weight scaling factor =  $\text{neff}(\text{surveyA}) / (\text{sum of three survey neffs})$ .

The weights were then re-scaled to be proportionate to effective sample size contribution of each survey and used as pre-weights.

The three pooled SSCQ datasets were then weighted again to be representative of National Records of Scotland population estimates<sup>27</sup>.

<sup>24</sup> SSCQ household variables are household type, tenure and car access

<sup>25</sup> SSCQ individual respondent variables are self-assessed general health, limiting long-term health conditions, smoking, highest achieved qualification, economic activity, ethnic group, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, gender and age

<sup>26</sup> SSCQ crime variables are perception of local crime rate and six questions on perceptions of police performance

<sup>27</sup> See SSCQ Weighting tables spreadsheet at <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00493725.xlsx>

## 2.3 Confidence Interval Calculations

All three of the source surveys are stratified to ensure sufficient sample sizes in the smaller local authority areas. In addition, SHeS is clustered in each annual fieldwork period and, while this effect cancels out over each four-year period, it must be accounted for in producing annual results.

Confidence intervals have therefore been calculated using a method to account for stratification and clustering and the resulting design effects (surveyfreq in SAS).

Confidence intervals are provided alongside all survey estimates in the accompanying tables.<sup>28</sup> Where the intervals do not overlap then there is a significant difference between two points.

If they do overlap it does not necessarily mean there is no significant difference.<sup>29</sup> In such cases a more detailed test may be performed as follows.

For two point estimates,  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ , with associated margins of error (MoE; the corresponding  $\pm$  value), the difference between the two estimates is statistically significant at the 95% level if:

$$|p_1 - p_2| > \sqrt{(MoE_1^2 + MoE_2^2)}$$

A comparison of estimates of key variables across the three constituent surveys and the SSCQ are provided in Annex B.

## 2.4 Statistical Disclosure Control

All estimates based on a single respondent and displayed in the published tables have been denoted with '\*' to safeguard the confidentiality of respondents with rare characteristics.

For individual variables crossed with individual variables (e.g. Ethnicity by Religion), further cells with zero or low respondent numbers in the same row and column as the single response have also been suppressed with '\*' to ensure confidentiality. For household and geographic variables, only one further cell in the same row was suppressed, as these cross-tabulations are not transposed.

Cells with true zero counts are denoted with '.' throughout, unless denoted '\*' as part of disclosure control.

## 2.5 Presentation of Data on Country of Birth

The country of birth of respondents is collected in considerable detail by the pooled surveys. Reporting on the data in this way would uniquely identify, and therefore potentially disclose the identity of, participants from a range of countries. For this reason, country of birth has been presented as follows:

- Scotland: Respondents who specifically list "Scotland" as their country of birth

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<sup>28</sup> See SSCQ Statistical tables, available at <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00493724.xlsx>

<sup>29</sup> see guidance at <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/Methodology/confinv>

- Rest of UK: England, Northern Ireland, Wales, Great Britain/United Kingdom (Not Otherwise Specified). Inclusion of this last item may lead to an over-count of respondents from outside Scotland.
- Rest of EU: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus (European Union), Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, , Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden
- Rest of World: All other responses (excluding refusals)

## 2.6 Presentation of Data on Ethnic Group

Ethnicity of respondents is collected in considerable detail by the contributing surveys to the SSCQ.

We have tried to present the data on ethnic group in a way that would be most helpful to users, with consideration to producing analysis to reveal inequalities that highlight the need for action. However, in Scotland, many ethnic groups are small in number and this can often lead to statistical unreliability when analysing and presenting data drawn from a sample survey. This can hinder publication of figures because of the need to avoid identification of individuals.

Table 2: Grouping of ethnicity in the SSCQ

Base Collection Categories		Super Groups	
A - WHITE - White Scottish	16,100	White: Scottish	16,100
A - WHITE - Other British	2,619	White: Other British	2,619
A - WHITE - Polish	132	White: Polish	258
A - WHITE - Irish	8	White: Other	611
A - WHITE - Gypsy/Traveller	258		
A - WHITE - Any other white ethnic group	471		
C - ASIAN, ASIAN SCOTTISH OR ASIAN BRITISH - Pakistani, Pakistani Scottish or Pakistani British	40	Asian	335
C - ASIAN, ASIAN SCOTTISH OR ASIAN BRITISH - Indian, Indian Scottish or Indian British	118		
C - ASIAN, ASIAN SCOTTISH OR ASIAN BRITISH - Bangladeshi, Bangladeshi Scottish or Bangladeshi British	97		
C - ASIAN, ASIAN SCOTTISH OR ASIAN BRITISH - Chinese, Chinese Scottish or Chinese British	15		
C - ASIAN, ASIAN SCOTTISH OR ASIAN BRITISH - Other Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British	61		
B - MIXED OR MULTIPLE ETHNIC GROUP - Any mixed or multiple ethnic groups	44	All other ethnic groups	222
D - AFRICAN - African, African Scottish or African British	61		
D - AFRICAN - Other African background	20		
E - CARIBBEAN OR BLACK - Caribbean, Caribbean Scottish or Caribbean British	11		

Base Collection Categories	Super Groups
E - CARIBBEAN OR BLACK - Black, Black Scottish or Black British	14
E - CARIBBEAN OR BLACK - Other Caribbean or Black background	1
F - OTHER ETHNIC GROUP - Arab, Arab Scottish or Arab British	33
F - OTHER ETHNIC GROUP - Other	42

In some instances we have tried to overcome this problem by combining categories. This is not an ideal solution as it can hide inequalities that occur between each of the separate categories, but it is often the option which provides the best balance between data utility, sensitivity and the protection of the individual. Our schema for doing so is provided in Table 2.

Where it has been necessary to combine categories, we have tried to make the headings reflective of the individual categories that have been combined. We have tried to take account of the sensitivities around differing stakeholders' views of the ethnic group categories used in Scottish surveys. In the accompanying commentary we have used current terminology on ethnicity.

Where the numbers are too small to publish and we haven't grouped categories, Statistical Disclosure Control has been applied.

## 2.7 Presentation of Data on Religion

The religion of respondents is collected in considerable detail by the contributing surveys to the SSCQ. However, some religious group sample sizes are too small to present with reliable statistical accuracy. For this reason, religions have been grouped as shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Grouping of religion in the SSCQ

Base Collection Categories	Super Groups		
None	8,860	None	8,860
Church of Scotland	6,255	Church of Scotland	6,255
Roman Catholic	2,770	Roman Catholic	2,770
Other Christian	1,589	Other Christian	1,589
Muslim	244	Muslim	244
Hindu	51	Other	290
Buddhist	21		
Pagan	14		
Jewish	47		
Sikh	21		
Another religion	136		

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## Correspondence and enquiries

For enquiries about this publication please contact:

Jamie Robertson  
Office of the Chief Statistician and Strategic Analysis  
Telephone: 0131 24 43040,  
e-mail: [jamie.robertson@gov.scot](mailto:jamie.robertson@gov.scot)

For general enquiries about Scottish Government statistics please contact:

Office of the Chief Statistician, Telephone: 0131 244 0442,  
e-mail: [statistics.enquiries@gov.scot](mailto:statistics.enquiries@gov.scot)

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## Annex A. Comparison with Census

In this chapter we compare estimates produced from the SSCQ 2012 data with the population of Scotland on census day 2011. The census tables used for the following comparisons are available to download from the Scotland-level bulk data file<sup>30</sup>.

Table A.1: Tenure of Scottish households

Tenure	Census 2011	SSCQ 2015
Owned	27.8%	31.6% ± 0.7%
Mortgaged	34.2%	29.3% ± 0.7%
Social rented	24.3%	24.0% ± 0.7%
Private rented	11.1%	14.7% ± 0.6%
Other rented	2.6%	0.2% ± 0.1%
<i>Census source table: KS402SC</i>		

SSCQ estimates there to be more outright owners (+1.8 p.p.) fewer mortgage-holders (-2.3 p.p.), fewer social renters (-1.4 p.p.) and more private renting tenants (+2.5 p.p.) than reported by census. Some of the differences are likely to be as a result of changes in the underlying composition of household tenure between 2011 and 2012. The Scottish Household Survey Annual Report 2014<sup>31</sup> sets out trends in tenure between 1999 and 2014. This highlights for example that the proportion of households in the private rented sector has estimated to have grown steadily from 5 per cent in 1999 to 14 per cent in 2014.

Table A.2: Number of cars accessible by household members

Car Access	Census 2011	SSCQ 2015
None	30.5%	29.9% ± 0.8%
1	42.2%	43.1% ± 0.8%
2	21.6%	21.8% ± 0.6%
3+	5.6%	5.2% ± 0.3%
<i>Census source table: KS404SC</i>		

Estimates of car access by household are very accurate compared to census figures.

Table A.3: Country of birth of adult population

Country of Birth	Census 2011	SSCQ 2015
Scotland	81.5%	79.5% ± 0.8%
Rest of UK	10.8%	11.2% ± 0.6%
Rest of EU	3.3%	4.5% ± 0.4%
Rest of World	4.4%	4.7% ± 0.4%
<i>Census source table: DC2103SC</i>		

There are small differences between the SSCQ 2012 and census results. SSCQ estimates a 1 p.p. smaller proportion of Scottish-born individuals, and slightly larger proportions born outside Scotland.

<sup>30</sup> Scotland's Census 2011 Data Warehouse: <http://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/ods-web/data-warehouse.html#bulkdatab>

<sup>31</sup> See housing chapter of the 2014 SHS report at [www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/16002)

Table A.4: Ethnicity of adult population

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Census 2011</b>	<b>SSCQ 2015</b>
White Scottish	83.4%	78.4% ± 0.8%
White other British	8.6%	12.4% ± 0.6%
White Polish	1.1%	1.6% ± 0.3%
White other	3.3%	3.7% ± 0.4%
Asian	2.5%	2.3% ± 0.3%
All Other	1.1%	1.4% ± 0.2%
<i>Census source table:</i>	<i>DC2101SC</i>	

83% of census respondents were white Scottish, and 8.6% white other British. SSCQ puts these at around 79% and 12% respectively. Other ethnicities are in line with census figures.

Table A.5: Religion of adult population

<b>Religion</b>	<b>Census 2011</b>	<b>excl. Missing</b>	<b>SSCQ 2015</b>
Refused/DK	6.7%	-	1.0% ± 0.2%
None	34.3%	36.8%	46.6% ± 0.9%
Church of Scotland	34.8%	37.3%	27.4% ± 0.8%
Roman Catholic	16.0%	17.2%	14.5% ± 0.6%
Other Christian	5.8%	6.2%	7.3% ± 0.5%
Muslim	1.2%	1.3%	1.7% ± 0.3%
Other	1.2%	1.3%	1.6% ± 0.2%
<i>Census source table:</i>	<i>DC2107SC</i>		

A large proportion (6.7%) of census respondents did not provide information about their religious belief. Excluding these missing cases from census responses indicates that SSCQ picks up fewer Church of Scotland and Roman Catholic respondents, and more non-religious, non-Church of Scotland Christians and "Other".

Table A.6: Self-assessed general health

<b>General Health</b>	<b>Census 2011</b>	<b>SSCQ 2015</b>
Very good	46.0%	35.0% ± 0.9%
Good	33.0%	39.2% ± 0.9%
Fair	14.3%	18.1% ± 0.7%
Bad	5.1%	5.8% ± 0.4%
Very bad	1.6%	1.7% ± 0.2%
<i>Census source table:</i>	<i>DC3102SC</i>	

Reported levels of 'very good' general health were higher in census responses than in the SSCQ. However greater reporting of 'good' general health in SSCQ bring the national indicator combining these top two categories close (79% versus 74%). The responses were similar in reporting 'bad' and 'very bad' general health.

Table A.7: Economic activity

<b>Economic Activity</b>	<b>Census 2011</b>	<b>SSCQ 2015</b>
In Employment	57.7%	56.6% ± 0.9%
Unemployed	5.1%	3.2% ± 0.3%
Inactive	37.2%	40.1% ± 0.9%
<i>Census source table:</i>	<i>DC6107SC</i>	

SSCQ reported marginally lower levels of employment and unemployment, and higher levels of inactivity than the census estimates.

Table A.8: Highest achieved qualification

<b>Top Qualification</b>	<b>Census 2011</b>	<b>SSCQ 2015</b>
No qualifications	26.8%	16.7% ± 0.6%
Other qualifications	-	4.9% ± 0.3%
Level 1	23.1%	20.1% ± 0.7%
Level 2	14.3%	16.8% ± 0.7%
Level 3	9.7%	11.3% ± 0.5%
Level 4 and above	26.1%	29.4% ± 0.8%
<i>Census source table:</i>	<i>DC5102SC</i>	

SSCQ reported similar levels of higher qualifications and a distinction between 'no qualifications' and 'other qualifications' when compared to census estimates.

Table A.9: Provision of unpaid care

<b>Unpaid care</b>	<b>Census 2011</b>	<b>SSCQ 2015</b>
Provides Care	11.2%	18.1% ± 0.7%
No care	88.8%	81.8% ± 0.7%
<i>Census source table:</i>	<i>DC3103SC</i>	

There were large differences in the census and survey collections of the rate of unpaid care provision. Given that there does not appear to be a strong bias in the surveys compared with census across other questions, we can only assume that this is associated with a mode effect influencing the way individuals respond to questions on paper and in person.

## Annex B. Comparison of the pooled surveys

In this section, key outcome variables are assessed across the three surveys to determine if there is broad agreement between the constituents of the SSCQ. Where the quoted confidence intervals overlap, we can assume that differences in the estimates are not statistically significant.

Estimates in these tables will be close to but may not be identical to figures published by the individual surveys. This is due to differences in the valid sample size and weights being applied before pooling (see section 2.1).

The three surveys and the pool broadly agree on the distribution of self-assessed health (Table B.1) and on the proportion of the adult population that smoke (Table B.2).

Respondents to the Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) are somewhat more likely to say that they suffer from a long-term limiting health condition (Table B.3). Respondents are more likely to identify long-term conditions when asked about them in the context of an interview about numerous aspects of their health and wellbeing.

Table B.1: Self-assessed general health by survey (row % and margin of error)

	Very good	Good	Fair	Bad	Very Bad
SSCQ	35.2 ± 0.8	38.9 ± 0.8	18.6 ± 0.6	5.5 ± 0.3	1.6 ± 0.2
SCJS	35.8 ± 1.5	39.1 ± 1.5	17.7 ± 1.2	5.5 ± 0.6	1.7 ± 0.4
SHeS	32.4 ± 1.9	41.2 ± 1.9	18.2 ± 1.3	6.2 ± 0.9	2.0 ± 0.5
SHS	36.0 ± 1.2	38.4 ± 1.2	18.9 ± 0.9	5.2 ± 0.5	1.4 ± 0.2

Table B.2: Current smoker (row % and margin of error)

	Yes	No
SSCQ	21.2 ± 0.7	78.6 ± 0.7
SCJS	22.0 ± 1.3	77.9 ± 1.3
SHeS	21.8 ± 1.8	77.4 ± 1.8
SHS	20.2 ± 1.0	79.8 ± 1.0

Table B.3: Long-term limiting health condition (row % and margin of error)

	Condition and limits a little or lots	No condition/condition that doesn't limit
SSCQ	23.2 ± 0.7	76.3 ± 0.7
SCJS	18.1 ± 1.1	81.5 ± 1.1
SHeS	31.6 ± 1.8	68.3 ± 1.8
SHS	22.8 ± 0.9	76.6 ± 1.0

Respondents to the SCJS tend to have a poorer perception of crime in their area. Table B.4 shows different rates of exclusion for the local crime rate question. However, accounting for this difference does not eliminate differences across the valid responses. SCJS respondents are more likely to answer at the extremes of the scale (“a lot more” and “a lot less”), but are still more likely to report an increase in crime in their neighbourhood.

Table B.4: Perception of local crime rate (row % and margin of error)

	Excluded <sup>32</sup>	A lot more	A little more	About the same	A little less	A lot less
SSCQ	13.6 ± 0.7	3.9 ± 0.3	11.8 ± 0.6	57.7 ± 0.9	7.0 ± 0.5	1.5 ± 0.2
SCJS	14.2 ± 1.1	5.3 ± 0.7	12.1 ± 1.1	53.3 ± 1.6	8.6 ± 0.8	2.1 ± 0.5
SHeS	19.5 ± 2.5	4.4 ± 1.0	12.2 ± 1.5	55.6 ± 2.7	6.5 ± 1.2	1.9 ± 0.6
SHS	12.0 ± 0.9	3.0 ± 0.4	11.6 ± 0.8	60.6 ± 1.2	6.3 ± 0.6	1.0 ± 0.2

Table B.5: Confidence in the Police to... (row % and margin of error)

	Very confident	Fairly confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident
<b>A: Prevent crime</b>				
SSCQ	8.7 ± 0.5	48.5 ± 0.9	25.7 ± 0.8	7.5 ± 0.5
SCJS	9.3 ± 0.9	48.4 ± 1.5	27.6 ± 1.4	9.4 ± 0.8
SHeS	7.5 ± 1.4	55.8 ± 2.6	25.9 ± 2.2	4.4 ± 0.9
SHS	8.6 ± 0.7	46.9 ± 1.2	24.7 ± 1.0	7.1 ± 0.6
<b>B: Respond quickly to appropriate calls and information from the public</b>				
SSCQ	17.1 ± 0.7	48.5 ± 0.9	17.0 ± 0.7	7.4 ± 0.5
SCJS	18.3 ± 1.2	47.2 ± 1.5	20.0 ± 1.3	9.0 ± 0.9
SHeS	16.5 ± 2.1	57.7 ± 2.5	15.0 ± 1.7	4.2 ± 0.9
SHS	16.5 ± 0.9	47.2 ± 1.2	15.8 ± 0.9	7.1 ± 0.6
<b>C: Deal with incidents as they occur</b>				
SSCQ	14.0 ± 0.6	54.2 ± 0.9	17.2 ± 0.7	5.6 ± 0.4
SCJS	14.3 ± 1.1	54.7 ± 1.5	19.4 ± 1.2	6.2 ± 0.7
SHeS	13.8 ± 1.9	59.8 ± 2.4	17.1 ± 2.0	3.2 ± 0.7
SHS	13.9 ± 0.9	52.7 ± 1.2	16.0 ± 0.9	5.8 ± 0.6
<b>D: Investigate incidents after they occur</b>				
SSCQ	14.5 ± 0.6	55.6 ± 0.9	15.4 ± 0.7	4.6 ± 0.4
SCJS	15.4 ± 1.1	57.8 ± 1.5	16.5 ± 1.2	4.4 ± 0.6
SHeS	14.4 ± 1.9	60.5 ± 2.5	15.2 ± 1.8	3.4 ± 0.9
SHS	14.0 ± 0.9	53.1 ± 1.2	14.8 ± 0.9	5.0 ± 0.5
<b>E: Solve crimes</b>				
SSCQ	8.7 ± 0.5	53.4 ± 0.9	20.3 ± 0.7	4.9 ± 0.4
SCJS	8.3 ± 0.9	55.4 ± 1.5	22.0 ± 1.3	5.1 ± 0.7
SHeS	9.6 ± 1.7	58.2 ± 2.5	20.6 ± 2.1	3.4 ± 0.8
SHS	8.8 ± 0.7	51.3 ± 1.2	19.0 ± 0.9	5.2 ± 0.5
<b>F: Catch criminals</b>				
SSCQ	8.7 ± 0.5	51.4 ± 0.9	22.2 ± 0.7	5.8 ± 0.4
SCJS	8.5 ± 0.9	52.5 ± 1.5	25.2 ± 1.3	5.8 ± 0.7
SHeS	8.7 ± 1.7	57.3 ± 2.6	22.9 ± 2.1	3.9 ± 0.9
SHS	8.8 ± 0.7	49.5 ± 1.2	20.2 ± 1.0	6.2 ± 0.6

Respondents to the Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) tend to have somewhat lower levels of confidence in the police overall (Tables B.5), and were also slightly more likely to respond to these questions (8% refusal on average, compared with around 10% for the other two surveys). This disparity in response rates does not account for the differences observed between surveys.

<sup>32</sup> Respondents who have lived in their current neighbourhood for less than 2 years are excluded.