



Department
for Culture
Media & Sport



Meta-data for Taking Part 2014/15 Quarter 1

Meta-data to accompany the Statistical Release

October 2014



Taking Part is a National Statistic and has been produced to the standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics

Contents

Introduction	4
Annex A: Background note.....	5
Annex B: Key terms and definitions.....	8
Annex C: Sector definitions	10

Introduction

Meta-data

The meta-data describe the Taking Part data and provides terms and definitions. This document provides a stand-alone copy of the meta-data which are included as annexes in the Statistical Release.

The Taking Part Survey

Taking Part is a household survey in England, looking at participation in the cultural and sporting sectors. The survey has run for nine years and was commissioned by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) in partnership with Arts Council England, English Heritage, and Sport England. The statistics are used widely by policy officials, academics, the private sector and charities to measure participation in the sport and cultural sectors.

Taking Part is the key evidence base for DCMS, providing reliable national estimates of participation and supporting the Department's aim of improving the quality of life for everyone, by providing people with the chance to get involved in a variety of cultural and sporting opportunities.

If you would like further information on the Taking Part Survey, please contact the Taking Part team on TakingPart@culture.gsi.gov.uk. Additional contact details are contained within Annex A.

Annex A: Background note

1. The Taking Part survey is commissioned by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and its partner arm's length bodies (ALBs). For 2011 to 2015 these are Arts Council England, English Heritage and Sport England.
2. Taking Part is a National Statistic and as such has been produced to the high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. National Statistics undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure they meet customer needs and are produced free from any political interference. See the [Statistics Authority code of practice](#) for more information.

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed. See the [UK Statistics Authority assessment](#) for more information.

3. Stringent quality assurance procedures have been adopted for this statistical release. All data and analysis has been checked and verified by two different members of the team and TNS-BMRB to ensure the highest level of quality.
4. Guidance on the quality that is expected of Taking Part statistical releases is provided in a [quality indicators document](#). These quality indicators outline how statistics from the Taking Part survey match up to the six dimensions of quality defined by the European Statistical System (ESS). These are: relevance, accuracy, timeliness, accessibility, comparability and coherence.
5. Methodology update
TNS-BMRB has introduced a modification to the way in which the dataset is weighted. Previously, both the fresh and re-interview samples were calibrated to gender, age and region population totals before being combined together. However, following (planned) analysis of re-interview data, TNS BMRB concluded that calibration alone was insufficient to compensate for the attrition observed between the first and second interviews. A model has now been developed which determines the probability of being re-interviewed, given data from the first interview. The findings from this model have been incorporated into the weighting process as an extra step before calibration to gender, age and region population totals.
6. The latest results presented here are based on interviews issued between July 2013 and June 2014. The total sample size for this period is 10,045.
7. The survey measures participation by adults (aged 16 and over) and children (5-10 and 11-15) living in private households in England. No geographical restriction is placed on where the activity or event occurred. Further information on data for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland can be found in question 2 of the ["Taking Part: Guidance Note"](#).

8. The median adult sample interview length for the 2013/14 survey was 44 minutes 14 seconds. The median survey length for the 5-10 year old child interview was 11 minutes 8 seconds and for 11-15 year olds it was 20 minutes 41 seconds.
9. Participation in these activities must be for the purpose of recreation or leisure, including voluntary work. It excludes involvement in activities where the prime motivation is paid work or academic studies. The exceptions to this are attendance at historic environment sites which includes visits made for academic study. Paid work visits and academic study visits are also included in one of the archive attendance measures.
10. The range has been calculated using a 95% confidence interval. This means, had the sample been conducted 100 times, creating 100 confidence intervals, then 95 of these intervals would contain the true value. All estimates have been rounded to one decimal place. An overall design factor¹ of **1.384** has been applied to the adult dataset for the period July 2013 to June 2014. Individual adult design factors have been calculated for each sector in this period, ranging from **0.944** to **1.777**.
11. Statistical significance tests have been run at the 95% level. A significant increase at the 95% level means that there is less than 5% (1 in 20) chance that the difference observed within the sampled respondents was not also observed in the English population as a whole.
12. Some figures may have been revised from previous releases, in which case the figures in this release supersede those from previous statistical releases. For more detailed information on the DCMS revisions policy and how revisions are handled for the Taking Part Survey, please see the [DCMS statement of compliance](#)
13. The data are weighted to ensure the representativeness of the Taking Part sample. There are two types of weighting: i) to compensate for unequal probabilities of selection; and ii) to adjust for differential non-response. Weighting is based on mid-2009 population estimates from the Office for National Statistics.
14. For more information see the [Taking Part Survey](#) webpages, including previous publications.

Versions of the [questionnaires](#) from all years of the survey are available.
15. As published in previous statistical releases and on our [consultation pages](#) in March 2013, sport participation data are no longer analysed or reported on by DCMS or in the Taking Part publications. Sport participation data are reported on by Sport England in the [Active People Survey](#).
16. The fieldwork for the survey is being conducted by TNS-BMRB. For more information, see <http://www.tns-bmr.co.uk>
17. We can help to meet the specific requirements of people with disabilities. Please call 020 7211 6000 or email takingpart@culture.gsi.gov.uk
18. This report has been produced by Jodie Hargreaves and Madeleine May (DCMS). Acknowledgement goes to colleagues within the DCMS, partner ALBs and TNS-BMRB for their assistance with the production and quality assurance of this release.

¹ Design factors are calculated to correct for imperfect sample design. For example, Taking Part uses a clustered sample, rather than a random sample and this may affect the results for particular demographic groups – design factors are used to correct for this bias.

19. The responsible statistician for this release is Jodie Hargreaves. For enquiries on this release, please contact Jodie on 0207 211 6327.
20. For general enquiries telephone: 0207 211 6200
Department for Culture Media and Sport
4th floor
100 Parliament Street
London
SW1A 2BQ
enquiries@culture.gov.uk

Annex B: Key terms and definitions

Term	Definition
2014/15 Q1	This is the time period covering July 2013 to June 2014. It is also referred to as the year or 12 months to June 2014.
ACORN classification	A classification of residential neighbourhoods is a geo-demographic information system categorising some United Kingdom postcodes into various types based upon census data and other information such as lifestyle surveys.
Actively get involved in the Olympics	<p>This covers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attending a free Olympic or Paralympic event (e.g. marathon, cycling, road racing) 2. Attending a ticketed Olympic or Paralympic event 3. Taking part in a Games related sports or physical activity (e.g. AdiZone, Gold Challenge, Cadbury's Spots V Stripes) 4. Using a new or improved sports facility linked to the 2012 Games (e.g. Inspire-marked) 5. Games related employment or training 6. Taking part in a Games related cultural event or activity (e.g. Cultural Olympiad, London 2012 Festival) 7. Volunteering during the Games (e.g. as a Gamesmaker, London Ambassador or for Cadbury's Spots V Stripes) <p>Taking part in a Games related community event or activity (e.g. street party or local Inspire Mark project)</p>
Archives	Archives are collections of documents that have been created by families, individuals, businesses or organisations and have been specially chosen to be kept permanently. Further information is available in Annex C.
Arts	A list of arts that the respondent may have participated or attended is available in Annex C: Sector definitions.
Attendance	This refers to the respondent going to a place, for example, attending a library or a heritage site.
Civic participation	Actions include, contact a local radio station, TV station or paper; talk to / written to a sporting or cultural facility, contact the council, contact a local councillor or MP, join a local group or attend a neighbourhood forum, attend a protest meeting or joined a campaign group, or help organise a petition.
Confidence interval	This provides a range in which there is a specific probability that the true value will lie within. For the Taking Part survey, 95% confidence intervals are used which means, had the sampling been conducted 100 times, creating 100 confidence intervals, then 95 of these intervals would contain the true value.
DCMS sectors	The DCMS sectors are the culture, arts, sport, volunteering and charitable giving sectors.
Digital participation	This refers to visiting websites for a number of reasons. These are outlined in Annex C: Sector definitions.
Digitally engage	This refers to the respondent engaging with the DCMS sectors via the internet.

Term	Definition
Engagement	This refers to either attending and/or participating in the sport, culture or arts sector. For example, if the respondent attended an art gallery (attendance) or gave a dance performance (participation).
Following the Olympics	This covers watching the Olympics on TV at home, listening to the radio at home, watching or listening on the internet at home, reading the newspaper online or offline or watching live events on a public big screen.
Historic environment	A list of all historic environments is available in Annex C: Sector definitions.
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) decile group	The Index of Multiple Deprivation is a composite index which measures neighbourhood deprivation across seven domains (for example housing and income deprivation). The IMD decile group splits neighbourhoods into ten groups according to the level of deprivation (eg 10% most deprived neighbourhoods).
Participation	This refers to the respondent actively taking part in the activity. For example heritage participation could refer to visiting a monument such as a castle, fort or ruin, whilst participating in the arts may refer to painting.
Public library service	A list of valid uses of a public library is available in Annex C: Sector definitions.
Significant increase/decrease	A significant increase/decrease at the 95% level means that there is less than a 5% (1 in 20) chance that the difference observed within the sampled respondents is not representative of the English population as a whole.
Socio-demographic groups	Categorising the respondents by different social classes such as age, gender, employment status, housing tenure, ethnicity, religion, disability/illness status and National Statistics Socio-Economic Classes (NS-SEC)
Taking Part Survey	A survey commissioned by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) in partnership with the Arts Council England, English Heritage and Sport England, looking at engagement and non-engagement in culture, leisure and sport. Further information is available on the Taking Part Web pages
Volunteering	Offering one's time for free. This could be organising or helping to run an event, campaigning, conservation, raising money, providing transport or driving, taking part in a sponsored event, coaching, tuition or mentoring for no expense.

Annex C: Sector definitions

The following annex presents the various definitions for adult participation in DCMS sectors.

Libraries

The respondent is asked if they have used a public library service. If the respondent is unsure what is in scope, the interviewer has the following definition to refer to.

“Use of a public library can include:

- A visit to a public library building or mobile library to make use of library services (including to print/use electronic resources or to take part in an event such as a reading group or author visit)
- The use of on-line library resources or services remotely (i.e. used a computer outside the library to view the website, catalogue or databases)
- Access, and receipt, of the library service by email, telephone, fax or letter
- Receipt of an outreach service such as home delivery or library events outside a library building

Use of other libraries and archive services is excluded.”

Museum, gallery or archive

The respondent is asked if they have attended a museum, gallery or archive. If the respondent is unsure what is in scope, the interviewer has the following definition to refer to.

“Archives are documents that have been created by families, individuals, businesses or organisations and have been specially chosen to keep permanently. They can be written papers such as letters or diaries, maps, photographs or film or sound recordings. Archives are historical documents but do not have to be very old. Places that keep archives are usually called a record office or archive centre.

Registering a birth, death or marriage happens at a registry office, not at an archive centre/record office.”

Arts

The respondent is asked if they have participated in a given list of arts activities, or attended a given list of arts events. Eligible activities and events are as follows.

Participation:

- Dance – ballet or other dance (for fitness and not for fitness)
- Singing – live performance or rehearsal/practice (not karaoke)
- Musical instrument – live performance, rehearsal/practice or played for own pleasure
- Written music
- Theatre – live performance or rehearsal/practice (e.g. play or drama)
- Opera/musical theatre – live performance or rehearsal/practice
- Carnival (e.g. as a musician, dancer or costume maker)
- Street arts (art in everyday surroundings like parks, streets, shopping centre)
- Circus skills (not animals) – learnt or practised
- Visual art – (e.g. painting, drawing, printmaking or sculpture)
- Photography – (as an artistic activity, not family or holiday ‘snaps’)
- Film or video – making as an artistic activity (not family or holidays)
- Digital art – producing original digital artwork or animation with a computer
- Craft – any craft activity (e.g. textiles, wood, metal work, pottery, calligraphy etc)
- Creative writing – original literature (e.g. stories, poems or plays)

- Book club – being a member of one

Attendance:

- Visual art exhibition (e.g. paintings, photography or sculpture)
- Craft exhibition (not crafts market)
- Event which included video or digital art
- Event connected with books or writing
- Street arts (art in everyday surroundings like parks, streets or shopping centre)
- Public art display or installation (an art work such as sculpture that is outdoors or in a public place)
- Circus (not animals)
- Carnival
- Culturally specific festival (e.g. Mela, Baisakhi, Navratri)
- Theatre (e.g. play, drama, pantomime)
- Opera/musical theatre
- Live music performance (e.g. classical, jazz or other live music event but not karaoke)
- Live dance event (e.g. ballet, African People's dance, South Asian, Chinese, contemporary or other live dance)

Historic environment

The respondent is asked if they have visited the following list of historic environment sites.

- A city or town with historic character
- A historic building open to the public
- A historic park, garden or landscape open to the public
- A place connected with industrial history or historic transport system
- A historic place of worship attended as a visitor
- A monument such as a castle, fort or ruin
- A site of archaeological interest
- A site connected with sports heritage

Digital Participation

Digital Participation includes visiting websites for at least one of the following reasons:

- Museum or gallery website – To look at items from a collection.
- Museum or gallery website – To find out about a particular subject.
- Museum or gallery website – To take a virtual tour of a museum or gallery
- Museum or gallery website – To view or download an event or exhibition
- Library website – To complete a transaction (e.g. reserve or renew items, pay a fine).
- Library website – To search and view online information or make an enquiry.
- Heritage website – To take a virtual tour of a historical site.
- Heritage website – To learn about history or the historic environment
- Heritage website – To discuss history or visits to the historic environment on a forum
- Arts Website – To view or download part or all of a performance or exhibition
- Arts Website – To discuss the arts or share art that others have created
- Arts Website – To upload or share art that you have created yourself
- Arts Website – To find out how to take part or improve your creative skills
- Archive or records office website – To complete a transaction.
- Archive or records office website – To view digitized documents online.
- Archive or records office website – To search a catalogue.

Volunteering

The respondent is asked about any voluntary work they have done, including:

- Raising or handling money / taking part in sponsored events
- Leading a group
- Being a member of a committee
- Organising or helping to run an activity or event
- Visiting people
- Befriending / mentoring people
- Coaching or tuition
- Giving advice/ information/ counselling
- Secretarial, administrative or clerical work
- Providing transport or driving
- Representing – e.g. addressing meetings, leading a delegation
- Campaigning – e.g. lobbying, canvassing, letter writing
- Conservation/restoration
- Officiating – e.g. judging, umpiring or refereeing
- Other practical help - e.g. helping out a school, religious group, with shopping/refreshments
- Work in a charity shop

The respondent is also asked whether this activity was connected to any of the following areas:

- Arts
- Museum or gallery
- Heritage
- Libraries
- Archives
- Sport
- Any other sector



Department
for Culture
Media & Sport

4th Floor, 100 Parliament Street
London SW1A 2BQ
www.gov.uk/dcms
