Summary Quality Report – Our Population: Perceptions of the Outcomes Framework

PfG Analytics

March 2020

Dimension	Assessment by the author.
Introduction	**Context for the quality report.**
	As an official statistics publication 'Our Population: Perceptions of the Outcomes Framework' complies with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Statistics.[1]
	The report provides figures on the public opinion of the Outcomes Framework at two levels:
	• **Outcomes** – summary results for each of the 12 Outcomes in the draft Programme for Government (PfG)/Outcomes Delivery Plan
	• **Population Characteristics** – summary results for sub-population characteristics such as age, sex, gender, disability etc.
	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 2018/19 the CHS was based on a systematic random sample of 9,000 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.
	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 2018/19 was 57.7%.
Relevance	**The degree to which the statistical product meets the user needs in both coverage and content.**
	The report provides data on the public's perception of each of the 12 Outcomes in the draft PfG at a population level, and also a breakdown by various sections of society, including those under Section 75 categories, where possible.
	This report uses various graphics 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.

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

Accuracy and Reliability	**The proximity between an estimate and the unknown true value.**
	In 2018/19, the CHS was based on a systematic random sample of 9000 addresses drawn each year from the Pointer list of domestic addresses. The CHS sample was doubled for 2017/18 and 2018/19; from 2014/15 to 2016/17 the CHS was based on a systematic random sample of 4,500 addresses. In 2018/19 the overall response rate was 57.7%
	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 figures have been weighted.
	Statistical significance was determined using 95% confidence levels. Where significant differences are observed between two groups, these have been highlighted. For example, "*There were significant differences* by sex in five of the 12 Outcomes. Males agreed significantly less* than females with three of the Outcome statements.*"
	This is accompanied by a brief explanation and signposting to a more detailed description of how to interpret statistical uncertainty in the report's 'Background' section.
Timeliness and Punctuality	**Timeliness refers to the time gap between publication and the reference period. Punctuality refers to the gap between planned and actual publication dates.**
	PfG Analytics, who produce the report, received the validated 2018/19 CHS dataset in July 2019.
	'Our Population: Perceptions of the Outcomes Framework 18/19', was published in October 2019 – 6 months after the end of the reference period.
	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.
Accessibility and Clarity	**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.**
	The 'Our Population: Perceptions of the Outcomes Framework 18/19' 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 sections providing summary background information, definitions and methodological explanations.
	Accompanying data tables, in Microsoft Excel and OpenDocument Spreadsheet format, are also available on the Executive Office's website.
	The key findings from the report have been summarised in a standalone bulletin available as a separate PDF, and both the Outcomes and Population Characteristics bulletins also have their associated Key Findings sections at the beginning of the respective reports.
	Contact details have also been included in the main report.
Coherence and Comparability	**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.**
	The statistics contained within the report are derived solely from the CHS. Following an initial pilot, this is the second year these questions have been included in the CHS, and it is anticipated that they will be included annually going forward. It is hoped that direct comparisons will be able to be made between years going forward.
	As the results look at the attitudes towards the Northern Ireland Outcomes framework, it is not possible to compare it to UK or Republic of Ireland data.
Trade-offs between output quality components	**Trade-offs are the extent to which different aspects of quality are balanced against each other.**
	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. It may be possible, in some cases, to roll years of data together to provide reliable estimates for certain sub-groups. This will be explored as further data from future CHS become available.
Assessment of user needs and perceptions	**The process for finding out about users and uses, and their views on the statistical products.**
	Contact details for the responsible statisticians have been provided within the main report.

Performance, cost and respondent burden	The effectiveness, efficiency and economy of the statistical output.
	The total cost for the inclusion of the eleven common metrics questions and the 12 Outcomes questions within the 2018/19 CHS was £7,805. The overall cost of running the CHS cannot be provided as this is commercial-in-confidence.
Confidentiality, transparency and security	The procedures and policy used to ensure sound confidentiality, security and transparent practices.
	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.
	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.