



UK Household Longitudinal Study

Wave 10 technical report

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Introduction

The UK Household Longitudinal Study (UKHLS) is known to sample members as Understanding Society. This major longitudinal household panel survey started in 2009, and is the largest study of its kind, with around 40,000 households interviewed at Wave 1. The study collects data from household members aged 10 and above on an annual basis.

It is commissioned by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and led by the Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER) at the University of Essex.

This report gives details of Wave 10 of Understanding Society, which was undertaken by Kantar, Public Division, and NatCen Social Research, working in consortium.

Overview of methodology

Households were issued in 24 monthly batches, with all households being issued in the same quarter as they were in previous waves. The sample was separated into two issue modes: 'CAWI first' (70% of the sample) and 'CAPI first' (30% of the sample).

Fieldwork for the CAWI first sample followed a sequential mixed mode design. Households were initially invited to take part online. At the end of the initial web fieldwork period any individuals or whole households that had not taken part online were issued to a face-to-face interviewer. From this point on the majority of interviewing was completed face-to-face although the web survey remained available for sample members to complete that way. A small amount of telephone interviewing (CATI) was also undertaken to 'mop up' any remaining individuals that had not taken part towards the end of fieldwork.

For the CAPI first group the majority of fieldwork was completed using face-to-face interviewing (CAPI), supplemented by a small amount of web interviewing (CAWI) and telephone interviewing (CATI) later in fieldwork to 'mop up' individuals and households that had not taken part.

The allocation of households to issue mode was done by ISER.

As with previous waves, there were a number of different elements to the study:

- A household enumeration questionnaire, completed once per household to confirm who is currently living there;
- A household questionnaire, completed once per household to gather some household level information;
- An individual questionnaire, completed by anyone aged 16 or more in each household;
- A paper self-completion questionnaire, completed by children aged 10 to 15;
- Consents for linking to administrative records.

The median questionnaire lengths were 3 minutes and 27 seconds for the household enumeration grid, 11 minutes and 35 seconds for the household questionnaire, and 43 minutes and 21 seconds for the individual interview.

Survey content

The Wave 10 survey covered many topics, including some sets of questions that are asked every year, and other 'rotating' content that had been included in some previous waves but not all. A full list of modules included in the survey can be found in Appendix A.

Outputs

Data from Understanding Society is deposited at the UK Data Archive after each wave is completed. As more completed waves of data have become available the number of research projects using Understanding Society data have increased. The latest publications, working papers and media coverage of Understanding Society are available on the study website (www.understandingsociety.ac.uk).

1. Fieldwork design

This section gives details of the sample that was issued at Wave 10 and the overall fieldwork design.

1.1 Increasing online interviewing

Online interviewing was used for the first time on the main Understanding Society survey at Wave 7, having previously only been used on the Innovation Panel. At Wave 7 only a minority of households were included in the CAWI first sample – mostly those that had not taken part at Wave 6. At Wave 8 40% of households were issued 'CAWI first', this increased to 60% at Wave 9, and 70% at Wave 10.

1.2 Allocation to issue mode

A fifth (20%) of the Understanding Society sample is 'ring fenced' to be issued CAPI first. This is so a representative sub-sample is available to use as a control group for research looking into the effects of mode on Understanding Society.

Once the ring fenced sample was excluded, ISER used a model to allocate households to mode. The 12.5% of non-ring fenced households (10% of all households) least like to respond online were allocated to the CAPI first group. The remaining households were then allocated to CAWI first.¹

1.3 Sample

The majority of Understanding Society sample was selected at Wave 1, for details of how this was done please refer to the Wave 1 technical report. Since Wave 1 some households have dropped out of the study, either due to adamantly refusing, continuous non-participation, or moving to an unknown location. Additional households have also been created where households have split, for example, where grown up children have moved out of their parents' home. Additional sample was introduced to the study as part of an immigrant and ethnic minority boost (IEMB), conducted alongside Wave 6 of Understanding Society, for further details please refer to the IEMB technical report. This IEMB sample was incorporated into the main part of the study for the first time at Wave 7.

The total number of 'active' households issued at Wave 10 was 23,383. This included four different sample types:

- The general population (GP) sample, originally sampled at Wave 1 of Understanding Society – 14,619 GP households were issued at Wave 10
- The ethnic minority boost (EMB) sample, originally sampled at Wave 1 of Understanding Society – 1,888 EMB households were issued at Wave 10

¹ After this a small number of adjustments were made for the sake of practicality. For example, each wave a small number of households are issued to the same address. The most common cause of this is a grown up child moving out of their parents' home (e.g. to attend University) so that a new 'split off' household is created for them. They later move back to their parents' address and inform ISER of this between waves. Therefore at the next wave both the original household (containing the parents) and the split off household (containing the grown up child) are issued to the same address. Face-to-face interviewers are aware of this situation and know how to deal with it so that the two households are merged back together. To ensure this would happen any households issued to the same address were issued CAPI first.

- The British Household Panel Survey (BHPS) and Northern Ireland Household Panel Survey (NIHPS) samples that were incorporated into Understanding Society at Wave 2 – 5,059 BHPS/NIHPS households were issued at Wave 10
- The immigrant and ethnic minority boost (IEMB) sample, originally sampled at Wave 6 of Understanding Society – 1,817 IEMB households were issued at Wave 10.

The BHPS/NIHPS sample was all issued in year 1 of fieldwork, and the IEMB sample all issued in year 2.

The number of individuals in the issued sample is shown in table 1.1.

Table 1.1 Number of individuals in the issued sample

	Adults (16+)	10 – 15s	Under 10s
GP	28,329	2,698	3,354
EMB	4,741	717	793
BHPS/NIHPS	9,874	910	1,169
IEMB	4,131	628	939

1.3.1 CATI only sample

Within the sample, there were a small number of issued households (n=169) who had previously indicated they would prefer to take part by phone. Many of these households were issued CAWI first and some completed online. Those that did not take part online, or which had an issue mode of 'CAPI first' were contacted by NatCen's telephone centre and interviewed by telephone where possible.

1.4 Fieldwork structure

Sample was provided to Kantar in eight quarterly batches. This ensured each household was issued in the same quarter as it had been at previous waves. Each quarterly sample was then split into three roughly evenly sized monthly batches. Where households were issued to the same address as the previous wave they were allocated to the same sample point and each sample point was usually issued in the same month as it had been at Wave 9.

At Wave 10 the sample was split so that 60% of sample points were allocated to Kantar interviewers and 40% were allocated to NatCen interviewers.

The vast majority of sample points were issued to the same agency as they had been at wave 9. At both Kantar and NatCen, where possible, sample points were issued to the same interviewer that had worked on that sample point at Wave 9. This meant that, at Wave 10, of households issued to the same address as the previous wave, 71% were issued back to the same interviewer.

Sample was issued to field in 24 monthly batches, the first in January 2018 and the last in December 2019.

1.4.1 Fieldwork timings

The CAWI first sample had an initial web fieldwork period of 5 weeks. At the end of 5 weeks any households that had not completed online were issued to a face-to-face interviewer. Both the CAWI first and CAPI first sample was issued to face-to-face interviewers at the same time, 19 weeks before the end of fieldwork.

The web survey remained open throughout fieldwork so the CAWI first sample could still complete online after they had been issued to a face-to-face interviewer. The CAPI first sample could also complete online if

they expressed a very strong preference for this. Interviewers were able to give sample members the web address and their login details for the web survey². A web mop up was also used for the CAPI first sample. CAPI first sample members with whom interviewers had not managed to make contact were sent invitations to complete the web survey after 11 weeks of face-to-face fieldwork.

Table 1.2 Fieldwork timings

Fieldwork weeks	CAPI first sample	Web first sample
Web fieldwork (5 weeks)	No fieldwork for CAPI first sample	Sample members invited to take part online
F2F weeks 1 to 8	CAPI assignments with original interviewer - interviewers aimed to have final outcomes for all sample after 8 weeks	Unproductive households issued to interviewers and incorporated into CAPI assignments (web survey remains open throughout fieldwork)
F2F weeks 9 and 10	CAPI mop up weeks with original interviewer	
F2F weeks 11 to 15	CAPI re-issue period At the start of week 11 sample members that had not been contacted were sent a letter and email inviting them to complete the web survey	CAPI re-issue period
F2F weeks 16 to 19	CATI mop up period	CATI mop up period

In reality, there was some flexibility around these timings. Original interviewers could hold on to sample after 10 weeks of face-to-face fieldwork if there was a good reason to do so. For example if they had made contact with a household and that household were willing to take part but unable to do so until later in fieldwork.

1.4.2 CATI mop up fieldwork

In the last four weeks of fieldwork, outstanding cases could be contacted by telephone. Not all live sample was transferred to the CATI mop up, some face-to-face interviewing was still carried out during these last four weeks.

Cases to be included in the CATI mop up were issued to NatCen's telephone centre to be contacted by telephone interviewers.

1.4.3 Change to fieldwork procedures in March 2020

The November and December 2019 sample months were still in field on 17th March 2020 when, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a decision was taken to cease all face-to-face interviewing. At this point all active cases (adults without a final outcome) were sent a letter asking them to complete online. Interviewers also continued trying to contact and interview active cases by telephone. For the November sample this was mostly done by NatCen's telephone centre. For the December sample face-to-face interviewers from Kantar

² Interviewers were instructed only to do this if a sample member was adamant that they would rather take part online. Otherwise, they always aimed to complete a face-to-face interview to minimise the chances of sample members saying they would complete online as a means of 'soft refusal'.

and NatCen conducted telephone interviews for the last few weeks of fieldwork (using the telephone version of the questionnaire).

2. Contact and co-operation

Understanding Society puts much effort into contacting respondents and keeping them engaged with the study. As well as contact for each year's interview, there are also between wave mailings and emails to sample members to feedback findings from the study and encourage people to keep their contact details up to date. This chapter describes the contact strategy for Wave 10, including the between wave mailings.

2.1 Advance mailing

The advance mailing varied a little depending on whether sample members were part of the CAPI first sample or the CAWI first sample.

For the CAPI first sample, all eligible sample members aged 16 or over were sent a letter shortly before the start of face-to-face fieldwork for that month. The letter explained that an interviewer would call soon. A change of address card was attached to the bottom of the letter, and the mailing also included a freepost return envelope for the change of address card.

For the CAWI first sample, all eligible sample members aged 16 or over were sent a letter on the first day of web fieldwork for that month asking them to complete the survey online and providing the web address and their login details for doing so. The letter also explained that, if they were unable to complete the survey online, an interviewer would contact them as usual. The letters also included a change of address card and freepost return envelope. If an email address was available, these sample members were also sent an email with a unique link to start the web survey.

There were 10 different types of advance letter, depending on individual circumstances, as well as 2 types of letter for new entrants in households completing by web. In part different letter types were to deal with different incentives types and mode types, but they also used slightly different messages tailored to the circumstances. The letter types are shown in table 2.1.

For all addresses in Wales, the letter was sent in both Welsh and English. Individuals who had previously been interviewed in one of the other 8 translated languages (Bengali, Gujarati, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi Gurmukhi, Punjabi Urdu, Turkish, Urdu) were sent a letter in that language.

All letters were designed with Understanding Society branding, and were signed by the Director of Understanding Society.

Letters were sent to the most up to date address available for each sample member. If a sample member had moved from this address and so did not receive their letter, then interviewers were able to give them a generic copy of the advance letter.

2.1.1 New entrant letters


For the households issued CAWI-first at Wave 10, it was necessary to have a mechanism to contact individuals who had been added to households during household grids done on the web. Letters were sent to these individuals to provide them with their web login details and ask them to take part in the study online. These letters also included a change of address card and freepost return envelope.

Table 2.1: Letter types used at Wave 10 by issue mode

Household type	Adult type	CAPI first	Web first
Responding household at previous wave	Productive adult at Wave 9	Letter 1 (£10 unconditional incentive)	Letter 2 (£10 unconditional incentive)
	Unproductive adult at Wave 9	Letter 3 (£10 conditional incentive)	Letter 4 (£10 conditional incentive)
	Rising 16s ³	Letter 7 (£10 unconditional incentive)	Letter 8 (£10 unconditional incentive)
	New entrants	n/a	Letter 11 (£10 conditional incentive)
Unproductive household at previous wave	Adults	Letter 5 (£20 conditional incentive)	Letter 6 (£20 conditional incentive)
	Rising 16s	Letter 9 (£20 conditional incentive)	Letter 10 (£20 conditional incentive)
	New entrants	n/a	Letter 12 (£20 conditional incentive)

³ Rising 16s were sample members that had recently turned 16 and were therefore being asked to complete the adult survey for the first time at Wave 10, while in previous years they may have completed the youth paper questionnaire. They received different letters to those who were adults at Wave 9, although the incentives were the same.

Fig 2.1: Example Wave 10 (CAWI first) advance letter including change of address card



RESP_Name
Add1
Add2
Add3
Add4
Add5
Postcode

Participant hotline: 0800 252 853
Web: www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/participants
Email: contact@understandingsociety.ac.uk

Date

Salutation

Thank you for your continuing support for Understanding Society. Your participation is vital and is giving a voice to the experiences of thousands of people across the UK. Every time you are interviewed, you are contributing to a unique study about life in the UK and how it's changing. Understanding Society is being used in new ways every day by academic researchers, policy makers and charities. In the past few months information from Understanding Society has been used to evaluate urban regeneration, look further at the concerns that children have, consider the benefits of flexible working and track the wellbeing of older people. You can keep up to date with how the study is being used by visiting www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/participants. We take the confidentiality of our participants very seriously. Please be assured that all the information you provide is treated confidentially. To read more on our policy on confidentiality, please visit <https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/participants/data-confidentiality>. We hope you will help us again this year as only by interviewing the same people every year can we accurately measure how life in the UK is changing. The survey is available at www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/society. When you've reached the website, you'll be asked to enter your unique username and password.

Username: Password:

If you are unable to complete your questionnaire on-line, an interviewer will be in touch with you to arrange a convenient time for an interview. To say thank you for your help and let you know we value your contribution, we've enclosed a £10 gift card which has already been activated for you, and is ready to use.

If you're able to complete your interview online by month-day, we will send you an extra £10 gift card soon after this deadline as a thank you for your early co-operation.

At the bottom of this letter is a change-of-address card. Please let us know if you change any of your contact details. If you have any questions about the study, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our Participant Helpline.


With many thanks,

Michaela Benzeval


Professor Michaela Benzeval – Director, Understanding Society
Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Essex

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WHY TAKE PART?




Your contribution helps build a more detailed picture of life in the UK.



It only takes 40-60 minutes to complete the survey.




Understanding Society gives you a voice on issues that matter.




There are gift cards available for those who take part.


WHO'S USING THE STUDY?



Academics
By taking part, you're helping universities all over the world carry out important work which helps researchers to understand society today.




Charities & think tanks
Your ongoing support means you're helping charities such as Age UK to improve their services.



Policy makers
Policy makers can make better decisions based on you answering the survey questions every year and this could change laws.

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Name: RESP_Name
PID: FF_PID
MOVING FROM:
Add1
Add2
Add3
Add4
Add5
Postcode

MOVING TO:
New Address:
Home Phone:
(inc STD code)
Postcode:
Mobile:
E-mail address:
Date of move:

Name:
Mobile:
Name:
Mobile:
Name:
Mobile:
Name:
Mobile:

2.2 Incentives

The incentive amounts at Wave 10 varied depending on whether a household had taken part at the previous wave. The majority of sample members were sent an unconditional incentive in their advance letter, but not all. Table 2.2 details the incentives for adults.

Table 2.2: Incentive amounts for adults

Adult type	Amount and administration of incentive
Previous wave responding adults and rising 16s in productive households at the previous wave	£10 gift voucher included in advance letter
Adults that had not taken part at the previous wave but were in households that were partially productive at the previous wave	£10 gift voucher handed out by interviewer at the end of the interview (or posted for web and telephone respondents)
Adults in households that were not contacted at the previous wave	£20 gift voucher handed out by interviewer at the end of the interview (or posted for web and telephone respondents)
Adults in households that refused at the previous wave	£20 gift voucher included in advance letter
New entrant adults to households that had taken part at the previous wave	£10 gift voucher handed out by interviewer at the end of the interview (or posted for web and telephone respondents)
New entrant adults to households that had not taken part at the previous wave	£20 gift voucher handed out by interviewer at the end of the interview (or posted for web and telephone respondents)

All incentives were 'Love2Shop' gift cards, that could be used at a variety of shops. Where incentives were conditional, the CAPI script prompted interviewers to hand these out at the end of the interview. The CAPI script also asked interviewers to check, at the end of the interview, that respondents had received their advance letter and incentive. If they had not, the CAPI script prompted interviewers to hand out another voucher of the requisite amount.

2.2.1 Youth incentives

Young people aged 10-15 were given a £5 gift card for completing the paper youth self-completion questionnaire. This was partially unconditional as interviewers would hand out the voucher at the same time as the paper questionnaire, so it was not conditional on the questionnaire being completed. However, it was not completely unconditional as interviewers would not hand out vouchers if they were not able to make contact with the household, or if the young person or their parent refused to accept the paper questionnaire.

Where households completed online, the youth paper questionnaire, along with the £5 voucher, was sent to a parent with a covering letter asking the parent to pass both the voucher and the questionnaire on to the young person to complete and return in the freepost envelope provided.

2.3 Between wave mailings

A mailing was sent to each household once every six months. This included:

- A covering letter
- A short booklet or postcard highlighting some recent findings from the study
- A change of address card and freepost envelope in which to return it.

The purpose of these mailings was to thank respondents for their participation with the aim of encouraging future participation, and to encourage them to keep ISER informed of any changes of address.

In addition to this, 'likely mover' mailings were sent once a quarter to any adult that had been interviewed in the previous three months and said they expected to move in the next year. These included a letter, a change of address card and a return envelope. The letter asked the sample member to return the change of address card in the event they did move.

2.4 First contact with sample members

Interviewers were instructed to attempt contact with all households within two weeks of the start of fieldwork to minimise the time between sample members receiving their advance letters and receiving a visit from their interviewer. Where households had been productive at the previous wave, interviewers were instructed to attempt first contact by telephone so they could make an appointment to complete the survey. This approach was considered to be both more efficient for interviewers and more convenient for sample members.

For households that had not taken part at the previous wave, first contact was attempted face-to-face with the exception of the small number of telephone only households. Households that have not taken part at the previous waves are less likely to take part at the current wave, and in in-person visit from an interviewer is less likely to elicit a refusal than a telephone call. Where interviewers had made repeated unsuccessful face-to-face contact attempts they would start attempting contact by telephone.

2.5 Sample information sheets

The majority of information about households and sample members was held electronically on interviewers' encrypted CAPI laptops. However, a sample information sheet was also produced for each household so that interviewers would have some basic information easily to hand. The front page of the sample information sheet included household level information including: mode allocation (CAPI first or web first); outcome last wave; and the day and time the household questionnaire was completed at the last wave. The back page had individual level information including: first names, ages and genders; outcome at the previous wave; incentive type; and language interviewed in at the last wave.

The sample information sheet also included web login details for each sample member. This was so, if sample members expressed a strong preference for completing online, the interviewer could facilitate this.

2.6 Doorstep documents

Interviewers were provided with a number of materials that they could use on the doorstep to help with contacting sample members and persuading them to take part. All materials were Understanding Society branded. These included:

- **'Interviewer cards'** – these were for interviewers to use as calling cards (if they had called at a household and no one was in), appointment cards and broken appointment cards. Aside from the Understanding Society logo and a freephone number for either Kantar or NatCen these cards were blank for interviewers to include their own message or write in appointment details. Interviewers were asked to always include their name on the card and encouraged to include their mobile phone number if they were willing to do so.
- **Laminated generic advance letter** – as this was Wave 10 of Understanding Society, and the study branding had remained the same throughout, interviewers found that holding a document with the Understanding Society logo visible when they first attempted contact was useful as sample members would recognise the logo and immediately know why the interviewer was there. This laminated copy of the advance letter was a useful document for interviewers to hold in this situation, it could also be shown to respondents who might not have received their advance letter. Interviewers also had non-laminated copies that they could leave with respondents.
- **'Information for participants' leaflet** – these leaflets included some information about Understanding Society, they were primarily aimed at new entrants to the study but interviewers could also give them to continuing sample members who wanted a bit more information.

- **Case study leaflets** – eight of these were produced to be used with respondents who might need a bit of persuading to take part. They emphasised the importance of the study by highlighting a particular policy area, detailing some findings from Understanding Society data in that area, coverage in the media and implications for policy.

3. Movers and tracing

As with any longitudinal study, tracing people who move is a crucial part of maintaining a representative panel. The overall strategy for tracing movers has multiple strands, some of which are undertaken by ISER. These include:

- Providing a change of address card (and freepost return envelope) with mailings to sample members, and at the end of interviews for those that did not receive an advance letter;
- Offering multiple options for sample members to update their contact details – posting a change of address card, a freephone telephone number, and through the Understanding Society website;
- Offering sample members a £5 gift card in return for updating their address;
- Between wave mailings (and corresponding emails) to sample members between fieldwork waves;
- During interviews, collecting a variety of contact details (and then verifying these at later waves) including email addresses, mobile and work telephone numbers, and a stable contact;
- Interviewer tracing of movers during fieldwork;
- Using commercial databases to try to find sample members that are known to have moved.

This chapter focuses on the tracing of movers during fieldwork by interviewers.

When trying to contact households and individuals, interviewers could encounter two different types of move. A **whole household move**, where none of the sample members were still living at the issued address, and a **split off move**, where one or more sample members had moved from the issued address, but at least one sample member remained at that address.

3.1 Tracing procedures

Tracing procedures were covered in interviewer briefings, and also detailed in interviewer instructions. Interviewers were instructed to start tracing procedures as soon as they became aware of a household move in order to maximise the time available to trace and then interview sample members.

The methods used by interviewers to trace sample members included asking current occupiers or neighbours, using telephone numbers, and contacting stable contacts. Interviewers were also provided with letters they could use to help with tracing:

- A **tracing letter** – this was for use in situations where the interviewer made contact with someone who did have contact details for a sample member, but was not comfortable giving these to the interviewer. The tracing letter was addressed to the sample member and left with the contact to pass or post to them. This letter asked the sample member to get in touch with ISER with their new contact details;
- A **stable contact letter** – this was for use if interviewers were unable to contact stable contacts by phone or in person, the letter was posted to them. The letter asked stable contacts to get in touch with ISER and provide new contact details for the sample member.

Where interviewers successfully traced a household, they were able to visit the new address straight away if it was in their area. If the new address was further away they would assign the household an outcome code of “moved out of area” and enter the new address if their electronic contact sheet. This would create an

update within the sample management system, alerting the sampling team that the household required re-assigning to a new interviewer.

Where interviewers exhausted their tracing options and were unable to find a new address, cases were passed back to ISER for further tracing. This was done via a weekly file, produced throughout fieldwork, which included all individuals that had moved and were untraced. If this second stage of tracing was successful, an address update would be returned to Kantar and then re-issued to field either to the same interviewer, or to a different interviewer if the new address was in a different area.

3.2 Split off households

If an interviewer identified a sample member that had split from their original household, they would attempt to find a new address for that sample member in the same ways used for whole households moves, although in many cases the remaining household members were able to provide a new address for the person that had moved out. Where interviewers found a new address, they entered this in the electronic contact sheet. This then caused an update in the electronic sample management system, and a new household was created for that individual, then issued to field.

3.3 Institutions

With the exception of those that were in prison, sample members who had moved to an institution remained eligible for interview at their new address. Interviewers were instructed to attempt to interview participants where possible, but briefed about the need to contact gatekeepers in advance in some circumstances, and also about allowing for sensitivities relating the reasons for the participants moving into an institution (for example a nursing home).

4. Translations

At Wave 10 the questionnaire was translated into nine different languages to help the survey be inclusive of people that would otherwise be unable to take part, in particular those in ethnic minority groups. For other languages, interviewers could still attempt to interview people, but would use someone else in the household to translate.

The web version of the questionnaire was not translated, so translated interviews could only be conducted face-to-face.

4.1 Formal translations

For the nine translated languages, core survey materials and the questionnaire script were translated into these languages. The interview was conducted in translation either by an interviewer that had been accredited in that language, or by an interviewer accompanied by an interpreter.

The table below shows the nine languages in which the translated script and materials were available, and also the number of individual interviews conducted in that language.

Table 4.1: Number of translated interviews conducted in each language

Language	No. individual interviews
Bengali	4
Gujarati	12
Polish	3
Portuguese	0
Punjabi Gurmukhi	1
Punjabi Urdu	16
Turkish	0
Urdu	64
Welsh	0

4.1.1 Accreditation of interviewers

In order to conduct interviews in translation, interviewers had to be briefed on Understanding Society and had to pass an accreditation process. They were sent an extract of the questionnaire that had been translated into the relevant language, then had a telephone call with a translator who spoke the language.

The call would be conducted in the relevant language and the interviewer would run through the questions they had been sent with the accreditor acting as a respondent. If the accreditor was satisfied that the interviewer was fluent in both reading and speaking the language, then the interviewer was allowed to conduct translated interviews.

4.1.2 Interpreters

Where a translated interview was required and there was not a Kantar or NatCen interviewer available to conduct it, an agency interpreter was used. In these cases the interpreter would accompany an interviewer to conduct the interview. The interviewer would deal with the administration of the interview and use of the CAPI laptop, while the interpreter would read out the questions and ensure the interviewer selected the appropriate answer.

4.1.3 Identifying cases for translation

As Understanding Society is a longitudinal study, most individuals that required a translated interview were already identified in the sample as they had also required a translated interview at previous waves. However, there were some cases where new joiners to households required a translated interview.

If interviewers were in a situation where no one in a household spoke English (or no one who was there when they called) they had some materials they could use to help identify which language the sample member spoke and therefore whether a formal translation was required. These materials were:

- A translation card – this was shown to household members to establish which language they spoke. The card included over 30 languages, each with the phrase “I speak <language>” (for example, in Bengali, it read “I speak Bengali”).
- A translation booklet – where a household member identified that they spoke a language that Understanding Society has been translated into, interviewers would show them the translation booklet which, in each of the nine languages, explained a bit more about the study and asked for a name and phone number so a translator could contact them about taking part.

4.2 Informal translations

If a sample member did not speak English or one of the nine translated languages, they could still be interviewed. In these cases the interviewer would use someone else to translate – usually another household member but sometimes a family member or friend of the sample member who lived nearby.

4.3 Welsh translations

For all households in Wales, advance letters were sent in both English and Welsh. The youth self-completion questionnaire was also translated into Welsh. However, no interviews were conducted in Welsh and the Welsh youth questionnaire was rarely used.

5. The interview

The main component of the Wave 10 interview was the individual adult questionnaire. This was administered using a CAI script, and interviews were attempted with all individuals aged 16 or more in the household. Three-fifths of interviews were completed by web (60%). Almost all of the remainder (40%) were conducted face-to-face, and the CAPI questionnaire also included a self-completion (CASI) section. A small number (less than 1%) of respondents took part by telephone. Other elements of the Wave 10 interview were:

- The household enumeration grid and household questionnaire (completed once per household)
- The youth self-completion questionnaire for 10-15 year olds (on paper)
- A proxy interview for adults that were unable or unwilling to complete a full interview.

A full list of the topics covered by the Wave 10 questionnaire can be found in Appendix A.

5.1 Questionnaire length

The questionnaires were heavily routed depending on an individual's circumstances so the length of interviews varied. Interview lengths were generally longer for people who were employed, had children, or were being interviewed for the first time.

Table 5.1 shows the median interview lengths for different sample types for CAPI interviews only. Table 5.2 gives median interview lengths by sample type for CAWI interviews.

Table 5.1: Median interview lengths (minutes) by sample type – CAPI interviews

Questionnaire element	GP	BHPS	EMB	IEMB	Total
Household questionnaire (including enumeration)	15:26	14:59	15:09	13:50	15:13
Individual adult CAI questionnaire	34:38	32:19	32:35	31:07	33:36
Individual adult CASI questionnaire	11:22	10:07	9:28	9:53	10:50
Individual adult questionnaire – total (CAI +CASI)	46:44	43:16	42:37	41:22	45:16
CAI proxy questionnaire	4:58	4:14	3:59	4:12	4:34

Table 5.2: Median interview lengths (minutes) by sample type – CAWI interviews

Questionnaire element	GP	BHPS	EMB	IEMB	Total
Household questionnaire (including enumeration)	15:48	16:00	18:41	17:36	16:02
Individual adult questionnaire – total	41:30	40:34	43:55	44:47	41:33

5.2 Questionnaire programming

The CAI instrument was programmed using Unicom Intelligence software (previously known as IBM Data Collection), which is able to handle the complexity of the Understanding Society questionnaire. The same script was used for CAPI, CAWI and CATI, with some minor modifications to allow for mode type. Two scripts were created, the first was at household level and included the household enumeration grid, the household questionnaire and administrative content such as call records. The second was the individual level script which included the adult interview, proxy interview and administration of the youth self-completion questionnaire.

5.3 Youth self-completion questionnaire

Youth questionnaires for sample members aged 10 to 15 were completed on paper, although the individual level script included information to help interviewers administer these. Firstly interviewers sought verbal consent from a parent or guardian, then asked the young person if they would complete the questionnaire. The interviewer used information from the CAI instrument to fill in some details on the front of the questionnaire, before handing it to the young person along with an envelope in which to seal it when completed, and a £5 voucher. Ideally the young person would complete the questionnaire while the interviewer was in the household, but this was not always possible.

Interviewers could also leave questionnaires with parents to be given to the young person.

Interviewers were encouraged to go back to households to collect completed questionnaires, but as a last resort sample members could be left with a reply paid envelope in which to return the questionnaire themselves.

5.3.1 Households completing via web

Where the household completed the survey online, questionnaires were posted to a parent (who had completed online) with a request to ask their child to complete and return the paper questionnaire.

For the last two quarters of Wave 10 sample, where a questionnaire was not returned, a reminder was sent later in fieldwork. This reminder included another copy of the questionnaire.

Fig 5.1: Youth self-completion questionnaire – front cover

Background pattern: REPEAT YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE

Your questionnaire

Self-completion questionnaire (10-15 yrs)

+

+

INTERVIEWER: WRITE IN FROM CAPI SCREEN

Serial

Person number


First name

Interviewer number

Month

+

+

Understanding Society

260413158
W10 GB

6. Briefings and interviewer materials

6.1 Briefings

Two different types of briefing were used for Wave 10 of Understanding Society:

- 'Refresher' briefings for interviewers that had already worked on Wave 9 of Understanding Society;
- 'Full' briefings for interviewers that had not previously worked on the study.

Both types of briefing were conducted face-to-face and were usually with groups of around 15 interviewers. The majority of briefings for Wave 10 were refresher briefings. Researchers from Kantar and NatCen⁴ ran the briefings and in many cases a researcher from ISER also attended and presented part of the briefing.

6.1.1 Full briefings

Full briefings lasted around 6 hours and covered the following:

- An introduction to Understanding Society, the background to and purpose of the study;
- Examples of the impact Understanding Society had had so far;
- Information about the sample, different types, length of time in the study;
- Multimode elements of the study and interviewers responsibilities for web first households;
- Procedures for contacting households, minimum call requirements and tracing movers;
- Materials provided to interviewers, what they are for and when to use them;
- Achieving a high response rate, avoiding refusals;
- The questionnaire, different components, topics covered by each, and who should be answering each element;
- Rules for who should be included in the household enumeration grid;
- When and with whom to conduct proxy interviews;
- Procedures for administering the 10-15 paper questionnaire;
- Consents for data linkage;
- Special procedures: translations; interviewing people in institutions; interviewing people with disabilities;
- The importance of collecting and updating contact information.

The briefings also included a session with interviewers using their laptops to follow sections of the CAPI script that a researcher led them through. This was used to ensure interviewers knew how to access all the different elements of the CAPI script.

⁴ Each agency was responsible for briefing its own interviewers due to slight differences in administration and fieldwork management structures.

For NatCen interviewers there was further content on using Kantar's CAPI systems, and briefings therefore lasted longer. NatCen interviewers were using a "virtual machine", this is a copy of Kantar's interviewing systems and software that was installed on NatCen's CAPI devices. It meant that NatCen interviewers used Kantar's sample management and interviewing software. This was unfamiliar to NatCen interviewers and so the briefing took them through exercises on how to use these systems.

6.1.2 Refresher briefings

Refresher briefings were shorter (around 3 hours) and were designed to help motivate interviewers as well as build up their knowledge of the study and of certain fieldwork procedures that were not always correctly followed. The refresher briefings were therefore much less formal and involved discussions with interviewers about their experiences so far on the study.

The particular areas of focus for the Wave 10 refresher briefings were:

- Recent findings from the study that might be of interest to sample members;
- Interviewers responsibilities for households that were issued web-first;
- Making contact, mixed-mode interviewing and overcoming reluctance;
- Defining who is in the household and less common scenarios;
- Experiments to test response improvement initiatives

6.2 Interviewer materials

Interviewers were provided with a range of materials to help them when conducting fieldwork. These included a set of project instructions which included all of the information covered in briefings as well as further details such as a full list of outcome codes. These were intended as a reference document that interviewers could use if they needed reminding of any fieldwork procedures.

Other materials included:

- Sample information sheet – one per household, these included a few details about each household and the sample members living there, most of this information was held electronically on interviewers' laptops;
- Copies of advance letters, including a laminated copy;
- Interviewer cards to be used as calling cards, appointments cards and broken appointment cards, other than the Understanding Society logo and a freephone telephone number for either Kantar or NatCen these cards were blank for interviewers to write a message or appointment time on;
- Information for participants leaflets;
- Case study flyers – these were eight flyers that highlighted different findings from Understanding Society and how these had been used. The purpose of the leaflets was to help interviewers demonstrate the purpose of the study to any sample members that queried this;
- Showcards;
- Incentives for use where sample members had not received an incentive in their advance letter;
- Youth self-completion questionnaires, envelopes marked 'confidential' to seal them in, and pre-paid return envelopes;
- Data linkage consent leaflets and a consent flowchart to demonstrate the information flow during the data linkage process;
- Change of address cards and pre-paid return envelopes;

- Thank you leaflets;
- Tracing letters and stable contact letters, envelopes and stamps;
- Translation cards to help identify the language of non-English speakers.

7. Response to web survey

Chapter 8 looks at overall response to Wave 10. This chapter just focuses on response to the web survey.

7.1 Household response rate

At Wave 10 there was a target that 42.5% of households issued CAWI first would fully complete online during the web fieldwork period, and so not be issued to a face-to-face interviewer. Overall, across the whole of Wave 10, the proportion of households issued CAWI first that fully completed by web was 42%. This was higher for households that were productive at the previous wave (47%), than households that had been unproductive at the previous wave (9%). Table 7.1 shows the full household web completion rate broken down by previous wave response and by sample type.

Table 7.1: Household web response rate by sample origin and whether productive last wave

	Households issued CAWI first (n)	Fully productive web households (n)	Household web response rate (fully productive) (%)
Households that were productive last wave			
GP sample	9,089	4,493	49%
EMB sample	940	337	36%
BHPS/NIHPS sample	3,123	1,486	48%
IEMB sample	990	272	27%
Households that were not productive last wave			
GP sample	1,203	119	10%
EMB sample	235	19	8%
BHPS/NIHPS sample	325	31	10%
IEMB sample	403	24	6%

7.2 Individual response rate

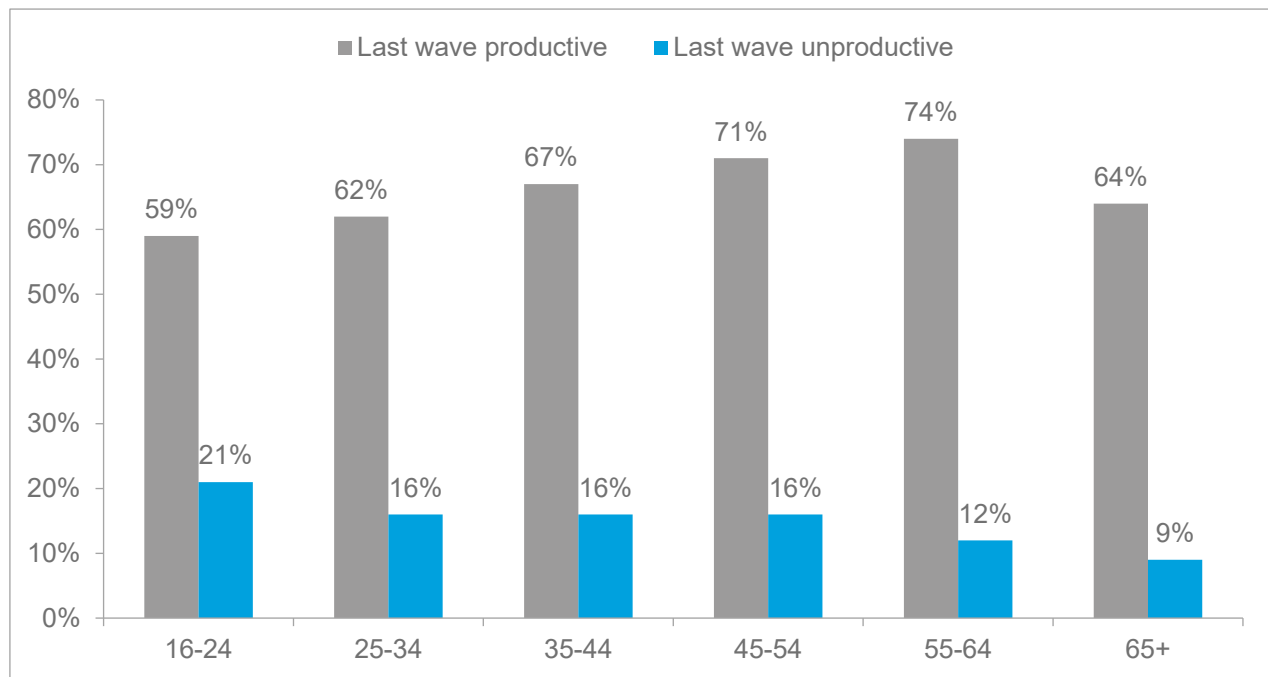
Of adults that were issued web first, 53% completed online during the web fieldwork period. This was much higher for individuals that had taken part at the previous wave (67%) than those that had not been productive at Wave 10 (16%). There was also some variation by sample type, as shown in table 7.2.

Table 7.2: Individual web response rate by sample origin and whether productive last wave

	Adults issued CAWI first (n)	Adults that took part by web (n)	Individual web response rate (%)
Adults that were productive last wave			
GP sample	15,277	10,687	70%
EMB sample	1,834	1,090	59%
BHPS/NIHPS sample	5,355	3,584	67%
IEMB sample	1,739	807	46%
Adults that were not productive last wave			
GP sample	4,817	835	17%
EMB sample	1,057	164	16%
BHPS/NIHPS sample	1,396	239	17%
IEMB sample	1,386	150	11%

For last wave productive adults the web response rate increased with age up until the 65+ age group where response was a little lower than 35 to 64 year olds. For adults that had not taken part at the previous wave those aged 16-24 were more likely than other age groups to complete online. These results are shown in chart 7.1.

Chart 7.1: Adult web response rate by age and whether took part at the previous wave



Base: All web first adults. Last wave productive: 16-24 (2,525); 25-34 (3,095); 35-44 (3,925); 45-54 (4,471); 55-64 (4,234); 65+ (5,954). Last wave unproductive: 16-24 (2,224); 25-34 (1,623); 35-44 (1,363); 45-54 (1,486); 55-64 (975); 65+ (985).

7.3 Web completion during face-to-face fieldwork

So far this chapter has focused on web response before face-to-face fieldwork starts but the web survey remained open throughout face-to-face fieldwork. CAPI first sample members could also complete online once they had been given their web login details, either by a face-to-face interviewer (if the sample member told the interviewer they wanted to take part online) or during the web mop up. The web mop up stage was where CAPI first adults that had not yet taken part were sent a letter with their web login details towards the end of CAPI fieldwork.

Overall, 8% of adult interviews on Wave 10 were completed by web after face-to-face fieldwork had started. The breakdown of interview mode by issue mode is shown in table 7.3.

Table 7.3: Adult mode of completion by issue mode

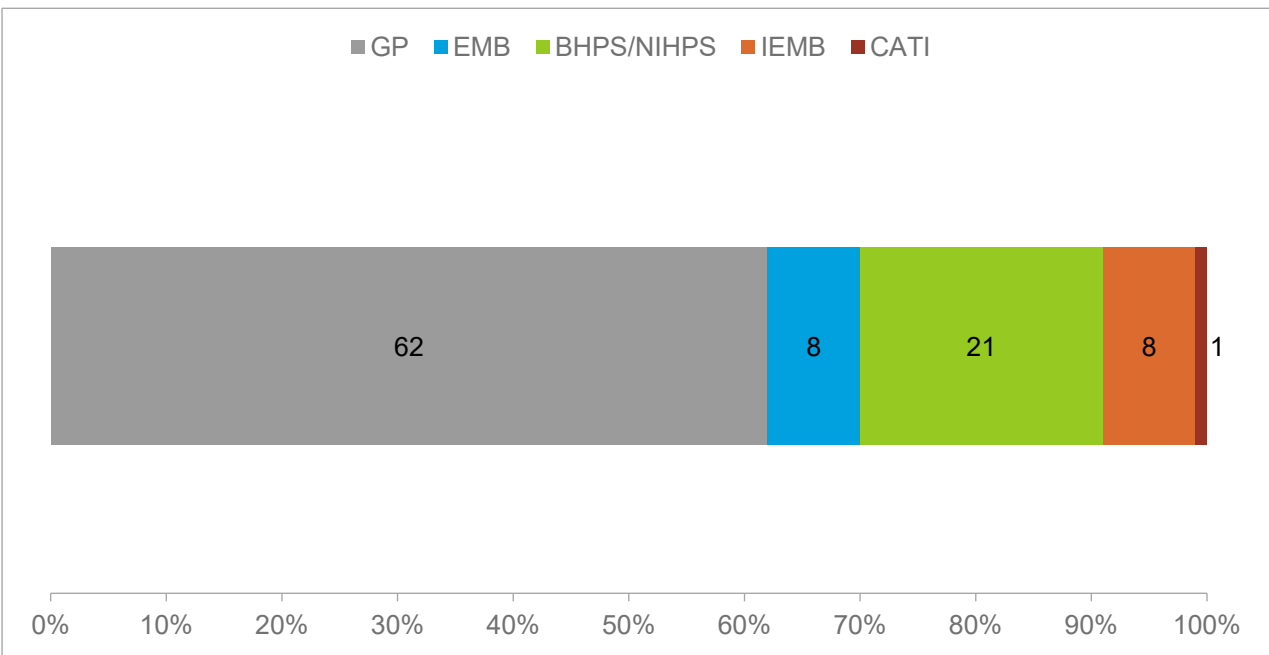
	CAPI first adults		CAWI first adults		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Web complete in web period	0		17,582	74%	17,582	52%
Web complete after f2f fieldwork started	889	9%	1,661	7%	2,550	8%
CAPI complete	8,909	90%	4,396	19%	13,305	40%
CATI complete	64	1%	122	1%	108	1%
<i>Base: all productive adults</i>	9,862		23,761		33,623	

8. Overall response

8.1 Household level response

A total of 23,383 households were issued at Wave 10. Of these, 14,593 were in the General Population (GP) sample, 1,886 were in the Ethnic Minority Boost (EMB) sample, 4,918 were in the British/Northern Irish Household Panel Survey sample (BHPS/NIHPS), 1,817 were in the Immigrant and Ethnic Minority Boost sample (IEMB), and 169 were telephone only households (CATI).

Chart 8.1: Issued sample (households) by sample type



8.1.1 Response rates

Table 8.1 details household response rates for the different sample types, dependent on whether the households had been productive at the previous wave. As would be expected, households that had been productive at Wave 9 were much more likely to be productive again at Wave 10 than those that had not responded.

Amongst the different sample types, the BHPS/NIHPS sample achieved the highest response rate, while the IEMB sample achieved the lowest.

Table 8.1: Household response rate by sample origin and whether productive last wave

	GP – productive last wave		GP – un-productive last wave		EMB – productive last wave		EMB– un-productive last wave		BHPS / NIHPS– productive last wave		BHPS / NIHPS – un-productive last wave		IEMB – productive last wave		IEMB – un-productive last wave		CATI – productive last wave		CATI – un-productive last wave	
Base: All issued sample																				
Issued	12979		1614		1527		359		4503		415		1283		534		129		40	
Split households	254	2%	35	2%	31	2%	1	<1%	77	2%	2	<1%	15	1%	6	1%	2	2%	0	
Total households	13233		1649		1558		360		4580		417		1298		540		131		40	
Base: Total households																				
Ineligible households	133	1%	56	3%	8	1%	2	1%	46	1%	21	5%	21	2%	11	2%	4	3%	5	13%
Eligible households	13100		1593		1550		358		4534		396		1277		529		127		35	
Base: Eligible households																				
Fully productive	9250	71%	380	24%	891	57%	71	20%	3298	73%	101	26%	708	55%	78	15%	70	55%	4	11%
Partially productive	2749	21%	240	15%	452	29%	39	11%	891	20%	43	11%	344	27%	55	10%	43	34%	8	23%
No contact	180	1%	166	10%	36	2%	46	13%	67	1%	38	10%	37	3%	68	13%	5	4%	11	31%
Refusal	533	4%	536	34%	78	5%	130	36%	187	4%	145	37%	106	8%	205	39%	5	4%	11	31%
Other unprod- uctive	388	3%	271	17%	93	6%	72	20%	91	2%	69	17%	82	6%	123	23%	4	3%	1	3%

8.2 Individual level response

Individual response rates were examined separately for adults that had been interviewed at the previous wave and those that had not. The response rate is calculated as the proportion of eligible adults in each group that gave interviews at Wave 10.

For adults that had been interviewed at the previous wave, the overall response rate was 88%. This varies notably by sample type, as shown in table 8.3. Response is lower for both the ethnic boost samples, and also for the CATI sample

Overall, the response rate was 25% for adults that had not been interviewed at the previous wave, and 46% for new entrants and rising 16s⁵. Previous wave productive adults were the particular focus for maximising response at Wave 10 and so it is this group that are detailed further below.

Table 8.3: Individual response rate by sample origin for adults interviewed at the previous wave

	GP	EMB	BHPS / NIHPS	IEMB	CATI
Productive	90%	81%	90%	77%	84%
Proxy	<1%	1%	<1%	1%	0%
No contact	2%	5%	2%	4%	6%
Refusal	6%	9%	6%	12%	5%
Other unproductive	2%	4%	1%	5%	5%
<i>Base: previous wave productive adults</i>	21335	2977	7668	2270	186

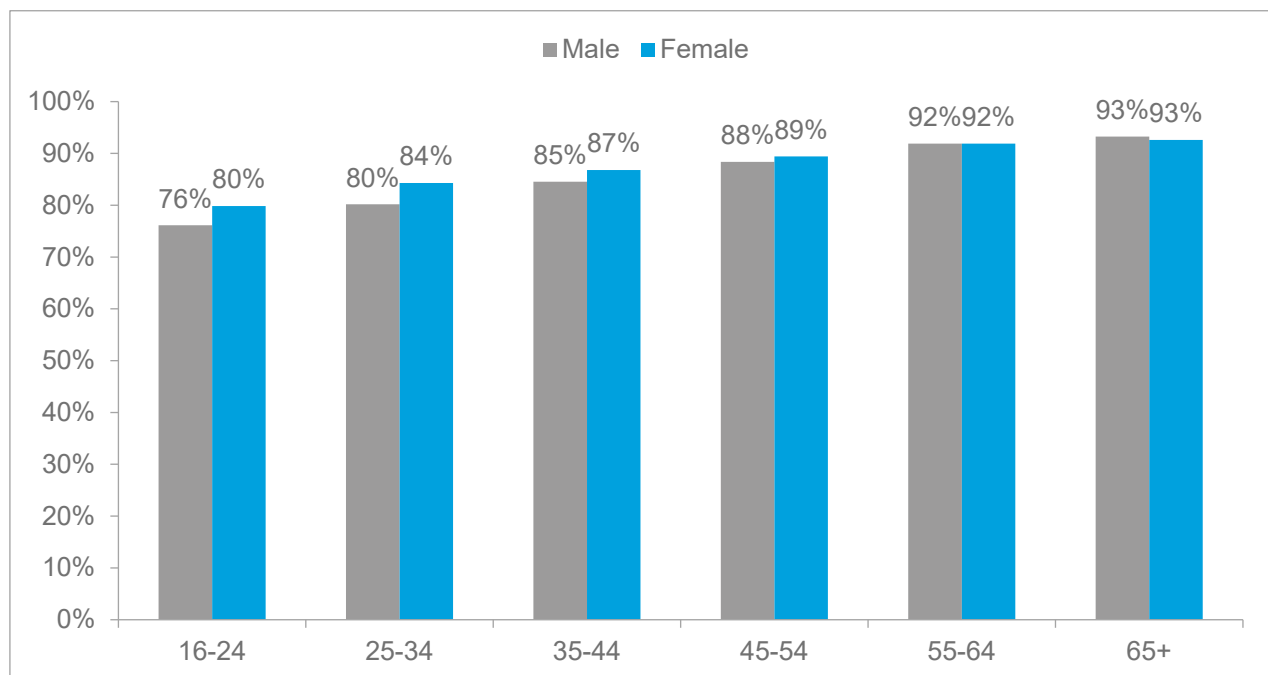
There was some minor variation in response rate by country, this is shown in table 8.4.

⁵ Rising 16s are sample members who have recently turned 16 and so are being asked to complete an adult interview for the first time at the current wave.

Table 8.4 Individual response rate by country for adults interviewed at the previous wave

	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	Total
Productive	88%	86%	90%	90%	88%
Proxy	1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
No contact	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%
Refusal	7%	8%	6%	7%	7%
Other unproductive	2%	3%	2%	1%	2%
<i>Base: previous wave productive adults</i>	27057	2244	2870	2265	34436

Response rates did not tend to vary by gender for sample members aged 45 and over, but in younger age groups women were a little more likely to respond than men. For both genders there was a notable increase in response with increasing age. The 16-24 age group were particularly difficult to achieve interviews with. Chart 8.2 shows response rate by age and gender for adults that had been interviewed at the previous wave.

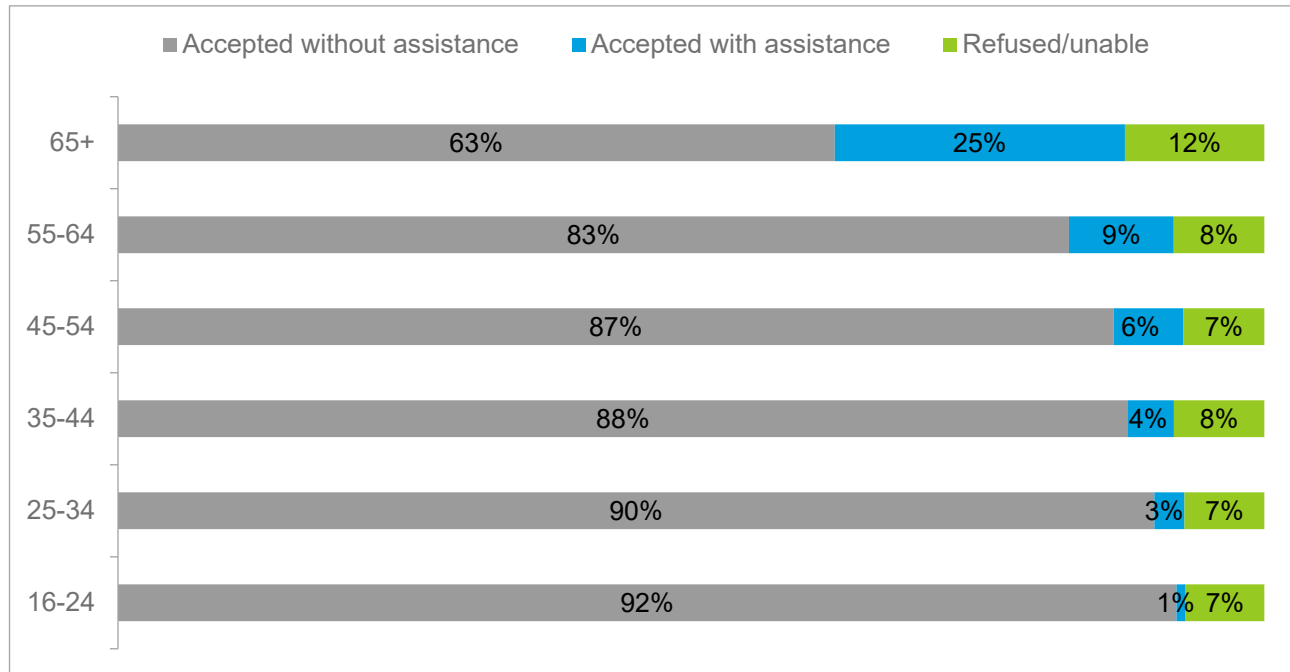
Chart 9.2: Individual response rate by age and gender

Base: All eligible adults that had been productive at the last wave. Men: 16-24 (1709); 25-34 (1766); 35-44 (2282); 45-54 (2805); 55-64 (2659); 65+ (4010). Women: 16-24 (2059); 25-34 (2449); 35-44 (3112); 45-54 (3528); 55-64 (3251); 65+ (4806).

8.2.1 Adult self-completion interviews

As part of the adult interview there was a self-completion (CASI) section. The vast majority of adults completed this on the CAPI laptops themselves without assistance. Amongst older respondents (aged 65 or more) it was more common for assistance to be required. Chart 8.3 shows these results. This chart is based on adults who completed CAPI interviews, as for telephone and web modes the respondent was not asked about willingness to complete this section.

Chart 8.3: Self completion response rate by age



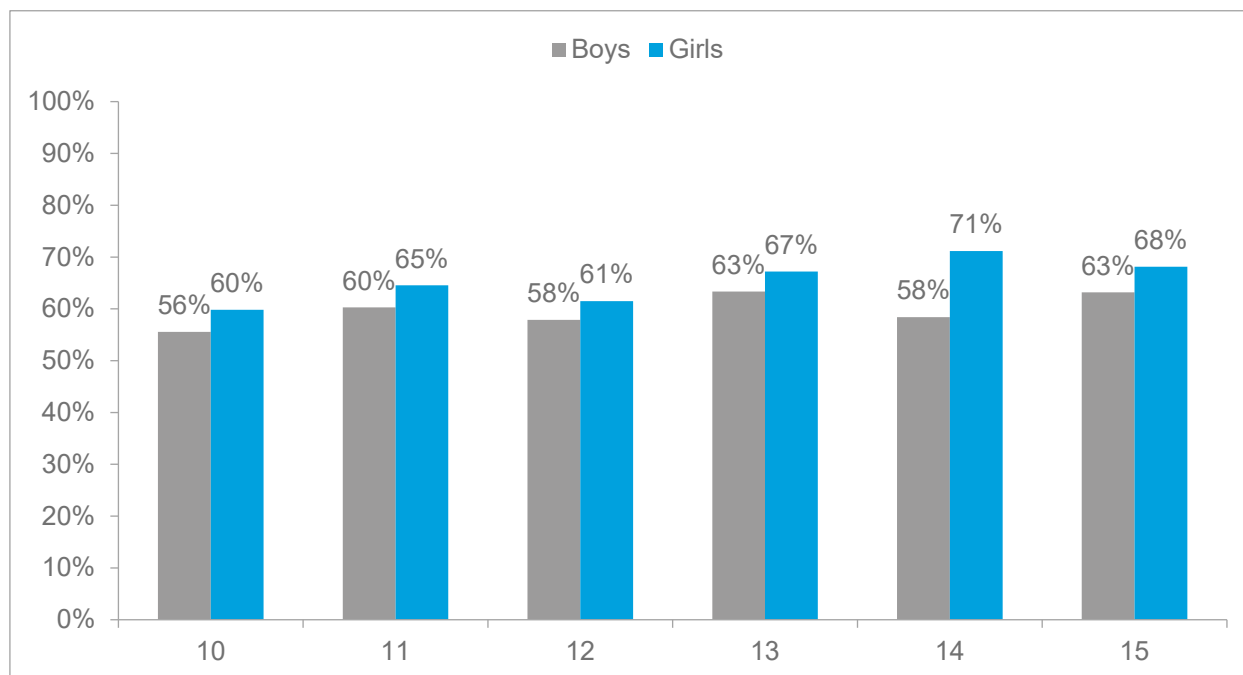
Base: All productive adults that completed by CAPI and reached the CASI section of the questionnaire. 16-24 (1500); 25-34 (1408); 35-44 (1800); 45-54 (2214); 55-64 (2101); 65+ (4308).

8.2.2 Youth self-completion questionnaires

In households that were productive (at least one adult completed an interview), 63% of 10 to 15 year olds completed and returned a paper questionnaire. This proportion varied by sample type, it was 62% amongst the GP sample, 70% amongst the BHPS/NIHPS sample, 60% amongst the EMB sample and 54% amongst the IEMB sample.

Chart 8.4 shows the youth self-completion response rate by age and gender.

Chart 8.4: Youth response rate by age and gender



Base: All eligible 10-15s in productive households. Boys: 10 (324); 11 (355); 12 (337); 13 (360); 14 (303); 15 (356). Girls: 10 (341); 11 (316); 12 (361); 13 (305); 14 (326); 15 (317).

Administration of the youth questionnaire was different for households that took part by web and those that took part face-to-face. Where a parent completed online, the 10-15 questionnaire was posted to them with a request to pass to their child to complete and return the questionnaire. For face-to-face interviews, interviewers handed out questionnaires, and collected them where possible. As a result, there is a small difference in response between CAPI first and web first households:

- 66% of youths in productive CAPI first households completed a paper questionnaire
- 61% of youths in productive web-first households complete a paper questionnaire

9. Data preparation

9.1 Combining CAPI and CAWI data

At Wave 10 there were two sources of CAI data to be merged – CAPI and CAWI (CATI interviews were also completed on the CAWI script). This meant the first stage of data processing at Wave 10 was combining the CAPI and CAWI data together.

There were measures in place within the electronic sample management system on Wave 10 to minimise the chances of duplicate interviews being conducted on CAPI and CAWI. Data was passed between the CAPI and CAWI systems daily but the transfer of information to and from CAPI was reliant on interviewers synchronising their laptops. In general interviewers would synchronise each day that they worked on Understanding Society but there could be circumstances under which they did not. There were therefore a very small number of duplicate interviews across CAPI and CAWI and the data merging process needed to take account of these. If both interviews were fully complete then the more recent interview was usually selected.

It was also possible for a respondent to start their interview on CAWI and complete it via CAPI. In these cases the interview would restart at the beginning of the first incomplete module (so respondents might be re-asked a few questions) rather than the specific question at which the interview had finished on CAWI. Such cases were extremely rare but, again, the data merging process needed to allow for this and stitch the two partial interviews together.

While Wave 10 used the same CAI script across modes (with routing to tailor question wording depending on the mode), there were some questions which had to be scripted separately for different modes because different question layouts were used. For example at some questions the CAWI script made use of drop down lists rather than standard response lists. In raw data there would be two versions of the question, one for CAPI and one for CAWI (and CATI) so the formatted data needed to draw data from both of these.

9.2 Data scanning and reconciliation

The vast majority of Understanding Society data was collected using CAI scripts. The scripts made use of consistency checks and range checks to clarify any data discrepancies with respondents as they arose. This means there was little need for any cleaning or editing of the data after fieldwork.

The exception to this was the data from the youth self-completion questionnaires. As these were completed on paper there could be data inconsistencies such as missing data, routing errors, multiple answers at single choice questions, and values out of range. Youth self-completion questionnaires were scanned to capture the data, and then a series of checks were undertaken to find any inconsistencies. Rules were agreed for how to handle data inconsistencies and edits applied in accordance with these rules.

Scanned data needed to be reconciled against CAI data to ensure data was attributed to the correct sample member. This was done using serial number, name, date of birth and gender.

9.3 SIC and SOC coding

Questions from the employment and proxy sections of the questionnaire were coded to 4 digit SIC and SOC codes. The codes and verbatims were included in the data.

9.4 Data checking

Once data from all sources had been combined and formatted, a series of checks were undertaken to validate the data and ensure consistency of format. Three rounds of checking were employed:

- Administrative checks on individuals and households – these were to ensure that all households and individuals were included in the data with a final outcome, that individuals were finally located in one household, that outcomes were consistent with the presence of raw data, and that joiners added to the household grid were accounted for.
- Structural checks on all files – these checked the format of files, and also that the right households and individuals were included in each file.
- Routing checks – these checked, for every variable, that a response was present when there should be a response, and not present where there should not be a response, according to questionnaire routing.

9.5 Data issues at Wave10 and script changes affecting data

There were some small errors in and/or changes to the Wave 10 script. Most of these only affected a small number of questions, and were fixed during the course of fieldwork:

- The drop-down list at movctry was not rendering correctly in the online questionnaire and therefore respondents were not able to select an answer. This was fixed 2 months into fieldwork.
- The spouse and partner grid variables were incorrectly computed when a respondent moved out their previous partner or spouse and then moved in a new person that they were in a relationship with. The new person's relationship information was being replaced by that of the leaver. This was fixed 7 months into fieldwork.
- The computation did not include code 34 at hcondncode. This meant that respondents meeting this condition were not included in the health conditions loop. This affected hcondna, hcondns, hospc and hospcdc. This was fixed 7 months into fieldwork.
- The relationship loop was not being updated correctly in some scenarios involving households of 3 or more people where a person had also left the household. This was fixed 15 months into fieldwork.
- The npdadult flag was being set for all adults responsible for children aged 0 to 15, instead of children aged 2 to 15. This was fixed 15 months into fieldwork.
- The variables nchunder16, nch5to15, nch10to15 and nch10 incorrectly included foster parents in the calculations. This was fixed 15 months into fieldwork.
- The npda variable did not include all children aged 2 to 15 when someone left the household. This was fixed 15 months into fieldwork.
- The latest list of schools was added to the questionnaire 16 months into fieldwork.
- People who had a 'refused' or 'don't know' code assigned to them at coreswho were incorrectly being counted as a household member. This was fixed 21 months into fieldwork.
- The adresp algorithm was incorrectly setting a biological father as being responsible for children in households where a biological mother was also present, and when the back button in the questionnaire was used. This was fixed 21 months into fieldwork.

Appendix A – Wave 10 interview content

Understanding Society includes many different topics in the questionnaire. Some topics are included at all waves, while others vary from wave to wave.

Table A1: Content of Wave 10 household questionnaire

Theme	Module name
HH Composition	Household grid
Consumption	HH: Consumer durables
Consumption	HH: Expenditure
Environmental behaviour	HH: Environmental behaviour
Expenditure	HH: Fuel type and expenditure
Financial behaviour and attitudes	HH: Financial strain
Financial behaviour and attitudes	HH: Material deprivation
Financial behaviour and attitudes	HH: Child deprivation
Financial behaviour and attitudes	HH: Pensioner deprivation
Housing characteristics	HH: Structural characteristics
Housing characteristics	HH: Home tenure
Housing characteristics	HH: Taxation

Table A2: Content of Wave 10 adult questionnaire

Theme	Module name
Individual interview modules (repeated annually)	
Basic Demographics	Demographics
Caring	Caring
Change in Characteristics	Annual event history

Childcare	Childcare
Employment	Current employment
Employment	Employees
Employment	Self-employment
Employment	Job satisfaction
Employment	Non-employment
Employment	Mothers return to work
Employment	Second jobs
Expectations	Educational aspirations
Family relationships	No co-resident relationships (self-completion)
Financial behaviour and attitudes	Household finances
Health and social care utilisation	Health service use
Health status	SF-12 (self-completion)
Health status	Disability
Income and earnings	Unearned income and state benefits
Mental health and wellbeing	GHQ (self-completion)
Satisfaction	Life satisfaction (self-completion)
Individual interview modules conditional on age (repeated annually)	
Expectations	Retirement planning
Family relationships	Child development (self-completion)
Family relationships	Parenting styles (self-completion)
Financial behaviour	Pension drawdown
Young adults	Young adults
Individual interview modules (rotating)	
Employment conditions	Commuting behaviour
Employment conditions	Work conditions

Environment related behaviour	Environmental behaviour
Environment related behaviour	Environmental attitudes (self-completion)
Financial behaviour and attitudes	Charitable giving
Financial behaviour and attitudes	Personal pensions
Financial behaviour and attitudes	Savings
Health behaviour	Smoking
Important events	Positive and negative events
Language	Language (English)
Mental health and wellbeing	Sleep quality
Mental health and wellbeing	Mental wellbeing (self-completion)
Mental health and wellbeing	Loneliness (self-completion)
Political voting behaviour	General election (self-completion)
Time use	Voluntary work
Time use	Domestic labour
Travel behaviour	Transport behaviour
Values and attitudes	General attitudes (self-completion)
Individual interview modules – ethnicity strand (rotating)	
Religion	Religious practice
Financial behaviour and attitudes	Remittances
Service use	Service use
Modules asked only once (included for new entrants)	
Chronic health conditions	Health conditions
Stable characteristics	Ethnicity and national identity
Stable characteristics	Family background
Stable characteristics	Fertility history
Stable characteristics	Initial conditions

Stable characteristics	Own first job
Stable characteristics	Partnership history
Stable characteristics	Religion
Administrative data linkage (asked at multiple waves where eligible)	
Education	National Pupil Database, England
Education	Early Years Census, England
Education	Individualised Learner Records
Education	National Pupil Database, Wales
Education	Northern Ireland Education data
Education	Scottish Education data
Economic	DWP
Economic	Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)
Young adults (aged 16-21) sub-section of adult questionnaire	
Young adults self-completion	Identity
Young adults self-completion	Social Networks
Young adults self-completion	Family/Meals
Young adults self-completion	Happiness and Self-Esteem
Young adults self-completion	Career Advice
Young adults self-completion	Health/Alcohol
Young adults self-completion	Risky Behaviour/Drugs
Young adults interviewer administered	Future Intentions: Marriage
Young adults interviewer administered	Future Intentions: Children
Young adults interviewer administered	Future Intentions: Leave home
Young adults interviewer administered	Future Intentions: Job

Table A3: Content of Wave 10 youth self-completion questionnaire

Theme	Module name
Demographic	
Leisure	TV
Leisure	Screen and computer use
Leisure	Online social networks
Leisure	Activities outside school (gaming, cultural & social)
Family	Meals
Family	Household Chores
Family	Supervision
Friends	Friendship Networks
Friends	Boyfriend/girlfriend
Self-Esteem	
Happiness	
Education	Aspirations
Education	Truancy
Health	Disability
Health	Smoking
Health	Alcohol
Risky Behaviour	Binge Drinking
Risky Behaviour	Drugs
Risky Behaviour	Attitudes
Vandalism/Fighting	
Identity	Religion
Environment behaviour	Attitudes
Future Intentions	Marriage

Future Intentions	Children
Future Intentions	10 years
Future Intentions	Leave home
Future Intentions	Future Job
Cognitive Measures	