

The Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia Survey: An Overview

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Key Design Features

- HILDA is modelled on other panel studies conducted elsewhere, and especially the GSOEP and the BHPS.
- Indefinite life panel.
Use of following rules to ensure sample replaces itself in the same manner as the population.
- Large nationally representative sample.
12,252 dwellings from 488 regions (CDs).
- Annual interviews.
Wave 2 virtually complete.
- Household interview + personal interviews with all household members (aged >14 yrs) + self-completion questionnaire.



What's In It?

- Three main areas of interest
 - Labour market activity and employment
 - Income
 - Family life and household composition
- Wide range of background characteristics. Demographics, housing, mobility, family background, life satisfaction, etc.
- SCQ provides data on health measures, lifestyle behaviours and attitudes.



Wave 1 – Major Topics

- Child care
- Housing
- Household expenditure
- Family background
- Education
- Current employment
- Labour market calendar
- Income
- Family formation / children
- Partnering
- Life satisfaction
- Health (SF-36)
- Lifestyle / Living situation
- Financial situation
- Attitudes / values



Wave 2

- Extensive wealth module (funded by the RBA).
- Separate instrument for new sample members (which collected additional history data).

Wave 3

- New modules on:
 - retirement / transition to retirement
 - IT and e-learning (funded by DEST)
- SCQ redesign.



Wave 1 Response

- 7682 responding households from in-scope sample of 11,693 = 66%.
- 810 households (10.5%), however, were missing at least one individual interview.
- Provides sample of 15,127 adults.
Interviews completed with 13,969 = 92%.
- Of these, 13,159 completed and returned the SCQ.



Sample Representativeness (%)

Men	49.3	47.4*	Employed FT	42.1	41.5
Women	50.7	52.6	Employed PT	17.4	19.5*
15-19	8.8	8.4	Unemployed	4.3	4.4
20-24	8.9	7.3*	Not in LF	36.3	34.6
25-34	18.7	18.6	Sydney	21.5	17.3*
35-44	19.0	21.5*	Married	58.7	63.3*
45-54	17.1	17.4	Indigenous	1.7	1.8
55-64	11.8	12.1	Employee	86.0	86.5
65+	15.6	14.7	(employed persons only)		
Aust-born	72.4	74.5*			
MES country	10.2	10.9			
Other country	17.5	14.5*			



Wave 2 Response

[PRELIMINARY – Some cases still not finalised]

Wave 2 status \ Wave 1 status	Non-sample member	<15 yrs	lvwd	Refused
Interviewed (N)	520	243	11825	218
Eligible (N)	648	304	13668	1099
Response %	80.2	79.9	86.5	19.8
BHPS W2 %	78.0	36.0	87.9	22.8



User Data File

- Limited public use version of Wave 1 data available on CD–Rom (since October 2002).
- A confidentialised file, though degree of data perturbation very limited.
- Data files includes a set of population weights and numerous derived variables.
- We are still working on enhancing this set.
- Around 100 registered licensees currently have the Wave 1 data.

