

Background Quality Report for the publication ‘Experience of gambling by young people in Northern Ireland 2022’. The publication has been assessed below in line with the quality dimensions of the [European Statistical System](#).

Dimension	Assessment by the author
Introduction	<p data-bbox="539 398 943 432"><i>Context for the quality report.</i></p> <p data-bbox="539 436 1326 510">One Official Statistics bulletin is being published for the first time in 2023 and presents findings for the preceding year:</p> <ul data-bbox="587 555 1326 622" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="587 555 1326 622">• Experience of gambling by young people in Northern Ireland 2022 <p data-bbox="539 667 1378 976">The data in this bulletin are derived from the Young Persons’ Behaviour and Attitudes Survey (YPBAS). The YPBAS is a representative survey of young people, aged 11-16, in post-primary education in Northern Ireland. The survey is administered by Central Survey Unit of the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). Respondents to the YPBAS are asked about a variety of subjects including their engagement in the previous 12 months with gambling activities.</p> <p data-bbox="539 1021 1386 1211">The YPBAS has been running triennially since 2000. Questions on gambling were included for the first time in 2022. From 2007, two versions of the questionnaire have been used to accommodate demand for topics. Schools are randomly assigned one version of the questionnaire.</p> <p data-bbox="539 1256 1374 1518">The Department of Education (DE) provides CSU with a list of all post-primary schools in Northern Ireland (excluding independent schools and those which catered solely for pupils with special needs). All post-primary schools are contacted and invited to participate. A class in each of the five year groups (years 8-12) is then randomly selected to take part. Only pupils from the selected classes are included in the survey.</p> <p data-bbox="539 1563 1378 1753">The YPBAS is a self-completion survey carried out in class-sized groups, where pupils complete the questionnaire on tablets, under the supervision of CSU interviewers and school staff to help with any technical issues. After all classes are surveyed, the data is transferred to CSU for validation and analysis.</p> <p data-bbox="539 1798 1386 2022">In 2022, all 192 post-primary schools were contacted and invited to participate. Seventy-four schools agreed to participate in the study, resulting in a response rate of 39%. A total of 3,726 pupils were surveyed using Version A (response rate 84%) and 3,772 pupils using Version B of the questionnaire (response rate 85%). DfC’s questions on gambling were included in Version B.</p>

<p>Relevance</p>	<p><i>The degree to which the statistical product meets user needs in both coverage and content.</i></p> <p>The bulletin provides data for Northern Ireland on the experience of gambling of young people (those aged 11 to 16).</p> <p>The bulletin includes charts and associated commentary to communicate the findings to the end user. In addition, all data is provided in both Excel and OpenDocument spreadsheets. Explanatory notes within the tables and a technical annex have been included to provide the end user with additional information on the methodology and definitions used in the presentation of statistics.</p> <p>Consultation with policy customers was carried out to agree the questions to be included in the YPBAS to ensure they meet the key requirements for users.</p>
<p>Accuracy and reliability</p>	<p><i>The proximity between an estimate and the unknown true value.</i></p> <p>In 2022, all 192 post-primary schools were contacted and invited to participate. Seventy-four schools agreed to participate in the study, resulting in a response rate of 39%. A total of 3,726 pupils were surveyed using Version A (response rate 84%) and 3,772 pupils using Version B of the questionnaire (response rate 85%). DfC's questions on engagement in gambling were included in Version B.</p> <p>In order to reflect the composition of the Northern Ireland post-primary population, weights can be applied to the data to compensate for non-response bias in the achieved YPBAS sample. Figures from School Census are used to derive weights. As there are two versions of the questionnaire, three different sets of weights are calculated:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Questions/modules common to both questionnaires 2. Version A 3. Version B <p>While all school management groups were represented in the overall achieved YPBAS sample, not all are represented in the sample for both Version A and B and this is reflected in the construction of the weights.</p> <p>The results presented in these reports are weighted by gender, religion and year group in order to reflect the composition of the Northern Ireland post-primary population. Since a three stage sample design was used (schools, classes and pupils) the required assumption of random sampling was not met for significance testing. Standard errors were calculated for some of</p>

	<p>the variables in the survey using a formula for complex samples. However, when these were compared with standard errors calculated using the formula for random samples there was little difference. As a result, tests of statistical significance in these bulletins have been carried out using the formula for random samples.</p> <p>Any statements in the reports regarding differences between groups, such as different years and whether young people are entitled to free school meals, are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level. This means that we can be 95% confident that the differences between groups are actual differences and have not just arisen by chance. Both the base numbers and the sizes of the percentages have an effect on statistical significance. As such, on occasion a difference between two groups may be statistically significant while the same difference in percentage points between two other groups may not be statistically significant. The reason for this is because the larger the base numbers or the closer the percentages are to 0 or 100, the smaller the standard errors. This leads to increased precision of the estimates which increases the likelihood that the difference between the proportions is actually significant and did not just arise by chance.</p>
<p>Timeliness and punctuality</p>	<p><i>Timeliness refers to the time gap between publication and the reference period. Punctuality refers to the gap between planned and actual publication dates.</i></p>
	<p>Professional Services Unit of the Department for Communities, who produced this bulletin, received the final validated YPBAS dataset in June 2023.</p> <p>The bulletin, <i>Experience of gambling by young people in Northern Ireland 2022</i>, was released in December 2023.</p> <p>The bulletin was published on the planned date, as pre-announced on the Department for Communities website and GOV.UK.</p>
<p>Accessibility and Clarity</p>	<p><i>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.</i></p>
	<p>The bulletin was published in HTML format on the Department for Communities website on the pre-announced publication date. Within the bulletin, a number of charts have been provided with titles, axis names and footnotes added to help</p>

	<p>clarify certain information where applicable. The bulletin also follows The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 ensuring they can be used by as many people as possible, including those with impaired vision, motor difficulties, cognitive impairments or learning disabilities, deafness or impaired hearing.</p> <p>Additionally, the bulletin includes an annex which provides summary background information, definitions and methodological explanations.</p> <p>Accompanying data tables, in Microsoft Excel and Open Document format, are also available on the Department for Communities' website.</p> <p>Key findings are summarised by infographics that have been included within the bulletin.</p> <p>The contact details of the responsible statisticians are also included in the bulletin and in the Excel and Open Document spreadsheets.</p>
<p>Coherence and Comparability</p>	<p><i>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.</i></p>
	<p>The statistics contained within the bulletin are derived solely from the YPBAS. Questions on gambling were included for the first time in 2022. It is anticipated that the current range of questions will be included in the next survey to allow for comparability over time.</p> <p>Data for experience of and engagement in gambling are available from a range of sources for the United Kingdom, such as Young People and Gambling 2023 published by the Gambling Commission. It is anticipated that comparisons between the two will be undertaken in due course and used, where possible, to advise policy accordingly.</p>
<p>Trade-offs between output quality components</p>	<p><i>Trade-offs are the extent to which different aspects of quality are balanced against each other.</i></p>
	<p>In some cases, sub-population analysis is not possible due to small sample sizes.</p>

Assessment of user needs and perceptions	<p><i>The process for finding out about users and uses, and their views on the statistical products.</i></p>
	<p>Contact details for the responsible statistician is provided in the bulletin and in the Excel and Open Document spreadsheets.</p> <p>Consultation with key stakeholders will take place in order to assess the utility of this first bulletin and to consider the potential to include a module of gambling-related questions in the YPBAS in future rounds of the survey.</p>
Performance, cost and respondent burden	<p><i>The effectiveness, efficiency and economy of the statistical output.</i></p>
	<p>The overall cost of running the YPBAS cannot be provided as this is commercial-in-confidence.</p> <p>The production of the bulletin is carried out by an Assistant Statistician (0.1 FTE) and managed by a Deputy Principal Statistician (0.1 FTE).</p> <p>It is estimated that the responses to the Department for Communities questions on which the bulletins are based take on average 11.5 minutes for a respondent to complete.</p>
Confidentiality, transparency and security	<p><i>The procedures and policy used to ensure sound confidentiality, security and transparent practices.</i></p>
	<p>Professional Services Unit of the Department for Communities follows the 'National Statistician's Guidance: Confidentiality of Official Statistics' in the collection and dissemination of these statistics. This can be found at: Confidentiality-of-Official-Statistics-National-Statisticians-Guidance.pdf (civilservice.gov.uk)</p> <p>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.</p>