Sources

This article briefly describes the main sources of data used in Consumer Trends for production of household final consumption expenditure (HHFCE), and their statistical quality.

Primary Sources

Consumer Trends uses data from a wide range of sources to provide as accurate a picture of consumer spending as possible. Two of the largest sources of data in Consumer Trends are the Retail Sales Inquiry (RSI) and the Living Costs and Food survey (LCF), but a number of other administrative and survey sources are used in the compilation of household final consumption expenditure (HHFCE) estimates.

The following table highlights the primary data sources for each <u>Classification of individual</u> <u>consumption by purpose</u> (COICOP). The list is not exhaustive, and more detail is provided later in the sections that follow.

СОІСОР	Primary Data Sources
01	Living Costs and Food Survey
02	HM Revenue & Customs administrative
	data
	External market research survey for
	alcohol
03	Retail Sales Inquiry
04	Local Authorities administrative data
	Utility companies administrative data
05	Retail Sales Inquiry
	Living Costs and Food Survey
06	NHS payments
	Living Costs and Food Survey
07	Transport Regulator
	Department for Transport
	International Passenger Survey
08	Large communication companies
	Sector regulator
	Living Costs and Food Survey
09	Retail Sales Inquiry
	Living Costs and Food Survey
10	Living Costs and Food Survey
	Department for Education
11	Living Costs and Food Survey
	Armed Forces accommodation data
	HMRC data for alcohol
	External market research survey for
12	alcohol
12	Bank of England
	Financial Inquiries Survey
	Living Costs and Food Survey
	Association of British Insurance

HHFCE Statistical Quality

The number and complexity of the sources involved in producing HHFCE estimates means that there is not a readily available measure of accuracy.

This is because to obtain the most complete coverage of expenditure it can be necessary to combine sources, and therefore the individual measures of statistical quality for each source are no longer relevant. Furthermore, some of the data used are only available on an annual basis. This means that quarterly estimates need to be forecasted between releases of data. An example of this is expenditure on water and sewage, which uses data from the water regulator, Office of Water Services (OFWAT). However, an outline of the accuracy of two main sources used in Consumer Trends; the RSI and LCF can be provided.

The LCF was previously known as the Expenditure and Food Survey (EFS), and before that the Family Expenditure Survey (FES). The LCF is an annual survey of the expenditure and income of private households in the UK (Consumer Trends uses data obtained each quarter from a snapshot of the LCF). Each person aged 16 and over keeps a full record of payments made during 14 consecutive days. The current achieved annual sample size is just over 5000 households. (The quarterly sample size is close to 1200 households).

The Retail Sales Inquiry is a monthly survey of 5,000 retail businesses including all 900 'large retailers' and 4100 'small and medium retailers' on a sampled basis. This corresponds to the inclusion of approximately 75% of retail sector turnover each month.

Standard Errors and Statistical Precision

Sampling error is the error that occurs from measuring a sample of a population rather than the whole population. This can be measured using standard errors and confidence intervals. By multiplying the average estimate by its standard error and 1.96 a 95 per cent confidence interval is calculated. This provides a range around the average estimate in which there is 95 per cent confidence that the true population value lies. An example of this test of statistical robustness can be found in the ONS publication 'Family Spending'.

The annual publication 'Family Spending' provides information on expenditure by COICOP using annual LCF data. Although HHFCE quarterly and annual estimates in Consumer Trends are processed differently according to National Accounts procedures, the sampling errors in Family Spending can be used as a rough guide of the strength of LCF annual estimates. For example, the Family Spending in the UK: financial year ending 2017 publication reported a standard error of 0.9 per cent for food and non-alcoholic drinks (COICOP) in 2017. In comparison, the standard error for the annual health expenditure estimate in the LCF is 5.3 per cent. The 0.9 standard error reflects the greater accuracy associated with the food and nonalcoholic drink estimate.

At present the only estimates of standard errors for the RSI are based on the accuracy of changes between periods, rather than of the level of sales. These estimates are calculated for one-month and 12-month movements and are presented in <u>tables</u> on the ONS website.

Other Sources of Statistical Bias

Statistics are subject to other biases and nonsampling errors. The main types result from sampling frame error, non-response bias and measurement error. The following text provides examples of where these errors could arise in the LCF and RSI.

Sample frame

The LCF uses the small users postal address file (PAF) to select its sample. A reverse record check was conducted in 1994 and suggested that coverage was 96.6%. The under-coverage identified could introduce a bias into the estimates produced.

The RSI uses the Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR) to select its sample. The IDBR is updated regularly using VAT, PAYE, survey and company registration records. The RSI selects its sample from those in the IDBR who have the appropriate Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code for the retail sector. Steps are taken to ensure coverage is as wide as possible, as biased omissions in the sampling frame could bias survey statistics. The IDBR is used as the sampling frame for all ONS

Non-response error

business surveys.

It is possible that the characteristics of those who do not respond to the survey will lead to biased estimates. In household surveys such as the LCF, ONS corrects for non-response bias by taking this into account when weighting the survey. Weighting is also used in the RSI for the survey element.

Measurement error

This occurs when respondents are unable or unwilling to provide a true answer in response to the survey questions. ONS takes a variety of steps to overcome this including extensive testing of new questions (including cognitive testing).

Source Detail by Goods and Services Category

The following section provides further detail on the source data used to calculate estimates of HHFCE. The descriptions are categorised according to whether the expenditure is considered durable, semi-durable, non-durable or a service. Consumer Trends includes tables placing estimates by COICOP under these headings. The COICOP is provided in brackets in this section.

The Goods and services summary tables are labelled as:

DG - Durable goods SDG - Semi-durable goods NDG - Non-durable goods SER - Services DG - Durable goods

Durable Goods - DG

Durable goods are goods that can be used continuously over a period of time, usually three years or more. They also have a higher price relative to other goods.

Most durable goods data in the DG table except for cars are based on the Annual Business Survey (ABS) to retailers and other businesses with retail activity. Quarterly estimates are derived from the Retail Sales Index (RSI). The annual inquiries provide a breakdown of sales by commodity. The RSI collects total retail sales by type of retailer on a monthly basis. It is used to interpolate the ABS data and to project forward the commodity information obtained from the most recent annual inquiry. Further subdivision by product is estimated using the more detailed expenditure data in the Living Costs and Food Survey (LCE). All durable goods

Costs and Food Survey (LCF). All durable goods listed below are estimated in this way, unless otherwise specified.

An <u>article</u> explaining, among other things, the similarities and differences between household expenditure estimates and the RSI was published on the ONS website in January 2005.

Durable Goods -DG COICOP 05 Furniture and furnishings (05.1.1)

Estimates for furniture and furnishings include lights, lamps and pictures, but exclude works of art and antiques. The data source is based on the ABS and RSI as described at the beginning of the Durable Goods section.

Carpets and other floor coverings (05.1.2)

This includes estimates for carpets and other floor coverings. The data source is based on the ABS and RSI as described at the beginning of the Durable Goods section.

Major household appliances (05.3.1)

These estimates include appliances such as refrigerators, washing machines, cookers and vacuum cleaners. The data source is based on the ABS, RSI and LCF as described at the beginning of the Durable Goods section.

Major tools and equipment (05.5.1)

Estimates for major household tools and equipment for example major power tools are produced using ABS, RSI and LCF data as described as the beginning of the Durable Goods section.

Durable Goods -DG COICOP 06

Therapeutic appliances and equipment (06.1.3)

Estimates for therapeutic appliances and equipment are derived from the LCF.

Durable Goods –DG COICOP 07 Purchase of vehicles (07.1.1)

Information on the V55 Registration Document is used to measure the number of motor cars and motor cycles sold to private individuals. These are valued using trade information and include on-theroad costs other than vehicle excise duty. The method has been applied back to 1993. Prior to that, for motor cars, expenditure on new cars was taken as the residual after subtracting capital formation from the value of total new car registrations. Used vehicles are estimated from motor traders' data from the ABS. This heading also includes estimates for cars-in-kind (the imputed value of the use of company cars for private purposes), based on the taxable value of company cars as required by HMRC.

For motor cars there are two different methods of calculating growth to produce chained volume estimates. For new cars, expenditure is calculated by valuing registrations directly at current prices and prices of the previous year; for used cars, current price estimates are deflated by the CPI for used cars to derive estimates at previous year prices.

Durable Goods -DG COICOP 08 Telephone and telefax equipment (08.2)

Estimates for telephone and telefax equipment are based on the ABS and RSI.

Durable Goods -DG COICOP 09

Unless otherwise indicated, all items in DG Division 09 are estimated using the ABS and RSI.

Audio visual equipment (09.1.1)

This includes televisions, video recorders, CD players, sound systems and components and radios.

Photo and cinema equipment and optical instruments (09.1.2)

This includes estimates for photo and cinema equipment and optical instruments.

Information processing equipment (09.1.3)

This includes computers and software packages and other Information processing equipment.

Major durables for outdoor recreation (09.2.1)

Estimates for major durables for outdoor recreation are based on the ABS and other sources as available.

Musical instruments and major durables for indoor recreation (09.2.2)

Estimates for musical instruments and major durables for indoor recreation are derived from the ABS.

Durable Goods – DG COICOP 12

Jewellery, clocks and watches (12.3.1)

Estimates for jewellery, clocks and watches are based on the ABS and RSI and exclude antiques.

Semi-durable goods -SDG

Semi-durable goods differ from durable goods in that their expected lifetime of use, though more than one year, is often significantly shorter and their purchase price is substantially less than for durable goods.

The data are estimated from either the ABS and RSI or the LCF. Sources are listed below.

Semi-Durable Goods -SDG COICOP 03 Clothing materials (03.1.1)

Estimates for clothing materials are derived from the ABS and RSI.

Garments (03.1.2)

Estimates for garments and footwear are based on the ABS and RSI.

Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories (03.1.3)

Estimates for other articles of clothing and clothing accessories are derived from the ABS and RSI.

Shoes and other footwear (03.2.1)

Estimates for shoes and other footwear are based on the ABS and RSI.

Semi-Durable Goods –SDG COICOP 05 Household textiles (05.2)

Estimates for household textiles are based on the ABS and RSI.

Small electric household appliances (05.3.2)

Estimates for small electric household appliances are derived from the ABS and RSI, along with information from the LCF.

Glassware, tableware, household utensils (05.4)

Estimates for glassware tableware and household utensils are based on the ABS and RSI.

Small tools and miscellaneous accessories (05.5.2)

Estimates for small tools and miscellaneous accessories are derived from the ABS and RSI.

Semi-Durable Goods –SDG COICOP 07 Motor vehicle spares (07.2.1)

Estimates for motor vehicle spares are derived from the LCF.

Semi-Durable Goods –SDG COICOP 09 Recording media (09.1.4)

Estimates for recording media based on the ABS and RSI.

Games, toys and hobbies (09.3.1)

Estimates for games, toys and hobbies are based on the ABS and RSI.

Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation (09.3.2)

Estimates for equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation are derived from ABS and RSI.

Books (09.5.1) Estimates for books are derived from the LCF.

Semi-Durable Goods – SDG COICOP 12

Electric appliances for personal care (12.1.2) Estimates for electric appliances for personal care are derived from the ABS and RSI.

Other personal effects (12.3.2)

Estimates for other personal effects are based on the ABS and RSI.

Non-durable goods – NDG

Non-durable goods are goods that can be used only once. Examples include food and all types of drink.

Data come from several sources which are listed below.

Non-Durable Goods –NDG COICOP 01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages

The main data source for food estimates is the LCF. The LCF provides a detailed record of expenditure on food brought into the home.

Expenditure on food outside the home (for example in restaurants), with the exception of casual purchases of confectionery, soft drinks and ice cream, is included under catering services.

Relevant components of the CPI are used to deflate expenditure at current prices to derive chained volume measures.

Non-Durable Goods –NDG COICOP 02 Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics

Estimates for alcoholic beverages are based on volume of sales and average prices of individual types of alcoholic beverages for off-licence trades. This information is obtained from a continuous survey of retail outlets.

The volume data extracted from this survey are grossed up to align with monthly figures obtained from HMRC relating to the quantities of alcoholic drink released for sale within the UK. The price data obtained from the survey are used to derive both current expenditure and estimates at previous year prices in order to derive chained volume measures. Separate data are provided for outlets licensed to sell for consumption off the premises (off-licence trade – retail shops and so on) from those licensed for consumption of alcohol on the premises (licensed trade – restaurants, public houses and so on). This information has been used to derive separate estimates of household expenditure for the two appropriate COICOP categories: 2.1 alcoholic beverages – off-licence trade; and 11.1.1 restaurants, cafés, pubs and the like – licensed trade.

Estimates for tobacco are based on data obtained from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) relating to the quantities of tobacco released for sale within the UK. Relevant components of the CPI are used to convert this volume data into current and chained volume measure estimates.

Estimates of household expenditure on alcoholic drink and tobacco smuggled into the UK are made from 1994. These are based on HMRC intelligence on the level of smuggling, including freight smuggling and diversion fraud, taking place together with assumptions on the prices at which the goods are sold to final consumers through different types of outlet. For alcohol, retail shops and restaurants are assumed to sell the goods at the same prices as the rest of their stock. For street sales (that is not through off-licences or restaurants), 70 per cent of the average legal UK price is used for beer and 115 per cent of the French prices (published by the French Statistical Institute, INSEE) for wines and spirits.

For tobacco, the prices at which smuggled goods are bought by UK households are assumed to be slightly above Belgian market prices, although the goods are not necessarily regarded as having been sourced from Belgium.

Estimates of illegal narcotics are derived from Home Office 'Drugs Misuse Declared' statistics derived from the Crime Survey from England and Wales and purity data derived from police seizures, and from United Nations price data.

Non-Durable Goods –NDG COICOP 04 Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling (04.3.1)

Estimates for materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling are based on the ABS and RSI.

Water supply (04.4.1)

Estimates for water supply are based on data supplied by OFWAT and the Scottish Government. The chained volume estimates are based on movements in domestic rateable values up to 1995. Thereafter, the appropriate component of the CPI is used to deflate the current price series.

Electricity, gas and other fuels (04.5)

Estimates for electricity, gas and other fuels are based on data obtained by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) from various energy suppliers. Relevant components of the CPI are used to deflate current expenditure and derive chained volume measures.

Non-Durable Goods –NDG COICOP 05 Non-durable household goods (05.6.1)

Estimates for non-durable household goods (including cleaning products) are based on the LCF.

Non-Durable Goods –NDG COICOP 06 Pharmaceutical and other medical products (06.1.1)

Estimates are based on the ABS and RSI or the LCF.

Non-Durable Goods –NDG COICOP 07 Vehicle fuels and lubricants (07.2.2)

Estimates for vehicle fuels are based on data obtained by BEIS from various energy suppliers, together with LCF data on household expenditure. Estimates for lubricants are based on the LCF. For vehicle fuels, average prices of the previous year are applied to volume data in order to obtain chained volume measures.

Non-Durable Goods – NDG COICOP 09

Garden plants and flowers, pets and newspapers (09.3.3)

Estimates are based on the LCF.

Stationery and drawing materials (09.5.4) Estimates are based on the ABS and RSI.

Services – SER

Services –SER COICOP 03

Cleaning and hire of clothing (03.1.4) Clothing and hire of clothing are based on the LCF.

Repair and hire of footwear (03.2.2)

Repair and hire of footwear are based on the LCF.

Services –SER COICOP 04

Actual and imputed housing rentals (04.1, 04.2)

Estimates for housing rentals make use of private sector data from the LCF and public sector rented dwellings data supplied by local authorities to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and to the Scottish Government and the Wales and Northern Ireland Offices. Estimates of rent receipts by Housing Associations and public corporations are also included.

In order to construct chained volume measures, the number of occupied dwellings is used as a volume indicator. This indicator is based on total housing stock data, less estimates of unoccupied dwellings, supplied by MHCLG and adjusted by a quality factor to take account of overall improvements in the housing stock over time.

Changes have been made to the method for calculating nominal (current price) rentals data in Household Final Consumption Expenditure (HHFCE). This is in order to more closely align the annual growth (quarter on corresponding quarter of the previous year) of household expenditure on actual and imputed rentals with the annual growth of comparable CPIH data series – CPIH is a measure of consumer price inflation that includes owner occupiers' housing costs (OOH).

The average value for rented accommodation is revised from 2010 onwards – the impact has caused revisions to the HHFCE implied deflator. From 2011, the quarter on quarter of previous year growths of the relevant rental implied deflators, track the relevant CPIH (OOH) growths. This change does not mean that the implied deflator for HHFCE on actual and imputed rental will fully match the equivalent measure from CPIH as differences in the method and source data for stocks of housing will continue.

With publication of Blue Book 2014, this method is now implemented for growth into Q1 2011. To achieve this, 2010 data has been adjusted and is used to link the old basis data using the Living Costs and Food Survey (LCF), with the data based on relevant CPIH data (including OOH).

Estimates of real HHFCE and real GDP (chained volume measures) are unaffected by this change. Current price estimates prior to 2010 are also unaffected. For a detailed explanation of this change see the <u>article</u> published on 3 September 2014.'

Services for maintenance and repair of the dwelling (04.3.2)

Estimates for services for maintenance and repair of the dwelling are based on the LCF. They include expenditure by householders and, under insurance policies, by insurers.

Refuse collection (04.4.2)

Estimates for refuse collection are based on the LCF.

Sewerage collection (04.4.3)

Estimates for sewerage collection are based on the data supplied by OFWAT and the Scottish Government. The methodology for deriving the chained volume measure is as described for water supply (NDG COICOP 04), above.

Services –SER COICOP 05

Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings (05.1.3)

Estimates for repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings are based on the LCF.

Repair of household appliances (05.3.3)

Estimates for repair of household appliances are based on the LCF.

Domestic and household services (05.6.2)

Estimates for domestic and household and services are mainly based on the LCF.

Services – SER COICOP 06

Outpatient and hospital services (06)

Estimates for NHS payments and private medicine are based on Department of Health (DH) data and the LCF respectively. Estimates for medical insurance are based on a survey of companies conducted by the DH and information on premiums is provided by the Association of British Insurers. For NHS payments and medical insurance, average prices of the previous years are applied to volume data in order to obtain chained volume measures. For private medicine, relevant components of the CPI are used to deflate to chained volume measure. Estimates for dental services are based on the LCF and DH data. Paramedical services are based on the LCF and hospital services are based on the LCF and DH data.

Services – SER COICOP 07

Vehicle maintenance and repair and other vehicle services (07.2.3 and 07.2.4)

Vehicle maintenance and repair also includes motoring organisation subscriptions. Data are obtained from the LCF.

Other vehicle services include cherished number plates, which are based upon data collected by the DVLA. Driving licences are based on administrative records; they are deflated by an appropriate price index. Estimates for other components are largely based on the LCF. These include driving lessons and tests and self-drive car hire.

Transport services (07.3)

Estimates for national railways travel are derived from the Office of Rail Regulation. Light rail, road and other transport services are largely based on data collected by the DfT. Estimates for air and sea travel are based on the IPS. The IPS is a continuous sample survey of passengers (both UK residents and non-residents) travelling between the UK and foreign countries. In order to construct chained volume measure estimates, the number of journeys, based on information collected by the IPS, is used as a volume indicator.

Services – SER COICOP 08

Postal services (08.1) Estimates for postal services are based on the LCF.

Telephone and telefax services (08.3)

Estimates for telephone and telefax services are based on trade and OFCOM (the industry regulator) data for fixed lines, including cable, and the LCF for mobile phones.

Services – SER COICOP 09

Repair of audio visual, photographic and information processing equipment (09.1.5)

Estimates for repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment are based on the LCF.

Maintenance and repair of other major durables for recreation and culture (09.2.3)

Estimates for maintenance and repair of other major durables for recreation and culture are based on the LCF.

Veterinary and other services for pets (09.3.5)

Estimates for veterinary and other services for pets are based on the LCF.

Recreational and sporting services (09.4.1)

Estimates for recreational and sporting services are based are on the LCF.

This heading includes services provided by sports stadia; horse-racing courses; motor-racing circuits; swimming pools; tennis courts; bowling alleys; gymnasia; fitness centres; fairs and amusement parks; ski facilities; hire of equipment and accessories for sport and recreation, such as sailing or camping, aerobics, weight-loss, dancing, music, skating, skiing and swimming and services of tour guides, and so on.

Cultural services (09.4.2)

These include theatre and museum services, other admissions and social subscriptions; TV rental and repairs. Estimates for most of these are derived from the LCF.

Games of chance (09.4.3)

Data for games of chance other than the National Lottery are based on duty receipts provided by HMRC. Estimates for the National Lottery are based on data obtained from the Gambling Commission.

Services –SER COICOP 10 Education

Estimates for education are based on the LCF, BIS and DfE data and, in the past, data received from the Higher Education Funding Council, the Independent Schools Information Service and fees charged by local authorities (derived from local government accounts).

Services – SER COICOP 11

Catering and accommodation services

Household expenditure on catering services is based on the LCF. Information provided from commercial data on alcohol sales has been used to derive household expenditure class 11.1.1 restaurants, cafes and so on, licensed trade (see notes under NDG COICOP 02 Alcoholic beverages).

Similar expenditure by students living in university or college accommodation is derived from surveys sponsored by the BIS. Ministry of Defence (MoD) survey data is used to construct estimates of expenditure by military personnel residing in barracks. A number of different deflators, including relevant components of the CPI, are used to obtain chained volume measure estimates for catering.

Services – SER COICOP 12

Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments (12.1.1)

Estimates for hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments are based on the LCF.

Prostitution (12.2)

Estimates for prostitution activities are derived from a study by Eaves in 2004 and from prices and population data.

Social protection (12.4)

Estimates for social protection, including childcare, are based are on various sources, including the LCF. Estimates of expenditure by persons living in private residential and nursing homes are benchmarked on a 1993 survey of such establishments. Estimates for fees and charges paid by similar persons residing in Local Authority administered homes are based upon data obtained from the MHCLG, the Scottish Government and the Wales Office.

Insurance and other financial services (12.5 and 12.6)

Estimates for the administrative costs of life insurance and pension funds are largely based on inquiries conducted by ONS and data published by the Association of British Insurers. An appropriate component of the Average Earnings Index is used to deflate current expenditure and derive a chained volume measure.

The supply of Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured (FISIM) - excluding imports - is based on a total of interest receipts and payments, estimated from detailed data on stocks of loans and deposits and associated interest rates.

Estimates for stamp duties on securities make use of HMRC's data while estimates for securities dealers' commission are based on stock exchange information. For both stamp duties and securities dealers' commission, an index of share prices is used to deflate current expenditure to derive chained volume measures.

Estimates for other financial services use data provided by the Bank of England and several other sources. A number of different deflators are used to obtain chained volume measure estimates for financial services. Estimates for most components of non-life insurance are based on the LCF.

Other services (12.7)

This includes estimates for undertaking, which makes use of the number of deaths data collected by ONS. A price deflator obtained from survey data is used to convert this volume data into both current and expenditure estimates.

Also included is expenditure on legal services and on photocopying services.

TOUR - UK and foreign tourist expenditure

Estimates for foreign tourist expenditure and UK tourist expenditure abroad are based on the

International Passenger Survey (IPS). Special price deflators are constructed by Office for National Statistics (ONS) for the purposes of revaluing foreign tourists' expenditure to volume terms. For UK tourist expenditure abroad, retail price indices are available for most of the countries visited and special indices are constructed by ONS to represent the kind of goods and services likely to be bought by UK travellers overseas.

Tables 0A

Summary of household consumption Annual data

These tables summarise the annual totals, which are available back to 1963.

Tables 0GSA

Summary goods and services

Annual data

These tables summarise annual goods and services classified by COICOP function back to 1963.

Abbreviations used in this appendix

ABS - Annual Business Survey BEIS -Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy BIS - Department for Business, Innovation and Skills BT - British Telecom COICOP - Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose **CPI - Consumer Prices Index** CPIH – Consumer Price Index Housing CVM - Chained Volume Measure DEFRA - Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs DfE - Department for Education DfT - Department for Transport DH - Department of Health DVLA - Driver & Vehicle Licensing Agency HMRC - Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs **IPS** - International Passenger Survey LCF - Living Costs and Food Survey (formerly EFS, Expenditure & Food Survey) MHCLG - Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government MoD - Ministry of Defence NHS - National Health Service OFCOM - Office of Communications **OFWAT - Office of Water Services ONS - Office for National Statistics** RSI - Retail Sales Inquiry