

England Leisure Visits Survey 2005: A guide to using the data

1 ELVS questionnaires

ELVS 2005 contained a core survey, which was nationally representative and used to form the majority of the data. In addition, it contained a boost survey, which was focussed on the catchment areas around the English National Parks and main areas of open access land and were used with the specific aim of boosting the volume of information on trips to each of these Parks and access land regions. The core and boost questionnaires have been provided as appendices to the ELVS Technical Report. The data garnered from the core survey and the boost survey has been combined in both the respondent-based and trip-based files. To isolate the data from either the core or the boost survey, it is necessary to filter on the Core or Boost variable in the relevant files.

2 ELVS SPSS data files (Stata and tab-delimited ASCII versions are also available from the UK Data Archive)

The ELVS raw data are contained in SPSS files labelled 'respondent-based' (where each case is a respondent from either the core or the boost survey) and 'trip-based' (where each case is a trip from a respondent from either the core or the boost survey). Note that the only respondents included in the data from the boost survey are those that had made a trip to one of the National Parks and/or access land areas and the only trips included from the boost surveys are those that are to a National Park and/or access land area.

-Respondent based file

ELVS05_resp-based.sav contains respondent-level data. There is one record for every individual respondent in the core survey and one for every respondent who had visited a National Park or access land area in the past week. The file contains variables which correspond to each of the questions in the questionnaire, variables that can be used to isolate particular groups, and variables that isolate the weighting factors applied to individual cases.

Where a question was a single code (e.g. sex), one variable was used with each option as a different value. Where a question was multi-code (e.g. reason not made trip in past week), each option has a different variable with the options 'Yes' or 'No' depending on whether this option was chosen.

-Trip based file

ELVS05_trip-based.sav contains trip-level data. There is one record for every individual trip in the core survey and one for every trip to National Park and access land area in the boost survey. Once again, the file contains variables which correspond to each of the questions in the questionnaire, variables that can be used to isolate particular groups, and variables that isolate the weighting factors applied to individual cases.

Where a question was a single code (e.g. sex), one variable was used with each option as a different value. Where a question was multi-code (e.g. detailed activity), each option

has a different variable with the options 'Yes' or 'No' depending on whether this option was chosen. Note that variables 5 to 908 in this file are used to outline the detailed activity as a subset of main activity for each trip. This level of breakdown is necessary because of the substantial array of information that was gathered on trip activity. Additionally, the weight variables from variable 1130 to 1136 can be used to identify into which data table set each trip fits as well as isolating the particular weight applied to each case.

Linking the Trip based file to the Respondent based file.

The trip cases in the Trip based file can be linked back to the respondent who made them via the 'UniqueID' variable, which is contained in both files. Each respondent has a unique ID and all trips made by that respondent have that unique ID recorded in the 'UniqueID' variable in the trip based file.

Files saved in different formats

As .sav files are not compatible with SAS, and owing to the demand for the files to be available in a SAS friendly format, the two .sav files have also been saved in .por format. These files are labelled *ELVS2005_Trip-based.por* and *ELVS05_Resp-based.por*. Note that during this process, some variables were shortened or altered to fit the new format. These changes are documented in *Name changes for SAS files.pdf*

UKDA Note: SAS 7 versions of these files are available on request from the UK Data Archive. These have been created from the .por files supplied by the depositor. The SAS dataset package contains both the .por and SAS .sd7 files. Users should note that the filenames had to be shortened for the SAS versions, to 'elvs05trip' and 'elvs05resp'.