

**Table 1. WEB ONLY Characteristics of the samples**

	Ethnibus 2008	ONS Omnibus 2008	QoL Survey follow-up 2007/8
Characteristics	% (n)	% (n)	% (n)
Self-rated health status, compared with others same age:			
<b>Excellent</b>	<b>4 (16)</b>	<b>20 (115)</b>	<b>10 (29)****</b>
<b>Very good</b>	<b>8 (33)</b>	<b>33 (195)</b>	<b>28 (79)</b>
<b>Good</b>	<b>32 (130)</b>	<b>28 (161)</b>	<b>38 (107)</b>
<b>Fair</b>	<b>38 (151)</b>	<b>14 (84)</b>	<b>20 (58)</b>
<b>Poor</b>	<b>18 (70)</b>	<b>5 (29)</b>	<b>4 (11)</b>
Reported long-standing illness, disability, infirmity (that has troubled you/likely to affect you over a period of time):			
<b>No</b>	<b>57 (226)</b>	<b>61 (358)</b>	<b>30 (90)****</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>43 (174)</b>	<b>39 (229)</b>	<b>70 (211)</b>
Reported long-standing illness, disability, infirmity restricts activities:			
<b>No</b>	<b>49 (86)</b>	<b>31 (111)</b>	<b>50 (151)****</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>51 (88)</b>	<b>69 (247)</b>	<b>50 (150)</b>
(% n. reported LSI)	<b>(174)</b>	<b>(358)</b>	<b>(301)</b>
Able to walk 400 yards:			
<b>No difficulty</b>	<b>50 (200)</b>	<b>67 (396)</b>	<b>56 (157)***</b>
<b>Some difficulty</b>	<b>31 (123)</b>	<b>11 (62)</b>	<b>18 (50)</b>
<b>Can do with help of aid</b>	<b>12 (48)</b>	<b>10 (56)</b>	<b>16 (45)</b>
<b>Unable to do alone</b>	<b>7 (29)</b>	<b>12 (71)</b>	<b>10 (27)</b>
Able to do heavy housework:			
<b>No difficulty</b>	<b>47 (188)</b>	<b>48 (283)</b>	<b>36 (101)****</b>
<b>Some difficulty</b>	<b>30 (121)</b>	<b>25 (144)</b>	<b>38 (107)</b>
<b>Can do with help of aid</b>	<b>13 (52)</b>	<b>4 (21)</b>	<b>5 (13)</b>
<b>Unable to do alone</b>	<b>10 (39)</b>	<b>23 (134)</b>	<b>21 (59)</b>
Able to go shopping and carry heavy bags:			
<b>No difficulty</b>	<b>46 (184)</b>	<b>51 (295)</b>	<b>42 (118)*</b>
<b>Some difficulty</b>	<b>30 (118)</b>	<b>20 (119)</b>	<b>29 (81)</b>
<b>Can do with help of aid</b>	<b>12 (48)</b>	<b>6 (35)</b>	<b>9 (26)</b>
<b>Unable to do alone</b>	<b>12 (50)</b>	<b>23 (135)</b>	<b>20 (56)</b>
Able to go up and down stairs or steps			
<b>No difficulty</b>	<b>49 (195)</b>	<b>59 (344)</b>	<b>46 (129)***</b>
<b>Some difficulty</b>	<b>32 (129)</b>	<b>24 (142)</b>	<b>38 (106)</b>

<b>Can do with help of aid</b>	<b>13 (51)</b>	<b>8 (44)</b>	<b>10 (29)</b>
<b>Unable to do alone</b>	<b>6 (25)</b>	<b>9 (55)</b>	<b>6 (18)</b>
<b><i>Social support/help:</i></b>			
If needs practical help with everyday chores, running errands, odd jobs, number who help, or would help, if asked?			
No. of relatives:			
<b>0</b>	<b>7 (26)</b>	<b>3 (16)</b>	<b>16 (41)****</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>6 (24)</b>	<b>26 (131)</b>	<b>14 (36)</b>
<b>2-3</b>	<b>23 (94)</b>	<b>36 (182)</b>	<b>36 (92)</b>
<b>4+</b>	<b>64 (256)</b>	<b>35 (176)</b>	<b>34 (89)</b>
No. of friends:			
<b>0</b>	<b>10 (42)</b>	<b>1 (4)</b>	<b>18 (42)****</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>26 (103)</b>	<b>21 (106)</b>	<b>10 (25)</b>
<b>2-3</b>	<b>36 (143)</b>	<b>31 (159)</b>	<b>39 (94)</b>
<b>4+</b>	<b>28 (112)</b>	<b>47 (246)</b>	<b>33 (79)</b>
No. of neighbours:			
<b>0</b>	<b>10 (41)</b>	<b>1 (5)</b>	<b>17 (41)****</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>21 (84)</b>	<b>26 (130)</b>	<b>19 (47)</b>
<b>2-3</b>	<b>32 (129)</b>	<b>45 (229)</b>	<b>39 (95)</b>
<b>4+</b>	<b>37 (146)</b>	<b>28 (146)</b>	<b>25 (62)</b>
Total number of relatives, friends, neighbours who help/would help with everyday chores, running errands or odd jobs:			
<b>0</b>	<b>6 (23)</b>	<b>2 (10)</b>	<b>5 (11)**</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1 (2)</b>	<b>3 (14)</b>	<b>1 (3)</b>
<b>2-3</b>	<b>6 (25)</b>	<b>12 (68)</b>	<b>11 (27)</b>
<b>4+</b>	<b>87 (350)</b>	<b>83 (459)</b>	<b>83 (202)</b>
If had a serious personal crisis, number of people could turn to for comfort and support:			
<b>0</b>	<b>4 (16)</b>	<b>--- (2)</b>	<b>3 (7)***</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>14 (57)</b>	<b>9 (49)</b>	<b>7 (20)</b>
<b>2-3</b>	<b>27 (109)</b>	<b>24 (135)</b>	<b>35 (93)</b>
<b>4+</b>	<b>55 (218)</b>	<b>67 (383)</b>	<b>55 (148)</b>
Social activities done in last month:			
<b>Gone to clubs, local or neighbourhood groups or organisations, education classes, place of worship</b>	<b>31 (122)</b>	<b>55 (322)</b>	<b>59 (159)****</b>
<b>Gone to cinema, theatre, concert, other social entertainment</b>	<b>66 (263)</b>	<b>26 (154)</b>	<b>43 (118)****</b>
<b>Done some voluntary or paid</b>	<b>61 (243)</b>	<b>26 (154)</b>	<b>25 (64)****</b>

work			
<b>Gone for a walk or done gardening</b>	<b>26 (104)</b>	<b>74 (434)</b>	<b>78 (214)****</b>
<b>Played sport, gone to keep fit, swimming, dancing, exercise classes or done other type of physical activity ≠</b>	<b>60 (238)</b>	<b>32 (190)</b>	<b>29 (76)****</b>
<b>Done crosswords, other mental puzzles, bingo</b>	<b>63 (252)</b>	<b>70 (413)</b>	<b>82 (220)**</b>
<b>Helped or cared for other people, babysat or minded children</b>	<b>72 (287)</b>	<b>42 (246)</b>	<b>43 (113)****</b>
<b>Had visits from/or visited friends or family</b>	<b>23 (93)</b>	<b>93 (550)</b>	<b>95 (265)****</b>
<b>Enjoyed other types of hobbies/pastimes</b>	<b>60 (238)</b>	<b>97 (573)</b>	<b>65 (164) ±±</b>
Sex:			
<b>Male</b>	<b>48 (193)</b>	<b>45 (265)</b>	<b>46 (132) ns</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>52 (207)</b>	<b>55 (324)</b>	<b>54 (152)</b>
Age group in 2007/8:			
<b>65&lt;75</b>	<b>91 (363)</b>	<b>55 (326)</b>	<b>17 (47)****</b>
<b>75+</b>	<b>9 (37)</b>	<b>45 (163)</b>	<b>83 (235)</b>
<b>Marital status:</b>			
Married and living with spouse/cohabiting	<b>58 (230)</b>	<b>49 (285)</b>	<b>49 (138)**</b>
<b>Single, never married</b>	<b>20 (82)</b>	<b>6 (37)</b>	<b>7 (20)</b>
<b>Divorced, widowed, separated (mostly widowed)</b>	<b>22 (88)</b>	<b>45 (267)</b>	<b>44 (123)</b>
Employment status:			
<b>Employed full or part time</b>	<b>13 (50)</b>	<b>8 (50)</b>	<b>6 (16)# **</b>
<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>--- (1)</b>	<b>1 (5)</b>	<b>1 (2)</b>
<b>Retired</b>	<b>87 (349)</b>	<b>91 (534)</b>	<b>93 (264)</b>
Housing tenure:	---		---
<b>Owner occupier/with mortgage</b>	<b>52 (208)</b>	<b>73 (429)</b>	<b>85 (239)****</b>
<b>Rents local authority, housing/other association</b>	<b>18 (71)</b>	<b>20 (121)</b>	<b>13 (36)</b>
<b>Part rent/part mortgage</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>1 (3)</b>	<b>---</b>
<b>Rents privately</b>	<b>13 (53)</b>	<b>4 (24)</b>	<b>--- (1)</b>
<b>Other: Living with friends/family; Lives rent free, including in relative/s' friends' home</b>	<b>17 (68)</b>	<b>2 (12)</b>	<b>1 (4)</b>
No. of adults aged 18+ in household ±			
<b>1 (respondent)</b>	<b>5 (19)</b>	<b>48 (286)</b>	<b>49 (137)****</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>53 (213)</b>	<b>48 (282)</b>	<b>51 (145)</b>

<b>3</b>	<b>12 (50)</b>	<b>3 (16)</b>	
<b>4-6</b>	<b>30 (118)</b>	<b>1 (5)</b>	
Ethnic status:			
<b>White British</b>	---	<b>94 (555)</b>	<b>100 (299)# ±±</b>
<b>White other</b>	---	<b>2 (12)</b>	---
<b>Indian Asian (including British Asian – Indian ONS)</b>	<b>38 (152)</b>	--- (3)	---
<b>Indian Pakistan (including Asian – Pakistani British and Other: ONS Omnibus)</b>	<b>29 (117)</b>	<b>1 (4)</b>	---
<b>Black Caribbean (including Black, Black British, Black African ONS)</b>	<b>22 (86)</b>	<b>1 (7)</b>	---
<b>Chinese</b>	<b>11 (45)</b>	--- (1)	---
<b>Mixed race</b>	---	<b>1 (7)</b>	---
<b>Other</b>	---	<b>1 (6)</b>	---
First language:			
<b>English</b>	<b>41 (162)</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Punjabi</b>	<b>26 (105)</b>	---	---
<b>Hindi</b>	<b>8 (33)</b>	---	---
<b>Gujaati</b>	<b>9 (36)</b>	---	---
<b>Urdu</b>	<b>8 (32)</b>	---	---
<b>Cantonese</b>	<b>8 (32)</b>	---	---
Religion:			
<b>Christian</b>	<b>24 (97)</b>	---	---
<b>Hindu</b>	<b>30 (121)</b>	---	---
<b>Sikh</b>	<b>7 (28)</b>	---	---
<b>Muslim</b>	<b>30 (119)</b>	---	---
<b>Other</b>	<b>7 (28)</b>	---	---
<b>None</b>	<b>2 (7)</b>	---	---
No. of respondents	400	567-589+	240-301

# Asked at baseline

n/a Not asked

± Follow-up question dichotomous: lives alone or with others

≠ The interpretation of physical exercise was cultural: people included yoga, meditation and dominoes in the Ethnibus sample, explaining the higher proportion of positive responses.

+ ONS Omnibus: n=505-515 for number of relatives, friends and neighbours who would help with practical tasks

\* p<0.05; \*\* p<0.01; \*\*\*p<0.001; \*\*\*\*p0.0001; ns not statistically significant; caution where cells <5 cases; ±± not tested

