

# The wider benefits of higher education

## Appendix 1 Frequency distributions

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**Note:** For outcome variables percentages are based on the sample with missing values omitted, so that the prevalence of the outcome can be shown. For the control variables the percent “missing” is included as this category was used as one of the controls in the analysis.

***Frequencies for Outcome variables, by gender***

**Labour market**

| <b>Occupational attainment</b> | <b>Men</b> |     | <b>Women</b> |     |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----|--------------|-----|
| <b>Occupation</b>              | Frequency  | %   | Frequency    | %   |
| Manual & intermediate          | 3244       | 62  | 3568         | 67  |
| Professional & managers        | 2020       | 38  | 1723         | 33  |
| Missing values                 | 295        |     | 508          |     |
| Total                          | 5605       | 100 | 5799         | 100 |
| <b>Economic activity</b>       |            |     |              |     |
| Employed                       | 5051       | 90  | 3929         | 68  |
| Not working                    | 535        | 10  | 1851         | 32  |
| Missing values                 | 19         |     | 19           |     |
| Total                          | 5605       | 100 | 5799         | 100 |
| <b>Part-time or full-time</b>  |            |     |              |     |
| Not working                    | 535        | 10  | 1851         | 32  |
| Part-time                      | 59         | 1   | 1842         | 32  |
| Full-time                      | 4992       | 89  | 2087         | 36  |
| Missing                        | 19         |     | 19           |     |
| Total                          | 5605       | 100 | 5799         | 100 |

## Skills

### Improvements in skills over the past 10 years

#### Writing

|                | Men       |     | Women     |     |
|----------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
|                | Frequency | %   | Frequency | %   |
| Not improved   | 3144      | 61  | 3998      | 74  |
| Improved       | 1986      | 39  | 1415      | 26  |
| Missing values | 475       |     | 386       |     |
| N              | 5605      | 100 | 5799      | 100 |

#### Computing

|                |      |     |      |     |
|----------------|------|-----|------|-----|
| Not improved   | 2903 | 57  | 3433 | 65  |
| Improved       | 2192 | 43  | 1891 | 36  |
| Missing values | 510  |     | 475  |     |
| N              | 5605 | 100 | 5799 | 100 |

#### Mathematical calculations

|                |      |     |      |     |
|----------------|------|-----|------|-----|
| Not improved   | 3254 | 65  | 4015 | 76  |
| Improved       | 1787 | 35  | 1248 | 24  |
| Missing values | 564  |     | 536  |     |
| N              | 5605 | 100 | 5799 | 100 |

#### Organising

|                |      |     |      |     |
|----------------|------|-----|------|-----|
| Not improved   | 2439 | 49  | 3433 | 65  |
| Improved       | 2590 | 52  | 1824 | 35  |
| Missing values | 576  |     | 542  |     |
| N              | 5605 | 100 | 5799 | 100 |

#### Advising and counselling

|                |      |     |      |     |
|----------------|------|-----|------|-----|
| Not improved   | 1674 | 33  | 1714 | 32  |
| Improved       | 3381 | 67  | 3592 | 68  |
| Missing values | 550  |     | 493  |     |
| N              | 5605 | 100 | 5799 | 100 |

#### Teaching and instructing

|                |      |     |      |     |
|----------------|------|-----|------|-----|
| Not improved   | 1731 | 34  | 1712 | 32  |
| Improved       | 3315 | 66  | 3571 | 68  |
| Missing values | 559  |     | 516  |     |
| N              | 5605 | 100 | 5799 | 100 |

#### Caring

|                |      |     |      |     |
|----------------|------|-----|------|-----|
| Not improved   | 3558 | 70  | 2371 | 44  |
| Improved       | 1508 | 30  | 2980 | 56  |
| Missing values | 539  |     | 448  |     |
| N              | 5605 | 100 | 5799 | 100 |

## Health and parenting

| Variable                                     | Men<br>Frequency | %   | Women<br>Frequency | %   |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| <b>Self-assessed general health</b>          |                  |     |                    |     |
| Good & poor                                  | 3557             | 64  | 3839               | 67  |
| Excellent                                    | 1992             | 36  | 1884               | 33  |
| Missing values                               | 56               |     | 76                 |     |
| Total                                        | 5605             | 100 | 5799               | 100 |
| <b>Depression</b>                            |                  |     |                    |     |
| Normal 0-7                                   | 4534             | 96  | 4497               | 90  |
| Depressed 8-24                               | 178              | 4   | 521                | 10  |
| Missing values                               | 893              |     | 781                |     |
| Total                                        | 5605             | 100 | 5799               | 100 |
| <b>Self-assessed general health – 1970</b>   |                  |     |                    |     |
| Good & poor                                  | 2511             | 62  | 3269               | 67  |
| Excellent                                    | 1559             | 38  | 1591               | 33  |
| Missing values                               | 18               |     | 28                 |     |
| Total                                        | 4088             | 100 | 4888               | 100 |
| <b>Accidents and assaults</b>                |                  |     |                    |     |
| No accident/assault                          | 2338             | 42  |                    |     |
| Accident/assault                             | 3238             | 58  |                    |     |
| Missing values                               | 29               |     |                    |     |
| Total                                        | 5605             | 100 |                    |     |
| <b>Violence from partner before break-up</b> |                  |     |                    |     |
| None                                         |                  |     | 781                | 14  |
| Violence                                     |                  |     | 682                | 12  |
| NA/missing                                   |                  |     | 4336               |     |
| Total                                        |                  |     | 5799               | 100 |
| <b>Children's educational problems</b>       |                  |     |                    |     |
| No problems                                  | 475              | 64  | 596                | 69  |
| Problems                                     | 42               | 6   | 74                 | 9   |
| Missing/NA                                   | 233              |     | 191                |     |
| Total                                        | 749              | 100 | 860                | 100 |
| <b>Number of books owned by children</b>     |                  |     |                    |     |
| Fewer than 50                                | 125              | 17  | 158                | 18  |
| More than 50                                 | 401              | 54  | 529                | 62  |
| Missing/NA                                   | 223              |     | 173                |     |
| Total                                        | 749              | 100 | 860                | 100 |

## Civic engagement

| Variables                                     | Men       |     | Women     |     |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
|                                               | Frequency | %   | Frequency | %   |
| <b>Voted more than 4 times in past decade</b> |           |     |           |     |
| No                                            | 2258      | 44  | 2492      | 45  |
| Yes                                           | 2916      | 56  | 3000      | 55  |
| Missing                                       | 431       |     | 307       |     |
| Total                                         | 5605      | 100 | 5799      | 100 |
| <b>Current member of organisation</b>         |           |     |           |     |
| No                                            | 4799      | 86  | 4344      | 76  |
| Yes                                           | 772       | 14  | 1412      | 25  |
| Missing                                       | 34        |     | 43        |     |
| Total                                         | 5605      | 100 | 5799      | 100 |
| <b>Active member of organisation</b>          |           |     |           |     |
| No                                            | 5084      | 91  | 4559      | 79  |
| Yes                                           | 512       | 9   | 1237      | 21  |
| Missing                                       | 9         |     | 3         |     |
| Total                                         | 5605      | 100 | 5799      | 100 |

### Attitudes: mean values and standard deviations

| Gender      |                | Equality: support for sex<br>equality | Racism: anti-<br>racism | Cynic: political<br>cynicism |
|-------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Male        | Mean           | 3.72                                  | 3.71                    | 2.85                         |
|             | N              | 5131                                  | 5139                    | 5161                         |
|             | Std. deviation | 0.55                                  | 0.74                    | 0.81                         |
| Female      | Mean           | 3.96                                  | 3.84                    | 2.81                         |
|             | N              | 5424                                  | 5416                    | 5455                         |
|             | Std. deviation | 0.49                                  | 0.62                    | 0.73                         |
| Total       | Mean           | 3.84                                  | 3.78                    | 2.83                         |
|             | N              | 10555                                 | 10555                   | 10616                        |
|             | Std. deviation | 0.53                                  | 0.68                    | 0.77                         |
| Reliability |                | 0.713                                 | 0.821                   | 0.638                        |

## Frequencies for Control variables, by gender

| Variable                            | Men<br>Frequency | %   | Women<br>Frequency | %    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----|--------------------|------|
| <b>Father's social class</b>        |                  |     |                    |      |
| Manual                              | 2140             | 39  | 2209               | 38   |
| Intermediate                        | 931              | 17  | 967                | 17   |
| Service                             | 708              | 13  | 722                | 13   |
| Missing                             | 1826             | 33  | 1901               | 33   |
| Total                               | 5605             | 100 | 5799               | 100  |
| <b>Mother's education</b>           |                  |     |                    |      |
| Before/at 15                        | 2336             | 42  | 2349               | 41   |
| 15+                                 | 1611             | 29  | 1755               | 30   |
| Missing                             | 1658             | 30  | 1695               | 29   |
| Total                               | 5605             | 100 | 5799               | 100  |
| <b>Parents' interest</b>            |                  |     |                    |      |
| Very interested                     | 3305             | 59  | 3244               | 55.9 |
| Little or some                      | 648              | 12  | 638                | 11   |
| DK/missing                          | 1652             | 30  | 1917               | 33.1 |
| Total                               | 5605             | 100 | 5799               | 100  |
| <b>Free school meals at 11</b>      |                  |     |                    |      |
| No                                  | 4289             | 77  | 4394               | 75.8 |
| Yes                                 | 409              | 7   | 465                | 8    |
| Missing                             | 907              | 16  | 940                | 16.2 |
| Total                               | 5605             | 100 | 5799               | 100  |
| <b>Over-crowded at 11</b>           |                  |     |                    |      |
| No                                  | 4252             | 76  | 4400               | 76   |
| Yes                                 | 502              | 28  | 519                | 9    |
| Missing                             | 851              |     | 880                | 15   |
| Total                               | 5605             | 100 | 5799               | 100  |
| <b>Ability tests at 11</b>          |                  |     |                    |      |
| Low                                 | 1591             | 28  | 1313               | 23   |
| Mid                                 | 1594             | 28  | 1729               | 30   |
| High                                | 1619             | 29  | 1936               | 33   |
| Missing                             | 801              | 14  | 821                | 14   |
| Total                               | 5605             | 100 | 5799               | 100  |
| <b>Length of unemployment 23/33</b> |                  |     |                    |      |
| None                                | 4641             | 83  | 4737               | 82   |
| 1 year                              | 250              | 5   | 202                | 4    |
| 2-3 years                           | 167              | 3   | 116                | 2    |
| 4 or more years                     | 171              | 3   | 73                 | 1    |
| Total                               | 5229             | 93  | 5128               | 88   |
| Missing                             | 376              | 7   | 671                | 12   |
| Total                               | 5605             | 100 | 5799               | 100  |

**Full-time housework 23/33**

|                 |  |  |      |     |
|-----------------|--|--|------|-----|
| None            |  |  | 2687 | 46  |
| 1-3 years       |  |  | 882  | 15  |
| 4-6 years       |  |  | 866  | 15  |
| 7 or more years |  |  | 693  | 12  |
| Total           |  |  | 5128 | 88  |
| Missing         |  |  | 671  | 12  |
|                 |  |  | 5799 | 100 |

**Occupation**

|                               |      |     |      |     |
|-------------------------------|------|-----|------|-----|
| Unskilled                     | 347  | 6   | 420  | 7   |
| Semi-skilled                  | 661  | 12  | 268  | 5   |
| Personal services             | 320  | 6   | 1322 | 23  |
| Protective services           | 224  | 4   | 32   | 1   |
| Skilled                       | 1359 | 24  | 151  | 3   |
| Clerical                      | 290  | 5   | 1426 | 25  |
| Arts & sports                 | 109  | 2   | 86   | 2   |
| Other professional            | 202  | 4   | 142  | 2   |
| Health & education            | 243  | 8   | 783  | 14  |
| Science professions           | 473  | 9   | 101  | 2   |
| Services: managers and owners | 498  | 11  | 292  | 5   |
| Management                    | 613  | 95  | 288  | 5   |
| Total                         | 5339 |     | 5311 | 92  |
| Missing                       | 266  |     | 488  | 8.4 |
| Total                         | 5605 | 100 | 5799 | 100 |

**Sector**

|                  |      |     |      |     |
|------------------|------|-----|------|-----|
| Private          | 3210 | 57  | 2987 | 52  |
| Public & charity | 1222 | 22  | 1931 | 33  |
| Missing          | 1173 | 21  | 881  | 15  |
| Total            | 5605 | 100 | 5799 | 100 |

## Variables for 1995 sub-sample

### Variables

|                            | Frequency | %   |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----|
| <b>Partner's education</b> |           |     |
| 16 and under               | 785       | 49  |
| 17 to 19                   | 313       | 20  |
| 20+                        | 209       | 13  |
| Missing/NA                 | 302       | 19  |
| Total                      | 1609      | 100 |

### Number of children

|           |   |      |     |
|-----------|---|------|-----|
|           | 1 | 234  | 15  |
|           | 2 | 645  | 40  |
| 3 or more |   | 403  | 25  |
| Total     |   | 1282 | 80  |
| System    |   | 327  | 20  |
| Total     |   | 1609 | 100 |

### Average age of oldest child

|         |      |                |
|---------|------|----------------|
| Mean    | N    | Std. deviation |
| 10.9686 | 1273 | 4.74           |

## Variables for BCS70

| Variable                       | Men<br>Frequency | %   | Women<br>Frequency | %   |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| <b>Father's class</b>          |                  |     |                    |     |
| Manual                         | 946              | 23  | 1319               | 27  |
| Clerical                       | 208              | 5   | 271                | 6   |
| Professional/managerial        | 786              | 19  | 986                | 20  |
| Missing                        | 2148             | 53  | 2312               | 47  |
| Total                          | 4088             | 100 | 4888               | 100 |
| <b>Mother's education</b>      |                  |     |                    |     |
| Under 16                       | 2305             | 56  | 2871               | 59  |
| 16 plus                        | 1421             | 35  | 1650               | 34  |
| Missing                        | 362              | 9   | 367                | 8   |
| Total                          | 4088             | 100 | 4888               | 100 |
| <b>Free school meals at 10</b> |                  |     |                    |     |
| No                             | 3261             | 80  | 3963               | 81  |
| Yes                            | 308              | 8   | 350                | 7   |
| Total                          | 3569             | 87  | 4313               | 88  |
| System                         | 519              | 13  | 575                | 12  |
| Total                          | 4088             | 100 | 4888               | 100 |
| <b>Overcrowded at 10</b>       |                  |     |                    |     |
| Not overcrowded                | 3332             | 82  | 4019               | 82  |
| Overcrowded                    | 170              | 4   | 216                | 4   |
| Missing                        | 586              | 14  | 653                | 13  |
| Total                          | 4088             | 100 | 4888               | 100 |
| <b>Cognitive skill tests</b>   |                  |     |                    |     |
| Low                            | 989              | 24  | 989                | 24  |
| Medium                         | 935              | 23  | 935                | 23  |
| High                           | 1066             | 26  | 1066               | 26  |
| Missing                        | 1098             | 27  | 1098               | 27  |
| Total                          | 4088             | 100 | 4088               | 100 |