

Response date: 18th December 2024

You asked Money and Pensions Service the following

MaPS publishes an estimate of need for debt advice broken down by Parliamentary Constituency:

<https://maps.org.uk/content/dam/maps-corporate/en/publications/research/2024/maps-nfdaparliamentary-constituency-results.xlsx>.

This refers to the use of the Debt Need Survey 2023 data and "relevant local area information" being used as the basis for these.

The Excel sheet also provides a list of variables used, but does not provide the underlying sources for each of these (e.g., has cash ISA, credit card monthly spend, credit card usage per month, credit card minimum payment). Could you please provide the underlying sources for each of the variables listed, and full details of the model used to arrive at your estimates?

Money and Pensions Service Response

Please find attached further details of the underlying data sources used for the small area estimations (in Excel). The attachment also contains some additional details on the modelling approach used (Battese-Harter-Fuller), along with a link to an external technical source of how the modelling technique works.

We do not currently have a technical report covering the full details of the modelling approach used for this analysis, owing to resource limitations. However, when publishing results from the 2024 survey, we will give due regard to the publication of a technical report; resource and budget permitting.