

### Who are these Radical Statisticians?

Well. There are 167 of us as I write. 57 in London, 13 in the North, 10 in the North Midlands, 16 in the South Midlands, 6 in the East, 1 in the West, 37 in the South East, 4 in the South, (144 so far), 5 in Wales, 6 in Scotland, 2 in Ireland and 10 in the rest of the world. Not a very uniform distribution, but perhaps typical of statisticians. It is impossible to find out how many of us would call ourselves statisticians; and how many just statistics users. Four or five are self-declared semi-numerate. A large proportion are still students, and an equally large proportion are teachers or lecturers. Of those who are not, the majority are in public service or in research establishments, but again I think this reflects statisticians as a whole.

In an attempt to prune out from the mailing list people who had got on it from half-interest and who had no desire to participate in the group, we asked everyone to confirm their interest in RS6 and RS7. As a result numbers dropped from over 180 this September to 120. However, simultaneously, health group produced 'Whose Priorities?' and numbers soared back to 167 and continue to rise. Many Area Health Authorities have asked for the newsletter, but what interest it produces there remain to be seen. We now have two doctors on the list (one who says she's a radical community physician!!).

When I took over the role of "Master of the RadStats Address List" from Liz Atkins, I was astounded at the volume of mail she has dealt with in the past 22 months. Now that the list has begun to settle down we have created a card index which has become the basis of the circulation list used by newsletter editors. As much as we know of interests and abilities have been put on each person's card, so I should be pleased to help people who may be of use with particular problems, and invite you to leaf through the index if we're both at the same meeting. Compiling the list was easy because of the good organisation of Liz and John Bibby. May I put in print our thanks for all Liz's secretarying through our birth and early infancy.

Finally, please address all changes of address, interests, etc., to me for prompt delivery of YOUR RadStats newsletter.

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