

UKDS Census Workshops: Online tools for accessing and analysing census data Workshop 3: Accessing and analysing census microdata using Nesstar

Activity

Task:

- 1) Using Nesstar, explore census microdata to answer a question.
- 2) Create a two-way table to answer a question.

About Nesstar

Nesstar is an online tool provided by the UK Data Service for exploring and accessing to a wide variety of datasets.

Website: http://nesstar.ukdataservice.ac.uk/webview/

Activity: Exploring descriptive statistics

In April 2020, statistics released by the UK's Office for National Statistics showed 46.6% of adults in employment were working from home, as a result of the social distancing measures introduced in response to the coronavirus pandemic (ONS, 2020). You want to know:

What proportion of the population is usually in work? How many adults in employment are usually working from home?

To explore the question, you will look at microdata from the 2011 Census. The key variables to explore are:

- 1. Current employment
- 2. Place of work
- 3. Regions England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland

Note that there are three censuses for the UK. One that covers England and Wales, one for Scotland and one for Northern Ireland. The UK Data Service provides tables of combined UK 2011 Census data through our InFuse tool, however the microdata collections are separated by the three different census collections.

Instructions

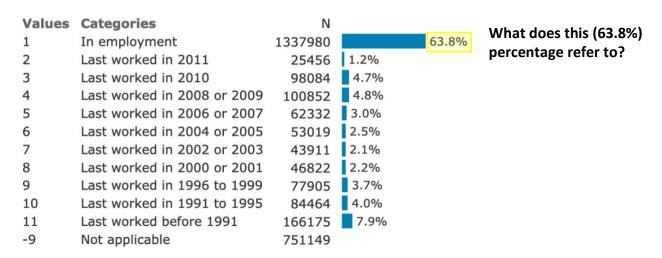
- 1. Navigate to Nesstar: http://nesstar.ukdataservice.ac.uk/webview/
- 2. Find the 2011 Census Microdata
 - Open Research Datasets
 - Scroll down to Census Microdata and Sample of Anonymised Records (SARS), expand with +
 - Select Census Microdata, expand with +
 - > Select 2011
- ☐ About the UK Data Service Nesstar Catalogue
 - ⊞ Research Datasets
 - Unrestricted Access Datasets
- 3. Find and explore the variables for England and Wales
 - Select England and Wales, expand with +
 - Select 2011 Census Microdata Individual Safeguarded Sample (Local Authority), expand with +
 - > Select Variable Description, expand with +
 - Select Person, expand with +
- □ Census Microdata and Sample of Anonymised Records (SARs)
 - □ Census Microdata
 - **±** 1961
 - **1971**
 - **1981**
 - **□** 2011
 - □ England and Wales
 - 2011 Census Microdata Individual Safeguarded Sample (Local Authority)
 - Metadata
 - Variable Description
 - CommunalEstablishment

 - **Household**
 - ⊕ Occupied Dwellings
 - Occupied Household Spaces
 - Person

Question 1. How many cases are there in the England and Wales 2011 microdata? (hint: look at the summary statistics for any variable)

- 4. There are several variables that can help you explore employment and answer the main questions posed at the start of this activity.
 - Explore the employment related variables.
 - Read the variable descriptions and categories carefully.
 - Some variables include information for people who are no longer working, e.g. Employment type
 - Some responses are classed as -9 Not applicable and are not counted in reported percentages e.g. Last year worked

Variable lastyrwrkg: Last year worked



Question 2. What proportion of the population is usually in work? (hint: you may need to divide the number of people *currently* working by the total number of cases in the sample.)

- 5. Working from home
 - > Explore variables that show categories for working from home. For example:
 - Person > Distance travelled to work, or
 - Person > Place of work, or
 - Person > Workplace

Question 3. How many adults in employment are usually working from home?

- 6. (Optional) Explore employment and working from home for Northern Ireland and Scotland
 - Some of the questions might be phrased differently
 - Are there notable differences in the proportion of people working?
 - ➤ Are there more or less people working from home?

More detail from the ONS about homeworking during the COVID-19 pandemic:

 $\frac{https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeet}{ypes/bulletins/coronavirusandhomeworkingintheuk/april2020}$