

The UK Data Service and you

Accessing social, economic and population data



What types of data are held in the UK Data Service collection?

Surveys

Cross-sectional

Panel /
Longitudinal

Census data

Aggregate data from 1971

Microdata from 1991

Aggregate statistics

International macrodata

Other data

Qualitative and mixed methods data

Administrative data

Training



UK Data Service training topics

Builds capacity in 3 core topics:

Research Data Management	Finding and Accessing Data from the UK Data Service	Using data (introductory skills)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data management planning: sharing, archiving and preserving data• Anonymisation and licence/access frameworks• Documentation and metadata standards• Ethical and legal considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data discovery• How to access data• Safe Researcher Training for the most confidential data	<p>Introductions to data we hold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Datasets e.g Census, LFS• Data types e.g Surveys• Substantive themes e.g Crime• Evaluating data for research• Preparing data/data handling• Basic data analysis skills• Basic software/tools• Teaching with data• User conferences <p>+ Computational Social Science + Reproducible research</p>

At the heart:

- Getting started with secondary data
- Introductory level
- Training for the data that we hold
(*Survey, Census, Longitudinal, Cohort, International Aggregate*)

What we don't do:

- Advanced methods training
- Advanced statistical analysis training
- Advanced coding training

Training and support - Events

- Webinars and online workshops
- Conferences
- Drop-in sessions

The screenshot shows the 'Training and events' section of the UK Data Service website. The page features a navigation bar with links for 'Find data', 'Deposit data', 'Learning Hub', 'Training and events', 'About', 'News', 'Impact', 'Help', and 'Contact'. Below the navigation bar, there is a breadcrumb trail 'Home > Training and events' and a 'Browse events' heading. A 'Follow our events' button with an RSS icon is also present. The main content area displays a calendar for March 2026, with a 'List' button and a 'Calendar' button. The calendar shows several events:

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
23	24 Safe Researcher Training SecureLab drop-in sessions	25	26	27	28	1
2	3	4 Survey data drop-in	5	6	7	8
9 Mapping crime data in R: Interactive introduction	10 Mapping crime data in R: Hands-on coding	11 Crime Surveys User Conference 2026	12	13	14	15

ukdataservice.ac.uk/training-events/

Training and support – Resources and Helpdesk

- Online learning materials
- Helpdesk for data queries

The screenshot shows the UK Data Service Learning Hub website. The header includes the UK Data Service logo, a site search bar, and a login button. The navigation menu contains links for Find data, Deposit data, Learning Hub, Training and events, About, News, Impact, Help, and Contact. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail (Home > Learning Hub), a search bar, and a heading "Enhance your data skills and teaching". Below this, there are six content boxes with the following titles and descriptions:

- New to using data**: Best practice and training for researchers new to accessing and using data in our collection. Includes advice and tools to correctly cite data; student-specific information on our Dissertation Award for undergraduates; and more.
- Data skills modules**: There is a wealth of data available for reuse in research and reports. These free, interactive tutorials are designed for anyone who wants to start using secondary data. They show you how to get started with finding good quality data, understanding it and starting your analyses.
- Students**: Students can access most of the UK Data Service's collection of social, economic and population data. Find resources to help you find and use our data during your studies including the UK Data Service dissertation resources.
- Survey data**: Survey data, including data from long-
- International data**: Our international macrodata contain socio-
- Qualitative data**: Qualitative research gives a voice to the

Training and support – upcoming training series

UK Data Service introductory training series: Spring 2026

Some upcoming sessions:

- Mapping crime data in R: Interactive introduction: 9 March
- Computational social science drop-in: 10 March
- UK Data Service essentials: Introduction, finding and accessing data: 17 March
- Introduction to effective and practical research data management: 19 March
- How to become a computational social scientist: 15 April
- Ethical and legal guidelines in data sharing: 23 April
- Role of informed consent in ethical data collection, sharing and reuse: 30 April

Impact



Impact – our why

We want to know that our data makes a difference in the world.



Impact – our how

We develop and curate narratives that tell the story of the impact of the UK Data Service and its data.



Developing narratives of impact

**Research
within a
theme or
area**

**Impact of a
dataset**

**Bodies of
work**

**Ongoing
impact of
earlier
identified
impactful
work**

**Themes of
work**

Impact – our what

Our key activities



Impact themes



Poverty in data

Poverty in data brings together a broad evidence base of the use of data in the collection which help researchers understand lived experience and advocate for improvements for those living in poverty and deprivation, especially during the current cost of living crisis.



Mental health and wellbeing in data

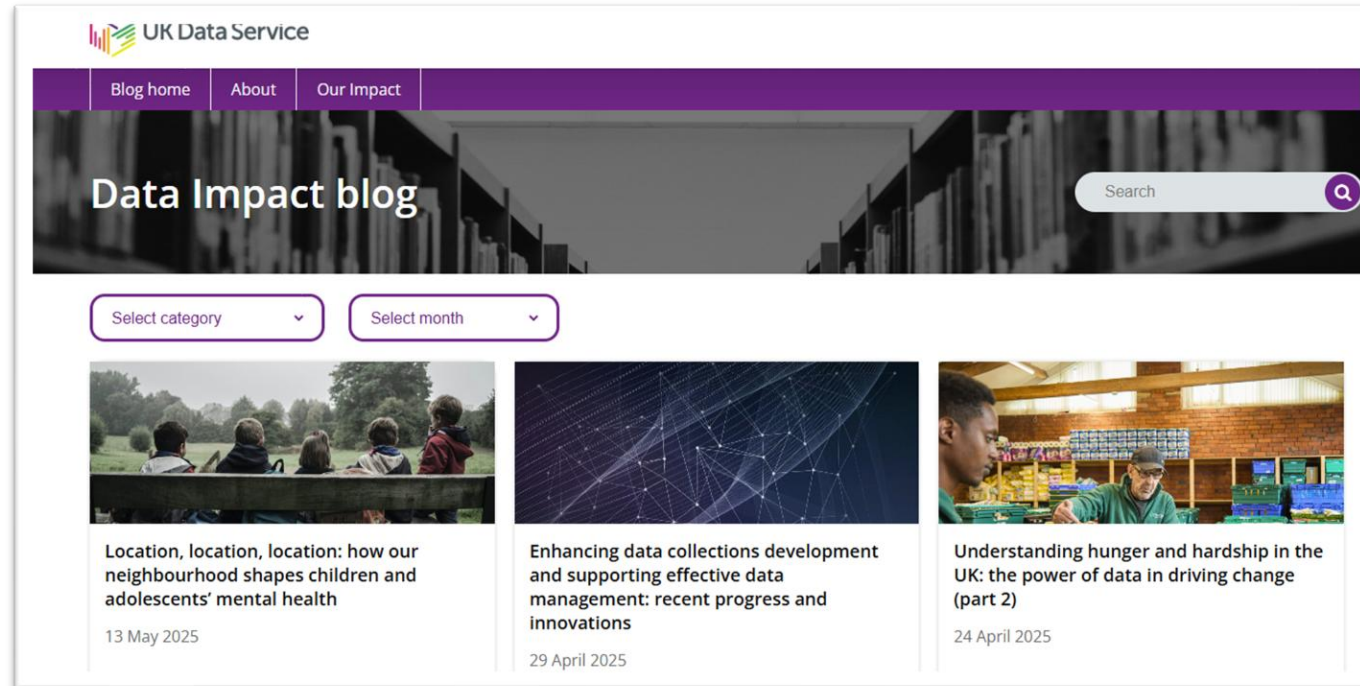
Mental health and wellbeing showcases past and current data-driven research in these vital areas. This includes content from the Data Impact blog and case studies.



Children and young people in data

Children and young people in data is our latest impact theme page. We will be highlighting the way in which data is being used to support research into the lives of young people and children across a range of topics including education, health and families.

Data Impact blog - blog.ukdataservice.ac.uk



- Encourages discussion and debate
- Shares best practice
- Updates on data-driven impactful research and policy making

Data Impact blog – write for us

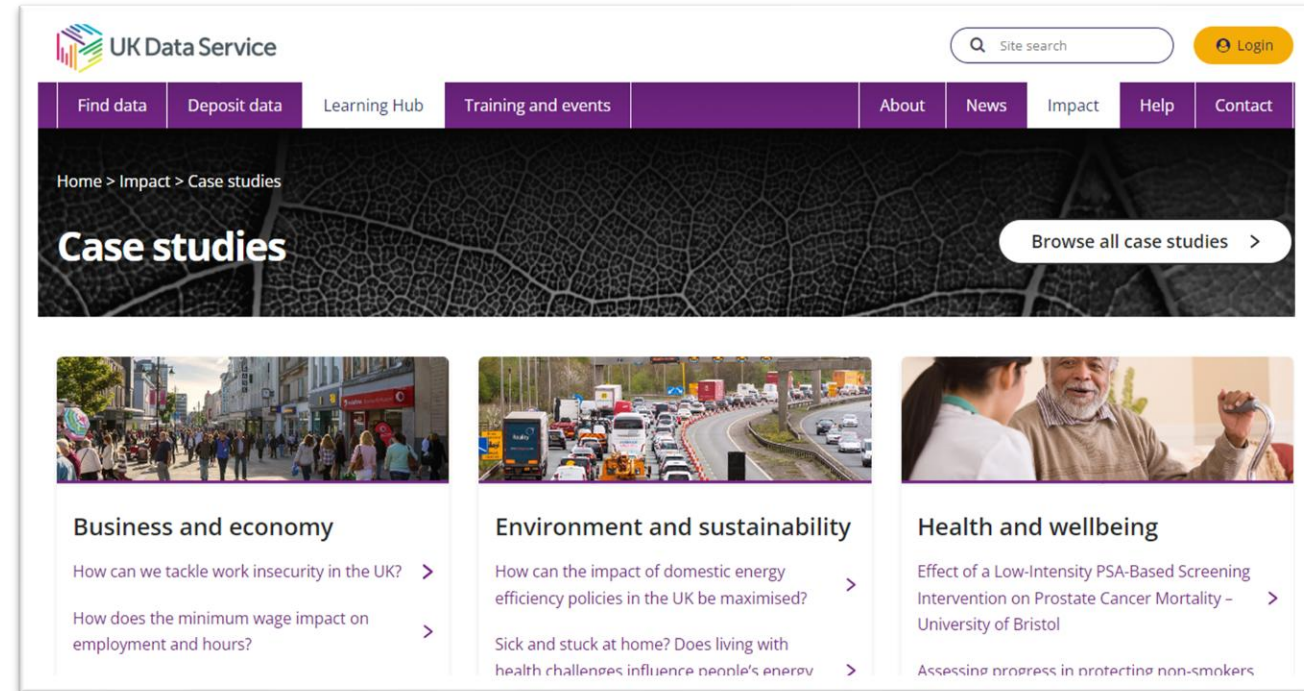
We welcome posts that highlight the impact of data or spark conversations about data, including

- impact stories
- reflections
- insights
- collaborations
- innovation and methods

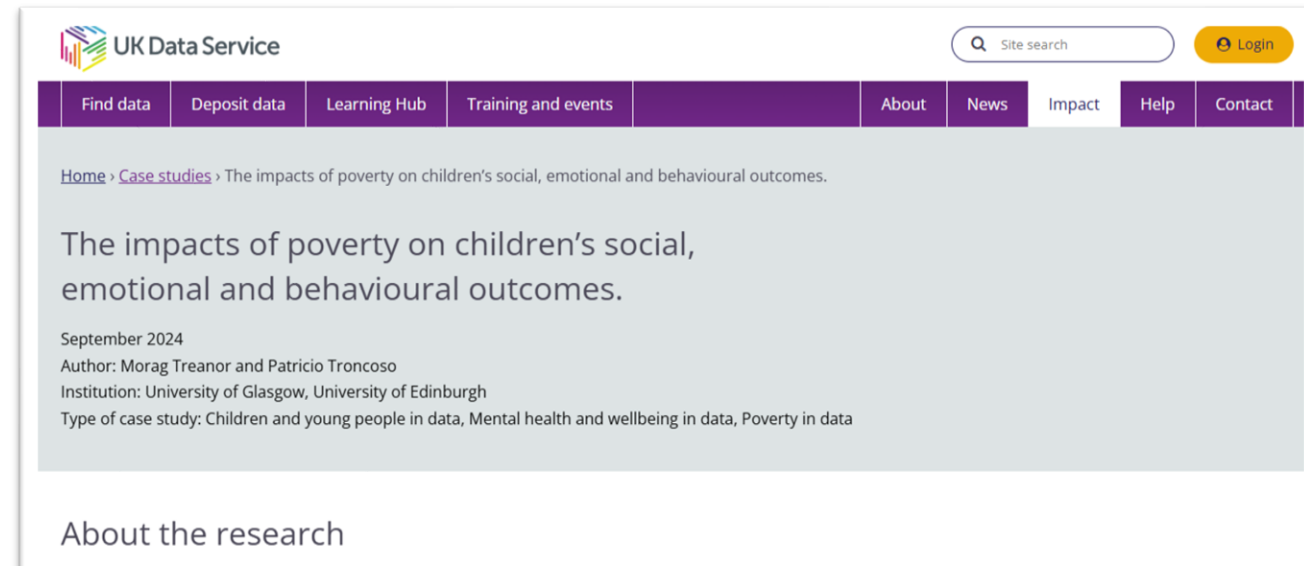
ukdsimpact@jisc.ac.uk

Case studies

- Developed in partnership with researchers
- Research to find clear evidence of impact on policy, society etc.



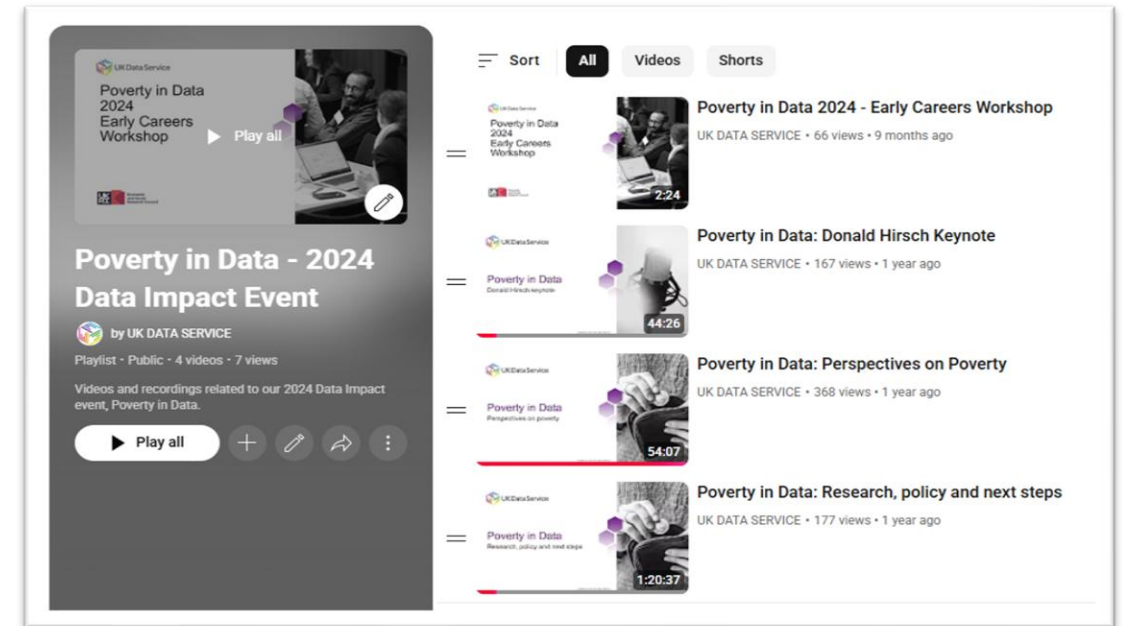
The screenshot shows the UK Data Service website's 'Case studies' page. The header includes the UK Data Service logo, a search bar, and a 'Login' button. A navigation menu contains links for 'Find data', 'Deposit data', 'Learning Hub', 'Training and events', 'About', 'News', 'Impact', 'Help', and 'Contact'. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail 'Home > Impact > Case studies' and a 'Case studies' title with a 'Browse all case studies' button. Three featured case study cards are displayed: 'Business and economy' (with two sub-questions), 'Environment and sustainability' (with two sub-questions), and 'Health and wellbeing' (with two sub-questions).



The screenshot shows a detailed view of a case study on the UK Data Service website. The header is identical to the previous screenshot. The breadcrumb trail is 'Home > Case studies > The impacts of poverty on children's social, emotional and behavioural outcomes.' The main title is 'The impacts of poverty on children's social, emotional and behavioural outcomes.' Below the title, the date 'September 2024' is listed, followed by the author 'Morag Treanor and Patricio Troncoso' and the institution 'University of Glasgow, University of Edinburgh'. The 'Type of case study' is listed as 'Children and young people in data, Mental health and wellbeing in data, Poverty in data'. The page concludes with the heading 'About the research'.

Data impact events

Discussion and debate to support the expansion of ideas around data impact.



Data Impact Fellows

- Early Career Researchers using data in the UKDS collection (academic and voluntary sectors)
- small grant
- collaborating with impact team and other Fellows, networking
- Developing different communication styles and voices for different audiences



Data Impact Fellows

- Applications for next round launching later in 2026
- Keep watching

impact.ukdataservice.ac.uk



The screenshot shows a webpage for the UK Data Service. At the top left is the UK Data Service logo. A navigation bar contains links for 'Blog home', 'About', and 'Our Impact'. The main heading is 'Data Impact blog'. Below this is a featured article titled 'Introducing the UK Data Impact Fellows 2025-26' with a date of '8 January 2025'. The article text states: 'The Data Impact Fellows programme is designed to support the use of UK Data Service data and resources by new generations of researchers and analysts working in the academic sector and in UK registered charities. This year's applications for the the Data Impact Fellows programme were of extremely high quality, making the [judges'](#) job extremely difficult. We are delighted to introduce to the five awardees that make up our new cohort! We'll be hearing more from each of the Fellows over the year, in this post they give a brief introduction to themselves and their research.'