

Finding and accessing data in the UK Data Service

Maddison A. Jones

Data Access Assistant

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What we will cover in this session

Introducing our data

- Finding data
 - Key Data
 - Data by Theme
 - Data Catalogue
 - Useful resources: HASSET, Data Map

- Understanding the Data Set & Series records

- How to Access Data
 - Access conditions
 - Downloading data
 - Online data access

What is the UK Data Service?

- A comprehensive resource funded by the ESRC
- Single point of access to a wide range of secondary social science data
- Support, Training and Guidance

Sources of Data

- National statistical authorities
- UK government departments
- Intergovernmental organisations
- Research institutes
- Individual researchers

Who is it for?

- students
- Government analysts
- Charities and foundations
- Business consultants
- Independent research centres
- Think tanks

Types of data available from us

Survey Microdata

- Major UK surveys
- Cross-national
- Longitudinal

Census

- Aggregate data for 1971-2011
- Microdata for 1981-2011

International Macrodata

- Multi-nation aggregate databanks & Survey data

Qualitative/Mixed methods

- Range of multimedia qualitative data sources
- Mix of qualitative and quantitative data

Data Categorization

• By type

- Detailed data about persons
 - UK surveys
 - Census microdata
 - Cohort and longitudinal studies
 - Cross-national surveys
 - Business surveys
- Data about places
 - Small areas – census data
 - Countries – international time series
- Qualitative and mixed method

By purpose

- Research
- Teaching

By detail

- Variables and questions

Quantitative Data Example

	AgeB2	sgrade	Soc	Soc2	gor	sex	Eth	Reg	gen	tenure	Empstat	qual	marstat	access	Income	Broadsheet
1	35-44	E	C2DE	DE	North We	Male	White	North	Generati	Rented f	Not work	GCSE/O-L	Married/	Has inte	11500 -	no BROAD
2	35-44	C1	ABC1	C1C2	North We	Male	White	North	Generati	Rented f	Not work	A-Level	Married/	Has inte	25000 PL	no BROAD
3	35-44	C2	C2DE	C1C2	East Mid	Female	White	Midlands	Generati	Owner (b	Working	Vocation	Married/	Has inte	25000 PL	no BROAD
4	65+	D	C2DE	DE	East Mid	Female	White	Midlands	Baby boo	Owned ou	Not work	Vocation	Married/	Has inte	17500 -	no BROAD
5	65+	D	C2DE	DE	East Mid	Male	White	Midlands	Pre war	Owned ou	Not work	Vocation	Divorced	No inter	-1	no BROAD
6	35-44	C2	C2DE	C1C2	East Mid	Male	White	Midlands	Generati	Rented f	Working	GCSE/O-L	Married/	Has inte	-1	no BROAD
7	55-64	C1	ABC1	C1C2	North We	Male	White	North	Baby boo	Owned ou	Working	A-Level	Married/	Has inte	25000 PL	no BROAD
8	45-54	C1	ABC1	C1C2	North We	Female	White	North	Generati	Owner (b	Working	GCSE/O-L	Divorced	No inter	17500 -	no BROAD
9	16-24	D	C2DE	DE	North We	Female	White	North	Generati	Owned ou	Working	A-Level	Single	Has inte	-1	no BROAD
10	55-64	C1	ABC1	C1C2	North We	Female	White	North	Baby boo	Owned ou	Working	Vocation	Divorced	Has inte	25000 PL	no BROAD
11	65+	B	ABC1	AB	West Mid	Female	White	Midlands	Pre war	Owned ou	Not work	No forma	Divorced	No inter	-1	no BROAD
12	55-64	C2	C2DE	C1C2	West Mid	Female	White	Midlands	Baby boo	Owned ou	Not work	Vocation	Married/	Has inte	6500 - 1	no BROAD
13	35-44	C1	ABC1	C1C2	West Mid	Male	White	Midlands	Generati	Owner (b	Working	A-Level	Married/	Has inte	25000 PL	no BROAD
14	65+	C2	C2DE	C1C2	West Mid	Female	White	Midlands	Pre war	Owned ou	Not work	No forma	Divorced	No inter	11500 -	no BROAD
15	55-64	C1	ABC1	C1C2	North We	Female	White	North	Baby boo	Owned ou	Not work	A-Level	Married/	Has inte	-1	no BROAD
16	65+	C1	ABC1	C1C2	Scotland	Male	White	Scotland	Baby boo	Owned ou	Not work	Other	Divorced	Has inte	6500 - 1	no BROAD
17	45-54	C1	ABC1	C1C2	Scotland	Female	White	Scotland	Generati	Owner (b	Working	A-Level	Married/	Has inte	25000 PL	BROADSHE
18	16-24	C1	ABC1	C1C2	Scotland	Female	White	Scotland	Generati	Owner (b	Working	A-Level	Single	Has inte	-1	no BROAD
19	65+	D	C2DE	DE	Scotland	Female	White	Scotland	Baby boo	Owned ou	Not work	No forma	Married/	Has inte	17500 -	no BROAD

SN 8059: Public Attitudes to Animal Research Survey, 2016.

Qualitative Data Example

Information about interviewee

Date of birth : 1902
Gender : M
Marital status : Married
Occupation : Railway worker
Geographic region : Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs

I : Can I have your full name please?

FW : Frank Woolley.

I : And your present address?

FW : 34 Speedwell Street, Longton.

I : And are you married?

FW : Yes.

I : And the year of your marriage?

FW : 1930.

I : The year you were born?

FW : 1902.

I : And where were you born?

FW : Ashfield Road, Longton.

I : Can you remember how many years you lived in Edgefield Road in the house where you were born?

FW : No, I'm afraid not.

I : Can you remember if you stayed in that house until 1918 or were there any moves in between?

FW : Oh there's moves in between.

I : Can you remember where you moved to from Edgefield Road?

FW : The first address I can remember living in is number 8 Heathcote Street, as I can remember living in. So I must have been a baby when I left Edgefield Road.

I : So you can't have lived there very long at all?

FW : No. And then the next address is Melvin Street.

I : Can you remember how long you were there?

FW : Oh I should be there 'til I'm about nine I should imagine, eight or nine.

I : And then where did you move to?

FW : 57 Speedwell Street. And that's - that's where I stayed 'til I was married.

I : Do you remember why the family made all these moves?

FW : Oh well in them days they used to do, families could go anywhere. There was always houses empty you know.

I : Do you know why this was?

FW : Well - I couldn't say really. 'Cos I can remember in this row here, three or four houses empty at a time.

I : Couldn't people afford them?

FW : Well they could afford a them but they could move anywhere - but the reason why did move into Speedwell Street is when the family was getting bigger, had a three roomed house see.

I : So as the family increased you need a larger house?

FW : Yes.

I : Can you remember how many brother and sisters you had?

FW : I had three brothers, seven sisters.

I : So there was eleven children altogether?

FW : Yes.

SN2000: Family Life and Work Experience Before 1918, 1870-1973.

Finding Data

Finding Data: Key Data

[British Social Attitudes](#)

This National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) survey tracks people's changing social, political and moral attitudes and informs the development of public policy. It has been conducted since 1983, with over 3,000 respondents annually and questions repeated periodically.

[Citizenship Survey](#)

The Citizenship Survey was conducted seven times between 2001 and 2011. It was designed to capture information on community cohesion, civic engagement, race and faith, and volunteering.

[Community Life Survey](#)

The Community Life Survey was first commissioned by the Cabinet Office in 2012-2013. It is an annual household survey conducted with adults resident in England, covering a range of topics including measures that are key to understanding society and local communities, such as volunteering, charitable giving, civic engagement and social action.

[Continuous Household Survey](#)

The Continuous Household Survey (CHS) is one of the largest continuous surveys carried out in Northern Ireland. It has been conducted by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) since 1983 and covers a wide range of social and economic issues.

[Crime Survey for England and Wales](#)

The Crime Survey for England and Wales (formerly British Crime Survey) asks over 50,000 people living in households in England and Wales about their experiences of crime in the last 12 months.

Site search Access

About us	Get data	Use data	Manage data	Deposit data
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Home > Get data > Key data

Key data

Browse our most popular datasets, by data type.

UK surveys	Cross-national surveys	Longitudinal studies	International macrodata
Census data	Business microdata	Qualitative / mixed methods	Administrative data

SHARE

These UK surveys can be used to produce national estimates.

They can all be used to describe a population at one point of time and most can be used to compare populations at more than one time point. Many are large surveys that are used to inform policy.

- [Data Catalogue](#) of UK surveys
- [Case studies](#) relating to UK surveys

[Annual Population Survey](#)

The Annual Population Survey (APS) combines data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and national boosts. Datasets contain 12 months of data and responses from 155,000 households and 360,000 people. It thus improves intercensal monitoring of key variables for a range of policy purposes.

[British Social Attitudes](#)

This National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) survey tracks people's changing

[European Election Study](#)

European Election Studies (EES) have taken place for six of the seven European parliamentary elections held since 1979, with the exception of 1984. The format for each EES is a core survey – maintaining comparability over time – and a thematic module, chosen for its pertinence to the election.

<http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-5341-1>

[European Quality of Life Survey](#)

The European Quality of Life Survey is a pan-European survey that examines a range of issues, such as employment, income, education, housing, family, health, work-life balance, life satisfaction and perceived quality of society.

[European Social Survey](#)

The European Social Survey (ESS) is a biennial multi-country survey covering over 30 nations. Its aim is to measure and explain trends in attitudes, beliefs and values across countries in Europe and its close neighbours.

[European and World Values Studies](#)

The European Values Study and World Values Survey series are designed to enable a cross-national, cross-cultural comparison of values and norms on a wide variety of topics and to monitor changes in values and attitudes across the globe. The surveys provide data from representative national samples of the publics of more than 90 countries and cover a full range of social, economic, cultural and religious variation.

<http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-6757-1>

[IEA CO2 Emissions from Fuel Combustion](#)

The International Energy Agency (IEA) Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Emissions from Fuel Combustion database provides a comparative analysis of CO2 emissions from fossil fuel combustion, a major source of anthropogenic emissions. The data are designed to assist in understanding the evolution of these emissions on a country, regional and worldwide basis.

[Access IEA CO2 Emissions from Fuel Combustion](#)

[IEA Coal Information](#)

The International Energy Agency (IEA) Coal Information database contains worldwide coal statistics covering production, trade, use in transformation (electricity and heat production) and final consumption in industry and other sectors from 1960 onwards.

[Access IEA Coal Information](#)


Finding Data: Theme Pages

Key data | Data catalogue | Research

The UK Data Service has a library of [case studies](#) demonstrating how UK Data Service data have been used which includes studies on [Ageing](#).


See the following highlighted case studies for some ideas for ageing:

[Fertility and pension systems](#)



A large body of literature (suggested that the decline of the last centuries may be a progressive deterioration of reduces the expected old-age from children.

[The Last Refuge revisited](#)



Effective care for the elderly in British society and one that debate. This study explores care for older people in the addressing contemporary management of residential changing nature. Rather than approach to the situation this project took a longer-term view state with that of almost fifty years ago.

Key data | Data catalogue | Research | Resources

Links to case studies and other related

SHARE

The UK Data Service helps to support users of data by providing:

- A library of [case studies](#) demonstrating how UK Data Service data have been used including [case studies using data on ageing](#).
- Self-study software and good practice [guides](#), such as [What is weighting?](#)
- [Teaching datasets](#) on the theme of ageing, many of which can be explored online without the need for additional software.
- [Thematic guides](#) identifying key datasets in the area of ageing.
- A [webinar](#) showcasing data on the topic of ageing that is available from the UK Data Service and highlighting the research potential of the data.

OTHER RESOURCES FOR DATA ON AGEING

- [British Society for Research on Ageing](#)
- [Research into Ageing Fund](#)
- [The Oxford Institute of Population Ageing](#)
- [Medical Research Council – Ageing Research in the UK](#)
- [UK Age Research Form](#)
- [Centre for Ageing Research – Lancaster University](#)
- [King's College London – Ageing Research](#)
- [National Institute for Health Research - Age and Ageing](#)
- [National Database of Ageing Research](#)
- [Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council Ageing research: lifelong health and wellbeing](#)
- [British Geriatrics Society - UK Ageing Research Network Update](#)

Ageing

Links to case studies and other related

Resources

SHARE

are regarded as 'key' of standard measures, because they are used

or 'source' data in the first-hand; they are analysed by priority of these data circumstances and data are heavily

data sources:


Topics
Life styles
Finances
Health
Attitudes
Household
Habitation
Marriage
Education
Training
Employment
Ageing
Retirement
Quality of life

Data by theme

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The UK Data Service has web pages to aid researchers looking specifically for data on particular themes:

Ageing




Ageing is the accumulation of a wide range of changes experienced by a person over time, including physical, psychological, and social factors. In particular, given the rise in life expectancy, there has been increasing focus on the social factors of ageing e.g. longer working hours, pensions, issues related to health and quality of life. Equally, social inequalities caused by increasing longevity also raise a complex set of challenges for policy makers. The UK Data Service holds a variety of data collections related to ageing, from key government and longitudinal surveys to international indicators and qualitative historical interviews.

Crime



'Crime' encompasses a wide range of issues that lie within the remit of several academic disciplines, including sociology, psychology, law and economics. As a theme, crime may cover various topics, ranging from contemporary concerns over youth gangs and anti-social behaviour, through 'white collar' and corporate crime, including crimes against the environment, to serious violence. Crime-related data held by the UK Data Service include not only national crime surveys (which themselves cover diverse issues such as identity theft and alcohol-related disorder in the night-time economy) but also illegal drug use, workers in the criminal justice system, football hooliganism and community policing in Africa.

Economics



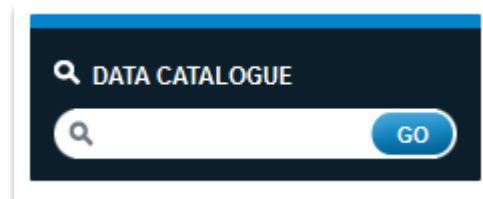
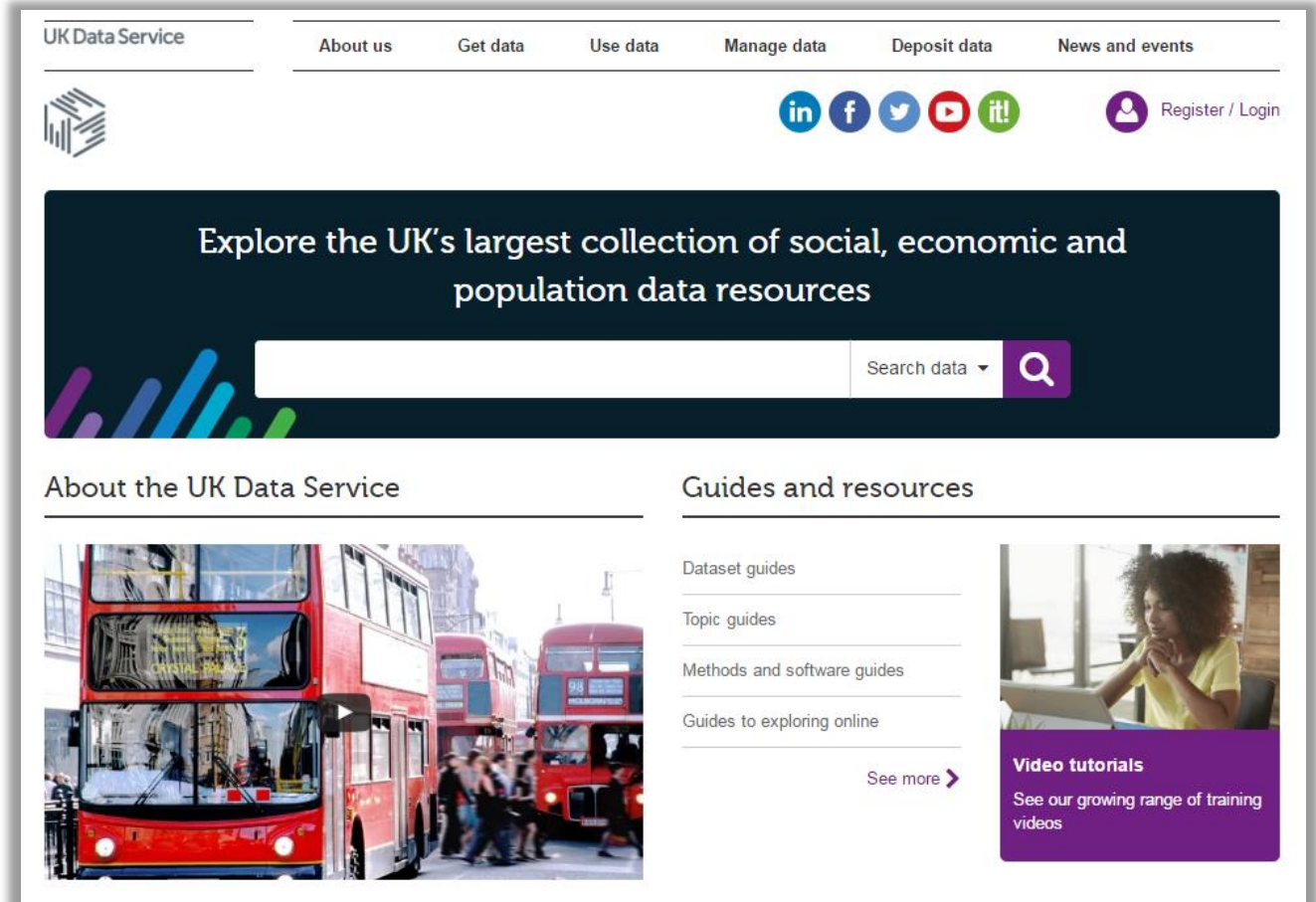
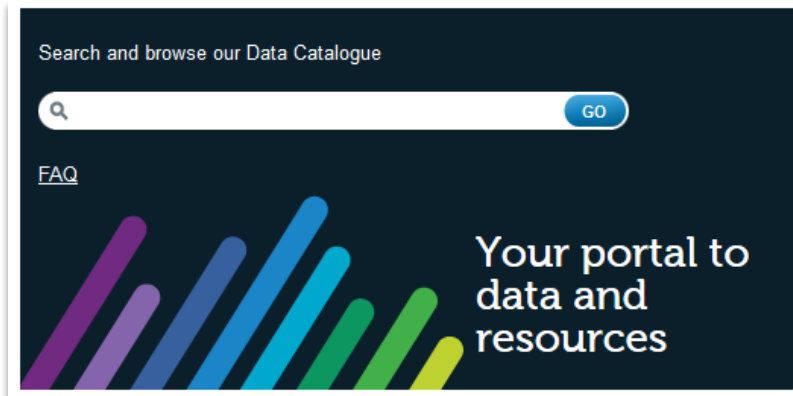
Economics is a social science concerned with the factors that determine the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. As a theme, economics covers various topics including economic activity, public spending, fiscal policy, taxation, trade and productivity. The UK Data Service holds a variety of data collections related to economics, from key government and longitudinal surveys to international indicators.

Finding Data: Data catalogue

Data catalogue allows researcher to find and browse data, guides, case studies, and publications

Enter a keyword, survey name or study number and search our data or website

Data catalogue search bar is present on a majority of our website pages



Data Catalogue: Initial search results

Here I performed a search using the term 'employment and unemployment'

The screenshot shows the UK Data Service search results page. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Login / Register', 'Help', 'Accessibility', and 'Data catalogue'. Below this, there are links for 'About us', 'Get data', 'Use data', 'Manage data', 'Deposit data', and 'News and events'. A search bar contains the text 'employment and unemployment' with a search icon. Below the search bar, there are tabs for 'STUDIES (1550)' and 'SERIES (8)'. A blue arrow points to the search bar. Below the search bar, there are filters for 'Date from:' (1753) and 'Date to:' (2018). A blue arrow points to the 'Date to:' field. Below the filters, there are fields for 'Topic:', 'Data Type:', 'Access:', and 'Country:'. A 'Reset filters' button is at the bottom of the filter section. On the right side, there is a summary bar that says 'Displaying 1 - 10 of 1550 results for 'employment and unemployment'' and 'Page 1 of 155'. An orange arrow points to this summary bar. Below the summary bar, there are search results for 'SN 2671 | Living Standards During Unemployment, 1983-1984', 'SN 1858 | Social Consequences of Unemployment, 1964-1971', 'SN 1305 | University of Oxford Unemployment Survey, 1971 (Newcastle, Coventry and Hammersmith)', 'SN 2026 | Social and Psychological Consequences of Unemployment in Young People, 1982-1983', and 'SN 1820 | Paisley Community Development Project: Unemployment Register Study, 1975'.

Switch between dataset and data series

Data catalogue search found 1550 related studies and 8 series in our data collection

Data Catalogue: Refining your search results

The filters, located on the left-hand side of the screen, can be used to help find a suitable study

Filters include;

- Date range
- Topic,
- Data type,
- Access
- Access (Conditions)
- Country

The screenshot shows the UK Data Service search results page for the query 'employment and unemployment'. The page features a navigation bar with links for 'About us', 'Get data', 'Use data', 'Manage data', 'Deposit data', and 'News and events'. A search bar at the top contains the query 'employment and unemployment'. Below the search bar, there are tabs for 'STUDIES (1550)' and 'SERIES (8)'. The main content area displays a list of search results, including the following entries:

- SN 2671 | [Living Standards During Unemployment, 1983-1984](#)
Office of Population Censuses and Surveys
- SN 1858 | [Social Consequences of Unemployment, 1964-1971](#)
National Children's Bureau
- SN 1305 | [University of Oxford Unemployment Survey, 1971 \(Newcastle, Coventry and Hammersmith\)](#)
Hill, M. J.
- SN 2026 | [Social and Psychological Consequences of Unemployment in Young People, 1982-1983](#)
Ullah, P. | Warr, P. B. | Banks, Michael H.
- SN 1820 | [Paisley Community Development Project: Unemployment Register Study, 1975](#)
Norman, P. | McGregor, A.

The left-hand side of the page contains a filter panel with the following sections:

- Date from:** 1753 | **Date to:** 2018 | [Refine date](#)
- Topic:** [Text input field]
- Data Type:** [Text input field]
- Access:** [Text input field]
- Country:** [Text input field]
- [Reset filters](#)

At the top right of the filter panel, it indicates 'Displaying 1 - 10 of 1550 results for 'employment and unemployment' Page 1 of 155'. Below this, there are dropdown menus for 'Results per page:' (set to 10) and 'Sort by:' (set to Relevance).

Finding Data: Variable and question bank

The Variable and question bank can be located from the catalogue page by selecting the 'Variable & Question Bank' option

You can browse variables and questions from survey datasets.

In the right-hand example the term 'Solar power' has been used, returning 19 results that mention the search term in the question or response.

The screenshot shows the UK Data Service website interface. At the top, there are navigation links: 'About us', 'Get data', 'Use data', 'Manage data', 'Deposit data', and 'News and events'. Below this is a search bar with the text 'solar power' and a 'GO' button. To the right of the search bar are options for 'Reset filters', 'Clear search', 'Search only question text/responses', 'Auto-complete', and 'Help'. Below the search bar, there are filters for 'Results per page' (set to 10) and 'Sorted by' (set to Relevance). The main content area displays a list of search results. Each result includes a question text, the survey name, and options to 'Add to My Variables' and 'View all instances of this variable'. The results shown are:

- EngyPri : GB should give which energy source priority to meet future energy needs?A2:18**
Question Text: To which of the following should Britain give priority in order to meet its future energy needs?
British Social Attitudes Survey, 2010
- renapp1 : Do you have any of the following renewable energy appliances in your home?**
Question Text: Do you have any of the following renewable energy appliances in your home?
Response 1
Continuous Household Survey, 2008-2009
- renapp3 : Do you have any of the following renewable energy appliances in your home?**
Question Text: Do you have any of the following renewable energy appliances in your home?
Response 6
Continuous Household Survey, 2008-2009
- renapp5 : Do you have any of the following renewable energy appliances in your home?**
Question Text: Do you have any of the following renewable energy appliances in your home?
Response 5
Continuous Household Survey, 2008-2009

This screenshot shows the top navigation and search bar of the UK Data Service website. The navigation menu includes 'About us', 'Get data', 'Use data', 'Manage data', 'Deposit data', and 'News and events'. Below the navigation menu are social media icons for Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Twitter. The search bar is located at the bottom of the page and contains the text 'Enter search term' and a search icon. Below the search bar, there are navigation links for 'Variable and question bank' and 'QualiBank'.

Finding Data: QualiBank

- Allows users to search the qualitative resources archived at the UK Data Service
- Results are retrieved based on the data contents
- Filters can be used to find relevant studies

Date —

Data coverage / publication date

From: ▾

To: ▾

[Refine](#)

Collection title —

The Edwardians (89)

Pioneers (50)

Morale and Home Intelligence Reports (6)

School Leavers Study (1)

[Show more...](#)

[Refine](#)

Resource type —

Interview transcript (118)

Interview summary (20)

Reports (6)

Essay (1)

Web resource (1)

Annotated questionnaire (0)

Focus group (0)

Open Ended Question (0)

Survey Booklet (0)

User Documentation (0)

audio (0)

image (0)

[Refine](#)

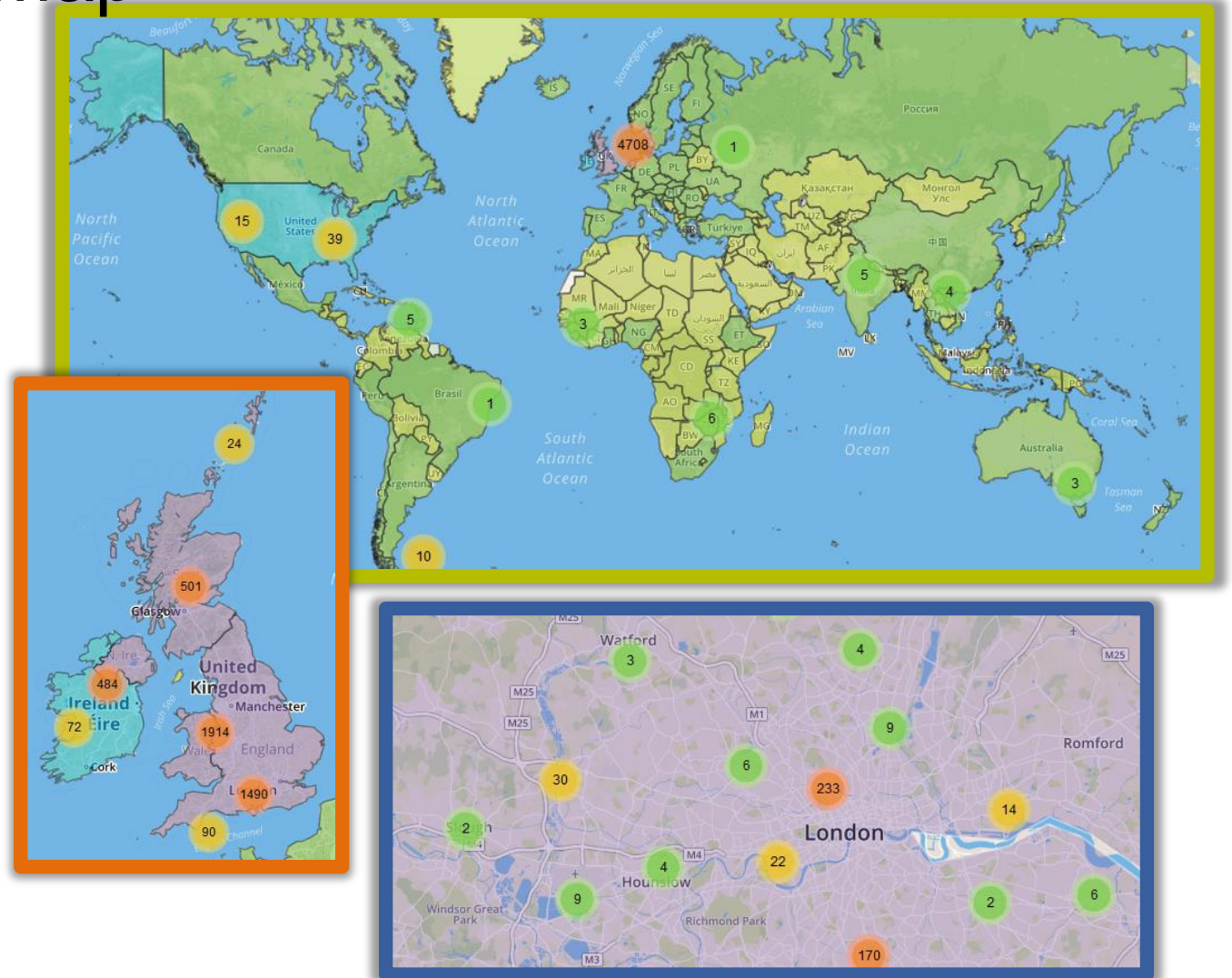
The screenshot shows the QualiBank website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'About us', 'Get data', 'Use data', 'Manage data', 'Deposit data', and 'News and events'. Below this is a search bar with the text 'poverty' and a 'GO' button. To the left of the search bar are filters for 'Reset filters', 'Clear search', 'Auto-complete', 'Copyright', 'Collections', and 'Help'. Below the search bar are icons for 'Extract', 'Image', 'File', and 'Audio'. The main content area displays search results for 'poverty'. The first result is a 'Web Resource: Book Reference for "Poverty in the United Kingdom: A Survey of Household Resources and Standards of Living"' with a 'Refine' button. The second result is a 'Summary of the interview with Peter Townsend' with a 'Refine' button. The interface also shows a 'Data Catalogue' section with a 'Variable and question bank' and a 'Resource type' filter. The 'Resource type' filter is expanded, showing options like 'Interview transcript (118)', 'Interview summary (20)', 'Reports (6)', 'Essay (1)', 'Web resource (1)', 'Annotated questionnaire (0)', 'Focus group (0)', 'Open Ended Question (0)', 'Survey Booklet (0)', 'User Documentation (0)', 'audio (0)', and 'image (0)'. The 'Collection title' filter is also expanded, showing options like 'The Edwardians (89)', 'Pioneers (50)', 'Morale and Home Intelligence Reports (6)', and 'School Leavers Study (1)'. The 'Date' filter is also expanded, showing options for 'Data coverage / publication date' with 'From: 1870' and 'To: 2013'.

Useful resources: Data Map

Data Map enables researcher to find data by exploring a map of the world

Studies are grouped together depending on the level of zoom

Links are provided to Data Catalogue, containing more information on each dataset

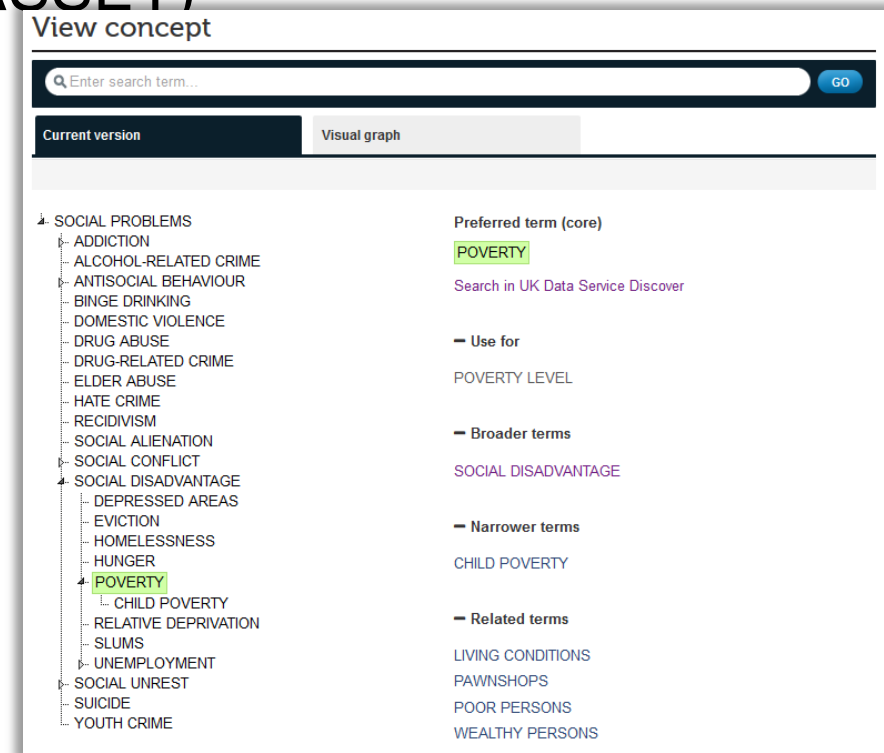
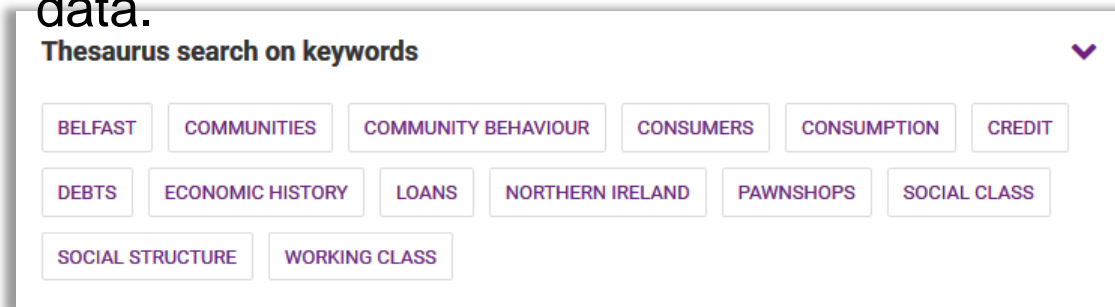


Useful Resources: HASSET Thesaurus



Each dataset has keyword terms associated with it that come from the Humanities and Social Science Electronic Thesaurus (HASSET)

The 'keywords' section from the Catalogue record can be used to identify terms of interest and expand or narrow your search for data.



What we will cover in this session

- Introduction to our Data
- Finding data
 - Key data
 - Data by theme
 - Data Catalogue
 - Useful resources: HASSET, Data Map
- **Understanding the Data Set & Series records**
- How to Access Data
 - Access conditions
 - Downloading data
 - Online data access
- Questions (c. 20 mins)

Understanding the Data series record

The screenshot shows the UK Data Service website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Login / Register', 'Help', 'Accessibility', and 'Data catalogue'. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with 'About us', 'Get data', 'Use data', 'Manage data', 'Deposit data', and 'News and events'. A breadcrumb trail reads 'Home / Data catalogue / Series / Series'. The main heading is 'Understanding Society'. Below the heading are tabs for 'Abstract', 'FAQ's', 'Resources', and 'Access data'. The 'Abstract' tab is selected. The text under the abstract reads: 'The Understanding Society study, or the United Kingdom Household Longitudinal Study (UKHLS), which began in 2009, is conducted by the Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER), at the University of Essex. As a multi-topic household survey, the purpose of Understanding Society is to understand social and economic change in Britain at the household and individual levels. It is anticipated that over time the study will permit examination of short- and long-term effects of social and economic change, including policy interventions, on the general wellbeing of the UK population. The Understanding Society study is a successor to the British Household Panel Survey (BHPS). The BHPS sample forms part of Understanding Society from Wave 2 onwards.'

This inset screenshot shows the 'Understanding Society' page with the 'Getting started' section highlighted. It features a navigation bar with 'Abstract', 'FAQ's', 'Resources', and 'Access data' buttons. The 'Getting started' section is titled 'Getting started' and contains the text: 'How can I find out about the datasets – variables, population, sample size etc.? You can find links to the datasets in the **Access** tab above. When you follow the link to a dataset you will be taken to its catalogue record which contains the following information:'

This inset screenshot shows the 'Understanding Society' page with the 'Resources' section highlighted. It features a navigation bar with 'Abstract', 'FAQ's', 'Resources', and 'Access data' buttons. The 'Resources' section is titled 'Resources' and contains three sub-sections: 'Studies', 'Case studies', and 'Publications'. The 'Studies' section lists several datasets, including 'Understanding Society: Interviewer Survey, 2014', 'Households Below Average Income, 1994/95-2018/19', and 'Family Resources Survey, 2005/06-2017/18 and Households Below Average Income, 1994/95-2017/18: Safe Room Access'. The 'Case studies' section lists 'Mental well-being and financial management in older people', 'Mixed religion relationships in Northern Ireland: What are the implications?', 'The overlooked over-75s', 'Screen-based media and well-being in adolescence', and 'What predicts our level of well-being?'. The 'Publications' section lists 'Papageorgiou, A. (2019) The effect of immigration on the well-being of native populations: evidence from the United Kingdom, *EconPapers*, https://EconPapers.repec.org/RePEc:pra:mprapa:93045.' and 'Wilson, B. (2018) The intergenerational assimilation of completed fertility: comparing the convergence of different origin groups, *International Migration Review*, https://doi.org/10.1177/0197918318769047.'

Understanding the Data series record; Access data

UK Data Service

[Login / Register](#)
[Help](#)
[Accessibility](#)
[Data catalogue](#)

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[News and events](#)

[Home](#) / [Data catalogue](#) / [Series](#) / Series

Understanding Society

[Abstract](#)
[FAQ's](#)
[Resources](#)
[Access data](#)

Access data

GN 33423
Understanding Society: Waves 1- , 2008-

GN 33428
Understanding Society, 2008- : Special Licence Access

GN 33429
Understanding Society: Waves 1- , 2008-: Secure Access

Click on a series name or an arrow to see the datasets.

[Add to account](#)

GN 33423
Understanding Society: Waves 1- , 2008-

SN	Study description	Explore online	Select
6614	Understanding Society: Waves 1-9, 2009-2018 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009		Login
6849	Understanding Society: Innovation Panel, Waves 1-11, 2008-2018		Login
8473	Understanding Society: Marital and Cohabitation Histories, 1991-2015		Login

GN 33428
Understanding Society, 2008- : Special Licence Access

SN	Study description	Explore online	Select
6931	Understanding Society: Waves 1-9, 2009-2018 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009: Special Licence Access		Login
8556	Understanding Society: Waves 7-8, 2015-2016: Special Licence Access, EU Referendum		Login
6670	Understanding Society: Waves 1-9, 2009-2018 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009: Special Licence Access, Census 2001 Lower Layer Super Output Areas		Login

GN 33429
Understanding Society: Waves 1- , 2008-: Secure Access

SN	Study description	Explore online	Select
6676	Understanding Society: Waves 1-9, 2009-2018 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009: Secure Access		Login
7332	Understanding Society: Innovation Panel, Waves 1-11, 2008-2018: Secure Access, National Grid Reference (Easting, Northing, OSGRDIND)		Login
7642	Understanding Society: Wave 1, 2009-2011: Linked National Pupil Database: Secure Access		Login

Understanding the Dataset record

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Understanding Society: Waves 1-9, 2009-2018 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009

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Details

Title:	Understanding Society: Waves 1-9, 2009-2018 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009
Alternative title:	United Kingdom Household Longitudinal Study
Study number (SN):	6614
Access:	These data are safeguarded
Persistent identifier (DOI):	10.5255/UKDA-SN-6614-13
Series:	Understanding Society
Principal investigator(s):	University of Essex, Institute for Social and Economic Research

Abstract

Abstract copyright UK Data Service and data collection copyright owner.

Understanding Society (UK Household Longitudinal Study), which began in 2009, is conducted by the Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER) at the University of Essex and the survey research organisations Kantar Public and NatCen. It builds on and incorporates, the British Household Panel Survey (BHPS), which began in 1991.

This release combines nine waves of Understanding Society data with harmonised data from all eighteen waves of the BHPS. As multi-topic studies, the purpose of Understanding Society and BHPS is to understand short- and long-term effects of social and economic change in the UK at the household and individual levels. The study has a strong emphasis on domains of family and social ties, employment, education, financial resources, and health. Understanding Society is an annual survey of each adult member of a nationally representative sample. The same individuals are re-interviewed in each wave approximately 12 months apart. When individuals move they are followed within the UK and anyone joining their households are also interviewed as long as they are living with them. The study has five sample components: the general population sample; a boost sample of ethnic minority group members; an immigrant and...

[Read more](#)

Citation and copyright

The citation for this study is:

University of Essex, Institute for Social and Economic Research, (2020). *Understanding Society: Waves 1-9, 2009-2018 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009*. 12th Edition. UK Data Service. [data collection]. <http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-6614-13>

Select citation format: DataCite XML citation formats: [CSL](#) [EndNote](#)

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Sponsors and contributors

Citation and copyright

Topics

Thesaurus search on keywords

Abstract

Coverage and methodology

Edition history

http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-6614-13

Copy study DOI

Understanding Society: Waves 1-9, 2009-2018 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009

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Resources

Studies:

- Households Below Average Income, 1994/95-2018/19
- Understanding Society: Innovation Panel, Waves 1-11, 2008-2018
- Family Resources Survey, 2005/06-2017/18 and Households Below Average Income, 1994/95-2017/18: Safe Room Access
- Understanding Society: Waves 2-3 Nurse Health Assessment, 2010-2012
- Understanding Society, Wave 3, 2011-2012: Teaching Dataset
- Understanding Society: Interviewer Survey, 2014
- Understanding Society Teaching Dataset: Waves 1-9, 2009-2012
- Understanding Society: Ethnicity and I
- Understanding Society: Marital and Co

Case studies:

- Changing experiences of mid-life
- Mixed religion relationships in Northern
- What predicts our level of well-being?
- Mental well-being and financial manag
- Screen-based media and well-being in
- The overlooked over-75s

Publications:

- Petrie, K. and Kirkup, J. (2018) *Caring*

Understanding Society: Waves 1-9, 2009-2018 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009

Details Documentation Resources Access data

Documentation

Title	File name	Size (MB)
BHPS User Manual	6614_bhps_user_manual_volume_a.pdf	6.22
Ethnicity and Immigration Research: User Guide	6614_ethnicity_immigration_guide_ed6.pdf	1.03
Immigration and Ethnic Minority Boost: Fieldwork Documents	6614_iemb_fieldwork_documents.pdf	4.92
Immigration and Ethnic Minority Boost: Questionnaire	6614_iemb_questionnaire.pdf	3.63
Immigration and Ethnic Minority Boost: Technical Report	6614_iemb_technical_report.pdf	0.41
Immigration and Ethnic Minority Boost: Variable Comparison	6614_iemb-non-iemb_question_comparison_2016.xlsx	0.07
Publications List	6614_publications.pdf	0.95
UK Data Archive Citation File for Study 6614	UKDA_Study_6614_Information.htm	0
UK Data Archive Data Dictionaries	ukda_data_dictionaries.zip	9.49

Data Access Policy

Reshare Data

Where depositors have self-deposited data, conditions are described in the record and may be non-standard. A small number of studies may not have accessible outputs

Safeguarded Data

- Available to registered users
- **End User Licence** - No direct identifiers but some disclosure risk through linking of indirect identifiers.
- **Special Licence** - Anonymised but contain more detailed information than EUL data. Require compliance with the additional conditions and access must be approved by the data owner.

Open Data

- Minimal to no disclosure risk
- Can be accessed without registration
- Require data acknowledgement

Controlled Data

- Accessed via **Secure Lab** or **Safe Room**
- Very sensitive data that may contain disclosure information
- Limited to approved researchers who demonstrate their trustworthiness around personal data and pass all Safe Researcher Training and security checks.

How to access data: Register

Application for a username

Your contact details

Title:

First name: *

Last name: *

Address line 1: *

Address line 2:

Address line 3:

Town / City: *

County / District:

Postcode: *

Country: *

Email address: *

Please enter the email address supplied to you by your organisation/institution if you have one.

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Studies

Series

<http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-6614-13>

Copy study DOI

Assign datasets to project

SN	Dataset	Status	
6614	Understanding Society: Waves 1-9, 2009-2018 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009	-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- Create a new project
- Add to an existing project

Project: *

Please select...


Only checked datasets will be added to this project.

Add to project

[Cancel](#)

How to access data: Viewing your projects

UK Data Service



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Projects

Create a new project

Projects where I am the lead

PN	Title	Type	Status
171812	Testing Testing - On the phone	Non-commercial	Active
185325	Testing Project 1 - Non-Commercial	Non-commercial	Active
172919	Another Test Project	Non-commercial	Active
127404	Non-Commercial Test Project	Non-commercial	Active
169779	Teaching Project Test 1	Teaching	Active

Webinar Test

Project Datasets Members Notes Log

Edit project

Key project information

Title:
Webinar Test

Project id:
194297

Project expiry date:
5 May 2022

Project type:
Non-commercial

Project lead:
Jones, Maddison - University of Essex

Abstract:
Project created for demonstration in the Finding and Accessing Data Webinar.

User's should note that this section has a character limit, to ensure sufficient information is collected regarding their use of data.

Datasets in project

Select all datasets

SN	Dataset	Status		
6614	Understanding Society: Waves 1-9, 2009-2018 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009	Active	Actions	<input type="checkbox"/>

Download selected

How to access data: Online tools - Nesstar

The screenshot shows the UK Data Service website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'About us', 'Get data', 'Use data', 'Manage data', 'Deposit data', and 'News and events'. Below this, the 'Explore online' section is highlighted. A sidebar on the left lists various data categories. The main content area features a 'SHARE' button and a 'Nesstar' section with a description of the online data exploration system. A notification box at the top right contains a message about COVID-19 service status. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'LOGIN' and 'REGISTER', and a search bar labeled 'DATA CATALOGUE' with a 'GO' button.

UK Data Service

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About us Get data Use data Manage data Deposit data News and events

Home > Get data > Explore online

Explore online

SHARE

A selection of data are available to explore via our online tools.

Nesstar

Nesstar is the online data exploration system used by the UK Data Service to provide access to a wide variety of datasets. All visitors to our Nesstar Catalogue can browse study metadata, variable frequencies and use the simple and advanced search options. Registered users can also create simple online cross-tabulations, produce graphs, and download subsets of variables in a variety of formats.

LOGIN / REGISTER

DATA CATALOGUE

GO

The screenshot shows the 'Access data' page for the Millennium Cohort Study: Sixth Survey, 2015. It includes a navigation bar with 'Details', 'Documentation', 'Resources', and 'Access data'. The main content area is titled 'Access data' and contains several sections: 'The Data Collection is available to users registered with the UK Data Service.', 'Commercial use of the data requires approval from the data owner or their nominee. The UK Data Service will contact you.', 'Additional conditions of use apply:', 'Millennium Cohort Study: Sixth Survey 2015', 'Additional Agreement on Conditions of Use', and 'Confidentiality'. There are two agreement statements: 'I agree not to use nor attempt to use the Data Collections to identify the individuals from which the study sample was selected, nor to claim to have done so.' and 'I agree not to link between the research identifiers supplied by the UK Data Service [MCSID] and any other identifiers previously issued.' At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Add to account', 'Access online', and 'Register or login to add data to your account.'

Millennium Cohort Study: Sixth Survey, 2015

Details Documentation Resources Access data

Access data

The Data Collection is available to users registered with the UK Data Service.

Commercial use of the data requires approval from the data owner or their nominee. The UK Data Service will contact you.

Additional conditions of use apply:

Millennium Cohort Study: Sixth Survey 2015

Additional Agreement on Conditions of Use

Confidentiality

I agree not to use nor attempt to use the Data Collections to identify the individuals from which the study sample was selected, nor to claim to have done so.

I agree not to link between the research identifiers supplied by the UK Data Service [MCSID] and any other identifiers previously issued.

Download these data by adding them to your account. Explore these data online using Nesstar.

Register or login to add data to your account. Access online

Add to account

The screenshot shows a table with the following data:

GN 33359	Millennium Cohort Study – Survey and Biomeasures Data		
SN	Study description	Explore online	Select
8156	Millennium Cohort Study: Sixth Survey, 2015	Nesstar	Login
8456	Millennium Cohort Study, Sweeps 1-6, 2001-2016: Exact Date of Interview: Secure Access		Login
8172	Millennium Cohort Study: Longitudinal Family File, 2001-2015	Nesstar	Login
7464	Millennium Cohort Study: Fifth Survey, 2012	Nesstar	Login

How to access data: Online tools - Nesstar

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DESCRIPTION | TABULATION | ANALYSIS

Dataset: Millennium Cohort Study: Sixth Survey, 2015
Millennium Cohort Study - Survey and Biomeasures Data

Abstract

Abstract copyright UK Data Service and data collection copyright owner.

Background:
The original objectives of the first MCS survey, as laid down in the proposal to the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) in March 2000, were:

- to chart the initial conditions of social, economic and health advantages and disadvantages facing children born at the start of the 21st century,
- to provide a basis for comparing patterns of development with the preceding cohorts (the *National Child Development Study*, under GN 33229)
- to collect information on previously neglected topics, such as fathers' involvement in children's care and development
- to focus on parents as the most immediate elements of the children's 'background', charting their experience as mothers and fathers of newborn babies in the year 2000, recording how they (and any other children in the family) adapted to the newcomer, and what their aspirations for her/his future may be
- to emphasise intergenerational links including those back to the parents' own childhood
- to investigate the wider social ecology of the family, including social networks, civic engagement and community facilities and services, splicing in geo-coded data when available

Additional objectives subsequently included for MCS were:

- to provide control cases for the national evaluation of Sure Start (a government programme intended to alleviate child poverty and social exclusion)
- to provide samples of adequate size to analyse and compare the smaller countries of the United Kingdom

Sub-sample studies:
Some studies based on sub-samples of MCS have also been conducted, including a study of MCS respondent mothers who had received assisted fertility treatment, conducted in 2003 (see SN 5559). Also, birth registration and maternity hospital episodes for the MCS respondents are held as a separate dataset (see SN 5614).

Weighting:
Users should note that the weighting section in the 'Guide to the Datasets' document recommends analysis in Stata, as SPSS is not currently able to weight the data using the survey design factors. The depositor is working on a solution for SPSS, but this is not yet available. A Stata version of the dataset is available for download by registered users, alongside the SPSS and tab-delimited versions.

MCS web pages:
Further information about the MCS can be found on the [Centre for Longitudinal Studies](#) website.

How to access genetic and/or bio-medical sample data from a range of longitudinal surveys:
A useful overview of the governance route for applying for genetic and bio-medical sample data, which are not available through the standard process, is available on the [METADAC \(Managing Ethico-social, Technical and Administrative issues in Data Access\)](#) website.

Located in the left hand column is a full list of all Data Collections available Via NESSTAR

Using the left hand column you can expand menus to see the datasets metadata and variable descriptions

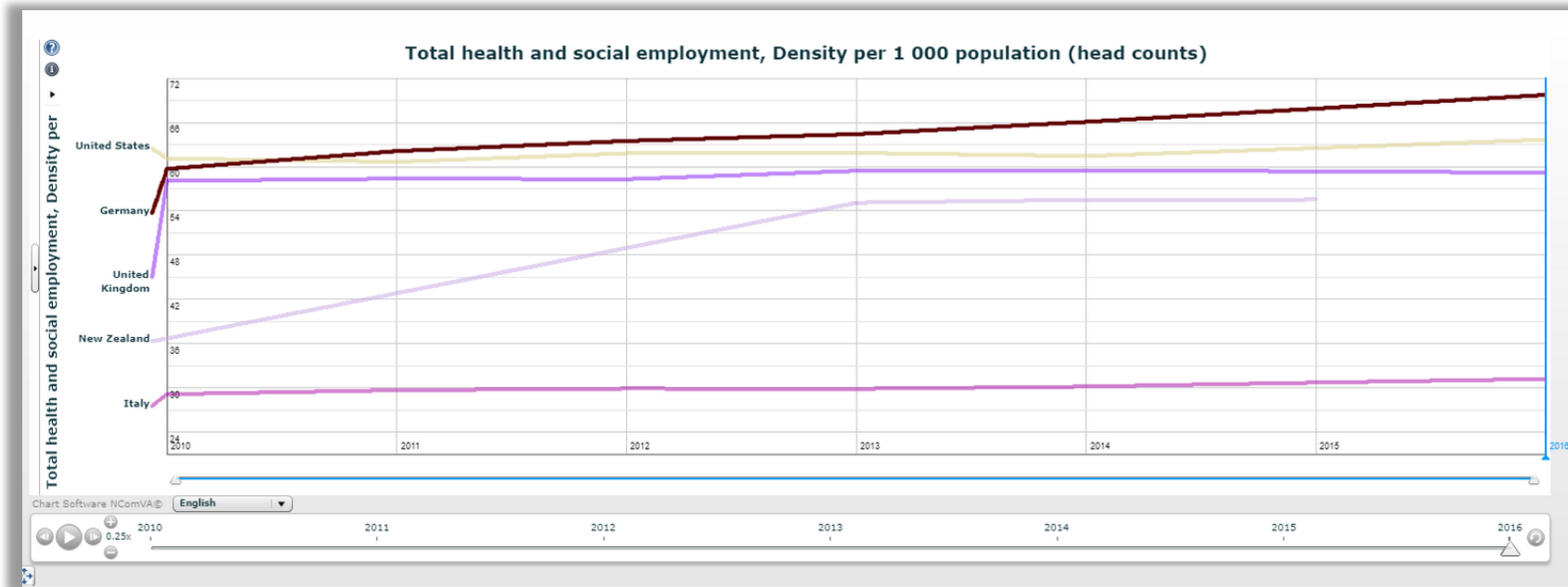
Tabs across the top help you to tabulate and analyse variables

A dataset abstract is also provided on Nesstar, providing information out about the data

How to access data: Online tools – UKDS.Stat

International macrodata can be accessed online using UKDS.Stat.

UKDS.Stat can be accessed by going to 'Get Data' – 'Explore online'



These data are provided by a number of organisations such as the World Bank, OECD, and the United Nations

Allows the easy creation of time series data displayed as heatmaps and other visualisations.

How to access data: Online Census Tools - InFuse

UK Data Service
Census Support

InFuse: 2011 Census data

Steps: **1** 2 3 4 Start Again

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- Accommodation type
- Adult lifestage (alternative adult definition)
- Adults in household, number of
- Age
- Age of arrival in the UK
- Age of children
- Age of household reference person

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accommodation type Select	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age• Dependent children• Family status• Sex Select	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age• Economic activity• Industry Select	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age• Economic activity Select
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accommodation type• Usual resident population Select	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age• Economic activity• Hours worked• Sex Select	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age• Economic activity• Occupation• Sex Select	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age• Qualification, highest level of Select

<http://infuse.ukdataservice.ac.uk>

Getting in touch & FAQs

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Manage and Deposit data

- [Data management](#) - for issues related to anonymisation, copyright, data storage and other data management queries
- [Depositing data](#) - for advice and support for data owners and producers

Find and Access data

- [Accessing data](#) - for questions about downloading data, data formats, obtaining Special Licence or Secure Access data
- [Registration](#) - for queries such as: How do I register? Can I register with you?
- [Existing project/order](#) - for questions about project renewal and order status
- [Searching for data](#) - for queries about the data collections we hold or give access to. For example: Do you have data on parenting?

Using data and Secure Lab

- [Analysing/using data](#) - for questions about any data obtained from us. For example: A variable is missing from my file; Which weight variable should I use?
- [Online analysis/tools](#) - to report issues or to get advice on using tools such as Nesstar, UKDS.Stat, Infuse, Casweb, GeoConvert,
- [Publications](#) - use to send us details of your research publications
- [Safe Room booking](#) - for requests to use our Safe Room
- [Output release](#) - to request a check on output created within the Secure Lab
- [Secure Lab-Import data request](#) - for Secure Lab users only

Technical/Communications/Other

- [Technical issues](#) - for technical problems related to Secure Lab, ReShare and general website issues
- [Training/events and publicity](#) - for press enquiries and information about events and training
- [Other queries](#) - for issues not covered by any of the other categories

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We expect to run as normal a service as possible during this COVID-19 (Coronavirus) emergency. Please visit our COVID-19 page for the latest information.

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DATA CATALOGUE

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If you are new to our service, you may find the [New user](#) page or our [FAQs](#) helpful. Should you need to contact us, please [get in touch](#). Press enquiries for the UK Data Service should be directed to the [Communications and Engagement](#) team.

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FAQs

Help - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Answers to some of our most frequently asked questions are provided here.

If you are unable to find an answer to your question, please [get in touch](#) by selecting one of the short web forms.

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Use data	Publication	Manage data	Deposit data

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[When registering I entered an incorrect email address, what should I do?](#)

[How do I obtain a username and password?](#)

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