

Why use Health Survey for England data?

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Why use data?

- Tells us something we don't know
- Tells us something we don't know that's useful to know
- Helps us tell someone else something useful that they didn't know: government through to students

Why we don't use data

- Tells us something useful to know too late thereby renders it useless
- New data access risk this

Data access: why change?

- It worked in the past...
- Few breaches of any kind by university researchers c.f. private sector e.g. recent £183M fine for BA (Guardian, 2019)
- Not using for commercial purposes
- Not trying to identify anyone
- Free of charge

ONS Longitudinal Study

CeLSIUS supported secure data use

Number of ongoing projects

2015 90; 2016 88; 2017 97;

Number of supervised safe setting visits by year,

2015 210; 2016 182; 2017 199;

Considerable remote syntax and output processing required

This required approx. 3FTE staff

Methodological suggestion

- Measure the purported risk of identification: have the survey organisations (who already know the identity of respondents) test the risk of re-identification given known attributes from another source.

Practical suggestions

- One data access agreement for Health Survey (for England) data for all universities or one per university
- In conjunction with compulsory free of charge, online data security training for staff and students prior to use

- <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2019/jul/08/ba-fine-customer-data-breach-british-airways>
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