

UKDS Online Workshops: Social data and the third sector: skills, tools and evidence

## Workshop 2. Data skills: What are survey data?

### Activity

#### Task:

- 1) Find data to answer a question using Nesstar.
- 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: Creating descriptive statistics

You are interested in the risk of adverse effects of COVID-19 and how this relates to income inequality:

*Are people with low income more likely than people with higher income of being in the high risk group for COVID-19?*

To explore the question, you will look at data from the Health Survey for England. The key variables to explore are:

1. Having a long-term health condition
2. Specifically having a respiratory condition
3. Income

In most social surveys information about income is gathered in a variety of ways. Often the information is then used to create *derived variables* - a variable that is created after data collection following some sort of calculation or other processing.

In this activity you will use the derived variable *Equivalised Income Quintiles* (eqv5).

*Equivalisation* scales are used to adjust household income, taking into account household size and composition. **Quintiles** split the variable evenly into fifths.

## Instructions

1. Login to the UK Data Service: <https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/myaccount/login>
2. Navigate to Nesstar: <http://nesstar.ukdataservice.ac.uk/webview/>
3. Find the Health Survey for England 2016
  - Open *Research Datasets*
  - Scroll down to *Health Survey for England*, expand with +
  - Select *Health Survey for England, 2016*

1.  About the UK Data Service Nesstar Catalogue
  - Research Datasets
  - Unrestricted Access Datasets
  - Teaching Datasets

4. Find and explore the key variables
  - Select *Variable Description*, expand with +
  - Select *Individual Data File*, expand with +
  - Select *General Health*, expand with +
  - Select *Long Lasting Illness*, expand with +

2.  General Household Survey
  - Health Survey for England
    - Health Survey for England, 2016
      - Metadata
      - Variable Description
        - Individual Data File
          - Classification
          - Anthropometric Measurements
          - Blood Sample
          - Urine Sample
          - Blood Pressure
          - Drinking
          - Fruit and Vegetable Consumption
          - Children's Physical Activity
          - General Health
          - Weight Management

5. Long Lasting Illness exploration
  - Select (click on) *Whether have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more*
  - The description should appear on the right-hand side

3.  Long Lasting Illness
  - Whether have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more
    - Whether conditions or illnesses affect: Vision (for example blindness or partial sight)
    - Whether conditions or illnesses affect: Hearing (for example deafness or partial hearing)
    - Whether conditions or illnesses affect: Mobility (for example walking short distances or climbing stairs)
    - Whether conditions or illnesses affect: Dexterity (for example lifting and carrying objects, using a keyboard)
    - Whether conditions or illnesses affect: Learning or understanding or concentrating
    - Whether conditions or illnesses affect: Memory
    - Whether conditions or illnesses affect: Mental health
    - Whether conditions or illnesses affect: Stamina, breathing or fatigue
    - Whether conditions or illnesses affect: Socially or behaviourally

**Question 1.** How many respondents from the Health Survey for England reported having a physical or mental health condition or illness lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?

Dataset: Health Survey for England, 2016

Health Survey for England, 1991-

**Variable ILL12m: Whether have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more**

### LITERAL QUESTION

Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?

Values	Categories	N	
1	Yes		38.9%
2	No	?	61.1%
-9	Refused		
-8	Don't know	1	
-1	Not applicable	0	

### SUMMARY STATISTICS

Valid cases	10065
Missing cases	2
Minimum	1.0
Maximum	2.0
This variable is numeric	

6. Stamina, breathing or fatigue

- Select (click on) *Whether conditions or illnesses affect: Stamina, breathing or fatigue*
- The description should appear on the right-hand side

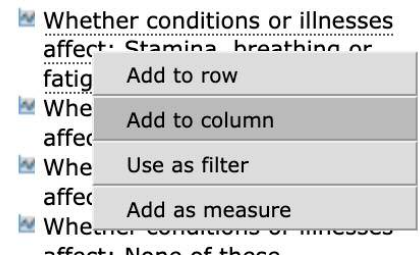
**Question 2.** How many people reported that the condition affected stamina, breathing or fatigue?

7. Adding in income

- Select the *Tabulation* tab
- Select (click on) *Whether conditions or illnesses affect: Stamina, breathing or fatigue*
- Select *Add to Column*
- Find the income quintile variable: *Individual Data File > Classification > Income > (D) Equivalised Income Quintiles*
- Select *Add to Row*
- A two-way table should appear on the right-hand side

4.

DESCRIPTION **TABULATION** ANALYSIS



	Choose 'Add to column' to place the variable here.
Choose 'Add to row' to place the variable here.	To populate this table you need to select a variable from the browse list, click on it and then add it to row, column or layers, or use it as a measure variable.

**Question 3.** Of those respondents with conditions affecting stamina, breathing or fatigue, what percentage are in the lowest income quintile?

**Question 4.** Compared to all long-term health conditions, are conditions affecting stamina, breathing or fatigue more prevalent or less prevalent amongst people in the lowest income quintile?

8. (Optional) Explore the graphs



- Select the graphs icon on the toolbar near the top of the screen
- Choose a bar graph to represent the data in the two-way table

More detail about the Health Survey for England 2016:  
<https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies/study?id=8334>