

# Social data and the third sector: skills, tools and evidence

## Workshop 3: Telling a story with data

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Date: 2pm, Thursday July 16th, 2020



# What we are covering:

- Introduction
- Presentation – telling a story with data
- Quiz
- Demonstration – finding, exploring and downloading data
- Activity – in own time, 10 mins
- Feedback from activity
- Questions and discussion

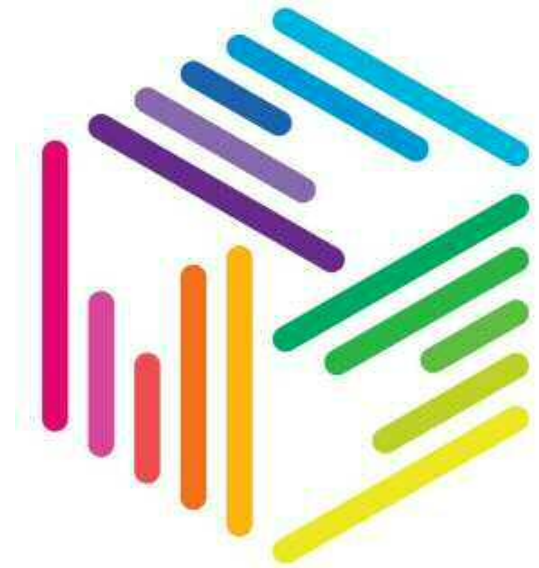


# Introduction



# What is the UK Data Service?

- A comprehensive resource funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)
- A single point of access to a wide range of secondary social science data
- Support, training and guidance



# Workshop objectives

- Promote UKDS data and resources to third sector users.
- Increase understanding of how data can be used within a variety of organisations and settings.
- Support you to access relevant data.
- Enable you to produce evidence by enhancing data knowledge and skills.



# Social Surveys and the Third Sector

- Services: Improving outcomes for marginalised groups, reducing inequalities, providing a range of support to those most in need.
- Funding: relies on demonstrating the need and the potential impact of an intervention.
- UKDS: Social survey and census data can help provide context and demonstrate where services are most needed.
- Many third sector organisations are small, often there is no dedicated research team. Often it may fall to the people delivering the services to also provide the evidence of need and impact.



# Our main data types

- **Aggregate Data**

- International macrodata – country level time series data
- Census tabular data

- **Microdata**

- UK surveys (e.g. Labour Force Survey)
- Census microdata
- International comparative surveys (e.g. European Social Survey)
- Business data

- **Other data**

- Mixed methods data
- Qualitative data



# Telling a story with data



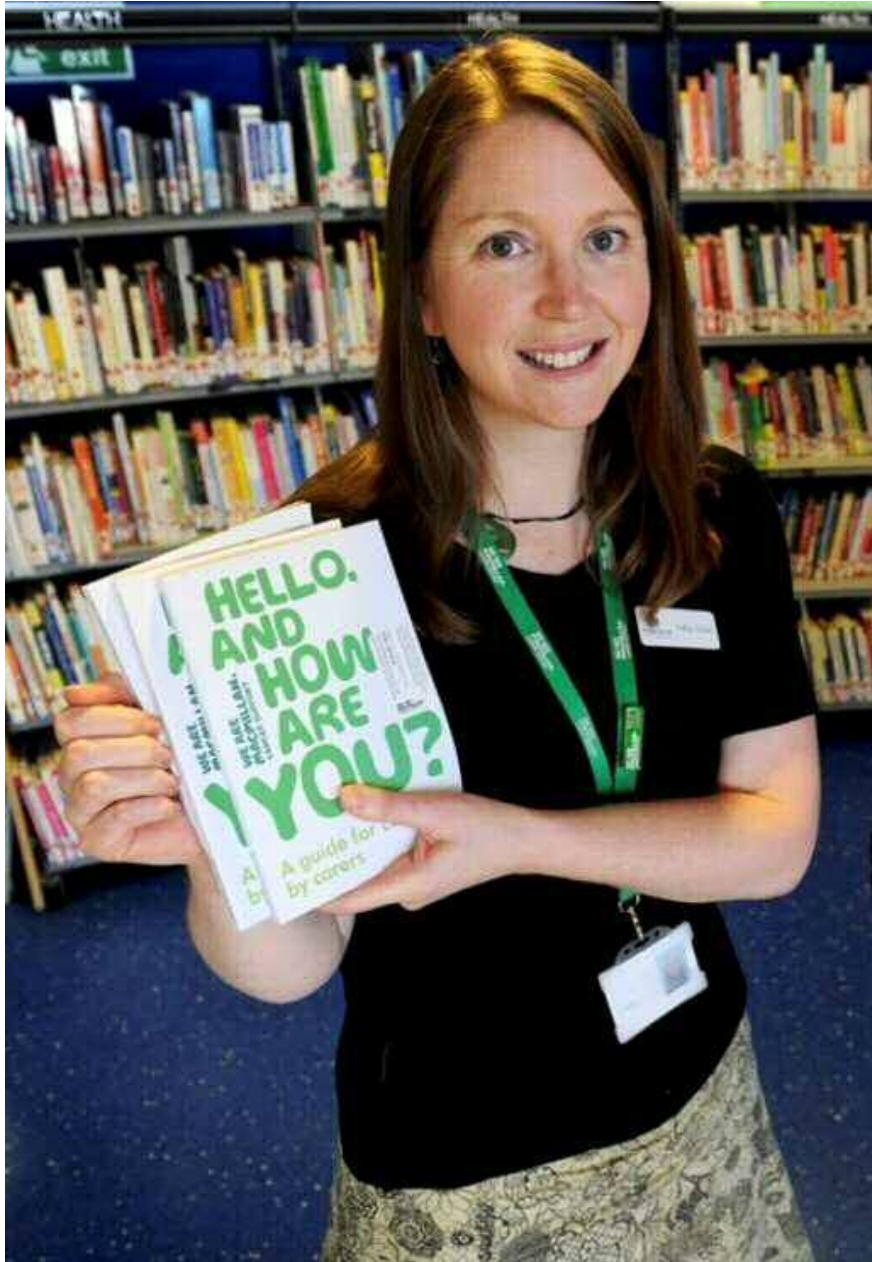


# Why use social survey data?

- Large datasets, findings generalizable to the population
- Quantifiable evidence
- Explain a social problem
- Provides context and justify the need for services

Can be used alongside other evidence from project delivery.





## Aim

To investigate the influence of emotional support on the quality of life of older cancer survivors.

# Macmillan Cancer Support

- 'Age old excuse' campaign

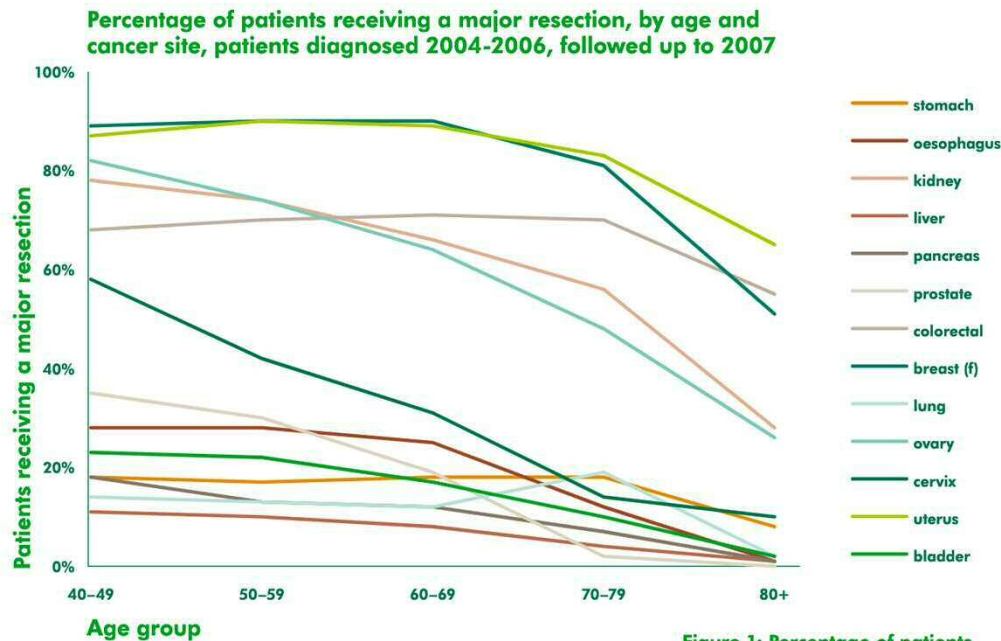


Figure 1: Percentage of patients with a record of a major resection, by age and cancer site, patients diagnosed 2004-2006, followed up to 2007<sup>iii</sup>

**THE AGE  
OLD EXCUSE:  
THE UNDER  
TREATMENT OF  
OLDER CANCER  
PATIENTS**

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**

# Data

## National Cancer Patient Experience Survey, 2011-2012

[Details](#)[Documentation](#)[Resources](#)[Access data](#)

### Details

### Coverage and methodology

<b>Time period:</b>	01 September 2011 - 30 November 2011
<b>Dates of fieldwork:</b>	January 2012 - May 2012
<b>Country:</b>	England
<b>Spatial units:</b>	No spatial unit
<b>Observation units:</b>	Individuals
<b>Observation unit location:</b>	National
<b>Population:</b>	Patients in England who had received inpatient/day patient treatment for cancer during September-November 2011.
<b>Number of units:</b>	71,793 cases (completed questionnaires)
<b>Method of data collection:</b>	Postal survey Three communications were despatched to patients: initial survey, and two reminders (to non-responders only).
<b>Time dimensions:</b>	Repeated cross-sectional study
<b>Sampling procedures:</b>	No sampling (total universe)
<b>Kind of data:</b>	Numeric

<b>Title:</b>	National Cancer Patient Experience Survey, 2011-2012
<b>Study number (SN):</b>	7134
<b>Access:</b>	These data are <a href="#">safeguarded</a>
<b>Persistent identifier (DOI):</b>	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-7134-1">10.5255/UKDA-SN-7134-1</a>
<b>Series:</b>	<a href="#">National Cancer Patient Experience Survey</a>
<b>Principal investigator(s):</b>	Department of Health

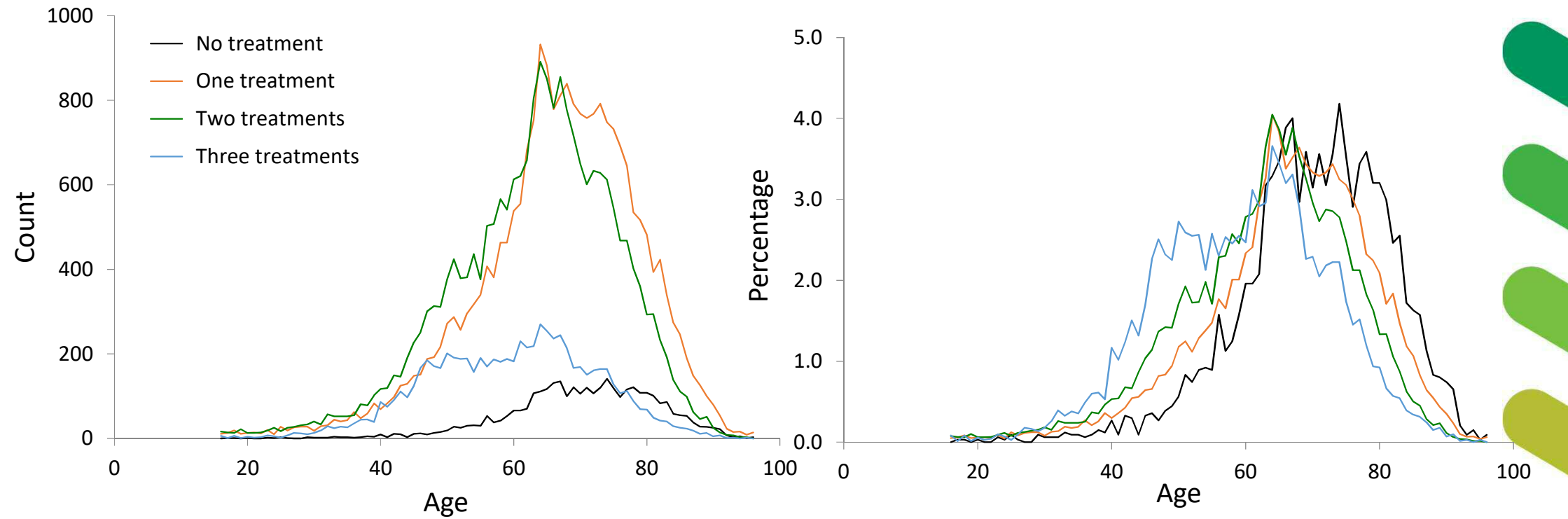
### Sponsors and contributors

### Citation and copyright

#### The citation for this study is:

Department of Health. (2012). *National Cancer Patient Experience Survey, 2011-2012*. [data collection]. UK Data Service. SN: 7134, <http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-7134-1>

# Findings



**Figure: Age distribution by treatment intensity – by number of people, and by percentage of treatment category**

# Independent Age

[Home](#) » [Blog](#) » Putting older people in focus during COVID-19

## Putting older people in focus during COVID-19



Thu, 30 April 2020

**Morgan Vine**

Head of Policy and Influencing

[@MorganVine\\_](#)



‘This project set out to explore the reality of life for older people whose voices can be less often heard in debates about ageing, and what is important for people in this age group.’



# Mixed methods



# Data

Studies

Series

beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series/series?id=2000053

Copy series link

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

## Understanding Society

Abstract

FAQ's

Resources

Access data

### Abstract

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.



# Findings

<https://www.independentage.org/in-focus>

## The groups this work focused on

### 1. People with physical health conditions

**Approximate number in England**  
One in five older people has a severe physical health problem (a condition that limits everyday activities, such as washing and getting dressed, or restricts mobility).

**2m**  
in total

**Key issues**

- Limited options for getting out of the home, affecting mental health.
- Additional costs, for example, equipment, needing taxis to appointments.
- For care home residents, a sense of having 'checked out' of society.

**Example**

Omar, 82, has a range of conditions, including diabetes and osteoarthritis, and was living on the seventh floor of a block of flats.



*It's easier to stay inside and not be a burden on people.*  
**Omar, 82**

**Likelihood of living alone**

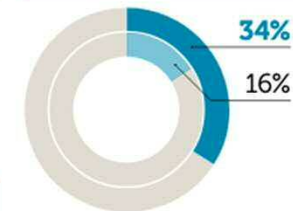
Older people with severe physical health issues

**45%**  
**33%**

All older people

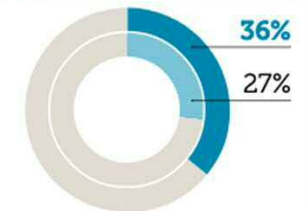


**Likelihood to not go out socially or visit friends**



Older people with severe physical health issues

**Likelihood of having two close friends or fewer**



All older people

### 2. People with mental health conditions

**Approximate number in England**  
One in 10 older people has moderate or severe anxiety or depression.

**1.2m**  
in total

**Key issues**

- Struggle to manage administrative load and connect with authorities that may be able to help.
- Lack of someone to confide in.
- Struggle to communicate financial problems, as well as a lack of access to wellbeing options (financially and geographically).

**Example**

Frances, 95, started feeling depressed when she had a nasty fall and became housebound.



*I fall just above the threshold for pension credit but can't really afford to live... I am in no man's land.*  
**Betty, 86**

**Dissatisfied with life**

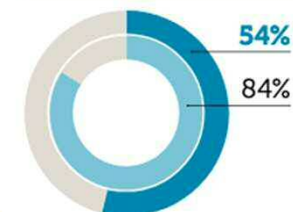
Older people with severe mental health issues

**30%**  
**6%**

All older people

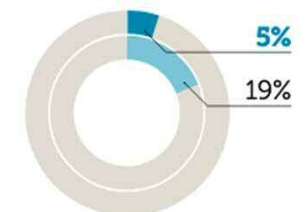


**Likelihood of going out socially**



Older people with severe mental health issues

**Likelihood of paying an unexpected expense**



All older people



## How can we calculate levels of deprivation or poverty in the UK? (part 2)

🕒 July 2, 2020 👤 Neil Dymond-Green 💬 Leave a comment

What is the difference between poverty and deprivation? How can they be measured and understood? How can data help policymakers find ways to reduce their effect on the lives of people in the UK, especially given the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic? In this post, we turn our attention to measuring poverty.

 Follow

**deprivation** **poverty measure**

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

Finding data



# Ways to find data

- Search the catalogue
  - Will search the title of the datasets, keywords and abstract.
  - Broad connections to topics.
- Key data and theme pages
  - Browse our most popular datasets, by data type.
  - Browse specifically for data on particular themes.
- Variable and Question Bank
  - Search for specific questions.

UK Data Service



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[Get data](#)

[Use data](#)

[Manage data](#)

[Deposit d](#)

Home > Get data

## Get data

[About our data](#)

[Key data](#)

[Data by theme](#)

[Data by geography](#)

[Open data](#)

[How to access](#)

[Other providers](#)

[Explore online](#)

[Data access policy](#)

[Thesauri](#)

Search and browse our Data Catalogue



GO

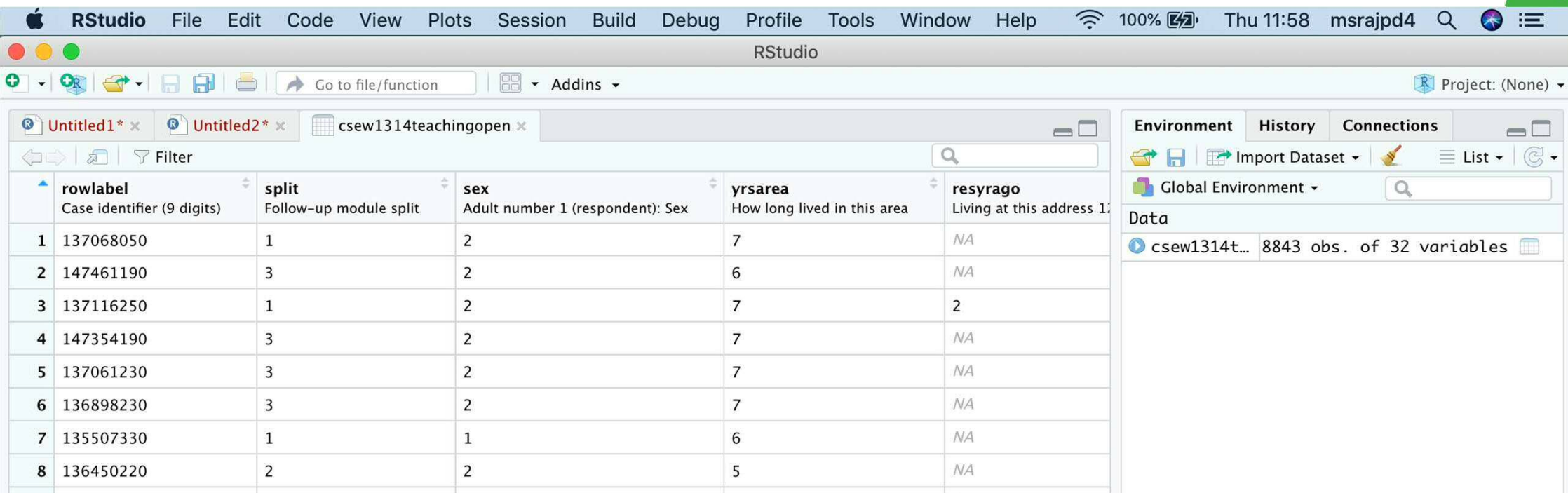
[FAQ](#)

Your portal to  
data and  
resources

Search and browse our data collections and related publications

# Open up and look at the data

- Exploring via Nesstar
- Registering and downloading data



The screenshot shows the RStudio interface. The top menu bar includes File, Edit, Code, View, Plots, Session, Build, Debug, Profile, Tools, Window, Help, and system status (100%, Thu 11:58, msrajpd4). The toolbar contains icons for file operations and a search bar. The main editor window displays a data table with the following columns and rows:

	rowlabel	split	sex	yrsarea	resyrago
	Case identifier (9 digits)	Follow-up module split	Adult number 1 (respondent): Sex	How long lived in this area	Living at this address 1
1	137068050	1	2	7	NA
2	147461190	3	2	6	NA
3	137116250	1	2	7	2
4	147354190	3	2	7	NA
5	137061230	3	2	7	NA
6	136898230	3	2	7	NA
7	135507330	1	1	6	NA
8	136450220	2	2	5	NA

The right-hand pane shows the Environment tab with 'Global Environment' and a search bar. Below it, the Data tab shows 'csew1314t...' with '8843 obs. of 32 variables'.

# Making sense of your data

To understand data and its suitability for your research you must understand...

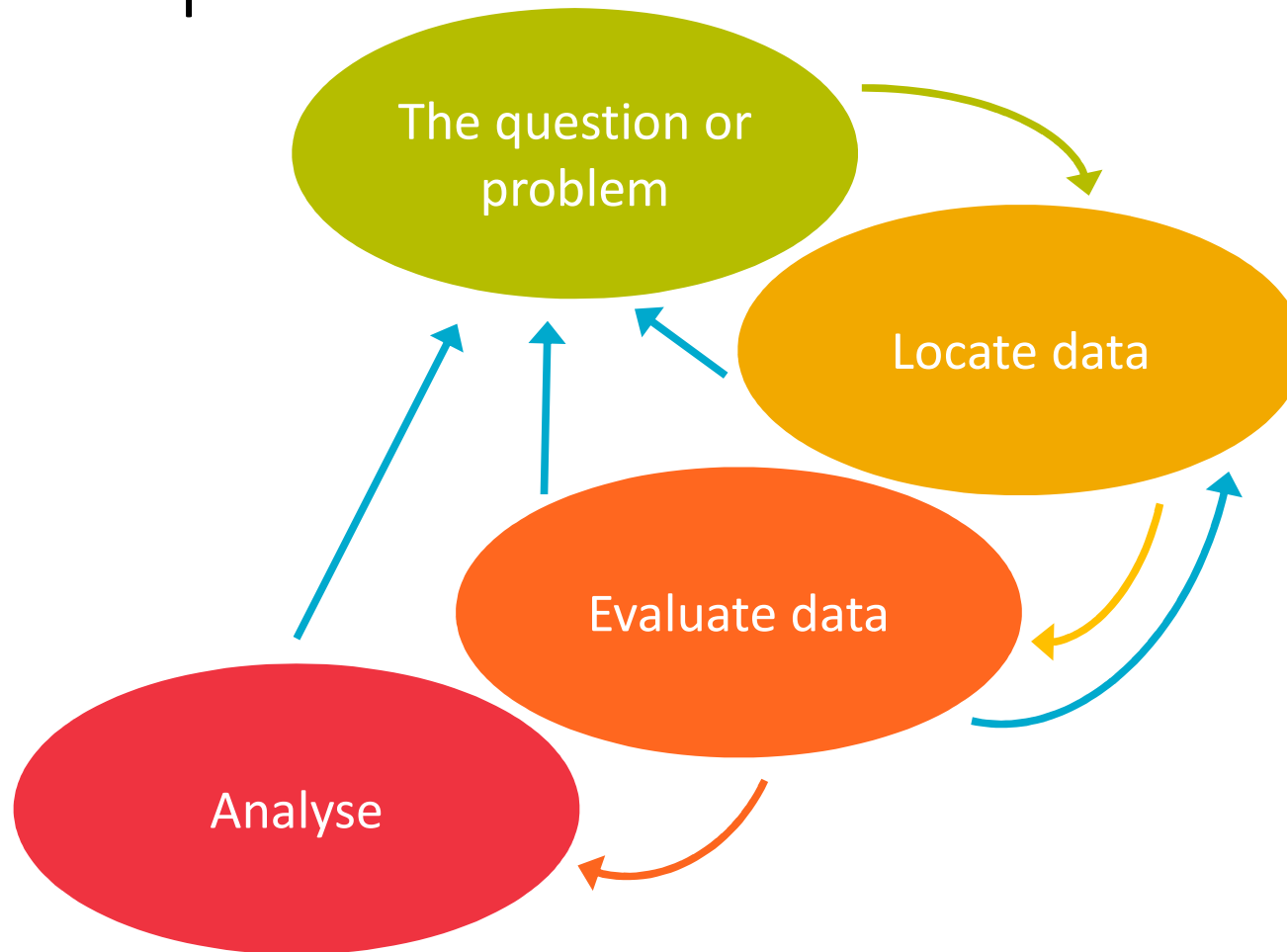
- what information was collected
- from whom
- when and where
- any changes to the raw data before being archived

Use documentation

- user guides
- questionnaires
- interview schedules



# Research plan



Quiz





Finding data demonstration



Activity



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

### Workshop 3. Telling a story with data

#### Activity

##### Tasks:

- 1) Search for a survey variable to help explain a problem
- 2) Explore the descriptive statistics of the variable online
- 3) Find the catalogue page for a survey

#### Activity: Telling a story with data

Scenario: You are working for an environmental charity and are seeking funding to carry out awareness raising work to help change behaviours that increase CO<sub>2</sub> omissions. You are looking for some statistics to help support your funding bid.

*What do people think about climate change? What attitudes potentially need to change?*

This activity will start with the Variable and Question Bank, and then explore the survey data more with Nesstar and the UK Data Service catalogue

The **Variable and Question Bank** is a search engine that lets you browse variables and questions from survey datasets held by the UK Data Service. <https://discover.ukdataservice.ac.uk/variables>

**Nesstar** is an online tool provided by the UK Data Service for exploring and accessing a wide variety of datasets. <http://nesstar.ukdataservice.ac.uk/webview/>



# Work through the handout

- Follow the handout instructions
- You can post questions in the chat box in GoTo Webinar
- Work through the exercise in your own time
- Answer the questions at the end
- We will **come back together at 3pm** to discuss the activity and any other questions



# Activity questions

First, did you complete the activity?

1. How many respondents in the BSA Survey 2016 replied to variable CCBELIEV with the answer: I don't believe that climate change is taking place?
2. What percentage of respondents in the British Social Attitudes Survey 2016 replied to variable CCBELIEV with the answer: I don't believe that climate change is taking place?
3. What do people think about climate change? What attitudes potentially need to change?
4. What is the main data collection method for the British Social Attitudes Survey, 2016?





**CCBELIEV : Which of these comes closest to your view about climate change**

**Question Text:** Which of the following statements comes closest to your view? I don't believe that climate change is taking place, I believe that climate change is taking place but not as a resul...

**British Social Attitudes Survey, 2016**

— **Close responses...**

1	I don't believe that climate change is taking place	150
2	I believe that climate change is taking place but not as a r	314
3	I believe that climate change is taking place and is, at lea	2452
8	Don't Know	24
9	Refusal	2
-2	Schedule not applicable	0
-1	Item not applicable	0

[Add to My Variables](#)

[View all instances of this variable](#)

## Variable CCBELIEV: Which of these comes closest to your view about climate change

### LITERAL QUESTION

Which of the following statements comes closest to your view? I don't believe that climate change is taking place, I believe that climate change is taking place but not as a result of human actions, I believe that climate change is taking place and is, at least partly, a result of human actions.

Values	Categories	N	
1	I don't believe that climate change is taking place	150	5.1%
2	I believe that climate change is taking place but not as a result	314	10.7%
3	I believe that climate change is taking place and is, at least partly, a result of human actions	2452	83.3%
8	Don't Know	24	0.8%
9	Refusal	2	0.1%
-2	Schedule not applicable	0	
-1	Item not applicable	0	



## Variable CCAPLANE: I am willing to reduce the amount I travel by plane to help reduce the impact of climate change

### LITERAL QUESTION

(To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statement...) I am willing to reduce the amount I travel by plane?

Values	Categories	N	
1	Agree strongly	126	4.3%
2	Agree	450	15.3%
3	Neither agree nor disagree	482	16.4%
4	Disagree	835	28.4%
5	Disagree strongly	204	6.9%
6	(SPONTANEOUS: I do this already)	178	6.1%
7	(SPONTANEOUS: I never fly)	664	22.6%
8	Don't Know	2	0.1%
9	Refusal	1	0.0%
-2	Schedule not applicable	0	
-1	Item not applicable	0	

## Coverage and methodology



<b>Dates of fieldwork:</b>	July 2016 - November 2016
<b>Country:</b>	Great Britain
<b>Spatial units:</b>	Regions Countries
<b>Observation units:</b>	Individuals
<b>Observation unit location:</b>	National
<b>Population:</b>	Adults (18 and over) living in private households in Great Britain (excluding the 'crofting counties' north of the Caledonian Canal).
<b>Number of units:</b>	2,942 cases
<b>Method of data collection:</b>	Face-to-face interview Self-administered questionnaire The interview is conducted by Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI).
<b>Time dimensions:</b>	Repeated cross-sectional study The BSA survey is conducted annually.

# Discussion



What next?



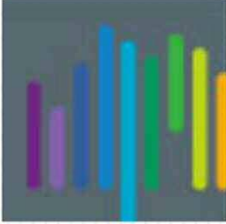
# UKDS and the Third Sector

- We want to support data use
- Networks to link in to?
  - Consulted with Greater Manchester Third Sector Research Network  
<https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/Greater-Manchester-Third-Sector-Research-Network>
  - Advertised via Voluntary Sector Studies Network (VSSN)
  - Planning on attending 'Times like these' Conference
- FAQ from workshops to be produced
- Workshops and handouts will remain available
- Can create further resources



# Online resources


- Guides
- Videos
- Webinars
- Data Skills Modules

About us	Get data	<u>Use data</u>	Manage data
Advice and training			<b>Advice and t</b> Locate resour get the help y
Guides			
Video tutorials			
Data in use			
Citing data			
Secure Lab			
Teaching with data			
Student resources			
Data Skills Modules			
Secondary analysis			

# Methods and Software Guides

For example:

- Software guides
  - What is Stata?
  - What is SPSS 20 for Windows?
  - Using R to analyse key UK surveys
- Survey data
  - What is weighting?
  - What is complex sample design?
  - What are hierarchical files?



UK Data Service – Using R to analyse key UK surveys

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# Videos

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"Can you show me  
how to do that?"



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SHARE 

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/UKDATASERVICE>



# Webinars

Showing 1 to 10 of 18 entries

1 2 ▶ ▶▶



## **Online workshops: Social data and the third sector: evidence, skills and tools**

02 - 16 Jul 2020

Online



## **Family finance surveys user conference 2020**

08 Jul 2020

Online, 09.45 - 15.15



## **Webinar: Energy data for research**

13 Jul 2020

Online, 15.00 - 16.00 BST



## **Introduction to Big Data for the Social Sciences - Presented by UK Data Service**

20 - 24 Jul 2020

Online



## **Webinar: Key data: UK and cross-national surveys**

08 Oct 2020

Online, 15.00 - 16.00 BST

<https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/news-and-events/events>

# Data Skills Modules

- Survey data
- Aggregate data
- Longitudinal data
- Glossary

<https://www.ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/data-skills-modules.aspx>

Surveys unit 1: What are survey data?  
View all modules

Menu | Glossary

## Surveys

Unit 1: What are survey data?

This unit will explore survey data.

You will look at what the data are, some key concepts relating to survey data and how to find datasets that you can use.

You can work through this unit in order using the next button, or use the menu to view the list of sections and jump to the part you are most interested in.

NEXT >

# Thank you

web: <https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/> YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/UKDATASERVICE>

email: [help@ukdataservice.ac.uk](mailto:help@ukdataservice.ac.uk)

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