Using UK Data Service data in dissertations

Dr Jennifer Buckley

Research Associate, University of Manchester

Webinar
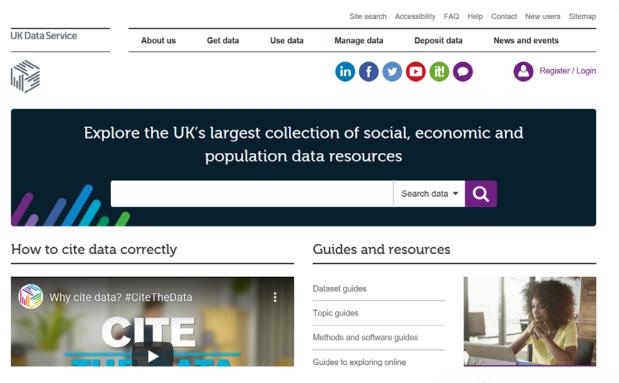
7th November 2019

Overview

- UK Data Service
- Finding and accessing data
- Resources for students
- Dissertation Award
- Questions
  - Type into the questions box
  - Answer at the end

UK Data Service

What is the UK Data Service?

- Point of access to a wide range of social science data
- Support, training and guidance
- Funded by the ESRC

Our catalogue includes…

data from **surveys** of the UK and other countries

longitudinal studies that follow individuals through time

UK Census data

data from **qualitative studies** such as interview transcripts and field notes

International macrodata such as the world bank development indicators

UK Data Service

Wide range of topics

Why use our data?

Advantages

- Save resources (time, money, effort)
- Use data you could not collect yourself
  - from the past,
  - other countries
  - large/representative samples
- Use high quality data

Disadvantages

- Data not always available
- Available data might not be perfect
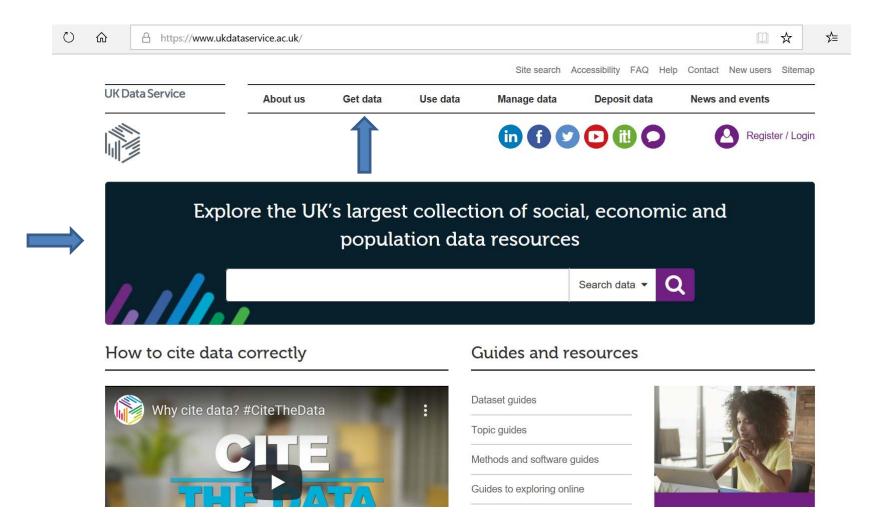- Data can be harder to understand

UK Data Service

Find data: search catalogue

Enter search term

Variable and question bank > QualiBank >

STUDIES (7709)   **SERIES (76)**

Date from: 440   Date to: 2019

Refine date

Topic:

Data Type:

Access:

Displaying **1 - 10** of **7709** results   Page **1** of **771**

Results per page: 10

Sort by: Most recently released

SN 853630 | Organisations, staff support and the dynamics and quality of social work practice: a qualitative longitudinal study of child protection work 2017-2018

Ferguson, H, University of Birmingham

SN 853667 | Longitudinal panel study data on household welfare, water resource management and governance in Kenya 2013-2016

Hope, R, University of Oxford   Koehler, J, University of Oxford   Katuva, J, University of Oxford

Use search terms (boolean logic)
Filter to refine
Sort results

UK Data Service

Access to data catalogue
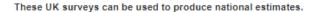
Find data: key data

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

LOGIN / REGISTER

Q DATA CATALOGUE

GO

OECD DATASETS NOW OPEN TO EVERYONE

We are delighted to announce that the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) datasets are now available to users without the need for registration or authentication.

QUICK ACCESS TO

Variable and question bank

Dataset guides

RELATED LINKS

UK Data Service

Find data: theme pages

Data by theme

SHARE

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

About our data

Key data

• **Data by theme**

   Ageing

   Crime

   Economics

   Education

   Environment and energy

   Ethnicity

   Food

   Health

   Housing

   Information and communication

   Labour

   Politics

   Poverty

Data by geography

Open data

How to access

Other providers

Explore online

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 heath 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.
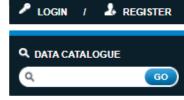
Crime

'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

LOGIN / **REGISTER**

DATA CATALOGUE

GO

UK DATA SERVICE NEWSLETTER

Subscribe for consolidated quarterly updates from the UK Data Service

email address

SUBSCRIBE

Service

Students can access the majority of our data collections 😊 🔓

Open data
- datasets available without registration or authentication using open data licences
- download and use

Safeguarded data with the End User License (EUL)
- student registers with UK Data Service
- UK students use login from their institution: otherwise apply for username and password.
- to download a dataset: Set up a project , assign data to project

? ## Special license
- may or may not prevent student access
- can take time (e.g. if data owner's permission is needed,

Controlled (secure) data
- no access for undergraduate research projects

UK Data Service

Online data exploration
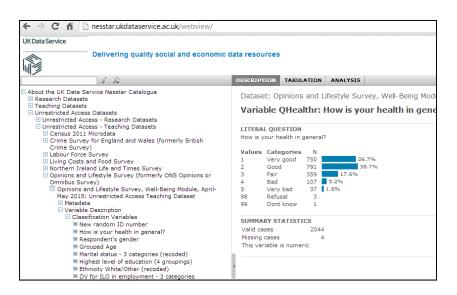
NESSTAR: survey data

UKDS.Stat: international databases
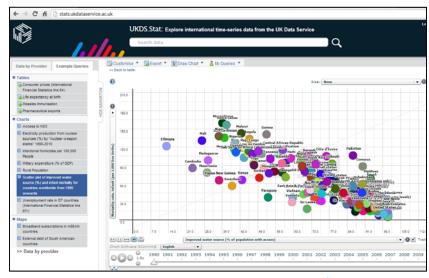
Allow you to

- Explore data
- Create and download tables/graphs

Help students include statistics and data visualisations in any dissertation.

We have guides to using online tools (including short video demonstrations)

Webinars

Introductory webinars

- [Introduction to the UK Data Service](#), 14 November

- [Finding and accessing data in the UK Data Service](#), 21 November

Register through the events page on our website:
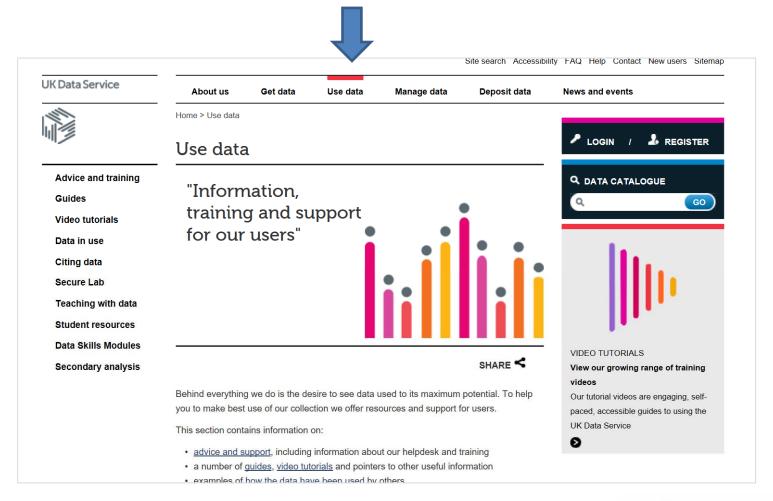
ukdataservice.ac.uk/news-and-events/events.aspx

youtube.com/user/ UKDATASERVICE

Recordings of past webinars including

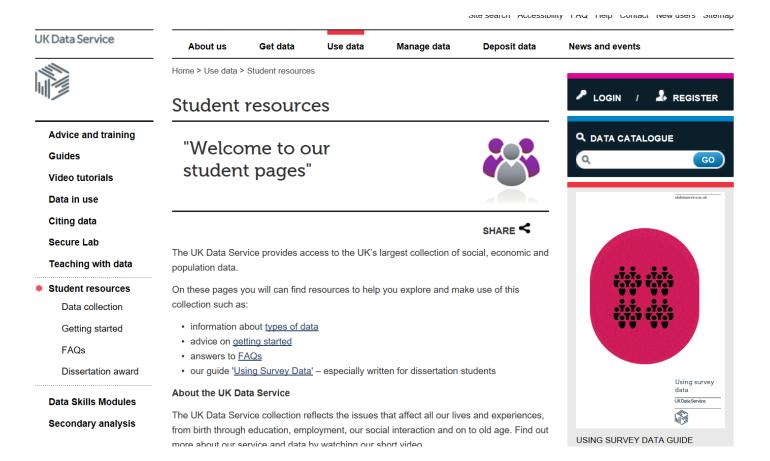- Key data webinars
- Themed webinars
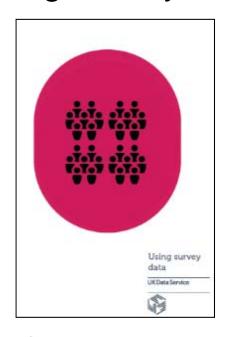
UK Data Service

ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data

Student resources webpages
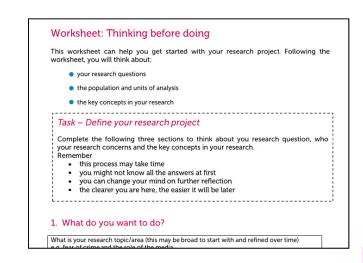

ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/student-resources

Using Survey Data Guide

- For project work/dissertations
- Covers:
  - research questions & designs
  - finding & accessing relevant data
  - getting started with data analysis
  - reporting of results
- Includes worksheets
- Available online and as a PDF

UK Data Service

New! Dissertations and their data: promoting research integrity

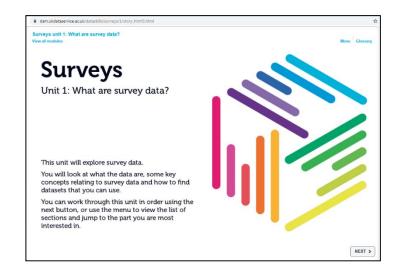- A resource pack to support data management and research integrity in undergraduate dissertations
- examples of good practice
- practical templates for consent, transcription, anonymisation and documentation
- link to slides for teaching
- Download the resource pack and slides

Dissertations and their data: promoting research integrity in undergraduate projects

UK Data Service

ukdataservice.ac.uk

UK Data Service

Learn online through our Data Skills Modules

- Interaction modules on
  - Survey data
  - Longitudinal data
  - Aggregate data

- Own time/pace
- Interactive
  - Videos
  - quizzes and activities

- Introduce key aspects of each data type – for example, the survey modules covers the structure of the data, exploring data and examining relationships between variable to understand patterns.

UK Data Service

Dissertation Award 2019-2020

What?

- recognises outstanding undergraduate dissertations from within the social sciences that include excellent reuse of data
- awards for the three best dissertations from this academic year
- £300 award and publicity via our website, blog and Newsletter

Who?

- undergraduate students at UK universities
- any social science discipline
- must have used data available via the UK Data Service

How?

- Complete an entry form
- Send using institutional email
- Deadline for submissions is 12.00noon on 18 May 2020.
- If shortlisted, you'll be asked to submit dissertation

UK Data Service

Entry form

- Title of dissertation
- Which data you used
- Your research aims and question(s) - What did you want to find out and why? [max 200 words]
- The data and methods used and how these suited the research aims? [max 200 words]
- Your main findings and their implications? With one example of data as evidence such as an important graph or excerpt of an interview transcript [max 300 words]

UK Data Service

Previous entries

Mix of topics and datasets, read more on our website (link from the Dissertation Award page)

• British Social Attitudes survey	public opinion on immigration
• 1970 British Cohort Study	wage differentials by degree classification
• Wealth and Assets Survey	models of consumption
• Crime Survey for England Wales	victim reporting of partner abuse
• Labour Force Survey	relationship between higher education and fertility in the UK
• British Election Study	political partisanship and voting: the role of politically partisan parents
• GP data with data from the 2011 Census	spatial determinants of obesity levels in Scotland

UK Data Service

To conclude: summary, tips and questions

1) Students can use most data available from the UK Data Service (except controlled data
   ➤ student pages highlight most accessible datasets

2) Look at what guides and resources can help you find, access and use data
   ➤ Helpdesk for data related queries

3) Enter the UK Data Service Dissertation Award

UK Data Service