

Chapter 19

Making Use Of Existing Data

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Some examples of ready-made data sets					
Data name and references	Description of main topics covered	Sampling procedure	Method of data collection	Type of data/how to get access	
<p>The Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC)</p>	<p>This survey follows a cohort of children born in the Avon area in the early 1990s. They are followed through into adolescence and data has been collected on their socio-economic, family, education and health circumstances</p>	<p>Sample of mothers enrolled during pregnancy in 1991 and 1992</p> <p>Children followed up regularly</p>	<p>Survey and clinics</p>	<p>Micro Longitudinal</p> <p>Open access: Apply to data holders for access http://www.bristol.ac.uk/alspac/sci-com/collab-policy/ Some subsets of data are now lodged in the data archive at: www.esds.ac.uk</p>	
<p>British Birth Cohort (BCS) www.cis.ioe.ac.uk/ Ferri et al. (2003)</p>	<p>The BCS was a census of babies born in a certain week in 1970 who have been followed up for the rest of their lives, now on a 4-year cycle, although in the past there were longer gaps between contacts. It is a multi-domain survey covering topics of child and adult education, health, lifestyle, citizenship, household, family, economic activity and income. The questionnaires changed as the child aged and became an adult. The latest data are for age 38 at 2008</p>	<p>Census of babies born in one week</p>	<p>Mixture of face-to-face and postal surveys plus tests of ability on children and administrative health data merged in. Each survey is a separate data set</p>	<p>Micro Longitudinal</p> <p>Open access: Economic and Social Data Service, Essex University at: www.esds.ac.uk</p>	

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<p>British Social Attitudes Surveys (BAS)</p>	<p>This is an annual survey carried out on a random sample of the population asking about a range of attitudes alongside basic characteristics of the respondents. Some attitude questions are asked every year. Others rotate and are asked at intervals. Modules of questions on particular topical subjects are added from time to time</p>	<p>Random probability sample</p>		<p>Micro Repeated cross-section for some questions Open access: Economic and Social Data Service, Essex University at: www.esds.ac.uk</p>
<p>The Careers Service Activity Surveys DfEE (1999)</p>	<p>These annual surveys provide information on the early career choices made by young people in England, after compulsory schooling. The surveys give background information on pupils (e.g. gender, ethnicity) as well as jobs and training options chosen by school leavers</p>	<p>No sampling used Census, if it were complete</p>	<p>Careers Service database Repeat cohorts transition from school to work</p>	<p>Micro Very short longitudinal Access via the DfE : Tel: 0114 259 3698</p>
<p>Database of teacher records Statistics of education, published annually by The Stationery Office</p>	<p>Individual records of each teacher recognised as qualified in England and Wales, from the date of award of QTS. Contains their pay, qualifications, QTS, age, sex, length of service, current service, school and LEA</p>	<p>Census, if it were accurate</p>	<p>Annual returns from employers to Teachers' Pension Scheme. Some employers do not provide all records</p>	<p>Micro Partly longitudinal Open access: Summary statistics can be accessed via the DfE research and statistics gateway at: www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/</p>

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<p>Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Longitudinal study (DHLE Longitudinal)</p>	<p>Survey of higher education leavers, includes data 6 months after graduation and 3 years after graduation. Available for years 02/03, 04/05, 06/07</p>	<p>Survey of HE graduates</p>	<p>Survey of graduates 6 months after graduation by Higher Education Institutions Survey after 3 years conducted on behalf of HESA</p>	<p>Micro Short longitudinal Open access: Apply to the Higher Education Statistics Agency at: www.hesa.ac.uk</p>
<p>Eurostat Continuing Vocational Training</p>	<p>Covers cost of vocational training, hours spent, training systems, participation rates, apprenticeships and details of participants. Same data available across a number of EU countries</p>	<p>Random sample of enterprises</p>	<p>Surveys</p>	<p>Micro enterprise Repeat cross-section Open access: Eurostat at: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/</p>
<p>The General Household Survey (GHS) now called General Lifestyle Survey (GLF) GHS (annual dates) for – annual report</p>	<p>GHS is an annual sample survey. It contains socio-economic data on a wide range of topics, providing a long time series of data on educational attainment Limited information on vocational training. Considerable amount of information on employment (income, hours, tenure, industry, occupation, union membership). For information see www.statistics.gov.uk/ssd/surveys/general_household_survey.asp</p>	<p>Stratified random</p>	<p>Face-to-face interviews probability sample based on postcodes</p>	<p>Micro Repeat cross-section Open access: Economic and Social Data Service, Essex University at: www.esds.ac.uk</p>

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Data name and references	Description of main topics covered	Sampling procedure	Method of data collection	Type of data/how to get access
<p>Graduates' data sets</p> <p>Dolton and Makepeace (1992) Dolton and Vignoles (2000)</p>	<p>A series of three sample surveys to track the employment experiences of people who graduated in 1960, 1970 and 1980 for 6 years after they graduated. The questions are the same in each survey</p>	<p>Random samples</p>	<p>Postal survey</p>	<p>Micro Repeat longitudinal cohort</p> <p>Restricted access: Apply via the DfE</p>
<p>International Adult Literacy Survey (IALS)</p> <p>OECD (1997) Carey et al. (1997)</p>	<p>Survey carried out in 12 countries (including Britain). Each respondent undertook tests to assess their literacy and numeracy skills. Other data are available about the respondents: employment status, wages, job characteristics, education, parents, vocational training. For more information, see: www.statistics.gov.uk/ssd/surveys/european_adult_literacy_review_survey.asp</p>	<p>Different in each country Clustered, stratified probability sample in GB based on postcodes</p>	<p>Face-to-face interviews and self-completion of tests</p>	<p>Micro Cross-sectional</p> <p>Open access: www.nifl.gov/nifl/facts/IALS.html</p>
<p>Labour Force Survey (LFS)</p>	<p>LFS collects quarterly data on employment, unemployment and inactivity as well as a range of personal characteristics including all educational qualifications, household income and demographic indicators. For more information see: www.statistics.gov.uk/ssd/surveys/labour_force_survey.asp</p>	<p>Quarterly random probability sample survey of households</p>	<p>Face-to-face interviews for first interview, with telephone follow-up in next four quarters</p>	<p>Micro Repeat cross-sections (also partly a short 5-quarter panel)</p> <p>Open access: Economic and Social Data Service, Essex University at: www.esds.ac.uk</p>

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<p>Longitudinal Study of Young People in England (LSYPE)</p>	<p>These data study the lives of young people as they pass through school and on into work and higher education. The study has also been known as Next Steps and focuses on the transitions made by these young people in the domains of education, health and work.</p>	<p>Random sample of young people who were age 13 or 14 in 2004</p>	<p>Face-to-face, online and postal survey. Data linked to administrative records on education</p>	<p>Micro Longitudinal Open access: Economic and Social Data Service, Essex University at: www.esds.ac.uk</p>
<p>Millennium Cohort Study (MCS)</p> <p>Details of the study are at: www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/</p> <p>Dex and Joshi (2004, 2005)</p>	<p>The MCS is a cohort study of children born between September 2000 and December 2001 across 4 UK counties, followed up at age 9–10 months, 3, 5 and 7 years and with age 11 still in progress.</p> <p>It is a multi-domain survey covering topics of child development and health and parents' education, health, lifestyle, citizenship, household, family, economic activity and income. The questionnaires change as the child ages. The latest data are for age 7 at 2008</p>	<p>Clustered and stratified random probability sample based on 1998 wards, with over-representation of wards with high minority ethnic populations, disadvantaged wards, and non-English wards in UK.</p>	<p>Mixture of face-to-face and postal surveys plus tests of ability on children and administrative health data merged in. Each survey is a separate data set</p>	<p>Micro Longitudinal Open access: Economic and Social Data Service, Essex University at: www.esds.ac.uk</p>
<p>National Adult Learning Survey (NALS)</p>	<p>Survey of people's experiences of and attitudes towards learning, intended to provide a basis for future monitoring of adult learning (including vocational and non-vocational learning), costs of learning, problems experienced and perceived benefits and barriers. This survey followed three earlier surveys covering some of the same topics, but is not repeat cross-section</p>		<p>Face-to-face interview</p>	<p>Micro Cross-section Open access: Economic and Social Data Service, Essex University at: www.esds.ac.uk</p>

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<p>National Child Development Study (NCDS) www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/ Ferri et al. (2003)</p>	<p>The NCDS was a census of babies born in a certain week in 1958 who have been followed up for the rest of their lives, now on a 4-year cycle, although in the past there were longer gaps between contacts. It is a multi-domain survey covering the topics of child and adult education, health, lifestyle, citizenship, household, family, economic activity and income. The questionnaires changed as the child aged and became an adult. The latest data are for age 50 at 2008.</p>	<p>Census of babies born in one week</p>	<p>Mixture of face-to-face and postal surveys plus tests of ability on children and administrative health data merged in. Each survey is a separate data set</p>	<p>Micro Longitudinal</p> <p>Open access: Economic and Social Data Service, Essex University www.esds.ac.uk www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/</p>
<p>National Pupil Database (NPD)</p>	<p>The National Pupil Database (NPD) is a census of all pupils in England in LEA-maintained schools and some in independent schools. It includes attainment and other pupil-level information in the Pupil Level Census (PLASC)</p>	<p>Full population census survey</p>	<p>Administrative records submitted to LEA who submit to central government</p>	<p>Micro Longitudinal</p> <p>Restricted access: The data are available from DfE, subject to their authorisation</p>
<p>OFSTED database Details of publications using the data are at: www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/</p>	<p>This contains information from the Headteacher's Form and Statement, and from the inspector's judgement recording the grades for the inspection. It contains data for all schools inspected in a given year. Hence each school only appears on the database approximately every 4 years</p> <p>Includes data on pupils on the roll, pupil background (at school level), inspection grades since 1996, expenditure data, staffing numbers, pupil attitudes/ disaffection, and the school level of pupil outcomes</p>	<p>Schools selected for inspection on a 4-year cycle but more often if performance is not satisfactory</p> <p>Includes all state schools</p>	<p>Data collected through inspection and entered by Ofsted, mostly complete with a few missing values</p>	<p>Micro for school unit Cross-section but in principle could be linked up to be longitudinal Census over 4 years</p> <p>Restricted access: Contact Ofsted at: www.ofsted.gov.uk/</p>

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<p>Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)</p>	<p>The PISA study is organised by OECD and started in 2000 in 32 countries. It aims to assess 'literacy' domains of reading, maths and science. Students carry out tests in these areas and there is a school questionnaire collecting limited data, plus country is recorded.</p>		<p>Face-to-face interviews plus tests</p>	<p>Micro Repeat cross-section</p> <p>Restricted access: Some years of data available in downloadable excel chart from OECD website at: www.oecd.org or http://pisaweb.acer.edu.au/</p>
<p>Pupil Level School Census (PLASC)</p>	<p>Individual pupil records, including the pupil's name and 'unique pupil number' (UPN), are collected with additional aggregated information on exclusions, teacher numbers, pupil activities and post-16 courses of study. The submission by schools of a PLASC return, including a set of named pupil records, is a statutory requirement under section 537A of the Education Act 1996</p> <p>The following fields of information are collected for each pupil on roll: UPN, Name, Gender, Date of Birth, Free School Meal eligibility, English as an Additional Language, Special Educational Need (SEN) Action Stage, SEN Type, ethnicity, pupil postcode and whether a child is in care</p>	<p>Full population census survey</p>	<p>Administrative records submitted to LEAs who submit to central government</p>	<p>Once a pupil has enrolled in a school they are issued with a UPN. Every UPN is recorded on the day of PLASC</p> <p>Restricted access: Some summary statistics can be accessed via the DfE research and statistics gateway at: www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/</p>

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<p>Universities' Statistical Record (USR) (HESA)</p>	<p>The USR consists of records of all undergraduate and postgraduate students on courses of one academic year or more; and academic and related staff holding regular salaried appointments and finance data for all universities.</p> <p>Background variables on students include age, sex, marital status, country of birth, occupation of parent, last full-time school attended, GCE A level and other entrance qualifications. Educational information includes degree subject, institution of study, normal duration of course, type of course, year of course, date of enrolment, method of study, qualification obtained, class of degree, date of leaving, reasons for leaving</p>	<p>Full population census survey</p>	<p>Administrative records submitted to HESA database</p>	<p>When students have passed through university, a longitudinal micro record is provided of their HE</p> <p>Restricted access: Apply to HESA at: www.hesa.ac.uk/</p>
<p>Youth Cohort Study (YCS)</p>	<p>The YCS is a series of longitudinal surveys that contacts a sample of an academic year-group or 'cohort' of young people in the spring following completion of compulsory education and usually again one and two years later.</p> <p>The survey looks at young people's education and labour market experience, their training and qualifications and a range of other issues, including socio-demographic variables</p>	<p>Random sample of young people in year 11 who have birthdays on particular dates in any month</p>		<p>Micro Longitudinal</p> <p>Open access: Economic and Social Data Service, Essex University at: www.esds.ac.uk</p>

Key:

- DfE – Department for Education
- QTS – Qualified Teacher Status
- LEA – Local Education Authority.

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