

Finding statistics and data

United Kingdom

Office for National Statistics (ONS) <http://www.ons.gov.uk> – ONS is the executive office of the UK Statistics Authority, a non-ministerial department which reports directly to Parliament. As the UK Government's single largest statistical producer, the ONS site holds a vast amount of data, which can be downloaded free of charge. Statistics are available on all areas of government policy, such as: Agriculture, Commerce, Crime, Economy, Education, Energy, Environment, Health, Labour, Migration, Population, Social care, Transport, Travel, Tourism, Welfare. Statistics are available either broken down by geographical area, such as region, county or ward for the UK, or in time series (monthly, quarterly, annually). The ONS website also provides access to data from the UK Census for 2011.

Beginners guide to UK geography <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/geography/beginner-s-guide/index.html> - this guide from the National Statistics website is useful for explaining the various geographical statistical areas, such as health authorities, wards, parishes etc. that are used in National Statistics data.

UK & Ireland company & financial data

FAME (Financial Analysis Made Easy) <https://ifind.swan.ac.uk/discover/Record/582534>

Swansea University subscribes to the full FAME service which includes 7 million of the largest UK and Irish incorporated companies as well as small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). FAME contains up to 10 years of financial information including active and dormant companies. The user can access company accounts within about 5 days of the accounts being filed at Companies House.

Other sources of statistical information

- **Data.gov.uk** <http://data.gov.uk> - statistics from the UK central government departments
- **Home Office Statistics** <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/about/statistics> takes you to the statistics home page. To search for statistic publications by topic, such as crime or business or by Department, such as the Department of Education or Department of Health try <http://bit.ly/16x3xHS>
- **NOMIS** <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk> - official UK Labour Market Statistics. This is an Office of National Statistics service but is run by the University of Durham. Registration required.
- **National Readership Survey** <http://www.nrs.co.uk> - this organization gathers market research information on the readership of 300 UK publications. Basic statistics are free of charge.
- **AdWeb** <http://www.adweb.co.uk> - the UK Media Service - gives readership figures for newspapers.
- **Housing Statistics** <http://www.communities.gov.uk/housing/housingresearch/housingstatistics> - from the Communities and Local Government website.
- **MORI (Market & Opinion Research International) Opinion Polls** <http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications.aspx> - MORI is a British

organization which conducts surveys both in the UK and internationally, typically on political topics and issues which are currently in the news.

- **Department for International Development** <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/About-us/How-we-measure-progress/Aid-Statistics> - Aid statistics

Wales

Welsh Government Statistics <http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics> - Key statistics available on all areas of Welsh Government policy.

StatsWales <http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/statswales> - a website of social statistics about Wales, data can be manipulated to create your own downloadable charts and tables.

Local Government Data Unit : Wales <http://www.dataunitwales.gov.uk> - Data sets available on Education, Finance, Housing, Population & migration, Social Services and Transport.

Europe

Statistics from the European Union

Eurostat <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/eurostat/home/> -The Statistical Office of the European Communities in Luxembourg is known as Eurostat. Eurostat does not collect data itself, but gathers data from the official statistical agencies in member countries. It then has to ensure that the data is harmonized so that meaningful comparisons can be made across several countries.

All data published on the Eurostat website is now free of charge. In addition it is possible to register for the free email alerting service to receive notification of new additions by clicking on the Sign in/Personal settings link. First you must register and then use the Alert Me facility.

The Eurostat Yearbook

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/publications/recently_published is available online from 2002 onwards.

Statistics from other organizations about Europe:

- **Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Statistics Portal** <http://www.oecd.org/statistics/>
- **World Bank, Data & Stats page** <http://data.worldbank.org/>
- **United Nations Statistics Division** <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/default.htm>
- **CESSDA (Council of European Social Science Data Archives)** <http://www.cessda.org> - CESSDA promotes cooperation and easier access to the data archives of countries around the world, particularly in Europe. The **CESSDA Data Portal** <http://www.cessda.org/accessing/catalogue> provides a seamless interface to datasets from 13 social science data archives across Europe. The data may be located in several ways: 'search' [free text search]; browse by topic; browse by keyword [thesaurus assisted browsing]; browse by data publisher.

- **Other national statistical offices in Europe.** There is a list of links to the national offices/organizations who are charged with collecting and disseminating statistical information in each European country on the **Eurostat** website
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/links/national_statistical_offices

International

The Statistics <http://www.rba.co.uk/sources/stats.htm> page from **RBA** which lists key websites such as Official Statistics on the Web is " One of the best starting points for statistical sources by country, topic or subject."

- **Data on the Net** (University of California, San Diego) <http://3stages.org/idata> - a searchable catalogue of 800 Internet sites of numeric social science statistical data, data catalogues, data libraries, social science gateways and more, maintained by Jim Jacobs, Data Librarian in the Social Sciences Data Centre at the University of San Diego. Cited by many data libraries world wide as the most comprehensive list of links to social science related statistics and data on the Web.
- **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) : Statistics Portal** <http://www.oecd.org/statistics/>The OECD provides figures on national economies, including agriculture, trade, transport, energy, labour, environment and demography and health. NB. The OECD Main Economic Indicators can be accessed from the Economic & Social Data Service (ESDS): International using the "Beyond 20/20" interface - see the ESDS section below.
- OECD Economic Surveys on countries of the world are available on **EBSCO Business Source Complete** <https://ifind.swan.ac.uk/discover/Record/615876> Carry out a key word search on "oecd economic surveys" plus the name of the country.
- **UNESCO** <http://www.uis.unesco.org> UNESCO provides global and internationally comparable statistics on education, science and technology, culture and communication.
- **UNICEF** <http://www.unicef.org> UNICEF provides statistics on children of the world. For individual country statistics go to Information by Country. For statistics by theme go to Press Centre, and then Facts on Children. UNICEF's key annual publication State of the World's Children is available online.
- **United Nations Statistics Division** <http://unstats.un.org/unsd> From the home page of the UN Statistics Division click on the **Statistical Databases tab**. Choose an appropriate database to access detailed figures on all subjects and all countries of the world.
- **United Nations Development Programme** <http://www.undp.org> The **Human Development Reports** <http://hdr.undp.org> which are published annually contain figures on global poverty, education and literacy, GDP, health, equality and the environment.
- **World Bank** : Data & Statistics. <http://data.worldbank.org> The World Bank web site makes available national statistics for countries and regions and includes the *African Development Indicators* and *World Development Indicators*.
- **Global Health Observatory (GHO)** <http://www.who.int/gho> Contains statistics on health, for example mortality, HIV/AIDS, immunization and epidemiology. This site also has a data repository.

Academic sites for advanced quantitative research.

Academic staff and postgraduate students who are engaged in quantitative research will find the following resources useful:

UK Data Service

The UK Data Service <http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/> is free to staff and students of UK universities for academic (not commercial) use. UKDS gives access to over 5,000 large datasets, both quantitative and qualitative, in the social sciences. Datasets deposited by ESRC-sponsored individual researchers and projects are also included. UKDS is particularly useful to researchers and post-graduate students.

The datasets can be browsed under seven main headings via **Key Data**
Here's an overview:

UK surveys	Surveys from the UK government, such as <i>British Crime survey;</i> <i>General Household survey;</i> <i>Labour Force survey;</i> <i>Social Attitudes survey;</i> <i>Health surveys.</i>
Cross-national surveys	<i>Eurobarometer surveys;</i> <i>European social survey;</i> <i>European & world values survey;</i> <i>Young lives: an international study of childhood poverty.</i>
Longitudinal surveys	<i>1970 British Cohort survey;</i> <i>British Household Panel Survey;</i> <i>English Longitudinal Study of Ageing;</i> <i>Millennium Cohort Study;</i> <i>National Child Development Study.</i>
Census data	For 1971, 1981, 1991, 2001, 2011 Aggregate data, flow data, microdata, boundary data [see our separate Census guide]
International macrodata	Data from the United Nations, OECD, UNIDO, IMF, World Bank and IEA
Business microdata	This data can only be access via the Secure Access route.
Qualitative & mixed methods	Includes about 390 qualitative datasets such as in-depth interview transcripts, diaries, anthropological field notes, answers to open-ended survey questions, audio-visual recordings and images. Mixed methods approaches combine qualitative data with numeric data.

UK Census of Population <http://census.ac.uk>

Provides a one stop gateway to data and support services which allow users and researchers in UK Higher and Further Education to access the 1971, 1981, 1991, 2001 and 2011 UK censuses. It also provides access to other important census related resources <http://census.ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/related-data.aspx>

The Programme is delivered by a number of units, each with its own area of data expertise.

- **The Census Dissemination Unit** <http://cdu.mimas.ac.uk> based at MIMAS, Manchester. Access to aggregate statistics for 1971/81/91/2001 and 2011, available as either spatial aggregation or as tabular data. There is also the CasWeb service <http://casweb.mimas.ac.uk> a web interface to Census Area statistics.
- **UKBORDERS** <http://borders.edina.ac.uk/ukborders/action/restricted/index> forms part of the UK Data Service Census Support Service, and provides digitized boundary datasets of the UK, available in many GIS formats (MapInfo MIF/MID, ArcView Shape, Arc/Info Export and several others) and associated look-up tables.
- **Flow Data** (also referred to as *interaction* data) <http://cider.census.ac.uk/> forms part of the UK Data Service Census Support Service, and provides access to Census Interaction Data through services running at Manchester Information and Associated Services (MIMAS)
- **Samples of Anonymised Records** <http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/sars> from the Census Microdata Unit at the Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research at the University of Manchester.
- **Centre for Longitudinal Study Information and User Support (CeLSIUS)** <http://www.celsius.lshtm.ac.uk> at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.
- **The Longitudinal Studies Centre - Scotland** <http://www.lscs.ac.uk> at the University of St Andrews and the General Register Office for Scotland, supports the Scottish Longitudinal Study.

National Archives <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

Website contains background and historical information about the Census and advice on using the Census for historical research. Researchers can pay to view individual house records from the 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, and 1901 census. There is also the opportunity for interactive investigation using maps, photographs and census returns.

The Census of Population : print copies at Swansea University

The Census is available in the Library & Information Centre from 1801 for every decade up to 1991, shelved at HA1121, Folios, on Level 2 of the West wing.

Reading:

Rees, P., Martin, D. and Williamson, P. (2002) *The Census Data System* Chichester: Wiley. Shelved in the Library & Information Centre at HA37.G6 CEN

For alternative formats please contact

Tel: 01792 295697 Email: library@swansea.ac.uk