

How to guide: Survey Data Analysis for your Dissertation

SPSS workbooks for dissertation students

A team at the Centre for Census and Survey Research, University of Manchester has produced some materials as part of an ESRC funded pilot project to increase use of secondary analysis in dissertation research amongst undergraduates.

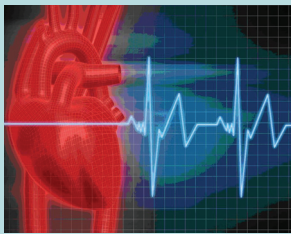
The workbooks are designed to guide sociology students through the sort of tasks that they might later develop into dissertation work. Accordingly, they focus on skills students need in order to work with a real world secondary dataset, including looking at published sources, accessing data, weighting, selecting cases and data manipulation.

Each workbook is based around a research question and ESDS dataset.



Exploring the fear of crime

Using the British Crime Survey Teaching Dataset 2000



Exploring differences in health

Using the Health Survey for England Teaching Dataset 2002



Exploring attitudes towards same sex relations

Using the British Social Attitudes Survey 2005

The workbooks are broken down into practical, user-friendly sections that assume self-directed learning, e.g. for 'Exploring the fear of crime':

Section 1: Before you start, think

Section 2: Pret a porter analysis: using published tables and reports

Section 3: Finding the right survey microdata to analyse

Section 4: The British Crime Survey 2000 and the British Crime Survey 2000 Teaching Dataset

Section 5: Accessing the large-scale government survey microdata

Section 6: Getting started with the BCS 2000 Teaching Dataset

Section 7: Exploratory analysis: using the BCS Teaching Dataset to explore variations in fear of crime

Section 8: Further exploratory data analysis

Section 9: Reporting exercise



The workbooks can be downloaded from www.esds.ac.uk/government/resources/sass/

The team welcomes use of the materials in learning and teaching, whole or in part, subject to the materials being cited.

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