

## BRITISH HOUSEHOLD PANEL SURVEY (BHPS) NESSTAR SAMPLERS

Users registered with the Economic and Social Data Service (ESDS) can now analyse, visualise, subset and download selected data from the British Household Panel Survey (BHPS) via the online Nesstar software tool.

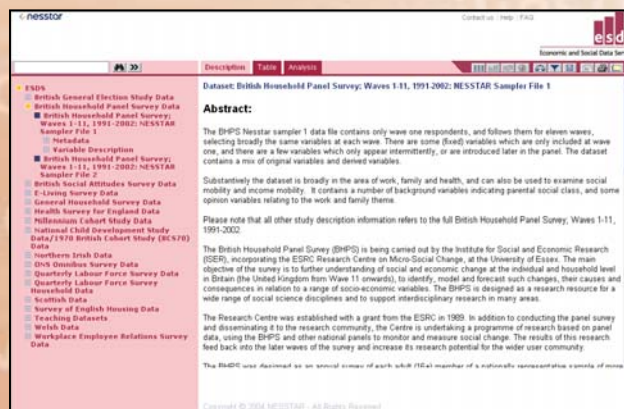
BHPS follows the members of 5500 households first sampled in 1991, and has interviewed them each year since. It has become a major resource for understanding the dynamics of British households. Its coverage includes income, labour market behaviour, social and political values, health, education, housing and household organisation. Recently large new samples were introduced in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Two BHPS samplers - the first files with a longitudinal component to be added to the ESDS Nesstar Catalogue - have been created in order to provide potential users of this large and complex dataset with a taste of how the BHPS might be used.

### BHPS SAMPLER DATASETS

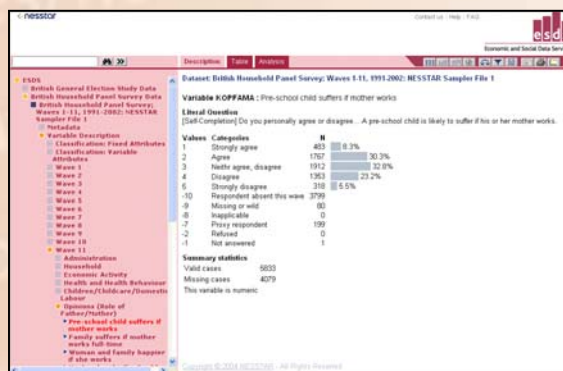
The BHPS samplers contain wave one respondents, and follow them for eleven waves, selecting broadly the same variables at each wave. The first sampler focuses on the theme of work, family and health, but it can also be used to examine social mobility and income mobility and is ideal as a teaching resource. The dataset comprises individual level records with a number of background variables indicating parental social class, and some opinion variables relating to the work and family theme. Household attributes are also linked in.

The second file is based around the theme of social and political attitudes.



# BROWSE THE DATA AND METADATA

Data and metadata are stored in folders and sub-folders on the Nesstar server and are accessed in precisely the same way that you would open folders in 'My Computer' or 'Windows Explorer'. Users can drill down into the 'Metadata' folder to access information on how the dataset has been produced or click on the 'Variable Description' folder to browse the variables included in the dataset and to run frequency counts for any variable of interest.



## EXPLORATORY ANALYSIS

In addition to requesting frequencies, Nesstar allows registered ESDS users to conduct cross-tabulations. For longitudinal research purposes, an important feature of the BHPS samplers is that users can cross-tabulate responses at time  $t_1$  with responses at, for example, time  $t_6$ . Registered users also have the facility to weight the data (both cross-sectionally and longitudinally), subset the data and download the data in their preferred format.



## NESSTAR - online data browsing system

Nesstar is a web-based system for the exploration and dissemination of data. The program allows users to search for, locate, browse, analyse and download a wide variety of statistical data within a web browser. The UK Data Archive (UKDA), in its role as service provider of the ESDS, hosts a Nesstar server populated with a wide variety of survey datasets.

Please note that to undertake exploratory analysis beyond requesting frequencies, you will need to be registered with ESDS.

ESDS Nesstar Catalogue: [nesstar.esds.ac.uk/webview/index.jsp](http://nesstar.esds.ac.uk/webview/index.jsp)

Nesstar guide : [nesstar.esds.ac.uk/webview/help/index.html](http://nesstar.esds.ac.uk/webview/help/index.html)

ESDS Registration: [www.esds.ac.uk/aandp/access/login.asp](http://www.esds.ac.uk/aandp/access/login.asp)

[www.esds.ac.uk/longitudinal](http://www.esds.ac.uk/longitudinal)

[help@esds.ac.uk](mailto:help@esds.ac.uk)