

Qualitative Data Service

INTRODUCTION

The UK Data Archive will be launching a new ESRC/JISC-funded Qualitative Data Service that is intended to replace and augment the former ESRC-funded service previously offered by Qualidata. A key feature of the new service is to provide a range of enhanced and accessible qualitative data and documentation resources for research and teaching purposes, and to significantly enhance user support activities relating to these data. The service will promote a training programme designed to generate an increase in the use of these datasets and an appreciation of secondary analysis of qualitative data. The work builds on Qualidata unit's expertise and international reputation in this area.

We want to make sure that this service meets the needs of the UK academic community. We would be grateful for your help in achieving this objective by completing this questionnaire.

DATA SOURCES AND SOFTWARE

1a. Have you ever undertaken secondary analysis of qualitative data?

- Yes
- No (go to Q.3)

b. When did you last consult qualitative data for secondary analysis?

- In the last 3 months
- More than 3 months, but no more than 1 year ago
- More than 1 year ago but no more than 3 years ago
- More than 3 years ago

2. What kind of data materials did you consult? (check all that apply)

Text Audio/Video

- In-depth/unstructured interviews
- Semi-structured interviews
- Group discussion transcripts
- Interview summaries or notes
- Open questions in structured interview questionnaires
- Unstructured/semi-structured diaries
- Structured/time budget diaries
- Case study notes
- Participant observation notes
- Field notes

- Observational recordings
- Minutes/record of meetings
- Correspondence relating to research projects
- Psychological test data
- Kinship diagrams/other anthropological materials
- Personal documents
- Press clippings
- Photographs
- Naturally occurring speech/conversation

Other (please state)

3. Are there any sources of qualitative data that you might use in the future?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please name any specific studies from which you would like to use data or broader topic areas

If no, please say briefly why not

4. Which computer-assisted qualitative data analysis software (CAQDAS) packages do you use on a regular basis? (check all that apply)

- None
- ATLAS.ti
- C-I-SAID
- Ethnograph
- N4 /NUD*IST
- NVivo
- Qualrus
- winMAX

Other (please state)

5. Would you expect to use a CAQDAS package to re-analyse qualitative data?

- Yes
 No

RESEARCH

6. Have you undertaken secondary analysis of qualitative data for research?

- Yes
 No (if no go to Q.11)

7. What sources have you used? (check all that apply)

- Revisited my own data
 Colleague's data
 Data via a dissemination service (e.g. Qualidata or an archive)

Other (please state)

8. For what reasons did you consult the data? (check all that apply)

- Descriptive purposes
 Comparative research, restudy or follow-up study
 Re-analysis or secondary analysis
 Research design and methodological advancement
 Verification
 Teaching and learning

Other (please state)

9. What topics are you researching?

e.g. employment relationships, quality of life, criminal careers

10. Have you experienced any difficulties accessing and using existing sources of qualitative data in your research? (check all that apply or state what kind)

Accessing data:

Yes No

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Locating appropriate data | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Format of data, e.g. paper | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Archival organisation of data | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Access conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ethical constraints | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify) | | |

Using data: Yes No

Re-analysing qualitative data

Time to consult sources thoroughly

Adequate data or project documentation

Other (please specify)

Please provide further details on any difficulties

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11. Would any of the following be useful in using archived qualitative data in your research:

a. Thematic guides and samplers for data sources available?

- Very useful
- Of some use
- Not useful

If very useful, what specific kinds of datasets, or themes would you like to be available?

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b. Online access to data held at the UK Data Archive?

- Very useful
- Of some use
- Not useful

c. The coded data (in electronic form) available, in addition to raw data,

from the original research e.g. coded data/memos from a CAQDAS package?

- Very useful
- Of some use
- Not useful

d. The ability to explore data/conduct new basic thematic analysis online if the facility were available?

- Very useful
- Of some use
- Not useful

e. Access to archived data in audio-visual format in addition to textual sources?

- Very useful
- Of some use
- Not useful

If very useful, what kind of data, topics and format would you find most useful?

f. Access to data from mixed methods studies, e.g. qualitative and quantitative data sources?

- Very useful
- Of some use
- Not useful

12. The new service has proposed plans to create a series of thematic resources based on high quality data and classic studies. Which themes would be of most interest to you? (check all that apply)

- Crime and Social Order
- Family and Social Networks
- Life Stories and Social Change
- Mental Health and Institutionalisation
- Social Class, Work and Employment
- Youth Culture

Other (please state)

13. What other services or developments would make it easier for you to access and use qualitative data in your research?

TEACHING

14. Have you used, or will be using any qualitative data for teaching?

- Do not teach/will not be teaching (go to Q.22)
- Have used
- Have not used but might use
- No (go to Q.22)

15. In which context? (check all that apply)

- Postgraduate
- Undergraduate
- Further Education
- Professional courses

Please state discipline(s)

16. What specific elements of a course have you taught/will you be teaching using qualitative data? (check all that apply)

- Interview guide construction/interviewing techniques
- Participant observation/field note keeping
- Data quality issues
- Qualitative data analysis, please state what kind
- Triangulation, mixed methods research

Other, please state

17. In what substantive areas is your qualitative methods teaching focused?

e.g. health inequalities, gender

18. Which sources have you used/might you use? (check all that apply)

- Own data
- Colleague's data
- Data via a dissemination service e.g. Qualidata or an archive (please say

where from)

Other (please state)

19. Have you experienced any difficulties accessing or using archived qualitative data in your teaching? (check all that apply or state what kind)

Accessing data:

Yes No

Locating appropriate data

Gaining permission to use data for teaching

Format of data, e.g. paper

Archival organisation of data

Teaching qualitative data analysis with real data

Availability of tailor-made teaching datasets

Other (please specify)

Using data:

Yes No

Teaching with 'real' qualitative data

Time to consult existing sources thoroughly

Adequate data or project documentation

Other (please specify)

Please provide further details on any difficulties

20. Would themed teaching datasets be helpful in your teaching?

- Yes very helpful
- A little helpful
- Not at all helpful

If very helpful, which themes would be most helpful to you?

21. What further services or developments would make it easier for you to use qualitative data in your teaching?

TRAINING AND SUPPORT

22. Which of the following forms of training might you find useful?

a. Courses to raise awareness of qualitative data and their research potential

- Very useful
- Of some use
- Not useful

If very useful, which specific topics are you particularly interested in?

b. Courses on specific aspects of particular datasets, or kinds of data (life stories, focus groups, mixed methods data or e.g. Thompson's Edwardians study or Townsend's Family Life of Old People)

- Very useful
- Of some use
- Not useful

If very useful, in which specific studies or aspects are you particularly interested?

c. Topic-based courses drawing on a range of data (e.g. crime and social order, social class, work and employment)

- Very useful
- Of some use
- Not useful

If very useful, in which topics you are particularly interested?

d. Online training and support resources, including case studies, course

materials and 'how to' guides

- Very useful
- Of some use
- Not useful

If very useful, what kind of resources would be most useful?

ANY OTHER COMMENTS

Please feel free to add any other comments below.

Finally, would you be prepared to take part in further, more detailed consultation activities to aid the planning and development of the new Economic and Social Data Service?

- Yes (email check)
- No