Introduction to the ESRC Census Programme and overview of practical workshop afternoon

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ESRC Census Programme

- Single point of entry at census.ac.uk
- Portfolio of online data services and support services
- UK census data 1971-2001
- Programme of research and development projects
- Much more than just census data!
Census.ac.uk

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MyCensus

Census.ac.uk, home of the ESRC Census Programme, 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 and 2001 UK censuses. It also provides access to other important census related resources.

Anyone is welcome to use the open resources of this web site and search metadata and publications, but to access most data registration and acceptance of licence terms relating to access and use of the data is required. The Quick Guide is a useful first step to using census data via Census.ac.uk.

Links to the data are provided in search results, metadata records and guides. Users can also go directly to the individual Programme units.

The census outputs are available in a number of forms and there is detailed information about these, their content and how to access the data in the Census.ac.uk guides, especially those covering:

- Aggregate statistics
- Digitised boundary datasets
- Interaction data

Experian 2009 update available
2011 Census research: new data, linkage and outputs
A single login for users from 1 August 2009
2011 Census — have your say on outputs
Census Research Projects
Census Workshops
GeoConvert 2009
Types of data available

- Aggregate statistics
- Digitised boundary datasets
- Interaction data
- National Statistics Postcode Directory
- Microdata
- Longitudinal studies
## Services providing these data

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Focus of this workshop

- Census Dissemination Unit
  - Aggregate statistics
  - National Statistics Postcode Directory

- Portal and registration service

- UKBorders
  - Digitised boundary datasets
  - Microdata

- Centre for Census and Survey Research

- CIDER
  - Interaction data
  - Longitudinal studies

- CeLSIUS
  - Longitudinal Studies Centre Scotland
  - NILS Research Support Unit
web interface to census aggregate outputs and digital boundary data

Log in to Casweb using UK Federation
Quick Guide to Casweb
Where is Athens?

Queries or comments regarding registration and authentication for census services should be directed to the Census.ac.uk Helpdesk (+44 (0)1206 872013; help@census.ac.uk)
Login to UKBORDERS

Boundary datasets and geographic look up tables of the United Kingdom.

Login via UK federation. [info]

Maps are based on data provided with the support of the ESRC use boundary material which is copyright of the Crown, Post Office and the EDINA consortium.

EDINA is a JISC National Data Centre based at the University of Edinburgh | Accessibility | Acknowledgements

JISC
Programme of research and development awards, including...

- Census Data Feed network
- DIaD - Data Integration and Dissemination
- Towards 2011 output geographies
- CAIRD: Creating a Census (Meta) Data Feed
- Censusgiv - Census Geographic Information Visualisation
Mapping and visualizing census data
Mapping and visualizing census data

- The source of some of our most frequently asked questions!
- Involves obtaining census counts, digitized boundaries
  - for the right area at the right geographical scale
- Matching them together
- Using mapping, GIS or visualization software
Spatial data and attribute data

- Spatial data: points, area boundaries
- Attribute data: values, characteristics
I’ve got spatial data and attribute data but how do I link them together?
Controlling the appearance of your map!

Using symbology, legends, etc. to convey data values
What about geographical information systems (GIS)?

- We are going to be using ArcGIS
- The most commonly-used GIS software in the world
- Enormously more complex than as presented here
- This is not a GIS course in an afternoon!
Some introductions
Workshop leaders

- Carol Blackwood – UKBorders, Edina
- David Rawnsley – Census Dissemination Unit, MIMAS
- Pablo Mateos – University College London
- David Martin – Programme director
- Julian Leyland – School of Geography, University of Southampton (PC lab)
Programme for the workshop
What about geographical information systems (GIS)?

- Retrieving a census dataset with boundaries from Casweb
- Mapping data using ArcGIS
- Retrieving and matching additional boundary data from UKBorders
- Mashing up the data in Google Earth and publishing it to the web
- Question session
Getting registered to use Census Programme resources
Other really useful resources
Welcome to GeoConvert

GeoConvert is an online geography matching and conversion tool for UK academics. GeoConvert allows registered users to obtain and manipulate complex geographical and postcode data in a straightforward way. Access to GeoConvert is controlled by UK Federation authentication.

STOP! If you're new to using GeoConvert, or are having problems logging in, we strongly recommend that you follow the steps in our 'Guide to Logging in to GeoConvert'.

Login to GeoConvert via UK Federation

- Have you used GeoConvert, Casweb or other CDU services? Tell us more for a chance of a £50 Amazon voucher, see the Case Studies wanted page for details
- A single login for users from 1 August 2009.

Main functions

- Obtain postcode metadata (deprivation scores, grid-reference co-ordinates, urban/rural indicators, area classifications, etc)
- Obtain details of the geographical relationships (intersections/matches) between zones in different geographies
- Re-sample (convert) data from one geography to another

Aims and objectives

The main aim of GeoConvert is to simplify and expand the use of the information contained in the postcode directories within UK academia. It is hoped that the service will save an enormous amount of duplicated time and effort by providing functions that are quick and easy to use, and are based upon robust, documented methods, details of which will be available from the service interface.

Mechanisms for the rapid, automated incorporation of information from future releases of the National Statistics Postcode Directory (NSPD) have been developed as a major component of the...
The Beginner's Guide to UK Geography is a simple tour of the main territorial units used in National Statistics work. Use the guide to obtain basic facts on each type of area, as well as more specialist information on topics such as boundary change.

Many pages provide access to area names and codes listings, and there is also a separate maps menu. Whether you want to know the difference between a ward and a parish, how many Westminster constituencies there are in the UK, or simply the name of the longest river in Wales, the Beginner's Guide to UK Geography is your ideal reference source.

Note: The maps in the Beginner's Guide are in PDF format. Most users already have the Acrobat Reader software required to view PDF files. If you do not have it, you can download it from the Adobe website.

This page last updated: Monday, 27th July 2009
General Geo-Refer Resources

:: Social science data
- Explains how different social science phenomena exist at spatial locations
- Geographical object types
- Direct and indirect referencing
- The modifiable areal unit problem (MAUP)
- Ecological fallacy

:: Statistical geography
- An explanation of Neighbourhood Statistics geography in England and Wales
- Understanding the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS)
- Using geographies from multiple time periods

:: Obtaining data
- Data Access: UK academic || UK public sector || UK private sector || non-UK users
- UKBORDERS - EDINA's online digital boundary service
- The National Statistics Postcode Directory (NSPD)
- GeoConvert - Mimas's online geography matching and conversion tool

:: Address referencing
- Understanding UK address referencing
- Address referencing data for administrative units in the UK