

Data Management and Analysis Group

**Census Information Note
CIN 2004-3**

**DMAG Briefing 2004/26
December 2004**

Eileen Howes

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2001 Census data update

Key Statistics and Univariate Tables for lower and middle level Super Output Areas have been received and will be made available in SASPAC format as quickly as possible. This is not totally straightforward because of the format of the files, but we are hoping to process them reasonably quickly.

The supplementary files and corrections will be included in the next full release of SASPAC. Anything urgent will be circulated to Census Contacts as soon as we find it.

There are still other tables to come, such as the tables missing from the ward and district level special migration statistics on wholly moving households. These are due to be published in December 2004.

Other data received and awaiting processing include:

Key Statistics for Settlements

Key Statistics for Urban Areas

Key Statistics, Univariate Tables and Census Area Statistics for parliamentary constituencies.

Origin-destination statistics

The district level SMS and SWS have been published (still with some migration tables missing). The district level data is more reliable than the ward and output area level data, although it still suffers from the effects of rounding. The quality of this data will be the subject of a separate Briefing as a large amount of work has been done on this.

Commissioned tables

A number of commissioned tables have been received since the last Census Information Note was published. Several others have been converted into SASPAC system files and circulated. They are all listed in Appendix 1. A Census Information Note has been produced which concentrates solely on commissioned tables (CIN 2004-2). This will be updated regularly.

Contact Eileen Howes if you want to commission anything or get copies of any table you think we might already have. Lots of extra data is available.

Census Analysis

One Briefing have been published since the last Census Information Note, and that is this Census Information Note. At least one printed copy of all Briefings has been made available to members of the consortium, further copies of some reports are available on request. Some are also available to download from the 2001 Census extranet site. Reports containing even a small number of maps are usually too big to download in this way and are available as pdf files on CD by request.

Briefings published recently

DMAG Briefing 2004/26, December 2004, Eileen Howes

Census Information Note 2004-3 - this CIN, the third of the year, and there will definitely be one more before Christmas.

Work in progress

Briefings on which a substantial amount of work has already been done:

DMAG Briefing 2004/19, December 2004, Eileen Howes

2001 Census Profiles: Muslims in London, demography and housing - this is another profile in the series and provides a range of detail about Muslims in London.

DMAG Briefing 2004/xx, December 2004, Gareth Piggott

2001 Census Profiles: Pakistanis in London - this is another profile in the series and provides a range of detail about Pakistanis in London. This Briefing also includes change between 1991 and 2001, which is possible because Pakistani was included as an ethnic group in both the 1991 and 2001 Censuses. This is in final draft stage.

DMAG Briefing 2004/xx, December 2004, Giorgio Finella

Country of birth profiles. This Briefing will be based on commissioned table C0116 which has been distributed recently. This table gives almost equivalent details to Theme Table 7 for 147 different countries of birth for London and other Government Office Regions. This Briefing is nearing completion.

DMAG Briefing 2004/xx, December 2004, Giorgio Finella

Country of birth borough maps. This Briefing will be based on commissioned table C0182 which has been distributed recently. This table gives age and sex for 179 different countries of birth for London. Maps and tables at borough level for 111 countries will be included in the Briefing. This Briefing is nearing completion.

DMAG Briefing 2004/23, December 2004, Eileen Howes, Giorgio Finella, Bill Armstrong
Briefing based on quality of origin-destination data.

Ethnicity (Marian Storkey), December 2004

This is an overview of ethnic group, religion and country of birth and the relationships between them. An almost final draft has been completed and is awaiting any final amendments, plus a title.

DMAG Briefing 2004/xx, December 2004, Bill Armstrong

2001 Census: A Ward Atlas of London - all the maps and tables are complete. A large amount of desk top publishing is under way.

Berkshire Briefing 2004/xx, December 2004

Workers in Berkshire (based on the same information as London's Workers Part 1). This is still

awaiting the release of a commissioned table - Theme Table 10 for the former county of Berkshire. Much of the other data has been prepared.

DMAG Briefing 2004/xx, December 2004, Giorgio Finella
Economic activity rates.

DMAG Briefing 2004/xx, December 2004, Giorgio Finella
Employment rates by ethnic group, Giorgio Finella

Other Briefings planned:

2001 Census Key Statistics: Housing summary (Eileen Howes)

2001 Census Key Statistics: Housing summary for Berkshire (Eileen Howes)

London's Workers Part 2 (Eileen Howes)

Economic activity (Giorgio Finella)

2001 Census Profiles of other groups

2001 Census: labour market data, - on economic activity, unemployment, full-time and part-time working, self-employment, hours worked, industry, occupation, NS-SEC, means of travel to work etc

Suggested topics for future briefings:

Migration - John Hollis

1991/2001 comparability on a range of issues

Households and work

Means of travel to work and car ownership

Employment - NS-SEC, Social grade/occupation/industry

Children (0-4,5-13,14-18)

Older people

Working age people

Household deprivation classifications

Students

Communal establishments

Working at home

Overseas migration

More on household variables - step-children, families, relationship within household

Technical briefings planned

Licensing and copyright, dissemination, click-use license - an update

Quality of data

Any comments and suggestions are welcome. This timetable will be developed further when the timetable for release of data and the demand for particular topics become clearer. Contact Eileen Howes for more details or if you have any suggested topics.

Extranet

The GLA's extranet is available to all registered users. Anyone who does not have access and wants to register can do so on-line at <https://extranet.london.gov.uk/>.

The SASPAC website is available on <http://www.saspac.org.uk>. This website contains the latest information about SASPAC and has some data which can be downloaded.

SASPAC

The SASPAC Support Team (with assistance from the Census Team) is continuing to process the new and re-released data that has been made available by the Census Offices over the past few months. In the last week, the Key Statistics and Univariate Tables for the lower and middle level Super Output Areas have been received as CSV files. These are currently being processed but the format and content does not lend itself to a quick turnaround. Other data currently being processed include the Key Statistics, Univariate Tables, and Census Area Statistics for Parliamentary Constituencies. All new and re-released data will be processed with a view to producing a consolidated set of up-to-date and correct datasets for distribution to all SASPAC users.

The next major development in the evolution of SASPAC is the addition of functionality allowing publication of output from SASPAC to the web in the form of XML pages. In the same way as SASPAC linked with Mapshore to allow production of maps from within SASPAC, we have now linked with GeoWise to allow publication to the web.

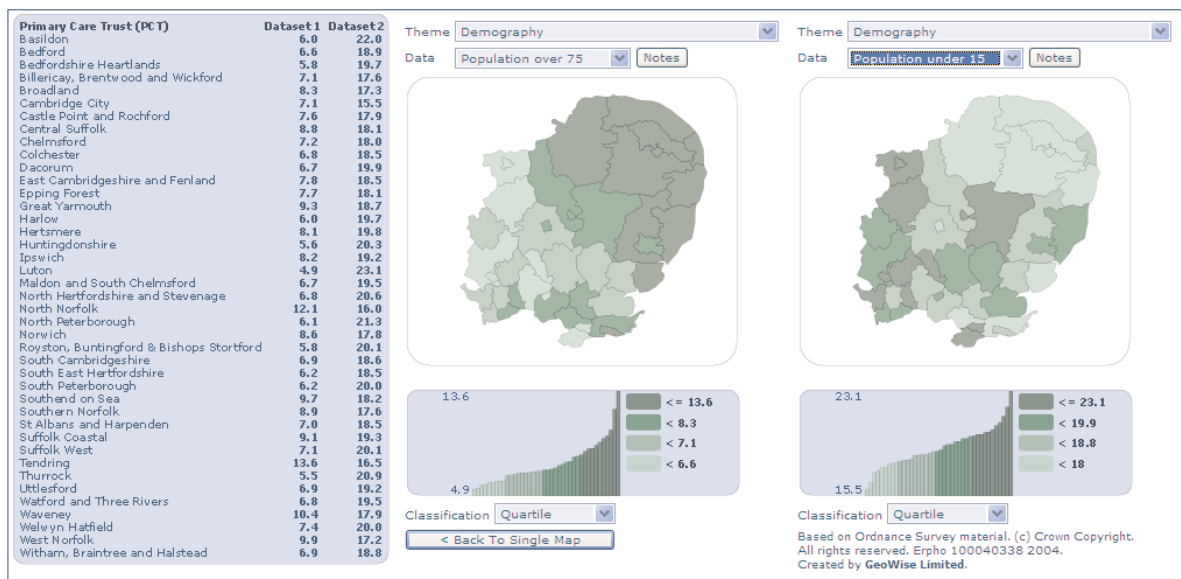
Users will access enhanced functionality within SASPAC to output XML format files which will then be passed to the GeoWise element for publication. The production of the XML output within SASPAC will be analogous to the existing output of CSV files, and once the GeoWise publisher is called from within SASPAC, a series of pre-defined windows will lead users - in a form of 'wizard' mode - through the process of creating the final published file.

The initial development will include predefined templates to which users will publish data, and an example of one is shown here. This template will allow two items of data to be mapped along with displaying the data in tabular, and bar chart form.

Each element of this display is dynamically linked so that when the end user selects an area in, e.g. the table, the same area is highlighted in each of the other elements of the display. This is possible through use of SVG (Structured Vector Graphics) technology using the Adobe SVG plug-in, which users will need to download from the Adobe or other suitable site. SVG is extensively used by ONS on their Neighbourhood Statistics website.

This development is now in initial testing and it is anticipated that the software will be available for general release during the first quarter of 2005.

The advantage of this system is that published pages are developed by the experienced user of SASPAC and the end-user of the published pages needs only to know how to use a web browser to access a variety of census and other information. It is therefore a cheap and



relatively easy way of disseminating information to a wide audience.

A series of regional meetings (2 of which were in London) has been held. Further information and copies of the presentations given at these is available on www.saspac.org.

Training

The Greater London Authority is mid-way through the present series of training which will finish on the 17th December.

The next series of training will start on the 21st of February 2005 and last for three weeks. Again there will be a 1.5 day course for complete beginners and a one-day course for experienced Census and SASPAC users who wish to interrogate the 'Double Geography' data. However, several people who have been on the Double Geography training course already have found the data very complex. Some people have been on the course a second time and others have said that they would like to discuss their experiences with other people to improve their understanding of the data. If anyone wishes to be trained in the interrogation of the Double Geography data sets but would like to have an influence on the content of the course then please contact Bill Armstrong on 020 7983 4653 or by e-mail at bill.armstrong@london.gov.uk

Census Users' Group Meetings

The next meeting is being held at 2pm on Monday 14th March 2005 in Committee Room 5 at City Hall. The minutes of the last meeting, held on 30th September 2004, are in Appendix 2.

Samples of Anonymised Records

The individual SAR is now available and has been ordered by the GLA. This data does not include any borough level data, hence its usefulness to the boroughs is limited. Giorgio Finella attended a meeting held at the Royal Statistical Society to launch this data, and a report on the meeting is in Appendix 3.

E-mail addresses of main Census Contacts

Appendix 4 gives the name and e-mail address of the main Census Contact in each borough and other relevant organisation. Please check that we have the right person listed and that the e-mail address is correct. We also have a wider circulation list for the Census Information Notes, so if you know of anyone else in your authority who would like to receive them please let us have their e-mail address.

New commissioned tables

C0182 - country of birth by sex and age - 200+ people, London, Inner and Outer London, London boroughs, all people

C0186a based on Table S021, economic activity and hours worked by sex and limiting long-term illness, London boroughs, all people from pensionable age to 74

C0189 migrant outflows by gender by age, 'virtual' counties in GOSE, all people aged 0 to 90+

C0192a based on Table S026, sex and economic activity by general health and provision of unpaid care, London boroughs, all people from pensionable age to 74 in households

C0193a based on Table S031, family composition and number of dependent children by sex and economic activity, London boroughs, all parents from pensionable age to 74 with dependent children

C0194a based on Table S043, sex and Ns-Sec by economic activity, London boroughs, all people from pensionable age to 74

C0218a based on Table S047, Ns-Sec by tenure, London boroughs, all people in households from pensionable age to 74

C0219a based on Table S061, tenure and car or van availability by economic activity, London boroughs, all people in households from pensionable age to 74

C0221a based on Table S112, sex and Ns-Sec by ethnic group, London boroughs, all people from pensionable age to 74

C0277a based on Table S114, sex and Ns-Sec by highest level of qualification, London boroughs, all people from pensionable age to 74

C0278a based on S122, sex and Ns-Sec by method of travel to work, London boroughs, all people from pensionable age to 74 in employment the week before the Census

C0280a based on S157, sex and Ns-Sec by religion, London boroughs, all people from pensionable age to 74

C0330 migrant outflows by gender by age, East of England (GOER), South East England (GOSE), Rest of UK, all people aged 0 to 90+

Commissioned tables converted to SASPAC system files

SCT044, C0311, means of travel to work, districts to oas

SCT045, C0179, household composition by tenure and occupancy rating, E&W, GORs, LA districts/wards in London, former county of Berkshire, districts and wards in Reading and Slough

SCT046, C0186, based on table S021, economic activity and hours worked by sex and limiting long-term illness, districts in England and Wales, wards and districts in London

SCT047, C0192, based on Table S026, sex and economic activity by general health and provision of unpaid care, districts in England and Wales, wards and districts in London

SCT048, C0193, based on Table S031, family composition and number of dependent children by sex and economic activity, districts in England and Wales, wards and districts in London

SCT049, C0194, based on Table S043, sex and NS-SeC by economic activity, districts in England and Wales, wards and districts in London

SCT050, C0218, based on Table S047, NS-SeC by tenure, districts in England and Wales, wards and districts in London

SCT051, C0219, based on Table S061, tenure and car or van availability by economic activity, districts in England and Wales, wards and districts in London

SCT052, C0221, based on table S112, sex and NS-SeC by ethnic group, districts in England and Wales, wards and districts in London

SCT053, C0277, based on Table S114, sex and NS-SEC by highest level of qualification, districts in England and Wales, wards and districts in London

SCT054, C0278, based on S122, sex and NS-SeC by method of travel to work, districts in England and Wales, wards and districts in London

SCT055, C0280, based on S157, sex and NS-SeC by religion, districts in England and Wales, wards and districts in London

SCT056, C0309a, sex and age and provision of unpaid care by ethnic group, local authority to national

SCT057, C0309b, sex and age and provision of unpaid care by religion, local authority to national

Minutes of Census Users' Group Meeting held on 30th September 2004**1. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. There were no matters arising that are not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

2. 2001 Census data - latest news on published data - CD for distribution

Gareth explained the contents of the CD that was handed out at the meeting. It included 43 SASPAC system files for commissioned tables with the associated framework files. The CD contains a list of all commissioned tables published so far by ONS and a list of tables converted to SASPAC system files by the GLA. There are cell numbering layouts for these tables in pdf format on the CD. The CD also contains three recent DMAG briefings on the Irish, Bangladeshi and Health in London.

SASPAC version 7.09 is included with associated files and a user note to assist people in updating their systems (see Item 8). There were also low level and middle level Super Output Area boundaries on the CD. Finally, each borough received their own CACI PayCheck data for 2004 (see Item 10).

Eileen explained that there has been some new data released, other than commissioned tables. This includes a corrections CD and Special Workplace and Migration data at ward level. There was some demand for a CD that contains the complete set of standard data. Eileen explained that this would be produced when all the data has been received and would be provided on a DVD. There are still some tables missing from the data.

Boroughs asked for Special Workplace and Migration data for areas surrounding London.

3. Quality of origin-destination data

Eileen gave a presentation on the quality of this data. In conclusion, it is felt that the data is not fit for purpose. In particular it does not appear to be fit to measure small flows and there is a lack of consistency of flows between tables. It is suggested that these inaccuracies are mostly due to rounding by ONS and even aggregating small areas to larger areas in the commissioned tables was seen to be unreliable. The Census Team intends to commission ward to district and district to ward tables too. Eileen advised that the district to district data is due out in October and this will be checked and compared with other tables for accuracy. A copy of the presentation is available on the Extranet.

Eileen also offered to check for validity, any work the boroughs have done with this data should they have concerns.

John Hollis offered users access to Paul Williamsons' BSPS presentation on the subject of disclosure control more generally and this will be made available on the Census Extranet, as long as he agrees.

Eileen has offered to speak to ONS again regarding improving the data for users. Bryan Lyttle (Berkshire) advised the meeting that the North East region has also approached ONS about quality and accuracy of origin-destination data from them. There continues to be much demand for a separate class of public sector user, with access to unrounded data.

4. Commissioned tables

Gareth went through the main points contained in Census Information Note 2004-2 (CIN 2004-2), which concentrates on giving information on commissioned tables. ONS send the GLA copies, usually in Excel format, of all commissioned tables they produce. Many of these do not contain London borough level data, although the ones that do are converted into SASPAC system files along with a few others that are thought to be of interest. All of the 43 commissioned tables converted so far, and their corresponding framework files, have been supplied to the Census Contacts on the CD distributed at the meeting. There are many more tables to come and the ONS waiting list is currently five months for new tables. A list of all commissioned tables available was given out on the CD and in CIN 2004-2, with a list of the tables that have been converted into SASPAC system files.

John Hollis said that we now have migration inflow tables for London boroughs by individual age but we still await outflow tables.

Eileen advised users that we have commissioned part of Theme Table 10 (workplace and resident population) by sex and ethnic group.

Users asked whether a full ethnic group table was available yet. Table M221 contains detailed ethnic groups but only at Government Office Region level. The coding framework for ethnic groups is also available. This is not available at borough level.

5. DMAG Briefings and analysis

Eileen explained that the 2001 Census Profiles of the Irish and Bangladeshis in London are completed and available along with the two Census Information Notes that were handed out at the meeting. Eileen said that the third CIN of 2004, which is being produced by Giorgio Finella would be available soon. The profiles of Muslims (Eileen) and Pakistanis (Gareth) are being worked on, as is the Ward Atlas of London (Bill).

6. Census 2001 Local Authority Studies

John Hollis gave a presentation on the latest population estimates for London. He explained how population estimates for each borough have changed as different methods of adjustment are introduced over time. John also summarised the new mid-year estimates from September 2004. A copy of the presentation is available on the Census Extranet.

7. 2011 Census - population definitions and LA consultation

John Hollis gave a presentation about planning for the 2011 Census, and in particular the

population definitions under consideration. He talked about who had responsibility at ONS for each part of the current work and who they are consulting with in order to improve the Census in 2011. Each local authority may be asked to appoint a Census Liaison Officer, and a population definitions working group has been set up to advise ONS throughout 2005. The full presentation is available on the Extranet.

The issue of special user licenses was brought up again and John said that this was one of the items on the agenda to look into.

8. SASPAC - update on new version, to interrogate SWS and SMS

Hywel Davies gave a demonstration of the new version of SASPAC 7.09. He informed users that the ONS website provides updates of all new data released by them. The latest link to see this is http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/downloads/disc_content_csv.xls

The SASPAC and the Census Teams intend to merge all the Census data onto one DVD and issue that to all users when the data release is complete. The size of the complete datasets is expected to be in the region of 4GB - hence the need for it to be on a DVD.

Hywel went through how to install the new version of SASPAC and to update .ini files. He also demonstrated how to search commissioned tables in SASPAC. Boroughs asked if new versions of the saspac.ini file could be e-mailed to them so that they did not all have to make the same changes. It was agreed that Gareth would do this, although there might need to be some accommodation made for differences in local storage arrangements, such as when data was stored in a location other than C:\saspac\sysfiles\.

9. Training - double geography

Bill will be conducting more training between 29 November and 17 December 2004. Boroughs were asked not to attend these on the date of the next Census Users' Group meeting (see below for the date).

A hard copy of a new SASPAC training manual was requested by many users and it is hoped that the SASPAC Team will produce this. A pdf version of the SASPAC User Updates (which will be used to create the manual) will be provided on a CD at the next Census Users' Group meeting. In the meantime an electronic version is available to download from the training section of the SASPAC website <http://www.saspac.org/>. This can also be emailed upon request.

Bryan Lyttle requested a manual that included information on how to create and work with gazetteer files. Bill will be asked to see if it possible to add this to his training.

10. Any other business

Eileen introduced CACI's PayCheck dataset, which gives modelled gross household income by 20 income bands. It was agreed that the GLA would buy the 2004 PayCheck data for the

London boroughs out of the Census budget, because the data was now being produced for 2001 Census output areas and is based on 2001 Census data.

Each borough gets data for its own area, at both output area and unit postcode level, while the GLA gets use of the data for the whole of London. The GLA has paid for this data separately, not out of the Census budget. The consortium arrangement for boroughs gives a considerable cost saving on what would be paid if boroughs bought this data individually.

A DMAG Briefing on the 2003 PayCheck data is due to be published shortly by the Social Exclusion Team.

11. Date of next meeting

2.30pm on Thursday 9th December 2004 in Committee Room 5 at City Hall.

Attendance at Census Users' Group meeting - 30th September 2004

GLA	Hywel Davies
GLA	John Hollis
GLA - Chair	Eileen Howes
GLA	Gareth Piggott
TfL	Simon Cooper
Metropolitan Police	Paul Wright
LDA	
LFEPA	Phil Jefferies
Corporation of London	Joost Bergers
Barking and Dagenham	
Barnet	Peter Keeble
Bexley	
Brent	John McCrae
Bromley	Doug Ogilvie
Camden	
Croydon	Peter Gunn-Wilkinson
Ealing	Naomi Hill
Enfield	
Greenwich	Emma Williams
Hackney	Rachel Pugh
Hammersmith and Fulham	Alan Brooks
Haringey	Bob Dawes

Harrow	Sue Kaminska	
Martin Aleksin		
Havering	Paul Ekers	
Hillingdon		
Hounslow		
Islington	Robin Hall	Neil Hutchinson
Kensington and Chelsea	Roger Morgan	
Kingston upon Thames	Peter Brunton	
Lambeth	Georges Sen-Gupta	Barbara Barker
Lewisham	Alec MacDonald	
Merton	Elizabeth Charles-Soomer	Kelly Clarke
Newham	Michelle von Ahn	
Redbridge	Astrid Loon	
Richmond upon Thames	Fiona O'Toole (to collect CD)	
Southwark	Martin Cook	
Sutton	Suzie Pittman	
Tower Hamlets	Juanita Haynes	Lavinia Irving
Waltham Forest	Mary Ann Hester	
Wandsworth	Christine Pollard	
Westminster	Adam Taylor	
LHO		
ALG	James Gleeson	
Berkshire	Bryan Lyttle	
Reading	Caroline Hancock	
Apologies		
Barking and Dagenham	Chris Sale	
Bexley	Taryn Eves	
Camden	Neil Storer	
Enfield	Colin Rumsey	
Hillingdon	Karen Hunte	
Hounslow	Bill Martin	
LHO	Joseph Callanan	
LDA	James Sloan	
GLA	Giorgio Finella	
GLA	Bill Armstrong	

Appendix 3

An Open Meeting on the Samples of Anonymised Records from the 2001 Census

The Royal Statistical Society, London Thursday 30 September 2004

Agenda for the day

- 10.30 Introduction to the day and welcome Angela Dale, University of Manchester
- 10.40 The role of microdata in national statistics Len Cook, National Statistician
Norman Caven, Registrar General for Northern Ireland Frank Thomas, General Register Office
for Scotland Discussion and questions
- 11.15 The role of microdata in academic research Ian Diamond, Chief Executive, ESRC
- 11.50 A framework for implementing ONS' Protocol on Data Access and
Confidentiality (draft paper) Richard Laux, ONS Discussion and questions
- 12.30 The released (licensed) version of the 2001 SARs: an overview of the content
and proposed revisions Jo Wathan, CCSR, University of Manchester Discussion and questions
- 1.45 Methods used to ensure confidentiality in the SARs How was disclosure risk
assessed? How well has it worked? How has perturbation been applied? What is the effect on
data quality? (paper one, paper two, paper three) Bill Gross, Katherine Merrett and Philippe
Guiblin, ONS Mark Elliot, CCSR, University of Manchester Discussion opened by Chris Skinner,
University of Southampton
- 2.45 The Controlled Access Microdata Sample (in-house version of the SARs): what
detail will be available, what are the procedures for access? Keith Whitfield, ONS Discussion
- 3.40 Access through a virtual microdata lab Felix Ritchie, ONS Discussion
- 4.10 Balancing the requirement for confidentiality with research access: A panel
discussion. What are the requirements for confidentiality? What are the options for meeting
them? What guarantees can HEIs make? What is the role of the ESRC? Speakers from NSIs and
ESRC will give short introductions and then the topic will be thrown open for discussion Panel
members include Paul Jackson, Peter Elias, Norman Caven and Frank Thomas

A copy of the papers presented on the day are available from
<http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/sars/events/2004-09-30/>

Notes from the event by Giorgio Finella

Len Cook-

Spoke about confidentiality issues and the fact the UK does not have laws on statistics and confidentiality (citing the US as an example of a country with such laws in place). The UK relies on common law, he hopes that good statistical legislation will be created in the future.

He mentioned that as common law currently stands in the UK he and his senior staff are personally liable should Census confidentiality be breached.

He also said that more people must have access to statistical data and statisticians should not act as a Masonic club.

Religion will not be part of the licensed SARs, an arbitrary decision he has taken. The ONS Religion report will be released in 2 weeks. The in-house version of SARs will have religion.

Len in trying to deflect criticism from the audience on the removal of religion from the licensed SARs asked the question; Were we trying to create homogeneity by suggesting all Muslims are the same or are there different groups within a religion?

He mentioned that he was a little New Zealander

Norman Caven, Registrar General for Northern Ireland

Norman backed up Len and added that national statisticians must be custodians of confidentiality.

Frank Thomas, GROS

Census data has been put into SAS. If users want regression analysis, this can be performed on the data if users supply GROS with what regressions they would like, in a similar manner to commissioned tables.

Ian Diamond, Chief Executive of ESRC

In July 2004 the Standards and Innovation report was published.

The ESRC's role is to promote world class social science in the UK. Research conducted by the ESRC has found that in many areas of social science the UK is rated as first, second or third. In the cases of third this was due to qualitative opinions rather than quantitative facts.

He believes that to maintain this position we must invest in social science infrastructure and give social scientist access to world class data.

He asked the question do we have any world class dataset?

The following datasets are considered to be world class:

- Cohort data
- General Household Survey (GHS)
- Labour Force Survey (LFS)
- Family Resources Survey (FRS)

Researchers must be able to trust the data, but trust is also needed by the stakeholders and government.

How do we trust data? Trust is relative to the cost of collecting the data.

Measurements include:

- Response rates
- High level research on response rates
- Questions that are appropriate to the answers that we need
- The ability to check the data against other sources.

There is an Emerging National Data Strategy (ENDS) currently under development by the ESRC and ONS.

The ESRC are to produce ethical guidelines for social science proposals by December 2004.

An important point that ONS representatives should relay to Len (who had left by this stage) was that the ESRC had not found one incident of trust being misused by the academic community in the use of ONS data.

Richard Laux, ONS

Talked about the legal and professional implications of legislation and the draft microdata access policy and strategy (working in a safe setting). The Census Research Access Board (CRAB) is taking this strategy and policy forward.

Jo Wathan, CCSR

The Licensed SARs was delivered to CCSR last week, they hope to make it available by the end of November. The information will be at GOR level with the addition of Inner and Outer London.

The 2001 SARs will give us less detailed information than the 1991 SARs in the following areas:

- age
- geography
- ethnic groups - 5 broad categories: White, Mixed, Asian/ Asian British, Black / Black British, Chinese and Other
- occupation
- industry

It is not all bad news, we will get more information in some areas, this is down to new questions in the 2001 Census:

- More higher qualifications
- Professional qualifications
- General health
- Caring - by both hours and number of carers in each household.

The other new question for 2001 - religion - will not be included in the licensed SARs.

Questions were asked if ethnicity could be split into more categories eg Asian into Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Other Asian as the Indian and Pakistani ethnic groups are both larger than the mixed group. ONS will consider this if they update it in the future.

Licensed SARs are free to academics.

Not for Profit organisations will have to pay £500 and are able to nominate up to 10 users in their organisation.

Contact sars-helpdesk@man.ac.uk

To get more information about the SARs, release dates etc, Jo asked people to join the SARs mailing list sars@jiscmail.co.uk. Alternatively, look at the CCSR website, at <http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/sars/>.

Bill Gross, ONS

Talked about methods used to ensure confidentiality in the SARs. A very boring seminar where they went into a great amount of detail to tell us that:

They used scenario testing, finally agreeing that they would use a scenario of a private database trying to cross match records. The justification was that both the Israeli and Australian governments used similar scenarios.

He explained the methodology behind finding unique variables. He talked about a unique value e.g. 16 year old widow. These files would be perturbed (changed) but will be flagged so as to allow their removal from certain calculations.

When asked about when should these modified files should be used and they should be excluded ONS were unable to give any guidance and said it would be down to individual researchers.

Keith Whitfield, ONS

Talked about the in-house version of the SARs, a very much more upbeat presentation compared to the licensed SARs. Not sure what it will be called as ONS keep changing the name.

It will be similar to the 1991 SARs, Local Authority level, IMD variables and other derived variables that researcher would like. Any derived variables will be made available as soon as possible after they have been created.

The in-house SARs will be available in November 2004.

Access is currently only at Titchfield, in the near future it will be expanded to Drummond Gate (London), Newport and Southport. GROS and Northern Ireland to be added once they can demonstrate a safe setting to ONS satisfaction.

Access will be via a research proposal being accepted.

A daily charge of £52+vat will be applied to applicants, however this may be altered to a proposal charge if many repeat visits are required. The applicant will enter the safe setting having emailed any syntax to ONS in advance, they will be allowed to work on the SARs dataset. The user will not be able to take anything away, on finishing with the data any tables created will be stored on a separate drive. ONS will check the results and send the tables to the user within a week.

The criteria for output are still not ready, but will be similar to the commissioned tables. Outputs used in public reports should be sent to ONS one week prior to publication for comments.

The Application process is as follows:

1. An application is submitted.
2. Census Research Access Board (CRAB) meets every 6 weeks and will either recommend or reject the proposal.
3. Recommended proposals will go to the Microdata Release Panel (MRP), in the UK to other boards in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

It is envisaged that applications will usually take about 8 weeks to process.

The application criteria are:

- Confidentiality
- Public confidence
- Appropriate use of microdata
- Value and conduct of the research and
- Documentation

Application forms are available from Thomas.howe@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Applicants may be asked to attend the CRAB meeting, but more likely it will be assessed based on their written submission.

A copy of an accepted submission will be placed on their website. Should an application be rejected they will be told why. ONS suggested that applicant send their application to Thomas Howe and discuss it prior to submission to the board.

Felix Richie, ONS, Virtual Microdata Labs (VML)

Talked about safe settings for microdata, similar to SARs settings however it is predominately business data.

The main issues were that people must be seconded from their organisation to this department at ONS, they must sign confidentiality agreements and are not allowed to remove data from ONS. PhD students are not able to access this data as they do not work for an organisation that they can be seconded from.

A bit like "It's my toy, I'll let you play with it as long as I hold it."

Open Discussion

An opportunity to voice frustration and angst at ONS, both academics and local government representatives asked ONS to TRUST researchers via licensing agreements and move on from the worst case scenario to one of mutual trust and respect. We should be working together not acting in a confrontational manner.

In my discussion with Frank Thomas, GROS, on the issue of OD data his perception was that even if we had 2/3 of values as 0 or 3, this would mean we had a sample of 33%, an improvement over the 1991 OD data. He confirmed they had un-rounded data for the whole country and that it was only rounded prior to release.

In my discussions with Graham Pointer, disclosure control at ONS, unofficially he suggested that there was up to a year's worth of work assessing tables. I asked for a copy of the criteria used by DC he suggested it was an iterative process, based on what tables had previously been released and the likelihood of someone being able to identify a person using the new table with previously released tables. Keith Whitfield suggested that they might be able to release some sort of criteria used by DC.

Other departments within ONS are frustrated by the commissioned table department, one department has been waiting over two years for commissioned tables. They not received any of the tables they have requested. We should be grateful for what we have received.

Ludi Simpson also echoed frustration with ONS in general and with commissioned table department. With the suggested waiting times of approaching one year, however, it will promote the use of the safe setting rather than detract from its use.

Samples of Microdata from the 2001 Census: a brief synopsis

Angela Dale, 26/09/2004

The 3% Individual SAR

1. Individual SAR was received by CCSR on 27 September 2004. We are aiming to get the data available to users by the end of October. The content of this file is listed in the papers for this meeting. The file is called Individual SAR (Licensed).
2. This file has been subject to perturbation - see paper.
3. We expect a more detailed version to be extracted shortly by ONS - see note of proposed expansion of variables. This will also be perturbed.
4. Access to SARs (Licensed). Academic users need to register with the Census Registration Service (if not already registered). They can then download the files from the CCSR web site on supplying their Athens username and password. Non-academic users will be asked to agree to conditions similar to those agreed by academics. CCSR will distribute the SARs on behalf of the Census Offices and will make a charge for value-added and support. Details are on the CCSR web pages.

5. A more detailed version of the Individual file, Controlled Access Microdata Sample (CAMS), has been agreed with ONS/GROS and NISRA. The specification for this is included in the papers for the meeting - final comments and additional requests can still be made (deadline 4 October).

6. It will be several months before the CAMS is available. However, an interim version is now available (with LA, full ethnic group and SOC minor) - see codebook on the CCSR web site.

7. Access to the CAMS. This is handled by ONS. The application process and criteria for acceptance have now been agreed by ONS, GROS and NISRA. Forms will be available on the web along with the criteria. Access initially will only be available at Titchfield. The application process may take a couple of months. Only non-disclosive results will be allowed out of ONS. There will be a charge of £52 per day + VAT.

The 1% Household SAR

1. This file will not be available until spring 2005. Disclosure assessment on this file is still being conducted.

2. The expectation is that the individual detail will be similar to that on the Individual SAR; individuals within households will be linked. Currently ONS plan that some information on individuals in large households (size 7-9 inclusive) will be grouped (age, marital status and ethnic group) and there will be no individual records for households of size 10 and over. There is no geography below country. The file will be subject to perturbation.

3. We expect that a much more detailed version of the Household file will be available for analysis within ONS on the same basis as the Individual file (CAMS).

The 5% Small Area Microdata File

This file will have local authority as the lowest level of geography (with a couple of exceptions for very small authorities). No disclosure assessment has yet taken place and therefore we do not know the level of detail that is likely to be available for this file. When this is clear we will need to judge whether or not the file will be worthwhile.

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Census briefings from GLA Data Management and Analysis Group

DMAG Census Briefings are:

DMAG 2002/5	2001 Census: First results and implications for the London Plan	John Hollis
DMAG 2002/6	2001 Census: First population statistics	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2002/8	2001 Census: First population statistics - <i>London Plan Sub Regions</i>	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2002/9	Census Information Note 2002-1	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2002/12	Census Information Note 2002-2, 2001 Census: response rates	Rachel Leaser
DMAG 2003/5	Census Information Note CIN 2003-1	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2003/7	2001 Census Key Statistics: Initial summary of results	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2003/8	2001 Census Key Statistics: Household variables	John Hollis
DMAG 2003/9	2001 Census Key Statistics: Ethnicity, religion and country of birth	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2003/10	Household Forecasts based on 2001 Census Key Statistics	John Hollis
DMAG 2003/11	2001 Census: Copyright and Licensing for Census users	Rachel Leaser /Hywel Davies
DMAG 2003/13	2001 Census Key Statistics: Means of travel to work	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2003/14	2001 Census Key Statistics: People, Families and Households	Rachel Leaser
DMAG 2003/15	Census Information Note CIN 2003-2	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2003/16	2001 Census Key Statistics: Health Indicators	Gareth Piggott Baljit Bains
DMAG 2003/21	Workless Households with dependent children in London: Output area maps	Declan Gaffney/ Bill Armstrong
DMAG 2003/22	Mapping Diversity: 2001 Census results	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2003/23	2001 Census: Ethnic Groups in London and other districts	Eileen Howes/ Giorgio Finella
DMAG 2003/25	Integrating the 2001 Census into the GLA Demographic Models	John Hollis
DMAG 2003/26	Unemployment in London: 2001 Census results	Lorna Spence
DMAG 2004/2	London's Workers Part 1: 2001 Census results	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2004/11	2001 Census Profiles: The Irish in London	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2004/12	Health in London Age-standardised Rates	Gareth Piggott
DMAG 2004/14	Census Information Note 2004-1	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2004/15	2001 Census: Local Authority Population Studies	John Hollis
DMAG 2004/16	2001 Census Profiles: Bangladeshi in London	Gareth Piggott
DMAG 2004/22	Census Information Note 2004-2	Gareth Piggott
DMAG 2004/26	Census Information Note 2004-3	Eileen Howes

Berkshire Census Briefings

Berkshire Briefing 2003-1, 2001 Census: First population statistics, Eileen Howes
 Berkshire Briefing 2003-2, 2001 Census Key Statistics: Initial summary of results, Eileen Howes
 Berkshire Briefing 2003-3, 2001 Census Key Statistics: Household Variables, John Hollis
 Berkshire Briefing 2003-4, 2001 Census Response in Berkshire, Rachel Leaser,
 Berkshire Census Briefing 2003-5, 2001 Census Key Statistics: Health indicators for Berkshire, Gareth Piggott
 Berkshire Ward Atlas

Regular Briefings from the GLA Data Management and Analysis Group

Recent DMAG Briefings:

DMAG 2004/1	2003 Round Ward Population Projections	Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/2	London's Workers Part 1: 2001 Census results	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2004/3	Borough Demographic Profiles	Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/4	DMAG Annual Review 2003	Jackie Maguire/ Rob Lewis
DMAG 2004/5	2003 Round Demographic Projections	John Hollis
DMAG 2004/6	Londoners' Qualifications: Analysis of 2001 Census data	Gareth Piggott
DMAG 2004/7	The Parliamentary General Election, 2001	Michael Minors/ Dennis Grenham/ Jackie Maguire
DMAG 2004/8	Constituency Demographic Profiles	Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/9	Measuring Unemployment	Lorna Spence
DMAG 2004/10	Measures of Income	Rachel Leeser/ Lorna Spence
DMAG 2004/11	2001 Census Profiles: The Irish in London	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2004/12	Health in London Age-standardised Rates	Gareth Piggott
DMAG 2004/13	Data Sources on Refugees and Asylum Seekers	Ed Klodawski
DMAG 2004/14	Census Information Note 2004-1	Eileen Howes
DMAG 2004/15	2001 Census: Local Authority Population Studies	John Hollis
DMAG 2004/16	2001 Census Profiles: Bangladeshis in London	Gareth Piggott
DMAG 2004/17	London Plan Sub-Regional Demographic Profiles	Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/18	Indices of Deprivation 2004	Rachel Leeser
DMAG 2004/20	ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates: 2001 and 2002 (revised) and 2003	John Hollis/ Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/22	Census Information Note 2004-2	Gareth Piggott
DMAG 2004/23	ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates: 1991-2003	John Hollis & Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/24	Fertility of Ethnic Groups in London, 2002/03	Ed Klodawski
DMAG 2004/25	ONS 2003-based Subnational Population Projections	John Hollis & Georgia Hay
DMAG 2004/26	Census Information Note 2004-3	Eileen Howes

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