UK Data Service

The UK Data Service is a web host providing access and support for an extensive range of key economic and social data, spanning many disciplines and themes. It has been developed especially for the UK higher education community, funded by the ESRC and the Universities of Essex and Manchester. It incorporates data formerly hosted by ESDS, the UK Census Gateway and the ESRC Survey Question Bank.

Data series from major international agencies such as the European Commission, World Bank, International Monetary Fund and International Labour Organization can be explored online or downloaded in Excel or text format (suitable for Stata and SPSS).

Registration and login

All members of UK universities are entitled to free access to the UK Data Service. It's necessary to register for a personal account in order to view or download data. Some data providers also require you to agree to special conditions regarding re-use of their data.

First-time user registration

- 1. Start from the UK Data Service homepage http://ukdataservice.ac.uk
- 2. Click on the link to Register in the top right-hand corner of the homepage, then Login.
- 3. If you are asked to place cookies on your computer, accept the request: this will enable faster registration and login.
- 4. Select your Organisation: if you are connected to the campus network, you may already be identified as a member of the University of York. If not, enter University of York, and Continue.
- 5. Login with your University of York username and password (e.g. abc500).
- 6. New and expired users are routed to the UK Data Service Registration Form. Complete the form: only the fields marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory. Your Contact Address can be a University of York postal address.
- 7. Submit the completed registration form, and Accept the End User Licence.
- 8. An email will be sent to the address you have provided: follow the link in the email to confirm your registration.

Your UK Data Service user account has a fixed duration of one calendar year. When your account expires, you will be prompted to re-register online, providing your University of York username is still valid.

Registered user

- 1. Start from the UK Data Service homepage http://ukdataservice.ac.uk. Click on the link to Login.
- 2. Select your Organisation: if you are connected to the campus network, you may already be identified as a member of the University of York. If not, enter University of York, and Continue.
- 3. Login with your University of York username and password (e.g. abc500).
- 4. If your account has expired, you will be prompted to re-register.
 - Once you have logged in, you can search for data using the Discover catalogue, or follow the shortcut to Key data. You may be asked to accept Special Conditions to access some of the datasets.



Obtaining international macro data from UK Data Service

The following task provides an introduction to searching and accessing data:

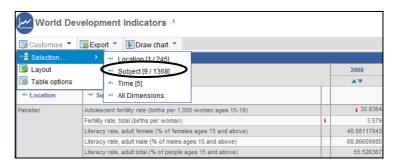
Find data which could be used to demonstrate the relationship between adult female literacy and fertility (ie. birth rate) in Pakistan, since 1980.

- 1. Start from the UK Data Service homepage http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/.
- 2. Search the Discover catalogue for the keywords illustrated:
- 3. Your results should include the World Bank World Development Indicators, 1960–2012. View the Full record, to confirm that this collection incorporates the data you need. Note that a support guide for this dataset is available.



Now that you have established which dataset you need, you can start the process of creating a customized table to address the task above. You will be using UKDS.Stat: the data visualization interface under development by the UK DataService.

- 4. Follow the link to Explore Online, to reach the UKDS. Stat entry page.
- 5. Once again, enter the keywords Pakistan literacy fertility in the Search box at the top right hand corner. Your results should show extracts from series descriptions in the World Development Indicators dataset.
- 6. Use the May 2013 release. Click on the database title, to display these variables in table format.
- 7. Now customise your table to address the research question above:



- a. From the Subject headings, unselect all series except literacy rate, adult female and fertility rate, total (births per woman). View Data.
- b. Customise the Time range, to retrieve data from 1980 to 2012. View Data.
- 8. Draw a chart in the form of a line graph to visualize your data. Move between series using the drop-down menu alongside the vertical axis. (Note that it is not currently possible to view multiple series simultaneously on a chart within UKDS.Stat export your data to Excel for more options).
- 9. When you are ready to move on, start a new search in the top right-hand corner, or click the UK Data Service logo in the top left-hand corner to return to the homepage. In order to log out, simply close your browser.

