UK DATA ARCHIVE: IMPORTANT STUDY INFORMATION

Study Number 5884 - Quarterly Labour Force Survey, April - June, 1993

DATA PROCESSING NOTES

Data Archive Processing Standards

The data were processed to the UK Data Archive's A* standard. This is the Archive's highest standard, and means that an extremely rigorous and comprehensive series of checks was carried out to ensure the quality of the data and documentation.Firstly, checks were made that the number of cases and variables matched the depositor's records. Secondly, checks were made that all variables had comprehensible variable labels and all nominal (categorical) variables had comprehensible value labels. Where possible, either with reference to the documentation and/or in communication with the depositor, labels were accordingly edited or created. Thirdly, logical checks were performed to ensure that nominal (categorical) variables had values within the range defined (either by value labels or in the depositor's documentation). Lastly, any data or documentation that breached confidentiality rules were altered or suppressed to preserve anonymity.

All notable and/or outstanding problems discovered are detailed under the 'Data and documentation problems' heading below.

Data and documentation problems

Variable BANDN2 has no labels for values 1.01, 2.01 and 3.01.
Variable DAY has no labels for the values 4, 5, 6 and 7.
Variable NATO has 1 case with a value of 95 which has no label.
Variable OCCBAN has 1 case with a value of 1.01 which has no label.
Variable SECGRO has 8 cases with a value of -1 which have no label.
Variable SUBJCT1 has no labels for the values 2.10 and 3.10.

Useful Notes

This study was deposited in 2008, as a result of the move from seasonal to calendar quarters for the QLFS, and the reweighting process to 2007-2008 population figures. It combines data from previously-available QLFS seasonal quarter datasets. The depositor has advised that small revisions to the data may have been made during this process, but they should not be significant.

Data conversion information

From January 2003 onwards, almost all data conversions have been performed using software developed by the UKDA. This enables standardisation of the conversion methods and ensures optimal data quality. In addition to its own data processing/conversion code, this software uses the SPSS and Stat/Transfer command processors to perform certain format translations. Although data conversion is automated, all data files are also subject to visual inspection by a UKDA data processing officer.

With some format conversions data, and more especially internal metadata (i.e. variable labels, value labels, missing value definitions, data type information), will inevitably be

lost or truncated owing to the differential limits of the proprietary formats.A UKDA Data Dictionary file (in rich text format), corresponding to each data file, is usually provided for viewing and searching the internal metadata as it existed in the originating format. These files are called: [data file name]_UKDA_Data_Dictionary.rtf

Important information about the data format supplied

The links below provide important information about the format in which you have been supplied the data. Some of this information is specific to the *ingest format* of the data, that is the format in which the UKDA was supplied the data in. The ingest format for this study was SPSS

Please click below to find out information about the *format that you have been supplied the data in*.

SPSS (*.por)

STATA (*.dta)

Tab-delimited text (*.tab)

MS Excel (*.xls files)

SAS (supplied as *.dat and *.sas)

MS Access (*.mdb files)

Conversion of documentation formats

Electronic and paper documentation supplied with this study is usually incorporated into the UKDA User Guide (in PDF format). The conversion programmes used are the latest versions of Adobe PDF Writer for electronic documentation and Adobe Paper Capture (Acrobat 'plugin' version) for paper documentation. Occasionally, someof the electronic documentation cannot be usefully converted to PDF (e.g. MS Excel files with wide worksheets) and this is supplied ina more appropriate format. All User Guides are fully bookmarked.