



DATA APPRAISAL AT THE UK DATA ARCHIVE

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COMPONENTS OF INSTITUTIONAL DATA SERVICES
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DATA REVIEW / APPRAISAL

- Economic and Social Data Service (ESDS) 2002-2012
- UK Data Service (UKDS) 2012-2017

ESDS ACQUISITIONS REVIEW

- Data offered to ESDS, via Data Review Form
 - data topic, methods, size, format, units, ethical/legal issues
 - incl. representative samples of data and documentation
- Acquisitions Review Committee meets 2-weekly to evaluate the quality and potential re-use value:
 - accept data into main ESDS collection for curation & long-term preservation
 - processing standards: A, B, C depending on condition of the data and documentation & anticipated level of re-use
 - accept data into self-archive system ESRC Data Store (UKDA-store) for short-term management and access
 - unable to accept data

ESDS ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA

- Within scope of UK Data Archive collection
 - social sciences & history
 - UK & cross-national
 - time series & panel data
 - for research & teaching
 - Longterm value and re-use potential
 - broad coverage (geographic, theme, discipline, sample size,.....)
 - not otherwise available
 - more accessible through acquisition
 - popular research trend
 - fits in/complements existing collections
 - Data requested (ESDS Advisory Committee, users)
 - Data from ESRC funded research
 - Viable for preservation
 - acceptable file format
 - well documented
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ESDS ACQUISITIONS REVIEW CRITERIA

Criteria for non-acceptance of data

- value of data in publications
- legal obstacles (copyright, IPR)
- ethical constraints (consent, anonymisation)
- depositor wishes unnecessarily stringent access conditions

UKDS CURATION CATEGORIES

DRAFT

- *Data collections selected for long-term curation*
 - long term secondary analysis potential
- *Data collections selected for “short-term” management*
 - backed-up, made accessible and discoverable online
- *Data collections selected for ‘delivery’ only*
 - data from 3rd parties accessed via APIs/web services
- *Data collections selected for “discovery” only.*
 - in other (institutional) repositories, harvest metadata

UKDS SELECTION & APPRAISAL CRITERIA

DRAFT

Independent UKDS Collections Development Committee

Relevance to the remit

high quality, authoritative, reliable and up-to-date with good temporal and spatial coverage, with long and consistent time series (as appropriate), and strong opportunities for comparable research

Scientific or historical value

research purpose, meet current demands in research, research and/or teaching activity in the subject area covered by the data

New sources or types of data

International value

UKDS SELECTION & APPRAISAL CRITERIA

DRAFT

Uniqueness/risk of loss

rare and complete resource; costly to reproduce or continued access to data is threatened; data are not generally available in any other form e.g. paper

Usability/redistribution/operational benefits

materials have been well prepared according to data format/documentation and ethical/legal guidelines and fall within Scope; accession to the Archive makes the resources more accessible. Where data is made 'Open' by the data owners, the UKDS may continue to make accessible versions of the data because it fits well with the portfolio of other data

Replication Data and Resources

Materials and related outputs required to replicate published or unpublished research, or undertake a restudy

UKDS criteria for not accepting data

DRAFT

- Legal and ethical issues
 - there are insurmountable rights management issues e.g. consent, IPR, copyright and Data Protection issues which are unable to be satisfactorily resolved and where full use of the data would not be possible without infringing legislation
- Sample size
 - there are problems with the sample size, the data are very localised or are of peripheral interest for social scientists
- Lack of sufficient contextual materials to enable re-use

UKDS INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORY PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

- within ESRC data policy remit
 - support Institutional data management /repository managers in their local role as ESRC data curators
 - decision making & appraisal for SS data to ensure data are/have:
 - sufficient quality
 - sufficient accompanying documentation for re-use
 - appropriate provenance information
 - have sufficient metadata for them to be located
 - consistent user identifiers
 - appropriate metadata to identify data as data
 - appropriate access conditions relating to their impact level
 - meet standard privacy concerns
 - relevant rights adequately identified
 - persistent identifier
 - demonstrable fixity checking protocols in place
 - part of a long-term preservation strategy
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NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Guidance and Training

- Appraising data for social science research for IRs
- Best practice in creating metadata and user documentation for data for social science research
- Best practice in using Persistent Identifiers for data for social science research

UKDS SS data appraisal kitemark (draft)

Methods of appraisal:

1. Short assessment interview with PI or depositor
2. data for social science research IR Manager assessment tool (5 point scale on a continuum, with prompts):

To cover areas including:

1. Value - previous existing exploitation of data



2. Potential use value



3. Need to share data – legal regulation



4. PI desire to share



5. Restrictive IPR constraints for sharing



6. Disclosure checks prevent sharing



7. PI view - ease of re-use



8. Openness of data for access



9. Ease of IR ingest



10. State of current metadata



11. State of current data description



12. State of current user documentation



13. Error and validation checks



14. Overall practicality of sharing





CONTACT

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