



CeLSIUS News

Issue 15

May 2010

	Page
About CeLSIUS	2
New on the CeLSIUS website	2
Technical notes	3
Michael Hirst and Anne Corden, University of York 'Couples separated by death in England and Wales, 1971 to 2001'	4
ESRC Census Programme news	4
Events	5
Recently approved projects	6
Selection of recent publications	6
CeLSIUS Team News	7
Links	7

All comments and queries on
CeLSIUS News should be sent
to:

Melissa Neal
CeLSIUS
Centre for Population
Studies
London School of Hygiene
& Tropical Medicine
49-51 Bedford Square
London, WC1B 3DP

Tel: +44 (0)20 7299 4634

Email:

celsius@census.ac.uk

Web:

www.celsius.census.ac.uk

To join our free e-discussion
list, go to:

www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/lsc-support.html

We would like to thank all those who have contributed to this issue of the newsletter. As always, we are keen to spread the word about the ONS LS and the CeLSIUS service, so please help us to do this by passing on the link to CeLSIUS news to your colleagues in the UK academic community.

About CeLSIUS

CeLSIUS is funded by the ESRC Census Programme to provide free advice, information and support to UK based academics, including students, who wish to use the ONS Longitudinal Study.

Our website at <http://www.celsius.lshtm.ac.uk> offers a range of resources to help LS users including:

- web based training modules on themes such as ethnicity, geography, household and families
- searchable data dictionary
- searchable list of publications using the LS
- downloadable tables from LS research studies

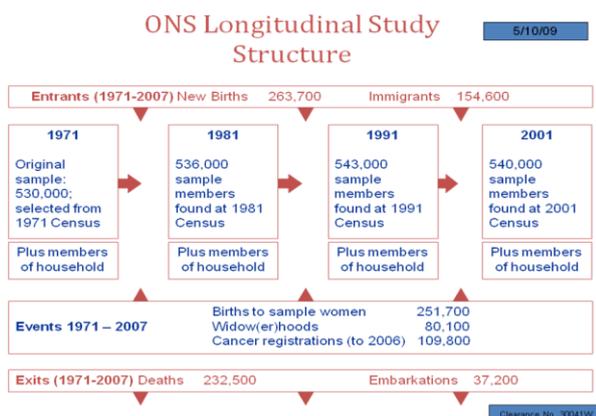
NEW! from the CeLSIUS website

Derived variables collection

A small but growing collection of derived variables has been made available at <http://www.celsius.lshtm.ac.uk/derive.html>. STATA code to create each variable is supplied, together with brief notes on how and when to use it. This collection also includes some notes on existing variables, to supplement the information in the Data Dictionary.

Topics so far: cause of death, communal establishments, country of birth, economic activity, education, health, household composition, region and religion.

Online training module: events data



A new training module has been added to the list at

<http://www.celsius.lshtm.ac.uk/training.html>.

It introduces the user to the main types of 'Events' data in the LS, namely: birth, cancer diagnosis, death, widowhood, and the birth or death of a child (for women). It also outlines the various ways in which new sample members are added to the LS (known as 'entry events').

For each 'event', the module offers a list of the most useful variables, notes on analysis and links to information on data quality. A very useful feature for those planning research is a table for each event showing the number occurring each year since 1971.

CeLSIUS Events Census.ac.uk

[\[Previous page\]](#) [\[Data Dictionary\]](#) [\[Glossary\]](#) [\[Next page\]](#)

Table: Number of Live Births to Sample Mothers (1971-2005)

Year of Birth	Frequency	Percent
1971	5200	2.18
1972	7480	3.15
1973	6985	2.94
1974	6522	2.74
1975	6097	2.57
1976	5986	2.52
1977	6004	2.53
1978	6212	2.61
1979	6551	2.76

Downloadable datasets

One further dataset has been constructed, on the subject of survival from 1971 to 2001. This can be reached via <http://www.celsiusdev.lshtm.ac.uk/downdata.html>. The downloadable datasets contain a very limited number of variables and values but are real and complete LS data; they are suitable for student exercises and projects, and a set of exercises is provided for each one. The exercises offer STATA and SPSS code to help those who are less familiar with quantitative analysis.

Single tables using LS data

A number of single tables (created for other purposes) have been assembled at <http://www.celsiusdev.lshtm.ac.uk/downsing.html>. They may assist people planning LS research.

Technical notes

LS variable labels generation

Chris Marshall has developed a routine which will add variable and value labels to many LS variables automatically.

Step by step

Immediately after reading your data into Stata you should INSERT into your own DO file the code contained in either 'Addlabels.do' or 'Addlabels2.do' from the subdirectory 'labels' in VML share 'LS_DOCS'.

- Addlabels.do will add variable and value labels to all LS variables (not your own derived variables) for which labels have been defined. It will NOT label 2001 imputation flag variables.
- Addlabels2.do works in exactly the same way but will also add value labels only to any imputation flag variables.

NOTE 1: This code must be inserted *before* you perform any restrictions on your extract as some string variables are converted to numerics using 'encode'. Without the full data set some values may be missing and the value labels will be incorrectly assigned. When converting to numeric the original string variable is renamed 'oldxxxxxx' while the numeric version takes the name of the original LS variable.

NOTE 2: As all the coding is contained in LS_DOCS the first action of either of these pieces of code is to change the default directory. For this to be successful you must have set your own default directory earlier in your do file with a 'cd' command. At a minimum you should set the drive to G: (or whichever drive specifies lapp2 for you).

The assigned labels and their names will be listed in your log file.

At present (12th August 2009) most appropriate 2001 variables have labels defined. Limited definitions exist for other years but will be added to over time. Check the listing to see which variables have received labels.

Michael Hirst and Anne Corden: Couples separated by death in England and Wales, 1971 to 2001

Michael Hirst and Anne Corden of the Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, used the LS in a time-series analysis of widow(er)hood. Combining census data for 1971-2001 with death records, they examined the circumstances of married couples at each census who would be separated by death within the following two years, and the circumstances of widows or widowers at each census (from 1981 on) who had been bereaved during the previous two years. Comparisons between pre-bereavement and post-bereavement cohorts offered possible indications of changes that might be associated with, or accompany, the death of a spouse.

Key findings include:

- ✦ Couples increasingly lived on their own before separation by death: 76 per cent of couples in private residences reported no other household members in 2001 compared with 64 per cent in 1971.
- ✦ As a consequence, widow(er)s were increasingly likely to live alone after their spouse died (76 per cent in 2001, up from 63 per cent in 1981).
- ✦ Numbers of widow(er)s with responsibility for children have declined both in absolute and relative terms (from 21 per cent of bereaved people under 65 in 1981 to 15 per cent in 2001)
- ✦ The proportion of couples living in an owner-occupied home pre-bereavement increased from under half in 1971 to almost three out of four households in 2001. Couples were increasingly likely to own their property outright.
- ✦ After a death, outright ownership increased further, probably a result of pension or insurance pay-outs or legacies to clear outstanding mortgages, or of moving to more affordable accommodation.
- ✦ For working age women, each succeeding cohort was more likely to be in paid work before widowhood; after being widowed, women's employment rates were comparable to, or exceeded, those of women before the death, apart from lower rates among younger women with dependent children.
- ✦ By contrast, each succeeding cohort of men had lower rates of economic activity before bereavement, especially among those aged 55-64 years, and fewer men were in paid work after their spouse died than before.

The full report which include these findings can be found at <http://php.york.ac.uk/inst/spru/pubs/1243>

Hirst, M and Corden, A (2010) Trends and Changes in Household and Personal Circumstances on Death of a Partner in England and Wales, 1971 to 2001, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, York.

ESRC Census Programme

Annual User Survey

The Census Programme is conducting a survey of users of census data resources available from the ESRC Census Programme and for the first time there is a longitudinal data specific survey. Your participation in this survey would be greatly appreciated.

User feedback is essential to the wider Census Programme as well as CeLSIUS and whether you are a student, teacher or researcher, we need your valuable input in order to assess and develop our services so as to best meet your needs.

In addition it is important (and a requirement of use of the census data) that you tell us about all your research outputs (publications, presentations, projects, etc.) for which you have used the census datasets, so that we can give this information to our data suppliers and funders, and make the information available to other users. The online survey allows you to tell us about any outputs you have produced in 2009.

If you have also used other census data resources, you may receive an additional invitation to complete a similar survey. Please complete both surveys.

Follow this link to the longitudinal data specific questionnaire:

[Census User Survey 2010](#)

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XGCQG59>

Thank you for your participation!

Census.ac.uk

[Forthcoming workshops](#)

Census Programme workshop on spatial and social classification

Location: University of Leeds

Date: 8 June 2010

For further information and booking please contact:

<http://www.census.ac.uk/News/Workshops.aspx>



Conferences where CeLSIUS will be present

Social Science and Medicine

Annual Scientific Conference, Queens University Belfast

6th – 8th September 2010

<http://www.ssmconference.org.uk/>

British Society for Population Studies

Annual Conference, University of Exeter

13th – 15th September 2010

Note the session below which will be of particular interest to CeLSIUS users:

Research using data from the Office for National Statistics Longitudinal Study & 'sister' studies in Northern Ireland and Scotland

<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/socialPolicy/BSPS/annualConference/2010/2010%20Exeter.aspx>

Other events

4th Research Methods Festival 5 – 8 July 2010 **Developments in social science research methods**

The festival programme will consist of over 60 sessions by more than 200 presenters speaking about developments in social science research methods and their applications. This biennial festival attracts over 800 social scientists at all career stages working at universities, in the government, and social and market research organisations.

Fees: £50 per day for registrations before 16 April. From 17 April onwards registrations cost £60 per day. Reduced fees for full-time students.

More details and registration: Visit www.ncrm.ac.uk

Recently approved new projects supported by CeLSIUS

Occupational and sector differences in pensions and the total reward structure of the UK
Alexander Danzer, Royal Holloway, University of London

Ethnic inequalities in social mobility at the neighbourhood scale
Xiaqi Feng, University of St Andrews

Ethnic Density Effects on Physical Health
Richard Shaw, University of York

Healthy Life Expectancy and Education
Martin Weale, National Institute for Economic and Social Research

Selection of recent publications from projects supported by CeLSIUS

Special ONS LS edition of Population Trends March 2010

Grundy E., Stuchbury R., Young H. (2010) Households and families: Implications of changing census definitions for analyses using the ONS Longitudinal Study. *Population Trends* 139: 64-69

Platt L. (2010) Ten year transitions in children's experience of living in a workless household: variations by ethnic group. *Population Trends* 139: 70-90

Wilson B., Stuchbury R. (2010) Do partnerships last? Comparing marriage and cohabitation using longitudinal census data. *Population Trends* 139: 37-63

Young H., Grundy E. (2009). Living arrangements, health and well-being. In Stillwell, J., Coast, E. and Kneale, K. (eds). *Fertility, living arrangements, care and mobility:*

'Understanding Population Trends and Processes' Book Series Volume 1: London: Springer, pp. 127-150.

Young H, Grundy E, O'Reilly, D, Boyle P. (2010) Self-rated health and mortality in the UK: results from the first comparative analysis of the England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland Longitudinal Studies. *Population Trends* 139: 11-36

Other journal articles and book chapters

Boyle P., Norman P., Popham F. (2009) Social mobility: Evidence that it can widen health inequalities. *Social Science and Medicine* 68 (10), 1835-1842

Sullivan R., Edwards P., Sloggett A., Marshall, C (2009) Families bereaved by road traffic crashes: linkage of mortality records with 1971 - 2001 censuses. *Injury Prevention* 2009:15:364-368, London

Working papers and reports

Hirst M., Corden A. (2010) Changes in household and personal circumstances on death of a partner in England and Wales, 1971 to 2001. Working Paper by the Social Policy Research Unit, University of York.

Grundy E., Tomassini C. (2009) Final Report to the European Union: Major Gender and Ageing Issues in Europe (MAGGIE) project. Health and well-being at older ages: The interlinkage with family life histories, gender, and national contexts

Platt L. (2009) Ethnicity and child poverty. DWP Research Report no. 576. London: Department for Work and Pensions.

Conference Presentations and Proceedings

Champion A. (2010) Using the England and Wales LS to test how strong the 'regional escalator' effect is for regional cities compared to the capital? 'Migration: the Longitudinal Perspective in the British Isles' at Queen's University, Belfast 26th March 2010

Champion A. (2010) How does Manchester compare with London and England's other large city regions as an escalator region, 1991-2001? Seminar to Population, Ethnicity, Religion and Migration (PERM) Research Group, Manchester University, 1st March 2010

Feng Z. (2009) Neighbourhood effects on the formation and migration of mixed-ethnic unions. Presentation to General Register Office for Scotland (GROS), 27 October 2009.

Grundy E., Tomassini C. (2009) Parenthood and partnership and later life health and mortality. British Society for Population Studies day meeting.

CeLSIUS team news

Staff changes

We are pleased to welcome Neil Smith, the latest member of the CeLSIUS team who joined us in January 2010 and replaces Julian Buxton. Neil was previously based at University College London successfully completing work on his PhD. He will support users across subject areas but has a particular interest in research relating to ethnicity.

We would like to thank Julian Buxton for his considerable contribution to CeLSIUS since 2002 and wish him every success for the future.

CeLSIUS Team

Emily Grundy	Director
Pat Doyle	Associate
Neil Smith	Research and Computing Support Officer
Chris Marshall	Research and Computing Support Officer
Rachel Stuchbury	Research Support Officer
Melissa Neal	Executive Officer

Key links

CeLSIUS <http://www.celsius.lshtm.ac.uk/>

National Statistics Online <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/>

ONS Longitudinal Study

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/about/data/methodology/specific/population/ls/default.asp>

Census of Population Programme Data Units Links

Home of ESRC Census Programme: Census.ac.uk

<http://census.ac.uk/>

Users wishing to use the data provided by CDU, CIDER, UKBORDERS, SARs must register via census.ac.uk

Census Dissemination Unit (CDU)

<http://cdu.mimas.ac.uk/>

Centre for Interaction Data Estimation and Research (CIDER)

<http://cids.census.ac.uk/>

UK Boundary datasets (UKBORDERS)

<http://www.edina.ac.uk/ukborders/>

Scottish Longitudinal Study

<http://www.lscs.ac.uk/>

