

Socio-economic data harmonisation package

Claire Crawford, Sam Parsons, Anna
Vignoles (lead)

General aims

- Develop harmonised measures that are, as far as possible:
 - consistent across a number of specified cohort data surveys and
 - consistent within the specified surveys over time
- Focus on harmonising measures of the *socio-economic circumstances of participants*

What measures?

- Agree a set of socio-economic data that would be most useful for researchers
- Suggested measures to be harmonised initially include:
 - household equivalised income
 - socio-economic (occupation) status
 - parental education level
 - cohort member level of education
 - home ownership

Which data sets?

- NCDS
- BCS
- ALSPAC
- MCS

Outputs

- List of harmonised variables/data measuring socio-economic circumstance from within the specified surveys over as many time points as possible
- Methodological account of issues around data harmonisation and consistency (academic paper)

Timetable

a) Review of key articles and consultation with users over priorities for harmonization of variables measuring socio-economic circumstances	Completed by June 2013
b) Harmonize and document a set of variables measuring socio-economic circumstances, levels of education, and qualifications available	Completed by June 2014
c) Write-up a methodological investigation of issues around data harmonisation and consistency	Submitted by July 2014
d) Develop a relevant and consistent set of area based measures of socio-economic circumstance to be linked into the specified cohort surveys	Completed by December 2014
e) Produce documentation for the consistent set of area based measures of socio-economic circumstance and publish on CRF website	Completed by March 2015

First steps

- Collect information on existing harmonised data
- Meeting of users Bristol 23 Jan
 - Discuss existing harmonised measures
 - Agree priority measures