

CeLSIUS News

Issue 4

September 2003



Important dates for your diary

8 Oct 2003

2001 Census of
Population Programme
Workshop at the
University of
Manchester (see page
4 for details)

All comments and queries on
CeLSIUS News should be
sent to:
Jo Tomlinson
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@lshtm.ac.uk

Welcome to Issue 4 of our newsletter. Since the last newsletter we have developed a new online training module on *Families and Households*. This is the third training module and, together with the existing two on *Ethnicity* and *Defining a Study Population*, we hope it will enable you to prepare for projects with more expertise. Numerous definitions and specifications of families and households using LS data are systematically explained, which means this module will be an extremely useful resource for prospective users of family or household LS data. The structure of this module is explained in this Newsletter.

Steve Bond is our learning technologist, who has developed all of the online training modules as well as the project website and the online database. Steve will be leaving the CeLSIUS project at the end of September and we would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all of his efforts which have produced some very clear and precise guidelines for users. He is not getting away easily as he is currently busy developing further modules which will be available in due course!

The testing of the 2001 Census data and link to the LS is to begin shortly. Six projects have been selected to test the data starting in January. The data will then be available from August 2004 for general use, so early specification of projects and approval by the LS Research Board is recommended as our support capabilities are limited and we envisage a surge of interest once the 2001 data are available next summer.

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News from CeLSIUS

Beta testing of 2001 data

As part of the beta testing of its LS/2001 Census Link dataset, ONS appealed for early submission of independently funded research proposals using the 2001 data, that could examine the accuracy, coherence and comparability of the data. There was an approval process for applicants which ran from May to September 2003, and involved representatives from CeLSIUS, LS user support and the LS/2001 Census Link Project. Six projects were selected for beta testing and will be given access to the data from February 2004, six months before their planned release to the wider research community. In return, the testers will be asked to:

- Submit monthly summaries of progress to the test management team.
- Promptly report any anomalies, issues or problems encountered in the data, metadata or access technology.
- Present sign-off reports by July 2004 (the planned end of the beta test period) detailing the analysis undertaken and any problems encountered. There is no requirement for the projects themselves to end at this time, but testers will have to plan for milestones relevant to the beta test to be achieved and reported on within the test period.
- Be aware that they are participating in a test, and may therefore need to repeat any extracts of 2001 data in the unlikely event that serious problems should arise with it.

The selection of projects for beta testing was rigorous as each test project had to meet the normal LS Research Board (LSRB) criteria including scientific and policy relevance. As the success of the test will depend on the early identification of concerns or problems with the data, each project team had to include an experienced LS user and an expert in the substantive area covered by the project. Also, because support resources available for the test period are strictly limited, every effort was made during selection to avoid unnecessary duplication, in terms of substantive research areas selected and areas of the database being tested.

Those projects selected to be supported by CeLSIUS are:

Mel Bartley: *Health and Social Mobility in Working Age Men.*

Tony Champion: *Return Migration within England and Wales.*

Lucinda Platt: *Exploring the Social Mobility of Minority Ethnic Groups in Britain.*

Those projects selected to be supported by the ONS are:

Beverley Bissett, Ludi Simpson and Ceri Peach: *Ethnic Identity and Change 1991-2001.*

John Haskey: *Families and the Relationship Matrix.*

Michael Rendall: *Occupational Change and Family Change 1981 to 2001.*

Online training

Households and families

A third training module, *Households and families*, is now available from the CeLSIUS website at www.celsius.lshtm.ac.uk/training.html. This module aims to show users what data the LS contains on the relationships between household and family members, how the data were collected and how they should be used.

The module begins by looking at the definition of a 'household', then looks at ways of determining the relationships between household members. Then it moves on to look at families and the LS variables relating to families. This develops into an examination of the various ways in which households can be composed of different families, and the extent to which we can determine these family structures using LS data.

As usual, the module contains three different example studies made using the LS, to show how these ideas are applied in practice.

Forthcoming modules

Two more modules are nearing completion and should become available some time in October. The first, *LS outputs*, aims to demonstrate the different types of output that CeLSIUS can provide to users of the LS, and explores the issues

that may arise in their use. The second, *Socio-economic indicators*, aims to introduce the use of indicators in the LS such as social class, household measures of deprivation and area-based measures.

Recent events

Andy Sloggett **Using the Longitudinal Study for** **Epidemiological Research**

Presentation to the Stata User Group Meeting
20 May 2003, Royal Statistical Society

This short presentation focused on the use of Stata in the preparation and analysis of LS data. It described the limitations on release of data and how survival analysis in particular could be effected within the framework of data release allowed. Scandinavian delegates registered surprise at the lengths required to go to in order to anonymise data, and referred to the relative openness of similar studies in their countries.

British Society for Population Studies **Annual Conference 2003** **Special theme: The Census**

10-12 September, Bristol University

Emily Grundy, Lynda Clarke and Harriet Young attended this conference from CeLSIUS. Emily presented a paper on the work she has done with Cecilia Tomassini on *Reproductive History and Health and Mortality in Later Life Among Women in England and Wales*, and Harriet presented a poster on *Living Arrangements and Place of Death of People with Cancer*. Both presentations used LS data and there was a poster stand promoting the LS.

Heather Joshi, Mike Rendall and Kevin Lynch also presented their LS-based research on *Family Origins of Early Mothers in Britain and France*, whilst Elizabeth Davies presented a poster on migration from Liverpool and David Martin gave a fascinating overview of the development of census geographies for Census 2001.

News from users

The Second Generations: pathways **into poverty and prosperity**

Report from Jason Strelitz, London School of
Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Since the 1950s many immigrants have arrived in the UK; large numbers from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, the Caribbean and China, and as many again from Europe, the Old Commonwealth countries, the USA and throughout Africa. Whilst many have returned to their countries of origin, many others have started families and built lives in the UK. The children of those immigrants who arrived in the 1950s and 60s are now in adulthood, having grown up in the UK. But what is the socio-economic situation of this 'second generation', and what factors present in their early lives are associated with paths that would lead them into poverty or prosperity in adulthood? These are questions with a profound policy resonance given on-going popular and political debates. The LS, unlike other datasets available in the UK, allows one to start to answer them.

This research follows those who were children in 1971 through to young/mid adulthood in 1991. The key study population is children, of two immigrant parents, who were born in the UK, or entered before school age. Using the children of UK-born parents as the main comparison group, the research looks at outcomes for this group on a range of social characteristics attempting to identify, in broad terms, relative poverty and prosperity. The LS has a range of variables that can be used for this including, social class, economic activity, household overcrowding and access to basic amenities.

The LS is uniquely placed to examine these questions. Being longitudinal, it is possible to look directly at child-adult trajectories instead of focussing on aggregate group transitions. The nature of the sample - both its size and coverage - means that the LS contains sufficient numbers from a wider variety of immigrants than would typically be the focus of research on minority ethnic groups. The LS allows sensitive analysis of international migration with questions in 1971 on date of entry, country of birth and parents' country of birth as well as the 1991 'ethnic'

question. This study uses country of birth as the primary indicator of 'immigrant group', but refined with ethnic group. This means, for example, that the proportion of immigrants from all former British colonies (e.g. the Caribbean) who describe themselves as White UK can be removed from those groups and placed in an 'immigrant group' of their own. The principal immigrant groups examined include: India, Pakistan & Bangladesh, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, Western Europe and Ireland.

However the research intends to go beyond creating a hierarchy of success for different immigrant groups. What is apparent from ample cross-sectional research on minority ethnic groups, and in the early stages of this research, is the great diversity of outcomes that exists within individuals groups. By looking at data from childhood, the research aims to explain what characteristics in childhood are predictive of individual poverty or prosperity, and to see if those same characteristics are significant across different groups. Is being from a certain immigrant group the most predictive characteristic of prosperity in adulthood, or is parental prosperity? Is it particular groups that have been particularly susceptible to poverty in the second generation or is it certain places of settlement in the UK that most strongly associated with this? These are the kind of questions this research hopes to answer.

News from related organisations

The 2001 Census of Population Programme

**Census Programme Workshop,
8 October 2003,
University of Manchester**

We are pleased to announce the above workshop. It is intended that this event be followed by further dates and venues in other parts of the country, offering a largely similar programme.

These workshops will provide an overview of the data resources becoming available to the academic community from the 2001 Census, with more detailed sessions on the specific services provided by the Data Support Units funded as part of the

ESRC/JISC 2001 Census Programme (for details, see <http://census.ac.uk>) and, subject to demand, the learning and teaching materials based on Census datasets developed as part of the Collection of Historical and Contemporary Census Data and Related Materials (www.chcc.ac.uk/ftlinks/). The workshop is intended to support the needs of researchers and teachers who wish to use new and existing census datasets and resources. Presenters will include the Programme Coordinator, Prof David Martin and staff from the Data Support Units.

The programme for the workshop will be:

- 10.00 Introduction to 2001 Census and the Programme
- 11.00 Parallel session 1
- 12.30 Lunch
- 13.30 Parallel session 2
- 15.00 Tea
- 15.30 Questions and discussion
- 16.00 Close

Each delegate will have the opportunity to take part in two hands-on parallel sessions in addition to the plenary introduction and questions/discussion sessions. Delegates are invited to order their preference of parallel sessions from the topics listed on the booking form, which will be offered subject to demand. We regret that we cannot guarantee that any specific topic will run if there is insufficient demand, but the programme provides opportunities for questions and discussion of datasets that may not be covered directly by the parallel sessions. Places will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis and confirmation of acceptance will be sent by email.

The workshop will be held in the Department of Computer Science, commencing at 10.00 in Atlas Rooms 1 and 2. This is located in Building 38 on the University of Manchester campus map available at: www.man.ac.uk/welcome/campus1.html.

The workshop is a joint activity of the Programme Coordinator and Census Data Support units, and is being administered by the Programme Coordinator, d.j.martin@soton.ac.uk. A registration fee of £15 is being charged to cover tea/coffee, lunch and administrative costs.

The booking form will be downloadable from the news section of the Programme website, or directly from: www.geog.soton.ac.uk/users/martindj/cenprog/workshop.htm

The Office for National Statistics (ONS)

GSS Methodology Seminar

Members of the ONS Longitudinal Study Development Team (Louisa Blackwell, Shirley Swann and Kevin Lynch) gave a presentation at the GSS Methodology Seminar which was held at the Victoria Plaza Hotel in London on 30 June 2003. The title of the presentation was "Quality issues in the linkage of administrative data in the ONS Longitudinal Study". The presentation was well received.

Statistical Journal of the United Nations

An article has been accepted for the next issue of the Statistical Journal of the United Nations (Volume 20, Issue 1, due for publication in September 2003). The title of the article is "The ONS Longitudinal Study, Quality Issues from 30 years of data linkage". It was written by Jillian Smith, Louisa Blackwell and Kevin Lynch.

LS 10: "Longitudinal Study 1971-2001: Completeness of Census linkage"

The latest in the ONS LS series of publications is due for release on the ONS website on 18 September. It was written by Louisa Blackwell, Kevin Lynch, Jillian Smith and Peter Goldblatt.

2001 Census Link

Work is progressing on completing the linkage of data from the UK 2001 Census into the ONS Longitudinal Study. Internal alpha testing on imported data has begun; and beta testing involving external researchers has been timetabled for Spring 2004. The planned implementation date for the extended ONS Longitudinal Study is August 2004.

Approximately 985,000 records in the 2001 LS sample (including non-members) are being coded to the SOC90 occupational classification, in addition to the SOC2000 occupation codes which are part of the main Census data. This will inform analyses of occupational transitions, allowing researchers to examine artefactual changes arising from the reclassification.

The addition of a new Census point in the ONS Longitudinal Study has required a review of

documentation, including the LS Data Dictionary. This is a significant piece of work, but it is progressing well. The first release of the documentation will be available in time for the beta test programme, and a further release in time for the launch of the extended LS database.

Research using the LS

Projects supported by CeLSIUS

Jerome Adda and Tarani Chandola, University College London

Income distribution and its effect on mortality in Britain

David Coleman and Martin Smith, University of Oxford

Post-war migration and the United Kingdom: evaluating the demographic and workforce consequences

Elizabeth Davies, University of Liverpool

The leaving of Liverpool an examination into the migratory characteristics of Liverpool

Emily Grundy and Cecilia Tomassini, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Fertility, marriage and household associations with the health and mortality of women in later life - Phase I

Chris Hiscock, King's College London

Residential differentiation and identity of the service classes

Georgina Ronalds, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Study of the relationship between ethnic ancestry and birth weight in babies born to South Asian and White parents in England and Wales

Andy Sloggett and Emily Grundy, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Socio-economic and socio-demographic inequalities in cancer incidence and survival in the older population of England and Wales

Jason Strelitz, London School of Economics and Political Science

From Immigration to inclusion? A longitudinal study of immigration and outcomes for children

Malcolm Williams, University of Plymouth and
Brian Dodgeon, Institute of Education, University
of London
Single households and household change 1971-
1991

Projects supported by the ONS

Seeromanie Harding, Michael Rosato and
Kennedy Cruikshank

Differences in birth outcomes between first and
second generation ethnic groups

Yuan Huang Lee, Office for National Statistics

A study of ethnic variations in mortality by socio-
economic measures

Richard Pereira, Office for National Statistics

Population projections by ethnic group

Chris White, Office for National Statistics

An examination of the social, geographical and
housing characteristics of females age 10-16 in
1971 yet to give birth using the ONS Longitudinal
Study

Chris White and Ani Berbaran, Office for National
Statistics

Imputation of income on the LS

Publications update

For the full list of ONS LS publications, please
visit www.celsius.lshtm.ac.uk/publications.html.

New publications

*Fertility, timing of births and socio-economic
status in France and Britain: social policies and
occupational polarisation.* O Ekert-Jaffé, H
Joshi, K Lynch, R Mougin and M Rendall (2002).
Population-E, 3:475-508.

The permanence of permanent sickness. T Collett
and M Williams (2003). Presentation to the BSA
Medical Sociology Conference, 27 September
2003, York.

*How important are inter-generational cycles of
teenage motherhood in England and Wales? A
comparison with France.* M Rendall (2003).
Population Trends, 111:27-37.

*Socio-economic and socio-demographic
inequalities in cancer incidence and survival in
the older population of England and Wales.* A
Sloggett (2003). End of award report.

*Changing places: do changes in the relative
deprivation of areas influence limiting long-term
illness and mortality among non-migrant people
living in non-deprived households?* P Boyle, P
Norman and P Rees (forthcoming).

*Effects of selective migration on area-level
relationships between health and deprivation. An
analysis using the ONS Longitudinal Study 1971-
91.* P Boyle, P Norman and P Rees (forthcoming).

*Living arrangements and place of death of people
with cancer: results from the Office for National
Statistics Longitudinal Study of England and
Wales.* E Grundy, D Mayer, H Young and A
Sloggett (forthcoming).

*Mortality of migrants from the Caribbean and
duration of residence in England and Wales:
longitudinal study.* S Harding (forthcoming).

*Gendered rurality or rurality gendered?
Household class structure differences by
residential environment.* K Hoggart and C
Hiscock (forthcoming).

Ethnic variations in mortality. Y Huang Chow
(forthcoming). Health Statistics Quarterly, Winter
2003.

*Intergenerational mobility of ethnic minority
groups in Britain.* L Platt (forthcoming).

*The association of cancer survival with four
socio-economic indicators: a longitudinal study of
the older population of England and Wales 1981-
2000.* A Sloggett (forthcoming).

Trends in inequalities in mortality by social class.
C White, F Van Galen and Y Huang Chow
(forthcoming). Health Statistics Quarterly, Winter
2003.