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.
CeLSIUS is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (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.census.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

CeLSIUS work to end in July 2012

CeLSIUS is scheduled to finish providing its services at the end of July 2012. Until then, we shall continue to provide expert research and computing support to LS users. The ESRC has indicated its intention to continue to provide a support service for academic research using the three longitudinal studies, but the details have not yet been published.

Staff changes

Neil Smith left the team at the beginning of September to take up a five year research position at Queen Mary, University of London. CeLSIUS welcomed Susan Ramsay on 3rd October as Neil’s replacement. Jo Tomlinson’s hours changed from 1st August, she now works three mornings per week.

CeLSIUS team

Emily Grundy  Director
Pat Doyle  Associate
Chris Marshall  Research and Computing Support Officer
Susan Ramsay  Research and Computing Support Officer
Rachel Stuchbury  Research Support Officer
Jo Tomlinson  Administrator

Moving to a different institution?

It is important that you let us know – in advance, preferably - if the location where you conduct your LS based research changes, i.e. if you move to a different institution. This is so that we can be sure that the intermediate outputs that you receive are always held securely
in an approved place. **It is especially important that you consult us in advance if you are planning to move outside England and Wales** as the legislative and procedural framework for users outside E&W is different.

**NEW! on the CeLSIUS website**

**Updated geography and outputs modules**

The geography and outputs modules on the CeLSIUS website have been revised. Both modules now include information related to the 2001 Census and have corrected any errors in the earlier versions. The outputs module has also been updated to reflect changes made by the ONS.

**New derived variables for ethnicity**

A new set of derived variables for ethnicity has been added to the website. The derivations use country of birth (and, where available, parental country of birth) to approximate the ethnicity of those enumerated in the 1971 or 1981 Census. In doing so, they create variables that are compatible with a grouped form of the 1991 responses rather than the 2001 responses. A tabulation comparing country of birth with reported ethnicity in 1991 is shown on the website ([http://www.celsius.lshtm.ac.uk/derive/eth9_by_cob9.xls](http://www.celsius.lshtm.ac.uk/derive/eth9_by_cob9.xls)); this has been used to inform the derivations of the 1971 and 1981 variables. More information can be found at:

[http://www.celsius.lshtm.ac.uk/derive/ethnic.html](http://www.celsius.lshtm.ac.uk/derive/ethnic.html)

**ONS news**

**Call for submissions on ‘The Census and Social Science Research’**

The Government’s Science and Technology Committee is conducting a short inquiry into the impact that ending the Census will have on social science research. This work will inform the ONS ‘Beyond 2011 Programme’ and will investigate the following questions:

- How do social scientists use Census data?
- What impact will ending the Census have on social science research?
- What alternatives to the Census would provide population and socio-demographic data of equivalent or higher quality?
- What other existing sources of population and socio-demographic data could be improved upon?

The Committee is inviting written submissions on these issues by **noon on Wednesday 30 November 2011**. The terms of reference and submission guidelines for the inquiry can be found at:

2011 Census linkage update

The linkage of 2011 Census data to the ONS LS is now well underway. The first stage of the LS Link project runs alongside ONS’s wider Census programme. As the Census analysts receive batches of data, they deliver extracts to the LS for tracing. Identifiers are attached to the 2011 records and used to link them to existing LS data. At the time of writing, approximately one-third of the data batches have been traced and it is anticipated that the process will finish in spring 2012. The later stages of the LS Link project involve anomaly resolution, database build, metadata and testing. It is expected that the new data will become available to researchers in autumn 2013.

New ONS website

The ONS recently re-launched its website. In particular, the site aims to make it easier for users to find and use ONS information. It also allows users to subscribe to topic updates, to view larger versions of maps and to obtain information about multiple regions simultaneously. The site contains a new section, “Taking Part in a Survey”, which provides information for those individuals who have been selected to participate in a survey. The new ONS site can be viewed at:

http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/index.html

Changes to the ONS Longitudinal Study access requirements

Following an extensive review, the ONS is now asking all LS researchers to attend a half-day "Safe Researcher Certification" training course. Attendance is required for all researchers using the LS, even if they are not planning to visit the VML. The course introduces current best practice for access to sensitive micro-data. It outlines the legal responsibilities of researchers when accessing the Study and viewing LS outputs. It also draws attention to the responsibilities of data providers, the penalties associated with data misuse and Statistical Disclosure Control.

MAUS is currently inviting all LS users to attend one of the "Safe Researcher Certification” courses being held across the country. Users who have already completed the Safe Researcher Certification course do not need to attend again and should contact the VML to let them know that this is the case. Those who have not attended one of the courses, should book onto one of the training sessions as soon as possible.

Events


The Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) is launching a new £10.8m Secondary Data Analysis Initiative. The Initiative is aimed at delivering high impact policy- and practitioner-relevant research by encouraging deeper exploitation of the major data resources created by the ESRC and other agencies. The Census Programme will have a stall at this event for information about all of the Census Data Units. Chris Marshall and Susan Ramsay will be there to answer any questions about the ONS LS.

Census 2011: Impact and Potential, Manchester, 7th – 8th July 2011
Emily Grundy, Chris Marshall, Neil Smith and Rachel Stuchbury attended a two-day conference at the University of Manchester on 7th – 8th July 2011. This event was convened by the ESRC Census Programme and the Royal Statistical Society Census Study Group and sought to showcase the research potential of the 2011 Census data in advance of its release to the research community in 2013. Plenary speakers included Paul Boyle (Chief Executive, ESRC), Glen Watson (Director, 2011 Census, ONS) and Roma Chappell (Head of Beyond 2011 Programme, ONS). There were also speakers from all the Census Programme Data Support Units and other census data experts and researchers.

**British Society for Population Studies, York, 7th – 9th September 2011**

Emily Grundy and Rachel Stuchbury attended the 2011 BSPS Annual Conference at the University of York on 7th – 9th September. Emily presented a paper using LS data entitled “Survivorship 2001-2008 among residents of communal establishments in 2001 in England and Wales: Results from the Office for National Statistics Longitudinal Study”. Six other papers were presented, which were based on LS data (see the “recent publications” section for details).

**New projects supported by CeLSIUS**

*An international study of the role of grandparents in family life.*
Karen Glaser, Kings College London and Rachel Stuchbury, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London

*Analysing gaps in child health in the UK: a “weathering” hypothesis perspective.*
Alice Goisis and Wendy Sigle-Rushton, London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London

*English population death rates from the ONS Longitudinal Study*
Jan Poloniecki and David Hofman, St George’s University of London

*Period trends in ethnic inequalities on long term limiting illness*
Neil Smith, Queen Mary’s, University of London and Emily Grundy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

**Recent publications from CeLSIUS-supported projects**


Conference presentations and proceedings


Spencer N, Blackburn C, Read J (2011). Social determinants and child health: Exploring the association between childhood limiting long-term illness/disability and social disadvantage: Does social disadvantage precede or follow the onset of childhood limiting long term

Key links

**LS resources**
Centre for Longitudinal Study Information and User Support (CeLSIUS):  
http://www.celsius.lshtm.ac.uk/

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

ONS Longitudinal Study:  
http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/about-ons/who-we-are/services/longitudinal-study/index.html

**Census data support units**
census.ac.uk, home of ESRC Census Programme:  
http://census.ac.uk/

*Users wishing to use the data provided by CDU, CIDER, UKBORDERS, and 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/

Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study (NILS):  
www.qub.ac.uk/research-centres/NILSRResearchSupportUnit/

Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS):  
http://www.lscs.ac.uk/

Samples of Anonymised Records (SARs):  
http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/sars/

UK Boundary datasets (UKBORDERS):  
http://www.edina.ac.uk/ukborders/