UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

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Researching Crime and Justice

Workshop 7: Accessing Secondary Data

Jose Pina-Sánchez

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Workshop Goals

- Discuss advantages and disadvantages of secondary data
- Encourage you to use secondary data in your dissertations
- Highlight the most important repositories and datasets on the subject of Criminology/Criminal Justice
- Practice how to access those datasets
- Practice how to make sense of them using Excel and SPSS

Primary and Secondary Data

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Primary and Secondary Data

- Primary data: information that is collected by the researcher themselves for their own research purposes

Primary and Secondary Data

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- Primary data: information that is collected by the researcher themselves for their own research purposes
- Secondary data: information that has already been collected or created by someone else, but can nonetheless be reused

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Primary and Secondary Data

- Primary data: information that is collected by the researcher themselves for their own research purposes
- Secondary data: information that has already been collected or created by someone else, but can nonetheless be reused
  - It is normally quantitative data but there is an increasingly growing body of qualitative data

Pros and Cons of Primary Data

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- Advantages:

- Disadvantages:

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Pros and Cons of Primary Data

- Advantages:
  - The researcher is able to gather exactly the information they need
- Disadvantages:

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Pros and Cons of Primary Data

- Advantages:
  - The researcher is able to gather exactly the information they need
- Disadvantages:
  - Expensive
  - Time consuming
  - The sample size is often small and the quality low

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Pros and Cons of Secondary Data

- Advantages:
  - Quick to collect (relatively)
  - Usually cheap to use
  - Normally higher data quality
- Disadvantages:
  - The researcher may not be able to gather exactly the information they need
  - Although in the UK the sources of secondary data available to researchers are vast and often unexploited

Secondary Research and Originality

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- You might have heard research cannot be original if data has been 're-used'
  - This is suggested in the Research Excellence Framework
  - What 'old school' academics tend to think
  - We (the teaching team) profoundly disagree with this

Secondary Research and Originality

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- You might have heard research cannot be original if data has been 're-used'
  - This is suggested in the Research Excellence Framework
  - What 'old school' academics tend to think
  - We (the teaching team) profoundly disagree with this
- There are lots of ways we can use secondary data in original ways
  - That is the point of the Big Data revolution
  - Recognised by new research funding schemes like the Alan Turing Institute, or the ESRC Secondary Data Analysis Initiative
  - Every year dozens of academic papers are published using just the CSEW
  - Is all research using government data (police data, the Census, stop and search statistics, etc.) not original?
  - Most of my research on sentencing uses data generated by the MoJ or the Sentencing Council

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Main Stages in the Research Process

1. Research Question
2. Sampling
3. Data Collection
4. Data Analysis
5. Conclusions and Write up

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Main Stages in the Research Process

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Secondary Data in your Dissertation

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Conclusion

- We strongly recommend you use secondary data in your dissertation
  - Save you loads of time
  - Use high quality official data
  - As a default position I recommend that you review whether data is available to explore the topic of your interest first, only then, if there isn't anything useful, I would start considering generating my own data

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Secondary Data in your Dissertation

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  - Save you loads of time
  - Use high quality official data
  - As a default position I recommend that you review whether data is available to explore the topic of your interest first, only then, if there isn't anything useful, I would start considering generating my own data
- There are still two(three?) main challenges associated to the use of secondary data, assuming it exists...
  - Finding the right data
  - Familiarising ourselves with the data (accessing the associated metadata)
  - 'Cleaning' that data
- We are going to practice some of that today

The CSEW

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- Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW)
- Used to measure crime (in its different forms) in England and Wales
- Together with police records, the most important dataset on crime in the country
- A victimisation survey, i.e. asking the general public whether they have experienced crime
- Helps in estimating report rates (i.e. crime reported to the police)
- Provides lots of contextual information (type of crime, area, individual characteristics, etc.)
- We will access it using the UK Data Service

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The CCSS

- The Crown Court Sentencing Survey (CCSS)
- Arguably one of the best datasets on the subject of sentencing in the world
- Aims to collect all sentences processed by the Crown Court
- It captures the type of offence, sentence outcome, and many of the aggravating and mitigating factors present in the case
- Covering the 2011-2015 period

UK Police Data

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- DATA.POLICE.UK
- Police data made recently available to the public
- Covering all crimes recorded from 2014 on
- Great level of detail (type of offence, location, etc.)
- Linked to data from the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and HM Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS)

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Excel (or any other spreadsheet software)

- By far the most widespread format used to deal with quantitative data
  - Lots of opensource versions equally good, e.g. LibreOffice Calc
- Quite intuitive, similar to handling a table in word
  - Can manipulate variables (columns) and cases (rows) directly
  - Which doesn't require any training
  - But can introduce errors
- Can be used to undertake statistical analyses
  - But much more limited than specialised statistical software (e.g. SPSS, R, STATA, SAS, etc.)
  - And more clumsy too
- In sum, good for some 'quick and dirty' data manipulations, and to carry out some simple descriptive statistics or graphs

Excel (data.police.uk)

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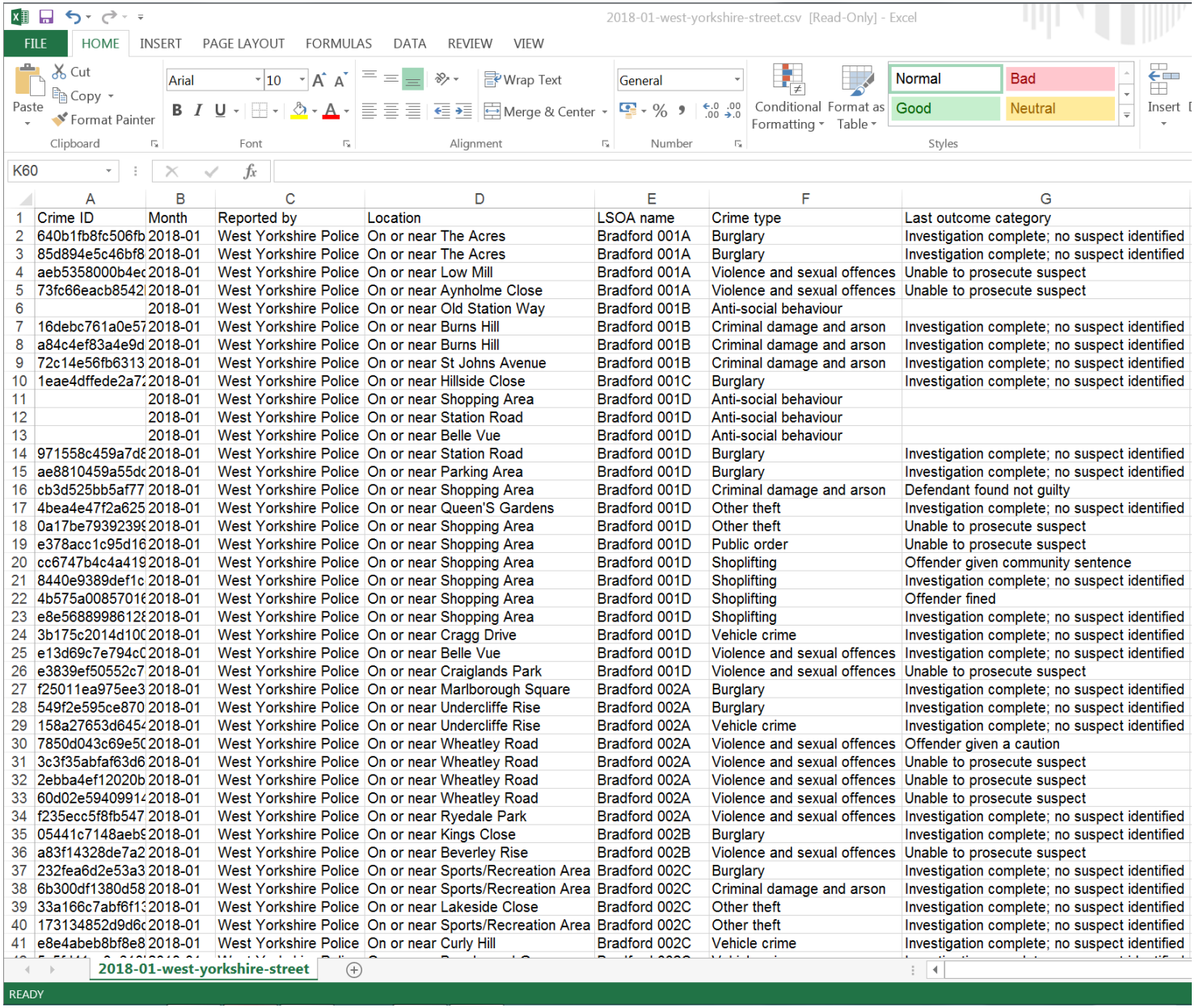

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Crime ID	Month	Reported by	Location	LSOA name	Crime type	Last outcome category
2	640b1fb8fc506fb	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near The Acres	Bradford 001A	Burglary	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
3	85d894e5c46bf8	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near The Acres	Bradford 001A	Burglary	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
4	aeb5358000b4ec	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Low Mill	Bradford 001A	Violence and sexual offences	Unable to prosecute suspect
5	73fc66eacb8542	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Aynholme Close	Bradford 001A	Violence and sexual offences	Unable to prosecute suspect
6		2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Old Station Way	Bradford 001B	Anti-social behaviour	
7	16debc761a0e57	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Burns Hill	Bradford 001B	Criminal damage and arson	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
8	a84c4ef83a4e9d	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Burns Hill	Bradford 001B	Criminal damage and arson	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
9	72c14e56fb6313	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near St Johns Avenue	Bradford 001B	Criminal damage and arson	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
10	1eae4dffede2a7	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Hillside Close	Bradford 001C	Burglary	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
11		2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Shopping Area	Bradford 001D	Anti-social behaviour	
12		2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Station Road	Bradford 001D	Anti-social behaviour	
13		2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Belle Vue	Bradford 001D	Anti-social behaviour	
14	971558c459a7d8	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Station Road	Bradford 001D	Burglary	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
15	ae8810459a55dc	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Parking Area	Bradford 001D	Burglary	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
16	cb3d525bb5af77	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Shopping Area	Bradford 001D	Criminal damage and arson	Defendant found not guilty
17	4bea4e47f2a625	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Queen'S Gardens	Bradford 001D	Other theft	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
18	0a17be7939239	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Shopping Area	Bradford 001D	Other theft	Unable to prosecute suspect
19	e378acc1c95d16	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Shopping Area	Bradford 001D	Public order	Unable to prosecute suspect
20	cc6747b4c4a419	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Shopping Area	Bradford 001D	Shoplifting	Offender given community sentence
21	8440e9389def1c	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Shopping Area	Bradford 001D	Shoplifting	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
22	4b575a0085701	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Shopping Area	Bradford 001D	Shoplifting	Offender fined
23	e8e5688998612	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Shopping Area	Bradford 001D	Shoplifting	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
24	3b175c2014d10	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Cragg Drive	Bradford 001D	Vehicle crime	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
25	e13d69c7e794c0	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Belle Vue	Bradford 001D	Violence and sexual offences	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
26	e3839ef50552c7	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Craiglands Park	Bradford 001D	Violence and sexual offences	Unable to prosecute suspect
27	f25011ea975ee3	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Marlborough Square	Bradford 002A	Burglary	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
28	549f2e595ce870	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Undercliffe Rise	Bradford 002A	Burglary	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
29	158a27653d645	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Undercliffe Rise	Bradford 002A	Vehicle crime	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
30	7850d043c69e5	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Wheatley Road	Bradford 002A	Violence and sexual offences	Offender given a caution
31	3c3f35abfaf63d6	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Wheatley Road	Bradford 002A	Violence and sexual offences	Unable to prosecute suspect
32	2ebba4ef12020b	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Wheatley Road	Bradford 002A	Violence and sexual offences	Unable to prosecute suspect
33	60d02e5940991	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Wheatley Road	Bradford 002A	Violence and sexual offences	Unable to prosecute suspect
34	f235ecc5f8fb547	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Ryedale Park	Bradford 002A	Violence and sexual offences	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
35	05441c7148aeb	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Kings Close	Bradford 002B	Burglary	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
36	a83f14328de7a2	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Beverley Rise	Bradford 002B	Violence and sexual offences	Unable to prosecute suspect
37	232fea6d2e53a3	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Sports/Recreation Area	Bradford 002C	Burglary	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
38	6b300df1380d58	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Sports/Recreation Area	Bradford 002C	Criminal damage and arson	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
39	33a166c7abf6f1	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Lakeside Close	Bradford 002C	Other theft	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
40	173134852d9d6c	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Sports/Recreation Area	Bradford 002C	Other theft	Investigation complete; no suspect identified
41	e8e4abeb8bf8e8	2018-01	West Yorkshire Police	On or near Curly Hill	Bradford 002C	Vehicle crime	Investigation complete; no suspect identified

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- Statistical Package for the Social Sciences
- Probably the most user-friendly statistical software out there
  - It can operate under a command-based format
  - But it is also built to be used under a 'point-and-click' format
- The most widely used statistical software
  - Certainly by Social Scientists
  - But also leading - although not for long - in all academic research

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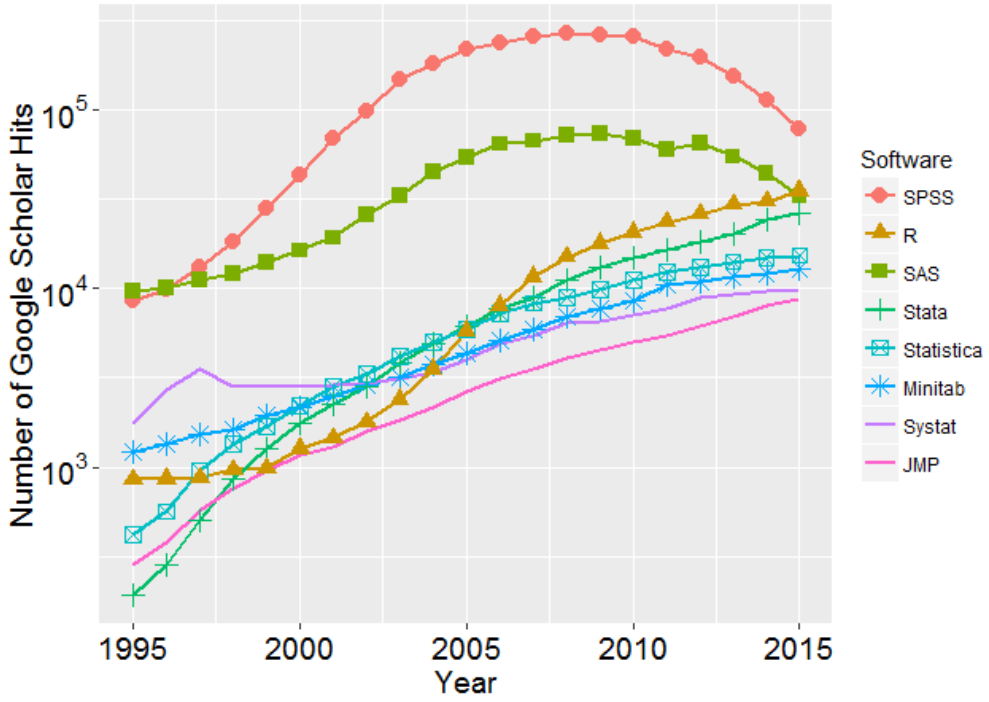

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SPSS

- Installed in most of the computers in campus
- You can get it installed in your laptop at the IT helpdesk
- You can also access it using desktop anywhere

SPSS Data View (the CSEW)

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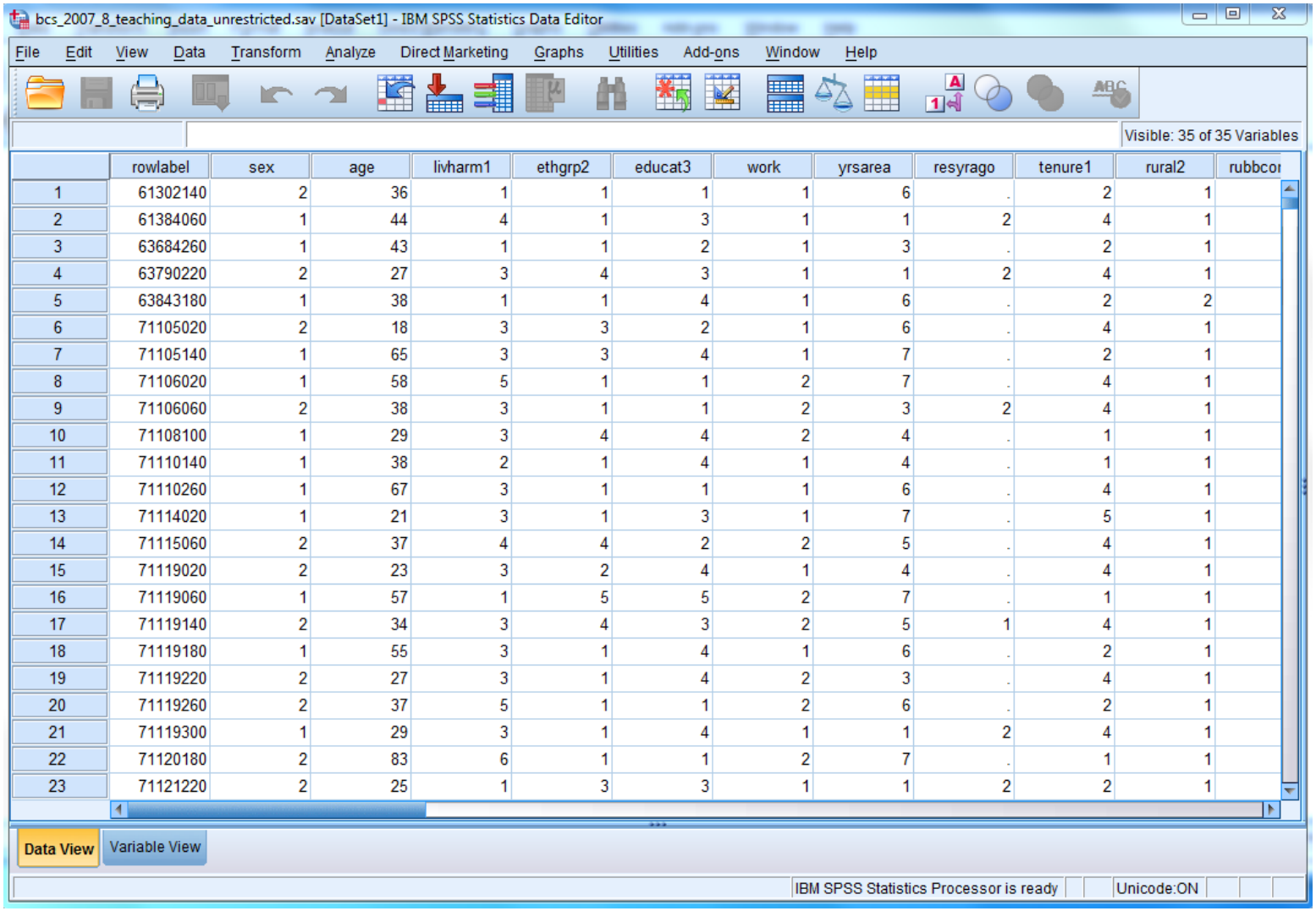

	rowlabel	sex	age	livharm1	ethgrp2	educat3	work	yrsarea	resyrago	tenure1	rural2	rubbcor
1	61302140	2	36	1	1	1	1	6	.	2	1	
2	61384060	1	44	4	1	3	1	1	2	4	1	
3	63684260	1	43	1	1	2	1	3	.	2	1	
4	63790220	2	27	3	4	3	1	1	2	4	1	
5	63843180	1	38	1	1	4	1	6	.	2	2	
6	71105020	2	18	3	3	2	1	6	.	4	1	
7	71105140	1	65	3	3	4	1	7	.	2	1	
8	71106020	1	58	5	1	1	2	7	.	4	1	
9	71106060	2	38	3	1	1	2	3	2	4	1	
10	71108100	1	29	3	4	4	2	4	.	1	1	
11	71110140	1	38	2	1	4	1	4	.	1	1	
12	71110260	1	67	3	1	1	1	6	.	4	1	
13	71114020	1	21	3	1	3	1	7	.	5	1	
14	71115060	2	37	4	4	2	2	5	.	4	1	
15	71119020	2	23	3	2	4	1	4	.	4	1	
16	71119060	1	57	1	5	5	2	7	.	1	1	
17	71119140	2	34	3	4	3	2	5	1	4	1	
18	71119180	1	55	3	1	4	1	6	.	2	1	
19	71119220	2	27	3	1	4	2	3	.	4	1	
20	71119260	2	37	5	1	1	2	6	.	2	1	
21	71119300	1	29	3	1	4	1	1	2	4	1	
22	71120180	2	83	6	1	1	2	7	.	1	1	
23	71121220	2	25	1	3	3	1	1	2	2	1	

SPSS Variable View (the CSEW)

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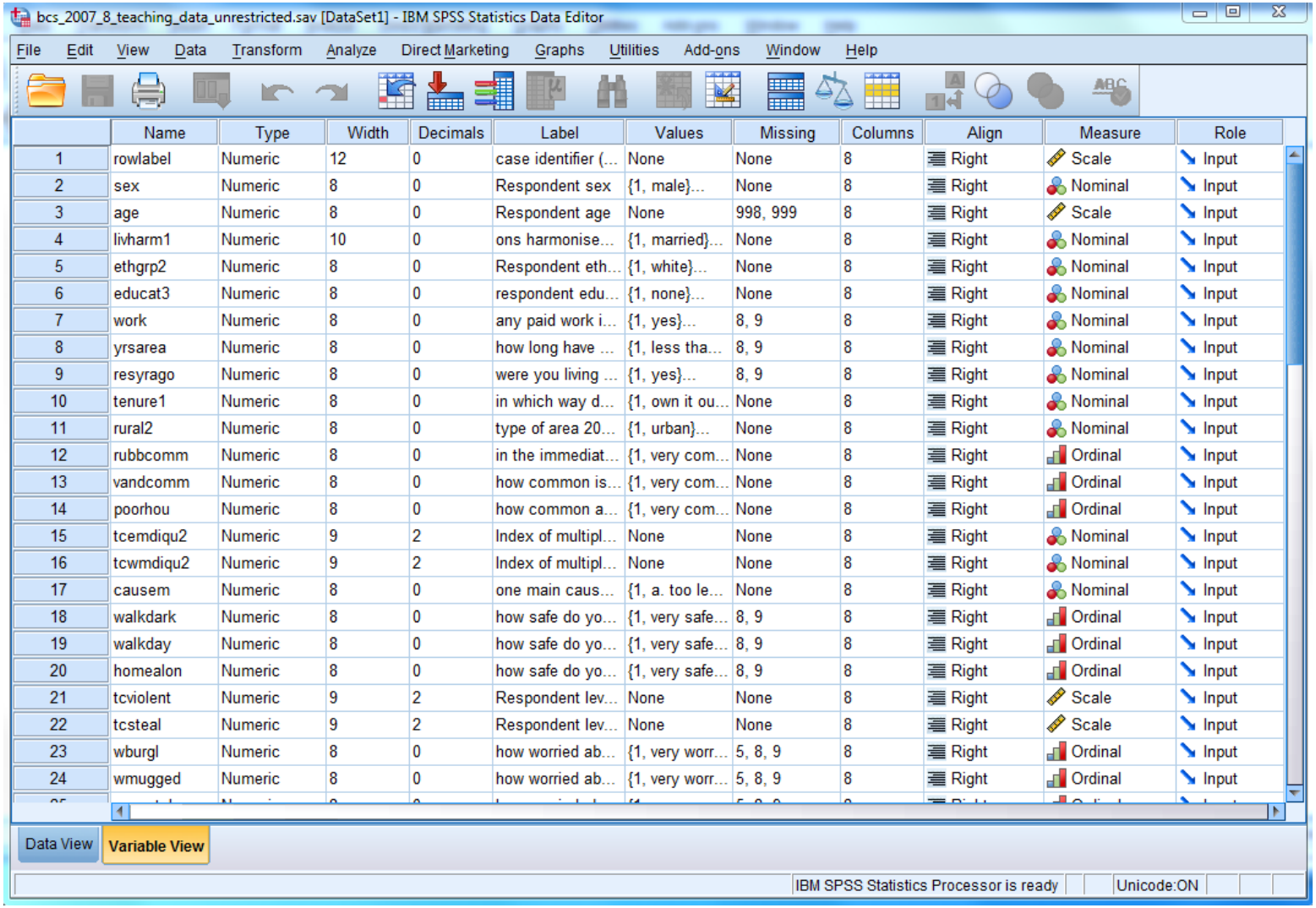

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1	rowlabel	Numeric	12	0	case identifier (...	None	None	8	Right	Scale	Input
2	sex	Numeric	8	0	Respondent sex	{1, male}...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
3	age	Numeric	8	0	Respondent age	None	998, 999	8	Right	Scale	Input
4	livharm1	Numeric	10	0	ons harmonise...	{1, married}...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
5	ethgrp2	Numeric	8	0	Respondent eth...	{1, white}...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
6	educat3	Numeric	8	0	respondent edu...	{1, none}...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
7	work	Numeric	8	0	any paid work i...	{1, yes}...	8, 9	8	Right	Nominal	Input
8	yrsarea	Numeric	8	0	how long have ...	{1, less tha...	8, 9	8	Right	Nominal	Input
9	resyrago	Numeric	8	0	were you living ...	{1, yes}...	8, 9	8	Right	Nominal	Input
10	tenure1	Numeric	8	0	in which way d...	{1, own it ou...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
11	rural2	Numeric	8	0	type of area 20...	{1, urban}...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
12	rubbcomm	Numeric	8	0	in the immediat...	{1, very com...	None	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
13	vandcomm	Numeric	8	0	how common is...	{1, very com...	None	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
14	poorhou	Numeric	8	0	how common a...	{1, very com...	None	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
15	tcemdiqu2	Numeric	9	2	Index of multipl...	None	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
16	tcwmdiqu2	Numeric	9	2	Index of multipl...	None	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
17	causem	Numeric	8	0	one main caus...	{1, a. too le...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
18	walkdark	Numeric	8	0	how safe do yo...	{1, very safe...	8, 9	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
19	walkday	Numeric	8	0	how safe do yo...	{1, very safe...	8, 9	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
20	homealon	Numeric	8	0	how safe do yo...	{1, very safe...	8, 9	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
21	tcviolent	Numeric	9	2	Respondent lev...	None	None	8	Right	Scale	Input
22	tcsteal	Numeric	9	2	Respondent lev...	None	None	8	Right	Scale	Input
23	wburgl	Numeric	8	0	how worried ab...	{1, very worr...	5, 8, 9	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
24	wmugged	Numeric	8	0	how worried ab...	{1, very worr...	5, 8, 9	8	Right	Ordinal	Input

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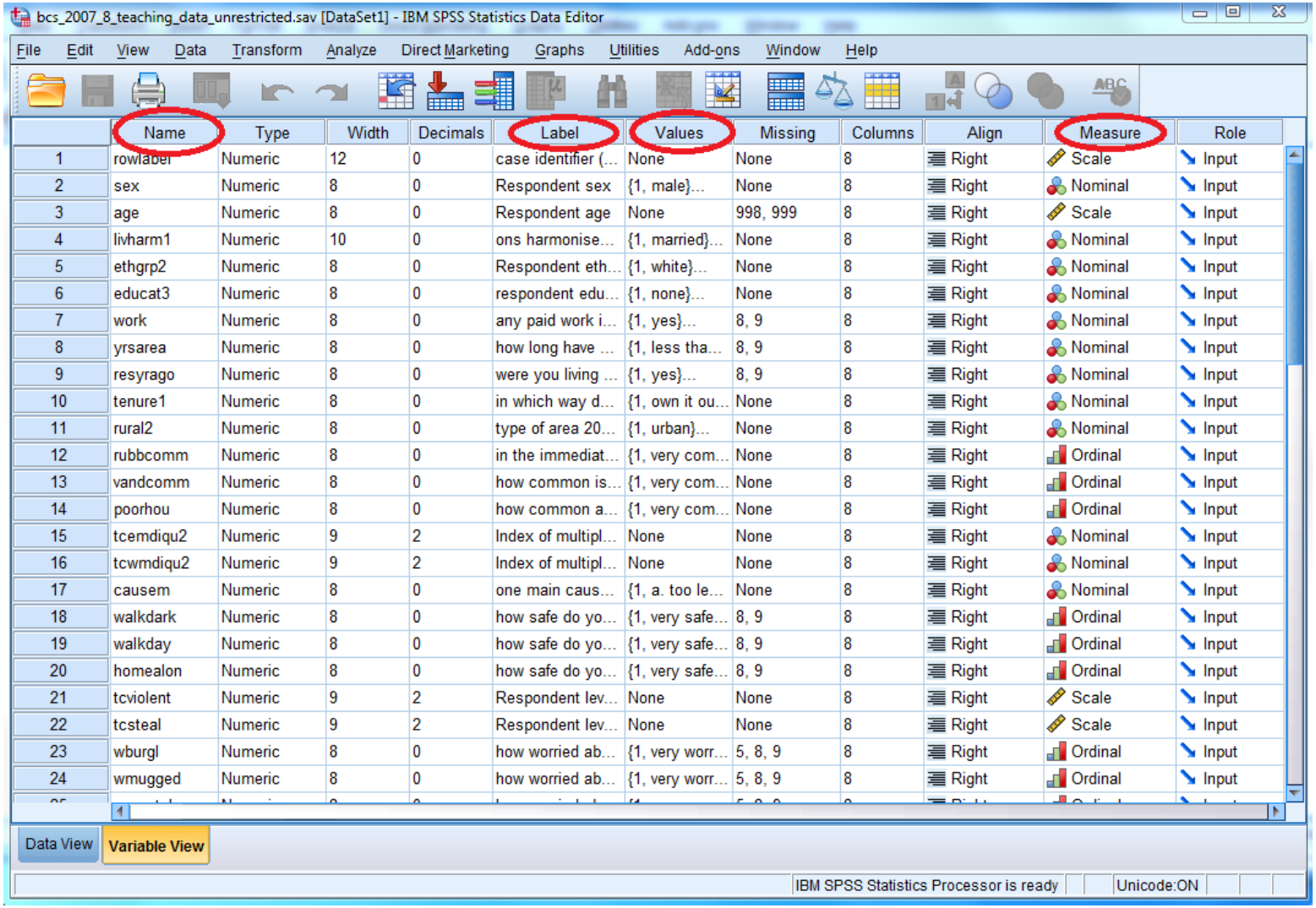

	Name	Type	Width	Decimals	Label	Values	Missing	Columns	Align	Measure	Role
1	rowlabel	Numeric	12	0	case identifier (...	None	None	8	Right	Scale	Input
2	sex	Numeric	8	0	Respondent sex	{1, male}...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
3	age	Numeric	8	0	Respondent age	None	998, 999	8	Right	Scale	Input
4	livharm1	Numeric	10	0	ons harmonise...	{1, married}...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
5	ethgrp2	Numeric	8	0	Respondent eth...	{1, white}...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
6	educat3	Numeric	8	0	respondent edu...	{1, none}...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
7	work	Numeric	8	0	any paid work i...	{1, yes}...	8, 9	8	Right	Nominal	Input
8	yrsarea	Numeric	8	0	how long have ...	{1, less tha...	8, 9	8	Right	Nominal	Input
9	resyrago	Numeric	8	0	were you living ...	{1, yes}...	8, 9	8	Right	Nominal	Input
10	tenure1	Numeric	8	0	in which way d...	{1, own it ou...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
11	rural2	Numeric	8	0	type of area 20...	{1, urban}...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
12	rubbcomm	Numeric	8	0	in the immediat...	{1, very com...	None	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
13	vandcomm	Numeric	8	0	how common is...	{1, very com...	None	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
14	poorhou	Numeric	8	0	how common a...	{1, very com...	None	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
15	tcemdiqu2	Numeric	9	2	Index of multipl...	None	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
16	tcwmdiqu2	Numeric	9	2	Index of multipl...	None	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
17	causem	Numeric	8	0	one main caus...	{1, a. too le...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
18	walkdark	Numeric	8	0	how safe do yo...	{1, very safe...	8, 9	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
19	walkday	Numeric	8	0	how safe do yo...	{1, very safe...	8, 9	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
20	homealon	Numeric	8	0	how safe do yo...	{1, very safe...	8, 9	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
21	tcviolent	Numeric	9	2	Respondent lev...	None	None	8	Right	Scale	Input
22	tcsteal	Numeric	9	2	Respondent lev...	None	None	8	Right	Scale	Input
23	wburgl	Numeric	8	0	how worried ab...	{1, very worr...	5, 8, 9	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
24	wmugged	Numeric	8	0	how worried ab...	{1, very worr...	5, 8, 9	8	Right	Ordinal	Input

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- Let's have a look at some of the police crime records
  - Let's focus on West Yorkshire in 2017
  - And let's use that data to find out about monthly changes in total crime
- From now on it might be a good idea for you to work in couples
- To download the data we need to get on DATA.POLICE.UK
  - Click on 'Data' at the top menu (see next slide)
  - Select 'January 2017' to 'December 2017'
  - Select West Yorkshire
  - And click on 'Generate file'
  - It is that simple

Downloading Data from DATA.POLICE.UK

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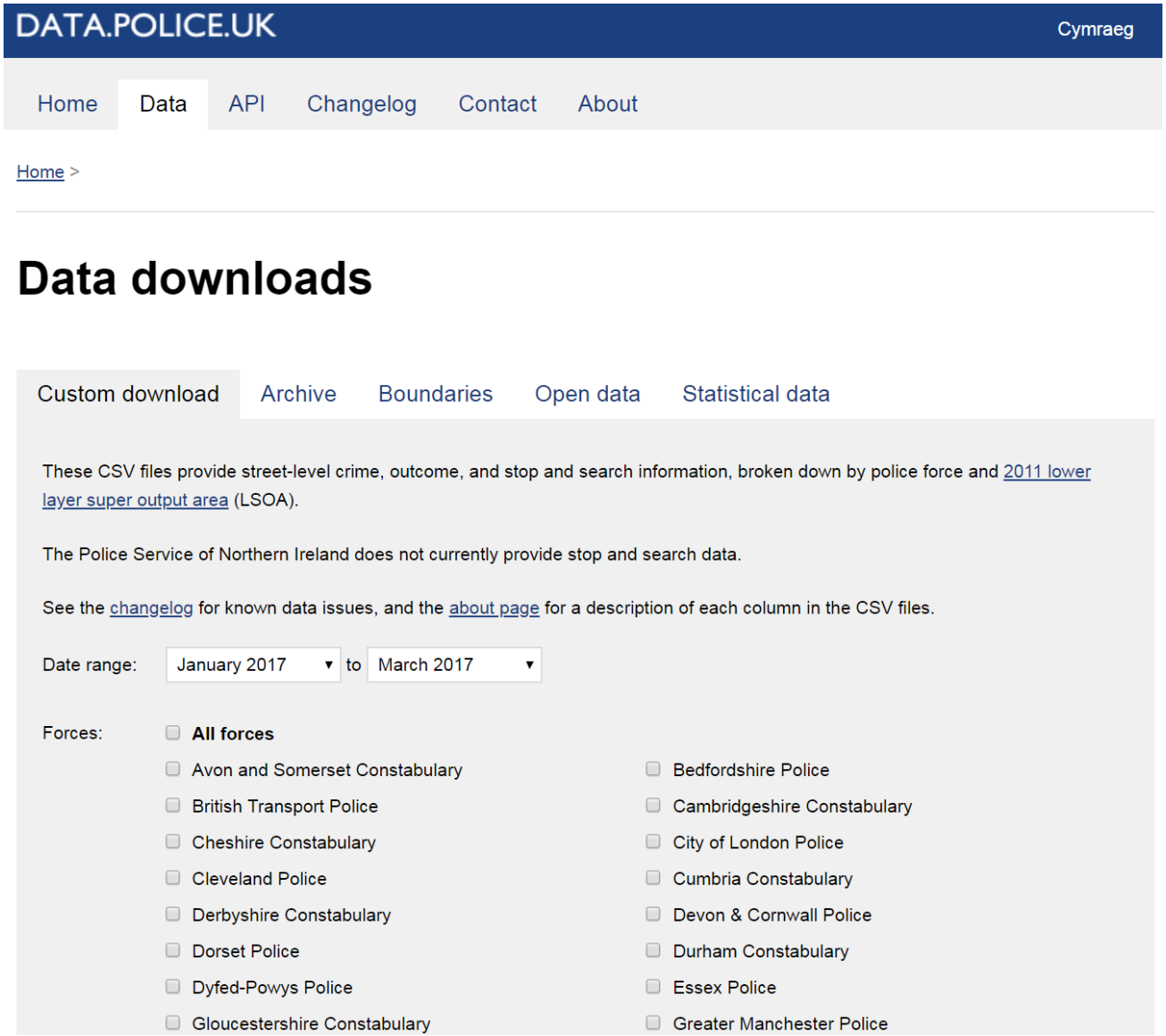

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- Before start exploring the data we need to familiarise ourselves with its 'metadata'
  - To understand where does the data come from
  - and what exactly is captured in each variable
- In the same page used to download the data, click on the link 'about page'
- Question: Can you find out the origin of the UK Police Data, and the information captured in each variable?

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CSV Columns

The columns in the CSV files are as follows:

Field	Meaning
Reported by	The force that provided the data about the crime.
Falls within	At present, also the force that provided the data about the crime. This is currently being looked into and is likely to change in the near future.
Longitude and **Latitude**	The anonymised coordinates of the crime. See Location Anonymisation for more information.
LSOA code and **LSOA name**	References to the Lower Layer Super Output Area that the anonymised point falls into, according to the LSOA boundaries provided by the Office for National Statistics.
Crime type	One of the crime types listed in the Police.UK FAQ.
Last outcome category	A reference to whichever of the outcomes associated with the crime occurred most recently. For example, this crime's 'Last outcome category' would be 'Formal action is not in the public interest'.
Context	A field provided for forces to provide additional human-readable data about individual crimes. Currently, for newly added CSVs, this is always empty.

Data Provenance

The data on this site is published by the Home Office, and is provided to us by the 43 geographic police forces in England and Wales, the British Transport Police, the Police Service of Northern Ireland and the Ministry of Justice.

Data Flow

Every month each police force generates a Crime and ASB file and a Police Outcomes file in a set format. The forces upload these to a private server managed by the Home Office in the Government network, where the files undergo quality assurance.

Copies of the data from police forces is then sent to the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), where they try to match the crimes with any court results contained in their own records. The MoJ send any matching court results back to the Home Office, where they are integrated with the existing data.

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- This dataset is relatively simple
  - Only 12 variables
  - All of them pretty straightforward
- Let's now have a look at the data itself
  - Double click on the January file that you have downloaded
  - That will open the (.csv) file from Excel

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- We can use this data to replicate Farrell and Pease (1994)
  - Who showed high seasonality in domestic violence incidents using police data from Merseyside
- To do so we need the total number of cases recorded by West Yorkshire police each month
  - Go to the bottom of the spreadsheet and see how many cases are recorded
  - Open a new spreadsheet are write down that figure together with the name of the month
  - Repeat for each of the twelve files downloaded

Number of Cases Recorded per Month

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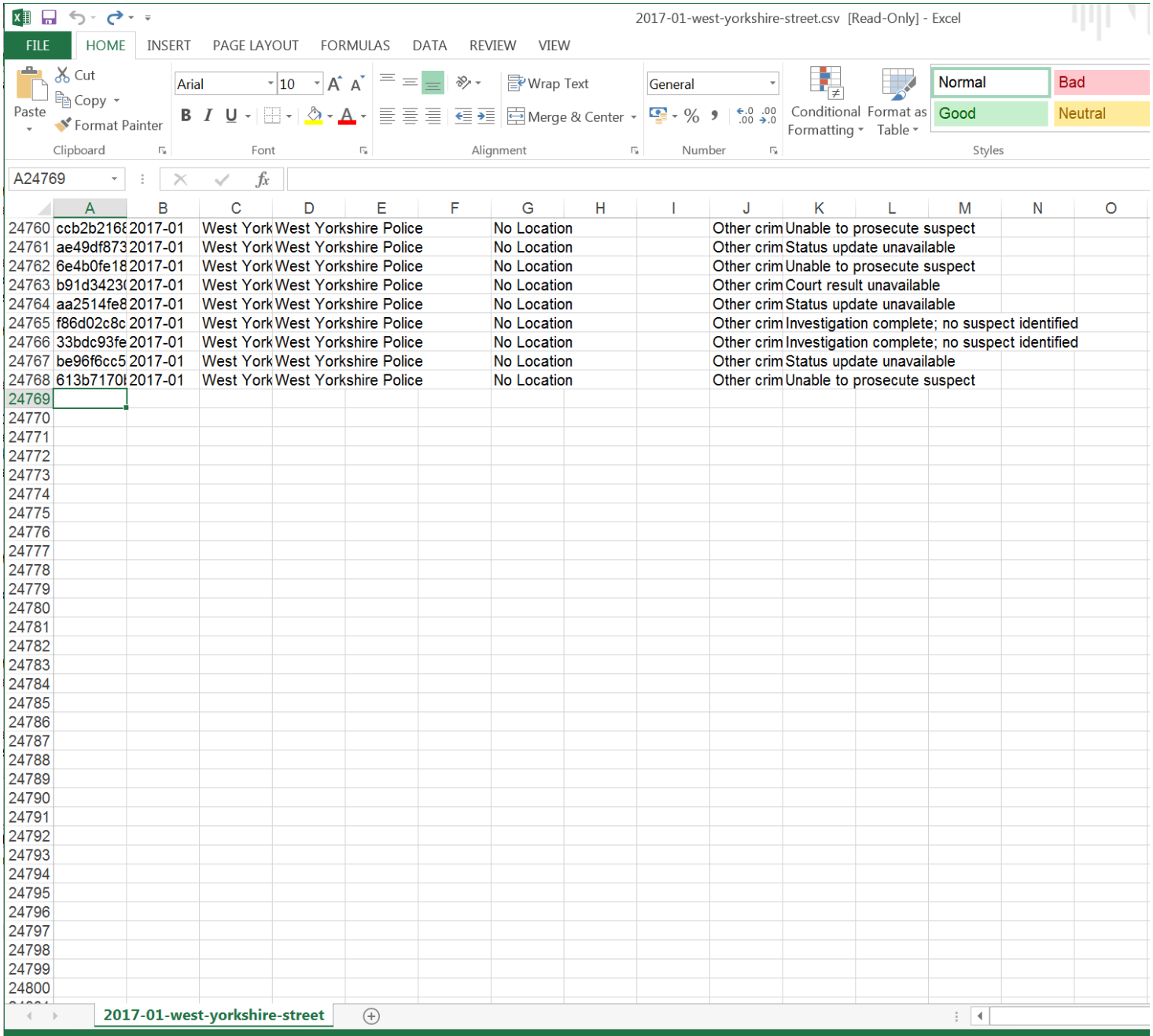

2017-01-west-yorkshire-street.csv [Read-Only] - Excel

FILE HOME INSERT PAGE LAYOUT FORMULAS DATA REVIEW VIEW

Cut Copy Format Painter Paste — Clipboard
Arial 10 — Font
Wrap Text Merge & Center — Alignment
General — Number
Conditional Formatting Format as Table
Normal Bad Good Neutral — Styles

A24769

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
24760	ccb2b216	2017-01	West York	West Yorkshire Police			No Location			Other crim	Unable to prosecute suspect				
24761	ae49df873	2017-01	West York	West Yorkshire Police			No Location			Other crim	Status update unavailable				
24762	6e4b0fe18	2017-01	West York	West Yorkshire Police			No Location			Other crim	Unable to prosecute suspect				
24763	b91d3423(	2017-01	West York	West Yorkshire Police			No Location			Other crim	Court result unavailable				
24764	aa2514fe8	2017-01	West York	West Yorkshire Police			No Location			Other crim	Status update unavailable				
24765	f86d02c8c	2017-01	West York	West Yorkshire Police			No Location			Other crim	Investigation complete; no suspect identified				
24766	33bdc93fe	2017-01	West York	West Yorkshire Police			No Location			Other crim	Investigation complete; no suspect identified				
24767	be96f6cc5	2017-01	West York	West Yorkshire Police			No Location			Other crim	Status update unavailable				
24768	613b7170l	2017-01	West York	West Yorkshire Police			No Location			Other crim	Unable to prosecute suspect				
24769															
24770															
24771															
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2017-01-west-yorkshire-street

Storing Results in a New Sheet

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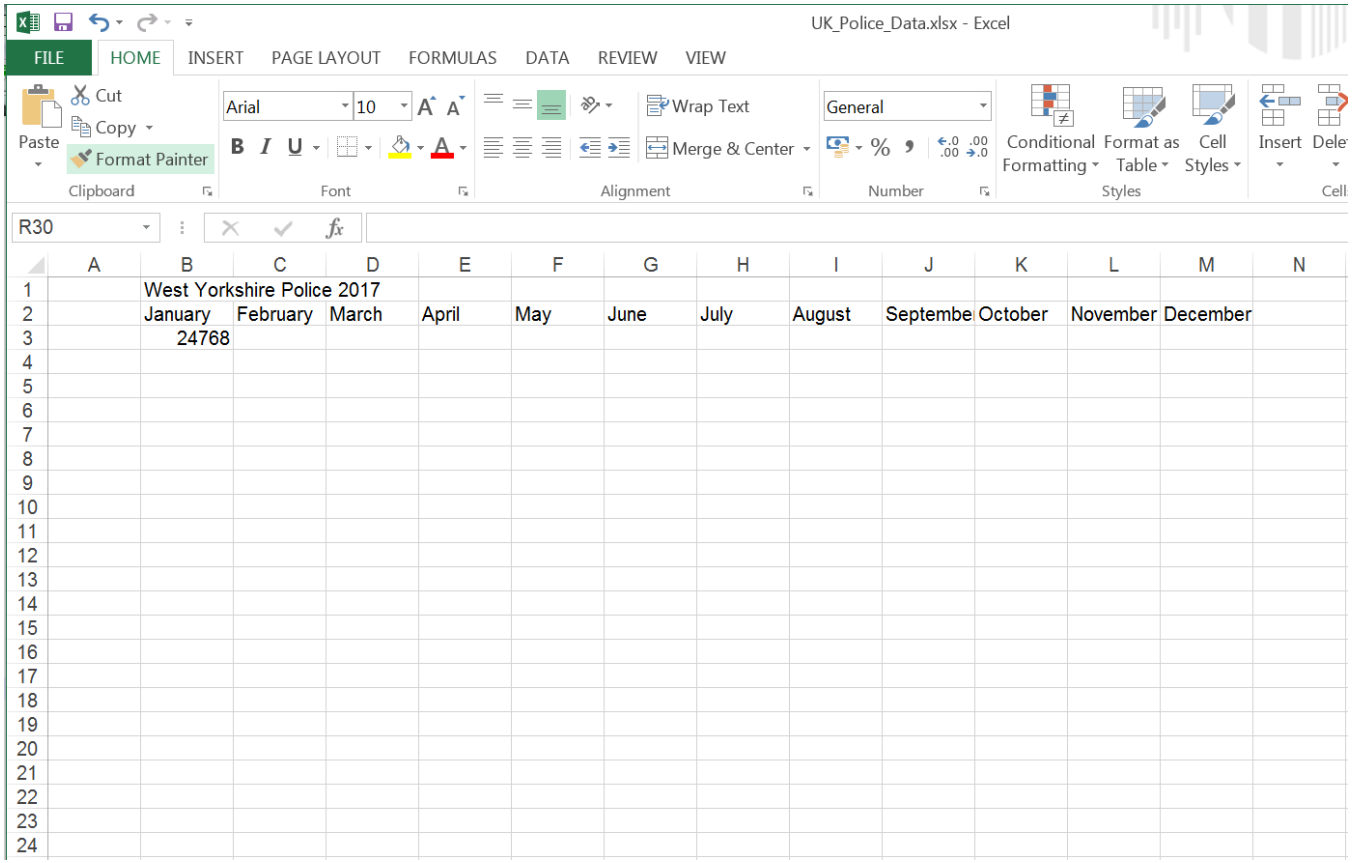

Plotting Results

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- We can then plot this data using a 'Line chart'
  - Click on 'Insert' at the top menu
  - Click on 'Line chart' and select the '2-D' format that you like
  - Right-click on the white rectangle and choose 'Select Data'
  - Click on the square-shaped button to the right of the menu 'Chart data range'
  - Then underline the cells where months and counts are recorded
  - Press 'OK'

Drawing a Line Chart

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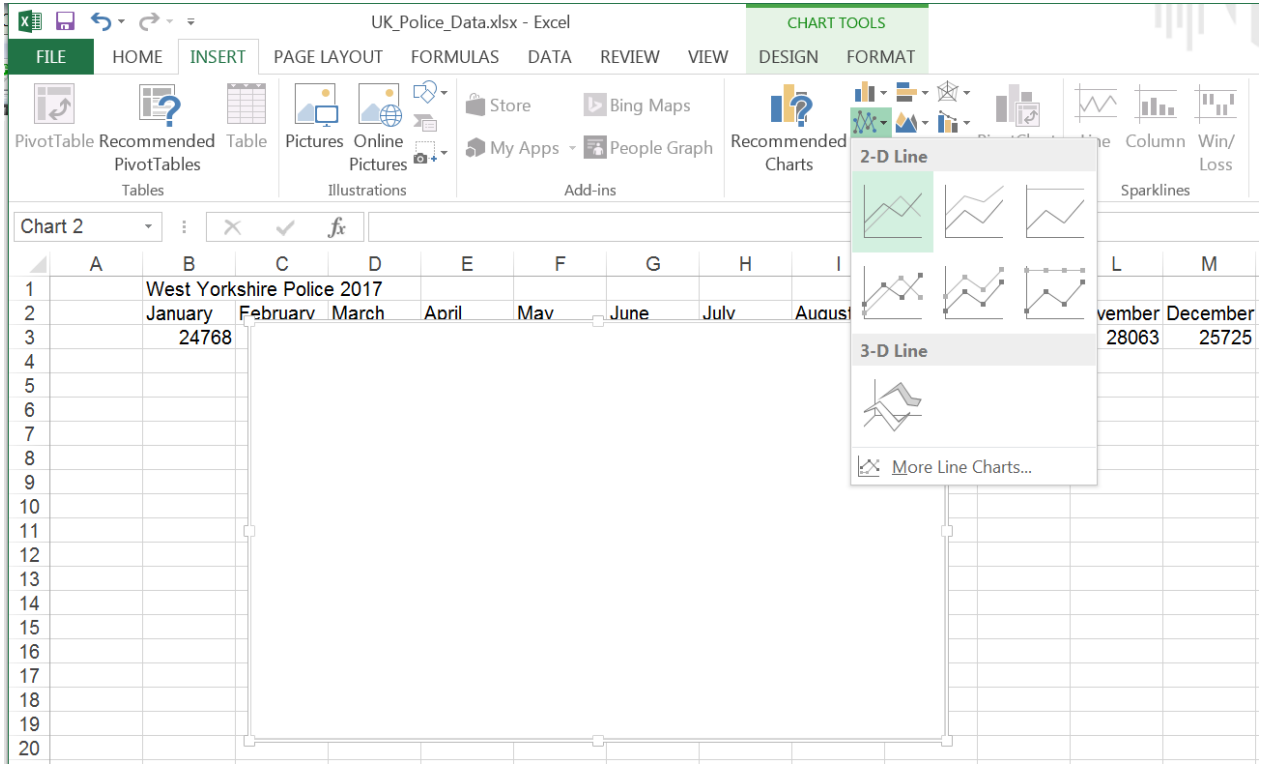

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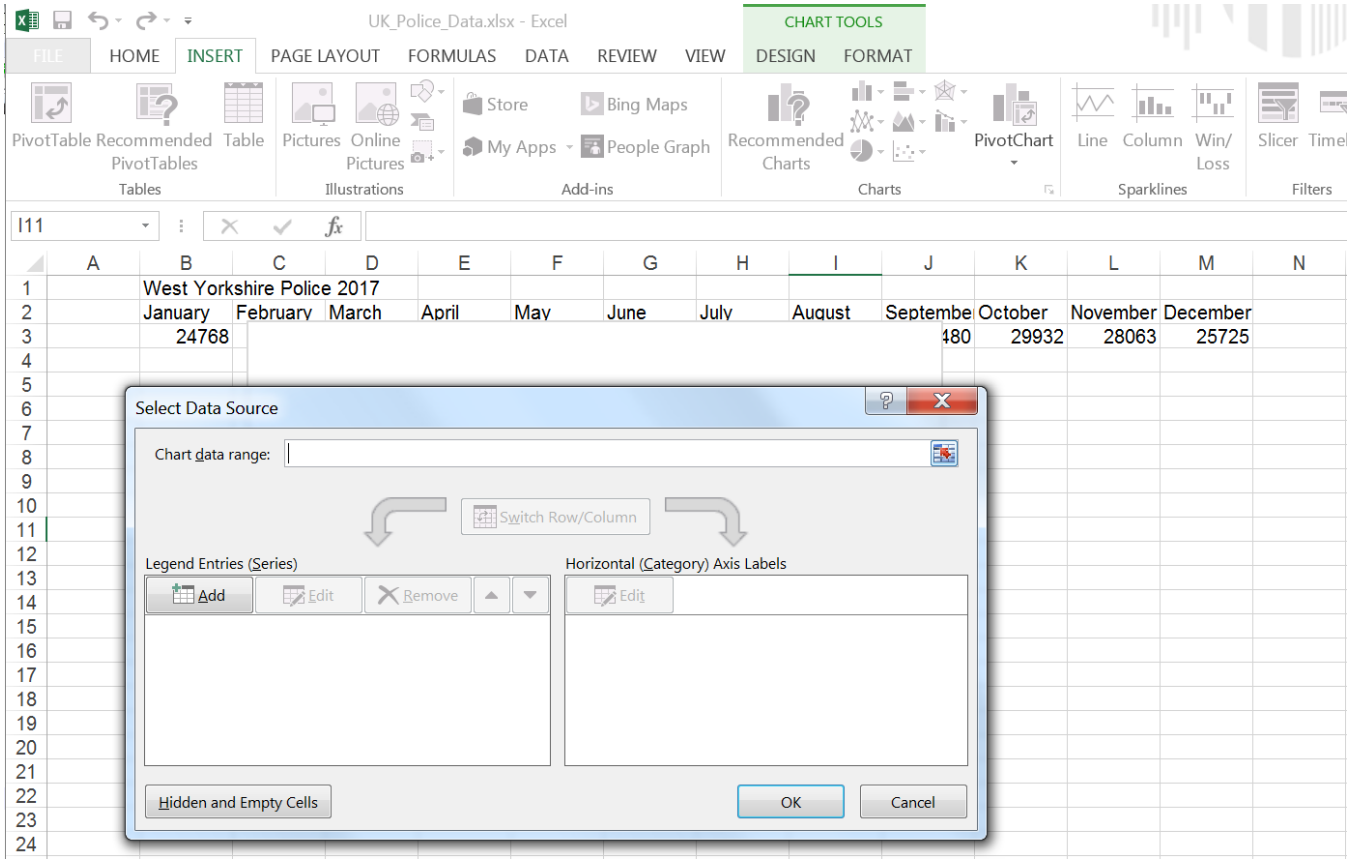

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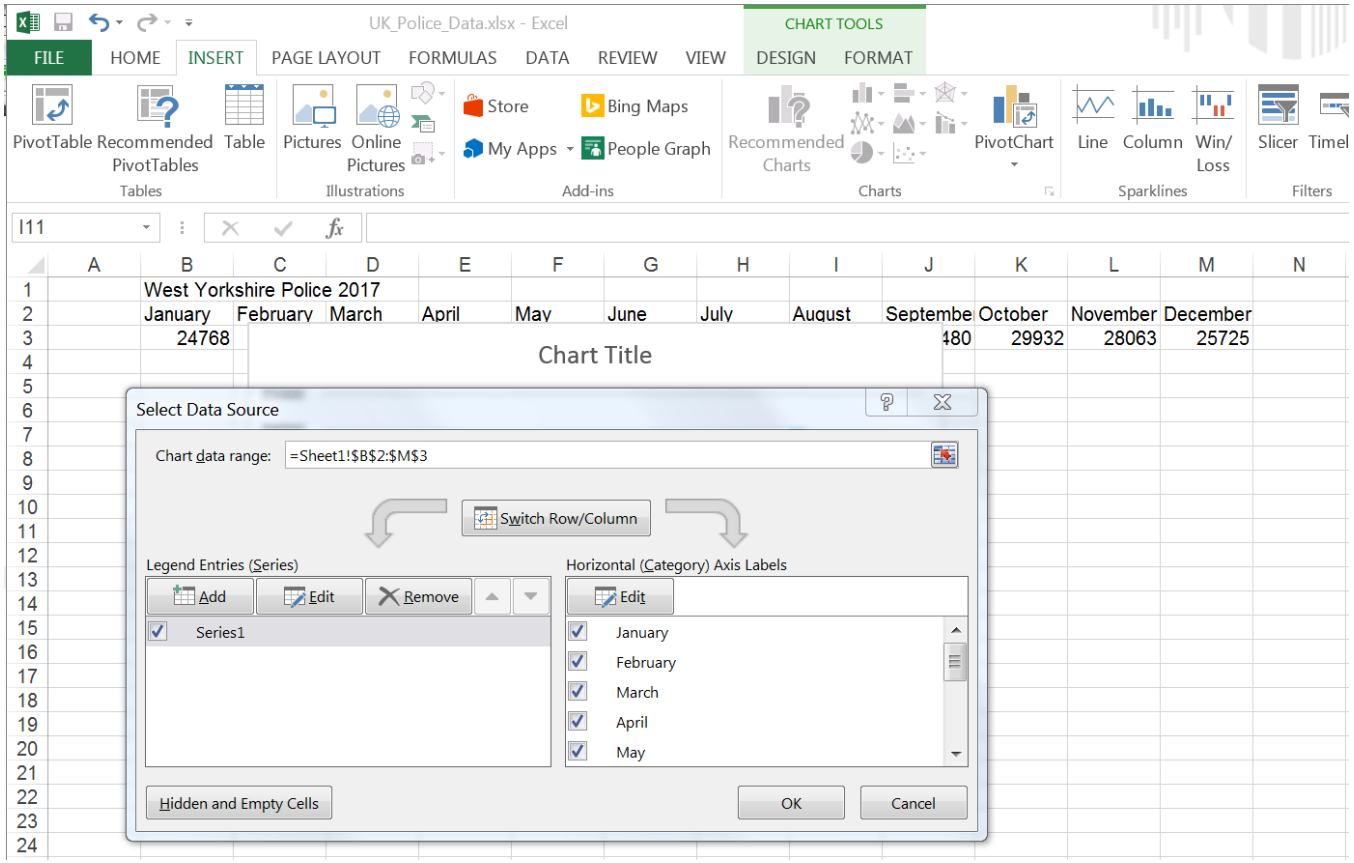

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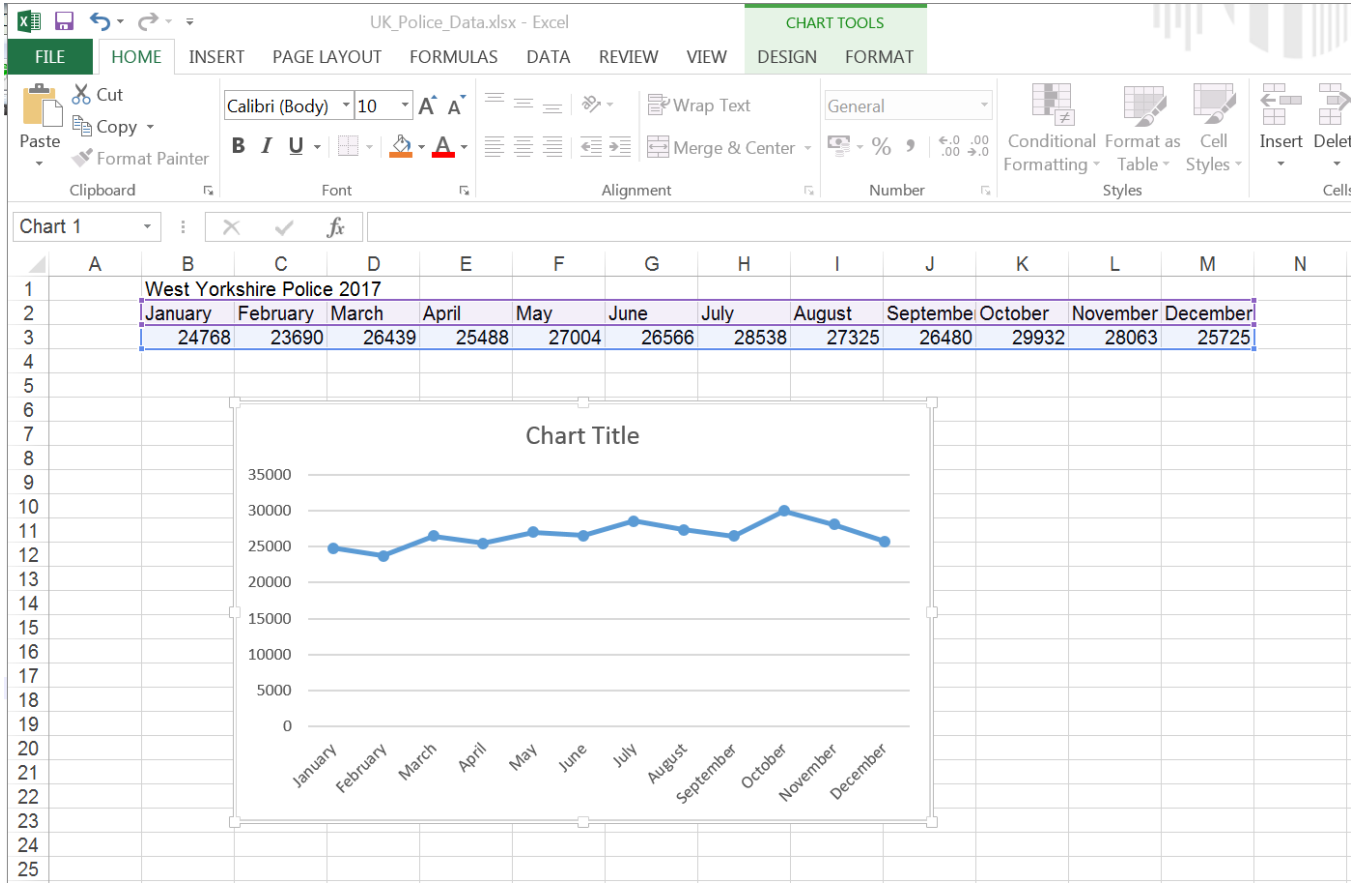

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UK Police Data

- Can we corroborate Farrell and Pease (1994)?
  - Is there evidence of a seasonal effect?
  - Why might that be?
- This is just one question that we have used as an example
- There are lots of interesting questions that could be explored using this data
  - It is a real gold mine, yet few Criminologists are using it
  - Can be used to explore spatial crime patterns (e.g. displacement effects)
  - Changes in attrition rates associated to budget cuts
  - Changes in the prevalence of different types of crime
  - And a long etc.

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The Crown Court Sentencing Survey

- Let's have a look at sentencing in the Crown Court
  - We can access fraud offences imposed in 2014, for example
  - And use that data to estimate gender disparities in sentencing
- To download the data go to sentencingcouncil.org.uk
  - Click on 'Analysis and research' at the top menu
  - Click on 'Crown Court Sentencing Survey' on the left margin
  - Then 'CCSS underlying data'
  - Scroll down and you will find links to the 'User Guide', 'Metadata', and the actual 'Datasets'
  - Just like the UK Police Data this is really easy to access
  - Click on the three links to open/download them

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CCSS underlying data

Crown Court Sentencing Survey underlying data

The data underlying the Crown Court Sentencing Survey publication are available for download below, in the format of CSV files. These files contain anonymised data for each individual 'record' or offender recorded in the survey. These data are most commonly referred to as 'record level data' and can be used for analysis.

An accompanying metadata document and guide containing important information on the use and interpretation of the data are also available. It is strongly recommended that these documents are read before the datasets are used for analysis.

REVISION: An error was identified in the sexual offences dataset for 2014, which affected the data on culpability factors. This has now been rectified and a revised dataset has been published.

Coverage: England and Wales

Period:

1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011

1 January 2012 to 31 March 2012

1 April 2012 to 31 December 2012

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Coverage: England and Wales

Period:

1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011

1 January 2012 to 31 March 2012

1 April 2012 to 31 December 2012

1 January 2013 to 31 December 2013

1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014

1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015

User Guide

Metadata document

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The Crown Court Sentencing Survey

- The User Guide provides general information about the origin of the dataset
  - The questionnaire that was used
  - Strategies followed to deal with missing data
  - List of variables contained, etc.
  - Containing around 40 variables (depending on the offence type), more complex than data from uk.police
- The Metadata file provides additional information on...
  - The variable name
  - Variable description
  - Coding system ('Values'), etc.
- It is really important that you familiarise yourselves with this kind of information when using secondary data

The Crown Court Sentencing Survey

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- Let's use the CCSS to replicate Pina-Sánchez and Harris (In Press)
  - Who found that male offenders were two times more likely to receive a custodial sentence than female offenders
  - The authors used assault, theft, and drugs offences
  - Question: Are similar disparities present when looking at fraud offences?
  - A more impersonal crime, where gender stereotypes might not play such a strong effect

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  - The authors used assault, theft, and drugs offences
  - Question: Are similar disparities present when looking at fraud offences?
  - A more impersonal crime, where gender stereotypes might not play such a strong effect
- Let's explore first the Metadata file
  - Question: Can you find out what is the variable name and values used to capture the offender's gender?
  - And the sentence outcome imposed on him/her?
  - Click on either 'Main file' or 'Fraud' at the bottom menu of the spreadsheet
  - Both gender and sentence outcome are amongst the first ten variables

CCSS Metadata

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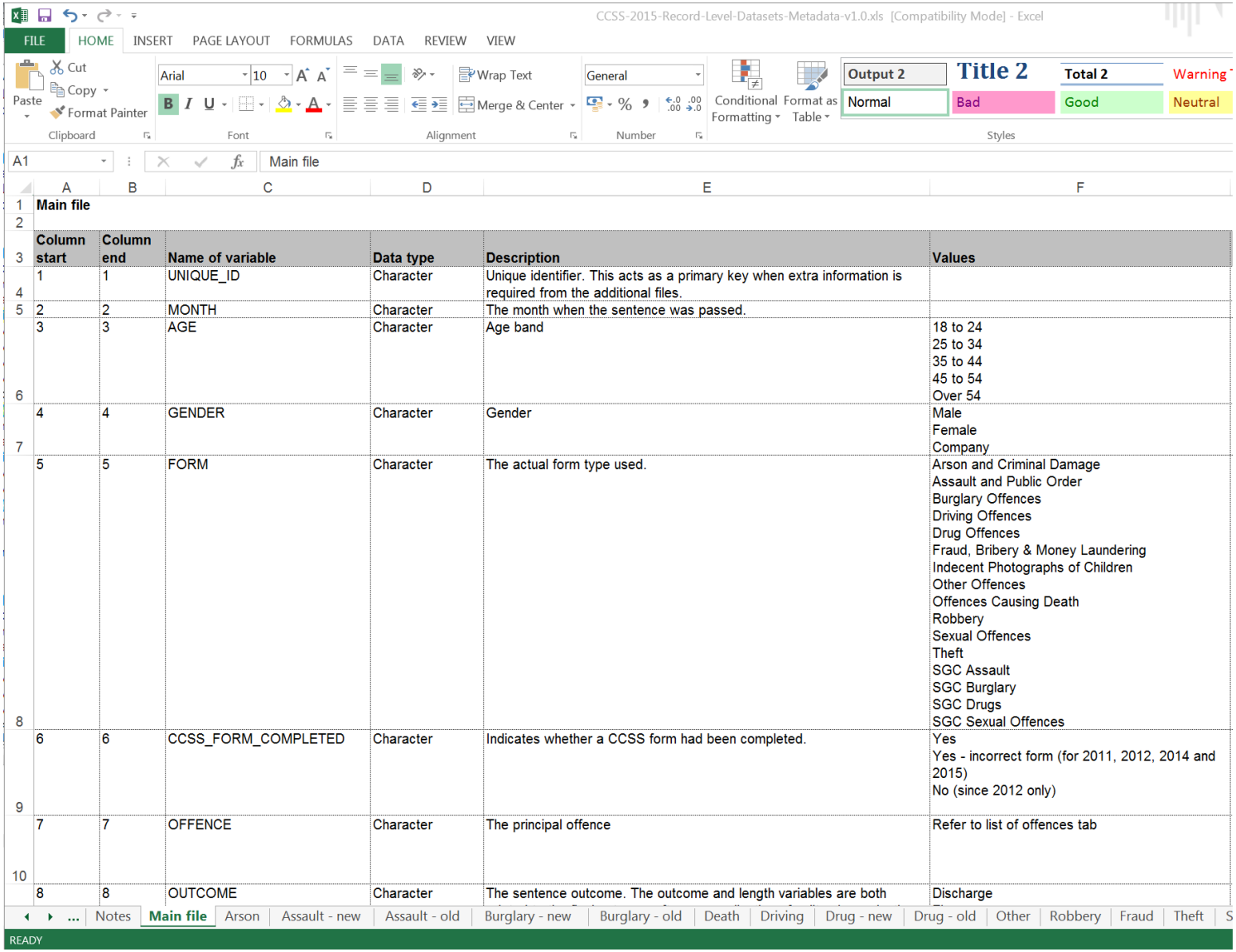

Main file

Column start	Column end	Name of variable	Data type	Description	Values
1	1	UNIQUE_ID	Character	Unique identifier. This acts as a primary key when extra information is required from the additional files.	
2	2	MONTH	Character	The month when the sentence was passed.	
3	3	AGE	Character	Age band	18 to 24 25 to 34 35 to 44 45 to 54 Over 54
4	4	GENDER	Character	Gender	Male Female Company
5	5	FORM	Character	The actual form type used.	Arson and Criminal Damage Assault and Public Order Burglary Offences Driving Offences Drug Offences Fraud, Bribery & Money Laundering Indecent Photographs of Children Other Offences Offences Causing Death Robbery Sexual Offences Theft SGC Assault SGC Burglary SGC Drugs SGC Sexual Offences
6	6	CCSS_FORM_COMPLETED	Character	Indicates whether a CCSS form had been completed.	Yes Yes - incorrect form (for 2011, 2012, 2014 and 2015) No (since 2012 only)
7	7	OFFENCE	Character	The principal offence	Refer to list of offences tab
8	8	OUTCOME	Character	The sentence outcome. The outcome and length variables are both	Discharge

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Creating a Pivot Table

- To compare probabilities of receiving a custodial sentence we can use a pivot table
- First we need a new variable capturing whether the defendant received a custodial sentence
  - Scroll right and find the first empty column (CB)
  - Call it 'Custody'
  - Click on the second row in that same column
  - Click on 'Formulas' at the top menu, select 'Logical', then 'IF'
  - In the Logical_test box enter the following command: F2="Immediate custody"
  - In the 'Value_if_true' box type 1, in 'Value_if_false' box type 0
  - Click 'OK' and drag the formula through the sample size (until row 531)
  - To do that click on the bottom-right corner of cell where the formula was introduced and drag it down
  - Check that the new variable is correctly coding cases sentenced to custody as 1s (you can do so by comparing it with 'OUTCOME' in column F)

Creating a Variable for Custody

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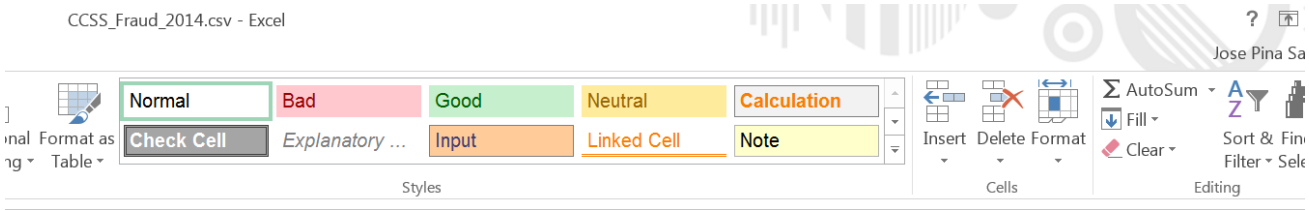

BO	BP	BQ	BR	BS	BT	BU	BV	BW	BX	BY	BZ	CA	CB
FBM_RED	FBM_RED	FBM_RED	FBM_RED	FBM_RED	FBM_RED	FBM_RED	FBM_RED	FBM_RED	GUILT_INI	GP_STAG	GP_DISC	GP_FIRST	Custody
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	Up to, or a	33%	Not Answered	
-	-	-	Early activ	-	-	-	-	-	No	Up to, or a	33%	Yes	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Not Answe	On, or afte	10%	Not Answered	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	Up to, or a	33%	Yes	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Not Answe	Not Asked	-		
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No Factors	Not Answe	Up to, or a	33%	Yes	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No Factors	Don't know	Up to, or a	30%	No	
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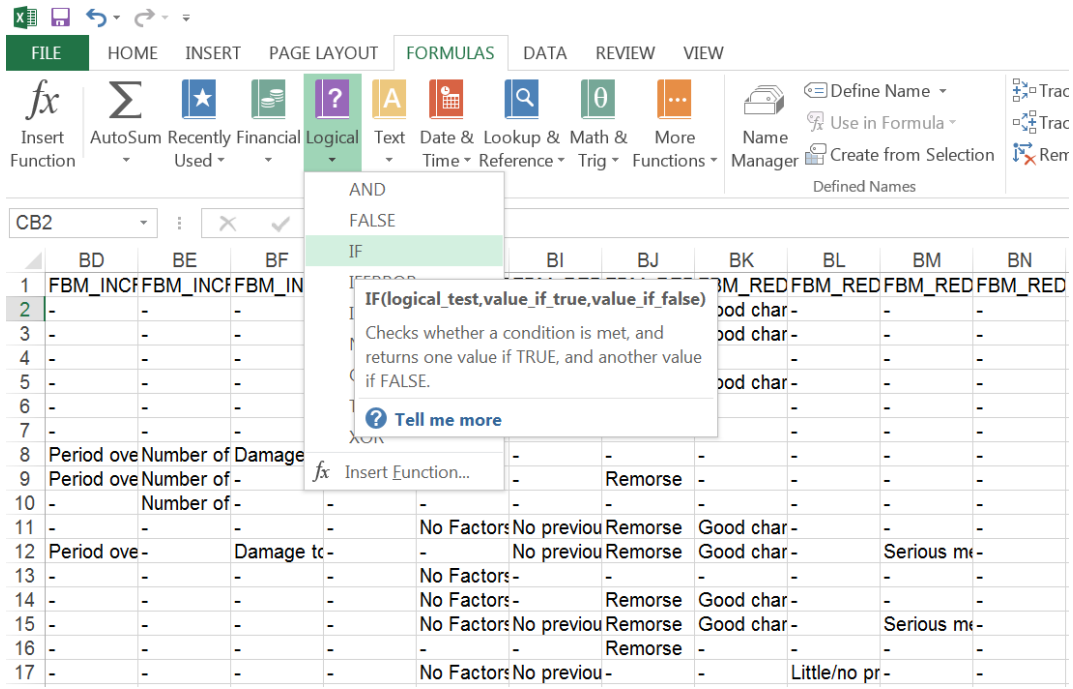

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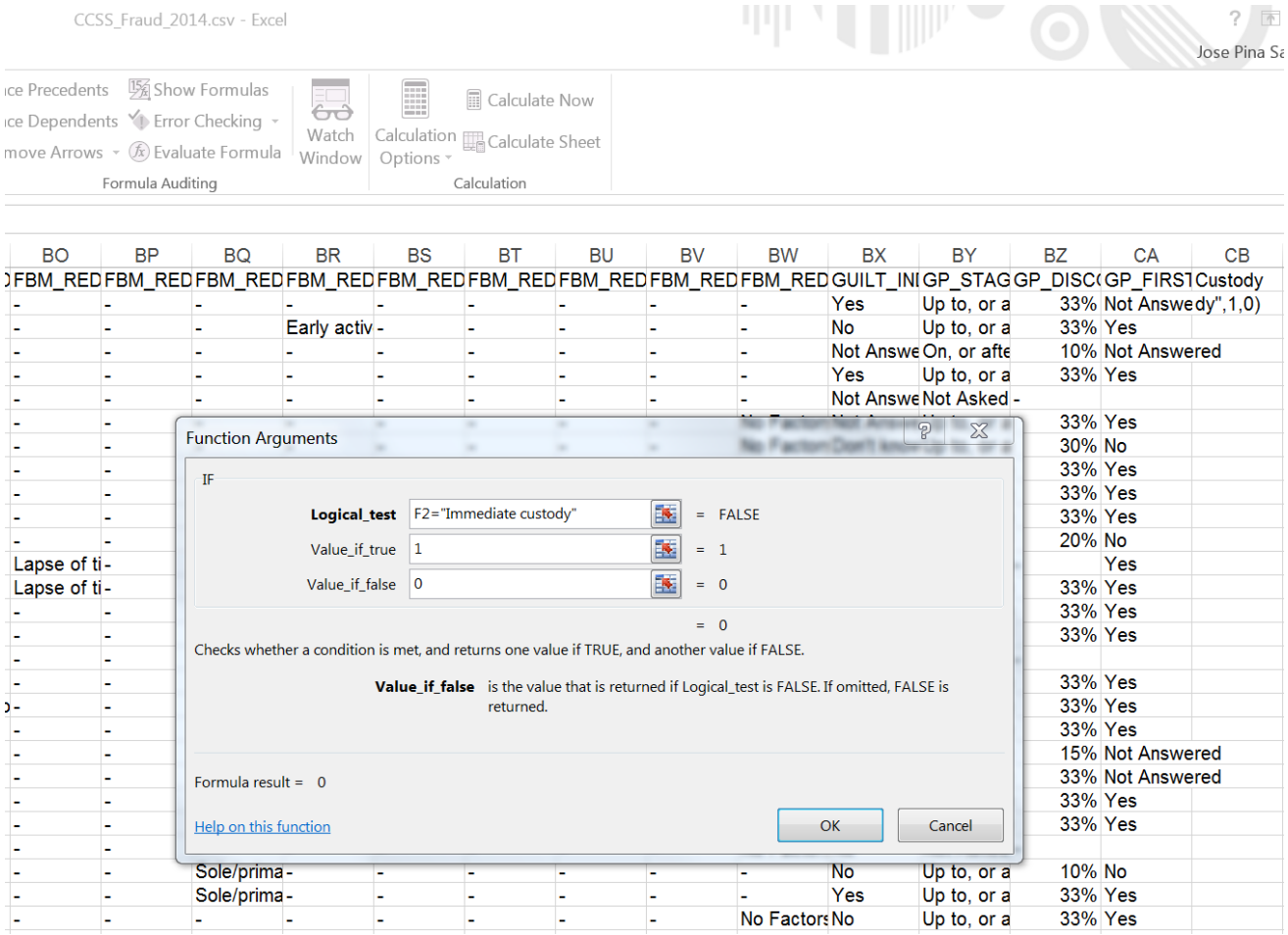

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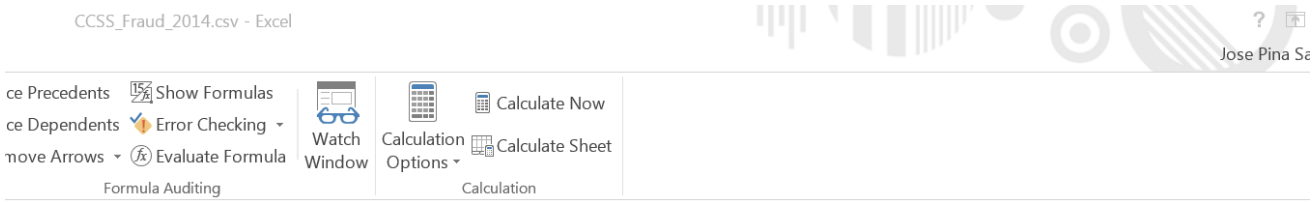

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-	-	Sole/prima	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	Up to, or a	33%	Yes	1
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-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No Factors	Yes	Up to, or a	33%	Yes	1

The Crown Court Sentencing Survey

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- We can now create a pivot table to compare the probabilities of receiving a custodial sentence for male and female offenders
  - Click on 'INSERT' at the top menu, then on 'PivotTable' at the top-left corner
  - A new menu will pop-up, press 'OK' and you will be redirected to a new sheet
  - Tick 'GENDER' and move it to the 'ROWS' box
  - Tick 'Custody' and move it to the 'VALUES' box
  - That will give you the number of cases sentenced to custody by gender
  - Right click 'Sum of counts' and go to 'Value Field Settings'
  - Select 'Average'
  - That gives you the proportion of male and female offenders receiving a custodial sentence
- Question: Which is higher? Do we corroborate or refute Pina-Sánchez and Harris (In Press)?

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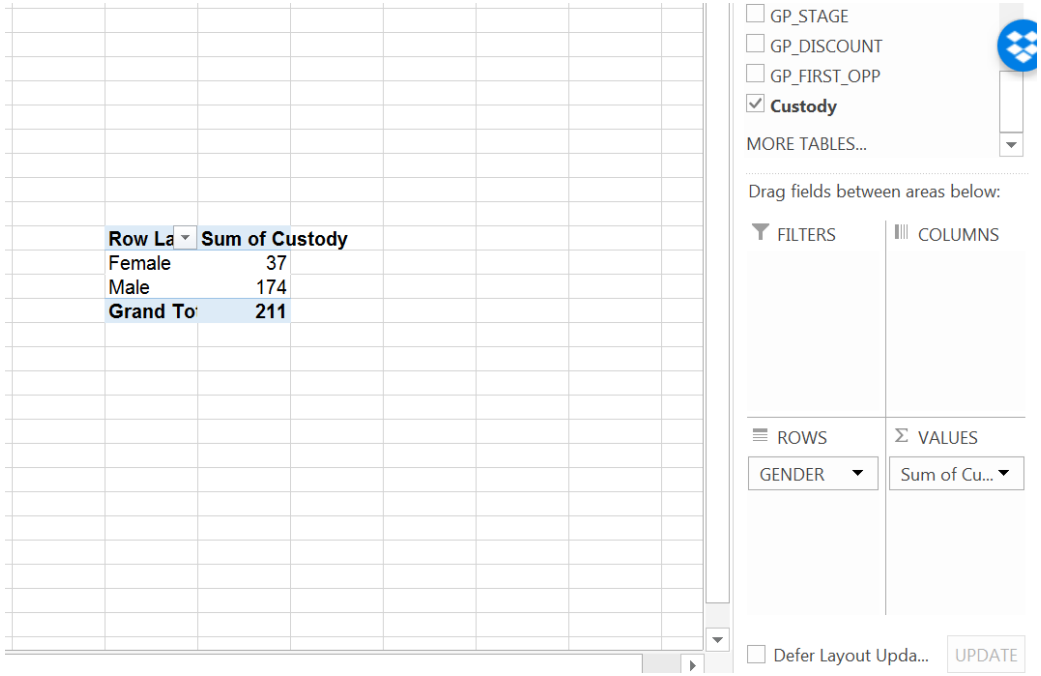

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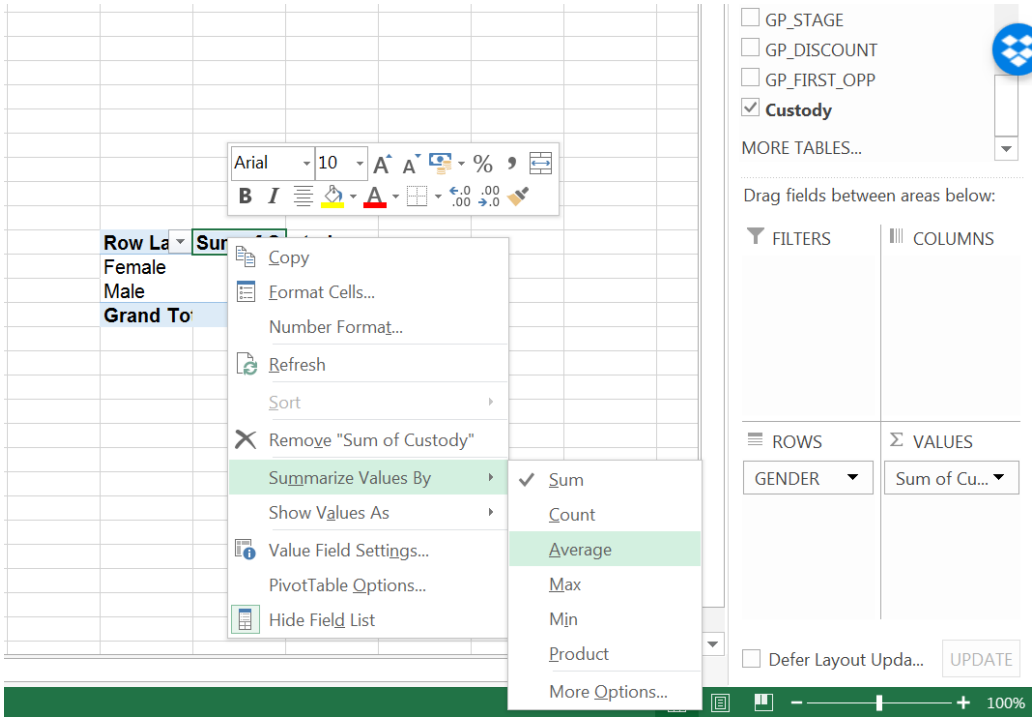

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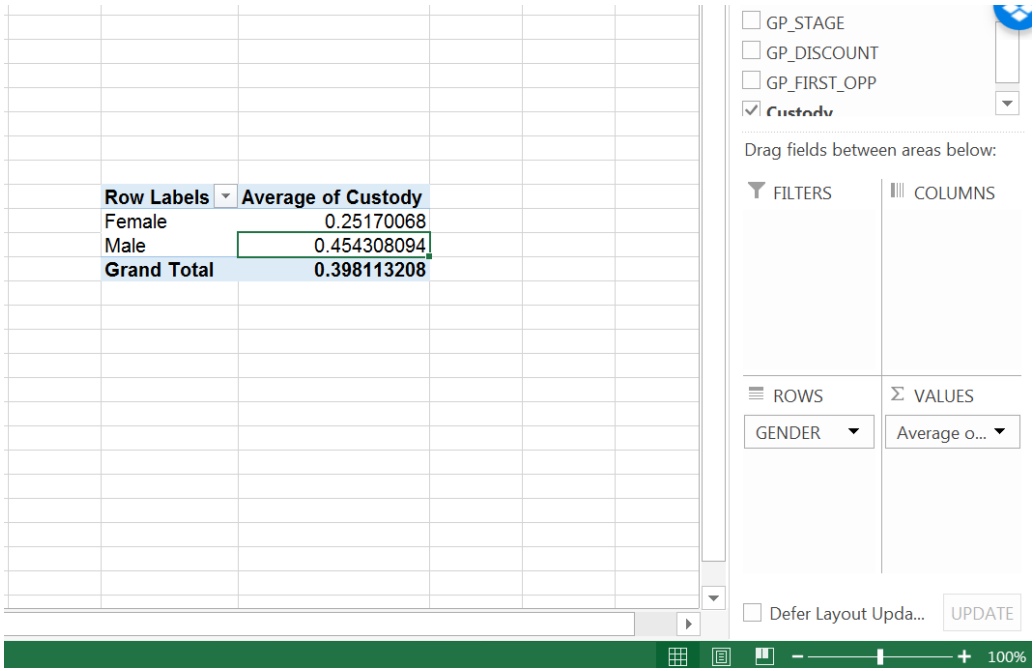

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- A truly fantastic repository of data
  - Available to UK researchers and students
  - Stores national surveys (including the CSEW), official statistics like the Census, but also datasets created by individual researchers
  - Each dataset includes a description of the mode of data collection, sampling design, and meets certain quality criteria

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  - Each dataset includes a description of the mode of data collection, sampling design, and meets certain quality criteria
- Only a small fraction of the data is fully open
  - Different levels of access to data depending to how sensitive it is
  - To see what is completely open get into the UK Data Service
  - Click on 'Get data' at the top and on 'Open data' on the left-margin
  - You will find a summary of the types of open data available with links to them

Open data

It is our explicit long-term goal to work with data owners to identify and remove all unnecessary barriers to access.

An increasing number of our datasets are available without registration or authentication using open data licences described in our Data Access Policy. These data are for use with an open licence and are not classified as personal. We are also working to gain open data certification via the Open Data Institute.

We also provide links to other open data resources that may be of interest.

Census data | International macrodata | Qualitative data | Survey data

SHARE

Many of the UK Census data we hold are available without registration or authentication, via the Open Government Licence

Census aggregate data

- 2001 and 2011 Census data
  Explore via InFuse | About census aggregate data
- 1971 to 2001 Census data
  Explore via Casweb | About census aggregate data

Census flow data

- 1981, 1991, 2001 and 2011 Census data
  Explore via WICID | About census flow data

Census boundary data

- 1981, 1991, 2001 and 2011 Census data, as well as other boundaries
  Explore via Boundary Data Selector | About census boundary data

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Accessing Data

- Alternatively you can look for data (open or not) using a keyword search
- Let's access a teaching (open) version of the CSEW
- Click on 'Get data' at the top menu
  - Then enter 'Crime Survey for England and Wales' in the keyword search box
  - You will find that there are lots of versions of the CSEW, depending on their degree of access and their date of publication
  - Click on the empty box beneath 'Access' on the left margin
  - Select 'Open'
  - Then click on 'Crime Survey for England and Wales, 2013-2014: Unrestricted Access Teaching Dataset'

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- Other providers
- Explore online
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- Thesauri

Get data

Search and browse our Data Catalogue

crime survey for england and wales GO

FAQ

Your portal to data and resources

Search and browse our data collections and related publications.

The UK Data Service provides access to over 7,000 digital data collections for research and teaching purposes covering an extensive range of key economic and social data, both quantitative and qualitative, and spanning many disciplines and themes.

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VARIABLE AND QUESTION BANK
Search and browse variables and questions from survey datasets

QUICK ACCESS TO

Key data in our collection:

- UK surveys
- Cross-national surveys
- Longitudinal studies
- Census data
- International macrodata
- Business microdata
- Qualitative/mixed methods

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Studies

Series

http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-8011-1

Copy study DOI

Crime Survey for England and Wales, 2013-2014: Unrestricted Access Teaching Dataset

Details Documentation Resources Access data

Documentation

Title	File name	Size (MB)
Study information and citation	UKDA_Study_8011_Information.htm	0.01
Teaching Dataset User Guide, 2016	8011_user_guide_csew_2013-14_teaching_dataset.pdf	0.28
UK Data Archive Information for Study 8011	read8011.htm	0.01

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Accessing the CSEW

- To see what is in this version of the CSEW download the User Guide
  - Click on the 'Documentation' tab
  - Download the 'Teaching Dataset User Guide, 2016'
- Here you will find:
  - A short description of the CSEW
  - The data collection process (sampling strategy, questionnaire design, mode of data collection, etc.)
  - Information on the content of each variable, including...
  - The variable name: a one word summary of the content of a variable (e.g. *yrsarea*)
  - The variable label: a longer description of that variable (e.g. *How long lived in this area?*)
  - The variable coding system: the numeric value given to each possible response (e.g. 1 for *Less than a month*, 2 for *12 months but less than 2 years*, etc.)
- As before, it is really important that you familiarise yourselves with this information

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Figuring out What Is in the CSEW

- How does the sample look like?
  - What is the mode of data collection
  - What is the sample size?
- Any information on respondents' ethnicity?
  - What is the name of the variable containing that information?
  - How is it coded?
  - How is it broken down by ethnicity?
  - Is it representative of the UK population?
  - Are there any missing cases?
  - Why do you think that is?
- Any information on fear of crime?
  - What would you use to provide a succinct estimate about the level of fear of crime in England and Wales in 2013/14?

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Exploring the CSEW

- After we get an idea of what kind of information is in the dataset we can start exploring it
- Download the SPSS version of the 2013/14 teaching version of the CSEW
  - Click on 'Access data' then on the SPSS 'Download' link
  - You will get a zipped folder, open it, open the 'SPSS' subfolder
  - Double click on the file 'csew1314teachingopen.sav' to open the dataset from SPSS
- Now we can start 'playing' with this data

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- We can find out about people's perception on the prevalence of vandalism and graffiti in the areas they live
  - This could be answered by looking at a frequency table
  - First identify the variable capturing perceived prevalence of vandalism and graffiti
  - Then go to 'Analyze' at the top menu
  - Select 'Descriptive Statistics' and 'Frequencies'
  - Double-click on the variable that we want to explore and press 'OK'
  - Question: How common is vandalism or graffiti in England and Wales?

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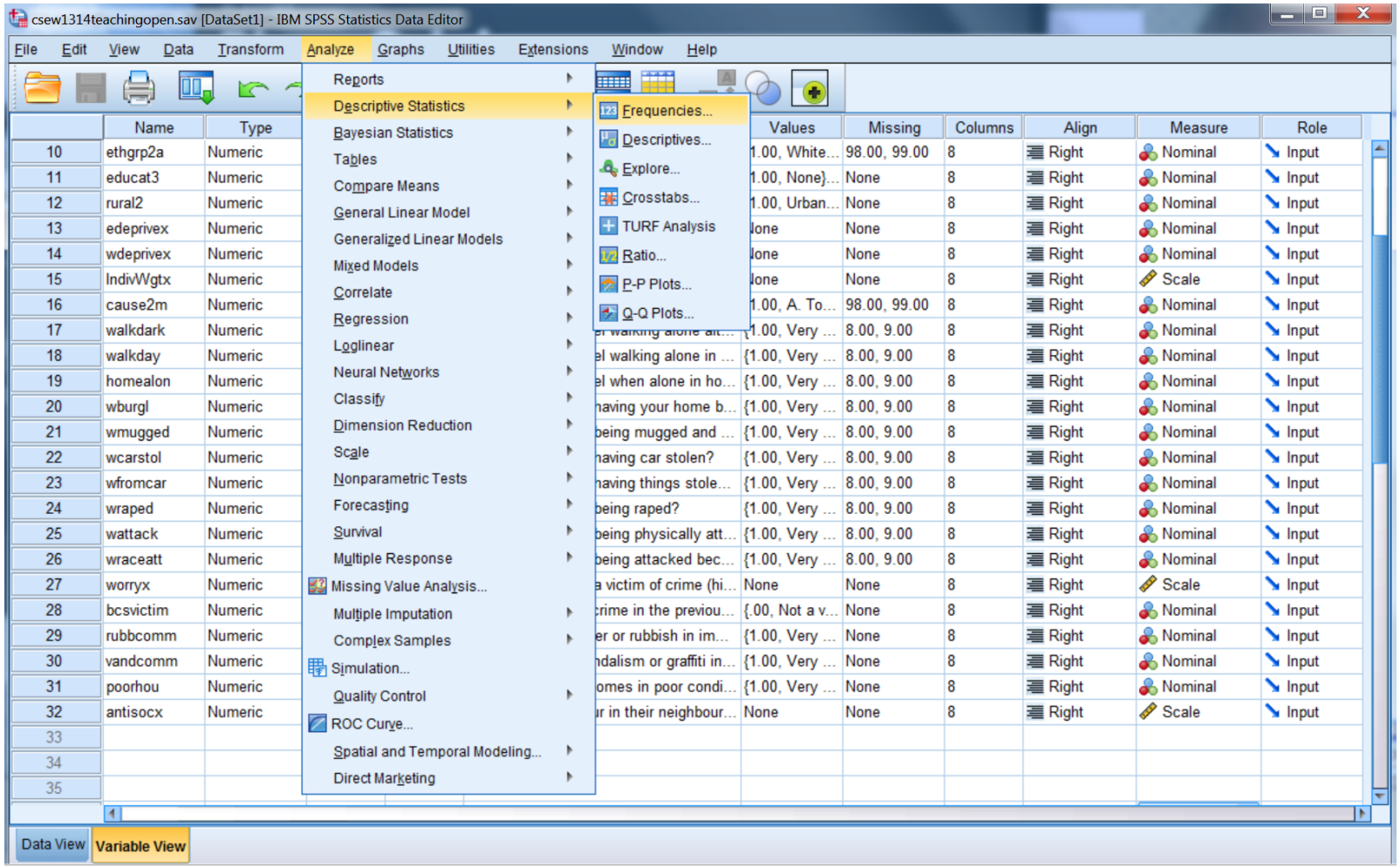

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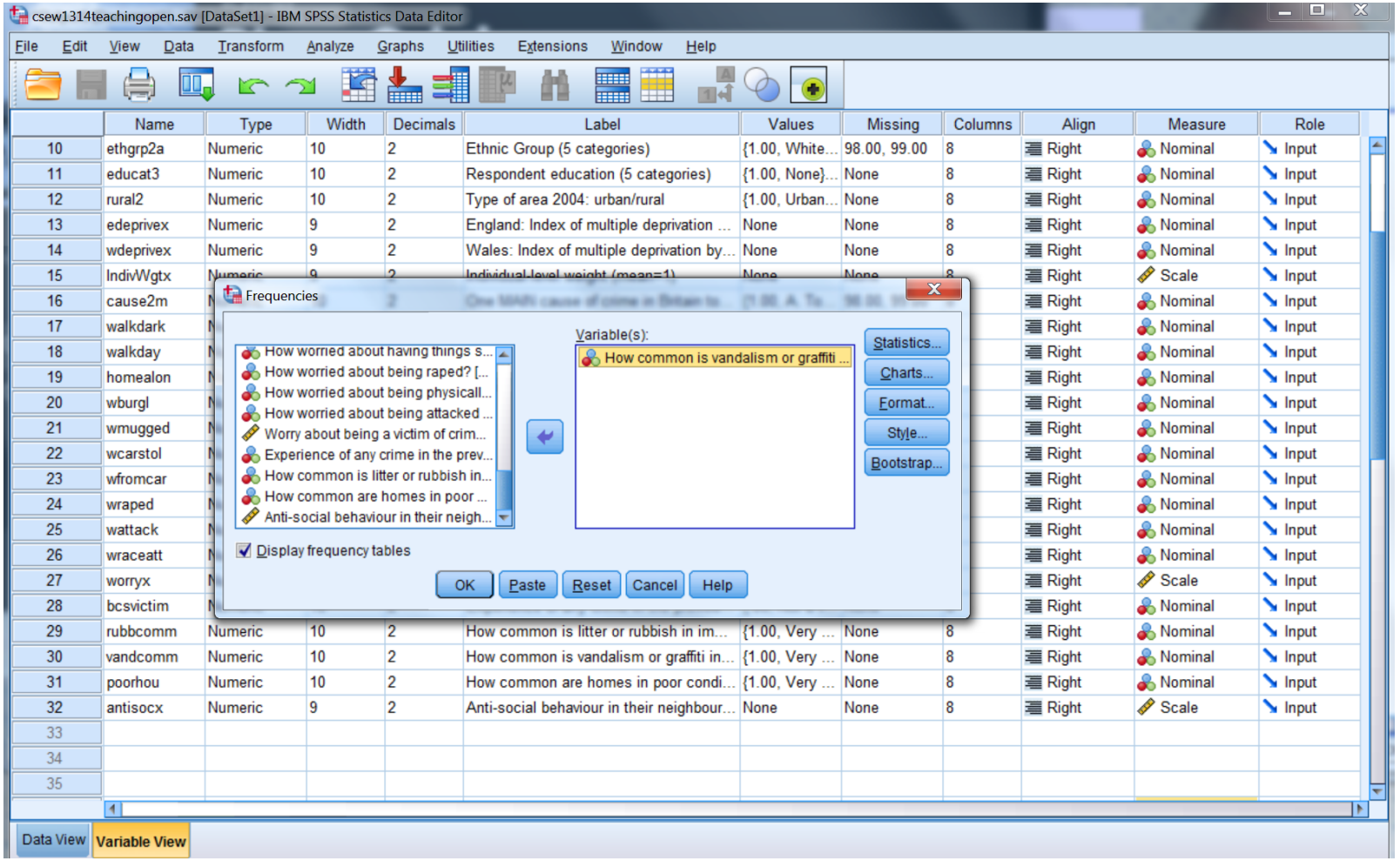

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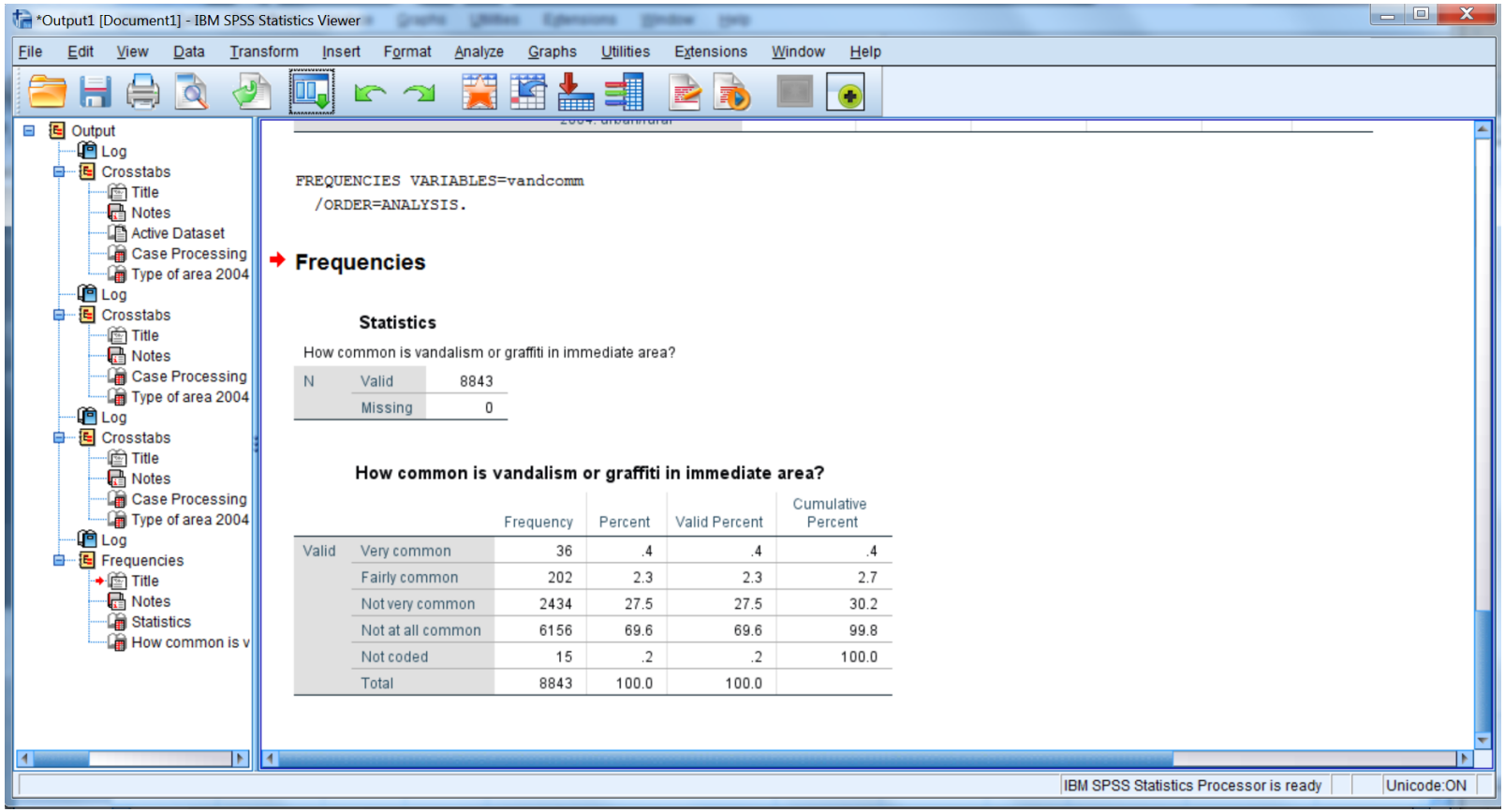

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- We can also examine which areas seem to be more commonly affected by vandalism
  - For example we can compare the prevalence of vandalism in rural and urban areas
  - This could be answered using a cross-tab
  - As before, go to 'Analyze' and 'Descriptive Statistics'
  - but now click on 'Crosstabs'
  - Place vandalism on the 'Column' box and type of area on the 'Row' box
  - Click on 'Cells', at the right-hand side of the Crosstabs menu
  - And tick 'Row'
  - You can now click on 'Continue' and 'OK'
  - Question: Which area seems to be more affected by vandalism?
- We will carry on exploring the CSEW and using SPSS next term

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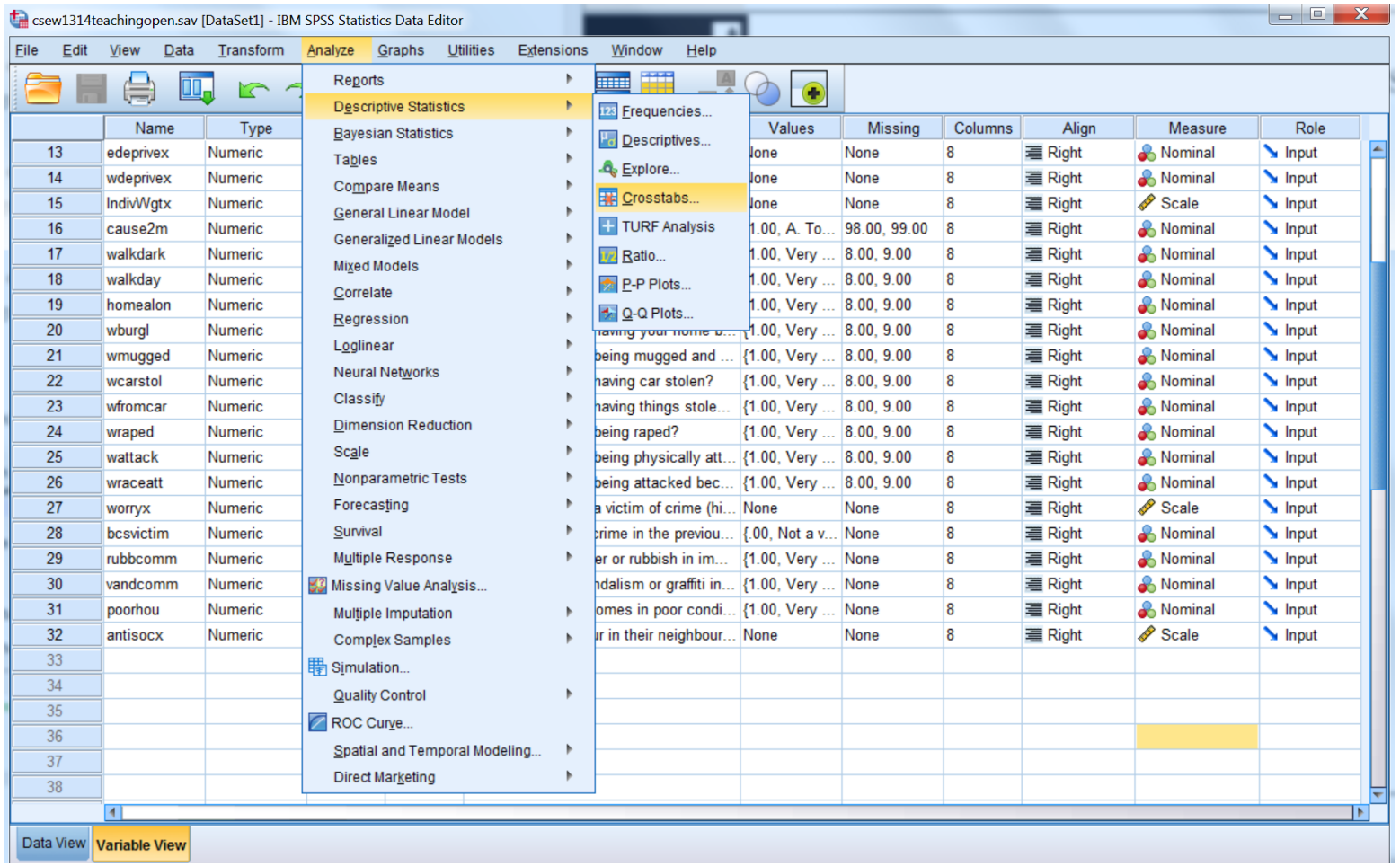

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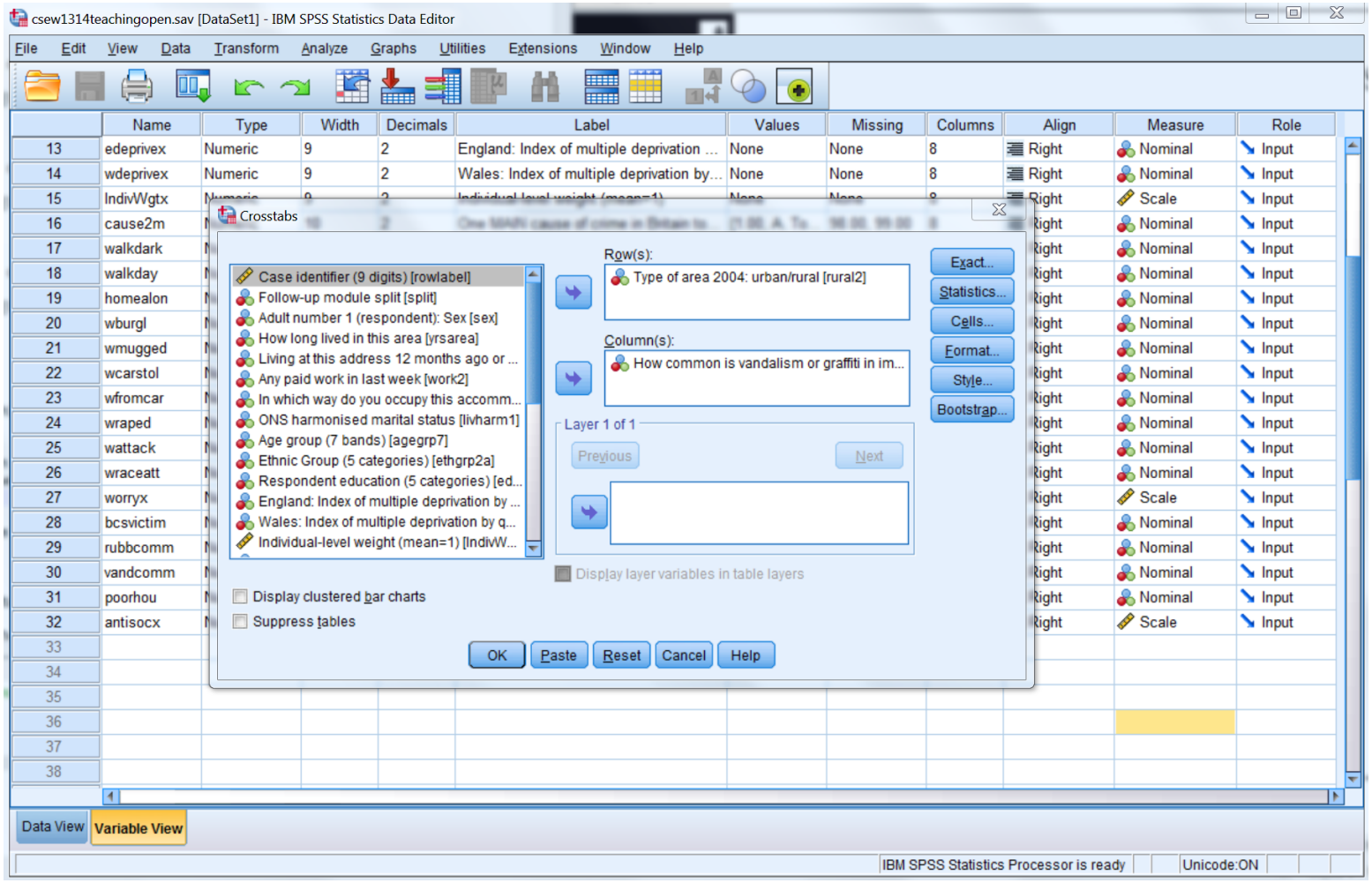

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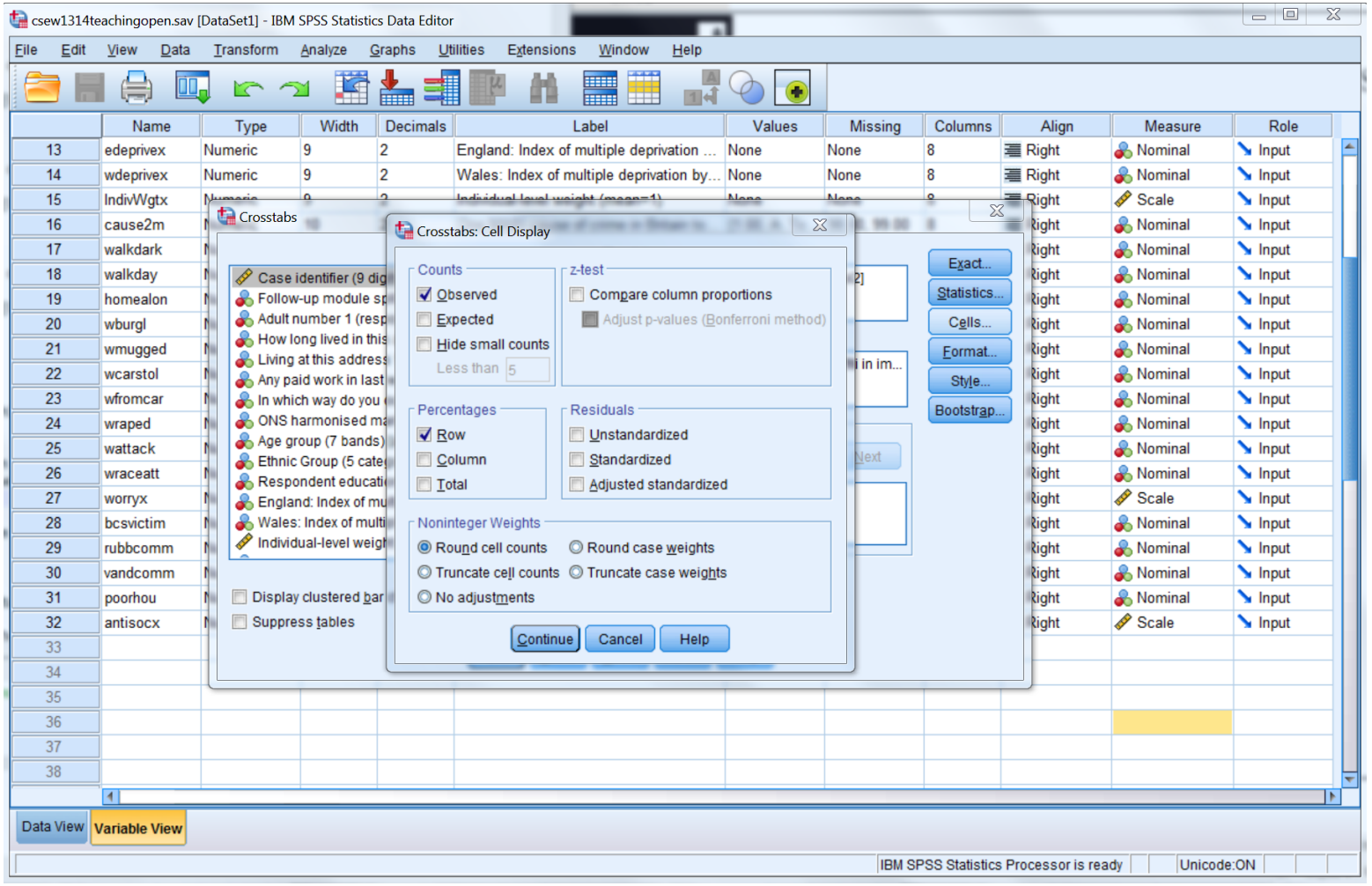

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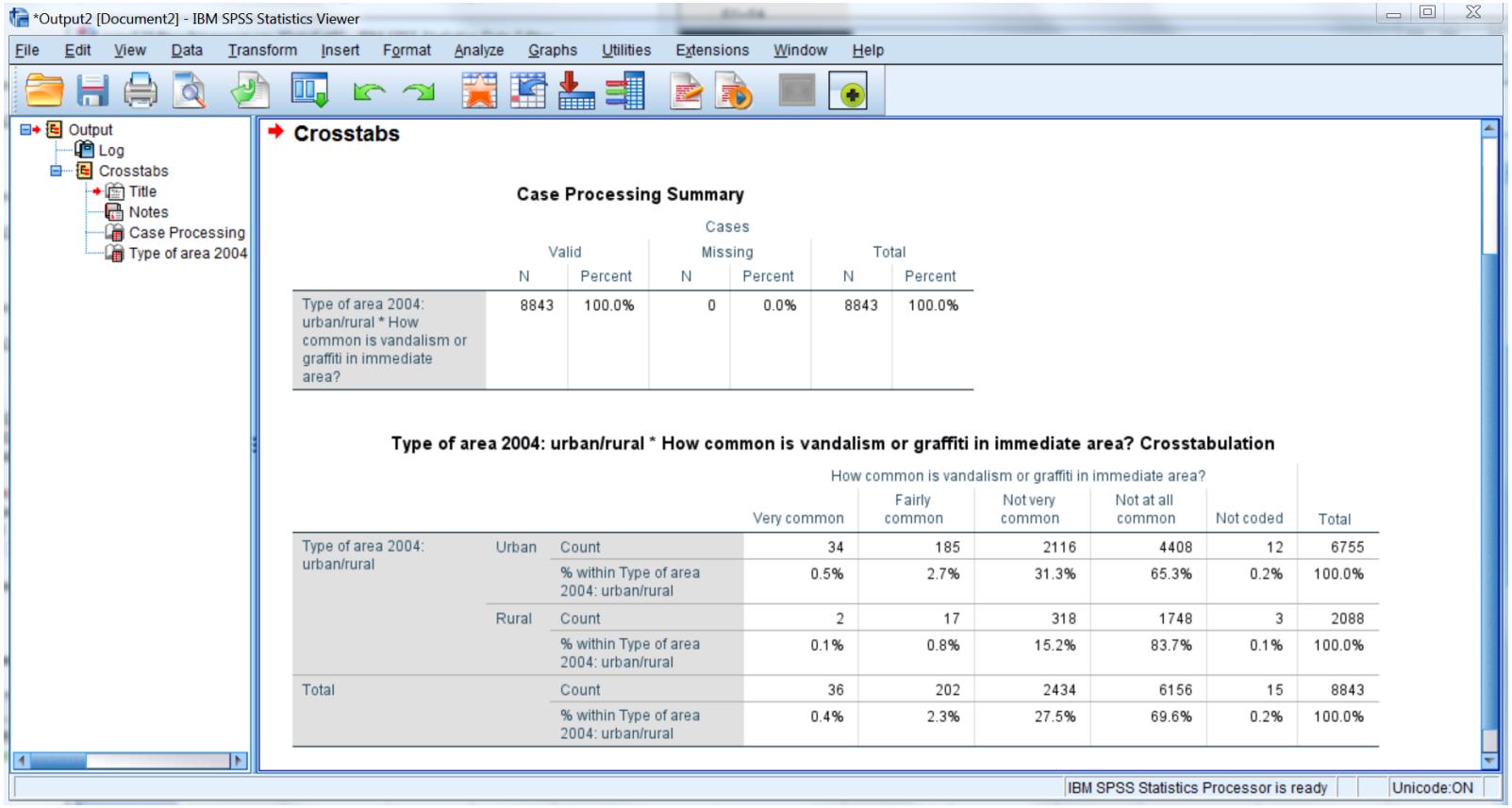

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Register with the UK Data Service

- Being a student of an UK University you can register with the UK Data Service
- And access most of the datasets stored in the archive
- Let's do so now
  - Go to ukdataservice.ac.uk
  - Click on 'Register/Login' at the top-right corner
  - It will ask you to sign in your Leeds account - if you are not already signed in
  - Enter the requested details
  - You should end up in page indicating 'My account'

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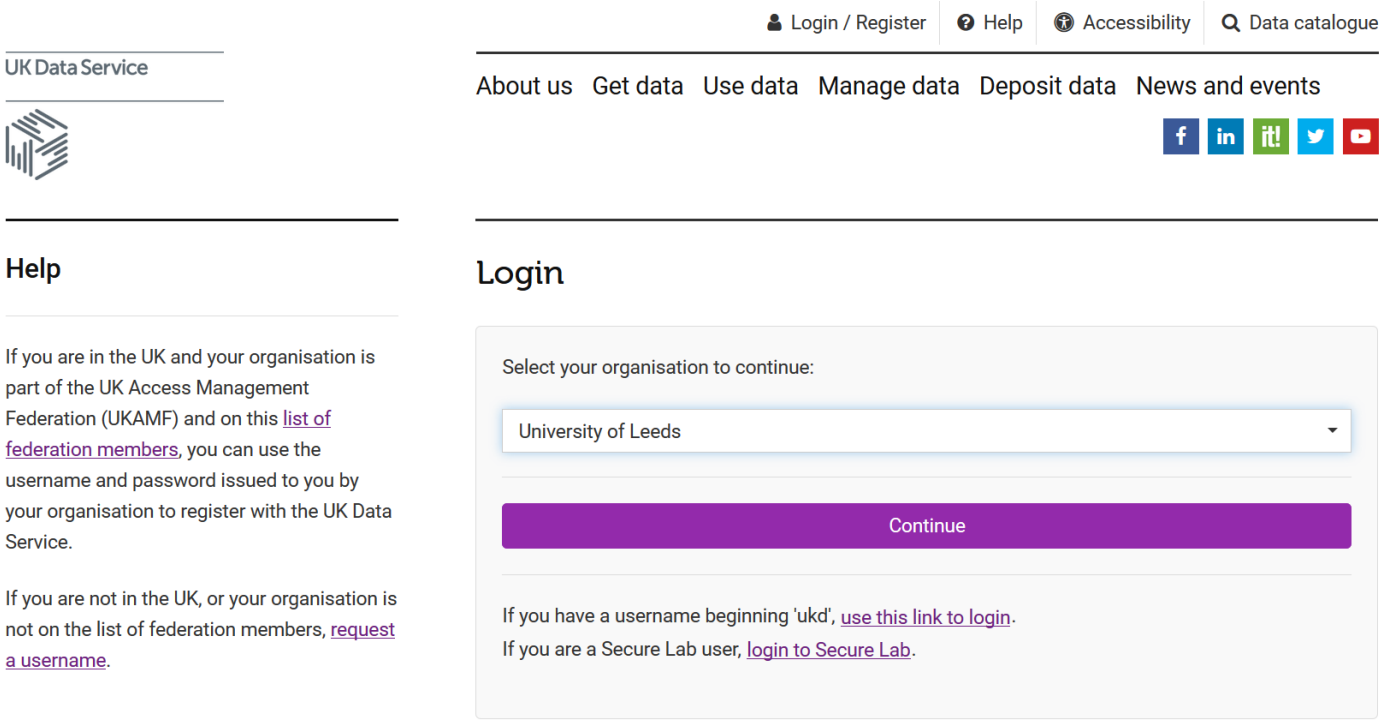

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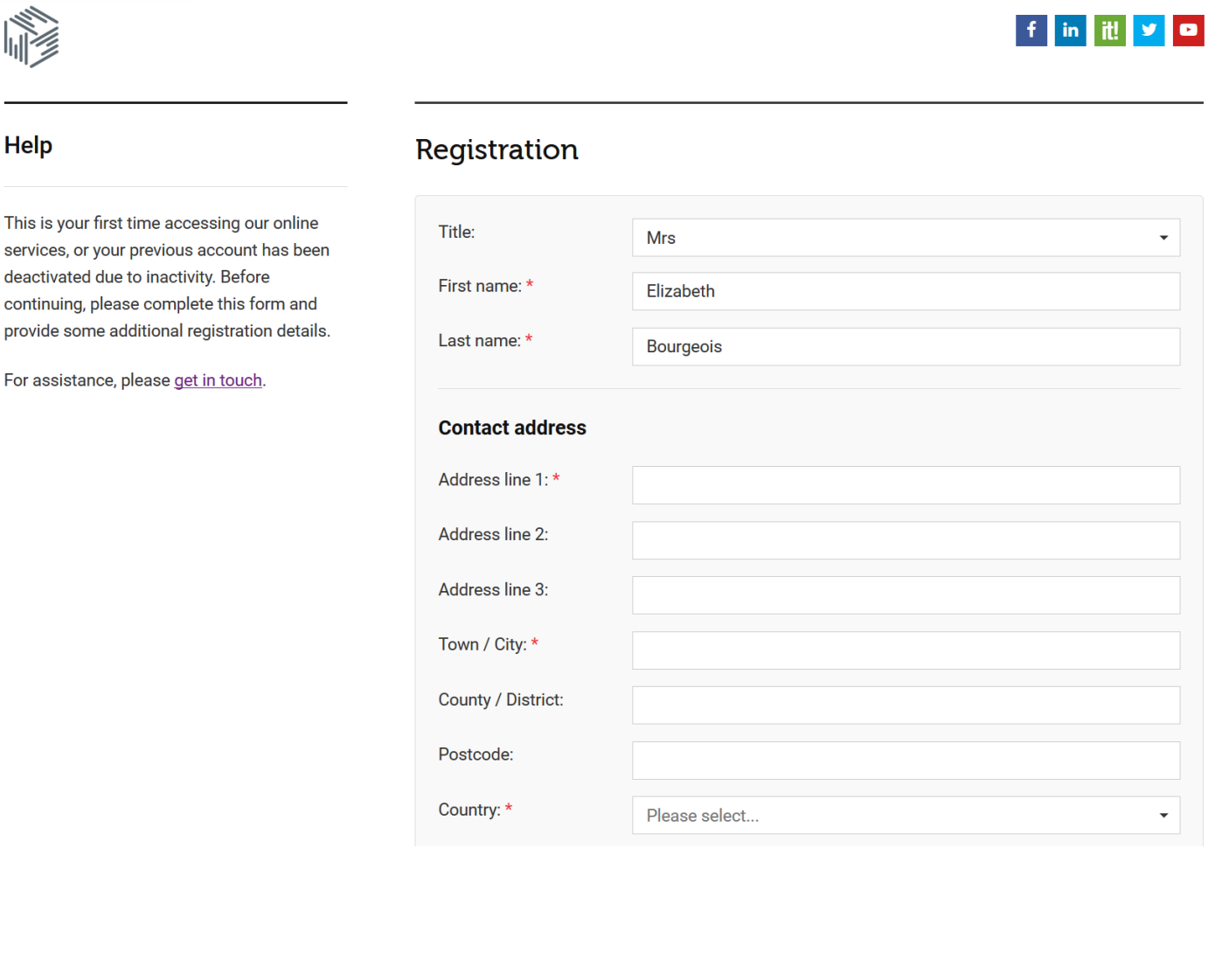

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Welcome to your account with the UK Data Service. Here you can keep track of your data downloads and access requests, projects and data deposits.

If you have already added one or more datasets to your account, you will need to assign them to a project before you can view them. If you have been redirected here after registering with the UK Data Service or after logging in to your account, you can use the data catalogue link at the top of this page to search datasets within our collection.

If you have been redirected from a partner website, this is because your action relates to data within our collection, so please return to your original website.

Each page features a page guide in the top-right corner, providing further information and instructions.

Data

Type	Total
Projects	0
Datasets awaiting assignment	0
Datasets awaiting action	0

View data

Deposits

Type	Total
Datasets	0
Licences	0

View deposits

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Exploring the UK Data Service

- Now you are registered with the UK Data Service
  - You can access much of the data stored in there
  - In principle any dataset labelled as 'Open' or 'Safeguarded'
- Let's see if we can find a dataset that could be useful to your dissertation
  - Run a keyword search for a topic of your interest (I am using 'fraud' in the example in the next slide)
  - Notice the different forms of 'Data Type' available on the left margin (Survey data, big data, longitudinal data, qualitative data)
  - Restrict the search to 'Safeguarded' in the 'Access' criteria
  - Spend some time looking around for a dataset of your interest
  - Put it aside for now (e.g. right-click on it to open it in another tab of your browser)
  - We are going to try to access it, but before we need to create a 'Project'

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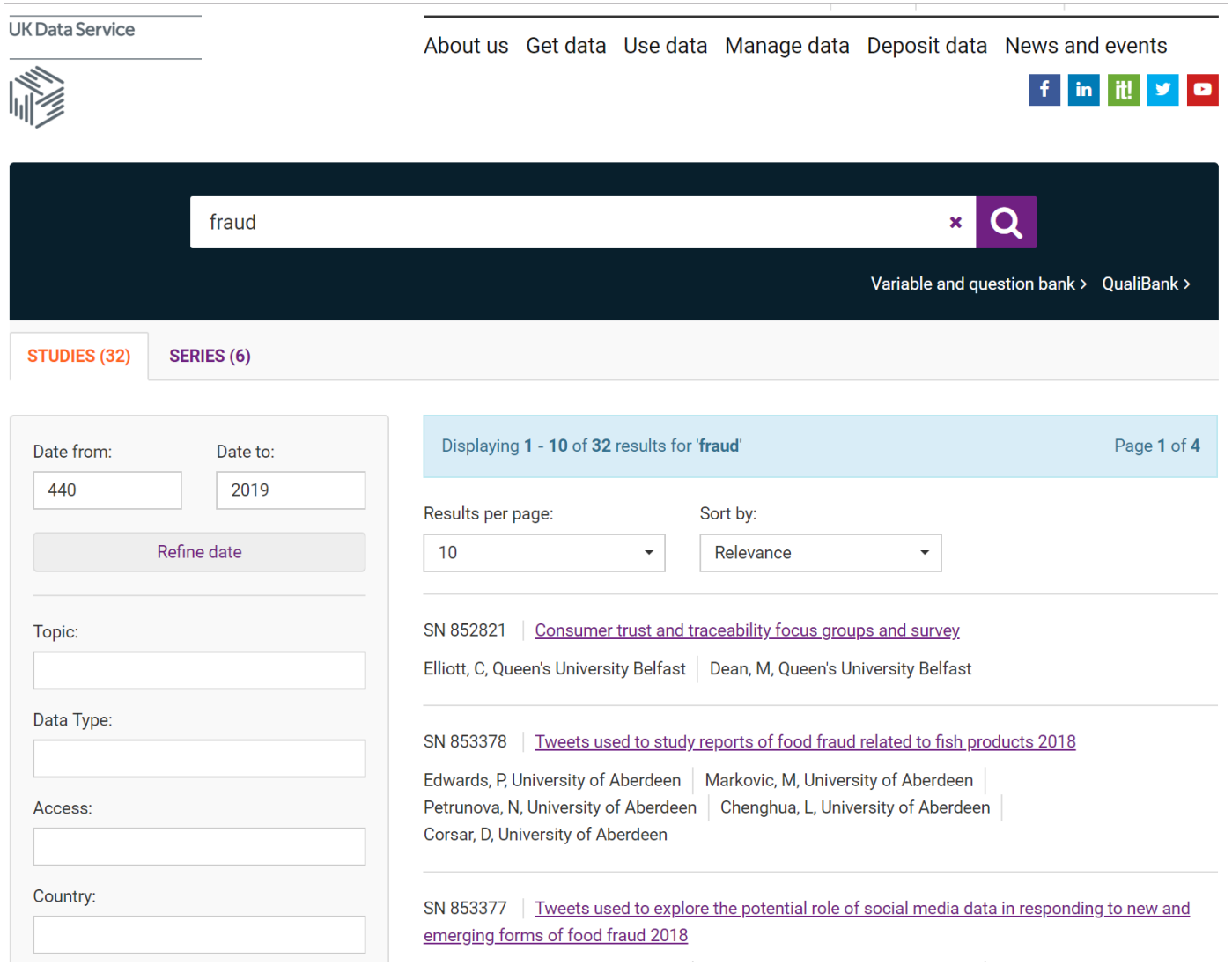

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Accessing 'Safeguarded' Data

- Let's see how to create a 'Project' to access the full version of the 2017-2018 CSEW
  - The latest version available
  - Providing the full sample (24,715 cases) and the full list of variables (2,996)
- You can follow the same steps to access another dataset of your interest
  - Click on 'My Account' at the top menu, and on 'Data' and 'Projects' on the left menu
  - Click on 'Create a new project'
  - Type in a title (e.g. 'Dissertation')
  - Choose 'Non-commercial' as the 'Project-type'
  - Write down an abstract of your research project (100 characters minimum)
  - Then click on 'Create project'

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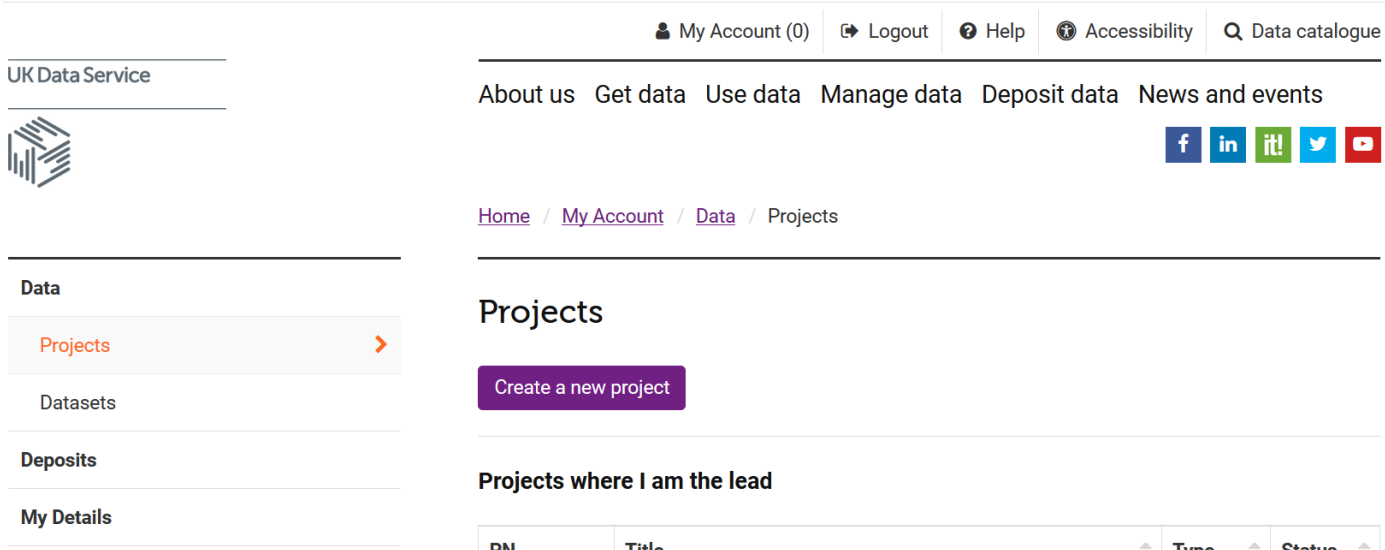

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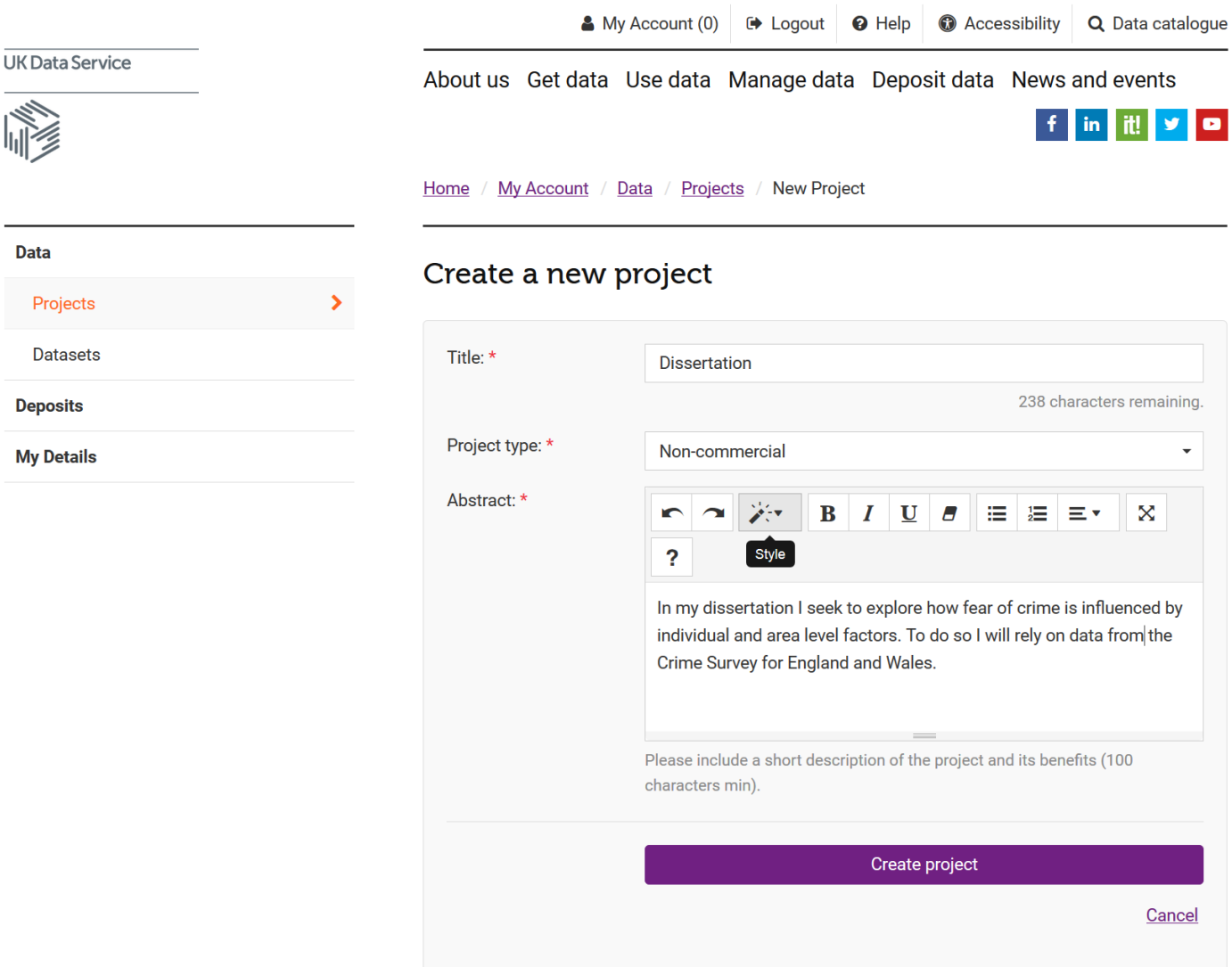

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Accessing your Dataset of Interest

- Once the project is created you need to go back to the dataset you want to access (in our case the 2017-2018 CSEW)
  - Go to the main page of the UK Data Service, type 'Crime Survey for England and Wales' in the search box
  - Click on 'Crime Survey for England and Wales 2017-2018'
  - Click on 'Access data' and 'Add to account'
  - Tick the dataset and click on 'Add to Project'
  - Tick 'Add to an existing project', choose 'Dissertation', then click 'Add to project'
  - You should be able to download the data now, choose the SPSS format if available
  - Once downloaded open it from SPSS to start exploring it

Going back to your Data of Interest

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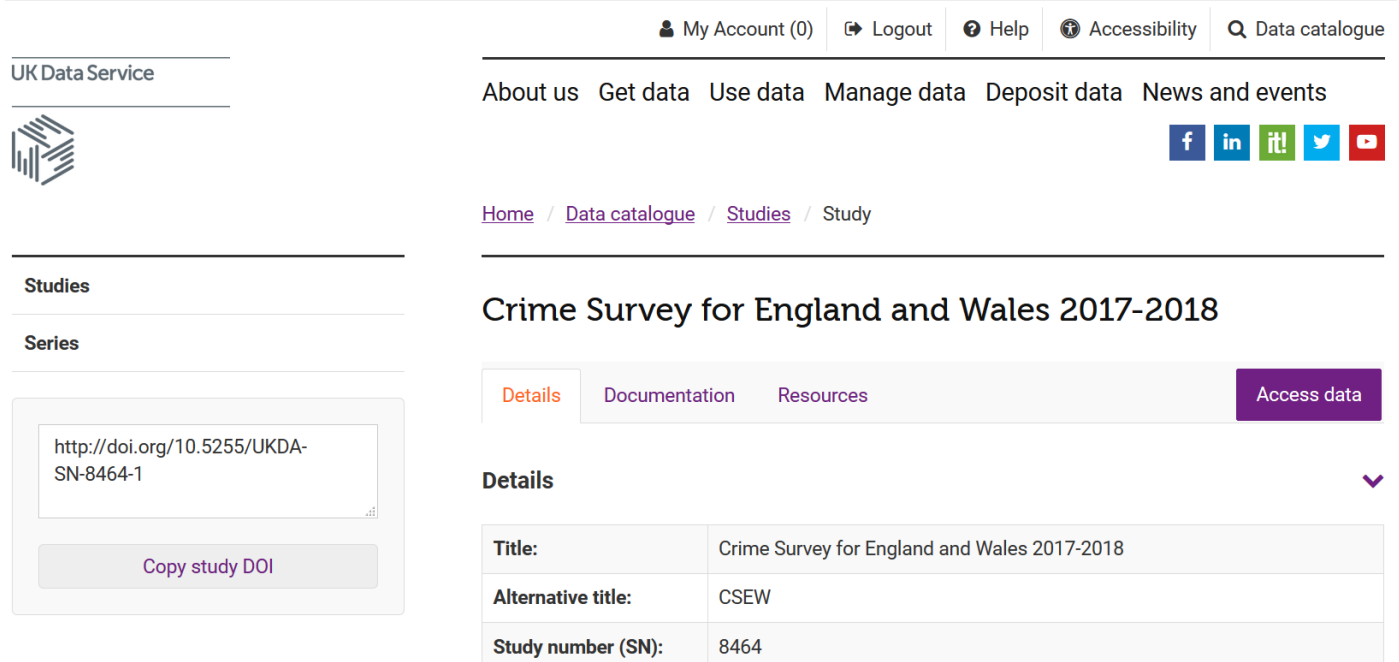

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Studies

Series

http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-8464-1

Copy study DOI

Crime Survey for England and Wales 2017-2018

Details | Documentation | Resources | Access data

Details

Title:	Crime Survey for England and Wales 2017-2018
Alternative title:	CSEW
Study number (SN):	8464
Persistent identifier (DOI):	10.5255/UKDA-SN-8464-1
Series:	Crime Survey for England and Wales
Principal investigator(s):	Office for National Statistics

Downloading the Data to your Account

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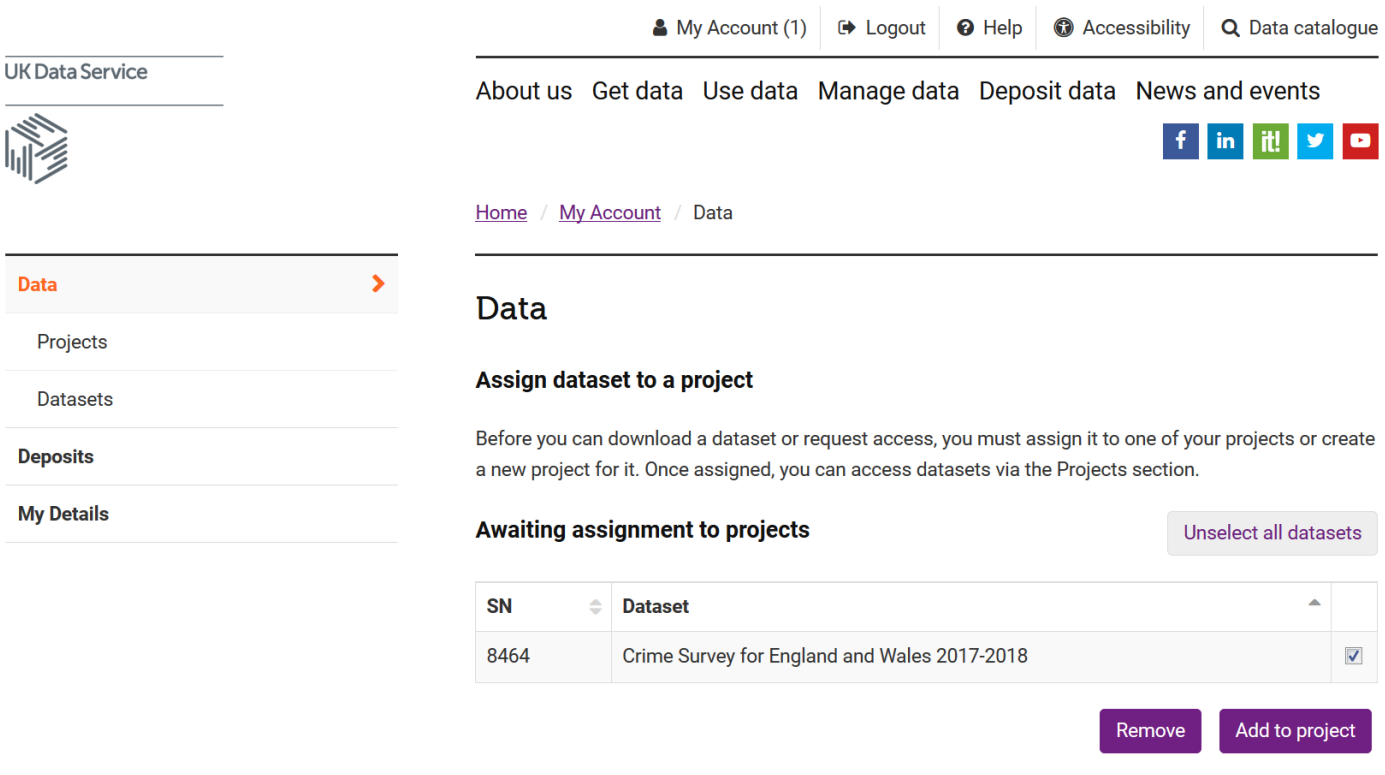

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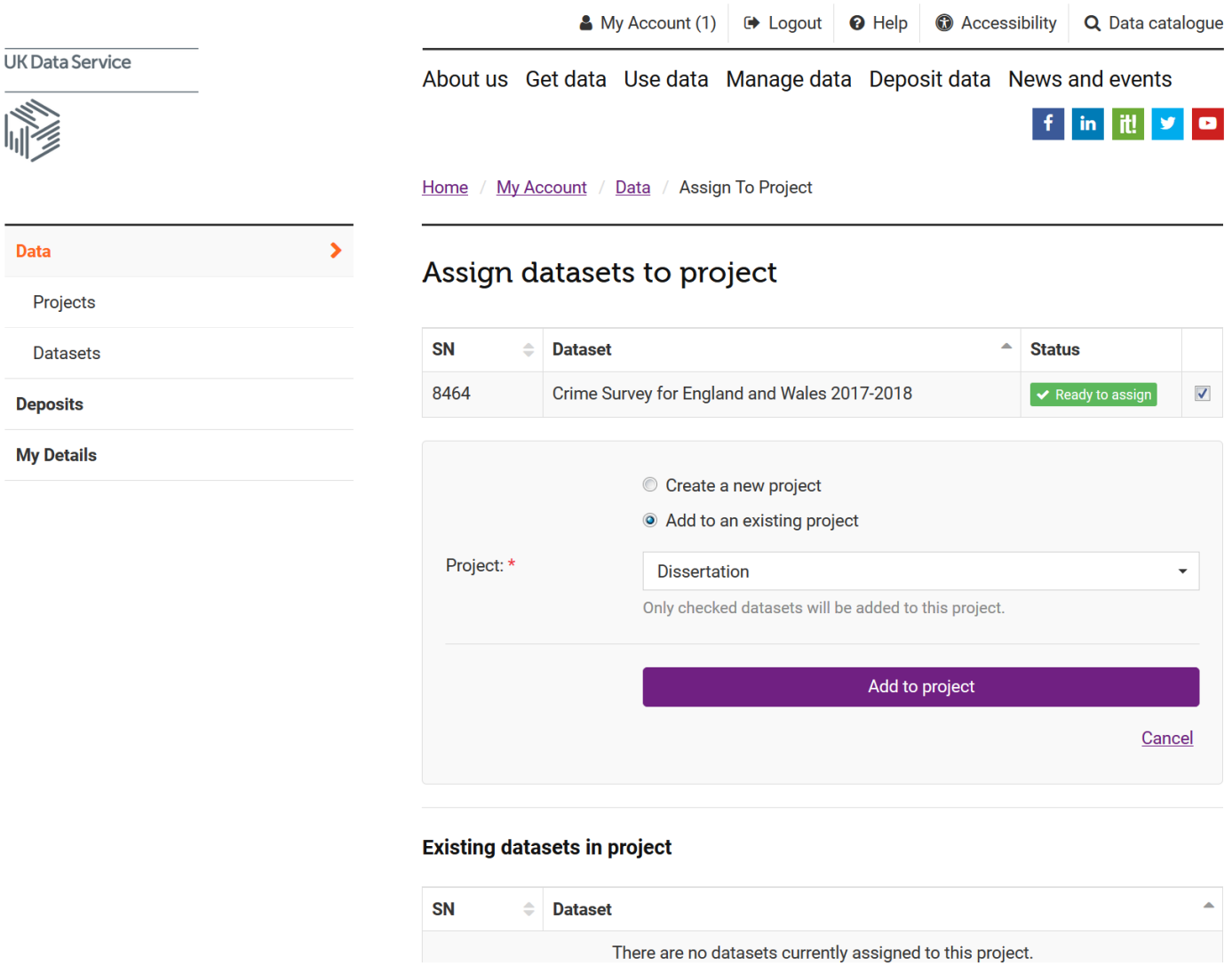

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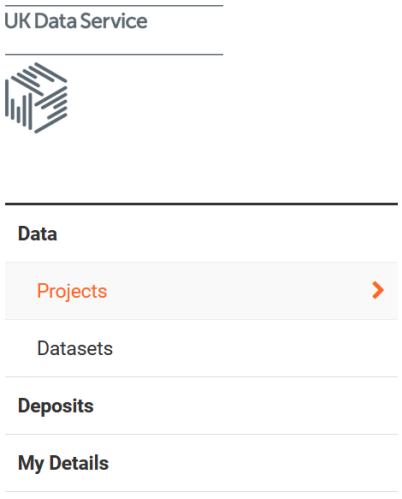

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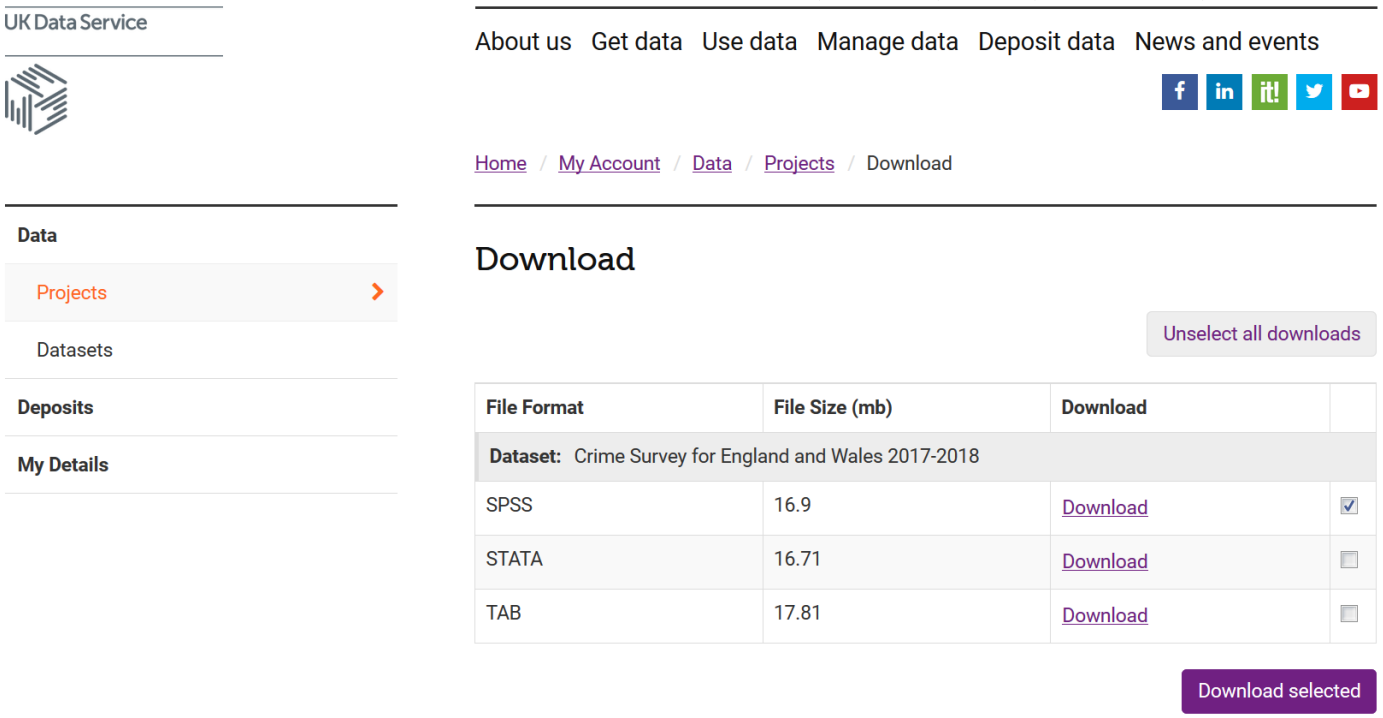

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Other Criminal Justice Statistics

- Criminal court statistics
- Prison population statistics
- Terrorism Act 2000 statistics
- Seizure of drugs statistics
- Crime against business statistics
- Youth Justice statistics
- All of the above and more are compiled here
- If interested in American data check the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data

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Final Message

- Invest time looking for secondary data
  - It is possible that the data you are looking for does not exist
  - but it is generally a very good idea to start any research by reviewing what kind of data on the topic is available
  - It is an effort that tends to pay off more often than not
- Next term we will get started analysing the CSEW using SPSS