An introduction to using linked administrative data for social and health research

8th – 12th October 2018
Edinburgh Training and Conference Venue, 16 St Mary's Street, Edinburgh

Audience

Interested in using linked administrative data in your research? Don't know what data is out there, how to access it, or if you have the skills to do this type of analysis? If you are a social or health researcher with experience of analysing survey data, or if you already work with administrative data but want to analyse multiple administrative datasets linked together, then this course is for you.

Outline

The course will give an introduction to administrative data, describing what it is, some of the particular problems in working with this type of data and how to deal with this. Theoretical sessions will be backed up by hands-on practical sessions, using R or Stata to write syntax to tidy, clean and recode data; link datasets; manipulate data; conduct data visualisation; document workflow; identify data quality issues; and fit regression models . The Scottish Longitudinal Study (SLS) synthetic data will be used in the practical exercise.

There will be sessions on: indexing, linking and joining datasets; working with dates and times; descriptive and inferential statistics for administrative data; and methods for dealing with missing data. There will also be sessions on how to apply for access to linked data, and secure data access within a safe setting, as well as the ethical, confidentiality and disclosure issues around using this type of data. A data showcase session will give a flavour of the type of data that is available. Current researchers will highlight their research using linked administrative data and describe the advantages of this approach, as well as the problems they have encountered and the lessons learned.

By the end of this course participants will have the skills to identify, access and prepare linked administrative data for analysis.

REGISTER INTEREST

£250 (students)

£500 (everyone else)

Fees include: Course dinner, book, breakfast, and lunch.

Questions? adrc-s@ed.ac.uk

Scottish Graduate School of Social Science

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