

SOME USEFUL REFERENCES

(* denotes good general reference;
others are more specialised)

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3 Categories of Classification Items

- General Classification Systems.

Widely-used.

Important to most/many fields of research, issues.

Some standard models exist

- Subject-specific Classifications.

e.g. drinking behaviour; measures; fertility measures;
morality measures; etc.

comparability with other surveys in field important

- Project-specific Classifications.

e.g. occasions on which people drink, most attitude
scales etc.

either innovatory or exploratory or expressing discontent
with other classification systems.

Classification, like all survey measures, should be:

- Reliable, : that is precise, small random error in measure.
: high correlation if repeat measures.

and

- Valid, : that is it measures what we think it does/ought
: good operational definition of concept.

: Face Validity valid according to "expert
knowledge"

: Concurrent Validity, ability to distinguish between
individuals known to differ

: Construct Validity, measurement of theoretical
construct,
ie. in relation to other
operational definitions.

USUAL FEATURES OF CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

(implied by need for reliability, validity)

- Correctly identifies concept (face validity)
- Single dimension (if not, separate identification of dimensions so explicitly multidimension)
- Unique identification (each case in one category - if in more than one, choice not accident)
- Manageable number of categories (precision vs manageable)
- Effectively discriminates between other concepts (construct validity)
- Can be measured (feasibility)
- Comparable with know data sources

Some General Classification Variables

Individual

Sex
Age
Marital status

Economic activity status
Employment status
Occupation
Social class? →
Standard Industrial Classification
Education
Religion
Ethnic Group
Personal income →
Political identification

Accommodation

Tenure
Responsibility for tenure
Size/density
Amenities
Type

Household family

Size
Type
Composition

Car ownership
Telephone ownership
Other ownership
Class?

Total income
Total income

Area/Geographic

Region
Admin area (p.d. etc)
Density, inc rural/urba
Population characterist
of area.
Type (ACORN, etc)

Cross-cutting these - TIME - present or past variables . .

OCCUPATION CLASSIFICATIONS

6

7

key classifications

OPCS classification of Occupations (Census)

DE classification of Occupations and
Directory of Occupational Titles (CODOT)

| <u>OPCS</u> | <u>CODOT</u> |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Census occupation (550) | 3500 occupations |
| Employment status | 378 unit groups |
| Social class | 73 minor groups |
| E. G. | 18 major groups |

KOS

404 occupations
161 condensed
16 orders

Employment Status

Self-employed : (25+ employees)
(1 - 24 employees)
(no employees)
(not stated how many employees)

Manager : (establishment with 25+ employees)
(establishment with 1 - 24 employees)
(size of establishment not stated)

Foreman/Supervisor

Other employee

Employee (not stated if manager/foreman)

Insufficient information

Registrar General's Social Class

History : Originally developed by Dr Stevenson for use in 1911 census. Much modified for 1921 census from which present version originally derives. "Adjusted" every 10 years for the census.

Stevenson: "The scheme is, admittedly, a rough and ready one, as indeed all broad lines of classification devoid of quantitative basis must be, but it has the great merit of simplicity".

Definition : Classification of Occupations, 1980.

Basis : Classes are defined as described below "so as to ensure that, as far as possible, each category is homogeneous in relation to the basic criterion of the general standing within the community of the occupations concerned. This criterion is naturally correlated with ... otehr factors such as education and economic environment, but it has no direct relationship to the average level of remuneration of particular occupations". (Classification of Occupations, 1970).

"The occupation groups included have been selected in such a way as to bring together, so far as possible, people with similar levels of occupational skill. In general each occupation is assigned as a whole to one or another social class and no account is taken of differences between individuals of the same occupation group e.g. differences of educational level or remuneration. However ... (EXCEPTIONS THEN LISTED) (Classification of Occupations, 1980).

Registrar General's social class is derived by crossing occupation group with employment status. The only necessary employment status categories are manager, foreman, other.

Structure : Six groups as follows:

- I Professional etc.
- II Intermediate
- III (N) Skilled - non-manual
- III (M) Skilled - manual
- IV Partly skilled
- V Unskilled

Sources of Statistics : Census

Registrar General's Social Class

Economically Active,
Retired or Permanently Sick
& aged 16+

| | Men % | Women % |
|--------------------------|----------|------------|
| <u>R.G. Social Class</u> | | |
| I | 5 | 1 |
| II | 20 | 18 |
| III NM | 11 | 34 |
| III M | 33 | 8 |
| IV | 16 | 19 |
| V | 6 | 6 |
| Armed forces/unclear | 8 | 13 |

Source: 1981 Census
(Great Britain)

Socio-Economic Group (SEG)

Definition : Classification of Occupations, 1980.

History : Introduced in 1951 and substantially revised in 1961.

Basis : 1970 "It is intended that each socio-economic group should contain people whose social, cultural and recreational standards and behaviour are similar".
(Classification of Occupations, 1970)

1980 "The classification aims to bring together people with jobs of similar social and economic status".
(Classification of Occupations, 1980).

Structure : Occupations are classified by occupational unit groups crossed with employment status. Relevant employment status categories are:

- Self-employed - with employees - large establishments
- with employees - small establishments
- without employees
- Employee - manager in large establishment
- manager in small establishment
- foremen and supervisors
- other employees

(A large establishment is one with 25 or more employees).

Each cell resulting from crossing occupational unit group with employment status is allocated to one of 16 socio-economic groups. A conventional condensation of those used in the General Household Survey reduces these to six plus a remnant category.

Sources of Comparative Statistics : Census
 General Household Surveys

Registrar-General's Socio-Economic Group

| <u>Group</u> | Economically Active, Retired or Permanently Sick & Aged 16+ | | |
|--|---|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| | <u>Men</u> | <u>Women</u> | |
| 3 Professional (Self-employed) | 1 | * | } 1 Professional |
| 4 Professional (Employees) | 4 | 1 | |
| 1 Employers & Managers (large establishments) | 5 | 2 | } 6 Employers/Managers |
| 2 Employers & Managers (small establishments) | 9 | 4 | |
| 13 Farmers - Employers & Managers | 1 | * | } 46 Intermediate & Junior Non-Manual |
| 5 Intermediate non-manual | 7 | 13 | |
| 6 Junior non-manual | 9 | 33 | |
| 8 Foremen & Supervisors (manual) | 4 | 1 | } 6 Skilled Manual/own account |
| 9 Skilled manual | 25 | 4 | |
| 12 Own-account workers (other than professional) | 5 | 2 | } 11 Semi-Skilled etc. |
| 14 Farmers (own-account) | 1 | * | |
| 7 Personal service workers | 1 | 11 | } 22 Skilled Manual/own account |
| 10 Semi-skilled manual workers | 14 | 10 | |
| 15 Agricultural workers | 1 | * | } 6 Unskilled |
| 11 Unskilled manual workers | 6 | 6 | |
| 16 Members of the armed forces | 1 | * | } Forces/Unclassifiable |
| 17 Inadequately described occupations | 7 | 13 | |

Source: 1981 Census (Great Britain)

12

The Hope-Goldthorpe Scale

Definition : "The Social Grading of Occupations" Goldthorpe & Hope (OUP, 1974).

"Social Mobility & Class Structure in Modern Britain" Goldthorpe & Hope (OUP, 1980)

Basis : Originally based on ratings in a survey of the "general desirability of a selection of crosses of 1971 census occupation and employment status. This was extrapolated, on the basis of "expert" judgement, to a scale ordering of all such combinations.

"We combine occupational categories whose members would appear, in the light of the available evidence, to be typically comparable, on the one hand, in terms of their sources and levels of income, their degree of economic security and chances of economic advancement; and, on the other hand, in their location within the systems of authority and control governing the process of production in which they are engaged, and hence in their degree of autonomy in performing their work-tasks and roles."

The scale described in the books referred to has since been modified in detail, partly on an intuitive basis, partly to facilitate international comparisons.

Sources of Statistics

SCPR Social Attitudes Survey

13

Hope-Goldthorpe Social Class

Present or Last Job -
Persons 16 but under pension
age - UK

| | Men | Women |
|---|-----|-------|
| | 7 | 7 |
| The Salarist { Higher grade professionals, administrative, officials and managers. Large proprietors. | 15 | 3 |
| { Lower grade professionals and managers, supervisors of non-manual employee | 14 | 14 |
| Routine non-manual { Routine office workers | 6 | 26 |
| { Sales personnel, rank & file service employees. | 1 | 12 |
| Petty Bourgeoisie { Small proprietors - with employees | 5 | 2 |
| { - without employees | 4 | 2 |
| { - farmers | 1 | * |
| Manual Foremen Supervisors of manual workers | 8 | 2 |
| Working Class { Lower grade technicians, skilled manual workers | 16 | 4 |
| { Semi-skilled & unskilled employees, agricultural workers | 20 | 25 |
| Never worked | 8 | 7 |
| Unclear | 1 | 2 |

Source: British Social Attitudes, 1986

JICNARS SOCIAL GRADE

- History** : Developed from Registrar General's Social class for the National Readership Surveys.
- Definition** : Social Grading on the National Readership Survey: D. Monk (JICNARS, 1978)
The system most commonly used in market research.
- Basis** : Based originally on Social Class, but simplified. Thought to relate more to income than RG Social Class, but essentially still based on "standing" Includes "E" class which is not occupationally defined.
- Structure** :
- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| A | Upper Middle | Military equivalent Lt. Col. and above |
| B | Middle | Captains and Majors |
| C1 | Lower Middle | Subalterns, Sergeants and Warrant Officers |
| C2 | Skilled Working | Lance Corporals and Corporals |
| D | Working | Privates |
| E | Lowest levels of subsistence. (Casual labourers and people living on social security) | |

Normally, everyone in household is classified by the occupation of the head of household.

Sources of Statistics

: JICNARS National Readership Surveys

| | Population aged 15+ | | | |
|--------------|---------------------|-----|-------|------------|
| | Total | Men | Women | Housewives |
| Social Grade | % | % | % | % |
| A | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| B | 14 | 14 | 13 | 13 |
| C1 | 23 | 22 | 24 | 24 |
| C2 | 32 | 35 | 29 | 29 |
| D | 19 | 20 | 18 | 18 |
| E | 10 | 7 | 13 | 14 |

Source: JICNARS National Readership Survey, 1981

| | SOCIAL CLASS | OCCUPATION OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD |
|----|---|---|
| A | Upper Middle Class | Higher managerial, administrative or professional |
| B | Middle Class | Intermediate managerial, administrative or professional |
| C1 | Lower Middle Class | Supervisory or clerical and junior managerial, administrative or professional |
| C2 | Skilled Working Class | Skilled manual workers |
| D | Working Class | Semi and unskilled manual workers |
| E | Those at the lowest levels of subsistence | State pensioners, etc., with no other earner |

Standard Industrial Classification

| Industry division* | Great Britain | | |
|---|----------------|--------|-------|
| | All PERSONS | Men | Women |
| Population aged 16 years and over, in employment, by industry division and sex, Spring 1985 | | | |
| Employees and self employed (thousands) = 100% | 23,343 | 13,602 | 9,742 |
| 0 Agriculture, forestry, fishing | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 1 Energy and water supply | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 2 Extraction of minerals and ores other than fuels; manufacture of metals, mineral products and chemicals | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| 3 Metal goods, engineering and vehicles | 11 | 15 | 5 |
| 4 Other manufacturing | 11 | 11 | 10 |
| 5 Construction | 7 | 11 | 2 |
| 6 Distribution; hotels and catering; repairs | 20 | 16 | 25 |
| 7 Transport and communication | 6 | 8 | 3 |
| 8 Banking, finance and insurance; business services; leasing | 9 | 9 | 10 |
| 9 Other services | 27 | 18 | 40 |
| Inadequately described; not stated; working outside UK | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| On government employment and training schemes (thousands) | 396 | 252 | 144 |
| All in employment (thousands) | 23,739 | 13,853 | 9,886 |

Source: Labour Force Survey

Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)

- Definition:** : Standard Industrial Classification (HMSO; 1979)
- Basis** : Main activity of employer or main activity of employer at the establishment where the person concerned works or with which the person is mainly connected.
- Structure** : 334 activities, collapsing to 222 groups, 60 classes and 10 divisions.
- Sources of Statistics:** : Population Census
Census of Employment
Labour Force Surveys

Ethnicity/Race

INTERVIEWER: CODE FROM OBSERVATION

- White/European
- Indian/East African Asian/Pakistani/Bangladeshi/Sri Lanka
- Black/African/West Indian
- Other (inc. Chinese)

OR

Ethnic Descent

- English/Scottish/Welsh
- Irish (Northern/Southern)
- Bangladeshi/Bengali
- Indian
- Pakistani
- Sri Lankan
- East African Asian
- Chinese
- Japanese
- Vietnamese
- Afro-Caribbean/West Indian
- Black African
- Arab
- Turkish/Greek Cypriot
- Other European
- Other

Please indicate your race or ethnic origin by ticking one box

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> 01 | of Indian origin |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 02 | of Pakistani origin |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 03 | of Bangladeshi origin |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 04 | of East African origin |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 05 | of Chinese origin |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 06 | of other origin (please write in) |
| | | |
| Black | <input type="checkbox"/> 11 | of Caribbean origin |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 12 | of African origin |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 13 | of other origin (please write in) |
| | | |
| White | <input type="checkbox"/> 21 | of British origin |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 22 | of other origin (please write in) |
| | | |
| Other group — | <input type="checkbox"/> 31 | (Please write in) |
| | | |

5

AGE

Q. What was your age at your last birthday?

WRITE IN

Refused

OR

Q. Age last birthday (SHOWCARD OR READOUT)

- and grouped, e.g.
- 18 - 24
 - 25 - 34
 - 35 - 44
 - 45 - 54
 - 55 - 59
 - 60 - 64
 - 65 - 74
 - 75 +

Not 18 - 25
25 - 35

But can use: 18, under 25
(though no advantage) 25, under 35

CARD

Which of these descriptions applies to what you were doing last week, that is, in the seven days ending last Sunday?

PROBE: Any others? CODE ALL THAT APPLY IN COLUMN I

IF ONLY ONE CODE AT I, TRANSFER IT TO COLUMN II

IF MORE THAN ONE AT I, TRANSFER HIGHEST ON LIST TO II

| | COL I | COL II ECONOMIC POSITION |
|--|-------|--------------------------|
| In full-time education (not paid for by employer, including on vacation) | A | 01 |
| On government training/employment scheme (e.g. Community Programme, Youth Training Scheme, etc) | B | 02 |
| In paid work (or away temporarily) for at least 10 hours in the week | C | 03 |
| Waiting to take up paid work already accepted | D | 04 |
| Unemployed and registered at a benefit office | E | 05 |
| Unemployed, <u>not</u> registered, but actively looking for a job | F | 06 |
| Unemployed, wanting a job (of at least 10 hrs per week), but <u>not</u> actively looking for a job | G | 07 |
| Permanently sick or disabled | H | 08 |
| Wholly retired from work | J | 09 |
| Looking after the home | K | 10 |
| Doing something else (SPECIFY) | L | 11 |

ACTIVITY STATUS

- Did you do any paid work last week (the seven days ending last Sunday) either as an employee or self-employed?

| | |
|-----|-----|
| Yes | Q.3 |
| No | Q.2 |
- IF NO TO Q.1 Even though you were not working, did you have a job that you were away from last week?

| | |
|-----|-----|
| Yes | Q.3 |
| No | Q.4 |
- IF YES TO 1 OR 2 In your job, do you usually work:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| full-time (over 30 hours a week) | 01 |
| OR | |
| part-time (30 hours a week or less) | 02 |
- IF NO TO 2 Last week, were you:

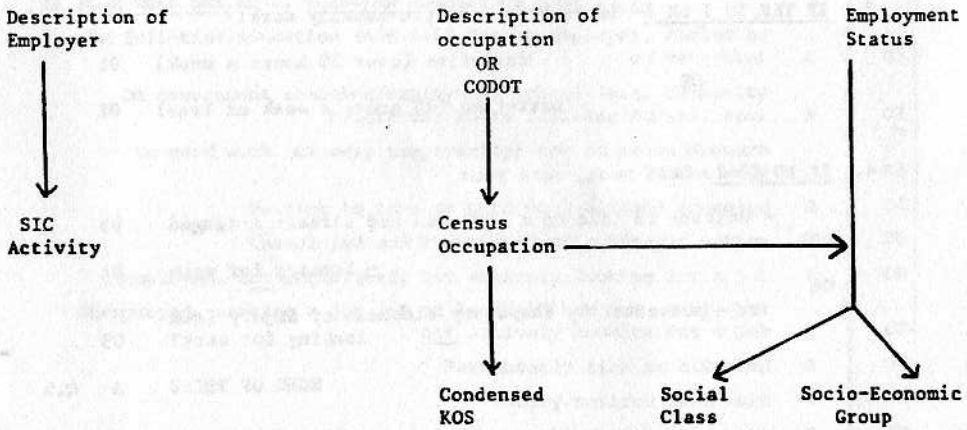
| | |
|--|-------|
| - waiting to take up a job you had already arranged | 03 |
| OR | |
| - looking for work | 04 |
| OR | |
| - prevented by temporary sickness or injury from looking for work? | 05 |
| NONE OF THESE | A Q.5 |
- IF NONE AT 4 Last week, were you:

| | |
|---|----|
| in full-time education at school or college | 06 |
| OR | |
| permanently sick or disabled | 07 |
| OR | |
| wholly retired from work | 08 |
| OR | |
| Looking after a home | 09 |
| OR | |
| doing something else (SPECIFY) | |

CODE FIRST

22

1981 Census Treatment of Occupation



Education

Terminal Education Age (TEA)

Age of completing continuous full-time education

- Under 14/16 ?
- 17
- 18
- 19 or over
- Still in school

(But more properly ask separately for school, other full-time education.)

or Highest Educational Qualification

- Degree or equivalent
- Higher education below degree level
- GCE 'A' level or equivalent
- GCE 'O' level or equivalent/CSE grade 1
- CSE other grades/commercial/apprenticeships
- Foreign/other qualifications
- No qualifications

Household

- Definition - 6 month rule
Shared meal
Shared living accommodation
- Size
- Type
 - Single adult, 60 or over
 - Two adults, 1 or both 60 or over
 - Single adult, 18 - 59
 - Two adults, both 18 - 59
 - Youngest person 0 - 4
 - Youngest person 5 - 17
 - 3 or more adults
- Composition Grid to get all members, relation to each other, sex, age, etc. etc.

Tenure

Own outright

Buying on mortgage

Renting from:

- Local Authority
- New Town Dev. Corp.
- Housing Association
- Employer
- Relative
- Private landlord - unfurnished
furnished

Live Rent-free:

- Tied to job
- Squats

Type

- Detached house or bungalow
- Semi-detached house or bungalow
- Terraced house
- Self-contained purpose-built flat/maisonette
- Self-contained converted flat/maisonette
- Room(s) - not self-contained
- Other

British Isles

(26)



- Standard Regions
- 1 Scotland
 - 2 The North
 - 3 North West
 - 4 Yorkshire & Humberside
 - 5 Wales
 - 6 West Midlands
 - 7 East Midlands
 - 8 East Anglia
 - 9 South West
 - 10 South East
 - (11 Northern Ireland: not in survey)
 - 12 Greater London (optional)

(27)

Standards For Evaluating Classification Schemes

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|---|---|
| 1. <u>Usefulness</u> | Theoretically/conceptually Pragmatically Politically Comparability | } | will it get info you need? Valid? |
| 2. <u>Feasibility</u> | Technically do-able Interviewer vs office coding Sample size and subgroups Nature of sample Enough, not too many, categories Time, money available for processing Q're time - can you collect it? Ordering in q're - early or late ? Quote or random? Used as filter? | | |
| 3. <u>Accuracy</u> | Precision Measurable Reliability - any known estimates Good <u>enough</u> for users at hand? | | |
| 4. <u>Propriety</u> | Legal ? Ethical? can you protect confidence | | |