

1970 British Cohort Study

Age 46 Secure Access Geographical Identifiers User Guide

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CENTRE FOR
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This User Guide describes the geographical variables for the 1970 British Cohort Study (BCS70) Age 46 Survey

The Country of Interview variable BD10CNTRY is taken from the country where the Age 46 Survey interview took place (England, Wales or Scotland).

The Government Office Region of residence variable, BD10GOR, is the region variable for the residence of the cohort member at the Age 46 Survey interview.

In order to enable spatial analysis of the longitudinal cohort data, postcodes are derived from the addresses collected during interview, which are validated by the CLS Cohort Maintenance Team using a range of specialist software products from AFD¹. Unit postcode at interview is the variable used to link to a range of higher level areal units. The UK has had full coverage of postcodes since the mid-1970s.

Following recommended practice, these postcodes are then linked to the ONS Postcode Directory, available from the UK Data Service Census Support website². This dataset has been released quarterly since 2004 (every February, May, August and November) and stretches back on an annual basis to 1980. The Postcode Directory contains Ordnance Survey eastings and northings for each unit postcode centroid. These eastings and northings are displayed in a GIS in the form of 'x', 'y' points, usually to an accuracy of 1 metre of the address-weighted postcode centroid³.

The four variables beginning 'BD10' (BD10CNTRY, BD10GOR, BD10IMD and BD10UR01IND) have also been made available under End User Licence in the main deposit for BCS70 as part of the derived variables.

Variable name	Derived variable label
BD10CNTRY	Country of interview
BD10GOR	2010 Government Office Region of residence
B10OSWARD	2017 Ward
B10CASWARD	2003 CAS ward
B10OA11	2011 OA Code
B10LSOA11	2011 Lower Layer SOA (LSOA)
B10MSOA11	2011 Middle Layer SOA (MSOA)
B10OSLAUA	2016 LA District/UA
B10PCON	2014 Parliamentary Constituency
B10WZ11	2011 Workplace Zone
B10IMD	2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation rank
BD10IMD	2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation rank decile
BD10UR01IND	2001 Urban/rural indicator

¹ www.afd.co.uk/

² <http://census.edina.ac.uk/pcluts.html>

³ Defined in the February 2018 ONS PDC as: "the mean of all the addresses in the postcode, snapped to the address closest to the mean" (p. 8)