**Secondary data not requiring ethical approval**

This is not an exhaustive list and students and supervisors are reminded of their responsibility to ensure the suitability of the data source and to check terms and conditions to verify that access and use are GDPR compliant.

[UK Data Services](https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/) – “Open data and safeguarded data are legally 'not personal' according to the relevant legislation, e.g. Data Protection Act and Statistics and Registration Services Act.”

“The difference between **'open'** and **'safeguarded'** is that safeguarded data may have a residual risk of disclosure, and open data do not.

Data licensed for use with an **‘open licence’** are data which are not personal and have relatively few restrictions to use.

Neither login nor registration are required for these data collections. You can browse our [Data Catalogue](https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies) for our [open data collections](https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies#!?Search=&Rows=10&Sort=0&DateFrom=1753&DateTo=2018&AccessFacet=Open&Page=1) and then download or access them directly.”

“Data licensed for use in the **'safeguarded'** category are not personal, but the data owner considers there to be a risk of disclosure resulting from linkage to other data, such as private databases.[[1]](#footnote-1)

'Safeguarded' is currently the Office for National Statistics’s preferred term for data which we provide under the UK Data Service’s End User Licence ([EUL](https://www.ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/how-to-access/conditions.aspx)).

The safeguards include knowing who is using the data and for what purpose. The EUL outlines the restrictions on use for a particular data collection.”

**Open data resources[[2]](#footnote-2)**

<https://www.ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/other-providers/open-data.aspx>

**International data providers**

<https://www.ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/other-providers/international.aspx>

Links to data available from the websites of major International Organisations such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the United Nations, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the World Bank.

**Data Archives**

<https://www.ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/other-providers/data-archives.aspx>

Links to other national archives globally

**Cross-national Surveys**

<https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/key-data/cross-national-survey-data.aspx>

1. Projects which attempt to link safe-guarded data with other datasets are not allowed unless ethical approval is obtained which is not possible for PGT and UG studies under the current restrictions operating in CoSS. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. For each of the following sections individual datasets must be consulted for terms and conditions of access. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)