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# British Cohort Study 1970

Derived Variables at 1996 Sweep (26 year follow-up)

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BCS70 Derived Variables at 1996 Sweep

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## Introduction

This User Guide describes the dataset of derived variables for the 1996 sweep of the 1970 British Cohort Study (BCS70). This dataset is deposited under study number 3833 (1970 British Cohort Study: Twenty-Six-Year Follow-up, 1996) at the UK Data Archive. This is an initial dataset of sweep derived variables.

The derived variables included in the BCS70 1996 sweep derived variables dataset are as follows:

Variable	Variable label	Type of variable
bd5cntry	Country of Interview	Country of interview
bd5regn	Standard Region of residence	Region
bd5gor	Government Office Region of residence	Region
bd5mal	Total Malaise score	Malaise
bd5malg	Total Malaise score - grouped	Malaise

## Country of interview derived variable

The Country of Interview variable bd5cntry is taken from the country where the 1996 interview took place (England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland).

## Region derived variables

The Standard Region of residence variable, bd5regn, and the Government Office Region of residence variable, bd5gor, are the region variables for the residence of the cohort member at the 1996 interview. For details of how these variables are derived, please refer to the document 'BCS70: Revised Region Variables' included in the deposit for study number 3833 (1970 British Cohort Study: Twenty-Six-Year Follow-up, 1996).

## Malaise score derived variables

The Malaise score derived variables bd5mal and bd5malg were originally generated as part of the ESRC Researcher Development Initiative (RDI) project (<http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/teachingresources>). The variables have been renamed for consistency with other derived variables. See Appendix 1 for the details of the derivation and renaming of these variables.

## APPENDIX 1: Definition of malaise score derived variables

The malaise score derived variables were derived using the 24-item self completion Malaise Inventory (How you feel) , included in the BCS70 1996 follow-up dataset. These 24 variables were renamed in the Malaise dataset and are as follows:

Original variable name	RDI malaise dataset variable name	Variable label
b960637	b26mal01	Do you often have backache?
b960638	b26mal02	Do you feel tired most of the time?
b960639	b26mal03	Do you often feel depressed?
b960640	b26mal04	Do you often have bad headaches?
b960641	b26mal05	Do you often get worried about things?
b960642	b26mal06	Do you usually have great difficulty in falling or staying asleep?
b960643	b26mal07	Do you usually wake unnecessarily early in the morning?
b960644	b26mal08	Do you wear yourself out worrying about your health?
b960645	b26mal09	Do you often get into a violent rage?
b960646	b26mal10	Do people annoy and irritate you?
b960647	b26mal11	Have you at times had a twitching of the face, head or shoulders?
b960648	b26mal12	Do you suddenly become scared for no good reason?
b960649	b26mal13	Are you scared to be alone when there are not friends near you?
b960650	b26mal14	Are you easily upset or irritated?
b960651	b26mal15	Are you frightened of going out alone or of meeting people?
b960652	b26mal16	Are you constantly keyed up and jittery?
b960653	b26mal17	Do you suffer from indigestion?
b960654	b26mal18	Do you suffer from an upset stomach?
b960655	b26mal19	Is your appetite poor?
b960656	b26mal20	Does every little thing get on your nerves and wear you out?
b960657	b26mal21	Does your heart often race like mad?
b960658	b26mal22	Do you often have bad pain in eyes?
b960659	b26mal23	Are you troubled with rheumatism or fibrosis?
b960660	b26mal24	Have you ever had a nervous breakdown?

The malaise score derived variables were, for consistency, renamed for the derived variables dataset and are as follows:

Variable name	RDI malaise dataset variable name	Variable label
bd5mal	b26mal	Total Malaise score
bd5malg	b26malg	Total Malaise score - grouped

**SPSS syntax for constructing summary malaise scores  
BCS70 variables**

```
COMPUTE b26mal = SUM(b26mal01,b26mal02,b26mal03,b26mal04,b26mal05,
b26mal06,b26mal07,b26mal08,b26mal09,b26mal10,b26mal11,b26mal12,
b26mal13,b26mal14,b26mal15,b26mal16,b26mal17,b26mal18,b26mal19,
b26mal20,b26mal21,b26mal22,b26mal23,b26mal24) .
**this code is used to include as many individuals as possible but excludes those
with enough missing values to potentially give them a 'high' malaise score.
count b26miss = b26mal01 b26mal02 b26mal03 b26mal04 b26mal05 b26mal06
b26mal07 b26mal08 b26mal09 b26mal10 b26mal11 b26mal12 b26mal13
b26mal14 b26mal15 b26mal16 b26mal17 b26mal18 b26mal19 b26mal20
b26mal21 b26mal22 b26mal23 b26mal24 (missing).
compute malmiss =b26mal + b26miss.
if (b26miss > 0 and b26mal <= 7 and malmiss >= 8) b26mal = -1.
if (b26miss = 24) b26mal = -2.
recode b26mal (0 thru 7 = 1) (8 thru highest = 2) (-2,-1= copy) into b26malg.
missing values b26mal b26malg (-1,-2).
variable labels b26mal 'bcs70 age 26: total Malaise score'.
variable labels b26malg 'bcs70 age 26: total Malaise score - grouped'.
value labels b26mal -1'incomplete info' -2'not stated any questions' .
value labels b26malg 1'0-7' 2'8+' -1'incomplete info' -2'not stated any questions'.
rename variables (b26mal=bd5mal).
rename variables (b26malg=bd5malg).
```



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