British Household Panel Survey, Waves 1-18 (1991-2009)

User Documentation: Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOA) and Scottish Data Zones (DZONE)

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Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) and Scottish Data Zones (DZONE)

SOAs exist in England, Wales and Northern Ireland; the Scottish equivalents are called data zones and intermediate zones.

<u>England and Wales</u>

The Lower Layer SOAs have been designed with a mean population figure of 1500 and each consists of a grouping of Output Areas, typically five. There are 34,378 Lower Layer SOAs, with an absolute minimum population size of 1000.

The Middle Layer SOAs have a mean population figure of 7200 (minimum 5000) and consist of a grouping of Lower Layer SOAs. Middle Layer SOAs are constrained by the 2003 local authority boundaries used for 2001 Census outputs.

<u>Scotland</u>

Data zones are the core Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics geography. There are 6505 data zones, each containing between 500 and 1000 household residents.

Intermediate zones are the geography that sits above data zones and they have a minimum population of 2,500 - 6,000, which are of a size between the lower and middle layer SOAs in England and Wales. There are 1235 intermediate zones.

Details of the code ranges:

Data description	Range of codes	Comments
Lower Layer Super Output Area		The Lower Layer SOA code for each postcode in England and Wales. A pseudo code is included for Scotland (covered by data zones), Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man.
	E01000001- E01032482;	E01000001- E01032482 = Lower Layer SOA in England;
	W01000001- W01001896;	W01000001- W01001896 = Lower Layer SOA in Wales;
	Z99999999;	Z99999999 = postcode in Scotland/NI/Channel Is/IoM (pseudo);
	or ∆∆∆∆∆∆∆∆	∆∆∆∆∆∆∆∆ = no information available
Scottish datazone		The data zone code for each postcode in Scotland. A pseudo code is included for England and Wales (covered by Lower Layer SOAs – see above), Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man.
	S01000001- S01006505;	S01000001- S01006505 = data zone in Scotland;
	Z99999999;	Z9999999 = postcode in England/Wales/NI/Channel Is/IoM (pseudo);
	or ∆∆∆∆∆∆∆∆	∆∆∆∆∆∆∆∆ = no information available

Useful web link: http://www.ons.gov.uk/about-statistics/geography/

BHPS Geographical lookup tables – revised version
Version: 20131218

The revised geographical lookup tables for BHPS 1-18 are based on the November 2013 version of the ONS Postcode Directory.

Wave	Wave Letter	Match	Postcode missing	Unmatched	Crown Dependencies	Total
1	a	8523	1	0	0	8524
2	b	5697	283	4	0	5984
3	c	5886	638	10	0	6534
4	d	6238	279	41	0	6558
5	e	6223	306	24	0	6553
6	f	5512	974	1	0	6487
7	g	6350	1240	6	0	7596
8	h	6325	959	11	0	7295
9	i	10867	1070	7	0	11944
10	j	10540	1729	13	0	12282
11	k	12325	1641	20	0	13986
12	l	10415	1785	9	0	12209
13	m	10132	2017	27	0	12176
14	n	9866	2189	33	2	12088
15	o	9564	2323	25	3	11912
16	p	9414	2073	18	2	11505
17	q	9113	2340	43	2	11496
18	r	8832	2541	40	2	11413

The table above shows the number of households with a matching, missing or unmatched postcode for each wave.
The main reason for not recording the postcode is for untraced moves.
Between Wave 7 and 11 the Northern Ireland ECHP panel households were interviewed as a part of BHPS.
For these 135-149 households the postcode was not collected. The Northern Ireland ECHP panel can be identified through wHHORIG.
Geographical codes are unavailable for a few households in the Crown dependencies.

Study number (SN) description

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+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| SN     name          type    varlab                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7447 acorntype     byte    acorn type 2013                                     |
| 6135 casward       str6    census area statistics ward                         |
| 6029 lea           str3    local education authorities/education and library boards |
| 6136 lsoa01        str9    census 2001 lower layer super output area           |
| 7446 msoa01        str9    census 2001 middle layer super output area          |
| 6290 oac01         str3    census 2001 output area classification              |
| 7448 oshlthau      str9    strategic health authority                          |
| 6027 oslaua        str9    local authority district                            |
| 6033 pcon          str9    westminster parliamentary constituencies            |
| 6030 pct           str9    primary care organisations                          |
| 6031 ttwa          str9    travel to work areas                                |
| 6032 ur01ind       str1    census 2001 urban/rural indicator                   |
| 6330 wardc91       str6    census 1991 ward (census code range)                |
| 6340 oseast1m      long    national grid reference - easting                   |
| 6340 osnrth1m      long    national grid reference - northing                  |
| 6340 osgrdind      byte    national grid reference - quality indicator         |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------------+
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