

MCS

Data Note: MCS3 linked to banded distances to current, first, second, and third choice schools

CLS Data Note / User guide to the data
(First Edition)

July 2017

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Following lives from birth through the adult years
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CLS is an ESRC Resource Centre based at the Institute of Education, London



First published in 2017 by the
Centre for Longitudinal Studies
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www.cls.ioe.ac.uk
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ISBN XXXX

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Introduction

This dataset provides banded distances to the current, first, second, and third choice school of MCS cohort members at sweep 3 (2006). The cohort members would therefore be aged between four and six years old, and have entered the primary school education system.

The six distance bands, and the associated frequencies of cohort members, are as follows:

Distance band	Number of cohort members			
	Current school	First choice	Second choice	Third choice
0 – 1 km	9556	254	1877	595
1 – 2 km	2426	182	1154	534
2 – 5 km	1827	138	916	386
5 – 10 km	619	52	242	109
10 – 20 km	195	23	58	23
20km +	173	49	74	31
TOTAL	14796	698	4321	1678

This dataset is based on the variable URNNO ('Type of school') which is not included in the data deposited at the UK Data Archive (due to issues of data sensitivity and confidentiality). This variable holds information on the type of school attended by the cohort member, i.e. whether it is the current, first, second, or third choice school. The variable also holds Ordnance Survey National Grid eastings and northings, so it is possible to map the locations of these schools in a GIS.

Since the Centre for Longitudinal Studies (CLS) also holds the unit postcodes of the addresses at interview of cohort members, it is possible to calculate the distances between these unit postcode centroids and the schools point data. These distances can be either Euclidean (i.e. straight line, or 'as the crow flies'), or network (i.e. based on a road network dataset). The distances in this dataset are based on straight line geodesic calculations made in ArcGIS using the 'XY to Line' tool.

Variables

MCS Sweep 3 linked to current, first, second, and third choice school

MCSID	MCS Research ID
BANDCURR	Distance band to current school
BANDFIRST	Distance band to first choice school
BANDSEC	Distance band to second choice school
BANDTHIRD	Distance band to third choice school

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