

Accessing LFS and APS data via the UK Data Service

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UK Data Service, User Support and Training

Introduction to the Labour Force Survey and Annual Population Survey

20th May 2021

What we'll cover

- Introduction and accessing EUL data
- What do you do if you think you need Secure Access data?
- Remote access to controlled data via the UK Data Service's Secure Lab

What is the UK Data Service?

- Resource funded by the ESRC
- Access to a wide range of secondary social science data
- Support, training and guidance
- ukdataservice.ac.uk



How we work

- Communication via helpdesk – queries directed to right team internally
- Teams
 - Access (University of Essex)
 - User Support and training (for LFS at University of Manchester, Cathie Marsh Institute)
 - Secure Access/Secure Lab (University of Essex)

Series records

- [Annual Population Survey](#)
- [Labour Force Survey](#)
- What?
 - Information about each series as a whole
 - Links to all the datasets, grouped by type
 - Quarterly Labour Force Survey

Catalogue records

- Example: [Quarterly Labour Force Survey, October - December, 2020](#)
- What?
 - Abstract and study details
 - Documentation
 - Access data
 - Citation

Licenses

- LFS and APS made available under two licenses
 - End User License
 - Secure access

Accessing EUL data

- Register with UK Data Service
- Project to record use
- Download in preferred format
- Zip file with data and documentation

NESSTAR

- Online browsing of data
- Simple analyses (tables, correlation)
- Download data

Quarterly Labour Force Survey, December 2020 - February 2021

- Metadata
- Variable Description
 - Household and Respondent Characteristics
 - Government Training Schemes
 - Main Job
 - Home Workers (Main Job)
 - Teleworkers, Proximity of Work to Home, Business Ownership
 - Whether mainly work from home (main job)**
 - Travel To Work
 - Sickness
 - Incidence, Duration of Sickness
 - Hours Worked (Main Job)

Dataset: Quarterly Labour Force Survey, December 2020 - February 2021

Quarterly Labour Force Survey, 1992-

Variable HOME: Whether mainly work from home (main job)

LITERAL QUESTION

(In your main job) do you work mainly... in your own home, in the same grounds or buildings as your home, in different places quite separate from home?

Values	Categories	N	
1	Own home	4481	11.6%
2	Same grounds or building	423	1.1%
3	Different places with home as a base	3122	8.1%

Cite data

- Citations on catalogue page
- For multiple datasets, cite from the series page:
 - Office for National Statistics, Social Survey Division, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, Central Survey Unit. (2021). *Quarterly Labour Force Survey*, 1992-2020. [data collection]. UK Data Service. Series page: <http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-8738-2>

Questions

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What do you do if you think you need Secure Access data?

Maddison A. Jones, Data Access Services
Alix Taylor, Data Access Services

Online workshop: Introduction to the Labour Force Survey and
Annual Population Survey
20 May 2021

What we'll cover

- What's available in the Secure Access versions
- Legal gateway for access
- How to apply
- Tips for a good application

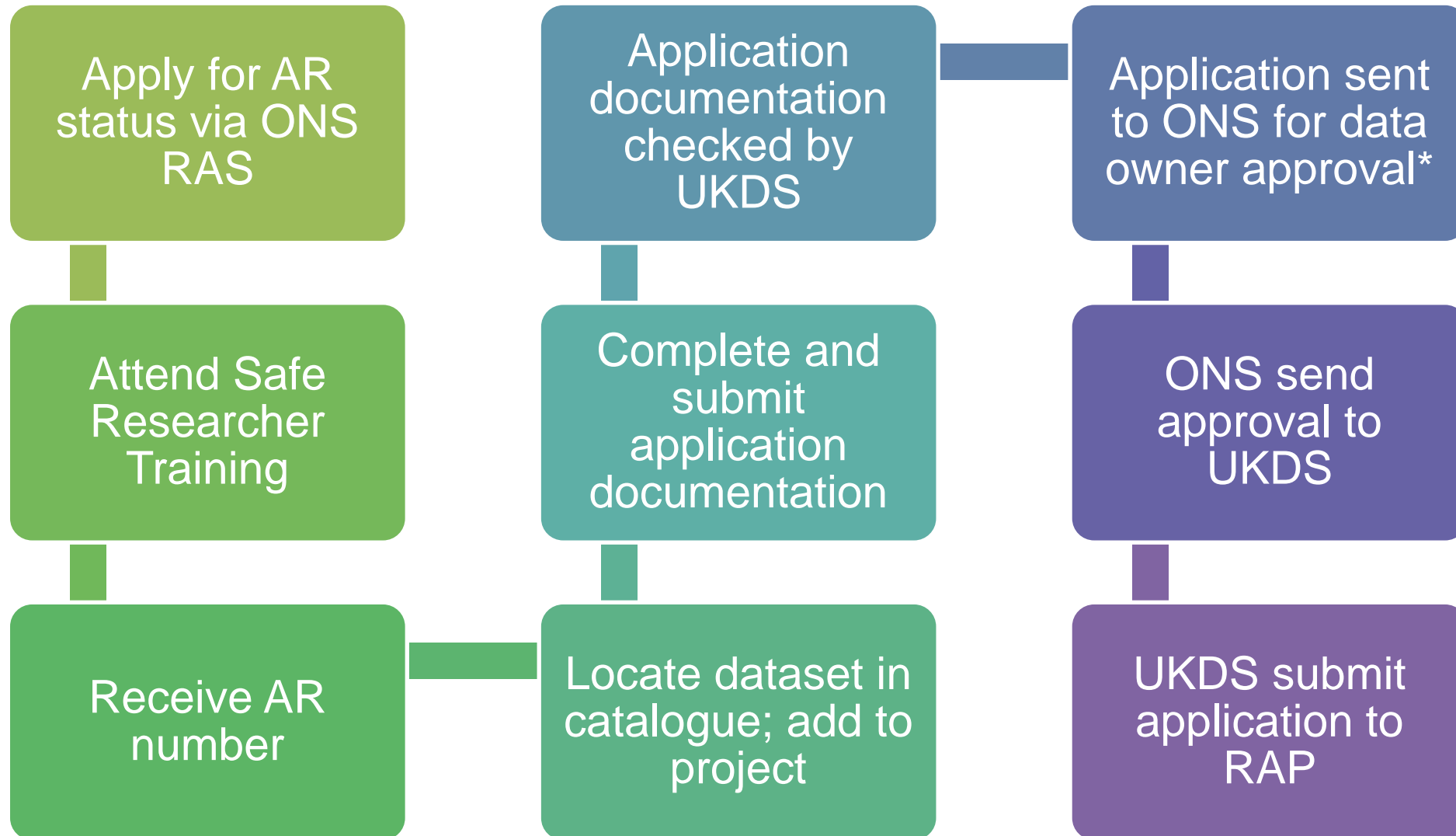
Secure Access vs. End User Licence

- More detailed variables
- Check catalogue records
- Check data dictionaries
- Data defined as 'personal' by the Office for National Statistics (ONS)

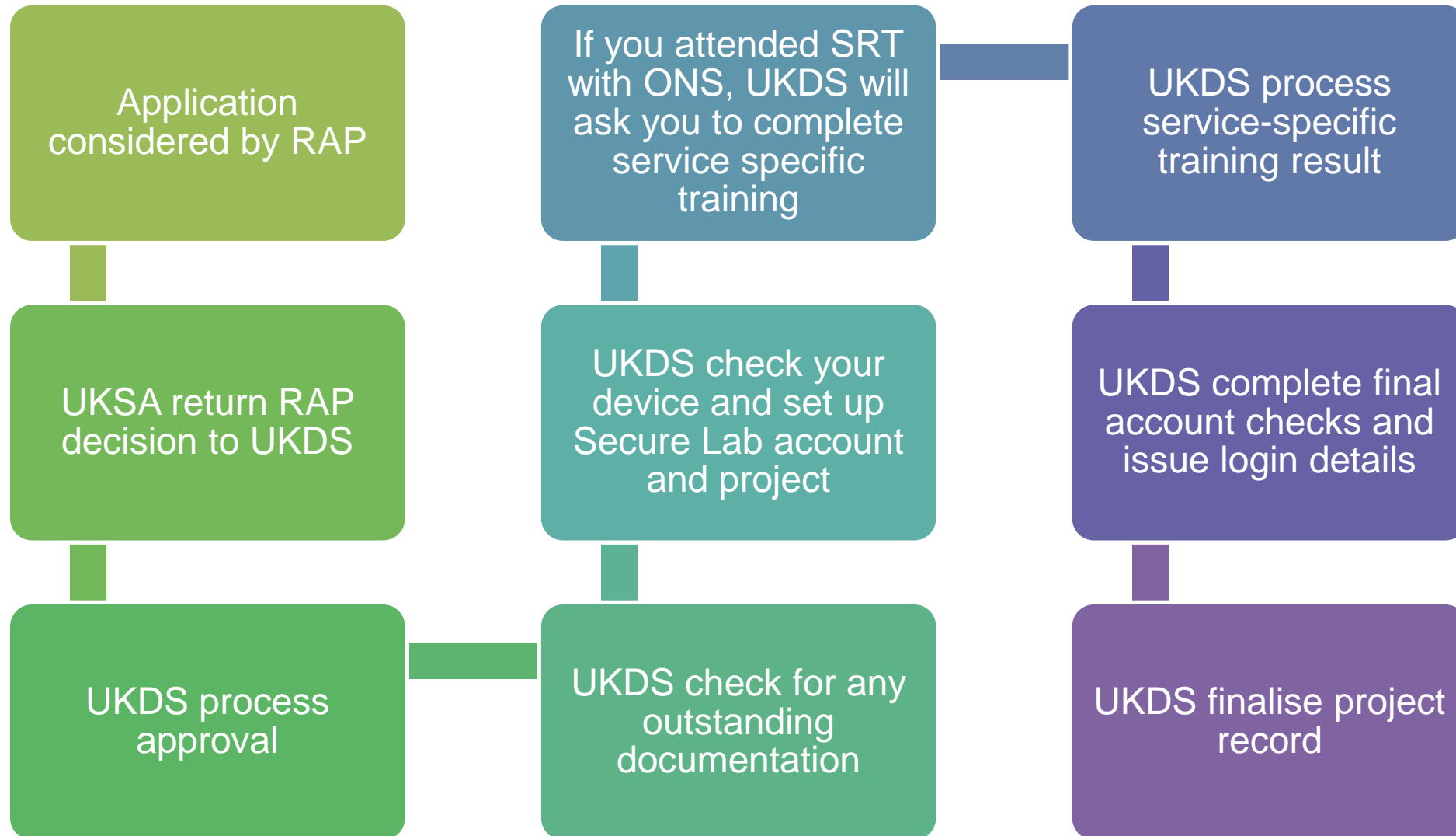
Legal gateway for access

- Digital Economy Act (DEA, 2017)
- Accredited Researchers
- Accredited Projects
- Accredited Processors

How to apply



How to apply (continued)



Tips for a good application

- Submit all required documents
- Follow application guidance
- Use clear, concise language
- Write for people that don't know your subject

Tips for a good application (continued)

- Set out specific research questions/hypotheses
- Complete all sections fully
- Address any and all feedback
- Check, double-check and triple-check content

Questions

Remote access to controlled data via the UK Data Service's Secure Lab

Beate Lichtwardt, User Support and Training

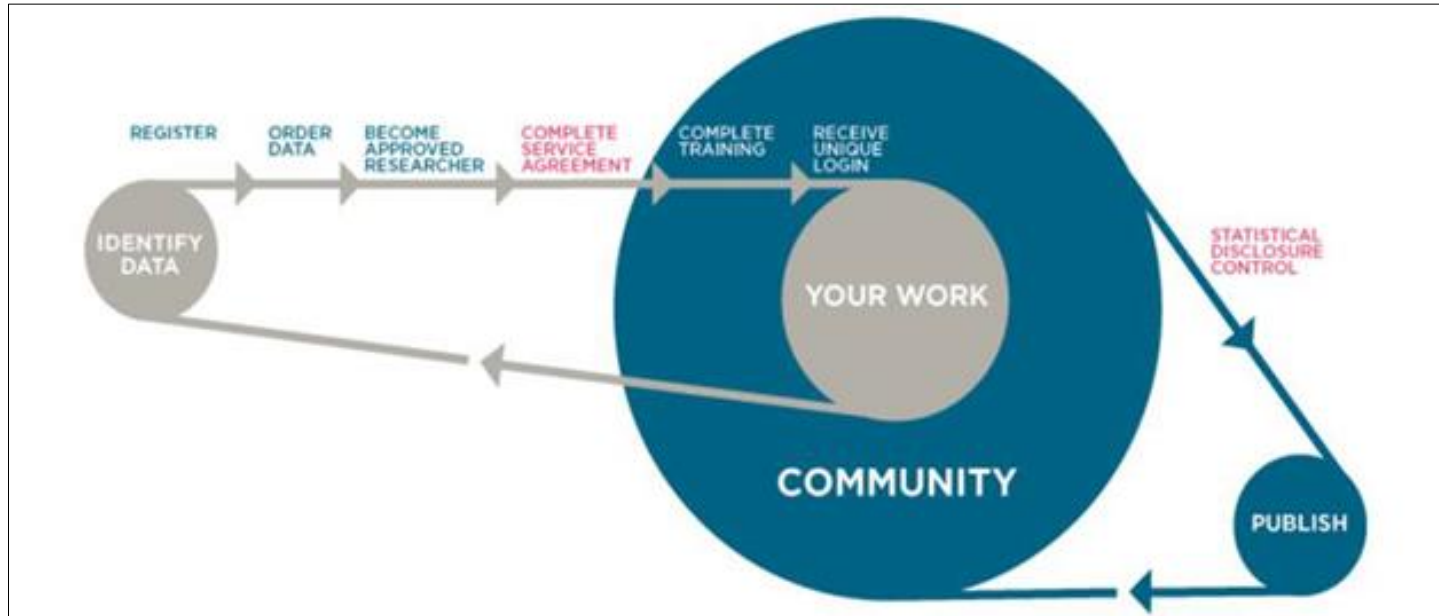
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Roadmap

- How does it work – Remote access to Secure Lab data, Security Philosophy
- Available software in Secure Lab
- Importing and linking data
- Using Secure Lab efficiently
- Accessing international controlled data for comparative research

Remote access to Secure Lab data



- Access via web-based interface that uses secure encrypted Citrix Virtual Private Network technology
- Data not downloadable, access remotely from organisational desktop (or UKDA Safe Room)
- Outputs subject to Statistical Disclosure Control (SDC) process

Security Philosophy: Five Safes framework

- **Safe data:** data is treated to protect any confidentiality concerns
- **Safe projects:** research projects are approved by data owners for the public good
- **Safe people:** researchers are trained and authorised to use data safely
- **Safe settings:** a Secure Lab environment prevents unauthorised use
- **Safe outputs:** screened and approved outputs that are non-disclosive

Available software in Secure Lab

- STATA
- SPSS
- R
- SAS
- Jupyter Notebook
- QGIS
- ArcGIS

- MLwiN
- Anaconda3 (inc. Python)
- Acrobat Reader
- Winzip
- 7zip
- Explorer

- Qtconsole
- Spyder
- Notepad++
- MS Access
- MS Excel
- MS PowerPoint
- MS Word

Importing and linking data - Secure Lab

- External data can be imported into the Secure Lab project area of a researcher and linked to ONS business data
! Permission is required from the Secure Access data owner and the external data owner !
- ONS business data can be linked to one another in Secure Lab

Using Secure Lab efficiently

We return statistical results (rather than data) to researchers, subject to a statistical disclosure control process, to ensure that no individual or organisation can be identified from the results.

For full details on using the Secure Lab, please see our [User guide](#).

If you require more information about how our secure access facilities work, please [get in touch](#) with the support team.



[Secure Lab: How it works](#)

Accessing international controlled data for comparative research

Safe Room Remote Desktop Access available for data from:

- Institute for Employment Research (IAB), Germany (information on available datasets: IAB RDC on-site use files at https://fdz.iab.de/en/FDZ_Overview_of_Data.aspx)
 - Secure Data Access Centre (CASD), France (available datasets: <https://www.casd.eu/en/available-data-on-casd/>)
- > via UK Data Service Safe Room, University of Essex

Questions

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