22 February 2024

Dear ███████,

Freedom of Information request: FOI2024/00089

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 6 February in which you requested the following:

Your request:

I'm looking for datasets that I can use for my master thesis, and SIRC (Seafarers International Research Centre) told me that the ESRC has relevant datasets that are available for the public. Unfortunately I wasn't able to find the data I'm looking for on the UK Data Service website when I searched for "seafarer". So I was wondering if you have any datasets that fit my research, or if you know the name of a dataset that I should look up there.

For my thesis I would like to do quantitative research on the working life of Seafarers. The exact research question depends on the data that I can find/use, but my preference is to research what's important for the wellbeing/happiness of seafarers while they are on board (like social support among the crew), or for example the effects of being away from home/life at sea on the seafarers. I hope this gives you an impression of the type of data I'm looking for. I don't have specific dates, but I'd like to start with my thesis as soon as possible. The format I prefer for the information would be online.

If you don't have any available datasets, tips for possible resources are also very welcome.

Our response:

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) do not hold any information relevant to your request.

We would suggest reaching out to the UK Data Service, who may be in a better position to guide you on identifying relevant data they hold.

Guidance is available on the [Help Section of the UK Data Service website](https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/help/data-types/faqs-on-different-types-of-data/)[1] for locating a specific type of data, including a link to their online help form.

It may also be advisable to try alternative search terms to "seafarer", for example, the term "mariner" returns data on studies into [Interdisciplinary Marine Citizenship](https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies/study?id=855922)[2] and [Conceptualising Marine Identities](https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies/study?id=856523)[3].

If you have any queries regarding our response or you are unhappy with the outcome of your request and wish to seek an internal review of the decision, please contact within the next 40 working days:

Head of Information Governance
Email: foi@ukri.org

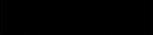Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

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[1] https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/help/data-types/faqs-on-different-types-of-data/
[2] https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies/study?id=855922
[3] https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies/study?id=856523

If you are still not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply to refer the matter to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review procedure provided by UKRI. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: www.ico.org.uk.

If you wish to raise a complaint regarding the service you have received or the conduct of any UKRI staff in relation to your request, please see UKRI's complaints policy: https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-and-standards/complaints-policy/

Yours sincerely,

■■■■■■■
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Information Rights Team
UK Research and Innovation
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