

# Building a strong and connected community: Identifying needs in Hammersmith and Fulham

**Appendix**  
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# Community guidance: navigating public data sets

We have produced this as guidance for any individuals/organisations who want to look in more detail at data

## What are you looking for?

Before sourcing for data, you need to have a very specific answer to the question- *What am I looking for?* By this we mean:

- What data? - *The type of metric- Demographics, employment, health, crimes etc. that you require.*
- By What category? - *How do you need to divide the data further- by age, gender?*
- At What level? - *The geographic area(s) that you seek to get the data for- Local authority, Wards, Mid-layer super output area (MSOA), Low-layer Output areas (LSOA), or Output area (OA).*
- For What period(s) of time? - *The year(s) for which you seek the data.*
- At What frequency? - *Monthly, Quarterly, or Annually.*

Answering these questions help us narrow down our data queries across the multiple UK-based data sources that can be drawn from.

## What Data?

Different government authorities are responsible for reporting different types of data and thus the first step is reaching the right place to find the data. Here's a table highlighting which authority reports which kind of data.

Category	Scope	Source
Demographic	Population, age, ethnicity, national identity, housing, disability, gender, and Health (self-reported) etc.	<a href="#">Nomis</a> , <a href="#">ONS</a>
Economic	Income, Economic activity, qualifications, jobs, occupation, industry, businesses, benefits claimant, and economic deprivation etc	<a href="#">Nomis</a> , <a href="#">ONS</a> , <a href="#">StatXplore</a>
Health	Mental Health , disability, drug and alcohol dependency, GP appointments, you say	<a href="#">NHS Digital</a> , <a href="#">ONS</a> , <a href="#">OHID</a> , <a href="#">OHID (Maps)</a> , <a href="#">DHSC</a>
Crimes	Crimes and Offences by type	<a href="#">ONS</a>

## What Categorisation?

Data is often available classified by the following categories:

- Age
- Gender
- Disability
- Ethnic group

While skimming through the portfolio of datasets on a given topic, it is worth looking through if it is useful to filter for data by this categorisation.

## What Level?

There are a variety of geographical classifications at which data can be available. Here's a list of the geographical classifications in order of decreasing area of scope.

### International Geographies

- ITL-1 Region/Region- England, Wales, Scotland
- ITL-2 Region- Greater Manchester, East Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire
- ITL-3 Region- Northumberland, York

### Administrative Geographies

- Local Authority Council (County)- Cambridgeshire County Council, Surrey County Council
- Local Authority Council (District) - Cambridge City Council, Harlow District Council
- Wards

### Census 2021 classification

- Middle layer Super Output Areas (MSOAs)
- Lower layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs)
- Output Areas (OAs)

### Other

### Health Geographies

- NHS Care Boards (all Regions)

## What Time period?

### Time period

While some are collected and reported on an annual basis, many are reported once in a few years. It is a good idea to look for a note on whether the publication is a latest release or not.

### Frequency

Different data are collected at different frequencies. Thus, when extracting data for multiple variables, the best practice is to create a coherent dataset of metrics with identical frequency of collection.

# Nomis

Nomis is one of the most important and extensive sources of public data for the UK and for England and Wales. It holds a great portfolio of metrics across all socio-economic themes and at all geographical levels. In this section, I will provide a step-by-step guide to download datasets.

## For a Single Area

Most of the data is readily available at the Local authority level for various metrics. Nomis aggregates some of the most common used metrics by local authorities providing comprehensive Local area and labour market profiles for each local authority. Local area profiles for the year 2021 can also be created for smaller areas as it is based on 2021 census.

Available Metrics	
<u>Local Area Profile</u> (Census 2021)	<u>Labour Market Profile</u> (Annual Labour Force Survey)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demography and Migration</li><li>• Ethnic group, national identity, language and religion</li><li>• Work and Travel</li><li>• Housing</li><li>• Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity</li><li>• Education</li><li>• Health</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Resident population</li><li>• Employment and unemployment</li><li>• Economic inactivity</li><li>• Workless households</li><li>• Employment by occupation</li><li>• Qualifications</li><li>• Earnings by place of residence</li><li>• Out-of-work benefits</li><li>• Jobs (total jobs / employee jobs)</li><li>• Businesses</li></ul>

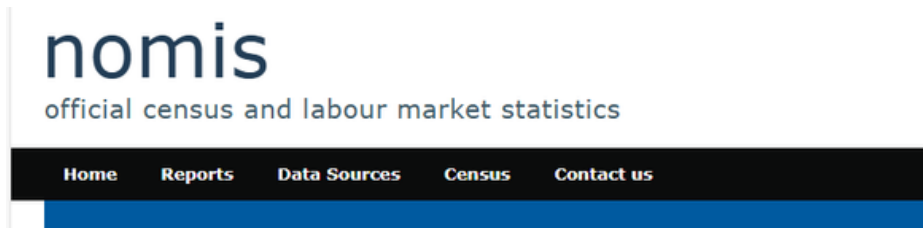
## Multiple Areas

Nomis provides data by certain smaller geographical classifications for selected metrics. Among the list of geographical classifications, the data by Mid-layer Super Output Area (2021 classification) or by Wards is relatively easily available.

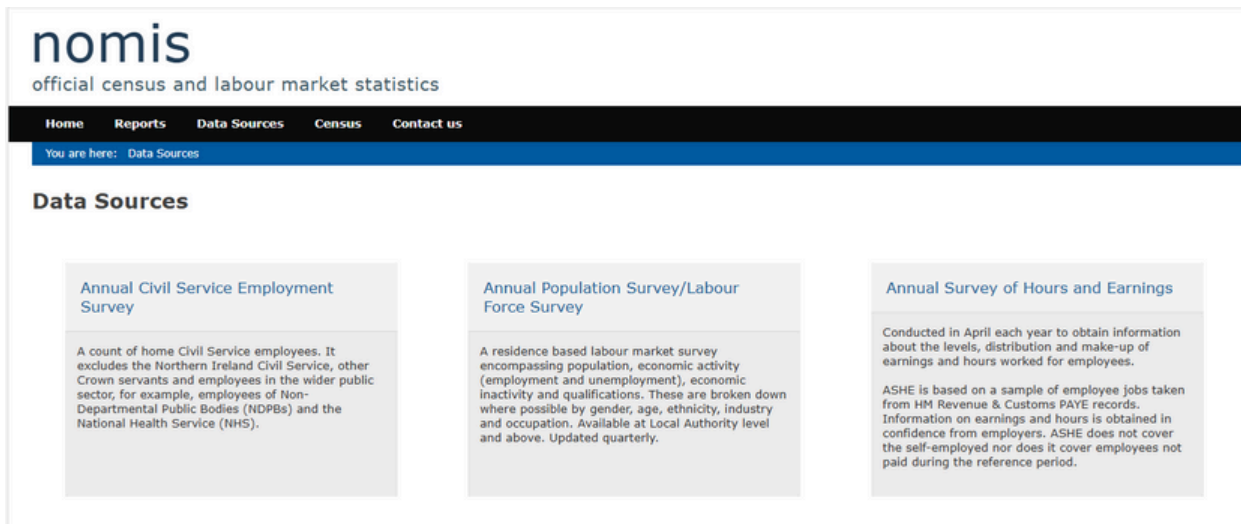
Nomis like many other databases has an option of query builder through which we can customize our dataset. Here, I'll give a step-by-step guide for creating a table using query

## Steps

1. On Nomis click the Data Sources or Census Button on the Nav bar.



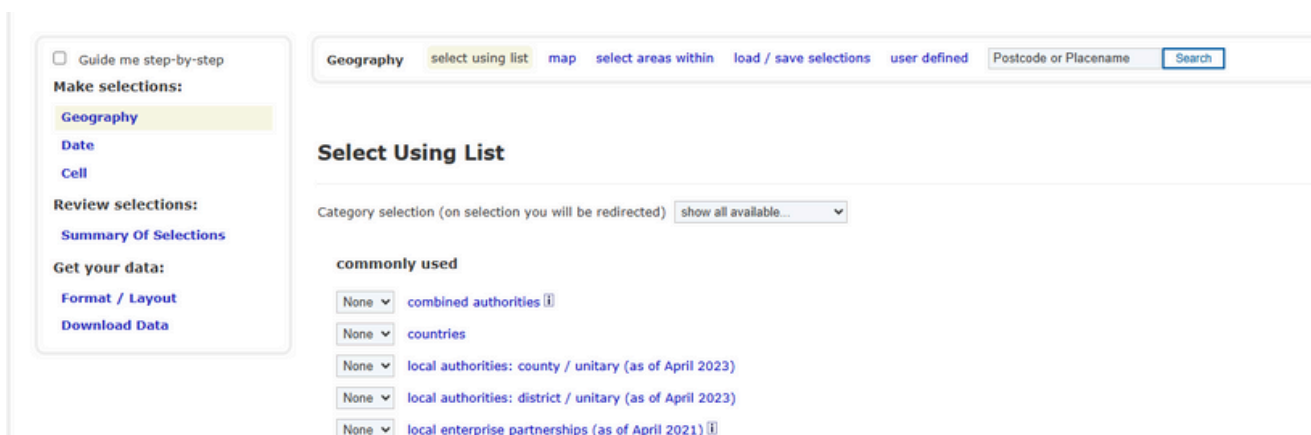
2. Select the Relevant Data Source.



3. Click on Query data button



4. Within the Geography section, select the classification level- Some or All.



5. For annual data use the following selections.

Note- Select December for the start and end dates to avoid blank entries.

**annual population survey** [Change dataset](#)  
analysis: individual data values from APS tables (cells) [Change analysis](#)

Guide me step-by-step

**Make selections:**

[Geography](#)

**Date**

[Cell](#)

**Review selections:**

[Summary Of Selections](#)

### Date Selection

Select all dates between a start and end date

Start date

End date

Selection interval

Select from a list of individual dates

6. From the Cells section, select the cells you want data on

**annual population survey** [Change dataset](#)  
analysis: individual data values from APS tables (cells) [Change analysis](#)

Guide me step-by-step

**Make selections:**

[Geography](#)

[Date](#)

**Cell**

**Review selections:**

[Summary Of Selections](#)

**Get your data:**

[Format / Layout](#)

[Download Data](#)

### Cell

[change table](#)

Note: If you require data to be downloaded in a formatted table rather than individual cells, select table in the analysis menu.

Table T01 Economic activity by age

Use the links in the headings to select entire rows or columns

[select all](#) [un-select all](#)

	All People	Males	Females
All aged 16 & over			
All	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economically active	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. From the Format/Layout section, select what you want in rows and columns according to how you want to treat the data in excel, and name the file.

## Choose Data Format And Layout

**Format**

Microsoft Excel (.xlsx or .xls)

Comma separated values (.csv)

Web browser

Map [i](#)

Database - Tab separated values (.tsv)

Nomis API [i](#)

**Layout**

Table layout (the default selection for columns and rows produces least number of tables)

Columns

Rows

Your query will produce 56 cells of data in 7 tables

**Other options**

Filename  (optional)

Include area codes (useful if you need to match up results with GIS systems etc)

Automatically define Excel Named Ranges

One table per Worksheet

8. Download the data from the Download section and Voila! You're good to go.