

Lookup table for turning the UK's 1970 OPCS occupational unit group (OUG) and employment status combinations into the 11 category version of the EGP class schema.

Strictly speaking what this does is turns the 1970 OUG and employment status combinations into an 11 category class variable cooked up by Anthony Heath and John Goldthorpe sometime around 1982. Some of the distinctions have their roots in the series of papers by Erikson, Goldthorpe and Portocareo so it and similar things became known as the EGP schema.

The categories are:

- I Higher-grade professionals, administrators and officials; managers in large industrial establishments; large proprietors.
- II Lower-grade professionals, administrators, and officials; higher grade technicians; managers in small industrial establishments; supervisors of non-manual employees.
- IIIa Routine non-manual employees, higher grade (administration and commerce).
- IIIb Routine non-manual employees, lower grade (sales and services)
- IVa Small proprietors, artisans etc., with employees.
- IVb Small proprietors, artisans etc., without employees.
- IVc Farmers and smallholders; other self-employed workers in primary production.
- V Lower-grade technicians; supervisors of manual workers.
- VI Skilled manual workers.
- VIIa Semi- and unskilled manual workers (not in agriculture etc.).
- VIIb Agricultural and other workers in primary production.

What you need:

A variable coding the 223 1970 OUGs.

A variable coding employment status as follows:

- 1 Self-employed, 25 or more employees.
- 2 Self-employed, less than 25 employees.
- 3 Self-employed, no employees.
- 4 Manager, 25 or more employees.
- 5 Manager, less than 25 employees.
- 6 Foreman/supervisor.
- 7 Employee.

I've put the lookup table together from several sources:

1. A copy of some old SPSS syntax written by Anthony Heath that he gave to me in the 1980s to code data from the 1970s British Election Surveys into the class schema. This only works with an employment status variable with 5 categories (1 and 2 combined and 4 and 5 combined) which is how employment status is coded in these surveys.
2. Some dual coded occupational data. A sample of the 1972 Oxford Mobility Survey is dual coded to both the 1970 and 1980 OUGs by going back to the information in the original schedules. The 1980 OUGs were then allocated to categories in the 11 class schema.

3. The work history occupational data in the 1986 Social Change in Economic Life Initiative (SCELI) data. Using an occupational dictionary devised by Ken Prandy these data are dual coded to the 1970 and 1980 OUGs as well as to the 11 category schema.
4. The 1983 British Election Survey. Again this is dual coded.

Taken together 2, 3 and 4 either yield a unique class category for a particular 1970 OUG and employment status combination or a distribution of categories from which the modal category can be chosen.

The values appearing in the lookup table are either uniquely determined or are the most likely values based on a comparison of all these sources.

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22 March 2019