

Korea Social Science Data Archive

KOSSDA is
an integrated digital archive of
Korean social science data and literature



ESQUIRE FOUNDATION

Accessing data at KOSSDA is easy and convenient

- Integrated search for data and literature
- Diverse search methods
- Easy data download
- Online data analysis
- Qualitative data preview
- Access to electronic journals
- Document delivery service

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ABOUT KOSSDA

Established by the Esquire Foundation, KOSSDA is a non-profit social science data archive, governed by a consortium of data-depositor institutions. University research institutes and government-funded research organizations are main depositors.

KOSSDA maintains and provides access to an integrated digital archive of Korean quantitative and qualitative data, and literature. On KOSSDA website, users are not only able to search the database, but also download and analyze data online. The website also provides electronic journal access and document delivery service.

KOSSDA's other major activities include social science database construction for the Korea Research Foundation, research for the publication of *Korean Social Trends* for the Korea National Statistical Office, research on data archiving and service, training of data analysis methods, and library service.

Major Activities

- Acquisition of Korean social science data and literature
- Construction and preservation of digital database
- Maintenance of a database system integrating both data and literature
- Online data service
- Provision of online quantitative data analysis tool (NESSTAR)
- Document delivery service
- Research on social science data archiving and service development
- Social science database construction for the Korea Research Foundation
- Research on *Korean Social Trends* for the Korea National Statistical Office
- Training of data analysis methods
- Korea Social Science Library service

KOSSDA

DATA HOLDINGS

Quantitative Data

The quantitative data collection includes about 750 survey datasets, ranging from time-series and various topical surveys to international datasets.

Time-series data

- Korean General Social Survey (KGSS)
- Survey on Corruption in Public Office
- Korean Longitudinal Study of Aging
- Occupational Safety and Health Survey
- Korea Inequality Survey
- Korea Criminal Victimization Survey
- Workplace Panel Survey etc.

Topical data

- Family
- Youth
- Elderly
- Education
- Work & labor relations
- Inequality
- Social welfare
- Crime
- Public administration
- Election & public opinion
- Communication
- Area studies, etc.

International data

- International Social Survey Programme (ISSP)
- East Asian Social Surveys (EASS)
- Survey on Values and Attitudes in Korea, China, and Japan, etc.

Qualitative Data

Begun in 2007, KOSSDA's qualitative and multimedia data collection have reached about 20,000 pieces, including documents, fieldnotes, and interview and narrative history data. Major subjects of data holding are:

- Labor movement and citizen organizations
- May 18th Democratic Uprising records
- North Korean defectors studies
- Area studies
- Poverty studies
- Korean Chinese studies

Literature

KOSSDA's literature holdings come largely from the Korea Social Science Library collection of 25 years, and include print and electronic journals and research monographs.

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|---------------------|-------|---------------------|--------|
| Print journals | 1,500 | Research monographs | 76,000 |
| Electronic journals | 2,200 | | |

DATA ACQUISITION & SERVICE

Data Acquisition

KOSSDA acquires data mainly through deposit agreement with data-producing organizations, the types of which vary as shown below.

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| University research institutes | Survey research companies |
| Government-funded research institutes | Corporate research institutes |
| Korea Research Foundation projects | Public and civic organizations |

Data Processing

Acquired data are carefully assessed for archiving, after which they are processed and added to the database. Data processing includes construction of metadata file, correction of errors, and protection of confidential and private information.

Data Search

An integrated search of the KOSSDA archive is available by research area, thesaurus, and keywords. In addition, variable search is possible for survey data and preview function is available for qualitative data.

Data Access

KOSSDA data collections can be downloaded from the website. Electronic journals can also be accessed online, and document delivery service is offered for print journals.

Online Data Analysis (NESSTAR)

NESSTAR allows to perform tabulation, graphic presentation of data, correlation and regression analysis of quantitative datasets on the web.

KOSSDA

Membership

In order to access KOSSDA services including data download, electronic journals search, or DDS request, individual or institutional membership is required.

Corporate bodies or their affiliates including university or college libraries and research institutes may apply for institutional membership. Both individual members and individuals in member institutions have direct access to all of KOSSDA data and services. For membership application, please visit KOSSDA website.

Research

For the enhancement of archiving services, KOSSDA conducts research related to data acquisition and dissemination, database construction, and system improvement. Major researches are:

- Studies on the use of social sciences data
- Development of social sciences thesaurus
- Studies on the development of metadata for social sciences data
- Social science database construction for the Korea Research Foundation
- Research on *Korean Social Trends* for the Korea National Statistical Office

Education

To encourage and support effective social sciences data use, workshops on data analysis methods using selected KOSSDA datasets are offered during the winter (January–February) and summer (July–August) seasons.

KOSSDA also offers free lectures on data search and utilization methods at the request of educational or research institutes.

KOSSDA

ORGANIZATION

The foundation of KOSSDA's governance lies in the consortium of depositor institutions. Each institute taking part in the KOSSDA consortium appoints an official representative. The Executive Committee, elected by the official representatives, functions as the top decision making body. KOSSDA has five major operation units: three data processing teams (qualitative, quantitative, and literature), service development team, and system management division.

Consortium Institutions

University affiliates

Center for Information and Communication Studies, Pusan National University
Institute for Peace & Unification Studies, Seoul National University
Institute for Social Development Studies, Yonsei University
Institute of International Affairs, Seoul National University
Institute of Population and Aging Research, Hanyang University
Institute of Psychology, Seoul National University
Institute of Social Research, Korea University
Institute of Social Sciences, Chungnam National University
Korean Institute for HIV/AIDS Prevention, Sahmyook University
Labor Education and Research Institute, Korea University
May 18 Institute, Chonnam National University
Research Institute for Management and Economy, Pusan National University
Research Institute for Social Science, Keimyung University
Research Institute of Human Ecology, Seoul National University
Research Institute of Social Science, Ewha Womans University
Social Science Research Institute, Chonbuk National University
Social Survey Research Center, Pusan National University
Survey Research Center, Sungkyunkwan University
The Center for Social Sciences, Seoul National University
The Institute for Social Development and Policy Research, Seoul National University
The Institute of North Korea Studies, Dongguk University
The Social Sciences Research Institute, Chonnam National University
Yonsei Economic Research Institute, Yonsei University

Government affiliates

Daegu–Gyeongbuk Development Institute
Daejeon Development Institute
Gangwon Development Research Institute
Gyeonggido Family & Women Development Institute
Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs
Korea Labor Institute
Korea Occupational Safety & Health Agency
Korea Research Institute for Human Development
Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education and Training
Korean Institute of Criminal Justice Policy
Korean Women's Development Institute
National Youth Policy Institute
Science and Technology Policy Institute
Statistics Research Institute
The Korea Institute of Public Administration

Corporate research institutes

Korea Social Research Center
Center for Future Human Resource Studies
East Asia Institute
Naksungdae Institute of Economic Research
Korea Labour & Society Institute
CYRAM
Gallup Korea
Hankook Research
Hyundai Research Institute
Insight Research

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FUNDING

Esquire Foundation

KOSSDA is funded by the Esquire Foundation established in 1982. The foundation is a public utility funding organization, which supported the establishment of the Korea Social Science Library (1983), and the Korean Social Survey Data Archive (2003).

Keeping with the changing social science research environment, the foundation has supported to integrate the two organizations into KOSSDA (2006).

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