

CAN WE BELIEVE GOVERNMENT STATISTICS?

HAS THE GOVERNMENT BEEN COOKING THE BOOKS?

Interpreting Official Statistics examines the official statistics produced about the current state of British society. It documents some of the ways in which information has been suppressed, manipulated and misinterpreted since 1979. It looks at what can actually be learned from available data about poverty, unemployment, crime and health, and the social divisions of class, gender, ethnicity and disability. This invaluable guide is designed to help students and non-specialist readers know what figures are available, how to interpret them and how to discover when and in what way politicians are misusing statistics.

Data sets covered include:

- Households Below Average Income.
- Administrative and survey measures of unemployment and crime.
- Population Census data on ethnicity.
- Data sources on women and work.
- Data on the relationship between class and health, and safety at work.
- New data sources on disability.
- Labour Force Survey.

This book contains contributions by Paul Abberley, Steve Fenton, Theo Nichols, Robert Reiner, Peter Townsend and Jack West.

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Sociology

ROUTLEDGE



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