List of variables and a short description of each below

Variables in the Danish Conscription Database (DCD)		
#	**Variable**	**Label / contents**
1	cpr	cpr. CPR number
2	fsted_c	fsted_c. Information concerning the place of birth from the CPR register
3	idno	idno. ID number
4	bdate	bdate. Date of birth
5	c_year	c_year. Year of conscription (19xx)
6	c_hyear	c_hyear. Half year of conscription (1-2)
7	c_age	c_age. Age at conscription (decimal year)
8	c_age_year	c_age_year. Age at conscription (year)
9	c_height	c_height. Height (cm)
10	c_weight	c_weight. Weight (kg)
11	c_edu1	c_edu1. Educational level, recorded before 1979 (1-9)
12	c_edu2	c_edu2. Educational level, recorded after 1978 (8-13)
13	c_edu6cat	c_edu6cat. Educational level, detailed categories (1-6)
14	c_edu3cat	c_edu3cat. Educational level, simple categories (1-3)
15	c_bpp	c_bpp. Boerge Prien test score (0-78)
16	c_bppcode	c_bppcode. BPP score code (1-9)
17	c_district	c_district. Conscript board district (1-7)
18	archive	archive. Archive
19	match	match. Phase in which CPR match was made

Value labels & short description of each variable:

cpr
The CPR-number is the unique personal identification number by which all residents of Denmark are registered and these were introduced in April 1968. A custom made matching program was used to identify the CPR-number of the digitized records. The following information from the register cards were used to identify matches: either CPR-number or full name and date of birth for those examined before the introduction of CPR-numbers.

fsted_c
Information on place of birth from the CPR-register, not from the register cards.

idno
The DCD's de-identified serial numbers for observations.

bdate
Date of birth from the CPR-register, not the register cards (in a few cases, there are discrepancies).

c_age
Age at conscription calculated as conscription year and half year minus birthdate. Half year dates are set to (I) first of April and (II) first of October, respectively. Be aware, however, that some men died within the few months between their actual date of conscription and the date of conscription set from the recorded year and half year, i.e. before they reached the seemingly exact age indicated.

c_age_year
Age at conscription calculated as above, but truncated to year.

c_year
Year of conscription recorded from register cards (19xx)

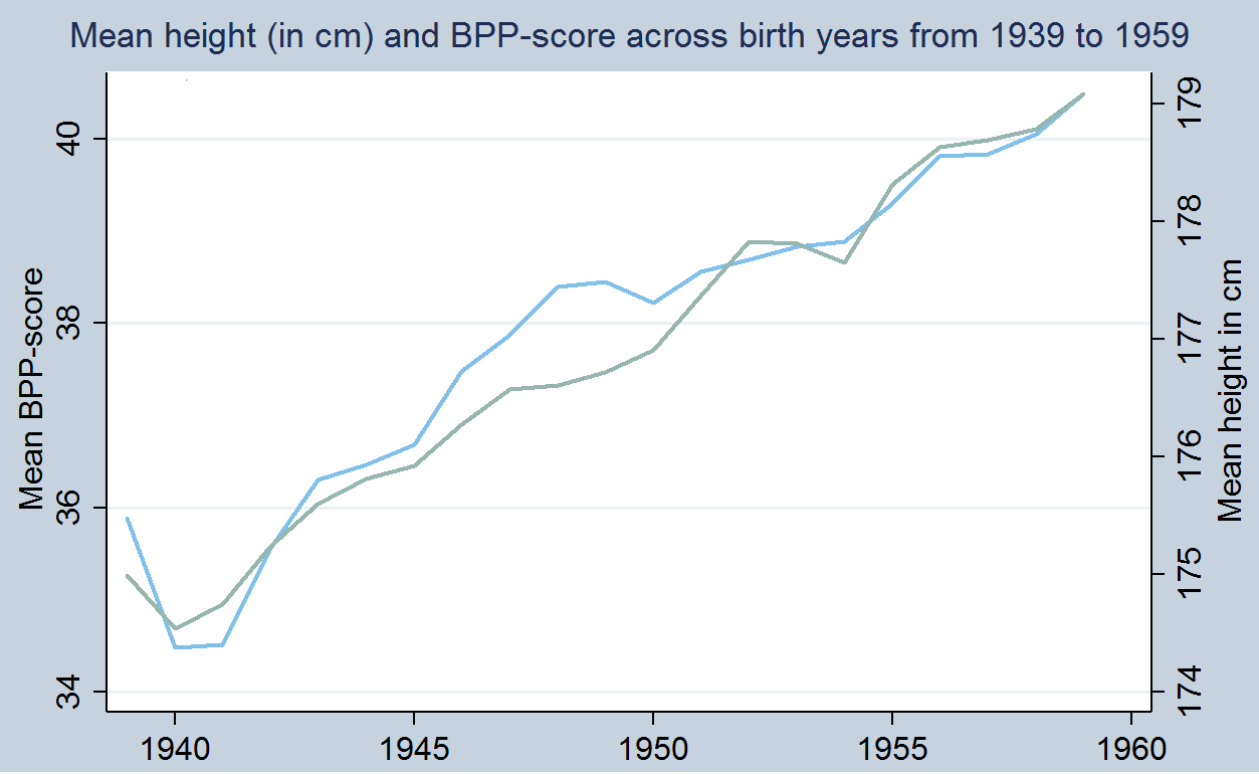
c_hyear
Half-year of conscription recorded from register cards (1, 2), where
1= spring (January through June)
2= autumn (July through December)

c_height

Measured with a stadiometer to the nearest cm without shoes at the conscript board examination. The registration of height is virtually complete for all the birth cohorts and conscript board districts.

Figure 1 is based on the DCD and it shows how the average height and BPP score has increased across the birth cohorts from 1939 through 1959.

Figure 1



c_weight

The men were weighed in their underwear and weight was assessed to the nearest kg at the conscript board examination.

The recording of weight varies considerably depending on the birth cohort and district – see table 1.

The recording of weight was incomplete in the early birth cohorts in district 2, 6 and 7 and across all birth cohorts in district 4 and 5.

Table 1

Proportion of DCD men for whom weight was recorded								
Year of birth	1 Copenhagen greater area including northern part of Zealand	2 The remaining parts of Zealand and adjacent islands	3 Funen and adjacent islands	4. Southern and mid-eastern parts of Jutland	5 North and West Jutland	6. Bornholm	7. The reunited southern part of Jutland	**Total**
1939	89.8 %	11.8 %	90.0 %	6.8 %	8.8 %	5.1 %	10.3 %	**53.6 %**
1940	86.7 %	8.8 %	84.7 %	3.0 %	3.2 %	8.2 %	9.7 %	**37.4 %**
1941	92.1 %	8.9 %	81.8 %	2.8 %	2.8 %	8.3 %	9.5 %	**36.0 %**
1942	92.5 %	10.7 %	82.7 %	3.0 %	3.6 %	8.3 %	10.9 %	**38.7 %**
1943	87.9 %	13.7 %	82.9 %	3.5 %	4.5 %	9.4 %	16.4 %	**41.1 %**
1944	87.6 %	18.0 %	85.3 %	3.2 %	2.4 %	5.9 %	29.8 %	**42.7 %**
1945	87.3 %	31.8 %	87.5 %	3.1 %	8.9 %	4.9 %	66.7 %	**48.3 %**
1946	87.5 %	70.4 %	90.0 %	3.1 %	1.3 %	5.1 %	87.1 %	**56.2 %**
1947	88.7 %	91.2 %	91.5 %	1.7 %	1.4 %	6.1 %	89.3 %	**60.1 %**
1948	88.4 %	91.4 %	91.8 %	1.4 %	1.2 %	2.8 %	90.5 %	**58.3 %**
1949	87.7 %	90.3 %	84.2 %	1.4 %	1.0 %	5.0 %	90.3 %	**54.3 %**
1950	91.3 %	90.8 %	92.6 %	2.1 %	1.3 %	10.9 %	92.5 %	**58.2 %**
1951	90.6 %	92.5 %	93.5 %	2.2 %	2.5 %	24.9 %	93.8 %	**57.7 %**
1952	92.1 %	92.9 %	93.9 %	1.8 %	1.3 %	84.5 %	85.7 %	**55.5 %**
1953	89.9 %	93.5 %	94.2 %	1.5 %	1.1 %	91.2 %	76.5 %	**54.5 %**
1954	89.2 %	93.1 %	93.5 %	1.4 %	0.8 %	94.6 %	74.1 %	**54.0 %**
1955	89.0 %	92.0 %	94.1 %	1.2 %	2.2 %	93.7 %	93.6 %	**56.6 %**
1956	88.4 %	92.8 %	92.8 %	1.4 %	19.5 %	95.9 %	93.4 %	**60.3 %**
1957	86.6 %	89.6 %	61.1 %	1.2 %	17.2 %	93.8 %	91.3 %	**59.6 %**
1958	88.8 %	92.6 %	91.7 %	1.7 %	19.3 %	94.6 %	92.7 %	**62.5 %**
1959	88.4 %	93.1 %	40.0 %	2.0 %	38.2 %	94.9 %	86.9 %	**69.8 %**
Total	**89.0 %**	**66.4 %**	**89.4 %**	**2.2 %**	**4.8 %**	**39.2 %**	**64.2 %**	**52.9 %**

Education variables:

The conscript board's encoding of education changed by the first of January 1979.

To avoid confusion, we split the data into two columns (c_edu1 and c_edu2), each with only one of the coding systems. We deleted all values that were outside the valid values. After this, we combined and recoded the two variables into the two categorical variables c_edu6cat and c_edu3cat, using the following coding – There is an overview table over how the codes correspond (with Danish education terms) beneath**.** The recording of education level is virtually complete for all birth cohorts and districts.

c_edu1

Education level recorded before 1979 (1-9), where

1= 7 years of primary school with no further education

2= 7 years of primary supplemented with additional courses or 8 years of primary school**3**= 8 years of primary school supplemented with additional courses or 9/10 years of primary school**4**= Skilled training in industry, trade and craft

5= 9 years of schooling (mellemskoleeksamen)

6= 10 years of schooling (realeksamen)

7= Medium length (3.5 years) professional education - engineer, teacher etc.

8= Highschool/secondary school exam

9= Academic education

For a more thorough description of the coding see Teasdale, T. W., & Owen, D. R. (1986). The influence of paternal social class on intelligence and educational level in male adoptees and non-adoptees. British Journal of Educational Psychology, 56(1), 3-12.

c_edu2

Education level recorded after 1978 (8-13), where

8= 8 years of primary school

9= 9 or 10 years of primary school with final exam (folkeskolens afgangsprøve)

10= 9 or 10 years of primary school with extended final exam (folkeskolens udvidede afgangsprøve)

11= First year of secondary school (1.G/1.HF/1.HH/1.HTX)

12= Second year of secondary school (2.G)

13= Third year of secondary school (3.G/2.HF/2.HH/2.HTX)

c_edu6cat

Education level, detailed categories (1-6), where

1= 7 years of primary school

2= 8-10 years of primary school with or without finals

3= Skilled training in industry, trade and craft

4= 9-12 years of middle and secondary school

5= Medium length (3.5 years) professional education - engineer, teacher etc

6= Third year of secondary school or higher education

Table 2 illustrates how the level of education has changed across the birth cohorts.

Table 2

Education level, detailed categories (1-6), where						
Birth cohorts	1.	2	3.	4	5.	6.
Born before 1945	17.6 %	14,5 %	34,7 %	21,2 %	3,5 %	8,5 %
Born in 1945-1949	9,4 %	13,1 %	39,5 %	20,7 %	3,6 %	13,6 %
Born in 1950-1954	6,8 %	15,7 %	33,3 %	24,6 %	4,1 %	15,4 %
Born after 1954	2,7 %	20,6 %	22,1 %	31,6 %	4,9 %	18,1 %

c_edu3cat

Education level, simple categories (1-3), where
1= 7-10 years of primary school with or without finals
2= 9-12 years of middle and secondary school, or skilled training in industry, trade and craft
3= Secondary school final exam, medium length or higher education

c_bpp

Børge Prien test score (0-78), from the register cards.
The intelligence test comprises four subtests which tests the logical (19 items), verbal (19 items), numerical (24 items) and spatial (18 items) abilities. The numbers of correct answers are summed into a total score and only the total score is recorded on the register cards. If the conscripts failed to solve items or solved an unusually low number of items according to their level of education, the conscript board personnel coded the number of resolved items as 99, and these observations have been recoded as MISSING.
The recording of the BPP score is virtually complete across the birth cohorts and districts.

c_bppcode

The conscript boards encoding of intelligence on the register cards (1-9). The code corresponds approximately perfectly with the following BPP categories:
1= 0-15
2=16-21
3=22-27
4=28-34
5=35-40
6=41-46
7=47-53
8=54-59
9=60-78

c_district

The country has been divided in to seven conscript board districts. The districts were coded 1-7 and the geographical areas covered by each district are described below and are marked on a map PDF 1

1= Copenhagen greater area including northern part of Zealand
2= The remaining parts of Zealand and adjacent islands
3= Funen and adjacent islands
4= Southern and mid-eastern parts of Jutland
5= North and West Jutland
6= Bornholm
7= The reunited southern part of Jutland

archive

The national archives in which the register cards were stored and digitized

LAK= Data from archive in Copenhagen, digitized in Copenhagen
RAK= Data from the National archive, digitized in Copenhagen
LAV= Data from archive in Viborg, digitized in Viborg
RAV= Data from the National archive, digitized in Viborg
LAO= Data from archive in Odense, digitized in Odense
ALL= Clarified duplicates (i.e. multiple observations on the same subject) recorded at various archives, digitized in Copenhagen

match

A custom made program was used to match the entered observations to persons in the CPR- register.
The following information from the register cards were used to identify match: either CPR-number or full name and date of birth (CPR numbers weren't introduced until April 1968). The variable **match** indicates in which phase of the program (phase 0-9) a match with the CPR register was made.