



Restrictions on Home Location Data

UK Biobank is restricting home-location data. Previously, we offered home-location data in two resolutions:

- Rounded co-ordinates accurate to 1km via fields [20074](#) and [20075](#) (unrestricted)
- Unrounded co-ordinates accurate to 100m via fields [20033](#) and [20034](#) (restricted - only released when such a fine resolution was necessary for the research)

Why is UK Biobank now restricting the 1km fields?

Over the course of the next year, we plan to release other home location data including Local Authority Area (LAA) and Low-Level Super Output Area (LLSOA). More such data may be made available in the future. Whilst these data do not represent a high-risk to participant re-identification in themselves, by overlaying these data, it is possible in some instances to determine home-location to a very fine resolution.

What if I need home-location data for my research?

Home location data will no longer be available in standard data tiers, however researchers who need home-location data can still request it. Researchers should submit a request for the type of home-location data they need by email to access@ukbiobank.ac.uk, or via AMS messages. Researchers will not need additional scientific review to access any **one** type of the following data fields:

- Rounded home-location co-ordinates (via new fields [22688](#) and [22689](#))
- LAA
- LLSOA

Any request for more than one of these data types will require additional review and approval by the UK Biobank Scientific Team. Unrounded home-location co-ordinates will remain restricted and will only be released when necessary for the approved research.