Department
for Work &
Pensions

NOMIS user guide

How to get DWP benefit and employment/unemployment data from NOMIS

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This guide explains how to get DWP benefit and employment/ unemployment data from NOMIS.

NOMIS contains data on benefit claims from DWP and employment/unemployment data from the Annual Population Survey.

Data is available at www.nomisweb.co.uk

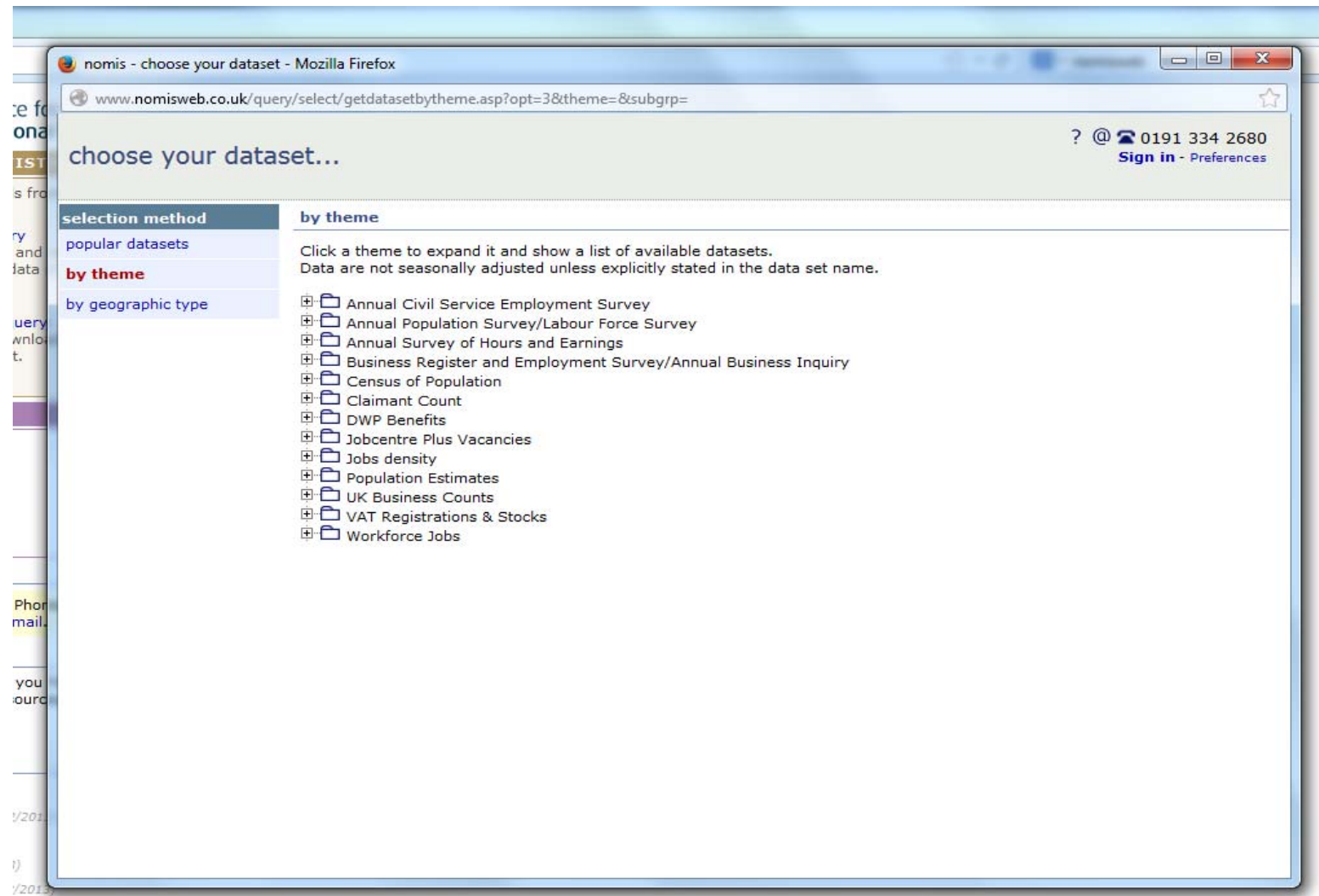On opening up the NOMIS homepage, choose "Advanced Query".

This should launch a new window listing the available datasets.

For employment & unemployment data, choose 'Annual Population Survey/Labour Force Survey'
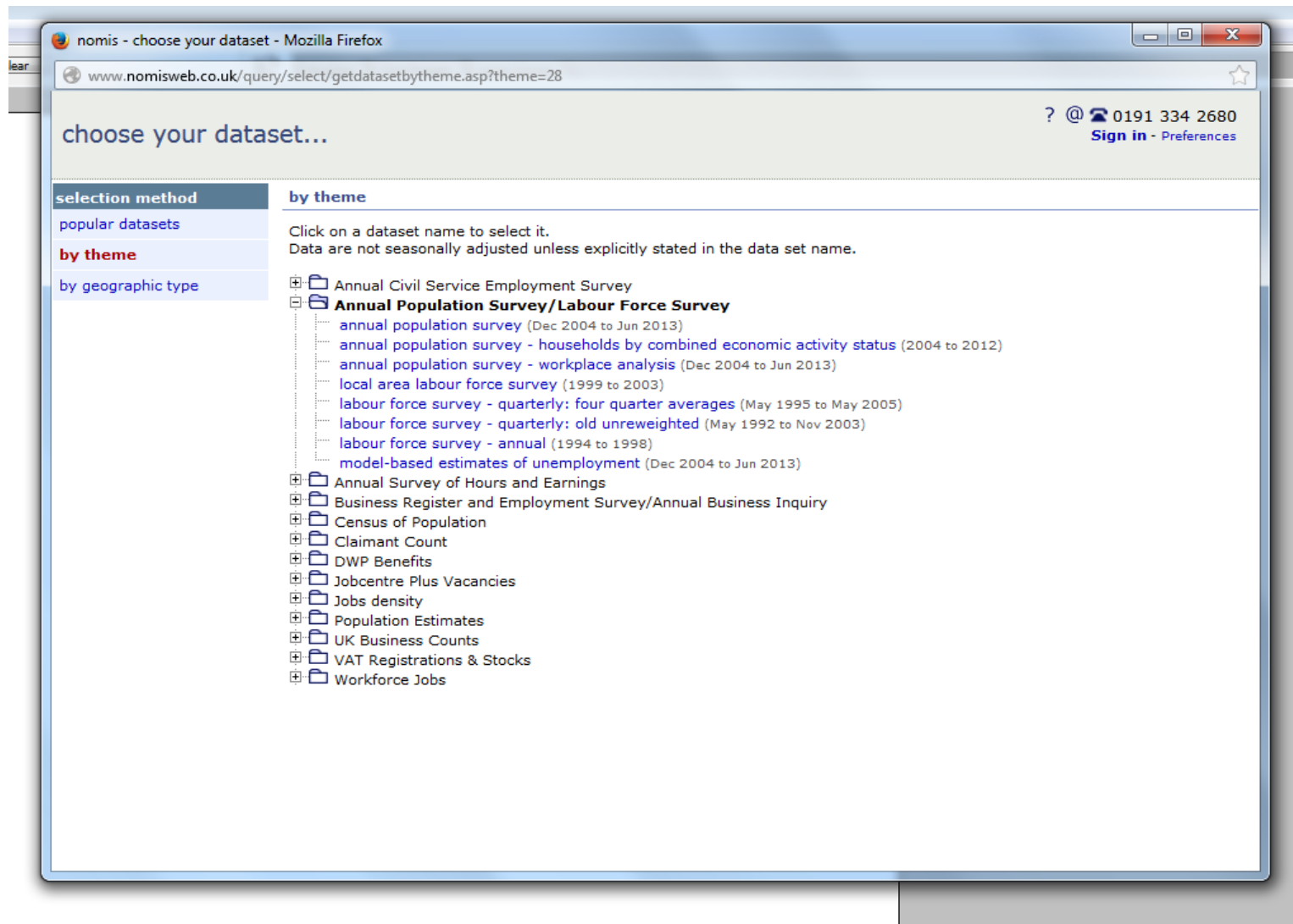
For the latest data choose the first dataset, "annual population survey (Dec 2004 to Jun 2013)"

This will take you into a screen with a selection of menus where you can set the parameters of your search:

- Geography – including country, region, local authority, parliamentary consistuency, etc
- Date – APS data is published as 12 month averages, released quarterly.
- Variable – an extensive (if not exhaustive) list of possible variables including employment, unemployment, industry, ethnicity, etc.
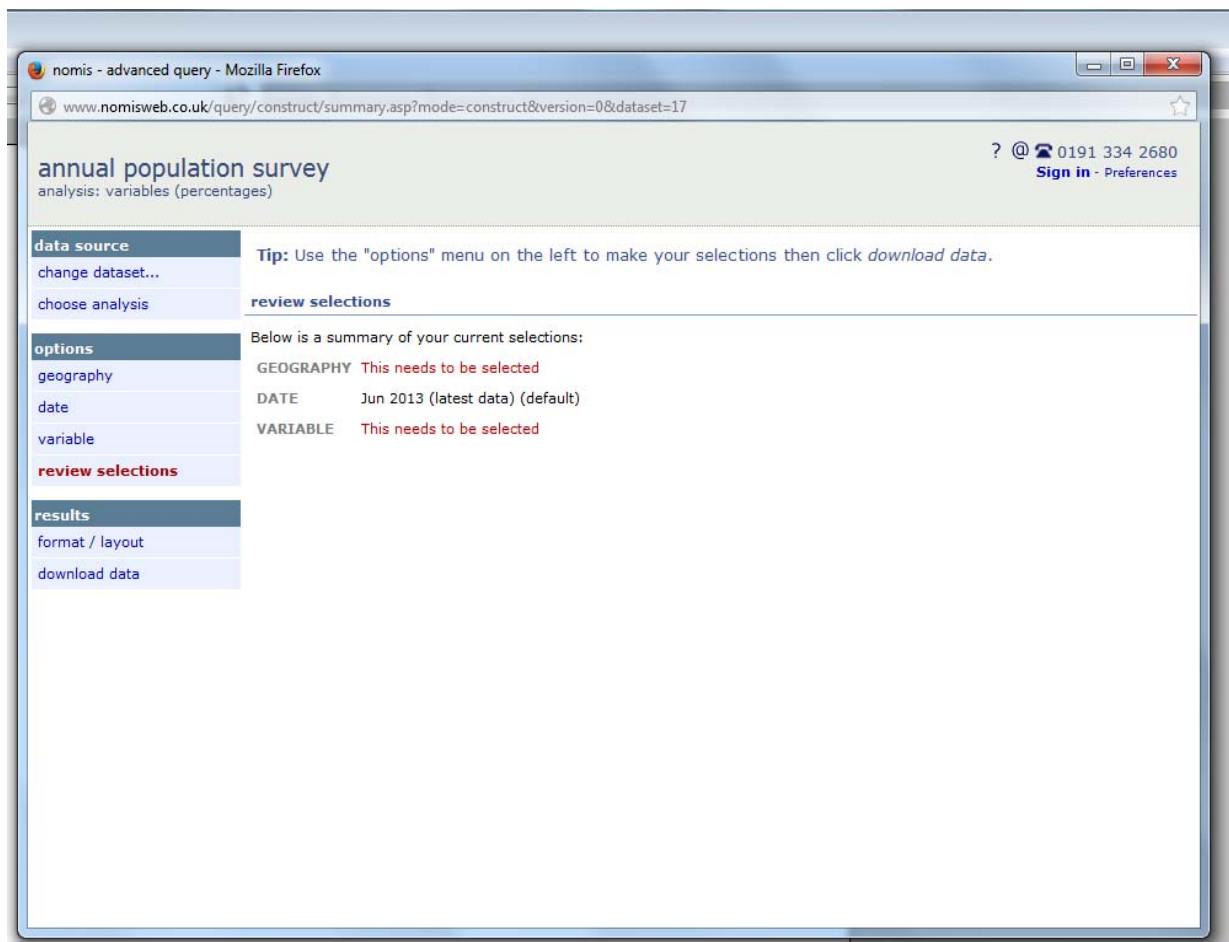
For example, if you click 'geography', you will get a screen like this, with a series of dropdown menus:

Picking, say 'local authorities: district/unitary' will produce another set of drop down menus with LADs listed under their Government Office Region. For example, the list below is for the East. LADs can then be added to your selection simply by ticking the boxes.

Similar screens appear when you chose 'date'….

And 'variable':
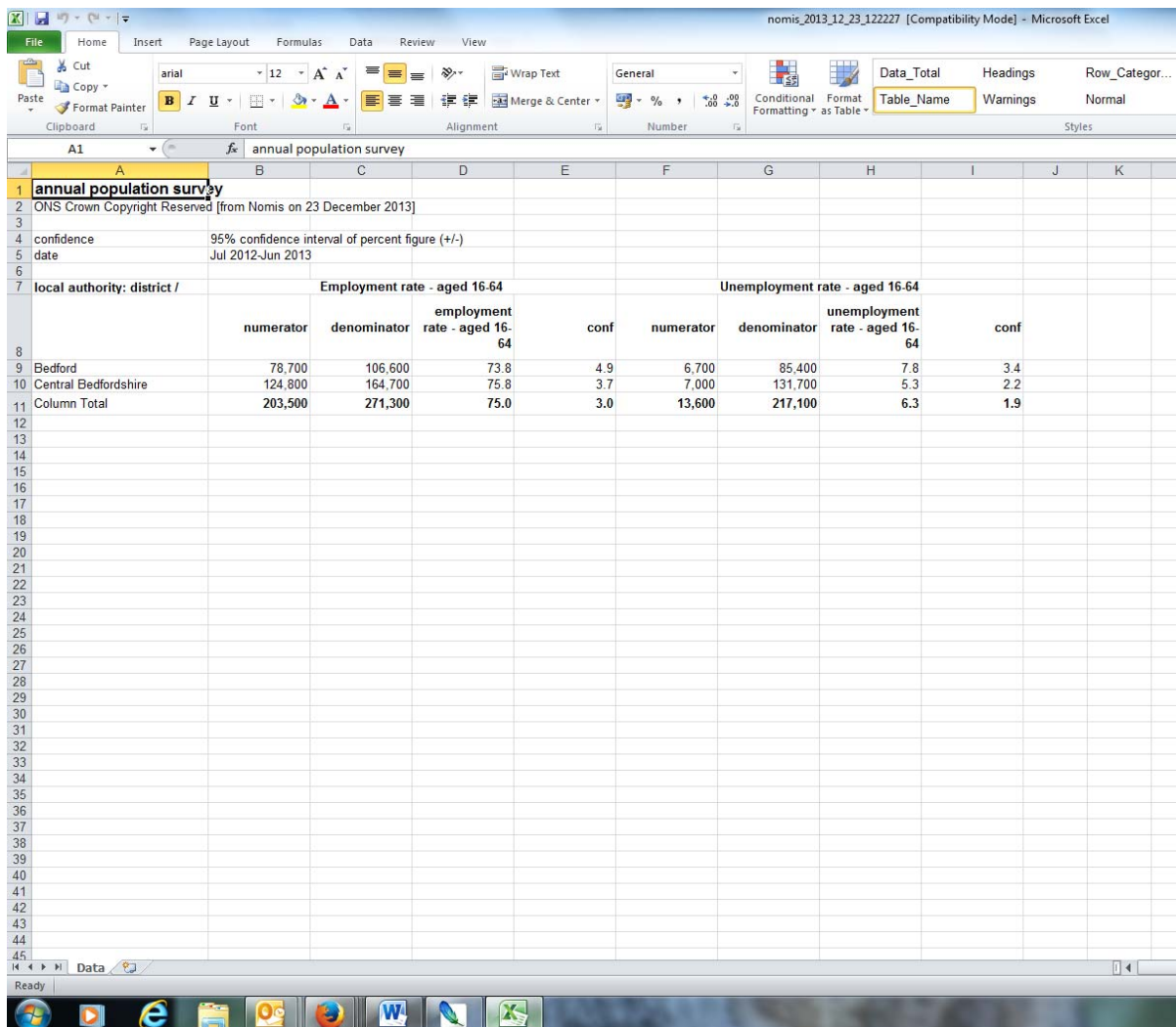
Once you have chosen your parameters, you can review them by clicking on 'review selections', and you will get a screen such as this showing what you have chosen:

If you are happy with your selection click 'download data'...... which will extract the data for downloading, producing the following:

Clicking 'download data for Excel 97-2003.xls" should open a file in Excel, with your data displayed something like this:

This file can then be saved or edited.