Online Resources 1

Descriptions of Higher Managerial/Routine Jobs

Participants in both samples received identical instructions to enable comparability. Participants were initially provided with the following information: "*The government uses a classification scheme to group people according to the kinds of job they have. One group within this scheme is people with higher managerial and professional jobs, which includes chief executives and senior managers. Another group in this scheme are people with routine jobs, which includes bar staff and cleaners.*

Socio-demographic Measures

Both samples included data on gender (female, male), age, household income and education. Respondent age was categorised into three comparably-sized groups of under 40s, 40-59 year olds and over 60s. UK annual household income was provided in £5,000 increments, however, US household income indicated only whether income was <$40,000, $40,000 to $80,000 or >$80,000. Harmonisation was achieved by calculating sterling equivalent categories for the three US levels based on exchange rate in February 2021 (<£30,000; £30,000-£60,000; >£60,000) and re-coding UK data accordingly. UK data on highest level of education comprised 18 different options which were recoded to four levels: no formal qualifications (no formal qualifications), level 2-3 or equivalent (youth training certificate, trade apprenticeship, clerical and commercial, City & Guilds, City & Guilds advanced, ONC, CSE grade 1, CSE grades 2-5, Scottish Ordinary, A level/Higher, Scottish Higher), University degree or equivalent (Nursing qualification, Teaching qualification, University diploma, University degree) or post-graduate/higher (University higher degree, other technical, professional or higher qualification). The six levels provided for US education were recoded into four comparative levels of education: no high school, high

school graduate, college level (some college, 2-year college, 4-years college) and post-graduate.

UK respondent data also included a self-report measure of political attention ("How much attention do you generally pay to politics?" on a scale from 0-10), which for descriptive analyses was recoded to high (7-10), medium (5-6) and low (0-4). Respondents had indicated whether they voted Remain, Leave, Did not vote or Can't remember in the EU 2016 Referendum. Participants who said they could not remember were removed from analyses. Respondents indicated whether they voted Conservative, Labour or Other (Liberal Democrat, Scottish National Party, Plaid Cymru, Brexit Party, Green, other, Don't Know) or did not vote in the General Election in December 2019. Finally, data on participants' household social grade (based mainly but not only on occupation and employment status of Chief Income Earner) was categorised into high (A: higher managerial, administrative and professional, B: Intermediate managerial, administrative and professional), medium (C1: Supervisory, clerical and junior managerial, administrative and professional, C2: skilled manual workers) and low social grade (D: semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers, E: state pensioners, casual and lowest grade workers, unemployed with state benefits).

US panel data was separated according to whether participants lived in the Northwest, Midwest, South or West. Respondents indicated how they voted in the 2020 Presidential election, either for Joe Biden, Donald Trump, Other candidates (Jo Jorgensen, Howie Hawkins or Other) or Did not vote for President. US respondents also indicated which racial or ethnic group best describes them: White, Black, Hispanic or other persons of color (Asian, Native American, Two or more races, Other, or Middle Eastern).

Online Resources 2 Sociodemographic characteristics and median estimated and ideal life expectancy ratios of professional to routine workers

	United Kingdom (*N* = 1,599)			United States (*N* = 1,039)		
		Median Ratio Prof/Routine			Median Ratio Prof/Routine	
	N	Estimated	Ideal	*N*	Estimated	Ideal
Total Sample (weighted)	1,599	1.0588	1.0000	1039	1.0291	1.0000
Age						
18-39	522	1.0533	1.0000	397	1.0635	1.0000
40-59	553	1.0625	1.0000	317	1.0134	1.0000
60+	524	1.0533	1.0000	325	1.0000	1.0000
Gender						
Female	820	1.0533	1.0000	533	1.0256	1.0000
Male	779	1.0605	1.0000	506	1.0400	1.0000
Income						
<$40,000/£30,000	553	1.0625	1.0000	356	1.0259	1.0000
$40,000-$80,000/£30,000 - £60,000	397	1.0532	1.0000	294	1.0258	1.0000
>$80,000/>£60,000	188	1.0625	1.0000	234	1.0455	1.0000

Education						
No High school/No formal qualifications	92	1.0000	1.0000	54	1.0496	1.0000
High school graduate/Level 2-3 or equivalent	736	1.0526	1.0000	365	1.0000	1.0000
College / University	423	1.0592	1.0000	511	1.0400	1.0000
Post-grad	284	1.0625	1.0000	109	1.0488	1.0000
Social Grade						
High	336	1.0625	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Medium	614	1.0534	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Low	649	1.0493	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Political Attention						
High	448	1.0626	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Medium	800	1.0625	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Low	352	1.0411	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
EU Ref 2016 Vote						

Remain	593	1.0625	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Leave	628	1.0513	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Didn't Vote	353	1.0435	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
General Election 2019 Vote						
Conservative	524	1.0506	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Labour	387	1.0647	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other[a]	319	1.0629	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Didn't Vote	367	1.0286	1.0000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Race						
White	N/A	N/A	N/A	664	1.0375	1.0000
Black	N/A	N/A	N/A	125	1.0000	1.0000
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	162	1.0351	1.0000
Other persons of color[b]	N/A	N/A	N/A	88	1.038	1.0000
Presidential Election 2020 Vote						
Joe Biden	N/A	N/A	N/A	485	1.0625	1.0000
Donald Trump	N/A	N/A	N/A	330	1.0000	1.0000

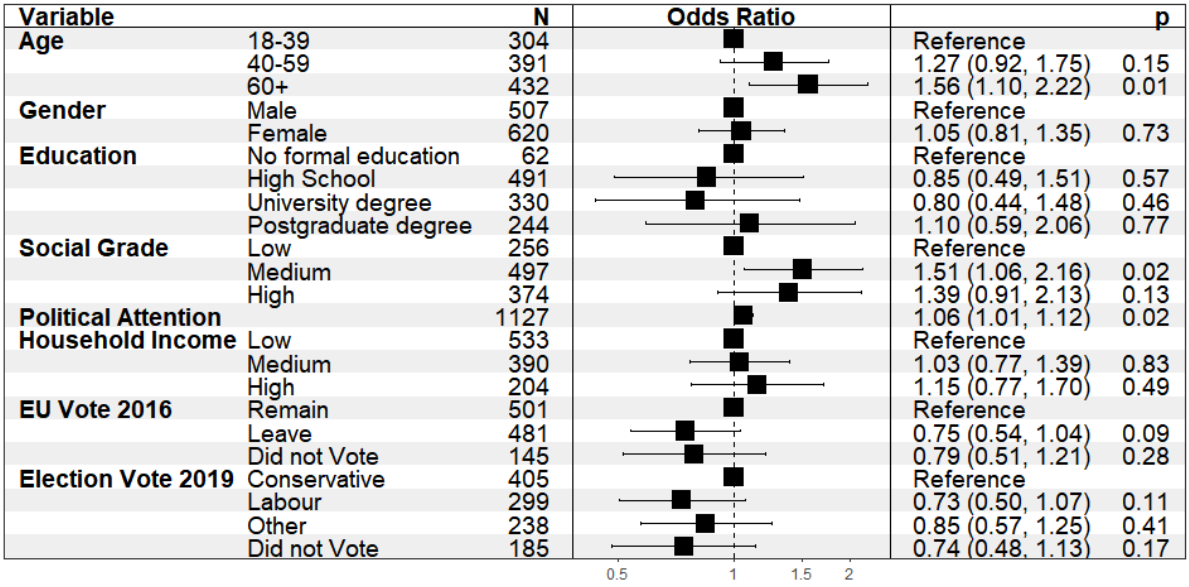
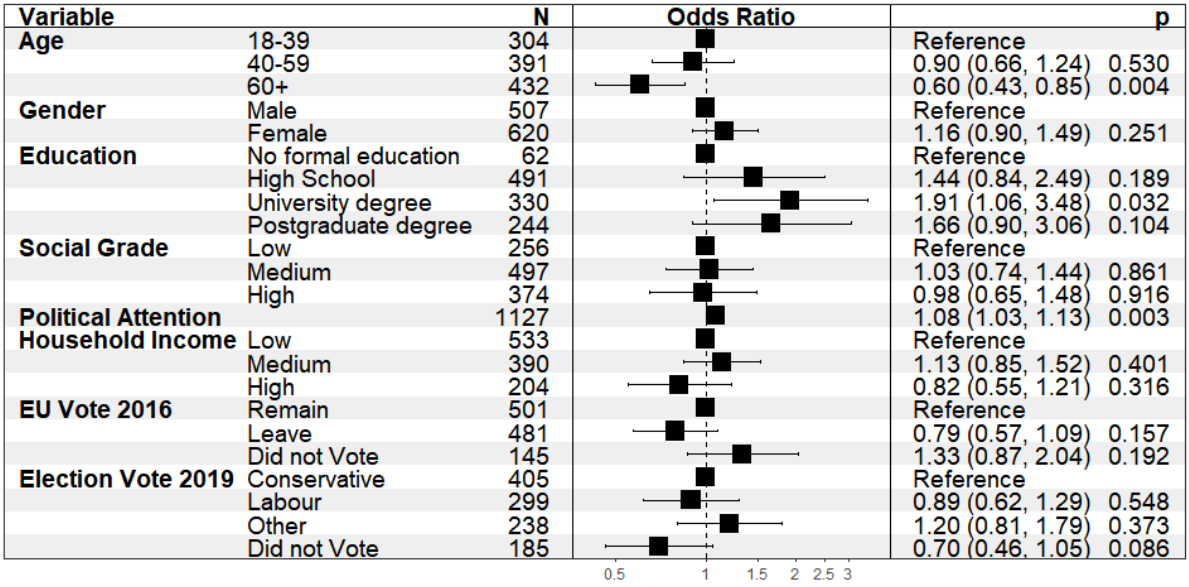
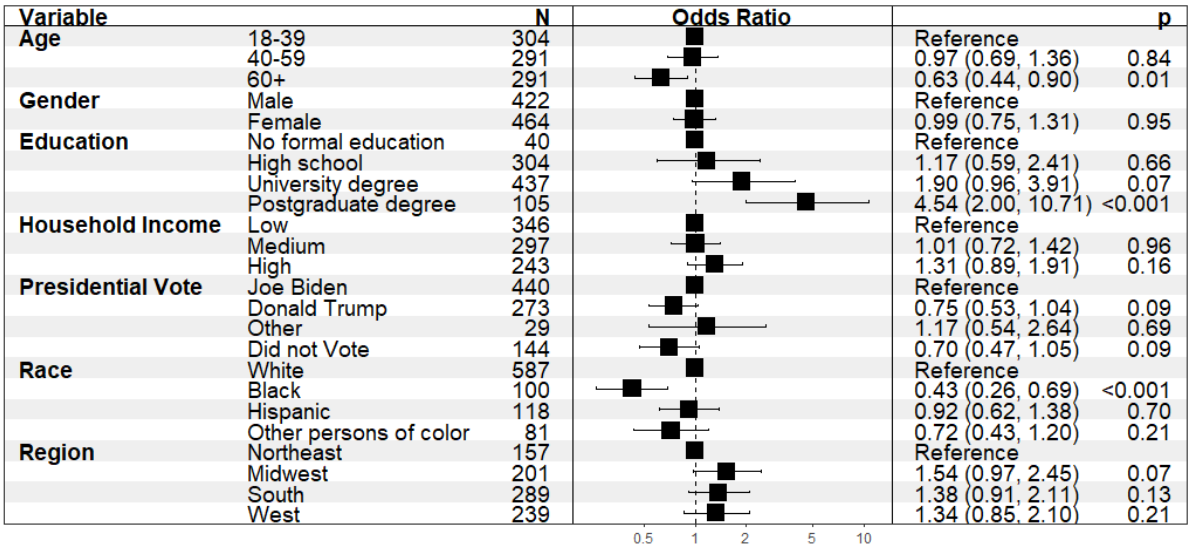
	Other[c]	N/A	N/A	N/A	38	1.0523	1.0000
	Didn't Vote	N/A	N/A	N/A	186	1.0401	1.0000
Region							
	Northeast	N/A	N/A	N/A	185	1.0398	1.0000
	Midwest	N/A	N/A	N/A	218	1.0000	1.0000
	South	N/A	N/A	N/A	391	1.0000	1.0000
	West	N/A	N/A	N/A	245	1.0555	1.0000

[a]Liberal Democrat, SNP, Plaid Cymru, Brexit Party, Green, Other, Don’t Know

[b]Asian, Native American, Two or more races, Other, Middle Eastern

[c]Jo Jorgensen, Howie Hawkins, Other

Online Resources 3 Forest plot showing odds ratios (and 95% confidence intervals) of accurate perceptions of life expectancy differences between professional and routine workers in the UK sample (N = 1,127)



Online Resources 4 Forest plots showing odds ratios (and 95% confidence intervals) of desiring equal life expectancy for professional than routine workers in the UK sample (upper panel; N = 1,127) and US sample (lower panel; N = 886)