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# Data in the spotlight - Longitudinal Surveys

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UK Data Archive/ UK Data Service  
University of Essex

Webinar, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020



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# Roadmap

## Who

... are we?

## What

... longitudinal data  
are available via the  
UK Data Service?

## Where

... to find and  
access data,  
resources and  
help?

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# What is the UK Data Service?




- a comprehensive resource funded by the ESRC
- a single point of access to a wide range of secondary social science data
- support, training and guidance (listen to recorded webinars)




# UK Data Service


COVID-19 Site search Accessibility FAQ Help Contact New users Sitemap

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We expect to run as normal a service as possible during this COVID-19 (Coronavirus) emergency. Please [visit our COVID-19 page](#) for the latest information. 

Explore the UK's largest collection of social, economic and population data resources

Search data 

### How to cite data correctly

 Why cite data? #CiteTheData  
CITE THE DATA  
University of Essex UK Data Service

### Guides and resources

- Dataset guides
- Topic guides
- Methods and software guides
- Guides to exploring online

[More resources >](#)

**Video tutorials**  
See our range of training videos

[ukdataservice.ac.uk](http://ukdataservice.ac.uk)



News

Events

Past Events

Data Impact Blog

Home > News and events > Events

# Events

## Training workshops, conferences, seminars and related events

Please check our [Covid-19 update page](#) for any changes to the Service.

All scheduled training events will be transferred online (where possible).

Slides and recordings of UK Data Service webinars are made available on our [past events pages](#) and [YouTube channel](#) soon after the event has taken place.

Showing 1 to 10 of 22 entries

1 2 3 >>>



### Webinar: Data in the spotlight: Longitudinal data

15 Oct 2020  
Online, 15.00 - 16.00 BST



### Webinar: Data for dissertations

21 Oct 2020  
Online, 15.00 - 16.00



### Safe Researcher Training

21 Oct 2020  
Online



### COVID-19 Data Dive: Exploring the social and economic impacts of the pandemic

22 - 23 Oct 2020  
Online

We expect to run as normal a service as possible during this COVID-19 (Coronavirus) emergency. Please [visit our COVID-19 page](#) for the latest information.

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DATA CATALOGUE

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WEBINAR RECORDINGS  
Watch our webinar recordings on YouTube

#### RELATED LINKS

Core webinars programme  
Webinars FAQ

slides of today

webinar recordings



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# Who is it for?

- academic researchers and students
- government analysts
- charities and foundations
- business consultants
- independent research centres
- think tanks



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# Data sources

- official agencies - mainly central government
- international statistical time series
- individual academics - research grants
- market research agencies
- public records/historical sources
- access to international data via links with other data archives worldwide

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# Types of data collections

- **survey microdata**
  - cross-sectional
  - panel/ longitudinal
  - international microdata
- **aggregate statistics**
  - international macrodata
- **Census data**
  - aggregate data
  - flow data
  - microdata
  - boundary data
- **qualitative/ mixed methods data**
  - in-depth interview transcripts, diaries, anthropological field notes, answers to open-ended survey questions, audio-visual recordings and images





# Key data

## UK Surveys

large-scale  
government  
funded  
surveys

## Longitudinal

major UK  
surveys  
following  
individuals  
over time

## International

multi-nation  
aggregate  
databanks  
and survey  
data

## Qualitative

range of  
multimedia  
qualitative  
and mixed  
methods data

## Census

Census data  
1961 – 2011

## Business

microdata

## Administrative

records for  
admin. data,  
for which  
ADRN has  
negotiated  
researcher  
access

## Controlled International Microdata

IAB  
CASD

# Key data

UK Data Service

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About us **Get data** **Use data** Manage data Deposit data News and events

Home > Discover data > Key data > Cohort and longitudinal studies

## Key data

Browse our most popular datasets, by data type.

UK surveys	Cross-national surveys	<b>Longitudinal studies</b>	International macrodata	Census data
Business microdata	Qualitative / mixed methods	Administrative data		

SHARE

**Longitudinal studies** involve repeated observations of the same subjects, allowing researchers to analyse change at the individual level.

The UK is home to several key longitudinal studies, including major panel and internationally-renowned cohort studies.

- [Discover data](#) from longitudinal studies
- [Discover case studies](#) relating to longitudinal studies

**1970 British Cohort Study**

The 1970 British Cohort Study (BCS70) follows the lives of more than 17,000 people born in England, Scotland and Wales in a single week of 1970. Over the course of cohort members' lives, the BCS70 has broadened from a strictly medical focus at birth to collect information on health, physical, educational and social development, and economic circumstances among other factors.

**British Household Panel Survey**

The British Household Panel Survey (BHPS) was carried out by the Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER) from 1991-2009 (Waves 1-18). From Wave

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Data Website

ANALYSING CHANGE OVER TIME

Read our introductory guide to quantitative analysis of change over time using different types of data and different methods commonly used to analyse these data.

[ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/key-data](http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/key-data)



# IDAN

## International Data Access Network

The IDAN project is a collaboration between **6 RESEARCH DATA CENTRES (RDCs)** from France, Germany, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom to facilitate research use of controlled access data between these RDCs/ countries via reciprocal provision of Safe Room Remote Desktop Access.



The Network will enable researchers to work remotely on controlled access data provided by partner countries



UK Data Service



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# International controlled microdata - CASD

- In cooperation with the French Secure Access Data Centre (CASD - Data of the Centre d'Accès Sécurisé aux Données), the **UK Data Service has set up a secure data access point within the UK Data Service Safe Room at the University of Essex to facilitate on-site direct remote access to the CASD data from UK.**
- Data: <https://www.casd.eu/en/available-data-on-casd/>
- To apply for data access, contact: [service@casd.eu](mailto:service@casd.eu)

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# CASD data (269)

## Themes:

- Agriculture
- Births – Fertility
- Business demography
- Characteristics of enterprises
- Construction
- Couples, Families, Households
- Deaths, Mortality, Life expectancy
- Economic outlook
- Education, training, skills
- Employment, labour force
- Environment
- Foreigners, Immigrants
- Globalisation, competitiveness and innovation
- Health, handicap, dependency
- Household consumption and ownership rates
- Housing
- Income, Living standards, purchasing power
- Population, change and structure
- Public finance
- Safety, justice
- Social protection, pensions
- Society, social life, elections
- Transportation
- Unemployment
- Wages and salaries

## Producer list includes:

- Insee (NSI)
- Ministry of Labour (DARES)
- Ministry of Environment (SDES)
- Central Agency for Social Security (ACOSS)
- Institute for Research and Information in Health Economics (IRDES)
- Ministry of Finance (DGFIP)
- Ministry of Justice (SDSE)
- Public Investment Bank (BPIFrance)
- National housing information agency
- Hospital stays (PMSI)
- Directorate General for Enterprise (DGE)

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# International controlled microdata - IAB

- Provision of Safe Room Remote Desktop Access

- UK Data Service – IAB  
(Institute for  
Employment Research),  
Germany



- Datasets available via UK Data Service Safe Room:  
IAB RDC on-site use files,  
[https://fdz.iab.de/en/FDZ\\_Overview\\_of\\_Data.aspx](https://fdz.iab.de/en/FDZ_Overview_of_Data.aspx)

# IAB/FDZ data

## Central FDZ data products

The following data products are updated regularly:

Establishment Data	Individual and Household Data	Integrated Establishment and Individual Data
Establishment History Panel (BHP)	Sample of Integrated Labour Market Biographies (SIAB)	Linked Employer-Employee Data of the IAB (LIAB)
IAB Establishment Panel	Panel Study Labour Market and Social Security (PASS)	
German Job Vacancy Survey of the IAB	IAB-SOEP Migration Sample (IAB-SOEP-MIG)	

### Establishment Data

- German Management and Organizational Practices (GMOP) Survey

### Individual and Household Data

- Working and Learning in a Changing World (ALWA), ALWA Literacy und Numeracy Data (ALWA-LiNu) and ALWA survey data linked to administrative data of the IAB (ALWA-ADIAB)
- Employee survey 'Bonus payments, wages increases, and fairness' (BLoG)
- Biographical Data of Social Insurance Agencies in Germany (BASiD)
- IAB-BAMF-SOEP Survey of Refugees
- IZA/IAB Administrative Evaluation Dataset (AED) and IZA/IAB Linked Evaluation Dataset 1993-2010 (LED)
- IIA - Survey Data. German cohort study on work, age and health
- National Educational Panel Study (NEPS), Starting Cohort 6 (SC6) survey data linked to administrative data of the IAB (NEPS-SC6-ADIAB)
- S-MGA - The Study on Mental Health at Work

### Integrated Establishment and Individual Data

- Linked Personnel Panel (LPP) and LPP survey data linked to administrative data of the IAB (LPP-ADIAB)
- Panel "WeLL" - Employee Survey for the Project "Further Training as a Part of Lifelong Learning" and WeLL survey data linked to administrative data of the IAB (WeLL-ADIAB)

[https://fdz.iab.de/en/FDZ\\_Overview\\_of\\_Data.aspx](https://fdz.iab.de/en/FDZ_Overview_of_Data.aspx)

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# Longitudinal data

- longitudinal surveys involve repeated surveys of the same individuals at different points in time
- large samples, nationally-representative
- new respondents are added regularly to keep numbers up
- allow researchers to analyse change at an individual level
- more complex to manage and analyse





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# Longitudinal data – some examples

- 1958 National Child Development Study (NCDS)
- 1970 British Cohort Study (BCS70)
- Millennium Cohort Study (MCS)
- British Household Panel Survey (BHPS)
- Understanding Society/  
UK Household Longitudinal Study (UKHLS)
- Families and Children Study (FACS)
- English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA)
- Next Steps (LSYPE 1) (Longitudinal Study of Young people in  
England - LSYPE) (1989-90)
- Our Future (LSYPE 2)
- Growing Up in Scotland (GUS)
- CLOSER (Cohort and Longitudinal Studies Enhancement  
Resources)



Home

## Our studies

The Centre for Longitudinal Studies is home to four national longitudinal cohort studies, which follow tens of thousands of people from birth and across the whole of their lives.

Each of our four studies follows large, nationally representative groups of people born in a given year. Our oldest study charts the lives of a group of Baby Boomers born in the late 1950s, while our youngest keeps up with a group born at the turn of the new century.



### 1958 National Child Development Study

Following the lives of 17,000 people born in a single week in 1958 in Great Britain.



### 1970 British Cohort Study

Following the lives of 17,000 people born in a single week in 1970 in Great Britain.



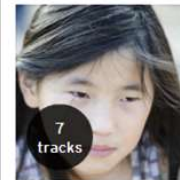
### Next Steps

Following the lives of 16,000 people in England born in 1989-90.



### Millennium Cohort Study

The most recent of Britain's cohort studies, following 19,000 young people born in the UK at the start of the new century.



CLS cohorts  
CLS Podcasts

## podcasts



- 1 Experiences of child poverty among the millennium generation - with Prof...
- 2 Children's physical development - with Roxanne Connelly
- 3 Children's cognitive development - with Matt Brown
- 4 School life at age 11 - with Kirstine Hansen
- 5 Growing up in the new century - with Kate Smith
- 6 Family structure at age 11 - with Prof Heather Joshi
- 7 An introduction to the Millennium Cohort Study - with Emla Fitzsimons

[soundcloud.com/clscohorts](https://soundcloud.com/clscohorts)

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# British Birth Cohort Studies (CLS)

impact of childhood conditions on education, later life health and economic circumstances and understanding children and families in the UK

- National Child Development Study follows a cohort (17,000) born in a single week in 1958 - data collected at birth & ages 7, 11, 16, 23, 33, 42, 46, 50 (7 Up TV series) 55, 62 (2020);  
add. biomedical survey (9,000) at age 45
- 1970 British Cohort Study follows a cohort (17,000) born in a single week in 1970 - data collected around birth & ages 5, 10, 16, 26, 30, 34, 38, 42, 46 (biomedical follow-up); 50 (2020);
- Millennium Cohort Study focuses on children born in 2000/ 2001(19,000) - sweeps at 9 months, 3, 5, 7, 11, 14 and 17 years

wide range of social, economic, health, medical and psychological issues



# British Birth Cohort Studies (CLS)

Focus on impact of childhood conditions on education, later life health and economic circumstances and understanding children and families in the UK

## NCDS sweeps

Since the initial birth sweep, NCDS cohort members have been followed up ten times. The next sweep will take place in 2020 – 2021 when the cohort members will be in their early sixties. Click on a sweep below to learn more about the information collected.

Year	<a href="#">1958</a>	<a href="#">1965</a>	<a href="#">1969</a>	<a href="#">1974</a>	<a href="#">1981</a>	<a href="#">1991</a>	<a href="#">2000</a>	<a href="#">2002</a>	<a href="#">2004</a>	<a href="#">2008</a>	<a href="#">2013</a>	<a href="#">2020</a>
Age	Birth	7	11	16	23	33	42	44	46	50	55	62

## BCS70 sweeps

Since the birth survey in 1970 there have been nine 'sweeps' of all cohort members. The most recent sweep was at age 46. We finished surveying cohort members for this in summer 2018 and the data we have collected will be available from spring 2019. The next sweep will take place in 2020 when cohort members are age 50. Click on a sweep below to learn more about the information collected.

Year	<a href="#">1970</a>	<a href="#">1975</a>	<a href="#">1980</a>	<a href="#">1986</a>	<a href="#">1996</a>	<a href="#">2000</a>	<a href="#">2004</a>	<a href="#">2008</a>	<a href="#">2012</a>	<a href="#">2016</a>	<a href="#">2020</a>
Age	Birth	5	10	16	26	30	34	38	42	46	50

## MCS sweeps

We have completed six MCS sweeps to date. The most recent sweep was when cohort members were 14 years old. We are currently surveying them again, at age 17. Click on a sweep below to learn more about the information collected.

Year	<a href="#">2001</a>	<a href="#">2004</a>	<a href="#">2006</a>	<a href="#">2008</a>	<a href="#">2012</a>	<a href="#">2015</a>	<a href="#">2018</a>
Age	9 months	3	5	7	11	14	17

## Next Steps sweeps

The first seven sweeps of Next Steps were managed by the Department for Education.

The most recent sweep was managed by CLS. Click on a sweep below to learn more about the information collected.

Year	<a href="#">2004</a>	<a href="#">2005</a>	<a href="#">2006</a>	<a href="#">2007</a>	<a href="#">2008</a>	<a href="#">2009</a>	<a href="#">2010</a>	<a href="#">2015</a>	<a href="#">2021</a>
Age	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	25	31

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# Birth cohort studies (CLS)

## National Child Development Study (1958)

- has become a unique resource for investigating social mobility and the impact on later life of childhood conditions
- some data collections in this series have a special focus
  - e.g. partnership history, employment history, social participation and identity, response and death, parent migration, behavioural studies and essays

## British Cohort Study 1970 (BCS70)

- Design and coverage is similar to NCDS – some of the recent sweeps used common questions
- Provides important opportunities for inter-cohort comparison
- Again, some data collections in this series have a special focus
  - e.g. education, partnership history, employment history

## Millennium Cohort Study

- Provides important opportunities for inter-cohort comparison after a long gap of 30 years since 1970
- Again, some data collections in this series have a special focus
  - e.g. mothers who received fertility treatment, physical activity, teacher survey

# MCS age 14 - Time use diary app and activity monitor

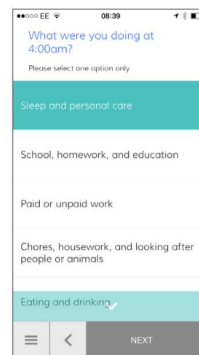
The MCS Age 14 Survey was the first large-scale population study in the world to incorporate objective measurement of physical activity using accelerometers alongside self-reported time use for the same period into a social survey. It's also the first large-scale study to make use of new technologies, including both a specially-developed online diary and bespoke smartphone app, to collect this data. We embraced new technologies both in order to capture this highly detailed data in all its richness, and also to make the tasks more appealing to this age group, and thereby help engage them and improve response rates.

## Paper diary

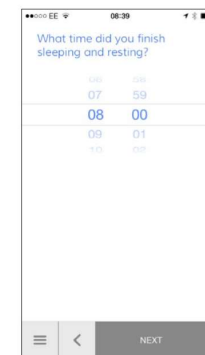


CENTRE FOR LONGITUDINAL STUDIES

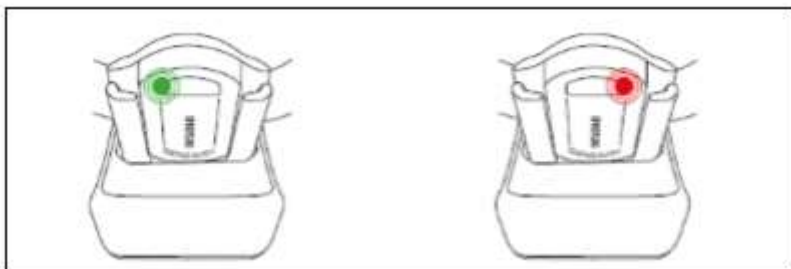
## App diary



CENTRE FOR LONGITUDINAL



Source: Gilbert, Calderwood, Fitzsimons, CLS



Activity Monitor

## Teenagers shun homework for social media and video games, new survey finds

11 May 2018



Tweet



Like 0

Teenagers are far more likely to spend their time on social media and gaming after school than they are to be doing homework, according to new data gathered from around 3,500 teenagers in the UK.

› **Blog: A misspent youth? How new technology is shedding light on what teenagers do all day 18.05.18**

To coincide with the new MCS time use diary and accelerometer data release, CLS Survey Manager, Dr Emily Gilbert discusses how the use of new technology has enabled us to gain new insights into the lives of the millennial generation.

**CHILD OF THE  
NEW CENTURY** ★

**AGE 14 SURVEY**



[doc.ukdataservice.ac.uk/doc/8156/mrdoc/pdf/mcs6\\_technical\\_report\\_appendix\\_a\\_pre-notification\\_and\\_briefing\\_docs.pdf](http://doc.ukdataservice.ac.uk/doc/8156/mrdoc/pdf/mcs6_technical_report_appendix_a_pre-notification_and_briefing_docs.pdf)

How you spend your adolescent years can have implications for the rest of your life.

# Informing policy

NEWS

## Linked education data opens up new research opportunities

18 July 2019

New datasets have just been released linking education data, including GCSE exam results, to the records of Millennium Cohort Study (MCS) participants based in England.

EDUCATION



NEWS

## Taking part in the arts could help build children's self-esteem, new study finds

30 May 2019

Children who play and listen to music, draw and paint, and read for pleasure tend to have higher levels of self-esteem, new research shows.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT



## Millennium Cohort Study a vital resource for children's advocates, explains the Children's Society in new film 10.10.18

Childhood and adolescent mental health are the focus of a new short film from the UCL Institute of Education (IOE), launched today, World Mental Health Day (10 October 2018).



NEWS

## Millennium Cohort Study informs report showing children's happiness at its lowest in a decade

30 August 2019

Millennium Cohort Study findings have provided evidence for The Children's Society's eighth annual Good Childhood Report, which examines the state of children's wellbeing across the UK.

“The Millennium Cohort Study is one of the data sources we draw on the most to understand children's lives.”

Larissa Pople, Children's Society

NEWS

## Heavy social media use linked to depression in young teens, new study shows

4 January 2019

Adolescents using social media for three hours or more a day are more likely to show signs of depression at age 14, compared to their peers who use it less often.





# Informing policy

## Poor reading 'could cost UK £32bn in growth by 2025'

Campaign links literacy failings with joblessness, as authors, charities and CBI unite to improve reading standards



📌 A report has found that England is one of the most unequal countries for children's reading levels, second in the EU only to Romania. Photograph: DCPhoto /Alamy

The fear that 1.5 million British children will reach the age of 11 unable to "read well" by 2025 has prompted the launch on Monday of a new campaign backed by a coalition of businesses, charities, bestselling authors and teaching professionals.

[www.theguardian.com/education/2014/sep/08/reading-literacy-uk-cbi-schools-read-on-get-on-campaign](http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/sep/08/reading-literacy-uk-cbi-schools-read-on-get-on-campaign)



MCS continues to inform Read On. Get On. campaign  
The Ready to Read report, which uses findings from the Millennium Cohort Study, has encouraged parents in Northern Ireland to read to their children at school

## Read On. Get On.



Read On. Get On. is a campaign to get all children reading well in England by the age of 11. It was launched in 2014 by a coalition of charities and education organisations committed to improving reading levels in the UK. A fifth of all children in England, and close to a third of disadvantaged children, are unable to read well when they leave primary school. This prevents them from achieving their potential in secondary school, and beyond, and creates obstacles to a fairer society.

[literacytrust.org.uk/policy-and-campaigns/read-on-get-on/](http://literacytrust.org.uk/policy-and-campaigns/read-on-get-on/)



# Informing policy

BLOG

## The UK's unique scientific versions of the 7-Up series

6 June 2019

With the 7-Up children returning to our TV screens this week at age 63 (4 June), Professor Alissa Goodman reflects on the importance of the show and the longitudinal studies she manages at CLS.

AGEING



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News, events and publications

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Evidence briefings

## Reading improves teenagers' vocab, whatever their background, say researchers

22 November 2017

Teenagers who read in their spare time know 26% more words than those who never read, according to researchers at the Centre for Longitudinal Studies (CLS).

The research team, based at the UCL Institute of Education, found that teenagers who read often, and those who had access to plenty of books, were more likely to develop a better vocabulary than their peers.

Analysing the scores of nearly 11,000 14-year-olds in a word exercise, the researchers found that teenagers who read for pleasure every day understood 26% more words than those who never read at all in their spare time. And teenagers from book-loving homes knew 42% more words than their peers who had grown up with few books.

“If young people are encouraged to discover a love for books, it could alter the course of their lives, regardless of their background.”  
(Dr Alice Sullivan)

(MCS – vocabulary exercise, aged 14)

# MCS – Linked Education Administrative Datasets (KS1, KS2), Examples

GN 33445	Millennium Cohort Study, 2001- : Secure Access		
SN	Study description	Access online	Select
8302	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: NHS Patient Episode Database for Wales, Linked Administrative Datasets: ICD-10 Codes in Continuous Spells, 2001-2012: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
8232	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Geographical Identifiers, Sixth Survey, 2011 Census Boundaries: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
8231	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Geographical Identifiers, Sixth Survey, 2001 Census Boundaries: Secure Access</a>		
8227	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Ofsted and Teacher Survey Linked Data, 2008: Secure Access</a>		
8226	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Ofsted Linked Data, 2006-2012: Secure Access</a>		
7761	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Geographical Identifiers, Fourth Survey: Secure Access</a>		
7760	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Geographical Identifiers, Third Survey: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
7762	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Geographical Identifiers, Fifth Survey, 2001 Census Boundaries: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
7763	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Geographical Identifiers, Fifth Survey, 2011 Census Boundaries: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
7759	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Geographical Identifiers, Second Survey: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
7758	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Geographical Identifiers, First Survey: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>

6862	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Linked Education Administrative Dataset (KS1), England: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
7712	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Linked Education Administrative Dataset (KS2), England: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
7415	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Linked Education Administrative Dataset (KS1), Wales: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
7414	<a href="#">Millennium Cohort Study: Linked Education Administrative Dataset (KS1), Scotland: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>

[//beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series/series?id=2000031#!/access-data](https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series/series?id=2000031#!/access-data)



# MCS example – Available data

[Home](#) / [Data catalogue](#) / [Series](#) / Series

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## Millennium Cohort Study

[Abstract](#) [FAQ's](#) [Resources](#) [Access data](#)

### Access data

- GN 33359**  
Millennium Cohort Study – Survey and Biomeasures Data [▼](#)
- GN 33445**  
Millennium Cohort Study - Linked Administrative Data [▼](#)
- GN 33530**  
CLOSER Work Package 1: Harmonised Height, Weight and BMI in Five Longitudinal Cohort Studies [▼](#)
- GN 33536**  
CLOSER Work Package 2: Harmonised Socio-Economic Measures in Four Longitudinal Cohort Studies [▼](#)
- GN 33557**  
Millennium Cohort Study - Geographical Data [▼](#)
- GN 33559**  
COVID-19 Survey in Five National Longitudinal Cohort Studies [▼](#)

Click on a series name or an arrow to see the datasets. [Add to account](#)

[beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series/series?id=2000031#!/access-data](https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series/series?id=2000031#!/access-data)



# BCS70

- SN 8288 '1970 British Cohort Study: Sixteen Year Follow-up, Reading and Matrices Tests, 1986'
- The study includes data derived from reading and matrices tests administered in 1986, when cohort members were 16 years old. The reading test used was the Shortened Edinburgh Reading Test, and the Matrices tests were extracted from the British Ability Scales standard set of tests.
- With each successive attempt, the scope of BCS70 has broadened from a strictly medical focus at birth, to encompass physical and educational development at the age of 5, physical, educational and social development at the ages of 10 and 16, and physical, educational, social and economic development at 26 years and beyond.



## Data from the first adult biomedical sweep of the 1970 British Cohort Study now available

New data from the Age 46 Sweep of the 1970 British Cohort Study (BCS70) are now available for researchers to download from the UK Data Service.

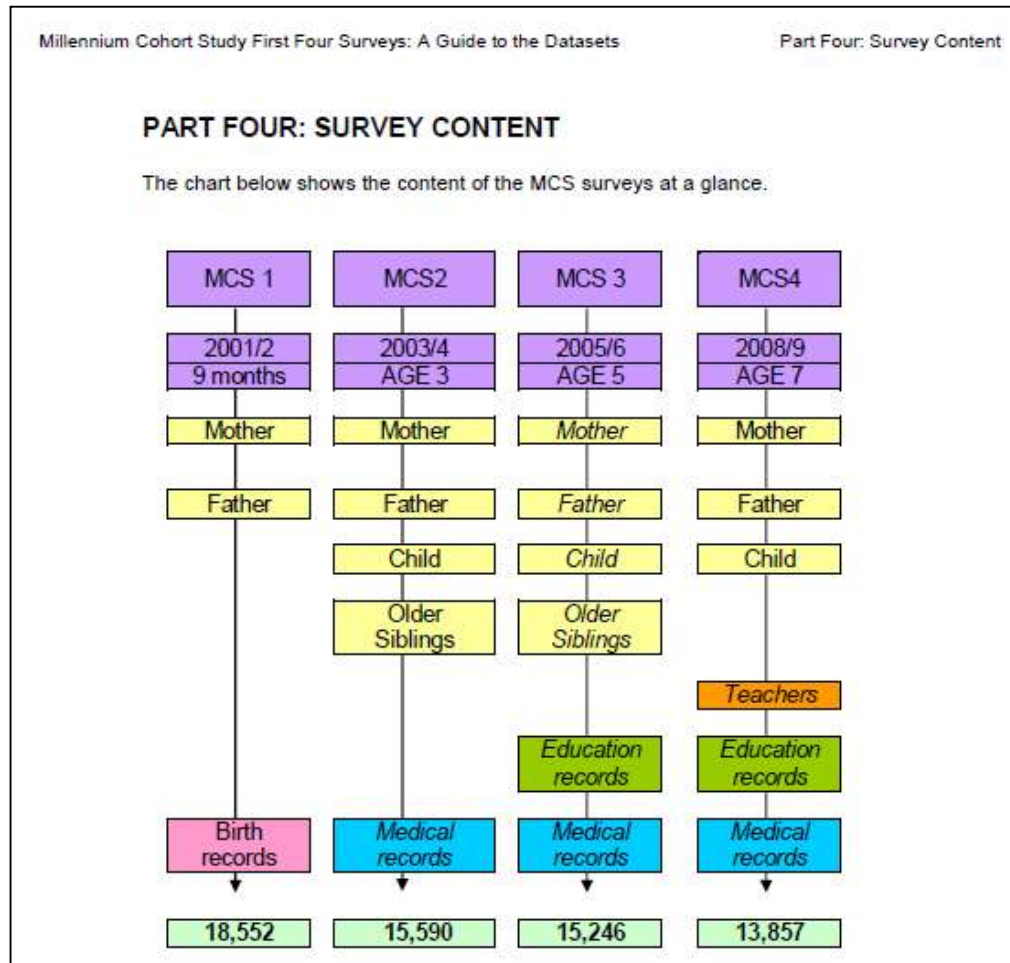
### MAIN TOPICS

The 45-minute core interview covered: relationships, children, parents, place of residence, economic activity, income, qualifications and training, physical and mental health, smoking, drinking, exercise.

Additional data collected included:

- Cognitive assessments – immediate and delayed word recall, letter cancellation and animal-naming tasks
- Paper self-completion questionnaire – topics covered include physical health, mental health and well-being, physical activity, and leisure activities
- Anthropometric measurements (height, weight, body-fat, waist/hip circumference)
- Blood pressure measurement
- Grip strength assessment
- Balance assessment
- Blood sample collection
- Activity monitor
- Online dietary diary

# Birth cohort studies (CLS)



Hansen, Kirstine et al. (2012): Millennium Cohort Study. First, Second, Third and Fourth Surveys. A Guide to the Datasets. ([www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/page.aspx?&sitesectionid=951&sitesectiontitle=History+of+the+Millennium+Cohort+Study](http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/page.aspx?&sitesectionid=951&sitesectiontitle=History+of+the+Millennium+Cohort+Study))

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## 'Imagine you are 60' – NCDS8, 2008/9

- a view of the next decade for 50-year-olds in the 1958 British birth cohort study as they enter the 'third age' (SN 6978)
- open-ended question in a self-completion questionnaire, which asked individuals who were 50-years-old :
  - "Imagine that you are now 60 years old... please write a few lines about the life you are leading (your interests, your home life, your health and well-being and any work you may be doing)."
- question parallels another asked of the cohort members at NCDS2 when they were 11 years old, who then wrote about their imagined life at age 25 (SN 5790)
- Provides new information to understand the ageing process; is a way to a) code cohort members' pessimism or optimism about the future, b) understand concerns of cohort members at this age, and c) will allow comp. to be made between actual circumstances at 60 and future as imagined at age 50

---

## 'Imagine you are 60'

*'STILL WORKING BUILDING MY COMANY UP SO MY SON CAN TAKE OVER, HEALTH OK. MARRY TO MY WIFE FOR 36 YEARS, LOVE HER TO BITS: KIDS HAVE FINALLY MOVED OUT. LIFE IS GREAT. NO MONEY PROB'S TRAVELLING ALOT.'* (N10215A)

*'Hopefully I will be retired, do a little voluntary work. Socialising with friends, shopping and enjoy lots of holidays in the sun! enjoying my grandchildren.'*  
(N10192L)

(Elliot, Jane (2012):Imagine you are 60, CLS Working Paper: 2012/6, p. 4)



# Impact

## Celebrating the first 60 years of the National Child Development Study



This short film takes a look back at the first 60 years of NCDS and highlights just some of the important discoveries that have been made.

Date published: 4 March 2019

[https://cls.ucl.ac.uk/briefings\\_impact/](https://cls.ucl.ac.uk/briefings_impact/)

NEWS

## The story of our lives: new short film celebrates the first 60 years of the National Child Development Study

11 March 2019

The National Child Development Study (NCDS) is “one of the most influential pools of data that possibly the world has ever seen”, explains the former Labour minister and chair of the Social Mobility Commission, Alan Milburn, in a new short documentary film from the Centre for Longitudinal Studies (CLS).

NEWS

## Millions tune in to BBC One to watch film celebrating childhood dreams of NCDS members

22 November 2018

The BBC One Show travelled back to 1969 last night (21 November) to feature a film about three National Child Development Study (NCDS) members who wrote essays at age 11 imagining what their lives would be like when they reached 25.

# Briefings/Impact

## Parental involvement in home schooling and developmental play during lockdown – initial findings from COVID-19 survey

This briefing, based on the COVID-19 Survey in Five National Longitudinal Studies, looks at the time parents spent on home schooling and doing other interactive activities with their children during the nationwide lockdown, in May 2020. We examine differences between parental involvement based on gender, socioeconomic background, and other characteristics and circumstances.

Auth  
Date

BRIEFING PAPERS

## Finances and employment during lockdown – initial findings from COVID-19 survey

This briefing, based on the COVID-19 Survey in Five National Longitudinal Studies, looks at the scale of the changes in employment and the unequal effects of the pandemic on households. The survey.

Author:  
Date pu

PODCASTS

## Podcast series: 50 Years of Life in Britain – Episode 6



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# COVID-19 Survey in Five National Longitudinal Cohort Studies

- CLS carried out an online survey of the participants of five national longitudinal cohort studies in May 2020, and over 18,000 study participants took part.
- This Wave 1 data is now available from the [UK Data Service](#). A second Wave 2 survey was sent out in September 2020. Wave 3 is planned for early 2021.
- “COVID-19 Survey in Five National Longitudinal Cohort Studies: Millennium Cohort Study, Next Steps, 1970 British Cohort Study and 1958 National Child Development Study, 2020”  
(<https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies/study?id=8658> )

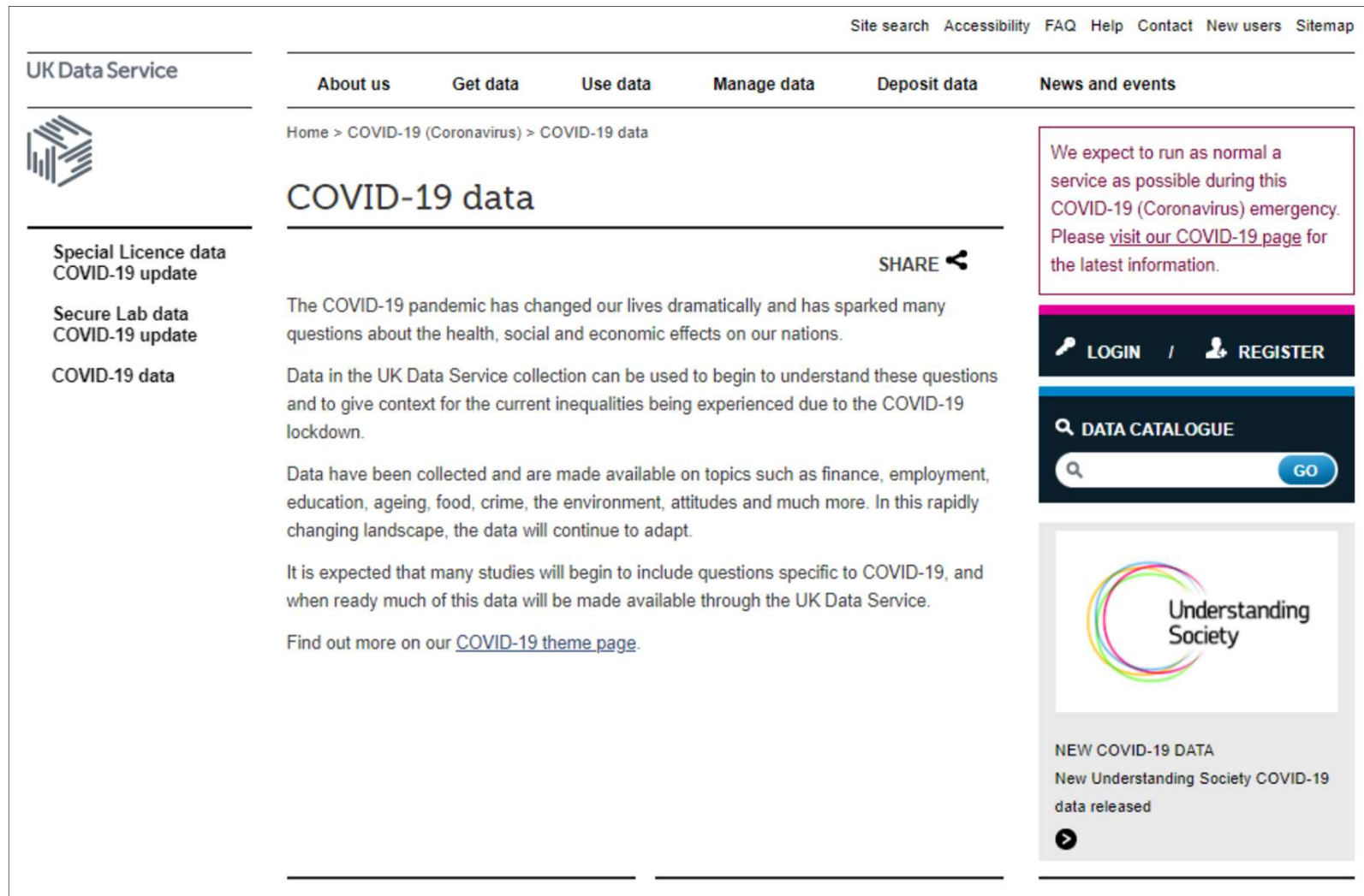
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# COVID-19 Survey in Five National Longitudinal Cohort Studies

- **Wave 1:** The aim of the survey was to collect insights into the lives of study participants including their physical and mental health and wellbeing, family and relationships, education, work, and finances during the lockdown. The questions focused mainly on how participants' lives had changed from just **before the outbreak of the pandemic in March 2020 up until** their response to the survey during the height of **the lockdown restrictions in May 2020**.
- **Wave 2:** The aim of the Wave 2 survey is to capture how participants' lives have changed from Wave 1 (collected at the height of the lockdown restrictions in May 2020) **until late Summer/Early Autumn 2020**. The topic areas mirror closely those for Wave 1, with additional questions.
- Wave 3 will take place **in January 2021**. The majority of the content will comprise questions included in the first (May 2020) and second (September 2020) surveys. However there may be room for additions which address policy issues arising now as circumstances change.



# COVID-19 data @ UKDS



The screenshot shows the UK Data Service website page for COVID-19 data. The page layout includes a top navigation bar with links for Site search, Accessibility, FAQ, Help, Contact, New users, and Sitemap. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links for About us, Get data, Use data, Manage data, Deposit data, and News and events. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail (Home > COVID-19 (Coronavirus) > COVID-19 data) and a large heading for 'COVID-19 data'. A 'SHARE' button is located to the right of the heading. The main text describes the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the availability of data in the UK Data Service collection. A sidebar on the left contains links for 'Special Licence data COVID-19 update', 'Secure Lab data COVID-19 update', and 'COVID-19 data'. On the right side, there is a pink-bordered box with a message about service continuity, a dark blue bar with 'LOGIN' and 'REGISTER' buttons, a 'DATA CATALOGUE' search bar with a 'GO' button, and a section for 'NEW COVID-19 DATA' featuring the Understanding Society logo and a link to new data releases.

Site search Accessibility FAQ Help Contact New users Sitemap

UK Data Service

About us Get data Use data Manage data Deposit data News and events

Home > COVID-19 (Coronavirus) > COVID-19 data

## COVID-19 data

SHARE

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed our lives dramatically and has sparked many questions about the health, social and economic effects on our nations.

Data in the UK Data Service collection can be used to begin to understand these questions and to give context for the current inequalities being experienced due to the COVID-19 lockdown.

Data have been collected and are made available on topics such as finance, employment, education, ageing, food, crime, the environment, attitudes and much more. In this rapidly changing landscape, the data will continue to adapt.

It is expected that many studies will begin to include questions specific to COVID-19, and when ready much of this data will be made available through the UK Data Service.

Find out more on our [COVID-19 theme page](#).

We expect to run as normal a service as possible during this COVID-19 (Coronavirus) emergency. Please [visit our COVID-19 page](#) for the latest information.

LOGIN / REGISTER

DATA CATALOGUE

GO

Understanding Society

NEW COVID-19 DATA  
New Understanding Society COVID-19 data released

[ukdataservice.ac.uk/covid-19/covid-19-data.aspx](https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/covid-19/covid-19-data.aspx)

# COVID-19 data @ UKDS

UK Data Service
Site search Accessibility FAQ Help Contact New users Sitemap

About us
**Get data**
Use data
Manage data
Deposit data
News and events

Home > Get data > Data by theme > COVID-19 > COVID-19 data

**COVID-19**

**Data that gives context to the pandemic**

Key data   **COVID-19 data**   Data catalogue   Research

Resources

SHARE ↗

This table lists studies that are currently investigating the impact of COVID-19, the topics they cover and further information from the agencies running them.

Some of these studies are not yet available through the UK Data Service. To keep updated with the latest COVID-19 data releases, please join our [mailing list](#) or follow [@UKDataService](#) for updates.

The conditions for accessing Special Licence and Secure Access data have also been temporarily changed to allow researchers working at home to continue to use our data. More information on this and the datasets these changes cover is available on [our Secure Lab data COVID-19 update web page](#).

Study name	Topics	Further information
	diagnosis and symptoms self-isolation impact on life overall impact on work and finances impact on school and university	

We expect to run as normal a service as possible during this COVID-19 (Coronavirus) emergency. Please [visit our COVID-19 page](#) for the latest information.

LOGIN / REGISTER

DATA CATALOGUE

GO

COVID-19 DATA DIVE: EXPLORING THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF THE PANDEMIC  
22 - 23 Oct 2020

[ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/themes/covid-19/covid-19-data.aspx](https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/themes/covid-19/covid-19-data.aspx)



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# Understanding Society: COVID-19 Study, 2020

“ With the current coronavirus situation in the UK, there is an even greater need for data about the experiences of the whole population. The Understanding Society COVID-19 questionnaire allows researchers to explore how the pandemic is impacting individuals, families and communities across the UK through our large and representative sample of the UK population.”

Professor Michaela Benzeval

Director of Understanding Society



## How the survey works

From April 2020 participants from our main Understanding Society sample have been asked to complete a short web-survey. This survey covers the changing impact of the pandemic on the welfare of UK individuals, families and wider communities. Participants complete one survey a month, which includes core content designed to track changes, alongside variable content adapted each month as the coronavirus situation develops. For participants who do not use the internet, there is a telephone version of the questionnaire in some of the months.

The *Understanding Society COVID-19 Study, 2020* is a regular survey of households in the UK. The aim of the study is to enable research on the socio-economic and health consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, in the short and long term. The surveys started in April 2020 and have taken part monthly until July 2020. From September onward they will take place every other month. They complement the annual interviews of the *Understanding Society* study. The data can be linked to data on the same individuals from previous waves of the annual interviews ([SN 6614](#)) using the personal identifier pidp. Please refer to the User Guide for further information on linking in this way and for geographical information options.

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# The UK Household Longitudinal Study



- started in 2009: UKHLS or 'Understanding Society' ; First data: 2010, 8 waves
- study of the socio-economic circumstances and attitudes of 100,000 individuals in 40,000 British households
- UKLHS replaces and incorporates the BHPS (1991-2009 , 5500 hh's), retaining the latter's longevity whilst adding
  - to the sample size
  - to the scope of the study (new components: innovation panel, greater detail on ethnic minority groups, qualitative and biomedical data collections)
- coverage includes:
  - current employment and earnings; employment status; parenting and childcare arrangements; family networks; benefit payments; political party identification; household finances; environmental behaviours; consents to administrative data linkage (health and education)





# Showcasing impact



## How to Measure Household Expenditure

How household expenditure data can be assessed in a longitudinal study



## Tackling worklessness and its consequences for children

Understanding Society has been used to investigate the consequences of disadvantage for families, analysing parents' work situations and its impact on children – particularly in terms of their education outcomes.



## Neighbourhoods, ethnicity & well-being

Is it a good idea for ethnic minority groups to live in concentrated areas of neighbourhoods, towns and cities?



## Housing developments: Measuring social sustainability

A new case study from Understanding Society looks at how the style of housing developments can affect community wellbeing.



## How well are older people doing?

Age UK use Understanding Society to create an Index of Wellbeing in Later Life.



## Who is experiencing persistent low income in the UK?

Measuring changes in low income over time using Understanding Society.

# Briefing



# COVID-19 Survey

BRIEFING NOTE

**ETHNIC DIFFERENCES IN EFFECTS OF COVID-19  
household and local context**

BRIEFING NOTE  
WAVE 1: APRIL 2020

HEALTH AND CARING

Video: Using the  
COVID-19 survey



[understandingsociety.ac.uk/topic/covid-19](https://understandingsociety.ac.uk/topic/covid-19)

# BIOMARKERS, GENETICS & EPIGENETICS

Understanding the interaction between people's social and economic circumstances and their health across the lifespan.

Home > Research > Themes > Biomarkers, Genetics & Epigenetics

“ Understanding Society brings together the biology and the social science. It allows us to more precisely measure health and illness, whether focussing on specific conditions, undiagnosed illness, the effectiveness of treatment, or the risk factors for ill health.

Professor Meena Kumari

Champion for Biomarkers, Genetics & Epigenetics



[VIEW PROFILE](#)

## Biomarkers and genetic data

Professors Michaela Benzeval and Meena Kumari talk about the study's biomarker and genetic data which is now available.



[understandingsociety.ac.uk/podcasts/2014/17](http://understandingsociety.ac.uk/podcasts/2014/17)

# Biomarker in ‘Understanding Society’

Table 2 Biomarkers available in *Understanding Society*

Biomarker	Applications
Cholesterol (total and HDL)& triglycerides	'Fat in the blood' associated heart disease
Glucose intolerance: Glycated haemoglobin - HbA1c	Undiagnosed or poorly managed diabetes
Inflammatory markers - C-reactive protein (CRP), fibrinogen	Measures of inflammation – due injury or infection – acute or chronic – response to stress
- Cytomegalovirus (CMV) seropositivity	Immunosenescence - wear & tear on immune system, chronic stress, associated diabetes
Anaemia – haemoglobin (Hb), ferritin	Marker for poor nutrition; increases with age, sig. health consequences
Liver function tests (LFTs) - Alkaline phosphatase (ALP), Alanine transaminase (ALT), Aspartate transaminase (AST), Gamma glutamyl transferase (GGT), albumin	Associated alcohol, drugs, obesity, consequence of other diseases
Kidney function – creatinine, urea	Kidney diseases increases with age, associated other diseases
Hormones	Associated with stress processes, building muscles, ageing
Testosterone	Marker aggression
Insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1)	Growth & development - associated diet, diabetes and cancer
Dihydroepiandrosterone sulphate (DHEAs)	Associated CVD, muscle strength, cognition

- Download the [Biomarker User Guide and Glossary](#)
- [Access the data](#)
- Listen to [Biomarkers and genetic data podcast](#)
- Download [Biomarker Training Slides](#)

[understandingsociety.ac.uk/about/health/health-assessments](http://understandingsociety.ac.uk/about/health/health-assessments)

# Understanding Society – health assessment

## Nurse health assessment

In Wave 2 and Wave 3, adult participants received a follow-up [health assessment](#) visit from registered nurses who collected a range of bio-medical measures from around 20,000 adults.

The assessments included:

- Blood pressure
- Weight
- Height
- Waist
- Body fat
- Grip strength
- Lung function
- Blood samples

Data: SN 7251  
“Understanding Society:  
Waves 2-3 Nurse Health  
Assessment, 2010-2012”

Webinar

An Introduction to Survey  
Data on Biomarkers



[www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bdl5UGg8uJ4&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bdl5UGg8uJ4&feature=youtu.be)

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## UKHLS - data linkage

Data linkage - the process of linking together two or more streams of data - opens up new research opportunities. In the case of Understanding Society, it allows researchers to make use of additional information that the survey does not collect in the annual interviews.

### 3 types of data linkage:

- **geographical identifiers**  
(range from individual countries within the UK to Local Authority Districts, Super Output Areas down to grid references)
- **administrative data linkage**  
(datasets, which will be linked to Understanding Society, cover areas of: education, health, economic circumstances, transport)
- **organisations**  
(identifiers of the schools that children attend or recently attended)

## Data Linkage phases

Dataset and owner	Informed consent collection	Status
<b>Education</b>		
National Pupil Database, England, Department for Education (England) <a href="#">See this dataset</a>	Wave 1, Wave 4, Wave 5 (rising 16s), Wave 6 (rising 16s), Wave 7 (rising 16s) and Wave 9 (rising 16s)	Linkage complete for wave 1 consents, wave 4 in progress
National Pupil Database, Wales, Department for Education and Skills (Wales)	Wave 1, Wave 4, Wave 5 (rising 16s), Wave 6 (rising 16s), Wave 7 (rising 16s) and Wave 9 (rising 16s)	Linkage application in progress
Department of Education and Education and Skills Authority Northern Ireland	Wave 1, Wave 4, Wave 5 (rising 16s), Wave 6 (rising 16s), Wave 7 (rising 16s) and Wave 9 (rising 16s)	
Education and Lifelong Learning Department and Education Authorities Scotland	Wave 1, Wave 4, Wave 5 (rising 16s), Wave 6 (rising 16s), Wave 7 (rising 16s) and Wave 9 (rising 16s)	Linkage, application approved.
HESA database, Higher Education Statistics Agency	Wave 5, 2015	
Individual, Learner Records, Skills Funding Agency/BIS	Wave 7 (rising 16s) and Wave 9 (rising 16s)	
Early Years Census, Department for Education (England)	Wave 7	
<b>Health</b>		
Hospital, Episode Statistics, National Health Service and related agencies	Wave 1, Wave 5 (rising 16s) and Wave 6 (rising 16s)	
NHS Central Register, National Health Service and related agencies	Wave 1, Wave 5 (rising 16s) and Wave 6 (rising 16s)	
<b>Work/Pensions</b>		
Participation in government schemes, Department for Work and Pensions	Wave 4 and Wave 7	
HMRC data: employment and self-employment history, National Insurance contributions, income and tax credits	Wave 5 and Wave 8	
<b>Transport</b>		
Vehicle register, Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency	Wave 5	
<b>Energy Use</b>		
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)	Wave 8	



**Understanding Society**  
THE UK HOUSEHOLD LONGITUDINAL STUDY



# Understanding Society and Harmonised BHPS

SN 6614

Understanding Society: Waves 1-9, 2009-2018 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009

Understanding Society data containing:

- the latest wave,
- updated files from previous waves,
- all 18 waves of BHPS repurposed to be used alongside Understanding Society data

SN	Study description	Explore online	Select
6676	<a href="#">Understanding Society: Waves 1-8, 2009-2017 and Harmonised BHPS: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
7332	<a href="#">Understanding Society: Innovation Panel, Waves 1-11, 2008-2018: Secure Access, National Grid Reference (Easting, Northing, OSGRDIND)</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
7642	<a href="#">Understanding Society: Wave 1, 2009-2011: Linked National Pupil Database: Secure Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>



# English Longitudinal Study of Ageing

- collects data from a representative sample (~10 000) of the population aged 50+ in England on a range of indicators
  - health
  - economic circumstances
  - well-being
  - social participation
- 10 waves of data collection have been conducted so far between 1998-2019



## Key findings include:

- More people aged over the state pension age are working than ever before. Over a third of 60-69 year olds were either employed or self employed in the last month.
- The majority of people over the age of 50 report hardly ever or never experiencing feelings of loneliness.
- More women than men report difficulty with activities related to daily living like climbing the stairs and showering.

[www.natcen.ac.uk/our-research/research/english-longitudinal-study-of-ageing/](http://www.natcen.ac.uk/our-research/research/english-longitudinal-study-of-ageing/)

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# English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA): Waves 0-8, 1998-2019

- ELSA - is a longitudinal survey of ageing and quality of life among older people that explores the dynamic relationships between health and functioning, social networks and participation, and economic position as people plan for, move into and progress beyond retirement.
- 1 in 3 people in England are now over 50, which means it's really important to understand what life is like for England's ageing population.
- ELSA helps the government plan health care services and pensions systems to best meet the needs of this growing population.

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# The main objectives of ELSA are to:

- construct waves of accessible and well-documented panel data;
- provide these data in a convenient and timely fashion to the scientific and policy research community;
- describe health trajectories, disability and healthy life expectancy in a representative sample of the English population aged 50 and over;
- examine the relationship between economic position and health;
- investigate the determinants of economic position in older age;
- describe the timing of retirement and post-retirement labour market activity; and
- understand the relationships between social support, household structure and the transfer of assets.

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# Wave 3 Life History Essays (ELSA)

A set of 558 transcripts of short essays collected from respondents to the Wave 3 Life History Interview are provided in RTF format, in a separate download zip file. The essays were written in response to section 3 of the Life History self-completion questionnaire.

*"Thinking back over your life, with its wide variety of enjoyable as well as difficult experiences, please write about three aspects of your life that have been especially important to you, and how they affected you."*

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# English Longitudinal Study of Ageing COVID-19 Study, Wave 1, 2020

Topics covered in the ELSA COVID-19 study include:

- Demographics
- Mental health
- Financial security
- Covid-19-related health
- Employment and work
- Financial situation
- Volunteering and care
- Physical health and health behaviours
- Social connection isolation and technological inclusion
- Income, pensions and retirement

[beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies/study?id=8688](https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies/study?id=8688)

# Gateway to Global Ageing Data

GATEWAY TO GLOBAL AGING DATA Welcome | [Please Register or Login](#)

[Surveys at a Glance](#) | 
 [Concordance across surveys](#) | 
 [Documentation and presentations](#) | 
 [Graphs and Tables](#) | 
 [Publications based on surveys](#) | 
 [Download Data and Links](#) | 
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### Surveys at a Glance

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 [CORE INTERVIEW](#) | 
 [SELF-COMPLETION](#) | 
 [LIFE HISTORY](#) | 
 [HEALTH ASSESSMENT](#) | 
 [EXIT INTERVIEW](#)

	HRS	MHAS	ELSA	SHARE	CRELES	KLoSA	JSTAR	TILDA	CHARLS	LASI
	United States	Mexico	England	20+ European Countries and Israel	Costa Rica	Korea	Japan	Ireland		
1992-93	HRS W1 AHEAD 1993 W1									
1994-95	HRS W2 AHEAD 1995 W2									
1996-97	HRS W3									
1998-99	HRS W4									
2000-01	HRS W5	MHAS W1								
2002-03	HRS W6	MHAS W2	ELSA W1							
2004-05	HRS W7		ELSA W2	SHARE W1	CRELES W1					
2006-07	HRS W8		ELSA W3	SHARE W2	CRELES W2	KLoSA W1	JSTAR W1			
2008-09	HRS W9		ELSA W4		CRELES W3	KLoSA W2	JSTAR W2			
2010-11	HRS W10		ELSA W5	SHARE W4	CRELES W4	KLoSA W3	JSTAR W3	TILDA W1	CHARLS W1	
2012-13	HRS W11	MHAS W3	ELSA W6	SHARE W5	CRELES W5	KLoSA W4	JSTAR W4	TILDA W2	CHARLS W2	
2014-15	HRS W12	MHAS W4	ELSA W7	SHARE W6	CRELES W6	KLoSA W5	JSTAR W5	TILDA W3	CHARLS W3	

**Gateway to Global Aging Data Advanced Workshop**

**Beate Lichtwardt** – Accessing ELSA data via the UK Data Service  
 UK Data Service  
 University of Essex  
 United Kingdom

**Drystan Phillips** – Cross-country analysis using Harmonised ELSA and RAND HRS data  
 Gateway to Global Aging Data  
 Center for Economic and Social Research  
 University of Southern California  
 United States of America

Webinar, 20 October 2016

UK Data Service

0:04 / 46:26

Webinar: Gateway to Global Aging Data

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=V2KD7x48\\_Pk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V2KD7x48_Pk)

[g2aging.org/?section=surveyOverview](http://g2aging.org/?section=surveyOverview)



# CLOSER

The UK is home to the world's largest and longest-running longitudinal studies.

CLOSER (Cohort & Longitudinal Studies Enhancement Resources) aims to maximise their use, value and impact both at home and abroad. Bringing together eight leading studies, the British Library and the UK Data Service, CLOSER works to stimulate interdisciplinary research, develop shared resources, provide training, and share expertise. In this way CLOSER is helping to build the body of knowledge on how life in the UK is changing – both across generations and in comparison to the rest of the world.

Home

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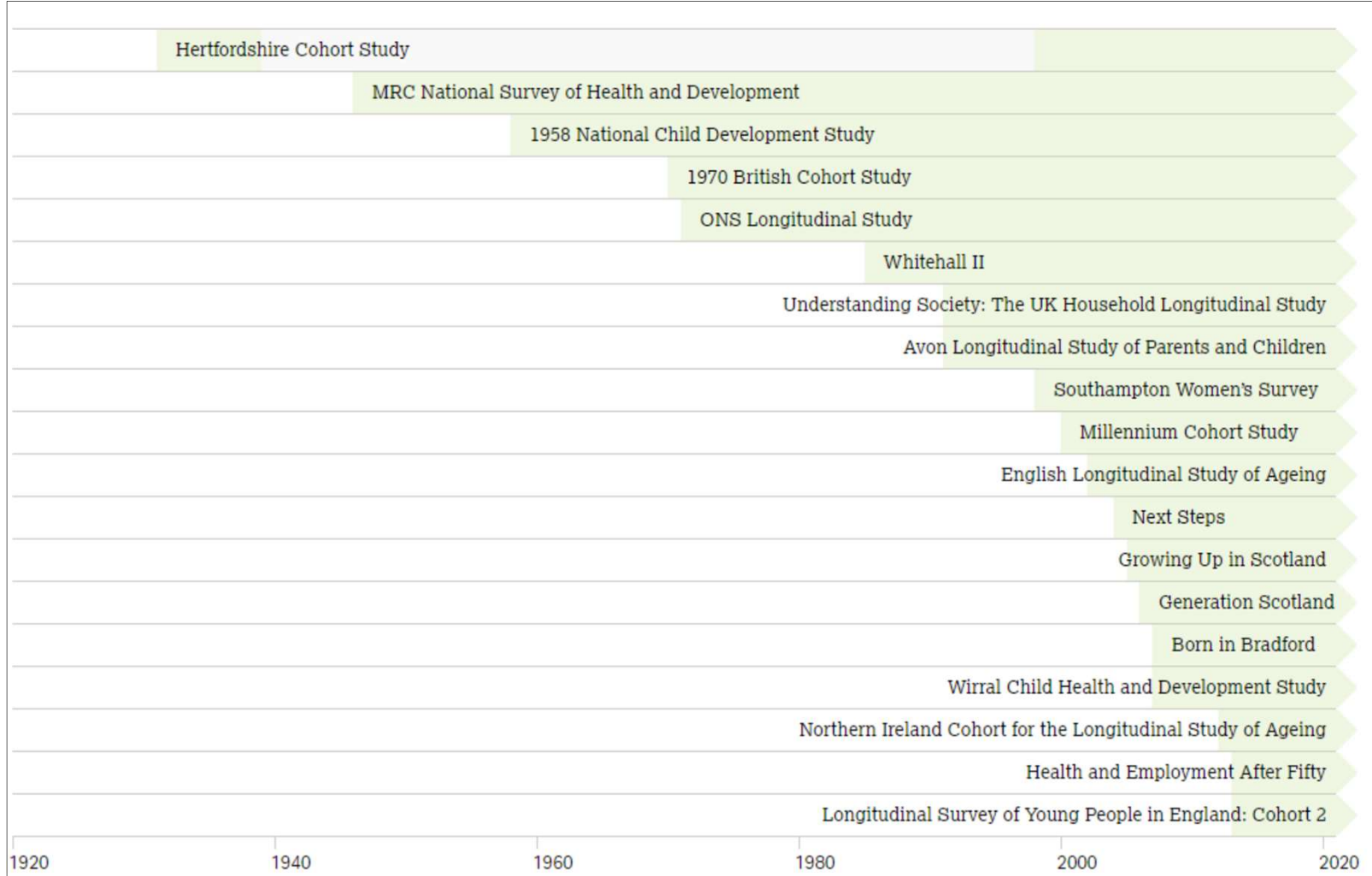
**closer** Promoting excellence in longitudinal research

**Areas of work:**

- Data harmonisation
- Data linkage
- Research impact
- Training and capacity building

[www.closer.ac.uk](http://www.closer.ac.uk)

# CLOSER – Timeline of studies



[closer.ac.uk/data-resources/timeline/](https://closer.ac.uk/data-resources/timeline/)



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# Harmonised Longitudinal Data - CLOSER

The UK Data Service is pleased to announce the first harmonised datasets, created by CLOSER (Cohort and Longitudinal Studies Enhancement Resources) are now available to download.

Work Package 1: The datasets harmonise body size and body composition variables (height, weight and BMI) across five of the UK's prestigious cohort studies:

- MRC National Survey of Health and Development (NSHD)
- National Child Development Study 1958 (NCDS)
- 1970 British Cohort Study (BCS70)
- Millennium Cohort Study (MCS)
- Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC)

*“As an experienced researcher I know the huge challenges involved in creating harmonised datasets from different data sources, and the importance of ensuring the methods used can be usefully exploited by other researchers. Longitudinal harmonisation provides fascinating insights as to how the UK is changing over time, and I’m delighted CLOSER is helping make this work easier.”(Professor Alison Park)*



UK Data Service



# CLOSER datasets at the UK Data Service

**GN 33530**  
CLOSER Work Package 1: Harmonised Height, Weight and BMI in Five Longitudinal Cohort Studies ▼

SN	Study description	Explore online	Select
8551	<a href="#">Harmonised Height, Weight and BMI in Five Longitudinal Cohort Studies: 1970 British Cohort Study</a>	<a href="#">Nesstar</a>	<a href="#">Login</a>
8550	<a href="#">Harmonised Height, Weight and BMI in Five Longitudinal Cohort Studies: Millennium Cohort Study</a>	<a href="#">Nesstar</a>	<a href="#">Login</a>
8549	<a href="#">Harmonised Height, Weight and BMI in Five Longitudinal Cohort Studies: National Child Development Study</a>	<a href="#">Nesstar</a>	<a href="#">Login</a>
8209	<a href="#">Harmonised Height, Weight and BMI in Five Longitudinal Cohort Studies: MRC National Survey of Health and Development: Special Licence Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
8208	<a href="#">Harmonised Height, Weight and BMI in Five Longitudinal Cohort Studies: Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children: Special Licence Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>

**GN 33536**  
CLOSER Work Package 2: Harmonised Socio-Economic Measures in Four Longitudinal Cohort Studies ▼

SN	Study description	Explore online	Select
8308	<a href="#">Harmonised Socio-Economic Measures in Four Longitudinal Cohort Studies: MRC National Survey of Health and Development: Special Licence Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>
8307	<a href="#">Harmonised Socio-Economic Measures in Four Longitudinal Cohort Studies: National Child Development Study</a>	<a href="#">Nesstar</a>	<a href="#">Login</a>
8306	<a href="#">Harmonised Socio-Economic Measures in Four Longitudinal Cohort Studies: Millennium Cohort Study</a>	<a href="#">Nesstar</a>	<a href="#">Login</a>
8305	<a href="#">Harmonised Socio-Economic Measures in Four Longitudinal Cohort Studies: 1970 British Cohort Study</a>	<a href="#">Nesstar</a>	<a href="#">Login</a>

**GN 33529** | CLOSER Training Datasets

SN	Study description
8205	<a href="#">National Child Development Study: CLOSER Training Dataset, 1958-2013</a>

[beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series/series?id=2000111#!/access](https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series/series?id=2000111#!/access)

**GN 33556**  
CLOSER Work Package 9: Harmonised Childhood Environment and Adult Wellbeing Measures in Three Longitudinal Cohort Studies ▼

SN	Study description	Explore online	Select
8553	<a href="#">Harmonised Childhood Environment and Adult Wellbeing Measures in Three Longitudinal Cohort Studies: 1970 British Cohort Study</a>	<a href="#">Nesstar</a>	<a href="#">Login</a>
8552	<a href="#">Harmonised Childhood Environment and Adult Wellbeing Measures in Three Longitudinal Cohort Studies: National Child Development Study</a>	<a href="#">Nesstar</a>	<a href="#">Login</a>
8548	<a href="#">Harmonised Childhood Environment and Adult Wellbeing Measures in Three Longitudinal Cohort Studies: MRC National Survey of Health and Development: Special Licence Access</a>		<a href="#">Login</a>



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# Growing Up in Scotland (GUS)

following several cohorts (child cohort 2002-03, birth cohorts for 2004-2005 and 2010-2011) of Scottish children from the early years, through childhood and beyond

- health
  - neighbourhood
  - development
  - education
  - leisure
  - friendships
- 
- consent from parents to link data collected from them and their children to administrative data held by health and education authorities.



# Growing Up in Scotland

Home About GUS Information for GUS Families Events Using GUS data Impact Publications Contact Us News Teachers

**ARE YOU**  
 Taking part in GUS?  
 Interested in our findings?  
 Interested in using GUS data?

Growing Up in Scotland is the longitudinal research study tracking the lives of thousands of children and their families from the early years, through childhood and beyond. The main aim of the study is to provide new information to support policy-making in Scotland but it is also intended to provide a resource for practitioners, academics, the voluntary sector and parents.

**Search**  
 To search, type and hit enter

Watch our 10 year anniversary film

Growing up in S...

**News**

**New report: Changes in Language Ability over the Primary School Years**

This report drew on measures of language ability which were gathered from children participating in the Growing Up ...[read more](#)

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Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot

## GROWING UP IN SCOTLAND: CHANGES IN LANGUAGE ABILITY OVER THE PRIMARY SCHOOL YEARS

This report drew on measures of language ability which were gathered from children participating in the Growing Up in Scotland study (GUS) at the time they were about to or had recently entered primary school (in 2009/10) and again when they were in Primary 6 (in 2014/15).

### Is there still a gap in language ability between more and less advantaged children towards the end of primary school?

The findings in this report suggest that there is still a gap between more and less advantaged children as they reach the last years of primary school. This is the case regardless of whether the gap is measured with respect to family income, area deprivation or the parent's level of education.

Additionally, the findings indicate that children from more advantaged backgrounds improve at a higher rate over the primary school period relative to their peers from less advantaged backgrounds, suggesting that the socio-economic gap is widening.

Despite the significant differences in average language ability between different groups of children, the report also found substantial variation in ability *within* these groups. For example, many children in lower income households had high language ability, whilst many in higher income households had low ability.

This suggests that social background, whilst being important, is not the only factor that influences language ability. Although being from a disadvantaged social background increases the risk of poorer language skills, it does not mean that *all* children from disadvantaged backgrounds have poorer language skills.

### What might help (and what seems to hinder) improvement in language ability over the primary school period?



Firstly, the findings suggest that over the primary school period, the language ability of children with higher levels of social, emotional or behavioural difficulties was less likely to improve relative to other children, even after taking into account a number of other known differences between the children.

[//growingupinScotland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/GUS-Language-summary-005.pdf](https://growingupinScotland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/GUS-Language-summary-005.pdf)



UK Data Service

“... finding does suggest that Bookbug helps support more frequent reading behaviour before one year of age. “

Bookbug



**New findings – Language development and enjoyment of reading: impacts of early parent-child activities in two Growing Up in Scotland cohorts**

Publication

June 2, 2016

A new report published by the Scottish Government explores the relationships between parent-child activities and language development and enjoyment of reading in two of the groups of children taking part in GUS.

The report compares language development at age 3 and explores whether any differences are linked to changes in early parent-child activities across the two cohorts. The report also explores whether any changes in home learning activities across the cohorts appear to be linked to the introduction of the Scottish Book Trust's [Bookbug](#) programme and the Scottish Government's [PlayTalkRead](#) campaign.

On average, children aged 3 in Scotland in 2013 had better vocabulary ability than those aged 3 in 2007/08

PlayTalkRead

“The relationship between accessing the website and early parent-child activities was similar to that found for Bookbug: those parents who said they had accessed the website were more likely to read and sing frequently with their child at 10 months than those who had not accessed the website.”

# Key findings

## Child development

### Cognitive development

- Children who experience a wide range of activities like being read to, singing nursery rhymes and drawing, from an early age score higher in cognitive ability tests at age 3 than children with less experience of these activities.
- Children from less advantaged households are less likely to experience a wide range of 'home learning' activities than children from more advantaged households.
- Experiencing a wide range of activities from an early age does have an impact on cognitive development and can moderate – although by no means eradicate – the effects of socio-demographic advantage.
- The variations in cognitive ability (vocabulary and problem solving) by socio-demographic backgrounds found at age 3 persist at age 5. On average, children from more advantaged backgrounds have higher vocabulary and problem solving abilities at ages 3 and 5 than children from less advantaged backgrounds.
- The largest differences in ability are between children whose parents have higher and lower educational qualifications. At age 5, compared with children whose parents have no qualifications, those with a degree-educated parent are around 18 months ahead on vocabulary and around 13 months ahead on problem solving.

[www.growingupinScotland.org.uk/about-gus/key-findings/#2](http://www.growingupinScotland.org.uk/about-gus/key-findings/#2)

## New findings: Physical activity levels amongst 10-11 year olds in Scotland

August 1, 2017

The Scottish Government has published a new report 'Objectively measured physical activity levels of Scottish children: analysis from a sub-sample of 10-11 year-olds in the Growing Up in Scotland study'.

[Link to the full report.](#)

This report uses GUS data to explore the physical activity and sedentary levels in Scottish 10-11 year old children. Using two approaches, self-reported and objectively measured physical activity, the analysis examines differences in activity levels by gender and area deprivation.



### Research questions

1. What are the objectively measured physical activity and sedentary levels of Scottish 10-11 year old children?
2. What proportion of Scottish 10-11 year old children meet the current nationally recognised physical activity guidelines of accumulating at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous (MVPA) per day when objectively measured?
3. Do differences in physical activity/sedentary levels and proportion of children meeting the guidelines exist by gender and area level deprivation?
4. Do gender or socio-economic patterns differ by whether self-reported or objective methods are used to assess physical activity?

activity measurement assessment approaches. The analyses presented within the report form part of a wider academic study exploring the environmental determinants of physical activity in young people that also incorporates GPS data on where young people are most active<sup>1</sup>.



---

# GUS - Impact

## 2020

[Growing up Healthy in Families Across the Globe: Cross-Cultural Harmonisation of Childhood Risk-Factors Using Longitudinal Studies from Ireland, Scotland and New Zealand](#) (2020) Doran, P., Bradshaw, P., Morton, S., Tautolo, E-S., Williams, J., Cunningham, C. in *Child Indicators Research*  
DOI: [10.1007/s12187-020-09732-w](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12187-020-09732-w)

[Autism and attachment disorder symptoms in the general population: Prevalence, overlap, and burden](#) (2020) Minnis, H., Messow, C-M., McConnachie, A., Bradshaw, P., Briggs, A., Wilson, P., Gillberg, C. in *Developmental Child Welfare*

[The transition to primary school: Growing Up in Scotland study findings](#) briefing paper

[Living with a lone mother in Scotland. Do children fare better if their mothers are in work?](#) (2020) Fiori, F. in *Understanding Inequalities* briefing paper, University of Edinburgh

## 2019

[Parental education, television exposure and children's early cognitive, language, and behavioral development](#) (2019) Kuhhirt, M., Klein, M. in *Social Science Research* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2019.102391>

[Do bedroom screens and the mealtime environment shape different trajectories of child overweight and obesity?](#) (2019) Parkes, A., Green, M. & Pearce, A. in *International Journal of Obesity* doi:10.1038/s41366-019-0502-1

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# Finding longitudinal data



# Search 1 – Key data

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Home > Discover data > Key data > Cohort and longitudinal studies

## Key data

Browse our most popular datasets, by data type.

UK surveys	Cross-national surveys	<b>Longitudinal studies</b>	International macrodata	Census data
Business microdata	Qualitative / mixed methods			

SHARE

Longitudinal studies involve repeated observations of the same subjects, allowing researchers to analyse change at the individual level.

The UK is home to several key longitudinal studies, including major panel and internationally-renowned cohort studies.

- [Discover data](#) from longitudinal studies
- [Discover case studies](#) relating to longitudinal studies

### 1970 British Cohort Study


The 1970 British Cohort Study (BCS70) follows the lives of more than 17,000 people born in England, Scotland and Wales in a single week of 1970. Over the course of cohort members' lives, the BCS70 has broadened from a strictly medical focus at birth to collect information on health, physical, educational and social development, and economic circumstances among other factors.

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Data Website



ANALYSING CHANGE OVER TIME

Read our introductory guide to quantitative analysis of change over time using different types of data and different methods commonly used to analyse these data.

# Search 2 – Data Catalogue: Studies and Series

The screenshot displays the search interface for the UK Data Service. At the top, there is a search bar with the placeholder text "Enter search term" and a search icon. Below the search bar, there are two tabs: "STUDIES (7359)" and "SERIES (73)". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains filters for "Date from:" (1753), "Date to:" (2018), "Topic:", "Data Type:" (with "Cohort and longitudinal studies" selected and circled in orange), and "Access:". The right column shows the search results, including a status bar "Displaying 1 - 10 of 837 results" and "Page 1 of 84". Below this, there are dropdown menus for "Results per page:" (10) and "Sort by:" (Most recently released). The first result is for SN 853278, titled "The new fathers and mothers study: Well-being, parenting and children's self-regulation 2014-2018", with authors Hughes, C, University of Cambridge; Devine, R, University of Birmingham; Mesman, J, Leiden University; and Blair, C, New York University. The second result is for SN 8380, titled "British Household Panel Survey: Waves 1-18, 1991-2009: Special Licence Access", with the author University of Essex.

[beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies/#!?Search=&Page=1&Rows=10&Sort=0&DateFrom=1753&DateTo=2018](https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/studies/#!?Search=&Page=1&Rows=10&Sort=0&DateFrom=1753&DateTo=2018)

# Search 2 – Data Catalogue: Series

The screenshot shows a search interface for the UK Data Service Data Catalogue. The search term 'education' is entered in the top search bar. Below the search bar, there are navigation links for 'Variable and question bank' and 'QualiBank'. The search results are categorized into 'STUDIES (2208)' and 'SERIES (57)', with the latter being circled in orange. A filter sidebar on the left allows refining results by date (1753 to 2019), topic, data type (set to 'Cohort and longitudinal studies'), and country. The main results area shows 'Displaying 1 - 10 of 22 results for 'education'', with '10' circled in orange. The first result is 'SN 200001 | 1970 British Cohort Study', with a description and a 'Read more' link. The second result is 'SN 2000108 | National Pupil Database', with a partial description.

[beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series#!?Search=&Page=1&Rows=10&Sort=0&DateFrom=1753&DateTo=2019](https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series#!?Search=&Page=1&Rows=10&Sort=0&DateFrom=1753&DateTo=2019)

# Search 3 – Data Catalogue: Variable and question bank

The screenshot shows the search results for 'education' on the UK Data Service Data Catalogue. The search bar at the top contains the word 'education' and a search icon. Below the search bar, there are navigation links: 'Variable and question bank >' and 'QualBank >'. The results are categorized into 'STUDIES (2208)' and 'SERIES (57)'. The main content area displays 'Displaying 1 - 10 of 22 results for 'education'' and 'Page 1 of 3'. There are filters for 'Date from:' (1753) and 'Date to:' (2019), a 'Refine date' button, 'Topic:', 'Data Type:' (Cohort and longitudinal studies), and 'Country:'. The results list includes 'SN 200001 | 1970 British Cohort Study' and 'SN 2000108 | National Pupil Database'. The 1970 British Cohort Study entry includes a background description and a 'Read more' link.

[beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series#!?Search=&Page=1&Rows=10&Sort=0&DateFrom=1753&DateTo=2019](https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalogue/series#!?Search=&Page=1&Rows=10&Sort=0&DateFrom=1753&DateTo=2019)

# Search 3 – Data Catalogue: Variable and question bank (Example)

The screenshot displays the UK Data Service Discover website interface. On the left, the 'Data Catalogue' sidebar is visible, with 'Variable and question bank' selected. Below it, the 'QualiBank' section is active, and the 'Country' filter is set to 'European Union Countries (1993-) (18)'. The main search area shows a search bar with the text 'highest education' and a 'GO' button. Below the search bar, there are options for 'Reset filters', 'Clear search', 'Search only question text/responses', 'Auto-complete', and 'Help'. The search results are displayed in a list, with the first result being 'Y11\_Q48 : Q48 What is the highest level of education you completed? Is this ...? (national level)'. The question text is 'What is the highest level of education you completed? Is this... No education completed (ISCED 0), Primary education (ISCED 1), Lower secondary education (ISCED 2), Upper secondar...'. The data source is 'European Quality of Life Survey Integrated Data File, 2003-2012'. There are two such results shown.

[discover.ukdataservice.ac.uk/variables](https://discover.ukdataservice.ac.uk/variables)

# Search 3 – Data Catalogue: Variable and question bank (Example)

Discover > Variables

## Variable and question bank

My Variables

Data Catalogue

- Variable and question bank
- QualiBank

Series +

Survey +

Country -

- European Union Countries (1993-) (18)
- United Kingdom (4311)
- Great Britain (1846)
- (1068)
- Scotland (363)
- England (135)

Show more... Refine

Date -

Data coverage /

Search and browse variables and questions from survey datasets.

Search: highest education GO

Reset filters | Clear search |  Search only question text/responses |  Auto-complete | Help

Sorted by:

- Date (latest first)
- Date (earliest first)
- Relevance
- Title (A-Z)
- Title (Z-A)

Results per page: 10

Displaying 1-10 of 18 results

- isced : ISCED classification : the highest level of education or training  
European Working Conditions Survey, 1995  
+ View responses...  
Add to My Variables  
View all instances of this variable
- ef1 : ef1. What is the highest level of education that you have successfully completed?  
European Working Conditions Survey, 1995  
+ View responses...  
Add to My Variables  
View all instances of this variable
- ef1 : ef1. What is the highest level of education that you have successfully completed?  
European Working Conditions Survey, 2000  
+ View responses...  
Add to My Variables  
View all instances of this variable



# Search 3 – Data Catalogue: Variable and question bank (Example)

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Discover > Variables

## Variable and question bank

Search and browse variables and questions from survey datasets.

education GO

Reset filters Clear search Search only question text/responses Auto-complete Help

Results per page: 10 Sorted by: Relevance

Displaying 1-10 of 213 results

1 2 3 4 5 ▶▶▶

**Y11\_Q48 : Q48 What is the highest level of education you completed? Is this ...? (national level)** [Add to My Variables](#)  
**Question Text:** What is the highest level of education you completed? Is this... No education completed (ISCED 0), Primary education (ISCED 1), Lower secondary education (ISCED 2), Upper secondar...  
European Quality of Life Survey Integrated Data File, 2003-2012  
[+ View responses...](#)

**Y11\_Q48 : Q48 What is the highest level of education you completed? Is this ...? (national level)** [Add to My Variables](#)  
**Question Text:** What is the highest level of education you completed? Is this... No education  
D 1) Lower secondary education (ISCED 2) Upper  
[View all instances of this variable](#)

UK Data Service Discover

Data Catalogue

- Variable and question bank
- QualiBank

Series +

Survey +

Country -

- European Union Countries (1993-) (213)
- United Kingdom (55678)
- Great Britain (44759)
- (31606)
- England (9707)
- Scotland (2371)

Show more Refine

UK Data Service

# Search 3 – Data Catalogue: Variable and question bank (Example)\_My Variables

My Variables

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y03_Q47 <span>Remove</span>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y11_ISCEDsimple <span>Remove</span>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> isced <span>Remove</span>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> y10_ef1 <span>Remove</span>																																																																														
<p><b>Variable Y03_Q47</b></p> <p><b>Question text</b> What is the highest level of education you completed? Is this... Primary education, Secondary education, University?</p> <p><b>Responses</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>1</td><td>Primary education</td><td>6638</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>Secondary education</td><td>14252</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>University</td><td>4477</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>None</td><td>738</td></tr> <tr><td>99</td><td>Don't know / no answer</td><td>152</td></tr> <tr><td>Sysmiss</td><td></td><td>79270</td></tr> </table>	1	Primary education	6638	2	Secondary education	14252	3	University	4477	4	None	738	99	Don't know / no answer	152	Sysmiss		79270	<p><b>Variable Y11_ISCEDsimple</b></p> <p><b>Question text</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Responses</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>1</td><td>No education completed (ISCED 0)</td><td>1016</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>Primary education (ISCED 1)</td><td>4392</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>Lower secondary education (ISCED 2)</td><td>6440</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>Upper secondary education (ISCED 3)</td><td>13748</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>Post-secondary including pre-vocational or vocational educat</td><td>2807</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>Tertiary education – first level (ISCED 5)</td><td>6203</td></tr> </table>	1	No education completed (ISCED 0)	1016	2	Primary education (ISCED 1)	4392	3	Lower secondary education (ISCED 2)	6440	4	Upper secondary education (ISCED 3)	13748	5	Post-secondary including pre-vocational or vocational educat	2807	6	Tertiary education – first level (ISCED 5)	6203	<p><b>Variable isced</b></p> <p><b>Question text</b> What is the highest level of education you completed? Is this... None education completed (ISCED 0), Primary education (ISCED 1), Lower</p> <p><b>Responses</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>1</td><td>ISCED0</td><td>1016</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>ISCED1</td><td>4392</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>ISCED2</td><td>6440</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>ISCED3</td><td>13748</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>ISCED4</td><td>2807</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>ISCED5</td><td>6203</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>ISCED6</td><td>405</td></tr> <tr><td>Sysmiss</td><td></td><td>623</td></tr> </table>	1	ISCED0	1016	2	ISCED1	4392	3	ISCED2	6440	4	ISCED3	13748	5	ISCED4	2807	6	ISCED5	6203	7	ISCED6	405	Sysmiss		623	<p><b>Variable y10_ef1</b></p> <p><b>Question text</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Responses</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>1001</td><td>BE01 Primary education not completed</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>1002</td><td>BE02 Primary education</td><td>76</td></tr> <tr><td>1003</td><td>BE03 Lower secondary education: professional (BSO)</td><td>207</td></tr> <tr><td>1004</td><td>BE04 Lower secondary education: technical (TSO) (A3)</td><td>169</td></tr> <tr><td>1005</td><td>BE05 Lower secondary education: general (ASO)</td><td>141</td></tr> <tr><td>1006</td><td>BE06 Higher secondary education: professional (BSO)</td><td>512</td></tr> </table>	1001	BE01 Primary education not completed	19	1002	BE02 Primary education	76	1003	BE03 Lower secondary education: professional (BSO)	207	1004	BE04 Lower secondary education: technical (TSO) (A3)	169	1005	BE05 Lower secondary education: general (ASO)	141	1006	BE06 Higher secondary education: professional (BSO)	512
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# Data access



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# Who can access the data?

## All registered users

However, which data can be accessed and the particular access conditions vary according to:

- user type  
(UK HE/FE, Non HE/FE, Non UK)
- usage/project characteristics  
(Commercial, non-commercial)
- specific data access conditions attached to chosen data  
(EUL, SC, SL (AR), Secure Lab data access, Safe Room access)



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# Data access

- web access to data and metadata
- data are freely available for use in higher education institutions
- data supplied in a variety of formats
  - statistical package formats (e.g. SPSS, STATA)
  - databases and spreadsheets
  - word processed documents, PDF documents etc.



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# Accessing data – step by step

- register with us via UK Federation using your university/UKDA username and password
- agree to an End User Licence (EUL)
- select the desired data from the Data Catalogue by clicking on the 'Download/Order' button
- specify a project for which the data is to be used (minimum: 30-word description)
- then:
  - download the data to local machine selecting your preferred format (SPSS, STATA, TAB etc.)
  - or*
  - place an order for the data (SC, if no online agreement; SL) and complete all relevant forms

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4. enter a short summary describing your intended use of the data
5. click 'Add datasets' and the selected data collection will be added to your usage
6. agree any special conditions associated with the selected datasets. These will appear in the 'Status' column
7. click 'Download' and accept the EUL reminder
8. select the download format required and the download will begin. Note that where the format option is 'Other', format guidance is usually given within the zip file name, for example, SAS

Some data collections are not available for immediate download, and you will need to order the data. To do this, check the 'Other media' box and follow the online instructions.

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Video tutorial December 2013

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[ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/how-to-access/downloadorder.aspx](http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/how-to-access/downloadorder.aspx)

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# Data access conditions

- End User Licence (EUL)
- Special Conditions (SC)
- Special Licence (SL)  
Approved Researcher Status
- Secure Lab Data access
- - Approved Researcher
  - Training
  - Password and username
- Safe Room access (onsite)





# Our data collections by access level

Data access conditions	Access level
Open Licence	Open (773)
End User Licence (EUL) [Authentication]	Safeguarded (6041)
Special Conditions (SC) [Authentication]	
Special Licence (SL) [Authentication, Accredited Researcher Status]	
Secure Lab Data Access (remote) [Authentication, Accredited Researcher Status, Training + Test]	Controlled (215)
Secure Lab Data Safe Room Access (on-site) [Authentication, Accredited Researcher Status, Training + Test]	

The Government Statistical Service Policy for the release of social survey microdata ensures compliance with the

- Code of Practice for Official Statistics (CoP),
- Statistics and Registration Service Act (SRSA), 2007.

[ons.gov.uk/methodology/methodologytopicsandstatisticalconcepts/disclosurecontrol/policyforsocialsurveymicrodata](https://ons.gov.uk/methodology/methodologytopicsandstatisticalconcepts/disclosurecontrol/policyforsocialsurveymicrodata)



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## End User Licence

“Every user is required to agree to an End User Licence outlining the terms and conditions of use of the data. This includes, for example,

- not to share data with anyone who is not authorised to access them;
- not to use the data for commercial purposes, except with permission;
- not to try to use the data to identify individuals, households or organisations;
- to cite the data correctly and inform the UK Data Archive/UK Data Service of any publications;
- not to disclose your login details to anyone else;
- agreeing to meet any charges...”

---

## Special Licence Access

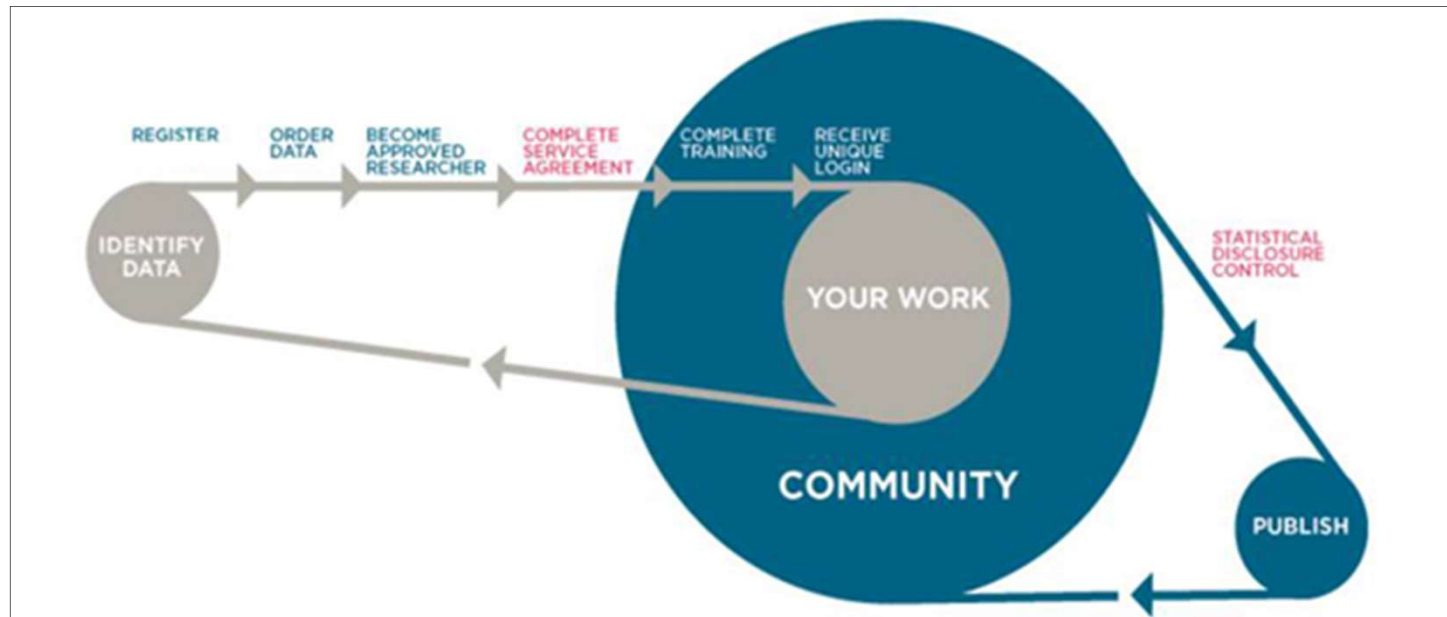
- strategy to provide access to datasets that are detailed, yet anonymised
- as these data pose a higher risk of disclosure, they have additional special conditions attached to them
- SL requires the signature(s) of the researcher(s) and the institution with responsibility for the researcher; also needs the explicit permission of the data owner to release the data to the researcher(s)

---

## Secure Lab data access

- data not available for download
- access requires accreditation as an Approved Researcher, completion of face-to-face training, and agreement to the Service's User Agreement and Breaches Penalties Policy
- applications are screened by the UK Data Archive and the individual or institution having ownership of the data (or their designated authority), and access is only granted to those researchers requiring data for statistical research purposes and who can justify their need for the data

# Secure Lab data, remote access



- Access via web-based interface that uses secure encrypted Citrix Virtual Private Network technology
- Data not downloadable, access remotely from organisational desktop (or UKDA Safe Room)
- Outputs subject to Statistical Disclosure Control (SDC)

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# Exploring data online



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# Online analysis with Nesstar

- online data browsing and analysis system
- allows users to search for, locate, browse and analyse and download a wide variety of statistical data within a web browser
- UK Data Archive, as service provider for the UK Data Service, hosts a Nesstar server populated by its most popular data series
- registration is required for analysis such as crosstabulations and regressions



# Explore data online with Nesstar

UK Data Service

About us **Get data** Use data Manage data Deposit data News and Events

Home > Discover data > Explore online

## Explore online

SHARE

A selection of data are available to explore via our online tools.

**Nesstar**

Nesstar is the online data exploration system used by the UK Data Service to provide access to a wide variety of datasets. All visitors to our Nesstar Catalogue can browse study metadata, variable frequencies and use the simple and advanced search options. Registered users can also create simple online cross-tabulations, produce graphs, and download subsets of variables in a variety of formats.

**Census**

A number of tools are available for accessing census data available via the UK Data Service [Census Support](#).

**UKDS.Stat**

UKDS.Stat enables you to extract information from the large socio-economic international datasets available at the UK Data Service. The interface, which uses OECD data warehousing technology, provides an improved user experience and many exciting features, including animated time series charts, the ability to display data as choropleth maps, to save personal queries, share queries and to search across all datasets.

**Beyond 20/20**

As of 31 December 2014, Beyond 20/20 is no longer available at UK Data Service. All international data can now be accessed from UKDS.Stat.

UK Data Service

LOGIN / REGISTER

DISCOVER UK DATA SERVICE

GO

Data Website

About our data

Key data

Data by theme

Data by geography

Open data

How to access

Other providers

**Explore online**

Data access policy

Thesauri

[ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/explore-online](http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/explore-online)



# MCS - Parenting skills

DESCRIPTION TABULATION ANALYSIS

Dataset: Millennium Cohort Study: Fourth Survey, 2008

S4 MAIN Feels about parent... S4 MAIN Feels about parent... S4 MAIN Person Sex S4 MAIN Person Sex

S4 MAIN Person Sex	Male	Female	Total
S4 MAIN Feels about parenting skills			
Not very good at being a parent	0.0	0.4	0.4
A person who has trouble being a parent	4.1	3.2	3.2
An average parent	20.9	34.1	33.7
A better than average parent	30.6	27.3	27.4
A very good parent	41.5	34.3	34.5
Can't say	2.9	0.6	0.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
N=	363.8	12,933.8	13,297.6

Weight is on

Copyright University of London. Centre for Longitudinal Studies

In general, frequencies and tables of the data.

Category	Male (%)	Female (%)
Not very good at being a parent	0.0	0.4
A person who has trouble being a parent	4.1	3.2
An average parent	20.9	34.1
A better than average parent	30.6	27.3
A very good parent	41.5	34.3
Can't say	2.9	0.6

Weight is on

# Nesstar – example (highest qualification)

UK Data Service  
Delivering quality social and economic data resources

DESCRIPTION TABULATION ANALYSIS

Dataset: General Household Survey: Time Series Dataset, 1972-2004

Highest qualifica... degree or higher: Categories survey year (fina...rom 1988 onwards): Categories Type: Raw numbers

Survey Year	Number of Households
1972	400
1973	550
1974	500
1975	600
1976	650
1977	900
1978	900
1979	950
1980	950
1981	950
1982	900
1983	900
1984	950
1985	1050
1986	1100
1987	1200
1988	1150
1989	1200
1990	1200
1991	1250
1992	1300
1993	1350
1994	1350
1995	1550
1996	1400
1997	1600
1998	1750
1999	1950
2000	2100
2001	2200
2002	2350
2003	2450
2004	2350

Weight is on

Copyright material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office

Dataset: General Household Survey: Time Series Dataset, 1972-2004

Highest qualifica... degree or higher: Categories survey year (fina...rom 1988 onwards): Categories Type: Row percentage

Survey Year	Percentage
1972	1.0
1973	1.4
1974	1.3
1975	1.6
1976	1.7
1977	2.3
1978	2.4
1979	2.5
1980	2.5
1981	2.5
1982	2.4
1983	2.4
1984	2.5
1985	2.6
1986	2.7
1987	2.9
1988	2.8
1989	2.9
1990	2.9
1991	3.0
1992	3.1
1993	3.2
1994	3.3
1995	3.5
1996	3.3
1997	3.6
1998	3.9
1999	4.2
2000	4.5
2001	4.8
2002	5.2
2003	5.6
2004	6.0

[nesstar.ukdataservice.ac.uk/webview/](http://nesstar.ukdataservice.ac.uk/webview/)

# Nesstar – useful links to get started

- Nesstar website: [nesstar.com](https://nesstar.com)
- video tutorials: [ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/explore-online/nesstar/nesstar](https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/explore-online/nesstar/nesstar)

**HOW TO DOWNLOAD A SUBSET OF SURVEY DATA USING NESSTAR**

View our video tutorial on using Nesstar to download a subset of data using the British Social Attitudes Survey as an example.



The screenshot shows the UK Data Service homepage. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Home', 'About us', 'Get data', 'Explore data', 'Support data', and 'News and Events'. The main content area features a large video player with a play button and the title 'How to download a subset of survey data using Nesstar'. Below the video, there are sections for 'LATEST TRENDS', 'LATEST NEWS', 'GET TO KNOW US', and 'KEY DATA'. The 'KEY DATA' section includes links for 'Key data', 'Custom Support', 'Information for new users', and 'Especially asked questions'.




The screenshot shows the Nesstar interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Home', 'About us', 'Get data', 'Explore data', 'Support data', and 'News and Events'. The main content area features a large video player with a play button and the title 'Analysing education data with Nesstar'. The interface shows a list of variables on the left and a bar chart on the right. The bar chart displays the distribution of responses for a selected variable, with a legend on the right side.

[ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/themes/education/analysing](https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/themes/education/analysing)

**HOW TO USE WEIGHTS IN NESSTAR**

View our video tutorial on using Nesstar to download a subset of data using the British Social Attitudes Survey as an example.



The screenshot shows the Nesstar interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Home', 'About us', 'Get data', 'Explore data', 'Support data', and 'News and Events'. The main content area features a large video player with a play button and the title 'How to use weights in Nesstar'. The interface shows a list of variables on the left and a 'Weights' section on the right. The 'Weights' section includes a 'Weight' dropdown menu, a 'Play/Stop' button, and a 'Reset' button. Below the video, there's a section for 'Weighting information'.


UK Data Service

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# Support and resources



# Support and resources

- video tutorials/webinars
- student resources, data skills modules 
- case studies
- guides
- themes
- advice on managing and sharing data
- teaching data and resources
- helpdesk, individual user support

LONGITUDINAL DATA MODULE  
(approximately 2 hours)

Unit 1: [What are longitudinal data?](#)

Unit 2: [Use cases](#)

Unit 3: [Downloading data & getting started](#)

Unit 4: [Preparing to work with the data](#)

Unit 5: [Analysing the data](#)

[ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/data-skills-modules.aspx](http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/data-skills-modules.aspx)

# Video tutorials

The screenshot shows the UK Data Service website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for 'About us', 'Get data', 'Use data', 'Manage data', 'Deposit data', and 'News and events'. The 'Use data' link is circled in orange. Below the navigation menu, the breadcrumb trail reads 'Home > Use data > Video tutorials'. The main heading is 'Video tutorials'. Below this, there is a large graphic with the text '"Can you show me how to do that?"' and a bar chart with five vertical bars of increasing height from left to right, colored purple, pink, red, orange, and yellow. To the right of the main content, there is a sidebar with a 'LOGIN / REGISTER' section, a 'DATA CATALOGUE' search bar with a 'GO' button, and a 'QUICK ACCESS TO' section with links for 'UK Data Service YouTube Channel' and 'Past webinars'. On the left side of the page, there is a vertical menu under 'Advice and training' with sub-sections: 'Guides', 'Video tutorials' (circled in orange), 'Data in use', 'Citing data', 'Secure Lab', 'Teaching with data', 'Student resources', 'Data Skills Modules', and 'Secondary analysis'. Below the main content, there is a 'SHARE' button and a link to 'Subscribe to our YouTube channel'. At the bottom, there is a video player with the title 'Accessing, exploring and visualising data in UKDS.Stat' and a play button. The video player also shows 'Video tutorial August 2016'.

[ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/tutorials](http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/tutorials)



# Case studies

UK Data Service

Site search Accessibility FAQ Help Contact New users Sitemap

About us Get data **Use data** Manage data Deposit data News and events

Home > Use data > Data in use

## Data in use

"How our data are being used to advance research, inform policy and improve teaching"

SHARE

Find out what others have done with UK Data Service data and take a look at some selected case studies from researchers and teachers.

Every day, UK Data Service data are being used in leading-edge research and in university courses across the UK and beyond.

We have many examples of how data from our collection are providing evidence to support research, inform policy decisions and teach the next generation of social scientists.

- Browse all [research case studies](#)
- Browse all [teaching case studies](#)
- Check [Google Scholar for publications citing international data](#) using Digital Object Identifier (DOI) 10.5257
- Read more about the [impact of our data](#)

Advice and training

Guides

Video tutorials

**Data in use**

Citing data

Secure Lab

Teaching with data

Student resources

Data Skills Modules

Secondary analysis

LOGIN / REGISTER

DATA CATALOGUE

GO

[ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/data-in-use](http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/data-in-use)

# Case studies

## Business & Economy



[Measuring the impact of online shopping on high streets across England](#)

## Environment & Sustainability



[Do higher energy prices affect international trade?](#)

## Health & Wellbeing



[The lives of young carers in England](#)

## Learning & Skills



[Factors associated with academic achievement](#)

[Exploring the 'middle' in GCSE attainment](#)

[Screen-based media and well-being in adolescence](#)

[See more](#)

## Science & Technology



[Does broadband access make UK firms more successful?](#)

[A model to estimate the diversity of domestic energy demand at high resolution](#)

[Energy use within the UK wine production industry](#)

[See more](#)

## Social Policy & Communities



[The growing importance of inherited wealth](#)

[The overlooked over-75s](#)

[Moving On? Dispersal Policy, onward migration and integration of refugees in the UK](#)

[See more](#)





# Case studies based on longitudinal data

The screenshot shows the UK Data Service website. The navigation menu at the top includes 'About us', 'Get data', 'Use data', 'Manage data', and 'Deposit data'. The 'Get data' link is circled in orange. The breadcrumb trail reads 'Home > Get data > Key data > Cohort and longitudinal studies'. The main heading is 'Key data', followed by the text 'Browse our most popular datasets, by data type.' Below this is a grid of data type categories: 'UK surveys', 'Cross-national surveys', 'Longitudinal studies', 'International macrodata', 'Census data', 'Business microdata', 'Qualitative / mixed methods', and 'Administrative data'. The 'Longitudinal studies' category is highlighted with a dark background and circled in orange. To the left is a sidebar menu with 'About our data', 'Key data', 'Data by theme', 'Data by geography', 'Open data', 'How to access', 'Other providers', 'Explore online', 'Data access policy', and 'Thesauri'. 'Key data' is selected and circled in orange. Below the grid is a 'SHARE' button with a share icon. The text below the grid explains that longitudinal studies involve repeated observations of the same subjects, allowing researchers to analyse change at the individual level. It also states that the UK is home to several key longitudinal studies, including major panel and internationally-renowned cohort studies. At the bottom, there are two links: 'Data Catalogue of longitudinal studies' and 'Case studies relating to longitudinal studies', both of which are circled in orange.

UK Data Service

About us **Get data** Use data Manage data Deposit data

Home > Get data > Key data > Cohort and longitudinal studies

## Key data

Browse our most popular datasets, by data type.

UK surveys	Cross-national surveys	<b>Longitudinal studies</b>	International macrodata	Census data
Business microdata	Qualitative / mixed methods	Administrative data		

SHARE

Longitudinal studies involve repeated observations of the same subjects, allowing researchers to analyse change at the individual level.

The UK is home to several key longitudinal studies, including major panel and internationally-renowned cohort studies.

- [Data Catalogue of longitudinal studies](#)
- [Case studies relating to longitudinal studies](#)

# Teaching with data

UK Data Service

Site search Accessibility FAQ Help Contact New users Sitemap

About us Get data **Use data** Manage data Deposit data News and events

Home > Use data > Teaching with data

## Teaching with data

"Real data bring learning to life"

SHARE

We believe that the use of data in teaching is an invaluable way for learners to confront real-life research. The data collections:

- constitute well-documented examples of real-life data collection allowing students to engage critically with methods and methodologies
- provide rewarding raw material for data analysis teaching of all types
- can be used to enrich substantive teaching with evidence that can be interrogated

**Register your class**

Most of the data in our collection are only available to registered users. Find out how to register your students and share data with them here.

**Teaching resources**

UK Data Service

Advice and training

Guides

Video tutorials

Data in use

Citing data

Secure Lab

**Teaching with data**

Register your class

Quiz App

Teaching resources

Ideas for teaching

Student resources

Data Skills Modules

Secondary analysis

LOGIN / REGISTER

DATA CATALOGUE

GO

Data-driven learning and teaching

DATA-DRIVEN LEARNING AND TEACHING

Download our brochure on using our data in learning and teaching. Printed copies can be sent on request.

RELATED LINKS

ESRC Quantitative Methods Initiative

[ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/teaching](http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/use-data/teaching)

# Longitudinal teaching datasets

UK Data Service

Login / Register Help Accessibility Data catalogue

About us Get data Use data Manage data Deposit data News and events

f in it! t y

teaching dataset

Variable and question bank > QualiBank >

**STUDIES (160)** SERIES (11)

Date from: 1753 Date to: 2018 Refine date

Topic:

Data Type: Cohort and longitudinal studies

Displaying 1 - 10 of 29 results for 'teaching dataset' Page 1 of 3

Results per page: 10 Sort by: Relevance

SN 5805 [British Cohort Studies Teaching Dataset for Higher Education, 1958-2000](#)  
University of London

SN 6096 [Exploring Data, Second Edition: Teaching Datasets, 1958-2005](#)  
Elliott, Jane

# Help

Site search Accessibility **FAQ** Help Contact New users Sitemap

UK Data Service

About us Get data Use data Manage data Deposit data News and events

Home > Help > FAQ

## Help - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Answers to some of our most frequently asked questions are provided here.

If you are unable to find an answer to your question, please [get in touch](#) by selecting one of the short web forms.

Login and registration	Find and Access	Secure Lab	Download and data formats	Use data
Publication	Manage data	Deposit data		

SHARE

Questions about how go login and register

- [How do I log into the UK Data Service?](#)
- [How do I log into the Secure Lab?](#)
- [When registering - what usernames and passwords are acceptable to the UK Data Service?](#)
- [When registering I entered an incorrect email address, what should I do?](#)
- [How do I obtain a username and password?](#)
- [When I try to log in/register my organisation does not appear on the list, what should I do?](#)
- [How do I login/register to ReShare?](#)
- [When I try to login to ReShare, I am sent to the UK Data Service registration page, although I have already registered, what do I do?](#)

LOGIN / REGISTER

DATA CATALOGUE

GO

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# Contact

- Helpdesk:

[ukdataservice.ac.uk/help/get-in-touch](http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/help/get-in-touch)

Tel: 01206 872143

- Subscription emails, Facebook, Twitter and Youtube:

Subscribe to UK Data Service emails:

[jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=UKDATASERVICE](http://jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=UKDATASERVICE)

Twitter: [twitter.com/UKDataService](https://twitter.com/UKDataService)

Facebook: [facebook.com/UKDataService](https://facebook.com/UKDataService)

Youtube: [youtube.com/user/UKDATASERVICE](https://youtube.com/user/UKDATASERVICE)

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# Questions

User Support:

[support@ukdataservice.ac.uk](mailto:support@ukdataservice.ac.uk)

