Introduction to the CLS National Longitudinal Studies

Richard Silverwood
Associate Professor of Statistics
Centre for Longitudinal Studies, UCL Social Research Institute
What we do at CLS

We run four major national longitudinal studies, which follow people throughout life – “from cradle to grave”.

We are funded by the ESRC as a ‘resource centre’ – to provide data to the wider scientific community.

- Scientific development and design of the studies.
- Training, capacity building, and user support.
- Research – strong multidisciplinary group.
- Deposit of data at UK Data Service.
We follow people from ‘cradle to grave’

- National Child Development Study 1958: N ≈ 17k
- British Cohort Study 1970: N ≈ 17k
- Next Steps (1989-90): N ≈ 16k
- Millennium Cohort Study (2000-02): N ≈ 19k
CLS research team

- CLS is a truly multidisciplinary group.
- CLS staff have backgrounds in economics, sociology, psychology, epidemiology, demography, statistics, mixed-methods research, survey methods and policy evaluation.
- The team are experienced in using the CLS datasets and other UK/International longitudinal surveys.
CLS scientific themes – What the CLS research team does

- Improving social mobility and generational change
- Tackling the obesity challenge
- Improving mental health across the whole of life
- Cognitive development and cognitive decline
- Healthy ageing and productive working older lives
- Families and intra-household dynamics
- Applied statistical methods
- Survey methods
- Social genomics
COVID-19 Survey in Five National Longitudinal Studies
Aim: To understand economic, social and health impacts of COVID-19 crisis, the extent to which it is widening or narrowing inequalities, and the lifelong factors which shape vulnerability and resilience to its effects.
Design

May 2020: W1. Web-only
- Conducted in house using Qualtrics.
- Target sample only cases with email addresses.

Sept 2020: W2. Web-only
- Externally commissioned to Kantar Public.
- Target sample all eligible cases.
- Postal and text contact/reminders.
- Incentives for Next Steps.

Jan 2021: W3. Web plus telephone
- Includes telephone follow-up (targeted).
Wave 1 response

- Total achieved sample: 18,042; response rate: 35.7% (37.5% excluding MCS parents).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cohort</th>
<th>Issued sample</th>
<th>Response within issued sample</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSHD</td>
<td>1,843</td>
<td>1,258 (68.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCDS</td>
<td>8,943</td>
<td>5,178 (57.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCS70</td>
<td>10,458</td>
<td>4,223 (40.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Next Steps</td>
<td>9,380</td>
<td>1,907 (20.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCS cohort members</td>
<td>9,946</td>
<td>2,645 (26.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCS parents</td>
<td>9,909</td>
<td>2,831 (28.6%)</td>
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</tbody>
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- Wave 2 – achieved sample over 25k.
- Wave 3 – target sample size c. 30k.
Wave 1 topics

- Physical health (including COVID-19)
- Time use
- Family and household
- Financial situation and benefits
- Employment and education
- Health behaviours
- Mental health and social connectedness
- An open question was also included
Wave 1 outputs

- Data available from UK Data Service
- Briefing papers
- Pre-prints/journal articles
- Press coverage
- Resources

- **PUBLICATION**
  Mental health during lockdown: evidence from four generations - initial findings from COVID-19 surveys

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

- **PUBLICATION**
  Parental involvement in home schooling and developmental play during lockdown – initial findings from COVID-19 survey
Thank you

https://cls.ucl.ac.uk/covid-19-survey