



Introduction to Next Steps: a longitudinal study in England

27 April 2022
1pm-2pm

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Housekeeping

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The logo for the Centre for Longitudinal Studies, featuring the text 'CENTRE FOR LONGITUDINAL STUDIES' in red, with three horizontal red lines below it.

- Please keep your cameras off and mics muted at all times
- If you have a question, please use the chat function, and please note your question will be visible to all attendees
- Technical issues – please email us: ioe.clsevents@ucl.ac.uk
- We would be grateful for your feedback. Please follow the link in the chat at the end of the event for the short survey

Thank you for joining us today

Plan for today

- Introductions
- About CLS
- About Next Steps
- Examples of research
- Data, by theme
- Linked data
- Sample design and attrition
- Data access and information
- Plan for future sweeps
- Q&A to the panel*

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Introductions

- Vanessa Moulton, Senior Researcher
- Morag Henderson, Principal Investigator of Next Steps
- Darina Peycheva, Survey Manager
- Sarab Rihal, Research Data Manager

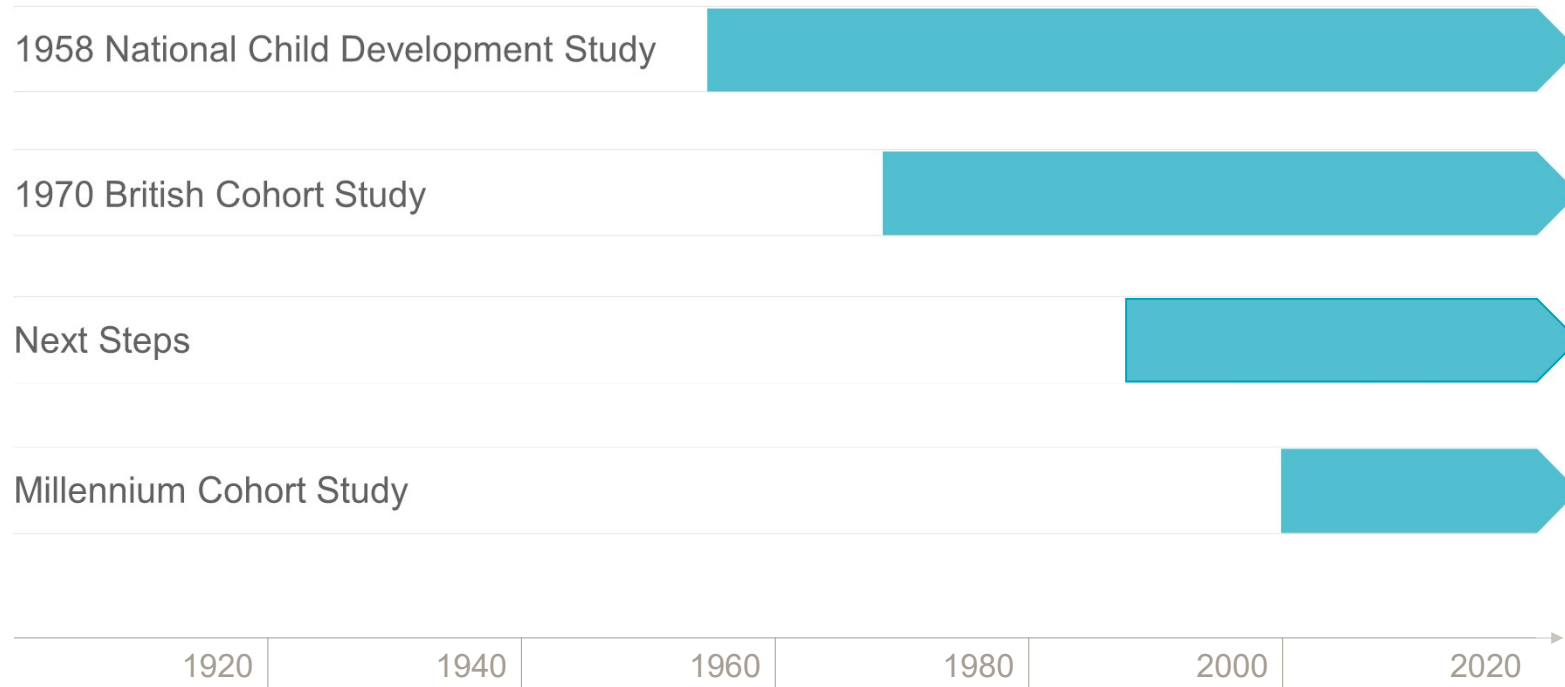
About CLS

- The [Centre for Longitudinal Studies](#) is home to four* national longitudinal cohort studies, which follow the lives of tens of thousands of people
- Each of our four studies follows large, nationally representative groups of people born in a given year
- By collecting information from the same people over time, as they live their lives, our studies are powerful resources for answering important research questions

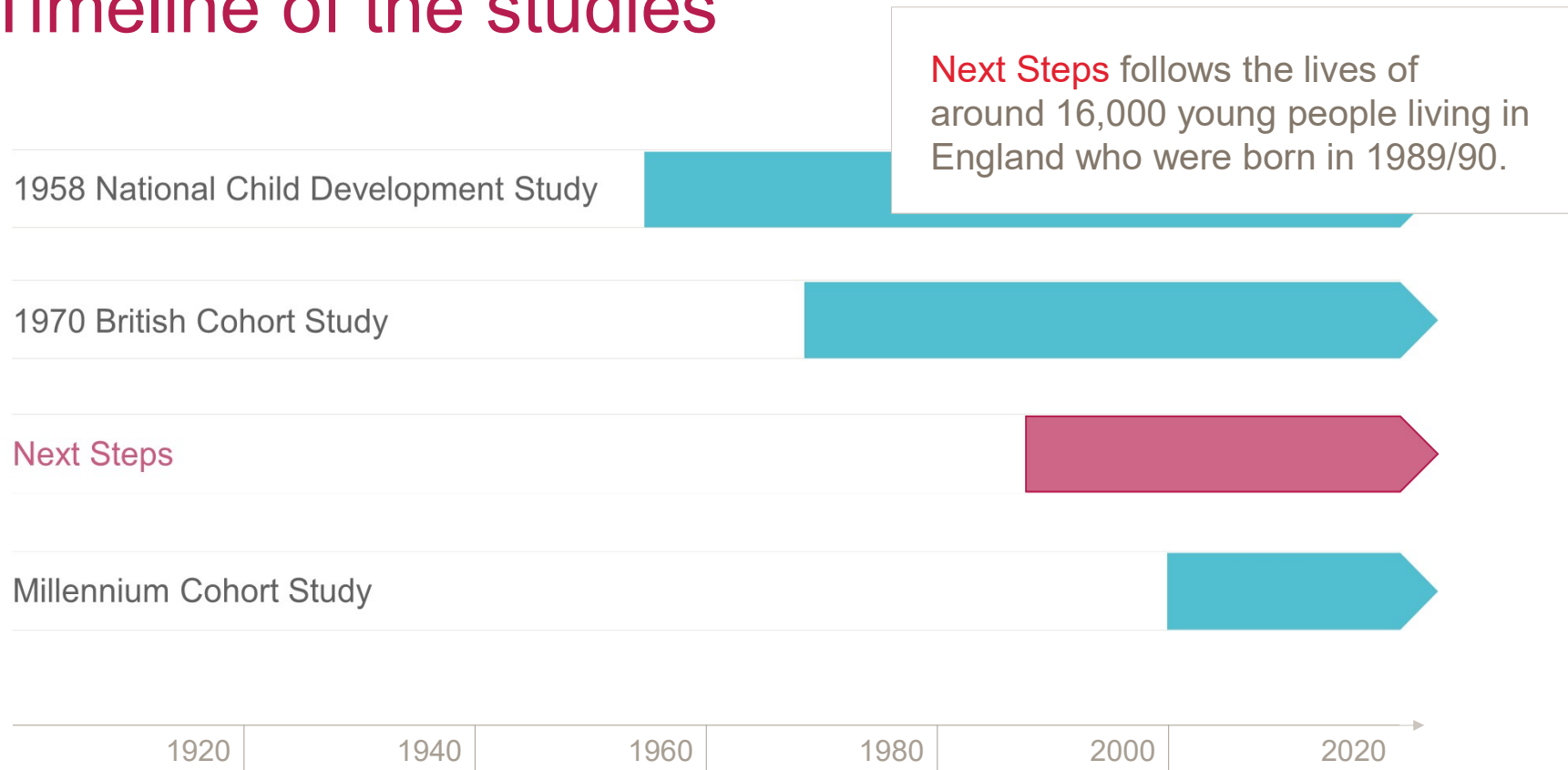
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Timeline of the studies



Timeline of the studies

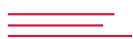


COVID-19 surveys

Wave	Dates	Context	Mode
Wave 1	May 2020	First national lockdown	Web
Wave 2	Sept/Oct 2020	Eased restrictions	Web
Wave 3	Feb/Mar 2021	Third national lockdown	Web → Telephone

Study	Age in 2020
MCS	19
Next Steps	30
BCS70	50
NCDS	62

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

Other CLS-Affiliated Studies

Early Life Cohort Feasibility Study

- A two-year ESRC funded project which started in April 2021 that will test the feasibility of a new UK-wide birth cohort study

Children of the 2020s Study

- A new nationally representative birth cohort study of babies in England which has been commissioned by the Department for Education (DfE)
- It will include babies born September - November 2021, and seeks to recruit over 8,500 families in mid 2022

COVID Social Mobility and Opportunities (COSMO) study

- The study began in 2021 with a representative sample of young people in Year 11 across England
- UKRI funded, led by researchers from the UCL Centre for Education Policy and Equalising Opportunities and the Sutton Trust, in collaboration with CLS



About Next Steps

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Important study following lives of 16,000 people born in England in 1989-1990

- Began in 2004 when study members were aged 13-14 and in Year 9
- Recruited through schools
- Surveyed annually until 2010 when they were aged 19/20 and then again at age 25
- About to go into the field for age 32 data collection















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Background of Next Steps

- Previously run by the now Department for Education (DfE) - strong focus on education to transitions out of education and into early adult life
- At age 25 we aimed to make it a multi-disciplinary research resource with more similarities with the other CLS cohorts (MCS, BCS70, NCDS).
- Transitions to adulthood
 - time of change in young people's lives: 'big decisions' about careers, families, housing, and impact on health
 - at age 32, careers are more established, family formation underway for many, opportunities to examine health and wellbeing

Next Steps A study of people born in 1989/90

	 2004 Age 14	 2005 Age 15	 2006 Age 16	 2007 Age 17	 2008 Age 18	 2009 Age 19	 2010 Age 20		 2015 Age 25	 2022 Age 32
 main respondent	Study member	Study member	Study member	Study member	Study member	Study member	Study member		Study member	Study member
 Parent response	Parents	Parents	Parents	Parents						
 Linked data	National Pupil Database		National Pupil Database						Linkage consents sought	Linkage consents sought
 sample	15,770	13,539	12,439	11,801	10,430	9,799	8,682		7,707	-
 response rate	74%	86%	92%	92%	89%	87%	90%		51%	-



Examples of research using Next Steps

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Schools

England state school pupils as happy with life as private school peers - survey

UCL research finds few differences in mental health or life satisfaction in two groups surveyed as teenagers and in their 20s

Richard Adams,
Education editor

Thu 7 Apr 2022 06.01
BST



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[Family & Education](#) | [Young Reporter](#)

First-in-family female graduates earn less - study

By Hannah Richardson
BBC News education reporter

15 December 2021



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troops surrender

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Features



NEXT STEPS

LEARNING FROM YOUR GENERATION



SEARCH

ABOUT

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SURVEYS

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

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BACK TO NEWS LISTING

BEING ON A ZERO-HOURS CONTRACT IS BAD FOR YOUR HEALTH, NEW STUDY REVEALS

03/10/2017

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Young adults who are employed on zero-hours contracts are less likely to report feeling healthy, compared to those in more secure employment.

Researchers from the Centre for Longitudinal Studies at UCL analysed information on more than 7,700 members of Next Steps. They discovered that those of you on zero-hours contracts were at greater risk of reporting symptoms of mental ill health. The report showed that shift workers were



Poor mental health in lockdown most common among young women

NEWS

7 August 2020

Young women are the most likely to have experienced high levels of depression, anxiety and loneliness in lockdown, compared to older adults, according to new research from the [UCL Centre for Longitudinal Studies \(CLS\)](#).

The study, published today as a [briefing paper](#), also found that young women (aged 30) have shown the biggest increase in mental health problems since they were





Data, by theme

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Themes

- Education
- Physical health
- Mental health
- Family and relationships
- Earnings and income

...but there are many more

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Education

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Educational attainment

- Key stage 2, 3, GCSE and A level (National Pupil Database: secure access)
- Study intentions (14, 15, 16, 17)
- Further education (Individual Learning Record: secure access)
- Higher education
 - Degree subject (20, 25)
 - University type (20, 25)
 - University name (20, 25)
 - Degree grade (20, 25)



Physical Health

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Physical Health in Next Steps

- Self assessed general health (25)
- BMI, Height, Weight (25)
- Hospital Episodes Statistics (England, linked)
- Physical activity (20,25)
- Diet (25)
- Long standing illness (14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 25)
- Drugs and alcohol consumption (14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 25)

COVID-19 Sweeps

- Covid antibody test
- Long COVID (W3)
- Symptoms (W1, W2)
- Testing (W1, W2)
- COVID presence (W1, W2, W3)
- Self-assessed general health (W1, W2, W3)
- Long-standing health conditions (W1, W2, W3)
- Disruption to medical appointments (W1, W2, W3)
- Difficulty obtaining medication (W2, W3)
- Defined as vulnerable (W1, W2, W3)

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Mental health

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GHQ-12

- General Health Questionnaire-12, measured at ages 14, 16, and 25
- Standardised tool for measuring presence of symptoms of mental ill health
- Twelve items which capture, for example:
 - Anxiety
 - Trouble sleeping due to worry
 - Feeling under strain
 - Able to concentrate
 - Losing confidence in yourself
 -
- Life satisfaction, a cognitive appraisal of life, measured at age 20 & 25

COVID-19 sweeps (W1-W3)

- **Patient Health Questionnaire-2 (PHQ-2):**
Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?
 - Little interest or pleasure in doing things
 - Feeling down, depressed or hopeless
- **Generalised-Anxiety Disorder (GAD-2)**
Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?
 - Feeling nervous, anxious or on edge
 - Not being able to stop or control worrying
 - Not at all – Nearly every day
- **Overall life satisfaction**
- **GHQ-12**



Family and Relationships

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Family and relationships

- Who is in the household
- Relationship to cohort member
- Age/number of siblings
- Biological, step, adoptive parents
- Age of parents when the cohort member was born
- Fertility intentions (25)
- Pregnancy history (25)
- Partnership formation, cohabitation, marriage, divorce, dissolution, formation (25)



Earnings and income

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Earnings and income

Age 25

- Earnings from work
- Income (investments, income support, benefits etc)
- Occupation
- Social mobility (generational information)
- Debt

Linked data

- Student Loans Company



How to search these resources

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SEARCH Closer Discovery

About

Search

Explore


Lists 0

Item Type


- ☐ Studies (0)
- ☐ Sweeps (0)
- ☐ Datasets (0)
- ☒ Variables (-2,282)
- ☐ Questionnaires (0)
- ☒ Questions (-185)

More...

Help



Explore the content of UK longitudinal studies



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Sort by: Relevance

Item types: Variables, Questions
Query: in care

Results 1 to 50 of 2,467 (0.12 seconds)

qi_85

Has ... ever been in the care of a voluntary society?

Yes - in care now

Study: [National Child Development Study](#) / Sweep: [Age 33 Survey \(1991\)](#) / Questionnaire: [NCDS Age 33 Medical Interview](#)

qi_A9_e

Reason(s) why in care

Study: [1970 British Cohort Study](#) / Sweep: [Age 10 Survey \(1980\)](#) / Questionnaire: [BCS70 Age 10 Parental Interview](#)

Alternative methods for searching

- Or questionnaires (UK Data Service or [CLS website](#): Our Studies; Sweeps; Documentation; Questionnaires)
- Or download the actual datasets and search the variables ([UK Data Service](#))
- Descriptions of variables in published papers



Linked data

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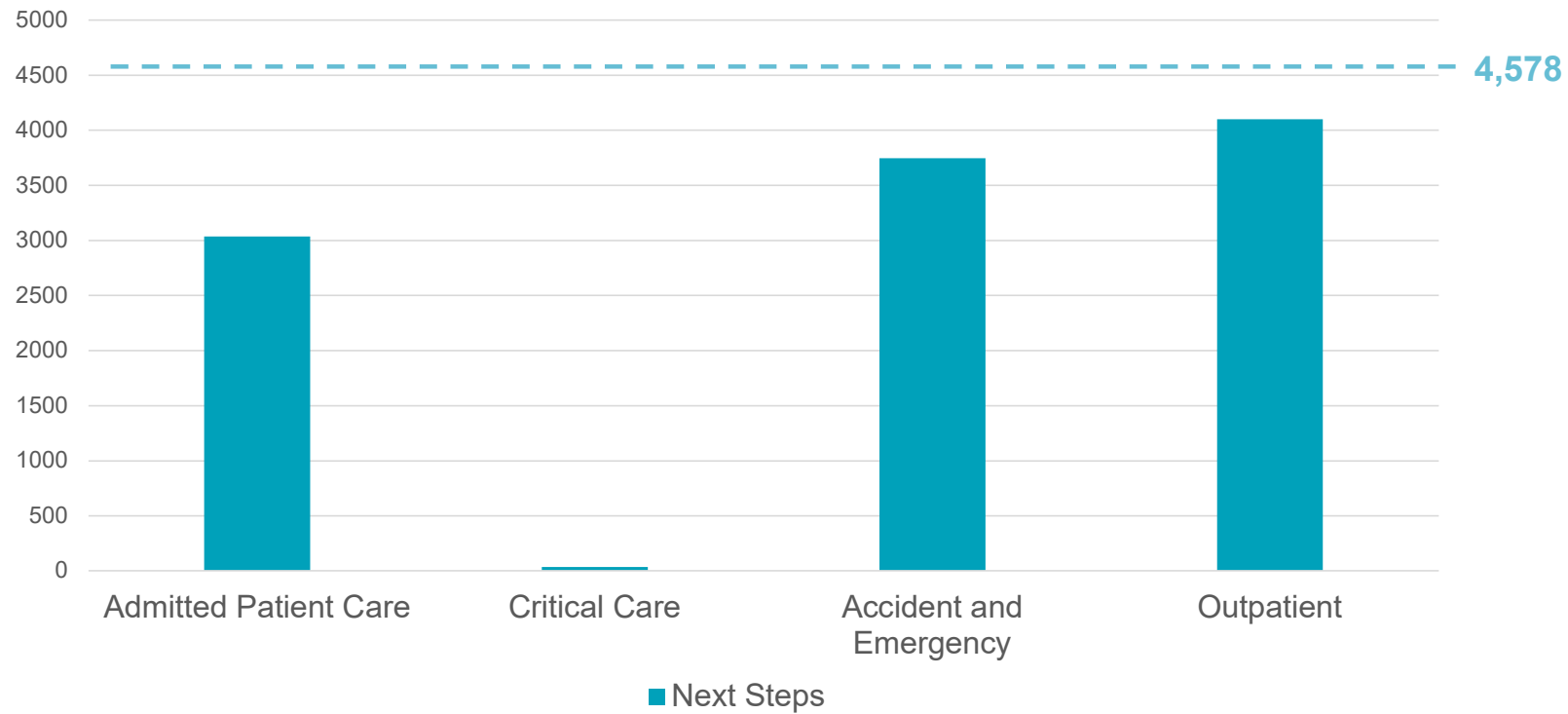
Currently available linked data (secure)

- National Pupil Database
- Individualised Learner Records (ILR)
- Student Loans Company Records
- Geographic identifiers (age 25: plans to prepare longitudinal geo data files)
- Hospital Episode Statistics (HES)

HES – Linkage

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Number of cohort members represented in each HES dataset





Sample design and attrition

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Study design: sampling and design weights



- Next Steps is representative of students in secondary schools in England in 2004 (born between 1st September 1989 and 31st August 1990)
- Two stage sampling design for maintained schools
 - [Stage 1: schools](#)
 - Deprived schools oversampled by a factor of 1.5
 - [Stage 2: pupils within schools](#)
 - Pupils from minority ethnic groups were oversampled
 - In addition, there was an ethnic boost sample (600 young people) at wave 4
- Independent and referral units sampled differently

For more information on sample design: [SN 5545 - Longitudinal Study of Young People in England - User Guide \(ukdataservice.ac.uk\)](#)

Study design: sampling and design weights



- Design weights are available in the data to adjust for sampling structure
- And enable the use multi-level modelling or cluster the standard errors by school
 - Primary sampling unit ([SampPSU](#))
 - Strata ([SampStratum](#))

Attrition

- Attrition is the discontinued participation of some individuals in a longitudinal survey for reasons that are unknown and/or beyond the control of the researcher
- Unit non response (attrition) and item non-response (missing data)
- Types of unit non-response:
 - Non-contact
 - Refusal
 - Inability
- Non-response on the increase in all surveys
- Non-response may not be permanent
- Non-response/attrition can have some important implications

Design and attrition weights

- Design weights: adjust the sample composition to take account of over-sampling
- Attrition weights: adjust the sample composition to take account of the loss of particular type of respondents.
- Adjustment means giving more importance (weight) to a particular group.
- Each sweep has an overall weight = Design Wgt x Attrition Wgt

Next Steps non-response weights

Variable name	Variable label
W8FINWT	Weight: W8 Final Weight

Overall weights
=

Design weights x
Attrition weights

Weights are prefixed by
wave number e.g. W1,
W2, W3...

Choosing the correct weight

- The choice of the weight depends on the analysis you are doing
- The weight should correspond to the most recent wave of data you are using
- For instance, if you are using data from waves 1,2, 5 and 8, the wave 8 weights should be used.
- `svyset [pweight=w8finwt], psu(SampPSU) strata (SampStratum)`



Resources and data Access

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Next Steps: <https://cls.ucl.ac.uk/cls-studies/next-steps/>

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COVID-19

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▶ Our research

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Next Steps

On this page: [Introduction publications](#) [Sweeps](#) [COVID-19 survey and data](#) [Latest from Next Steps](#) [Age 25 initial findings](#) [Recent publications](#) [Study features](#) [Popular documentation](#) [Data access](#) [Principal Investigator](#) [More related content](#)



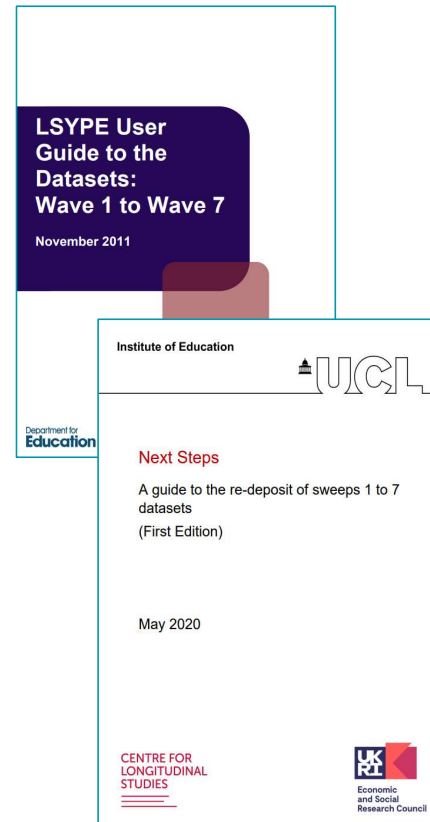
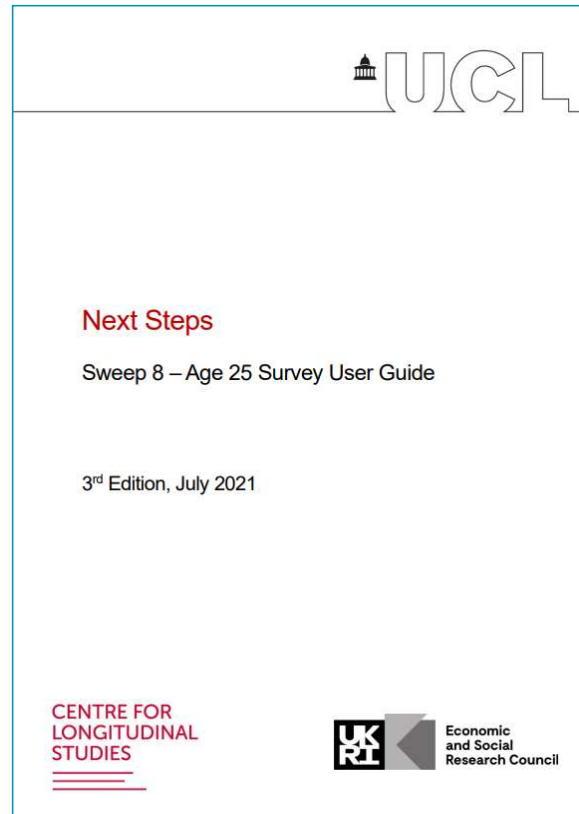
**NEXT
STEPS**
CLIPPING FROM THE LITERATURE

Next Steps, previously known as the Longitudinal Study of Young People in England (LSYPE), follows the lives of around 16,000 people in England born in 1989-90.

[+ more](#)

Next Steps: <https://cls.ucl.ac.uk/cls-studies/next-steps/>

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Available resources



- User guides
 - Overview of measures; Response and weights
- Questionnaires
 - Exact question wording; Questionnaire routing; Variable names
- Data documentation
 - Data notes; Coding frames; Variables lists, including derived variables
- Technical reports
 - Sample and questionnaire design, development
 - Fieldwork, response, ethics
 - Coding, editing
- Data dictionaries
- Previous journal publications <https://cls.ucl.ac.uk/publications-and-resources/>

Available Resources: UK Data Service

Details	Documentation	Resources	Access data
Documentation			
Title	File name	Size (MB)	
Age 25 Survey Questionnaire	age_25_survey_questionnaire.pdf	0.94	
Age 25 Survey Technical Report	age_25_technical_report.pdf	2.23	
Age 25 Survey User Guide, 3rd Edition, July 2021	nextsteps_age25_survey_user_guide_v3.pdf	0.45	
Age 25 Survey: Appendix A: participant and interviewer survey documents	age_25_appendix_a.pdf	15.19	
Age 25 Survey: Appendix B: additional survey documentation	age_25_appendix_b.pdf	4.92	
Age 25 Survey: Derived Variables	age_25_survey_derived_variables.pdf	0.22	
LSYPE User Guide to the Datasets: Wave One to Wave Seven	lsype_user_guide_wave_1_to_wave_7.pdf	1.43	
Next Steps Continuous Weekly Income User Note, July 2021	next_steps_continuous_income_note_july_2021.pdf	0.11	
Next Steps: A Guide to the Re-Deposit of Sweeps 1 to 7 Datasets, (First Edition), May 2020	next_steps_userguide_to_the_redeposit_of_sweeps_1to7_may2020.pdf	0.4	
Notification of Change of Serial Numbers, May 2017	notification_of_change_of_serial_numbers_next_steps_may2017.pdf	0.15	
Removing NPD data information	removing_data_where_respondents_dropped_out.pdf	0.25	
UK Data Archive Citation File for Study 5545	UKDA_Study_5545_Information.htm	0	

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Available Resources: UK Data Service

COVID-19 Survey in Five National Longitudinal Cohort Studies:
Millennium Cohort Study, Next Steps, 1970 British Cohort Study
and 1958 National Child Development Study, 2020-2021

[Details](#)
[Documentation](#)
[Resources](#)
[Access data](#)

Documentation

Title	File name	Size (MB)
UCL Cohorts: COVID-19 Data Variable Catalogue	covid-19_w1-3_variable_lookup.xlsx	0.05
UCL Cohorts: COVID-19 Survey Technical Report	ucl_cohorts_covid-19_survey_technical_report.pdf	0.86
UCL Cohorts: COVID-19 Survey User Guide	ucl_cohorts_covid-19_survey_user_guide.pdf	1.26
UCL Cohorts: COVID-19 Wave 1 Survey Questionnaire	covid-19_online_survey_questionnaire_wave_1_april_2020.pdf	0.49
UCL Cohorts: COVID-19 Wave 2 Survey Questionnaire	covid-19_online_survey_questionnaire_wave_2_september_2020.pdf	0.62
UCL Cohorts: COVID-19 Wave 3 Survey Questionnaire	covid-19_online_survey_questionnaire_wave_3_february_2021.pdf	0.95
UK Data Archive Citation File for Study 8658	UKDA_Study_8658_Information.htm	0
UK Data Archive Data Dictionaries	ukda_data_dictionaries.zip	0.23
UK Data Archive ReadMe File for Study 8658	read8658.htm	0

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Available Resources: UK Data Service

Next Steps: Sweep 8, 2016: Geographical Identifiers, 2011 Census
Boundaries: Secure Access

[Details](#)
[Documentation](#)
[Resources](#)
[Access data](#)

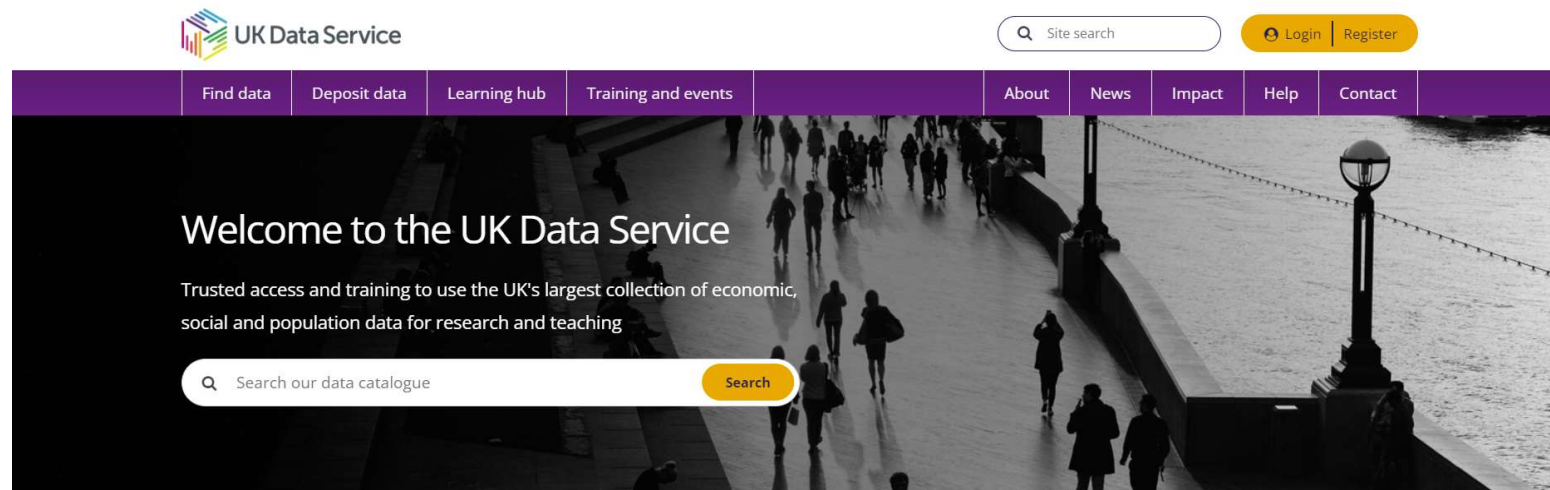
Documentation

Title ▲	File name ⇅	Size (MB) ⇅
Guide to Geographical Identifiers 2017	next_steps_geographical_identifiers_2017v2.pdf	0.12
Notification of Change of Serial Numbers	notification_of_change_of_serial_numbers_next_steps_may2017.pdf	0.15
UK Data Archive Citation File for Study 8190	UKDA_Study_8190_Information.htm	0
UK Data Archive Data Dictionary	8190_codebook.xls	0.04
UKDA Information for Study 8190	read8190.htm	0

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Data freely available to researchers, government analysts and third sector workers: <https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/>



Key services



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Access to different types of data



Access to data held by the UK Data Service varies depending on how the data is classified:

Tier 1: [End User Licence \(EUL\)](#) for access to data with a low level of sensitivity and disclosivity.

- Most of our data are available under this licence.
- Your application is authorised directly by the UK Data Service, and you can download the data directly from there.

Tier 2a: [Special Licence \(SL\)](#) for access to moderately sensitive or disclosive data. Access through the UK Data Service and application approved by CLS before you can download the data.

Tier 2b: [Secure Access Licence \(SA\)](#) for access to the most sensitive and/or potentially disclosive data. Access through the UK Data Service and attend a specialised training course.

<https://cls.ucl.ac.uk/data-access-training/data-access/>

Next Steps data

<http://discover.ukdataservice.ac.uk/series/?sn=2000030>

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Access data

GN 33369

Next Steps - Survey Data

SN	Study description	Explore online	Select
8656	Next Steps: Sweeps 1-8, 2004-2016: Secure Access		Login
5545	Next Steps: Sweeps 1-8, 2004-2016		Login

GN 33453

Next Steps - Linked Administrative Data

SN	Study description	Explore online	Select
8848	Next Steps: Linked Administrative Datasets (Student Loans Company Records), 2007 - 2021: Secure Access		Login
8681	Next Steps: Linked Health Administrative Datasets (Hospital Episode Statistics), England, 1997-2017: Secure Access		Login
8577	Next Steps: Linked Education Dataset (Individualised Learner Records), England, 2005 - 2014: Secure Access		Login
7104	Next Steps: Linked Education Administrative Datasets (National Pupil Database), England, 2005-2009: Secure Access		Login

GN 33560

Next Steps - Linked Geographical Data

SN	Study description	Explore online	Select
8190	Next Steps: Sweep 8, 2016: Geographical Identifiers, 2011 Census Boundaries: Secure Access		Login
8189	Next Steps: Sweeps 1 and 8, 2001 and 2016: Geographical Identifiers, 2001 Census Boundaries: Secure Access		Login

GN 33559

COVID-19 Survey in Five National Longitudinal Cohort Studies

SN	Study description	Explore online	Select
8823	COVID-19 Antibody Testing in the National Child Development Study, 1970 British Cohort Study, Next Steps and Millennium Cohort Study, 2021		Login
8732	COVID-19 Survey in Five National Longitudinal Cohort Studies: MRC National Survey of Health and Development, 2020-2021: Special Licence Access		Login
8658	COVID-19 Survey in Five National Longitudinal Cohort Studies: Millennium Cohort Study, Next Steps, 1970 British Cohort Study and 1958 National Child Development Study, 2020-2021		Login

Accessing the data

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- Register and set up an account at the UK Data Service
- Search for the data using the 'find data' tab
 - Next Steps
- Before downloading the data
 - Click on 'Request Access'
 - Click on 'Complete Actions'
 - Agree to standard 'End User Licence'
 - Read and agree extra conditions
 - Choose data format and download zip file
 - SPSS
 - STATA
 - TAB (tab-delimited file)



Age 32 Survey Contents

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Age 32 Survey Contents

- Family and relationships, and housing
- Employment and finances
- Education
- Health and wellbeing, and working memory capacity
- Identity and attitudes, and personality
- Childhood circumstances and other life events
- Partner information: including education, employment and income

Age 32 Survey Contents

- Seeking permission:
 - to link to information from routine administrative records (if not previously given)
 - from cohabiting partners to link to routine administrative records
 - to collect a saliva sample for genetic research
- Data available early 2024
- The planned next sweep: age 39