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# 1970 British Cohort Study

Ten-year Follow-Up

Audiogram Results

Brian Dodgeon

Peter Shepherd

User Guide to the Dataset

Spring 2014



Centre for Longitudinal Studies

Following lives from birth through the adult years

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Please contact the Centre for Longitudinal Studies.  
tel: +44 (0)20 7612 6875

email: [clsfeedback@ioe.ac.uk](mailto:clsfeedback@ioe.ac.uk)

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## 1. Introduction

**1.0.1** This document provides a brief guide to the Audiogram data obtained for 14,903 subjects of the 1970 British Cohort Study (BCS70) during the 10-year follow-up in 1980. The data supplement those already available for the 10-year follow-up from the UK Data Service (<http://www.ukdataservice.ac.uk>) – see :SN: 3723 (<http://discover.ukdataservice.ac.uk/catalogue/?sn=3723&type=Data%20catalogue>). Before using these data you are strongly advised to consult the main documentation for the 1980 survey and that for BCS70 as a whole available via the Archive and from the CLS website (<http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/bcs70>).

### 1.1 1970 British Cohort Study

BCS70 is a continuing, national longitudinal study which began when data were collected about the births of 17,198 babies in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland in one week in April 1970. Since the birth survey there have been eight other major data collection exercises designed to monitor their health, education, social and economic circumstances of the members of this birth cohort living in GB (England, Scotland and Wales). These were carried out in 1975 (age 5), 1980 (age 10), 1986 (age 16), 1996 (age 26), 2000 (age 30), 2004 (age 34), 2008 (age 38) and 2012 (age 42). Sub-samples have also been studied at various ages: for example at age 21, a 10 per cent representative sample was assessed for basic skills difficulties.

From its original focus on the circumstances and outcomes of birth, BCS70 has broadened in scope to map all aspects of health, education and social development of their subjects as they passed through childhood and adolescence. In later sweeps, the information collected has covered their transitions into adult life, including leaving full-time education, entering the labour market, setting up independent homes, forming partnerships and becoming parents.

### 1.2 BCS70 1980 Follow-up

The 1980 follow-up, like its 5-year predecessor, was originally titled the Child Health and Education Study (CHES); but in 1991, following a significant change in the administration of the study, the whole project was renamed the British Cohort Study 1970 (BCS70) and the ten-year sweep became known as the BCS70 Ten-year Follow-up.

This 1980 sweep made use of fifteen separate survey documents, comprising manuals, assessments, self-completion questionnaires, interview schedules, and a medical examination record. These documents are reproduced and explained in the Guide to the BCS70 10-year Dataset, which can be downloaded from the CLS website (<http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/bcs70>).

Most of the data gathered during this survey is already available via the UK Data Service.

## 2. Health Pack

**2.0.1** The BCS70 Ten-year Follow-up contained a ‘Health Pack’ consisting of three elements: a Parental Interview Form, a Medical Examination Form, and the Maternal Self-Completion Form. In the course of the fieldwork these were normally issued to a local health visitor (HV) or community medical officer (CMO). The HV visited the parents at home to complete the Parental Interview Form with them and leave the Maternal Self-Completion, at the same time making an appointment for the child to attend for a Medical Examination and Audiometry. This would be conducted by the CMO, either at a child health clinic or at school.

## **2.1 Parental Interview Form**

The Parental Interview Form sought information on the child's health and home background, social experience, hospital admissions, accidents and a number of factors concerning the health, environment and experiences of the child and the family.

## **2.2 Medical Examination Form**

The Medical Examination Form was completed by the CMO and School Nurse. There were three sections. The first ('School Health') included enquiries about the child's use of health services; school medical examinations; screening tests (including past audiometry tests since the age of 4); past and present disabilities and handicaps; and any provision made for special education. The second part ('The Medical Examination') consisted of the history and details of the child's past and present illnesses; tests of near and distant vision; assessments of hearing and speech; and the administration of several motor co-ordination tests, as well as the findings of a systematic medical examination. Also, an assessment was made by a medical officer of current and future medical needs. The third section consisted of an Audiogram Test, the results of which are contained in the dataset to which this guide relates.

## **2.3 Maternal Self-Completion Form**

The Maternal Self-Completion Form contained questions about the child's health and behaviour, their activities at home and school, their life skills, and the mother's own health.

## **3. The 10-year Medical Examination: recording past audiograms and testing current hearing**

Of the three survey instruments in the 10-year Health Pack, the Medical Examination Form is of the most relevance to this dataset. Besides its third section to which this guide principally relates, questions were asked in the 'School Health' section to ascertain comprehensive details (from medical records if necessary) of audiometry tests performed since the age of 4. These details appear in the existing 10-year dataset available via the UK Data Service – see variables mea4.1 to mea4.9, mea9.1 and mea9.2.

A reproduction of the whole 1980 Medical Examination Form has long been available from the CLS website and UK Data Service, but the specific page relating to the sweep audiometry and/or pure-tone audiometry tests is reproduced in Appendix 2. That appendix also reproduces the pages from the 'School Health' section mentioned above (i.e. variables mea4.1 - mea9.2).

### **3.1 Conducting the Audiogram Test**

As can be seen from the final page of Appendix 2, the person conducting the audiogram test was instructed to perform either sweep audiometry or pure-tone audiometry, or preferably the first followed by the second.

The combined results of the sweep audiometry test and pure-tone test are stored in the Audiogram data set in variable ncdkid, with separate results for each ear in variables a103a and a105a. As can be seen from the frequency counts in Appendix 1, most children passed the sweep in both ears, so for most of these a pure-tone audiometry test was not deemed necessary to detect the specific abnormal frequencies (see cross-tabulations in Appendix 3). However, a small number of those deemed to have passed the sweep still had a pure-tone test as well, either in one or both ears; conversely, some who were deemed to have small abnormalities in the sweep test were found to have no abnormal frequencies in the pure-tone test.

For those who undertook a pure-tone audiometry test to detect specific abnormal frequencies, the results are stored in variables rcount, lcount, rtotloss and ltotloss. A code of -1 for rcount and/or lcount indicates no pure-tone audiometry test was done on either ear, whereas a code of 0 indicates that specific ear was not pure-tone tested, while the other was.

#### **4. Why were the audiogram results deposited so much later than the rest of the BCS70 10-year data?**

As noted in paragraph 1.2, the administration of the 1970 birth cohort was transferred to the Centre for Longitudinal Studies (formerly the Social Statistics Research Unit, City University) in 1991, and it was renamed BCS70. It had previously been housed at the International Centre for Child Studies based in Bristol, and before this at the University of Bristol.

Following the transfer of the cohort data from the University of Bristol, it was found that the data for the sweeps up to and including age 16 were not stored and documented in a systematic way, and certain elements appeared to be missing. One such element was the dataset containing the 10-year audiogram results, which did not come to light until an exercise to clear archived files off the historic mainframe servers, into a Windows environment.

There was therefore a long and very regrettable delay before these data became available, but CLS is now pleased to be able to disseminate these results for the benefit of the research community, providing comparability between the audiometry results for this cohort at age 10 and the earlier 1958 cohort at age 11 (NCDS variables n1625-n1668): <http://discover.ukdataservice.ac.uk/catalogue/?sn=5565&type=Data%20catalogue>

#### **5. Further Information**

BUTLER, N.R, GOLDING, J, HASLUM, M and STEWART-BROWN, S. (1982) Recent findings from the 1980 Child Health and Education Study (Section of epidemiology and community medicine meeting held 11 February 1982). *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*, 75(10), 781-784.

BENNETT, K.E and HAGGARD, M.P. (1998) Accumulation of factors influencing children's middle ear disease: risk factor modelling on a large population cohort. *Journal Of Epidemiology & Community Health*, 52(12), 786-793.

ELLIOTT, J and SHEPHERD, P. (2006) Cohort Profile: 1970 British Birth Cohort (BCS70). *International Journal of Epidemiology*, 35(4), 836-843.

MONTGOMERY, S.M, OSIKA, W, BRUS, O and BARTLEY, M. (2010) Sex differences in childhood hearing impairment and adult obesity. *Longitudinal and Life Course Studies*, 1(4), 359-370.

**Appendix 1 Variables on the Dataset**

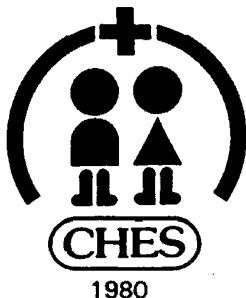
Variable name	Variable description	Category value labels	Selected Frqs
Bcsid	BCS70 individual case identifier	(each case unique)	
Ncdkid	Summary of audiogram results	1 Minimal loss both ears 2 Moderate loss both ears 3 Severe loss both ears 4 Moderate and severe 5 Minimal and severe 6 Minimal and moderate 7 Sweep audio 1 or both ears abnormal; no pure-tone test 8 Passed sweep audiogram both ears -2 Sweep audio not stated or not tested; no pure-tone test -4 No audiometry test performed at all	618 63 15 27 52 271 213 8363 3263 2018
a103a	Sweep Right Ear – Expanded Categories	0 Not stated if sweep audio done, No pure-tone test 1 Normal on sweep audio, No pure-tone test 2 Abnormal on sweep audio, pure-tone test done 3 Ear not tested on sweep nor pure-tone 4 Normal on sweep audio, pure-tone test done 5 Abnormal on sweep audio, no pure-tone test done 6 Not stated if sweep audio done, pure-tone test done 7 Ear not tested on sweep audio, but pure-tone test done -1 Not stated/no audiogram	19 8397 334 1 160 152 554 5 5281
a105a	Sweep Left Ear – Expanded Categories	0 Not stated if sweep audio done, No pure-tone test 1 Normal on sweep audio, No pure-tone test 2 Abnormal on sweep audio, pure-tone test done 3 Ear not tested on sweep nor pure-tone 4 Normal on sweep audio, pure-tone test done 5 Abnormal on sweep audio, no pure-tone test done 6 Not stated if sweep audio done, pure-tone test done 7 Ear not tested on sweep audio, but pure-tone test done -1 Not stated/no audiogram	17 8369 338 0 161 163 569 5 5281
rtotloss	Total Right Freqs Lost(Needs RCOUNT)	-1 (no test on R. Ear), 0-770	
rcount	No of Right Freqs Performed	-1 (no test on either ear), 0-12	
ltotloss	Total Left Freqs Lost(Needs LCOUNT)	-1 (no test on L.Ear), 0-740	
lcount	No of Left Freqs Performed	-1 (no test on either ear),0-12	

**Appendix 2 Medical Examination Form (relevant pages)**



# CHILD HEALTH AND EDUCATION STUDY

A national study in England, Wales and Scotland of all children born 5th - 11th April 1970.  
Under the auspices of the University of Bristol and the National Birthday Trust



Director:  
Professor Neville R. Butler,  
MD, FRCP, FRCOG, DCH

Department of Child Health Research Unit  
University of Bristol  
Bristol  
Bristol (0272) 24920  
BS2 8BH

## MEDICAL EXAMINATION FORM

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

Child's Surname .....

Child's Forenames ..... Sex: M  F

Child's Home Address .....

Date of Birth 

		0	4	7	0
<small>day</small>		<small>month</small>		<small>year</small>	

Health District..... Today's Date 

--	--	--	--	--	--

Name of Examining Medical Officer ..... CODE ..... Status: e.g. SCMO, CMO, etc. ... *S.T.A.T.U.S.*

### INTRODUCTORY NOTES

First, may we take this opportunity to thank you for carrying out this examination on behalf of the Child Health and Education Study.

For your assistance, a short instruction booklet is provided with this examination form. This includes an outline of the historical background of the Study, a near-vision test sheet and some procedural details.

**You will need the following equipment for the medical examination:**

PROCEDURE:	EQUIPMENT RECOMMENDED:
<i>Height</i>	Steel/wooden measuring rod or steel tape measure. If not available, stadiometer on back of weighing machine.
<i>Weight</i>	Beam balance, or other weighing apparatus.
<i>Head Circumference</i>	Paper or plastic-covered tape measure.
<i>Distant Vision</i>	Standard Snellen Chart (or equivalent).
<i>Near Vision</i>	Near Vision card of Sheridan-Gardiner type, reproduced in instruction booklet, by kind permission of the author.
<i>Blood Pressure</i>	Mercury sphygmomanometer: the bladder within the cuff should be deep enough to cover about two-thirds of the length of upper arm and long enough to circle the arm completely. A cuff depth of at least 4 ins. is advisable. An adult-size cuff is acceptable.
<i>Motor Co-ordination Tests</i>	Tennis or rubber ball; a piece of chalk; stop-watch or a watch with second hand; 2 standard match boxes, one of which contains 20 safety matches.
<i>Audiogram</i>	Audiometer for sweep audiogram. The audiogram form is on the back page of this form, so that it can be detached for completion at a separate attendance, if more convenient.

**In addition, access to all the following will be needed for completion of medical examination form.**

<i>Health Records etc.</i>	School medical record card(s); any available screening records, assessment results, hospital reports, etc.; health file on any children with handicap or disability; SE2/3 Forms or equivalent on children ascertained for special education.
<i>Completed Parental Interview Form for this child</i>	This contains medical history.

**NOTE: IF ONE OR MORE OF THE ABOVE ITEMS ARE NOT AVAILABLE PLEASE COMPLETE THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.**

# SCHOOL HEALTH

Please complete this section first from Records. Please then check each answer from all other available sources e.g., own knowledge, Parental Interview Form, and parent if present, and enter any further details in space marked 'Extra information, state source(s)', beneath each answer. See instruction booklet.

## A1. Is the school medical record (Form 10M or equivalent) available?

Yes MEA1   
 No

## A2. Are any other child health records available to you?

Yes MEA2.1  If Yes, please specify MEA2.2  
 No  MEA2.3  
MEA2.4  
MEA2.5  
MEA2.6  
MEA2.7

## A3. Has this child ever had a school medical examination?

Complete first from records, then enter details from other sources in space marked 'extra information'.

Yes MEA3.1  If Yes, give age(s) when examination(s) were done MEA3.2 - MEA3.7  
 No  If No, did the child have a pre-school medical examination in the 12 months before entering school?  
 Not known  Yes MEA3.8   
 No   
 Not known

Extra information, state source(s) MEA3.9

If abnormal findings recorded, please enter in question A7.

## A4. Please indicate age(s) at which screening tests had been carried out since 4th birthday?

Complete first from records, then enter details from other sources in space marked 'extra information'.

Tick all that apply in each row.	Not carried out	4 yr	5 yr	6 yr	7 yr	8 yr	9 yr	Since age 4, but age not known	Not known if test carried out
	(a) Audiogram	<input type="checkbox"/> MEA4.1	<input type="checkbox"/> MEA4.2	<input type="checkbox"/> MEA4.3	<input type="checkbox"/> MEA4.4	<input type="checkbox"/> MEA4.5	<input type="checkbox"/> MEA4.6	<input type="checkbox"/> MEA4.7	<input type="checkbox"/> MEA4.8
(b) Test for distant vision	<input type="checkbox"/> MEA4.10	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.11	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.12	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.13	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.14	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.15	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.16	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.17	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.18
(c) Test for near vision	<input type="checkbox"/> MEA4.19	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.20	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.21	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.22	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.23	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.24	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.25	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.26	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.27
(d) Other screening test(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> MEA4.28	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.29	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.30	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.31	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.32	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.33	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.34	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.35	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.36

If any other screening test(s) carried out since 4th birthday, please describe and give age(s).

MEA4.37, MEA4.38, MEA4.39

Extra information, state source(s) MEA4.40

If abnormal findings recorded, please enter in question A7.

## A5. Has colour vision ever been tested?

Yes MEA5.1  If Yes, what was the outcome?  
 No  colour vision normal MEA5.2   
 Not known  red/green vision impaired MEA5.3   
 other colour loss MEA5.4   
 please describe MEA5.5  
MEA5.6

**A6. Is there any evidence that the child has ever had any emotional or behavioural problem?**

Complete first from records, then enter details from other sources in space marked 'extra information'.

Yes MEAG.1  If Yes, please describe and give age(s).....  
 No  MEAG.2A\*  
 Not known  MEAG.2B\*  
MEAG.3\*

Extra information, state source(s) MEAG.4

**A7. Is there any evidence that this child has now or has had in the past any significant illness, developmental problem, defect or handicap?**

Complete first from records, then enter details from other sources in space marked 'extra information'.

Yes MEAG.1  If Yes, please list conditions in chronological order of appearance on records starting with earliest illness, developmental problem or handicap diagnosed.  
 No   
 Insufficient information

	Diagnosis	Age first recorded
1.	<u>MEAG.2*</u> <u>MEAG.3A*</u> <u>MEAG.3B*</u>	<u>MEAG.4</u>
2.	<u>MEAG.5*</u> <u>MEAG.6*</u>	<u>MEAG.7</u>
3.	<u>MEAG.8*</u> <u>MEAG.9A*</u> <u>MEAG.9B*</u>	<u>MEAG.10</u>
4.	<u>MEAG.11*</u> <u>MEAG.12*</u>	<u>MEAG.13</u>
5.	<u>MEAG.14*</u> <u>MEAG.15A*</u> <u>MEAG.15B*</u>	<u>MEAG.16</u>
6.	<u>MEAG.17*</u> <u>MEAG.18*</u>	<u>MEAG.19</u>

Extra information, state source(s) MEAG.20

**A8. If child has any disability or handicap or is receiving special education, please summarise the major findings, clinical progress and present state. From records and all other sources.**

MEAG.1  
MEAG.2  
MEAG.3  
MEAG.4

Please continue on page 18 if necessary.

**A9. Is there any evidence that this child has ever attended any of the following?**

Complete first from records, then enter details from other sources in space marked 'extra information'.

	Yes	No	Not known	If Yes, please give reason for attendance(s) and give age(s)
(a) Hearing clinic or consultant audiologist <u>MEAG.1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>MEAG.2</u> <u>MEAG.3-6</u>
(b) Eye clinic or consultant ophthalmologist <u>MEAG.7</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>MEAG.8</u> <u>MEAG.9-12</u>
(c) Speech therapist <u>MEAG.13</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>MEAG.14</u> <u>MEAG.15-18</u>
(d) Occupational therapist <u>MEAG.19</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>MEAG.20</u> <u>MEAG.21-24</u>
(e) Physiotherapist <u>MEAG.25</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>MEAG.26</u> <u>MEAG.27-30</u>
(f) Child and Family Guidance Service <u>MEAG.31</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>MEAG.32</u> <u>MEAG.33-36</u>
(g) Other psychological or psychiatric opinion or treatment <u>MEAG.37</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>MEAG.38</u> <u>MEAG.39-42</u>

Extra information, state source(s) MEAG.43

# AUDIOGRAM

Child's Surname ..... Sex: M  F

Child's Forename(s) ..... Date of birth. .... /4/70

Child's Home Address .....

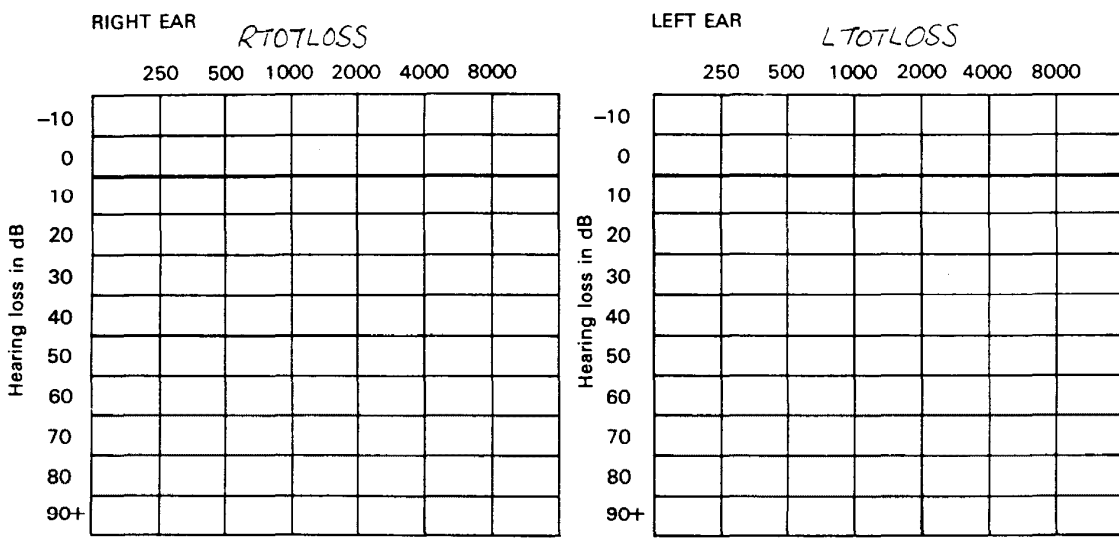
Please check the child's hearing by using either sweep audiometry or pure-tone audiometry, and record the results below.

(a) SWEEP AUDIOMETRY *Please tick one box in each row*

	Normal	Abnormal	*Could not be tested	Give reason
Right ear <i>A103A</i> .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	.....
Left ear <i>A105A</i> .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	.....

If you are satisfied that the child has abnormal, or possibly abnormal, hearing please undertake pure-tone audiometry and record the results below.

(b) PURE-TONE AUDIOMETRY  
If carried out, please record results below, for air conduction and bone conduction.



Please complete the details below for sweep audiometry, and for pure-tone audiometry if done.  
No. frequencies performed: *RCOUNT*, *LCOUNT*

Audiogram recorded at .....

Name of recorder ..... Date ... /... /80

Professional status .....

Make of audiometer ..... Level of sweep ..... dB's

Frequencies tested by sweep

\*If it is impossible to arrange for audiometry to be carried out for this survey, please enter date and result of most recent audiogram below, whether sweep or pure-tone.

Type of test .....

Result *NCDKID* .....

..... Date tested .....

### Appendix 3 Cross-tabulations of audiogram test variables

**Ncdkid Summary of audiogram results x a103a Sweep Right Ear - Expanded Categories**

	-1 Not stated/no audiogram	0 Not stated if sweep audio done, No pure-tone test	1 Normal on sweep audio, No pure-tone test	2 Ab-normal on sweep audio, pure-tone test done	3 Ear not tested on sweep nor pure-tone	4 Normal on sweep audio, pure-tone test done	5 Ab-normal on sweep audio, no pure-tone test done	6 Not stated if sweep audio done, pure-tone test done	7 Ear not tested on sweep audio, but pure-tone test done	<b>Total</b>
-4 No audiometry test performed at all	2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>2018</b>
7 1 or 2 abnormal ears on sweep audio, no pure-tone test	0	0	63	0	0	0	150	0	0	<b>213</b>
-2 Not stated or not tested on sweep audiogram, no pure-tone test	3263	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>3263</b>
8 Passed sweep audiogram both ears	0	0	8291	0	0	72	0	0	0	<b>8363</b>
1 Minimal loss both ears	0	15	27	159	1	42	1	368	5	<b>618</b>
2 Moderate loss both ears	0	0	0	36	0	0	0	27	0	<b>63</b>
3 Severe loss both ears	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	9	0	<b>15</b>
4 Moderate and severe	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	10	0	<b>27</b>
5 Minimal and severe	0	2	2	16	0	6	0	26	0	<b>52</b>
6 Minimal and moderate	0	2	14	100	0	40	1	114	0	<b>271</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5281</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>8397</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14903</b>

Ncdkid Summary of audiogram results x a105a Sweep Left Ear - Expanded Categories

	-1 Not stated/no audiogram	0 Not stated if sweep audio done, No pure-tone test	1 Normal on sweep audio, No pure-tone test	2 Abnormal on sweep audio, pure-tone test done	4 Normal on sweep audio, pure-tone test done	5 Abnormal on sweep audio, no pure-tone test done	6 Not stated if sweep audio done, pure-tone test done	7 Ear not tested on sweep audio, but pure-tone test done	Total
-4 No audiometry test performed at all	2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2018
7 1 or 2 abnormal ears on sweep audio, no pure-tone test	0	0	51	0	0	162	0	0	213
-2 Not stated or not tested on sweep audiogram, no pure-tone test	3263	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3263
8 Passed sweep audiogram both ears	0	0	8291	0	72	0	0	0	8363
1 Minimal loss both ears	0	15	14	155	48	1	380	5	618
2 Moderate loss both ears	0	0	0	36	0	0	27	0	63
3 Severe loss both ears	0	0	0	6	0	0	9	0	15
4 Moderate and severe	0	0	0	17	0	0	10	0	27
5 Minimal and severe	0	0	2	15	8	0	27	0	52
6 Minimal and moderate	0	2	11	109	33	0	116	0	271
Total	5281	17	8369	338	161	163	569	5	14903