

Longitudinal data across life: an introduction to cohort data, and its uses in social and health research

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CENTRE FOR
LONGITUDINAL
STUDIES

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Workshop background and scope

- Tremendous interest in cohort studies – powerful resources
 - Collaborative endeavours: research ↔ data
 - Engagement across country needed
- Today's scope:
 - Information on each study, updates (new data)
 - How to access/use them
 - Examples of their use
 - Throughout: inspiration, guidance/advice, suggestions
- Today's participants: range of experience using cohorts



What we do at CLS (ESRC funded)

- Run four major national longitudinal studies
 - Follow thousands of people across life
 - Collect extensive & rich data
- Provide free data to research community (UK Data Archive)
 - Documentation, guidance & training
- Conduct research
 - Multidisciplinary, substantive & methodological (survey and statistical)
 - CCRP - healthy lifestyles and social mobility 2015-2018
 - International collaborations & visits

Longitudinal cohort studies (CLOSER members)

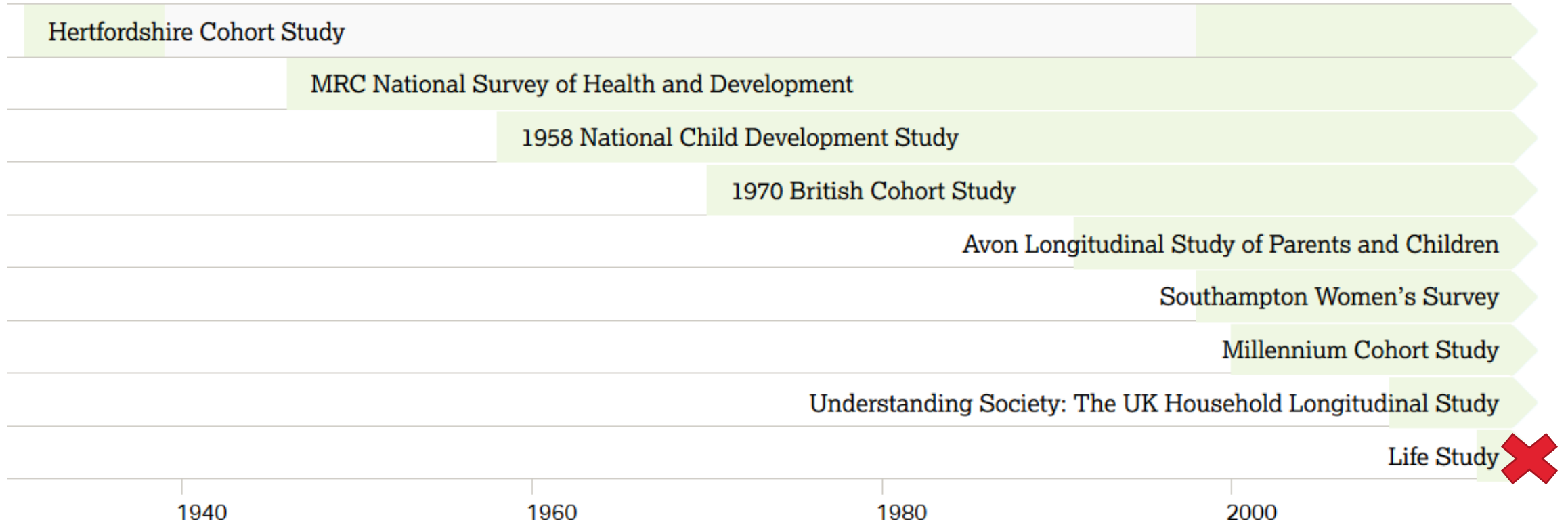
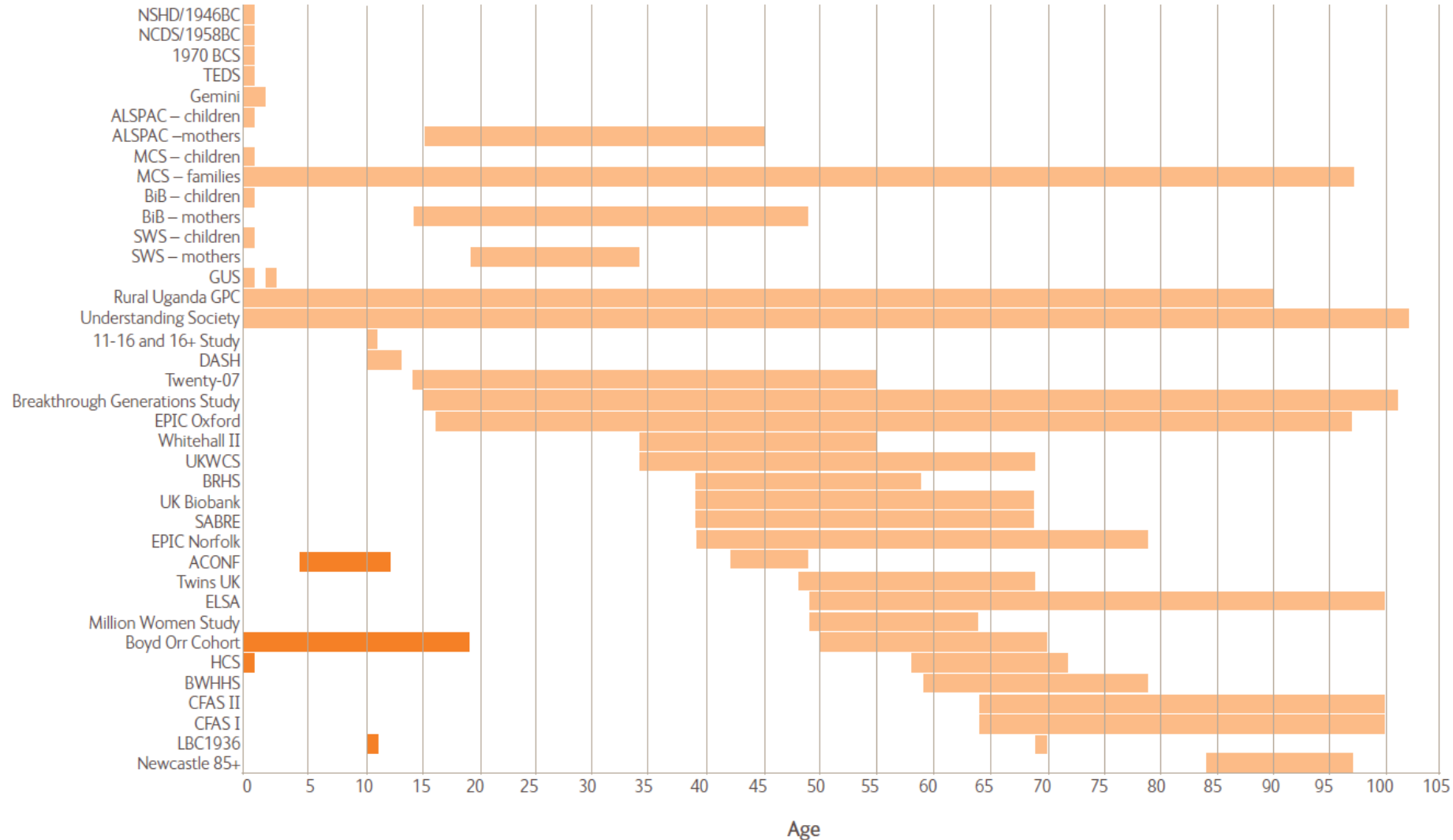
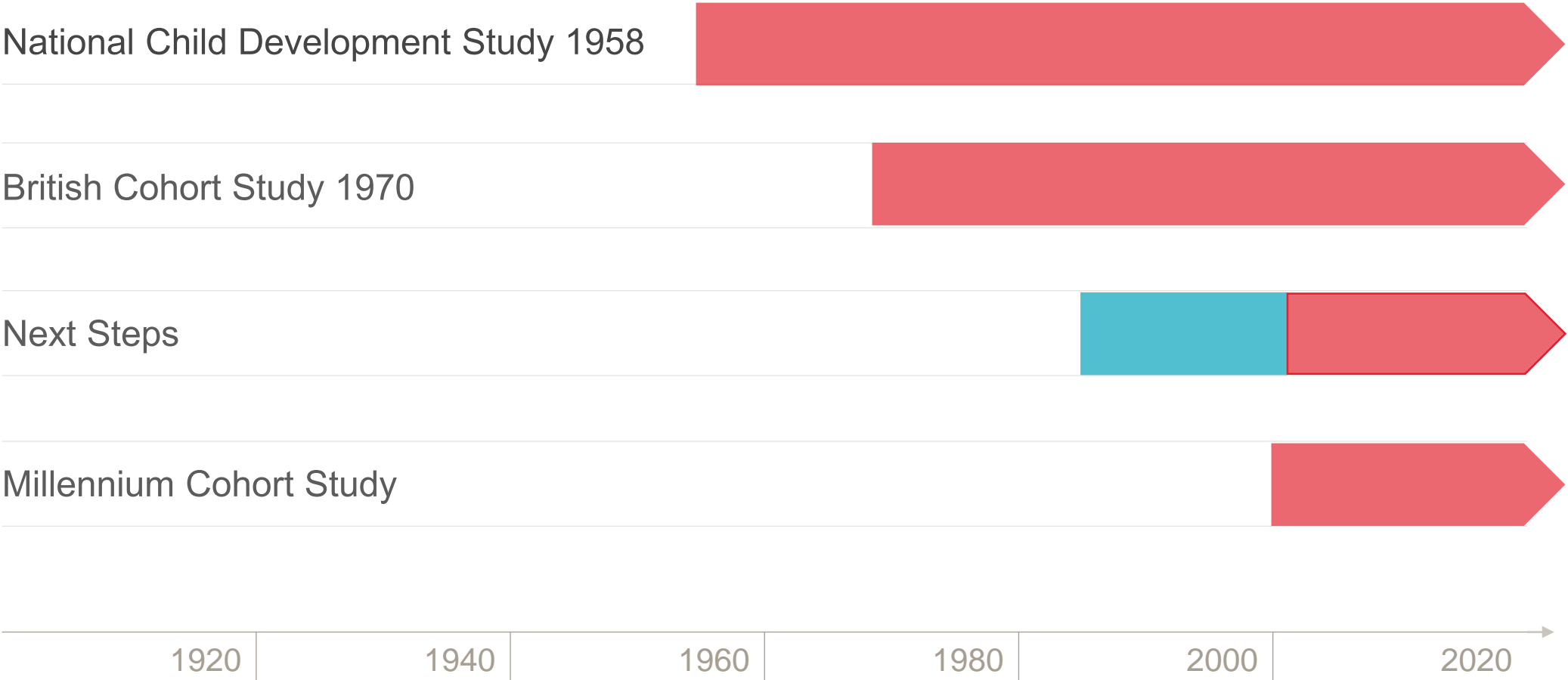


Figure 3. Age range of cohort participants at recruitment

Data are illustrated in years. Some birth cohorts comprise two age ranges that relate to the child participants and their parents. Dark orange bars relate to the age of participants in historical cohorts during the initial study, on which the cohort is based.



Follow-up across life, N>16,000



CLS data collections at a glance 2015-2020

Millennium Cohort Study

Age 14

Age 17

Next Steps

Age 25

1970 British Cohort Study

Age 46

Age 50

National Child Development Study 1958

Age 60

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

Welcome (5 mins)

David Bann

Introduction to the cohort studies (60 mins)

Vanessa Moulton & Brian Dodgeon

Interdisciplinary research examples (50 mins)

Adrian Byrne

Elizabeth Garratt

David Bann

Break (15 mins)

Question and answer session – discuss your research ideas / queries (20 mins)

Vanessa Moulton, Brian Dodgeon & David Bann

Discussion / q & a

– discuss your own research ideas / queries (20 mins)

- Do your studies have ...?
- Which study is best suited to examine ...?
- What about missing data ...?
- Are they representative ...?
- Can I apply to assay stored biological samples ?