National Child Development Study

Partnership Histories (1974-2013)

Maggie Hancock

A guide to the datasets (Second Edition)

November 2017

This document is available in alternative formats.
Please contact the Centre for Longitudinal Studies.
tel: +44 (0)20 7612 6875
email: clsfeedback@ioe.ac.uk

Table of Contents

Preface

This document has been prepared to accompany the deposit, with the UK Data Service at the University of Essex, of the derived dataset of partnership histories from the Age 33 (1991), Age 42 (2000), Age 46 (2004), Age 50 (2008) and Age 55 (2013) follow-ups of the 1958 National Child Cohort Study (NCDS), a continuing, multidisciplinary, national, longitudinal study.

Users are advised that they will need to consult all elements of the documentation to gain a full understanding of the data.

The Centre for Longitudinal Studies (CLS) request that any work which is based wholly or in part on analysis of National Child Development Study data includes the following acknowledgement:

CLS also request that the term 'NCDS' be included when compiling keywords to accompany any publications based on analysis of the study's data.

Acknowledgements

NCDS Partnership Histories (1974-2013)

Data on live-in partnerships lasting one month or more have been collected in all NCDS sweeps from the Age 33 sweep (1991). The purpose of the NCDS partnership histories is to merge all data on live-in partnerships in successive sweeps into one longitudinal dataset.

The NCDS Partnership Histories deposit comprises 2 datasets as in table below:

Dataset Name	Contents
Dataset NCDS_partner_ histories_v2	Contains data on each partner, where cohabitation then marriage with the same partner is treated as one partner.
Dataset NCDS_partnership_histories_v2	Contains data on partnerships where cohabitation and marriage with the same partner are treated as separate partnerships.

See sections 'NCDS Partner Histories Dataset' and 'NCDS Partnership Histories Dataset' below, for details of the datasets.

See Appendix 3 for details of amendments to the NCDS Partnership histories since version one.

A summary of the average number of partners per cohort member is found in the tables below:

Average number of partners for cohort members present in at least one sweep since the Age 33 sweep (1991)

	All		Male		Female	
	N	Average Number of Partners	N	Average Number of Partners	N	Average Number of Partners
Up to Age 42 (2000)	13444	1.25	6750	1.22	6694	1.28
Up to Age 46 (2004)	13444	1.31	6750	1.28	6694	1.33
Up to Age 50 (2008)	13444	1.38	6750	1.36	6694	1.40
Up to Age 55 (2013)	13444	1.43	6750	1.42	6694	1.44

Average number of partners for cohort members reporting at least one partner since age 16

	All		Male		Female	
	N	Average Number of Partners	N	Average Number of Partners	N	Average Number of Partners
Up to Age 42 (2000)	12562	1.34	6219	1.33	6343	1.35
Up to Age 46 (2004)	12562	1.40	6219	1.39	6343	1.41
Up to Age 50 (2008)	12562	1.48	6219	1.48	6343	1.48
Up to Age 55 (2013)	12562	1.53	6219	1.54	6343	1.52

Details of the NCDS Partnership Histories (1974-2013)

The focus of the questions asked at each sweep are about the partnership start date; whether married/became civil partner (Age 50 sweep and later) to this partner and if so the marriage/civil partnership dates; whether still together with this partner and if not the date that the partnership ended; how the partnership ended; if relevant, whether divorced and divorce dates; the sex, marital status and age at start of partnership of the partner.

Details of the data collected at each sweep are as follows:

Sweep	Partnership data collected at sweep and used in partnership histories
Age 33 sweep (1991)[1]	Data on current and previous live in relationships • Start date of relationship • Whether got married and if relevant, marriage date • Partners age and marital status when started living together (current partner only) • If relevant; how the relationship ended and end date • If relevant whether got divorced and the date
Age 42 sweep (2000):	Data on current and previous live in partnerships • Start date of partnership • Whether got married and if relevant marriage date • Partners age and marital status when started living together (current partner only) • If relevant; how the partnership ended and end date • If relevant whether got divorced
Age 46 sweep (2004):	Data on current and previous partnerships since CM's latest previous sweep or aged 16: • Start date of partnership • Whether got married and if relevant marriage date • Partners age and marital status when started living together (current partner only) • If relevant; how the partnership ended and end date • If relevant whether got divorced
Age 50 sweep (2008):	Data on current and previous partnerships since CM's latest previous sweep (6/7) or January 2000 • Start date of partnership • Whether got married/formed a civil partnership and if relevant marriage/civil partnership date • Partner's sex • Partners age and marital status when started living together (current partner only) • If relevant; how the partnership ended and end date. • If relevant whether got divorced/ dissolved civil partnership and the date
Age 55 sweep (2013):	Data on current and previous partnerships since CM's latest previous sweep (6/7/8) or January 2000 • Start date of partnership • Whether got married/formed a civil partnership and if relevant marriage/civil partnership date • Partner's sex • Partner's date of birth or age at sweep, converted to partners age when started living together • If relevant; how the partnership ended and end date • If relevant whether got divorced/ dissolved civil partnership and the date

---

[1] Sweep5 relationships ignored if inconsistent with data collected in later sweeps

Construction of NCDS partnership histories

The NCDS partnership and partner histories datasets were constructed using the SIRXS programming language. Partnership data is accessed from Age 33 sweep (1991), Age 42 sweep (2000), Age 46 sweep (2004), Age 50 sweep (2008) and Age 55 sweep (2013) and stored in arrays. These arrays are then examined for data issues that require editing; duplication (where activities are reported again in a later sweep) cohabitation overlap and missing data.

Repaired partnership data at Age 50 and Age 55 sweeps

At the Age 46 sweep (2004), there were a number of problems with the routing of the questions in the relationship histories module which lead to flaws in the information obtained about the period between the Age 42 follow-up (2000) and the Age 46 follow-up (2004). Details of these issues can be found in the 'Relationship histories' section of the NCDS 2008 follow-up User Guide. Cases with these issues were flagged as 'repair cases'

At the Age 50 sweep (2008), or Age 55 sweep (2013) if not present at the Age 50 sweep (2008), cohort members who had incomplete partnership data collected at the Age 46 sweep (2004) are asked for their partnership histories back to the Age 42 sweep (2000). For the majority of these repair cases, the age 46 sweep data are dropped from the partnership histories as these data are duplicated in later sweep(s). Where the age 46 sweep data is not duplicated in later sweeps these are included unless incompatible with partnership data from later sweeps.

Age 50 and age 55 sweep data on ex- and current partners from last sweep

In the age 50 and age 55 sweeps cohort members were asked about partnerships which had not ended at the previous sweep.[2] The partnership histories program attempts to reconcile this data with partnership data collected at earlier sweeps and where successful, implements the updates.

For a few cohort members, the age 50 and age 55 sweeps data, on ex-partnership divorce or civil partnership dissolution, do not match any ex-partnership data collected at earlier sweeps. For these cohort members, partnerships previously reported as current at, but now corrected as ended before, the previous sweep, and ex-partnerships where no marriage / civil partnerships had been reported, are also considered for matching.

For repair cases, if the previous sweep is the Age 46 sweep (2004), updates on the previous sweeps current partnership are implemented on the Age 42 sweep's current partnership data unless there is no Age 42 sweep (2000) partnership data, in which case the updates are implemented on Age 46 sweep current partnership data.

---

[2] cohabitations current at previous sweep or ex-partnerships, not yet reported divorced / legally dissolved at previous sweep

Duplicate partnerships

For each cohort member all the partnerships are compared with each other to identify duplicates. Partnerships are considered to be duplicates if the names, if these exist, of the partners are similar (first 3 characters the same) and:

- Duplicate type 1: The partnerships are reported in different sweeps and have the same start dates or the same marriage dates. If end dates exist these should also match.
- Duplicate type 2: The partnerships are reported in different sweeps and their start dates are within 15 months of each other and the end date of each is not before start and marriage date of the other.
- Duplicate type 3: The partnerships are reported in different sweeps, one of the sweeps being the Age 33 sweep (1991) and the start dates are within 18 months of each other and at least one of the partnerships has an end date and this is not before the start date of the other partnership

In the case of duplicates, the dates reported in the previous sweep are used unless updated specifically in the later sweep[3]. Non-date data are taken from duplicated partnerships where missing in the latest version. Data is only taken from the earlier duplicated partnerships if this is consistent with later data.

Partnerships which are duplicated by partnerships from later sweeps are omitted from the deposited datasets.

Inconsistent data

Cases where reported separated at sweep6 but no previous partnership data

In some cases there are no partnership data prior to the Age 42 sweep (2000) yet the martial status at Age 42 is reported to be separated. In these cases a dummy partnership is added, with all variables set to -8 (don't know), and flagged with variable PERROR13=1. All records for such cases are flagged with CERROR1=1.

Partnership / partner start and marriage/civil partnership dates and divorce

Where a partnership start date from the Age 55 sweep is missing, it is set to the marriage date if this exists, else the partnership's own end date if that exists[4], else the Age 55 sweep (2013) interview date, if reported to be still with that partner at the Age 55 sweep (2013).

Where a marriage date is before the partnership start date, the start is edited to be the same as the marriage date, but only if the partnership was first reported before the Age 55 sweep (2013) or the marriage date is less than 6 months before the start date. For the majority of the partnerships where the marriage date is left as earlier than the start date, the cohort member is re-cohabiting with a previous spouse /civil partner.

If date of marriage/civil partnership is unknown, it is set to the partnership start date. If date of marriage/civil partnership is after the partnership end date, it is set to the partnership end date.

---

[3] This differs to how duplicate partnerships are processed in the BCS70 partnership histories. See appendix 4
[4] Leading to a zero duration partnership included for completeness

If a cohort member does not report divorcing an ex-spouse / ex-civil partner a divorce will be deduced if the cohort member subsequently gets married or enters another civil partnership or reports their marital status to be divorced.

Partnership / partner end dates and durations

Where a subsequent partnership/ partner starts before the reported end of a partnership, the partnership duration is truncated to end before the subsequent partnership/ partner starts. Where a partnership has no end date reported, it is truncated at the latest sweep that it was current at. This may result in zero duration partnerships. Zero duration partnerships also result from cohort members reporting start and end dates of partnerships to be the same month in the same year. Zero duration partnerships have been included in the dataset for completeness.

Missing data

Variables are set to missing value -1 (not applicable) where no data is expected, as in the case of dummy partnership records (added where a cohort member was reported to have died by age 16 or has had no activity data reported) or where a variable is not applicable for a particular partnership, for example divorce dates where no marriage has taken place.

Variables are set to -8 (don't know/ insufficient information) where data is expected but has not been collected.

End of partnership variables are set to -6 (partnership still current at latest sweep) where a partnership is still intact at the cohort member's most recent sweep.

Date century months

In order to facilitate date computations, century months, the number of months since 1900, are calculated for all dates. Where the date year is missing, the century month variable is set to -8 (don't know). Where the date month is missing, a value of 6 (June) is used in the century month calculations.

NCDS Partner Histories Dataset

The NCDS partner histories dataset contains 1 record for each partner cohabitation[5]. A cohabitation which has transformed into marriage is treated as one partner. In the dataset there are 25,192 partner records for 18,558 cohort members. 956 cohort members were known to have died before the age of 16 (one dummy record with variable NUMPARTS =-1) and of the rest, 5040 cohort members, including those not present at Age 33 to Age 55 sweeps, have no partnership data reported (one dummy record with variable NUMPARTS =0). All partner variables are set to -1 (n/a) on these dummy records. 12,562 cohort members have at least 1 partner reported (variable PARTNER=1) and report 7,405 marriages with no previous cohabitation, 4,994 cohabitations that did not end in marriage and 6,797 cohabitations that did end in marriage (variable PTYPE=1, 2,3 respectively). There is therefore an average of 1.53 partner cohabitations for cohort members with at least one partner.

A sample of 4 cases with a subset of the variables is shown below:

BCSID	NUMPARTS	PARTNER	PSTCMC	PENDCMC	PDUR	PTYPE	POUTCOME
N10001N	1	1	1120	-6	191	1	4
N10005S	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
N10009W	3	1	1075	1094	19	2	1
N10009W	3	2	1095	1153	58	2	1
N10009W	3	3	1231	-6	21	3	4
N10014T	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1

Case N10001N has 1 partner reported, whom they married. Case N10005S is not known to have died before age 16 but has no partners reported. Case N10009W has 3 partners reported; cohabiting with the first two partners, then cohabiting and subsequently marrying the third partner. Case N10014T is known to have died before age 16.

A description of the variables included in the above sample is as follows:

Variable Name	Variable description
NUMPARTS	Total number of partners
PARTNER	Partner number
PSTCMC	Partnership start century month[6]
PENDCMC	Partnership end date century month[6]
PDUR	Duration of Partnership in months
PTYPE	Type of partnership
POUTCOME	Partnership outcome

---

[5] Re-cohabiting with a previous partner is counted as another partner.
[6] Century month is calculated as the number of months since 1900

Variable PTYPE holds the partner type, the partner type categories included are:

PTYPE value	PTYPE category
1	Marriage
2	Cohabitation
3	Cohabitation then marriage

Variable POUTCOME describes the outcome of the cohabitation, the outcome categories are:

POUTCOME value	POUTCOME category
1	Separation
2	Death of partner
3	Remain a couple but no longer live together
4	Partnership still intact at latest sweep

Data variables included in the partner histories dataset

A summary of the types of data variables included in the partner histories is as follows:

Participation in each sweep and if so whether any partner data at that sweep
CM's sex
Total number of partners and partner number
Century months[7] (since 1900) of latest interview and partnership start and end dates
Partner duration in months (truncated at latest sweep)
Partner type (marriage or cohabitation)
Partner outcome (see above for categories)
Partner attributes at start of partnership: sex; age and marital status [8]
Partner start and end dates (month and year)
Whether divorced, divorce dates and century month of divorce
Case and partner errors
Date of CMS interview at each sweep
Sweep and slot number that partner was reported in

A detailed list of the variables included in the partner histories datasets is found in appendix 1

---

[7] Century month is calculated as the number of months since 1900

[8] The variables describing the partner's attributes: age at start of partnership and marital status at start of relationship are only collected for sweep6 and sweep7 current partners, sweep8 new partners and sweep9 partners (marital status only) . Therefore these variables are set to -8 (don't know/ not enough info) for partnership data collected in other slots.

NCDS Partnership Histories Dataset

The NCDS partnership histories dataset contains 1 record for each partnership. Cohabitation transformed into marriage is recorded as 2 separate partnerships. In the dataset there are 31,989 partnership records for 18,558 cohort members. 956 cohort members were known to have died before the age of 16 (one dummy record with variable NUMPSHPS=-1) and of the rest, 5040 cohort members, including those not present at Age 33 to Age 55 sweeps, have no partnership data reported (one dummy record with variable NUMPSHPS =0). All partnership variables are set to -1 (n/a) on these dummy records. 12,562 cohort members have at least 1 partnership reported (variable PSHIP=1) and report 14,202 marriages and 11,791 cohabitations between them (variable PTYPE=1,2). There is therefore an average of 2.07 partnerships for cohort members with at least one partnership.

A sample of 4 cases with a subset of the variables is shown below:

BCSID	.....	NUMPSHPS	PARTNER	PSHIP	PSTCMC	PENDCMC	PDUR	PTYPE	POUTCOME	.....
N10001N	.....	1	1	1	1120	-6	191	1	5	.....
.....	.....									.....
N10005S	.....	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	.....
.....	.....									.....
N10009W	.....	4	1	1	1075	1094	19	2	2	.....
N10009W	.....	4	2	2	1095	1153	58	2	2	.....
N10009W	.....	4	3	3	1231	1243	12	2	1	.....
N10009W	.....	4	3	4	1243	-6	9	1	5	.....
.....	.....									.....
N10014T	.....	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	.....

Case N10001N has 1 partnership reported, a marriage. Case N10005S is not known to have died before age 16 but has no partnerships reported. Case N10009W has 4 partnerships reported; 2 cohabitations that did not end in marriage and 1 cohabitation that did end in marriage. Case N10014T is known to have died before age 16.

The description of the variables included in the above sample are as follows:

Variable Name	Variable description
NUMPSHPS	Total number of partnerships
PARTNER	Partner number[9]
PSHIP	Partnership number
PSTCMC	Partnership start century month[10]
PENDCMC	Partnership end date century month[2]
PDUR	Duration of Partnership in months
PTYPE	Type of partnership
POUTCOME	Partnership outcome

Variable PTYPE holds the partner type, the partner type categories included are:

PTYPE value	PTYPE category
1	Marriage
2	Cohabitation

Variable POUTCOME describes the outcome of the cohabitation, the outcome categories are:

POUTCOME value	OUTCOME category
1	Marriage
2	Separation
3	Death of partner
4	Remain a couple but no longer live together
5	Partnership still intact at latest sweep

---

[9] The PARTNER variable indicates whether the cohort member has cohabited with, then married the same partner, (e.g. case N10009W has two partnerships with partner 3 in the table above).
[10] Century month is calculated as the number of months since 1900

Data variables included in the partnership histories dataset

A summary of the types of data variables included in the partnership histories dataset is as follows:

Participation in each sweep and if so whether any partnership data at that sweep
CM's sex
Total number of partnerships, partner number and partnership number
Century months[11] of latest interview and partnership start and end dates
Partnership duration in months (truncated at latest sweep)
Partnership type (marriage or cohabitation)
Partnership outcome (see above for categories)
Partner attributes at start of partnership: sex; age and marital status[12][13]
Partnership start and end dates (month and year)
Whether divorced, divorce dates and century month of divorce
Case and partnership errors
Date of CMS interview at each sweep
Sweep and slot number that partnership was reported in

A detailed list of the variables included in the partnership histories dataset is found in appendix 2

---

[11] Century month is calculated as the number of months since 1900

[12] The variables describing the partner's attributes: age at start of relationship and marital status at start of relationship are only collected for sweep6 and sweep7 current partners, sweep8 new partners and sweep9 partners (marital status only). Therefore these variables are set to -8 (don't know/ not enough info) for partnership data collected in other slots.

[13] The age at start of relationship and marital status at start of relationship relate to when the cohort member start living with that partner i.e. if cohabited before marriage then relates to the start of the cohabitation even if the partnership relates to the marriage.

Appendix 1: Variables in NCDS partner histories dataset

Variable Name	Variable Label
NCDSID	BCSID of cohort member
WSWEEP05	Age 33 Sweep: Wh participated and wh any partnership data
WSWEEP06	Age 42 Sweep: Wh participated and wh any partnership data
WSWEEP07	Age 46 Sweep: Wh participated and wh any partnership data
WSWEEP08	Age 50 Sweep: Wh participated and wh any partnership data
WSWEEP09	Age 55 Sweep: Wh participated and wh any partnership data
CMSEX	Sex of cohort member
NUMPARTS	Total number of partners
PARTNER	Partner number
LSTSWCMC	Century month[14] of latest interview
PSTCMC	Partnership start century month[11]
PENDCMC	Partnership end date century month[11]
PDUR	Duration of Partnership in months
PTYPE	Type of partnership
POUTCOME	Partnership outcome
PSEX	Partner's gender
PSAMESX	Same sex relationship
PPAGE	Partner's age at start of rel (not asked for all partners)
PPMS	Partner's marital status at start (not asked for all partners)
PPLEGS	Wh partner was legally sep.at start (not asked all partners)
PSTARTY	Year CM started living wth partner
PSTARTM	Month CM started living with partner
PMARBF	Wh married before moved in together
PMARCP	Wh CM subsequently married partner
PMARCPY	Year CM married partner
PMARCPM	Month CM married partner
PMYCMC	Marriage date century month[11]
PHOWEND	How relationship ended
PENDY	Year cm separated / partner died
PENDM	Month cm separated / partner died
PDIVCE	Wh CM and partner got divorced
PDIVCEY	Year of divorce
PDIVCEM	Month of divorce
PDIVCMC	Divorce date century month[11]
CERRORS	Case has partnership history errors
PERRORS	Pship has partnership history errors
PERROR1	Pship err: end date overlaps next rel, truncated
PERROR2	Pship err: has no end date but not current at latest swp
PERROR3	Pship err: divorced but no divorce date
PERROR4	Pship err: Marriage w/0 reporting divorce from prev spouse/cp
PERROR5	Pship err: Marriage dates outside of pship dates

---

[14] Century month is calculated as the number of months since 1900

Variable Name	Variable Label
PERROR6	Pship err: End before start, end set to dk
PERROR7	Pship err: Date<age16, if start set=age16/marriage=st/end=dk
PERROR8	Pship err: Cohab then marriage but marriagecmc=startcmc
PERROR9	Pship err: Cohab then marriage but marriage date missing
PERROR10	Pship err: Recohabition with previous spouse
PERROR11	Pship err: No end date but marriage>start of next pship
PERROR12	Pship err: Marriage > end date
PERROR13	Pship err: Dummy pship as sep at swp6 but no prev pships
PERROR14	Pship err: Not yet in use
PERROR15	Pship err: Not yet in use
CERROR1	Case err: No swp5data, no swp6 ex-parts, separated at swp6
CERROR2	Case err: No pship data but marital status other than single
CERROR2A	Case err: SWps with marital status other than single
CERROR3	Case err: Case appears to recohabit with previous spouse
SWPFLG05	CM in Age 33 Sweep
INTMON05	Month of Age 33 Sweep interview
INTYR05	Year of Age 33 Sweep interview
INTCMC05	Century month[15] of Age 33 Sweep interview
SWPFLG06	CM in Age 42 Sweep
INTMON06	Month of Age 42 Sweep interview
INTYR06	Year of Age 42 Sweep interview
INTCMC06	Century month[12] of Age 42 Sweep interview
SWPFLG07	CM in sweep Age 46 Sweep
INTMON07	Month of Age 46 Sweep interview
INTYR07	Year of Age 46 Sweep interview
INTCMC07	Century month[12] of Age 46 Sweep interview
SWPFLG08	CM in Age 50 Sweep
INTMON08	Month of Age 50 Sweep interview
INTYR08	Year of Age 50 Sweep interview
INTCMC08	Century month[12] of Age 50 Sweep interview
SWPFLG09	CM in Age 55 Sweep
INTMON09	Month of Age 55 Sweep interview
INTYR09	Year of Age 55 Sweep interview
INTCMC09	Century month[10] of Age 55 Sweep interview
PSLOT	Cohab history slot number
PSWP	Sweep Partnership reported in
PFSTSWP	First sweep Partnership reported in

---

[15] Century month is calculated as the number of months since 1900

Appendix 2: Variables in NCDS partnership histories dataset

Variable Name	Variable Label
BCSID	NCDSID of cohort member
WSWEEP05	Sweep5: Wh participated and wh any partnership data
WSWEEP06	Sweep6: Wh participated and wh any partnership data
WSWEEP07	Sweep7: Wh participated and wh any partnership data
WSWEEP08	Sweep8: Wh participated and wh any partnership data
WSWEEP09	Sweep9: Wh participated and wh any partnership data
CMSEX	Sex of cohort member
NUMPSHPS	Total number of partnerships
PARTNER	Partner number
PSHIP	Partnership number
LSTSWCMC	Century month[16] of latest interview
PSTCMC	Partnership start century month[9]
PENDCMC	Partnership end date century month[9]
PDUR	Duration of Partnership in months
PTYPE	Type of partnership
POUTCOME	Partnership outcome
PSEX	Partner's gender
PSAMESX	Same sex relationship
PPAGE	Partner's age at start of rel (not asked for all partners)[17]
PPMS	Partner's marital status at start (not asked for all partners)
PPLEGS	Wh partner was legally sep.at start (not asked all partners)
PSTARTY	Year CM started living wth partner
PSTARTM	Month CM started living with partner
PENDY	Year cm separated / partner died
PENDM	Month cm separated / partner died
PDIVCE	Wh CM and partner got divorced
PDIVCEY	Year of divorce
PDIVCEM	Month of divorce
PDIVCMC	Divorce date century month[9]
CERRORS	Case has partnership history errors
PERRORS	Pship has partnership history errors
PERROR1	Pship err: end date overlaps next rel, truncated
PERROR2	Pship err: has no end date but not current at latest swp
PERROR3	Pship err: divorced but no divorce date
PERROR4	Pship err: Marriage w/0 reporting divorce from prev spouse/cp
PERROR5	Pship err: Marriage dates outside of pship dates
PERROR6	Pship err: End before start, end set to dk
PERROR7	Pship err: Date<age16, if start set=age16/marriage=st/end=dk
PERROR8	Pship err: Cohab then marriage but marriagecmc=startcmc
PERROR9	Pship err: Cohab then marriage but marriage date missing
PERROR10	Pship err: Recohabition with previous spouse

---

[16] Century month is calculated as the number of months since 1900
[17] Age at start of living together, not at marriage if later

Variable Name	Variable Label
PERROR11	Pship err: No end date but marriage>start of next pship
PERROR12	Pship err: Marriage > end date
PERROR13	Pship err: Dummy pship as sep at swp6 but no prev pships
PERROR14	Pship err: Not yet in use
PERROR15	Pship err: Not yet in use
CERROR1	Case err: No swp5data, no swp6 ex-parts, separated at swp6
CERROR2	Case err: No pship data but marital status other than single
CERROR2A	Case err: SWps with marital status other than single
CERROR3	Case err: Case appears to recohabit with previous spouse
SWPFLG05	CM in sweep 5
INTMON05	Month of sweep 5 interview
INTYR05	Year of sweep 5 interview
INTCMC05	Century month[18] of sweep 5 interview
SWPFLG06	CM in sweep 6
INTMON06	Month of sweep 6 interview
INTYR06	Year of sweep 6 interview
INTCMC06	Century month[10] of sweep 6 interview
SWPFLG07	CM in sweep 7
INTMON07	Month of sweep 7 interview
INTYR07	Year of sweep 7 interview
INTCMC07	Century month[10] of sweep 7 interview
SWPFLG08	CM in sweep 8
INTMON08	Month of sweep 8 interview
INTYR08	Year of sweep 8 interview
INTCMC08	Century month[10] of sweep 8 interview
SWPFLG09	CM in sweep 9
INTMON09	Month of sweep 9 interview
INTYR09	Year of sweep 9 interview
INTCMC09	Century month[10] of sweep 9 interview
PSLOT	Cohab history slot number
PSWP	Sweep Partnership reported in
PFSTSWP	First sweep Partnership reported in

---

[18] Century month is calculated as the number of months since 1900

Appendix 3: Amendments to the NCDS Partnership histories since version one.

The first version of the NCDS partnership histories, deposited at the UK Data Service in May 2011 included partnerships, reported by cohort members, up to and including the 2008 data sweep.

This second version of the NCDS partnership histories dataset includes data on partnerships, reported by cohort members, up to and including the Age 55 (2013) data sweep.

There are also some edits to the pre- Age 55 partnership history data as follows:

- If the cohort member responded "don't know" when asked if still with their most recent partner and that partner is reported to still be in the household, it is assumed that they are still living with that partner.
- In previous versions, where a marriage date is before the partnership start date, the marriage date was edited to be the same as the start date, in this latest version the start is edited to be the same as the marriage date as it is felt that it is more likely that the cohort member will report the marriage date correctly.
- An edit to the NCDS partnership histories program now allows unfinished marriages or civil partnerships to be flagged as divorced or dissolved if the cohort member's marital status is set to divorced at the current or a later sweep or the cohort member reports being divorced from that ex-partner or the partnership legally dissolved at sweep8 (2008).
- individual case data cleaning

Appendix 4: Processing date differences for duplicate partnerships.

Data on any single partnership may collected at different sweeps of the NCDS partnership histories (see duplicate partnerships page 5). Where the partnership start or marriage dates differ between these different sweep data, the NCDS partnership histories take the dates reported at the earlier sweep, unless specifically reported as incorrect at the later sweep or following inspection of individual case partnership data.

This approach differs from that taken in constructing the most recent version of the BCS70 partnership histories, where the partnership start and marriage date data are not edited to match duplicated previous sweep data, unless edited following inspection of individual case partnership data.

This different approach, to processing duplicate partnership data for the two cohorts reflects the balance between: time since event; improved data collection processes and interview mode. NCDS partnership data was first collected at the Age 33 sweep (1991, face to face), and again, with possible duplicates, at four sweeps (2 face to face, 1 telephone and 1 telephone /web) over the following 22 years.   In contrast, BCS70 partnership data was first collected at the Age 30 data sweep (2000, face to face), and again, with possible duplicates, at three sweeps (2 face to face, 1 telephone) over the following 12 years.

Centre for Longitudinal Studies
Institute of Education
20 Bedford Way
London WC1H 0AL
Tel: 020 7612 6860
Fax: 020 7612 6880
Email: clsfeedback@ioe.ac.uk
Web: www.cls.ioe.ac.uk