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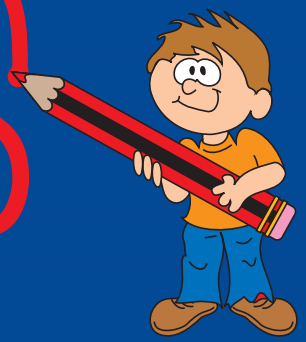
GUS



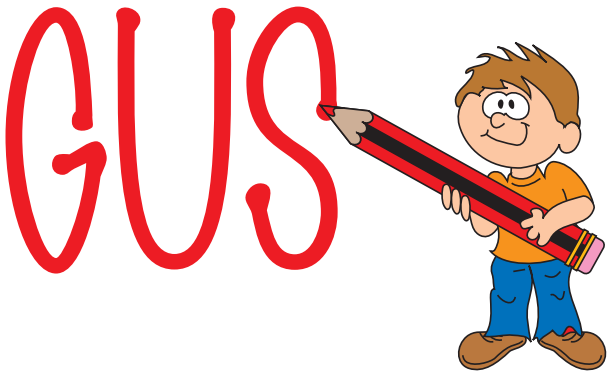
The Growing Up in Scotland Study: Scotland's National Birth Cohorts

Louise Marryat

Scotland's leading independent social research institute

Aims of the presentation

- To provide a brief overview of GUS including:
  - Research objectives
  - Study design
  - Study content
  - Data collection, management and available data



Research Objectives

To provide data and information

- Characteristics, circumstances and experiences of children in Scotland aged between 0 and 5
- Longer-term outcomes across a range of key domains
- Levels of awareness and use of key services
- Nature and extent of informal sources of help, advice and support for parents

To document differences

- Characteristics, circumstances and experiences of children from different backgrounds
- Longer-term outcomes for children from different backgrounds

To identify key predictors

- E.g. of adverse longer-term outcomes
- With particular reference to the role of early years

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Study Design: Outline

- National sample capable of analysis by urban/rural, deprived/non-deprived and other sub-groups of interest
- Sample drawn initially from Child Benefit Records
  - Good coverage
  - Some limitations

- Two cohorts:
  - Birth cohort: 5217 children aged 10.5 months at the 1st interview
  - Child cohort: 2859 children aged 34.5 months at the 1st interview

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Study design: ages and stages

	Age at interview							
Year	**0-1**	**1-2**	**2-3**	**3-4**	**4-5**	**5-6**	**6-7**	**7-8**
2005	**BC1** *(5217)*		**CC1** *(2858)*					
2006		**BC1** *(4512)*		**CC1** *(2500)*				
2007			**BC1** *(4191)*		**CC1** *(2331)*			
2008				**BC1** *(3994)*		**CC1** *(2200)*		
2009					**BC1**		-	
2010						**BC1**		-
2011	**BC2**						-	
2012		-						**BC1**

Study Design: Outline

- National sample capable of analysis by urban/rural, deprived/non-deprived and other sub-groups of interest
- Sample drawn from Child Benefit Records
  - Good coverage
  - Some limitations
- Two cohorts:
  - Birth cohort: 5217 children aged 10.5 months at the 1st interview
  - Child cohort: 2858 children aged 34.5 months at the 1st interview
- Three main types of data
  - Cross-sectional time-specific
  - Cross-sectional time-series
  - Longitudinal

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Sources of information: the main interview

- Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI)
- 45 minutes (+ 20 minutes additional data collection)
- Interviews normally with the mother
- Computer Assisted Self-administered Interview (CASI)

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GUS1	GUS2	GUS3	GUS4	GUS5	GUS6
(2005/6)	***(2006/7)***	***(2007/8)***	***(2008/9)***	*(2009/10)* *BC only*	*(2010/11)* *BC only*
Main carer	Main carer	Main carer	Main carer	Main carer	Main carer
	Partner				
	Child height & weight		Child height & weight		Child height & weight
		Cognitive assessmts		Cognitive assessmts	
Health records	Health records	Health records	Health records	Health records	Health records
				School records	School records
					Child Social Behaviour Qu.

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Where are we now?!

Sweep	Progress	Details
1	Complete	
2	Complete	
3	Complete	
4	Preparing data for archive	Reports launched 29th April
5	**In field**	**In field – out of field May 2010**
6	**In field**	**In field April 2010 – May 2011**
1 – BC2	Design	New Birth cohort to start January 2011
7		(BC1-age 7)

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Target Interview Date

Sweep 6 = Date on which child turns 70.5 months old

Aim, as far as possible, to conduct on target interview date or at least within 14 days either side of it.

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Next steps: the new birth cohort

- First wave of data collection in 2011
- To be slightly larger than existing birth cohort – nearer 6000 than 5000
- Currently, sample design and fieldwork approach to match that of existing cohorts
- Consideration to be given to:
  - Collecting comparable data to original cohorts vs. collecting ‘new’ data of more recent interest
  - Filling any ‘gaps’ in existing data

Study Content

Study content: Core topics of the main interview

- Household composition and family demographics
- Non-resident parents
- Parental support
- Parenting styles
- Childcare
- Child health and development
- Activities with others
- Education and employment
- Income and benefits
- Accommodation and transport

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Study content: Other topics covered in the interview

- Parental health and well-being
- Pre-school/Primary School
- Pregnancy and birth
- Involvement of grandparents
- Material deprivation
- Food and nutrition
- Physical and sedentary activity
- Housing and neighbourhood
- Social networks and social capital

Scales, instruments and outcome measures (1)

- Child cognitive development
  - Communication and Symbolic Behaviour Scales: Infant/Toddler Checklist (age 1-2)
  - BAS Naming Vocabulary (age 2-3, 4-5)
  - BAS Picture Similarities (age 2-3, 4-5)
- Child social, emotional and behavioural development
  - Strengths and Difficulties Qre (annually from age 2-3)
- Child health
  - Acute and long-standing illness (all sweeps)
  - Accidents (all sweeps)
  - BMI (age 3-4 & 5-6)
  - Levels of physical and sedentary activity (most sweeps but questions vary)
- Parent-child interaction/activities
  - Home-learning environment (all sweeps)
  - Parent-child attachment/relationship (age 0-1 & 2-3, 4-5)
  - Discipline approaches (age 1-2, 3-4 & 5-6)

Scales, instruments and outcome measures (2)

- Parental physical and mental health
  - Medical Outcomes Short-Form (SF12)
  - Acute and long-standing illness
  - Depression, Anxiety and Stress Scale (6 items)
  - Smoking, drinking and drug use
- Parental education and employment
  - Qualifications achieved
  - NS-SEC and other measures of social class
  - Literacy and numeracy
- Income and poverty
  - Household income (and equivalised income)
  - Receipt of benefits
  - Ownership of goods and material deprivation
- Neighbourhood
  - Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation
  - Urban/Rural classification
  - Neighbourhood satisfaction
  - Assessment of local services

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GUS Data management and availability

Using GUS data

- Data availability
  - Data deposited with UK Data Archive
  - Sweep 1, 2 and 3 currently available
  - Sweep 4 available May or June 2010
  - Documentation also available from study website
- Data workshops
  - In relation to sweep 1, and sweeps 1 to 3
  - An ‘introduction to the data’ with information on data content and how to approach analysis
  - Handouts and slides are available from the study website

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GUS: what is held at the data archive?

- GUS datasets
- GUS documentation

Documentation includes

- User guide to datasets
- Annotated questionnaire and showcards
- Data dictionary (full variable list, including derived variables)
- Derived variables list and SPSS syntax
- Interviewer instructions
- Coding and editing instructions

Documentation is also available from the GUS website

GUS datasets content

- **Household information** (age, gender, relationships,…)
- **Main respondent interview** – topics include food and nutrition; parenting; childcare; respondent and partner's employment, income and education; etc..

  At Sweep 2 there was also a Partner questionnaire in addition to the proxy-partner questions
- **Socio-economic classification** (NS-SEC)
- **Measurements** if applicable
- **Area variables** (SIMD quintile, Urban/rural 6 fold-classification)
- **Sample Weights**

Derived variables syntax

- To summarise or combine other variables
- To replace questionnaire variables where risk to confidentiality (e.g. religion, ethnicity)

```
**BANDED VERSION OF MAIN CHILDCARE PROVIDER HOURS

Recode DcCman02 (1 thru 8=1) (9 thru 16=2) (17 thru 40 = 3) (41 thru hi=4) (Else = -3) into DcCman06.
Exe.
IF (DcCany02=2) DcCman06=-1.
Var labs DcCman06 'Dc Main ccare hours per week - Banded'.
Val labs DcCman06
 -3 'No information or less than an hr per wk'
 -1 'No childcare'
 1 'Up to 8 hours'
 2 'Between 9 and 16 hours'
 3 'Between 17 and 40 hours'
 4 'More than 40 hours'.
Missing values DcCman06 (-3,-1).
FORMATS DcCman06 (F2.0).
Execute.

fre DcCman06.
```

Confidentiality

- Cohort members promised confidentiality
- ScotCen/NatCen Data Release panel and Scottish Government advise on disclosure issues
- Datasets deposited with ESDS are fully anonymised
- Datasets go through further process of checking at the UKDA
- ESDS users undertake not to identify individuals

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More information

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