

# Socioeconomic Differentials in Physical Activity by Age and Cohort:

Findings from Six UK Longitudinal Studies

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# Physical activity

- Physical activity refers to any bodily movement produced by skeletal muscles that results in energy expenditure.
- Physical activity is an important modifiable determinant of health across life.
- Its benefits are well documented including improvements in the musculoskeletal system, maintenance of healthy weight, protection against cardiovascular disease, and reduction in symptoms of depression and anxiety



### Domain specific physical activity

	ger           15010         4.3         arc           15020         7.0         bac           15030         5.5         bac           15040         8.0         bas           15050         6.0         bas	Sports		20 <sup>7</sup> Compe		Occupation		20 Compe		Inactivity Quiet/Light		20 Compe		Occupation		
	Codes	METs	Description	17	Codes	METs	Description		Codes	METs	Description		Codes	METs Description		
	15000	5.5	Alaska Native Games, Eskimo Olympics,	ŗ	11003	2.3	active workstation, treadmill desk, walking		07010	1.0	lying quietly and watching television		11003	2.3	active workstation, treadmill desk, walking	
l			general		11006	3.0	airline flight attendant	Ì	07011	1.3	lying quietly, doing nothing, lying in bed		11006	3.0	airline flight attendant	
	15010	4.3	archery, non-hunting		11010	4.0	bakery, general, moderate effort	Y			awake, listening to music (not talking or reading)		11010	4.0	bakery, general, moderate effort	
	15020	7.0	badminton, competitive (Taylor Code 450)	2	11015	2.0	bakery, light effort	0	07020	1.3	sitting quietly and watching television	~	11015	2.0	bakery, light effort	
E	15030	5.5	badminton, social singles and doubles, general		11020	2.3	bookbinding	3	07021	1.3	sitting quietly, general		11020	2.3	bookbinding	
	15040	8.0	basketball, game (Taylor Code 490)	-1-	11030	6.0	building road, driving heavy machinery		07022	1.5	sitting quietly, fidgeting, general, fidgeting hands		11030	6.0	building road, driving heavy machinery	
ĺ					11035	2.0	building road, directing traffic, sta		07023	1.8	sitting, fidge		11035	2.0	building road, directing traffic, standing	
	15050	0.0	basketball, non-game, general (Taylor Code 480)		11038	2.5	carpentry, general, light effort		07024	1.3	sitting, smol		11038	2.5	carpentry, general, light effort	
	15055	6.5	basketball, general	$\left  \right $	11040	4.3	carpentry, general, moderate effo					ĺ	11040	4.3	carpentry, general, moderate effort	
	15060	7.0	basketball, officiating (Taylor Code 500)		11042	7.0	carpentry, general, heavy or vigo		07025	1.5	sitting, lister reading) or		11042	7.0	carpentry, general, heavy or vigorous effort	
	15070	4.5	basketball, shooting baskets		11050	8.0	carrying heavy loads (e.g., bricks		07026	1.3	sitting at a d		11050	8.0	carrying heavy loads (e.g., bricks, tools)	
	15072	9.3	basketball, drills, practice						07030	0.95	sleeping					
	15075	7.8	basketball, wheelchair		11060	8.0	carrying moderate loads up stain boxes 25-49 lbs		07040	1.3	standing quietly, standing in a line		11060	8.0	carrying moderate loads up stairs, moving boxes 25-49 lbs	
	15080	2.5	billiards		11070	4.0	chambermaid, hotel housekeeper, making bed, cleaning bathroom, pushing cart		07041	1.8	standing, fidgeting		11070	4.0	chambermaid, hotel housekeeper, making bed, cleaning bathroom, pushing cart	
	15090	3.0	owling (Taylor Code 390) 11080 5.3 coal mining, drilling coal, rock			07050	1.3	reclining, writing		11080 5.3		coal mining, drilling coal, rock				

*MET (metabolic equivalent):* The ratio of the work metabolic rate to the resting metabolic rate. One MET is defined as 1 kcal/kg/hour and is roughly equivalent to the energy cost of sitting quietly.

Med Sci Sports Exerc. 2011 Aug;43(8):1575-81. doi: 10.1249/MSS.0b013e31821ece12.

#### 2011 Compendium of Physical Activities: a second update of codes and MET values.

Ainsworth BE<sup>1</sup>, Haskell WL, Herrmann SD, Meckes N, Bassett DR Jr, Tudor-Locke C, Greer JL, Vezina J, Whitt-Glover MC, Leon AS.

## Physical inactivity





WHO global inactivity 2016 (sex combined)

There is a global trend towards high levels of leisure time physical inactivity contributing to:

- ~6-10% of major non-communicable diseases
- ~5.3 million deaths annually
- ~\$67.5 billion per year in health care expenditure.

Despite public health campaigns the prevalence of physical inactivity remains particularly amongst socioeconomically disadvantaged groups.

However, it is unclear if these inequalities vary systematically by age, sex, or ethnicity

### Domain specific physical activity

Examining different domains may provide evidence to help inform where possible interventions could be targeted.

Understanding differences in participation may help identify which forms of activity could be intervened on to reduce socioeconomic disparities in health.



## Socioeconomic position and physical inactivity



differences in physical activity outcomes (95% CI) according to highest educational attainment, stratified by age, gender, and race/ethnicity among US adults aged 20+ years, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 2007–16. Education groups are: less than high school (referent), high school graduate (circles), some college (triangles), and college graduate (squares)

BMC Public Health. 2018; 18: 926. Published online 2018 Jul 28. doi: <u>10.1186/s12889-018-5857-z</u> PMCID: PMC6064072 PMID: <u>30055611</u>

Education-related disparities in reported physical activity during leisuretime, active transportation, and work among US adults: repeated crosssectional analysis from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys, 2007 to 2016

Shaun Scholes<sup>241</sup> and David Bann<sup>#2</sup>

Previous research has documented associations between socio-economic position and levels of physical activity.

However this work has not been conducted in the UK, investigated different domains, or using a nationally representative dataset

# Project aims

- 1. Identify and document all measures of physical activity and sedentary behaviour available
- 2. Test whether associations between lifetime socioeconomic position and physical activity vary by:
  - A. age, sex and ethnicity in Understanding Society
  - B. age, sex and birth year in the British birth cohorts

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# (1) Physical activity harmonisation across five UK birth cohorts

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## Included CLOSER cohorts



	National Current of Health and D	avalanment	
MRC	National Survey of Health and D	evelopment	
	1958 National Child	l Development Study	
	1	970 British Cohort Study	
		Understanding Soci <mark>e</mark> t	ty: The UK Household Longitudinal Study
		Avon Lo	ongitudinal Study of Parents and Children
			Millennium Cohort Study
1940	1960	1980	2000

### CLOSER physical activity collection

#### INTERNATIONAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY QUESTIONNAIRE

We are interested in finding out about the kinds of physical activities that people do as part of their everyday lives. The questions will ask you about the time you spent being physically active in the **last 7 days**. Please answer each question even if you do not consider yourself to be an active person. Please think about the activities you do at work, as part of your house and yard work, to get from place to place, and in your spare time for recreation, exercise or sport.

Think about all the **vigorous** and **moderate** activities that you did in the <u>last 7 days</u>. Vigorous physical activities refer to activities that take hard physical effort and make you breathe much harder than normal. **Moderate** activities refer to activities that take moderate physical effort and make you breathe somewhat harder than normal.

#### PART 1: JOB-RELATED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

The first section is about your work. This includes paid jobs, farming, volunteer work, course work, and any other unpaid work that you did outside your home. Do not include unpaid work you might do around your home, like housework, yard work, general maintenance, and caring for your family. These are asked in Part 3.

1. Do you currently have a job or do any unpaid work outside your home?



Skip to PART 2: TRANSPORTATION

The next questions are about all the physical activity you did in the **last 7 days** as part of your paid or unpaid work. This does not include traveling to and from work.

 During the last 7 days, on how many days did you do vigorous physical activities like heavy lifting, digging, heavy construction, or climbing up stairs as part of your work? Think about only those physical activities that you did for at least 10 minutes at a time.

\_\_\_\_\_ days per week

No vigorous job-related physical activity

Skip to question 4

3. How much time did you usually spend on one of those days doing vigorous physical activities as part of your work?



 Again, think about only those physical activities that you did for at least 10 minutes at a time. During the **last 7 days**, on how many days did you do moderate physical activities like carrying light loads as part of your work? Please do not include walking.

\_ days per week

No moderate job-related physical activity

Skip to question 6

LONG LAST 7 DAYS SELF-ADMINISTERED version of the IPAQ. Revised October 2002.

#### Figure <u>1. A</u> Principle diary

Diary/	Starting	Ending	Main activity	Parallel activity	Who w	/ith:			Where/mod
person	time	time		1	Alone	Spouse	Small	Other	e of tranport
id							child	pers.	
A	04:00	07:20	Sleep						At home
а	07:20	07:50	Shower						At home
а	7:50	08:30	Had breakfast	Read newspaper			Ch		At home
а	08:30	08:40	Walked to bus		A				By foot
а	08:40	09:00	Bus to job					OP	Bybus
а	09:00	11:20	Paid work					OP	At work
а	11:20	11:50	Lunch break:	Talked with				OP	At work
			meal	colleag.					
а	11:50	12:00	Lunch break:	Talked with				OP	By foot
			walk	colleag.					
а	12:00	12:30	Lunch break:		A				By foot
			walk						
а	12:30	16:30	Paid work					OP	At work
а	16:30	16:50	Bus to home	Read newspaper	A				Bybus
а	16:50	17:00	From bus by foot		A				By foot
а	17:00	17:40	Cooked supper	Talked with			Ch		At home
				children					
а	17:40	18:20	Hadsupper	Talked with family		Sp	Ch		At home
а	18:20	19:10	Dish washing	Listened to radio	A				At home
а	19:10	21:00	TV			Sp	Ch		At home
а	21:00	22:10	Took a walk	Talked with spouse		Sp			By foot
а	22:10	22:20	Shower						At home
а	22:20	04:00	Sleep						At home





### Inclusion and exclusion criteria

e
[WLKWD83] No distance/less than 1 mile/1-3 miles/4 or more miles [WLKWM83] 3 months or less/4-6 months/more than 6 months

shown

would you rank yourself? [Sportact]

#### Inclusion

- A measure of reported physical activity (frequency, duration, and/or intensity) across any domain (eg, leisure, travel, work, domestic) or where no specific domain was noted
- Prominent measures of sedentary behaviour (e.g., time spent • sitting, watching television)
- Data collections available in July 2019 (ie, upcoming sweeps of • cohorts were not included)

#### Exclusion

- Whether physical activity affects activities/ leads to fatigue etc.
- Non-core sweeps of cohort studies •
- Other activities which may in fact be classified as sedentary •
- Preferences regarding physical activity

# High level summary of physical activity measures across five British birth cohort studies

Age range of measure	Physical activity measur	e				
	Leisure time activity	Active travel	Occupational	Domestic	Physical inactivity	Accelerometry
7	1991, 2001	1991			1991, 2001	2001
11	1958, 1970, 1991, 2001	1991, 2001			1970, 1991, 2001	1991
14/16y	1958, 1970, 1991, 2001	1991, 2001		1970	1970, 1991, 2001	2001
23/26y	1958, 1991	1991			1958, 1991	
33/36	1946, 1958, 1970	1958, 1946	1946, 1958	1946, 1958		
42/46y	1946,1958, 1970	1958	1958	1946, 1958	1958, 1970	1970
50/53	1946, 1958		1958	1946, 1958		
60/64y	1946	1946	1946	1946	1946	1946
69/70y	1946					

1946 NSHD 1958 NCDS 1970 BCS 1991 ALSPAC 2001 MCS

#### Examining comparability by domain (occupational)

Similar ages of measurement	Overall capturing same construct	Whether (if intensity noted) is equivalent	Whether (if duration noted) is equivalent	Whether (if frequency noted) is equivalent	Same activities included	Timespan of recall is the same	Whether respondent is the same	Other differences in questionnaire wording
Ages 33-36								
NCDS	physical activity in work	intensity (none, a little, some, a lot)	n/a	ı/a	n/a	not specified - 'current'	cm	how much physical effort is involved in your job
NSHD	physical activity in work	intensity (a lot, moderate very little, little)	n/a	ı/a	n/a	not specified - 'current'	cm	do you find that in physical terms work 'takes it out of you'
NSHD	physical activity in work	n/a	n/a	requency (all the time/ nore than half/ half/ less han half/ none)	walking sitting, standng, heavy objects/ other	not specified - 'current'	cm	how much physical effort is involved in your job
Ages 44-45								
NCDS	physical activity in work	intensity (light, moderate heavy)	duration (hours/week)	ı/a	walking sitting, standng, heavy objects/ other	not specified - 'current'	cm	how much physical effort is involved in your job
NCDS	physical activity in work	n/a	n/a	requency (days/week)	stairs	not specified - 'current'	cm	how much physical effort is involved in your job
Ages 50-55								
NCDS	physical activity in work	n/a	n/a	ı/a	walking sitting, standing, heavy objects/ other	not specified - 'current'	cm	how much physical effort is involved in your job
Ages 62-64								
NSHD	physical activity in work	intensity (light, moderate heavy)	duration (hours/week)	<sup>:</sup> requency occurrences/day)	walking sitting, standng, heavy objects/ other	not specified - 'current'	cm	how much physical effort is involved in your job

#### Examining comparability by domain (domestic)

Similar ages of	Overall capturing same	Whether (if intensity	Whether (if duration	Whether (if frequency		Timespan of recall is the		
measurement	construct	noted) is equivalent	noted) is equivalent	noted) is equivalent	ame activities included	same	the same	Notes
Childhood measures								
Age 16								
3CS	Housework, DIY or gardening	n/a	n/a	Everyday - never	lousework/gardening	n/a	СМ	
	Housework, DIY or		,			,		
3CS	gardening	Possible - list of activities	n/a	Regularly - never	lousework/DIY	n/a	СМ	specifies list of activities
Adulthood measures								
Ages 33-36								
	Housework, DIY or			Everyday - less often than				
NCDS	gardening Housework, DIY or	Yes	n/a	2 per month	inspecified	n/a	СМ	every day activities
NSHD	gardening Housework, DIY or	Possible - list of activities	Hours/month Hours/week;	Times per month	УК	Past 4 weeks	CM	
NSHD	gardening	Possible - list of activities		Times per week/month	Gardening/DIY	n/a	СМ	
Ages 43-46								
NSHD	Housework, DIY or gardening	Yes	Hours/week	More than once per week - less than once a month		n/a	СМ	
	Housework, DIY or			More than once per week				
NSHD	gardening	Yes	Hours/week	- less than once a month		n/a	СМ	
	Housework, DIY or			More than once per week				
NSHD	gardening	Yes	Hours/week	- less than once a month		n/a	CM	
NCDS	Housework, DIY or gardening	Possible - list of activities	Hours/day	Everyday - never	Gardening/DIY	n/a	СМ	
Ages 50-53	Surverning		Tiours, duy	Everyddy never	Jaracining/ Dir	ny u		
	Housework, DIY or							
NCDS	gardening Housework, DIY or	Possible - list of activities	n/a	Once a week - never Several times a day -	Bardening/DIY	n/a	СМ	Use your hands in strong
NSHD	gardening	Possible - list of activities	n/a	never	inspecified	n/a	СМ	movements
Ages 62-64								
NSHD	Housework, DIY or gardening	Possible - list of activities	Hours/dav	n/a	Bardening/DIY	Past 12 months	СМ	

#### Examining comparability within cohort (ALSPAC- travel)

Similar ages of measurement	Overall capturing same construct	Whether (if intesnity noted) is equilivent	Whether (if duration noted) is equivalent	Whether (if frequency noted) is equivalent	Same activities included	Timespan of recall is the same	Whether respondent is the same
Childhood measures							
Ages 4-5							
ALSPAC	travel to school	distance (km)	n/a	n/a	cycling & walking	not specified - 'current'	parent
Ages 6-8							
ALSPAC	travel to school	distance (km)	duration (min)	n/a	cycling & walking	not specified - 'current'	parent
Age 11-13							
ALSPAC	travel to school	n/a	duration (min)	n/a	cycling & walking	not specified - 'current'	parent
ALSPAC	general travel	n/a	duration (min)	n/a	cycling & walking	not specified - 'current'	parent
Age 14-16							
ALSPAC	travel to school/college	n/a	duration (min- groups 5-4 min)	n/a	cycling & walking	today/ last time journey was made	cm
Adulthood measures							
Age 22							
ALSPAC	general travel	walking pace (slow, average, brisk,fast)	duration (h/wk)	n/a	cycling & walking	daily	cm

# Conclusions and outputs

The cohorts contained a wide range of The report physical activity variables across dependentions of physical activity across

each cohort including:

- Inclusion/exclusion criteria was created to address ambiguous variables. domains
- Varabolits description swith a rearby ation domainand sizes sweeps, and data

- access policies Variables differed in reporting intensity, duration, and frequency, and otten differed in response scale.
- Cross cohort physical activity data by Harmonisation on a large scale may only be possible at the domain level (e.g.
   Detailed information on origin of binary engagement in activity).
- variables (cohort, sweep, collection

Waetaverfoespendent entireatinesatiable descriptive report of the available data across and within each cohort.

closer The home of longitudinal research	<ol> <li>Introduction</li> <li>2.1. Brief overview of Cohort and Longitudinal Studies Enhancement Resources (CLOSER)</li> </ol>
CLOSER work package 15:	Cohort and Longitudinal Studies Enhancement Resources (CLOSER) is a project funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Medical Research Council (MRC)
Descriptive guide to physical activity measures across five cohorts	that aims to maximise the use, value and impact of longitudinal studies in the UK. CLOSER brings together eight leading studies, the British Library and the UK Data Service, to stimulate interdisciplinary longitudinal research, develop shared resources, provide training and share Expertise.
Prepared by: Meg Fluharty, Aase Villadsen, Aaron Kandola, and David Bann	The CLOSER partnership includes the following eight cohorts and longitudinal studies: Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC): Children of the 90s The UK Household Longitudinal Study (UKHLS): Understanding Society Southampton Women's Survey (SWS) 1958 National Child Development Study (NCDS) MRC National Survey of Health and Development (NSHD) Hertfordshire Cohort Study (HCS) 1970 British Cohort Study (BCS) Millennium Cohort Study (MCS): Child of the New Century
[September 2019]	CLOSER is working to bring longitudinal data together in a consistent format- known as <u>data</u> <u>harmonisation</u> . This process allows researchers to compare data from different studies, revealing how and why the country is changing over time. Additionally, CLOSER are leading research to <u>link</u> <u>data</u> held by government to survey data collected by longitudinal studies. Linking this data enables researchers to gain rich insights into how different aspects of people's lives interrelate. <u>CLOSER</u> <u>Discovery</u> enables researchers to search and browse questionnaires and data from the UK's leading longitudinal studies to find out what data are available. CLOSER provides training and capacity building opportunities for experienced researchers and those running longitudinal studies. <u>The Learning Hub</u> has information and resources aimed at those in academia, government and the third sector who are new to longitudinal studies, to help them better understand the value of the studies and how to use the data. Furthermore, CLOSER fund research projects that use longitudinal data to investigate a wide range of areas of interest, including obesity, physical activity, mental health, and ageing. Finally, CLOSER is working to achieve the greatest possible <u>impact</u> for outputs and activities by influencing government, producing longitudinal resources for the academic community and funding research that addresses the biomedical, social, economic and environmental challenges facing the UK.
	2.2. Physical activity 2.2.1. General definitions and overview Physical activity refers to any bodily movement produced by skeletal muscles that results in energy expenditure (Caspersen, 1985). While physical activity can be broadly conceptualised in terms of

Swee D	Year	Age of CM	Life stage	Subj ect	Infor mant	Administrator	Meth od	Question	PA domain	Sub domain	Questions	Response scale	PA freque	PA  Durati	PA   intensit
NCDS S2	1969	11	Childhood		Parent	Interview	Questi onnaire	Parental Interview Form	LEISURE	SPORTS/EX ERCISE	Frequency of using the following in the last 12 months: A park, public garden, heath, common, or fields where children are allowed to play [N1139] A recreation or other outdoor play centre (other than school) [N1140] Swimming or paddling places which are safe for children [N1141]	Not available, never goes though available, goes sometimes, goes often			
NCDS S2	1969	11	Childhood	СМ	СМ	Self-completed	Questi onnaire	Test Booklet	LEISURE	SPORTS/EX ERCISE	Playing outdoor games or taking part in sports outside school hours [N941]	Often (nearly every day), sometimes, never or hardly			
NCDS S2	1969	11	Childhood	СМ	СМ	Self-completed	Questi onnaire	Test Booklet	INACTIV ITY	TV	Watching television after school hour [N949]	Often (nearly every day), sometimes, never or hardly			
NCDS S3		16	Childhood		СМ	Self-completed		Individual questionna ire		ERCISE	Frequency of the following in spare time: Plays outdoor games & sport [N2866] Plays indoor games & sport [N2867] Swimming [N2866]	Often, sometimes, never or hardly ever, would like to do but do not have the chance.			
NCDS S3	1974	16	Childhood	СМ	СМ	Self-completed	Questi onnaire	Individual questionna ire	INACTIV ITY	τ¥	Frequency of the following in spare time: Watching television [N2868]	Often, sometimes, never or hardly ever, would like to do but do not have the chance.			
NCDS S4	1981	23	Adulthoo d		СМ	Interview	Questi onnaire	CM interview		ERCISE	How often have you done these in the last 4 weeks? Played sport of any kind ("including keep fit, yoga and similar exercise") [N5916]	5 times a week, 3-4 times a week, 1-2 times a week, 2-3 times in the last 4 weeks, once in the last 4 weeks, not done in			
NCDS S4	1981	23	Adulthoo d	СМ	СМ	Interview	Questi onnaire	CM interview	INACTIV ITY	τv	How often have you done these in the last 4 weeks? Watching television [N5913]	5 times a week, 3-4 times a week, 1-2 times a week, 2-3 times in the last 4 weeks, once in the last 4 weeks, not done in			
NCDS S5	1991	33	Adulthoo d	СМ	СМ	Interview	Questi onnaire	Cohort member interview	VORK	VORK	How much physical effort is involved in your job? [N504361]	None, a little, some, a lot			
NCDS S5	1991	33	Adulthoo d	СМ	СМ	Interview	Questi onnaire	Cohort member interview	LEISURE	SPORTS/EX ERCISE	Do you regularly take part in exercise/sport activities [listed on show cars] (regularly means at least one a month for most of the year)? [N504362] How often do you take part in these exercise/sports activities? [N504363]	[N504362] Yes/No [N504363] None, everyday or most days, 4-5 days a week 2-3 days a week, once a week, 2-3 times a month, less often			
NCDS S5	1991	33	Adulthoo d	СМ	СМ	Interview	Questi onnaire	Cohort member interview	HOUSEV ORK	HOUSVORK	Do you ever ever excert yourself enough doing everyday activities (i.e. housework, childcare, gardening, DIY, or just walking around) enough to get out of breath? [N504364] How often do you get out of breath doing these everyday activities? [N504366]	[N504364] yes/no [N504366] Every day or most days/4-5 days a week/2-3 days a week/Once a week/2-3 times a month/Less often			
NCDS S6	2000	42	Adulthoo d	СМ	СМ	Computer assisted personal interview (CAPI)	Questi onnaire	CM interview	LEISURE	SPORTS/EX ERCISE	Do you regularly take part in exercise/sport activities [listed on show cars] (regularly means at least one a month for most of the year)? [exercise] How often do you take part in these exercise/sports activities? [breathIs] When you take part in these exercise/sports activities, do you get out of breath or sweaty [sweat]	[exercise] Yes/no [breathIs] Everyday, 4-5 days a week 2-3 days a week, once a week, 2-3 times a month, less often [sweat] Most times, sometimes, rarely, never			
Biome d	2002	44/45	Adulthoo d	СМ	СМ	Self-completed	Questi onnaire	Self- completion booklet 2	1	SPORTS/EX ERCISE	Frequency and duration of participation in the following activities during leisure time: leisurely swimming [swimslo] [swimsloh] [swimslom]; competitive swimming [swimlap swimlaph swimlapm]; walking for pleasure ("not as a means of transport") [easyulk] [easyulkh] [easyulkm]; backpacking, hill walking, or mountain climbing [hillwlk hillwlkh hillwlkm]; cycling for pleasure ("not as a form of transport") [bikeslo bikesloh bikeslom]; racing or rough terrain cycling [bikehd bikehdh bikehdm]; high impact aerobios, step aerobios [aerobhi aerobhin]; other aerobios [aeroblo aerobloh aeroblom]; exercises with weights [gymwt gymwth gymwtm]; conditioning exercises ("eg, using an exercise bike or rowing machine") [gymcv gymcvh gymovrn]; floor exercises ("eg, stretching, bending, keep fit") [gymfir gymfirh gymfirm]; dancing ("eg ballroom, disco") [dance danceh dancem]; competitive running [running runningh running]; jogging [jogging joggingh jogging]; bowling [bowling bowlingh bowling]; tennis or badminton [tennis tennis]; tennis [ squash squashh squashm]; table tennis [ tabten tabtenh tabtenm]; golf [golf golfh golfm]; football, rugby or hockeg [footie footieh footiem]; cricket [cricket cricketh cricket]; rowing [rowing rowingh rowing]; netball, volleyball, basketball [netball netballh netballm]; fishing [fishing fishingh fishing]; horse riding [hriding hridingh hridingm]; snocker, billiards, darts [snocker snockerh snocker]; musical instrument playing [music musich musich]; ice skating [skating skatingh skating]; sailing, windsuffing, boating [sailing sailing] sailing; winter sports ("eg, skingm] [skiingh sking]; martial arts/boxing/wresting [boxingh boxingh boxing]; other	[vars ending on h] average hours per episode [vars ending on m] average min per episode			

Swee D	Year	Age of CM	Life stage	Subj ect	Infor mant	Administrator	Meth od	Question naire	PA domain	Sub domain	Questions	Response scale	PA freque	PA  Durati	PA   intensit
NCDS S2	1969	11	Childhood		Parent	Interview	Questi onnaire	Parental Interview Form	LEISURE	SPORTS/EX ERCISE	Frequency of using the following in the last 12 months: A park, public garden, heath, common, or fields where children are allowed to play [N1139] A recreation or other outdoor play centre (other than school) [N1140] Swimming or paddling places which are safe for children [N1141]	Not available, never goes though available, goes sometimes, goes often			
NCDS S2	1969	11	Childhood	СМ	СМ	Self-completed	Questi onnaire	Test Booklet	LEISURE	SPORTS/EX ERCISE	Playing outdoor games or taking part in sports outside school hours [N941]	Often (nearly every day), sometimes, never or hardly			
NCDS S2	1969	11	Childhood	СМ	СМ	Self-completed	Questi onnaire	Test Booklet	INACTIV ITY	TV	Watching television after school hour [N949]	Often (nearly every day), sometimes, never or hardly			
NCDS S3		16	Childhood		СМ	Self-completed		Individual questionna ire		ERCISE	Frequency of the following in spare time: Plays outdoor games & sport [N2866] Plays indoor games & sport [N2867] Swimming [N2866]	Often, sometimes, never or hardly ever, would like to do but do not have the chance.			
NCDS S3	1974	16	Childhood	СМ	СМ	Self-completed	Questi onnaire	Individual questionna ire	INACTIV ITY	τ¥	Frequency of the following in spare time: Watching television [N2868]	Often, sometimes, never or hardly ever, would like to do but do not have the chance.			
NCDS S4	1981	23	Adulthoo d		СМ	Interview	Questi onnaire	CM interview		ERCISE	How often have you done these in the last 4 weeks? Played sport of any kind ("including keep fit, yoga and similar exercise") [N5916]	5 times a week, 3-4 times a week, 1-2 times a week, 2-3 times in the last 4 weeks, once in the last 4 weeks, not done in			
NCDS S4	1981	23	Adulthoo d	СМ	СМ	Interview	Questi onnaire	CM interview	INACTIV ITY	τv	How often have you done these in the last 4 weeks? Watching television [N5913]	5 times a week, 3-4 times a week, 1-2 times a week, 2-3 times in the last 4 weeks, once in the last 4 weeks, not done in			
NCDS S5	1991	33	Adulthoo d	СМ	СМ	Interview	Questi onnaire	Cohort member interview	VORK	VORK	How much physical effort is involved in your job? [N504361]	None, a little, some, a lot			
NCDS S5	1991	33	Adulthoo d	СМ	СМ	Interview	Questi onnaire	Cohort member interview	LEISURE	SPORTS/EX ERCISE	Do you regularly take part in exercise/sport activities [listed on show cars] (regularly means at least one a month for most of the year)? [N504362] How often do you take part in these exercise/sports activities? [N504363]	[N504362] Yes/No [N504363] None, everyday or most days, 4-5 days a week 2-3 days a week, once a week, 2-3 times a month, less often			
NCDS S5	1991	33	Adulthoo d	СМ	СМ	Interview	Questi onnaire	Cohort member interview	HOUSEV ORK	HOUSVORK	Do you ever ever excert yourself enough doing everyday activities (i.e. housework, childcare, gardening, DIY, or just walking around) enough to get out of breath? [N504364] How often do you get out of breath doing these everyday activities? [N504366]	[N504364] yes/no [N504366] Every day or most days/4-5 days a week/2-3 days a week/Once a week/2-3 times a month/Less often			
NCDS S6	2000	42	Adulthoo d	СМ	СМ	Computer assisted personal interview (CAPI)	Questi onnaire	CM interview	LEISURE	SPORTS/EX ERCISE	Do you regularly take part in exercise/sport activities [listed on show cars] (regularly means at least one a month for most of the year)? [exercise] How often do you take part in these exercise/sports activities? [breathIs] When you take part in these exercise/sports activities, do you get out of breath or sweaty [sweat]	[exercise] Yes/no [breathIs] Everyday, 4-5 days a week 2-3 days a week, once a week, 2-3 times a month, less often [sweat] Most times, sometimes, rarely, never			
Biome d	2002	44/45	Adulthoo d	СМ	СМ	Self-completed	Questi onnaire	Self- completion booklet 2	1	SPORTS/EX ERCISE	Frequency and duration of participation in the following activities during leisure time: leisurely swimming [swimslo] [swimsloh] [swimslom]; competitive swimming [swimlap swimlaph swimlapm]; walking for pleasure ("not as a means of transport") [easyulk] [easyulkh] [easyulkm]; backpacking, hill walking, or mountain climbing [hillwlk hillwlkh hillwlkm]; cycling for pleasure ("not as a form of transport") [bikeslo bikesloh bikeslom]; racing or rough terrain cycling [bikehd bikehdh bikehdm]; high impact aerobios, step aerobios [aerobhi aerobhin]; other aerobios [aeroblo aerobloh aeroblom]; exercises with weights [gymwt gymwth gymwtm]; conditioning exercises ("eg, using an exercise bike or rowing machine") [gymcv gymcvh gymovrn]; floor exercises ("eg, stretching, bending, keep fit") [gymfir gymfirh gymfirm]; dancing ("eg ballroom, disco") [dance danceh dancem]; competitive running [running runningh running]; jogging [jogging joggingh jogging]; bowling [bowling bowlingh bowling]; tennis or badminton [tennis tennis]; tennis [ squash squashh squashm]; table tennis [ tabten tabtenh tabtenm]; golf [golf golfh golfm]; football, rugby or hockeg [footie footieh footiem]; cricket [cricket cricketh cricket]; rowing [rowing rowingh rowing]; netball, volleyball, basketball [netball netballh netballm]; fishing [fishing fishingh fishing]; horse riding [hriding hridingh hridingm]; snocker, billiards, darts [snocker snockerh snocker]; musical instrument playing [music musich musich]; ice skating [skating skatingh skating]; sailing, windsuffing, boating [sailing sailing] sailing; winter sports ("eg, skingm] [skiingh sking]; martial arts/boxing/wresting [boxingh boxingh boxing]; other	[vars ending on h] average hours per episode [vars ending on m] average min per episode			



### (2) Socioeconomic differentials in physical activity across ethnicity, age, and sex in Understanding Society

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### Participants

- Understanding Society: the UK Household Longitudinal Study (UKHLS) is a nationally representative study which started in 2009 aiming to recruit individuals in 40,000 households
- The sample for our analysis includes adult (20 years or over) responders who took part in Wave 5 (2013-2015) and responded to demographic and physical activity questions via interviewer led and self-completed questionnaire.

# Exposure and outcome variables

#### Domain specific physical activity

- Active travel
- Occupational physical activity
- Light and moderate-to-vigorous leisure time

#### Socio demographics

- Highest educational attainment
- Ethnicity
- Sex
- Age group



### Statistical analyses



- Logistic regression models were conducted to examine independent and effect modification association of sociodemographics with physical activity in each domain
- Analyses were assessed before and after mutual adjustment for each demographic variable and weighted according to design and attrition.
- Those with missing demographic and education data yet valid outcome data were excluded from analysis.

#### Flow diagram of analysis in Understanding Society



#### Educational differences in active travel by sex, ethnicity, and age





- Highest active travel: highly educated, male, older ages.
- Education disparity: largest amongst females and Black individuals

#### Educational differences in occupation by sex, ethnicity, and age



#### Educational differences in light leisure time activity by sex, ethnicity, and age



Highest light LTPA: highly educated, white, female, and older ages

Education disparity: largest amongst female and older adults





Highest moderate-to-vigorous LTPA: highly educated, white, male, younger age.

Education disparity: largest amongst White and Asians, and aged 40-59y

### Discussion

- Individuals with higher education were less likely to engage in active travel and occupational physical activity, but were more likely to engage in LTPA.
  - However, these education disparities were substantially modified by ethnicity, age, and sex.
  - We were unable to distinguish age from cohort, hence need for future cross-cohort research
- Previous evidence suggest a number of possible disparities such as health status, environment, cultural preferences, financial resources, perceived safety, and domestic requirement may exist within each sociodemographic group or given a level of educational attainment.



# Strengths and Limitations

#### Strengths

- Large nationally representative sample
- Examined previously seldom-examined role of ethnicity as a modifier in PA- education relationship
- Examined activity outcomes across three activity domains

#### Limitations

- Lacked information on activity duration
- Did not capture housework/domestic domain
- Measures were captures via self-report
- Some domains restricted by question routing
- Due to the cross-sectional design we cannot infer causality





### Conclusions

In summary, we found sex, age, and ethnicity modified associations between educational attainment and multiple physical activity outcomes.

Our findings imply there may be unequal access or additional barriers to physical activity across both education and demographic sub-groups.

Better understanding the characteristics of physically inactive sub-groups may aid development of tailored interventions to increase activity levels and reduce health inequalities.



# Thanks and acknowledgements



#### **Centre for Longitudinal Studies**

**CLOSER** consortium

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#### Cohorts involved:

- 1946 National study of health and development
- 1958 National child development study
- 1970 British cohort study
- Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children
- Millennium Cohort Study
- Understanding Society