



NILS-RSU

NORTHERN IRELAND LONGITUDINAL STUDY
RESEARCH SUPPORT UNIT

NILS-RSU Introductory Information

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Funded by:



The NILS

- Longitudinal database of people and their major life events based on existing data sources
- Health card data linked to Census and administrative data
- Sample members selected based on birth date
- 104 birth dates
 - c.28% sample
 - c.500,000 people
- Two similar record linkage studies are available (ONS-LS, SLS) and the NILS works with these and CALLS
- NIMS 1991, 2001 & 2011: 100% sample
 - Death data linked to Census data





ONS Longitudinal Study



Scottish Longitudinal Study



Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study

Study sample	1% of the population of England & Wales	5% of the population of Scotland	28% of the population of Northern Ireland
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Records from 2001 Census	540,000	260,000	452,600
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Records from 2011 Census	>950,000	N/A	477,800
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Censuses in the study	1971, 1981, 1991, 2001, 2011	1991, 2001	1991, 2001, 2011
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Academic user support	 <p>Centre for Longitudinal Study Information & User Support, UCL</p>	 <p>Scottish Longitudinal Study Development & Support Unit, University of St. Andrews</p>	 <p>Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study Research Support Unit, QUB</p>
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Census data available	Complete census data for study members and for people living in the same household as a study member	Complete census data for study members and for people living in the same household as a study member	Complete census data for study members and for people living in the same household as a study member
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Event data available	<p>Civil registration system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Births of sample members • Births to sample mothers • Stillbirths / Infant deaths • Deaths of sample members • Widow(er)hoods <p>NHS Central Register</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration • Emigration • Minor events <p>Cancer registries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancer data 	<p>Civil registration system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Births of sample members • Births to sample mothers • Births to sample fathers • Stillbirths / Infant deaths • Marriages • Deaths of sample members • Widow(er)hoods <p>NHS Central Register</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration • Emigration <p>Scottish Govt. Education Directorate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School level education data including attendance, exclusions, attainment and qualifications <p>Other data available, subject to approval</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital episodes • Maternity data • Cancer data 	<p>Civil registration system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Births of sample members • Births to sample mothers • Births to sample fathers • Deaths of sample members <p>Health card registration system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration • Emigration • Internal migration <p>Land & Property Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing data <p>Health & Social Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health data linked in one-off distinct linkage projects (e.g. prescription data, dental treatments) subject to approval
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Access to the NILS

- Approved Researchers
- Approved Projects
- Researchers must access the data in NISRA's secure environment
- Research proposal criteria (1) – the research must have relevance to Health & Social Care
- NILS uses the WHO definition of health – ‘a state of complete mental, physical and social wellbeing’
- Research proposal criteria (2) – the research must have a longitudinal aspect





NILS-RSU

Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study
Research Support Unit

Home About Projects Guides & Resources Outputs News Events Variables More

Welcome to



NILS-RSU

Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study - Research Support Unit

Explore the variables held in the NILS data dictionary.


Updated variable search interface coming soon featuring an improved interface and the option to build and store an online list of variables which can be downloaded to use in your application form.

LATEST TWEETS

 **NILS** @NILSRSU 8 May

Our Census Imputation Presentation is now available online: bit.ly/1fygUur #brownbag

Expand

 **NILS** @NILSRSU 7 May

It's now less than a month until our 2011 Census Linkage Launch Event - Secure your place now bit.ly/1mBhCjW #research

Expand

CONNECT WITH US

Welcome to the new website of the Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study Research Support Unit (NILS-RSU)

Here you can find out more about the work of the NILS-RSU and the Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study, including:

- How the NILS was created and what it contains
- Detailed information about the variables we hold
- How to apply to use the NILS for your research

OUTPUTS

Read the latest NILS outputs:
Research Publications

USER GUIDES

Before you start read our User Guides, see what's required when applying to access data and

RECENT NEWS

Approved Researcher Status

All new and existing researchers are now required to attain Approved Researcher status by completing... [\[more\]](#)

Fully-funded PhD studentship

A fully-funded PhD studentship has been offered by QUB as part of the successful application to the ... [\[more\]](#)

WHAT'S ON AT QUEEN'S

There currently are no upcoming events for What's on at Queen's.

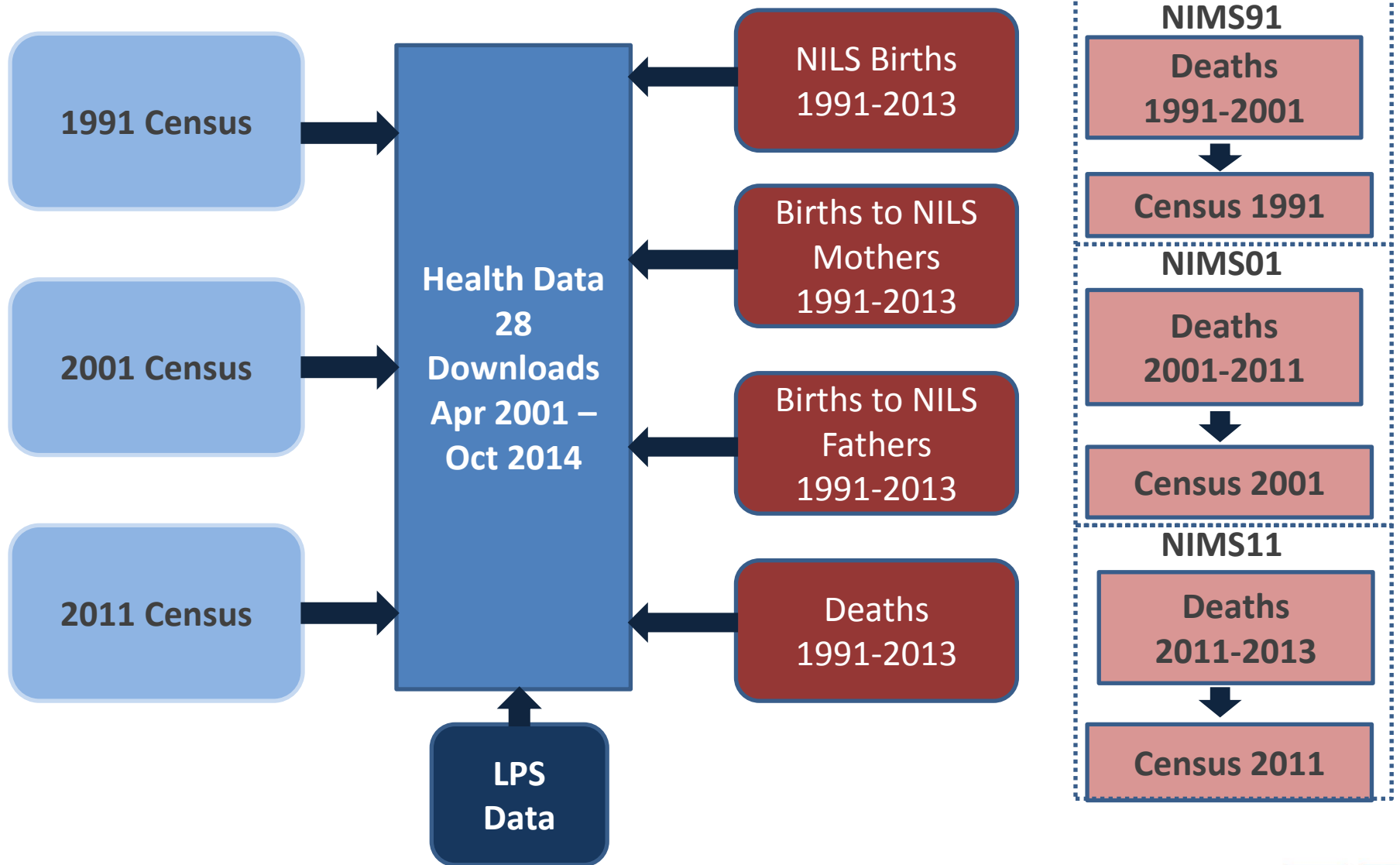
UPCOMING EVENTS

[NILS 2011 Census Linkage Launch](#)

The NILS-RSU supports researchers by: supervising the secure environment; helping researchers make applications; promoting NILS-based research through seeking new users and policy engagement; building capacity



NILS & NIMS Datasets



Growth of the NLS dataset

- The NLS started with the 2001 Census and subsequent vital events and address changes
- With the additions of the 1991 & 2011 Census links it is now possible to look at the transitions of people and places between 1991 and 2011
- Themes that can be considered include
 - Labour market transitions (economic status, occupation)
 - Housing transitions (tenure change and health)
 - Demographic transitions (health status, religion, marital status)

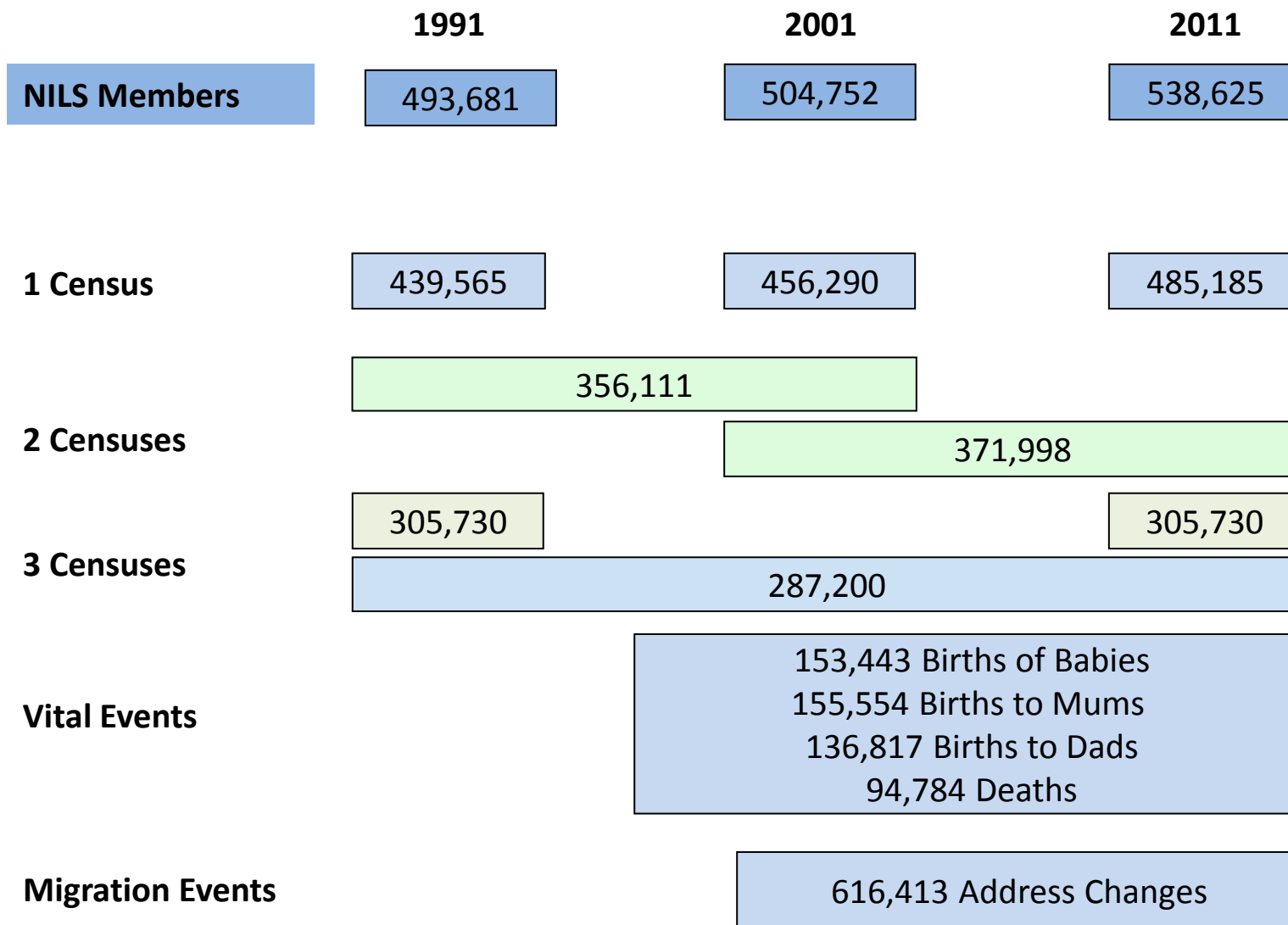


Future development of the NILS

- Other themes that can be researched include
 - Fertility
 - Mortality (NIMS)
 - Migration – internal and moves into and out of NI
- The utility of the NILS will increase further later this year with the 1981 Census being linked to the NILS – 4 Censuses and 30 years of data
- These will mean that long-term social and demographic change can be described and analysed



NILS Sample size for Analysis



Supporting Documentation

- NILES Data Dictionary
- Metadata Document
- Searchable Data Dictionary
- Census 2011 Variables Overview
- Working Papers
- Imputation Rates Paper



Contact Details



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