

TEDS Young Sibling Datasets

Between 1997 and 2004, data were collected from younger siblings of TEDS twins. Data were collected when siblings were aged 2, 3, 4 and 7, using the same measures as had already been used for collecting data from the twins.

The measures collected are summarised in a table below.

Variable names

The item variables and scales for young siblings, at all ages, have the same names as the equivalent twin variables, except for the suffix. In the twin datasets, all variables are double entered and their names have suffix "1" or "2", denoting twin and cotwin respectively. In the young sibling data, these suffixes are replaced by "3", to indicate the 3rd child in the family. The young siblings were not themselves twins, so the young sibling variables are not double entered.

For example, at age 7 the parent-reported heights and weights for twins are in variables ghtcm1/2 and gwtkg1/2 respectively. The equivalent variables for young siblings are **ghtcm3** and **gwtkg3** respectively.

Background variables

Flag variables, to show the presence or absence of data at each age, are coded 1=yes 0=no:

- bsibdata: 2 year booklet data
- csibdata: 3 year booklet data
- dsibdata: 4 year booklet data
- gcdata3: 7 year child test data
- gpdata3: 7 year parent questionnaire data
- gtdata3: 7 year teacher questionnaire data

Age variables indicate the age of the young sibling (in decimal years) when each data collection was made:

- bsibage: age when 2 year booklet completed
- csibage: age when 3 year booklet completed
- dsibage: age when 4 year booklet completed
- gpcage3: age when parent and twin telephone interviews were done
- gtqage3: age when teacher questionnaire completed

Other background variables:

- id_fam: pseudonymous family identifier, for matching with twin datasets
- id_sib: unique, pseudonymous young sibling identifier, comprising digits of id_fam following by "3", indicating the 3rd child in the family (after the two twins).
- sibpar: young sibling parentage: 1=both parents the same as for the twins; 2=one parent the same as for the twins
- sibsex: young sibling sex; 0=female, 1=male

Dataset cleaning

The young sibling data were cleaned as follows:

- There were a few families in which data had been collected from more than one younger sibling of the twins. Such duplication has been removed, retaining data for only one young sibling per family. Siblings with greater amounts of available data, and siblings closer in age to the twins, were prioritised.
- Small numbers of young siblings with extreme outlying ages were removed. For example, in the 4 Year sibling data, all siblings were aged between 3.8 and 4.5 years when data were collected.
- Data were collected from very small numbers of siblings who were unrelated to the twins; these have been removed (see variable sibpar above).

Measures

The table below summarises the measures collected from the younger siblings at each age. Because the measures were identical to those used for twins, full details and references are not repeated here. Please refer to the relevant measures pages in the TEDS data dictionary, for details of all measures.

Note that the parent booklets at ages 2, 3 and 4 were not used. At age 7, twin-specific measures in the parent and teacher questionnaires were used in addition to the child telephone interview tests.

Age, instrument	Measures collected	Number of items	Derived variables
2 year: child booklet (parent-administered tests and parent reported measures)	PARCA: drawing	4	Drawing score
	PARCA: matching	8	Matching score
	PARCA: blocks	4	Blocks score
	PARCA: folding	1	Folding score
	PARCA: copy	7	Copying score
	MCDI: vocabulary	100	Vocabulary score
	MCDI: word use	6	Word use score
	MCDI: sentence complexity	12	Sentence complexity score
	PARCA: parent report	26	Parent report score
	Behaviour measures	44	Behar scales
3 year: child booklet (parent-administered tests and parent reported measures)	PARCA: odd one out	16	Odd one out score
	PARCA: drawing, plus handedness items	6	Drawing score, Handedness scores
	PARCA: matching	16	Matching score
	Feedback from drawing, matching and odd one out	12	-
	PARCA: parent report	24	Parent report score
	MCDI: vocabulary, and associated items	102	Vocabulary score
	MCDI: word use	12	Word use score
	MCDI: sentence complexity	12	Sentence complexity score, grammar score
	Behaviour measures	52	Behar and general behaviour scales
	Height and weight	2	BMI
	Diet	7	-
	Communication items	8	-
	Gender roles	24	Gender role scales
4 year: child booklet (parent-administered tests and parent reported measures)	PARCA: odd one out	16	Odd one out score
	PARCA: drawing, plus handedness items	6	Drawing score, Handedness scores
	PARCA: draw a child	1	Draw a child score
	PARCA: puzzle	12	Puzzle score
	Receptive picture vocabulary	8	Picture vocabulary score
	Feedback from drawing, odd one out, puzzle, picture vocabulary	16	-
	PARCA: parent report	12	Parent report score
	Communication items	3	Grammar score, low language flag
	MCDI: vocabulary	48	Vocabulary score
	MCDI: abstract language	14	-
	Use of numbers	5	-
	Literacy and phonology	10	-

Age, instrument	Measures collected	Number of items	Derived variables
	CHAT	11	-
	Gender roles	24	Gender role scales
	Height and weight	2	BMI
	Diet	7	-
	Behaviour measures	58	SDQ, Behar and general behaviour scales
7 year: child tests (administered by TEDS testers via phone calls)	Conceptual grouping test	9	Conceptual grouping score
	Similarities test	13	Similarities score
	TOWRE word and non-word tests	2	(items are scores)
	Vocabulary test	18	Vocabulary score
	Picture completion test	21	Picture completion score
7 year parent questionnaire (administered by TEDS staff via phone calls)	Behaviour measures	63	SDQ, PSD and ASD scales
	Parental discipline	6	-
	Parental feelings	7	-
	Height and weight	2	BMI
7 year teacher questionnaire	Behaviour measures	60	SDQ, PSD and ASD scales
	National Curriculum ratings: English and maths	6	Mean ratings for English, maths and overall