

**UK Data Archive: Edition History of SN 5050 - *English Longitudinal Study of Ageing* (ELSA)**

The first deposit of ELSA data at the UK Data Archive was made in 2005. Since then has undergone numerous revisions and new editions. The following text provides an 'edition history' of updates to the ELSA released by the UK Data Archive.

- The original release of ELSA (March 2005) contained data and documentation from Wave 1.
- For the second edition (June 2005), Pension Wealth Derived Variables data and documentation were added.
- For the third edition (September 2005), Wave 1 Financial Derived Variables data and documentation were added.
- For the fourth edition (August 2006), data and documentation for Wave 2 were added.
- For the fifth edition (November 2006) the following additions and updates were included: data and documentation from Wave 0; an updated version of the Wave 2 Nurse data; and the Wave 2 mortgage derived data with accompanying documentation (including a new version of the Wave 2 interview questionnaire).
- For the sixth edition (January 2007) the ELSA Index file and accompanying documentation were added. This file contains details of all age-eligible individuals within households identified from HSEs 1998, 1999 and 2001 (over 21,000 people). It also includes all ineligible individuals living in the same households as eligible individuals (a further 6,074 people). The variables comprise respondent status and some mortality information, as well as analytical identifiers.
- For the seventh edition (April 2007), a file containing self-completion data relating to personal beliefs and wellbeing, otherwise known as the 'Ryff' scale, were added. Accompanying documentation for the Ryff data and in addition, the questionnaire from the Nurse Visit, were added to the Wave 2 documentation.
- For the eighth edition (August 2007), some new items and updates to older materials were deposited. The new material comprised Wave 2 Pension Grid data and accompanying documentation; the Wave 1 Technical Report; a guide to the geographical variables used in ELSA; and a guidance document on applications for ELSA genetic data. Updates included a new version of the Wave 1 Pension Wealth Derived Variables data file and accompanying user guide, a revised core questionnaire and core user guide for Wave 1, and a revised core user guide for Wave 2. In addition, many existing files in the ELSA dataset underwent name changes at the request of the depositor.
- For the ninth edition (January 2008), data and documentation from Wave 3 were added to the dataset (Wave 3 Phase 1 deposit).

- For the 10th edition (June 2008): the Wave 3 Phase 1 data file was replaced with a new version (Phase 2 - see Wave 3 documentation for details of deposit phasing) and accompanying documentation; previously unavailable Wave 3 Pension Grid data (with documentation) and Mortgage Grid data (currently no documentation) were deposited; updated data and documentation for Wave 1 and 2 Pension Grid data, and updated documentation for the existing Wave 1 Pension Wealth Derived Variables file were deposited. In addition, syntax was supplied to correct variables labels for the SC module in the Wave 1 Core data. This has been applied to the Wave 1 Core file available from UKDA, and users are advised to either download a new version or run the syntax (see 'Useful Notes' section below) themselves on their existing file.
- For the 11th edition (June 2009), the Wave 3 Life History data and documentation were deposited (see also notes below on edits to 'Idauniq' variable in the Life History data file). In addition, Wave 2 Technical Report and Quality of Care documents, and a table describing the documentation currently available for ELSA (see documentation table in catalogue record or download zip package) were also deposited. Three duplicate cases, 111562 (Wave 0 1999 and Common files, and Wave 1 data), and 114707 and 116492 (Wave 0 2001 and Common files) have been removed, and some edits to Core data for Waves 1 and 2 (variable labels) have been made at the depositor's request.
- For the 12th edition (September/October 2009), several additions and amendments were made to the study. Users who obtained the 12th edition before 5 October 2009 are advised to download a new version, as some extra materials were added on that date. The 12th edition updates are as follows: a new document, the Wave 3 Technical Report, was added; a new data file containing Wave 2 Derived Variables, was added, with an accompanying user guide; an updated version of the Wave 3 Core Data (Phase 2 v.2) was added, with its user guide documentation updated accordingly (amendments to the data are detailed under 'Useful Notes' below); an updated version of the Index File (v.3) was added, again with its user guide documentation updated accordingly; and some amendments were made to the Wave 2 Core data file.
- For the 13th edition (January 2010), the Wave 4 Phase 1 data and documentation were deposited. Users should note that variables wplnksmu to wplnkm86, wplchmph to wplchm86 and wpwynmoh to wpwynm86 are not currently included in the data file, but may still be referenced in the Wave 4 Phase 1 documentation. It is hoped they may be reinstated for the Wave 4 Phase 2 deposit. Also, some variables in the Wave 3 Core data, with erroneous 'CH' prefixes that should have been 'CF', have been renamed as follows: chwhmeye=cfwhmeye; chwhmhea=cfwhmhea; chwhmtir=cfwhmtir; chwhmill=cfwhmill; chwhmcon=cfwhmcon; chwhmner=cfwhmner; chwhmmen=cfwhmmen; chwhmdis=cfwhmup; chwhmnoi=cfwhmnoi; chwhmlap=cfwhmlap; chwhmeng=cfwhmeng; chwhmref=cfwhmref. In addition, a Derived Variable Guide for the Life History Data was received during February 2010; this has been added to the existing Life History

documentation.

- For the 14th edition (August 2010), the following changes were made: the Wave 4 Core data was replaced with an updated version (Phase 2), and the User Guide updated accordingly; and the Wave 4 Nurse data, and Wave 3 Financial Derived Variables were added, both with accompanying documentation.
- For the 15th edition (April 2011) the following changes were made: the Wave 4 Core data was replaced with a version containing updated weighting variables (the updated weights were previously available on fast-track); the Wave 4 Financial Derived Variables (again, previously available on fast-track) were added to the main dataset and information covering Wave 1-4 Financial Derived Variables was added to the main documentation for each wave; the Wave 3 Core data file had value labels for variables scdri01 to scdri07 updated; self-completion weight variables (previously only available in the Index file) were added to Waves 1-3 core data files; and the Work and Pensions Module (WP) questionnaire was updated in the 'Wave 3 Phase 2 User Guides and Documentation' file.
- For the 16th edition (October 2012), Wave 5 Core data and Pensions data were added to the study, with Wave 5 documentation and a new all-waves user guide, which supersedes the previous individual wave user guides. In addition, the Waves 1-4 Financial Derived Variables user guide, previously included in individual wave documents, has also become a separate volume.
- For the 17th edition (December 2012), the following changes were made:
  - Wave 1: a revised core dataset including derived variables, with one erroneous case removed, and a revised financial derived variables dataset\* and documentation were deposited;
  - Wave 2: a revised financial derived variables dataset\* and documentation, a revised pensions grid dataset, and a pensions wealth dataset and documentation were added;
  - Wave 3: a revised core dataset including derived variables, with a few erroneous cases removed, a revised financial derived variables dataset\* and documentation, a revised pensions grid dataset, and a pensions wealth dataset and documentation were added;
  - Wave 4: a revised core dataset including derived variables, a revised financial derived variables dataset\* and documentation, a pensions grid dataset, a pensions wealth dataset and documentation, and a technical report were added;
  - Wave 5: a revised core dataset including derived variables, a new self-completion weight and four new health variables (HEFUNC, HEKNEF, HEPSUR and HEPORTH), a financial derived variables dataset\* and documentation, and separate pensions grid and pensions wealth datasets and documentation were added.
  - \*Financial derived variables: the depositor advises that all users should use the December 2012 versions of all five waves of financial derived variables.

Old and new versions should never be mixed, as the revised files differ substantially from previous versions. See documentation for further details.

- The RAND ELSA dataset and documentation has also been added for the 17th edition; this is a version of ELSA specifically designed for harmonization with the RAND Health and Retirement Study (RAND HRS), which is conducted in the USA.
- For the 18th edition (February 2013), five Derived Variables datasets compiled by the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) were added to the study, with accompanying documentation. The purpose of these datasets is to centralise the derivation of some of the more complex variables within ELSA.
- For the 19th edition (April 2013), the Wave 3 and 4 core datasets were updated to remove a small number of redundant variables; the Index data file and user guide were updated to cover Waves 0-5; three variables were renamed in the Wave 5 core data file (iadhpnec, iadhpnmes and iabepnwc are now named iahdpnes, iahdpnmes and iabepntc respectively); the Wave 1-5 IFS derived variables and user guide were updated; and the Wave 2-5 Pension Wealth data files were updated.
- For the 20<sup>th</sup> edition (October 2013), new versions of the Wave 1-5 core datasets were deposited. Government Office Region (GOR) variable was added; incorrect derivations of two Cognitive function derived variables (cfmeind and cfind) for Wave 3 were amended, and one 'idauniq' case amended in Wave 5. The Wave 0 dataset was updated to include cohorts 3 and 4 and the Wave 0 User Guide amended accordingly. The Index file was updated to include the 'mortwave' variable, 11 duplicate cases were removed and the household ID variable 'idahhw0' was added to the new cohort 3 and 4 cases from the Wave 0 file.
- For the 21<sup>st</sup> edition (July 2014), data and documentation for Wave 6 (conducted 2012-2013) were added to the study. The Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) have also deposited derived variables and financial derived variables files for Wave 6 and updated versions for Waves 1-5, with accompanying new and updated documentation. The IFS advise that previous users must use the new versions of the Waves 1-5 files and all users should read the document '5050\_readme\_financial\_derived\_variables.pdf' before analysing the data.
- For the 22<sup>nd</sup> edition (April 2015), an updated version of the ELSA Harmonised dataset (formerly RAND) and accompanying documentation; a file of additional cognitive variables for Wave 5; an updated guide to access arrangements to ELSA genetic data; a new document describing the ELSA study and an updated Wave 1-6 user guide were deposited.
- For the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition (June 2015), four new data files were added to the study - End of Life data for Waves 2, 3 and 4 and Wave 6 Pension Grid data. In addition, updated versions of the Wave 2, 5 and 6 core data files, the Wave 6 nurse data and Wave 3 and 5 Pension Grid data were deposited. Two new documentation files were also deposited - Wave 5 and 6 Technical Reports. Updates to existing documentation

included the addition of End of Life questionnaires for Waves 2, 3 and 4, Risk module screenshots for Wave 5, the Nurse user guide, the End of Life user guide and the Wave 1-6 Core data user guide. Further information about new files and updates may be found in the file '5050\_notes\_about\_june\_2015\_ukds\_update.pdf'.

- For the 24th edition (May 2016), core data and documentation for Wave 7, and an updated version of the Harmonised dataset with accompanying documentation, were added to the study.
- For the 25th edition (August 2016), Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) derived variables and financial derived variables files for Wave 7 and updated versions for Waves 1-6 have been deposited, with accompanying new and updated documentation. The IFS advise that previous users must use the new versions of the Waves 1-6 files and all users should read the documents '5050\_readme\_financial\_derived\_variables' and '5050\_ifs\_derived\_vars\_user\_guide' before analysing the data.
- For the 26th edition (October 2016), Wave 7 Pensions Grid data were added to the study.
- For the 27th edition (March 2017), Wave 2 Salivary Cortisol data and accompanying documentation were added to the study.
- For the 28th edition (May 2018), new data and documentation for Wave 8, and an updated version of the ELSA harmonized file with accompanying documentation, were added to the study.