ELSA DATA SET WAVES 1 TO 9

Note: Cells in parentheses (✔) only updated if circumstances change. Wave 0 refers to the Health Survey for England from which the ELSA sample was recruited.
Cells in square brackets [✔] only collected/assessed for refreshment sample or those who had not undertaken previously.

Data Collection Key: C = CAPI, S = Self Completion, U = Nurse

Sample Statistics

Wave/Year	Data Collection Key	Sample	Refreshment
Wave 1 (2002/3)	C	12,099	
Wave 2 (2004/5)	C + U	9,432 + 7,666	
Wave 3 (2006/7)	C	9,771	HSE 2001-4
Wave 4 (2008/9)	C + U	11,050 + 8,643	HSE 2006
Wave 5 (2010/11)	C	10,274	
Wave 6 (2012/13)	C + U	10,601 + 8,054	HSE 2009-11
Wave 7 (2014/15)	C	9,666	HSE 2011-12
Wave 8 (2016/17)	C + U(50%)	8,445 + 3,525	
Wave 9 (2018/19)	C + U(50%)		HSE 2013-15

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA AT EACH WAVE OF ELSA

Wave Number	Data Collection Key	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Household Income											
Household membership	C	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Changes in household membership	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Living parents, siblings, children, and grandchildren	C	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Marital status	C	✔	✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
Ethnic group	C	✔	✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
Country of birth	C	✔	✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
Educational qualifications	C	✔	✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
Age completed full-time education	C		✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
Occupation of main carer when respondent was aged 14yr	C		✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
Proximity to children	C									✔	✔
Citizenship	C										✔

Economics data

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Household Income	**Data Collection Key**										
Earnings	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
State benefits (by source and recipient)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Private pensions	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Asset income (by asset category)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Other income (including receipt of lump sums)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Wealth	**Data Collection Key**										
Financial assets (12 categories)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Physical assets (5 categories)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Business wealth	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Debt (3 categories)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Housing wealth and mortgage debt (including equity release and home reversion plans)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Lifetime inheritances and gifts	C							✔	✔	✔	✔
Life insurance	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Pensions	**Data Collection Key**										
Current plan details	C		✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
Date joined plan	C		✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
Current contributions	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Self-reported accrued pension wealth	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Past pension details (up to 3 past pensions)	C		✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
Plan names	C		✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
State pension statements	C				✔						
Knowledge of female state pension age	C				✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
State pension deferral	C					✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
End to compulsory annuitisation	C									✔	✔

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Employment	Data Collection Key										
Main job details	C	✔	✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
Health and work disability	C			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Normal pay and hours	C	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Secondary and other economic activity details	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Age and reason for retirement if retired	C		✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
Employer name and permission to contact	C		✔	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)	(✔)
Compulsory retirement ages	C			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Health limiting ability to work	C			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Desired/offered/requested workplace adaptations	C			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Consumption	Data Collection Key										
Housing (rent and mortgage payments)	C	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Satisfaction with housing and area	C						✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Vehicle ownership	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Durable ownership	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Durable purchases	C			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Food in, food out	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Fuel expenditures	C			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Health insurance contributions	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Leisure	C			✔		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Clothing	C			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Transfers (incl. charitable giving and Child Trust Funds)	C			✔		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

Wave Number	Data Collection Key	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Expectations											
Mortality	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Employment	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Works past age 70	C										✔
Care received at home	C										✔
Bequest and inheritances	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Health limit ability to work	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Income adequacy	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Movement into nursing home	C			✔				✔	✔	✔	✔
House value	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Moving house	C			✔							
Public and private pension income	C			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Self-reported financial planning period	C		✔	✔							
Perceived financial position relative to neighbours/friends/colleagues	C			✔	✔	✔	✔				
Future housing and care needs	C							✔	✔	✔	✔
Short stays in residential/nursing homes	C									✔	✔
Risk module (subgroup)	C						✔				

MEASURES OF HEALTH, DISABILITY, AND HEALTH BEHAVIOUR

Wave Number	Data Collection Key	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Physical Health											
Self-rated general health; (Limiting) long-standing illness	C	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Mobility: difficulties walking ¼ mile & symptoms if try	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Mobility: 10 items concerning difficulty walking, getting up, lifting, etc.					✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Eyesight and hearing – self-reported health and difficulties. Whether had glaucoma/diabetic eye disease/cataract/macular degeneration, Cataract surgery	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Dental health – self reported health and difficulties	C				✔	✔	✔		✔		✔
If age 65+ years, whether blood pressure checked in last year	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Physician diagnosed conditions:	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

Wave Number	Data Collection Key	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Physical Health											
Coronary heart disease, stroke, diabetes, raised cholesterol, quality of care, chronic lung disease, asthma, arthritis, osteoporosis, cancer, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimers, dementia.											
Quality of care indicators; Diabetes	C			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔	
Quality of care indicators; Urinary incontinence	C			✔							
Quality of care indicators; Depression	C			✔		✔				✔	
Quality of care indicators; Cholesterol	C			✔			✔	✔		✔	
Quality of care indicators; Hypertension	C			✔	✔	✔					
Quality of care indicators; Arthritis	C			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔	
Quality of care indicators; Smoking	C			✔			✔	✔			
Quality of care indicators; Stroke	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Quality of care indicators; Osteoporosis	C			✔			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Quality of care indicators; Coronary Heart Disease	C			✔					✔	✔	
Quality of care indicators; Hearing Problems	C			✔					✔		
Quality of care indicators; Pain				✔	✔					✔	
Quality of care indicators: falls and fractures	C			✔		✔				✔	
Falls and resulting fractures if age 60+y	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Hip and knee replacements received	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Pain: overall rating (mild/mod/severe) and for back, hip, knees	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Balance and dizziness	C		✔	✔		✔		✔			✔
Sleep disturbance – Duration and quality	C					✔		✔		✔	
Diagnostic symptom assessments: Rose Angina, MRC Respiratory Questionnaire;	C	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔				
Edinburgh Claudication Questionnaire	C					✔	✔	✔			
Disabilities: 6 ADLS and 9 IADLS . Aids used, Sources of help, Who pays Age 65+y: whether use meals on wheels, day centres, lunch clubs	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Urinary incontinence, quality of care	C	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔ (S)	✔ (S)
Menopause	C					✔	✔	✔		✔	✔
Cancer screening participation	C						✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Polypharmacy	C							✔		✔	✔
HearCheck test	C								✔		

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Physical Health	Data Collection Key										
Sense of taste and smell	C									✔	✔
Perceived weight	C									✔	✔
Heath preferences and attitudes to risk	S									✔	

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Health Behviours	Data Collection Key										
Smoking history, quality of care for cessation	C	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Alcohol consumption: usual frequency, heaviest consumption day last week	S	✔ C	✔ C	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Physical activity: frequency do vigorous/moderate/mild exercise, Whether job sedentary or physically active	C	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Consumption of fruit and vegetables	S				✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	
Food poverty	S										✔
On-line nutrition assessment											✔

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Mental Health	Data Collection Key										
Psychiatric diagnoses	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-12)	C	✔	✔		✔						
CES-D depression scale	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sexual Health	Data Collection Key										
Attitudes to sex	S							✔		✔	
Current sexual activities and experiences	S							✔		✔	
Sexual partners	S							✔		✔	
Lifetime desires and experiences	S							✔		✔	

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Physical Examination and performance data (Nurse Visit)	Data Collection Key										
Height and weight; waist and hip	U/C	✔		✔		✔		✔		✔ weight only	✔ weight only
Blood pressure	U	✔		✔		✔		✔		✔	✔
Lung function	U	✔		✔		✔		✔			
Chair stands; Balance; Grip strength;	U			✔		✔		✔		✔ grip only	✔ grip only
Walking speed performance test (≥60 years)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Blood Assays	Data Collection Key										
Triglycerides	U	✔		✔		✔		✔		✔	✔
Total and DHL-cholesterol	U	✔		✔		✔		✔		✔	✔
C-reactive protein, fibrinogen	U	✔		✔		✔		✔		✔	✔
Haemoglobin and ferritin	U	✔		✔		✔		✔		✔	✔
White blood cell count	U					✔		✔		✔	✔
Fasting lipids, glucose, glycated haemoglobin	U			✔		✔		✔		✔	✔
Cortisol (from saliva).	U			✔		✔					
IgE / DHM IgE	U	✔									
IGF-1	U					✔		✔		✔	✔
DHEAS	U					✔					
Vitamin D	U							✔		✔	✔
DNA extraction and storage	U			✔		[✔]		[✔]		[✔]	[✔]
Cortisol (from hair)	U							✔			
RNA Paxgene tubes	U									✔	✔

PSYCHOSOCIAL MEASURES

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Social and Civic Participation	Data Collection Key										
Informal care giving	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Volunteering	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Provision of unpaid help	C					✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Civic, social and cultural participation	S		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Accessing local amenities and services	S		✔	✔		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
TV watching	S					✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Social networks	S		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Social support	S	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Social isolation/loneliness	S			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Transport	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Social capital	S		✔		✔						
Perceived discrimination	S						✔				
Religiosity	S						✔				✔
Digital inclusion	S							✔	✔	✔	✔
Neighbourhood perceptions	S		✔		✔				✔		
Time spent caring for grandchildren	C									✔	✔

Wave number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Psychosocial Factors	Data Collection Key										
Control and demand	S		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Effort-reward balance	S			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Subjective social status	S		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Relative deprivation and perceived financial difficulties	C			✔	✔	✔					
Ages at which middle age ends and old age begins	C		✔		✔				✔	✔	
Self-perceived and desired ages	C/S			✔		✔			✔	✔	✔
Experience and perceptions of ageing	S			✔		✔					
Altruism	S					✔					
Sense of collectiveness	S					✔					
Pet ownership	C						✔				
Experiences of being mentored	C									✔	
Generativity	S									✔	

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Psychological and Social Well-being	Data Collection Key										
Quality of life (CASP-19)	S		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Satisfaction With Life Scale-SWLS (Diener)	S			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Ryff well-being scale*	S			✔							
Positive affect	S						✔				
Personality	S						✔				
Pain yesterday	S							✔	✔	✔	
Time use and affect yesterday	S							✔	✔	✔	✔ (time use)
ONS harmonised 4 questions on wellbeing	S							✔	✔	✔	✔

COGNITIVE FUNCTION

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Memory	Data Collection Key										
Self-rated memory	C		✔	✔	✔	✔			✔	✔	✔
Orientation in time	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Word-list learning (verbal learning and recall)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Prospective memory	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔			✔	
Fluid intelligence (number series)	C/U							✔		✔	✔

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Executive function	Data Collection Key										
Word-finding (verbal fluency)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔	✔	✔
Letter cancellation (accuracy and speed of mental processing)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔				
Backwards counting	C								✔	✔	✔
Serial 7s	C								✔	✔	✔
Object naming	C								✔	✔	✔

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Basic cognitive skills/abilities	**Data Collection Key**										
Numerical ability	C		✔			✔		[✔]	[✔]	[✔]	
Literacy	C			✔			✔	[✔]	[✔]	[✔]	

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Other variables	**Data Collection Key**										
Quality of cognitive interview (interviewer's assessment)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Proxy interview of cognitive functioning – IQCODE scale	C			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔