

How will the data be used?

Your answers are put with answers collected from people across England and the survey findings are published in a report. You will not be identifiable from the published results. We will also make a copy of the anonymous dataset available in the UK Data Archive for people to use for research, teaching and learning. The only people with access to your personal details are the ELSA team who administer the survey. Find out more about the UK Data Service Archive at <https://www.ukdataservice.ac.uk/about-us>.

NatCen have been carrying out high quality social research for 40 years. We are a non-profit organisation, independent of all government departments and political parties.

For more information

If you'd like to know more, or have any concerns or complaints, please get in touch.

Web natcen.ac.uk/elsa50plus
Email elsa@natcen.ac.uk
Freephone 0800 652 4574

Our responsibilities to you



We respect your wishes

Taking part is voluntary and you do not have to answer any questions you don't want to.



We answer your questions

Your interviewer will be happy to answer any questions you have about the study.



We ensure your safety

All our interviewers carry photographic ID cards and have been checked by the Disclosure and Barring Service (previously Criminal Records Bureau).



We guard your privacy

We will treat information you give in the strictest confidence under the Data Protection Act 1998. The results collected are used for research purposes only. We would only have to tell someone else what you say if, during the interview, you tell us about possible harm to yourself or others.

ELSA

50+ Health & Life

NatCen
Social Research



Find out more about the study

natcen.ac.uk/elsa50plus

MANCHESTER
1824
The University of Manchester

Institute for
Fiscal Studies

UCL

What is the study about?

By 2020, it is estimated that around half the population of England will be over 50. We are carrying out this research to find out more about the lives of people in this age group, who are becoming more influential.

Why is ELSA different?

ELSA is unique. It is the only major study in England talking to people from 50, right up to 100 years old and beyond. That's why we're coming back to the same people every few years, to help us understand in detail how things are changing for you and your family.

Who is listening?

Thanks to our unique information, the government, universities and charities are taking notice of what ELSA members are saying. The government has already used what you say to inform their decisions on pensions and social care policy.

Why are you important?

We want to hear about the lives of everyone aged 50 and over. You might be retired, unemployed or still working nine to five. You could live alone or have a large family. You might be struggling financially or comfortably off. You could be feeling fit and healthy or dealing with health problems. Whatever your situation your experiences are important to us.

Nurse visit

This round of interviews also includes a nurse visit for some participants. If you are selected for this, the nurse will take a variety of measurements. Your interviewer will give you a leaflet with more information.



How ELSA is making a difference

The study is used by a wide range of organisations including the NHS, Age UK, Friends of the Elderly, Independent Age, Royal Economic Society and the Economic Society. We are regularly quoted in the national media, recently featuring in the Daily Mail, the Sun, the Telegraph, the Times and the Guardian.

Here are just a few examples of how ELSA has made an impact on people's lives:

Transport trouble

The study showed that one in six people aged over-65 would find it difficult or impossible to use public transport to get to hospital for an important appointment.

“This study should be a wakeup call as it shows our transport system is not currently meeting the needs of our growing ageing population.”

Caroline Abrahams
Director, **Age UK**

Stay in shape together

Couples who try to get healthy together are three times more likely to succeed than those who try solo, data from ELSA has shown. The study showed that those who tried to give up smoking, do more exercise, or lose weight, were much more likely to succeed if their partner did the same. This has important implications for the NHS and health charities drive to help people stay healthy and active as they get older.

Around the world

Studies similar to ELSA are carried out internationally, including in Europe, the United States, Brazil, China and India. This means that comparisons can be made about people's experiences of life over the age of 50 around the world.

Who is carrying out the research?

NatGen Social Research is carrying out the study as part of a team with some of the UK's leading research organisations - University College London, the Institute for Fiscal Studies and the University of Manchester. ELSA also has close links with researchers from the University of East Anglia. It is funded by a number of UK government departments, the ESRC and the National Institute on Aging in the United States.