ELSA DATASET WAVES 0 TO 10

ELSA English Longitudinal Study of Ageing

Notes: Cells in parentheses (✓) are collected/assessed for refreshment sample; those who had not undertaken it; or if circumstances change.
Wave 0 refers to the Health Survey for England from which the ELSA sample was recruited.
Data Collection Key: C = CAPI, S = Self Completion, N = Nurse, I=Internet
** Saliva samples were collected in waves 2 and 4 and hair samples in wave 6. However, funding was only available to measure cortisol from the samples in waves 2 and 6, hence the omission of data from wave 4 in the download.*

Demographic Data

Wave Number		**0**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**
Demographic Data	**Data Collection Key**											
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 closest child and grandchild	C									✓	✓	✓
Citizenship	C										✓	✓

Economics data

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Wealth	**Data Collection Key**											
Financial assets	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Physical assets	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Business wealth	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Debt	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	10
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		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pension												
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		✓	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)
State pension individual forecast	C				✓							
Knowledge of changes in state pension age for women	C				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
State pension deferral	C					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Employment												
Main job details	C	✓	✓	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)
Normal pay and hours	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Health limiting ability to work	C			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Secondary and other economic activity details	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Age and reason for retirement (if retired)	C		✓	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)

Compulsory retirement ages	C			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Desired/offered/requested workplace adaptations	C			✓	✓	✓						✓
Health insurance contributions	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Job security	C											✓
Part time working	C											✓
Place of work, travel to work	C											✓
Retirement age expectation	C											✓
Housing and Consumption												
Housing (rent and mortgage payments)	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Accommodation problems	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Durable ownership	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Durable purchases	C			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Food expenditures (both in and out of the household)	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Leisure activity expenditures	C			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Clothing expenditures	C			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Transfers (incl. charitable giving and Child Trust Funds)	C			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gas and Electricity expenditures	C			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vehicle ownership	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Electronic banking and contactless payments	C											✓

Expectations

Wave Number		**0**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**
Expectations	**Data Collection Key**											
Mortality	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Employment	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Health limits ability to work	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Works past age 70	C										✓	✓
Income adequacy/financial resources	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bequest and inheritances	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Moving into nursing home	C			✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Care received at home	C										✓	✓
House value	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Moving house	C			✓								
Public and private pension income	C			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Self-reported financial planning period	C		✓	✓								

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						✔					

Health, Disability, and Health behaviours

Wave Number		**0**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**
Physical Health	**Data Collection Key**											
Self-rated general health	C	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
(Limiting) long-standing illness	C	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
COVID (whether tested positive, experienced symptoms, hospitalised, vaccines, long COVID)	C											✔
Mobility: difficulties walking ¼ mile & symptoms if try	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Mobility: difficulty walking 100 yards, sitting 2 hours, getting up from chair, climbing stairs, stooping, kneeling or crouching, reaching arms, pulling or pushing large objects, lifting weight over 20 pounds, picking up coin from table	C				✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Eyesight and hearing – self-reported health and difficulties. Whether had glaucoma/ diabetic eye disease/ cataract/ cataract surgery/ macular degeneration	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Dental health – self reported health and difficulties	C				✔	✔	✔		✔		✔	
Whether blood pressure checked in last year (if age>65y)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Physician diagnosed conditions: Coronary heart disease, stroke, diabetes, raised cholesterol, quality of care, chronic lung disease, asthma, cancer, arthritis, osteoporosis, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimers, dementia.	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
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 (high blood pressure)	C			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	
Quality of care indicators; Arthritis	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			✔					✔			

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Physical Health	**Data Collection Key**											
Quality of care indicators; Pain	C			✓	✓	✓				✓		
Quality of care indicators: falls and fractures	C			✓		✓				✓		✓
Quality of care indicators; Smoking	C			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vitamin supplements	C											✓
Falls and resulting fractures (if age>60y)	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 activities of daily living (ADL) and 9 Instrumental ADL. Aids used; Sources of help; Who pays	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Use of meals on wheels, day centres, lunch clubs (if age>65y)	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social prescribing	S											✓
Urinary incontinence	C/S	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ S	✓ S	✓ S
Menopause	C					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Cancer screening participation	C						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Polypharmacy	C							✓				✓
Hearing assessment test	C								✓			
Self-rated sense of taste and smell	C									✓	✓	✓
Self-rated perceived weight	C									✓	✓	✓
Health preferences and attitudes to risk	S									✓		✓
Health Behaviours												
Smoking history	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alcohol consumption (in past year and previous week)	C/S	✓ C	✓ C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Physical activity: frequency of partaking vigorous/ moderate/ and mild sports or activities	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Whether job sedentary or physically active	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Consumption of fruit and vegetables	S				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Food poverty	S										✓	✓
Online nutrition assessment	I										✓	
Mental Health												

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Physical Health	**Data Collection Key**											
Psychiatric diagnoses	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-12)	S	✔	✔		✔							
CES-D depression scale	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Anxiety (GAD-7)	S											✔
Sexual Health												
Attitudes to sex	S							✔		✔		
Current sexual activities and experiences	S							✔		✔		
Sexual partners	S							✔		✔		
Lifetime desires and experiences	S							✔		✔		
Physical Examination and performance data												
Sitting height	N	✔		✔		✔						
Standing height	N	✔		✔		✔		✔				
Weight	N/C	✔		✔		✔		✔		✔ C	✔ C	✔ C
Waist circumference	N	✔		✔		✔						
Hip circumference	N	✔		✔		✔		✔				
Blood pressure	N	✔		✔		✔		✔		✔	✔	
Lung function	N	✔		✔		✔		✔				
Chair stands and Balance	N			✔		✔		✔				
Grip strength	N			✔		✔		✔		✔	✔	
Walking speed performance test (≥60 years)	C		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
7-day Activity monitors												✔

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Assays	**Data Collection Key**											
Triglycerides	N	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	
Total, LDL and DHL cholesterol	N	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	
C-reactive protein, fibrinogen	N	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	
Apolipoprotein E (APOE)	N			✓								
Mean corpuscular haemoglobin (MCH)	N			✓		✓						
Haemoglobin and ferritin	N	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	
White blood cell count	N					✓		✓		✓	✓	
Fasting lipids, glucose, glycated haemoglobin	N			✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	
IgE / DHM IgE	N	✓										
Insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1)	N					✓		✓		✓	✓	
Dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate (DHEAS)	N					✓						
Vitamin D	N							✓		✓	✓	
DNA extraction and storage	N			✓		(✓)		(✓)		(✓)	(✓)	
Cortisol (from saliva)	N			✓		✓*						
Cortisol (from hair)	N							✓				
RNA Paxgene tubes	N									✓	✓	

Psychosocial Measures

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Social and Civic Participation	**Data Collection Key**											
Informal care giving	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provision of grandparental childcare	C									✓	✓	✓
Volunteering	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provision of unpaid help	C					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Transports use	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social and family relationships	S		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Group membership & civic participation	S		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cultural/social participation	S			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Accessing local amenities and services	S			✓		✓	✓	✓				
TV watching	S					✓	✓	✓				✓
Social networks	S		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social support	S	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Wave Number		**0**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**
Social isolation/loneliness	S			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Perceived discrimination	S						✔					✔
Religiosity and Spirituality	S						✔				✔	
Internet Use	S							✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Neighbourhood perceptions	S		✔		✔				✔			
Psychosocial Factors	**Data Collection Key**											
Control and demand	S		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔				✔
Effort-reward balance	S			✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Subjective social status ladder	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	S						✔					✔
Experiences of being mentored	C									✔	✔	✔
Generativity	S									✔		✔
Psychological and Social Well-being												
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							✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Affect yesterday (related to time use)	S							✔	✔		✔	
Time use (at home, travelling, working, …)	S							✔	✔		✔	✔
ONS harmonised 4 questions on wellbeing	S							✔	✔	✔	✔	✔

Cognitive Function

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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							✓		✓	✓	
Executive function												
Word-finding (verbal fluency, # animals)	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Letter cancellation (accuracy and speed of mental processing)	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Backwards counting	C								✓	✓	✓	✓
Serial 7s (subtractions)	C								✓	✓	✓	✓
Object naming	C								✓	✓	✓	✓
Basic cognitive skills/abilities												
Numerical ability	C		✓			✓		(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)
Literacy (comprehension of medicine label)	C			✓			✓	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)

Other Variables

Wave Number		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Other variables	**Data Collection Key**											
Quality of cognitive interview (interviewer's assessment)	C		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Proxy interview of cognitive functioning – IQCODE scale	C			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓