

# Resource Summary Report

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## English Longitudinal Study of Ageing

RRID:SCR\_006727

Type: Tool

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### Proper Citation

English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (RRID:SCR\_006727)

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### Resource Information

**URL:** <http://www.ifs.org.uk/ELSA>

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**Description:** An interdisciplinary data resource on health, economic position and quality of life as people age. Longitudinal multidisciplinary data from a representative sample of the English population aged 50 and older have been collected. Both objective and subjective data are collected relating to health and disability, biological markers of disease, economic circumstance, social participation, networks and well-being. Participants are surveyed every two years to see how people's health, economic and social circumstances may change over time. One of the study's aims is to determine the relationships between functioning and health, social networks, resources and economic position as people plan for, move into and progress beyond retirement. It is patterned after the Health and Retirement Study, a similar study based in the United States. ELSA's method of data collection includes face-to-face interview with respondents aged 50+; self-completion; and clinical, physical, and performance measurements (e.g., timed walk). Wave 2 added questions about quality of health care, literacy, and household consumption, and a visit by a nurse to obtain anthropometric, blood pressure, and lung function measurements, as well as saliva and blood samples, and to record results from tests of balance and muscle strength. Another new aspect of Wave 2 is the "Exit Interview" carried out with proxy informants to collect data about respondents who have died since Wave 1. This interview includes questions about the respondents' physical and psychological health, the care and support they received, their memory and mood in the last year of their life, and details of what has happened to their finances after their death. Wave 3 data added questions related to mortgages and pensions. The intention is to conduct interviews every 2 years, and to have a nurse visit every 4 years. It also is envisioned that the ELSA data will ultimately be linked to available administrative data, such as death registry data, a cancer register, NHS hospital episodes data, National Insurance contributions, benefits, and tax credit records. The survey data are designed to be used for the investigation of a broad set of topics relevant to understanding the aging process. These include: \* health trajectories, disability and healthy life expectancy; \* the determinants of economic position in older age; \* the links between economic position,

physical health, cognition and mental health; \* the nature and timing of retirement and post-retirement labour market activity; \* household and family structure, social networks and social supports; \* patterns, determinants and consequences of social, civic and cultural participation; \* predictors of well-being. Current funding for ELSA will extend the panel to 12 years of study, giving significant potential for longitudinal analyses to examine causal processes. \* Dates of Study: 2002-2007 \* Study Features: Longitudinal, International, Anthropometric Measures \* Sample Size: \*\* 2000-2003 (Wave 1): 12,100 \*\* 2004-2005 (Wave 2): 9,433 \*\* 2006-2007 (Wave 3): 9,771 \*\* 2008-2009 (Wave 4): underway Links \* Economic and Social Data Service (ESDS): <http://www.esds.ac.uk/longitudinal/about/overview.asp> \* ICPSR: <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/studies/00139#scope-of-study>

**Abbreviations:** ELSA

**Synonyms:** English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA), ELSA - English Longitudinal Study of Ageing, English Longitudinal Study of Aging

**Resource Type:** data or information resource, data set

**Keywords:** middle adult human, late adult human, adult human, biological marker, direct assessment, physical impairment, interview, clinical, physical, performance, health care, literacy, household consumption, anthropometric, blood pressure, lung function, measurement, saliva, blood, balance, muscle strength, psychological health, care, support, memory, mood, longitudinal, international, health, disability, economic circumstance, social participation, well-being, behavior, family life, health care, health status, household income, income, marriage, retirement, social network

**Related Condition:** Aging

**Funding:** NIA ;  
UK Department of Health ;  
UK Department of Social Security ;  
other UK government departments

**Availability:** Public for the first 3 waves through the University of Essex Economic and Social Data Service (ESDS) website. Greater restrictions may apply for researchers seeking to access more sensitive data (e.g., Geographical classificatory variables and DNA).

**Resource Name:** English Longitudinal Study of Ageing

**Resource ID:** SCR\_006727

**Alternate IDs:** nlx\_151823

**Record Creation Time:** 20220129T080237+0000

**Record Last Update:** 20260905T133327+0000

No rating or validation information has been found for English Longitudinal Study of Ageing.

No alerts have been found for English Longitudinal Study of Ageing.

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## Data and Source Information

**Source:** [SciCrunch Registry](#)

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## Usage and Citation Metrics

We found 16 mentions in open access literature.

**Listed below are recent publications.** The full list is available at [Kravitz](#) .

Wang Z, et al. (2024) Mid-life social participation in people with intellectual disability: The 1958 British birth cohort study. PloS one, 19(5), e0302411.

Veronese N, et al. (2023) Dynapenic abdominal obesity and incident multimorbidity: findings from the English longitudinal study on ageing. Aging clinical and experimental research, 35(8), 1671.

Veronese N, et al. (2022) Multidimensional frailty and quality of life: data from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing. Quality of life research : an international journal of quality of life aspects of treatment, care and rehabilitation, 31(10), 2985.

Veronese N, et al. (2022) Sarcopenia reduces quality of life in the long-term: longitudinal analyses from the English longitudinal study of ageing. European geriatric medicine, 13(3), 633.

Ragusa FS, et al. (2022) Social frailty increases the risk of all-cause mortality: A longitudinal analysis of the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing. Experimental gerontology, 167, 111901.

Veronese N, et al. (2021) Multimorbidity increases the risk for sarcopenia onset: Longitudinal analyses from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing. Experimental gerontology, 156, 111624.

Sanchez Santos MT, et al. (2020) Cohort profile: Oxford Pain, Activity and Lifestyle (OPAL) Study, a prospective cohort study of older adults in England. BMJ open, 10(9), e037516.

Gale CR, et al. (2017) Personality and Risk of Frailty: the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing. Annals of behavioral medicine : a publication of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, 51(1), 128.

McLachlan S, et al. (2016) Replication and Characterization of Association between ABO SNPs and Red Blood Cell Traits by Meta-Analysis in Europeans. PloS one, 11(6), e0156914.

Souza-Teodoro LH, et al. (2016) Higher serum dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate protects against the onset of depression in the elderly: Findings from the English Longitudinal Study of Aging (ELSA). *Psychoneuroendocrinology*, 64, 40.

Mekli K, et al. (2016) Proinflammatory genotype is associated with the frailty phenotype in the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing. *Aging clinical and experimental research*, 28(3), 413.

Agrawal S, et al. (2016) Association Between Body Mass index and Prevalence of Multimorbidity in Low-and Middle-income Countries: A Cross-Sectional Study. *International journal of medicine and public health*, 6(2), 73.

Rouxel P, et al. (2015) Is Social Capital a Determinant of Oral Health among Older Adults? Findings from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing. *PloS one*, 10(5), e0125557.

Tampubolon G, et al. (2015) Delineating the third age: joint models of older people's quality of life and attrition in Britain 2002-2010. *Aging & mental health*, 19(7), 576.

Gale CR, et al. (2014) Framingham cardiovascular disease risk scores and incident frailty: the English longitudinal study of ageing. *Age (Dordrecht, Netherlands)*, 36(4), 9692.

Shah T, et al. (2013) Population genomics of cardiometabolic traits: design of the University College London-London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine-Edinburgh-Bristol (UCLEB) Consortium. *PloS one*, 8(8), e71345.