

SWEOLD - Swedish panel study of living conditions of the oldest old 2014

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Creator/Principal investigator(s)

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Description

SWEOLD is a nationally representative survey of the older population in Sweden. The sample consists of individuals previously included in the selection of Swedish Level of Living Survey (LNU), who have passed the LNU age ceiling of 75 years. The first survey was carried out in 1992. Further waves were conducted in 2002, 2004, 2010 and 2014. In 2004 and 2014, the survey included people who were aged 70 and older. A new survey wave will begin in 2021.

SWEOLD data is linked to the LNU, that has been conducted regularly since 1968. This longitudinal database thus provides the opportunity to follow individuals over a 50-year period. In addition to the panel sample, SWEOLD also comprises an additional representative sample of older women and men. As each wave of LNU and SWEOLD is nationally representative, the data can also be used for cross-sectional analyses.

The questionnaire covers a wide variety of areas of concern to elderly people, such as mobility and activities of daily living (ADL and IADL), as well as health, housing, economy, family, political resources and leisure activities. Various tests are included to measure the physical and cognitive ability of these individuals. Indirect interviews are used when a respondent is unable to participate in the interview directly due to physical or cognitive disabilities. Next of kin or professional caregivers are used as proxies.

The fifth SWEOLD study was conducted in 2014. The sample consisted of persons born in 1944 and earlier who had been in the sample of any of the previous Swedish Level of Living Surveys (LNU), and

those in the additional sample for SWEOLD 2011 who were still alive. In total, the sample consisted of 1,539 persons and the response rate was 84.3% (n=1,297).

Similar to SWEOLD 2004, the interviews were carried out per telephone. In some cases, a postal questionnaire was used. Direct interviews were conducted with 87.3% of the respondents and 10.7% were proxy interviews with a close relative or care staff. 'Mixed' interviews were used with 2.0% of the respondents, where the respondent took part in the interview with the support from a relative or other close person.

Data contains personal data

Yes

Sensitive personal data

Yes

Type of personal data

Pseudonymised data

Code key exists

Yes

Language

[English](#)

[Swedish](#)

Unit of analysis

[Individual](#)

Population

The Swedish population aged 75 and older

Study design

Observational study

Cohort study

Cohort study: Prospective

Sampling procedure

[Probability](#)

The sample has varied slightly between the survey years. The sample for each year is specified below.

1992: Those who previously had been interviewed at least once in the Swedish Level of Living Surveys (LNU), and were aged 77 and older.

2002: Those who had been included in the sample of any of the previous LNU studies, and were aged 76 and older.

2004: Those who had been included in the sample of any of the previous LNU studies, and were aged 69 and older.

2011: Those who had been included in the sample of any of the previous LNU studies, and were aged 76 and older. There was also an additional representative sample of people who were 85–99 years old.

2014: Those who had been included in the sample of any of the previous LNU studies, and were aged 70 and older. The survivors from the additional sample drawn in 2011 were also included in the 2014 survey.

Time period(s) investigated

1992 – Ongoing

Response rate/participation rate

84.3%

Data format / data structure

[Numeric](#)

Data collection 1

- Mode of collection: Face-to-face interview: CAPI/CAMI
- Time period(s) for data collection: 2014-09-09 – 2015-12-19
- Source of the data: Registers/Records/Accounts: Administrative, Registers/Records/Accounts: Medical/Clinical, Population group, Registers/Records/Accounts

Geographic spread

Geographic location: [Sweden](#)

Responsible department/unit

Aging Research Center (ARC)

Funding 1

- Funding agency: Swedish Medical Research Council
- Funding agency's reference number: B92-27Ä-09997-01

Funding 2

- Funding agency: Swedish Council for Social Research
- Funding agency's reference number: 91-0150

Funding 3

- Funding agency: Swedish Council for Planning and Coordination of Research
- Funding agency's reference number: 910245:6-5/86

Funding 4

- Funding agency: Swedish Research Council
- Funding agency's reference number: 2001-6651

Funding 5

- Funding agency: Swedish Research Council
- Funding agency's reference number: 2009-6183

Ethics Review

Swedish Ethical Review Authority - Ref. 2019-06324; 2020-04118

Research area

[Public health, global health, social medicine and epidemiology](#) (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

[Gerontology, specialising in medical and health sciences](#) (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

[Sociology](#) (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

Keywords

[Aged](#), [Activities of daily living](#), [Housing](#), [Life style](#), [Memory](#), [Motor activity](#), [Socioeconomic factors](#), [Diet](#), [Alcohol drinking](#), [Family](#), [Leisure activities](#), [Physical fitness](#), [Gait](#), [Hand strength](#), [Homemaker services](#), [Health](#), [Health status](#), [Sex](#), [Retention](#), [psychology](#), [Oral health](#), [Retirement](#), [Interpersonal relations](#), [Smoking](#), [Disease](#), [Hospitalization](#), [Social conditions](#), [Social class](#), [Aging](#), [Living conditions](#), [Near- national e-infrastructure for aging research](#), [Near](#)

Publications

Lennartsson C, Agahi N, Hols Salén L, Kelfve S, Kåreholt I, Lundberg O, Parker, M.G., & Thorslund, M. 2014. Data Resource Profile: The Swedish Panel Study of Living Conditions of the Oldest Old (SWEOLD). International Journal of Epidemiology, 43(3), 731-738, DOI: 10.1093/ije/dyu057.

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/ije/dyu057>

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Contact for questions about the data

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