

Short Surveys

In most waves of ALSWH data the respondents are assumed to have either responded or not responded to each question at their discretion. However, in some of the early waves of the ALSWH surveys some respondents only completed a short survey rather than the full survey. These short surveys were subsets of the full surveys and generally consisted of questions that were considered of most interest. The shorter surveys were only used in the second and third survey of the birth cohorts 1921-26 and 1946-51, and in the second survey of the 1973-78 birth cohort. The questions included in the short survey were not consistent. The questions used are listed below. The variable 'survey', such as 'm2survey', indicates the type of survey. A 'survey' value of 1 is the usual long survey, and a value of 2 indicates a short survey. That is, for the second wave of the 1946-51 cohort, (the MID 2 survey) a value of m2survey = 1 means a long survey, and a value of m2survey = 2 means a short survey.

Table 1: Frequency of short surveys in waves of 2 and 3

Cohort	Frequency of Short Surveys (%)	
	Survey 2	Survey 3
1921-26	920 (8.8%)	21 (0.2%)
1946-51	690 (5.6%)	6 (0.05%)
1973-78	84 (0.9%)	0 (0%)

Description of Short Survey questions

1946-51 Cohort

Survey 2

All questions from Question 1 to 11, this includes the SF36, are in the short survey. Also, questions 21, 27, 28, heights and weights, question 54, date of birth, post codes, and questions 86, 87 are in the short survey.

Survey 3

All the questions from 1 to 37 are in the short survey. Also, the questions 39, 41, 46, post codes, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 80, 85, 86, q89, are in the short survey.

1921-26 Cohort

Survey 2

These questions were in the short surveys: 1, 3, 8, 13, 14, 18, 30, 31, 40-50, 62, 70- 73.

Survey 3

These questions were in the short surveys: 1-10, 13-15, 19-29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 43-45, 49-52, 55-61, 65, 66.