

Annex 8.1

Tables on cognitive function

Table 8A.1. Self-reported memory, by sex and wave in ELSA

	Wave 1 sample			Wave 1 sample (those also in wave 2)			Wave 2 sample		
	M	F	All	M	F	All	M	F	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Excellent	6.1	4.9	5.5	6.1	4.7	5.3	3.9	2.7	3.3
Very good	21.4	21.4	21.4	21.7	21.9	21.8	18.1	18.7	18.5
Good	39.2	42.3	40.9	40.5	43.3	42.0	40.0	44.9	42.6
Fair	25.9	25.6	25.7	25.2	24.8	24.9	29.7	27.6	28.6
Poor	7.4	5.9	6.6	6.5	5.3	5.9	8.3	6.1	7.1
<i>Weighted N</i>	<i>5,128</i>	<i>5,950</i>	<i>11,078</i>	<i>3,927</i>	<i>4,614</i>	<i>8,541</i>	<i>3,970</i>	<i>4,657</i>	<i>8,627</i>
<i>Unweighted N</i>	<i>5,036</i>	<i>6,057</i>	<i>11,093</i>	<i>3,849</i>	<i>4,743</i>	<i>8,592</i>	<i>3,879</i>	<i>4,765</i>	<i>8,644</i>

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (wave 1 sample: 141 people (1.3%); wave 1 in wave 2 sample: 60 people (0.7%); wave 2 sample: 44 people (0.5%)). Wave 1 in wave 2 sample includes only those who had in-person interviews in both waves.

Table 8A.2. Self-reported memory at wave 2, by age in 2004–05 and sex

	52–59	60–64	65–69	70–74	75–79	80+	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Men							
Excellent	5.1	2.5	4.2	3.1	4.0	2.5	3.9
Very good	19.6	19.4	17.4	15.2	16.7	17.3	18.1
Good	40.4	42.4	43.4	38.5	34.6	37.0	40.0
Fair	28.0	28.3	27.6	34.5	34.4	30.0	29.7
Poor	6.9	7.4	7.4	8.6	10.3	13.1	8.3
Women							
Excellent	2.5	3.3	3.2	3.0	1.8	2.3	2.7
Very good	17.4	17.0	20.4	20.8	19.3	19.4	18.7
Good	46.8	44.5	43.3	45.2	46.0	42.0	44.9
Fair	28.1	29.0	29.3	25.3	25.1	27.6	27.6
Poor	5.2	6.1	3.8	5.7	7.7	8.7	6.1
All							
Excellent	3.8	2.9	3.7	3.1	2.7	2.4	3.3
Very good	18.4	18.2	18.9	18.2	18.2	18.7	18.5
Good	43.6	43.5	43.3	42.1	41.1	40.3	42.6
Fair	28.0	28.7	28.5	29.6	29.1	28.5	28.6
Poor	6.1	6.7	5.6	7.1	8.8	10.3	7.1
Weighted N							
<i>Men</i>	<i>1,331</i>	<i>667</i>	<i>639</i>	<i>515</i>	<i>416</i>	<i>402</i>	<i>3,970</i>
<i>Women</i>	<i>1,365</i>	<i>730</i>	<i>671</i>	<i>586</i>	<i>550</i>	<i>756</i>	<i>4,657</i>
<i>All</i>	<i>2,696</i>	<i>1,397</i>	<i>1,310</i>	<i>1,101</i>	<i>966</i>	<i>1,158</i>	<i>8,627</i>
Unweighted N							
<i>Men</i>	<i>1,182</i>	<i>662</i>	<i>652</i>	<i>556</i>	<i>424</i>	<i>403</i>	<i>3,879</i>
<i>Women</i>	<i>1,393</i>	<i>801</i>	<i>737</i>	<i>638</i>	<i>536</i>	<i>660</i>	<i>4,765</i>
<i>All</i>	<i>2,575</i>	<i>1,463</i>	<i>1,389</i>	<i>1,194</i>	<i>960</i>	<i>1,063</i>	<i>8,644</i>

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (44 people (0.5%)).

Table 8A.3. Self-reported change in memory, by age in 2004–05 and sex

	52–59	60–64	65–69	70–74	75–79	80+	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Men							
Better now	1.3	1.0	0.6	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0
About same	73.0	68.7	66.6	65.4	64.5	64.1	68.5
Worse now	25.7	30.3	32.8	33.6	34.6	34.9	30.5
Women							
Better now	1.7	1.2	1.8	1.8	1.2	0.0	1.3
About same	64.3	65.0	68.4	65.1	65.8	62.8	65.0
Worse now	34.0	33.8	29.7	33.2	33.1	37.2	33.7
All							
Better now	1.5	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.1	0.4	1.2
About same	68.6	66.7	67.5	65.2	65.2	63.3	66.6
Worse now	29.9	32.2	31.2	33.4	33.7	36.4	32.2
Weighted N							
Men	1,330	667	637	514	416	401	3,965
Women	1,362	731	671	587	548	756	4,655
All	2,692	1,398	1,308	1,101	964	1,157	8,620
Unweighted N							
Men	1,181	662	650	555	424	402	3,874
Women	1,389	802	737	640	535	660	4,763
All	2,570	1,464	1,387	1,195	959	1,062	8,637

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (51 people (0.6%)).

Table 8A.4. Time orientation and prospective memory at wave 2, by age in 2004–05 and sex

	52–59	60–64	65–69	70–74	75–79	80+	All
Time orientation							
	% making at least one error						
Men	19.4	19.3	20.7	30.0	30.0	34.5	23.6
Women	11.1	15.3	15.7	21.4	23.9	41.6	20.2
All	15.2	17.2	18.1	25.4	26.5	39.1	21.8
Weighted N							
Men	1,335	665	638	515	417	406	3,975
Women	1,365	731	669	587	548	759	4,659
All	2,700	1,396	1,307	1,102	965	1,164	8,634
Unweighted N							
Men	1,185	661	651	556	425	406	3,884
Women	1,393	802	735	640	534	663	4,767
All	2,578	1,463	1,386	1,196	959	1,069	8,651
Prospective memory							
	% failing to make correct response without prompt						
Men	30.3	37.0	40.0	46.6	59.8	63.0	41.5
Women	32.1	37.9	37.1	49.3	53.4	63.7	43.6
All	31.2	37.4	38.5	48.0	56.1	63.5	42.6
Weighted N							
Men	1,340	666	640	516	418	408	3,989
Women	1,365	733	672	586	549	762	4,667
All	2,704	1,400	1,312	1,102	967	1,170	8,655
Unweighted N							
Men	1,189	662	653	557	426	409	3,896
Women	1,393	804	738	639	535	666	4,775
All	2,582	1,466	1,391	1,196	961	1,075	8,671

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (time orientation: 37 people (0.4%); prospective memory: 17 people (0.2%)).

Table 8A.5. Memory for word list at wave 2, by age in 2004–05 and sex

	52–59	60–64	65–69	70–74	75–79	80+	All
Men							
Immediate recall							
Mean	6.2	5.7	5.5	5.0	4.7	4.1	5.5
95% CI	6.1–6.3	5.6–5.8	5.3–5.6	4.9–5.1	4.6–4.9	3.9–4.3	5.4–5.5
Delayed recall							
Mean	4.9	4.2	4.0	3.5	3.1	2.3	4.0
95% CI	4.8–5.0	4.1–4.4	3.9–4.2	3.3–3.7	2.9–3.3	2.1–2.5	4.0–4.1
Percentage retained^a							
Mean	84.3	77.7	75.0	73.9	66.9	53.0	75.5
95% CI	80.8–87.8	73.3–82.1	71.4–78.7	68.6–79.3	62.3–71.4	48.9–57.1	73.7–77.3
Women							
Immediate recall							
Mean	6.4	6.1	5.9	5.4	5.0	4.1	5.6
95% CI	6.3–6.5	6.0–6.2	5.8–6.0	5.3–5.5	4.8–5.2	4.0–4.3	5.6–5.7
Delayed recall							
Mean	5.3	4.8	4.5	4.1	3.4	2.3	4.3
95% CI	5.2–5.4	4.7–5.0	4.4–4.7	3.9–4.3	3.3–3.6	2.2–2.5	4.2–4.3
Percentage retained^a							
Mean	87.4	83.2	82.4	79.2	67.0	56.0	77.5
95% CI	83.9–90.9	79.2–87.2	77.3–87.4	74.5–84.0	63.2–70.8	50.9–59.1	75.6–79.4
All							
Immediate recall							
Mean	6.3	5.9	5.7	5.2	4.9	4.1	5.5
95% CI	6.2–6.4	5.8–6.0	5.6–5.8	5.1–5.3	4.8–5.0	4.0–4.2	5.5–5.6
Delayed recall							
Mean	5.1	4.6	4.3	3.8	3.3	2.3	4.1
95% CI	5.0–5.2	4.5–4.7	4.2–4.4	3.7–3.9	3.2–3.4	2.2–2.4	4.1–4.2
Percentage retained^a							
Mean	85.9	80.6	78.8	76.8	67.0	54.3	76.6
95% CI	83.4–88.3	77.6–83.5	75.7–81.9	73.2–80.3	64.0–70.0	51.2–57.4	75.2–77.9
Weighted N^b							
Men	1,331	663	636	514	416	402	3,962
Women	1,362	729	669	586	546	758	4,650
All	2,693	1,391	1,305	1,100	962	1,161	8,612
Unweighted N^b							
Men	1,182	659	649	555	424	403	3,872
Women	1,390	800	735	639	532	662	4,758
All	2,572	1,459	1,384	1,194	956	1,065	8,630

^aDelayed recall as a percentage of immediate recall.

^bNs shown are for immediate and delayed recall; these are reduced by a further total of 72 for percentage retained.

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (immediate and delayed: 58 people (0.7%); percentage retained (including those with zero words recalled immediately): 130 people (1.5%)).

Table 8A.6. Observed change in memory index, by age in 2004–05 and sex

	52–59	60–64	65–69	70–74	75–79	80+	All
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Men							
Improvement	37.5	34.1	37.7	35.5	36.4	35.2	36.4
No change	34.0	33.8	31.1	26.9	30.9	28.9	31.7
Decline	28.5	32.1	31.1	37.6	32.7	36.0	31.9
Women							
Improvement	42.6	39.5	41.0	37.6	35.6	30.6	38.5
No change	30.6	30.9	33.1	31.4	30.2	29.1	30.8
Decline	26.8	29.5	25.9	31.1	34.2	40.3	30.7
All							
Improvement	40.1	37.0	39.4	36.6	36.0	32.2	37.5
No change	32.2	32.3	32.1	29.3	30.5	29.0	31.2
Decline	27.7	30.8	28.5	34.2	33.5	38.8	31.2
Weighted N							
<i>Men</i>	1,307	645	625	508	411	388	3,884
<i>Women</i>	1,350	720	657	574	536	733	4,571
<i>All</i>	2,658	1,366	1,282	1,082	947	1,120	8,455
Unweighted N							
<i>Men</i>	1,163	643	639	549	419	391	3,804
<i>Women</i>	1,378	792	723	627	524	645	4,689
<i>All</i>	2,541	1,435	1,362	1,176	943	1,036	8,493

Definitions: No change is a wave 2 score within one point of the wave 1 score. Improvement is a wave 2 score two or more points better than the wave 1 score. Decline is a wave 2 score two or more points worse than the wave 1 score.

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (195 people (2.2%)).

Table 8A.7. Observed change in memory index,^a by self-reported change in memory, age in 2004–05 and sex

Self-reported change in memory	52–59	60–64	65–69	70–74	75–79	80+	All
Men							
Better/same	28.8	33.7	29.7	39.5	31.9	34.6	31.9
Worse	27.6	28.7	34.2	33.6	33.8	38.4	31.7
All	28.5	32.1	31.2	37.5	32.5	35.9	31.9
Women							
Better/same	29.3	30.1	26.2	31.7	31.6	39.0	31.0
Worse	22.0	28.2	25.3	29.8	39.4	42.8	30.1
All	26.8	29.4	25.9	31.1	34.2	40.4	30.7
All							
Better/same	29.0	31.8	27.9	35.4	31.7	37.4	31.4
Worse	24.4	28.4	29.8	31.6	36.9	41.4	30.8
All	27.6	30.7	28.5	34.1	33.5	38.8	31.2
Weighted N							
<i>Men</i>	1,305	645	624	507	410	387	3,878
<i>Women</i>	1,346	719	657	574	536	730	4,564
<i>All</i>	2,651	1,365	1,281	1,081	946	1,117	8,441
Unweighted N							
<i>Men</i>	1,161	643	638	548	418	390	3,798
<i>Women</i>	1,373	791	723	627	524	643	4,681
<i>All</i>	2,534	1,434	1,361	1,175	942	1,033	8,479

^aPercentage showing substantial decline, i.e. a drop of two or more points from their wave 1 value.

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (209 people (2.4%)).

Table 8A.8. Verbal fluency at wave 2 and percentage showing substantial decline, by age in 2004–05 and sex

	52–59	60–64	65–69	70–74	75–79	80+	All
Verbal fluency at wave 2	Number of animal names produced						
Men							
Mean	22.2	20.6	20.3	18.8	17.6	15.4	20.0
95% CI	21.8–22.6	20.1–21.1	19.8–20.9	18.3–19.3	17.1–18.2	14.8–16.0	19.8–20.3
Women							
Mean	21.9	20.5	19.4	18.1	16.9	14.4	19.0
95% CI	21.5–22.2	20.0–21.0	19.0–19.9	17.6–18.5	16.4–17.4	13.9–14.8	18.8–19.2
All							
Mean	22.0	20.5	19.9	18.4	17.2	14.7	19.5
95% CI	21.8–22.3	20.2–20.9	19.5–20.2	18.1–18.8	16.8–17.6	14.4–15.1	19.3–19.7
Weighted N							
Men	1,337	664	637	516	416	403	3,972
Women	1,364	731	671	586	548	759	4,659
All	2,701	1,395	1,308	1,102	964	1,162	8,631
Unweighted N							
Men	1,186	660	650	556	424	404	3,880
Women	1,392	802	737	639	534	663	4,767
All	2,578	1,462	1,387	1,195	958	1,067	8,647
% showing substantial decline^a	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Men	19.5	20.1	16.3	19.4	19.3	20.7	19.2
Women	15.1	17.6	18.5	17.8	15.4	19.3	17.0
All	17.3	18.8	17.4	18.5	17.1	19.8	18.0
Weighted N							
Men	1,317	646	628	508	411	393	3,902
Women	1,355	723	659	577	539	747	4,599
All	2,672	1,369	1,287	1,085	950	1,139	8,501
Unweighted N							
Men	1,169	644	642	549	419	395	3,818
Women	1,382	794	725	629	527	655	4,712
All	2,551	1,438	1,367	1,178	946	1,050	8,530

^aA drop of five or more points from their wave 1 score.

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (41 people in wave 2 (0.5%); 158 people in both waves (1.8%).)

Table 8A.9. Speed and efficiency of visual search at wave 2, by age in 2004–05 and sex

	52–59	60–64	65–69	70–74	75–79	80+	All
<i>Speed of visual search in wave 2</i>							
	Number of letters searched						
Men							
Mean	298	284	276	266	258	236	278
95% CI	293–303	278–290	269–282	259–273	249–267	226–246	275–280
Women							
Mean	324	323	315	309	294	260	308
95% CI	319–329	317–330	308–322	302–317	286–302	251–269	305–311
All							
Mean	310	305	296	289	278	251	294
95% CI	307–314	300–309	291–301	283–294	272–285	245–258	292–296
<i>Efficiency of visual search in wave 2</i>							
	Letters correctly cancelled as a percentage of total letters searched						
Men							
Mean	82.8	80.0	79.6	77.1	75.8	72.3	79.3
95% CI	82.0–83.5	79.0–81.1	78.4–80.8	76.0–78.4	74.3–77.2	70.6–74.0	78.9–79.8
Women							
Mean	83.3	80.9	78.5	76.8	75.8	73.5	79.1
95% CI	82.6–84.0	80.0–81.9	77.5–79.6	75.7–77.9	74.5–77.2	72.2–74.8	78.6–79.5
All							
Mean	83.0	80.5	79.1	77.0	75.8	73.1	79.2
95% CI	82.5–83.5	79.8–81.2	78.3–79.9	76.1–77.8	74.8–76.8	72.1–74.1	78.9–79.5
Weighted N							
Men	1,308	651	626	505	398	367	3,855
Women	1,346	716	656	569	522	660	4,470
All	2,655	1,367	1,282	1,074	921	1,028	8,325
Unweighted N							
Men	1,163	647	639	546	407	370	3,772
Women	1,374	787	721	621	511	585	4,599
All	2,537	1,434	1,360	1,167	918	955	8,371

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (317 people (3.6%)).

Table 8A.10. Percentage showing substantial decline in speed of visual search at wave 2, by age in 2004–05 and sex

	52–59	60–64	65–69	70–74	75–79	80+	All
	% showing substantial decline ^a						
Men	17.1	17.2	21.6	21.6	21.1	31.1	20.2
Women	18.4	19.8	17.1	22.1	22.2	25.7	20.4
All	17.8	18.6	19.3	21.9	21.7	27.6	20.3
Weighted N							
Men	1,267	628	602	490	383	353	3,722
Women	1,301	700	636	550	507	635	4,331
All	2,569	1,328	1,237	1,040	890	988	8,052
Unweighted N							
Men	1,129	626	617	530	392	356	3,650
Women	1,329	772	700	602	496	564	4,463
All	2,458	1,398	1,317	1,132	888	920	8,113

^aA drop of 68 or more points from their wave 1 value.

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (317 people in wave 2 (3.6%); 575 people in both waves (6.6%)).

Table 8A.11. Literacy in wave 2, by age in 2004–05 and sex

	52–59	60–64	65–69	70–74	75–79	80+	All
	% obtaining each score						
Men							
0	1.3	0.9	2.0	2.4	3.0	6.2	2.1
1	6.1	8.8	10.7	11.9	12.7	16.1	9.7
2	17.7	18.1	22.1	27.3	24.7	25.5	21.2
3	74.9	72.2	65.2	58.4	59.7	52.2	67.1
Women							
0	0.5	0.8	1.1	0.8	2.9	3.7	1.4
1	5.9	8.7	8.6	11.4	13.5	19.3	10.3
2	20.1	22.4	20.7	25.2	25.2	28.8	23.0
3	73.5	68.1	69.6	62.7	58.5	48.2	65.3
All							
0	0.9	0.8	1.5	1.5	2.9	4.6	1.7
1	6.0	8.8	9.6	11.6	13.1	18.1	10.0
2	18.9	20.4	21.4	26.2	25.0	27.6	22.2
3	74.2	70.0	67.5	60.7	59.0	49.6	66.1
Weighted N							
Men	1,298	642	614	497	394	350	3,796
Women	1,336	711	663	562	521	641	4,436
All	2,634	1,354	1,278	1,059	916	992	8,232
Unweighted N							
Men	1,158	642	627	538	405	355	3,725
Women	1,367	782	729	616	511	573	4,578
All	2,525	1,424	1,356	1,154	916	928	8,303

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (385 people (4.4%)).

Table 8A.12. Literacy impairment in wave 2, by level of education, age in 2004–05 and sex

	Percentage scoring < 3				Percentage scoring < 2			
	52–64 %	65–74 %	75+ %	All %	52–64 %	65–74 %	75+ %	All %
Men								
No qualification (35.6%)*	41.7	54.1	49.4	48.0	17.3	23.2	24.3	21.2
Intermediate (35.9%)	23.5	31.7	43.1	29.5	5.7	9.7	17.1	9.0
Degree/higher (28.5%)	17.2	20.3	29.3	19.9	4.2	2.6	6.4	4.1
All	25.9	37.9	43.4	32.9	8.2	13.4	18.4	11.7
Women								
No qualification (47.4%)	42.4	41.6	51.6	45.5	13.3	14.5	23.7	17.4
Intermediate (35.7%)	24.2	27.2	42.7	28.3	5.4	7.6	16.9	8.0
Degree/higher (16.9%)	15.6	20.9	32.5	19.7	3.1	5.3	6.3	4.2
All	28.3	33.5	47.3	34.7	7.5	10.8	20.0	11.7
All								
No qualification (42.0%)	42.1	46.8	50.9	46.5	15.0	18.1	23.9	18.9
Intermediate (35.8%)	23.9	29.4	42.9	28.8	5.5	8.6	17.0	8.5
Degree/higher (22.3%)	16.6	20.6	30.8	19.6	3.7	3.8	6.4	4.1
All	27.1	35.6	45.7	33.9	7.8	12.0	19.4	11.7
Weighted N								
Men	1,924	1,106	739	3,769	1,924	1,106	739	3,769
Women	2,041	1,217	1,161	4,419	2,041	1,217	1,161	4,419
All	3,965	2,323	1,900	8,188	3,965	2,323	1,900	8,188
Unweighted N								
Men	1,785	1,161	755	3,701	1,785	1,161	755	3,701
Women	2,143	1,336	1,083	4,562	2,143	1,336	1,083	4,562
All	3,928	2,497	1,838	8,263	3,928	2,497	1,838	8,263

*Weighted percentages for each education/sex group.

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (425 people (4.9%)).

Table 8A.13. Literacy and numeracy impairment,^a by age and sex

	52-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80+	All
Men							
% with literacy score <2	7.3	9.8	12.8	14.1	15.4	21.8	11.7
% with numeracy score <3	4.7	6.0	8.8	7.1	9.4	12.1	7.1
% with both	1.4	1.8	5.2	3.1	3.4	5.7	2.9
Women							
% with literacy score <2	6.4	9.6	9.6	12.1	16.4	23.0	11.7
% with numeracy score <3	10.0	13.7	18.8	20.3	23.2	25.7	17.0
% with both	2.1	3.3	3.8	4.9	7.0	10.6	4.7
All							
% with literacy score <2	6.9	9.7	11.2	13.0	15.9	22.6	11.7
% with numeracy score <3	7.4	10.1	14.0	14.1	17.3	20.9	12.5
% with both	1.8	2.6	4.5	4.0	5.5	8.9	3.9
Weighted N							
<i>Men</i>	1,289	635	610	496	393	347	3,769
<i>Women</i>	1,332	710	661	557	520	641	4,421
<i>All</i>	2,621	1,345	1,271	1,052	913	988	8,190
Unweighted N							
<i>Men</i>	1,150	635	624	537	404	352	3,702
<i>Women</i>	1,363	781	727	610	510	573	4,564
<i>All</i>	2,513	1,416	1,351	1,147	914	925	8,266

^aImpairment was defined as the lowest 10% (approximately) of scores on each measure. This corresponded to a literacy score less than 2 and a numeracy score less than 3.

Notes: Numbers may not add up due to rounding of weighted data. People with information not available are excluded (422 people (4.9%)).

Table 8A.14. Cognitive performance, by age-specific wealth quintile

	Poorest	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	Richest
Self-reported memory					
% fair or poor	41.0	40.6	34.9	34.8	27.5
Prospective memory					
% failing to make correct response	53.0	48.6	43.4	36.7	32.6
Memory index					
% in lowest third of scores	52.9	46.8	40.2	34.3	26.8
Verbal fluency					
Mean number of animal names	17.5	18.3	19.4	20.4	21.5
95% CI	17.1–17.8	17.9–18.6	19.1–19.8	20.1–20.7	21.2–21.9
Visual search					
Mean speed (letters searched)	295	285	288	298	302
95% CI	289–300	281–290	284–292	294–302	297–306
Mean efficiency (correct/searched)	76.3	78.1	79.5	80.1	81.4
95% CI	75.5–77.1	77.3–78.8	78.8–80.2	79.4–80.7	80.8–82.1
Literacy and numeracy					
% literacy impairment (score < 2)	17.9	15.4	11.9	8.8	6.0
% numeracy impairment (score < 3)	23.2	17.9	10.9	7.0	5.3
% impairment on both	8.0	6.2	3.1	1.9	1.1
N (range)^a					
<i>Weighted</i>	1,467–1,608	1,556–1,670	1,703–1,793	1,689–1,754	1,697–1,752
<i>Unweighted</i>	1,405–1,522	1,535–1,631	1,705–1,784	1,737–1,795	1,809–1,864

^aBases shown are for literacy and numeracy measures, which have the least observations available, and prospective memory, which has the most observations available. Otherwise, base numbers are as in previous tables.

Note: People with information not available for wealth are excluded (75 (0.9%).)

Table 8A.15. Cognitive performance, by employment status

	Employed / Self - employed Mean age 58	Unemployed Mean age 59	Permanently sick or disabled Mean age 62	Looking after family or home Mean age 67	Retired / Semi-retired Mean age 72
Self-reported memory					
% fair or poor	31.4	32.3	52.2	34.8	38.5
Prospective memory					
% failing to make correct response	31.2	46.0	47.7	43.8	48.2
Memory index					
% in lowest third of scores (age-adjusted)	34.7	52.5	53.5	36.7	37.9
Verbal fluency					
Mean number of animal names	22.0	20.0	18.3	18.6	18.4
95% CI	21.8–22.3	18.3–21.7	17.7–18.9	18.1–19.0	18.2–18.6
Visual search					
Mean speed (letters searched)	310	280	282	303	284
95% CI	306–313	258–303	272–291	297–310	281–287
Mean efficiency (correct/searched)	82.7	82.0	78.9	79.2	77.1
95% CI	82.2–83.2	79.1–84.9	77.4–80.5	78.3–80.2	76.7–77.6
Literacy and numeracy					
% literacy impairment (score < 2)	6.5	13.9	16.5	13.0	14.0
% numeracy impairment (score < 3)	7.2	12.1	17.7	17.3	14.1
% impairment on both	1.6	4.6	6.0	5.0	4.8
N (range)^a					
<i>Weighted</i>	2,508–2,578	69–71	444–500	841–891	4,306–4,589
<i>Unweighted</i>	2,445–2,506	63–65	423–470	844–889	4,469–4,726

^aBases shown are for literacy and numeracy measures, which have the least observations available, and prospective memory, which has the most observations available.

Notes: People with information not available or reported 'other' for employment status are excluded (25 (0.3%): 1 refusal and 24 'other'). Otherwise, base numbers are as in previous tables.