1	(46 characters)
2	
3	
4	
5	Exploring feelings of pleasure and purpose associated with
6	older people's activities using ecological momentary analysis:
7	an observational study
8	
9 10	K E Hancock ^{1*1} , P Downward ² and L B Sherar ³
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16 17	

^{*1} Correspondence: K E Hancock; School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences, Loughborough University, Leicestershire, LE11 3TU; Email: k.hancock@lboro.ac.uk; Tel: +44 797 0896 440.

² School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences, Loughborough University, Leicestershire, LE11 3TU. Email: p.downward@lboro.ac.uk

³ National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine, Loughborough University, Leicestershire, LE11 3TU. Email: l.b.sherar@lboro.ac.uk

1	Ab	str	act
---	----	-----	-----

6

7

8

9

10

12

13

14

15

16

3 Momentary feelings of pleasure and purpose can be sources of intrinsic

4 motivation, but momentary purpose is rarely studied. Activities, contexts and

5 feelings of retired/semi-retired adults (n=67, aged 50-78y) were captured using

ecological momentary assessment. Participants provided 2,065 valid responses to

six daily smartphone surveys for seven days. Physical activity was measured by

waist-worn Actigraph accelerometer. Pleasure (measured by affective happiness)

and purpose outcomes were regressed on activities, context and potential

confounding variables. Interactions between activities and contexts were

explored. Participants were highly active: 98.5% met physical activity guidelines.

Sedentary activities were negatively associated with sense of purpose, especially

when indoors. However, social sedentary activities were positively associated with

feelings of happiness. Active, social outdoor activities were positively associated

with both outcomes. Less sedentary participants experienced greater happiness

and purpose during all their activities. Context matters: active, social and outdoor

activities seem to be more appealing to older adults.

18

(149 words)

20

21

22

19

Key words: active and sedentary activities; physically active retired/semi-retired adults; social context; outdoor activities; smartphones.

23

3

4

5

Introduction

6 Background and rationale

- 7 The benefits of physical activity for slowing the ageing process, maintaining
- 8 independence and improving quality and length of life are well-known (Bangsbo
- 9 et al., 2019), yet worldwide physical inactivity has been likened to a "global
- pandemic" (Sallis et al., 2016), with physical activity decreasing with age in most
- 11 European countries (Marques, Sarmento, Martins, & Saboga Nunes, 2015;
- 12 Eurostat, 2019). In England, more than 25% of adults 55-64y report fewer than 30
- minutes per week at health-improving moderate-vigorous intensity. The
- percentage inactive rises to almost 70% for those aged 85+ (Sport England, 2019).
- 15 More effective interventions would support England's public health priority to
- increase older people's physical activity and reduce sedentary behaviour (Public
- 17 Health England, 2014). Interventions grounded in behaviour change theory have
- been shown to be more effective than those that are not (Prestwich et al., 2014),
- and thus research facilitating the effective application of theory to practice is
- 20 likely to be useful. Self-determination theory (Deci & Ryan, 2000) is particularly
- 21 relevant to maintaining behaviour change and underpins many health-related
- behaviour change interventions (Patrick & Williams, 2012). Sense of purpose and
- 23 pleasure are sources of intrinsic motivation identified in self-determination theory
- 24 (Deci & Ryan, 2000; Ryan & Deci, 2001); Ryan, Huta, & Deci, 2008). Moreover, it

1 has been argued that people try to balance feelings of purpose and pleasure from 2 moment to moment in everyday life (Dolan, 2014) which suggests studying 3 momentary (experiential) feelings relating to older people's activities could help 4 to identify physically active and less sedentary activities that are more intrinsically 5 motivating because they appeal to feelings of pleasure and purpose. It has also 6 been shown that social and environmental contexts for activities influence older 7 people's feelings (Finlay, Franke, McKay, & Sims-Gould, 2015) and likelihood of 8 engaging in physical activities (Boulton, Horne, & Todd, 2018). There are some 9 evidence gaps in previous research on older people's feelings about their 10 activities. 11 12 Previous studies of older people's activities and their relationship to experiential 13 feelings use retrospective evaluations (Oerlemans, Bakker, & Veenhoven, 2011; 14 Kavčič & Avsec, 2018; Stone, Schneider, Krueger, Schwartz, & Deaton, 2018). A 15 recent study of older adults sampled using the American Time-Use Survey (ATUS) 16 found active leisure (e.g. sports, exercise and recreation) was associated with 17 greater 'happiness' and 'meaningfulness' when compared with passive 18 (sedentary) leisure (e.g. screen time) (Yamashita, Bardo, & Liu, 2018). However, 19 this study did not consider activities' social and environmental contexts, which are 20 important among older people (Finlay et al., 2015; Boulton, Horne, & Todd, 2018 21). Furthermore, activities were classified as active or passive retrospectively by 22 the researchers, which risked misclassifications. Moreover, memories of feelings 23 experienced yesterday – as collected by the ATUS - are less reliable than

1	immediate recall, particularly for older adults (Galenkamp et al., 2016), who may
2	be experiencing decline in short-term memory (Verhaeghen, 2013).
3	
4	A more accurate method of capturing behaviour, feelings and contexts
5	simultaneously is via prompted, frequent, real-time self-reports known as
6	ecological momentary assessments (EMA) (Shiffman, Stone, & Hufford, 2008). A
7	study using smartphone-delivered EMA over 30 days in a small sample (n=10) of
8	older adults (65-83y), found that social, outdoor leisure activities were associated
9	with higher experiential pleasure than non-leisure activities performed alone or
10	indoors (Cabrita, Lousberg, Tabak, Hermens, & Vollenbroek-Hutten, 2017).
11	Experiential feelings of purpose were not considered in that study. The objective
12	of this study, therefore, was to investigate how the type (sedentary, active), social
13	(alone or with others) and environmental (indoors or outdoors) contexts of
14	activities relate to momentary feelings of pleasure and purpose assessed using
15	EMA methods in a sample of retired or semi-retired, community-living older
16	adults, who have more leisure time at their disposal than those still fully
17	employed.
18	
19	Methods
20	
21	Study design, participants and setting
22	
23	A cross-sectional observational design was adopted. A convenience sample of
24	participants was recruited via responses to messages posted on social media

1	groups (e.g. Facebook sports club groups), forums (e.g. London School of
2	Economics Alumni) and personal contacts of the corresponding author. The study
3	received ethical approval from the corresponding author's University Ethics
4	(Human Participants) sub-committee on 24 Jan 2019. Participants were eligible if
5	≥ 50 years, fully or semi-retired, owned a smart-phone, and able to attend an
6	enrolment meeting either in Loughborough, East Midlands, or in London (UK).
7	Seventy-three adults met the inclusion criteria and consented to take part.
8	Recruitment spanned February to December 2019. During their enrolment
9	meeting, eligible participants provided informed consent, were familiarised with
10	study procedures and equipment, assigned an initialised Actigraph activity
11	monitor, shown how to download and login to the EMA app and asked to
12	complete a baseline survey capturing their demographic characteristics.
13	
14	
15	Measurements and procedures
16	
17	Ecological Momentary Assessment
18	
19	Details of activities, contexts and feelings were captured using EMA (Shiffman et
20	al., 2008). Several studies have demonstrated the feasibility, acceptability,
21	reliability and validity of smartphone-based EMA to measure behaviours and
22	feelings in a variety of older populations (Maher, Rebar, & Dunton, 2018; Paolillo
22 23	feelings in a variety of older populations (Maher, Rebar, & Dunton, 2018; Paolillo et al., 2018; Liu & Lou, 2018). Ethica software (www.ethicadata.com) was

1 most mobile phones. The EMA protocol was piloted in a convenient selection of 2 six smartphone users aged 50+. Changes to the protocols were made following 3 their feedback on the comprehensibility of the wording and routing of the 4 activities questions. 5 6 At the initial meeting participants completed a survey through the Ethica app 7 which asked about age, gender, ethnicity, religion, self-assessed health, highest 8 educational level achieved, whether living alone, whether working part-time or 9 not, number of adults in household, and overall life satisfaction and 10 worthwhileness of life, all of which have been previously identified as 11 confounding factors in analyses of subjective wellbeing (Dolan, Kudrna, & Stone, 12 2017) or associated with choice of leisure-time activities (Galenkamp et al., 2016). 13 Life satisfaction and worthwhileness of life were assessed using the wording and 14 0-10 scale recommended when measuring personal wellbeing by the Office for 15 National Statistics (Nickson, 2020). Principal sources for other question wordings 16 included the Office for National Statistics harmonised wordings for the 2011 17 Census (Office For National Statistics, n.d.) and the Department for Digital, 18 Culture, Media and Sport's 'Taking Part' survey questions (DCMS, 2015). 19 20 Over the seven days of monitoring, participants received six prompts per day at 21 random within 150-minute windows between 06:30 and 21:30 to complete six 22 questions about their main activity in the last hour and their feelings of happiness 23 -as an affective measure of pleasure (Dolan, Kudrna, & Testoni, 2017) - and sense 24 of purpose during that activity. They were instructed to answer prompts

1	immediately but only when safe and convenient. Participants were asked: What
2	was your main activity in the last hour? (21 activities, grouped into six higher-
3	level categories (physical, mental, social, recreational, travel and resting), similar
4	to those used in previous studies of older people's activities (Chang, Wray, & Lin,
5	2014; Galenkamp et al., 2016; Yamashita et al., 2018)). They were then asked to
6	rate their happiness and sense of purpose on a visual analogue scale by moving a
7	slider from the default setting of 5 to a number between 0 (not at all) and 10
8	(totally/wholly) (Office for National Statistics, 2015; Cabrita et.al., 2017).
9	Participants were then asked: What was your posture while carrying out this
10	activity? (Standing/Sitting/Lying Down/Moving about). Were you indoors or
11	outdoors while doing it? (Indoors at home/ Indoors another venue/In a vehicle/
12	Outdoors/Mix of the above). Who were you doing it with? (Alone/With a pet/With
13	people I don't know/With people I met through this activity/With
14	friends/family/With a service provider (e.g. doctor; shop assistant)).
15	
16	Accelerometry
17	
18	Participants were asked to wear an Actigraph accelerometer, either GT3x or
19	wGT3X- BT (Actigraph Corp., 2012) over the right hip using an elasticated waist
20	band during waking hours for seven consecutive days. These devices have been
21	identified as having acceptable validity and reliability in older adults (Copeland &
22	Esliger, 2009). All monitors underwent reliability testing on an orbital shaker and
23	only monitors within an acceptable limit were used for data collection. Data were
24	collected at a sampling rate of 100 Hz and downloaded in epochs of 60 seconds

1	for analysis using Actilife software. Raw Actigraph data files were processed to
2	derive outcome variables, using custom data reduction software (KineSoft,
3	V.3.3.67, Loughborough, UK). Non-wear time was defined as ≥60 minutes of
4	consecutive zero counts, allowing for two minutes of non-zero interruptions (Tay,
5	Chan, & Diener, 2014). Participants' accelerometer data was considered valid if
6	they had at least five days with more than 10 hours of valid accelerometer wear
7	(Pruitt et al., 2008). Vertical axis intensity cut-points derived for use in older
8	participants were adopted (Copeland & Esliger, 2009).
9 10	
11	
12	Statistical methods
13	
14	The unit of analysis was a single response to an EMA prompt. Happiness and
15	purpose outcome measures were regressed on activities undertaken, controlling
16	for confounding influences from the social and environmental context (e.g. where
17	they took place), accelerometer assessed physical activity/time spent sedentary,
18	and participant characteristics. Given the use of multiple regression methods, a
19	key consideration governing sample size was degrees of freedom. Using a two-
20	tailed test and 95% confidence level, assuming 20 independent variables, a
21	sample size of 1,302 responses from 31 participants (assuming 100% compliance
22	with the prompts) or 44 participants (assuming 70% compliance) was sufficient to

detect a very small effect size of 0.01 (Faul, F., Erdfelder, E., Lang, A.-G. &

Buchner, 2007). To account for the hierarchically structured nature of the data,

23

1	the standard errors of the regressions were clustered on individuals. Given the
2	number of independent variables that could potentially be included in the
3	regressions, multicollinearity was likely. To preserve degrees of freedom, a
4	pragmatic approach was adopted. Accordingly, backwards elimination was used
5	to derive parsimonious estimates, and further independent variables were
6	removed where variance inflation factors exceeded 10, which eliminated most of
7	the confounding variables except for accelerometer assessed sedentary time.
8	Multivariate linear regression models were estimated for both outcome variables.
9	In addition, given the literature showing that being with others and/or outdoors
10	improved happiness among older people (Cabrita et al., 2017; Lam & Garcia,
11	2019; (Sharifian & Grühn, 2019), the interaction between each of the activities
12	and dichotomous variables for whether activities were active/sedentary;
13	social/solo; and outdoors/indoors - as reported by participants - were also
14	explored. All analyses were conducted using Stata version 14.2 (StataCorp, 2018)
15	and statistical significance was set at $p < 0.05$.
16	
17	Results
18	
19	Data from six participants were removed as they did not meet the criteria for valid
20	accelerometer data, leaving data on 67 (92%) participants for analysis. The
21	maximum number of responses per participant was 42 (i.e. six per day). Owing to
22	missing data, 560 EMA responses were removed, leaving 2,065 from 67
23	participants – an average of 4.4 per participant per day: a response rate of 73.3%.
24	Sample characteristics are presented in Table 1. Participants ranged from 50-78

1	years of age, were predominantly white British, had at least degree-level
2	education, mainly resident in London, in good or better self-assessed health, and
3	all except one met the current physical activity guidelines (at least 150 mins of
4	moderate-vigorous physical activity weekly (Public Health England, 2014)). Mean
5	values for feelings of momentary happiness and sense of purpose were in line
6	with those found for measures of wellbeing in other surveys using the same scale
7	e.g. Office for National Statistics, (2020).
8	
9	[Table 1 here]
10	
11	Table 2 shows the categorisations and frequencies of participation in different
12	activities. The most frequent type of activity was physical, with moderate intensit
13	sport/exercise being the most common (22%). Mental activities were the next
14	most frequent type, with screen time being the most common (9.5%). For the
15	regression analyses, the 22 individual activities were reduced to 13 by combining
16	similar activities (e.g. moderate and vigorous sport/exercise both count towards
17	meeting the current physical activity guidelines) and merging low-frequency
18	activities into larger categories. Light sport/exercise was retained as a separate
19	category because it does not count towards the recommended 150 minutes a
20	week of physical activity.
21	
22	[Table 2 here]
23	

1	Sport or exercise at moderate-vigorous intensity was not significantly associated
2	with either happiness or sense of purpose when compared with mentally passive
3	activities, such as screen time (table 3). Sport or exercise at light intensity had a
4	positive association with sense of purpose but volunteering or caring for someone
5	had the largest association with sense of purpose of any of the 13 activities.
6	Activities that had the strongest association with momentary happiness were
7	social (e.g. visiting or entertaining friends or family, and going out to a pub, club or
8	restaurant), or recreational (e.g. attending a theatre or other cultural attraction).
9	
10	
11	[Table 3 here]
12	
13	The regression including interaction terms between each of the activities and
14	dichotomous variables for whether activities were active/sedentary; social/solo;
15	and outdoors/indoors (table 4) shows that for many activities, context is
16	important: social activities for example were positively associated with both
17	outcomes compared to solo activities – with the exception of volunteering. In
18	general, sedentary activities were negatively associated with both outcomes,
19	unless they were social sedentary activities (e.g. visiting friends and family). Of
20	the active recreational activities, those that were social and outdoors had the
21	largest positive association with both outcomes. Less sedentary participants were
22	more likely to experience greater levels of happiness and sense of purpose during
23	any recreational activity.

[Table 4 here]

23 Discussion

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

The objective of this study was to investigate how the type (sedentary, active) and context (social and environmental) of older people's activities relate to momentary feelings of pleasure or purpose to inform the design of interventions and policies. The finding that social light sport/exercise was positively related to happiness, but that moderate-vigorous sport/exercise was not associated with either outcome, points to the potential challenges of promoting higher intensity activities in this age group (Downward & Dawson, 2016). For both outcomes, outdoor activities were associated with higher levels of happiness and sense of purpose. The association between outdoor activities and happiness has been noted previously (Finlay et al., 2015; Cabrita et al., 2017). However, the finding that outdoor activities were associated with greater momentary sense of purpose is new. This study also demonstrates that, although closely related, older people distinguish between the concepts of happiness and sense of purpose. The small overlap in the pattern of significant coefficients between the two outcomes illustrated this. Visiting friends and family, and going to a pub, club or restaurant were strongly associated with feelings of happiness but not purpose for example. Differences such as these suggest there is additional insight provided by investigating momentary sense of purpose (Dolan, 2014). The current analyses also show that less sedentary older adults on average experienced greater feelings of happiness compared with their more sedentary counterparts, which is

1 in line with previous research (Lathia, Sandstrom, Mascolo, & Rentfrow, 2017). 2 However, a new finding is that less sedentary older adults also experienced even 3 greater feelings of purpose during their activities. Overall the results suggest that 4 policies and practices that encourage older adults to be less sedentary and spend 5 more time in outdoor and social activities are likely to increase happiness and 6 sense of purpose and could be leveraged to increase physical activity. For 7 example, volunteering, even if solo, will enhance happiness and sense of purpose 8 and if active, will also contribute to increased physical activity levels. 9 10 The study has two main limitations: first, the sample was not representative. For 11 example, participants were more physically active (Sport England, 2019) and more 12 highly-educated than UK adults of this age-group (OECD, 2020), likely due to the 13 recruitment strategies and the need to exclude older people without 14 smartphones. Future research should replicate the study in a more representative 15 sample of older adults in terms of physical activity levels, socio-economic status, 16 ethnicity and education levels. Second, the study was not designed to establish 17 causal relationships; however momentary feelings were reported immediately 18 after the activity had taken place, so causality is unlikely to be reversed. 19 20 In conclusion, this research suggests that the context of leisure-time activities is 21 important for older adults' feelings of both happiness and purpose, with social 22 and outdoor activities being more likely to have the widest appeal. This should be 23 considered when designing physical activity-increasing interventions and policy.

Furthermore, there is value in future research measuring momentary sense of

1	purpose in addition to happiness in a larger and more representative sample of
2	older people.
3	
4	
5	

1 References

- 3 Actigraph Corp. (2012). GT3X + and wGT3X + device manual.
- 4 Bangsbo, J., Blackwell, J., Boraxbekk, C. J., Caserotti, P., Dela, F., Evans, A. B., ...
- 5 Viña, J. (2019). Copenhagen consensus statement 2019: Physical activity and
- 6 ageing. British Journal of Sports Medicine, 53(14), 856–858.
- 7 https://doi.org/10.1136/bjsports-2018-100451
- 8 Boulton, E. R., Horne, M., & Todd, C. (2018). Multiple influences on participating in
- 9 physical activity in older age: Developing a social ecological approach. *Health*
- 10 Expectations, 21(1), 239–248. https://doi.org/10.1111/hex.12608
- 11 Cabrita, M., Lousberg, R., Tabak, M., Hermens, H. J., & Vollenbroek-Hutten, M. M.
- 12 R. (2017). An exploratory study on the impact of daily activities on the
- pleasure and physical activity of older adults. European Review of Aging and
- 14 *Physical Activity, 14*(1), 1–11. https://doi.org/10.1186/s11556-016-0170-2
- 15 Chang, P.-J., Wray, L., & Lin, Y. (2014). Social relationships, health and leisure in
- older adults. *Health Psychology*, 33(6), 516–523.
- 17 https://doi.org/10.1007/s10741-014-9462-7
- 18 Copeland, J. L., & Esliger, D. W. (2009). Accelerometer assessment of physical
- 19 activity in active, healthy older adults. *Journal of Aging and Physical Activity*,
- 20 *17*(1), 17–30.
- 21 DCMS. (2015). Adult questionnaire: Taking part survey, 2015 to 2016.

- 1 Deci, E. L., & Ryan, R. M. (2000). Self-determination theory and the facilitation of
- 2 intrinsic motivation, social development, and well-being. American
- 3 *Psychologist*, *55*(1), 68–78.
- 4 Dolan, P. (2014). *Happiness by design*. Allen Lane.
- 5 Dolan, P., Kudrna, L., & Stone, A. (2017). The measure matters: An investigation of
- 6 evaluative and experience-based measures of wellbeing in time use data.
- 7 *Social Indicators Research*, 134(1), 57–73. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-
- 8 016-1429-8
- 9 Dolan, P., Kudrna, L., & Testoni, S. (2017). *Definition and measures of subjective*
- wellbeing (Measuring Wellbeing Discussion Papers No. 3). London.
- 11 Downward, P., & Dawson, P. (2016). Is it pleasure or health from leisure that we
- benefit from most? An analysis of well-being alternatives and implications for
- policy. Social Indicators Research, 126(1), 443–465.
- 14 https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-015-0887-8
- 15 Eurostat. (2019). Ageing Europe. Statistical Books. Luxembourg.
- 16 https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.315.7115.1103
- 17 Faul, F., Erdfelder, E., Lang, A.-G. & Buchner, A. (2007). G*Power 3: A flexible
- statistical power analysis program for the social, behavioral, and biomedical
- sciences. *Behavior Research Methods*, *39*, 175–191.
- 20 Finlay, J., Franke, T., McKay, H., & Sims-Gould, J. (2015). Therapeutic landscapes
- and wellbeing in later life: Impacts of blue and green spaces for older adults.

- 1 *Health and Place, 34,* 97–106.
- 2 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.healthplace.2015.05.001
- 3 Galenkamp, H., Gagliardi, C., Principi, A., Golinowska, S., Moreira, A., Schmidt, A.
- 4 E., ... Deeg, D. J. H. (2016). Predictors of social leisure activities in older
- 5 Europeans with and without multimorbidity. European Journal of Ageing,
- 6 13(2), 129–143. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10433-016-0375-2
- 7 Kavčič, T., & Avsec, A. (2018). A day in the lives of older adults: What makes them
- 8 happy? *Psiholoska Obzorja*, 27, 51–60. https://doi.org/10.20419/2018.27.485
- 9 Lam, J., & Garcia, J. (2019). Solitary days, solitary activities and associations with
- 10 wellbeing among older adults. The Journals of Gerontology. Series B,
- 11 Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences.
- 12 https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbz036
- Lathia, N., Sandstrom, G. M., Mascolo, C., & Rentfrow, P. J. (2017). Happier people
- live more active lives: Using smartphones to link happiness and physical
- 15 activity. *PLoS ONE*, *12*(1), 1–13.
- 16 https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0160589
- 17 Liu, H., & Lou, V. W. Q. (2018). Developing a smartphone-based ecological
- momentary assessment protocol to collect biopsychosocial data with
- 19 community-dwelling late-middle-aged and older adults. Translational
- 20 *Behavioral Medicine*, *9*(4), 711–719. https://doi.org/10.1093/tbm/iby096
- 21 Maher, J. P., Rebar, A. L., & Dunton, G. F. (2018). Ecological momentary

- assessment is a feasible and valid methodological tool to measure older
- adults' physical activity and sedentary behavior. Frontiers in Psychology,
- 3 9(AUG), 1–11. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2018.01485
- 4 Marques, A., Sarmento, H., Martins, J., & Saboga Nunes, L. (2015). Prevalence of
- 5 physical activity in European adults Compliance with the World Health
- 6 Organization's physical activity guidelines. *Preventive Medicine*, *81*, 333–338.
- 7 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ypmed.2015.09.018
- 8 Nickson, S. (2020). Personal wellbeing harmonised principle. Retrieved August 16,
- 9 2020, from https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/policy-store/personal-well-being/
- 10 OECD. (2020). Population with tertiary education (indicator). https://doi.org/doi:
- 11 10.1787/0b8f90e9-en
- Oerlemans, W. G. M., Bakker, A. B., & Veenhoven, R. (2011). Finding the key to
- happy aging: A day reconstruction study of happiness. *Journals of*
- 14 Gerontology Series B Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences, 66 B(6),
- 15 665–674. https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbr040
- 16 Office for National Statistics. (2015). Personal well-being in the UK: Quality and
- 17 methodology information. Retrieved February 2, 2020, from
- 18 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/wellbeing/metho
- 19 dologies/personalwellbeingintheukgmi
- 20 Office for National Statistics. (2020). Annual personal wellbeing estimates.
- 21 Retrieved April 10, 2020, from

- 1 https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/wellbeing/dataset
- 2 s/headlineestimatesofpersonalwellbeing
- 3 Office For National Statistics. (n.d.). 2011 Census user guide. Retrieved February 4,
- 4 2020, from
- 5 https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/2011census/2011censusdata/2011censusus
- 6 erguide
- 7 Paolillo, E. W., Obermeit, L. C., Tang, B., Depp, C. A., Vaida, F., Moore, D. J., &
- 8 Moore, R. C. (2018). Smartphone-based ecological momentary assessment
- 9 (EMA) of alcohol and cannabis use in older adults with and without HIV
- infection. *Addictive Behaviors*, 83, 102–108.
- 11 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2017.10.016
- 12 Patrick, H., & Williams, G. C. (2012). Self-determination theory: Its application to
- health behavior and complementarity with motivational interviewing.
- 14 International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity, 9(1), 18.
- 15 https://doi.org/10.1186/1479-5868-9-18
- 16 Pruitt, L. A., Glynn, N. W., King, A. C., Guralnik, J. M., Aiken, E. K., Miller, G., &
- Haskell, W. L. (2008). Use of accelerometry to measure physical activity in
- older adults at risk for mobility disability. *Journal of Aging and Physical*
- 19 *Activity, 16*(4), 416–434. https://doi.org/10.1123/japa.16.4.416
- 20 Public Health England. (2014). Everybody active, every day: An evidence-based
- 21 *approach to physical activity.* London.

- 1 Ryan, R. M., & Deci, E. L. (2001). On happiness and human potentials: A review of
- 2 research on hedonic and eudaimonic well-being. *Annual Review of*
- 3 *Psychology*, 52(1), 141–166. https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.psych.52.1.141
- 4 Ryan, R. M., Huta, V., & Deci, E. L. (2008). Living well: A self-determination theory
- 5 perspective on eudaimonia. *Journal of Happiness Studies*, 9(1), 139–170.
- 6 https://doi.org/10.1007/s10902-006-9023-4
- 7 Sallis, J. F., Bull, F., Guthold, R., Heath, G. W., Inoue, S., Kelly, P., ... Hallal, P. C.
- 8 (2016). Progress in physical activity over the Olympic quadrennium. *The*
- 9 Lancet, 388(10051), 1325–1336. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-
- 10 6736(16)30581-5
- 11 Sharifian, N., & Grühn, D. (2019). The differential impact of social participation
- and social support on psychological well-being: Evidence from the Wisconsin
- 13 longitudinal study. *International Journal of Aging and Human Development,*
- 14 88(2), 107–126. https://doi.org/10.1177/0091415018757213
- 15 Shiffman, S., Stone, A. A., & Hufford, M. R. (2008). Ecological momentary
- assessment. Annual Review of Clinical Psychology, 4, 1–32.
- 17 Sport England. (2019). Active lives survey data tables. Retrieved February 27,
- 18 2020, from https://www.sportengland.org/know-your-audience/data/active-
- 19 lives/active-lives-data-tables
- 20 StataCorp. (2018). Stata Statistical Software. College Station; TX: StataCorp.
- 21 Stone, A. A., Schneider, S., Krueger, A., Schwartz, J. E., & Deaton, A. (2018).

1	Experiential wellbeing data from the American time use survey: Comparisons
2	with other methods and analytic illustrations with age and income. Social
3	Indicators Research, 136(1), 359–378. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-016-
4	1532-x
5	Tay, L., Chan, D., & Diener, E. (2014). The metrics of societal happiness. Social
6	Indicators Research, 117(2), 577–600. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-013-
7	0356-1
8	Verhaeghen, P. (2013). The elements of cognitive aging: Meta-analyses of age-
9	related differences in processing speed and their consequences. Oxford
10	University Press.
11	https://doi.org/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780195368697.001.0001
12	Yamashita, T., Bardo, A. R., & Liu, D. (2018). Experienced subjective well-being
13	during physically active and passive leisure time activities among adults aged
14	65 years and older. The Gerontologist, 59(4), 718–726.
15	https://doi.org/10.1093/geront/gny106
16	
17	
18	Tables
19	Table 1 Participant characteristics
	Characteristic Frequency/Mean* % (sd*)
	Age (y) 64.1* 5.92*

Gender	Male	29	43.3
	Female	38	56.7
Ethnicity	White British	63	94.1
	Other	4	5.9
Relationship status	Living in a couple	44	65.7
	Living alone	23	34.3
Highest educational level	Degree or above	48	71.0
	No degree	19	29.0
Location	London zones 1-6	52	77.6
	Not London	17	22.4
Self-assessed health	'Very good' or 'Good'	65	97.0
	'Fair' or 'Poor'	2	3.0
Met MVPA guidelines ¹		66	98.6
% of wear time spent in MVPA		9.9*	5.7*
% of wear time spent sedentary		62.5*	7.9*
,			
Happiness score		7.2	1.65*
Sense of purpose score		7.2	1.73*
			1./3
N		67	

 $^{^1}$ MVPA = moderate-to-vigorous physical activity. Guideline amount \geq 150 mins MVPA per week sd = standard deviation

Table 2 Categories and frequencies of activities

Frequenc	(%)	Frequenc	(%)	Final analytical	Frequenc	(%)
у		у		categories (13)	у	

Physical	744	36.0	Light sport or	118	5.7	Light sport or	118	5.7
activities			exercise			exercise		
			Moderate sport or	363	17.6	Moderate or	458	22.2
			exercise			vigorous sport or		
			Vigorous sport or	95	4.6	exercise		
			exercise					
			Domestic tasks	71	3.4	Domestic tasks or	123	5.9
			Shopping, errands	52	2.5	errands		
			or queuing					
			DIY/gardening	45	2.2	DIY/gardening	45	2.2
Mental	432	20.9	Screen time	196	9.5	Mentally passive	271	13.1
activities			Reading/listening	75	3.6	activities		
			for pleasure ⁴					
			Studying/learning	24	1.2	Mentally active	161	7.8
			a new skill			activities		
			Games or puzzles	16	0.8			
			Planning/organisin	115	5.5			
			g or admin tasks					
			Praying or	6	0.3			
			meditating					
Social	299	14.5	Visiting/entertaini	135	6.5	Visiting/entertaini	135	6.5
activities			ng friends or			ng friends or		
			family			family		
			Going to pub,	95	4.6	Going to pub,	95	4.6
			club, café or			club, café or		
			restaurant			restaurant		
			Volunteering	24	1.2	Volunteering or	69	3.4
			Caring for or	45	2.2	caring for		
			helping someone			someone		
Recreation	109	5.3	Attending concert,	40	2.0	Attending cultural	53	2.6
al activities			film, theatre or			or sporting event		
			sporting event			or visiting a		
			Visiting museum,	13	0.6	cultural attraction		
			gallery or other					
			cultural attraction					

			Creative hobby	56	2.7	Creative hobby	56	2.7
			(e.g. woodwork,					
			baking, making					
			music etc)					
Travel	171	8.3	Travel	171	8.3	Travel	171	8.3
Resting (s)	310	15.0	Resting	310	15.0	Resting	310	15.0
n	2,065	100.		2,065	100.		2,065	100.
		0			0			0

⁴ Reading and listening have been inconsistently classified in previous studies (Yamashita et al., 2018). They were classified as mentally passive activities here on the grounds that they do not necessarily require much mental effort, in contrast to

for example planning and organising, which does.

Table 3 Predictors of older adults' momentary happiness and purpose

Predictors	Happiness		Sense of Purpose		
	Beta	95% CI	Beta	95% CI	
Participant characteristics					
Percentage of wear time sedentary	-2.802*	-5.33 to -0.266	-3.2568	-5.896 to -0.596	
Activities (Base = Mentally Passive Activities)					
Light sport/ex	0.257	-0.233 to 0.804	0.662**	0.169 to 1.156	
Mod-vigorous sport/ex	-0.409	-0.854 to 0.028	0.398	-0.624 to 0.858	
Domestic tasks	0.003	-0.403 to 0.540	0.681**	0.212 to 1.150	
DIY/Gardening	0.404	-0.172 to 1.110	0.972***	0.426 TO 1.518	
Visiting/entertaining friends or family	0.741**	0.233 to 1.200	0.707*	0.136 to 1.278	
Going to pub, club, café or restaurant	0.658**	0.171 to 1.129	0.398	-0.145 to 0.940	
Volunteering/caring for someone	0.498	-0.158 to 1.1.41	1.376***	0.760 to 1.991	
Mentally active	-0.339	-0.789 to 0.124	0.660**	0.178 to 1.1.43	
Concert, film, theatre, museum etc	0.995**	0.302 to 1.671	0.807*	0.814 to 1.532	
Creative hobby	0.888**	0.340 to 1.437	1.151 ***	0.602 to 1.700	
Resting	-0.446	-0.936 to 0.019	-0.922***	-1.452 to -0.392	
Travelling	-0.852**	-1.338 to -0.270	-0.134	-0.716 to 0.447	
Context variables					
Social	0.452**	0.198 to 0.705			
Weekend	0.253**	0.033 to 0.449			
Outdoors	0.798***	0.428 to 0.945	0.456*	0.197 to 0.716	
Observations	2,065		2,065		
Adjusted R-squared	0.196		0.179		
Model degrees of freedom	17		14		

^{*}p <0.05, **p < 0.01, ***p<0.001

Constant suppressed for space reasons

Purpose

- 1 Table 4 Active/sedentary activities interacted with social and environmental
- 2 context predicting older adults' momentary happiness and sense of purpose⁴

Happiness

3

4

Predictors

	Beta	95% CI	Beta	95% CI
Participant characteristics				
Percentage of wear time sedentary	-2.779	-5.300 to -0.258	-3.342	-5.898 to -0.787
Activities interacted with active/sedentary, soci	al and environi	mental context: base =	mentally po	assive activities,
active, solo, outdoors				
Light sport or exercise				
Active, social, outdoors	1.025	0.122 to 1.923		
Sedentary, social, indoors	1.732	0.116 to 3.349		
Sedentary, social, outdoors	-1.022	-1.896 to – 0.148		
Moderate-vigorous sport or exercise				
Sedentary, solo, indoors	-1.411	-2.773 to0490		
Domestic tasks/errands				
Active, social, outdoors	1.409	0.389 to 2.4289	1.542	0.344 to 2.742
Sedentary, solo, indoors			-1.698	-2.843 to -0.554
DIY/gardening				
Active, social, indoors	1.061	0.175 to 1.947	1.232	0.118 to 2.347
Active, social, outdoors	1.268	0.026 to 2.509		
Sedentary, social, outdoors	1.748	0.995 to 2.501		
Visiting/entertaining friends/family				
Active, social, indoors	1.138	0.319 to 1.957		
Active, social, outdoors	1.501	0.062 to 2.940		
Sedentary, social, indoors	0.787	0.050 to 1.524		
Going to pub, club or restaurant				
Sedentary, social, outdoors	1.407	0.613 to 2.202		

Volunteering, caring for or helping someone

 $^{^4}$ Only statistically significant results reported, p>0.05.

Active, solo, indoors	2.164	1.458 to 2.870		
Sedentary, solo, indoors			2.730	0.280 to 2.647
Active, social, outdoors	1.710	0.584 to 2.837	1.464	1.447 to 4.012
Mentally active activities				
Active, solo, outdoors			1.464	0.388 to 2.540
Concert, film or theatre, museum or gallery				
Active, social, indoors	1.829	0.855 to 2.803	1.888	0.628 to 3.148
Sedentary, social, indoors	1.321	0.488 to 2.155		
Sedentary, social, outdoors	1.534	0.718 to 2.350		
Creative hobby				
Active, social, indoors	0.998	0.086 to 1.911	1.241	0.105 to 0.377
Active, social, outdoors	1.491	0.423 to 2.560	1.212	0.010 to 2.415
Sedentary, social, indoors	1.320	0.477 to 2.163	1.197	0.078 to 2.316
Resting				
Sedentary, solo, indoors	-0.927	-1.755 to -0.100	-1.555	-2.667 to -0.443
Sedentary, solo, outdoors	-1.096	-1.809 to -0.384	-1.116	-2.135 to -0.097
Travelling				
Active, solo, indoors	-1.047	-2.045 to -0.049		
Sedentary, solo, indoors	-1.561	-2.655 to -0.469		
Sedentary, solo, outdoors			1.243	0.168 to 2.318
Weekend/weekday				
Weekend	0.269	0.070 to 0.467		
Observations	2,065		2.065	
Adjusted R-squared	0.2335		0.2417	
Model degrees of freedom	65		65	