An Introduction to the Gateway to Global Aging Data

"Data in Europe: Ageing" - Webinar
June 14th, 2017

Drystan Phillips
Health and Retirement Studies around the World

• The Health and Retirement Study (HRS)
• The Mexican Health and Aging Study (MHAS)
• The English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA)
• The Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE)
• The Korean Longitudinal Study of Aging (KLoSA)
• The Indonesian Family Life Survey (IFLS)
Health and Retirement Studies around the World

- The Japanese Study of Aging and Retirement (JSTAR)
- The Study on global AGEing and adult health (SAGE)
- The Irish Longitudinal Study on Aging (TILDA)
- The Costa Rican Longevity and Healthy Aging Study (CRELES)
- The China Health and Retirement Study (CHARLS)
- The Longitudinal Aging Study in India (LASI)
HRS Surveys: Key Innovations

Multi-disciplinary subject matter
• Demographics, health, economics, etc.

Enhancing quality of economic data
• Nonresponse bias
• Unfolding bracket questions
• Imputation

Integrating biomarkers into social surveys
• Anthropometry, blood pressure, blood specimen
HRS Surveys: Core Content Areas

Demographic
Education, marital status, age, resident, birth year, birth month

Health
Cognition, disease, depression, injury, physical functioning, physical measures, health behaviors

Health Services
Insurance, utilization, expenditure, out-of-pocket spending

Work & Employment
Employment status/history, labor force, earnings, disability, retirement, type of work, pension

Economic Status
Income, wealth, and consumption; earnings, asset income, government transfers, housing, non-financial assets, pension

Family Structure & Social Network
Parents’ information, household structure, family exchange, family support, social participation
What’s available on the Gateway

• Library that includes all the survey questionnaires
• Flow-charts illustrate questionnaire skip patterns
• Search engine to locate specific survey item
• Statistics shown in the interactive graphs and tables
• Documentation of cross-study comparability
• Publications search based on HRS-type surveys
• Harmonized data
Welcome to The Gateway to Global Aging Data
Survey Questionnaires

Gateway provides detailed information about all the parts of the survey

• The location of all survey items inside the interview
• Survey questions including question text, interviewer prompts, and answer types and choices
• How the question was asked and to whom
• Links to microdata variables and how the values are formatted
• Assigned research topics, keywords, and domains
• Suggested similar survey items
<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Study</th>
<th>HRS</th>
<th>MHAS</th>
<th>ELSA</th>
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**All Surveys**
- RAND HRS
- Harmonized MHAS
- Harmonized ELSA
- Harmonized SHARE
- Harmonized CRELES
- Harmonized KLoSA
- Harmonized JSTAR
- Harmonized TILDA
- Harmonized CHARLS
- Harmonized LASI
Flow Charts

**Start of BH. Behavioral Risks**

*Ever smoked daily*
THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE ABOUT SMOKING AND DRINKING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. HAVE YOU EVER SMOKED CIGARETTES, CIGARS, CIGARILLETS OR A PIPE DAILY FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST ONE YEAR?

If Ever smoked daily = 1. Yes

**Smoke at the present time**
DO YOU SMOKE AT THE PRESENT TIME?
Concordance

Users can identify comparable survey measures between all Health and Retirement Surveys using

- Keyword search
- Top-level research domains for all HRS sister studies
- Finer research topics for Harmonized Studies

Allows users to compare measures between

- Multiple waves of one study
- The same year in multiple studies
Documentation

• Domain-specific comparison tables • Domain-specific user guides

  • Sample / Interview
  • Demographics
  • Family & Social Network
  • Health
  • Cognition
  • Healthcare Utilization and Insurance
  • Income & Consumption
  • Financial & Housing Wealth
  • Work
  • Retirement & Pension
  • Stress
  • Psychosocial

  • Chronic medical conditions
  • Financial transfers
  • Expectations
  • Employment and retirement
  • Income
  • Wealth
  • Cognition
  • Health Behavior
  • Informal Care
  • Household Expenditure
  • Imputation procedures
Interactive Graphs and Charts

Total Family Income for England in 2004 over 3 age groups
Interactive Graphs and Charts

Currently Working for Pay
in United States, China, England, Japan, Sweden, Slovenia for 55–64 from 2010–2010

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Data Notes
Standard errors for 2006 forward do not account for ELSA’s complex survey design which can result in the underestimation of standard errors.
Statistics for China are weighted using respondent-level cross-sectional weights.
Statistics for Japan are weighted using respondent-level cross-sectional weights.
Statistics for Slovenia are weighted using respondent-level cross-sectional weights.
Statistics for Sweden are weighted using respondent-level cross-sectional weights.

Citation
This graph was generated by the Gateway to Global Aging Data using Harmonized data. The development of the Gateway and Harmonized data was funded by the National Institute on Aging (R01 AG030153).
## Net Value of Primary Residence in United States from 2000-2012

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### Data Notes
All financial values have been adjusted for inflation and are shown in 2010 currency. Statistics are weighted using household-level cross-sectional weights. Statistics for the USA are based on net value of primary residence in the RAND HRS.

### Citation
This table was generated by the Gateway to Global Aging Data using Harmonized data. The development of the Gateway and Harmonized data was funded by the National Institute on Aging (R01 AG030153).
Publication Search

Users can find publications based on Health and Retirement Surveys around the world which are relevant to their research focus

• Select from
  1. survey
  2. topic
  3. year

• Search by
  1. title
  2. author
  3. source
Harmonized Data Files

Harmonized Datasets are created to provide harmonized measures of HRS-type surveys:

- Variables are defined as similarly as possible to the RAND HRS
- Combined all waves; each individual is one record
- Same variable naming as in RAND HRS, e.g. r1work – whether the respondent is currently working in wave 1
- Country specific variable name: e.g. r1lbrf_c – respondent’s labor force status in wave 1 of CHARLS, with different response scale
- Spouse versions of most variables are also created e.g. s2work – whether respondent's spouse is currently working in wave 2
**Simple Harmonization**

**SHARE 2004**

**BR001**
Ever smoked cigarettes daily?
1. Yes
5. No

If BR001 = 1

**BR002**
Smoke at the present time?
1. Yes
5. No, I have stopped

**Harmonized SHARE**

**R1SMOKEN**
Respondent smokes now
0. No
1. Yes
Harmonized Codebooks

Each Harmonized Dataset is accompanied by its own codebook.
• Includes brief overview of statistics for each variable

• Details variable creation and any assumptions made in the creation

• Highlights any differences between waves for this harmonized variable and any differences between this variable and the RAND HRS variable

• Lists all the variables from the originating dataset used in the creation of the variable
Harmonized Codebooks

### Health Behaviors: Smoking (Cigarettes)

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## Harmonized Codebooks

### Descriptive Statistics

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## Harmonized Codebooks

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<td>.m:Missing</td>
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<td>106</td>
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<td>.r:Refuse</td>
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<td>.v:SP NR</td>
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Harmonized Codebooks

How Constructed

RwSMOKEV indicates whether the respondent reports ever having smoked cigarettes, pipes, or cigars daily for a period of at least one year. The answer to the respondent’s first ever-smoked daily question is carried forward in subsequent waves. A code of 0 indicates that the respondent has never smoked daily. A code of 1 indicates that the respondent has ever smoked daily. When respondents don’t know, refuse to answer, or are missing, RwSMOKEV is assigned special missing values .d, .r, .m, respectively. RwSMOKEV is set to plain missing (.) for respondents who did not respond to the current wave.

SwSMOKEV records whether the respondent’s spouse has ever smoked daily for a period of at least one year and is taken directly from the spouse’s RwSMOKEV. In addition to the special missing codes used in RwSMOKEV, SwSMOKEV employs the special missing value .u, when the respondent does not report being coupled in the current wave, and the special missing value .v, when the respondent reports being coupled in the current wave but their spouse is not interviewed.

RwSMOKEN indicates whether the respondent reports smoking cigarettes, pipes, or cigars at the present time. This question is only asked if the respondent reports having ever smoked daily. RwSMOKEN is assigned a value of 0 if the respondent does not currently smoke or has never smoked. A code of 1 indicates that the respondent smokes at the present time. When respondents don’t know, refuse to answer, or are missing, RwSMOKEN is assigned special missing values .d, .r, .m, respectively. RwSMOKEN is set to plain missing (.) for respondents who did not respond to the current wave.

SwSMOKEN records whether the respondent’s spouse smokes at the present time and is taken directly from RwSMOKEN. In addition to the special missing codes used in RwSMOKEN, SwSMOKEN employs the special missing value .u, when the respondent does not report being coupled in the current wave, and the special missing value .v, when the respondent reports being coupled in the current wave but their spouse is not interviewed.
Harmonized Codebooks

Cross Wave Differences in SHARE

No differences known.

Differences with the RAND HRS

In the SHARE, respondents are asked whether they have ever smoked daily for a period of at least one year. In the HRS, respondents are asked whether they have ever smoked (regardless of whether the smoking was daily and not given a definitive period). Consequentially, RwSMOKEV in the Harmonized SHARE captures a different concept than RwSMOKEV in the RAND HRS. This difference also affects RwSMOKEV in the Harmonized SHARE because of the question routing explained above. Only SHARE respondents who answered that they have ever smoked daily for a period of at least one year were asked whether they smoke currently. In the HRS, all respondents who reported that they had ever smoked (regardless of whether the smoking was daily for a specific period) were directed to the question ever smoke currently. These two sets of measures should not be considered exactly comparable to the correlating RAND HRS measures.

In the HRS, the question about whether a person ever smoked daily is only asked at the respondent’s first interview. For each respondent the answer to such question is carried forward in subsequent waves.
Harmonized Codebooks

SHARE Variables Used

Wave 1:
  BR001_ ever smoked daily
  BR002_ smoke at the present time

Wave 2:
  BR001_ ever smoked daily
  BR002_ smoke at the present time

Wave 4:
  BR001_ ever smoked daily
  BR002_ smoke at the present time

Wave 5:
  BR001_ ever smoked daily
  BR002_ smoke at the present time
All Harmonized Data Files

- Harmonized ELSA – incorporates the first seven waves of ELSA (2002 - 2014)
- Harmonized TILDA – incorporates the first two waves of TILDA (2010, 2012)
- Harmonized CHARLS - incorporates the first two waves of CHARLS (2011, 2013)
- Harmonized LASI – incorporates the pilot data of LASI (2010)

Harmonized data files are either distributed through the Gateway or the originating study. In some cases the data files are created by users based on a code provided by the Gateway.
Downloads

Please cite all information retrieved from the Gateway data as follows:
Gateway to Global Aging Data, Produced by the USC Program on Global Aging, Health & Policy, with funding from the National Institute on Aging [R01 AG030153]

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<th>JSTAR</th>
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<td>India</td>
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- **Links to Download Survey Data**
  - ISR. The University of Michigan
  - University of Texas, Medical Branch
  - UK Data Service
  - Munich Center for the Economics of Aging
  - Costa Rican Longevity and Healthy Aging Study
  - Korea Employment Information Service
  - Research Institute of Economy, Trade, & Industry
  - Irish Social Science Data Archive
  - National School of Development, Peking University
  - Program on Global Aging, Health, and Policy

- **Download Harmonized Dataset**
  - RAND HRS
  - Harmonized ELSA
  - Harmonized SHARE
  - Harmonized CRELES
  - Harmonized KLoSA
  - Harmonized JSTAR
  - Harmonized TILDA
  - Harmonized CHARLS
  - Harmonized LASI

- **Download Harmonized Codebook**
  - RAND HRS Codebook
  - Harmonized MHAS Codebook
  - Harmonized ELSA Codebook
  - Harmonized SHARE Codebook
  - Harmonized CRELES Codebook
  - Harmonized KLoSA Codebook
  - Harmonized JSTAR Codebook
  - Harmonized TILDA Codebook
  - Harmonized CHARLS Codebook
  - Harmonized LASI Codebook

- **Create Harmonized Data**
  - RAND HRS SAS Code
  - Harmonized MHAS Stata Code
  - Harmonized ELSA Stata Code
  - Harmonized SHARE Stata Code
  - Harmonized CRELES Stata Code
  - Harmonized KLoSA Stata Code
  - Harmonized JSTAR Stata Code
  - Harmonized TILDA Stata Code
  - Harmonized CHARLS Stata Code
  - Harmonized LASI Stata Code
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