

SURVEY OF HEALTH, AGEING AND RETIREMENT IN EUROPE (SHARE)

 Last update: Waves 1, 2, 4 and 5 in January 2016

The Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) is a multidisciplinary and cross-national panel database of micro data on health, socio-economic status and social and family networks of approximately 110,000 individuals (more than 220,000 interviews) from [20 European countries](#) (+Israel) aged 50 or older.

SHARE responds to a Communication by the European Commission calling to "examine the possibility of establishing, in co-operation with Member States, a European Longitudinal Ageing Survey". SHARE has become a major pillar of the European Research Area, selected as one of the projects to be implemented in the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures ([ESFRI](#)) in 2008 and given a new legal status as the first ever **European Research Infrastructure Consortium** ([SHARE-ERIC](#)) in March 2011.

Source:

Wave 1

Release: 2.6.0

Date: Nov 29th 2013

Eleven European countries have contributed data to the 2004 SHARE baseline study. They constitute a balanced representation of the various regions in Europe, ranging from Scandinavia (Denmark and Sweden) through Central Europe (Austria, France, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, and the Netherlands) to the Mediterranean (Spain, Italy and Greece). Israel joined the SHARE framework in late 2004.

This SHARE main questionnaire consists of 20 modules on health, socio-economics and social networks. All data are collected by face-to-face, computer-aided personal interviews (CAPI), supplemented by a self-completion paper and pencil questionnaire.

[Questionnaire Wave 1](#)

Wave 2

Release: 2.6.0

Date: Nov 29th 2013

With the release of Wave 2, SHARE went into its longitudinal dimension, with new possibilities for data analysis when exploring variation of the same people over time. While the focus has been on re-contacting respondents from the first wave, a "refresher" sample was also drawn in all first wave countries except Austria and the Flemish part of Belgium. For

the refresher sample the same sampling methods were used as in wave 1, only cohorts born in 1955 and 1956 were oversampled to keep the sample representative of the population 50 years old and older.

The SHARE 2006 main questionnaire consists of 22 modules. In addition an 'End of Life' interview was conducted for deceased respondents. All data are collected via face-to-face, computer-aided personal interviews (CAPI), supplemented by self-completion paper and pencil questionnaires.

Two 'new' EU member states - the Czech Republic and Poland - as well as Ireland joined SHARE in 2006 and participated in the second wave of data collection in 2006-07. Israel joined in 2009-2010.

[Questionnaire Wave 2](#)

Wave 4

Release: 1.1.1

Date: Mar 28th 2013

In 2010, Estonia, Hungary, Portugal and Slovenia joined SHARE Wave 4, which is the third regular panel wave of the survey following the SHARELIFE life history questionnaire. The scientific use file will be released in November 2012, including a brand new social network module based on a name generator approach – making SHARE the very first international survey to provide social network information in a detailed and comparative way.

[Questionnaire Wave 4](#)

Wave 5

Release: 1.0.0

Date: Mar 31st 2015

The fieldwork of the Fifth Wave of SHARE was completed in November 2013. The scientific release includes new items on social exclusion and new modules on early childhood conditions and computer utilization at work as well as an interviewer survey. The release also contains several modules with generated variables, including imputations and weights. The following countries collected data and are part of the scientific release:

Austria, Belgium, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Germany, Denmark, Estonia, Spain, France, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Sweden, and Slovenia.

[Questionnaire Wave 5](#)

Additional information on SHARE can be found at [SHARE Website](#)