Editorial

Dear users and friends,

Last year was a successful year for SHARE. After more than 10 years, we never registered more SHARE based publications than 2015 and the data are used all over the world. This shows that SHARE data are well embedded on an international level and our publicity is steadily increasing, simultaneously with our number of users. To further support these developments we want to announce great news:

Wave 7 fieldwork will start at the beginning of 2017 in much more countries. With great efforts, new personnel support within the SHARE central team and dedicated scientists from the new SHARE countries, we succeeded integrating many new European countries into our survey. Covering Europe with a survey in this dimension is a novelty and will offer new opportunities for SHARE researchers in the future. More information coming soon.

Moreover, SHARE will be presented on several international conferences this year. Please find in this newsletter the announcements of some of them (see: SHARE Exhibition Space). We would be happy to meet you there.

Yours sincerely,

Axel Börsch-Supan

*Important note: Please do not forget to keep informing us about your SHARE based research and publications. Simply send an email to our team (info@share-project.org) and your SHARE publication will be included in the respective publication section of our website. Please be kindly reminded that including the SHARE acknowledgement in every article using SHARE data is essential for SHARE as well as for our funders. Information on the content of the acknowledgement and requested citations can be found here:
www.share-project.org/data-access-documentation/research-data-center-data-access.html
All-waves Release

Out now: SHARE major data update of Waves 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 is published!

The update includes the latest state of data cleaning and harmonisation across waves. There is also an update of weights, imputations and the job episodes panel. Moreover, the new release comes with a number of innovations (improved coverscreens and a longitudinal coverscreen version, new generated variables on deprivation and social security wealth, sharetom5 and more). There is also an update of the German Pension Insurance Linkage (SHARE-RV) which includes the most recent version of the administrative data.

SHARE Wave 7 Post-Pretest Meeting

EU-Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis visiting SHARE meeting

On 17 March 2016 the European Commissioner for Health & Food Safety Vytenis Andriukaitis honored the work of the SHARE researchers. He attended the SHARE meeting in Vilnius, Lithuania, where we prepared the upcoming cross-country harmonized survey wave on health and life circumstances across Europe.

The Commissioner held a welcome speech about the importance of exploring the demographic ageing. He stressed that providing more and better data is an important goal to build up international and country-specific knowledge SHARE data and the analyses based upon them are an important source of evidence which helps our ageing countries to better cope with the health challenges. Commissioner Andriukaitis emphasized: “The results of this initiative for the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe will no doubt contribute to our collective heritage to better design and manage the health systems of tomorrow.”

Preparing Wave 7 fieldwork

Teams from 28 countries and the central coordination team from Munich participated in the Vilnius meeting to discuss the next SHARE wave. The SHARE consortium discussed the most recent findings generated from pretest data. One of the key insights was the need to reduce the total length of the interview. This will be accomplished while also maintaining integrity of the SHARELIFE part of the interview.
New Countries Meeting

On 15 and 16 February 2016 we have welcomed 8 new potential SHARE countries in Munich. Researchers from these countries were introduced into the whole survey procedure: Financing issues as well as data collection, harmonization and data release processes were presented and discussed. Our aim is to motivate all European countries to join SHARE. The more countries participating, the more and better scientific results can be generated. Due to the cross-national design, all SHARE countries can be compared and analysed in correlation with country specific developments. We are very proud that 8 new countries attended our meeting and we could share our fascination and ideals with many new colleagues from different research areas. Now the potential new countries will build up their teams and quickly preparing their first data collection.

Train the Trainer

The Train the Trainer (TTT) event in December 2015 was the first out of three TTT trainings to prepare Wave 7. Survey agencies and country teams from all SHARE countries were invited to Munich to the two-day meeting to learn about new features in the software, changes in the questionnaire, IT-related questions, the SHARE schedule and to get to know the new questionnaire content. Wave 7 will be all about the life histories of the SHARE respondents. So the main part of the training was hands-on, i.e., going through the actual interview and getting a feeling for the content, length, drawbacks and strengths of the interview. This so-called mock interview was enjoyed by all participants.
SHARE – Switzerland:
Methodological Workshop: Managing and Analysing SHARE Data

5.-6. September 2016 - University of Lausanne

The aim of this two-day workshop is to provide PhD students and researchers an overview of SHARE data. Firstly, in order to ease the access to SHARE data, this workshop will present the content and structure of the questionnaire as well as the organization of data files and key variables. Syntaxes to merge different types of files with SPSS and Stata will be presented and developed: participants will be able to merge different files (Wave 1 to Wave 5) and to construct a long-file with household information as well as a partner-file. Secondly, this workshop will provide an introduction to the topic of weights and imputations in SHARE. Weights and imputations files available in SHARE data will be explained; participants will also receive practical advice for dealing with this information during model building and fitting. Finally, this workshop will present specific analyses based on SHARE-LIFE / SHARE data.

>> More information (program and inscription form)

SHARE Researcher Flyer – all advantages in a nutshell

SHARE's great advantages for researchers are the cross-national design that allows country specific comparisons, the international embeddedness, the longitudinal character that grasps the whole ageing process and the multidisciplinarity through various variables. All advantages and an overview of SHARE variables are now published in our new SHARE flyer.

Please do not hesitate disseminating the flyer to all people that are interested in working with SHARE data.

>> PDF Download

2015 – Most publications since the beginning of SHARE

Since the first wave of SHARE was released in 2005, an increasing trend in the usage of SHARE data for scientific research was observed. In 2015, the SHARE team counted the highest number of scientific publications based on SHARE data that was registered in one year. The data are currently used in 63 countries (31 European, 4 North and Central American, 5 South American, 5 African, 16 Asian and 2 Oceanian). The largest user group is located in Germany, followed by the United States as second largest user group. In 2015, almost one third of the authors came from Italy and Germany with the great majority affiliated to universities.

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Personnel News

The SHARE central coordination team wants to introduce five new colleagues in Munich: From 15 February on Jeny Tony Philip and Yuri Pettinicchi are supporting our SHARE Operations Unit as well as Karin Schuller, who started on 1 March. We also welcome Sabine Friedel (SHARE Research Projects) who has already joined us on 1 February. Furthermore, Judith Kronschnabl started on 15 March in the Financial Affairs Unit. Furthermore Imke Herold took over the SHARE-RV tasks within the German Pension Insurance (Deutsche Rentenversicherung) in March and supports the SHARE Research Projects Unit from Berlin.

SHARE Exhibition Space

SHARE will be represented on the following conferences with an exhibition booth:

10.-14. July 2016 in Vienna, Austria:
3rd ISA Forum of Sociology, International Sociological Association (ISA)

25.-29. July 2016 in Chicago, IL, USA:
3MC International Conference 2016,
International Workshop on Comparative Survey Design and Implementation (CSDI)

22.-26. August 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland:
EEA-ESEM Congress Geneva 2016, European Economic Association (EEA)

31. August - 3. September 2016 in Mainz, Germany:
European Population Conference 2016 (EPC2016), Bundesinstitut für Bevölkerungsforschung

Selected New Publications

Books

Pilk hallile alale. SHARE Eesti uuringu esimene ülevaade ja soovitused eakate politika kujundamiseks. (A look at the gray area. The first proceedings of SHARE Estonia and recommendations for elderly policy.) Tallinn: Tallinna Ülikooli Eesti demograafia keskus

Book Chapters


Health capacity to work at older ages: evidence from Italy. In: Wise, D. A. Social security programs and retirement around the world: the capacity to work at older ages, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.


Journal Articles

Nonresponse bias for univariate and multivariate survey estimates of social activities and roles. Public Opinion Quarterly.


Memel, M., K. J. Bourassa, C. Woolverton and D. A. Sbarra (2016).


Associations between multimorbidity, healthcare utilisation and health status: evidence from 16 European countries. Age and Ageing. DOI: 10.1093/ageing/afw044.


The role of the hostile-world scenario in predicting physical and mental health outcomes in older adults. Journal of Aging and Health. DOI: 10.1177/0898264315614005.

A comparison of tooth retention and replacement across 15 countries in the over-50s. Community Dentistry and Oral Epidemiology. DOI: 10.1111/cdeo.12209.


Activity participation and well-being among European adults aged 65 years and older. Social Indicators Research. DOI: 10.1007/s11205-016-1256-y.

Working Papers


Jürges, H., L. Thiel and A. Börsch-Supan (2016).

Thuiszorguitgaven en informele hulp. De relatie tussen veranderingen in thuiszorguitgaven en de ontvangen informele zorg door personen van 50 jaar of ouder in acht Europese landen. (Home care expenditures and informal help. The relationship between changes in home care spending and informal care received by people aged 50 or older in eight European countries.) Social and Cultural Planning Office of The Netherlands Working Paper.

Others


Deindl, C. and N. Tieben (2016).
Cultural and material resources of parents and grandparents and the educational outcome of grandchildren in Europe. MEA Discussion Paper 01-2016. Munich Center for the Economics of Aging (MEA). Munich.


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