

Betreff: SHARE Newsletter June 2010

Von: SHARE PROJECT <info@share-project.org>

Datum: Wed, 30 Jun 2010 12:19:55 +0200

An: brandt@mea.uni-mannheim.de



< tr>

No. 6 | June 2010

SHARE Newsletter

Please enable HTML script.

Content

Editorial

[SHARE wave four: New perspectives](#)

[SHARE travels the globe of disciplines](#)

[SHARE research in progress](#)

[Data updates](#)

[Presentation of the SHARE crew](#)

[Selection of the latest SHARE based publications](#)

Editorial

Dear SHARE users and friends,

time flies and another half a year already has passed since the last newsletter. It is thus high time to inform you about the state of never-resting SHARE affairs.

We are happy to announce that the wave 3 data including retrospective life histories (SHARELIFE) will be published on 16th November 2010 during an official ceremony in Brussels and will be available for download from our website directly afterwards. We are looking forward to publishing our next first results book that will demonstrate the broad range of research topics covered in SHARELIFE, including

unemployment patterns across the life course under different welfare regimes, the influences of childhood conditions on income, health and well-being in old age, the interrelation between social policy, quality of work and early retirement in Europe and the influence of socio-economic conditions during childhood on lifelong poverty, to name just a few of the many topics.

At the same time we are, of course, busy working on the questionnaire and programming for the wave 4 data collection. This will not only include a brand-new social networks tool designed by our social networks area team under the direction of Professor Howard Litwin, but also a range of new countries. Let us express a warm welcome to Estonia, Hungary, Luxemburg, Portugal and Slovenia and their country teams, who are already in the midst of SHARE preparations!

Not only SHARE itself is constantly evolving, there are also considerable developments in its coordination team at MEA. We are glad to welcome three additions to our team: Kathrin Axt, who is responsible for SHARE budget matters, Annelies Blom, who is our survey methodologist, and Eva Schneider, who joined us to help with organisational and administrative matters.

We wish you all an enjoyable and sunny summer, and if you are still looking for some suitable summer readings, just download http://mea.uni-mannheim.de/i3_ERA_SHARE.pdf (pg. 18).

Sincerely,
Prof. Axel Boersch-Supan, Ph.D.
Mannheim, June 2010

SHARE wave four: New perspectives

The whole is more than the sum of its parts, and thus SHARE becomes ever more interdisciplinary. Thanks to the Volkswagen Foundation our project on "*A new perspective for aging research in Germany: Linkages between disciplines (biology, medicine, economics, and social sciences) and linkages between data bases (socio-economic surveys, administrative records, and biomarkers)*" is now brought to wave four real life. In this project we link medical-biological with socio-economic research and collect data that are sufficiently detailed and precise to serve the needs of both approaches.

In collaboration with the Network Aging Research Heidelberg-Mannheim (NAR) and the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ) we therefore plan to collect a range of additional biomarkers in the German SHARE population (waist circumference, dried bloodspots, blood pressure). These open up a range of new research opportunities, such as e.g. the interrelation between self-reported and objective health measures or between biological ageing processes and socially- or economically-induced health behaviour.

Furthermore, cooperating with the German pension fund (Deutsche Rentenversicherung Bund) we continue collecting the social security numbers of respondents to link the SHARE interviews with administrative records of the German Social Security system. These data include detailed information on individual employment histories, including income sources, times of parental leave and care for relatives, and thus allow for a thorough assessment of objective socio-economic dynamics over the life course.

Combining SHARE data on the lives of those aged 50 and older in 14 European countries and Israel at three different points in time, life histories from SHARELIFE, linked administrative data and a broad range of health measures, the SHARE database provides an increasingly comprehensive picture of the various aspects of societal and individual ageing.

SHARE travels the globe of disciplines

SHARE papers across the disciplines continue their tour around the globe, covering a wide variety of topics and audiences.

At the 19th IAAG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics on *Longevity, health and wealth* in Paris in July 2009, Farizah Mohd Hairi joined the session on *Socioeconomic inequalities in health in older people* with her paper *Wealth and disability in 11 European countries: Results from the SHARE study*.

Barbara Schaan presented her work on *Widowhood, gender and depression in later life* in August 2009 in San Francisco at the 104th American Sociological Association Annual Meeting and at the 9th European Sociological Association Conference in Lisbon in September, where SHARE was also present in a range of sessions on intergenerational relations, proximity and transfers.

In March 2010, SHARE continued travelling the Mediterranean. A well attended workshop on *The family and the state: Intergenerational transfers in Europe* was held by Martina Brandt and Christian Deindl at the International Conference on Couple and Family Relations aiming at *Empowering families as sustainable partners in social policy* in Malta.

Across the pond, Hendrik Juerges and Karsten Hank presented their work on *The last year of life in Europe: Regional variations in functional status and sources of support* at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America in Dallas, April 2010.

Last month, the Spring Meeting of the Research Committee on Social Stratification and Mobility (RC28) on *Social Inequalities of economic uncertainty* took place in Haifa, where SHARE was establishing a basis for the analysis of the interrelation between *Wellbeing and social inequalities in old age*.

Upcoming conferences are already in sight: The RAND Center for the Study of Aging will host a conference on *Comparative international research based on HRS, ELSA, SHARE and similar data* in July 2010 - we are curiously looking forward to more interesting findings.

SHARE research in progress

Viola Angelini, Danilo Cavapozzi and Omar Pacagnella, all from the University of Padova in Italy, tell us about their research on the dynamics of work disability reporting amongst older Europeans.

- *Why is it important to study work disability reports by older Europeans?*

We all know that Europe is ageing faster and faster and that this challenges the sustainability of European social security systems. The proportion of the work force compared to the non-working population is crucial in this respect and the design of policies targeted at work-disabled persons plays a very prominent role in pursuing a financial equilibrium. Social security systems should both maximise social safety and at the same time prevent potential misuse of disability programs. We want to learn more about the line between disability and misuse by looking into the dynamics of self-reports of older Europeans over time.

- *How exactly do you approach this topic?*

Our measure of work disability is derived from individual self-evaluations. One problem with

using such a subjective indicator is that response styles might differ both across individuals and over time, because the evaluation of each respondent may depend on individual specific and time-varying factors, such as the overall socio-economic condition and the presence of physical and mental problems. To adjust for these problems and to investigate to what extent individual reporting styles are stable over time, we combine a vignette approach with conventional panel data techniques.

- *So, who feels able to work and who does not?*

We find that the Spanish, Italian and French feel most fit for work. But reporting styles considerably vary with the country of residence, health, education and age. Even more interestingly, we see that individual response styles vary significantly over time. So, given the same health status, one person might rate herself as work-disabled in one year but not in the next.

- *What would be your policy advice?*

The variations in work-disability self-assessments among older Europeans can be at least partially explained by response styles that are not comparable across socio-economic groups and over time. Public policy evaluations based on raw individual self-assessments may bring about misleading results and associate variations in work-disability rates with changes in the institutional framework, even if these might be actually due to changes in individual response styles. As a result, further research is needed to set meaningful objective criteria for work disability and give precise policy advice.

Learn more:

Angelini, V., D. Cavapozzi and O. Paccagnella. (2009). Dynamics of work disability reporting in Europe. "Marco Fanno" Working Paper no. 104. University of Padua, Department of Economics and Management "Marco Fanno".

Data updates

Please note that an updated imputations file will be available soon! All registered users will be informed by e-mail when the new files are available. As always, you can download the data via the Research Data Center on our website www.share-project.org. Registered SHARE users can access the data with their current login code and password. New users have to register only once. The login code and password are valid for all subsequent releases and future waves of data. Please always consult our detailed documentation before sending your questions to share@mea.uni-mannheim.de.

Presentation of the SHARE crew

SHARE programmers @ CentERdata

Since we are currently fine tuning the new SHARE questionnaire, we would like to spotlight two long-term SHARE members responsible for programming the survey instrument. Both work at our partner institution, CentERdata in Tilburg, NL.

Corrie Vis

Corrie is the Head of the Survey Research Department in Tilburg and has been working for CentERdata since 1997. She studied visual arts and mathematics, and did research in applied psychology. Her main focus in survey research is design and continuation matters of representative online panels. She is particularly interested in hard-to-reach groups, (inter)cultural similarities and differences between and within groups. For SHARE she is involved in the development of the survey instruments.



Maurice Martens

Maurice has been working with CentERdata as a software developer since 2004. He studied Knowledge Engineering and has a lot of experience with various programming languages and environments. For SHARE Maurice is involved in the programming of survey instruments and translation tools, supports us during the translation process and generates the questionnaires. After the survey he collects and transforms the data into readable form. Last but not least, he develops software to manage all these steps.



... we would like to express our gratitude to all SHAREs @ CentERdata for being such efficient, flexible and, most importantly, nice colleagues!

Selection of the latest SHARE based publications

Ayalon, L., J. Heinik and H. Litwin. (2010). Population group differences in cognitive functioning in a national sample of Israelis fifty years and older. *Research on Aging* 32 (3): 304-322.

Dragano N., J. Siegrist and M. Wahrendorf. (2010). Welfare regimes, labour policies and workers' health: A comparative study with 9917 older employees from 12 European countries. *Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health*, in press.

Engelhardt, H., I. Buber, V. Skirbekk and A. Prskawetz. (2010). Social involvement, behavioural risks and cognitive functioning among the aged. *Ageing and Society* 30 (5): 779-809.

Gruber, S. and M. Kiesel (2010). Inequality in health care utilization in Germany? Theoretical and empirical evidence for specialist consultation. *Journal of Public Health*, in press.

Haberkern, K. and M. Szydlik (2010). State care provision, societal opinion and children's care of older parents in 11 European countries. *Ageing and Society* 30 (2): 299-323.

Hank, K. (2010). Societal determinants of productive ageing: A multilevel analysis across 11 European countries. *European Sociological Review*, in press.

Hank, K. and M. Erlinghagen. (2010). Dynamics of volunteering in older Europeans. *The Gerontologist* 50 (2): 170-178.

Hank, K. and M. Erlinghagen. (2010). Volunteering in "old" Europe - Patterns, potentials, limitations. *Journal of Applied Gerontology* 29 (1): 3-20.

Hank, K. and H. Juerges. (2010). The last year of life in Europe: Regional variations in functional status and sources of support. *Ageing and Society*, in press.

Laszlo, K. D. et al. (2010). Job insecurity and health: A study of 16 European countries. *Social Science and Medicine* 70 (6): 867-874.

Roll, A. and H. Litwin. (2010). Intergenerational financial transfers and mental health: An analysis using SHARE-Israel data. *Ageing and Mental Health* 14 (2): 203-210.

Siegrist, J. and M. Wahrendorf. (2010). Socioeconomic and psychosocial determinants of well being in early old age. In: Zaidi A., L. Bovenberg and A. van Soest (Eds.). *Ageing, health and pensions in Europe*, in press.

Stock, C. and H. Brenner. (2010). Utilization of lower gastrointestinal endoscopy and fecal occult blood test in 11 European countries: Evidence from the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE). *Endoscopy*, in press.

Wahrendorf M. and J. Siegrist. (2010). Are changes in productive activities of older people associated with changes in their well-being? Results from a longitudinal European study. *European Journal of Aging*, in press.

Please find a complete list of SHARE-based publications on our website:

www.share-project.org

You can help us to keep this list up-to-date by informing us about all SHARE-based publications. Moreover, always remember to include the user acknowledgement. The text can be found in the section "Research Data Center" on the SHARE website.

Please consider including your publications in the US archive PubMed Central (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/>) to raise the awareness of our research worldwide.

Information on the submission process can be found at http://publicaccess.nih.gov/submit_process.htm (Method C).

Contact

Eva Schneider
Mannheim Research Institute for the Economics of Aging
Dept. SHARE
Building L 13/17, D-68131 Mannheim
Phone: +49 621 181 3626
Fax: +49 621 181 1863
E-Mail: schneider@mea.uni-mannheim.de

Imprint

Mannheim Research Institute for the Economics of Aging (MEA)
University of Mannheim
Building L 13/17, D-68131 Mannheim

Unsubscribe to the SHARE Newsletter:

You can unsubscribe at any time by sending an e-mail with the subject 'unsubscribe SHARE newsletter' to share@mea.uni-mannheim.de

www.share-project.org

© 2010 SHARE Project

for more information see www.share-project.org