



**Survey of Health,
Ageing and
Retirement in
Europe**

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SHARE Newsletter December 2012

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Editorial



Dear SHARE users and friends,

as 2012 comes to an end we are happy to announce the first release of SHARE wave 4 data including a new social network module and data from 19 countries. These are exciting news and we hope that the new data set will lead to further SHARE related research and will further foster a deeper understanding of your specific research topic.

Moreover, for SHARE 2012 has also been a year of preparing new publications. SHARE will cooperate with DeGruyter concerning our upcoming publication in the First Results Book series for wave 4. The book will be entitled "**Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations in Europe: First Results from SHARE after the Economic Crisis**" and will be published in mid-2013 as an open-access publication, meaning it will be available free of charge to researchers and decision-makers around the world. Through this open-access publication we aim for broader and easier information about new SHARE research possibilities. The volume will officially be presented at a press conference in Brussels on June 27/28th 2013. We are also delighted to see that SHARE research has been prominently featured in the media worldwide such as for example in "**Nature**", and you can always consult our [press reviews](#) for more articles.

Last but not least, we would like to officially welcome the members of our new **SHARE user board**, Pearl Dykstra, Henriette Engelhardt-Wölfler, Pierre-Carl Michaud and Silke Schneider. Thank you very much for your support!

For more in-depth information on everything else that has been going on at SHARE, please read on. Besides this bi-annual newsletter you can always get up-to-date information on www.share-project.org and via our social media channels such as [facebook](#) or [twitter](#).

The entire SHARE team wishes you a good time at Christmas and a successful start into the year 2013.

Yours sincerely,

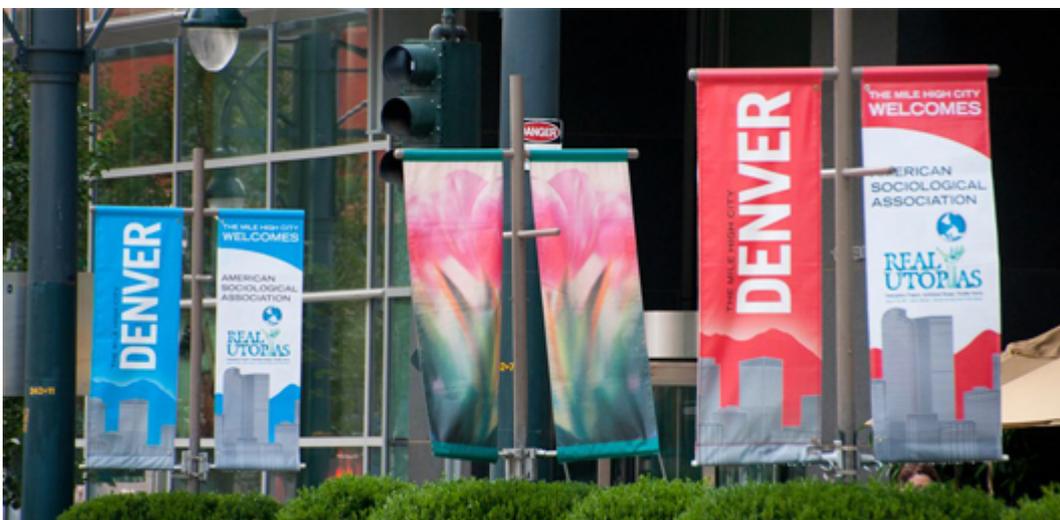
Axel Börsch-Supan
Munich, December 2012

SHARE wave 4 data

Less than three weeks ago the SHARE database management team finished its work on the first release of SHARE wave 4 data. The data include four new countries (Estonia, Hungary, Portugal, and Slovenia) as well as a new module on social networks with respective generated variables. Additionally you will find biomarker variables for the German sample which paves the way for entirely new angles in research. The first release also contains several modules with generated variables, including imputations.

The SHARE questionnaires are available right [here](#) and for more detailed information on wave 4 data please visit our website and direct your attention to the “[Data Access & Documentation](#)” category. As the wave 4 release guide 1.0.0 has also been published online, you can refer to this [document](#) for extensive information. In the coming weeks a methodology volume "Malter, Frederic, and Axel Börsch-Supan (2013). SHARE Wave 4: Innovations & Methodology. Munich: MEA, Max-Planck-Institute for Social Law and Social Policy", will also be published on our website. As a registered user you can download the data from the “[Research and Data Center](#)” or sign up for free data access. Please note that your login code and password remain valid. However the disclaimer and acknowledgement changed (please find the new version below and on the [website](#)). Please use the new disclaimer when publishing with SHARE wave 4 release 1.0.0 data and provide us with information about all publications with SHARE data by emailing us (info@share-project.org). Additionally you can also [contact us](#) if you have any questions or discover problems with the data.

International conferences



Since SHARE is actively involved in the “[Research in Germany](#)”-initiative, conferences in South Africa and the United States were part of our travels: SHARE was represented in Cape Town at the “[International Congress of Psychology](#)” (July 22nd-July 27th) and at the “[American Sociological Association Annual Meeting](#)” (August 17th-20th) in Denver, Colorado. Furthermore, SHARE was represented at the “[36th Congress of the German Society for Sociology](#)” (October 1st-5th) in Bochum and Dortmund where – as in South Africa and the United States – several SHARE based presentations were given.

Especially noteworthy are the results from our new SHARE countries: At the conference “[Hungarian society 2012: trends and perspectives in EU comparison](#)” (organized by the foundation “Friedrich Ebert Stiftung”) November 22nd-23rd 2012 several results from SHARE Hungary were presented.

On November 30, 2012 Estonian country team of SHARE held a conference called “[How is the Estonian population ageing?](#)”. Relating to the first public release of wave 4 data, first results for Estonia have been presented. The Estonian Minister of Social Affairs opened the conference and stressed the importance of SHARE data for decision-making in policy.

An [upcoming conference](#) for researchers and ministries will be held in Slovenia to introduce SHARE as a new member country. It will take place on January 22nd in Ljubljana and will tackle issues such as the content of SHARE data, methodology and also provide input on research opportunities.

[SHARELIFE special issue](#)

The next special issue of “[Advances in Life Course Research](#)” will focus on research about the influence of welfare states on life histories in Europe today based on the wave 3 data (SHARELIFE): 30.000 life histories of SHARE respondents from 13 European countries were collected in 2007-08. Eight studies will be part of this special issue that will show how the multidisciplinary cross national approach of SHARELIFE allows a much more detailed understanding of life histories in Europe than was possible before.

In the domains of employment and health histories, the focus will be on long term health consequences of involuntary job loss and moreover, in another article, the links between working conditions in mid-life and mental health. In the realm of gendered employment histories and their consequences career and family patterns of women across different cohorts will be explored. Relatedly, an additional article deals with different patterns of maternity leave, regulations and their influence on overall female labour supply. A third article in this section focuses on differences in pensions in terms of the financial situation of female widows. The next section then looks into financial histories in detail, where the complementary roles of family, government, and markets are emphasized. Furthermore a second article in this part of the issue analyses the links between life insurance investments in early life and participation in the financial market later on. Life satisfaction in old age is the focus of the final paper of this issue, a topic that gains more and more attention not only by psychologists and sociologists, but also economists.

As all articles have already been [published online](#), you can find these as well several new and noteworthy ones in the publications section on our [website](#) and below.

Welcome to the SHARE team

Stephanie Lason

Stephanie joined the SHARE central coordination team in Munich in February 2012. She obtained her bachelor's degree in Tourism Management at the University of Brighton, UK. After working as a conference organizer at a German institution in Madrid for several years, she is now responsible for the organization of SHARE conferences.



Michael Ingenhaag

Michael joined the Swiss SHARE country team in April 2012 as a country operator. He obtained a Diploma in Economics at the University of Mannheim, DE and is currently finishing his PhD dissertation in Economics at the University of Lausanne, CH. His research interests include the relation between health, aging and well-being of the elder population in developing countries. Further research interests cover household finances and portfolio choice.



Selected new publications

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Please find a complete list of [SHARE-based publications](#) on our website. Please help us to keep this list up-to-date by informing (info@share-project.org) us about all SHARE-based publications.

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Please help us in always including in your SHARE publications the following full acknowledgment statement:

“This paper uses data from SHARE wave 4 release 1, as of November 30th 2012 or SHARE wave 1 and 2 release 2.5.0, as of May 24th 2011 or SHARELIFE release 1, as of November 24th 2010. The SHARE data collection has been primarily funded by the European Commission through the 5th Framework Programme (project QLK6-CT-2001-00360 in the thematic programme Quality of Life), through the 6th Framework Programme (projects SHARE-I3, RII-CT-2006-062193, COMPARE, CIT5- CT-2005-028857, and SHARELIFE, CIT4-CT-2006-028812) and through the 7th Framework Programme (SHARE-PREP, N° 211909, SHARE-LEAP, N° 227822 and SHARE M4, N° 261982). Additional funding from the U.S. National Institute on Aging (U01 AG09740-13S2, P01 AG005842, P01 AG08291, P30 AG12815, R21 AG025169, Y1-AG-4553-01, IAG BSR06-11 and OGHA 04-064) and the German Ministry of Education and Research as well as from various national sources is gratefully acknowledged (see www.share-project.org for a full list of funding institutions).”

The recent acknowledgement version can be found in the section "[Research Data Center](#)" on the SHARE website.

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(Method C).

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