



Center for the Study of Aging
A RAND LABOR AND POPULATION CENTER

HRS

HEALTH AND RETIREMENT STUDY

A Longitudinal Study of Health, Retirement, and Aging

Sponsored by the National Institute on Aging

1 Sample Description

The RAND HRS Data file is a cleaned, easy-to-use, and streamlined version of the Health and Retirement Study (HRS) with derived variables covering a broad though not complete range of measures and named consistently across waves. The file includes imputations for income, assets, and medical expenditures developed at RAND. The development and continued maintenance of the RAND HRS Data is supported by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the Social Security Administration (SSA).

The HRS is a national panel survey of individuals aged 51 and above and their spouses. Its main goal is to provide panel data that enable research and analysis in support of policies on retirement, health insurance, saving, and economic well-being. The survey elicits information about demographics, income, assets, health, cognition, family structure and connections, health care utilization and costs, housing, job status and history, expectations, and insurance. HRS is mainly funded by NIA.

As of 2010, eleven HRS waves are available for study. The RAND HRS Data file is based on 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008 early release data.

2 Project Website

<http://hrsonline.isr.umich.edu/modules/meta/rand/index.html>

3 Years Covered

1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, and 2008 waves of the HRS

4 Longitudinal

Yes

5 Publicly Available

[Data are available for download from the Health and Retirement Study Website](#)

The data file is available in SPSS, SAS and Stata formats

6 Web-accessible Analysis

No

7 Interuniversity Consortium

No

8 Documentation

http://hrsonline.isr.umich.edu/modules/meta/rand/randhrs/rnd_Jdd.pdf

9 Overview of the RAND Versions of the HRS/AHEAD Data

<http://www.rand.org/labor/aging/dataproducts/randhrswork.pdf>

10 Codebook and Data Documentation

<http://www.rand.org/labor/aging/dataproducts/randhrs.pdf>

11 Data Citation

Please cite the RAND HRS data set (Version J) as follows:

"RAND HRS Data, Version J. Produced by the RAND Center for the Study of Aging, with funding from the National Institute on Aging and the Social Security Administration. Santa Monica, CA (March 2010)."

12 FAQs and Help Using Data Products

<http://www.rand.org/labor/aging/dataproducts/helphrs.html>

13 Helpline

RANDHRSHelp@rand.org

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