UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

USCDornsife
*Center for Economic
and Social Research*
*Program on Global
Aging, Health, and Policy*

Gateway to Global Aging Data

www.g2aging.org

The platform for population survey data on aging around the world

The goal of this project, sponsored by the National Institute on Aging, is to facilitate cross-national comparative studies on aging using a family of health and retirement studies around the world. The project goals entail completing a comprehensive digital library of survey questions, flow-charts, a highly intelligent search engine that allows cross-wave and survey concordance, and a set of harmonized or identically defined variables.

The Health and Retirement Study (HRS) is a biennial, nationally representative panel survey of Americans over the age of 50 and their spouses, conducted since 1992.

The Mexican Health and Aging Study (MHAS) is a longitudinal, nationally representative survey of Mexicans at age 50 and older and their spouses. The first two waves of data were collected in 2001 and 2003. The third wave was collected in 2012-13 and included a refresher cohort.

The English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA) is a biennial, nationally representative panel survey of persons age 50 and older in England, conducted since 2002. The original ELSA sample was drawn from the 1998/1999/2001 Health Survey for England.

The Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) is a longitudinal, multi-country survey of persons age 50 and older and their spouses, currently in 19 European countries and Israel. Five waves have been conducted since 2004.

The Korean Longitudinal Study on Aging (KLoSA) is a biennial, nationally representative panel survey of community-residing older adults at age 45 and older in the Republic of Korea (South Korea), conducted since 2006.

The Indonesian Family Life Survey (IFLS) is a nationally representative, panel survey of Indonesians of all ages conducted in 1993, 1997, 2000, 2007, and 2013. The IFLS survey has become comparable to the HRS since 2007.

The Japanese Study of Aging and Retirement (JSTAR) is a biennial panel survey of Japanese age 50 and older, conducted since 2007. The baseline sample was randomly drawn from five municipalities, and since then five additional municipalities were added to the sample.

The Study on global AGEing and adult health (SAGE) is a longitudinal, multi-country survey of persons age 50 and older, conducted in 2007–2010. Countries in the SAGE are China, Ghana, India, Mexico, Russian Federation and South Africa. The original SAGE sample was drawn from the 2002–2004 World Health Survey.

The Irish Longitudinal Study on Aging (TILDA) is a biennial, nationally representative panel survey of persons age 50 and older and their spouses in Ireland, conducted since 2010. This study also conducts clinical health assessments every other wave.

The Costa Rican Longevity and Healthy Aging Study (CRELES) is a biennial, nationally representative panel survey of Costa Ricans with two cohorts. The first cohort is persons age 60 and older, interviewed in 2005, 2007, and 2009. The second cohort includes persons ages 55-64 and their spouses, interviewed in 2010 and 2012. Only the second cohort of CRELES is comparable to HRS.

The China Health and Retirement Study (CHARLS) is a biennial, nationally representative panel survey of Chinese aged 45 and older and their spouses, conducted since 2011. The CHARLS sample was drawn from 150 counties in 28 provinces.

The Longitudinal Aging Study in India (LASI) is a biennial, nationally representative panel survey of Indians aged 45 and older and their spouses. A pilot study was conducted in four states in 2010. The national baseline wave is planned for 2015. The baseline sample represents not only the nation as a whole, but also all states.

❯ ❯ ❯ ❯ ❯

Core contents of these surveys include:

› Health, cognition, diseases, emotion, injury, physical functioning, physical measures, health behaviors
› Health insurance, health services utilization, health care expenditure, out-of-pocket spending
› Labor force, employment status/history, earnings, disability, retirement, work characteristics, pensions
› Economic Status, income, wealth, consumption, earnings, government transfers, housing, financial and non-financial assets
› Family structure, social network, family demographics, family exchange, family support, marriage, social participation

For each survey, G2G provides metadata on:

› The content and flow of the questionnaire,
› How and when, and by whom, a particular set of data was collected, and
› How those data are formatted.

G2G offers Harmonized data files for cross-country analysis.

Harmonized datasets are developed as a single file which includes all longitudinal waves of the study. Harmonized variables use a consistent and intuitive variable naming convention across surveys to identify directly comparable measures between studies. Each Harmonized data file has its own codebook which carefully explains how each harmonized variable was created and highlights any differences between the same variable in different studies. G2G offers the following Harmonized datasets:

› RAND HRS
› Harmonized MHAS
› Harmonized ELSA
› Harmonized SHARE
› Harmonized KLoSA
› Harmonized JSTAR
› Harmonized TILDA
› Harmonized CHARLS
› Harmonized LASI

How to use G2G

Many features of the website are available only after you sign up. Signing up is easy and free. To sign up, go to *www.g2aging.org* and choose "register" in the upper right corner.

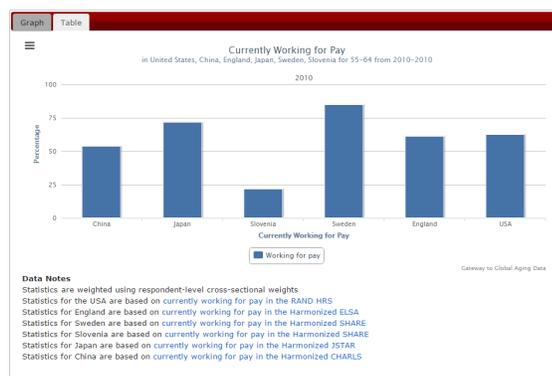## Survey concordance and metadata browse

The Gateway allows users to identify survey items by research domains and keywords across multiple surveys and waves using our survey concordance and search. Users can also browse survey meta data (without downloading micro data) from all HRS-family surveys that are organized by survey and module, with illustrative flow-charts showing skip patterns.

Publications based on Health and Retirement surveys

Browse through thousands of journal articles, books, reports, and other publications based on data from the international family of health and retirement surveys. Users can find publications based on surveys and topics and download lists of relevant research publications.

Interactive graphs and tables

Interactive graphs and tables offer users an immediate way to examine population estimates of various countries over time. By selecting a Harmonized measure users can produce informative graphs and detailed tables which compare that measure between multiple countries of interest over a given time span. Users can also generate graphs and tables to compare the same Harmonized measure between different sub-populations within a country. Interactive graphs and tables help users to quickly identify cross-country differences as well as changes over time.