GATEWAY TO
**GLOBAL
AGING
DATA**

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

# An Introduction to
# the Gateway to Global Aging Data

ELSA User Day

May 10, 2023

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University of Southern California

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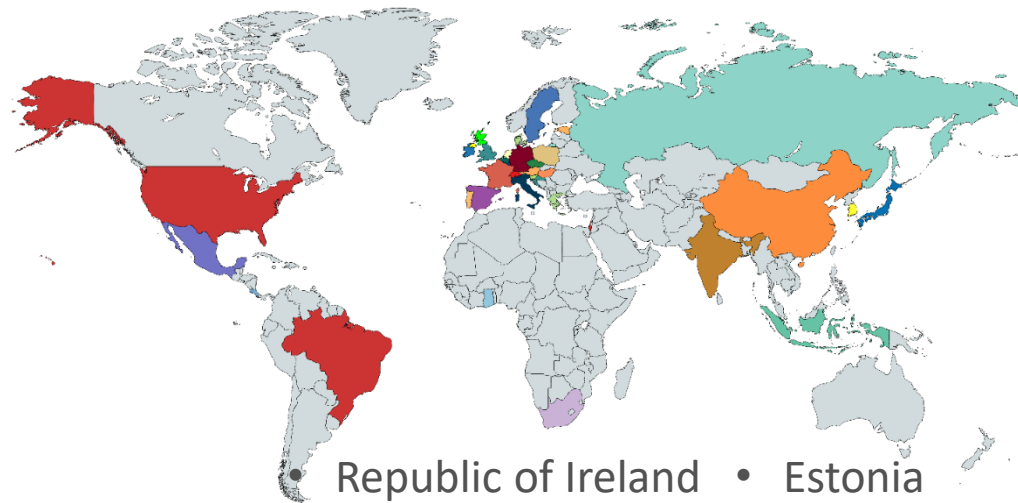
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g2aging.org

A free public resource designed to facilitate cross-national and longitudinal studies on aging using the HRS international network of studies

# Health and Retirement Studies Around the World

- United States
- Mexico
- England
- Austria
- Belgium
- Denmark
- France
- Germany
- Greece

- Israel
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Costa Rica
- Korea
- Czech Republic

- Republic of Ireland
- Poland
- Japan
- Indonesia
- China
- Ghana
- India
- Russia
- South Africa

- Estonia
- Hungary
- Portugal
- Slovenia
- Luxembourg
- Croatia
- Brazil
- Scotland
- Northern Ireland

- Bulgaria
- Cyprus
- Finland
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Malta
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Malaysia

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# Characteristics of HRS-INS

- Population representative of older adults
- Longitudinal
- Multidisciplinary
- Coordinated survey instruments
- Enhanced economic data
- Integrated biomarkers
- Publicly available



Interview Periods
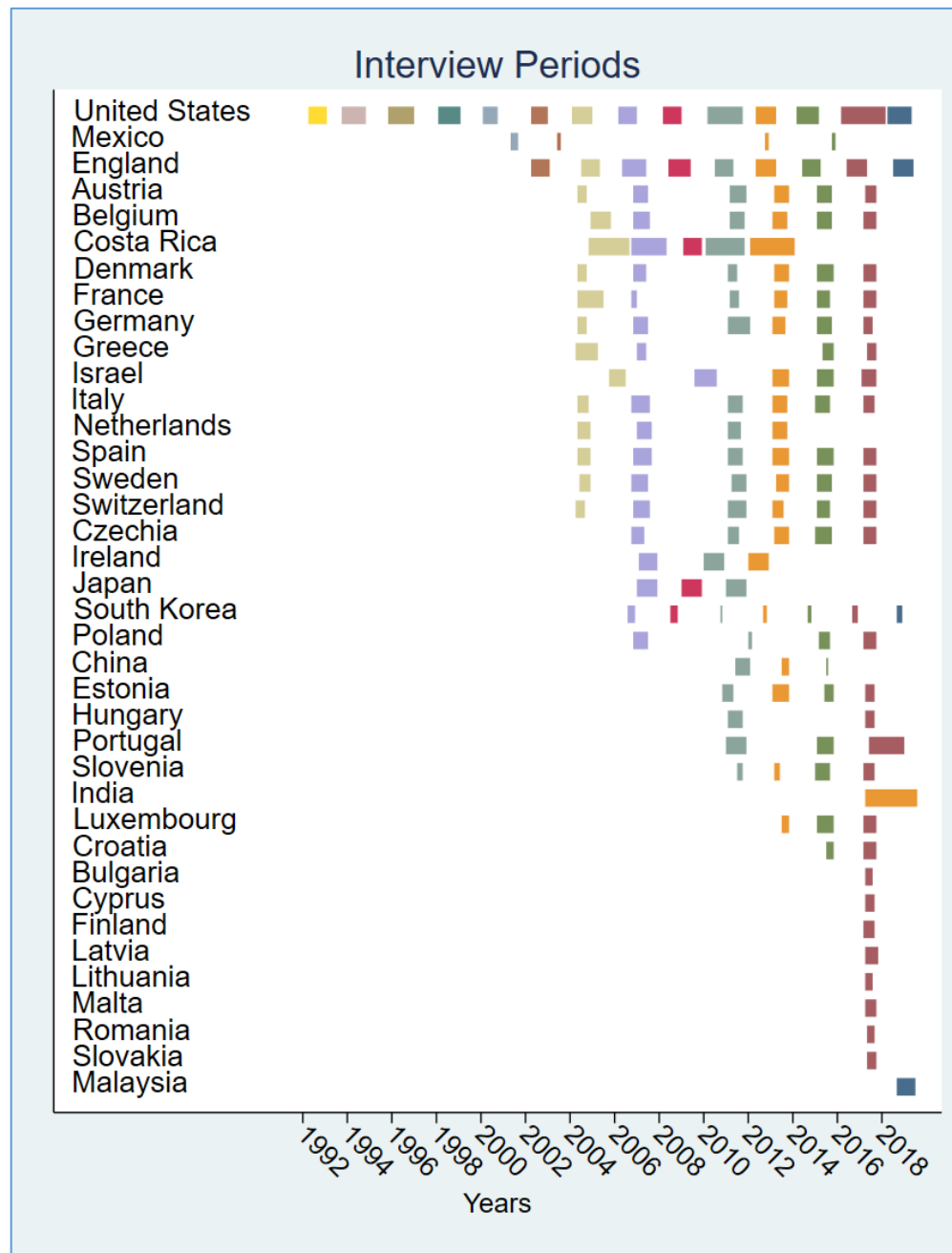
# HRS Studies: Core Content Areas

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## Demographic
Age, gender, education, marital status, place of birth, rural/urban

## Health
Disease, cognition, physical functioning, health behaviors, depression, physical measures

## Healthcare Services
Insurance, utilization, expenditure, out-of-pocket spending

## Work & Employment
Employment status/history, labor force, disability, retirement, pension

## Economic Status
Income and consumption: earnings, asset income, government transfers, food/non-food consumption

Wealth: financial assets, housing, non-financial assets

## Family Structure & Social Network
Parents' demographics, household structure, family transfers, caregiving, social participation

# GATEWAY TO GLOBAL AGING DATA

A platform for population survey data on aging around the world

SURVEYS
AT A GLANCE

CONCORDANCE
ACROSS SURVEYS

DOCUMENTATION
AND PRESENTATIONS

GRAPHS
AND TABLES

INSTITUTIONAL
RULES EXPLORER

PUBLICATIONS
BASED ON SURVEYS

DOWNLOADS
DATA AND LINKS

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AND BLOGS

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# What's Available on the Gateway

- Overview of HRS family studies
  - Study overviews
  - Survey questionnaires
  - Flow-charts illustrating questionnaire skip patterns
  - Search by keyword or by topic
- Cross-study concordance tables of specific survey topics
- In-depth documentation of cross-study comparability
- Survey statistics & contextual data shown in interactive graphs and tables
- Policy Explorer
- Search of publications based on HRS family surveys
- Harmonized data

# Study Overviews



- Links to study's cohort profile paper
- Introduces the study's sampling framework

**MHAS:** Study Overview

Browse other study overviews

**Mexican Health & Aging Study**

https://www.mhasweb.org/

The MHAS is a longitudinal study of people aged 50 and older and their partners, living in private households in Mexico. Its main goal is to use a wide socioeconomic perspective to examine the aging process and the disease and disability burden in older adults. The survey elicits information about demographics, health, migration, family structure, health care use and costs, income, assets, housing, and cognition.

**Cohort Profile:** Wong, R., Michaels-Obregon, A., & Palloni, A. (2017). Cohort profile: the Mexican health and aging study (MHAS). International journal of epidemiology, 46(2), e2.

**Sampling Frame** | Data Collection | Sample | Data Linkages | Data Access | Harmonized Datasets

The MHAS includes a nationally representative sample of the population aged 50 years and older living in private households in Mexico. The sample has national and urban/rural representation. The initial sample was recruited in 2001 from households that had participated in the National Employment Survey (Encuesta Nacional de Empleo, ENE) in 2000.

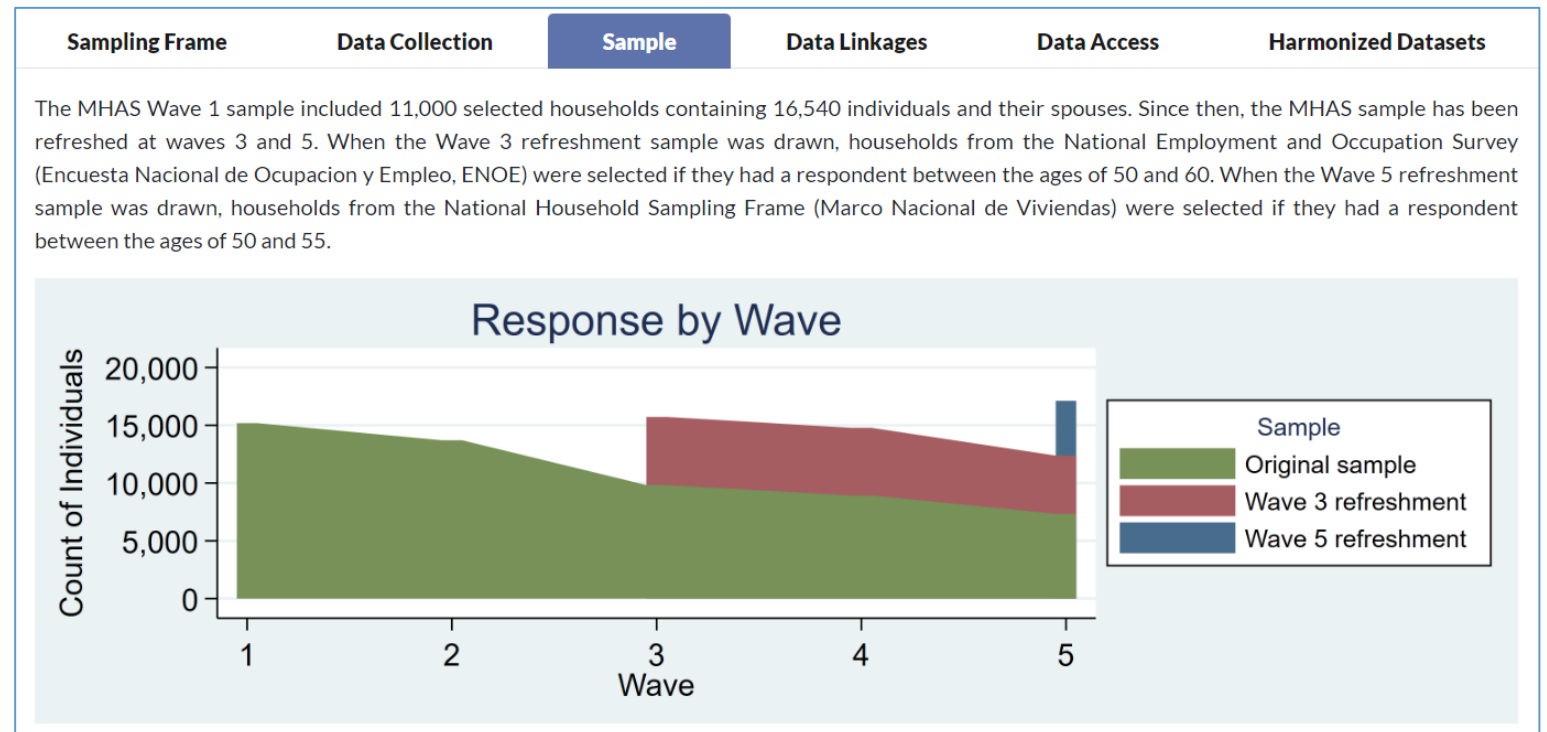| | |
|---|---|
| **Age Eligibility** | Age 50 and older |
| **People Interviewed per Household** | One selected person per household (plus spouse if any) |
| **Spouse Inclusion** | Spouse of any age |
| **Representativeness** | Nationally and urban/rural representative |
| **Institutional Representation** | None |
| **Oversampling** | Households in the six states which account for 40% of all migrants to the USA |

# Study Overviews

- Highlights the timing of the core interview collection periods

- Provides information on other types of surveys fielded as part of the study

| Sampling Frame | **Data Collection** | Sample | Data Linkages | Data Access | Harmonized Datasets |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

The MHAS core interview was carried out in 2001 with follow-up interviews in 2003, 2012, 2015, 2018 and 2021 through face-to-face interviews, using computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) since 2012.

### Core Interview Collection Periods

Wave 1  Wave 2                                                      Wave 3       Wave 4        Wave 5

2001    2003    2005    2007    2009    2011    2013    2015    2017    2019

In addition to the core interview, MHAS also collects a number of other types of data.

| | |
|---|---|
| **End of Life Interview** | Conducted starting at Wave 2 with next-of-kin knowledgeable about deceased respondents. |
| **Anthopometric and Performance Measures** | Conducted at Waves 1, 2, and 3 among a sub-sample of respondents. |
| **Blood-Based Biomarkers** | Venous blood was drawn at Waves 3 and 4 among a sub-sample of respondents. Capillary blood was collected at Wave 3 among a sub-sample of respondents. |
| **Salivary Biomarkers** | Saliva was collected at Wave 5 among respondents aged 60 and older. |
| **Noninvasive Biomarkers** | Hair was collected at Wave 5 among a sub-sample of respondents. |
| **Cognitive Assessment** | Conducted in every wave. In addition, an in-depth cognitive sub-study of MHAS called the Cognitive Aging Ancillary Study (Mex-Cog) used the Harmonzied Cognitive Assessment Protocol (HCAP) on a sub-sample of respondents. Wave 1 of the Mex-Cog included those age 55 and older in 2016. Wave 2 of the Mex-Cog included those age 58 and older in 2021. |

# Study Overviews

- Provides information on refreshment samples
- Highlights study participation by wave for each sample



| Sampling Frame | Data Collection | Sample | Data Linkages | Data Access | Harmonized Datasets |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

The MHAS Wave 1 sample included 11,000 selected households containing 16,540 individuals and their spouses. Since then, the MHAS sample has been refreshed at waves 3 and 5. When the Wave 3 refreshment sample was drawn, households from the National Employment and Occupation Survey (Encuesta Nacional de Ocupacion y Empleo, ENOE) were selected if they had a respondent between the ages of 50 and 60. When the Wave 5 refreshment sample was drawn, households from the National Household Sampling Frame (Marco Nacional de Viviendas) were selected if they had a respondent between the ages of 50 and 55.

# Study Overviews

- Lists the types of administrative linkages included in the study

| Sampling Frame | Data Collection | Sample | **Data Linkages** | Data Access | Harmonized Datasets |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

The MHAS included linkages to administrative data. The MHAS team has created linked datasets to answer specific research questions. Access to these datasets requires approval from the MHAS team.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Community-level characteristics** | National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), Mexican Ministry of Health |
| **Mortality data** | Mexican Ministry of Health, INEGI |
| **Seguro Popular enrollment** | Mexican Ministry of Health, National Population Council (CONAPO) |
| **Historical data on air pollution** | National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC) |
| **Literacy rates** | Historical Census 1910-1990 |
| **Social programs enrollment including Progresa/Oportunidades, 70+/Pension, and Seguro Popular** | CONAPO, INEGI, Progresa/Oportunidades, 70+/Pension, Seguro Popular |

# Study Overviews



- Links to obtain all available study data, including restricted data

- Links to obtain Harmonized versions of study data

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| Sampling Frame | Data Collection | Sample | Data Linkages | **Data Access** | Harmonized Datasets |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Public access MHAS data can be downloaded from the study website. Unlinked data are anonymized and only require registration with the MHAS. Access to linked data requires additional approval.

| | |
|---|---|
| Core interview<br>End of life interview<br>Health assessment<br>Blood-based biomarkers<br>Mex-Cog | **Available via:**<br>MHAS website ↗ |
| Community-level characteristics<br>Mortality data<br>Seguro Popular enrollment<br>Historical data on air pollution<br>Literacy rates<br>Social programs enrollment, including Progresa/Oportunidades,<br>70+/Pension, and Seguro Popular | **Available via request though:**<br>MHAS website ↗ |

| Sampling Frame | Data Collection | Sample | Data Linkages | Data Access | **Harmonized Datasets** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

The Gateway to Global Aging Data has created several user-friendly datasets based on MHAS data designed to allow researchers to conduct cross-wave and cross-study analysis.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Harmonized MHAS** | A dataset of research-ready variables derived from the core interviews and health assessments of Waves 1–5. | **Download via MHAS website** ↗ |
| **Harmonized MHAS End of Life** | A dataset of research-ready variables derived from the end of life interviews of Waves 2–4. | **Download via MHAS website** ↗ |
| **Harmonized Mex-Cog** | A dataset of research-ready variables derived from the Cognitive Aging Ancillary Study (Mex-Cog). | **Download via MHAS website** ↗ |

# Survey Questionnaires

- Provides detailed information about all parts of the survey
  - Core interview
  - End of Life interview
  - Life History interview
  - Self-Completion survey
  - Health assessment
  - Harmonized Cognitive Assessment Protocol (HCAP)
- Includes order of modules and order of questions within modules

| Study Overview | Core Interview | | End of Life Interview | Life History | | Health Assessment | | Self-Completion | | HCAP |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **HRS** | **MHAS** | **ELSA** | **SHARE** | **CRELES** | **KLoSA** | **JSTAR** | **TILDA** | **CHARLS** | **LASI** | **MARS** |
| | United States | Mexico | England | 20+ European countries & Israel | Costa Rica | Korea | Japan | Ireland | China | India | Malaysia |
| 1992-93 | HRS W1 / AHEAD 1993 W1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1994-95 | HRS W2 / AHEAD 1995 W2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1996-97 | HRS W3 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1998-99 | HRS W4 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2000-01 | HRS W5 | MHAS W1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002-03 | HRS W6 | MHAS W2 | ELSA W1 | | | | | | | | |
| 2004-05 | HRS W7 | | ELSA W2 | SHARE W1 | CRELES W1 | | | | | | |
| 2006-07 | HRS W8 | | ELSA W3 | SHARE W2 | CRELES W2 | KLoSA W1 | JSTAR W1 | | | | |
| 2008-09 | HRS W9 | | ELSA W4 | | CRELES W3 | KLoSA W2 | JSTAR W2 | | | | |
| 2010-11 | HRS W10 | | ELSA W5 | SHARE W4 | CRELES W4 | KLoSA W3 | JSTAR W3 | TILDA W1 | CHARLS W1 | | |
| 2012-13 | HRS W11 | MHAS W3 | ELSA W6 | SHARE W5 | CRELES W5 | KLoSA W4 | JSTAR W4 | TILDA W2 | CHARLS W2 | | |
| 2014-15 | HRS W12 / UAS HRS W1 | MHAS W4 | ELSA W7 | SHARE W6 | | KLoSA W5 | | TILDA W3 | CHARLS W3 | | |
| 2016-17 | HRS W13 | | ELSA W8 | SHARE W7 | | KLoSA W6 | | TILDA W4 | | LASI W1 | |
| 2018-19 | HRS W14 | MHAS W5 | ELSA W9 | SHARE W8 | | KLoSA W7 | | | CHARLS W4 | | MARS W1 |
| All Surveys | RAND HRS / Harmonized HRS / RAND HRS Family | Harmonized MHAS | Harmonized ELSA | Harmonized SHARE | Harmonized CRELES | Harmonized KLoSA | Harmonized JSTAR | Harmonized TILDA | Harmonized CHARLS | Harmonized LASI | Harmonized MARS |

Other studies: IFLS | SAGE | HAALSI | HAGIS | NICOLA | ELSI | HART | SPS-Chile

# Flow Charts

- Illustrates survey skip patterns

- Shows the location of all survey items inside the interview

- Indicates how the question was asked and to whom
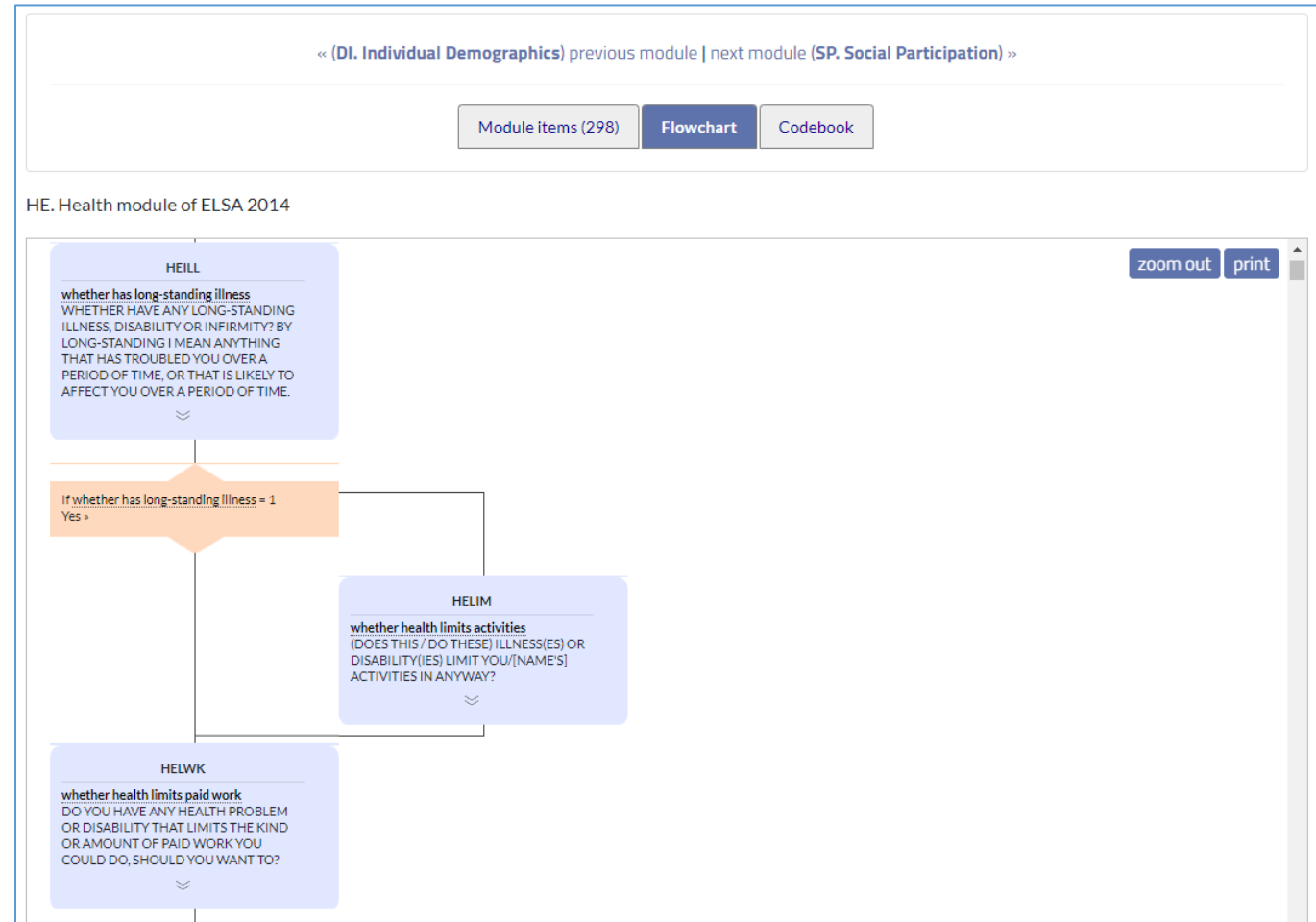
# Individual Survey Questions

- Includes question text and interviewer prompts

- Includes answer types and choices, and how the values are formatted

Home » Surveys at a Glance » ELSA » ELSA 2014 » HE. Health » HELIM

## HELIM

| Search all surveys by | Keyword | Source | Years |
|---|---|---|---|
| keyword / subtopic | Enter keyword(s) | Select survey(s) / harmonized data | 1992 — 2018 |

**Search**

« previous item (**HEILL**) | next item (**HELWK**) »

### HELIM

| | |
|---|---|
| **Description:** | whether health limits activities |
| **Item type:** | Question |
| **Question text:** | (Does this / Do these) illness(es) or disability(ies) limit you/[name's] activities in anyway? |
| **Answer type:** | Enumerated |
| **Answer choices:** | 1 Yes<br>2 No |
| **Flowchart:** | locate in flowchart |

# Keyword Search



- Search using any keyword
- Can limit search by study and year
- View results from every survey questionnaire
- View results from every Harmonized dataset

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# Topic Search



- Search from over 100 survey topics

- Can limit search by Harmonized dataset and year

- View results from every Harmonized dataset

# Concordance Across Surveys

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- **Domain-specific comparison tables**
    - Sample / Interview
    - Demographics
    - Health
    - Insurance and Healthcare Utilization
    - Cognition
    - Financial & Housing Wealth
    - Income & Consumption
    - Family & Social Network
    - Employment
    - Retirement
    - Pension
    - Stress & Psychosocial
    - Harmonized Cognitive Assessment Protocol
    - Life History Interview
    - Physical Measures
    - End of Life Interview
    - Physical Measures/Biomarkers



| Sample/Interview | Demographics | Health | Insurance & Health Care Utilization |
| Cognition | Financial & Housing Wealth | Income & Consumption | **Family & Social Network** Family Demographic / Family Contact / Financial Transfer / Informal Care |
| Employment | Retirement | Pension | |
| Harmonized Cognitive Assessment Protocol | Life History Interview | End of Life Interview | |
| | | | Stress & Psychosocial Content |
| | | | Physical Measures/Biomarkers |

Home » Concordance across Surveys » Family

## Family

| Family Demographic | Family Contact | Financial Transfer | Informal Care |

### Family Demographic ⤓

| Measure | Question | HRS | MHAS | ELSA | SHARE | KLoSA | JSTAR | CRELES | TILDA | CHARLS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Household size | no of people in hh | w1-w13 | w1-w3 | w1-w8 | w1-w2, w4-w7 | w1-w6 | w2-w3 | w1-w5 | w1 | w1-w2, w4 |
| Children | no of living | w1-w13 | w1-w3 | w1-w8 | w1-w2, w4-w7 | w1-w6 | w1-w3 | w1-w5 | w1 | w1-w2, w4 |
| | no of deceased | w2-w13 | w1-w3 | - | w3, w7 | w2-w6 | - | - | w1 | w1-w2, w4 |
| | no of ever born | w1-w13 | w1-w3 | - | - | - | - | w1-w5 | - | - |

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# Documentation & Presentations

- **Domain-specific user guides**
  - Chronic Medical Conditions
  - Financial Transfers
  - Expectations
  - Employment & Retirement
  - Income
  - Wealth
  - Cognition
  - Health Behavior
  - Informal Care
  - Household Expenditure
  - Health Care Utilization & Expenditure
  - Stress
  - Physical & Anthropometric Measurement
  - Physical Health Functioning
  - Subjective Well-Being
- **Recent Presentations**
  - Webinars
  - Conference presentations



Home » Documentation and Presentations

## Documentation and Presentations

Please cite all information retrieved from the Gateway as follows: Gateway to Global Aging Data, Produced by the Program on Global Aging, Health & Policy, University of Southern California with funding from the National Institute on Aging (R01 AG030153)

### WORKING PAPER SERIES ON CROSS-COUNTRY COMPARABILITY

| Chronic Conditions | Financial Transfers | Expectations | Employment Retirement |
| Income | Wealth | Cognition | Health Behavior |
| Informal Care | Household Expenditure | Health Care Utilization & Expenditure | Stress |
| Physical & Anthropometric Measurement | Study Descriptions | Physical Functional Health | Subjective Well-Being |

### RECENT PRESENTATIONS

| Feb 2023 | Introduction to the Harmonized CHARLS Life History Data | Slides | Stata Code | Video |
| Dec 2022 | Advanced MHAS Webinar | Slides | Stata Code | Video |
| Dec 2022 | HCAP Pre-statistical Harmonization | Slides | | Video |
| Dec 2022 | Imputations in HCAP-Family Studies | Slides | | Video |

# Graphs & Tables

- Can select from over 100 topics, 29 countries, and 13 years

- Filter individual level and household level results

- Produces population estimates
  - Weights are already applied

- Do NOT need to download datasets

- View as graph, table, or map

- Can easily download your results in a variety of formats

# Graphs & Tables

Can compare survey statistics with contextual data
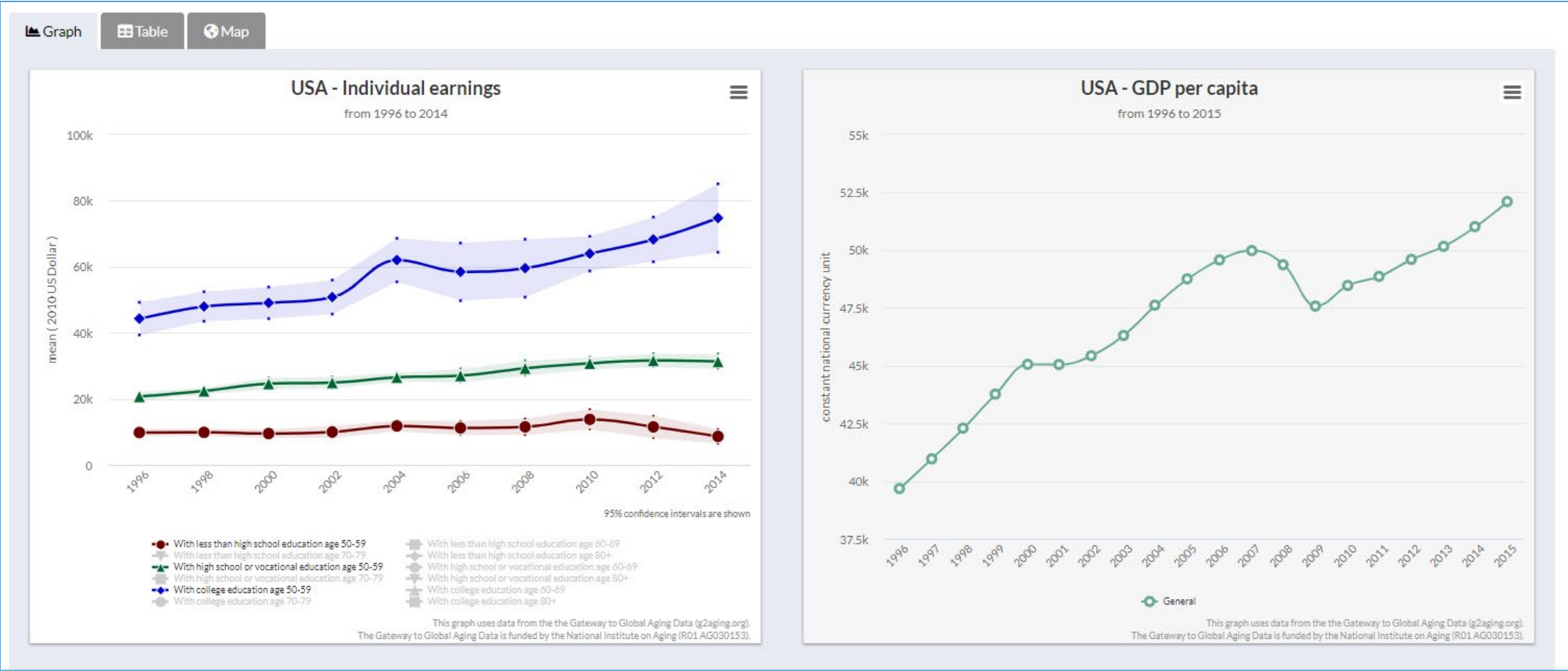
# Gateway Policy Explorer

- Allows researchers to understand the policies in place at the time of the survey
  - Policy details collected and indexed by country and year
- Currently focuses on public pension policies
  - Policies currently available for 10 countries
- Plan to add more countries to eventually cover most countries with a HRS study
- In the process of collecting and making available long-term care and education policies

## Gateway Policy Explorer

The Policy Explorer captures historical policy across countries. It was motivated by the rapid evolution of policies affecting older people across the world. The key dimensions of the Policy Explorer are policy, country and time. Select a policy and countries and then click View to see policy details. You can compare multiple countries during a single year or view one country's policy changes across many years.

Watch our example video demonstrating the key features of the Policy Explorer here ( ◼ 2:56 ).

**Select Policy**
-- Select Policy --

**Select Countries**
2 of 10 selected

View

| Countries ⌄ | Pension Plans > | Own Old-Age Benefits | Spousal Old-Age Benefits | Survivor Old-Age Benefits | Old-Age Social Assistance | Old-Age Health Insurance |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **United Kingdom** | First law > | ⓘ 1908 | ⓘ 1908 | ⓘ 1908 | ⓘ 1948 | ⓘ 1946 |
| | Major changes since '92 > | 1995, 2000, 2004, 2007, 2011, 2014 | 1995, 2007, 2011, 2014 | 1995, 1999, 2007, 2011, 2014 | 2003 | None |
| | Documentation > | PDF | PDF | PDF | PDF | PDF |
| **United States** | First law > | ⓘ 1935 | ⓘ 1939 | ⓘ 1939 | ⓘ 1972 | ⓘ 1965 |
| | Major changes since '92 > | None | None | None | None | None |
| | Documentation > | PDF | PDF | PDF | PDF | PDF |

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# Gateway Policy Explorer

Full details for each policy for each country are also distributed as a standalone PDF document with detailed tables and formulas



**Gateway Policy Explorer: Retirement Series**

g2aging.org

**United Kingdom**

**Public Own Old-Age Benefit Plan Details**

**1992-2022**

Authors
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Version: 2.0 (May 2022)

This project is funded by the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Aging, R01 AG030153.

Please cite as "Gateway to Global Aging Data. 2022. Gateway Policy Explorer: United Kingdom, Public Own Old-Age Benefit Plan Details, 1992-2022, Version: 2.0 (May 2022), University of Southern California, Los Angeles."

**Formula 1: Basic State Pension Benefit (Category A Formula) for Individuals Reaching SRA Before April 6, 2010**

$$B_{OA(BSP),i,t} = min\left\{\left(\frac{Q_i}{R_i - HRP_i}\right), 1\right\} \times Rate_t$$

- $B_{OA(BSP),i,t}$ = Individual $i$'s weekly BSP benefit entitlement at time $t$ if they start their benefit on the date of their SRA
- $Q_i$ = Individual $i$'s number of qualifying years accrued
- $R_i$ = Individual $i$'s requisite number of qualifying years (may vary by birth date but typically 44 for men, 39 for women reaching SRA before April 6, 2010) —See Table 6 and Table 7 for details and values by birth date
- $T_i$ = The tax year individual $i$ reaches SRA
- $HRP_i$ = Reduction in requisite years based on individual $i$'s Home Responsibility Protection adjustment

$$HRP_i = min\left(\sum_{t=1979}^{T_i-1} HRPQ_{i,t}, 0.5 \times R_i\right)$$

  – $HRPQ_{i,t}$ = Indicator of whether individual $i$ qualifies for Home Responsibility Protection in tax year $t$

$$HRPQ_{i,t} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } E_{i,t} < LET_t \text{ and } i \text{ is engaged in HRP qualifying activities (e.g., caring for a child under 16)} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

  * $E_{i,t}$ = Individual $i$'s earnings in tax year t
  * $LEL_t$ = Annual LEL in the tax year $t$ —See Table 2 for values by tax year
- $Rate_t$ = Full weekly rate of the BSP at time $t$ —See Table 8 for values by tax year

**Note:** The UK tax year runs from April 6 of a calendar year to April 5 of the following calendar year.

**Table 6: Rules to Compute the Requisite Number of Years for Persons Reaching SRA or Dying Before April 6, 2010**

| Length of "working life" | Requisite number of years for a full BSP |
|---|---|
| 1-10 years | Length of working life - 1 |
| 11-20 years | Length of working life - 2 |
| 21-30 years | Length of working life - 3 |
| 31-40 years | Length of working life - 4 |
| More than 40 years | Length of working life - 5 |

Source: Schedule 3, Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992, as amended

# Publications Based on Surveys

**GATEWAY TO GLOBAL AGING DATA**

Users can find publications based on the family of Health and Retirement Surveys around the world that are relevant to their research focus

- **Select from**
  - Survey
  - Topic
- **Search by**
  - Title
  - Author
  - Source
  - Year
- **Download selected citations in a variety of formats**

## Publications based on Surveys

Find publications based on the family of Health and Retirement Studies around the world.

| KEYWORDS | SURVEYS | YEARS |
|---|---|---|
| cognition | ELSA | 1993 — 2022 |

| AUTHORS | JOURNAL OR SOURCE | TOPICS |
|---|---|---|
| | | |

**Search**

0 publication(s) selected    Text    Export

Show 10 entries

| | TITLE | SOURCE | SURVEYS | YEAR |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ☐ ▾ | Markers of cognitive reserve and dementia incidence in the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing. | British Journal of Psychiatry | ELSA | 2020 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Authors:** | Dorina Cadar  Andrew Steptoe  Pamela Almeida-Meza |
| **Link:** | Direct Link ☑ |
| **Search via:** | Google Scholar ☑ |
| **Type:** | Journal Article |
| **Abstract:** | Background In the current climate of an ageing population, it is imperative to identify preventive measures for dementia. Aims We implemented a multifaceted |

# Harmonized Data

Harmonized datasets are created to provide comparable research-ready variables:

- Harmonized variables contain a subset of the original survey variables

- Variables are defined as similarly as possible across all Harmonized datasets

- Each dataset combines all available waves; each individual is one record

- Intuitive variable naming is used across all Harmonized data: e.g. r1work – whether the respondent is currently working in Wave 1

- Spouse versions of most variables are also created: e.g. s2work – whether the respondent's spouse is currently working in Wave 2

- Study specific variable names are employed: e.g. r1lbrf_e – respondent's labor force status in Wave 1 of ELSA, with different response scale

- Variables have been built to account for any survey skip pattern

- Each dataset is accompanied with a Harmonized codebook

# Simple Harmonization

Harmonized variable name: RwSMOKEV

Harmonized variable codes:

- 0.No, the respondent has never smoked
- 1.Yes, the respondent has smoked



**ELSA wave 1**

**HeSmk**
**Have you ever smoked cigarettes?**
1. Yes
2. No

If HeSmk = 1

**HESka**
**Do you smoke cigarettes at all nowadays?**
1. Yes
2. No

**Harmonized variable**

**RwSMOKEV**
0. No
1. Yes

**ELSI wave 1**

**I30**
**Do you currently smoke?**
1. Yes, daily
2. Yes, less than daily
3. No

If I30 = 3

**I31**
**Have you smoked in the past?**
1. Yes, daily
2. Yes, less than daily
3. No, never smoked
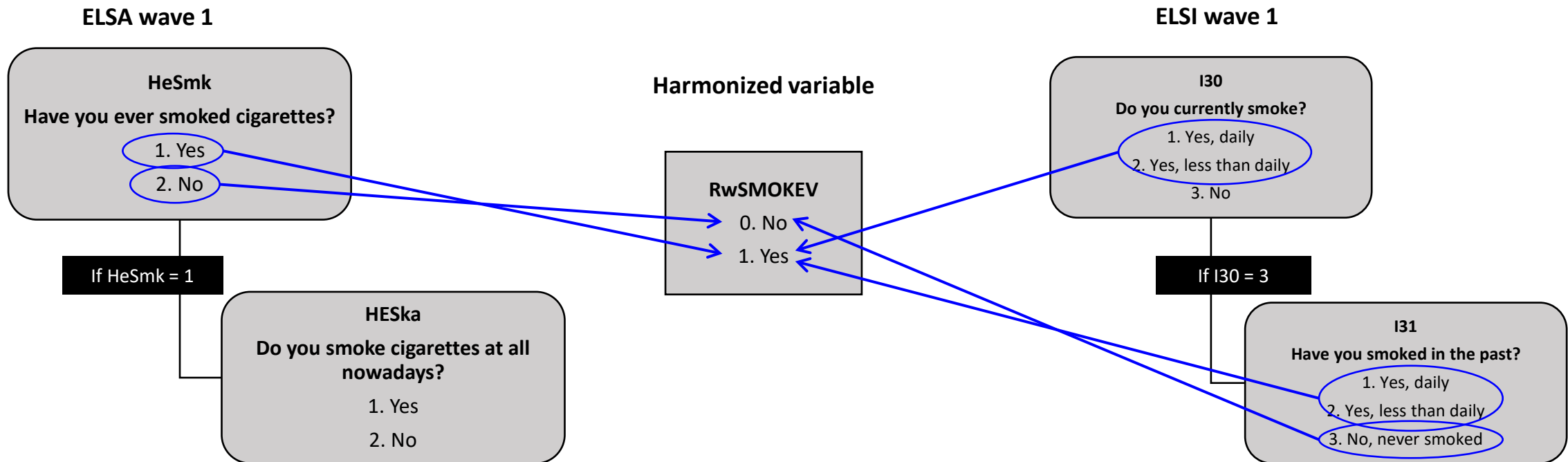
# Complex Harmonization

## JSTAR Self-completion 2007

31. Do you manage your assets together with your spouse (or common-law spouse) or separately?

32. Do you have savings in your own name?

If 31 = No

If 31 = Yes

Next Question

If 32 = Yes

32-1. About how much do you have in those accounts?

35. Does your spouse have savings in his or her own name?

If 32 = No

35-1. About how much does your spouse have in these accounts?

If 35 = Yes

If 35 = No

Next Question

Next Question

## Harmonized JSTAR

## JSTAR CAPI 2007

G-017. Do you and your spouse manage your savings and investments separately, or together? If you manage them together, please answer the following questions for your and your spouse's funds all together. If you manage your savings and investments separately, please answer for your own funds.

**H1ACHCK**

**Wave 1 Household Assets:**

**Savings**

G-022-1. Do you have any savings? Please include regular bank or postal savings, fixed-term or fixed amount savings, including at credit unions, agricultural cooperatives, and credit banks.

G-022-2-1. Do you have more/less than ___ yen in savings?

If G-022-2 = missing

If G-022-1 = Yes

G-022-2. About how much savings do you have?

G-022-2-2. Do you have more/less than ___ yen in savings?

If G-022-1 = No

Next Question

G-022-2-3. Do you have more/less than ___ yen in savings?

# Harmonized Codebooks

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Each harmonized dataset is accompanied by its own codebook

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

Harmonized ELSA
Documentation

VERSION G.2 (2002-2019), JULY 2021

Jenny Wilkens, Giacomo Rebellato, Youngha Oh & Jinkook Lee

g2aging.org
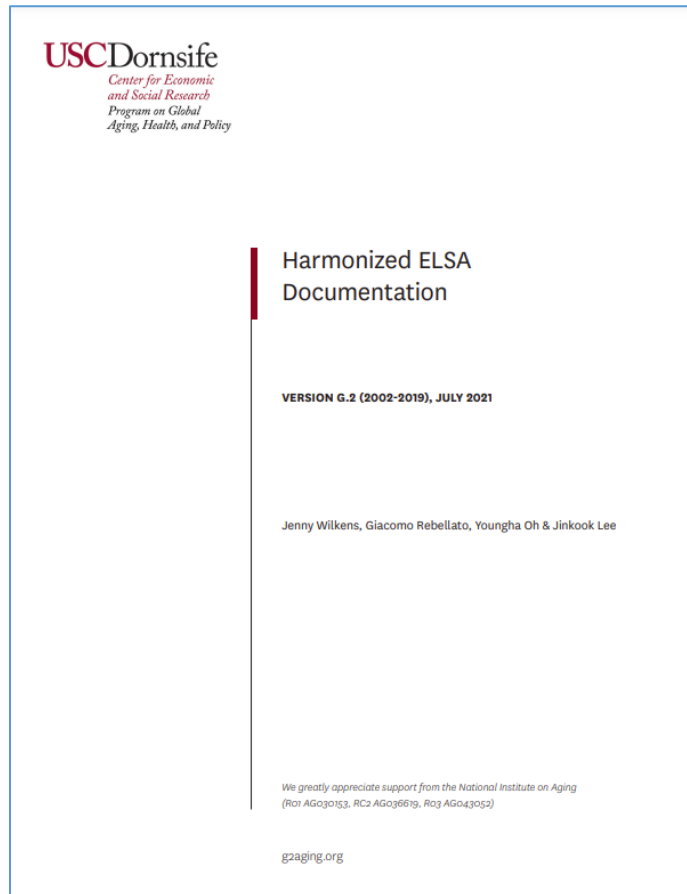
- Introduces the harmonization project and study

- Overviews survey timing, survey design, and sampling framework

- Discusses weighting and imputation

- Details specifics of harmonization process

- Divides variables into sections based on research domain

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## Contents

# Harmonized Codebooks

Summarizes each set of variables

**Categorical Variable Codes**

| Value | R1SMOKEV | R2SMOKEV | R3SMOKEV | R4SMOKEV | R5SMOKEV |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| .d:DK | 11 | | 1 | 2 | |
| .m:Missing | | 1 | 6 | 20 | |
| .p:proxy | 174 | | | 143 | 133 |
| .r:Refuse | 5 | 1 | | 4 | 2 |
| 0.No | 4289 | 3479 | 3773 | 4341 | 3840 |
| 1.Yes | 7620 | 5951 | 5986 | 6540 | 6299 |

| Value | R6SMOKEV | R7SMOKEV | R8SMOKEV | R9SMOKEV | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| .m:Missing | 1 | 5 | 7 | 6 | |
| .p:proxy | 192 | 176 | 111 | 198 | |
| .r:Refuse | 1 | | | | |
| 0.No | 3956 | 3586 | 3146 | 3422 | |
| 1.Yes | 6451 | 5899 | 5181 | 5110 | |

| Value | S1SMOKEV | S2SMOKEV | S3SMOKEV | S4SMOKEV | S5SMOKEV |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| .d:DK | 7 | | 1 | 2 | |
| .m:Missing | | 1 | 5 | 19 | |
| .p:proxy | 122 | | | 136 | 131 |
| .r:Refuse | 4 | | | 4 | 2 |
| .u:Unmar | 3561 | 2671 | 2706 | 2932 | 2742 |
| .v:SP NR | 468 | 583 | 676 | 716 | 568 |
| 0.No | 2837 | 2302 | 2526 | 2964 | 2625 |
| 1.Yes | 5100 | 3874 | 3852 | 4277 | 4206 |

| Value | S6SMOKEV | S7SMOKEV | S8SMOKEV | S9SMOKEV | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| .m:Missing | 1 | 5 | 7 | 6 | |
| .p:proxy | 191 | 173 | 109 | 197 | |
| .r:Refuse | 1 | | | | |
| .u:Unmar | 2802 | 2548 | 2255 | 2286 | |
| .v:SP NR | 557 | 558 | 502 | 630 | |
| 0.No | 2739 | 2478 | 2156 | 2314 | |
| 1.Yes | 4310 | 3904 | 3416 | 3303 | |

# Harmonized Codebooks

Details variable creation and any assumptions made in the creation

## How Constructed

RwSMOKEV indicates whether the respondent reports ever having smoked. The answer to the respondent's first ever-smoked question is fed-forward for subsequent waves. A code of 0 indicates that the respondent reports never having smoked. A code of 1 indicates that the respondent reports having ever smoked. Don't know, refused, or other missing values to RwSMOKEV are assigned special missing codes .d, .r, .m, respectively. RwSMOKEV is set to special missing .p if the smoking question was skipped because the interview was by proxy. RwSMOKEV is set to plain missing (.) for respondents who did not respond to the current wave.

SwSMOKEV indicates whether respondent's spouse reports ever having smoked and is taken directly from the spouse's responses to RwSMOKEV. In addition to the special missing codes used in RwSMOKEV, SwSMOKEV employs two other missing codes, .u and .v. Special missing value .u is used when the respondent does not report being coupled in the current wave. Special missing value .v is used when the respondent reports being coupled in the current wave but their spouse is not interviewed.

# Harmonized Codebooks

Highlights differences between waves and any differences between this variable and the HRS version of the Harmonized variable

## Cross Wave Differences in ELSA

Smoking questions were asked to different groups of respondents in different waves. These are two questions that were asked to the respondents:

1. Have you ever smoked cigarettes?

2. Do you smoke cigarettes at all nowadays?

In Wave 1, the first question was asked to every respondent who was not surveyed by proxy, and the second question was asked to every respondent who gave a positive answer to the first question.

In Wave 2, the first question was asked to respondents who did not answer in the first wave, even if the respondent was surveyed by proxy. The second question was asked to respondents who gave positive answers to the first question.

In Wave 3, the first question was only asked to the people who were not surveyed by proxy and did not answer the first question in the previous two waves. The second question was asked for all except those whose current answer to ever smoking was no, including proxies.

In Wave 4, the first question was only asked to respondents who were not surveyed by proxy and did not answer the first question in the previous waves. The second question was not asked to respondents who gave negative answers or to proxies when there was no previous answer to the first question.

In Wave 5, the first question was asked to non-proxy respondents and was not asked to respondents who had previously answered yes to the question. The second question was not asked to respondents who gave a negative answer to the first question or to proxies when there was no previous yes answer.

Starting in Wave 6, the first question was asked to non-proxy respondents and was not asked to respondents who had previously answered yes to the question. The second question was asked to all respondents except those whose current answer to ever smoking was no, including proxies.

## Differences with the RAND HRS/Harmonized HRS

# Harmonized Codebooks

Lists all the variables from the originating dataset used in the creation of the variable

**ELSA Variables Used**

```
Wave 1 Core:
    HECIG           do you smoke cigarettes or roll ups?
    HESKA           do you smoke cigarettes at all nowadays?
    HESKB           about how many cigarettes a day do you usually smoke on
    HESKC           about how many cigarettes a day do you usually smoke on
    HESMK           have you ever smoked cigarettes?
Wave 2 Core:
    HECIG           Type of nicotine product smokes
    HESKA           Whether smokes cigarettes at all nowadays
    HESKB           Number of cigarettes smoke per weekday
    HESKC           Number of cigarettes smoke per weekend day
    HESKE           Reason disputed reported smoking from wave 1
    HESMK           Whether ever smoked cigarettes
Wave 3 Core:
    HECIG           type of nicotine product smokes
    HESKA           whether smokes cigarettes at all nowadays
    HESKB           number of cigarettes smoke per weekday
    HESKC           number of cigarettes smoke per weekend day
    HESKE           reason disputed reported smoking at last interview
    HESMK           whether ever smoked cigarettes
```

# Harmonized ELSA Core File

The Harmonized ELSA file focuses on the ELSA core interview data, and includes values from the ELSA financial derived variables data, derived variables data, nurse data, pension grid, and the index file. It does not include any data which is not publicly released.

Harmonized ELSA, Version G.2
- Incorporates the first nine waves of ELSA (2002 - 2018)
- Available on UKDS as part of the main ELSA data download

# Other Harmonized Core Files

Harmonized HRS - incorporates the first fourteen waves of HRS (1992 - 2018), complementing RAND HRS

Harmonized MHAS - incorporates the first five waves of MHAS (2001, 2003, 2012, 2015, 2018)

Harmonized SHARE - incorporates the first, second, fourth - eighth waves of SHARE (2004, 2006, 2010, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019)

Harmonized CRELES - incorporates the five waves of CRELES (2005, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2012)

Harmonized KLoSA - incorporates the first eight waves of KLoSA (2006 - 2020)

Harmonized JSTAR - incorporates the first three waves of JSTAR (2007, 2009, 2011)

Harmonized TILDA - incorporates the first two waves of TILDA (2010, 2012)

Harmonized CHARLS - incorporates the first four waves of CHARLS (2011, 2013, 2015, 2018)

Harmonized LASI - incorporates the first wave of LASI (2017-2019)

Harmonized MARS - incorporates the first wave of MARS (2018-2019)

# Harmonized ELSA End of Life File

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The Harmonized ELSA End of Life file is built using the end-of-life interviews which are performed with a close relative or caretaker after the time of the respondent's death and include invaluable information about the circumstances of the respondent's death, the time in-between the last interview and death, and the respondent's estate.

Harmonized ELSA End of Life, Version A.2
- Incorporates ELSA Waves 2-4 and Wave 6 End of Life surveys (2004 - 2013)
- Available on UKDS as part of the main ELSA data download

# Other Harmonized End of Life Files

Harmonized HRS End of Life - incorporates HRS Waves 2-14 Exit surveys (1994 - 2018)

Harmonized MHAS End of Life - incorporates MHAS Waves 2-5 Next-of-Kin surveys (2003 - 2018)

Harmonized SHARE End of Life - incorporates SHARE Waves 2-8 End of Life surveys and SHARE Corona Survey Round 1 (2006-2020)

Harmonized KLoSA End of Life - incorporates KLoSA Waves 2-8 Exit surveys (2008-2020)

Harmonized CHARLS End of Life - incorporates CHARLS Wave 2 Exit survey (2013)

Harmonized JSTAR End of Life – under final review for JSTAR Waves 2-4 Exit surveys (2009 – 2015)

# Harmonized ELSA Life History File

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The Harmonized ELSA Life History file is built using the life history interviews during which the respondent provides retrospective reports about their entire life including their childhood, education, job history, marriage history, child birth, accommodation history, and health history.

Harmonized ELSA Life History, Version A.2
- Incorporates ELSA Wave 3 Life History survey (2007)
- Available on UKDS as part of a special access data download

# Other Harmonized Life History Files



Harmonized SHARE Life History - incorporates SHARELIFE (Wave 3 and Wave 7) Life History surveys (2008, 2017)

Harmonized CHARLS Life History - incorporates CHARLS Life History survey (2014)

Harmonized KLoSA Job History – under review

Harmonized HRS Life History – being built

# Harmonized ELSA COVID File

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The Harmonized ELSA COVID file is built using the COVID-19 interviews that were fielded in response to the global pandemic. It provides more immediate information on the impact of the global pandemic and includes questions on COVID-19 related diagnoses and symptoms, hospitalizations, deaths, mitigation behaviors, changes in health behaviors and healthcare utilization, financial situation and support, employment, care, social contact, and psychosocial behaviors.

### Harmonized ELSA COVID, Version A
- Incorporates Rounds 1-2 of the ELSA COVID-19 Substudy (2020)
- Currently under review by ELSA team
- Can be created using Stata Creation Code from the Gateway
   - [covid.g2aging.org](covid.g2aging.org)

# Other Harmonized COVID Files

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Harmonized HRS COVID – incorporates Round 1 of the COVID-19 module in HRS Wave 15 (2020)

Harmonized SHARE COVID – incorporates Round 1 of the SHARE Corona Survey (2020)

# Harmonized ELSA HCAP File

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DATA**

The Harmonized ELSA HCAP file is built using the Harmonized Cognitive Assessment Protocol battery which measures a range of key cognitive domains affected by cognitive aging (including attention, memory, executive function, language, and visuospatial function) and allows comparisons between populations around the world. This Harmonized file includes sophisticated cognitive imputations and latent variables.

### Harmonized ELSA HCAP, Version A
  - Incorporates Wave 1 of ELSA-HCAP survey (2018)
  - Currently under review by ELSA team

# Other Harmonized HCAP Files

Harmonized LASI-DAD - incorporates Wave 1 LASI-DAD survey (2018-2020)

Harmonized HRS-HCAP - under review by study

Harmonized Mex-Cog – incorporates Wave 1 Mex-Cog survey (2016)

Harmonized Chile-Cog - being built

Harmonized CHARLS-HCAP - being built

# Obtaining Harmonized Data

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DATA

- Harmonized data files are either distributed through the Gateway or the originating study

- In some cases, the data files are created by users based on the Stata creation code provided by the Gateway

| Core Interview Data | End of Life Data | Life History Data | Harmonized Cognitive Assessment Protocol | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | HRS | MHAS | ELSA | SHARE | CRELES | KLoSA | JSTAR | TILDA | CHARLS | LASI | MARS |
| | United States | Mexico | England | 20+ European Countries & Israel | Costa Rica | Korea | Japan | Ireland | China | India | Malaysia |
| Links to Download Survey Data | ISR, The University of Michigan | University of Texas, Medical Branch | UK Data Service | Munich Center for the Economics of Aging | Costa Rican Longevity and Healthy Aging Study | Korea Employment Information Service | Research Institute of Economy, Trade, & Industry | Irish Social Science Data Archive | National School of Development, Peking University | Program on Global Aging, Health, and Policy | Social Wellbeing Research Centre, Universiti Malaya |
| Data Access Instructions | HRS | MHAS | ELSA | SHARE | CRELES | KLoSA | JSTAR | TILDA | CHARLS | LASI | MARS |
| Download Harmonized Dataset | RAND HRS  Harmonized HRS | Harmonized MHAS | Harmonized ELSA | Harmonized SHARE Stata Code | Harmonized CRELES | Harmonized KLoSA Stata Code | Harmonized JSTAR | Harmonized TILDA | Harmonized CHARLS | Harmonized LASI | Harmonized MARS |
| Download Harmonized Codebook | RAND HRS Codebook  Harmonized HRS Codebook | Harmonized MHAS Codebook | Harmonized ELSA Codebook | Harmonized SHARE Codebook | Harmonized CRELES Codebook | Harmonized KLoSA Codebook | Harmonized JSTAR Codebook | Harmonized TILDA Codebook | Harmonized CHARLS Codebook | Harmonized LASI Codebook | Harmonized MARS Codebook |

# Obtaining Harmonized COVID Data



| | HRS | ELSA | SHARE | RTI COVID-India |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | United States | England | 20+ European Countries & Israel | India |
| Links to Download Survey Data | ISR, The University of Michigan | UK Data Service | Munich Center for the Economics of Aging | RTI COVID-India |
| Download Harmonized Dataset | Harmonized HRS COVID | Harmonized ELSA COVID | Harmonized SHARE COVID | |
| Download Harmonized Codebook | Harmonized HRS COVID Codebook | Harmonized ELSA COVID Codebook | Harmonized SHARE COVID Codebook | |

www.covid.g2aging.org

# Register at the Gateway Website
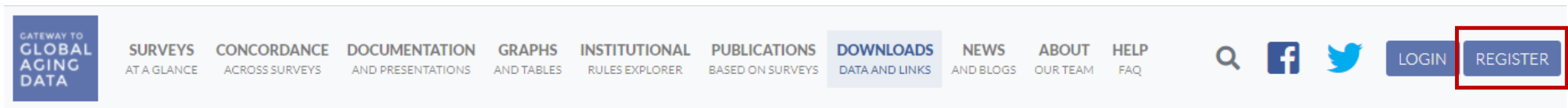


- Our Harmonized datasets and codebooks are publicly available and free!
- To download, all you have to do is register on our website

# Requested Citation

*"This analysis uses data or information from the Gateway to Global Aging Data ([g2aging.org](g2aging.org)), produced by the Program on Global Aging, Health & Policy, University of Southern California with funding from the National Institute on Aging (R01 AG030153)."*

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