

Welcome

Introduction to the Health and Retirement Study

Webinar Agenda

- Part I: HRS Overview
- Q&A
- Part II: Tour of the HRS Website
- Q&A



Webinar Speaker



Amanda Sonnega, PhD
Associate Research Scientist
Survey Research Center
Institute for Social Research (ISR)
University of Michigan (UM)



Quick Audience Poll

- Please tell us who you are:
 - Academia
 - Industry
 - Government
 - Medical Practice
 - Other



THE HEALTH AND RETIREMENT STUDY: AN INTRODUCTION



The View from 38,000 Feet

January 9, 2018

Amanda Sonnega, PhD
asonnega@umich.edu

HRS | HEALTH AND
RETIREMENT
STUDY

HISTORY

HRS



HRS BEGINS AND GROWS...

- ❑ Created in 1990 by an act of Congress to provide data for the study of health and retirement
- ❑ First longitudinal study of older people to include detailed economic and health information in the same survey
- ❑ Three leadership transitions from F. Thomas Juster to Robert J. Willis to current Director David R. Weir
- ❑ 18 co-investigators from different disciplines
- ❑ The largest and most comprehensive nationally representative multidisciplinary panel study of Americans over age 50
- ❑ Supported by the National Institute on Aging (U01AG009740) and the Social Security Administration

ESSENTIALS

The basic design is a survey that:

- Is nationally representative of the population over age 50
- Follows individuals and their spouses or partners from the time of their entry into the survey until death
- Introduces a new 6-year birth cohort of participants every 6 years

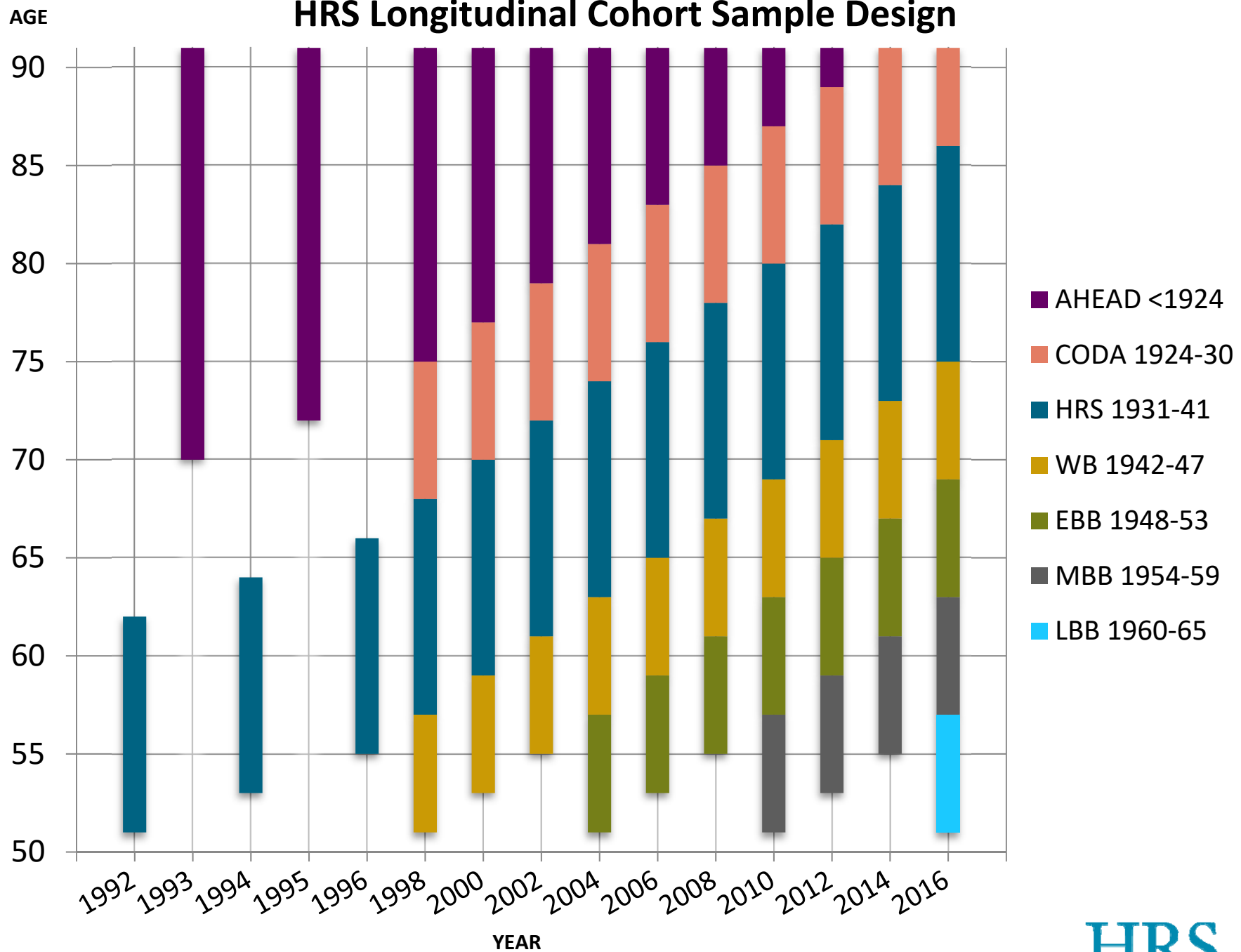
Any given wave has about 20,000 respondents, with over 38,000 respondents ever interviewed

BUILDING AND KEEPING THE SAMPLE

HRS



HRS Longitudinal Cohort Sample Design



LONGITUDINAL STUDY DESIGN

BASELINE AND RE-INTERVIEW RESPONSE RATES

Cohort	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	W10
HRS	81.6 1992	89.4 1994	86.9 1996	86.7 1998	85.4 2000	86.6 2002	86.4 2004	88.6 2006	88.6 2008	86.6 2010
AHEAD	80.4 1993	93.0 1995	91.4 1998	90.5 2000	90.1 2002	89.4 2004	90.6 2006	90.7 2008	89.3 2010	
CODA	72.5 1998	92.3 2000	91.2 2002	90.1 2004	91.4 2006	90.4 2008	89.0 2010			
WB	69.9 1998	90.9 2000	90.6 2002	87.9 2004	88.1 2006	87.0 2008	87.4 2010			
EBB	75.3 2004	87.7 2006	86.3 2008	85.9 2010						

MODE OF DATA COLLECTION



CORE INTERVIEW MODES

1992-2004

- ❑ Face-to-face interview at baseline
- ❑ Telephone was the primary mode for follow-up
- ❑ Face-to-face offered to respondents age 80+

2006 and beyond

- ❑ Half of core sample is randomly assigned to face-to-face interview **enhanced** with physical and biological measures and a mail-back psychosocial questionnaire
- ❑ Other half sample assigned to telephone interview only

DESIGN OF ENHANCED FACE-TO-FACE INTERVIEW

	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014
EFTF Sample	A	B	A	B	A
A=First random half sample B=Second random half sample					

- Alternate waves
- Physical, biomarker, and psychosocial information available every wave on half of the full core sample – either A or B
- Longitudinal every 4 years

STUDY CONTENT



CONTENT OVERVIEW

Core

- ❑ The core survey takes place every 2 years. 1½- to 3-hour interview. The main part of the data. Sample size currently ranges from 18,000-23,000 any given wave.

Experimental Modules

- ❑ 3 minutes on various topics. Takes place at the end of the core interview. About 10 modules every wave. Sample size is about 1,500.

Enhanced Face-to-Face

- ❑ Physical measures, biomarkers, genetics, and psychosocial information obtained as part of the enhanced face-to-face interview that happens on a random half sample every 2 years. Half of the core sample.

Supplemental studies

- ❑ Studies on a range of topics that take place in the “off year.” Linked to the core. Sample sizes around 3,000-7,000.

Linkage to administrative data

- ❑ HRS core data are linked to various sources of administrative data.

CORE CONTENT AREAS IN HRS

Health

- ❑ Physical/psychological self-report, conditions, disabilities; biomarkers and genetics; cognitive testing; health behaviors (smoking, drinking, exercise)

Health Services

- ❑ Utilization, expenditure, insurance, out-of-pocket spending, linkage to Medicare claims data

Labor Force

- ❑ Employment status/history, retirement, earnings, disability, retirement, type of work

Economic Status

- ❑ Income by source, wealth by asset type, capital gains/debt, consumption; linkage to pensions, Social Security earnings/benefit histories

Family Structure

- ❑ Extended family, proximity, transfers to/from of money, time, housing

Expectations

- ❑ Decision making; subjective probabilities

Experimental Modules

- ❑ Wide range of topics

Exit Interviews

- ❑ Disposition of assets, advanced directive

ENHANCED FACE-TO-FACE

As part of the enhanced face-to-face, interviewers administer tests and obtain specimens:

- ❑ Physical measures: grip strength, timed walk, lung function, balance, height and weight, waist circumference, and blood pressure
- ❑ Saliva sample for genetic information: in addition to genome-wide association studies, telomere length, candidate genes, polygenic risk scores
- ❑ Blood-based biomarkers with dried blood spots
- ❑ Psychosocial self-administered mail-back questionnaire

HRS OFF-YEAR STUDIES

Aging, Demographics, and Memory Study (ADAMS) (2001-2009; 2010-2011) – in home clinical interviews

Mail surveys

- Human Capital and Educational Expenses Mail Survey (2001)
- Consumption and Activities Mail Survey (CAMS) (2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011)
- Diabetes Study (2003) (sensitive health data)
- Prescription Drug Study (2005, 2007) (sensitive health data)
- Health and Well-being Study (2009) (sensitive health data)
- Disability Vignette Survey (2007)
- Health Care Mail Survey (2011)
- Health Care and Nutrition Study (2013)
- Life History Mail Survey (2015, 2017)

Internet surveys (2003, 2006-2007, 2009, 2011, 2013)

ADMINISTRATIVE LINKAGES

Individual match

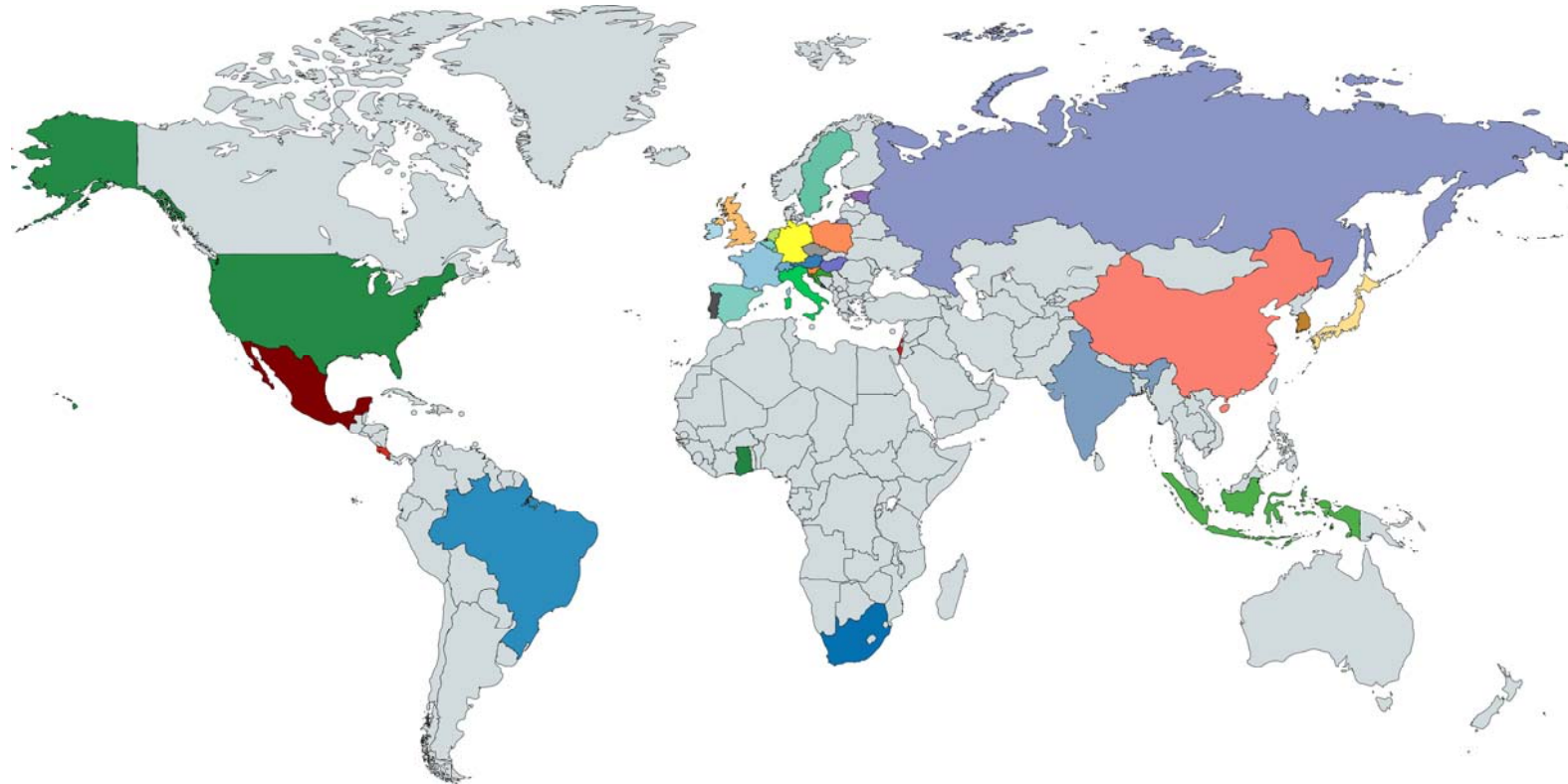
- Social Security earnings and benefits
- Medicare and Medicaid claims data
- Veterans Administration

Employer match

- Pension plans
- Census Bureau Business Register (in progress)

Provide validation of self-reported information as well as additional information not collected in the survey

HRS IS THE MODEL FOR SIMILAR STUDIES AROUND THE WORLD



Harmonization tool at USC Gateway to Global Aging
g2aging.org

HRS

SUPPORT AND OUTREACH

- ISR-HRS Summer Institute

<https://hrs.isr.umich.edu/news/intro-HRS-workshop>

- Preconference Workshops

- Help Desk:

HRSquestions@isr.umich.edu

- Sign up for user newsletter (bottom panel of home page)

Part I Clarifying Questions?

- We will not be using the raised hand feature today
- Please use the questions feature accessible on the right hand side of your screen
- If we do not get to all of the questions today, we will email responses after the webinar



Part II: Tour of the HRS Website

- <http://hrsonline.isr.umich.edu/>



Introduction to the Health and Retirement Study

- Archived recording on GSA's YouTube
- Copy of today's slides

Save These Dates:

- HRS Cognition Data: Tuesday, March 27 at Noon ET
- HRS Biomarkers Data: Tuesday, April 24 at Noon ET

www.geron.org/webinar



Webinar Evaluation

In an effort for continual improvement, we would like to hear your thoughts. Please provide feedback by clicking the survey link at the end of the webinar.

Thank you again—we hope you enjoyed the program!



Part II Clarifying Questions?

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Thank you

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