

HEALTH AND RETIREMENT STUDY

Cross-Wave Geographic Information (State) Restricted Data

1992-2018

Data Description

Version 8.2 (Early), June 2021

To the Restricted Data Investigator: This restricted data set is intended for exclusive use by you and the persons specified in the *Agreement for Use of Restricted Data from the Health and Retirement Study* and/or the *Supplemental Agreement with Research Staff for Use of Restricted Data from the Health and Retirement Study*.

If there are any questions about this data set and its use, refer to the HRS Restricted Data Web Site (<https://hrs.isr.umich.edu/data-products/restricted-data>) or contact the HRS Restricted Data Applications Processing Team (hrsdaapplications@umich.edu) by email.

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1. Overview

The Health and Retirement Study (HRS) is a national longitudinal study of the economic, health, marital, and family status, as well as public and private support systems, of older Americans. The HRS is a rich source of longitudinal, cross-sectional data for researchers and policymakers who study aging. Funding for the Health and Retirement Study is provided by the National Institute on Aging at NIH (U01 AG009740), with supplemental support from the Social Security Administration. The study is conducted by the Institute for Social Research (ISR) at the University of Michigan.

2. Obtaining the Data

2a. Access to Restricted Geographic Data

Although most HRS data sets are available to the public without restriction, certain HRS data sets contain sensitive respondent information and are only available under terms of a formal agreement negotiated between the researcher and HRS. For instructions on how to proceed, visit the [HRS Restricted Data Web site](#) or contact the HRS Restricted Data Applications Processing Team (hrrdaapplication@umich.edu) by email.

2b. Restricted Data Agreement

This restricted data set is intended for exclusive use by you and the persons (if any) specified in your restricted data agreement.

2c. Publications Based on Restricted Data

Your restricted data agreement requires that you inform HRS of any papers, publications, or presentations based on this restricted data set. You may send a bibliographical reference (including a URL link whenever possible) for each item to hrrdaapplication@umich.edu with "Attn: Papers and Publications" in the subject line. If possible, you should also include a PDF-formatted copy of the publication.

As an alternative, you may transmit publications in paper format by postal mail:

Health and Retirement Study
Attn: Papers and Publications
The Institute for Social Research, Room 3450
P.O. Box 1248
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106-1248

3. Data File Contents

The *Cross-Wave Geographic Information (State)* data set replaces all previously released HRS state-level geographic information products. The new file matches the current version of the tracker file (Tracker 2018)¹. It has 43,398 records, which are uniquely identified by Household Identifier (HHID) and Person Number (PN).

This data set is released in conjunction with four other data sets:

- *Cross-Wave Geographic Information (Detail)* [restricted]
- *Child ZIP Codes* [restricted]
- *Parent State Code* [restricted]
- *Cross-Wave Geographic Information: Respondent Region and Mobility* [public]

¹ The HRS tracker file is created to facilitate the use of HRS data within and across waves. It contains one record for every person who was ever eligible to be interviewed in any wave. The tracker file version used in preparation of this dataset (Tracker 2018) covers all types of interviews (core, exit, and post-exit) for 1992 through the 2018 interviewing year.

**** EARLY ****

These files contain all geographic information (public and restricted) currently available for HRS respondents. See Table 1 for a comparison of the region, state, and detail file contents.

3a. Data Sources

In the earlier waves of the study (1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996) geographical data were obtained from a variety of sources:

- HRS address/control files
- AHEAD address/control files
- The original HRS sample screen file
- Interview Content

Geographic information detail information was generated using these classification tools:

- the TIGER/Census Street Index
- the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council Web site
- the Census Bureau Tract Street Locator
- CDUSA 9-Digit ZIP Code/Street Address listings

From 1998 onward, inputs to the geographical data coding process were obtained from one source, the Survey Research Operations (SRO) field control system. A respondent address table was created prior to each wave and was updated by interviewers during the data collection phase of the study. The table contained street address, city, state and ZIP code fields which served as inputs to address lookup and matching software.

Beginning with the 2014 file, each version of the cross-wave state data file is based on the Cross-Wave Geographic Information Detail dataset. The detail dataset is in turn based on the respondent information in the SRO control files. See *Cross-Wave Geographic Information (Detail) Data Description and Usage -- Appendix*, for detailed information about the processes used to obtain geographic information in each wave.

Table 1: File Content Comparison

Variables	Description	Region	State	Detail (Section)
HHIDPN	Household ID and Person Number	✓		A, B
HHID	Household Identifier	✓	✓	A, B
PN	Person Number	✓	✓	A, B
YEAR	Wave year numeric			B
WAVE	Wave year alphabetic			B
STUDY	Study Membership	✓	✓	A
FIRSTIW	Baseline Wave	✓	✓	A
AIWTYPE – PIWTYPE	Interview Type	✓	✓	
IWTYPE	Interview Type (by wave)			B
BornUS	Born US?	✓	✓	A
RegLiv10	Region Live When in School	✓		
RegionB	Census Division Where Born	✓		
REGIONyy	Region/Division of Residence	✓		
Beale1993_yy Beale2003_yy Beale2013_yy	HRS-Beale Rural Urban codes by wave using 1993, 2003, and 2013 coding	✓		
MOVEwww	Move distance from previous to current wave	✓		
StaBorn	State Born		✓	A
CountryB92	Country Born (1992-2000 code frame)		✓	A
CountryB02	Country Born (2002-2018 code frame)		✓	A
WhrLiv10	Where Live When in School		✓	A
STATEUSPSyy	State USPS code (from address file)		✓	
STFIPSy	State FIPS Codes (2010 Census)		✓	
YEAR	Interview year (wave) designator			B
STATEUSPS	State USPS code (from address file)		✓	B
ZIPCODE	ZIP Code (from address file)			B
STCTYFIPS10	State FIPS + County FIPS (2010 Census)			B
STATEFIPS10	State FIPS Code (2010 Census)			B
CTYFIPS10	County FIPS Code (2010 Census)			B
TRACT10	Census Tract (2010 Census)			B
LINKCEN2010	State FIPS + County FIPS + Tract (2010 Census)			B
LINKCEN2000	State FIPS + County FIPS + Tract (2000 Census)			B
LINKCEN1990	State FIPS + County FIPS + Tract (1990 Census)			B
COUNTYNAME10	County Name (2010 Census)			B
UrbRur2013 UrbRur2003 UrbRur1992	Beale Rural Urban codes for 2013, 2003, and 1993			B
HRRID	Hospital Referral Region			B
HRRLOCATION	HRR Location			B
HSAID	Hospital Service Area			B
HSALOCATION	HSA Location			B
RESCODE	PROC GEOCODE match results (_NOTES_)			B
VERSION	Latest Version	✓	✓	A

3b. Variable Description

3b-1. Variables from the Tracker File

The variables `STUDY`, `FIRSTIW`, `GENDER` and `BORNUS` are taken directly from the Tracker file. Also included are Interview Type (`xIWTYPE`) variables for each year, which indicate whether an interview was attempted and what type (core, exit, post-exit) of interview was obtained.

3b-2. One-time Variables

Background variables that contain geographic information are asked at the time of the respondent's first interview:

- `StaBorn`: The state where the respondent was born.
- `CountryB92`: The country where the respondent was born (1992-2000).
- `CountryB02`: The country where the respondent was born (2002 or thereafter).²
- `WhrLiv10`: The state or country where the respondent lived when 10 years old or in school.

3b-3. Other Geographic Identifiers

As noted in Table 1, this file contains the following state-level geographic identifiers:

- State U.S. Postal Service Code
- State FIPS Code

4. If You Need to Know More

This document is intended to serve as a brief overview that provides guidelines for using this data product. If you have questions or concerns that are not adequately covered here or on our Web site, or if you have any comments, please contact us. We will do our best to provide answers.

4a. HRS Internet Site

Health and Retirement Study public release data and additional information about the study are available on the Internet. To access public data or to find out more about restricted data products and procedures, visit the [HRS Web site](#).

4b. Contact Information

If you need to contact us, you may do so by using one of the methods listed below.

Internet: Help Desk at the HRS Web site (<https://hrs.isr.umich.edu/help>)

E-mail: hrsquestions@umich.edu

Postal Service:

Health and Retirement Study
The Institute for Social Research
426 Thompson Street, 3450 ISR
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

² The code frame for `CountryB02` is a super-set of the `CountryB92` code frame.