

HEALTH AND RETIREMENT STUDY

Cancer Site

Restricted Data

All Cohorts, 1992-2022

Data Description and Usage

December 2025

Table of Contents

To the Restricted Data Investigator:	2
1. Overview	3
2. Obtaining the Data	3
2a. Access to Restricted Data	3
2b. Restricted Data Agreement.....	3
2c. Publications Based on Restricted Data	4
3. Data Set Content	4
4. If You Need to Know More	7
4a. HRS Website.....	7
4b. Contact Information	7

To the Restricted Data Investigator:

Use of this data product is limited to researchers who have obtained authorization from the Health and Retirement Study and the University of Michigan.

If there are any questions about this data set and its use, refer to the [HRS Restricted Data Website](#) or contact the [HRS Help Desk](#).

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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 (U01AG009740), 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 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. Prospective users of HRS restricted data may obtain access through the [Michigan Center on the Demography of Aging \(MiCDA\) Virtual Desktop Infrastructure](#). For instructions on how to proceed, visit the [HRS Restricted Data Website](#). If you have questions, contact the [HRS Restricted Data Applications Processing Team](#).¹

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. Access to this data set is

¹ **Note:** This data set is also available in the NIA LINKAGE enclave. Consult the [HRS Restricted Data Website](#) for further information.

limited to users who have been approved for the MiCDA VDI by the Health and Retirement Study and the University of Michigan.

2c. Publications Based on Restricted Data

Your restricted data agreement requires you to inform HRS of any papers, publications, or presentations based on the data set. Send a bibliographical reference (including a URL link whenever possible) for each published item to the [HRS Restricted Data Applications Processing Team](#) with “Attn: Papers and Publications” in the subject line. Whenever possible, a PDF-formatted copy of the publication should be included. As an alternative, publications may be transmitted 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, MI 48106-1248

3. Data Set Content

This version of the **Cancer Site 1992-2022** data set matches the current version of the tracker file (Tracker 2022)² with the exception of interview years 1992, 1993, 1994 (Core/Exit), and 1996 (Exit). Information collected at these time points is included in the publicly released data available (with registration) at the [HRS Restricted Data Website](#). The file has 46,766

² **Note:** 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 data set (Tracker 2022) covers all types of interviews (Core, Exit, and Post-Exit) for 1992 through the 2022 interviewing year.

records, which are uniquely identified by Household Identifier (HHID) and Person Number (PN). The dataset was first released as a cumulative file after the 2010 wave. Since Core and Exit interviews are mutually exclusive, they were combined into a single wave specific variable. For 1998 and 2000, where there are two possible mentions, the Exit interview was combined under the first mention.

TABLE 1: CANCER SITE 1995-2022

Data Collection	Original Cancer Site Variables	Released Variable Name(s)	Release Type	Question
1995	Core D810 Exit N810	D810	Restricted	B5g. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
1996	Core E810	E810	Restricted	B5g. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
1998	Core F1138M1, F1138M2 Exit Q1138	F1138M1, F1138M2	Restricted	B5g. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
2000	Core G1271M1, G1271M2 Exit R1183	G1271M1, G1271M2	Restricted	B5g. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
2002	Core HC026 Exit SC026	HC026	Restricted	C026. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
2004	Core JC026 Exit TC026	JC026	Restricted	C026. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
2006	Core KC026 Exit UC026	KC026	Restricted	C026. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
2008	Core LC026 Exit VC026	LC026	Restricted	C026. In which organ or part of

				your body did your cancer(s) start?
2010	Core MC026 Exit WC026	MC026	Restricted	C026. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
2012	Core NC026 Exit XC026	NC026	Restricted	C026. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
2014	Core OC026 Exit YC026	OC026	Restricted	C026. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
2016	Core PC026 Exit ZC026	PC026	Restricted	C026. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
2018	Core QC026 Exit XQC026	QC026	Restricted	C026. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
2020	Core RC026 Exit XRC026	RC026	Restricted	C026. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?
2022	Core SC026 Exit XSC026	SC026	Restricted	C026. In which organ or part of your body did your cancer(s) start?

TABLE 2: CONTENTS OF DISTRIBUTION PACKAGE

Directory	File	Type
.\cs\docs\	CS2022.txt	Codebook file (ASCII text)
.\cs\docs\	CS2022DD.pdf	Data Description (this file)
.\cs\built\sas\	CS2022.sas7bdat	SAS system file
.\cs\built\spss\	CS2022.sav	SPSS system file
.\cs\built\stata\	CS2022.dta	Stata system file

4. If You Need to Know More

This document is intended to serve as a brief overview of the **Cancer Site 1992-2022** data set. If you have questions or concerns that are not adequately covered here or on our Website, or if you have any comments, please contact us. We will do our best to provide answers.

4a. HRS Website

To access public release data, find additional information about the Health and Retirement Study, or learn more about restricted data products, visit the [HRS Website](#).

4b. Contact Information

If you need to contact us, you may do so by:

1. [HRS Help Desk Website](#)
2. hqsquestions@umich.edu
3. Postal Service:

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