



Annual Activity Report 2012

Preface

Ageing is one of the megatrends of the 21st century, and it affects all of us, both as individuals and as societies. This holds in particular for Europe, which is the continent already with the highest proportion of older citizens. This population ageing process will continue for the better part of this century. As individuals, ageing is an emotional topic because it touches us so profoundly. For most people, after a period of stability during midlife, retirement and old-age present renewed uncertainty with new phases of life. Concerned about declining health and deteriorating productivity, we worry about what life will be like after retirement. Part of this uncertainty stems from the great variety of individual ageing processes.

Population ageing is often seen as a plague, threatening our living standards. Indeed, there are formidable challenges to our social security and health care systems in providing care to both family and social institutions. Our longer lives, however, also provide fascinating opportunities. The overlap of four generations is a novelty in human history and will provide the younger generation with more experiences to draw from. Modern technology and the increase of professions in which experience and management abilities count more than physical strength will open new possibilities for older individuals to actively participate.

Understanding how the ageing process will affect us and the unique effect of ageing on European countries stemming from cultural differences, historically grown societal structures and distinct public policy approaches, is an important task for researchers in economics, social sciences, and public health in order to turn the challenges of population ageing in Europe into opportunities. This is what SHARE – the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe – is all about.

SHARE is a unique and innovative multidisciplinary and cross-national panel database of micro data on health, socio-economic status and social and family networks of more 80.000 individuals aged 50 or over. It covers the key areas of life, namely physical and mental health, functional performance, bio-markers obtained from blood samples, psychological variables such as well being and life satisfaction, economic variables such as income, wealth and labour force participation, civic activities, and social support through family and social networks.

SHARE was created as a response to a Communication by the European Commission calling to “examine the possibility of establishing, in co-operation with Member States, a European Longitudinal Ageing Survey”. While its development process started only in 2002, SHARE has become one of the crucial pillars of the European Research Area. Additionally it is the first ever European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC), giving it a new legal status with many of the advantages of major international organisations, as well as a long-term perspective up to 2024. As chair of the SHARE-ERIC Council, I am proud to be part of this enterprise. The SHARE data have already created a large user community. I wish that many more researchers in Europe and elsewhere make use of this fascinating infrastructure.

Dr. Angelika Willms-Herget
Chair of the SHARE-ERIC Council

Report to the ERIC Council

SHARE as a project funded by the European Commission, the US National Institute on Aging, its member countries and various other funding organisations has begun in 2002. Eleven countries have contributed data to the 2004 SHARE baseline study. They are a balanced representation of the various regions in Europe, ranging from Scandinavia (Denmark and Sweden) through Central Europe (Austria, France, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, and the Netherlands) to the Mediterranean (Spain, Italy and Greece). Further data were collected in 2005-06 in Israel. Two new EU member states – the Czech Republic and Poland – as well as Ireland joined SHARE in 2006 and participated in the second wave of data collection in 2006-07. The survey's third wave, SHARELIFE, has collected detailed retrospective life histories in thirteen countries in 2008-09. In 2010 the fourth wave – including a new social network module based on a name generator approach – also included Estonia, Hungary, Portugal and Slovenia. Luxembourg is set to enter SHARE. This adds up to 20 European countries that contribute to the survey and prepare collecting data for the fifth wave in 2013. SHARE is harmonized with the U.S. Health and Retirement Study (HRS) and the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA). Studies in Korea, Japan, China, India, and Brazil follow the SHARE model. In March 2011, SHARE became the first ever European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC), giving it a new legal status with many of the advantages of major international organisations, as well as a long-term perspective up to 2024. Members are Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, and the Netherlands. Slovenia is in process to accede. Switzerland has observer status. Denmark, France, Portugal and Spain have formally announced their intention to become member.

This report describes the scientific achievements of the entire SHARE consortium in 2012 and gives an overview of the financial status of the SHARE project and specifically of the SHARE-ERIC:

- A. Survey work
 - 1) Wave 4 completed in late spring 2012
 - 2) Data dissemination and data usage
 - 3) Questionnaire update for wave 5 (pilot and pretest)
- B. Scientific projects:
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 - 2) Health measurement and biomarkers
 - 3) Social and family networks
 - 4) Old-age income security
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 - 1) Overview of SHARE finances 2002-2012
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 - 3) SHARE-ERIC planned budget 2012/2013

Munich, 13 October 2012

Axel Börsch-Supan, Managing Director of SHARE-ERIC and Coordinator of SHARE

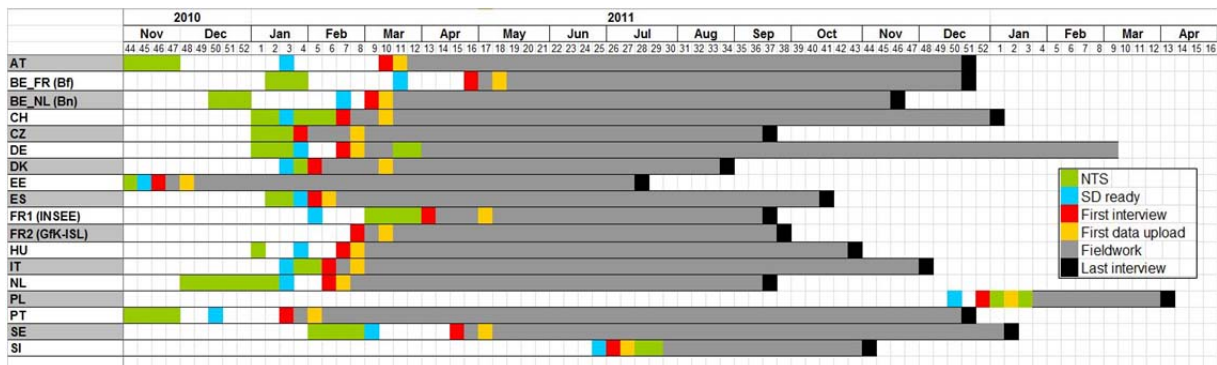
A. Survey Work

1. Wave 4 completed in late spring 2012

The fourth wave of SHARE was a re-interview of all panel members (i.e. all individuals who had been interviewed in a SHARE wave before, some with interruptions) in combination with a very large refresher. Main aim of wave 4 was to triple the sample size to about 6000 individuals in each country in order to be able to perform meaningful within-country analyses and to be able to focus on specific population strata such as freshly retired, very old or poor individuals. We also introduced a new module on social and family networks. Finally, wave 4 was the first wave under the new ESFRI regime and the ERIC legal framework, i.e. member countries were supposed to carry all of their survey costs (while in earlier waves, the EU Commission paid the bulk of the survey costs through FP5-6-7 grants).

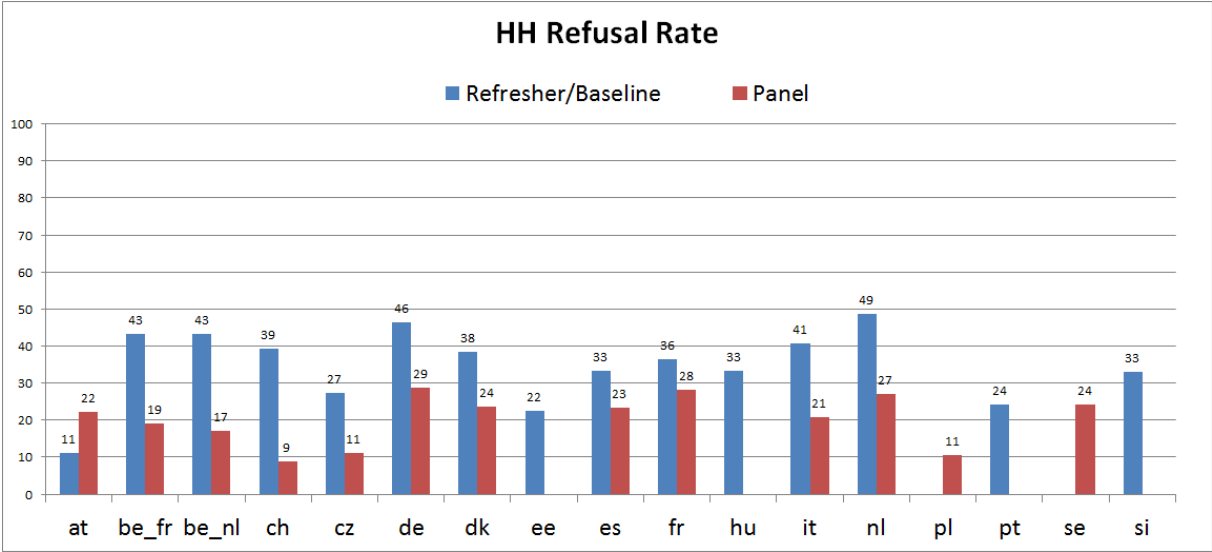
The transition to the ESFRI regime did not go smoothly, as reported already in the last Council meeting. Due to the financial difficulties in many SHARE member countries, wave 4 had a very uneven schedule far from being harmonized, see Figure 1:

Figure 1: SHARE wave 4 field times



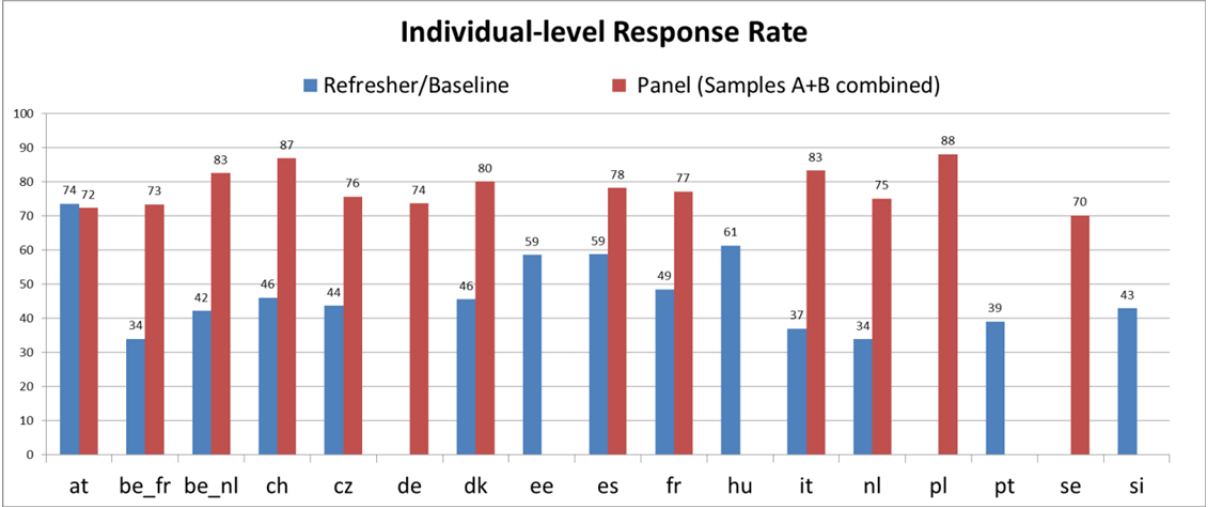
With much delay, the main aims of wave 4 could be reached with the end of fieldwork in April 2012: About 62,000 individuals in 19 countries were successfully interviewed. Compared to wave 3, this corresponds to a 2.2-times increase in the sample size. We fell short of our original aim to triple the sample due to two reasons: some countries did not have sufficient funds, and we reached the interviewer capacity limit in one country so the refresher had to be aborted. In addition, refusal rates have been very high in some countries, see Figure 2, reflecting a common trend in recent years all across Europe and North America.

Figure 2: Household -based refusal rates in SHARE Wave 4



Compared to the “industry standard”, wave 4 was quite successful in retaining their panelists and motivating new respondents: Figure 3 shows the retention rates of the panel members (red) and the response rates in the new refresher samples (blue):

Figure 3: Individual-based rates of retention (panel) and response (refresher) in SHARE Wave 4



The social and family network module was highly appreciated by the respondents. The data are currently being processed; some preliminary results on the size and the intensity of the networks are quite striking, see Section 4. Overall, interview length in wave 4 was only slightly longer than expected, with about 65 minutes for an individual and 103 minutes for a couple. Figures 4 and 5 show the variability between the countries:

Figure 4: Interview length of single-person households: Median, quartiles, and min/max

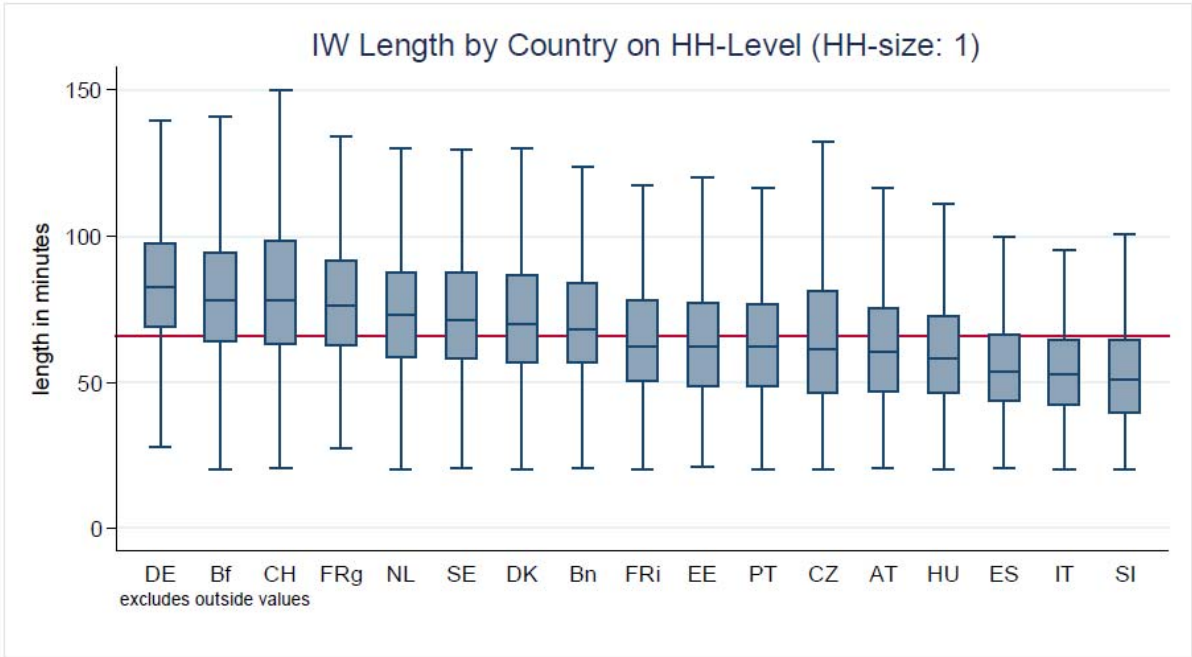
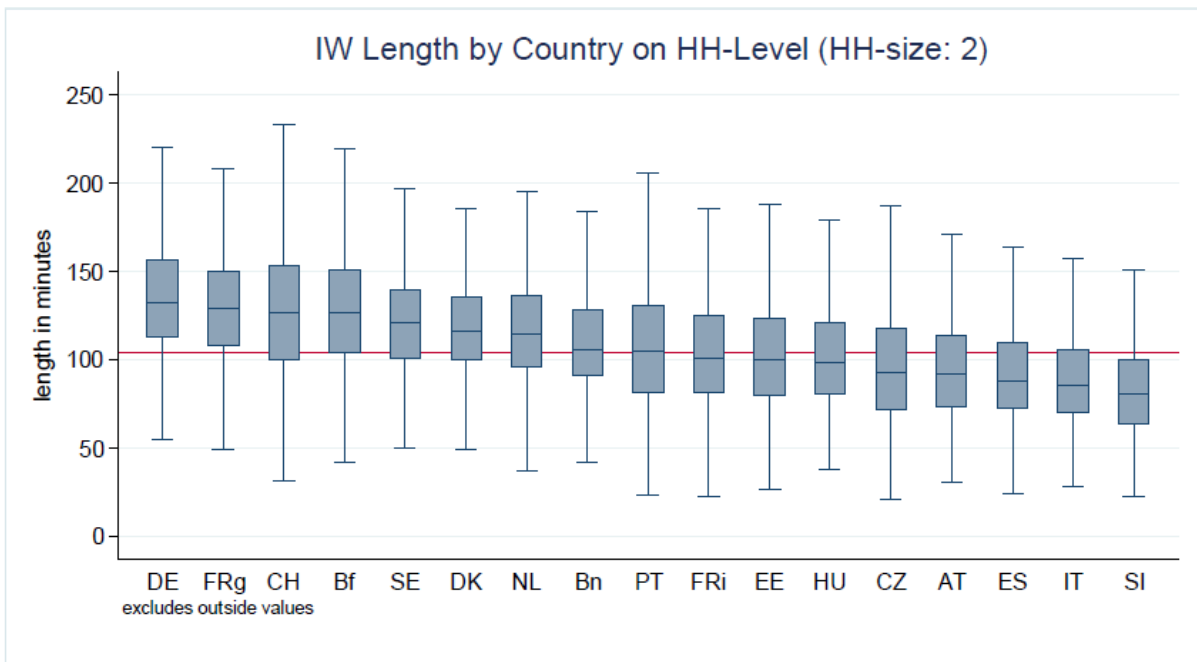


Figure 5: Interview length of couple households: Median, quartiles, and min/max



2. Data dissemination and data usage

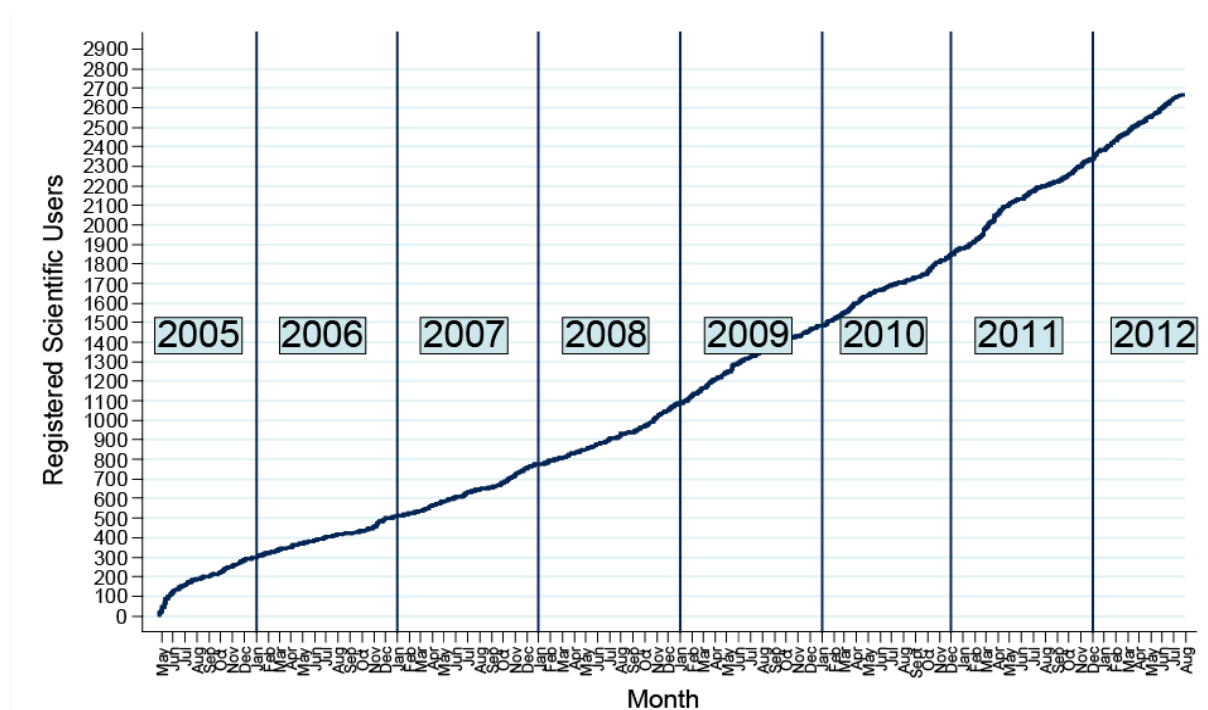
Wave 4 data is now being processed. Keeping the SHARE data base scientifically up-to-date and user-friendly is important for making easier and increasing the use of collected data. Two teams work on data base management: the Munich team checks the basic integrity of the data (matching to earlier waves, correcting errors, etc.) and computes a host of generated and summary variables from household size to total household income. All modules have been partly cleaned in terms of implausible values and those recorded as 'don't know' and 'refusal', in order to assess the missing prevalence in each relevant variable involved in the imputation procedure. The process of data preparation also includes the linkage with information collected in previous waves for the longitudinal sample (preloaded information).

The second team in Padua imputes typical missing items. Such item non-response may be due to respondents' privacy concerns, physical and mental health problems, cognitive limitations, etc. While ignoring households with missing values might superficially appear to lead to a "clean" analysis of the data, in reality it biases analyses since these items are typically not missing at random, and it implies a large loss of valuable information on the not missing variables among these households. The team in Padua is also preparing sample weights for wave 4.

The cleaned and imputed data base will be released in November 2012 for the general scientific community. In the interim, working data sets ("Release 0") are being used (like beta versions of computer programs) by the SHARE working groups for preliminary analyses and error detection.

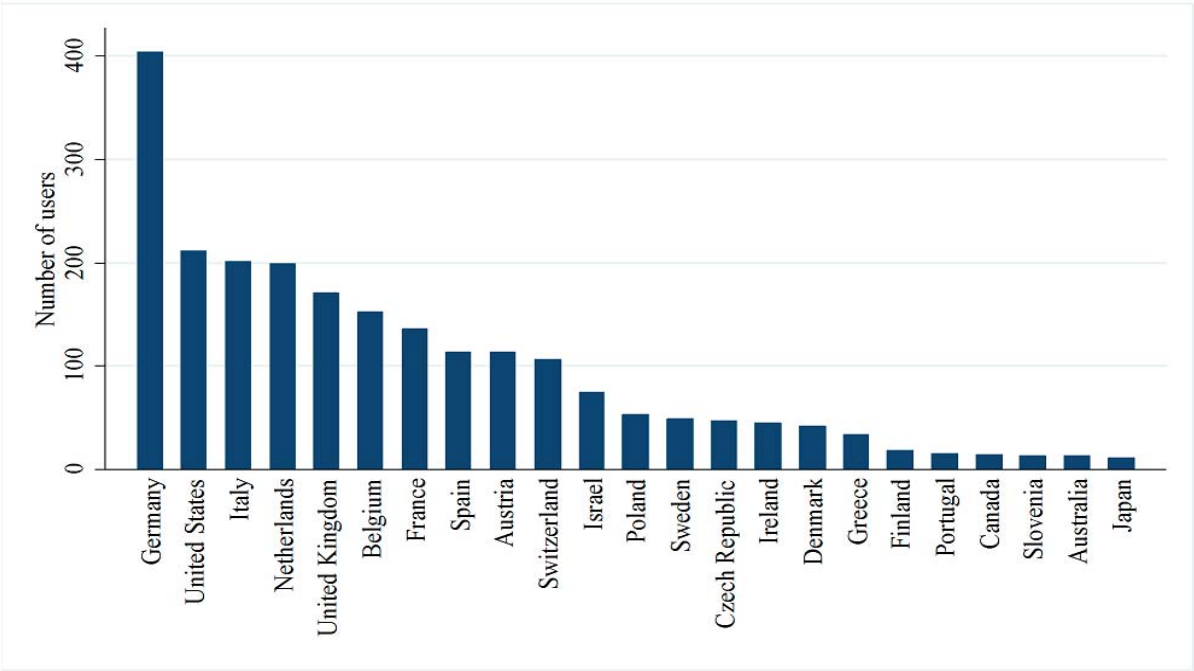
The number of users has developed very dynamically, indicating an ever larger scientific community working with SHARE data: Since the first release of data in April 2005, the number of registered scientific users at SHARE has steadily increased. Mid2012, around 2700 users were registered (see Figure 6).

Figure 6: SHARE registrations (August 2012)



SHARE finds most of its users coming directly from Europe. Nevertheless, over the time, there is a steady increase of users from the USA and other countries worldwide (see Figure 7) which may partly be due to the comparability of SHARE data with other international ageing surveys, such as HRS in the USA, ELSA in the United Kingdom, and others. According to Figure 7, most scientific users of SHARE reside in Germany. Users from the United States are second, before Italy and the Netherlands.

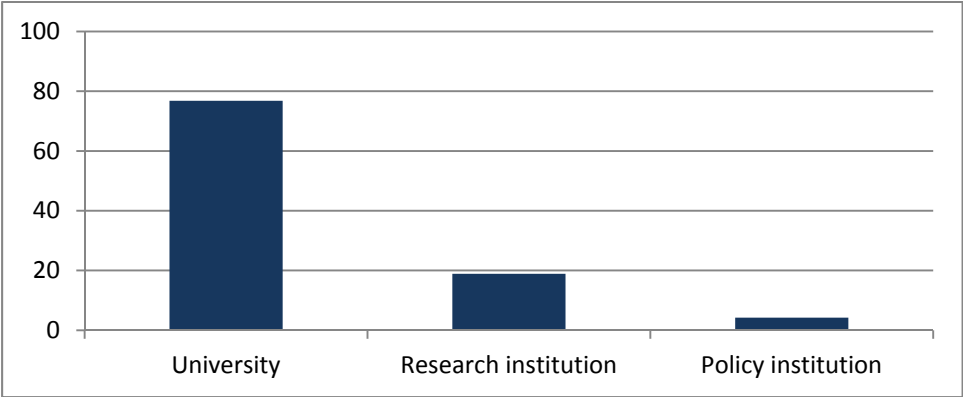
Figure 7: SHARE registrations by country of institution (August 2012)



Note: only countries with >10 users

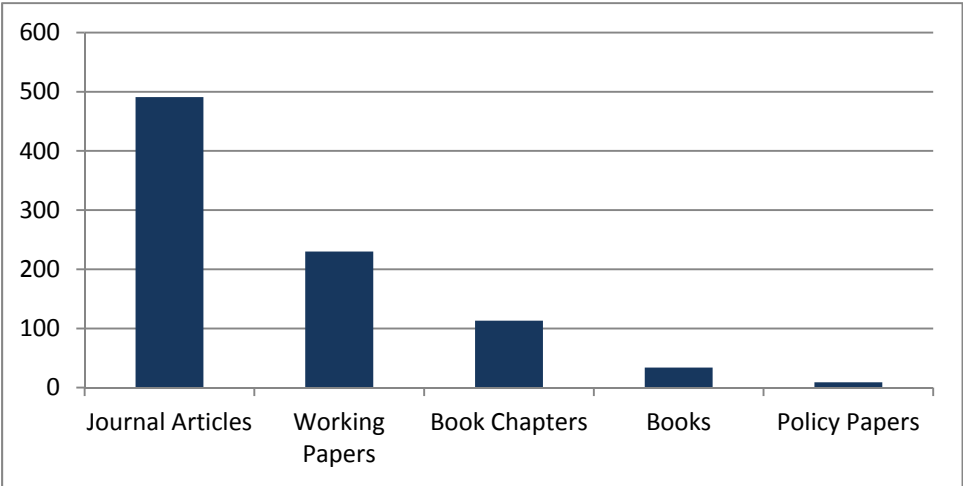
The vast majority of SHARE data users (78%) indicate a university background. Research institutions and policy institutions make around 15 and 7 per cent of user affiliations (see Figure 8). Note that SHARE has a policy of strictly restricting access to scientific institutions. Neither commercial companies (such as insurance companies) nor administrative bodies (such as fiscal authorities) have access to the data in order to protect the respondents’ privacy and openness to answer questions.

Figure 8: SHARE registrations by institution (August 2012)



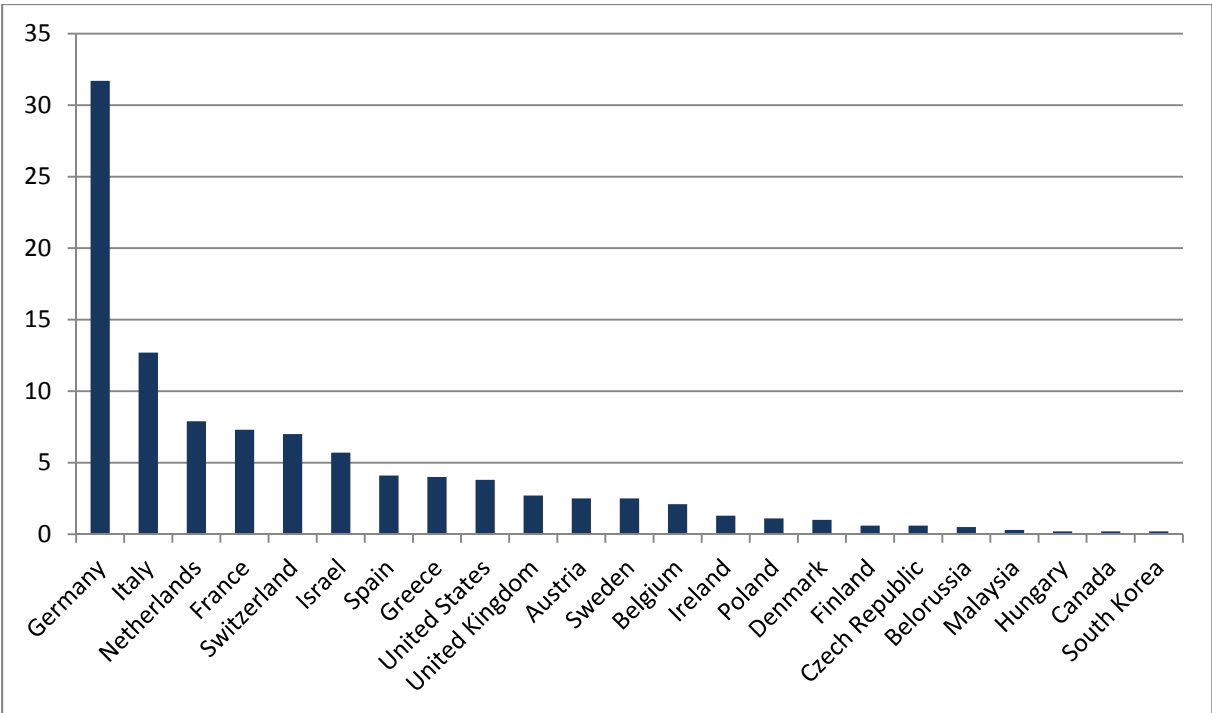
Researchers' interest in the data is also reflected in the considerable amount of publications based on SHARE data. The majority of publications based on SHARE data are articles in scientific journals. Book chapters based on SHARE data make the second frequent type of publications by SHARE users, followed by working papers and books, respectively (see Figure 9). Note that the publication numbers displayed depend on researchers reporting their publications. As, unfortunately, this may not always be the case even though we regularly encourage all users to report new publications by means of newsletters and our website, the reported number of publications is probably an underestimate.

Figure 9: Publications using SHARE data, as reported to the SHARE team (August 2012)



As indicated in Figure 10, most of the SHARE based journal articles come from German users (around one third), followed by Italian, Dutch, French and Swiss users.

Figure 10: Journal articles using SHARE data by country of first author's institution (August 2012)



3. Questionnaire update for wave 5 (pilot and pretest)

Work on wave 5 of SHARE has started last fall with an agreement on the general design of the questionnaire. Specific questionnaire decisions were made at the Questionnaire Board meeting in Munich, 9 January 2012. New in wave 5 will be a social exclusion module and a childhood questionnaire for all respondents without wave 3 life histories. Furthermore, we started a major design overhaul of the entire questionnaire to optimize verbal smoothness and internal consistency. Finally, we explored the feasibility of large-scale biomarker (dried blood spots) collection and processing in six countries.

A first version of the revised questionnaire was tested in the pilot in March, a second in the pretest in June, each test preceded by a train-the-trainer session in Munich and subsequent local training in all 19 participating countries. Pilot results were discussed by the entire SHARE consortium in Brixen, Italy, 22-23 March 2012, and pretest results were presented in Uppsala, Sweden, 19-20 July 2012. Since the questionnaire design overhaul will require substantial reprogramming and repetitive testing, it was decided in Uppsala to postpone the fieldwork start of wave 5 to January 2013 with a preceding train-the-trainer session in December 2012. This will also give more time to country team leaders to complete their funding efforts.

B. Scientific projects

In addition to the more or less routine business of conducting the survey and delivering the data to the users, the SHARE team performs methodological and substantive research. They are structured by work packages led by teams distributed across the SHARE countries.

1) Response behavior

Understanding the response behavior in previous SHARE waves is essential to improve retention rates and to better target efforts of keeping respondents in the panel.

The efforts of this work package can be split into several parts. The first part is to develop a model that predicts survey participation of SHARE respondents, using data from the first three waves of SHARE. When gaining survey participation, nonresponse might occur at different steps during the process of locating a household, contacting a household member and gaining the cooperation of the sample person. Societal-level factors, attributes of the survey design, characteristics of the sample person as well as of the interviewer are factors influencing survey participation. Based on both frameworks, a model of response propensities is being developed, taking the panel dimension and conditioning of the three steps of localization, contact and cooperation into account.

The second part relates to the preparation of SHARE's paradata, namely, SMS (sample management system), keystrokes, and interviewer data. For wave three and four, case specific corrections for the SMS and keystrokes data have been made in line with the correction procedures for the CAPI data. Discrepancies in term of linkage remain and have to be investigated further. We received information on socio-demographics of the interviewers from the survey agencies and currently are in the progress of harmonizing it across the countries.

Concrete statistical models will be estimated after completion of parts one and two.

2) Health measurement and biomarkers

The Erasmus MC has been responsible for 1) integrating and overseeing harmonisation and complementarity of the SHARE health questionnaire with other health surveys in Europe; and 2) testing and improving the validity of health measures against 'gold standard' measures of health at the national level. For the first objective, we have prepared a report of European Health Surveys and their available health information. This documentation report will serve as a base for a subsequent paper describing health distributions across different European surveys. Furthermore, we have started comparing SHARE health estimates with estimates from other European surveys. Parts of this work have already been presented at the RAND Data Set Workshop. Additional papers might follow, describing more specific comparisons across surveys.

Concerning the second objective, we are investigating possibilities to link the SHARE health data with objective health information from national registers. In Denmark, such linkage with mortality data has already been established. In Germany, a linkage with pension data has been achieved, which will yield some information on health as well. We will further explore possibilities in Sweden and the Netherlands.

The SDU team is responsible for developing the inclusion of biomarkers into future SHARE surveys, in particular the implementation of Dried Blood Spot Samples (DBSS). The team has established a

“biomarker working group” (BWG) consisting of SHARE colleagues with experience of DBSS collection in surveys, which is part of a larger “biomarker reference group” consisting of people experienced in biochemical analyses of interest to the public health, and of people knowledgeable in DBSS analyses in general. Based on preceding discussions in the reference group the BWG has launched 2 pilot studies to establish knowledge on institutional and logistical challenges when implementing DBSS. The pilot 1 is an in-lab pilot, where we from a group of outpatient diabetic patients (Odense University Hospital, Denmark) have, in the same patient, simultaneously collected venous blood samples in tubes as well as capillary blood (from finger pricking) on filter cards (DBSS). The DBSS have before storage in a freezer been exposed to different temperatures for different lengths of time mimicking the temperature- and time related exposure during mailing. Pilot study 2 is a field study implemented in the ongoing pretest of SHARE wave 5 (ongoing June-September 2012), and aiming at institutional challenges within each country on obtaining consent for DBSS collection from ethical review boards, as well as challenges arising from introducing a novelty in CAPI surveys: collection of biological material by dried blood spots from finger pricking. Six SHARE countries have introduced the DBSS in their national SHARE wave 5 pretest. The preliminary feedback from survey agencies are positive, but getting approval from local and national scientific-ethical review boards has been challenging. Final conclusions on DBSS collection will be made after the pretest and when the biochemical analyses have been done.

Finally, a SHARE biobank has been established at the University of Southern Denmark, and legal consent for holding this international biobank has been granted from the Danish Data Protection Agency.

3) Social and familial networks

The major accomplishment thus far has been the successful implementation of the name-generator social network inventory in wave 4 and the subsequent production of summary social network indices that effectively discern differences in important well-being outcomes.

The objective of our research now is to evaluate the innovative social network measurement approach that was introduced in wave 4 of SHARE and to further develop the parts of the SHARE questionnaire that measure social network. The ultimate aim is to design a standardized European Index of Social and Familial Embeddedness.

In order to develop and implement the name-generator social network inventory, a) written guidelines for use of the name-generator were produced, b) specific training was provided at the Train-The-Trainers workshops to guarantee accurate application of the name-generator tool, c) routing of the name-generator in the CAPI was version perfected, and d) its liaison to variables in other relevant modules was executed.

In order to validate the name-generator social network inventory, country differences in generated personal social networks were examined in order to establish whether country differences (e.g. language, culture) yield different network results and impact outcomes differently. Also, we have examined trends inherent in the respective network measures and their associations with selected outcomes. We also identified social network prototypes that can be employed as a categorical summary indicator of key network components. The median network size is 2 members, the mean about 2.4. About 80% of married respondents mentioned their spouse as network member, 60% of those who have children, mention their children, and only 20% of those who have siblings mention them.

We have disseminated the improved social network measures for use by researchers to further check and improve their user-friendliness. Additionally, summary social network indices from the name-generator social network inventory were produced and disseminated internally for initial checking. Preliminary efforts were also begun to interest a sister survey (the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing) in incorporating the SHARE generated social network inventory.

4) Old-age income security

The direct consequence of the current demographic trends in Europe, characterized by a decrease in the fertility rates and a significant increase in the life expectancy, is population ageing. A recent OECD report estimates an increase in the fraction of the 65+ and of the 80+ to approximately 30% and 10% of the population respectively by 2050. Under these circumstances, the retirement of the baby-boomer generation poses additional challenge to the sustainability of the social security systems of most European countries, constraining governments to the adoption of sound and urgent welfare reforms. As such, understanding the patterns related to the evolution of the working careers and retirement decisions of individuals and relating them to the institutional setup and social welfare reforms becomes a critical issue to be explored using SHARE dataset.

As an important first part of our work, we are developing a full map of pension claims and social security provisions which are comparable across countries. One fundamental issue in reconstructing the individuals' working histories and in projecting the future pension claims regards the labour related income measures. SHARE monetary variables are heterogeneous across countries (the respondents report their wages/benefits in the local currency) and along time (the time interval observed under SHARELIFE retrospective is subject to important appreciations/depreciations of the currencies).

In order to make sure that measures of incomes are comparable we adjusted the monetary measures by taking into account the changes along time (all amounts were expressed in Euro 2006 by using appropriate CPI) and across countries (wages and pension claims were then converted into PPP adjusted German euros).

In a second step, starting from the imputations of missing incomes over the life cycle performed by Christoph Weiss from the Padua team which focused on wages up to 2008 (SHARELIFE), we estimated the future wages up to the potential retirement year. This can be inferred also from the expectations elicited on SHARE. This way we obtained the basic information necessary for computing the amounts of future retirement benefits or disability benefits. Hence we are almost at the stage of having a complete map, for all individuals, of their working histories (with unemployment or disability spells) and of the future benefits they could claim.

Parallel to this activity the group (Venice and MEA together) has progressed substantially in the description of the legal and institutional framework that shapes the possible exit routes from the labor force as well as the benefits take up. These rules vary a lot between countries and over time, the idea is to go back as far as 1960 in providing a full taxonomy (contextual data base) of the relationship between the individuals and the welfare state ranging from maternity benefits to old age pensions.

The second part of our work is to provide a more precise linkage between working lives and retirement ages. This second step in constructing a database of the individuals' future pension claims

is related to understanding the determinants of the retirement decision. This is a complex task because one has to take account of all the elements that affect the retirement decisions (education, age, health status etc.) and measure the impact of the different circumstances.

Using the data supplied by waves 1-3 we reconstructed the working careers of the SHARE participants. Thanks to the retrospective data provided in SHARELIFE we are able to identify all the job spells in the working life of the individuals together with their job interruption episodes and to reconstruct the entire contributive history. Of high importance is the fact that we can establish the causes of the various changes in the working career of an individual by linking the data on the labour market participation and retirement to the retrospective information on the past events and health history. We are thus able to identify all the interruptions in the working life due to maternity or unemployment periods and we are currently working on identifying and linking the periods of bad health. On the same ground we are working on constructing a health index that could estimate the health status of the individuals throughout their life.

In order to be able to complete the construction of the pension claims database in the next future we need to collect and implement the retirement eligibility rules present in different periods in the SHARE countries. On such a basis we shall be able to understand the role of the welfare reforms on the individuals' decisions to leave the labor market.

5) Harmonized income measures

While income represents a crucial determinant of older people wellbeing, obtaining high quality income information it is notoriously difficult. The main issues one has to deal with include survey respondents' reluctance to provide income information on moonlighting activities (affecting in particular self-employment income) and recall errors (which potentially affect all income components). In the first wave of SHARE income questions were asked gross, while in the second and following waves they were asked as 'take-home pay'. In fact the best practice in collecting reliable income information in household surveys seems to be asking for take-home pays in most European countries because take-home pay tends to coincide with net-of-tax earnings or pension income – if tax and pension contributions are withheld at the source.

The aim of this research project is the development of both net and gross income concepts, harmonized across countries, and the implementation of these measures in all available waves of SHARE data (1 to 4). The availability of both net and gross harmonized income measures allows to analyse the income distribution across countries and over time, to assess the redistributive role of fiscal systems in a cross-country perspective and to obtain, in each wave, a measure of disposable household income.

The first task of this work package involves the derivation of a net income measure from the collected gross incomes for SHARE wave 1 data. Although these have been almost entirely collected during 2004, the income reference period is the year 2003. In more detail, the first step has involved carrying out an overview of the 2003 tax and benefit systems for the eleven countries who took part in the first wave (Denmark, Sweden, Austria, France, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, Italy and Greece). Every country tax system differs, for example, with respect to the tax unit definition, income sources included in the personal income tax base, tax schedules and allowances. In this heterogeneous context, EUROMOD, the European tax benefit model developed and maintained at the University of Essex, appeared as a useful source: both of harmonized information on European tax benefit systems (EUROMOD specific 'country reports') and as offering

an harmonized tax-benefit model which has appears as the most suitable to achieve our goal. Additional information on 2003 tax policies has been retrieved from external sources (e.g. OECD, MISSOCC) where needed (for example, in case the EUROMOD country reports did not cover specific country 2003 policies).

The University of Venice working group supported the University of Padua team in the development of the project and cooperated with the University of Essex to discuss preliminary issues related to the work package implementation. At the SHARE Wave 5 meeting in Brixen the first evidences from the overviews of the European tax and benefit systems were presented. On that occasion, the national teams were also asked to cooperate in providing relevant 2003 tax parameters that could not be found elsewhere. Using the documentation and the tax-benefit model provided by the University of Essex, we have implemented the 2003 tax policies in EUROMOD and obtained net income measures for a subgroup of countries, including Belgium, Netherlands, Sweden, Italy and Spain. The University of Essex has a particular agreement with EUROSTAT regarding EU-SILC data. Based on that agreement, University of Padua and Venice asked for data access and we will validate our results using cross sectional EU-SILC data.

6) Time use and wellbeing

The Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress, installed by the former French President Nicholas Sarkozy, has sparked great interest measuring well-being and the quality of life as indicators of social progress.

This task will apply the Day Reconstruction Method (DRM) of Kahneman et al. to gather information on the quality of life of SHARE respondents. Respondents first have to revive memories of the previous day by constructing a diary consisting of a sequence of episodes (e.g. having breakfast, commuting to work, working, having lunch, etc.). For each episode, respondents have to answer some questions on the timing of the episode, the type of activity during the episode (drawn from a list of activities such as socializing, watching TV or taking care of the children), where it took place, with whom they were interacting and how they felt (using a list of affect descriptors such as enjoying oneself, warm/friendly, frustrated, annoyed or worried). The affect scales range from 0 (not at all) to 6 (very much). As an interesting by-product of DRM we also obtain detailed information on the time use of SHARE respondents. Knowledge about time use is not only important to evaluate people's life experiences but is also a necessary ingredient to realistic labour supply and household production models that are instrumental to evaluate public policy.

The actual implementation in SHARE will make use of multiple interviewing modes, such as online, paper, and face-to-face/computer-assisted (CAPI). We decided not to use the telephone mode since the type of DRM questionnaire is not suited for telephone interviewing. We have worked out a plan of how to approach respondents and how to administer modes to respondents. For the practical implementation of the questionnaire, we closely follow the protocol of Kahneman et al., such that the results are comparable between SHARE and previous DRM studies carried out in the US. However, the online version of the questionnaire allows for making the questionnaire more "respondent-friendly" and, in this respect, we deviate from the Kahneman et al. original.

We already fully developed a paper version of the *online* questionnaire. This is the main version of the questionnaire since the paper and CAPI version will simply be adapted versions of the online questionnaire. We also started programming the allocation of interviewing modes across respondents and the programming of the online questionnaire for DRM.

7) Poverty and social exclusion

Pension reforms, which are necessary due to the strains of population aging, and the fiscal crises in many EU member states have put old-age poverty back onto the agenda. This work package applies a very broad concept of social exclusion including not only low income but also bad health and social exclusion. Its ultimate objective is to develop and implement a “European 50+ Exclusion Module (EEM)” including measures of respondents financial situation suitable for the multi-country nature of SHARE, and to derive multidimensional measures of exclusion. This is done through development and implementation of a specialized additional elements of the SHARE questionnaire aiming at identification of specific nature of poverty and exclusion of European 50+ populations.

A first step in this work package is the development of the exclusion questionnaire and initial stages of its implementation. Questionnaire items which focus on deprivation and exclusion and which have been developed as part of the EEM 50+ have been developed in several stages. The first stage consisted of analysis of existing poverty and deprivation as well as exclusion items in the SHARE questionnaire and in the “sister” surveys HRS and ELSA. Subsequently other more specialized surveys have been consulted and examined to identify items which could potentially be used to build the SHARE EEM 50+.

Initially the EEM 50+ questions have been planned and designed as a set of questions to be asked in a special drop off questionnaire in wave 5. The first draft EEM 50+ drop off questionnaire has been developed for the SHARE meeting in Budapest (November 2011). The development of this questionnaire has benefited from a meeting in London with a representative of the ELSA team (Panos Demakakos) and NatCen (Matt Barnes). Several versions of this questionnaire have been circulated and consulted within the SHARE consortium and the questionnaire board.

The CAPI questions which have been designed to assist the analysis of exclusion can be broadly divided into four categories:

- affordability of food items;
- housing quality;
- local area items
- extended poverty/deprivation items.

At the SHARE-M4 meeting in Budapest (November 2011), following the presentation of the questionnaire to the entire SHARE consortium the decision has been taken to move these items from the proposed drop-off questionnaire into the CAPI. The decision has then also been taken that these additional questions will be asked of individuals who participated in SHARE Wave 3.

A second round of analysis and consultation followed to identify the most valuable and interesting questions from the initial list presented in Budapest which would assist in identifying the poor and deprived and would help in measuring additional aspects of exclusion. The result of this has been a battery of questions which have been incorporated into the CAPI questionnaire and piloted in a number of country pilot studies. The pretest questionnaire has then been prepared to be tested in the pretest stage of wave 5 and has been successfully tested in 17 countries in June and July 2012.

C. Financial Status

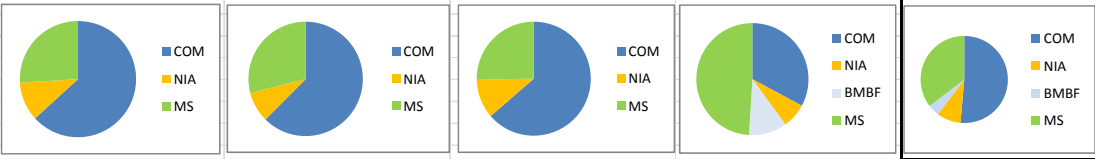
1) Overview of SHARE finances 2002-2012

While the entire SHARE project currently encompasses 20 countries, the SHARE-ERIC has 8 members: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and, as observer, Switzerland, plus, in accession, Slovenia. Membership requires a long-term commitment to fund both the survey and the personnel managing it through country funds, usually the ministry of science or a research council.

During the first 3 waves of data, i.e., pre-ERIC, SHARE was dominantly funded by central means, mainly through the European Commission's framework programmes and contracts issued by the US National Institute on Aging. With wave 4 and the ESFRI process, country-funding became dominant. Figure 11 gives a summary.

Figure 11: Costs of SHARE by wave and major funder, 2002-2012

	Wave 1	Wave 2	Wave 3	Wave 4	Total
COM	5,675 63%	7,295 62%	7,405 64%	6,702 33%	27,078 51%
NIA	974 11%	1,006 9%	1,288 11%	1,454 7%	4,722 9%
BMBF				2,235 11%	2,235 4%
MS	2,332 26%	3,381 29%	2,944 25%	10,003 49%	18,660 35%
Countries:	11	15	15	20	20
Respondents:	32,000	38,000	28,000	62,000	160,000
Total	8,981	11,682	11,638	20,394	52,694
Cost/Resp.	281	307	416	329	329



Altogether, in 4 waves and over 10 years, SHARE has spent about €52 mio and has conducted 160,000 interviews with about 80,000 respondents in 20 countries, most of them in two or more waves. Costs per respondent in wave 4 and on average across all waves were about €330. This includes the interview as well as the scientific personnel to design the survey, to put the data in a user-friendly data base, and to train interviewers as well as users.

The Commission has carried slightly more than half of these costs, member states about a third, and US NIA almost 10%. The increases from wave 1 to 2 and wave 3 to 4 were due to larger samples and more countries, while the increase between wave 2 and 3 was due to the complex and expensive questionnaire design necessary to obtain structured descriptions of 28,000 life histories, a few of them with lives close to 100 years long.

2) SHARE-ERIC finances 2011/2012

The SHARE-ERIC budget has three kinds of accounts:

- (a) Money received from grants (by the EU, NIA and other such sources) and spent on central services (such as software development, statistical services (weights, imputation) and subsidies to countries). The account is called "SHARE-ERIC central services".
- (b) Money received from a member country and spent on survey operations in that same country. Each country has a separate account named by that country.
- (c) Interest income and administrative costs (banking charges etc.). The account is called "SHARE-ERIC administration".

As of 16 August 2012 (i.e. partly into the new budget year), SHARE-ERIC has an overall balance of €783,371.08. This is mainly due to payments from AT, CZ, IT, PL, and NL, which have not yet been paid out to the respective survey agencies, and a payment of €175,805.00 from Mannheim University mainly for contributions to activities in the countries already committed. The central SHARE-ERIC budget is essentially even with a balance of €998.91 (central services: €2,793.50, and administration: €-1,794.59).

3) SHARE-ERIC budget planned for 2012/2013

The 2012/2013 budget will have the same structure with the same three account types:

(a) SHARE-ERIC central services: We are still waiting for more than €1mio in remaining EU and NIA grant money still resting in Mannheim. These funds are dedicated mainly for contributions to activities in the countries already committed. Since the contractor for software development (CentERdata) is a partner in the FP7 project "SHARE-M4", software development services will be paid in 2012 directly from that FP7 project. We also intend to directly hire researchers to perform the necessary statistical services (gross sample construction, weight calculation, and imputations) at partner institutions of the the FP7 project "SHARE-M4". Thus, no corresponding budget item in the SHARE-ERIC is needed.

(b) Expenditures for survey operations in each country are mostly contracted. This part of the budget process is decentral in accordance with the structure of the SHARE-ERIC and final decisions have been made in the ERIC countries. Based on the contracts, survey costs of wave 5 for the six SHARE-ERIC countries will be approximately € 6.1 million. The bigger part of this will be due in 2013 since the main survey starts in January 2013 and will last at least until September 2013. Some countries pay part of their survey costs directly and not via the ERIC. Thus, survey expenditures that will be accounted in SHARE-ERIC in 2012/2013 are estimated to be about €3.5 million:

- AT: € 750,000, covered by payments from two ministries.
- BE: No transactions via ERIC are planned.
- CZ: € 194,000, covered by payments from the ministry.
- DE: €1,569,500, covered by a grant from BMBF.
- IT: € 600,000, covered by payments partially already received.
- NL: € 720,000, covered by payments from the ministry and NWO.

(c) The overall balance of the two central accounts is expected to be essentially even.

*“SHARE has become a world-class example
of a research infrastructure.”*

Daniel McFadden, Nobel Laureate



Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research



SIXTH FRAMEWORK
PROGRAMME



SEVENTH FRAMEWORK
PROGRAMME

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