HEALTH AND RETIREMENT STUDY
2006 Exit
Early, Version 1.0
October 2007

Data Description and Usage

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Data Description and Usage

1. Overview

The 2006 HRS Exit (Early, Version 1.0) data release consists of data obtained as part of the Health and Retirement Study (HRS), a national longitudinal study of the economic, health, marital, and family status, as well as public and private support systems, of older Americans. The National Institute on Aging provided funding (NIH U01 AGO9740), with supplemental support from the Social Security Administration. The Institute for Social Research (ISR) Survey Research Center (SRC) at the University of Michigan conducted the survey.

The current release of the 2006 Exit (Early Version 1.0) has 1,310 respondents. An Exit Interview is attempted with a “proxy informant” for panel members who have died. To the greatest extent possible, proxy informants are knowledgeable about the health, family, and financial situation of the deceased (often the proxy is a widow, widower, or some other family member). The content of the 2006 Exit interview is similar to the 2006 core (or living) interview. As such, the 2006 Exit data are amenable to answering researchers’ questions concerning medical care, expenditures, how assets are distributed following death, and family decision-making during the latter part of life.

The 2006 HRS Exit (Early, Version 1.0) is an “early” public release. HRS early data releases are provided for users who wish to begin analyzing data prior to a final public release being available. Early release files have a minimum of data cleaning, and errors may be present in the data files and/or the associated codebooks. However, notable improvements have been made to the 2006 HRS Exit Early release including converting index numbers to person numbers for household members, children, siblings, and helpers (OPNs). Also, the Early release data files have been structured in a format consistent with Final release datasets.

By receiving the data, which have been freely provided, you agree to use them for research and statistical purposes only, and to make no effort to identify the respondents. In addition, you agree to send us a copy of any publications you produce based on the data. See Obtaining the Data for additional details.

1a. The Sample Interviewed in 2006

The data collection period for the 2006 Exit interview was March 2006 through February 2007. The HRS sample is comprised of five sub-samples.

The first sub-sample, the HRS sub-sample, consists of people who were born 1931 through 1941 and were household residents of the conterminous U.S. in the spring of 1992, and their spouses or partners at the time of the initial interview in 1992 or at the time of any subsequent interview. The HRS sub-sample was interviewed in 1992 and every two years thereafter.

The AHEAD sub-sample consists of people who were born in 1923 or earlier, were household residents of the conterminous U.S. in the spring of 1992, and were still household residents at the time of their first interview in 1993 or 1994, and their spouses or partners at the time of the initial interview or at the time of any subsequent interview. The AHEAD sub-sample was interviewed in 1993-94, 1995-96, 1998 and every two years thereafter.

The War Baby (WB) sub-sample consists of people who were born in 1942 through 1947, were household residents of the conterminous U.S. in the spring of 1992, who, at that time, did not have a spouse or partner born before 1924 or between 1931 and 1941, and were still household residents at the time of the first interview in 1998, and their spouses or partners at the time of the initial interview or at the time of any subsequent interview. The War Baby sub-sample was interviewed in 1998 and every two years thereafter.

The Children of the Depression (CODA) sub-sample consists of people who were born in 1924 through 1930, were household residents of the conterminous U.S. when first interviewed in 1998, and who, at that time, did not have a spouse or partner who was born before 1924 or between 1931 and 1947, and their spouses or partners at the time of the initial interview or at the time of any subsequent interview. The Children of the Depression sub-sample was interviewed in 1998 and every two years thereafter.

The Early Baby Boomer (EBB) cohort consists of people born in 1948 through 1953. The sample selection criteria for the EBB cohort was consistent with the sampling strategy in previous waves of the HRS. Households containing at least one person born between 1948 and 1953 who was either single or whose spouse/partner was born in 1948 or later were designated for the EBB sample. This restriction on spouse/partner's year of birth was made because individuals married to or partnered with someone born prior to 1948 are already represented in the HRS. Only one individual, plus his/her spouse or partner, was selected per household. Consistent with the original HRS sample design, the 2004 screening for the EBB cohort was designed to produce a 2:1 oversample of Black and Hispanic respondents in the EBB cohort.

Original sample members are those selected as described above and their spouses or partners at the time of the initial interview in 1992 (HRS), 1993 (AHEAD), 1998 (CODA or WB) or 2004 (EBB). Cases from the HRS, AHEAD, CODA, WB and EBB are present in the HRS 2006 Exit Data. For more details about the sample, see our Web site.

1b. 2006 Questionnaire Sections

The content of the 2006 Exit data collection instrument is roughly equivalent to the content of the HRS 2004 Exit instrument.

2006 Section	Content
PR	Preload
A	Coverscreen
B	Demographics
C	Physical Health
D	Cognition
E	Family Structure and Transfers
G	Functional Limitations and Helpers
J	Employment
N	Health Services and Insurance
T	Wills and Life Insurance
IO	Interviewer Observations
Y	Time Calculations

1c. Levels of Files

In the 2006 Exit Questionnaire, most questions were asked of all respondents.

In addition to the respondent-level files, the 2006 HRS Exit (Early, Version 1.0), contains files at four other levels: household-member-and-child, helper, transfer-to-child, and transfer-from-child.

1c1. Respondent Level Files

Respondent-level files contain questions that were asked of all proxy respondents about the deceased respondent. The files contain one record for each exit proxy who gave an interview in 2006 Exit interview.

1c2. Household Member and Child Level Files

These files contain characteristics about household members, children, and siblings. The information comes from the PR_MC file, and contains one record for each household member, child, or sibling.

1c3. Helper Level File

This file contains information provided by each exit proxy about the deceased respondent's helpers. A helper may be a person or organization that was reported by the proxy as providing help with ADLs or IADLs in Section G of the 2006 Exit questionnaire. The helper file contains one record for each helper.

1c4. Transfer-to-Child-Level File

This file contains information provided by the exit proxy about transfers of money to a child or grandchild. The file contains one record for each transfer to a child or grandchild. Transfers to children are discussed in Section E of the 2006 instrument.

1c5. Transfer-from-Child-Level-File

This file contains information provided by the exit proxy about transfers of money from children or grandchildren. The file contains one record for each transfer from a child or grandchild. Transfers from children are discussed in Section E of the 2006 instrument.

2a. File Naming Conventions

Files are named beginning with "X06" for HRS 2006 Exit, followed by a letter (or two) designating the questionnaire section. A separator, "_", and then one or two letters designating the level follow the section letter designator.

R for respondent-level
MC for household-member-and-child-level
HP for helper-level
TC for transfer-to-child-level
FC for transfer-from-child-level

For example, the file X06A_R includes variables from section A (coverscreen) at the respondent level. And file X06E_TC includes variables from section E at the monetary transfer level.

The following extensions are used for the six different types of files that are distributed.

.da for data files,

.sas for SAS program statements,
.sps for SPSS program statements,
.do for STATA DO statements,
.dct for STATA dictionary statements, and
.txt for codebook files.

One of each of these file types is provided for each of the 16 data files for the 2006 HRS Exit (Early, Version 1.0) data release. For example,

X06A_R.da contains respondent data from section A,
X06A_R.sas contains corresponding SAS program statements,
X06A_R.sps contains corresponding SPSS program statements,
X06A_R.do contains corresponding STATA DO statements,
X06A_R.dct contains corresponding STATA dictionary statements, and
X06A_R.txt contains the ASCII codebook.

2b. Data Files

The 2006 HRS Exit (Early, Version 1.0) data are distributed in 16 data files. The files are listed below along with the number of cases (N), number of variables (NV), and the primary identifiers (IDS). The records in the data files are sorted in order by these primary identifiers.

The 2006 HRS Exit data are provided in ASCII format, with fixed-length records. Use associated SAS, SPSS, or STATA program statements to read the data into the analysis package of your choice.

Respondent level files, PRIMARY IDS = HHID PN

X06PR_R	N=1,310	NV=98
X06A_R	N=1,310	NV=96
X06B_R	N=1,310	NV=91
X06C_R	N=1,310	NV=65
X06D_R	N=1,310	NV=61
X06E_R	N=1,310	NV=36
X06G_R	N=1,310	NV=107
X06J_R	N=1,310	NV=189
X06N_R	N=1,310	NV=242
X06T_R	N=1,310	NV=463
X06IO_R	N=1,310	NV=132
X06Y_R	N=1,310	NV=17

Household member and child level files PRIMARY IDS = HHID USUBHH OPN

X06PR_MC	N=7,784	NV=21

Transfer-to-child-level-file PRIMARY IDS = HHID USUBHH

X06E_TC	N=431	NV=15

Transfer-from-child-level-file PRIMARY IDS = HHID USUBHH

X06E_FC	N=165	NV=16

Helper-level-file PRIMARY IDS = HHID PN OPN

X06G_HP	N=2,707	NV=27

2c. Identification Variables

Identification variables for HRS 2006 Early Exit (Version 1.0) are stored in character format.

2d. Primary Identification Variables

Several variables, HHID, USUBHH, PN, and OPN are used in various combinations to uniquely identify records in the five different level datasets that comprise this data release.

2d1. HHID – Household Identifier

HHID is stable across waves of data collection, and uniquely identifies the original household and any households derived from that household in subsequent waves of data collection. HHID has six digits.

2d2. USUBHH – 2006 Sub-household Identifier

In combination with HHID, USUBHH uniquely identifies a household at the time of the 2006 data collection. Sub-household identifiers can be different at each wave due to dissolution or reconstitution of a household (e.g. divorce, separation, marriage, or death). USUBHH has one digit. In the 2006 Exit data, USUBHH will be either 3 or 4. For more information, see Examples of Sub-Household and Respondent Person Number and Other Person Number Assignments.

2d3. PN – Person Number

In combination with HHID, PN uniquely identifies a respondent. PNs are unique within an original household (HHID). The PN assigned to a particular respondent does not change across waves. PN has three digits.

2d4. OPN – Other Person Number.

In the 2006 data collection HHID, USUBHH, and OPN uniquely identify another person in the household member and child files; HHID, PN, and OPN uniquely identify another person in the helper files. OPN has three digits.

3a. Primary Identification Variables for Datasets at Each of the Five Levels

Two identifiers uniquely identify records in the
- respondent-level datasets:

1) HHID HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFIER
2) PN PERSON NUMBER

Three identifiers uniquely identify records in the
- helper-level datasets:

1) HHID HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFIER
2) PN PERSON NUMBER
3) OPN OTHER PERSON NUMBER

Three identifiers uniquely identify records in the
- household-member-and-child-level:

1) HHID HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFIER
2) USUBHH 2006 SUB-HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFIER
3) OPN OTHER PERSON NUMBER

Three identifiers uniquely identify records in the
- transfer-to-child-level,
- transfer-from-child-level

1) HHID HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFIER
2) USUBHH 2006 SUB-HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFIER
3) OPN OTHER PERSON NUMBER

3b. Secondary Identification Variables

Secondary identification variables include JSUBHH and UPN_SP. The secondary identification variables can be used to link the 2006 Exit data with core data from previous waves, or to link a deceased respondent with data from their surviving spouse or partner.

Secondary Identification Variables for
- respondent-level and
- helper-level datasets:

JSUBHH 2004 SUB-HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFIER
UPN_SP 2006 SPOUSE/PARTNER PERSON NUMBER

Secondary Identification Variables for
- household member or child level,
- transfer-from-child-level,
- transfer-to-child-level

JSUBHH 2004 SUB-HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFIER

2. Distribution Files and Directory Structure

2a. Distribution Files

The files are packaged for download from our Web site in two different ways – as one large .zip file that contains six smaller .zip files and one .pdf file, or the seven smaller files available individually for separate download. The combined file is X06exit.zip.

The individual files for separate download are:

Data file
X06da.zip containing data files.

Program statement files
X06sas.zip containing SAS data descriptors.
X06sps.zip containing SPSS data descriptors.
X06sta.zip containing STATA data descriptors.

Documentation files
X06cb.zip containing the codebook.
h06qn.zip containing the questionnaire.
X06dd.pdf - this document.

2b. Directory Structure

While a particular setup is not required for using the 2006 HRS Early Exit files, if the following directory structure is used, then no changes to the path name in the data descriptor files are necessary. If you use a different structure, change the directory references in the distribution files.

Directory	Contents
c:\x2006\	Files downloaded from Web site
c:\x2006\codebook	Unzipped files from x06cb.zip
c:\x2006\data	Unzipped files from x06da.zip
c:\x2006\qnaire	Unzipped files from h06qn.zip
c:\x2006\sas	Unzipped files from x06sas.zip
c:\x2006\spss	Unzipped files from x06sps.zip
c:\x2006\stata	Unzipped files from x06sta.zip

Decompress the selected .zip files into the appropriate subdirectories. You will need about 4.0 MB of free space on your storage device to store the 16 .da files.

2c. Program Statements

Each data file comes with associated SPSS, SAS, or STATA program statements to read the data. Files containing SPSS statements are named with a .sps extension, those with SAS statements with a .sas extension, and those with STATA statements with .do and .dct extensions.

The statement files are named beginning with the same prefix as the corresponding data file. For example, SAS statements in the file X06A_R.sas go with the X06A_R.da data file.

2d. Using the Files with SAS

To create a SAS system file for a particular dataset, two file types must be present for that dataset -- .sas program statement files and .da data files.

To create a SAS system file, load the *.sas file into the SAS Program Editor.

If the *.sas file is located in "c:\x2006\sas" and the data file is located in "c:\x2006\data", you can run the file as is. A SAS system file (*.sas7bdat) will be saved to directory "c:\x2006\sas".

If the files are not located in the specified directories, you will need to edit the *.sas file to reflect the proper path names prior to running the file.

2e. Using the Files with SPSS

To create an SPSS system file for a particular dataset, two file types must be present for that dataset -- .sps program statement files and .da data files.

To create an SPSS system file, open the *.sps file in SPSS as an SPSS Syntax File.

If the *.sps file is located in "c:\x2006\spss" and the data file is located in "c:\x2006\data", you can run the file as is. An SPSS system file (*.sav) will be saved to directory "c:\x2006\spss".

If the files are not located in the specified directories, you will need to edit the *.sps file to reflect the proper path names prior to running the file.

2f. Using the Files with STATA

To use STATA with a particular dataset, the following three file types must be present for that dataset -- .dct files, .do files, and .da data files.

Files with the suffix .da contain the raw data for STATA to read. Files with the suffix .dct are STATA dictionaries used by STATA to describe the data. Files with the suffix .do are short STATA programs ("do files") which you may use to read in the data. Load the .do file into STATA and then submit it.

If the *.do and *.dct files are located in "c:\x2006\stata" and the data file is located in "c:\x2006\data", you can run the .do file as is.

If the files are not located in these directories, you must edit the *.do and *.dct files to reflect the proper path names before you run the files.

Note that the variable names provided in the .dct files are uppercase. If you prefer lower case variable names, you may wish to convert the .dct files to lower case prior to use. You may do this by reading the .dct file into a text or word processing program and changing the case. For instance, in Microsoft Word, Edit, Select All, Format, Change Case, lowercase.

3. Documentation

There are several types of documentation available for use with the 2006 HRS Exit (Early, Version 1.0) data release. These include a codebook, the 2006 box-and-arrow questionnaire, and data description.

3a. Codebook

The HRS 2006 Exit Codebook is provided as a series of 16 ASCII text files, as well as a file containing all sections. There is a codebook file corresponding to each data file, and a complete codebook that includes all sections. Each variable has its own codebook entry.

3a1. Variable Names

Variable names begin with a letter designating the wave of data collection (U for 2006 Exit), followed by the section letter, and numbers after the section letter. For example, UC030 where U=2006, C=section C (physical health), 030 variable number. Variables from the preload section of the instrument will have either UX or UZ as prefix letters. The X indicates a variable that is updated by data collected in later sections of the questionnaire, whereas the Z indicates preloaded data that were not changed by subsequent answers to questions. For example:

UX007 RESP FAM/FIN TYPE – UPDATED
UZ007 PREV WAVE R FIN/FAM TYPE

UX065_R COUPLENESS STATUS R– UPDATED
UZ066_R COUPLENESS STATUS R

Multiple-response and Looped Variables
There are two types of variables with multiple mention indicators. First are simple multiple mentions, and second are multiple mentions within loops.

Simple multiple mention variables take the form: (wave prefix)+ (section letter) + (variable number) + (mention number). For example, UC021M1 through UC021M6 are 2006 variables from section C with one through six mentions.

Simple loop variables (without a multiple mention) have an underscore (_) in their name and a suffix that designates the loop, e.g., UN025_1.

For variables that have a “W” right after the section designator, the variable names are slightly different. Variable names for multiple mentions to questions within a W-loop take the form: (wave prefix) + (section letter) + (“W”) + (variable number) + (letter designating loop iteration) + (mention number). For example, UJW044a1 is a 2006 variable from section J, variable number 044 in the first iteration of the loop, and the first mention. Other non-multiple mention variables within this type of loop are named with the letter designating the loop iteration. For example, UJW001a is variable number 001 in the first iteration of the loop.

Null multiple mention variables and variables from null loops beyond the first mention or first loop are not included in the data. It is generally the case that one null multiple mention and one null loop were retained.

3a2. Masked Variables

To protect the confidentiality of the information that respondents provide, a number of variables have been masked, or are simply not included in the 2006 Exit Early (Version 1.0) public dataset. Some of these variables may be made available to analysts as restricted data. See our Web site for details.

Names, addresses, days of birth, information on geographical relocation, and similar variables are not included in publicly released files.

Geographical locations are recoded to a level no more detailed than U.S. Census Region and Division. Data on the highest educational degree earned have been further grouped together to increase cell sizes.

The names of variables that were masked for confidentiality end in the letter "M"; for example, variable UX046M (1ST ADDRESS STATE – MASKED) and variable UA126M (REGION FACILITY LOCATED - MASKED).

6A1c. Other Specify Questions, Comments, and Open Ends

“Other Specify” and “Open End”, or questions that are answered with text, are not included in Early releases. These variables will be coded and included in the Final release of the 2006 HRS Exit data. Similarly, the Early release data do not include comments made by respondents in the course of the interview. For the Final release, HRS staff reviews these comments for selected questions, and the coded answer is changed if it is determined that the comment changed the substance of the recorded answer.

3b. Other Types of Documentation

In addition to this document and the codebook, two additional types of documentation are available.

3b1. 2000 HRS Final Release Data Description

The 2000 HRS Final Release Data Description document contains useful file merge examples and additional information about HRS data files in general.

3b2. Box and Arrow Questionnaire

The research community has referred to the type of documentation that describes the questions asked in the interview as a “questionnaire”. Since the 2006 HRS Exit data were collected using a CAI program, a traditional hard-copy questionnaire was not produced as part of the data collection phase. However, we have provided a version of the traditional box-and-arrow questionnaire to help document the asking sequence of the questions.

4. Additional Notes

Found here are miscellaneous additional notes regarding HRS 2006 Exit Early Data Release (Version 1.0). If we become aware of additional issues, they will be posted on our Web site in the Data Alerts section.

4a. Unfolding Bracket Variables and Imputations

Typically, a series of unfolding bracket questions followed a lead-in question asking for an amount. If an actual amount was not given, a series of “unfolding” questions were asked. The manner in which the unfolding questions were programmed (Blaise) is different for the 2002 through 2006 data compared to the CAI (SurveyCraft) software used for 1993 through 2000. This change was transparent to the respondents, since exactly the same questions were asked with the new software as would have been asked with the old software; but it did have an implication for the data that were actually stored and also for the data that are released.

Instead of storing the response to each unfolding question, three summary variables were generated: the minimum and maximum values for the amount, given the answers to the unfolding questions. If the respondent said “more than” to the unfolding question with the highest value, then the maximum value was stored as ten times that value. If the last answer a respondent gave in an unfolding sequence was either “Don’t Know” or “Refused,” that is stored in the result variable.

For most analysts, those three variables (and in particular, the minimum and maximum of the possible range) will be sufficient for analyses. For any analyst who needs the more detailed information, it should be noted that the three variables, combined with the information about the unfolding questions provided in the box-and-arrow and codebook, are sufficient to allow the analyst to reconstruct the sequence of questions asked of any respondent, and the answers to each of those questions in many of the unfolding sequences.

For other sequences -- those in which respondents were randomly assigned to one of three "entry" points for the first unfolding question -- the analyst will also need to take into account a fourth variable (located in the preload sections) that specifies the entry point for each respondent. The following example shows the preload variable (UX511) and the unfolding sequence that uses the random entry point from UX511.

Example Random Entry Assignment Variable from Preload:

Preload Variable from the data file X06pr_r:

- -

UX511 PREASSIGNED RANDOM VALUE -11
Section: PR   Level: Respondent   Type: Numeric   Width: 1   Decimals: 0
CAI: RTab[1].X511_1Random1_3

PREASSIGNED RANDOM VALUE

418	1. RANDOM ASSIGNMENT 1
449	2. RANDOM ASSIGNMENT 2
442	3. RANDOM ASSIGNMENT 3
1	Blank. INAP Inapplicable)

Unfolding Series from section E that uses UX511 to assign respondents an entry point:

UE083   TRANSFER TO CHILD – MIN
Section: E   Level: ToChild   Type: Numeric   Width: 7   Decimals: 0
CAI: SecE.KidTransMain.TransToKid[1].E083_

E083-E085 Unfolding Sequence
Question text: Did it amount to a total of less than $____ , more than $____ , or what?
PROCEDURES: 1Up1Down, 2Up, 2Down
BREAKPOINTS: $1,000, $5,000, $20,000
RANDOM ENTRY POINT ASSIGNMENT [1 ($5,000)] or [2 ($1,000)] or [{NOT 1 and NOT 2} ($20,000)] AT X511

31	0. Value of Breakpoint
6	1000. Value of Breakpoint
21	1001. Value of Breakpoint
6	5000. Value of Breakpoint
11	5001. Value of Breakpoint
1	20000. Value of Breakpoint
10	20001. Value of Breakpoint
345	Blank. INAP (Inapplicable)

UE084   TRANSFER TO CHILD - MAX
Section: E   Level: ToChild   Type: Numeric   Width: 10 Decimals: 0
CAI: SecE.KidTransMain.TransToKid[1].E084_

E083-E085 Unfolding Sequence
Question text: Did it amount to a total of less than $____ , more than $____, or what?

PROCEDURES: 1Up1Down, 2Up, 2Down
BREAKPOINTS: $1,000, $5,000, $20,000
RANDOM ENTRY POINT ASSIGNMENT [1 ($5,000)] or [2 ($1,000)]
or [{NOT 1 and NOT 2} ($20,000)] AT X511

12	999. Value of Breakpoint
6	1000. Value of Breakpoint
22	4999. Value of Breakpoint
6	5000. Value of Breakpoint

```
           14       19999. Value of Breakpoint
            1       20000. Value of Breakpoint
           25    99999996. Greater than Maximum Breakpoint
          345       Blank. INAP (Inapplicable)

================================================================================
UE085           TRANSFER TO CHILD - RESULT
Section: E     Level: ToChild         Type: Numeric    Width: 2   Decimals: 0
CAI: SecE.KidTransMain.TransToKid[1].E085_

................................................................................
           16          98. DK (Don't Know)
            5          99. RF (Refused)
          410       Blank. INAP (Inapplicable)
```

4B. Summary of Data Model (DM) Changes during 2006 Production

A summary variable called UVDATE appears on all of the data files except interviewer observations. Section IO is a stand alone data collection instrument that is not integrated with the main data collection program. The variable UVDATE indicates which version of the data model was used to collect data from a given proxy respondent. The different data model versions resulted in modest changes to the data correction instrument, and are summarized below:

Data Model Version 2

Section T:

UT227 - The 'other, specify' question (T244S) is programmed to be asked if 97 is selected in UT221, but instead it should be asked if 97 is selected in UT227.

4C. Section-specific Data Issues

Section T:

Due to a progamming issue, those proxies who responded "Yes" at UT184 or only have one child were not asked follow-up amount questions. However, those who responded "No" at UT184 went through the UT9082 sequence as well as the UT9100 loop.

5. Obtaining the Data

5a. Registration and Downloading the Data

HRS data are available for free to researchers and analysts at the HRS Web site. In order to obtain public release data, you must first register at our Web site. Once you have completed the registration process, your username and password will be sent to you via e-mail. Your username and password are required to download any data files.

By registering all users, we are able to document for our sponsors the size and diversity of our user community, allowing us to continue to collect these important data. Registered users receive user support, and information related to errors in the data, future releases, workshops, and publication lists. The

information you provide will not be used for any commercial use, and will not be redistributed to third parties.

5b. Conditions of Use

By registering, you agree to the Conditions of Use governing access to Health and Retirement public release data. You must agree to

- not attempt to identify respondents
- not transfer data to third parties except as specified
- not share your username and password
- include specified citations in work based on HRS data
- provide information to us about publications based on HRS data
- report apparent errors in the HRS data or documentation files
- notify us of changes in your contact information

For more information concerning privacy issues and conditions of use, please read “Conditions of Use for Public Data Files” and “Privacy and Security Notice” at the Public File Download Area of the HRS Web site.

5c. Publications Based on Data

As part of the data registration process, you agree to include specified citations, and to inform HRS of any papers, publications, or presentations based on HRS data. Please send a copy of any publications you produce based on HRS data, with a bibliographical reference, if appropriate, to the address below.

Health and Retirement Study
Attn: Papers and Publications
The Institute for Social Research, Room 3050
P.O. Box 1248
Ann Arbor, MI (USA) 48106-1248

Alternately, you may contact us by e-mail at hrsquest@isr.umich.edu with “Attn: Papers and Publications” in the subject line.

5d. If You Need to Know More

This document is intended to serve as a brief overview, and to provide guidelines to using the 2006 HRS Exit (Early, Version 1.0) data. 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.

5d1. HRS Internet Site

Health and Retirement Study public release data and additional information about the study are available on the Internet. To access the data and other relevant information, point your Web browser to the HRS Web site. Our new, as of 9/1/2002, URL is:

http://hrsonline.isr.umich.edu/

5d2. Contact Information

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

Internet: Help Desk at our Web site

E-mail: hrsquest@isr.umich.edu

Postal service:
Health and Retirement Study
The Institute for Social Research, Room 3050
The University of Michigan
P.O. Box 1248
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248

FAX: (734) 647-1186

Appendix

6. Examples of Sub-Household and Respondent Person Number and Other Person Number Assignments

In the first year of data collection, all households, consisting of either a single respondent or of two married or partnered respondents, were assigned a SUBHH of 0.

In subsequent waves, a SUBHH of 0 indicates that the original household has not split due to divorce or separation of spouses or partners, although one member of a couple may have died, or a single respondent may have become married or partnered.

A value of 1 or 2 indicates a household in which the original couple split, divorced, or separated. One of the original couple is assigned a SUBHH of 1; the other is assigned a SUBHH of 2.

A value of 5 or 6 indicates a previously split household split a second time. One of the couple from a SUBHH 1 or 2 retains a SUBHH of 1 or 2; the other is assigned a SUBHH 5 or 6.

A value of 7 indicates respondents from split household reunited[1].

It is important to understand these assignments when you merge records from different waves of the study.

6a. Married Couple Stays Married.

Two respondents in a sample household are married at the time of the first cross-section. Each respondent is assigned a HHID of 012345 and a SUBHH of 0. One respondent has a PN of 010, the other a PN of 020.

At the time of the second cross-section the two respondents are still married, and each retains their HHID of 012345 and their SUBHH of 0 and his and her PN of 010 and 020, respectively.

```
Time 1
Household records
      HHID=012345 ASUBHH=0
Respondent records
      HHID=012345 PN=010 ASUBHH=0
      HHID=012345 PN=020 ASUBHH=0

Time 2
Household records
      HHID=012345 CSUBHH=0
Respondent records
      HHID=012345 PN=010 CSUBHH=0
      HHID=012345 PN=020 CSUBHH=0
```

6b. Couple Divorces.

Two respondents in a sample household are married at the time of the first cross-section. Each respondent is assigned a HHID of 023456 and a SUBHH of 0. One respondent has a PN of 010, the other a PN of 020.

By the time of the second cross-section, the couple has divorced. Both respondents retain the HHID of 023456, but one is assigned a SUBHH of 1, and the other is assigned a SUBHH of 2. Each original respondent retains his and her PN of 010 and 020, respectively.

```
Time 1
Household records
      HHID=023456 ASUBHH=0
Respondent records
      HHID=023456 PN=010 ASUBHH=0
      HHID=023456 PN=020 ASUBHH=0

Time 2
Household records
      HHID=023456 CSUBHH=1
      HHID=023456 CSUBHH=2
Respondent records
      HHID=023456 PN=010 CSUBHH=1
      HHID=023456 PN=020 CSUBHH=2
```

6c. One or Both Respondents Die.

Two respondents in a sample household are married at the time of the first cross-section. Each respondent is assigned a HHID of 034567 and a SUBHH of 0. One respondent has a PN of 010, the other a PN of 020.

One respondent dies before the next wave. At the next wave, both respondents retain their HHID of 034567. The living respondent retains her SUBHH of 0; the deceased respondent is assigned a SUBHH of 3. (If both respondents die, one would be assigned a SUBHH of 3, and the other would be assigned a SUBHH of 4.) Each original respondent retains his and her PN of 010 and 020, respectively.

```
Time 1
Household records
      HHID=034567 ASUBHH=0
Respondent records
      HHID=034567 PN=010 ASUBHH=0
      HHID=034567 PN=020 ASUBHH=0

Time 2
Household records
      HHID=034567 CSUBHH=0
      HHID=034567 CSUBHH=3 (in exit interview)
Respondent records
      HHID=034567 PN=010 CSUBHH=3 (in exit interview)
      HHID=034567 PN=020 CSUBHH=0

Both Respondents Die in same wave:
Household records
      HHID=034567 CSUBHH=3 (in exit interview, first respondent in household to
                            die assigned 3)
```

HHID=034567 CSUBHH=4 (in exit interview, second respondent in household to die assigned 4)

6d. Single Respondent Marries.

A respondent who has never been married is in the first cross-section. The respondent is assigned a HHID of 045678 and a SUBHH of 0 and a PN of 010.

At the time of the second cross-section, the respondent has married. Both the respondent and her new spouse are assigned a HHID of 045678 and a SUBHH of 0 because the household was not divided. The original respondent retains her PN of 010. Her new spouse is assigned PN of 011.

Time 1
Household records
HHID=045678 ASUBHH=0
Respondent records
HHID=045678 PN=010 ASUBHH=0

Time 2
Household records
HHID=045678 CSUBHH=0
Respondent records
HHID=045678 PN=010 CSUBHH=0
HHID=045678 PN=011 CSUBHH=0

6e. Couple Divorces, One Respondent Remarries and Divorces.

Two respondents in a sample household are married at the time of the first cross-section. Each respondent is assigned a HHID of 056789 and a SUBHH of 0. One respondent has a PN of 010, the other a PN of 020.

By the time of the second cross-section, the couple has divorced, and he has remarried. Both original respondents retain the HHID of 056789, but she is assigned a SUBHH of 1, and he is assigned a SUBHH of 2. His new spouse is also assigned the HHID of 056789 and the SUBHH of 2. Each original respondent retains his and her PN of 010 and 020, respectively. His new spouse is assigned PN of 011.

By the time of the third cross-section, that new couple has gotten divorced. All respondents retain the HHID of 056789. The original sample member ex-wife has the SUBHH of 1. The original sample member ex-husband has a SUBHH of 2, and the non-original sample member, his second ex-wife, is assigned the SUBHH of 5. Each original respondent retains his and her PN of 010 and 020, respectively. His second ex-wife retains her PN of 011.

Time 1
Household records
HHID=056789 ASUBHH=0
Respondent records
HHID=056789 PN=010 ASUBHH=0
HHID=056789 PN=020 ASUBHH=0

Time 2
Household records
HHID=056789 CSUBHH=1

```
      HHID=056789 CSUBHH=2
Respondent records
      HHID=056789 PN=010 CSUBHH=2
      HHID=056789 PN=011 CSUBHH=2
      HHID=056789 PN=020 CSUBHH=1

Time 3
Household records
      HHID=056789 FSUBHH=1
      HHID=056789 FSUBHH=2
      HHID=056789 FSUBHH=5
Respondent records
      HHID=056789 PN=010 FSUBHH=2
      HHID=056789 PN=011 FSUBHH=5
      HHID=056789 PN=020 FSUBHH=1
```

6f. Couple Divorces and Marries Again.

Two respondents in a sample household are married at the time of the first cross-section. Each respondent is assigned a HHID of 067890 and a SUBHH of 0. One respondent has a PN of 010, the other a PN of 020.

By the time of the second cross-section, the couple has divorced. Both respondents retain the HHID of 067890, but one is assigned a SUBHH of 1, and the other is assigned a SUBHH of 2. Each original respondent retains his and her PN of 010 and 020, respectively.

By the time of the third cross-section, the respondents have remarried each other. Both are assigned the HHID of 067890 and the SUBHH of 7. Each original respondent retains his and her PN of 010 and 020, respectively.

```
Time 1
Household records
      HHID=067890 ASUBHH=0
Respondent records
      HHID=067890 PN=010 ASUBHH=0
      HHID=067890 PN=020 ASUBHH=0

Time 2
Household records
      HHID=067890 CSUBHH=1
      HHID=067890 CSUBHH=2
Respondent records
      HHID=067890 PN=010 CSUBHH=1
      HHID=067890 PN=020 CSUBHH=2

Time 3
Household records
      HHID=067890 FSUBHH=7
Respondent records
      HHID=067890 PN=010 FSUBHH=7
      HHID=067890 PN=020 FSUBHH=7
```

6g. Married Couple with Children and Siblings.

At the time of the first cross-section, sample household with a HHID of 078901 contains two respondents assigned PNs of 010 and 020, respectively. Associated with the household are three children with OPNs of 101, 102, and 103, and two

siblings with OPNs of 051 and 052. All seven persons will keep those same PNs and OPNs across time. A friend who lives with the respondents is assigned an OPN of 080. The friend will keep her OPN of 080 across time only if she is a household member at each wave.

Time 1
Household records
HHID=078901 ASUBHH=0
Respondent records
HHID=078901 PN=010 ASUBHH=0
HHID=078901 PN=020 ASUBHH=0
Household member/child records
HHID=078901 ASUBHH=0 OPN=101 (child)
HHID=078901 ASUBHH=0 OPN=102 (child)
HHID=078901 ASUBHH=0 OPN=103 (child)
HHID=078901 ASUBHH=0 OPN=051 (sibling)
HHID=078901 ASUBHH=0 OPN=052 (sibling)
HHID=078901 ASUBHH=0 OPN=080 (friend)

6h. Couple with Children and Siblings Divorces.

At the time of the first cross-section, sample household with a HHID of 089012 contains two respondents assigned PNs of 010 and 020, respectively. Associated with the household are two children with OPNs of 101 and 102, and three siblings, her two brothers with OPNs of 051 and 052, and his sister with an OPN of 061. A friend who lives with the respondents is assigned an OPN of 080.

By the time of the second cross-section, the couple has divorced. Both respondents retain the HHID of 089012, but he is assigned a SUBHH of 2, and she is assigned a SUBHH of 1. Each original respondent retains his and her PN of 010 and 020, respectively.

The two children appear both in their father’s SUBHH 2 and also in their mother’s SUBHH 1 with their respective OPNs, 101, and 102. The three siblings appear in the SUBHH of their respective siblings and maintain their respective OPNs. The ex-wife’s brothers appear as part of her SUBHH 1 with their OPNs of 051 and 052, respectively. The ex-husband’s sister appears as part of his SUBHH 2 with her OPN of 061. The friend has moved out and does not appear in either household.

Time 1
Household records
HHID=089012 ASUBHH=0
Respondent records
HHID=089012 PN=010 ASUBHH=0
HHID=089012 PN=020 ASUBHH=0
Household member/child records
HHID=089012 ASUBHH=0 OPN=101 (child)
HHID=089012 ASUBHH=0 OPN=102 (child)
HHID=089012 ASUBHH=0 OPN=051 (her brother)
HHID=089012 ASUBHH=0 OPN=052 (her brother)
HHID=089012 ASUBHH=0 OPN=061 (his sister)
HHID=089012 ASUBHH=0 OPN=080 (friend)

Time 2
Household records
HHID=089012 CSUBHH=1

HHID=089012 CSUBHH=2
Respondent records
HHID=089012 PN=010 CSUBHH=2
HHID=089012 PN=020 CSUBHH=1
Household member/child records
HHID=089012 CSUBHH=1 OPN=101 (child)
HHID=089012 CSUBHH=1 OPN=102 (child)
HHID=089012 CSUBHH=1 OPN=051 (her brother)
HHID=089012 CSUBHH=1 OPN=052 (her brother)
HHID=089012 CSUBHH=2 OPN=101 (child)
HHID=089012 CSUBHH=2 OPN=102 (child)
HHID=089012 CSUBHH=2 OPN=061 (his sister)

6i. Couple Divorces, One Respondent Remarries, Both Split-off Households Have New Members.

Two respondents in a sample household are married at the time of the first cross-section. Each respondent is assigned a HHID of 090123 and a SUBHH of 0. One respondent has a PN of 010, the other a PN of 020.

By the time of the second cross-section, the couple has divorced. She has moved in with her mother. He has married a woman with two children. At the second cross-section, both original respondents retain the HHID of 090123, but he is assigned a SUBHH of 1, and she is assigned a SUBHH of 2. Each original respondent retains his and her PN of 010 and 020, respectively. His new spouse and new stepchildren are assigned the HHID of 090123 and the SUBHH of 1. His new spouse is assigned an PN of 011. His new stepchildren are assigned OPNs of 151 and 152. Her mother is assigned the HHID of 090123 and the SUBHH of 2 and an OPN of 151.

Time 1
Household records
HHID=090123 ASUBHH=0
Respondent records
HHID=090123 PN=010 ASUBHH=0
HHID=090123 PN=020 ASUBHH=0

Time 2
Household records
HHID=090123 CSUBHH=1
HHID=090123 CSUBHH=2
Respondent records
HHID=090123 PN=010 CSUBHH=1
HHID=090123 PN=011 CSUBHH=1 (new wife)
HHID=090123 PN=020 CSUBHH=2
Household member/child records
HHID=090123 CSUBHH=1 OPN=151 (his stepchild)
HHID=090123 CSUBHH=1 OPN=152 (his stepchild)
HHID=090123 CSUBHH=2 OPN=151 (her mom)