

Data Files Underlying the Tables
Pensions in the Health and Retirement Study

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The authors wish to make the data files underlying the tables in *Pensions in the Health and Retirement Study* available to all interested parties. The public files have been posted to the Health and Retirement Study Web site as Researcher Contributions and may be downloaded according to the terms of the HRS [Conditions of Use](#); the restricted files are available under special conditions (see below). With these data files, the authors hope to encourage the use of the HRS pension data in a wide variety of future studies. Their goal is make it easier for researchers to use the HRS pension data and to facilitate their use by policy makers, pension experts and financial advisors.

Eight waves of pension data from the HRS, covering fourteen years and three distinct cohorts, are analyzed in *Pensions in the Health and Retirement Study*. The data files are organized by chapter and include all constructed and original variables from the HRS used in creating the tables that appear in each chapter. A short label identifies each variable. To distinguish whether a data file is a respondent or a household level file, R is added to the name of each respondent-level file and HH is added to the name of each household level file. To identify restricted data files, “rstrct” is included in the file name. The data files are distributed in SAS, Stata, and SPSS formats.

Under the terms of the [Agreement for Use of Restricted Data from HRS](#), when restricted and public files are matched, the variables that result are also considered to be restricted and the files that contain them must be treated as restricted data. Since the tables in *Pensions in the Health and Retirement Study* are based on Social Security wealth values derived from SSA administrative data, and on respondent information derived from employer pension plan descriptions (pension plan type, early and normal retirement ages, benefits at those ages, benefits at the expected age of retirement, and retirement incentives), researchers must sign a restricted data agreement to obtain access to the files described in Table B of this document. For further details on how to apply for restricted data, visit the [Restricted Data Agreement Overview](#) page at the [HRS Web site](#).

Table A. Public Data Files

1	Chapter 1	Respondent Level	dataR_tableschap1
2	Chapter 3	Respondent Level	dataR_tableschap3
3	Chapter 4	Respondent Level	dataR_tableschap4
4	Chapter 5	Respondent Level	dataR_tableschap5
		Household Level	dataHH_tableschap5_92
			dataHH_tableschap5_98
			dataHH_tableschap5_04
5	Chapter 6	Respondent Level	dataR_tableschap6
6	Chapter 7	Respondent Level	dataR_tableschap7
7	Chapter 8	Respondent Level	dataR_tableschap8
8	Chapter 9	Respondent Level	dataR_tableschap9
		Household Level	dataHH_tableschap9_92
			dataHH_tableschap9_98
			dataHH_tableschap9_04
9	Chapter 10	Respondent Level	dataR_tableschap10
10	Chapter 11	Respondent Level	dataR_tableschap11
		Household Level	dataHH_tableschap11_92
			dataHH_tableschap11_94
			dataHH_tableschap11_96
			dataHH_tableschap11_98
			dataHH_tableschap11_00
			dataHH_tableschap11_02
			dataHH_tableschap11_04
dataHH_tableschap11_06			
11	Chapter 12	Household Level	dataHH_tableschap12_92
			dataHH_tableschap12_98
			dataHH_tableschap12_04
12	Chapter 13	Household Level	dataHH_tableschap13

Table B. Restricted Data Files:

1	Chapter 4	Respondent Level	dataR_RstrctTableschap4
2	Chapter 7	Respondent Level	dataR_RstrctTableschap7
3	Chapter 8	Respondent Level	dataR_RstrctTableschap8
4	Chapter 9	Respondent Level	dataR_RstrctTableschap9
		Household Level	dataHH_RstrctTableschap9_92
			dataHH_RstrctTableschap9_98
5	Chapter 10	Respondent Level	dataR_RstrctTableschap10
6	Chapter 12	Household Level	dataHH_RstrctTableschap12_92
			dataHH_RstrctTableschap12_98
			dataHH_RstrctTableschap12_04
7	Chapter 13	Household Level	dataHH_RstrctTableschap13