

RAND HRS 2018 Fat File

March 2023

1). Important Things to Note:

- a). The RAND HRS 2018 Fat File is based on HRS 2018 Core (Final V2.0, May 2022) data, and the HRS Tracker 2020 (Early V2.0, December 2022) file.
- b). The RAND HRS 2018 Fat File does not include the raw variables from the pension (PR_P) or jobs (PR_JB) preloads sections. The raw variables from the pension (J_P) section, however, are included in the Fat Files, and have been transposed to the Respondent level.
- c). In 2020, one Respondent married another HRS Respondent. HHIDPN=541986010, married HHIDPN=541110010. In this file, we changed HHIDPN=541986010 to be HHIDPN=541110020. We also updated HHID and PN to reflect this change. We set the sub-household ID (QSUBHH) for HHIDPN=541110020 to 1 until they marry in 2020, at which point we set it to 0, to match their spouse. This ensures they are recorded as a separate household until they marry in 2020.
- d). RAND HRS Fat File documentation can be found on the [RAND Center for the Study of Aging](#) website. Please note, however, that these documents are unlike traditional codebooks in the sense that they do not contain information about specific variables from the survey (e.g., frequencies, question text, etc.). For this, we recommend that users examine the [HRS Codebooks](#) and [HRS Questionnaires](#) for the key variables under study.

2). RAND HRS Data Distribution Files:

Distribution File Name	Included Files	Description
h18f2b_SAS.zip	h18f2b.sas7bdat	Dataset (SAS)
	h18f2b.cont	Contents listing (SAS)
	hrs18.fmt	Formats (SAS)
h18f2b_SPSS.zip	h18f2b.sav	Dataset (SPSS)
h18f2b_STATA.zip	h18f2b.dta	Dataset (STATA SE)

NOTE: All of the ZIP packages in the above table include this file as well (README_fat18.pdf).