

RAND HRS 2010 Fat File

August 2025

1). Important Things to Note:

- a). The RAND HRS 2010 Fat File is based on HRS 2010 Core (Final V6.0, August 2021) data, and the Tracker 2010 (Final V1.0, April 2013) file.
- b). We have changed the ID for two new Overlap cases: HHIDPN=525520020 and 520845020. In 2004, two households were identified and selected to be in the HRS survey. Both households were two-person households containing a married couple. However, there was a lag between when the households were identified in 2004 and the first HRS interview, which took place in 2010. By 2010, these households had split and therefore, in the 2010 Core data, we had the following IDs: HHIDPN=526934010 split from HHIDPN=525520010 and HHIDPN=529766010 split from HHIDPN=520845010. By 2012, these couples had reunited, and in the 2012 Tracker file, their IDs changed from HHIDPN=526934010 to HHIDPN=525520020 and HHIDPN=529766010 to HHIDPN=520845020. In the RAND HRS and the 2010 Fat File, these Respondents are referenced by their 2012 IDs. The IDs they had in the 2010 Core data can be found in RAOHRSID. These Respondents can also be identified by RAOVRLAP=3.
- c). In 2018, HHIDPN=544849010 married HHIDPN=540162010. In this file we changed HHIDPN=906126010 to be HHIDPN=906543020 and updated HHID and PN to reflect this change. We set the sub-household ID (MSUBHH) to 1 until the marriage in 2018, at which point we set it to 0, to match their spouse. This ensures the Respondent is recorded as a separate household until they marry in 2018.
- d). The RAND HRS 2010 Fat File (V6B) corrects an issue for Respondent preload MZ089, as well as the Respondent data model MVDATE, which were being overwritten by household module variables. This is corrected and the household variable has been added and renamed as MX089 following the naming convention established in the HRS 2014 Core data.
- e). The Health and Retirement Study (HRS) is a longitudinal household survey conducted by the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan with funding from the National Institute on Aging (grant numbers NIA U01AG009740) and the Social Security Administration. The HRS is extraordinarily rich and complex, and its multidisciplinary data provide researchers the opportunity to investigate many different aspects related to population aging in the United States. With the goal of making the data more accessible to researchers, the RAND Center for the Study of Aging, with funding and support from the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the Social Security Administration (SSA), has created the RAND HRS data products. This document describes the RAND HRS 2020 Fat File.
- f). 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.
- g). For citation instructions, please see the [RAND HRS Citation Instructions webpage](#).

2). RAND HRS Data Distribution Files:

Distribution File Name	Included Files	Description
hd10f6b_SAS.zip	hd10f6b.sas7bdat	Dataset (SAS)
	hd10f6b.cont	Contents listing (SAS)
	hrs10.fmt	Formats (SAS)
hd10f6b_SPSS.zip	hd10f6b.sav	Dataset (SPSS)
hd10f6b_STATA.zip	hd10f6b.dta	Dataset (STATA SE)

NOTE: All of the ZIP packages in the above table include this file as well (README_fat10.pdf).