Life History Survey 2015

It is very important that the questions in this questionnaire be answered by the person to whom the questionnaire is addressed.

If the addressee is unable to complete the questionnaire alone:

It can be filled out by someone who knows this person well enough to answer the questions.

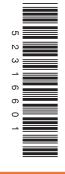
If neither the addressee nor another person is able to complete the questionnaire:

Please return the questionnaire, with a short note of explanation, in the enclosed prepaid envelope.

{First Name} – FPO 123456A (barcode)

PART 1 OF 2

LIFE HISTORY CALENDAR



About This Survey

This questionnaire is a new part of the Health and Retirement Study.

We would like to know more about some significant events in your life from the time you were born until age 50.

- Where have you lived?
- Where did you go to school?
- What was your childhood like?
- · When did important family and other life events occur?

Please take some time to think about your answers to these questions before you begin. This questionnaire is not meant to be a test of your memory. However, we would like you to try to be as accurate as possible. You may find it useful to consult your spouse, another family member, or some personal files, photos, or notes as you go through the two booklets.

We hope that you will find this survey interesting to complete. As always your answers are extremely important to us. Please remember that your participation is voluntary and that you may skip over any questions that you would prefer not to answer.

Please return your completed Life History Calendar and Life History Questionnaire in the pre-addressed postage paid envelope.

About the LIFE HISTORY CALENDAR

The left column of the calendar in this booklet lists all the years of your life from birth (0) to age 50.

The other columns are for you to write in important events (e.g., residential moves, marriage, birth of children) next to your age when these happened. Sometimes, instead of remembering an event by your age, it is easier to recall the year it happened. If you want to, you can write the year beside your age when important events happened.

You do not need to write something for every age or in every column, only for the ages when something significant happened in your life.

A completed Life History Calendar gives an overview of the order of important events in your life.

It might look a little like the example on the next page.



Conducted by: The Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan. Sponsored by: The National Institute on Aging, with co-funding by the Social Security Administration.

If you have any questions about the questionnaire, please feel free to call us at 1-855-647-6769.

On the next page, start by writing the year, town, and state where you were born next to age 0, as shown in the example below.

Age	Year	City/town, State	School/College/Job	Marriage/Partners	Family Events	Other life events
0	1951	New York, NY			_	
1					Page	e 1
2						
3					Brother John Born	
4						
5						
6			Northwest Elementary			
7						
8					Sister Suzy Born	
9						
10						
11						Family Vacation
12	1963		Central Jr. High			

Age	Year	City/town, State	School/College/Job	Marriage/Partners	Family Events	Other life events
13				First Date	Grandfather dies	
14		Chicago, IL	Valley High School		Page	. 7
15					1 ago	
16				Engagement		First marathon
17						
18			First job	Married Sam		
19						
20		St. Louis, MO	Stopped working			Sam in college
21	1972				Sarah born	
22						
23	1974			_	Bob born	Sam graduated
24		Los Angeles, CA				
25	1976		LA City College			Sarah in school

E	Age	Year	City/town, State	School/College/Job	Marriage/Partners	Family Events	Other life events
	26						
	27						Bob in school

... Continued

35	1986			Separated		Graduated
36		New York, NY	Began my bank career			
37					Mom has cancer	
38						Care for Mom

... Continued

45				Mom Passes	
46	1977	Changed jobs	Divorced		
47					
48		Promotion	-	Suzy divorced	4
49			Pages	3 and	4
50	2001		Married		

Your life history
calendar may look
calendar like this
a little like this
example.

Q1. Please first read the instructions for the life calendar on the previous pages.

To begin, think back over your life from birth (0) to age 12 and start by writing the year and place you were born next to age 0.

Age	Year	City/Town, State	School/College/Job	Marriage/Partners	Family Events	Other Life Events
0						
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						

Q1 (c	ont.) Nov	v continue to write in t	he things that happen	ed in your life from ag	ge 13 to 25.	
Age	Year	City/Town, State	School/College/Job	Marriage/Partners	Family Events	Other Life Events
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
21						
22						
23						
24						
25						

Q1 (c	ont.) Nov	v continue to write in t	he things that happend	ed in your life from ag	ge 26 to 39.	
Age	Year	City/Town, State	School/College/Job	Marriage/Partners	Family Events	Other Life Events
26						
27						
28						
29						
30						
31						
32						
33						
34						
35						
36						
37						
38						
39						

Q1 (cont.) N	ow continue to write	e in the things that l	happened in your li	ife from age 40 to 5	0.
Age	Year	City/Town, State	School/College/Job	Marriage/Partners	Family Events	Other Life Events
40						
41						
42						
43						
44						
45						
46						
47						
48						
49						
50						

Once you complete your

Part 1: Life History Calendar

please proceed to...



Keep your Life History Calendar handy.

Some people find it useful to refer back to their calendar when answering the detailed questions included in Part 2.



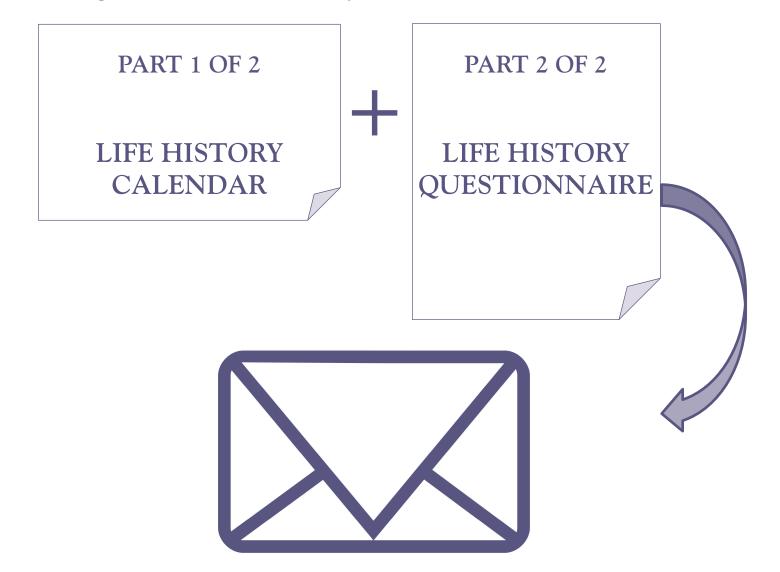


IMPORTANT NOTE: Please make sure to mail back to us both parts of the survey:

→ Part 1: Life History Calendar and

→ Part 2: Life History Questionnaire

Please use the pre-paid return envelope addressed to University of Michigan to mail at no cost to you.





HEALTH AND RETIREMENT STUDY A Longitudinal Study of Health, Retirement, and Aging Sponsored by the National Institute on Aging

Life History Survey 2015

PART 2 OF 2

LIFE HISTORY

QUESTIONNAIRE

It is very important that the questions in this survey be answered by the person to whom the questionnaire is addressed.

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If the addressee is unable to complete the questionnaire alone:

It can be filled out by someone who knows this person well enough to answer the questions.

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{First Name} - FPO 123456A (barcode)



ABOUT THIS SURVEY

This questionnaire is a new part of the Health and Retirement Study.

We would like to know more about some significant events in your life from the time you were born until age 50.

- Where have you lived?
- Where did you go to school?
- What was your childhood like?
- · When did important family and other life events occur?

Please take some time to think about your answers to these questions before you begin. This questionnaire is not meant to be a test of your memory. However, we would like you to try to be as accurate as possible. You may find it useful to consult your spouse, another family member, or some personal files, photos, or notes as you go through the two booklets.

We hope that you will find this survey interesting to complete. As always your answers are extremely important to us. Please remember that your participation is voluntary and that you may skip over any questions that you would prefer not to answer.

Please return your completed Life History Calendar and Life History Questionnaire in the pre-addressed postage paid envelope. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at **1-855-647-6769**.

THANK YOU!



Conducted by: The Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan.

Sponsored by: The National Institute on Aging, with co-funding by the

Social Security Administration.



HOW TO FILL IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE
Please answer the questions by:
Marking a box like this:
Or writing an answer in a box like this: 25 Answer
Please use a #2 pencil. DO NOT use a felt tip pen.
Sometimes you may find instructions telling you which questions to answer like this:
Yes ☐ Continue to Q5
No ☐ → Go to Question Q11 on page 5
Q5

Some of the questions spread across two facing pages like this:

#	Start Grade	Start Age	End Age	Name of Primary School	City/Town	State
1	K	0 5	1 1	Lawton Elementary	Ann Arbor	MI
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						

Was this a public or private/religious school? [Check one box]	on average, how many children were in your class each year at this school? [Check one box]	Most children in the school were? [Check one box]
X Public □ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ■ 30 or less	☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ※ Other
☐ Public ☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Other
☐ Public☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Other
☐ Public ☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Other
☐ Public ☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Other
☐ Public ☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Other
☐ Public ☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Other

Please complete one row across both pages before moving to the next row.

Residential History

This section asks you for some details about the different places you have lived from birth to age 50. From when you were born (0) to age 50, did you ever live outside the United States Q1 for 6 months or more? Yes (Continue to Q1a) No (Go to Q2) How many different countries have you lived in besides Q1a the U.S. from birth to age 50? Please write your answer in the box: When did you live outside the U.S. for 6 months or more? Q₁b No Before the age of 10? Yes No Between ages 10 and 17? Yes Between ages 18 and 25? Yes No No Between ages 26 and 50? Yes Before you were age 16... Q2 **a.** did you ever live in a children's home or orphanage? Yes No **b.** did you ever live with a foster family or in a foster home? Yes No **c.** did you ever live in a boarding school? Yes No **d.** did your biological or adoptive parents separate or divorce? No Yes **e.** did one or both parents die? Yes No f. were you ever separated from your mother for 6 months No Yes or longer? g. were you ever separated from your father for 6 months No Yes or longer? **h.** were your grandparent(s) ever your primary caregivers? Yes No



Q3	How old were you when you first stopped living with your parent(s) or guardian(s) to live on your own or establish your own home?					
	Years old Not relevant/Never left live in my own home.	parents to				
Q4	Before age 50, have you ever					
	a. been in a jail, prison, or a detention center for more than 3 daysb. been a long-term inpatient in a hospital for 1 month or more?c. lived in a combat zone?	? Yes Yes Yes	No No No			
	d. lived on a military base or in military housing?e. been homeless for 1 month or more?	Yes Yes	No No			

INSTRUCTION AND TABLE COLUMNS SPAN ACROSS PAGES ▶

On the next pages please fill in as much information as you can about **all the places that To begin, next to #1 please write your year of birth as the "start year" on the top row.** decade (e.g., late 1950s). If you lived outside the U.S., write the country name instead of the **Q5**

#	Start Year	End Year	Street	City/Town	State
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					

COLUMNS SPAN ACROSS PAGES ▶



6 | Page

you have lived for one year or more from when you were born until age 50. If you can't remember the exact year(s) for each time you moved, please write either your age or the state.

Zip	Did you or	your family	own or rent t	his residence? [Check one]
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know
	Own	Rent	Other	Don't know

We would like to find out more about where you lived at particular times in your life.					
First, please think bad	ck to when you were 10 ye	ears old.			
[Check all tha					
Adoptive,		 Adopted, step, foster, or half brother(s) or sister(s) Grandparent(s) Other relative(s) Other non-relative(s) 			
	u, how many people lived i ople	n your household when you were 10?			
	edrooms were there? drooms				
Single-fai Apartmer Mobile ho	residence was it? [Check of mily house at / Townhouse / Condo ome ease specify):				



Now think back to where you school or college.	ou lived when you sta	rted your first full-time job after leaving
Q10 How old were you	when you started your	first full-time job?
years old	d L	Not relevant/Never worked full-time Go to Q14 on next page
[Check all that apply Spouse or part Biological child	ner ren r, or step children	Grandparent(s) Parent(s)-in-law Other relative(s) Other non-relative(s) I lived alone Other (please specify):
Including you, how full-time job?	w many people lived in	your household when you started your first
[Check one box] Single-family has Apartment / Tox Mobile home	·	en you started your first job?



Think back to where you lived when you were 40	years old.
Who lived with you when you were 40? [Check all that apply]	
Spouse or partner Biological children Adopted, foster, or step children Brother(s) / sister(s) Parent(s)	Grandparent(s) Parent(s)-in-law Other relative(s) Other non-relative(s) I lived alone Other (please specify):
Q15 Including you, how many people lived in people	your household when you were 40?
Q16 What type of residence was it? [Check on	ne box]
Single-family house Apartment / Townhouse / Condo Mobile home Other (please specify):	



Your Educational History When you were 10 years old, approximately how many books were in the place Q17 you lived? Do not count magazines, newspapers, or your school books. None or very few (0-10 books) Enough to fill one shelf (11-25 books) Enough to fill one book case (26-100 books) Enough to fill two bookcases (101-200 books) Enough to fill more than two bookcases (more than 200 books) Was English the language that you usually spoke at home when you were growing Q18 up, before you were age 18? No Yes The next section asks you for some details about your school and educational experiences before age 50. To begin, Q20 asks details about early childhood schools from Kindergarten up to Grades 5 or 6. **Q21** continues with questions about the names of your middle / junior and senior high schools and Q22 asks for information about any education after high school (e.g., college, professional and technical training). If you never attended school, go to Q34 on page 23. Q19 Did you attend any organized pre-school program? Yes No Starting on the next pages, please list the names of all schools you have attended. Fill in the age you started and ended and details about the school.

If the school(s) you attended were outside the U.S, please write the country name instead of the state.



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INSTRUCTION AND TABLE COLUMNS SPAN ACROSS PAGES ▶

In the grid below, please list the names of all of the PRIMARY/ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS that you that school. If you attended the same school from Kindergarten to Grade 5 or 6 complete

Fill in the age you started and ended and details about the school. If the school(s) you attended were

#	Start Grade	Start Age	End Age	Name of Primary School	City/Town	State
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						

INSTRUCTION AND TABLE COLUMNS SPAN ACROSS PAGES ▶

In the grid below, please list the names of all the JUNIOR/MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS and then add the information for the HIGH schools you attended. In the Start Grade column,

Fill in the age you started and ended and details about the school. If the school(s) you attended were

#	Start Grade	Start Age	End Age	Name of Junior/Middle or High School	City/Town	State
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						

COLUMNS SPAN ACROSS PAGES ▶



attended (i.e. **Kindergarten to Grade 5 or 6**). In the Start Grade column, write the grade you started at in only the top line (# 1).

outside the U.S, please write the country name instead of the state.

Was this a public or private/religious school? [Check one box]	On average, how many children were in your class each year at this school? [Check one box]	Most children in the school were? [Check one box]
☐ Public☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White☐ Hispanic☐ Other
☐ Public☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White☐ Hispanic☐ Other
☐ Public☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White☐ Hispanic☐ Other
☐ Public☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White☐ Hispanic☐ Black☐ Other
☐ Public ☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Other
☐ Public☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Other
☐ Public☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 30 ☐ 30 or less	☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Other

that you attended. Begin with the name(s) of your **JUNIOR/MIDDLE** schools (e.g., **grades 6-8 or 7-9**), write the grade you started at in that school.

outside the U.S., please write the country name instead of the state.

Was this a public or private/religious school? [Check one box] On average, how far fro the school did you live? [Check one box]		How did you travel to school most days? [Check one box]	Most children in the school were? [Check one box]
☐ Public☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 2 miles☐ 2 miles or less	☐ Walk / Bike ☐ Drive ☐ Bus / Train ☐ Other	White ☐ Hispanic☐ Black ☐ Other
☐ Public☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 2 miles☐ 2 miles or less	☐ Walk / Bike ☐ Drive ☐ Bus / Train ☐ Other	□ White□ Hispanic□ Black□ Other
☐ Public☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 2 miles☐ 2 miles or less	☐ Walk / Bike ☐ Drive ☐ Bus / Train ☐ Other	□ White□ Hispanic□ Black□ Other
☐ Public☐ Private/religious	More than 2 miles 2 miles or less	Walk / Bike □ Drive Bus / Train □ Other	☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Other
☐ Public☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 2 miles☐ 2 miles or less	☐ Walk / Bike ☐ Drive ☐ Bus / Train ☐ Other	□ White□ Hispanic□ Black□ Other
☐ Public ☐ Private/religious	More than 2 miles 2 miles or less	☐ Walk / Bike ☐ Drive ☐ Bus / Train ☐ Other	□ White□ Hispanic□ Black□ Other
☐ Public ☐ Private/religious	☐ More than 2 miles☐ 2 miles or less	☐ Walk / Bike ☐ Drive ☐ Bus / Train ☐ Other	☐ White ☐ Hispanic ☐ Black ☐ Other ☐



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 Yes No
Continue with Q23 on the next page.
On the next page, please list the names of all of the COLLEGES/COMMUNITY COLLEGES and PROFESSIONAL OR TECHNICAL SCHOOLS or PROGRAMS that you attended after High School.
If the school(s) you attended were outside the U.S., please write the country name instead of the state.

Go to Q24 on page 18.

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Please list the names of all of the COLLEGES/COMMUNITY COLLEGES and PROFESSIONAL

If the school(s) you attended were outside the U.S, please write the country name instead of the state.

#	Start Year	End Year	Name of College, School, or Program	City / Town	State
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					

OR TECHNICAL SCHOOLS or PROGRAMS that you attended after High School.

Was this a public/state or private/religious school? [Check one box]	Did you attend full-time, part-time or other? [Check one box]	Major Field(s) of Study	Degree(s) or Certificates Earned If Any
☐ Public/state school ☐ Private/religious	☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time ☐ Other		
☐ Public/state school☐ Private/religious	☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time ☐ Other		
☐ Public/state school☐ Private/religious	☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time ☐ Other		
☐ Public/state school☐ Private/religious	☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time ☐ Other		
☐ Public/state school☐ Private/religious	☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time ☐ Other		
☐ Public/state school☐ Private/religious	☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time ☐ Other		
☐ Public/state school☐ Private/religious	☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time ☐ Other		

The following questions are about specific educational experiences in different periods of your life.
When you were 10 (i.e. Grade 3 or 4)
How well did you do in Math compared to other children in your class?
Much better Better About the same Worse Much worse Did not go to school
How well did you do in Reading and Writing (i.e., spelling, grammar) compared to other children in your class?
 Much better Better About the same Worse Much worse Did not go to school



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Q26	In Primary or Elementary School you or your parents that you had a subjects below?								
	a. Reading	Yes			No	=	n't kr		
	b. Writing	Yes		=	No		n't kr		
	c. Mathematics / arithmetic	Yes		=	No		n't kr		
	d. Speaking or language	Yes		Ш '	No		n't kr	IOW	
		If you answered "Yes" to any			or "Do	nswere on't knov questic	w" to	,	
		question, please continue to				→	on i	Q28 next ge.	
		Q27.					p s.	90.	
Q27	Because of these problems, did a. Special education testing to help		any		e follow	Ū	ny tin		
	stand the problem		ш	Yes	Ш	No	Ш	Don't k	now
	b. Special or different classes prove the school, because of the problem.			Yes		No		Don't k	now
	c. Individual tutoring or counseling by the school	arranged		Yes		No		Don't k	now
	d. Private tutoring arranged at hom	ne		Yes		No		Don't k	now
	e. A referral to a different school			Yes		No		Don't k	now
	→ If yes, did you actually schools?	y change		Yes		No		Don't k	now
	f. A referral to see a medical docto psychologist about this problem	r or		Yes		No		Don't k	now



Q28	Were you or your parents ever told by a pro following problems?	fessi	onal that	you	had an	y of	the
	a. Mental or emotional problems		Yes		No		Don't know
	b. Dyslexia (a problem with stating words correctly or in order when reading)		Yes		No		Don't know
	c. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)		Yes		No		Don't know
	d. Other learning disorder		Yes		No		Don't know
	→ If yes, please specify the name:						
	L						
Q29	When you were in high school						
	a. Did you take special courses or classes to better prepare you for college?		Yes	;	No.) 	
	b. Did you take courses or classes that were intended to prepare you for a job after high school (also called vocational training)?		Yes	6	□ N		Did not attend High
	c. Did your school ever monitor your attendant more often than most students because the felt you were absent more than usual?		Yes	8	No.	o (School (Go to Q34 on page 23.)
	d. Were you ever asked to participate in community service programs as punishmer for some school-related problem?	nt	Yes	6	No.		20.7

Q30 Did you study a foreign language in high sc	hool?
Yes (Continue to Q30a) No (Go to Q31)	
Q30a Which languages did you stud	dy in high school? [Check all that apply]
Spanish French German Chinese Arabic	Latin Russian Polish Italian Other [please specify]:
Q31 In high school, did you take extra classes or s	pend extra time to do the following:
a. Learn to play a musical instrumentb. Take singing lessons or sing in a chorus or	
c. Learn woodwork or carpentryd. Learn a craft (e.g., knitting, quilting, embroid	l Yes No dery) Yes No
e. Learn ballet or dance	Yes No
f. Learn to paint or draw or other art	Yes No
Approximately how many school clubs or or with during high school?	ganizations were you involved
	0-19 0+



	es (Con o (Go to	tinue to Q33a and Q33b) Q34)				
	Q33a	In how many of your junior/midd you participate in organized spo		high scho	ol years	s did
		years				
	Q33b	Did you ever suffer any of the fo organized sports in junior/middle				olaying
		1. Head injury such as concussion	Y	es	No [Don't remember
		→ If yes, was this before age 16?	Y	es 🔲	No	
		2. Leg, arm, shoulder or back injury	Y	es 🔲	No [Don't remember
		3. Other	Y	es 🔲	No	
		→ If yes, please specify the inj	ury:			
to Q34 on	41	d none				



Q34	Between the following ages, how often did you take part in or train for sports or activities that are vigorous , such as running or jogging, swimming, cycling, football, snow sports, aerobics or gym workouts, or tennis?						
		Every day	More than once a week	Once a week	One to three times a month	Hardly ever or never	
	a. Between ages 18 and 29						
	b. Between ages 30 and 39						
	c. Between ages 40 and 49						
Q35	Between the following ages, how often that are moderately energetic such as pace, dancing, floor or stretching exerci	walking					
		Every	More than		One to three	Hardly	
		day	once a week	Once a week	times a month	ever or never	
	a. Between ages 18 and 29						
	b. Between ages 30 and 39						
	c. Between ages 40 and 49						

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Were the questions in this booklet answered by the person whose first name is written on the front cover? [Check one box]
YES, the person whose name is on the front cover completed the questionnaire by him/herself.
YES, the person whose name is on the front cover answered the questions, but someone else assisted by writing in the answers for that person.
NO, the person whose name is on the front cover did not answer/complete the questionnaire.
If there is anything else you would like to tell us, please write in the space below. We are very interested to learn about what you have to say.



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