## How we age in Europe.

## What is **SHARE**

SHARE - the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe - is a multidisciplinary and cross-national panel survey collecting micro data on health, economic status and social and family networks in biennal survey waves. People aged 50 or older from all European countries and Israel are interviewed.

The first wave of SHARE was conducted in 2004 as a representative survey with 11 countries and has since been repeated every two years with increasing country participation. Overall, more than 290,000 interviews with approximately 120,000 individuals have been accomplished in the survey waves 1 to 6. The data are available to the entire research community free of charge. Datasets from waves 1 to 5 are already available. Wave 6 data will be released in 2017.

With SHARE data researchers can provide better understanding of how individuals and families are affected by ageing. SHARE exploits Europe's institutional, economic, social and cultural diversity as a "natural laboratory" to investigate the population ageing process and brings together many scientific disciplines, including demography, economics, epidemiology, psychology, sociology, medicine, biology and statistics. The results of the research can be used by science and politics in finding solutions to the challenges of our social security and health care systems.



## **The SHARE countries**

The harmonized cross-national design follows rigorous procedural guidelines and programs for sampling and data collection, so that researchers are able to compare different countries.

```
Wave 1: 2004-05 : SE, DK, NL, DE, BE, FR, CH, AT, ES, IT, IL, GR
Wave 2: 2006-07 : + IE, CZ, PL
Wave 3: 2008-09 : SHARELIFE, no additional country
Wave 4: 2010-11 : + PT, SI, HU, EE
Wave 5: 2012-13 : + LU, EG
Wave 6: 2014-15 : + HR
Wave 7: 2016-17 : (+ BG, CY, FI, LI, LT, MT, RO, SK)
```

## Field time is harmonized as far as possible across countries





Sample sizes broken by country and by wave





Beyond the SHARE member countries, the data is harmonized with HRS - Health and Retirement Study ELSA - English Longitudinal Study of Ageing

SHARE has also become a role model for several ageing surveys worldwide ELSI - Brazilian longitudinal study of ageing and well-being MHAS - Mexican Health and Aging Study KLoSA - Korean Longitudinal Study of Ageing JSTAR - Japanese Study of Aging and Retirement CHARLS - Chinese Health and Retirement Survey LASI - Longitudinal Aging Study in India