ReadMe

Manuscript title:	"Why Life Gets Better after Age 50, for Some: Mental Well-Being and the Social Norm of Work"
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1 Overview

This replication package contains the code to construct all tables and figures in the paper and the accompanying online appendix. Code is written for Stata version 18. The main folder is titled `replication_package` and contains four sub-folders: (i) `ado`, (ii) `data`, (iii) `do_files`, and (iv) `output`. All scripts can be found in the `do_files` folder. Programs are stored in the `ado` folder. Each user needs to obtain data access as described in section 2.1, and data need to be stored in the `data` folder as specified in section 2.2. Once appropriate paths are specified in the `master.do` file, all results can be replicated by running the `master.do` file. All analysis output will be stored in the `output` folder.

The remainder of this ReadMe document is structured as follows: Section 2 contains instructions on how to access the data and store them in the appropriate folders. Section 3 provides instructions on how to run the replication code, and gives a detailed overview of the separate `.do` files in the replication package and the mapping of code to the paper's figures and tables.

2 Data

2.1 Data availability and access

This paper uses data from the **Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE)**. The data are only available through SHARE-ERIC (*Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe – European Research Infrastructure Consortium*) for registered users through the SHARE Research Data Center. SHARE data are accessible free of charge to anyone wishing to conduct scientific research with the data.

To obtain access to the data, users have to register either using their affiliation with a scientific institution or by providing relevant details about the specific scientific project for which the data shall be used (see article 2 of the Conditions of Use). After registering successfully, data access is granted *"normally within a few working days"*.

Below we briefly describe the steps that should be taken to obtain the required data:

1. Visit https://share-eric.eu/data/become-a-user.
2. Complete the three steps to register as a SHARE user to obtain data access:
   (a) Read the SHARE Conditions of Use
   (b) Download, fill out and sign the SHARE User Agreement
   (c) Submit the completed User Agreement by email or mail to the SHARE Research Data Center
3. Upon acceptance of the credentials, users will obtain a personal user ID and a password to log into the SHARE Research Data Center at https://releases.sharedataportal.eu/.

More information about SHARE data access can be found at https://share-eric.eu/data/data-access.

2.2 Data preparation

Execute the following steps to download and prepare the required data:

1. Once logged into the SHARE Research Data Center click "Releases" in the top right window to access a drop-down menu. In this menu click "Archive" to access the archived old data releases (see encircled button in Figure 1).

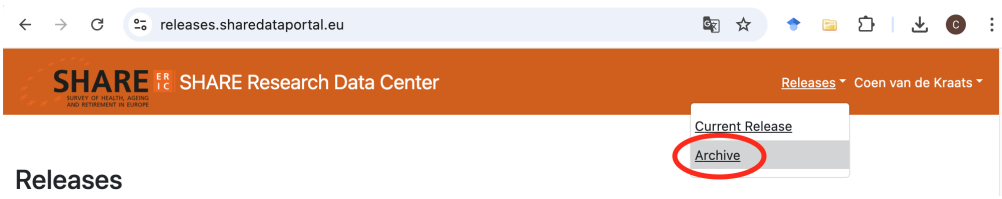

Figure 1: *Screenshot of how to access the data archive in the SHARE Research Data Center*

2. In the archive download the following data files:
   - `sharewX_rel6-0-0_gv_longitudinal_weights_stata.zip`
   - `sharew1_rel6-0-0_ALL_datasets_stata.zip`

- sharew2_rel6-0-0_ALL_datasets_stata.zip
- sharew3_rel6-0-0_ALL_datasets_stata.zip
- sharew4_rel6-0-0_ALL_datasets_stata.zip
- sharew5_rel6-0-0_ALL_datasets_stata.zip
- sharew6_rel6-0-0_ALL_datasets_stata.zip
- sharewX_rel6-0-0_gv_allwaves_cv_r_stata.zip

3. Unzip each of the above .zip files.
4. Move the file titled sharewX_rel6-0-0_gv_allwaves_cv_r.dta into the folder titled sharewX_rel6-0-0_gv_longitudinal_weights_stata.
5. Move each of the following unzipped folders to the data folder of the replication package:
   - sharewX_rel6-0-0_gv_longitudinal_weights_stata
   - sharew1_rel6-0-0_ALL_datasets_stata
   - sharew2_rel6-0-0_ALL_datasets_stata
   - sharew3_rel6-0-0_ALL_datasets_stata
   - sharew4_rel6-0-0_ALL_datasets_stata
   - sharew5_rel6-0-0_ALL_datasets_stata
   - sharew6_rel6-0-0_ALL_datasets_stata

3 Replication code and instructions

3.1 Description of program/code

The do_files folder contains all scripts with Stata code. It includes the following .do files:

- master.do: Runs all .do files below to construct the analysis data set and generate all results for the paper.
- share_harmonized.do: Uses the raw SHARE data downloaded from the SHARE Research Data Center to construct the Harmonized SHARE dataset, Version D (Gateway to Global Aging Data, 2017; Beaumaster et al., 2017). Note that this is a generic script that has been developed by Gateway to Global Aging Data (2017) to harmonize SHARE data with data from other health and retirement studies such as the US Health and Retirement Study (HRS) and the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA). The only adjustments that we have made to the code provided by Gateway to Global Aging Data (2017) are the paths to the relevant folders containing data files in code lines 12-19.
- prepare_data.do: Uses the Harmonized SHARE dataset Version D to construct the dataset for analysis, adding information on Early Retirement Ages (ERAs).

- `descriptives.do`: Generates tables and figures containing descriptive analysis for the main text and online appendix.
- `regression.do`: Generates tables and figures containing regression analysis for the main text and online appendix.
- `falsification.do`: Generates the falsification tests reported in Appendix Figure E.1. Note that the code to run the falsification test (lines 12-31) has been commented out because each time the code is run, a unique set of 1,000 pseudo-samples will be generated. Hence, a researcher can run this code but will obtain slightly different results from those reported in the online appendix. Therefore, we provide in the `data` folder the distribution of t-statistics that we obtained from running lines 12-31 to construct panels (a) and (b) of Appendix Figure E.1 as `sim1.dta` and `sim2.dta`, respectively. These figures can be generated using lines 36-46 of the code.

3.2 Instructions for replications

1. Download all files of the replication package. Each file should be stored in the prepared sub-folder. The main folder is titled `replication_package` and contains four sub-folders: (i) `ado`, (ii) `data`, (iii) `do_files`, and (iv) `output`. Note that downloading only a subset of the files, altering the directory structure, or using different versions of the ado files than the ones provided may result in differences and/or errors.
2. Ensure that the raw SHARE data has been added to the `data` folder as detailed in section 2.2.
3. Edit line 3 in `do_files/master.do` to adjust the default path to where the replication package is located.
4. Run the `do_files/master.do` once to replicate all tables and figures. Note that `master.do` changes the default ado directory to the `ado` sub-folder in the replication package.

3.3 Mapping between code and exhibits

Table 1 provides the mapping between tables and figures in the paper, code line numbers in the replication package, and output files that are generated by running the replication package.

Table 1: *Mapping between Tables and Figures, program code line numbers and output files*

Exhibit	Program	Line numbers	Output file(s)
Table 1	descriptives.do	12-35	crosstable_country_ERA_men.tex
Table 2	regression.do	68-130	Table2a.tex
			Table2b.tex
Table 3	regression.do	136-331	Table3a.tex
			Table3b.tex
Figure 1	descriptives.do	42-361	pop_depression_Men.pdf
			conv_depression_Men.pdf
			pop_eurod_Men.pdf
			conv_eurod_Men.pdf
Figure 2	regression.do	337-414	retired.pdf
			retired-self.pdf
			depression.pdf
			euro-d.pdf
			depression-e.pdf
			euro-d-e.pdf
Figure C.1	descriptives.do	42-361	convD_depression_Men.pdf
			convD_eurod_Men.pdf
Figure C.2	regression.do	462-472	depression-d.pdf
			euro-d-d.pdf
Table C.1	regression.do	422-459	AppendixTableC1.tex
Figure C.3	descriptives.do	42-361	pop_depression_Women.pdf
			conv_depression_Women.pdf
			pop_eurod_Women.pdf
			conv_eurod_Women.pdf
Figure C.4	regression.do	645-709	retired-f.pdf
			retired-self-f.pdf
			depression-f.pdf
			euro-d-f.pdf
			depression-f-noh.pdf
			euro-d-f-noh.pdf
			depression-e-f.pdf
			euro-d-e-f.pdf
Table C.2	regression.do	478-642	AppendixTableC2a.tex
			AppendixTableC2b.tex
Table C.3	descriptives.do	12-35	crosstable_country_ERA_women.tex
Figure D.1	regression.do	715-787	d_ritgxfr.pdf
			ritgxfr_cpi.pdf
			ritgxfr_cpi_99.pdf
Table D.1	regression.do	790-912	AppendixTableD1.tex
Table D.2	regression.do	917-1035	AppendixTableD2a.tex
			AppendixTableD2b.tex

Continued on next page

Table 1 – continued from previous page

Exhibit	Program	Line numbers	Output file(s)
Figure D.2	`regression.do`	1064-1068	`act.pdf`
Table D.3	`regression.do`	1042-1061	`AppendixTableD3.tex`

Table E.1	`regression.do`	1074-1329	`AppendixTableE1a.tex`
			`AppendixTableE1b.tex`
			`AppendixTableE1c.tex`

Figure E.1	`falsification.do`	1-46	`falsDepression.pdf` `falsEurod.pdf`
Table F.1	`descriptives.do`	366-434	`country_age_table.tex`
Table F.2	`descriptives.do`	439-519	`summary_table.tex`
Table F.3	`descriptives.do`	524-531	`lms_cross_men.tex`
Table F.4	`descriptives.do`	524-531	`lms_cross_women.tex`
Table F.5	`descriptives.do`	537-573	`ushape_correlates.tex`
Figure G.1	`descriptives.do`	580-665	`RetFrac_Men_paper.pdf`

3.4 Software requirements

The required software is Stata. The code was last executed using Stata version 18.4. All third-party Stata commands are provided in the `ado` folder. However, researchers might need to reinstall certain commands depending on their operating system. Essential third-party Stata commands are listed below:

- jwdid (as of 2024-11-01)
- reghdfe (as of 2024-11-01)
- ftools (as of 2024-11-01)
- binscatter (as of 2024-11-01)
- estout (as of 2024-11-01)
- erepost (as of 2024-11-01)
- shufflevar (as of 2024-11-01)

3.5 Memory and runtime requirements

Approximate time needed to reproduce the analyses on a 2023 MacBook Pro machine is 4 hours. The program was last run on a MacBook Pro 2023 (Chip: M2 Pro; Memory: 32 GB).

References

Beaumaster, S, S Chien, S Lau, A Lin, D Phillips, J Wilkens, and J Lee, "Harmonized SHARE Documentation Version D, September 2017," *Gateway to Global Aging Data*, 2017.

Gateway to Global Aging Data, "Produced by the USC Program on Global Aging, Health & Policy, with funding from the National Institute on Aging (R01 AG030153)," https://g2aging.org/. 2017. Retrieved 14 September 2017.