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| Health and Retirement Study (HRS) | | | |
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|  | **Variable Name** | **Description** | **Range** |
| Wife ID | wife\_ID | Wife Identification Number | n/a |
| Husband ID | hus\_ID | Husband Identification Number | n/a |
| Couple ID | hhid | Couple Identification Number | n/a |
| HRS Cohort | cohtest | HRS Cohort; Approximately half of couples were measured in 2006 and 2010 and the other half were measured in 2008 and 2012. This variable marks whether the couple was first measured in 2006 (cohtest=0) or 2008 (cohtest=1). | n/a |
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| Demographic Variables |  |  |  |
| Wife Race | wiferaracem | Wife Race (1=White/Caucasian, 2=Black/African American, 3=Other). | n/a |
| Husband Race | husraracem | Husband Race (1=White/Caucasian, 2=Black/African American, 3=Other). | n/a |
| Wife Birthyear | wifecohort | Year that wife was born. | 1915-1967 |
| Husband Birthyear | huscohort | Year that husband was born. | 1912-1966 |
| Wife Age | wifetruage`W' | Age (in years) | 40-91 |
| Husband Age | hustruage`W' | 42-96 |
| Wife Education | wifeduc | Years of completed education. | 0-17 |
| Husband Education | huseduc | 0-17 |
|  | | | |
| Health Variables |  |  |  |
| Wife Depression | wifecesd`W' | Depressive symptom level measured by the Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale. This scale is the sum of eight indicators that measure how often the respondent felt the following all or most of the time: had restless sleep, not able to get going, enjoyed life (reverse coded), felt lonely, felt sad, felt depressed, felt that everything was an effort, and felt happy (reverse coded). | 0-8 |
| Husband Depression | huscesd`W' | 0-8 |
| Wife Anxiety | wifeBAI`W' | Anxiety measured by the Beck Anxiety Inventory. This scale is the average of five items asking how often in the past week the respondent: had fear of the worst happening, was nervous, felt hand trembling, had a fear of dying, and felt faint | 1-4 |
| Husband Anxiety | husBAI`W' | 1-4 |
| Wife ADL | wifeadl`W' | Disability measured by Activities of Daily Living (ADLs). This is a sum of five items asking whether the respondent had difficulties with: walking across a room, dressing, bathing, eating, getting in and out of bed, and using the toilet. | 0-5 |
| Husband ADL | husadl`W' | 0-5 |
| Wife SRH | wifeSRH`W' | Self rated health. 1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=very good, 5=excellent | 1-5 |
| Husband SRH | husSRH`W' | 1-5 |
| Wife Current Smoker | wifecursmoke`W' | Respondent reported being a current smoker. | 0-1 |
| Husband Current Smoker | huscursmoke`W' | 0-1 |
| Wife Drinking | wifenumdrink`W' | The number of drinks per day respondent consumes on the days that he/she drinks. | 0-12 |
| Husband Drinking | husnumdrink`W' | 0-12 |
| Wife Spouse Support | wifeSPpos`W' | Self-reported spousal support measured by three items: How much does your spouse really understand the way you feel about things?, How much can you rely on your spouse if you have a serious problem?, and How much can you open up to your spouse if you need to talk about your worries? For each item, respondents were able to answer 1=A lot, 2=Some, 3=A little, or 4=Not at all. Responses were then averaged to create a scale of spousal support. | 1-4 |
| Husband Spouse Support | husSPpos`W' | 1-4 |
| Wife Chronic Conditions | wifechron`W' | The number of doctor-reported chronic conditions including: high blood pressure, diabetes, cancer, lung disease, heart disease, stroke, psychiatric problems, and arthritis. | 0-8 |
| Husband Chronic Conditions | huschron`W' | 0-8 |
| Wife Waist Circumference | wifewaistcut`W' | Whether a respondent’s waist circumference is greater than the “at risk” cut offs as defined by the American Heart Association. Waist circumference is associated with risk for high blood pressure and high HDL cholesterol among other heart-related conditions. | 0/1 |
| Husband Waist Circumference | huswaistcut`W' | 0/1 |
| Wife Self-Rated Hearing | wifehear`W' | Self rated hearing. 1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=very good, 5=excellent | 1-5 |
| Husband Self-Rated Hearing | hushear`W' | 1-5 |
| Wife Pain Severity | wifepainsev`W' | Respondent reported pain severity if they are often troubled with pain. 0=no trouble with pain, 1=mild pain, 2=moderate pain, 3=severe pain | 0-3 |
| Husband Pain Severity | huspainsev`W' | 0-3 |
| Wife Vigorous Exercise | wifevigexer`W' | How often a respondent takes part in vigorous exercise (e.g. running, jogging, swimming, tennis, etc.). 5=everyday, 4= more than once a week, 3=once a week, 2=one to three times a month, 1=hardly ever | 1-5 |
| Husband Vigorous Exercise | husvigexer`W' | 1-5 |
| \*Note: `W' refers to either T1 or T2 | | | |