

ESRA Conference  
09.07.2021



# COLLECTING SURVEY DATA AMONG THE 50+ POPULATION IN EUROPE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

## SHARE CORONA SURVEY

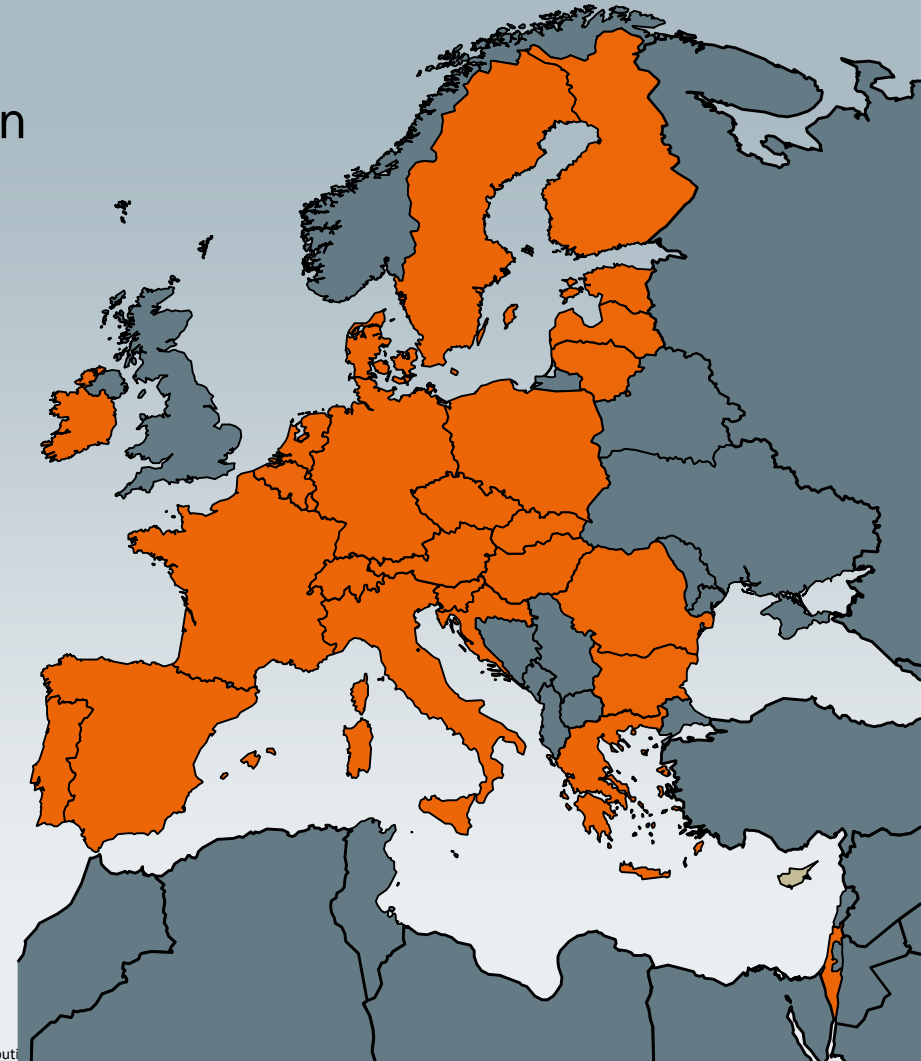
Michael Bergmann  
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# Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE)



- Biennial representative cross-national household panel survey of 50+ population in 27 European Countries & Israel
- Started in 2004, currently Wave 9
- Ex-ante harmonisation - centralised questionnaire development, database management and data collection instrument
- Broad range of topics (e.g. health, economic and living conditions, social relationships) and (objective physical) measures
- Around face-to-face 500.000 interviews with over 140.000 respondents



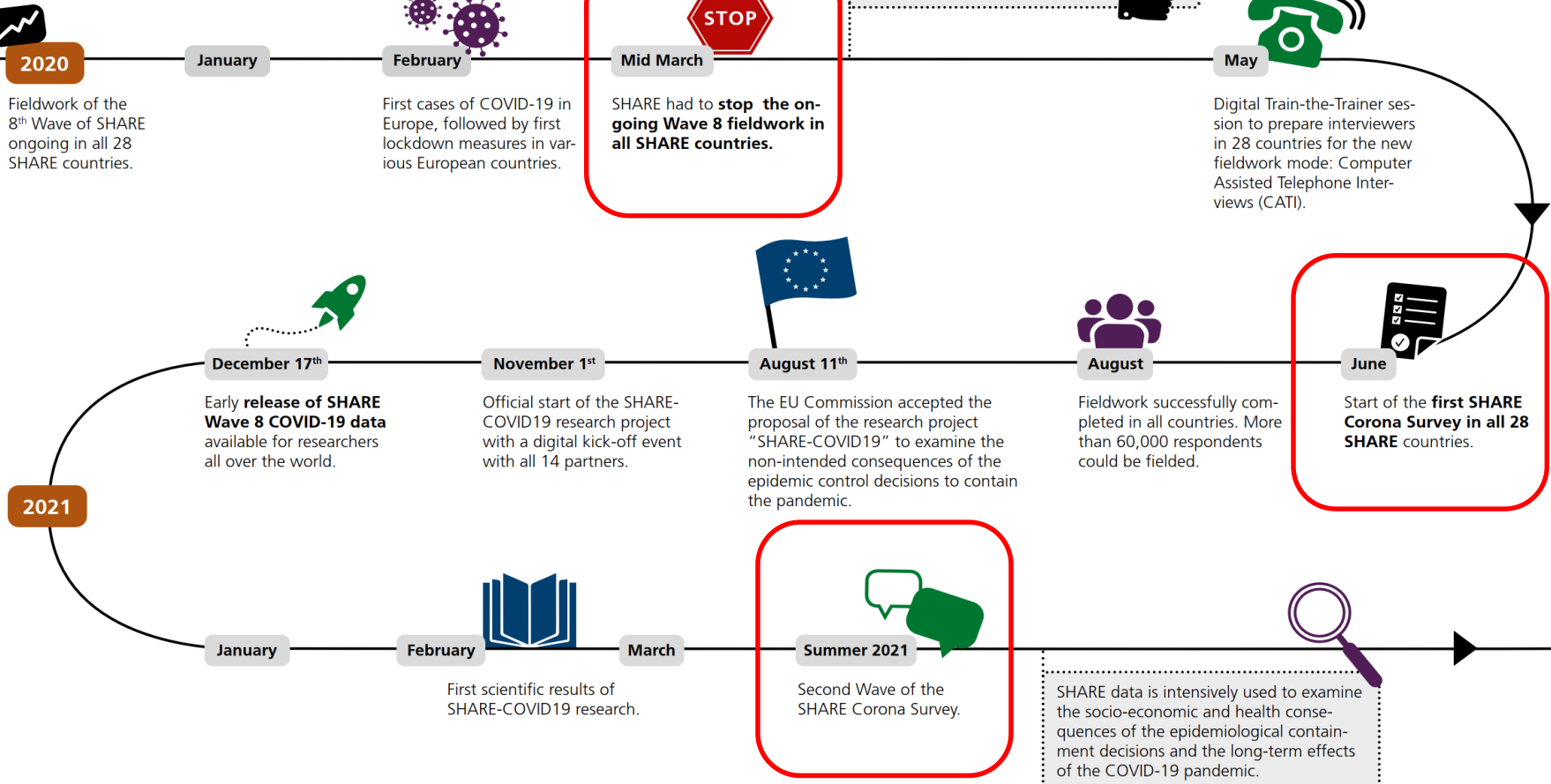
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# SHARE's reaction to the pandemic

Please find here an overview of SHARE's most important developments from the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis in 2020 until beginning of 2021. This timeline aims to give a brief and clear impression on SHARE's challenges and achievements during the crisis:

SHARE managed to turn a challenge into a chance: In midst of the pandemic, the SHARE team digitalized all events, **re-designed Wave 8 to its first ever SHARE telephone survey and added a module with Corona-specific questions.**



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# 1st SHARE Corona Survey



- **Goal** - collect timely data on social, health and economic impact of COVID-19 on lives of 50+ population across Europe
- **Sample** – SHARE panel households\*
- **Mode** – Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI)
- **Length** – about 20 Minutes
- **Fieldwork period** – June-August 2020
- **Participation** – about 60,000 interviews
- **Response rates\*\*** – varying per country and ranging between 58% in Luxembourg and 96% in Romania, average 79%

\* In Sweden and the Netherlands a subsample of SHARE panel households due to funding issues

\*\*AAPOR4, excluding HH without a valid phone number

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# 2nd SHARE Corona Survey



- **Goal** – panel comparison with the 1<sup>st</sup> SHARE Corona Survey (situation at the start of pandemic vs. situation one year later)
- **Sample** – panel households that participated in the 1st SHARE Corona Survey
- **Mode** – Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI)
- **Length** – about 25 minutes
- **Fieldwork period** – June-August 2021
- **Number of completed interviews** – as of 08.07.2021 ca. 30,000 (fieldwork in progress)

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- Successful implementation of the Corona CATI required additional resources and flexibility at central and local levels, e.g. for fast adaptation of existing instruments and survey-related procedures such as questionnaire development, testing, online training, and data collection
- Urge for more flexibility to enable timely reaction to new societal developments
  - in terms of flexible data collection - through multiple modes
  - in terms of content - through additional shorter topical modules between the core surveys

# Development of the Wave 9 CAPI

- Concurrent development of the 2nd SHARE Corona Survey & SHARE Wave 9 CAPI
- Single data management and data collection instrument for both surveys
- One preload for both surveys
- Linking of SHARE Corona Survey data with the SHARE regular panel survey data

## PHASE 1

SHARE Corona Survey (CATI)  
End-of-Life Interview (telephone)  
June – August 2021  
Panel households that participated in the  
1<sup>st</sup> SHARE Corona Survey

SWITCH

## PHASE 2

SHARE Wave 9 CAPI (face-to-face)  
End-of-Life Interview (telephone or face-to-face)  
Starting October 2021  
Panel and refreshment households



Case TC-000384-A

Household members

Annemarie Podolski TC-000384-01

Year of birth:	1926	Sampled in:	2004
Gender:	Female	Last participated:	2019
Waves participated:	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8	Proxy:	-
Eligible:	Yes	Alive:	Yes
Spouse/partner:	Daniel	R refused in previous wave:	-

Start interview (COVID-19)

Start interview

Update proxy info

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# Development of the Wave 9 CAPI



## Challenges:

- Alternative Wave 9 CAPI pretesting as face-to-face not possible in spring 2021 due to pandemic: integrated testing by SHARE Country Teams and fieldwork testing of the first 3 modules on telephone
- Timely preparation of the preload (incl. refreshment sample for w9 CAPI) prior to the start of the CATI fieldwork
- Resources to program and test two surveys at the same time as well as for additional data collection at central and local level
- Online Train-the-trainer sessions (due to possible ongoing travel restrictions)
- Planning uncertainties: Will face-to-face data collection be possible in October 2021 in all 28 participating countries?

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- Flexible fieldwork design is possible and offers new perspectives but requires additional resources
- Positive development – stepping back from usual established procedures provided a ground for innovations
- Consequences for SHARE – consideration of multi-mode data collection in future + additional topical modules in between the biennial main face-to-face core data collection
- Successful implementation of SHARE Corona Surveys in CATI mode in a very short time frame in 28 countries
  - But would it be a success in a cross-sectional survey or in a refreshment sample as well? – phone numbers availability in different countries + lower response rates without a first face-to-face contact
  - **Mode effects and representativeness – ESRA presentation by Michael Bergmann on Consequences of a mode switch on data quality in SHARE today at 15:00-16:30**

# THANK YOU!

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# SHARE Corona Survey Content



- **Health (physical and mental) and health behaviour**  
General health before and after the COVID-19 outbreak, practice of safety measures, activities outside home, contacts with other people, travelling abroad (+ vaccination)  
Anxiety, depression, sleeping problems, and loneliness before and after the COVID-19 outbreak (+ comparison with the first pandemic wave)
- **Corona related infection**  
COVID-19 related symptoms, testing, hospitalisation
- **Quality of healthcare**  
Forgone medical treatments, treatment satisfaction (+ deferred treatments)
- **Work**  
Changes in employment status, working from home, changes in working hours, financial support due to Corona crisis
- **Economic situation**  
Changes in income, household's economic situation
- **Social networks**  
Frequency of contacts with family and friends, help and personal care given and received, voluntary activities (+ comparison with the first pandemic wave)
- **Internet use during the pandemic**  
Quality of internet connection, comparison of frequency of different online activities before and during the pandemic

\* Marked in orange – new content in the 2<sup>nd</sup> SHARE Corona Survey

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