

Two Surveys, One Generation? Comparing SHARE and GGS Respondents Born 1950–1965

Yuri Pettinicchi (NIDI)

Claudius Garten (BiB)

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Motivation

SHARE

Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe

Focus: ageing, health, retirement, and socioeconomic factors

Target sample: 50+

Wave 1: 2004 - Wave 9: 2022

Face-to-Face data collection

GGG

Generations and Gender Programme

Focus: family dynamics, fertility, and intergenerational relations

Target sample: 18-79

GGG-I Wave 1: 2004-2013

Face-to-Face data collection

Research Question

Do SHARE and GGS capture comparable populations for cohorts born 1950–1965?

Sample selection

Birth Cohort & Survey Coverage

Year of Birth: 1950-1965

- **SHARE** respondents are 50+ by design
- **GGG** respondents interviewed in 2004/2010 are 40+

14 Countries

- Austria, Germany, Sweden, Netherlands, Italy, France, Belgium, Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Estonia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Romania

Life Stages Examined

- before 30 years old and before 40 years old

Focus only on women and on natural children - Avoiding biases due to family dynamics

Step 1 — Comparing Demographic & Socio-Economic Profiles

1

Key characteristics compared across both surveys (sample percentage):

Educational attainment

ISCED levels

Leaving Parental Home

Age at move out

Partnership status

Married before 30, Married before 40,
Age at first marriage,

Fertility histories

Number and timing of births (natural children)
Before 30 and before 40

Step 1 — Comparing Demographic & Socio-Economic Profiles

	SHARE	GGG
	N = 22626	N = 21739
Low Edu	0,26	0,22
High School	0,49	0,55
College	0,25	0,23
Move Out	0,98	0,97
Ever Married 30	0,74	0,77
Ever Married 40	0,79	0,85
Child before 30	0,69	0,63
Child before 40	0,76	0,74
Children before 30	1,34	1,13
Children before 40	1,71	1,51

	SHARE		GGG	
	N	Missing	N	Missing
Low Edu	22354	0,01	19726	0,09
High School	22354	0,01	19726	0,09
College	22354	0,01	19726	0,09
Move Out	13035	0,42	18979	0,13
Ever Married 30	19800	0,12	21201	0,02
Ever Married 40	19800	0,12	21201	0,02
Child before 30	22610	0,00	21739	0,00
Child before 40	22610	0,00	21739	0,00
Children before 30	22610	0,00	21739	0,00
Children before 40	22610	0,00	21739	0,00

Step 1 — Life Course Transitions

Particular attention to three major transitions:

01

Leaving the parental home

Age at first departure
from parental
household

02

First marriage

Age at first marriage

03

First birth

Age at birth of first child

Systematic contrast of these indicators to assess whether SHARE and GGP represent comparable cohorts within and across countries.

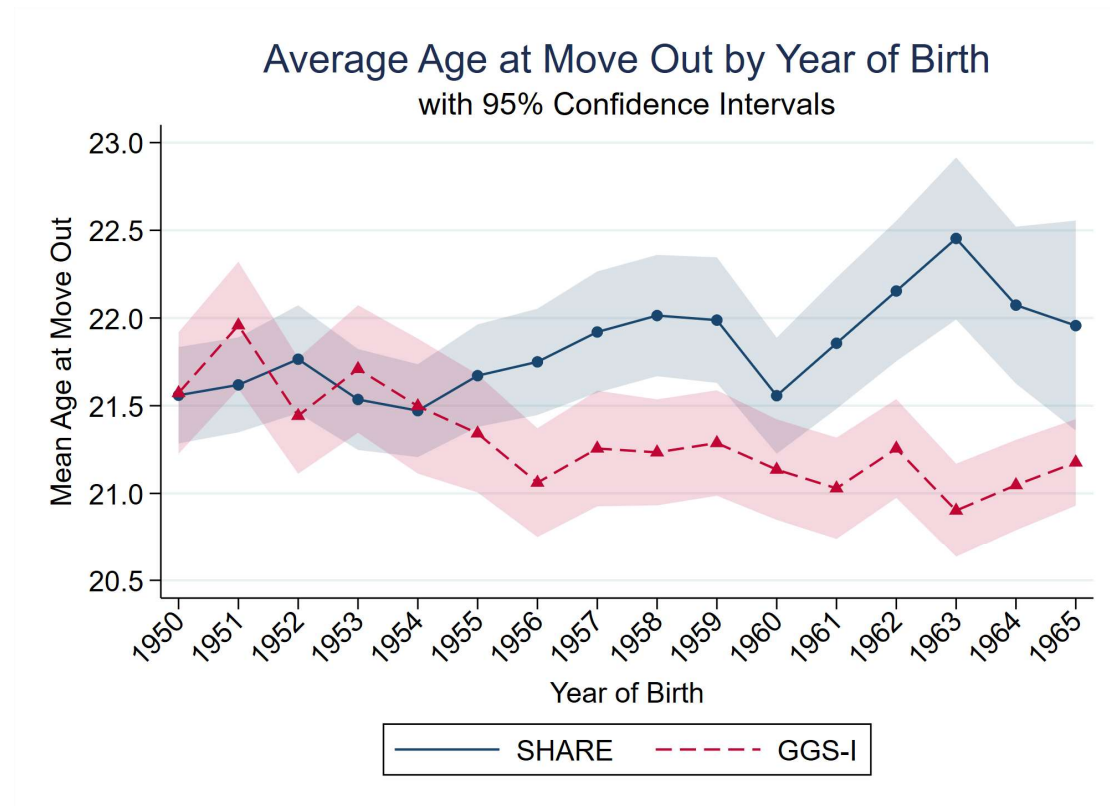
Leaving the parental home

Particular attention to three major transitions:

01

Leaving the parental home

Age at first departure from parental household



Systematic contrast of these indicators to assess whether SHARE and GGP represent comparable cohorts within and across countries.

Leaving the parental home

Particular attention to three major transitions:

01

Leaving the parental home

Age at first departure from parental household

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	age_moveout	age_moveout	age_moveout
Survey: GGS	-0.467***	-0.485***	-0.557***
	(0.0614)	(0.0615)	(0.0649)
High school		0.381***	0.851***
		(0.0751)	(0.0763)
College		0.315***	1.464***
		(0.0879)	(0.0904)
Country FE	No	No	Yes
YOB FE	No	No	Yes
Observations	29089	29089	29089
R-squared	0.002	0.003	0.085

Standard errors in parentheses
 * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Systematic contrast of these indicators to assess whether SHARE and GGP represent comparable cohorts within and across countries.

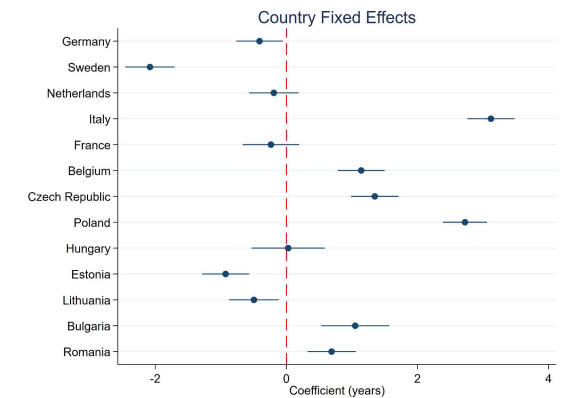
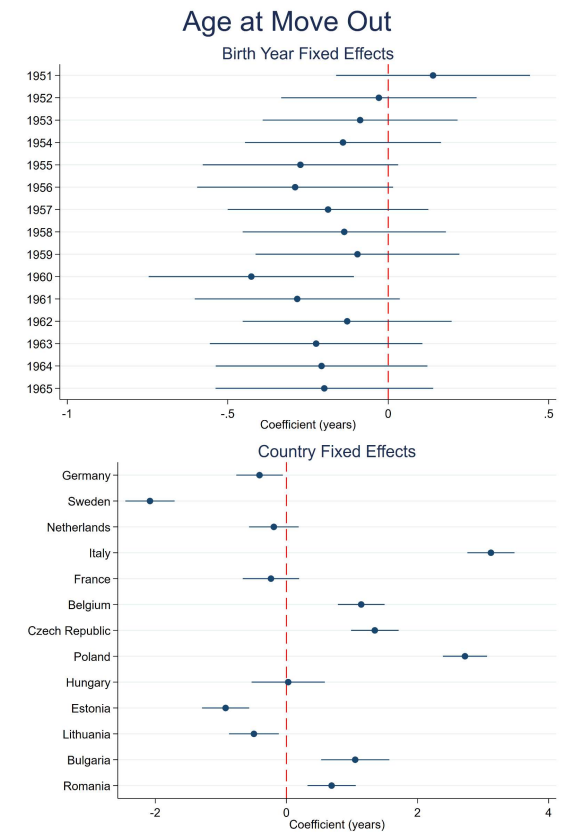
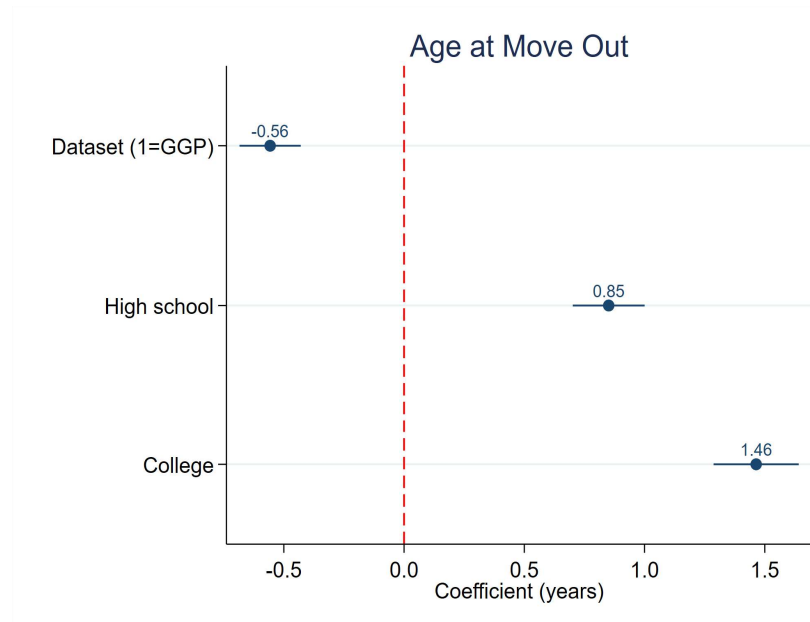
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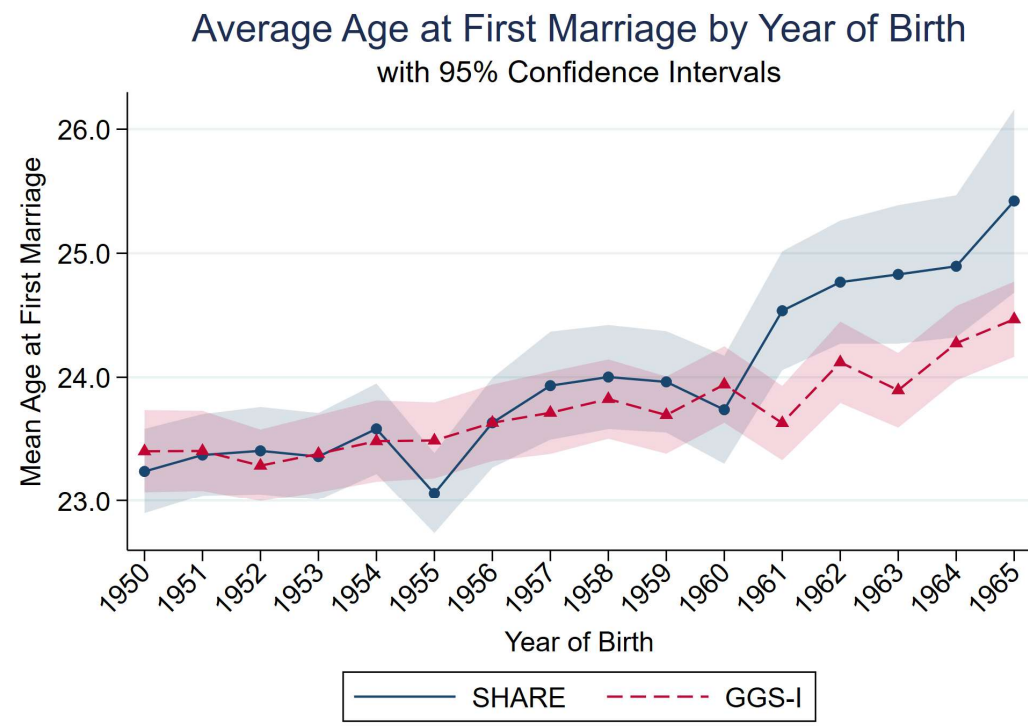
First marriage

Particular attention to three major transitions:

02

First marriage

Age at first marriage



Systematic contrast of these indicators to assess whether SHARE and GGP represent comparable cohorts within and across countries.

First marriage

Particular attention to three major transitions:

02

First marriage

Age at first marriage

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	age_marriage	age_marriage	age_marriage
Survey: 1	-0.169*	-0.153*	0.0206
	(0.0669)	(0.0657)	(0.0685)
High school		1.135***	1.294***
		(0.0802)	(0.0818)
College		3.513***	3.170***
		(0.0954)	(0.0980)
Country FE	No	No	Yes
YOB FE	No	No	Yes
Observations	32915	32915	32915
R-squared	0.000	0.042	0.109

Standard errors in parentheses
* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Systematic contrast of these indicators to assess whether SHARE and GGP represent comparable cohorts within and across countries.

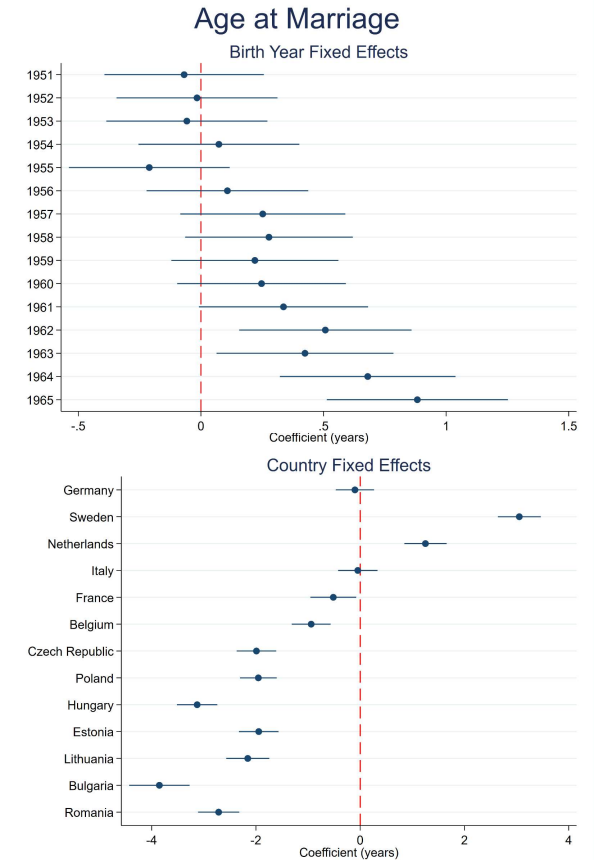
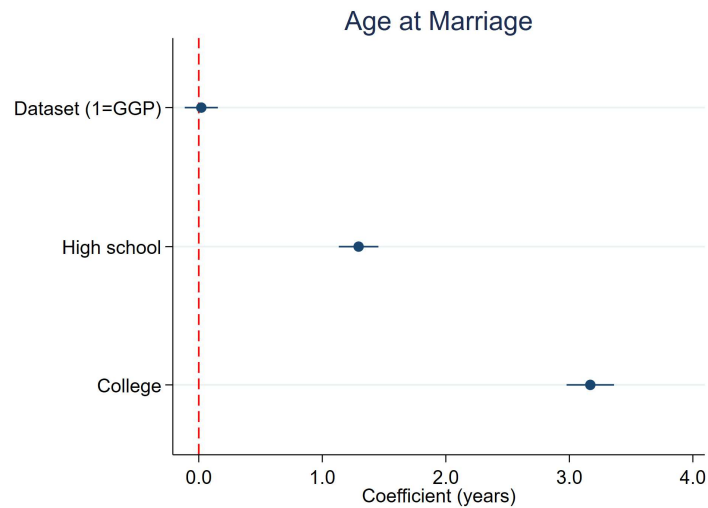
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Particular attention to three major transitions:

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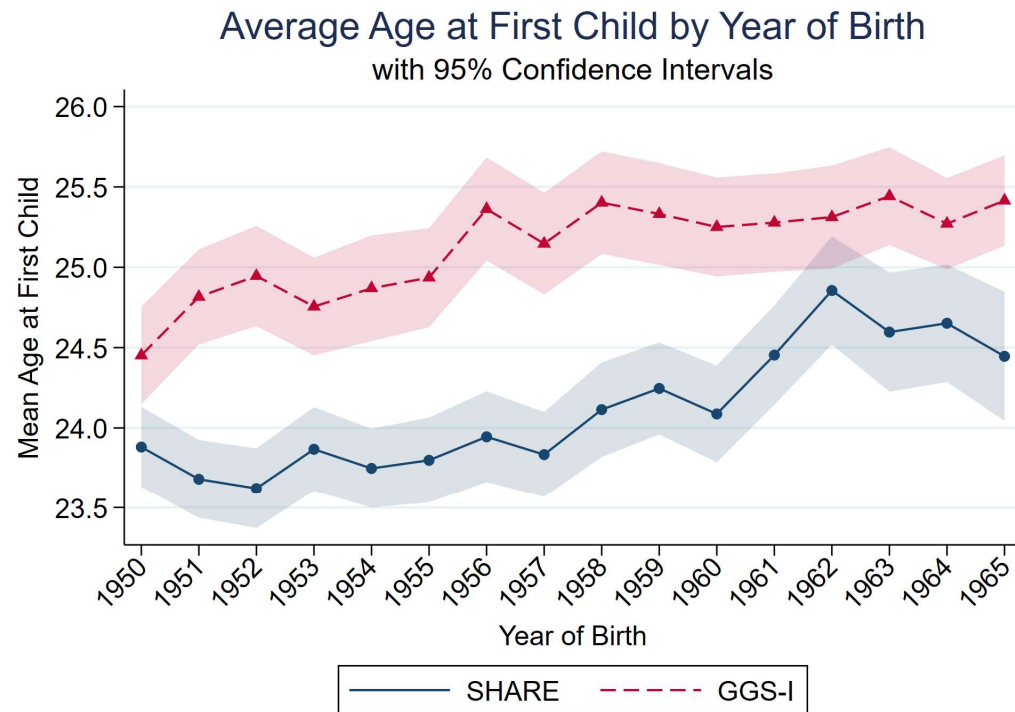
First birth

Particular attention to three major transitions:

03

First birth

Age at birth of first child



Systematic contrast of these indicators to assess whether SHARE and GGP represent comparable cohorts within and across countries.

First birth

Particular attention to three major transitions:

03

First birth

Age at birth of first child

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	age_at_1_child	age_at_1_child	age_at_1_child
Survey: 1	0.982***	0.956***	1.171***
	(0.0549)	(0.0528)	(0.0557)
High school		1.157***	1.570***
		(0.0651)	(0.0661)
College		3.862***	3.828***
		(0.0763)	(0.0774)
Country FE	No	No	Yes
YOB FE	No	No	Yes
Observations	32169	32169	32169
R-squared	0.010	0.088	0.159

Standard errors in parentheses
* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Systematic contrast of these indicators to assess whether SHARE and GGP represent comparable cohorts within and across countries.

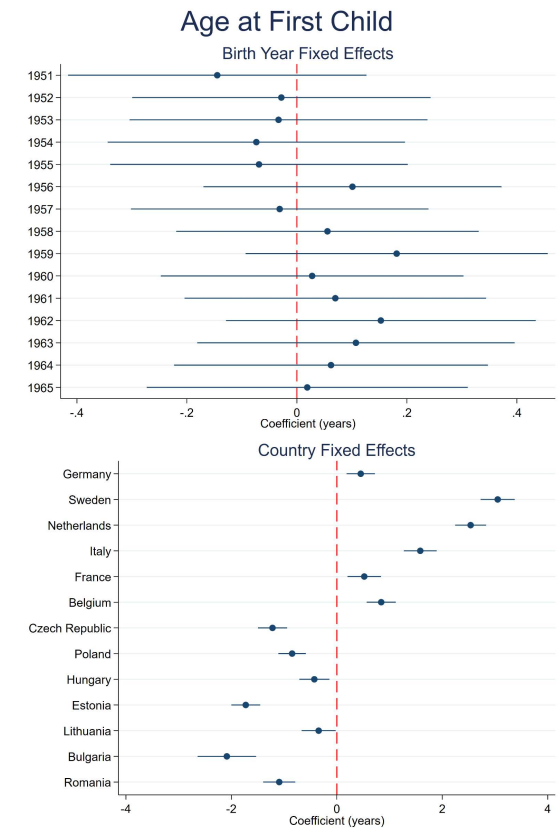
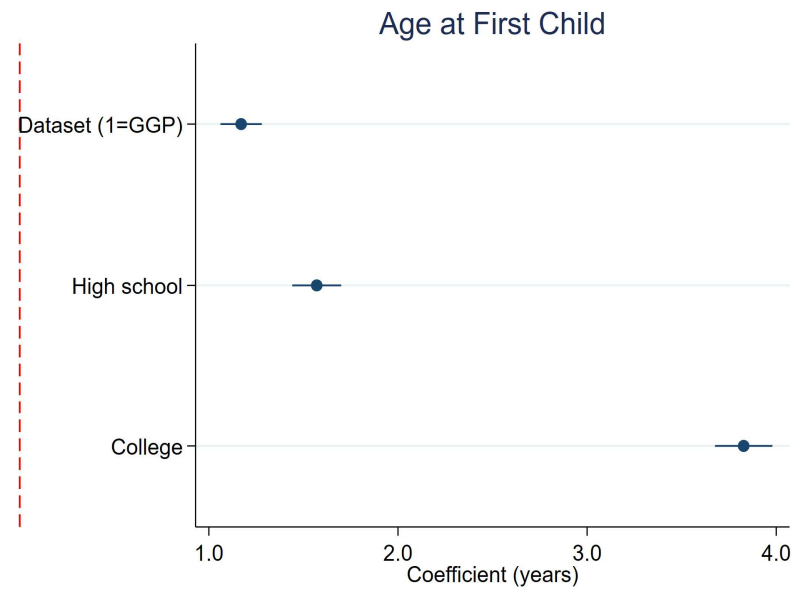
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Particular attention to three major transitions:

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Age at birth of first child



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Step 2 — Intergenerational Financial Transfers

2

Investigate intergenerational giving behaviour:

1. Compare propensity to provide financial transfers across generations
 - Percentage of respondents who gave and received financial help per year of cohort
2. Assess whether patterns of intergenerational support are consistent between SHARE and GGP respondents
 - Per year of birth of the respondents
 - Per year of birth of the children
3. Determine whether differences in sample composition translate into differences in substantive conclusions
4. Only GGS – Compare likelihood to receive financial transfers from respondents with the same year of birth of the children

Contribution

- ✦ Methodological contribution to data harmonization and cross-survey comparability
 - ✦ Guidance for researchers combining or contrasting evidence from SHARE and GGP
 - ✦ Cohort focus: birth years 1950–1965 across selected European countries
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