

HRS 2020 -- Module 4: Social Security Knowledge
FINAL VERSION -- 05/01/2020

NOTE ABOUT BRANCHPOINTS:

Where there is more than one jump within a branchpoint box, the jumps are to be applied in order from the top.

NOTE ABOUT COLORS AND MODE:

All question text in black is for the core interview (except if CAPI and CAWI text is the same).

Question text and codes in teal denotes CAWI (Web). The CAWI text will always be directly after the CAPI text. If wording is the same in both CAPI (Iwer Administered) and CAWI (Web), the text is black.

Otherwise, black text for codeframes, interviewer instructions, jumps and branchpoints, etc., which can apply to both the CAPI and the CAWI interview unless specified otherwise or there is a CAWI alternative.

On a black-and-white hard copy of the document, the TEAL text will appear somewhat lighter than the original black.

MAJOR FLOW CONTROL, CONDITION AND FILL VARIABLES

If X009 (RANDOM 1-10) = 4
IF R IS COUPLED (X065 NOT 6)
IF R AGE IS LESS THAN 62 (A019 < 62)

V000 BRANCHPOINT: ASK IF THIS IS A SELF INTERVIEW (A009 =1)
ELSE, GO TO END OF MODULE

Although we have finished the interview, we would like to ask you just a few new questions. Some questions may be similar to questions we have already asked, but we are interested in how people respond when the questions are changed just a little. This will only take a few minutes.

[INSTR: IF R REFUSED BEFORE STARTING A MODULE, ENTER 9. IF R STARTED TO DO A MODULE AND THEN CHANGED HIS/HER MIND, ENTER 99.]

Although we have finished the interview, we would like to ask you a few new questions. Some questions may be similar to questions we have already asked you, but the researchers are interested in how people respond when the questions are changed just a little.

- 1. R IS WILLING
- 9. R REFUSED AT MODULE INTRO
- 99. R REFUSED AFTER STARTING A MODULE

1. CONTINUE

NOTE: IF R LEAVES V000 EMPTY IN CAWI IT WILL BE TREATED AS A REFUSAL AND SKIP R OUT OF MODULES

V701 BRANCHPOINT: ASK IF X009 = 4 AND THIS IS A SELF INTERVIEW (A009 =1) AND R < 62 YEARS OLD (A019 < 62)
ELSE, GO TO END OF MODULE

V701_

Please tell us if you believe the following statements to be True or False (T/F).

Social Security benefits are not affected by the age at which a person claims:

- 1. TRUE
- 5. FALSE

- 8. DK
- 9. RF

V702_

(True or False:) Social Security benefits must be claimed as soon as a person retires:

Social Security benefits must be claimed as soon as a person retires:

- 1. TRUE
- 5. FALSE

- 8. DK
- 9. RF

V703_

(True or False:) If people are not eligible for Social Security benefits because they didn't work for pay, they can still receive benefits if their spouse qualifies for Social Security benefits:

If people are not eligible for Social Security benefits because they didn't work for pay, they can still receive benefits if their spouse qualifies for Social Security benefits:

- 1. TRUE
- 5. FALSE

- 8. DK
- 9. RF

V704_

(True or False:) One spouse's decision about when to claim Social Security benefits may affect the amount of benefits the other spouse receives:

One spouse's decision about when to claim Social Security benefits may affect the amount of benefits the other spouse receives:

- 1. TRUE
- 5. FALSE

- 8. DK
- 9. RF

V705_

(True or False:) Most working people who pay Social Security taxes can get Social Security disability benefits if they become disabled and are unable to work:

Most working people who pay Social Security taxes can get Social Security disability benefits if they become disabled and are unable to work:

- 1. TRUE
- 5. FALSE

- 8. DK
- 9. RF

V706_

(True or False:) If a worker who has paid Social Security taxes and has been married for many years dies, the surviving spouse can claim survivor benefits from Social Security even if the couple had no children:

If a worker who has paid Social Security taxes and has been married for many years dies, the surviving spouse can claim survivor benefits from Social Security even if the couple had no children:

- 1. TRUE
- 5. FALSE

- 8. DK
- 9. RF

V707_

(True or False:) If a worker who has paid Social Security taxes and has children under age 18 dies, the children can claim Social Security survivor benefits:

If a worker who has paid Social Security taxes and has children under age 18 dies, the children can claim Social Security survivor benefits:

- 1. TRUE
- 5. FALSE

- 8. DK
- 9. RF

**V708 BRANCHPOINT: ASK IF R IS COUPLED (X065 NOT 6),
ELSE GO TO V709**

V708_

Between you and your spouse, over your working life whose annual earnings would you say were higher, on average?

- 1. MYSELF
- 2. MY SPOUSE
- 3. BOTH ABOUT THE SAME

- 8. DK
- 9. RF

V709_

Social Security uses the term Full Retirement Age (FRA) as the age at which a person can receive full (unreduced) retirement benefits. The FRA for someone born the same year as you is between age 66 and a half and 67.

Suppose that you retired and claimed your Social Security benefits before reaching your Full Retirement Age. How do you think the benefits you will receive would change, due to the fact that you claimed before the FRA?

Compared to waiting to claim at my Full Retirement Age, I think my benefits will be:

1. LOWER
2. THE SAME
3. HIGHER

8. DK
9. RF

V710_

Again, suppose that you retired and claimed your Social Security benefits before reaching your Full Retirement Age, but now also suppose that you continued working up to the FRA. We want you to tell us how working before reaching your FRA would affect your annual benefits in the years before that age.

Compared to what my benefits would be if I didn't work, my benefits while working before the FRA would be:

1. LOWER
2. THE SAME
3. HIGHER

8. DK
9. RF

V711_

What about after you reach the Full Retirement Age? Compared to what your benefits would have been if you had not worked after first claiming Social Security benefits? Compared to what my benefits would be if I didn't work, my benefits after the FRA will be:

1. LOWER
2. THE SAME
3. HIGHER

8. DK
9. RF

END MODULE