

## Abstract

This thesis investigates the determinants of depression among elderly Europeans, with a particular focus on the roles of wealth, income, and prior episodes of depression. Utilizing data from the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), the study employs both static and dynamic logistic regression models to analyze the impact of various socioeconomic factors on the prevalence of depression in older adults. Key findings indicate that wealth is a stronger predictor of depression than income, and there is a significant state dependence effect, where past depression increases the likelihood of future depressive episodes. Additionally, elderly women face a considerably higher risk of depression compared to their male counterparts, and physical health significantly influences depression levels. Depression among the elderly significantly increased during COVID-19 period. This research provides valuable insights for policymakers aiming to mitigate the adverse effects of depression on the aging population by identifying the endangered groups and factors that significantly affect depression.

**JEL Classification** I12, I14, J14, C23

**Keywords** Depression, SHARE, state dependence, wealth, income

**Title** Wealth, Income, State Dependence and Other Determinants of Depression Among Elderly Europeans