

**DIW** Berlin



Deutsches Institut  
für Wirtschaftsforschung

**SOEP**

The German  
Socio-Economic  
Panel Study

**Biography and Life History Data  
in the German Socio Economic Panel  
(up to wave W, 2006)**

Editors:

Joachim R. Frick  
Olaf Groh-Samberg

Berlin, June 2007



# Contents

1. General Introduction .....	1
2. Biographical Information in the Meta File PPFAD (Month of Birth, Year of Death, Immigration Variables, Living in East or West Germany in 1989) .....	11
3. Activity Biography in the File PBIOSPE.....	24
4. BIOJOB: Detailed Information on First and Last Job.....	27
5. The Biography of Family Status and the Generated Current Family Status (BIOMARSY, BIOMARSM and \$FAMSTD) .....	56
6. BIOBIRTH – A Data Set on the Birth Biography of Female Respondents.....	67
7. BIOBRTHM – The Birth Biography of Male Respondents in the SOEP.....	77
8. BIOTWIN – Information on TWINS in the SOEP .....	81
9. BIOIMMIG: Generated and Status Variables from SOEP for Foreigners and Migrants .....	85
10. BIOPAREN: Biography Information for the Parents of SOEP-Respondents.....	129
11. BIOSOC: Retrospective Data on Youth and Socialization.....	141
12. BIORESID: Variables On Occupancy and Second Residence .....	146
13. BIOAGE17: The Youth Questionnaire .....	149
14. BIOAGE01: Generated Variables from the ‘Mother and Child Questionnaire’ .....	159
15. BIOAGE03: Generated Variables from the supplementary questionnaire “Your child between the ages of two and three” .....	164



## 1. General Introduction

By compiling a comprehensive set of questions on the individual life history into user-friendly variables, the SOEP database provides users with a representative collection of biographical information for the entire German population. This covers information on the individual career path since the age of 15, on marital status and childhood biography, the first job, social background and immigration history. The function of these data is, on the one hand, to make important background information available for analyses (e.g. information on fertility as an explanatory variable when analyzing labor market supply of women), and, on the other hand, to support self-contained analyses (e.g. on occupational careers or intergenerational transmission of education).

In general, each respondent of the SOEP questionnaire (surveying age starts in the calendar year a person turns 17 years) will answer the biographical questions only once (retrospectively). In the beginning of the SOEP, this occurred within the framework of the first three waves (1984 to 1986). Due to the inevitable ‘mortality rate’ of the panel (refusal to participate, death, relocation abroad), this process unfortunately leads to missing biographical entries for persons who did not participate in all three waves. Because of this, since 1988 all biographical information (occupation, marital status, family, first job and social background) is, in principle, collected during the first interview for new respondents in existing sample households. It should be noted that - due to the costs involved and the increased response burden - the main objective of surveying the biographical information in the course of the very first interview is not applied to the first wave of new subsamples. For example, in sample C (East Germany, field work started in 1990) the biographical questionnaire was first collected in 1992. Consequently, the surveyed persons in sample C who left SOEP before 1992 or who refused to complete the biography questionnaire in 1992 have no biographical information included in the SOEP data.

Summing up, in principle most of the biographical information in the SOEP is collected by means of the so-called ‘Lebenslauf’ (‘life history’) questionnaire. Although naming conventions, positioning of questions and the scope of this questionnaire have been changed and revised several times (see below), it has been addressed once at each respondent throughout the SOEP. Since 2000, a separate youth questionnaire exists which contains youth-specific questions.<sup>1</sup> A whole new series of age-triggered instruments for collecting biographical data was implemented in 2003. The target of the *first* of these questionnaires is to collect information about *newborn* children. It is aimed at their mothers of children aged up to 15 months. As a result, the SOEP has started to survey the development of children from

---

<sup>1</sup> Due to survey-related reasons biographical information was not asked of first-time respondents aged 16 or 17 years until 1999. For this group of persons, much of the biographical information (i.e. on marital status and family information, occupation history since the age of 16 and social background) can generally be reconstructed using variables collected by means of the Individual Questionnaire, i.e. from the yearly ongoing survey.

the very beginning of their life and will provide users with a completely new type of data. In 2005, a follow-up questionnaire targeted at children aged 2 to 3 years was implemented. Again, the information was collected from the mothers. It contained questions on the child's individual development and the mother's specific experiences during this formative period of raising the child. There will be follow-up interviews to collect data about these children at specific ages which are typically associated with decisions relevant to their individual development (the respective questionnaire targeted at children aged 5 to 6 will be used for the first time in 2008; another one is scheduled for wave 2015 when this cohort reaches the age of 12)<sup>2</sup>.

A chronological listing of the various changes related to the survey of biographically relevant information for the time period 1984 to 2006 can be found below. The differences in gathering information among and between the various sub-samples are reported with respect to 'Timing' (*when* respondents were asked), 'Coverage' (*which* parts of the biographical topics and single indicators were asked), and 'Positioning' of the biographical questions in the diverse survey instruments.

1984 The focus of the survey from samples A and B was the occupational biography. This information was collected (retrospectively) with the help of a 'life-course calendar' and covered the time period from the age of 15 up to the current age (or up until and including the maximum age of 65). The 'calendar' takes the form of a matrix with one column for every year of age and up to nine specifications of occupational activities (school, apprenticeship / training, military and community service, employed full time, employed part time, unemployed, househusband/wife, retired and other; question 62 in the standard Individual Questionnaire in Wave 1).

1985 The focus for samples A and B was on collecting marital and family status information in retrospect (questions 81-88 in the standard Individual Questionnaire in Wave 2). The number of children born up to that point in time is collected in detail as well as the eventual date at which the children moved out of the parents' home (only female participants were asked those questions). In addition, residency during childhood, the date a person moved out of the parents' home, as well as the start, end and potential reasons for the termination of up to three marriages are asked of each surveyed person.

1986 The focus of the life history data was on social background and entry into the workforce (questions 10-13 and 80-87 in the standard Individual Questionnaire, Wave

---

<sup>2</sup> **Help for old friends:** Starting with data release 2006 (up to wave V) naming conventions for files containing data collected by means of age-specific questionnaires have been changed: Data from the "Mother and Child" questionnaire on newborns can be found in the file BIOAGE01 (file BIOCHILD in earlier SOEP-data releases), data collected by means of the questionnaire on 2 to 3 year old children can be found in the file BIOAGE03, and the biography information collected from 16 to 17 year old first time respondents is stored in the file BIOAGE17 (file BIOYOUTH in earlier SOEP-data releases).

- 3). Information on every surveyed person's parents is included, i.e. their year of birth and, where appropriate, the year of death, their level of education and vocational training as well as their working status at the time the respondent was 15 years of age. Furthermore, the father's type of gainful employment was also asked. With respect to entering the workforce, information is available on the age of the surveyed person when he/she first started to work and the type of employment he/she had. When appropriate, the age at each job change was also asked.
- 1987 No biographical information was collected in this year.
- 1988 The complete collection of biographical questions was included in the blue Individual Questionnaire for first time participants. For those persons who were new additions to the SOEP since 1985 and who had missed portions or all of the biographical questions, this missing information was collected in 1988. For this reason, it is only since 1988 that complete biographical information has been available on all three biographical areas for all persons surveyed up to this point (as long as they were still included in the SOEP population). Young adults up to age 17 were excluded from this retrospective collection of biographical information due to reasons of content (it did not make sense to collect the biographical information here). However, some technical problems arose when determining the exact minimum cut-off age of the persons included in this retrospective survey.
- 1989 to 90 During this time period, the form of the survey on biographical data from 1988 remained unchanged.
- 1990 The SOEP random sample was expanded. For the first time individuals and households in East Germany (sample C) were surveyed. However, biographical data for sample C were collected later on.
- Since 1991 New respondents of sample A (West Germany) and B (Foreigners / 'Guest Workers') answered the biographical questions in an independent Biography Questionnaire.
- 1992 Due to the differing occupational titles, educational degrees, and biographies between East and West Germany, an additional biography questionnaire was developed for sample C (East Germany) which was first used in 1992 in order to cover all respondents in this sample. This additional questionnaire is identical with the western version in its structure and the format of its questions, with just a few answer categories being modified and speech delimitations were effected (for example, on occupational position or the description of the successfully completed apprenticeship). This extensive group of questions was also applied to everyone who had been a new addition to the survey in East Germany since 1993.

- 1994 An updated version of the biography questionnaire version called ‘Lebenslauf’ (‘life history’) was introduced for all the four samples A, B, C, and D1/D2.<sup>3</sup> The formats of some of the questions were slightly changed, and new questions were added, although some questions were included for only one of the samples (i.e. questions relevant to immigration were only directed towards sample D).
- 1996 The Biography Questionnaire ‘Lebenslauf’ (‘life history’) was fully integrated for all samples, for example, using appropriate filter questions the immigration relevant information was also asked from persons in samples A to C in an identical form.
- 1998 Introduction of the supplementary sample E.
- 1999 The 1996 form of the Biography Questionnaire ‘Lebenslauf’ (‘life history’) was given to members of sample E for the first time.
- 2000 The 1996 version of the Biography Questionnaire ‘Lebenslauf’ (‘life history’) was changed slightly. For example, information on having own children is collected for men as well, as is the information on the respondent's mother's occupation at the time that the respondent was 15 years old.  
A preliminary-version of the Youth Questionnaire was designed and given to 17 year old youths (only samples A to E). Data on social background were collected from young adults with single or no parents in the household.  
In the year 2000, a new supplementary sample F with over 6000 surveyed households was established.
- 2001 The Biography Questionnaire ‘Lebenslauf’ (‘life history’) was further expanded and now also includes more questions on school, i.e. marks, and activities during childhood.  
Biographical data are collected for the first time for all persons belonging to sample F using this updated Biography Questionnaire.  
The revised Youth Questionnaire, the standard version for the forthcoming years, is used in the field for all 17 year old teenagers in addition to the Individual Questionnaire.
- 2002 A new sample G is drawn, which is only targeted at high-income households, i.e. households with a monthly net household income of more than 7,500 DM ( $\approx$  3,850 €). This sample was also asked retrospective information on inheritances, which was collected in 2001 for samples A through F.
- 2003 Persons from sample G answered the Biography Questionnaire for the ‘first’ time.  
The new questionnaire ‘Mother and Child’ was given to mothers of newborns (all samples).

---

<sup>3</sup> (A) ‘West Germany’, (B) ‘Guest Workers / Foreigners’, (C) ‘East Germany’, (D1/D2) ‘Immigrants since 1984’, persons from D2 were first surveyed in 1995.

- 2004 The Biography Questionnaire was slightly expanded with questions concerning the ‘numbers of brothers and sisters’ and the ‘location a person lived at before reunification (East Germany, West Germany, abroad)’. The question on siblings is also asked in the Youth Questionnaire.
- 2005 The new questionnaire ‘Mother and Child II’ (“Infants”) targeted at children aged 2 to 3 years was implemented (for all samples).
- 2006 Introduction of the supplementary sample H with valid interview information for about 2.600 individuals. As a standard procedure, these new respondents do not fill in the biography questionnaire in order to reduce response burden in wave 1.

Starting in 2006, the age for first-time respondents has been changed to be the calendar year in which the person turns 18 years of age. Those aged 17 in 2006 are asked to fill in the extended “Youth Questionnaire” (data is stored in the file \$PAGE17) instead of the “Individual Questionnaire” (data stored in \$P). These extended questions cover indicators on subjective well-being, health (including body measures), labor force participation and education.

Prospectively, in 2007, members of Sample H will be asked to fill in the biographical background questionnaire for the very first time. In 2008, the newly designed questionnaire ‘Mother and Child III’ targeted at children aged 5 to 6 years will be implemented for all samples.

A series of problems may emerge when combining biographical information and storing data collections spanning multiple waves. This is due to the fact that the biographical information over time both within and between the sub-samples of SOEP is not always consistent with regards to

- *Positioning* (this includes differences among the various surveying instruments, i.e. the Individual Questionnaire and the single Biography Questionnaire ‘Lebenslauf’ (‘life history’), as well as differences in the position of several indicators in the various versions of the questionnaires),
- *Coverage* (this includes both the changes in the targeted population and the partitions of the survey asked of each person and the corresponding indicators used), and
- *Timing* (this refers to the point in time when the biographical information was collected for a person in relation to the very first survey).

The biography data sets can always be divided into *time invariant* (e.g. first year of immigration to Germany, first job, place a person grew up) and *time dependent* (e.g. marital

status, number of children, occupational biography) variables. Whereas time invariant information is by definition valid at every point in time after it has been collected, the time dependent information originally collected needs to be updated whenever a change has occurred. Alternatively, the information that is still valid must be included over the entire analysis period under investigation. In other words, since for the most part identical biographical information for different individuals is collected in SOEP at various points in time, all information regarding an eventual status change or an expansion of the original information must be accounted for over the entire time period of the analysis.

A yearly update of the biographical data therefore involves the following tasks:

- *Time dependent* information must be
  - collected for persons answering the survey questions for the first time and
  - carried forward or changed for persons repeating the SOEP interview.
- *Time invariant* information must be integrated into existing data sets for persons answering the survey questions for the first time.

The goal is for all biography relevant information provided to be up-to-date, without any loss of information with respect to the original variables, and in a user friendly form within the framework of the yearly data set updates. The time dependent variables will correspond then to the status of the most recently realized personal interview. The individual steps of the complex revision of the data sets are described in the corresponding documentation.

Additional Information:

- Unless otherwise indicated, the symbol '\$' in a variable name or a file name stands for a wave specific prefix or suffix: for example, the variable \$KMUTTI from the file \$KIND indicates the vector of the variables AKMUTTI up to WKMUTTI from the file AKIND to WKIND. '\$\$' indicates the survey year (2 digits) and is used as a suffix: for example, NATION\$\$ stands for NATION84 to NATION06 from the files APGEN to WPGEN.
- The file BIOLELA is mentioned frequently within the framework of the following documentation of the individual steps needed for generating biographical variables. This file is not a component of the standard updates of the SOEP data sets, but encompasses all of the biographical entries collected until 1996 (in the Individual Questionnaire and the Biographical Questionnaire) from the SOEP respondents. This file is rather complex due to the differences in the surveying procedures mentioned above and is therefore one central input for nearly all of the following variables on individuals who entered the

survey prior to 1996. However, BIOLELA does not contain information necessary for updates (e.g. giving birth after having answered the Biographical Questionnaire). Furthermore, identical information is distributed over a multitude of single variables. The information in BIOLELA is only suitable for very restricted analyses without additional tests and supplements. Beginning with 1997, there are wave-specific \$LELA files containing the biography information as collected in the respective year. These files (i.e. BIOLELA and \$LELA) can be made available on request to interested users of the SOEP data.

The following table displays in a general overview the full set of biographical information as surveyed in the Biography Questionnaire ‘Lebenslauf’ (‘life history’) in 2004 and the current version (June 2007) of the user-friendly edition of this information. The designated numbers in the Biography Questionnaire ‘Lebenslauf’ (‘life history’) refer to the 2004 version with all samples fully integrated; due to the multitude of differences in the data collection process (as mentioned above), this does not imply that all of the following named variables were collected from all respondents nor that all information is available accordingly in the final biographical files.

Table 1: Biographical data in SOEP

Biography Sub-area	Number of Question in the 'Lebenslauf' Questionnaire (2004)	<i>Comparable Questions in the Youth Questionnaire (2004)</i>	SOEP Target Population	Files in the SOEP Database	Analysis Unit	Update Requirements (Source File for Update)	Status: Available / Not Available (up to Wave W)
Place of birth	2, 3	55	All persons surveyed	PPFAD	Individual	No	Available
Year of immigration	4	58	For persons not born in Germany	PPFAD	Individual	No	Available
Immigration biography	5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 15a	57, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 65, 66a, 66b	For persons not born in Germany	BIOIMMIG	Individual	No	Available
Living in East or West Germany in 1989	16	-	All persons surveyed	PPFAD	Individual	No	Available
Place of childhood; Life at childhood residence; grew up with parents, Living together with parents	17, 17a, 19, 20	67a, 67b	All persons surveyed	BIOPAREN	Individual	No	Available
Number of brothers and sisters	18	68	All persons surveyed		Individual	Yes	Not available
Parents living region, year of birth, year of death, nationality	21, 22, 23	71, 72, 73	All persons surveyed	BIOPAREN	Individual	Partly (year of death from PPFAD)	Available

Parents' school + occupational degree, their job + occupation as respondent was 15 years old	24, 25, 26, 27	74, 75, 76, 77	All persons surveyed	BIOPAREN	Individual	No	Available
Religious affiliation of parents	28	78	All persons surveyed	BIOPAREN	Individual	No	Available
Parents took care about efforts at school	29	39	All persons surveyed	BIOSOC	Individual	No	Available
Respondent's last school marks	30	35	All persons surveyed	BIOSOC	Individual	No	Available
Relationship to parents during youth	31	13	All persons surveyed	BIOSOC	Individual	No	Available
Sport and activities during youth	32, 33, 34, 35	16, 20, 21, 24	All persons surveyed	BIOSOC	Individual	No	Available
Occupational biography	36	-	All persons surveyed	PBIOSPE	Spell	Yes (\$P, \$PKAL)	Available
Year and place of acquiring a school degree	37, 38, 41	26a	All persons surveyed	BIOSOC	Individual	No (although possible using \$P)	Available
Level of school degree	39, 40, 42	26b	All persons surveyed	\$PGEN	Individual	Yes (\$P)	Available
Number of foreign classmates in last attended school class	43	43	All persons surveyed	BIOSOC	Individual	No	Available
Target school degree	44, 45	27, 28	All persons surveyed	BIOSOC	Individual	No	Available
Attained vocational degree, year and place of attaining, certificate of degrees attained abroad	46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52	44, 45	All persons surveyed	BIOSOC	Individual	No (although partly possible using \$P)	Available

Target vocational degree	53, 54	46, 47	All persons surveyed	BIOSOC	Individual	No	Available
First job (age, occupational position, public sector, industry)	55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60a, 60b	-	All persons surveyed	BIOJOB	Individual	Yes, if person previously did not work (\$P)	Available
Occupational changes	61	-	All persons surveyed	BIOJOB	Individual	Yes	Only available as given in interview;
Last job (year, scope, public sector branch, occupational position)	62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67	-	All persons surveyed	BIOJOB	Individual	Yes	<i>not updated yet</i>
Year since living personally in current apartment; second residence	68, 69	-	All persons surveyed	BIORESID	Individual	No	Available
Births	70	-	All women surveyed; since 2000 men, too	BIOBIRTH BIOBRTHM	Individual	Yes (\$P, \$PBRUTTO, \$KIND)	Available
Family status (marriage biography)	71, 72	-	All persons surveyed	BIOMARSY	Spell	Yes (\$P, \$PBRUTTO)	Available
Military or alternative community service (only men) and voluntary service	73, 74	-	All persons surveyed	BIOSOC	Individual	No (although partly possible using \$P)	Available
Youth	Youth Questionnaire		16 and 17 year old respondents	BIOAGE17	Individual	No	Available
Newborns	Mother & Child Questionnaire		Mothers of newborns	BIOAGE01	Individual	No	Available
Infants	Questionnaire on children aged 2 to 3 years		Mothers	BIOAGE03	Individual	No	Available

## ***2. Biographical Information in the Meta File PPFAD (Month of Birth, Year of Death, Immigration Variables, Living in East or West Germany in 1989)***

by Joachim R. Frick, Lena Jacobi and Christian Schmitt

The file PPFAD includes, among other more survey related variables like responding status, some most important demographical information for every person who has ever participated in SOEP in at least one wave. These are, on the one hand, longitudinally checked data on sex (variable SEX) and the date of birth (year of birth in variable GEBJAHR in 4-digits and month of birth in variable GEBMONAT), and, on the other hand, generated variables on the year of death (TODJAHR and TODINFO), on the year of the first immigration to Germany (IMMIYEAR), on the country of origin (GERMBORN and CORIGIN) as well as on the geographic area a person lived in prior to German unification (LOC1989). In the following section, the construction of these generated variables will be explained briefly.

### 2.1 Month of birth

Due to the more recent incorporation of adequate questions on the month of birth in the various SOEP survey instruments, the data set PPFAD contains – in addition to the year of birth (GEBJAHR) – the month of birth (GEBMONAT). The target population for this information is comprised of all individuals irrespective of their survey status as respondent or child. This new variable is accompanied by the supporting variable GEBMOVAL which indicates the data source for the month of birth.

GEBMONTH and GEBMOVAL can take the following characteristics:

- GEBMONTH: Month of birth; 1 (January) to 12 (December)
- GEBMOVAL: Month of birth - data-source 1 generated
  - 2 information as stored in PPFAD
  - 3 derived from data set \$KIND
  - 4 derived from data set SP
  - 5 derived from data set \$LELA
  - 6 derived from BIOAGE01  
(mother-child-questionnaire)  
(NEW with Wave W / Survey year 2006!)

The month of birth was asked for in the individual questionnaire in wave S (SP). Furthermore, the month of birth was asked for in the biography data set, starting with wave T (\$LELA, file not available with the SOEP data distribution). Additionally, the month of birth is surveyed

for all children within the file \$KIND (starting with wave T). Although this provides the relevant information for most of the current panel members, the information remains missing for some persons including temporary dropouts or people who exited in a previous wave. For some of these individuals, it was possible to reconstruct the month of birth. This reconstruction remains an approximation and might differ from the true month of birth in individual cases.

The month of birth is constructed in hierarchical order from the files:

- Generated (on the basis of \$P, \$PBRUTTO \$KIND)
- \$KIND
- SP
- \$LELA
- BIOAGE01 (Starting with wave W, 2006)

whereas the latter information overrides the former.

This means the generated information will be utilized only if no information based on the questionnaire is available for the month of birth.

It was possible to construct the generated month of birth only for individuals who were born while their parents participated in the SOEP. The information was taken from two sources:

- For newborn children the month of moving into the household was used as an approximation of the real month of birth (relevant file \$PBRUTTO).
- For parents who reported a birth in a certain month, a link to the child was established, assigning the month of birth to the child (relevant file \$P).

Several adjustments and tests of the generated data have been carried out. These showed that – in the cases in which the generated data was also collected by SP, \$LELA or \$KIND – the data generation is almost always congruent with the collected data and has therefore proven to be reliable.

*Marginal distribution for variables GEBMONAT “month of birth” and GEBMOVAL “data source for month of birth” in the file PPFAD (Version 2006 / up to Wave W)*

**GEBMONAT Month of Birth**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	-3 Not valid	1	,0	,0	,0
	-1 No information	26681	43,8	43,8	43,8
	1 January	2956	4,9	4,9	48,7
	2 February	2856	4,7	4,7	53,4
	3 March	3052	5,0	5,0	58,4
	4 April	2877	4,7	4,7	63,1
	5 Mai	2972	4,9	4,9	68,0
	6 June	2761	4,5	4,5	72,5
	7 July	2938	4,8	4,8	77,3
	8 August	2811	4,6	4,6	82,0
	9 September	2896	4,8	4,8	86,7
	10 October	2835	4,7	4,7	91,4
	11 November	2551	4,2	4,2	95,6
	12 December	2704	4,4	4,4	100,0
Total		60891	100,0	100,0	

**GEBMOVAL Month of Birth – Data Source**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	-3	1	,0	,0	,0
	-1	26677	43,8	43,8	43,8
	1 Generated	1353	2,2	2,2	46,0
	3 Parents’ response (\$kind)	6982	11,5	11,5	57,5
	4 Own response (person quest. wave S, SP)	21542	35,4	35,4	92,9
	5 Own response (biographical module \$lela)	3292	5,4	5,4	98,3
	6 Mother’s response (mother-child-quest. BIOAGE01)	1044	1,7	1,7	100,0
Total		60891	100,0	100,0	

## 2.2 Year of death

**Variable TODJAHR**      Year of death - 4 digits -

The Variable TODJAHR contains the four digit year entered as the year of death.

Codes

\$\$\$\$ effective year entered for persons whose year of death could be determined

- (a) from the drop-out file YPBRUTTO, that is, the outcome of the yearly field work
- (b) within the scope of the Infratest-Verbleibstudie (Study conducted by Infratest to follow-up on drop-outs) from 1992
- (c) within the scope of the Infratest-Verbleibstudie (Study conducted by Infratest to follow-up on drop-outs) from 2001

Missing codes

- (-2) Persons currently living or no longer existing in the sample

Essentially, the deaths of SOEP respondents are reported in the course of the yearly household interview during which the status of the currently living members of the household, as well as the changes due to births and deaths since the last year are surveyed. Furthermore, within the framework of, up to now, two subsequent address investigations of SOEP drop-outs (“Infratest-Verbleibstudie”), demographical drop outs due to mortality or move abroad have been identified. The mortality information is used in generating the variable TODJAHR.

In the first “Verbleibstudie” conducted from April to June in 1992 a total of 53 persons could be identified as deceased. In incorporating this information into the variable TODJAHR attention was given to the fact that an exact year of death could be determined for only 35 of these persons. An exact date was missing for 16 persons, that is, only the qualitative information on their death was available. As a substitute for these cases, the year of the Wave in which the person dropped out of SOEP was used. For 2 persons implausible entries were corrected.

Within the scope of the second Infratest-“Verbleibstudie” conducted in 2001, over 700 persons were identified as deceased. Included in this number are multiple identifications, i.e., persons who were already determined to be deceased through the standard follow up process or in course of the first “Verbleibstudie 1992” mentioned above. This displays essentially a very high correspondence of results from the standard follow up and the ex-post determination of the time of death. For 10 persons the missing information on the year of death was imputed with the help of the year in which they dropped out of the SOEP sample.

In the few cases in which there were conflicting information between the “Verbleibstudie” and the information from YPBRUTTO, in principle the information from the “Verbleibstudie” was used.

**Variable TODINFO**                      Year of death – source of information

Codes

- 1        'from continued surveying (YPBRUTTO)'
- 2        'Infratest-Verbleibstudie (Follow-up Study) 1992'
- 3        'Infratest-Verbleibstudie (Follow-up Study) 2001'

For all of the persons who could be identified as deceased, the variable TODINFO contains the corresponding source of information.

### 2.3 Immigration information

#### **Variables IMMIYEAR, GERMBORN and CORIGIN**

The objective of these variables, based on all the persons who have been a part of SOEP (population from PPFAD), is to identify individuals who have immigrated to Germany from any other country since 1949 (the founding year of the Federal Republic of Germany). For this group of persons the variable IMMIYEAR specifies the calendar year (4 digits) in which the first immigration to territories of the Federal Republic of Germany occurred. Persons who had immigrated to Germany up until and including 1948 are included in the group of those identified as “born in Germany” (see variable GERMBORN). The variable CORIGIN specifies the country of origin.

The “Immigrant Sample” D classifies everybody who moved from abroad to West Germany as “immigrant”, including persons who came from the GDR (*‘Übersiedler’*). However, this latter group does not have an immigrant status as a result of the definition used here and as such, *Overview 1* may show a surprisingly low share of immigrants for Sample D. A specific problem regarding immigration to Germany arises from the group of persons who were born in Eastern Europe at a time when these regions were considered German territory and who later immigrated to the Federal Republic of Germany. For this group, according to the formulation of the corresponding SOEP questions regarding the country of origin, inconsistent answers can be expected. If at all possible, these persons are identified as immigrants in the variables described here (cumulative up to Wave R this affects merely 115 persons).

*Overview 1* illustrates that across all SOEP sub-samples, persons have been identified as being immigrants. Therefore, an analysis on immigration questions clearly should *not* be limited to samples B and D. It is relevant to note that – almost by definition – the share of *non-immigrants* in Sample B (the “foreigner” sample which was started in 1984) increases permanently due to children born to these persons after their migration to Germany (“second-generation”). The large proportion of individuals with a “No Answer” Code in Sample G is mainly due to a change in the selection scheme for the second Wave of the High Income

Sample. Therefore biographical information is not available for persons which were not followed up in 2003.

*Overview 1:* Distribution of the Immigration Information According to SOEP Samples A to H (Version: Wave W, 2006)

GERMBORN	Sample								Total
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
No Answer (Codes -1 and -3)	179 <i>1.3</i>	103 <i>2.0</i>	14 <i>0.2</i>	18 <i>1.2</i>	25 <i>1.1</i>	30 <i>0.2</i>	721 <i>24.0</i>	225 <i>8.6</i>	1,306 <i>2.8</i>
<b>Born in Germany or immigrated before 1949</b> (Code 1)	13,128 <i>95.6</i>	1,292 <i>24.6</i>	6,482 <i>98.5</i>	485 <i>32.7</i>	2,066 <i>90.5</i>	11,080 <i>88.5</i>	2,153 <i>72.4</i>	2,315 <i>88.5</i>	39,001 <i>82.2</i>
<b>Immigrated since 1949</b> (Code 2)	419 <i>3.1</i>	3,851 <i>73.4</i>	87 <i>1.3</i>	981 <i>66.1</i>	193 <i>8.5</i>	1,417 <i>11.3</i>	111 <i>3.7</i>	76 <i>2.9</i>	7,135 <i>15.1</i>
Total	13,726 <i>100</i>	5,246 <i>100</i>	6,583 <i>100</i>	1,484 <i>100</i>	2,284 <i>100</i>	12,527 <i>100</i>	2,976 <i>100</i>	2,616 <i>100</i>	47,442 <i>100</i>

*Source:* All survey participants with at least one SOEP interview from 1984 to 2006 (n=47,442).

The objective of generating immigration information in PPFAD is to fill the variables GERMBORN, CORIGIN and IMMIYEAR for all of the survey participants who have had at least one SOEP interview, as well as for the children in all households who have realized interviews; the informational base for permanent non-responders is not sufficient. The elements involved in generating the immigration information are those listed in the *Overview 2* taken from the wave specific individual questionnaire or from the course of the SOEP installed variations of the “Biography/Life history” questionnaires:

- \$P (wave-specific survey data from individual questionnaire),
- \$PAUSL (wave specific survey data collected only for sample B from the personal data questionnaire up until Wave M),
- \$PBRUTTO (wave specific information collected by the interviewer on all household members),
- BIOLELA (integrated biographical file for the years 1984 to 1995 = Wave A to Wave L)
- \$LELA (Curriculum vitae information for those interviewed for the first time since 1996 = wave M)
- \$JUGEND (youth questionnaire for 16-17 year olds since 2000, wave Q) and \$PAGE17 (extended youth questionnaire for first-time respondents since 2006, wave W).

Difficulties in generating the immigration information arise in part for those persons for whom none of the mentioned information was originally surveyed (for example, in the “*Lebenslauf-Fragebogen*” Biographical Questionnaire): This effects in particular sub-samples A and C and in most cases is caused by the fact that these persons did not take part in or no longer took part in the SOEP survey at the time that the survey with the immigration relevant questions was implemented (see Introduction). Questions regarding immigration were first asked of survey participants in sample A in 1990 and the Biographical Questionnaire was first included in the eastern sample C in the third wave (1992) out in the field. Moreover, Item-Non-Response is also significant, i.e., not answering a question. In order to minimize the number of missing entries for immigration relevant variables, for persons for whom corresponding information *is* missing, information from other variables or from the household context are used to the extent that these permit inferences on the immigration biography of the individual.

Overview 2: Input-Variables for Generating Immigration Information

Variable	File	Variable Label	Sample
AP62A	APAUSL	Country of birth	B
BP98A	BPAUSL	Country of birth	B
CP98AB	CPAUSL	Country of birth	B
DP95A	DPAUSL	Country of birth	B
EP88A	EPAUSL	Country of birth	B
FP105A	FPAUSL	Country of birth	B
GP105A	GPAUSL	Country of birth	B
HP105A	HPAUSL	Country of birth	B
IP105A	IPAUSL	Country of birth	B
JP105A	JPAUSL	Country of birth	B
AP63A	APAUSL	Year moved to Germany	B
BP99A01	BPAUSL	Year moved to Germany	B
CP99AB01	CPAUSL	Year moved to Germany	B
DP96A01	DPAUSL	Year moved to Germany	B
EP89A01	EPAUSL	Year moved to Germany	B
FP106A01	FPAUSL	Year moved to Germany	B
GP10801	GP	Year moved to East, West Germany (Filter)	A B
GP10802	GP	Year moved to East, West Germany	A B
GP10803	GP	Area of origin	A B
GP106A01	GPAUSL	Year moved to Germany	B
HP108B01	HP	Year moved to East, West Germany (Filter)	A B
HP108B02	HP	Year moved to East, West Germany	A B
HP108B03	HP	Area of origin	A B
HP106A01	HPAUSL	Year moved to Germany	B
IP10801	IP	Year moved to East/West Germany (Filter)	A B C
IP10802	IP	Year moved to East/West Germany	A B C
IP10803	IP	Area of origin	A B C
IP106A01	IPAUSL	Year immigrated to Germany	B
JP108B01	JP	Year moved to East/West Germany (Filter)	A B C
JP108B02	JP	Year moved to East/West Germany	A B C
JP108B03	JP	Area of origin	A B C
JP106A01	JPAUSL	Year immigrated to Germany	B
LPGRUPPE	LPBRUTTO	Immigration group	D
LPHERKFT	LPBRUTTO	Country born in	D
MP90A01	MP	German	A B C D
MP90A02	MP	Emigrant of German descent from Eastern Europe	A B C D
MP90A03	MP	Has already lived in Germany in 1984	A B C D
NP101	NP	Born in Germany	A B C D
NP102	NP	Has already lived in Germany in 1984	A B C D
OP103	NP	Born in Germany	A B C D E
OP104	NP	Has already lived in Germany in 1984	A B C D E
PP117	NP	Born in Germany	A B C D E
PP118	NP	Has already lived in Germany in 1984	A B C D E
QP12101	QP	Born in Germany?	A B C D E F
QP12102	QP	Country of birth	A B C D E F
QP122	QP	Has already lived in Germany in 1984	A B C D E F
QP124	QP	Born in Germany?	A B C D E F
RP11701	RP	Born in Germany?	A B C D E F
RP11702	RP	Other country of birth	A B C D E F
RP118	RP	Has already lived in Germany in 1984	A B C D E F
RP120	RP	Foreign citizenship: Born in Germany?	A B C D E F
SP120	SP	Foreign citizenship: Born in Germany?	A B C D E F G
TP121	TP	Place of residence before reunification 1989	A B C D E F G
TP126	TP	Foreign citizenship: Born in Germany?	A B C D E F G
UP130	UP	Foreign citizenship: Born in Germany?	A B C D E F G
VP139	VP	Foreign citizenship: Born in Germany?	A B C D E F G
WP131	WP	Foreign citizenship: Born in Germany?	A B C D E F G H
P031Z	BIOLELA	Year of immigration to Germany	D
P051Z	BIOLELA	Year of immigration to Germany	D
P060Z	BIOLELA	Has always lived in Germany since immigration	D
P04Z	BIOLELA	Country of birth	D
P021Z	BIOLELA	Lived where in 1984?	D
B34	BIOLELA	Area of origin	A B C
B36	BIOLELA	Country of birth	A B C
B37	BIOLELA	Year of immigration to Federal Republic of Germany	A B C
\$B03Z	\$LELA	Country of birth	A B C D E F G
\$B02	\$LELA	Born in Germany?	A B C D E F G
\$B041Z	\$LELA	Before 1984 – Immigration year to FRG	A B C D E F G
\$B042Z	\$LELA	After 1984 – Immigration year to FRG	A B C D E F G
QJ54	QJUGEND	Born in Germany?	A B C D E
QJ55	QJUGEND	Country of birth	A B C D E
QJ56	QJUGEND	Year of immigration to Federal Republic of Germany	A B C D E
\$J56	\$JUGEND	Born in Germany?	A B C D E F G
\$J57	\$JUGEND	Country of birth	A B C D E F G
\$J58	\$JUGEND	Year of immigration to Federal Republic of Germany	A B C D E F G
ZZJAHR	Generated on the basis of the variables \$PZUG from the files \$PBRUTTO	Immigrations to Germany which were documented through the interview within the scope of the field work. This information is used only if no other valid information is available.	A B C D E F G

In the following sections, the PPFAD variables are described in detail; special attention is given to the central filtering function of the variable GERMBORN in reference to the variables IMMIYEAR and CORIGIN.

**Variable GERMBORN**      Born in Germany?

Codes

- 1      Persons who were born in Germany (including immigrants before 1949)
- 2      Persons who have immigrated to Germany since 1949

Missing codes

- 2     For permanent non-respondents
- 1     Provided that no entry could be derived from all of the variables

The following persons have been identified as immigrants despite the fact that information is missing for the variables relevant to GERMBORN (The process follows the sequence stated here, i.e., if the first condition does not hold, then the second condition is tested and so on):

- 1.1    Persons from sample D for whom a foreign country as the country of origin is entered in the address protocol in the first survey wave (variable LPHERKFT). The variable CORIGIN is also given the respective value.
- 1.2    Persons with valid entries for the variable IMMIYEAR who over the course of their survey in SOEP have at least once indicated a non-German nationality. This nationality is alternatively used instead to generate the variable CORIGIN.
- 1.3    Persons whose mothers have immigrated after having given birth to this individual in case the mother's immigration occurred less than 18 years after the birth of the respective person. For CORIGIN and IMMIYEAR, in this case, information from the mother's immigration history is used, assuming that mother and child have always lived together.
- 1.4    For persons who have acquired an educational degree abroad, who at any time have indicated a non-German nationality and in whose households (given by HHNR) immigrants reside, CORIGIN is given the corresponding value of the nationality; as a rule IMMIYEAR remains "missing" ("-1").

On the other hand, for the following persons it is assumed that they were born in Germany:

- 2.1 Persons from sample D for whom in the first survey wave Germany as the country of origin is entered in the address protocol.
- 2.2 Persons whose mothers were born in Germany or had immigrated before giving birth.
- 2.3 Minor children who live in a household with no immigrants.
- 2.4 Persons from samples A, C, E, F, G and H who live in a household with no immigrants and who have never indicated a non-German nationality.

Furthermore, generating immigration variables proves to be difficult for persons who in the course of the survey years submit conflicting answers on whether or not they were born in Germany. The number of these inconsistencies has increased with the inclusion of the yearly repetition of the corresponding question in the individual data questionnaire (2000). In such cases, as a rule decisions can only be based on plausibility and in comparison with further answers. If, for example, concrete information on the country of origin or the immigration year exists, then it is assumed that the person is an immigrant. For such cases where the individual information given by the person itself is not strong enough to base a decision on, then additional information from the household context is applied. If no final decision on the basis of all available information can be made, then the person with an inconsistent answer is given the code for missing values; thereafter the affected person's data file is run through the generation process described above.

In assessing the cases with inconsistent answers it must be considered that the questions relevant for GERMBORN in the SOEP surveying instruments are based on different definitions of "Germany". The questions from 1990 to 1993 that related to the regions of the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic (DDR) since 1949, respectively have been switched in the Biographical Questionnaire since 1996 to "the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany), the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) or Germany as defined at the time of your birth". From this, answers which appear to be in contrast to each other could emerge for persons who were born prior to 1949 in "formerly German regions" in Eastern Europe which today are no longer part of the Federal Republic. Persons belonging to this group are considered to be, in the manner described here, immigrants if they immigrated after 1949.

For persons who, according to GERMBORN, are not born in Germany, the variables IMMIYEAR and CORIGIN should designate the year of the initial immigration to Germany, respectively the country of origin.

**Variable IMMIYEAR**      Year of the initial immigration to Germany after 1948 (4 digits)

Codes

1949 ... 2006      Immigration year

Missing codes

- 3      for successfully surveyed persons without a valid entry for the immigration variables (GERMBORN could not be filled with a valid answer)
- 2      if born in Germany or immigrated before 1949, respectively and survey participants without an interview
- 1      Immigrants for whom no valid answer can be derived from all the original variables

Persons who have been identified as immigrants and for whom it was not possible to determine the immigration year from the original variables are assigned the following values:

1. The year of entry into SOEP, in the event that \$PZUG from the file \$PBRUTTO indicates the code “moved into household from abroad” (see the variable ZZJAHR in *Overview 2*)
2. The year of the mother’s immigration, in the event that the mother had immigrated prior to the year the person turned 18 years of age.

**Variable CORIGIN**      Country of origin

Codes

1	Germany
2 to 151	Turkey, (Ex-)Yugoslavia, Greece, Italy, Spain, .... Yemen
222	unspecified Eastern Europe
333	other unspecified foreign country
444	unspecified countries within EU

Missing codes

- 3      for successfully surveyed persons without a valid entry for the immigration variables (GERMBORN could not be filled with a valid answer).
- 2      all survey participants without an interview
- 1      Immigrants for whom no valid answer is derivable from all of the original variables

The variable CORIGIN represents the country of origin, respectively of birth. Every person born in (West and East) Germany is assigned code “1” for the variable CORIGIN (see also the variable GERMBORN). Starting with the January 2004 release of SOEP-data (including

wave S (survey year 2002)), the information on the country of origin is also contained in the 95% Scientific-Use-Version, which had not been the case before (the same is true for the variables on nationality in \$PGEN).

Persons, who have been identified as immigrants and from whose original variables no country of origin could be determined, are assigned as a resource the following codes:

1. The code of the country which corresponds to their non-German nationality.
2. The code “222“, in the event that it is evident from the original variables (code “2” in GP10803 to JP108B03) that the person in question immigrated from Eastern Europe, respectively from the former German territories in Eastern Europe. This also includes, under certain circumstances, a small number of persons from sample D if they were identified in P070Z as persons of German descent from Eastern Europe.
3. The code „333“, in the event that from the original variables (code “3” in GP10803 to JP108B03) it is evident that the person comes from a region other than Eastern Europe.
4. The country of origin given in the address protocol from sample D (variable LPHERKFT).
5. The mother’s country of origin in the event that the mother has immigrated prior to the year the person turned 18 years of age.

#### 2.4 Living in East or West Germany in 1989

The variable LOC1989 in the meta-file PPFAD provides information about the geographic area a person lived in *prior to* the German reunification, differentiating “East Germany (DDR incl. East Berlin)”, “West Germany (Bundesrepublik Deutschland incl. West Berlin)”, and “abroad (Ausland)”. This information has been generated for all individuals in SOEP with at least one successful interview since 1984 as well as for children (i.e., \$NETTO = 1 or 2).

**Variable LOC1989**                    “Where did you live in 1989?”

Codes

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | East Germany (German Democratic Republic [DDR] including East Berlin)  |
| 2 | West Germany (Federal Republic of Germany [BRD] including West Berlin) |
| 3 | Abroad (Ausland)   |

Missing Codes

- |    |                                 |
|----|---------------------------------|
| -2 | does not apply; born after 1989 |
| -1 | not available                   |

After asking this information from all respondents in 2003 (variable TP121 in file TP), a corresponding question has been included in the biography questionnaire since wave U (2004) [Question 16 / variable UB16 in file ULELA] which will collect this time-independent information from all future first time respondents. For all respondents interviewed up until 2006, the following information was used as input to generate LOC1989:

- Information on place and date of last school attendance [variables BSSCHEND and BSSCHWO in file BIOSOC / variables \$B38 and \$B3701 in file \$LELA with \$ starting in wave U, 2004],
- Sample affiliation [variable PSAMPLE in file PPFAD],
- year moved in at current address [variable BRMOVEIN in file BIORESID / variable \$B68 in file \$LELA with \$ starting in wave U, 2004],
- sample region [variables \$SAMPREG in file PPFAD],
- year of first immigration to Germany [variable IMMIYEAR in file PPFAD]
- In case of inconsistent information from these various sources, the data collected in 2003 via variable TP121 and the information from the biography questionnaire collected since 2004 is considered superior. Persons without any individual information and aged less than 18 years in 1989 were assigned parental information, if available.
- Since no biographical information is available for members of sample H until survey year 2007, LOC1989 has been set to missing in data release up to wave 2006.

LOC1989      Where did you live in 1989?

LOC1989	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
n/a; t.n.z (GEBJAHR>=1990)	7,517	12.88	12.88
n/s; k.A.	7,758	13.29	26.17
GDR; DDR (including East Berlin)	9,758	16.72	42.89
FRG; BRD (including West Berlin)	31,629	54.19	97.08
Abroad; Ausland	1,706	2.92	100.00
Total	58,368	100.00	

*Source:* POPULATION of PPFAD as of wave W (2006) with at least one interview since 1984 or living as child in a responding household (\$NETTO-codes >=10 and <30)

### ***3. Activity Biography in the File PBIOSPE***

by Rainer Pischner

The spell file PBIOSPE is based on the information of the professional life which is collected in the Biography-Questionnaire from every interviewed person as a matrix. The observations start with the age of 15 and end with the actual age (up to age 65). This information on occupational status is only valid up to the time the biography is collected (variable ERHEBJ). To update the on-going occupational career in PBIOSPE, information of the yearly Individual-Questionnaire is also used. In this Questionnaire the occupational status is always asked for every month of the previous year. Therefore, the information which is collected on a monthly basis and stored in the file ARTKALEN is aggregated into yearly values.<sup>3</sup> For persons who temporarily could not be questioned, it is sometimes possible to fill the gaps in their occupational status. If these persons fill out the additional questionnaire for temporary drop outs later on, then we can use the information collected there (see files \$PLUECKE).

The information on the occupational status is transformed into spells, whereby each spell is defined through the duration of a given status (e.g., unemployment). The starting and ending time of a spell are given by the respondent's age as well as by the calendar year. The information listed in the following table is found in detail in the file PBIOSPE.

Of special interest is the variable SPELLTYP which gives the occupational status of a person at a single age. The corresponding specifications of the professional status are also listed in the table.

Serial number	Label (SPELLTYP)	Label (SPELLTYP)
(1)	Schule, Studium	School/University
(2)	Lehre, Ausbildung	Apprenticeship/Training
(3)	Wehr-, Zivildienst	Military/Civilian service
(4)	Voll berufstaetig	Full-time employed
(5)	Teilzeit beschaeftigt	Part-time employed
(6)	Arbeitslos	Unemployed
(7)	Hausfrau, Hausmann	House-Husband/Wife
(8)	Im Ruhestand	Retired
(9)	Andere Tätigkeit	Other

<sup>3</sup> For more information see Haisken-DeNew, John and Joachim R. Frick (2005): DTC - Desktop Companion to the German Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP), Chapter 3.

The following table shows by an example the resulting spell system of some SOEP-respondent using the procedure mentioned above.

**Print out of the first cases in PBIOSPE**

HH NR	PERS NR	SPELL NR	SPELL TYP	BEGIN	END	BEGIN BIO	END BIO	BEGIN KAL	END KAL	BEGIN Y	END Y	BEGIN YB	END YB	BEGIN YK	END YK	ZEN SOR	SPELL INF	ERHEBJ	FEHL CODE
19	101	1	2	15	18	15	18	-2	-2	1945	1948	1945	1948	-2	-2	2	1	84	0
19	101	2	4	19	58	19	54	53	58	1949	1988	1949	1984	1983	1988	3	3	84	0
19	102	1	1	15	15	15	15	-2	-2	1955	1955	1955	1955	-2	-2	2	1	84	0
19	102	2	4	16	22	16	22	-2	-2	1956	1962	1956	1962	-2	-2	1	1	84	0
19	102	3	7	23	48	23	44	43	48	1963	1988	1963	1984	1983	1988	3	3	84	0
19	103	1	1	15	16	15	16	-2	-2	1978	1979	1978	1979	-2	-2	2	1	84	0
19	103	2	2	17	20	17	20	-2	-2	1980	1983	1980	1983	-2	-2	1	1	84	0
19	103	3	4	20	23	21	21	20	23	1983	1986	1984	1984	1983	1986	3	3	84	0
27	201	1	1	15	19	15	19	-2	-2	1941	1945	1941	1945	-2	-2	2	1	84	0
27	201	2	2	20	24	20	24	-2	-2	1946	1950	1946	1950	-2	-2	1	1	84	0
27	201	3	4	25	29	25	29	-2	-2	1951	1955	1951	1955	-2	-2	1	1	84	0
27	201	4	7	30	39	30	39	-2	-2	1956	1965	1956	1965	-2	-2	1	1	84	0
27	201	5	7	57	58	-2	-2	57	58	1983	1984	-2	-2	1983	1984	1	2	84	-2
27	201	6	8	40	65	40	58	57	65	1966	1991	1966	1984	1983	1991	3	3	84	16
27	202	1	1	15	25	15	25	-2	-2	1971	1981	1971	1981	-2	-2	2	1	87	-2
27	202	2	1	28	28	-2	-2	28	28	1984	1984	-2	-2	1984	1984	1	2	87	-2
27	202	3	4	27	31	27	31	28	30	1983	1987	1983	1987	1984	1986	3	4	87	-2
27	202	4	5	26	26	26	26	-2	-2	1982	1982	1982	1982	-2	-2	1	1	87	-2
27	202	5	5	30	30	-2	-2	30	30	1986	1986	-2	-2	1986	1986	1	2	87	-2
27	202	6	6	29	29	29	29	-2	-2	1985	1985	1985	1985	-2	-2	1	1	87	-2
27	202	7	7	29	29	-2	-2	29	29	1985	1985	-2	-2	1985	1985	1	2	87	-2

The variables BEGIN and END indicate the beginning and the end of a spell, the variables BEGINBIO and BEGINKAL as well as ENDBIO and ENDKAL indicate the “source” of the utilized original information (one-time BIOgraphy-Questionnaire or (KAL) calendar information from the yearly survey). The variables described here are age entries. Analogously there is the block BEGINY and ENDYK. With this block the corresponding Spell data is not longer only in the form of the age, but also coded with the calendar year. Y stands for Year, B for BIO and K for KAL.

Missing information on the beginning or the end of a spell causes so called censoring problems. If both time points are known, then the spell is not censored (1); otherwise the spell is identified as ‘left censored’ (2) when the beginning time is missing, and as ‘right censored’ (3) when the ending time is missing (see the variable ZENSOR).

For surveyed person number 201 in household 27, information over the total life span collected here is available (BEGIN and END). The first activity (SPELLNR=1) was between the ages of 15 to 19 respectively from 1941 to 1945 (BEGINY and ENDY); the respondent went to school (SPELLTYP=1). This information was taken from the Biography-Questionnaire (BEGINBIO=15 and ENDBIO=19; BEGINYB and ENDYB respectively), which was conducted in the year 1984 (ERHEBJ=84). In the ‘calendar for occupations’ there is no relevant information found (BEGINKAL=-2). The information is “left censored” (ZENSOR=2) since there is no information available before the age of 15.

As the second activity (SPELLNR=2) of the respondent Apprenticeship/Training (SPELLTYP=2) between the ages of 20 and 24 has been entered. This data was also found in the Biography-Questionnaire of the year 1984.

Interesting to point out are the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> activities of respondent number 201. For the ages of 30 to 39 the respondent entered the occupational status “Home-Husband/Wife” (SPELLTYP=7) in the Biography-Questionnaire. This information is not censored (ZENSOR=1), that is, status information before and after this activity is available. The 5<sup>th</sup> spell-activity from the age 57 to 58 is taken from the ‘calendar of occupation’ (SPELLTYP=7; Home-Husband/Wife); in spite of the overlapping time periods this information was not contained in the Biography-Questionnaire. Here the respondent merely specified (SPELLNR=6) that from age 40 to 58 he/she was retired. This status was extended up to the age of 65 using the entries in the ‘calendar of occupation’ of the following years. Thus this activity is ‘right censored’.

The variable SPELLINF names the source of information for the single spells: all spells which are based on the answers given in the biographical schema are encoded with SPELLINF=1, those from the calendar with 2, and combined spells with information from the biographical schema and the calendar (in the above mentioned example SPELLNR=6) are encoded with SPELLINF=3.

The variable FEHLCODE identifies eventual problems by the generation of spells due to missing information for certain/some ages (see the value labels for FEHLCODE ).

## **4. BIOJOB: Detailed Information on First and Last Job**

by Tanja Schmidt

(based on work of Daniel Wachtlin, Mathis Schroeder & Thorsten Schneider)

### 4.1 Overview

Biographical data in the GSOEP stem from various sources. All information for the waves 1984 to 1995 is compiled in the BIOLELA-file of the SIR-GSOEP-database. Since 1996 a standardised version for all samples has been provided, and new biographical data is stored in wave-specific files (\$LELA). To have a general phrasing, all biographical files are referred to as LELA-files. (LELA stems from the German ‘LEbensLAuf’, curriculum vitae.)

The LELA-data relevant for BIOJOB consists of

- the age at entry into the working force
- the type of occupation at entry (blue/white collar worker, self-employed, civil servant)
- detailed occupational information at entry
- changes of occupation
- intended educational degree or vocational/professional training
- the year of the last employment
- the type of occupation in the last job.

Since 2000 a new questionnaire (in the following referred to as Youth Questionnaire) has been provided for respondents who are 16 or 17 years old. The youth respondents answer the Youth Questionnaire instead of the biographical one. The Youth Questionnaire provides less detailed information about the job biography because respondents usually have not entered the labour market at the age of 16 or 17.

In 2001 members of the F sample became part of the biojob population. They had to answer the biography questionnaire if their year of birth was prior to 1982. Members of the F sample with a birth year in the range from 1982 to 1984 answered the Youth Questionnaire.

Members of sample G (2002) answered the biography questionnaire in 2003, Persons who where born between 1986 and 1987 answered the Youth Questionnaire.

As members of sample H (2006) answered the biography questionnaire only in 2007, they are not yet part of the biojob population.

Since 2006 respondents who are 16 or 17 years old filled in a youth questionnaire instead of the standard Individual Questionnaire, which provides less detailed information about the current job.

The purpose of BIOJOB is to provide a file, that offers the user convenient access to biographical information on past job activities. Up to now all but two variables of BIOJOB

are time-invariant. Information on occupational changes and on the age at the most recent change of occupation refer to the date of the respondent's biography interview.

#### 4.2 Structure and Contents of BIOJOB

BIOJOB consists of generated variables as well as plain questionnaire information. In this section the generated variables are explained and their coding is illustrated.

Concerning different sources of information, the following priority scheme is applied: First the plain information stemming directly from questions on the relevant topic in the latest valid LELA-file is used. In case of inconsistencies, which will be explained later on, the latest valid information stemming from the PBIOSPE file is also used. The PBIOSPE file consists of spell data concerning the retrospective question 'what did you do since the age of 15' in the Biography Questionnaire as well as the question on activities in the last year in the Individual Questionnaire (for detailed information see chapter 3).

#### **Contents of BIOJOB:**

*Population:* All persons with an entry in any LELA-/YOUTH-file up to 2006, even if information on employment is missing.

*number of cases:* 41,708      *waves:* A(84) - W(06)      *samples:* A, B, C, D, E, F, G

*variables:*

HHNR	original household identifier
PERSNR	unique individual identifier
BIOYEAR	year of biography / youth interview
AGEFJOB	age at first job
AGEINFO	information source AGEFJOB
NOJOB	never worked before the time of the interview
STILLFJ	still employed in first job
OCCFJOB	occupational position first job
FULLTIME	first job was a full-time or part-time job
FJBLUE	first job blue collar worker
FJSELFE	first job self-employed
FJSEFSIZ	number of employees FJSELFE
FJWHITE	first job white collar worker
FJCIVS	first job civil servant
ISCO88	International Standard Classification of Occupation 1988, first job
STBA	classification of career according to the Federal Statistical Office, Germany, (Statistisches Bundesamt), version 1992, first job
EGP	Erikson and Goldthorpe's Class Category (EGP), first job

ISEI	International Socio-Economic Index of Occupational Status after Ganzeboom (ISEI), first job
MPS	Magnitude Prestige Scale after Wegener, first job
SIOPS	Treiman Standard Int. Occ. Prestige Scale, first job
REQEDUC	required education for first job
CIVILSFJ	first job was in civil service
NACEFJ	NACE branch code first job
OCCMOVE	number of occupational changes
AGEATMV	age at most recent occupational change
INTEDUC1	
to	
INTEDUC4	intended educational degree
CURREMPL	employed at time of biography interview
YEARLAST	year of last employment
SCOPELJ	last job was a full-time or part-time job
CIVILSLJ	last job was in civil service
NACELJ	NACE branch code last job
OCCLJOB	occupational position last job
LJBLUE	last job blue collar worker
LJSELFE	last job self-employed
LJSEFSIZ	number of employees LJSELFE
LJWHITE	last job white collar worker
LJCIVS	last job civil servant

If data are missing, we use the SOEP missing value definition:

- (-1) no answer
- (-2) does not apply

### **Description of variables:**

#### AGEFJOB/AGEINFO

The variable AGEFJOB provides the age at entry into the working force. AGEINFO is a pointer variable indicating the source of the age information.

In the Biography Questionnaire people either have to give information on their age at entry into the working force or have to state that they have never worked before the time of the interview. The latter information is used in the variable NOJOB.

In the Youth Questionnaire people have to answer whether they are currently working in a regular occupation. They are not asked about the age at their first occupation, but since people

answering the Youth Questionnaire are normally at the age of 16 or 17, in most cases we can assume that a full-time job at this age is their first regular employment.

Information on the coding procedure of AGEFJOB is provided in the following subsections where (a) to (i) refer to LELA respondents, (j) to (p) to youth respondents respectively.

*LELA-respondents:*

- a) For people who are or have ever been employed at the time of answering the biographical questions their age at the time of entry into the working force is taken from the LELA-files.
- b) When we observe, that the person has not been in the working force at the time of responding, but starts to work later on, data of the PBIOSPE-file is used. Using the spell information in PBIOSPE, we are able to collect the age at the first job.
- c) A replacement of the LELA-data takes place, when respondents state that they have worked before the age of fifteen, but have a spell entry later than the age of fifteen. This rule is not applied when the spell starts at the age of fifteen, since this is the minimum value for spell data in the questionnaires.
- d) The same procedure is applied, when people answer, that they have never worked at the time of the interview, but have a spell which starts before the first interview.
- e) In some cases the AGEFJOB value is higher than the start of the corresponding working spell in PBIOSPE. In general, the AGEFJOB value is maintained. Only when the value is greater than 27, is it replaced by the PBIOSPE data. (95% of these cases have an AGEFJOB below 27.)
- f) If we observe item non response concerning AGEFJOB and NOJOB, but spell information is available, the missing value is replaced by the corresponding PBIOSPE spell data.
- g) If even the ‘What did you do since you were 15’ question had not been answered, there still was a chance to extract similar information out of the PBIOSPE-file by considering the question ‘What did you do every month last year’.
- h) If we still had no valid information, the value of AGEFJOB was left out of the dataset.
- i) Due to the fact that PBIOSPE information are collected only until the end of the year preceding the actual wave (in this version of BIOJOB: December 2005), for respondents without first job information from both the biography questionnaire and PBIOSPE we further look for a first job using information from the current wave individual questionnaire.

*YOUTH-respondents:*

- j) For respondents who are regularly employed, information is taken from the Youth Questionnaire; AGEFJOB is coded as year of questioning minus year of birth minus one (only if the respondent does not state that he/she is still in school, etc.).
- k) If we additionally observe a spell starting before the respondent answers the Youth Questionnaire, information from PBIOSPE is used if the respondent does not state in the current questionnaire that he/she is still in school, etc.
- l) If respondents answer that they have no regular employment but provide an employment spell starting after the time of the first interview, information from \$P (for details see m) is taken if available (only if the respondent does not state that he/she is still in school, etc.).
- m) For respondents with inconsistent first job information (simultaneous employment and school attendance/apprenticeship, differing job info in Youth Questionnaire and PBIOSPE) the question ‘Are you currently engaged in paid employment?’ asked in the Individual Questionnaire turned out to be the most reliable source of information. If a respondent states to be full- or part-time employed in a wave subsequent to the youth interview, AGEFJOB info is derived from the latest information of that kind.
- n) If people do not answer at least one of the questions ‘Do you currently earn money?’ and ‘Do you earn money as an apprentice, full-time worker or part-time-worker?’ but have an employment spell, like in m) the earliest \$P information is taken if available (only if the respondent does not state that he/she is still in school, etc.).
- o) If information from the Youth and the Individual Questionnaire (including PBIOSPE) are inconsistent concerning AGEFJOB, then the variable is set to missing.
- p) Due to the fact that PBIOSPE information are collected only until the end of the year preceding the actual wave (in this version of BIOJOB: December 2005), for respondents without first job information from both the Youth Questionnaire and PBIOSPE we further look for a first job using information from the current Individual Questionnaire.

The pointer variable AGEINFO provides the coding information described above. Value labels of AGEINFO indicating the source of information are:

- (1) LELA-files (case (a) above)
- (2) PBIOSPE if AGEFJOB<15, but spell begin > 15 (c)
- (3) PBIOSPE if ‘not worked’ at interview but later spell begin (b)
- (4) PBIOSPE if ‘not worked’ at interview but earlier spell begin (d)
- (5) PBIOSPE if AGEFJOB>27 and earlier spell begin (e)

- (6) implausible information therefore set missing (h)
- (7) PBIOSPE if ‘not worked’-question and AGEFJOB not answered, but ‘what done at 15’-question answered (f)
- (8) PBIOSPE if ‘not worked’-question, AGEFJOB and ‘what done at 15’-question not answered, but ‘what done last year’-question answered (g)
- (9) completely missing
- (10) SP if no info from bio interview and PBIOSPE but employment in current Individual Questionnaire (i)
- (11) info drawn from Youth Questionnaire(j)
- (12) info drawn from PBIOSPE for persons who state in the Youth Questionnaire to be regularly employed and additionally have an employment spell starting earlier (k)
- (13) info drawn from \$P for persons who state in the Youth Questionnaire not to earn money relating to an employment/job or to earn money but relating to a part-time job or a practical training, and have a subsequent employment spell (l)
- (14) info drawn from \$P for persons with inconsistent first job information from the Youth Questionnaire or PBIOSPE, but valid employment information from an Individual Questionnaire subsequent to the biography interview (m)
- (15) info drawn from \$P for persons with item non response in one of the questions ‘Do you already earn money from jobs?’ or ‘Do you earn that money as a trainee, full-time or part-time employee?’ and with info in PBIOSPE (n)
- (16) completely missing
- (17) set to missing because of inconsistent information (o)
- (18) info drawn out of UP, the last wave of the SOEP (p)

For more than 50% of the cases with AGEINFO = 3, 7, or 8 (AGEINFO=7 or 8 only if information collected after biography interview) it is possible to extract information from the regular questionnaires.

For respondents with AGEINFO=10 or 11, information referring to the variables OCCFJOB, FJBLUE, FJWHITE, FJSELFE, FJSEFSIZ, FJCIVS, REQEDUC and CIVILSFJ are taken from the Individual Questionnaire (same year as of youth interview). While for respondents having AGEINFO=10 this approach is intuitive, for the persons having AGEINFO=11 we act on the assumption that the job declared in the respective Individual Questionnaire is still the first job of that person. This assumption seems plausible due to the low age of all persons responding to the Youth Questionnaire.

In the Youth Questionnaire there is no question on the first job. But we can follow up their professional career by the statements given in the activity calendar in the subsequent waves. This can lead to problems if these youths report student jobs. For that reason we decided to take information from the question “Are you currently engaged in paid employment?” asked in the Individual Questionnaires of subsequent waves as the relevant source of information for this group of respondents. The earliest information of that kind determines the variable AGEFJOB.

Some respondents have very low values with respect to AGEFJOB. Most of these jobs turn out to be low-skilled and starting before 1970. The respective persons are either blue collar workers (mostly unskilled) or self-employed (mostly helping in family business). We think these characteristics suggest that these specifications are valid.

### NOJOB

The underlying question for the variable NOJOB is ‘I have never been employed up to this date’. This variable has the label ‘never been employed until the date of the interview’ (1).

If NOJOB has a missing value, in general there should exist AGEFJOB information, for special cases, see above. Due to the lack of a comparable question in the Youth Questionnaire, respondents of this questionnaire are given the value (1) as long as no consistent AGEFJOB information is available.

### STILLFJ

This variable is based on the question ‘Are you still employed in the same job and at the same place?’. It applies only to LELA respondents who do not state ‘I have never been gainfully employed’ and whose biography interview was after 2000.

Value labels:

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

### FULLTIME

The FULLTIME-variable is used to indicate, whether the first job of a person was a full-time or a part-time job. The value labels are

- (0) part-time job or marginal employment
- (1) full-time job.

This variable is generated out of the file PBIOSPE for all respondents. For persons with first job information stemming from the Biography Questionnaires, FULLTIME possibly does not refer to the declared first job if PBIOSPE does not contain the respective job spell (i.e. due to item non response or incomplete answering of the activity biography within the Biography Questionnaire).

### OCCFJOB

The variable OCCFJOB provides information on the occupational position at the first job. Due to different versions of the questionnaires in the GSOEP's different samples we face some difficulties. Table 1 gives an overview.

Table 1: Number of Possible Values for Occupational Classifications in the First Job

	Farmers (not self- employed)	Blue Collar Workers	Self- employed	White Collar Workers	Civil Servants
Sample A, B (84-95)	-	5	5	5	4
Sample C (90-95)	4	5	5	4	4
Sample D (94/95)	4	5	5	4	4
Sample A,B,C,D (96)	-	3	4	3	4
Sample A,B,C,D (97-99), E (99)	-	3	4	4	4
Sample A,B,C,D,E (00)	-	3	6	4	4
Sample A,B,C,D,E,F (01)	-	3	10	4	4
Sample A,B,C,D, E,F (02)	-	5	10	6	4
Sample A,B,C,D, E,F,G (06)	-	5	10	6	4

Facing these differences we decided to standardise the occupational classification. Only four types of occupational status were taken into account: blue collar workers, white collar workers, civil servants, and self-employed. The group 'Farmers' is included in the blue collar worker group.

The potential value labels for OCCFJOB are:

- (1) blue collar worker
- (2) self-employed
- (3) white collar worker
- (4) civil servant

Further details are provided by the variables FJBLUE (for blue collar workers), FJSELFE (self-employed), FJWHITE (white collar workers), and FJCIVS (civil servants). Table 2 shows the number of possible values.

Table 2: Number of Possible Values for the subcategories of the variable OCCFJOB

	FJBLUE	FJSELFE	FJWHITE	FJCIVS
Sample A,B,C,D, E,F,G (84-06)	9	4	7	4

Due to the fact that the PBIOSPE-file is used for the coding of AGEFJOB in certain cases (see above) there is less information on OCCFJOB than on AGEFJOB.

### FJBLUE

The FJBLUE variable provides detailed information on the first occupational status if the person was a blue collar worker. Certain value labels are only given for certain samples, because of the already mentioned differences in the questionnaires.

The following value labels are assigned:

- (10) un- and semiskilled farmers (sample C/D)
- (11) unskilled worker
- (12) semiskilled worker
- (20) skilled worker
- (30) farmers (sample C/D) being foreman or master craftsman
- (31) foreman (sample A/B)
- (32) foreman (sample C/D)
- (40) master craftsman
- (41) farmers (sample C/D) in middle and higher management

FJSELFE/FJSEFSIZ

The FJSELFE variable provides detailed information on the first occupational status if the person was self-employed. FJSEFSIZ gives the number of employees in the respondent's firm. Again there are differences due to the different versions of questionnaires.

The following value labels are assigned:

- (10) independent farmer
- (20) free lances, self employed academics
- (30) other self employed workers
- (40) helping within family business

FJSEFSIZ has the following value labels:

- (10) number of employees  $\leq 9$  (all subsamples (see exceptions for samples C/D), up until wave M)
- (11) no co-workers (all subsamples, from wave R on)
- (12) number of co-workers 1-9 (all subsamples, from wave N on)
- (20) number of employees  $> 9$  (all subsamples (see exceptions for samples C/D))
- (30) number of employees  $\leq 10$  (sample C (waves I to L) / D (waves K to L), only if info drawn from biography questionnaire)
- (40) number of employees  $> 10$  (sample C (waves I to L) / D (waves K to L) , only if info drawn from biography questionnaire)

FJWHITE

FJWHITE gives detailed information on persons, who were first employed as white collar workers. The subvalues of unskilled labour without degree (21), or with degree (22) are, due to uncomparable values in the LELA-files, only drawn from the \$P-Files. (Beginning with BIOJOB 2004).

Potential value labels:

- (10) industrial foreman
- (20) employee / unskilled labour
- (21) same as (20), but without degree
- (22) same as (20), but with degree
- (30) employee / skilled labour
- (40) employee / professional labour
- (50) employee / managerial labour

FJCIVS

FJCIVS provides detailed information on first employment as a public servant.

The following value labels occur:

- (10) low level civil servant
- (20) middle level civil servant
- (30) high level civil servant
- (40) executive civil servant

ISCO88, STBA EGP, ISEI, MPS, SIOPS

These variables – job classifications and different prestige scores – concerning in each case the first job but are not generated within this file and therefore they are not described within this documentation.

REQEDUC

REQEDUC provides information about the required education for the first job. This information has been asked in the Biography Questionnaire for the first time in the year 2001, but comparable information are gathered by the Individual Questionnaire in all waves.

For all respondents having their first job subsequent to their biography interview, information is drawn out of the generated file \$PGEN. Neither respective variables in \$P nor those in \$PGEN provide full information for all waves. In both data sources no differentiation is made between vocational college degree and university degree. As \$PGEN info is equally coded in all waves, it is preferred to \$P info.

Potential value labels:

- (10) no training
- (20) completed vocational training
- (30) vocational college or university degree
- (31) vocational college degree
- (32) university degree

### CIVILSFJ

CIVILSFJ indicates if the first job was assigned to the civil service or not. This information has been asked in the 2001 Biography Questionnaire for the first time

For respondents having their first job subsequent to their biography interview, information is drawn out of the generated file \$PGEN where this information is provided since the first wave in 1984.

The following value labels occur:

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

### NACEFJ

NACEFJ provides information about the industrial sector of the first job according to the branch classification NACE. This variable is not generated within this file. The description of its value labels is therefore not part of this documentation.

### OCCMOVE

The variable OCCMOVE is based on the question ‘Did you change your occupation and if you did, more than once?’. Information stems from the year of the biography interview. For respondents of the Youth Questionnaire as well as persons having their first job after the biography interview no information is available.

Labels of OCCMOVE:

- (1) never changed occupation
- (2) changed once
- (3) changed more than once

### AGEATMV

This variable is based on the question ‘If you changed your occupation, how old were you at the most recent change?’. Information stems from the year of the biography interview. For respondents of the Youth Questionnaire as well as persons having their first job after the biography interview no information is available.

CURREMPL

This variable is based on the question ‘ Are you gainfully employed at the current time?’. The question applies only to LELA respondents who do not state ‘I have never been gainfully employed’ or ‘Still employed in the first job’. This question has been asked in 1994 for the first time.

Value labels:

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

YEARLAST

This variable is based on the question ‘When was the last time you were gainfully employed?’. The question applies only to LELA respondents who do not make at least one of the following statements in their biography interview:

‘I have never been gainfully employed.’

‘Still employed in the first job’

‘Gainfully employed at the current time’.

This question has been asked in 1994 for the first time.

SCOPELJ

SCOPELJ indicates if the last job was a full time or part time job.

Information is only provided for respondents who answer the respective question within the Biography Questionnaires. The respective question applies only to respondents who do not make at least one of the following statements:

‘I have never been gainfully employed.’

‘Still employed in the first job’

‘Gainfully employed at the current time’.

This question has been asked in 1994 for the first time.

For youth respondents no information is available.

Value labels:

- (1) full-time employed
- (2) part-time employment
- (3) marginal / irregular employment

### CIVILSLJ

CIVILSLJ indicates if the last job was assigned to the civil service or not.

Information is only provided for respondents who answer the respective question within the Biography Questionnaires. The respective question applies only to respondents who do not make at least one of the following statements:

‘I have never been gainfully employed.’

‘Still employed in the first job’

‘Gainfully employed at the current time’.

This question has been asked in 1994 for the first time.

For youth respondents no information is available.

The following value labels occur:

(1) Yes

(2) No

### NACELJ

NACELJ provides information about the industrial sector of the last job according to the branch classification NACE. The respective question applies only to respondents who do not make at least one of the following statements in their biography interview:

‘I have never been gainfully employed.’

‘Still employed in the first job’

‘Gainfully employed at the current time’.

This question has been asked in 1994 for the first time.

This variable is not generated within this file. The description of its value labels is therefore not part of this documentation.

## OCCLJOB

The variable OCCLJOB provides information on the occupational position at the last job. The respective question applies only to respondents who do not make at least one of the following statements in their biography interview:

‘I have never been gainfully employed.’

‘Still employed in the first job’

‘Gainfully employed at the current time’.

This question has been asked in 1994 for the first time.

Due to different versions of the questionnaires in the GSOEP’s different samples we face some difficulties. Table 3 gives an overview:

Table 3: Number of Possible Values for Occupational Classifications in the Last Job

	Farmers (not self- employed)	Blue Collar Workers	Self- employed	White Collar Workers	Civil Servants
Sample A,B (94/95)	-	5	5	5	4
Sample C,D (94/95)	4	5	5	4	4
Sample A,B,C,D (96-99), E (99)	-	5	5	6	4
Sample A,B,C,D,E (00)	-	5	6	6	4
Sample A,B,C,D, E,F (01/02)	-	5	10	6	4
Sample A,B,C,D, E,F,G (06)	-	5	10	6	4

Facing these differences we decided to standardise the occupational classification. Only four types of occupational status were taken into account: blue collar workers, white collar workers, civil servants, and self-employed. The group ‘Farmers’ is included in the blue collar worker group.

The potential value labels for OCCLJOB are:

- (1) blue collar worker
- (2) self-employed
- (3) white collar worker
- (4) civil servant

Further details are provided by the variables LJBLUE (for blue collar workers), LJSELF (self-employed), LJWHITE (white collar workers), and LJCIVS (civil servants). Table 4 shows the number of possible values.

Table 4: Number of possible values for the subcategories of the variable OCCLJOB

	LJBLUE	LJSELF	LJWHITE	LJCIVS
Sample A,B,C,D, E,F,G (94-06)	9	4	7	4

### LJBLUE

The LJBLUE variable provides detailed information on the last occupational status if the person was a blue collar worker. Certain value labels are only given for certain samples, because of already mentioned differences in the questionnaires.

The following value labels are assigned:

- (10) un- and semiskilled farmers (sample C/D)
- (11) unskilled worker
- (12) semiskilled worker
- (20) skilled worker
- (30) farmers (sample C/D) being foreman or master craftsman
- (31) foreman (sample A/B)
- (32) foreman (sample C/D)
- (40) master craftsman
- (41) farmers (sample C/D) in middle and higher management

### LJSELF/LJSEFSIZ

The LJSELF variable provides detailed information on the last occupational status if the person was self-employed. LJSEFSIZ gives the number of employees in the respondent's firm. Again there are differences due to different versions of questionnaires.

The following value labels are assigned:

- (10) independent farmer
- (20) free lances, self employed academics
- (30) other self employed workers
- (40) helping within family business

LJSEFSIZ has the following value labels:

- (10) number of employees  $\leq 9$  (all subsamples (see exceptions for samples C/D), until wave M)
- (11) number of co-workers = 0 (all subsamples, from wave N on)
- (12) number of co-workers 1-9 (all subsamples, from wave N on)
- (20) number of employees  $> 9$  (all subsamples (see exceptions for samples C/D))
- (30) number of employees  $\leq 10$  (sample C (waves I to L) / D (waves K to L), only if info drawn from biography questionnaire)
- (40) number of employees  $> 10$  (sample C (waves I to L) / D (waves K to L) , only if info drawn from biography questionnaire)

### LJWHITE

LJWHITE gives detailed information on persons, who were last employed as white collar workers. The values (21) and (22) are drawn from the BIOLELA-File and from the \$P-files.

Potential value labels:

- (10) industrial foreman
- (20) employee / unskilled labour
- (21) same as (20), but without degree
- (22) same as (20), but with degree
- (30) employee / skilled labour
- (40) employee / professional labour
- (50) employee / managerial labour

### LJCIVS

LJCIVS provides detailed information on last employment as a public servant.

The following value labels occur:

- (10) low level civil servant
- (20) middle level civil servant
- (30) high level civil servant
- (40) executive civil servant

### INTEDUC1 to INTEDUC4

The variables INTEDUC1, INTEDUC2, INTEDUC3, and INTEDUC4 provide information on the educational degree or the vocational/professional training a respondent intends to complete in the future, asked at the time of the biography interview. We create these four variables since multiple answers are explicitly allowed in the questionnaire. The intended education is stored with respect to the hierarchy given by the questionnaire, i.e., the highest degree is placed in INTEDUC1. For example, a person intending to finish an apprenticeship (1) and university (7) would have INTEDUC1 = 7 and INTEDUC2 = 1. Since this question has been asked for the first time in 1996, we do observe a large number of missing values for INTEDUC1 to INTEDUC4.

- (1) apprenticeship
- (2) full-time vocational school
- (3) technical school
- (4) education as a civil servant
- (5) accredited professional school
- (6) technical or professional college
- (7) university

#### **General remark:**

Some persons answered more than once the Biography Questionnaire (but this occurs very rarely). The data-set BIOJOB contains only information from one Biography Questionnaire, in most cases the earlier one.

#### 4.3 Steps of Coding

1. Creating a dataset using the data concerning all aspects of the job biography (working force entry, position, etc.) drawn from BIOLELA, MLELA, NLELA, OLELA, PLELA, QLELA, RLELA, SLELA, TLELA, ULELA, VLELA, WLELA (internal DIW files with biographical information up to wave W), QJUGEND, RJUGEND, SJUGEND, TJUGEND, UJUGEND, VJUGEND, WJUGEND (internal DIW youth biography files), QP, RP, SP, TP, UP, VP, WP (needed for consistency checks with respect to the youth biography files).
2. Using the PBIOSPE-data to retrieve spell information during the first occupation.
3. Using PPFAD for personal data (year of birth, sex, sample).
4. Using several files containing generated information about job classification (ISCO), prestige scores and industry sector classification (NACE) concerning the first job.

5. Combining all data concerning the employment biography into a new data file BIOJOB, where priority is set as mentioned above.
6. Coding of AGEFJOB. (for details, see above)
7. Setting the pointer variable AGEINFO indicating the source of the information of AGEFJOB. (for details, see above)
8. Excluding one value for respondents, who stated to have two occupational positions in their first job. Exclusion based on consistency checks.
9. Assignment of the variable OCCFJOB, with respect to the different versions of the questionnaire. Possible value labels: FJBLUE, FJSELFE, FJWHITE, FJCIVS.
10. Definition and assignment of new value-labels for the sub-category FJBLUE, nine labels possible, for details see above.
11. Definition and assignment of new value-labels for the sub-category FJSELFE, four labels possible, for details see above.
12. Definition of the variable FJSEFSIZ, indicating the numbers of employees.
13. Definition and assignment of new value-labels for the sub-category FWHITE, seven labels possible, for details see above.
14. Definition and assignment of new value-labels for the sub-category FJCIVS, four labels possible, for details see above.
15. Coding of the variables REQEDUC and CIVILSFJ.
16. Coding of the variables INTEDUC1 to INTEDUC4.
17. Computing the age at the most recent change of occupation if necessary.
18. Check of consistency: Does information about the age at the most recent change of occupation make sense? If inconsistencies appear, the value is set to a missing value.
19. Assignment of value labels for the variables specifying the last job:
20. Definition and assignment of value labels of the variable CURREMPL indicating if a respondent is gainfully employed at the time of the biography interview.
21. Specification of the year of last employment (YEARLAST).
22. Coding of the variables SCOPELJ and CIVILSLJ.
23. Excluding one value for respondents, who stated to have two occupational positions in their last job. Exclusion based on consistency checks.
24. Assignment of the variable OCCLJOB, with respect to the different versions of the questionnaire. Possible value labels: LJBLUE, LJSELFE, LJWHITE, LJCIVS.

25. Definition and assignment of new value-labels for the sub-category LJBLUE, nine labels possible, for details see above.
26. Definition and assignment of new value-labels for the sub-category LJSELFE, four labels possible, for details see above.
27. Definition of the variable LJSEFSIZ, indicating the numbers of employees.
28. Definition and assignment of new value-labels for the sub-category LJWHITE, seven labels possible, for details see above.
29. Definition and assignment of new value-labels for the sub-category LJCIVS, four labels possible, for details see above.
30. Collecting of job information for people with AGEINFO = 3, 7 or 8, if possible.
31. Collecting of job information for people with AGEINFO = 12, 14 or 16, if possible.
32. Coding of the variable FULLTIME.
33. Definition of missing values for all variables.
34. Hand-editing of inconsistencies between different variables.
35. Final listing

#### 4.4 Results

Overall, 41,708 people have an entry in BIOJOB. The following tables display descriptive statistics of all variables of BIOJOB.

#### **AGEFJOB**

Number of valid cases	41,708
Mean	19.57
Standard Deviation	3.92

Quantiles	
100% Max	62
75% Q3	21
50% Med	19
25% Q1	17
0% Min	6
Mode	18

	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
(-1) No answer	1,290	3.09	11.66
(-2) Does not apply	3,573	8.57	8.57

**NOJOB**

	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	36,424	87.33	87.33
[-1] no answer	1,290	3.09	90.42
[1] yes	3,994	9.58	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**AGEINFO**

	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[1] lela-files	27,936	66.98	66.98
[2] pbiospe agefjob<15 begin>15	814	1.95	68.93
[3] pb not worked+later begin	2,524	6.05	74.98
[4] pb n.w.+earlier begin	894	2.14	77.13
[5] pb agefjob>31+earlier begin	396	0.95	78.08
[6] inconsistent info	54	0.13	78.21
[7] pb n.w.,agefjob not answ.	2,337	5.60	83.81
[8] pb n.w.,agefjob,spl n.a.	1,349	3.23	87.04
[9] completely missing	2,789	6.69	93.73
[11] youth-files (y)	7	0.02	93.75
[12] pb empl.+earlier begin (y)	6	0.01	93.76
[13] n.w.+later begin (y)	133	0.32	94.08
[14] inval.info+later empl.	17	0.04	94.12
[15] empl. n.a.+ spl (y)	1	0.00	94.12
[16] completely missing (y)	2,133	5.11	99.24
[17] inconsistent info (y)	308	0.74	99.98
[18] sp no info youth+pbiospe	10	0.02	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**OCCFJOB**

	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	3,994	9.58	9.58
[-1] no answer	9,581	22.97	32.55
[1] blue collar w.	14,968	35.89	68.44
[2] self-employed	771	1.85	70.28
[3] white collar w.	11,342	27.19	97.48
[4] civil servant	1,052	2.52	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**FULLTIME**

	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	3,536	8.48	8.48
[-1] no answer	1,260	3.02	11.50
[0] (marginal) part-time work	4,287	10.28	21.78
[1] fulltime work	32,625	78.22	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**FJBLUE**

first job blue collar	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	17,159	41.14	41.14
[-1] no answer	9,581	22.97	64.11
[10] un-/semiskilled:farmer(c/d)	301	0.72	64.83
[11] unskilled worker	2,952	7.08	71.91
[12] semiskilled worker	2,792	6.69	78.61
[20] skilled worker	8,829	21.17	99.77
[30] forem./master:farmer(c/d)	14	0.03	99.81
[31] foreman (a/b)	21	0.05	99.86
[32] foreman (c/d)	11	0.03	99.88
[40] mastercraftsman	24	0.06	99.94
[41] farmers(c/d)mid./high.man	24	0.06	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**FJSELFE**

first job self employed	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	31,356	75.18	75.18
[-1] no answer	9,581	22.97	98.15
[10] independent farmer	167	0.40	98.55
[20] free lance	131	0.31	98.87
[30] other self employed	179	0.43	99.30
[40] within family business	294	0.70	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**FJSEFSIZ**

number of employees	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	31,867	76.41	76.41
[-1] no answer	9,581	22.97	99.38
[10] fsize <= 9 - m	69	0.17	99.54
[11] fsize = 0 r -	88	0.21	99.75
[12] fsize 1-9 n -	68	0.16	99.92
[20] fsize > 9	16	0.04	99.95
[30] fsize <= 10 (c/d) i-l	18	0.04	100.00
[40] fsize > 10 (c/d) i-l	1	0.00	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**FJWHITE**

first job white collar	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	20,785	49.83	49.83
[-1] no answer	9,581	22.97	72.81
[10] industrial foreman	634	1.52	74.33
[20] unskilled labour	4,260	10.21	84.54
[21] as (20), without degree	71	0.17	84.71
[22] as (20), with degree	154	0.37	85.08
[30] skilled labour	4,699	11.27	96.35
[40] professional labour	1,502	3.60	99.95
[50] managerial labour	22	0.05	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**FJCIVS**

first job civil servant	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	31,075	74.51	74.51
[-1] no answer	9,581	22.97	97.48
[10] low level civil servant	158	0.38	97.86
[20] middle level civil servant	336	0.81	98.66
[30] high level civil servant	348	0.83	99.50
[40] executive civil servant	210	0.50	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**REQEDUC**

required education for first job	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	26,252	62.94	62.94
[-1] no answer	5,241	12.57	75.51
[10] no training	2,094	5.02	80.53
[20] completed vocational training	6,759	16.21	96.73
[30] tech/prof.college or univ.degree	38	0.09	96.83
[31] tech/prof.college degree	465	1.11	97.94
[32] university degree	859	2.06	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**CIVILSFJ**

first job in civil service	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	26,252	62.94	62.94
[-1] no answer	4,751	11.39	74.33
[1] yes	2,145	5.14	79.48
[2] no	8,560	20.52	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**OCCMOVE**

no. of occ. changes	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	9,573	22.95	22.95
[-1] no answer	5,602	13.43	36.38
[1] never changed occupation	13,486	32.33	68.72
[2] Once	7,749	18.58	87.30
[3] more than once	5,298	12.70	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**AGEATMV**

Number of valid cases	12656
Mean	30,68
Standard Deviation	9,13

Quantiles	
100% Max	65
75% Q3	36
50% Med	29
25% Q1	23
0% Min	11
Mode	25

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
(-1) no answer	510	1,22	69,66
(-2) does not apply	28542	68,43	68,43

**INTEDEDUC1**

highest intended educ. degree	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	38,279	91.78	91.78
[-1] no answer	468	1.12	92.90
[1] apprenticeship	842	2.02	94.92
[2] vocational school	224	0.54	95.46
[3] technical school	371	0.89	96.35
[4] education as civil servant	60	0.14	96.49
[5] corporate education	154	0.37	96.86
[6] technical/prof. college	396	0.95	97.81
[7] university	914	2.19	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**INTEDEDUC2**

second intended educ. degree	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	41,313	99.05	99.05
[1] apprenticeship	199	0.48	99.53
[2] vocational school	30	0.07	99.60
[3] technical school	38	0.09	99.69
[4] education as civil servant	19	0.05	99.74
[5] corporate education	26	0.06	99.80
[6] technical/prof. college	83	0.20	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**INTEDEDUC3**

third intended educ. degree	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	41,643	99.84	99.84
[1] apprenticeship	37	0.09	99.93
[2] vocational school	8	0.02	99.95
[3] technical school	9	0.02	99.97
[4] education as civil servant	3	0.01	99.98
[5] corporate education	8	0.02	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**INTEDEDUC4**

fourth intended educ. degree	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	41,694	99.97	99.97
[1] apprenticeship	13	0.03	100.00
[2] vocational school	1	0.00	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**CURREMPL**

employed at time of bio interview	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	28,214	67.65	67.65
[-1] no answer	139	0.33	67.98
[1] yes	7,795	18.69	86.67
[2] no	5,560	13.33	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**YEARLAST**

Number of valid cases	5437
Mean	1988,88
Standard Deviation	12,81

Quantiles	
100% Max	2006
75% Q3	1998
50% Med	1993
25% Q1	1986
0% Min	1923
Mode	2000

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
(-1) no answer	262	0.63	86.96
(-2) does not apply	36,009	86.34	86.34

**SCOPELJ**

last job full-/part-time	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	36,009	86.34	86.34
[-1] No answer	321	0.77	87.11
[1] full-time employed	4,290	10.29	97.39
[2] part-time employment	797	1.91	99.30
[3] marg. / irregular employment	291	0.70	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**CIVILSLJ**

last job in civil service	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	36,008	86.33	86.33
[-1] No answer	284	0.68	87.01
[1] yes	1,393	3.34	90.35
[2] no	4,023	9.65	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**OCCLJOB**

occ. position last job	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	36,009	86.34	86.34
[-1] no answer	337	0.81	87.14
[1] blue collar w.	2,214	5.31	92.45
[2] self-employed	276	0.66	93.11
[3] white collar w.	2,556	6.13	99.24
[4] civil servant	316	0.76	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**LJBLUE**

last job blue collar	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	39,140	93.84	93.84
[-1] no answer	354	0.85	94.69
[10] un-/semiskilled:farmer(C/D)	58	0.14	94.83
[11] unskilled worker	416	1.00	95.83
[12] semiskilled worker	776	1.86	97.69
[20] skilled worker	824	1.98	99.66
[30] forem./master:farmer(C/D)	1	0.00	99.67
[31] foreman (A/B)	74	0.18	99.84
[40] mastercraftsman	63	0.15	100.00
[41] farmers(C/D)mid./high.man	2	0.00	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**LJSELFE**

last job self employed	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	41,095	98.53	98.53
[-1] no answer	354	0.85	99.38
[10] independent farmer	43	0.10	99.48
[20] free lance	38	0.09	99.57
[30] other self employed	146	0.35	99.92
[40] within family business	32	0.08	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**LJSEFSIZ**

number of employees ljsel	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	41,148	98.66	98.66
[-1] no answer	337	0.81	99.47
[10] fsize <= 9 - M	19	0.05	99.51
[11] fsize = 0 R -	82	0.20	99.71
[12] fsize 1-9 N -	93	0.22	99.93
[20] fsize > 9	21	0.05	99.98
[30] fsize <= 10 (C/D) I-L	7	0.02	100.00
[40] fsize > 10 (C/D) I-L	1	0.00	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**LJWHITE**

last job white collar	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	38,798	93.02	93.02
[-1] no answer	354	0.85	93.87
[10] industrial foreman	23	0.06	93.93
[20] unskilled labour	450	1.08	95.01
[21] as (20), without degree	573	1.37	96.38
[22] as (20), with degree	934	2.24	98.62
[30] skilled labour	455	1.09	99.71
[40] professional labour	118	0.28	99.99
[50] managerial labour	3	0.01	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

**LJCIVS**

last job civil servant	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
[-2] does not apply	41,038	98.39	98.39
[-1] no answer	354	0.85	99.24
[10] low level civil servant	27	0.06	99.31
[20] middle level civil servant	87	0.21	99.52
[30] high level civil servant	102	0.24	99.76
[40] executive civil servant	100	0.24	100.00
Total	41,708	100.00	

## **5. The Biography of Family Status and the Generated Current Family Status (BIOMARSY, BIOMARSM and \$FAMSTD)**

by Rainer Pischner

One of the most important pieces of demographical information of every population sample is family status. As in the occupational biography (in the file PBIOSPE, see chapter 3), the family status biography is saved in a spell format. Every spell is defined by the beginning and the end of a family status. In SOEP the family status episodes are on a monthly and on a yearly basis (files BIOMARSM and BIOMARSY). So to speak, as a side effect we get the generated yearly family statuses (variable \$FAMSTD in the file \$PGEN), which can differ from the original, annual survey information.

### 5.1 Collection of Family Status

Entries for the family status are, as is explained in the following, collected in the SOEP in various sections.

#### *A retrospective recordation of the family status*

Marital biographical information was first collected in the Individual Questionnaire in the second Wave in 1985, and later on in the supplementary biographical questionnaire “Lebenslauf” (life history) as follows:

#### **Question I**

*Are you currently or were you previously married?*

(0) Yes, I am or was married. (0) No. I am single ==> continue with question ...

*Since when have you been, respectively from when to when, were you married?*

*(In the event that you are in your second or further marriage, please answer the question for all of your previous marriages.)*

The marriage was completed in	19__	19__	19__
I am still married	(o)	(o)	(o)
The marriage ended in	19__	19__	19__
- through a divorce	(o)	(o)	(o)
- through the death of the partner	(o)	(o)	(o)
- no answer to question I			

*Changes in family situation*

After collecting this retrospective information once, changes in the family situation were asked in subsequent years. The question was:

**Question II**

*Has something changed in your family situation since the beginning of 19\$\$?*

*Please indicate whether one of the following items applies, and when yes, indicate the date.*

	19\$\$ in month	19\$\$+1 in month
Got married	_____	_____
Moved in with my partner	_____	_____
Got divorced	_____	_____
Separated from my partner	_____	_____
My partner has died	_____	_____
Son / daughter has moved out	_____	_____
Child was born	_____	_____
Other (please enter).....	.....	
No. None of the above.	(o)	

*Note:* In the event of a temporary period of non-response this question will be additionally collected later on (see the files \$PLUECKE).

*Family status at the date of the interview*

Except in 1985 it is standard that the current family status is surveyed every year.

**Question III**

*What is your family status?*

- Married, live with husband/wife (o)
- Married, living separated (o)
- Single (o)
- Divorced (o)
- Widowed (o)

*Note:* Up to and including Wave 13 foreigners were additionally asked whether their husband/wife also lives in Germany. In the event that the husband/wife lives in the home country the status variable \$FAMSTD in the file \$PGEN was coded with the value (6) "Husband/wife in home country".

### *Family status accounted for*

For generating the spells of family status it is only taken into account the family status “single”, “married”, “divorced”, and “widowed”. A distinction is not made between married couples living together or separated.

The family status is for that reason defined and coded in the following manner:

Code	Family Status
1	single
2	married
3	widowed
4	divorced
5	no longer married (in the event that 3 and 4 cannot be distinguished from each other)
9	Non-recoverable gap due to temporary non response or missing information

### *Definition of the spells of family status*

A spell system is a rectangular schema, which contains information for the surveyed object (here: persons) on statuses (here: family status) which were adopted during the defined time period.

Each single spell within the spell system is defined by the surveyed individual, the current status of the individual (family status) as well as by the beginning and the end of the status. Thus, a spell consists of a minimum of four variables. In addition to the identifier of the survey unit, there is a serial number for explicit identification and often further variables including such information as error codes. A spell system describes all statuses of the surveyed object within the defined time period and is made up of at least one spell.

### 5.2 Generation of the spells of family status

With the determination of the chronological demarcation, tax related as well as family related aspects are taken into account. A chronological demarcation based only on the tax regulations would treat a person who was married for only one day out of the year as if he/she had been married for an entire year, neglecting the family related aspects. For this reason it was ensured that every observable family status, both in the monthly spells as well as in the yearly spells, was documented. If, for example, a person got divorced in August and got married again in the same month, you would be able to find the status of being divorced, even when it is short, in the spell system.

### *Basic Procedure*

The following principle underlies the compilation of monthly spells, annual spells and generated family statuses:

1. Create a raw, monthly time series from birth up to the date of the last interview for every person who was surveyed at least once.
2. Fill in recoverable gaps in the time series.
3. Eliminate all inconsistencies in the time series.
4. Generate the monthly spells.
5. Generate the annual spells.
6. Generate the annual family statuses.

*Note to step 1.) Create a raw, monthly time series from birth up to the date of the last interview for every person who was surveyed at least once*

It is assumed that every person is single, who is under 15 years of age; this means that the first 180 months of a person's life are set to single. If a family situation or change is surveyed, this information is added by prolonging the surveyed family status from the reported date up to the month of the last survey. In doing so, possible inconsistencies are not considered. This is based on the analyses of questions I thru III, mentioned above, as well as the benchmark data from PPFAD.

*Note to step 2.) Fill in recoverable gaps in the time series*

The following types of gaps have been successfully filled:

- For missing information of various lengths between two months for which the family status "single" was indicated, the gap is filled with the status "single".
- If the family status is missing for one year, then the gap can be filled if the family status of the previous year is identical to the family status of the immediately following year and if there was no indication of a change in the family status in the supplementary questions answered by temporary drop outs.

*Note to step 3.) Eliminate all inconsistencies in the time series*

Between two marriages or between the last marriage and the end of the survey time period a person can only be divorced or widowed. In some cases this situation is not correctly reported by the respondents. Especially by older persons, inconsistencies in the answers arise. Here the family status for the time between two marriages is determined according to the frequency

of the given answers. The first answer receives a slightly higher weighting than the subsequent answers.

The following combination would not be corrected:

„single“ => “married“ => “single“ => “married“

since this is theoretically possible (annulment of a marriage). In contrast, for example, the following combination:

„single“ => “married“ => “single“ => „divorced“ => “married“

would be changed to:

„single“ => “married“ => “divorced“ => „divorced“ => “married“

*Note to step 4.) Generate the monthly spells*

From the corrected time series, the monthly spells BIOMARSM are generated for the time period, which spans from the month of the first survey to the month of the last survey. Since the months in BIOMARSM should correspond to the months of the spell systems ARTKALEN and EINKALEN, the first spell of a family status starts with the value 1 at earliest. This value corresponds to the month of January 1983.

The monthly spells overlap themselves in each case by one month, since a person can have two different family statuses during a month if a family status change occurred.

#### **The structure of a family status spell on a monthly basis:**

- |    |          |  |
|----|----------|--|
| 1. | HHNR     | CASE-ID                                      |
| 2. | PERSNR   | Person number                                |
| 3. | SPELLNR  | Serial number of the spell                   |
| 4. | SPELLTYP | Family status                                |
|    |          | 1 = single                                   |
|    |          | 2 = married                                  |
|    |          | 3 = divorced                                 |
|    |          | 4 = widowed                                  |
|    |          | 5 = no longer married                        |
|    |          | 9 = code for a gap                           |
| 5. | BEGIN    | Beginning of the family status in ... months |
| 6. | END      | End of the family status in ... months       |
| 7. | REMARK   | Error code (see below explanations)          |

*Note to step 5.) Generate the annual spells*

From the corrected time series, the annual spells BIOMARSY are generated for the time period, which spans from the year of birth to the year of the last survey.

The episodes are stored in two time formats: “Age in years” and calendar year. There is a simple relationship between this two time formats. Age is constructed as the difference between calendar year and year of birth, independent of the month of birth. The annual spells also overlap themselves, since a person can have two (or more) different family statuses during a year if a family status change occurred.

**The structure of a family status spell on an annual basis:**

- |    |          |  |
|----|----------|--|
| 1. | HHNR     | CASE-ID  |
| 2. | PERSNR   | Person number  |
| 3. | SPELLNR  | Serial number of the spell                             |
| 4. | SPELLTYP | Family status  |
|    |          | 1 = single   |
|    |          | 2 = married  |
|    |          | 3 = divorced   |
|    |          | 4 = widowed  |
|    |          | 5 = no longer married                                  |
|    |          | 9 = code for gaps                                      |
| 5. | BEGIN    | Beginning of the family status at the age of ... years |
| 6. | END      | End of the family status at the age of ... years       |
| 7. | BEGINY   | Beginning of the family status (calendar year)         |
| 8. | ENDY     | End of the family status (calendar year)               |
| 9. | REMARK   | Error code (see explanation below)                     |

*Note to step 6.) Generate the annual family statuses*

An annual family status can also be constructed from the monthly time series, which describes the family status (\$FAMSTD) for the date of the interview. This value is accepted as the generated family status. There is a peculiarity for the family status “married”. Although in the spell system the status “married” is only generally given, the annual, generated variable family status (\$FAMSTD) breaks this status down into “live together”, “live separately” and “partner lives in home country”. These subdivisions are accepted as long as the surveyed, as well as the family status in BIOMARSM are “married”. If gaps are closed and thus the generated variable gets the status “married”, then there will be no further differentiation, even if the person in the previous year and in the subsequent year, for example, has answered, “married, live separately”.

### The variable **REMARK**

The variable **REMARK** is assigned to every accounted spell, which indicates particularities and errors in the spell system. The meaning of these variables is identical for monthly and annual spells:

#### **REMARK = -1**

Entries on family status are missing within the observed period.

#### **REMARK = 0**

If there is not discovered any inconsistencies or errors by generating the spell, then the variable **REMARK** is set to 0.

#### **REMARK = 1,2,3,4**

Number of inconsistencies or errors, which were corrected by generating a spell. Now, the spell seems to be correct.

#### **REMARK = 9**

Entries on family status are missing within the observed time period. The resulting gap could not be closed.

#### **REMARK = 13,14,15,21,31,41,43**

An unreliable change between two family statuses has been discovered (previous family status = first digit, current family status = second digit). An error exists in the spell system. It was not attempted to correct the error.

In detail:

- (13): Transition single => divorced
- (14): Transition single => widowed
- (15): Transition single => divorced or widowed
  
- (21): Transition married => single
  
- (31): Transition divorced => single
  
- (41): Transition widowed => single
- (43): Transition widowed => divorced

### 5.3 Result Files

The files **BIOMARSM** and **BIOMARSY** contain samples A to G up to the year 2006, Wave W.

The spell system based on years contains 47,442 surveyed persons with a total of 101,906 spells. In the following tables it is given the distribution of the annual spells according to the

number of spells per person, the frequency of errors and the distribution of the error codes  
REMARK.

*Distribution of the annual spells by persons*

Spells per person	Persons	Percent
1	12,456	26.3
2	20,632	43.5
3	10,762	22.7
4	2,540	5.4
5	703	1.5
6	267	0.6
7	50	0.1
8	22	0.1
9	6	0.0
10	3	0.0
13	1	0.0
Total	47,442	100.0

76 percent of all annual spells have the remark or error code 0; they are formally all right. Additionally, 11% are formally all right, too, but were corrected. The most frequent error codes are due to gaps (code -1 with 6.6 %). These errors occur most if the beginning of the first marriage cannot be given an exact date. Changes in the family status are only in a few cases actually inconsistent. Through the correcting process, the proportion of inconsistencies remains to be only for few cases.

*Distribution of the error code REMARK  
(Annual Spells)*

REMARK	Number	Percent
-1	6,578	6.5
0	77,129	75.7
1	8,845	8.7
2	1,955	1.9
3	104	0.1
4	2	0.0
13	206	0.2
14	128	0.1
19	6,885	6.8
29	1	0.0
31	11	0.0
34	41	0.0
41	1	0.0
43	20	0.0
Total	101,906	100.0

*Printing of the first cases in the file BIOMARSY  
(Version 2006, Wave W)*

HHNR	PERSNR	SPELL NR	SPELL TYP	BEGIN	END	BEGINY	ENDY	REMARK
19	101	1	1	0	24	1930	1954	0
19	101	2	2	24	28	1954	1958	0
19	101	3	3	28	32	1958	1962	0
19	101	4	2	32	59	1962	1989	0
19	102	1	1	0	22	1940	1962	0
19	102	2	2	22	49	1962	1989	0
19	103	1	1	0	24	1963	1987	0
27	201	1	1	0	27	1926	1953	0
27	201	2	2	27	39	1953	1965	0
27	201	3	3	39	80	1965	2006	2
27	202	1	1	0	31	1956	1987	0
27	203	1	1	0	46	1960	2006	0
35	301	1	1	0	24	1960	1984	0
35	301	2	2	24	33	1984	1993	0
35	302	1	1	0	23	1961	1984	0
35	302	2	2	23	32	1984	1993	0

The spell system based on months, BIOMARSM, contains 47,127 surveyed persons with a total of 65,121 spells. In the following tables it is given the distribution of the monthly spells according to the number of spells per person, the frequency of errors and the distribution of the error codes REMARK.

*Distribution of the monthly spells by persons*

Spells per person	Persons	Percent
1	33,378	70.8
2	10,850	23.0
3	1,894	4.0
4	774	1.6
5	154	0.3
6	56	0.1
7	14	0.0
8	4	0.0
9	2	0.0
11	1	0.0
Total	47,127	100.0

More than 89 percent of all monthly spells have the error code 0; they are formally all right. Additionally, 10.4 % are formally all right, too, but were corrected. With monthly spells, relatively few cases of gaps occur, since the completeness of the monthly spell is not dependent on the subsequent collection of the marriage history.

*Distribution of the error code REMARK  
(Monthly spells)*

REMARK	Number	Percent
-1	44	0.1
0	58,024	89.1
1	4,559	7.0
2	2,233	3.4
13	165	0.3
14	33	0.1
31	6	0.0
34	39	0.1
41	2	0.0
43	16	0.0
Total	65,121	100.0

*Printing of the first cases in the file BIOMARSM  
(Version 2006, Wave W)*

HHNR	PERSNR	SPELLNR	SPELLTYP	BEGIN	END	REMARK
19	101	1	2	1	79	0
19	102	1	2	1	79	0
19	103	1	1	1	55	0
27	201	1	3	1	278	2
27	202	1	1	1	55	0
27	203	1	1	1	278	0
35	301	1	1	1	23	0
35	301	2	2	23	123	0
35	302	1	1	1	23	0
35	302	2	2	23	123	0

## ***6. BIOBIRTH – A Data Set on the Birth Biography of Female Respondents***

by Joachim Frick and Christian Schmitt

### 6.1 Population and purpose of the data set BIOBIRTH

The file BIOBIRTH is based on every woman who has ever had at least one successful SOEP interview. For each of these women the data set BIOBIRTH documents the birth biography. The annual update focuses on including new information on giving-birth collected in the individual questionnaire or in the biographical questionnaire. Furthermore women who have been interviewed for the first time but who have no information on giving-birth yet are included. The latter are either new female household members or female teenagers who have reached the required minimum for a SOEP participation (16 years). For that reason BIOBIRTH can be described as an accumulative data set, in which the entire birth biography of all female SOEP respondents is presented. BIOBIRTH covers the following information:

- (1) sum, birth year and sex of the biological children of a woman up to the last date of interview<sup>4</sup>
- (2) Person identifier (PERSNR) of the children – provided the child could be identified within the SOEP.

### 6.2 Structure of the data set

BIOBIRTH contains the following variables for all women:

- HHNR                Invariable number of the original household
- PERSNR            Invariable personal number of the woman
- BIOVALID         Status of the birth biography:

(Attention! The variable BIOVALID has been altered in SOEP wave T (2003) containing 2 digit-information).

10: no birth biographical entries

(was code “0” in SOEP distribution 2002 and before).

20: youth biography questionnaire completed, no children in biography.

(new code)

30: birth biography questionnaire completed, no children in biography

(was code “2” in SOEP distribution 2002 and before).

31: birth biography questionnaire completed, one or more children in

biography (was code “1” in SOEP distribution 2002 and before).

---

<sup>4</sup> While the wave specific files \$KIND present the social, thus time-dependent, mother-child relationships for children aged 16 or younger in the household, BIOBIRTH documents only biological mother-child-relationships.

- **BIOYEAR** Year of the survey of the birth biography (1985ff.), respectively “-2” for women without information stemming from this special survey instrument.
- **BIOAGE** Age of the woman at the time of the birth biography survey. If no birth biographical information is available yet, the age at the very first survey is indicated.
- **SUMKIDS** Total number of children born (more precisely: total number of children identifiable within SOEP by merging all available data up to the time of the last observation (SUMKIDS=BIOKIDS+NEWKIDS)).
- **BIOKIDS** Total number of children identified through the birth biography. For women who haven’t filled in the birth biographical questionnaire yet, the code “-2” applies.
- **NEWKIDS** Total number of children identified through \$PBRUTTO or \$KIND.
- **KIDPNR[n]** Personal number of the children (for the first child up to the fifteenth child), in so far as it is identifiable in the SOEP.  
  
For the variables KIDGEB[n], KIDSEX[n] and KIDPNR[n] identical missing codes apply: The code “-2“ is assigned if there’s no [n]th child found for this mother. The code “-1” applies if information about the [n]th child is found but information about the birth year or the sex is missing or the child could not be identified by a personal identifier (PERSNR) within the SOEP.
- **KIDGEB[n]** Year of birth of the children (for the first child up to the fifteenth child).
- **KIDSEX[n]** Sex of the children (for the first child up to the fifteenth child).
- **KIDMON[n]** Month of birth of the child (for the first child up to the fifteenth child).  
  
Starting with wave W (survey year 2006), the month of birth of each child (KIDMON01 to KIDMON15) will be included within the birth-biography. The data is consistent with the variable for the month of birth (GEBMONAT), stored within the file PPFAD. I.e. the same limitations as in the Variable GEBMONAT apply (some of the data has been derived from proxy-information; see the PPFAD documentation for more details).

For every woman a maximum of 15 entries for children is provided, although the biography questionnaire enables only eight possible entries regarding birth information. If there have been additional births up to the time the biography questionnaire is collected, they are

recorded separately by the interviewer and are included in BIOBIRTH. The sequence of children within BIOBIRTH is recorded with regards to the age of the children. The oldest child is recorded under KIDPNR01 the second oldest under KIDPNR02 and so on. If the age is missing the lowest personal identifier applies.

### 6.3 Information basis of the birth biography

The main basis of the individual birth biography in BIOBIRTH is normally the information collected by the biography questionnaire<sup>5</sup>, in which the number, birth year and sex of the biological children for every woman are collected. For women with information on children stemming from the biography questionnaire the BIOVALID code “31” is assigned. Women who completed this questionnaire but did not report on any births receive the code “30”. In addition, the variable BIOAGE contains the age at the time of the collection of the life history. Apart from this one-time collection within the scope of the first SOEP interview, there is no other possibility in SOEP to collect information on the number, the residence status, or if appropriate, the year of death of children who were born before the first SOEP interview.

A minority of women have no information from the biographical questionnaire due to several reasons<sup>6</sup>. In this case the variable BIOVALID has the code “10” and the variable BIOAGE contains the age at the first time of SOEP interview. The group can be divided into different sub-populations and is in principle affected by the risk of underestimating the total number of births:

- Woman who were at the time of the first interview only 16 years old. In most cases these women participate at a later date in the biography survey. Thus, the mother-child relationship recorded earlier in BIOBIRTH can be checked later with the birth biography.
- Women who are 30 years old or younger at the first interview. In this sub-population, children are not yet adults and live in most cases in the parents’ household. Since information from the biographical questionnaire is missing, a final distinction in social and biological children is not possible.
- Women who are over 30 years old at the time of the first interview. Some of the children don’t live any more in the parents’ household at the time of the first interview and therefore they are not part of the survey population. For that reason the number of

---

<sup>5</sup> The information collected over the course of the biography survey for every woman on the number, on the year of birth, on the sex, on the residence status within the household, and, if necessary, on the year of death of the biological children was stored up until 1995 in a biography data set which spanned the various waves (BIOLELA). Since 1996, this biographical information has been stored in wave specific files (\$LELA) Both BIOLELA as well as \$LELA belong to the files which have never been distributed to the SOEP-user community.

<sup>6</sup> Beside the reason ‘refusal’, the collection date of the life history biographies differ among SOEP sub-samples.

biological children might be underestimated in this group of women (over 30 years) to a larger extent compared to younger women.

#### 6.4 A new source of biographical information – the youth questionnaire

From wave T onwards the data within BIOBIRTH includes information from a further biographical instrument: the youth biography. The youth-questionnaire has been in circulation since the year 2000 (wave Q) for all young adults, one year after they have reached the required age for completing the individual-questionnaire. Apart from exceptions described in table 1, this means the age of 17. What is important for the BIOBIRTH data-set is that these individuals who fill in the youth-questionnaire complete this questionnaire *instead* of the biographical questionnaire. The age groups which instead fill in the youth-questionnaire of the biographical module differ slightly among the SOEP-subsamples (table 1):

Table 1: Target population of the Youth Questionnaire by year, sample and age

sample	2000	2001	2002	2003 and later
A-E	17 years	17 years	17 years	17 years
F		17-19 years	17 years	17 years
G				17 years
H				17 years

The youth-biography does not contain any birth-biographical modules. Assuming that only very few women give birth before the age of 17 and that these few can be identified in the household context (as long as they remain within the SOEP) this does not pose any problems for compiling the birth-biography of the respondents. Nevertheless, a few changes to the BIOBIRTH data-set have to be outlined:

- In the variable BIOVALID a new code (“20”: “youth biography questionnaire completed”) is added. As the youth questionnaire doesn’t contain any information about own children the addendum “no children in biography” is always added to the code “20”.
- While calculating the age at the time of the biographical questionnaire (BIOAGE), the age upon completion of the youth questionnaire is applied.
- The variable BIODIDS always remains at zero as no biographical information on parenthood can be derived from the youth-biography (in this cases no missing code is applied in BIODIDS).

#### 6.5 Identification process of the children in the SOEP data base

The starting point for the process of identifying children is the relationship of a household member to the head of the household (HH) (variable \$STELL in the file \$PBRUTTO). The variable \$STELL has the following codes:

Code	Label
0	head of the household (HH)
1	spouse of HH
2	“life companion” of HH
3	daughter / son (including adopted/step-children) of HH
4	foster child of HH
5	daughter in law / son in law of HH
6	father / mother of HH
7	father in law / mother in law of HH
8	brother / sister / brother in law / sister in law of HH
9	grandchild of HH
10	other relation to HH
11	not related to HH
12	child of “life companion” of HH (included since 1999)

However, there are only certain combinations among household members in which a biological mother-child relationship among a female adult and another person can be assumed.

Potential mother-child relationships as a combination of the variable \$STELL

<b>\$STELL of the woman another person</b>		<b>Potential mother-child relationship</b>
<b>In this case the person is the...</b>		
0	3	Child of reference person ( reference person = head of he household)
1	3	Child of the wife of reference person
1	11	Child of the wife of reference person, but not child of reference person
1	12	
2	3	Child of “life companion” of reference person and of reference person
2	11	Child of “life companion” of reference person but not of reference person
2	12	
3	9	Child of daughter of reference person
4	9	Child of foster child of reference person
5	9	Child of daughter in law of reference person (3 generation household)
6	0	Child is reference person, lives with his mother in the same household
6	8	Child is the sister / brother of reference person, the siblings live with their mother in the same household
7	1	Child is spouse of reference person and lives together with spouse and mother in the same household
7	8	Child is daughter / son of the mother in law of reference person, but not the spouse of the reference person rather the sister in law / brother in law of reference person
8	10	Child is niece / nephew of reference person, mother is sister / sister in law of reference person
9	10	Child is another relation to reference person, great grandchild of reference person
10	10	Mother and child have another relation to reference person
11	11	Child and mother are in no way related to reference person

For the remaining unassigned children within a household a thorough check is performed to scan for mother-child ties that can be derived from more complex household relationships. It should be noted here that the larger the number of persons living in a household, the more complicated the relationships become among the individual household members. For that reason only the combination of the information from the biography questionnaire with the information from \$PBRUTTO (and in most cases the mother indicator \$KMUTTI from \$KIND) provides the most reliable definition of a biological mother-child relationship.

#### 6.6 Identification of the children for women with biographical data

If one woman mentioned in the biography questionnaire the birth, the sex and the birth year of a child, the identification process has been started. In the first step, the program identified the woman's relationship to the reference person and looked on the basis of the mother-child combination - as illustrated above- for a potential child in the household. If the birth year and the sex of this person are the same as named in the life history interview of the assumed mother, the person has been identified as the child of this woman. Since the majority of the households with children present small nuclear families including one potential mother, this kind of identification process was completely sufficient. In other, rather complex households a careful hand editing has been examined, in order to identify the 'right' child to the 'right' mother. The same has been done, if the sex or the important information – the year of birth - of a child mentioned in the biography questionnaire of a woman was missing.

In the case of a successful identification the variable KIDPNR[n] has been filled with the person identifier of this child. Children, for whom the woman in the biography questionnaire has reported that they were deceased or had moved out, were assigned the personal number (KIDPNR[n]) "-1", for missing information, in BIOBIRTH.

#### 6.7 Identification of the children for women who have no biography data/ not completed the biography questionnaire

To get as close as possible to the definition of a biological child, for this group of women only, specific relationships among household members were allowed. Since the main important information – from the biography questionnaire - is missing, a careful analysis of the composition and the history of the household in which the children live has been examined, in order to assign the 'right' child to the 'right' mother.

Potential mother-child relationships as combination of the variable \$STELL

<b>\$STELL of the</b>		<b>Potential mother-child relationship</b>
<b>woman</b>	<b>another person</b>	<b>In this case the person is the...</b>
0	3	Child of reference person
1	3	Child of the wife of reference person
2	3	Child of “life companion” of reference person and of reference person
3	9	Child of daughter of reference person

### 6.8 Last step of the identification process

If a child is identified through the above described process and it was not yet old enough to be surveyed itself (under 16 years old) and lived at least in a partially realized household, an additional source of information is made available along with the data set \$KIND to check the relationship. For each person in this group (under 16 years old), there is an indicator for the mother (\$KMUTTI) containing the person identifier of the mother. Although this information does not necessarily indicate a biological mother-child relationship, at least the identification process for a large portion of the women could be checked or compared.

### 6.9 Updating BIOBIRTH

As mentioned in section 6.1 the annual update of the data set BIOBIRTH is examined with respect to two dimensions. First, updating the birth biography of the BIOBIRTH population and second, extending BIOBIRTH by new persons. The latter are either new female household members or female teenagers who have reached the required age for giving a first interview (16 years). Since the extension of BIOBIRTH follows the generation rules as described above, the following only summarizes the updating of the birth biography of the BIOBIRTH population.

New born children in the SOEP study are documented in the variable \$PZUG in the data set \$PBRUTTO:

Code	Label
11	Born since the last survey
17	Born before the last survey, but only now first mentioned
31	Born two years ago

For this group of new born persons the identification process starts this time in the reverse direction: While we have looked before for the children, now we are looking for the mothers.

Potential mother-child relationships as combination of the variable \$STELL

<b>\$STELL of the woman another person</b>		<b>Potential mother-child relationship</b>
		<b>In this case the person is the...</b>
0	3 /4	Child / foster child of reference person
1	3	Child / foster child of the wife of reference person
2	3	Child / foster child of the reference person's life's companion and of the reference person
2	11	Child / foster child of the reference person's life's companion, but not child of reference person
2	12	reference person
3	9	Child of daughter of reference person
4	9	Child of foster child of reference person
5	9	Child of daughter in law of reference person
6	8	Child is sister / brother of reference person, the brothers and sisters live with their mother in the same household
7	8	Child is daughter / son of the mother in law of reference person, but not the spouse of the reference person rather the sister in law / brother in law of reference person
8	10	Child is niece / nephew of reference person, mother is sister / sister in law of reference person
9	10	Child is great grandchild of reference person, mother is granddaughter of reference person

Since new born children per definition could not be a reference person or a partner of the reference person, several \$STELL codes are excluded. Further combinations are excluded, in which the basis of a mother-child relationship could not have been identified with sufficient significance. Again, the majority of the households with children, in particular with small children, are nuclear households or lone parent households. For that reason this kind of identification process often yields in a successful identification of the new born children. Nevertheless, the mother indicator information (\$KMUTTI) from \$KIND was again drawn upon as a check.

*An overview over central variables in the file BIOBIRTH (Version 2006 / up to Wave W)*

*(For an up-to-date version of these frequencies refer to <http://panel.gsoep.de/soepinfo2006/>)*

**BIOVALID Status of the birth biography**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	10 No Birthbio. - No Kids from Bio.	2942	12,1	12,1	12,1
	20 Youthbio - No Kids from Bio.	1308	5,4	5,4	17,5
	30 Birthbio - No Kids from Bio.	7913	32,7	32,7	50,2
	31 Birthbio - Kids according to Bio.	12054	49,8	49,8	100,0
	Total	24217	100,0	100,0	

**BIOYEAR Year of the survey of the birth biography**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	-2 No birthbio.	2942	12,1	12,1	12,1
	1985	6619	27,3	27,3	39,5
	1986	83	,3	,3	39,8
	1987	104	,4	,4	40,3
	1988	220	,9	,9	41,2
	1989	211	,9	,9	42,0
	1990	202	,8	,8	42,9
	1991	161	,7	,7	43,5
	1992	2636	10,9	10,9	54,4
	1993	231	1,0	1,0	55,4
	1994	592	2,4	2,4	57,8
	1995	528	2,2	2,2	60,0
	1996	255	1,1	1,1	61,0
	1997	231	1,0	1,0	62,0
	1998	203	,8	,8	62,8
	1999	1033	4,3	4,3	67,1
	2000	243	1,0	1,0	68,1
	2001	4928	20,3	20,3	88,5
	2002	467	1,9	1,9	90,4
	2003	1321	5,5	5,5	95,8
	2004	410	1,7	1,7	97,5
	2005	329	1,4	1,4	98,9
	2006	268	1,1	1,1	100,0
Total		24217	100,0	100,0	

**SUMKIDS Sum of kids in BIOBIRTH**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	,00	9482	39,2	39,2	39,2
	1,00	4568	18,9	18,9	58,0
	2,00	6294	26,0	26,0	84,0
	3,00	2457	10,1	10,1	94,2
	4,00	851	3,5	3,5	97,7
	5,00	310	1,3	1,3	98,9
	6,00	132	,5	,5	99,5
	7,00	58	,2	,2	99,7
	8,00	40	,2	,2	99,9
	9,00	11	,0	,0	99,9
	10,00	10	,0	,0	100,0
	11,00	1	,0	,0	100,0
	12,00	3	,0	,0	100,0
Total		24217	100,0	100,0	

**BIOKIDS Sum of kids derived from birth biography**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	-2	2942	12,1	12,1	12,1
	0	9221	38,1	38,1	50,2
	1	3819	15,8	15,8	66,0
	2	5013	20,7	20,7	86,7
	3	2005	8,3	8,3	95,0
	4	720	3,0	3,0	97,9
	5	267	1,1	1,1	99,1
	6	116	,5	,5	99,5
	7	52	,2	,2	99,7
	8	40	,2	,2	99,9
	9	12	,0	,0	100,0
	10	7	,0	,0	100,0
	11	1	,0	,0	100,0
	12	2	,0	,0	100,0
	Total	24217	100,0	100,0	

**NEWKIDS Sum of kids identified through \$PBRUTTO**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	0	20658	85,3	85,3	85,3
	1	1980	8,2	8,2	93,5
	2	1231	5,1	5,1	98,6
	3	282	1,2	1,2	99,7
	4	52	,2	,2	99,9
	5	8	,0	,0	100,0
	6	4	,0	,0	100,0
	7	1	,0	,0	100,0
	10	1	,0	,0	100,0
	Total	24217	100,0	100,0	

## ***7. BIOBRTHM – The Birth Biography of Male Respondents in the SOEP***

by Christian Schmitt

### 7.1 Contents of the BIOBRTHM data-set

In the year 2001 a new biographical module was implemented in the SOEP. The birth-biography – up to then only available for women – was also collected from the men in the SOEP. The information is included in the file BIOBRTHM that was introduced to the family of SOEP biography data-sets in wave T (2003). This documentation deals with important features and limitations that are unique to BIOBRTHM data-set. The data-set BIOBRTHM – the birth biography of male respondents – contains the same set of variables as the initial BIOBIRTH file – the birth biography of female respondents. Refer to the documentation of the latter file for basic information, concerning the SOEP birth biography.

The variables are:

- HHNR                      Time-invariant number of the original household (wave 1)
- PERSNR                    Time-invariant personal number of the man
- BIOVALID                Status of the birth biography:
  - 10: no birth biographical entries
  - 20: youth biography questionnaire completed, no children in biography
  - 30: birth biography questionnaire completed, no children in biography
  - 31: birth biography questionnaire completed, one or more children in biography
- BIOYEAR                Year of the birth biography survey (2001ff.), respectively “-2” for men without information stemming from this special survey instrument.
- BIOAGE                    Age of the man at the time of the birth biography survey. If no birth biographical information is available yet, the age at the very first survey is indicated.
- SUMKIDS                Total number of children born (more precisely: total number of children identifiable within SOEP by merging all available data up to the time of the last observation (SUMKIDS=BIOKIDS+NEWKIDS)).
- BIODKIDS                Total number of children identified through the birth biography. For men who haven't filled in the birth biographical questionnaire yet, the code “-2” applies.
- NEWKIDS                Total number of children identified through \$PBRUTTO or \$KIND.
- KIDGEB[n]              Children's year of birth (for the first child up to the fifteenth child).
- KIDSEX[n]                Sex of the children (for the first child up to the fifteenth child).

- KIDPNR[n]            Personal number of the children (for the first child up to the fifteenth child), as far as this person is identifiable in the SOEP.  
  
For the variables KIDGEB[n], KIDSEX[n] and KIDPNR[n] identical missing codes apply: The code “-2“ is assigned if there’s no [n]th child found for this mother. The code “-1” applies if information about the [n]th child is found, but information about the birth year or the sex is missing or the child could not be identified by a personal identifier (PERSNR) within the SOEP.
- KIDMON[n]            Month of birth of the child (for the first child up to the fifteenth child).  
  
Starting with wave W (survey year 2006), the month of birth of each child (KIDMON01 to KIDMON15) will be included within the birth-biography. The data is consistent with the variable for the month of birth (GEBMONAT), stored within the file PPFAD. I.e. the same limitations as in the Variable GEBMONAT apply (some of the data has been derived from proxy-information; see the PPFAD documentation for more details).

For a complete overview of contents and construction of variables refer to the document “BIOBIRTH – A Data Set on the Birth Biography of Female Respondents”

## 7.2 Population of BIOBRTHM

Like the female birth-biography, the population of BIOBRTHM consists of all respondents of the relevant sex (here, all *male* respondents) with at least one personal interview up to the current wave. However, two features differentiate the male from the female birth-biography data:

- First: only information about men with at least one completed questionnaire *in 2001 or later* is contained in the BIOBIRM file.
- Second: information from the birth-biography will only be added for *new* Panel members in 2000 and later, as only these persons fill in a new biography interview (usually one wave after the first participation in the SOEP which in our case means in 2001 or later). Most of the members who have completed a questionnaire before 2000 have also already completed the biographical modules that are only collected once for every person.

The module collecting information about (non-) fatherhood was introduced in 2001. Therefore, most men in subsample “F” (which started in 2000) have completed the birth-biography as most of the biographical questionnaires are usually completed one wave after the starting wave. For all the other men within BIOBRTHM, the information about fatherhood is underestimated as only the context of the household can be taken into account when considering the number of children (see the documentation of the file BIOBIRTH, 6.3 for the

reasons of this underestimation and further details). Furthermore, this underestimation is more severe for men who did not complete the biographical questionnaire than it is for women as children remain more often with the mother than with the father after the split of a relationship.

### 7.3 Construction of variables - Particularities

The construction of variables for the data-set BIOBIRM mostly resembles the generation of variables within the BIOBIRTH file. The major difference affects information from the data-set \$KIND from which the mother-child-pointer (\$KMUTTI) is used when generating the birth-biography of women to link the right child to a given mother. For men such a pointer is not available. Therefore, the focus of variable construction remains on utilizing information from \$PBRUTTO where the household context is taken into account. For details of BIOBRTHM variable construction based on \$PBRUTTO please refer to the documentation of the file BIOBIRTH as the construction remains – besides the mentioned differences – identical.

*An overview over central variables in the file BIOBIRTH (Version 2006 / up to Wave W)  
(For an up-to-date version of these frequencies refer to <http://panel.gsoep.de/soepinfo2006/>)*

#### **BIOVALID Status of the birth biography**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	10 No Birthbio. - No Kids from Bio.	7854	51,4	51,4	51,4
	20 Youthbio - No Kids from Bio.	1187	7,8	7,8	59,1
	30 Birthbio - No Kids from Bio.	2106	13,8	13,8	72,9
	31 Birthbio - Kids according to Bio.	4140	27,1	27,1	100,0
	Total	15287	100,0	100,0	

#### **BIOYEAR Year of the survey of the birth biography**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	-2 No birthbio.	7854	51,4	51,4	51,4
	2000	118	,8	,8	52,1
	2001	4501	29,4	29,4	81,6
	2002	432	2,8	2,8	84,4
	2003	1370	9,0	9,0	93,4
	2004	412	2,7	2,7	96,1
	2005	338	2,2	2,2	98,3
	2006	262	1,7	1,7	100,0
	Total	15287	100,0	100,0	

**SUMKIDS Sum of kids in BIOBRTHM**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	,00	7549	49,4	49,4	49,4
	1,00	2706	17,7	17,7	67,1
	2,00	3389	22,2	22,2	89,3
	3,00	1174	7,7	7,7	96,9
	4,00	328	2,1	2,1	99,1
	5,00	89	,6	,6	99,7
	6,00	31	,2	,2	99,9
	7,00	10	,1	,1	99,9
	8,00	8	,1	,1	100,0
	10,00	2	,0	,0	100,0
	11,00	1	,0	,0	100,0
	Total	15287	100,0	100,0	

**BIOKIDS Sum of kids derived from birth biography**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	-2	7854	51,4	51,4	51,4
	0	3293	21,5	21,5	72,9
	1	1229	8,0	8,0	81,0
	2	1853	12,1	12,1	93,1
	3	734	4,8	4,8	97,9
	4	218	1,4	1,4	99,3
	5	65	,4	,4	99,7
	6	25	,2	,2	99,9
	7	7	,0	,0	99,9
	8	9	,1	,1	100,0
	Total	15287	100,0	100,0	

**NEWKIDS Sum of kids identified through \$PBRUTTO**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	0	11507	75,3	75,3	75,3
	1	1751	11,5	11,5	86,7
	2	1497	9,8	9,8	96,5
	3	413	2,7	2,7	99,2
	4	91	,6	,6	99,8
	5	18	,1	,1	99,9
	6	6	,0	,0	100,0
	7	2	,0	,0	100,0
	10	1	,0	,0	100,0
	11	1	,0	,0	100,0
	Total	15287	100,0	100,0	

## **8. BIOTWIN – Information on TWINS in the SOEP**

by Christian Schmitt and Katja Möhring

### 8.1 Population and contents of the data set BIOTWIN

The file BIOTWIN contains all twins that were ever identified within the SOEP. To be classified as a twin, a person has to:

- have exactly the same age as his or her sibling,
- have a relationship to the head of the household that indicates that he or her and a second person are siblings and
- has to have the identical mother (as far as a pointer to the mother is available).

Furthermore, it is not only twins that are recorded in the BIOTWIN data set, but also triplets or quadruple siblings. The following variables are stored within the BIOTWIN data set:

- HHNR            Invariable number of the original household.
- PERSNR        Invariable personal identifier of the first sibling
- PNRTWIN      Invariable personal identifier of the second sibling, the twin.
- PNRTRIP      Invariable personal identifier of the third sibling.
- PNRQUAD     Invariable personal identifier of the fourth sibling.
- PNRMOTH     Pointer to the personal identifier of the mother of the twin-group.
- BIOMONoz    Monozygotic group? Information if the group is monozygotic.
- INFSOURC    Source of information from which the status of being a twin is derived

The central variable PERSNR is assigned to the sibling with the lowest personal identifier in the twin group. The PNRTWIN and – in rare cases if available – PNRTRIP or PNRQUAD contain the personal identifier of second, and third or fourth sibling in the group. This means that every case in the data set consists of a *group* of twins (or triplets or quadruplets). The code “-2” is assigned to PNRTRIP and/or PNRQUAD if a third or fourth twin sibling doesn’t exist. PERSNR and PNRTWIN however should always contain valid codes.

The variable PNRMOTH provides the link to the mother of the group and is derived from the data set \$KIND. It is identical to the variable \$KMUTTI as far as twins are concerned.

### 8.2 The twin survey of 2006

In 2006, a questionnaire was distributed among all households with potential twin groups, identified up till then. The aim was to validate that none of these twins had been identified by

mistake. The variables INFOTWIN and BIOMONOZ contain new information which was derived from this survey.

The result of the survey could widely validate the selection of the twin population, contained in the BIOTWIN data set of the SOEP. More than 80% of households with twins could be contacted and were interviewed in the twin survey. Among these only 3 groups of twins turned out to be identified erroneously (those false positives were removed from the BIOTWIN data set). Thus the algorithms of identifying twins within the SOEP could prove to be widely reliable. Additional information that was collected with the twin survey contributed to identifying a number of mothers of twins, for whom the mother-child-link was missing previously. Furthermore the twin survey provided additional information on monozygotic respectively dizygotic twins. The variable BIOMONOZ was extended, in order to reflect this additional information (see below for more details).

### 8.3 Construction of variables in the data set BIOTWIN

The variable BIOMONOZ<sup>7</sup> indicates if the group is monozygotic. If the information could be validated in the twin-survey in 2006 the code is set to 1 for monozygotic twins and 2 for dizygotic twins. If the information on being mono- or dizygotic twins could *not* be validated in the twin survey, which was carried out in 2006, the code is set to 0 if the sex of all the siblings is identical, and this group thus *might* be monozygotic. Please pay attention to the fact that the labels and values of the variable BIOMONOZ from wave W onwards are not consistent with values and labels from previous waves.

The variable INFOTWIN is introduced with wave W and provides information on the source from which the status of being a member of a twin group is derived from and whether this information could be validated in the twin-survey in 2006.

INFOTWIN can take the following characteristics:

- 1      Generated from identical number of household and month of birth –  
not validated by the twin survey from 2006
- 2      Possible Twin or Triplet – Information not revisable in twin survey 2006
- 3      Possible Twin or Triplet – Answer refused in twin survey 2006
- 4      Twin or Triplet – Information validated by twin survey 2006

---

<sup>7</sup> This variable existed before wave W but was restructured to reflect the additional information which became available with the 2006 twin questionnaire.

The selection of twins within the SOEP, which compiles the data set BIOTWIN, is based on the month of birth. The month of birth was chosen as means of validation instead of the year of birth, as a woman might give birth at two different times in a year and furthermore because social siblings need to be distinguished from biological siblings. Hence the month of birth plays a central role in identifying potential twin-groups. Therefore, only people with a) valid month of birth information and b) identical month of birth may be classified as twins.

In a second step, the relationship of these potential twins to the head of household is scanned (\$STELL). If the relationship of both persons assures that they are siblings, then they are assumed to be twins.

In a third step the pointer to the mother (\$KMUTTI) is checked for both siblings to cross check the results of the previous steps. If this pointer is identical for both siblings, it is transferred into the variable PNRMOTH. If the variable \$KMUTTI is unavailable or incomplete the variable PNRMOTH is set to -1.

*An overview over central information in the file BIOTWIN (Version 2007 / Wave W)  
(For an up-to-date version of these information refer to <http://panel.gsoep.de/soepinfo2005>)*

**Table 1 Sibling groups in the BIOTWIN**

	group size	valid mother pointers
twins	139	135
triple	3	3
quadruple	-	-

**BIOMONOZ Monozygotic or dizygotic siblings?**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	0 Possible Monozygotic	40	28,2	28,2	28,2
	1 Definite Monozygotic	23	16,2	16,2	44,4
	2, Definite Dizygotic	79	55,6	55,6	100,0
	Total	142	100,0	100,0	

**INFOTWIN Status twin - which source of information?**

		Frequency	Percent	Val. Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	1 Generated from identical household and month of birth – not validated	7	4,9	4,9	4,9
	2 Possible Twin or Triplet – Information in survey 2006 not revisable	37	26,1	26,1	31,0
	3 Possible Twin or Triplet – In survey 2006 answer refused	1	,7	,7	31,7
	4 Twin or Triplet – Information in survey 2006 validated	97	68,3	68,3	100,0
	Total	142	100,0	100,0	

## ***9. BIOIMMIG: Generated and Status Variables from SOEP for Foreigners and Migrants***

by Jan Goebel and Maria Richter

*(Replaces earlier versions by John P. Haisken-DeNew)*

### 9.1 Content

The variables contained in BIOIMMIG deal with questions related to foreigners in (and migrants to) Germany. Specifically, questions concerning desire to return to the home country, the presence of relatives in the home country, reasons for coming to Germany, and conditions upon initial arrival in Germany. A complete list of variables is shown in the table with German and English labels.

### 9.2 Status Variables and Carrying Forth of Information

The data available in this file are longitudinal, that is to say, the same variable name refers to different time periods, differentiated by the variable ERHEBJ. The data is stacked for each person, such that the unit of observation is a person-year. Thus for every person, there are as many observations as interviews given by this person. Much of the information was asked only once, and „carried“ forth in the following years. Frequencies can be found in SOEPINFO.

The sample in the dataset is defined by taking all available information and deleting all those persons who:

are born in Germany *and*

have German nationality *and*

have no valid BIOIMMIG information in any wave that they were observed.

As the data consists of person-year observations, if a person is excluded from the sample, then for all years. However if a person once belonged to the sample, then he is always included (say, even after receiving German citizenship).

## List of Variables

<i>Variable</i>	<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
PERSNR	Personennummer	Person Number
HHNR	Ursprüngliche HH-Nummer	Original HH Number
HHNRAKT	Aktuelle HH-Nummer für ERHEBJ	Current HH Number for ERHEBJ
ERHEBJ	Jahr/Erhebungsjahr	Current Year / Year Answered
BIIMGRP	BI: Status bei Einwanderung in Dt.	BI: Immigration Group
BIRESPER	BI: Status Aufenthaltserlaubnis	BI: Residence Status
BICAMP	BI: Aufnahmelager: J/N	BI: Refugee Residence Y/N
BICAMPW	BI: Aufnahmelager: Wochen	BI: Refugee Residence: Weeks
BICAMPM	BI: Aufnahmelager: Monate	BI: Refugee Residence: Months
BIWFAM	BI: Eingereist als Familienangehöriger	BI: Already had Family in Country
BIFAMC	BI: Vor Einreise Kontakte mit Pers.	BI: Contacts with Family in Germany
BIFAMCL	BI: Zuzug in Wohnort der Bekannten	BI: Moved to Same City/Town as Family
BIRBETR	BI: Gründe Zuzug D: Besser	BI: Reason Migrate: Better
BIRMONEY	BI: Gründe Zuzug D: Geld	BI: Reason Migrate: Money
BIRFREE	BI: Gründe Zuzug D: Freiheit	BI: Reason Migrate: Freedom
BIRFAM	BI: Gründe Zuzug D: Familie	BI: Reason Migrate: Family
BIRPOOR	BI: Gründe Zuzug D: Armut	BI: Reason Migrate: Poor
BIRWAR	BI: Gründe Zuzug D: Krieg	BI: Reason Migrate: War
BIRJUST	BI: Gründe Zuzug D: Einfach So	BI: Reason Migrate: Just So
BIOTHR	BI: Gründe Zuzug D: Sonstiges	BI: Reason Migrate: Other
BIEXPR	BI: Vorstellungen von Dt.	BI: Expectations in Germany
BIEXPRLV	BI: Eigene Wohnung finden	BI: Expectations: Find Apt
BIEXPRAC	BI: Von Arbeitskollegen akzeptiert	BI: Expectations: Accepted by Coworker
BIEXPRAN	BI: Von Nachbarn akzeptiert	BI: Expectations: Accepted by Neighbor
BIRELH	BI: In Heimatland Familienmitglieder	BI: Family Abroad
BIRELHP	BI: In Heimat: Eltern	BI: Family Abroad: Parents
BIRELHGP	BI: In Heimat: Großeltern	BI: Family Abroad: Grandparents
BIRELHC	BI: In Heimat: Kinder	BI: Family Abroad: Children
BIRELHBS	BI: In Heimat: Bruder, Schwester	BI: Family Abroad: Brother/Sister
BIRELHDR	BI: In Heimat: Entferntere Verwandte	BI: Family Abroad: Distant Relatives
BIRELHSP	BI: In Heimat: Ehepartner, Verlobte(r)	BI: Family Abroad: Spouse
BIRELHFR	BI: In Heimat: Bekannte/Freunde	BI: Family Abroad: Friends
BIRELHMI	BI: Personen gern nach Dt. holen?	BI: Persons abroad bring to Germany
BIRELHS2	BI: Ehepartner in Deutschland	BI: Spouse in Germany
BIRELHC2	BI: Kinder unter 18 J. nicht in D	BI: Underage Children not in Germany
BIGOBACK	BI: Rückkehr Heimat (ab 1994)	BI: Go back home ?
BISTAY	BI: Wunsch in D zu bleiben	BI: Desire to Stay in Germany
BISTAYY	BI: Dauer des geplanten Aufenthalts	BI: Years Desired to Stay in Germany
BISCGER	BI: In Dt. Schule besucht?	BI: Attended School in Germany
BISCGRAD	BI: In welche Klasse in dt. Schule	BI: Which Grade School
BISCGERC	BI: Besuch spezieller Vorbereitung	BI: Attended Special Foreigner Prep Class
BISCGC	BI: Auch dt. Schüler in Schulklasse	BI: Also German Pupils in Class
BISCGCF	BI: Wie viel Mitschüler Ausländer	BI: How many Pupils foreign
BISCGCFN	BI: Eine oder mehrere Nationalität	BI: Mix of Nationalities in Class

### 9.3 Updating of Time-Dependent Information

The variables found in BIOIMMIG are created first using information from the SOEP biography files, the so-called BIOLELA, \$LELA (starting with wave M) files. Additionally, starting in 2000 (wave Q), \$JUGEND is collected of 16 and 17 year-olds, containing similar information to \$LELA. In any given year, a person can have only information from \$JUGEND or \$LELA, but not both. If valid information is found in the \$LELA or \$JUGEND files for the given response year, then it is taken. Yearly valid update information is taken from the foreigner specific files APAUSL through LPAUSL and the foreigner specific questions in MP, NP, OP and onwards. Starting with wave M, the foreigner specific variables are found in the regular \$P files, as the questionnaire is identical for natives and foreigners. Sometimes there is competing information in the biography and regular yearly person questionnaires. The most recent valid information is taken to be correct. First the \$LELA or \$JUGEND info is used and then updated with valid/non-missing information from the person questionnaire.

### 9.4 Using this File

The BIOIMMIG file can be used in cross-section or in panel. The usual matching variables are included.: PERSNR (Person Number), HHNR (Original HH Number), HHNRAKT (Current HH Number for survey year given in ERHEBJ), ERHEBJ (Year ). The data is sorted by HHNR, HHNRAKT, PERSNR, ERHEBJ such that there are typically many person-year observations for every person. In that sense, the data are ready to be used/matched to a longitudinal dataset. However, simply by selecting on the appropriate year in ERHEBJ, the file can be used cross-sectionally as well.

The data structure looks like the following (using fictitious data in this example):

PERSNR	HHNR	HHNRAKT	ERHEBJ	BIIMGRP	BIRESPER
101	19	19	1995	-2	-2
101	19	19	1996	2	1
101	19	19	1997	2	1
101	19	19	1998	2	1
102	19	19	1995	3	2
102	19	19	1996	3	2
102	19	19	1997	3	2

### *Using BIOIMMIG as a Cross-Section*

An example of how to use BIOIMMIG in a cross-section would be as follows:

(A) Open BIOIMMIG, keeping only those observations in BIOIMMIG for a particular year.

```
in Stata:    use bioimmig if erhebj==1984
```

(B) Rename all the desired variables with wave-specific information.

```
in Stata:    rename bicamp camp1984
             rename bicampw campw1984
```

(C) Save the ID's and the renamed variables in a temporary file

```
in Stata:    sort hhnr persnr
             save /tmp/bioim1984, replace
```

(D) Merge the temporary file to your main dataset

```
in Stata:    merge hhnr persnr using /tmp/bioim1984, nokeep
             drop _merge
```

(E) Repeat starting at step (A) for all years of interest, i.e. erhebj==1985

### 9.5 Documentation of the Variables

Below, each variable is listed and its variable and value labels are displayed in both English and German. A list of the main source variables used in the generation is provided for reference purposes. Further, there is also information as to what question the variables correspond to in the Wave 13 -M-1996 Biography Questionnaire.

#### **Problems:**

If you encounter problems using this file, first-aid is available from the original STATA source code used to create this file, delivered with the regular SOEP data distribution.

**BIIMGRP** BI: Status bei Einwanderung in Dt.  
BI: Immigration Group

**BIO Question:** Q5

**Comment:** The possible groups change in 2000, such that "[1] East German" and "[5] Non EU "are **no longer** identified starting 2000. However, as information can be carried forth from previous years, there may be valid [1] and [3] values starting 2000, but only if the information was collected *before* 2000.

**German:** ***Zu welcher der folgenden Zuwanderergruppen gehörten Sie, als Sie nach Deutschland kamen ?***

"[1] Ostdeutsche (LT 2000) "

"[2] Aussiedler "

"[3] Deutscher, Ausland lebt "

"[4] EG-Mitglied "

"[5] Nicht EG (LT 2000)"

"[6] Asylbewerber "

"[7] Sonstige "

**English:** ***Which immigrant group did you belong to, when you came to Germany ?.***

"[1] East German (LT 2000)"

"[2] Ethnic German living in East Europe "

"[3] German living abroad "

"[4] EU Member "

"[5] Non EU (LT 2000)"

"[6] Asylum Seeker "

"[7] Other "

<b>Year</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Variable</b>
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P070Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P070Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB070Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB070Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB070Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB070Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB070Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB070Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB05
2003 T	TLELA	TB05
2004 U	ULELA	UB05
2005 V	VLELA	VB05
2006 W	WLELA	WB05
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ57
2001 R	RJUGEND	RJ59
2002 S	SJUGEND	SJ59
2003 T	TJUGEND	TJ59
2004 U	UJUGEND	UJ59
2005 V	VJUGEND	VJ59
2006 W	WJUGEND	WJ64

**BIRESPER** BI: Status Aufenthaltserlaubnis  
BI: Residence Status

**BIO Question:** Q6

**Comment:** The possible groups change in 2000 in QLELA and QJUGEND, such that "[3] German Citizen" is included in the original question. German citizens for the purpose of this question have been recoded to -2 (does not apply). German citizenship is however recorded in NATION\$\$ in \$PGEN as usual.

**German:** *Haben Sie heute eine unbefristete Aufenthaltserlaubnis bzw. Aufenthaltsberechtigung oder haben Sie eine befristete Aufenthaltserlaubnis?*  
"[1] Unbefristet "  
"[2] Befristet "

**English:** *Do you right now have a permanent or temporary residence permit ?*  
"[1] Permanent "  
"[2] Limited "

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P080Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P080Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB080Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB080Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB080Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB080Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB080Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB080Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB06
2003 T	TLELA	TB06
2004 U	ULELA	UB06
2005 V	VLELA	VB06
2006 W	VLELA	WB06
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ58
2001 R	RJUGEND	RJ60
2002 S	SJUGEND	SJ60
2003 T	TJUGEND	TJ60
2004 U	UJUGEND	UJ60
2005 V	VJUGEND	VJ60
2006 W	VJUGEND	WJ69

**BICAMP** BI: Aufnahmelager: J/N  
BI: Refugee Residence Y/N

**BIO Question:** Q7a

**German:** *Haben Sie nach Ihrer Einreise zunächst in einem Aufnahmelager oder Übergangwohnheim gelebt ?*  
"[1] Ja "  
"[2] Nein "

**English:** *After you arrived in Germany, did you live in temporary refugee/immigrant housing or residence ?*  
"[1] Yes "  
"[2] No "

**See also:** **BICAMP , BICAMPW , BICAMPM**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P090Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P090Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB090Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB090Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB090Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB090Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB090Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB090Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB0701
2003 T	TLELA	TB0701
2004 U	ULELA	UB0701
2005 V	VLELA	VB0701
2006 W	WLELA	WB0701
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ5901
2001 Q	RJUGEND	RJ6101
2002 S	SJUGEND	SJ6101
2003 T	TJUGEND	TJ6101
2004 U	UJUGEND	UJ6101
2005 V	VJUGEND	VJ6101
2006 W	WJUGEND	n/a

**BICAMPW** BI: Aufnahmelager: Wochen  
 BI: Refugee Residence: Weeks

**BIO Question:** Q7b

**German:** *Aufnahmelager: Wenn Ja, für wie lange (Wochen) ?*

**English:** *Immigrant Residence: If so, then for how long (weeks)?*

**See also:** **BICAMP, BICAMPW, BICAMPM**

<b>Year</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Variable</b>
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P091Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P091Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB091Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB091Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB091Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB091Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB091Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB091Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB0702
2003 T	TLELA	TB0702
2004 U	ULELA	UB0702
2005 V	VLELA	VB0702
2006 W	WLELA	WB0702
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ5902
2001 R	RJUGEND	RJ6102
2002 S	SJUGEND	SJ6102
2003 T	TJUGEND	TJ6102
2004 U	UJUGEND	UJ6102
2005 V	VJUGEND	VJ6102
2006 W	WJUGEND	n/a

**BICAMPM** BI: Aufnahmelager: Monate  
 BI: Refugee Residence: Months

**BIO Question:** Q7c

**German:** *Aufnahmelager: Wenn Ja, für wie lange (Monate) ?*

**English:** *Immigrant Residence: If so, then for how long (months)?*

**See also:** **BICAMP, BICAMPW, BICAMPM**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P092Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P092Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB092Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB092Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB092Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB092Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB092Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB092Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB0703
2003 T	TLELA	TB0703
2004 U	ULELA	UB0703
2005 V	VLELA	VB0703
2006 W	WLELA	WB0703
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ5903
2001 R	RJUGEND	RJ6103
2002 S	SJUGEND	SJ6103
2003 T	TJUGEND	TJ6103
2004 U	UJUGEND	UJ6103
2005 V	VJUGEND	VJ6103
2006 W	WJUGEND	n/a

**BIWFAM** BI: Eingereist als Familienangehöriger  
 BI: Already had Family in Country

**BIO Question:** Q8

**German:** *Als Sie einreisten, kamen Sie da als Familienangehöriger einer bereits in Deutschland lebenden Familie bzw. Person ?*  
 "[1] Ja "  
 "[2] Nein "

**English:** *When you immigrated to Germany, was (at least one) a member of your family already living in Germany ?*  
 "[1] Yes "  
 "[2] No "

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P100Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P100Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB100Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB100Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB100Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB100Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB100Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB100Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB08
2003 T	TLELA	TB08
2004 U	ULELA	UB08
2005 V	VLELA	VB08
2006 W	WLELA	WB08
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ60
2001 R	RJUGEND	RJ62
2002 S	SJUGEND	SJ62
2003 T	TJUGEND	TJ62
2004 U	UJUGEND	UJ62
2005 V	VJUGEND	VJ62
2006 W	WJUGEND	n/a

**BIFAMC** BI: Vor Einreise Kontakte mit Pers.  
BI: Contacts with Family in Germany

**BIO Question:** Q9

**German:** *Hatten Sie vor der Einreise überhaupt Kontakte zu Verwandten oder Bekannte in Deutschland, an die Sie sich wenden konnten ?*  
"[1] Ja "  
"[2] Nein "

**English:** *Before immigrating to Germany, did you have any contact with relatives or friends, who could possibly help you ?*  
"[1] Yes "  
"[2] No "

**See also:** **BIFAMC , BIFAMCL**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P110Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P110Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB110Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB110Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB110Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB110Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB110Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB110Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB09
2003 T	TLELA	TB09
2004 U	ULELA	UB09
2005 V	VLELA	VB09
2006 W	WLELA	WB09
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ61
2001 R	RJUGEND	RJ63
2002 S	SJUGEND	SJ63
2003 T	TJUGEND	TJ63
2004 U	UJUGEND	UJ63
2005 V	VJUGEND	VJ63
2006 W	WJUGEND	n/a

**BIFAMCL** BI: Zuzug in Wohnort der Bekannten  
 BI: Moved to Same City/Town as Family

**BIO Question:** Q10

**German:** *Sind Sie in den Ort in Deutschland gezogen, wo diese Verwandten bzw. Bekannten lebten ?*  
 "[1] Ja "  
 "[2] Nein "

**English:** *Did you move to the same town/city in Germany where these relatives or friends lived ?*  
 "[1] Yes "  
 "[2] No "

**See also:** **BIFAMC , BIFAMCL**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P120Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P120Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB120Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB120Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB120Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB120Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB120Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB120Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB10
2003 T	TLELA	TB10
2004 U	ULELA	UB10
2005 V	VLELA	VB10
2006 W	WLELA	WB10
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ62
2001 R	RJUGEND	RJ64
2002 S	SJUGEND	SJ64
2003 T	TJUGEND	TJ64
2004 U	UJUGEND	UJ64
2005 V	VJUGEND	VJ64
2006 W	WJUGEND	n/a

**BIRBETR** BI: Gruende Zuzug D: Besser  
BI: Reason Migrate: Better

**BIO Question:** Q11a

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Es gibt ja unterschiedliche Gründe, nach Deutschland zu ziehen. Welche der folgenden Gründe spielten bei Ihnen eine Rolle ? -- Ich wollte ein besseres Leben haben: Besser wohnen, mehr kaufen können usw.*  
"[1] Besseres Leben "

**English:** *There are many reasons to migrate to Germany. Did the following reason play a role ? -- I wanted a better life. Live better, to be able to buy more etc..*  
"[1] Better Life "

**See also:** **BIRBETR, BIRMONEY, BIRFREE, BIRFAM, BIRPOOR, BIRWAR, BIRJUST, BIROTHR**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P151Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P151Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB151Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB151Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB151Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB151Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB151Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB151Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB1401
2003 T	TLELA	TB1401
2004 U	ULELA	UB1401
2005 V	VLELA	VB1401
2006 W	WELA	WB1401
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRMONEY** BI: Gruende Zuzug D: Geld  
BI: Reason Migrate: Money

**BIO Question:** Q11b

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Es gibt ja unterschiedliche Gründe, nach Deutschland zu ziehen. Welche der folgenden Gründe spielten bei Ihnen eine Rolle? --Ich wollte arbeiten und Geld verdienen in Deutschland, um meine Familie zu unterstützen und Geld sparen.*  
"[1] Geld verdienen "

**English:** *There are many reasons to migrate to Germany. Did the following reason play a role? -- I wanted to work and earn money to support my family and save money.*  
"[1] Earn money "

**See also:** **BIRBETR, BIRMONEY, BIRFREE, BIRFAM, BIRPOOR, BIRWAR, BIRJUST, BIROTHR**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P152Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P152Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB152Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB152Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB152Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB152Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB152Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB152Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB1402
2003 T	TLELA	TB1402
2004 U	ULELA	UB1402
2005 V	VLELA	VB1402
2006 W	WLELA	WB1402
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRFREE** BI: Gruende Zuzug D: Freiheit  
BI: Reason Migrate: Freedom

**BIO Question:** Q11c

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Es gibt ja unterschiedliche Gründe, nach Deutschland zu ziehen. Welche der folgenden Gründe spielten bei Ihnen eine Rolle? -- Ich wollte in der Freiheit leben.*  
"[1] In Freiheit leben "

**English:** *There are many reasons to migrate to Germany. Did the following reason play a role? -- I wanted to live in freedom.*  
"[1] Live in freedom "

**See also:** **BIRBETR, BIRMONEY, BIRFREE, BIRFAM, BIRPOOR, BIRWAR, BIRJUST, BIROTHR**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P153Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P153Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB153Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB153Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB153Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB153Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB153Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB153Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB1403
2003 T	TLELA	TB1403
2004 U	ULELA	UB1403
2005 V	VLELA	VB1403
2006 W	WLELA	WB1403
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRFAM** BI: Gruende Zuzug D: Familie  
BI: Reason Migrate: Family

**BIO Question:** Q11d

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Es gibt ja unterschiedliche Gründe, nach Deutschland zu ziehen. Welche der folgenden Gründe spielten bei Ihnen eine Rolle? -- Ich wollte mit meiner Familie zusammenleben (Ehepartner, Eltern, Kinder).*  
"[1] Mit Familie zusammen "

**English:** *There are many reasons to migrate to Germany. Did the following reason play a role? -- I wanted to be together with my family (spouse, parents, children).*  
"[1] Live together with family "

**See also:** **BIRBETR, BIRMONEY, BIRFREE, BIRFAM, BIRPOOR, BIRWAR, BIRJUST, BIROTHR**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P154Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P154Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB154Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB154Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB154Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB154Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB154Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB154Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB1404
2003 T	TLELA	TB1404
2004 U	ULELA	UB1404
2005 V	VLELA	VB1404
2006 W	WLELA	WB1404
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRPOOR** BI: Gruende Zuzug D: Armut  
BI: Reason Migrate: Poor

**BIO Question:** Q11e

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Es gibt ja unterschiedliche Gründe, nach Deutschland zu ziehen. Welche der folgenden Gründe spielten bei Ihnen eine Rolle ? -- In meinem Heimatland herrschte Not und Armut.*  
"[1] Not/Armut in Heimat "

**English:** *There are many reasons to migrate to Germany. Did the following reason play a role ? -- In my native country there was poverty and hunger.*  
"[1] Poverty/Hunger at home "

**See also:** **BIRBETR, BIRMONEY, BIRFREE, BIRFAM, BIRPOOR, BIRWAR, BIRJUST, BIROTHR**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P155Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P155Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB155Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB155Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB155Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB155Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB155Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB155Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB1405
2003 T	TLELA	TB1405
2004 U	ULELA	UB1405
2005 V	VLELA	VB1405
2006 W	WLELA	WB1405
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRWAR** BI: Gruende Zuzug D: Krieg  
BI: Reason Migrate: War

**BIO Question:** Q11f

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Es gibt ja unterschiedliche Gründe, nach Deutschland zu ziehen. Welche der folgenden Gründe spielten bei Ihnen eine Rolle ? -- In meinem Heimatland konnte ich nicht in Sicherheit leben (Verfolgung, Krieg)*  
"[1] Krieg in Heimat "

**English:** *There are many reasons to migrate to Germany. Did the following reason play a role ? -- In my native country I could not live safely (Oppression, War).*  
"[1] War/Oppression at home "

**See also:** **BIRBETR, BIRMONEY, BIRFREE, BIRFAM, BIRPOOR, BIRWAR, BIRJUST, BIROTHR**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P156Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P156Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB156Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB156Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB156Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB156Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB156Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB156Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB1406
2003 T	TLELA	TB1406
2004 U	ULELA	UB1406
2005 V	VLELA	VB1406
2006 W	WLELA	WB1406
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRJUST** BI: Gruende Zuzug D: Einfach So  
BI: Reason Migrate: Just So

**BIO Question:** Q11g

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Es gibt ja unterschiedliche Gründe, nach Deutschland zu ziehen. Welche der folgenden Gründe spielten bei Ihnen eine Rolle? -- Ich wollte einfach in Deutschland leben.*  
"[1] Einfach in D leben "

**English:** *There are many reasons to migrate to Germany. Did the following reason play a role? -- I just wanted to live in Germany.*  
"[1] Just wanted to live in Germany "

**See also:** **BIRBETR, BIRMONEY, BIRFREE, BIRFAM, BIRPOOR, BIRWAR, BIRJUST, BIROTHR**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P157Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P157Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB157Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB157Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB157Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB157Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB157Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB157Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB1407
2003 T	TLELA	TB1407
2004 U	ULELA	UB1407
2005 V	VLELA	VB1407
2006 W	WLELA	WB1407
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIROTHR** BI: Gruende Zuzug D: Sonstiges  
BI: Reason Migrate: Other

**BIO Question:** Q11h

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Es gibt ja unterschiedliche Gründe, nach Deutschland zu ziehen. Welche der folgenden Gründe spielten bei Ihnen eine Rolle? -- Sonstige Gründe.*  
"[1] Sonstige Gruende "

**English:** *There are many reasons to migrate to Germany. Did the following reason play a role? -- Other reasons.*  
"[1] Other reasons "

**See also:** **BIRBETR, BIRMONEY, BIRFREE, BIRFAM, BIRPOOR, BIRWAR, BIRJUST, BIROTHR**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P158Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P158Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB158Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB158Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB158Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB158Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB158Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB158Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB1408
2003 T	TLELA	TB1408
2004 U	ULELA	UB1408
2005 V	VLELA	VB1408
2006 W	WLELA	WB1408
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIEXPR** BI: Vorstellungen von D realisiert  
BI: Expectations in Germany

**BIO Question:** Q12

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Haben sich Ihre Vorstellungen, mit denen Sie nach Deutschland gekommen sind, im grossen und ganzen erfuellt ?*

"[1] Ja "  
"[2] Nur teilweise "  
"[3] Nein, gar nicht "

**English:** *Have your original expectations of Germany been fulfilled ?*

"[1] Yes"  
"[2] Only partially "  
"[3] No, not at all "

**See also:** **BIEXPR, BIEXPRLV, BIEXPRAC, BIEXPRAN**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P160Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P160Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB160Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB160Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB160Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB160Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB160Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB160Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB15
2003 T	TLELA	TB15
2004 U	ULELA	UB1501
2005 V	VLELA	VB1501
2006 W	WLELA	WB1501
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIEXPRLV** BI: Eigene Wohnung finden  
BI: Expectations: Find Apt

**BIO Question:** Q13a

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Auf welchen Gebieten war es leichter oder schwerer, als sie vorher gedacht hatten ? -- Eine eigene Wohnung zu finden.*  
"[1] Schwerer "  
"[2] Wie erwartet "  
"[3] Leichter "  
"[4] TNZ "

**English:** *In which areas was it harder or easier than you expected ? -- to find your own apartment/housing.*  
"[1] Harder"  
"[2] Just as expected "  
"[3] Easier "  
"[4] Not applicable "

**See also:** **BIEXPR, BIEXPRLV, BIEXPRAC, BIEXPRAN**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P171Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P171Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB171Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB171Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB171Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB171Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB171Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB171Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB1601
2003 T	TLELA	TB1601
2004 U	ULELA	UB1502
2005 V	VLELA	VB1502
2006 W	WLELA	WB1502
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIEXPRAC** BI: Von Arbeitskollegen akzeptiert  
 BI: Expectations: Accepted by Coworker

**BIO Question:** Q13b

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Auf welchen Gebieten war es leichter oder schwerer, als sie vorher gedacht hatten ? -- Von den Arbeitskollegen akzeptiert zu werden.*  
 "[1] Schwerer "  
 "[2] Wie erwartet "  
 "[3] Leichter "  
 "[4] TNZ "

**English:** *In which areas was it harder or easier than you expected ? -- to be accepted by your colleagues at work.*  
 "[1] Harder"  
 "[2] Just as expected "  
 "[3] Easier "  
 "[4] Not applicable "

**See also:** **BIEXPR**, **BIEXPRLV**, **BIEXPRAC**, **BIEXPRAN**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P172Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P172Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB172Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB172Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB172Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB172Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB172Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB172Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB1602
2003 T	TLELA	TB1602
2004 U	ULELA	UB1503
2005 V	VLELA	VB1503
2006 W	WLELA	WB1503
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIEXPRAN** BI: Von Nachbarn akzeptiert  
BI: Expectations: Accepted by Neighbor

**BIO Question:** Q13c

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Auf welchen Gebieten war es leichter oder schwerer, als sie vorher gedacht hatten ? -- Von den Nachbarn akzeptiert zu werden.*  
"[1] Schwerer "  
"[2] Wie erwartet "  
"[3] Leichter "  
"[4] TNZ "

**English:** *In which areas was it harder or easier than you expected ? -- To be accepted by your neighbors.*  
"[1] Harder"  
"[2] Just as expected "  
"[3] Easier "  
"[4] Not applicable "

**See also:** **BIEXPR, BIEXPRLV, BIEXPRAC, BIEXPRAN**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P173Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P173Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB173Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB173Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB173Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB173Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB173Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB173Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB1603
2003 T	TLELA	TB1603
2004 U	ULELA	UB1504
2005 V	VLELA	VB1504
2006 W	WLELA	WB1504
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRELH** BI: Familienmitglieder im Heimatland oder außerhalb Deutschlands  
 BI: Family in the home country or abroad

**BIO Question:** Q14

**Comment:** From 2001 onwards the variable is only identified by the parents in \$LELA and missing for \$JUGEND. A distinction between abroad and home country is not consistently possible over time.

**German:** *Haben Sie in dem Land, aus dem Sie kommen bzw. aus dem Ihre Familie kommt, noch Familienangehörige oder andere Ihnen nahstehende Menschen ?*

"[1] Ja "

"[2] Nein "

**English:** *Do you have family members or close friends in the home country you (or your family) come from ?*

"[1] Yes "

"[2] No "

**See also:** **BIRELH, BIRELHP, BIRELHGP, BIRELHC, BIRELHBS, BIRELHDR, BIRELHSP, BIRELHFR, BIRELHMI**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P18Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P18Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB18Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB18Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB18Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB18Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB18Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB0703V RB0705M
2002 S	SLELA	SB2101 SB2102
2003 T	TLELA	TB2101 TB2102
2004 U	ULELA	UB2101 UB2102
2005 V	VLELA	VB2101 VB2102
2006 W	WLELA	WB2101 WB2102
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ66
2001 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRELHP** BI: Im Ausland: Eltern  
BI: Family Abroad: Parents

**BIO Question:** Q15a

**Comment:** This variable is used to identify any relatives starting 2001 for \$LELA and missing for all \$JUGEND starting 2001.

**German:** *Personen in der Heimat: Was für Personen sind das? Eltern?*  
"[1] Eltern "

**English:** *Persons in Native Country: Who are they? Parents?*  
"[1] Parents "

**See also:** BIRELH, BIRELHP, BIRELHGP, BIRELHC, BIRELHBS, BIRELHDR, BIRELHSP, BIRELHFR, BIRELHMI, BIRELHS2, BIRELHC2, BIRELHSP, BIRELHC, BIRELHP

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P191Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P191Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB191Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB191Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB191Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB191Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB191Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB0703V RB0705M
2002 S	SLELA	SB2101 SB2102
2003 T	TLELA	TB2101 TB2102
2004 U	ULELA	UB2101 UB2102
2005 V	VLELA	VB2101 VB2102
2006 W	WLELA	WB2101 WB2102
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ6701
2001 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRELHGP** BI: In Heimat: Grosseltern  
 BI: Family Abroad: Grandparents

**BIO Question:** Q15b

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for new entrants starting 2001 (R).

**German:** *Personen in der Heimat: Was für Personen sind das ? Grosseltern ?*  
 "[1] Grosseltern "

**English:** *Persons in Native Country: Who are they ? Grandparents ?*  
 "[1] Grandparents "

**See also:** **BIRELH, BIRELHP, BIRELHGP, BIRELHC, BIRELHBS, BIRELHDR, BIRELHSP, BIRELHFR, BIRELHMI**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P192Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P192Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB192Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB192Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB192Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB192Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB192Z
2001 --	\$LELA	n/a
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ6702
2001 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRELHC** BI: In Heimat: Kinder  
BI: Family Abroad: Children

**BIO Question:** Q15c

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for new entrants starting 2001 (R).

**German:** *Personen in der Heimat: Was für Personen sind das ? Kinder ?*  
"[1] Kinder "

**English:** *Persons in Native Country: Who are they ? Children ?*  
"[1] Children "

**See also:** **BIRELH, BIRELHP, BIRELHGP, BIRELHC, BIRELHBS, BIRELHDR, BIRELHSP, BIRELHFR, BIRELHMI, BIRELHS2, BIRELHC2, BIRELHSP, BIRELHC, BIRELHP**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P193Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P193Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB193Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB193Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB193Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB193Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB193Z
2001 --	\$LELA	n/a
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ6703
2001 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRELHBS** BI: In Heimat: Bruder, Schwester  
 BI: Family Abroad: Brother/Sister

**BIO Question:** Q15d

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for new entrants starting 2001 (R).

**German:** *Personen in der Heimat: Was für Personen sind das ?  
 Bruder/Schwester ?*

"[1] Bruder/Schwester "

**English:** *Persons in Native Country: Who are they ? Brother/Sister ?*

"[1] Brother/Sister "

**See also:** **BIRELH, BIRELHP, BIRELHGP, BIRELHC, BIRELHBS, BIRELHDR, BIRELHSP, BIRELHFR, BIRELHMI**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	<b>P194Z</b>
1995 L	BIOLELA	<b>P194Z</b>
1996 M	MLELA	<b>MB194Z</b>
1997 N	NLELA	<b>NB194Z</b>
1998 O	OLELA	<b>OB194Z</b>
1999 P	PLELA	<b>PB194Z</b>
2000 Q	QLELA	<b>QB194Z</b>
2001 --	\$LELA	n/a
2000 Q	QJUGEND	<b>QJ6704</b>
2001 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRELHDR** BI: In Heimat: Entferntere Verwandte  
BI: Family Abroad: Distant Relatives

**BIO Question:** Q15e

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for new entrants starting 2001 (R).

**German:** *Personen in der Heimat: Was für Personen sind das ? Entferntere Verwandte ?*  
"[1] Entferntere Verwandte "

**English:** *Persons in Native Country: Who are they ? Distant Relatives ?*  
"[1] Distant Relatives "

**See also:** **BIRELH, BIRELHP, BIRELHGP, BIRELHC, BIRELHBS, BIRELHDR, BIRELHSP, BIRELHFR, BIRELHMI**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P195Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P195Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB195Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB195Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB195Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB195Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB195Z
2001 --	\$LELA	n/a
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ6705
2001 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRELHSP** BI: In Heimat: Ehepartner, Verlobte(r)  
BI: Family Abroad: Spouse

**BIO Question:** Q15f

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for new entrants starting 2001 (R).

**German:** *Personen in der Heimat:  
Was für Personen sind das ? Ehepartner / Verlobte(r)?*  
"[1] Ehepartner/Verlobte(r) "

**English:** *Persons in Native Country: Who are they ? Spouse / Fiance(e)?*  
"[1] Spouse/Fiance(e) "

**See also:** BIRELH, BIRELHP, BIRELHGP, BIRELHC, BIRELHBS,  
BIRELHDR, BIRELHSP, BIRELHFR, BIRELHMI,  
BIRELHS2, BIRELHC2, BIRELHSP, BIRELHC, BIRELHP

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P196Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P196Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB196Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB196Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB196Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB196Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB196Z
2001 --	\$LELA	n/a
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ6706
2001 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRELHFR** BI: In Heimat: Persoenliche Bekannte  
BI: Family Abroad: Friends

**BIO Question:** Q15g

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for new entrants starting 2001 (R).

**German:** *Personen in der Heimat: Was für Personen sind das ? Bekannte, Freunde ?*  
"[1] Persönliche Bekannte "

**English:** *Persons in Native Country: Who are they ? Friends ?*  
"[1] Friends "

**See also:** **BIRELH, BIRELHP, BIRELHGP, BIRELHC, BIRELHBS, BIRELHDR, BIRELHSP, BIRELHFR, BIRELHMI**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P197Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P197Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB197Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB197Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB197Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB197Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB197Z
2001 --	\$LELA	n/a
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ6707
2001 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRELHMI** BI: Personen gern nach Dt. holen?  
 BI: Persons abroad bring to Germany

**BIO Question:** Q16

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for new entrants starting 2001 (R).

**German:** *Personen in der Heimat: Gibt es darunter Personen, die auch nach Deutschland kommen wollen bzw. die Sie gerne nachholen möchten ?*  
 "[1] Ja "  
 "[2] Nein "

**English:** *Persons in Native Country: Among those mentioned above, do some want to come to Germany, or would you like them to come to Germany ?*  
 "[1] Yes "  
 "[2] No "

**See also:** **BIRELH, BIRELHP, BIRELHGP, BIRELHC, BIRELHBS, BIRELHDR, BIRELHSP, BIRELHFR, BIRELHMI**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	P200Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P200Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB200Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB200Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB200Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB200Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB200Z
2001 --	\$LELA	n/a
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ68
2001 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRELHS2** BI: Ehepartner in Deutschland  
BI: Spouse in Germany

**BIO Question:** Q15f

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for new entrants starting 1996 (M) and missing for all \$JUGEND.

**German:** *Lebt Ihr Ehepartner in Deutschland ?*  
"[1] D hier im HH "  
"[2] D nicht im HH "  
"[3] Nicht in D "

**English:** *Does your spouse live in Germany ?*  
"[1] Yes, here in the HH "  
"[2] Yes, but NOT with me in HH "  
"[3] Not in Germany "

**See also:** **BIRELHS2, BIRELHC2, BIRELHSP, BIRELHC, BIRELHP**

Year	File	Variable
1984 A	APAUSL	AP58A02
1985 B	BPAUSL	n/a
1986 C	CPAUSL	CP90A01
1987 D	DPAUSL	DP92A01
1988 E	EPAUSL	EP85A01
1989 F	FPAUSL	FP102A01
1990 G	GPAUSL	GP102A01
1991 H	HPAUSL	HP102A01
1992 I	IPAUSL	IP102A01
1993 J	JPAUSL	JP102A01
1994 K	KPAUSL	KP102A01
1995 L	LPAUSL	LP110A01
1996 --	\$P	n/a
1984 --	BIOLELA	n/a
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIRELHC2** BI: Kinder unter 18 J. nicht in Deutschland  
 BI: Underage Children not in Germany

**BIO Question:** Q15c

**German:** *Haben Sie Kinder unter 18 Jahren, die nicht in Deutschland leben ?*  
 "[1] Ja "  
 "[2] Nein "

**English:** *Do you have children under 18, who do not live in Germany ?*  
 "[1] Yes "  
 "[2] No "

**See also:** **BIRELHS2, BIRELHC2, BIRELHSP, BIRELHC, BIRELHP**

<b>Year</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Variable</b>
1984 A	APAUSL	<b>AP66A01</b>
1985 B	BPAUSL	<b>BP95A01</b>
1986 C	CPAUSL	<b>CP86A01</b>
1987 D	DPAUSL	<b>DP88A01</b>
1988 E	EPAUSL	n/a
1989 F	FPAUSL	<b>FP98A01</b>
1990 G	GPAUSL	n/a
1991 H	HPAUSL	<b>HP98A01</b>
1992 I	IPAUSL	n/a
1993 J	JPAUSL	<b>JP98A01</b>
1994 K	KPAUSL	n/a
1995 L	LPAUSL	<b>LP106A01</b>
1996 M	MP	<b>MP7406</b>
1997 N	NP	<b>NP111A04</b>
1998 O	OP	n/a
1999 P	PP	<b>PP12904</b>
2000 --	\$PAUSL	n/a
1984- A-	BIOLELA	n/a
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BIGOBACK** BI: Rueckkehr Heimat (ab 1994)  
BI: Go back home ?

**BIO Question:** Q17

**Comment:** The question **BIGOBACK** (using **BIOLELA**) asks whether one intends to **return** home to the native country whereas **BISTAY** (using **\$PAUSL**) asks whether one intends to **stay** in Germany. The wording and the answer possibilities are different in both questions. Further, there is no particular reason to believe that the two variables even are consistent. Starting 2001, this is not defined for new entrants.

**German:** *Planen Sie selbst, in Ihr Herkunftsland wieder zurückzukehren ?*  
"[1] Ja, ganz sicher "  
"[2] Ja, wahrscheinlich "  
"[3] Eher unwahrscheinlich "  
"[4] Nein, sicher nicht "

**English:** *Are you planning to go back to live in your native country?*  
"[1] Yes, certainly "  
"[2] Yes, probably "  
"[3] Probably not "  
"[4] No, Certainly not "

**See also:** **BIGOBACK, BISTAY, BISTAYY**

Year	File	Variable
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	n/a
1994 K	BIOLELA	<b>P230Z</b>
1995 L	BIOLELA	<b>P230Z</b>
1996 M	MLELA	<b>MB230Z</b>
1997 N	NLELA	<b>NB230Z</b>
1998 O	OLELA	<b>OB230Z</b>
1999 P	PLELA	<b>PB230Z</b>
2000 Q	QLELA	<b>QB230Z</b>
2001 --	\$LELA	n/a
2000 Q	QJUGEND	<b>QJ69</b>
2001 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BISTAY** BI: Wunsch in D zu bleiben  
 BI: Desire to Stay in Germany

**BIO Question:** Q17

**Comment:** The question BIGOBACK (using BIOLELA) asks whether one intends to **return** home to the native country whereas BISTAY (using \$PAUSL) asks whether one intends to **stay** in Germany. The wording and the answer possibilities are different in both questions. Further, there is no particular reason to believe that the two variables even are consistent. This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Wie lange wollen Sie in Deutschland bleiben ?*  
 "[1] Kehre innerhalb eines Jahres zurück"  
 "[2] Einige Jahre und zwar ..."  
 "[3] Für immer in D bleiben "

**English:** *How long would you like to stay in Germany ?*  
 "[1] Go back within 12 months "  
 "[2] Several years, specifically ..."  
 "[3] Always stay in Germany "

**See also:** **BIGOBACK, BISTAY, BISTAYY**

Year	File	Variable	
1984	A	APAUSL	AP67A01
1985	B	BPAUSL	BP96A01
1986	C	CPAUSL	CP87A01
1987	D	DPAUSL	DP89A01
1988	E	EPAUSL	EP77A01
1989	F	FPAUSL	FP99A01
1990	G	GPAUSL	GP96A01
1991	H	HPAUSL	HP99A01
1992	I	IPAUSL	IP99A01
1993	J	JPAUSL	JP99A01
1994	K	KPAUSL	KP96A01
1995	L	LPAUSL	LP107A01
1996	M	MP	MP101A01 MP100A
1997	N	NP	NP109A01 NP108A
1998	O	OP	OP11401 OP113
1999	P	PP	PP12601 PP125
2000	Q	QP	QP13401 QP133
2001	R	RP	RP12701 RP126
2002	S	SP	SP12601 SP125
2003	T	TP	TP13301 TP132
2004	U	UP	UP13501 UP134
2005	V	VP	VP14601 VP145
2006	W	WP	WP13601 WP135
2000	--	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BISTAYY** BI: Dauer des geplanten Aufenthalts  
BI: Years Desired to Stay in Germany

**BIO Question:** Q17

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for youths answering the \$JUGEND biography questionnaire.

**German:** *Wie lange wollen Sie in Deutschland bleiben ? Einige Jahre und zwar...*

**English:** *How long would you like to stay in Germany ? Several years, specifically ...*

**See also:** **BIGOBACK, BISTAY, BISTAYY**

Year	File	Variable
1984 A	APAUSL	<b>AP67A02</b>
1985 B	BPAUSL	<b>BP96A02</b>
1986 C	CPAUSL	<b>CP87A02</b>
1987 D	DPAUSL	<b>DP89A02</b>
1988 E	EPAUSL	<b>EP77A02</b>
1989 F	FPAUSL	<b>FP99A02</b>
1990 G	GPAUSL	<b>GP96A02</b>
1991 H	HPAUSL	<b>HP99A02</b>
1992 I	IPAUSL	<b>IP99A02</b>
1993 J	JPAUSL	<b>JP99A02</b>
1994 K	KPAUSL	<b>KP96A02</b>
1995 L	LPAUSL	<b>LP107A02</b>
1996 M	MP	<b>MP101A02</b>
1997 N	NP	<b>NP109A02</b>
1998 O	OP	<b>OP11402</b>
1999 P	PP	<b>PP12602</b>
2000 Q	QP	<b>QP13402</b>
2001 R	RP	<b>RP12702</b>
2002 S	SP	<b>SP12602</b>
2003 T	TP	<b>TP13302</b>
2004 U	UP	<b>UP13502</b>
2005 V	VP	<b>VP14602</b>
2006 W	WP	<b>WP13602</b>
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BISCGER** BI: In Dt. Schule besucht?  
BI: Attended School in Germany

**BIO Question:** Q18

**Comment:** This question asks only if one has **ever** attended a (primary/secondary) school in Germany, but does **not** ask whether one received a certificate/diploma, such as the generated variable \$PSBIL in the file \$PGEN.

**German:** *Haben Sie in Deutschland eine Schule besucht?*  
"[1] Ja"  
"[2] Nein"

**English:** *Did you attend school in Germany?*  
"[1] Yes"  
"[2] No"

**See also:** **BISCGER, BISCGRAD, BISCGERC, BISCGC, BISCGCF, BISCGCFN**

Year	File	Variable
1984 A	APAUSL	AP06A01
1985 B	BPAUSL	BP100A01
1986 C	CPAUSL	CP100B01
1987 D	DPAUSL	DP97A01
1988 E	EPAUSL	EP90A01
1989 F	FPAUSL	FP107A
1990 G	GPAUSL	GP107A
1991 H	HPAUSL	HP107A
1992 I	IPAUSL	IP107A
1993 J	JPAUSL	JP107A
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	B46A
1994 K	BIOLELA	P280Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P280Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB280Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB280Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB280Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB280Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB280Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB280Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB11
2003 T	TLELA	TB11
2004 U	ULELA	UB11
2005 V	VLELA	VB11
2006 W	WLELA	WB11
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ63
2001 R	RJUGEND	RJ65
2002 S	SJUGEND	SJ65
2003 T	TJUGEND	TJ65
2004 U	UJUGEND	UJ65
2005 V	VJUGEND	VJ65
2006 W	WJUGEND	n/a

**BISCGRAD** BI: In welche Klasse in dt. Schule  
BI: Which Grade School

**BIO Question:** Q19

**Comment:** The question here is **not** on the highest schooling achieved , but rather what was the grade or class when one **first** came to Germany.

**German:** *In welche Klasse sind Sie in Deutschland in die Schule gekommen ?*

**English:** *Which class/grade did you attend when you came to Germany?*

**See also:** **BISCGER, BISCGRAD, BISCGERC, BISC GC, BISC GCF, BISC GCFN**

<b>Year</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Variable</b>
1984 A	AP AUSL	n/a
1985 B	BPAUSL	n/a
1986 C	CP AUSL	n/a
1987 D	DPAUSL	n/a
1988 E	EPAUSL	n/a
1989 F	FPAUSL	FP108A
1990 G	GPAUSL	GP108A
1991 H	HP AUSL	HP108A
1992 I	IPAUSL	IP108A
1993 J	JPAUSL	JP108A
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	B47A
1994 K	BIOLELA	P290Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P290Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB290Z
1997 N	NLELA	NB290Z
1998 O	OLELA	OB290Z
1999 P	PLELA	PB290Z
2000 Q	QLELA	QB290Z
2001 R	RLELA	RB290Z
2002 S	SLELA	SB12
2003 T	TLELA	TB12
2004 U	ULELA	UB12
2005 V	VLELA	VB12
2006 W	WLELA	WB12
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ64
2001 R	RJUGEND	RJ6601
2002 S	SJUGEND	SJ6601
2003 T	TJUGEND	TJ6601
2004 U	UJUGEND	UJ6601
2005 V	VJUGEND	VJ6601
2006 W	WJUGEND	n/a

**BISCGERC** BI: Besuch spezieller Vorbereitung  
 BI: Attended Special Foreigner Prep Class

**BIO Question:** Q20

**German:** *Haben Sie vorher eine spezielle Vorbereitungs-klasse für Ausländer in Deutschland besucht?*  
 "[1] Ja"  
 "[2] Nein"

**English:** *Did you attend a special preparation class for foreigners in Germany?*  
 "[1] Yes"  
 "[2] No"

**See also:** **BISCGER, BISCGRAD, BISCGERC, BISCGC, BISCGCF, BISCGCFN**

<b>Year</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Variable</b>
1984 A	AP AUSL	n/a
1985 B	BPAUSL	n/a
1986 C	CP AUSL	n/a
1987 D	DPAUSL	n/a
1988 E	EPAUSL	n/a
1989 F	FPAUSL	FP109A
1990 G	GPAUSL	GP109A
1991 H	HP AUSL	HP109A
1992 I	IP AUSL	IP109A
1993 J	JPAUSL	JP109A
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	B48A
1994 K	BIOLELA	P300Z
1995 L	BIOLELA	P300Z
1996 M	MLELA	MB48A
1997 N	NLELA	NB48A
1998 O	OLELA	OB48A
1999 P	PLELA	PB48A
2000 Q	QLELA	QB48A
2001 R	RLELA	RB48A
2002 S	SLELA	SB13
2003 T	TLELA	TB13
2004 U	ULELA	UB13
2005 V	VLELA	VB13
2006 W	WLELA	WB13
2000 Q	QJUGEND	QJ65
2001 R	RJUGEND	RJ6602
2002 S	SJUGEND	SJ6602
2003 T	TJUGEND	TJ6602
2004 U	UJUGEND	UJ6602
2005 V	VJUGEND	VJ6602
2006 W	WJUGEND	n/a

**BISCGC** BI: Auch dt. Schueler in Schulklasse  
BI: Also German Pupils in Class

**BIO Question:** Q21a

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for new entrants starting 2000 (Q) and \$JUGEND.

**German:** *Gab es in der Schulklasse, die Sie zuletzt in Deutschland besucht haben, auch deutsche Schüler?*  
"[1] Ja"  
"[2] Nein"

**English:** *Were there also German children present in the class you last attended?*  
"[1] Yes"  
"[2] No"

**See also:** **BISCGER, BISCGRAD, BISCGERC, BISCGC, BISCGCF, BISCGCFN**

Year	File	Variable
1984 A	APAUSL	n/a
1985 B	BPAUSL	n/a
1986 C	CPAUSL	n/a
1987 D	DPAUSL	n/a
1988 E	EPAUSL	n/a
1989 F	FPAUSL	FP110A01
1990 G	GPAUSL	GP110A01
1991 H	HPAUSL	HP110A01
1992 I	IPAUSL	IP110A01
1993 J	JPAUSL	JP110A01
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	B49A
1994 K	BIOLELA	B49A
1995 L	BIOLELA	B49A
1996 M	MLELA	MB49A
1997 N	NLELA	NB49A
1998 O	OLELA	OB49A
1999 P	PLELA	PB49A
2000 --	\$LELA	n/a
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

**BISCGCF** BI: Wieviel Mitschueler Auslaender  
BI: How many Pupils foreign

**BIO Question:** Q21b

**German:** *Wie viele Ihrer Mitschueler waren Auslaender?*

"[1] Die meisten"  
"[2] Etwa 1/2"  
"[3] Etwa 1/4"  
"[4] Weniger als 1/4"  
"[5] Ausser mir niemand"

**English:** *How many of your fellow students were foreigners ?*

"[1] Most of them"  
"[2] Around 1/2"  
"[3] Around 1/4"  
"[4] Less than 1/4"  
"[5] I was only one"

**See also:** **BISCGER, BISCGRAD, BISCGERC, BISCGC, BISCGCF, BISCGCFN**

Year	File	Variable
1984 A	APAUSL	n/a
1985 B	BPAUSL	n/a
1986 C	CPAUSL	n/a
1987 D	DPAUSL	n/a
1988 E	EPAUSL	n/a
1989 F	FPAUSL	FP110A02
1990 G	GPAUSL	GP110A02
1991 H	HPAUSL	HP110A02
1992 I	IPAUSL	IP110A02
1993 J	JPAUSL	JP110A02
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	B50A
1994 K	BIOLELA	B50A
1995 L	BIOLELA	B50A
1996 M	MLELA	MB50A
1997 N	NLELA	NB50A
1998 O	OLELA	OB50A
1999 P	PLELA	PB50A
2000 Q	QLELA	QB50A
2001 R	RLELA	RB50A
2002 S	SLELA	SB43
2003 T	TLELA	TB43
2004 U	ULELA	UB43
2005 V	VLELA	VB43
2006 W	WLELA	WB43
2000 Q	QJUGEND	n/a
2001 R	RJUGEND	RJ43
2002 S	SJUGEND	SJ43
2003 T	TJUGEND	TJ43
2004 U	UJUGEND	UJ43
2005 V	VJUGEND	VJ43
2006 W	WJUGEND	WJ45

**BISCGCFN** BI: Eine oder mehrere Nationalitaet  
BI: Mix of Nationalities in Class

**BIO Question:** Q21c

**Comment:** This variable is not defined for new entrants starting 2000 (Q) and \$JUGEND.

**German:** *Gab es in dieser Klasse nur Schüler Ihrer Nationalität oder waren verschieden Nationalitäten gemischt?*  
"[1] Nur meine Nationalitaet "  
"[2] Gemischt "

**English:** *Were there only children of your nationality, or were the nationalites mixed?*  
"[1] Only my nationality"  
"[2] Mixed "

**See also:** **BISCGER, BISCGRAD, BISCGERC, BISCGC, BISCGCF, BISCGCFN**

Year	File	Variable
1984 A	APAUSL	n/a
1985 B	BPAUSL	n/a
1986 C	CPAUSL	n/a
1987 D	DPAUSL	n/a
1988 E	EPAUSL	n/a
1989 F	FPAUSL	FP110A03
1990 G	GPAUSL	GP110A03
1991 H	HPAUSL	HP110A03
1992 I	IPAUSL	IP110A03
1993 J	JPAUSL	JP110A03
1984-93 A-J	BIOLELA	B51A
1994 K	BIOLELA	B51A
1995 L	BIOLELA	B51A
1996 M	MLELA	MB51A
1997 N	NLELA	NB51A
1998 O	OLELA	OB51A
1999 P	PLELA	PB51A
2000 --	\$LELA	n/a
2000 --	\$JUGEND	n/a

## **10. BIOPAREN: Biography Information for the Parents of SOEP-Respondents**

by Jürgen Schupp and Stefanie Lenuweit

*(Replaces earlier versions by Verena Tobsch, Matthias Pollmann-Schult, Charlotte Büchner and Katharina Mahne)*

### 10.1 Content of the data file BIOPAREN

The goal of the data file BIOPAREN is to make the biography entries on the parents and on the social origin of the respondent available. In particular, this is information on the year of birth and death, the religious orientation, the education and career training of the parents, as well as the father's job and the regional mobility of the surveyed individual since childhood. This information is collected using the Biography Questionnaire, which every person receives who is accepted into SOEP. Since 2000, there has been an independent questionnaire in SOEP for the group of survey participants who are 16-17 years old and are being interviewed for the first time; with respect to the place of origin, this questionnaire is identical to the Biography Questionnaire (see chapter BIOYOUTH).

The information gained on the parents from the Biography and the Youth Questionnaires are referred to in the following as proxy entries. The proxy entries of the children<sup>8</sup> for education, year of death and religious affiliations of the parents are indicated by attributes of the parents at the time of the survey. Information on the time of the survey is found in the variable BIOYEAR. Entries on the professional position and occupation of the father should, based on the way the questions in the Biography Questionnaire are formulated, reflect the situation when the respondent was 16 years old. Since 2000, we have also collected data on the mothers of respondents. The religious affiliation of the parents was first included in 1996 within the framework of the survey of biographical data for "new participants" in SOEP. In 2001, information on the nationality of the parents and the professional position as well as occupation of the mother at the age of 15 was added. In view of these extensions, no proxy-information exists for those persons surveyed who had filled out the Biography before the additions were made. Entries on the residency of the parents were asked in 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006 in the Individual Questionnaire. The current version includes updated variables on the current place of residence of both the father and the mother (MAOTRAKT, VAORTAKT). Furthermore, the variables LIVING1 to LIVING8 indicate where the first 15 years of life were spent. The data file BIOPAREN contains only those persons with at least one realized personal interview with biography information, as well as persons who, up to now, have exclusively filled out the Biography or Youth Questionnaire. Furthermore, the data file is supplemented every year with the newly surveyed persons.

---

<sup>8</sup> In the following the respondents are marked as children if they have completed the Biography / Youth Questionnaire and in doing so have provided information on their parents.

### 10.2 Inclusion of the Biography

In the third wave (1986) intergenerational aspects of the persons surveyed were included for the first time by means of a special group of questions in the Individual Questionnaire. This deals with statements made about the education or professional training of the parents, the parents' residency, and their year of birth and death. For Sample B, only the education, residency, year of birth and death of the parents were asked. In 1988 the complete collection of biography questions (history of labor force participation, marriage and family biography, career start, and social origin) were included in the Individual Questionnaire for individuals surveyed for the first time. At the same time, a follow-up survey was given to those participants who had not yet received all or part of this collection of questions. This survey was continued in this form each of the following years until 1991, when the separate Biography Questionnaire was introduced. Since 1994, the biography was collected using the Personal History Questionnaire ('Lebenslauf-Fragebogen'), a slightly modified version of the Biography Questionnaire.

The Biography was included in Sample C in the third survey wave, that is, in 1992. The biographies of the persons in Samples D1 and D2 were collected during the first survey in 1994 and 1995. In 1999 the biography was collected for Sample E. In 2001 the follow-up survey was completed for Sample F and was followed by Sample G (High-Income) in 2003. The retrospective data of the new sample H will be collected in 2007.

A more precise representation of the development of the instruments used to collect the Personal History, including the social origin, can be found in the introduction to this documentation.

### 10.3 Generating using BIOPAREN

The information available in BIOPAREN can be obtained in two different ways. On the one hand, BIOPAREN includes the children's proxy entries on the parents, and on the other hand, it contains the direct entries from the parents. Every respondent is asked for information on the regional mobility of the children, as well as on the religious affiliation of the parents. However, information on the year of birth, as well as the education and occupational training of the parents, in addition to the professional position and occupation of the father are not collected due to the filter command in the questionnaire when the parents (or the father) live in the same household as the child at the time of the survey. In this case, the direct entries of the parents are used. The parents can be identified by the household number and a certain combination of the \$STELL-Variable (relationship to head of household) between the child and parent (see below).

## Variables in BIOPAREN

*Population Basis:* Surveyed persons taken from PPFAD for whom at least one interview had been completed up to 2004 as well as five additional persons who had completed the Biography Questionnaire but not the Individual Questionnaire.

*Event Number:* 41.616      *Waves:* A-W      *Subsamples:* A, B, C, D1, D2, E, F, G

<i>year of data collection</i>	<i>event number</i>
1984	1.682
1985	11.087
1986	501
1987	464
1988	380
1989	384
1990	4.811
1991	506
1992	497
1993	471
1994	930
1995	1.067
1996	483
1997	487
1998	419
1999	2.047
2000	455
2001	9.433
2002	836
2003	2.677
2004	807
2005	663
2006	529
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.616</b>

### *Variables:*

→ <u>HHNR</u>	Number of the original household
→ <u>PERSNR</u>	Personal number of the respondent (all persons)
→ VNR	Personal number of the father of the respondent
→ MNR	Personal number of the mother of the respondent
→ VGEBJ	Year of birth of the father
→ MGEBJ	Year of birth of the mother
→ VTODJ	Year of death of the father
→ MTODJ	Year of death of the mother
→ VAORT91	Residency of the father 1991 (Survey focus: family)
→ MAORT91	Residency of the mother 1991 (Survey focus: family)
→ VAORT96	Residency of the father 1996 (Survey focus: family)
→ MAORT96	Residency of the mother 1996 (Survey focus: family)
→ VAORT01	Residency of the father 2001 (Survey focus: family)
→ MAORT01	Residency of the mother 2001 (Survey focus: family)
→ VAORT06	Residency of the father 2006 (Survey focus: family)
→ MAORT06	Residency of the mother 2006 (Survey focus: family)

→ VSBIL	Education of the father
→ MSBIL	Education of the mother
→ VBBIL	Vocational training of the father
→ MBBIL	Vocational training of the mother
→ VSINFO	Origin of the information on father's education
→ MSINFO	Origin of the information on mother's education
→ VBINFO	Origin of the information on father's vocational training
→ MBINFO	Origin of the information on mother's vocational training
→ VRELI	Religious affiliation of the father
→ MRELI	Religious affiliation of the mother
→ VNAT	Nationality of the father
→ MNAT	Nationality of the mother
→ VBSTELL	Professional position of the father (when the respondent was 15 years old)
→ VBSINFO	Origin of the information on the professional position of the father
→ MBSTELL	Professional position of the mother (when the respondent was 15 years old)
→ MBSINFO	Origin of the information on the professional position of the mother
→ VISCO88	Professional occupation of the father (when the respondent was 15 years old)
→ MISCO88	Professional occupation of the mother (when the respondent was 15 years old)
→ VISEI	Prestige score of father – concept of Ganzeboom
→ MISEI	Prestige score of mother – concept of Ganzeboom
→ VMPS	Prestige score of father – Magnitude scale – Wegener
→ MMPS	Prestige score of mother – Magnitude scale – Wegener
→ VSIOPS	Prestige score of father – Treiman standard score
→ MSIOPS	Prestige score of mother – Treiman standard score
→ VEGP	Prestige score of father – Erikson – Goldthorpe class category
→ MEPG	Prestige score of mother – Erikson – Goldthorpe class category
→ VBKLAS	Occupational coding scheme father according German statistical office
→ MBKLAS	Occupational coding scheme mother according German statistical office
→ ORTKINDH	Place of childhood
→ ORTKIND1	Still lives in place of childhood?
→ ORTKIND2	Year moved out of parents' household ( <i>since 2000 no longer collected</i> )
→ ORTKIND3	Still lives in parents' household ( <i>since 2000 no longer collected</i> )
→ LIVING1	No. of years living with both parents
→ LIVING2	No. of years living alone with mother
→ LIVING3	No. of years living with mother and new partner of mother
→ LIVING4	No. of years living alone with father
→ LIVING5	No. of years living alone with father and new partner of father
→ LIVING6	No. of years living with other relatives
→ LIVING7	No. of years living with foster parents
→ LIVING8	No. of years living in youth center
→ VSTREIT	Conflict with father
→ MSTREIT	Conflict with mother
→ VAORTAKT	Father's place of residence
→ MAORTAKT	Mother's place of residence
→ BIOYEAR	Year of the Biography Survey

A description of the characteristics of these variables can be viewed under SOEPinfo on the SOEP Website (<http://www.diw.de/soep/soepinfo/>). For all variables on the father's or mother's occupation, their professional position, their prestige score and industry codes, see the detailed documentation on value labels in the documentation of PGEN.

### ***10.3.1 Steps for Generating from BIOPAREN***

The information contained in BIOPAREN on the parents comes on the one hand from the children's proxy entries in the Biography Questionnaire or the Youth Questionnaire, and on the other hand, from the direct entries of the parents in the Individual Questionnaire. The children's proxy entries always have a higher priority than the direct entries of the parents. The direct entries are only used when the child, due to the filter command, skips the questions regarding the year of birth, the education and professional training of the parents, as well as the professional position and occupation of the father. According to the filter command, this information is not collected when the parents, or the father, lives in the same household as the child at the time of the survey. The resulting missing entries ("missings") are replaced with the direct entries of the parents. In order to use the parents' individual information, the personal ID (PERSNR) of the parents must be identified.

#### **1. Variables with complete entries in the Biography Questionnaire**

The following variables can be generated for all persons from the information collected in the Biography Questionnaire or the Youth Questionnaire: VTODJ, MTODJ, VRELI, MRELI, MNAT, VNAT, ORTKINDH, ORTKIND1, VSTREIT, MSTREIT

#### **2. Variables with incomplete entries in the Biography Questionnaire or Youth Questionnaire**

Due to the filter command, the children's proxy entries are only available for the following variables when the parents or one parent and the child do not live in the same household at the time of the survey: VGEBJ, MGEBJ, VSBIL, MSBIL, VBBIL, MBBIL. The children's proxy entries on professional position and occupation of the father (VBSTELL as well as VISCO88 and all prestige scores) are only available when the father and the child do not live in the same household at the time of the survey and if the father lived in Germany when the child was 16 years old. Since 2000, the same applies to the entries of the mother.

#### **3. Generating the parents' personal number (MNR and VNR)**

The variables listed in category 2. above can be generated for those respondents whose parents/father live in the same household only through the direct entries of the parents/father. To do this, the parents must be identified.

The personal ID of the parents (VNR and MNR) is generated in three steps. The steps are in order of priority.

1. The parents of the respondent are identified by the relationship to the head of the household (\$STELL in \$BRUTTO). Here the first (oldest) entry has priority. Ideally, the children's parents are identified at the time of the first survey of the child, i.e., when the child is 16 years old. Furthermore, sometimes the social parents and not the biological parents are identified.

2. The parents of the respondent are identified via the mother's ID (in file \$KMUTTI) as well as the mother's partner ID (\$KMUP) in \$KIND. By using these variables the "oldest" parents are identified. Ideally, these are the parents at the time the child is 16 years old (one year before the first survey).

3. The mother-PERSNR of the respondent can be identified in BIOBIRTH.

Steps 1. and 2. are aimed at identifying the parents that live in the household when the child is 16 years old, whereas through BIOBIRTH the biological mother can be identified. The personal number found using BIOBIRTH is compared to the identification steps described under (3.1) and (3.2), and any new personal numbers are incorporated.

#### 4. Reasons for missing entries

The current version of the data set includes 34 interviewees who do not have a mother or father indicator, despite the parents having been identified. The reason for this is as follows:

In the generation file biogener2.sps, the information on the parents' years of birth from the Personal History Questionnaire is compared with that information given directly by the parents, provided that they have been identified. This leads to inconsistencies. For the 23 cases, this is solely the case for children who no longer live in the parental home and therefore provide proxy details on their parents. These proxy details always stand out in BIOPAREN and it was therefore decided to leave out the parent indicators for those children for whom the details on their parents' years of birth deviate by more than two years from those contained in PPFAD. However, all other variables for these parents are available.

The following list indicates the individuals affected. The persons marked with '\*' are children whose mother is only 15 to 17 years older. In this case, it is not clear whether the details are reliable.

PERSNR	VNR	MNR
22304	22306	
22305	22306	
66703	33603	
101504	101505	
176504	918303	
300703	176505	
309604	1056904	
309605	1082204	
328303	1082204	
375103	1063506	
531105*		531102
532004*		532002
532005*		532002
712103	712104	
734703	328305	
826707	502304	
1078103		1008502
2022702	2022703	
2028203	2306404	
2124805	2124802	
2180804	2180807	
2203502	2203504	
2510103		2510105
2527603	2527601	
2756403	2756401	
2800405	2800402	
2858104	2858102	
2991102	2991105	
2992203	2992201	
3042804	3042802	
3083903	3083902	
5002104	5002105	
5030307	5030301	
5040903*		5040902
5044103	5044101	
5198703	5198705	
5409003		5409004
5603803	5210602	
5604303	5053701	
7006203	7006204	
7234504	1126205	
8008603	8008602	
8008604	8008602	
8039403*		8039402
8041703	8041702	
8114403	8114401	
8137603	8137602	
8158203	8158201	
8159103	8159101	
8159104		8159102
8214903		8214901
8215703	8215701	
8226403	8226401	
8233403	8233401	
8233404	8233401	
8245603	8245602	
8245604	8245602	
8248603	8248602	

#### 4. Completing missing entries

Missing entries in the variables listed in (2), as well as missing entries on the year of birth and death of the parents, are completed with the corresponding direct entries of the parents in PPFAD as well as in \$PGEN. In generating the variables for education and professional training of the parents, as well as the professional position and occupation of the father, the corresponding, most recent information for the 16-year-olds surveyed for the first time is incorporated.

#### 5. Updating BIOPAREN

Some variables of the persons already contained in BIOPAREN will be updated with new survey information, insofar as no valid values exist in BIOPAREN. These are: VSBIL, MSBIL, VBBIL, MBBIL, VSINFO, MSINFO, VBINFO, MBINFO. The variables VTODJ and MTODJ are updated as long as the father or the mother is part of the SOEP sample. Since 2003 we additionally use the annual proxy information of respondents about reported life events of the last year.

### *10.3.2 Identification of the Parents*

#### **Identification of the relationship to the head of household**

The identification of the parents described above occurs first of all through the variable \$STELL (relationship to head of household). The combinations of the characteristics of the \$STELL-variable listed below describe the possible parent-child relationships for a parent and a child.

Characteristics of the variable \$STELL “relationship of the person to the head of the household”:

#### **Code Label**

<b>0</b>	HH
<b>1</b>	Marital partner of the HH
<b>2</b>	partner of the HH
<b>3</b>	Daughter/son (also adopted/stepchild) of the HH
<b>4</b>	Foster child of the HH
<b>5</b>	Daughter/son-in-law of the HH
<b>6</b>	Father/mother of the HH
<b>7</b>	Father/mother-in-law of the HH
<b>8</b>	Brother/sister, brother/sister-in-law of the HH
<b>9</b>	Grandchild of the HH
<b>10</b>	Other relationship to the HH
<b>11</b>	Not related to the HH

## 12 Daughter/son of the partner of the HH

### Possible Parent-Child Relationships

Relationship of the child to the HH	Relationship of the parent to the HH	Person is ...
3	0	Child of HH
3	1 / 2	Child of marital/ partner of HH
4	0	Foster child of HH
4	1 / 2	Foster child of marital/ partner of HH
12	2	Child of partner of HH
9	3 / 4	Child of child/foster child of HH
0	6	Child is HH, lives with parents in same household
1 / 2	7	Marital partner/partner of HH (child of in laws of HH)
9	5	Grandchild of HH (child of son/daughter-in-law of HH)

### Identification by means of the Mother ID / Partner of the Mother ID from \$KIND

The population of the file \$KIND includes all children under the age of 16. The file contains the personal number of the mother (\$KMUTTI), as well as the personal number of the partner of the mother (\$KMUP). Through both variables the latest mother, as well as the latest partner of the mother are identified, ideally, at the time when the child is 16 years old and thus one year before the first survey of the child.

### Identifying the Mother (the Parents) using BIOBIRTH

In a further step the biological mother is identified through the mother-child relationship in the file BIOBIRTH. In the event that still no personal number for the mother exists, the number from BIOBIRTH is used. Since 2001, an extra BIOBIRTH data-set exists for fathers (BIOBRTHM), which provides a new way of identifying fathers of SOEP-respondents. While it cannot be stated definitively that these pointers link to biological or social fathers, experience shows that the number of cases identified through the parent-child relationship in BIOBIRTH is low. In the current update, all parents were identified using \$STELL and \$KIND.

#### 10.4 Updating

Accepting new survey participants occurs with the help of the collation of the data from the corresponding biographical entries and the individual entries by identifying the parents in SOEP. This updating depends on the process described for generating the “parent-specific” data.

For parents who are already contained in the data file BIOPAREN and are identified with a personal number, an update of the year of death ultimately occurs in 2004 if they have passed away during the term of the SOEP.

### 10.5 Correction and adaptation

For the current version of BIOPAREN, some modifications of value labels concerning VBSTELL, MBSTELL, VBBIL and MBBIL have been carried out. Furthermore, failures that occurred while generating VBBIL and MBBIL have been eliminated.

The labels of VBSTELL and MBSTELL have been adapted according to the particular questions as follows:

<b>NEW</b>	<b>VBSTELL/MBSTELL</b>	<b>OLD</b>
<b>0</b>	do not know	<b>0</b>
<b>1</b>	has died	<b>1</b>
<b>10</b>	not employed	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	in training	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	unemployed,sick	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	retired	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	prisoner of war	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	military,community work	<b>15</b>
<b>100</b>	apprentice in firm	
<b>110</b>	apprentices/trainees	
<b>120</b>	apprentice in industry of technology	
<b>130</b>	apprentice in trade and commerce	
<b>140</b>	volunteer,intern,etc.	
<b>150</b>	aspirants	
<b>200</b>	blue-collar worker	<b>20</b>
<b>210</b>	untrained worker	<b>21</b>
<b>220</b>	Semi-trained worker	<b>22</b>
<b>230</b>	trained worker	<b>23</b>
<b>240</b>	foreman, team leader	<b>24</b>
<b>250</b>	foreman	<b>25</b>
<b>310</b>	agricultural worker	<b>31</b>
<b>320</b>	agricultural specialist	<b>32</b>
<b>330</b>	agricultural foreman	<b>33</b>
<b>340</b>	agricultural manager	<b>34</b>
<b>400</b>	All types of self-employed	<b>40</b>
<b>410</b>	self-employed farmer	<b>41</b>
<b>411</b>	without employees	
<b>412</b>	1 to 9 employees	
<b>413</b>	10 or more employees	
<b>414</b>	with employees, no info about number	
<b>420</b>	free-lance professional	<b>42</b>
<b>421</b>	without employees	
<b>422</b>	1 to 9 employees	
<b>423</b>	10 or more employees	
<b>424</b>	with employees,no info about number	
<b>430</b>	other self-empl. without or up to 9 empl.	<b>43</b>
<b>431</b>	without employees	
<b>432</b>	1 to 9 employees	<b>46</b>
<b>433</b>	10 or more employees	

<b>434</b>	with employees,no info about number	<b>44</b>
<b>440</b>	help in family business	<b>45</b>
<b>500</b>	white-collar worker	<b>50</b>
<b>510</b>	foreman	<b>51</b>
<b>520</b>	white-collar with simple profession	<b>52</b>
<b>521</b>	untrained white-collar worker	
<b>522</b>	trained white-collar worker	<b>56</b>
<b>530</b>	qualified profession	<b>53</b>
<b>540</b>	high qualified profession	<b>54</b>
<b>550</b>	managerial	<b>55</b>
<b>600</b>	civil servant	<b>60</b>
<b>610</b>	low-level civil servant	<b>61</b>
<b>620</b>	middle-level civil servant	<b>62</b>
<b>630</b>	high-level civil servant	<b>63</b>
<b>640</b>	executive civil servant	<b>64</b>
<b>999</b>	employed without information	<b>0</b>

The labels of VBBIL and MBBIL have been adapted as follows:

<b>NEW</b>	<b>VBBIL/MBBIL</b>	<b>OLD</b>
0	do not know	0
10	no vocational degree	1
20	vocational degree	-
21	trained in foreign company	2
22	trained long time in foreign company	3
23	foreign vocational school	4
24	trade, farming apprentice	5
25	business apprentice	6
26	health care school	7
27	special technical school	8
28	civil service training	9
30	tech engineer school	10
31	foreign collage	11
32	college university	12
40	other training	13
50	currently in vocational training	14
51	currently in education	15

In the data-set up to wave T, there were failures in the proxy entries. Misleadingly, entries on “vocational degree” had been generated as “trained long time in foreign company” and “college-university” had been generated as “other training”. Besides, in some cases, “vocational degree” was generated falsely as “other training”. The label “vocational training” is based exclusively on proxy entries, while “other training” is solely generated from the information given directly by the parents in \$PGEN.

***10.6 New Variables in BIOPAREN as of data release (2006, up to wave U):  
VAORTAKT/MAORTAKT and VAORTUP/MAORTUP***

The variables VAORTAKT and MAORTAKT contain the latest available information about the parents' residence and on whether or not they are deceased, respectively. These variables were generated using the information from VAORT91, VAORT96, VAORT01, VAORT06 (accordingly: MAORT91, MAORT96, MAORT01, MAORT06) and data concerning the year of death of those whose parents are identified by a personal identification number.

For persons without identified parents who answered the biography questionnaire up to the year 2006, the most recent available information from the person questionnaire in 1991, 1996, 2001 or 2006 was assumed.

For those persons whose parents are identified in the SOEP, the information on the year of death in PPFAD was used for updating. If the year of death lies chronologically after the latest available information, VAORTAKT and MAORTAKT were put on "deceased".

In gathering the information from different data sets, inconsistencies occurred. On the one hand, some parents had been reported as deceased in the early waves, while information about their residence at a later date was available. In this case, the information about the parents' residence was not accepted.

The variables VAORTUP and MAORTUP give the year of updating.

## 11. BIOSOC: Retrospective Data on Youth and Socialization

by Jürgen Schupp und Michael Fröhling

*(Replaces earlier versions by Bettina Isengard and Thorsten Schneider)*

The standard supplementary Biography Questionnaire was expanded in 2000, and again in 2001 to include some specific questions on youth and early adulthood. Some of these questions are derived from the independent Youth Questionnaire (for detailed information on this questionnaire, see chapter 13). The expanded questionnaire asks respondents of all ages to describe aspects of their life at the age of 15, including their relationship with parents, grades in school, the federal state where they last attained educational qualifications, detailed information on vocational qualifications, as well as intentions to complete further education or vocational training (the latter questions were relevant mainly to younger respondents). Questions concerning military and alternative services are also included in this data set.

As these questions are a part of the standard Biography Questionnaire, they are only asked once. Some of these questions can, however, be followed up by the regular data collected for in Individual Questionnaire. For example, if someone were too young to have completed his military service when the Biography Questionnaire was conducted, the user can look at the data set ARTKALEN in later years, where labour force participation is recorded on a monthly basis. Here one can find out if somebody was doing military service at the time or not.

The data set BIOSOC contains information on 12,917 persons, of whom 8,819 stem from the year 2001. The reason for this is that the Biography Questionnaire was directed to sample F, as this was its second survey year. Consequently, most of the persons in this new data set belong to sample F (73%). Another large portion comes from sample G (almost 17%) which is comprised of people who filled out the Biography Questionnaire for the ‘first’ time in 2003.

Table 1: Survey Year in BIOSOC

survey year	frequency	percent
2000	246	1.9
2001	8.819	68.3
2002	552	4.3
2003	2.328	18.0
2004	450	3.5
2005	299	2.3
2006	223	1.7
Total	12.917	100

Status: up to wave W (2006)

Table 2: Samples in BIOSOC

sample	frequency	percent
A: Germans (west)	560	4.3
B: Foreigners (west)	174	1.3
C: Germans (east)	420	3.3
D: Immigrants 1984-1993	78	0.6
E: Supplement 1998	188	1.5
F : Innovation 2000	9365	72.5
G : High-Income 2002	2132	16.5

Status: up to wave W (2006)

### 11.1 Structure of the Data Set BIOSOC

Respondents are given the Biography Questionnaire only once in a lifetime. Some of the information stored in the new data set BIOSOC is unvarying (such as the relationship to parents at the age of 15) or is not surveyed to such an extent in the regular questionnaire (such as last school grades). Consequently there is only one record for each person and updates are not intended for this data set. The variable ERHEBJ makes it possible to quickly identify the year of the survey. Using the variable BSGEJAH, which contains the year of birth, the user can determine the respondent's age. If the respondent is of a certain age, one can assume that some of the variables are constant. This applies to variables such as last school grades or military service.

In Table 1 (at the end of the chapter) all variables of the data set BIOSOC are listed. The first column contains the name of the variable, the second a brief specification of its content. The third column contains the number of the question as it appears in the Biography Questionnaire of wave Q (2000). Here, a minus sign means that the variable is not available in a given year and a question number in parenthesis indicates limited comparability. The fourth column contains the number of question in waves R to W (2001-2006). As one can see, all listed questions were asked in the year 2001. In the last column the corresponding variable in the BIOAGE17 dataset is given, if available.

### 11.2 Special Features of Some Questions and Variables

The interviewees were asked if they did sports in their youth. If they answered in the affirmative, they were asked to include the sport they participated in most. This information was re-coded to a numeric variable and categorised. Some categories could easily be coded, such as soccer, whereas for others this was not possible. For users interested in specific research questions on sports in youth, the original plain text answers can be provided upon request.

Individuals were asked: "When was the last year you attended school?" (Question 37). If they were still attending school, they had the opportunity to report that they were students. Unfortunately in the years 2001 to 2003, individuals who reported being students or who did not provide any answer to this question skipped over numerous questions due to the questionnaire design. Consequently, for these individuals there is no information on the number of foreign classmates<sup>9</sup>, on the school degree aspired to, or planned vocational qualifications. Their record also lacks information on past vocational qualifications. However, this should prove less problematic since most of the students were enrolled in regular school programs throughout the entire time.

---

<sup>9</sup> Most persons with no valid information on foreign classmates are not students but individuals who finished school abroad. This is because the question only targets those in German schools.

Table 3: Description of the data set BIOSOC

Variable Name	Content of the Variable	Number of Question in Biography Questionnaire 2000 <sup>10</sup>	Number of Question in Biography Questionnaire 2001-2006	Comparable Variable in BIOAGE17 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Entries for Surveyed Person</b>				
HHNR	Original household identifier (invariant)			HHNR
HHNRAKT	Actual household identifier			HHNRAKT
PERSNR	Personal identifier			PERSNR
BEFRPER	Respondent identifier			BEFRPER
ERHEBJ	Survey year			ERHEBJ
BSGEBJAH	Year of birth			BYGEBJAH
<b>School</b>				
BSELKUEM	Parents took care about efforts at school	-	29	BYELKUEM
BSNTDEUT	Last grade in German	-	30	BYNTDEUT
BSNTMATH	Last grade in maths	-	30	BYNTMATH
BSNTFMD1	Last grade in 1. foreign language	-	30	BYNTFMD1
BSPTDEUT	Total points <sup>11</sup> in German (last class)	-	30 <sup>12</sup>	BYPTDEUT
BSPTMATH	Total points in maths (last class)	-	30 <sup>4</sup>	BYPTMATH
BSPTFMD1	Total points in 1. foreign language (last class)	-	30 <sup>4</sup>	BYPTFMD1
BSGSDEUT	Level of German at comprehensive school <sup>13</sup> (last class)	-	30 <sup>4</sup>	BYGSDEUT
BSGSMATH	Level of maths at comprehensive school (last class)	-	30 <sup>4</sup>	BYGSMATH
BSGSFMD1	Level of 1. foreign language at comprehensive school (last class)	-	30 <sup>4</sup>	BYGSFMD1
BSLKDEUT	Complementary / main subject <sup>14</sup> in German (last class)	-	30 <sup>4</sup>	BYLKDEUT
BSLKMATH	Complementary / main subject in maths (last class)	-	30 <sup>4</sup>	BYLKMATH
BSLKFMD1	Complementary / main subject in 1. foreign language (last class)	-	30 <sup>4</sup>	BYLKFMD1

<sup>10</sup> If no corresponding question/variable exists, it is assigned a minus sign; numbers/names in parentheses mean that there is no identical question/variable but a similar one.

<sup>11</sup> To make the data set more user-friendly, the information given on points are transformed into grades and stored in the corresponding variable. The link between points and grades is as follows: 0 points: grade of 6; 1 to 3 points: grade of 5; 4 to 6 points: grade of 4; 7 to 9 points: grade of 3; 10 to 12 points: grade of 2; 13 to 15 points: grade of 1.

<sup>12</sup> Only in survey year 2001 (wave R)

<sup>13</sup> The subjects German, math and the first foreign language are split up into different levels during the secondary school level I of comprehensive schools. Level A is the highest one.

<sup>14</sup> From the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade on students can choose their main subjects. At this stage, they can reduce German, maths and foreign languages from major to minor subjects.

Variable Name	Content of the Variable	Number of Question in Biography Questionnaire 2000 <sup>15</sup>	Number of Question in Biography Questionnaire 2001-2006	Comparable Variable in BIOAGE17 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Relationships to Parents, Sport and Activities during Youth</b>				
Frequency of fights when respondent was 15 years old with:				
BSSTRVA	Father	-	31	BYSTRVA
BSSTRMU	Mother	-	31	BYSTRMU
BSSPRTR	Participated in sports during youth	-	32 <sup>16</sup> ;33 <sup>17</sup>	BYSPRTTR
BSSPRTAR	Favourite sport during youth	-	33 <sup>7</sup> ;34 <sup>8</sup>	BYSPRTAR
BSSPRTWE	Participated in competitions during youth	-	34 <sup>7</sup> ;35 <sup>8</sup>	BYSPRTWE
BSMUSSP	Played music or sang during youth	-	35 <sup>7</sup> ;32 <sup>8</sup>	BYMUSSP
<b>School Attendance</b>				
BSSCHBES	Still at school	(34)	37	BYSCHBES
BSSCHEND	Year left school	-	37	BYSCHEND
BSSCHWO	Country of last school attendance	(34)	38	-
BSSCHLA	Federal State of last school attendance	-	41	-
BSKLAUSL	Number of foreign classmates	(37)	43	BYKLAUSL
BSSCHZUK	Strive for further school certificate	35	44	BYSCHZUK
BSSCHZAR	Type of further school certificate	36	45	BYSCHZAR
<b>Attained and Planed Vocational Qualification</b>				
BSBADABG	Vocational / university degree acquired in Germany	38	46	(BYBAABGE)
Type of vocational / university degree attained in Germany:				
BSBADLEH	Apprenticeship ("Lehre")	39	47	(BYBALEH)
BSBADBFS	Full-time vocational school / School for public health ("Berufsfachschule / Schule des Gesundheitswesens")	39	47	(BYBABFS)
BSBADFSC	Technical school, school for master of a trade ("Fachschule, Meister-, Technikerschule")	39	47	-
BSBADBEA	Training for civil servants (officer) ("Beamtenausbildung")	39	47	-
BSBADFHA	Advanced technical college ("Fachhochschule") or approved vocational academy ("anerkannte Berufsakademie")	39	47	-
BSBADUNI	University degree	39	47	-
BSBADSON	Other vocational qualification	39	47	(BYBABGJ, BYBABEGL, BYBAPRAK)
BSBADEND	Year of attaining vocational / university degree in Germany	-	48	
BSBAAABG	Vocational / university degree acquired abroad	40	49	-

<sup>15</sup> If no corresponding question/variable exists, it is assigned a minus sign; numbers/names in parentheses mean that there is no identical question/variable but a similar one.

<sup>16</sup> Survey years 2001 and 2002 (waves R, S)

<sup>17</sup> Survey years 2003 to 2006 (waves T, U, V, W)

Variable Name	Content of the Variable	Number of Question in Biography Questionnaire 2000 <sup>18</sup>	Number of Question in Biography Questionnaire 2001-2006	Comparable Variable in BIOAGE17 <sup>2</sup>
	Type of vocational / university degree attained abroad:			
BSBAAFAN	Short-term training in a company	41	50	-
BSBAAFBA	Apprenticeship in a company	41	50	-
BSBAASCH	Vocational or professional school	41	50	-
BSBAAUNI	University degree	41	50	-
BSBAASON	Other vocational qualification	41	50	-
BSBAAEND	Year of attaining vocational / university degree abroad	-	51	-
BSBAAZEU	Certificate for abroad attained qualification	42	52	-
BSBAAZEA	Recognition of abroad attained certificate	42	52	-
BSZAJA	Vocational / university degree is aspired	43	53	BYZAJA
	Type of aspired vocational / university degree:			
BSZALEH	Apprenticeship ("Lehre")	44	54	BYZALEH
BSZABFS	Full-time vocational school/ School for public health ("Berufsfachschule / Schule des Gesundheitswesens")	44	54	BYZABFS
BSZAFSC	Technical school, school for master of a trade ("Fachschule, Meister-, Technikerschule")	44	54	BYZAFSC
BSZABEA	Training for civil servants (officer) ("Beamtenausbildung")	44	54	BYZABEA
BSZABAK	Approved vocational academy ("anerkannte Berufsakademie")	44	54	BYZABAK
BSZAFH	Advanced technical college ("Fachhochschule")	44	54	BYZAFH
BSZAUNI	University degree	44	54	BYZAUNI
	<b>Military and Voluntary Service</b>			
BSDIGEL	Military or alternative service done ( <i>only men</i> )	58	71 <sup>19</sup> ;74 <sup>20</sup>	-
BSDIART	Type of service ( <i>only men</i> )	58	71 <sup>9</sup> ;74 <sup>10</sup>	-
BSDIGRU	Reason for not serving ( <i>only men</i> )	58	71 <sup>9</sup> ;74 <sup>10</sup>	-
BSFSJ	Voluntary social service ("Freiwilliges Soziales Jahr")	-	72 <sup>9</sup> ;73 <sup>10</sup>	-
	<b>Specification of Interview Situation</b>			
BSINTA	Type of interview			BYINTA
BSDAUER1	Duration of personal interview			BYDAUER1
BSDAUER2	Duration of interview filled out independently			BYDAUER2
BSTAGIN	Day of the interview			BYTAGIN
BSMONIN	Month of the interview			BYMONIN
BSINTNR	Identifier of the interviewer			BYINTNR

<sup>18</sup> If no corresponding question/variable exists, it is assigned a minus sign; numbers/names in parentheses mean that there is no identical question/variable but a similar one.

<sup>19</sup> survey years 2001 (wave R)

<sup>20</sup> survey years 2002 to 2006 (waves S, T, U, V, W)

## ***12. BIORESID: Variables On Occupancy and Second Residence***

by Jürgen Schupp and Michael Frühling

*(Replaces earlier versions by Thorsten Schneider)*

In 1994 questions with a focus on occupancy were introduced to the Biographical Questionnaire asking for the duration of residence in the current dwelling and any second residence. Questions on the second residence were also asked before 1994, but these were collected in the (blue version of the) Individual Questionnaire and therefore the corresponding variables are part of the \$P files. The information surveyed in the Biographical Questionnaire is stored in the new file BIORESID.

The variables of BIORESID are based on following questions:

### **Question I**

*When did you move into this home?*

Year

### **Question II**

*Do you have another home in which you yourself reside or spend your vacation?*<sup>21</sup>  
(0) No (1) Yes => continue with question

*Is this second home in western Germany (including West Berlin), in eastern Germany (including East Berlin) or abroad?*

Western Germany

Eastern Germany

Abroad<sup>22</sup>

*Which home is your main residence?*

This one

The other one

I use both about the same

*From which residence do you usually go to work?*

From this one

From the other one

Not applicable

<sup>21</sup> In the years 1994 and 1995 the question was “Do you have another home, in Germany, in which you yourself reside in?”

<sup>22</sup> The new category "abroad" was added in 1996.

### 12.1 Sources of Variables

The information for the years 1994 and 1995 stem from the file BIOLELA. Information for later years are taken from the wave-specific data sets \$LELA.

In principle, SOEP respondents answer the Biography Questionnaire only once, so every person has only one record with wave-specific information in BIORESID. For fieldwork-related reasons, very few people have answered the Biography Questionnaire twice. For these, the first interview is taken as relevant for BIORESID. Further cases are dropped if their information stems from an interview completed before 1994.

### 12.2 Population of Interest

The BIORESID dataset as of wave 2006 contains information on 18,270 individuals, stemming from samples A-G. The data set is supplemented every year by new respondents filling in the supplementary Biography Questionnaire.

Table 1: Survey Year in BIORESID

survey year	frequency	percent
1994	933	5.11
1995	1075	5.88
1996	471	2.58
1997	480	2.63
1998	415	2.27
1999	2039	11.16
2000	243	1.33
2001	8816	48.25
2002	508	2.78
2003	2319	12.69
2004	449	2.46
2005	299	1.64
2006	223	1.22
Total	18270	100

Status: up to wave W (2006)

Table 2: Samples in BIORESID

sample	frequency	percent
A: Germans (west)	1761	9.6
B: Foreigners (west)	649	3.6
C: Germans (east)	1216	6.7
D: Immigrants 1984-1993	1345	7.4
E: Supplement 1998	1802	9.9
F : Innovation 2000	9365	51.3
G : High-Income 2002	2132	11.7

Status: up to wave W (2006)

The information in BIORESID is treated as time-invariant. Although, in principle, it is possible to update the information on occupancy for some individuals on the basis of more recent information, we abstain from doing so for selectivity reasons.

### 12.3 Variable List of the Data Set BIORESID

Table 3: Description of the Data Set BIORESID

Variable Name	Content of the Variable
<b>Entries for Surveyed Person</b>	
HHNR	Original household number (invariant)
HHNRAKT	Current wave HH number (wave of biogaphy interview)
PERSNR	Never changing person ID
ERHEBJ	Survey year
<b>Occupancy</b>	
BRMOVEIN	Year person moved in current dwelling
<b>Second Residence</b>	
BRSECHOM	Having a second residence
BRSECREG	Region of second residence
BRSECUSE	Use of second residence
BRSECWOR	Second residence at place of work
<b>Specification of Interview Situation</b>	
BRINTA	Type of interview
BRINTNR	Identifier of the interviewer

### ***13. BIOAGE17: The Youth Questionnaire***<sup>23</sup>

by Jürgen Schupp and Michael Fröhling

*(Replaces earlier versions by Thorsten Schneider and Bettina Isengard)*

Since the year 2000, youth-specific questions have been integrated in the Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) through an independent instrument: the Youth Questionnaire. This questionnaire collects information on relationships with parents, leisure-time activities, and past achievements in school, as well as on personality characteristics. In addition, there are numerous prospective questions about educational plans and plans for further training, as well as questions about expectations for future career and family.

A number of statements regarding specific circumstances—including the expectations for the future mentioned above—are directly related to the time at which the questionnaire was completed. However, they provide a multifaceted background for long-term analyses since these young people will continue to be interviewed in subsequent years like other SOEP respondents. The Youth Questionnaire also contains retrospective questions, for example, at what age the teenager started his or her first job or first music lessons, what recommendations he or she received regarding choice of secondary school level, and which grades he or she repeated.

#### 13.1 Genesis and Target Population of the Youth Questionnaire

The Youth Questionnaire is aimed at youths who have reached the surveying age of 17 years<sup>24</sup> and are therefore being interviewed for the first time. This questionnaire takes the place of the supplementary Biography Questionnaire, since the latter does not apply to the young people's family or career situations. As a rule, information on social origin can be obtained from the parents' Individual Questionnaire, in case the youth lives together with the respective parent. If the teenager does not live with either parent, the Youth Questionnaire collects information on the missing parent(s). Young people who immigrated to Germany are also given the standard questions on immigration from the supplementary Biography Questionnaire. This guarantees that all important information collected in the Biography Questionnaire is also available on these young people.

A preliminary version of the Youth Questionnaire was tested in 2000 in samples A-E on individuals born in 1983. An expanded and revised questionnaire entered the field one year later, in 2001, for all samples (A-F). In samples A-E, young people born in 1984 were surveyed, and in sample F, those born in the years 1982 to 1984. With the expansion of the number of birth cohorts, entries for the birth year 1983 are also collected for sample F (data

<sup>23</sup> In earlier SOEP-data releases BIOAGE17 was called BIOYOUTH.

<sup>24</sup> More precisely, this refers to youths who are or will turn 17 years old in the year of the survey. They are therefore 16 or 17 years old at the time of the interview.

previously existed only for samples A-E), which also creates a clear increase in the number of entries. For an overview of the target population in each survey year, see Table 1. In total, we have gathered interview data from 2,615 analysable observations up to the present.

Table 1: Target Population for the Youth Questionnaire by year, sample and age

survey year / sample	A-E	F	G	frequency	percent
2000	17 years			232	8.9
2001	17 years	17-19 years		618	23.6
2002	17 years	17 years		352	13.5
2003	17 years	17 years	17 years	365	14.0
2004	17 years	17 years	17 years	373	14.3
2005	17 years	17 years	17 years	368	14.1
2006	17 years	17 years	17 years	307	11.7

Status: up to wave W (2006)

In 2006, a new questionnaire on cognitive potential was introduced. As a result, the green version of the Individual Questionnaire (for first-time respondents) is now left out for 17-year-olds. The data on cognitive potentials will be provided for secondary analysis in 2007.

### 13.2 Contents and Structure of the Data Set BIOAGE17

The design of the dataset BIOAGE17 is patterned after the 2001 Youth Questionnaire, which is the standard version for subsequent years. As in the biographical data survey, every youth answers the Youth Questionnaire only once. The data is therefore presented in column form, just as it would be in a cross-sectional record. The variable ERHEBJ makes it possible to quickly identify the year of the survey. The entries to the questions that were only asked in 2000 and not in 2001 are not included in BIOAGE17. The complete dataset from 2000 is provided free of charge upon request. However, all entries from 2000 that are also included in 2001 are contained in BIOAGE17!<sup>25</sup>

In 2006, some time-variant questions from the unanswered green version of the Individual Questionnaire were added to the Youth Questionnaire. These questions are included in the \$AGE17 dataset. Hence some changes have occurred, especially in the numbering of the questions.

Table 2 (at the end of this chapter) lists all of the variables for the dataset BIOAGE17. The first column contains the name of each variable, the second a brief specification of its content, and the third the number of the question as it appears in the Youth Questionnaire distributed in 2000, wave Q. The fourth column lists the corresponding questions in the Youth Questionnaires 2001 to 2005. Since the Youth Questionnaire was not altered further in the

<sup>25</sup> In the event that a question was asked in 2001 but not in 2000, the variable will have the value -3 for the persons who were surveyed in 2000.

following years, the questionnaire numbers reported are identical<sup>26</sup> and therefore function as a reference for the variables in the dataset BIOAGE17. In the last column, the question number from the 2006 youth questionnaire is noted. The variables containing the identification of the person surveyed and the interview situation have no corresponding number because they do not originate from the regular section of the Youth Questionnaire.

The topic blocks ‘Origin’ (questions 60 to 71) and ‘Childhood and Parents’ House’ (questions 72 to 85) are not in the data set BIOAGE17. The questions asked in these sections are taken from the Biography Questionnaire and the entries are stored in the corresponding biographical files (BIOIMMIG, BIOPAREN). The questions 56 to 58, 89, 90<sup>27</sup> and the topic block ‘personality’ (questions 91 to 98) are included in the new dataset \$PAGE17.

### 13.3 Special Features of Some Questions and Variables

The question regarding the support received by these young people from their parents (question 14) is based on the Supportive Parenting Scale of Simons et al. (1992)<sup>28</sup>, which was transformed for Germany by Schwarz and Walper (1997)<sup>29</sup>. The instrument used to compile career orientation (question 54) was taken from Kracke (1996)<sup>30</sup>.

Before 2006, problems arose with the question concerning school attendance (question 25 from 2001 to 2005) because of discrepancies between the information from the Youth Questionnaire and the information on the variable “type of general school attended” from the Individual Questionnaire. Since 2006, 17-year-olds no longer receive the Individual Questionnaire, so the question about school type has been integrated into the question on school attendance. For the previous years, the variable was generated using information from the Individual Questionnaire and questions 25 and 45<sup>31</sup> from the Youth Questionnaire.

If the question on school attendance in the Youth Questionnaire is answered with ‘yes’ when at the same time information from the regular Individual Questionnaire indicates that the youth does not attend the general school system, or vice versa, a recoding is undertaken. In this case the variable BYSCHBES is changed to the value -3 (-3: Entry deleted after intensive examination). Another problem arises if a person states in the Youth Questionnaire that she attends school but does not specify school type in the Individual Questionnaire. In this case the variable BYSCHBES is given the value -1 (-1: no answer).

<sup>26</sup> In 2004 and 2005, only one question was added. It concerns the number of brothers and sisters. However, the consecutive numbering of the relevant questions remains unchanged.

<sup>27</sup> The first ten items in question 90 are still stored in BIOAGE17, for details see 13.3.

<sup>28</sup> Simons, R.L., F.O. Lorenz, R.D. Conger and C.-I. Wu (1992): Support from spouse as mediator and moderator of the disruptive influence of economic strain on parenting. in: *Child Development* 63: 1282-1301.

<sup>29</sup> Schwarz, B. and S. Walper (1997): *Erziehung aus Sicht von Eltern und Kindern. Erste Erfahrungen mit den Instrumenten der 1. Erhebung. Berichte aus der Arbeitsgruppe “Familienentwicklung nach der Trennung” #19/97.* Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München.

<sup>30</sup> Kracke, B. (1996): *Fragebogen zur Berufsorientierung bei Realschülern.* University of Mannheim, unpublished manuscript.

<sup>31</sup> For 2000 questions 24 and 45.

In question 49, young people are asked whether they know what career they would like to start. If they give a positive answer ('yes, with some certainty', 'yes, with a lot of certainty'), then they are asked to specify the occupation in plain text. This plain-text entry is coded according to the classification of occupations of the Federal Statistical Office, Germany, (Statistisches Bundesamt), version 1992, and according to the ISCO 1988. In addition, the values for Ganzeboom's International Socio-Economic Index of Occupational Status (ISEI), for Treiman's Standard International Occupational Prestige Scale (SIOPS) for Erikson's and Goldthorpe's Class Category (EGP)<sup>32</sup> as well as Wegener's Magnitude Prestige Scale (MPS)<sup>33</sup> are also given.

In 2005 and 2006, some respondents had a value of -3 in variables BYMUSART, BYMUSMW and BYSPRTMW. This means that they gave more than one answer to the question although only one answer was possible. Because of this, it was not possible to assign a single valid answer.

By extending the questions about personality, we meanwhile ask the questions regarding attitudes about life and the future on a seven-point scale instead of the four-point scale we started with in the earlier version of this battery. From 2006, the variables BYESVERL to BYESENGA are stored with the values 1 (no acceptance) to 7 (total acceptance) and with the values 11 (total acceptance) to 14 (no acceptance) for respondents of previous years. Thus, the normative decision on how to integrate these two scales is up to the user.

Table 2: Description of the data set BIOAGE17

Variable Name	Content of the Variable	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2000 <sup>34</sup>	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2001-2005	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2006
<b>Entries for surveyed person</b>				
HHNR	Original household identifier (invariant)			
HHNRAKT	Actual household identifier			
PERSNR	Personal identifier			
BEFRPER	Respondent identifier			
ERHEBJ	Survey year			
BYGEBJAH	Year of birth			
BYMNR	identifier of mother (taken from BIOPAREN; social, not necessarily biological relationship)			
BYVNR	identifier of father (taken from BIOPAREN; social, not necessarily biological relationship)			

<sup>32</sup> For ISCO 88, SIOPS, ISEI and EGP see Ganzeboom, H.B.G. and D.J. Treiman (1996): Internationally Comparable Measures of Occupational Status for the 1988 International Standard Classification of Occupations. in: Social Science Research 25, 201-239.

<sup>33</sup> Frietsch, R. and H. Wirth (2001): Die Übertragung der Magnitude-Prestigeskala von Wegener auf die Klassifizierung der Berufe. in: ZUMA-Nachrichten, 48, 139-163.

<sup>34</sup> If no corresponding question/variable exists, it is assigned a minus sign; numbers/names in parentheses mean that there is no identical question/variable but a corresponding one.

Variable Name	Content of the Variable	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2000 <sup>35</sup>	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2001-2005	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2006
<b>Residence</b>				
BYWOELT	Residing in parents' household (HH)	01	01	01
BYWOZIM	Own room	02	02	02
BYWOWEI	Additional apartment outside of parents' HH	04	03	03
<b>Jobs and Money</b>				
BYVDEIG	Own income	09	04	04
BYVDART	Type of income	10	05	05
BYJBFRUE	Worked before (on holiday or while in school)	13	06	06
BYJBALT	Age by first job (on holiday or while in school)	14	07	07
BYJBGRUN	Reason for working	-	08	08
BYTGELD	Allowance	15	09	09
BYTGELDW	Amount of allowance per week	16	10	10
BYTGELDM	Amount of allowance per month	16	10	10
BYSPAR	Saving money	17	11	11
BYSPARM	Amount saved every month	17	11	11
BYSPARUN	Sporadic saving	17	11	11
<b>Relationships</b>				
Importance of various persons:				
BYWIVA	Father	-	12	12
BYWIMU	Mother	-	12	12
BYWIBS	Brother, Sister	-	12	12
BYWIVW	Other related persons	-	12	12
BYWIFFR	Serious boy/girlfriend	-	12	12
BYWIBFR	Best friend	-	12	12
BYWILEHR	Teacher	-	12	12
BYWICLQ	Clique	-	12	12
BYWISON	Other persons	-	12	12
Frequency of fights with:				
BYSTRVA	Father	-	13	13
BYSTRMU	Mother	-	13	13
BYSTRBS	Brother, Sister	-	13	13
BYSTRFFR	Serious boy/girlfriend	-	13	13
BYSTRBFR	Best friend	-	13	13
BYBZ01MU	Talk with mother about personal experiences	-	14	14
BYBZ01VA	Talk with father about personal experiences	-	14	14
BYBZ02MU	Mother addresses problems	-	14	14
BYBZ02VA	Father addresses problems	-	14	14
BYBZ03MU	Mother asks opinion before a decision is made	-	14	14
BYBZ03VA	Father asks opinion before a decision is made	-	14	14
BYBZ04MU	Mother shows approval	-	14	14
BYBZ04VA	Father shows approval	-	14	14
BYBZ05MU	Solve problems together with mother	-	14	14
BYBZ05VA	Solve problems together with father	-	14	14
BYBZ06MU	Mother shows trust	-	14	14
BYBZ06VA	Father shows trust	-	14	14
BYBZ07MU	Mother asks opinion on family issues	-	14	14

<sup>35</sup> If no corresponding question/variable exists, it is assigned a minus sign; numbers/names in parentheses mean that there is no identical question/variable but a corresponding one.

Variable Name	Content of the Variable	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2000 <sup>36</sup>	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2001-2005	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2006
BYBZ07VA	Father asks opinion on family issues	-	14	14
BYBZ08MU	Mother justifies decision	-	14	14
BYBZ08VA	Father justifies decision	-	14	14
BYBZ09MU	Mother shows love	-	14	14
BYBZ09VA	Father shows love	-	14	14
<b>Free time and Sport</b>				
Frequency of free time activities:				
BYFZFERN	TV, Video	-	15	15
BYFZPC	Computer games	-	15	15
BYFZMUSH	Listen to music	-	15	15
BYFZMUSS	Play music	-	15	15
BYFZSPRT	Do sports	-	15	15
BYFZTANZ	Dance, Theatre	-	15	15
BYFZTECH	Technical work, Programming	-	15	15
BYFZLESE	Read	-	15	15
BYFZEHRE	Volunteer activities	-	15	15
BYFZABH	Do nothing, hang around, day dream	-	15	15
BYFZMFFR	Spend time with boy/girlfriend	-	15	15
BYFZMBFR	Spend time with best friend	-	15	15
BYFZMCLQ	Spend time with clique	-	15	15
BYFZINT	Internet/chatting	-	-	15
BYFZJUGZ	visiting youth center	-	-	15
BYFZRELI	go to church/religious activities	-	-	15
BYMUSSP	Actively make music	-	16	16
BYMUSART	Style of music made	-	17	17
BYMUSMW	Play music with whom	-	17a	18
BYMUSALT	Age starting playing music	-	18	19
BYMUSUNT	Paid music lessons	-	19	20
BYSPTTR	Participate in sports	20	20	21
BYSPTAR	Favourite sport	21	21	22
BYSPTAL	Age started favourite sport	23	22	23
BYSPTMW	Where and with whom favourite sport	23	23	24
BYSPTWE	Participation in competitions	23	24	25
<b>School</b>				
BYSCHBES <sup>37</sup>	School attendance	24 / PF: 09	25 / PF <sup>38</sup>	26
BYSCHEND	Last year of school	25	26a	27
BYSCHABS	Type of school certificate	26	26b	28
BYSCHZUK	Strive for further school certificate	27	27	29
BYSCHZAR	Type of further school certificate	28	28	30
BYFMD1 <sup>39</sup>	1. foreign language	32	29	31
BYFMD2	2. foreign language	32	29	31

<sup>36</sup> If no corresponding question/variable exists, it is assigned a minus sign; numbers/names in parentheses mean that there is no identical question/variable but a corresponding one.

<sup>37</sup> As mentioned in 13.3, for the years 2000 to 2005 the variable BYSCHBES is generated in consideration of information stemming from the personal questionnaire.

<sup>38</sup> The relevant question from the personal questionnaire differs from year to year: for 2001 question 11, for 2002 question 14, for 2003 question 33, for 2004 question 08, and for 2005 question 09.

<sup>39</sup> Additional category since 2006: value 7 "Spanish".

Variable Name	Content of the Variable	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2000 <sup>40</sup>	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2001-2005	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2006
BYSCHAUS	School attendance in foreign country	29	30	32
BYSCHPRI	Attendance in a private school	-	31	33
	Activities in school:			
BYENKSPR	Class representative	34	32	34
BYENSSPR	School representative	34	32	34
BYENSZTG	School newspaper	34	32	34
BYENTHEA	Theatre, Dance group	34	32	34
BYENCHOR	Choir, Music	34	32	34
BYENSPRT	Sport group	34	32	34
BYENSONS	Other groups	34	32	34
BYENNEIN	No activities	34	32	34
BYZFINSG	Satisfaction with effort at school (overall)	31	33	35
BYZFDEUT	Satisfaction with effort in German	31	33	35
BYZFMATH	Satisfaction with effort in math	31	33	35
BYZFFMD1	Satisfaction with effort in 1. foreign language	31	33	35
BYEMPFEH	Recommendation after elementary school	-	34	36
BYNTDEUT	Last grade <sup>41</sup> in German	33	35	37
BYNTMATH	Last grade in math	33	35	37
BYNTFMD1	Last grade in 1. foreign language	33	35	37
BYPTDEUT	Total points <sup>42</sup> in German	33	35	37
BYPTMATH	Total points in math	33	35	37
BYPTFMD1	Total points in 1. foreign language	33	35	37
BYGSDEUT	Level of German at comprehensive school <sup>43</sup>	33	35	37
BYGSMATH	Level of math at comprehensive school	33	35	37
BYGSFMD1	Level of 1. foreign language at comprehensive school	33	35	37
BYLKDEUT	Complementary / main subject <sup>44</sup> in German	33	35	37
BYLKMATH	Complementary / main subject in math	33	35	37
BYLKFMD1	Complementary / main subject in 1. foreign language	33	35	37
BYKLWDJA	Class repeated	35	36	38
BYKLWD1	Class level 1. repeated	36	37	39
BYKLWD2	Class level 2. repeated	36	37	39
BYNACHHI	Paid tutor lessons	37	38	40
BYELKUEM	Parents care about efforts at school	39	39	41

<sup>40</sup> If no corresponding question/variable exists, it is assigned a minus sign; numbers/names in parentheses mean that there is no identical question/variable but a corresponding one.

<sup>41</sup> Students normally receive grades ranging from 1 to 6, whereby 1 is the best and 6 the worst. This system of assigning grades is used up to the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade (level II of upper secondary or comprehensive school) depending on the federal state. After that, a new grading system is used. To make the data set more user-friendly, the information given for school grades and the information on points transformed into grades is stored in this variable. Note: No corrections have been made when a person has reported both grades and point scores and when the two types of information do not correctly correspond.

<sup>42</sup> From the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade on, pupils are awarded points in upper secondary or comprehensive school ranging from 0 to 15, whereby 15 points are the best, 0 points the worst. The link between points and grades is as follows: 0 points: 6; grade of 1 to 3 points: grade of 5; 4 to 6 points: grade of 4; 7 to 9 points: grade of 3; 10 to 12 points: grade of 2; 13 to 15 points: grade of 1.

<sup>43</sup> The subjects German, math and the first foreign language are split up into different levels during the secondary school level I in comprehensive schools. Level A is the highest. The number of levels differ between the federal states.

<sup>44</sup> From the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade on, pupils can choose their main subjects. At this stage, German, math and foreign languages can be downgraded from major to minor subjects.

Variable Name	Content of the Variable	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2000 <sup>45</sup>	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2001-2005	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2006
BYELHAUS	Parents help with homework	40	40	42
BYELDIFF	Problems with parents because of effort at school	41	41	43
BYELABEN	Parents attend parents' evening	42	42	44
BYELSPRE	Parents go to parents' day	42	42	44
BYELLEHR	Parents go to see a teacher	42	42	44
BYELVERT	Active as parent representative	42	42	44
BYELNIDA	Parents do not participate in any of these activities	42	42	44
BYKLAUSL	Number of foreign classmates	(43)	43	45
<b>Education and Career plans</b>				
BYBAABGE	Vocational education, Internship, training	44	44	46
BYBABGJ	Vocational introductory year ("Berufsgrundschul- / Berufsvorbereitungsjahr")	45	45	47
BYBABEGL	Vocational integration training ("Berufl. Eingliederungslehrgaenge")	45	45	47
BYBALEH	Vocational education, apprenticeship ("Berufsausbildung, Lehre")	45	45	47
BYBABFS	Full-time vocational school/ School for public health ("Berufsfachschule / Schule des Gesundheitswesens")	45	45	47
BYBAPRAK	Internship ("Praktikum, Voluntary")	45	45	47
BYZAJA	Vocational / university degree is aspired	46	46	48
Type of aspired vocational / university degree:				
BYZALEH	Apprenticeship ("Lehre")	47	47	49
BYZABFS	Full-time vocational school/ School for public health ("Berufsfachschule / Schule des Gesundheitswesens")	47	47	49
BYZAFSC	Technical school, school for master of a trade ("Fachschule, Meister-, Technikerschule")	47	47	49
BYZABEA	Training for civil servants (officer) ("Beamtenausbildung")	47	47	49
BYZABAK	Approved vocational academy ("anerkannte Berufsakademie")	47	47	49
BYZAFH	Advanced technical college ("Fachhochschule")	47	47	49
BYZAUNI	University	47	47	49
BYSLBALT	Desired age for financial independence	48	48	50
BYSLBHEU	Already financially independent	48	48	50
BYBWUNJA	Occupation is aspired	49	49	51
Occupation categories, encoded:				
BYKLAS	Classification of career according to the Federal Statistical Office, Germany, (Statistisches Bundesamt), version 1992	50	50	52
BYISCO88	International Standard Classification of Occupation 1988 (ISCO88)	50	50	52
BYEGP	Erikson and Goldthorpe's Class Category (EGP)	50	50	52
BYISEI	International Socio-Economic Index of Occupational Status after Ganzeboom (ISEI)	50	50	52

<sup>45</sup> If no corresponding question/variable exists, it is assigned a minus sign; numbers/names in parentheses mean that there is no identical question/variable but a corresponding one.

Variable Name	Content of the Variable	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2000 <sup>46</sup>	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2001-2005	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2006
BYSIOPS	Treiman's Standard International Occupational Prestige Scale (SIOPS)	50	50	52
BYMPS	Magnitude Prestige Scale after Wegener (MPS)	50	50	52
BYZBINF	Information level of planned career	-	51	53
BYZBELT	Influence of the parents on career choice	-	52	54
BYZBLAS	No specific career in mind	-	52	54
BYZBBES	Intensive thoughts about various careers	-	52	54
BYZBRAU	Still looking for a career	-	52	54
	Important aspects for the career choice:			
BYWBSICH	Secure job	51	53	55
BYWBEINK	High income	51	53	55
BYWBAUF	Promotion opportunities	51	53	55
BYWBANE	Established profession	51	53	55
BYWBFREI	Enough free time	51	53	55
BYWBINT	Interesting activities	51	53	55
BYWBSELB	Working independently	51	53	55
BYWBKONT	Contact with persons	51	53	55
BYWBGSL	Relevant to society	51	53	55
BYWBGSD	Healthy conditions at work	51	53	55
BYWBFAM	Flexibility for family	51	53	55
BYWBHELP	Help others	51	53	55
	<b>Future</b>			
	Probability of future career related and private events:			
BYWAAUSP	To be accepted for a desired apprenticeship / place at university	52	54	59
BYWAERFA	To complete training/ university successfully	52	54	59
BYWAARBP	Job in desired career	52	54	59
BYWABERF	Job-related success	52	54	59
BYWAARBL	Longer unemployment	52	54	59
BYWAZURU	From family related reasons held back in career	52	54	59
BYWASELB	Self-employed	52	54	59
BYWAAUSL	Work in foreign country	52	54	59
BYWAHEIR	To marry	52	54	59
BYWAPART	Live together with partner (not married)	52	54	59
BYWAKID1	Have one child	52	54	59
BYWAKIDM	Have more than one child	52	54	59
	<b>Attitudes and Opinions</b>			
BYGLPART	Happiness: live with/without partner	82	79	86
BYGLKIND	Happiness: with/without children	-	80	87
	Success in FRG from			
BYEFFLEI	Studiosness	86	81	88
BYEFAUSN	Exploitation of others	86	81	88
BYEFINT	Intelligence	86	81	88
BYEFFAM	Family's origin	86	81	88

<sup>46</sup> If no corresponding question/variable exists, it is assigned a minus sign; numbers/names in parentheses mean that there is no identical question/variable but a corresponding one.

Variable Name	Content of the Variable	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2000 <sup>47</sup>	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2001-2005	Number of Question in Youth Questionnaire 2006
BYEFFACH	Technical know-how	86	81	88
BYEFGELD	Money	86	81	88
BYEFSABS	School education	86	81	88
BYEFHART	Being inconsiderate and hard	86	81	88
BYEFBEZ	Networking	86	81	88
BYEFPOLI	Political activities	86	81	88
BYEFMANN	Sex/ 'being a man'	86	81	88
BYEFINI	Being dynamic and taking initiative	86	81	88
BYESVERL	What happens in life, depends on me	-	(82)	90
BYESERRE	Did not reach, what I deserve	-	(82)	90
BYESGLUE	What you achieve, is a matter of luck	-	(82)	90
YESAND	Others decide about my life	-	(82)	90
BYESHART	You have to work hard for success	-	(82)	90
BYESZWEI	By difficulties, doubt about own abilities	-	(82)	90
BYESSOZU	Chances are determined by social circumstances	-	(82)	90
YESFAEH	Abilities are more important than efforts	-	(82)	90
YESKNTR	Little control over events in my life	-	(82)	90
YESENGA	Change of social circumstances through social/political activities	-	(82)	90
<b>Specification of Interview Situation</b>				
BYINTA	Type of interview			
BYDAUER1	Duration of personal interview			
BYDAUER2	Duration of interview filled out independently			
BYANW	Presence of other persons			
BYTAGIN	Day of the interview			
BYMONIN	Month of the interview			
BYINTNR	Identifier of the interviewer			

<sup>47</sup> If no corresponding question/variable exists, it is assigned a minus sign; numbers/names in parentheses mean that there is no identical question/variable but a corresponding one.

## ***14. BIOAGE01: Generated Variables from the ‘Mother and Child Questionnaire’***

by Jürgen Schupp, Stefanie Lenuweit and Christian Schmitt

*(Replaces an earlier version by Katharina Mahne)*

Since 2003, questions regarding the birth of a child have been integrated in the SOEP with the help of the "mother and child questionnaire". The questionnaire is aimed at all women who, in the current survey year or the year before, gave birth to their own child, as well as at women whose non-biological child was born in the time period mentioned above. This means that at the time of the survey these children are either newborn or they have a maximum age of one and a half years.

The questionnaire is comprised of 19 questions which cover 4 subjects:

- pregnancy
- body measurements and health of the child
- change in living circumstances due to the birth of the child
- circumstances surrounding the care of the child

In the future this additional questionnaire will be used for newborn cohorts on an annual basis. There are plans to follow and record the children's development by surveying them with additional brief questionnaires at certain points in time.

Number of Respondents of Mother & Child Questionnaire

	<i>Year of data collection</i>				
<i>Year of birth</i>	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
2002	274	2			276
2003	44	204			248
2004		41	198		239
2005			48	195	243
2006				39	39
Total	318	247	246	234	1.045

The data set currently consists of 1.045 children, of which there are 18 pairs of twins and 116 pairs of siblings. This means that information from the mother-child questionnaire has been collected for 903 mothers.

## Number of Twins and Siblings

<i>mothers with</i>	<b>1 child</b>	<b>2 children</b>	<b>3 children</b>	<b>total</b>
children	769	126	8	903
pairs of twins	0	15	3	18
pairs of siblings	0	111	5	116
<b>total number of children</b>	769	252	24	1.045

14.1 Contents and aims of the BIOAGE01 data file

The aim of the BIOAGE01 data file is to observe the future generation of the SOEP, preferably from birth onwards. The data set is in the order of the never-changing person ID of the child, so that information from the BIOAGE01 data set can be directly linked to the child files (\$KIND). From a mother's point of view, the data set presents a detailed source of information on pregnancy and the changes in life experienced by women who have recently become mothers.

The basis for BIOAGE01 therefore consists of all individuals who are named as children in the "Mother and Child Questionnaire" (PERSNR). With the help of the mother's never-changing person ID, information on the mothers can also be directly linked to the individual information on the mothers.

In the case of multiple children, the mother fills out a respective number of questionnaires, so that siblings can be identified by the identical never-changing person ID of the mother (PERSNRM), month of birth and year of birth.

The variables in BIOAGE01 correspond to their structure in the user-friendly original variables from the mother and child questionnaire. Information is provided on the time and place of birth, as well as the child's height and weight at birth. The variable BCKALTER gives the age of the child at the time of the survey in months. With regards to the children, there is information on any disorders in their development, as well as the health of the child in its first 3 months. BIOAGE01 also includes information on whether or not the pregnancy was planned, if the child is the first and if it is a biological child. For mothers with a non-biological child, the questions are presented in an identical fashion, however questions on pregnancy are left out. Finally, there are questions on the mother's evaluation of the child's behaviour at the time of the interview. The variables BCVERAE1 to 8 refer to the mother's assessment of the new circumstances of life. BIOAGE01 also contains information on the mother's current personal situation, i.e. whether there is a partner present, as well as to what extent the child is cared for by people other than the main care provider.

## 14.2 Variables in BIOAGE01

Number of cases: 1.045      Wave: T-W      Sub-samples: A, B, C, D1, D2, E, F, G

<b>VARIABLE NAME</b>	<b>Content of the Variable</b>
HNNRAKT	Current wave household number
PERSNRM	Never-changing person ID of the mother
PERSNR	Never-changing person ID of the child
ERHEBJ	Survey year
BCKGEBMO	Child's month of birth
BCKGEBJA	Child's year of birth
BCKALTER	Age (in months) of the child at the time of the survey
BCKSEX	Child's gender
BCENTBIN	Place where birth took place
BCSSW	Pregnancy week of birth
BCKGEW	Weight of child at birth in grams
BCKGROE	Height of child in cm
BCKKOPF	Head circumference of the child in cm
BCKLETZU	Last medical examination
BCKSTOER	Child has confirmed disorders
BCKARZT	Medical help - number of times in the first 3 months
BCKKRHAU	Length of hospital stay in the first 3 months in days
BCKIZAHL	Newborn is 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. child
BCKLEIBL	Biological child
BCSSPLAN	Pregnancy planned/unplanned
BCVATER	Father lives in household
BCUNTPA	Supported by partner
BCHAUPTB	Mother is main provider of care
BCBEFIN1	Physical condition in the final third of the pregnancy
BCBEFIN2	Physical condition in the first 3 months after birth
BCBEFIN3	Mental state in the final third of the pregnancy
BCBEFIN4	Mental state in the first 3 months after birth
BCVERAE1	Circumstances in life have greatly changed
BCVERAE2	Child provides happiness and joy
BCVERAE3	Often close to running out of strength
BCVERAE4	Very satisfied with the role of mother
BCVERAE5	Often unable to cope with tasks/responsibilities
BCVERAE6	Have made new contacts through the child
BCVERAE7	Suffering from being limited to the role of mother
BCVERAE8	Important to provide the child with much affection
BCBETRE1	Cared for by partner (in h/week)
BCBETRE2	Cared for by grandparents (in h/week)
BCBETRE3	Cared for by grandparents by older siblings (in h/week)
BCBETRE4	Cared for by other relatives (in h/week)
BCBETRE5	Cared for by childminder (in h/week)
BCBETRE6	Cared for in crèche/day nursery (in h/week)
BCBETRE7	Cared for by others (in h/week)

BCBETRE8	No use of temporary care
BCKGESU1	Concerns about the child's health
BCKGESU2	Child is generally happy and satisfied
BCKGESU3	Child is easily irritated and often cries
BCKGESU4	Child is hard to console
BCKGESU5	Child is curious and active
BCPREGY	Pregnant when answering the personal questionnaire in survey year X
BCPREGMO	Month of pregnancy when answering the personal questionnaire
BCPREBEG	month of the pregnancy (i.e. time of conception)
BCPREEND	Last month of pregnancy (i.e. month of birth)

---

Starting with wave W (survey year 2006), the mother-child data-set (BIOAGE01) contains additional information on the duration of pregnancy. This includes the following variables:

- BCPREGY – Pregnant when answering the personal questionnaire in survey year X.
- BCPREGMO – Month of pregnancy when answering the personal questionnaire
- BCPREBEG – Starting month of the pregnancy (i.e. time of conception)
- BCPREEND – Last month of pregnancy (i.e. month of birth).

The generation of these variables is based on the exact month of birth (BCKGEBMO, BCKGEBJA respectively), the point in time, when a person answers the personal questionnaire (this applies to BCPREGY and BCPREGMO only) and the duration of childbearing in weeks (BCSSW). Accordingly, information is available only for women who completed the mother child-questionnaire and for whom the duration of the pregnancy is known. The time of observation starts in survey year 2002. Please pay attention to the fact that the month of conception may vary by one month, as the exact *day* of birth remains unknown.

The variable BCPRGEY provides the information, if a woman was pregnant when answering the personal questionnaire. If there was a coincidence of the mentioned kind, the *survey year* of coinciding interview time and pregnancy is recorded. BCPREGMO contains the month of the pregnancy, when answering the personal questionnaire. Again the exact month of pregnancy may vary by one month as the exact day of birth is unknown. Hence the month of pregnancy as displayed in BCPREGMO remains a close approximation. Please pay attention to the fact that the future mothers do not need to be aware of their pregnancy in the early stages of childbearing. Additionally attention should be paid to the fact that there is no information available on any women who were pregnant at time of the interview if the pregnancy did not end in childbirth.

The variables `BCPREPEG` and `BCPREEND` contain the spells of the pregnancy duration where `BCPREPEG` displays the beginning of the childbearing (i.e. the month of conception) and `BCPREEND` displays the end of childbearing (i.e. the month of birth). The values start with 1 for January 1983 (month 276 displays December 2005, e.g.) With that design, the pregnancy spells can be linked directly to additional (month-based) spell information in the SOEP. Such information is available in the data-set `BIOMARSM`, e.g.

## **15. BIOAGE03: Generated Variables from the supplementary questionnaire “Your child between the ages of two and three”**

By Jürgen Schupp and Stefanie Lenuweit

*(Replaces an earlier version by Katharina Mahne)*

This questionnaire was used for the first time in 2005 after completion of pretesting in the year 2004. The questionnaire is given to mothers with a child between the ages of two and three at the time of the survey. The year of the child’s birth is the determining factor here: thus, in the 2005 survey, all children born in the year 2002 were included. The questionnaire seeks indicators for the child’s individual course of development and the mother’s specific experiences with her child. It also extends the indicators collected since 2003 through the Mother & Child questionnaire further; for the children in these cohorts—the majority of whom were born in the year 2002—the new supplementary questionnaire acts as a continuation of the information already collected on individual development characteristics. To provide an incentive to participate, after completing the questionnaire, mothers are given beside their individual lottery ticket an additional lottery ticket issued in the child’s name to the *Aktion Mensch* lottery. *Aktion Mensch* provides funding to over 300 social projects targeting developmentally disabled people as well as children and young adults.

The questionnaire consists of 13 questions in the following main thematic areas:

- Body measurements and health
- Recreational activities
- Child’s abilities
- Childcare situation
- Parental experiences with the child

In the future, the questionnaire will be sent only once per year to the cohort of mothers of two to three-year-old children. Ideally, they will already have answered the questionnaire “Mother & Child”.

The data set currently consists of 479 children including 3 pairs of twins and 11 pairs of siblings. Thus, 465 mothers responded to the questionnaire. For 282 of the children, there is additional information available in BIOAGE01.

## Number of Twins and Siblings

<i>mothers with</i>	<b>1 child</b>	<b>2 children</b>	<b>total</b>
children	451	14	465
pairs of twins	0	3	3
pairs of siblings	0	11	11
<b>total number of children</b>	451	28	479

15.1 Content and goal of the BIOAGE03 dataset

The BIOAGE03 dataset makes up one part of our observation of the young people comprising the new SOEP generation before they reach respondent age themselves, a process we aim to make as comprehensive and gap-free as possible. We sort the data according to the fixed original household number HHNR as well as the unchanged person ID number of the child (PERSNR) so that information from BIOAGE03 can be directly linked to the annual child data (\$KIND) or to PPFAD or PHRF.

The BIOAGE03 dataset is based on all those individuals who are referred to as children in the questionnaire. If a mother has more than one child of this age, she fills out the corresponding number of questionnaires—one per child. It can be determined whether the child has siblings through the identical person ID number of the mother (PERSNRM). The mother's permanent person ID number can also be used to establish links to data from the individual and household files.

The variables in BIOAGE03 correspond to the answers to the questionnaire “Your child between the ages of two and three”. The information provides both the month and year of birth and also the current height and weight of the child. The generated variable BKALTER provides the current age of the child at the point in time of the survey and in that particular year. The data set contains not only information on childhood illnesses, hospital stays, and doctor visits, but also information on the child's behavior and level of development from the mother's point of view. Very detailed data is collected on the child's abilities: linguistic capacities, everyday skills, motor abilities, and social relationships (according to the Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scale). There are also detailed questions regarding the childcare situation.

In addition to questions about recreational activities during the last 14 days and the child's TV-watching habits, we ask whether household members usually speak German or another language with the child at home.

### 15.2 Variables in BIOAGE03

Number of observations: 479

Wave: W

Samples: A, B, C, D, E, F, G

HHNRAKT	Current Wave HH Number
PERSNR	Permanent Person ID Child
PERSNRM	Permanent Person ID Mother
ERHEBJ	Survey Year
BKGEBMO	Child, Month of Birth
BKGEBJA	Child, Year of Birth
BKALTER	Age of Child (in Months) at Time of Survey
BKGEW	Child, Weight in kg
BKGROE	Child, Height in cm
BKSTOER	Child Has Confirmed Disorder
BKARZT	Child, Medical Care: No. Of Times last 3 months
BKKRHAU	Child, Length of Hospital Stays Last 12 Months In Days
BKBETRE1	Cared for by Spouse/Partner: (Hrs/Wk)
BKBETRE2	Cared for by Childs Father (If Not Resident of Same Household) (Hrs/Wk)
BKBETRE3	Cared for by Grandparents: (Hrs/Wk)
BKBETRE4	Cared for by Older Siblings: Hrs Per Wk
BKBETRE5	Cared for by Other Relatives: Hrs Per Wk
BKBETRE6	Cared for in Family Day Care (Hrs/Wk)
BKBETRE7	Cared for by a Nanny or Other In-Home Daycare Provider (Hrs/Wk)
BKBETRE8	Cared for at a Daycare Center (Hrs/Wk)
BKBETRE9	Cared for by Others (Hrs/Wk)
BKBETRE0	Cared for Solely by Respondent
BKGESU1	Child Usually Happy, Content
BKGESU2	Child Irritable / Cries Frequently
BKGESU3	Child Difficult to Console when Crying
BKGESU4	Child Curious, Active
BKGESU5	Child Communicative and Talkative
BKGESU6	Child Shows Empathy when Others Are Sad
BKGESU7	Worried About Childs Health
BKAKT1	Singing Childrens Songs to/with Child – No. of Times during last 14 days
BKAKT2	Taking Walks Outdoors, No. of Times during last 14 days
BKAKT3	Painting or Doing Arts and Crafts - No. of Times during last 14 days
BKAKT4	Reading or Telling Stories - No. of Times during last 14 days
BKAKT5	Looking at Picture Books -No. of Times during last 14 days
BKAKT6	Going to Playground - No. of Times during last 14 days
BKAKT7	Visiting Other Families with Children - No. of Times during last 14 days
BKAKT8	Going Shopping with Child - No. of Times during last 14 days
BKAKT9	Watching Television or Videos with Child - No. of Times during last 14 days
BKTV	Child Allowed to Watch Television or Videos Alone
BKEIG1	Child Tends to Be Shy / Outgoing
BKEIG2	Child Tends to Be Focused / Easily Distracted
BKEIG3	Child Tends to Be Obstinate / Obedient
BKEIG4	Child Tends to Be Quick to Learn New Things / to Need More Time
BKSPR1	Child Understands Brief Instructions

BKSPR2	Child Forms Sentences with at Least Two Words
BKSPR3	Child Speaks in Full Sentences (at Least Four Words)
BKSPR4	Child Listens Attentively to a Story for at Least Five Minutes
BKSPR5	Child Can Relate Simple Messages
BKALLT1	Child Eats with Spoon without Making a Mess
BKALLT2	Child Blows Nose without Assistance
BKALLT3	Child Uses Toilet to Do Number Two
BKALLT4	Child Puts On Pants and Underpants Frontwards
BKALLT5	Child Brushes Teeth without Assistance
BKBEW1	Child Walks Forwards Down the Stairs
BKBEW2	Child Uses Door Handle to Open Doors
BKBEW3	Child Climbs Jungle Gyms and Other High Playground Equipment
BKBEW4	Child Uses Scissors to Cut Paper
BKBEW5	Child Paints / Draws Recognizable Forms on Paper
BKSOZ1	Child Calls Familiar People by Name
BKSOZ2	Child Plays Games with Other Children
BKSOZ3	Child Participates in Role-Playing Games
BKSOZ4	Child Shows Particular Liking for Certain Playmates or Friends
BKSOZ5	Child Calls His/Her Own Feelings by Name, e.g., Sad, Happy, scared
BKDEUT	Language Spoken with Child
BKSEX	Childs Gender
BKSTOE1	Asthma
BKSTOE2	Chronic Bronchitis
BKSTOE3	Spastic / Acute Bronchitis
BKSTOE4	Pseudocroup / Croup Syndrome
BKSTOE5	Middle-Ear Inflammation
BKSTOE6	Hayfever
BKSTOE7	Neurodermatitis
BKSTOE8	Vision Impairment
BKSTOE9	Hearing Impairment
BKSTOE10	Nutritional Disorders
BKSTOE11	Motor Impairment
BKSTOE12	Other Impairments or Disorders