

1670²⁰²⁶

SOEP Survey Papers
Series A – Survey Instruments (Erhebungsinstrumente)

SOEP-Core – 2025: Context Questions about the Interview (with Reference to Variables)

SOEP Group

Running since 1984, the German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) is a wide-ranging representative longitudinal study of private households, located at the German Institute for Economic Research, DIW Berlin.

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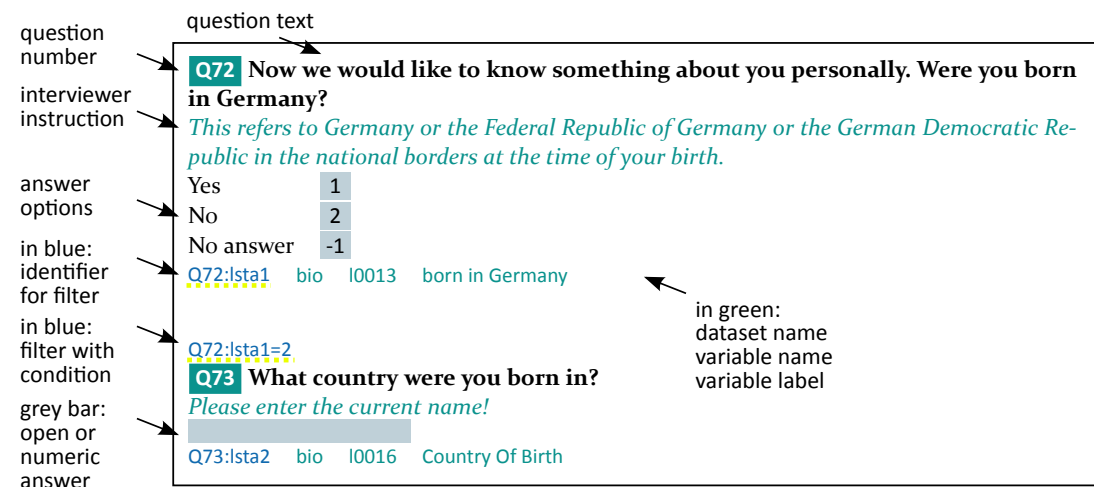
SOEP Group

2026

The variable names mentioned in this document belong to a collection of datasets, which is released with doi:10.5684/soep.core.v42o.

Reading Aid

This representation of the questionnaire contains the same information as the portal paneldata.org.



Here, in addition to the *question number*, *question text*, *interviewer instructions*, and *answer options*, you find printed in green the *file name* and the *variable name* with the *variable label*, which contains information from the question. If you see rows of green lines below the answer option, the questionnaire defines several variables or information is stored in more than one dataset.

The *routing by filters* is depicted in blue.

Each variable is preceded by an identifier, which usually contains the question number and which is used when the variable is used in filters in subsequent questions. Such filters are usually placed as input filters (gatekeepers) at the beginning of a question. An identifier that is referred to in the input filter of a subsequent question is marked yellow as an example.

This reading aid does not cover a few exceptional cases: If the filter (as gatekeeper) only affects one of several variables for a question, the filter is printed in blue behind the variable. There you will also find a "go to" command in the form 2 @ Q73. Here, the questionnaire skips to question 73 if answer 2 was given.

Phrases that are not already translated in English are displayed in German and preceded by [de].

PL_year Survey year=2025

PL_year

PL1 Preload birth year

[PL_year-125]:[PL_year]

PL2 Survey mode

CAPI	1
CATI	2
CAWI	4
CASI	5

PL3 Survey mode

Yes	1
No	2

1 [PL2;qmethod=3,4] Was anyone else present while you were filling out the questionnaire?
 [PL2;qmethod=1,2] [INT (do not read out): Were other people present when you completed the questionnaire? Please select all that apply.] [(PL1;gebjahr<=[PL_year]-18)&(PL2;qmethod=3,4)] Please select all that apply. [(PL1;gebjahr>=[PL_year]-17)&(PL1;gebjahr<=[PL_year]-12)&(PL2;qmethod=3,4)] Please select all that apply.

[PL1;gebjahr<=[PL_year]-18] Yes, spouse / partner					1
[(PL1;gebjahr>=[PL_year]-17)&(PL1;gebjahr<=[PL_year]-12)] Yes, father or mother					1
Yes, someone who lives here in this household					1
Yes, someone who does not live here in this household					1
No					1
Can't / don't want to answer					1
1:present1	instrumentation	present1	Presence during completion: Spouse/Partner	PL1;gebjahr<=[PL_year]-18	
1:present1	instrumentation2025	bppresent1	Presence during completion: Spouse/Partner	PL1;gebjahr<=[PL_year]-18	
1:present5	instrumentation	present5	Presence during completion: Father/Mother	(PL1;gebjahr>=[PL_year]-17)&(PL1;gebjahr<=[PL_year]-12)	
1:present5	instrumentation2025	bppresent5	Presence during completion: Father/Mother	(PL1;gebjahr>=[PL_year]-17)&(PL1;gebjahr<=[PL_year]-12)	
1:present2	instrumentation	present2	Presence during completion: other household member		
1:present2	instrumentation2025	bppresent2	Presence during completion: other household member		
1:present3	instrumentation	present3	Presence during completion: other non-household person		
1:present3	instrumentation2025	bppresent3	Presence during completion: other non-household person		
1:present4	instrumentation	present4	Presence during completion: Nobody		
1:present4	instrumentation2025	bppresent4	Presence during completion: Nobody		

(1;present1=1)|(1;present2=1)|(1;present3=1)|(1;present5=1)

2 Did any of the aforementioned people bother you while you were filling out the questionnaire?

[PL2;qmethod=1,2] [INT (nicht vorlesen): Hat eine der oben genannten Personen beim Ausfüllen des Fragebogens gestört?]

Yes	1
No	2
Can't / don't want to answer	-1

2:distract	instrumentation	distract	Survey distractions
2:distract	instrumentation2025	bpdistract	Survey distractions

PL2;qmethod=4

3 What types of devices did you use to participate in our survey?*Please select all that apply.*

Desktop computer/PC	1
Laptop/notebook	1
Tablet	1
Smartphone	1
Other	1

3:device_01	instrumentation	device_01	Device: stationary computer
3:device_01	instrumentation2025	bpdevice_01	Device: stationary computer
3:device_02	instrumentation	device_02	Device: Laptop/Notebook
3:device_02	instrumentation2025	bpdevice_02	Device: Laptop/Notebook
3:device_03	instrumentation	device_03	Device: Tablet
3:device_03	instrumentation2025	bpdevice_03	Device: Tablet
3:device_04	instrumentation	device_04	Device: Smartphone
3:device_04	instrumentation2025	bpdevice_04	Device: Smartphone
3:device_05	instrumentation	device_05	Device: Other
3:device_05	instrumentation2025	bpdevice_05	Device: Other

[Other] please specify:

3:device_05_open instrumentation2025 device_05_open [de] Gerätetyp: Sonstiges 3:device_05=1
(offen)

PL2;qmethod=4

4 We are also interested in how you took part in our online survey.

Where were you when you were answering the majority of the questions?

at home	1
out and about (for example, on the train or subway)	2
at work / at the library / in a computer pool	3
at the cafeteria / at a restaurant / at a cafe	4
Other	5
Can't / don't want to answer	-1

4:location	instrumentation	location	Location of survey administration
4:location	instrumentation2025	bplocation	Location of survey administration

[Other] please specify:

4:location_open instrumentation2025 location_open [de] Ort der Durchführung: 4:location=5
Sonstiges (offen)

5 Finally, we are interested in your opinion about the questionnaire. For example, if something was missing or you had problems answering questions, you can explain this below. Also, if you would like to add anything or give us any comments or critique, please let us know here.

5:feedback instrumentation feedback Feedback on the questionnaire
5:feedback instrumentation2025 bpfeedback Feedback on the questionnaire

(PL2;qmethod=1)&(intro_2_pe2!=2)&(intro_2_pe!=2)&(intro_2_ll2!=2)&(intro_2_l2!=2)&(intro_2_ki2!=2)&(intro_2_vp2!=2)

6 So that we can send you our thank you for your participation and reach you again for the next survey, I would first like to check whether we have your current contact details.

Continue to address recording

1

Respondent does not wish to provide any information

2

(PL2;qmethod=1)&((intro_4_pe2=1)|(intro_4_pe=1)|(intro_4_ll2=1)|(intro_4_l2=1)|(intro_4_ki2=1)|(intro_4_vp2=1))

7 We will be happy to send you the access data for the online survey by e-mail. To ensure that we send them to the correct e-mail address, I would now like to check whether we have your current contact details.

(PL2;qmethod=1)&(Z7;bp_adresse=1)|(intro_4_pe2=1)|(intro_4_pe=1)|(intro_4_ll2=1)|(intro_4_l2=1)|(intro_4_ki2=1)|(intro_4_vp2=1)

8 [Call OAT]

(PL2;qmethod=1)&(intro_2_pe2!=2)&(intro_2_pe!=2)&(intro_2_ll2!=2)&(intro_2_l2!=2)&(intro_2_ki2!=2)&(intro_2_vp2!=2)

9 [(PL3;dj_ja=1)|(PL1;gebjahr<=[PL_year]-18)] We have now reached the end of our interview. I would like to thank you very much on behalf of all the researchers involved in “Life in Germany”. In the next few weeks, we will be sending out the thank-you letter for participating in the survey.

[PL3;dj_ja=1] We have now reached the end of our interview with you. Now it's time to process ‘Lust auf DJ’ on the tablet. I would like to thank you very much on behalf of all the researchers involved in “Life in Germany”. In the next few weeks, we will be sending out the thank-you letter for participating in the survey.

PL2;qmethod=2,4

10 [PL1;gebjahr<=[PL_year]-18] You have now reached the end of the survey. To complete the survey and be forwarded to the address recording, please click on the ‘Complete survey’ button.

[(PL1;gebjahr>=[PL_year]-17)&(PL1;gebjahr<=[PL_year]-12)] You have now reached the end of the survey. To complete the survey, please click on the ‘Complete survey’ button.

PL2;qmethod=1,2

11

INT (do not read out): Were there any problems or disruptions when conducting the interview? Or do you have any other comments or suggestions for conducting the study?

11:bp_ende_open instrumentation2025 bp_ende_open [de] Anmerkungen Interviewer

No feedback **1**