SOEP Survey Papers
Series A – Survey Instruments (Erhebungsinstrumente)

SOEP-Core – 2017: Deceased Individual (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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2019

The variable names mentioned in this document belong to a collection of datasets, which is released with doi:10.5684/soep.v34.
Reading Aid

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>question number</th>
<th>interviewer instruction</th>
<th>answer options</th>
<th>in blue: identifier for filter</th>
<th>filter with condition</th>
<th>grey bar: open or numeric answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q72</td>
<td>Now we would like to know something about you personally. Were you born in Germany?</td>
<td>Yes 1</td>
<td>Q72;sta1 bio l0013 born in Germany</td>
<td>Q72;sta1=2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This refers to Germany or the Federal Republic of Germany or the German Democratic Rep-</td>
<td>No 2</td>
<td>Q72;LSTA1=2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>public in the national borders at the time of your birth.</td>
<td>No answer -1</td>
<td>Q72;LSTA1=2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q73</td>
<td>What country were you born in? Please enter the current name!</td>
<td></td>
<td>Q73;sta2 bio l0016 Country Of Birth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 informations are stored in more than one data set. The routing by filters is depicted in blue. Each variable is preceded by an identifier (which generally contains the question number, marked here with a yellow dotted line), which is given, if the variable is used in filters in a subsequent question. Such filters are usually shown (as gatekeepers) at the beginning of the question. 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 the variable results in value of 2. Phrases that are not already translated in English are displayed in German and preceded by [de].
First of all we, the team of “Living in Germany”, want to express our deepest regret for the loss of your family member. For many people it is very hard to talk to strangers about dying and death. Nevertheless because of the inadequate knowledge in the scientific community about this topic we would like to ask a couple of questions.

We would like to know more about the last phase of your relatives live. Therefore we ask you kindly

- to answer our representative the following questions
- or carefully fill out this questionnaire by yourself.

**Please enter according to address protocol.**

**Household number**

**First name**

*Please print*

**Person number**

**Please state the first name, sex, and date of birth of the deceased person:**

**First name of the deceased person**

*Please print*

**Year and month of birth, sex of the interviewed person:**

**Day**

**Month**

**Year**

**(Sex)**

**Male**

**Female**

*Please state the first name, sex, and date of birth of the deceased person:***
What was your family relationship with the person passed away? He / She was ...

1. my mother / my father
2. my spouse / life partner
3. my daughter / my son
4. other person

Other person:

How old was your relative when he/she passed away?

Years

Did the deceased person live in this household?

No
1. Yes

Do you know whether he/she ever participated the study "Living in Germany"?

1. Yes, participated
2. No, did not participate
3. Do not know

Do you know whether he/she ever participated the study "Living in Germany"?

1. Yes, participated
2. No, did not participate
3. Do not know

What was the main home environment the person who died lived in the last years?

1. Allone in own household
2. Together with spouse / partner in private household
3. Together with other family members in private household
4. Accommodation geared to the needs of senior citizens (e.g. assisted living)
5. Retirement home / Nursing home
6. Clinic, hospital
7. Other environment

Other:
7 Where did he/she live?
Here in house 1
In the neighborhood 2
In a close distance (to reach on food within 1 hour) 3
In a further distance in Germany 4
In a foreign country 5
7:vleb03 bhvp bhv_07 focus of deceased person's life
7:vleb03 vpl dl009 focus of deceased person's life

8 Within the last 12 month of his/her life: How often did you have personal contact to the deceased person? (personally, by telephone, by writing)
Every day 1
At least once a week 2
At least once a month 3
Rarer 4
Never 5
8:vkont bhvp bhv_08 Kontakt letzte 12 Mon.
8:vkont vpl dl010 Kontakt letzte 12 Mon.

9 Where did he/she decease?
At home 1
In another private household 2
In a hospital 3
In a retirement home / nursing home 4
In a hospice 5
Another place 6
Do not now 7
9:vwo bhvp bhv_09_01 Wo verstorben
9:vwo vpl dl011 Wo verstorben
Another place:  

10 Can you tell me what the cause of death was?
Multiple responses possible!
Heart attack 1
Cardiovascular disease 1
Cancer 1
Stroke 1
Severe infectious disease (such as pneumonia, flu) 1
Gastrointestinal disease 1
Respiratory illness 1
Accident 1
Other 1
Do not know 1
10:vurs01 bhvp bhv_10_01 cause of death: heart attack
10:vurs01 vpl dl012 cause of death: heart attack
10:vurs02 bhvp bhv_10_02 cause of death: cardiovascular disease
10:vurs02 vpl dl013 cause of death: cardiovascular disease
10:vurs03 bhvp bhv_10_03 cause of death: cancer
10:vurs03 vpl dl014 cause of death: cancer
Had the person who passed away deposited one or some of the following documents?

A testament
A living will (with instruction on medical care)?
A power of attorney (in case of loss of capacity for consent)
A living will with instructions on use of death-delaying procedures

Did the person who died have a reduced mental capacity?
How was the state of health of the person who passed away three month before death?

Very good 1
Good 2
Satisfactory 3
Poor 4
Bad 5

Was the deceased in need of assistance or care three months before he/she died?

Yes 1
No 2

For which of the following activities did the deceased Person needed assistance in? The person needed help with:

- Errands outside the home 1
- Running the household, preparing meals and drinks 1
- Minor care, such as help with getting dressed, washing up, combing hair, shaving 1
- Major care, such as getting in and out of bed, bowel movements 1

Think about the period of time before your relative passed away. How satisfied do you think he/she was with his/her life overall?

Please answer on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means completely dissatisfied and 10 means completely satisfied.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Completely dissatisfied</th>
<th>Completely satisfied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One year before his/her death</td>
<td>0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About three months before his/her death</td>
<td>0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Finally a personal question to you: To which extend did the death of your relative changed your life?

1. I have to restructure my life completely
2. Some things will change
3. My life does not change

What is the date today and at what time did you finish filling out the questionnaire?

Day
Month
Hour
Minute

What is the date today and at what time did you finish filling out the questionnaire?