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# SOEP-Core v35 – PFLEGE: Documentation of Generated Person-level Long-term Care Variables

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# **SOEP-Core v35 – PFLEGE: Generated Person-level Long-term Care Variables**

**Markus M. Grabka, Rainer Pischner, and SOEP Group**

## **PFLEGE**

Generated Person-Level long-term care-Variables  
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Last Change : July 2019

For waves 2 onward (survey years 1985 onward) a person-level file was created based on information gathered in the household questionnaire concerning the long-term-care file PFLEGE.

The following variables are provided in File PFLEGE:

CID/HHNR Household identifier of first wave  
PID/PERSNR Unique person identifier of person in need of care  
SYEAR Survey Year = 1985, 1986,... and onward

MAXGRAD: This variable represents the extent of long-term care (. Only the highest level of long-term care is given. Please note that long-term care has been measured differently starting in 1991 as compared to the previous years 1985-1990. Excluding missing values, MAXGRAD can take on the values 1 (lowest care level) to 5 (highest care level). Number, care level 3 occurs only from 1985-1990, and care level 2 and 4 occur only starting in 1991 onward. The following is a list of the care levels:

- 1 Person requires help only with chores/shopping outside of household
- 2 Person requires help with running the household, preparing meals and drinks (only asked starting 1991)
- 3 Person is not confined to a bed, but needs help with daily household tasks (only asked from 1985-1990).
- 4 Person requires minor care, such as help with dressing, washing up, combing hair, shaving (only asked starting 1991)
- 5 Person is confined to bed (bed-ridden) on a long-term basis, and/or needs mayor care such as getting in and out of bed, bowel movements (only asked starting 1991)

MULTGRAD: Since survey year 1991 multiple answers can be given with respect to the extent of care. MULTGRAD combines the multiple answers in one variable. The first of the five digits represent - e.g. 10000 - represents the lowest level of long-term care. The fifth digit - e.g. 00001 = 1 - gives the highest level of long-term care. If a household indicate all levels of long-term care (this is possible since survey year 1991), MULTGRAD takes the value 11011 (since 1991 code 3 is no longer asked).

1. digit=1 'help with errands outside of the house'
2. digit=1 'help with running the household'
3. digit=1 'help with daily household tasks 1985-1990'
4. digit=1 'help with minor care'
5. digit=1 'help with major care'

**PNRCARE:** This variable provides the unique person identifier of the person who cares for someone in the household. This information was not asked in the following survey years: 1985,1986,1988,1989,1990,1992,1993,1994,1995,1996,1998

**WERPFLGT:** This variable provides information about persons who care. This is combined information on the lines of MULTGRAD. A value of 1000010 indicates that 'public or church nurse, social worker' and "private care service" are take care. A value of 100 gives information that 'relatives in the household' are take care. See the original syntax:

```
gen werpfgt=0
replace werpfgt=werpfgt+1000000 if `public or church nurse, social worker'==1
replace werpfgt=werpfgt+100000 if `friends'==1
replace werpfgt=werpfgt+10000 if `neighbors'==1
replace werpfgt=werpfgt+1000 if `relatives not in the household'==1
replace werpfgt=werpfgt+100 if `relatives in the household'==1
replace werpfgt=werpfgt+10 if `private care service'==1
replace werpfgt=werpfgt+1 if `other regular care providers'==1
```

Information about persons taking care is only asked in the survey years 1985-1990, 1997 and since 1999. Since 1999 code 10 is asked the first time. Since 2013 "neighbors" is no longer asked as a separate item but together with the item "friends". Since 2013 an additional item "other regular care providers" is asked for the first time.

**STUFE:** Care level. Information is asked since 2001. If the questionnaire for a SOEP-subsample did not collect the respective information, the variable is set to "-5". Since 2014 an additional level was introduced (level 0). Since 2017 the range of the care level has been reorganized and now go from level 1 to level 5 care grades. In order to harmonize the information across survey years, care levels has been graded up to care grades. For 2001-2016:

- care level 0 will be care grade 1.
- care level 1 will be care grade 2.



## Information about Sample M3/M4/M5

The household questionnaire for sample M3/M4/M5 deviates from other SOEP-Core samples. Thus for these samples there was one question about whether there is a person in need living in the same household, but not the other long-term care-variables. In particular the PID/PERSNR of the person in need was not surveyed. Given that the unit of observation in the file PFLEGE is the person in need, no information about long-term care-variables for these samples is provided.