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**Research Report**

## SOEP-Core - 2017: Deceased individual (with reference to variables)

SOEP Survey Papers, No. 708

**Provided in Cooperation with:**

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## SOEP Survey Papers

Series A – Survey Instruments (Erhebungsinstrumente)

SOEP – The German Socio-Economic Panel at DIW Berlin

2019

# 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.

The aim of the SOEP Survey Papers Series is to thoroughly document the survey's data collection and data processing. The SOEP Survey Papers is comprised of the following series:

Series A – Survey Instruments (Erhebungsinstrumente)

Series B – Survey Reports (Methodenberichte)

Series C – Data Documentation (Datendokumentationen)

Series D – Variable Descriptions and Coding

Series E – SOEPmonitors

Series F – SOEP Newsletters

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The SOEP Survey Papers are available at <http://www.diw.de/soepsurveyspapers>

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SOEP Group

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](https://paneldata.org).

The diagram shows a questionnaire entry with the following components and labels:

- question number:** Q72
- question text:** Now we would like to know something about you personally. Were you born in Germany?
- interviewer instruction:** This refers to Germany or the Federal Republic of Germany or the German Democratic Republic in the national borders at the time of your birth.
- answer options:**
  - Yes (1)
  - No (2)
  - No answer (-1)
- in blue: identifier for filter:** Q72;lsta1
- in blue: filter with condition:** Q72;lsta1=2
- grey bar: open or numeric answer:** (indicated by a grey bar)
- in green:** dataset name (bio), variable name (l0013), variable label (born in Germany)
- in green:** dataset name (bio), variable name (l0016), variable label (Country Of Birth)

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].

**Intro** 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.

**0** Please enter according to address protocol.

Household number

0:hnr bhvp hhnrakt Current Wave HH Number (=BHHNRAKT)  
 0:hnr bhvp bhhnr Current Wave HH Number (=HHNRAKT)  
 0:hnr vpl hid Current Wave HH Number (=HHNRAKT)

First name

*Please print*

Person number

0:pnr bhvp bhpnr Lfd. Nr. Auskunftsperson

**1** 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

1:vgebmo bhvp bhv\_01\_04 Month Of Birth  
 1:vgebmo vpl dl003 Month Of Birth  
 1:vgebj bhvp bhv\_01\_05 Geburtsjahr verstorbene Person  
 1:vgebj vpl dl002 Geburtsjahr verstorbene Person

(Sex)

Male

1

Female

2

1:vsex bhvp sex Gender  
 1:vsex vpl dl001 Gender

**2 What was your family relationship with the person passed away? He / She was ...**

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

2.vfam bhvp bhv\_02\_01 Verwandtschaftsverhaeltnis

2.vfam vpl dl004 Verwandtschaftsverhaeltnis

Other person: **3 How old was your relative when he/she passed away?**Years 

3.valt bhvp bhv\_03 age of person died

3.valt vpl dl005 age of person died

**4 Did the deceased person live in this household?**

No 2

Yes 1

4.vinh bhvp bhv\_04 Im Haushalt gelebt

4.vinh vpl dl006 Im Haushalt gelebt

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

Yes, participated 1

No, did not participate 2

Do not know 3

5.vlid bhvp bhv\_05 person died was SOEP attendant

5.vlid vpl dl007 person died was SOEP attendant

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

Alone in own household 1

Together with spouse / partner in private household 2

Together with other family members in private household 3

Accommodation geared to the needs of senior citizens (e.g. assisted living) 4

Retirement home / Nursing home 5

Clinic, hospital 6

Other environment 7

6.vleb01 bhvp bhv\_06\_01 Zuletzt haeusliches Umfeld

6.vleb01 vpl dl008 Zuletzt haeusliches Umfeld

Other:

**7 Where did he/she live?**

Here in house	1
In the neighborhood	2
In a close distance (to reach on foot within 1 hour)	3
In a further distance in Germany	4
In a foreign country	5

7:vlb03 bhvp bhv\_07 focus of deceased person's life

7:vlb03 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



10:vurs04	bhvp	bhv_10_04	cause of death: epileptic stroke
10:vurs04	vpl	dl015	cause of death: epileptic stroke
10:vurs05	bhvp	bhv_10_05	cause of death: sever infectious disease
10:vurs05	vpl	dl016	cause of death: sever infectious disease
10:vurs06	bhvp	bhv_10_06	cause of death: gastrointestinal tract disease
10:vurs06	vpl	dl017	cause of death: gastrointestinal tract disease
10:vurs07	bhvp	bhv_10_07	cause of death: respiratory disease
10:vurs07	vpl	dl018	cause of death: respiratory disease
10:vurs08	bhvp	bhv_10_08	cause of death: accident
10:vurs08	vpl	dl019	cause of death: accident
10:vurs09	bhvp	bhv_10_09	cause of death: other
10:vurs09	vpl	dl020	cause of death: other
10:vurs11	bhvp	bhv_10_11	cause of death unknown
10:vurs11	vpl	dl021	cause of death unknown

Other reason:

**11 Had the person who passed away deposited one or some of the following documents?**

	Yes	No	Don't know
A testament	1	2	3
A living will (with instruction on medical care)?	1	2	3
A power of attorney (in case of loss of capacity for consent)	1	2	3
A living will with instructions on use of death-delaying procedures	1	2	3
11:vdok01	bhvp	bhv_11_01	left last will
11:vdok01	vpl	dl022	left last will
11:vdok02	bhvp	bhv_11_02	left living will
11:vdok02	vpl	dl023	left living will
11:vdok03	bhvp	bhv_11_03	left provisional power or attorney
11:vdok03	vpl	dl024	left provisional power or attorney
11:vdok04	bhvp	bhv_11_04	left living will with instructions on use of death-delaying procedures
11:vdok04	vpl	dl025	left living will with instructions on use of death-delaying procedures

**12 Did the person who died had a reduced mental capacity?**

Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	3

12:vleist	bhvp	bhv_12	Geistige Einschraenkung
12:vleist	vpl	dl026	Geistige Einschraenkung

**13 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

13:vges01 bhvp bhv\_13 Gesundheitszustand 3 Monate vor Tod  
 13:vges01 vpl dl027 Gesundheitszustand 3 Monate vor Tod

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

Yes	1
No	2

14:vpfleg bhvp bhv\_14 Pflegebeduerftigkeit 3 Monate vor Tod  
 14:vpfleg vpl dl028 Pflegebeduerftigkeit 3 Monate vor Tod

**15 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

15:vhil1 bhvp bhv\_15\_01 Hilfe bei Besorgungen  
 15:vhil1 vpl dl029 Hilfe bei Besorgungen  
 15:vhil2 bhvp bhv\_15\_02 Help On Housework, 1. Person  
 15:vhil2 vpl dl030 Help On Housework, 1. Person  
 15:vhil3 bhvp bhv\_15\_03 help with simple personal care: dressing, bathing...  
 15:vhil3 vpl dl031 help with simple personal care: dressing, bathing...  
 15:vhil4 bhvp bhv\_15\_04 help in getting in and out of bed, using toilet  
 15:vhil4 bhvp bhv\_15\_05 help in total, n.a.  
 15:vhil4 vpl dl032 help in getting in and out of bed, using toilet  
 15:vhil4 vpl dl033 help in total, n.a.

**16 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.*

	Com- pletely dissat- isfied	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Com- pletely satis- fied
One year before his/her death		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
About three months before his/her death		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16:vzule1 bhvp bhv_16_01 Zufriedenheit 1 Jahr vor Tod												
16:vzule1 vpl dl034 Zufriedenheit 1 Jahr vor Tod												
16:vzule2 bhvp bhv_16_02 Zufriedenheit 3 Monate vor Tod												
16:vzule2 vpl dl035 Zufriedenheit 3 Monate vor Tod												

**17** Finally a personal question to you: To which extend did the death of your relative changed your life?

I have to restructure my life completely

Some things will change

My life does not change

17:ver bhvp bhv\_17 change in personal life since death

17:ver vpl dl036 change in personal life since death

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

Day

Month

Hour

Minute

A:vdatt bhvp bhvtagin day of interview

A:vdatt vpl intday day of interview

A:vdattm bhvp bhvmonin month of interview

A:vdattm vpl intmonth month of interview

A:vdattst bhvp bhvstin End of Interview (Hour)

A:vdattst vpl inthour End of Interview (Hour)

A:vdattmi bhvp bhvminin End of Interview (Minutes)

A:vdattmi vpl intmin End of Interview (Minutes)

Interviewer

List No.

Consecutive no.

Accounting no.