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Research Report

SOEP-Core - 2019: Report of survey methodology and fieldwork

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Series B - Survey Reports (Methodenberichte)

SOEP – The German Socio-Economic Panel at DIW Berlin

2020

SOEP-Core – 2019: Report of Survey Methodology and Fieldwork

Axel Glemser, Simon Huber, Martin Rathje (Kantar Public)

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-Core – 2019: Report of Survey Methodology and Fieldwork

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Munich, 2020

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Introduction

The Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) has been conducted since 1984 as a panel survey to observe the living situation of private households in Germany. In the 2019 survey year, Kantar (formerly TNS Infratest Sozialforschung) conducted the 36th wave of the SOEP. The SOEP, based at the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin), is the longest-running and largest multidisciplinary survey in Germany. Data are collected annually on various topics such as living situation, income, employment, education, health, personality traits and attitudes. The SOEP department at the DIW has overall scientific responsibility for the project, which includes distributing the data to researchers worldwide for use in their own studies.

The SOEP can be divided into three main (types of) surveys, only the first of which is addressed in this report:

1. **SOEP-Core** is the centerpiece of the Socio-Economic Panel study launched in 1984. The data provide information on every member of every household taking part in the survey. Respondents include Germans, foreign nationals residing in Germany, recent immigrants, and a new sample of refugees added from 2016 onwards.
2. The longitudinal SOEP Innovation Sample (**SOEP-IS**) was created in 2012 as a special sample for testing highly innovative research projects that involve too great a risk of non-response to be included in the long-term SOEP study. Proposals approved for inclusion in SOEP-IS to date include economic behavioral experiments, implicit association tests (IAT), and complex procedures for measuring time use (day reconstruction method, DRM). Researchers at universities and research institutes worldwide are encouraged to submit innovative proposals to SOEP-IS.
3. There are several studies that have incorporated questions from the SOEP questionnaire to validate their results on a representative sample of the German population ("SOEP as Reference Data"). These SOEP-Related Studies (**SOEP-RS**) are designed and implemented in close cooperation with the SOEP team and structured similarly to the SOEP. Another type of SOEP-Related Studies provides participants from SOEP-Core with additional questionnaires or interviews their employers or daycare providers via related sampling. Some examples of SOEP-Related Studies include BASE-II (Berlin Aging Study II), FiD (Families in Germany), PIAAC-L (Programme for International Assessment of Adult Competencies-Longitudinal), SOEP-ECEC Quality (Early Childhood Education and Care Quality in the SOEP), SOEP-LEE (SOEP Employer-Employee Survey), BIP (Bonn Intervention Panel), and BRISE (Bremen Initiative to Foster Early Childhood Development).

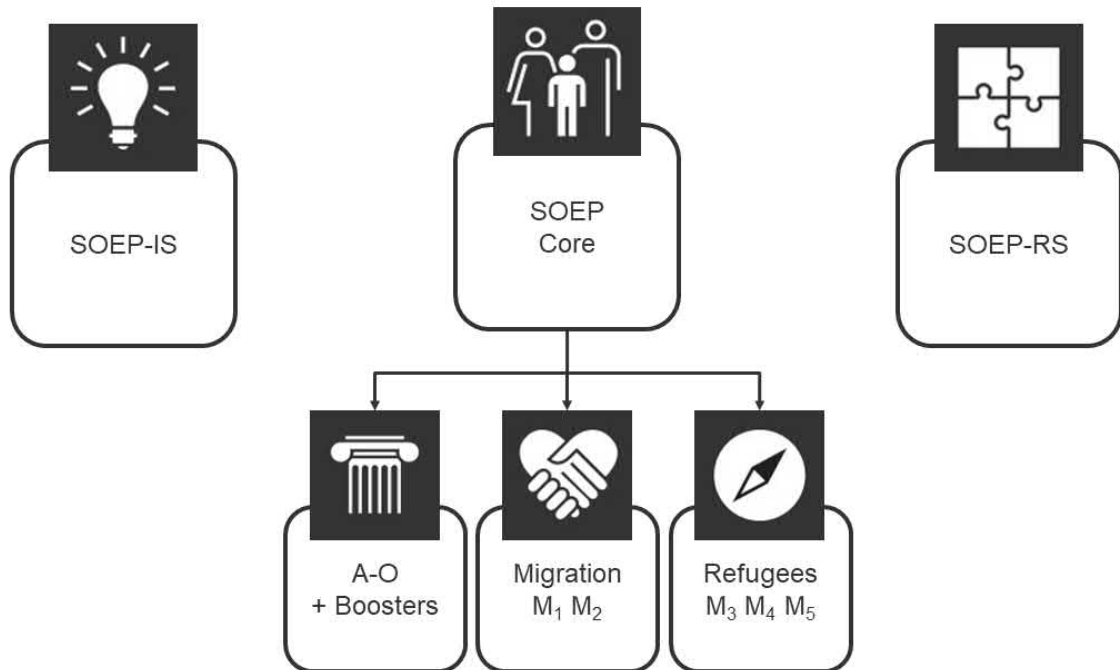
Since the first wave in 1984, Kantar in Munich has been responsible for the implementation of the survey – in particular, the development of the survey instruments, fieldwork, panel maintenance, data checking and processing. The tasks of Kantar also include methodological documentation and reporting. The present report refers to the survey conducted in 2019 in SOEP-Core, which includes the longitudinal samples A-O (**Part 1**), the migration and refugee samples M1/2 and M3-5 (**Parts 2 and 3**) as well as the most recent boost samples P (Part 4) and Q (Part 5) that were established in 2019.

Overview of the SOEP-Core subsamples

The different SOEP-Core subsamples constitute the centerpiece of the Socio-Economic Panel study. In 2018, it consisted of four different compositions of samples that will be addressed in separate parts in this Wave Report (**Figure 0.1**).

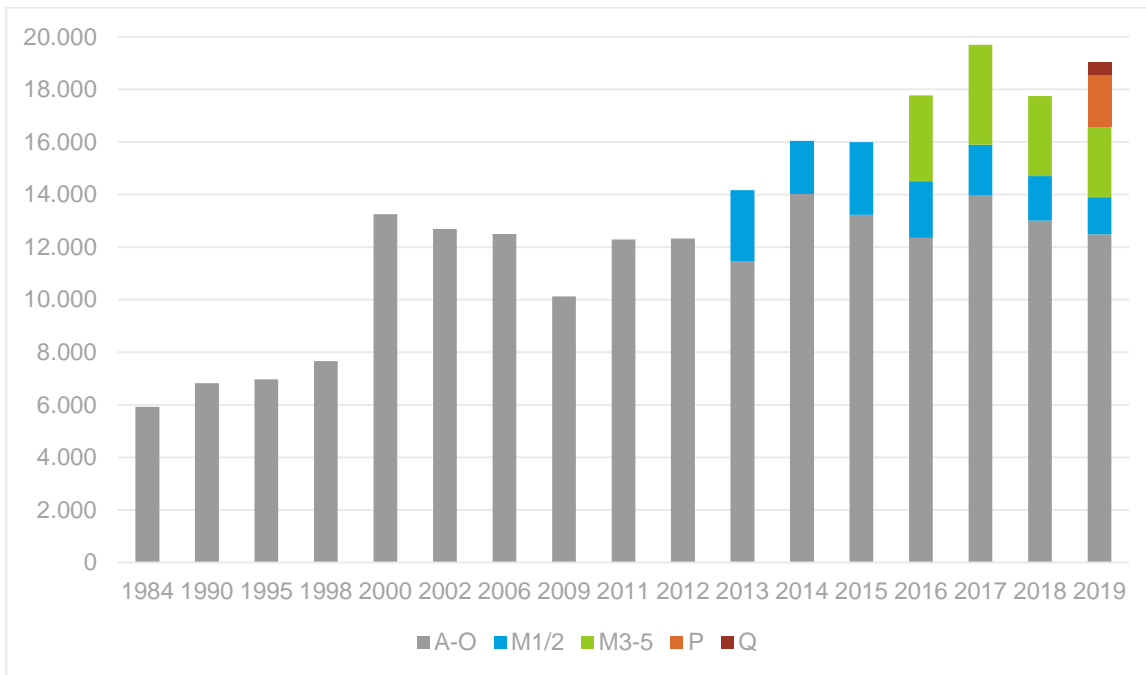
1. Within SOEP-Core, **samples A-O** form the heart of the SOEP. They contain the oldest samples, beginning with SOEP founding sample A from 1984 and the highest number of participating households (12,481 in 2019). Fieldwork traditionally starts at the beginning of February, and its questionnaires serve as a master for the other SOEP-Core subsamples.
2. The **SOEP migration survey** with its samples M1 and M2 was established in 2013 and is designed to improve the representation of migrants living in Germany. Fieldwork started in April, using the questionnaires from samples A-O, supplemented by translated questionnaires for five different languages.
3. In order to map recent migration and integration dynamics, **SOEP refugee samples M3 to M5** were installed beginning in the year 2016. In 2019, fieldwork began in September with a questionnaire that was tailored to issues of recent refugees while containing many questions from the SOEP samples A-O as well.
4. **Sample P – a sample of highly affluent households and sample Q – the LGBTQ+ sample** are the newest additions to SOEP-Core in 2019. Sample P consists of households that have equity or shares in a company. The sample was established with publicly accessible information regarding the ownership structures of businesses in Germany. The German trade register includes information about the owners and top managers of every business. This contact information was the foundation for sample P. Similarly to sample P, sample Q is a boost sample of a hard-to-survey population: lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender people, and those who identify as non-binary.

Figure 0.1: Overview of SOEP-Core subsamples



Starting with the first 5,924 participating households in 1984, SOEP-Core grew to 19,032 households in 2019. Over the years, more and more samples were added – sometimes samples of all households in Germany, sometimes special populations such as migrants or households with high incomes. In the last couple of years, boosts of the overall sample mainly originated from the migration samples and sample P (**Figure 0.2**).

Figure 0.2: Development of SOEP-Core since 1984 – number of households



The five different groups of samples displayed in **Figure 0.2** will be addressed in five different parts of this report. In the first chapter, fieldwork in the samples A-O in 2019 will be described in detail, followed by two parts that deal with migration samples M1/2 and M3-5. The last two chapters address samples P and Q, the newest additions to SOEP-Core in 2019.

1 Samples A-O

1.1 Introduction

Table 1.1 gives a short overview of the main characteristics of the 2019 wave for the samples A-O. 12,481 households from samples A-O participated between February and August. This results in a response rate of 82.4 percent. The adjusted response rate of households that participated in the previous wave was 86.4 percent. In all households, 20,842 adults and 1,319 youths gave interviews. For an additional 1,672 children of various age groups, data are available from interviews with a parent. 13 different questionnaires were fielded in up to five different modes. Partial unit non-response (PUNR: the share of households with more than one household member with at least one missing individual questionnaire) was at 26.9 percent, a higher rate than in the previous wave (25.3 percent). However, this increase was mostly driven by sample N that continued having a relatively high PUNR and by the integration of sample O that, despite having consolidated somewhat in this regard, had the second highest PUNR of all samples.

Table 1.1: **Summary fieldwork A-O**

Fieldwork period	February – August
Mode (main questionnaires)	CAPI, PAPI, SELF, MAIL, CAWI
Gross sample (hh)	15,339
Net sample (hh)	12,481
Response rate (adjusted; hh) ¹	Overall: 82.4 Prev. wave respondents: 86.4 Prev. wave dropouts: 34.0 New households: 50.5
Number of questionnaires	Adults: 5 Youths: 3 Children: 5
Net sample (individuals)	Adults: 20,842 Youths: 1,319 Children: 1,672
Questionnaire length (median, in minutes)	Household: 15 Adult: 40
Partial unit non-response	26.9

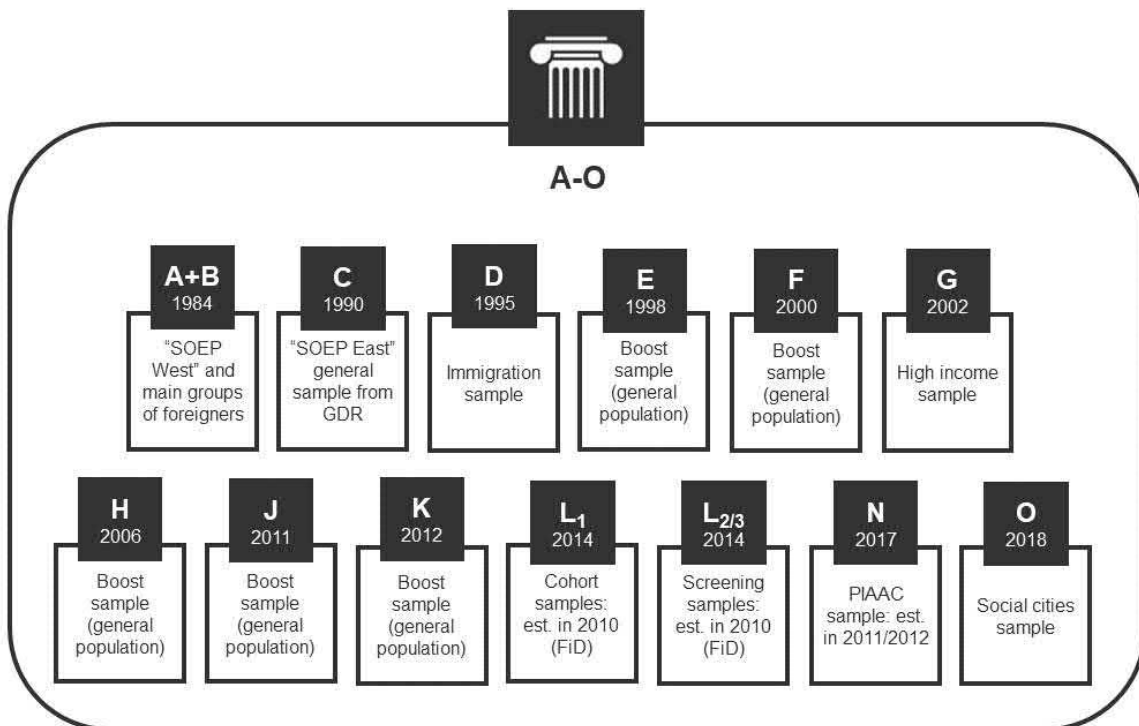
¹ RR = percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

One of the most significant changes in 2019 was the removal of biographical content from the youth questionnaire for 16-17-year olds. This questionnaire is no longer considered a "core-instrument" as of 2019. Youths enter the panel officially at the age of 18 answering the individual questionnaire. Consequently, youths do not grow into the panel by answering the youth questionnaire. In 2019 respondents of the core samples A-O were asked to give their consent again, this time for record linkage with the integrated employment biographical data of the IAB. About two-thirds of the participants in samples A-O were willing to give this consent. In terms of content, the personal financial balance sheet was fielded again as well as a short set of questions concerning any inheritances made. Also, a module about gender stereotypes and discrimination experiences was integrated into the adult questionnaire.

1.2 Development samples A-O

Samples A-O contain the oldest SOEP samples A and B from 1984 and many other samples that were integrated into the study over the years. Some of them were designed to represent the general population while others were meant to improve sample sizes for special groups such as migrants, households with high income or families (**Figure 1.1**).

Figure 1.1: Overview of samples A-O



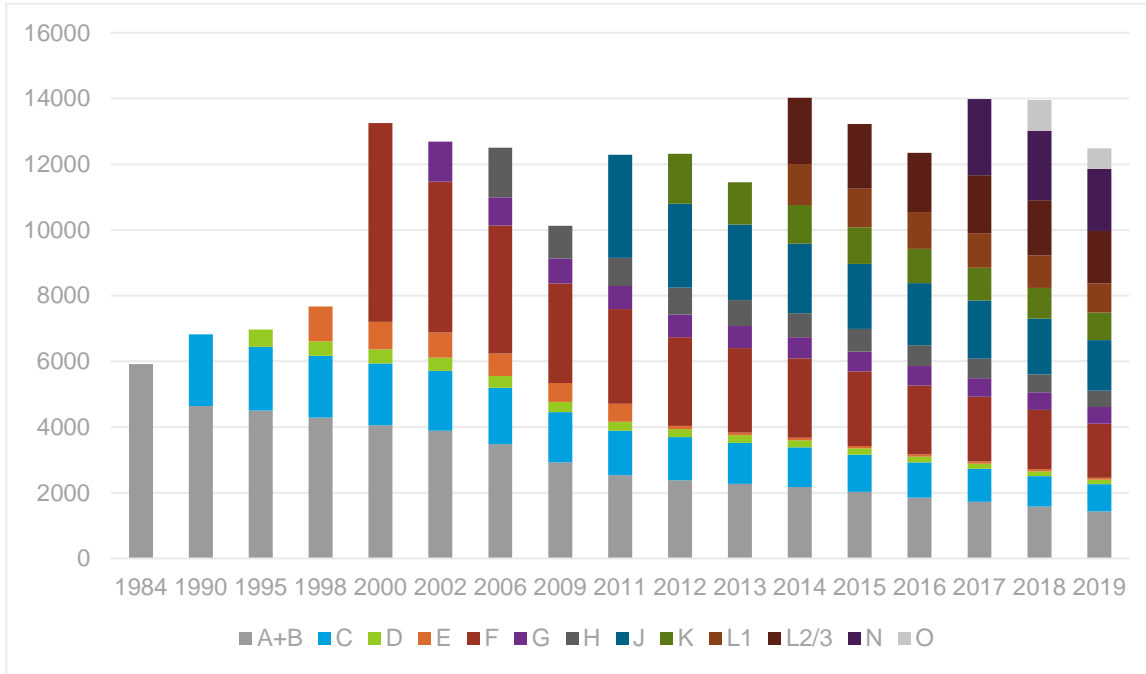
Households and individuals with the longest history of (continuous) panel participation took part for the 36th time in 2019 (samples A and B). Another eleven samples were added to SOEP samples A and B since 1984¹:

- **Sample A “Residents in the Federal Republic of Germany” (1984)** is one of the two initial samples of the SOEP and covers 4,528 private households with a household head who does not belong to one of the main foreigner groups of “guest workers” (i.e. Turkish, Greek, Yugoslavian, Spanish or Italian households).
- **Sample B “Foreigners in the Federal Republic of Germany” (1984)** is one of the two initial samples of the SOEP and covers 1,393 private households with a Turkish, Greek, Yugoslavian, Spanish or Italian household head.
- **Sample C “German residents in the German Democratic Republic (GDR)” (1990)** covers persons in 2,179 private households in which the household head was a citizen of the GDR.
- **Sample D “Immigrants” (1994/95)** covers 531 private households in which at least one household member had moved from abroad to West Germany after 1984. It mainly consists of ethnic Germans migrating from Eastern Europe to Germany. This sample includes two subsamples which were drawn independently in 1994 (D1) and in 1995 (D2).
- **Sample E “Refreshment I” (1998)** added another 1,056 households to the SOEP. It is the first sample that was designed to be representative for all private households in both East and West Germany and the first of several regular refreshment samples drawn to increase the overall size of the SOEP, compensate for panel attrition and cover population changes, e.g. due to migration.
- **Sample F “Refreshment II” (2000)** covers 6,043 households and substantially increases the sample size of the SOEP. Households with at least one adult who does not have German citizenship were oversampled in Sample F.
- **Sample G “High income” (2002)** covers 1,224 households with a monthly income of at least 3,835 euros which – due to the lack of an adequate sampling frame – were identified using a telephone screening procedure. From Wave 2 in 2003 onwards, only households with a net monthly income of at least 4,500 euros were interviewed further.
- **Sample H “Refreshment III” (2006)** served as a general population refresher covering 1,506 private households in Germany.
- **Sample L1 “Cohort sample” (2010²)** covers 2,074 private households in Germany, in which at least one household member is a child born between January 2007 and March 2010. Again, migrants identified by an “onomastic procedure” are oversampled.
- **Samples L2/3 “Family types I/II” (2010³)** covers 3,424 private households in Germany that meet at least one of the following criteria regarding their household composition: single parents, low-income families and large families with three or more children. Since the eligible subpopulation is relatively small and an adequate sampling frame is lacking, a preceding telephone screening procedure identified eligible households.
- **Sample J “Refreshment IV” (2011)** is another general population refresher covering 3,136 households. A disproportional sampling design was implemented in order to increase the number of migrant households in the SOEP.
- **Sample K “Refreshment V” (2012)** is the last general population refresher so far, totaling 1,526 households.
- **Sample N “PIACC sample” (2017)** integrated 2,314 households of former participants of the Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC).
- **Sample O “Social City Sample” (2018)** added 935 households and was designed to enhance the potential of the data for analysis by incorporating more city-specific environments.

¹ Source for sample sizes and descriptions until the year 2012: Martin Kroh, Simon Kühne, Rainer Siegers, Veronika Belcheva. 2018. SOEP-Core – Documentation of Sample Sizes and Panel Attrition (1984 until 2016). SOEP Survey Papers 480: Series C. Berlin: DIW/SOEP.

² Samples L1-3 were part of the SOEP-related study “Familien in Deutschland” (FiD) that was established in 2010. After the project ended, the remaining families were integrated into the SOEP (2014).

Figure 1.2: Development of samples A-O since 1984 (number of households)



Between 1984 and 2019, the SOEP has been extended multiple times by different subsamples, leading to a diverse sampling structure (Figure 1.2). Of 5,921 households which comprised the first SOEP subsamples A and B in 1984, 1,433 households remained in the survey in 2019³. The total number of households participating in the survey as part of samples A-O has more than doubled since 1984, reaching a net sample of 12,481 households in 2019.

³ Including split-off households.

1.3 Structure of the gross sample

The result from the previous year's wave forms the basis for the gross sample of the following year (**Table 1.2**). All respondents (i.e. with and without refusal for the next wave) as well as temporary dropouts are transferred into the next wave. Reasons for a temporary dropout can be e.g. sickness or lack of time. Households that will not be willing or able to take part any more are coded as final dropouts and will not receive an invitation for the next year's survey wave. The same applies to households which dropped out temporarily in two consecutive waves ("two-year rule"). In 2018, 13,950 households were coded as respondents and 2,298 as temporary dropouts. Households coded as temporary dropouts in the first wave of sample O were excluded from fieldwork in 2019. Thus, 14,819 households from 2018 form the base sample for the survey wave in 2019.

Accordingly, the administered gross sample in 2019 (**Table 1.3**) can be divided into different types of households. Apart from respondents and temporary dropouts of the previous wave, there is a certain number of new households every year which are added to the gross sample. These households are split off from existing households within the survey, e.g. when young adults decide to leave the parental home to form their own household. The administered gross sample in 2019 includes a total of 15,339 households. 91.0 percent of those households also participated in the previous wave, while 5.7 percent had dropped out temporarily. 3.3 percent of the gross sample are new households. The proportions vary only slightly between the different groups of subsamples.

Table 1.2: Final gross sample 2018 by sample

Household level	Total		A-H		J-K		L1		L2/3		N		O	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	22,160	100.0	6,568	100.0	3,010	100.0	1,155	100.0	2,154	100.0	2,648	100.0	6,625	100.0
Participating households without refusal for next wave	13,817	62.4	5,517	84.0	2,605	86.5	989	85.6	1,668	77.4	2,103	79.4	935	14.1
Participating households with refusal for next wave	133	0.6	91	1.4	21	0.7	2	0.2	8	0.4	11	0.4	0	0.0
Temporary dropouts	2,298	10.4	306	4.7	114	3.8	61	5.3	234	10.9	154	5.8	1,429	21.6
Final dropouts	5,616	25.3	618	9.4	220	7.3	82	7.1	164	7.6	271	10.2	4,261	64.3
2-year rule	296	1.3	36	0.5	50	1.7	21	1.8	80	3.7	109	4.1	0	0.0

Table 1.3: Administered gross sample 2019 by sample

	Total		A-H		J-K		L1		L2/3		N		O	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Household level														
Gross sample	15,339	100.0	6,063	100.0	2,817	100.0	1,088	100.0	2,079	100.0	2,340	100.0	952	100.0
Participating households in previous wave	13,950	91.0	5,608	92.5	2,626	93.2	991	91.1	1,676	80.7	2,114	90.3	935	98.2
Temp. dropout in previous wave ¹	876	5.7	309	5.1	114	4.0	61	5.6	235	11.3	154	6.6	3	0.3
New households (Split-off hh)	513	3.3	146	2.4	77	2.7	36	3.3	168	8.1	72	3.1	14	1.5

¹ The gross sample consists of more cases than anticipated at the end of the previous wave because four households that did not participate in 2018 re-entered the panel. Temporary dropouts from sample O are excluded from gross sample in 2019 except for three households with individual interview but without a household interview in 2018.

Key household characteristics of the different samples are presented in **Table 1.4** and **Table 1.5**. In most samples, the majority of households consists of one or two household members. Samples L1 and L2/3 form an exception here because they originated from the “Families in Germany (FiD)” study that samples different kinds of family types. Further, **Table 1.4** includes an overview of the sample distribution in terms of the different states. In **Table 1.5**, two indicators to classify the household’s living environment are presented. The community type (BIK) indicator separates different municipality sizes by the number of inhabitants, distinguishing between center and periphery of city regions. The second community size indicator classifies municipality size into seven categories.

Table 1.4: Household characteristics by samples I

Household level	Total		A-H		J-K		L1		L2/3		N		O	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample¹	16,245	100.0	5,912	100.0	2,739	100.0	1,052	100.0	1,910	100.0	2,268	100.0	2,364	100.0
HH size														
0 unknown	1,426	8.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1,426	60.3
1	4,154	25.6	1,902	32.2	943	34.4	44	4.2	319	16.7	563	24.8	383	16.2
2	5,405	33.3	2,546	43.1	1,144	41.8	58	5.5	530	27.7	849	37.4	278	11.8
3	2,033	12.5	731	12.4	297	10.8	183	17.4	319	16.7	391	17.2	112	4.7
4	2,025	12.5	572	9.7	234	8.5	464	44.1	297	15.5	353	15.6	105	4.4
5+	1,202	7.4	161	2.7	121	4.4	303	28.8	445	23.3	112	4.9	60	2.5
State														
Schleswig-Holstein	590	3.6	159	2.7	120	4.4	57	5.4	101	5.3	85	3.7	68	2.9
Hamburg	348	2.1	101	1.7	49	1.8	11	1.0	32	1.7	50	2.2	105	4.4
Lower Saxony	1,466	9.0	528	8.9	291	10.6	92	8.7	200	10.5	277	12.2	78	3.3
Bremen	154	0.9	37	0.6	11	0.4	10	1.0	22	1.2	27	1.2	47	2.0
North Rhine-Westphalia	3,149	19.4	1,137	19.2	522	19.1	225	21.4	388	20.3	459	20.2	418	17.7
Hesse	1,030	6.3	391	6.6	180	6.6	64	6.1	135	7.1	149	6.6	111	4.7
Rhineland Palatinate	720	4.4	299	5.1	128	4.7	56	5.3	64	3.4	71	3.1	102	4.3
Saarland	138	0.8	54	0.9	33	1.2	4	0.4	14	0.7	17	0.7	16	0.7
Baden-Wuerttemberg	1,618	10.0	650	11.0	272	9.9	146	13.9	199	10.4	231	10.2	120	5.1
Bavaria	2,566	15.8	864	14.6	467	17.1	175	16.6	301	15.8	360	15.9	399	16.9
Berlin	879	5.4	279	4.7	127	4.6	33	3.1	71	3.7	76	3.4	293	12.4
Brandenburg	747	4.6	285	4.8	101	3.7	28	2.7	81	4.2	93	4.1	159	6.7
Mecklenburg Western Pomerania	406	2.5	167	2.8	66	2.4	27	2.6	46	2.4	47	2.1	53	2.2
Saxony	1,108	6.8	464	7.8	173	6.3	60	5.7	110	5.8	163	7.2	138	5.8
Saxony-Anhalt	718	4.4	245	4.1	93	3.4	37	3.5	71	3.7	79	3.5	193	8.2
Thuringia	608	3.7	252	4.3	106	3.9	27	2.6	75	3.9	84	3.7	64	2.7

¹ Status as reported at the end of wave 2018. New households and households that re-joined the panel in 2019 but were not part of fieldwork in 2018 are thus missing.

Table 1.5: Household characteristics by samples II

Household level	Total		A-H		J-K		L1		L2/3		N		O	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample¹	16,245	100.0	5,912	100.0	2,739	100.0	1,052	100.0	1,910	100.0	2,268	100.0	2,364	100.0
BIK type²														
0	4,680	28.8	1,596	27.0	672	24.5	270	25.7	443	23.2	552	24.3	1,147	48.5
1	1,342	8.3	601	10.2	242	8.8	82	7.8	148	7.7	235	10.4	34	1.4
2	2,775	17.1	907	15.3	431	15.7	133	12.6	314	16.4	319	14.1	671	28.4
3	2,159	13.3	816	13.8	376	13.7	195	18.5	299	15.7	351	15.5	122	5.2
4	366	2.3	147	2.5	52	1.9	31	2.9	38	2.0	37	1.6	61	2.6
5	1,258	7.7	439	7.4	187	6.8	63	6.0	148	7.7	221	9.7	200	8.5
6	1,722	10.6	659	11.1	318	11.6	139	13.2	234	12.3	243	10.7	129	5.5
7	1,263	7.8	484	8.2	288	10.5	90	8.6	188	9.8	213	9.4	0	0.0
8	436	2.7	154	2.6	120	4.4	28	2.7	67	3.5	67	3.0	0	0.0
9	244	1.5	109	1.8	53	1.9	21	2.0	31	1.6	30	1.3	0	0.0
Community size³														
1	776	4.8	364	6.2	139	5.1	46	4.4	108	5.7	119	5.2	0	0.0
2	1,311	8.1	496	8.4	276	10.1	122	11.6	173	9.1	244	10.8	0	0.0
3	3,843	23.7	1,568	26.5	737	26.9	325	30.9	525	27.5	602	26.5	86	3.6
4	2,829	17.4	1,065	18.0	482	17.6	169	16.1	339	17.7	422	18.6	352	14.9
5	1,637	10.1	508	8.6	252	9.2	105	10.0	202	10.6	210	9.3	360	15.2
6	2,745	16.9	923	15.6	388	14.2	106	10.1	294	15.4	326	14.4	708	29.9
7	3,104	19.1	988	16.7	465	17.0	179	17.0	269	14.1	345	15.2	858	36.3

¹ Status as reported at the end of wave 2018. New households and households that re-joined the panel in 2019 but were not part of fieldwork in 2018 are thus missing.

² BIK type: 0 (more than 500,000 inhabitants/center) 1 (more than 500,000 inh./periphery), 2 (100,000 to 499,999 inh./center)

3 (100,000 to 499,999 inh./periphery), 4 (50,000 to 99,999 inh./center), 5 (50,000 to 99,999 inh./periphery), 6 (20,000 to 49,999 inh.), 7 (5,000 to 19,999 inh.), 8 (2,000 to 4,999 inh.), 9 (fewer than 2,000 inh.).

³ Community size: 1 (fewer than 2,000 inhabitants), 2 (2,000 to 5,000 inh.), 3 (5,000 to 20,000 inh.), 4 (20,000 to 50,000 inh.), 5 (50,000 to 100,000 inh.), 6 (100,000 to 500,000 inh.), 7 (more than 500,000 inh.).

1.4 Questionnaires and fieldwork material

1.4.1 Questionnaires

In 2019, a total of 14 questionnaires and instruments were used for the SOEP survey in samples A-O (**Table 1.6**). All questionnaires, especially the questionnaire for households and the individual questionnaire, are modified and extended on an annual basis. Slight adjustments of the item order or question text usually serve the purpose of methodological advancement. Other modifications are needed in order to comply with societal and political modernization processes to continuously enable adequate measurement. Additionally, several special modules are integrated into the questionnaires following a fixed rotation over multiple years. The following section briefly describes all questionnaires.

Table 1.6: **Questionnaires and modes**

	A-L1, N, O	L2/3
	CAPI/PAPI	CAPI/CAWI
Household questionnaire	✓	✓
Individual questionnaire	✓	✓
Life-history questionnaire	✓	✓
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	✓	✓
Cognitive competency tests ¹	✓	-
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	✓	✓
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	✓	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	✓	✓
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8	✓	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	✓	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	✓	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	✓	✓
Questionnaire "Gap"	✓	✓
Questionnaire "Deceased person"	✓	✓

¹ Only in PAPI mode.

Household questionnaire

The household questionnaire needs to be completed by only one individual per household, most suitably by the one with best knowledge about the respective matter. It includes questions about:

- Housing and related expenditures
- Household income, social benefits, rental income and investment returns
- Potential loan burden and opportunity to accumulate assets
- Care-dependent household members, their degree of need and caregivers
- Children living in the household, their schools and care facilities

In the household questionnaire 2019, the biennially asked questions about the reasons for moving residence and consequent changes were added again. One entirely new question about reception of “Baukindergeld” was added. Baukindergeld is the name of a grant from the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community to support the purchase of owner-occupied housing for families with children. Questions about local infrastructure and neighbourhood relations were rotated in after a five-year absence. Some new questions regarding the personal attitudes toward the neighbourhood were also added to this module. Finally, in the children’s activities module, respondents were asked to provide some information about childcare.

Individual questionnaire

The individual questionnaire is answered by all adult household members (2019: participants born in 2001 or earlier). Usually, more changes and modifications are applied to this questionnaire from year to year than to any of the others. Certain questions and topics are included, following fixed rotations of 2 to 10 years. New items can be developed, or old items reintegrated. The instrument includes questions about:

- Current life situation
- Important changes during the last year
- Current job
- Health and illness
- Attitudes and opinions
- Family situation

In 2019, new questions on an array of different topics were added:

- Changes in employment
- Working hours and hourly wages
- Gender attitudes
- Personal political influence
- Religious affiliation
- Wish to have children
- Personal discrimination experience

The rotating modules that were included in 2019 were:

- Structure of the place of employment
- Sleep habits
- Perceived fairness of wages
- Working hours/night or weekend work
- Commute
- Health and disability

- Big five personality traits
- Integration indicators
- Citizen engagement
- Attitudes toward diversity

Also, several questions which were asked before but not in a fixed replication cycle were included in the 2019 individual questionnaire:

- Personal financial balance sheet
- Inheritances and endowments
- Self-assessment political leaning (left-right)
- Personal feelings and confidence in the future
- Sexual orientation

Additional questionnaires

Apart from the household and individual questionnaires, 12 additional questionnaires were used in 2019. These questionnaires were not answered by all individuals or households in the sample but by particular groups of persons:

- The **life-history questionnaire** is completed by all new respondents joining a panel household (born 2001 or earlier). It mainly collects biographical background information and is applied only once per person. In 2019 it was restructured to better capture the individual migration background.
- The **youth questionnaire age 16 or 17** is answered by household members of the respective age (2019: born in 2002). From 2019 onward it does not replace the individual and the life-history questionnaire anymore resulting in a shorter questionnaire focusing on topics such as school and work, leisure, health, self-perception as well as friendship and family life. It is surveyed once per person.
- In addition to the youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17, the **cognitive competency test** is used after the questionnaire in order to measure the adolescent's level of development. The test entails three exercises with fixed time limits for each one. It is surveyed on paper and only in interviewer-assisted modes since interviewer presence is a necessary prerequisite.
- In 2016, the **youth questionnaire age 13 or 14** was included for the first time to close the gap between the first questioning of young panel members at the age of 11 or 12 and their regular participation in the survey at the age of 19. In 2019 all panel members born in 2005 were asked to complete this questionnaire.
- With the **youth questionnaire age 11 or 12** for household members born in 2007, which was integrated for the first time in 2014, the entry age for young panel members was considerably reduced. The instrument focuses on topics such as school, leisure, health, self-perception as well as friendship and family life.
- For households with children, five more instruments were used in 2019. Mothers of newborn children (born in 2019 or 2018 after the previous survey wave) were asked to complete the **mother and child questionnaire newborn**. Mothers of 2- or 3-year-old children (2019: born in 2016) were asked to answer a respective **mother and child questionnaire 2 or 3**. Similar instruments were available for three more age groups as shown in **Table 1.6**. For children born in 2011, not only the mother but both parents were asked to complete the **questionnaire for parents age 7 or 8**.
- Individuals who temporarily dropped out in the previous wave were asked to complete the **questionnaire "gap"** which is a very short version of the last wave's individual questionnaire. It aims to minimize gaps in longitudinal data on panel members.

- The **questionnaire “deceased person”** is addressed to individuals who lost one of their family members in the year of the survey or the previous year.

The primary interviewing method in samples A-O is face-to-face with computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) or paper-and-pencil interviewing (PAPI), while a small number of households is interviewed via self-administered mail questionnaires (MAIL). For sample L2/3, a multi-mode design using computer-assisted web interviews (CAWI) as well as regular face-to-face interviewing (CAPI) is applied. As depicted in **Table 1.6**, questionnaires that require an interviewer’s presence, such as the cognitive competency test are excluded for this subsample.

1.4.2 Fieldwork material

In addition to the questionnaires, a whole range of fieldwork materials, such as letters, leaflets or documents for the interviewers, are designed, printed and sent to households and interviewers. **Table 1.7** provides an overview of the different material types that are prepared in samples A-O for the different survey modes.

Advance letter

About two weeks before the start of the fieldwork period, households that are to take part in CAPI or PAPI mode receive an advance letter in which the interviewer’s visit is announced. In samples A-H, which generally do not receive a cash incentive⁴, an announcement letter is not sent to the household head but to every individual household member who took part in the study in the previous wave. This letter encloses a 5-euro lottery ticket as an unconditional incentive.

For households in the MAIL mode, there is a two-way approach. In households that usually agree to a phone call prior to the actual fieldwork period to update the information about the household structure, all respondents from the previous wave receive the 5-euro lottery ticket as an unconditional incentive.⁵ After the phone call, these households will receive another envelope with all the questionnaires they are to fill out in the current wave. Households that have opted out of the phone call but remain in the study will receive their questionnaires right away.

Households in CAWI mode receive an advance letter with the login information for all household members that are to fill in a questionnaire online.

Thank-you letter

Shortly after participating in the study, each household in modes CAPI, PAPI and MAIL receives a thank-you letter with a postage stamp enclosed as a small gift. Respondents from samples A-H (CAPI, PAPI and MAIL mode) that had not received the 5-euro lottery ticket as an unconditional incentive before the start of fieldwork – either because they were new to the panel or because they had not taken part in the previous wave – receive an additional, individual thank-you letter with the 5-euro lottery ticket.

Thank-you letters for CAWI respondents also include their incentive in the form of a voucher. The participants can choose at the end of the questionnaire whether they prefer to receive this voucher via e-mail or letter.

⁴ A small number of households in sample A-H (CAPI, PAPI, MAIL) receives a cash incentive because they used to be part of an incentive experiment (see chapter 1.5.4).

Table 1.7: Overview of fieldwork material

	CAPI	PAPI	MAIL	CAWI
Advance letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A-H (lottery ticket/cash) • J-K, L1, N, O (cash) • L2-3 (cash) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A-H (lottery ticket/cash) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With short phone interview (lottery ticket/check) • Without short phone interview (lottery ticket/check) 	With login information
Thank-you letter	Thank-you letter	Thank-you letter	Thank-you letter	Thank-you letter including incentive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mail • E-mail
Reminder letter	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminder 1 • Reminder 2 • Reminder 3 	Reminder 1 (non-response on hh level) Reminder 2 (partial unit non-response)
Special letters during field time	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New households • New person in hh • Mode switchers 	New households New person in hh Mode switchers
Leaflet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lottery ticket • Cash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lottery ticket • Cash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No cash • Check 	CAWI
Declaration on data protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A-H, J-K, L1, N, O • L2-3 	A-H	A-H	L2-3
Consent to record linkage form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IAB¹ 	IAB ¹	--	IAB ¹
Address form and household grid ²	Electronic form (Mein Kantar)	Paper form	Paper form	Electronic form (database mask for phone interviewers)
Showcards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same for all samples 	--	--	--
Project instruction book	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A-H, J-K, L1, N, O • L2-3 	A-H	Short instruction manual for phone interviewers updating the hh grid	Handout for phone interviewers updating the hh grid
Other interviewer material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project description • Contact card • HH information card 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project description • Contact card • HH information card 	--	--

1 Institut für Arbeitsmarkt und Berufsforschung: Link to integrated employment biography data.

2 Including the so-called “B3 Form” that is used for processing address changes.

Reminder letter

In the MAIL and CAWI modes, letters are not only sent out at the beginning and end of the fieldwork period but also in between to remind households to take part in the study. Households in the MAIL mode receive up to three reminders. In CAWI mode, two reminders are sent out – one to address non-response on the household level and another one to address missing individual questionnaires.

Special letters during field time

In MAIL and CAWI mode, there is also a need to send out other, more specialized letters, depending on the situation of the household. If a new household or person is identified during field time, e.g. because a child moved out or a new person joined the household, this new household or person receives paper questionnaires or login information for the online questionnaires. Another occasion for special letters during field time are mode switches from CAPI/PAPI to MAIL/CAWI.

Leaflet

Every household receives an eight-page leaflet with SOEP reports and published results. In CAPI and PAPI modes, the leaflet is handed over by the interviewer, while it is sent via mail in the MAIL and CAWI modes. There are four slightly different versions, differing by incentive types: cash/lottery ticket (A-O without L2/3) and cash/voucher (L2/3).

Declaration on data protection

Every household gets access to a two-page declaration on data protection detailing the organizations that are responsible for processing all respondent data along with a description of data handling and data recipients. The sheet is handed out by the interviewers in CAPI and PAPI modes and sent via e-mail in the MAIL and CAWI modes. There are two versions of the declaration on data protection because the list of suppliers differs slightly between samples A-O without L2/3 and L2/3.

Consent to record linkage form

To all respondents born in 2001 or later, a consent to record linkage form was presented that allows an individual linkage between the respondent's data and data from the Institute for Labor Market and Occupational Research (Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung, IAB). Members of the CAPI sample could sign either on the touch screen of the interviewer's laptop or on paper. Members of the PAPI and CAWI sample received a personalized consent form on paper. The households participating in MAIL mode did not receive this form.

Address form and household grid

The address form provides an overview of the household composition as it was last known to Kantar. The interviewers must document when and with whom the survey was conducted or why a sample member did not participate in the current year. They are also asked to note every single contact attempt made.

Moreover, the interviewers are asked to carefully document any moves of households and household members or changes in the household composition. An additional form had to be completed for every person that has left the household since the last survey because they remain potential respondents and are tracked even if the new address is unknown.

Interviewers do this electronically in the "Mein Kantar" software for CAPI and in paper form for PAPI. For the households in the MAIL mode that receive a phone call prior to the start of fieldwork, the contact person who calls them fills out a paper form. For participants in MAIL mode who do not receive a phone call, information about the household composition is extracted from the questionnaires by members of the SOEP team at Kantar. In CAWI mode, the team that calls households from a telephone studio enters contact data, reasons for a refusal to participate and household information into a database screen.

Showcards

Showcards are used by CAPI interviewers during the interview to show respondents longer item lists or scales.

Project instruction book

In addition to a shorter project description, interviewers in CAPI and PAPI mode receive a highly detailed instruction manual that is about 75 pages long. This manual contains information on special features of the current wave, specific processing instructions and questionnaires as well as background information on the project. There are two different versions of this manual – one for samples A-O without L2/3 and another one for L2/3. The phone interviewers in MAIL and CAWI mode who call to update household information receive a short instruction manual (MAIL) or a handout of the slides shown during interviewer training (CAWI).

Other interviewer material

In addition, the interviewers get contact cards for households that could not be reached at home and household information cards with information on individual numbers, names, years of birth, types of questionnaires, incentives, survey modes and notes.

1.5 Conducting the survey

1.5.1 Survey mode

Since the SOEP was launched in 1984, face-to-face interviewing has been the primary method of data collection. Up to the year 2000, all face-to-face interviews were conducted using paper-and-pencil interviews (**PAPI**). Since then, SOEP interviewers have gradually started using laptops to conduct interviews in **CAPI** (computer-assisted personal interviewing). Since sample J in 2011, CAPI has been used exclusively to interview the respondents from refresher samples. However, PAPI is still used to collect data from the respondents in samples A–H if they prefer, or if their interviewer does not have a laptop.

Another method of interviewing is used in multi-person households from samples A–H. Individuals who were unable to provide an interview while the interviewer was present are offered the option of completing a paper questionnaire on their own as a means of reducing partial unit non-response (PUNR). The option of interviewing more than one person simultaneously with the help of paper questionnaires can be useful for reducing the overall length of interviewer visits to households with many members, thereby increasing participation. This method is a mixture of face-to-face interviewing and self-administered interviewing (**SELF**). Although this option is actually an exception, the longer a sample exists, the more frequently it is used to ensure low PUNR in larger households.

Another type of fieldwork processing used exclusively in core samples A–H is known as “central administration of fieldwork” (**MAIL**) in which respondents complete their questionnaires at home and return them by mail. This was first used as a refusal conversion process in the second wave of the SOEP in 1985 and is focused on households that did not agree to any further visits from an interviewer or could not be convinced by interviewers to participate for other reasons. As part of this process, households are contacted by telephone and asked to keep participating in the study. If this is successful, basic household information is collected or updated, and the questionnaires are sent by mail. Thus, in these households, questionnaires are fully self-administered. This mode shift often leads to a conversion of soft refusals, in turn improving the stability of long-term samples A–H.

The last addition to the SOEP in terms of survey modes is computer-assisted web interviewing (**CAWI**); this was introduced when samples L2/3 were integrated into the SOEP in 2014. The samples switched from an exclusively interviewer-assisted mode to a CATI/CAWI hybrid approach, followed by CAPI. The aim in every wave is, on the one hand, to recruit as many households as possible for participation by internet, and on the other hand, to maintain a high panel stability rate. The gross sample is thus divided into various subgroups depending on the mode of participation in previous years. Households that participated online at least once since 2014 were processed online first in 2019. This includes households that participated in CAPI in 2017 but did not explicitly refuse to do the interviews online. A CAPI interviewer was immediately sent to households that rejected the CAWI mode in previous waves. Households that did not answer the CAWI questionnaires during the first three months of CAWI fieldwork were sent a CAPI interviewer as well. In order to reduce both potential qualitative disadvantages and negative response-rate effects of using CAWI instead of CAPI, CATI interviewers contacted each household in the CAWI population to encourage online participation. They also made a list of all household members to ensure that the right set of CAWI questionnaires would be provided.

The following tables display the interviewing modes applied for each respective questionnaire while separating different groups of samples. **Table 1.8** shows that 68.2 percent of all individual interviews in 2019 were conducted via CAPI. Apart from that, paper-and-pencil interviews (PAPI) are still conducted with a small number of people, especially from the older samples A-H (2.4 percent). Some participants prefer to answer the questionnaires on their own – either with or without the interviewer present (SELF, 13.1 percent). 10.3 percent of all individual questionnaires in 2019 were sent to the panel members via mail, completed and then returned (MAIL). Finally, 5.9 percent of all individual interviews in 2019 were conducted via web interviewing (CAWI). This mode is used exclusively for respondents in sample L2/3. Within this sample, 39.9 percent of all individual questionnaires in 2019 were completed in CAWI mode.

Table 1.8: Interviewing modes by sub-samples – individual questionnaire

Individual level	Interviewer-Based			Centrally Administered			Total
	CAPI	PAPI	SELF	MAIL	CAWI		
A-H	Abs.	2,905	494	2,611	2,109	0	8,119
	In %	35.8	6.1	32.2	26.0	0.0	100.0
J, K, L1, N, O	Abs.	9,188	4	64	0	0	9,256
	In %	99.3	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	100.0
L2/3	Abs.	1,806	1	0	0	1,200	3,007
	In %	60.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	39.9	100.0
Total	Abs.	13,899	499	2,675	2,109	1,200	20,382
	In %	68.2	2.4	13.1	10.3	5.9	100.0

The older samples A-H are characterized by considerable variation regarding the different modes (**Table 1.8**). CAPI as the primary interviewing mode is only used 35.8 percent of all individual interviews in this group of samples. SELF and MAIL interviews are almost as common in these samples. By contrast, for the newer samples J, K, L1, N and O, CAPI is used for 99.3 percent of all individual questionnaires.

Table 1.9: Interviewing modes by sub-samples – household questionnaire

Household level	Interviewer-Based			Centrally Administered			Total
	CAPI	PAPI	SELF	MAIL	CAWI		
A-H	Abs.	1,926	367	1,422	1,361	0	5,076
	In %	37.9	7.2	28.0	26.8	0.0	100.0
J, K, L1, N, O	Abs.	5,758	2	23	0	0	5,783
	In %	99.6	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	100.0
L2/3	Abs.	979	0	0	0	613	1,592
	In %	61.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	38.5	100.0
Total	Abs.	8,663	369	1,445	1,361	613	12,451
	In %	69.6	3.0	11.6	10.9	4.9	100.0

Regarding the household questionnaires (**Table 1.9**), the distribution over the different modes is comparable to the one presented. For the youth questionnaires (**Table 1.10**) and the child questionnaires (**Table 1.11**), the share of the different modes is also relatively similar, at least in the total sample.

Table 1.10: Interviewing modes by sub-samples – youth questionnaires

Individual level	Interviewer-Based			Centrally Administered		Total	
	CAPI	PAPI	SELF	MAIL	CAWI		
A-H	Abs.	52	14	103	83	0	252
	In %	20.6	5.6	40.9	32.9	0.0	100.0
J, K, L1, N, O	Abs.	475	9	116	2	0	602
	In %	78.9	1.5	19.3	0.3	0.0	100.0
L2/3	Abs.	319	2	23	0	261	605
	In %	52.7	0.3	3.8	0.0	43.1	100.0
Total	Abs.	846	25	242	85	261	1,459
	In %	58.0	1.7	16.6	5.8	17.9	100.0

Table 1.11: Interviewing modes by sub-samples – child questionnaires

Individual level	Interviewer-Based			Centrally Administered		Total	
	CAPI	PAPI	SELF	MAIL	CAWI		
A-H	Abs.	110	8	55	169	0	342
	In %	32.2	2.3	16.1	49.4	0.0	100.0
J, K, L1, N, O	Abs.	854	9	84	1	0	948
	In %	90.1	0.9	8.9	0.1	0.0	100.0
L2/3	Abs.	128	1	7	6	50	192
	In %	66.7	0.5	3.6	3.1	26.0	100.0
Total	Abs.	1,092	18	146	176	50	1,482
	In %	73.7	1.2	9.9	11.9	3.4	100.0

1.5.2 Fieldwork timing

For samples A-H, J-K, L1, N and O data collection covered a period of roughly seven months. Fieldwork started at the end of January for samples A-N and one month later for sample O, while the last interviews were conducted in early September. Within the first three full months, 73.3 percent of all net interviews for these samples were completed, as indicated by the figures in **Table 1.12**. For sample L2/3, data collection started in

July and was finalized in December. Within the first three months, 81.2 percent of all interviews were completed in this sample. For all samples, the last months of fieldwork are dedicated to contacting difficult-to-reach households and respondents, which includes:

- Households requiring tracing of new addresses
- New households
- Respondents who are difficult to reach due to work-related absence, a stay in a foreign country or an ongoing illness
- Respondents who refuse their participation due to lack of time

The extensive follow-up processing during the final months of the fieldwork period is substantial in the effort to minimize panel mortality and maintain high levels of panel stability in all samples.

Table 1.12: **Monthly fieldwork progress by sub-samples**

Household Level	A-H, J-K, L1, N, O				L2/3			
	Gross Sample		Net Sample		Gross Sample		Net Sample	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
January ¹	201	1.5	2	0.0	-	-	-	-
February	3,319	25.0	3,072	28.2	-	-	-	-
March	3,358	25.3	3,071	28.2	-	-	-	-
April	2,073	15.6	1,803	16.6	-	-	-	-
May	1,626	12.3	1,327	12.2	-	-	-	-
June	1,040	7.8	759	7.0	-	-	-	-
July	836	6.3	523	4.8	462	22.2	411	25.8
August	675	5.1	293	2.7	719	34.6	630	39.6
September	132	1.0	39	0.4	313	15.1	251	15.8
October	-	-	-	-	287	13.8	176	11.1
November	-	-	-	-	199	9.6	103	6.5
December	-	-	-	-	99	4.8	21	1.3

¹ Including households that refused to take part in the survey prior to the start of fieldwork.

1.5.3 Translations

Interviewers receive translated paper questionnaires that can be used as an aid when conducting the interview via CAPI or PAPI mode. The questionnaire for households as well as the individual and life-history questionnaires are available in five foreign languages: English, Russian, Turkish, Polish and Romanian (**Table 1.13**).

Table 1.13: Translated paper questionnaires

	English	Russian	Turkish	Polish	Romanian
Household questionnaire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Individual questionnaire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Life-history questionnaire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Youth questionnaires	-	-	-	-	-
Mother and child questionnaires/ questionnaire for parents	-	-	-	-	-
Additional questionnaires ¹	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Gap, Deceased person.

1.5.4 Panel maintenance and incentives

Before fieldwork began, all households from samples A-N received a letter announcing the beginning of the new wave. For almost all households in samples A-H, the letter included a lottery ticket as an unconditional incentive for every adult who participated in the last wave. Due to an experiment that was conducted a few years ago, a group of approx. 600 households in samples A-H receives a cash incentive instead (**Table 1.14**). Participants in the newer samples J, K and L1 receive cash incentives as well. The individual questionnaire is rewarded with 10 euros, while the shorter household questionnaire is rewarded with 5 euros.

Participants in sample L2/3 earn 5 euros for every questionnaire, including the youth and child questionnaire. Additionally, a household receives a bonus payment of 10 euros if all individual questionnaires have been completed. Participants who completed the survey in CAWI mode received their incentive as vouchers by mail or e-mail depending on personal preference. For CAPI participants, the interviewer paid the incentive in cash.

Table 1.14: Incentives samples A-O

	A-H	J, K, L1, N, O	L2/3
Incentives for adults	Lottery ticket: 5,427 hh Cash ¹ : 636 hh	HH: 5 euros Adult: 10 euros	HH: 5 euros Adult: 5 euros Bonus payment: 10 euros
Incentives for youth and child questionnaire	Youth quest.: age 16 or 17: Power bank Youth quest.: age 13 or 14: Bicycle repair kit Youth quest.: age 11 or 12: CAPI/PAPI: Small clock; MAIL: Puzzle Child quest.: No incentive		All youth quest.: 5 euros All child quest.: 5 euros

¹ As part of an incentive experiment: same cash incentives as in samples J-O; participants in MAIL mode received a check.

In addition to the individual incentives, interviewers bring a small gift to all households which is presented upon arrival. This year's gift was a high-quality pen and branded post-its. Furthermore, parents of newborns receive a small photo album via mail. Neither of these gifts are given to households in samples L2/3.

1.5.5 Movers and tracing

Table 1.15 provides figures for the number of households requiring address inquiry including movers as well as new households. For this year's survey wave, 1,559 households (10.2 percent) were subject to address inquiry. 1,336 of these households were successfully traced, which amounts to a success rate of 83.3 percent. The most important source of information about addresses were interviewers (46.1 percent), followed by the local registration offices (25.0 percent) that provide information about residents' current addresses if there is a scientific interest behind the inquiry. Another significant source is the postal service that movers sometimes notify of their new address (18.2 percent). Sometimes, participants themselves let us know about a move. This source amounts to only percent of address information about movers and new households.

Table 1.15: Movers and sources of new addresses of administered sample 2019

Household Level	Total		A-H, J-K, L1, N, O		L2/3	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	15,339	100.0	13,260	100.0	2,079	100.0
Movers and new households	1,559	10.2	1,184	8.9	375	18.0
Success tracing						
Tracing successful	1,336	83.3	1,042	88.0	294	78.4
Tracing not successful	223	16.7	142	12.0	81	21.6
Source						
Interviewer	718	46.1	553	50.0	136	36.3
Postal service	283	18.2	224	20.2	46	12.3
Local registration offices	389	25.0	240	21.7	116	30.9
Participant	169	10.8	90	8.1	77	20.5

1.5.6 Interviewer characteristics, training & monitoring

For samples A-O, a total of 498 interviewers were active in 2019 (**Table 1.16**). Among those interviewers, gender is distributed relatively evenly with a slightly higher presence of male interviewers. Interviewer age is relatively high, with 71.3 percent of all interviewers being between 60 and 79 years old. This not only holds true for the older samples A-H but also for the more recently established samples. Most interviewers processed between 20 and 99 households this year, but there are also 99 interviewers who were responsible for fewer than five households.

Table 1.16: Interviewer characteristics

Interviewer Level	Total		A-H		J-K		L1		L2/3		N		O	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Number of Interviewers	498	100.0	392	100.0	273	100.0	176	100.0	248	100.0	228	100.0	122	100.0
Gender														
Male	284	57.0	215	54.8	159	58.2	107	60.8	143	57.7	124	54.4	68	55.7
Female	214	43.0	177	45.2	114	41.8	69	39.2	105	42.3	104	45.6	54	44.3
Age														
21-39 years	8	1.6	5	1.3	4	1.5	3	1.7	2	0.8	5	2.2	3	2.5
40-59 years	95	19.1	74	18.9	46	16.8	39	22.2	44	17.7	51	22.4	33	27.0
60-79 years	355	71.3	274	69.9	203	74.4	119	67.6	183	73.8	158	69.3	80	65.6
80+ years	40	8.0	39	9.9	20	7.3	15	8.5	19	7.7	14	6.1	6	4.9
Number of households (gross)														
Fewer than 5	99	19.9	142	36.2	91	33.3	92	52.3	138	55.6	73	32.0	49	40.2
5 – 19	180	36.1	193	49.2	143	52.4	80	45.5	106	42.7	124	54.4	66	54.1
20 – 99	207	41.6	57	14.5	39	14.3	4	2.3	4	1.6	31	13.6	7	5.7
More than 99	12	2.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Table 1.17 gives an overview of interviewer experience, both with Kantar overall and with the SOEP specifically. Interviewers with ten and more years of experience make up the majority across all sub-samples and are particularly present in samples A-H. 32 Interviewers have been conducting interviews for the SOEP (almost) since the beginning of the study.

Table 1.17: Interviewer experience

Interviewer Level	Total		A-H		J-K		L1		L2/3		N		O	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	Abs.
Number of Interviewers	498	100.0	392	100.0	273	100.0	176	100.0	248	100.0	228	100.0	122	100.0
Experience with Kantar														
0-4 years	84	16.9	40	10.2	32	11.7	19	10.8	41	16.5	32	14.0	38	31.1
5-9 years	90	18.1	65	16.6	60	22.0	33	18.8	45	18.1	53	23.2	25	20.5
10-19 years	159	31.9	133	33.9	110	40.3	88	50.0	108	43.5	89	39.0	44	36.1
20-29 years	95	19.1	86	21.9	43	15.8	21	11.9	31	12.5	31	13.6	12	9.8
30-39 years	44	8.8	43	11.0	19	7.0	9	5.1	15	6.0	16	7.0	3	2.5
More than 40 years	26	5.2	25	6.4	9	3.3	6	3.4	8	3.2	7	3.1	0	0.0
Experience with SOEP¹														
0-4 years	104	21.8	55	14.8	42	15.5	28	16.0	49	19.8	45	19.8	44	36.1
5-9 years	138	28.9	101	27.2	99	36.5	51	29.1	79	32.0	77	33.9	31	25.4
10-19 years	172	36.1	155	41.8	104	38.4	83	47.4	96	38.9	84	37.0	43	35.2
20-29 years	29	6.1	27	7.3	11	4.1	6	3.4	12	4.9	11	4.8	2	1.6
30-34 years	2	0.4	2	0.5	2	0.7	1	0.6	2	0.8	2	0.9	1	0.8
More than 35 years	32	6.7	31	8.4	13	4.8	6	3.4	9	3.6	8	3.5	1	0.8

¹For 22 interviewers the experience with SOEP surveys is unknown.

For the interviewer training in January 2019, the so-called “contact interviewer training format” was used again. In a central, one-day event, members of the SOEP team at Kantar, the field organization and representatives from the DIW trained contact interviewers who then in turn trained the interviewers in the regions for which they are responsible.

Contents of the training were:

- Scope, timing and procedure of the various SOEP studies in 2019
- Importance of high response rates and low partial unit non-response for the SOEP surveys
- Special features of the 2019 survey year:
 - Record linkage with the German Institute for Labor Market and Occupational Research Integrated Employment Biographies (Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung, IAB)
 - Restructuring of the Life-History Questionnaire
 - Item-Non-Response
 - New samples P and Q

Kantar places high priority on interviewer monitoring and has put an ISO-certificated process in place that is audited regularly. Kantar adheres to the German Business Association of Market and Social Research Institutes (Arbeitskreis Deutscher Markt- und Sozialforschungsinstitute e.V., ADM) standards for internal

regulation and monitoring of all systems and procedures. This means that a minimum of 10 percent of Kantar's annual interviews are checked, and every interviewer is monitored at least once a year.

In 2018, we expanded these existing quality-control measures for interviewer monitoring in the SOEP projects. The basic interviewer monitoring concept was expanded to a project-based control system for all SOEP samples: A number of participating households is contacted shortly after the interview by letter or phone asking them to confirm their participation in a regularly conducted interview. In case of inconsistencies and/or irregularities, we attempt to gain clarification through direct contact with respondents, primarily by telephone. We have also begun building a comprehensive suite of bespoke analytical tools to uncover irregularities in the survey data and para data. The indicators produced by this tool are can lead to further measures taken in the re-contacting process.

Table 1.18 shows details for the re-contacting process in samples A-O. In existing panel samples, the aim is to re-contact at least 10 percent of households for every interviewer in every SOEP project. However, the average share of re-contacted households in A-O was significantly higher, at 19.4 percent in 2019. There are several reasons for this. First, for interviewers who are responsible for only a few households, more than 10 percent of their households were re-contacted to generate a sufficient response. Second, for interviewers with low response rates from re-contacted households, the number of re-contacted households was sometimes increased. In terms of survey mode, a short paper questionnaire was followed up by phone for interviewers with a response rate significantly below 30 percent.

Overall, we re-contacted 1,845 households in samples A-O and received feedback from 1,051 households. This results in a response rate of 57.0 percent overall. Using the results from the re-contacting process, we identified no interviewer who had not adhered to our standards in conducting interviews in the 2019 fieldwork period.

Table 1.18: **Interviewer monitoring**

	Abs.	In %	In %
By households			
Households in net sample ¹	9,498	100.0	-
Re-contacted households	1,845	19.4	100.0
Households with feedback	1,051	11.1	57.0
By interviewers			
Interviewers in net sample ¹	442	100.0	-
Interviewers with re-contacted households	382	86.2	-
Interviewers with non-standard behavior	0	0.0	-

¹ Interviewer based, A-O without L2/3.

In 2019, we have intensified our interviewer monitoring processes by also using para data and interview data in all SOEP samples starting soon after fieldwork begins. Results from these data checks have been shared regularly with the SOEP team at DIW Berlin to discuss what steps to take with interviewers who show

irregularities and to develop indicators. In 2019 we have started offering respondents an option to answer the short questionnaire online as part of the re-contacting process instead of the paper questionnaire.

1.6 Fieldwork results

1.6.1 Participation on household level

Table 1.19 displays participation and reasons for dropping out for three different types of households. Of 15,339 households in samples A-O, 12,481 households took part in the survey in 2019 (81.4 percent).

Table 1.19: Participation by type of household (with AAPOR codes)

	Total		Respondents in previous wave		Dropouts in previous wave		New households	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross Sample	15,339	100.0	13,952	100.0	874	100.0	513	100.0
Interview (1.0)	12,481	81.4	11,952	85.7	289	33.1	240	46.8
Complete (1.1)	10,215	66.6	9,810	70.3	201	23.0	204	39.8
Partial (1.2)	2,266	14.8	2,142	15.4	88	10.1	36	7.0
Non-Interview (2.0)	2,858	18.6	2,000	14.3	585	66.9	273	53.2
Temporary dropout	1,147	7.5	994	7.1	17	1.9	136	26.5
Non-contact (2.20)	415	2.7	366	2.6	1	0.1	48	9.4
Temporary refusal (2.11)	571	3.7	505	3.6	8	0.9	58	11.3
Temporarily physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.321)	73	0.5	71	0.5	0	0.0	2	0.4
Household could not be traced (temporary) (3.18; 2.4)	47	0.3	19	0.1	4	0.5	24	4.7
Other temp. (2.52)	31	0.2	23	0.2	4	0.5	4	0.8
Household level language problems (2.331)	10	0.1	10	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
Final Dropout	1,711	11.2	1,006	7.2	568	65.0	137	26.7
Permanent refusal (2.111)	1,073	7.0	795	5.7	207	23.7	71	13.8
Permanently physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.322)	115	0.7	89	0.6	21	2.4	5	1.0
Deceased (2.31)	58	0.4	53	0.4	5	0.6	0	0.0
Moved abroad (4.2)	20	0.1	18	0.1	2	0.2	0	0.0
Household dissolved (4.2)	19	0.1	14	0.1	5	0.6	0	0.0
Household untraceable (4.4)	86	0.6	37	0.3	11	1.3	38	7.4
Dropped out temporarily in two consecutive waves	340	2.2	0	0.0	317	36.3	23	4.5

Of all households that participated in the previous year, 85.7 percent were successfully recruited again in this year's wave. Additionally, 289 households which had dropped out during the previous year were reintegrated into the survey (33.1 percent). Of all new households, 46.8 percent were successfully converted into participating households (n=240). 2,858 households (18.6 percent of the gross sample) did not take part in the current wave. 40.1 percent of these households dropped out temporarily and will be contacted again next year. The remaining dropouts are permanent, so these households will not be contacted again. The main reason for final dropouts by far is permanent refusal, while other reasons do not account for many dropouts.

Table 1.20: **Participation by sample (with AAPOR codes)**

	Total		A-H		J-K		L1		L2/3		N		O	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross Sample	15,339	100.0	6,063	100.0	2,817	100.0	1,088	100.0	2,079	100.0	2,340	100.0	952	100.0
Interview (1.0)	12,481	81.4	5,106	84.2	2,375	84.3	894	82.2	1,592	76.6	1,889	80.7	625	65.7
Complete (1.1)	10,215	66.6	4,267	70.4	2,018	71.6	796	73.2	1,265	60.8	1,346	57.5	523	54.9
Partial (1.2)	2,266	14.8	839	13.8	357	12.7	98	9.0	327	15.7	543	23.2	102	10.7
Non-Interview (2.0)	2,858	18.6	957	15.8	442	15.7	194	17.8	487	23.4	451	19.3	327	34.3
Temporary dropout	1,147	7.5	294	4.8	161	5.7	97	8.9	225	10.8	200	8.5	170	17.9
Non-contact (2.20)	415	2.7	105	1.7	54	1.9	33	3.0	80	3.8	61	2.6	82	8.6
Temporary refusal (2.11)	571	3.7	156	2.6	76	2.7	58	5.3	95	4.6	123	5.3	63	6.6
Temporarily physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.321)	73	0.5	17	0.3	24	0.9	3	0.3	11	0.5	11	0.5	7	0.7
Household could not be traced (temporary) (3.18; 2.4)	47	0.3	4	0.1	6	0.2	3	0.3	24	1.2	5	0.2	5	0.5
Other temp. (2.52)	31	0.2	12	0.2	1	0.0	0	0.0	15	0.7	0	0.0	3	0.3
Household level language problems (2.331)	10	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	10	1.1
Final Dropout	1,711	11.2	663	10.9	281	10.0	97	8.9	262	12.6	251	10.7	157	16.5
Permanent refusal (2.111)	1,073	7.0	403	6.6	157	5.6	72	6.6	137	6.6	174	7.4	130	13.7
Permanently physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.322)	115	0.7	67	1.1	32	1.1	1	0.1	5	0.2	2	0.1	8	0.8
Deceased (2.31)	58	0.4	30	0.5	22	0.8	0	0.0	1	0.0	3	0.1	2	0.2
Moved abroad (4.2)	20	0.1	7	0.1	7	0.2	2	0.2	1	0.0	0	0.0	3	0.3
Household dissolved (4.2)	19	0.1	8	0.1	4	0.1	0	0.0	5	0.2	2	0.1	0	0.0
Household untraceable (4.4)	86	0.6	17	0.3	14	0.5	4	0.4	26	1.3	12	0.5	13	1.4
Dropped out temporarily in two consecutive waves	340	2.2	131	2.2	45	1.6	18	1.7	87	4.2	58	2.5	1	0.1

Table 1.20 displays fieldwork results on the household level for different samples and sample groups. The participation rate was slightly higher for the samples A-H, J-K, L1 and N than for CAWI/CAPI samples L2/3 and for the newest sample O.

Table 1.21: Participation by type of fieldwork 2018 (with AAPOR codes)¹

	Total		Interviewer-based		MAIL ²		CAWI ³	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross Sample	15,339	100.0	12,950	100.0	1,602	100.0	787	100.0
Interview (1.0)	12,481	81.4	10,556	81.5	1,317	82.2	608	77.3
Complete (1.1)	10,215	66.6	8,739	67.5	1,024	63.9	452	57.4
Partial (1.2)	2,266	14.8	1,817	14.0	293	18.3	156	19.8
Non-Interview (2.0)	2,858	18.6	2,394	18.5	285	17.8	179	22.7
Temporary dropout	1,147	7.5	951	7.3	94	5.9	102	13.0
Non-contact (2.20)	415	2.7	339	2.6	39	2.4	37	4.7
Temporary refusal (2.11)	571	3.7	466	3.6	50	3.1	55	7.0
Temporarily physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.321)	73	0.5	70	0.5	2	0.1	1	0.1
Household could not be traced (temporary) (3.18; 2.4)	47	0.3	37	0.3	2	0.1	8	1.0
Household level language problems (2.331)	31	0.2	29	0.2	1	0.1	1	0.1
Other temp. (2.52)	10	0.1	10	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
Final Dropout	1,711	11.2	1,443	11.1	191	11.9	77	9.8
Permanent refusal (2.111)	1,073	7.0	938	7.2	89	5.6	46	5.8
Permanently physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.322)	115	0.7	106	0.8	9	0.6	0	0.0
Deceased (2.31)	58	0.4	51	0.4	7	0.4	0	0.0
Moved abroad (4.2)	20	0.1	19	0.1	1	0.1	0	0.0
Household dissolved (4.2)	19	0.1	17	0.1	0	0.0	2	0.3
Household untraceable (4.4)	86	0.6	74	0.6	5	0.3	7	0.9
Dropped out temporarily in two consecutive waves	340	2.2	238	1.8	80	5.0	22	2.8

¹ By mode in which the household participated in 2018; For new households, mode in which the old households participated in 2018.

² All households in the MAIL mode used to be dropouts in the interviewer-based mode and were willing to continue participation via mail.

³ Households with start mode CAWI automatically switch to interviewer-based mode if they fail to participate online. Households from sample L2/3 with start mode interviewer can also switch to CAWI if they express interest in participating online.

Table 1.21 presents the level of participation for the different types of fieldwork. Since the mode can be switched during the wave if the household does not take part in the initial mode, it is important to note that the

table relies on the final mode in which the household participated in the previous wave. So, a household that is interviewed in CAWI mode first in 2019 might have participated in the interviewer-based mode if it failed to fill out the online questionnaires. This was the case for 9.7 percent of the households that started in CAWI mode (**Table 1.22**).

With 82.2 percent, the highest level of participation is reached in the MAIL mode, followed by the interviewer-based modes that achieved 81.5 percent (**Table 1.21**). CAWI mode as used in sample L2/3 produced slightly lower levels of participation. In 2019, 77.3 percent of households took part in the study via CAWI mode. With 13.0 percent, the CAWI mode shows a higher tendency towards temporary dropouts compared to other types of fieldwork. The percentage of final dropouts in turn is lower for web interviews.

Table 1.22: Type of fieldwork 2019 by type of fieldwork 2018¹

2019	2018		Interviewer-based		MAIL		CAWI	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Interview	12,481	100.0	10,556	100.0	1,317	100.0	608	100.0
Interviewer-based	10,507	84.2	10,440	98.9	8	0.6	59	9.7
MAIL	1,361	10.9	52	0.5	1,309	99.4	0	0.0
CAWI	613	4.9	64	0.6	0	0.0	549	90.3

¹ By mode in which the household participated in 2018; For new households, mode in which the old households participated in in 2018.

The overall response rate as well as the respective response rates for three different types of households are displayed in **Table 1.23**. To calculate the response rate, the total number of participating households is divided by the gross sample minus households which were impossible to survey in the present year. This includes households which moved abroad and households that permanently cannot be traced or because the last household member died. The overall response rate for this year's survey amounts to 82.4 percent. For households that participated in the previous wave, a response rate of 86.4 percent was reached. Response rates for the other two types of households, dropouts in the previous wave and new households, are generally lower. These amounted to 34.0 percent and 50.5 percent, respectively, in 2019.

Table 1.23: Response rate by type of household (in percent)

	Total	Respondents in previous wave	Dropouts in previous wave	New households
Response rate ¹	82.4	86.4	34.0	50.5

¹ RR = percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

Response rates for different samples and sample groups are presented in **Table 1.24**. Sample groups A-H, J-K all score response rates over 85 percent. With 82.6 percent for L1, 77.8 percent for L2/3 and 81.3 percent for N, response rates are slightly lower for these samples. These results mirror the general tendency of older samples and interviewer-administered samples to gain higher response rates.

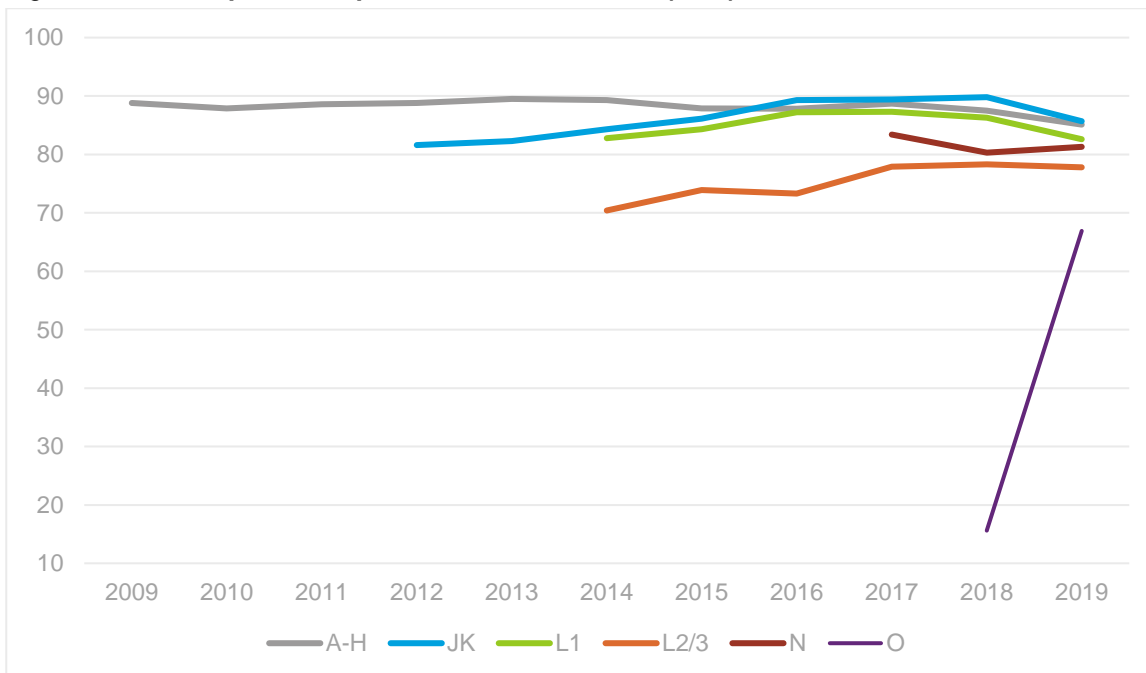
Table 1.24: Response rate by sample (in percent)

	Total	A-H	J-K	L1	L2/3	N	O
Response rate ¹	82.4	85.1	85.7	82.6	77.8	81.3	66.9

¹ RR = percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

As depicted in **Figure 1.3**, the response rates for samples A-H have been fairly stable between 2009 and 2019. After a continuous rise in response rates since their inclusion, samples J and K have been exceeding the response levels of the older samples since 2016. The response rates for L1 followed a similar path on a slightly lower level. Meanwhile, L2/3 started out on a much lower level than L1 in 2014 and increased by almost 20 percentage points in the following years. With 81.3 percent for sample N in 2019, the response rate increased again slightly compared to the prior year (80.3 percent). Sample O showed a significant upswing by 51.3 percentage points in the second wave, which is unsurprising due to the fact that households that fail to participate in the first wave are not included in the gross sample of the second wave.

Figure 1.3: Development response rates¹ since 2009 (in %)

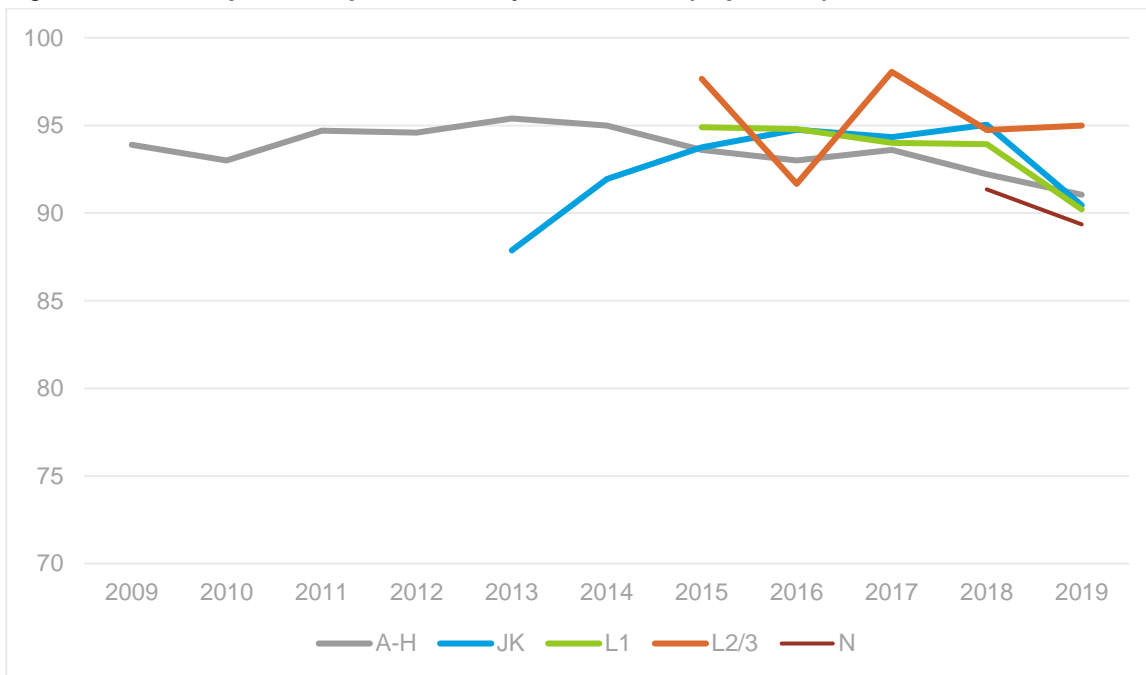


¹ RR= all households with at least one hh interview and one individual interview/(households in gross sample – households where the last person is deceased, moved abroad or is temporarily or permanently unable to participate or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

From a long-term perspective, panel stability can serve as an interesting indicator when monitoring and predicting a longitudinal sample's development in terms of overall size. Panel stability is calculated as the number of households participating in the current year compared to the number from the previous year. It reflects the net total effects of panel mortality on the one hand and panel growth (through new/split-off households or households that "re-joined" the panel) on the other hand.

In order to meaningfully assess panel stability rates over the years, the various subsamples should be processed for at least five consecutive waves. After this time period, the panel stability rates of samples are usually consolidated and therefore comparable. **Figure 1.4** shows that panel stability for sample groups A-H and J-K as well as for sample L1 has been relatively solid between 2009 and 2019. The level of stability slightly fluctuated between 2011 and 2013 for sample group A-H but never dropped below 90 percent. Panel stability for sample J-K shows a slight upward trend starting at 92 percent in 2014 and surpassing 95 percent in 2018 but dropped to 90.4 percent in 2019. Panel stability for sample L1 shows a slight upward trend starting at 95 percent in 2015 and peaking at 95.5 percent in 2016 before dropping to 90.4 percent in 2019. Panel stability for sample L2/3 shows a slight upward trend starting at 98 percent in 2015 and peaking at 98.5 percent in 2017 before dropping to 90.4 percent in 2019. Panel stability for sample N shows a slight upward trend starting at 92 percent in 2015 and peaking at 95 percent in 2017 before dropping to 90.4 percent in 2019.

Figure 1.4: **Development of panel stability¹ since 2009 (in percent)**



¹ Number of participating households divided by previous wave's net sample.

1.6.2 Participation on individual level

As presented in **Table 1.25**, 20,483 individuals from the core sample took part in the survey in 2019, which equals 66.0 percent of the gross sample. Consequently, 34.0 percent of all possible respondents in the gross sample did not participate this year. 19.0 percent of those individuals dropped out of the survey permanently and will not be approached by the interviewer again, while 15.0 percent will be asked to participate again in next year's survey wave. Regarding all respondents from the previous wave, 84 percent took part in the present year. Of 4,764 temporary dropouts in 2018, 758 individuals were successfully reintegrated in 2019, 101 of those whom had given a permanent refusal in an earlier wave and have been converted successfully. Additionally, 156 new panel members were recruited from existing or newly established households. Also, 172 young adults reached the age required to fully participate in the survey with the individual questionnaire. 75.8 percent of them did so.

Table 1.25: Participation by panel status (with AAPOR codes)

	Total		Respondents in previous wave		Temp. dropouts in previous wave		Permanent refusals in previous waves		New panel members ¹		Grown into Panel ²	
	Abs.	In % gross sample	Abs.	In% gross sample	Abs.	In % gross sample	Abs.	In % gross sample	Abs.	In % gross sample	Abs.	In % gross sample
Gross Sample ³	31,031	100.0	22,965	100.0	4,764	100.0	2,722	100.0	353	100.0	227	100.0
Interview (1.0)	20,483	66.0	19,296	84.0	758	15.9	101	3.7	156	44.2	172	75.8
Non-interview (2.0)	10,548	34.0	3,669	16.0	4,006	81.1	2,621	96.3	197	55.8	55	24.2
Temporary dropout	4,645	15.0	1,955	8.5	2,527	53.0	0	0.0	132	37.4	31	13.7
Non-contact (2.20)	106	0.3	77	0.3	19	0.4	0	0.0	7	2.0	3	1.3
Temporary refusal (2.112)	2,016	6.5	1,742	7.6	152	3.2	0	0.0	94	26.6	28	12.3
Temp. physically or mentally unable (2.321)	30	0.1	26	0.1	3	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.3	0	0.0
Person could not be traced (temporary) (3.18; 2.4)	52	0.2	46	0.2	6	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other temp. (2.52)	2,441	7.9	64	0.3	2,347	49.3	0	0.0	30	8.5	0	0.0
Final Dropout	5,903	19.0	1,714	7.5	1,479	31.0	2,621	96.3	65	18.4	24	10.6
Permanent refusal (2.111)	5,592	18.0	1,499	6.5	1,387	29.1	2,621	96.3	61	17.3	24	10.6
Perm. physically or mentally unable (2.322)	24	0.1	9	0.0	11	0.2	0	0.0	4	1.1	0	0.0
Deceased (2.31)	129	0.4	111	0.5	18	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Moved abroad (4.2)	45	0.1	30	0.1	15	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Person untraceable (4.4)	113	0.4	65	0.3	48	1.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

¹ New household members who have never been part of the panel.

² Former youths who have been part of the panel and take part as official respondents for the first time (with the individual questionnaire).

³ All household members intended to participate with the adult questionnaire in the current wave, not restricted to members of participating households.

The following **Table 1.26** includes the response rates for the different types of respondents. In total, an individual response rate of 66.6 percent was accomplished. For respondents in the previous wave, the response rate was 84.8 percent.

Table 1.26: **Response rate by panel status (in percent)**

	Total	Respondents in previous wave	Temp. dropouts in previous wave	Permanent refusals in previous waves	New panel members ²	Grown into Panel ³
Response rate ¹	66.6	84.8	16.2	3.7	44.2	75.8

¹ RR = percentage of all participants in the gross sample of individuals born before 2002 (gross sample adjusted for persons who are deceased, moved abroad or are untraceable).

² New household members who have never been part of the panel.

³ Former youths who have been part of the panel and take part as official respondents for the first time (with the individual questionnaire).

Along with response rates, the rate of partial unit non-response (PUNR) serves as a critical indicator to measure the success of the fieldwork process in a household survey. Of 12,481 households that took part in the survey in 2019, 10,215 were not missing any interviews from adults (**Table 1.19**). In the SOEP, we measure PUNR only for households with more than one household member. These rates are displayed in **Tables 1.27** and **1.28**.

In 2019, PUNR was 26.9 percent in samples A–O with notable differences between the samples. L1 shows the best measures with 13.2 percent, while PUNR in sample N is at 39.5 percent. In part, these differences might be due to the different heritage of these two samples. Sample L1 was introduced to the households as a family study, stressing the importance of both parents' participating in the survey. Meanwhile, the source of households in sample N is the study PIACC (Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies) which focused on individuals only in the first wave.

Table 1.27: **Partial unit non-response by sample (PUNR, in percent)**

	Total	A-H	J-K	L1	L2/3	N	O
PUNR ¹	26.9	25.1	23.8	13.2	28.4	39.5	32.4

¹ Share of households (number of household members > 1) with at least one missing individual questionnaire.

Table 1.28: **Partial unit non-response¹ by type of fieldwork 2019 (PUNR, in percent)**

	Total	Interviewer-based	MAIL ²	CAWI ³
PUNR ¹	26.9	25.7	33.0	33.3

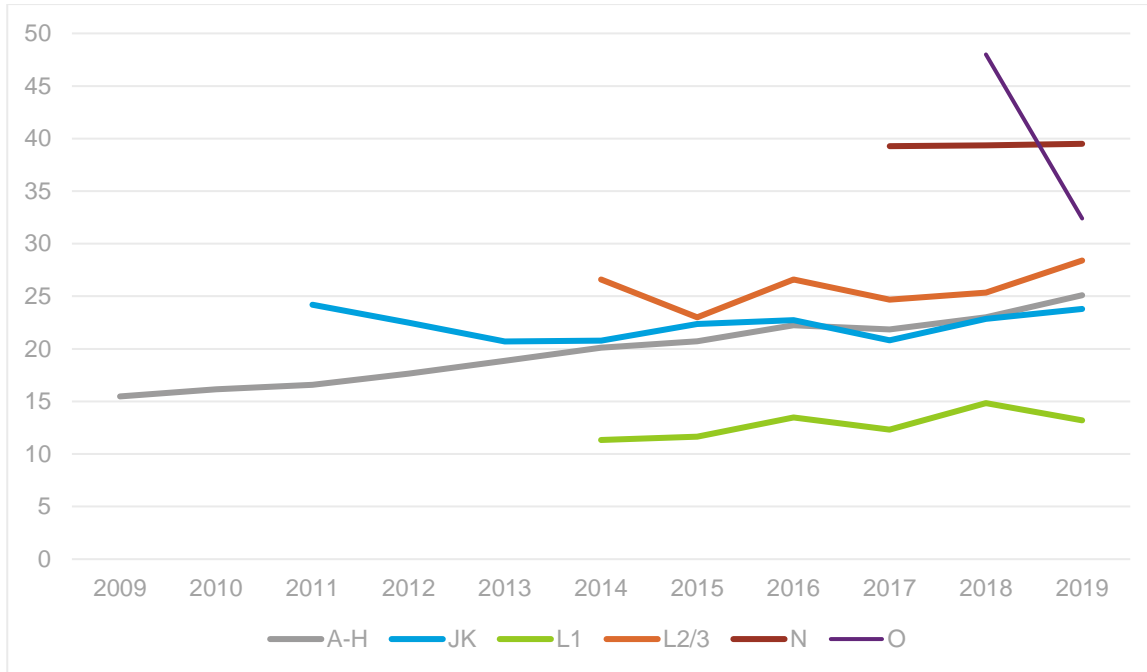
¹ Share of households (number of household members > 1) with at least one missing individual questionnaire.

² All households in the MAIL mode used to be dropouts in the interviewer-based mode but were willing to continue participation via mail.

³ Households with start mode CAWI automatically switch to interviewer-based mode if they fail to participate online. Households from sample L2/3 with start mode interviewer can also switch to CAWI, if they express interest in participating online.

The results in **Table 1.28** show that there are also differences in PUNR for the modes. Interviewers seem to be slightly more successful in generating complete households, with a PUNR of 25.7 percent compared to MAIL or CAWI, with rates around 33 percent.

Figure 1.5: Development partial unit non-response¹ since 2009 (PUNR, in percent)



¹ Share of households (number of household members > 1) with at least one missing individual questionnaire.

Looking at the last ten years, there is a slight upward trend visible concerning PUNR for most of the samples (**Figure 1.5**). This trend affects mainly the oldest samples A-H as well as sample L1, albeit at a generally much lower level of partial unit non-response.

1.6.3 Participation by types of questionnaires

The numbers of completed questionnaires for each sample or sample group respectively are presented in **Table 1.29**. Most individual questionnaires were completed in sample group A-H, followed by J-K and L2/3. The highest number of life-history questionnaires was answered in the oldest SOEP-samples A-H. In sample L2/3, high numbers of youth questionnaires were realized because of the specific age structure and high number of children in these samples. L1 stands out with a high number of questionnaires for mothers and older children as well as young teenagers because it consists of families with at least one child born in the years 2007 to 2010.

Table 1.29: Number of interviews by sample and questionnaire

	Total	A-H	J-K	L1	L2/3	N	O
Household questionnaire	12,481	5,106	2,375	894	1,592	1,889	625
Individual questionnaire	20,483	8,215	3,785	1,644	3,007	2,963	869
Life-history questionnaire	359	78	45	26	77	76	57
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	365	87	33	31	164	37	13
Cognitive competency tests	162	55	29	31	-	33	14
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	398	91	36	83	148	30	10
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	556	78	43	232	146	45	12
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	475	72	41	229	81	39	13
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8 ¹	477	113	61	137	52	91	23
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8 ²	290	69	38	76	31	61	15
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	272	90	31	63	34	37	17
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	222	77	33	34	23	36	19
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	226	74	36	23	32	41	20
Questionnaire "Gap"	512	155	65	49	164	79	-
Questionnaire "Deceased person"	414	148	92	38	50	69	17

¹ Total number of questionnaires filled out by either mother or father.

² Number of children for which at least one questionnaire was filled out.

Table 1.30 shows again that CAPI is the interviewing mode applied for the majority of interviews. In 2019, 68.2 percent of all individual questionnaires were completed via CAPI. Apart from CAPI, self-interviewing is the most widespread mode for individual interviews, with 2,675 cases in 2019. This is different for youth questionnaires, where CAWI is the second most applied interviewing mode.

Table 1.30: Number of interviews by mode and questionnaire

		Interviewer-Based		Centrally Administered			Total ¹
		CAPI	PAPI	SELF	MAIL	CAWI	
Household questionnaire	abs.	8,663	369	1,445	1,361	613	12,451
	In %	69.6	3.0	11.6	10.9	4.9	100.0
Individual questionnaire	abs.	13,899	499	2,675	2,109	1,200	20,382
	In %	68.2	2.4	13.1	10.3	5.9	100.0
Life-history questionnaire	abs.	282	1	31	21	24	359
	In %	78.6	0.3	8.6	5.8	6.7	100.0
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	abs.	208	6	52	30	69	365
	In %	57.0	1.6	14.2	8.2	18.9	100.0
Cognitive competency tests	abs.	-	-	162	-	-	162
	In %	-	-	100.0	-	-	100.0
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	abs.	216	6	74	30	70	396
	In %	54.5	1.5	18.7	7.6	17.7	100.0
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	abs.	335	12	109	25	53	534
	In %	62.7	2.2	20.4	4.7	9.9	100.0
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	abs.	324	12	82	29	27	474
	In %	68.4	2.5	17.3	6.1	5.7	100.0
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8 ²	abs.	296	13	114	32	16	471
	In %	62.8	2.8	24.2	6.8	3.4	100.0
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	abs.	176	0	0	34	5	215
	In %	81.9	0.0	0.0	15.8	2.3	100.0
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	abs.	136	0	0	29	8	173
	In %	78.6	0.0	0.0	16.8	4.6	100.0
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	abs.	144	0	0	36	0	180
	In %	80.0	0.0	0.0	20.0	.0	100.0
Questionnaire "Gap"	abs.	296	9	9	125	73	512
	In %	57.8	1.8	1.8	24.4	14.3	100.0
Questionnaire "Deceased person"	abs.	344	0	0	12	1	357
	In %	96.4	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.3	100

¹ For missing interviews, in comparison with the previous table, no information for mode was available.

² Total number of questionnaires filled out by either mother or father.

Response rates for the different questionnaires are reported in **Table 1.31**. These rates are calculated only for members of households that participated in the survey in the current wave. For the youth questionnaires, response rates are around 90 percent or slightly lower (age 16 and 17). For mother and child questionnaires, response rates well over 90 percent are usual with exception for the “Mother and child questionnaire: newborn”.

Table 1.31: **Response rates by questionnaire**

	Gross sample ¹	Number of interviews	Response Rate
Individual questionnaire	23,036	20,423	88.7
Life-history questionnaire	362	359	99.2
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	424	363	85.6
Cognitive competency tests	171	159	93.0
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	430	396	92.1
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	594	536	90.2
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	502	475	94.6
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8 ²	309	289	93.5
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	282	272	96.5
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	231	222	96.1
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	237	208	87.8
Questionnaire “Gap”	539	512	95.0
Questionnaire “Deceased person”	147	39	26.5

¹ Gross sample = target population in participating households (one household questionnaire and at least one individual questionnaire available), without household members who are deceased or have moved abroad.

² Number of children for which at least one questionnaire was filled out.

1.6.4 Interview length per questionnaire

Figures for the median interview length for each questionnaire and the different interviewing modes respectively are presented in **Table 1.32**. The median interview length for the household questionnaire amounts to 15 minutes in total. The individual questionnaire took 40 minutes to complete, with 90 percent of the interviews lasting between 23 and 65 minutes.

Table 1.32: **Median interview length (minutes) by questionnaire and mode¹**

	Total		CAPI	PAPI	SELF	CAWI
	Median	Percentiles (5%, 95%)	Median	Median	Median	Median
Household questionnaire	15	(10, 35)	15	20	20	20
Individual questionnaire	40	(23, 65)	40	45	45	35
Life-history questionnaire	21	(10, 58)	20	20	30	52
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	30	(15, 60)	30	28	33	25
Cognitive competency tests	Not recorded					
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	25	(12, 45)	25	29	30	25
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	25	(13, 45)	21	22	30	30
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	15	(10, 26)	15	15	15	15
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8	10	(5, 20)	10	12	10	10
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	Not recorded					
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	Not recorded					
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	Not recorded					
Questionnaire "Gap"	1	(1, 6)	1	5	5	1
Questionnaire "Deceased person"	Not recorded					

¹ For MAIL mode, interview length is not recorded.

1.6.5 Consent to record linkage

Table 1.33 presents figures regarding the respondents' consent to linking their survey data to data about their employment biography from the German Institute for Labor Market and Occupational Research (Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung, IAB). 64.2 percent of respondents who were chosen for record linkage gave their consent. The numbers are slightly lower for the older samples A-H and considerably higher for all newer samples. Most respondents gave their consent electronically.

Table 1.33: **Consent to record linkage**

	Total	A-H	J-K	L1	N	O
Gross sample ¹	20,483	8,215	3,785	1,644	3,007	2,963
Consent	13,144	3,976	2,768	1,235	2,048	2,430
Consent rate (in %)	64.2	48.4	73.1	75.1	68.1	82.0
Consent on paper	3,503	2,147	281	133	704	160
Consent in CAPI	9,641	1,829	2,487	1,102	1,344	2,270
Consent in CAPI (in %)	73.3	46.0	89.8	89.2	65.6	93.4

¹ Participating respondents in 2019, born in 2001 or later, in CAPI, CAWI and PAPI mode.

1.7 Data preparation

In a large-scale panel study such as the SOEP, data processing and data preparation are fundamentally important processes of quality management. During the entire process, we must ensure that we generate and provide optimal data quality that is consistent over the years: Only then can the necessary longitudinal consistency be generated which is required by the SOEP users that conduct panel analyses. Data processing and data preparation are elements of complex and multistage work processes. Moreover, the procedures and techniques of the data checking and data cleaning are constantly being further developed: partly through learning processes that are “content-related”, partly through optimizations that occur as a result of IT innovations. However, over the years, the main features remain unchanged and have been presented in more detail in the field report 2011 by Kantar⁵. The DIW receives the (net) data in two forms, the adjusted and unadjusted data sets. If required, data inferences can thus be identified and traced any time on a case-by-case basis.

The major elements of data processing and data preparation in the SOEP are data collection, data checking, data cleaning and data enrichment:

- **Data collection** includes all activities of the production process that serve to provide the collected data for further processing and preparation of the data.
- **Data checking** is the most important element of quality management, because the checking criteria defined here specify to what extent and at which points checks are carried out, and consequently, to what extent the collected raw data is edited.
- **Data cleaning** includes all direct inferences into the collected data at the individual case level, which are usually corrections of data errors in order to generate cross-sectional and panel consistency.
- In the **data enrichment** process, new information (both at the individual and the aggregated level) is generated and added to the data set as an additional variable. This means e.g. encoding open answers or adding spatial indicators.

The various elements of the data processing procedures cannot be strictly separated. They are rather interdependent and continuous processes. For instance, certain checking steps are already integrated into the data collection, and a large part of the data cleaning is conducted as part of the data checking. In addition to regarding the individual elements, it is useful to outline the process stages that emerge during data processing.

Preparatory activities:

- Creating or revising the data-entry screens and check programs
- Programming the data entry screens (scan programs)
- Testing the programs

Collection of data and address protocols; first preliminary checks:

- Scanning the paper questionnaires (including digital archiving of the scanned questionnaires)
- Converting all data collected with multimode into a uniform data format for data checking and delivery
- Collecting the address protocols (entry into the panel file)
- 1st checks on completeness of the households (correct quantity/type of completed questionnaires)
- First content checks (e.g. invalid multiple answers)
- Subsequent collection of certain information/missing questionnaires

⁵ SOEP Methodenbericht 2011, Huber et al.

Gross related basic checking:

- Checks on completeness and consistency of the various data sets per household (household data, individual data, additional questionnaire)
- Comparing the gross information (panel file) with questionnaire and address protocol information (identity, marital status, household composition, address)
- Clarifying inconsistencies/irregularities with the target households

Net related checking:

- Automatic checking of the single questionnaires according to certain processing rules and automatic setting of codes or completion/cleaning of the data
- Key checking elements: filtering, invalid multiple responses, total checks, value range, implausible answers
- Manual case-by-case checks for unclear cases
- Panel checks (checking the updated activities calendar, checking status information and status changes)
- Editing the interviewers' notes and respondents' comments (e.g. omitting names and addresses)

Data enrichment/coding:

- Coding open plaintext answers on the job title and the industry as well as the educational level obtained based on the most recent classification schemes
- Adding regional indicators (postcode, official municipality key, etc.)
- Adding Microm data (including geocoded addresses, GPS codes)
- Geocoding of places of birth inside and outside Germany

Final checking:

- Checking the entire prepared data stock (household questionnaire, individual questionnaire, additional questionnaire, gross data sets) for completeness and possible irregularities (including the correction of program and checking errors)

Data delivery:

- Transfer of pre-checked intermediate data after half of the field time
- Transfer of the code book (description of the variables and documentation of the coding rules)
- Transfer of the final integrated and standardized gross and net data files (anonymized) in checked and unchecked form

It should be mentioned here that the individual process steps are not conducted in a fixed order, but mostly simultaneously, interdependently and in several loops. In order to be able to deliver the checked, cleansed and enriched data promptly, the major part of the described work steps is organized "on a weekly basis" (according to "field weeks"). This means that the collected data are not gathered and processed at once at the end of the survey phase, but continuously right from the beginning of fieldwork. This means that almost all process steps are conducted on an ongoing basis.

1.8 Delivered data

Gross Data

Gross data Household	Hbru_A-O_2019.sav
Gross data Individuals	Pbru_A-O_2019.sav
Interviewer data	Intband_A-O_2019.sav
Contact process data A-O	Kontaktverlauf_A-O_2019.sav
SOEP Individuals A-O	P_A-O_2019.sav
Qualitative Special Surveys 2013-2019	Quali_A-O_2019.sav

Net Data

Net data Household checked	H19_A-O.sav
Net data Household unchecked	H19_A-O_u.sav
Net data children in the Household	H19_A-O_Kinder.sav
Net data Individuals checked	P19_A-O.sav
Net data Individuals unchecked	P19_A-O_u.sav
Net data Life history checked	L19_A-O.sav
Net data Life history unchecked	L19_A-O_u.sav
Net data Youth (age 16 or 17) checked	J19_A-O.sav
Net data Youth (age 16 or 17) unchecked	J19_A-O_u.sav
Net data Cognitive competency test	DJ19_A-O.sav
Net data Youth (age 13 or 14)	FJ19_A-O.sav
Net data Youth (age 11 or 12)	S19_A-O.sav
Net data Mother and child E (age 9 or 10)	ME19_A-O.sav
Net data Questionnaire for parents (age 7 or 8)	EL19_A-O.sav
Net data Mother and child C (age 5 or 6)	MC19_A-O.sav
Net data Mother and child B (age 2 or 3)	MB19_A-O.sav
Net data Mother and child A (newborn)	MA19_A-O.sav
„Gap“ data from 2018	LUE1_19_A-O.sav
Net data “Deceased person”	VP19_A-O.sav
Information on deceased persons from non-SOEP participants	VP19_A-O_Pnr99.sav

Other Data

Professions, sectors, final coding (incl. samples M1 and M2)	BerufeBranchenAusbildung_2019_A-O_M12.sav
University coding	Hochschul-Abschl_2019_A-O.sav

2 Samples M1/2

2.1 Introduction

Table 2.1 summarizes the main characteristics of the 2019 wave in samples M1/2. 1,421 households took part in the study between April and August. This results in an adjusted response rate of 72.6 percent, which is a slight decline compared to the wave of 2018 (74.1 percent). Participation of households that were respondents in the previous wave was at 79.8 percent. In all households, 2,515 adults and 171 youths gave interviews. For an additional 423 children of various age groups, data are available from interviews with a parent. 13 different questionnaires were fielded in up to three different modes. Partial unit non-response (PUNR⁶) was at 31.1 percent, a slightly lower value than in the previous wave (33.6 percent).

Table 2.1: **Summary fieldwork**

Fieldwork period	April - August
Mode (main questionnaires)	CAPI, PAPI, SELF
Gross sample (hh)	2,015
Net sample (hh)	1,421
Response rate (adjusted; hh) ¹	Overall: 72.6 Previous wave respondents: 79.8 Previous wave dropouts: 26.8 New households: 58.0
Number of questionnaires	Adults: 5 Youths: 3 Children: 5
Net sample (individuals)	Adults: 2,515 Youths: 171 Children: 423
Questionnaire length (median, in minutes)	Household: 15 Adult ² : 35
Partial unit non response	31.1

¹ RR = percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

² Without first-time respondents.

⁶ PUNR: share of households (number of household members > 1) with at least one missing individual questionnaire.

2.2 Development samples M1/2

The two subsamples that constitute the SOEP Migration Survey, which was designed to improve the representation of migrants living in Germany, are samples M1 and M2. Established in 2013, 2,723 households with at least one person with a migration background were interviewed to enhance the analytic potential for integration research and migration dynamics. A second migration sample (Sample M2) of 1,096 households was added in 2015.

Figure 2.1: Overview of migration samples

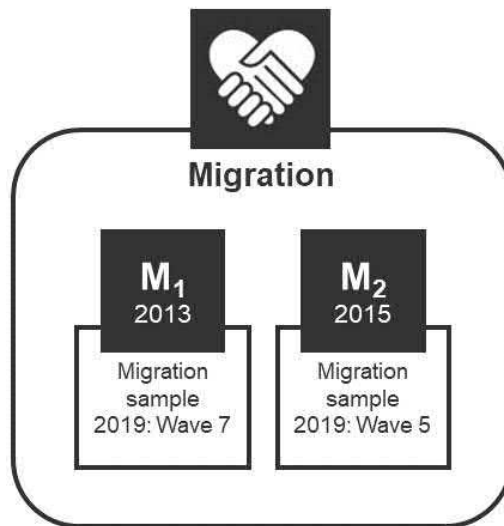
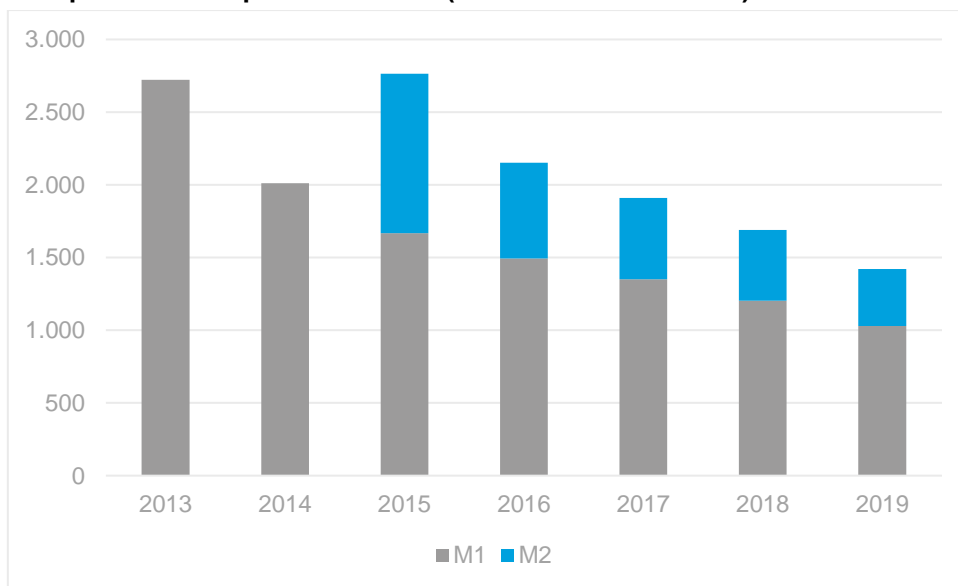


Figure 2.2: Development of samples since 2013 (number of households)



2.3 Structure of the gross sample

As presented in **Table 2.2**, 2,321 households were part of the gross sample of M1/2 in 2018, which is the basis for the administered gross sample for 2019. 72.6 percent of these households successfully participated without refusal for the next survey of 2019. 631 households (27.2 percent) did not participate in the survey in 2018. 265 households only dropped out temporarily and were part of this year's gross sample. 194 of the dropouts were final, and another 172 households were excluded for dropping out temporarily in two consecutive waves. Comparing the two samples M1 and M2 reveals that dropout rates were higher in the more recent sample M2.

Table 2.2: Final gross sample 2018 by type of household

Household level	Total		M1		M2	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	2,321	100.0	1,616	100.0	705	100.0
Participating households without refusal for next wave	1,686	72.6	1,199	74.2	487	69.1
Participating households with refusal for next wave	4	0.2	4	0.2	0	0.0
Temporary dropouts	265	11.4	176	10.9	89	12.6
Final dropouts	194	8.4	125	7.7	69	9.8
2-year rule	172	7.4	112	6.9	60	8.5

Table 2.3: Administered gross sample 2019 by type of household

Household level	Total		M1		M2	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	2,015	100.0	1,424	100.0	591	100.0
Participating households in previous wave	1,690	83.9	1,203	84.5	487	82.4
Temp. dropout in previous wave	265	13.2	176	12.4	89	15.1
New households (Split-off hhs)	60	3.0	45	3.2	15	2.5

Table 2.3 presents total and sample-related figures for the administered gross sample in 2019 distinguished by three different types of households. A total of 2,015 households was processed in the two samples M1 and M2. 83.9 percent of these households participated in the previous wave. 13.2 percent dropped out temporarily in 2018, while 3.0 percent are new households that emerge because panel members move out of existing panel households.

Table 2.4: Household characteristics by sub-samples I

Household Level	Total		M1		M2	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample¹	1,955	100.0	1,379	100.0	576	100.0
HH size						
1	342	17.5	235	17.0	107	18.6
2	514	26.3	379	27.5	135	23.4
3	422	21.6	278	20.2	144	25.0
4	419	21.4	306	22.2	113	19.6
5+	258	13.2	181	13.1	77	13.4
State						
Schleswig-Holstein	48	2.5	39	2.8	9	1.6
Hamburg	60	3.1	48	3.5	12	2.1
Lower Saxony	180	9.2	127	9.2	53	9.2
Bremen	19	1.0	13	0.9	6	1.0
North Rhine-Westphalia	530	27.1	397	28.8	133	23.1
Hesse	148	7.6	91	6.6	57	9.9
Rhineland Palatinate	126	6.4	84	6.1	42	7.3
Saarland	246	12.6	176	12.8	70	12.2
Baden-Wuerttemberg	351	18.0	225	16.3	126	21.9
Bavaria	23	1.2	22	1.6	1	0.2
Berlin	75	3.8	45	3.3	30	5.2
Brandenburg	39	2.0	30	2.2	9	1.6
Mecklenburg Western Pomerania	9	0.5	9	0.7	0	0.0
Saxony	35	1.8	31	2.2	4	0.7
Saxony-Anhalt	28	1.4	25	1.8	3	0.5
Thuringia	38	1.9	17	1.2	21	3.6

¹ Status as reported at the end of wave 2018. So new households and households that rejoined the panel in 2019 but were not part of fieldwork 2018 are missing.

Figures for basic household characteristics are presented in **Table 2.4** and **Table 2.5**. About half of the households in samples M1 and M2 consist of two or three household members. However, households with a higher number of members are not uncommon. A higher share of households in samples M1/2 is located in the center of larger cities (BIK-type = 0 or 2) compared to samples A-O.

Table 2.5: Household characteristics by sub-samples (II)

Household Level	Total		M1		M2	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample¹	1,955	100.0	1,379	100.0	576	100.0
BIK type²						
0	687	35.1	457	33.1	230	39.9
1	188	9.6	135	9.8	53	9.2
2	384	19.6	276	20.0	108	18.8
3	180	9.2	140	10.2	40	6.9
4	24	1.2	15	1.1	9	1.6
5	145	7.4	121	8.8	24	4.2
6	206	10.5	135	9.8	71	12.3
7	118	6.0	85	6.2	33	5.7
8	14	0.7	8	0.6	6	1.0
9	9	0.5	7	0.5	2	0.3
Community size³						
1	29	1.5	19	1.4	10	1.7
2	77	3.9	43	3.1	34	5.9
3	422	21.6	311	22.6	111	19.3
4	420	21.5	281	20.4	139	24.1
5	160	8.2	122	8.8	38	6.6
6	359	18.4	277	20.1	82	14.2
7	488	25.0	326	23.6	162	28.1

¹ Status as reported at the end of wave 2018. So new households and households that rejoined the panel in 2019 but were not part of fieldwork 2018 are missing.

² BIK-type: 0 (more than 500,000 inhabitants/center) 1 (more than 500,000 inh./periphery), 2 (100,000 to 499,999 inh./center)

3 (100,000 to 499,999 inh./periphery), 4 (50,000 to 99,999 inh./center), 5 (50,000 to 99,999 inh./periphery), 6 (20,000 to 49,999 inh.), 7 (5,000 to 19,999 inh.), 8 (2,000 to 4,999 inh.), 9 (fewer than 2,000 inh.)

³ Community size: 1 (fewer than 2000 inhabitants), 2 (2,000 to 5,000 inh.), 3 (5,000 to 20,000 inh.), 4 (20,000 to 50,000 inh.), 5 (50,000 to 100,000 inh.), 6 (100,000 to 500,000 inh.), 7 (more than 500,000 inh.).

2.4 Questionnaires and fieldwork material

2.4.1 Questionnaires

Table 2.6 displays which questionnaires were available in which modes for samples M1 and M2. For the main questionnaires, household and individual, only interviews in CAPI mode are permitted. But most supplementary questionnaires were also offered in PAPI mode. Only the cognitive competency test for 16- and 17-year-olds is provided solely as a paper questionnaire.

Table 2.6: **Questionnaires and modes**

	CAPI	PAPI
Household questionnaire	✓	-
Individual questionnaire	✓	-
Individual + life-history questionnaire	✓	-
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	✓	✓
Cognitive competency test	-	✓
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	✓	✓
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	✓	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	✓	✓
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8	✓	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	✓	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	✓	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	✓	✓
Questionnaire "Gap"	✓	-
Questionnaire "Deceased person"	✓	-

For data collection in the SOEP migration samples in 2019, all the questionnaires from SOEP-Core were used. The life-history questionnaire was adapted in samples A-O to better capture the individual migration background. Those changes were carried over to samples M1 and M2, so that the life-history questionnaire is identical for all SOEP-CORE samples (with the exception of the refugee sub-population in samples M3-5). This instrument was used for adult household members who were participating in the study for the first time.

2.4.2 Fieldwork material

In addition to the questionnaires, a whole range of fieldwork materials, such as letters, leaflets or documents for the interviewers, are designed, printed and sent to households and interviewers. **Table 2.7** provides an overview of the different material types that are prepared in samples M1/2. Because the mode is restricted to CAPI in these samples, the number of different versions of materials is notably smaller than in samples A-H. But many materials are provided in six different languages (German, English, Russian, Turkish, Romanian and Polish).

Advance letter

About two weeks before the start of the fieldwork period, the households receive an advance letter in which the interviewer's visit is announced.

Thank-you letter

Some time after participating in the study, each household receives a thank-you letter with a postage stamp enclosed as a small gift.

Leaflet

Every household in samples M1/2 receives an eight-page leaflet with SOEP reports and published results. The leaflet is handed over by the interviewer.

Declaration on data protection

Every household gets access to a two-page declaration on data protection detailing the organizations responsible for processing all respondent data along with a description of data handling and data recipients. The sheet is also handed out by the interviewers.

Consent to record linkage form

To all respondents born in 2000 or later and who have not been asked for their consent in one of the previous waves, a consent to record linkage form was presented that allows an individual linkage between the respondent's data and employment history data available at the Institute for Employment Research (Institut für Arbeitsmarkt und Berufsforschung, IAB Nuremberg)

Address form and household grid

The address form provides an overview of the household composition as it was last known to Kantar. The interviewers must document when and with whom the survey was conducted or why a sample member did not participate in the current year. They are also asked to note every single contact attempt made. For samples M1/2, interviewers do this electronically in the "Mein Kantar" software.

Moreover, the interviewers are asked to carefully document any moves of households and household members or changes in household composition. An additional form had to be completed for every person that has left the household since the last survey because all of these remain potential respondents and are tracked even if the new address is unknown.

Showcards

Showcards are used by interviewers during the CAPI interview to show respondents longer item lists or scales.

Table 2.7: **Fieldwork material**

CAPI	
Advance letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 6 languages (German, English, Russian, Turkish, Romanian and Polish)
Thank-you letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In German language
Leaflet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 6 languages
Declaration on data protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 6 languages
Consent to record linkage form ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In German language
Address form and household grid ²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic form (Mein Kantar)
Showcards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In German language
Project instruction book	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Version for M1-2
Other interviewer material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project description • Contact card • HH information card

¹ Institute for Employment Research (Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung, IAB Nuremberg): [Link to employment history data.](#)

² Including the so-called "B3 Form" used to process address changes.

Project instruction book

In addition to a shorter project description, interviewers in samples M1/2 also receive a much more detailed instruction manual that is about 60 pages long. This manual contains information on special features of the current wave, specific processing instructions and questionnaires as well as background information on the project.

Other interviewer material

In addition, the interviewers receive contact cards for households that could not be reached at home and household information cards with information on individual numbers, names, years of birth, types of questionnaires, incentives, survey modes, and notes.

2.5 Conducting the survey

2.5.1 Survey mode

The mode for the main questionnaires in samples M1/2 (household, individual) are restricted to CAPI, which results in a 100% share of CAPI interviews for these interviews. Meanwhile, PAPI versions of the youth and child questionnaires exist and can be used.

An overview of the different interviewing modes used for the youth questionnaires is provided in **Table 2.8**. With 82.6 percent over both samples, the majority of interviews was conducted in CAPI mode. Another 16.6 percent of all interviews were submitted via self-interviewing.

Table 2.8: Interviewing modes by sub-samples – youth questionnaires

Individual level	Interviewer-Based				
		CAPI	PAPI	SELF	Total
M1	Abs.	99	1	13	113
	In %	87.6	0.9	11.5	100.0
M2	Abs.	40	1	15	56
	In %	71.4	1.8	26.8	100.0
Total	Abs.	139	2	28	169
	In %	82.2	1.2	16.6	100.0

As shown in **Table 2.9**, with 89.8 percent, the proportion of interviews conducted in CAPI mode is even higher for the child questionnaires. Self-interviewing was done only in 7.4 percent of all cases and PAPI only in nine of all cases in total.

Table 2.9: Interviewing modes by sub-samples – child questionnaires

Individual level	Interviewer-Based				
		CAPI	PAPI	SELF	Total
M1	Abs.	195	2	16	213
	In %	91.5	0.9	7.5	100.0
M2	Abs.	96	7	8	111
	In %	86.5	6.3	7.2	100.0
Total	Abs.	291	9	24	324
	In %	89.8	2.8	7.4	100.0

2.5.2 Fieldwork timing

The fieldwork started in April and ended in September. **Table 2.10** shows figures for the fieldwork progress referring to the gross sample as well as the net sample. The most productive months in terms of conducted interviews were April, May and June. The following months were mainly used to convert soft refusals and access difficult-to-reach households.

Table 2.10: **Monthly fieldwork progress**

Household level	Gross Sample		Net Sample	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
April ¹	776	38.5	637	44.8
May	405	20.1	330	23.2
June	265	13.2	195	13.7
July	307	15.2	161	11.3
August	212	10.5	89	6.3
September	50	2.5	9	0.6

¹ Including households that refused to take part in the survey prior to start of fieldwork.

2.5.3 Translations

Table 2.11 provides an overview of the availability of questionnaires in different languages. In 2019, the household questionnaire as well as the individual and life-history questionnaires were available in five alternative languages other than German, namely English, Russian, Turkish, Romanian and Polish.

Table 2.11: **Translated paper questionnaires**

	English	Russian	Turkish	Romanian	Polish
Household questionnaire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Individual questionnaire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Life-history questionnaire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Youth questionnaires ¹	-	-	-	-	-
Mother and child questionnaires/ questionnaire for parents	-	-	-	-	-
Additional questionnaires ²	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Including cognitive competency test.

² Gap, Deceased person.

The following **Table 2.12** contains information about language problems and the usage of translated questionnaires in samples M1 and M2. Of all conducted interviews, 13.1 percent required assistance with language problems. For those interviews, translated paper questionnaires were used in most cases. Also, assistance by a German-speaking person in the same household was relatively frequent.

Table 2.12: **Language problems and usage of translated paper questionnaires**

	Total	In % Net Sample
Net sample (individual questionnaire) ¹	2,515	100.0
No language problems occurred/no need for assistance with language problems	2,185	86.9
Assistance with language problems needed	330	13.1
Of that number:		
German-speaking person in the same household	147	5.8
German-speaking person from outside the household	22	0.9
Professional interpreter	6	0.2
Translated paper questionnaire	159	6.3
Of that number:		
English	15	0.6
Russian	65	2.6
Turkish	24	1.0
Romanian	31	1.2
Polish	26	1.0

¹ Including all individual questionnaires even if the household in which they are conducted is classified as a non-participating household.

2.5.4 Panel maintenance and incentives

The incentives for respondents in samples M1/2 are very similar to those in the newer samples J, K and L1 within samples A-O. Adult participants receive cash incentives from the interviewers after they complete their interview. The individual questionnaire is rewarded with 10 euros, while the shorter household questionnaire is rewarded with 5 euros. Children in the households that participate in one of the youth questionnaires are presented with a small gift such as a power bank to charge their phone or a small puzzle (**Table 2.13**).

In addition to the individual incentives, interviewers bring a small gift to all households which is presented upon arrival. This year's gift was a high-quality pen and branded post-its. Furthermore, parents of newborns receive a small photo album via mail.

Table 2.13: **Incentives**

M1/2	
Incentives for adults	HH: 5 euros Adult: 10 euros
Incentives for youth and child questionnaire	Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17: Power bank Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14: Small clock Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12: Small puzzle Child questionnaires: No incentive

2.5.5 Movers and tracing

Figures on movers and sources of new addresses are given in **Table 2.14**. Of 2,015 households in the gross sample in 2019, 14.1 percent were movers or new households. The tracing of those households was successful in 84.2 percent of all cases. The most important sources of information about addresses were the interviewers (48.8 percent), followed by the local registration offices (37.2 percent) that provide information about residents' current addresses if there is a scientific interest behind the inquiry. Another significant source is the postal service that movers sometimes notify of their new address (12.3 percent).

Table 2.14: **Movers and sources of new addresses of administered sample 2019**

Household level	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	2,015	100.0
Movers and new households	285	14.1
Tracing success		
Tracing successful	240	84.2
Tracing not successful	45	15.8
Source		
Interviewer	139	48.8
Postal service	35	12.3
Local registration offices	106	37.2
Participant	5	1.8

2.5.6 Interviewer characteristics, training & monitoring

Information on some interviewer characteristics is collected in **Table 2.15**. In total, 186 interviewers were involved in samples M1 and M2 in 2019. At 61.8 percent, the share of male interviewers is significantly higher than the share of female ones. The majority of interviewers are between 60 and 79 years old and are responsible for fewer than 20 households in samples M1/2.

Table 2.15: Interviewer characteristics

Interviewer level	Total		M1		M2	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Number of interviewers	186	100,0	169	100,0	121	100,0
Gender						
Male	115	61,8	106	62,7	76	62,8
Female	71	38,2	63	37,3	45	37,2
Age						
21-39 years	10	5,4	10	5,9	6	5,0
40-59	44	23,7	41	24,3	30	24,8
60-79	118	63,4	107	63,3	73	60,3
80+	14	7,5	11	6,5	12	9,9
Number of households (gross)						
Fewer than 5	54	29,0	63	37,3	71	58,7
5 – 19	110	59,1	94	55,6	48	39,7
20 – 99	22	11,8	12	7,1	2	1,7
More than 99	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0

Interviewer experience in samples M1/2 is comparable to the newer samples within samples A-O. Many interviewers fall into the category of 5-9 years of experience with the SOEP while having a bit more experience with working with Kantar in general (**Table 2.16**).

Interviewer training for samples M1/2 usually takes part together with the training for samples A-O at the beginning of the year. This was also the case in 2019 (see **Section 1.5.6**).

Table 2.16: Interviewer experience

Interviewer level	Total		M1		M2	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Number of Interviewers	186	100.0	169	100.0	121	100.0
Experience with Kantar						
0-4 years of experience with Kantar	31	16.7	31	18.3	20	16.5
5-9 years	50	26.9	46	27.2	27	22.3
10-19 years	78	41.9	68	40.2	52	43.0
20-29 years	18	9.7	17	10.1	14	11.6
30-39 years	5	2.7	3	1.8	4	3.3
More than 40 years	4	2.2	4	2.4	4	3.3
Experience with SOEP						
0-4 years	41	22.0	39	23.1	26	21.5
5-9 years	69	37.1	63	37.3	39	32.2
10-19 years	67	36.0	59	34.9	49	40.5
20-29 years	4	2.2	4	2.4	2	1.7
30-34 years	1	0.5	1	0.6	1	0.8
More than 35 years	4	2.2	3	1.8	4	3.3

Kantar places high priority on interviewer monitoring and has put an ISO-certificated process in place that is audited regularly. Kantar adheres to the German Business Association of Market and Social Research Institutes (Arbeitskreis Deutscher Markt- und Sozialforschungsinstitute e.V., ADM) standards for internal regulation and monitoring of all systems and procedures. This means that a minimum of 10 percent of Kantar's annual interviews are checked, and every interviewer is monitored at least once a year.

In 2018, we expanded these existing quality-control measures for interviewer monitoring in the SOEP projects. The basic interviewer monitoring concept was expanded to a project-based control system for all SOEP samples: A number of participating households is contacted shortly after the interview by letter or phone asking them to confirm their participation in a regularly conducted interview. In case of inconsistencies and/or irregularities, we attempted to gain clarification through direct contact with respondents, primarily by telephone. We have also begun building a comprehensive suite of bespoke analytical tools to uncover irregularities in the survey data and para data. The indicators produced by this tool are can lead to further measures taken in the re-contacting process.

Table 2.17: Interviewer monitoring

	Total		
	Abs.	In %	In %
By households			
Households in net sample	1,421	100.0	-
Re-contacted households	551	38.8	100.0
Households with feedback	371	26.1	67.3
By interviewers			
Interviewers in net sample	174	100.0	-
Interviewers with re-contacted households ¹	144	82.8	-
Interviewers with non-standard behavior	0	0.0	-

¹ Only interviewers with few net cases are missing from the re-contacts.

Table 2.17 shows details for the re-contacting process in samples M1/2. In existing panel samples, the aim is to re-contact at least 10 percent of households for every interviewer in every SOEP project. In M1/2, there is an additional requirement to re-contact at least 30 percent of households for every interviewer who is responsible for more than 1.5 percent of the households in the net samples. Hence, 38.8 percent of households in samples M1/2 were re-contacted. For these households whose interviewers had a response rate significantly below 30 percent, a short paper questionnaire was administered, which was then followed up by phone.

Overall, we re-contacted 551 households in samples M1/2 and received feedback from 371 households. This results in a response rate of 67.3 percent overall. We did not identify any interviewers who had not adhered to our standards in conducting interviews in the 2019 fieldwork period.

2.6 Fieldwork results

2.6.1 Participation on household level

Numbers of participation for three different types of households are provided in **Table 2.18**. Of 2,015 households in the gross sample, 1,421 households were successfully interviewed, which amounts to 70.5 percent.

Table 2.18: **Participation by type of household (with AAPOR codes)**

	Total		Respondents in previous wave		Dropouts in previous wave		New households	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	2,015	100.0	1,690	100.0	265	100.0	60	100.0
Interview (1.0)	1,421	70.5	1,326	78.5	66	24.9	29	48.3
Complete (1.1)	1,079	53.5	1,014	60.0	41	15.5	24	40.0
Partial (1.2)	342	17.0	312	18.5	25	9.4	5	8.3
Non-interview (2.0)	594	29.5	364	21.5	199	75.1	31	51.7
Temporary dropout	255	12.7	242	14.3	0	0.0	13	21.7
Non-contact (2.20)	106	5.3	103	6.1	0	0.0	3	5.0
Temporary refusal (2.11)	129	6.4	124	7.3	0	0.0	5	8.3
Temporarily physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.321)	8	0.4	8	0.5	0	0.0	0	0.0
Household could not be traced (temporary) (3.18; 2.4)	7	0.3	2	0.1	0	0.0	5	8.3
Other temp. (2.52)	5	0.2	5	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0
Final dropout	339	16.8	122	7.2	199	75.1	18	30.0
Permanent refusal (2.111)	168	8.3	91	5.4	71	26.8	6	10.0
Permanently physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.322)	4	0.2	2	0.1	1	0.4	1	1.7
Deceased (2.31)	2	0.1	1	0.1	1	0.4	0	0.0
Moved abroad (4.2)	16	0.8	9	0.5	7	2.6	0	0.0
Household dissolved (4.2)	2	0.1	0	0.0	2	0.8	0	0.0
Household untraceable (4.4)	38	1.9	19	1.1	9	3.4	10	16.7
Dropped out temporarily in two consecutive waves	109	5.4	0	0.0	108	40.8	1	1.7

Of the remaining 594 households, 255 temporarily dropped out of the survey (12.7 percent of the gross sample). Many of these households stated that they were currently unwilling to participate, e.g. due to lack of time. 339 households dropped out of the survey permanently (16.8 percent of the gross sample). Nearly a third of them were excluded from the survey for dropping out temporarily in two consecutive waves. Of all the households that temporarily dropped out in the previous wave, 24.9 percent participated again in 2019. Additionally, 48.3 percent of all new households were successfully integrated into the survey.

Table 2.19 presents numbers of participation for both samples M1 and M2. At 72.3 percent, the participation rate in 2019 on household level was slightly higher for the larger sample M1. Temporary dropouts and permanent ones both occurred more often in M2.

Table 2.19: **Participation by sample (with AAPOR codes)**

	Total		M1		M2	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	2,015	100.0	1,424	100.0	591	100.0
Interview (1.0)	1,421	70.5	1,030	72.3	391	66.2
Complete (1.1)	1,079	53.5	784	55.1	295	49.9
Partial (1.2)	342	17.0	246	17.3	96	16.2
Non-interview (2.0)	594	29.5	394	27.7	200	33.8
Temporary dropout	255	12.7	171	12.0	84	14.2
Non-contact (2.20)	106	5.3	76	5.3	30	5.1
Temporary refusal (2.11)	129	6.4	78	5.5	51	8.6
Temporarily physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.321)	8	0.4	7	0.5	1	0.2
Household could not be traced (temporary) (3.18; 2.4)	7	0.3	5	0.4	2	0.3
Other temp. (2.52)	5	0.2	5	0.4	0	0.0
Final dropout	339	16.8	223	15.7	116	19.6
Permanent refusal (2.111)	168	8.3	113	7.9	55	9.3
Permanently physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.322)	4	0.2	4	0.3	0	0.0
Deceased (2.31)	2	0.1	2	0.1	0	0.0
Moved abroad (4.2)	16	0.8	5	0.4	11	1.9
Household dissolved (4.2)	2	0.1	2	0.1	0	0.0
Household untraceable (4.4)	38	1.9	21	1.5	17	2.9
Dropped out temporarily in two consecutive waves	109	5.4	76	5.3	33	5.6

Table 2.20 provides response rates for three different types of households. In total, an adjusted response rate of 72.6 was achieved on household level in 2019. For households which responded in the previous wave, the rate was higher at 79.8 percent. Dropouts in the previous wave and new households usually attain notably lower response rates.

Table 2.20: **Response rate by type of household (in %)**

	Total	Respondents in previous wave	Dropouts in previous wave	New households
Response rate ¹	72.6	79.8	26.8	58.0

¹ RR = percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

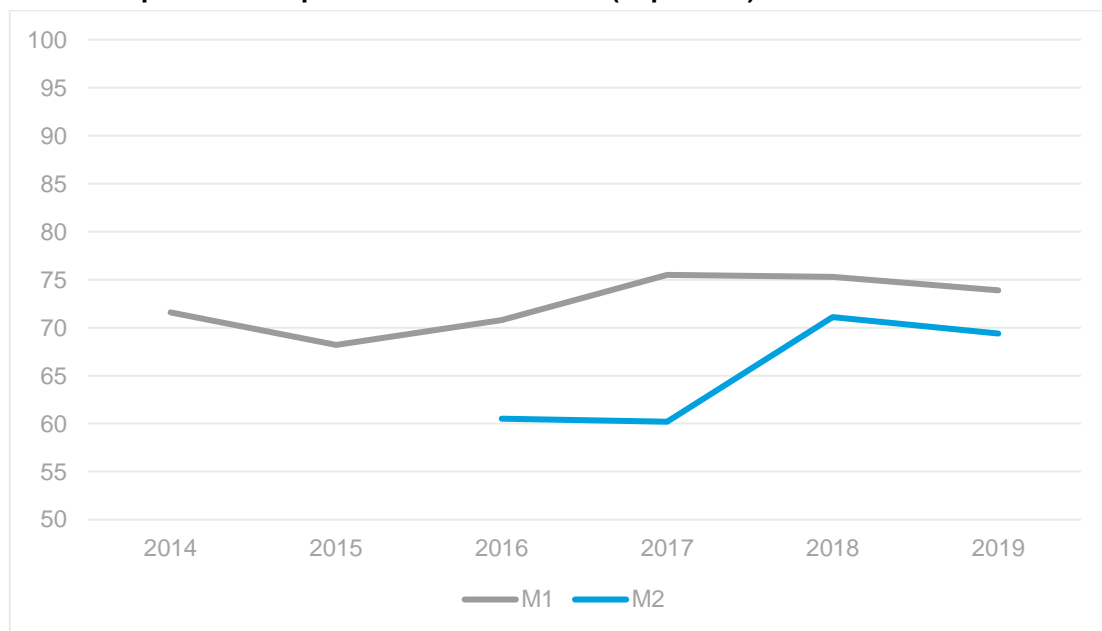
Regarding the two samples M1 and M2 (**Table 2.21**), a slightly higher response rate was achieved for the older sample M1.

Table 2.21: **Response rate by sample (in %)**

	Total	M1	M2
Response rate ¹	72.6	73.9	69.4

¹ RR = percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

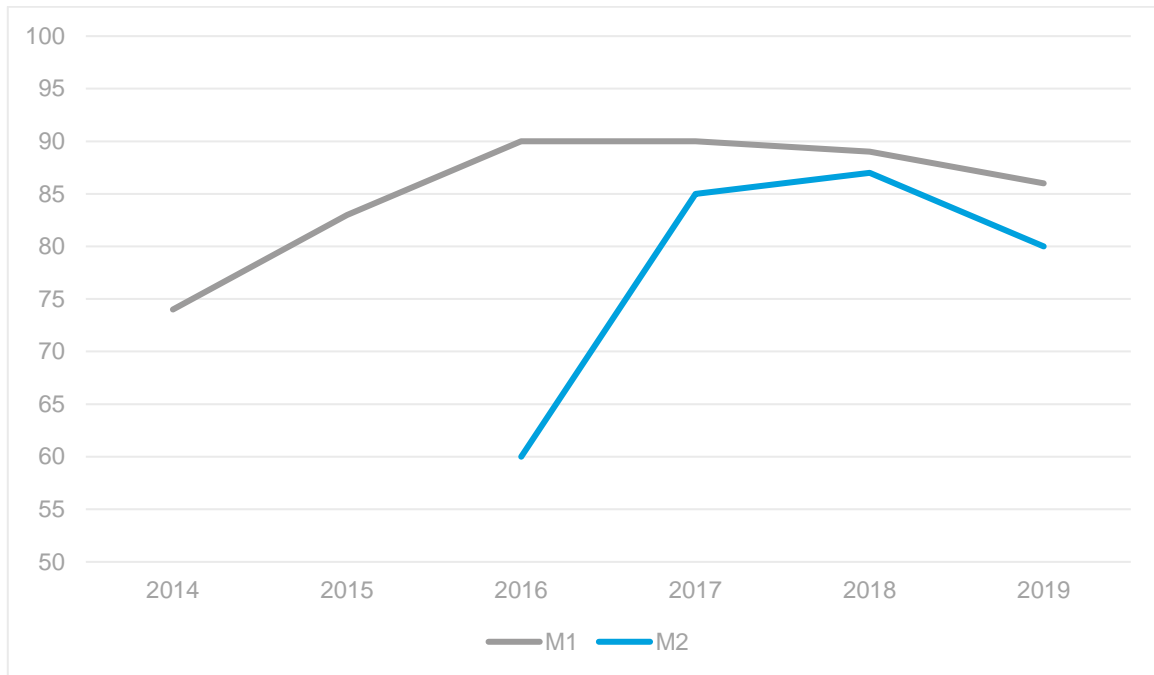
Figure 2.3: **Development of response rates¹ since 2014 (in percent)**



¹ RR = percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

As visualized in **Figure 2.3**, the response rate for sample M2 has been on a lower level than M1 since its inclusion. This year's result of a 69.4 percent response rate for M2 forms a substantial improvement compared to 2017 (60.1), while M1 remained fairly stable over the last three waves.

Figure 2.4: Development of panel stability¹ since 2014 (in percent)



¹ Number of participating households divided by previous wave's net sample.

Figure 2.4 provides an overview of the development of panel stability for both samples. The panel stability for M1 has been increasing constantly between 2014 and 2016 to then level off at around 90 percent and has been in constant but gradual decline since, reaching 85.6 percent in 2019. M2's panel stability has been on the rise as well, setting a new record with 87.1 percent in 2018 and dropping again in 2019 to 80.3 percent.

2.6.2 Participation on individual level

Figures for individual-level participation by five different kinds of panel states are presented in **Table 2.22**. Of 4,846 individuals in the gross sample, 51.9 percent were successfully interviewed. Another 22.6 percent dropped out temporarily while 25.5 percent do not want to take part in the survey at all and have expressed this wish either in the current or one of the previous waves. 1,194 individuals dropped out of the survey temporarily in 2018 and were invited one more time to this year's survey. 11.5 percent of them participated. 39 individuals joined existing panel households. 51.3 percent of them provided an interview. Another 58 individuals reached the required age to become a regular panel member this year. 79.3 percent of them participated. Also, we welcomed back 27 persons who had previously stated their permanent refusal to participate back to the panel in 2019 (4.6 percent).

Table 2.22: Participation by panel status (with AAPOR codes)

	Total		Respondents in previous wave		Temp. dropouts in previous wave		Permanent refusals in previous waves		New panel members ¹		Grown into Panel ²	
	Abs.	In % gross sample	Abs.	In% gross sample	Abs.	In % gross sample	Abs.	In % gross sample	Abs.	In % gross sample	Abs.	In % gross sample
Gross sample ³	4,846	100.0	2,962	100.0	1,194	100.0	593	100.0	39	100.0	58	100.0
Interview (1.0)	2,515	51.9	2,285	77.1	137	11.5	27	4.6	20	51.3	46	79.3
Non-interview (2.0)	2,331	48.1	677	22.9	1,057	88.5	566	95.4	19	48.7	12	20.7
Temporary dropout	1,097	22.6	461	15.6	618	51.8	0	0.0	9	23.1	9	15.5
Non-contact (2.20)	24	0.5	12	0.4	10	0.8	0	0.0	2	5.1	0	0.0
Temporary refusal (2.112)	474	9.8	432	14.6	29	2.4	0	0.0	4	10.3	9	15.5
Temporarily physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.321)	6	0.1	5	0.2	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Person could not be traced (temporary) (3.18; 2.4)	12	0.2	10	0.3	2	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other temp. (2.52)	581	12.0	2	0.1	576	48.2	0	0.0	3	7.7	0	0.0
Final dropout	1,234	25.5	216	7.3	439	36.8	566	95.4	10	25.6	3	5.2
Permanent refusal (2.111)	1,144	23.6	164	5.5	402	33.7	566	95.4	10	25.6	2	3.4
Permanently physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.322)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Deceased (2.31)	9	0.2	5	0.2	4	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Moved abroad (4.2)	31	0.6	17	0.6	14	1.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Person untraceable (4.4)	50	1.0	30	1.0	19	1.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.7

¹ New household members who have never been part of the panel.

² Former youths who have been part of the panel and take part as official respondents for the first time (with the individual questionnaire).

³ All household members intended to participate with the individual questionnaire in the current wave, not restricted to members of participating households.

Participation numbers aggregate to a total adjusted response rate of 52.7 percent on the individual level (**Table 2.23**). The rate for previous-wave respondents is noticeably higher, while previous-wave dropouts, new panel members and youths produced lower response rates.

Table 2.23: Response rate (in percent)

	Total	Respondents in previous wave	Temp. dropouts in previous wave	Permanent refusals in previous waves	New panel members ²	Grown into Panel ³
Response rate ¹	52.7	78.5	11.8	4.6	35.1	80.7

¹ RR = percentage of all participants in the gross sample of individuals born before 2002 (gross sample adjusted for persons who are deceased, moved abroad or are untraceable).

² New household members who have never been part of the panel.

³ Former youths who have been part of the panel and take part as official respondents for the first time (with the individual questionnaire).

A major concern for all SOEP samples is the rate of partial unit non-response (PUNR). A household counts towards PUNR if at least one individual questionnaire is missing. Figures for the survey wave in 2019 are provided in **Table 2.24**. With 30.8 percent, the PUNR was slightly lower in M1 than in M2 with 31.8 percent.

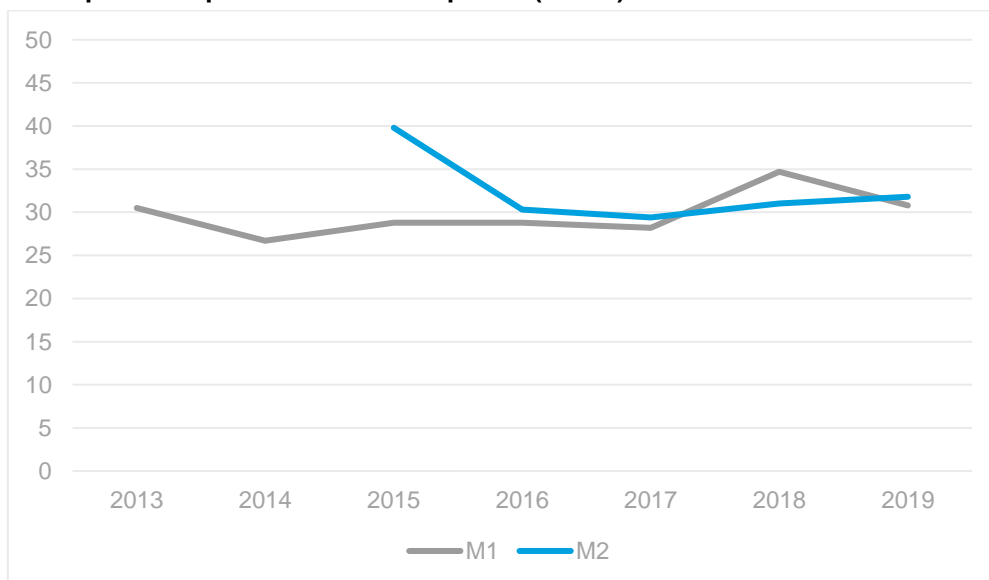
Table 2.24: Partial unit non-response¹ (in percent)

	Total	M1	M2
PUNR ¹	31.1	30.8	31.8

¹ Share of households (number of household members > 1) with at least one missing individual questionnaire.

Figure 2.5 visualizes how partial unit non-response rates have developed since 2013. Between 2015 and 2017, the rate was fairly constant and below 30 percent for M1. In 2018 experienced a moderate increase. Between 2019 and the previous wave we can observe a drop in PUNR of 2.5 percentage points.

Figure 2.5: Development of partial unit non-response (PUNR) since 2013¹



¹ Share of households (number of household members > 1) with at least one missing individual questionnaire.

2.6.3 Participation by types of questionnaires

Table 2.25 presents figures on the frequency of each questionnaire. For samples M1 and M2 combined, 1,421 household and 2,515 individual interviews were conducted. Generally, figures are lower for the smaller sample M2. Regarding the youth and child questionnaires, numbers between 30 and 140 are attained. Two sets of numbers are provided for the questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8. Contrary to the mother and child questionnaires, both parents were asked to answer this questionnaire. The first set of values equals the total amount of questionnaires completed while the second set counts only one questionnaire per child.

Table 2.25: Number of interviews by sample and questionnaire

	Total	M1	M2
Household questionnaire	1,421	1,030	391
Individual questionnaire	2,515	1,865	650
Life-history questionnaire	45	33	12
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	38	26	12
Cognitive competency tests	36	25	11
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	63	45	18
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	70	42	28
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	64	43	21
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8 ¹	141	95	46
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8 ²	81	55	26
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	63	45	18
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	84	45	39
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	71	44	27
Questionnaire "Gap"	133	95	38
Questionnaire "Deceased person"	33	30	3

¹ Total number of questionnaires filled out by either mother or father.

² Number of children for whom at least one questionnaire was filled out.

Numbers of completed questionnaires for each interviewing mode are provided in **Table 2.26**. The household questionnaire, individual questionnaire as well as the life-history questionnaire were exclusively carried out in CAPI mode, as this is the only mode allowed. Self-interviewing with a paper questionnaire provided by the interviewer is the only available mode for the cognitive competency test and was otherwise relevant especially

for the youth questionnaires for ages 13 or 14 as well as 11 or 12 and for the mother and child questionnaire age 9 or 10 and the parent questionnaire.

Table 2.26: Number of interviews by mode and questionnaire

		Interviewer-Based			Total
		CAPI	PAPI	SELF	
Household questionnaire	abs.	1,420	0	0	1,420
	In %	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Individual questionnaire	abs.	2,513	0	0	2,513
	In %	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Life-history questionnaire	abs.	44	0	1	45
	In %	97.8	0.0	2.2	100.0
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	abs.	32	0	6	38
	In %	84.2	0.0	15.8	100.0
Cognitive competency tests	abs.	-	-	36	36
	In %	-	-	100.0	100.0
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	abs.	51	1	10	62
	In %	82.3	1.6	16.1	100.0
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	abs.	56	1	12	69
	In %	81.2	1.4	17.4	100.0
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	abs.	50	4	10	64
	In %	78.1	6.3	15.6	100.0
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8 ¹	abs.	104	9	28	141
	In %	73.8	6.4	19.9	100.0
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8 ²	abs.	61	6	14	81
	In %	75.3	7.4	17.3	100.0
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	abs.	50	0	0	50
	In %	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	abs.	67	0	0	67
	In %	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	abs.	63	0	0	63
	In %	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Questionnaire "Gap"	abs.	133	0	0	133
	In %	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Questionnaire "Deceased person"	abs.	31	0	0	31
	In %	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0

¹ For missing interviews, in comparison with the previous table, no information for this mode was available.

² Total number of questionnaires filled out by either mother or father.

The response rate for each respective questionnaire is presented in **Table 2.27**. With 2,511 conducted interviews with adults in participating households, the response rate for the individual questionnaire amounts to 86.0 percent. The response rate for the different youth questionnaires is slightly lower, while it is higher for almost all of the mother and child questionnaires.

Table 2.27: **Response rates by questionnaire**

	Gross sample ¹	Number of interviews	Response rate
Individual questionnaire ²	2,921	2,511	86.0
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	47	38	80.9
Cognitive competency tests	38	36	94.7
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	71	63	88.7
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	81	70	86.4
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	70	64	91.4
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8	88	78	88.6
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	68	63	92.6
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	92	84	91.3
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	80	71	88.8
Questionnaire "Gap"	138	123	89.1
Questionnaire "Deceased person"	11	9	81.8

¹ Gross sample= target population in participating households (one household questionnaire and at least one individual questionnaire available), without household members who are deceased or have moved abroad.

² Including interviews with first time respondents that included the life-history questionnaire. Four persons filled out an individual interview who were not part of a participating household.

2.6.4 Interview length per questionnaire

Figures on the median interview length for each questionnaire are included in **Table 2.28**. A median personal interview in the two samples took 35 minutes, while the household interview took 15 minutes. The youth questionnaires were a little shorter but also had a length of between 25 and 30 minutes.

Table 2.28: **Median interview length (minutes) by modes**

	Interviewer-based				
	Total		CAPI	PAPI	SELF
	Median	Percentiles (5%, 95%)	Median	Median	Median
Household questionnaire	15	(10, 30)	15	-	-
Individual questionnaire	35	(20, 60)	35	-	-
Life-history questionnaire	19	(7, 31)	19	-	-
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	30	(17, 67)	30	-	-
Cognitive competency tests	Not recorded				
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	25	(15, 40)	25	-	35
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	25	(10, 45)	22	-	30
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	15	(8, 30)	15	-	18
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8	10	(5, 30)	10	-	20
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	Not recorded				
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	Not recorded				
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	Not recorded				
Questionnaire "Gap"	1	(1, 5)	1	-	-
Questionnaire "Deceased person"	Not recorded				

2.6.5 Consent to record linkage

In 2019, the target group designated for record linkage to employment-history data available at the Institute for Employment Research (Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung, IAB Nuremberg) consisted of 45 participants. They either joined the study for the first time as adults who moved into the households recently, as adults who had lived in the household before but participated in the study for the first time, or as youths that have been part of the panel and take part as official respondents for the first time. (53.3 percent of respondents gave their consent to record linkage (**Table 2.29**).

Table 2.29: **Consent to record linkage**

	Total	M1	M2
Gross sample ¹	45	34	11
Consent	24	20	4
Consent rate (in %)	53.3	58.8	36.4

¹ First-time participants in the survey.

2.7 Data preparation

Data preparation processes in samples M1/2 are in line with the processes that are described for samples A-O in **Section 1.7** of this report.

2.8 Delivered data

Gross Data

Gross data Household
 Gross data Individuals
 Contact process data M1+M2
 Interviewer data
 SOEP Individuals Sample M1+M2

Hbru_M1M2_2019.dta
 Pbru_M1M2_2019.dta
 Kontaktverlauf_M1M2_2019.dta
 Intband_M1M2_2019.dta
 P_M1M2_2019.dta

Net Data

Net data Household checked
 Net data Household unchecked
 Net data Individuals checked
 Net data Individuals unchecked
 Net data life history checked
 Net data life history unchecked
 Net data Youth (age 16 or 17) checked
 Net data Youth (age 16 or 17) unchecked
 Net data Cognitive competency test
 Net data Youth (age 13 or 14)
 Net data Youth (age 11 or 12)
 Net data Mother and child E (age 9 or 10)
 Net data Questionnaire for parents (age 7 or 8)
 Net data Mother and child C (age 5 or 6)
 Net data Mother and child B (age 2 or 3)
 Net data Mother and child A (newborn)
 „Gap“ data from 2018
 Net data “Deceased person”

H19_M1M2.dta
 H19_M1M2_u.dta
 P19_M1M2.dta
 P19_M1M2_u.dta
 L19_M1M2.dta
 L19_M1M2_u.dta
 J19_M1M2.dta
 J19_M1M2_u.dta
 DJ19_M1M2.dta
 FJ19_M1M2.dta
 S19_M1M2.dta
 ME19_M1M2.dta
 EL19_M1M2.dta
 MC19_M1M2.dta
 MB19_M1M2.dta
 MA19_M1M2.dta
 LUE18_19_M1M2.dta
 VP19_M1M2.dta

Other Data

Professions, sectors, final coding
 University coding

Berufe_Branchen_Ausb_
 2019_M1M2.dta
 Hochschul-Abschl_
 2019_M1M2.dta

3 Samples M3-5

3.1 Introduction

Table 3.1 gives a short overview of the main characteristics of the 2019 wave of samples M3-5. 2,693 households from samples M3-5 participated between August 2019 and January 2020. This results in an adjusted response rate of 69.5 percent. Participation of households that were respondents in the previous wave was at 76.4 percent. In all households, 3,857 adults and 335 youths gave interviews. For an additional 1,370 children of various age groups, data are available from interviews with a parent. 13 different questionnaires were fielded in CAPI mode No other modes were used in M3-5 in 2019. Partial unit non-response (PUNR⁷) was at 56.2 percent.

Table 3.1: **Summary fieldwork**

Fieldwork period	August 2019 – January 2020
Mode (main questionnaires)	CAPI
Gross sample (hh)	4,133
Net sample (hh)	2,693
Response rate (adjusted; hh) ¹	Overall: 69.5 Prev. wave respondents: 76.4 Prev. wave dropouts: 48.0 New households: 51.5
Number of questionnaires	Adults: 5 Youths: 3 Children: 5
Net sample (individuals)	Adults: 3,857 Youths: 335 Children: 1,370
Questionnaire length (median, in minutes)	Household: 13 Adult ² : 40
Partial unit non-response (PUNR)	56.2

¹ RR = percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

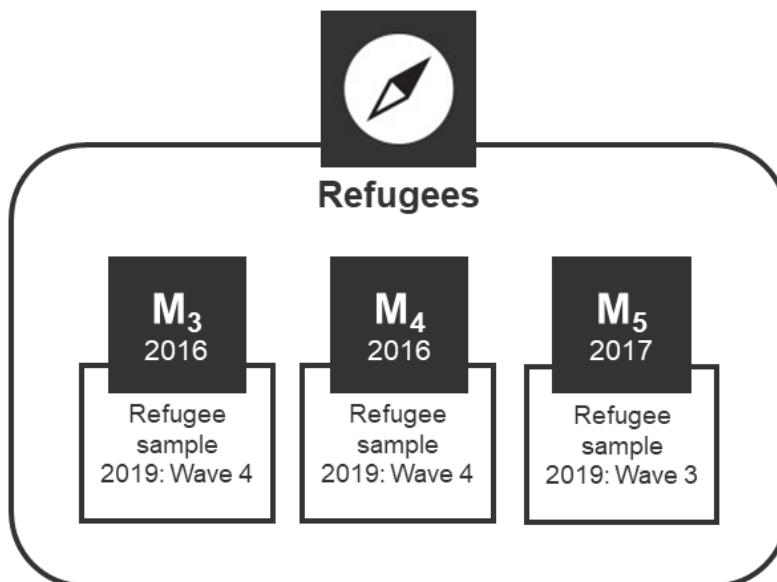
² Without first time respondents.

⁷ PUNR: share of households (number of household members > 1) with at least one missing individual questionnaire.

3.2 Development samples M3-5

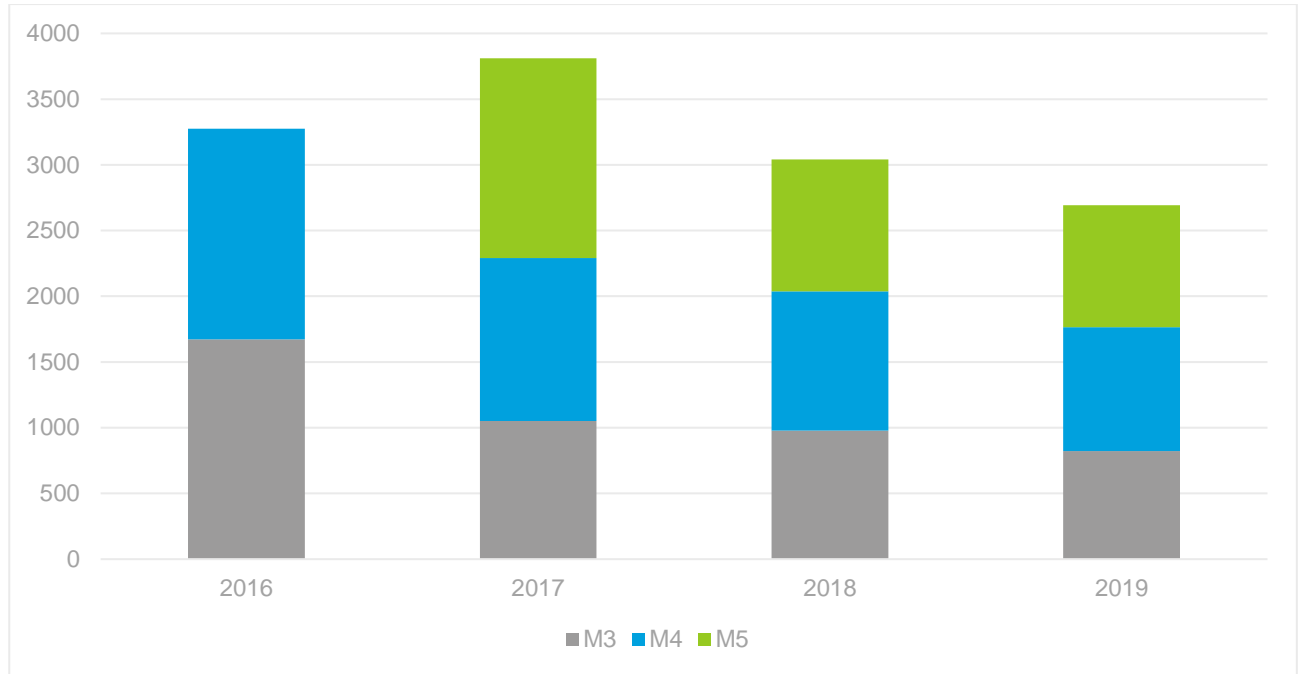
The refugee samples were integrated into SOEP-Core to represent the rising number of refugees who arrived in Germany since 2013. To implement an innovative sampling procedure mapping recent migration and integration dynamics, the SOEP partnered with the Institute for Employment Research (Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung, IAB Nuremberg) and the Research Centre of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (Forschungszentrum des Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge, BAMF-FZ) in 2016. M3 is the acronym for the first boost sample of 1,673 households of adult refugees who entered Germany from January 1, 2013 to January 31, 2016 and applied for asylum in Germany. M4 is the acronym for the second refugee boost sample with 1,601 households. It consists of two tranches. The first one is a household boost of the M3 sample. For the second tranche, underage children of refugee families were sampled, but only the adults in the respective households were invited to participate. M5 is the acronym for the third boost sample of 1,519 refugee households that was established in 2017. The population covers adult refugees who have applied for asylum in Germany since January 1, 2013 and are currently living in Germany. For all three samples, the Central Register of Foreign Nationals (Ausländerzentralregister, AZR) was utilized as a sampling frame.⁸ In 2019, the third wave of sample M5 and the fourth waves of samples M3 and M4 were fielded.

Figure 3.1: Overview of refugee samples



⁸ The sampling design of the refugee samples M3 and M4 is described in: SOEP Wave Report 2016; the sampling design for M5 in: SOEP Wave Report 2017.

Figure 3.2: Development of net samples M3-5 since 2016 (number of households)



3.3 Structure of the gross sample

The final gross sample of the previous year serves as a starting point for the following year's survey wave. Of 4,772 households in samples M3-5 in 2018, 81.4 percent were coded as respondents without refusal for the next wave and are thus expected to participate in 2019 (**Table 3.2**). A total of 10.5 percent of all households in the samples dropped out permanently in 2018. 15.3 percent of households dropped out temporarily. Yet another 239 households were excluded for dropping out temporarily in two consecutive waves.

Table 3.2: Final gross sample 2018 by type of household

Household level	Total		M3		M4		M5	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	4,749	100.0	1,545	100.0	1,600	100.0	1,604	100.0
Participating households without refusal for next wave	3,029	63.8	976	63.2	1,052	65.8	1,001	62.4
Participating households with refusal for next wave	13	0.3	3	0.2	6	0.4	4	0.2
Temporary dropouts	967	20.4	258	16.7	267	16.7	442	27.6
Final dropouts	501	10.5	167	10.8	177	11.1	157	9.8
2-year rule	239	5.0	141	9.1	98	6.1	0	0.0

Table 3.2 presents the gross sample of 2019 for three different types of household. Of 4,133 households in the gross sample, 73.6 percent were respondents in the previous wave. 968 households in M3-5 which dropped out temporarily in 2018 are invited to take part in 2019 again. Additionally, 123 new split-off households were identified and included in the samples.

Table 3.3: Administered gross sample 2019 by type of household

Household level	Total		M3		M4		M5	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample¹	4,133	100.0	1,272	100.0	1,359	100.0	1,502	100.0
Participating households in previous wave	3,042	73.6	979	77.0	1,058	77.9	1,005	66.9
Temporary dropout in previous wave	968	23.4	258	20.3	268	19.7	442	29.4
New households (split-off hhs)	123	3.0	35	2.8	33	2.4	55	3.7

¹ The gross sample consists of more cases than anticipated at the end of the previous wave, because one household that did not participate in 2018 re-entered the panel.

Table 3.4: Household characteristics by sub-samples I

Household level	Total		M3		M4		M5	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	4,009	100.0	1,237	100.0	1,325	100.0	1,447	100.0
HH size¹								
1	1,210	30.2	449	36.3	231	17.4	530	36.6
2	376	9.4	131	10.6	106	8.0	139	9.6
3	421	10.5	139	11.2	109	8.2	173	12.0
4	628	15.7	177	14.3	236	17.8	215	14.9
5+	1,374	34.3	341	27.6	643	48.5	390	27.0
State								
Schleswig-Holstein	198	4.9	64	5.2	85	6.4	49	3.4
Hamburg	103	2.6	47	3.8	26	2.0	30	2.1
Lower Saxony	459	11.4	122	9.9	132	10.0	205	14.2
Bremen	63	1.6	43	3.5	19	1.4	1	0.1
North Rhine-Westphalia	932	23.2	208	16.8	254	19.2	470	32.5
Hesse	398	9.9	106	8.6	106	8.0	186	12.9
Rhineland Palatinate	179	4.5	46	3.7	54	4.1	79	5.5
Saarland	449	11.2	126	10.2	189	14.3	134	9.3
Baden-Wuerttemberg	521	13.0	174	14.1	177	13.4	170	11.7
Bavaria	79	2.0	50	4.0	29	2.2	0	0.0
Berlin	160	4.0	82	6.6	48	3.6	30	2.1
Brandenburg	135	3.4	58	4.7	59	4.5	18	1.2
Mecklenburg Western Pomerania	50	1.2	19	1.5	22	1.7	9	0.6
Saxony	120	3.0	20	1.6	70	5.3	30	2.1
Saxony-Anhalt	72	1.8	19	1.5	43	3.2	10	0.7
Thuringia	91	2.3	53	4.3	12	0.9	26	1.8

¹ Status as of previous wave; new households are consequently missing (all hh members including children)

Key characteristics of the households in samples M3-5 are presented in **Table 3.4** and **Table 3.5**. Most frequently, households consist of five or more household members (34.3 percent). However, there is also a notable number of households over all three samples which consist of only one household member (30.2 percent). Many are positioned in or around larger cities, but at 33.8 percent, the share is smaller than in samples M1/2 (44.7 percent) and samples A-O (37.1 percent).

Table 3.5: Household characteristics by sub-samples II

Household level	Total		M3		M4		M5	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	4,009	100.0	1,237	100.0	1,325	100.0	1,447	100.0
BIK type¹								
0	1,024	25.5	340	27.5	292	22.0	392	27.1
1	331	8.3	37	3.0	151	11.4	143	9.9
2	945	23.6	328	26.5	306	23.1	311	21.5
3	513	12.8	136	11.0	168	12.7	209	14.4
4	110	2.7	20	1.6	51	3.8	39	2.7
5	313	7.8	135	10.9	85	6.4	93	6.4
6	431	10.8	142	11.5	143	10.8	146	10.1
7	263	6.6	79	6.4	99	7.5	85	5.9
8	61	1.5	14	1.1	23	1.7	24	1.7
9	18	0.4	6	0.5	7	0.5	5	0.3
Community size³								
1	59	1.5	19	1.5	18	1.4	22	1.5
2	204	5.1	42	3.4	83	6.3	79	5.5
3	860	21.5	231	18.7	320	24.2	309	21.4
4	899	22.4	248	20.0	328	24.8	323	22.3
5	536	13.4	230	18.6	144	10.9	162	11.2
6	830	20.7	237	19.2	266	20.1	327	22.6
7	621	15.5	230	18.6	166	12.5	225	15.5

¹ Status as reported at the end of wave 2018. New households in 2019 are consequently missing.

² BIK-type: 0 (more than 500,000 inhabitants/ center) 1 (more than 500,000 inh./periphery), 2 (100,000 to 499,999 inh./center)

³ Community size: 1 (fewer than 2,000 inhabitants), 2 (2,000 to 4,999 inh.), 3 (5,000 to 19,999 inh.), 4 (20,000 to 49,999 inh.), 5 (50,000 to 99,999 inh./periphery), 6 (100,000 to 499,999 inh./center), 7 (50,000 to 99,999 inh./periphery), 8 (50,000 to 99,999 inh./center), 9 (50,000 to 99,999 inh./periphery), 10 (20,000 to 49,999 inh.), 11 (5,000 to 19,999 inh.), 12 (2,000 to 4,999 inh.), 13 (fewer than 2,000 inh.)

³ Community size: 1 (fewer than 2,000 inhabitants), 2 (2,000 to 5,000 inh.), 3 (5,000 to 20,000 inh.), 4 (20,000 to 50,000 inh.), 5 (50,000 to 100,000 inh.), 6 (100,000 to 500,000 inh.), 7 (more than 500,000 inh.)

3.4 Questionnaires and fieldwork material

3.4.1 Questionnaires

One special feature of samples M3-5 is the use of three different versions of individual questionnaires (see **Table 3.6**). For M3-5, a special SOEP individual questionnaire was developed that covers issues specific to refugees. All other members of the household who are not identified as refugees with the help of a short screener receive the same questionnaire as adult respondents from samples A-O and M1/2, including the life-history module. A longer version of the refugee questionnaire exists in order to record the life-history of each respondent who is interviewed for the first time. There are youth and child questionnaires for the same age groups as in the samples A-O and M1/2. All questionnaires are solely available in CAPI mode and provided in six different language versions (see **Section 3.5.3**).

Table 3.6: **Questionnaires and modes**

	CAPI
Household questionnaire	✓
Individual questionnaire for refugees	✓
Individual questionnaire + life-history questionnaire for refugees	✓
Individual questionnaire + life-history module for non-refugees	✓
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	✓
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	✓
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	✓
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	✓

At the household level, in addition to the standard household questionnaire, a mother-child questionnaire was used, merging the questionnaires previously used for children of different age groups. For adults, two different kinds of questionnaires were used. First-time respondents completed a questionnaire including additional biographical questions.

One notable feature of this year's questionnaire was the escape-route map. It had already been used the years before in samples M3-5. It was integrated in the questionnaire for first-time respondents aimed at refugees. The escape-route map is a tool to reconstruct a refugee's route from their home country to their arrival in Germany. A world map is presented to the respondents. By clicking on the screen, the respondents can select their home country and then mark all stops along their route. They are urged to not only select countries but mark all important cities and border crossing points as well.

As with every previous subsample of the migration population in the SOEP, questionnaire content is based on the SOEP-Core questionnaires. However, there are several deviations from the SOEP-Core standard to reflect the special characteristics of the target group, including several additional questions on migration and integration.

3.4.2 Fieldwork material

In addition to the questionnaires, a whole range of fieldwork materials such as letters, leaflets or documents for the interviewers are designed, printed and sent to households and interviewers. **Table 3.7** provides an overview of the different material types that are prepared in samples M3-5. Because the mode is restricted to CAPI in these samples, the number of different versions of materials is notably smaller than in samples A-H. But many materials are provided in seven different languages (German, English, English, Arabic, Farsi, Pashtu, Urdu and Kurmanji).

Advance letter

About two weeks before the start of the fieldwork period, the households receive an advance letter in which the interviewer's visit is announced. It is always sent in German language as well as in one second of the six other available languages in accordance with the language version chosen for the interview in 2018. The letter includes links to the SOEP website that provides additional information in the different languages.

Leaflet

Every household in samples M3-5 receives an eight-page leaflet with reports and published results specifically from the refugee sample. The leaflets in German and the second language are sent with the advance letter.

Declaration on data protection

Every household gets access to a two-page declaration on data protection detailing the organizations that are responsible for processing all respondent data along with a description of data handling and data recipients. The declaration on data protection in German and the second language is sent with the advance letter.

Consent to record linkage form

To all new respondents born in 2001 or later a consent to record linkage form was presented that allows an individual linkage between the respondent's data and employment history data available at the Institute for Employment Research (Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung, IAB Nuremberg). Respondents who have been asked in one of the previous waves but declined or did not understand the issue are asked for their consent a second time.

In addition to the linkage to the IAB data, respondents who had told us in this wave or in any previous wave that they had participated in an integration course of the German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees were asked their permission to link their survey data to registration data available in the “Integration Business File” (Integrationsgeschäftsdatei, or InGe) of the BAMF

Table 3.7: **Fieldwork material**

CAPI	
Advance letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 7 languages (German, English, Arabic, Farsi, Pashtu, Urdu, Kurmanji)
Leaflet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 7 languages
Declaration on data protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 7 languages
Consent to record linkage form ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 7 languages
Address form and household grid ²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic form (Mein Kantar)
Project instruction book	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Version for M3-5
Other interviewer material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project description • Contact card (in 7 languages) • HH information card
Additional interviewer material for M3-5 to use in the households	All in 7 languages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is a survey carried out? • FAQ • Aid to fill out the household grid • Postcard for movers • Motivational film
Additional interviewer material for M3-5 to use when dealing with shared accommodations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter from the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) • Leaflet describing the survey

¹ Institute for Employment Research (Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung, IAB Nuremberg): Link to employment history data / German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF): Link to Integration Business File.

² Including the so-called “B3 form” used to process address changes.

Address form and household grid

The address form provides an overview of the household composition as it was last known to Kantar. The interviewers must document when and with whom the survey was conducted or why a sample member did not participate in the current year. They are also asked to note every single contact attempt made. For samples M3-5, interviewers do this in electronically in the “Mein Kantar” software.

Moreover, the interviewers are asked to carefully document any moves of households and household members or changes in the household composition. An additional form had to be completed for every person that has left the household since the last survey, because all of these remain potential respondents and are tracked even if the new address is unknown.

Project instruction book

In addition to a shorter project description, interviewers in samples M3-5 also receive a much more detailed instruction manual that is about 70 pages long. This manual contains information on special features of the

current wave, specific processing instructions and questionnaires as well as background information on the project.

Other interviewer material

Moreover, the interviewers receive contact cards for households that could not be reached at home and household information cards with information on individual numbers, names, years of birth, types of questionnaires, incentives, survey modes, and notes.

Additional interviewer material to use in M3-5 households

Because the language barriers in households of samples M3-5 are often higher than in other samples, the interviewers receive a few additional laminated sheets in all seven languages to help explain how a survey is carried out to address frequently asked questions and to help fill out the household grid. For movers, the interviewers also leave a postcard with the households that asks them to send their new address to Kantar.

In 2019 Kantar provided a short motivational film to the interviewers that features one of our interviewers who is a refugee from Syria himself. The film was integrated into the household questionnaire and could be played in German with subtitles in German, Arabic, Farsi or English as required.

Additional interviewer material to use when dealing with shared accommodations

In samples M3-5, interviewers might have to deal with employees and security personnel at shared refugee accommodations participating households inhabit. This is why the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge, BAMF) sends the interviewers a letter and a leaflet describing the survey to be handed over to shared accommodations.

3.5 Conducting the survey

3.5.1 Survey mode

All questionnaires used in samples M3-5 are solely available in CAPI mode. Hence, no interviews in other modes such as SELF interviewing, which is possible for youth and child questionnaires in samples M1/2, exist in samples M3-5 in 2019.

3.5.2 Fieldwork timing

The fieldwork progress for each month is depicted in **Table 3.8**. Fieldwork started in August and lasted until January of 2020. August and September were the most productive months with more than 20 percent of the net samples being processed in each of these months. Originally, fieldwork was scheduled to end in December 2019, but it had to be extended for several reasons. Many first-wave addresses were no longer accurate for second-wave fieldwork and required further research. It was also more difficult to find times when respondents could meet with interviewers than in the first wave, and many appointments had to be rescheduled.

Table 3.8: Monthly fieldwork progress

Household level	Gross Sample		Net Sample	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
August ¹	959	23.2	714	26.5
September	845	20.4	594	22.1
October	666	16.1	441	16.4
November	566	13.7	410	15.2
December	807	19.5	460	17.1
January	290	7.0	74	2.7

¹ Including households that refused to take part in the survey prior to start of fieldwork.

3.5.3 Translations

Language problems during the interviewing process form a potential major challenge for surveys with populations that recently entered the country as refugees. Although some of the interviewers conducting in M3-5 speak Arabic, Farsi, or Pashtu, it is generally not feasible to match interviewers with special language skills with respondents in such a large, nationwide survey. As implemented successfully in the first wave of samples M3/4 in 2016, a bilingual CAPI program was used for all three refugee samples in 2019. Questions in German and a second language were shown on the screen side by side as shown in **Figure 3.3**. The language was selected at the beginning of the interview. Respondents were given the additional choice to have no translations on screen for the first time in 2019.

Figure 3.3: Screenshot bilingual CAPI program – language selection

Welche Sprachversion soll verwendet werden?

Which language combination should be used for the interview?

ما هو الزوج اللغوي الذي تريد استخدامه لإجراء الحوار؟
 مايل هستيد كه مصاحبه به چه زبانی انجام بگیرد؟
 کومه ژبه باید د مرګی لياره وګارول شي؟
 التړويو كے لئے كون سی زبانوں كا امتزاج استعمال كيا جانا چاہئے؟

Kiĵan ziman bikar bê?

1. Deutsch / Englisch
 1 German/English

2. Deutsch / Arabisch 2 ألماني / عربي

3. Deutsch / Farsi 3 ألماني / فارسي

4. Deutsch / Paschtu 4 ألماني/پشتو

5. Deutsch / Urdu 5 جرمن / اردو

6. Deutsch / Kurmandschi
 6 Almanî / Kurmancî

7. Deutsch / ohne Übersetzung

Table 3.9: Available language versions

	German / English	German / Arabic	German / Farsi	German / Pashtu	German / Urdu	German / Kurmanji	German only
Household questionnaire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Individual questionnaire for refugees	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Individual + life-history questionnaire for refugees	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Youth questionnaires	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mother and child quest./ quest. for parents	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Table 3.10 presents the utilization of each language version for the individual questionnaires. A translated individual questionnaire was used for 4,344 interviews. With 80.9 percent, the German / Arabic version was used most frequently, followed by the German / Farsi version with 9.7 percent. The questionnaires in Pashtu, Farsi and Kurmanji were selected far less frequently, with between 26 and 46 times for the questionnaire for previous respondents and between two and five times for the individual + life-history questionnaire. The newly implemented option to use no translation was used more frequently in 3.8 percent of the interviews with either individual questionnaire for refugees.

Table 3.10: Utilization of a certain language version – individual questionnaire for refugees¹

	Total		Individual questionnaire		Individual questionnaire + life-history questionnaire	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
German / English	108	2.8	105	2.9	3	1.1
German / Arabic	3,119	80.9	2,876	80.4	243	86.5
German / Farsi	373	9.7	353	9.9	20	7.1
German / Pashtu	28	0.7	26	0.7	2	0.7
German / Urdu	30	0.8	29	0.8	1	0.4
German / Kurmanji	51	1.3	46	1.3	5	1.8
Without any translation	148	3.8	141	3.9	7	2.5
Total	3,857	100.0	3,576	100.0	281	100.0

¹ Individual questionnaire and individual questionnaire + life-history questionnaire for new respondents.

In addition to the questionnaires and the fieldwork materials that were available in the different languages, the interviewers could call a so-called “interpreter hotline” during the process of contacting the households. Then other interviewers that are fluent in either Arabic or Farsi helped the interviewer, e.g. to explain the study

background, answer questions and set up an appointment for the interview. But this service could only be used to convince respondents to participate in the study. The interview itself needed to be conducted with the bilingual questionnaires.

For the 49 non-refugees who received the individual questionnaire from samples A-O and M1/2, translated paper versions in five different languages including English, Russian, Turkish, Romanian and Polish were available (**Table 3.11**). Assistance with language problems was needed in only one case, which amounts to 2.0 percent (**Table 3.12**). The person in question used a polish paper questionnaire for assistance with the interview.

Table 3.11: Translated paper questionnaires for the individual questionnaires for non-refugees

	English	Russian	Turkish	Romanian	Polish
Individual questionnaire for non-refugees	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Individual + life-history questionnaire for non-refugees	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Table 3.12: Language problems and usage of translated paper questionnaires¹ for non-refugees

	Total	In % net sample
Net sample (individual questionnaire) ²	49	100.0
No language problems occurred/no need for assistance with language problems	48	98.0
Assistance with language problems needed	1	2.0
Of that number:		
German-speaking person in the same household	0	0.0
German-speaking person from outside the household	0	0.0
Professional interpreter	0	0.0
Translated paper questionnaire	1	2.0
Of that number:		
English	0	0.0
Russian	0	0.0
Turkish	0	0.0
Romanian	0	0.0
Polish	1	2.0

¹ Individual questionnaire and individual questionnaire + life-history questionnaire for non-refugees.

² Including all individual questionnaires even if the household in which they are conducted is classified as a non-participating household.

3.5.4 Panel maintenance and incentives

In the first waves of samples M3-5, households did not receive any cash incentives or vouchers. This was due to an assumption that many households still lived in shared accommodations and might experience problems when presented with cash by the interviewers. At the beginning of fieldwork in 2018, interviewers were given a choice between handing over a notebook with a pen as a small gift or bringing a small gift of their choice of less than 5 euros in value (e.g. sweets, small toys for children). After a couple of weeks of fieldwork, some interviewers reported that participants increasingly asked for cash incentives because some had heard that other surveys provide them. Consequently, in 2019 interviewers were given the option to incentivize households that answer one household and one individual questionnaire with 15 euros either in cash or in the form of a voucher or gifts. The interviewer was free to choose the form of the incentive. The distribution of these choices across samples M3-5 is detailed in **Table 3.13**. In 85.6 percent of cases the cash incentive was paid, only 3.2 percent of households received vouchers and one household was given a gift as an incentive. Another 11.2 percent of households did not receive any incentive in 2019.

Table 3.13: Incentives samples M3-5

Household level	Total		M3		M4		M5	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Cash-incentive	2,305	85.6	744	90.4	770	81.8	791	85.1
Voucher	85	3.2	13	1.6	53	5.6	19	2.0
Gift	1	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
No Incentive	302	11.2	65	7.9	118	12.5	119	12.8

3.5.5 Movers and tracing

Looking at the gross sample, 25.2 percent of all households in samples M3-5 were identified as movers or new households and therefore, their new addresses needed to be traced (see **Table 3.14**). It is not surprising that this share is much higher than in both samples A-O (10.2 percent) and samples M1/2 (14.1 percent). The tracing of these households was successful in 75.8 percent of all cases. Most new addresses were gained by inquiring local registration offices, which is a complex but important process in panel maintenance.

Table 3.14: **Movers and sources of new addresses of administered sample 2019**

Household level	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	4,133	100.0
Movers and new households	1,041	25.2
Success tracing		
Tracing successful	789	75.8
Tracing not successful	252	24.2
Source		
Interviewer	402	38.6
Postal service	49	4.7
Local registration offices	567	54.5
Participant	23	2.2
Client	0	0.0

3.5.6 Interviewer characteristics, training & monitoring

Table 3.15 presents key characteristics for the interviewers working in the samples M3-5. A total of 55 interviewers were active over all three samples, and 81.4 percent of them were male. A high share of the interviewers is between 21 and 40 years old. Thus, the age structure is younger compared to the interviewing staff in the SOEP-Core samples. Most interviewers processed between 20 and 99 households.

Table 3.15: Interviewer characteristics

Interviewer level	Total		M3		M4		M5	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Number of Interviewers	59	100.0	55	100.0	55	100.0	55	100.0
Gender								
Male	48	81.4	46	83.6	46	83.6	44	80.0
Female	11	18.6	9	16.4	9	16.4	11	20.0
Age ¹								
21-39 years	34	58.6	33	61.1	33	60.0	31	57.4
40-59	16	27.6	15	27.8	15	27.3	16	29.6
60-79	8	13.8	6	11.1	7	12.7	7	13.0
Number of households (gross)								
Fewer than 5	7	11.1	13	23.2	12	20.7	11	19.3
5 – 19	9	14.3	17	30.4	19	32.8	20	35.1
20 – 99	30	47.6	26	46.4	26	44.8	26	45.6
More than 99	17	27.0	0	0.0	1	1.7	0	0.0

¹ Data about the date of birth is unavailable for one interviewer.

Because fieldwork in samples M3-5 is carried out by a special group of interviewers, of whom many can speak Arabic, the staff is not only notably different in age compared to the interviewers in samples A-O. They are also much less experienced as interviewers, as shown in **Table 3.16**. 86.4 percent have less than 5 years of experience working for Kantar compared to only 16.9 percent in samples A-O. Also, the interviewing staff is characterized by comparatively high turnover: 28 (47.5 percent) of the interviewers in 2019 had been part of fieldwork in 2018, 31 (52.5 percent) worked samples M3-5 for the first time.

Table 3.16: Interviewer experience

Interviewer Level	Total		M3		M4		M5	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Number of Interviewers	59	100.0	55	100.0	55	100.0	55	100.0
Experience with Kantar								
0-4 years of experience with Kantar	51	86.4	48	87.3	48	87.3	47	85.5
5-9 years	7	11.9	6	10.9	6	10.9	7	12.7
10-19 years	1	1.7	1	1.8	1	1.8	1	1.8
Experience with SOEP								
0-4 years	54	91.5	51	92.7	51	92.7	50	90.9
5-9 years	5	8.5	4	7.3	4	7.3	5	9.1

All interviewers in samples M3-5 were trained face-to-face by members of the project team at Kantar a couple of days prior to the start of fieldwork. Topics of the one-day event held in July 2019 were:

- Welcome and overview of the survey
- General processing rules and special features of SOEP samples M3-5
- Field documents
- Overview of the questionnaires
- Using the sample management system “Mein Kantar”
- Using the CAPI survey software “Compass 32”
- Central organizational aspects of field organization
- Tutorial

After the end of fieldwork, a debriefing with a few of the interviewers, clients and members of the project team at Kantar was contemplated but not scheduled due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Kantar places high priority on interviewer monitoring and has put an ISO-certified process in place that is audited regularly. Kantar adheres to the German Business Association of Market and Social Research Institutes (Arbeitskreis Deutscher Markt- und Sozialforschungsinstitute e.V., ADM) standards for internal regulation and monitoring of all systems and procedures. This means that a minimum of 10 percent of Kantar’s annual interviews are checked, and every interviewer is monitored at least once a year.

In 2018, we expanded these existing quality control measures for interviewer monitoring in the SOEP projects. The basic interviewer-monitoring concept was expanded to a project-based control system for all SOEP samples: A number of participating households is contacted shortly after the interview by letter or phone asking them to confirm their participation in a regularly conducted interview. In case of inconsistencies and/or irregularities, we attempted to gain clarification through direct contact with respondents, primarily by telephone.

Table 3.17 shows details for the re-contacting process in samples M3-5. Of 2,693 households in the net sample, 98.1 percent were re-contacted after the interviews had been conducted in order to assure data quality and identify non-standard behavior by interviewers. In terms of survey mode, phone interviews were the

standard approach to ensure a relatively high response rate. Only households for which no telephone number was available received a short paper questionnaire.

Overall, we received feedback from 1,762 households. This results in a response rate of 66.7 percent overall. Using the results from the re-contacting process as well as analyses of paradata and interview data, we identified one interviewer who had not adhered to our standards in conducting interviews in the 2019 fieldwork period. The interviews from this interviewer were deleted and the households were then interviewed by another interviewer, if possible. The original data produced by the interviewer in question was delivered to the SOEP for purposes of further analysis in a separate data file.

Table 3.17: **Interviewer monitoring**

	Total		
	Abs.	In %	In %
By households			
Households in net sample	2,693	100.0	-
Re-contacted households	2,643	98.1	100.0
Households with feedback	1,762	65.4	66.7
By interviewers			
Interviewers in net sample	59	100.0	-
Interviewers with re-contacted households	59	100.0	-
Interviewers with non-standard behavior	1	1.7	-

3.6 Fieldwork results

3.6.1 Participation on household level

Table 3.18 provides a detailed overview on participation figures for three different types of households. In total, 2,693 of 4,133 households in the gross sample were interviewed.

Table 3.18: **Participation by type of household (with AAPOR codes)**

	Total		Respondents in previous wave		Dropouts in previous wave		New households	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	4,133	100.0	3,043	100.0	967	10.,0	123	100.0
Interview (1.0)	2,693	65.2	2,230	73.3	412	42.6	51	41.5
Complete (1.1)	1,651	39.9	1,368	45.0	245	25.3	38	30.9
Partial (1.2)	1,042	25.2	862	28.3	167	17.3	13	10.6
Non-interview (2.0)	1,440	34.8	813	26.7	555	57.4	72	58.5
Temporary dropout	537	13.7	347	11,4	157	16.2	33	26.8
Non-contact (2.20)	277	6.7	164	5,4	108	11,2	5	4,1
Temporary refusal (2.11)	125	3.0	112	3,7	8	0.8	5	4,1
Temporarily physically or mentally unable (2.321)	1	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Household could not be traced (temporary) (3.18; 2.4)	120	2.9	64	2,1	39	4,0	17	13,8
Not attempted or worked (3.11)	14	0.3	6	0.2	2	0.2	6	4.9
Final dropout	903	21.8	466	15,3	398	41,2	39	31.7
Permanent refusal (2.111)	640	15.5	340	11.2	285	29.5	15	12.2
Permanently physically or mentally unable (2.322)	2	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0
Language problem (2.331)	4	0.1	1	0.0	3	0.3	0	0.0
Deceased (2.31)	1	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Moved abroad (4.2)	19	0.5	12	0.4	7	0.7	0	0.0
Household dissolved (4.2)	4	0.1	2	0.1	2	0.2	0	0.0
Household untraceable (4.4)	233	5.6	109	3.6	100	10.3	24	19.5

13.7 percent of the gross sample dropped out temporarily, with the household being unreachable as most frequent reasons. Another 21.8 percent of the gross sample dropped out of the survey permanently. With 73.3 percent, the interviewing rate for respondents who participated in the previous wave as well is slightly higher compared to the total rate. Of households that temporarily dropped out in 2018, 42.6 percent participated again in this year's wave. Also 51 new households were successfully interviewed, which amounts to a response rate of 41.5 percent.

Table 3.19: Participation by sample (with AAPOR codes)

	Total		M3		M4		M5	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	4,133	100.0	1,272	100.0	1,359	100.0	1,502	100.0
Interview (1.0)	2,693	65.2	823	64.7	941	69.2	929	61.9
Complete (1.1)	1,651	39.9	495	38.9	564	41.5	592	39.4
Partial (1.2)	1,042	25.2	328	25.8	377	27.7	337	22.4
Non-interview (2.0)	1,440	34.8	449	35.3	418	30.8	573	38.1
Temporary dropout	537	13.0	180	14.2	140	10.3	217	14.4
Non-contact (2.20)	277	6.7	100	7.9	59	4.3	118	7.9
Temporary refusal (2.11)	125	3.0	42	3.3	46	3.4	37	2.5
Temporarily physically or mentally unable (2.321)	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1
Household could not be traced (temporary) (3.18; 2.4)	120	2.9	34	2.7	29	2.1	57	3.8
Not attempted or worked (3.11)	14	0.3	4	0.3	6	0.4	4	0.3
Final dropout	903	21.8	269	21.1	278	20.5	356	23.7
Permanent refusal (2.111)	640	15.5	205	16.1	212	15.6	223	14.8
Permanently physically or mentally unable (2.322)	2	0.0	2	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.0
Language problem (2.331)	4	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.3
Deceased (2.31)	1	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0
Moved abroad (4.2)	19	0.5	4	0.3	5	0.4	10	0.7
Household dissolved (4.2)	4	0.1	2	0.2	1	0.1	1	0.1
Household untraceable (4.4)	233	5.6	56	4.4	59	4.3	118	7.9

Numbers of participation differentiated for the three samples M3-5 are presented in **Table 3.19**. The interviewing rates vary only slightly over all samples. The rates of temporary and permanent dropouts are also similar across all three samples.

Table 3.20 presents the overall response rate as well as response rates for the different types of households mentioned earlier. The overall adjusted response rate of all households in samples M3-5 amounts to 69.5 percent. It is slightly higher for households which also responded in last year's survey and lower, respectively at 48.0 percent, for households that dropped out previously. New households come in with a response rate of 51.5 percent. Response rates for all three samples M3-5 are provided in **Table 3.21**. M4 has the highest adjusted response rate with 72.8 percent. Still, there are no significant differences between the samples.

Table 3.20: **Response rate by type of household (in percent)**

	Total	Respondents in previous wave	Drop-outs in previous wave	New households
Response rate ¹	69.5	76.4	48.0	51.5

¹ RR= percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview and households in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

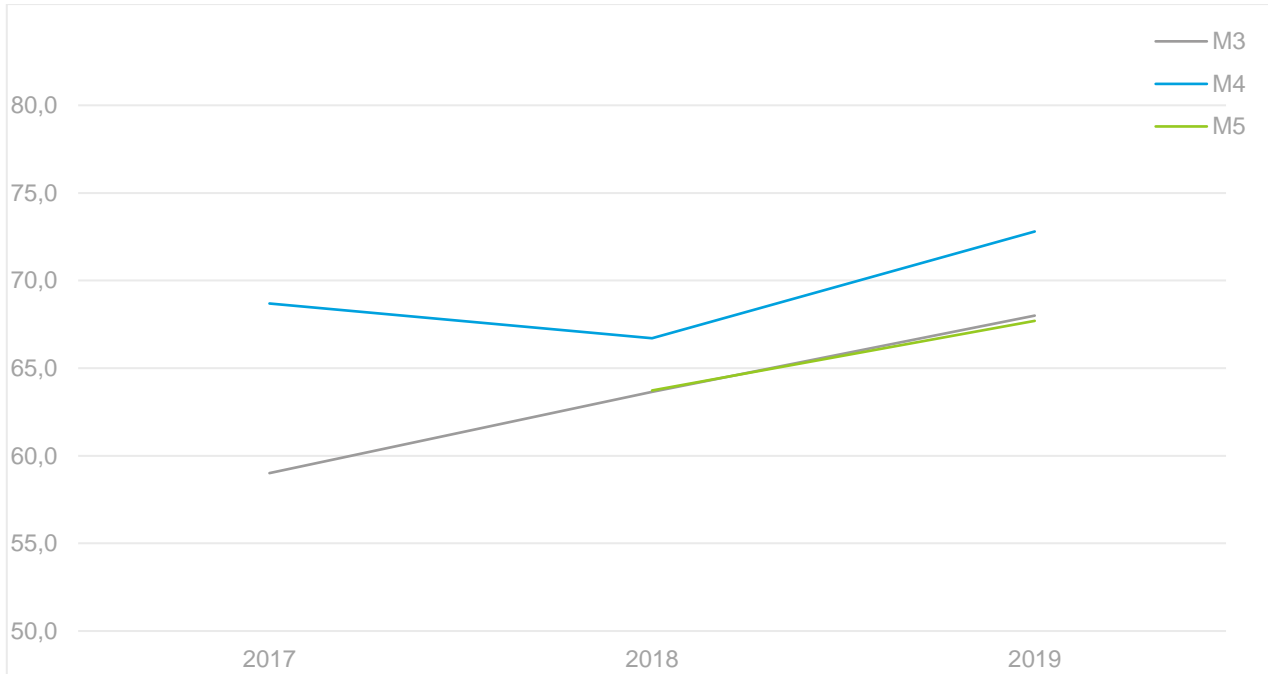
Table 3.21: **Response rate by sample (in percent)**

	Total	M3	M4	M5
Response rate ¹	69.5	68.0	72.8	67.7

¹ RR= percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview and households in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

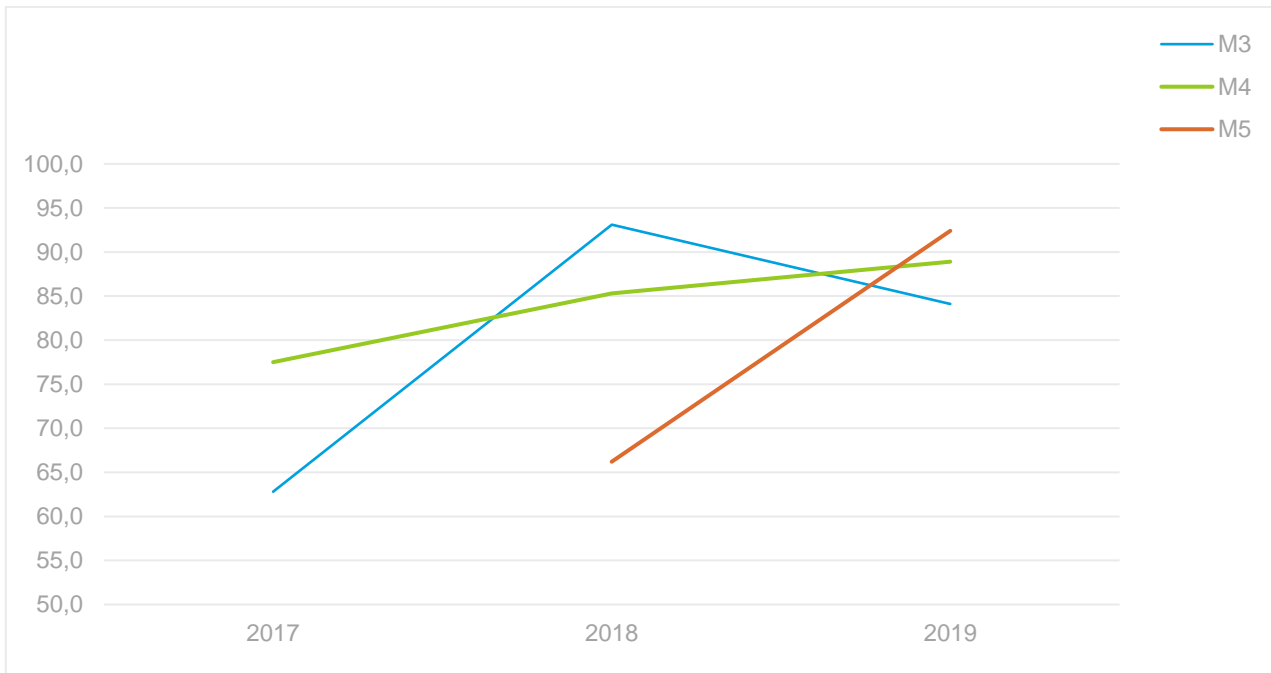
The development of response rates since 2017 for samples M3 and M4 is presented in **Figure 3.4**. While M3 and M5 both show a continuous increase between 2017 and 2019, M4 decreases by approx. 2 percent in 2018 and swings back up to 72.8 percent in 2019. In terms of panel stability, both samples M3 and M5 increased substantially from 2017 to 2019 (**Figure 3.5**). While M3 scored 14.5 percent lower on stability than M4 in 2017, the sample reached 93.0 percent in 2018, surpassing M4. In 2019 sample M3 settles at 84.1 percent, M4 reaches 88.9 percent. M5 soars up to 92.4 percent, which is due to the effect that excluding temporary dropouts from wave 1 in wave 2 has in wave 3. In order to meaningfully assess panel stability rates over the years, the various subsamples should be processed for at least five consecutive waves. After this time period, the panel stability rates of samples are usually consolidated and therefore comparable.

Figure 3.4: Development of response rates¹ since 2017 (in percent)



¹ RR= percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview and households in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

Figure 3.5: Development of panel stability¹ since 2017 (in percent)



¹ Number of participating households divided by previous wave's net sample.

3.6.2 Participation on individual level

Table 3.22 presents participation numbers by panel status on an individual level. Of 8,080 individuals in the gross sample, 48.3 percent were successfully interviewed, while 51.7 percent either dropped out temporarily or permanently. The participation rate is moderately higher regarding individuals who also participated in the previous wave (64.3 percent). Of all pre-wave dropouts, only 33.4 percent were willing to participate again in the present year. The rates are significantly higher for new panel members and youths. In 2019 231 persons or 20.1 percent of those who had permanently refused participation in the past were successfully re-integrated into the panel.

Table 3.22: Participation by panel status (with AAPOR codes)

	Total		Respondents in previous wave		Temp. dropouts in previous wave		Permanent refusals in previous waves		New panel members ¹		Grown into Panel ²	
	Abs.	In % gross sample	Abs.	In% gross sample	Abs.	In % gross sample	Abs.	In % gross sample	Abs.	In % gross sample	Abs.	In % gross sample
Gross sample ³	8,080	100.0	4,375	100.0	2,321	100.0	1,152	100.0	137	100.0	95	100.0
Interview (1.0)	3,906	48.3	2,814	64.3	776	33.4	231	20.1	44	32.1	41	43.2
Non-interview (2.0)	4,174	51.7	1,561	35.7	1,545	66.6	921	79.9	93	67.9	54	56.8
Temporary dropout	1,581	19.6	919	21.0	530	22.8	1	0.1	87	63.5	44	46.3
Non-contact (2.20)	40	0.5	16	0.4	15	0.6	0	0.0	5	3.6	4	4.2
Temporary refusal (2.112)	1,272	15.7	773	17.7	394	17.0	0	0.0	69	50.4	36	37.9
Temporarily physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.321)	38	0.5	22	0.5	16	0.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Language problem (2.331)	20	0.2	7	0.2	7	0.3	0	0.0	6	4.4	0	0.0
Person could not be traced (temporary) (3.18; 2.4)	185	2.3	90	2.1	93	4.0	1	0.1	0	0.0	2	2.1
Other temp. (2.52)	26	0.3	11	0.3	5	0.2	920	79.9	7	5.1	2	2.1
Final dropout	2,593	32.1	642	14.7	1,015	43.7	920	79.9	6	4.4	10	10.5
Permanent refusal (2.111)	2,218	27.5	474	10.8	812	35.0	0	0.0	3	2.2	9	9.5
Permanently physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.322)	6	0.1	1	0.0	4	0.2	0	0.0	1	0.7	0	0.0
Deceased (2.31)	5	0.1	3	0.1	2	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Moved abroad (4.2)	46	0.6	25	0.6	21	0.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Person untraceable (4.4)	318	3.9	139	3.2	176	7.6	1	0.1	2	1.5	1	1.1

¹ New household members who have never been part of the panel. ² Former youths who have been part of the panel and take part as official respondents for the first time (with the individual questionnaire). ³ All household members intended to participate with the individual questionnaire in the current wave, not restricted to members of participating households.

² Youths who have been part of the panel and take part as official respondents for the first time (with the youth questionnaire age 16/17).

³ All household members intended to participate with the adult questionnaire in the current wave, not restricted to members of participating households.

Response rates by panel status are provided in **Table 3.23**. In difference to participation rates as they are presented in the prior table, response rates are calculated excluding deceased individuals, individuals who have moved abroad or who are untraceable.

Table 3.23: Response rate (in percent)

	Total	Respondents in previous wave	Temp. dropouts in previous wave	Permanent refusals in previous waves	New panel members ¹	Grown into Panel ²
Response rate ³	50.7	66.9	36.6	20.1	32.6	43.6

¹ New household members who have never been part of the panel.

² Former youths who have been part of the panel and take part as official respondents for the first time (with the individual questionnaire).

³ RR = percentage of all participants in the gross sample of individuals born before 2002 (gross sample adjusted for persons who are deceased, moved abroad or are untraceable).

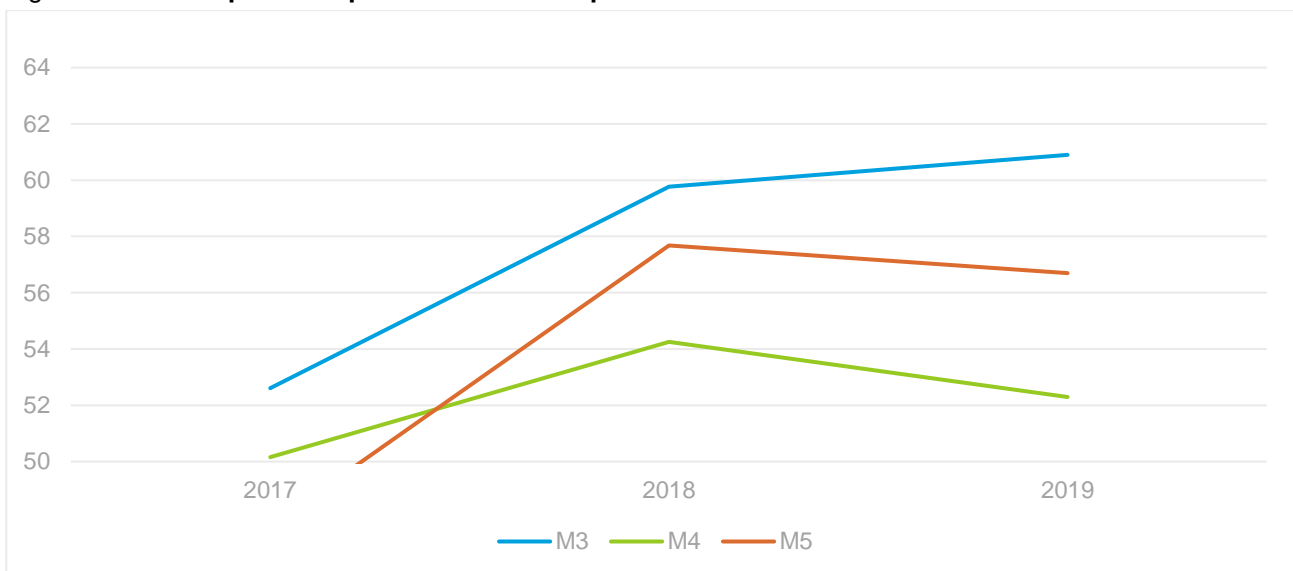
One major concern for all SOEP samples are the growing partial unit non-response (PUNR) rates, which are exceptionally high for the refugee samples, at a total of 56.2 percent in this year's wave (**Table 3.24**). According to our interviewers' reports, respondents are increasingly busy with activities such as job search, participation in language and integration courses, and appointments with various agencies and authorities. The increasing number of activities these individuals are involved in makes it difficult for interviewers to complete interviews with multiple adult household members. **Figure 3.6** visualizes how partial unit non-response rates increased between 2017 and 2018 for all three refugee samples and are stabilizing in 2019.

Table 3.24: Partial unit non-response (in percent)

	Total	M3	M4	M5
PUNR ¹	56,2	60,9	52,3	56,7

¹ Share of households (number of household members > 1) with at least one missing individual questionnaire.

Figure 3.6: Development of partial unit non-response since 2017¹



¹ Share of households (number of household members > 1) with at least one missing individual questionnaire.

3.6.3 Participation by types of questionnaires

As presented in **Table 3.25**, all in all 2,693 household questionnaires and 3,906 individual questionnaires were completed. Four different versions of individual questionnaires are to be distinguished as mentioned earlier. The individual questionnaire for refugees was used most frequently over all three samples. Furthermore, information from interviews with 335 youths in three age groups between 11 and 17 years and with parents of 1,370 children is available.

Table 3.25: Number of interviews by sample and questionnaire

	Total	M3	M4	M5
Household questionnaire	2,693	823	941	929
Individual questionnaire for refugees	3,576	1,063	1,320	1,193
Individual questionnaire + life-history questionnaire for refugees	281	69	98	114
Individual questionnaire for non-refugees	49	15	22	12
Life-history questionnaire for non-refugees	32	10	14	8
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	87	19	41	27
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	117	27	64	26
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	131	31	68	32
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	262	64	128	70
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8 ¹	268	65	139	64
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	294	73	137	84
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	296	90	107	99
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	250	75	101	74

¹ In samples M3-5, the questionnaire for parents is only answered by one parent, not both as in the other samples.

Other than the response rates on the individual level that were shown in the previous section, response rates for each questionnaire are measured by looking at members of participating households only (**Table 3.26**). Combining all versions of the individual questionnaires, a response rate of 72.0 percent was obtained. Response rates for the youth questionnaires were 44.7 percent on average. All mother and child questionnaires generated a very high average response rate of 99.0 percent.

Table 3.26: **Response rates by questionnaire**

	Gross sample ¹	Number of interviews	Response rate
Individual questionnaire ²	5,416	3,900	72.0
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	206	87	42.2
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	252	117	46.4
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	287	131	45.6
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	267	262	98.1
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8	270	268	99.3
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	298	294	98.7
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	300	296	98.7
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn ³	250	250	100.0

¹ Gross sample= target population in participating households, without household members who are deceased or have moved abroad. For the child-related questionnaires, the reference value is the number of children in the respective age group living in participating households. Therefore, the response rate for these questionnaires indicates the number of children for whom a questionnaire has been completed by one parent (in most cases by the mother).

² Including interviews with first-time respondents. There are 6 additional individual questionnaires conducted in households that are coded as non-participating households, as there is no household questionnaire.

³ Gross sample is adjusted for children of the respective age whose parents had already answered the questionnaire in 2018.

3.6.4 Interview length per questionnaire

Table 3.27 lists the median interview lengths for each questionnaire. The mean interview length for refugees who had taken part in one of the previous waves was 40 minutes for the individual questionnaire. This meant that the interview was moderately longer than the interviews in other SOEP samples (e.g., 35 minutes in M1/2), adding further to issues with response rates and PUNR.

Table 3.27: **Median interview length (in minutes)**

	Median	Percentiles (5%, 95%)
Household questionnaire	13	(7, 29)
Individual questionnaire for refugees	40	(20, 70)
Individual questionnaire + life-history questionnaire for refugees	45	(25, 90)
Individual questionnaire for non-refugees	44	(20, 90)
Life-history questionnaire for non-refugees	19	(10, 80)
Youth and child questionnaires	Not recorded	

3.6.5 Consent to record linkage

In all SOEP migration and refugee samples, it is an aim to link respondents' survey data with data from the Integrated Employment Biographies Sample (Stichprobe der Integrierten Erwerbsbiografien, IEBS) for as many participants as possible. So, all first-time refugee respondents in 2019 as well as participants who refused once before were asked to give their written consent to this record linkage. As presented in **Table 3.28**, 495 of 575 individuals (86.0 percent) gave their consent.

Table 3.28: **Consent to record linkage IEBS**

	Total	M3	M4	M5
Gross sample ¹	575	154	196	225
Consent	495	135	170	190
Consent rate (in %)	86.0	87.7	86.7	84.4

¹ The gross sample for record linkage in 2019 consisted of first-time respondents and participants from previous waves who either once refused or did not understand the issue.

In addition to the linkage to the IEBS data, respondents who had told us in this wave or in any previous wave that they had participated in an integration course of the German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees were asked their permission to link their survey data to registration data available in the "Integration Business File" (Integrationsgeschäftsdatei, or InGe) of the BAMF. 87.6 percent of respondents in the gross sample agreed to the linkage, as outlined in **Table 3.29**.

Table 3.29: **Consent to record linkage InGe**

	Total	M3	M4	M5
Gross sample ¹	2.902	862	1.070	970
Consent	2.543	756	963	824
Consent rate (in %)	87.6	87.7	90.0	84.9

3.7 Data preparation

Data preparation processes in samples M3-5 are in line with the processes described for samples A-O in **Section 1.7** of this report.

3.8 Delivered data

Gross Data

Gross data Household	Hbru_M345_2019.dta
Gross data Individuals	Pbru_M345_2019.dta
SOEP Individuals Sample M3-M5	P_M345_2019.dta

Net Data

Net data Household checked	H19_M345.dta
Net data Household unchecked	H19_M345_u.dta
Net data Individuals Refugees checked	P19_M345.dta
Net data Individuals Refugees unchecked	P19_M345_u.dta
Net data Individual + Life history Refugees checked	PB19_M345.dta
Net data Individual + Life history Refugees unchecked	PB19_M345_u.dta
Net data Individuals Non-refugees checked	PDM19_M345.dta
Net data Individuals Non-refugees unchecked	PDM19_M345_u.dta
Net data Life history Non-refugees checked	LDM19_M345.dta
Net data Life history Non-refugees unchecked	LDM19_M345_u.dta
Net data Youth (all age groups)	J19_M345.dta
Net data Children (all ages)	MK19_M345.dta
Consent to record linkage	EV19_M345_DIW.dta
Aggregated net data Refugee Route Module	PB19_Fluchtrouten_M345.dta

Other Data

Professions, sectors, final coding	Berufe_Branchen_Ausb_2019_M345.dta
University coding	Hochschul-Abschl_2019_M345.dta

4 Sample P

4.1 Introduction

Table 4.1 gives a short overview of the main characteristics of the 2019 boost sample P. 1,960 households mostly of considerable affluence participated between January and December. The overall response rate on the household level was 9.7 percent. This relatively low figure should be interpreted in relation to the hard to survey population that sample P focused on. In all households, 2,440 adults gave interviews. Three different questionnaires were fielded – initially all in CAPI mode, as is common in new SOEP samples. Due to the difficulty that fieldwork presented, PAPI and SELF interviewing were introduced some time into the fieldwork period to boost response rates and to lower Partial unit non-response (PUNR)⁹. PUNR was very high regardless at 76.1 percent.

Table 4.1: **Summary fieldwork**

Fieldwork period	January - December
Mode	CAPI, PAPI, SELF
Gross sample (hh)	23,259
Net sample (hh)	1,960
Response rate (adjusted; hh) ¹	Overall: 9.7
Number of questionnaires	Adults: 3 Youths: 0 Children: 0
Net sample (individuals)	Adults: 2,440 Youths: 0 Children: 0
Questionnaire length (median, in minutes)	Household: 20 Adult: 67
Partial unit non-response	76.1

¹ RR = percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

⁹ PUNR: share of households (number of household members > 1) with at least one missing individual questionnaire.

4.2 Background sample P

Sample P was conceptualized as a sample of highly affluent households in Germany. Against the backdrop of increasing income and wealth inequality in Germany, despite economic growth in recent decades, a lack of data on wealthy populations has become increasingly evident in the social sciences. Goals to be accomplished with sample P were to improve the empirical basis of the poverty and wealth report of the German government as well as laying the foundation for medium and long-term cross-sectional and longitudinal analyses. One of the key reasons for the lack of (micro-) data regarding wealthy households in Germany lies in the fact that this is a hard-to-survey population. Depending on the survey-design all or most of these factors apply to wealthy and affluent people:

- hard to sample (rare populations without a specific sample frame),
- hard to identify (due to sensitive and/or stigmatizing attributes),
- hard to find/contact (populations that are highly mobile and/or difficult to reach),
- hard to persuade (are not disposed to being surveyed),
- hard to interview (are unwilling or unable to provide information).¹⁰

Considering these attributes, an innovative approach to sampling was needed for this population. Empirically, people in the top percentile of the wealth distribution are very likely to have some form of equity or shares in a company. Thus, we decided to try to reach this population through publicly accessible information regarding the ownership structures of businesses in Germany. The German trade register includes information about the owners and top managers of every business. This contact information was the foundation for the gross sample of sample P and from it anchor-persons were sampled whose participation was crucial for the realization of a household. This sampling approach was tested in a feasibility pilot in 2017/18 and was deemed adequate. The feasibility study had also shown the challenges under which fieldwork would have to take place. The measures taken to tackle these challenges will be outlined in more detail in the subsequent sections.

¹⁰ See: Roger Tourangeau (2014): Defining Hard-to-Survey Populations. In R. Tourangeau, B. Edwards, T.P. Johnson, K.M. Wolter, and N. Bates (eds.): Hard-to-Survey Populations. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 3-20.

4.3 Structure of the gross sample

The gross sample of sample P consisted of 23,259 households. As presented in **Table 4.2**, most of these households are located in the states of North Rhine-Westphalia (20.0 percent), Bavaria (18.2) and Baden-Wuerttemberg (12.1 percent). Additionally, as can be seen in **Table 4.3** almost two thirds of the households in the gross sample (65.4 percent) are in small or medium sized communities of up to 50,000 inhabitants in the periphery of larger cities. This gives some insight already into the preferences of wealthy households regarding their place of residence.

Table 4.2: Household characteristics I

Household Level	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Gross Sample	23,259	100.0
State		
Schleswig-Holstein	596	2.6
Hamburg	550	2.4
Lower Saxony	1,511	6.5
Bremen	91	0.4
North Rhine-Westphalia	4,627	20.0
Hesse	1,713	7.4
Rhineland Palatinate	1,081	4.7
Saarland	249	1.1
Baden-Wuerttemberg	2,790	12.1
Bavaria	4,204	18.2
Berlin	808	3.5
Brandenburg	1,027	4.4
Mecklenburg Western Pomerania	665	2.9
Saxony	1,652	7.1
Saxony-Anhalt	759	3.3
Thuringia	817	3.5

¹ Eleven cases that were originally part of the gross sample are excluded here because of data-deletion requests.

Table 4.3: Household characteristics II

Household Level	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Gross Sample	23,259	100.0
BIK type¹		
0	6,108	26.4
1	3,075	13.3
2	2,604	11.3
3	3,698	16.0
4	468	2.0
5	1,388	6.0
6	2,867	12.4
7	1,892	8.2
8	582	2.5
9	458	2.0
Community size²		
1	1,370	5.9
2	2,420	10.5
3	6,562	28.4
4	4,759	20.6
5	1,419	6.1
6	3,054	13.2
7	3,556	15.4

¹ BIK type: 0 (more than 500,000 inhabitants/center) 1 (more than 500,000 inh/periphery), 2 (100,000 to 499,999 inh./center) 3 (100,000 to 499,999 inh./periphery), 4 (50,000 to 99,999 inh.(center), 5 (50,000 to 99,999 inh./periphery), 6 (20,000 to 49,999 inh.), 7 (5,000 to 19,999 inh.), 8 (2,000 to 4,999 inh.), 9 (fewer than 2,000 inh.)

² Community size: 1 (fewer than 2000 inhabitants), 2 (2,000 to 5,000 inh.), 3 (5,000 to 20,000 inh.), 4 (20,000 to 50,000 inh.), 5 (50,000 to 100,000 inh.), 6 (100,000 to 500,000 inh.), 7 (more than 500,000 inh.)

4.4 Questionnaires and fieldwork material

4.4.1 Questionnaires

Three different questionnaires were used to collect data in sample P. Apart from the regular household and individual questionnaires, a life-history questionnaire module was used to collect background information of all respondents. Computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) was applied alongside paper questionnaires (PAPI or SELF) for all questionnaires. While the life history questionnaire was integrated into the individual questionnaire in the CAPI, it was administered as a separate questionnaire in the PAPI and SELF modes

Table 4.4: Questionnaires and modes

	CAPI/PAPI/SELF
Household questionnaire	✓
Individual questionnaire	✓
Life-history questionnaire module	✓

4.4.2 Fieldwork material

Table 4.5 provides an overview of all additional fieldwork material used for the survey in 2019 in sample P. A sample specific leaflet was designed to encourage participation. It was sent along with the advance letter detailing the survey process and announcing that for each participating household 15 euros would be donated to UNICEF. In anticipation of increased contact effort interviewers were also provided with assorted available business contacts of the anchor-persons in order to give them more ways of establishing contact.

Table 4.5: Fieldwork material

	CAPI, PAPI, SELF
Advance letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donation: Standard incentive (15 euros donation to UNICEF)
Leaflet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sample specific leaflet
Declaration on data protection	Declaration on data protection
Address form and household grid	Electronic form (Mein Kantar)
Wa	Showcard
Project instruction book	Project instruction book
Other interviewer material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project description • Contact card

Interviewers were also equipped with declarations on data protection and contact cards which could be left if no one was present at the interviewer's first contact attempt.

4.5 Conducting the survey

4.5.1 Survey mode

Initially by design all anchor-person interviews were to be conducted in CAPI-mode only while interviews with additional household-members could be done as a paper questionnaire. To reduce contact effort and time spent in the households and to increase the likelihood of successfully interviewing this highly mobile and hard-to-reach population, this original CAPI-only mode restriction was lifted to allow for more flexibility. **Tables 4.6 and 4.7** give an overview of the modes used for the individual and the household questionnaires respectively. The main mode used was CAPI, only 14.6 percent of individual interviews and 6.8 percent of household interviews were completed as a paper questionnaire.

Table 4.6: Interviewing modes – individual questionnaire

Individual level	Interviewer-Based			Total	
	CAPI	PAPI	SELF		
P	Abs.	2,079	10	345	2,434
	In %	85.4	0.4	14.2	100.0

Table 4.7: Interviewing modes – household questionnaire

Household level	Interviewer-Based			Total	
	CAPI	PAPI	SELF		
P	Abs. ¹	1,823	11	121	1,955
	In %	93.2	0.6	6.2	100.0

¹ For 5 households the information was unavailable, they were surveyed using either PAPI or SELF interviewing.

4.5.2 Fieldwork timing

Fieldwork for sample P began in February 2019 and lasted until early February 2020 (**Table 4.8**). The length of the fieldwork period illustrates the challenges of working this sample. Most of the gross sample was processed in February 2019 (15.3 percent) and in July 2019 (17.8 percent), these being the months when the two address-tranches were put into the field.

Table 4.8: Monthly fieldwork progress

Household level	Gross sample		Net sample	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
February '19 ¹	3,549	15.3	170	8.7
March '19	2,005	8.6	229	11.7
April '19	1,785	7.7	215	11.0
May '19	1,683	7.2	182	9.3
June '19	1,074	4.6	119	6.1
July '19	4,136	17.8	292	14.9
August '19	2,300	9.9	129	6.6
September '19	1,336	5.7	170	8.7
October '19	1,124	4.8	116	5.9
November '19	1,285	5.5	147	7.5
December '19	1,016	4.4	86	4.4
January '20	1,365	5.9	100	5.1
February '20	601	2.6	5	0.3

¹ Including households that refused to take part in the survey prior to the start of fieldwork.

4.5.3 Translations

In order to maximize response rates, household and individual questionnaires were available in five additional languages including English, Russian, Turkish, Polish and Romanian. These translated versions were not part of the standard fieldwork materials but could be requested by the interviewers if needed. **Table 4.9** gives an overview of the available language versions.

Table 4.9: **Available language versions**

	English	Russian	Turkish	Polish	Romanian
Household questionnaire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Individual questionnaire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Life-history questionnaire	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

4.5.4 Panel maintenance and incentives

Due to the wealth of the households and the consequently assumed ineffectiveness of monetary incentives, neither a cash incentive nor any gifts were given as an incentive. Instead a 15 euros donation was made to UNICEF for every participating household.

4.5.5 Movers and tracing

Table 4.10 provides figures for the number of households requiring address inquiry. This includes only movers as new households play no role in a boost sample such as sample P. For this first survey wave, 3,796 households (16.3 percent) were subject to address inquiry. 2,811 of these households were successfully traced, which amounts to a success rate of 74.1 percent. By far the most important source of information about addresses were the local registration offices (72.6 percent) that provide information about residents' current addresses if there is a scientific interest behind the inquiry, followed by the interviewers (20.5 percent). A comparatively negligible source is the postal service that movers sometimes notify of their new address (6.8 percent). Sometimes, participants themselves let us know about a move. But this source amounts to only 0.1 percent of address information about movers in sample P.

Table 4.10: Movers and sources of new addresses of administered sample 2019

Household Level	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	23,259	100.0
Movers	3,796	16.3
Success tracing		
Tracing successful	2,811	74.1
Tracing not successful	985	25.9
Source		
Interviewer	778	20.5
Postal service	258	6.8
Local registration offices	2,757	72.6
Participant	3	0.1

4.5.6 Interviewer characteristics, training & monitoring

As presented in **Table 4.11** and **Table 4.12**, 256 interviewers were deployed to conduct the interviews for sample P. At 63.3 percent, the number of male interviewers was significantly higher than that of female interviewers. Generally, most interviewers were aged between 60-79 years and already had a substantive amount of experience with Kantar and/or the SOEP. Most interviewers processed between 20 and 100 households, while 56 interviewers processed more than 100 households.

Table 4.11: Interviewer characteristics

Interviewer level	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Number of Interviewers	256	100.0
Gender		
Male	162	63.3
Female	94	36.7
Age		
21-39	12	4.7
40-59	72	28.1
60-79	165	64.5
80+	7	2.7
Number of households (gross)		
Fewer than 5	20	7.8
5 – 20	22	8.6
20 – 100	158	61.7
More than 100	56	21.9

Table 4.12: Interviewer experience

Interviewer level	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Number of interviewers	256	100.0
Experience with Kantar		
0-4 years of experience with Kantar	107	41.8
5-9 years	53	20.7
10-19 years	72	28.1
20-29 years	14	5.5
30-39 years	5	2.0
More than 40 years	5	2.0
Experience with SOEP		
0-4 years	123	48.0
5-9 years	58	22.7
10-19 years	65	25.4
20-29 years	5	2.0
30-34 years	1	0.4
More than 35 years	4	1.6

To assure high data quality, the interviewing process is monitored by re-contacting households to inquire whether the interview did in fact take place as indicated by the respective interviewer. For the boost sample P, 93.6 percent of all interviewed households were re-contacted. As presented in **Table 4.13**, feedback was received from 51.8 percent of all households. The gained information covers all 204 of 205 or 99.5 percent of interviewers who conducted interviews in sample P and did not reveal any non-standard behavior.

Table 4.13: Interviewer monitoring

	Abs.	In %	In %
By households			
Households in net sample ¹	1.960	100,0	-
Re-contacted households	1.834	93.6	100,0
Households with feedback	950	48.5	51,8
By interviewers			
Interviewers in net sample	205	100.0	-
Interviewers with re-contacted households	204	99,5	-
Interviewers with non-standard behavior	0	0.0	-

4.6 Fieldwork results

4.6.1 Participation on household level

Table 4.14 provides participation figures on household level. With 1,960 households, 8.4 percent of all households in the gross sample were interviewed. A total of 11,285 households, which amounts to 48.5 percent of the gross sample, refused to participate in the survey. Another 28.3 percent was unreachable during fieldwork. For newly added samples, all losses on the household level are permanent. Respective households will not be contacted again in the following wave.

Table 4.14: Participation on household level (with AAPOR codes)

	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	23,259	100.0
Interview (1.0)	1,960	8.4
Complete (1.1)	670	2.9
Partial (1.2)	1,290	5.5
Non-interview (2.0)	21,299	91.6%
Non-contact (2.20)	6,579	28.3
Temporarily physically or mentally unable (2.321)	27	0.1
Language problem (2.331)	23	0.1
Permanent refusal (2.111)	11,285	48.5
Permanently physically or mentally unable (2.322)	116	0.5
Deceased (2.31)	225	1.0
Moved abroad (4.2)	99	0.4
Household untraceable (4.4)	887	3.8
Quality-neutral sampling losses (4.0; 4.1) ¹	207	0.9
Not attempted or worked (3.11)	1,851	8.0

¹ Business, government office, other.

The already stated fact that wealthy populations are hard to reach and rather unwilling to provide information about their personal circumstances are reflected in these figures. Considering the challenging nature of this sample the response rate in the first wave of sample P is a satisfying and overall good result at 9.0 percent, adjusted for households in which the last household member had died, households that moved abroad, untraceable households and quality neutral sampling losses (**Table 4.15**).

Table 4.15: Response rate at household level (in percent)

	Total
Response rate ¹	9.0

¹ RR= percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview and households in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

4.6.2 Participation on individual level

Table 4.16 presents participation figures on an individual level. The gross sample consists of adult residents of participating households. 60.2 percent of those were successfully interviewed. With 825 cases (20.4 percent of the gross sample), most dropouts were temporary. This group of respondents will be asked to take part in the survey again in the following wave.

Table 4.16: Participation on individual level (with AAPOR codes)

	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Gross sample ¹	4,050	100.0
Interview (1.0)	2,440	60.2
Non-interview (2.0)	1,610	39.8
Temporary dropout	825	20.4
Non-contact (2.20)	59	1.5
Temporary refusal (2.112)	335	8.3
Temporarily physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.321)	16	0.4
Language problem (2.331)	13	0.3
Other temp. (2.52)	402	9.9
Final dropout	785	19.4
Permanent refusal (2.111)	771	19.0
Permanently physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.322)	14	0.3

¹ All household members intended to participate in the current wave, not restricted to members of participating households.

The total response rate amounts to 60.2 percent for sample P (**Table 4.17**). With 76.1 percent, partial unit non-response (PUNR) is very high for sample P (**Table 4.18**). This is hardly surprising considering the following: Firstly, sample P was designed as an anchor-person survey, i.e. interviewing the person who was listed in the trade registry – the anchor person – was prioritized. Other people in the household were interviewed but given the nature of the respondents as members of a hard to survey population, effort for realizing all interviews in a household proved more difficult than in other samples. High PUNR rates have already been addressed in the respective “Participation on individual level” sections as an area of concern for the SOEP currently.

Table 4.17: **Response rate (in percent)**

	Total
Response rate ¹	60.2

¹ RR= percentage of all participants in the gross sample of individuals born before 2002 (gross sample adjusted for persons who are deceased, moved abroad or are untraceable).

Table 4.18: **Partial unit non-response (in percent)**

	Total
PUNR ¹	76.1

¹ Share of households (number of household members > 1) with at least one missing individual questionnaire.

4.6.3 Participation by types of questionnaires

Table 4.19 presents the number of interviews and response rates for each questionnaire. Corresponding with the number of households in the net sample, 1,960 household questionnaires were produced, resulting in an adjusted response rate of 9.0 percent. Apart from two individuals, all participating respondents answered both the individual questionnaire and the life-history module. The gross sample for the life-history questionnaire is defined by the number of interviews on individual level (2,440 interviews which results in a response rate of 60.2). The response rate for the life history questionnaire is 98.3 percent.

Table 4.19: **Number of interviews and response rate by questionnaire**

	Gross sample ¹	Number of interviews	Response rate
Household questionnaire	21,841	1,960	9.0
Individual questionnaire	4,050	2,440	60.2
Life-history questionnaire module	2,440	2,398	98.3

¹ Gross sample= target population in participating households, excluding deceased, moved abroad.

4.6.4 Interview length per questionnaire

Median interview lengths for each questionnaire are listed in **Table 4.21**. Completing the individual questionnaire and the life-history questionnaire took 67 minutes on average. If the household questionnaire was completed as well, the interviewing time adds up to a total of 87 minutes. The interview length might be another contributing factor to high PUNR in this sample specifically but more broadly speaking for the SOEP in general.

Table 4.20: Median interview length (in minutes)

	Interviewer-based				
	Total		CAPI	PAPI	SELF
	Median	Percentiles (5%, 95%)	Median	Median	Median
Household questionnaire	20	(10, 35)	20	25	30
Individual questionnaire	45	(27, 80)	45	60	45
Life-history questionnaire	22	(13, 45)	21	38	30

4.7 Data preparation

Data preparation processes in sample P are in line with the processes that are described for samples A-O in **Section 1.7** of this report.

4.8 Delivered data

Gross Data

Gross data Household	hbru_P_2019_T1_T2.dta
Gross data Individuals	pbru_P_2019_T1_T2.sav
Interviewer data	Intband_P_2019_T1_T2.dta
Contact process data	Kontaktverlauf_P_2019_T1_T2.sav

Net Data

Net data Household checked	H19_P_T1_T2.dta
Net data Household unchecked	H19_P_T1_T2_u.dta
Net data Children in the household	H19_P_T1_T2_Kinder.dta
Net data Individuals checked	P19_P_T1_T2.dta
Net data Individuals unchecked	P19_P_T1_T2_u.dta
Net data Life history checked	L19_P_T1_T2.dta
Net data Life history unchecked	L19_P_T1_T2_u.dta

Other Data

Professions, sectors, final coding	Berufe_Branchen_Ausbildung_2019_P.SAV
	BerufeBranchenAusbildung_2019_L23_P2_Q.dta
University coding	Hochschul-Abschl_2019_P_T1_T2.dta

5 Sample Q

5.1 Introduction

Table 5.1 gives a short overview of the main characteristics of the 2019 boost sample Q, the “lesbian, gay and bisexual sample”. 835 households were recruited via an approximately 9-month long telephone screening process. Of these households 477 participated between April and November. This results in a response rate of 59.9 percent. In all households, 564 adults and 7 youths gave interviews. Eleven different questionnaires were fielded – all in CAPI mode, as is common in new SOEP samples. Partial unit non-response (PUNR: the share of households with more than one household member with at least one missing individual questionnaire) was at 67.9 percent.

Table 5.1: **Summary fieldwork**

Fieldwork period	April - November
Mode	CAPI
Gross sample (hh)	835
Net sample (hh)	477
Response rate (adjusted; hh) ¹	Overall: 59.9
Number of questionnaires	Adults: 3 Youths: 3 Children: 5
Net sample (individuals)	Adults: 564 Youths: 7 Children: 11
Questionnaire length (median, in minutes)	Household: 20 Adult: 50
Partial unit non-response ¹	67.9

¹ RR = percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

5.2 Background sample Q

The integration of sample Q into the SOEP-Core in 2019 served multiple purposes. First, sample Q is a boost sample of a hard-to-survey population: lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender people, and those who identify as non-binary. While the actual percentage of LGBTQ+ people in the general population is unknown, this population was too scarcely represented in the SOEP to meaningfully analyze this group. To draw a representative sample, it was determined that Kantar should screen for LGBTQ+ people using the Kantar CATI omnibus survey. In addition to the CATI omnibus screening Kantar deployed a second CATI screening exclusively to boost the gross sample. Overall, roughly 75,000 screening interviews (including pretest screenings) were conducted between September 2018 and August 2019, resulting in a gross sample of 835 households after the elimination of probable false positive screenings. This elimination process was designed by the DIW-SOEP. While a pretest was conducted as part of the screening process, the results proved inaccurate. Although the resulting incidence of the target group in the general population was close to the predicted value (5.3 percent and 5.9 percent, respectively), the rate of refusal to answer the very personal screening questions about sexuality and gender identity was 8.7 percentage points higher than predicted, at 28.7 percent. Furthermore, the willingness of target group members to provide their contact information and participate in the SOEP survey was considerably lower than expected (1.9 percent of those with a full screening interview). In contrast to the pretest results, which had indicated a much higher willingness to provide contact details, only 38% of the positively screened persons declared their willingness to participate in the SOEP study.¹¹

¹¹ The screening process for sample Q is outlined in: An Overview of SOEP Fieldwork in 2019: Samples A-L1, L2/3 and N-Q. In: SOEP Annual Report 2019

5.3 Structure of the gross sample

The gross sample of sample Q consisted of 835 households. As presented in **Table 5.2**, most of these households are located in the states of North Rhine-Westphalia (18.8 percent), Bavaria (14.6 percent) and Berlin (12.1percent). Well over 50 percent of households were located in communities with 100,000 inhabitants or more (see **Table 5.3**).

Table 5.2: Household characteristics I

Household Level	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Gross Sample	835	100.0
State		
Schleswig-Holstein	23	3.2
Hamburg	31	4.3
Lower Saxony	60	8.3
Bremen	9	1.2
North Rhine-Westphalia	137	18.8
Hesse	75	10.3
Rhineland Palatinate	27	3.7
Baden-Wuerttemberg	75	10.3
Bavaria	106	14.6
Saarland	4	0.6
Berlin	88	12.1
Brandenburg	20	2.8
Mecklenburg Western Pomerania	13	1.8
Saxony	29	4.0
Saxony-Anhalt	17	2.3
Thuringia	13	1.8

¹ Eleven cases that were originally part of the gross sample are excluded here because of data-deletion requests.

Table 5.3: Household characteristics II

Household Level	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Gross Sample	835	100.0
BIK type¹		
0	320	44.0
1	51	7.0
2	125	17.2
3	67	9.2
4	15	2.1
5	33	4.5
6	62	8.5
7	31	4.3
8	11	1.5
9	12	1.7
Community size²		
1	30	4.1
2	37	5.1
3	115	15.8
4	103	14.2
5	61	8.4
6	139	19.1
7	242	33.3

¹ BIK type: 0 (more than 500,000 inhabitants/center) 1 (more than 500,000 inh/periphery), 2 (100,000 to 499,999 inh./center) 3 (100,000 to 499,999 inh./periphery), 4 (50,000 to 99,999 inh.(center), 5 (50,000 to 99,999 inh./periphery), 6 (20,000 to 49,999 inh.), 7 (5,000 to 19,999 inh.), 8 (2,000 to 4,999 inh.), 9 (fewer than 2,000 inh.)

² Community size: 1 (fewer than 2000 inhabitants), 2 (2,000 to 5,000 inh.), 3 (5,000 to 20,000 inh.), 4 (20,000 to 50,000 inh.), 5 (50,000 to 100,000 inh.), 6 (100,000 to. 500,000 inh.), 7 (more than 500,000 inh.).

5.4 Questionnaires and fieldwork material

5.4.1 Questionnaires

Eleven different questionnaires were used to collect data in sample Q. Apart from the regular household and individual questionnaires, a life-history questionnaire module was used to collect background information of all respondents. Adolescents of the age 16 or 17, 13 or 14 and 11 or 12 were interviewed using specific youth questionnaires. Additionally, all mother and child /parent questionnaires were administered in this boost sample. Computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) was applied exclusively for all questionnaires.

Table 5.4: Questionnaires and modes

	CAPI
Household questionnaire	✓
Individual questionnaire	✓
Life-history questionnaire	✓
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	✓
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	✓
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	✓
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	✓
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	✓

5.4.2 Fieldwork material

Table 5.5 provides an overview of all additional fieldwork material used for the survey in 2019 in sample Q. A sample specific leaflet was designed to encourage participation and to outline the scientific purpose of the survey. It was sent along with the advance letter detailing the survey process and announcing that an interviewer would contact the household and that households would receive a cash incentive of 5 euros for a completed household interview and 10 euros for each completed individual interview.

Interviewers were also provided with declarations on data protection and contact cards which could be left if no one was present at the interviewer's first contact attempt.

Table 5.5: Fieldwork material

CAPI	
Advance letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash
Leaflet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sample specific leaflet
Declaration on data protection	Declaration on data protection
Address form and household grid	Electronic form (Mein Kantar)
Showcards	Showcard
Project instruction book	Project instruction book
Other interviewer material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project description • Contact card

5.5 Conducting the survey

5.5.1 Survey mode

All questionnaires in sample Q were available solely in CAPI mode.

5.5.2 Fieldwork timing

Fieldwork for sample Q began in April 2019 and lasted until November (**Table 5.6**). Most households were processed in September (28.6 percent) and July (18.1 percent).

Table 5.6: **Monthly fieldwork progress**

Household level	Gross sample		Net sample	
	Abs.	In %	Abs.	In %
April ¹	50	6.0	9	1.9
May	41	4.9	22	4.6
June	68	8.1	49	10.3
July	151	18.1	105	22.0
August	108	12.9	48	10.1
September	239	28.6	153	32.1
October	125	15.0	71	14.9
November	53	6.3	20	4.2

¹ Including households that refused to take part in the survey prior to the start of fieldwork.

5.5.3 Translations

No translations were used in this sample. The reasoning behind this is that all respondents were recruited via a CATI interview. A sufficient command of the German language was therefore assumed, and no translated versions were provided for fieldwork. In the unlikely case of language problems, the interviewers were instructed to either bring in a professional translator or ask a person in the household with German language skills to help with conducting the interview.

5.5.4 Panel maintenance and incentives

In addition to the individual incentive mentioned in the announcement letter (5 euros for a completed household questionnaire and 10 euros for each conducted individual interview), interviewers brought a small gift to all households which was presented upon arrival. This year's gift was a high-quality pen and branded post-its. Also, as a "welcome to the panel" gift households received a power bank. Youths who participated in the survey were also rewarded with small gifts as presented in **Table 5.8**.

Table 5.8: Incentives

Incentives for adults	HH: 5 euros Adult: 10 euros
Incentives for youth and child questionnaire	Youth quest.: age 16 or 17: Power bank Youth quest.: age 13 or 14: Bicycle repair kit Youth quest.: age 11 or 12: Small clock Child quest.: No incentive

5.5.5 Movers and tracing

Table 5.9 provides figures for the number of households requiring address inquiry. This includes only movers as new households play no role in a boost sample such as sample Q. For this first survey wave, 39 households (4.7 percent) were subject to address inquiry. 26 of these households were successfully traced, which amounts to a success rate of 66.7 percent. The most important source of information about addresses were the interviewers (46.2 percent) as well as the local registration offices (46.2 percent as well) that provide information about residents' current addresses if there is a scientific interest behind the inquiry. Another source is the postal service that movers sometimes notify of their new address (5.1 percent). Participants themselves let us know about a new address in 2.6 percent of cases.

Table 5.9: Movers and sources of new addresses of administered sample 2019

Household Level	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	835	100.0
Movers	39	4.7
Success tracing		
Tracing successful	26	66.7
Tracing not successful	13	33.3
Source		
Interviewer	18	46.2
Postal service	2	5.1
Local registration offices	18	46.2
Participant	1	2.6

5.5.6 Interviewer characteristics, training & monitoring

As presented in **Table 5.10** 222 interviewers were employed to conduct the interviews for sample Q. Due to the small number of households assigned to each interviewer – 85.6 percent of interviewers were responsible for 4 or fewer households while only 5 interviewers processed more than 20 households – of those 222 only 178 conducted any interviews. At 55.9 percent, the number of male interviewers was slightly higher than that of female interviewers. Generally, most interviewers were aged between 60-79 years and already had a substantial amount of experience with Kantar and/or the SOEP (**Table 5.11**).

Table 5.10: Interviewer characteristics

Interviewer level	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Number of Interviewers	222	100.0
Gender		
Male	124	55.9
Female	98	44.1
Age		
21-39	6	2.7
40-59	52	23.4
60-79	153	68.9
80+	11	5.0
Number of households (gross)¹		
Fewer than 5	190	85.6
5 – 20	27	12.2
20 – 100	5	2.3
More than 100	0	0.0

Table 5.11: Interviewer experience

Interviewer level	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Number of interviewers	222	100.0
Experience with Kantar		
0-4 years of experience with Kantar	49	22.1
5-9 years	46	20.7
10-19 years	85	38.3
20-29 years	23	10.4
30-39 years	14	6.3
More than 40 years	5	2.3
Experience with SOEP		
0-4 years	63	28.4
5-9 years	71	32.0
10-19 years	72	32.4
20-29 years	7	3.2
30-34 years	2	0.9
More than 35 years	7	3.2

To assure high data quality, the interviewing process is monitored by re-contacting households to inquire whether the interview did in fact take place as indicated by the respective interviewer. For the newly added sample Q, all but two interviewed households were re-contacted. Feedback was received from 63.3 percent of all households. The gained information covers 177 of 178 interviewers who conducted interviews in sample Q and did not reveal any non-standard behavior (**Table 5.12**).

Table 5.12: Interviewer monitoring

	Abs.	In %	In %
By households			
Households in net sample	477	100.0	-
Re-contacted households	475	99.6	100.0
Households with feedback	302	63.3	63.6
By interviewers			
Interviewers in net sample	178	100.0	-
Interviewers with re-contacted households	177	99.4	-
Interviewers with non-standard behavior	0	0.0	-

5.6 Fieldwork results

5.6.1 Participation on household level

Table 5.13 provides participation figures on household level. With 477 households, 57.1 percent of all households in the gross sample were interviewed. A total of 170 households, which amounts to 20.4 percent of the gross sample, refused to participate in the survey. Another 14.9 percent was unreachable during fieldwork. For newly added samples, all losses on household level are permanent. Respective households will not be contacted again in the following wave.

Table 5.13: Participation on household level (with AAPOR codes)

	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Gross sample	835	100.0
Interview (1.0)	477	57.1
Complete (1.1)	331	39.6
Partial (1.2)	146	17.5
Non-interview (2.0)	358	42.9
Non-contact (2.20)	124	14.9
Temporarily physically or mentally unable (2.321)	0	0.0
Language problem (2.331)	4	0.5
Permanent refusal (2.111)	170	20.4
Permanently physically or mentally unable (2.322)	7	0.8
Deceased (2.31)	2	0.2
Moved abroad (4.2)	3	0.4
Household untraceable (4.4)	25	3.0
Quality-neutral sampling losses (4.0; 4.1) ¹	17	2.0

¹ Business, government office, other.

The response rate in the first wave of sample Q was 60.5 percent adjusted for households in which the last household member had died, households that moved abroad, untraceable households and quality neutral sampling losses (Table 5.14).

Table 5.14: Response rate at household level (in percent)

	Total
Response rate ¹	60.5

¹ RR= percentage of all households with at least one hh and individual interview and households in the gross sample (gross sample adjusted for households where the last person is deceased or the household moved abroad, is permanently untraceable or dissolved households where the last member moved into another SOEP household).

5.6.2 Participation on individual level

Table 5.15 presents participation figures on an individual level. The gross sample consists of adult residents of participating households. 76.1 percent of those were successfully interviewed. With 123 cases (16.6 percent of the gross sample), most dropouts were temporary. This group of respondents will be asked to take part in the survey again in the following wave.

Table 5.15: **Participation on individual level (with AAPOR codes)**

	Total	
	Abs.	In %
Gross sample ¹	741	100.0
Interview (1.0)	564	76.1
Non-interview (2.0)	177	23.9
Temporary dropout	123	16.6
Non-contact (2.20)	8	1.1
Temporary refusal (2.112)	93	12.6
Temporarily physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.321)	1	0.1
Language problem (2.331)	0	0.0
Other temp. (2.52)	1	0.1
Final dropout	54	7.3
Permanent refusal (2.111)	45	6.1
Permanently physically or mentally unable/incompetent (2.322)	9	1.2

¹ All household members intended to participate in the current wave, not restricted to members of participating households.

The total response rate excluding deceased individuals, individuals who moved abroad or were untraceable amounts to 76.1 percent for sample Q (**Table 5.15**). With 67.9 percent, partial unit non-response (PUNR) is comparatively high for sample Q (**Table 5.16**). This is to be somewhat expected in the first wave of a sample in an anchor-person design, where the focus is on the anchor while other persons in the household, who may or may not belong to the target population, might not feel explicitly addressed. The PUNR should consolidate in coming waves. High PUNR rates have already been addressed in the respective “Participation on individual level” sections as an area of concern for the SOEP currently.

Table 5.16: **Response rate (in percent)**

	Total
Response rate ¹	76.1

¹ RR= ratio of all participants and gross sample of individuals born before 2002 (gross sample adjusted for persons who are deceased, moved abroad or are untraceable).

Table 5.17: Partial unit non-response (in percent)

	Total
PUNR ¹	67.9

¹ Share of households (number of household members > 1) with at least one missing individual questionnaire.

5.6.3 Participation by types of questionnaires

Table 5.18 presents the number of interviews for each questionnaire. Corresponding with the number of households in the net sample, 477 household questionnaires were produced. Besides one individual, all participating respondents answered both the individual questionnaire and the life-history module. The youth questionnaires were administered 7 times in total. Information about the younger children in the household was gathered using the SOEP mother-child or parent questionnaires, which were used 9 times overall.

Table 5.18: Number of interviews and response rate by questionnaire

	Gross sample ¹	Number of interviews	Response rate
Household questionnaire	788	477	60.5
Individual questionnaire	739	564	76.1
Life-history questionnaire module	564	563	99.8
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	3	2	66.7
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	6	3	50.0
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	5	2	40.0
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	6	4	66.7
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8	2	1	50.0
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	5	1	20.0
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	1	0	0.0
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	3	3	100.0

¹ Gross sample= target population in participating households, excluding deceased, moved abroad and untraceable.

Table 5.18 also shows response rates for the individual questionnaire, the life-history questionnaire module and the youth and mother-child/parent questionnaires. The gross sample for the life-history questionnaire is defined by the number of interviews on individual level. It should be noted that the response rates for the youth and mother-child questionnaires are not particularly robust due to the low gross sample and subsequently low absolute number of cases. They range from 66.7 percent for the 16 or 17-year-olds and 0 percent for the 2-3-year-olds.

5.6.4 Interview length per questionnaire

Median interview lengths for each questionnaire are listed in **Table 5.19**. Completing the individual questionnaire and the life-history questionnaire took 73 minutes on average. If the household questionnaire was completed as well, the interviewing time adds up to a total of 93 minutes. This combination of questionnaires was fielded for the anchor-persons. The shorter youth questionnaires took 30 and 25 minutes on average. The mother-child questionnaire had an interview length of 18 and 9 minutes respectively, where recorded.

Table 5.19: **Median interview length (in minutes)**

	Total	
	Median	Percentiles (5%, 95%)
Household questionnaire	20	(10, 32)
Individual questionnaire	50	(32, 85)
Life-history questionnaire	23	(12, 41)
Youth questionnaire: age 16 or 17	30	(30, 30)
Youth questionnaire: age 13 or 14	25	(-, -)
Youth questionnaire: age 11 or 12	25	(-, -)
Mother and child questionnaire: age 9 or 10	18	(-, -)
Questionnaire for parents: age 7 or 8	9	(-, -)
Mother and child questionnaire: age 5 or 6	Not recorded	
Mother and child questionnaire: age 2 or 3	Not recorded	
Mother and child questionnaire: newborn	Not recorded	

5.7 Data preparation

Data preparation processes in sample Q are in line with the processes that are described for samples A-O in **Section 1.7** of this report.

5.8 Delivered data

Gross Data

Gross data Household

Gross data Individuals

Interviewer data

Gross data CATI screening

Contact Process Data

Hbru_Q_2019.dta

Pbru_Q_2019.dta

Intband_Q_2019.dta

Screening_Q_bru_inkl_PRE_HNR.dta

Kontaktverlauf_Q_2019.dta

Net Data

Net data Household checked

Net data Household unchecked

Net data children in the Household

Net data Individuals checked

Net data Individuals unchecked

Net data Life history checked

Net data Life history unchecked

Net data Youth (age 16 or 17) checked

Net data Youth (age 16 or 17) unchecked

Net data Cognitive competency test

Net data Youth (age 13 or 14)

Net data Youth (age 11 or 12)

Net data Mother and child E (age 9 or 10)

Net data Questionnaire for parents (age 7 or 8)

Net data Mother and child C (age 5 or 6)

Net data Mother and child A (newborn)

H19_Q.sav

H19_Q_u.sav

H19_Q_Kinder.sav

P19_Q.sav

P19_Q_u.sav

L19_Q.sav

L19_Q_u.sav

J19_Q.sav

J19_Q_u.sav

DJ19_Q.sav

FJ19_Q.sav

S19_Q.sav

ME19_Q.sav

EL19_Q.sav

MC19_Q.sav

MA19_Q.sav

Other Data

Professions, sectors, final coding

University coding

BerufeBranchenAusbildung_2019_L23_P2_Q.dta

Hochschulabschluss_2019_Q.dta