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DemoDiff Supplement to the pairfam Data Manual

Release 3.1

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1 Introduction¹

DemoDiff (Demographic Differences in Life Course Dynamics in Eastern and Western Germany) is a panel study that closely follows the concept of the German family panel (pairfam). Because DemoDiff is structured in a similar fashion as pairfam, this manual only describes how pairfam and DemoDiff deviate from each other. It is only a supplement to the original “pairfam Data Manual” by Brüderl et al (2012). The main differences between DemoDiff and pairfam may be summarized as follows:

- DemoDiff only samples respondents who live in Eastern Germany (excluding West Berlin) at time of first interview.
- It only samples the cohorts 1971-1973 and 1981-1983.
- It only surveys anchor respondents and their partners.
- It uses a slightly shortened questionnaire for wave 1 and 2/3.

The first wave of DemoDiff was launched one year later than pairfam. While the first wave of pairfam was conducted in 2008/2009, the first wave of DemoDiff was launched in 2009/10. In the first round, DemoDiff closely followed the questionnaire of the first wave of pairfam. In the second round, DemoDiff followed the program of the third wave of pairfam. Only few elements, like the childhood history, were adopted from pairfam wave 2. Thus, pairfam and DemoDiff are synchronized from 2010/11 onwards, i.e. the fieldwork for each wave is conducted simultaneously (see Figure 1). We decided to call the second round of DemoDiff **wave 2/3**, because it unifies elements of wave 2 and 3 of pairfam.²

Table 1: Synchronization of DemoDiff with pairfam

	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
DemoDiff				
Pairfam				

As can be depicted from Table 2, the number of valid anchor respondent of DemoDiff wave 1 was 1,489. Field work was conducted between November 2009 until March 2010 (Suckow, Wich and Schneekloth 2010). The number of valid anchor respondent of DemoDiff wave 2/3 was 1,173. Field work was conducted between October 2010 and March 2011 (Suckow, Wich and Schneekloth 2011). For wave 4, the number of valid respondents was 1,074 (Wich et al. 2012).

¹ For the organization of our work, we employed the program TortoiseSVN. We herewith acknowledge this software. The final data set of Release 1 was produced by the internal version 987, Release 2.0 by version 1010, Release 3.0 by version 1189 and Release 3.1 by version 1281.

² There are some variables in wave 2/3 for which the wave is given in the name of the variable (e.g. intdatw1, pnw1). In wave 2/3 of DemoDiff, we use “3” in order to denote the wave (e.g. intdatw3, pnw3).

Table 2: Valid interviews in DemoDiff

	Wave 1	Wave 2/3	Wave 4
	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
Anker	1,489	1,173	1,074
Partner	684	578	550

1.1 Obtaining the data

Data are available via GESIS under the study number ZA5684 (www.gesis.org). DemoDiff-data are also distributed together with the pairfam data. For instruction of how to obtain the pairfam data, see <http://www.pairfam.de/>.

1.2 Referencing the DemoDiff project

In order to cite DemoDiff, we recommend to cite:

Kreyenfeld, Michaela, Johannes Huinink, Heike Trappe, and Rainer Walke (2012): DemoDiff: A Dataset for the Study of Family Change in Eastern (and Western) Germany. In: Schmollers Jahrbuch 132: 653-660.

The doi may also be used for reference:

Release 2: doi:10.4232/demodiff.5684.2.0.0

Release 3: doi:10.4232/demodiff.5684.3.0.0

Release 3.1: doi:10.4232/demodiff.5684.3.1.0

1.3 Changes across Releases

The new Release 3.1 contains minor “cosmetic changes” that concern labels and the coding of missing variables. We also detected a small error in the coding of the variables pfrt7, pfrt9, pfrt13 in wave 2/3 that was fixed in the new Release. Please note that there is a report that documents all changes between Release 2 and Release 3 (Walke 2013a). The report that documents all changes between Release 3 and Release 3.1 is available upon request.

2 Overview of the data structure

2.1 General information

The data structure of DemoDiff is similar to pairfam, however, less complex as only the anchor person and his/her partner has been surveyed. There are two main files from wave 1 (anchor1_DD, partner1_DD), two from wave 2/3 (anchor2_DD, partner2_DD), and two from wave 4 (anchor4_DD, partner4_DD). In addition, there is a file that stores the weights (weights.dta).

Same as in pairfam, generated variables have been provided. For the fertility, partnership and activity history, separate files are made available (biochild, biopart).

2.2 Variables that were dropped from DemoDiff

There are some questions that we needed to eliminate from DemoDiff so that we were able to meet the maximum interview time that was agreed on with INFRATEST. If we dropped a question from the original pairfam-questionnaire we included the corresponding variables, but set them to “-10” (label: Not in DemoDiff). In the partner file, we simply followed that procedure. Table 3 to 6 shows the list of the variables that have been crossed out in wave 1 and wave 2/3.³ Please note that variables needed to be dropped from wave 1 and wave 2/3, but not from wave 4.⁴

Table 3: Variables not included in DemoDiff wave 1, anchor

co1_	Future: Importance to be successful in job (Question 5)
bce1_	VOP+: Undertake activities with partner (Question 60)
sin1_	Interest of potential partner (Question 61)
sin2_	Interested in potential partner (Question 62)
sin4_	Dating possibilities (Question 65)
sin5_	Trying to find out sth. about personality (Question 66)
sin6_	Somebody like me always finds a partner (Question 67)
pa1_	Interested in partner (Question 68)
pa4_	Partner introduced to parents (Question 77)
pa10_	feelings regarding common household (Question 83)
pa12_	feelings regarding marriage (Question 85)
cps2_	First request language partner survey (Question 96)
cps4_	Handing over partner questionnaire right away (Question 99)
pa16_	Let partner know that I understand him/her (Question 101)
pa17_	Telling partner what you are thinking (Question 102)
pa18_	Partner finds it all right if I pursue own interests (Question 103)
pa19_	I hope relationship lasts for a long time (Question 106)

³ There are separate DemoDiff-codebooks for the anchor and partner datasets available. Questions that had been eliminated from the original pairfam-questionnaire had been crossed out.

⁴ It should be noted that there is a slight difference between pairfam and DemoDiff in respect to two variables in the partner file of wave 4. This relates to the variable v35 [With whom does mother/father live?] and v45 [Parents need help from ...]. In pairfam, it was possible to give multiple answers to this question. In DemoDiff, persons who gave multiple answers were summarized into a single realization by Infratest.

sat4	Estimation of partner's satisfaction with relationship (Question 105)
pa20	Serious relationship problem: Prob. alcohol, medication, drugs (Question 107)
pa22xiy	Insulted or abused partner (Question 109)
pa23	Problems with alcohol, medication, or other drugs last year (Question 110)
pa24	Cheating past year (Question 111)
pa25	Arguments using physical force past year (Question 112)
pa28	Suggested a separation/divorce past year (Question 115)
sex1	Age first sex (Question 116)
sat5	Contraception used past 3 months (Question 120)
lSr1i	Leisure time (Question 138)
lSr2	Hours watching TV past week (Question 139)
lSr3	Hours spent on personal Internet use past week (Question 140)
lSr4	Weeks on vacation past year (Question 141)
lSr5	Leisure with partner: Coffee stores, bars, restaurants (Question 142)
lSr6	Online profile on social network website (Question 143)
lSr7	Visibility of online profile (Question 144)
lSr8	Frequency of visit: Social network sites (Question 145)
hc11h1	Main residence: Monthly expenditures for rented ap./house (Question 157)
hc12h1	Main residence: Monthly expenditures for self-owned ap./house (Question 158)
hc11h2	Second Residence: Monthly expenditures for rented ap./house (Question 169)
hc12h2	Second Residence: Monthly expenditures for self-owned ap./house (Question 170)
igr6	Year of death biological mother (Question 190)
igr8	Year of death biological father (Question 192)
igr17	Frequency: Arguments and fights with biol. mother (Question 202)
igr18	Frequency: Arguments and fights with biol. father (Question 203)
sd25	Type of school currently attending (Question 208)
sd26	Grade in school (Question 209)
job5	Owner of company: Anchor (Question 217)
job6	Employed in own firm: Partner/spouse (Question 218)
job14	How easy to find suitable position? (Question 226)
inc1	Gross income last month (Question 232)
per1	I often agree with others, even if I'm not sure (Question 253)
hlt2	Number of times feeling low and melancholy past 4 weeks (Question 255)
hlt3	Body height in cm (Question 256)
hlt4	Weight in kg (Question 257)
hlt6	To what extent handicapped? (Question 259)
hlt7	Hours of sleep per night (Question 260)
cps6	Consent partner interview (Question 263)
cps7	Language partner interview (Question 264)
cps8	Address partner (Question 265)
cps9	Leave partner questionnaire behind or mail (Question 266)
cps10	Send partner questionnaire per mail (Question 267)
cps11	Interviewer pick up partner questionnaire or mail (Question 268)
cps12	Hand out partner address sheet (Question 269)
int3	Attractiveness Anchor (Question 272)
Int8	Time handout partner questionnaire (Question 277)

Table 4: Variables not included in DemoDiff wave 1, partner

pbce1	Undertake activities with partner (Question 4)
psat3	Satisfaction with relationship (Question 5)
psat4	Estimation of partner's satisfaction with relationship (Question 6)
ppa19	I hope relationship lasts for a long time (Question 12)
ppa16	Anchor let partner know that I understand him/her (Question 13)
ppa22p	Discussion behaviour (Question 15)
ppa17	Handling of differences in relationship (Question 16)

ppa18_	Special situations in relationship (Question 17)
psat5	Satisfaction with sex life (Question 28)
plsr1i	Leisure time (Question 36)
plsr2	Hours watched TV past week (Question 36)
plsr3	Hours spent on personal Internet use past week (Question 36)
plsr4	Weeks on vacation trips past week (Question 36)
pper1_	Often agree with others, even if I am not sure (Question 37)
phlt2	Number of times feeling low and melancholy past 4 weeks (Question 46)
phlt3	Body height in cm (Question 47)
phlt4	Weight in kg (Question 48)
phlt7	Hours of sleep per night (Question 49)
phlt6	To what extent handicapped? (Question 51)

Table 5: Variables not included in DemoDiff wave 2/3, anchor

hc5h1	Main residence: Ownership of dwelling/house (Question 7)
hc5h2	Second Residence: Ownership of dwelling/house (Question 7)
hc11h1	Main residence: Monthly expenditures for rented dwelling (Question 8)
hc11h2	Second Residence: Monthly expenditures for rented dwelling (Question 8)
hc12h1	Main residence: Monthly expenditures for self-owned dwelling (Question 9)
hc12h2	Second Residence: Monthly expenditures for self-owned dwelling (Question 9)
hc13h1	Main residence: Total living space in square meters (Question 10)
hc13h2	Second Residence: Total living space in square meters (Question 10)
hc14h1	Main residence: Number of rooms (Question 11)
hc14h2	Second Residence: Number of rooms (Question 11)
sd33	Attending same school as in previous wave (Question 13)
sd25	Type of school currently attending (Question 14)
sd26	Grade in school (Question 15)
job5_	Owner of company (Question 23)
job6_	Employed in own firm (Question 24)
bce1_	VOP+: Undertake activities with partner (Question 37)
sin4_	Dating possibilities (Question 42)
sin5_	Trying to find out sth. about personality (Question 43)
pa1	Interested in partner (Question 48)
pa10_	Feelings regarding common household (Question 81)
pa12_	Feelings regarding marriage (Question 83)
pa16_	Let partner know that I understand him/her (Question 91)
pa17_	Telling partner what you are thinking (Question 92)
pa18_	Partner finds it all right if I pursue own interests (Question 93)
sat4	Estimation of partner's satisfaction with relationship (Question 95)
pa19_	I hope relationship lasts for a long time (Question 96)
pa20_	Serious relationship problem (Question 97)
pa22_	Assessment of partner (Question 99)
pa29	Frequency child witnessed arguments past year (Question 100)
pa23	Problems with alcohol, medication, or other drugs last year (Question 101)
pa24	Extra-marital affair of anchor or partner past year (Question 102)
pa25	Arguments using physical force past year (Question 103)
per1_	I often agree with others, even if I'm not sure (Question 107)
per4_	How did you feel in the last four weeks (Question 108)
per2_	How do you feel in general (Question 109)
sex8	Frequency of sexual intercourses last three months (Question 128)
sex9	To what extend do the following statements apply to you? (Question 129)
crn19_	Parenting goals (Question 159)

crn1_	Place of birth child x (Question 160)
crn2_	Complications child x: health/life of child was at risk (Question 161)
crn3_	Child x: C-section? (Question 162)
crn4_	Child x: In what week of the pregnancy born (Question 163)
crn5_	Child x: Length at the time of birth in cm (Question 164)
crn6_	Child x: Weight at the time of birth in grams (Question 165)
crn7_	Child x: Type of last checkup (Question 166)
crn37_	Child x: Was your child breast-fed and, if yes, how long (month) (Qu. 167)
crn24_	Child x: How much time did your child need to fall asleep (minutes) (Qu. 168)
crn25_	Child x: How many times per night did your child wake up (Question 169)
crn26_	Child x: How strongly burdened by child's sleeping behavior (Question 170)
crn38_	Child x: Does child set bedtime or do you as parents set bedtime (Qu. 171)
crn39_	Child x: How long altogether does your child sleep at night (Question 172)
crn27_	Child x: How long altogether does your child sleep at night (Question 173)
crn28_	Child x: How often burdened by child's crying or fussiness (Question 174)
crn10_	Child x: My child is ... (Question 175)
crn11_	I often have no energy (Question 176)
crn29_	Worries concerning own children (Question 177)
crn31_	Child x: Health, generally speaking (Question 179)
crn20_	Role as a parent (Question 183)
ccs1k_	Consent to children's survey child x (Question 189)
ccs2k_	Point of time of children's survey child x (Question 190)
cpas1_	Consent to own participation in parenting survey (Question 191)
cpas2_	Pick up parenting survey or send by mail (Question 192)
cpas3_	Consent to partner's participation in parenting survey (Question 193)
cpas4_	Pick up partner's parenting survey or send by mail (Question 194)
lsr1i_	Leisure time (Question 195)
lsr2_	Hours watched TV past week (Question 196)
lsr3_	Hours spent on personal internet use past week (Question 197)
lsr4_	Weeks on vacation trips past year (Question 198)
lsr5_	Leisure with partner (Question 199)
lsr6_	Online profile on social network website (Question 200)
lsr7_	Visibility of online profile (Question 201)
lsr8_	Frequency of visit: Social network sites (Question 202)
igr73i_	Citizenship adoptive mother (Question 205)
igr74_	Country of birth adoptive mother (Question 206)
igr77i_	Citizenship adoptive father (Question 212)
igr78_	Country of birth adoptive father (Question 213)
igr81_	Is mother's new partner same partner as at the time of the last interview (Question 222)
igr82_	Citizenship mother's new partner (Question 225)
igr84_	Is father's new partner same partner as at the time of the last interview (Question 230)
igr85_	Citizenship father's new partner (Question 233)
igr41p2_	Timely distance to dwelling of mother's partner (Question 244)
igr41p4_	Timely distance to dwelling of father's partner (Question 246)
cprs1p1_	Consent to survey mother (Question 251)
cprs2p1_	Mother: Name and address (Question 252)
cprs3p1_	Language version of questionnaire mother (Question 253)
cprs1p2_	Consent to survey mother's partner (Question 254)
cprs2p2_	Mother's partner: Name and address (Question 255)
cprs3p2_	Language version of questionnaire mother's partner (Question 256)
cprs1p3_	Consent to survey father (Question 257)

cprs2p3	Father: Name and address (Question 258)
cprs3p3	Language version of questionnaire father (Question 259)
cprs1p4	Consent to survey father's partner (Question 260)
cprs2p4	Father's partner: Name and address (Question 261)
cprs3p4	Language version of questionnaire father's partner (Question 262)
inc25_	Parents: ... (Question 296)
hlt1	Health status past 4 weeks (Question 301)
hlt3	Body height in cm (Question 302)
hlt4	Weight in kg (Question 303)
hlt7	Hours of sleep at night during working week (Question 304)
int12_	Suggestions or comments regarding the interview (Question 307)

Table 6: Variables not included in DemoDiff wave 2/3, partner

psat4	Estimation of partner's satisfaction with relationship (Question 6)
ppa19_	I hope relationship lasts for a long time (Question 12)
ppa16_	Anchor let partner know that I understand him/her (Question 13)
ppa21p_	Disagree with partner (Question 14)
ppa22p_	Discussion behaviour (Question 15)
ppa17_	Handling of differences in relationship (Question 16)
ppa18_	Special situations in relationship (Question 17)
pcrn32_	Feeling as a parent: own role (Question 33)
pcrn20_	Feeling as a parent: role of partner (Question 33)
plsr1i_	Leisure time (Question 34)
plsr2	Hours watched TV past week (Question 34)
plsr3	Hours spent on personal Internet use past week (Question 34)
plsr4	Weeks on vacation trips past year (Question 34)
pigr42p_	Frequency: You tell your mother/ father what you are thinking (Question 40)
pigr45p_	Frequency: You and mother/father annoyed/angry with each other (Qu. 41)
pigr47p_	Frequency: You and your mother/father disagree and quarrel (Question 42)
pigr49p_	Frequency: You share with mother/father secrets/private feelings (Qu. 43)
phlt1	Health status past 4 weeks (Question 51)
phlt3	Body height in cm (Question 52)
phlt4	Weight in kg (Question 53)
phlt7	Hours of sleep per night during working week (Question 54)
pper1i2	Sometimes I believe that I'm worthless (Question 61)
pper1i6	I feel lonely (Question 61)
pper2_	How do you feel in general (Question 62)

2.3 Additional variables in DemoDiff

There are some few additional variables that are included in DemoDiff which are not included in pairfam. In wave 1, this applies to regional information on the place of the birth of the anchor respondent and the partner. In wave 2/3, this concerns information on the partnership status at first birth (see Table 7 and 8). Please also note that due to the synchronization, the childhood history was surveyed in wave 2/3 which was surveyed in wave 2 in pairfam. Furthermore, the retrospective activity and residential history was also surveyed in wave 2/3.

Table 7: Additional variables in DemoDiff, wave 1

geboz	Federal state of birth of anchor
gebop	Federal state of birth of partner

Table 8: Additional variables in DemoDiff, wave 2/3

frtp1	Partnership status at first birth
frtp2	Coresidence with partner at first birth
frtp3	Marital status at first birth
cla1	In which state (Bundesland) you were born in?
cla2	How many times have you moved since your birth?
cla8	How would you describe your childhood in general?
cla3	Immediately after your birth, have you lived with both of your biological parents?
cla4	With whom did you lived immediately after you were born?
cla5	Has something changed in this situation?

3 Data editing

The pairfam group kindly provided us with the STATA codes that generated the “cleaned” pairfam data. We applied the codes to DemoDiff with only minor modifications.

3.1 Anchor

Missing values

The coding of missing values follows the same logic as pairfam. However, there is an additional value (-10) which indicates that the respective question is not available in DemoDiff.

Table 9: Missing codes in Anchor1_DD

Value	Label
-1	Don't know
-2	No answer/ I don't want to answer that
-3	Does not apply
-4	Filter error/ Incorrect entry
-5	Inconsistent value
-6	Unreadable answer
-7	Incomplete data
-10	Not in DemoDiff

Coding open answers

We have recoded the open answers. This e.g. applies to the reasons against children, the employment status of the respondent, other education and other type of job. The list of recoding rules is available upon request.

Anonymization

We applied the same rules as pairfam and therefore recoded the same variables that could have prompted a de-anonymization of a respondent (for detailed information see Brüderl et al. 2012).

Filter checks and checks for consistency

We followed the same procedure as pairfam.

In pairfam wave 1, question 129 (intention to have additional children) has been ambiguous. However, to guarantee comparability, we used the same phrasing of the question.

Different types of data sets

Same as in pairfam, English and German labels are available. Data are provided as STATA and SPSS files.

Paradata

DemoDiff provides the interviewer id, information on the duration of the interview, however, no additional paradata, like age and sex of the interviewer, are available.

3.2 Partner data

The pairfam group provided us with the codes to clean and harmonize the partner data of DemoDiff.

Open answers

There were only two string variables in the partner data which had to be recoded. The list how open answers have been recoded may be provided upon request.

Anonymization

Same as in pairfam, string variables which could not be assigned to any other category of the corresponding answer list were recoded to value 1 ("Other certificate mentioned" and "Other reason mentioned").

Value, filter checks & checks for consistency

To check value ranges and filters, we applied the codes provided by the pairfam group.

Generated variables

We did not construct any generated variables for the partner file.

Paradata

Paradata for the partner are available only for wave 1. In this wave, month and year of interview are included (pintm and pinty). Different from pairfam no information on the language of the partner questionnaire (plng) is available. In DemoDiff only German questionnaires have been issued.

4 Weights

For wave 1, there are design as well as post-stratification weights. Two types of weights are provided: The first set of weights is designed for a standalone analysis of DemoDiff. The second set of weights can be used if DemoDiff and pairfam are analyzed jointly. The following weights are available (weights.dta)

<i>caweight</i>	post-stratification weight, if DemoDiff is analyzed separately
<i>ca1weight</i>	post-stratification weight, if pairfam and DemoDiff are analyzed jointly
<i>ddweight</i>	design weight, if DemoDiff is analyzed separately
<i>d1weight</i>	design weight, if pairfam and DemoDiff are analyzed jointly
<i>ddcaweight</i>	combined design and post-stratification weight, if DemoDiff is analyzed separately
<i>d1ca1weight</i>	combined design and post-stratification weight, if pairfam and DemoDiff are analyzed jointly

For constructing the post-stratification weights, INFRATEST used the microcensus data from 2009. A problem arises here, because the first wave of pairfam was already conducted in 2008/2009. It should also be pointed out that the microcensus 2009 does not contain information on the number of children. Therefore, the weights do not adjust for the number of children. For details, see the accompanying documentation „Gewichtung und Validierung der Nettostichprobe“ provided by INFRATEST.

Design weight

The design weight is the factor by which the birth cohorts are under- resp. overrepresented in the gross sample of the population. Based on information on the population size by cohort that we used from official population counts, we generated the following design weights for a separate analysis of DemoDiff: 1.06 (cohorts 1981-83), 0.94 (cohorts 1971-73). For the analysis of DemoDiff together with pairfam, we obtained the following weights:

Cohorts 1971-73, East Germany (including East Berlin): 0.395
Cohorts 1981-83, East Germany (including East Berlin): 0.414
Cohorts 1991-93, East Germany (including East Berlin): 0.798
Cohorts 1971-73, West Germany: 1.098
Cohorts 1981-83, West Germany: 0.961
Cohorts 1991-93, West Germany: 1.506

Longitudinal weight

We provide longitudinal weights that accounts for attrition. Different from pairfam, our weights only account for random sample attrition. The following longitudinal weights are available:

lweightDD3 longitudinal weight DemoDiff 2/3
lweightDD4 longitudinal weight DemoDiff 4

lweightPF2 longitudinal weights pairfam 2
lweightPF3 longitudinal weights pairfam3
lweightPF4 longitudinal weights pairfam4

All longitudinal weights are based on to the first wave. If the user seeks to employ longitudinal weights, he/she needs to use the design weight (or alternatively the combined design and post-stratification weight) of wave 1 and multiply it with the longitudinal weight of the respective wave/s.

We have drafted a report that delineates how we constructed the weights (Walke 2013b). It is available upon request from the authors. For computing the weights, we have drawn on data from population statistics from the Federal Statistical Office (Statistisches Bundesamt) and the Statistical Office Berlin-Brandenburg (Amt für Statistik Berlin-Brandenburg). In our report, we have additionally included basic information on the weights, summary statistics and sample sizes. Also information on sample attrition (drawn from the method protocol of TNS Infratest Sozialforschung) is included.

5 Process-generated variables

Same as in pairfam, we provide regional information where the anchor respondent lives at time of interview, such as federal state (bula), settlement type (bik) and size of the municipality (gkpol). Information on the area code (gkz) is not provided in the scientific use file. Persons who are interested in merging regional information (regional child care availability or regional unemployment) to the DemoDiff-data may contact MPIDR (kreyenfeld@demogr.mpg.de).

6 Generated variables

We used the codes provided by the pairfam group to construct the generated variables. The new variables have been appended to the anchor data set. We followed the same logic as pairfam. However, some changes were necessarily. E.g. the first wave of DemoDiff was undertaken in 2009/10 while pairfam was conducted in 2008/2009. This involves some adjustment in the Stata-.do-file that generates the consumer price index in wave 1 (cpi.do).

Same as in pairfam, occupational codes are provided based on the old classification scheme (ISCO88 and KldB 1992) until wave 2/3. In addition, the new scheme (ISCO08 and KldB 2010) is available for all waves. The coding has been done by INFRATEST (see accompanying documents).

The codes that produce the generated variables of pairfam and DemoDiff hardly differ. In case of interest, we are happy to make them available upon request.

7 Episode data

We offer three episode data sets: the fertility history, the partnership history and the activity history. We used the STATA code provided by the pairfam group (biopart.do, biochild.do, biochild.do), but adapted it to the DemoDiff data. Same as in pairfam, we used century months to organize the data.^{5 6}

8 Outlook

The Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research has monitored wave 1-4 of DemoDiff. However, wave 5 of DemoDiff will submerge in pairfam and will then be funded by the German Science Foundation (DFG).

We hope that you could find all the needed information in this manual. For further questions, comments and suggestions don't hesitate to contact us (kreyenfeld@demogr.mpg.de).

⁵ The starting point is January 1900, where January 1900 is assigned "zero", February 1900 "one" etc.

⁶ In pairfam and DemoDiff, fertility, partnership and activity histories are collected by two means. On the one hand, this information was collected retrospectively for the time prior to the first wave. On the other hand, this information was collected through an event history event calendar that covers the period between panel waves. In order to store the information from the event history calendar, each month had to be assigned a value. In order to do so, the value "1" was given to the first month for which information from the event history was available. This was September 2008. This involves that e.g. the information on the partnership status in September 2008 is stored under "ehc2p1m1", the information for October 2008 is stored under "ehc2p1m2", the information for November 2008 is stored under "ehc2p1m3" etc. In DemoDiff, however, the first date of interview is October 2009. Ideally, we would have synchronized the two time scales. As this would have required more adoptions to the original code, we decided to use October 2009 as the point of departure in DemoDiff. This means e.g. that "ehc2p1m1" is October 2009 in DemoDiff, but September 2008 in pairfam. This difference between pairfam and DemoDiff does however not affect the generated history data (biochild, biopar) that use January 1900 as a starting point.

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