

December 2011

...Renewal proposal positively evaluated ... Interviews for the fourth wave are being conducted ... Bug fix for anchor datasets ... Update of partner and children codebooks ... Revision of the Scales Manual and the syntax files ... New services for data matching and instruments search ... Announcements for an international conference on fertility and a data workshop in 2012 ... Call for Papers of the Journal of Family Research ... pairfam volume 3 published

Dear colleagues,

Dear users of the German Family Panel data,

A few days ago the reviewers of the German Research Foundation (DFG) approved the renewal proposal of the German Family Panel pairfam, i. e. the continuation of our panel study is ensured until the sixth wave. Currently the interviews are being conducted for the fourth wave according to the complete multi-actor design with repeatedly surveyed anchor persons, their partners, parents and focal children. At the same time the data of the third wave is being cleaned, prepared and documented. The corresponding scientific use file with data on about 7.900 anchor persons, 2.360 partners, 990 children, and 3.950 parents will be made available in early summer 2012.

Up to now more than 400 researchers have already registered for working with the first two waves of the pairfam survey. An increasing proportion of these users come from beyond the German scientific community. They mostly got to know the German Family Panel through presentations at international conferences, such as this year's conferences of the American Sociological Association (ASA), the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR), the Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies (SLLS), and the German, Austrian, and Swiss Sociological Association (DGS/ÖGS/SGS).

Data

Bug Fix: Correction of the anchor data (release 2.0)

A problem has occurred with the anchor data of the first wave (anchor1). The meaningful values 8 and 9 of the variable "satisfaction with the situation as a single" (sat2) have accidentally been defined as missing values.

In the anchor dataset of the second wave (anchor2) the value labels for the variables "sexual competence and communication" (sex9*) and "collection of the partner questionnaire" (cps5, only in the English language version) had to be adjusted. Furthermore, modifications in the values of both variables "influence of family policies on parenthood decisions" (frt24*) and "moved within city between wave 1 and 2" (ehc18p*) were carried out.

The corrections can be easily implemented with a BUG FIX. The respective ZIP archive entails a detailed instruction (!ReadMeFirst) as well as three commented syntax files for Stata and for SPSS users. These files are available as downloads on our website www.pairfam.de in the section of data documentation. Due to reasons of data protection the likewise required mini dataset will be separately sent to you on request by email. Please contact the user support of pairfam to get these data. The user support will gladly help you (address is below).

Data access

At present the fully documented datasets of the first and second survey wave of the German Family Panel are available, supplemented by the first wave of the additional study DemoDiff. The scientific use file is accessible free of charge to the scientific community. Information about the procedure and all necessary forms can be found at our website www.pairfam.de.

Service

Update of codebooks for the partner and children interviews (wave 2)

Unfortunately, a few mistakes regarding question and answer formulations, variable names and values have slipped in the English codebooks for the partner survey of wave 2. The same is true for two filter expressions in the codebooks for the children survey of the second wave. These problems are solved now, the updated codebooks can be downloaded from our website www.pairfam.de (date of revision: November 21, 2011).

Revision of the Scales Manual and the syntax files for generating index variables

Two references (pp. 128, 144, 156: Jaursch 2003; pp. 128, 156: Schwarz et al. 1997) and two variable assignments (p. 129: *pcr1i11* in *negcomm_pacs*; p. 117: *crn11i3/crn11i4* in the table of *autonoms*) had to be adjusted in the Scales Manual. The syntax files for generating the suggested index variables contained some wrong definitions of missing values. These bugs also got fixed. All revised documents are available at our website www.pairfam.de.

New offers for easier handling of pairfam data

The *Quick Starts* of pairfam (i.e., commented syntax files to facilitate data handling) have been supplemented by another Stata Do-file. This Do-file demonstrates different procedures of how to merge the separate datasets of the multi-actor design both cross-sectionally and longitudinally, in long and in wide format. The file is online available at www.pairfam.de in the data documentation section under the header “**Matching**”.

Another new feature on our website is the updated and extended search tool for **instruments** that are used in the German Family Panel. While the module compilations offer a general insight into the surveyed constructs and their timing schedule, the variable lists entail additional information including all variable names and labels plus notes on changes between the waves.

Announcements

International conference on fertility

Next year, pairfam is once again organizing an interdisciplinary conference on family and partnership issues. This time, the focus will be on topics of fertility and parenthood decision-making. The conference is scheduled to take place on September 12-13, 2012 in Bremen, Germany. A Call for Papers with detailed information will be sent around soon and published on our website.

Data workshop

The German Family Panel hosts a two-day workshop every year. The next workshop will be in summer 2012 in Chemnitz, Germany. One major aim is to introduce the pairfam data and their analytical potential. Another aim is to familiarize young researchers with appropriate techniques of longitudinal data analysis. The workshop program and instructions for application will be announced in due time.

Publications

Call for Papers of the *Journal of Family Research / Zeitschrift für Familienforschung*

The *Journal of Family Research / Zeitschrift für Familienforschung (JFR/ZfF)* is an interdisciplinary and empirically oriented journal that publishes family related articles thrice yearly. Submitted papers are subject to an anonymous review process by at least two experts. The editors of JFR/ZfF would like to invite the users of German Family Panel data to submit their manuscripts based on pairfam analyses (in English or German language). Further information about the journal can be found at www.zeitschrift-fuer-familienforschung.de. The editorial office (Dr. Kurt P. Bierschock) is reachable via email: redaktion-zff@ifb.uni-bamberg.de.

New release: pairfam volume 3

The new pairfam volume *Partnerschaft, Fertilität und intergenerationale Beziehungen* [Partnership, fertility and intergenerational relationships] edited by Josef Brüderl, Laura Castiglioni, and Nina Schumann comprises numerous findings based on first wave data of the German Family

Panel. In addition to general introductions to the design of the pairfam study and the handling of the data, the contributions address issues of partnership research, decision-making processes with regard to parenthood and family planning, and relationships between generations. The book is published in German language by Ergon.

Recent publications

Buhr, Petra and Johannes Huinink, 2011. "Armut im Kontext von Partnerschaft und Familie." Pp. 201-233 in *Reproduktion von Ungleichheit durch Arbeit und Familie*, edited by Peter A. Berger, Karsten Hank and Angelika Tölke. Wiesbaden: VS-Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften.

Diener, Katharina and Michael Feldhaus, 2011. „‘Hartz‘ oder Herz? Hartz IV und die Intention zum Zusammenziehen in Partnerschaften.“ *Zeitschrift für Sozialreform* 57: 199-220.

Perelli-Harris, Brienna, Wendy Sigle-Rushton, Michaela Kreyenfeld, Trude Lappegård, Renske Keizer, and Caroline Berghammer, 2010. „The educational gradient of childbearing within cohabitation in Europe.“ *Population and Development Review* 36: 775-801.

A special pairfam issue of *Comparative Population Studies / Zeitschrift für Bevölkerungswissenschaft (CPoS)* is in preparation and will be published next year. The complete bibliography of all previous publications with reference to the German Family Panel including a number of discussion papers and students' theses is available at our website www.pairfam.de. In order to keep this literature database updated we would like to ask all users to inform us about their new publications. The pairfam team wants to thank you for your cooperation.

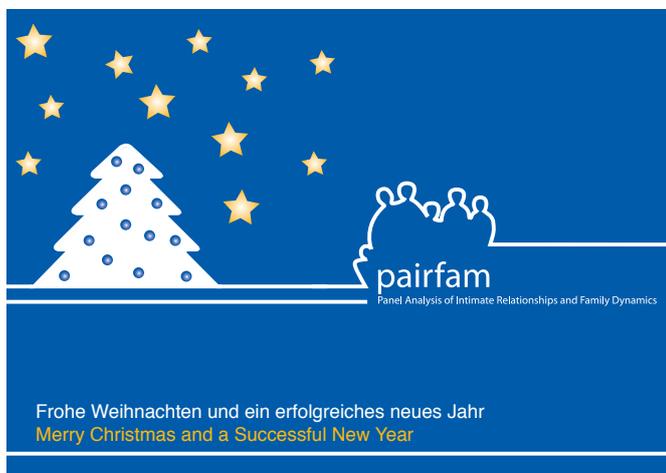
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wishes the pairfam team.

