



# The German Family Panel (pairfam)

## Grandparent Codebook Wave 8 2015/2016

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**INFOBOX**

Attention! Population change: Do not use wave 8 data for general analyses of the parent population.

In wave 8, the focus of the parent survey changed from "parenthood" to "grandparenthood". The goal in doing so was to pique the interest of the respondents. This change led to a reduction in the questionnaire and to a considerable change in the population:

Instead of interviewing all (living) parents who are in contact with the anchor were eligible, the group was further specified to (living) parents who are in contact with the anchor who lives with at least one biological or adopted child in a shared household (see also the anchor questionnaire for wave 8: Consent to the grandparent survey). As the data from the parent survey in wave 8 only represents grandparents, analyses of the parent population should not include wave 8 data.

## Introduction

Text 1

**Dear Participant,**

Thank you for participating in our survey!

**Please read these instructions carefully before proceeding with your answers.**

First of all, please remember that the questions regarding your child refer to the child who was named in the questionnaire. This may be your step-, your foster-, or your adoptive child.

Moreover, you are presented questions referring to a specific grandchild mentioned in the cover letter. This grandchild is a randomly selected child living with your son/daughter.

If you've ever participated in this survey, you will probably be familiar with some of the questions. Please answer all questions anyway. The answers allow us to detect changes in participants' attitudes, behaviors, and living conditions.

We are interested in your personal opinion and your experiences. There are no right or wrong answers to these questions - only your personal assessment and experiences are of importance to us. The numbers in small print next to the answer categories are for data processing only; they are not used for a normative evaluation of your answers. Please fill out the questionnaire by yourself.

Here are two examples:

(omitted)

Please proceed line for line, question for question. Do not skip any questions unless the text expressly instructs you to do so.

**We hope you enjoy filling out the questionnaire!**

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Variable  
parintd  
parintm  
parinty

Please enter today's date here:

parintd	Day:	__
parintm	Month:	__
parinty	Year:	

No answer ..... ☐ -2

## Information about the child

## Text 2

Now we would like to ask you for some information about your child.

### Frage 2

Variable  
parsd15k1

Please indicate your relation to your child.

My biological child and the child of my current partner . ☐ 1

My biological child and the child of an ex-partner ..... ☐ 2

My stepchild ..... ☐ 3

Adoptive or foster child ..... ☐ 4

Adopted stepchild ..... ☐ 5

No answer ..... ☐ -2

### Frage 3

Variable  
parigr40k1

How close are you to your child emotionally?

Not at all close      1      2      3      4      5      Very close

No answer .....  -2

## Frage 4

Variable  
parigr86k1

How close are you emotionally to the partner of each respective child today?

Not at all close                      1           2           3           4           5                      Very close

Child has no partner currently ..... ☐ 0  
I have not met the partner yet ..... ☐ 7

No answer ..... ☐ -2

**Frage 5**

Variable  
parigr98a  
parigr99a

How often do the following things happen between you and your son/daughter?

- parigr98a How often do you have mixed feelings about your son/daughter?  
parigr99a How often do you feel torn in two directions about your son/daughter?

Never ..... ☐ 1

Seldom ..... ☐ 2

Sometimes ..... ☐ 3

Often ..... ☐ 4

Always ..... ☐ 5

*No answer* ..... ☐ -2

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**Frage 6**

Variable  
parsat8

In general, how satisfied are you with your relationship to your child?

Very dissatisfied      0   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10      Very satisfied  
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

*No answer* ..... ☐ -2

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## Grandchildren

Text 3

And now we proceed to the topic of grandchildren.

### Frage 7

How important is being (or becoming) a grandparent to you?

Variable  
pargc1

Very important ..... ☐ 1

Important ..... 2

Less than important . . . . . ☐ 3

Not important at all ..... ☐ 4

No answer .....  -2

### Frage 8

How many living grandchildren do you have? Please include your children's biological children as well as their stepchildren, adoptive children, and foster children.

Variable  
pargc1a

\_\_ grandchildren

*Don't know* .....  -1

No answer .....  -2

### Frage 9

Please indicate the number of grandchildren in each respective age.

Variable  
pargc2\_

pargc2i1    Number under 3 years                      grandchild(ren)

pargc2i2      Number between 4 and 7 years      grandchild(ren)

pargc2i3      Number between 8 and 10 years      grandchild(ren)

pargc2i4    Number between 11 and 15 years    grandchild(ren)

pargc2i5      Number over 15 years      grandchild(ren)

Don't know ..... ☐ -1

No answer ..... ☐ -2

Text 4

Now we would like to ask you for some information about the grandchild who was named in the letter accompanying this survey.

Frage 10

Variable  
pargc5g

Is the grandchild, named in the letter accompanying this questionnaire, a boy or a girl?

Boy ..... ☐ 1

Girl ..... ☐ 2

No answer ..... ☐ -2

**Frage 11**

Variable  
pargc5m  
pargc5y

When was this grandchild born? Please indicate month and year..

Variable
pargc5m
pargc5y

pargc5m    Month:    \_\_

pargc5y      Year: \_\_\_\_\_

*Don't know* ..... ☐ -1

No answer .....  -2

Frage 12

Variable  
pargc6

How often are you in contact with this grandchild, adding up all visits, letters, phone calls, e-mails, etc.?

Variable  
pargc6

Daily ..... 1

Several times per week ..... ☒ 2

Once per week .....  3

1 to 3 times per month ..... ☐ 4

Several times per year ..... ☐ 5

Less often . . . . . ☐ 6

Never ..... ☐ 7

No answer .....  -2

**Frage 13**Variable  
pargc13**Compared to your other grandchildren, do you...?**have more frequent contact with this grandchild than with your other grandchildren ..... ☐ 1have the same amount of contact with all your grandchildren ..... ☐ 2have less frequent contact with this grandchild than with your other grandchildren ..... ☐ 3I have only this one grandchild ..... ☐ 8*No answer* ..... ☐ -2**Frage 14**Variable  
pargc14**How close are you to this grandchild emotionally ?**

Not at all close	1	2	3	4	5	Very close
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

*No answer* ..... ☐ -2**Frage 15**Variable  
pargc15**When you see your grandchild: Are his or her parents usually present?**Yes, his or her parents are usually present ..... ☐ 1No, his or her parents are usually not present ..... ☐ 2Sometimes they are present, sometimes they are not .... ☐ 3*No answer* ..... ☐ -2

Respondents with at least one grandchild, with whom there is contact (pargc6=1,2,3,4,5,6,-2).

**Frage 16**Variable  
pargc7**How often did you take care of this grandchild during the past 12 months?**Daily ..... ☐ 1Several times per week ..... ☐ 2Once per week ..... ☐ 31 to 3 times per month ..... ☐ 4Several times per year ..... ☐ 5Less often ..... ☐ 6Never ..... ☐ 7*No answer* ..... ☐ -2

Respondents with at least one grandchild, with whom there is contact (pargc6=1,2,3,4,5,6,-2).



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**Frage 17**Variable  
pargc20**How often would you like to care for your grandchild?**

- ...viel seltener betreuen ..... ☐ 1  
...etwas seltener betreuen ..... ☐ 2  
...genauso oft betreuen ..... ☐ 3  
...etwas häufiger betreuen ..... ☐ 4  
...viel häufiger betreuen ..... ☐ 5

*Keine Angabe* ..... ☐ -2

Respondents with at least one grandchild, with whom there is contact (pargc6=1,2,3,4,5,6,-2).

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**Frage 18**Variable  
pargc8**How often did this grandchild stay overnight at your house during the past 12 months?**

- Several times per week ..... ☐ 1  
Once per week ..... ☐ 2  
1 to 3 times per month ..... ☐ 3  
Several times per year ..... ☐ 4  
Less often ..... ☐ 5  
Never ..... ☐ 6

*No answer* ..... ☐ -2

Respondents with at least one grandchild, with whom there is contact (pargc6=1,2,3,4,5,6,-2).

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**Frage 19**

Variable  
 pargc9  
 pargc16  
 pargc10  
 pargc17

**How often did you do following things with this grandchild in the past 12 months**

(If your grandchild is too young, please indicate "does not apply".)

- pargc9 Activities that your grandchild enjoys such as sports, games, or movies  
 pargc16 Helping your grandchild with homework or school projects  
 pargc10 Talking with your grandchild about his or her problems  
 pargc17 Comforting your grandchild when he or she has worries or troubles

Never ..... ☐ 1

Seldom ..... ☐ 2

Sometimes ..... ☐ 3

Often ..... ☐ 4

Very often ..... ☐ 5

Does not apply ..... ☐ 8

*No answer* ..... ☐ -2

Respondents with at least one grandchild, with whom there is contact (pargc6=1,2,3,4,5,6,-2).

**Frage 20**

Variable  
 pargc19i1  
 pargc19i2  
 pargc19i3  
 pargc19i4

**How often did this grandchild come to you to talk about the following topics during the past 12 months ?**

(If your grandchild is too young, please indicate "does not apply".)

- pargc19i1 Relationship with his or her parents/siblings  
 pargc19i2 School matters  
 pargc19i3 News and current events  
 pargc19i4 His or her recreational activities (sports, music, etc.)

Never ..... ☐ 1

Seldom ..... ☐ 2

Sometimes ..... ☐ 3

Often ..... ☐ 4

Very often ..... ☐ 5

Does not apply ..... ☐ 8

*No answer* ..... ☐ -2

Respondents with at least one grandchild, with whom there is contact (pargc6=1,2,3,4,5,6,-2).

**Frage 21**Variable  
pargc12

When you add up everything, how much did you spend on this grandchild during the past 12 months?

- I have not spent any money for this grandchild during the past 12 months. ☐ 1
- Less than 250 € ..... ☐ 2
- 250 to 500 € ..... ☐ 3
- 500 to 1,000 € ..... ☐ 4
- 1,000 to 2,000 € ..... ☐ 5
- 2,000 to 5,000 € ..... ☐ 6
- 5,000 to 10,000 € ..... ☐ 7
- More than 10,000 € ..... ☐ 8
- Don't know* ..... ☐ -1
- No answer* ..... ☐ -2

Respondents with at least one grandchild, with whom there is contact (pargc6=1,2,3,4,5,6,-2).

**Frage 22**Variable  
pargc18

Did you take a vacation with this grandchild during the past 12 months?

- Yes ..... ☐ 1
- No ..... ☐ 2
- No answer* ..... ☐ -2

Respondents with at least one grandchild, with whom there is contact (pargc6=1,2,3,4,5,6,-2).

## Sociodemographics

Text 5

Now we would like to ask you some questions about yourself.

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At first, I would like to ask about your general satisfaction with life.

Frage 23

All in all, how satisfied are you with your life at the moment?

Variable  
parsat6

Very dissatisfied      0   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10      Very satisfied  
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

No answer ..... ☐ -2

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One can have different ideas about how family members should treat each other.

Please tell me how strongly you agree with the following statements.

Frage 24

Grandparents should help parents take care of their young children.

Variable  
parval2i4

Disagree completely      1      2      3      4      5      Agree completely  
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

No answer ..... ☐ -2

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Frage 25

Grandparents should contribute to the economic security of their grandchildren and their grandchildren's parents.

Variable  
parval2i2

Disagree completely      1      2      3      4      5      Agree completely  
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

No answer ..... ☐ -2

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To what extent do the following statements apply to you?

Frage 26

I have the feeling that taking care of my grandchild(ren) takes up all my strength and that my whole life revolves around it.

Variable  
pargcrn11i7

Not strongly at all      1      2      3      4      5      Very strongly  
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Don't know ..... ☐ -1

No answer ..... ☐ -2

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**Frage 27**Variable  
pargcrn11i10**I feel trapped by my grandparental duties.**Not strongly at all      1      2      3      4      5      Very strongly  
☐      ☐      ☐      ☐      ☐*Don't know* ..... ☐ -1*No answer* ..... ☐ -2**Frage 28**Variable  
pargcrn11i8**When I am with my grandchild(ren) there is nothing else I'd rather be doing.**Not strongly at all      1      2      3      4      5      Very strongly  
☐      ☐      ☐      ☐      ☐*Don't know* ..... ☐ -1*No answer* ..... ☐ -2**Frage 29**Variable  
pargcrn11i9**I look forward to being with my grandchild(ren).**Not strongly at all      1      2      3      4      5      Very strongly  
☐      ☐      ☐      ☐      ☐*Don't know* ..... ☐ -1*No answer* ..... ☐ -2**Frage 30**Variable  
parhlt1**How would you describe your health during the past 4 weeks, generally speaking? Was it...?**Bad ..... ☐ 1Less than satisfactory ..... ☐ 2Satisfactory ..... ☐ 3Good ..... ☐ 4Very good ..... ☐ 5*No answer* ..... ☐ -2**Frage 31**Variable  
pardobm  
pardoby**When were you born?**

pardobm    Month:      --

pardoby    Year:      ----

*No answer* ..... ☐ -2

**Frage 32**Variable  
parsex

Please indicate your sex.

Male ..... ☐ 1Female ..... ☐ 2*No answer* ..... ☐ -2**Frage 33**Variable  
parsd10

What is your marital status?

Single ..... ☐ 1Married ..... ☐ 2Divorced ..... ☐ 3Widowed ..... ☐ 4*No answer* ..... ☐ -2**Frage 34**Variable  
parhhHow many persons other than yourself live in your household?

\_\_ \_\_ Persons

No one ..... ☐ 0*No answer* ..... ☐ -2**Frage 35**Variable  
parsd3

Are you currently living in a partnership?

Yes, I live together with my spouse/partner ..... ☐ 1Yes, we live in separate households ..... ☐ 2No ..... ☐ 3*No answer* ..... ☐ -2

**Frage 36**Variable  
parsd23\_**What applies to your situation? Multiple answers allowed!**

- parsd23i10 Full-time employment
- parsd23i11 Self-employment
- parsd23i12 Part-time employment (also multiple part-time jobs)
- parsd23i13 Internship, trainee, work experience etc. (including unpaid work)
- parsd23i14 Marginal part-time employment, mini-job, "Ein-Euro-Job" ("one-euro job" while receiving unemployment benefits)
- parsd23i15 Occasional or irregular employment
- parsd23i16 Other kind of job
- parsd23i17 Maternity or paternity leave or other leave of absence for childcare
- parsd23i18 Voluntary social service (Bundesfreiwilligendienst)
- parsd23i19 Unemployed, seeking employment
- parsd23i20 Housewife / househusband
- parsd23i21 Early retirement, retirement, occupational disability
- parsd23i22 Other, not employed
- parsd23i24 In school, at university, or in training (e.g. evening school, working on a school leaving certificate for adults, vocational retraining, continuing education, university of cooperative education ("Berufsakademie"), university of applied sciences, college, university, or technical/professional school).

Not mentioned ..... ☐ 0Mentioned ..... ☐ 1*no answer* ..... ☐ -2

**Frage 37**Variable  
parinc23

Combining all income types: How much was the total monthly household income for all household members last month? Please indicate the monthly net amount, after deduction of taxes and contributions to retirement, unemployment, and health insurance. Please include regular payments like pensions, housing allowances, child allowances, student loans/ allowances, child support, etc. Members of the household are all those who share decision-making regarding household spending. If you live alone, just include your personal net income.

- Under 250 € ..... ☐ 1
  - 250 to 500 € ..... ☐ 2
  - 500 to 750 € ..... ☐ 3
  - 750 to 1.000 € ..... ☐ 4
  - 1.000 to 1.250 € ..... ☐ 5
  - 1.250 to 1.500 € ..... ☐ 6
  - 1.500 to 1.750 € ..... ☐ 7
  - 1.750 to 2.000 € ..... ☐ 8
  - 2.000 to 2.500 € ..... ☐ 9
  - 2.500 to 3.000 € ..... ☐ 10
  - 3.000 to 3.500 € ..... ☐ 11
  - 3.500 to 4.000 € ..... ☐ 12
  - 4.000 to 4.500 € ..... ☐ 13
  - 4.500 € or more ..... ☐ 14
  
  - Don't know* ..... ☐ -1
  - No answer* ..... ☐ -2
-



**Frage 38**Variable  
parsd27**What is the highest level of school education you attained?**

- Left school without a certificate . . . . . ☐ 1
- Secondary general school leaving certificate (Hauptschule, Volksschule) . . . . ☐ 2
- Intermediate school leaving certificate (Realschule, Mittlere Reife) . . . . . ☐ 3
- School leaving certificate from lower secondary school (Polytechnische Oberschule 8th/9th grade) . . . . . ☐ 4
- School leaving certificate from medium-level secondary school (Polytechnische Oberschule 10th grade) . . . . . ☐ 5
- Entrance qualification for universities of applied sciences (Fachhochschulreife, Abschluss Fachoberschule) . . . . . ☐ 6
- General or subject-specific university entrance qualification . . . . . ☐ 7
- Other school leaving certificate . . . . . ☐ 8
- Don't know . . . . . ☐ -1
- No answer* . . . . . ☐ -2
- 

**Frage 39**Variable  
parsd27n**How many years of schooling did you have altogether?**

\_\_ \_\_ Years

*No answer* . . . . . ☐ -2

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**Frage 40**Variable  
parsd29\_**Which of the following certificate(s) or degree(s) did you earn?****Multiple answers allowed!**

- parsd29i1 Apprenticeship (GDR: certified skilled worker)
- parsd29i2 Vocational school (general, trade, health-care related)
- parsd29i3 Advanced vocational school (e.g., certified master craftsman, certified technician)
- parsd29i4 Civil service apprenticeship
- parsd29i5 University of applied sciences / University of cooperative education (also "Beruf-sakademie") (previously: engineering school, teacher training; GDR: engineering and higher vocational school certificate)
- parsd29i6 University degree without doctorate
- parsd29i7 Doctorate
- parsd29i8 I have no certificate or degree.

Not mentioned ..... ☐ 0Mentioned ..... ☐ 1*no answer* ..... ☐ -2

Only first time questioning (parw6ne = 1).

**Text 6**

**Thank you very much for your assistance with this survey. Please put the completed questionnaire in the stamped envelope and return it to us by post.**