

July 2014

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Dear colleagues,

Dear users of German Family Panel data,

The year 2014 already has been a very busy and momentous year for the German Family Panel (pairfam) project. First of all, at the beginning of this year, funding for the seventh and eighth pairfam panel waves was approved by the German Research Foundation (DFG). We are now also pleased to announce the release of new data from the fifth survey wave. Data collection for the sixth wave was completed successfully in May, and this sixth-wave data is currently being processed. Finally, preparations for wave seven are on schedule, and the field phase will begin in September as planned.

Release 5.0 with Data from the Fifth Wave

From the beginning of July 2014 the release 5.0 is available. It includes the fully documented data of the first five panel waves, which have been thoroughly re-checked and readied for analysis. The fifth survey wave (2012/2013) contains data from 7,248 anchor persons, 2,529 partners, 1,390 children, and 3,546 (step)parents. In addition to the regularly included modules on occupation, partnerships, intergenerational relationships, etc., in this wave for the first time questions were posed about addictive behavior (smoking and alcohol consumption), specific aspects of child-rearing like joint activities and parenting styles, and the behavior of children of 3 to 5 years of age. Also new in wave five is the siblings module, which includes information provided by anchor persons about the sociodemography of their siblings and about their sibling relationships. Some modules from the first waves are repeated now for the first time, including questions on religiosity and on money management in the partnership, enabling longitudinal analyses also in these domains. An overview of the contents of the survey for each wave can be found in the [codebooks](#), the [variable lists](#), and the [module lists](#).

Noteworthy in release 5.0 is the integration of the [DemoDiff](#) study within the German Family Panel. After the end of the original DemoDiff project, with its three survey waves, the DemoDiff

sample was merged with pairfam starting with pairfam's fifth wave. The main advantage of this merger is that it has increased the number of respondents in pairfam. However, due to some unique features of DemoDiff (e.g., the focus on the older two cohorts and on East Germany), sample composition is affected by the integration. In order to facilitate the usage of the DemoDiff data, the datasets were merged retroactively for prior waves. Starting with pairfam's wave three, anchor and partner datasets include respondents of both pairfam and DemoDiff. The first wave of DemoDiff is available as a separate dataset. More information about the merger process and recommendations for using DemoDiff data can be found in our [Quick Guide](#) and in the [Data Manual](#).

As in previous years, German Family Panel data are available via GESIS. After users submit their completed and signed [application form](#) to the pairfam [user support](#) office, the scientific use file is made available by GESIS either as download or on CD-ROM. Registered users who have already received a prior release can download release 5.0 through GESIS free of charge until December 31, 2014. The submitting of the [application form](#) to the [user support](#) office is required in this case as well.

The data may only be used for scientific purposes in a specified research project by the person(s) indicated on the application form. The transfer of data to a third party is permitted only if the persons are working in the same project or are students who intend to use the data for their own research project or final thesis. pairfam [user support](#) must be informed of any internal data distribution. For doing so, please use the box "other users in the project" on the application form or on the appropriate [distribution form](#), both of which are available on the pairfam homepage. For data protection and for updating our user database, we kindly request that you use the [distribution form](#) to register **everyone** as a data user who has access to the data, including students and research assistants.

If you intend to use the pairfam data in your lectures, you should generate reduced **teaching datasets** using the syntax we provide in release 5.0. This teaching dataset contains only 50% of the cases (with a random deletion of cases) and can be provided to students without informing pairfam. For information about the teaching dataset, please refer to the [Quick Guide](#).

Two New Principal Investigators and Changes in the Team

In May 2014, the group of principal investigators at pairfam was augmented by [Prof. Dr. Karsten Hank](#) from the University of Cologne and [Prof. Dr. Franz J. Neyer](#) from Jena University. Karsten Hank leads pairfam's investigation of intergenerational relationships. Franz Neyer is responsible for research in the area of intimate relationships. We are happy to welcome them to the team.

With the new project phase, Bernhard Nauck (TU Chemnitz) has handed over the role of coordinating director to Josef Brüderl (LMU Munich). We thank Bernhard Nauck for his dedication and advocacy for pairfam, and we are pleased that he will continue to contribute as a principal investigator.

In addition, we welcome our new team members [Dr. Christine Finn](#) (Jena University), [Michel Herzig](#) (LMU Munich), [Rüdiger Lenke](#) (LMU Munich), and [Timo Peter](#) (University of Bremen). During the last months, Simone Braun (LMU Munich), Sabine Keller (TU Chemnitz, User Support) and Christina Gschwendtner (LMU Munich) have left pairfam. We thank these former colleagues and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. Nina Schumann (LMU Munich) is now in charge of user support and will be pleased to give you further information about the project or the data.

Announcements

International pairfam Conference, September 25-26, 2014 in Cologne

The fourth international pairfam conference, which takes place this year on September 25th and 26th in Cologne, focuses on “linked” life course transitions and family outcomes. These comprise a variety of linkages between family members and between different life domains. Following the interdisciplinary tradition of pairfam, research in the fields of sociology and psychology will be presented. Visit our website for the conference [program](#). To register for the conference, please send an [e-mail](#) to the Cologne secretary. The deadline for registration is **July 23rd, 2014**. We are looking forward to meeting you in Cologne!

User Training in pairfam at GESIS in December 2014

As part of the GESIS workshop series, the workshop „Meet the data: The German Family Panel (pairfam)“ will be held in Mannheim on December 4th and 5th. Nina Schumann, Philipp Schütze, and Claudia Schmiedeberg will explain the structure of pairfam data, show which datasets are available, and illustrate how to use pairfam data based on practical examples. The main focus of the course is data management (e.g., merging datasets for cross-sectional and longitudinal analyses, using generated variables and datasets). Participants will go through in-class examples together, applying longitudinal methods (panel analysis and event history analysis). The course targets advanced students, doctoral students, and young researchers interested in topics of intimate relationships and family. For further information and online registration please visit the [GESIS website](#).

Meeting pairfam at Conferences

pairfam representatives will be available for discussion at several conferences this year again. We will present the project at our booth at the *Annual Meeting of the German Association of Sociology (DGS)* on October 6th-10th, 2014 in Trier and will be happy to meet you there. Additionally, members of the pairfam team will present results of their research with pairfam data at the following conferences:

ISA World Congress of Sociology (Yokohama, July 13-19): Bernhard Nauck, Kristin Hajek, Veronika Salzburger.

European Conference on Personality (ECP17, Lausanne, July 15-19): Christine Finn.

Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA, San Francisco, August 16-19): Nina Schumann.

Conference of the European Association for Research on Adolescence (EARA, Izmir, September 3-6): Sabine Walper.

Congress of the European Society on Family Relations (ESFR, Madrid, September 3-6): Bernhard Nauck, Petra Buhr & Laura Castiglioni, Carolin Thönnissen.

Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Psychologie (DGPs, Bochum, September 21-25): Franz Neyer, Barbara Wilhelm & Carolin Thönnissen.

They can provide information about their own research and answer questions about the pairfam project and its data.

Publications

These are the latest publications based on pairfam data:

Bauer, Gerrit, and Thorsten Kneip. 2013. Fertility from a couple perspective: A test of competing decision rules on proceptive behaviour. *European Sociological Review* 29: 535-548.

Hardie, Jessica Halliday, Claudia Geist, and Amy Lucas. 2014. His and Hers: Economic Factors and Relationship Quality in Germany. *Journal of Marriage and Family* 76: 728-743.

Hutteman, Roos, Wiebke Bleidorn, Lars Penke and Jaap J. A. Denissen. 2013. It Takes Two: A Longitudinal Dyadic Study on Predictors of Fertility Outcomes. *Journal of Personality* 81: 487-498.

Konietzka, Dirk, and André Tatjes. 2014. Two steps of union formation: first intimate relationships and first coresidential unions in the life courses of the German cohorts 1971-1973 and 1981-1983. *Journal of Youth Studies*, doi: 10.1080/13676261.2014.888405.

Lois, Nadia. 2014. Einflüsse der Herkunftsfamilie auf den frühzeitigen Auszug aus dem Elternhaus und die Kohabitation - Ein Test vermittelnder Mechanismen *Zeitschrift für Soziologie der Erziehung und Sozialisation* 34: 71-88.

Schnor, Christine. 2014. The Effect of Union Status at First Childbirth on Union Stability: Evidence from Eastern and Western Germany. *European Journal of Population*, doi: 10.1007/s10680-013-9304-7.

Our goal is to maintain on our website a complete and current list of [publications](#) that use data from the German Family Panel. Please inform the pairfam [user service](#) about publications and student theses based on pairfam data. If using pairfam in your research, please make note of the [citation rules](#) published on our website. We very much appreciate your help!

We wish you all the best for your work with pairfam data. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely, on behalf of the pairfam team,

Nina Schumann

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