

June 2015

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Dear colleagues,

Dear users of German Family Panel data,

We are pleased to announce the release of new data from the sixth survey wave of the German Family Panel. Data collection for the seventh wave was completed successfully in May, and this seventh-wave data is currently being processed. Finally, preparations for wave eight are on schedule, and the field phase will begin in September as planned.

Release 6.0 with Data from the Sixth Wave

Release 6.0 is available in June 2015. It includes the fully documented data of the first six panel waves, which have been thoroughly re-checked and readied for analysis. The sixth survey wave (2013/2014) contains data from 6,574 anchor persons, 2,357 partners, 1,450 children, and 3,043 (step)parents. In this wave, for the first time, questions were posed about respondents' work-life-balance, parental relationship biography and quality, social pressure regarding marriage, and critical life events in their social environment. Some modules from the second wave are repeated now for the first time, including questions on BIG 5 personality traits, on expectations towards the relationship to the parents and on decision making of fertility plans. For these issues, longitudinal analyses are now possible. An overview of the contents of the survey for each wave can be found in the [codebooks](#), and the [variable lists](#).

Noteworthy in release 6.0 is the release of the **step-up respondents'** data. They are former participants of the child interview who had reached the eligible age of 15 and now continue to take part in the main anchor interview. The "step-ups" were interviewed as of wave 4. Therefore, we can already provide three waves. Fifty step-up anchor interviews were collected in the fourth wave, 82 in the fifth, and 136 in the sixth. In addition, the step-up respondents were asked to answer a transitional PAPI questionnaire for the wave in which they first entered the anchor questionnaire, giving further background information. Furthermore, step-up partner data is available as well. The data and documentation of the step-up anchor and partner respondents

are stored in a separate folder in the Scientific-Use-File. For details, please refer to the [Data Manual](#).

Furthermore, we provide a generated panel data set **Overview_multi_actor**, which provides an overview about participation in the partner, child, parenting and parent surveys. In the [Technical Paper No. 01](#) chapters concerning the differences between the main respondents and the DemoDiff respondents and the development of the response rates over the waves were added.

As in previous years, German Family Panel data are available via GESIS. Researchers who submit a completed and signed [application form](#) to the pairfam [user support](#) office will be given access to the scientific use file through GESIS either as download or on CD-ROM. Registered users who have already received release 5.0 can download release 6.0 through GESIS free of charge until December 31, 2015. Submitting an [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 6.0. 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](#).

Pairfam on paneldata.org

The pairfam variables are now searchable on [paneldata.org](#). Here you can find online information on the variables in pairfam. This includes search functions, frequency distributions of variables, and comparisons of value labels over waves. We hope to further improve the user friendliness of our data in this way.

Recent Event: International pairfam User Conference in Jena

At the fourth international pairfam user conference, which took place on May 7th and 8th in Jena, researchers presented their analysis in the fields of intergenerational relationships, fertility, relationships and children, gender research, sexuality, personality and survey research, using the pairfam data. Visit our website for the conference [program](#). We would like to thank all participants for their contributions.

pairfam Awards

For the second time, in the course of pairfam's user conference, two competitive awards were granted for excellent scientific works on the basis of data from the German Family Panel. Roos Hutteman, Wiebke Bleidorn, Lars Penke and Jaap Denissen received the [best publication award](#) for their article „It takes two: A longitudinal dyadic study on predictors of fertility outcomes” published in the Journal of Personality. The [best presentation award](#) was won by Matthew Johnson, Jared Anderson and Nancy Galambos for their presentation “Skip the dishes? Not so fast! Sex and the division of labor revisited.”

Announcement: User Training in pairfam at GESIS in November 2015

As part of the GESIS workshop series, the workshop „Meet the data: The German Family Panel (pairfam)” will be held in Mannheim on November 2nd and 3rd. Kristin Hajek, 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](#).

Personnel Changes in the Team

In February 2015, we welcomed our new team member [Nicolai Gröpler](#) (Chemnitz University of Technology). [Carolin Thönnissen](#) (LMU Munich) is on parental leave as of May 2015. Furthermore, we welcome back [Christine Finn](#) (Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena) following her parental leave. [Elisabeth Schubach](#) (Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena) has left the pairfam project as of May 2015. We extend our deepest gratitude and best wishes for her future endeavors.

Meeting pairfam at Conferences

Members of the pairfam team will present results of their research with pairfam data at the following conferences:

Aging Families/Changing Families: An International Conference (Syracuse, NY, June 3-6): Karsten Hank.

Workshop: Social Inequality in Local and Regional Context (Mannheim, July 2-3): Karsten Hank.

6th Conference of the European Survey Research Association (Reykjavik, July 13-17): Kristin Hajek.

12th Conference of the European Sociological Association (Prague, August 25-28): Kristin Hajek, Veronika Salzburger.

EPSY Tagung: Entwicklung unter Risikolagen (Frankfurt, August 31 –September 2): Philipp Alt, Barbara Wilhelm.

5th Conference of the International Society for Child Indicators (Cape Town, SA, September 2-4): Bernhard Nauck.

ECSR Conference 2015: Cumulative Inequalities in the Life Course (Tallinn, September 10-12): Petra Buhr, Timo Peter.

13. Arbeitstagung der Fachgruppe Differentielle Psychologie, Persönlichkeitspsychologie und Psychologische Diagnostik (Mainz, September 21-23): Christine Finn, Franz Neyer.

International workshop on the Power of the Family. Family influences on Long-Term Fertility Decline in Western and Eastern Societies, 1850-2010 (Wageningen, October 9-10): Petra Buhr, Timo Peter.

Participating researchers will 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:

Eckhard, Jan, 2015. "Abnehmende Bindungsquoten in Deutschland: Ausmaß und Bedeutung eines historischen Trends." *Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie* 67: 27-55.

Feldhaus, Michael and Andreas Timm, 2015. "Der Einfluss der elterlichen Trennung im Jugendalter auf die Depressivität von Jugendlichen." *Zeitschrift für Familienforschung - Journal of Family Research* 27: 32-52.

Feldhaus, Michael and Monika Schlegel, 2015. "Living Apart Together and Living Together Apart: Impacts of Partnership-Related and Job-Related Circular Mobility on Partnership

Quality." in *Spatial Mobility, Migration, and Living Arrangements*, edited by Aybek, Can M., Johannes Huinink and Raya Muttarak. Springer VS.

Johnson, Matthew D. and Jared R. Anderson, 2015. "Temporal ordering of intimate relationship efficacy and conflict." *Journal of Marriage and Family*, DOI: 10.1111/jomf.12198.

Langmeyer, Alexandra N., 2015. *Sorgerecht, Coparenting und Kindeswohl. Eltern Sein in nichtehelichen Lebensgemeinschaften.* Wiesbaden: Springer VS.

Müller, Bettina and Laura Castiglioni, 2015. "Attrition im Beziehungs- und Familienpanel pairfam." Pp. 283-308 in *Nonresponse Bias: Qualitätssicherung sozialwissenschaftlicher Umfragen*, edited by Schupp, Jürgen and Christof Wolf. Springer VS.

Mund, Marcus, Christine Finn, Birk Hagemeyer, Julia Zimmermann and Franz J. Neyer, 2015. "Dynamics of self-esteem in partner relationships." *European Journal of Personality* 29: 235-249.

Pffor, Klaus, Michael Blohm, Annelies G. Blom, Barbara Erdel, Barbara Felderer, Mathis Frässdorf, Kristin Hajek, Susanne Helmschrott, Corinna Kleinert, Achim Koch, Ulrich Krieger, Martin Kroh, Silke Martin, Denise Sassenroth, Claudia Schmiedeberg, Eva-Maria Trüdinger and Beatrice Rammstedt, 2015. "Are incentive effects on response rates and nonresponse bias in large-scale, face-to-face surveys generalizable to Germany? Evidence from ten experiments." *Public Opinion Quarterly*, DOI:10.1093/poq/nfv014..

Rözer, Jesper J., Gerald Mollenhorst and Beate Volker, 2015. "Romantic Relationship Formation, Maintenance and Changes in Personal Networks." *Advances in Life Course Research* 23: 86-97.

Salzburger, Veronika, 2015. *Die Geburt des ersten Enkelkinds. Zur Adaption von Generationenbeziehungen.* Wiesbaden: Springer VS.

Schröder, Jette and Claudia Schmiedeberg, 2015. "Effects of Relationship Duration, Cohabitation, and Marriage on the Frequency of Intercourse in Couples: Findings from German Panel Data." *Social Science Research* 52: 72-82.

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, student theses, and forthcoming articles 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,

Kristin Hajek

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