



Families and Generations Survey

Description

The Families and Generations Survey has the aim of providing statistical information on the current situation and the evolution of families as well as information on relations between the generations. The data collected are used as the basis for monitoring change and as input for more detailed analysis. They therefore contribute to the targeted focusing of family and generation politics in Switzerland.

Available since:
2013

Statistical basis and survey units:
Persons in the permanent resident population living in private households aged between 15 and 79.

Features registered:

- Household composition
- Partnership; previous partnerships
- Children; professional activity before/after child's birth; departure of the child from parental home, contact frequency with children; care and custody
- Desire to have children
- Division of childcare between the partners
- Use of extra-family childcare
- Grandchildren; care and contact with grandchildren
- Division of housework between the partners
- Practical support in personal environment (assistance to people with health impairment, help with housework)
- Family of origin; departure from parental home; contact frequency and spatial distance from parents; country of birth of parents
- Labour situation; partner's labour situation, education
- Financial situation; maintenance contributions; material support
- Health; well-being; network
- Values and attitudes
- Religion and political orientation

Methodology

This is a sample survey of 10,000 persons (plus any cantonal extensions). The persons are selected at random from the sample register of the FSO. Since 2023, the EFG is a mixed-mode survey (internet/telephone). Until 2018, the survey was conducted via telephone.

Degree of regionalisation:
Switzerland, major regions and certain cantons that have enlarged their cantonal sample.

Periodicity:
Every 5 years

Revision:
Adaptation of the questionnaire before each survey.

Policy on revisions

Methodology is revised as necessary (e.g. revision of sources).

Legal bases

Federal Act of 22 June 2007 on the Federal Population Census (CC 431.112)
Ordinance of 19 December 2008 on the Federal Population Census (CC 431.112.1)
Ordinance of 30 June 1993 on the Conduct of Federal Statistical Surveys (CC 431.012.1)

Organization

Federal Statistical Office (FSO)
Section Demography and Migration

Espace de l'Europe 10
CH-2010 Neuchâtel
tel : +41 58 463 67 11
info.dem@bfs.admin.ch
