Report on the Norwegian GGS

GGP Informal Working Group
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Norway’s GGS

Combination of two panel studies
- GGS
- NorLAG

Collaboration between two research units
- Division for Social and Demographic Research, Statistics Norway
- NOVA (Norwegian Social Research)
NorLAG

• First wave in 2002-2003 in four regions
  • non-randomly selected municipalities and burroughs
  • Small municipalities oversampled

• As part of LOGG 2007-8:
  – Second wave for ages 45+
  – Addition of respondents 18-44
Design of Norwegian GGS

• Sample: National + NorLAG areas
• Age range 18-79 years
• Sample size: 26 000
  – 6 000 for the second time
• Letter to all respondents
• Telephone interview (CATI)
  – Average interview time 45 minutes
• & Self-completed questionnaire received and returned by mail (postal form)
  – Internet version considered
• Lottery if participating
• Administrative data added before and after the interview
• Interviewing January 2007 – March 2008
  – by interview division of Statistics Norway
Funding

- Total costs about 3 mill Euros, including planning and some analysis
  - Wave 1 only!
- Research Council of Norway about 40%
- The rest from the Ministries of …
  - Children and Equality
  - Labour and Social Inclusion
  - Health and Care Services
  - Regional Development
- …and from collaborating institutions
  - NOVA
  - Statistics Norway
Norway’s GGS

- About 84% cent of GGS questions covered
- About 14% cent of the questions covered by administrative records
- Many questions added
Modification of GGS questionnaire to a Nordic context

• Less about boy or girl friend — deleted items:
  • Reasons for not living together
  • Consequences of moving together
  • Thoughts of other people about moving together

• More items on cohabitation
  • Thoughts of other people about marriage of cohabitants (parents, relatives and friends)
Examples of added questions

• Do partner or parents have problems with memory (if 65 or older)?

• If yes → questions on cause, effects on daily life, and needs for assistance and care
NorLAG

• Second half of life
• **Four major domains**
  – Work and retirement
  – Family and intergenerational relationships
  – Coping, mental health and quality of life
  – Health, disability and long-term care

• How do these life domains affect each other?
  – e.g. family care may affect age at retirement
Scales and batteries used in GGS Norway

- International scales, thoroughly tested and frequently used
- Functional health: SF-12 (Short form health survey, 12 items)
  - Does your health limit your activities, social life, etc
- Depression scale CES-D
  - Only partly covered in GGS (6 of 20 items)
- Personality: Five Factor Model
  - Extraversion, neuroticism, conscientiousness, openness to experience, agreeableness
  - 20 items (postal form)
  - e.g. relationship between tolerance for chaos and wish for many children
- Psychological well-being scales
  - Positive and Negative Affect Scale – PANAS (12 items)
  - Satisfaction with Life Scale: cognitive (5 items)
  - Self-esteem Scale (10 items)
- Values
  - Basic Human Values Scale (22 items)
    - Also used in ESS
Contextual database

- Statistical variables almost complete
- Qualitative variables to be completed before summer 2007