

Appendix

Table A1: Number of cases and reasons for non-participation by wave

Wave <i>t</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6
Interviews in wave <i>t</i>	12402	9069	7901	6999	6261	5696
Monotonic cases up to wave <i>t</i>		9069	7383	6319	5462	4832
Permanent dropouts in wave <i>t</i>		2815	1365	944	781	632
Permanent dropouts, excluding hard refusals, deceased, and out-of-scope respondents ¹		2456	1236	826	677	547
<i>Non-contact (%)</i>		27.6	23.3	24.1	19.4	21.8
<i>Soft refusal (%)</i>		72.4	76.7	75.9	80.6	78.2
Temporary dropouts in wave <i>t</i>		518	321	279	236	169
<i>Non-contact (%)</i>		68.7	47.4	57.7	49.2	46.7
<i>Soft refusal (%)</i>		31.3	52.6	42.3	50.8	53.3

Table A2: Descriptive statistics of wave 1 respondent characteristics by response status up to wave 6

	Continuous participation (N=4832)	Ever temporary dropout (N=1425)	Permanent dropout (N=6145)
Variables	Percent/Mean of observations (SD)	Percent/Mean of observations (SD)	Percent/Mean of observations (SD)
<i>Relationship status</i>			
Single	43.1	41.6	40.1
Living apart together	16.5	20.2	18.4
Cohabiting	11.9	13.8	12.9
Married	28.5	24.3	28.6
At least one child 0-14	32.2	31.9	32.3
Female	52.5	54.8	49.7
Born in East Germany	13.8	13.0	13.3

¹ Reasons for non-participation cannot be determined for hard refusals (i.e. cases that withdraw permission to be re-contacted), as well as for deceased respondents and cases who no longer belong to the target population.

Home ownership	54.1	46.7	47.3
Years of education (mean)	12.4 (2.7)	12.4 (2.7)	11.9 (2.6)
<i>Employment status</i>			
Full-time	37.2	35.9	42.2
In education	38.5	39.6	32.8
Part-time	11.7	11.4	10.8
Out of labor force	8.7	8.4	8.7
Unemployed	3.9	4.8	5.5
<i>Migration status</i>			
Non migrant	80.5	77.7	70.6
1 st generation migrant	9.1	10.7	16.4
2 nd generation migrant	10.4	11.7	13.0
Match interviewer & respondent sex	51.4	51.3	50.2
<i>Degree of urbanization</i>			
Rural area	27.0	25.6	29.2
Periphery	35.8	33.5	33.2
Urban area	37.2	40.9	37.6
<i>Age</i>			
14-15	13.7	12.1	9.8
16	12.3	10.8	10.9
17-18	11.6	13.3	11.9
24-25	8.4	10.0	10.7
26	9.6	12.0	11.9
27-28	10.2	12.2	12.6
34 and older	34.2	29.6	32.2

Table A3: Multinomial logistic regression on response status up to wave 6, reference group: continuous participation

	Ever temporary dropout	Permanent dropout
<i>Relationship status (ref.: single)</i>		
Living apart together	0.009 (0.009)	0.028* (0.013)
Cohabiting	0.002 (0.011)	0.002 (0.017)
Married	-0.023* (0.010)	0.007 (0.017)
At least one child 0-14	0.031**	-0.032*

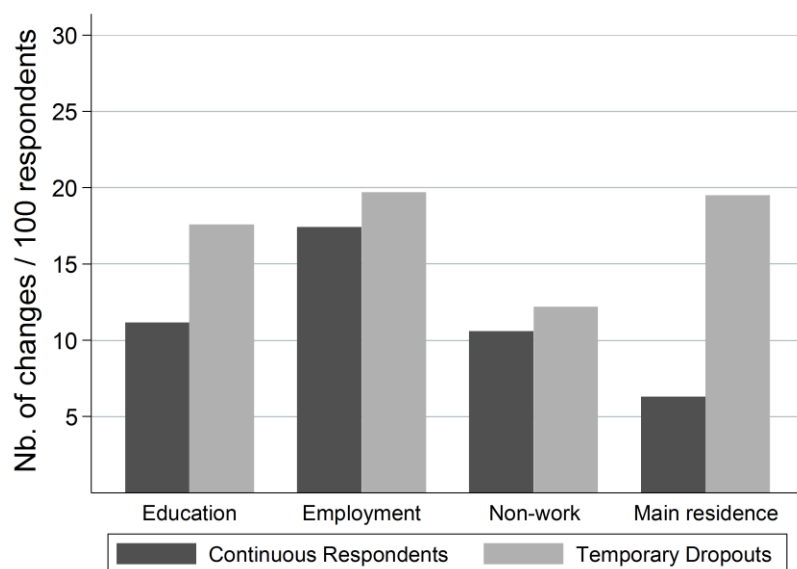
	(0.010)	(0.015)
Female	0.013*	-0.021*
	(0.006)	(0.010)
Born in East Germany	-0.013	-0.001
	(0.010)	(0.014)
Home ownership	-0.016*	-0.011
	(0.007)	(0.010)
Years of education/10 (std)	0.013***	-0.056***
	(0.003)	(0.005)
<i>Employment status (ref.: full-time)</i>		
In education	0.028**	-0.052**
	(0.010)	(0.016)
Part-time	0.005	-0.038*
	(0.010)	(0.016)
Out of labor force	-0.002	-0.038*
	(0.012)	(0.019)
Unemployed	0.008	-0.003
	(0.015)	(0.023)
<i>Migration status (ref.: non migrant)</i>		
1st generation migrant	-0.025**	0.151***
	(0.009)	(0.014)
2nd generation migrant	-0.010	0.084***
	(0.009)	(0.014)
Match interviewer & respondent sex	0.005	-0.016 ⁺
	(0.006)	(0.009)
<i>Degree of urbanization (ref.: rural area)</i>		
Periphery	0.005	-0.026*
	(0.007)	(0.011)
Urban area	0.010	-0.023*
	(0.008)	(0.012)
<i>Age (ref.: 34 and older)</i>		
14-15	0.006	-0.094***
	(0.015)	(0.024)
16	-0.001	-0.058*
	(0.014)	(0.024)
17-18	0.018	-0.032
	(0.014)	(0.022)
24-25	0.014	0.025
	(0.012)	(0.018)
26	0.020 ⁺	0.027
	(0.012)	(0.017)

27-28	0.016 (0.011)	0.028 ⁺ (0.017)
Pseudo R-squared	0.021	
Observations	11992	

Average marginal effects; robust standard errors in parentheses

+ $p < 0.10$, * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Figure A1: Life changes reported in the EHC by temporary dropouts and continuous respondents, waves 2-6



Notes: Transitions between each two months in the EHC: End of education, employment, and non-work episodes (regardless of the subsequent status). Note that changes of main residence within the same city are not included, as these are not captured at a monthly basis. Two-sample t-tests indicate that differences in the respective means are significant for transitions in education status (level 0.001), employment status (level 0.05), and changes of main residence (level 0.001).