

CATCH-EyoU

WP7 survey methodology – Estonia

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Both waves of data collection were carried out in various locations across Estonia. Younger group respondents were recruited mainly in different educational institutions: mostly in the gymnasiums but also in vocational schools. Although Estonian samples are not representative, respondents from different locations are involved: not only from the capital city of Tallinn, and the second and third biggest cities Tartu and Narva, but also from smaller towns Põltsamaa, Valga, Otepää, Tõrva, Ahtme and Räpina where different secondary education institutions are located.

School principals were contacted prior to data collection to achieve their consent. In general there were two ways of data collection. In the first case schools agreed to let researchers shortly introduce the survey and collect the signatures for the consent forms at the beginning of the civics lesson (parental consent is not needed in Estonia to conduct sociological surveys with respondents older than 14). In the second case surveys were administered in the classrooms with researchers being present, and consent forms were filled in prior to survey administration.

Older group respondents were recruited by visiting the lectures of different educational institutions (University of Tartu, Narva College of University of Tartu, Räpina School of Horticulture, Tartu Vocational Education Centre), by visiting army recruits instructions and the meetings of local youth organisations.

The recruiting procedure was the same in school, university, military service locations and youth organisations: a member of the research team visited the lesson/lecture/instruction/meeting, shortly (about 10 minutes) introduced the survey and its importance, and asked young people to fill in the consent forms if they agreed to participate in the survey. The majority of young people in the visited groups consented to participate, though there were several individuals who did not agree. The links of the online survey were sent by e-mail to the young people who had agreed to participate in the survey. The shortened version of privacy information was repeated at the beginning of the online questionnaire and all the respondents had to reconfirm that they had read the information and agreed with the terms before filling in the questionnaire. Consent forms and questionnaires were administered by the members of the research team (Andu Rämmer, Mai Beilmann, Ragne Kõuts, Katrin Kello and Signe Opermann). The research team raffled small prizes among the respondents to motivate young people to participate in the survey and to improve the response rate.

All Wave 1 respondents were asked to leave their E-mails in order to send them invitation to participate in the follow-up survey.

Altogether, 164 respondents (113 them completed the survey in Estonian and 51 in Russian) in the younger age group, and 271 people (263 of them completed the survey in Estonian and 8 in Russian) in the older age group completed the questionnaire. Wave 1 and longitudinal survey sample sizes are

presented in the Table 1. However, only 435 respondents of 1090 Wave 1 respondents (40 percent of initial sample) filled online Wave 2 questionnaire. Some respondents interrupted the survey, by opening the link of the survey and closing it without answering to any questions or providing only sociodemographic information. The respondents who did not provide any responses or whose answers were limited to sociodemographic information were deleted from the longitudinal data file.

Table1. Wave 1 and longitudinal study sample distributions.

	Longitudinal (W1 + W2)	Only W1
Younger	164	408
Older	271	236
Total	435	644

Longitudinal study respondents' age distribution in the first wave of data collection is presented in Table 2.

Table2. Respondents by age group and questionnaire*

	Younger	Older
15	1	0
16	76	2
17	67	1
18	20	2
19	0	87
20	0	66
21	0	32
22	0	13
23	0	18
24	0	14
25	0	11
26	0	1
27	0	11
28	0	1
29	0	1

30	0	1
32	0	1
35	0	3
37	0	1
38	0	1
39	0	2
43	0	1
44	0	1
Total	164	271

* There were some respondents in the visited classes / lectures whose actual age turned out to be older or younger than expected in the respective class (e.g. some students were older than 30).

To ensure broader representativeness and inclusiveness, all questionnaires were translated into Russian to capture the Russian-speaking minority and their views on relevant issues.