



The German Longitudinal Environmental Study (GLEN)

Codebook Starter Survey
Survey mode: CAWI
2025

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2026

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Preface

Notation

The following information is included for each question:

- Variable name
- Question text and, if applicable, instructions for completion
- Response format; at the end of the question, special features in the answer format are noted, for example mandatory responses, permitted value ranges for open entries and dropdown menus
- Filters, including splits

Question display

The presentation of questions in the codebook is not identical to the respondents' view of the questionnaire. For an impression of the questionnaire layout, please refer to the screenshots.

All questions were programmed with responsive design, meaning that scales are displayed differently on large and small screens. On large screens, most scales are displayed horizontally, while on small screens (for example, smartphones) they appear vertically. Item batteries are split into single items on small screens with answer scales displayed vertically.

Experiments

The survey included a number of experiments. Assignment to the respective experimental groups (splits) was carried out randomly during the survey, unless stated otherwise.

- **Scale experiment in the question on the living environment (area1):** $N = 1,000$ invited individuals were assigned to the treatment group via preload randomization ($\text{area1_split1} = 1$). This group received the question on residential characteristics using a symbolic scale (one to five yellow stars) for the response options “not true at all” to “completely true”, instead of a fully verbalized response scale. The control group ($\text{area1_split1} = 0$), in contrast, was presented with the verbalized scale.
- **Item wording in the question on political measures (pol6):** For each of the six political measures, differing wording was displayed to three equally-sized experimental groups, labeled (1), (2), and (3) in the codebook. Randomization of the items was independent of each other. For each item, an experimental variable with the values 1, 2, and 3 indicates whether version (1), (2), or (3) was displayed. Accordingly, the experimental variable $\text{i1_split1} = 3$ means that for the first item, wording (3) was displayed.
- **Factorial survey experiment on transport policies (vig1q1):** The question vig1q1 includes a factorial survey experiment in which the proposed transport policy intervention, its implementation period, and its goal were varied. The experiment is documented in a dedicated technical report: Bozoyan, C., Schmiedeberg, C., & Best, H. (2026). Acceptance of transport policies: A factorial survey experiment in the German Longitudinal Environmental Study. GLEN Technical Report No. 1. doi: 10.31235/osf.io/dyz7c_v2
- **Response wording in the question on sugary drinks (pol7):** For two of the four response options, differing wording was displayed, labeled (1), (2), and (3) in the codebook. Response option 2 had three, response option 3 had two versions of wording. Randomization was independent of each other, resulting in a total of six possible response combinations. Which wording was displayed for each response option is indicated in the variables pol7_split1 (for response option 2) and pol7_split2 (for response option 3).

Codebook

Welcome to the study "Quality of Life and Environment"!

Thank you for sharing your opinions and experiences with us.

Our second survey focuses on your expectations for the new year, the quality of life where you live, and your media usage, among other topics.

[(If recruitment survey taken online:) You will receive a thank-you gift at the end of the survey to make it worth your while!]

Information on data protection can be found here [link to the LUM data protection page]. For answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ), please click here [link to the LUM FAQ page].

We thank you very much for your participation and hope you enjoy answering the questions!

1. dob

First, we would like to collect some of your personal information. This helps us to ensure the same people are participating in the study.

When were you born?

Month:	__ (dobm)
Year:	____ (doby)

Response format: Dropdown menus: dobm: 1 (January); ...; 12 (December); doby: 2010; 2009; ...; 1912 (descending).

2. sex

What is your gender?

Female	☐ 1
Male	☐ 2
Diverse, other	☐ 3

3. exp1

What do you think: How will the new year be for you personally compared to 2024?

Much worse	☐ 1
Somewhat worse	☐ 2
About the same	☐ 3
Somewhat better	☐ 4
Much better	☐ 5
Don't know	☐ -1

4. exp2

In your opinion, how will the standard of living of most people in Germany compare with today in 10 years' time?

- Much lower ☐ 1
Slightly lower ☐ 2
Almost unchanged ☐ 3
Slightly higher ☐ 4
Much higher ☐ 5

Don't know ☐ -1

5. exp3

What is your general opinion when you think about the next 10 years: To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

- exp3i1 Artificial intelligence will improve many areas in our everyday lives.
exp3i2 Wind and solar energy will enable us to easily meet our energy needs in the future.
exp3i3 Self-driving cars will be a common sight on our roads.
exp3i4 Nuclear fusion will secure our energy supply.
exp3i5 Existing nuclear power plants in Germany will return to operation.

- Strongly disagree ☐ 1
Disagree ☐ 2
Neutral ☐ 3
Agree ☐ 4
Strongly agree ☐ 5

Don't know ☐ -1

6. att6

What is your opinion on electric cars: To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

- att6i1 Electric cars are more environmentally friendly than cars with gasoline or diesel engines.
att6i2 Electric cars are not suitable for everyday use.
att6i3 Electric cars are harmful to the German economy.

- Strongly disagree ☐ 1
Disagree ☐ 2
Neutral ☐ 3
Agree ☐ 4
Strongly agree ☐ 5

Don't know ☐ -1

7. area1

When you think about the place you live, how true are the following statements?

[If area1_split = 1: *The more you agree, the more stars you should use.*]

- area1i1 There are good shopping facilities.
- area1i5 We have a lot of green space.
- area1i7 All destinations in the town can be easily reached by bus and train.
- area1i8 We are safe from flooding.

- Not true at all ☐ 1
- Not true ☐ 2
- Neutral ☐ 3
- True ☐ 4
- Completely true ☐ 5

PLEASE NOTE

Split:

N = 1,000 invited individuals were assigned to the treatment group via preload randomization (area1_split1 = 1). This group received the question on residential characteristics using a symbolic scale (one to five yellow stars) for the response options “not true at all” to “completely true”, instead of a fully verbalized response scale. The control group (area1_split1 = 0), in contrast, was presented with the verbalized scale.

8. area3

When you think of the people at the place where you live, which of the following statements are true?

- area3i1 People here help each other.
- area3i2 People here know each other well.
- area3i3 People here can trust others in the neighborhood.
- area3i4 People here get along well with each other.
- area3i5 People here have little respect for law and order.

- Not true at all ☐ 1
- Not true ☐ 2
- Neutral ☐ 3
- True ☐ 4
- Completely true ☐ 5

9. mob1

The following questions are about your everyday life.

How often do you currently use the following modes of transport?

Please think about the last 4 weeks, excluding any time spent on vacation.

- mob1i1 Car (including as a passenger)
- mob1i2 E-bike
- mob1i3 Bicycle
- mob1i4 E-scooter
- mob1i5 Train / bus in the city and region
- mob1i6 Train / long-distance bus for longer journeys

- (Almost) daily ☐ 1
- Several times a week ☐ 2
- Once a week ☐ 3
- Several times a month ☐ 4
- Less often ☐ 5
- (Almost) never ☐ 6

10. mob2

Do you have or did you have a Deutschlandticket for the following months?

Please indicate all months in which you have or had the Deutschlandticket.

- mob2i1 November 2024
- mob2i2 December 2024
- mob2i3 January 2025
- mob2i4 February 2025
- mob2i5 None of these months

- Mentioned ☐ 1
- Not mentioned ☐ 0

Response format: mob2i5 cannot be combined with other responses

11. csm1

Did you spend money on fireworks this New Year's Eve?

Yes, approx. ____ euro

I did not buy any fireworks ☐ 0

Response format: integers only

12. med1

In the past week, how often have you...

- med1i1 ...used social media online (for example Facebook, Instagram)?
med1i2 ...watched TV, movies, shows, or videos?
med1i3 ...listened to podcasts?
med1i4 ...read the daily newspaper or magazines (in print or online)?

- Several times a day ☐ 1
Daily ☐ 2
Several times a week ☐ 3
Once a week ☐ 4
Never ☐ 5

13. med2

Have you accessed the news with any of the following sources during the last week?

Please select all that apply.

- med2i1 [if television (med1i2 = [1;4]): Televised news such as Tagesschau, heute, or RTL aktuell]
med2i2 [if television (med1i2 = [1;4]): 24-hour news channels such as n-tv, Tagesschau24, Phoenix, or Welt TV]
med2i3 Radio news
med2i4 [if newspapers (med1i4 = [1;4]): Printed newspapers such as FAZ or Bild-Zeitung]
med2i5 [if newspapers (med1i4 = [1;4]): Printed magazines such as Spiegel, Stern, or Focus]
med2i6 Newspaper websites/apps such as faz.net or Bild.de
med2i7 Websites/apps of news magazines such as spiegel.de, stern.de, or FOCUS Online
med2i8 TV and radio websites/apps such as tagesschau.de, ZDF.de, or rtl.de
med2i9 Websites/apps of other news sources such as gmx.de, t-online.de or web.de
med2i10 [if social online networks (med1i1 = [1;4]): Social media such as Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), YouTube]
med2i11 Blogs
med2i12 [if podcasts (med1i3 = [1;4]): Podcasts]
med2i13 None of the above

- Mentioned ☐ 1
Not mentioned ☐ 0

Response format: med2i13 cannot be combined with other responses

14. med3

Which of the following platforms did you use during the last week?

Please select all that apply.

- med3i1 YouTube
- med3i2 Facebook
- med3i3 WhatsApp
- med3i4 Instagram
- med3i5 TikTok
- med3i6 X (formerly Twitter)
- med3i7 Telegram
- med3i8 LinkedIn
- med3i9 Snapchat
- med3i10 Signal
- med3i11 Twitch
- med3i12 Other, namely: _____ (med3i12o)

Mentioned ☐ 1

Not mentioned ☐ 0

Filter: If social online networks were used (med1i1 = [1;4])

15. lsr2

How often do you spend time with...

- lsr2i1 ...people in a club/association?
- lsr2i2 ...coworkers in your free time?
- lsr2i3 ...friends?
- lsr2i4 ...family members?

(Almost) daily ☐ 1

Several times a week ☐ 2

Once a week ☐ 3

Several times a month ☐ 4

Less often ☐ 5

(Almost) never ☐ 6

16. exp4

Which issues will be particularly important for Germany this year?

Please write down what comes to your mind when you think of the year 2025.

Don't know ☐ -1

17. att1

How about the following areas? Are you currently concerned about them?

att1i1 Economic development in Germany

att1i2 Environmental protection

att1i3 The impacts of climate change

att1i4 Wars

att1i5 Crime, public safety

att1i6 Immigration to Germany

Not at all concerned ☐ 1

Slightly concerned ☐ 2

Somewhat concerned ☐ 3

Quite concerned ☐ 4

Very concerned ☐ 5

18. pol4

In your opinion, how true are the following statements?

Politicians in Germany...

pol4i1 ...tell the truth.

pol4i2 ...are corrupt.

pol4i3 ...do their job well.

pol4i4 ...are mainly in politics for their own benefit.

pol4i5 ...are competent.

pol4i6 ...try to do their best for the country.

Not true at all ☐ 1

Not true ☐ 2

Neutral ☐ 3

True ☐ 4

Completely true ☐ 5

Don't know ☐ -1

19. pol5

Now to the current political situation in Germany. What should a newly elected federal government focus on in particular?

Don't know ☐ -1

20. pol6

What is your opinion of the following political measures?

- pol6i1 (1) Expansion of bus and rail services. (2) Expansion of bus and rail services, financed through higher national debt. (3) Expansion of bus and rail services, financed through tax increases.
- pol6i2 (1) Increasing forested areas through reforestation. (2) Increasing forested areas through reforestation, even if this reduces land available for agriculture. (3) Increasing forested areas through reforestation, even if this reduces land available for commercial zones.
- pol6i3 (1) Ban on domestic flights. (2) Higher taxes on domestic flights. (3) Ban on domestic flights if the destination can be reached by train in less than 4 hours.
- pol6i4 Speed limit of (2) 100 (2) 120 (3) 130 km/h on highways.
- pol6i5 (1) Higher taxes on meat and sausages. (2) Higher taxes on meat and sausages with lower taxes on fruits and vegetables. (3) Higher taxes on meat and sausages to improve animal welfare.
- pol6i6 (1) Government subsidies for the conversion of heating systems to renewable energy. (2) Legally mandated conversion of heating systems to renewable energy. (3) Removal of regulations for the conversion of heating systems to renewable energy.

Strongly opposed ☐ 1

Somewhat opposed ☐ 2

Neutral ☐ 3

Somewhat in favor ☐ 4

Strongly in favor ☐ 5

No opinion ☐ -1

PLEASE NOTE

Item wording: For each of the six political measures, differing wording was displayed to three equally-sized experimental groups, labeled (1), (2), and (3) in the questionnaire. Randomization of the items was independent of each other. For each item, an experimental variable with the values 1, 2, and 3 indicates whether version (1), (2), or (3) was displayed. Accordingly, the experimental variable `pol6i1_split1 = 3` means that for the first item, wording (3) was displayed.

21. vig1q1

Let's turn to how electric cars could be promoted. The goal is to protect the climate. Imagine the following: Starting in 2026, charging stations for electric cars would be mandatory in newly built houses.

How do you assess this intervention?

- Strongly opposed ☐ 1
Somewhat opposed ☐ 2
Neutral ☐ 3
Somewhat in favor ☐ 4
Strongly in favor ☐ 5

PLEASE NOTE

Vignette study on electric cars (vig1q1):

The question vig1q1 includes a factorial survey experiment in which the proposed transport policy intervention, its implementation period, and its goal were varied. The varied text elements are gray-shaded in the example vignette. The experiment is documented in a dedicated technical report:

Bozoyan, C., Schmiedeberg, C., & Best, H. (2026). Acceptance of transport policies: A factorial survey experiment in the German Longitudinal Environmental Study. GLEN Technical Report No. 1. doi: 10.31235/osf.io/dyz7c_v2

22. pol8

What is your opinion on the sale of fireworks to private individuals?

- Should be banned ☐ 1
Should remain allowed ☐ 2

Don't know ☐ -1

23. pol7

To reduce health risks from sugary drinks, the following interventions could be introduced. Which intervention do you think is best?

- Impose higher taxes on sugary drinks. ☐ 1
(1) Ban the sale of sugary drinks in schools. (2) Introduce a maximum allowed sugar content in drinks. (3) Ban advertising of sugary drinks. ☐ 2
(1) Encourage people to avoid sugary drinks. (2) Inform about the health risks of sugary drinks. ☐ 3
None of the above; people should not be influenced in their choices. ☐ 4

PLEASE NOTE

Response wording: For two of the four response options, differing wording was displayed, labeled (1), (2), and (3) in the codebook. Response option 2 had three, response option 2 had two versions of wording. Randomization was independent of each other, resulting in a total of six possible response combinations. Which wording was displayed for each response option is indicated in the variables pol7_split1 (for response option 2) and pol7_split2 (for response option 3).

24. psy1

Now we have a few personal questions.

How true are the following statements for you?

psy1i1 I always see the good side of things.

psy1i2 I always expect good things from the future.

Not true at all ☐ 1

Not true ☐ 2

Neutral ☐ 3

True ☐ 4

Completely true ☐ 5

25. psy2

To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

psy2i1 I am convinced that most people have good intentions.

psy2i2 You can't rely on anyone these days.

psy2i3 In general, people can be trusted.

Strongly disagree ☐ 1

Disagree ☐ 2

Neutral ☐ 3

Agree ☐ 4

Strongly agree ☐ 5

26. psy3

To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

psy3i1 I can rely on my own abilities in difficult situations.

psy3i2 I am able to solve most problems on my own.

psy3i3 I can usually solve even challenging and complex tasks well.

Strongly disagree ☐ 1

Disagree ☐ 2

Neutral ☐ 3

Agree ☐ 4

Strongly agree ☐ 5

You have reached the final part of the survey.

From the next page on, there will no longer be a “Back” button.

If you would like to change or correct your answers up until this point, go back to the previous pages now.

27. consent4

We would like to send you e-mail invitations to future LUM study surveys.

[if e-mail address in recruitment survey provided but not confirmed:

You provided your e-mail address in the last survey, but did not confirm it. We are therefore not able to send e-mail invitations at this time.

Please enter your e-mail address again now, after which you will receive a confirmation e-mail to the same address. Please click “Confirm email address” in order to save your email address.

Please note: We conduct 3-4 surveys per year. Each time you participate, you are eligible to receive a thank-you gift. For cost reasons, we are only able to send one postal invitation per year. **Therefore, if you would like to participate in the other surveys, please enter and confirm your e-mail address as described.]**

[if no e-mail address provided in recruitment survey:

Are you sure you don't want to provide an e-mail address?

Please note: You can only participate in all of our surveys (up to 4 per year) if you provide an e-mail address where we can send the invitations. Otherwise, we will send only one survey invitation per year.

It is very important to us that as many of the people we invited to the study as possible participate in all surveys. Only then can we obtain meaningful results.

For your participation you will receive a thank-you each time.]

[if participated in the recruitment survey on paper:

We conduct 3-4 surveys per year. For cost reasons, we are only able to send one postal invitation per year. It is very important for our study that as many people as possible participate in the follow-up surveys.

If you would also like to participate in the future LUM surveys, we therefore need your e-mail address.

We store your e-mail address in accordance with strict data protection regulations and use it only to invite you to future surveys and to inform you about study results.]

Please enter the e-mail address where we can best reach you.

E-mail address: _____ ☐ 1

E-mail address (repeat): _____

I do not want to provide an e-mail address ☐ 2

I do not have an e-mail address ☐ 3

Filter: Respondents without a verified e-mail address

28. newad1

If your contact details have changed since the last survey, or will change soon, you can note this here.

It is important to the study to collect information on your current address. The place you live is a relevant piece of information for several questions in our study.

New residential address

Street, house number: _____

Postal code, city: _____

Valid from: _____

[if e-mail address in recruitment survey provided and confirmed:

New e-mail address:

- Please send an e-mail from your new e-mail address to umfrage@lum-studie.de.
- Please state your previous e-mail address or your name in the e-mail, to enable us to update your data.]

No change ☐ 0

29. surv1

We are now almost at the end of the survey.

Did you like the survey?

The questionnaire was ...

surv1i1 Interesting

surv1i2 Long

surv1i3 Difficult

Strongly disagree ☐ 1

Disagree ☐ 2

Neutral ☐ 3

Agree ☐ 4

Strongly agree ☐ 5

30. surv2

Is there anything else you would like to add?

31. incent1

We sincerely thank you for your participation.

How would you like to receive your thank-you gift?

You can make this choice again in every survey.

Please read the information carefully before proceeding.

5 euro transfer

Bank transfer to your account (IBAN)
(To make the transfer, you will need to provide your account details. We can only transfer to accounts held at German banks). ☐ 1

5 euro voucher

Amazon (redeemable online at www.amazon.de only) ☐ 2

Rossmann drugstore (redeemable in-store only) ☐ 3

REWE supermarket (redeemable in-store only) ☐ 4

5 euro donation to a non-profit organization

(without an individual donation receipt)

Aktion Deutschland Hilft e.V. ☐ 5

Deutsche Welthungerhilfe e.V. ☐ 6

Filter: If taken recruitment survey online

Are you sure that you do not want to receive your thank-you gift?

If you would like to correct your entry, click "Back". Otherwise, click "Next".

Filter: If no incentive selected (incent1 = -2)

Thank you very much for your donation!

We will transfer the donated amounts of all participants collectively at the end of the month.

A confirmation of the donation will be published on our website. Please note that we cannot issue individual donation confirmations.

What happens next?

We will contact you again in spring 2025 and invite you to a short survey. We would be delighted if you would participate again.

You can now close this window.

Filter: If donation of the incentive selected (incent1 = 5|6)

[if REWE or Rossmann voucher selected:

Please download your [if REWE: REWE voucher | if Rossmann: Rossmann voucher] (PDF file) using the button below.

Open voucher]

[if Amazon voucher selected:

Below you will find your Amazon voucher code worth 5 euro.

Please save this code so that you can use it for your next purchase on Amazon.

Your Amazon voucher code:

VoucherAMAZON5]

Thank you very much for participating in the survey!

What happens next?

We will contact you again in spring 2025 and invite you to a short follow-up survey. We would be delighted if you would participate again.

You may now close this window.

Filter: If voucher selected (incent1 = [2;4])

32. incent2

Please enter the account details where you would like us to transfer your 5 euro thank-you gift.

After entering your IBAN, you can check the BIC and the name of your bank using the "Test IBAN" button. Confirm your entry by clicking "Next".

Please note:

- Transfers are only possible to bank accounts in Germany.
- The data transfer is conducted via a secure connection. Your account details are stored separately from the survey data, so no link to your survey responses can be made.
- The bank transfer is carried out by Novalnet AG (<https://www.novalnet.de>). Your name and account details will be provided to Novalnet AG for the purpose of processing the transfer.
- It may take up to three weeks for the transfer to be completed.

Account holder (Last name, First name): _____

IBAN: _____

Your bank's name and BIC will be displayed for verification after entering a valid IBAN and clicking on "Test IBAN". Depending on the branch, the last 3 digits of the BIC may vary.

Bank name: _____

BIC: _____

Filter: If bank transfer of the incentive was selected (incent1 = 1)



Thank you very much for participating in this survey!

What happens next?

We will contact you again in spring 2025 and invite you to a short survey. We would be delighted if you would participate again.

You may now close this window.

Filter: If no incentive or bank transfer of the incentive was selected (incent1 = 1|-2)