B1.5 Consequences of Demographic Change on Political Attitudes and Political Behavior in Germany

Director/ Hans Rattinger
Researchers/ Laura Konzelmann, Michael Bergmann, Corina Wagner
Funding/ Volkswagen Foundation

How does Population Ageing Impact on Turnout and Party Vote Shares?

We assess the effects of age and cohort from 1953 to 2009 by using cohort analysis.

Our Telephone Survey

Representative Sample
+ Oversampling of younger/older people
+ Oversampling of people either living in fast ageing or slowly ageing districts (2011)

Sample Overview (in brackets: row/column percent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>West Germany</th>
<th>East Germany</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>1511</td>
<td>1269</td>
<td>2780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>1750</td>
<td>3738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>2813</td>
<td>2252</td>
<td>5065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>3411</td>
<td>2804</td>
<td>6215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>3998</td>
<td>3460</td>
<td>7458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>5428</td>
<td>4163</td>
<td>9591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>7221</td>
<td>5822</td>
<td>13043</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do Young and Old Differ in Evaluating Political Parties?

Selected Research Findings:
- Younger people regard the CDU/CSU as less competent than older people.
- Younger people regard the Greens as more competent than older people (particularly in 'young policies').

Do Young and Old Differ in Evaluating Various Policy Areas?

Selected Research Findings:
- Younger people are less satisfied than older people especially with regard to 'old policies'.

Selected Publications

Journal Articles:

Do Age-Specific Determinants of Party Choice Exist?

Selected Research Findings: Presented are only significant old-young differences in regression coefficients concerning the vote for the Greens.
- A positive difference indicates that the variable is more relevant for the Green-vote of older voters.
- A negative difference indicates that the variable is more relevant for the Green-vote of younger voters.

(Control variables are included)

Own calculations based on Representative Electoral Statistics