

K8.2 Opportunities provided by the Hungarian Birth Cohort Study

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Cohort '18 (the Hungarian Birth Cohort Study) is a longitudinal study launched by the Hungarian Demographic Research Institute of the CSO.¹ The structure of the survey is presented in *Figure K8.2.1*.²

The study aims at providing a comprehensive overview of children growing up in Hungary and the factors influencing that childhood. The questions included are multidisciplinary in order to collect data on several aspects (demographic, social, psychological, health etc.) of the welfare of children and young adults as well as the factors affecting it and to assess the multiple interactions among them.

The comprehensive analysis of the raising of children evaluates *the various indicators of growing up*. These outcomes cover several areas including physical development, cognitive development, socio-emotional development, health, wellbeing, performance and (in future stages) mobility.

The study aims at both identifying the *determi-*

nants of growing up and evaluating their *impacts*. Family and social environmental factors (socialization), social disparities, access to institutions, health as well as the employment position, lifestyle, supply of information, the expectations and plans of the family raising the child are considered decisive in how the child develops.

The ongoing waves of data collection (gestational and 6-month-old survey) will provide excellent opportunities for exploring the following areas, among others: division of work within the family and its modification after the birth of children, exit from the labour market prior to giving birth, the labour market plans of women and their realisation before and after giving birth, the circumstances of an early return to employment of women with young children and the take-up of family benefits and social benefits by families with young children with various types of employment contracts.

Reference

VEROSZTA ZSUZSANNA (ed.) (2018): Technical report. Growing Up in Hungary – Cohort'18 Hungarian birth cohort study. Prenatal research, preparational phase. Working Papers on Population, Family and Welfare, No. 30, Hungarian Demographic Research Institute, Budapest.

- 1 The study was funded from the grant HRDOP 1.9.4. – ECOP-16 Ministry of Human Capacities (Renewing Methodology and Informatics in the Social Sector).
2 For more details on the survey, see the survey website, (kohorsz18.hu/en), and the research documentation publication: *Veroszta* (ed.) (2018).

Figure K8.2.1: Structure of the Cohort'18 survey

