

Questions documentation

*Life choices and thoughts about children
(Questionnaire)*

Livsvalg og tanker om barn
Kunnskapsstudien om fertilitet

The Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study (MoBa)

Recipients:

*2nd generation MoBa participants above 18 years of age who in
2024 responded to the questionnaire “Ung Helse”*

Version	Date	Performed by	Description
1.0	02.01.25	Rannveig K. Hart, Katrine Kranstad	Original version

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General information

Questionnaire

"Life choices and thoughts about children" (questionnaire) is a questionnaire sent to MoBa participants who responded to the Ung Helse 1/Young Health questionnaire in 2024. Some of the participants were offered to watch a short informational video about humans' biological ability to have children (fecundity) before completing the questionnaire. The video was distributed in a separate questionnaire form, with a designated Instrument Documentation (please see the Instrument Documentation for "Life choices and thoughts about children – Video questionnaire"). The questionnaire is developed in collaboration with the Danish National Birth Cohort (DNBC).

NOTE:

This instrument documentation was written based on version A of the questionnaire per 02.01.2025

Children and family

1. Name of original scale: MoBa specific questions, inspired by existing surveys, please see references under the table below.

Q		Response options	Variable name
1	Do you have children?		
	<i>[Radio buttons]</i>	1. Yes 2. No	LH12
1.1	Do you want to have biological children?		
	<i>This element will only be displayed if option "No" was selected in question 1 "Do you have children?".</i> <i>[Radio buttons]</i>	1. Yes, I want to have biological children 2. No, I do not want to have biological children 3. I cannot have biological children 4. Don't know	LH13
1.1.1	When do you expect to have biological children?		
	<i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.1 "Do you want to have biological children?".</i> <i>[Radio buttons]</i>	1. Within the next 1–2 years 2. Within the next 3–4 years 3. In 5 years or later 4. Don't know	LH14
1.1.2	How many biological children would you like to have?		
	<i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.1 "Do you want to have biological children?".</i> <i>[Radio buttons]</i>	1. 1 2. 2 3. 3 4. 4 5. 5 6. 6 or more 7. Don't know	LH15
1.1.3	How do you envision becoming pregnant / your partner becoming pregnant?		
	<i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.1 "Do you want to have biological children?".</i> <i>[Radio buttons]</i>	1. Through intercourse 2. With the help of fertility treatment 3. Other 4. Don't know 5. Not applicable	LH16
1.1.4	At what age do you wish to have your <u>first</u> biological child?		
	<i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.1 "Do you want to have biological children?".</i> <i>If unsure, enter an approximate age. Provide age in years</i>	Number box. Whole number 18 - 70	LH17
	<i>[Radio button]</i>	Don't know	LH18
1.1.5	At what age do you wish to have your <u>last</u> biological child?		
	<i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.1 "Do you want to have biological children?".</i> <i>If unsure, enter an approximate age. Provide age in years</i>	Number box. Whole number 18 - 70	LH19
	<i>[Radio button]</i>	Don't know	LH20

1.2	Do you want to have more biological children?		
	<p><i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes" was selected in question 1 "Do you have children?".</i></p> <p>[Radio buttons]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, I want to have more biological children No, I do not want to have more biological children I can no longer have biological children Don't know 	LH21
1.2.1	When do you expect to have your next biological child?		
	<p><i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have more biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.2 "Do you want to have more biological children?".</i></p> <p>[Radio buttons]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Within the next 1–2 years Within the next 3–4 years In 5 years or later Don't know 	LH22
1.2.2	How many more biological children would you like to have?		
	<p><i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have more biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.2 "Do you want to have more biological children?".</i></p> <p>[Radio buttons]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 2 3 4 5 6 or more Don't know 	LH23
1.2.3	How do you envision becoming pregnant / your partner becoming pregnant?		
	<p><i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have more biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.2 "Do you want to have more biological children?".</i></p> <p>[Radio buttons]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Through intercourse With the help of fertility treatment Other Don't know Not applicable 	LH24
1.2.4	At what age do you wish to have your <u>next</u> biological child?		
	<p><i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have more biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.2 "Do you want to have more biological children?".</i></p> <p>If unsure, enter an approximate age. Provide age in years</p>	Number box. Whole number 18 - 70	LH25
	[Radio buttons]	Don't know	LH26
1.2.5	At what age do you wish to have your <u>last</u> biological child?		
	<p><i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have more biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.2 "Do you want to have more biological children?".</i></p> <p>If unsure, enter an approximate age. Provide age in years</p>	Number box. Whole number 18 - 70	LH27
	[Radio buttons]	Don't know	LH28
2	Having biological children is not the only way to have a family life. Do you want to care for children in other ways in the future?		
	[Multiple choice]	I want to adopt	LH29
		I want to have foster children	LH30
		I want to meet a partner who has children	LH31
2.1	When do you expect to have children (who are not biological)?		
	<p><i>This element will only be displayed if option "I want to adopt" or "I want to have foster children", was selected in</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Within the next 1–2 years Within the next 3–4 years In 5 years or later Don't know 	LH32

	question 2 "Having biological children is not the only way to have a family life. Do you want to care for children in other ways in the future?" [Radio buttons]		
2.2	How many children (who are not biological) do you want?		
	This element will only be displayed if option "I want to adopt" or "I want to have foster children", was selected in question 2 "Having biological children is not the only way to have a family life. Do you want to care for children in other ways in the future?" [Radio buttons]	1. 1 2. 2 3. 3 4. 4 5. 5 6. 6 or more 7. Don't know	LH33
2.3	At what age do you wish to have your first/next child (who is not biological)?		
	This element will only be displayed if option "I want to adopt" or "I want to have foster children", was selected in question 2 "Having biological children is not the only way to have a family life. Do you want to care for children in other ways in the future?" If unsure, enter an approximate age. Provide age in years	Number box. Whole number 18 - 70	LH34
	[Radio buttons]	Don't know	LH35
2.4	At what age do you wish to have your last child (who is not biological)?		
	This element will only be displayed if option "I want to adopt" or "I want to have foster children", was selected in question 2 "Having biological children is not the only way to have a family life. Do you want to care for children in other ways in the future?" If unsure, enter an approximate age. Provide age in years	Number box. Whole number 18-70)	LH36
	[Radio buttons]	Don't know	LH37
3	Are you concerned that age might prevent you from having the children you want? Select a number between 0 (not concerned) and 10 (very concerned)		
	This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.1 "Do you want to have biological children?".	Linear scale: 0-10	LH38
4	Are you concerned that various risk factors, such as smoking, chlamydia, and anabolic steroids, might prevent you from having the children you want? Select a number between 0 (not concerned) and 10 (very concerned)		
	This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.1 "Do you want to have biological children?".	Linear scale: 0-10	LH39
5	Are you concerned that age might prevent you from having the children you want? Select a number		

	<i>between 0 (not concerned) and 10 (very concerned)</i>		
	<i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have more biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.2 "Do you want to have more biological children?".</i>	Linear scale: 0-10	LH40
6	Are you concerned that various risk factors, such as smoking, chlamydia, and anabolic steroids, might prevent you from having the children you want? Select a number between 0 (not concerned) and 10 (very concerned)		
	<i>This element will only be displayed if option "Yes, I want to have more biological children" or "Don't know", was selected in question 1.2 "Do you want to have more biological children?".</i>	Linear scale: 0-10 0 Not concerned - 10 Very concerned	LH41

2. Description of original instrument:

- Q1.1.2 & 1.2.2: Question modified from "The Swedish Fertility Awareness Questionnaire". The word "biological" has been added.
- Q1.1.3. & 1.2.3: Questions formulated by researchers for the purpose of this questionnaire.
- Q1.1.4 & 1.2.4: Question from "The Swedish Fertility Awareness Questionnaire".
- Q1.1.5 & 1.2.5: Question from "The Swedish Fertility Awareness Questionnaire".
- Q2, 2.1-2.4, 3-6: Questions formulated by researchers for the purpose of this questionnaire.

3. Rationale for choosing the questions: the questions are included in order to map fertility and family intentions in the second generation MoBa cohort.

4. Revision during the data collection period: No revisions made.

Values, life goals and attitudes

- 1. Name of original scale:** MoBa specific questions. Inspired by existing surveys. Please see references under the table below.

Q		Response options	Variable name
	Below we have listed five life goals/topics. How important are each of these to you now? The more important the life goal/topic is to you, the more points you should assign it. If the life goal/topic is not important to you at all at the moment, you assign 1 point		
7	Achieving my educational or career ambitions	Linear scale: 1-10 1 Not important at all - 10 Very important	LH42
8	Pursuing my hobbies and other personal interests		LH43
9	Having children / taking care of the children I have		LH44
10	Keeping in touch with friends		LH45
11	Living with a partner		LH46

- 2. Description of original instrument:**
Q7-11: Question originally used in the German Pairfam Panel Survey. The question has been modified to fit a Danish and Norwegian context for use in DNBC and MoBa.
- 3. Rationale for choosing the questions:** the questions is included in order to map values, life goals and attitudes.
- 4. Revision during the data collection period:** No revisions made.

Fertility

- 1. Name of original scale:** MoBa specific questions. Inspired by existing surveys. Please see references under the table below.

Q		Response options	Variable name
12	Here are some statements about fertility (the ability to have biological children). Indicate whether you think the statements are true or false:		
12.1	It is more difficult for a woman to become pregnant after she has turned 36 years old [Radio buttons]	1. True 2. False 3. Don't know	LH47
12.2	A couple has reduced fertility if they have not conceived after 1 year of regular intercourse without contraception [Radio buttons]		LH48
12.3	Smoking reduces women's fertility [Radio buttons]		LH49
12.4	Smoking reduces men's fertility [Radio buttons]		LH50
12.5	Approximately 1 in 10 people have reduced fertility [Radio buttons]		LH51
12.6	If a man produces sperm, he is fertile [Radio buttons]		LH52
12.7	A woman in her 40s has the same likelihood of becoming pregnant as a woman in her 30s [Radio buttons]		LH53
12.8	A healthy lifestyle makes you more fertile [Radio buttons]		LH54
12.9	If a man contracts mumps after puberty, he has a greater risk of fertility problems later [Radio buttons]		LH55
12.10	A woman who never menstruates is still fertile [Radio buttons]		LH56
12.11	If a woman is overweight (by more than 13 kg), it is more difficult to become pregnant [Radio buttons]		LH57
12.12	If a man can get an erection, it means he is fertile [Radio buttons]		LH58
12.13	If one has had a sexually transmitted infection, they are at increased risk of reduced fertility [Radio buttons]		LH59
12.14	A man is less fertile after he turns 40 years old [Radio buttons]		LH60
13	If a woman aged 30-35 has regular unprotected intercourse, what is the likelihood of her becoming pregnant within one year? Guess what you think is most correct:		
	[Radio buttons]	1. 0-9 % 2. 10-19 % 3. 20-29 % 4. 30-39 % 5. 40-49 % 6. 50-69 % 7. 70-89 % 8. 90-100 %	LH61

14	If a woman aged 40-45 has regular unprotected intercourse, what is the likelihood of her becoming pregnant within one year? Guess what you think is most correct:		
	[Radio buttons]	1. 0-9 % 2. 10-19 % 3. 20-29 % 4. 30-39 % 5. 40-49 % 6. 50-69 % 7. 70-89 % 8. 90-100 %	LH62
15	If a woman aged 40-45 undergoes two to three rounds of IVF treatment (in vitro fertilization), what is the likelihood of her becoming pregnant? IVF treatment involves retrieving a woman's eggs from her body and fertilizing them with sperm in a laboratory dish. After successful fertilization, the embryo is transferred to the woman's uterus. Guess what you think is most correct:		
	[Radio buttons]	1. 0-9 % 2. 10-19 % 3. 20-29 % 4. 30-39 % 5. 40-49 % 6. 50 % or more	LH63

2. Description of original instrument:

Q12-12-14: Question from Cardiff Fertility Knowledge Scale

Q13-15: Questions from "The German Family Demography Panel Study (FreDa)" survey.

3. Rationale for choosing the questions: the questions are included in order to map the current knowledge about fecundity in the second generation MoBa cohort.

4. Revision during the data collection period: No revisions made.

Health- and lifestyle choices

1. Name of original scale: MoBa specific questions

Q		Response options	Variable name
16	If you smoke, how likely is it that you will try to quit?		
	<i>[Radio buttons]</i>	1. I do not smoke 2. Very likely 3. Likely 4. Neither likely nor unlikely 5. Slightly unlikely 6. Very unlikely	LH64
17	I would get tested for chlamydia if I had unprotected sex with a new partner		
	<i>[Radio buttons]</i>	1. Very likely 2. Likely 3. Neither likely nor unlikely 4. Slightly unlikely 5. Very unlikely 6. Prefer not to answer	LH65
18	I want to avoid anabolic steroids		
	<i>[Radio buttons]</i>	1. Very likely 2. Likely 3. Neither likely nor unlikely 4. Slightly unlikely 5. Very unlikely	LH66

2. **Description of original instrument:** Questions formulated by researchers for the purpose of this questionnaire.

3. **Rationale for choosing the questions:** Questions are designed to measure respondents' personal attitudes. The themes of the questions (smoking, chlamydia, anabolic steroids) are derived from the video that some of the respondents watched prior to responding to this questionnaire.

4. **Revision during the data collection period:** No revisions made.