

Quality in official statistics based on reports from child respondents

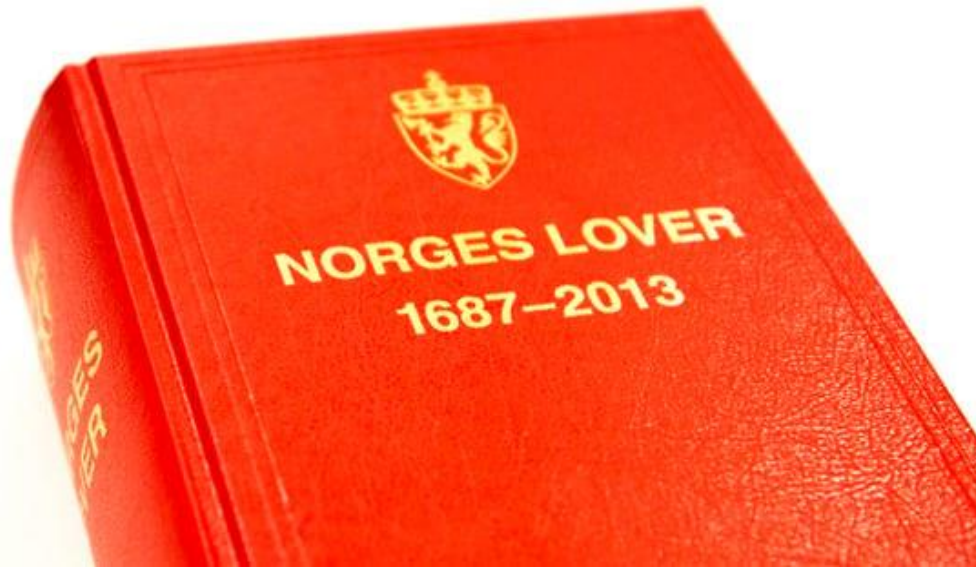
UNECE/UNICEF EXPERT MEETING ON STATISTICS ON CHILDREN, 4TH – 6TH MARCH 2024

PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND



Statistisk sentralbyrå
Statistics Norway

Child respondents



Individuals younger than 18



16+: As adults

6-15: Design with extra care

0-5: No surveys

Statistics on children is a prioritized area in the National Program for Official Statistics 2024-2027



Give children an opportunity to tell about their lives



The starting point (2021-)

- One questionnaire for all
- Rough split in above/under 16 years
- Invitation letter to parents only
- No specific interviewer training



Background



Cultural Activity Survey



Media Use Survey



Time Use Survey



Living Conditions Survey among Children



Key characteristics

- Children in the sample
- Web data collection
- Questions about behaviour



From CATI to CAWI: benefits and pitfalls



- Reduced cost
- Speedy data collection
- Interviewers reallocated to recruit
- Respondents decide the pace of the interview
- Less risk for social desirability bias



- Vulnerable respondents may struggle
- Much information must fit on small screens
- Children need to know how to read
- Instructions are usually not read



Qualitative user testing



- 50+ cognitive tests
- Response process
- F2F online with screen sharing
- Realistic testing
- Focus on childrens voice



Key takeaways

- Simplifying the questionnaire is valuable for all age groups
- User testing with children of different ages is key!
- Be aware that child respondents are more sensitive
- Make sure to start with easy questions and avoid long sequences of less relevant questions



Initiatives in SSB

- Cross-sectional working group on child respondents
- Focus group with interviewers
- Mapping and analysing the impact of who responds to the survey questions



Goal (-2027)

- Tailored questionnaires to children
- Nuanced age filters U16/U12
- Invitation letter to children
- Specialist interviewer training
- Recommendations



References

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Thank you!

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