



GESIS Panel.dbd Submission Form

The GESIS Panel.dbd Digital Behavioral Data Sample enables the integrated collection of online survey and [web tracking](#) data and allows academic researchers to submit a questionnaire module.

Please note that we do not accept research proposals that only focus on collecting survey data without a clear vision for linking with web tracking data (please use the GESIS Panel.pop Population Sample for this purpose). Your submission will be reviewed internally by GESIS Panel.dbd staff. Field experiments are welcome and are not limited to four experimental groups. Total survey time should not exceed 5 minutes per questionnaire module.

Proposal description

Title of the research proposal	
Date of submission	

(Please fill in the names of all researchers involved and tick our contact person in the last column)

			Contact Person (Please tick)
Principal Investigator	Name		
	Email address		
	Affiliation		
2 nd investigator	Name		
	Email address		
	Affiliation		
3 rd investigator	Name		
	Email address		
	Affiliation		
4 th investigator	Name		
	Email address		
	Affiliation		
5 th investigator	Name		
	Email address		
	Affiliation		
Please use an attachment if more than 5 investigators are involved.			



Keywords (between 3 and 10)

Summary (max. 500 words)

Please include the following points in your summary:

- Overall objective and research question(s), including a clear vision for linking survey data with web tracking data
- Relevance and added value
- Hypotheses/expected results
- Methods and analyses

Please cite references that are substantial for your submission.

Please continue writing on the next page.



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Does your submission include previously fielded items from the GESIS Panel?

No

Yes, previously fielded items from the GESIS Panel.pop

Yes, previously fielded items from the GESIS Panel.dbd

If yes, please name the corresponding item(s) / the corresponding study and explain why you deem a replication meaningful and what results you expect (max. 100 words).

Experimental design

Please tick applicable box:

No experimental design

Experimental design with _____ groups. Please specify (or visualize in an attached document) your experimental design.



Instruments

The GESIS Panel.dbd only allows vertical scales due to the mobile first design of the questionnaire. More information on the question types can be found at the end of this document (page 11). Please provide your questionnaire using our [GESIS Panel.dbd questionnaire template](#).

Please note: The GESIS Panel.dbd cumulative data set includes many variables on various topics. Please check whether needed variables are already part of the GESIS Panel.dbd dataset. The [GESIS Panel.dbd codebook](#) offer a comprehensive overview and description of all variables.



Pretest techniques

In the case of newly developed instruments, we highly recommend applying the [Question Appraisal System](#).

Was the instrument evaluated systematically using a pretest technique?

Yes. If available, please also report psychometric properties (e.g., reliability, validity), state pretest technique and describe which items were tested:

No.

No, but pretests are planned. Please specify where/how:

More information about survey evaluation methods can be found here: Groves, R. M. (Ed.). (2009). *Survey methodology* (2nd ed). Hoboken, N.J.: Wiley; Presser, S. (Ed.). (2004). *Methods for testing and evaluating survey questionnaires*. Hoboken, N.J.: Wiley. Question appraisal System in Willis, G. B. (1999). [Question Appraisal System QAS-99](#). North Carolina: Research Triangle Institute or German Version in Schnell, R. (2019). *Survey-Interviews*. Wiesbaden: Springer VS.



References

- List all references cited above here.
- Use APA style guide: <http://www.apastyle.org/manual/index.aspx>



GESIS Panel.dbd General Terms and Conditions

The following General Terms and Conditions apply:

Non-commercial usage

- The GESIS Panel does not accept any commercial data collection projects.
- Data collected within the GESIS Panel may be used for (non-commercial) scientific purposes only. Any partially or fully commercial usage is prohibited.

Data protection

- GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences and all commissioned service providers work according to the regulations of the EU General Data Protection Regulation. Further, all statutory data protection provisions of the Federal Republic of Germany apply.
- Any attempt to de-anonymize data – that is, to try to identify individual respondents – is a criminal offense.
- Please note, that the GESIS Panel.dbd does not submit modules to an ethics board. If authors need a formal ethics statement, they should submit the proposal to a board of their choosing before sending it to the GESIS Panel.dbd.

Royalty-free, non-exclusive material

- All measurement instruments used within the GESIS Panel will be accessible to the academic social science community. Therefore, primary researchers must ensure that the data collection instruments they submit to the GESIS Panel do not violate any rights of third parties and that they may be made publicly accessible.
- Data collected within the GESIS Panel and supplementary materials will be made available exclusively through the GESIS Data Archive in accordance with its terms of use. Further details can be found [here](#).

Authority to accept or reject proposals

- All proposals will undergo an internal review. Furthermore, we reserve the right to send proposals to external peer-reviewers.
- The GESIS Panel Team reserves the exclusive right to accept or reject proposals.

Charges

- The fielding of an accepted submission is free of charge.
- As GESIS Panel.dbd surveys are fielded in German, all questionnaire modules must be submitted in German.



Publication(s) and citation requirements:

- We would like to point out that the existence of the GESIS Panel.dbd as a survey infrastructure for the scientific community can only be justified if its relevance is proven through scientific publications. Consequently, we expect primary researchers to publish the results of their submitted studies in appropriate scientific outlets.
- Authors are required to include the correct citation of the GESIS Panel.dbd data (including doi) in the list of references of all corresponding publications.
- Authors are required to inform the GESIS Panel.dbd about all publications with GESIS Panel.dbd data.
- By submitting your proposal, you agree that the GESIS Panel might publish the information provided through this document (including, but not limited to the names of all participating researchers) in the study description document, the codebook, and related documents.

I, the undersigned and principal investigator, understand and agree to the General Terms and Conditions above.

I agree that the GESIS Panel may contact me via email to inquire about publications, and with questions aimed at the improvement of our service.*

I agree to the GESIS Panel informing me via email about current GESIS Panel-related news (e.g., calls, and data publications).*

*These consents are voluntary and can be revoked at any time for the future.

Date and place

Name of principal investigator

Signature



Submit your proposal

Please name this document, using the following convention: Surname of the principal investigator, date of last change: SurnameofPI_YYYYMMDD_GPdbd.pdf. Example: Miller_20240718_GPdbd.pdf

Name your corresponding questionnaire using the following convention: Surname of the principal investigator, date of last change: SurnameofPI_YYYYMMDD_questionnaire_GPdbd.xlsx.

Example: Miller_20240718_questionnaire_GPdbd.xlsx

Submit your proposal with these two attachments via email to info@gesis-panel.org.



Style guide GESIS Panel.dbd

The GESIS Panel.dbd Digital Behavioral Data Sample is a pure online panel. Following the methodological principles of a unified mode design, the questionnaire should appear as similar as possible on all devices to maximize cross-sectional and longitudinal comparability. The layout of the GESIS Panel.dbd is designed for the device with the most restrictions, which is a smartphone with a small vertical display and touchscreen. This mobile-first layout strategy means that the question types and scale directions in the GESIS Panel.dbd are generally limited to vertical scales and an item-by-item question design.

- When designing your questionnaire module please consider the following points: As a matter of principle, we do not force respondents to provide an answer. Moreover, they may skip a question without further probing.
- A “back” button is included by default.
- A “don’t know” category is not offered by default. However, it may be included if it is a substantive answer (e.g., in the case of knowledge questions) or if the researcher has other reasons for including it (e.g., comparability; for details of implementation).
- In general, we use one to three questions per page. More questions per page reduce the readability of the mobile-first layout.
- Underlining should be used for emphasis, if needed.
- Randomization of questions and items are possible. Random assignment of respondents to experimental groups is possible. Particularly elaborate designs must be coordinated with the GESIS Panel.dbd team in terms of feasibility.
- Plausibility checks are possible.
- Inclusion of multimedia elements is possible.
- Scales with less than six points must be fully labeled.

Additional information on how to design survey questions can be found in the [GESIS Panel FAQ Questionnaire design](#).