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Introduction

This self-completion questionnaire was devised as a supplement to the European standard questionnaire used by the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE). Its aim is to help us focus on Austrian priority topics and answer research questions that are particularly relevant in our country.

Key issues of the questionnaire will be work-life-balance, further education for older employees and home care.

Organising our working hours more flexibly is becoming more and more important in our society, and so are improved work-life-balance and further education for employees over 50. This is why we aim to improve the health situation of employees, helping those over 50 to balance their work and leisure time more easily.

Please help us by filling in this questionnaire as soon as possible. You can post it back to us using the enclosed pre-paid envelope.

_We would like to assure you that all your answers will remain strictly confidential. They will be processed anonymously and for scientific purposes only._

Thank you very much for helping us with our survey!

Linz, January 15, 2013

Mag. Nicole Halmdienst (project team)  
Univ.-Prof.Dr. Rudolf Winter-Ebmer (project manager)
How to fill in this questionnaire

Most of the questions on the following pages can be answered by simply checking the box below or alongside the answer that applies to you.

Please check one of the following options:

Correct ☒ Or ☐
Incorrect ☐

Please proceed question by question. Skip questions only if there is an explicit instruction to do so.

example:

Do you have children?

☐₁ Yes ☐₅ No ➔ Go to question...

If you check “Yes” in this example, go on to the next question!

If you check “No” in this example, go on to the question given in the instruction box!

How to return this questionnaire:

If the interviewer is still in your home when you have completed the questionnaire, please hand it back to him or her. If not, please return the completed questionnaire in the pre-paid envelope as soon as you possibly can. If you need a replacement envelope, please call IFES at the toll-free number 0800 22120012.

Please start the questionnaire at question 1 on the next page.
1. Are you currently employed or looking for a job?

☐ 1 Yes ☐ 5 No ➔ Go to question -10-

2. Would you appreciate an opportunity to reduce your working hours?

☐ 1 Yes, I would appreciate the opportunity, even if my income would be reduced
☐ 2 Yes, but only if my income would stay the same
☐ 3 No ➔ Go to question -4-

3. Why would you like to reduce your working hours? Please give us your main reason.

☐ 1 For health reasons
☐ 2 I would like to reduce stress
☐ 3 I would like to have more free time and spend more time with my family
☐ 4 I require more time in order to care for relatives
☐ 5 I would like to have time for further education
☐ 6 None of the above

4. Did you attend further training courses during the past 12 months?

☐ 1 Yes ☐ 5 No ➔ Go to question -7-

5. What was the main reason for taking the courses?

☐ 1 Professional training ☐ 2 Personal Interest ➔ Go to question -7-

6. How many work-related training courses did you attend during the past 12 months?

a) Number of courses (lectures, seminars): _______

b) Overall length of courses (on average): _______ hours
7. The following questions concern the field of work-related training courses.

How much do you agree on the following statements? Please tick one box in each row.

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8. Are you prepared to accept a smaller pension in order to retire earlier?

\(\square_1\) Yes \(\square_5\) No
9. Which of the following offers would make it easier for you to stay on the job longer and retire at a higher age?

*Please check the boxes alongside all answers that apply and then proceed to question -11- (question -10- does not apply to you).*

- 1. Reducing my working hours
- 2. Switching to a less burdening job or position
- 3. More or better support in health matters
- 4. Further training
- 5. More acknowledgement and acceptance from my employer
- 6. None of those, my working situation is perfectly satisfactory
- 7. None of those, I plan to retire as soon as possible

10. Which of the following offers would have helped you to stay on your job longer and retire at a higher age?

* Please check the boxes alongside all statements that apply to you.

- 1. I have never had a job
- 2. Reducing my working hours
- 3. Switching to a less burdening job or position
- 4. More or better support in health matters
- 5. Further training
- 6. More acknowledgement and acceptance from my employer
- 7. None of those/does not apply to me (I retired late)
The last 4 questions concern nursing care:

11. Does your health situation force you to regularly require help with personal care or household chores?

☐ 1 Yes  ☐ 5 No ➔ Go to question -15-

12. Are you paying for professional assistance? And if you do, which kind of assistance do you require?

*By paying for professional assistance we mean any kind of assistance that you have to fund yourself or that is funded e.g. via a supplementary insurance.*

☐ 1 Home care services  ☐ 2 Home nursing  ☐ 3 Meals on wheels  ☐ 4 Day care facilities  ☐ 5 24-hour care  ☐ 6 Self-help groups  ☐ 7 Other services, e.g. visitation service  ☐ 8 No, none of the above

13. Are you being cared for by a family member?

☐ 1 Yes  ☐ 5 No ➔ Go to question -15-

14. Did this family member ever have to reduce working hours or even give up their job because of this?

☐ 1 Had to reduce working hours  ☐ 2 Stopped working  ☐ 3 No, there were no changes in working hours
15. Finally, please state your sex and birth year:

a) I am...

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b) I was born in [Year]

Thank you very much for taking the time to answer our questions. Please give the questionnaire to the interviewer or post it back in the envelope provided.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR COLLABORATION!
How to return this questionnaire

Please return the completed questionnaire in the pre-paid envelope provided. If you need a replacement envelope, please call IFES at the toll-free number 0800 22120012.

Legal notice:

This survey is being conducted by IFES (Institute for Empirical Social Studies, Vienna), on behalf of Johannes Kepler University Linz.

In Austria the survey receives financial support from the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy, the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, the European Union (7th framework programme) and the National Institute on Ageing (NIA).

For further information please refer to our website www.share-austria.at (only in German) or to www.share-project.org.

Contact:

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<th>Mag. Nicole Halmdienst</th>
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<td>Johannes-Kepler Universität Linz</td>
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<td>Institut für Volkswirtschaftslehre</td>
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<td>e-mail: <a href="mailto:nicole.halmdienst@jku.at">nicole.halmdienst@jku.at</a></td>
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<td>phone number: 01 / 5467 - 0</td>
<td>phonenumber: 0732 / 2468 - 5377</td>
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