

TREE Study, 1st cohort, panel wave 11 (2025): Call for instruments

TREE (Transitions from Education to Employment) is a large-scale longitudinal youth survey in Switzerland. The first cohort of TREE comprises a subsample of the Swiss PISA 2000 participants who have been followed over two decades in 10 panel waves so far (N in wave 1 = 6343, N in wave 10 = 3882). TREE plans to add an 11th panel wave in 2025 (age 40-41). As is custom for longitudinal surveys, the core of the instrument design for panel wave 11 shall remain the same as in the previous survey waves (see "[TREE1 project documentation](#)" & "[TREE1 Concepts & Scales](#)"). However, TREE invites proposals for additional questionnaire concepts, scales or single items that may enhance the analytic potential of the TREE dataset. For more details on the concepts and scales already in use, TREE can provide interested researchers with the codebooks of the data collected so far (data and documentation up to wave 9 can also be downloaded at FORS, see [TREE - TRansitions from Education to Employment, cohort 1 \(swissubase.ch\)](#)).

The TREE survey design employs a combination of a base questionnaire (CATI or CAWI) to capture employment and educational pathways, and a (dynamic) complementary self-administered questionnaire (CAWI or P&P) with additional questions regarding the current employment/educational situation and regarding other life domains (see description of survey design in the TREE project documentation). Interview duration of the base questionnaire has been approximately 30 minutes in previous waves, filling out the complementary questionnaire required another 20-30 minutes (depending on the individual educational and employment situation). As a general rule, total survey time per person across both components should not exceed one hour. Even if some cuts will be made to the existing questionnaires, total "space" for additional items, scales or modules is rather limited.

Suggestions for additional instruments are welcome until **30 November 2024**. Proposals will be reviewed by the scientific team of TREE. In the assessment of proposals preference will be given to short, well tested, scientifically established, and internationally comparative instruments that correspond well with the current survey and goals of the TREE project. Proposed items and scales must meet (self-administered) questionnaire standards.

Accepted instruments will be integrated in the questionnaire for wave 11 in 2025. In accordance with open-science principles and the infrastructure character of TREE, acceptance of a given scale, item or concept does not entitle its authors exclusive rights to the use of the corresponding data; the data will be open to scientific use by any interested researchers.

Instrument proposals are welcome in English, German, French or Italian. As our respondents will be around 41 years old at the time of the survey, we are looking for additions that are appropriate for the life situation in middle adulthood. In general, we prefer validated single-item or short scales that complement the existing instrument in promising ways (e.g. with respect to international comparison or disciplinary breadth) and can be administered to as many respondents as possible.

If there are validated translations in any of the survey languages available (German, French and Italian), please include these translations in your proposal. Furthermore, please make sure to properly cite any relevant sources in your proposal.

Please send your proposal to tree.soz@unibe.ch. Do not hesitate to get in touch with TREE if you have further questions regarding this call or any other matters regarding the project.

The TREE board of directors
Prof. Dr. Ben Jann
Dr. Sandra Hupka