Table S1 *Biographical and sociodemographic cluster characteristics*

|  | Cluster | | | | | | Total | ANOVA/  χ2  p-value |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Childless (early) | Childless (late) | Two  generations | Three  generations  (early) | Three  generations  (late) | Four  generations |
| *Cluster*  *characteristics 1* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Parent | .02 | .06 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | .88 | .00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of biological children | . 4 | . 4 | 1.96 | 2.35 | 1.94 | 2.33 | 1.84 | .00 |
| (.) | (.) | (0.88) | (1.02) | (0.81) | (1.02) | (1.11) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Age at birth of first child | . 4 | . 4 | 27.84 | 23.19 | 27.92 | 22.58 | 26.05 | .00 |
| (.) | (.) | (4.96) | (3.10) | (4.79) | (2.96) | (5.14) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grandparent | .00 | .00 | .35 | 1 | .39 | 1 | .54 | .00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of grandchildren | . 4 | . 4 | 1.36 | 3.23 | 1.32 | 3.28 | 2.04 | .00 |
| (.) | (.) | (1.66) | (1.98) | (1.49) | (2.48) | (2.07) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Age at birth of first grandchild | . | . | 56.34 | 48.71 | 57.16 | 47.60 | 51.36 | .00 |
| (.) | (.) | (3.09) | (4.30) | (2.12) | (4.51) | (5.71) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Both parents dead | 1 | .46 | 1 | 1 | .51 | .36 | .68 | .00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Age at death of second parent | 44.02 | 56.90 | 41.01 | 45.00 | 56.24 | 56.85 | 48.29 | .00 |
| (7.73) | (2.06) | (7.77) | (6.34) | (2.62) | (2.62) | (8.94) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Control variables 2* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Age at interview | 66.06 | 65.92 | 67.37 | 67.96 | 66.47 | 66.71 | 66.86 | .00 |
|  | (4.68) | (4.41) | (4.49) | (4.43) | (4.56) | (4.42) | (4.54) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Female | .46 | .49 | .48 | .58 | .49 | .59 | .52 | .00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| With partner | .67 | .63 | .86 | .79 | .84 | .83 | .81 | .00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Low* | .10 | .06 | .10 | .18 | .07 | .15 | .11 | .00 |
| *Middle* | .49 | .52 | .53 | .60 | .50 | .59 | .54 | .00 |
| *High* | .41 | .41 | .37 | .22 | .43 | .26 | .35 | .00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Employment status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Working* | .13 | .19 | .16 | .09 | .19 | .14 | .15 | .00 |
| *Retired* | .74 | .68 | .74 | .80 | .69 | .73 | .73 | .00 |
| *Not employed* | .13 | .13 | .10 | .11 | .12 | .13 | .12 | .81 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Relative income 3 | 118.03 | 128.24 | 123.03 | 104.10 | 127.44 | 97.17 | 116.96 | .00 |
|  | (67.44) | (104.93) | (136.25) | (110.85) | (89.99) | (57.91) | (100.74) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Upper middle and upper class | .53 | .56 | .52 | .39 | .63 | .42 | .52 | .00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Migration background | .08 | .06 | .05 | .07 | .09 | .10 | .08 | .07 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Living in former East Germany | .12 | .10 | .12 | .27 | .13 | .30 | .18 | .00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cluster size (%) | 5 | 7 | 20 | 16 | 34 | 18 |  |  |
| *Notes:* Weighted data; n = 3,617; significance testing on group differences is based on ANOVA for continuous variables and on χ2-tests (here: corrected F-statistics because of weights) for categorical variables.  1 Variables censored at age 60, that is the end of the family trajectory.  2 Variables assessed at interview.  3 Missing values were imputed.  4 Mean and standard deviation not reported because *n* negligibly small for these subgroups. | | | | | | | | |

Table S2 *Linear regression models displayed as beta coefficients (standard errors)*

|  | Life satisfaction | | Depressiveness | | Functional limitations | | Physical health  problems | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | (1) | (2) | (1) | (2) | (1) | (2) | (1) | (2) |
| Generational placement trajectory (ref. *3 gen late*) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Childless (early)* | -0.21\* | -0.12 | 1.14\* | 0.57 | 1.48\*\*\* | 1.15\*\* | 0.41 | 0.35 |
|  | (0.09) | (0.08) | (0.49) | (0.47) | (0.38) | (0.36) | (0.23) | (0.23) |
| *Childless (late)* | -0.06 | 0.01 | 0.19 | -0.26 | 0.07 | -0.09 | -0.15 | -0.15 |
|  | (0.06) | (0.06) | (0.43) | (0.42) | (0.29) | (0.28) | (0.18) | (0.18) |
| *Two generations* | -0.02 | -0.03 | 0.29 | 0.26 | 0.58\*\* | 0.43\* | 0.38\*\* | 0.32\* |
|  | (0.04) | (0.04) | (0.29) | (0.29) | (0.22) | (0.21) | (0.13) | (0.13) |
| *Three generations (early)* | 0.02 | 0.06 | 0.07 | -0.62\* | 1.19\*\*\* | 0.51\* | 0.31\* | 0.11 |
| (0.04) | (0.05) | (0.31) | (0.31) | (0.24) | (0.24) | (0.13) | (0.14) |
| *Four generations* | 0.03 | 0.07 | 0.77\* | 0.19 | 0.86\*\*\* | 0.37 | 0.10 | 0.01 |
|  | (0.04) | (0.04) | (0.33) | (0.33) | (0.22) | (0.22) | (0.12) | (0.12) |
| Age |  | 0.15 |  | -3.07\*\*\* |  | -3.23\*\*\* |  | -1.02\*\* |
|  |  | (0.12) |  | (0.90) |  | (0.64) |  | (0.35) |
| Age^2 |  | -0.00 |  | 0.02\*\*\* |  | 0.02\*\*\* |  | 0.01\*\* |
|  |  | (0.00) |  | (0.01) |  | (0.00) |  | (0.00) |
| Female |  | 0.10\*\* |  | 0.61\*\* |  | 0.35\* |  | 0.09 |
|  |  | (0.03) |  | (0.22) |  | (0.16) |  | (0.09) |
| With partner |  | 0.32\*\*\* |  | -2.13\*\*\* |  | -0.82\*\*\* |  | -0.18 |
|  |  | (0.04) |  | (0.32) |  | (0.23) |  | (0.12) |
| Educational level (ref. *low*) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *medium* |  | 0.10 |  | -1.10\*\* |  | -0.73\* |  | -0.56\*\* |
|  |  | (0.06) |  | (0.42) |  | (0.31) |  | (0.18) |
| *high* |  | 0.09 |  | -1.57\*\*\* |  | -1.30\*\*\* |  | -0.34 |
|  |  | (0.06) |  | (0.45) |  | (0.33) |  | (0.20) |
| Employment status (ref. *working*) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *retired* |  | -0.01 |  | 0.89\* |  | 1.24\*\*\* |  | 0.44\*\* |
|  |  | (0.06) |  | (0.40) |  | (0.29) |  | (0.16) |
| *not employed* |  | -0.02 |  | 0.50 |  | 0.59\* |  | 0.33 |
|  |  | (0.07) |  | (0.41) |  | (0.27) |  | (0.19) |
| Relative income |  | 0.00\*\*\* |  | -0.00\*\* |  | -0.00\*\*\* |  | -0.00 |
|  |  | (0.00) |  | (0.00) |  | (0.00) |  | (0.00) |
| Upper class |  | 0.08\* |  | -0.67\*\* |  | -0.58\*\*\* |  | -0.18 |
|  |  | (0.03) |  | (0.24) |  | (0.17) |  | (0.10) |
| Migration background |  | -0.26\*\*\* |  | 1.00\* |  | 0.30 |  | 0.23 |
|  |  | (0.07) |  | (0.46) |  | (0.32) |  | (0.19) |
| East Germany |  | -0.10\*\* |  | 0.59\* |  | 0.38\* |  | 0.07 |
|  |  | (0.03) |  | (0.24) |  | (0.18) |  | (0.10) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Observations | 2,750 | 2,750 | 3,617 | 3,617 | 3,617 | 3,617 | 2,750 | 2,750 |
| R2 | .01 | .08 | .00 | .06 | .01 | .07 | .01 | .04 |
| *Notes:* Weighted data; own calculations, based on DEAS 2008, version 3.2, and DEAS 2014, version 4.0; R2 reflects the average R2 of the models across all imputed data sets.  *Significance levels:* \* p < .05, \*\* p < .01, \*\*\* p < .001. | | | | | | | | |

Table S3 *Significant pairwise contrasts of average marginal effects of cluster membership on later-life outcomes*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Childless (early) | | | | Childless (late) | | | | Two  generations | | | | Three generations  (early) | | | | Three generations  (late) | | | | |
|  | LS | D | FL | PH | LS | D | FL | PH | LS | D | FL | PH | LS | D | FL | PH | LS | D | FL | PH | |
| Childless (early) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Childless (late) |  |  | -1.2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Two generations |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Three generations (early) | 0.2 | -1.2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | -0.9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Three generations (late) |  |  | -1.1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | -0.4 | -0.3 |  | 0.6 | -0.5 |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Four generations | 0.2 |  | -0.8 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.1 |  |  | -0.3 |  | 0.8 |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| *Notes:* Weighted data; own calculations, based on DEAS 2008, version 3.2, and DEAS 2014, version 4.0; based on multivariate linear regression models in Table S2; contrasts only shown if significant on .05-significance level; LS – life satisfaction; D – depressiveness; FL – functional limitations; PH – physical health problems. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |