



CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE  
**DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE**  
1149 BUDAPEST, ANGOL UTCA 77.  
TELEFON: (36-1) 251-0288, (36-1) 384-3167 • FAX: (36-1) 383-3111  
E-MAIL: KSHNKI@MAILOP.KSH.HU

---

## Surveyors' Guide

### to the „Turning points of life-course” /2<sup>nd</sup> wave questionnaire



#### Supplement: Guidelines on how to fill in the Calendar

##### General Information

- As opposed to the rest of the questionnaire, the Calendar is to be filled in in a way that **THE RESPONDENTS CAN SEE** the marking as well, because that may help them to recall the events of the past three years.
- When asking the questions in the Calendar, you are to start on the basis of **the printed data from 3 years ago**. Before each block you are to read out the **INTRODUCTORY SENTENCE** . (For example, '*In 2001 you were married and were living with your spouse.*')
- The part in the box surrounded by thick lines is the **ACTUAL CALENDAR** showing the three-year period between 2001/2002 and 2004/2005, broken down into **months**, the months being indicated by their initial letters.
- Before starting the questions in a block, you are to draw a **VERTICAL LINE** to the actual **month of the current interview** in order to prevent the calendar line from accidentally running over when you register the individual events.

You are to follow the events of the past three years **ON A MONTH-BY-MONTH BASIS, BY DRAWING THE SO-CALLED CALENDAR LINES**. The beginning

and the end of a calendar line is **to be marked by an X (or by a number, in the case of cohabitation)** .

## **BLOCK I FOLLOWING CHANGES IN MARITAL STATUS**

This block is designed to investigate **two aspects**, both of which are to be followed month by month. Firstly, you ask respondents about their legal, '**official marital status**' ; secondly, you take a note of their '**actual cohabitation or partnership**'. (The two are not necessarily identical.)

### ***I/1. Following the official marital status***

The respondent's marital status is indicated by an **X** printed in the appropriate line. You are to read it out to them, eg. '*Three years ago your marital status was 'married'*'.

**Then go on to clarify what has happened over the past three years. You could use questions like these:**

- **IS YOUR MARITAL STATUS STILL THE SAME?**
- **(If so:) HAS IT REMAINED UNCHANGED THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE PERIOD?**
- **(If not:) HOW LONG DID IT LAST?**
- **WHAT WAS YOUR NEXT MARITAL STATUS? HOW LONG DID THAT STATUS LAST?**

With the help of the calendar line, you should be able to account for each month of the three years between the last questionnaire and the current one. The **end of the calendar line** is the month and year of the current interview, ie **November/December 2004** (see further down for examples).

(For example, **if nothing has changed**, you are **to draw the calendar line right across the calendar up to the time of the present interview, along the line of the marital status marked**. If, however, a **married** respondent **married again** a year ago, he/she obviously must have had '**divorced**' status for a short time between the two marriages. That period of time is to be indicated by interrupting the line in the 'married' calendar line and drawing another in the 'divorced' line, reflecting the exact length of time.)





The above questions are to be asked for each additional form of cohabitation until you arrive at the date of the present interview. For you are also to account for each month of the period between the two questionnaires in terms of instances of cohabitation.

**Two important rules:**

1. Whether it is cohabitation in or outside marriage, you are to ask: **Has there been at any time a period of at least three months when you did not have the same place of residence but then lived together again?** This applies to any form of physical absence, be it a lengthier assignment or job abroad or deliberate separation. The **calendar line** is to indicate this **period of separation** as well: the line of cohabitation is to be interrupted and continued in the line 'no cohabiting partner' up to the appropriate point in time.
2. You are also to find out whether - along with a time change in the form of cohabitation – there has also been **a change of partner**. That is to be indicated by **the numbering of partners** at the beginning of the **calendar line**. If, for example, the respondent **now lives in marriage with his/her partner** he was living in cohabitation with three years ago, the calendar line is to be continued in a different **line** but **the same number** is to be put at the beginning of both lines. If, on the other hand, the relationship with the former cohabiting partner has broken up in the past three years, but the respondent immediately started cohabiting with **another partner**, **the numbers** at the beginning and in the middle of the “cohabiting partners’ calendar line” **have to differ**.

**A few examples of how to draw the calendar line of cohabitation:**

**Example 1:** *In 2001 the respondent was living with his/her spouse. Between January and June 2003 they lived in separation, but they lived together again from June 2003. (No change of partner!)*

		2001	2002												2003												2004												2005																										
Living with spouse	X	x													x																									x																									
Living with partner																																																																	
Living alone															x													x																																					





The following points are to be clarified:

- *(If he/she had a child/children in 2001):* WHAT ARE (WERE) THE CHRISTIAN NAMES OF YOUR BIOLOGICAL CHILDREN WHO WERE ALIVE IN 2001 (EITHER LIVING WITH YOU OR ELSEWHERE AT THE TIME)?
- WHERE DO THESE CHILDREN LIVE NOW?
- HAVE YOU HAD ANY NEW CHILDREN SINCE 2001?
- *(If so:)* WHAT IS THE CHILD'S SEX? WHEN WAS IT BORN (YEAR, MONTH)? WHAT IS ITS CHRISTIAN NAME? DOES IT STILL LIVE WITH YOU?
- *(If it does not live with the respondent any more:)* WHERE DOES IT LIVE NOW?

After this you are to draw the calendar line in the Calendar, in accordance with the length of the period they (have) lived together. In the Calendar each child has its own line. You are only to mark the periods when they **actually lived together**. Thus, obviously, **the calendar line** is to be terminated in the line of children not living together with the respondent (any more) (at the year, month when they stopped living together or the child's death, if that should be the case).

**An example of how to follow biological children:**

A son born in February 1990 lived with the respondent until January 2003, when the boy went to live abroad with his other parent. In January 2004 the respondent had twin girls. He/she has been living with one girl. The other died, unfortunately.

	Sex	Year of birth	Month of birth	Living with the respondent?	First name, Christian name	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Where does he/she live? (code number)
1.	Male	1990	02	X		x		x			3
2.	Female	2004	01						x	x	
3.	Female	2004	01						x	x	

### **Block III**

#### **FOLLOWING NON-BIOLOGICAL (PARTNER'S) CHILDREN LIVING WITH THE RESPONDENT**

In this block only the partner's children actually living with the respondent since 2001 need to be "accounted for". And, we only follow actual cohabitation with the child(ren).

**As before, the introductory sentence describes the situation of three years ago, which is marked in the Calendar as well. The data (questions, codes, date of death) are to be entered in the way shown in Block II. For example:**

You are to clarify:

- *(If the respondent had a partner's child living with him/her in 2001:)* **WHAT WERE THE CHRISTIAN NAMES OF YOUR NON-BIOLOGICAL CHILDREN LIVING WITH YOU IN 2001?**
- **WHERE DO THESE CHILDREN LIVE NOW?**
- **HAS ANY OF YOUR PARTNER'S CHILDREN (NOT YOUR OWN CHILDREN) MOVED INTO YOUR HOUSEHOLD SINCE 2001?**
- *(If so:)* **WHAT IS THE CHILD'S SEX? WHEN WAS IT BORN (YEAR, MONTH)? WHAT IS ITS CHRISTIAN NAME? DOES THE CHILD STILL LIVE WITH YOU?**
- *(If the child does not live with the respondent any more:)* **WHERE DOES THE CHILD LIVE NOW?**

Then you are to draw the calendar line in the Calendar, **according to the length of time spent living with the child(ren).**

**An example of how to follow non-biological children:**

*In 2001 the respondent was living together with his/her partner's son, who was born in February 1981. The boy lived with them until April 2003, when he moved to another town. In August 2004 the respondent began cohabiting with another partner, who brought his/her daughter (born in January 1998) into their common household.*

	Sex	Year of birth	Month of birth	Whose child is it?	First name, Christian name	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Where does the child live now? (code)
1.	Male	1981	02			x		x			2
2.	Female	1998	01						x	x	

**Block IV  
FOLLOWING THE RESPONDENT'S CAREER/ACTIVITIES**

In this block there are 19 categories of occupation/activity. The category valid **three years ago** is marked with an **X**.

If the respondent was involved in **another form of making a living** (see the X in the last line), he/she is to be asked: **WHAT PRECISELY WAS IT AT THE TIME?** The answer (if it fits another category) is to be written out in full in the appropriate category line and also to be marked with an X.

**You are to clarify:**

- **IS YOUR OCCUPATIONAL/ACTIVITY SITUATION STILL THE SAME OR HAS ANYTHING CHANGED IN THE LAST THREE YEARS?**
- **(If there has been a change:) HOW LONG DID THE ORIGINAL SITUATION LAST? WHAT CHANGES HAVE THERE BEEN OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS?**
- **DID YOU HAVE ANY OTHER ACTIVITY BESIDES YOUR MAIN OCCUPATION? FROM WHEN UNTIL WHEN?**

**You are to keep asking about changes until you get to the date of the current interview.**

**Attention!**

- Only a **change from one into another of the 19 categories** in the past three years qualifies **as a change** (eg. The respondent was on maternity leave and

now works part time, or he /she was a student and is now an employee, or he/she was unemployed but was granted a disability pension in 2004, etc.)

- **It does not qualify as a change** if it was only the respondent's workplace or position that has changed but he/she has remained within the same category (eg. He/she was working as a full time employee and still works like that, only in a different place and doing a different job. In such cases you can **draw the calendar line continuously** right across the category.)
- In theory, there can be **two or more calendar lines** in the calendar if the respondent had (has) some other breadwinning activity besides his/her main occupation, or if, eg. she had (has) a part time job while on maternity leave.

**An example of how to follow activities:**

In 2001 the respondent was unemployed; (besides), he/she occasionally did temporary work to make a living. In June 2004 he/she started receiving a disability pension. He/she still takes on temporary jobs.

			2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Full-time employee							
Part-time employee							
Self-employed, entrepreneur, owner							
Business partner							
Temporary jobs (physical)	X	x					x
Short term contracts (intellectual)							
Helping family member (in family business)							
On an old-age pension							
On a widow's pension							
On a disability pension						x	x
On child-care fee (GYED)							
On child-care allowance (GYES)							
On child-raising support (GYET)							
Conscript, on military service							
Homemaker							
Student							
Unemployed	X	x				x	
Other							
Involvement also in other breadwinning occupation	X - WHAT WAS THAT?						



**List of errors:**

<b>Number of question:</b>	<b>Error:</b>	<b>Correction of error:</b>

**WE WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN YOUR WORK!**