

CALL FOR OPEN MODULES for ASEP WAVE 2 (Autumn 2026)

The [Austrian Socio-Economic Panel \(ASEP\)](#) cordially invites proposals to add modules to its second wave, which will be fielded in 2026!

The ASEP Survey is designed as a **long-running household panel**, enabling scientific research on social change and socio-economic relationships. It covers a **wide range of topics**, including family, work, education, health, income, housing, attitudes and behaviour. To facilitate analyses in the household context, ASEP annually surveys all individuals within the households randomly selected from the Austrian population register. As the ASEP Survey is modelled after established household panels in other countries, it offers opportunities for **international comparative research**. The ASEP Survey was launched in 2023 with the first wave of its pilot phase. The first wave of the main survey is planned for autumn 2025, with a **net sample of approximately 5,000 households (11,000 persons)**. The ASEP Survey data is made **freely available for scientific use** via [AUSSDA](#) and can be linked with the Administrative Data Collection for the Social Sciences (ADCOL) and other administrative data from Statistics Austria through the [AMDC](#) (subject to costs).

For the second wave in autumn 2026, the ASEP Survey will include one Open Module with 1-2 minutes survey time in the household questionnaire and one to three Open Modules with a total survey time of 4-6 minutes in the individual questionnaire. The call for modules is open to all substantive topics, but proposals should demonstrate clear relevance for a socio-economic panel. Proposals engaging with the household context and the longitudinal dimension of ASEP are particularly encouraged. Open Modules are selected based on a peer review process by the ASEP scientific advisory board.

Submissions are welcome via email to asep@statistik.gv.at until July 31, 2025!

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Submission Guidelines:

- Proposals may be submitted in German or English. However, the proposed questions must be provided in both languages, as the ASEP Survey is conducted in German and made available to users in English.
- The ASEP Survey is conducted in a mixed-mode design. Questions must be suitable for self-administered CAWI mode, personal interviews (CAPI), and telephone interviews (CATI).
- Each Open Module in the household questionnaire should take 1-2 minutes (corresponding to 3 items). Each Open Module in the individual questionnaire, including the child proxy questionnaire, should take 2-3 minutes (corresponding to 6 items). A survey item corresponds to a single question eliciting a single response. Items in item batteries count as half, while items with a longer question text or more response categories are assigned higher weight. Submissions should aim to meet these target values but may also be shorter or slightly longer. If longer or shorter submissions are accepted, the number of accepted Open Modules will change accordingly.
- After approval, accepted proposals will be revised in collaboration with the scientific coordination to align with ASEP's question formats and scales and to shorten them if necessary.
- To leverage the panel structure of the ASEP Survey, submissions may propose the implementation of an Open Module in up to two waves, specifying a preferred interval (i.e., the Open Modules can, but do not necessarily have to, be implemented in consecutive years). While Open Modules are only accepted for a maximum of two waves, resubmission to future calls for ASEP Open Modules is possible.
- Proposed questions should not overlap with existing ASEP questions. The documentation and questionnaires from the ASEP pilot waves, which serve as models for the first two waves of the main survey, are available on the [ASEP](#) and [AUSSDA](#) websites.
- Graphic or multimedia elements as well as individual incentives cannot be implemented. Proposals for survey experiments that administer alternative question wordings to random subsets of respondents are possible but require evidence of sufficient statistical power.
- Proposed questions must comply with the provisions of the [Bundesstatistikgesetz](#) and the [European Statistics Code of Practice](#). Questions must be phrased appropriately and respect the privacy of respondents.
- The developed questions will be published as part of the ASEP questionnaire. The collected data will be made available to the submitters and the scientific community upon data release as a free Scientific-Use-File (SUF). Submitters, like all data users, are required to correctly cite the dataset in any resulting publications.

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Submission Format:

Submissions to this call must include:

- Title and project team (including one-page CVs)
- Proposal: Background and scientific motivation, objectives and relevance, thematic relevance for ASEP, research questions (800-1,200 words excluding references).
- The specific survey items, including available evidence of data quality, references to previous appearances of the items and/or details on modifications or original development, as well as sample requirements (overall or subsample, minimum number of respondents, etc.) (max. 5 pages).

Evaluation Criteria:

Submissions will be first assessed for their general feasibility and relevance to ASEP and then selected through a peer review process. The evaluation of submissions is based on the following criteria:

- **Scientific relevance:** Contribution to the analysis of social change and socio-economic relationships, as well as potential for publication.
- **Novelty:** Filling a research gap, particularly if this gap cannot be addressed by existing survey data available in Austria.
- **Quality and formal coherence of the proposal:** Quality and fit of analytical framework, research question(s) and empirical design.
- **Specific relevance for ASEP:** Appropriateness for ASEP and potential connection to the longitudinal dimension and/or the household context and/or other unique features of the ASEP Survey and/or ADCOL.
- **Sustainability:** Potential for long-term use of the data by a wide range of researchers.

Timeline:

July 31, 2025	Submission deadline for Open Modules
December 2025	Information about accepted Open Modules
Until May 2026	Revision of Open Modules
October 2026	Start of data collection for ASEP Wave 2 incl. Open Modules
October 2027	(Expected) Data release of ASEP Wave 2 incl. Open Modules

For questions, please feel free to contact asep@statistik.gv.at