Survey on Subsequent Fertility Pressure among Women of Childbearing Age

English translation of the Chinese questionnaire

Dear participant,

This survey aims to understand the current levels of pressure related to having another child among women of childbearing age in China and to explore the underlying reasons why bearing and raising children are perceived as so demanding in contemporary society. If you are aged 18-49 years, have at least one child, and are not currently pregnant, we kindly invite you to take the time to answer this questionnaire honestly.

The questionnaire has four parts: the Subsequent Fertility Pressure Scale for Women of Childbearing Age, intention to have another child, personal information, and family information. Responses are anonymous, and there are no right or wrong answers. All information you provide will be kept confidential, used solely for academic research, and will not be used to your disadvantage. Please answer all questions carefully and completely to support the objectivity and validity of the research.

Thank you sincerely for your cooperation. We wish you good health, success in your work, and healthy growth for your child(ren).

Part I. Subsequent Fertility Pressure Scale for Women of Childbearing Age

When considering having another child, please select the response that best reflects your own feelings. Select one response for each item. The response scores are shown in descending order, from 7 to 1. Original item numbers are retained.

1. The financial burden of medical expenses associated with another pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum care.

☐ 7 = Extremely high ☐ 6 = Very high ☐ 5 = Fairly high ☐ 4 = Moderate or about half ☐ 3 = Fairly low ☐ 2 = Very low ☐ 1 = Extremely low

2. The financial burden of daily living expenses (clothing, food, housing, and transportation) for an additional child.

☐ 7 = Extremely high ☐ 6 = Very high ☐ 5 = Fairly high ☐ 4 = Moderate or about half ☐ 3 = Fairly low ☐ 2 = Very low ☐ 1 = Extremely low

3. The financial burden of educational expenses for an additional child.

☐ 7 = Extremely high ☐ 6 = Very high ☐ 5 = Fairly high ☐ 4 = Moderate or about half ☐ 3 = Fairly low ☐ 2 = Very low ☐ 1 = Extremely low

4. The financial burden of marriage-related expenses for an additional child.

☐ 7 = Extremely high ☐ 6 = Very high ☐ 5 = Fairly high ☐ 4 = Moderate or about half ☐ 3 = Fairly low ☐ 2 = Very low ☐ 1 = Extremely low

5. The financial burden of purchasing housing for an additional child.

☐ 7 = Extremely high ☐ 6 = Very high ☐ 5 = Fairly high ☐ 4 = Moderate or about half ☐ 3 = Fairly low ☐ 2 = Very low ☐ 1 = Extremely low

6. The likelihood of losing my job because of having another child.

☐ 7 = Extremely high ☐ 6 = Very high ☐ 5 = Fairly high ☐ 4 = Moderate or about half ☐ 3 = Fairly low ☐ 2 = Very low ☐ 1 = Extremely low

7. The difficulty I may face in re-entering the workforce after job loss related to having another child.

☐ 7 = Very difficult ☐ 6 = Difficult ☐ 5 = Somewhat difficult ☐ 4 = Neither difficult nor easy ☐ 3 = Somewhat easy ☐ 2 = Easy ☐ 1 = Very easy

8. The extent to which having another child may hinder my professional skill development.

☐ 7 = Extremely large impact ☐ 6 = Very large impact ☐ 5 = Fairly large impact ☐ 4 = Moderate impact ☐ 3 = Fairly small impact ☐ 2 = Very small impact ☐ 1 = Extremely small impact

9. The extent to which having another child may affect my workplace relationships.

☐ 7 = Extremely large impact ☐ 6 = Very large impact ☐ 5 = Fairly large impact ☐ 4 = Moderate impact ☐ 3 = Fairly small impact ☐ 2 = Very small impact ☐ 1 = Extremely small impact

10. The likelihood that having another child may hinder my career advancement.

☐ 7 = Extremely high ☐ 6 = Very high ☐ 5 = Fairly high ☐ 4 = Moderate or about half ☐ 3 = Fairly low ☐ 2 = Very low ☐ 1 = Extremely low

11. The amount of my work and leisure time that may be taken up by caring for an additional child.

☐ 7 = Extremely high ☐ 6 = Very high ☐ 5 = Fairly high ☐ 4 = Moderate or about half ☐ 3 = Fairly low ☐ 2 = Very low ☐ 1 = Extremely low

12. The physical exhaustion I may experience from caring for an additional child.

☐ 7 = Very severe ☐ 6 = Severe ☐ 5 = Somewhat severe ☐ 4 = Moderate ☐ 3 = Somewhat mild ☐ 2 = Mild ☐ 1 = Very mild

13. The emotional effort required to care for or worry about an additional child.

☐ 7 = Extremely high ☐ 6 = Very high ☐ 5 = Fairly high ☐ 4 = Moderate or about half ☐ 3 = Fairly low ☐ 2 = Very low ☐ 1 = Extremely low

14. My concerns about the physical and mental health of an additional child.

Rate the expected physical and mental health of the additional child:

☐ 7 = Very poor ☐ 6 = Poor ☐ 5 = Fairly poor ☐ 4 = Average ☐ 3 = Fairly good ☐ 2 = Good ☐ 1 = Very good

15. The extent to which the future educational opportunities of my existing child(ren) may be affected after another birth.

Rate the impact on the educational quality available to your existing child(ren):

☐ 7 = Extremely large impact ☐ 6 = Very large impact ☐ 5 = Fairly large impact ☐ 4 = Moderate impact ☐ 3 = Fairly small impact ☐ 2 = Very small impact ☐ 1 = Extremely small impact

16. My concerns about the educational opportunities of an additional child.

Rate the expected educational quality for the additional child:

☐ 7 = Very poor ☐ 6 = Poor ☐ 5 = Fairly poor ☐ 4 = Average ☐ 3 = Fairly good ☐ 2 = Good

☐ 1 = Very good

17. The extent to which the future quality of life of my existing child(ren) may be affected after another birth.

☐ 7 = Extremely large impact ☐ 6 = Very large impact ☐ 5 = Fairly large impact ☐ 4 = Moderate impact

☐ 3 = Fairly small impact ☐ 2 = Very small impact ☐ 1 = Extremely small impact

18. My concerns about the quality of life of an additional child.

Rate the expected quality of life of the additional child:

☐ 7 = Very poor ☐ 6 = Poor ☐ 5 = Fairly poor ☐ 4 = Average ☐ 3 = Fairly good ☐ 2 = Good

☐ 1 = Very good

19. The likelihood of experiencing physical health problems (e.g., illness or pain) because of another pregnancy.

☐ 7 = Extremely high ☐ 6 = Very high ☐ 5 = Fairly high ☐ 4 = Moderate or about half ☐ 3 = Fairly low

☐ 2 = Very low ☐ 1 = Extremely low

20. The extent of potential body-shape changes associated with another pregnancy.

☐ 7 = Very severe ☐ 6 = Severe ☐ 5 = Somewhat severe ☐ 4 = Moderate ☐ 3 = Somewhat mild

☐ 2 = Mild ☐ 1 = Very mild

21. My partner's willingness to have another child.

☐ 7 = Definitely does not want another child

☐ 6 = Conflicted; low intention to have another child

☐ 5 = Somewhat conflicted; concerns about having another child

☐ 4 = Indifferent about having another child

☐ 3 = Somewhat supportive; leaning toward having another child

☐ 2 = Supportive; strong intention to have another child

☐ 1 = Definitely wants another child

22. The level of support from the parental generation for my decision to have another child.

☐ 7 = Strongly opposed ☐ 6 = Opposed ☐ 5 = Somewhat opposed ☐ 4 = Indifferent

☐ 3 = Somewhat supportive ☐ 2 = Supportive ☐ 1 = Strongly supportive

23. The level of acceptance among my existing child(ren) toward having another child.

☐ 7 = Firmly rejects ☐ 6 = Rejects ☐ 5 = Somewhat rejects ☐ 4 = Indifferent

☐ 3 = Somewhat accepting ☐ 2 = Accepting ☐ 1 = Welcomes it wholeheartedly

24. The closeness of my relationship with my existing child(ren) after having another child.

☐ 7 = Very much more distant than now ☐ 6 = Much more distant than now

☐ 5 = Somewhat more distant than now ☐ 4 = Probably no change ☐ 3 = Somewhat closer than now

☐ 2 = Much closer than now ☐ 1 = Very much closer than now

Part II. Intention to Have Another Child

Please select one response. Scores range from 1 to 7; higher scores indicate a stronger intention to have another child.

In the absence of policy restrictions, I intend to have another child within the next three years.

☐ 1 = Definitely do not intend to have another child

☐ 2 = Conflicted; low intention to have another child

☐ 3 = Somewhat conflicted; concerns about having another child

☐ 4 = Indifferent about having another child

☐ 5 = Open to having another child; leaning toward doing so

☐ 6 = Want to have another child; strong intention to do so

☐ 7 = Definitely intend to have another child

Part III. Personal Information

Select the appropriate response or fill in the blank.

1. Province of residence:

_____

2. City of residence:

_____

3. District / county of residence:

_____

4. Ethnicity:

☐ Han Chinese ☐ Ethnic minority

5. Are you an only child?

☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Year of birth:

_____

7. Educational attainment:

☐ No formal schooling

☐ Primary school

☐ Junior high school

☐ Senior high school

☐ Vocational high school / secondary specialized school / technical school

☐ Junior college

☐ Bachelor's degree

☐ Master's degree

☐ Doctoral degree

8. Are you a member of the Communist Party of China?

☐ Yes ☐ No

9. Household registration (hukou) type:

☐ Urban household registration ☐ Agricultural (rural) household registration

10. Health status:

☐ Very healthy ☐ Fairly healthy ☐ Average ☐ Fairly poor health ☐ Very poor health

11. Marital status:

☐ Has a spouse ☐ Has no spouse

12. Marital satisfaction:

☐ Very satisfied ☐ Fairly satisfied ☐ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied ☐ Not very satisfied

☐ Very dissatisfied

13. Happiness with life:

☐ Very happy ☐ Fairly happy ☐ Neither happy nor unhappy ☐ Not very happy ☐ Very unhappy

14. Do you have medical insurance?

☐ Yes ☐ No

15. Do you have pension insurance?

☐ Yes ☐ No

16. Occupation:

_____

17. Employment type:

☐ Public-sector employment ☐ Non-public-sector employment ☐ Not employed

18. Working hours per week:

_____ hours

19. Personal monthly income (RMB):

☐ <5,000 ☐ 5,000-10,000 ☐ 10,000-30,000 ☐ 30,000-50,000 ☐ >50,000

20. Number of existing children:

Total: _____

Boys: _____ Girls: _____

21. Age(s) of existing child(ren), in years (if you have more than one child, list each age):

_____

22. Childcare arrangement:

☐ I care for my child(ren) myself ☐ My parents or parents-in-law help care for my child(ren)

23. Availability of childcare services:

☐ Government-provided affordable, high-quality childcare services

☐ Market-provided affordable, high-quality childcare services

☐ No affordable, high-quality childcare services

24. Frequency of internet use:

☐ Never ☐ Rarely ☐ Sometimes ☐ Often ☐ Very frequently

25. Do you have a religious belief?

☐ Yes ☐ No

26. In the absence of policy restrictions and practical pressures, I consider the ideal number of children to be:

_____ children

27. To continue the family line, it is necessary to have at least one son.

☐ Strongly agree ☐ Somewhat agree ☐ Neither agree nor disagree ☐ Somewhat disagree

☐ Strongly disagree

28. If you could have only one child, would you prefer a boy or a girl?

☐ Boy ☐ Girl ☐ No preference between a boy and a girl

29. Do you plan to rely on your child(ren) for support in old age?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Part IV. Family Information

Select the appropriate response or fill in the blank.

30. Is your partner an only child?

☐ Yes ☐ No

31. Your partner's educational attainment:

☐ No formal schooling

☐ Primary school

☐ Junior high school

☐ Senior high school

☐ Vocational high school / secondary specialized school / technical school

☐ Junior college

☐ Bachelor's degree

☐ Master's degree

☐ Doctoral degree

32. Your partner's health status:

☐ Very healthy ☐ Fairly healthy ☐ Average ☐ Fairly poor health ☐ Very poor health

33. Your partner's participation in household chores:

☐ Never does housework ☐ Rarely does housework ☐ Occasionally does housework

☐ Often does housework

34. Annual household income (RMB):

☐ <100,000 ☐ 100,000-300,000 ☐ 300,000-500,000 ☐ >500,000

35. Number of residential properties owned by your household:

_____ properties

36. Tenure of your current home:

☐ Owner-occupied home ☐ Borrowed home ☐ Rented home

37. Floor area of your current home:

_____ m^2

38. In our society, some people are in the upper social strata and others are in the lower social strata. I consider my household to be in the:

☐ Highest stratum ☐ Upper stratum ☐ Middle stratum ☐ Lower stratum ☐ Lowest stratum