



LiK Study 2025

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IGZ/ISDC

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LiK Study in a Nutshell

- Longest-running panel study in Central Asia
- Multi-topic longitudinal survey of 8,000+ individuals from 3,000 households
- Covers all regions of Kyrgyzstan
- Data collected at community, household, and individual levels
- Topics: demographics, assets, expenditure, migration, employment, agriculture, shocks, social networks, well-being, etc.
- Contains 7 waves since 2010 (2010–13, 2016, 2019, 2025)
- Freely available for research and teaching
- Over 40 peer-reviewed articles use LiK data

Funding and implementing

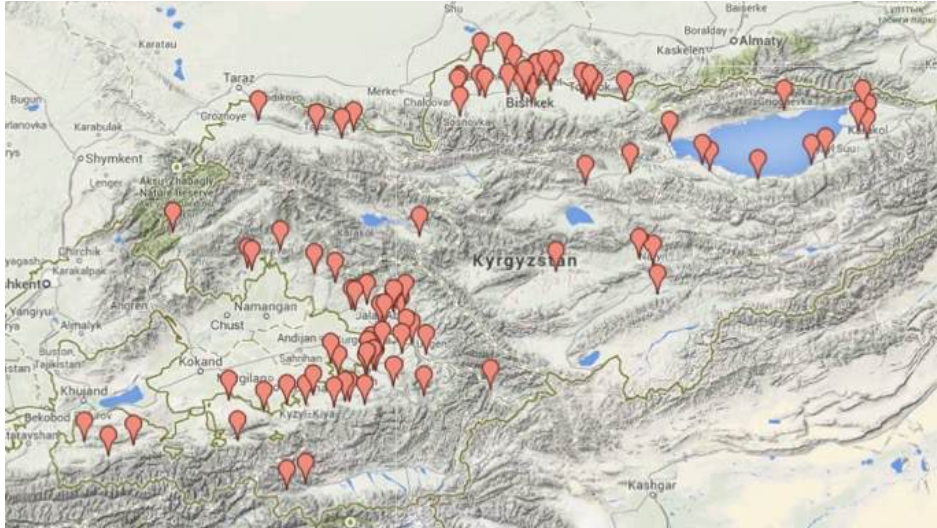
Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2024	2025
LiK Wave	1	2	3	4			5			6				7
Donors	Volkswagen Foundation			IZA, DFID			IFPRI, FAO, UCA			IGZ, UCA, USAID			ADB, WB	
Implementing	DIW Berlin, AUCA, CASE-Kyrgyzstan, HU			SIPRI, UCA, Hannover Univ, KIMEP, Manchester Univ, Vanderbilt Univ			IGZ, UCA			IGZ, UCA			ISDC, UCA	
Survey company	Sotseconic			Sotseconic			Sotseconic			SIAR			SIAR	
Key themes	household behavior, well-being			gender and employment			agriculture, aspirations, social cohesion			food security, youth behavior			climate change, energy use, childcare, polarization	

Panel survey design

- All participants from the first wave in 2010 are surveyed in subsequent waves.
- We track individuals, not households.
- If respondents move within the country, they are followed; their new household members are added to the sample.
- Persons who join an existing LiK household are also surveyed and tracked.

The sample geography

- Original sample of 3000 households (1750 rural) from 120 communities was drawn in 2010 by stratified random two-stage sampling based on 2009 Census
- Data is nationally representative and at the rural/urban and North/South levels



The Sample Dynamics

Questionnaire	2010	2011	2012	2013	2016	2019	2025
Community	120	120	120	120	120	175	186
Household	3,000	2,862	2,816	2,586	2,529	2,323	2,245
Agriculture					1,813	1,632	1,643
Individual	8,160	8,065	8,177	7,681	8,094	7,083	6,646
Youth						706	854
<u>Total</u>	<u>11,280</u>	<u>11,047</u>	<u>11,113</u>	<u>10,387</u>	<u>12,557</u>	<u>11,938</u>	<u>11,574</u>

LiK Questionnaires

- Broad consultations with extended team and research/development institutions
- **Data collection methods:**
 - Paper questionnaires: 2010-2016;
 - CAPI (computer-assisted): 2019, 2025
- **Languages:** Kyrgyz & Russian
- **Questionnaire design:**
 - “Core” modules every wave
 - “Special” modules added as needed
 - 2016: split household questionnaire → introduced agricultural questionnaire (detailed farming data)
 - 2019: introduced youth questionnaire (individual interviews, ages 14-17)

Questionnaires and modules (LiK 2019)

Community-level questionnaire:

- 1) General community information
- 2) Prices for food products

Household-level questionnaire:

- 1) Household composition and children
- 2) Housing and assets
- 3) Consumption and expenditure
- 4) Income sources
- 5) Migration
- 6) Shocks
- 7) Climate change

Agricultural questionnaire:

- 1) Land use (crops)
- 2) Livestock farming
- 3) Agricultural Information
- 4) Quality requirements

Individual-level questionnaire:

- 1) Subjective well-being
- 2) Education, risk-taking, health, and nutrition
- 3) Labor market
- 4) Movements
- 5) Family and household
- 6) Security and vulnerability
- 7) Social life

Youth questionnaire:

- 1) Subjective well-being
- 2) Education and life skills
- 3) Labour market
- 4) Social life

Fieldwork & Data Collection

- Annual surveys (Fall/Winter: Sep-Nov-Jan)
 - Exception: Wave 7 → Apr-Jun 2025
- **Survey companies:**
 - Sotseconik: 2010-2013, 2016 (paper-based)
 - SIAR: 2019, 2025 (CAPI).
- **Team structure:**
 - 80-120 enumerators
 - 20-40 field supervisors
 - ~ 25 households per enumerator
- Fieldwork duration: **2-3 months**



Data processing and public access

- **2-3 months** of data cleaning & iterations with survey company
 - Error detection & correction
 - Handle missing value, duplicates, typos
 - Standardize formats & ensure consistency
- **Public access:**
 - The 6 waves released at IZA IDCS (since 2015)
 - The link: idsc.iza.org/lik
 - Repository likely moving (IZA dissolution) → potential relocation to GESIS.

Over 400 registered data users at 178 institutions in 35 countries

International academic



Central Asian academic



Data and development practitioners



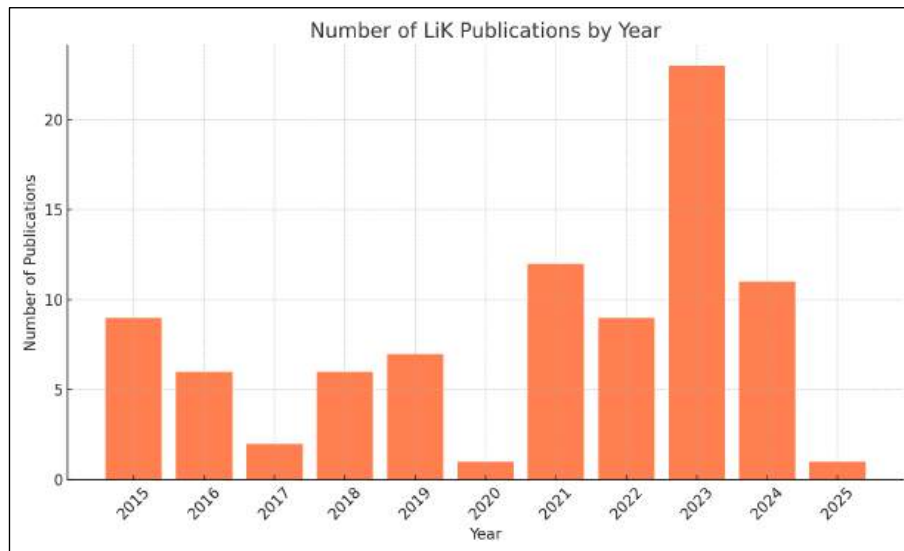
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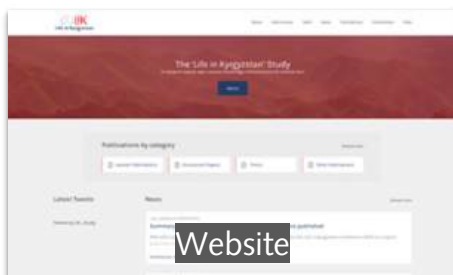
Agricultural Finance Review, American Political Science Review, Demography, Demographic Research, Economic Journal, Economics of Transition, Food Security, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Problems of Post-Communism, Social Science & Medicine, World Bank Research Observer, World Development.

Main research themes in LiK publications

- Labor markets, employment & wages
- Migration & remittances
- Marriage, family & social norms
- Social capital, well-being & economic behaviour
- Education, human capital & food security



Engaging LiK users for research & capacity building



Updates on LiK 2025 (7th wave)

- Implemented by ISDC & UCA; data collection by SIAR
- Fieldwork: April – June 2025 (based on LiK 2019 sample)
- Key topics:
 - Climate change & energy transition (ADB)
 - Childcare services (World Bank)
 - Polarization (GIZ)
- More stringent survey environment → reduced questions on politics & ethnicity
- Data will be public after 1-year embargo

Changes in the LiK 2025 questionnaire

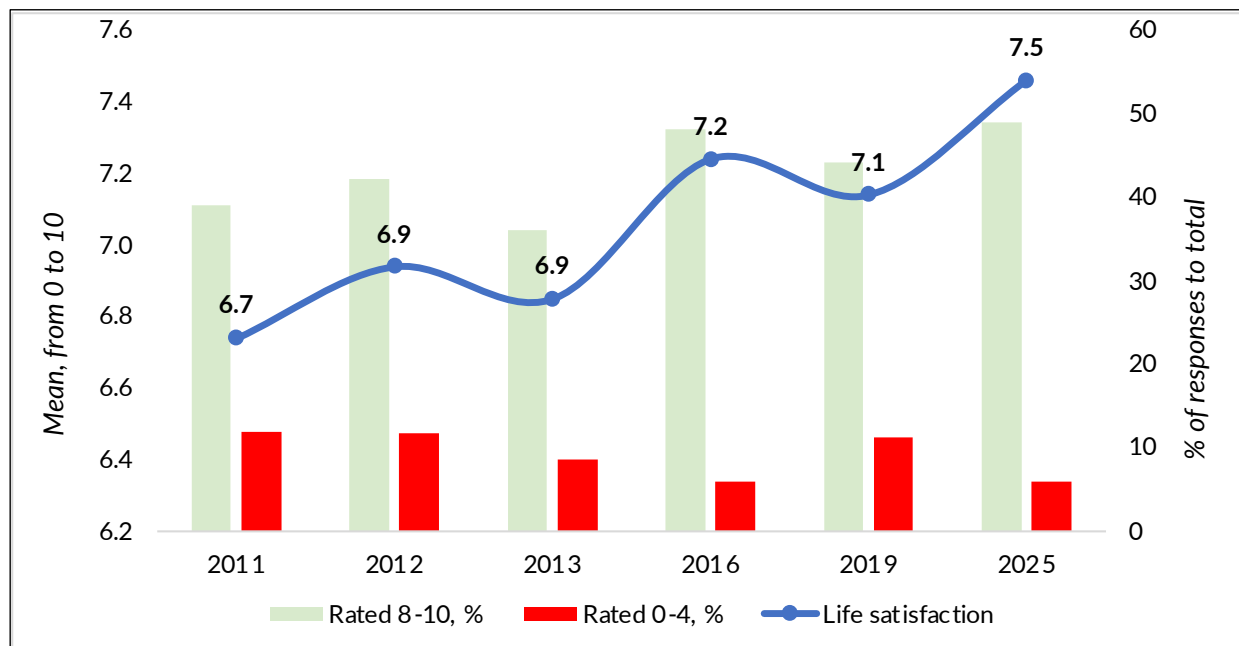
- Household
 - *Added*: energy use and air quality; childcare; food consumption score;
 - *Shortened*: food expenses;
- Agriculture: some optimization, not much change.
- Individual:
 - *Added*: childcare experience; worries; list experiment Qs.
 - *Dropped*: sensitive questions related to governance and ethnicity
- Youth: some optimization, similar changes as in individual Q-re.
- Community: unchanged.

The Household Sample Dynamics, 7 waves

Oblast	2010	2011	2012	2013	2016	2019	2025	% to 2019	% to 2010
Issyk-Kul	275	267	259	247	229	206	182	88%	66%
Jalal-Abad	475	472	461	439	468	445	457	103%	96%
Naryn	125	125	123	105	111	118	112	95%	90%
Batken	225	222	224	221	238	240	262	109%	116%
Osh	475	476	488	486	445	454	469	103%	99%
Talas	125	121	122	122	117	111	103	93%	82%
Chui	550	480	450	382	403	354	314	89%	57%
Bishkek	600	574	578	462	392	300	276	92%	46%
Osh city	150	127	111	120	126	88	69	78%	46%
Total #	3,000	2,862	2,816	2,586	2,529	2,323	2,245	97%	75%

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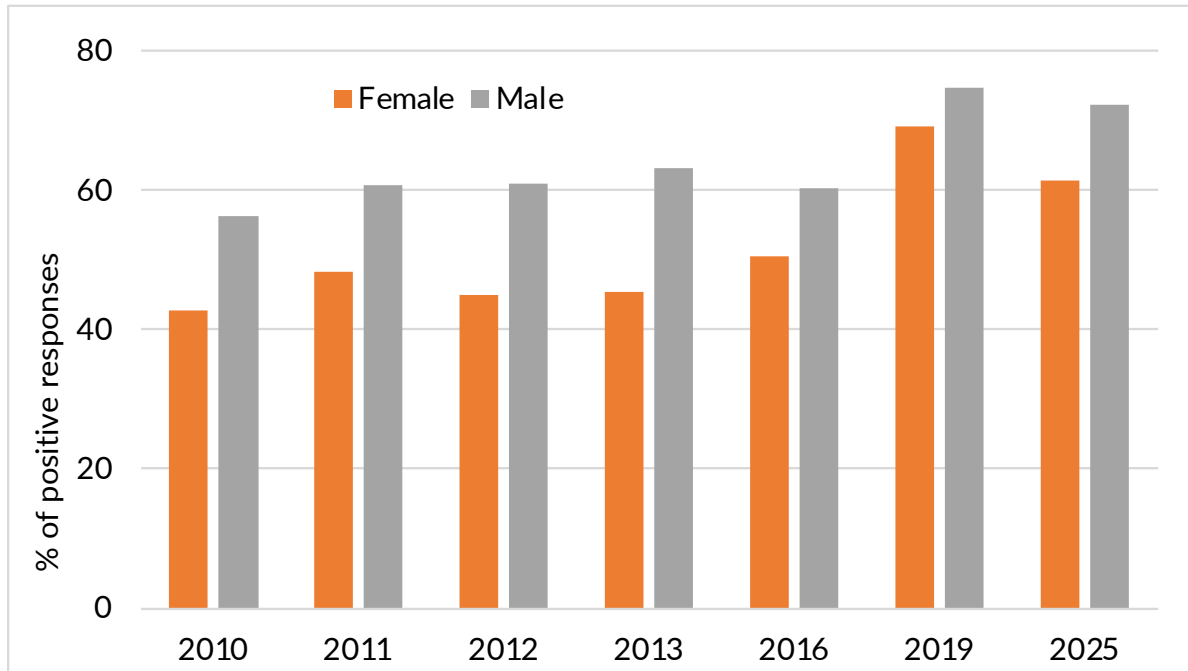
Life satisfaction



Source: LiK 2010-2025

Note: Responses to the question "How satisfied are you with your life, all things considered? Please rate from 0 (completely dissatisfied) to 10 (completely satisfied)."

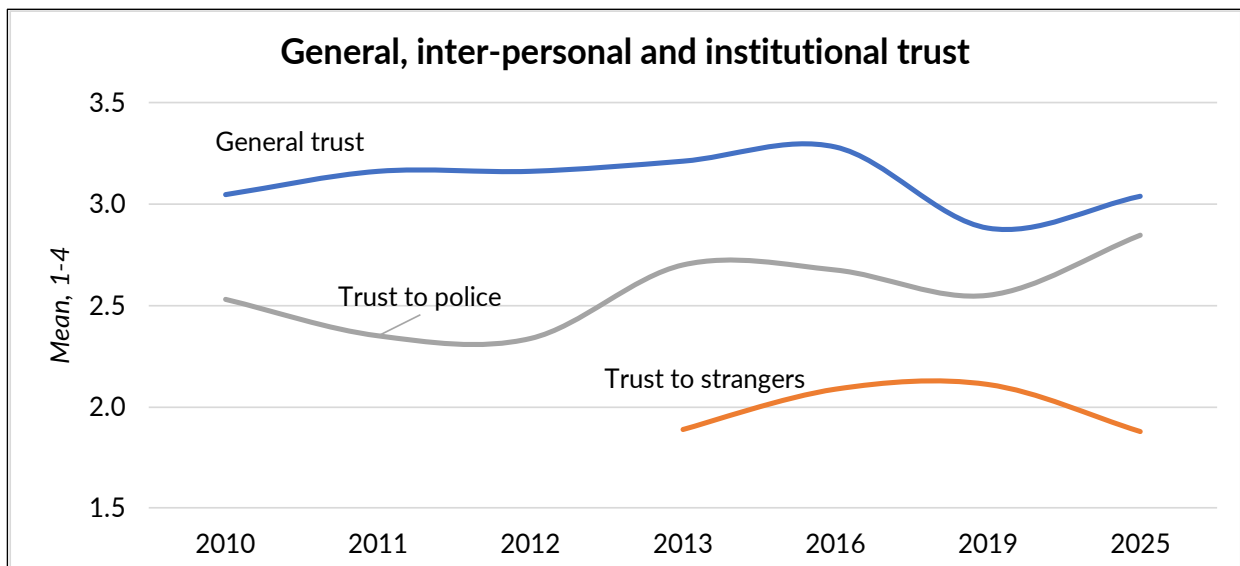
Feeling safe



Source: LiK 2010-2025

Note: percentage of "Strongly agree" and "Agree" responses to the statement: "I feel safe when walking alone in the neighbourhood during the night."

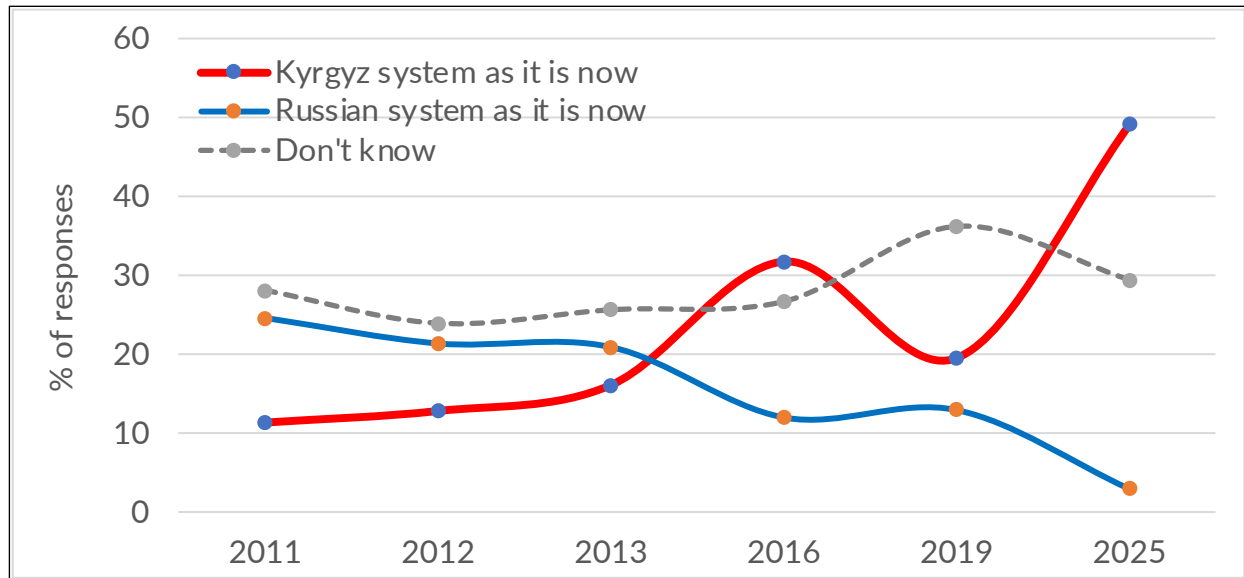
Trust



Source: LiK 2010-2025

Response to the question "In general, you can trust people. Please rate from 1 (completely disagree) to 4 (fully agree)", and separately for police and strangers

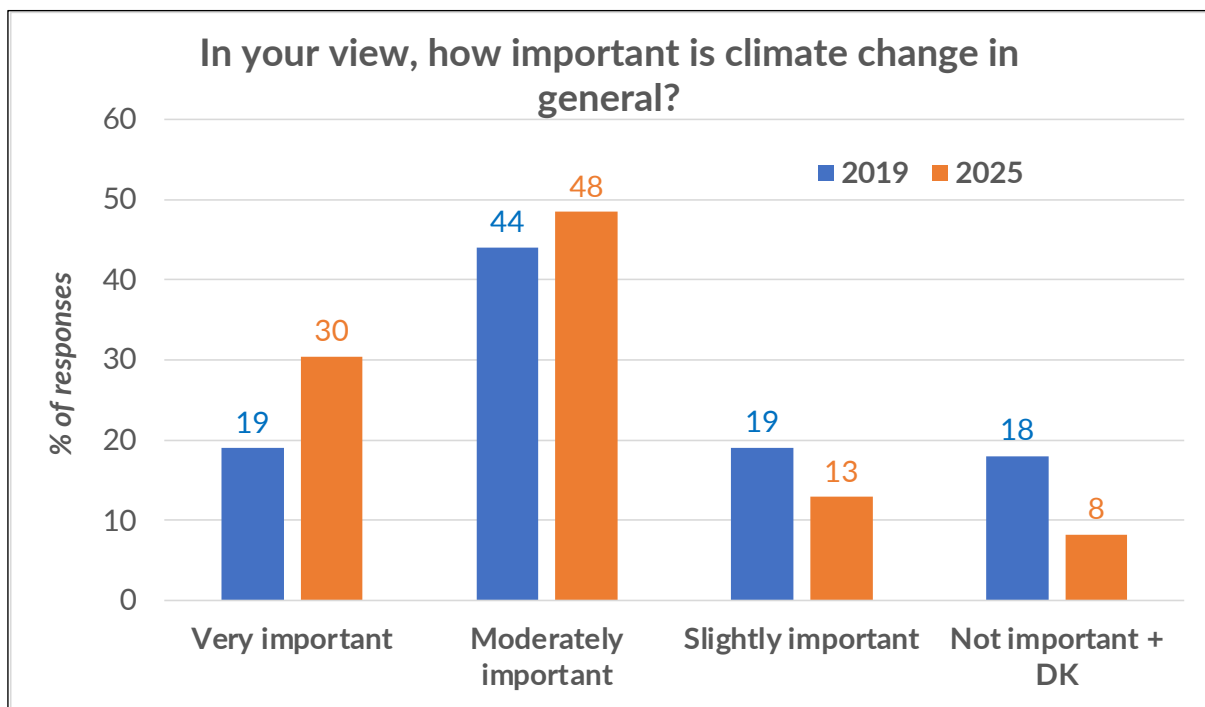
Preference for political system



Source: LiK 2010-2025

Response to the question "In your opinion, what kind of political system is the most suitable for Kyrgyzstan?"

Climate change importance



Source: LiK 2019, 2025. Data at household level.



LiK Study website:

www.lifeinkyrgyzstan.org

Data Access:

idsc.iza.org/lik

esenaliev@igzev.de

Additional slides

Respondents

Questionnaire	Who responds?	Time to fill in mins, LiK 2019, mean / max
Community	An official in local administration	40 / 78
Household	Most informed HH member(s)	52 / 85
Agriculture	HH member(s) engaged in farming	19 / 149
Individual	All HH members aged 18 and older	47 / 75
Youth	All HH members aged 14-17	31 / 78

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Donors and topics

- Fieldworks funded by the ADB and World Bank
- ADB's project
 - Title: *Evidence-based research on climate change adaptation, food security and energy transition*
 - Timeline: Sep 2024-Jan 2026.
- WB's project:
 - Title: *Life-Cycle Impacts of Center-Based Childcare for Children and Women in the Kyrgyz Republic*
 - Timeline: Nov 2024-Dec 2025.
- GIZ project on polarization in Kyrgyzstan; doesn't fund the data directly
- WFP – a module on diets is included.

The Sample Attrition

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2016	2019
Total	3,000	2,862	2,816	2,586	2,530	2,323
Present in all 6 waves	1,840	1,840	1,840	1,840	1,840	1,840
Present in first 5 waves	318	318	318	318	318	
Present in first 4 waves	286	286	286	286		
Present in first 3 waves	180	180	180			
Present in first 2 waves	74	74				
Present in Wave 1	94					
Joined new		5	44	61	84	220
Other combinations	208	159	148	81	288	263
Attrition		-138	-46	-230	-56	-207
<i>% from previous wave</i>		4.6%	1.6%	8.2%	2.2%	8.2%
<i>accum. % to initial sample</i>		4.6%	6.1%	13.8%	15.7%	22.6%

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Political situation

- Stricter political environment than in previous waves
- Some surveys before shut down mid-field → caution advised
- Sensitive topics (politics, ethnicity, religion) removed
- Minor incidents & delays, but no major disruptions
- Higher refusal rates → likely linked to tighter political control