

Contents

List of Figures	11
List of Tables	17
1. Introduction	19
1.1 The Problem	19
1.2 Demographic Change in Germany: An Overview	28
1.2.1 Introductory Remarks	28
1.2.2 Development of the Total Fertility Rate	29
1.2.3 Development of Average Life Expectancy	33
1.2.4 Development of the Migration Balance	34
1.2.5 Development of the Total Population	36
1.2.6 Development of Population Ageing	38
1.3 Structure of the Book	42
2. Theoretical Background	45
2.1 Scope of the Chapter	45
2.2 Explaining Age Differences in Political Behavior and Political Attitudes	46
2.2.1 Age Effects	46
2.2.2 Cohort Effects	49
2.3 Implications for Upcoming Elections	51
3. Detecting Political Consequences of Demographic Change at the Aggregate Level	55
3.1 Scope of the Chapter	55
3.2 Data and Research Strategy	57
3.3 Overview of Political and Context Characteristics in Regions With an Extreme Age Structure	60
3.4 Demographic Change and the Changing Social-Economic Context	65
3.5 Consequences for Turnout	74
3.5.1 Description of Turnout in Federal Elections	74
3.5.2 Cross-Sectional Analyses of Turnout Differences	83

3.5.3 Longitudinal Analyses of Turnout Changes	87
3.6 Consequences for the Party Vote	92
3.6.1 Description of the Party Vote in Federal Elections	92
3.6.2 Cross-Sectional Analyses of Party Vote Differences	106
3.6.3 Longitudinal Analyses of Party Vote Changes	115
3.7 Summary	124
4. Detecting Political Consequences of Demographic Change Using the Representative Electoral Statistics <i>(co-authored by Corina Wagner)</i>	127
4.1 Scope of the Chapter	127
4.2 Data and Research Strategy	129
4.2.1 Data Sources	129
4.2.2 Weighting Procedure	133
4.2.3 Reduction of Cases	134
4.2.4 Research Strategy	135
4.3 Consequences for Turnout	137
4.3.1 Explanatory Power of the Cohort Analytic Model for Turnout	137
4.3.2 Net Effects on Turnout	139
4.3.2.1 Computation of Net Effects	139
4.3.2.2 Net Effects of Period on Turnout	140
4.3.2.3 Net Effects of Cohort on Turnout	141
4.3.2.4 Net Effects of Age on Turnout	144
4.3.3 Polarization of Turnout	146
4.3.4 Future Developments of Turnout	148
4.3.4.1 Assumptions	148
4.3.4.2 Predicted Turnout Rates	150
4.3.4.3 Ageing of (Eligible) Voters	152
4.3.4.4 Future Polarization of Turnout	153
4.4 Consequences for the Party Vote	155
4.4.1 Explanatory Power of the Cohort Analytic Model for the Party Vote	155
4.4.2 Net Effects on the Party Vote	157
4.4.2.1 Net Effects of Period on the Party Vote	157
4.4.2.2 Net Effects of Cohort on the Party Vote	160
4.4.2.3 Net Effects of Age on the Party Vote	165
4.4.3 Polarization of the Party Vote	169
4.4.4 Future Developments of the Party Vote	174
4.5 Summary	179

5. Detecting Political Consequences of Demographic Change at the Individual Level	183
5.1 Scope of the Chapter	183
5.2 Data and Research Strategy	185
5.3 Age-Specific Differences in Political Attitudes	189
5.3.1 Introductory Remarks	189
5.3.2 Evaluations of the Welfare State	192
5.3.2.1 Salience of Different Policy Areas	192
5.3.2.2 Desired Government Responsibility for Different Policy Areas	196
5.3.2.3 Desired Government Spending for Different Policy Areas	199
5.3.2.4 Satisfaction About Different Policy Areas	201
5.3.2.5 Fears About Own Old Age	203
5.3.3 Assessing Party Competences	205
5.3.4 Political Attitudes, Value Orientations, and Perceptions	213
5.4 Consequences for Turnout	218
5.4.1 Turnout by Age	218
5.4.2 Determinants of Turnout	220
5.4.3 Multivariate Analyses of Turnout	223
5.5 Consequences for the Party Vote	232
5.5.1 Party Vote by Age	232
5.5.2 Determinants of the Party Vote	234
5.5.3 Multivariate Analyses of the Party Vote	236
5.6 Summary	252
6. Conclusions	255
Appendix A – Additional Tables and Figures	263
Appendix B – Procedure of Substituting Missing RES Data	317
Appendix C – Extract from the Questionnaire	321
References	327
Index	336