



EuReporting

The Dutch System of Official Social Surveys

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Editors' note:

'Official Social Surveys in Europe' is a series of commissioned working papers whose major aim is to provide basic information on the availability of and access to major official survey data in Western Europe relevant for problem-oriented social reporting on Europe.

The working papers provide

- background information on data infrastructures;
- a summary of survey profiles and access conditions for a set of major official social surveys;

The papers are supplemented by detailed, standardised survey documentation made available on the Internet at the home-page of the subproject at the Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES)¹.

In addition to common documentation items, information also covers a set of major classification variables with respect to the availability and concepts/definitions. In compiling this information, authors could usually use as a point of reference meta-information made available to the project by Eurostat, Directorate E.

The information system on the Internet can be queried either to retrieve blocks of information for a single survey, or to compare single items (such as definition and measurement of household relationships) across a set of surveys.

¹ Currently accessible at <http://www.mzes.uni-mannheim.de/projekte/mikrodaten/comei.htm>
(select 'Survey profiles')

1.	OFFICIAL STATISTICS IN THE NETHERLANDS: A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE ORGANISATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK	1
2.	THE DUTCH SYSTEM OF SOCIAL SURVEYS.....	2
2.1.1	<i>Cohort Survey of Secondary School Pupils (Voortgezet Onderwijs Cohort Leerlingen, VOCL)..</i>	<i>4</i>
2.1.2	<i>The Labour Force Survey (Enquête beroepsbevolking, EBB).....</i>	<i>5</i>
2.1.3	<i>The Socio-Economic Panel Survey ((Sociaal-Economisch Panelonderzoek, SEP)</i>	<i>6</i>
2.1.4	<i>The Household Budget Survey (Doorlopend Budgetonderzoek, BO).....</i>	<i>7</i>
2.1.5	<i>The Consumer Confidence Survey (Consumentenconjunctuuronderzoek, CCO).....</i>	<i>7</i>
2.1.6	<i>The Family Information Survey (Onderzoek Gezinsvorming, OG).....</i>	<i>8</i>
2.1.7	<i>The Mobility Survey (Onderzoek Verplaatsingsgedrag, OVG)</i>	<i>8</i>
2.1.8	<i>The Car Survey (Personenautopanel, PAP).....</i>	<i>9</i>
2.1.9	<i>The Motor Cycle Survey (Motorfietsenquête, MFE)</i>	<i>10</i>
2.1.10	<i>The Commercial Vehicle Surveys (Bedrijfsvoertuigenenquête, BVE)</i>	<i>10</i>
2.1.11	<i>The Residential and Non-Residential Construction Permits file (Bouwvergunningen Burgerlijke en Utiliteitsbouw, B&U).....</i>	<i>11</i>
2.1.12	<i>The Day Trip Survey (Onderzoek Dagrecreatie, OD).....</i>	<i>11</i>
2.1.13	<i>The National Voter Survey (Nationaal Kiezersonderzoek, NKO).....</i>	<i>12</i>
2.1.14	<i>Permanent Survey on Living Conditions (Permanent Onderzoek naar de Leefsituatie, POLS)12</i>	
2.1.15	<i>Health and Working Conditions (Gezondheid en Arbeidsomstandigheden, GE-AROM).....</i>	<i>14</i>
2.1.16	<i>The Housing Demand Survey (Woningbehoefte Onderzoek, WBO).....</i>	<i>14</i>
2.1.17	<i>Module 'Law and safety': Law and Environment (Recht en Milieu, REM) and Law and Participation (Recht en Participatie, REP).....</i>	<i>15</i>
2.1.18	<i>The Time Use Survey (Tijdsbestedingsonderzoek, TBO).....</i>	<i>15</i>
2.1.19	<i>Life situation of Young People (Leefsituatie Jongeren, JONG).....</i>	<i>15</i>
2.1.20	<i>The SCP Life Situation Index (SCP Leefsituatie-index, SLI).....</i>	<i>16</i>
3.	ACCESS TO OFFICIAL DUTCH MICRODATA.....	16
3.1	DISSEMINATION: THE SCIENTIFIC STATISTICAL AGENCY (WSA)	16
3.1.1	<i>Access Restrictions</i>	<i>17</i>
3.1.2	<i>User contracts</i>	<i>18</i>
3.1.3	<i>Protection of data files</i>	<i>19</i>
3.1.4	<i>Tariffs</i>	<i>20</i>
3.2	ON-SITE FACILITIES	20
4.	RESULT PUBLICATIONS AND METHODOLOGY.....	21

5.	APPENDIX: SURVEY DESCRIPTIONS IN SUMMARIZED FORM.....	25
5.1	BUDGETONDERZOEK 1999	26
5.2	SOCIAAL ECONOMISCH PANELONDERZOEK 1998.....	28
5.3	ENQUÊTE BEROEPSBEVOLKING 1999	30
5.4	CULTURAL CHANGES IN NL 1998.....	32
5.5	INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF SOCIAL SURVEYS 1999.....	34
5.6	PERMANENT ONDERZOEK LEEFSITUATIE (POLS) 1998.....	36
5.7	POLS: HEALTH AND WORKING CONDITIONS 1999	38
5.8	POLS: LAW AND ENVIRONMENT 1999	40
5.9	POLS: LAW AND PARTICIPATION 1999.....	42
5.10	POLS: TIME USE SURVEY 1999	44
5.11	TIJDSBESTEDINGSONDERZOEK (SCP) 1995.....	46

1. Official Statistics in The Netherlands: a Brief Summary of the Organisational Characteristics and Legal Framework

Official Statistics in The Netherlands are produced by Statistics Netherlands (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, CBS). CBS is a research organisation that produces statistics for the government. To this end, CBS collects information from individuals and households as well as from businesses and institutions and transforms this into statistics on population groups and their environments, and on sectors of industry. CBS collects statistics in order to efficiently implement the programme as determined by the Central Commission for Statistics (CCS), an independent commission made up of representatives from government, science and the public. The CCS guarantees the independence of CBS and the impartiality of the information it provides. Very strict national and international guidelines are followed for the definition of concepts and classifications used. This results in statistics that can be compared with each other, longitudinally, and internationally. CBS is not allowed to deviate from these guidelines.

Participants in the surveys are guaranteed that survey results will only be used by CBS for statistical research purposes. By law the data collected cannot be used for any other purpose than that. Individual data are never published in CBS publications, nor are they passed on to third parties or other governmental authorities as Statistics Netherlands is required to guarantee the respondents' privacy. When made public, through the internet accessible StatLine database (the basis for CBS tables and publications) in which all CBS output is incorporated, the data collected are released in such a form that no recognisable data on individuals, households or institutions can be derived from them – individual respondents should not experience any negative consequences as a result of their participation in a survey. For this reason, collected data are generally not passed on to others than those who have been charged with implementation of the CBS task. The national privacy authority co-operates closely with CBS in this respect. Only under very strict circumstances microdata will be made available for scientific and statistical research. This is explained in chapter three.

The statistical production process (collecting, matching, processing and analysing data) has changed over the years. Access to administrative sources together with the ever increasing technological possibilities to combine these data with survey data allows CBS to cut down on collecting survey data. This will not only save a lot of time and money, but also diminish the burden on society. In future Statistics Netherlands will recycle as much administrative data as made available to them so it would only have to collect data by itself if this information is not available from other sources. Thus CBS has constructed the Social Statistical Database (SSB) for persons and households and the Economic Statistical Database (ESB) for business data in

which all administrative and survey data available to CBS are combined. When dealing with sensitive information CBS has to comply with official national and international regulations. In the long run Statistics Netherlands will act according to the model of the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM) that focuses on the output and on the primary, supporting, and management processes.

Furthermore a CBS study showed that an increasing amount of statistical information is produced at ministries to gather policy-relevant information, including statistics for monitoring purposes. If CBS wants to remain the central supplier of statistical information one of the focal points will have to be to provide the information needed by the government departments. Both parliament and government want the effects of policy monitored more systematically. In order to do so Statistics Netherlands will have close future contacts with the ministries to gradually establish an integrated programme of activities. A way of accomplishing this, besides bilateral contacts, is setting up a centre for policy-related statistics for ministries, parliament, planning agencies, et cetera to conduct in-depth analyses.

At the moment 60 percent of the work at Statistics Netherlands consists of supplying statistics to meet the demand of European institutions. In future European obligations will account for more and more of CBS's activities. Therefore CBS wants to be closely involved in setting up new developments. The most important principles in this respect are timeliness of information, collecting necessary information only, reducing the response burden and embedding the data in a coherent information system. The process of creating such a system, in which outcomes of statistical processes are combined and confronted, is part of the development of information that also includes the development of statistical concepts and the interpretation and publication of the results of the aforementioned processes.

2. The Dutch System of Social Surveys

In the Netherlands, social surveys are conducted not only by the central statistical office (CBS), but also by the Social and Cultural Planning Office (Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau, SCP). The following description is limited to CBS surveys. It should be noted that Statistics Netherlands does not conduct a population census anymore. The last census was held in 1971, and later on abolished by Dutch parliament. Since 1981 Statistics Netherlands compiles equivalent tables every ten years from register data and sample surveys. For the 2000 census round, data gathered via integration of administrative sources and sample surveys will be used to build up microfiles covering the whole population.

At the moment more than twenty surveys by Statistics Netherlands have been made available for scientific research. Most of these surveys are based on individuals or households. The

surveys are described in a brief way in order to give an impression of what data are collected..
Instead, data are

Social and Spatial Statistics

- VOCL Cohort survey of secondary school pupils
- EBB Labour force survey
- SEP Socio-economic panel survey
- BO Household expenditure survey
- CCO Consumer confidence survey
- OG Family formation

Trade, Transport and Services

- OVG Mobility survey Business, transport and service
- PAP Car panel
- MFE Motorcycle survey
- BVE Commercial vehicle survey

Agriculture, industry & environment construction permits

- B&U Residential and non-residential

Public Sector and Social Conditions

- OD Day trips survey
- NKO National voters survey
- POLS Continuous Survey on Living Conditions
 - *BASE* *Basic module*
 - *GE-AROM* *Health and working conditions*
 - *WBO* *Housing demand survey*
 - *REM* *Law and environment*
 - *REP* *Law and participation*
 - *TBO* *Time Use Survey*
 - *JONG* *Trend survey young people*
 - *SLI* *SCP Life situation survey*

2.1.1 Cohort Survey of Secondary School Pupils (Voortgezet Onderwijs Cohort Leerlingen, VOCL)

The aim of Cohort Survey of Secondary School Pupils (VOCL) is to gain a clear understanding of the relation between the background and the enrolment characteristics of pupils, their school careers and the levels of education they have reached. Characteristic of this type of survey is the multi-level structure and its panel feature: data are not only collected about pupils but also about schools and parents. Besides, the pupils are followed for a number of years while they are pursuing their secondary and higher education. There are two VOCL cohorts (Cohort Survey of Secondary School Pupils) available. The first cohort started in 1989 and the second cohort in 1993. The data gathering for the third cohort started in 1999.

VOCL consists of two parts: the pupil data and the school data. CBS microdata only refer to pupil data, including information about the parents. The pupil data are divided into 10 main-group modules. These modules refer to data about the pupil, the household and the parents/guardians.

Besides the pupil part there is also a part where data about the school, the management and the teachers are collected. The 1989 cohort also has a file with data about OVB (educational priority policy) officials. These data are managed by the research institutes OCTO Twente and GION Groningen. The Institute for Educational Research (SVO), which was incorporated into the Social Science Research Council of NWO (Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research), is co-financier and co-owner of these data.

The 1989 VOCL is based on a sample of approximately 20,000 pupils who were attending the first year of secondary education in the school year 1989/1990. This is approximately 10 percent of the population. At the start of the survey extensive information was collected by means of questionnaires about the pupil, the household, the parent(s) or guardian(s) and the attended school. The data in question are demographic, about the educational and professional levels of the parents, the composition of the family, the cultural situation of the pupil at home and the school characteristics. Besides, the pupils were given several tests, one of which was an entry test comparable to the CITO test (in the Netherlands: an exam to determine which type of secondary school a child should go to). After that, at the beginning of each school year, the educational institution the pupil attends provides data about the prevailing school situation, such as educational element (e.g. type of school), year, choice of subjects and exam results.

In 1993 a second cohort of similar size started. The micro data of the second cohort are also available. New data are added annually to both cohorts. The files are therefore cumulative: each year the complete file including the new data is supplied. This means that the various measurements of the cohorts do not have to be joined. In 1999 a third cohort started.

2.1.2 *The Labour Force Survey (Enquête beroepsbevolking, EBB)*

The Labour Force Survey (EBB) is held since 1987. The EBB is an annual survey with monthly interviews which is the successor of the earlier Labour Force Survey AKT, which was held once every two years. The aim of the survey is to gather data about the developments on the labour market.

The EBB is a 1% sample among people residing in the Netherlands not including institutionalised people. It is a multi-stage sampling: addresses on file at the employment offices (Arbeidsbureaus) are more likely to be selected for the samples than other addresses. If someone is not able to answer him/herself another member of the same household may answer (interview by proxy). Of approximately 36% of the people of whom information was collected, this was provided by another member of the same household; in most cases the spouse or long-term partner.

This has resulted in almost 100,000 cases with information about demographic and labour-market characteristics. The demographic characteristics such as sex, date of birth, marital status and position within the household relate to all members of the household. The questions about the position on the labour market are only posed to persons of 15 years and older. They relate among other things to the social class people think they belong to, whether they are employed or not, the position they hold, whether they are looking for employment, their schooling and commuting. The EBB does not include information about income, but this is, however, included in the smaller Socio-Economic Panel Survey (SEP, see below). As an exception the 1996 EBB included five questions about working conditions. The Health Survey of that year (which as of 1997 was included in the POLS module Health and Working Conditions) contains a more extensive set of 35 questions about working conditions.

At this moment EBB microfiles are available from 1987 onwards. As of 1992 they have a fixed file structure. This means that variables which do not occur in later years, are kept empty in the file and that new variables are added. In 1992 also a number of definitions of labour-market terms were defined, such as the employed labour force and the unemployed. The EBB methodology was also thoroughly reviewed in that year. Both the questionnaire and the weighting systematics have been improved.

In 1994 it was decided to include the RBA (Regional Employment Bureau) region in even years in order to be able to analyse regional labour-market problems. The four big cities in the Netherlands (Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague and Utrecht) are listed separately (RBA code 29-32) and have been added to the data (an inhabitant of Amsterdam therefore occurs in the data twice: as an inhabitant of the RBA and as an inhabitant of Amsterdam!). Because the uneven years do not contain a regional classification, it is possible to include more ethnic detail in those years. The inclusion of the RBA region as a regional component however has a major influence on the security of the file. This results in a major decrease of the number of

available variables and the aggregate level of the variables.

2.1.3 The Socio-Economic Panel Survey ((Sociaal-Economisch Panelonderzoek, SEP)

The aim of the Socio-Economic Panel Survey (SEP) is to give a description of individual prosperity and/or prosperity of households and how it changes in the course of time. The availability of this panel satisfies a major demand to do longitudinal and international research of income developments, social security, poverty and perception of prosperity. When the European Community Household Panel (ECHP) was introduced, the SEP was adjusted to supply ECHP data on the Netherlands.

In the SEP approximately 5,000 households, that is about 12,000 persons, are followed long term. All household members of 16 years and older are regularly interviewed about subjects relating to the socio-economic situation of the household and themselves.

A disadvantage of panel data is that because of dropping out, ageing and educational effects the panel becomes less representative for the entire population. The SEP has a large initial non-response (currently around 70%). At 5% the panel drop-out rate is modest. However, if this dropping out (and growth) is selective it can, accumulated over the years, give quite a distorted picture of the results. The origins of the newly recruited panel participants is registered: e.g. newly selected, a child of a current panel participant or a new partner of an existing panel participant. With the help of a weighting factor the effects of selective non-response is sought to be prevented.

The SEP includes questions about schooling, work, income, property and debt (assets), housing, possession of durable consumer goods and perception of prosperity. Depending on the nature of the subject a member of the household (preferably the head of the household or otherwise his/her spouse/partner) is interviewed or all members of the household of 16 years and older are interviewed. In this way of all persons, so also of those younger than 16 years old, the most important personal details are collected.

From 1984 to 1989 the Socio-Economic Panel Survey was conducted twice annually in April and in October. Since 1990 it has been conducted annually. In 1992 also the question about income changed: instead of net income for the year in question, the gross income of the previous year is asked. There is also a question about paid income tax and social premiums in that year.

A combined microfile of the SEP (SEP Longitudinal) also became available in 1998. This longitudinal file includes a subset of the data of all polls carried out since 1984. This set of longitudinal variables has been checked for time-related consistency. Besides, new calculated variables have been added to the file, such as net disposable income of a household. The longitudinal file can also serve as a basis for the linking of various annual files (which contain more data). Currently the SEP Longitudinal is available from 1984 to 1997.

2.1.4 The Household Budget Survey (Doorlopend Budgetonderzoek, BO)

The Household Budget Survey (BO) has been conducted annually since 1978 in order to get an understanding of the spending patterns of various types of households. In one year data are collected about expenditure, income and background characteristics of Dutch households.

The data collection concerns a cross section of a random selection of Dutch households. The unit of measurement is therefore the household. Background information is collected through a questionnaire. For a quarter of a month all purchases, sales and repayments are registered in great detail in a housekeeping book. The measurement therefore concerns expenditure and not the number of products (and the price per product). During the rest of the year the purchases, sales and repayments are registered, as long as they exceed NLG 35.00. During holidays a separate holiday book is filled out, there is a questionnaire for periodical expenditures and one for water and energy use. When the year has ended a questionnaire is filled out with income-related questions. During the year the household is visited about 8-9 times by a pollster. The pollster provides the household with support when filling out the housekeeping books and collects the questionnaires.

The microfile concerns (as of 1992) approximately 2,000 households and contains 400 background variables and 600 expenditure variables. The data of 1980, 1985 and annually since 1987 are available. The earlier years have a similar number of variables but a varying sample scope: in 1991 approximately 1,000 households and in 1993 approx. 3,000 households.

2.1.5 The Consumer Confidence Survey (Consumentenconjunctuuronderzoek, CCO)

The Consumer Confidence Survey (CCO), which is held partly at the request of the European Commission, provides information about the opinions of consumers concerning general economic developments and the financial situation of their own households. The aim of collecting this information, which started in 1972, is to help predict short-term fluctuations of private consumption, especially with regard to durable goods. The CBS bases the index of consumer confidence on these CCO data.

The sample unit is the private household. The member who considers him/herself the head of the household or his/her substitute is contacted. Since April 1986 the survey is held monthly by means of computerised telephone interviews. Before that time the interviews were held personally three times annually.

The CCO is completed with a delay of one year. The 1997 CCO contains about thirty variables obtained from 12,000 people. The CCO is available as of 1992. The older files are not readily available, but may, in principle be consulted on-site at the CBS.

2.1.6 The Family Information Survey (Onderzoek Gezinsvorming, OG)

The Family Information Survey (OG) focuses on relationship and family development in the Netherlands in addition to the population statistics connected with the population registers. For CBS the OG serves as a building block for national population and household forecasts.

The survey contains questions about leaving the parental home, living single, living together, marriage, separation, birth control, having children and how to combine children with having a job. Information is gathered about the actual situation in past and present. People are also asked about their expectations of the future.

The OG focuses on women, registered in the Dutch municipal registers of persons, in the age group between 18 and 42, irrespective of their marital status or country of birth/nationality. The survey participants are selected with a so-called stratified two-stage sample in which first a municipality and subsequently people are selected. The people are first informed by letter after which they are personally interviewed by pollsters. It is difficult, however, to compare the old OGs (until 1978) with OGs after 1982, because before 1982 only married women were interviewed. The OG 1993 datafile consists of two subfiles: one for men and one for women. The reason for this is that the men are only asked a limited number of questions in this survey. Because of this the number of variables in the men's file is smaller than in the women's file.

The sample is reweighted at personal level. The reweighting was done separately for men and women and for the following variables: year of birth, marital status, household position, nationality, size of municipality and, only for women, number of children. The first OG dates back to 1974, followed by OGs in 1977, 1982, 1988 and 1993. At the moment only the 1988 and 1993 OG microfiles are available. The 1988 OG microfile consists of about 6,000 women between 18 and 38. The 1993 OG consists of 3,705 men and 4,516 women.

2.1.7 The Mobility Survey (Onderzoek Verplaatsingsgedrag, OVG)

The aim of the Mobility Survey (OVG) is to gather statistical information about the mobility of the Dutch population in relation to characteristics of people, their activities and living environment. Information is collected to define the mobility pattern of the population with regard to location of departure and destination, at what time people travel, the used modes of transport and the reasons people travel. Attention is also paid to factors explaining a certain mobility pattern.

The OVG sample is selected from the Geographical Basic Register of People (GBR) as a stratified household sample. The Dutch telecom services (PTT) add as many phone numbers as possible to the selected addresses. Subsequently the sample is randomly divided over all days of the year. Households without a telephone are not approached. The household information is gathered by means of interviews by telephone. The personal and mobility details are provided in writing by the respondent.

Since 1978 the OVG is a permanent survey. Research into an efficient observation method led in 1985 to a transition to a combined written/telephonic interview. After that the gathering of information continued unchanged. The OVG therefore provides a considerable source of comparable information over a long period of time. Because the response was quite low the redesign of the OVG was initiated in 1997. This resulted in a new design which was implemented according to plan in 1999.

The microfiles are available as of 1989. They contain information about approximately 70 variables obtained from 60,000 households and 140,000 people. A user interface was added to the Mobility Survey which considerably simplifies making tables. This means that, especially new users, can faster generate output for the various observation units: mobility, person and household. This interface, called OGI (OVG Graphical Interface) is supplied with the file.

2.1.8 The Car Survey (Personenautopanel, PAP)

The aim of the Car Survey (PAP) is to get insight into ownership and use of passenger cars and to define the mutual relation between the characteristics of ownership and use of passenger cars. Since 1960 the Car Surveys were held irregularly and since 1975 annually. The interview method currently in use has been applied unchanged since 1990, but the annual data after 1982 can, by recalculating them, be very well used for comparison in a survey covering a long period of time.

As a sample source the licence-plate register of the Rijksdienst voor het Wegverkeer (RDW²) is used. The data are collected by telephone. There are four consecutive interviews at one-month intervals resulting in three different monthly mileage calculations. Each month a quarter of the respondents is replaced.

The file contains about 20,000 records (5,000 respondents) and 70 variables. It contains information about the type of car, mileage (to destination), distance and travel time for commuters, type of fuel, fuel consumption, et cetera as well as background information about the passenger car and the main user.

The annual files as of 1985 are available. The files of the years 1984 - 1989 have been made comparable to the files after 1990, which are made according to the new method, and they have become available as well in the meantime. Since 2001 the PAP was added to the OVG so it has stopped to exist as a survey, but the information that was gathered through PAP is still collected.

² Since becoming independent, the RDW has dropped its former title of 'Rijksdienst voor het Wegverkeer' and is now known as 'the RDW Centre for Vehicle Technology and Information', or simply 'the RDW'.

2.1.9 The Motor Cycle Survey (Motorfietsenquête, MFE)

The aim of the Motor Cycle Survey (MFE) is to get insight into ownership and use of motor cycles and to define the mutual relation between a number of aspects of ownership and use of motor cycles. Furthermore, the survey serves to complete the statistics system of passenger transport and traffic as a whole.

The individual observation unit is the motor cycle. As a sample source the licence-plate register of the RDW is used. The register contains technical details about the license plate as well as personal details of the owner. Every fiftieth motor cycle has been selected from this population. The 4,800 sampled motor cycles yielded a response of 70%. The information was obtained from the owners by means of questionnaires. The sample shows an overrepresentation of new(er) motor cycles.

At the beginning of 1993 the fifth and last MFE was held. Previous surveys covered the years 1971, 1976, 1984 and 1988. The collection of information for the last MFE took place in January and February 1993 and covered the year 1992. The 1992 MFE microfile contains 50 variables about 3,400 motor cycles.

2.1.10 The Commercial Vehicle Surveys (Bedrijfsvoertuigenenquête, BVE)

The Commercial Vehicle Survey (BVE) provides insight into the total range of ownership and use of commercial vehicles. Transport statistics also measure the performance of a large number of commercial vehicles but the survey shows that a considerable part of the commercial vehicles remains beyond the scope of the survey. The cause of this discrepancy is that the transport statistics are linked to the permits and/or proof of registration whereas the BVE is based on license-plate registration.

The results of the BVE are also of importance for traffic and transport statistics as a whole. Together with the annual PAP and the four-yearly MFE the BVE provides a complete picture of ownership and use of all motor vehicles in the Netherlands which require a licence.

A similar sample procedure was followed as in the aforementioned MFE: the licence-plate register of the RDW, although this time on the basis of commercial-vehicle licenses (so-called 'grey' license plates). The information was collected by means of a questionnaire sent to the owners.

In the sample 1 out of every 70 commercial vehicles is selected from the population. The sample amounts therefore to a total of 9,600 vehicles which have been stratified according to type: van (1:150), lorry (1:30), tractor (1:40), special vehicle (1:17) and coach (1:20). This diversification is applied because the differences in use of these types are considerable. It is no use of course to compare the mileage of a tractor with that of a coach.

The response in 1993 was high: on average 78%, which meant that 6,750 questionnaires were

returned. Like in the MFE there's an overrepresentation of new vehicles. The BVE was conducted for the fifth time in 1994. Previous surveys related to ownership and use of commercial vehicles were conducted in 1971, 1981, 1985 and 1989. In the future the information will be gathered through other transport statistics.

The microfile contains the following variables. Per type of vehicle the variables differ slightly. For instance, with regard to coaches when asked about type of transport the questions refer to: scheduled service, group transport and coach transport. With regard to vans there is a distinction between commercial goods/passenger transport or private use. This last category has been included in order to trace non-commercial use (of so-called 'grey' license plates).

2.1.11 The Residential and Non-Residential Construction Permits file (Bouwvergunningen Burgerlijke en Utiliteitsbouw, B&U)

The Residential and Non-Residential Construction Permits file (B&U) is especially of importance for research concerning the building industry and public housing. The file can also be used for geographical research of built-up areas.

The B&U contains, at municipal level, all buildings with construction costs of 50,000 guilders or more (before 1998 a bottom line was applied of 20,000) for which in a certain year a building permit was issued. The data have been integrally taken over from the so-called W011 forms which the municipalities sent to CBS every month. The file is made by the building-industry sector of the Agriculture, Industry and Environment Division of CBS. The microfile contains data approximately 30 variables of about 47,000 buildings (figures 1997). With regard to housing a distinction is made between normal houses, apartments and recreational housing. A further distinction is made between rented houses and own houses and type of financing. Microfiles are available as of 1986.

2.1.12 The Day Trip Survey (Onderzoek Dagrecreatie, OD)

The aim of the Day Trip Survey (OD) is to collect information about recreational activities for which people leave home at least two hours without staying overnight elsewhere. Visits to relatives or acquaintances and day trips from a holiday address are not included in the OD.

The OD population is the population of the Netherlands with the exception of those who are registered in the Central Register of Persons or who live in institutions. Address samples are drawn per fortnight. One respondent is drawn per address. The OD consists of two parts: the personal file and the day-trip file. Both files can be linked by means of two key variables which are present in both files.

Respondents participated in the survey for either half a month or an entire one, depending on the size of the household. The respondents were provided with a schedule on which they had to register their day-trip activities for the coming half or whole month. The schedules did not

have to be returned; the information was collected by phone once a week.

On average a 1,000 respondents participated in the Survey at any one time. In the period of September 1990 – August 1991 this meant that 18,000 respondents participated. A similar number of people participated in the 1995/96 OD during a similar period of time. The number of records in the personal file, however, is about 25,000 because some people participated in two consecutive periods. They have a separate record for each period. The 1990/91 and 1995/96 ODs contain about 60,000 day-trip registrations.

2.1.13 The National Voter Survey (Nationaal Kiezersonderzoek, NKO)

The aim of the National Voter Survey (NKO) is to gather information in order to be able to describe and analyse voting behaviour and its backgrounds.

The NKO contains a main survey consisting of an observation before and an observation after the Lower House elections and a subsequent survey with an observation after the next elections for the Lower House. This means that the NKOs have an overlap: the third observation of the 1989 NKO covers about the same period as the second observation of the 1994 NKO.

The variables in the main survey relate to personal and household characteristics such as age, sex, marital status, composition of the household, schooling, profession, income, a number of variables concerning voting intention and voting behaviour, affective relation with parties, perception of major problems, political issues, political interest and communication, political knowledge, coalition preference, perception of generalised position of both the respondent as well as the a parties, assessment of politicians, opinion of connection between religion, society and politics, general assessment of the government's acts in the previous period, political and social participation, subjective class, religion and political environment during youth.

The first NKO was held in 1967, when parliamentary elections were held. After 1971 an interuniversity working group, the members of which originated mainly from political science faculties, was in charge of this survey. This involvement led in 1989 to the establishment of the Netherlands Voter Survey foundation (SKON). NKO microfiles of 1989, 1994 and 1998 are available for scientific research. The 1994 NKO microfile relates to the main survey and contains data of about 1,750 people entitled to vote and 400 variables. As regional details the degree of urbanization and region have been included.

2.1.14 Permanent Survey on Living Conditions (Permanent Onderzoek naar de Leefsituatie, POLS)

The microfiles of the Continuous Survey on Living Conditions (POLS) comprise the former separate surveys on housing, health, safety and living conditions. It was first conducted in the new format in 1997. The aim of POLS is to collect information about the living conditions of

the Dutch population. The sample is taken in two steps. The first is the selection of municipalities and the second is the selection of respondents. The survey is set up in a flexible way so that changing or new questions can be easily dealt with.

Because POLS is an integrated survey it provides a more coherent picture of the living conditions. One identical basic questionnaire is used for all respondents and by considering all respondents as one big sample only one result, only one figure is generated about a subject. Thus a maximum rapport of living conditions survey results with demographic and socio-economic characteristics of households and household members is realised.

POLS consists of a number of layers.

Layer 1 contains the co-ordinated CBS questions about demographic and socio-economic characteristics for the entire POLS sample. In principle the sample relates to the entire population and these measurements will remain a permanent and unchanging part of the POLS. Changes are only implemented if CBS changes the definitions and/or measuring methods of these standard concepts. The screening for the various modules also takes place here. By screening in this layer for victimization or accident involvement the interview time is used more efficiently.

Layer 2 contains the core indicators of the various quality-of-life subjects for the entire POLS sample. These are a fixed set of questions about housing, health, life styles, work quality, political involvement, environment, social participation, time use, (crime-related) victimization and unsafety. Because the sample is quite substantial in the second layer the core variables can, for instance, be used for quarterly figures or for more regional detail. Besides, room and time for interviews is available for variable question blocks and for variable screening questions. The screening questions serve to select for the entire sample those people to which a certain characteristic applies. At a later stage (layer 4) the specific category selected in this way will get additional questions on top of the regular programme. Due to the variable possibilities the composition of the questions in layer 2 is less stable than in layer 1. Within POLS the rule applies that the overall interview time of layers 1 and 2 may (on average) not exceed 15 minutes. Layers 1 and 2 also account for POLS-BASE.

Layer 3 contains the various modules focussing on a specific subject. The average interview time of these modules is about 30 minutes. In principle these modules may also be supplied by third parties. It is also possible to increase the size of the sample within a certain module. Due to the changing frequencies of the surveys and the fluctuating involvement of third parties the number of modules focussing on a certain subject will vary each year.

In 1997, *layer 4* can be considered the continuation of the screening questions in layer 2. For instance the screening question about accidents is intended to select those people who recently suffered one or more accidents (incidence). In layer 4 further questions are asked about the

nature and type of the reported accident. Contrary to the accident module in layer 3 the questions in layer 4 specifically relate to sports activities and exposure to dangerous situations at home. Another addition concerns health. The so-called HIS/HES survey of the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports and the RIVM (National Institute of Public Health and Environmental Protection) also includes results of medical checks. In 1999 an additional survey about the housing situation and a continuation of the HES survey were held.

2.1.15 Health and Working Conditions (Gezondheid en Arbeidsomstandigheden, GE-AROM)

In the POLS module on Health and Working Conditions (GE-AROM) the old surveys on health and the labour situation are continued. It is the aim of GE-AROM to provide an overview of developments regarding health, consumption of medical and social services, lifestyle (including working conditions) and preventative behaviour of the Dutch population that is as complete as possible. Besides, there are questions about personal and background information. Since the early 1980's the questionnaires have remained more or less the same.

The target population of the Health and Working Conditions module is everybody of 0 years and older living in private households in The Netherlands. Only those people who live outside institutions and homes in The Netherlands are approached to participate in the survey. In 1997 the sample of the module amounted to 20,741 persons, of which 18,339 were actually distributed. The response was 10,989 or 59,4% of the distributed amount.

2.1.16 The Housing Demand Survey (Woningbehoefte Onderzoek, WBO)

The Housing Demand Survey (WBO) is conducted since 1977 once every four years and is a sample survey focusing on the individual. The WBO is financed and held at the request of the Ministry of Housing, Regional Development and the Environment (VROM). The aim of the WBO is to collect information about the housing situation, housing expenditure and the number of times people have moved or want to move. Depending on the position of the person interviewed in the household different routes are followed in the questionnaire. Main residents, people living in and household members are distinguished. There are similarities in the questions about previous housing situations, the desired housing situation and the income. The differences concern the questions about the current housing situation and the household of the respondent.

Since 1998 the WBO is part of POLS and it is being conducted annually. It was thoroughly modified. Some items are still present in the questionnaire, but the scope of the items has increased: mobility, recreation, work, quality of life and additional housing-related costs. Every year about 15,000 respondents are asked about 900 questions out of which about 1200 variables have been deduced. The samples are selected from the municipal personal registers.

2.1.17 Module 'Law and safety': Law and Environment (Recht en Milieu, REM) and Law and Participation (Recht en Participatie, REP)

The module Law and Safety consists of the two questionnaires Law and Environment (REM) and Law and Participation (REP). The two parts have a joint questionnaire on law containing questions about victimization and questions about requests for legal assistance. Furthermore, the REM module contains questions about the environment, ties with political parties, opinion about foreigners and a time use survey. The other questions in the REP module are about unsafety, prevention, police assistance and social participation. The sample population consists of people of 15 years and older.

The aim of the joint questions on law in both modules is the collection of data about the extent to which the population is victim of one or more types of much occurring crime. The results also give a clear picture about how much crime there is. This is an important addition to crime registered by police and other investigative institutions.

CBS has conducted victim surveys since 1981. From 1991 up to and including 1996 the Legal Protection and Safety Survey (ERV) was held annually. Since 1997 it has been included in POLS. The microfiles contain data on approximately 5,000 respondents for both modules.

2.1.18 The Time Use Survey (Tijdsbestedingsonderzoek, TBO)

The Time Use Survey (TBO) is part of the REM module. That means that several background variables of the respondents are already available and that a separate form is enough. Respondents are asked to minutely record all their daily activities (personal care, travelling time, paid work, schooling and courses, shopping and appointments, household chores, voluntary work, spare time and other) per fifteen minutes for a week in a user friendly and graphical way. Furthermore, there is a general questionnaire also containing questions for other members of the household. The most recent substantial TBO of CBS dates back to 1988. The old TBOs (1987 and 1988) of CBS are still available for research.

2.1.19 Life situation of Young People (Leefsituatie Jongeren, JONG)

The POLS module on Young People (JONG) is a survey of trends among young people (13-24 years) that was conducted for the first time in 1979. JONG provides an extensive overview of objective and subjective trends among the Dutch population of 13 years and older. Besides information about background characteristics, such as age, sex, marital status, household composition, schooling and profession, information is made available about the housing situation, the environment, the quality of the employment, use of spare time, social participation, health perception, medical consumption, well-being, social relationships and satisfaction with various aspects of life. The aim of the JONG module in POLS is the observation of characteristics regarding the social situation particularly relevant for this age group. The subjects in question are for instance, going out, the conditions at home for growing

up, problems with parents, perception of school, risky habits, petty crime and sexuality. They were also asked additional questions about school perception, forming of relationships and sexuality, emancipation and crime. The sample scope for the 1997 JONG module was 5,603 persons. Of these 4,691 were actually approached. The response was 2,749 persons, or 58 % of the persons approached.

2.1.20 The SCP Life Situation Index (SCP Leefsituatie-index, SLI)

The Life Situation Index (SLI) of the Social and Cultural Planning Office (SCP) has been around for a long time. In 1974 CBS conducted the first SLI at the request of and in close co-operation with SCP. The SCP used these surveys among other things for the calculation of the Welfare Index. During the aforementioned period the questions on which the Welfare Index was based have remained more or less the same.

However, since 1997 two major changes have taken place in the survey design: a methodological change (SLI has now become a module of POLS) as well as a change of contents. The questions have been considerably adapted to points of view which were gained in the past twenty years. The respondents find the questions easier, they are clearer and can be answered swifter.

The target population of the Age Situation Index (SLI) is all people in private households of 18 years and older. The sample scope for the 1997 SLI module is 6,993 people. The sample is divided in monthly sections. People are asked about their housing situation, willingness to move, loneliness, leisure, satisfaction, health, appreciation of income and poverty.

3. Access to Official Dutch Microdata

3.1 Dissemination: The Scientific Statistical Agency (WSA)

In the Netherlands official microdata of Statistics Netherlands (CBS) are made available for statistical and scientific research through the Scientific Statistical Agency (WSA). WSA was founded by the General Board of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) in 1994 with the aim to improve the accessibility and availability of data files. WSA acts as an intermediary between researchers and data providers and closely collaborates with institutions that work in related fields, or that in a similar fashion act as intermediaries with respect to opening up data files for scientific research. Also in 1994 the agreement that was concluded between NWO and CBS to make microdata files available for scientific research was an important step towards improving access to data files.

As an organisation, WSA is part of the Social Science Research Council (*Maatschappij en*

Gedragwetenschappen), of NWO. Similar to the other bodies of NWO, WSA has an office and an academic board. WSA now has three employees. Because it concentrates on its role as an intermediary, there is no need for expansion. With respect to the distribution of data, WSA can call on the Netherlands Institute for Scientific Information Services (NIWI) and producers of data such as Statistics Netherlands (CBS), who are themselves distributors.

A special law allows CBS microdata to be made available to universities, legally established institutions or institutions for scientific research, the Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analyses (CPB), the Social and Cultural Planning Office (SCP), the European Community Statistical Office (Eurostat) and other services, organisations and institutions authorised by the Central Committee for Statistics (CCS, the board of CBS). NWO pays CBS an annual fee for making the data available. In return, every year CBS makes available new sets of microdata files along with the corresponding documentation. At first this was a minimum of eight files, but now CBS makes almost all of its population surveys available to WSA. The microdata files and the corresponding documentation are put on CD-ROMs by CBS. In this way researchers can access the data at their own workstations.

This provision for microdata is limited to population and household surveys. It is very difficult to anonymise business data and prohibited by law to take them outside the CBS premises. Still, to give researchers access to these microdata, the Centre for Research on Economic Microdata (CEREM) was created within CBS. This is a facility where researchers can analyse business microdata. Since the start of WSA, a great deal of attention has been paid to CBS microdata, which are highly valued by researchers. This concerns not only the content and the accessibility of the data, but also the quality of the documentation and the transfer of knowledge.

Protecting the privacy of the respondents comes first when making data available. Different instruments are used to guarantee this privacy:

- Restrictions to access;
- User contracts;
- Protection of data files.

3.1.1 Access Restrictions

Before a research organisation signs a contract for access to microdata, the Central Committee for Statistics carries out an assessment of the organisation. This assessment takes place only once and includes access to all WSA data. Permission for use is granted to the organisation and not to an individual user.

The CCS applies the following criteria:

1. The organisation should be an autonomous legal body or part of a government service. The latter might be government, provincial or municipal statistical or research offices. These research organisations must meet criterion 2 for the purposes of their research;
2. The organisation should be outside the authority of an administrative body;
3. The primary goal of the organisation must be one of research;
4. The organisation must make its research results public. If the organisation conducts research on behalf of a client, the results for which the data were used must be made public;
5. The organisation must enjoy a good reputation.

Careful attention must be given to the assessment by the research organisation, CBS and WSA before entering into a user contract. The most important criteria are related to the purpose of the use (statistics and science) and to the physical and organisational protection of the files within the organisation.

The research organisation is required to appoint a contact person and/or data manager and to provide the name of this person to WSA. This contact person is responsible for the protection of the files within the organisation. This person can also play a role in the distribution of the microfiles and the documentation, and can provide information about the files at the organisation.

3.1.2 User contracts

After the CCS gives its approval, the research organisation signs a contract with CBS for the use of microdata. This contract makes it possible to order microdata files. New orders placed by research institutes that have already signed a user contract can be processed more quickly.

The most important conditions in the user contract refer directly to the use of microdata files:

- The supplied data shall be used only for statistical analysis and processing, not for administrative purposes;
- Results obtained on the basis of data supplied by CBS will only be presented in the form of reports from which no information on separate, identifiable individuals, businesses or institutions can be derived. No reports will be made on research results obtained from data supplied by CBS in any form whatsoever, including lectures and conference papers, before these have been submitted to CBS for screening. CBS shall complete the screening procedure within fifteen working days;
- Each report containing results of the research will contain the following acknowledgement: "In this research data have been used from [name micro-survey] [year(s)] of Statistics Netherlands (CBS), which have been made available through the Scientific Statistical Agency";

- At the end of each calendar year, WSA/NWO will be provided with the following information for each research project in which data supplied by CBS have been used:
- the name of the project;
- a summary of its contents;
- the names of the project managers and of the researchers;
- results, if any.
- Once a year WSA asks the research organisation in question to provide them with a list of publications that make use of the microdata files. It is important to WSA to have an overview of the use of the files, so it can prove its role as an intermediary and give an idea of the effectiveness of the agreements to the General Board of NWO;
- Matching the supplied data on the level of individual elements (persons, households, businesses or institutions) against any other data set on the same level, however obtained, is not allowed;
- Passing on the supplied microdata files to third parties, whether in their original form or after processing, in whole or in part, is not allowed;
- Both the supplied microdata files and all unpublished data obtained on the basis of these files shall be destroyed no later than three years after their receipt, unless a request to extend this period has been submitted to and approved by CBS. CBS must be notified in writing that the microdata files have been destroyed;
- The copyright and any other intellectual property rights on the data remain the property of CBS;
- The research organisation is responsible for the proper physical and logical protection of the data. Only those persons authorised by the organisation to do so have access to the microdata files;
- Every researcher who will work with the microdata files must sign a confidentiality statement. This statement must be co-signed by the researcher's immediate superior. By signing the statement the researcher agrees to keep confidential any and all information regarding individual research entities (individuals, households, etc.), also should the researcher in future no longer be employed by the research organisation;
- CBS reserves the right to terminate the contract with immediate effect for non-compliance with the contract's provisions.

3.1.3 Protection of data files

One standard scientific use file is made for each survey. This is done for several reasons. First of all for security and logistic reasons it is more practical to work with one version (one security exercise, one data dictionary and one set of documentation). Also, researchers will not have to negotiate with CBS on the content and price of each file. An order can be processed within two weeks (subject to availability and authorisation by the CCS).

The exact composition of the variables in the files are chiefly determined by security requirements set by CBS in order to guarantee the privacy of individuals. In order to protect

respondents' privacy it is not enough to remove their names and addresses from an original data file.

Where security of data is concerned, the following differentiations have been made in variables:

- Variables that are directly identifiable, such as name, address, telephone number and Social Security number;
- Indirectly identifiable variables. These are subdivided into:
 - most identifiable (regions of work, residence and education);
 - more identifiable (most identifiable + gender, ethnicity, nationality, country of birth);
 - identifiable (more identifiable + company, profession, education, age, marital status, household make-up, etc.).
- Other (non-identifiable) variables.

Directly identifiable variables will not be included in a microdata file. With regard to security, the occurrence of rare combinations of values of variable crossings is being tested, of the following type: *Most identifiable x more identifiable x identifiable*

In this way files are secured against spontaneous recognition of respondents. This protection concerns processing on a regional level in particular. Because of its ability to differentiate, a region is classified as 'most identifiable variable'. The inclusion of regional variables in the microdata file mean that many other variables cannot be included.

WSA stimulates the use of official microdata. For a number of reasons however it uses tariffs. First of all to avoid the ordering of all available microdata by a large number of organisations without using the data. This would endanger data protection. Secondly, revenues are used to finance the WSA staff.

3.1.4 Tariffs

In order to stimulate scientific use of the microdata WSA tariffs are very low. The maximum tariff for a single data file does not exceed €2250,- for a whole faculty. Non-academic users pay a double tariff. For historic data files (4 years or older) there is a 50% price reduction.

3.2 On-site facilities

By placing protective restrictions on microdata, researchers can be limited in the range of use of WSA data files compared to the 'original', non-restricted data files at Statistics Netherlands (CBS). If the research requires more detail, or if access to other variables is needed, the contract provides for the possibility of conducting research at CBS, where the complete files will be made available.

At the CBS locations in Voorburg and Heerlen, work stations have been created where researchers can use the computers and data facilities. There are some requirements for this kind of research:

- The institution needs to have a contract with CBS;
- Data need to be purchased through WSA;
- The results of the analyses will be screened by CBS before they leave CBS premises.

It is assumed that the researcher in question has sufficient experience to be able to use statistical software and (large) data files. SPSS is available, but SAS can also be installed on request. Should it be necessary, CBS offers the course "Multivariate Techniques with SPSS". The Statistical Methods Sector gives this course, which is comprised of a number of modules.

There are marginal charges for the use of the facility. One per half day of use and a one-time administration fee. Researchers not yet acquainted with security procedures will get instructions. There are additional charges for scientific support, extra computer support and for the use of specific software like SAS.

4. Result publications and methodology

Statistics Netherlands has a strong orientation towards thematic reports, integrating data from different sources. The following list is a selection of reports and methodological information which are related to the surveys described in this working paper. Please note that results are published also in 'Sociaal-economische maandstatistiek', published monthly by CBS. Those interested in tabular data should consult CBS's online database STATLINE which provides free of charge access to all publication tables (<http://statline.cbs.nl>).

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5. Appendix: Survey descriptions in summarized form

For details and comparative queries visit

<http://www.mzes.uni-mannheim.de/projekte/mikrodaten/come.htm>

5.1 Budgetonderzoek 1999

Title

Budgetonderzoek

Parallel title

Budget Survey

Investigator

Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek

Subject items

Household characteristics, time use, work, income, housing, holidays, expenditures (very detailed)

Statistics domains

Consumer expenditures

Abstract (Study Purpose)

Most important objective of the present annual Budget Survey is to give as complete as possible a picture of consumer and non-consumer expenditure by households, in relation to household characteristics such as income, socio-economic category, household size and composition.

Institutional universe

Population in private households

Geographic universe

Resident population

Type of source

Person/Household Survey

Study frequency

1999

Sample Size

2,000 households

Sampling method

Stratified sample

Total response rate

23%

Class of survey

Household budget survey

Core Variables

gender, age, marital status, household relationships, education, labour status, status in employment, working hours, occupation, industry, main social status, income

Standard Codes

ISCED, ISCO-88, NACE R.1

First year of conduction

1980

Conduction history

1980-2000; annually

Data disseminators

By the Dutch Scientific Statistical Agency

<http://wsa.magw.nl>

Statistical disclosure control methods

Only one scientific use file;

Disclosure control based on

- rare, visible, searchable cases;

Direct identifiers are removed from the file.

Indirect identifiers are categorised into

1. mostly identifying: region
2. more identifying: gender, ethnic group, nationality, country of birth
3. identifying: industrial sector, occupation, education, aged, marital status, household composition

CBS tests on occurrence of rare, visible, searchable cases in 3D cross tabulations of the type: mostly identifying x more identifying x identifying.

In practice, regional variables are almost always removed from the scientific use file.

Type of access

Scientific use file

Use restrictions

Duration of use limited to 3 years (prolongation is possible).

One standard file; On site facilities at CBS for access to unprotected data.

International access to data (approval by Statistical Board); the contract is at faculty/organisation level (no personal contracts).

One of the main criteria for access is research policy by the institute; results should be published in public.

Access conditions to previous files

Same access conditions.

Budget surveys are available from 1980, 1985, 1987-1999.

Acquisition costs

€2,250 per survey (as on August 2001)

Special user support

The Dutch Scientific Statistical Agency organises User Meetings at its office in The Hague.

Part title(s)

Budgetonderzoek gebruikershandboek

5.2 Sociaal Economisch Panelonderzoek 1998

Title

Sociaal Economisch Panel

Parallel title

Socio Economic Panel

Investigator

Centraalbureau voor de Statistiek

Subject items

As the ECHP. Two major areas covered in considerable detail in the ECHP concern the economic activity and personal income of the individuals concerned. In addition, a wide range of other topics are covered, such as the individual's social relations and responsibilities, health, pensions and insurance, degree of satisfaction with various aspects of work and life, education and training, and biographic information.
(Source: Eurostat)

Statistics domains

Demography
Household and family
Living conditions
Labour Market
Education
Income
Health
Housing
social relations, perceptions (income evaluations)

Abstract (Study Purpose)

The SEP is the Dutch part of the ECHP. SEP was started in 1984 already, serving very similar objectives as the ECHP. In 1994, the SEP questionnaire was adjusted to the ECHP reference questionnaire. The adjusted questionnaire, does however, not correspond fully to the ECHP blue print, because some continuity with time series data and related national surveys had to be ensured.

Statistics Netherlands started with the Socio Economic Panel in 1984. The panel follows circa 5000 households over time. All household members older than 16 are questioned about topics related to the socio economic situation of the household and the persons themselves.

Until 1990 households were contacted twice a year, in April and October. From 1990 onwards households are interviewed once a year, in April. The following topics are included in the survey: education, employment, housing and wealth. Depending on the topic questions are asked to a member of the household (preferable the head of household) or to all household members aged 16 and older.

Institutional universe

Population in private households

Type of source

Person/household survey

Study frequency

Annual

Sample Size

9,277 (in 1996)

Total response rate

(1996): 92%

Class of survey

household panel

Core Variables

country of birth, citizenship, gender, age, marital status, household relationships, education, continued education, labour status, status in employment, working hours, occupation, industry, main social status, socio-economic classification, income, health status, tenure status, housing amenities

Standard Codes

NUTS, ISCED, ISCO-88, NACE R.1

First year of conduction

1/1/94-31/12/94

Conduction history

Until 1990 twice a year; then once a year

Data disseminators

Requests to Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency (WSA). WSA acts as an intermediary between science and data providers.

Visit WSA at <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/introduction.htm>

Type of access

SCIENTIFIC USE FILE;

ON-SITE RESEARCH FACILITIES.

For ON-SITE RESEARCH visit WSA at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/facilities.htm>

Use restrictions

Visit introductory page by WSA (Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency):

http://wsa.magw.nl/index_uk.htm

Access conditions to previous files

Visit the summary page of WSA:

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/datafiles.htm>

This page gives a comprehensive overview of the availability also of previous CBS microdata files (covering also the predecessors of POLS).

Acquisition costs

Visit WSA at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/tariff.htm>

5.3 Enquête Beroepsbevolking 1999

Title

Enquête Beroepsbevolking

Parallel title

Eurostat Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Subject items

Household box, Profession, Ethnicity, Work conditions, Looking for work, Labour relation, Schooling, Employment, Working hours, Employment Agency, Parental leave, Union, Absenteeism due to illness, Time use, Overtime, Voluntary work, Working-time arrangements, Social position, Commuter traffic.

Statistics domains

Labour Market

Abstract (Study Purpose)

The aim of the survey is to gather data about the developments on the labour market.

Reference period

1999

Institutional universe

Population in private households, 15-74 years

Geographic universe

Resident population

Type of source

Person/household survey

Study frequency

Continuously

Sample Size

99 000 addresses

Sampling method

Stratified (2 stage) sample. First stage: selection of municipalities; second stage: addresses.

Total response rate

50-60 %

Class of survey

Labour force survey

Core Variables

country of birth, citizenship, gender, age, marital status, household relationships, education, continued education, labour status, status in employment, working hours, occupation, industry, main social status

Standard Codes

NUTS, ISCED, ISCO-88, NACE R.1

First year of conduction

1987

Conduction history

1987 – 1999: annually.

Data disseminators

Dutch Scientific Statistical Agency: <http://wsa.magw.nl> .

Statistical disclosure control methods

Only one scientific use file;

Disclosure control based on rare, visible, searchable cases.

Direct identifiers are removed from the file.

Indirect identifiers are categorised into

1. mostly identifying: region

2. more identifying: gender, ethnic group, nationality, country of birth

3. identifying: industrial sector, occupation, education, aged, marital status, household composition

CBS tests on occurrence of rare, visible, searchable cases in 3D cross tabulations of the type: mostly identifying x more identifying x identifying.

In practice, regional variables are almost always removed from the scientific use file.

Type of access

Scientific Use File.

Use restrictions

Duration of use limited to 3 years (prolongation is possible).

One standard file; On site facilities at CBS for access to confidential data.

International access to data (approval by Statistical Board); the contract is at faculty/organisation level (no personal contracts).

One of the main criteria for access is research policy by the institute; results should be published in public.

Access conditions to previous files

Same access conditions.

Labour force surveys are available from 1990.

Acquisition costs

Visit WSA at <http://wsa.magw.nl> .

Special user support

The Dutch Scientific Statistical Agency organises User Meetings at its office in The Hague.

Part title(s)

CBS, Enquête Beroepsbevoling 1999 .

5.4 Cultural Changes in NL 1998

Title

Culturele veranderingen in Nederland 1998

Parallel title

Cultural changes in the Netherlands 1998
(Study Nr. in Steinmetz Archive: P1451)

Investigator

Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau

Subject items

Trend study on changes in general opinions and attitudes of the Dutch population regarding a wide range of topics. The survey contains also variables from the replication of the International Social Survey Programme – ISSP, concerning work orientation topics.

General attitude towards work / leisure time / Dutch society / most important issues in the Netherlands / worrying about health, future, money, politics, family, unemployment, work / satisfaction with income / opinion about social security, social (in)equality / left-right placement / family issues / opinion on euthanasia, sex, abortion, role of elderly, working mothers, cohabitation, tax fraud, social security fraud / objective of politics, rating of policies of the government / direct voting of prime minister, members of parliament [MP], mayor / MP's chosen by constituency voting system / if Queen knows better than politicians / opinion about the Netherlands as a Republic / confidence in government, business community, churches, religious organizations, the law, education / influence of religious leaders on elections, government / power of churches, religious organizations / conflicts between law and religion / belief in God, afterlife, heaven, hell / opinion about the bible, meaning of life, fate / turning point in r.'s life / church- going / churchgoing in youth, and of mother, father / church activities, praying / environment worth higher prices, taxes, lower standard of living / confidence in people, science / belief in soothsayers, faith healers, astrology, mascots / volunteer work / happiness of respondent.

Statistics domains

Demography / education / household and family / labour market / income
Other: residence / politics / religion / organizational membership

Abstract (Study Purpose)

Systematic research after general opinions and attitudes of the Dutch population in order to get insight in cultural changes.

Institutional universe

Population in private households

Geographic universe

Resident population

Type of source

Person/household survey

Study frequency

Continuously

Sample Size

83.1 % (2,530 respondents)

Sampling method

Multi-stage sample: municipalities, addresses, persons

Total response rate

2,103

Core Variables

citizenship, age, marital status, education, labour status, working hours, occupation, income

Standard Codes

ISCO-88

First year of conduction

1974

Conduction history

Surveys are conducted since 1974; annual since 1985; before 1985 with irregular intervals

Data disseminators

NIWI/Steinmetz Archive – Amsterdam, the Netherlands <http://www.niwi.knaw.nl>

E-mail: info.steinmetz@niwi.knaw.nl

Type of access

Scientific use file

Use restrictions

Access category G - Use of data to be reported by Steinmetz Archive to depositor: the Social and Cultural Planning Office

Acquisition costs

- D.Fl. 390;

- Subscribers to the services of NIWI/Steinmetz Archive: free of charge.

Special user support

-

Part title(s)

SCP: Sociaal en Cultureel Rapport

5.5 Integrated system of social surveys 1999

Title

Permanent Onderzoek Leefsituatie (POLS) Basismodule

Parallel title

Integrated system of social surveys
Base Module

Investigator

Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek

Subject items

Individual (respondent):
Household Characteristics:
Nationality and ethnicity;
Time use and leisure activity;
Current education;
Highest education;
Labour status;
industrial sector,
occupation;
Housing;
Health;
Politics;
Politic and philosophy of life;
Victimization;
Breadwinner questionnaire

Statistics domains

Living conditions;
Health;
Housing;
Security;
Housing.

Abstract (Study Purpose)

Collect information about the quality of life in a consistent and comprehensive way.

Reference period

1999

Institutional universe

Population in private households

Geographic universe

Resident population

Type of source

Person/household survey

Study frequency

Continuously

Sample Size

42,000 persons

Sampling method

Two step procedure: first on municipality, second on household.

There is selection of respondents in the Base Questionnaire conditional on experienced events.

Total response rate

approximately 55 %

Class of survey

Survey on living conditions

Core Variables

country of birth, citizenship, gender, age, marital status, household relationships, education, continued education, labour status, status in employment, working hours, occupation, industry, main social status, income, health status, tenure status, housing amenities

Standard Codes

NUTS, ISCED, ISCO-88, NACE R.1

First year of conduction

1997 (until then since ca.1975 as a set of separate surveys)

Conduction history

1997-2000; annually

Data disseminators

Requests to Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency (WSA). WSA acts as an intermediary between science and data providers.

Visit WSA at <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/introduction.htm>

Statistical disclosure control methods

For summary information visit corresponding section of WSA page at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/access.htm>

Type of access

SCIENTIFIC USE FILE;

For general Information visit WSA page at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/access.htm>

ON-SITE RESEARCH FACILITIES.

For ON-SITE RESEARCH visit WSA at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/facilities.htm>

Use restrictions

Visit introductory page by WSA (Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency):

http://wsa.magw.nl/index_uk.htm

Access conditions to previous files

Visit the summary page of WSA:

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/datafiles.htm>

This page gives a comprehensive overview of the availability also of previous CBS microdata files (covering also the predecessors of POLS).

Acquisition costs

Visit WSA at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/tariff.htm>

5.6 Permanent Onderzoek Leefsituatie (POLS) 1998

Title

Permanent Onderzoek Leefsituatie (POLS)

Parallel title

Integrated system of social surveys

Investigator

Centraalbureau voor de Statistiek

Statistics domains

Living conditions; / Other: / to provide statistical information on the expenditure of different types of household.

Reference period

.

Institutional universe

Population in private households

Geographic universe

?

Type of source

Person/household survey

Study frequency

Continuously

Sample Size

145 000 persons (excl. oversampling in municipalities)

Total response rate

approximately 55 %

Class of survey

Survey on living conditions

Core Variables

country of birth, citizenship, gender, age, marital status, household relationships, education, continued education, labour status, status in employment, working hours, occupation, industry, main social status, socio-economic classification, income, health status, tenure status, housing amenities

Standard Codes

NUTS, ISCED, NACE R.1

First year of conduction

1997 (until then since ca.1975 as a set of separate surveys)

Data disseminators

Requests to Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency (WSA). WSA acts as an intermediary between science and data providers. / Visit WSA at <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/introduction.htm>

Statistical disclosure control methods

For summary information visit corresponding section of WSA page at / <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/access.htm>

Type of access

SCIENTIFIC USE FILE; / For general Information visit WSA page at / <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/access.htm> / ON-SITE RESEARCH FACILITIES. / For ON-SITE RESEARCH visit WSA at / <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/facilities.htm>

Use restrictions

Visit introductory page by WSA (Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency): / http://wsa.magw.nl/index_uk.htm

Access conditions to previous files

Visit the summary page of WSA: / <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/datafiles.htm> / This page gives a comprehensive overview of the availability also of previous CBS microdata files (covering also the predecessors of POLS).

Acquisition costs

Visit WSA at / <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/tariff.htm> /

5.7 POLS: Health and Working Conditions 1999

Title

Permanent Onderzoek Leefsituatie (POLS) Gezondheid en Arbeidsomstandigheden

Parallel title

Permanent Survey of Living Conditions:
Health and Working Conditions

Investigator

Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek

Subject items

The Health and Quality of Labour module aims at describing:

- health;
- use of medical and societal facilities;
- life style;
- preventive behaviour.

Statistics domains

Health;

Abstract (Study Purpose)

Collect information about health in general and with respect to work.

Reference period

1999

Institutional universe

Population in private households

Geographic universe

Resident population

Type of source

Person/household survey

Study frequency

Continuously

Sample Size

10 000 persons

Sampling method

Two step procedure: first on municipality, second on household.

There is selection of respondents in the Base Questionnaire conditional on experienced events.

Total response rate

approximately 55 %

Class of survey

Survey on living conditions

Core Variables

country of birth, citizenship, gender, age, marital status, household relationships, education, continued education, labour status, status in employment, working hours, occupation, industry, main social status, income, health status, tenure status, housing amenities

Standard Codes

NUTS, ISCED, ISCO-88, NACE R.1

First year of conduction

1997 (until then since ca.1975 as a set of separate surveys)

Conduction history

1997-2000; annually

Data disseminators

Requests to Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency (WSA). WSA acts as an intermediary between science and data providers.

Visit WSA at <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/introduction.htm>

Statistical disclosure control methods

For summary information visit corresponding section of WSA page at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/access.htm>

Type of access

SCIENTIFIC USE FILE;

For general Information visit WSA page at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/access.htm>

ON-SITE RESEARCH FACILITIES.

For ON-SITE RESEARCH visit WSA at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/facilities.htm>

Use restrictions

Visit introductory page by WSA (Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency):

http://wsa.magw.nl/index_uk.htm

Access conditions to previous files

Visit the summary page of WSA:

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/datafiles.htm>

This page gives a comprehensive overview of the availability also of previous CBS microdata files (covering also the predecessors of POLS).

Acquisition costs

Visit WSA at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/tariff.htm>

5.8 POLS: Law and Environment 1999

Title

Permanent Onderzoek Leefsituatie (POLS) Recht en Milieu

Parallel title

Integrated system of social surveys
Law and Environment

Investigator

Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek

Subject items

Data on inconvenience on environmental matters (noise, bad smell), conscious use of polluting products, values on family, foreigners, future

Statistics domains

Security;
Values

Abstract (Study Purpose)

Collect information about victimization, the environment, ties with political parties and opinion about foreigners

Reference period

1999

Institutional universe

Population in private households

Geographic universe

Resident population

Type of source

Person/household survey

Study frequency

Continuously

Sample Size

7,500 persons

Sampling method

Two step procedure: first on municipality, second on household.

There is selection of respondents in the Base Questionnaire conditional on experienced events.

Total response rate

approximately 55 %

Class of survey

Survey on living conditions

Core Variables

country of birth, citizenship, gender, age, marital status, household relationships, education, continued education, labour status, status in employment, working hours, occupation, industry, main social status, income, health status, tenure status, housing amenities

Standard Codes

NUTS, ISCED, ISCO-88, NACE R.1

First year of conduction

1997 (until then since ca.1975 as a set of separate surveys)

Conduction history

1997-2000; annually

Data disseminators

Requests to Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency (WSA). WSA acts as an intermediary between science and data providers.

Visit WSA at <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/introduction.htm>

Statistical disclosure control methods

For summary information visit corresponding section of WSA page at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/access.htm>

Type of access

SCIENTIFIC USE FILE;

For general Information visit WSA page at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/access.htm>

ON-SITE RESEARCH FACILITIES.

For ON-SITE RESEARCH visit WSA at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/facilities.htm>

Use restrictions

Visit introductory page by WSA (Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency):

http://wsa.magw.nl/index_uk.htm

Access conditions to previous files

Visit the summary page of WSA:

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/datafiles.htm>

This page gives a comprehensive overview of the availability also of previous CBS microdata files (covering also the predecessors of POLS).

Acquisition costs

Visit WSA at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/tariff.htm>

5.9 POLS: Law and Participation 1999

Title

Permanent Onderzoek Leefsituatie (POLS) Recht en Participatie

Parallel title

Integrated system of social surveys
Law and Participation

Investigator

Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek

Subject items

Collect data about the extent to which the population is victim of one or more types of much occurring crime. Besides, additional information is gathered about the crimes suffered. The consequences are also inquired after and whether the crime was reported to the police.

Statistics domains

Security;

Abstract (Study Purpose)

Collect information about victimization, unsafety, prevention, police assistance and social participation

Reference period

1999

Institutional universe

Population in private households

Geographic universe

Resident population

Type of source

Person/household survey

Study frequency

Continuously

Sample Size

5,000 persons

Sampling method

Two step procedure: first on municipality, second on household.

There is selection of respondents in the Base Questionnaire conditional on experienced events.

Total response rate

approximately 55 %

Core Variables

country of birth, citizenship, gender, age, marital status, household relationships, education, continued education, labour status, status in employment, working hours, occupation, industry, main social status, income, health status, tenure status, housing amenities

Standard Codes

NUTS, ISCED, ISCO-88, NACE R.1

First year of conduction

1997 (until then since ca.1975 as a set of separate surveys)

Conduction history

1997-2000; annually

Data disseminators

Requests to Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency (WSA). WSA acts as an intermediary between science and data providers.

Visit WSA at <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/introduction.htm>

Statistical disclosure control methods

For summary information visit corresponding section of WSA page at <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/access.htm>

Type of access

SCIENTIFIC USE FILE;

For general Information visit WSA page at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/access.htm>

ON-SITE RESEARCH FACILITIES.

For ON-SITE RESEARCH visit WSA at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/facilities.htm>

Use restrictions

Visit introductory page by WSA (Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency):

http://wsa.magw.nl/index_uk.htm

Access conditions to previous files

Visit the summary page of WSA:

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/datafiles.htm>

This page gives a comprehensive overview of the availability also of previous CBS microdata files (covering also the predecessors of POLS).

Acquisition costs

Visit WSA at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/tariff.htm>

5.10 POLS: Time Use Survey 1999

Title

Permanent Onderzoek Leefsituatie (POLS): Tijdsbestedingonderzoek

Parallel title

Integrated system of social surveys
Time Use Survey

Investigator

Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek

Subject items

To minutely record activities for one week in a diary: which activities, when, how long.

Statistics domains

Time use

Abstract (Study Purpose)

Collect information about the quality of life in a consistent and comprehensive way.

Reference period

1999

Institutional universe

Population in private households

Geographic universe

Resident population

Type of source

Person/household survey

Study frequency

Continuously

Sample Size

7,500 persons

Sampling method

Two step procedure: first on municipality, second on household.

There is selection of respondents in the Base Questionnaire conditional on experienced events.

Total response rate

approximately 55 %

Class of survey

Time use survey

Core Variables

country of birth, citizenship, gender, age, marital status, household relationships, education, continued education, labour status, status in employment, working hours, occupation, industry, main social status, income, health status, tenure status, housing amenities

Standard Codes

NUTS, ISCED, ISCO-88, NACE R.1

First year of conduction

1997 (until then since ca.1975 as a set of separate surveys)

Conduction history

1997-2000; annually

Data disseminators

Requests to Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency (WSA). WSA acts as an intermediary between science and data providers.

Visit WSA at <http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/introduction.htm>

Statistical disclosure control methods

For summary information visit corresponding section of WSA page at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/access.htm>

Type of access

SCIENTIFIC USE FILE;

For general Information visit WSA page at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/access.htm>

ON-SITE RESEARCH FACILITIES.

For ON-SITE RESEARCH visit WSA at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/facilities.htm>

Use restrictions

Visit introductory page by WSA (Netherlands' Scientific Statistical Agency):

http://wsa.magw.nl/index_uk.htm

Access conditions to previous files

Visit the summary page of WSA:

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/datafiles.htm>

This page gives a comprehensive overview of the availability also of previous CBS microdata files (covering also the predecessors of POLS).

Acquisition costs

Visit WSA at

<http://wsa.magw.nl/Data/CBS/Access/tariff.htm>

5.11 Tijdsbestedingsonderzoek (SCP) 1995

Title

Tijdsbestedingsonderzoek 1995
(Studienr. Steinmetz-archief P1383)

Parallel title

Time Budget Survey 1995
(Studynr. Steinmetz Archive P1383)

Investigator

Sociaal en Cultureel Planbureau – SCP

Subject items

Way in which the Dutch population, from the age of twelve years and older, are spending their time. The data were collected by means of an interview and the distribution of time budget diaries among the same respondents. During one week respondents had to use the time budget diary to report about the time spent at the following types of activities: work (travelling time included), domestic work, taking care of children, shopping (visits to haircutter, doctor, post-office, bank etc. included), personal needs, education, religious and political activities, leisure, social and cultural life, sports, listening to the radio, watching tv, computer activities, talking, and reading. The interview is covering the same activities; some specific questions: teleshopping, use of air miles, membership public library and-or book club, Internet connection.

Statistics domains

Other: Time budget

Abstract (Study Purpose)

Time spending of the Dutch population from the age of twelve years and older

Institutional universe

Population in private households

Type of source

Person/household survey

Study frequency

Continuously

Sample Size

7,227

Sampling method

Multi-stage sample:

first stage: sampling of municipalities;

second stage: PTT delivery addresses;

third stage: names and telephone numbers were added.

Result: two national representative samples, one group with a telephone connection, a second group without a telephone connection.

Total response rate

44.70%

Core Variables

citizenship, gender, age, marital status, education, continued education, labour status, working hours, occupation, main social status, income

First year of conduction

1975

Conduction history

every five years

Data disseminators

NIWI/Steinmetz Archive

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

<http://www.niwi.knaw.nl>

E-mail: info.steinmetz@niwi.knaw.nl

Type of access

Scientific use file

Use restrictions

no use of data without written permission

Acquisition costs

€177.00

Special user support

E-mail: info.steinmetz@niwi.knaw.nl