



EuReporting

The German System of Official Social Surveys

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Official Social Surveys in Europe.
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EuReporting Working Paper No. 36

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

A TSER-Project Financed by
the European Commission

Subproject
**Access to Comparative
Microdata**

Mannheim Centre for
European Social Research
(MZES),
Eurodata Research Archive

and

Centre for Population, Poverty
and Public Policy Studies
(CEPS),
Panel Comparability Project
Paco

Mannheim 2001

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 homepage 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>

1.	ORGANIZATIONAL AND LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE GERMAN STATISTICAL SYSTEM	1
2.	CENSUSES AND MAJOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC SAMPLE SURVEYS: AN OVERVIEW	2
3.	MAJOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEYS IN DETAIL	4
3.1	THE CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING	4
3.2	REPEATED HOUSEHOLD SAMPLE SURVEYS OF THE FSO	5
3.2.1	<i>The micro-census ('Mikrozensus - MZ'), incl. the European Labour Force Survey</i>	7
3.2.2	<i>The household budget surveys (with focus on the income and expenditure survey)</i>	9
3.2.3	<i>The time use survey (',Zeitbudgeterhebung')</i>	12
3.2.4	<i>The European Household Panel (EHP) in Germany</i>	16
3.2.5	<i>The structure of earnings survey ('Gehalts- und Lohnstrukturhebung') and the labour cost survey ('Arbeitskostenerhebung')</i>	20
4.	ACCESS TO MICRODATA: MODES AND CONDITIONS	23
5.	LITERATURE AND ONLINE DOCUMENTS:	28
6.	APPENDIX: SURVEY DESCRIPTIONS IN SUMMARIZED FORM	37

The German System of Official Social Surveys

The paper is divided into 4 substantive sections and an appendix: (1) organisational and legal aspects of the system of official statistics; (2) an overview of the major socio-economic surveys conducted by the Federal Statistical Office; (3) an introduction to major surveys in the field of social statistics; and (4) and modes and conditions of access to microdata sources for research. In the appendix, standardised survey documentation is presented in a summarized form; more detailed topics can be queried – either for each single study or in comparative perspective across study/country - via EuReporting's Internet pages².

1. Organizational and legal aspects of the German Statistical System

The official statistics system in Germany is federative and shows many similarities to the statistical system of the European Communities. The Federal Statistical Office (FSO) is responsible for the provision of statistics for the federation. Federal statistics are based on the 'Principle of Legalization'. The legal framework of FSO activities is laid down in the Statistics Act³ a kind of basic law for federal statistics. Mandatory enumerations need formal legislation which specifies a wide range of characteristics (such as topics, type of enumeration, reporting period, periodicity, target population) and procedures at a very detailed level for each enumeration. Only in a few cases and under certain circumstances, enumerations can be based on decrees. Since the Act of 1987 no specific legislation is needed anymore under certain conditions for small-scale enumerations with voluntary participation. As a consequence of the 1983 decision of the Federal Constitutional Court on the population census, the 1987 act stipulates rigorous data protection measures. Acts are usually initiated by ministries or the European Union. In 2000, at the federal level about 170 statistics laws were in force (Kopsch: 2001).

The FSO forms part of the Ministry for Interior Affairs, but is scientifically and

² <http://www.mzes.uni-mannheim.de/projekte/mikrodaten/comi.htm>

³ The current legal framework law is the 'Gesetz über die Statistik für Bundeszwecke vom 22. Januar 1987', with the most recent amendment of June 17, 1998. For detailed background information cf. Statistisches Bundesamt: 1988a.

methodologically independent. It occupies a central role with regard to the definition of statistical standards and methods in official statistics. The compilation of statistics for the FSO is usually the responsibility of the statistical offices of the republic's Länder. Each state of the federation has its own statistical office (LSOs). These offices are legally and financially independent of the FSO. The LSOs are, however, obliged to implement federal statistical enumerations, collect and process data required by the FSO for the compilation of federal statistics at the national level and the level of Länder. They communicate microdata to the FSO only in areas of key importance to federal statistics. The overwhelming part of microdata is stored at the LSOs. Concerning the collection of statistics for their own territories, the LSOs are completely independent from the FSO. To ensure nation-wide reporting on spatial levels below the Länder level, they have established a mutual consent on a core of common statistics. These statistics are, however, not disseminated by the FSO but by the LSOs.

Most, though not all, of federal statistics is provided by the FSO. Other agencies, providing national statistics are ministries, the central bank and semi-official agencies, most importantly the 'Bundesanstalt für Arbeit und Arbeitsvermittlung' (Federal Agency for Employment) with its research institute IAB ('Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung' / Institute for research on labour markets and occupations), and the social security bodies.

Data are disseminated in tabular form and in certain cases as anonymized microdata. In principle, microdata can only be disseminated if they have been manipulated in a way that makes it almost impossible to de-identify individual units (absolutely anonymized data). Because of the need for rigorous and extensive measures against de-identification, such public use files are rarely useful for in-depth scientific research. However, for scientific research the Statistics Act allows the provision of microdata with a lower degree of anonymisation (science privilege). Currently, the export of microdata to foreign countries is forbidden, although there are initiatives to open access based on the application of the 'safe harbour principle'. More information is provided in section 4 below.

2. Censuses and major socio-economic sample surveys: an overview

In Germany, federal statistics are traditionally based on administrative records. Until the 1950s, censuses and budget accounts of households ('Wirtschaftsrechnungen der Haushalte') were major exceptions.

After World War II, the conduction of sample surveys gained momentum. In the field of household survey programmes, in 1957 a large-scale multipurpose survey has been

introduced: the microcensus ('Mikrozensus') (cf. Esser, Grohmann, Müller and Schäfer: 1989). The microcensus includes the EU labour force survey (including its supplements), conducted in Germany the first time in 1960. In 1963 a survey on income and consumption of private households ('Einkommens- und Verbrauchsstichproben'), has been conducted for the first time (cf. Chlumsky and Ehling: 1997), supplementing the system of continuous small-scale and non-representative household budget surveys introduced in 1949. More recent core surveys are the time budget survey ('Zeitbudgetuntersuchung') conducted the first time in 1991/92 (Ehling: 1998), and participation in the first three waves of the European Community Household Panel. Together with the census of population and housing, the last time conducted in 1987, these surveys are the major repeated *social* surveys of the FSO.

In the field of surveys on enterprises/establishments, a multi-annual earnings survey ('Gehalts- und Lohnstrukturerhebung') has been introduced in 1951 (Dresch and Kaukewitsch: 1993), providing earnings data also for individual employees. Other establishment surveys, such as the labour cost survey, carried out since 1966, do not collect data on individuals, but on groups only. Their major focus is the analysis of cost structures. Closely related to the labour cost survey is a more sporadically conducted survey on occupational pensions. The unit of analysis for this survey is, however, the establishment and not individual persons.

It should be noted that in addition to these repeated regular surveys various ad-hoc surveys have been carried out for exploratory purposes by the FSO. Except for the Germany contribution to the ECHP they are not included here.

In addition to FSO surveys, several ministries and government research institutes run their own social survey programmes, such as the family survey ('Familiensurvey'), the youth survey ('Jugendsurvey'), and the survey on the aged ('Alterssurvey') conducted on behalf of the ministry for family affairs ('Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend'), the low income panel ('Niedrigeinkommenspanel') and the survey on old age security ('Alterssicherung in Deutschland'). Examples for surveys of government research institutes are the German health survey ('Bundes-Gesundheitssurvey') of the Robert-Koch-Institute, the family and fertility survey of the Federal Institute for Population Research ('Bundesinstitut für Bevölkerungsforschung') at the FSO or the establishment panel ('Betriebspanel') of the 'Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung - 'IAB'.

It should also be noted that computerized files of administrative records on persons are increasingly becoming a highly valuable source not only for federal statistics, but also for scientific research. The employee sample ('Beschäftigtenstichprobe') of the IAB covers individual records on employees subject to social insurance going back to 1973, and IAB's establishment panel combines data from administrative records with survey panel data.

Many of these microdatabases compiled outside the FSO are available for scientific research.

A summary of the data situation in Germany has been edited by a national commission on the improvement of the informational infrastructure between science and official statistics (Kommission zur Verbesserung der informationellen Infrastruktur zwischen Wissenschaft und Statistik: 2001). The following parts are limited to repeated FSO surveys, with a focus on major household surveys.

3. Major socio-economic surveys in detail

3.1 The Census of Population and Housing

(i) The Census of Population in European context:

Population censuses are a major source for socio-demographic statistics in most European countries. Population censuses cover a great variety of economic and social topics, and they are a unique source for detailed small-area statistics. If linked at the micro level across time, or if combined with microdata from supplementary sources, their descriptive as well as analytical potential is unique (cf. Dale, Fieldhouse and Holdsworth: 2000).

Content and concepts have been increasingly harmonised through the UN/ECE⁴ since the 1960s (Laihonen: 1998) with recent participation of the Statistical Office of the European Communities (UN/ECE 1998; Laihonen; 1999). Within the European Union, population and housing censuses are national enumerations, although a minimum consensus on a few common survey characteristics has been reached among its members for the last two and the coming census round.⁵

Data collection methodologies have, however, considerably changed during the last three decades. Starting with Denmark in the 60s, the Nordic Countries have gradually switched from personal interviews to deriving data from registers and for the year 2000 round of population and housing censuses will almost exclusively use administrative records (Griffin: 1999; Laihonen: 1999). For the 2010 round, last not least because of the high costs, traditional census taking will be an exception in Europe rather than a rule (European Commission/Eurostat and INSEE: 2000).

⁴ United Nations, Economic Commission on Europe. The UN/ECE prepared recommendations for Europe for the census rounds since 1960. The statistical office

⁵ For the census rounds of 1980 and 1990 directives have been passed by the European Council making compulsory a more or less synchronized taking of a census or use of alternative sources and transmission of a set of tabular data with common dimensions. For the 2000 round, a similar consensus was established as voluntary agreement ('gentlemen's agreement'). Cf. European Commission/Eurostat 1999b; 1992).

(ii) The census of population and housing in Germany:

Germany has carried out population censuses since its unification in 1871 at varying intervals: first in 1871, then from 1875 to 1910 at 5 yearly intervals, during the inter-war period in 1925, 1933 and 1938, and after the Second World War in 1946 (occupied zones). After the country was divided, population censuses were carried out in the Federal Republic in 1950, 1961, 1970 and 1987. Since then no new population census has been conducted, not even after re-unification in 1991.

The 1987 census, as many of its predecessors in Germany, consisted of three components: the census of population and occupation, the census of building and housing, and the census of establishments.

The census of 1987 was very controversial (cf. Scheuch, Gräf and Kühnl: 1989). Originally it had been planned for conduction in 1983, but was heavily disputed for a variety of reasons. Finally, a sentence of the Federal Constitutional Court ('Bundesverfassungsgericht')⁶ had prohibited the conduction of the census in its original form⁷. The Court stipulated that future decision on census taking must take into consideration the state of the art concerning alternative data collection methodologies (Jäger and Siedt: 1994). Many methodological studies have been carried on occasion of the 1987 census, and in 1992 the Federal Statistical Office established an expertise group⁸ for developing alternative approaches to traditional census taking (cf. Jäger and Siedt: 1994). Two alternative models have been proposed⁹, both of which involve extensive use of administrative data. Pilot test for such a register-supported census are envisaged for March 2001¹⁰. Data for the agreed European census data tabulation programme 2000 (European Commission/Eurostat: 1998b) will be delivered from the microcensus and other sources¹¹. When and in which final form the next population census will be taken in Germany remains to be seen.

3.2 Repeated household sample surveys of the FSO

The current system of household surveys is a mixture of national core surveys (basically the micro-census and the income and expenditure survey) set up in the 1950s and early 1960s, adaptations of the core surveys to new information requirements, and ad-hoc surveys of smaller sample size. These surveys do not form an integrated system, but are conducted

⁶ Volkszählungsurteil vom 15. Dezember 1983.

⁷ In this context, a variety of general principles on data protection and statistical confidentiality have been formulated which were incorporated in data protection legislation and the new Federal Statistics Act of 1987. Cf. Statistisches Bundesamt: 1988a).

⁸ 'Arbeitsgruppe 'Gemeinschaftsweiter Zensus 2001'.

⁹ Cf. Short notice in FSO's monthly bulletin 'Wirtschaft und Statistik: 1998, p. 548.

¹⁰ Cf. Short notice in FSO's monthly bulletin 'Wirtschaft und Statistik: 2000, p. 474.

¹¹ Cf. Short notice in FSO's monthly bulletin 'Wirtschaft und Statistik: 2000, p. 474.

separately and independently from each other. They differ from each other in many respects. Even where they use the same core items, they often use different concepts and/or measurements. They differ with respect to target population and sampling, reference period and reporting period, periodicity and response obligation. As a consequence, results are sometimes difficult to compare across surveys for similar topics, and there is no way to combine data across surveys to form a consistent set of data (Bechtold: 2001).

The gradual expansion of surveys of the European Union and their increasing input harmonization had important repercussions on the development of the national surveys programmes. In general, the strategy was to adapt existing surveys as much as possible to new international requirements, with a certain preference for continuity of existing programmes. The EU labour force survey is not run as a separate survey, but is integrated into the micro-census. The income and expenditure survey ('Einkommens- und Verbrauchsstichprobe') and – more recently – the new continuous (small-scale) household budget surveys are the source for family budget data for the European Union. Concerning the European Household Panel, the FSO could not draw on an own programme. It participated in the first two waves, but then decided to use the science-based Socio-Economic Panel of the German Institute for Economic Research ('DIW') to derive data for the ECHP database. Only in the case of the decennial time-budget survey programme it was decided to collect data through a new survey, while previously data had been collected on an ad-hoc basis as part of either the micro-census or the income and expenditure survey.

Increasing input harmonisation of EU surveys, mandatory in the case of the EU labour force survey and voluntary in the case of the (national) family budget surveys, the switch in periodicity of the EU labour force surveys from annual to continuous surveys, and the need for flexibility and cost-effectiveness in matching new national requirements have lead to a partial overhaul of the system and it seems that it is a process that is continuing.

So far, statistics research into the establishment of an integrated system of household sample surveys has focused on two lines (Bechtold: 2001): the integration of the multi-annual income and expenditure survey with the continuous household budget surveys, and the establishment of an access panel for drawing samples for *voluntary* household surveys. A second issue concerns the adaptation of the annual micro-census (with the EU labour force survey conducted as a sub-sample) to new data demands and, particularly, shorter survey periodicities of the European Union labour force survey – in a period of declining resources. With the new EU Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC), the successor of the European Household Panel (ECHP), an additional challenge to the national survey system comes up, although SILC will be based on output harmonisation (cf. Meyer et al.: 2000)

3.2.1 The micro-census ('Mikrozensus - MZ'), incl. the European Labour Force Survey¹²

The micro-census is a annual multi-purpose sample survey about the population and labour market. It has been carried annually since 1957¹³. It was not conducted in 1983 and 1984, because of a pending procedure at the Federal High Court involving a sentence on the right for informational self-determination. Since 1968, the EU labour force survey forms part of it, but during the years the micro-census had been postponed, the EU labour force survey was carried out as a stand-alone survey. Since 1991, the micro-census includes also the five new federal states which previously constituted the German Democratic Republic.

The micro-census has 5 central goals (Esser et al.: 1989):

- Provision of socio-economic data on the structure of the population (educational level, economic activity, earning one's living);
- Monitoring of the labour market;
- Monitoring of socio-economic changes at the level of individuals, families, households (such as family formation and dissolution, occupational change, spatial mobility, etc.);
- Provision of information on single topics at a non-annual basis (in-depth information for repeatedly enumerated topics and collection of data on new topics);
- Framework source for other household surveys both in official and market research (sampling frame, weighting, structural indicators for quota samples, evaluation of other statistics, etc.).

The survey is based on a special law, the so-called micro-census law ('Mikrozensusgesetz'¹⁴), regulating a variety of survey characteristics in detail for a fixed period of time. The most recent law was passed in 1996, specifying survey characteristics for the period 1996-2004. Participation has been mandatory since its inception, but for certain questions response is voluntary. The full sample comprises 1% of *all* private households resident in Germany. Unit response has outstandingly been high (usually about 97% or higher, cf. Lüttinger and Riede: 1997). Despite all its adjustments to new information requirements and innovations in data collection methodology, the micro-census shows great stability with respect to topics enumerated even across the periods defined by different micro-census laws. The survey interviews all members of a household selected. It is based on a four-year sample rotation. Its large sample size provides representative data at the level of governing districts ('Regierungsbezirke', NUT2) or even below. For all these reasons (Schimpl-Neimanns: 1998,

¹² For detailed information and support services for the scientific use of individual level microcensus data visit the home page of the German microdata competence centre at ZUMA (<http://www.gesis.de>).

¹³ For a collection of questionnaires since 1957 cf. Statistisches Bundesamt: 1988b.

¹⁴ 'Gesetz zur Durchführung einer Repräsentativstatistik über die Bevölkerung und den Arbeitsmarkt sowie die Wohnsituation der Haushalte'.

Emmerling and Riede: 1997, Lüttinger and Riede: 1997, Esser et al.: 1989), the survey is a unique source for socio-economic research and it is the only source for continuous monitoring of households and families. The source offers a high potential for in-depth analysis of socio-economic change in Germany over a period of more than forty years.

The *micro-census for the period 1996-2004* (cf. Emmerling and Riede: 1997) is divided into an annual basic programme (based on a 1% sample), an annual complementary programme (reduced sample size with a maximum of 0,5%), and a rotating supplementary programme (varying in sample size between 0,5 % and 1 %, depending on the question programme). The survey is based on a one-stage cluster sample and uses area sampling. Participation is mandatory for all modules; response is mandatory for most of the questions (particularly of the basic programme).

The topics of the *basic* programme relate to demographic characteristics of persons, family/household relationship, citizenship, residence, statutory old age insurance (1996-1998 only), long-term care, main source of living, income, level of education, attendance of educational institutions, economic activity, unemployment, search for employment, non-activity. The *complementary* programme covers general educational formation, occupational training and continued education, additional information on economic activity, previous economic activity, situation one year before, need for long-term care, benefit take-up of the long-term care insurance (1996-1998 only). The *supplementary* programme consists of 4 blocks of questions rotating every fourth year. Question block 1 includes additional information on occupational training, commuting and commuters, additional information on foreigners living in Germany and additional information on economic activity (1% sample, conducted in 1996, 2000, and 2004). Question block 2 includes additional information on economic activity and on private and occupational pension systems (0,5 % sample, conducted in 1997 and in 2001). Question block 3 relates to housing situation (1% sample size, conducted in 1998 and 2002). Question block 4 relates to health insurance and care insurance (1% sample size) as well as to health, need for long-term care, benefit take-up of the long-term care insurance (all of which are conducted in 1999 and in 2003).

The micro-census contains the *European Labour Force Survey* (ELFS) as a sub-sample, including the ELFS supplementary modules. Before 1996, data for the ELFS were partially collected through a separate questionnaire. Beginning with the new micro-census period 1996-2004, the ELFS is now fully integrated into the micro-census. For this purpose, survey items overlapping between the ELFS and the national programme were strongly harmonised with respect to definitions and measurements. (Emmerling and Riede: 1997) and priority for the EU methodology. No measures have been taken so far, however, to implement a continuous survey with quarterly results, as specified in the 1998 EU Council Regulation 'EC 577/98'. In contrast to most other Member States, the ELFS for Germany is still an annual

survey with a single reporting week in spring.

Results of the micro-census are reported in a number of subject matter serial (print- and/or electronic) publications of the Federal Statistical Office. Some publications are synthetic reports, integrating data of the micro-census with other sources. Most of the micro-census results are published in a number of sub-series on population and employment (cf. Statistisches Bundesamt, Fachserie 1: Bevölkerung und Erwerbstätigkeit) – the core statistical topic of the micro-census since 1957. These publications are limited to standard tables. In addition, the FSO provides tabulations on demand, which are, however, subject to fees. Finally, access to microdata is also provided with different modes and constraints of access (see section 4 below).

3.2.2 The household budget surveys (with focus on the income and expenditure survey)

The current system of household budget surveys consists of two components: (i) The *continuous (small-scale) budget surveys* ('Laufende Wirtschaftsrechnungen'), and (ii) the *quinquennial (large-scale) sample survey on income and expenditure* ('Einkommens- und Verbrauchsstichprobe'). Both provide information on the economic and social situation of households, with a focus on the generation and use of income. Both are based on interviews and on the keeping of household diaries. The small-scale continuous budget surveys are used to up-date information collected in the multi-annual large-scale sample surveys and to provide information required for the calculation of price indices (basket of goods for weighting prices). The large-scale sample surveys provide detailed information on incomes, expenditures, debts, wealth, and many other aspects of the socio-economic situation of individual households.

Since 1998, both surveys are harmonised to allow data integration and across-source comparison, with some priority for concepts of the European Union (cf. European Commission/Eurostat 1997; 1993). They are, however, not yet fully compatible, mainly because continuous household budget surveys do not include households of self-employed. Both are voluntary surveys, and both are based on quota sampling. As in other countries, household budget surveys suffer from low and biased rates of participation, and enormous difficulties of recruiting households for diary keeping have – beside cost savings – been the major reason for using quota sampling instead of random sampling (Chlumsky and Ehling: 1998). In the past, both surveys have experienced a number of changes in characteristics and further harmonisation efforts must be expected in the future, given the increasing need for comparable, annual and timely household budget data across the EU Member States.

3.2.2.1 *The continuous household budget surveys ('Laufende Wirtschaftsrechnungen – LWR'):*

These small-scale household budget surveys have a history of more than 100 years in Germany (cf. Statistisches Bundesamt: 1969), but have traditionally been limited to special groups of households, excluding households of self-employed main income earners. Before World War II, only 3 somewhat larger surveys were conducted by the Reich Statistical Office: in 1909 (limited to low-income families), 1927 (limited to 2,000 households of blue collar workers, white collar workers and civil servants) and in 1937 (with 3,000 diary keeping households of low-income families the largest one). In 1949, continuous budget surveys were introduced for the first time, and since 1993 they have also been conducted in the new Länder of the former German Democratic Republic. Until 1998; these continuous surveys were still limited to a few, gradually growing number of household types, representing hardly more than 5 % of all private households (cf. Chlumsky and Ehling: 1998, 1997). Comparability over time is limited, due to many survey refinements and changes in classifications and definitions. Major breaks occurred in 1964, 1986, and, in particular, in 1999, when a new survey scheme was implemented on the basis of existing legislation.

The *new continuous household budget survey (1999-)* is conducted as a quarterly panel of a total of 6,000 private households with voluntary participation (cf. Kaiser: 2000, Chlumsky and Ehling: 1998). Due to existing legislation, households of self-employed continue to be excluded. Because of negative results of tests with random sampling, the survey is still based on quota sampling, stratified by federal state and additional topics. The sampling frame is provided by the micro-census. Participants are recruited through advertising campaigns.

Basic information (socio-demographic topics, housing conditions, ownership of durables) is collected in an introductory interview. Information on income and expenditure is collected through household diaries. For this purpose, three samples of 2,000 households each are specified. Each sample has to keep a diary for one month every quarter, with a rotation of the sample every month. As a result, each participating households has to keep a daily diary only for a total of 4 months, instead of 12 months as it was the case before. Expenditure are coded according to the new European 'Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose – COICOP/HBS'. Within the limitations of quota sampling, the surveys are now representative of all private households (excluding households of self-employed main income earners). Sample results are grossed-up on the basis of the micro-census, while previously reporting was limited to simple unweighted averages (Kaiser: 1999). However, the new surveys provide data no longer at a monthly, but only at a quarterly basis. Reports are published within the FSO's statistical subject matter series 'Fachreihe 15.1 Einnahmen und Ausgaben privater Haushalte'.

3.2.2.2 *The income and expenditure survey ('Einkommens- und Verbrauchsstichprobe – EVS')*:

The sample survey on income and expenditure ('EVS') is a large-scale, voluntary survey, limited by legislation to a maximum of 0,3 % of all private household (cf. Chlumsky and Ehling: 1998). The survey was conducted for the first time in 1962/1963, then in 1969, and since 1973 very fifth year. Since 1993, it is conducted also in the new Länder (former German Democratic Republic). The survey goals and characteristics have remained relative stable until today. The EVS aims at monitoring the situation of private households and their members with regard to the level and sources of revenues on the one hand, and the use of revenues (consumption, savings, credit payments) at the household level on the other hand. It provides information on standard of living and the involvement of households into economic processes. It covers a period of one year. The survey has closely been related to national accounting. Despite its remarkable stability, availability and definitions of individual variables vary considerably from survey to survey. Legislation leaves some space for the inclusion of non-regular topics. The 1962/63 survey focused on detailed consumption patterns of households. The 1969 survey included additional questions on the formation and distribution of income and wealth. The 1973 survey included in-depth questions on food expenditure and on property incomes. In 1978 and in 1983, additional topics focused on amount and cumulation of public transfer payments. In 1988, in the context of a poverty study of the European Union, detailed information was collected on the financial situation of private households. No additional topics were included neither in 1993, nor in 1998. The EVS excludes institutional households and top income households (1998: total monthly household income 38,000 Mark - roughly 19,000 Euro – or more. Households of foreigners resident in Germany are included included for the first time in the 1993 survey. In 1998, related to the implementation of the new continuous household budget surveys, the data collection procedure of the EVS has fundamentally been changed and the new expenditure classification of the European Union (COICOP/HBS) been implemented (Chlumsky and Ehling: 1998).

The 1998 sample survey on income and expenditure is still based on quota sampling¹⁵. The sampling frame is provided by the 1997 micro-census. In total, 0,2 % of the target population was sampled (roughly 74,000 households). Sampling framework Data is representative at the level of federal states (Länder, NUTS1). Basic information is collected through an introductory interview. For *each household member*, data are collected on demographic characteristics, relationship within the household, educational level, socio-economic status, social insurance coverage and coverage in long-term care insurance, major source of living, monthly net income (in income groups). At the *household level*, information is collected on

¹⁵ For a detailed description of the sampling procedures used in the 1998 EVS cf. Kühnen: 2001). A summary of the sampling techniques in English is given in Chlumsky and Ehling: 1998).

real estate property and related loans, housing situation and endowment with consumer durables. The final interview, conducted in previous surveys, has been abandoned and some of the questions transferred to the household diary. Detailed information on revenues and expenditures, the core of the EVS, is collected through housekeeping books (diaries), covering a period of one year. Two different types of diaries are used: a stream-lined diary to be kept by all participants and a more detailed diary to be kept in addition by a sub-sample. Reporting is organised on a rotation basis. The keeping of the stream-lined diary is for the first time based on 4 rotating sub-samples, each reporting sequentially for a period of three months. The diary collects information on incomes, deductions and contributions separately for each member of the household. Other receipts (insurance premiums, receipts in kind, etc.) are collected for the household as a whole. A sub-sample of these households (20 % or ca. 15,000 households) in addition keeps detailed consumption diaries with information on expenditure items by quantity and price. The keeping of these detailed diaries is equally distributed over the entire year, meaning that each household has to report for no longer than one month.

The streamlining of the survey has led to a significant reduction of the amount of data to be processed, and results have become available much earlier than ever before¹⁶. Results are published within the FSO's statistical subject matter series 'Fachserie 15.2: Einkommens- und Verbrauchsstichprobe 1993'.

3.2.3 The time use survey ('Zeitbudgeterhebung')

Time use surveys have their origin in late 19th century, when in some countries time use was included in diaries set up for collecting data on budget accounts of households. Scientific interest in time use increased gradually in Russia and the United States. In the United States, a number of important time use studies were carried out in the 1930ies, but did not gain international prominence. In many West European countries, interest in time use studies gained momentum (cf. Harvey: 1999, Gershuny: 1990; Ehling and Schäfer: 1988).

In Germany, there is no real tradition in official statistics with respect to time use surveys. Germany participated in one of the international pioneer surveys carried out in 1965/1966 in a number of countries by the 'Multinational Comparative Time-Budget Research Project', an international consortium of time use researchers, supported by the UNESCO (cf. Szalai: 1972). In the 1980s, the International Association of Time Use Research (IATUR) noticed the need for input harmonisation and developed guide lines with respect to methods and definitions to be applied in time use surveys (Rydenstam: 1998).

¹⁶ By 2001 most of the planned publications were already released.

At European level, interest in comparable time use statistics developed in the 1990s (cf. Rydenstam: 1998). Following a working party on Social Indicators (Gershuny: 1992), a Eurostat project was developed for harmonising time use surveys to enhance comparability of future national statistics on time use within the European Union and the EFTA. Activities resulted in a series of pilot surveys, conducted in a number of European countries, though not in Germany (Niemi: 2000; Rydenstam: 1999; Rydenstam and Blanke: 1998).

In German official statistics, the first national time-use survey was conducted not earlier than in 1991/1992, when the Federal Statistical Office conducted a voluntary survey with support of the German Ministry for Family Affairs and Senior Citizens. After ten years, a second survey was launched, going into field work in April 2001. Besides these official surveys, time use data are collected on the basis of time use diaries also in science-based social surveys, such as the German Socio-Economic Panel, run by the DIW¹⁷.

The following focuses on the time use survey of 1991/1992 and shortly introduces into to the upcoming survey for 2001/2002. The documentation (appendix and EuReporting on-line database) is restricted to the 1991/1992 survey.

3.2.3.1 *The 1991/1992 time uses survey ('Zeitbudgeterhebung 1991/92')*¹⁸:

The major goal of the 1991/1992 time use survey was

- to develop and test an appropriate data collection methodology;
- to develop a satellite system on household production (related to national accounting);
- to provide information about the structure of time-use by population groups and household types (Federal Statistical Office: 1995, 7-15).
- The survey was run under Article 2, Paragraph 2 of the Federal Statistics Law, requiring no separate legislation under certain conditions (cf. introduction). It was carried out in co-operation with the statistical offices of the federal states. Data were collected mainly by the statistics offices of the federal states, but - in contrast to the usual division of labour - data processing was centralized to ensure uniform coding.

Survey design and coding of activities were based on international recommendations issued by the ITUR (Ehling: 1998). The survey was harmonised with the microcensus as far as demographic variables are concerned. With respect to labour market variables differences in data recording periods between the two surveys restricted harmonisation between the two

¹⁷ Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (German Institute for Economic Research), Berlin

¹⁸ Cf. Statistisches Bundesamt: 1995.

surveys¹⁹.

Survey participation was voluntary, sampling based on quota sampling (with quota stratification different between the ‘old’ federal states and the new ones.) The sample frame was taken from the microcensus. The target population was private households with a German head of household, covering persons at the age of 12 and above. In total, 7,200 households participated in the survey, and a total of 6,903 households could be used for analysis (households with incomplete record keeping were excluded in total). Survey results are representative at national level, the level of the old federal states, and the level of the new federal states (former GDR).

The survey used two basic instruments:

- introductory and final interviews (divided into questionnaires of households and of persons within the household);
- self-administered time use diaries.

The introductory interview of individual household members covered details for the following topics (cf. Ehler: 1995): Basic socio-economic characteristics, current education (including kindergartens and child-care facilities), educational attainment, labour force participation type of subsistence and net income (grouped data). The household questionnaire covered household composition and endowment with selected consumer durables as well as housing situation and residential surroundings. The final interview of each household member covered questions on need for care, exchange of help between households, voluntary and community work, and child care. The household questionnaire asked for type of building the household is located.

The time use diary had to be kept individually by each member of a responding household, if aged 12 or above. Individuals had to keep records on two successive days, with a proportional selection of days over an entire week. For methodological reasons and to obtain data for the whole year, the survey was conducted during four different months at quarterly intervals, starting in October 1992, and ending in July 1992. Keeping their diaries, individuals had to record in their own words primary and secondary activities in separate columns (open diaries), marking the beginning and the end of an activity at a time axis of fixed five-minute intervals. For each primary activity they had to indicate for each 5 minute time slot for whom the activity was carried out (four categories), the place of activity (‘at home | not at home’), and with whom the activity was carried out (multiple selection among five categories). In total, about 32,000 diaries were kept.

¹⁹ The time use survey used four different periods (months) for reporting, while the micro census uses one single week (usually in April) as period of reporting.

The diaries were later on coded centrally at the Federal Statistical Office into a hierarchically ordered 3-digit classification which distinguished ten activity fields (cf. Ehling:1995): Household work, Do-it-yourself, Paid job/job seeking, Voluntary and community work, Qualification/education, Personal sphere/physiological regeneration, Contacts/social life, Use of media/leisure-time activities, Taking care of and attending people, and a residual category (non-allocable times).

Results have been in a project report in a number of volumes with detailed tables, apart from contributions to 'Wirtschaft und Statistik', the monthly statistical bulletin of the FSO. Moreover, microdata have been made available to the public at large (including interested clients abroad) in form of a public use file and for scientific research within Germany in form of a scientific use file.

3.2.3.2 *The 2001/2002 time use survey (Zeitbudgeterhebung 2001/02')*²⁰

In 2001/2002, again financed by the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens and Youth' a second national time-use survey was conducted. The survey has roughly the same scope as the 1991/1992 investigation. The new survey tries to ensure comparability with the previous time use survey, while taking into account the recommendations passed by the statistical office of the European Communities (Eurostat) for future time budget surveys in Member States of the EU and the statistical cooperation area.

The survey has roughly the same scope as the 1991/1992 investigation (cf. Ehling: 2001). Participation is again voluntary, and sampling again based on quota, with disproportionate probabilities of inclusion.. The target population is somewhat larger, including also foreign households resident in Germany, provided that German language is commanded.. The gross sample size is 5,500 households and the target a net sample size of 5,000 households. The sampling frame is provided by the 1999 microcensus.

To ensure compatibility to Eurostat's 'Guidelines on Harmonized European Time Use Surveys' (cf. Österberg: 2000), the survey design had to be modified considerably (cf. Ehling and Merz: 2001; Ehling: 1999).

Instead of face-to-face interviews at the beginning and end of diary keeping, based on complex questionnaires on households and individual household members, simplified questionnaires on households and on individual persons are now submitted once for self-declaration, based on crossing of categories. The questionnaires, now to be filled out through crossing of response categories instead of face-to-face interviews, are simplified, but at the same time include additional topics. The questionnaire on individual household members,

²⁰ Cf. Ehling and Merz: 2001

includes as new topics questions on income from gainful activity, professional formation and continued education, help (received from and provided to other persons), health situation, and an increased section on personal satisfaction with time use, in addition to topics already included in the previous investigation (basic socio-economic characteristics, labour force participation, voluntary and community work. The household questionnaire, now includes the topic ‘total net income by size and composition’, in addition to the topics collected in the previous investigation already (household composition, housing situation, endowment with consumer durables, facilities offered in the surroundings, exchange of help between households, child care, people in need of care).

As in the previous survey, self-administered, open diaries are still the core of the survey. However, the time slots for recording are now fixed intervals of 10 minutes instead of previously five. The lower age threshold for keeping an individual diary is now set at 10 years, while previously it was 12 years. The diary still distinguishes between primary and secondary activity, and includes columns for specifying place of activity and with whom activities were performed. The item ‘for whom is the activity performed’ does appear no longer at all in the diary. Instead, introductory and final questionnaires include questions on received and provided help services. New items in the diary are now transport means, extraordinary events as well as journeys during a recording day, place at beginning and end of a recording day, and time of filling-out the diary. The diaries are to be filled out on two successive days plus one weekend day, compared to previously two successive days only. Total sample size and hence recording is equally distributed over twelve months, instead of four quarterly survey months in the previous investigation.

Data on activity (primary as well as secondary) is coded centrally at the FSO into a 3 digit, hierarchically ordered, classification of activities consisting at digit 1 of 10 activity fields. The classification is similar, but not identical to the classification used in the 1991/1992 time use survey.

It is to be expected that results are made available at the level of microdata similar to the 1991/1992 survey. Reports are to be expected both within FSO publication series (special reports (cf. Holz: 2000), contributions to the statistical bulletin ‘Wirtschaft und Statistik’).

3.2.4 The European Household Panel (ECHP) in Germany

This section is divided into three parts: a summary description of the ECHP approach (i); a description of its implementation in Germany (ii); information on data and result dissemination for the German implementation (iii).

(i) General information on the ECHP²¹:

The ECHP is a panel survey of private households and persons (aged 16+), initiated and co-financed by the European Community. Its major objective is to collect information required by the European Commission for monitoring the living and working conditions of the European population²².

Considering the data situation, the statistical office of the EU (Eurostat), opted for an entirely new survey, providing comparable data on a representative basis both for cross-sectional and longitudinal analysis and related statistics. To reach a maximum of comparability, the survey characteristics were standardised ex-ante (input harmonisation), including blue prints of concepts, definitions, questionnaires, data collection methodologies, and uniform procedures for weighting and grossing up (cf. European Commission/Eurostat: 1996a, 1996b).

The survey was developed as a panel study with standardised follow-up rules. Unlike many other household panels, rules were also defined for supplementing the sample with hitherto unobserved households in order to keep the source representative also for cross-sectional investigations (cf. Peracchi et al.: 2000).

The ECHP is organised as a statistical research project, subject to periodical evaluation and renewal of continuation. Data are collected by national data collection units (not necessarily statistical offices²³), which transfer them to Eurostat for centralised data processing and storing in a database.

The survey covers a wide range of topics, with a clear focus on income and economic activity. At the level of households information is collected on demographics, housing and accommodation, durables, financial situation (non-monetary indicators) and income. At the level of individual household members, in addition to demographic information, data is collected on a variety of topics, such as social relations, health, pensions and insurance, satisfaction with living and working conditions, education and training, a wide range of details with respect to economic activity, and, in a very detailed way, on income by size and composition. Data on individuals can easily be linked to the household level.

The ECHP has been conducted the first time in 1994. After 3 waves, three countries decided

²¹ Cf. European Commission/Eurostat: 1996a; 1996b.

²² The survey has its origin in the establishment of social policy goals (the so-called 'European social space') in the Treaty of Maastricht (1992). According to a related protocol, the Commission is obliged to submit a social report on the situation of the European population every year, indicating to what degree the social goals have been met. Moreover, it is obliged to provide upon request in-depth, comparable information on single issues of the European social space across all Member States. (Bechtold/Meyer: 1996 → The ECHP, WiSt).

²³ National statistical offices are not obliged to run the panel study within the system of official statistics. In fact, from the very beginning The Netherlands decided to provide data through an already existing official panel, and Denmark to have the panel conducted outside its official statistics. Similarly, among the countries accessing the EU and the ECHP at a later stage, Finland switched to register data after having conducted the panel for one wave, and Sweden provides data through a variety of sources of its System of Living Conditions Surveys.

not to conduct the panel any longer but to use already existing panels of the academic community (Great Britain, Luxembourg and Germany). In 1999, panel supplementation was given up, and termination of the project is scheduled for 2002. The ECHP will be succeeded by a new system of mandatory 'Statistics of Income and Living Conditions- SILC' (cf. European Commission: 2001), which gives priority to output harmonisation of already existing sources (cf. Mejer et al: 2000).

(ii) The ECHP in Germany:

Two periods must be distinguished concerning the provision of microdata for the ECHP: conduction of the input-harmonized panel for Germany (1994-1996), and provision of data from the science-base Socio-Economic Panel of the DIW (1997-).

Participation in the first 3 waves of the ECHP²⁴:

In Germany, the FSO never had conducted a panel survey on households and persons – in contrast to the scientific community which had established in 1984 already the Socio-Economic Panel ('Sozio-ökonomisches Panel, SOEP), run by the DIW²⁵. After two pilot surveys, the FSO decided to run the ECHP on the basis of § 7,2 of the national statistics law, i.e. as an exploratory survey for scientific and methodological purposes, based on voluntary participation (cf. Bechtold: 1996).

Sampling for the first wave (cf. Bechtold and Meyer: 1998) was based on two-stage cluster sampling. In the first stage, 640 communes were selected²⁶. In the second stage, for each of the selected communes one or several starting points were specified for random-route selection of a total of 10,572 private households (required to achieve a net sample size of 5,000 households). With 48 %, the panel participation rate in the first wave was far below the European average of 80 %²⁷. As participation was voluntary, item non-response was high. However, for the core of the survey – sensitive income questions - non response was astonishingly low, amounting roughly to 10% (Bechtold and Meyer: 1998, 301).

Conversion of data for the ECHP from the Socio-Economic Panel (1997-):

Due to financial restrictions, the ECHP could no longer be followed up after the third wave (referring to 1996). Like Great Britain and Luxembourg, also Germany decided to derive data for the ECHP database for future waves from an already existing science-based panel – the

²⁴ Cf. Bechtold: 1996; European Commission/Eurostat: 1996.

²⁵ Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung, Berlin. Cf. <http://www.diw.de>.

²⁶ For this purpose, in each federal state communes were stratified by size classes of inhabitants before.

²⁷ Bechtold and Meyer argue, however, that the high average European rate is partially explained by the fact that two participating countries provided data from an already existing panel, thus showing relatively high rates of participation. Both of these countries had achieved similarly low participation rates when they conducted their national panel for the first time. Cf. Bechtold and Meyer: 1998, p. 300.

Socio-Economic Panel of the DIW (SOEP). This was a clear switch from input harmonization with strict comparability of questionnaires and statistical procedures to output harmonisation with differences in questionnaires and statistical routines. A first check with respect to measuring economic activity (current labour status, main labour status, minor labour status, search for employment) revealed some considerable differences in concepts, questions and filters in this field between the ECHP and the SOEP (cf. Bechtold: 1999; Bechtold, Kölling and Frick: 1998).

Two basic decisions have been reached so far to bridge the data gap:

- Gradual adjustment of the SOEP whenever possible and reasonable without sacrificing comparability across SOEP waves - starting with the labour status domain in 1999 (cf. Bechtold, Kölling and Frick: 1998, 890):
- Provision of SOEP data for the first three waves as well, complementing ECHP data collected by the FSO (Bechtold: 1999²⁸)
- Furthermore, a research project was started in the field of official statistics funded by the European Commission to investigate into the impact of the switch to output harmonization on data quality of the ECHP: CHINTEX²⁹. It is to be expected that new insights will be gained not only on data quality issues, but also into prospects and limits of output harmonisation in methodological terms and in terms of cost efficiency.

(iii) Dissemination of results and data:

Official results of the ECHP are disseminated within the statistical subject matter series of Eurostat, including the series ‘Social Statistics in Focus’. Tabular data are also provided within Eurostat’s database NewCronos. Concerning access to microdata at European level, Eurostat offers a User Data Base (UDB) with an integrated file structure covering anonymised microdata for all countries. Access is provided for bona-fide research, but contracts are only made with organisations, and not with individual researchers.

The Eurostat User Data Base does not contain microdata of the ECHP implementation by the German FSO (i.e. FSO data for the waves 1994-1996). Instead, data for these waves are also offered from conversions of the Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP). Access to microdata of these three waves of the ECHP implementation in Germany is granted by the German FSO for bona-fide research within Germany. This restriction is a consequence of currently valid national legislation.

Even the production data base (PDP), which is available only to the data collecting units and to Eurostat, is incomplete as regards Germany. According to current legislation, data of the

²⁸ Cf. <http://www.sta.fi/proceedings/arkisto/contributed/49.pdf>.

²⁹ ‘The Change from Input Harmonisation to Ex-post Harmonisation in National Samples of the European Community Household Panel – Implications on Data Quality’.

FSO survey can be transferred to Eurostat for statistical purposes only if interviewees gave their written agreement³⁰ (Bechthold and Meyer: 1998, 298). Thus only the database of the FSO contains all records.

3.2.5 The structure of earnings survey ('Gehalts- und Lohnstrukturerhebung') and the labour cost survey ('Arbeitskostenerhebung')

The structure of earnings survey and the survey on labour costs both are mandatory, large-scale establishment surveys, limited to certain sectors of the economy.

The structure of earnings survey collects detailed data on the earnings of individual employees together with information on their demographic and occupational characteristics, forms of employment, and economic characteristics of establishments these employees are working in. Its major objective is to provide data on the distribution of . The labour cost survey provides establishment data on the level and composition of all labour costs together with average information on employment, hours of work, an economic characteristics of the establishments. Its major objective is to provide an account of the components of labour costs and the work volume used.

Both surveys are part of the European system of structural statistics on earnings and on labour costs, and have been conducted with varying periodicities since the 1960s. From 2000 onwards, the labour cost survey and the earnings survey will be conducted every fourth year, alternating every second year.

The European surveys are mandatory, and survey characteristics today are specified in detail in the framework regulation of the European Council and, in even greater detail in implementation Regulations of the European Commission³¹.

Comparability over time and across country is limited, due to changes/differences in classifications, definitions and delineations of statistical units, coverage of industries, and many other factors. But the degree of harmonisation has remarkably increased over time, and since the 1990s, the European Union has established through statistics legislation high standards to ensure cross-national comparability for the two surveys.

In Germany, the two multi-annual large-scale surveys are complemented by a number of current surveys and statistics with different topics and periodicities (cf. Dresch and Kaukewitsch; 1993). The following sections are limited to the two large-scale surveys.

³⁰ Cf. §16 of the Federal Statistics Act

³¹ Council Regulation (EC) No. 530/199 stipulates essential characteristics of the two surveys, while Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1726/1999 and 16/2000 implement in detail the Council Regulation with respect to the labour costs survey (1999) resp. the earnings survey (2000). Cf. European Union: 2001, 1999b, 1999a.

3.2.5.1 *The structure of earnings survey in Germany ('Gehalts- und Lohnstrukturerhebung')*³²

Large-scale establishment surveys on the structure of earnings were carried out in Germany for the years 1951, 1957, 1962, 1966, 1972, 1978, 1990, and 1995. The next survey will be carried out in 2002 for the year 2001. The surveys for 1966, 1972 and 1978 were European surveys, as the surveys from 1995 onwards are. After unification the survey was carried out for March 1992 with a reduced list of characteristics (cf. Kaukewitsch: 1998).

The 1995 survey (after 1978 for the first time conducted at European level again) covered all establishments with 10 and more employees in NACE 1 divisions³³ 'Mining and Quarrying', 'Manufacturing', 'Electricity, Gas and Water Supply', 'Construction', and 'Financial Intermediation'³⁴ (European Commission/Eurostat: 1999a). Concerning coverage of employees, the survey was limited to employees subject to obligatory pension insurance security contributions (except for apprentices which were excluded). This means that employees working for less than about 15 hours a week and other groups with minor employment were not covered. Two reporting periods were used: the year 1995 and the entire month of October 1995.

The study was conducted as a random sample, based on two stage stratified sampling. In the first stage, local establishments were selected from various registers. These local units then were stratified and then employees were selected randomly by the local units according to a fixed selection procedure. In total, data was collected for 900,000 individuals, representing roughly 11 million employees. Data are representative at the level of federal states (Nuts 1).

For each selected employee, the survey covered a wide range of topics with respect to work place characteristics (branch of economic activity, size group of enterprise, type of contract, remuneration system, actual job characteristics), personal characteristics (demography, length of service in the enterprise, proxies for deriving marital status, training level attained, contractual and actually paid weekly working hours), earnings and deductions. Concerning earnings, for October 1995 data were collected on gross monthly earnings (divided into types) and statutory deductions to determine net earnings. Earnings data for the entire year of 1995 covered gross and net annual earnings and extra payments.

Reporting unit is the establishment, which has to supply data at the level of local units.

Results are published by the FSO within FSO's statistical subject matter series 'Fachserie 16.1

³² For a summary in English cf. Kaukewitsch: 1998.

³³ Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community (NACE), Rev. 1.

³⁴ Except for NACE group J 67, 'Activities auxiliary to financial intermediation.'

Gehalts- und Lohnstrukturerhebung'. Microdata are currently not disseminated for scientific purposes outside the FSO premises, due to not yet solved problems with statistical disclosure control methods for establishment data.

Tabular data are available in machine-readable via the FSO. At European level, comparative data across Member States are provided in Eurostat's NewCronos database.

3.2.5.2 The labour cost survey ('Arbeitskostenerhebung')

Large-scale establishment surveys on the level and structure of labour costs have been carried out at European level since 1959 (cf. Dresch and Kaukewitsch: 1998) with different periodicities and varying, but increasing coverage of industries. Since 1984, the EU survey has to be carried out every fourth year. Germany had no national large-scale labour cost survey before. The most recently completed survey refers to 1996.

The major objective of the labour cost survey is to provide detailed data on the level and components of labour costs. The survey (cf. Kaukewitsch and Heppt: 1998) provides very detailed information on all kinds of cost components (including all types of social security payments and contributions). The definition of labour cost is broader than just earnings, including as well in detail extra payments and payments in kind, vocational training costs, recruitment costs, etc.³⁵). In addition to labour cost data, information is also collected on work volume (total staff employed, hours worked and paid). Information is not collected at the level of individuals, but only for groups of employees. The survey is a major source also for national accounting.

Reporting unit is the establishment which has to provide aggregate data for local units. The most recent survey refers to the situation in 1995 (entire year). The 1995 labour cost survey covered the same industries as the 1996 structure of earnings survey, and was similarly limited to establishments with more than 10 employees (see above). The investigation included both full-time and part-time employees, but excluded civil servants, home workers and employees not subject to compulsory social security contributions (Kaukewitsch and Heppt: 1998).

The German labour cost survey rests on a sample of establishments, based on one-stage stratified sampling. In the producing sector (NACE divisions B to F), for example, 33,000 establishments were selected in the 1996 survey, amounting to a sample fraction of 14.3 % (cf. Statistisches Bundesamt: 1999).

³⁵ For a detailed list cf. Commission Regulation (EC) No 1726/1999.

The FSO publishes results separately for groups of industries within FSO's statistical subject matter series 'Fachreihe 16.2: Arbeitskostenerhebung'. Data is available at European level also in Eurostat's NewCronos database. There is no microdata produced.

The labour cost survey for 2000 is currently (2001) in the field.

4. Access to microdata: modes and conditions

Official statistics at the federal level are produced not only by the Federal Statistical Office, but also by Ministries and other federal government bodies, such as the Federal Employment Services ('Bundesanstalt für Arbeit') with its Institute for Employment Research ('Institut für Arbeitsmarktforschung, IAB'). Official microdata are collected not only through surveys, but also as a result of administrative processes, such as in the case of social security administrations or fiscal bodies.

As in other countries, the legislative framework is constituted by a variety of different laws and international obligations. Specific legislation with respect to access to FSO microdata has the character of framework law, meaning that the implementation of practical procedures is often bound to balancing privacy rights (data protection laws, etc.) with the need for statistical information. In Germany, the use of microdata for the purpose of official statistics is regulated in the Federal Statistics Act ('Gesetz über die Statistik für Bundeszwecke, BStatG') of 1987³⁶. § 16 of this act relates to statistical confidentiality. It stipulates that – except for certain cases – microdata have to be treated as confidential. Microdata are not to be treated as confidential, if (1) a respondent has agreed to transfer or publication of individual records in written form; (2) information is already available publicly elsewhere; (3) information is aggregated with other individual records; and (4) if there is no way to relate individual level information to the responding unit (this corresponds to what is frequently denoted as absolutely anonymized data)³⁷. § 16 gives high priority to statistical confidentiality, but gives some leeway for making individual data accessible for independent scientific research³⁸ - provided, among other conditions³⁹, that data are anonymized in a way that an unreasonable amount of time, cost and labour would be required to identify individual statistical units (this is frequently denoted as de-facto anonymity or, especially in Germany, as factually anonymized microdata).

³⁶ A version including all amendments is available online at FSO's home page <http://www.statistik-bund.de>

³⁷ Cf. Section 1 of § 16 of the BStatG.

³⁸ Cf. Section 6 of § 16 of the BStatG.

³⁹ Additional requirements refer to organisational, technical and other measures to protect anonymity.

Assessing the risk of microdata disclosure is a difficult task and the Federal Statistical Office has always given great priority to ensuring data confidentiality, insisting, for example, that risks of and statistical methodologies against data disclosure have to be examined for each microdata source separately. Moreover, special legislation applies in addition to the Federal Statistics Act if microdata come from administrative records of social security agencies (cf. KVI: 2001).

For all these reasons, access conditions to official microdata is regulated in a very differentiated way in Germany. However, data access has considerably been improved during recent years, and further improvements are to be expected as a result of a current initiative to improve co-operation between official statistics and science⁴⁰.

Concerning access to official microdata, three broad segments must be distinguished: (i) access to microdata of the Federal Statistical Office; (ii) access to microdata of social security agencies⁴¹; (iii) access to microdata collected on behalf of the European Union.

4.1 Access to microdata of the Federal Statistical Office:

So far, data access is limited to data on persons and households. Microdata on establishments are currently not yet available, because of still unsolved problems of data anonymization.

In principle, two modes of access exist, each of them with different access conditions.

(i) Dissemination of anonymized microdata to external users at large:

Access to public use files: Microdata which have been anonymized in a way that disclosure is impossible according to current knowledge are according to § 16 of the Statistics Act not subject to statistical confidentiality and hence can be disseminated without restrictions. For a long time the FSO has generated such files individually upon request, creating unique sample files for each single client. Accordingly, costs to be covered by fees were prohibitive for a long time. Only recently, the FSO has agreed to examine the production of *standard* public use files. Currently, such *standard* public use files are offered by the FSO only for the time use survey of 1991/1992, but others might be expected in the near future.

Access to scientific use files: According to the 1987 Statistics Act scientists can⁴² be given a privileged access to microdata, provided they are used for independent scientific research and the organizations researchers belong to are independent

⁴⁰ In 1999, the Federal Ministry for Education and Research ('BMBF') has established a commission ('Kommission zur Verbesserung der informationellen Infrastruktur zwischen Wissenschaft und Statistik, KVI') to make proposal for improving the informational infrastructure between official statistics and science. The result will be published in the second half of 2001.

⁴¹ Since 1996, a sample of taxation records (income tax) has become available under certain conditions for bona-fide research. Cf. Zwick: 1998.

⁴² There is no legal obligation for the FSO to provide such an access.

scientific organizations (in practice, mainly universities and independent scientific research institutes). The privilege is that scientists have access to data which have been less severely transformed to ensure confidentiality than it is the case with public use files. Measures for rendering data factually anonymous go, however, beyond removing merely personal identifiers⁴³ (such as name and small region codes). Access is granted on the basis of a summary of the research agenda data is required for; use is limited to registered users of independent scientific organisations only and files have to be deleted after completion of the project. Currently, two practical procedures exist for the supply of such scientific use files: generation of factually anonymized files 'on stock' (called basic scientific use files) and generation of files upon individual request (individual scientific use files). *Basic scientific use files* ('Grundfiles') comprise currently the microcensus (Köhler: 1998b), the income and expenditure survey (Köhler: 1998a) and the time use survey of 1991/92 (Holz: 2001). Currently, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research in a pilot project subsidizes the generation of basic scientific use files, and costs are therefore fairly low, amounting to 130 DM (ca. 65 €) for one microcensus. *Individual scientific use files* are more costly, as the user has to pay fees on a cost-recovery basis. No access at all is given until now – in contrast to many other countries in Europe - to microdata of the population census, which is a sensitive issue in Germany since the preparation of the last census in 1987.

To improve the use of official microdata and provide support for research, the Centre for Survey Research and Methodology ('Zentrum für Umfragen, Methoden und Analysen', 'ZUMA')⁴⁴ has established a competence centre ('Abteilung Mikrodaten'). The centre acts as an intermediary between the Federal Statistical Office and the scientific community and provides a range of research-based services for the use of the microcensus and the income and expenditure survey. Within its premises, it offers also services for on-site research with these data.

(ii) Access to microdata within the premises of the Federal Statistical Office:

This kind of access is restricted to researchers carrying out scientific research on behalf of or jointly with the FSO. There is no formal right of access. If access is granted, special measures are undertaken to ensure confidentiality of data and results can only be published on agreement of the FSO. Data are formally anonymized, i.e. all personal identifiers and small region codes are removed.

Currently, legislation in no way allows the export of national microdata (in whatever form) outside of Germany. This is a very difficult situation for scientific network cooperation, and it is to be hoped that some solutions will be found in the near future. The only way for researchers working in independent scientific organisations outside of Germany is to arrange a guest-stay with ZUMA to analyse these data on-site.

⁴³ Files in which only personal identifiers have been removed are called 'formally anonymized data'.

⁴⁴ <http://www.gesis.org/ZUMA/index.htm>

4.2 Access to microdata of social security agencies:

Recently, samples of some microdata of the Federal Employment Services have become available for scientific research. Currently, scientific use files are disseminated via the Central Archive for Empirical Social Research at Cologne University⁴⁵, covering survey data on persons/households, collected by the Institute for Employment Research (IAB). Since 1996, a scientific use file is also available, covering anonymized microdata from a 1 % sample of the IAB Employment files, based on administrative records for employees subject to compulsory social security contributions (Bender, Haas and Klose: 2000). As in the case of microdata of the Federal Statistical Office, these microdata must not be exported outside of Germany.

No scientific use files are available so far for microdata on establishments. However, the IAB offers remote access to its establishment panel ('IAB Betriebspanel'), covering a sample of employers with at least one employee subject to compulsory social insurance (cf. Bellmann: 1997). Programme instructions are cleared by a unit of the IAB for unlawful transactions, before the setup is actually run. Results (no microdata) are returned to the clients by e-mail. No fees are raised so far⁴⁶.

4.3 Access to European microdata collected by the FSO on behalf of the European Union⁴⁷

Within the field of social surveys, only two are conducted on behalf of the European Union: the labour force survey (which is integrated as a sub-programme into the microcensus) and the first three waves of the European Household Panel. The European Labour Force Survey is a mandatory survey, while the ECHP is voluntary. According to current European legislation (cf. Thorogood: 1999), both must be made available in anonymized form for scientific research. Concerning the *ECHP*, access has already been implemented at European level. The User Database ('UDB') of the ECHP does, however, not contain official data for Germany, collected by the German FSO for the first three waves of the panel⁴⁸. Instead, users are supplied with the panel data converted from SOEP. Only users working within independent scientific organisations within Germany have access also to the official data for the first three waves. In this case, a scientific use file can be ordered from the German Federal Statistical Office. Concerning the *European Labour Force Survey* no microdata are yet available for scientific research. As concerns data for Germany, however, anonymized data are available to the scientific community in Germany since the 1996 survey as part of the microcensus scientific use file .

⁴⁵ <http://www.gesis.org/en/za/index.htm>

⁴⁶ For more information on details of access see <http://doku.iab.de/betriebspanel/zugangsregelungen.pdf>

⁴⁷ For a summary of recent EU legislation in the field of statistical confidentiality cf. Thorogood: 1999; Kraus: 1998.

⁴⁸ According to current national legislation, German microdata must not be exported to users outside of Germany.

Concerning establishment surveys, carried out on behalf of the European Union, no scientific use files are currently available.

5. References and summary list of related FSO publication series

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5.2 Related publication series of the Federal Statistical Office ('Statistisches Bundesamt')

5.2.1 Statistical bulletins:

Monthly bulletin: *Wirtschaft und Statistik* (summary results, analysis, methods)

5.2.2 Statistical subject matter series:

(i) Population censuses:

Fachserie 1: Bevölkerung und Erwerbstätigkeit. Volkszählung vom 25. Mai 1987. Hefte 1-12 /
[Population census of 25 May 1987. Vol. 1-2.]

(ii) Microcensuses (major publications series only):

Fachserie 1, Reihe 3: Bevölkerung und Erwerbstätigkeit. Haushalte und Familien /
[Households and families]

Fachserie 1, Reihe 4.1.1: Bevölkerung und Erwerbstätigkeit. Stand und Entwicklung der
Erwerbstätigkeit/ [Level and changes in economic activity].

Fachserie 1, Reihe 4.1.2: Bevölkerung und Erwerbstätigkeit. Beruf, Ausbildung und
Arbeitsbedingungen der Erwerbstätigen / [Occupation, training and working conditions of
the employed population].

Fachserie 13, Reihe 1: Sozialleistungen. Altersvorsorge, Versicherte in der Kranken- und
Pflegeversicherung / [Social benefits. Old age provision, Insured persons in sickness
insurance and in long-term care insurance].

(iii) Income and expenditure surveys (major publication series only):

Fachserie 15: Wirtschaftsrechnungen. Einkommens- und Verbrauchsstichprobe <year> /
[Income and expenditure survey]. (Mehrere Hefte und evtl. Sonderhefte / several volumes
and eventually special topic issues).

(iv) Structure of Earnings Survey (major publication series only):

Fachserie 16: Löhne und Gehälter. Arbeitskostenerhebung <Jahr> / [Labour cost survey
<year>]. (Mehrere Hefte / several volumes).

(iv) Labour cost survey (major publication series only):

Fachserie 16: Löhne und Gehälter. Gehalts- und Lohnstrukturerhebung <Jahr> / [Structure of earnings survey <year>]. (Mehrere Hefte / several volumes).

5.2.3 Publication series on methods

Forum der Bundesstatistik (volumes within publication series are published irregularly).

Spektrum der Bundesstatistik (volumes within publication series are published irregularly).

Approaches – Methods – Definitions (bulletin, usually 2 issues a year). Since the year 2000 available online at <http://statistik-bund.de>.

6. Appendix: Survey descriptions in summarized form

For details and comparative queries visit

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



Topic	Information Present
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Study Citation

Country	Germany
Title	Mikrozensus
Parallel title	Microcensus
Study Acronym	MZ
Investigator	Bundesamt für Statistik
Investigator's name in English	Federal Statistical Office of Germany
Investigator's home-page	http://www.statistik-bund.de

Study Content Summary

Subject items	The major items of the annual basic programme relate to characteristics of persons, to family/household relationships, citizenship, residence, statutory old age insurance, long-term care, main source of living, income, general education and vocational education, economic activity, unemployment, search for employment, non-activity. The annual supplementary programme (subsample) covers additional questions on education and training as well as on economic activity, on previous employment, and (until 1998) questions on long-term care (needs and benefits).
Statistics domains	Demography; Living conditions; Education; Health Household and Family; Labour Market; Income; Housing.
Abstract (Study Purpose)	The micro-census is a multi-purpose survey. It is Germany's major socio-economic survey. Its main objective is the continuous monitoring of labour markets and the socio-economic situation of individuals, families and households. Its results are used to update the population census and to evaluate other official statistics, such as the income and expenditure survey. It provides the sampling frame for other official surveys and can similarly be used for non-official surveys.

Summary Data Description

Coverage

Reference period	1998
Data collection period	Single week in April 1998: April 20-April 26
Country	Germany
Lowest geographic level	Below 'Regierungsbezirk' (between NUTS 2 and NUTS 3)
Observed units	Person, Household

Universe



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ-1998**

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Institutional universe	Registered population, including institutional households..
Geographic universe	Resident population
Conceptual exceptions	Excluded are member of foreign armies and of embassies.

Kind of Data

Type of source	Person/household survey
Type of census	.

Data Collection Methodology

Survey structure

Time method	Yes; replacement rate = 25 % per survey (i.e., units remain there for a maximum of 4 years)
Kind of survey	Independent survey
Survey integration	The survey consists of two modules: the annual programme and the microcensus supplement conducted every 4th year. The annual programme consists of 2 parts: the basic programme and a subsample with complementary questions. It includes the annual EU-labour force survey (as subsample) and serves also other official surveys with respect to sampling, evaluation and estimation. Concerning economic activity, the survey combines two concepts: current status (ILO) with usual status ('major source of livelihood'.)
Participation mode	Mandatory for the basic programme (complementary questions and supplement are partially mandatory, partially voluntary)
Study frequency	Annually
Collection period(s)	Single week in April 1998: April 20-April 26

Collection responsibility

Data collector	Statistisches Bundesamt; Statistische Landesämter
Collector's name in English	Federal statistical office and regional statistical offices

Sampling procedure

Sample Size	Approx. 370,000 households resp. 820,000 persons (1%-sample)
Sampling method	The micro-census is a one-stage cluster sample. It is based on area sampling. The sampling districts (i.e., the elementary units for the compilation of the clusters) are complete buildings or parts of a building. Depending on the number of dwellings and persons, buildings are subdivided into 4 strata and combined with a detailed regional stratification using spatial units with an average of about 350,000 inhabitants. Stratification is done with respect to buildings and space. In total, 20 samples (each of 1 %) are drawn randomly. These samples serve as 'stock samples'. When selecting the stock samples, ¼ of the survey units are replaced with new ones (partial rotation). In each selected sample unit, all persons are interviewed. (For further informaton cf. Federal Statistical Office: 'Methods, Approaches, Developments', No. 2/1990)
Sampling frame	File of buildings of the 1987 population census. This stock of buildings is regularly updated to incorporate changes, such as new constructions and demolitions

Data collection procedure

Survey instruments	Questionnaire
Survey modes	Visit (major tool);



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ-1998**

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

reply by mail optional

Survey tools CAPI

Class of survey Microcensus

Core Variables: Availability and Concepts

Place of Residence

Concept De Facto & De Jure

Definition/Practice households: members are classified according to their ,de facto' status;;
families: members are classified according to their ,de jure' status

Treatment of multiple residences Usual residence;
Note:
Spouses with a second residence are allocated to the place where the family lives.

Country of Birth

Country of birth registered? No

Citizenship

Citizenship registered? yes

Foreign citizenship coded? yes

Citizenship codes Euope: single countries;
Other continents: groups of countries

Treatment of dual citizenship

Dual citizenship registered? yes

Priority rule for classification German citizenship

Gender

Gender registered? yes

Age

Age registered? yes

Specification Year of birth;
Age at reference week

Marital Status

Legal Status



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ-1998**

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Legal status registered? yes

Categories in source Single,
married and living together,
married and living separately,
divorced,;
widowed

De Facto Marital Status

De Facto Status included? yes

Categories in source co-habiting

Co-habiting coded separately? Yes
(participation voluntary for this question)

Private Household

Private HH specified? yes

Concepts and Definitions

Housing unit specified? yes

Housekeeping unit concept used? yes

Definition of housekeeping unit Group of persons co-residing and forming an economic unit or single persons living separately and with own house keeping. Household members living temporarily alone are counted as a separate household even if they contribute to the living of the common household.

Reference Person

Household Relationships

Household rel. specified? yes

Definition and categories Spouse, daughter/son in law, granddaughter/grandson, mother/father in law, grandmother/grandfather, other persons related by kinship or by marriage, no relation by kinship or marriage

Family status specified? yes

Family status recording Sequence numbers

Educational attainment

Educ. attainment included? yes

Measurement Population 15+:
Highest programme level completed

Distinguished programmes



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ-1998**

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Major categories	Allgemeine Bildung; Berufliche Bildung
Major categories in English	General education; vocational education/university
Categories and related programmes	Allgemeine Bildung: °Hauptschulabschluss; °Abschluss der allgemeinbildenden polytechnischen Oberschule in der ehemaligen DDR; °Realschulabschluss (Mittlere Reife) oder gleichwertiger Abschluss; °Fachhochschulereife ° Allgemeine oder fachgebundene Hochschulreife (Abitur) °Berufliche Ausbildung oder Hochschulabschluss: °Anlernausbildung/berufl.Praktikum; °Abschluss einer Lehrausbildung oder gleichwertiger Berufsfachschulabschluss; °Meister-/Techniker oder gleichwertiger Fachschulabschluss; °Abschluss der Fachschule in der ehemaligen DDR; °Fachhochschulabschluss; °Hochschulabschluss
Type of classification used:	Source-specific list; ISCED 1997 (COM) for EU Labour Force Survey (as subsample of the microcensus)
Name of national classification	EU Labour Force Survey: ISCED 1997; Mikrozensus: national list
Coding level	?

Current/continued education

Current education included?	yes
Current vocational training included?	yes
Current continued education included?	yes

Labour Status

Labour Status included?	yes
Status categories	°Employed; °Unemployed; °Pupil student; °Retirement or early retirement; °Disabled; °Conscript; °Domestic tasks; °Other
Measurement approach	Specification
Status concept	Current status
Age limit for inclusion	15+
Labour Force definition'	ILO-definition
Unemployment	



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ-1998**

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

definition	In the Microcensus, availability of those searching for employment is not a condition for being classified as unemployed. For the purpose of the EU labor force (which is run as a subsample to the MZ) the ILO-DEFINITION is applied.
Classification of parental leave	Classified as economically active; no restriction concerning duration of leave

Status in Employment

Employment Status included?	yes
Status categories	Selbständiger ohne Beschäftigte, Selbständiger mit Beschäftigten, Mithelfender Familienangehöriger, Beamter/Richter, Angestellter, Arbeiter/Heimarbeiter, kaufm./techn. Auszubildender, gewerblich Auszubildender, Zeit-/Berufssoldat, Grundwehr-/Zivildienstleistender
Status categories (English)	Own-account worker, self-employed, family worker, civil servant, white collar worker, blue collar worker/home worker, trainee, apprentice (blue collar), professional soldier, conscript/person doing community service
Classification of family workers	Working in the firm of a relative without pay (including contributions to social security systems)

Hours worked

Hours worked included?	yes
Concepts	Actual & usual hours
Full time / Part time question included?	yes
Definition	Self-assessment

Occupation

Occupation included?	yes
Classification compatible to ISCO-88?	Yes
Name of classification actually used	Klassifizierung der Berufe, Ausgabe 1992
Coding level	3

Industry

Industry included?	yes
Classification compatible to NACE, R.1	Yes
Classification actually used	Klassifikation der Wirtschaftszweige, Ausgabe 1993
Coding level	3
Industry recording mode	Self-assessment; name of firm
Size group of workplace included?	yes



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ-1998**

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Classification of conscripts Separate category

Main social status

Main social status asked for? yes

Social Status Concept

Main source of livelihood yes

Main activity status No

Status categories distinguished
 Living from gainful employment;
 Living from unemployment benefits
 Living from pensions
 Living from transfers of relatives
 Living from social assistance
 Living from property incomes
 Living from long-care insurance
 Living from other transfer payments

Socio-economic Classification

SEC included? No

Income

Income variables included? yes

Income units available Individuals, households

Description of Income Variables

Income concept: Individuals DISPOSABLE INCOME

Income concept: Households DISPOSABLE INCOME

Income components: Individuals (market) incomes by income schedule;
 social protection benefits by scheme;
 no information on income amounts

Income components: Households No

Health Status

Tenure Status of Households



Housing amenities

Survey History

Survey conduction

First year 1957

Conduction history 1957-1974: quarterly; 1975-1982: annually; 1983-1984: conduction cancelled; 1985- : annually

Survey developments

Major breaks The core questionnaire items of the micro-census show great stability since 1957. The survey has extremely low non-response rates, due to the fact that the major part of the questions always have been mandatory.

The following development phases might be distinguished:

1957-1961: Single module with questions on the socio-economic situation and economic activity (the core of the survey until today).

1962-1974: Division of the survey into 2 modules: basic programme with regular conduction and supplementary module with questions on demand; al sample rotation applied.

1968: Partial integration of the EU-Labour Force Survey programme

1975-1982: Considerable extension of the queationnaire items of the basic programme (education, commuting, health).

1985: Questions on demand replaced by a fixed question programme, regulated in detail by law.

1985-1987: Experimental tests with voluntary participation (in addition to the regular programme with largely mandadorty participation)

1990-: Beginning in 1990, the average size of the districts was greatly reduced, the variability of district sizes further restricted, and a more detailed regional stratification intrnroduced in order to provide reliable data at greater regional detail than before (before 1990: restriction to NUTS2)

1991: First micro-census in the new Länder (former GDR)

1992: Full integration of EU-Labour Force Survey Programme (changes in concepts and measurements).

1996: Subdivision of survey programme into an annual basic programme (1% sample), an annual complementary programme (reduced sample; participation voluntary for some items) and a rotating supplement (rotation of items in fixed intervalls, varying sample sizes, participation voluntary for some items)

Predecessors --

Additional modules 1990+

Shifts in survey focus The complementary programme is a module carried out annually, but with smaller sample size than the basic programme. Apart from questions on tourism (1985-1990), the supplementary programme starts in 1996 and covers the following domains:

- °1996-2004 (each year)
- Vocational and general education as well as further education
- Additional information on economic activity
- Previous economic activity
- Situation one year before (participation voluntary)
- Need for long-term care, benefit take-up of the long-term care insurance

Supplementary modules The supplement is a module with fixed rotation of question items (for some of them participation is voluntary; sample size varies between different question items). Item rotation was introduced already in 1985.

- °1991, 1993, 1995 (participation voluntary)
- Education and vocational training
- Additional questons to foreigners living in Germany
- Commuting and commuters



°1992, 1994 (participation voluntary)
Health
Disabilities
Membership in private and occupational pension schemes
°1996, 2000, 2004 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory)
Additional questions on vocational education and training
Commuting and commuters
Additional questions to foreigners living in Germany
°1997, 2001 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory)
Additional questions on economic activity
Membership in private and occupational pension schemes
°1998, 2002 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory)
Housing conditions
°1999, 2000 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory):
Sickness insurance
Long-term care insurance
Health situation
Need for long-term care, benefit take-up of the long-term insurance

Data Access

Data disseminators	Direct dissemination by the Federal Statistical Office. Visit http://www.statistik-bund.de/micro/microueb.htm
Statistical disclosure control methods	Removal of direct identifiers, sub-sampling, grouping, variable suppression
Type of access	Scientific use file
Use restrictions	Access restricted bona-fide research. Submission of research plan and selection of variables; use restricted in time and bound to explicitly stated persons; no access outside German legal space (in practice: no microdata export outside of Germany). For more information visit http://www.gesis.org/en/social_monitoring/microdata/data/scientific_use_file/scientific_use_file_s.htm
Access conditions to previous files	Same access conditions (though not prices) apply to all micro-censuses conducted since 1987. Available by July 2000 are the factually anonymised data of the surveys conducted in 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1996 and 1997.
Acquisition costs	Scientific Use Files available for 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1996 and 1997 (Summer 2000) available at the special price of 130 DM each. http://www.gesis.org/en/social_monitoring/microdata/data/scientific_use_file/scientific_use_file_s.htm
Special user support	Federal Statistical Office, Unit IXb: gruppe-ixb@statistik-bund.de ; ZUMA (Centre for Survey Research and Methodology): http://www.gesis.org/en/social_monitoring/microdata/index.htm

Other Study Description Materials

Related Materials on Internet

Home page of survey	Federal Statistical Office Germany http://www.statistik-bund.de/micro/d/micro_c1.htm
Codebook for survey	http://www.gesis.org/Dauerbeobachtung/Mikrodaten/daten/Abteilungsdaten/Mikrozensen/mz.htm
Questionnaire for	



Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ-1998

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Individuals:	MZ 1996: provided by ZUMA ftp://ftp.zuma-mannheim.de/pub/zuma/microdata/doc/frabo96.pdf : MZ 1997: provided by ZUMA:
Variable lists:	ZUMA (various years; variable name in German) http://www.social-science-geis.de/en/social_monitoring/microdata/data/frg_status/microcensus
Other links related to the survey	ZUMA: History of the microcensus etc.: http://www.geis.org/en/social_monitoring/microdata/data/frg_status/microcensus/index.htm

Related Studies

Study predecessors	--
Supplementary modules	The supplement is a module with fixed rotation of question items (for some of them participation is voluntary; sample size varies between different question items). Item rotation was introduced already in 1985. °1991, 1993, 1995 (participation voluntary) Education and vocational training Additional questions to foreigners living in Germany Commuting and commuters °1992, 1994 (participation voluntary) Health Disabilities Membership in private and occupational pension schemes °1996, 2000, 2004 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory) Additional questions on vocational education and training Commuting and commuters Additional questions to foreigners living in Germany °1997, 2001 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory) Additional questions on economic activity Membership in private and occupational pension schemes °1998, 2002 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory) Housing conditions °1999, 2000 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory): Sickness insurance Long-term care insurance Health situation Need for long-term care, benefit take-up of the long-term insurance

Related Publications

Part title(s)	Results are published in a variety of serials. The most important and regular publications are: Statistisches Bundesamt: a) Stand und Entwicklung der Erwerbstätigkeit. b) Beruf, Ausbildung und Arbeitsbedingungen der Erwerbstätigen; c) Versicherte in der Kranken- und Rentenversicherung. Published results refer to the federal state. Results for individual states of Germany are published by the regional statistical offices.
Parallel part title(s)	Results are published in variety of serials. The most important are (av. in German only): Statistisches Bundesamt: a) Labour Force: Current status and recent developments; b) Occupation, vocational education and employment conditions c) Versicherung in der Kranken- und Rentenversicherung. Published results refer to the federal state. Results for individual states of Germany are published by the regional statistical offices
Document citation	EuReporting Standard Documentation: Germany, Mikrozensus 1998 by Franz Kraus, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research, Mannheim: 2001



Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ-1998

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Source references

Emmerling, Dieter and Thomas Riede (1997), '40 Jahre Mikrozensus' [40 years of microcensus.], *Wirtschaft und Statistik*, 1997:3, pp. 160-174.

Statistisches Bundesamt: Bevölkerung und Erwerbstätigkeit. Fachserie 1, Reihe 3: 'Haushalte und Familien'. Wiesbaden: 1999.

Statistisches Bundesamt: Bevölkerung und Erwerbstätigkeit. Fachserie 1, Reihe 4.1.2: 'Beruf, Ausbildung und Arbeitsbedingungen der Erwerbstätigen. Wiesbaden: 1999'.

ZUMA [Centre for Survey Research and Methodology, Mannheim], Microdata Department: 'The Microcensuses 1962-1997', http://www.social-science-geis.de/en/social_monitoring/microdata/data/frg_status/microcensus/ (accessed: May 2001).



Topic	Information Present
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Study Citation

Country	Germany
Title	Mikrozensus: Labour Force Surve
Parallel title	Microcensus supplement Labour Force Survey
Study Acronym	MZ/LFS
Investigator	Bundesamt für Statistik
Investigator's name in English	Federal Statistical Office of Germany
Investigator's home-page	http://www.statistik-bund.de

Study Content Summary

Subject items	The major items of the annual basic programme relate to characteristics of persons, to family/household relationships, citizenship, residence, statutory old age insurance, long-term care, main source of living, income, general education and vocational education, economic activity, unemployment, search for employment, non-activity. The annual supplementary programme (subsample) covers additional questions on education and training as well as on economic activity, on previous employment, and (until 1998) questions on long-term care (needs and benefits).
Statistics domains	Demography; Living conditions; Education; Health Household and Family; Labour Market; Income; Housing.
Abstract (Study Purpose)	The micro-census is a multi-purpose survey. It is Germany's major socio-economic survey. Its main objective is the continuous monitoring of labour markets and the socio-economic situation of individuals, families and households. Its results are used to update the population census and to evaluate other official statistics, such as the income and expenditure survey. It provides the sampling frame for other official surveys and can similarly be used for non-official surveys.

Summary Data Description

Coverage

Reference period	1998
Data collection period	Single week in April 1998: April 20-April 26
Country	Germany
Lowest geographic level	Below 'Regierungsbezirk' (between NUTS 2 and NUTS 3)
Observed units	Person, Household

Universe



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ/Ifs-1998**

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Institutional universe	Registered population, including institutional households..
Geographic universe	Resident population
Conceptual exceptions	Excluded are member of foreign armies and of embassies.

Kind of Data

Type of source	Person/household survey
Type of census	.

Data Collection Methodology

Survey structure

Time method	Yes; replacement rate = 25 % per survey (i.e., units remain there for a maximum of 4 years)
Kind of survey	Independent survey
Parent enumeration	MZ
Survey integration	The survey consists of two modules: the annual programme and the microcensus supplement conducted every 4th year. The annual programme consists of 2 parts: the basic programme and a subsample with complementary questions. It includes the annual EU-labour force survey (as subsample) and serves also other official surveys with respect to sampling, evaluation and estimation. Concerning economic activity, the survey combines two concepts: current status (ILO) with usual status ('major source of livelihood'.)
Participation mode	Mandatory for the basic programme (complementary questions and supplement are partially mandatory, partially voluntary)
Study frequency	Annually
Collection period(s)	Single week in April 1998: April 20-April 26

Collection responsibility

Data collector	Statistisches Bundesamt; Statistische Landesämter
Collector's name in English	Federal statistical office and regional statistical offices

Sampling procedure

Sample Size	Approx. 370,000 households resp. 820,000 persons (1%-sample)
Sampling method	The micro-census is a one-stage cluster sample. It is based on area sampling. The sampling districts (i.e., the elementary units for the compilation of the clusters) are complete buildings or parts of a building. Depending on the number of dwellings and persons, buildings are subdivided into 4 strata and combined with a detailed regional stratification using spatial units with an average of about 350,000 inhabitants. Stratification is done with respect to buildings and space. In total, 20 samples (each of 1 %) are drawn randomly. These samples serve as 'stock samples'. When selecting the stock samples, ¼ of the survey units are replaced with new ones (partial rotation). In each selected sample unit, all persons are interviewed. (For further informaton cf. Federal Statistical Office: 'Methods, Approaches, Developments', No. 2/1990)
Sampling frame	File of buildings of the 1987 population census. This stock of buildings is regularly updated to incorporate changes, such as new constructions and demolitions

Data collection procedure

Survey instruments	Questionnaire
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**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ/lfs-1998**

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Survey modes	Visit (major tool); reply by mail optional
Survey tools	CAPI

Core Variables: Availability and Concepts

Place of Residence

Concept	De Facto & De Jure
Definition/Practice	households: members are classified according to their ,de facto' status;; families: members are classified according to their ,de jure' status
Treatment of multiple residences	Usual residence; Note: Spouses with a second residence are allocated to the place where the family lives.

Country of Birth

Country of birth registered?	No
Status of definition	--- limited to Eurostat documentation ---

Citizenship

Citizenship registered?	Yes
Foreign citizenship coded?	Yes
Citizenship codes	Euope: single countries; Other continents: groups of countries

Treatment of dual citizenship

Dual citizenship registered?	Yes
Priority rule for classification	German citizenship

Gender

Gender registered?	Yes
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Age

Age registered?	Yes
Specification	Year of birth; Age at reference week

Marital Status



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ/Ifs-1998**

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Legal Status

Legal status registered?	Yes
Categories in source	Single, married and living together, married and living separately, divorced,; widowed

De Facto Marital Status

De Facto Status included?	Yes
Categories in source	co-habiting
Co-habiting coded separately?	Yes (participation voluntary for this question)

Private Household

Private HH specified?	Yes
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Concepts and Definitions

Housing unit specified?	Yes
Housekeeping unit concept used?	Yes
Definition of housekeeping unit	Group of persons co-residing and forming an economic unit or single persons living separately and with own house keeping. Household members living temporarily alone are counted as a separate household even if they contribute to the living of the common household.

Reference Person

Household Relationships

Household rel. specified?	Yes
Definition and categories	Spouse, daughter/son in law, granddaughter/grandson, mother/father in law, grandmother/grandfather, other persons related by kinship or by marriage, no relation by kinship or marriage
Family status specified?	Yes
Family status recording	Sequence numbers

Educational attainment

Educ. attainment included?	Yes
Measurement	Population 15+: Highest programme level completed



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ/lfs-1998**

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Distinguished programmes

Major categories	Allgemeine Bildung; Berufliche Bildung
Major categories in English	General education; vocational education/university
Categories and related programmes	Allgemeine Bildung: °Hauptschulabschluss; °Abschluss der allgemeinbildenden polytechnischen Oberschule in der ehemaligen DDR; °Realschulabschluss (Mittlere Reife) oder gleichwertiger Abschluss; °Fachhochschulereife ° Allgemeine oder fachgebundene Hochschulreife (Abitur) °Berufliche Ausbildung oder Hochschulabschluss: °Anlernausbildung/berufl.Praktikum; °Abschluss einer Lehrausbildung oder gleichwertiger Berufsfachschulabschluss; °Meister-/Techniker oder gleichwertiger Fachschulabschluss; °Abschluss der Fachschule in der ehemaligen DDR; °Fachhochschulabschluss; °Hochschulabschluss
Type of classification used:	Source-specific list; ISCED 1997 (COM) for EU Labour Force Survey (as subsample of the microcensus)
Name of national classification	EU Labour Force Survey: ISCED 1997; Mikrozensus: national list
Coding level	?

Current/continued education

Current education included?	Yes
Current vocational training included?	Yes
Current continued education included?	Yes

Labour Status

Labour Status included?	Yes
Status categories	°Employed; °Unemployed; °Pupil student; °Retirement or early retirement; °Disabled; °Conscript; °Domestic tasks; °Other
Measurement approach	Specification
Status concept	Current status
Age limit for inclusion	15+
Labour Force definition'	ILO-definition



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D-MZ/lfs-1998**

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Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Unemployment definition	In the Microcensus, availability of those searching for employment is not a condition for being classified as unemployed. For the purpose of the EU labor force (which is run as a subsample to the MZ) the ILO-DEFINITION is applied.
Classification of parental leave	Classified as economically active; no restriction concerning duration of leave

Status in Employment

Employment Status included?	Yes
Status categories	Selbständiger ohne Beschäftigte, Selbständiger mit Beschäftigten, Mithelfender Familienangehöriger, Beamter/Richter, Angestellter, Arbeiter/Heimarbeiter, kaufm./techn. Auszubildender, gewerblich Auszubildender, Zeit-/Berufssoldat, Grundwehr-/Zivildienstleistender
Status categories (English)	Own-account worker, self-employed, family worker, civil servant, white collar worker, blue collar worker/home worker, trainee, apprentice (blue collar), professional soldier, conscript/person doing community service
Classification of family workers	Working in the firm of a relative without pay (including contributions to social security systems)

Hours worked

Hours worked included?	Yes
Concepts	Actual & usual hours
Full time / Part time question included?	Yes
Definition	Self-assessment

Occupation

Occupation included?	Yes
Classification compatible to ISCO-88?	Yes
Name of classification actually used	Klassifizierung der Berufe, Ausgabe 1992
Coding level	3

Industry

Industry included?	Yes
Classification compatible to NACE, R.1	Yes
Classification actually used	Klassifikation der Wirtschaftszweige, Ausgabe 1993
Coding level	3
Industry recording mode	Self-assessment; name of firm
Size group of	



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ/lfs-1998**

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

workplace included? Yes

Classification of conscripts Separate category

Main social status

Main social status asked for? Yes

Social Status Concept

Main source of livelihood Yes

Main activity status No

Status categories distinguished
 Living from gainful employment;
 Living from unemployment benefits
 Living from pensions
 Living from transfers of relatives
 Living from social assistance
 Living from property incomes
 Living from long-care insurance
 Living from other transfer payments

Socio-economic Classification

SEC included? No

Income

Income variables included? Yes

Income units available Individuals, households

Description of Income Variables

Income concept: Individuals DISPOSABLE INCOME

Income concept: Households DISPOSABLE INCOME

Income components: Individuals (market) incomes by income schedule;
 social protection benefits by scheme;
 no information on income amounts

Income components: Households No

Health Status

Tenure Status of Households



Housing amenities

Survey History

Survey conduction

First year 1957

Conduction history 1957-1974: quarterly; 1975-1982: annually; 1983-1984: conduction cancelled; 1985- : annually

Survey developments

Major breaks The core questionnaire items of the micro-census show great stability since 1957. The survey has extremely low non-response rates, due to the fact that the major part of the questions always have been mandatory.

The following development phases might be distinguished:

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1968: Partial integration of the EU-Labour Force Survey programme

1975-1982: Considerable extension of the queationnaire items of the basic programme (education, commuting, health).

1985: Questions on demand replaced by a fixed question programme, regulated in detail by law.

1985-1987: Experimental tests with voluntary participation (in addition to the regular programme with largely mandadorty participation)

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1992: Full integration of EU-Labour Force Survey Programme (changes in concepts and measurements).

1996: Subdivision of survey programme into an annual basic programme (1% sample), an annual complementary programme (reduced sample; participation voluntary for some items) and a rotating supplement (rotation of items in fixed intervalls, varying sample sizes, participation voluntary for some items)

Predecessors --

Additional modules 1990+

Shifts in survey focus The complementary programme is a module carried out annually, but with smaller sample size than the basic programme. Apart from questions on tourism (1985-1990), the supplementary programme starts in 1996 and covers the following domains:

- °1996-2004 (each year)
- Vocational and general education as well as further education
- Additional information on economic activity
- Previous economic activity
- Situation one year before (participation voluntary)
- Need for long-term care, benefit take-up of the long-term care insurance

Supplementary modules The supplement is a module with fixed rotation of question items (for some of them participation is voluntary; sample size varies between different question items). Item rotation was introduced already in 1985.

- °1991, 1993, 1995 (participation voluntary)
- Education and vocational training
- Additional questons to foreigners living in Germany
- Commuting and commuters



°1992, 1994 (participation voluntary)
Health
Disabilities
Membership in private and occupational pension schemes
°1996, 2000, 2004 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory)
Additional questions on vocational education and training
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Additional questions to foreigners living in Germany
°1997, 2001 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory)
Additional questions on economic activity
Membership in private and occupational pension schemes
°1998, 2002 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory)
Housing conditions
°1999, 2000 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory):
Sickness insurance
Long-term care insurance
Health situation
Need for long-term care, benefit take-up of the long-term insurance

Data Access

Data disseminators	Direct dissemination by the Federal Statistical Office. Visit http://www.statistik-bund.de/micro/microueb.htm
Statistical disclosure control methods	Removal of direct identifiers, sub-sampling, grouping, variable suppression
Type of access	Scientific use file
Use restrictions	Access restricted bona-fide research and data are disseminated to institutes only, not to individual scientists. Submission of research plan and selection of variables; use restricted in time and bound to explicitly stated persons; no access outside German legal space (in practice: no microdata export outside of Germany). For more information visit http://www.gesis.org/en/social_monitoring/microdata/data/scientific_use_file/scientific_use_file_s.htm
Access conditions to previous files	Same access conditions (though not prices) apply to all micro-censuses conducted since 1987. Available by July 2000 are the factually anonymised data of the surveys conducted in 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1996 and 1997.
Acquisition costs	Scientific Use Files available for 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1996 and 1997 (Summer 2000) available at the special price of 130 DM each. http://www.gesis.org/en/social_monitoring/microdata/data/scientific_use_file/scientific_use_file_s.htm
Special user support	Federal Statistical Office, Unit IXb: gruppe-ixb@statistik-bund.de ; ZUMA (Centre for Survey Research and Methodology): http://www.gesis.org/en/social_monitoring/microdata/index.htm

Other Study Description Materials

Related Materials on Internet

Home page of survey	Federal Statistical Office Germany http://www.statistik-bund.de/micro/d/micro_c1.htm
Codebook for survey	http://www.gesis.org/Dauerbeobachtung/Mikrodaten/daten/Abteilungsdaten/Mikrozensen/mz.htm



Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ/lfs-1998

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Questionnaire for
Individuals:

MZ 1996: provided by ZUMA <ftp://ftp.zuma-mannheim.de/pub/zuma/microdata/doc/frabo96.pdf> :
MZ 1997: provided by ZUMA:

Variable lists:

ZUMA (various years; variable name in German)
http://www.social-science-geis.de/en/social_monitoring/microdata/data/frg_status/microcensus

Other links related to
the survey

ZUMA: History of the microcensus etc.:
http://www.geis.org/en/social_monitoring/microdata/data/frg_status/microcensus/index.htm

Related Studies

Study predecessors

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Parent enumeration

MZ

Supplementary modules

The supplement is a module with fixed rotation of question items (for some of them participation is voluntary; sample size varies between different question items). Item rotation was introduced already in 1985.
°1991, 1993, 1995 (participation voluntary)
Education and vocational training
Additional questions to foreigners living in Germany
Commuting and commuters
°1992, 1994 (participation voluntary)
Health
Disabilities
Membership in private and occupational pension schemes
°1996, 2000, 2004 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory)
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°1997, 2001 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory)
Additional questions on economic activity
Membership in private and occupational pension schemes
°1998, 2002 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory)
Housing conditions
°1999, 2000 (participation partially voluntary, partially mandatory):
Sickness insurance
Long-term care insurance
Health situation
Need for long-term care, benefit take-up of the long-term insurance

Related Publications

Part title(s)

Results are published in a variety of serials. The most important and regular publications are:
Statistisches Bundesamt:
a) Stand und Entwicklung der Erwerbstätigkeit.
b) Beruf, Ausbildung und Arbeitsbedingungen der Erwerbstätigen;
c) Versicherte in der Kranken- und Rentenversicherung.
Published results refer to the federal state. Results for individual states of Germany are published by the regional statistical offices.

Parallel part title(s)

Results are published in variety of serials. The most important are (av. in German only):
Statistisches Bundesamt:
a) Labour Force: Current status and recent developments;
b) Occupation, vocational education and employment conditions
c) Versicherung in der Kranken- und Rentenversicherung.
Published results refer to the federal state. Results for individual states of Germany are published by the regional statistical offices



Survey Documentation - Results for
D-MZ/lfs-1998

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Document citation

EuReporting Standard Documentation: Germany, Mikrozensus 1998 by Franz Kraus, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research, Mannheim: 2001

Source references

Emmerling, Dieter and Thomas Riede (1997), '40 Jahre Mikrozensus' [40 years of microcensus.], *Wirtschaft und Statistik*, 1997:3, pp. 160-174.
Statistisches Bundesamt: Bevölkerung und Erwerbstätigkeit. Fachserie 1, Reihe 3: 'Haushalte und Familien'. Wiesbaden: 1999.
Statistisches Bundesamt: Bevölkerung und Erwerbstätigkeit. Fachserie 1, Reihe 4.1.2: 'Beruf, Ausbildung und Arbeitsbedingungen der Erwerbstätigen. Wiesbaden: 1999'.
ZUMA [Centre for Survey Research and Methodology, Mannheim], Microdata Department: 'The Microcensuses 1962-1997', http://www.social-science-geis.de/en/social_monitoring/microdata/data/frg_status/microcensus/ (accessed: May 2001).



Topic	Information Present
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Study Citation

Country	Germany
Title	Einkommens und Verbrauchsstichprobe
Parallel title	Sample Survey of Income and Expenditure
Study Acronym	EVS
Investigator	Statistisches Bundesamt
Investigator's name in English	Federal Statistical Office of Germany
Investigator's home-page	http://www.statistik-bund.de

Study Content Summary

Subject items	<p>The introductory interview consists of the following major items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ° Information on each household member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Number of persons in the household; (2) Household relationship; (3) Gender; (4) Age; (5) Marital status; (6) Citizenship; (7) Highest level of completed vocational education; (8) Social position; (9) Membership in compulsory old age benefit schemes; (10) Membership in compulsory and voluntariy sickness insurance systems; (11) Membership in compulsory long-term care insurance; (12) Major source of livelihood; (13) Net monthly disposable income. ° Information at the household level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Net montly income; (2) Real Estate Property and related loans; (3) Housing situation (type of building, amenities, tenure); (4) Stock of consumer durables. <p>The diary logs, the core of the EVS, are divided into the following domains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ° Changes in household composition (related to initial interview) ° Weekly working hours by household member (Full-time/Part-time/employment of minor significance) ° Expenditure by purpose (household) ° Revenues, deductions, insurance premiums by household member) ° Insurances, properties and debts, cash and balance of bank account (household)
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Statistics domains	<p>Household and family Living conditions Income</p>
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Abstract (Study Purpose)	<p>The Sample Survey of Income and Expenditure aims at monitoring the situation of private households and their members with regard to the level and sources of revenues on the one hand, and the use of revenues (consumption, savings, credit payments) at the household level on the other hand . It provides information on the population's standard of living and the involvement of households into economic processes outside and inside the household sector. The sample survey plays an important role for the calculation of cost-of living indices and the impact assessment of economic and social policy decisions on the living conditions of the population.</p> <p>Cf.: Federal Statistical Office: 'Outline of the future scheme of household budget surveys', in: Methods, Approaches, Developments, No. 2/98, pp 8-14.</p>
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Summary Data Description

Coverage

Reference period	1998
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**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-EVS-1998**

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Data collection period	Interviews at the beginning of the survey year; global income and expenditure diaries for 3 months, spread as evenly as possible over the entire year; a subsample of 20 % in addition keeps detailed consumption diaries for one month, again evenly distributed over the entire year.
Country	Germany
Lowest geographic level	NUTS 1 (i.e.: Laender)
Observed units	Person Household

Universe

Institutional universe	Population in private households
Geographic universe	RESIDENT POPULATION
Conceptual exceptions	For methodological reasons, private households beyond a certain upper income limit are excluded (in 1998: all households with a monthly income of at least 35,000 DM). In contrast to previous surveys, resident foreigners are now included.

Kind of Data

Type of source	Person/household survey
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Data Collection Methodology

Survey structure

Time method	no
Kind of survey	Independent survey
Survey integration	The survey is part of the Harmonized System of Household Budget Surveys, initiated by EU/Eurostat. The Sample Survey of Income and Expenditure is an independent survey. It consists of 3 parts: the initial interview; the household diaries on income and expenditure; and special diaries on detailed consumption items.
Participation mode	VOLUNTARY
Study frequency	every fifth year
Collection period(s)	Interviews at the beginning of the survey year; global income and expenditure diaries for 3 months, spread as evenly as possible over the entire year; a subsample of 20 % in addition keeps detailed consumption diaries for one month, again evenly distributed over the entire year.

Collection responsibility

Data collector	Statistische Landesämter
Collector's name in English	Regional statistical offices

Sampling procedure

Sample Size	Target: 74000 households (survey 1998)
Sampling method	The EVS is based on quota sampling. Quota are stratified by region ('Bundesland', NUTS1), type of household, main income earner's social status, net monthly income of household (bands), and survey quarter. The ultimate sampling unit is the household.
Sampling frame	Another household survey (the German microcensus)

Data collection procedure



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Survey instruments	QUESTIONNAIRE and DIARY. Note: The enumeration consists of 3 parts: the survey proper; diaries on income and expenditure; special diaries on detailed consumption items. In the income and expenditure diaries all incomes, deductions and contributions are recorded for each household member separately. Income transfers within the household are not recorded.
Survey modes	Visit; Mail-out/mail in
Survey tools	CAPI
Total response rate	Not applicable, due to non-random sampling. In 1998, out of a target of 74,000 households, 65583 valid questionnaires (initial interview) were actually received.
Class of survey	Household Budget Survey

Core Variables: Availability and Concepts

Place of Residence

Concept	de facto
Definition/Practice	?
Treatment of multiple residences	Family members, living temporarily separate, are allocated to the household of the family, if they are the main income earner or if they depend mainly on the income of the family household. Children living outside the household for longer periods (students, etc.) are treated as separate households.

Country of Birth

Country of birth registered?	no
Status of definition	?
Country coded?	no

Citizenship

Citizenship registered?	yes
Foreign citizenship coded?	yes
Citizenship codes	NATIONAL NON-NATIONAL EU OTHERS

Treatment of dual citizenship

Dual citizenship registered?	No
Priority rule for classification	.

Gender

Gender registered?	yes
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Age

Age registered?	yes
Specification	only year of birth

Marital Status

Legal Status

Legal status registered?	yes
Categories in source	Single, married, widowed, divorced, permanently separated

De Facto Marital Status

De Facto Status included?	yes
Categories in source	married/living together
Co-habiting coded separately?	no

Private Household

Private HH specified?	yes
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Concepts and Definitions

Housing unit concept used?	household-dwelling concept
Housing unit specified?	no
Definition of housing unit	.
Housekeeping unit concept used?	yes National definition
Definition of housekeeping unit	Persons living together and sharing the major part of the household income for their living – irrespective of whether they live temporarily apart or not

Reference Person

Reference person specified?	yes
Definition of reference person	person with highest income

Household Relationships

Household rel. specified?	yes question 2, initial interview
Definition and categories	Relationship to reference person:



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D-EVS-1998

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- 1.spouse/partner
- 2.child
- 3.parents
- 4.other relatives
- 5.other household members

Family status specified? NO

Family status recording .

Educational attainment

Educ. attainment included? yes

Measurement Highest programme level completed

Distinguished programmes

Major categories Berufliche Bildung

Major categories in English Vocational education

Categories and related programmes

- 1.Hochschulabschluss;
- 2.Fachhochschulabschluss;
- 3. Abschluss einer Ausbildung an einer Fach-, Meister-, Technikerschule, Berufs- oder Fachakademie;
- 4. Abschluß einer beruflichen Ausbildung (Lehre) oder gleichwertiger Berufsfachschulabschluss);
- 5. Sonstiger beruflicher Abschluss (z.B. Anlernberuf, Praktika);
- 6. Noch in beruflicher Ausbildung
- 7. Kein beruflicher Abschluss/Ausbildung

Type of classification used: Source specific list

Name of national classification No national standard established

Current/continued education

Current education included? no

Labour Status

Labour Status included? yes

Status categories

- 1.Employed;
- 2.Unemployed;
- 3.Non-Active;

Measurement approach Allocation according to major source of livelihood

Status concept USUAL STATUS
(derived from major source of livelihood)

Age limit for inclusion ?

Labour Force definition' Major source of livelihood comes from employment

Unemployment definition Major income from unemployment benefits or persons on lay-off with only minor incomes from



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-EVS-1998**

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

other sources

Classification of
parental leave

Active, if work contract not dissolved and if person on leave has a guaranteed right of return; otherwise people on parental leave are classified as inactive.

Status in Employment

Employment Status
included?

yes

Status categories

Selbständige(r) Landwirt, Selbständige(r) Gewerbetreibender, Freiberuflich Tätiger, Beamter, Angestellter, Arbeiter, Mithelfender Familienangehöriger

Status categories
(English)

Self-employed in Agriculture, Self-employed in industry and handicrafts, Liberal professional, Civil servant, Salaried employee, Wage earner, Family worker

Classification of family
workers

Depends on the relative importance of income from family work. Only if this source is the major source of income, family workers are classified as such. Otherwise they are classified as economically non-active.

Hours worked

Hours worked included?

no

Concepts

.

Full time / Part time
question included?

yes

Definition

SELF-ASSESSMENT

Occupation

Occupation included?

no

Classification
compatible to ISCO-88?

.

Name of classification
actually used

.

Coding level

.

Industry

Industry included?

no

Classification
compatible to NACE,
R.1

.

Classification actually
used

.

Coding level

.

Industry recording mode

.

Size group of
workplace included?

.

Classification of
conscripts

.



Main social status

Main social status asked for? yes

Social Status Concept

Main source of livelihood yes

Main activity status no

Other concepts .

Status categories distinguished Self-employed in Agriculture, Self-employed in industry and handicrafts, Liberal professional, Civil servant, Salaried employee, Wage earner, Family worker, Unemployed, Pensioner, Student, Otherkind of non-activity

Socio-economic Classification

SEC included? no

Type of classification .

Name of classification .

Income

Income variables included? yes

Income units available INDIVIDUALS; HOUSEHOLDS

Description of Income Variables

Income concept: Individuals Initial interview: NET INCOME (in bands); Diaries: GROSS INCOME, NET INCOME, DISPOSABLE INCOME.

Income concept: Households Initial interview: NET INCOME Diaries: ? (02/2001: info not yet published)

Income components: Individuals Initial interview: Major source of income (economic activity; maintenance payments ; civil servant pensions; pensions from compulsory old age schemes; early retirement pensions; occupational pensions; unemployment benefits; social assistance benefits) Diaries: All income components except for intra-household transfers; deductions and contributions by type (except for insurance premiums).

Income components: Households Initial interview: NO Diaries: Incomes by source; deductions and contributions by type.

Health Status

Health status included? no



Tenure Status of Households

Tenure status specified?	yes
Definition: national standard?	?

Housing amenities

Number of rooms specified?	yes
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Survey History

Survey conduction

First year	1962/63
Conduction history	1962/63-: usually every 5th year (1969, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998)

Survey developments

Major breaks	The survey goals and characteristics have remained relatively stable until today. However, availability and definitions of individual variables vary considerably from survey to survey. In the 1998 survey, information on occupation, industry and duration of marriage is no longer collected, information on education is limited to vocational education (including, however, universities) and co-habiting is no longer coded separately. In terms of population coverage, two major changes occurred: in 1988 foreign households were included for the first time, and in 1993 the survey was extended to the new Länder of the former GDR. In 1998 major breaks occurred. Expenditure are now classified according to an international classification (COICOP/HBS); the survey instruments were modified (annual recording replaced by quarterly reporting spread over 12 months; initial and concluding interview now replaced by a somewhat extended initial interview).
Predecessors	.

Additional modules 1990+

Shifts in survey focus	The EVS is not constructed in a modular way. Nevertheless, the survey is used to include additional topics from time to time. 1962/63: Detailed private consumption patterns; 1969: formation and distribution of income and wealth; 1973: expenditure on food and detailed account of property incomes; 1978: amount and cumulation of public transfer payments; 1983: again public transfer payments; 1988: financial conditions (EU poverty study); 1993: no supplementary questions (extension to the Länder of former GDR); 1998: no additional focus.
Supplementary modules	The EVS is supplemented by the Continuous Budget Surveys ('Laufende Wirtschaftsrechnungen, LWR'), based entirely on diareies. These LWR are carried out on an annual basis. Both surveys (i.e. EVS and LWR) together form Germany's overall system of family budget surveys. From 1999 onwards, the Continuous Budget Surveys (LWR) are adapted to the EVS; and further measures towards closer integration will be taken subsequently.

Data Access

Data disseminators	Direct dissemination by Statistics Germany;
Statistical disclosure control methods	Removal of direct identifiers, sub-sampling, grouping (e.g., income in bands), variable suppression



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-EVS-1998**

EuReporting

Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

Type of access	SCIENTIFIC USE FILE
Use restrictions	For bona-fide research only. Contract with institutes only, not with individual scientists. Submission of research plan and selection of variables; use restricted in time and bound to explicitly stated persons; data must be erased afterwards; no access outside German legal space (in practice: no microdata export outside of Germany). For more information visit ZUMA: http://www.zuma-mannheim.de/data/en/microdata/scientific_use_file/
Access conditions to previous files	Same access conditions (except with respect to fees) apply to all micro-censuses conducted since 1987. By July 2000 available are the factually anonymised data of the surveys conducted in 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1996 and 1997.
Acquisition costs	Scientific Use Files available for 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1996 and 1997 (Summer 2000) available at the special price of 130 DM each. Cf. ZUMA: http://www.zuma-mannheim.de/data/en/microdata/scientific_use_file/
Special user support	Statistics Germany, Unit IXb: gruppe-ixb@statistik-bund.de ; ZUMA (Centre for Survey Research and Methodology): http://www.zuma-mannheim.de/data/en/microdata/

Other Study Description Materials

Related Materials on Internet

Household questionnaires:	Initial questionnaire MZES: http://www.mzes.uni-mannheim.de/projekte/mikrodaten/drafts/countr/d/cross/d_c2.html
Questionnaire for Individuals:	Initial questionnaire (respondent is the household): MZES: http://www.mzes.uni-mannheim.de/projekte/mikrodaten/drafts/countr/d/cross/d_c2.html
Other questionnaires	Household Diary MZES: http://www.mzes.uni-mannheim.de/projekte/mikrodaten/drafts/countr/d/cross/d_c2.html
Variable lists:	Previous surveys (in German only) ZUMA: http://www.gesis.org/Dauerbeobachtung/Einkommen/Daten/EVS/evs_index.htm
Other links related to the survey	Previous surveys (in German only) ZUMA: http://www.gesis.org/en/social_monitoring/income/index.htm .

Related Studies

Study predecessors	.
Supplementary modules	The EVS is supplemented by the Continuous Budget Surveys ('Laufende Wirtschaftsrechnungen, LWR'), based entirely on diareies. These LWR are carried out on an annual basis. Both surveys (i.e. EVS and LWR) together form Germany's overall system of family budget surveys. From 1999 onwards, the Continuous Budget Surveys (LWR) are adapted to the EVS; and further measures towards closer integration will be taken subsequently.

Related Publications

Part title(s)	Statistisches Bundesamt: Wirtschaftsrechnungen. Einkommens- und Verbrauchsstichprobe 1998. Stuttgart: Metzler-Poeschel.
Parallel part title(s)	Economic Accounts. Income and Expenditure Survey 1998.



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-EVS-1998**

EuReporting

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Document citation	EuReporting Documentation: Germany, Sample Survey of Income and Expenditure (EVS) 1998, edited by MZES and CEPS, Mannheim/Luxembourg 2001
Source references	EU/Eurostat: Internal Documentation by unit E-2. Statistisches Bundesamt: Wirtschaftsrechnungen. Einkommens- und Verbrauchsstichprobe 1998. Fachserie 15, Heft 1: Langlebige Gebrauchsgüter privater Haushalte. Wiesbaden 1999 Statistisches Bundesamt: Methodenberichte. Heft 1 'Das Stichprobenverfahren der Einkommens- und Verbrauchsstichprobe 1998. Wiesbaden: 2001.



Topic	Information Present
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Study Citation

Country	Germany (including former GDR)
Title	Zeitbudgeterhebung 1991/92
Parallel title	Time Use Survey 1991/92
Investigator	Statistisches Bundesamt
Investigator's name in English	Federal Statistical Office of Germany
Investigator's home-page	http://www.statistik-bund.de

Study Content Summary

Subject items	<p>INITIAL INTERVIEW:</p> <p>Household information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ° Basic socio-demographic data for all household members (no of household members, no of children no longer living in the household, relationship to reference person, age, sex, marital status, year of marriage, consensual union). ° Equipment with consumer durables ° Housing situation (tenancy/ownership, size, equipment,, number of rooms, garden) <p>Individuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ° Current education (kindergarden or other care facilities general school vocational school university for applied science university) ° Highest level of completed general education ° Highest level of completed vocational education ° economic activity (labour status insignificant employment [employment exempt from social security taxation] main employment [status in employment, occupation, branch of activity , work form, full-time/part-time, usual hours of work per day and per week, commuting time] second employment (status in employment usual hours of work per day and per week). ° income (major source of livelihood, total net income during last month). <p>DIARY:</p> <p>Time use of each household member <12 years of age</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ° Main activity and simultaneous activities by day and time intervall (open recording) ° Main activity also by target group (own household, other household, own and other household, community service], location of activity (domestic, non-domestic) ° Social contacts (children other household members colleagues other persons no contact to third persons); ° Final assessment of time use (classification of recording days [ordinary vs. extraordinary] self-assessment with respect to planning preference [prefer planning vs. do not prefer planning] <p>Satisfaction with time use[satished versus more time needed for job, community services, family friends, own leisure tim]</p> <p>Coding was done later on using a list of more than 200 activities, divided into the following fiels of activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ° Household work
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- ° Do-it-yourself
- ° Paid job/job seeking
- ° Voluntary and community work
- ° Qualification/education
- ° Personal sphere/physiological regeneration
- ° Contacts/conversations/social life
- ° Use of media/leisure-time activities
- ° Taking care of and attending people
- ° Non-allocable items

FINAL INTERVIEW:

Combination of information on household and on individual members of household:

- ° People in need of care (number of people and type of care needed, sickness at day of recording availability of mutual aid)
- ° Household support received (help with household work, care of children, care of adults, do-it-yourself activities)
- ° Household support delivered (help with household work, care of children, care of adults, do-it-yourself activities)
- ° Voluntary community work (time per week)
- ° Use of services and facilities (shopping, family doctor, health and advice centres, day care centres for senior citizens, primary schools, secondary schools)
- ° use of child care facilities (type of care, degree of satisfaction, reason for non-use)
- ° Name of municipality
- ° Type of residential building

Statistics domains

Living conditions ;
Household and family;
National accounts

Abstract (Study Purpose)

- 1.Provision of information on differences in time use between population groups and household types in the realm of discussions of family policies in Germany;
2. Establishment of a system of satellite accounts on household production for national accounts;
- 3.Development of appropriate data collection methods.

Summary Data Description

Coverage

Reference period	1991/92
Data collection period	4 waves; time use during 2 successive days; collection days were spread over the whole week in order to get representative data of time use for complete weeks.
Country	Germany (including former GDR)
Lowest geographic level	National (Nuts=1), and West Germany vs. East Germany
Observed units	Household, Person

Universe

Institutional universe	Population in private households
Geographic universe	Main residence only
Conceptual exceptions	limited to households where the reference person is of German nationality.

Kind of Data

Type of source	Person/Household Survey
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Data Collection Methodology

Survey structure

Time method	no
Kind of survey	Part of a system of surveys
Survey integration	The design of the survey is largely compatible to the recommendation of the International Association for Time Use Research (Harvey, A.S. 'Guidelines for Time Use Collection', Social Indicators Research Journal 2-3/1993. With respect to demographic background variables, the Mikrozensus (microcensus) served as reference frame. (The microcensus served as frame for estimation)
Participation mode	voluntary
Study frequency	Probably every ten years
Collection period(s)	4 waves; time use during 2 successive days; collection days were spread over the whole week in order to get representative data of time use for complete weeks.

Collection responsibility

Data collector	Statistische Landesämter
Collector's name in English	Statistical offices of the German federal states (Laender)
Collector's home-page	visit http://www.statistik-bund.de

Sampling procedure

Sample Size	7,200 Households (5,800 in West Germany and 1,400 in East Germany), covering about 16,000 persons
Sampling method	Quota sampling with different specifications for West Germany and for the former GDR. Total sample size was proportionately split up between all Federal states and then quotas were specified. West Germany: stratification by federal state, size class of municipality, reference person's status in employment, household type; East Germany (former GDR): stratification by household size instead of household type; Size classes of municipalities and categories for status in employment had to be defined differently for West Germany and East Germany.
Sampling frame	West Germany: Microcensus 1989; East Germany: estimates of the number of private households

Data collection procedure

Survey instruments	Questionnaires and diaries: Initial interview of household, open diaries (for each household member > 12 years of age), final interview of household. Activities were recorded in open diaries. The lowest time threshold was 5 minutes. Not only time use by kind of activity was recorded but also network relations ('for whom, where, with whom') and a time use assessment (normal/extraordinary day, wish to spend more time than actually could be realized, self-classification with respect to a given set of types of time users)
Survey modes	Visit
Survey tools	-
Total response rate	Net sample was 6;400 households. Due to observed non-response of about 10 % in the pilot survey, the sample size was increased by 10 percent. Due to lower non-response in the main survey, 7,200 households actually participated in the survey.
Class of survey	Time use survey



Core Variables: Availability and Concepts

Place of Residence

Concept De facto

Treatment of multiple residences Major residence

Country of Birth

Country of birth registered? No

Citizenship

Citizenship registered? No (Survey was limited to German citizens)

Treatment of dual citizenship

Gender

Gender registered? Yes

Age

Specification Year and month of birth

Marital Status

Legal Status

Legal status registered? yes

Categories in source Single;
Married;
Divorced;
Widowed
Separated (not including temporary separation)
In addition: year of actual marriage

De Facto Marital Status

De Facto Status included? yes

Categories in source living in consensual union (=nichteheliche Lebensgemeinschaft);
Duration of consensual union

Co-habiting coded separately? yes



Private Household

Private HH specified? No

Concepts and Definitions

Reference Person

Reference person specified? Yes

Definition of reference person One of the spouses

Household Relationships

Household rel. specified? Yes

Definition and categories Relationship to reference person or spouse of reference person:

- Spouse
- Son/daughter or son-in-law/daughter-in-law
- Grand child or great-grandson
- Grand parents
- Other relatives
- non-relative

Family status specified? No

Educational attainment

Educ. attainment included? Yes

Measurement Highest programme level completed

Distinguished programmes

Major categories Allgemeinbildender Schulabschluss
Beruflicher Ausbildungsabschluss

Major categories in English General education
vocational education

Categories and related programmes General education:
 ° Hauptschulabschluss;
 ° Realschulabschluss oder gleichwertiger Abschluss (Mittlere Reife);
 ° Abschluss der allgemeinbildenden polytechnischen Oberstufe in der ehemaligen DDR;
 Fachhochschule;
 Allgemeine oder fachgebundene Hochschule (Abitur);
 Ohne Abschluss

Type of classification used: Source-specific list

Name of national classification -



Current/continued education

Current education included?	yes
Current vocational training included?	yes
Current continued education included?	no (except for time diary)

Labour Status

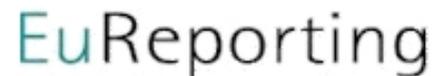
Labour Status included?	yes
Status categories	Regularly employed; Occasionally employed; Insignificantly employed (below threshold for social security tax); On parental leave; On paid vacation; (Non-actives classified by major source of livelihood)
Measurement approach	Self-assessment
Status concept	Current status (reference week) Note: reference week and week of diary keeping are not identical
Age limit for inclusion	16+
Labour Force definition'	1-hour criterion not explicitly applied
Unemployment definition	self-assessment
Classification of parental leave	separate category

Status in Employment

Employment Status included?	yes
Status categories	Erste Erwerbstätigkeit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ° Selbständig ohne Beschäftigte ° Selbständig mit Beschäftigten ° Beamter Richter ° Angestellt ° Arbeiter(in)/Heimarbeiter(in); ° Kaufm./technische Auszubildende(r) ° Gewerblicher Auszubildende(r) ° Berufs-/Zeitsoldat(in) ° Grundwehr-/Zivildienstleistender ° Mithelfender Familienangehöriger; Zweite Erwerbstätigkeit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ° Selbständige(r) ° Mithelfender Familienangehöriger ° Angestellte(r) ° Arbeiter(in)/Heimarbeiter(in)
Status categories (English)	First employment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ° Self-employed without employees (own-account worker)



**Survey Documentation - Results for
D-TUS-1992**



Towards a European System of Social Reporting and Welfare Measurement

- Self-employed with employees (employer)
 - Civil servant/Judge;
 - Employee (note: category related to law of employment)
 - Worker/home worker (note: as above);
 - Apprenticeship as cleric or technician)
 - Apprenticeship as industrial worker or in handicrafts;
 - Professional soldier
 - Drafted soldier or civilian equivalent (community services)
 - Family worker.
- Second employment:
- self-employed (with or without employees);
 - Family worker;
 - Employee
 - Worker/home worker

Classification of family workers

Separate category; no distinction specified between paid and unpaid family work.

Hours worked

Hours worked included?

yes

Concepts

Usual hours

Full time / Part time question included?

yes

Definition

self-assessment

Occupation

Occupation included?

yes

Name of classification actually used

open question

Industry

Industry included?

yes

Industry recording mode

self-assessment

Size group of workplace included?

no

Main social status

Main social status asked for?

Yes

Social Status Concept

Main source of livelihood

yes

Main activity status

yes

Status categories distinguished

Employed;
Unemployed;



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Pensioner;
Domestic tasks;
pupil/student;
child below age-limit for compulsory education;
Others

Socio-economic Classification

SEC included? No

Income

Income variables included? yes

Description of Income Variables

Income concept: Individuals Net income (income groups)

Income components: Individuals Major income source (employment, pension, unemployment benefits; support from spouse; support from parents or other household members; social assistance; non-governmental benefits; income from property and rent; other governmental benefits, such as housing subsidies)

Income components: Households no

Health Status

Health status included? yes

Tenure Status of Households

Tenure status specified? yes

Housing amenities

Number of rooms specified? yes

Survey History

Survey conduction

First year 1991/92

Conduction history It is planned to repeat the survey every ten years. Until summer 2001 no new survey has been conducted.

Survey developments

Additional modules 1990+



Data Access

Data disseminators	Federal Statistical Office of Germany http://www.statistik-bund.de
Type of access	Public Use File and Scientific Use file. NOTE: In contrast to the scientific use file, the public use file can be ordered also from abroad.
Use restrictions	Contract with institutes, not with individual scientists; required variables need to be specified; duration of use limited; data must be erased after completion of project. No dissemination to institutes outside of German legal space (in practice: no data to institutes outside of Germany).
Access conditions to previous files	-
Acquisition costs	Public use file: ° file with data including activities by 5-minutes intervals: 287 Euro; ° file with time use aggregated by day: 215 Euro. Scientific use file: ca. 70 Euro. Prices as of August 2001
Special user support	

Other Study Description Materials

Related Materials on Internet

Home page of survey	-
Other links related to the survey	ZUMA: http://www.social-science-geis.de/Dauerbeobachtung/Mikrodaten/Daten/scientific_use_file/zeitbudget_91_92.htm

Related Studies

Related Publications

Part title(s)	Statistisches Bundesamt (Editor): Die Zeitverwendung der Bevölkerung. Ergebnisse der Zeitbudgeterhebung 1991/92. ° Tabellenband I: Methode und erste Ergebnisse. ° Tabellenband II: Allgemeiner Überblick; ° Tabellenband III: Familie und Haushalt
Parallel part title(s)	Population's use of time. Results of the time budget survey 1991/92. ° Table volume I: Methods and early results. ° Table volume II. General results; ° Table volume III: Family and Household
Document citation	EuReporting Standard Documentation: 'Zeitverwendungserhebung 1991/92 [Time Use Survey 1991/92] by Franz Kraus, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research, Mannheim: 2001
Source references	Statistisches Bundesamt: Die Zeitverwendung der Bevölkerung. Ergebnisse der Zeitbudgeterhebung 1991/92. Wiesbaden 1995; Manfred Ehling: 'The German Time Use Survey - Methods and Results -', in J. Merz and M. Ehling (eds.), Time Use - Research, Data and Policy, Baden-Baden: Nomos Verlag, 1998 Erlend Holz: 'Time Use and Microdata Access: Scientific and Public Use Files - Problems and



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D-TUS-1992**

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International Solutions', in in J. Merz and M. Ehling (eds.), Time Use - Research, Data and Policy, Baden-Baden: Nomos Verlag, 1998