

German Data Forum session "Using microdata to analyse demographic changes" at the annual meeting of the Verein für Socialpolitik

University of Augsburg, Sept. 6, 2016, 16:30h till 18:00h

Abstract

Changes in demographics are among the determining factors for the future economic development. Access to diverse and high-quality microdata is a requirement for socially relevant research and evidence-based policy advising. There is a wide range of demographic data available which includes fertility and mortality data, migration data, and data on poverty and wealth.

The aim of this session is to present and discuss data sets which can be used for scientific analysis of demographic changes.

The presentations will be held in English.

Agenda

Time	Description
16:30 – 16:40	The German Data Forum at a glance Stefan Bender, German Data Forum
16:40 – 16:55	Microdata of the Research Data Centres of the Federal Statistical Office and the statistical offices of the Länder (RDC) for analyzing demographic change Dr. Hans-Ullrich Mühlenfeld, IT.NRW
16:55 – 17:05	PASS – Panel Study 'Labour Market and Social Security' Martina Huber, IAB
17:05 – 17:15	The Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe Dr. Julie Korbmacher, SHARE
17:15 – 17:25	The Panel on Household Finances (PHF) - A comprehensive panel survey on household finances and wealth in Germany Tobias Schmidt, Deutsche Bundesbank
17:25 – 17:40	RWI Grid-Data on small-scale level Dr. Philipp Breidenbach, RWI
17:40 – 18:00	Wrap up and discussion Stefan Bender, German Data Forum

Abstracts

Title: Microdata of the Research Data Centres of the Federal Statistical Office and the

statistical offices of the Länder (RDC) for analyzing demographic change.

Author: Dr. Hans-Ulrich Mühlenfeld

Information und Technik Nordrhein-Westfalen (IT.NRW)

Abstract:

The Research Data Centres of the Federal Statistical Office and the statistical offices of the Länder (RDC) provide a wide range of representative, reliable mass microdata for almost every kind of academic question. Among these are also data which can be used for analyzing demographic changes, e.g. birth rates, fertility and mortality rates, poverty, wealth or inequality indicators as well as migration and immigration movement. Key indicators, used for political and economic governance, are based on these data.

The presentation will focus on some of the most relevant microdata for analyzing demographic change, such as the birth statistics, the mortality statistics, the migration statistics, the microcensus, the survey on income and consumption and the wage and income tax statistics. Next to giving general information about these statistics, it will also be presented, which variables are suitable for certain analysis. In order to complete the presentation, information is given on how to access the data sets, the costs and the terms of use.

Title: PASS – Panel Study 'Labour Market and Social Security'

Author: Martina Huber
Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung

Abstract:

The panel study 'Labour Market and Social Security' (PASS), established by the Institute for Employment Research (IAB), creates a new empirical dataset for labour market, welfare state and poverty research and policy counseling in Germany. This study is conducted as part of IAB research on German Social Code Book II (SGB II). The IAB must fulfill a statutory mandate to study the effects of the benefits and services provided under SGB II, which are aimed at labour-market integration and subsistence benefits. However, due to its complex sampling design, this study also enables researchers to examine additional issues. Due to the number of cases included and its annual performance, PASS is a new central source for analyses of the labour market and poverty situation in Germany as well as the situation of recipients of benefits in accordance with the German Social Code Book II. The following central questions can be answered on the basis of the panel data:

- What options exist to regain independence from Unemployment Benefit II?
- In which ways does the social and economic situation of a household change when it receives benefits?
- How do persons concerned cope with their situation? Does their attitude towards action necessary to improve their situation change over time?
- What form does contact take between benefit recipients and institutions providing basic social care? What are the actual institutional procedures applied in practice?

Furthermore, PASS also offers information beyond its central issues of employment and unemployment, comprising a variety of socio-demographic characteristics and subjective indicators such as contentment, fears and problems or employment orientation.

PASS is additionally available as a version in which the survey data are linked with administrative data: PASS-ADIAB. This dataset makes it possible to analyze survey and administrative data for the PASS respondents simultaneously.

Both datasets are available for external researchers via the Research Data Centre of the German Federal Employment Agency at the Institute for Employment Research.

Title: The Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe

Author: Dr. Julie Korbmacher

Munich Center for the Economics of Aging

Abstract:

Population ageing is one of the challenges of the 21st century so that sufficient information to understand the impacts on the living conditions of older people and their families, and the influences of state policies on these living conditions are essential. SHARE, the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement was established in 2004 to provide empirical evidence on individual and societal ageing. It is a multidisciplinary and cross-national panel database of micro data on health, socio-economic status and social and family networks of approximately 123,000 individuals (more than 293,000 interviews) from 20 European countries (+Israel) aged 50 or older. Comparative research often struggles with comparability of the data obtained in the different settings. In SHARE, comparability is ensured by ex-ante harmonization of questionnaire design and translation, central coordination and monitoring of fieldwork procedures, and a central and harmonized data preparation and release procedure.

The data are available to the entire research community free of charge and are easy to access. The proposed presentation will give an overview of the content of SHARE, the methodology used and future developments.

Title: The Panel on Household Finances (PHF) - A comprehensive panel survey on household

finances and wealth in Germany

Author: Tobias Schmidt

Deutsche Bundesbank

Abstract:

The Panel on Household Finances (PHF) is one of the leading sources for micro-data on households' wealth in Germany. For the first wave of the survey in 2010 more than 3,500 households were interviewed in person and provided detailed information on their assets and debt portfolios, income, savings behaviour, expectations, attitudes and consumption patterns. The second wave of the survey marks the start of the panel component of the PHF. About half of the 4,461 households interviewed in 2014 are panel households. The surveys' information can be used to analyse the savings behaviour and wealth situation of households along the age distribution. Its extensive pension section provides information on how households and persons in Germany prepare for retirement. The micro-data of the PHF is made available as a scientific use file. Aside from being a self-contained and comprehensive survey on household finances in Germany, the PHF is part of the Household Finance and Consumption Survey (HFCS). This collection of surveys delivers ex-ante harmonized information for every euro area country and thus provides an excellent opportunity for comparing Germany with other countries.

Title: RWI Grid-Data on small-scale level

Author: Dr. Philipp Breidenbach

Rheinisch-Westfälisches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung

Abstract:

The RWI provides a unique datasets on regional socio-economic conditions on a very small-scaled level. The majority of regional data is not typically available on disaggregated administrative levels lower than NUTS3 or LAU1 according EU definition ("Kreisfreie Städte/Landkreise" or "Gemeinden"). However, even at the level of municipalities data is often still too highly aggregated for the specific research question of interest or, due to problems associated with political and institutional boundaries, may result in a spatial bias of the empirical results. Especially the regional dimension of demographic change and an aging local society can benefit from such small scaled data going beyond administrative municipality-borders.

The FDZ Ruhr at RWI provides access to initial data of demographic change, such as the inhabitants and the detailed age structure (17 age-groups, separated in male/female) for the years 2005, 2009, 2010, 2012 and 2015 at the 1 sq. km grid level, which have been collected by the FDZ Ruhr in cooperation with the microm GmbH. Furthermore, this dataset offers a wide range of further indicators which help to characterize the homogeneous cells in three categories: land use-, household- and prosperity-characteristics.

The land use is described by the share of different household types (single-household, couple household, family households) and types of buildings (business vs. private as well as different types of private buildings e.g. detached houses, multi-family houses and apartment buildings). The households are described by the types of households, the number of person and children per household, their ethnological backgrounds and the number of unemployed people. The prosperity is indicated by the household income, the share of different cars (by types and brands) and the default risk (which is indicated by credit ratings of private households).

Moreover these grid-level data follow the guidelines of the INSPIRE Directive of the EU, allowing an exchange with further geo-referenced datasets on the same projection. One example of such standards is the matching of information from ImmobilienScout24 on real estate prices, rents and housing characteristics with this dataset. The data are available as Scientific Use File or – in a less strict anonymization – as an on-site-access dataset at the RWI in Essen.