Data sources for Social Monitoring and Reporting in Europe

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Workshop 'Monitoring Social Europe':
Komparative Soziale Indikatoren und Sozialberichterstattung als Instrumente für Wissenschaft und Politik
Demands on data sources:

- **Indicators:**
  - Description of persons and households, not of social aggregates
  - Summative, comprehensible, and sensitive to change

- **Comparability:**
  - Harmonisation across countries
  - Stability across time

- **Representativity:**
  - Valid description of European societies

- **Coverage:**
  - Ideally data for the EU-25 member countries
    plus European and non-European reference countries

- **Periodicity:**
  - Periodic repetition for assessing social change

- **Disaggregations:**
  - Regional units and societal groups (gender, age, etc.)
## Typology of data sources with examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Official data</th>
<th>Scientific data</th>
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<td>Aggregate data</td>
<td>Individual data</td>
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### Subject-specific
- **Population:**
  - Council of Europe: Demographic Statistics
  - OECD Employment Outlook
  - ILO – KILM
- **Labour Market:**
  - WHO Health for all data
  - OECD Health Data
- **Education:**
  - Eurostat: Key data on Education in Europe
  - OECD Education at a glance
- **Labour Market:**
  - Labour Force Surveys
  - European Survey of Working Conditions
  - ‘The Societies of Europe’ Data Handbook Series
    - Elections
    - Trade Unions
    - Labour Market
    - Population
    - Social systems

### Comprehensive
- **Population:**
  - EU Commission: Social Situation Report
  - Eurostat: New Cronos
  - OECD Database
  - UNDP – Human Development Report
  - Eurostat: Year books
- **European Community Household Panel (ECHP):**
  - Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC)
  - European Quality of Life Survey
  - Eurobarometer
- **European System of Social Indicators (EUSI):**
  - EurLIFE – an interactive database on living conditions and quality of life in Europe (EFILWC)
  - World Database on Happiness (Ruut Veenhoven)
- **International Social Science Programme (ISSP):**
  - European Social Survey (ESS)
Eurostat: New Cronos Database

- Aggregate data – Official – Comprehensive
- Eurostat-Database for macroeconomic and social data

Data:
- Theme „Population and social conditions“:
  - Population
  - Health
  - Education and training
  - Labour market (Labour Force Surveys)
  - Living conditions and welfare

Features:
- Comparable representative data on persons and households
- Internet access and download: http://epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int
- Long time series and actual data: Data since 1960, Periodicity: yearly
- Coverage: all EU member countries (plus candidate countries)
- Disaggregations by regions, gender, age etc.
- Basis for the calculation of more advanced indicators
Employment in hotels and restaurants - 4% of total employment in the EU25 in 2004

Summary: In the EU25, 7.8 million individuals were employed in the hotels, restaurants and catering sector (HORECA) in 2004. Employment in HORECA accounted for 4.0% of total employment in the EU25. The structure of employment in HORECA has certain particularities: there are significant proportions of young people, women and part timers employed in this sector.

Regional unemployment rates in the EU25 ranged from 2.4% to 32.8% in 2004.

Summary: Regional unemployment rates varied widely across the EU25 in 2004, from 2.4% in the region of Dorset & Somerset in the United Kingdom, to 32.8% in Reunion in France. In the EU25 as a whole, unemployment was stable between 2003 and 2004, at 9.2%. At regional level, rates range in 57% of the 264 NUTS 2 regions of the EU25.

Employment in hotels and restaurants in the enlarged EU still growing - Issue number 32/2005

Support format: PDF. File size (kb): 208

Population and social conditions: Industry, trade and services

Summary: This Statistics in Focus describes the structure and trends of employment in the hotels and restaurants sector (HORECA). This analysis is carried out at the European level (EU-25 and EFTA countries) and based on information from the Community Labour Force Survey (LFS). The hotel and restaurant sector plays an important role as a job creator in both the whole economy and the service sector in many EU Member States. It is also shown to be dominated by young people and women, a large number of the latter working part-time.
OECD Statistics Database

- Aggregate data – Official – Comprehensive
- Macroeconomic and social data for OECD countries

Data:
- Publications
  - OECD At a glance Publications (Education, Health, Regions, Pensions, Society)
- Statistics Portal (www.oecd.org)
  - Labour Market (Labour Force Surveys)
  - Demography and Population
  - Education and Training
  - Social and Welfare Statistics
  - Regional Statistics

Features:
- Comparable Data for all OECD countries (among them 20 EU member countries)
- Internet access and download
- Long time series (for Central and Eastern Europe longer than in Eurostat)
- Yearly periodicity and social disaggregations
- Basic data and indicators
What's new

The OECD area Composite Leading Indicator Shows Continued Improved Performance in September 2005
10-Nov-2005
Weak to moderate activity lies ahead in the OECD area, according to the latest composite leading indicator (CLI). September data show improved performance in the CLI's six-month rate of change in the Euro area and Japan but weakening performance in the United States and Canada.

OECD Standardised Unemployment Rate Remained at 6.5% in September 2005
10-Nov-2005
The standardised unemployment rate for the OECD area remained at 6.5% in September 2005, 0.3 percentage point lower than a year earlier.

Data by Topic

Agriculture and Fisheries | Demography and Population | Development
Economic Projections | Education and Training | Energy
Environment | Finance | Health
Industry and Services | Information and Communication Technology | International Trade and Balance of Payments
Labour | Leading Indicators and Tendency Surveys | National Accounts
Non-member Economies | Prices and Purchasing Power Parities | Productivity
Public Sector, Taxation and Market Regulation | Regional Statistics | Science, Technology and Patents
Short-term Economic Statistics | Social and Welfare Statistics | Statistical Methodology
Transport
Labour Force Surveys

- Individual data – Official – Subject-specific: Labour Market
- Survey of the national statistical offices according to a common standard
- Comparable data on employment and unemployment

Questions regarding the reference week:
- Demographic background
- Features of the employment
- Job search
- Situation of non-employed persons
- Education and training
- Situation one year previous to the survey

Features:
- Presentation as aggregate data by Eurostat and OECD
- Representative data on structure and change of employment
- Comparability due to common definitions (ILO standard)
- All EU member countries plus additional reference countries
- Long time series and actual data
- Periodicity: yearly resp. quarterly
European Working Conditions Survey

- Individual data – Official – Subject-specific: Labour Market
- European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions
  EWCO – European Working Conditions Observatory

Surveys:
- First survey on European working conditions (1991) – Eurobarometer
- Second survey on European working conditions (January 1996) – Eurobarometer
- Third survey on European working conditions (2000)
- Survey on working conditions in the acceding and candidate countries (2001/02)
- Fourth European on European working conditions (2005)

Themes:
- Employment situation and demography
- Working conditions:
  - Working hours and commuting
  - Factors of stress and impact on health
  - Work organisation, participation, discrimination

Features:
- Combination of objective und subjective indicators on employment
- Change monitored in 5-year-periods by replication of surveys
- Information and data: [www.eurofound.eu.int](http://www.eurofound.eu.int/)
European Community Household Panel (ECHP)

- Individual data – Official – Comprehensive
- Input-harmonised yearly national household panel
- EU-15 für the years 1994-2001
  Exception: D, L, UK = national household panels
- Continuation by EU-SILC

Themes:
- Person data:
  Employment, Education, Income, Health,
  Social relations, Migration, Satisfaction
- Household data:
  Composition, Accommodation, Durables, Income, Financial situation

Features:
- Perspective of persons and households
- Panel study that allows for longitudinal analysis
- Calculation of poverty rates and similar indicators that require representative and comparable income data
- Variety on relevant questions for the calculation of social indicators
- Drawback: no data since 2001 and for new member countries or reference countries
European Community Household Panel (ECHP)

At Risk of Poverty Rates (< 60 % Median) EU-15 2001*

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Eurobarometer surveys

- Individual data – Official – Comprehensive
- Biannual survey of the European Commission
- Data and documentation: Central Archive Cologne

Data for social monitoring and reporting:

- Time series:
  - Life satisfaction and Happiness
  - Evaluation of the economic situation (country and personal)
  - Political participation, Trust in institutions and Satisfaction with democracy
  - Identity and geographic attachment
- Not regularly covered themes:
  - Quality of life (EB 52.1, 1999)
  - Social exclusion (EB 56.1, 2001)
  - Parental leave (EB 59.1, 2003)
  - Vocational training (EB 62.1, 2004)

Features:

- Representative and comparable for EU member and candidate countries
- Long time series for some indicators
- Occasional questions on living conditions
Eurobarometer time series on life satisfaction

Eurobarometer time series on satisfaction with national democracy

Grafik 1: Demokratiezufriedenheit in Deutschland und Europa 1976-2004

World Values Survey (WVS) & European Values Study (EVS)

- Individual data – Scientific – Subject-specific: Values
- European Values Study (EVS): 1999/2000
- Worldwide comparable survey on social and cultural change
- Information: [www.worldvaluessurvey.org/](http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/), [www.europeanvalues.nl](http://www.europeanvalues.nl)
- Data access: Central Archive Cologne

Themes:
- Social, cultural, political, religious and moral values
  - Importance of life domains
  - Family life (man-woman, parents-children)
  - Work and leisure
  - Material and immaterial values
  - Democracy, freedom, welfare state
  - Religiosity and moral

Features:
- No regular periodicity, but identical repetition of many questions
- Not all EU countries, but several central and eastern European countries
- Worldwide reference societies
International Social Science Programme (ISSP)

- Individual data – Scientific – Comprehensive
- Scientific survey programme in 5 continents
- Since 1985 yearly thematic modules, repeated ca. all 5 years
- Currently 29 countries:
  20 out of 25 EU countries, 4 European Non-EU countries, 15 Non-european countries
- In Germany fielded with Allbus by ZUMA
- Information: [www.issp.org](http://www.issp.org)
- Data access: Central Archive Cologne

Modules:
- Role of government
- Social inequality
- Work orientations
- Environment
- Social relations and support systems
- Leisure and sports
- Social network
- Family and changing gender roles
- Religion
- National identity
- Citizenship

Features:
- Not all EU countries covered, instead several reference countries
- Extensive investigation of subjects in modules
- Identical repetition of modules allows analysis of change
International Social Science Programme (ISSP): Modules

ISSP Modules
- 1985 Role of Government I
- 1986 Social Networks
- 1987 Social Inequality I
- 1988 Family and Changing Gender Roles I
- 1989 Work Orientations I
- 1990 Role of Government II
- 1991 Religion I
- 1992 Social Inequality II
- 1993 Environment I
- 1994 Family and Changing Gender Roles II
- 1995 National Identity I
- 1996 Role of Government III
- 1997 Work Orientations II
- 1998 Religion II
- 1999 Social Inequality III
- 2000 Environment II
- 2001 Social Relations and Support Systems
- 2002 Family and Changing Gender Roles III
- 2003 National Identity II
- 2004 Citizenship
- 2005 Work Orientations III
- 2006 Role of Government IV
## Countries covered by the data sources (EU-25)

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Summary

- A variety of activities is dedicated to put comparable data and indicators to the disposal of the public
  - Subject-specific as well as comprehensive
  - By official as well as scientific institutions
  - Aggregate data as well as individual data

- The access to comparable data has been significantly improved by offering free internet access
  - Official data: Eurostat and OECD
  - Individual data: Data service of the Central Archive Cologne

- Individual data clearly differ regarding
  - Substantial interest
  - Coverage of countries
  - Periodicity

- Not for all subjects there are harmonised data sources so that sometimes it is necessary to rely on national statistics and try to make them comparable.