

Original survey information, LIS - Germany 1984

Generic information	
Name of survey	German Socio-Economic Panel (GSOEP)
Responsible institution	German Institute for Economic Research / Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (DIW)
Main objective	The main purpose of the survey is to provide microanalyses of the dynamics of individual welfare, and to evaluate the social impact of government social policy. A comprehensive concept of individual welfare is used in this survey, which includes economic, social and political aspects of well-being, both at the level of objective observable characteristics and at the subjective level of aspiration, perception, attitudes and satisfaction.
Structure of data source	Panel and cross-sectional
Frequency	Annual
Survey year / Wave	1985 – Wave B (#2)
Coverage	Private households in West Germany. People living in institutions or other group situations are included in the survey in those cases where there are no extraordinary difficulties in obtaining an interview; e.g. persons living in homes for the elderly, dormitories, etc. Each sample member who moves into such an institution is followed in the panel. Military personnel living in military housing are excluded from the sample. However, military personnel living with their families are included, but it is not possible to identify them separately.
Sampling	
Sampling procedure	Two stage stratified sampling design that resulted in equal selection probabilities for households. The sampling design for the survey is based on the so-called ADM concept (Study Group of German Market Research Institutes). The final stage sampling frame which was used was the list of registered voters in the German Federal Government Election of 1980. Information from the 1970 population census was used to convert eligible voters per voting district into households. In addition, a subsample which included the main groups of guest workers (Spanish, Italian, Greek, Turkish, Yugoslavian) was selected. This was based on an area sample which was drawn separately for each nationality from regional administrative registers. The sampling units are both housing units and individuals. All geographic areas in the country were included in the sample design.
Sample size	In 1985, the total size of all samples (A – B) was 5,322 households. Note: LIS does not retain the records from the immigrant sample as they do not have weights associated to them.
Collection	
Collection period	From February 1985 to October 1985.
Collection mode	Data were collected mostly through a paper-and-pencil personal interviews (PAPI) and the telephone and mail interviews were conducted in some special cases.
Description of instruments	The survey instruments include: (1) Household head schedule; (2) Schedule for each individual over 16; (3) Schedule for foreigners; (4) Address record (in order to follow people through the panel).
Definitions	
Household	Households are housing and economic units, comprised of one or more individuals. Household members need not be related to each other.
Household head	The head of the household is defined as the person who knows best about the general conditions under which the household acts and is supposed to answer the household questionnaire in each given year (to reduce the risk of longitudinal inconsistencies).
Data quality aspects	
Non-response error	The overall non-response rate was 38.3%.
Item non-response / imputation	-
Weighting	These weights were assigned in order to adjust for unequal sampling probabilities which were built into the sampling design. The weighting procedure did not help to adjust for missing data or other non-sampling errors related to the income data. The sum of the survey weights is equal to the total number of units in the sampling frame. Estimates derived from the sample are representative of the total population as defined by the sampling frame.
Labour market information	
Eligibility	Persons aged 16 or more at the time of interview
Employment	Labor force status information is available for the month of the interview, and for the previous year. Part-time work was defined as 20 – 34 hours per week, and full-time work as more than 34 hours per week. Job characteristics are available for full and part-time employed persons as well as those in occupational/professional education or retraining.
Income	
Reference period	Calendar year 1984
Unit of time	Mostly monthly income with number of months in 1984, some yearly
Unit of collection	Mostly individual, some income sources at the household level
Taxes and contributions	Incomes are collected gross of taxes and contributions. Income taxes were also collected and the data was improved with tax simulation models in the SOEP.
Restrictions	-
Additional remarks	
Additional remarks	-

Source: [1] Data provider.