

# SOEP newsletter

[www.diw.de/SOEPnewsletter](http://www.diw.de/SOEPnewsletter)



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## Attachments

The SOEP is an integral part of Germany's research infrastructure and is funded by the federal and state governments at DIW Berlin under the framework of the Leibniz Association.

## German Section

### Ankündigung SOEPCampus@Universitäten 2016

Die Workshops bieten jeweils eine Einführung in die Arbeit mit dem Sozio-oekonomischen Panel. Geboten wird ein Überblick zu den Inhalten, der Struktur und den Potenzialen des SOEP. Zudem werden die Teilnehmenden in einer praktischen Übung auf dem Weg von den Rohdaten zu einer längsschnittlichen Analyse geleitet. Die Teilnehmenden sollten mit den Grundlagen des Statistikprogramms Stata vertraut sein.

#### 5. April 2016 an der Universität Duisburg

Der Workshop an der Universität Duisburg findet in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Lehrstuhl für empirische Sozialforschung (Vertretung Dr. Bernd Weiß) statt.

#### 23./24. Juni 2016 an der Universität Bochum

Der Workshop in Bochum findet am dortigen Lehrstuhl für empirische Sozialforschung in Zusammenarbeit mit Sebastian Beil statt.

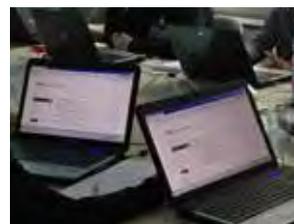
#### 27.-29. Juni 2016 an der Universität Mannheim

Die Veranstaltung richtet sich neben den Mitgliedern der Graduate School of Economic and Social Sciences (GESS) auch an alle anderen Studierende, Promovierende, Doktoranden und Nachwuchswissenschaftler\_innen in den Sozial- und Wirtschaftswissenschaften. Voraussetzung für die Teilnahme sind solide Kenntnisse in multivariaten Analyseverfahren und erste praktische Erfahrungen mit der Datenanalyse. Kenntnisse im Arbeiten mit dem SOEP werden nicht vorausgesetzt. In den Beispielen und Übungen im Rahmen des Workshops wird ausschließlich das Statistikprogrammpaket STATA verwendet.

Die Teilnahmegebühr beträgt 50 Euro (reduziert für Studierende auf 20 Euro).



Photos: Christine Kurka





Anmeldungen sind ab dem 21. März bis zum 20. Mai 2016 möglich. Bitte füllen Sie das [Online Formular](#) aus, um sich anzumelden. Die Teilnehmerzahl ist auf 35 begrenzt.

Der Workshop wird von der Graduate School of Economic and Social Sciences (GESS) in Zusammenarbeit mit dem SOEP veranstaltet. Lokaler Ausrichter ist der Lehrstuhl für Methoden der empirischen Sozialforschung (Professor Dr. Thomas **Gautschi**). Für die Teilnahme an dem Kurs und das Erfüllen von Aufgaben im Anschluss können 3 ECTS vergeben werden.

Nähere Informationen finden Sie unter <http://gess.uni-mannheim.de/doctoral-programs/social-and-behavioral-sciences-cdss/course-catalog/spring-2016.html>.

## Bericht

### SOEPCampus@DIW Berlin

#### Workshop „Einführung in die Nutzung von SOEP-Daten“ am 29. Februar und 1. März 2016

Am 29. Februar und 1. März 2016 fand wieder der jährliche deutschsprachige Workshop zur Einführung in die Analyse der SOEP-Daten am DIW Berlin statt.

Knapp 40 Teilnehmende aus ganz Deutschland besuchten den Workshop, der im DIW Berlin stattfand. Im Rahmen von Plenarveranstaltungen wurden sie über Inhalt, Struktur und Nutzungsmöglichkeiten der SOEP-Daten, sowie die Hochrechnung und Gewichtung informiert.

Neben dem Dokumentationsmaterial bildete in diesem Jahr auch der User-Support über die SOEP-Website einen Schwerpunkt: Marcel **Hebing**, SOEP, stellte das neue Informationssystem <https://paneldata.org> vor. Dieses Informations- und Dokumentationssystem wird als Weiterentwicklung und Ausbau unseres Klassikers SOEP-info in den nächsten Jahren und Jahrzehnten viele unserer Nutzer\_innen durch die Variablenauswahl und Datenaufbereitung geleiten. Entsprechend groß war das Interesse an dem von Marcel Hebing gebotenen Überblick.

Im weiteren Verlauf der Veranstaltung standen die Hands-on-Sessions im Vordergrund, in denen in software- und disziplinspezifischen Arbeitsgruppen der Umgang mit dem neuen Dokumentationssystem auf der Basis von STATA oder SPSS geübt werden konnte. Das abendliche ‚Get Together‘ bot Gelegenheit zur Netzwerkpflege von Datenproduzierenden und –nutzenden. Bei Wein und Brezeln konnten sich alle besser kennen lernen und dabei auch von der Multidisziplinarität der Teilnehmenden aus Soziologie, Ökonomie, Politikwissenschaften, Psychologie und Erziehungswissenschaften profitieren.

Wir freuen uns, dass die Schulung wiederholt eine positive Resonanz unter den Teilnehmenden hervorrief, was sich auch in der abschließenden anonymen schriftlichen Befragung spiegelte. Die dabei gegebenen wertvollen Anregungen werden wir gerne bei der Vorbereitung des SOEP-User-Workshops 2017 berücksichtigen.

### 3. Newsletter „Mikrodaten für die Zeitgeschichte“ erschienen

Zurückgehend auf eine Initiative des Historikers Lutz **Raphael** und des Sozialwissenschaftlers Gert G. **Wagner** soll die systematische Nutzung von Mikrodaten für die zeitgeschichtliche Forschung ausgelotet werden. In diesem Rahmen erscheint auch ein Newsletter, der in dem betreffenden Themenfeld über anstehende Veranstaltungen und in jüngerer Zeit erschienene Veröffentlichungen informiert. Soeben ist die dritte Ausgabe dieses Newsletters erschienen und herunterladbar unter

<http://www.ratswd.de/dl/MikroDatenZeitgeschichte-Newsletter03.pdf>

## Data & Service

e-mail at [soepmail@diw.de](mailto:soepmail@diw.de) or by telephone at +49-30-89789-292.

### SOEP data 1984–2014 (v31.1)

**SOEP-Core, DOI: [10.5684/soep.v31.1](https://doi.org/10.5684/soep.v31.1)**

Available by download and free of charge (since we no longer have the production costs and postal charges of the DVD) to all users in EEA countries.

This version also includes the \$PEQUIV files. For more changes see below or the doi landing page <http://dx.doi.org/10.5684/soep.v31.1>

#### SOEP-Core, international version DOI: [10.5684/soep.v31.1i](https://doi.org/10.5684/soep.v31.1i)

The International Scientific Use Version of the SOEP data (95%) is available by download and free of charge to all users outside EEA countries.

All users who ordered SOEP.v31 will receive an automatic notification from us that an update is available. To download the update, you can use the passwords you already received. All other users can order the newly released data online as detailed below.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.5684/soep.v31.1i>

We're happy to take your order for the SOEP data online...

in English: <http://www.diw.de/SOEPorder>

in German: <http://www.diw.de/SOEPbestellung>

After placing your order, you will receive a letter containing the passwords. Please store it in a safe place: The passwords will be needed to transmit both the data you have ordered and any additions to or changes in the data.

For users who have never downloaded the SOEP data: We ensure the highest standards of data protection through use of the program cryptshare ([www.cryptshare.com](http://www.cryptshare.com)), which offers completely encrypted transfers as well as a personalized link and password. Please note that you will need two different passwords that will be provided to you by the SOEP hotline: one to download the data and one to open the downloaded zip archive file.

If further questions arise, please do not hesitate to contact our SOEP hotline staff, either by

### CNEF

CNEF users should note that the CNEF version of the SOEP data is no longer being provided by Cornell University. Please contact [CNEF@osu.edu](mailto:CNEF@osu.edu) at Ohio State University to order the data.

### Data documentation

None of the additional documentation that was previously included on our DVD is included in the



download, but all these documents are freely available on the website of our Research Data Center. You can download the documentation with this [zip file](#).

The documentation is also available as separate files under “generated variables” on the [Research Data Center SOEP website](#).

## What's new in SOEP v31.1?

The following describes the changes in our most recent update, v31.1. Changes from v30 to v31 are reported on in [SOEPnewsletter 109](#).

### 1. Changes due to integration of FiD data

As you already know, data release v31 includes the complete data from “Familien in Deutschland” (Families in Germany, FiD), which is being retrospectively integrated into the SOEP and made available in user-friendly form to all SOEP users. The survey was carried out in parallel to the SOEP as a so-called “SOEP Related Study” from 2010 to 2013.

Starting with Version 31 of the data, the FiD sample has been integrated completely into SOEP-Core—that is, as if it were a new sample drawn as part of SOEP-Core in 2010 and 2011. This means that in the data from 2010 on, SOEP users “automatically” have more cases in their study population without having to make any changes in scripts.

In total, 14,166 variables from 64 datasets have been integrated into the various SOEP datasets, and the generated datasets or variables have been adjusted. Variables in the FiD survey instruments that were not contained in the corresponding SOEP survey instruments have been included in the respective datasets as additional variables (with the original FiD variable names starting with “Fyy”, where “yy” is a two-digit year identifier).

The updated version of the data in SOEP.v31.1 has some modifications as a result of this extensive integration process in the files **B[A-C]H**, **B[A-D]P**, **B[A-D]HBRUTTO**, **B[A-D]KIND**, **KID-LONG**, and **B[A-D]HGEN**. Please see <http://dx.doi.org/10.5684/soep.v31.1> for a detailed list of the affected variables.

### **\$PEQUIV: CNEF Variables with extended income information for the SOEP**

Since no equivalent files were generated with the FiD data release, and especially since there were no data on the previous year’s household income or simulated tax and social insurance contributions, all **\$EQUIV** from 2010-2013 had to be generated again for SOEP.v31.1.

The data provided in v31.1 now contain harmonized imputations and simulations for all SOEP subsamples including the newly integrated FiD samples.

## **2 Changes in other data sets and variables**

### **2.1 BIOCOUPLM/Y, BIOMARSM/Y and famstd in \$PGEN**

Major changes occurred due to an adjustment of the spell endings for panel attrition in couple history files **BIOCOUPLM** and **BIOCOUPLY**, marital history files **BIOMARSM** and **BIOMARSY**, and the variable for marital status in the survey year (**\$famstd**) in **\$PGEN**: Previously the endings were set to twelve months since the most recent interview and have now been corrected to the month of the most recent interview. This adjustment also caused changes in the biographies for some respondents.

### **2.2 behhnrld / bepnrd in BEPBRUTTO**

The previous year’s identifiers had not been correctly implemented in the individual gross data set. This has been corrected.

### **2.3 HEALTH: SOEP health module in the individual questionnaire**

The dataset was unfortunately corrupted by mistake in our database. This has been corrected in v31.1.

### **2.4 BEPGEN: Generated variables, individual level**

Now in v31.1 the variables with information about the current occupation in file **BEPGEN** contain valid information also for respondents who were not asked about their most recent job, but for whom data from the previous year could be used.

### **2.5 \$HGEN: Generated variables, household level**

- The dataset now contains the variable **gas\$\$**, which states the household’s gas costs starting in 2014. The variables **\$\$eqplif** and **\$\$eqpnrj** have now been carried forward from the last two years if a household did not provide a response in a given year.
- In the case of the variable **moveyr\$\$**, changes have been made in the cases in the integrated FiD sample. For these samples, the questionnaire does not ask for the move-in date and this information therefore had to be taken from the biographical questionnaire. Prior to the update, the move-in date of a random person in the household was used in **HGEN**. Now the move-in date of the person who answered the household questionnaire is used.
- Variables that are imputed (**room\$\$**, **size\$\$**, **rent\$\$**, **heat\$\$**, **util\$\$** and **electr\$\$**) have been imputed again for the update. This resulted in random statistical changes. For this reason, changes have also occurred in the corresponding flag variables. Here, it should be noted that the data on whether utilities are included in the rent have also been imputed. Changes in this variable determine whether utilities are added to reported rent or not. This in turn determines whether the variable **frent\$\$** is coded 0 or 1. Therefore, some rents that were marked “not imputed” prior to the update are now marked “imputed” and vice versa.

## Documentation on SOEP

Recently published:

- documentation on \$PEQUIV (SOEP Survey Paper 300),
- documentation of the Linked Employer–Employee Study of the Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP-LEE) dataset (SOEP Survey Papers 304, 305, and 306 as well as SOEP-paper 829),
- updates of the documentation on generated variables (SOEP Survey Papers 307-311)

Coming soon

- documentation on the Biography and Life History Data (including a description of the new data set BIOAGEL; SOEP Survey Papers 312)
- FiD Documentation: Original documentation of the FiD data set and generated FiD questionnaires including original FiD coding as well as SOEP coding after integration.

## SOEP-IS: 2014 data distribution

DOI: [10.5684/soep.is.2014](https://doi.org/10.5684/soep.is.2014)

The data from the 2014 survey of the SOEP Innovation Sample (SOEP-IS) have now been released and can be ordered by SOEP users. Up to now, they have been provided through a secure website. The current data distribution contains the data from the 2011, 2012, and 2013 innovative modules.

The SOEP-IS contained the following innovative modules in 2011:

- Implicit Association Test (IAT) and corresponding explicit questions measuring gender stereotypes.
- The measurement of the four facets of sensitivity to injustice (victim sensitivity, observer sensitivity, beneficiary sensitivity, perpetrator sensitivity).
- Questions about private, public, and company pensions.

Innovative modules in 2012:

- Adaptive test of environmental behavior
- Control strivings

- Day Reconstruction Method (DRM)
- Experiment on expected financial market earnings
- Implicit Association Test (IAT) of self-esteem and corresponding explicit questions measuring self-esteem
- Fear of dementia
- Just and sustainable development based on the capability approach (GeNECA)
- Short scales on loneliness & depression

Innovative modules in 2013:

- Conspiracy mentality
- Day Reconstruction Method (DRM)
- Factorial survey on job preferences and job offer acceptance
- Job task survey
- Mobility & identity
- Narcissism
- Sleep characteristics
- Socio-economic effects of physical activity

The data from the 2014 SOEP-IS modules will be provided exclusively to the researchers who proposed the respective ideas for an initial period of 12 months. They will be released to the SOEP user community in Spring 2017.

## EVA-MIN data

### Special dataset available in the EVA-MIN project framework

The project “Evaluating the Minimum Wage Introduction in Germany (EVA-MIN)”, which we reported on in SOEP Newsletter 109 (for more information, see the project homepage [http://www.diw.de/id/diw\\_01.c.496963.en](http://www.diw.de/id/diw_01.c.496963.en)) will soon be making a special dataset available for research use. And starting in May 2016, the first doctoral and post-doctoral students from renowned German and international research institutes will visit the SOEP and use the SOEP data as part of a short-term scholarship program. They will be working on projects dealing with the evaluation of the minimum wage reform in Germany.

The EVA-MIN team will provide the guest researchers a user-friendly dataset from the recently completed 2015 SOEP-Core survey, workspaces, and expertise and advice in the empirical analysis of the reform. This EVA-MIN dataset contains a selection of labor market and socio-demographic information from the SOEP that facilitates evalu-

ation of the minimum wage reform. In particular, there are detailed data available on the number of hours actually worked, overtime, and hourly wages for both full- and part-time employees.

## PIAAC-L data distribution

### Initial release of PIAAC-L data

Data from the first wave of the study PIAAC-L have been released on March 31st 2016. PIAAC-L is a joint project of the Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences (GESIS), the Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) at DIW Berlin, and the Leibniz Institute for Educational Trajectories (LifBi).

In 2014, around 4,000 people in Germany between the ages of 18 and 67 who had previously taken part in PIAAC 2012 (Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies) as well as their families were surveyed for the first wave of PIAAC-L, offering information on a total of more than 6,000 respondents.

In the first wave the SOEP's household, individual, and biographical questionnaires were used, thus providing a wide array of additional life course and contextual information for this unique sample. The PIAAC-L data is available and can be linked with PIAAC 2012 data through the GESIS data archive.

Follow this link to find the study description and order the data:

<https://dbk.gesis.org/DBKSearch/SDESC2.asp?no=5989&db=E>

Contact data of the GESIS data archive:  
Phone: +49 (0)221-476 94-420,  
e-mail: [datenservice.das@gesis.org](mailto:datenservice.das@gesis.org)

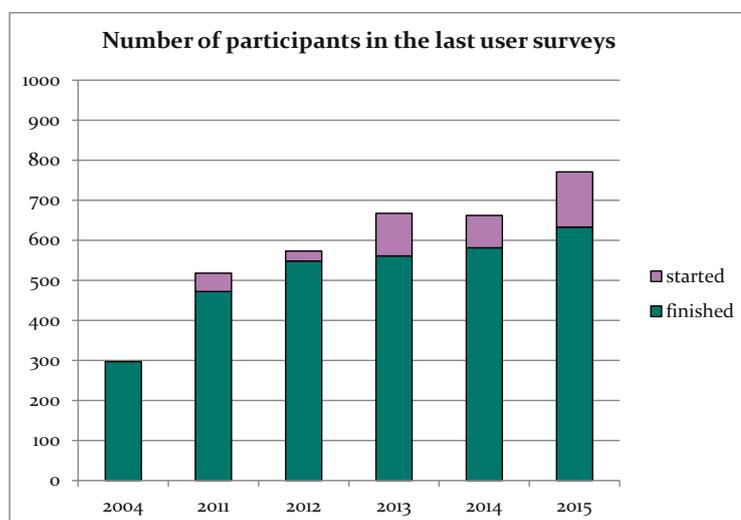
For more information, please contact: Simone **Bartsch**, SOEP (DIW Berlin)

## Results of the 2015 SOEP User Survey

In winter 2015, 771 SOEP users again took part in the SOEP user survey. This year's survey covered classic questions about SOEP service and infrastructure as well as the new topics of data sharing in academia and re-analysis of data. To ensure the highest possible participation in our survey, we sent the invitation to an integrated mailing list consisting of longtime SOEP users with a data distribution contract, new users who signed a sub-contract for data use within the last year, users who download the SOEP data, and members of the SOEP mailing list. We are proud to report that we achieved the highest number of responses of any year since the start of our user survey. Participation increased 13% over 2014 (see Figure 1). We are very grateful to everyone who participated in the survey.

We do not know the characteristics of our entire user community. In the following we use the term "user community" to refer to those users who participated in our user survey.

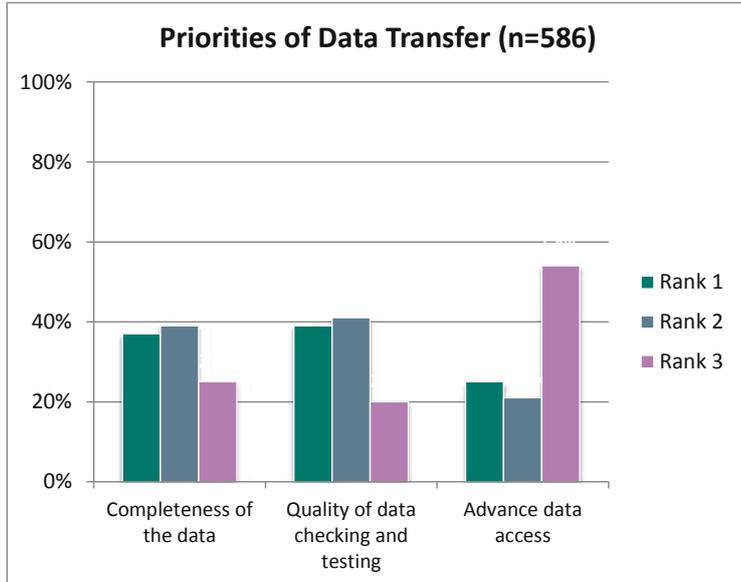
Figure 1



The results show that in 2015, our user community was 41% women and 59% men: an 8 percentage point increase in female users and the highest number of female users since the beginning of the survey in 2004.

Research staff and post-doctoral students made up one third of all respondents to the user survey,

Figure 2



while the percentage of professors has declined since last year. This has been accompanied by a decline in the use of SOEP data in teaching (from 69% in 2014 to 61% in 2015).

The research fields represented by SOEP users have not changed in a significant manner since the last user survey. The proportion of respondents from the field of economics has declined to 45% since the last survey. Around 41% of our users are from the social sciences or sociology.

**Data distribution**

In this year’s user survey, we wanted to find out our users’ preferences for data distribution. The in-

creasing complexity of the SOEP sample means an increasing amount of effort to generate the data. To meet this challenge, the SOEP staff is constantly working to improve the process of data preparation and generation. We want to give you—our users—the opportunity to tell us your preferences so that we can meet your needs as well as possible. In the survey, respondents were asked to drag and drop the aspects of “advance data access”, “quality of data checking and testing” and “completeness of the data” into their own order of importance (see Figure 2). The results show that for our users, “advance data access” is less important than data quality checking or data completeness.

Based on this, we have concluded that we should put more weight on completeness and data checking procedures, even if this means delays in data provision.

**Data documentation**

We use our annual survey to evaluate the various services we provide. Respondents were asked to rate on a scale from 0 to 10 how satisfied they were with SOEP contract management, data, data downloads, and documentation. In all of these areas, the overwhelming majority of responding users were very satisfied with our services. And in some areas, respondents rated us even higher this year than in 2014.

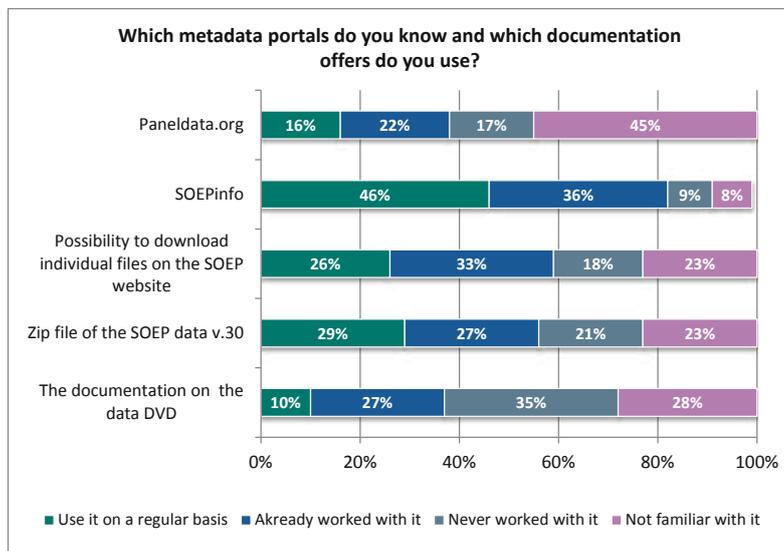
The importance of data documentation is also evident from the critiques and suggestions provided by respondents, which confirm the need to continue improving our work in this area. An important step in this direction has been taken with the introduction of our new metadata portal, [paneldata.org](http://paneldata.org). The difficulties entailed by learning a new way of working are evident in Figure 3. Many of our users continue to use our old metadata portal, [SOEPinfo](http://SOEPinfo.org), which continues to run parallel to [paneldata.org](http://paneldata.org).

Almost half of all respondents were not yet aware of [paneldata.org](http://paneldata.org), at least not under this new name that we introduced instead of [SOEPinfo](http://SOEPinfo.org) v.2. Thanks to our respondents’ extensive feedback, we have valuable ideas for facilitating the transition to [paneldata.org](http://paneldata.org).

We are working hard to optimize [paneldata.org](http://paneldata.org) and to make it as user-friendly as possible. We encourage all users to take the leap and switch over, since [paneldata.org](http://paneldata.org) contains documentation not only on SOEP-Core but also on the practical new SOEPLong, as well as the SOEP Innovation Sample (SOEP-IS) and other related longitudinal studies.

Thank you again to everyone who participated in our 2015 SOEP User Survey!

Figure 3





## International cooperation Data news from Ohio State University

Updated data available and coming soon



Dean Lillard, our partner at Ohio State University (OSU)

### *PSID-CNEF files updated*

We added 2011 and 2013 PSID data to our PSID-CNEF files. Users can download those data at (<http://cnef.ehe.osu.edu/data/cnef-data-files/>). All DVD disks that we ship will include the updated files.

### *BHPS-UKHLS-CNEF files updated and available*

CNEF files using data from the United Kingdom Household Longitudinal Study (the “Understanding Society” study) are now available. The UKHLS-CNEF files include data for calendar years 2010-2014. The survey follows BHPS respondents and adds a large sample of households from the UK. Due to changes in the survey design, researchers will have to take care about how to control for some variables over time.

In particular, Understanding Society does not collect the information needed to estimate each respondent’s annual household income. Instead CNEF produces a measure of income in the past month.

We have also updated files for all other countries except Russia. Updated RLMS-CNEF files should be available in about one month.

To request the CNEF data, users should send an e-mail to [cnef@osu.edu](mailto:cnef@osu.edu).

### *Presentations*

DIW Research Fellow Dr. Dean **Lillard**, Ohio State University, presented a paper titled “A New Measure of the Stock and Flow of Information and the Effect of Information on Behavior” at the economics departments of the University of Montevideo in Montevideo, Uruguay and at the University of the Andes in Santiago, Chile.

DIW Research Fellow Dr. Dean **Lillard** and CNEF Research Associate Dr. Laura **Fumagalli** participated in an invitational workshop in Brasilia, Brazil, March 6-8. The workshop titled “Longitudinal Studies and its Applications in Social Policy” was sponsored by the Economic and Social Research Council of the U.K. and the Brazilian Ministry of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger. Participants shared knowledge and ideas about survey design and the collection of data through longitudinal surveys.

## Events & Activities

### SOEPCampus@Ann Arbor

#### Longitudinal Data Management and Life Course Design with the German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) study

Course at the 69th Annual Summer Institute, June 22-24, 2016

Working with a complex longitudinal dataset like the SOEP offers numerous possibilities but also requires specialized skills. In the three-day workshop, we will explore the SOEP data, its specific potentials and the benefits of panel data in general.

The workshop offers participants the opportunity to gain a well-grounded understanding of how to manage SOEP data. Additionally, the core analytical potentials of the SOEP (and longitudinal data in general) will be explored. The participants will receive an introduction into the basics of longitudinal analysis; after the course, they will be able to accurately perform, interpret and illustrate empirical life-course designs based on panel data. In addition to providing an overview of the structure and possibilities for analysis offered by the SOEP, the workshop will focus on questions about weighting longitudinal data.

Lectures will be accompanied by tutorials and hands-on sessions. In these sessions, the users will be guided through the process of data management and data analysis. The software used in the workshop will be Stata. Basic knowledge of Stata and regression techniques is required.

Fee: \$350

More Information at the homepage of the Summer Institute in Survey Research Techniques at <http://si.isr.umich.edu/>

## SOEP Brown Bag Seminars

The SOEP Brown Bag Seminar series offers SOEP researchers an opportunity to present their ongoing research using SOEP data. The seminars take place approximately every two weeks at DIW Berlin. Proposals for special Brown Bag Seminars are welcome.



If you would like to participate, please contact Sybille **Luhmann** ([sluhmann@diw.de](mailto:sluhmann@diw.de)) and Christian

**Westermeier** ([cwestermeier@diw.de](mailto:cwestermeier@diw.de)). If you are interested in finding out more about past presentations, please contact the presenters directly.

Presentations in the last three months have included:

Juliane **Stahl** (DIW Berlin): Parental socioeconomic status and the quality of early childhood education and care: Evidence from Germany. January 6, 2016.

Philip **Eisnecker** (DIW Berlin, BGSS): The Determinants of Natives' Intergroup Relationships with Migrants—An Analysis using SOEP-data. January 20, 2016.

Marcel **Hebing** (DIW Berlin): Update zu DDI on Rails und paneldata.org. February 2, 2016.

Guido **Neidhöfer** (Freie Universität Berlin): Dynastic Inequality and Persistence of Human Capital Over Three Generations. February 17, 2016.

Mathilde M. **van Ditmars** (European University Institute): Political Socialization after Parental Separation: Breaking with the Traditional Family Model. March 2, 2016.

Kristin **Kleinjans** (California State University): Personality and Marriage: Selection or Causal Effects? March 16, 2016

## People &amp; Papers

## SOEP People: Five questions to Katharina Mahne



Katharina Mahne is a Sociologist and Director of the German Aging Survey (DEAS) at the German Centre of Gerontology (DZA) in Berlin. She began her research career as a student assistant in the SOEP over 10 years ago. Since then, she has been doing research on social relationships within families. Her current focus is on the relationship between grandparents and grandchildren. She is one of the few researchers in Germany to investigate this relationship on the basis of representative panel data.

**1. *What is it about studying old age that's interesting to you as a young researcher?***

There is a widespread preconception that nothing happens anymore when you reach old age. What makes gerontological research so interesting to me is that that's not the case at all. There are numerous factors ranging from personal living conditions to social environments that affect how people develop over the course of their lives. You can only understand old age by looking at the entire course of life leading up to it. To a certain extent, old age is the outcome of the life lived prior to it.

**2. *Since working at the SOEP, you've been using panel data sets like the SOEP and the German Aging Survey. What makes panel data special?***

What's special about panel data is that they allow you to trace developments. You can follow individuals over time and gain a picture of society over a historic period, which you can't do with cross-sectional data. I like to fiddle around with data, so I can get enjoyment out of writing an elegant syntax. Actually, I'm interested in everything about survey research, from interacting with the survey institute to developing the questionnaire.

***During your time in the SOEP you worked on developing the mother-child questionnaires ...***

I had a young child of my own at the time, and when the questionnaires were being developed Jürgen Schupp asked me to take a look at them. He said, "Do they work for you? Do you see your living situation reflected in this questionnaire?" I thought it was interesting that you can't develop something like that in an office at a desk, but that you have to engage in discussions with others to capture reality with a questionnaire.

**3. *You've used the SOEP data to look at how the birth of a first child affects mothers' life satisfaction. What did you find out?***

On average, women are more satisfied the year after birth than before, but after that, they end up below their original level of life satisfaction. But that's just half the story. In my analysis,

I found that the number of women who react extremely negatively is much higher than the number of women who react extremely positively. Women who experience the birth of a first child as difficult also take much longer to recover and to have their satisfaction return to its original level. I thought that was intriguing since motherhood is a very normatively framed subject and women are expected to be happy when they have children. But that's just not the case for everyone.

**4. *Since coming to the DZA, your research has dealt with relationships between grandparents and their grandchildren. What influence do grandchildren have on their grandparents' life satisfaction?***

There's a connection between grandparents' subjective well-being and the kind of relationships they have to their grandchildren. When grandparents have frequent contact and close relationships with their grandchildren, they are more satisfied, they have positive feelings more often and negative feelings less often, and they are also less often lonely. One could also say that being a grandparent is good for subjective well-being.

**5. *When you think back to the start of your research career: Is there any advice you would like to pass on to young researchers today?***

What's important is to think while you're still a student about whether you want to go into research and to look into research operations and then maybe get a job as a student assistant. That will give you a realistic idea of how research works. And you learn a lot of practical things that are useful when it comes time to apply for your first job.

The complete video interview in German—"SOEP People: Ein Gespräch mit Katharina Mahne"—will be released soon in our SOEP People video series. Keep an eye on our SOEP Facebook page and the [DIW Mediathek](#).

## Staff and community news



Adrian **Hille** left the SOEP at the end of January to start a new position at the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, where he is working in the Directorate “Basic income support for jobseekers.”

## SOEP staff activities

### Paper presentations in the next three months

Sarah **Dahmann**: How Does Education Improve Cognitive Skills? Instructional Time versus Timing of Instruction. *Annual Conference of the Scottish Economic Society*, April 18–12, 2016, Perth/UK.

### Paper presentations in the last three months

Charlotte **Bartels**: Top incomes in Germany in the long-run. Ringvorlesung “*Arbeit, Lohn, Einkommensverteilung*”, January 6, 2016, Göttingen/Germany.

Charlotte **Bartels**, Dirk **Neumann**: Insurance and Redistribution Around the World. *11th Winter School on Inequality and Social Welfare Theory*, January 10–15, 2016, Canazei/Italy.

Anne **Busch-Heizmann**, Christine **Busch**, Elke **Holst**: Auswirkungen von Work/Family-Konflikten auf die Gesundheit von Frauen und Männern in hochqualifizierten Tätigkeiten. *Forschungskolloquium am Institut für Soziologie der LMU München*, January 13, 2016, Munich/Germany.

Alexandra **Fedorets**: Evaluation of the Minimum Wage Reform in Germany. *DIW/SOEP workshop with Ministry of Employment, Analytics division of Denmark*, February 11, 2016, Berlin/Germany.

Alexandra **Fedorets**: Compensating Wage Differentials, Sorting into Occupations and Job Tasks. *DFG Conference “Occupations, Skills and the Labor Market”*, March 17–19, 2016, Mannheim/Germany.

Peter **Krause**, Thomas **Bahle**: Child Poverty in Germany 1994–2013. Improving Poverty Reduction in Europe: Lessons from the Past, Scenarios for the future. *ImProve Final conference*, 3–5 February, 2016, Antwerp/Belgium.

Christian **Krekel**, Alexander **Zerrahn**: Does the Presence of Wind Turbines Have Negative Externalities for People in Their Surroundings? Evidence from Well-Being Data. (1) *9th Ruhr Graduate School Doctoral Conference in Economics*, February 23–25, 2016, Bochum/Germany; (2) *Annual Conference of the Royal Economic Society*, March 21–23, 2016, Brighton/UK; (3) *26th Annual Conference of the European Public Choice Society*, March 30–April 2, 2016, Freiburg/Germany.

Christian **Krekel**, Jens **Kolbe**, Henry **Wüstemann**: The greener, the happier? The effect of urban land use on residential well-being. (1) *8th Annual Conference of the German Association for Health Economics*, March 14–15, 2016, Berlin/Germany, (2) *Annual Conference of the Royal Economic Society*, March 21–23, 2016, Brighton/UK.

Nicolas **Legewie**: Persönliche Netzwerke im Lebenslauf als Triebfeder erwartungswidriger Bildungserfolge. *Erwartungswidriger Bildungserfolg über die Lebensspanne*. Jahreskonferenz der Gesellschaft für Empirische Bildungsforschung (GEBF), March 9–11, 2016, Berlin/Germany.

Diana **Schacht**: The labour market integration of asylum seekers and refugees in Germany. *DIW/SOEP workshop with Ministry of Employment, Analytics division of Denmark*, February 11, 2016, Berlin/Germany.

### Presentations at policy forums (January–April 2016)

Markus **Grabka**: Vermögensungleichheit: Bestandsaufnahme und Lösungsansätze. *Fachgespräch Vermögensungleichheit im Deutschen Bundestag*, February 24, 2016, Berlin/Germany.

Elke **Holst**: PLAN W–Frauen verändern Wirtschaft. *Podiumsdiskussion der Süddeutschen Zeitung in Kooperation mit dem Forum Equal Pay Day*. March 17, 2016, Berlin/Germany.

Elke **Holst**: Rahmenbedingungen für die Umsetzung des Quotengesetzes. *Best Practise und Herausforderungen zur Umsetzung des Quotengesetzes*. Veranstaltung der FOM Hochschule für Oekonomie und Management in München und FidAR Süd, April 27, 2016, München/Germany.

Elke **Holst**: Sheconomy–Chancen und Risiken für Frauen in der neuen Arbeitswelt. *Podiumsdiskussion in der Urania*, April 29, 2016, Berlin/Germany.

Peter **Krause**: Ursachen von Kinderarmut: Vermögensverteilung. Öffentliches Expertengespräch der Kommission zur Wahrnehmung der Belange der Kinder (Kinderkommission), March 16, 2016, Berlin/Germany.

### University teaching (SoSe 2016)

Marco **Giesselmann**: Intergenerational & life course research in practice. Projektseminar. Universität Bielefeld.

Nicolas **Legewie**: Studying education—Theory, empirical findings, and applied qualitative research. Seminar. HU Berlin.

Maria **Metzing**: Staat und Steuern. Übung. FU Berlin.

Paul **Schmelzer**: Multivariate Statistics. MA Seminar. FU Berlin.

Christian **Schmitt**: Soziale Ungleichheit und demographischer Wandel. Angewandte Analysen. Seminar. Universität Rostock.

Christian **Schmitt**, Heike **Trappe**: Messung und demographische Analyse des Wandels der Lebensformen (Allgemeine Demographie I). Übung. Universität Rostock.

Carsten **Schröder**, Johannes **König**: Ungleichheitsmessung (V). Vorlesung. FU Berlin.

Gert G. **Wagner**, Jan **Goebel**, Markus **Grabka**: Einführung in die VWL für NichtökonomInnen. Vorlesung. Technische Universität Berlin.

### Short-term special courses (January – April 2016)

Paul **Schmelzer**: Einführung in das Sozio-oekonomische Panel. SOEPcampus@Uni-Duisburg. Workshop zur Nutzung des SOEP, April 5–6, 2016, Duisburg/Germany.

Marcel **Hebing**: Metadaten des SOEP in paneldata.org. SOEPcampus@DIW Berlin 2016. Einführungskurs zur Analyse der SOEP-Daten, February 29–March 1, 2016, Berlin/Germany.

## SOEP visitors

### Past, current, and upcoming guests (more than one month)

Bruhn, Anja, Potsdam Graduate School (PoGS), University of Potsdam/Germany

Eibich, Peter, University of Oxford/UK

Gricevic, Zbignev, University of Bielefeld/Germany

Hoppe, Lucas, BIGSSS, Bremen/Germany

Kleinjans, Kristin J., California State University, Fullerton, CA/USA

Larondelle, Neele, Postdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, and Humboldt Universität zu Berlin/Germany

Ordemann, Jessica, University of Leipzig/Germany

Weinhardt, Michael, University of Bielefeld/Germany

van Ditmars, Mathilde, European University Institute, Florence/Italy

### Short visits (past, current, and in the near future)

Berning, Carl, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz/Germany

Eckhard, Jan, University of Heidelberg/Germany

Günther, Johanna, Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt/M./Germany

Hartung, Andreas, University of Trier/Germany

Kossow, Tom, University of Heidelberg/Germany

Lang, Felix, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin/Germany

Schmidt-Catran, Alexander, University of Cologne/Germany

Sopp, Peter, FIA Forschungsteam Internationaler Arbeitsmarkt, Bamberg/Germany

Steckenleiter, Carina, University of St. Gallen/Switzerland

von Möllendorff, Charlotte, Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg/Germany

Wohlfart, Johannes, Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt/M./Germany

Zapf, Ines, Institute for Labor and Employment Research (IAB), Nuremberg/Germany

## New data users

James S. **Adelman**, PhD: Economic circumstance effects on cognition. University of Warwick, Department of Psychology, Coventry/UK.

Jun.-Prof. Dr. Martin **Altemeyer-Bartscher**: Promoting labor force participation in Germany: a legal and economic analysis of social security reform options. Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Lehrstuhl für VWL, insb. Finanzpolitik, Halle/Germany.

Assistant Prof. Dr. Teresa **Bago d'Uva**: Contribution of health differences to the income gender gap in Germany. Erasmus University Rotterdam, Erasmus School of Economics, Rotterdam/The Netherlands.

Prof. Guillermo **Baquero**: Einwanderer–Einkommen, Sprachkenntnisse und Geschäftszyklus. European School of Management and Technology ESMT, Berlin/Germany.

Prof. Michael **Barber**: Music and Educational Attainment. Oberlin College, Department of Economics, Oberlin, OH/USA.

Dr. Jürgen **Bauknecht**: Gerontology Study—Implementing an Active Aging Index in Germany. Forschungsgesellschaft für Gerontologie e.V., Institut für Gerontologie an der TU Dortmund, Dortmund/Germany.

Prof. Oliver Arránz **Becker**: Gesundheit im Lebensverlauf. Martin Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Institut für Soziologie, Halle (Saale)/Germany.

Aniko **Biro**, PhD: Health of central and eastern european migrants abroad. Corvinus University of Budapest, Department of Health Economics, Budapest/Hungary.

Dr. Roberto **Bonilla Trejos**: Investigation on Determinants of 'Marriage Wage Premium'. Newcastle University, Economics, Newcastle upon Tyne/UK.

Prof. Kristof **Bosmans**: Does poverty impede cognitive function? Does cognitive load mediate the relationship between poverty and poor life outcomes? Maastricht University, Department of Economics, Maastricht/The Netherlands.

Dr. Alina **Botezat**: The Economic and Social Effects of High-Skilled Emigration. Romanian Academy—"Gh. Zane", Institute for Economic and Social Research, Iasi/Romania.

Dr. Christian **Bredemeier**: Der Effekt von politischen Maßnahmen auf die Auswirkung von Immigration auf den Arbeitsmarkt. Universität zu Köln, Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaften, Cologne/Germany.

Dr. Carlos **Carrillo-Tudela**: Stock-Flow Theory of Unemployment with Endogenous Match Formation. University of Essex, Department of Economics, Essex/UK.

Prof. Tak Wing **Chan**: Life Course and Family Dynamics in a Comparative Perspective. University of Warwick, Department of Sociology, Coventry/UK.

Prof. Jin-Young **Choi**: Signaling Effect of Diploma: Prognostic Score Matching in Multiple Running Variables RD. Goethe Universität Frankfurt, Chair of Applied Econometrics, Frankfurt a. Main/Germany.

Dr. Andrew **Clausen**: Economic Assimilation of Refugees into Germany. University of Edinburgh, School of Economics, Edinburgh/UK.

Prof. Dr. Ursula **Dallinger**: Mittelschichten als politischer Akteur? Universität Trier, Abteilung Soziologie, Trier/Germany.

Prof. Alexander **Danzer**, PhD: Ethnic concentration and the educational achievement of second-generation immigrants. Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, Lehrstuhl für Volkswirtschaftslehre, Ingolstadt/Germany.

Cand. Psych. Andrea Gerður **Dofradóttir**: Factors affecting risk propensity. University of Iceland, Social Science Research Institute (SSRI), Reykjavik/Iceland.

Prof. Dr. Ludwig M. **Eichinger**: Soziale, ökonomische und psychologische Strukturen der Sprachverwendung und -nutzung in Deutschland. Institut für Deutsche Sprache, Mannheim/Germany.

Dr. Gregory **Eirich**: Do cohorts that graduate during a recession have higher job satisfaction? Columbia University, Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences, New York, NY/USA.

Prof. Ruben **Enikolopov**: Integration and assimilation of second-generation immigrants: The role of parents' time constraint for assimilation and human capital formation, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Department d'Economia i Empresa, Barcelona/Spain.

Prof. Juan J. **Fernández**: Europeanization and individual behavior. Universidad Carlos II de Madrid, Economics, Madrid/Spain.

Dr. Dirk **Fornahl**: Soziale Netzwerke von Gründerinnen und Gründern. Universität Bremen, Centre for Regional and Innovation Economics, Bremen/Germany.

Prof. Dr. Beat **Fux**: Inwiefern ist die Studienfachwahl von Individuen auf die soziale Herkunft und/oder

vermittelnden Variablen zurückzuführen. Universität Salzburg, Fachbereich Politikwissenschaft und Soziologie, Salzburg/Austria.

Prof. Dr. Ingrid **Gogolin**: Non-monetary returns to education in the form of social inclusion: Estimation and interdependence of private and social returns to education of migrants and non-migrants. Universität Hamburg, Interkulturell und International vergleichende Erziehungswissenschaft, Hamburg/Germany.

Prof. Dr. Art **Goldsmith**, PhD: Investigating German household sentiments on the influx of refugees and the associated social outcomes. Washington and Lee University, Economics, Lexington, VA/USA.

Dr. Bart **Golsteyn**: Stability of preference parameters and personality traits. Maastricht University, Department of Economics, Maastricht/The Netherlands.

Prof. Andrew **Greenlee**: Employment Networks in Berlin's Turkish Community. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL/USA.

Assistant Prof. Jesse M. **Gregory**: Multiple Migration and Phases of European Integration and Analyzing Changes in Migration Patterns and Job Market Outcomes of Migrants to Germany. University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI/USA.

Prof. Silja **Häusermann**: Years of Turmoil: The political consequences of the financial and economic crisis in Europe. University of Zurich, Department of Political Science, Zurich/Switzerland.

Prof. Niklas **Hanes**: Distributional effects of the Tax and Transfer System. Umeå University, Department of Economics, Umeå/Sweden.

Prof. Dr. André W. **Heinemann**: Fiskalische Kosten der Minijobs – Mindereinnahmen durch die Möglichkeit der Pauschalbesteuerung von geringfügiger Beschäftigung für das Land Bremen. Universität Bremen, Institut Arbeit und Wirtschaft, Bremen/Germany.

Prof. Marc **Henry**, PhD: The Effect of Unemployment Compensation on Unemployment Duration in Germany. The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Economics, Pennsylvania, PA/USA.

Prof. Dr. Falk **Hoffmann**: Unterschiede in der Morbiditäts- und Sozialstruktur verschiedener Krankenkassen. Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg, Fakultät VI für Medizin und Gesundheitswissenschaften, Oldenburg/Germany.

Dr. Thomas **van Huizen**: The effect of German child care subsidy on female labour participation. Utrecht University, School of Economics, Utrecht/The Netherlands.

Prof. Sumit **Joshi**: Income Convergence in East and West Germany after Unification. George Washington University, Department of Economics, Washington D.C./USA.

Dr. Ilpo **Kauppinen**: Determinants of preferences for redistribution. VATT Institute for Economic Research, Helsinki/Finland.

Sebastian **Königs**, PhD: Investing in Youth—Social, employment and educational policies for disadvantaged youth. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Paris, France.

Jun.- Prof. Moritz **Kuhn**: Real Wages, Total Compensation and their Distribution. Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, BGSE, Bonn/Germany.

Prof. Dr. Antonia **Kupfer**: Untersuchung von Determinanten einer Erwerbstätigkeit bzw. eines Erwerbsinteresses im Renten- und Seniorenalter. Technische Universität Dresden, Institut für Soziologie, Dresden/Germany.

Prof. Dr. Michael **Kvasnicka**: Integration of First- and Second-Generation Turkish Migrants in Germany. Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg, Fakultät für Wirtschaftswissenschaft, Magdeburg/Germany.

Prof. John **McLaren**: The effect of trade openness on labor demand shocks: can trade serve to mitigate adverse effects of migrant remittances? University of Virginia, Department of Economics, Charlottesville, VA/USA.

Prof. Henry M. **Levin**: Integrationsfähigkeit des deutschen Berufsbildungssystems: Ungleichheit beim Zugang im Verlauf beim Abschluss und der Verwertung beruflicher Ausbildung. Columbia University, Department of Education Policy and Social Analysis, New York, NY/USA.

Prof. Jiatao **Li**: Impact of socioeconomic status on personality, preferences and beliefs. Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong/China.

Dr. Simon **Loretz**: Auswirkung von Medienberichterstattung auf Meinungen. Institut für höhere Studien und wissenschaftliche Forschung, Makroökonomie und öffentliche Finanzen, Vienna/Austria.

Carlos **Martinez de Ibarreta Zorita**, PhD: La Economía de la Religión. La Influencia de la Religión en

el Éxito Laboral. Comillas Pontifical University of Madrid, Department of Quantitative Methods, Madrid/Spain.

Dr. Eric **Melse**: Exploratory and predictive power of non-cognitive measures for study success. Reference data analysis with the German Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP) from 2005 and 2009. Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (AUAS), Faculty of Economics and Management, Amsterdam/The Netherlands.

Prof. Dr. Jaime **Millán-Quijano**: The impact of flexible labour markets on individual's happiness. Universidad Carlos II de Madrid, Economics, Madrid/Spain.

Dr. Michael **Möcker**: Auswirkungen eines Mindestlohns. FernUniversität in Hagen, Lehrstuhl für Wirtschaftspolitik, Hagen/Germany.

Prof. Clara H. **Mulder**: Das Geburtenverhalten von Migranten in Deutschland. University of Groningen, Faculty of Spatial Sciences, Groningen/The Netherlands.

Assistant Prof. Suresh **Naidu**: Economic Mobility in Eastern Germany After Reunification in 1990. Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs, New York, NY/USA.

Dr. Julia **Neuhaus**: Bildungsrenditen. GoBS Hochschule und Verwaltungs- und Wirtschaftsakademie, Berlin/Germany.

Prof. Dr. Kathleen **Otto**: Belastungsfaktoren, Ressourcen und Beanspruchungen bei Soloselbstständigen und Mehrfachbeschäftigten. Philipps-Universität Marburg, Fachbereich für Psychologie, Arbeits- und Organisationspsychologie, Marburg/Germany.

Prof. Dr. Christian **Papsdorf**: Zeitliche Entgrenzung – Auswirkung ständiger Erreichbarkeit auf die Gesundheit. Technische Universität Chemnitz, Fakultät für Human- und Sozialwissenschaften, Chemnitz/Germany.

Dr. Daniel **Paravisini**: Impact of social ties on households and firms. London School of Economics and Political Science, LSE, London/UK.

Dr. Nicola **Pensiero**: The Changing Impact of Skills on Wage Inequality. University College London, Institute of Education, London/UK.

Dr. Nico **Pestel**: Effekte der lokalen Einkommensverteilung auf die öffentliche Bereitstellung von Kulturgütern durch Kommunen verschiedener Größenklassen in Deutschland. Universität zu Köln, Center for Macroeconomic Research, Cologne/Germany.

Prof. Marjon van der **Pol**: The intergenerational transmission of risk preference adopted vs. biological children. University of Aberdeen, Health Economics Research Unit, Aberdeen/UK.

Prof. Paola **Profeta**: Asymmetries in adult returns from alternative early education programs. Università Bocconi, Department of Policy Analysis, Milan/Italy.

Stig Hebbelstrup Rye **Rasmussen**, PhD: Personality, ideology and vote choice. University of Southern Denmark, Department of Political Science and Public Management, Odense/Denmark.

Dr. Merten **Reglitz**: Rawis und der deutsche Sozialstaat – soziale Gerechtigkeit als Status quo? Inwiefern weichen die Umverteilungsmechanismen in Deutschland von John Rawis' Idee eines egalitären Staates ab? Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Institut für Politikwissenschaft, Frankfurt a. Main/Germany.

Prof. Dr. Antje **Röder**: Sozio-kulturelle Integration von Personen mit Migrationshintergrund. Technische Universität Chemnitz, Institut für Soziologie, Chemnitz/Germany.

Prof. Ulrich **Rosar**: Lebensführung im Alterswandel. Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, Soziologie II, Dusseldorf/Germany.

Prof. Alessandra De **Rose**: Analysis of the relationship between fertility and labor market determinants during the recent economics recession. Sapienza University, Dep. of Methods and Model for Economics, Rome/Italy.

Prof. Davesh **Rustagi**: The cultural consequences of historical trade unions: Evidence from the German Hansa. Goethe Universität Frankfurt, Management and Microeconomics, Frankfurt a. Main/Germany.

Prof. Robert M. **Sauer**: Female Entrepreneurship. Royal Holloway University of London, Department of Economics, Egham/UK.

Prof. Pia **Schober**, PhD: Early childhood education and care, family processes and social inequalities. Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen, Institut für Soziologie, Tübingen/Germany.

Dr. Kilian **Seng**: Quantitative Methoden, Ökonometrie und Datenanalyse. Zeppelin Universität Friedrichshafen, Methoden-Center für Wirtschafts-, Kultur- und Sozialwissenschaften, Friedrichshafen/Germany.

Prof. Richard **Serpe**: The Gendered Social Sanctioning of Workplace Risk-Taking Behavior. Kent State University, Department of Sociology, Kent, OH/USA.

Prof. Frank **Skinner**: Unemployment, Consumption Smoothing and Precautionary Saving in EU Countries. Brunel University London, Economics and Finance, Uxbridge/UK.

Prof. Biagio **Speciale**: Immigration and Labor Market Outcomes. Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris School of Economics, Paris/France.

Prof. Dr. Ingmar **Steinhart**: Bewertung aktueller Entwicklungen der sozialpsychiatrischen Versorgung auf der Basis der UN-BRK und des Capabilities Approach – Teilprojekt: Lebenslagen von Menschen mit psychischer Erkrankung. Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Universität Greifswald, Institut für Sozialpsychiatrie MV e.V., Greifswald/Germany.

Prof. Dr. Rolf **Sternberg**: Hintergründe und Erfolgsfaktoren für Unternehmensgründungen durch Migrant\*innen in Deutschland. Leibniz Universität Hannover, Institut für Wirtschafts- und Kulturgeographie, Hannover/Germany.

Dr. Immanuel **Stieß**: Single-Family Homes under Pressure? Institut für sozial-ökologische Forschung (ISOE) gGmbH, Energie und Klimaschutz im Alltag, Frankfurt a. Main/Germany.

Prof. Dr. Stefan **Süß**: Arbeitszeitregelungen als Einflussfaktoren der Gratifikationskrise—within-person vs. between-person effects. Heinrich-Heine Universität Düsseldorf, Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Fakultät, Dusseldorf/Germany.

Davide **Suverato**, PhD: International Trade and Happiness: Are Imports a Substitute for Jobs We Do Not Like? Evidence from Germany. Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Wirtschaftspolitik, Munich/Germany.

Prof. Dr. Wiltrud **Terlau**: Ökonomisches Wachstum und Lebenszufriedenheit. Hochschule Bonn-Rhein-Sieg, Internationales Zentrum für Nachhaltige Entwicklung, Saint Augustin/Germany.

Dr. Anna **Torres**: Asymmetries in adult returns from alternative early education programs. Pompeu Fabra University, Economics & Business, Barcelona/Spain.

Prof. Dr. Heinrich W. **Ursprung**: Berechnung des bereinigten Gender Pay Gaps unter Berücksichtigung der Endogenitätsproblematik. Universität Konstanz, Fachbereich Wirtschaftswissenschaften, Konstanz/Germany.

Prof. Frank **Vandenbroucke**: The effect of family income and material deprivation on later-life outcomes.

KU Leuven, Centre for Economic Studies, Leuven/Belgium.

Prof. Dr. Maykel **Verkuyten**: Explaining ethnic minority women's labor force participation: the role of household composition, gender ideology, religiosity and the welfare state. University of Utrecht, Faculty of Social and Behavioural Science, Utrecht/The Netherlands.

Dr. Floris **Vermeulen**: The dynamic relationship of social identification and political participation: the case of Turkish immigrants' national-origin identification in Germany. University of Amsterdam, Political Science Department, Amsterdam/The Netherlands.

Dr. Sergi **Vidal**: Family Migration and Gender Inequality in Cross-National Comparative Perspective. The University of Queensland, Institute for Social Science Research, Queensland/Australia.

Ramona **Voshage**: Kooperationsprojekt: Datenschutzrechtliche Abschätzung von Datenfusionsverfahren mit FAST und SOEP. Forschungsdatenzentrum der Statistischen Ämter der Länder, Berlin/Germany.

Prof. Dr. Mu-Chun **Wang**: Lohnunterschiede zwischen den Geschlechtern. Universität Hamburg, Fachbereich Volkswirtschaftslehre, Hamburg/Germany.

Dr. Jie **Wei**: Local GMM estimation of panel count data. Singapore Management University, School of Economics, Singapur/Republic of Singapore.

Prof. Dr. Friederike **Welter**: Tacit Knowledge Transfer. Universität Siegen, Lehrstuhl für Management kleiner und mittlerer Unternehmen & Entrepreneurship, Siegen/Germany.

Dorota **Weziak-Bialowolska**, PhD: Attendance of cultural events and involvement with the arts—impact evaluation on health and well-being. European Commission Italy, Joint Research Centre Ispra, Ispra/Italy.

Dr. Niklas Im **Winkel**: Analyse der sozialen Selektivität bei der Beteiligung an Bundestagswahlen/ Herabsetzung des Wahlalters auf 16 Jahre. Bertelsmann Stiftung, Zukunft der Demokratie, Gütersloh/Germany.

Prof. Peter **Winker**: Nicht-monetäre Bildungserträge in Form sozialer Einbindung: Schätzung und Zusammenspiel privater und gesellschaftlicher Bildungserträge von Menschen mit und ohne Migrationshintergrund. Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen, Professur für Statistik und Ökonomie, Giessen/Germany.

Prof. James **Witte**, PhD: Risk Taking Behavior among Immigrants and Non-Immigrants. George Mason University, Center for Social Science Research, Fairfax, VA/USA.

Prof. Dr. Qingjie **Xia**: Comparison of German and Chinese Industrial Apprenticeship. Peking University, School of Economics, Beijing/China.

## SOEP publications

### Recently published

#### Proceedings of the SOEP 2014 Conference

The Proceedings of the 11th International Socio-Economic Panel User Conference (SOEP 2014) has been published recently in Schmollers Jahrbuch, Vol. 135 (2015 (<http://ejournals.duncker-humboldt.de/toc/schm/135/1>)).

The editors of the volume—Marco **Giesselmann**, Carsten **Schröder**, Johannes **Giesecke**, John **Haisken-DeNew**, Anika **Rasner** and Jule **Specht**, who also served as the conference's scientific committee—emphasize the importance of panel data in the social sciences and the special significance of the SOEP in this context. Their editorial begins with a brief overview of the conference and the awards presented there, followed by a summary of the conference papers. They note that the proceedings volume offers three types of longitudinal analyses: a) within-designs that allow for controlling unobserved heterogeneity; b) designs with longitudinal conceptualizations of the dependent or independent variable; and c) models that use information from different time-points of the life-course to construct the sample or to measure a delayed impact of the independent variable. Furthermore, there are designs that do not use the longitudinal aspect of the SOEP, but rather some other genuine features of the data. This offers a good overview on the variety of research designs that can be realized with the data. It explicitly shows that the merits of the SOEP go beyond longitudinal research designs, as other features of the data (like the household design, added experiments and extensive economic measures) constitute unique empirical sources for original research.

In three papers, the longitudinal SOEP data are used to control for unobserved heterogeneity: The paper by **Ehlert** uses a Difference-in-Difference (DID) approach to measure the impact of the part-

ner's activity status on individual labor earnings. Similarly, **Icardi** uses the DID technique to measure the impact of workplace training on wages, while **Bozoyan/Wolbring** study the connection between body height and earnings by applying a random effects approach, also using cross-sectional covariation. The other papers utilize other advantages of longitudinal data, for instance to measure patterns of consecutive observations of life-satisfaction (**Headey/Muffels**) and to perform a discrete life-history analysis (**Vandecasteele/Esche**). The papers by **Sohn et al.** on conditional income distributions and by **Kern** using regional context variables to explain the effects of individual behavior on mobility use the SOEP not as panel data but instead for the very detailed snapshots of the demographic and economic composition of the German population at specific points in time since 1984.

Due to the change of focus of Schmollers Jahrbuch, it will no longer be publishing the proceedings of future SOEP conferences.

## Journal publication

### An Active Social Life Associated With Well-Being in Life

**Social participation and social goals – even in the face of health decrements – may ease well-being decline late in life, study says**

Staying active socially despite health-related challenges appears to help lessen the decline in well-being people often experience late in life, according to research published in the journal *Psychology and Aging*.

“Our results indicate that living a socially active life and prioritizing social goals are associated with higher late-life satisfaction and less severe declines toward the end of life,” said study lead author Denis **Gerstorff**, of Humboldt Universität zu Berlin.

**Gerstorff** and his colleagues analyzed data from over 2,900 now deceased participants in the SOEP (48 percent women, average age at death 74). In this study, the researchers compared well-being (as measured by answers on a scale of 0 to ten to the question, “How satisfied are you with your life concurrently, all things considered?”), participation in social activities, social goals (how important they found participating in social or political activities) and family goals (how much they valued their marriage or relationships with their children) during the last few years in life.

The research team, including scholars from Arizona State University, Cornell University, Pennsylvania State University and the University of British Columbia, found that being socially active and having social goals were associated with higher well-being late in life, but family goals were not. This association was independent of other relevant variables including age at death, gender, education as well as key health indicators (e.g., disability, hospital stays).

One particularly intriguing observation was that while low social participation and lack of social goals independently were associated with lower levels of well-being, when combined they each magnified the other's effect.

Valuing and pursuing social goals may contribute to well-being by boosting feelings of competence, concern for the next generation and belonging, said Gerstorff. Similarly, investing one's remaining physical and psychological resources into socially oriented activities can be advantageous at a number of different levels (e.g., boosting well-being directly by carrying out joyful activities or indirectly by facilitating self-esteem and a sense of control or promoting physical and cognitive functioning).

“A socially engaged lifestyle often involves cognitive stimulation and physical activity, which in turn may protect against the neurological and physical factors underlying cognitive decline,” said Gert **Wagner** from the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin), one of the co-authors. “Our results indicate that social orientation is related to maintaining well-being for as long as possible into the very last years of life.”

As to why family-oriented goals did not appear to lessen the decline in well-being, Gerstorff said it may have to do with the complexity of family relationships later in life, but more research would be required to determine it.

“Family life is often a mixed bag and represents not only a source of joy, but also of worry and tensions, stress and sorrow. For example, valuing one's partner often makes people vulnerable to declines in well-being when the partner suffers from cognitive or physical limitations,” said Gerstorff. “Similarly, relationships with adult children can be ambivalent, especially when children differ in values and have not attained (in the eyes of their parents) educational and interpersonal success.”

Article: “Terminal Decline in Well-Being: The Role of Social Orientation,” by Denis **Gerstorff**, Chris-

tiane **Hoppmann**, Corinna **Löckenhoff**, Frank **Infurna**, Jürgen **Schupp**, Gert G. **Wagner**, and Nilam **Ram**, *Psychology and Aging*, published online March 7, 2016. doi: [10.1037/pag0000072](https://doi.org/10.1037/pag0000072) (also: SOEPPaper 821. Berlin: DIW Berlin)

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The DIW Berlin Board of Trustees has appointed the SOEP Survey Committee. The nine members, all renowned international scholars, provide advice on the further development of the SOEPsurvey as well as SOEPservice. We are very grateful that this impressive group of researchers is willing to help us with the enhancement of SOEP.

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**Upcoming Conferences/Workshops 2016**

<b>June 15–18, 2016</b>	2016 ESPE Annual Conference
<b>June 20–21, 2016</b>	Panel Survey Methods Workshop 2016
<b>June 22–23, 2016</b>	SOEP 2016 – 12th International German Socio-Economic Panel User Conference 2016
<b>June 22–24, 2016</b>	SOEPcampus@Ann Arbor Longitudinal Data Management and Life Course Design with the German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) study

Impressum

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**DIW SOEP**  
team

SOEPteam (from top left):

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# 2016 German Stata Users Group meeting

<b>Date:</b>	<b>June 10, 2016</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>GESIS Cologne/University of Cologne</b>
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>TBA</b>
<b>Submission deadline:</b>	<b>March 1, 2016</b>

## Call for Presentations

We would like to announce the 14th German Stata Users Group meeting to be held Friday, June 10, 2016 at:

GESIS Cologne (Conference Room Ost)  
Unter Sachsenhausen 6-8  
50667 Köln (Cologne)

All Stata users, from Germany and elsewhere, or those interested in learning about Stata, are invited to attend.

Presentations are sought on topics that include the following:

- User-written Stata programs
- Case studies of research or teaching using Stata
- Discussions of data management problems
- Reviews of analytic issues
- Surveys or critiques of Stata facilities in specific fields, etc.

The conference language will be English, due to the international nature of the meeting and the participation of non-German guest speakers.

## Submission guidelines

If you are interested in giving a presentation, please submit an abstract by email to one of the scientific organizers (max 200 words). The deadline for submissions is **March 1, 2016**. Presentations should be 20 minutes or shorter.

## Registration

Participants are asked to travel at their own expense. There will be a small conference fee to cover costs for refreshments and lunch. There will also be an optional informal meal at a restaurant in Cologne on Friday evening at additional cost.

You can enroll by contacting Christiane Senczek by email or by writing or phoning.

Christiane Senczek

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The final program, cost, and venue will be circulated in April 2016.

## **Organizers**

### **Scientific Organizers**

- Johannes Giesecke  
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### **Logistics Organizer**

Dittrich & Partner Consulting GmbH ([dpc.de](http://dpc.de)), the distributor of Stata in several countries, including Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, the Czech Republic, and Hungary.

## **TwinLife – A genetically informative, longitudinal study on the development of social inequality**

### **Data workshop June 21, 2016 @ DIW Berlin**

#### **Background**

TwinLife is a longitudinal twin family study to investigate the development of social inequalities across the life course. Data collection of the long-term project began in 2014 with the survey of more than 4,000 pairs of twins and their families. To capture important life transitions and developmental trajectories (i.e. school enrollment, job entry) a cohort sequential design was established in combination with an Extended Twin Family Design (ETFD), encompassing four cohorts of twins (5, 11, 17, and 23 years of age at the first measurement occasion). In addition their biological and step parents, and, if applicable, one sibling, as well as partners of the older twins were surveyed. All twin families will be assessed on an annual basis comprising an extensive face-to-face home interview and a shorter telephone interview in the following year. TwinLife offers a database to study the role of social and genetic mechanisms as well as their interplay over the life course. We focus on social inequalities in six important areas of life: 1) Education and academic performance 2) career and labor market attainment 3) integration and participation in social, cultural and political life 4) quality of life and perceived capabilities 5) physical and psychological health and 6) behavioral issues and deviant behavior. As of summer 2016 the first half of the first wave of the TwinLife data will be available for the scientific community.

#### **Workshop program**

Within the first half of the workshop we provide an overview about the scope and the study design of TwinLife. The second part of the workshop comprises a hands-on introduction into the basic concepts of genetically sensitive research and behavior genetics by means of selected examples of how behavior genetic research can be used in an interdisciplinary context. Applying practical exercises, specific models are introduced, implemented and discussed employing the data of the first wave of TwinLife to give participants the opportunity to get in touch with the data set.

#### **Location & registration**

The workshop takes places at the DIW Berlin. Please register by May 13 by sending a mail to [info@twin-life.de](mailto:info@twin-life.de). Please provide your name, affiliation, research interests. The workshop is free of charge but you will need to arrange your own travel and accommodation. We have a very limited number of bursaries that we can offer to without other means of funding. To apply please send a letter with information on your current status of employment and funding situation.

**Program**

10:00 – 11:00 Uhr

**Session 1**

The TwinLife study: design, survey program and content

11:00 – 11:15 Uhr

**Coffee break**

11:15 – 12:45 Uhr

**Session 2**

How to get started: access to the TwinLife data, introduction to data structure, instruments

12:45 – 13.45 Uhr

**Lunch break**

13:45 – 15:30 Uhr

**Session 3**

By way of example: introduction into genetically informed research &amp; behavioral genetics applications

15:30 – 15:45 Uhr

**Coffee break**

15:45 – 17:30 Uhr

**Session 4**

Hands on: practical exercises with the TwinLife Data

## European Data Watch wird Data Observer: Wechsel zu Jahrbüchern für Nationalökonomie und Statistik

Pressemitteilung, 23.02.2016

**Seit dem 01.01.2016 wird „European Data Watch“ als „Data Observer“ im Rahmen der „Jahrbücher für Nationalökonomie und Statistik“ (Journal of Economics and Statistics) fortgeführt; die erste Ausgabe des Jahrgangs 2016 ist nun verfügbar. Der Rat für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsdaten (RatSWD) gibt damit sein langjähriges Engagement für eine adäquate Beschreibung der stetig wachsenden und international einzigartigen Dateninfrastruktur in neue Hände. Der RatSWD ist erfreut, dass der „Data Observer“ weiterhin im Open Access veröffentlicht wird und dadurch auch zukünftige Artikel frei zugänglich sein werden.**

Seit dem 01. Januar 2016 wird der „Data Observer“ von den „Jahrbüchern für Nationalökonomie und Statistik“ betreut. Die früher unter „European Data Watch“ in „Schmollers Jahrbuch“ laufende Reihe bleibt unter der bewährten Herausgeberschaft von Prof. Dr. Joachim Wagner (Leuphana Universität Lüneburg) und erscheint in Zukunft unter dem Titel „Data Observer“ bei einer der ältesten wirtschaftswissenschaftlichen Fachzeitschriften der Welt, den „Jahrbüchern für Nationalökonomie und Statistik“ (Journal of Economics and Statistics). Da diese im Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) und in der Zitationsdatenbank Scopus gelistet sind, erfährt die Beschreibung der deutschen Dateninfrastruktur eine Aufwertung. Dies ist vor dem Hintergrund ihrer Entwicklung und internationalen Bedeutung angemessen.

Die „Jahrbücher für Nationalökonomie und Statistik“ veröffentlichen Beiträge in deutscher und englischer Sprache aus allen Bereichen der Ökonomie und angewandten Statistik. Ein Schwerpunkt liegt dabei auf Arbeiten, die theoretische Ansätze mit empirischer Analyse verbinden und wirtschaftspolitisch relevante Schlussfolgerungen erlauben. Eine Besonderheit der „Jahrbücher“ liegt darin, dass Autorinnen und Autoren ihre Daten in einem Archiv hinterlegen und die Zeitschrift explizit zu Replikationsstudien einlädt.

In der Rubrik „Data Observer“ erscheinen Beiträge zu Datensätzen, die für empirische Studien in Forschung und Lehre zur Verfügung stehen. In der ersten Ausgabe stellt Thomas Rahlf (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) den "Zeitreihendatensatz für Deutschland 1834-2012" vor. Ferner werden beispielhaft Untersuchungen präsentiert, die mit den Datensätzen durchgeführt wurden, und es werden detaillierte Informationen zum Datenzugang gegeben. In diesem Zusammenhang werden Forschungsdatenzentren und Datenservicezentren vorgestellt, in denen Wissenschaftlerinnen und Wissenschaftler mit vertraulichen Daten über Individuen, Haushalten und Firmen arbeiten können. Die Beiträge der „Data Observer“-Reihe werden unter [www.jbnst.de/de/data-observer.php](http://www.jbnst.de/de/data-observer.php) kostenlos bereitgestellt.

Weitere Informationen zu den „Jahrbüchern für Nationalökonomie und Statistik“ finden sich auf der Homepage: [www.jbnst.de/de/](http://www.jbnst.de/de/)

#### **Der Rat für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsdaten (RatSWD)**

ist ein unabhängiges Gremium von empirisch arbeitenden Wissenschaftlerinnen und Wissenschaftlern aus Universitäten, Hochschulen und anderen Einrichtungen unabhängiger wissenschaftlicher Forschung sowie von Vertreterinnen und Vertretern wichtiger Datenproduzenten. Er wurde 2004 vom Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung eingerichtet mit der Zielsetzung die Forschungsdateninfrastruktur für die empirische Forschung nachhaltig zu verbessern und somit zu ihrer internationalen Wettbewerbsfähigkeit beizutragen.



#### **Weitere Informationen**

Pressemitteilung auf  
idw

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