

SOEPnewsletter

Main Tool for Informing SOEP Users about New Developments on a Regular Basis

Published quarterly since 1985, relaunched in 2008

Four main sections provide readers a quick overview of the main issues

“German Section”

Relevant for users in Germany and/or German-speaking users (written in German)

- Conferences, workshops, and other events, as well as publications in German
- Special focus on SOEPCampus teaching series.

All other sections are written in English and are equally relevant to German and international users.

“Data&Service”

Crucial for all SOEP users

- New SOEP data releases
 - SOEP data corrections
 - Survey developments
 - New service features
 - News from Cornell University
- Our partner in the USA provides information on new releases of the SOEP international scientific use file and the Cross-National Equivalent File (CNEF) and any changes that have been made in these data.

“Events&Activities”

Presenting and networking

- International SOEP User conference
- SOEPCampus series in English
- Other special SOEP events
- SOEP-related conferences, workshops, public seminars, etc. and calls for papers

“People&Papers”

SOEP staff and SOEP network

- New positions, honors, lectures, teaching activities, etc.
- Researchers visiting the SOEP department
- References to new SOEP publications
- List of new SOEP data users
- List of DIW/SOEP research professors and affiliates as well as our contacts at the fieldwork organization
- List of all the SOEP staff members with their research fields, email addresses, and phone numbers

The **last page** of the SOEPnewsletter is reserved for special announcements. The **appendix** provides space for job offers, conference flyers, calls for papers from outside institutions, meeting announcements, SOEP data order forms, etc.

SOEPnewsletter – an instrument for enhancing networking and exchange

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Data & Service Events & Activities People & Papers Staff / Affiliates www.diw.de/SOEPnewsletter

SOEPnewsletter



Photo: Alfred Gatzke, DIW Berlin

Dear Colleagues:

We are always interested in improving our service for you—our data users. Our most recent effort is a special service designed to assist you in using the SOEP as a reference data set. This SOEPnewsletter includes a list of core SOEP topics that we recommend researchers consider when collecting their own data. Please contact us if you are interested in using this new service!

Furthermore, our expanded range of services now includes numerous workshops on the use of the SOEP data, some of which are adapted to the interests of users in specialized disciplines such as psychology. The workshops are coordinated by Henning Lohmann of the SOEP survey group at DIW Berlin. In this SOEPnewsletter, we report briefly on past workshops and describe new opportunities for utilizing the potential of the SOEP data. We also announce an upcoming workshop organized by our partner in the USA to introduce international researchers to the German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) and the Cross-National Equivalent Files (CNEF) at Cornell University/USA on September 10–12, 2009.

For all our users outside Germany and all those who want to use the CNEF, this SOEPnewsletter contains detailed information on how to obtain these datasets. Please keep in mind that the data in the CNEF have been prepared for international comparison, which facilitates analysis considerably.

At present, the SOEP-team is preparing “SOEP Anniversary” Wave 25 for distribution (1984–2008). Extensive work is required to edit the data due to the numerous planned changes and extensions of user friendly generated variables—to cite just a few, an update of the weighting procedure, complete revision of the domicile-related variables in the wave-specific SHGEN files, and the introduction of a new “mother & child” file (for children five and six years old). The data distribution is scheduled for late fall 2009.

As you know, the SOEP is constantly being developed, improved, and adapted to the demands of a contemporary longitudinal survey. On this topic, we would like to again call your attention to SOEPpaper Nr. 155: “Developing the SOEPsurvey and SOEPservice: The (Near) Future of the German Socio-Economic Panel Study (SOEP).” It describes our plans and broader ideas for the future development of SOEP. Please share your own ideas and suggestions with us! In fall 2009, the SOEP Survey Committee will meet for the first time to discuss the further development of SOEP.

Last but not least: The sociological program of DIW Berlin’s “Graduate Center for Economic and Social Research” is being reinforced. We encourage outstanding graduates with “SOEP experience” in the social and behavioral sciences (as well as in economics) to apply. Please note: the incoming deadline for applications is April 15, 2009.

With best regards,

Elke Holst | Editor



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SOEPnewsletter

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We announce each new SOEPnewsletter to the SOEP community via the SOEP and Cornell listservers.