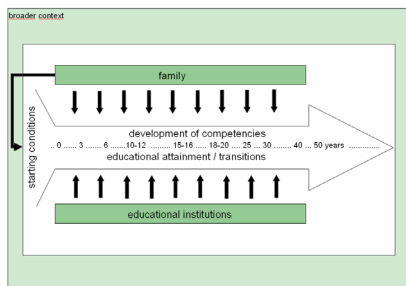


Longitudinal Data on Education in the German Socio-Economic Panel

Educational processes in a longitudinal perspective

A long-running household panel survey like the GSOEP offers distinct analytical potentials. However, being a multi-topic survey it cannot cover educational processes in a most encompassing perspective.



Strengths and weaknesses of a long-running household panel study

- prospective measurement over an increasingly long period of lifetime
- increasing number of observations which allows for cohort comparisons
- full coverage of household context in a longitudinal perspective including the situation at the time of birth or even before
- encompassing information on the household but few data on institutional contexts like schools
- inclusion of measures of competencies just started in recent years which cover subsamples only

What is observed in the GSOEP?

- *educational attainment and educational transitions*: prospective data on respondents and children in panel households
- *family*: information on children, parents and often grandparents in a longitudinal perspective (intergenerational analysis)
- *development of competencies*: new instruments implemented in recent years (see below)
- *educational institutions*: little information provided by respondents
- *broader context*: temporal and regional variation of socio-economic conditions

25 years of data collection: core topics and recent developments

Observing educational attainment since 1984

- basic information on all children (< 17 years) in panel households
- additional information on children in panel households born since 2002
- broad information on adult respondents

Topics covered:

- child care
- school attainment
- vocational education
- tertiary education
- further training

Following new-born children in panel households since 2003

- starting with the birth cohort 2002 mother-child questionnaires have been introduced (topics: pregnancy and birth, child care, child development and health, activities, changes in mother's life)



- data available for two points in time (0-1 and 2-3 years), collection of data for 5-6 years olds started in 2008

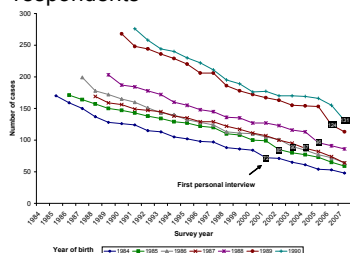
Measuring cognitive potentials of adults and 17 years olds since 2006

- starting in 2006 tests on cognitive potentials have been carried out with about 17 years olds and a subsample of the adult panel population
- 30-minute test IST 2000R covering each youth cohort since 2006
 - verbal reasoning
 - numerical reasoning
 - figural reasoning (data will be available in 2009)
- short test with adult CAPI-sample in 2006, data set COGNIT06 available in 2008

Number of observations and recent SOEP-based studies

The "golden" cohorts

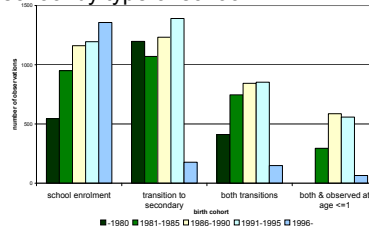
- more than 500 children born in panel households have grown into the age of respondents



- children who grew up in a panel household are interviewed at age 17 with the youth questionnaire on childhood and youth including schooling (since 2000)

Educational transitions

- increasing number of observed school enrolments and transitions to secondary school by type of school



- about 1.000 observations per cohort by pooling of observations per five years (school enrolment, transition to secondary school)

Recent studies (selected SOEPpapers)

Marek Fuchs, Michaela Sixt (2008): Die Bildungschancen von Aussiedlerkindern. SOEPpapers No. 105
 Jens Kratzmann, Thorsten Schneider (2008): Soziale Ungleichheiten beim Schulstart: Empirische Untersuchungen zur Bedeutung der sozialen Herkunft und des Kindergartenbesuchs auf den Zeitpunkt der Einschulung. SOEPpapers No. 100
 John Cawley, C. Katharina Spiels (2008): Obesity and Developmental Functioning Among Children Aged 2-4 Years. SOEPpapers No. 97
 Katja Coneus, Kathrin Göggele, Grit Muehler (2007): Determinants of Child Care Participation. SOEPpapers No. 72
 Thomas Cornelissen, Christian Pfeiffer (2007): The Impact of Participation in Sports on Educational Attainment: New Evidence from Germany. SOEPpapers No. 68
 Michaela Sixt (2007): Die strukturelle und individuelle Dimension bei der Erklärung von regionaler Bildungsungleichheit. SOEPpapers No. 66
 Sarah Borghloh, Frank Kupferschmidt, Berthold U. Wigger (2007): Verteilungseffekte der öffentlichen Finanzierung der Hochschulbildung in Deutschland: eine Längsschnittbetrachtung auf der Basis des Sozio-ökonomischen Panels. SOEPpapers No. 42
 Marcus Tamm (2007): Does Money Buy Higher Schooling?: Evidence from Secondary School Track Choice in Germany. SOEPpapers No. 41
 Katja Coneus, Friedhelm Pfeiffer (2007): Self-Productivity in Early Childhood. SOEPpapers No. 39
 Guido Heinicke, Regina T. Riphahn (2007): Intergenerational Transmission of Educational Attainment in Germany: The Last Five Decades. SOEPpapers No. 37
 Oliver Busch (2007): Where Have All the Graduates Gone?: Internal Cross-State Migration of Graduates in Germany 1984-2004. SOEPpapers No. 26
 Michael Gebel, Friedhelm Pfeiffer (2007): Educational Expansion and Its Heterogeneous Returns for Wage Workers. SOEPpapers No. 13
 Kathrin Göggele (2007): Sinkende Bildungsrenditen durch Bildungsreformen?: Evidenz aus Mikrozensus und SOEP. SOEPpapers No. 11
 Charlotte Büchner, C. Katharina Spiels (2007): Die Dauer vorschulischer Betreuung und Bildungserfahrungen: Ergebnisse auf der Basis von Paneldaten. SOEPpapers No. 10

Overview and additional information:
 Henning Lohmann, C. Katharina Spiels, Olaf Grotz-Samberg, Jürgen Schupp (2008): Analysepotenziale des Sozio-Ökonomischen Panels (SOEP) für die empirische Bildungsforschung [Analytic Potentials of the German Socio-Economic Panel (GSOEP) for Empirical Educational Research]. SOEPpaper on Multidisciplinary Panel Data Research at DIW Berlin (in German only).