

## **CESSDA SURVEY OF NATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL STATISTICAL DATA PRODUCERS**

### **Background information**

This survey is being administered by the Council of European Social Science Data Archives (CESSDA), within the framework of a project supported by the European Commission as part of the ongoing preparatory phase for European Research Infrastructures. The questionnaire aims to gather information on conditions and methods of access to governmental statistical data for scientific research purposes, and on existing barriers to access for researchers, with particular emphasis on microdata. CESSDA will present some results of this study at the forthcoming Eurostat workshop on Microdata Access.

Your co-operation in answering the questionnaire will enable CESSDA to gather information about access arrangements and barriers to access, from the viewpoint of governmental statistical data producers across Europe. Your feedback will provide valuable insight to assess the needs and expectations of all stakeholders.

For further information on CESSDA and the ongoing project, please see <http://www.cessda.org/ppp.html>.

### **Instructions for completing the survey:**

The questionnaire consists of three parts. Section I identifies the respondent organisation and its main characteristics. Section II is about access to microdata, and section III focuses on respondents' policy orientations. If your organisation does not provide any form of access to its microdata, please complete Sections I and III. If at least some of your organisation's microdata are accessible for research purposes, in whatever form or mode, please complete all sections of the survey.

This survey has been made available to you both as a Word document and in pdf format. An equivalent on-line version is available at:

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=YByykCq31w7FEvX7vhxhKA\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=YByykCq31w7FEvX7vhxhKA_3d_3d).

Please feel free to choose the option that you feel is most suitable for your needs.

Thank you very much for your anticipated cooperation.

**I. INTRODUCTION**

This section identifies the respondent organisation and the person responsible for completing the questionnaire. It also includes some general questions aiming to ascertain the respondent organisation’s main data-producing and data-distributing activities.

1. Please indicate the official name, mailing address and web site of the organisation (National Statistical Institute, Governmental Agency, Ministry, State Department, etc.) on behalf of which you are responding to this survey.

- Official name:...
- Street address:...
- City/Town:...
- State/County:...
- ZIP/Postal code:...
- Country:...
- Web site:...

2. Please provide contact information for the person responsible for completing the questionnaire:

- Name:...
- Department/Direction:...
- Position/Title:...
- Phone number:...
- Fax number:...
- E-mail:...

3. Please list the types of microdata that your organisation produces.

- Population Census or Population Register
- Household Surveys (e.g. Labour Force Survey, Household Income or Household Expenditure Surveys, Household Panel Surveys, Youth Cohort or Education Longitudinal Studies, etc.)
- Individual Data from administrative registries (e.g. health data, social and welfare schemes)
- Surveys/Census of Businesses, or Business Register data
- Other economic and financial data (e.g. fiscal data)
- Other (please specify below)

Please provide details of other microdata that your organisation produces:

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4. Does your organisation distinguish different categories of data users?

- Yes

No

5. If yes, do scientific researchers constitute a separate category?

Yes

No

6. At present, does your organisation provide access to part of its microdata files to researchers (whether directly, or indirectly through a third party distributor such as a higher education or research institution, or a data archive)?

Yes

No

If some form of access is possible, please go to section II, then section III.

If no access, please go to section III.

## II. ORGANISATIONS GIVING ACCESS TO DATA (WHETHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY)

This section is about access to microdata for scientific researchers. Respondent organisations that offer some forms of access to part of their data, whether directly or indirectly, whether through the internet or by other means, are invited to answer.

7. At present, what modes of access to microdata does your organisation make available for researchers?  
(More than one answer allowed)

	No access	Public use files	Scientific use files	Extracts (subsets)	Public tabulations	Special (bespoke) tabulations	Secure remote access (with access to data)	Secure remote access (remote execution, no access to data)	On-site access through safe centres
Population Census or Population Register									
Household Surveys									
Individual Data from administrative registries									
Surveys/Census of Businesses or Business Register data									
Other economic and financial data									
Other									

8. Does your organisation merge data from different sources?

- Yes
- No

Additional comments are welcome

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9. If yes, does your organisation ever merge any datasets upon request by researchers?

- Yes
- No

Additional comments are welcome

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10. If your organisation does merge data from different sources, does it ever merge any datasets for use at on-site safe centres and/or secure remote access facilities?

- Yes
- No

Additional comments are welcome

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11. Does your organisation use tools for statistical disclosure control and data anonymisation?

- Yes
- No

If yes, could you please indicate which ones?

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12. For each available mode of access, does your organisation provide access directly (whether on its premises or remotely through the internet), or indirectly through a third party distributor (such as a higher education or research institution distributing data to affiliated members, or a data archive that distributes data to researchers nationally)? (More than one answer allowed)

	Access granted directly by the producer through the internet	Access granted directly by the producer in other form (on-site, mail)	Access from a higher education or research institution	Access from a data archive
Public use files				
Scientific use files				

Extracts (subsets)				
Public tabulations				
Special (bespoke) tabulations				
Secure remote access (with access to data)				
Secure remote access (remote execution, with no access to data)				
On-site access through safe centres				

If there is a data archive, please indicate its name and include a URL, where it exists. Additional comments on any of the above are welcome.

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13. For each mode of access, are there any charges for the use of data, and by whom are they paid?  
(More than one answer allowed)

	Free of charge	Fees paid by end users	Charges are paid by a higher education or research institution, for all affiliated members	Charges are paid by a data archive or a National Research Council, for the whole scientific community
Public use files				
Scientific use files				
Extracts (subsets)				
Public tabulations				
Specific (bespoke) tabulations				
Secure remote access (with access to data)				
Secure remote access (remote execution, with no access to data)				
On-site access through safe centres				

14. If there are charges for the use of data, please indicate the reasons why they are due (e.g. royalties for intellectual property rights, charges for data preparation, for data delivery, etc.):

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15. If there are charges, please indicate how they are determined:  
(More than one answer allowed)

- Dependent upon legal framework
- Pre-specified by agreement with governmental bodies
- Pre-specified by agreement with higher education or research institutions
- Pre-specified by agreement with data archive
- Determined on a case-by-case basis
- No charges due
- Other criteria (please specify below)

Please specify other criteria. Additional comments on any of the above are welcome.

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16. For each mode of access, who determines the criteria for the accreditation of researchers?

	Your organisation	Your organisation, after taking advice from a Scientific Committee (or other independent body)	Third- party distributor (higher education or research institution)	Data archive
Public use files				
Scientific use files				
Extracts (subsets)				
Public tabulations				
Specific (bespoke) tabulations				
Secure remote access (with access to data)				
Secure remote access (remote execution, with no access to data)				
On-site access through safe centres				

Please add comments on any of the above, if needed:

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17. If your organisation is directly responsible for researchers' accreditation, on which criteria are its decisions based?  
(More than one answer allowed)

- Affiliation of researcher to recognized higher education or research institutions
- Evaluation of research project
- Other (please specify below)

Please specify other criteria:

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18. Does your organisation grant access to any of the following potential users?

	No access	Access restricted to some types of data files	Additional requirements for access
Students			
Foreign researchers, residents of EU countries (or countries recognized by the EU for data protection)			
Foreign researchers, residents of non-EU countries			

Additional comments are welcome:

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19. Regarding foreign researchers, do you believe that accreditation through members of a recognized network of European data archives would facilitate their access?

- Yes
- No

20. If your organisation defines the main contents of end user licence agreements (regardless of modes of access), please indicate whether licence conditions mainly depend on:  
(More than one answer allowed)



- The legal framework (including both the statistical law and the privacy protection law)
- Your organisation's internal regulations or policies
- An administrative authority or regulator (other than the data producer)
- Agreement with the higher education or research organisation, or the data archive that is responsible for researchers' accreditation
- Does not apply
- Other (please specify below)

Please specify "Other":

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21. If contents of end user licences are mainly due to the legal framework, imposed by an administrative authority, or determined by your organisation's internal regulations, please indicate which of the following conditions are included:  
(More than one answer allowed)

- Data can be used only for one approved research purpose
- Data must be destroyed when research is complete
- Research results must be submitted before publication
- Copies of publications must be provided
- Does not apply
- Other (please specify below)

Please list other conditions:

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22. If your organisation administers end user licences, please indicate whether it has one or more type of licence:

- One type
- More than one (please specify below)
- Does not apply

Please specify how many:

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23. If your organisation currently uses model licences, would you be prepared to make copies available to inform the work of the CESSDA Research Infrastructure?

If yes, please provide website links to these documents, or send electronic copies to the Project Administrator, Beck Pitt (repitt@essex.ac.uk). .....

### III. ALL RESPONDENT ORGANISATIONS

This section is about existing difficulties in providing access to microdata for scientific research, policy orientations concerning relationships with third party distributors, as well as research (and assimilated) activities carried out by the respondent organisation or by parts of it. All respondent organisations are invited to complete this section, whether they provide access to their microdata or not.

24. Can you give examples of microdata produced by your organisation that are in demand by researchers, but cannot be distributed? In such cases, what are the main constraints that prevent your organisation from giving access to such data (e.g. legal restrictions; privacy protection and confidentiality concerns; costs incurred in order to prepare data, etc.)?

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25. Whether or not your organisation already has an agreement with a data archive for distribution of its microdata, do you believe that such an agreement benefits/would benefit your organisation in its dissemination activities?

- Yes
- No

26. If your organisation does not currently have an agreement with a data archive, is it currently negotiating one or planning to have one in future?

- Yes, negotiations are ongoing
- Yes, it is planning to have an agreement with a data archive in future
- Perhaps, in the more distant future
- Prefer not to answer
- Don't know
- No

If no, could you please briefly explain why?

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27. Does your organisation have a research department, or a research mission?

- Yes
- No

28. Even if your organisation does not have a research department or a research mission, are there any staff members who use data to the purpose of realizing expertise reports, scientific publications or public policy evaluation?

- Yes

No

29. Does your organisation ever engage researchers as temporary staff members?

- Yes
- No

30. Please use this space to comment on aspects of access to official microdata for research purposes in your country, that you feel were not covered in this questionnaire.

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**THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME.**