UNECE

Case study for *Road Map on Statistics for SDGs 2.0*
France: Using panels for longitudinality

Description

The permanent demographic sample (EDP) is a large-scale panel of individuals managed by the French National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE) since 1967 which consists of following the geographic, professional and family trajectories of individuals born on certain days of the year through various statistical sources. EDP currently offers trajectories for more than 3 million people. For part of the sample, follow-up extends over a period of 45 years. Historically, EDP was first of all a "panellisation[1]" of the census and civil status. Recently, EDP has been enriched with information from the electoral register and the "all employees" panel also managed by INSEE. Since the 2014 study database, a fifth source is available in EDP: socio-fiscal data (income and social benefit).

Advantages

Panel surveys gain more insight into underlying dynamics of socio-economic phenomena. For example, this panel makes it possible to analyse the dynamics of poverty, differential mortality according to the diploma, the category socio-professional and the standard of living, the return on diplomas and its evolution over time, intergenerational inequality and taxation, forced migration and economic integration, inequalities between households and individuals through family situations and professional careers.

Challenges

The scope covered by EDP, the information considered and the management of EDP have evolved over time, in line with successive enhancements and adaptations to the statistical environment. This conditions the possible uses of EDP. However, the large sample size, the multitude of information collected, and the time lag make EDP an ever-richer source for the study of demographic, social and territorial disparities in individual trajectories.

Future steps

EDP is going to be enriched with information from the "all non-salaries" panel also managed by INSEE.

More information

The Permanent demographic sample:
https://www.casd.eu/en/source/permanent-demographic-sample/

How is the Permanent demographic constructed?
https://www.INSEE.fr/fr/statistiques/1381113 and
https://www.erudit.org/fr/livres/actes-des-colloques-de-lassociation-internationale-des-demographes-de-langue-francaise/volume-5-observer-decrire-et-analyser-les-structures-familiales/000364li/

Tax data from the EDP: a new source of information on couples and families?
https://www.INSEE.fr/en/statistiques/3974240

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[1] https://www.insee.fr/fr/metadonnees/source/serie/s1005

Life expectancy by standard of living - Method and main results:
https://www.INSEE.fr/en/statistiques/3974151