The Research Data Center of the German Federal Employment Agency at IAB

LASER Workshop
May 11th, 2012
Nuremberg
1. The FDZ

- **FDZ**: Research Data Center of the German Federal Employment Agency (BA) at the Institute for Employment Research (IAB)

- **Research data center:**
  - Organization which provides access to confidential data in a controlled physical or electronic environment
  - Result of a combination of several strategies applied to preserve confidentiality in the data:
    - contractual agreement
    - approval
    - anonymization of data
    - on- vs. off-site access
    - disclosure control
    - training
    - etc.
1. The FDZ

- **Complete microdata**
  - Delete direct identifier
  - Anonymisation method
  - Stronger anonymisation method

- **Confidential microdata**
  - On-site

- **De-facto anonymised microdata**
  - Off-site

- **Fully anonymised microdata**

**Availability**

**Degree of analysis potential**

Available at FDZ
1. The FDZ

- Main tasks of the FDZ:
  - Provide access to BA and IAB micro data for non-commercial empirical research
  - Standardized and transparent access rules
  - Documentation
  - Development of new data models
  - Research

- Established in 2004

- Located at the Institute for Employment Research (IAB) in Nuremberg, Germany

- Currently, 24 staff members
2. Data available at the FDZ

- Micro labor market data on individuals/households and establishments

Administrative Data

- Social Security Notifications
- Process-generated data of the BA

Data available at the FDZ

Surveys
2. Data available at the FDZ

- German Job Vacancy Survey of the IAB (EGS)
  - talk by Martina Rebien

- Combined Firm Data for Germany (KombiFid)
  - talk by Anja Gruhl

- Biographical data of selected insurance agencies in Germany (BASiD)
  - talk by Anja Wurdack

- Panel “WeLL” – Employee Survey for the Project “Further Training as a Part of Lifelong Learning”
2. Data available at the FDZ – in the future

- lidA - Leben in der Arbeit. German Cohort Study on Work, Age and Health (LIDA)  
  → talk by Anita Tisch

- Educational data (National Education Panel Study)
- Patent data
- Commercial business data (Bureau van Dijke)
- Georeferenced data

- Confidential micro data from other countries
3. Journals

- American Economic Review
- Quarterly Journal of Economics
- The Review of Economics and Statistics
- European Economic Review
- Journal of Business and Economic Statistics
- The Scandinavian Journal of Economics
- Journal of Labor Economics
- Journal of Urban Economics
- Labor Economics
- Journal of Population Economics
- and many more
## 4. Data Access

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Off-Site Use</th>
<th>On-Site Use</th>
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<tr>
<td>CD or Download</td>
<td>Remote Execution</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Scientific Use File)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Factually anonymous</td>
<td>Weakly anonymous (= confidential)</td>
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## 4. Data Access

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>On-Site</th>
<th>Off-Site</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Remote Execution</td>
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<td>SIAB</td>
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<td>Establishment History Panel</td>
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<td>Establishment Panel</td>
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<td>Linked-Employer-Employee-Data</td>
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<td>PASS</td>
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* combined data
4. Data Access - Sites of the FDZ

- Four additional sites for on-site access in Germany:
  - Research Data Centers of the Statistical Offices of the Länder
  - Thin Client solution
  - Citrix Gateway

- Further sites in Germany and Europe are planned:
  - UK Data Archive, Colchester, UK
  - INSEE, Paris
  - ISTAT, Rom
  - Statistics Netherlands, The Hague
4. Data Access - Sites of the FDZ

- Currently, one site abroad:
  University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

- Additional sites to be opened in 2012:
  - Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
  - University of California at Berkeley
4. Data Access

- **Easy, Quick and Cheap**

- **Easy**
  - Non-technical project proposal
  - Approval by RDC (off-site use) or Federal Ministry (on-site use)
  - Use agreement with the institution of the researcher

- **Quick**
  - (Estimated) Time until user/institution receives contract:
    - 2 weeks for off-site use (scientific use file)
    - 6 weeks for on-site use
4. Data Access

- **Cheap**
  - Data access is free of charge
  - No lab fees
  - No restrictions on hours/visits of on-site use facilities or runs of remote executions
  - Financial support
5. Other Services Provided by the FDZ

- Software available at the FDZ: Stata, TSP, MatLab, Gauss, R
- Remote Execution after on-site use
- Documentation
- Advisory services
  - Application Process/Proposal
  - Data issues
  - Preliminary Evaluations
  - Cooperation
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