

Monitoring statistical data preparation

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Monitoring the statistical data preparation (SDP) process is important to learn about the effects of the multiple steps and methods of the process individually and overall. The impact of SDP on the data should be measured and is an important source to find improvements, particularly for periodic surveys. The project for the implementation of SDP indicators at the Swiss Federal Statistical Office is presented. Core SDP indicators are developed, implemented in an R-package and tested with the 2013 edition of the Swiss Structural Survey. The raw data goes through an extensive SDP process and the indicators give insight into four stages of this process and yield an overall picture of the impact on the data. The person and household questionnaire uses filters and, therefore, structurally missing values need special consideration in the SDP indicators. Also single and multiple response questions need adequate treatment by the indicators. New indicators were developed for single response questions. Using raw response flags helps to distinguish the impact of the imputation for missing values from impact of the imputation for erroneous values. The efficiency of the SDP process is investigated by tracking the number of imputations for individual items over the whole SDP process.

Target session:

- Business and Industry
- Education and Research
- Official Statistics

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