An Introduction to the ECHP for New Users

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Connecting ECHP Users

Introductions and Expectations

- *Content of ECHP - social protection, poverty, quality of life, earnings, human capital (training, supervisory role), inequality, stratification, poverty dynamics, poverty gap, health indicators*
- *Working with ECHP - analysis, panel aspects*
- *Construction of income variables*
- *Econometric analyses*
- *State dependence*

Goal of the Course

- *By Friday you should be able to*
  - Know what is/isn't covered in the ECHP
  - Understand the structure of the UDB
  - Read the data files into SPSS
  - Match data between units (individuals, households, spouses, families)
  - Match data for an individual across waves
  - Understand basic data issues - attrition, imputation of missing information, comparability
  - Know which sample weights to use
  - Know where to find further detail

Outline

- *Morning presentations, afternoon Lab sessions*
- *Monday: Background, Structure of Data Files*
- *Tuesday: Working with different units of analysis*
- *Wednesday: Working with waves*
- *Thursday: Imputation and Weighting*
- *Friday: Other Data Issues; Looking Ahead*

What is the ECHP?

- *Focus on Income and Living Conditions*
- *EU-Wide - Harmonised Across Country*
- *Longitudinal*
- *Over to James Williams for History, Background and Content*

UDB Files

- *Link (one file)*
- *Register (one for each wave)*
- *Household (one for each wave)*
- *Relationship (one for each wave)*
- *Personal (one for each wave)*
- *Country (one file)*

Link File: 1 record per person

- Link File includes data from all the waves
- A record for every person that ever appeared in the ECHP.
- The first section contains constant data (PID, date of birth, sex)
- The second section,which is repeated in each wave, contains all the information required to rebuild the "longitudinal status" of the person: household ID, whether household/person interviewed etc. in each wave

Register File (person level)

- Register file covers all persons currently living in households with a completed household interview
- One register file for each wave
- All persons in household (children, non-interviewed adults, interviewed adults)
  - General (personal ID,Household ID, weights)
  - Demographic - age, sex, work status

Household File

- One record for each household with a completed household interview
- One household file for each wave.
- The information is grouped into 7 sections.
  - general information
  - demographic information
  - household income
  - household financial situation
  - accommodation
  - durables, and
  - children.

Relationship File

- Records relationship between each pair of household members
- One relationship file for each wave
- Includes record for relationship of person to self (and one-person households)
  - PID1 ('ascendant' or older)
  - Relationship
  - PID2 ('descendant' or younger)

Personal File: 1 record per Personal Interview

- general information
- demographic information
- current employment
- unemployment
- search for a job
- previous job
- calendar of activities
- income
- education and training
- health
- social relations
- migration, and
- satisfaction with various aspects of life

Country File

- *One record per country*
  - RATE: Exchange rates with Euro for each wave
  - PPP: Purchasing power parities for each wave
  - POPTOT: Total population in private households for each wave
  - POP16P: Number of persons aged 16+ living in private households in each wave
  - POPHHD: Number of private households in each wave

Now for SPSS syntax ….

SPSS conventions

- *Use syntax files rather than menus*
  - *replicability*
  - *re-usability*
  - *can add comments so can document*

Turn on computers

- *Ctrl+Alt+Del*
- *Username: ECHP*
- *Password: echp*

Importing the ASCII file to SPSS

- *Lab session*
  - *Syntax files located at* ***C:\ECHP\Setup Syntax***
  - *ASCII (or csv) files at* ***C:\ECHP\CSV***
  - *SAV files at* ***C:\ECHP\SAV***

Transcription Routines for SPSS

- *CSV files for each wave (4 + 2).*
- *Within SPSS Syntax :*
  - *Data List*
  - *Variable List*
  - *Value Labels*
  - *Missing Values*
- *Run for each .csv file*
- *Save the file*

CSV files (4 + 2)

- *There are 2 files that are common to all waves*
  - *Ctryvars.csv – lists variables relevant to the country (I.e. population over 16 etc.)*
  - *Ulink.csv –summary listing of each household member*
- *4 other files that appear for each wave*
  - ** wih.csv – lists variables from the household file*
  - ** wip.csv – lists variables from the personal file*
  - ** wir.csv – lists household register variables*
  - ** wirel.csv –relationships of household members*

SPSS Setup Syntax

- To transform the data from .csv to SPSS format.
- Four main processes to complete within the SPSS syntax transformation -
  - Data List –list of the variables and their formats.
  - Variable List – gives the variables a label
  - Value Labels – Labels values where appropriate.
  - Missing Values – Specifies the discrete missing values (-8 and –9). (-8=not applicable) (-9=missing)

Transcription Routines for SPSS

- Run for each .csv file.
  - For 8 waves you will have to create 34 data files before you are ready to start working on them.
  - 34 files = (8*4=32) + 2.
- Save the data files.
  - Save your data files and you are ready to start analysing.

On Computers, go to

- C:\ECHP\Setup Syntax
- Have fun!