



The Swiss Household Panel (SHP)

A unique longitudinal database
in Switzerland



Schweizer Haushalt-Panel
Panel suisse de ménages
Swiss Household Panel

Objective and characteristics

The SHP is an ongoing, unique, large-scale, nationally representative, registered based longitudinal study in Switzerland, collecting data on households and individuals since 1999.

The SHP aims to shed light on processes, causes and effects of social change.

Reference Population

Private households whose members represent the non-institutional resident population in Switzerland.

In 2019 the SHP follows three representative samples of households in Switzerland on an annual basis. A fourth sample will be launched in 2020.

	SHP_I (1999)	SHP_II (2004)	SHP_III (2013)
Households	5074	2537	3989
Individuals	7799	3654	6090

The main mode of interviewing is computer assisted telephone interviewing (CATI).

Interviews are conducted in (Swiss-)German, French, and Italian by the institute M.I.S. Trend.

Participating individuals



1999



2000



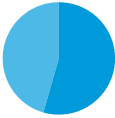
2001



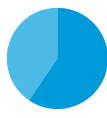
2002



2003



2004



2005



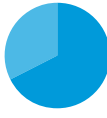
2006



2007



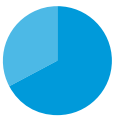
2008



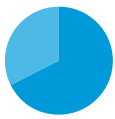
2009



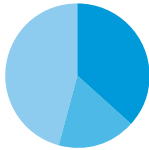
2010



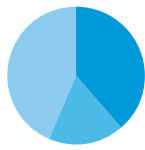
2011



2012



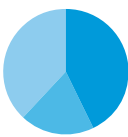
2013



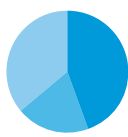
2014



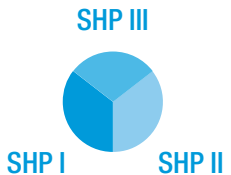
2015



2016



2017



Characteristics of the survey

Response rates have remained relatively high in all three samples. Attrition in the SHP is similar to the one of panel surveys in other countries and is not particularly selective with respect to important socio-demographic or – economic variables.

The SHP collects data on various levels using different questionnaires:

- **Household** (15 minutes):
completed by the household reference person.
- **Individual** (35 minutes):
completed by all household members aged 14 and over
- **Proxy questionnaire**:
information on household members unable to respond personally and on children under the age of 14

Types of questions:

1. Unique: asked only once
2. Core: asked annually
3. Rotating: asked every three years

The SHP allows a wide variety of analyses on the individual level, the household level and on the interplay between household members, and on the regional level. The data offer the possibility to study the integration of individuals within their families, their professional lives and in society as a whole.

Themes

**Physical
health**

**Psychological
health and
well-being**

**Partnership
and family life**

**Income
and financial
situation**

**Social
networks
and social
support**

**Social
origin**

**Attitudes,
Political
opinions
and values**

**Housing and
geographical
mobility**

**Income
and
financial
situation**

**Life
events
and quality
of life**

**Organisation of
the household,
division of tasks**

**Education
and labour
market
participation**

Acquiring the data

- The SHP data are available to the scientific community **free of charge** on FORSbase in three different statistical softwares: **SPSS**, **STATA** and **SAS**.



forsbase.unil.ch

Step 1: Create an account on FORSbase

Step 2: Fill out the contract on FORSbase

Step 3: Download the SHP data

Methodological support

- Annual events are organized: alternatingly an international conference and a methodological workshop.
- The conference allows panel users to meet and present their ongoing work.
- The workshop's aim is to familiarise users with longitudinal analysis methods.
- In addition, a comprehensive documentation of the SHP and syntaxes are available on our website and on FORSbase.



[forscenter.ch/projects/
swiss-household-panel/documentation](https://forscenter.ch/projects/swiss-household-panel/documentation)

Additional features

Retrospective biographical data on respondents' education, work, residential or family trajectories:

- A subsample of the SHP I (n=5560) filled out a self-administered retrospective questionnaire in 2001-2002
- For the first wave of the SHP_III (n=6090) respondents completed a life calendar in 2013

Additional data

- Fieldwork data
- Imputed income and tax simulations
- Cross-sectional and longitudinal weights

Related studies

- The **LIVES-FORS Cohort** survey comprises an overrepresentation of second generation immigrants
- The **SHP LIVES-Vaud** study comprises an overrepresentation of financially disadvantaged individuals

International comparability

The SHP is part of the Cross-National Equivalent File (CNEF), which contains harmonized data from a consortium of panel studies, including the US Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID), the German Socio-Economic Panel (GSOEP), the British Household Panel Study (BHPS), the Household Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA), the Canadian Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) and recently the Korean Labor and Income Panel Study (KLIPS).

cnef.ehe.osu.edu

Practical information

The data collection is funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation and is run by FORS, the Swiss Centre of Expertise in the Social Sciences, located at the University of Lausanne.

Further links, contacts & info



www.swisspanel.ch



forscenter.ch



twitter.com/forsresearch

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