

SURVEY OF HISTORICAL DATABASES WITH LONGITUDINAL MICRO-DATA

For more information about this questionnaire or questions about entering specific information, please mail George Alter (alter@indiana.edu) and/or Kees Mandemakers (kma@iisg.nl).

1/ Identifying information

Name of database:	Historical Sample of the Netherlands (HSN)
Location:	International Institute for Social History (IISH), Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Web-address:	www.iisg.nl/~hsn
Name contact person:	Kees Mandemakers
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2/ Main objective and scope of the database:

To construct a database of 78,000 life courses of individuals born in the Netherlands in the period 1812-1922, available for historical and demographic research. The database contains data over the period 1812-present.

In addition, the HSN is involved in several collaborative research projects (see: www.iisg.nl/~hsn/projects)

3/ Sources: Please enter Yes or No and the time period for the main sources included in the database

Yes/no	Start year	End year	Type of source	Comments
N			Baptisms	
N			Marriages from church registers	
N			Burials	
N			Population registers (continuous) maintained by a church	
Y	1812	1922	Civil birth certificates	Based on sample (n=78,000)
Y	1812	1950	Civil marriage certificates	Based on sample
Y	1812	1939	Civil death certificates	Based on sample
Y	1850	1939	Population registers	
Y/N			Census	

N			Nominative lists	
Y	1940	Present	Other: Individual Cards	
N			Other:	
N			Other:	
N			Other:	

4/ How was the sample (or samples) defined?

A sample drawn from Dutch civil birth certificates in the period 1812-1922: a total number of 78,000 individuals.

5/ Units of observation:

Please enter Y or N for each unit that can be followed over time

		Comments:
Y	Individuals	Sample of individuals (n=78,000)
Y	Married couples	Consisting of research person and spouse
Y	Families	Only observed when research person and family cohabit
Y	Households	Only households (family and other residents) in which the research person is observed (institutionalised households included)
N	Farms	
N	Other:	
N	Other:	
N	Other:	

6/ Describe the geographic area under observation

The sample is at random spread over the whole of the Netherlands, all municipalities are included.

7/ Is information available about related individuals who are not in the sample?

Examples:

Marriage registers often include occupations of parents.

A population register sample may include everyone in the household of an individual in the sample.

Yes, information is available of all individuals who were involved in a vital event concerning the research person (birth, marriage, death) and those observed in the household of the research person.

8/ What events can be identified? Do events have dates?

Y/N	Event	Are these events dated? Y/N/P(= partial dates, e.g. year only)	
Y	Birth	Y	Comment:
Y	Marriage	Y	Comment: and divorce
Y	Death	Y	Comment:
Y	Migration	P	Comment: sometimes only year. Internal migration (within municipality) is not dated before ca. 1920, external migration is usually dated.
Y	Occupation	P	Comment: sometimes only period in which change takes place is mentioned
Y	Religion	P	Comment: period
Y	Relationships	P	Comment: sometimes exact, sometimes period.

9/ These questions describe the way observation is censored.

A) How do individuals enter observation?

Research person: Birth and after that, via population register.

Other individuals: via population register.

B) How do individuals leave observation?

Research person: death / emigration abroad / if historical source is not available

Other individuals: via population register

C) Are some entry or exit dates unknown?		
Sometimes, but then a period of exit is known.		
D) Are some entries or exits interval censored (i.e. the exact date is unknown, but it can be located between two known dates)?		
Yes, estimates can be made.		
10/ Residence and Household (Y/N/Partly)		
Y	Can observations be linked to residential locations?	
Y	Are the dates and locations of movements within the observation area recorded? Before circa 1920 unknown	
Y	Are all individuals who lived in the households of members of the sample recorded?	
11/ Kinship relations		
A) How is kinship recorded in the sources?		
The kinship or relationship to the head of the household or the subject of the certificate is mentioned in the source. From this, the relationship to the member of the sample can be derived.		
B) How deep (number of generations) is the available kinship information?		
As far as previous or later generations are residing in the household of members of the sample		
12/ Linkage		
Which sources and units of observation have been linked?		
	Y/N/Partly	Comments:
Births/Baptisms	Y	
Marriages	Y	
Deaths/Burials	Y	
Population registers	Y	
Census	N	

Nominative lists	N	
Other:	N	
Other:	N	
Other:	N	
Other:	N	

How is linkage represented in the database? For example, do all occurrences of an individual include a universal identification number? Are records linked to each other but not to a universal ID?

Each member of the sample has a unique ID-number.

13 / What data structures have been added to the information in the sources?

		Comments:
Y	Date of entry and date of exit by individual	
Y	Events by individual	
Y	Time constant information (date of birth, sex, etc.) by individual	
Y	Husband-Wife pairs	
Y	Mother-child and Father-child pairs	
Y	Household structures	
Y/N	Other:	
Y/N	Other:	
Y/N	Other:	

14/ What reference/coding systems have been linked to the data?

Y	Occupational titles (like HISCO): HISCO, only partly implemented
Y	Locations (including geo-referenced systems): only on level of municipality
Y	Other (religion, civil status & relationships): standardized
Y/N	Other:
Y/N	Other:
Y/N	Other:

**15/ Have you developed any software for analysis or data extracting?
Please describe the capabilities and outputs of these programs.**

Only in development.