

# Access to official statistical micro data at the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia and cooperation with the Slovenian Social Science Data Archive

Presented by

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# Outline:

- 1) History of microdata access at SURS
- 2) Evaluation of SURS microdata practice
- 3) Available data and procedures
- 4) SURS's motives for cooperation with ADP

# History of microdata access at SURS

- Started in the 80's
- 2002 cooperation with ADP
- 2004 on-site laboratory and transparency
- 2007 remote access
- 2012
  - enhanced cooperation with ADP due to partnership in DwB
  - 800 research hours in on-site laboratory and remote access, 45 projects
  - 30 projects on CD

# Evaluation of SURS microdata practice

In 2007 EU peer review evaluated SURS practice on microdata access as one of the good practices in European statistical system.

“Access to microdata for research: SURS provides carefully controlled access to micro data, according to well defined protocols. The research community accepts the obligations placed upon it. An on-site laboratory with a stand-alone computer is supported by SURS staff, which ensure that no disclosive information is removed from the Office. „

# Available data and procedures (1)

- **Datasets:**
  - population, housing and agriculture censuses
  - social surveys
  - business surveys
  - all administrative records SURS uses for the production of official statistics
- **Modes of access:**
  - On-site laboratory
    - primary protected (standard identifiers are removed)
    - researchers link and analyse data
    - final output is checked against confidentiality by SURS
    - free of charge
  - Remote access facility
    - researchers link and analyse datasets
    - final output is checked against confidentiality by SURS.
    - charge: 18 EUR per month
  - CD
    - researchers can get limited number of social surveys with less than 1% population included
    - primary and secondary protected data prior to analysis
    - free of charge

# Available data and procedures (2)

- **Procedures-researcher:**
  - researcher has to apply for access
  - justify the request
  - sign contract and confidentiality declaration
- **Procedures-SURS:**
  - confidentiality committee
    - checks request against rules for granting access (rules are set up and published on SURS web portal)
    - prepares the proposal for board of directors
  - board of directors
    - opinion
  - director general
    - final decision

# SURS's motives for cooperation with ADP (1)

- From SURS's perspective ADP has:
  - additional human resources for microdata access service
  - knowledge of DDI metadata standard
  - additional knowledge about students' needs
  - more experience and resources for training of researchers
  - established additional channels for microdata usage promotion

# SURS's motives for cooperation with ADP (2)

Fields of cooperation has been evolving trough time and are in fact the division of work with the common aim to increase use of microdata:

- preparation of microdata files for use in SURS's on-site laboratory and remote access facility
- preparation of non-confidential microdata for less heavy users in ADP's facility
- introduction of new methods for data protection particularly suitable for students
- preparation of metadata according to DDI standard with extraction from SURS meta data systems
- communication of metadata according to DDI standard from both partners
- cooperation in user training
- promotion of microdata use: SURS and ADP websites, conferences, ...



# Thanks for Listening

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