

NEPSdata No. 6

NEPS Data User Statistics

Further data dissemination of the NEPS has been accompanied by a clear rise in data usage, indicating the growing demand for NEPS data in the international scientific community. Figure 1 depicts the development of three indicators measuring NEPS data usage: (1) the total number of users who have signed a data use agreement with the NEPS (unique, contracted users with at least one contract), (2) the number of projects with NEPS data as defined in the contracts (several users can be registered in one project), and (3) the number of user-project relations (users can have several contracts or projects with the NEPS). The last measure provides a more accurate picture of how much research is effectively done using NEPS data. The figure starts in August 2011,

because first NEPS data have become available since then (beta release of SC6 in August 2011). Thus, we can analyze the development of data demand realistically only from August 2011 until now. Further data were released in the second half of 2012 and in the first quarter of 2013. At the end of March 2013, we recorded 353 registered data users working in 188 registered data projects using NEPS data. Because some users are involved in more than one NEPS project, we additionally count the number of users in projects, which stood at 406 at the end of March. About 21% of data users also use the remote access service RemoteNEPS for analyzing more sensitive data not provided in the download versions of the Scientific Use Files.

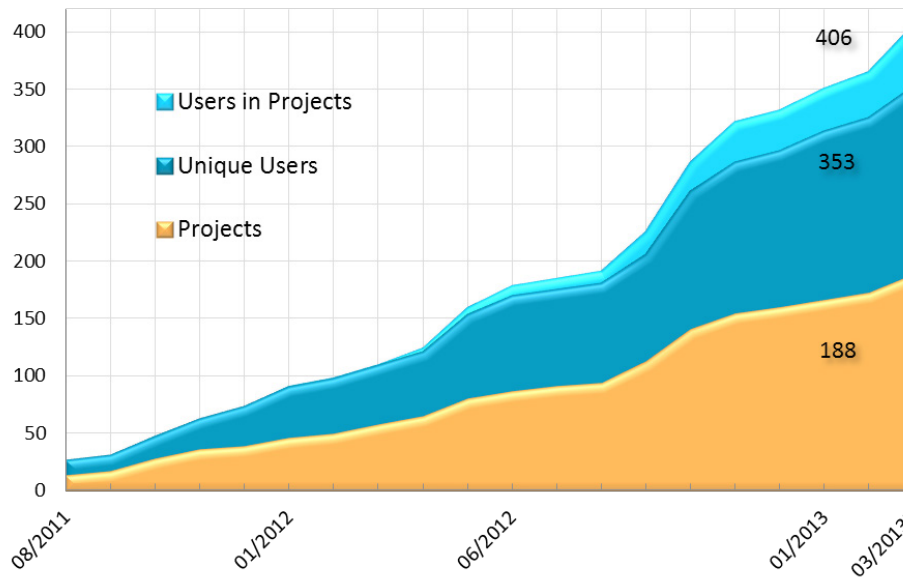


Figure 1. Development of NEPS data usage (* censored time interval). Depicted are contracted users (unique), projects defined in contracts, and users in projects (users can be involved in several projects).

Updated Data Release for Starting Cohort 4 (SC4 1.1.0)

At the end of march, NEPS published an updated Scientific Use File for Starting Cohort 4 (SC4 1.1.0). This update contains a set of newly generated variables, revised metadata, a new data set "Weights" containing

comprehensive weighting data, as well as new data sets containing fine-grained regional data from the microm database.

First International NEPS User Training at the Educational Research Institute in Warsaw

On April 4, 2013, Operational Manager of the NEPS Data Center, Dr. Jan Skopek, held a user-training workshop at the Polish Educational Research Institute (IBE, Instytut Badań Edukacyjnych) in Warsaw.

Due to the fact that the IBE is also conducting a study on adults, the training primarily focused on NEPS Starting Cohort 6—Adult Education and Lifelong Learning. Besides a short introduction to NEPS, Dr. Jan Skopek presented the data structure of the Scientific Use File concerning Starting Cohort 6 and illustrated the potential of NEPS adult data by way of exemplary

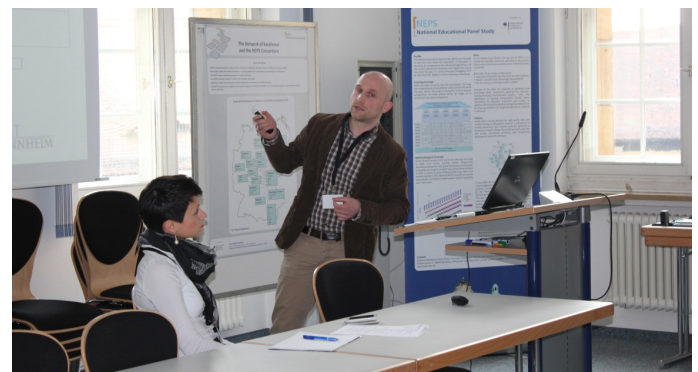
analyses. In addition to this, he gave an introduction to data privacy laws, which are a requirement for data use, to the usage of the remote access technology RemoteNEPS as well as the meta database NEPSplorer. This 1-day workshop was accompanied by very fruitful discussions as views and experiences concerning the collection of life-course data as well as their provision to the international scientific public were exchanged. Finally, the training made an important contribution to identifying potential possibilities for further cooperation between the NEPS and the IBE.

First Colloquium of the DFG Priority Programme 1646 "Education as a Lifelong Process. Analyzing Data of the National Educational Panel Study (NEPS)"

The DFG Priority Programme 1646: 'Education as a Lifelong Process. Analyzing Data of the National Educational Panel Study (NEPS)' aims to be a starting point for promoting widespread public use of the data and the research opportunities of NEPS. It started on January 1, 2012, with currently 55 researchers working in 17 research projects from five different disciplines. These projects are distributed across seven German universities, one Italian university, and seven German research institutes. They are initially funded for 3 years (2012-2014). More information about the approved projects within the first funding phase is available at: <https://spp1646.neps-data.de/Projects.aspx>.

After this first funding phase, new projects can be included in the Priority Programme, and the projects approved for funding in the first phase may be extended throughout the second funding phase (2015-2017). The first colloquium of the DFG Priority Programme 1646 took place on April 4-5, 2013, at the NEPS in

Bamberg. The purpose of this meeting was the presentation of first results and the discussion of methodological and substantive problems of the 17 research projects. 37 members of the Priority Programme participated in the first colloquium, which was broken down into 9 sessions due to the projects' different research topics.



Manuel Siegert (University of Mannheim) presented first results from the research project "Competencies and educational choices across gender and immigrant background in Germany—The role of gender socialization" (PI: Irena Kogan)

First Summer School of the DFG Priority Programme 1646 in September 2013

From September 16-27, 2013, the first summer school of the Priority Programme discussing “Educational Trajectories and Competence Development—Theoretical Concepts and Methodological Implementations” will be held in Bamberg. During the first two days (September 16-17) the third NEPS data workshop will take place. The following eight days (September 18-20 and September 23-27) invited experts from different disciplines will give lectures on theoretical and methodological issues related to educational and life course research. The methodological lectures will be combined with practical data

workshops. After each lecture, PhD and post PhD students will be given the opportunity to present and discuss their projects and papers with the invited experts. The lectures and workshops will be held by distinguished international scholars in the fields of educational research and statistical methods, among them Claudia Buchmann (keynote speaker), Hartmut Esser, Andreas Hadjar, Steffen Hillmert, Michelle Jackson, Frank Kalter, Timo Kauppinen, Gabriel Nagy, Hessel Oosterbeek, Götz Rohwer, Tenko Raykov, Volker Stocké, Ansgar Weymann, and Frans Willekens.

Current NEPS Working Papers

The following NEPS Working Papers have recently been released:

- Duchhardt, C. & Gerdes, A. (2012): *NEPS Technical Report for Mathematics – Scaling results of Starting Cohort 3 in fifth grade* (NEPS Working Paper No. 19). Bamberg: Otto-Friedrich-Universität, Nationales Bildungspanel.
- Händel, M., Tupac-Yupanqui, A. & Lockl, K. (2012). *Metakognitives Wissen und der Einsatz von Lernstrategien bei Studierenden* (NEPS Working Paper No. 20). Bamberg: Otto-Friedrich-Universität, Nationales Bildungspanel.
- Blatt, I., Frahm S., & Jarsinski, S. (2013): *NEPS Technical Report for Orthography – Scaling results of Starting Cohort 3 in fifth grade* (NEPS Working Paper No. 21). Bamberg: Otto-Friedrich-Universität, Nationales Bildungspanel.
- Duchhardt, C. & Gerdes, A. (2013): *NEPS Technical Report for Mathematics – Scaling results of Starting Cohort 4 in ninth grade* (NEPS Working Paper No. 22). Bamberg: University of Bamberg, National Educational Panel Study.
- Schöps, K. & Sass, S. (2013): *NEPS Technical Report for Science – Scaling results of Starting Cohort 4 in ninth grade* (NEPS Working Paper Nr. 23). Bamberg: University of Bamberg, National Educational Panel Study.
- Schöps, K. (2013). *NEPS Technical Report for Science – Scaling results of Starting Cohort 2 in Kindergarten* (NEPS Working Paper No. 24). Bamberg: University of Bamberg, National Educational Panel Study.
- Hardt, K., Pohl, S., Haberkorn, K., & Wiegand, E. (2013). *NEPS Technical Report for Reading – Scaling results of Starting Cohort 6 for adults in main study 2010/11* (NEPS Working Paper No. 25). Bamberg: University of Bamberg, National Educational Panel Study.

All NEPS Working Papers are available for download on our [website](#).

For any further questions, please contact us:

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