

On recent developments of cross-sectional weighting schemes for children in the Swiss Household Panel

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The Swiss Household Panel (SHP) is a longitudinal survey with annual repetition. Each household member aged 14 and over is interviewed individually, whereas information coming from proxy questionnaires is available for younger children. However, no weight is provided for them and it is thus not possible to conduct weighted analysis including the youngest age group. The introduction of children's weights represents therefore a direct gain for the social research in Switzerland, as it enables the production of further knowledge of this age group. From a methodological point of view, the weighting of children is interesting, as only few longitudinal panels include children and there is thus some developments that can be made. We present different cross-sectional weighting systems that are based on the conceptual and theoretical approaches of the current weighting procedures of the SHP as well as on the weighting strategies regarding children in other national household panels. Applying the Generalized Weight Share Method, we show that including the cross-sectional weights of only the original sample members instead of considering also cohabitants leads to estimated frequencies that are closer to known population totals.

Key words: Generalized Weight Share Method, longitudinal survey