

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Interview with
Prof. Dr. Uta Meier-Gräwe
Professor of Household
and Family Sciences
Page 20

Interview with
Prof. Dr. Klaus Töpfer
Retired Federal Minister
and sustainability expert
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Imprint

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Dear reader,

People are being guided more by their emotions and less and less by facts – this is how we might sum up the post-truth debate which reached its hitherto climax last year, culminating in “postfaktisch” (post-factual, or post-truth) being chosen as the German Word of the Year 2016.

As President of the largest authority in Germany to publish official data, I always keep a particularly watchful eye on such developments. We ensure that our data meet high quality standards and are an independent body – indeed, these factors are the bedrock of our credibility. However, in order to retain people’s trust and confidence in our organisation, the context surrounding our figures is becoming increasingly important for our users also and needs to be communicated in a transparent fashion.

One person who encourages us in this regard is Professor Klaus Töpfer, retired Federal Minister and a pre-eminent global figure in the field of sustainability. Our interview with him is enriching on a number of different levels, one example being his remarks on how figures become the information on which decisions are based.

In our interview with Professor Uta Meier-Gräwe, we show how facts can help “put us right” as regards the way in which we perceive everyday things such as nutrition, food-related tasks and employment. In her capacity as an academic and expert reporting to the Federal Government, she has devoted herself to studying data from the time use survey ever since the survey was first conducted in Germany.

I hope that all of the other topics dealt with in this report provide you with a good insight into all matters figure-related and that, in so doing, we can enhance your trust and confidence in official statistics.

Yours,



Dieter Sarreither
President of the Federal Statistical Office



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Our Vision

The Federal Statistical Office is the leading provider of high-quality statistical information on Germany.

Our role

We provide the statistical information required for the development of informed opinions and decision-making processes in a democratic society while ensuring the neutrality, objectivity and scientific independence of our work and data confidentiality regarding the microdata placed at our disposal.

Our efficiency is based on the innovative power, competence and customer focus of our staff.

The strategy of the Federal Statistical Office can be viewed in detail at www.destatis.de, in the Strategy and Programme Plan under the section "About us".



Employees

Employees in Wiesbaden	1,669 ↓
Employees in Bonn	556 ↓
Employees in Berlin	24 ↓
Staff employed under collective agreements	67% ↓
Public officials	31% ↑
Apprentices	2% –
Percentage of female employees	58% –
Percentage of female executive managers	37% –
Part-time employees	24% ↑
Percentage of fixed-term employees	9%, new
Number of nationalities	17, new

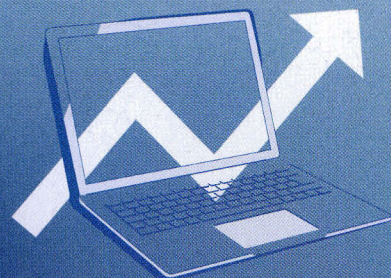
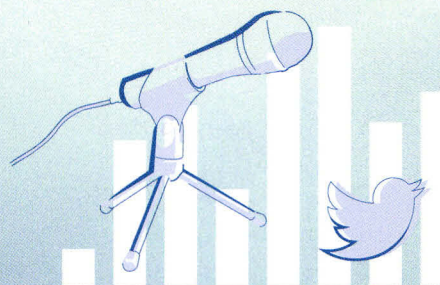


Finances

Budgeted funds	161.8 million euros ↓
Percentage share of the budget of the Federal Ministry of the Interior	2.1% ↓
Percentage share of the federal budget	0.05% –

Press and service

Requests from the German Bundestag to the Capital City Service	639 –
Press releases	476 ↓
Press conferences	7 ↓
Destatis tweets	1,052 ↑
Twitter followers	10,790 ↑
Requests by phone via the service number	14,213 ↓
Requests in writing to the Central Information Service	15,130 ↑



GENESIS-Online database

Table retrievals	3.4 million ↑
Sets of statistics available	226 ↑
Values available	781 million ↑

Facts over fake news: press activities in 2016

The Federal Statistical Office provides the public with hard facts. Here, we give you an insight into the wide range of topics we deal with and the feedback on our press activities. In 2016, Destatis held one workshop for journalists, conducted seven press conferences in Berlin and published 476 press releases. Over 253 working days at our main building in Wiesbaden, this equates to an average of almost two releases a day.

Workshop for journalists on the range of Europe-related data

Euro rescue, free trade agreement TTIP and the refugee crisis: most of the topics reported in the media are not just relevant to Germany. At a workshop for journalists held

jointly with Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Union, we showed how statistical information relating to Germany in a European context can be researched online. We also explained how statistics (for example on consumer prices) can be

harmonised across a number of different countries, thus making them comparable. The workshop received praise on Twitter: "Thanks to @destatis + @EU_Eurostat for informative workshop (...) way in which wealth of data is processed is impressive."



Press conference on the Data Report

“Immigrants need education, education, education” Nordbayerische Nachrichten, 4 May // “Migrants low paid but happy” Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 4 May
Immigrants have come to Germany at various points in history for a whole host of different reasons: as guest workers and migrant labourers, as ethnic German repatriates or asylum seekers. Around 20 percent of the population now has a migration background. The living conditions and attitudes of this heterogeneous population group were the primary focus of the press conference on the Data Report 2016, the social report for the Federal Republic of Germany. The report is a joint publication by the Federal Agency for Civic Education, the Federal Statistical Office, the Berlin Social Science Center and the German Socio-Economic Panel at the German Institute for Economic Research. Our core message, namely that education is decisive for migrant integration, proved particularly strong. A higher level of education means better opportunities in the labour market, higher incomes and a falling risk of poverty.

Press conference on the overindebtedness of households

“People living alone are particularly affected by overindebtedness” Deutschlandfunk, 1 July // “Innocent victims of the debt trap: illness and job losses often lead to financial problems” Berliner Zeitung, 2 July
In 2015, the number of people in Germany seeking help from a debt advice or insolvency centre due to financial problems stood at around 647,000. This issue affected an above-average number of men living alone and single mothers. The press conference dispelled in particular the prejudice that overindebtedness is people’s own fault. Generally speaking, the main triggers are unforeseeable and major changes in personal circumstances which are beyond the direct control of the overindebted persons, such as illness, separation from a partner or a loss of one’s job.

Press conference on the Statistical Yearbook

“More vegetables and less beer: two thirds of Germans feel either healthy or very healthy and are becoming increasingly conscious about what they eat.” heute.de, 27 October // “Too much excess: statistics show that smoking and obesity pose a danger to health” Frankfurter Rundschau, 28 October // “The facts about being overweight” Süddeutsche Zeitung, 28 October
Journalists like to use the Statistical Yearbook as a starting point for more in-depth research. It offers a carefully selected cross-section of the data collected by Destatis. The focus of this particular press conference was on the health of Germans. The picture that emerged was somewhat mixed. On the one hand, we are getting ever older. Since the time of Bismarck, the life expectancy of both newborn boys and girls has increased by more than 40 years. On the other hand, the proportion of severely overweight people in Germany, especially men, has risen. Lack of physical exercise is one of the reasons for this: we spend an average of 27 minutes per day doing sport, while we spend 4.5 times as much time each day watching television.

Addressing important topics in press releases

We used our press releases to once again deliver reliable facts on topics which are the focus of intense public debate:

Population growth

Based on the 13th coordinated population projection, we reported in our press release of 20 January that the current high level of immigration cannot reverse the increasing ageing of the population. This is because the quite substantial differences between the numbers of people in the younger and middle age groups can probably not be offset by net immigration. In the population projection, we do not gaze into a crystal ball but instead provide quantitative “if-then” statements. We draw on a well-established data basis to make assumptions regarding

future trends in immigration, emigration, births and deaths. The sharp increase in inward migration in 2015 by persons seeking protection should not serve as a model on which to base long-term assumptions regarding migration. Experience has shown that the level of net migration fluctuates greatly over time.

Minimum wage

On 1 January 2017, the statutory minimum wage in Germany rose from 8.50 euros to 8.84 euros per hour. With this increase, the Federal Cabinet implemented the recommendations submitted by the Minimum Wage Commission. The basis for this first adjustment to the statutory minimum wage was the monthly index of agreed hourly earnings, excluding extra payments. From December 2014 to June 2016, wages and salaries rose by 3.2 percent on average, as we reported on 21 June.

Housing market

In 2016, the construction of a total of 375,400 dwellings was permitted in Germany, an increase of 21.6 percent on the previous year. Not since 1999 (440,800) has the number of building permits for dwellings been as high. The reasons for this upward trend include the low level of interest rates and the high demand experienced in conurbations. The greatest increase in percentage terms was seen in building permits for dwellings in residential establishments (+109.7 percent), which include refugee shelters.



StatistikCampus

The Federal Statistical Office has a new portal geared specifically to study, research and teaching: StatistikCampus. The portal compiles information and data of interest to students and teaching staff. It includes tips on accessing the data available, for example, or how statistical data are used in scientific and academic work. Over time the aim is for the portal to become the central access point for official statistics for anybody wishing to understand statistics or brush up on what they already know.

Alternative facts – fake news – post-truth. Terms such as these are currently typical of what we read and hear in news headlines and social media discussions. What they do reveal is that it cannot be taken for granted that everyone looks closely at what is being said, draws comparisons and correctly puts the figures into context. But how can we tell whether an item of information is true or not? What quality criteria are important for a set of statistics? Which data sources are objective? Recent developments have shown how important it is for educational establishments to teach the next generations how to read and understand statistics (statistical literacy). This is vital in enabling people to make decisions based on facts. Official statistics bodies need to play

their part in teaching this skill, in keeping with the motto: “facts over fake news”.

An e-learning module, developed by the Federal Statistical Office and the statistical offices of the Länder, is therefore an important core element of StatistikCampus. Here, users are taught the basic principles of statistics in an interactive manner with the aid of multimedia: What is the difference between the mean and the median? How do I calculate a Lorenz curve? And how are my results best represented graphically? Current job offers and places for apprenticeships and internships can be found on the portal too. StatistikCampus is constantly being refined so it is worthwhile for everyone to take a look!

Germany, where people enjoy a long life

Our statistics show that, in many areas, older people are having a growing influence on society. But how do older people in Germany and the EU live? In 2016, the Federal Statistical Office, with support from the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, published a new brochure on the topic of "Older People".

Demographic change in Germany can be attributed to various factors. Life expectancy has increased thanks to better living conditions. Since the 19th century it has almost doubled and stands today at 78 years for boys and 83 years for girls. On top of this, the baby boom generation of the 1960s will soon be reaching retirement age.

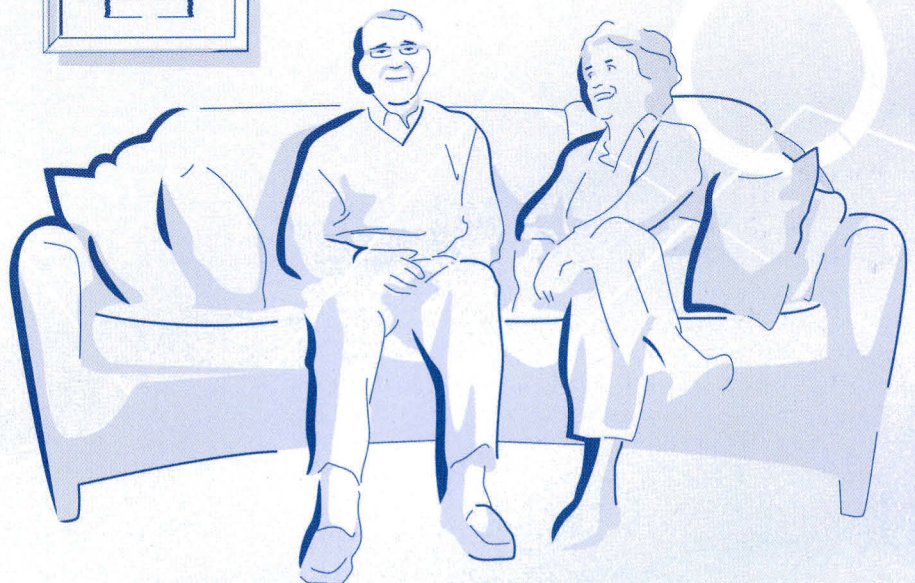
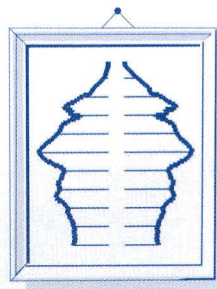
The age structure of the population is also interesting given the forthcoming election to the Bundestag in September 2017. At the corresponding election in 2013, more than one third (34 percent) of those entitled to vote were aged 60 and over, more than twice the number of those in the under 30 age bracket (16 percent). Turnout among older voters for the last election was above

average. Taking into account the growing number of older voters, the political influence of older people will increase even further in future.

It is also a fact that demographic change is not just restricted to Germany, but is instead a European phenomenon. Today, more than a quarter of people in Germany are aged 60 and over. In 2050, this figure

will have risen to one third. In Slovakia, Spain, Portugal and Greece, the share of people in this age group is expected to be even greater in future.

In light of demographic change, compiling data on older people from different sources and comparing them with figures from other European countries – whether as regards traditional gender roles in sources of income, purchasing power in relation to other EU countries, health or how people equip their homes – will be an ongoing key task of the Federal Statistical Office, even following publication of the brochure.



International conference in Dresden

Destatis hosted the 34th General Conference of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth in Dresden



The 34th General Conference of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth (IARIW) provided a platform for academics to engage in intensive discussions.

The General Conference of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth (IARIW) was held in Dresden from 21 to 27 August 2016, and hosted by the Federal Statistical Office. Around 300 statisticians from all over the world visited the city on the river Elbe to share information and ideas with fellow academics.

Dieter Sarreither, President of the Federal Statistical Office, used his welcome address to call on those present at the conference to actively address the new challenges facing statistics in a digitalised and globalised world. In so doing, he highlighted the importance of tapping into new data sources and emphasized the interrelationships between the economy, ecology and quality of life.

A highlight of the conference was the keynote speeches and opening presentations by Walter Radermacher, Director General of Eurostat, Dr. Christian Kastrop, Director of the Policy Studies Branch in the Economics Department of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and Marcel Fratzscher, President of the German Institute for Economic Research. The extensive programme also covered many topics relating to national accounts, which is an established element of the conference. Experts from the Federal Statistical Office featured prominently in the academic programme, and contributed either by organising and chairing the sessions, giving presentations or acting as discussants. Albert Braakmann, Head of National Accounts and Prices, became the first expert from the Federal Statistical Office to be elected President of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth.

Keynote speeches and opening presentations

Walter Radermacher, Director General of Eurostat
Better data. Better lives. Statistics to serve society

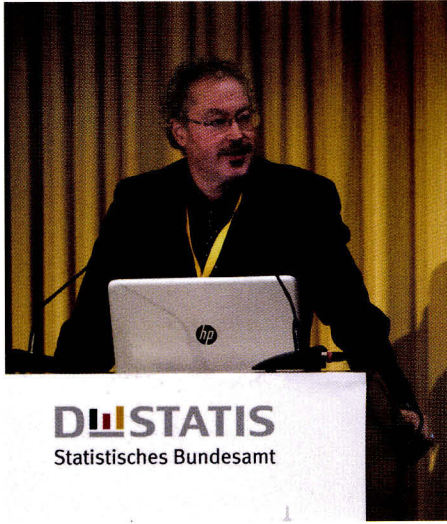
Dr. Christian Kastrop, Director of the Policy Studies Branch in the Economics Department of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
Income inequality within and between branches

Marcel Fratzscher, President of the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin)
The battle for redistribution – why Germany is becoming more unequal

IARIW Conferences 2010 to 2018

- 2010 ● St. Gallen (Switzerland)
- 2012 ● Boston (USA)
- 2014 ● Rotterdam (Netherlands)
- 2016 ● Dresden (Germany)
- 2018 ● Copenhagen (Denmark)

From left to right: Marcel Fratzscher, Dr. Christian Kastrop, Walter Radermacher



Gerhard Fürst Award 2016

Academics awarded for their papers on official statistics

On 24 November 2016, the 18th edition of the Gerhard Fürst Award saw the President of the Federal Statistical Office present the accolade to one female and two male academics in recognition of their outstanding scientific projects. In addition, the Peter von der Lippe Commemorative Award was this year presented to a female academic for her doctoral thesis. Both of these awards promote young academics who address issues relating to official statistics from a theoretical or empirical perspective.

The privilege and honour of winning the Gerhard Fürst Award in the doctoral thesis category along with 5,000 euros went to Dr. Stefan Stuth for his thesis on “Closing in on Closure – Occupational Closure and Temporary Employment in Germany”, which was supervised by Prof. Jutta Allmendinger from Humboldt University of Berlin. In the Master’s/Bachelor’s thesis category, there were two prize winners who distinguished themselves with their Master’s theses and who were each awarded prize money of 2,500 euros. At Free University of Berlin, Natalia Rojas-Perilla focused on the issue of “Poverty Estimation Methods: a Comparison under Box-Cox Type Transformations with Application to Mexican Data”, under the supervision of Prof. Timo Schmid. The second prize in this cate-

gory went to Guido Schulz for his Master’s thesis on “Upgrading and Displacement in Berlin: Spatial Analyses to Measure Gentrification”, which was supervised by Prof. Alex Werwatz at Technical University of Berlin.

Dr. Ivonne Lindlbauer received the Peter von der Lippe Commemorative Award, together with 2,000 euros, for her doctoral thesis on “Efficiency and Risk Adjustment of German Hospital Care”, written at Hamburg University’s Center for Health Economics headed by Prof. Jonas Schreyögg. This commemorative award was presented in honour of Professor Peter von der Lippe, who died in 2016. With this award, the Federal Statistical Office honours this long-standing partner of official statistics, whose book entitled “Wirtschaftsstatistik” has been regarded as a standard text in the field for many years.

The Federal Statistical Office gives the awards on the basis of recommendations by an independent expert jury. The six-person jury comprises two renowned academics from each of the following specialist disciplines: statistics, economics and social sciences.



*The happy academics with their awards.
From left : Prof. Dr. Walter Krämer (chairman of the expert jury), Dr. Ivonne Lindlbauer, Natalia Rojas-Perilla, Guido Schulz, Dr. Stefan Stuth and Dieter Sarreither (President of the Federal Statistical Office).*

Gerhard Fürst was President of the Federal Statistical Office and Federal Returning Officer from 1948 to 1964.
The Gerhard Fürst Award is presented every year in his honour.



And how do you spend your day?

Time use data reveal what people do in their everyday lives. How do people in Germany divide their day up? How much time do they spend getting to work? Do couples share unpaid housework? And who looks after the parents? The Federal Statistical Office's time use study reveals just how much time people spend on basic needs, care and support, work and learning and on voluntary activities.

A decade separated the two most recent time use studies, conducted among around 11,000 people on a voluntary basis and carried out on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ). Over the course of three days, participants kept a record of the activities they had undertaken, broken down into ten minute periods. They were asked to be extremely precise in what they recorded since this was “vital for the quality of data”, says Holger Breiholz, who led the team conducting the study at the Federal Statistical Office.

A whole area of research is devoted to describing and analysing how people live together in households and families, how much time they spend with their children and older people and how much time they spend taking care of them. How people manage and divide their work during different stages of their life is not only an individual decision, but is instead determined by social requirements and time schedules.

For instance, the findings of the time use study showed that in families in Germany, the lack of time is felt most acutely, by both men and women, during the “rush hour of life”. According to the findings, women spend twice as much time every day looking after children. While one in three fathers wish to have more time for their children, there has been a tendency for the dual burden placed on women with children to increase as the degree of their gainful activity has risen. Another interesting finding in this context is the fact that the time spent eating together has fallen overall. Time spent on food-related tasks has decreased among those mothers working either part-time or full-time, yet the sharpest fall has been recorded among mothers who are not in employment. When it comes to eating, people are clearly resorting to external food services and options on a more frequent basis. Further information and results regarding this topic can be found in the interview with Professor Meier-Gräwe on page 20 of this report.

Volunteering, providing voluntary support and caring for children and adults – the last of these activities in particular is a major issue for those affected, social planners and policy-makers. For example, the figures for volunteering in Germany are particularly high: 40% of women and men are involved in voluntary work, most frequently in churches or associations.

From another perspective too, the findings of the time use study provide valuable supplementary information, especially with regard to additional calculations on gross domestic product (GDP). GDP only covers the value added from paid work and does not take account of unpaid work. However, unpaid work is vital for our well-being, both individually and collectively, and is essential in providing households with material goods and services: after all, paid work is often only possible when somebody else performs the many unpaid day-to-day tasks in the home, looks after children or those persons requiring long-term care or does voluntary work. Here, the results of the time use study show that in 2013, households spent 35 % more time doing unpaid work than they did doing paid work. “We put the value of unpaid work carried out in 2013 at a minimum of 826 billion euros, which is roughly equivalent to a third of value added when calculated in terms of GDP”, say experts Norbert Schwarz and Florian Schwahn from the Federal Statistical Office. Without the time use study, observations such as these would not be possible.

Time use studies are also carried out in other countries across Europe and around the world and are harmonised and made comparable by EUROSTAT, the Statistical Office of the European Union. Innovative and interesting fields of research into the question of how people spend their time can be found at international level. For example, the University of Valencia is studying the extent of the gender care gap in European countries – as an indicator of how men and women share the duties of looking after older people, children and other persons in need of care.



Gudrun Scheithauer from the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) in 2015 at the conference presenting the results of the time use study. The 2012/2013 sample survey among households, which was supported by the BMFSFJ and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) was the third survey of its kind in Germany, following similar surveys conducted in 1991/1992 and 2001/2002.

Another example is the use of official time use studies in health research. Here, the way in which people spend their time is viewed in terms of relevance for health issues, such as time-related stress, conflicts and wishes – cooking, for instance, is a relaxing activity for some people, while others find it stressful. At Princeton University, Nobel Prize winner Daniel Kahnemann has used official data from the US time use study to develop a way of measuring people's well-being in relation to their precise activities and time use and to their other circumstances. In a small number of countries, the surveys are already structured in such a way that respondents are able to provide precise digital feedback during the activity on their subjective well-being or their level of stress – this represents a huge step forward in terms of the quality of health data.

In England, various teams of researchers are using time use data to analyse energy use and mobility patterns of the population. Very specific studies are being carried out, for example, into the way in which people do their washing, in an effort to devise strategies aimed at improving energy supply. Other researchers combined the time use studies conducted by official statistics bodies with monitoring of mobility patterns by equipping participants in the study with additional GPS devices. Such innovative research approaches suggest that there is still plenty of scope for researchers who wish to study how people spend their time.





Hamburg

**Time use and education-based activities:
a comparison of parents and children**
Dr. Christina Boll, Andreas Lagemann
Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWI)



Lüneburg

**Time, wealth and satisfaction – multidimensional
polarisation of time and income**
Prof. Dr. Joachim Merz
Leuphana University of Lüneburg, Research Institute on
Professions



Berlin

General mobility over the course of a day and a lifetime
Prof. Dr. Michaela Kreyenfeld
Hertie School of Governance, Berlin



Voluntary work by women

Dr. Eckhard Priller
Maecenata Institut
Luise Burkhardt
German Institute for Economic Research (DIW)



Time use of relatives caring for a member of the household
Heribert Engstler, Prof. Dr. Clemens Tesch-Römer
German Centre of Gerontology (DZA), Berlin



Braunschweig

General mobility over the course of a day and a lifetime
Prof. Dr. Dirk Konietzka
Technical University of Braunschweig, Institute of Social
Sciences



Bad Salzuflen

Gender equality policy as reflected by the time use survey
Dr. Astrid Libuda-Köster
Institute for Evaluation and Socio-Scientific Data
Acquisition (IPSE)



Homework supervision by parents in the family
Dr. Astrid Libuda-Köster
Institute for Evaluation and Socio-Scientific Data
Acquisition (IPSE)



Münster

Voluntary work by women
Prof. Dr. Anette Zimmer
Münster University



Gießen

Equality and division of work within the family
Prof. Dr. Uta Meier-Gräwe, Nina Klünder
Justus Liebig University of Gießen, Professorship in
Household and Family Sciences



Wiesbaden

Education throughout the course of life
Dr. Iris Gönsch
Federal Statistical Office, Wiesbaden



Development of unpaid work in Germany
Norbert Schwarz
Federal Statistical Office, Wiesbaden



The rush hour of life in the family cycle: female and male time use

Dr. Martin Bujard, Ralina Panova
Federal Institute for Population Research



Time devoted to culture and cultural activities

Anja Liersch
Federal Statistical Office, Wiesbaden



Frankfurt

Gender equality policy as reflected by the time use survey
Dr. Brigitte Sellach
Association for Women and Gender Studies in the Social
Science (GSF e. V.), Frankfurt



Homework supervision by parents in the family

Dr. Brigitte Sellach
Association for Women and Gender Studies in the Social
Science (GSF e. V.), Frankfurt



Mannheim

Time use of children and young people
Dr. Heike Wirth
GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences,
Mannheim



Heidelberg

Sporting activities – distribution and social differences
Prof. Dr. Thomas Klein, Jonathan Gruhler, Dr. Ingmar Rapp
Ruprecht Karls University of Heidelberg, Institute for
Sociology



Social inclusion during our life: forms and social differences

Dr. Ingmar Rapp, Prof. Dr. Thomas Klein, Jonathan Gruhler
Ruprecht Karls University of Heidelberg, Institute for
Sociology



Munich

Voluntary work by women
Dr. Eckhard Priller
Maecenata Institute



Active fatherhood in different forms and stages of the family

Prof. Dr. Sabine Walper, Shih-cheng Lien
German Youth Institute (DJI)

Interview with Prof. Dr. Uta Meier-Gräwe

Professor of Household and Family Sciences



“The home and family are areas which are highly emotionally charged. Everybody has experience of this topic and there is a tendency to impose our own views on the rest of the population.”

Prof. Meier-Gräwe, you are Professor of Household and Family Sciences at Gießen University. What are the main fields of your work?

I’m originally a sociologist, specialising in the family, and an economist. The professorship I hold is for Household and Family Sciences. It is within my specialist field that ecotrophologists are trained. It is a field in which sociological and economic, but also scientific issues, all play a role. The home and family are areas which are highly emotionally charged. Everybody has experience of this topic and there is a tendency to impose our own views on the rest of the population. This is why it’s particularly important to substantiate theses using representative data, and is also why we require good, qualitative research.

When I came to Gießen in 1994, I analysed the first time use study. My predecessor, Rosemarie von Schweitzer, was involved in the research concept for the first survey. I’m from the former GDR where time use studies had been well established. At the time, our hypotheses – for instance on the traditional roles assigned to men and women – were borne out. However, there were also findings which were rather unexpected. In 1994, contrary to all assumptions, people spent a relatively long time eating and this figure even increased under the 2001/2002 survey. Back then as well, you had to rely on facts as opposed to the personal views of feature writers and general moaning about eating culture.

You were literally one of the first users then ...

Yes, I was. What was very good about the first two surveys was that it was possible to link activities to the question of where people carried them out and with whom. Mealtime patterns could therefore also be analysed from a social perspective. The survey clearly highlighted, for instance, how much time older people spent alone. People between the ages of 60 and 70 spent a great deal of time on their own, namely 75 % of the waking hours in their day. In the past, the extent of problems such as this could be accurately measured by the time use study, as could the enormous burden placed on single mothers.

In your teaching, do you work with data or scientific use files from the Federal Statistical Office?

Yes, they are an integral part of our teaching here. “Economics in the Household” is a module which features heavily in our programmes. This looks, among other things, at the methods and research concepts of surveys. For example, we use the micro-census, EU-SILC (European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions) or data from the National Nutrition Survey. We also have specific modules where students access the data records and learn how to use them. In my opinion, the scientific use files from Destatis are affordable, and the effort spent with regard to data protection measures is also certainly justifiable. It’s a very pleasing development that institutions such as the Federal Statistical Office don’t just

keep their data to themselves, but instead allow various branches of research to use them as well. The fact that a range of professions work with the data has done no harm whatsoever to the reputation of your organisation or the time use study, quite the contrary.

You are a member of the Expert Commission for the German Federal Government’s Gender Equality Report. Were findings from the time use study also incorporated into the report?

Yes, we spent two years working on the report, which was presented to the government on 17 January 2017. As you know, the gender pay gap and gender pension gap were already the subject of much discussion at the time. We used time use data to calculate a gender care gap for the report. Women do 1.5 times as much unpaid work for other people as men. The report addresses the question of how we organise day-to-day work and care work in a society in which women are more focused on gainful activity. Upon presentation of the report, we recommended measuring the gender care gap at regular intervals. If we look at this figure from the perspective of the whole course of a person’s life, taking into account all of the gaps in employment history, it becomes clear why the lifetime income of women in Germany only comes to 40% of that of men. The figures completely dispel the notion we have of living in a relatively equal society. The gender care gap can be calculated according to different educational groups and

types of household. If we want to continue tracking this gap, the time use survey needs to be continued, since without it there is no data basis.

You analysed data from the time use study for your research into “food-related tasks”. That’s a rather unusual term ...

Our society continues to completely undervalue routine housework. Households are not just a place of leisure, but also a place of work. This is not just a residual factor which will disappear as technology progresses. If we look at time use data, we will see that managing a household still accounts for the lion’s share of women’s time. This is felt in particular by women who have to juggle running a home on the one hand, with a job on the other hand. The up-keep of a house or cooking food are tasks which – unlike the area of education – are greatly undervalued in society.

We use the term “food-related tasks” as a kind of umbrella term to describe the various unpaid activities. This not only covers cooking or preparing meals, but also logistical factors involved. What is there in the fridge? What do we want to cook? Who will do the shopping? Who will do what in terms of stocking up on food supplies? And then, of course, there is the work to do after the meal: who will clear away, and who will do the washing up? The great thing about time use data is that individual activities can also be calculated in great detail. The time spent by women on domestic activities is falling. But it isn’t the case that they are being done by men instead. We therefore need to ask the question as to where this work has gone? Have women lowered their standards? With regard to children, are these food-related tasks now being covered by day care facilities or school catering?

Data should also be collected on what other family members do during this time and which other actors form part of this network, either in institutional or family-based terms.

As society becomes service-based, a study such as this also needs to find out about actors outside of the household so as to be able to assess the extent to which we are asking other people to cover activities which would otherwise take up our own time. In the first time use survey, we were able to analyse who did what with whom. In the most recent study, this is unfortunately no longer the case.

With the aid of time use data, you discovered that the time spent on food-related tasks has also fallen among women who are not even in employment. That sounds paradoxical. What is the reason for this?



“If we look at time use data, we will see that housekeeping still accounts for the lion’s share of women’s time. This is felt in particular by women who have to juggle running a home on the one hand, with a job on the other hand.”

It seems paradoxical based on your and my understanding of the world and time. But in population groups where women have never completed any vocational training, processed and convenience foods are very popular. For such people, it’s a form of social participation. They lack many skills, including nutrition literacy. “Healthy eating” is not an objective for people who have never been taught how to prepare food. Social inequality is evident in very different lifestyles and everything exists side-by-side. Time use data has given us a reason to examine such questions and motivations further through qualitative interviews. A quantitative survey can be used to develop interesting research questions for further studies while also serving as a basis for qualitative studies.

What would you like to see from the next time use survey?

Long-term studies, such as the time use survey, are an excellent way of depicting social developments. Yet this is precisely the focus of my criticism of the current time use study. Unfortunately, the place where people perform their activities is no longer used as a feature of the study. Given the growing number of working mothers and the increase in children’s day care facilities etc., we need to know about the shift in care activities, for example. It is therefore vital to show tried-and-tested indicators which were also used in earlier surveys, so that they can be compared over time. As far as a new addition is concerned, namely the

ways in which people wish to spend their time, there are already an unbelievably large number of studies which can be used.

In any case, I hope that when the next study is designed, academics familiar with the data are involved – I’m thinking here of the evaluation advisory committee. Analysis of the data generates an expertise which is imperative to draw on for the purposes of a research concept. I realise that there is a limit to what can be spent on analysis of this kind, but we need to compare this cost with research requirements and then set priorities.

What might the findings in relation to food-related tasks look like in ten years’ time?

The more firmly women are established professionally, the better their negotiating position will be with regard to routine housework. My hypothesis would be as follows: given that we are heading for a serious labour shortage, a red carpet will be rolled out for women working in skilled areas and in care professions, as nurses or pre-school teachers. This means that more infrastructure will be created and there will be a move towards all-day schooling. Using the data from the next time use study, we could examine the environments in which changes occur first. There is a constant need for solid, dependable data and we should not rely on a subjective impression. Research into time use is crucial for Germany.



Prof. Dr. Uta Meier-Gräwe is Professor of Household and Family Sciences at Justus Liebig University of Gießen and, among other things, is a member of the Expert Commission for the German Federal Government’s Second Gender Equality Report. Since 2013, she has also been head of the Competence Centre “Professionalization and Quality Assurance of Household Services” at Justus Liebig University. Ms Meier-Gräwe is a member of the evaluation advisory committee for the time use study and has used data from all of the time use studies carried out to date for her research.



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Members of the Federal Statistical Office's SDG team

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



“We want to change our world. And we can. We want to give the world a more humane face. And we can. [...] To this end, we are adopting new goals which cover the entire spectrum of global development and which apply to all, industrial and developing countries alike”.

With these words, Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel used her speech to the General Assembly of the United Nations (UN) in September 2015 to underline the groundbreaking importance for the international community of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) upon its adoption.



President Sarreither at the 46th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC).

It is hoped that the 2030 Agenda will set in motion socially just, economically robust and ecologically sound development worldwide in the years to 2030 in order to substantially improve the living conditions of all people now and in future generations and to protect our planet Earth. However, the Agenda does more than simply focus on the preservation of the environment, as it also addresses issues ranging from poverty reduction, education, health care, governance based on the principles of human rights and the rule of law, through to the need for gender equality.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets provide a thematic breakdown of all areas of life and on the status of the planet. Some of these goals are closely interlinked, or even overlap, since the various areas of life cannot be considered in isolation. Education, for instance, has a key impact on poverty and vice versa. The SDGs are therefore a balanced system of interconnected and interacting objectives. In order to be able to measure goal attainment in qualitative terms, a comprehensive review system was introduced. This is an intricate reporting system for examining the implementation of the SDGs at global level. In other words, it is the responsibility of official statistics bodies to assess

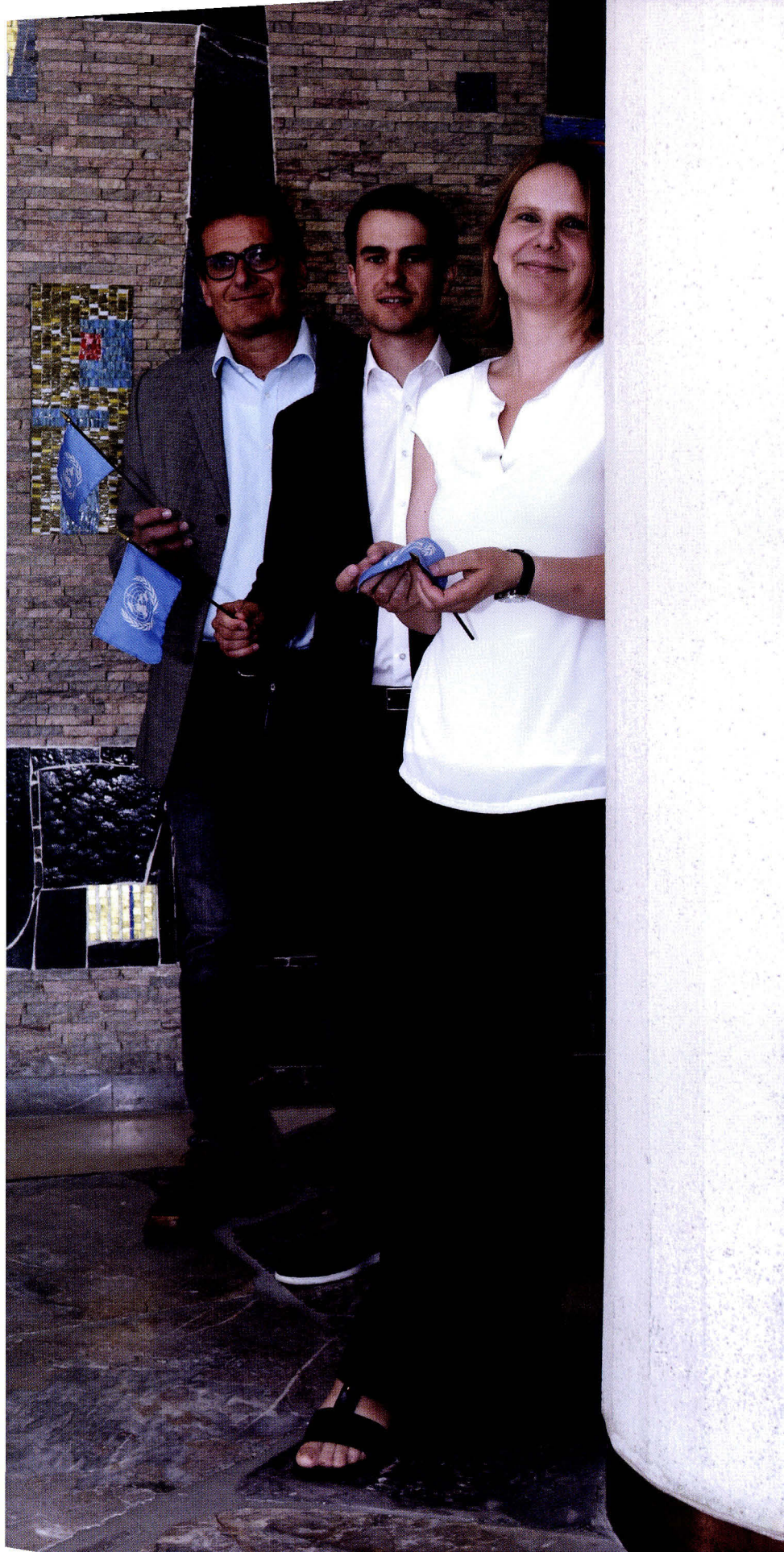
whether a goal has actually been attained or the degree to which there are still deficits in terms of meeting the goals. This requires a global indicator framework, as developed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs). The Federal Statistical Office (Destatis) is not only one of the 27 members of the IAEG-SDGs, but co-chairs the subgroups on data flows and data disaggregation.

Although achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda is a global duty of the international community, each individual country is solely responsible for implementing the Agenda at national level. Within the framework of the Agenda, each country sets its own priorities. As a general rule, these are determined by national circumstances. For example, eradicating poverty should certainly be a priority area in developing countries.

The 2030 Agenda was implemented into German policy by a revision of the German Sustainable Development Strategy. The new version of the National Sustainable Development Strategy dating from 2002 was published by the Federal Government in early 2017 and now also contains all of the goals set out in the 2030 Agenda. This means that the 17 national goals covered in the German Sustainable Development Strategy are the same as the global goals of the 2030 Agenda. New topic areas which have been added to the German strategy as a result are, for example, poverty, water quality or sustainable consumption and production. Indicators designed to enable transparent monitoring were developed for the individual topic areas. The new German Sustainable Development Strategy now comprises a total of 63 indicators, compared to 38 indicators in the previous strategy.

Since 2006, the Federal Statistical Office has been commissioned by the Federal Government to analyse and monitor the Sustainable Development Strategy. It compiles indicators for measuring goal attainment in the individual topic areas and publishes an Indicator Report every two years. Destatis will also monitor the attainment of goals within the framework of the new German Sustainable Development Strategy.

In 2016, Germany submitted its report on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals to the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the central platform for reviewing the 2030 Agenda at global level. Germany was one of the first countries to submit its national report, which was supplemented with indicators. The data for this were compiled by Destatis from its own as well as from external sources. The aim over the next few years will be to gradually broaden and strengthen the data base, in particular by disaggregation, wherever possible.



Left: Members of the Federal Statistical Office's SDG team

Right: The Indicator Report on the German Sustainable Development Strategy: the goals are divided up in accordance with the 17 international Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations.



Interview with Prof. Dr. Klaus Töpfer

Retired Federal Minister and sustainability expert

Prof. Töpfer, as part of the German Sustainable Development Strategy the Federal Statistical Office reports on the progress achieved regarding the implementation of the 17 international goals for sustainable development. You have helped to pave the way for these goals – beginning with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and later the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). How did this come about?

Well, first of all, it is an indication of how old I am and for how long I have been part of this now (laughs). I was Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN) when the MDGs came into being in 2000, and these continued to be valid until 2015. The MDGs have certainly made a difference. Not all of the goals have been achieved, but Kofi Annan [former United Nations Secretary-General] managed to make them more tangible. Following the UN summit

in Rio in 2012, the limits of the MDGs were discussed. The development model of the Global North was supposed to be some form of blueprint for the Global South. That approach was doomed to fail. It became necessary to adopt global goals instead. Goals that would apply not only to the countries of the north but also to those of the south. In hindsight, it is actually difficult to explain why we had not already adopted this same approach in 2000. The SDGs were urgently needed and were developed in an extremely short period of time which is unprecedented for the UN.

You can, of course, argue whether having 17 goals is the most practical approach of all. For some critics, 17 goals were exactly what they had been waiting for: if you want to pursue 17 goals, you'll never achieve any of them. But it is very important to make

people see how these fields of development relate to one another. Take soil, for example. Land is not the particular focus of any of the SDGs, but at least eight to nine of the goals relate to it. Should soil be used to generate energy or to grow food? There is not enough land to do both.

The UN Statistical Commission promotes the concept of “Better data, better lives”. To what extent can data have a real “sustainable” impact on societies?

Figures are facts that we do not need per se. Instead, we need to make these figures relevant for information purposes and decision-making processes. We need information that is relevant to decision-making. We have long complained about having created data graveyards: we know everything about laying hens and how many eggs they produce. In many instances, this may make

“When you want to tell a story, you don’t start with figures. The interpretive power of your narrative relies much more on images, on stories.”



Professor Dr. Klaus Töpfer, has a degree in Economics and was Minister for the Environment and Health in Rhineland-Palatinate from 1985 to 1987, German Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety from 1987 to 1994, German Federal Minister for Regional Planning, Building and Urban Development from 1994 to 1998. He has been a member of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) since 1972.

From 1998 to 2006, Klaus Töpfer was Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) based in Nairobi and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations. In 2009, he was a founding member of the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) in Potsdam and assumed the role of the Institute’s Executive Director until the end of 2015. Since 2007, he has been Professor of Environment and Sustainable Development at Tongji University in Shanghai. He has been awarded the Federal Cross of the Order of Merit and the German Sustainability Award for his lifetime achievements in the field of sustainability.

sense too. But our aim cannot be to collect as much data or as many figures as possible. In our Western world, measureable and quantifiable data seem to be all that matters. I would not endorse the statement of “Better data, better lives”. What do we consider to be a good, a better life? What data do we need in order to measure it? Do we really need data for certain areas? Don’t we need convictions or values instead? Do we not need a culture of responsibility for others which is based on these values and convictions? I think that this discussion is fantastic.

Two journalists compared the SDGs to the Laudato si’ of Pope Francis (the second encyclical, published in 2015, focuses mainly on environmental and climate protection). They found astonishing parallels, and the key question is: what makes human beings act in harmony with what nature is able to provide? We are talking about personal judgements that cannot be quantified. If there is a shift in these judgements, then the relevance of data that people are looking for shifts as well. But all of these discussions about quantifying data..., well, you know more about this topic than I do. Am I working for the Federal Statistical Office or are you (laughs)?

In a “post-factual” age in particular, do figures not take on a greater importance? Do those with interpretive power speak the truth? I was minister for a long time and had to take many decisions. I was told by many people to take decisions based on what academia tells us. My answer was: but what academic field shall I refer to? There was not a single decision where I was certain that there was an academic opinion that all scholars agreed upon. And it would be a bad thing if that were the case. Academia is not the equivalent of truth. Academia is a probability that has not yet been disproved.

Nowadays, narratives have interpretive power. Today, everything that is in the media, including the weather chart, has become a narrative. When you want to tell a story, you don’t start with figures. The interpretive power of your narrative relies much more on images, on stories. I am sure that, in this respect, the Federal Statistical Office has already thought about how figures can be visualised.

At the Federal Statistical Office, we regularly discuss how far we can go in reducing complex statistical data without simplifying too much ...

Politicians are familiar with the following statement: You can be as hard-working as you are, but you are still only going to get 1:30 (minutes of the television news bulletin). Try and reduce a complex matter to that amount of time! That’s extremely difficult. My mother always used to tell me: “Son, I didn’t have time so I had to write you a long letter.” It takes a long time to condense an issue, and a figure alone doesn’t mean anything. The question is: How can this be visualised? How can you turn it into a narrative? You could even use pictures or make a film of it.

What was your strategy when you were given 1:30 minutes in the television news?

My strategy has always been to win people over for a topic, to make them understand that it’s fascinating to look into a topic, and that it’s relevant too. You can’t go in with the aim of turning people into experts. You won’t succeed! Not because they are stupid but because the background knowledge of a topic differs greatly. Relevant is what you still want to discuss after the news. Even if the people you talk to have got a different opinion. An opinion as such is nothing but a relationship to facts, and there is nothing negative in that. It is also true that opinions

may establish themselves in society if your sole focus is on the opinion itself. That is what you might call post-factual.

What piece of advice can you give us, the Federal Statistical Office? How can we communicate the relevance of our figures?

The first thing to do – and I always try to do this myself too – even if it doesn't always succeed, is to speak in a language that people speak and understand. Don't think you will come across as intelligent if you speak in a way that nobody understands. Do whatever you can to use language that is as simple as possible! Even if you run the risk of upsetting an expert. And always use facts in a manner that people can relate to based on their own experience. The term "sustainability" is a good example.

A great academic once said that if you only want to make people accept things, you want to sell something that people do not

want to buy. You could go one step further and address people in their own context and show them what you have to offer. But who am I to tell you how to do your work. (laughs).

The German sociologist Ulrich Beck called himself a "Töpferian" shortly before he died. What did he mean?

In his deliberations on "Second Modernity", Beck pointed out the risk that traditional institutions may lose their established role and the trust and confidence of the people. And Beck provided genuinely credible proof. In saying that he was a "Töpferian" he might have meant that you have to be willing to accept that whatever your role now may be, you cannot discount the roles you have played in the past and that you should not draw a line between the different roles that you are playing. That enables you to keep your brain sharp and stay in dialogue.



"An opinion as such is nothing but a relationship to facts, and there is nothing negative in that."

Issues for the future



New digital data for official statistics

New digital data, as well as an increasing amount of available administrative data, are changing the nature of official statistics and are raising doubts regarding the use of traditional methods of statistical production in the long term. Although new digital data pose a major challenge, they also represent a huge opportunity. In future, it will be possible to compile official statistics, both at a regional level as well as for small groups, in a quicker, cheaper and more precise fashion. The burden on respondents will also be considerably reduced as a result.

New digital data sources need be examined thoroughly before they are used to compile official statistics. This is a complex process which not only encompasses methodological requirements but also, to an at least equal extent, legal issues and quality aspects. In many areas, staff working in the field of official statistics will require new skills which will need to be developed on the basis of suitable training strategies.

There are a number of different risks involved in using high technology that is intended to provide information, regardless of whether we do so on an active basis or in a more cautious manner. Should official statistics bodies either fail to harness the potential of new digital data sources as a basis for decision-making processes in the area of politics, society or academia, and make them available to an adequate extent – or only do so to a limited degree – new actors in the information market will step in, such as Google and Amazon are already doing today. Overall, private businesses will not cover the entire field of the public good that is official statistics but they might control relevant areas, such as price indices, where the quality of data produced might not necessarily be on the same level as what official statistics bodies can achieve.

In the longer term, official statistics will maintain their position, even in the world of new digital data. Only a statistical body with public backing will be able to work together with policy-makers and data protection authorities to further develop procedural rules which permit ‘blended data’, i.e. the simultaneous use of integrated survey data, administrative data and additional digital data, for statistics. However, a lot of work still needs to be done by the statistical offices before they reach that point.

The challenges to be dealt with cannot be overcome by any statistical office on its own. International cooperation and the sharing of work are essential in this respect. The United Nations, its European regional commission UNECE as well as the European Statistical System (ESS) are working together with the statistical offices of the respective member states in various fields – in working groups as well as on specific projects – towards integrating new digital data into official statistics. In adopting the Scheveningen Memorandum in 2013, the heads of the statistical offices that make up the ESS decided to no longer discuss ‘whether’, but instead focus on ‘how’ to use new digital data. An ESS new digital data roadmap and action plan were drawn up and a total of eight new digital data projects have been launched. Statisticians are working on web scraping methods and mobile phone data, and are also tackling issues relating to smart data (the Internet of Things) as well as the automatic identification systems of ships. These work packages were begun in 2016 and are due to deliver their first conclusive findings by 2019.

Following these international activities, in which the Federal Statistical Office was involved from the outset, a further measure was taken in 2016 and the European new digital data roadmap was developed further to create a national strategy for federal statistics. Short and medium-term objectives were drawn up for using new digital data, in combination with survey data and administrative data, within official statistics.

For statistical offices, new digital data will be used initially as part of special evaluations. When analysing the short-term information requirements of ministries or third parties, valuable additional

findings may be derived using a combination of new digital data, from the internet for instance, and official data.

It is expected that the first use of new digital data in official statistics will take place by 2020, for the areas of agriculture and forestry as well as in price statistics. Thanks to the European Space Agency’s (ESA) Copernicus Programme and the very extensive data provided by the Sentinel satellites, for example, initial uses for determining land cover, such as in harvest statistics, can be expected at some stage in the near future. In this regard, experts from the Federal Statistical Office are working intensively on initial feasibility studies. As far as price statistics are concerned, individual prices have been manually collected online for some time now. In project studies, statisticians are working on procedures for the automated and repeated collection of prices using web scraping. Besides methodological questions, legal – and in particular copyright – issues need to be clarified before this procedure can be used on a regular basis. Data from scanner checkouts are another area where new digital data are used in price statistics. The big advantage of this information is that the prices recorded are for direct contracts, which is a valuable characteristic, especially during times of flexible pricing. Further feasibility studies focus on commuter behaviour and tourism statistics based on mobile phone data.

Many questions still need to be clarified before new digital data can be used fully within the field of official statistics. These relate to methodological and qualitative aspects on the one hand, and data protection issues on the other. However, they also include considerations on continuous access to data and how to regulate this. The move towards new digital data is undeniably a trend and, as is the case with trends, will pass. However, the data will remain and will bring about a lasting change to official statistics as we know them today, both nationally and internationally.



Further information on the topic of “new digital data”

Networking registers in Germany: adding quality to population figures

As far as officially calculated population figures are concerned, a strong trend towards using administrative data is in evidence at international level; according to a survey by UNECE, 24 countries in Europe plan to use a completely register-based or – as in Germany – combined method for collecting the 2021 Census data. In the combined method, both register data and primary-statistical surveys are processed and linked together in different ways. All of the statistical offices that were questioned acknowledge the need to move away from traditional survey-based census methods: results are becoming more up-to-date, the burden on citizens is being reduced and data acquisition is getting more efficient. In 2017, the Federal Statistical Office set up a project section which is making conceptual preparations for the register-based calculation of population figures.

In Germany, data from the population registers were already used successfully to calculate population figures and determine key demographic characteristics during the 2011 Census. At the same time, suspected deficiencies in the quality of the population registers were confirmed; these related to overcounting and undercounting and were remedied using an extensive corrective sample. The registration processes and patterns of the population were the causes for these quality deficiencies. Improvements to registration processes brought in following the entry into force of the Federal Registration Act in November 2015 mean that future registration processes will be less prone to errors. However, these processes will not correct errors already contained in the registration data. Moreover, the population's registration patterns mean that overcounting and undercounting will continue to occur in future. Greater use of the population registers will depend greatly on the quality improvements made to them.

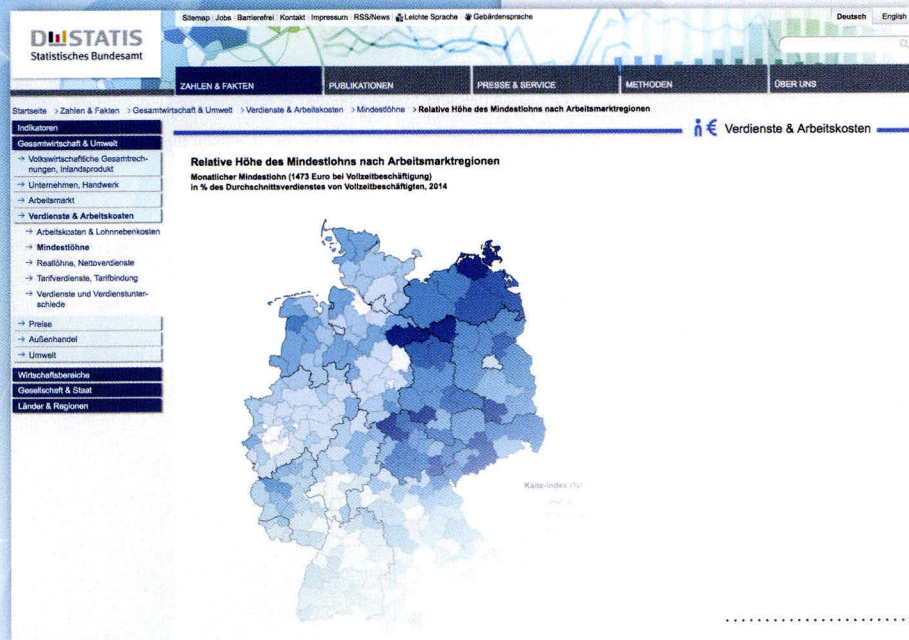
As in 2011, the 2021 Census in Germany will once again use a combined method which relies on the results of surveys in addition to the register data used (e.g. in order to correct the population registers for the purposes of calculating inhabitant numbers). At European level, meanwhile, fundamental changes to the legal framework for population censuses are on the horizon for the period after 2021. For Germany, the adoption of the current European notion will mean that there will be an obligation to provide selected census results more quickly, more frequently (annually) and for smaller areas (grid cells of 1 km²) from around the middle of the next decade. Countries using a register-based method are in a position to meet these future European demands without having to devote any considerable resources to collecting and processing statistics.

In order to address these challenges at an early stage, the Federal Statistical Office has set up a new project section which is devising a strategy for the annual register-based calculation of census results

for small areas. At the same time, the aim of the strategy is to reflect the requirements of the current population statistics in order to achieve a coherent overall system of the census and current population statistics. A key aim in this connection is to propose measures that can be used to help improve the quality of the population registers further.

Looking further ahead to the 2031 Census, preparations are already under way in order to enable it to be conducted in a more register-based fashion and thereby reduce not only the burden for citizens but also administrative costs. Besides improving the quality of the population registers, the development of a uniform and nationwide register of buildings and housing will therefore be a key task. This is due to the fact that, in an ideal scenario, a register-based method will in the long term be able to simplify or even replace surveys of all owner-occupiers that are carried out under the census of buildings and housing. Preparing the conceptual foundations for such a register is another important duty which will face the new project section in future.

Digital administrative procedures can be made possible by establishing a network of registers which all share the same core characteristics. Citizen-authorised register searches between different administrations could replace the obligation to provide hard-copy documents, provided that data protection standards were observed. At the same time, a standardised core data system that can be accessed by different authorities could allow cases to be processed anywhere, regardless of which authority has technical and local jurisdiction. Administrative procedures, both for citizens and for enterprises and administrations, would therefore be simplified. The Federal Statistical Office is helping the Federal Government to develop guiding principles for such a register landscape in Germany. If implemented, this would lead to considerable gains in efficiency, not only in official statistics.



Further information on the topics of
"migration" and "the minimum wage"

Range of interactive data on migration and integration is being planned

Compiling and analysing migration and integration data from different authorities requires a lot of time and research. In response to the high level of demand for data on refugees and people seeking refuge, a separate page was set up on the Destatis website two years ago. This provides an overview of all available official sources and contains links to external data.

What is lacking is a range of data which brings together and visualises structural data relevant to migration and integration from different sources. The Federal Statistical Office is working on an interactive range of maps which will offer data from official statistics,

from the German Federal Employment Agency (BA) and the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) in one application. Municipal decision-makers, multipliers, bloggers and the online media are the target group.

The application is based on technologies which have already been used successfully in the map depicting the relative minimum wage by labour market regions or the census map showing housing in Germany. This and other maps can be found on the Federal Statistical Office's website.

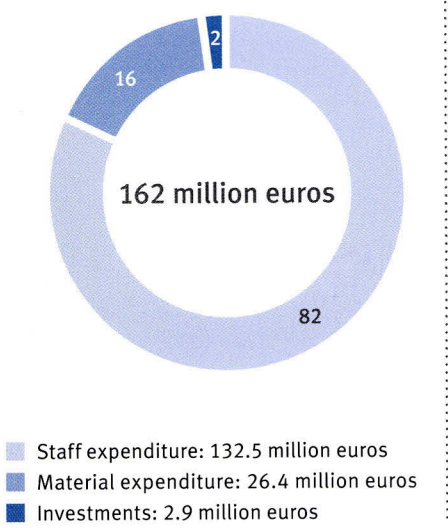
The Destatis budget in detail

The budgeted funds of the Federal Statistical Office amounted to 161.8 million euros for 2016. This figure accounts for 2.1 percent of the budget of the Federal Ministry of the Interior and for 0.05 percent of the Federal Republic's total budget.

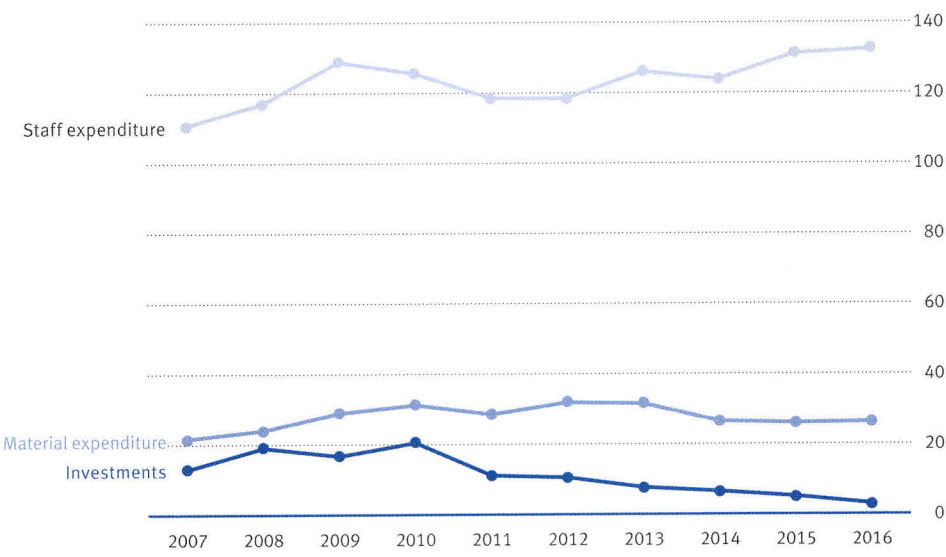
Keeping an eye on the budget: employees from the budget team



Budgeted expenditure of the
Federal Statistical Office in 2016
Percentage share



Budget of the Federal Statistical Office
Million euros



At 132.5 million euros, expenditure for the approximately 2,200 staff members of the Federal Statistical Office accounted for 82 percent of its total budget in 2016. The amount budgeted for material costs was 26.4 million euros, which equated to around 16 percent of total expenditure. Investment in information technology and the ongoing modernisation of the office building in Wiesbaden totalled 2.9 million euros and represented a share of 2 percent of the budget.

The growth in staff expenditure in recent years has not been continuous, due in part to the pooling of IT operations (IT consolidation), which saw a total of around 100 staff members move to the former Federal Office for Information Technology (BIT) from 2013. As part of this process, the Federal Statistical Office transferred around 11 million euros to cover staff, material and investment expenditure. In 2015, staff expenditure rose by around seven million euros as additional funds were granted for new posts as well as for increases in collectively agreed salaries and in the remuneration of public officials.

The Federal Statistical Office is granted additional budget funds, or new posts there are created, for “special items”. These are tasks

or duties which are the subject of political focus and could not be carried out otherwise with the resources available. In recent years, funds have been provided for bureaucracy cost measurement, higher education statistics and the 2011 Census, among others.

A series of projects are also being carried out on behalf of and financed by the federal ministries. In terms of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, examples include the preparation of the National Education Report and the Education Finance Report, as well as municipal education monitoring. Thanks to EU grants, the Federal Statistical Office is able to work on further projects. In this respect, co-financing provided on a temporary basis by Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Union, means that employees can be recruited to perform these tasks. If, on behalf of companies or other third parties, special evaluations on statistical data are compiled because these evaluations are either not available or not published as standard, this will also generate additional income. A total of roughly 11.6 million euros was received from third-party funding in 2016.

Human resources: fit for the future

The social changes of our time are not only placing new technical demands on the Federal Statistical Office but are also creating new needs among the staff. Nowadays, people's individual lifestyles are much more varied, we are much more mobile and are ever more interconnected. The Federal Statistical Office is addressing this change and giving its staff member the chance to take part in e-learning wherever they are, while also allowing them flexible working times, thereby helping to improve their work-family balance.



Modern training in the digital world

With people increasingly resorting to digital learning methods, training at the Federal Statistical Office is changing. 2016 saw the completion of an extensive set of e-learning modules entitled “Introduction to Official Statistics”, which have been developed by the Federal Statistical Office together with the statistical offices of the Länder. In 18 e-learning modules on organisational and legal as well as statistical and methodological items, interested parties are provided with a detailed overview of the basic principles underlying official statistics. New staff and other interested persons can therefore learn about the most important topics of official statistics wherever and whenever it suits them.

In view of the fact that current topics such as new digital data play an increasingly important role for the work of the Federal Statistical Office, statisticians are being prepared for the future and are being given relevant training. This includes seminars on the use of machine learning and on the options available to the official statistics bodies for analysing new digital data.

In addition to using the new e-learning services, employees received an average of two days’ classroom training in 2016. The Federal Statistical Office coordinated 160 in-house training sessions, just under 60 joint seminars with the statistical offices of the Länder and hosted 17 decentralised training events organised by the German Federal Academy of Public Administration.

Promoting a balance between work and family life

Helping staff to achieve the right work-family balance has been a primary concern of the Federal Statistical Office for many years. Staff members are therefore given support in this area through a wide range of measures aimed at promoting such a policy.

Up to now, it has been mainly women who have made use of this support. Under the German Federal Act on Gender Equality, men in particular are to be motivated to take up such offers. In an initial step, a clearly structured presentation on the intranet was used to draw people’s attention to the wide range of measures available for the reconciliation of family life and employment (e.g. parental leave with or without part-time employment, periods of leave and

part-time work on family grounds, telework or mobile working, allowing employees with care responsibilities to take time off, family parking, parent-child room). Moreover, men wishing to take on a greater share of family responsibilities are being explicitly addressed.

Information events on the topic of men and women sharing family duties are also held. Furthermore, there are plans to invite young fathers who have already taken advantage of measures to reconcile work and family life to voluntarily answer questions on their experiences. This is designed to encourage fathers at Destatis to share their experiences.

Among the tasks of staff from the Human Resources Department is to ensure that Destatis offers modern training opportunities.



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Work-family balance and flexible working times are important issues for employees.

Long-term working time accounts allow for more flexible working times

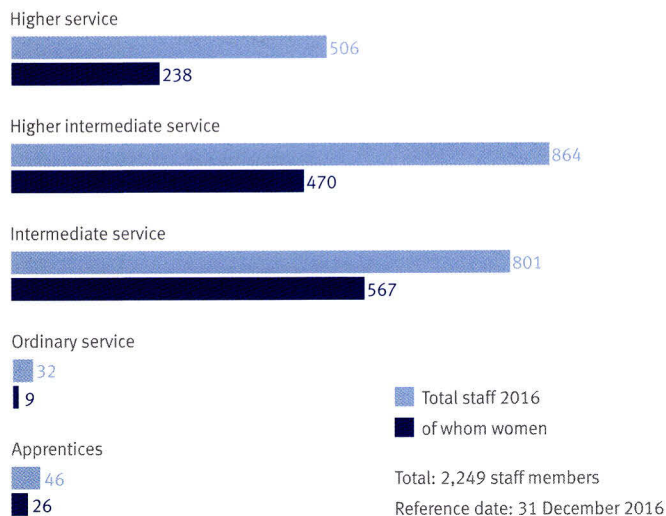
Since the start of 2017, staff members of the Federal Statistical Office have been able to enter into an individual agreement to set up a long-term working time account under a pilot project being conducted by the Federal Ministry of the Interior. Employees use these accounts, which are based on their own individual working times, to save time credit which they can then use to take longer periods of leave. The option to save up time credit will initially apply until the end of 2020.

The offer addresses the needs of today's employees and is designed to allow staff members to decide for themselves, on a flexible basis, when to take a period of paid leave. Not only does this help to make work and private life more compatible, but it also

provides employees with greater scope in terms of how they structure their personal career planning (e.g. including further training). Long-term working time accounts can therefore play an effective role in improving motivation and raising levels of job satisfaction.

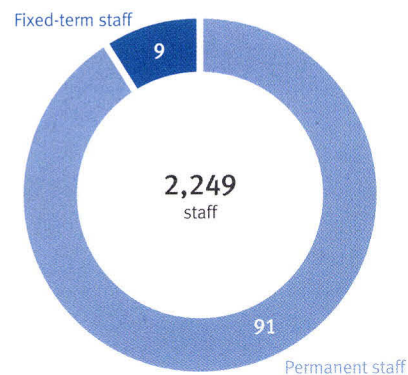
Interested staff members enter into an agreement with Human Resources to increase their planned weekly working time by up to three hours. Likewise, each year employees may carry over a maximum of five days of annual leave to the long-term working time account. This additional time that has been gained is transferred to a separate time account and may be used up at a later date, either all at once or in several blocks. The accumulated credit may also even be used at some time in the future to work on a part-time basis.

Total staff members by class of service



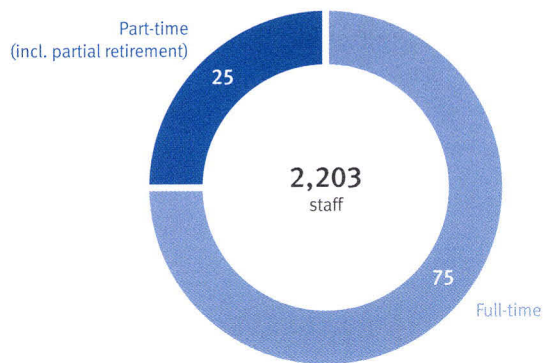
Permanent staff and fixed-term staff

Percentage share



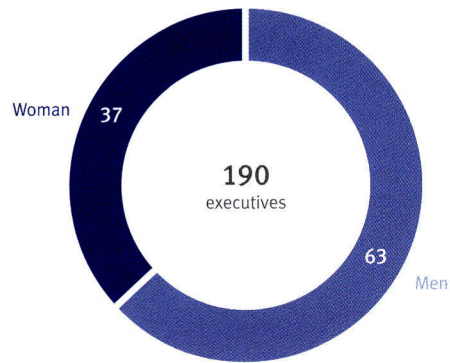
Staff by working time model

Percentage share



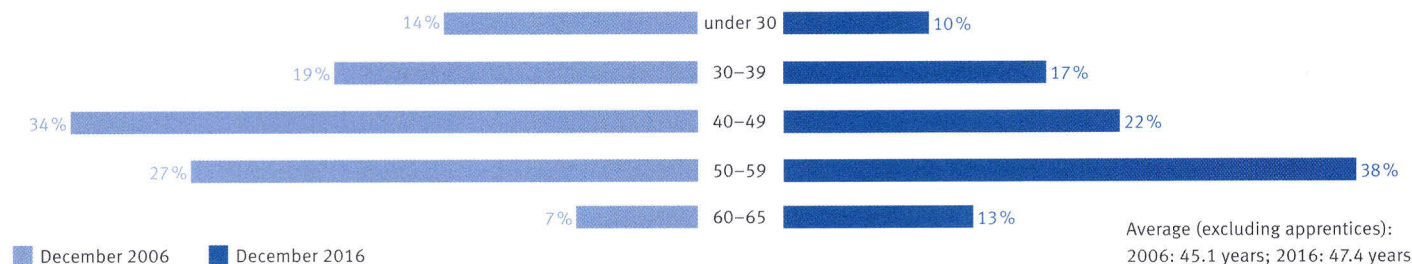
Executives by gender

Percentage share



Staff members by age group in a ten-year comparison (excluding apprentices)

Percentage share



Senior management



Dieter Sarreither

President and Federal Returning
Officer

Dr. Georg Thiel

Vice-President and Deputy
Returning Officer

Dr. Ruth Brand

Health, Social Statistics,
Education, Households

Sibylle von Oppeln-
Bronikowski

Strategy and Planning,
International Relations,
Research and Communication

Peter Schmidt

Business Register, Earnings,
Industry, Services

Jürgen Chlumsky

Administration, Bureaucracy Cost
Measurement

Albert Braakmann

National Accounts, Prices

Angela Schaff

Agriculture, Environment,
Foreign Trade

Beate Glitza

Information Technology,
Mathematical-Statistical Methods

Dr. Sabine Bechtold

Population, Finance and Taxes

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