
Mannheim Eurobarometer Trend File,
1970–1999

Appendices

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ICPSR 3384

Mannheim Eurobarometer Trend File, 1970-1999

(ICPSR 3384)

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DATA COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Hermann Schmitt and Evi Scholz

Mannheim Eurobarometer Trend File, 1970-1999 (ICPSR 3384)

SUMMARY: The Mannheim Eurobarometer Trend File, created through cooperation of the Mannheimer Zentrum für Europäische Sozialforschung (MZES) and the Zentrum für Umfragen, Methoden und Analysen (ZUMA), combines the most important trend questions of the Eurobarometer surveys conducted between 1970 and 1999. The file consists of 100 trend questions asked at least five times in standard Eurobarometer surveys. A total of 877,223 respondents from 15 European Union member nations (initially, six European Community nations) plus Norway in some years were interviewed in these surveys. The cumulative trend questions concentrated on European Community (EC)/European Union (EU) issues and other sociopolitical issues, as well as electoral behavior. The major focus of the surveys was respondents' knowledge of and opinions on the EU/EC, including how well-informed they felt about the EC/EU, whether their country had benefited from being an EC/EU member, and the extent of their personal interest in EC/EU matters. A number of questions concentrated on the European Parliament, the European Commission, and the Single European Market. Respondents were asked whether they heard about those institutions, what impression they had of the European Commission, what importance the Single European Market had, what role the European Parliament had, and how important the European Parliament elections were. They were also asked whether they were for or against European unification, whether the speed of European integration was appropriate, and whether they were satisfied with democracy in the EC/EU. Respondents determined policy areas in which decisions should be made separately by national governments and jointly within the EC/EU as a whole. Those polled were asked how satisfied they were with their lives, whether they attempted to persuade others close to them to share their views on subjects they held strong opinions about, whether they discussed political matters, and how they viewed the need for societal change. The surveys queried respondents about the general economic situation in their countries, how often they watched news on TV, read news in papers, and listened to news on the radio, their interest in politics and support for different types of political and social movements, and the probability of strikes and world war in the next ten years. A number of questions concentrated on respondents' voting behavior, including their intention to vote in EP elections and the party they voted for in the national elections. Demographic and other background information provides respondents' age, gender, marital status, the number of people residing in the household, number of

children under 15 in the household, age at completion of education, left-right political self-placement, occupation, religion, subjective social class, political party affiliation, trade union membership, household income, region of residence, and subjective size of community.

UNIVERSE: Persons aged 15 and over residing in the EU (previously EC) member countries and in Norway.

SAMPLING: Multistage national probability samples.

NOTE: (1) The files included with this release of the collection derive from the data producers, Mannheimer Zentrum für Europäische Sozialforschung and Zentrum für Umfragen, Methoden und Analysen. (2) In addition to the wild codes mentioned in the codebook on page 38 in footnote number 13, the AGE variable contains the additional following wild codes: 12, 13, and 14. (3) The codebook and appendices are provided by the data producers as Portable Document Format (PDF) files. The PDF file format was developed by Adobe Systems Incorporated and can be accessed using PDF reader software, such as the Adobe Acrobat Reader. Information on how to obtain a copy of the Acrobat Reader is provided on the ICPSR Web site.

EXTENT OF COLLECTION: 1 data file + machine-readable documentation (PDF) + SAS data definition statements + SPSS data definition statements

EXTENT OF PROCESSING: DDEF.ICPSR/ REFORM.DATA/ MDATA.PR

DATA FORMAT: Logical Record Length with SAS and SPSS data definition statements and SPSS export file

File Structure: rectangular

Cases: 877,223

Variables: 132

Record Length: 233

Records Per Case: 1

RELATED PUBLICATIONS:

Reif, Karlheinz, and Ronald Inglehart (eds.). EURO-BAROMETER: THE DYNAMICS OF EUROPEAN OPINION. London, England: MacMillan, 1991.

PROCESSING NOTE FOR ICPSR #3384

The codebook, appendices, and collection description are being provided as separate PDF files due to document security protocols initiated by the principal investigator.

In addition to the wild codes mentioned in the codebook on page 38 in footnote number 13, the AGE variable contains the additional following wild codes: 12, 13, and 14.