Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA

Federal Social Insurance Office
Domain Mathematics, Analyses, Statistics and Standards

Use of the WiSiER database by the FSIO and third parties

The WiSiER (**Wi**rtschaftliche **Si**tuation von Personen im **E**rwerbs- und im **R**entenalter) database was created to conduct analyses of the economic well-being of the working- and retirement-age population in Switzerland. It links harmonized cantonal tax data with data supplied by the Federal Statistical Office (FSO), the Central Compensation Office (CCO) and the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO).

Use of WiSiER is governed by the contracts with the cantons which provided their tax data to WiSiER and in specific data protection and affiliation agreements with the Federal Statistical Office (FSO).

The database is held by the FSIO. For more detailed information (methodological report and codebooks), go to the FSIO's website, under Research and evaluation.

1. Use of WiSiER by the FSIO

WiSiER was created for FSIO research projects. The contracts established between the cantons and the FSIO stipulate that the FSIO will use the database for the purposes of analyzing the economic well-being of specific sub-population as well as social policy issues. The call for FSIO research projects was launched in 2019.

Research teams mandated by the FSIO do not need to obtain any authorization to use data from the cantons. The FSIO will inform the cantons accordingly.

The FSIO tested the usability of WiSiER while it was still under development in the framework of the SSHC-S Postulate 16.3910 as well as the SSHC-N Decision and the later National Council Decision on Child Allowance Cuts (17.022). The resulting report — *Economic situation of recipients of Pillar-1 pensions (AHV/IV) who are entitled to a supplementary children's pension*— as well as further research reports produced using WiSiER can be downloaded from the FSIO website.

2. Use of WiSiER by third parties

Of the eleven cantons, nine (AG, BE, BL, BS, GE, LU, NE, SG, VS) also made WiSiER available for research by third parties. Due to the agreed period of use of the data set until the end of 2023, the possibility for third parties to submit an application for data use to the FSIO was discontinued at the end of May 2022. A total of eleven third-party projects were approved.

All queries about the WiSiER database should be submitted via email to the FSIO at wisier@bsv.admin.ch.