



INSTITUT FÜR HÖHERE STUDIEN
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Data requirements

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Data Sources

- To monitor student behaviour in general, but the social dimension in particular, we need three different data sources:
 - Register data
 - Population data
 - Survey data

Register data

- We need **micro data**, i.e. anonymous data from each individual student, for every semester and every programme enrolled.
- Every student must have a **unique identification number** which (s)he keeps for all her/his life.
(every student = all ISCED 5-8, all public and private HEI)
- Only if these 2 conditions are fulfilled, we can implement a comprehensive monitoring and track students through the whole system

Content of the register

- Information per student:
 - Date of birth, gender, nationality, place of residence before admission and current place
 - Previous education (grades?), HE access qualification (grades?), way of transition/admission
 - Semester, programme and university for all enrolments, status (full/part-time), incoming mobility, interruption, graduation
- Information per programme
 - Type of HEI, name of programme, ISCED level and field, ECTS, min/max study duration, tuition fees, admission rules

Should these be included as well???

- Additional information per student could be:
 - ECTS and grades per semester
 - Receipt of public student support
 - Information about students' parents:
 - Highest education degree
 - Professional status
 - Current or last job
 - Migration background
 - Disability
 - Ethnicity
 - Linguistic minority
 - Religious affiliation

Might not be legal to collect info
about 3rd persons

Very sensitive data.
Can be misused as well

Implement a comprehensive database

- Some countries already have such a system, other countries collect only aggregated indicators.
- Implementing such a database will take several years (new laws, resources, privacy issues, ...)
 - ➔ Urgent to start as soon as possible
- PLA's on the set-up of such databases could be very helpful!

Population data

- In order to identify underrepresented groups, we need to compare the student population with the total population.
- Basic information of the population is available e.g. in the LFS (labour force survey).
 - Not the whole EHEA uses the LFS of EUROSTAT (and does not need to use it)
- But what about other characteristics of the population, e.g. distribution of certain impairments in the country?

Survey data

- Not all needed data is (and should be) stored in the register
 - Not all data should be collected compulsory
 - Only students can tell us *how* a system works
- ➔ Thus, we need to ask the students

Content of the Survey

- All data mentioned before but not contained in the register (or no register exists)
- Additional info about the social situation of the students (e.g. housing, financial situation, employment, time budget, transportation, health insurance, children, impairment, etc.)
- Assessment of certain aspects (e.g. hurdles on study progress, support from HEI, reasons for employment, needed care for children, etc.)

Conducting such a survey

- Involve social scientist with knowledge of the HE system (not market research)
- The larger the sample, the more expensive the study, but the more detailed analysis is possible
- Good (micro!) data of the total student population is needed to draw a valid sample and adjust survey data to population (representativity)
- Make use of the Know-How EUROSTUDENT has built in this field over many years (and get international comparability as an add-on)

Thank you very much!

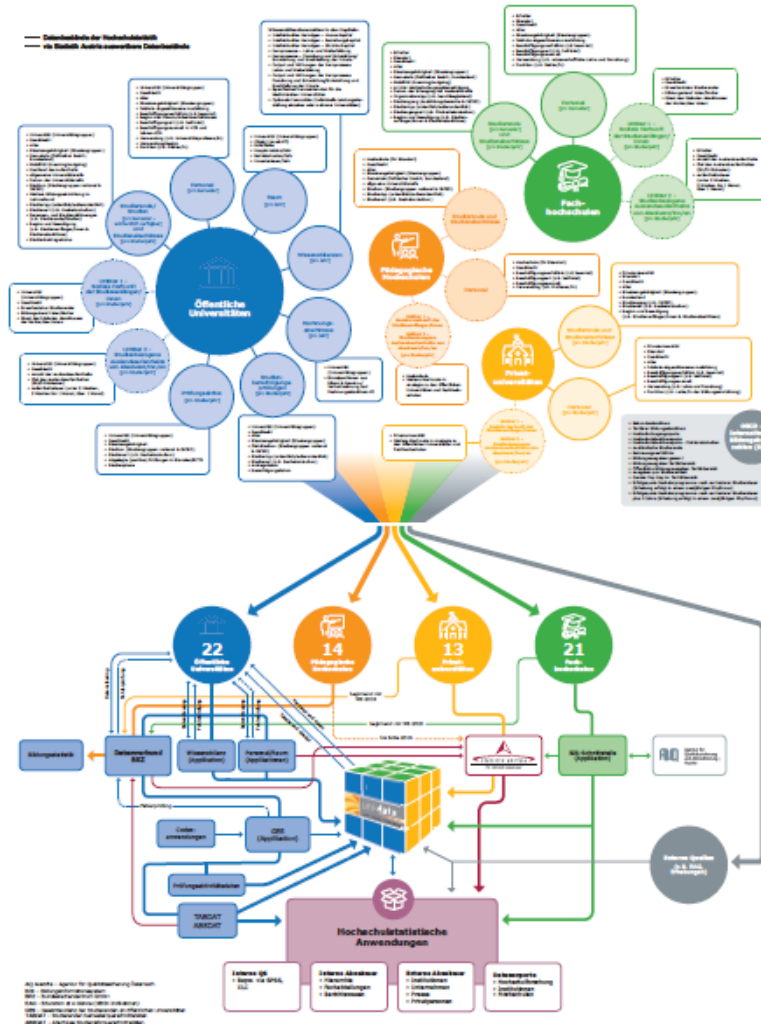
Higher Education Research at IHS-Vienna:

<http://ihs.ac.at/her>

Higher Education Database in the Austrian Ministry of Science

Abteilung IV/10 – Datenbestände und Datenströme
in der Hochschulstatistik

Bundesministerium
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