
European Values Study

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The European Values Systems Study Group (EVSSG), an international group of researchers investigating values and norms, began discussions in 1979 and, after a number of preliminary studies, undertook pilot studies in France, Great Britain, West Germany and Spain during 1980. In 1981, fieldwork began in ten European nations on a major study – the European Values Survey. Its stated aim was "to investigate the nature and inter-relationships of values systems, their degree of homogeneity and the extent to which they are subject to change

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across time." The questionnaire used in each country was developed by the group and translated into the relevant languages. Every attempt was made to ensure the comparability of questions in each country.

The Study

The populations of ten European nations were surveyed in the period between March and May of 1981:

France
 Great Britain
 Ulster
 West Germany
 Italy
 The Netherlands
 Denmark
 Belgium
 Spain
 Eire

A repeat survey is planned in these countries in 1990

The same questionnaire has been employed in surveys in a number of other European countries as well (excluding only, the EVSSG reports, Luxembourg, Greece, Portugal, Switzerland and Austria, with the last two countries planning surveys in 1988). In addition, matching surveys were carried out in Hungary and the Soviet Union in Eastern Europe.

Outside Europe, the questionnaire has been used in the following countries: U.S.A., Canada, Japan, Mexico, South Africa, Chile, Argentina, South Korea, Kuwait, Lebanon and New Zealand.

The Ten-Nation Data Set

The ESRC Data Archive has been asked by the EVSSG to distribute the data from the ten-nation European study on its behalf. An integrated codebook for the nine datasets has been prepared by the Archive. A full Study Description of these studies appears below.

European Values Survey, 1981

Purpose

A large scale cross-national and on-going survey of moral, religious, political, and social values in Western Europe.

Variables

Religious attitudes, beliefs, practice, affiliation. Moral outlook. Political interest, inclination, participation. Attitudes towards reform, civic institution, means of production. Other political values indicators. Personal values, attitudes towards the family, marriage, divorce, sex. Work values. Perception of the future. Satisfaction ratings, indicators of psychological well-being, health. Range of socio-demographic variables: sex, age, housing tenure and type, terminal education age, household size and composition, marital status, employment status, occupational code for respondent and chief wage earner, workplace details, trade union membership, regional codes, area types, income on a scale, scale, (ethnic group and socioeconomic status by interviewer observation).

Additional data include:

leisure activities, voluntary work. Attitudes towards science, war, terrorism. Index of internationalism. Attitudes towards a shorter working week.

Measurement Scales

Personal values scale, moral justification scale, work values scale, work orientation scale, Left-right (political) scale, Political Protest scale, Materialist-post-materialist scale, Greeley Spiritual Experience Battery.

Repeated Questions and Sources

Euro-barometers - Left-right scale, Materialist-post-materialist scale (also Inglehart, R., *The Silent Revolution*, Princetown University Press: 1977); Satisfaction ratings (also Campbell et al. 1976); Affect Balance Scale: Bradburn, N.M., *The structure of Psychological Well-Being* (Chicago: Aldine, 1969); Political Protest Scale: Marsh A., *Protest and political consciousness* (London: Sage, 1977); Gallup trend questions - religious beliefs (1947, 1968 trends), important features in a marriage (1952 trend).

Publications/reports

Stietzel, J., *Les valeurs du temps present* (Paris: Presse Universitaire de France, 1983).
Harding, S.D. and Phillips, D.R. with Fogarty, M. *Contrasting values in Western Europe: Unity, diversity and change* (London: Macmillan, 1986)
Abrams M., Gerard D., and Timms N. (Eds), *Values and Social change in Britain* (London: Macmillan 1985)
Rezsosazy R. and Kerkhofs J. (Eds), *L'Univers des Belges: valeurs anciennes et valeurs nouvelles dans les annees 80* (Louvain-La-Neuve: CIACO 1984)
Fogarty M., Ryan L., and Lee J., *Irish values and attitudes* (Dublin: Dominican Press 1984)
Orizo F.A., *Espana, entre la apatia y el cambio social* (Madrid: Editorial MAPFRE 1983)

Status:

Access C, Class II (SPSS) Size L

Sampling Procedures:

Quota sample: France, Italy, Spain, West Germany - quotas set by age, sex and occupation on the basis of census data.
Simple random sample: Denmark, Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Netherlands, Ireland. In each country a random selection of sampling points was made according to a geographical distribution ensuring that all types of areas (rural, urban etc.) were represented according to their proportion in the population.
In addition to representative sampling, a booster quota sample of 200 young adults aged 18-24 was used in each country.

Method of Data Collection:

Oral Interview

Population:

Adults, 18 years and over

Time dimensions:

Trend study: One wave

Date of data Collection:

March 1981 to May 1981

Cases (target):

12000

Cases (obtained):

12463

Sample Size by Country:

Belguim	1145
Denmark	1182
Eire	1217
France	1199
Grt Britain	1231
Italy	1348
Netherlds	1221
N. Ireland	0312
Spain	2303
W. Germany	1305

Number of Variables: 139

Number of Cards per Case: 6

National samples weighted for age (NB booster sample). For aggregate European totals, weights were applied to each country as follows: Belgium 3.42, Denmark 1.82, France 17.43, GB 19.06, Italy 19.75, Netherlands 4.83, N. Ireland 0.49, Spain 11.60, Eire 1.03, W. Germany 20.58

Depositors:

Moor R. A. de, European Value Systems Study Group

Principal Investigators:

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Moor R.A. de, University of Tilburg (Netherlands)
Kerkhofs J., Katholieke Universiteit Leuven European Value Systems Study Group

Data Collectors:

Social Surveys (Gallup Poll) Ltd
Dimarso (Brussels)
Observa SA (Denmark)
Irish Marketing Surveys (Dublin)
Faits et Opinions (France)
Doxa (Milan)
NIPO (Amsterdam)
Data SA (Spain)
Institut fuer Demoskopie
Allensbach

Access to the data and documentation is available from the Archive on a single-user basis upon application. A short research abstract, describing the intended use of the data is required by the depositor, to whom each individual application will be sent for approval of release. Data are available in SPSSx format.

Other National Data Sets

The Archive also holds data from the national surveys in Norway, Australia and Hungary. Negotiations are underway for release of other national data sets as well. Data from the U.S., Canada, Finland and Mexico the most likely next arrivals. We would be most grateful for information on other national data. The Norwegian Social Science Data Services have also recently produced a teaching package based on the data called "Ung i Europa" (Youth in Europe). Data from 11 countries for about 350 respondents per country in the age group 18 to 24 are included. Details from NSD, Hans Holmboesgt. 22, 5007 Bergen, Norway."

Publications

A recent list of publications based on the data, or utilising the data, is available from the Archive upon application.