

MISSY Microdata Information System

IASSIST 2006, Ann Arbor

May 24, 2006

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Structure

- ◆ What is the German Microcensus?
- ◆ What is MISSY? What is the purpose of MISSY?
- ◆ Design and functions of MISSY

What is the German Microcensus?

- ◆ Annual multi-purpose survey of one percent of all households in Germany → about 820.000 persons
- ◆ Main aim: satisfying the need of data of the Federal Statistical Office
- ◆ Not completely accessible for the main public → subsample as Scientific Use Files
- ◆ Several special characteristics that researchers have to know and appreciate when working with the data

What is MISSY?

- ◆ MISSY = Microdata Information System
- ◆ It collects almost all available metadata of the Microcensus
- ◆ It compiles and provides additional metadata concerning different subjects
- ◆ Technically, MISSY is based upon DDI
- ◆ MISSY will be available via internet soon:

<http://www.gesis.org/Dauerbeobachtung/GML/Service/MISSY/index.htm>

What is the purpose of MISSY?

Facilitates the research with the Microcensus:

- ◆ Provides all necessary metadata for researchers
- ◆ In MISSY, the filing of the metadata is organised in a way that considers the needs of social scientists and economists
 - ➔ Grouping of information concerning the contents
 - ➔ Overview about the comparability over time

Design and functions

Differentiation: general information versus specific information

- ◆ General information concern the whole survey
- ◆ Specific information contain metadata about the variables
- ◆ Connections between these two levels

MISSY - Conclusion

MISSY as an information system for official microdata

- ◆ Connecting related metadata
- ◆ Providing different possibilities of access

Thank you for your attention!

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