Before we start, some important information

• CBS is the only official statistics office in the Netherlands.
• We are (mainly) a register-based statistics office.
• Optimal usage of our statistical output and microdata is a core value of CBS.
• We are not just a NSI, we are a news agency.
Under which legal base is access to microdata possible?

• CBS-law: DG can accredit organizations:
  • Dutch universities and official planning agencies.
  • Other organizations with a (primary) research goal and a good reputation. Must have no administrative tasks.
• Researchers working at an accredited organisation can get access after signing non-disclosure agreement and passing awareness test.
• Project proposals are mandatory. Need-to-know based access, output checks.
Under which legal bases access to microdata is possible?

In short:

organisation

- Granted access for 5 years

researcher

- Employed at...
- Disclosure agreement
- Awareness test

project

- Project proposal
- Need-to-know
- Output check
Types of data available

- Pseudonymized data from hundreds of administrations and registers with 100% coverage
- Datasets can be linked.
CBS, dataknooppunt van Nederland
Can researchers from abroad use Dutch microdata?

- Yes.

If so: under which conditions?

- The same as Dutch researchers.
Experiences with misuse of microdata by researchers?

- Some. Bypassing the output check by copying from the screen, bypassing need-to-know by trying out a new project using data in another project.
- Combination of enthusiasm and ignorance, hence awareness testing.
- Researchers pointing out weaknesses also happens.
How to access Dutch microdata?

24/7 in 10 easy steps:
1. Find a private spot
2. Start computer
3. Connect to internet (secure WiFi or wired)
4. Start Virtual Private Network (VPN)
5. Start Citrix, enter SecurID token code
6. Enter username, password
7. Answer awareness question
8. Select project using project code
9. Projectspecific username, password
10. Enter TAN-code
In 2019 we supported:

- 629 projects,
- involving 1143 researchers
- from 190 different organizations
- using 4582 datasets
- generating 1843 outputs.

Trend: number of projects
More information: www.cbs.nl

set language to english

scroll all the way down
Microdata: Conducting your own research

Authorised institutions can conduct their own research using microdata sets of Statistics Netherlands (CBS). Microdata are linkable data at the level of individuals, companies and addresses, which can be made available to researchers under strict conditions for statistical research. To obtain access for research purposes, please complete and submit an Application form research project. The complete results of your research must be made directly available to interested parties, as a rule at no charge.

Which organisations are allowed to work with microdata?

The following organisations may be granted access to CBS microdata:

- Dutch universities.
- Institutes for scientific research.
• 35 different services.
• Some are mandatory, some are optional.
• Most services will be charged!
• We do help researchers to keep the costs down.
• Catalogue available on the website of CBS
Facts that matter