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EUROPEAN
FAMILY POLICY DATABASE

Database on Specific Family-Policy Measures
in 16 European Countries

Draft Manual
(not to be quoted without the permission of the authors)

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THE FAMILY POLICY DATABASE

Manual

Introduction

The European Family Policy Database provides comparative and country-specific data and information on family policies in 16 European countries. For the purpose of the database, family policies are defined as public policies explicitly targeted at families[1] or policies that expressly consider families in their institutional regulations. The aim of the database is to facilitate comparative family-policy analyses by providing data on the lowest possible aggregation level, by utilizing standardized variables and by accurately indicating institutional regulations.

Two versions of the database are available:
- the European Family Policy Database under MS Access, which is described in this manual, and
- the browser-based version containing all data files, the documentation related to the time series, the overviews of family-policy fields available and some basic information on countries and specific policies. This version has not been updated and maintained.

This manual wants to help potential users to navigate through the database and to find the desired information. The target audience are interested researchers who want to compare family policies across different European countries.

The manual is divided into seven sections: Chapter 1 provides a comprehensive overview of the contents. Chapter 2 focuses on the coverage of particular countries. In chapter 3, you will find a quick-tour that helps you install the CD-Rom and guides you through the database. Chapter 4 offers a detailed description of the two different search methods, and explains the retrieval sequence by means of an example. Chapter 5 explains the sophisticated coding system utilized within the database. Chapter 6 discusses the numerous types of variables embedded in the database and indicates where they can be found. Chapter 7 contains a brief overview of the data sources and of the technical terms used in this database. In the annex, you will find tips on installation and a schematic description of the search methods.

The Austrian Institute for Family Studies (ÖIF) has updated the Austrian data and administrates the European-wide distribution. Moreover, it is in charge of technical maintenance and offers training in the use of the database.

For more information on the European Family Policy Database, please go the ÖIF's homepage: www.oif.ac.at

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[1] The term 'family' also refers to family members and familal relationships.

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1. Overview

The Family Policy Database was conceptualized and created at the Mannheim Center for European Social Research (MZES) as part of the international research project *Family Changes and Family Policies in the West.* It is now maintained and updated at the Austrian Institute for Family Studies (ÖIF), co-ordinator of the European Observatory on the Social Situation, Demography and Family. The database was created to make similar family measures in different countries comparable.

The database provides quantitative and qualitative information on family policies in 16 European countries, all Member States of the European Union (EU) as of 2000 except Luxembourg, plus Norway and Poland. It covers six main areas of family policy:

1) allowances for families in general,
2) allowances especially for one-parent families,
3) subsistence minimum (family dimension),
4) allowances for caring for family/household members in need of short-term or long-term care,
5) child-care services, and
6) entitlements to time-off (time-rights) in order to care for family/household members.

The database is available in a browser-based version and under MS Access. The version of the Family Policy Database under MS Access provides information on institutional regulations and comparative classifications of family-policy measures. Moreover, it permits more sophisticated procedures of data retrieval and selection, which may also be combined, and lets you search by variables.

The core of the database are quantitative time series provided in standardized form across all countries. To broaden the information basis, they are supplemented by country-specific data and institutional information. The time series include data on beneficiaries, benefit rates, the structure of expenditures and of finance for each individual family-policy measure at the lowest possible aggregation level. They cover family policies from their origins or from the time data are available up to the present time. The time series are documented and the sources for each variable are indicated. Data are provided on an annual basis in absolute numbers (basic units). Financial data are stated in national currencies at current prices. In some cases, the database includes processed data, for example calculated national totals summing up a number of schemes or regions within a country. The time-series data are not integrated into the database. They are stored in 'external' MS Excel files. This means that it is not possible to run queries extracting time-series data for specific measures and listing them in columns, i.e. the database does not allow to view time series or information of two or more individual family-policy measures at the same time. Therefore we recommend to download or print the relevant data (e.g. Excel files) or to copy them from the CD-ROM for statistical analysis.

In principle, the database contains standardized Access sheets on major institutional regulations (and their development over time) as well as comparative classifications for each individual measure documented in the time series. However, due to lacking information, not all sheets are complete. The focus is on institutional regulations concerning entitlement conditions for benefits (or conditions of access to services) and main benefit regulations. Comparative classifications aim at grouping individual family-policy measures by criteria concerning the character/purpose of benefits/services. Terms used in other languages than English have been translated into English.

2. Coverage

In the present version, the degree of completeness varies widely for the countries covered in the database. This naturally limits its value for comparative studies. The figure below summarizes the result of a first evaluation regarding completeness of data on the EU Member States covered by the database. The overall quality and completeness was found to be reasonably good for five Member States, namely France, Ireland, Germany, Austria (data updated until 2001) and Sweden. The first five columns relate to time-series data, while the last column summarizes the extent to which measures are listed in the database irrespective of the availability of time-series data for these family-policy measures.

Table 1: Coverage of EU Member States

Country	Cash benefits for families in general	Cash benefits especially for lone parents	Subsistence minimum (family dimension)	Child-care services	Cash benefits and time-off entitlements (time-rights) relating to parenting and caring for children	Measures listed in database
France	*****	****	****	***	*****	*****
Ireland	****	*****	*****	**	****	*****
Germany	****	**	*****	**	***	*****
Austria	***	***	**	****	**	*****
Sweden	***	***	****	***	***	***
Finland	*****	***		**	**	****
UK	***	***	**	*		****
Denmark	****	**		**		**
Portugal	*			****	**	****
Greece	****			***		*****
Italy	***			****		***
Netherlands	*****			***		*
Belgium	****			**		*
Spain	***					*

The classification into five groups of measures corresponds to the categories used in the browser-based version of the database.

For a comprehensive overview and a detailed evaluation of the data on all countries included in the database please refer to the Annex.

Menu item 3 ('Availability of specific measures of family policy with time series') on the starting page (*'Overview'*) lists all family measures included in the database for which time-series data can be found by country (as of 10 October 2000).

3. Installation and Navigation

This chapter describes how to navigate through the database. By way of example, it describes a typical data retrieval, and explains the search procedure step by step. It will tell you how to install the CD-Rom, how to enter the database and how to proceed to get the desired information.

Quick Tour

Step 1:
After having inserted the CD-Rom, open the disk drive (D:) in the Windows explorer. There you will find two folders labeled *fpdb* and *FPDB_cd*. For downloading the Access-Version of the European Family Policy Database, copy folder *fpdb* to your harddisk.

Step 2:
Open the database by double-clicking the folder and selecting the application *fpdb_acc2000*. Before entering the database, remove the writing protection by pressing the right mouse button, choosing the option *properties* and clicking the corresponding item. Having done that, open the first window of the database by double-clicking.

Figure 1: Overview
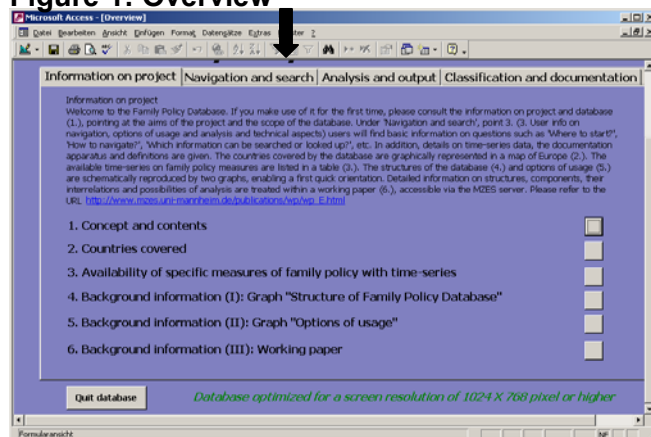
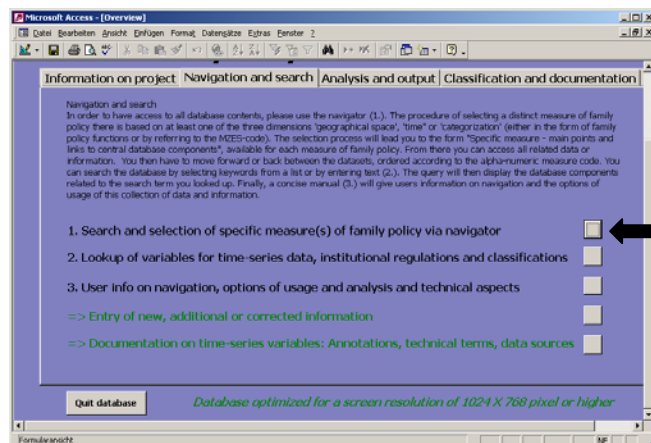Entering the database automatically opens the overview window.

To search for a specific policy measure (for demonstration purposes, we'll search for 'parental leave in Austria'), select *navigation and search*.

Figure 2 Navigation and Search

For searching via the navigator, select the first menu item of the sheet ('Search and selection of specific measure(s) of family policy via the navigator').

Figure 3: Navigator
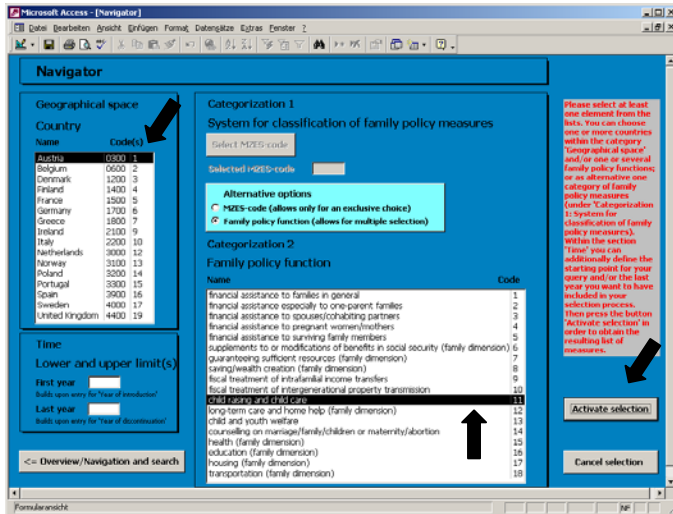
In principle, the Navigator permits various ways of searching. The simplest way of retrieval is by selecting one country/several countries and/or a family policy measure(s). Mark *Austria* as well as the function *child raising and child care,* as shown in Figure 3. Pressing the button 'Activate selection' lists all measures that match the description.

Figure 4: Navigator Results
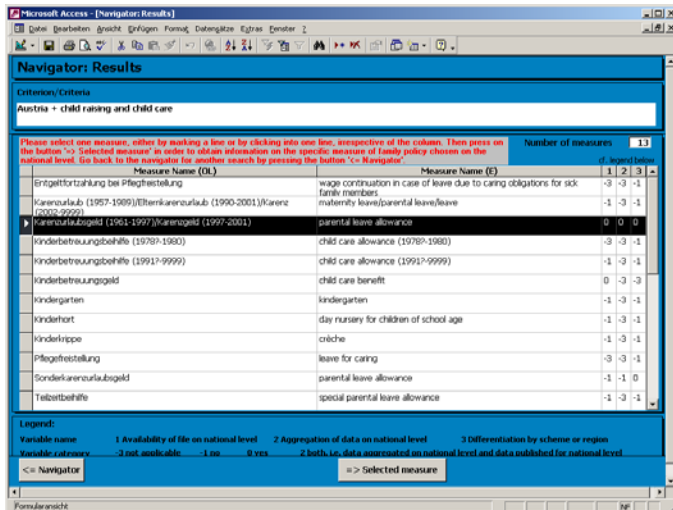
Figure 4 presents the search results. As we want to obtain information about parental leave allowances, we select the respective measure. Selecting a specific measure brings you to the sheet 'national level', as shown in Figure 5.

Figure 5: Measure: National Level
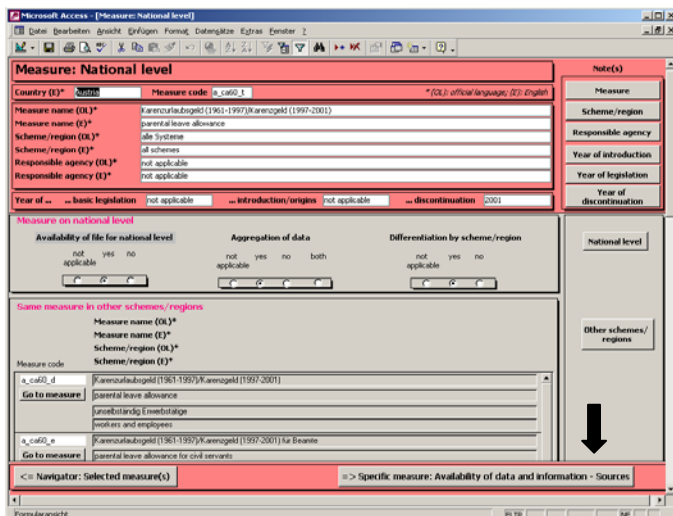
Besides the name of the particular measure and its duration, this window lists existing differentiations by scheme or region. For more information, select the respective button at the bottom of the page.

Figure 6: Specific Measure

Figure 6 provides useful information in the form of time-series data, institutional regulation and classification. To access the time-series pertaining to a specific measure, select the option 'go to data'. This immediately brings up the Excel sheet as shown in Figure 7.

Figure 7: Excel Sheet

4. Search Runs

This chapter offers a more detailed navigation tour, explaining the search run on the basis of a commented example. The aim of the search described in this chapter is to find information on child/family allowance in Austria.

You can find relevant information and data using the navigation system. The standard selection procedure starts from the page entitled '*Overview*' depicted in Figure 8, which opens automatically as you enter the database.

Figure 8: Family Policy Database – Overview: Information on Project
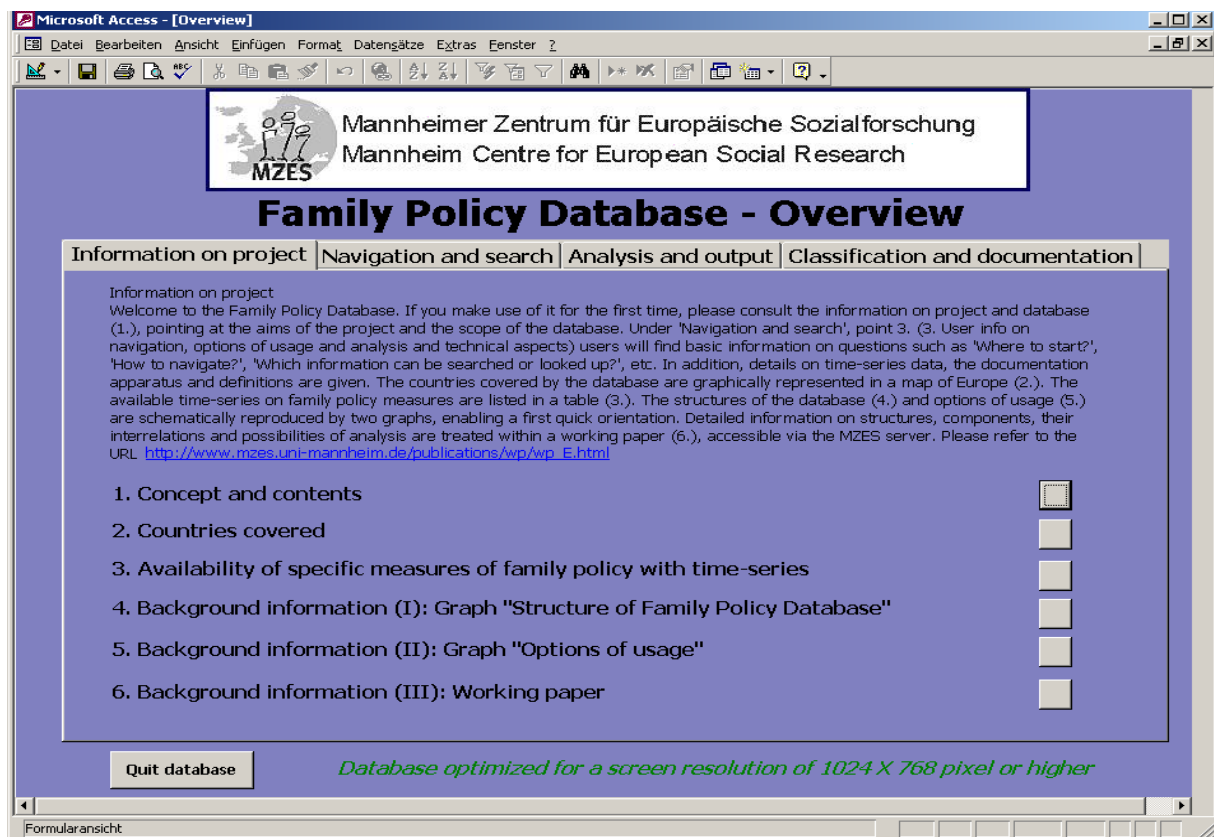
From there, you have two possibilities for searching for information on individual family policies:
- via the navigator, and
- via variable-based queries.

Both methods are described below.

4.1 Search via Navigator

As already mentioned, when searching for data via the Navigator select the first menu item of the register sheet *'Navigation and Search'* shown in Figure 9. This will directly lead you to the navigator sheet shown in Figure 10.

Figure 9: Navigation and Search
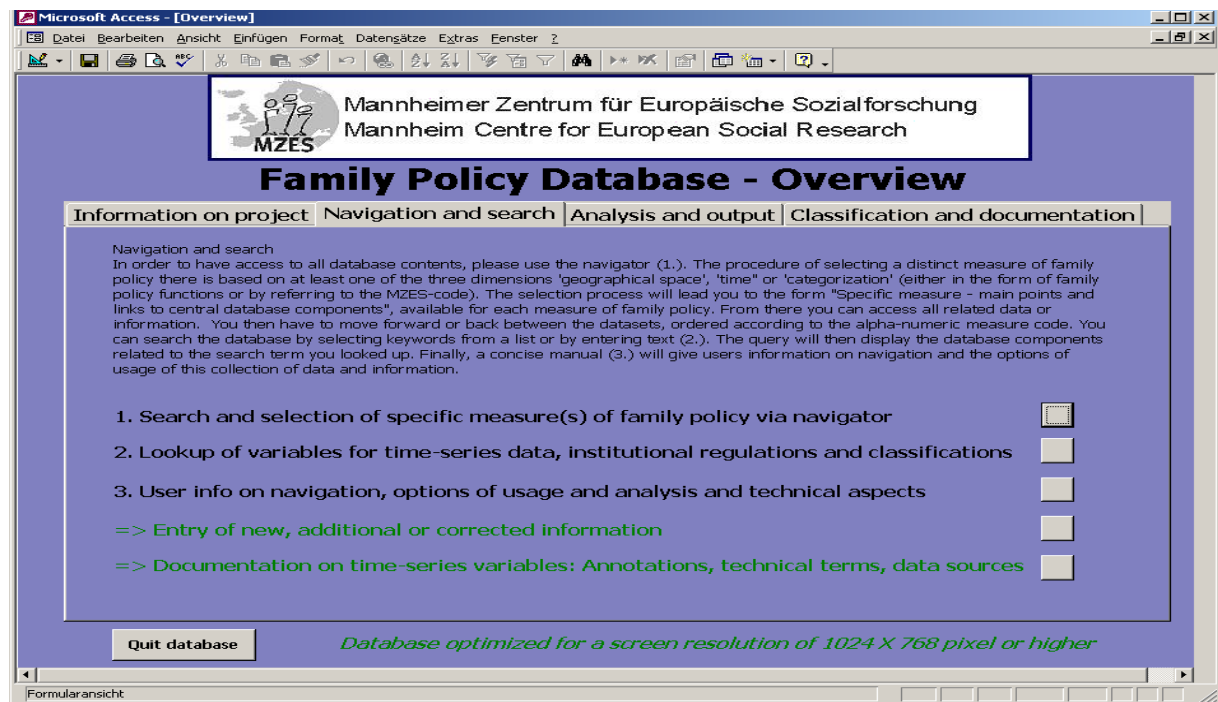
Figure 10: Navigator
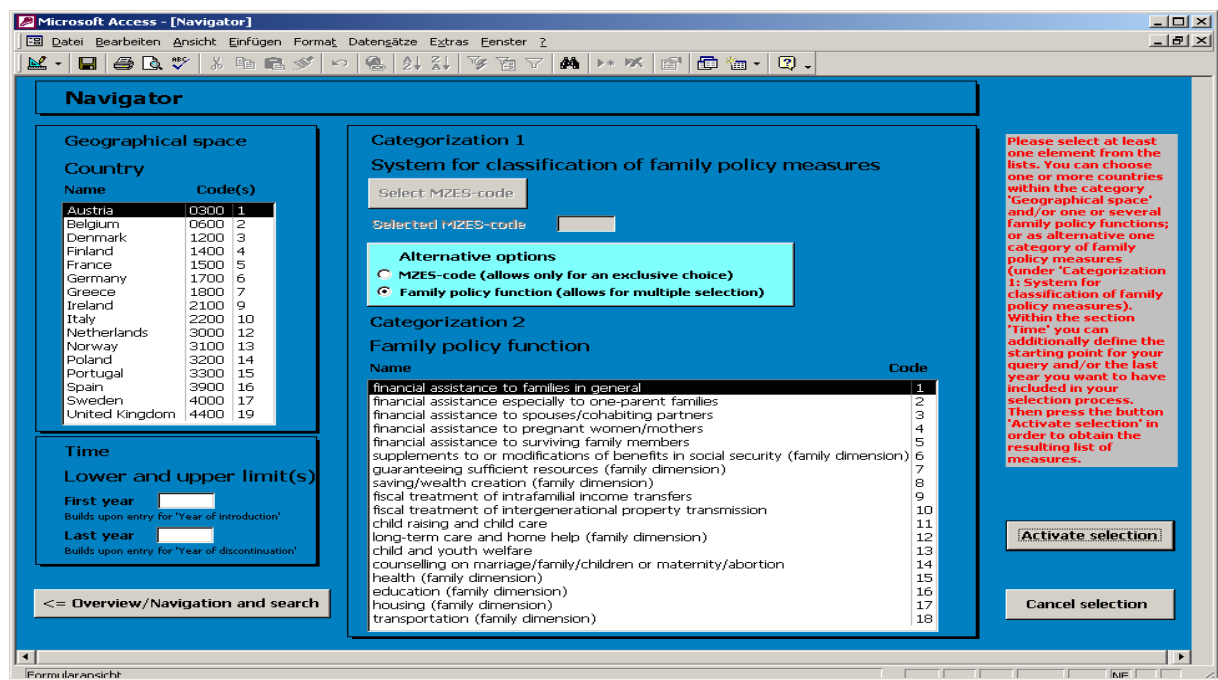
The navigator offers two different search methods:

- The first method requires selection of one or more family policies by country and/or function; the typical way is to select both. If you only choose the option 'country', all family policies in the selected country(ies) are shown. If you only select 'function', you will get a list of family-policy measures in all countries. In Figure 10, *'Austria'* was chosen as the country of interest along with the family-policy function *'financial assistance to families in*

*general*ˋ. Pressing the button '*Activate selection*' yields a list of family policies that meet the search criteria. The results of this inquiry are presented in a new sheet titled '*Navigator: Results*' and depicted in Figure 13.

- Alternatively, you may use the MZES code developed for classification purposes. It allows you to search individual policies in a step-wise process. After clicking on the button '*Select MZES-Code*' – see arrow in Figure 12 –select all four levels of the classification system. The selection procedure is shown in Figure 12. Once you have chosen the desired measure, the respective code becomes visible at the right side of the screen. To improve the retrieval, you may opt for one or more specific countries as well as for time limits in the '*Navigator'* sheet.

Figure 11: Select MZES-Code
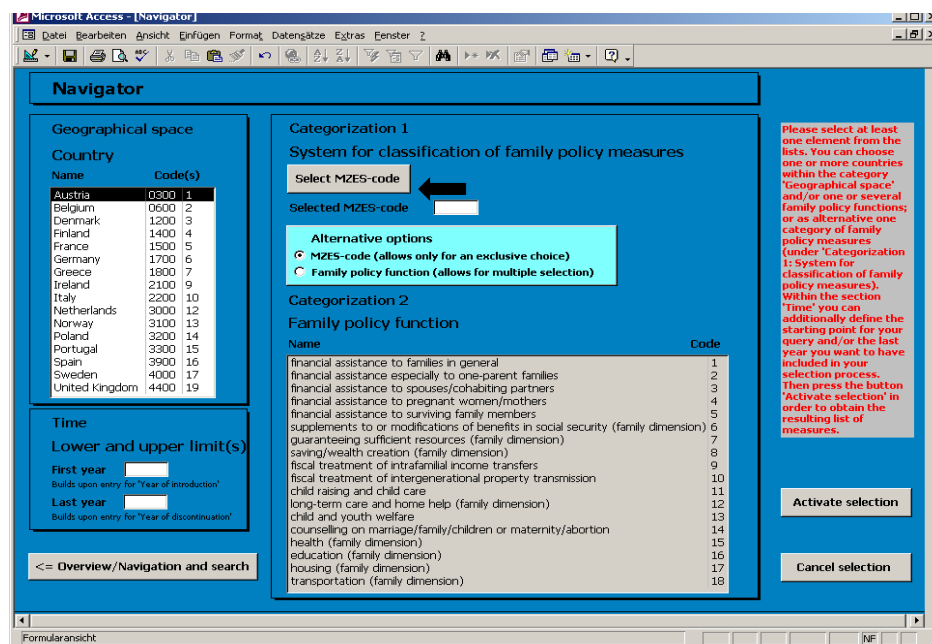
Figure 12: Selection of MZES-Code
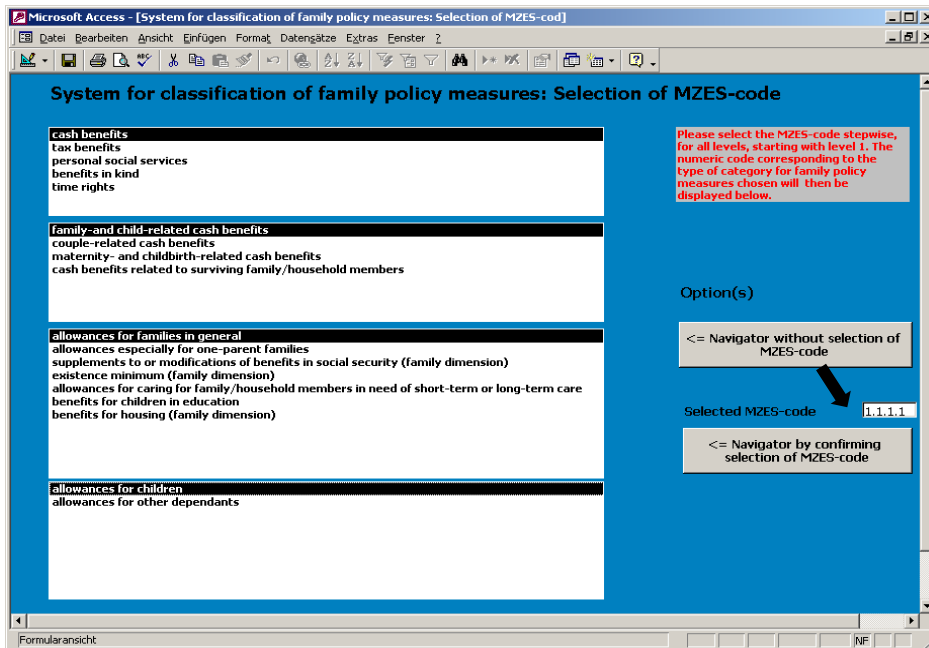
As both methods give you the results in the form depicted in Figure 13, both of them can be continued in the same way.

Figure 13: Navigator: Results
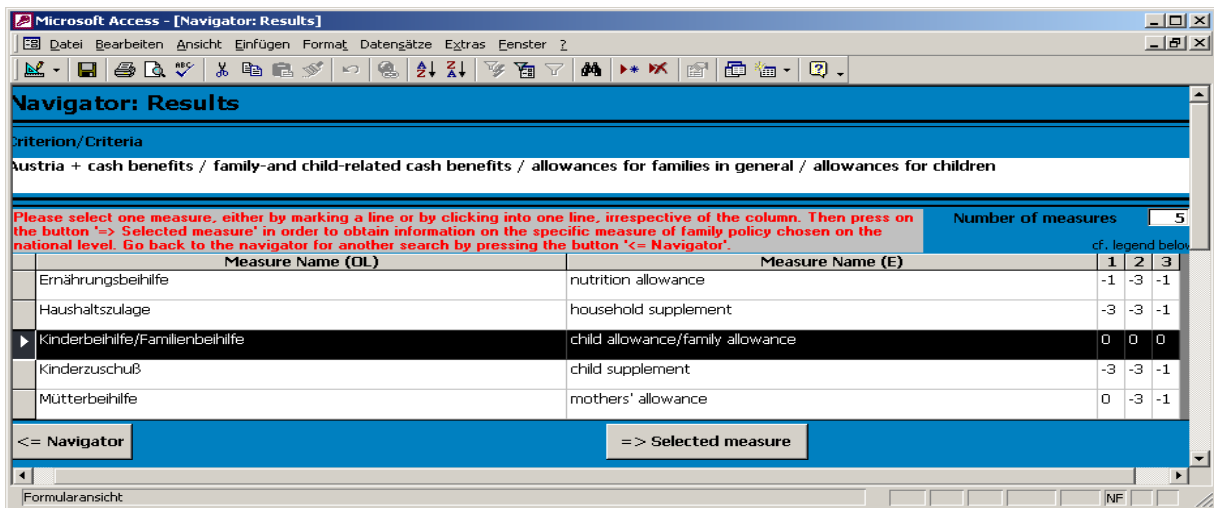
All the measures displayed in the list match the requirements previously defined by the user. Choosing one specific measure from the list of policies opens a new form, which provides general information on the selected policy at the national level. Figure 14 shows this form (*'Measure: National level'*).

Figure 14: Measure: National Level

The form states the name of the particular family measure in its original language and in English, as well as its duration. If sub-national data are available, either regional or in separate schemes, these data can be accessed by selecting of one of those sub-national levels. To do so, click on the buttons to the left of the respective measure and codes (see arrows in Figure 14). In our example of child/family allowance in Austria, there are three different schemes. For demonstration purposes, we select the one for workers, employees and self-employed persons. If you only see 'No differentiation by scheme or region for this measure' under heading 'Same measure in other schemes/regions', this indicates that data on the sub-national level do not exist or have not been made available. In this case, you may directly go to the specific measure on the national level by pressing the button *'Specific measure*' at the bottom of the screen.

Figure 15: Sub-national Level

The next form which opens provides general information on the sub-national level. The number 9999 in the 'discontinuation'-field indicates that the measure is still valid. To obtain detailed information on the particular scheme, click on the 'Specific measure' button.

Figure 16 shows the orange-colored '*Specific Measure*'-sheet from which you can directly access measure-specific time-series data, institutional regulations and classifications.

Figure 16: Specific Measure: Availability of Time-series Data and Information – Sources

- From this sheet, you can access time-series data by selecting the option '*Go to data*'. Clicking on this button starts MS Excel and opens the file for the family-policy measure of your choice. The Excel sheet coming up for our enquiry is shown in

- Figure 17.

Figure 17: Excel Sheet

Microsoft Excel – a_fi49_c [Schreibgeschützt]
Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Einfügen Format Extras Daten Fenster ? Acrobat
Arial 10 F K U € %
BZ66

year	ccode	mcode	Benefit rates										Beneficiaries		
			Standard, minimum and maximum amount							**Age supplements and supplement f**			**Children**		
			standard amo	first child	second child	third child	fourth child	minimum amo	maximum am	age suppleme	age suppleme	handicapped c	total number	first rank in fa	second rank i
			v1ad111	v1bd111	v1cd111	v1dd111	v1ed111	v1fd111	v1gd111	v2ad111	v2bd111	v2cd111	v3ad111	v3bd111	v3cd111
1950	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
1951	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
1952	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
1953	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
1954	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
1955	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	-1	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-2
1956	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	-1	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-1	-1	-1	-2	-1	-2
1957	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	50	125	150	150	50	200	-1	-1	-1	455000	223000	130000
1958	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-1	-1	-1	455000	223000	130000
1959	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	120	141	167	193	120	219	-1	-1	-1	495000	246100	140600
1960	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	125	146	173	200	125	228	-1	-1	-1	475000	-2	-2
1961	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	125	146	173	200	125	228	-1	-1	-1	497000	-2	-2
1962	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	140	160	190	220	140	250	-1	-1	-1	508000	252500	144800
1963	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	155	175	205	235	155	265	-1	-1	-1	535000	265900	152500
1964	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	155	175	205	235	155	265	-1	-1	-1	545600	258300	152600
1965	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	160	220	345	240	160	345	-1	-1	-1	546200	258500	152650
1966	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	160	220	345	240	160	345	-1	-1	-1	-2	-2	-2
1967	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	180	240	365	260	180	365	-1	-1	-1	-2	-2	-2
1968	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	200	260	395	290	200	395	-1	-1	-1	540100	240300	155890
1969	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	200	260	395	290	200	395	-1	-1	-1	609650	272650	176410
1970	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	200	260	395	290	200	395	-1	-1	-1	549905	243720	159700
1971	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	240	300	435	330	240	435	-1	-1	-1	543000	240000	158000
1972	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	240	320	455	350	240	455	-1	-1	-1	537000	237000	156000
1973	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	270	330	465	360	270	465	-1	-1	270	517900	230000	151000
1974	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	290	350	485	380	290	485	-1	-1	270	492020	220530	143980
1975	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	340	400	535	430	340	535	-1	-1	340	454680	203615	133990
1976	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	420	460	560	480	420	560	-1	-1	340	453000	202870	133555
1977	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	450	490	590	510	450	590	-1	-1	900	452415	202619	133364
1978	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	880	920	1040	940	880	1040	-1	-1	1050	-2	-2	-2
1979	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	910	950	1070	970	910	1070	-1	-1	1100	-2	-2	-2
1980	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	910	950	1070	970	910	1070	-1	-1	1100	-2	-2	-2
1981	0300	a_fi49_c	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	50	-1	1100	-2	-2	-2
1982	0300	a_fi49_c	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	200	-1	1200	-2	-2	-2
1983	0300	a_fi49_c	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	200	-1	1200	-2	-2	-2
1984	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	1000	1000	1083	1083	1000	1083	200	-1	1200	-2	-2	-2
1985	0300	a_fi49_c	-1	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	200	-1	1300	-2	-2	-2
1986	0300	a_fi49_c	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	250	-1	1350	-2	-2	-2
1987	0300	a_fi49_c	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	250	-1	1450	-2	-2	-2

(Sheet tabs: standard variables / additional variables / subscheme-specific data 1 / **subscheme-specific data 2**)

Bereit

The main headings used in the Excel sheets are benefit rates, beneficiaries, structure of financing and structure of expenditure. Data on beneficiaries or institutions are given in the basic unit. The same holds for financial data which are always inserted in national currency at current prices. For more information regarding the time-series data in the Excel sheets see Box 1 below.

Box 1: Explanation of Variables Used in Excel Sheets

> In the Excel files, the missing value '-1' indicates that a given variable category does not fit/is not applicable, whereas missing value '-2' means that the information is not/has not been available, i.e. has not been published or not included in the publications used by the MZES Family Policy Database team. The database includes five types of time series data, which are explained in more detail in chapter 5 of the manual: standard variables, country-specific variables, sub-scheme-specific data, agency-specific data or regional data and additional variables. The different data types are stored in separate sheets in the same file for a given family-policy measure. The variable category is indicated by name of the sheet in the Excel files.

Information on institutional regulations and comparative classifications is available for most of the measures covered by the time series data. Both of them are provided in standard forms under MS Access and can be accessed via the form *'Specific measure'* (Figure 16). Two important notes need to be made here. First, institutional information and classifications refer to a specific level of data. If, for example, a country has different benefit regulations for different target groups, then institutional regulations as well as classifications refer to the sub-national levels. No information can be provided for the national level, and there is no form for the national level. Second, both institutional information and classifications refer to distinct time periods for which the given information is valid. Major changes in institutional regulations and with regard to the classification variables are documented. Technically speaking, a new period is determined if (at least) one variable category of at least one variable has to be redefined according to new regulations or if another classification applies. The entries for different periods of time can be displayed separately. In order to access them, press the button '*Go to period*'. If more than one period has been defined, you can scroll them by clicking on the buttons headed *'Navigate over periods'*. You can also open a report on changes over time by clicking the respective buttons.

- You can get more information on institutional regulations and classifications via the '*Specific Measure*' form as shown in Figure 16. To do so, select the respective items. Figure 18 shows the form for the child/family allowances in Austria. Institutional regulations focus on legislation, administration, financing, entitlement conditions and benefit and tax regulations regarding the specific family measure, while the variable categories depend on the particular benefit, service or time-right. The institutional regulations reflect social legislation and thus help to better understand the time-series data.

Figure 18: Institutional Regulations

Figure 19: Classifications

- Figure 19 shows the form '*Classification*' which can also be accessed via the '*Specific Measure*' form. The classification sheet provides detailed information on the policy instrument, its function, characteristics of the target group and benefit characteristics. As opposed to institutional regulations, classification focuses mainly on measure-related characteristics or categorizations, and all variables contain information that characterize a particular family-policy measure in detail.

Within each query, you may navigate back and forth and switch between qualitative and quantitative data for each individual family-policy programme. All information is available in the MS Access version, with the exception of quantitative time series, which are only available as Excel-files.

Going back to the original list of selected measures (i.e. form '*Navigator: Results*') will terminate the search for data and information on a specific programme. From there, you may start a new query by selecting another individual measure from the list or go back to the main navigator menu. The current list of measures remains activated until the query based on the criteria defined in the navigator is actively cancelled. If you want to run a new selection, you must reformulate your query in the navigator.

4.2 Variable-based Query

The database does not only give you access to data on individual family policies via the navigator. Alternatively, you may also define your own queries on common or divergent institutional regulations and characteristics of specific family policy measures. Whereas the queries made via the navigator are based on a common classification regarding field/function and/or country, it is also possible to take each variable (to be more precise: its categories) as a starting point and search for different family policies with the same properties. This option

can be accessed via the register sheet *'Analysis and output'*: select '*Query building on common properties of institutional regulations or classifications*'.

In the form that opens (Figure 20), you have to decide which family policy instrument (classifications) or family policy field (institutional regulations) you are interested in. Based on one or more variable categories and/or countries, the search procedure will then apply the criteria formulated to all entries across countries (with institutional regulations related to one of the six defined fields of family policy) or across all countries and fields of family policy (with classifications, referring to a specific instrument of family policy). This will give you a list of family policies which meet the defined criteria.

As a rule, each variable category may serve as criterion for a user-defined query. For a 'comprehensive list of all standard variables defined in the database see *'Variable lists'* in the register sheet '*Documentation and classification*'. However, it is advisable to focus on the qualitative information on institutional regulations or classifications. One may, for example, search for all family policies that are employment-related, only give entitlement based on income or a means test or can be classified as 'crèche', 'kindergarten', 'pre-primary schooling' or 'occasional care'.

In Annex, Section A.2. you will find a graphic summary of the navigation procedures.

Figure 20: Query Building on Common Properties of Institutional Regulations or Classifications

5. Classification

The European Family Policy Database uses a sophisticated classification system that allows for an international comparative classification of all family measures in various fields. The main categories are by family-policy instruments, target groups and family-policy functions. The classification scheme is listed in detail below:

Family-policy instruments
1) cash benefit
2) tax benefit
3) personal social service
4) benefit in kind
5) time right

Target groups
1) families (as a whole)
2) children
3) spouses/partners
4) mothers/fathers/parents
5) surviving family members

Family-policy functions
1) financial assistance to families in general
2) financial assistance especially to one-parent families
3) financial assistance to spouses/cohabiting partners
4) financial assistance to pregnant women/mothers
5) financial assistance to surviving family members
6) supplements/modifications of benefits in social security (family dimension)
7) guaranteeing sufficient resources (family dimension)
8) saving/wealth creation (family dimension)
9) fiscal treatment of intra-familial income transfers
10) fiscal treatment of intergenerational property transmission
11) child raising and childcare
12) long-term care and home help (family dimension)
13) child and youth welfare
14) counseling on marriage/family/children or maternity/abortion
15) health (family dimension)
16) education (family dimension)
17) housing (family dimension)
18) transportation (family dimension)

The classification system of benefits, services and time-rights – i.e. the MZES-Code – is divided into four levels. The first level distinguishes the family policy instruments, the second level breaks them down for the five target groups. Functional differences play a decisive role in the third-level subdivision. The differentiations on the fourth level follow purely pragmatic considerations so that each family-policy measure becomes unambiguously attributable within the classification scheme. Table 2 below presents the hierarchical classification system.

Table 2: Classification System of Benefits, Services and Time Rights (MZES-Code)

1. CASH BENEFITS
    1.1. family-and child-related cash benefits
        1.1.1. allowances for families in general
            1.1.1.1. allowances for children
            1.1.1.2. allowances for other dependants
        1.1.2. allowances especially for one-parent families
            1.1.2.1. allowances irrespective of civil status of single parent
            1.1.2.2. allowances depending on civil status of single parent
        1.1.3. supplements to or modifications of benefits in social security (family dimension)
            1.1.3.1. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of sickness
            1.1.3.2. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of employment injuries/
                    occupational diseases
            1.1.3.3. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of invalidity
            1.1.3.4. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of retirement
            1.1.3.5. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of unemployment
        1.1.4. existence minimum (family dimension)
            1.1.4.1. minimum income in non-contributory schemes (family dimension)
            1.1.4.2. minimum income in contributory schemes (family dimension)
        1.1.5. allowances for caring for family/household members in need of short-term or long-term
          care
            1.1.5.1. allowances for caring for children
            1.1.5.2. allowances for caring for adult handicapped or elderly family/household
                    members
        1.1.6. benefits for children in education
            1.1.6.1. educational allowances
            1.1.6.2. educational grants
            1.1.6.3. educational loans
        1.1.7. benefits for housing (family dimension)
            1.1.7.1. housing allowances (family dimension)
            1.1.7.2. housing loans (family dimension)
            1.1.7.3. benefits facilitating the acquisition of housing property (family dimension)
    1.2. couple-related cash benefits
        1.2.1. benefits for marriage or household formation
            1.2.1.1. marriage or household formation grants
            1.2.1.2. marriage or household formation loans
        1.2.2. allowances for (present/former) spouse/cohabiting partner
            1.2.2.1. allowances where no distinction is made between spouse and cohabiting partner
            1.2.2.2. allowances only for spouse
        1.2.3. supplements to or modifications of benefits in social security (family dimension)
            1.2.3.1. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of sickness
            1.2.3.2. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of employment injuries/
                    occupational diseases
            1.2.3.3. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of invalidity
            1.2.3.4. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of retirement
            1.2.3.5. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of unemployment
    1.3. maternity- and childbirth-related cash benefits
        1.3.1. benefits during pregnancy, after childbirth, related to adoption
            1.3.1.1. maternity, birth and adoption allowances
            1.3.1.2. maternity, birth and adoption birth grants
    1.4. cash benefits related to surviving family/household members
        1.4.1. benefits for widows/widowers
            1.4.1.1. pensions or allowances for widows/widowers
            1.4.1.2. lump-sum payments to widows/widowers
        1.4.2. benefits for (full- or half-)orphans
            1.4.2.1. pensions or allowances for (full- or half-)orphans
            1.4.2.2. lump-sum payments to (full- or half-)orphans

Table 2 (continued)

2. TAX BENEFITS
    2.1. family- and child related tax benefits

        2.1.1. tax reliefs for families in general
            2.1.1.1. tax reliefs for children

            2.1.1.2. tax reliefs for other dependants
        2.1.2. tax reliefs especially for one-parent families
            2.1.2.1. tax reliefs irrespective of civil status of single parent
            2.1.2.2. tax reliefs depending on civil status of single parent
        2.1.3. tax reliefs for parents after separation or divorce
        2.1.4. tax-exempt existence minimum (family dimension)
        2.1.5. tax reliefs for caring for family/household members in need of short-term or long-term care
            2.1.5.1. tax reliefs for caring for children
            2.1.5.2. tax reliefs for caring for adult handicapped or elderly family/household members
        2.1.6. tax reliefs for children in education
        2.1.7. tax reliefs for housing (family dimension)
        2.1.8. tax reliefs for saving/wealth creation (family dimension)
    2.2. couple-related tax benefits
        2.2.1. tax reliefs for spouses/cohabiting partners
        2.2.2. tax reliefs for (former) spouses after separation or divorce
    2.3. maternity- and childbirth-related tax benefits
        2.3.1. tax reliefs during pregnancy, after childbirth, related to adoption
    2.4. tax benefits related to intergenerational property transmission
        2.4.1. tax reliefs related to donations/lifetime gifts
        2.4.2. tax reliefs related to inheritance/property transmission after death

3. PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES
    3.1. family-related social services
        3.1.1. health services for families
        3.1.2. family/home help services
        3.1.3. services caring for family/household members in need of short-term or long-term care
            3.1.3.1. caring for children
            3.1.3.2. caring for adult handicapped or elderly family/household members
        3.1.4. counseling on marriage, family and children
    3.2. child-related social services
        3.2.1. health services for children
            3.2.1.1. school health services
            3.2.1.2. child health services outside the education system
        3.2.2. child and youth welfare services
            3.2.2.1. family-based child and youth welfare
            3.2.2.2. center-based child and youth welfare
        3.2.3. child-care services
            3.2.3.1. family-based child care
            3.2.3.2. center-based child care
        3.2.4. services for children in education
        3.2.5. counseling on education and socialization
    3.3. maternity- and childbirth-related social services
        3.3.1. health services for pregnant women and mothers
        3.3.2. childbirth services
            3.3.2.1. childbirth services by midwives
            3.3.2.2. childbirth services in hospitals
        3.3.3. counseling on maternity and abortion

4. BENEFITS IN KIND
    4.1. family-related benefits in kind
        4.1.1. benefits related to increased expenditures for families in general
        4.1.2. benefits for housing (family dimension)

4.1.3. transportation (family dimension)
Table 2 (continued)

4.2. child-related benefits in kind
    4.2.1. benefits for children in education
4.3. maternity- and childbirth-related benefits in kind
    4.3.1. benefits during pregnancy, after childbirth, related to adoption

5. TIME RIGHTS
    5.1. family- and child-related time rights
        5.1.1. time rights for taking care of or for caring for family/household members
            5.1.1.1. time rights for child raising and child care
            5.1.1.2. time rights for caring for adult handicapped or elderly family/household members
    5.2. childbirth- and maternity-related time rights
        5.2.1. time rights during pregnancy, after childbirth, related to adoption

When comparing similar policy measures that are classified, users have to be aware that concepts often are not homogeneous and that even congruent terms do not always relate to the same phenomenon in different countries.

6. Types of Variables and Variable Search

The European Family Policy Database includes various types of variables for the construction of time-series. They are briefly described in Table 3.

Table 3: Types of Variables

Variable	Description
Standard variables	Standardized, permit cross-country comparison.
Country-specific variables	Inserted in case the standard variables cannot be used because of country-specific regulations.
Sub-scheme-specific data	Provide details on the internal structure of the scheme governing the benefit or service.
Agency-specific data	Provide information on the agency with budgetary and/or administrative responsibility.
Regional data	Yield information about the regional differentiation of family policies.
Additional variable	Variables not attributable to any of the defined categories.

In the Excel files, the missing value '-1' indicates that a given variable category does not fit/is not applicable, whereas missing value '-2' means that the information has not been available, i.e. has neither been published nor included in the publications used by the MZES Family Policy Database team.

By activating the option '*Lookup of time-series variables, institutional regulations and classifications*' ('*Navigation and search*'), you can look up all standardized and non-standardized variables contained in the European Family Policy Database. In principle, there are three options:

- looking up standardized time-series variables (default option),
- looking up standardized variables for institutional regulations or classifications,
- looking up non-standardized time-series variables.

You can search for all variables, variable categories and headings included in the standard tables (for all fields of family policies) and standard forms (for all fields of family policies and instruments of family policy covered). The request is carried out in three steps; pressing the relevant button will load the respective list of alphabetically sorted variables from which you may select (see Figure 21).

The query yields a report listing the database component (time-series data; institutional regulations; classifications) and type of information (heading; variable; variable category) for the selected search key. The table exclusively serves documentary purposes, i.e. you do not have direct access to the selected variables from the report. To start another search after having returned to this form from the report click on the report's 'Close' button.

Figure 21: Lookup of Variables
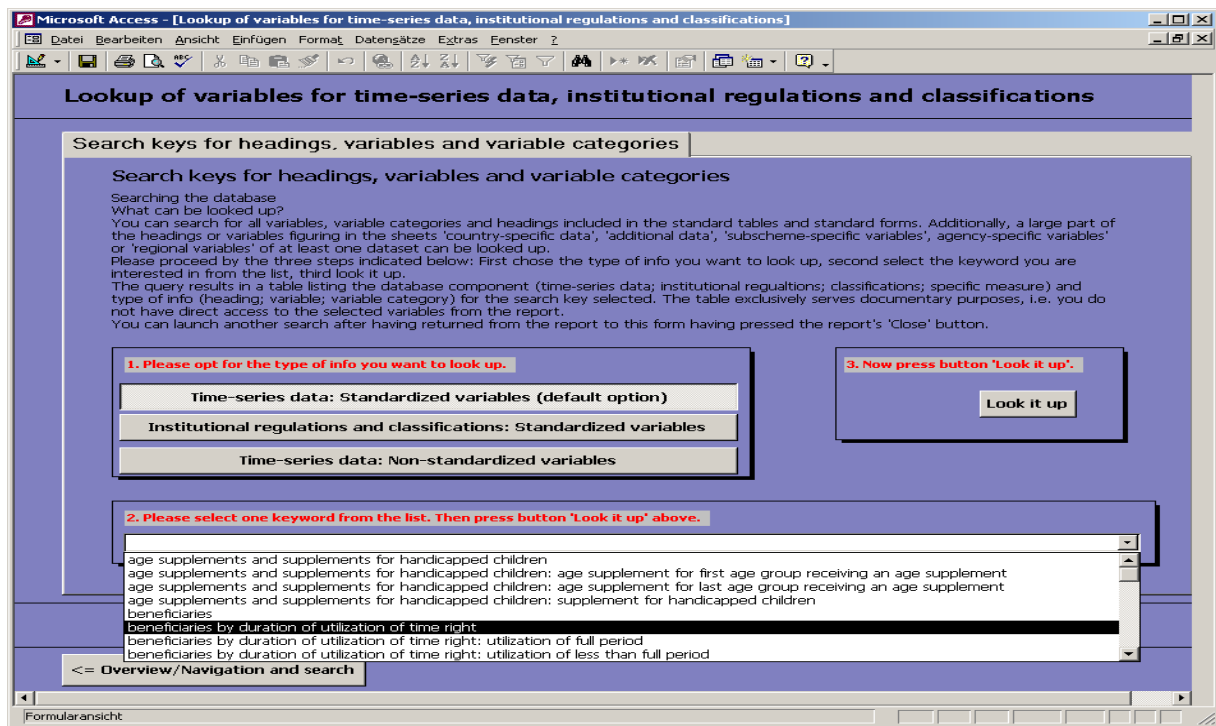
7. Documentation and Sources of Time-series Data

The documentation specifies the sources used for compiling the time-series datasets and/or for entering institutional regulations and classifications and technical terms for each country. They are listed alphabetically for each country and can be looked up by selecting the first option in the register sheet '*Documentation and classification*' (see Figure 22).

Figure 22: Classification and Documentation
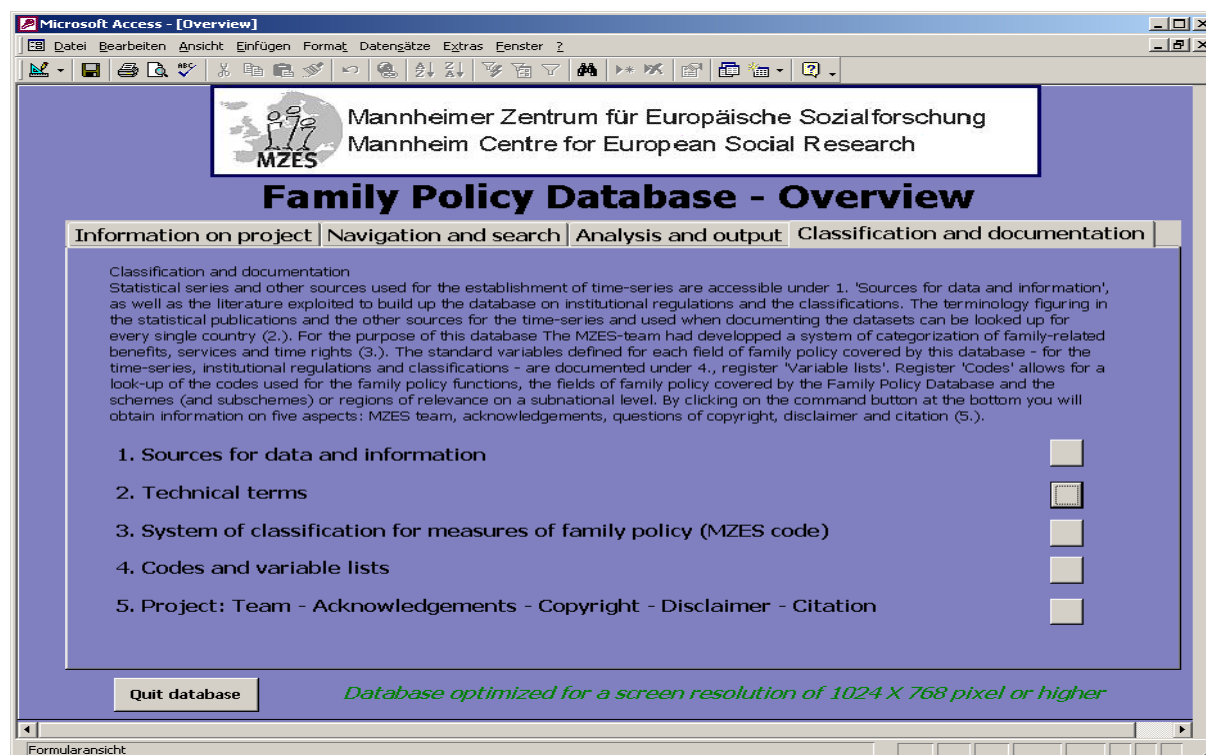
All data are taken from published sources and data sources are always indicated. With the exception of the data on the Scandinavian countries, all data are from national sources. The footnotes to each each variable (i.e. column in the Excel files) list the source codes. The sources can be looked up by clicking on '*Classification and documentation*' and selecting '*Sources for data and information*'.

As English is the main language of the database, each term had to be translated into English from its original language. By selecting '*Technical terms*' you can look up the original expression for every term used in the database.

Data sources and technical terms are supplemented by tables with all standard variables, variables used for classificational purposes (including the respective codes). The comprehensive variable lists are stored in 'external' Excel files in the register sheet '*Codes and variable lists*', which can be accessed via the form '*Documentation and classification*'.

8. Annex

A.1. Hints for Installation and Usage

1.) Browser-based Version of the ÖIF European Family Policy Database[2]

Inserting the CD-ROM automatically starts a viewer installation tool. If you do not need the Acrobat Reader, the Excel viewer or Netscape, you can continue by clicking on the button 'No, navigation through the CD-ROM'. You are then transferred to the database's start page.

You can either use Netscape or the Microsoft Internet Explorer to browse through the CD-ROM. If you want to work intensively with the time-series data, you are advised to opt for the Microsoft Internet Explorer. The Microsoft Internet Explorer closes Excel. You also quit Excel when returning to the database from Excel files by closing the Excel window. However, this is not the case when using Netscape where you also have to close a window launched by Netscape.

2.) ÖIF European Family Policy Database under Access

If you want to use the MS Access version of the ÖIF European Family Policy Database, please copy the complete folder 'fpdb' from the CD-ROM to your harddisk. In this way, you will not only copy the database in file 'fpdb.mdb', but also all other MS Excel and MS Word files needed for your work. However, before starting to copy, make sure that there is no directory with the name 'fpdb' on your harddisk.

Once you have copied the complete folder 'fpdb' from the CD-ROM to your harddisk, the directory structure as listed below is reproduced on your harddisk or network drive:
- [harddisk/network drive]\fpdb\fpdb.mdb => MS Access database (version: ACCESS 2000 SR-2)
- [harddisk/network drive]\fpdb\Excel files => variable lists; codes; tables
- [harddisk/network drive]\fpdb\Word documents => synopses; descriptions
- [harddisk/network drive]\fpdb\[country]\pdf\[name of file] => overviews of fields of family policy
- [harddisk/network drive]\fpdb\[country]\xls\[name of file = measure code] => time-series data

Now, please follow these steps:
- Remove the write protection of file 'fpdb.mdb' in the newly created directory 'fpdb' in the Windows Explorer.
- Start MS Accsess and open the database 'fpdb' or simply double click on the file 'fpdb.mdb' in the Windows Explorer.
- The MS Access database 'fpdb.mdb' is stored under version 'Microsoft ACCESS 2000 SR-2'.

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[2] This web-based version of the database is not updated and maintained.

A.2. Schematic Description of Search Methods

Figure 23: Various Navigation Methods
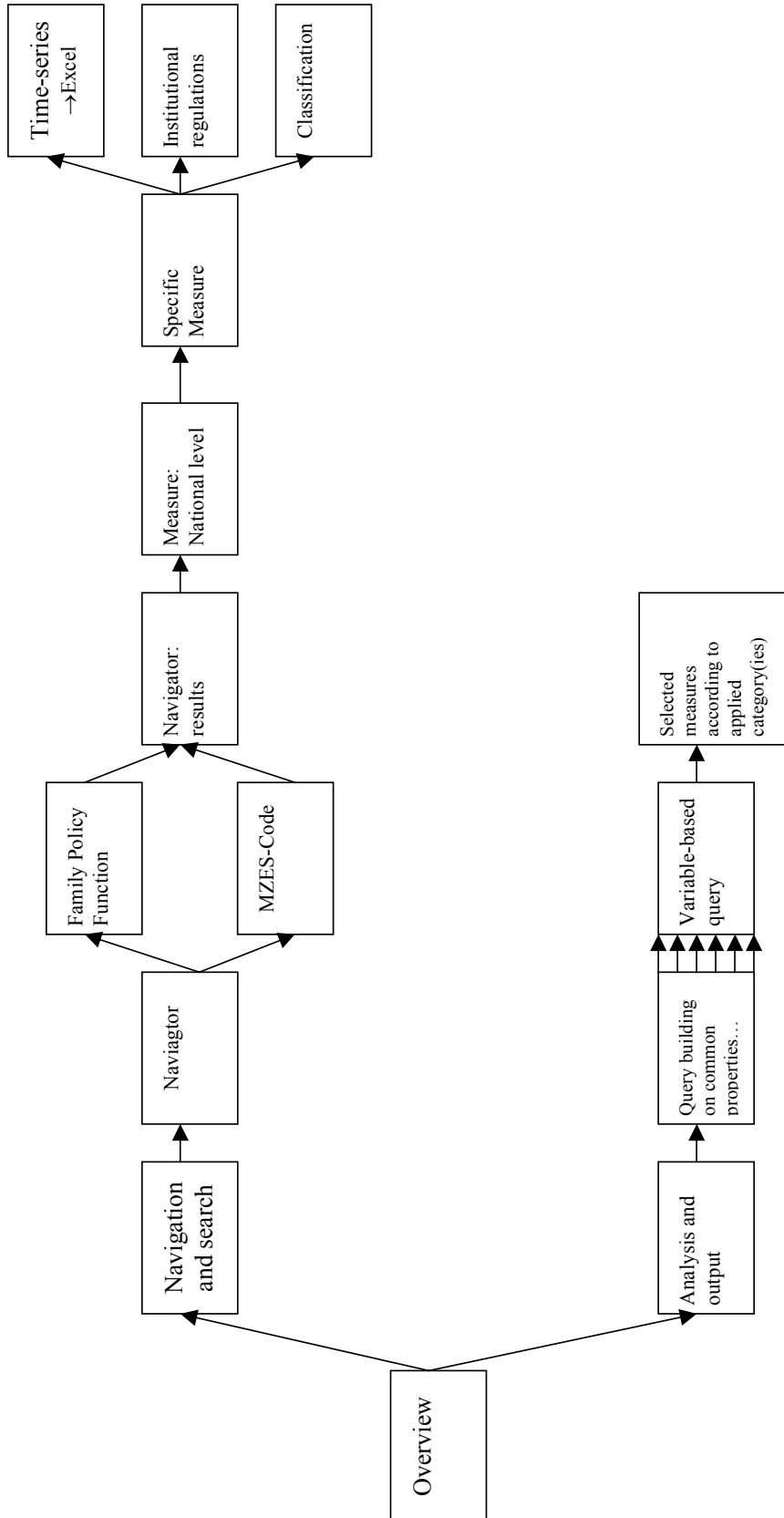
A.3. Evaluation of Country Coverage

Table 4: Evaluation Tables for all 16 Countries Included in the Family Policy Database

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
AUSTRIA						
Time-series data available	nutrition allowance; child allowance/family allowance; mother's allowance	advance payment of child maintenance	social assistance	kindergarten; day nursery for children of school age; crèche	maternity leave/parental leave; parental leave allowance; child care allowance, long-term care allowance, parental leave assistance, special parental leave allowance	fix tax credit for children; higher income tax rates for unmarried persons/ and households with max..; tax credit for lone parents; tax credit for wage/salary earners; tax allowance for single wage/salary earners;
Rows (years)	Data till 2000, regarding measures for civil servants many entries are missing	Data till 2000; some years but are not always continuous	Data till 2000, well covered?	Data till 2000, very well provided	Data till 2000; regarding measures for civil servants many entries are missing	
Columns	variables missing: nutrition allowance, family allow. -civil servants	most columns well provided	good: especially federal data	very well provided, except for data on expenditures	columns for civil servants are missing	
Region / scheme	workers, employees, civil servants	NO	differentiated according to federal states	NO	workers, employees, employers, civil servants	
Overviews of family-policy areas	NO	NO	NO	YES	no overview available	
Highlights	All data updated; child-care services, social assistance, family allowance					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
			BELGIUM			
Time-series data available	family allowance	NO	NO	approved day nursing in private households; age integrated institutions; kindergarten; leisure time centers; playschools; school care schemes; day nurseries	NO	obligation to join a family allowance fund
Rows (years)	only few missing data			a lot of data missing		
Columns	good provided			a lot of data missing		
Region / scheme	NO			NO		
Overviews of family-policy areas	overview available	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Highlights	cash benefits for families in general					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
DENMARK						
Time-series data available	ordinary child benefit/ family benefits; child benefit; multiple child allowance; increased child benefit/ normal child allowance; youth benefit	advanced payment of child maintenance	NO	approved day nursing in private households; age integrated institutions; kindergarten; leisure time centers; playschools; school care schemes; day nurseries	NO	school clubs
Rows (years)	until 1998 good provided	many years are provided		many years missing		
Columns	only a few empty columns (structure of financing)	in many columns (e.g. financing, expenditures) data are missing		many variables missing		
Region / scheme	NO	NO	NO	NO		
Overviews of family-policy areas	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	
Highlights	cash benefits for families in general					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
			FINLAND			
Time-series data available	special child allowance; child allowance; family allowance	maintenance advance allowance	NO	nursery/pre-primary school; leisure time centers; holiday camps; kindergarten; family day-care center	maternity grant, maternity allowance+paternity allowance+parental allowance; special care allowance, home care allowance, partial home care allowance, treatment and rehabilitation allowance for invalid children/special care allowance; private care allowance	maternity leave; child care leave; paternity leave; childminder; child supplements for civil servants; partial child-care leave; child supplements for employees; parental leave
Rows (years)	data available from the beginning of the measure till the end (except for a few years)	data provided from 1985–1997		data available for a few years only, with the exception: structure of financing and expenditure: here all entries contain valid values	data provided quite good	
Columns	special child allowance: structure of financing and expenditure, 50% of the years are missing; family allowance: some columns completely empty; columns regarding child allowance are satisfactory	many columns completely empty, but data are available for structure of financing and expenditure		up to now columns (except financing and expenditure) do not have any value for 'leisure time centers, holiday camps, and nursery/pre-primary school'	data are available for about 50% of the columns	
Region / scheme	NO	NO	NO	NO	values missing for most columns in the public and the agricultural sectors	
Overviews of family-policy areas	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	
Highlights	time series data on families in general, especially: time series regarding child allowance, which are well established					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
	FRANCE					
Time-series data available	housewife's allowance/one salary allowance; family allowances; family complement; family-related remuneration supplement/family allowances	one-parent allowance; family support allowance; orphans' allowance	reinsertion/relocation assistance; family income supplement	kindergarten; crèche; preschool; (registered) childminders; family crèche; center for occasional care; daycare centers for small children with health and/or social deficits	financial support to families for the employment of a registered childminder; prenatal and postnatal allowance; home-care allowance for children; parental leave allowance;	back to school allowance; special care allowance; special care allowance for handicapped minors; care allowance for handicapped minors; maternity allowance/sickness benefit for mothers; prenatal allowance; attribution of whole part for children of third and consecutive rank; early childhood center; maternity leave; parental leave (1+2); deductibility of child maintenance payments; deductibility of child rearing/caring expenses; deductibility of expenses for the employment of a childminder; outside school hours care; compensation allowance; special allowance to families for the employment of a registered childminder; family tax deduction; tax free allowance for family members; family wage supplement
Rows (years)	family allowance, housewife's allowance, family complement and family-related remuneration supplement; time series data are available from 1953 till the last year. Data about one salary allowance include some missing years.	one parent allowance and family support allowance: data available from the beginning to 1996, except public service 1983-96 and agricultural scheme until 1983; orphan's allowance: data are provided from beginning to the end	reinsertion/relocation assistance: from two years after the beginning until 1996 data are available; family income supplement: data are available from the beginning to the end (with some gaps)	data are very incomplete from the 80s onwards, due to lack of appropriate data sources; for some columns data on pre-school go back until 1875	data are available from the beginning to the mid 90s	
Columns	data about the structure of financing are completely missing	one-parent family allowance and family support allowance: only covers the structure of financing, rank of children in family is missing. Orphan's allowance: data for many columns are missing	reinsertion/relocation assistance: values for 2 columns completely missing: i.e. number of children and structure of financing; Regarding family income supplement, values are missing in many columns	Almost all values for the structure of expenditure and financing are missing; data on childminders are missing	some columns (e.g. structure of financing) are completely missing	
Region / scheme	For the public scheme, data columns are very incomplete, except for the values of expenditure	public and agricultural scheme: values in some columns (especially the ones for orphan's allowance) completely missing	the public scheme for family income supplement is provided unsatisfactory	NO	in the public and the agricultural sector many columns are incomplete	
Overviews of family-policy areas	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	
Highlights	time-series data on all measures for families in general, but also on all other fields of family policies are very good; the number of registered measures is high					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
GERMANY						
Time-series data available	child benefit; family supplement/child benefit for public service employees	advance payment of child maintenance	social assistance	kindergarten; day-care centers for primary-school aged children; crèche; school kindergarten; playgroups; preschool classes	child-rearing allowance	child-relating allowance; tax- free allowance for children (I); tax- free allowance (II); differentiation of tax rates and tax allowances according to civil status; differentiation of tax-free existence minimum according to number of children; child-rearing leave; housing allowance
Rows (years)	child benefit: data available from 1957 (beginning: 1954) until 1998: almost all years are covered; benefit for public service: data available from 1957–1998, but many gaps	one third of the years covered (until 1997)	very good coverage from the beginning till 1998	kindergarten, day-care centers for primary-school aged children and crèche: data available from 1951–1982; from 1982–1994 there are only 4 years covered; for school kindergarten and preschool classes: from 1974 (beg. 1970) to 1996 good provided	data from the beginning (1986) till 1996	
Columns	child benefit: almost all columns are completely covered, except for the structure of financing; child benefit for the public sector: some columns almost completely empty: number of families, structure of financing, etc.	many empty columns	almost all columns are complete	kindergarten, day-care centers for primary-school aged children and crèche: in a few columns all values are missing, e.g. structure of expenditure and financing, number of personell; school kindergarten; playgroups; preschool classes: values in many columns missing	many empty, some half empty columns; data about the structure of expenditure and financing are well provided	
Region / scheme	time-series data on child benefit are really well provided; some gaps in time data on benefit for the public sector	data available separately for former GDR and FRG	NO	data on different *Laender* are available: data on around 50% of the services are well prepared	NO	
Overviews of family-policy areas	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	
Highlights	time-series data exist for all family-policy areas, 2. time-series data on social assistance and child benefit are very comprehensive					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
	GREECE					
Time-series data available	allowance for mothers of many children; allowance for large families; allowance for the third child; lifetime pension for mothers of many children; family allowance	NO	NO	national rural nursery schools/national rural children centers; national children centers; nursery schools	NO	maternity leave; allowance for children deprived of parental protection; maternity benefit; parental leave; delivery grant; open care centers for old people; state children centers; state day nurseries for babies and young children; children summer camps; pregnancy, confinement and delivery grant; supplements to individuality pension for children/spouse; supplements to old age pension for children/spouse; supplementary allowance for pregnancy and confinement; counseling on families; maternity benefit for uninsured women; confinement grant
Rows (years)	measures for large families and family allowance for the public sector: data are available from the beginning to 1994(98); family allowance (private sector): data cover the 60s–1996			national rural nursery schools and the national children centers: data are available for 1950–1980 (last year of the measure: 1984), but not continuous; data for nursery schools are available for all years between 1955 and 1993		
Columns	measures for large families: most columns are covered comprehensively, only few contain missing variables (e.g. structure of financing, child's rank in family, number of families); regarding family allowance (public sector): in many columns values are completely missing			In some columns values are completely missing		
Region / scheme	family allowance is subdivided (public and private sector)			NO		
Overviews of family-policy areas	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	
Highlights	cash benefit for families in general: especially time series on measures for large families and nursery schools; comprehensive documentation of measures listed in the database without time series					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
			IRELAND			
Time-series data available	child allowance/ child benefit	deserted husband allowance; deserted wife allowance; deserted wife's benefit; lone parent's allowance; prisoner's wife allowance; unmarried mother's allowance; widower's allowance	family income supplement; home assistance; supplementary welfare allowance	infant classes/earlier primary education; Gaelic/Irish language playgroups; playgroups	carer's allowance	Child's dependant allowance (I-Vb); child tax allowance; day-care centers/day nurseries; prescribed relatives allowance; preschools for traveler's children; workplace nurseries/workplace crèches
Rows (years)	the rows cover the span from 1944–98 (except for the structure of financing (1980–1996)	quite a comprehensive coverage, data often cover all the years for one column till the end of the 90s	good coverage, data are often available for all the years till the mid 90s	infant classes: data are available from the beginning to 1996; Gaelic/Irish language playgroups: data only available for 3 or 4 rows	data are available from the beginning (1990) till 1996	
Columns	nearly all columns are covered from the first year to the last, except for the rank of children in the family where no data are available	altogether quite a good coverage for most of the columns; often missing: rank of child in family; structure of financing; expenditure for administration	columns with only missing values are: supplements for special needs, number of households etc., many columns are covered completely	Most of the tables are incomplete	comprehensive coverage: only single columns include non-valid values	
Region / scheme	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Overviews of family-policy areas	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	
Highlights	time-series data on child allowance/child benefit; existence minimum, cash benefit for one-parent families					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
	ITALY					
Time-series data available	family allowance and household allowance	NO	NO	day nursery; summer campsites; summer camps with overnight stay; day summer camps; nursery schools	NO	maternity allowances; supplementary family allowances; birth grant; optional parental leave; maternity leave; family wage supplements; family counselling centers
Rows (years)	family allowance: good coverage: 1940-1973; for expenditures for measure the coverage reaches only till 1960; household allowance: most of the data for 1988 (first year) only			day nursery: coverage from the beginning of the 70s to 1993 – in some cases 1937; nursery schools: coverage back to the mid 40s; all kinds of summer camps: 1950–93 (with many gaps)		
Columns	family allowance: some specific variables like the rank of the children in family, benefit rate for the second child, etc. are missing. Very detailed information on the sources of financing, very good coverage			nursery schools and day nursery have comprehensive coverage with data for most of the columns, only the structure of financing and expenditure are insufficient; data on summer camps are provided unsatisfactorily		
Region / scheme	family allowance: very detailed information on the development and changes of different occupational schemes within the Excel files; time series for all schemes, except for the agricultural scheme			NO		
Overviews of family-policy areas	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	
Highlights	good information on occupational schemes, time-series data on family allowance, nursery schools and day nursery					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
			NETHERLANDS			
Time-series data available	general family allowances; family allowances; family allowance for wage earners; family allowance for pensioners	NO	NO	in-company day-care centers; out-of-school facilities; childminder; half-day-care centers; day-care centers; nursery schools; playgroups	NO	no additional measures listed
Rows (years)	the main part of the rows is covered, some values missing only for the years before 1970, especially for measures no longer in force, e.g. family allowance for wage earners and for pensioners			poor sufficiency of time-series data for all services except for nursery schools: here the available data go back till 1900 and earlier		
Columns	columns are almost complete till 1996, most of the columns are covered in some way but the structure of financing never includes sufficient data			a lot of values missing for all services except for nursery schools: here many columns are covered		
Region / scheme	data are available for occupational schemes: self employed; wage earners, pensioners			NO		
Overviews of family-policy areas	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	
Highlights	Good coverage of time series for family allowance and nursery schools.					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
				NORWAY		
Time-series data available	child benefit	advance payment of child maintenance; survivor's benefit for children/child pension; mother's pension; mother's pension/transitional allowance	social assistance; public/social assistance	kindergarten; children's park; family daycare/childminder; holiday camps; leisure-time center; leisure-time schemes; educational programs for six-year olds	maternity/parental allowance; time account scheme	adoption allowance; adoption grant for families adopting children from abroad; psychiatric polyclinics for children and adolescents; children's home/youth home; orphan's pension (municipality/country); orphan's pension (state); child supplement (to old age pension I +II, to unemployment benefit, to sickness benefit); confinement/maternity allowance; funeral grant/allowance for funeral expenses; spouse supplement to old-age insurance; spouse supplement to sickness benefit; adoption grant; birth grant (in case of delivery at home); widows pension (I+II+III); tax credit for single parents/providers; family carers; special tax class deduction for children and other persons; family advisory center/family counseling service; parental leave; parent's deduction; provider's support/deduction; provider's allowance/tax credit for single parents; recreation schools (for children at risk for tuberculosis); attandance allowance; health station/clinic for mother and child; home nursing; housewife substitute service; wife's deduction; cash benefit scheme related to child care; basic personal tax allowance; sick benefit for parent's with (children suffering, with ill children, staying together with children); tax allowance for providers; daddy days/welfare leave for fathers; sickness benefit for persons suffering from a serious or potentially..; provider allowance/tax credit for providers; special supplement to advanced payment of child maintenance; education/study allowance for students in secondary (tertiary) education; pregnancy allowance related to work in dangerous work environment
Rows (years)	data complete from the 40s (beginning) till 1999. There are only few entries missing for the 1940s and 1950s.	data till 1999; the advanced payment of child maintenance has only data for the 1990s except for the structure of financing and expenditure: here the years are almost complete	data till 1996; social assistance is very well covered on additional variables, the standard variables of public assistance are not so well covered	kindergarten and educational programs for six-year olds are quite good provided, the years covered go up to 1996; coverage of the other services is less satisfactory because of lacking data	for maternity/parental allowance data are available up to 1998 and show quite a good coverage; the time-account scheme reveals little information	
Columns	most of the columns contain valid values. Only the structure of financing is missing	FOR ALL MEASURES: the structure of financing and expenditures are very good provided, advance payment for child maintenance and survivor's benefit are less satisfactory	structure of expenditure and of financing are the highlights: these variables are nearly complete but data on social assistance are good provided too	for kindergarten and the educational programs for six-year olds many columns are covered, columns on the other services are mainly empty	maternity/parental allowance: the structure of expenditure is shown in detail within county-specific variables, only one third of the columns are totally empty; the time-account scheme has only two columns with valid values	
Region / scheme	NO	NO	NO	NO	differentiation by people working in the private and in the public sector	
Overviews of family-policy areas						
Highlights	child benefit and cash benefits for one-parent families; structure of expenditure and financing, large number of measures listed in the database					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
				POLAND		
Time-series data available	Family pension; family allowance; family allowance and child-care allowance.	Alimony allowance	Disability welfare pension; maternity-care benefits (maternity protection); guaranteed temporary benefit.	Kindergarten; crèche.	Maternity allowance; nursing allowance; child care allowance; nutrition allowance; child birth one-off allowance; parental leave allowance.	NONE
Rows (years)	Data are often available from the beginning till 2000.	Only the structure of expenditure and financing are well documented, data on all other measures are unsatisfactory.	Data till 2000, include new measures.	Data are available from the 1920s till 1999.	Data from the start of the measures till 1999.	
Columns	Structure of financing and expenditure satisfactory, data on family allowance good provided in many columns.	Only the structure of expenditure and financing are good provided. No data concerning all other measures.	Best provided variables: structure of financing and expenditures, most other columns contain invalid data.	Very good coverage, only a few missing columns.	Nursing allowance and nutrition allowance are not very good provided; only the structure of financing and expenditure are well covered; all other measures show a good coverage in most of the columns.	
Region / scheme	Divided into farmers and other employed persons	NO	NO	NO	Divided into farmers and other employed for maternity allowance.	
Overviews of family-policy areas	NO. Only some kind of background information.	NO. Only some kind of background information.	NO. Only some kind of background information.	NO. Only some kind of background information.	NO. Only some kind of background information.	
Highlights	Structure of financing and expenditures for all measures, up-to-date data.					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
				PORTUGAL		
Time-series data available	Family allowance: time series exist for all schemes.	NO	NO	Services: kindergarten/preschool education.	Special education allowance: time series for agricultural workers; general scheme for social protection and family benefits; non- contributory scheme.	Childminder; leisure-time center; children's center; crèche; family crèche; paternity leave; parental leave; maternity/paternity leave; supplementary allowance for handicapped children and adolescents; adoption grant; breast feeding grant; marriage grant; funeral grant; death grant; birth grant; maternity benefit; paternity benefit; allowance for assistance by third party.
Rows (years)	Data before 1978 are often missing; latest update: 1998			In most cases, data are available from 1967–1996.	Very incomplete data.	
Columns	Often missing: structure of financing and expenditure, age supplements, number of households, rank of children in families, but many other columns are available from the late 1970s to the end of the 1990s.			Many columns are occupated; missing: detailed variables concerning childcare personnel; children by age group; structure of expenditure and financing.	Only sporadic data entries.	
Region / scheme	Regional data are only available from the 1960s to the early 1990s.			Regional information is available.	The time series of the different schemes are poorly filled and no regional data are available.	
Overviews of family-policy areas	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Highlights	Comprehensive time-series data on family allowance and preschool; enormous number of measures listed in the data base in addition to time-series data.					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
			SPAIN			
Time-series data available	3 measures described: allowance for families with many children; benefit for families with dependent children, family allowance.	NO	NO	NO	NO	No other measures listed.
Rows (years)	Data before 1978 are often missing; latest update: 1998.					
Columns	Mostly missing: structure of financing and expenditure, age supplements, number of households, rank of children in families; many other columns are available from the late 1970s to the end of the 1990s.					
Region / scheme	Regional data are only available from the 1960s to the early 1990s.					
Overviews of family-policy areas	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Highlights	Cash benefits for families in general.					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
SWEDEN						
Time-series data available	Only measure described: child benefit.	Description of two measures: advances of child support/maintenance allowance and special child allowance for widows and invalids.	Poor relief and social assistance.	Time series for 6 different services: children's summer camps/holiday programs; day-care centers; childminders; after- school services; family day-care centers; day nursery/part-time day-care centers; there are no time-series data for pre-primary schooling for 6-year olds.	Time-series data for 4 measures: parental leave, parental leave allowance, special parental leave allowance, temporary parental leave allowance.	
Rows (years)	Data often exist till the end of the 1990s, many rows are almost complete.	Data are available till the mid 1990s, but there are some gaps in the years before the 1970s.	Data for poor relief are mostly available from the 1940s till the last year of the measure; data for social assistance are available from the first year to the end of the 1990s.	Many rows are empty, especially from the 1980s until 2000.	The data are available at best until the mid 1990s, but the rows are often empty from the mid 1980s onwards.	
Columns	Only a few columns are unsatisfactory, very comprehensive time-series data.	Structure of expenditure and financing is good provided, some columns are missing, e.g. the rank of children in families.	Columns for some specific variables are completely empty.	Many columns are incomplete, some are empty.	In most cases, data on the structure of financing and the sources of financing are not available.	
Region / scheme	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Overviews of family-policy areas	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
Highlights	Very comprehensive time-series data for cash benefits and child care services.					

	1. Cash benefits for families in general	2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families	3. Existence minimum (family dimension)	4. Child-care services	5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children	Other measures listed in the database
UNITED KINGDOM						
Time-series data available	Family allowance/child benefit; guardian's allowance.	Child interim benefit/child benefit increase/one-parent benefit and child's special allowance.	Family credit, family income supplement, income support, national assistance, supplementary benefit.	Childminders, day nurseries, nursery classes, nursery schools, playgroups.	NO	Attendance allowance; crèche; earnings-related supplements to sickness benefit; family centers; increase of invalidity benefit for dependants; increase of severe disablement allowance for dependants; increase of sickness benefit for dependents; increase of sickness benefit for spouses; invalid care allowance; mother and toddler groups; nannies.
Rows (years)	From about 1995 till 2000 the rows are empty, family allowance/child benefit is better provided than the guardian's allowance.	Valid data are available from about the beginning of the 1970s until the mid of the 1990s.	Data are available till the mid 1990s.	Many rows before 1970 are empty, data exist till the early 90s.		
Columns	Often missing: structure of expenditure, of financing and the child's rank in family.	Data on the structure of expenditure and financing are completely missing.	Many empty columns.	Many columns are completely empty, especially for nursery classes.		
Region / scheme	For Northern Ireland and Scotland a lot of data are missing.	For Northern Ireland and Scotland a lot of data are missing.	Data for Northern Ireland, Scotland and specially for Wales are very incomplete.	Data for Wales and Northern Ireland are very incomplete.		
Overviews of family-policy areas	Available for family allowance/child benefit and guardian's allowance.	YES	YES	A very comprehensive overview is available.	NO	
Highlights	Good overviews, cash benefits.					

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