

Multinational Time Budget Study (MTBS, 1965-66)

The entity that has organized the survey and is responsible for data collection - as well as key data on the entity's membership, governance arrangements, source of funding etc.

According to [the Centre for Time Use Research](#), The Multinational Time Budget Study was coordinated by Aleksander Szalai in the 1960s, when he was working for the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. [GESIS](#) adds that Philip J. Stone from Harvard University was involved in this coordination. The data was originally stored in the Harvard-based Murray Research Archive. Researchers from each country had to secure funding and collect data in their chosen city/cities.

A historical sketch of the initiation and origin of the survey

According to [Institute for Quantitative Social Science \(IQSS\) at Harvard](#) University, the European Coordination Centre for Research Documentation in the Social Sciences in Vienna sponsored a similar project in 1964 which led to the collective international effort of the MTBS. The MTBS was an important forerunner for later studies, like the [Multinational Time Use Study](#).

Internet links to the website of the responsible organization

The MTBS has no website. Some information is available at [GESIS](#) and some at the [Harvard Dataverse Network](#).

The frequency or repetitions of the survey. Possible explanation of this.

This was a single study conducted in 1965-66.

A description of the survey's content, i.e. both focused rotational and / or core modules of the survey

The data provide information about what activities people fill their days with, in other words their "time budget": working time, domestic work, child care, purchasing goods and services, education and training, civic participation, entertainment, social life, passive leisure, primary activities. There is also data on how the patterns of everyday life change on weekends; how they vary depending on age, sex, size of family, and socioeconomic status; and how general political, economic, and cultural conditions affect the use of time.

An outline of the type of sample and the main data collection methods used

Two-step quota sampling procedure in which (1) the household as a unit was randomly selected, and (2) an individual within the household was chosen. A minimum of 2,000 persons per site was prescribed, however the sample sizes vary from 800-2,000. The target population was the (sub-)urban population aged 18-65 in all participating countries.

Face-to-face interviews and/or self-recorded diaries were used to collect data.

An account of availability of the data to researchers, restrictions on access, etc.

The data are available at the Murray Research Archive - [Harvard Dataverse](#) - for research purposes upon submission of an application and a proposed research project for the use of data. All data except from the Soviet Union are also available through GESIS.

Questionnaires, English version

These are not available.

The countries included in the different rounds

12 countries were involved:

The Soviet Union, the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany, the German Democratic Republic, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Yugoslavia, Belgium, France, and Peru.

Cumulative file

Not relevant; this is a single study.

Publications based on data

There is no bibliography, however one single reference is given:

Szalai, A. (ed.). (1972). *The Use of Time. Daily Activities of Urban and Suburban Populations in Twelve Countries*. The Hague: Mouton.

Analytical summary...

Sources

Unless otherwise noted, all information is extracted from [GESIS' list of cross-national survey programmes](#) based on population samples or [the cataloging information](#) at the Harvard Dataverse.