

Weighting for an all German representative sample in ISSP 2008

	Mikrozensus 2007* (in thousand)			ISSP 2008		
	West (N _w)	East (N _o)	Total (N)	West (n _w)	East (n _o)	Total (n)
Persons in private households, 18 years and older	55.160	12.447	67.607	1182	524	1706

* figures provided by the German Federal Statistical Office

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 \text{- West} & \frac{n}{n_w} \times \frac{N_w}{N} = & \frac{1706}{1182} \times \frac{55.160}{67.607} = 1,17759009 \\
 \text{- East} & \frac{n}{n_o} \times \frac{N_o}{N} = & \frac{1706}{524} \times \frac{12.447}{67.607} = 0,59940556
 \end{array}$$

Calculation of ISSP weights follows procedures described in ALLBUS methods reports for the ALLBUS, see for example: Achim Koch, Martina Wasmer, Janet Harkness, Evi Scholz (2001), ZUMA-Methodenbericht 2001/05: Konzeption und Durchführung der "Allgemeinen Bevölkerungsumfrage der Sozialwissenschaften" (ALLBUS) 2000, available at http://gesis-web.bonn.iz-soz.de/fileadmin/upload/forschung/publikationen/gesis_reihen/gesis_methodenberichte/2001/01_05.pdf and provided in English on the following page.

6.5 East-West weighting for analyses of reunified Germany

In the ALLBUS 2000 sample – like in all other ALLBUS samples since 1991 – Eastern Germany was deliberately overrepresented in order to obtain a sample size in this part of Germany which allows for analyses of different population sub-groups. Thus, if the data are used for analyses of reunified Germany, the disproportionality between the individual samples (Eastern/Western Germany) must be resolved by applying weighting procedures.¹ For analyses of individuals, the figures for people of 18 years and older in Western and Eastern Germany as illustrated in table 8 have to be considered.²

Table 8: Figures for East/West-weighting: Mikrozensus 1997 and ALLBUS 2000

	Mikrozensus 1997*			ALLBUS 2000		
	West (N _w)	East (N _o)	Total (N)	West (n _w)	East (n _o)	Total (n)
People in private households, 18 years and older	332.023	76.635	408.658	2.036	1.102	3.138

* Anonymised 70% sub-sample of the Mikrozensus 1997 (ZUMA-File), Analyses by Achim Koch (ZUMA).

The weighting factors for analyses of the adult population in private households in reunified Germany can be calculated with the formula described by Gabler (1994: 78):

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{- West} & \quad \frac{n}{n_w} \times \frac{N_w}{N} = \frac{3.138}{2.036} \times \frac{332.023}{408.658} = 1.25223 \\
 \text{- East} & \quad \frac{n}{n_o} \times \frac{N_o}{N} = \frac{3.138}{1.102} \times \frac{76.635}{408.658} = 0.53400
 \end{aligned}$$

A corresponding weighting variable is included in the ALLBUS 2000 dataset (V836). For example, if SPSS for Windows is used, the weighting for analyses of reunified Germany in ALLBUS 2000 can be activated as follows:

WEIGHT BY V836.

FREQ or another statistical procedure.

¹ Under no circumstances is it appropriate to use the figures for all respondents – as they are reported for the individual variables in the codebook, for example – for estimating the figures for reunified Germany.

² Since in ALLBUS/ISSP 2000 – in contrast to the ALLBUS surveys of 1982 to 1992 and 1998, where the ADM sampling procedure was applied – every individual had the same probability to become part of the sample, there is no need for design weights (so-called transformation weights) if analyses are carried out for individuals.