

README-File for publication: Fitzenberger und Lickleder, Career Planning, School Grades, and Transitions: The Last Two Years in a German Lower Track Secondary School, forthcoming in the Journal of Economics and Statistics.

Datum: 9.1.2015

This ZIP-File includes

- Questionnaires for the Survey in Freiburg which provides the database for the paper
- Information on the survey data
- Information on the variables used
- Do- and Log-files of estimations with Stata (Files ending with *.txt)
- Empirical results
- Further Tables

Information on the Data set analyzed:

Because we promised the participants at the time of the survey that the data must not be shared with others, we can not distribute freely the data.

Those interested to replicate our results with Stata can contact us based on the informations given in this ZIP-file. The estimation programs must be based on the Stata-Datafile 'Kohortelund2.dta' and the programs must use the variable names in 'd0_variables.txt'.

The data used involve:

1. Survey data among students: conducted during 8th and 9th grade in Hauptschulen (LTSS) in Freiburg - we have included the questionnaires.
2. Administrative school data, in particular school grades, participation in AGT, gender, and migration background.
3. Survey of teachers (insofar as parents have given their consent) coded with L*** kodierte, L1 refers to the first grade (8th grade), L2 to the second grade (9th grade).
4. Survey among parents (insofar as parents have given their consent) coded with e*** kodierte - for our analysis the answers were coded as dummy variables (number of children, employment status father (V) and mother (M), education of parents etc.)
5. Information regarding the share of foreigners in the residential area (Online data source FRITZ, Freiburg).

Eine ausführliche Erklärung findet sich auch im Papier. pp. 9-10:

We run our own surveys following two consecutive cohorts of students over the last two years of LTSS's in the City of Freiburg (state of Baden-Württemberg) during the time period 2007 to 2010.

For all LTSS students in grades 8 and 9 in Freiburg at the time, we conduct regular surveys among the students, the teachers, and the parents

regarding the students' characteristics, career guidance policies and career planning, and teacher assessments (Figure 1). The students come from 11 different schools and 16 classes. We survey the two cohorts of LTSS students starting 8th grade in 2007 and 2008, respectively. Taking both cohorts together, 551 students (plus 78 drop outs) received ACA. Students were interviewed three or four times during grades 8 and 9 (Timecode in brackets: grade and semester): first semester (8:1,9:1) and second semester (8:2, 9:2) of grades 8 and 9, respectively.

11) The class teachers were interviewed once in grades 8 and 9 each. The parents were interviewed once in grade 8 at the time when they were asked to give their declaration of consent that their child may participate in the survey. Information about the transition after grade 9 is reported by the case worker providing the ACA.

12) As a further innovative element of our data, we can use administrative data provided by the schools on grades, gender, age, and migration background in addition to the survey data.

13) We have school grades in the subjects Math and German based on the grade report (transcript, Table 1) in each semester from the end of grade 7 to the end of grade 9, i.e. for the points in time 7:2, 8:1, 8:2, 9:1, and 9:2.

14) We also use administrative indicators (FR.ITZ, Freiburg)

15) characterizing the students' residential area (based on 36 city-districts home district), such as the share of foreigners, a proxy for the (un-)employment rate, and the share of students attending an LTSS.

16) 11 For practical reasons, it was only possible to conduct the first survey for the first cohort at the end of grade 8 (Figure 1).

12 In case of missing values (n=11), we use the information given by the student in the last survey in 9:2. Moreover, we use information from the survey conducted after graduation to further correct the data (Figure 1).

13 To merge administrative data to the survey responses, a separate written declaration of consent by the parents was required.

14 7:2 stands for the grade report at the end of grade 7, 8:1 for the grade report in the first semester of grade 8, and so on.

15 Online-Statistics - City of Freiburg:
<http://wiki.stadt.freiburg.de/webkatalog/>.

16 FR.ITZ, Freiburg. For those students, who do not live in the City of Freiburg, we use information on their hometown at the municipal level (Statistisches Landesamt Baden-Württemberg, online data base).

17 Migration background is defined as either having a foreign citizenship or being born in a foreign country.