

# Tracking Economic Activity With Alternative High-Frequency Data (Replication Data) Readme File

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This readme file accompanies the replication data files `data_ch.Rda` and `data_ch.xlsx` related to the Journal of Applied Econometrics publication titled Tracking Economic Activity With Alternative High-Frequency Data. Both files contain the same dataset. The below table lists all variables in the dataset (see also Table 4 in the paper). All series refer to Switzerland, if not indicated otherwise. In particular, the Google search indices comprise searches in Switzerland. All monthly series are seasonally adjusted. Detrending of a variable (see column “Transformation”) is done by subtracting the rolling in-sample moving average of three times the frequency of the respective variable. The following series were adjusted during the collection process such that the series do not contain any structural breaks due to changes in definition, scope or coverage of the series: Energy Consumed by Swiss End Users, Energy Production in Switzerland, Passenger Car Frequency and Truck Frequency. The website [www.trendecon.org](http://www.trendecon.org) describes the methods used for the construction (including cleaning and adjustment) of the trendEcon Google search index on the perceived economic situation. We also employ the trendEcon code for the compilation of the Google search index on the perceived labor market situation. In table column “Frequency”, “W”, “M” and “Q” stand for week, month and quarter, respectively. The table column “Source” entails the following acronyms: ASTRA: Swiss Federal Roads Office, Destatis: German Federal Statistical Office, EZV: Federal Customs Administration, KOF: KOF Swiss Economic Institute, SBB: Swiss Federal Railways, SECO: Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, SNB: Swiss National Bank, SPA: Swiss Payment Association, StatistikZH: Statistical Office of the Canton of Zurich.

Variable Key in data.ch.Rda	Sheet Name in data.ch.xlsx	Description	Frequency	Start Date	Unit	Transformation	Type	Source
traffic.PW	traffic.PW	Passenger Car Frequency, Counting Stations on Major Swiss Motorways	Daily	2005W2	Actual	Log Difference	Flow	ASTRA
traffic.LW	traffic.LW	Truck Frequency, Counting Stations on Major Swiss Motorways	Daily	2005W2	Actual	Log Difference	Flow	ASTRA
trendecon	trendecon	Google Search Index, Perceived Economic Situation	Daily	2006W1	Index	None	Stock	trendEcon
Aloftsmarkt	Aloftsmarkt	Google Search Index, Perceived Labour Market Situation	Daily	2006W1	Index	None	Stock	KOF
Lkw_Maut_DE	Lkw_Maut_DE	Truck-Toll Mileage Index, Germany	Daily	2008W2	Actual	Log Difference	Flow	Destatis
electricity_in	electricity_in	Energy Consumed by Swiss End Users	Daily	2009W2	kWh	Log Difference	Flow	Swissgrid
electricity_out	electricity_out	Energy Production in Switzerland	Daily	2009W2	kWh	Log Difference	Flow	Swissgrid
zrh_airport_arrivals	zrh_airport_arrivals	Total Flight Arrivals, Zurich Airport	Daily	2011W2	Actual	Log Difference	Flow	Zurich Airport
zrh_airport_departure	zrh_airport_departure	Total Flight Departures, Zurich Airport	Daily	2011W2	Actual	Log Difference	Flow	Zurich Airport
bezug_bargeld	stat-einkauf	Cash Withdrawals, Swiss-Wide Volume in CHF	Daily	2018W2	CHF, in Millions	Log Difference	Flow	SIX Group
stat_einkauf	stat-einkauf	Non-Online Retail Sales, Swiss-Wide Volume in CHF	Daily	2018W2	CHF, in Millions	Log Difference	Flow	SIX Group
debitensatz_ausland	debitensatz_ausland	Swiss Debit Card Transactions Abroad, Volume in CHF	Daily	2018W2	CHF, in Millions	Log Difference	Flow	SIX Group
oev_freq_hardbruecke	oev_freq_hardbruecke	Public Transport Passenger Frequency, Zurich Hardbruecke	Daily	2019W30	Actual	Log Difference	Flow	SIX Group
anz_kktrans_ch	anz_kktrans_ch	Credit Card Transactions, Swiss-Wide Frequency	Daily	2020W2	Actual, in Thousands	Log Difference	Flow	SBB
mobility_grocery_and_pharmacy	mobility_grocery_and_pharmacy	Google COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports, Grocery and Pharmacy	Weekly	2020W2	Actual, in Thousands	Log Difference	Flow	SFA
mobility_parks	mobility_parks	Google COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports, Parks	Daily	2020W2	Percentage	Log Difference	Flow	Google
mobility_residential	mobility_residential	Google COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports, Residential	Daily	2020W2	Percentage	Log Difference	Flow	Google
mobility_retail_and_recreation	mobility_retail_and_recreation	Google COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports, Retail and Recreation	Daily	2020W2	Percentage	Log Difference	Flow	Google
mobility_transit_stations	mobility_transit_stations	Google COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports, Transit Stations	Daily	2020W2	Percentage	Log Difference	Flow	Google
mobility_workplaces	mobility_workplaces	Google COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports, Workplaces	Daily	2020W2	Percentage	Log Difference	Flow	Google
tages_distanz_median	tags_distanz_median	Median Day Distance of Representative Swiss Population Sample	Daily	2020W2	km	Log Difference	Flow	Google
aufkommen_miv	aufkommen_miv	Private Transport Frequency, Important Counting Stations, Zurich	Daily	2020W2	Actual	Log Difference	Flow	intervista
oev_freq_lb	oev_freq_lb	Public Transport Frequency, Important Counting Stations, Zurich	Daily	2020W2	Actual	Log Difference	Flow	StatistikZH
SWGBOND	SWGBOND	10-Year Confederation Bond Yield	Monthly	1990M1	Percentage	Detrended	Flow	SBB
SWISSMI	SWISSMI	Swiss Market Index (SMI)	Monthly	1990M1	CHF	Log Difference	Flow	SECO
FINANSW	FINANSW	Swiss Stock Market Index, Financials	Daily	1990W1	CHF	Log Difference	Flow	SIX Group
INDUSSW	INDUSSW	Swiss Stock Market Index, Industrials	Daily	1990W1	CHF	Log Difference	Flow	Datastream
ch_snb_zimoma_3m0	ch_snb_zimoma_3m0	3-Month CHF LIBOR	Daily	1990W1	CHF	Log Difference	Flow	Datastream
SWCONPRCE	SWCONPRCE	Consumer Price Index, Total	Monthly	1991M12	Percentage	Detrended	Stock	SNB
SWPROPRCE	SWPROPRCE	Producer Price Index	Monthly	1990M1	Index, 2015M12=100	Log Difference	Flow	SECO
SWPCOCOREF	SWPCOCOREF	Consumer Price Index, Excl. Energy, Fresh & Seasonal Products	Monthly	1990M1	Index, 2015M12=100	Log Difference	Flow	SECO
ch_secg_gdp_real_gdp_ssa	ch_secg_gdp_real_gdp_ssa	Gross Domestic Product, Adjusted for International Sport Events	Quarterly	1990Q1	CHF, Real Prices	Log Difference	Flow	SECO
ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0803_sa	ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0803_sa	Retail Sales, Culture and Recreation Goods, Constant Prices	Monthly	2000M2	Index, 2015=100	Log Difference	Flow	SECO
ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0806_sa	ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0806_sa	Retail Sales, Food, Beverage and Tobacco	Monthly	2000M2	Index, 2015=100	Log Difference	Flow	SECO
ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0805_sa	ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0805_sa	Retail Sales, Household Equipment	Monthly	2000M2	Index, 2015=100	Log Difference	Flow	SECO
ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0804_sa	ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0804_sa	Retail Sales, Information and Communication Equipment	Monthly	2000M2	Index, 2015=100	Log Difference	Flow	SECO
ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0808_sa	ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0808_sa	Retail Sales, Non-Food	Monthly	2000M2	Index, 2015=100	Log Difference	Flow	SECO
ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0807_sa	ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0807_sa	Retail Sales, Other Goods	Monthly	2000M2	Index, 2015=100	Log Difference	Flow	SECO
ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0801_sa	ch_fso_rtt_ind_r_noga0801_sa	Retail Sales, Total	Monthly	2000M2	Index, 2015=100	Log Difference	Flow	SECO
SWPURCHSQ	SWPURCHSQ	Purchasing Managers Index, Manufacturing Sector	Monthly	1995M1	Index (Diffusion)	None	Stock	Credit Suisse
SWPMIORDQ	SWPMIORDQ	Purchasing Managers Index, Manufacturing Sector, Backlog of Orders	Monthly	1995M1	Index (Diffusion)	None	Stock	Credit Suisse
SWPMIPROQ	SWPMIPROQ	Purchasing Managers Index, Manufacturing Sector, Production Index	Monthly	1995M1	Index (Diffusion)	None	Stock	Credit Suisse
SWPMINSPOQ	SWPMINSPOQ	Purchasing Managers Index, Manufacturing Sector, Supplier Deliveries	Monthly	1995M1	Index (Diffusion)	None	Stock	Credit Suisse
SWPMIEMIPQ	SWPMIEMIPQ	Purchasing Managers Index, Manufacturing Sector, Employment Index	Monthly	1995M1	Index (Diffusion)	None	Stock	Credit Suisse
SWPMIPRICQ	SWPMIPRICQ	Purchasing Managers Index, Manufacturing Sector, Price Index	Monthly	1995M1	Index (Diffusion)	None	Stock	Credit Suisse
SWPMIOUTPQ	SWPMIOUTPQ	Purchasing Managers Index, Manufacturing Sector, Outgoing Orders	Monthly	1995M1	Index (Diffusion)	None	Stock	Credit Suisse
SWPMIPINQ	SWPMIPINQ	Purchasing Managers Index, Manufacturing Sector, Financial Outlook	Monthly	1995M1	Index (Diffusion)	None	Stock	Credit Suisse