The Slovenian Social Science Data Archives (ADP): A user's experience and a sociological reflection

Miran Lavrič and Sergej Flere

A USER'S EXPERIENCE: RESEARCH

1. **Easy online access to a large database of survey data**

2. **Transparent methodology**

> **Population**: All persons aged 15 and over resident within private households, regardless of their nationality, citizenship, language or legal status, residing in Slovenia. Institutionalised inhabitants such as high-schoolers and students, living at dorms, persons serving in the army, persons being treated in hospitals and others who are not living at their registered adresses.
>
> **Sample**: Central Register of Population (a list of names and addresses constantly updated by public administration) is employed as a sampling frame. The sample is two-stage stratified random sample from Central Register of Population, where every population unit has equal probability of selection. First stage PSU selection is made by probability proportional to size of CEA (Clusters of Enumeration Areas). CEA are stratified according to 12 regions*6 type of settlement. At second stage systematic random selection inside CEA brings fixed numbers of persons with name and address.
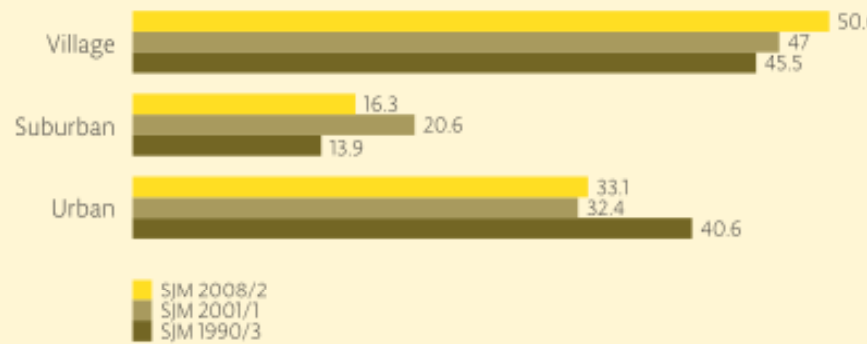
3. **Strong personal support** (quick information on how to get relevant data)

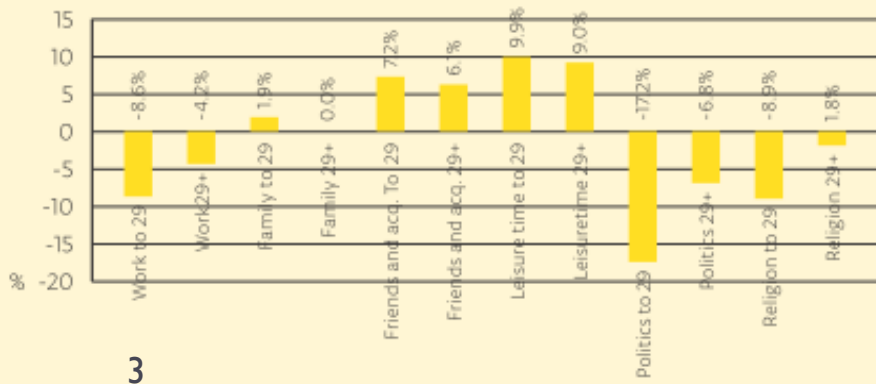4. **A channell for data distribution and a potential for citations**

> Lavrič, Miran et al. Youth 2010: Social profile of youth in Slovenia [data file]. Slovenia, Maribor: Univerza v Mariboru = University of Maribor, Filozofska fakulteta = Faculty of Arts [production], 2010. Slovenia, Ljubljana: Univerza v Ljubljani = University of Ljubljana, Arhiv družboslovnih podatkov = Social Science Data Archive [distribution], 2011.

AVALIABILITY OF QUALITY DATA

Graph 7: Structure of young people (15-30 years) by type of permanent residence settlement, public opinion survey (SJM), selected years

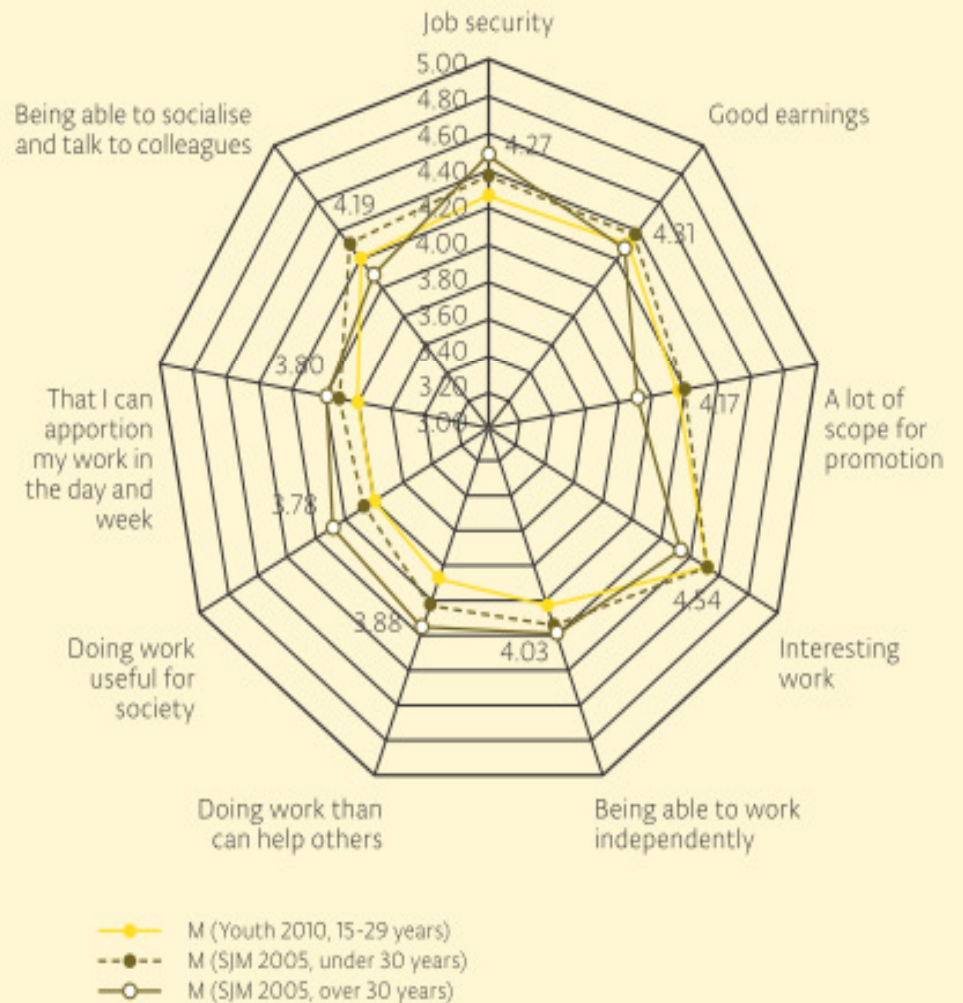|	SJM 2008/2	SJM 2001/1	SJM 1990/3
Village	50.0	47	45.5
Suburban	16.3	20.6	13.9
Urban	33.1	32.4	40.6

Graph 120: Changes in the importance of individual value categories in the period 1992-2008, separated into younger (up to 29) and older (over 29) age groups

- Work to 29: -8.5%
- Work 29+: -4.2%
- Family to 29: 1.9%
- Family 29+: 0.0%
- Friends and acq. To 29: 7.2%
- Friends and acq. 29+: 6.1%
- Leisure time to 29: 9.9%
- Leisure time 29+: 9.0%
- Politics to 29: -17.2%
- Politics 29+: -6.8%
- Religion to 29: -8.9%
- Religion 29+: 1.8%

3

SOURCES: SJM 1992 and SJM 2008

Graph 47: Importance of specific elements of a job, average values, Youth 2010 (15–29 years), SJM 2005/1

Job security
Good earnings
A lot of scope for promotion
Interesting work
Being able to work independently
Doing work than can help others
Doing work useful for society
That I can apportion my work in the day and week
Being able to socialise and talk to colleagues

4.27 · 4.19 · 4.31 · 4.17 · 4.54 · 4.03 · 3.88 · 3.78 · 3.80

— M (Youth 2010, 15–29 years)
--●-- M (SJM 2005, under 30 years)
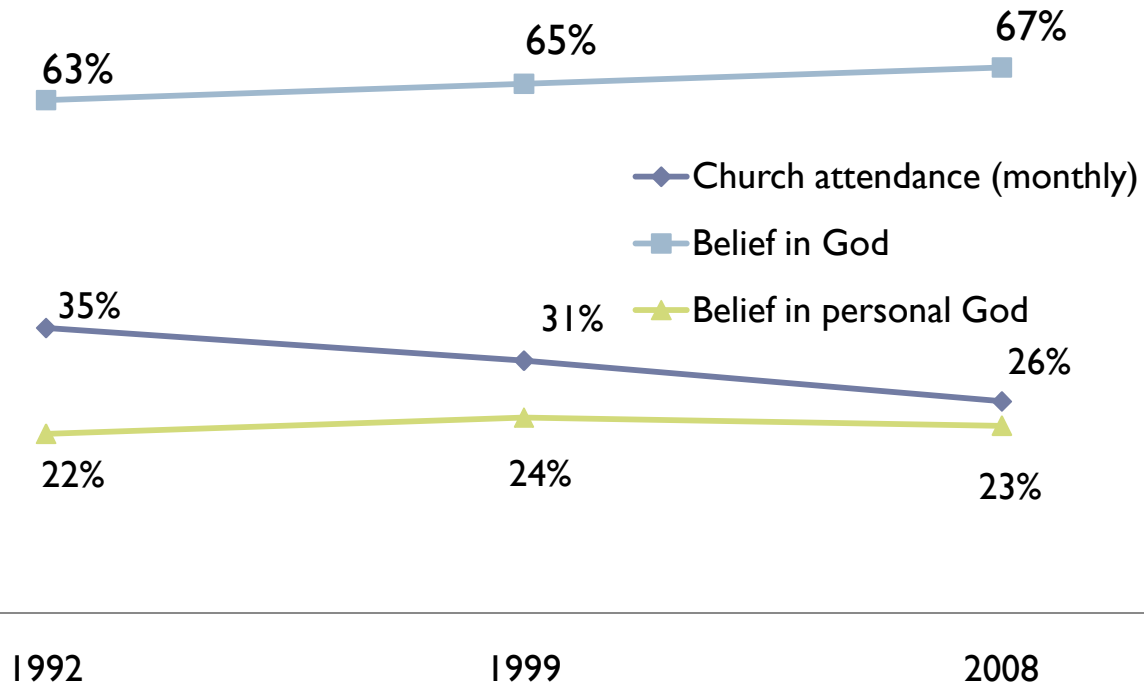—○— M (SJM 2005, over 30 years)

NOTE: 1 = not important at all, 5 = very important

A USER'S EXPERIENCE: TEACHING

1. ADP as a source of data for any sociological lecture

Religious change in Slovenia

Legend:
- ◆ Church attendance (monthly)
- ■ Belief in God
- ▲ Belief in personal God

Belief in God: 63% (1992), 65% (1999), 67% (2008)

Church attendance (monthly): 35% (1992), 31% (1999), 26% (2008)

Belief in personal God: 22% (1992), 24% (1999), 23% (2008)
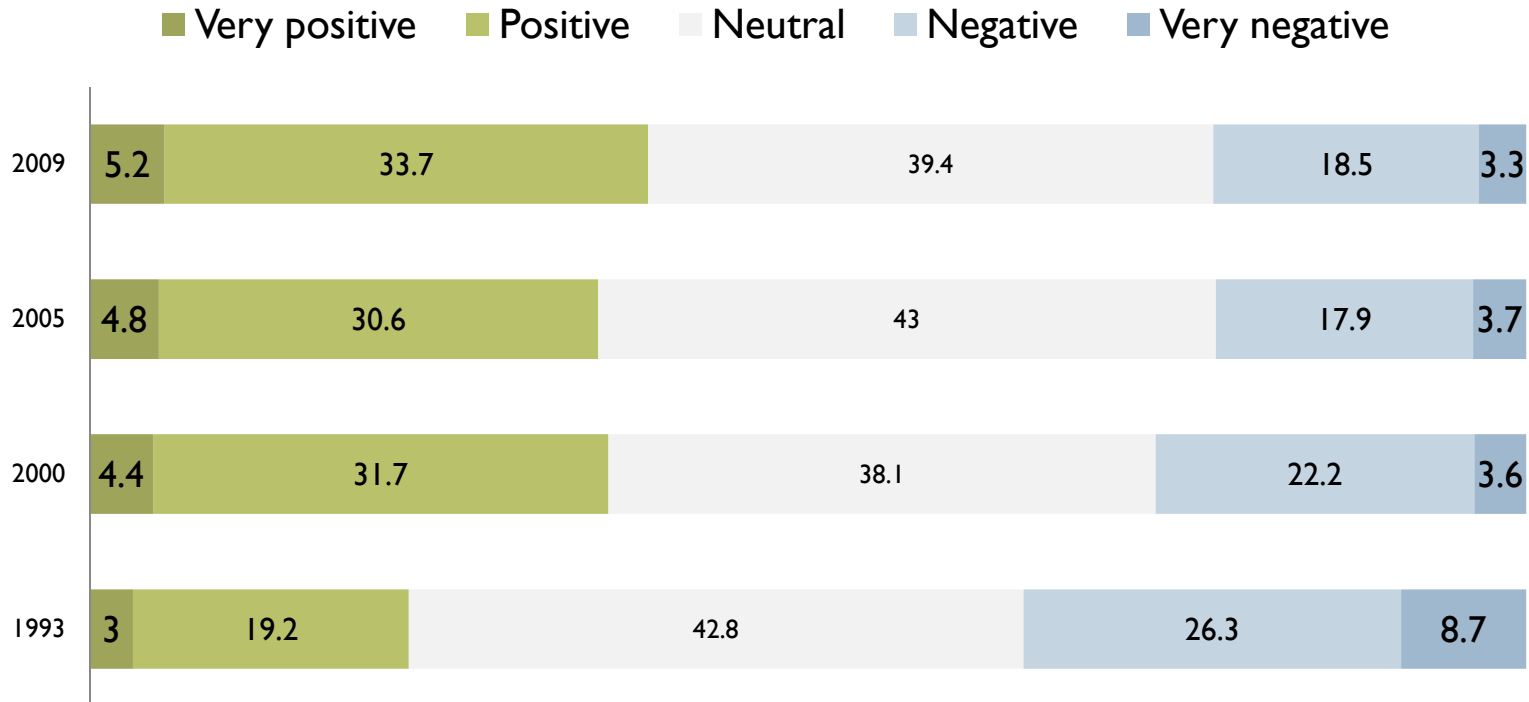
1992 — 1999 — 2008

Sources: SJM 1992/1; 1999/3; 2008/1

A USER'S EXPERIENCE: TEACHING

2. ADP as a solid ground for teaching social methods

What is your attitude towards socialism?

Source: SJM 2009/2

A USER'S EXPERIENCE: TEACHING

2. ADP as a solid ground for teaching social methods

		socializem	Spol	Kdaj ste bili rojeni? Prosim, povejte samo letnico.	Navedite zadnjo šolo, ki ste jo končali redno ali izredno:
socializem	Korelacija	-	0,075	-0,069	-0,026
	Statistična značilnost	-	0,0169	0,0277	0,4094
	N	-	1004	1004	1004
Spol	Korelacija	0,075	-	-0,052	0,004
	Statistična značilnost	0,0169	-	0,1020	0,9106
	N	1004	-	1004	1004
Kdaj ste bili rojeni? Prosim, povejte samo letnico.	Korelacija	-0,069	-0,052	-	0,260
	Statistična značilnost	0,0277	0,1020	-	0,0000
	N	1004	1004	-	1004
Navedite zadnjo šolo, ki ste jo končali redno ali izredno:	Korelacija	-0,026	0,004	0,260	-
	Statistična značilnost	0,4094	0,9106	0,0000	-
	N	1004	1004	1004	-

| p < 0.001 |
| p < 0.01 |
| p < 0.05 |

Source: SJM 2009/2

CONCLUSION

Improved our **research** practice by offering:

•easy access to transparent and high-quality survey data

•a channel for distribution of the data

Improved **teaching** practice by enabling teachers to:

•Empirically support lectures within any (sociological) subjects

•Ground the methodological courses on real data

$\Rightarrow$more interesting & useful for other courses

A HISTORICAL VIEW

▸ First computer for social science utilisation in Belgrade

▸ Lack of computers

▸ Lack of knowledge of processing and of statistics

A HISTORICAL VIEW

- ▸ Type of analysis
- ▸ Types of questions: descriptive, but also…
- ▸ Political correcetness
- ▸ Type of presentation of analysis
- ▸ Cooperation at elaboration of analysis

- ▸ Data keeping

▸

THE EX-YU REGION

▸ Major heritage from the Yugoslav period: 'JUPIO', 'Klasno biće', 'Kvalitet života', 'Na kriznoj raskrsnici': value for today's and future analyses

▸ **Transfer to 'modern' type of data analysis** – approximately 1990 (without punched cards, without paper presentations as mandatory form for analysis).