

The South African National Income Dynamics Study

www.nids.uct.ac.za

Wave 2 Findings

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N.i.D.S.
NATIONAL INCOME DYNAMICS STUDY

What is a panel study?

- Follow the same people over time so that we can observe how their lives change
- Track individuals as they move and form new households
- Very rich data on how life events impact on people's lives. For example:
 - What happens when someone gets a grant
 - Coping strategies when breadwinner loses their job
 - Cause and effect of teenage pregnancies



Who does the panel follow?

- A panel of individuals not households...
- All members of the original selected household (including the children) will be tracked indefinitely (**Continuing Sample Members - CSMs**)
- Any children born to or adopted by female CSMs become CSMs
- New household members other than these children become **Temporary Sample Members (TSMs)**



When is somebody a new household member?

- Household membership:
 - Has [...] lived under this "roof" or within the same compound/homestead/stand **at least 15 days during the last 12 months** OR did they arrive here in the last 15 days and this is now their usual residence **and**
 - when they are/were together you **share/d food** from a common source with other household members **and**
 - when they are/were together you contribute/d to or share/d in a **common resource pool**



What if they are not there all the time?

- Residency rule:
- Does [...] usually reside here at least **4 nights a week**?
- If YES = Resident = Interview
- If NO = Non- Resident = No interview



Key Findings of Wave 1 & 2

- Background to NIDS
- Three Key Questions:
 1. What does NIDS tell us that we didn't know before?
 2. How can NIDS contribute to evidence-based policy making?
 - Income mobility; wealth & subjective well-being; labour market; education
 3. What can NIDS tell us in the future?



What does NIDS tell us that we didn't know before?

- NIDS is the first nationally representative longitudinal (panel) survey that tracks the same people over time.
- It therefore answers important questions concerning:
 - Social mobility across time and across generations
 - Transitions into and out of poverty and employment
 - Progress through school and into the labour market
 - Determinants of health status
 - Changes in well-being (income, expenditure, wealth, assets or subjective perceptions)
 - The impact of social grants
 - Impact of positive events (e.g. a job) and negative events (e.g. a death)



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What can NIDS tell us in the Future?

Linkages to Administrative Data

- In the secure data facility at the NIDS offices, we have researchers who are:
 1. Linking administrative data from the Department of Education with the NIDS data
 2. Evaluating the distance of NIDS respondents to the nearest clinics – data received from the Department of Health



Outreach Activities

- Scholarship opportunities (no more than two per university)
- Capacity Building
 - Students – training at SALDRU course: January for either introductory or intermediate courses
 - Professionals – training at SALDRU January courses & office at NIDS to allow individuals to work on the data in the environment where the data is collected & quality controlled
- Seminar engagement at UCT in School of Economics or SALDRU

