

"Microdata in Economic History: Beyond the Full-Count Census"

Workshop, November 29/30, at CES Munich Application deadline: August 15, 2024

Empirical research in economic history is increasingly dependent on granular data at the individual, family, and firm levels. Supported by international transcription and harmonization initiatives such as IPUMS and HISCO, the past decade has witnessed significant advances leveraging microdata from historical full-count population and business censuses. These efforts have illuminated areas such as intergenerational socioeconomic mobility, industry location patterns, and migration decisions, among others. Yet, beyond a few Western high-income nations, detailed historical census data often remains unavailable, with original sources sometimes completely lost. To overcome these gaps, researchers are turning to alternative microdata sources like vital records, city directories, and business ledgers. These sources, while rich in detail, frequency, and geographic scope, present unique challenges. This workshop aims to unite researchers interested in the practical application of and methodological challenges associated with non-standard historical microdata sources. We invite contributions from scholars at all stages of their academic careers.

The workshop is held on November 29/30 at the Center for Economic Studies (CES) in Munich. It features 10 to 14 presentation slots à 45 minutes and two **keynotes by Stephan Heblich** (U Toronto) and **Joachim Voth** (U Zurich). The workshop is funded by LMU and CRC 190 Rationality & Competition and organized by Thilo Albers (U Münster & HU Berlin), Mathias Bühler (LMU Munich), Kalle Kappner (LMU Munich), Monique Reiske (HU Berlin). Catering is provided to all participants during the workshop.

To apply, please upload your extended abstract or paper at https://tinyurl.com/microdata2024 until August 15, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact Thilo Albers via thilo.albers@gmail.com.

