

Programmatic Poverty Assessment Work in Western Balkans

Analytical Description of Statistical Programs

by Georgios A. Panos

This file explains the contents of the program files used to generate the panel dataset for Bosnia & Herzegovina (2001-2004).

A) BiH LSMS Program Files

1) ***cr1.1_data*** (*data creation file*)

This file uses the identifier files for each of the 4 waves, traces the unique individual and household identifying variables and renames them into pid and hid, respectively. It also tracks some basic demographic variables. It then appends the 4 files to each other, so that a 1st stage panel **No. 1** with identifying variables is obtained.

2) ***cr1.2_data*** (*data creation file*)

This file uses the household files for each of the 4 waves, and renames some of the useful variables, providing standard conventional names. Then the 4 generated files are sorted and appended to each other, so that another 1st stage panel **No. 2** with household variables is obtained.

3) ***cr1.3_data*** (*data creation file*)

This file uses the individual files for each of the 4 waves, and renames some of the useful variables, providing standard conventional names. It keeps a broad selection of potentially useful variables. Then, the 4 generated files are sorted and appended to each other, so that another 1st stage panel **No. 3** with individual variables is obtained.

4) ***cr1.4_data*** (*data creation file*)

This file uses the job history files available for waves 2, 3, and 4, and renames some of the useful variables, providing standard conventional names. Then the 3 generated files are sorted and appended to each other, so that another 1st stage panel **No. 4** with job history variables is obtained. This file could probably be useful for job-event-analysis.

5) ***cr1.5_data*** (*data creation file*)

This is the concluding file of the panel generation process where the 4 1st stage panel files are merged into 1 large panel file.

- File 1 (identifiers) is merged to File 2 (household variables), based on hid (unique household identity) and wave (year).
- Then, File 3 (individual variables) and File 4 (job history) are consecutively merged to the previous outcome based on pid (unique individual identity) and wave (year). This is because File 2 contains household variables that are the same for all individuals in the household, while File 3 and File 4 contain individual variables that are unique for each person in every household.
- The outcome of this merging exercise is the large panel, titled BiH_Panel.dta, which contains most variables to be used in the analysis.