



Swiss Household Energy Demand Survey (SHEDS): Data Access

Conducting a survey, like SHEDS, requires substantial funds, which are currently provided by individual institutions and research groups. Therefore, access to the data is possible, but linked to a number of conditions.

(I) Academic researchers

Access to data is free for *academic researchers* within the legal limits imposed by confidentiality of respondents and the survey company within the following modalities:

1. Access to each annual wave of the survey is possible only after a period of one year from the launching date of that wave.
2. All researchers using the data are required to sign a confidentiality agreement stating that they exclusively use the data for the mentioned research.
3. To ensure that the data is not used for commercial purposes or projects that overlap strongly with current projects of the groups funding the survey, access requires a written research proposal (1-2 pages) including a brief description of existing or planned external funding.

Data access will be granted, if no conflict with ongoing research projects of the groups involved in SHEDS is found and the data use is strictly for academic purposes.

Access for using the data for commercial or societal purposes is always dependent on a financial agreement between the committee representing the funding universities and the user. The related conditions will always have to be negotiated.

(II) Non-academic purposes

Access to the SHEDS data for non-academic purposes is possible but will have to be negotiated individually. A contribution to the costs of SHEDS is expected.

(III) Additional items in the questionnaire

It is possible to take up additional items in the questionnaire, if they address important research gaps in the overall setting of SHEDS and if the research group asking for these items to be taken funds the additional costs.

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