

List of tables and figures

1	Introduction	1
2	The Job Vacancy Survey in Germany: an overview	3
2.1	The historical development	3
2.2	The lack of data availability to fulfil the requirements for European job vacancy statistics	4
2.3	The German job vacancy survey 2005/2006	6
2.3.1	Annual survey 2005	6
2.3.2	The quarterly surveys in 2006	7
2.3.3	Response rates in the annual and the quarterly surveys	8
3	Expected results	10
4	Details of our research	12
4.1	Increase of sample size, additional stratification by NUTS 1	12
4.2	Vacancies by occupation and NUTS 1	15
4.2.1	General remarks about the ISCO coding of vacancies	15
4.2.1.1	The ISCO classification	15
4.2.1.2	The German Occupational Classification Systems	17
4.2.2	Recoding the German OCS into ISCO-88 (COM)	18
4.2.3	ISCO coding of occupations for the data of the survey 2005/2006 – test of a coding system for the quarterly surveys	20
4.2.4	Analysis of possibilities to complete occupational data for all participants	21
4.3	Estimation of vacancies by occupation (ISCO) at NUTS 2 level	27
4.3.1	General problem of small sample sizes	27

4.3.2	General classification of small area estimators	29
4.3.3	Possible estimators for overcoming the imprecision of small samples	30
4.3.3.1	Direct estimator	32
4.3.3.2	GREG estimator 4	33
4.3.3.3	Synthetic estimators	33
4.3.3.4	Synthetic estimator A	34
4.3.3.5	Synthetic estimator B	34
4.3.3.6	Synthetic estimator C	35
4.3.3.7	Composite/EBLUP estimators	35
4.3.3.8	EBLUP A estimator	36
4.3.3.9	EBLUP B estimator	36
4.3.4	Measures of quality for small area estimators	38
4.4	Estimation of vacancies by NACE at NUTS 2 level	39
4.4.1	The role of sample size	39
4.4.2	Data specificities of job vacancies	41
4.4.3	The stochastic nature of vacancies	42
4.4.4	Staff search indicator	45
4.4.5	Estimation approach	48
4.4.5.1	Number of firms searching for staff	48
4.4.5.2	Vacancies	50
4.5	Test of imputation methods for non-respondents	51
4.5.1	Incomplete data in business surveys	51
4.5.2	Missing-data mechanisms and ignorability	53
4.5.3	Simple approaches to dealing with missing data	55
4.5.3.1	Complete-case analysis	55
4.5.3.2	Available-case analysis	56
4.5.3.3	Weighting adjustments	56

4.5.4	Single imputation	57
4.5.4.1	Simple mean imputation methods	57
4.5.4.2	Properly drawn single imputations	58
4.5.4.3	Theory with monotone missingness	59
4.5.4.4	Theory with nonmonotone missingness	59
4.5.4.5	Interval estimation after single imputation	60
4.5.5	Multiple imputation	61
4.5.5.1	Overview	61
4.5.5.2	Combining rules for proper multiple imputation scalar point estimates	63
4.5.5.3	Discussion of MI	64
4.5.5.4	Software for multiple imputation	64
4.5.6	Direct analysis using model-based procedures	65
5	Results	68
5.1	Increase of sample size, additional stratification by NUTS 1	68
5.2	Vacancies by occupation and NUTS 1	73
5.2.1	Test of a coding system for the quarterly survey	73
5.2.2	Vacancies by ISCO-88	73
5.2.3	Analysis of possibilities to complete occupational data for all participants	78
5.3	Estimation of vacancies by occupation (ISCO) at NUTS 2 level	78
5.3.1	Possible auxiliary variables	78
5.3.2	Possible suitable estimators	79
5.3.3	Application to the estimation of job vacancies	81
5.4	Estimation of vacancies by NACE at NUTS 2 level	82
5.5	Test of imputation methods for non-respondents	90
5.5.1	Simulation study to evaluate the quality of the imputation	90

5.5.2	Possible negative consequences of ignoring the skip pattern	94
5.5.3	Imputing the quarterly follow-up questionnaire from the first quarter of 2006	95
5.5.4	Reasons for the poor results	101
6	Conclusions and recommendations	103
6.1	ISCO coding of vacancies	103
6.2	Use of an automatic coding system	103
6.3	Estimation of vacancies by ISCO and NUTS 2	104
6.4	Estimation of vacancies by NACE and NUTS 2	107
6.5	Multiple Imputation	107
6.6	General	108
	References	109
	Annex	115
	Abstract	195
	Kurzfassung	196