Department of Social Policy and Intervention
Institute of New Economic Thinking at the Oxford Martin School

Tracking Policy Responses to COVID-19: Opportunities and Challenges

https://supertracker.spi.ox.ac.uk

Lukas Lehner

lukas.lehner@spi.ox.ac.uk

@LukasLehner

joint work with Bernhard Ebbinghaus, Elias Naumann, Mary Daly, Marek Naczyk, and Tim Vlandas

COVID-19 PHSMs Data Coverage Conference
Virtual, 10/02/2021

Overview

1. Oxford Supertracker: The Global Directory for COVID Policy Trackers and Surveys

2. Supply and Demand of Policy Trackers

3. Opportunities, Challenges and Solutions

UNIVERSITY OF **OXFORD**

Oxford Supertracker:
The Global Directory for COVID
Policy Tracker and Surveys

Department of
Social Policy &
Intervention

UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

Oxford Supertracker
The Global Directory for COVID Policy Trackers and Surveys

Home Policy Trackers Surveys Blog Contribute About

Policy Trackers

If you maintain or know of an additional dataset, please submit a new source. We will promptly review it in line with our criteria for inclusion and update the collection.

Results:2/131
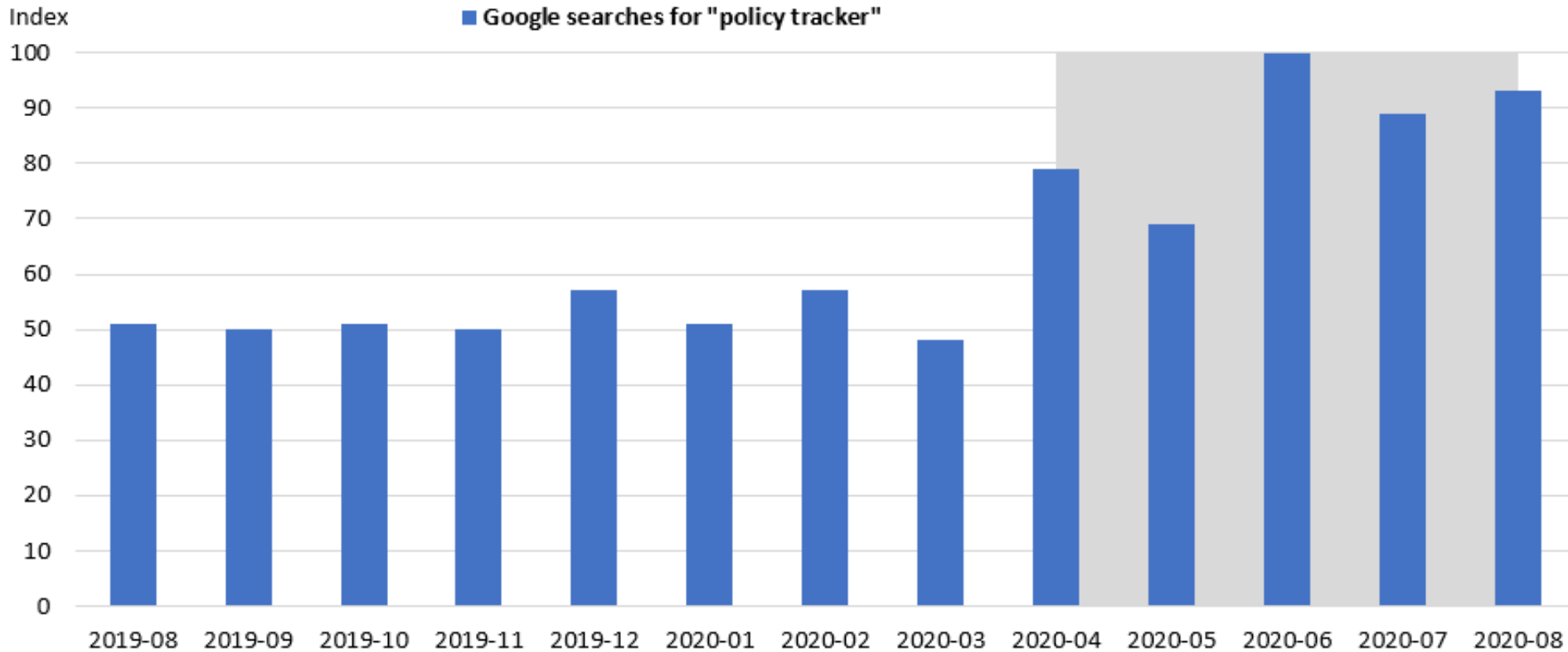
Download as CSV

Title	Policy Area	Focus	Country Coverage	Data Format	Authors
Enter Searchterm	Social and Employment Policy		worldwide	csv, dta	Select Filter...
Governments' responses to COVID-19 dataset	Social and Employment Policy; Macroeconomic and Financial Policy; Health and Care Policy	It tracks 19 measures – 12 public health measures and 7 economic measures – taken by 229 governments on a daily basis. The tracking of the measures allows creating an index of the rigidity of public health measures and an index of economic response to the pandemic.	worldwide; Afghanistan; Albania; Algeria; Andorra; Angola; Anguilla; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina show 194 more countries...	xlsx; dta	Simon Porcher; IAE Paris - Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne
IGC COVID-19 tracker	Social and Employment Policy; Macroeconomic and	economic support measures for countries worldwide by 1) wage/employment support, 2) cash transfers, 3) credit schemes/guarantees/ business support, 4) tax delays/deferrals, 5)	worldwide; Afghanistan; Albania; Algeria; Angola; Argentina; Armenia; Aruba; Australia	xlsx; csv	International Growth Centre

Demand
Who uses policy trackers?

Source: Google Trends (02.09.2020). Note: worldwide web search for all categories between 01/01/2020 and 31/08/2020. The y-axis denotes an index between 0 and 100 of relative search popularity standardised over the time period indicated. The shaded grey area indicates the crisis period.

Supply
Who produces Policy Trackers?

Providers of policy trackers	N	%
Academics/institutes	50	34.7%
International organizations	41	28.5%
– *UN…, ILO*	*22*	*15.3%*
– *OECD (13), EU (6)*	*19*	*13.2%*
NGOs	24	16.7%
Thinktanks	13	9.0%
Companies (internet, etc.)	13	9.0%
Public agencies (US, CAN)	3	2.1%
All policy trackers	144	100.0%

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Supply
Geographical coverage

World / regions / countries	N	%
World-wide	97	67.4%
(incl. 13 OECD+/3 G20)	16	11.1%
Angloph. (23 US, 1 UK, CAN, AUS)	26	18.1%
Europe (13 EU, 1 East only)	14	9.7%
Africa	5	3.5%
Others (1 Asia, 1 CH)	2	1.4%
All policy trackers	144	100.0%
(not including surveys)	45	

Opportunities

- Large datasets freely available to the public

- (Almost) real-time access to relevant policy measures

- Triangulation of information from various sources

- Allow for comparative and causal research designs

Challenges

- Limited coverage due to capacity constraints of producers

- Limited comparability due to different data structure and taxonomies

- Coordination may be ineffective at an advanced stage

- Keeping up the large data collection effort

Sources

- Directory: https://supertracker.spi.ox.ac.uk/

- Newsletter: https://supertracker.spi.ox.ac.uk/#subscribe

- Policy Brief: https://supertracker.spi.ox.ac.uk/assets/STBrief-1.pdf

- Background story in Nature Career Column: https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-02760-0