Guideline for the methodological paper

Format for the methodological explanation on gathered data, to be given for each cross section

Contents

Estimation of the entire population

Please identify the extension of the region. Note differences between the cross sections. Add a map.

Sources

Identification and source-critical remarks, if necessary: please see the DBChina 1800 text.

Do the sources include the entire population? If not, which part has been excluded? How do you solve this problem in order to come up with your total population figures?
Please indicate, step by step, how you have estimated, extrapolated or aggregated your data.

If the sources do not state gender-specific data, please give an estimate of the male-female ratio, referring to the literature your assumptions are based on.

Double countings in your sources

If you use censuses, please explain if you have made adjustments, especially in order to correct double-countings.

Extrapolations

If census or pre-census data cover only one, perhaps small, part of your region, please explain which procedures you apply to make (gu)estimates for the entire region.

Estimation of the economically active population

Our estimations may result in higher percentages of the economically active population for the pre-census period than for later cross-sections which were made by demographers who applied other – fiscal, legal, epistemological – definitions than we do. Therefore our estimation procedures should be made explicit, since this unbalance should be taken into account when we define long-term trends in labour relations within or beyond certain regions.

If you have precise information on the economically active population in your sources, please state it in the database (to be entered in the column 'Type_Activity' in the database). However,

"economically active" in most publications of the twentieth century implies "gainfully occupied", and often does not include the types of reciprocal labour we would also inquire into. Thus, women and child labour is often overlooked. Explain how you have coped with this problem.

If an estimation of the economically active population has to be made, we should try to divide the entire population into the usually working part and those who are too young, too old, or disabled. As to the age distribution, if not available for the chosen cross-section, please make a back-projection based on the earliest available information on birth cohorts. This regressional procedure should be explained step by step. For an example, please refer to the explanations to DBChina 1800.

Estimation of labour relations

If your sources explicitly state occupational structures, please refer to these.

Very often this is not the case, and you may encounter the following problems:

● In case of multi-interpretable or vague terminology, such as „labrador" which may refer to the (poorer or richer) landowner who makes others work, or the independent producer who works for himself, or even the hired farm hand, please explain which use of the term seems correct in your context and refer to relevant studies.

● In case the labour force was engaged in several types of occupations and/or labour relations, for instance

Subsistence farming AND production for the market as self-employed or wage-earner
Or
Subsistence farming AND reciprocal // tributary labour

try to find, from the literature, overall estimates of the percentage of people engaged in double (or triple) labour relations. If overall estimates are not to be had, try specific cases, which might be extrapolated to larger regions (macro-regions).
Explain your extrapolations step by step, if possible referring to literature.
In case of multiple labour relations one should be determined as the main labour relation (and put in column 'Labour_rel_01'). If you find a clear pattern of coinciding labour relations, please state this in your methodological paper.

● In the pre-census era, quantitative information for specific social groups (castes, tribes) which can be associated with particular labour relations may serve as a point of departure. For instance, the fourfold Chinese classification into „scholar-officials", „farmers", „merchants", „artisans" can give some clues as to who worked independently or for the polity.

● Such social stratification often refers to entire families. For instance, a samurai percentage of 6 to 7 percent of the population implies samurai *families* – the household head who worked for the polity, and his wife, children, and retainers that should be classified in other categories. Therefore, we first need an overview of how big the samurai families and the number of their retainers were on average.

Guideline for the methodological paper

● An example of some estimations of labour relations can be found on the collaboratory website (folder instructions). The word document named 'Occupation labels' provides a table with examples from an 1800 cross section, compiled by Josémiguel Lana-Berasain.

● At the end of the paper, please draw up a balance of the different labour relations and its relation to the total population.
  - Did you give numbers for the total population and did you provide everyone with a labour relation, including labour relation 1?
  - How are the different labour relations distributed? Are there any peculiarities in this division?

To aid this process we recommend you make a table of the different labour relations and their distribution in percentages (where each percentage corresponds to the sum of labour relations). As an example see the *Table labour relations* below.

The most practical way to do this is to perform a query in Access. On the Collab site, in the folder instructions, you can find a database that is used for the collection of useful queries. One of these is *Query Labour Relations* – which groups the different data by year and labour relation and sums up the corresponding totals.

If you have no experience with performing queries and encounter difficulties filtering out the labour relations, contact Karin Hofmeester or the collaboratory in general for to help.

Table labour relations

Labour relation	Total	Percentage (of total labour relations)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
Total		100.00%

To download this table, see the word file *Table Labour Relations* in the folder 'Instructions' on the collaboratory website.

Hidden information

Even 20th-century statistics may hide information that is undesired for political or social reasons. This may often be so for child and female labour, but also for certain types of coerced labour (see explanations to DB China 2000). With a view of the scope of our project, we should try to give estimates of such figures, and integrate them in the overall estimate.