

The Gender Data Gap in Switzerland

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What is the gender data gap?

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- ① Data not collected at all, or not disaggregated by gender
- ② Gender disaggregated data is collected, but the gender dimension is not used in any analysis of the data

When data is not collected (by gender)

Health

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Take-away: lack of medical data on women may lead to worse medical treatment for women

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Workplace

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Take-away: lack of data on issues women face in the labor market prevents sensible and targeted policy

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Take-away: inappropriate data collection may lead to misassessment of scale of a problem

When data is collected but not used

One example from my research:

- 317 out of 2'025 economics research articles since 2001 with the keyword "immigration" study women explicitly
- Data has long been collected, but studies did not use it
- We do and find that gender is important: effects of immigration differ vastly across men and women

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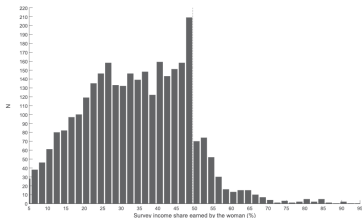
Take-away: not using available data may lead to misassessment of issues

Lastly, sensible data collection is important!

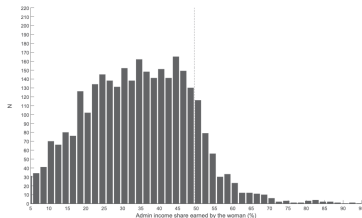
In surveys, norms may prevent truthful reporting:

- CH: couples misreport income s.t. wives always earn slightly less than husbands

(a) Surveyed incomes



(b) Administrative incomes



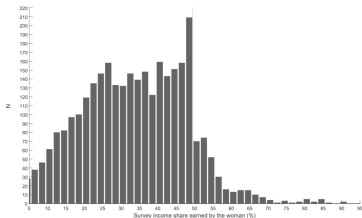
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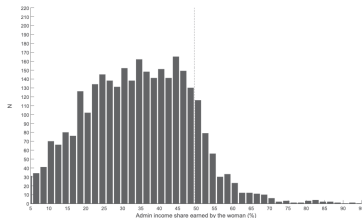
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Take-away: considering potential incentives for misreporting is important!