PIAAC Fieldwork in Germany

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The Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) is a large-scale initiative of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) that aims at assessing key adult competencies. The data collection for the first round of PIAAC was carried out in 24 countries, including Germany, in 2011/2012. PIAAC strove to implement best practices in survey methodology in all participating countries. To achieve this goal, a comprehensive set of standards and guidelines was developed by the international PIAAC Consortium. One of the most ambitious standards, from a national point of view, was the fieldwork standard for the required response rate. Therefore, maximizing response rates – while simultaneously minimizing nonresponse bias – was a special focus of the German fieldwork strategy. At a national level, the German National Center at GESIS, in cooperation with the survey organization, developed elaborate fieldwork specifications based on national best practice, international PIAAC standards and recommendations, as well as supplementary provisions specifically for PIAAC. The presentation will give an overview of our national fieldwork measures and highlight some of the challenges and lessons learnt.

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