Allocation of Household Food Consumption to Household Members Using Intake Data

Georg Karg, Margot Steinel
Technische Universität München, Freising, FRG

Objectives: The Income and Consumption Sample (ICS) Bavaria supplies data on household consumption of food items and household composition. To find out personal food consumption, the food consumption of households in physical and monetary terms is to be allocated to the members of the household.

Methods: The data of the ICS are allocated to the members of the households using information which is external to the ICS (allocation coefficients derived from the National Food Consumption Survey). The allocation coefficients are determined for 98 food groups and 6 person groups (4 children and 2 adult groups) which are combined to 25 household types.

Results: A 4-person-household with 2 children (6-12 and 12-18 years old) and food expenses of 656 DM/month in 1983 may examplify the various results. The allocation of the expenses is: 20/23/32/25 % for the younger/older child/father/mother. The food expenses for a child depend in general on the presence of siblings. They are higher if the child has no sibling(s) and lower if it has one(s). In general they increase with the age of the sibling(s).

Outlook: This method can be considered as a method of reference in the evaluation of alternative allocation methods which e.g. use only internal information of the ICS.