



Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid
en Milieu
*Ministerie van Volksgezondheid,
Welzijn en Sport*

Student opportunity at RIVM: Adjusting a European-wide survey for urbanization level

In the context of the European Joint Project “EJP-Toxosources”, a survey will be implemented in nine European member states. The survey will mainly be on food consumption and preparation habits, and will be used in a quantitative risk-assessment on the health risks of the pathogen *Toxoplasma* in food products.

We are facing the issue that not in all member states we know the degree of urbanization of the responders in the questionnaire, and this could introduce bias in the results. Therefore, we would like to obtain a harmonized (i.e. comparable between countries) measure of urbanization. Our idea is to use public spatial GIS databases on urbanization and compare the responders’ urbanization distribution to the average urbanization distribution in each country. The location of the responders is known at the postal code level. Then, responders can be given a weight in subsequent statistical analysis, in such a way that urbanization of the responders is approximately equal to the general urbanization in a country.

This could be a student project of about three months, starting in June, or possibly later. Optionally, we could also broaden the scope and include additional statistical analyses, and extend the project to half a year. Then it might be a suitable internship project.

For more information contact

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