



Agencia Tributaria

# Wealth Tax Panel Sample

**Methodology**

*Subdirectorate General for Statistics*



## 1. Foreword

Spanish Tax Agency makes available to researchers and other users the Wealth Tax Panel Sample, which is based upon Wealth Tax annual returns (Form D-714).

A panel sample collects data from the common sample units multiple times through following fiscal years. Technically, we study the information on units that had been selected in the first fiscal year sample and keep presenting forms the following fiscal years.

Advantages on the panel sample sit on the possibility of studying of the tax evolution based on the information of the same units through different fiscal years. This information completes that already available in the annual sample.

To sum up, annual samples provide a fixed snapshot of the Tax in a given fiscal year whilst panel sample permits long-term analysis to those sample units presenting forms through different fiscal years. They complement each other.

The sample gives information about natural persons' wealth, its regional distribution and the different assets involved, identifying six groups of goods and economic rights: real properties, assets assigned to businesses, investment capital/movable capital assets, insurance primes and annuities, luxury assets and other goods and rights liable to be economically valued. .



## 2. Documents

### Methodologic note

Spanish Tax Agency makes available to researchers and other users a new sample based upon Wealth Tax annual returns (Form D-714).

Complying with the openness principle, the Agency regularly publishes statistics based on the main taxes it manages. Regarding wealth, this institution releases the 'Statistic of Wealth Tax Annual Return Submitters' every year since 2003, based upon the annual returns of the tax. Such returns are sent by every taxpayer living in the Common Fiscal Territory who is compelled to submit Form 714.

This new release comes out from the high demand of data by users and institutions in order to study the wealth of individuals. It is an annual sample of anonymized microdata taken from Wealth Tax annual returns, which allows researchers evaluating tax policies through microsimulation techniques.

The sample gives information about natural persons' wealth, its territorial distribution and the different assets involved, identifying six groups of goods and economic rights: real properties, assets assigned to businesses, investment capital/movable capital assets, insurance primes and annuities, luxury assets and other goods and rights liable to be economically valued.

### Wealth Tax

Wealth Tax is a personal and direct tax that levies the net wealth of natural persons in the terms prescribed by law at December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year (year of accrual). Net wealth is understood as the array of assets of a holder, at that date, minus the charges and levies that diminish their value as well as the debts and personal compulsions to be met. It is a tax given to Communities but managed by the Spanish Tax Agency. The annual return is submitted at the same time than Personal Income Tax return relating to the same year of accrual.

### Technical description of the sample

2012-2016 Panel-Sample was carried out in two stages.

-In the first of them, in order to work the sample out, 2012 Wealth Tax Statistic was the starting point: different calculus have been made on its records to guarantee the representativeness of the sample, as well as taxpayers privacy and data protection. On one hand, the highest concentration of wealth in few individuals made advisable to exclude those who represent the richest 1% in each Community (plus Ceuta and Melilla) in order to avoid their identification. In this way, the sample selection has been done on the 99% of the remaining part. On the other hand, the wide variety of assets and the low number of annual returns have forced to make a redrawing of assets in order to assure that they represent properly wealth allocation in territorial and income level terms.

Sample size has been derived to produce a less than 3% error in the income variable mean, with a 3% confidence level. For choosing the taxpayers included in the sample two criteria stratified design has been used: the Community of residence and the income band in which the taxpayer is allocated.

-In the second stage, Wealth Tax Statistics of each of the following years, 2013 to 2016, have been used seeking in them those 2012 taxpayers included in the sample *population* who have continued



submitting the annual return in the referred period. The *Common Sample* for those years was set in such way.

Likewise, the 2012 Sample records have been sought in the period 2013-2016. The records found in every year of the whole period (2012-2016) built up the *Common Sample* for each year. The common sample contains the value of the studied year variables, as well as the identifier and 2012 raising factor.

Afterwards, a *gauging* of the common sample for the common population in each of the years considered has been done. In this way, all the necessary elements required in order to make a lengthwise analysis of taxpayers and its evolution over time are available, once information on the same taxpayers in several years in a row can be studied.

### 3. Guidelines for requesting Wealth Tax sample

From 2019, a Wealth Tax sample containing personal data from Wealth Tax annual return is made available. The personal data have been properly anonymized in order to comply with the statistical secrecy. The sample is delivered in a text-type format and a register design, with the keys matching the items of Form 714, is provided. Data appear not aggregated but they enclose information about the Autonomous Community, the taxation band according to the non-exempted wealth value and the raising factor to obtain representative values at those classifying levels.

Spanish Tax Agency will be not responsible for the outcome obtained from the sample files by customers using their own calculation approach. Moreover, any person using these files in their researches and studies undertakes to cite, in any release of his/her own, the Spanish Tax Agency (AEAT) as the primary source used. At the same time, he/she will emphasize that the liability of the conclusions obtained from such information source is of exclusive responsibility of the author.

Each year annual return Form, the methodology and the annual outcomes that can be handled by sample users, as a reference and to contrast the figures, can be found In Wealth Tax Statistic.

The sample is available free to any entity or individual asking for it, whenever the purpose of the request is to carry out a defined and concrete study, being its use excluded for personal or administrative purposes.

The following requirements are needed in order to have access to the sample:

- To fill the application form including the identifying data of the entity/person requester or of their legal representative.
- The requester must sign the commitment about non-transferring/disseminating the data obtained to third parties.
- To provide a document in which the Project-Study to be worked out on the basis of the data requested is briefly outlined.
- To report about the studies carried out, sending a copy of the work done. If such report is not submitted, further updating of the sample will not be provided.

Documents must be sent by e-mail to the following address:

[estadisticas@correo.ateat.es](mailto:estadisticas@correo.ateat.es)



#### 4. Application Form

- (The form will be filled and sent scanned to the following e-mail address:  
**[estadisticas@correo.ateat.es](mailto:estadisticas@correo.ateat.es)**)
- REQUESTING USER
- **SURNAME AND FIRST NAME:**
- **ID. NUMBER:**
- **INSTITUTION /ENTITY:**
- POST ADDRESS:
- **STREET:**
- **PROVINCE:**
- **TOWN/CITY/POST CODE:**
- **COUNTRY:**
- **EMAIL:**
- **PHONE NUMBER:**
- LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE
  - (if the user is not a natural person)
- ID. NUMBER:
- SURNAME AND FIRST NAME:
- IN THE CAPACITY OF:
- LEADER/PROJECT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
  - (when different from user)
- ID. NUMBER:
- SURNAME AND FIRST NAME:
- EMAIL:
- PHONE: 2
- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT/STUDY
- NON-TRANSFERRING DATA COMMITMENT (The undersigned undertakes not to transfer the data provided to third parties or organizations, and will not use such information for administrative purposes).
- DATE