

Best Practice: Data citation, version 1.0¹

Usage, analysis and publication of research data and research results require information on author, location and identification of data. Correct and complete citation of a resource can be created using the following properties of the da|ra metadata schema 2.2.1 (August 2012):

Primary researcher (publication date): Title. Publication agent. Identifier

Primary researcher: The citation is limited to the first five names followed by 'et al.'. If an institution (or institutions) is/are provided as primary researcher(s) only, these will be cited.

Publication date: The date refers only to the year of the publication of the dataset.

Title: The title and, if applicable further titles of the study.

Publication agent: The name of the institution/data centre that published the dataset.

Identifier: DOI

It may also be desirable to include information (if applicable) from two optional properties, Version and Type of resource. If so, the recommended form is as follows:

Primary researcher (publication date): Title. Version. Publication agent. Type of the resource. Identifier

For citation purposes, the Identifier may optionally appear both in its original format and in a linkable http format:

- In (offline-) media the identifier can be marked by a preceded lowercased "doi:" (analogue to protocols like "http:" or "ftp:"), for example "doi:10.4232/1.10770".

However, a respective entry in the address field of the browser will not automatically lead to the online source as browsers as yet do not recognize the protocol "doi" without an additional plug-in. The address is only dissolved properly, if the DOI-name is entered into the text field of a DOI resolver service (e.g. at da|ra or DataCite).

- To directly link to the source of the object, the DOI should therefore either be printed with the URL of the resolver (<http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.4232/1.10770>) or highlighted with a hyperlink ([doi:10.4232/1.10770](http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.4232/1.10770)) to save space.

Examples of data citations

These citation examples describe data of da|ra publication agents and demonstrate effective data citation.

Fahrenberg, Jochen (2010): Freiburger Beschwerdenliste FBL. Primärdaten der Normierungsstichprobe 1993. Version 1.0.0. ZPID - Leibniz-Zentrum für Psychologische Information und Dokumentation. Dataset.

[doi:10.5160/psychdata.fgjn05an08](http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.5160/psychdata.fgjn05an08)

Schmitt-Beck, Rüdiger et al. (2009): Wahlkampf-Panel (GLES). Version 3.0.0. GESIS - Leibniz-Institut für Sozialwissenschaften. Dataset.

doi:10.4232/1.11131. <http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.4232/1.11131>

Weßels, Bernhard; Schmitt-Beck, Rüdiger; Rattinger, Hans et al. (2011): Landtagswahl Berlin 2011 (GLES). Version 1.0.0. GESIS - Leibniz-Institut für Sozialwissenschaften. Dataset.

doi:10.4232/1.11054. <http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.4232/1.11054>

¹ The recommendations are based on the instructions in the [DataCite metadata schema](#), version 2.2 (July 1st, 2011)