

Inequality in the Effects of Primary School Closures due to the Covid-19 Pandemic – Evidence from the Netherlands

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The project was not approved by an IRB or ethics committee, as this concerns data collected as part of a national project, initiated by the Dutch Research Council (NWO). The data was collected within the Netherlands Cohort Study on Education, and a lawyer of NWO approved the study to be in line with the GDPR. With permission of the schools, the administration system exports the data on the standardized test scores to Statistics Netherlands, who pseudonymize the student-id and school-id. Before any data was exported, parents were informed about the project and data export by the school, and were given the opportunity (during 4 to 6 weeks) to object against export of their child(ren)'s data (by informing the school written or orally). Note that full consent was not necessary according to the GDPR, as these data were not classified as special personal data, and the goal of processing the data was no different from the original goal for which the data was collected by the schools. The school registered any objections in their administration system, and data was not exported from those students whose parents objected.