Description of all programs and data files used for the article

"Economic Conditions Early in Life and Individual Mortality"

by Gerard J. van den Berg, Maarten Lindeboom, and France Portrait
(AER March 2006), and supplied to the AER web site.

1. progaer2.gau   This Gauss program performs the regressions leading to the non-parametric analyses (see Section 3). The Gauss version is gauss-386i, version 3.2.16. The program contains explanatory comments.

2. progaer.gau   This Gauss program performs the duration analysis (see Section 4). The Gauss version is gauss-386i, version 3.2.16. The program contains explanatory comments.

3. macrdata.txt   This text file contains the aggregate data on GNP and other indicators. Each row covers a year and each column contains a variable. The variables are defined in progaer.gau.

4. hp.zip   This zip file contains the Excel routine for the Hodrick-Prescott time-series decomposition as used for the GNP time-series.

5. periods.txt   This text file contains the precise definitions of the Birth Periods, Booms and Recessions as used in Section 3 for the regressions leading to the non-parametric analyses and as used for the duration analysis (see Subsection 4.1).

The individual data records are freely and directly available for academic researchers in all countries. Data access requires signing a form stating that data confidentiality is guaranteed and that the data will only be used for scientific purposes. For this one should simply contact the institute collecting and maintaining these data, i.e. the "Historical Sample of the Netherlands Department" of the International Institute of Social History (IISH, Cruquiusweg 31, 1019AT Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Phone: + 31 20 6685866, Fax: + 31 20 6654181, Email: info@iisg.nl). The sample and the individual records are continuously updated and expanded. See also http://www.iisg.nl/~hsn/.

The authors are happy to help with any problems.