Wages of servants in Poltava, 1765-1769.

The data are retrieved from the book of Voloshyn [Волошин] (2012) featuring Rumyantsev census in Poltava (1765-1769). Some complementary data and r-codes could be accessed <u>here</u>.

The current edition includes only servants (household workers) and lists the following variables:

Place. All households ("dvir"/"двip") were allocated in either a castle or a forstad. Id_household. All households are numerated from 12 to 256 for the castle, and from 40 to 904 in the forstad.

Occupation. All individuals in these data are servants.

Status servant (original). Rumyantsev census classifies all male servants as Cossacks and peasants. Considering female servants, Rumyantsev census classifies them as unmarried women, married women, and widows.

Age. Sometimes infants and children were listed as servants. Therefore, age varies from 1 to 80.

Wages. Wages are in rubles per year. Sometimes servants received additional meal or clothing. However, sometimes they received such items instead of financial compensation.

Is.food. Whether a servant received meal.

Is.dress. Whether a servant received clothing.

Is.education. Whether a servant received training.

Status_employer. A status of a household owner. Most frequently Rumyantsev census listed an occupation of a person.

Status_employer_v1. A status of a household owner is classified as Elites (high rank Cossacks, magistrate members, Russian nobility and their patrials); Cossacks (lower ranks); merchants; artisans; professionals (doctors and clerics); peasants.

HISCO_employer. Although HISCO has become a standard tool to classify historical occupations in the 19th and 20th centuries (Van Leeuwen, Maas and Miles, 2002), it is not easy to apply it to early modern Ukraine. Cossacks serve as an excellent illustration to this thesis. On the one hand, Cossacks can be treated as army officers (code 58320 according to HISCO). On the other hand, high ranks of Cossacks were actually administrative elites (equivalent to 20210). The same duality was common for the members of the magistrate. Many of them were merchants. Thus, it is not clear which code (20210 or 41020) should be attached to them. On the one hand, artisans seem to fit the logic of HISCO quite well (e.g. 89210 for potters or 83110 for blacksmiths). However, artisans were associated with guilds, and guilds were granted with certain rights and powers. This is not captured in the current HISCO coding. Therefore, the current HISCO coding should be treated with a lot of caution.

References:

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