readme.txt This readme file serves as basic information for the data set used in Sachs, Andreas und Werner Smolny (forthcoming), Youth Unemployment in the OECD: The Role of Institutions, Jahrbücher für Nationalökonomie und Statistik. Data\_JNS contains the relevant panel data set used in the paper. We make use of 17 countries: Australie (AUS), Austria (AUT), Belgium (BEL), Canada (CAN), Denmark (DEN), Finland (FIN), France (FRA), Germany (GER), Italy (ITA), Japan (JAP), Netherlands (NED), Norway (NOR), Spain (SPA), Sweden (SWE), Switzerland, (SWI), the United Kingdom (UNK) and the United States (USA). The panel comprises 24 years, from 1982 to 2005. The structure of the data is: Year 1 Country 1 Country 2 Time-series 1 Time-series 2 Time-series 3 ... Year 1 . . . . . . Country 17 Year 1 Year 2 Country 1 Country 2 Year 2 . . . . . . . . . . . . Overall, we use 24 time series which are sorted in the following order in the txt-file: Total unemployment Youth unemployment (15-24) Adult unemployment (25+) Youth unemployment (alternative definition) Payroll tax Income tax Consumption tax Employment protection regular Employment protection temporary Bargaining coordination Minimum wage Union density Uni on coverage Product market regulation overall First year benefits **UB** Coverage Real interest rate TFP Shock Labor demand shock Import price shock Credit Constraints Demography (Share youth/total(0-64)) Educaton (Share youth Labour force/youth population) Output gap

Data sources and construction are discussed in the paper.