

EU- Labour Force Survey December 2009 release

Setup for importing the Anonymised Quaterly Data Sets for 2007

Content

- I. Overview
- II. Explanatory notes on the recoding of alphanumeric variables into numeric variables
- III. Explanatory notes about the recoding of missing values
- IV. Explanatory notes about specific recoding and the definition of variable and value labels
- V. Notes on irregularities not mentioned in the User Guide
- VI. Classifications

I. Overview

The following information will help you to import the EU-LFS 2007 quarterly data. The data you received from Eurostat are formatted as comma separated values (csv). With the routines provided by GESIS's German Microdata Lab, these data can be converted into SPSS.

The routine to convert the data into SPSS consists of two files:

Setup_EULFS_2007_q.sps

Labels_EULFS_2007-2009.sps

The setup provided by the German Microdata Lab achieves the following objectives:

- Transformation of EU-LFS 2007 quarterly data from csv into sav (SPSS).
- Recoding of alphanumeric variables into numeric variables.
- Recoding of missing values.
- Definition of variable and value labels (by executing Labels_EULFS_2007-2009.sps).

For a first check of the converted data, you can compare the number of cases per country with the number of cases listed in table 1. Consistent numbers indicate that the execution of the Setup was successful.

II. Explanatory notes on the recoding of alphanumeric variables in numeric variables

– COUNTRYW

The first two numbers indicate the region, according to the country codification from 2007.¹ Countries not explicitly assigned to one region by this classification have been classified by GESIS.

The last two digits display the order for the country in alphabetical order as given by the ISO 3166-1-alpha-2 code elements (e.g. Algeria=0501).² The last two digits for countries which have been surveyed remain the same as in the COUNTRY Variable (e.g. Bulgaria=0103). The alphanumerical code from the EU-LFS deviated from the ISO classification in regard to two countries: XS instead of RS for Serbia and UK instead of GB for the United Kingdom.

In Slovenia, the coding of COUNTRYW in the raw data differs from the other countries (see Use Guide 2009). Thus the recoding within the Setup is different as well.

– HHNUM, QHHNUM, REGION, REGIONW

These variables have a large amount of values. Thus they remain alphanumeric.

III. Explanatory notes about the recoding of missing values

Coding standard for missing values:

- -1 for "No answer"
- -2 for "Not applicable"
- -3 for "Not available"
- in exceptional cases -9 for "Otherwise" (only LEAVCLAS) and -101 for "No answer" and -102 for "Not applicable" (only LEAVTIME and STARTIME, see below)

In SPSS these missing values are declared as user-missing values.

The Code -3 for "Not available" is assigned, if a variable has no valid cases in a country. Some of these variables have only system-missings (i.e. blanks) in the raw data of the respective country, others have only cases with "No answer" and/or "Not applicable". For detailed information on which variables have no valid cases in which countries and have thus been recoded to -3 see table 2.

¹ http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/LFS_MAIN/Coding_lists_explanatory_notes_and_classifications/Country_codification_from_2007_onwards.pdf

² http://www.iso.org/iso/country_codes/iso_3166_code_lists/country_names_and_code_elements.htm

Specifics and exceptions:

– LEAVTIME, STARTIME

These variables have valid negative values. Thus the missing value category is set to -101 (for "No answer") and -102 (for "Not applicable"). Furthermore there were no cases with the value 999 in the raw data, as mentioned in the User Guide 2009 for "Not applicable". Thus the "Not applicable" category has been derived with help of the filtering variables EXISTPR (for LEAVTIME) and WSTATOR (for STARTIME) (see User Guide 2009, p. 32 f.).

– NACE1D, NACE2J1D, NACEPR1D

These variables have no valid cases in the anonymised data sets of all countries. Thus they have been recoded to -3.

– PROXY

Children under the age 15 had not been asked about the nature of participation. Thus -1 for "No answer" has been recoded to -2 for "Not applicable" in those cases.

IV. Explanatory notes about specific recoding and the definition of variable and value labels

– ISCOPR3D, ISCO3D

A number of cases belonging to the category "armed forces" had been coded incorrectly in the 3-digit ISCO code. It became obvious while crosstabulating the 1-digit with the 3-digit ISCO code. Thus these cases have been recoded.

– REGION, REGIONW

The values of these variables have country-specific meanings (according to the NUTS classification)³. Thus they remain unlabelled.

V. Notes on irregularities not mentioned in the User Guide

– AGE

No persons under the age of 15 and over the age of 74 were surveyed in Iceland and Norway.

– COEFF

There are a number of cases with a weighting factor of zero in Germany, France and Poland. There are some system-missings in Finland and Greece.

– COURLEN

There is an unusual high frequency of cases with 300 hours in France.

– DEGURBA

There are some system-missings in Sweden. The origin of these missings is unclear.

³ http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/LFS_MAIN/Coding_lists_explanatory_notes_and_classifications/NUTS_2006_from_2007_onwards.pdf

- HHSEQNUM
In Iceland and Sweden all cases have the value 1. There are some system-missings in Romania. The origin of these missings is unclear.
- INTWEEK
There are some system-missings in Denmark, France, Norway, Portugal and Sweden. The origin of these missings is unclear.
- INTWAVE
There are some system-missings in Sweden. The origin of these missings is unclear.
- INTQUEST
There are some system-missings in Sweden. The origin of these missings is unclear.
- METHODDA, METHODDB, METHODDC, METHODD, METHODE, METHODF, METHODG, METHODH, METHODI, METHODJ, METHODK, METHODL, METHODM
There are some system-missings in Ireland. The origin of these missings is unclear.
- NOWKREAS
There are some system-missings in Ireland. The origin of these missings is unclear.
- SEEKWORK
There are some system-missings in Ireland. The origin of these missings is unclear.

VI. Classifications

- ISCED classification (HATLEVEL)
http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/LFS_MAIN/Related_documents/ISCED_EN.htm
- other classifications used in the EU LFS
http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/LFS_MAIN/Coding_lists_explanatory_notes_and_classifications/Index_EU_LFS_coding_%20lists_explanatory_notes_and_classifications.htm

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Table 1: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 2007, quaterly data^a

| | number of cases (without selection) | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Quarter 1 | Quarter 2 | Quarter 3 | Quarter 4 |
| 01 AT Austria | 50.761 | 50.433 | 50.314 | 50.263 |
| 02 BE Belgium | 28.143 | 26.578 | 28.336 | 28.921 |
| 03 BG Bulgaria | 33.545 | 32.774 | 32.182 | 32.463 |
| 04 CY Cyprus | 9.507 | 9.482 | 9.765 | 9.708 |
| 05 CZ Czech Republic | 63.641 | 62.978 | 62.136 | 61.847 |
| 06 DE Germany | 99.333 | 123.246 | 124.400 | 137.111 |
| 07 DK Denmark | 28.495 | 30.515 | 30.570 | 28.417 |
| 08 EE Estonia | 5.626 | 5.823 | 5.942 | 5.951 |
| 09 ES Spain | 164.935 | 166.674 | 165.687 | 166.260 |
| 10 FI Finland | 38.590 | 37.858 | 37.922 | 38.491 |
| 11 FR France | 88.855 | 88.815 | 85.300 | 87.787 |
| 12 GR Greece | 74.597 | 74.130 | 73.863 | 73.793 |
| 13 HU Hungary | 77.286 | 77.162 | 76.551 | 74.049 |
| 14 IE Ireland | 79.108 | 85.133 | 75.937 | 80.828 |
| 15 IS Iceland | 3.165 | 3.083 | 3.095 | 3.092 |
| 16 IT Italy | 174.362 | 171.496 | 165.699 | 166.189 |
| 17 LT Lithuania | 14.681 | 17.511 | 16.786 | 14.044 |
| 18 LU Luxembourg | 5.074 | 5.335 | 5.685 | 5.084 |
| 19 LV Latvia | 9.623 | 9.091 | 9.152 | 9.956 |
| 20 NL Netherlands | 110.174 | 109.153 | 107.343 | 107.787 |
| 21 NO Norway | 21.023 | 20.915 | 21.075 | 21.098 |
| 22 PL Poland | 53.059 | 51.940 | 50.916 | 50.960 |
| 23 PT Portugal | 44.164 | 43.162 | 42.529 | 42.105 |
| 24 RO Romania | 63.580 | 62.860 | 61.819 | 61.262 |
| 25 SE Sweden | 52.469 | 51.806 | 52.006 | 51.777 |
| 26 SI Slovenia | 17.632 | 17.011 | 16.618 | 16.616 |
| 27 SK Slovak Republic | 27.710 | 27.698 | 27.536 | 27.433 |
| 28 UK United Kingdom | 120.156 | 120.379 | 119.604 | 119.243 |

^a see also "datafileinfo_quar_2007.csv" on the CD you received from Eurostat

Table 2: Variables without valid cases in several countries,^a EU LFS 2007, quarterly data

| | 01 AT | 02 BE | 03 BG | 04 CY | 05 CZ | 06 DE | 07 DK | 08 EE | 09 ES | 10 FI | 11 FR | 12 GR | 13 HU | 14 IE | 15 IS | 16 IT | 17 LT | 18 LU | 19 LV | 20 NL | 21 NO | 22 PL | 23 PT | 24 RO | 25 SE | 26 SI | 27 SK | 28 UK |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| DEGURBA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | x | | | | | | | |
| EDUCLEVL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HHINST | x | x | x | | x | x | x | | x | x | | x | x | x | | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| HHSEQNUM | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HWOVERP | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HWOVERPU | | | x | | | | | | | x | | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| INTWAVE | | | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ISCOPR1D | | | | | | | | | | | x | | | x | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | |
| ISCOPR3D | | | | | | | | | | | x | | | x | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | |
| NA11PRS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NA11PR1D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| REGION | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | |
| REGIONW | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | |
| SEEKTYPE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x | |
| SIGNISAL | | | | | | | | | | x ^b | x ^b | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| STAPROPR | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TEMPDUR | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | x | |

^a Variables with either only system-missings (i.e. blanks) in the raw data or only cases with "No answer" and/or "Not applicable".

^b In the data of France there were only cases in the two categories "Don't know" and "Not applicable", what indicates that the information is not available.