

EU-Labour Force Survey December 2011 release

Setup for Importing the Anonymised Quarterly Data Sets for 1998-2001

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I. Overview

The following information will help you to import the EU-LFS 1998-2001 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_1998-2001_q.sps
Labels_EULFS_1983-2010.sps

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

- Transformation of EU-LFS 1998-2001 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_1983-2010.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 to 4. Consistent numbers indicate that the execution of the setup was successful.

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

– COUNTRYW

The first two digits indicate the region, according to the country codification from 2010 (e.g. 05 for North Africa).¹ Countries not explicitly assigned to one region by this classification have been classified by GESIS.

The last two digits usually display the alphabetical order of a country in the corresponding region as given by the ISO code elements (e.g. 01 for Algeria, so that the whole code for Algeria is 0501).² The alphanumerical code from the EU-LFS deviated from the ISO classification with regard to the United Kingdom (UK instead of GB).

In Slovenia, the coding of COUNTRYW in the raw data differs from the other countries (see User Guide 2011, p. 63). Thus the recoding within the Setup is different as well. The cases of "EU15" and "Non EU15" have been assigned the values "1501" and "1502".

– 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"
- -4 for "Not specified"
- in exceptional cases -9 for "Otherwise" (only LEAVCLAS) and -101 for "No answer", -102 for "Not applicable" and -103 for "Not available" (only STARTIME and LEAVTIME, 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".

¹http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/LFS_MAIN/Coding_lists_explanatory_notes_and_classifications/Country_codification_from_2010_onwards.pdf

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

Specifics and exceptions:

– COUNTRYB, NATIONAL

The code -1 includes not only cases without a valid answer, but also suppressed cases, cases with the original code "Other or Stateless", and in some countries certain other cases (see User Guide 2011, p. 67).

– STARTIME, LEAVTIME

These variables had valid negative values in previous years. Thus the missing value category is set to -101 (for "No answer"), -102 (for "Not applicable") and -103 (for "Not available").

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

– ISCO3D, ISCOPR3D

A number of cases belonging to the category "armed forces" had been coded incorrectly in the 3-digit ISCO code. This 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

– HHSEQNUM

In countries where the final sampling unit are persons⁴ and not households, this variable does not contain any useful values.

– HHSEQNUM, INTWEEK, INTWAVE, DEGURBA, WSTATOR, METHODDA – METHODM

These variables contain system-missings in some countries. The origin of these missings is unclear.

– ILOSTAT

In Cyprus in 1999, there are no cases with value 2 for "Unemployed" and no cases with value 3 for "Inactive". Instead, there are a lot of cases with system-missing. The origin of these missings is unclear.

– COEFF

There is a large number of cases with a weighting factor of zero in Poland in 2001. A small number of cases with a weighting factor of zero appear in Hungary (in 1998 only), in the Netherlands (in 2001 only) and in Romania (in 2000 only).

– COURLEN

In Ireland, in the third quarter of 1999, all cases are coded with 9. As the variable is not available until 2003, these cases have been recoded to -3.

³ http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/lfs_main/lfs/lfs_statistical_classifications.htm

⁴ See section "Characteristics of the national surveys" at http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/lfs_main/lfs/lfs_publications.htm

– HATLEVEL

In Ireland, in the third quarter of 1999, there are only invalid one-digit codes. An unambiguous matching to the valid two-digit codes is not possible. Therefore the invalid codes remain (unlabelled). It seems likely that code 1 is equal to code 10, code 2 is equal to code 21 and code 6 is equal to code 60. Code 3 might be equal to either code 32, code 33 or code 35. And code 5 might be equal to code 51 or code 52. Code 9 should be equal to code -2.

VI. Classifications

– ISCED classification (EDUCLEVL, 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 1998, quarterly data^a

	N (without selection)			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
01 AT Austria	61.902	-	-	-
02 BE Belgium	-	80.066	-	-
03 BG Bulgaria	-	-	-	-
04 CH Switzerland	-	16.306	-	-
05 CY Cyprus	-	-	-	-
06 CZ Czech Republic	70.893	70.721	70.490	70.426
07 DE Germany	-	-	-	-
08 DK Denmark	-	18.233	-	-
09 EE Estland	-	16.861	-	-
10 ES Spain	190.103	190.911	189.283	190.129
11 FI Finland	33.175	17.063	32.856	33.409
12 FR France	183.072	-	-	-
13 GR Greece	83.853	84.007	84.115	83.747
14 HU Hungary	-	84.980	-	-
15 IE Ireland	-	111.342	-	-
16 IS Iceland	-	3.755	-	-
17 IT Italy	201.369	201.835	201.646	201.907
18 LT Lithuania	-	7.543	-	7.575
19 LU Luxembourg	-	17.326	-	-
20 LV Latvia	-	18.756	-	18.791
21 MT Malta	-	-	-	-
22 NL Netherlands	-	55.959	-	-
23 NO Norway	-	20.664	-	-
24 PL Poland	-	54.545	-	-
25 PT Portugal	50.280	50.067	48.217	48.303
26 RO Romania	-	47.718	-	-
27 SE Sweden	-	15.810	-	-
28 SI Slovenia	-	17.976	-	-
29 SK Slovak Republic	31.503	31.301	31.240	31.009
30 UK United Kingdom	-	144.979	-	-

^a see also "datafileinfo_1998-2001.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat

Table 2: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1999, quarterly data^a

	N (without selection)			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
01 AT Austria	61.618	59.648	58.745	59.315
02 BE Belgium	27.309	27.479	27.568	27.400
03 BG Bulgaria	-	-	-	-
04 CH Switzerland	-	17.720	-	-
05 CY Cyprus	-	10.135	-	-
06 CZ Czech Republic	69.502	68.824	68.060	67.510
07 DE Germany	-	-	-	-
08 DK Denmark	18.081	17.895	17.866	17.582
09 EE Estland	-	16.361	-	-
10 ES Spain	198.569	196.532	190.901	189.329
11 FI Finland	32.912	35.071	34.425	34.758
12 FR France	182.155	-	-	-
13 GR Greece	83.084	82.921	83.106	82.489
14 HU Hungary	87.337	87.541	86.627	85.394
15 IE Ireland	-	109.768	106.423	107.903
16 IS Iceland	-	3.656	-	-
17 IT Italy	201.578	200.625	200.384	200.960
18 LT Lithuania	-	7.558	-	7.693
19 LU Luxembourg	-	16.095	-	-
20 LV Latvia	-	18.701	-	18.944
21 MT Malta	-	-	-	-
22 NL Netherlands	-	51.929	-	-
23 NO Norway	-	20.717	-	-
24 PL Poland	53.300	-	-	-
25 PT Portugal	47.795	47.315	46.196	46.090
26 RO Romania	46.865	46.261	45.399	45.413
27 SE Sweden	-	17.909	-	-
28 SI Slovenia	19.267	19.627	19.278	20.215
29 SK Slovak Republic	30.304	30.442	30.324	30.908
30 UK United Kingdom	-	143.058	141.516	141.437

^a see also "datafileinfo_1998-2001.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat

Table 3: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 2000, quarterly data^a

	N (without selection)			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
01 AT Austria	59.146	57.732	57.467	57.583
02 BE Belgium	27.229	27.446	26.659	26.405
03 BG Bulgaria	52.908	53.404	52.692	53.371
04 CH Switzerland	-	17.733	-	-
05 CY Cyprus		10.301		
06 CZ Czech Republic	66.580	65.464	64.198	63.208
07 DE Germany	-	-	-	-
08 DK Denmark	17.907	17.993	17.848	18.020
09 EE Estland	4.888	4.676	4.698	5.226
10 ES Spain	185.602	180.853	176.922	176.235
11 FI Finland	34.417	42.146	42.574	44.021
12 FR France	182.066	-	-	-
13 GR Greece	81.692	81.264	81.431	80.656
14 HU Hungary	85.342	85.080	84.850	84.811
15 IE Ireland	104.431	106.306	106.260	108.096
16 IS Iceland	-	3.697	-	-
17 IT Italy	200.363	199.367	198.215	198.630
18 LT Lithuania	-	7.583	-	7.500
19 LU Luxembourg	-	15.257	-	-
20 LV Latvia	-	19.193	-	19.242
21 MT Malta	-	-	-	-
22 NL Netherlands	52.684	66.992	71.614	93.345
23 NO Norway	21.816	21.095	21.504	21.102
24 PL Poland	46.509	46.295	46.789	47.903
25 PT Portugal	46.031	45.626	44.265	44.777
26 RO Romania	44.984	44.805	44.062	43.798
27 SE Sweden	-	17.321	-	-
28 SI Slovenia	18.764	18.751	19.509	19.356
29 SK Slovak Republic	30.866	30.846	31.061	31.066
30 UK United Kingdom	141.251	140.067	137.644	136.056

^a see also "datafileinfo_1998-2001.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat

Table 4: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 2001, quarterly data^a

	N (without selection)			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
01 AT Austria	59.296	57.138	57.927	57.419
02 BE Belgium	26.646	26.391	26.247	26.417
03 BG Bulgaria	60.742	59.991	59.410	60.126
04 CH Switzerland	-	18.738	-	-
05 CY Cyprus	-	10.596	-	-
06 CZ Czech Republic	63.171	63.964	63.951	63.376
07 DE Germany	-	-	-	-
08 DK Denmark	16.547	15.986	16.259	15.848
09 EE Estland	5.183	5.179	5.202	5.266
10 ES Spain	175.227	173.643	170.995	172.323
11 FI Finland	43.772	42.712	43.048	43.757
12 FR France	178.143	-	-	-
13 GR Greece	80.165	80.282	80.317	80.677
14 HU Hungary	84.663	84.671	84.406	83.369
15 IE Ireland	106.400	105.405	104.818	106.935
16 IS Iceland	-	3.685	-	-
17 IT Italy	197.883	196.236	195.563	195.360
18 LT Lithuania	-	7.788	-	7.765
19 LU Luxembourg	-	14.814	-	-
20 LV Latvia	-	18.834	-	18.932
21 MT Malta	-	-	-	-
22 NL Netherlands	94.034	90.265	82.838	96.514
23 NO Norway	21.275	20.213	20.819	21.113
24 PL Poland	58.501	57.575	56.321	56.276
25 PT Portugal	45.434	45.681	44.181	45.117
26 RO Romania	43.867	43.742	43.391	42.740
27 SE Sweden	46.249	50.512	55.936	56.102
28 SI Slovenia	19.351	19.607	19.779	19.687
29 SK Slovak Republic	30.862	30.554	30.622	30.264
30 UK United Kingdom	135.010	135.887	136.004	137.635

^a see also "datafileinfo_1998-2001.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat