

EU-Labour Force Survey December 2011 release

Setup for Importing the Anonymised Quarterly Data Sets for 2002-2005

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I. Overview

The following information will help you to import the EU-LFS 2002-2005 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_2002-2005_q.sps
Labels_EULFS_1983-2010.sps

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

- Transformation of EU-LFS 2002-2005 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" in the years 2002 and 2003 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, METHODDA – METHODDM

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

– COEFF

There is a large number of cases with a weighting factor of zero in Poland. There are a number of cases with a weighting factor of zero in France (except in 2002). A small number of cases with a weighting factor of zero appear in Germany (in 2004 and 2005) and Latvia (in 2005 only). There are a lot of system-missings in Finland (except 2002). A small number of system-missings appear in the United Kingdom (in 2002 only) and Belgium (in 2005 only). The origin of these missings is unclear.

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

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

- Data of Greece for 2005 (gr2005_q)

There are seven cases with defective raw data. Due to a supernumerary comma for the variable ILOSTAT in the raw data, the values of the values of all following variables are mismatched.

To exclude these cases from the analysis, they can be identified as follows:

QHHNUM=Q151316 and HHSEQNUM=3, QHHNUM=Q126648 and HHSEQNUM=1,
QHHNUM=Q154891 and HHSEQNUM=3, QHHNUM=Q154891 and HHSEQNUM=4,
QHHNUM=Q128392 and HHSEQNUM=4, QHHNUM=Q132091 and HHSEQNUM=1,
QHHNUM=Q157019 and HHSEQNUM=4.

VI. Classifications

- ISCED classification (EDUCLEVEL, 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 2002, quaterly data^a

Country	N (without selection)			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
01 AT Austria	58.717	57.254	57.098	57.738
02 BE Belgium	28.731	27.834	27.746	27.490
03 BG Bulgaria	59.459	57.549	57.173	57.693
04 CH Switzerland	-	41.263	-	-
05 CY Cyprus	-	10.667	-	-
06 CZ Czech Republic	63.231	62.091	61.001	60.271
07 DE Germany	-	328.074	-	-
08 DK Denmark	16.317	16.081	15.875	16.004
09 EE Estland	5.029	4.948	4.980	5.024
10 ES Spain	173.691	172.552	172.412	174.349
11 FI Finland	43.554	42.743	42.723	42.877
12 FR France	175.939	-	-	-
13 GR Greece	78.112	77.451	77.014	76.092
14 HU Hungary	82.912	82.904	82.447	80.864
15 IE Ireland	106.204	105.569	99.447	101.593
16 IS Iceland	-	3.646	-	-
17 IT Italy	194.863	194.041	193.444	195.901
18 LT Lithuania	12.550	12.993	12.625	12.703
19 LU Luxembourg	-	13.429	-	-
20 LV Latvia	5.809	5.943	6.083	6.094
21 MT Malta	-	-	-	-
22 NL Netherlands	100.649	97.594	95.096	100.313
23 NO Norway	21.600	20.838	21.560	21.535
24 PL Poland	58.433	58.623	58.316	57.375
25 PT Portugal	45.482	45.617	43.934	44.185
26 RO Romania	42.719	41.757	42.618	41.848
27 SE Sweden	56.494	55.699	56.072	56.486
28 SI Slovenia	19.600	19.766	20.172	20.386
29 SK Slovak Republic	29.844	29.420	29.147	28.934
30 UK United Kingdom	137.460	136.156	133.856	132.614

^a see also "datafileinfo_2002-2005.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat

Table 2: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 2003, quaterly data^a

Country	N (without selection)			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
01 AT Austria	56.268	50.953	54.706	49.672
02 BE Belgium	27.589	27.565	27.414	27.455
03 BG Bulgaria	39.880	38.524	38.168	38.346
04 CH Switzerland	-	57.679	-	-
05 CY Cyprus	-	10.779	-	-
06 CZ Czech Republic	60.777	60.973	61.133	61.575
07 DE Germany	-	330.297	-	-
08 DK Denmark	15.989	15.471	14.999	14.898
09 EE Estland	4.814	4.735	4.965	5.040
10 ES Spain	175.547	175.209	172.934	174.992
11 FI Finland	41.257	40.782	40.651	41.120
12 FR France	87.413	86.070	83.310	87.030
13 GR Greece	74.062	73.017	73.122	72.662
14 HU Hungary	92.683	88.212	85.185	84.318
15 IE Ireland	103.041	101.500	95.934	96.902
16 IS Iceland	3.226	3.186	3.165	3.150
17 IT Italy	194.076	192.359	191.324	192.043
18 LT Lithuania	12.491	12.219	12.294	12.258
19 LU Luxembourg ^b	16.394	16.394	16.394	16.394
20 LV Latvia	6.081	6.022	6.042	6.019
21 MT Malta	-	-	-	-
22 NL Netherlands	103.878	96.740	99.964	105.793
23 NO Norway	21.498	20.931	21.510	21.503
24 PL Poland	58.433	58.303	58.762	59.065
25 PT Portugal	46.858	46.385	46.118	49.147
26 RO Romania	41.647	41.556	40.937	40.290
27 SE Sweden	56.995	56.316	55.935	56.390
28 SI Slovenia	20.496	19.881	20.076	19.922
29 SK Slovak Republic	28.877	28.889	28.892	29.047
30 UK United Kingdom	131.289	130.417	128.484	128.209

^a see also "datafileinfo_2002-2005.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat

^b In 2003, the survey in Luxembourg provides data for the whole reference year only. In absence of quarterly results, the same yearly figures are repeated each quarter (see http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/lfs_main/lfs/lfs_comparability.htm).

Table 3: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 2004, quaterly data^a

Country	N (without selection)			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
01 AT Austria	45.185	49.325	50.382	50.989
02 BE Belgium	28.583	27.739	27.874	27.936
03 BG Bulgaria	37.927	36.540	35.709	35.966
04 CH Switzerland	-	54.229	-	-
05 CY Cyprus	-	10.615	10.700	10.451
06 CZ Czech Republic	62.522	62.807	62.582	62.918
07 DE Germany	-	327.089	-	-
08 DK Denmark	15.584	15.445	14.777	14.940
09 EE Estland	4.854	4.533	4.410	4.541
10 ES Spain	175.692	175.159	171.429	172.589
11 FI Finland	41.141	39.680	40.060	40.843
12 FR France	88.185	87.657	84.689	87.784
13 GR Greece	80.499	80.992	80.851	80.157
14 HU Hungary	83.337	82.310	81.230	79.459
15 IE Ireland	92.273	86.545	82.197	88.894
16 IS Iceland	3.164	3.110	3.069	3.113
17 IT Italy	174.874	172.264	177.132	180.802
18 LT Lithuania	12.190	12.149	12.171	12.314
19 LU Luxembourg ^b	21.189	21.189	21.189	21.189
20 LV Latvia	6.140	6.020	6.085	6.258
21 MT Malta	-	-	-	-
22 NL Netherlands	114.839	112.913	111.126	123.415
23 NO Norway	21.594	21.306	21.397	21.468
24 PL Poland	57.756	57.433	57.736	57.372
25 PT Portugal	50.310	50.714	49.353	49.403
26 RO Romania	69.182	68.596	67.851	68.331
27 SE Sweden	53.968	52.185	51.770	41.603
28 SI Slovenia	19.532	18.871	18.966	18.517
29 SK Slovak Republic	28.885	28.772	28.861	29.040
30 UK United Kingdom	126.760	125.610	124.154	125.284

^a see also "datafileinfo_2002-2005.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat

^b In 2004, the survey in Luxembourg provides data for the whole reference year only. In absence of quarterly results, the same yearly figures are repeated each quarter (see http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/lfs_main/lfs/lfs_comparability.htm).

Table 4: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 2005, quaterly data^a

Country	N (without selection)			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
01 AT Austria	51.266	51.483	51.125	51.184
02 BE Belgium	27.705	27.592	27.143	26.686
03 BG Bulgaria	36.237	34.972	34.099	34.727
04 CH Switzerland	-	51.791	-	-
05 CY Cyprus	10.230	9.847	9.742	9.695
06 CZ Czech Republic	62.888	62.504	62.191	62.154
07 DE Germany	103.917	118.746	120.575	133.953
08 DK Denmark	15.115	14.932	14.921	14.824
09 EE Estland	4.695	4.398	4.301	4.510
10 ES Spain	155.997	154.018	149.934	150.902
11 FI Finland	40.445	39.500	39.673	39.771
12 FR France	87.871	86.914	83.913	85.260
13 GR Greece	79.613	78.876	78.541	77.546
14 HU Hungary	78.482	77.939	78.197	77.572
15 IE Ireland	87.914	91.174	87.215	93.096
16 IS Iceland	3.112	3.061	3.107	3.144
17 IT Italy	182.011	177.723	170.267	174.371
18 LT Lithuania	12.309	11.881	11.840	11.917
19 LU Luxembourg ^b	22.506	22.506	22.506	22.506
20 LV Latvia	5.690	5.523	5.450	5.287
21 MT Malta	-	-	-	-
22 NL Netherlands	121.307	114.694	113.118	120.395
23 NO Norway	21.538	20.955	21.404	21.434
24 PL Poland	57.362	55.880	55.794	56.289
25 PT Portugal	49.040	47.870	46.711	46.507
26 RO Romania	68.558	67.738	66.768	66.344
27 SE Sweden	35.665	39.368	44.885	47.559
28 SI Slovenia	18.490	17.750	17.567	17.599
29 SK Slovak Republic	29.011	29.061	29.149	29.029
30 UK United Kingdom	124.683	123.141	121.970	121.323

^a see also "datafileinfo_2002-2005.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat

^b In 2005, the survey in Luxembourg provides data for the whole reference year only. In absence of quarterly results, the same yearly figures are repeated each quarter (see http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/lfs_main/lfs/lfs_comparability.htm).