

## EU-Labour Force Survey December 2011 release

### Setup for Importing the Anonymised Quarterly Data Sets for 2006-2008

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#### I. Overview

The following information will help you to import the EU-LFS 2006-2008 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\_2006-2008\_q.sps

Labels\_EULFS\_1998-2010.sps

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

- Transformation of EU-LFS 2006-2008 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\_1998-2010.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 3. 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).<sup>1</sup> 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).<sup>2</sup> 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.

### – HHNUM, QHHNUM, REGION, REGIONW

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

### – YEARESID

Since 2008 the 5-year groups (11-14, 15-19 etc.) had been coded alphanumerically and had to be recoded into numeric values in line with the standard aggregation of AGE.

## 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" and -102 for "Not applicable" (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". For more information on which variables have no valid cases in which countries and have thus been recoded to -3 see table 4.

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<sup>1</sup>[http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu\\_lfs/LFS\\_MAIN/Coding\\_lists\\_explanatory\\_notes\\_and\\_classifications/Country\\_codification\\_from\\_2010\\_onwards.pdf](http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/LFS_MAIN/Coding_lists_explanatory_notes_and_classifications/Country_codification_from_2010_onwards.pdf)

<sup>2</sup>[http://www.iso.org/iso/country\\_codes/iso\\_3166\\_code\\_lists/country\\_names\\_and\\_code\\_elements.htm](http://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") and -102 (for "Not applicable").

– 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

– 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).<sup>3</sup> Thus they remain unlabelled.

#### V. Notes on irregularities not mentioned in the User Guide

– AGERESID, YEARESID

There are only blanks in Iceland for persons who have not been born in Iceland. Thus there are only two categories (0 "Born in the country" and -1 "No answer").

– COEFF

There is a number of cases with a weighting factor of zero in France and Poland. A small number of cases with a weighting factor of zero appear in Germany (in 2006 and 2007). There are a lot of system-missings in Finland. A small number of system-missings appear in Belgium (in 2006 only) and Greece (in 2007 only). The origin of these missings is unclear.

– HHSEQNUM

In countries where the final sampling unit are persons<sup>4</sup> and not households, this variable does not contain any useful values.

– HHSEQNUM, INTWEEK, DEGURBA, INTWAVE, NOWKREAS

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

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<sup>3</sup>[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](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)

<sup>4</sup> 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](http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/lfs_main/lfs/lfs_publications.htm)

- REM, REFWEEK

In Iceland in 2008, these variables have the same values in all quarters (REM: 1-3, REFWEEK: 1-13). The reason for this coding is unclear.

## VI. Classifications

- ISCED classification (EDUCLEVEL, HATLEVEL):

[http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu\\_lfs/LFS\\_MAIN/Related\\_documents/ISCED\\_EN.htm](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](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 2006, quaterly data<sup>a</sup>

	N (without selection)			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
01 AT Austria	51.152	50.237	49.577	50.117
02 BE Belgium	30.062	27.843	28.145	28.228
03 BG Bulgaria	34.571	33.211	32.718	33.798
04 CH Switzerland	-	48.262	-	-
05 CY Cyprus	9.577	9.526	9.567	9.557
06 CZ Czech Republic	62.869	63.257	63.374	63.754
07 DE Germany	110.588	107.392	137.258	140.902
08 DK Denmark	14.892	14.740	14.627	14.640
09 EE Estland	5.061	4.952	4.926	5.250
10 ES Spain	155.333	161.593	159.511	161.043
11 FI Finland	39.683	38.353	37.877	38.634
12 FR France	86.494	84.998	82.504	85.779
13 GR Greece	76.827	76.211	75.442	75.141
14 HU Hungary	77.850	77.820	77.989	77.738
15 IE Ireland	89.412	85.734	78.599	83.818
16 IS Iceland	3.095	3.125	3.130	3.200
17 IT Italy	171.821	173.363	169.393	169.726
18 LT Lithuania	11.515	11.179	11.162	11.102
19 LU Luxembourg <sup>b</sup>	21.270	21.270	21.270	21.270
20 LV Latvia	5.025	4.644	4.633	4.338
21 MT Malta	-	-	-	-
22 NL Netherlands	120.122	119.189	115.738	115.406
23 NO Norway	20.684	20.922	21.220	21.376
24 PL Poland	55.445	54.278	53.697	53.420
25 PT Portugal	45.973	46.166	44.271	44.124
26 RO Romania	65.671	64.924	63.801	63.586
27 SE Sweden	52.906	52.151	52.340	52.474
28 SI Slovenia	17.555	17.186	17.455	17.617
29 SK Slovak Republic	28.695	28.513	28.350	27.859
30 UK United Kingdom	120.847	120.651	118.920	119.186

<sup>a</sup> see also "datafileinfo\_2006-2008.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat

<sup>b</sup> In 2006, 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](http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/lfs_main/lfs/lfs_comparability.htm)).

Table 2: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 2007, quaterly data<sup>a</sup>

	N (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 CH Switzerland	-	48.485	-	-
05 CY Cyprus	9.507	9.482	9.765	9.708
06 CZ Czech Republic	63.641	62.978	62.136	61.847
07 DE Germany	99.375	125.559	123.876	137.027
08 DK Denmark	28.495	30.515	30.507	28.417
09 EE Estland	5.626	5.823	5.942	5.951
10 ES Spain	164.935	166.674	165.687	166.260
11 FI Finland	38.590	37.858	37.922	38.491
12 FR France	88.855	88.815	85.300	87.787
13 GR Greece	74.597	74.130	73.863	73.793
14 HU Hungary	77.286	77.162	76.551	74.049
15 IE Ireland	79.108	85.133	75.937	80.328
16 IS Iceland	3.165	3.083	3.095	3.092
17 IT Italy	174.362	171.496	165.699	166.189
18 LT Lithuania	14.681	17.511	16.786	14.044
19 LU Luxembourg	5.074	5.335	5.685	5.084
20 LV Latvia	9.623	9.091	9.152	9.956
21 MT Malta	-	-	-	-
22 NL Netherlands	110.174	109.153	107.343	107.787
23 NO Norway	21.023	20.915	21.075	21.098
24 PL Poland	53.059	51.940	50.916	50.960
25 PT Portugal	44.164	43.162	42.529	42.105
26 RO Romania	63.580	62.860	61.819	61.262
27 SE Sweden	52.469	51.806	52.006	51.777
28 SI Slovenia	17.632	17.011	16.618	16.616
29 SK Slovak Republic	27.710	27.698	27.536	27.433
30 UK United Kingdom	120.156	120.379	119.604	119.243

<sup>a</sup> see also "datafileinfo\_2006-2008.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat

Table 3: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 2008, quaterly data<sup>a</sup>

	N (without selection)			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
01 AT Austria	49.570	48.683	48.338	47.479
02 BE Belgium	28.189	25.244	25.914	26.257
03 BG Bulgaria	34.427	33.265	33.752	34.353
04 CH Switzerland	-	47.899	-	-
05 CY Cyprus	9.862	10.094	10.268	10.156
06 CZ Czech Republic	61.634	60.686	60.191	59.423
07 DE Germany	109.774	115.476	123.633	136.031
08 DK Denmark	28.854	28.748	29.125	28.781
09 EE Estland	5.844	5.514	5.546	5.338
10 ES Spain	167.350	168.098	166.647	166.699
11 FI Finland	39.059	38.228	38.318	38.600
12 FR France	89.383	87.538	84.777	86.870
13 GR Greece	74.071	73.613	73.118	72.816
14 HU Hungary	72.862	73.125	73.045	71.399
15 IE Ireland	75.022	74.368	69.235	68.762
16 IS Iceland	3.085	3.053	3.115	3.103
17 IT Italy	174.883	169.775	162.729	164.552
18 LT Lithuania	13.951	15.441	15.637	16.747
19 LU Luxembourg	2.791	4.367	3.789	3.341
20 LV Latvia	9.890	9.408	9.554	9.745
21 MT Malta	-	-	-	-
22 NL Netherlands	106.487	106.587	106.157	109.192
23 NO Norway	20.510	20.102	20.470	20.887
24 PL Poland	51.765	51.955	51.114	52.059
25 PT Portugal	42.226	42.197	41.599	41.948
26 RO Romania	61.625	60.623	59.543	58.994
27 SE Sweden	51.395	51.361	51.291	51.215
28 SI Slovenia	16.901	16.294	16.188	16.217
29 SK Slovak Republic	27.637	27.559	27.368	27.276
30 UK United Kingdom	119.605	118.386	116.222	117.373

<sup>a</sup> see also "datafileinfo\_2006-2008.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat

Table 4: Variables without valid cases in several countries,<sup>a</sup> EU LFS 2006–2008, quarterly data

	2006	2007	2008
AGERESID	x	x	
COURLEN	x	x	x
DEGURBA	x	x	x
DURUNE	x		
EDUCLEVL	x	x	x
HHINST	x	x	x
HHSEQNUM	x	x	x
HWOVERP	x	x	x
HWOVERPU	x	x	x
INTWAVE	x	x	x
ISCOPR1D	x	x	x
ISCOPR3D	x	x	x
NA112JS			x
NA11PRS	x		
NA11PR1D	x		x
NA11S			x
REGION	x	x	x
SEEKDUR	x		
SEEKTYPE	x	x	
SIGNISAL	x	x	x
STAPROPR	x	x	x
TEMPDUR	x	x	
YEARESID	x	x	

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