

EU-Labour Force Survey December 2011 release

Setup for Importing the Anonymised Quarterly Data Sets for 2010

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 2010 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_2010_q.sps

Labels_EULFS_1998-2010.sps

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

- Transformation of EU-LFS 2010 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. 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 Malta and 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

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.

In Malta, the grouping differs slightly from the other countries (see User Guide 2011, p. 63), however this is documented in the appropriate value labels.

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 detailed information on which variables have no valid cases in which countries and have thus been recoded to -3 see table 2.

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).

– NA11S, NA112JS, NA11PRS, NA111D, NA112J1D, NA11PR1D

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

– 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").

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

– 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 are a number of cases with a weighting factor of zero in France, Germany and Poland. There are a lot of system-missings in Finland. The origin of these missings is unclear.

– HHSEQNUM

In Iceland, Sweden and Switzerland all cases have the value 1. In Denmark all cases have either the value 1 or the value 98. There are some system-missing in Germany. The origin of these missings is unclear.

– INTWEEK

There are some system-missings in Denmark, France and Norway. 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

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

GESIS - Leibniz-Institute for the Social Sciences
German Microdata Lab
Square B2, 1
D-68159 Mannheim
Tel: 0621-1246-265
Fax: 0621-1246-100
<http://www.gesis.org/gml>
E-Mail: gml@gesis.org

Table 1: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 2010, quarterly data^a

	N (without selection)			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
01 AT Austria	45.318	44.989	46.002	45.845
02 BE Belgium	26.164	24.476	25.777	26.056
03 BG Bulgaria	34.386	33.432	32.970	33.892
04 CH Switzerland	32.769	32.287	31.477	32.614
05 CY Cyprus	10.740	10.958	10.947	11.017
06 CZ Czech Republic	58.780	58.633	58.601	58.205
07 DE Germany	120.550	121.363	120.732	126.594
08 DK Denmark	29.371	29.760	29.630	29.529
09 EE Estonia	4.998	5.000	5.030	5.037
10 ES Spain	175.030	172.320	170.922	170.932
11 FI Finland	37.568	36.551	36.816	36.745
12 FR France	122.192	127.477	123.584	127.209
13 GR Greece	75.754	76.594	75.336	74.452
14 HU Hungary	70.601	70.625	71.156	70.553
15 IE Ireland	63.334	64.822	58.671	59.511
16 IS Iceland	3.108	3.097	3.130	3.156
17 IT Italy	169.484	165.842	162.666	164.994
18 LT Lithuania	16.867	17.044	16.512	16.444
19 LU Luxembourg	4.279	5.049	4.411	5.042
20 LV Latvia	9.556	9.111	9.424	9.342
21 MT Malta	6.914	6.416	6.302	6.557
22 NL Netherlands	103.000	92.472	90.424	97.309
23 NO Norway	20.318	19.853	20.604	20.663
24 PL Poland	103.033	103.817	103.388	103.883
25 PT Portugal	40.888	40.139	39.772	40.369
26 RO Romania	61.063	60.009	60.528	62.153
27 SE Sweden	66.200	65.213	64.759	64.081
28 SI Slovenia	16.390	15.894	16.102	16.213
29 SK Slovak Republic	26.037	26.057	26.245	26.346
30 UK United Kingdom	110.817	111.177	102.027	101.001

^a see also "datafileinfo_2009-2010.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat

Table 2: Variables without valid cases in several countries,^a EU LFS 2010, quarterly data

	01 AT	02 BE	03 BG	04 CH	05 CY	06 CZ	07 DE	08 DK	09 EE	10 ES	11 FI	12 FR	13 GR	14 HU	15 IE	16 IS	17 IT	18 LT	19 LU	20 LV	21 MT	22 NL	23 NO	24 PL	25 PT	26 RO	27 SE	28 SI	29 SK	30 UK
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	x	x
HWOVERP			x																											
HWOVERPU			x																											
INTWAVE							x																							
ISCOPR1D												x																		
ISCOPR3D												x																		
NACEPR1D																							x							
REGION					x				x						x			x	x	x	x	x								
SIGNISAL												x ^b																		
STAPROPR															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.