Survey of care responsibilities
Ad hoc module for the LFS, 2nd quarter 2005
Product no. 2090-2

Instructions
Interviewer information and guidelines

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Department of Social Statistics / Division for Sample Surveys
1. About the survey

1.1 Client
Eurostat is, in accordance with the EEA agreement, the client for the survey. It is jointly financed by the Ministry of Health and Care Services, the Ministry of Children and Family Affairs, and Statistics Norway.

1.2 Background and purpose
The survey will examine the reconciliation between work and family life. In particular, we focus on:

1. What is the respondent's actual and preferred labour market situation, and if these differ, what are the causes? Is this related to care responsibilities?
2. How flexible is the labour contract with respect to care responsibilities?
3. How much absence from work is caused by care responsibilities?

One should be aware that the survey dies not give a complete overview of the use of different care arrangements, neither for children nor for adults in need of care, nor does it examine the division of care responsibilities within the household.

1.3 Previous surveys?
No

1.4 Respondent motivation
Participation in the ad hoc module is voluntary. It is therefore important to read the introductory text between the ordinary LFS-section and the ad hoc module as it is prompted on the screen.

Even if participation is voluntary, it is important that as many respondents as possible participate. A high number of respondents will ensure a better result, and give a better basis for describing the reconciliation between work and family life, with respect to both children end adults in need of care, with and within the household.

2. Survey implementation

2.1 Sample
The questions in the ad hoc module are voluntary, and are only asked in direct interviews when the respondent is aged 15-64. Otherwise same as the LFS.

2.2 Data collection method
Same as the LFS.

2.3 Interview duration
The length of the interview will depend on the level of care responsibilities. On average, the interview will take 4-5 minutes.
2.4 Data collection period
The data collection will follow the LFS rotation plan for the first quarter of 2005.

2.5 Introduction letter to the respondent
There is no separate introduction letter for the ad hoc module. Respondent letters are only sent to the first-time respondents, in accordance with the mailing schedule for the LFS, second quarter 2005.

2.6 Incentive
Not applicable.

2.7 Time for preparation
Interviewers are given 30 minutes to read the instructions and do test interviewing. Attestation for payment will be given by the office.

2.8 What happens to the data - merge with register data, anonymisation, removal
Data will not be merged with registers in any other way than what is done for the ordinary LFS data.

2.9 Non-response, …, and
Non-response and … are handled in accordance with the instructions for the LFS.

3 The questionnaire

3.1 Specific questions
Avoid using answer categories "Don't know" and "No answer" unless they are specifically mentioned. It is important to try to get the respondent to give a specific answer, but without pushing in any particular direction. Sometimes, a respondent may need some time to come up with the answer, in which case it is important to be patient. When the respondent maintains "Don't know" or refuses to answer, make sure to hit the right key - "F8" for "Don't know" and "F9" for "No answer", or use the question mark/exclamation mark buttons in the toolbar.

Q0 This question is only asked when the respondent has not been through the household module. All persons under the age of 15 are to be counted, including adopted and foster children. If childcare is divided (between parents living in different households), the reference period should be the reference week. If the reference week is distorted, use the first week before the reference week that is not distorted.

Q1 We are asking about care arrangements normally used outside of compulsory school hours; usual week with no school holidays and emergency arrangements caused by sickness or other problems.

Q12a Parents in Norway have the right to paid maternity leave/ adoption leave, as well as up to three years of unpaid leave. The leave must be taken before the child's 12th birthday.

Good luck with the interview!