

Interviewer instructions for the one-time module 2009

Young peoples' entry into the labour market

FORMAL EDUCATION

The main questionnaire for LFS questions already contains variables for the highest level of education completed: HATLEVEL (coded as ISCED levels), HATYEAR (the year the highest level was finished) and HATFIELD (field for the highest level of education completed, with a list of at least 16 codes). The one-time module for LFS 2009 should state precisely the type of education completed by young people (general education or vocational training and more detailed areas of study). The goal is to analyse the connections between education completed and employment.

The date when the last formal education was completed is regarded as the reference point for the transition from school to work.

A variable for work experience gained while studying is also included. This information will be of use for analysis of the effect that all earlier employments have on young peoples' transition from school to work and also for the identification of interruptions to studies that cause educations to require more time.

The following are in accordance with Classification of Learning Activities (CLA).

- **Formal education** is defined as education with the following characteristics:
- purpose and format are predetermined
 - provided in schools, institutions of higher learning and other educational institutions
 - normally defines a continuous educational path
 - is structured with regard to goals, time and support for learning
 - is normally intended to lead to a certification recognised by national authorities that affords a qualification for a specific education or a specific educational programme
 - corresponds to those programmes included in the UOE-questionnaire (UNESCO/OECD/Eurostat)

Question EU1 Is your highest formal education vocational?

Question EU2 Is your vocational education conducted in a school or at a workplace?

General education: less than 25% of the programme's content was vocational.

Vocational education and preparatory vocational education: at least 25% of the programme's content is vocational (specifically directed towards a specific class of employment or industry and that leads to a qualification with relevance for the labour market).

Answer alternative 1 "Mainly school-based" can be filled in if at least 75 percent of the vocational education occurred in a school, *institution of higher learning, or education centre*; the rest being in a working situation (company or other).

Answer alternative 2 "*Mainly at the workplace*" can be filled in if at least 75% of the vocational education occurred in a working situation (company or other); the rest being in a school, institution of higher learning, or education centre.

Answer alternative 3 "*Both in school and at the workplace* (e.g. work/study programmes, alternative programmes): less than 75 % of the vocational education occurred in a school, institution of higher learning, or education centre; the rest being in a working situation (company or other) – the remainder of the two alternatives above.

Question EU3 Have you finished or interrupted your formal academic education?**Question EU4 When did you finish or interrupt your formal academic education?**

"Finished" means the point in time when the last formal education was finished prior to the interview, regardless whether the programme was completed or not and even if the respondent intends to return to the education in the future ("interrupted").

Because this variable functions as a reference point and filter for the variables regarding the first job, it is very important to obtain this information and to reduce non-response to a minimum.

The first two numbers should be used for the month and the next four for the year (e.g. 052005 means May 2005). Use the code 00 for the month if the month is unknown.

Question EU5a**Do you work while you study?****Question EU5aa
studying?****Have you ever worked while you were****Question EU6a
studies?****In what way do you combine work and****Question EU6aa
studies?****In what way did you combine work and**

The question can be asked both of people who have already finished their formal education and those persons who are still studying.

The entire period of study shall be considered (not just the last educational level).

"**Work**" , here, means paid, gainful employment with a minimum duration of approximately one month per year, on average: this can be expressed as approximately four weeks at full time, eight weeks at part time or 150 hours in a year (not as one month when totalling all employment periods during the period of study). In keeping with the purpose of avoiding reports on very small jobs and not increase the burden for the respondent, the consideration of at least one month per year should be acceptable.

This variable is justified by two main purposes:

- to identify the first experience of the labour force (looking for a job, scheduling, salary, etc.) that can have a positive effect on the entry into the labour market after studies
- to distinguish work from that which was done as a part of the finished educational programme.

Code 1: "Work as part of the educational programme" means that there is a work component included as an obligatory part of the plan of instruction, which e.g. in apprenticeship, work/study programmes or obligatory traineeship.

Work during school holidays is coded as 2.

Interrupted studies shall have a duration of at least one school (or academic) year.

THE FIRST JOB (that had a duration of more than three months) after finishing the last formal education

Question EU7a Have you, after completion of interruption of studies, had any paid job that lasted more than three months?

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Variables related to the first job that lasted more than three months: duration, employment and type of contract, and method for finding this job, shall be used to analyse young peoples' entry into the labour market. The definition of definition first significant job is the result of seeking a common and simple concept, which is necessary to develop. Analysis of uncertainty regarding the first job (temporary, part time) will also be possible.

The characteristics of the first job should be able to be compared in a temporal perspective, that allows for comparisons of the situation for the relevant "first time employees" (information comes from the main LFS) with those who entered the labour market for 5.10 or 15 years ago.

We ask for the first job experience after the completion or interruption of studies, although the job may have begun prior to that date.

First job with a duration of more than three months can be:

- as one running their own business
- as an assisting family member

- as an employee: The duration of the job should be counted as the duration with the same employer, regardless of possible changes in function or character of the job itself.

The month and year for starting the job of more than three months after finishing the last formal education

**Question EU8a
lasted for more than three months?**

When did you start your first/ paid job that

**Question EU8aa
when did you get your first paid job that lasted more than three months?**

After finished or interrupted education,

Only gainful employment for more than three months should be considered. This job may have begun before the education was finished and still be the first job after having finished one's education. In such cases is JOBSTART before STOPDATE.

If the relevant job is the first job but the duration is less than three months (counting in the reference week) then use the 000000 code.

Apprenticeship or unpaid traineeship, obligatory military or community service and summer jobs are excluded.

The first two numbers should be used for the month and the next four for the year (e.g.052005 means May 2005). Use the code 00 for the month if the month is unknown.

Duration of the first job that was more than three months, after the last level of formal education is finished.

Question EU9 How long /have you had/ did you have that *first* paid job?

Only gainful employment for more than three months should be considered. This job may have begun before the education was finished and still be the first job after having finished one's education. In such cases the duration is counted from the JOBSTART.

Apprenticeship or unpaid traineeship, obligatory military or community service and summer jobs are excluded.

The question can be posed in terms of the exact months first off and in the event of difficulties the duration of three months can be suggested and the average for the duration can be given.

The method that made it possible to find the first job of more than three months, after finishing the formal education

**Question EU10
get this first paid job?**

How did you manage in general terms to

We are asking about the main method of success that made it possible to find that first job.

Code 2 means that the respondent had been informed about the appearance of the job by the Employment Office. The information may come directly from the Employment Office or through their website.

**Question EU11
consider this job?**

What kind of occupation would you

The variable should be coded according to ISCO 88-COM-classification, in three or four digit (as desired) level.

Type of employment in the first job lasting more than three months (after the last formal education was finished)

Question EU12

Are or were you?

This question deals with first type of employment contract, even if it was changed afterwards, but excluding periods of trial employment (see previous point).

Fixed-term employment refers to employees whose main job will be finished after a predetermined period, or after a period that is unknown beforehand but still defined by goal criteria, such as finishing an allocation or that a temporarily replaced employee's period of leave ends.

The distinction between full-time work and part-time work should be made on the basis of a spontaneous answer given by the respondent.

If there were periods of trial employment when the job started, followed by a contract on undefined duration then the job should in any case be reported as a permanent job.

TRANSITION between education and the first job

This variable gives information about the period between school and the first job, if this transition period was longer than three months. Certain activities that are sought after here shall give an indication of the reasons for delayed entry into the labour market (difficulty finding a job, family responsibilities, obligatory military service, health problems etc.).

Question EU13 For the most part, what did you do directly after you stopped studying?

We are asking about the main activity. In the event of different activities, allow the respondent to choose the activity with the longest duration.

Holiday periods after finishing an education shall be excluded (the question regards the period after finishing formal education and after holidays should the respondent have had such)

"Work" means paid, gainful employment. Unpaid apprenticeship jobs can be included in "other reasons".

SOCIAL BACKGROUND

This question has aroused considerable debate in meetings with Eurostat. It is thought that there is a connection between parents' education and children's educational choices; hence this question is included to confirm the connection.

"MOTHER" MEANS THE MOTHER THE RESPONDENT GREW UP WITH (CAN MEAN ANOTHER PERSON THAN THE BIOLOGICAL MOTHER). "FATHER" MEANS THAT FATHER THE RESPONDENT GREW UP WITH (CAN MEAN ANOTHER PERSON THAN THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER). IF THE RESPONDENT IS DOUBTFUL ABOUT WHICH SHE OR HE SHOULD COUNT AS A PARENT, LET THE RESPONDENT CHOOSE THOSE THAT HAVE HAD THE GREATEST SIGNIFICANCE IN THEIR UPBRINGING."