

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2017

NATIONAL REFERENCE METADATA IN SINGLE INTEGRATED METADATA STRUCTURE (SIMS)

CONCEPT 1 – CONTACT

Sub-Concept 1.1: Contact organisation

National Statistics Office (NSO)

Sub-Concept 1.2: Contact organisation unit

Unit C2: Labour Market Statistics
Directorate C - Social Statistics and Information Society

Sub-Concept 1.3: Contact name

Joslyn Magro Cuschieri

Sub-Concept 1.4: Contact person function

Head of Unit

Sub-Concept 1.5: Contact mail address

National Statistics Office (NSO),
Unit C2: Labour Market Statistics,
Lascaris, Valletta VLT 2000, Malta.

Sub-Concept 1.6: Contact e-mail address

joslyn.magro@gov.mt

Sub-Concept 1.7: Contact phone number

+356 2599 7662

CONCEPT 2 – METADATA UPDATE

Sub-Concept 2.1: Metadata last certified

17th December 2019.

Sub-Concept 2.2: Metadata last posted

24th September 2020.

Sub-Concept 2.3: Metadata last update

24th September 2020.

CONCEPT 3 – STATISTICAL PRESENTATION

Sub-Concept 3.1: Data description

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is an ongoing survey conducted among private households for the purpose of gathering information about the labour force using internationally agreed concepts and definitions. Its main objective is that of providing descriptive information about the 15+ year old population by dividing them into three mutually exclusive groups:

1. Employed;
2. Unemployed;
3. Inactive.

Sub-Concept 3.2: Classification system

- [NACE Rev. 2](#) (Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community): used to code economic activity.
- [ISCED 2011](#) (International Standard Classification of Education): used to classify education attainment or level of education being undertaken.
- [ISCO-08](#) (International Standard Classification of Occupations): used to classify occupations.
- [MGC Codes](#) (Malta Geographic Codes) are used to classify localities.
- [Fields of Education 2013](#) are used to classify education programmes and related qualifications by area of study.

Sub-Concept 3.3: Sector coverage

The target population for the LFS consists of all usual residents aged 15 years and over, residing in private households.

Sub-Concept 3.4: Statistical concepts and definitions

All LFS concepts and definitions are identified in council [Regulation \(EC\) No 577/98](#) and the implementing [Regulation \(EC\) No 377/2008](#).

Sub-Concept 3.5: Statistical unit

Private households in Malta.

Sub-Concept 3.6: Statistical population

All persons residing in private households in Malta following the usual place of residence definition, thus entailing:

- Those who have lived in their place of usual residence for a continuous period of at least 12 months before the reference time; or
- Those who arrived in their place of usual residence during the 12 months before the reference time with the intention of staying there for at least one year.

Sub-Concept 3.7: Reference area

Persons residing in private households in Malta and Gozo ([NUTS 3](#)).

Sub-Concept 3.8: Time coverage

2017.

Sub-Concept 3.9: Base period

Not applicable.

CONCEPT 4 – UNIT OF MEASURE

The LFS produces different indicators with different measures. Mainly, statistics are disseminated by the number of persons, indicating levels. In addition, a good number of the indicators are disseminated in % especially for rates such as the activity, employment and unemployment rate. Average salaries are presented in Euro and transmitted in deciles.

CONCEPT 5 – REFERENCE PERIOD

The sample is distributed equally across all reference weeks of 2017.

CONCEPT 6 – INSTITUTIONAL MANDATE

Sub-Concept 6.1: Legal acts and other agreements

The [Malta Statistics Authority \(MSA\) Act](#) empowers the NSO to collect, compile, extract and release official statistics related to demographic, social, environment, economic and general activities and conditions of Malta.

Data for LFS is specifically carried out under [Council Regulation \(EC\) No 577/98 of 9 March 1998](#) on the organisation of a continuous, quarterly sample survey in the community.

Sub-Concept 6.2: Data sharing

Microdata are transmitted to Eurostat every quarter via the EDamis web portal. Apart from a news release which is published nationally every quarter, users may also request data both in aggregate format as well as in the form of anonymised micro data.

CONCEPT 7 – CONFIDENTIALITY

Sub-Concept 7.1: Confidentiality – Policy

At National level:

The NSO requests information for the compilation of official statistics according to the articles of the MSA Act – Cap. 422 and the Data Protection Act – Cap. 586 of the Laws of Malta implementing the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

Article 40 of the MSA Act stipulates the restrictions on the use of information while Article 41 stipulates the prohibition of disclosure of information. Furthermore, Section IX of the Act (Offences and Penalties) lays down the measures to be taken in case of unlawful exercise of any officer of statistics regarding confidentiality of data.

Since its inception, the NSO has always assured that all data collected remains confidential and that it is used for statistical purposes only according to the articles and derogations stipulated in the laws quoted above. The Office is obliged to protect the identify of data providers and refrain from divulging any data to third parties that might lead to the identification of persons or entities.

During 2009, the NSO has set up a Statistical Disclosure Committee to ensure that statistical confidentiality is observed, especially when requests for microdata are received.

Upon employment, all NSO employees are informed of the rules and duties pertaining to confidential information and its treatment. In line with stipulations of the MSA Act, before commencing work, every employee is required to take an oath of secrecy whose text is included in the same Act.

An internal policy on anonymisation and pseudo-anonymisation is in place to ascertain that adequate methods are used for the protection of data which the office collects and shares with the public in its capacity as the National Statistics Office. The policy is meant to safeguard confidentiality of both personal and business data entrusted to the NSO. The document provides guidance for all NSO employees who process data on a daily basis as to how anonymisation and pseudo-anonymisation methods should be applied. The policy applies to all confidential, restricted and internal information, regardless of form (paper or electronic documents, applications and databases) that is received, processed, stored and disseminated by the NSO.

At European level:

[Regulation \(EC\) No 223/2009](#) on European statistics (recital 24 and Article 20(4) of 11 March 2009 (OJ L 87, p. 164), stipulates the need to establish common principles and guidelines ensuring the confidentiality of data used for the production of European statistics and the access to those confidential data with due account for technical developments and the requirements of users in a democratic society.

Sub-Concept 7.2: Confidentiality – Data Treatment

The NSO follows the same publication rules as recommended by Eurostat, namely that:

- An estimate should not be published if it is based on fewer than 20 sample observations or if the item non-response exceeds 50%.
- An estimate should be published with a flag if it is based on 20 to 49 sample observations or if the item non-response exceeds 20% and is lower or equal to 50%.
- An estimate shall be published in the normal way when based on 50 or more sample observations and the item's non-response does not exceed 20%.

According to these rules, estimates based on less than 20 sample counts are not published, thus also ensuring the respondent's confidentiality. In terms of anonymisation of data, this is based on minimum frequency counts.

In addition, microdata are treated for confidentiality prior to dissemination. In specific, microdata are modified to produce a safe file. Various techniques are used for this modification, including:

- Global recording – collapsing several categories of a variable into one;
- Local suppression – suppressing values in unsafe combinations (i.e. replacing by a missing value);
- Top and bottom coding – collapsing larger values (top coding) and smaller values (bottom coding) of ordinal categorical variables or continuous variables.

The MU Argus software is used to identify confidential cells and to apply the various methods. Disclosure control methods are normally based on optimisation algorithms subject to a number of sensitive variables included in the dataset.

CONCEPT 8 – RELEASE POLICY

Sub-Concept 8.1: Release Calendar

An advance release calendar is maintained by the NSO and published on the NSO website. The calendar projects three months of news releases (including the current and two subsequent months).

Sub-Concept 8.2: Release Calendar access

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx

Sub-Concept 8.3: User access

An internal policy on dissemination is in place to govern the dissemination of official statistics in an impartial, independent and timely manner, making them available simultaneously to all users.

The NSO's primary channel for the dissemination of official statistics is the NSO website. Tailored requests for statistical information may also be submitted through the NSO website.

Moreover, LFS news releases and publications are available in electronic format on the NSO website.

In addition, tabular information can be accessed through the Eurostat database.

CONCEPT 9 – FREQUENCY OF DISSEMINATION

EU-LFS data are disseminated nationally through the quarterly news release and to Eurostat via microdata transmission.

A further news release concerning LFS indicators as well as a publication on the specific ad-hoc module is published annually.

CONCEPT 10 – ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY

Sub-Concept 10.1: News release

LFS news releases are published quarterly while other ad-hoc releases related to key indicators in the labour market are published annually. These releases can be found on the NSO website through:

https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C2/Labour_Market_Statistics/Pages/Labout-Force-Survey.aspx

Sub-Concept 10.2: Publications

Publications related to the LFS can be found on the NSO website through:

http://nso.gov.mt/en/publicatons/Publications_by_Unit/Pages/C2-Labour-Market-Statistics.aspx

Results from LFS are also included in other publications, mainly:

- [Malta in Figures](#);
- [Shift Employment](#);
- [Ad-hoc Module 2016: Young people in the labour market](#);
- [Ad-hoc Module 2017: Self-employment](#).

Sub-Concept 10.3: Online Database

A number of selected indicators from EU-LFS data are also available on the NSO's online statistical database [StatDb](#).

Sub-Concept 10.4: Micro-data access

LFS anonymised microdata may be provided under strict conditions to a selected number of institutions or persons accredited as research entities or researchers respectively. Further information on access to anonymised microdata is available on the NSO website through:

<http://nso.gov.mt/en/Services/Microdata/Pages/Access-to-Microdata.aspx>.

Researchers who require such access need to submit an application form clearly explaining the purpose of their statistical research and justifying their need for access to microdata. The application form will be evaluated internally and if considered favourably a formal contractual agreement will be drafted to explain the responsibilities of the researcher for the security of the information. Once the agreement is agreed upon and signed by both parties, access to anonymised microdata will be granted subject to the terms of reference included in the contractual agreement. Access is normally granted for a definite time period.

Sub-Concept 10.5: Other

Relevant labour market indicators are also included in the statistical products of other NSO functional units, mainly:

- The Regional Statistics Unit for the 'Gozo in Figures' publication,
- The Dissemination Unit for the 'Malta in Figures' publication,
- The Living Conditions and Culture Statistics Unit for the 'International Day of Families', 'International Women's Day', 'World Children's Day' and 'International Day of Older Persons'.

Sub-Concept 10.6: Documentation on methodology

Work processes and procedures for the compilation of the LFS are documented in a standardised reporting template and aligned to the GSBPM model. The model covers all phases of the statistical production process, from the initial stages of identifying what statistics are needed and the scope of the particular survey, to the final stages of dissemination and evaluation. GSBPM is only available internally and may be accessed by all NSO employees.

In addition, for the compilation of the LFS, the NSO refers to the guidelines and explanatory notes provided by Eurostat, primarily [Council Regulation \(EC\) 577/98](#) which outlines the main elements of the survey across all Member States.

Sub-Concept 10.6.1: Metadata completeness rate

Information about all required metadata concepts (and sub-concepts thereof) are provided.

Sub-Concept 10.7: Quality Documentation

Quarterly and annual quality reports are compiled and sent to Eurostat. In addition, the procedures used for the analysis of data are documented in line with the GSBPM model and made available to NSO staff members only. Moreover, important quality aspects are annotated in the LFS news releases.

LFS SIMS reports are available to the public on the [NSO's metadata website including concepts related to metadata and quality](#).

The NSO has developed an internal Quality Management Framework (QMF) which is built on common requirements of the ESS Code of Practice (ESS CoP). A document was prepared to include a set of general quality guidelines spanning over all statistical domains. Assuring methodological soundness is an integral part of the QMF, nonetheless, the document also spans on other areas related to institutional aspects.

CONCEPT 11 – QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Sub-Concept 11.1: Quality Assurance

The LFS is deemed to be a reliable survey. This is achieved through the use of high methodological standards, a continuous monitoring of information collected, and through the adoption of a number of regulations, primarily [Council Regulation EC 577/98](#), which outlines the main elements of this survey across all Member States.

The NSO ensures the accuracy of data released to the public and prepares clear methodological notes which explain the processes involved in the collection and production of official statistics. The NSO has also developed an internal Quality Management Framework (QMF) which is built on common requirements of the ESS Code of Practice (ESS CoP). A document was prepared to include a set of general quality guidelines spanning over all statistical domains. Assuring methodological soundness is an integral part of the QMF, nonetheless, the document spans also on other areas related to institutional aspects.

Every five to seven years, the NSO participates in a Peer Review exercise through which the compliance of its operations with principles of the ESS CoP is assessed by an expert team. Peer Reviews are indeed part of the European Statistical System (ESS) strategy to implement the ESS CoP. Each NSI is expected to provide information as requested by a standard self-assessment questionnaire. Following this, an expert team visits the office to meet NSI representatives and main stakeholders. Peer Reviews result in a compliance report and the listing of a set of Improvement Actions which need to be followed up by the NSI. The next round of Peer Reviews is planned to be carried out in 2022.

Sub-Concept 11.2: Quality Assessment

Processes are in place to monitor the quality of the compiled and disseminated statistics through regular checks for coverage, classification and missing data. The internal consistency of source data and across datasets is also monitored.

Moreover, an ESQRS report, which is a detailed standard structure for the collection and dissemination of quality reports, is filled in annually. A short quality report in ESQRS format is filled every quarter including sampling errors, percentage of non-response, confidentiality flagging and comments on revisions and breaks in series.

CONCEPT 12 – RELEVANCE

Sub-Concept 12.1: User needs

Main users of this data include:

- International organisations (such as Eurostat, UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation), OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), EU's Directorate General for Employment);
- Public Entities (research organisations, unions, government entities such as CB, EPD);
- Private Entities (research organisations, unions, businesses); and
- The general public.

The data are generally required for policy making purposes; however, they are frequently used for market research purposes.

Sub-Concept 12.2: User satisfaction

The last User Satisfaction Survey was held in 2014 with the aim to collect information about key users' satisfaction with statistical output.

The NSO keeps record of the number of News Releases and publications disseminated on its website; the users to whom statistical products are provided; as well as the number of requests that are processed every year.

News Releases and tailor-made statistical outputs were assessed on account of their quality, timeliness, and on their ability to meet users' needs.

Sub-Concept 12.3: Data Completeness

The data completeness rate stands at 100% as all compulsory variables, as per Regulation [EC 577/98](#), are covered.

CONCEPT 13 – ACCURACY AND RELIABILITY

Sub-Concept 13.1: Overall accuracy

The average response rate for the LFS survey is 75.2%. Such a response rate ensures the production of high-quality statistics, as stipulated by [Council Regulation 577/98](#).

Sub-Concept 13.2: Sampling errors

Standard errors of key indicators are commonly used as a measure of the reliability of data collected through sample survey. The LFS was designed to provide important measures on the performance of the labour market at high precision with relatively low sampling errors. In this regard, the effective sample sizes were determined by the regulation in order to ensure that these requirements are met. For further information, refer to tables 1 and 2 in annex A.

Sub-Concept 13.3: Non-sampling error

The non-sampling errors could be various however we could mainly mention: coverage errors, measurement and processing errors, and non-response errors. Even if every effort is made to reduce the latter mentioned non-sampling errors, nevertheless a small element of these errors is inevitable:

- Interviewer Bias
- Recall Bias
- Data Entry Errors
- Response Error (definitional differences, misunderstanding...etc.)

A certain degree of non-sampling errors are also associated with proxy interviews

Sub-Concept 13.3.1: Coverage error

The LFS 2017 sample was extracted from the NSO's register of persons and households which stems from the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. The register is updated with deaths on a monthly basis.

Due to a time-lag between the updates performed, this sampling frame is characterised by a degree of coverage errors. As a matter of fact, households registered after 2011 are not well-represented while households registered prior to 2011 are over-represented as some may no longer be in existence. The sampling frame has an under-representation of foreigners.

Sub-Concept 13.3.1.1: Over Coverage

The ineligibility rate stands at approximately 0.59%.

Sub-Concept 13.3.1.2: Common Units Proportion

Not applicable.

Sub-Concept 13.3.2: Measurement error

Measurement errors may result due to incorrect information provided by the reporting units and interviewers. Errors in interviewing are identified whenever survey follow ups are conducted and these are corrected accordingly.

Other errors are captured at the data editing and coding stages, as well as at the data cleaning stage. All errors are corrected accordingly through a series of imputations.

The questionnaire was last updated in December 2016.

Sub-Concept 13.3.3: Non-response error

Refer to table 3 in annex A.

Sub-Concept 13.3.3.1: Unit non-response

Refer to table 3 in annex A.

Sub-Concept 13.3.3.2: Item non-response

Item non-response is very low in LFS core variables.

The variable which is susceptible to item non-response is mainly the 'Gross Annual Salary', with a rate of item non-response averaging around 7.2%.

Multiple imputation of missing values (based on 5 imputations) is done using a logistic regression model with sex, ISCO, education group, Type of employment, age and hours worked as auxiliary variables.

Sub-Concept 13.3.4: Processing error

Processing error results from coding errors. At a national level, ISCO, NACE and education codes are assigned after checking the free text option in the questionnaire. The questionnaire is meant to collect as much information as possible to ensure the accuracy of the codes being assigned. For example, job title is backed up by further details describing the job, similarly, the economic activity description is backed up by information about the name of the place of work.

Sub-Concept 13.3.5: Model assumption error

Not available.

CONCEPT 14 – TIMELINESS AND PUNCTUALITY

Sub-Concept 14.1: Timeliness

Refer to table 4 in annex A.

Sub-Concept 14.2: Punctuality

All quarterly datasets for 2017 were transmitted before the deadline stipulated by Eurostat. At a national level, there were no late LFS publications in 2017.

CONCEPT 15 – COHERENCE AND COMPARABILITY

Sub-Concept 15.1: Comparability – Geographical

Data are fully comparable. There is no divergence of national concepts from European concepts with regards to the definition of resident population, identification of the main job, employment and unemployment characteristics.

Sub-Concept 15.2: Comparability – Over Time

EU-LFS data was always collected in a consistent manner. No changes were made at concept or measurement level hence the data may be considered as comparable and reconcilable over time.

Sub-Concept 15.3: Coherence – Cross Domain

Quality reports monitor coherence with National Accounts and administrative sources on unemployment. There is no coherence in levels with administrative sources when it comes to unemployment since definitions between sources differ. LFS unemployment figures tend to be higher than those of the registered unemployed since, aside from being broader, the LFS's definition of registered unemployment includes persons who are looking for a job but who have no interest in registering for work with the public employment agency. This may be attributed to the fact that in order to qualify for unemployment benefits, an individual must have paid enough contributions and must be registering for work with the public employment agency. Moreover, those in search of a job but who have not paid any contributions (a common occurrence amongst individuals who are looking for their very first job, and thus, are not particularly interested in registering for work) do

not feature in the registered unemployment figures issued by the public employment agency, but may, however feature in the LFS.

Detail about coherence with National Accounts is provided in sub-concept 15.3.2.

Sub-Concept 15.3.1: Coherence – Sub-Annual and Annual statistics

Quarterly and annual transmissions are coherent.

Sub-Concept 15.3.2: Coherence – National Accounts

With regards to total employment, EU-LFS data are collected from private households only and refer to physical persons employed. On the other hand, National Accounts (NA) data transmitted to Eurostat in tables 110, 111 (A*10) and 303 (A*64), refer to the number of persons employed, distinguishing between employees and the self-employed. National Accounts data are compiled using administrative sources and LFS.

Regarding hours worked, National Accounts use EU-LFS data at A*11 to derive the hours per head and per week for employees and self-employed. This is then applied on the number of full-time and part-time jobs at A*88 derived by NA using administrative data and other sources. Employment (in jobs) is converted to full-time equivalent using information from 1995 Census of Population and Housing. This is then converted in hours using EU-LFS data on hours worked.

Sub-Concept 15.4: Coherence – Internal

Quarterly and annual data are coherent and reconcilable.

CONCEPT 16 – COST AND BURDEN

Refer to tables 6 and 7 in annex A.

CONCEPT 17 – DATA REVISION

Sub-Concept 17.1: Data revision – Policy

Revision of data is compliant with the ESS Code of Practice principles and with the [ESS guidelines on revision policy for PEEIs](#).

At the NSO, there is currently no internal policy governing revisions that occur for all statistics produced. Nonetheless, a revisions policy is being drafted to safeguard a coordinated revisions system across statistical domains.

This policy will take account of the need and causes for revisions; time and frequency of revisions; data and other statistical products affected by such revisions; and length of periods revised.

To date, all statistical domains follow revision guidelines established at ESS level. In specific, revisions of data from the EU-LFS is compliant with the ESS code of practice and with the ESS guidelines on a revision policy for PEEIs (<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/5935517/KS-RA-13-016-EN.PDF>).

Sub-Concept 17.2: Data revision – Practice and Data Revision

Every year, the LFS results are revised due to updates in the population figures which in turn affect the LFS weights.

In addition, education related variables are revised on an annual basis using updated information provided by the Education Statistics Unit within NSO.

CONCEPT 18 – STATISTICAL PROCESSING

Sub-Concept 18.1: Source data

The LFS is a household-based survey in which a household is defined as one or more persons who live together and share expenses. In this regard the LFS is applying the housekeeping concept in line with EU recommendations. A person who is abroad during the reference week and who visits Malta on a regular basis, that is, at least twice a year, is considered to be part of the household. Children or any other members who are living in another dwelling or institution are excluded.

The used sampling design is systematic random sampling by localities and household characteristics for all private households. The yearly gross sample size consists of 12,800 households. One fourth of the sample is contacted again after 3 months, one fourth after a year and another fourth is contacted a year and 3 months following the first contact. The overall theoretical yearly sampling rate (including non-response) is of 6.9%.

Sub-Concept 18.2: Frequency of data collection

The key variables of the survey are quarterly collected, while ad-hoc variables are collected annually. All the eligible households which responded in the first wave are chosen for the second wave which is carried out in the following quarter. The household will be absent for two quarters and then reintroduced, followed by another contact during the following quarter. The pattern can be described as follows: 2-(2)-2. In addition, households who fail to be contacted at any point in time are approached when their turn is due, just like the rest of the households.

Sub-Concept 18.3: Data Collection

Households chosen to participate in the LFS survey are informed via post. An interviewer who is assigned to a specific group of households carries out the interviews either face-to-face or via telephone. For the first panel, face-to-face interviews are often preferred, however, households may still opt for a telephone survey. When it comes to the second to the fourth panels, households are contacted via telephone. In such cases, a face-to-face interviewer is only sent to those households who did not provide a telephone number, who do not have a telephone line, or who do not wish to be interviewed via telephone.

Sub-Concept 18.4: Data Validation

Data are checked for consistency with previous quarters. In addition, the data are validated electronically through a syntax consisting of different validation checks.

Sub-Concept 18.5: Data Compilation

Weighting is computed through calibration using the logit model. The following population demographics are used as benchmarks:

- Sex;
- Geographic region;
- Age group;
- Nationality;
- Number of households.

All persons living in private households are weighted at individual level to represent the reference population.

Sub-Concept 18.5.1: Imputation

In general, the item non-response rate is very low, except for gross annual salary as indicated in 5.3.3.2. Hence the imputation rate is considered as negligible.

Sub-Concept 18.6: Adjustment

No adjustments are made to the EU-LFS data.

Sub-Concept 18.6.1: Seasonal Adjustment

No seasonal adjustment is made to EU-LFS data.

CONCEPT 19 – COMMENT

No further comments.

ANNEX A

Table 1. Sampling error (Concept 5.2):

NUTS-2		CV of regional (NUTS-2) annual aggregates (in %)						
Regional Code	Region	Number of employed persons	Employment rate as a percentage of the population	Number of part-time employed persons	Number of unemployed persons	Unemployment rate as a percentage of labour force	Youth unemployment rate as a percentage of labour force	Average actual hours of work per week ^(*)
		Age group: 20 - 64	Age group: 20 - 64	Age group: 20 - 64	Age group: 15 -74	Age group: 15 -74	Age group: 15 -24	Age group: 20 - 64
01	Malta	0.40	0.40	2.31	4.38	4.35	7.69	0.33

Table 2. Sampling error indicators (Concept 5.2.1):

Coefficient of variation (CV) Annual estimates							
Sampling error - indicators - Coefficient of variation (CV), Standard Error (SE) and Confidence Interval (CI)							
	Number of employed persons	Employment rate as a percentage of the population	Number of part-time employed persons	Number of unemployed persons	Unemployment rate as a percentage of labour force	Youth unemployment rate as a percentage of labour force	Average actual hours of work per week ^(*)
	Age group: 20 - 64	Age group: 20 - 64	Age group: 20 - 64	Age group: 15 -74	Age group: 15 -74	Age group: 15 -24	Age group: 20 - 64
CV	0.40	0.40	2.29	4.50	4.45	7.31	0.23
SE	0.79	0.79	4.48	8.82	8.73	14.34	0.01
CI(**)	1500	0.56	1050	731	0.35	1.50	0.32

Table 3. Unit Non-Response Rate (Concept 5.3.3.1):

Divisions of non-response into categories. Quarterly data and annual average			
Quarter	Non-response rate		
	Total (%)	of which:	
		Refusals (%)	Non-contacts (including people who migrated (or moved) internally or abroad) (%)
1	21.97	1.23	20.73
2	23.79	1.10	22.69
3	25.56	1.00	24.55
4	27.85	0.95	26.91
Annual	24.80	1.1	23.7

Table 4. Timeliness (Concept 6.1):

Quarter	Main dates in the national production process		
	Start date of data collection	End date of the quality check for statistics requested by Eurostat	Date of national publication
1	01/02/2017	12/06/2017	27/06/2017
2	03/04/2017	11/09/2017	28/09/2017
3	07/08/2017	11/12/2017	22/12/2017
4	6/11/2017	12/03/2018	26/03/2018

Table 5. Punctuality – Delivery and Publication (Concept 6.2.1):

Quarter	Full dataset	
	Deadline	Delivery date
1	25/06/2017	12/06/2017
2	24/09/2017	11/09/2017
3	24/12/2017	12/12/2017
4	25/03/2018	07/03/2018

Table 6. Cost: Number of staff involved in central and regional offices, excluding interviewers (Concept 10):

Number of staff involved in the LFS in central and regional offices, excluding interviewers Consider only staff directly employed by the NS	Full-time equivalents
Total	3.5
- of which professional and managerial	2.5

Table 7.1 Duration of the interview

Duration of the interview by Final Sampling Unit	Minutes		
	Total	First wave	Later waves
Average duration of the interview	35	40	20
Core questionnaire (per person)	17	18	15
Ad hoc Modules (per person)	10	10	10

Table 7.2 Number of units

Number of units	Number		
	Total	First wave	Later waves
Households visited over the year	9242	2479	6763
Persons interviewed over the year	24479	6525	17954
Persons interviewed for the ad hoc module over the year	5436	2820	2616