

## European Working Conditions Telephone Survey (EWCTS) 2021 datafiles explanatory note

### DESCRIPTION OF THE FILES

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The data files are available in SPSS, Stata (17SE), and R (coming soon) formats:

EWcTS\_2021\_early\_access\_ISCO2\_NACE2\_NUTS1.SAV

EWcTS\_2021\_early\_access\_ISCO2\_NACE2\_NUTS1.DTA

EWcTS\_2021\_early\_access\_ISCO2\_NACE2\_NUTS1.RDS (coming soon)

Each dataset contains the final, cleaned, validated interviews from the European Working Conditions Survey (EWCTS) 2021. It contains constructed variables used for the analyses of working conditions and job quality. Each dataset contains interviews for all 36 countries covered by the EWCTS 2021. In total the dataset contains 71758 records.

The datasets were first published on: 6 December 2022

### METHODOLOGICAL REPORTS

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A number of methodological reports have been produced for the Survey and these are available on Eurofound's website (see

<https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/surveys/european-working-conditions-surveys/european-working-conditions-survey-2021/ewcs-2021-methodology>):

Technical Report

Coding Report

Sampling and Weighting Report

Data Validation Report

Quality Control Report

### COVERAGE OF THE SURVEY

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The target population of the EWCTS is the adult working population of the 36 countries covered: the 27 EU Member States, 6 Candidate and Potential Candidate countries

(Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia), and 3 other European countries (Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom).

Interviews were conducted between March and October 2021. The majority of interviews were conducted between March and July.

### QUESTIONNAIRE

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The questionnaire contains information about each variable and its levels, and the question the variable is linked to.

The questionnaire is available at: <https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/surveys/european-working-conditions-surveys/european-working-conditions-survey-2021/ewcs-2021-questionnaire/ewcs-2021-questionnaire-translation/ewcs-2021-questionnaire-translation-language-versions>.

Variables constructed by Eurofound are listed in the pdf annex accompanying the dataset.

## MODULARISATION

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Some questions were not asked to all respondents.

When a respondent was not asked a question, the question was skipped and has a missing value in the dataset.

The variables SurveyModule\_M1 and SurveyModule\_M2 indicate to which modules a respondent was assigned. The variable routes combine the two. If a variable was modularised this must be taken into account in the analysis.

Because respondents were assigned to modules at random, the missing respondents can be ignored, and do not introduce bias in analysis.

Note that the sample sizes for modularised questions are smaller than for questions which were not modularised.

Further details on modularisation can be found in the questionnaire and in the methodological reports.

## CODING OF ISCO, NACE AND ISCED

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The open-ended questions q5 and q6 has been coded according to the ISCO classification of occupations, version 08. The ISCO variable is recoded from 4-digits into 2-digits to protect the identity of the respondent.

The dataset contains the numerical variables for 2-digit level (isco\_08\_2).

The open-ended question q13 has been coded according to the NACE classification of sectors of activity, NACE 08 Rev 2 classification

(3 digits). The NACE variable was recoded from 3-digits into 1-digit to protect the identity of the respondent.

The dataset contains the numerical variables for 1-digit level (nace\_r2).

Question Q106 was asked with country-specific answering categories and recoded into the categories of the international classification of educational levels ISCED (variable isced).

Q96C, Q96D, Q96E

time\_care\_children\_minutes and time\_care\_children\_hours;

time\_care\_relatives\_minutes and time\_care\_relatives\_hours;

time\_housework\_minutes and time\_housework\_hours;

In order to harmonise time units and compare replies across all respondents, these variables should be recoded into a new variable, either minutes or hours as required.

Further information can be found in the Coding Report.

## WEIGHTING

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The variable 'core\_weight' should be used as a general-purpose weight which adjusts for non-response and coverage error.

The responding sample was calibrated to recent Labour Force Survey estimates of the working population. Age, sex, region, occupation and sector breakdowns were used in calibration.

The weights can be considered to correspond to the number of working people represented by respondent.

Kosovo weights will be updated in 2023 when official data is available.

Further details on weighting can be found in the Sampling and Weighting Report.

## COMPARABILITY

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The EWCTS is part of a series of surveys by Eurofound called the European Working Conditions Surveys (EWCS)

Many of the questions in the survey are also contained in previous versions of the EWCS. Unlike other editions of the EWCS,  
the EWCTS has several differences in its methodology.

All interviews were conducted over the telephone instead of face-to-face. To adapt the questionnaire for the telephone, certain questions  
were asked using a different (reduced) answering scale. Other questions were not asked in EWCTS, and a few new questions were introduced.

The sampling methodology was different to previous rounds, using Random Digit Dialling rather than sampling clusters of addresses.

Some types of workers may be more difficult or easier to interview by telephone than in person, so the composition of the sample is different.

It is likely that some of the results might be affected by changes in the methodology, as well as by changes in working conditions.

For this reason, direct comparisons with previous editions of EWCS may not be possible: if comparisons are made, the different methodology  
should be taken into account in analysis.

## NOTES

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The .RDS dataset contains system missings which are read by R as numerical (-999, -998, etc.) therefore users should take this into account when running their analyses.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

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EWCTS 2021 web pages: <https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/surveys/2021/european-working-conditions-survey-2021>

or contact [Sophia.MacGoris@eurofound.europa.eu](mailto:Sophia.MacGoris@eurofound.europa.eu)