

units (individual or household) that received this identification code remain in the survey. The PSU identification code should be consistent over time for each observation unit (individual or household).

When sampling with replacement is used and the same PSU is selected several times ('multiple hits') the PSU receives a unique identification code for every hit.

The variable PSU should be left blank when a sample of individuals has been drawn and the population has not been clustered.

In the situation where dwellings are selected at the first stage of sampling and more than one household shares the same dwelling, dwellings must be regarded as clusters of households and then coded accordingly. Then, if the first<sup>26</sup> stage of the sampling design consists of a selection of dwellings, each dwelling receives a unique code for category 'primary sampling unit identifier' that remains the same for the entire period the households in the considered dwelling remain in the survey sample.

If the first<sup>27</sup> stage of the sample design consists of a selection of households and the final observation unit is the individual, each household receives a unique code for the category 'primary sampling unit identifier' that remains the same for the entire period the household remains in the survey. Split-off households keep their original PSU identifier at the moment they are selected.

It is a good practice to randomise the PSU identifiers to prevent respondents from being indirectly identified (it makes the linking to particular locations or geographical pattern impossible). However, the randomisation process should ensure that the value of 'PSU' for a respondent does not change over time.

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