

RB010: YEAR OF THE SURVEY

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Data collection information

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age) and former household members

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Frame

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

Format: Four-digit number, no decimals

FLAGS

-

DESCRIPTION

Year in which the survey data collection, or most of the collection, is carried out.

RB020: COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Data collection information

Variable type: Core Variable/ Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age) and former household members

Reference period: Constant

Mode of collection: Frame

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: Yes. Before 2012, Greece was abbreviated as GR.

Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Albania and Kosovo added (North Macedonia in 2010, Montenegro and Serbia in 2013, Albania in 2017, Kosovo in 2018 and Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2022)

VALUES AND FORMAT

SCL GEO CODE

BE	Belgium	NL	Netherlands
BG	Bulgaria	AT	Austria
CZ	Czechia	PL	Poland
DK	Denmark	PT	Portugal
DE	Germany	RO	Romania
EE	Estonia	SI	Slovenia
IE	Ireland	SK	Slovakia
EL	Greece	FI	Finland
ES	Spain	SE	Sweden
FR	France	UK	United Kingdom
HR	Croatia	CH	Switzerland
IT	Italy	IS	Iceland
CY	Cyprus	NO	Norway
LV	Latvia	ME	Montenegro
LT	Lithuania	MK	North Macedonia
LU	Luxembourg	RS	Serbia
HU	Hungary	TR	Türkiye
MT	Malta	AL	Albania
		XK	Kosovo
		BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina

FLAGS

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DESCRIPTION

The country of residence is the country in which the usual residence of the household/person is located.

The list of countries is defined according to the Eurostat Standard Code list (SCL) GEO which is largely based on the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 3166 country codes (3166-1 alpha-2). The SCL GEO is available here:

https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_NOM_DTL&StrNom=CL_GEO&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntPcKey=&StrLayoutCode=HIERARCHIC.

Information on the country of residence should be obtained in accordance with the current national borders. Country code, year and IDs are used as key variables to merge different files.

RB030: PERSONAL ID

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Identification

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age) and former household members

Reference period: Constant

Mode of collection: Frame or interviewer

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

ID number

Personal ID = Household ID + personal number (two digits)

FLAGS

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DESCRIPTION

Personal ID (maximum eleven digits) = Household ID (maximum nine digits) + personal number (two digits)

Personal number: for every new person in the household add 1 to the highest-used persons number (for all the years of the survey and the Household ID)

It refers to the number assigned in 'the household register' to the person the first time that he/she is recorded as a household member. It should correspond to the person's line position in 'the household register'.

RB032: SEQUENTIAL NUMBER OF THE PERSONS IN THE HOUSEHOLD

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Identification

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Frame or interviewer

In use (period): 2019 from 2021 annually

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

Format: Two-digit number, no decimals
1-**22** Values

FLAGS

1 Filled
-2 Not applicable (single person household)
-7 Not applicable (RB010 < 2021)

DESCRIPTION

Sequential number of the persons in the household. The number should be unique for each current household member.

This variable should aid transmission of the household grid.

Example:

Wave 1

HH number	Split number	RB032	Personal id
HH ID			
123	00	01	123-00-01
123	00	02	123-00-02
123	00	03	123-00-03
123	00	04	123-00-04
123	00	05	123-00-05

Wave 2

HH number	Split number	RB032	Personal id
HH ID			
123	00	01	123-00-01
123	00	02	123-00-02
123	00	03	123-00-05

HH number	Split number	RB032	Personal id
HH ID			
123	01	01	123-00-03
123	01	02	123-00-04
123	01	03	123-01-01

RB040: CURRENT HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFICATION (ID)

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Identification

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age) and former household members

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Frame or interviewer

In use (period): Yes, since 2005

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

ID number

ID number construction:

Household number 1 - 9999999 (maximum seven digits)

Household ID = Household number + split number (two digits)

The split number for the first wave will always take value '00'.

FLAGS

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DESCRIPTION

Every household in the sample is allocated a household number. This number is the base upon which to construct the Household ID and the Personal ID. It should be a sequential number and should not contain other information. It must NOT contain any information that conflicts with confidentiality rules. This number must be unique for all the years of the survey.

Household ID (maximum nine digits) = Household number (maximum seven digits) + split number (two digits)

When there is no change in the household composition between waves, it keeps the Household number and Split number from one wave to the next.

In the case of a split-off, the initial household will keep the Household number and Split number from one wave to the next. The other households, i.e. the split-off households will keep the same Household number, but will be assigned the next available unique Split number in sequence.

In the case of a fusion of two sample households, if the new household remains at a previous address, it shall retain the Household number and Split number of the household that was at that address in the previous wave. If the new household is at a new address, the Household number and Split number of the household of the sample person who now has the lowest person number in 'the household register' will be retained.

RB050: PERSONAL CROSS-SECTIONAL WEIGHT

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Weights

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Constructed

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

0+ (format 2.5) Weight (see the required format)

FLAGS

1	Filled
-7	Not applicable (RB010 not equal to "last year of operation")

DESCRIPTION

See construction of weights in chapter 'Weights'

These weights had to be coded with two integers and five decimals.

RB060: PERSONAL BASE WEIGHT

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Weights

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Constructed

In use (period): Yes, since 2005

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

0+ (format 2.5) Weight (see the required format)

These weights had to be coded with two integers and five decimals. However, that causes problems if the weights have at least three integers. That is why, in practice, personal cross-sectional weights will be coded with at least one integer and five decimals.

FLAGS

1 Filled

DESCRIPTION

See construction of weights in chapter '[Weights](#)'.

These weights have to be coded with two integers and five decimals.

In practice, personal cross-sectional weights will be coded with at least one integer and five decimals.

The personal base weight can have the value 0, namely for non-panel persons.

RB062: LONGITUDINAL WEIGHT [TWO-YEAR DURATION]

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Weights

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Constructed

In use (period): Yes, since 2006

Series' differences: Yes, 2007

VALUES AND FORMAT

0+ (format 2.5) Weight (see the required format)

FLAGS

- 1 Filled
- 1 Missing
- 2 Not applicable (only one year trajectory for the individual, i.e., individual in first wave)

DESCRIPTION

See construction of weights in chapter '[Weights](#)'.

Longitudinal weights are constructed after all other set of weights are defined for the y-1.

RB063: LONGITUDINAL WEIGHT [THREE-YEAR DURATION]

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Weights

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Constructed

In use (period): Yes, since 2006

Series' differences: Yes (2007)

VALUES AND FORMAT

0+ (format 2.5) Weight (see the required format)

FLAGS

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Filled |
| -1 | Missing |
| -2 | Not applicable (less than three-year trajectory for the individual, i.e., individual in first or second wave) |

DESCRIPTION

See construction of weights in chapter '[Weights](#)'.

RB064: LONGITUDINAL WEIGHT [FOUR-YEAR DURATION]

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Weights

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Constructed

In use (period): Yes, since 2008

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

0+ (format 2.5) Weight (see the required format)

FLAGS

- 1 Filled
- 1 Missing
- 2 Not applicable (less than four-year trajectory for the individual, i.e. individual in first, second or third wave)

DESCRIPTION

Longitudinal set of a four-year duration. Only panel 4 with data from years (Y-3) to Y contributes to this set.

See construction of weights in chapter '[Weights](#)'.

RB065: LONGITUDINAL WEIGHT [FIVE-YEAR DURATION]

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Weights

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Constructed

In use (period): New, from 2021 (with the new rotation)

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

0+ (format 2.5) Weight (see the required format)

FLAGS

- 1 Filled
- 1 Missing
- 2 Not applicable (less than five-year trajectory for the individual, i.e., individual in first, second, third or fourth wave)
- 5 Not applicable (country has a four-year panel)
- 7 Not applicable (RB010 < 2021)

DESCRIPTION

See construction of weights in chapter '[Weights](#)'.

RB066: LONGITUDINAL WEIGHT [SIX-YEAR DURATION]

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Weights

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Constructed

In use (period): New, from 2021 (with the new rotation)

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

0+ (format 2.5) Weight (see the required format)

FLAGS

- 1 Filled
- 1 Missing
- 2 Not applicable (less than six-year trajectory for the individual, i.e., individual in first, second, third, fourth or fifth wave⁴⁷)
- 5 Not applicable (country has a four-year panel)
- 7 Not applicable (RB010 < 2021)

DESCRIPTION

See construction of weights in chapter '[Weights](#)'.

⁴⁷ Applicable in case of the longer panel duration. Countries having 4 years panel will use flag not applicable.

RB080: YEAR OF BIRTH

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Demography

Variable type: First wave/ Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Constant

Mode of collection: Household respondent or register

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

1890 – year of the survey

FLAGS

From 2021 onwards

1	Collected via survey/interview
2	Collected from administrative data
3	Imputed
4	Not possible to establish a source
-1	Missing

DESCRIPTION

Year of birth together with the passing of birthday and reference date of the interview gives information needed to calculate age.

When asking for the passing of birthday at the time of the interview, the following questions are recommended:

"What is your year of birth? Have you already had your birthday this year?"

At data collection level, the exact date of birth might be asked directly to the respondents. In this case the recommended question is:

"What is your date of birth?" (DD/MM/YYYY).

This variable is supposed to be collected during the first interview (the first wave), however needs to be transmitted to Eurostat annually.

RB081: AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS (AT THE END OF INCOME REFERENCE PERIOD)

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Demography

Variable type: Core Variable/ Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Derived

In use (period): From 2021

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

Age

FLAGS

1	Filled
-1	Missing
-7	Not applicable (RB010 < 2021)

DESCRIPTION

RB081 records the age at the end of the income reference period.

The EU-SILC has two reference dates used for defining person's age in completed years: end of income reference period (RB081) and the date of interview (RB082).

Age at the end of income reference period is used to define statistical population, sample person, etc. Age in completed years at the end of income reference period (end of previous calendar year or tax year) is the age of the person at his/her last birthday before the reference date. I.e. the interval of time between the date of birth and the date of end of the income reference period expressed in completed years.

RB081 and RB082 are different for individuals who have their birthday before the date of the interview and is the same for individuals that have their birthday after the date of the interview.

For example, respondent turns 35 years old on 29 May 2017 and the interview is conducted on 10 June 2017. He/she is 35 years old at the time of the interview (RB082=35). However, when referring to income reference period (in that case December 2016) respondent is 34 years old (RB081 =34).

For example, respondent turns 35 years old on 29 September 2017 and the interview is conducted on 10 June 2017. He/she is 34 years old at the time of the interview (RB082=34) and when referring to income reference period (in that case December 2016) respondent is also 34 years old (RB081 =34).

Children born after the end of reference income period should be recorded as '0'. Also, children that are months old at the end of income reference period should have the value '0'.

The quality reporting related to the variable 'age in completed years' should contain information on the number of records for which information on the age in completed years is imputed and this imputed value should be reported in the flags.

When asking whether the birthday has passed at the time of the interview, it is recommended to use the following question: "What is your year of birth? Have you already had your birthday this year?"

At data collection level, the exact date of birth might be asked directly to the respondents. In this case the recommended question is: "*What is your date of birth?*" (DD/MM/YYYY).

This variable is to be constructed from the following variables: Year of birth and passing of birthday.

RB082: AGE IN COMPLETED YEARS AT THE TIME OF THE INTERVIEW

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Demography

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Derived

In use (period): New, from 2021

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

Age

FLAGS

1	Filled
-1	Missing
-7	Not applicable (RB010 < 2021)

DESCRIPTION

Age in completed years at the time (date) of the interview is the interval of time between the date of birth and the date of the interview in completed years. The following information is to be collected under this variable:

- Year of birth
- Passing or not of the birthday at the reference date
- Reference date

RB082 records the age at the time of the interview. For example, the interview is conducted in June 2017, and the person had their birthday on 29 May 2017, turning 35 years old. He/she is 35 years old at the time of the interview (RB082=35).

If the person has the birthday on 29 August 2017 and the interview is done on 10 June 2017 then the age at the time of interview (PB082) will be 34.

The quality reporting related to the variable 'age in completed years' should contain information on the number of records for which information on the age in completed years is imputed and this imputed value should be reported in the flags.

When asking whether the birthday has passed at the time of the interview, the following questions are recommended: "What is your year of birth? Have you already had your birthday this year?" In case the reference date is not the time of the interview, the question has to be adapted, clearly explaining which reference date the passing of birthday should refer to.

At data collection level, the exact date of birth might be asked directly to the respondents. In this case the recommended question is: "*What is your date of birth?*" (DD/MM/YYYY).

This variable is to be constructed from the following variables: Year of birth and passing of birthday.

RB083: PASSING OF BIRTHDAY AT THE TIME OF THE INTERVIEW

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Demography

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent, registers or derived

In use (period): New, from 2021

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1 | Yes |
| 2 | No |

FLAGS

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Collected via survey/interview |
| 2 | Collected from administrative data |
| 3 | Imputed |
| 4 | Not possible to establish a main source |
| -1 | Missing |
| -7 | Not applicable (RB010 < 2021) |

DESCRIPTION

This variable collects whether the person has already had his/her birthday that year.

Use of the following questions are recommended:

"Have you already had your birthday this year?"

At data collection level, the exact date of birth might be asked directly to the respondents. In this case the recommended question is:

"What is your date of birth?" (DD/MM/YYYY).

RB090: SEX

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Demography

Variable type: Core Variable/First wave/ Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent or registers

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

1	Male
2	Female

FLAGS

1	Main source is survey or interview
2	Main source is administrative data
3	Imputed
4	It is not possible to establish a main source
-1	Missing

DESCRIPTION

Sex is the combination of biological and physiological characteristics that define a person to be either male or female. In cases where the biological sex of a person is not known, the information may be replaced by either the information from administrative data or the self-declared sex (survey data).

The quality reporting related to the variable 'sex' should contain information on the number of records where the sex is imputed.

This variable is supposed to collect only during the first wave but be transmitted annually. In case of change the information transmitted should be updated.

Depending on the data collection mode or information being available from administrative sources it might not be necessary to collect this information from respondents directly.

The proposed question is the following: "What is your sex?"

RB100: SAMPLE PERSON OR CO-RESIDENT

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Identification

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Constant

Mode of collection: Frame or interviewer

In use (period): Yes, since 2005, in 2021

Series' differences: 2021 (reference period changed to constant, former household members are no longer considered as unit, and age limit used to define sample persons increased to 16 years)

VALUES AND FORMAT

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1 | Sample person |
| 2 | Co-resident |

FLAGS

- | | |
|----|---------|
| 1 | Filled |
| -1 | Missing |

DESCRIPTION

Sample persons: means a member of the private household in the initial sample who is at least 16 years old at the end of the income reference period.

Initial sample: Refers to the sample of households or persons at the time it is selected for inclusion in EU-SILC.

Age limit used to define sample persons: In the case of a four-year panel, this age limit shall not be 16 year or higher at the end of the income reference period. In countries with a four-year panel using a sample of addresses or of households, all household members aged 16 and over in the initial sample shall be sample persons.

In countries with a four-year panel using a sample of persons, this shall involve the selection of at least one such person per household. For an initial sample of persons, the term applies only to the individuals selected (normally one per sample household).

Co-residents or non-sample persons means a current household member other than a sample person.

Sample household means a private household containing at least one sample person.

Implementation

For countries selecting a sample of households (addresses) and using the Eurostat integrated design, each sub-sample will be a panel and it will be followed over the course of four years.

In the first wave of each four-year panel, all household members aged 16 and over will be a **sample person**. Household members aged less than 16 will be **co-residents**.

In the second wave and so forth, the co-residents will be those household members that are aged less than 16 (at the moment of the sample selection) plus household members who joined a sample household after the first wave.

RB110: MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Demography

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age) and former household members

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent or registers

In use (period): Yes, since 2005

Series' differences: Yes 2015 and 2021 (small changes for early and regular transmission, 2015 and in 2021 the modality 7 deleted)

VALUES AND FORMAT

For current household members:

- 1 Was in this household in previous waves or current household member
- 2 Moved into this household from another sample household since previous wave
- 3 Moved into this household from outside sample since previous wave
- 4 Newly born into this household since last wave

Not current household members

- 5 Moved out since previous wave or last interview if not contacted in previous wave
- 6 Died

FLAGS

- | | |
|----|---------|
| 1 | Filled |
| -1 | Missing |

DESCRIPTION

First year that the initial household is included in the survey

- 1 For current household members

Following years

- 1 For current household members that were household members in previous waves.
- 2 For current household members that were not household members of this household in previous waves but who moved into this household from another sample household since the previous wave.
- 3 For current household members that were not household members of this household in previous waves but who have moved into this household from outside the sample since the previous wave.
- 4 For those newly born into this household since previous wave.
- 5 Not current household members that were household members of this household in previous waves but have moved out since previous wave or last interview if not contacted in previous wave.
- 6 Those who were household members in previous waves and who have died since previous wave or last interview if not contacted in previous wave.

Where a person regularly lives in more than one dwelling, the dwelling where that person spends the greater part of the year shall be taken to be his or her place of usual residence, regardless of whether it is located elsewhere within the country or abroad.

Initial household means a sample household which has undergone a household split and where any sample person who lived in that household at the time of wave x still lives at the same address at the time of wave x+1. If more than one sample person lived in the household at the time of the wave x and still live in that address at the time of the wave x+1 but in different households, the initial household is the household of the sample person still living at the initial address who has the lowest person number referred to in Annex III. If at the time of wave x+1 no sample person lives at the address of wave x, then the household of the sample person who had the lowest person number at the time of wave x is the initial household. If this person is no longer alive or no longer living in a private household within the national territory of the target population, the

initial household is the household of the sample person with the next lowest person number. For *the* selected respondent model 'initial household' means the household of the selected respondent.

Sample persons who are temporarily away from the household but who are still considered members of the household shall be covered by the survey in that household.

Persons who have not registered by mistake at the moment of data collection will be coded as '3'.

RB120: LOCATION WHERE THE PERSON MOVED

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Demography

Variable type: Tracing rules/Annual

Unit: Former household members

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent or registers

In use (period): Yes, since 2005

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | To a private household in the country |
| 2 | To a collective household or institution in the country |
| 3 | Abroad |
| 4 | Lost |

FLAGS

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Main source is survey or interview |
| 2 | Main source is administrative data |
| 3 | Imputed |
| 4 | It is not possible to establish a main source |
| -1 | Missing |
| -2 | Not applicable (RB110 not equal 5) |

DESCRIPTION

Respondents who moved to a different private household in the country should be followed and interviews in the following waves of the survey.

Respondents who are coded 2, 3 or 4 are not within the survey scope and should not be followed and interviewed in the next wave.

RB200: RESIDENTIAL STATUS

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Household composition

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent or registers

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Currently living in the household |
| 2 | Temporarily absent |

FLAGS

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Collected via survey/interview |
| 2 | Collected from administrative data |
| 3 | Imputed |
| 4 | Not possible to establish a main source |
| -1 | Missing |

DESCRIPTION

All people who are usually resident, irrespective of whether or not they are related to other members of the private household, shall be considered to be members of a multi-person private household if they share household income or household expenses with other household members. Flatmates or housemates occupying a housing unit on a house-sharing basis and sharing only house-related expenses, but not sharing household income, shall not be considered a part of a multi-person private household occupying this housing unit, even if they share some other subsidiary household expenses.

Currently living in the household: A household member is currently living in the household.

Temporarily absent: A household member is temporarily absent because he/she is:

- In hospital/nursing home
- In full-time educational institute
- Military service or equivalent
- Other institution (prison etc.)
- Working out of town
- On travel
- Other reasons

Particular cases in application of the concept of usual residence is defined in Article 4, Commission implementing regulation 2019/2181.

RB211: MAIN ACTIVITY STATUS (SELF-DEFINED)

Topic and detailed topic: Labour market participation / Main activity status (self-defined)

Variable type: Core Variable/Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent or registers

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: Yes, in 2009 and in 2021 the name was changed from RB210 to RB211 and modalities changed

VALUES AND FORMAT

1. Employed
2. Unemployed
3. Retired
4. Unable to work due to long-standing health problems
5. Student, pupil
6. Fulfilling domestic tasks
7. Compulsory military or civilian service
8. Other

FLAGS

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Collected via survey/interview |
| 2 | Collected from administrative data |
| 3 | Imputed |
| 4 | Not possible to establish a main source |
| -1 | Missing |
| -7 | Not applicable (RB010 < 2021) |

DESCRIPTION

The variable refers to a person's own perception of his or her current main activity status. Self-perception means the variable shall capture how people perceive themselves, not how they meet certain objective criteria. When more than one status applies to the person, the respondent should select the category that best describes his/her situation. No criteria for that are specified but it could be determined by the status/activity with the most time spent.

The main status refers to the current situation (situation at the moment of the data collection/interview).

Registers as a source of information could be used in exceptional cases.

In cases where respondents cannot choose one category, as several categories apply to them, the interviewer can provide some clarification. However, it should not be indicated, which category should be chosen, should not be given.

For example:

- Respondents can consider themselves being *employed* irrespective of their official labour market status, working time or kind of income from employment. Respondents helping in the family business, even if it is unpaid, can consider themselves as employed. Opposite can occur when a person who chooses another main activity status can also be in employment. For instance, people who regard themselves as full-time students or mainly fulfilling domestic tasks can have a job.
- Respondents can see themselves as being *unemployed* irrespective of an official status or a registration with the public unemployment office. Unemployed persons can also have part-time or ad hoc jobs while seeking for a full-time job.
- Respondents who are in various forms of vocational education or training that (partly) takes place at the work site can consider themselves as being in employment. This also applies to apprentices, as well as

paid trainees or interns, who can consider themselves as being in employment, while persons having an unpaid work-based training may assign themselves to the category *student, pupil*.

- Respondents who mainly perceive themselves as a *housewife or househusband* can choose the category 'fulfilling domestic tasks' even if they also have a job, receive a pension or are retired. The category 'fulfilling domestic tasks' includes all activities needed to run a private household including the raising of children **and other care responsibilities**.
- Respondents can consider themselves as *retired* if they receive a pension or if they have finally stopped working or given up their business because of their age or age related health condition. Still, they could work e.g., in a minor job. Persons in early retirement that is not connected to health issues can also choose this category.
- Persons can consider themselves unable to work due to long-standing health problems if they are unable to work due to health reasons or disabilities for a longer, undetermined or permanent time or/and unfit to work. The response is given based on self-assessment and is independent from the benefit they receive.
- Persons who cannot choose one of the presented activity status categories can select the category 'other'. These can be e.g., volunteers or mainly inactive persons. Also, these persons could e.g. have a job or fulfil domestic tasks.
- Respondents on maternity or parental leave can consider themselves either as employed or as fulfilling domestic tasks.

The category 'compulsory military or civilian service' may not apply in all countries and in this case it can be omitted. The category 'other' should only be offered to the respondent if he/she cannot choose one of the earlier categories.

The categorisation is solely self-defined and may not be changed due to plausibility checks or for any other reason (corrections/imputations) except by retrieving it again from the respondent.

In 2021, the variable identifier was changed from RB210 to RB211 as the answer categories have been harmonised with standardised social variables.

RB220: FATHER ID

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Demography

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Derived

In use (period): Yes, first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: From 2021 onwards, foster fathers are excluded.

VALUES AND FORMAT

ID number

FLAGS

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Filled |
| -1 | Missing |
| -2 | Not applicable (father is not a household member) |

DESCRIPTION

This variable is to be derived from the Household grid and Personal ID.

RB220 includes step/adoptive fathers. The person needs to be considered a parent from legal perspective.

In the case of same-sex couples, the notion of father and mother can be replaced by parent 1 and parent 2 (in such situations a data checking error will be listed, and it should be ignored).

It corresponds with the RB030 generated as:

Personal ID = Household ID + personal number (two digits).

RB230: MOTHER ID

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Demography

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Derived

In use (period): Yes, first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: From 2021 onwards, foster mothers are excluded.

VALUES AND FORMAT

ID number

FLAGS

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Filled |
| -1 | Missing |
| -2 | Not applicable (mother is not a household member) |

DESCRIPTION

This variable is to be derived from the Household grid and Personal ID.

RB230 includes step/adoptive mothers. The person needs to be considered a parent from legal perspective.

In the case of same-sex couples, the notion of father and mother can be replaced by parent 1 and parent 2 (in such situations a data checking error will be listed, and it should be ignored).

It corresponds with the RB030 generated as:

Personal ID = Household ID + personal number (two digits).

RB240: SPOUSE/PARTNER ID

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Demography

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Derived

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

ID number

FLAGS

1	Filled
-1	Missing
-2	Not applicable (Have no spouse/partner or spouse/partner is not a household member)

DESCRIPTION

This information should be derived from the household grid and personal id.

Description includes married people and partners in a consensual union (with or without a legal basis). In such cases when a spouse or partner is not a household member than the respective flag for the variable RB240 should be filled as '-2'.

RB245: RESPONDENT STATUS

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Demography

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Derived

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: Yes changed from collected to derived in 2021

VALUES AND FORMAT

All household members aged 16 and over are interviewed

1 *Current household member aged 16 and over*

Only selected household member aged 16 and over is interviewed

2 *Selected respondent*

3 *Non-selected respondent*

Household members aged less than 16 at the end of the income reference period

4 *Ineligible person*

FLAGS

1 *Filled*

DESCRIPTION

For countries using a sample of households or addresses, only values '1' and '4' are applicable.

For countries using a sample of persons (selected respondent), only the values 2, 3 and 4 are applicable.

The age refers to the age at the end of the income reference period.

RB250: DATA STATUS

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Interview characteristics

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Interviewer

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

Information or interview completed:

- 11 Information completed only from interview
- 12 Information completed only from registers
- 13 Information completed from both: interview and registers
- 14 Information completed from full-record imputation

Interview not completed, though contact made:

- 21 Individual unable to respond (illness, incapacity, etc.) and no proxy possible
- 22 Failed to return self-completed questionnaire
- 23 Refusal to co-operate

Individual not contacted because:

- 31 Person temporarily away and no proxy possible
- 32 No contact for other reasons

Information or interview not completed:

- 33 Information not completed: reason unknown

FLAGS

- 1 Filled
- 2 Not applicable (RB245 not equal to 1, 2 or 3)

DESCRIPTION

—

RB280: COUNTRY OF BIRTH

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Citizenship and migrant background

Variable type: Core Variable/ First wave /Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Constant

Mode of collection: Household respondent or registers

In use (period): New, from 2021

Series' differences: New from 2021 (moved from P-file to R-file, used instead of PB210 previously used)

VALUES AND FORMAT

<i>SCL GEO code</i>	<i>Country of birth ()</i>
<i>FOR</i>	<i>Foreign-born but country of birth unknown</i>

FLAGS

1	Collected via survey/interview
2	Collected from administrative data
3	Imputed
4	Not possible to establish a main source
-1	Missing
-7	Not applicable (RB010 < 2021)

DESCRIPTION

The variable is part of standardised list of social variables. The country of birth of an individual is defined as the country of usual residence (in its current boundaries) of the individual's mother at the time of delivery.

Information on the country of birth is used to distinguish between native-born (born in the reporting country) and foreign-born (born in a country other than the reporting country) residents.

Information on the country of birth should be obtained according to the current national boundaries and not according to the boundaries in place at the time of birth.

More detailed information on the locality could be required if the boundaries of a country have changed. When data are collected by interview, the respondent can be asked additional questions. When data are derived from administrative registers, it is more difficult to ensure that the definition is followed. If detailed information on the mother's place of usual residence exists in the register, the country of birth should be re-coded so that it is coded according to the current national borders.

Particular care is needed in cases where national boundaries have changed and/or where previously existing countries have split to form two or more new countries. As noted in the [UNECE 2020](#) census recommendations (par. 651), a person should not be regarded as foreign-born (i.e. recorded as born in a country other than the reporting country) simply because the national boundaries of the country of birth have changed. The following important exception to the general rule of considering the current borders might exist: a person whose mother's place of usual residence was, at the time of his/her birth, part of the person's actual country of origin (e.g. as indicated by his/her citizenship or current place of usual residence) but is not any more due to changed borders. In this case the country of birth can exceptionally be enumerated at the boundaries at the time of birth.

The country of birth of a person, who was born during the mother's short-term visit to a country other than her country of usual residence, should be the country where the mother had her place of usual residence. Only if information on the place of usual residence of the mother at the time of the birth is not available, the place where the birth took place should be reported.

The list of countries is defined according to the Eurostat Standard Code list (SCL) GEO which is largely based on the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 3166 country codes (3166-1 alpha-2). The short list of country codes corresponding to Ramon (GEO) classification as defined in the annex of the guidelines for standardised variables is included in [Annex 10](#).

The flag '-1' should be used for statistical units that are part of the population but for which information is not collected (e.g. persons below a certain age).

Suggested question

In case the information is available from administrative sources it might not be necessary to ask the respondents directly. When this information needs to be asked to the respondents the recommended question is:

"In which country were you born?"

In situations (e.g. specific countries or regions) where this question may not capture appropriately the information on the place of usual residence of the individual's mother at the time of delivery, the following question should be asked:

"Which was the country of usual residence of your mother at the time when you were born?"

This variable is supposed to collect only the first wave and for co-residents and to be reported annually.

RB285: DURATION OF STAY IN THE COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE IN COMPLETED YEARS

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Duration of stay in the country

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent or registers

In use (period): New, from 2021

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

Years	Number of years in this country (since last establishing the place of usual residence in this country)
-------	--

FLAGS

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Collected via survey/interview |
| 2 | Collected from administrative data |
| 3 | Imputed |
| 4 | Not possible to establish a main source |
| -1 | Missing |
| -2 | Not applicable (born in this country and never lived abroad for a period of at least 1 year) |
| -7 | Not applicable (RB010 < 2021) |

DESCRIPTION

The variable describes the interval of time since the point in time when a person most recently established his/her usual residence in the reporting country, expressed in completed years.

The category 'number of years in this country (since last establishing the place of usual residence in this country)' are integer numbers describing the time span between the point in time when a person most recently established his/her usual residence and the reference date, in completed years.

The time span includes the lower limit and excludes the upper limit. For example, a person who has arrived on 1st of March 2011 shall be classified in the category '3 years' if interviewed in February 2015 but in the category '4 years' if interviewed in March 2015.

The flag '-2-born in this country and never lived abroad for a period of at least 1 year' covers those persons who are native-born, i.e. born in the reporting country (see variable 'country of birth'), and have never had their usual residence in a country other than the reporting country for at least 1 year.

The duration of stay refers to the current situation for the individual, i.e. the situation existing on the reference date. The reference date is specific to each social micro-data collection (see the implementation guidelines for variable 'age in completed years').

Information on the person's 'country of birth' (i.e. whether the person is native- or foreign-born) needs to be known prior to the collection of information for the variable 'duration of stay in the country of residence in completed years', as different questions need to be asked for the native-born and for the foreign-born. If the information on the 'country of birth' is not available (i.e. 'not stated'), the same questions as for the 'native-born' should be asked.

The 'duration of stay in the country of residence in completed years' refers to the most recent arrival in the country of residence, that is, when the person last established his or her usual residence in the country, and not the year of first arrival in this country (i.e. the 'duration of stay in the country of residence in completed years').

years' does not provide information on interrupted stays). In case of an interruption in the period of residence, the starting point should be the end of this interruption only if the length of this interruption was at least one year.

Suggested question

Different questions need to be asked depending on whether a person was born in the country or not.

For native-born persons the following questions are recommended:

Did you ever live [have your usual residence] abroad for a period of at least 1 year? y/n

If yes: *Considering the date you last arrived in this country (established your usual residence in this country) – for how many years have you lived in this country since then?* [Please consider whole/completed years only]

For foreign-born persons the following question is recommended:

Considering the date you last arrived in this country (established your usual residence in this country) – for how many years have you lived in this country since then? [Please consider whole/completed years only]

Alternatively, the following question may be used:

In which date [year and month] did you last arrived in this country (established your usual residence in this country)? [It is recommended to ask also for the month so that the calculation of the duration of stay can be more precise].

It is to be noted that, regardless of the question used, information on the duration of stay in the country of residence should be transmitted to Eurostat in completed years.

Also, *this variable is supposed to be collected only in the first wave and for new co-residents and should be reported annually.*

RB290: COUNTRY OF MAIN CITIZENSHIP

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Citizenship and migrant background

Variable type: Core Variable/First wave/Annual

Unit: All current household member aged (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent or registers

In use (period): New, from 2021

Series' differences: New from 2021 (moved from P-file to R-file, used instead of PB220A previously used)

VALUES AND FORMAT

SCL GEO code	Country of the main citizenship
STLS	Stateless
FOR	Foreign-born but country of birth unknown

FLAGS

1	Collected via survey/interview
2	Collected from administrative data
3	Imputed
4	Not possible to establish a main source
-1	Missing
-7	Not applicable (RB010 < 2021)

DESCRIPTION

The variable reports on the country of the person's main citizenship. Citizenship is defined as the particular legal bond between the individual and his/her State acquired by birth or naturalisation, whether by declaration, choice, option, marriage or other means according to the national legislation. It generally corresponds to the country that issues the passport.

A person with two or more citizenships shall be allocated to only one country of citizenship, to be determined in the following order of precedence:

1. If one of the person's citizenship is the reporting country, it shall be recorded as the country of main citizenship;
2. If the person does not have the citizenship of the reporting country but one of another Member State, it shall be the recorded as the person's main citizenship.
3. If the person does not have the citizenship of the reporting country but multiple citizenships of other countries, the person may choose which of his/her EU citizenships is to be recorded.
4. If the person does not have the citizenship of any Member State, the person may choose which of his/her citizenships is to be recorded.

In other cases (e.g., dual citizenship where both countries are within the EU, but neither is the reporting country) the person may choose which country of citizenship is to be recorded.

If the information on the person's country of citizenship is not available (e.g., in case the information is obtained from administrative sources), the reporting country may determine which country of citizenship is to be allocated.

Information on the country of main citizenship is used to distinguish between national citizens (individuals having the citizenship of the reporting country), non-national citizens (individuals having the citizenship of a country other than the reporting country) and stateless persons. Citizenship shall refer to the current (at the time of the interview) national boundaries and not the boundaries at the time of the reference period. To apply this definition, information only on citizenship may be insufficient. More detailed information on the current country is needed if the boundaries of the have been changed. In the case of citizenships that no longer exist, the present-day borders of the country should be used.

The list of countries is defined according to the Eurostat Standard Code list (SCL) GEO which is largely based on the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 3166 country codes (3166-1 alpha-2).

The short list of country codes corresponding to Ramon (GEO) classification as defined in the annex of the guidelines for standardised variables is included in [Annex 10](#).

The category 'stateless' corresponds to a person without recognized citizenship of a state.

The flag '-1' will be used to count statistical units which are part of the population of the data source but for which it systematically does not report any information on that variable.

Information on the country of main citizenship should be obtained in accordance with the current administrative status/legal situation of the individual.

The category 'country of main citizenship (SCL GEO code)' may also be used for the transmission of information on 'recognised non-citizens'. A recognized-non citizen is a person who is not a citizen of the reporting country nor of any other country, but who has established links to that country which include some but not all rights and obligations of full citizenship. A majority of these persons were citizens of the former Soviet Union living in the Baltic States who are permanently resident in these countries but have not acquired any other citizenship. Recognised non-citizens are not included in the number of European Union (EU) citizens.

In case the information is available from administrative sources it might not be necessary to ask the respondents directly. When this information needs to be asked to the respondents the recommended question is:

"What is your citizenship?"

This variable is supposed to collect only in the first wave and for co-residents and to be reported annually.

RL010: EDUCATION AT PRE-SCHOOL

Topic and detailed topic: Participation in education and training / Participation in formal education activities (current)

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members not over 12 years old (age at the date of interview)

Reference period: A typical week

Mode of collection: Household respondents or registers

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

0–99 Number of hours of education during a typical week

FLAGS

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Collected via survey/interview |
| 2 | Collected from administrative data |
| 3 | Imputed |
| 4 | Not possible to establish a source |
| -1 | Missing |
| -2 | Not applicable (person is not admitted to pre-school because of his or her age, is at compulsory school, or is more than 12 years old); (RL010>0 and RL020>0) is not possible. |

DESCRIPTION

Education at pre-school: Pre-school or equivalent (e.g. kindergarten, nursery school ...). The educational classification to be used is ISCED Level 0. Special pre-schools or equivalents for children who have special needs (handicapped,...) shall be included in as far as they are considered as pre-school (level 0). If they are not, they shall not be reported here (reported for example in RL040 for day-care centre).

The meals at (pre-)school shall be included in the number of hours for the usual days the child eats at (pre-)school. If more than 99 hours, the code 99 should be used. The hours shall be rounded to the nearest hour. If the child spends per week in the pre-school or equivalent less than one hour, then one hour is coded.

Children stay over at pre-school during the lunch time: If during the lunch time, children are usually cared for by their parent at the school place (or elsewhere), these hours are not counted in the variables of childcare since their parents are present.

If during lunch time they are usually cared for by other parents at the school place (or elsewhere), these should be classified in RL060 (if parents have not paid for this help).

If during lunch time they are usually cared for by somebody belonging to the school organisation (e.g., canteen), the hours are classified in RL010/RL020.

If during lunch time they are usually cared for by a nanny, grandmother, they should be classified in the other variables (RL040-050-060) depending on who is the usual carer.

School transportation: The time spent on "school transportation" should be included in RL010/RL020 if someone belonging to the school organisation is taking care of the children during school transportation. If children are usually cared for by a nanny, grandmother, during "school transportation" they should be classified in the other variables (RL040-050-060) depending on the usual carer.

Suggested question:

During a usual week how many hours does your child spend in pre-school (or equivalent to a pre-primary service such as Kindergarten or Nursery School)?

RL020: EDUCATION AT COMPULSORY SCHOOL

Topic and detailed topic: Participation in education and training / Participation in formal education activities (current)

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members not over 12 years old (age at the date of interview)

Reference period: A typical week

Mode of collection: Household respondents or registers

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

0–99 Number of hours of education during a typical week

FLAGS

1	Collected via survey/interview
2	Collected from administrative data
3	Imputed
4	Not possible to establish a source
-1	Missing
-2	Not applicable (person is not admitted to compulsory school because of his or her age or is more than 12 years); (RL010>0 and RL020>0) is not possible.

DESCRIPTION

Education at compulsory school: “Compulsory” school shall be understood as a mean to separate school from pre-school, but all the school hours must be included; primary and eventually secondary schools shall be included (children up to 12 years old at the day of interview).

The meals at (pre-)school shall be included in the number of hours for the usual days the child eats at (pre-)school. If more than 99 hours, the code used is 99. The hours shall be rounded to the nearest hour. If the child spends per week in the compulsory school less than one hour, then one hour should be recorded.

Children stay over at primary school during the lunch time: If during the lunch time, children are usually cared for by their mother or father at the school place (or elsewhere), these hours are not counted in the variables of childcare since their parents are present.

If during lunch time they are usually cared for by other parents at the school place (or elsewhere), these should be classified in RL060 (if parents not paid). If during lunch time they are usually cared for by somebody belonging to the school organisation (e.g., canteen), the hours are classified in RL010/RL020. If during lunch time they are usually cared for by a nanny, grandmother,..., they should be classified in the other variables (RL040-050-060) depending on the usual carer.

School transportation: The time spent on “school transportation” should be included in RL010/RL020 if someone belonging to the school organisation is taking care of the children during school transportation. If children are usually cared for by a nanny, grandmother,..., during “school transportation” they should be classified in the other variables (RL040-050-060) depending on the usual carer.

In 2021 online lessons should not be included. Only number of hours a child spends in school (including during ‘school transportation’ and lunch break) during a typical week. If a typical week is not possible to establish due to different COVID- 19 measures and consequently hours vary considerably from week to week or month to month the average of the hours actually in school per week over the past four weeks could be used.

Suggested question:

During a usual week how many hours does your child spend in compulsory school (primary or secondary school)?

RL030: CHILDCARE AT CENTRE-BASED SERVICES [OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS (BEFORE/AFTER)]

Topic and detailed topic: Living conditions, including material deprivation, housing, living environment, access to services / Childcare

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members not over 12 years old (age at the date of interview)

Reference period: A typical week

Mode of collection: Household respondent or registers

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

0–99 Number of hours of education during a typical week

FLAGS

1	Collected via survey/interview
2	Collected from administrative data
3	Imputed
4	Not possible to establish a source
-1	Missing
-2	Not applicable (person is neither at pre-school nor at school or is more than 12 years old)

DESCRIPTION

This variable concerns only those children who are at pre-school or at school in the childcare reference period (RL010>0 or RL020>0).

Centre-based services outside (pre-)school hours: only the hours of care before and after school should be reported. For example, a school-going child who does not go to school on Wednesday and who is cared for by a day-care centre: these hours of care shall be reported in RL040.

The services may be on the school premises or elsewhere.

Cultural and sporting activities outside school (here after school hours) such as a club, music lessons, etc. shall not be included as far as they are not used as a childcare service but rather for the child's leisure.

The hours shall be rounded to the nearest hour. If less than one hour, then one hour is coded. For children attending school in the morning and a centre in the afternoon, the hours in the centre are coded as RL030 (before/after school for school going children).

Suggested question:

During a usual week how many hours does your child spend at a centre - based child service outside school hours (before and/or after school even if it is at the school)?

RL040: CHILDCARE AT DAY-CARE CENTRE

Topic and detailed topic: Living conditions, including material deprivation, housing, living environment, access to services / Childcare

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members not over 12 years old (age at the date of interview)

Reference period: A typical week

Mode of collection: Household respondent or registers

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

0–99 Number of hours of education during a typical week

FLAGS

1	Collected via survey/interview
2	Collected from administrative data
3	Imputed
4	Not possible to establish a source
-1	Missing
-2	Not applicable (person is more than 12 years old)

DESCRIPTION

RL040 includes all kind of care organised/controlled by a structure (public, private). This means that the parents and the carer are not the only persons involved in the care, that there are no direct arrangements between the carer and the parents in the sense that there is an organised structure between them (which is often the carer's employers). For example, a centred-base day care, organised family day care, a crèche, The place of the care can be a centre or the carer's home (e.g. organised family care).

This should also include the qualified childminders organised and controlled by a structure, even if they are directly paid by the parents, like the 'assistante maternelle' in France.

These kinds of care are often delivered within the social welfare system especially for children under the age of three. RL040 corresponds to the care for children too young to be at school (or at pre-school) but also for children attending school (pre-school) and cared for a day per week when school is closed.

The care can be full time or part time, even for few hours.

Cultural and sporting activities (such as a club) shall not be included in as far as they are not used as a childcare service but instead for the child's leisure.

Special day-care for children with special needs is included.

Suggested question:

During a usual week how many hours does your child spend at a day-care centre (text. a crèche)?

RL050: CHILDCARE BY A PROFESSIONAL CHILD-MINDER AT CHILD'S HOME OR AT CHILD-MINDER'S HOME

Topic and detailed topic: Living conditions, including material deprivation, housing, living environment, access to services / Childcare

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members not over 12 years old (age at the date of interview)

Reference period: A typical week

Mode of collection: Household respondent

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

0–99 Number of hours of education during a typical week

FLAGS

1	Filled
-1	Missing
-2	Not applicable (person is more than 12 years old)

DESCRIPTION

In **RL050** there are direct arrangements between the carer and the parents; there is no structure which organises or controls the care. Parents are often employers, pay the carer directly, but furthermore there are no controls over the qualification of the childminder by an organised structure. "Professional" childminder shall be understood as a person for whom looking after the child represents a job of work or paid activity. The term "professional" does not content a notion of qualification or of quality of the care.

Babysitters and "au pairs" are also included here.

The care can be at the child's home or at the childminder's home.

RL060: RL060 refers to unpaid care (free or informal arrangements such as exchange of services).

Difference between RL050 and RL060: RL050 globally refers to paid care (with rare exceptions, e.g. "au pairs" are not always paid with money but paid in kind, if the parents receive benefits which cover the amount of the care, the care is considered here as a paid care) whereas RL060 refers to unpaid care (free or exchange of services).

Example: if a neighbour or a friend is the carer and if he is paid for that, then the number of hours of care shall be reported in RL050.

The care can be at the child's home or at the relative, friend or neighbour's home.

Children up to 12 years old at the day of interview.

If more than 99 hours, the code used is 99. The hours shall be rounded to the nearest hour. If the child spends less than one hour in childcare, then one hour should be recorded.

Children stay over at pre-school and primary school during the lunch time: If during the lunch time, children are usually cared for by their mother or father at the school place (or elsewhere), these hours are not counted in the variables of childcare since their parents are present.

If during lunch time they are usually cared for by other parents at the school place (or elsewhere), these should be classified in RL060 (if parents not paid).

If during lunch time they are usually cared for by somebody belonging to the school organisation (e.g. canteen), the hours are classified in RL010/RL020.

If during lunch time they are usually cared for by a nanny, grandmother,..., they should be classified in the other variables (RL040-050-060) depending on the usual carer.

School transportation: The time spent on "school transportation" should be included in RL010/RL020 if someone belonging to the school organisation is taking care of the children during school transportation.

If children are usually cared for by a nanny, grandmother,..., during "school transportation" they should be classified in the other variables (RL040-050-060) depending on the usual carer.

Suggested question:

During a usual week how many hours is your child cared for by a paid child-minder/baby-sitter/friends or relatives (can be at your or at the child-minder's home)?

RL060: CHILDCARE BY GRAND-PARENTS, HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS OTHER THAN PARENTS, OTHER RELATIVES, FRIENDS OR NEIGHBOURS

Topic and detailed topic: Living conditions, including material deprivation, housing, living environment, access to services / Childcare

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members not over 12 years old (age at the date of interview)

Reference period: A typical week

Mode of collection: Household respondent

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

0–99 Number of hours of education during a typical week

FLAGS

1	Filled
-1	Missing
-2	Not applicable (person is more than 12 years old)

DESCRIPTION

RL060 refers to unpaid care (free or informal arrangements such as exchange of services).

In **RL050** there are direct arrangements between the carer and the parents; there is no structure which organises or controls the care. Parents are often employers, pay the carer directly, but furthermore there are no controls over the qualification of the childminder by an organised structure. "Professional" childminder shall be understood as a person for whom looking after the child represents a job of work or paid activity. The term "professional" does not content a notion of qualification or of quality of the care.

Babysitters and "au pairs" are also included here.

The care can be at the child's home or at the childminder's home.

Difference between RL050 and RL060: RL050 globally refers to paid care (with rare exceptions; e.g. "au pairs" are not always paid with money but paid in kind, if the parents receive benefits which cover the amount of the care, the care is considered here as a paid care) whereas RL060 refers to unpaid care (free or exchange of services).

Example: if a neighbour or a friend is the carer and if he is paid for that, then the number of hours of care shall be reported in RL050.

The care can be at the child's home or at the relative, friend or neighbour's home.

Children up to 12 years old at the day of interview.

If more than 99 hours, the code used is 99. The hours shall be rounded to the nearest hour. If the child spends less than one hour in childcare, then one hour should be coded.

Children stay over at pre-school and primary school during the lunch time: If during the lunch time, children are usually cared for by their mother or father at the school place (or elsewhere), these hours are not counted in the variables of childcare since their parents are present.

If during lunch time they are usually cared for by other parents at the school place (or elsewhere), these should be classified in RL060 (if parents not paid).

If during lunch time they are usually cared for by somebody belonging to the school organisation (e.g. canteen), the hours are classified in RL010/RL020.

If during lunch time they are usually cared for by a nanny, grandmother,..., they should be classified in the other variables (RL040-050-060) depending on the usual carer.

School transportation: The time spent on "school transportation" should be included in RL010/RL020 if someone belonging to the school organisation is taking care of the children during school transportation.

If children are usually cared for by a nanny, grandmother,..., during "school transportation" they should be

classified in the other variables (RL040-050-060) depending on the usual carer.

Suggested question:

During a usual week how many hours is your child cared for by someone without a payment?

RL070: CHILDRENS' CROSS-SECTIONAL WEIGHT FOR CHILDCARE

Topic and detailed topic: Technical items / Weights

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members not over 12 years old (age at the date of interview)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Constructed

In use (period): Yes, since the first year of EU-SILC data collection

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

0+ (format 2.5) Weight

FLAGS

- 1 Filled
- 2 Not applicable (person aged more than 12 years old at the date of interview)
- 7 Not applicable (RB010 ≠ last year of operation)

DESCRIPTION

In the EU-SILC, in addition to the four usual types of units involved which are "household", "household member", "household member 16+" and "selected respondent", "child" is another type of unit that needs to be considered for childcare data.

The personal cross-sectional weight (applicable to all household members, of all ages (target variable RB050) may be used for the childcare data. However, the calculation of this weight probably does not take into account external control age-distributions for children aged 12 and under. In order to ensure a correct distribution for children by age, it may be better to calculate specific cross-sectional weights for children⁴⁸.

The proposal IS NOT to scale and calculate new weights for children taking into account non-response, household and individual variables, region, children ages...etc.

The proposal is to adjust the distribution of children for each year of age. This involves the adjustment of personal cross-sectional weights so as to make the distribution, according to age characteristics, of the children covered in the sample tally with the same information from a more reliable external source (age distribution of children aged 0 to 12 in private households).

D_n = children aged n at the day of interview ($n=0$ to 12)⁴⁹

Children's cross-sectional weight for D_n ($n=0$ to 12): $w_i = w'_i * N'_n / N_n$

w'_i = personal cross-sectional weight for the child ' i '

N'_n = sum of personal cross-sectional weights for children aged n at the day of interview in the database

N_n = number of children in the demographic population aged n at the 31/12/N-1 (estimated from external source)

(Children at the end of income reference period).

Notes:

The sum of children's cross-sectional weights will correspond to the estimation of the number of children in the population.

The sample size of children will be checked before childcare data are published.

⁽⁴⁸⁾ This will also enlarge the possibilities for analysis of the detailed data on childcare (estimate total numbers of children cared for, global proportions among all children ...).

⁽⁴⁹⁾ Note for 0 year old: this includes children born in year N-1. Children born in year N are excluded (aged (-1) at the 31/12/N-1; difficult to take them into account to ensure comparable data between countries because of differences in the dates of the surveys in year N).



RG_Z#: GRID

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Household composition

Variable type: Annual

Unit: All current household members (of any age)

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent or registers

In use (period): 2019, from 2021 annually

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

- 10 Partner (low level)
- 11 Husband/wife/civil partner (high level)
- 12 Partner/cohabitee (high level)
- 20 Son/daughter (low level)
- 21 Natural/Adopted son/daughter (high level)
- 22 Step-son/step-daughter (high level)
- 30 Son-in-law/daughter-in-law (low; high level)
- 40 Grandchild (low; high level)
- 50 Parent (low level)
- 51 Natural/adoptive parent (high level)
- 52 Step-parent (high level)
- 60 Parent in law (low; high level)
- 70 Grandparent (low; high level)
- 80 Brother/Sister (low level)
- 81 Natural brother/sister (high level)
- 82 Step-brother/Sister (high level)
- 90 Other relative (low; high level)
- 95 Other non-relative (low; high level)

Household grid	Level of detail	
	Low level	High level
Partner	✓	
Husband/wife/civil partner		✓
Partner/cohabitee		✓
Son/daughter	✓	
Natural/adopted son/daughter		✓
Stepson/stepdaughter		✓
Son/daughter-in-law	✓	✓
Grand-child	✓	✓
Parent	✓	
Natural/adoptive parent		✓
Stepparent		✓
Parent-in-law	✓	✓
Grand-parent	✓	✓
Brother/sister	✓	
Natural brother/sister		✓
Step brother/sister		✓
Other relative¹	✓	✓
Other non-relative²	✓	✓
Not stated	✓	✓

1) For example: cousin; aunt/uncle; niece/nephew; grand-child-in-law; grand-parent-in-law; brother/sister-in-law

2) For example: employee; employer; lodger/boarder/tenant; landlord/landlady

FLAGS

- 1 Collected via survey/interview
- 2 Collected from administrative data
- 3 Imputed
- 4 Not possible to establish a main source
- 1 Missing
- 2 Not applicable (one person household or relationship with him/herself in the matrix)
- 4 Not applicable (Number of household members less than maximum of RB032 in country level)
- 5 Not applicable (information is already provided in the symmetrical part of grid and can be derived from there)
- 7 Not applicable (RB010 < 2021)

DESCRIPTION

The variable collects information about the composition of private households and the intra-household relationships between the household members.

The household grid is a matrix in which each row and column corresponds to one member of the household, and where the relationship between the members is indicated by the standard categories in the cells where the row and column of the respective members are crossed. The matrix representation of the data allows a variety of information for dissemination and research purposes, including the intra-household relationships, household type, household size, partner relationships between household members (legal or de facto), and (together with the variable 'age') the composition of the household by age. The matrix being symmetric (e.g. if member 1 is son of member 2 then member 2 is father/mother of member 1) and the diagonal (that relates each member with himself/herself) being neutralised, information for only one half of the matrix (minus the diagonal) needs to be available in order to provide the full information. In practice however, collecting the full set of relations might be easier and avoid errors.

Definitions of relationships:

10. Partner

A 'partner' can be defined according to the legal or de facto partnership/relationship status.

11. A 'husband/wife/civil partner' is identified according to the legal marital status, i.e. the (legal) conjugal status of each individual in relation to the marriage laws (or customs) of the country (i.e. de jure status), including civil partners. Members of same sex couples can be 'husband/wife/civil partner' if the marriage laws (or customs) of the country foresee this.

12. 'Partner/cohabitee' is identified according to the de facto relationship, i.e. the partnership/relationship status of each individual in terms of his or her actual living arrangements within the household.

20. Son/daughter

21. 'Natural/adopted son/daughter' or 'stepson/stepdaughter' refers to a natural (biological), adopted or step member of the family (regardless of age or partnership/relationship status) who has usual residence in the household of at least one of the parents.

'Adoption' means taking and treating a biological child of other parents as one's own in so far as provided by the laws of the country. By means of a judicial process, whether related or not to the adopter, the adopted child acquires the rights and status of a biological child born to the adopting parents.

22. 'Stepson/stepdaughter': a step-parent treats the child of his/her partner as one's own in so far as provided by the laws of the country, without adopting it.

30. 'Son/daughter-in-law' is a person who is the legal or the de facto partner of one's child.

40. 'Grand-child' means a child of ones' child including natural, adopted and step child.

50. Parents. The definition of 'parent' is the counterpart of the definitions for 'son/daughter' as provided under point 2.

60. A 'parent-in-law' is a person who is a parent of one's legal or de facto partner.

70. 'Grand-parent' means a parent of one's parent including natural, adoptive and stepparent.

80. 'Brother/sister' refers to biological, adoptive or stepbrothers or stepsisters.

90. 'Other relative' refers to other relatives (not included in the list outlined above) such as cousin, aunt/uncle, niece/nephew etc. and also covers grand-child-in-law, grand-parent-in-law and brother/sister-in-law.

95. 'Other non-relative' refers to non-relatives, such as au-pairs, cohabitating friends or students, employer, lodger/boarder/tenant, landlord/landlady, etc.. Foster children are also to be included in this category.

In accordance with the standardised variables, household grid should be transmitted to Eurostat in at least low level. However, Member States have the possibility of collecting and transmitting the information also on high level of detail or as a mix (e.g. collect information on type or relationship 11, 12 in high level of detail and the remaining information in low level of detail).

Example how household grid could be collected:

Line No	Name	Relationship matrix													
		OF	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	...	22

In the example above:

in row 6 column 5 the relationship of Lucy to Alice, should be recorded.

The information collected as recommended above should be transmitted in the following way (Below is example of two separate households (household 1 and households 2), 1 with 6 members and 1 with 3 members):

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1	20002003	3	20	20						
1	20002004	4	20	20	80					
1	20002101	5	20	20	80	80				
1	20002006	6	50	60	70	70	70			
2	1230001	1								
2	1230002	2	10							
2	1230003	3	20	20						

Z in the code RG_Z is a sequential number of the person in the household (=RB032). In the R-file, when transmitting household grid, should be the same length for all countries and the number of columns should be equal to the maximum number of household members within the EU-SILC file considering all countries (maximal value of the variable RB032 in the EU-SILC). It is equal to 22 for all countries, while the number of the household members in a country can be different but lower than 22. If the maximum number of members is 10 in one country, the information should be filled in till RG_Z=10 while for the other fields RG_Z [11 to 22], the value should be empty and the flag -4 should be used (Please see the example below on the flag matrix).

RG_Z have the filled flag '-2 Not applicable' when RB032 is equal with one (one person household) or the relationship with him/herself is to be given (diagonal of the matrix).

Example of the flag matrix

Household	Rb030	RB032_F	RG_1_F	RG_2_F	RG_3_F	RG_4_F	RG_5_F	RG_6_F	RG_20_F	RG_21_F	RG_22_F
1	20002001	1	-2	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5		-4	-4	-4
1	20002002	2	1	-2	-5	-5	-5	-5		-4	-4	-4
1	20002003	3	1	1	-2	-5	-5	-5		-4	-4	-4
1	20002004	4	1	1	1	-2	-5	-5		-4	-4	-4
1	20002101	5	1	1	1	1	-2	-5		-4	-4	-4
1	20002006	6	1	1	1	1	1	-2		-4	-4	-4
2	1230001	1	-2	-5	-5	-4	-4	-4		-4	-4	-4
2	1230002	2	1	-2	-5	-4	-4	-4		-4	-4	-4
2	1230003	3	1	1	-2	-4	-4	-4		-4	-4	-4