

HS040: CAPACITY TO AFFORD PAYING FOR ONE WEEK ANNUAL HOLIDAY AWAY FROM HOME

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

Variable type: Annual

Unit: Household

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent

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

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

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

FLAGS

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

DESCRIPTION

This question focuses mainly on **the affordability** of some aspects of living standards. The wording of the question refers to the affordability and to the actual meaning 'ability to pay' i.e. 'the household has the resources to afford...' regardless of whether the household wants it.

The answer is 'YES' if, according to the household respondent, the whole household can afford to go for a week's annual holiday away from home. If the household can (only) afford holidays by using its 'social network' (friends, etc.) or can afford subsidised holidays (government schemes), or its second dwelling, the answer should be 'YES'. These cases are included in this particular variable because it is not possible to specify the amount that is required for a household to have a week's holiday every year; in many cases, where the household makes use of its second dwelling for holidays or stays with friends, it could still generate cost and also, the case of subsidized holidays is in fact considered as an 'invisible' part of the household's income. Cases where the household cannot go e.g. because of 'shortage of time' are not included (the answer should be 'YES').

If at least one household member cannot afford to go for holidays, the answer should be 'NO' (e.g. in cases where parents can afford to send children to a summer camp but cannot afford to go for a holiday for themselves, or where a grown-up son or daughter can afford a holiday but other household members cannot).

Please note that in such cases where the household contains elderly members or members with health problems who have the resources to afford a week's annual holiday but for other reasons they cannot go or follow the other members of the household, the answer should be 'YES'.

'Whole household' does not mean that the members of the household have to go on holiday all together and at the same time.

If the household finances its holidays through borrowing (from bank, relatives or friends) it is considered in the same way as if the household manages to pay through its own resources.

'One week' means seven days.

Suggested question:

Can your entire household afford to go for a week's annual holiday, away from home, including stays in a second dwelling or with friends/relatives? [Note for the interviewer: 'Entire household' does not mean that the members of the household have to go on holiday all together and at the same time].



HS050: CAPACITY TO AFFORD A MEAL WITH MEAT, CHICKEN, FISH OR VEGETARIAN EQUIVALENT EVERY SECOND DAY

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

Variable type: Annual

Unit: Household

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent

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

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

1	Yes
2	No

FLAGS

1	Filled
-1	Missing

DESCRIPTION

The variable records whether, according to the household respondent, the household can afford a meal with meat, chicken or fish or equivalent vegetarian every second day, regardless if the household wants it.

If the household manages to pay through borrowing (from bank, relatives or friends) it is considered in the same way as if the household manages to pay through its own resources.

Suggested question:

Can your household afford a meal with meat, chicken, fish or vegetarian equivalent every second day?

HS060: CAPACITY TO FACE UNEXPECTED FINANCIAL EXPENSES

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

Variable type: Annual

Unit: Household

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent

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

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

1	Yes
2	No

FLAGS

1	Filled
-1	Missing

DESCRIPTION

The variable records whether, according to the household respondent, the household can face itself unexpected financial expenses.

'Own resources' means:

- Your household does not ask for financial help from anybody;
- Your account has to be debited within the required period;
- Your situation regarding potential debts is not deteriorated.

You do not pay through own resources if you pay in instalments (or by taking a loan) expenses that you previously used to pay in cash.

Required expenses: A required expense could be different across countries but examples are surgery, a funeral, major repairs in the house, replacement of durables like washing machine, car.

For the calculation of the **amount that should be filled** in the questionnaire, the national at-risk-of-poverty threshold has to be used per single consumption unit, which means it has to be used independently of the size and structure of the household. A ratio of 1/12 of the above value is used in the questionnaire. This value can be rounded but the difference between calculated value and rounded value cannot exceed 5% (for example; a calculated value of 136 can be rounded to 140 but not to 150).

The calculation for year 'n' comes from year 'n-2' EU-SILC data. For year 1 and 2, appropriate national data has to be used. A general guideline for interviewers on overdraft and credit cards should be added.

Suggested question:

Can your household afford an unexpected required expense (amount to be filled) and pay through its own resources? Yes/No

HS090: DO YOU HAVE A COMPUTER

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

Variable type: Annual

Unit: Household

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent

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

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

- 1 Yes
- 2 No, cannot afford
- 3 No, other reason

FLAGS

- 1 Filled
- 1 Missing

DESCRIPTION

The variable records whether the household has a computer or whether the household does not have a computer because it cannot afford it (enforced lack) or for other reasons. 'Enforced lack' implies that the item is something that the household would like to have, but cannot afford.

Possessing the item does not necessarily imply ownership: the item may be rented, leased, provided on loan or shared with other households in (e.g.) a complex apartment and not necessarily owned. If the item is shared between households, the answer is 'YES' if there is adequate/easy access (i.e. household can use the durable whenever it wants) and 'NO' otherwise.

In the case of a computer, the household is considered to possess it if any member possesses it.

A computer includes a portable computer or a desktop computer, but does not include machines dedicated to video games that do not have any broader functionality.

If a computer is provided ONLY for work purposes, this does not count as possessing the item.

Suggested question:

Does your household have a computer?

If you do not have a computer:

- *Would you like to have it but cannot afford it, or*
- *Do you not have one for other reasons e.g. you do not want it or need it.*

HS110: DO YOU HAVE A CAR

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

Variable type: Annual

Unit: Household

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent

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

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1 | Yes |
| 2 | No, cannot afford |
| 3 | No, other reason |

FLAGS

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

DESCRIPTION

The variable records whether the household has a car or whether the household does not have a car because it cannot afford it (enforced lack) or for other reasons. 'Enforced lack' implies that the item is something that the household would like to have, but cannot afford.

Possessing the item does not necessarily imply ownership: the item may be rented, leased, provided on loan, or shared with other households. If the item is shared between households, the answer is 'YES' if there is adequate/easy access (i.e. household can use the durable whenever it wants) and 'NO' otherwise.

In the case of owning a car, the household is considered to possess it if any member possesses it.

A company car or van which is available to the household for private use counts as possessing the item. A car or van provided ONLY for professional purposes, should not be considered as possessing the item.

Motorcycles are excluded.

Suggested question:

Does your household have a car/van for private use?

If you do not have a car/van:

(a) Would you like to have it but cannot afford it, or

(b) Do you not have one for other reasons e.g. you do not want it or need it.

HD080: REPLACING WORN-OUT FURNITURE

Topic and detailed topic: Person and household characteristics / Material deprivation

Variable type: Annual

Unit: Household

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent

In use (period): 2013 onwards³⁹

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

1	Yes
2	No, cannot afford
3	No, other reason

FLAGS

1	Filled
-1	Missing

DESCRIPTION

The aim of this variable is to collect information if the household could afford to replace furniture when needed (if they are worn out, damaged, broken or out of use) by new or second-hand furniture, not on the intention to replace them during specified reference period.

Proposed question:

Could you tell me if your household replaces furniture (bed, sofa/dresser, cupboard) when worn out or damaged?

³⁹ Part of additional variables for material deprivation on annex 2013 operation (ESS Agreement of September 2012)



HH050: ABILITY TO KEEP HOME ADEQUATELY WARM

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

Variable type: Annual

Unit: Household

Reference period: Current

Mode of collection: Household respondent

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

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

1	Yes
2	No

FLAGS

1	Filled
-1	Missing

DESCRIPTION

This question is about affordability (ability to pay) to keep the home adequately warm, regardless of whether the household actually needs to keep it adequately warm.

Suggested question is:

Can your household afford to keep its home adequately warm?