

Original survey information

Generic information	
Name of survey	<i>Encuesta de Condiciones de Vida (ECV)</i> / Survey on income and living Conditions (EU- SILC)
Institution responsible	National Statistical Office (<i>Instituto Nacional de Estadística - INE</i>) , www.ine.es
Main objective	Systematic production of Community statistics on income and living conditions, that include transversal and longitudinal data that are comparable and updated on income, the level and composition of poverty and social exclusion, on a national and European level.
Survey structure	Rotating panel survey: the sample is composed by 4 independent panel subsamples, each of which remains in the survey for four years and then is replaced by a new one. Priority is granted to the production of high-quality transversal data as regards punctuality and comparability.
Frequency	Annual (each year is denominated a survey cycle)
Survey year / Wave	2005 survey
Coverage	All private (non-group , non-institutional) households in Spain and overseas territories (Ceuta, Melilla, Canarias).
Sampling	
Sampling design	The sample is rotating, with a quarter of the sample renewed each cycle (year). Each subsample is selected using a two-stage design with first stage unit stratification is used. The first stage is formed by census sections (grouped into 6 strata according to size of municipalities within each of the 18 Autonomous Community) selected within each stratum with a probability proportional to their size, and the second stage by main family dwellings selected with equal probability (via random start systematic sampling).
Sampling frame	First stage unit: area framework formed by the relation of existing census sections used in the 2003 Municipal Register of Inhabitants. Second stage unit: list of main family dwellings in each of the sections selected.
Final sample size	The theoretical sample includes about 16,000 dwellings distributed in 2,000 census sections. The effective sample includes 13,026 interviewed households.
Collection	
Collection period	April - June 2005
Instruments and main contents	There are 3 questionnaires: - <i>Household File</i> : individual-level information for all roster persons: identifiers, survey membership status and citizenship for everyone, birth year/month, sex and main usual activity for former household members, presence in household, presence of parents/partner in household, labour force status and eligibility status for current household members, and hours in care for children aged 12 or below currently household members; - <i>Household Questionnaire</i> : household level information for all sample households: identifiers (including identification of the household respondent), characteristics of main dwelling (including dwelling type, tenure, mortgage information, imputed/actual rent, housing expenditures, housing subsidies), household equipment, subjective well-being, household economic situation (including Social Assistance income, rental income, transfers between households, wealth taxes, income received by children under 16); - <i>Individual Questionnaire</i> : individual-level information for all household members aged 16 or above on December 31st of the year prior to the interview: identifiers, activity (including current main activity and LFS, characteristics of last/current main job, other jobs, yearly calendar of activities), personal incomes in reference year (including income from dependent work, firm vehicle use, income from independent work, capital income, income from and and contributions to private - non employer-related - pension schemes, incomes from social benefits, income taxes), other personal information (including health status, access to health care, biographic information, education, work experience); in 2005 there was an additional module on intergenerational transmission of poverty.
Definitions	
Household	The private household is defined as the person or persons who occupy a main family dwelling or part of it in common and consume and/or share food or other goods on the same budget. Group households and institutions are not included in the survey.
Household head	ECV does not use the term head of household but the household respondent (person to be interviewed in the initial contact who will provide general information about the household) instead. The ideal "household respondent" is considered to be the person responsible for the dwelling (i.e. the household member whose name is on the property deed or the (sub)lease contract; in case there is more than one, the eldest); if this is not possible, it should be another adult household member who can "speak on behalf of" the household; in exceptional cases, the respondent could be a person who is not a member of the household (e.g. an offspring or close friend who is perfectly aware of the household in case of households composed by elderly or disabled persons living alone).
Data quality aspects	
Unit response rate	At the national level, the effective sample represents 82% of the theoretical one, implying that, as a consequence of the various incidents (invalid/inaccessible address, empty dwelling, absence, incapacity, refusal or no individual questionnaire) and in spite of the substitutions, 18% of the theoretical sample has been lost.
Item non-response / imputation	All items were fully imputed by the data provider. Missing income data were imputed with the use of information from the previous year if available, otherwise the sequential multivariate regression method has been used. Missing dwelling expenditure data have been imputed by calculating average expenditure components for groups of households with similar characteristics.
Weighting	The cross-sectional household weight is designed with the purposes of correcting for sample selection, correcting for unit non-response and inflating to total population size.
Labour market information	
Source	Individual interview.
Reference period	Mostly at present or last week, some information refer to the calendar year 2004.
Definition of employment	Are routed to the section about job characteristics all persons who are currently mainly working (as self-assessed by the respondent) or who did any work for pay or profit last week (or who were temporarily absent from work).
Treatment of military personnel	Conscripts are no longer existing in Spain; regular Armed Forces are considered as employed and identifiable through the occupation.
Income	
Source	Interview
Reference period	Calendar year 2004.
Unit of collection	Household level (for rental income, family/children allowances, social assistance, housing allowances, income of persons under 16, transfers between households and income from consumption of own production), and individual level (for all other incomes).
Unit of time	Monthly together with the number of mensualities for wages and social transfers, annual for all other incomes.
Restrictions	
Gross/net	Incomes are collected net of taxes and social contributions (deducted at source). End of year tax corrections are recorded separately.