

**Original survey information**

<b>Generic information</b>	
Name of survey	Survey on income and living Conditions / EU-SILC. A full description with detailed information about this survey can be found in document EU-SILC 065/04.pdf .
Institution responsible	Central Statistics Office (CSO) , www.cso.ie
Main objective	The results of SILC give a very comprehensive picture of income, living conditions and poverty throughout the European Union. The results of SILC play a central role in meeting Irish national requirements in the area of poverty, social exclusion and household income, with particular reference to the National Anti-Poverty Strategy and tax-benefit modelling. Government Departments make use of the SILC results in shaping policy, which in one way or another directly affects individual households.
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 (2nd cycle)
Coverage	All private households in Ireland; hotels, convents, monasteries, schools, barracks and all other institutions and non-private establishments are excluded; households containing one or more members of the Diplomatic Service of another country are also excluded.
<b>Sampling</b>	
Sampling design	The SILC sample was selected by stratification (from 8 areas categorised according to population density) from the 1997/2002 Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) sample. SILC has a rotating sample: a quarter of the sample is renewed each cycle. QNHS follows two-stage sampling, by first selecting a sample of Enumeration Areas (EAs) and then selecting the sample households.
Sampling frame	In the QNHS, households are selected from a complete listing of all households in the EAs compiled as part of the survey process
Final sample size	The sample includes 6,000 households.
<b>Collection</b>	
Collection period	April - November 2005
Instruments and main contents	Data were collected through CAPI interview with a unique Blaise Questionnaire structured as following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Household Admin details</i>: to be filled by the interviewer with information on the interview (address, number of visits, interview results);</li> <li>- <i>Individual details</i>: to be filled by the interviewer with the basic demographic information for each household member (including relationship to other household members);</li> <li>- <i>Under 16 Questionnaire</i>: to be filled for each household member aged less than 16 with information on education, childcare, medical insurance and incomes (educational grants and independent source of income);</li> <li>- <i>Personal Questionnaire</i>: to be filled by each household member aged 16 or over with detailed information on education, work, income and health obtained from every household member aged 16 and over.</li> <li>- <i>Household Questionnaire</i>: cover details of accommodation and facilities together with regular household expenses (mortgage repayments, etc.); this information should be supplied by the head of the household.</li> </ul>
<b>Definitions</b>	
Household	A person living alone or a group of people who live together in the same dwelling and share expenditures including the joint provision of the essentials of living. Household members include: all persons usually resident, (whether related or not to other members), resident boarders, lodgers, tenants, visitors, live-in domestic servants, au-pairs, residents absent from dwelling in the short-term (i.e. less than 6 months) (e.g. holiday, work, education) and children of household in education away from home, as long as they have no private address elsewhere, long-term absence with household ties (working away from home, in hospital, nursing home, boarding school or other institution).
Household head	EU-SILC does not use the term head of household. In stead the ideal "household respondent" is considered to be the person responsible for the dwelling (the person on whose name the dwelling is rented/bought). The instructions to the Irish interviewers explicitly mention that "the household member on line 1 [the one who should then answer the Household questionnaire] should be a household member capable of answering questions on household expenses."
<b>Data quality aspects</b>	
Unit response rate	Unit response rate is not known. There does not seem to be any partial unit non-response (when one eligible adult household member does not answer the individual questionnaire).
Item non-response / imputation	Missing values because of item non-response were imputed.
Weighting	The data provider calculated a household cross-sectional weight which corrects for sampling design, and inflates to total population.
<b>Labour market information</b>	
Source	Interview
Reference period	Mostly at present or last week, some information refer to the calendar year 2004.
Definition of employment	Persons are asked about the current main (self-perceived) activity status, as well as whether they did any work during last week. 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	Conscript service does not exist in Ireland; regular Armed Forces are considered as employed and identifiable through the occupation.
<b>Income</b>	
Source	Interview and, for Social Welfare payments of persons who gave their PPS number (i.e. about 3/4 of the adults), administrative data.
Reference period	12 months preceding the interview date (i.e. from July 2004 to June 2005).
Unit of collection	Almost exclusively individual level (the only exception being the mortgage interest supplement (or other regular payments for housing costs) from the Welfare Allowance Scheme and the Housing Benefits Package which are collected at the household level.
Unit of time	Weekly (together with the number of weeks in last 12 months) for Social Welfare payments, period covered by last/usual payment (together with number of periodicities) for cash employee income, annual for all other incomes.
Restrictions	None known.
Gross/net	All income components are recorded gross of taxes and social contributions. Taxes and contributions paid on each payment (as well as end of year tax corrections amounts) are recorded separately.