The principal objective is to facilitate the analysis and monitoring of the social and economic welfare of Australian residents in private dwellings.

Additional remarks

The full set of income variables were perturbed by the data provider.

Restrictions

The full set of income variables were perturbed by the data provider.

Labour market information

Eligibility

All persons aged 15 years and over

Employment

Persons are considered employed if, during the week before the interview:

− they worked one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (includes employees, employers and own account workers);

− they worked one hour or more, without pay, in a family business or on a family farm

− had a job, business or farm but was not at work because of holidays, sickness or other reason.

Income

Reference period

Income in SIH is collected for two reference periods, the financial year preceding the date of interview and a much shorter one centered around interview time (current income).

LIS note: only current income data was provided to LIS.

Unit of time

Several reporting periods, ranging from the whole fiscal year to the usual payment for a period close to the time of interview. All amounts disseminated in the survey were recalculated into weekly amounts.

Unit of collection

Individual level income information is collected for all persons of 15 years of age and older.

Taxes and contributions

Income was collected gross of taxes and medicare levy. Taxes and tax benefits were modelled by the data provider.

Definitions

Household

A household consists of one or more persons, at least one of whom is at least 15 years of age, usually residing in the same private dwelling. The persons in a household may or may not be related. They must live wholly within one dwelling. In the CURF, the maximum number of household members is topcoded at 6.

Household head

The SIH uses the notion of household reference person. The reference person is determined by applying the following set of criteria in the order listed: 1) the person with the highest tenure when ranked as follows: owner without a mortgage, owner with a mortgage, renter, other tenure; 2) one of the partners in a registered or de facto marriage with dependent children; 3) one of the partners in a registered or de facto marriage without dependent children; 4) a lone parent with dependent children; 5) the person with the highest income; 6) the oldest person.

Data quality aspects

Non-response error

84% of the initially selected dwellings were included as part of the final sample.

Item non-response / imputation

Imputation took place for missing records and values. Income tax, medicare levy, family tax benefit, baby bonus, pension supplement, seniors supplement and utilities allowance were modelled by the ABS.

Weighting

Final weights are calculated through an iterative procedure in which initial weights (inverse of the probability of selection) are adjusted by a calibration process to ensure that survey estimates conform to independently estimated benchmarks (numbers of persons aged 15 and over, numbers of children under age 15, numbers of households, and the value of government benefit cash transfers). The weighting factors exist both at household level and person level and the vast majority of household members have been assigned the same value as the household weight. Besides, the original survey provides 60 replicate weights per record; those were however not used by LIS.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Additional remarks</th>
<th>Some variables have had values ranged, collapsed or topcoded.</th>
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*LIS note:* LIS was provided a restricted version of basic CURF (Confidentialized Unit Record Files).