Generic information

Name of survey: Household Budget Survey / Enquête "Budget de Famille"

Responsible institution: Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques (INSEE) - www.insee.fr

Main objective: To measure the size of the main expenditure such as housing, food, health, clothing, transportation, leisure, etc., in the household budget. It is also used to take into account the new products into the consumers price index and to compare the level of living and consumption choices across different types of households.

Structure of data source: Repeated cross-sectional waves (6 waves of 8 weeks each during the collection period).

Frequency: The survey was held for the first time in 1965 and was held yearly until 1972. There has been an interruption in the collection of data between 1972 and 1978. From 1979 onwards the survey was conducted every 5 years.

Survey year / Wave: 2006

Coverage: All private households in metropolitan France; are thus excluded collective households (such as hospices, religious communities, university campuses, workers dormitories, prisons, etc.) and persons without a residence. The overseas territories and the domains (DOM) are covered by an ad hoc survey.

LIS note: the data from the overseas territories and the domains (DOM) is not included in the LIS sample.

Sampling

Sampling procedure: Simple random sampling (around 20,000 dwellings in metropolitan France were sampled) with replacement with sampling frame: 1999 Census for metropolitan France completed by the survey database of new dwellings (Base de sondage des logements neufs - BSLN) and the 1999 Census for the sample in overseas departments and territories.

Sample size: 10,240 households

Collection

Collection period: March 2005 to March 2006

Collection mode: CAPI interviews in 3 visits and self-administered diaries by the household members 15 years and over.

Description of instruments:

1. Questionnaire N. 1: information about household composition and characteristics of household members (collected for persons aged 15 or over), main and secondary dwelling expenditures, expenditures linked to lands, major restructuring works and purchase of material, transportation means;
2. Questionnaire N. 2: expenditures on durables, furniture, valuables, clothing and footwear, as well as expenditures linked to services, meals taken outside the home, transportation, leisure and culture as well as health;
3. Questionnaire N. 3: miscellaneous expenditures (insurances, debts, income taxes, banking fees, employers contributions, expenditures due to persons partially living outside the dwelling, exceptional expenditures, television fees), transfers and gifts paid to or given by the households, incomes (including income from savings, and exceptional incomes), as well as some questions concerning the household perceived financial situation;
4. Individual diary: expenditures carried out during a 14-day period as reported by each household member aged 15 or above; the individual diaries are complemented by a diary questionnaire collecting information about expenditures carried out by the household, household's opinion of the surveyed fortnight, guests received, meals taken out, domestic activities, and household own consumption.

Definitions

Household: Groups of persons (related or not) who share a common budget (i.e. who have incomes serving common household expenditures, and/or who simply benefit from those expenditures). Within the same dwelling can coexist more households if they have separate budgets.

Household head: The household head (reference person of the household) is determined by the data provider based on family composition and individual characteristics. In most cases it is the reference person of the family if there is a family, or the eldest man (where priority is given to the eldest active man). The reference person of the family is the man of the couple or the parent in single-parent families.

Data quality aspects

Non-response error: Around 40%.

Item non-response / imputation: Partial-unit non-response as well as item non-response have been fully imputed.

Weighting: The data provider calculated household level weights based on the sampling probabilities, recalibrated for unit non-response.

Labour market information

Eligibility: From 15 years old.

Employment: Two concepts of employment: i) self-defined main activity status, and ii) whether currently is working or is currently looking for a job. Reference period: interview time.

Income

Reference period: 12 months preceding the interview.

Unit of time: Mostly monthly income with the number of months for which the respective income is received; some incomes collected yearly.

Unit of collection: Mostly individual; some incomes are collected only at the household level.

Taxes and contributions: The French Household Budget Survey is a net survey (money amounts are asked net); but because in France income tax is not withheld at source but paid by annual tax return, all the amounts are net of mandatory contributions but gross of income tax.

Restrictions:

Additional remarks:

Sources: Data provider: www.insee.fr