

Original survey information, Ireland 2004

| <b>Generic information</b>       |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Name of survey                   | Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC)  |
| Responsible institution          | Central Statistics Office (CSO), Ireland; <a href="http://www.cso.ie/en/silc/abouttheeu-silc/">http://www.cso.ie/en/silc/abouttheeu-silc/</a>  |
| Main objective                   | SILC is an income survey used for research in the fields of poverty, social exclusion and household income and tax-benefit modelling. Additionally, the governments make use of the SILC results in shaping policy.  |
| Structure of data source         | The survey is a four-year rotational panel.  |
| Frequency                        | Annual.  |
| Survey year / Wave               | 2005 survey  |
| 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 procedure               | 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. The sampling frame is the Census of Population 1996 Enumeration Areas (EA).   |
| Sample size                      | The final sample included 6,085 households.  |
| <b>Collection</b>                |  |
| Collection period                | April - November 2005.   |
| Collection mode                  | Interview ( Computer Aided Personal Interviewing - CAPI)   |
| Description of instruments       | A unique Blaise Questionnaire structured as follows:<br><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. Instead, the ideal "household respondent" is considered to be the person responsible for the dwelling (the person on whose name the dwelling in 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>      |  |
| Non-response error               | --   |
| Item non-response / imputation   | The missing values due to item non-response are fully 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> |  |
| Eligibility                      | Individuals aged more than 16 years of age or those aged more than 15 years of age if there is no-one older than 16 in the household   |
| 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). Some labour market information refer to the calendar year 2004.  |
| <b>Income</b>                    |  |
| Reference period                 | 12 months preceding the interview date (i.e. from July 2004 to June 2005).   |
| 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.   |
| 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.  |
| Taxes and contributions          | 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.   |
| Restrictions                     |  |
| <b>Additional remarks</b>        |  |
|                                  |  |

Source: Data provider. Additionally, a detailed information about this survey can be found in document EU-SILC 065/04.