Original survey information, *Israel 1997*

Generic information	
Name of survey	Household Expenditure Survey / סקר הוצאות משק הבית
Responsible institution	Data producer: Central Bureau of Statistics, www.cbs.gov.il
	Data provider: National Insurance Institute of Israel, www.btl.gov.il
Main objective	The aim of the survey is to gather budget components of urban households and additional data that characterize the living standards of those households from different aspects, e.g. patterns of consumption, level and composition of nutrition, level and composition of income, housing conditions, etc. The survey is also used for market research, as a model for the prediction of consumer behavior, research on indirect tax incidence on various population groups etc. To obtain the components of household budgets and to determine the weights of each component in the "consumption basket" that is used in computing the Consumer Price Index. To provide the basis for policies set by government ministries, and for the follow-up of policy implementation.
Structure of data source	Cross-sectional, with monthly rotation of households.
Frequency	Annual since 1997.
Survey year / Wave	1997 survey.
Coverage	Households in urban localities only.
Sampling	
Sampling procedure	The principal frame for sampling was the municipal tax (Arnona) file. The sample was drawn in two stages. In the first stage, a stratified sample of localities was drawn. In the second stage -dwellings were sampled, by a random-systematic method, in each locality included in the sample. The main sample of dwellings was supplemented by samples of dwelling units in student dormitories, absorption centers, caravans and cabins and in the protected housing for the elderly. Moreover, the sample was updated during the survey year by the addition of new dwellings, which were sampled from a special frame of new building.
Sample size	The sample consists of 5230 dwellings in 127 urban localities.
Collection	
Collection period	From January 1997 through January 1998. The investigation was spread out on the whole period, to represent all weeks of the year.
Collection mode	Direct interview (face-to-face) and diaries.
Description of instruments	From each household, data were collected as follows:
	(1) A questionnaire on the composition of the household. Basic demographic and economic data for each member of the household (age, sex, country of birth, year of immigration, employment status, etc.) These data were filled out by the enumerator accordingly the answers of the investigated persons.
	(2) A biweekly diary of all daily expenses of all members of the household. The household filled in this diary.
	(3) A questionnaire on large or uncommon expenses and on income, related to the 3 or 12 months that preceded the date of the interview (in accordance with the rarity of the investigated items). These data were filled out by the enumerator accordingly the answers of the household.
Definitions	
Household	Group of persons living in the same dwelling most days of the week with a common budget for expenses and food. A household includes members who are soldiers or children studying in boarding schools.
Household head	New definition as of 1995: the economic head of household. The economic head of household is the main earner of the household; i.e. the employed person (including a member of the permanent army) who usually works the most hours per week. If there is more than one person in the household who fits the definition of head of household or if the household has no earner, the person whom the respondent considers to be head of household is defined as the head of household. Note: the head of household is aged 18+ (except in households consisting solely of persons aged 15-17, and households where the only employed person is aged 15-17).
Data quality aspects	
Non-response error	About 10% of the sampled dwellings were unoccupied (empty, served for commercial purposes, etc.) or were occupied by tenants who did not belong to the survey population (tourists, diplomats, etc.) In the remaining dwellings there were 6990 households that were destined for investigation. From these, 5677 households participated in the survey, which were 82% of those that were intended for investigation; thereof, 5230 were urban households and those were used for the survey. The main reasons for non-participation were refusals, dropouts and absence.
Item non-response / imputation	Direct taxes imposed on current income-Income Tax, National Insurance and State health Insurance payments were computed routinely according to taxation tables.
Weighting	--
Labour market information	
Eligibility	Each household member aged 15 or over.
Definition of employment	The employed comprise persons who worked at least one hour in the last three-month period.
Income	
Reference period	Three-month period preceding the interview.
Unit of time	Monthly amounts.
Unit of collection	Household for all income sources (plus individual incomes for income from employed work, self-employed work and work related pensions).
Taxes and contributions	Amounts are collected gross of taxes and contributions, and income taxes and social security contributions were imputed.
Restrictions	--
Additional remarks	
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Source: [1] Data provider; [2] *Ad hoc* documentation prepared by the National Insurance Institute (NII) of Israel.