

Statistics Norway
Division for Social Welfare Statistics
Oslo, December 2010

INTERMEDIATE QUALITY REPORT

EU-SILC-2009

Norway

Table of contents INTERMEDIATE QUALITY REPORT	1
EU-SILC-2009	1
Norway	1
Table of contents	2
1. Common cross-sectional European Union Indicators	3
1.1 Common cross-sectional European Union indicators based on the cross sectional component of EU-SILC	3
1.2. Secondary Laeken indicators of social cohesion	5
1.3. Other indicators	6
1.3.1 Equivalised disposable income	6
1.3.2 The gender pay gap	6
2.0 Accuracy	6
2.1 Sampling design	6
2.1.1 Type of sampling	6
2.1.2 Sampling units	6
2.1.3 Stratification and sub-stratification criteria	6
2.1.4 Sample size and allocation criteria	7
2.1.5 Sample selection schemes	7
2.1.6 Sample distribution over time	7
2.1.7 Renewal of sample: Rotational groups	7
2.1.8. Weightings	8
2.2 Sampling errors	8
2.2.1. Standard errors and effective sample size	8
2.3 Non-sampling errors	12
2.3.1 Sampling frame and coverage errors	12
2.3.2 Measurement and processing errors	12
2.3.3 Non-response errors	17
2.4 Mode of data collection	24
2.5 Interview duration	24
3. Comparability	25
3.1 Basic concepts and definitions	25
3.3. Components of income	26
3.3.1 Differences between the national definitions and standard EU-SILC definitions, and an assessment of the consequences of the differences mentioned in respect to target variables.	26
3.3.2 Comparison between the national definition of income and standard EU-SILC definition	30
3.2.3. The source used for the collection of income variables	31
3.2.4. The form in which income variables at component level have been obtained	31
3.2.5. The method used for obtaining income target variables in the required form (i.e. as gross values)	32
4. COHERENCE	32
4.1. Comparison of income target variables and number of persons who receive income from each 'income component', with external sources	32

1. Common cross-sectional European Union Indicators

Indicators are calculated by using the SAS-programs developed by Eurostat, available at the CIRCA website.

1.1 Common cross-sectional European Union indicators based on the cross sectional component of EU-SILC

Table 1.1. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers by age and gender, 2009. Percent. [OV-1a]

	Sex	2008	2009
Total	Total	11	11
	Male	10	10
	Female	13	13
0-17 years	Total	10	11
18-64 years	Total	11	11
	Male	11	10
	Female	12	11
65 years and over	Total	15	13
	Male	7	4
	Female	22	19

Table 1.2. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers by most frequent activity status and gender, 2009. Percent. [SI-S1c]

	Sex	2008	2009
Employment	Total	5	6
	Male	6	6
	Female	5	6
Non employment	Total	22	23
	Male	18	20
	Female	25	26
Unemployment	Total	40	39
	Male	51	41
	Female	32	37
Retired	Total	14	14
	Male	7	5
	Female	19	21
Inactive population – Other	Total	40	32
	Male	45	35
	Female	38	30

Table 1.3. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers by household type, 2009. Percent. [SI-S1a]

	2008	2009
Total	11	11
Households without dependent children	15	13
One adult younger than 64 years	28	25
One adult older than 65 years	32	30
Single female	35	32
Single male	23	22
Two adults younger than 65 years	6	6
Two adults, at least one aged 65 years and over	3	2
Three or more adults	7	6
Households with dependent children	8	9
Single parent with dependent children	21	28
Two adults with one dependent child	5	5
Two adults with two dependent children	4	3
Two adults with three or more dependent children	9	10
Three or more adults with dependent children	9	13

Table 1.4. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers by tenure status and gender and selected age groups, 2009. Percent. [SI-S1d]

Age	Sex	Tenure status	2008	2009
Total	Total	Owner	6	6
		Rent	38	40
	Male	Owner	5	5
		Rent	34	36
	Female	Owner	7	7
		Rent	41	43
0-17 years	Total	Owner	6	6
		Rent	34	44
18-64 years	Total	Owner	5	4
		Rent	39	40
	Male	Owner	5	4
		Rent	35	37
	Female	Owner	5	5
		Rent	44	44
65 years and over	Total	Owner	12	10
		Rent	32	25
	Male	Owner	5	4
		Rent	26	13
	Female	Owner	17	15
		Rent	36	33

Table 1.5. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers by work intensity in the household, 2009. Percent. [SI-S1b]

	Work intensity	2008	2009
Households without dependent children	Maxwork	5	5
	Somework	15	11
	Nonework	26	29

Households with dependent children	Maxwork	4	5
	Some ge 05	12	14
	Some lt 05	38	40
	Nonework	36	57

Table 1.6. At-risk-of-poverty thresholds in Euro, 2009. [SI-P1]

	2008	2009
Single person	19 089	20 332
Two adults with two children younger than 14 years	40 086	42 697

Table 1.7. Inequality of income distribution S80/20 ratio. 2009. [SI-C1]

	2008	2009
S80/S20	3.7	3,4

Table 1.8. Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap broken down by age and gender. 2009. Percent. [OV-1b]

	Sex	2008	2009
Total	Total	22	20
	Male	25	25
	Female	20	18
0-17 years	Total	20	18
18-64 years	Total	32	28
	Male	32	30
	Female	31	26
65 years and over	Total	13	10
	Male	12	9
	Female	13	10

Table 1.9. Inequality of income distribution Gini coefficient. 2009. [SI-C2]

	2008	2009
GINI	25	24

1.2. Secondary Laeken indicators of social cohesion

Table 1.9 Dispersion around at-risk-of-poverty thresholds. 2009. Percent. [SI-S1e]

	Sex	2008	2009
40 %	Total	4	4
	Male	4	4
	Female	4	4
50 %	Total	7	6
	Male	6	6
	Female	7	7
70 %	Total	17	18
	Male	15	16
	Female	19	20

Table 1.10. At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers by age and gender, 2009. Percent. [SI-C6]

	Sex	2008	2009
Total	Total	26	25

	Male	24	23
	Female	27	27
0-17 years	Total	28	28
18-64 years	Total	25	24
	Male	23	23
	Female	27	26
65 years and over	Total	24	22
	Male	17	13
	Female	30	28

1.3. Other indicators

1.3.1 Equivalised disposable income

The equivalised disposable income is based on other sources than EU-SILC

1.3.2 The gender pay gap

The gender pay gap is based on other national sources than EU-SILC.

2.0 Accuracy

2.1 Sampling design

2.1.1 Type of sampling

Up until 2008, the sample for EU-SILC in Norway was composed of an old sample for a longitudinal survey established in 1997, and a new sample with a different design in 2003 (see quality report for 2007). From 2008 on, the sample is selected only according to the new design because all respondent from the old sample were rotated out.

The sample in 2009 is now according to the rules for systematic random sampling in one stage. The systematic element stems from the stratification (see 2.1.3) and arrangement of the population register.

2.1.2 Sampling units

The sample units are persons aged 16 years or more registered in the central population register (inhabitants).

2.1.3 Stratification and sub-stratification criteria

The primary stratification criterion for the period 2003-2006 was age. The design chosen implicated that age was the central criterion for representativity. The sample was drawn as a proportion p of the population within one-year groups. Based on experience from analysing cross sectional EU-SILC data from 2003 to 2006, this way of stratification was problematic because the rotational groups were biased. In 2007, the representativity based on one-year age groups was abandoned, and the new rotational groups are drawn as the proportion p of the population 16 years and over. In addition, each existing rotational group is then supplemented with new 16 year olds and new immigrants to ensure representativity. The same system as in 2008 has been used in 2009.

The sample is drawn from the population register, and this register is arranged to ensure geographical representativity. This is done by municipality and postal codes. As in the old part of the sample, the register is arranged by family number and personal code within the family before the actual selection of units.

2.1.4 Sample size and allocation criteria

The selected sample size set to meet demands for minimum effective sample size of both the cross-sectional and the longitudinal survey over time is 8 500 persons at the start of the EU-SILC project in 2003, each representing one separate household.

In 2003 8 500 persons constituted a proportion $p \approx 0,0024$ of the total population (inhabitants aged 16 years or more). This proportion is meant to be identical each year of the survey, and thus the size of the gross sample will change according to changes in the population. The 2009 sample consists of 9 169 persons 16 years and over. During the field period, 247 of these proved to be non-eligible (either dead or emigrated), thus giving a gross sample of 8 922 persons. We succeeded in interviewing 5 456 of these (net sample), a response rate of 61,2 percent. 5 430 interviews were accepted in the datafile.

In all households interviewed there were 10 620 persons aged 16 years or more. The minimum sample size set by Eurostat for the cross sectional components was 3 750 households and 6 250 persons. The effective sample size is: Net sample / design effect for equivalent income. The design effect for equivalent income is estimated to be 1,039. In the Norwegian 2008 survey this gives an achieved effective sample size of 5 226 households and 10 221 persons.

The selected sample size by rotational groups, referring to selected respondent (household), can be seen in table 2.1 below.

Table 2.1 DB075: Rotation group

Rotation group	Frequency
1 = 2004-2011	1 148
2 = 2005-2012	1 120
3 = 2006-2013	1 067
4 = 2007-2014	1 154
5 = 2008-2015	1 086
6 = 2009-2016	1 330
7 = 1997-2009	1 129
8 = 2003-2010	1 135

2.1.5 Sample selection schemes

As mentioned, the sample for the Norwegian EU-SILC before 2007 consisted of an existing sample for a longitudinal and a new sample selected according to a new design. For information on the old selection schemes, see previous intermediate quality reports.

Deleting rotational groups and adding new rotational groups and supplementing the sample resulted in a sample in 2009 of 9 169 persons (before subtracting non-eligibles).

2.1.6 Sample distribution over time

To make the data collection effective, and to ensure a highest possible response rate among the new respondents in the sample, the sample was divided into four periodical groups with different start of the interviewing but similar end of interviewing. Interviewing of all groups ended 26 August 2009.

2.1.7 Renewal of sample: Rotational groups

In the Norwegian design, each selected respondent (sample unit) is part of the sample in eight years. Each year 1/8 of the sample will be replaced. In a period of transition from the old to the new design in the 2003-2007 period, some respondents in the old sample belonged to the sample for eleven years, while some belonged for only six years. Following the new routine for new rotational groups from

2007 on, with supplementation of 16 year olds and immigrants in the existing rotational groups, some selected respondents will belong to the sample in from 7 years to 1 year.
New entries in 2009 are coded with DB075 = 6

2.1.8. Weightings

2.1.8.1. Design factor

In the sample persons aged 16 years and over are selected. Hence the probability of selecting a household is equal to the number of persons aged 16 and over in the household. The design factor for households and for all household members is the inverse of the number of adult household members.

2.1.8.2. Non-response adjustments

PB060: Personal cross-sectional weight for selected respondent

The probability of selection is the same for all selected respondents. Weights are only calculated to take into account non-response. Results are not calibrated to external sources.

Weights are calculated by stratifying the gross sample according to information in registers on sex, age, education and family size. There are five categories of age: 16-24 years, 25-44 years, 45-66 years 67-79 years and 80 years and over. There are five categories of education: lower secondary and lower; upper secondary; post-secondary but non-tertiary; tertiary; missing information. There are also five categories for family size: 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 and more persons. The weights are then calculated as 'gross sample n / net sample n' in each stratum.

DB090: Household cross-sectional weight

This is constructed as the household design weight (DB080) times the personal cross-sectional weight for the selected person (PB060).

The household design weight is the inverse of the number of persons 16 years and older in the household (age is age per 31.12.2008).

RB050: Personal cross-sectional weight

RB050 is equal to DB090.

PB040: Personal cross-sectional weight for all household members aged 16 and over

PB040 is equal to DB090.

RL070: Children cross-sectional weight

The weights are calculated as the number of children in each one-year group (0-12 years) in the population divided by the number of children in one-year groups in the households interviewed.

2.1.8.3. Adjustments to external data

No adjustments are made, except for children's weights.

2.1.8.4. Final cross-sectional weight

See 2.1.8.2

2.1.9. Substitutions

There are no substitutions in EU-SILC Norway.

2.2 Sampling errors

2.2.1. Standard errors and effective sample size

Effective sample size is also treated in 2.1.4.

Table 2.2.1. Standard errors and effective sample size for cross sectional EU-indicators based on the cross sectional component of EU-SILC. 2009

	Estimate	Standard error	Kish	N	Effective sample size
HCR, after social transfers: Age 0-15	0,103	0,0091	1,23	3 022	2 909
HCR, after social transfers: Age 16-24	0,277	0,0146	1,33	1 822	1 754
HCR, after social transfers: Age 25-49	0,095	0,0064	1,30	4 669	4 494
HCR, after social transfers: Age 50-64	0,044	0,0047	1,39	2 626	2 527
HCR, after social transfers: Age more then 64	0,126	0,0220	1,39	1 710	1 646
HCR, after social transfers: Male	0,097	0,0053	1,29	6 954	6 693
HCR, after social transfers: Female	0,127	0,0078	1,35	6 896	6 637
HCR, after social transfers: Male Age 0-15	0,101	0,0104	1,24	1 504	1 448
HCR, after social transfers: Male Age 16-24	0,240	0,0180	1,32	954	918
HCR, after social transfers: Male Age 25-49	0,089	0,0074	1,30	2 298	2 212
HCR, after social transfers: Male Age 50-64	0,055	0,0071	1,46	1 342	1 292
HCR, after social transfers: Male Age more then 64	0,050	0,0075	1,26	856	824
HCR, after social transfers: Female Age 0-15	0,104	0,0106	1,23	1 518	1 461
HCR, after social transfers: Female Age 16-24	0,316	0,0212	1,32	868	835
HCR, after social transfers: Female Age 25-49	0,101	0,0081	1,30	2 371	2 282
HCR, after social transfers: Female Age 50-64	0,034	0,0048	1,28	1 284	1 236
HCR, after social transfers: Female Age more then 64	0,187	0,0383	1,34	854	822
HCR, after social transfers: Male Age more then 16	0,095	0,0054	1,31	5 450	5 245
HCR, after social transfers: Female Age more then 16	0,133	0,0095	1,37	5 378	5 176
HCR, after social transfers: Male Age 16-64	0,105	0,0061	1,32	4 594	4 422
HCR, after social transfers: Female Age 16-64	0,118	0,0064	1,31	4 523	4 353
HCR, after social transfers: Male Age 0-64	0,104	0,0059	1,30	6 098	5 869
HCR, after social transfers: Female Age 0-64	0,114	0,0065	1,29	6 042	5 815
HCR, after social transfers: One person hh under 65 years	0,262	0,0153	1,07	906	872
HCR, after social transfers: One person hh 65 years and over	0,294	0,0564	1,09	366	352
HCR, after social transfers: One person hh male	0,222	0,0163	1,07	672	647
HCR, after social transfers: One person hh female	0,324	0,0384	1,08	600	577
HCR, after social transfers: One person hh total	0,272	0,0208	1,08	1 272	1 224
HCR, after social transfers: 2 adults, nodependant children, both adults under 65 years	0,065	0,0096	1,08	2 251	2 167
HCR, after social transfers: 2 adults, nodependant children, at least one adult 65 years or	0,024	0,0045	1,05	1 472	1 417
HCR, after social transfers: Other hh withoutdependant children	0,052	0,0091	1,08	1 237	1 191
HCR, after social transfers: Single parent hh, one or more dependant children	0,262	0,0319	1,05	483	465
HCR, after social transfers: 2 adults,	0,066	0,0110	1,19	1 283	1 235

onedependant child					
HCR, after social transfers: 2 adults, twodependant children	0,044	0,0074	1,08	2 509	2 415
HCR, after social transfers: 2 adults, three or more dependant children	0,087	0,0146	1,11	1 570	1 511
HCR, after social transfers: Other hh with dependant children	0,830	0,0738	0,79	18	17
HCR, after social transfers: Hh without dependant children	0,131	0,0087	1,34	6 232	5 998
HCR, after social transfers: Hh with dependant children	0,095	0,0082	1,23	5 863	5 643
HCR, after social transfers: Accommodation tenure status: Owner or rent free	0,058	0,0037	1,34	12 217	11 758
HCR, after social transfers: Accommodation tenure status: Tenant	0,391	0,0270	1,15	1 374	1 322
HCR, after social transfers: Main activity status: Employed	0,054	0,0038	1,31	6 628	6 379
HCR, after social transfers: Main activity status: Unemployed	0,364	0,0394	1,23	201	193
HCR, after social transfers: Main activity status: Retired	0,137	0,0248	1,39	1 486	1 430
HCR, after social transfers: Main activity status: Other inactive	0,165	0,0087	1,28	5 312	5 113
HCR, after social transfers: Main activity status: Employed, Male	0,061	0,0053	1,35	3 505	3 373
HCR, after social transfers: Main activity status: Unemployed, Male	0,297	0,0440	1,26	112	108
HCR, after social transfers: Main activity status: Retired, Male	0,059	0,0088	1,35	746	718
HCR, after social transfers: Main activity status: Other inactive, Male	0,152	0,0104	1,26	2 475	2 382
HCR, after social transfers: Main activity status: Employed, Female	0,047	0,0046	1,25	3 123	3 006
HCR, after social transfers: Main activity status: Unemployed, Female	0,450	0,0557	1,17	89	86
HCR, after social transfers: Main activity status: Retired, Female	0,200	0,0433	1,33	740	712
HCR, after social transfers: Main activity status: Other inactive, Female	0,176	0,0109	1,30	2 837	2 731
HCR, after social transfers: Work intensity: hh without dependent children, w=0	0,586	0,0628	1,11	190	183
HCR, after social transfers: Work intensity: hh without dependent children, 0<w<1	0,149	0,0206	1,15	1 164	1 120
HCR, after social transfers: Work intensity: hh without dependent children, w=1	0,051	0,0067	1,25	4 509	4 340
HCR, after social transfers: Work intensity: hh with dependent children, w=0	0,231	0,0193	1,26	1 925	1 853
HCR, after social transfers: Work intensity: hh with dependent children, 0<w<0.5	0,431	0,0531	1,20	190	183
HCR, after social transfers: Work intensity: hh with dependent children, 0.5<=w<1	0,103	0,0202	1,25	1 094	1 053
HCR, after social transfers: Work intensity: hh with dependent children, w=1	0,046	0,0048	1,36	3 023	2 910

HCR, before social transfers including pensions:Male Age 0-15	0,284	0,0173	1,15	1 504	1 448
HCR, before social transfers including pensions:Male Age 16-24	0,350	0,0186	1,25	954	918
HCR, before social transfers including pensions:Male Age 25-49	0,215	0,0106	1,22	2 298	2 212
HCR, before social transfers including pensions:Male Age 50-64	0,174	0,0118	1,27	1 342	1 292
HCR, before social transfers including pensions:Male Age more then 64	0,165	0,0133	1,10	856	824
HCR, before social transfers including pensions:Female Age 0-15	0,272	0,0161	1,15	1 518	1 461
HCR, before social transfers including pensions:Female Age 16-24	0,433	0,0227	1,23	868	835
HCR, before social transfers including pensions:Female Age 25-49	0,244	0,0112	1,20	2 371	2 282
HCR, before social transfers including pensions:Female Age 50-64	0,181	0,0114	1,19	1 284	1 236
HCR, before social transfers including pensions:Female Age more then 64	0,294	0,0184	1,24	854	822
HCR, before social transfers excluding pensions:Male Age 0-15	0,284	0,0173	1,15	1 504	1 448
HCR, before social transfers excluding pensions:Male Age 16-24	0,350	0,0186	1,25	954	918
HCR, before social transfers excluding pensions:Male Age 25-49	0,215	0,0106	1,22	2 298	2 212
HCR, before social transfers excluding pensions:Male Age 50-64	0,174	0,0118	1,27	1 342	1 292
HCR, before social transfers excluding pensions:Male Age more then 64	0,165	0,0133	1,10	856	824
HCR, before social transfers excluding pensions:Female Age 0-15	0,272	0,0161	1,15	1 518	1 461
HCR, before social transfers excluding pensions:Female Age 16-24	0,433	0,0227	1,23	868	835
HCR, before social transfers excluding pensions:Female Age 25-49	0,244	0,0112	1,20	2 371	2 282
HCR, before social transfers excluding pensions:Female Age 50-64	0,181	0,0114	1,19	1 284	1 236
HCR, before social transfers excluding pensions:Female Age more then 64	0,294	0,0184	1,24	854	822
Median equivalised disposable income	277781,304	1720,2843	1,12	13 855	13 335
At-risk-of-poverty threshold, one person hh	134938,629	3003,9782	1,05	1 272	1 224
At-risk-of-poverty threshold, hh 2 adults 2dependent children	177119,221	2150,7894	1,02	2 509	2 415
S80/S20	3,416	0,0735	1,13	13 855	13 335
Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap: Male Age0-15	0,186	0,0051	1,07	1 504	1 448
Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap: Male Age16-24	0,345	0,0300	1,17	954	918
Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap: Male Age25-49	0,255	0,0086	1,12	2 298	2 212
Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap: Male Age50-64	0,231	0,0173	1,11	1 342	1 292

Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap: Male Age more then 64	0,085	0,0394	1,06	856	824
Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap: FemaleAge 0-15	0,167	0,0383	1,07	1 518	1 461
Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap: FemaleAge 16-24	0,338	0,0151	1,18	868	835
Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap: FemaleAge 25-49	0,182	0,0168	1,10	2 371	2 282
Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap: FemaleAge 50-64	0,220	0,0112	1,10	1 284	1 236
Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap: FemaleAge more then 64	0,097	0,1193	1,13	854	822
Median income below the at-risk-of- povertythreshold	298367,884	2512,7181	1,12	13 855	13 335
HCR P.L.as 50% median	0,063	0,0037	1,32	13 855	13 335
HCR P.L.as 70% median	0,182	0,0069	1,28	13 855	13 335
HCR P.L.as 40% median	0,036	0,0027	1,34	13 855	13 335
Gini coefficient	0,238	0,0035	0,94	13 855	13 335
Mean equivalised disposable income	298367,884	1993,6623	1,02	13 855	13 335

2.3 Non-sampling errors

2.3.1 Sampling frame and coverage errors

The sampling frame is a copy of the central population register called BEBAS. This register is monthly updated with information from local population register offices. There should be no coverage errors connected to this frame, except for the extremely few cases of emigrations which are wrongly coded as non-response in stead of non-eligible because their emigration were not registered in the population register. 247 persons could not be contacted because they were living at an unknown address (see table 1, section 2.3.3.3). This is the maximum number of persons, which could be ineligible because they have emigrated.

Over-coverage due to deaths and emigration between updating of the sampling frame and the interview is almost always discovered during the fieldwork. Under-coverage due to immigration between the updating of the sampling frame and interview is small. This is partly because immigration is relatively small (roughly 65 000 in 2009), and partly because the new sampling frame is updated very frequently.

2.3.2 Measurement and processing errors

In every survey there are various sources of both measurement and processing errors. Measurement errors occur in different phases and for different reasons. These reasons can be divided into five sub-groups: Information system, setting/environment, mode of data collection, the respondent, the interview and finally the instrument. We will concentrate on the sources most likely to be found in this survey, and they are classified under respondent, the interview and the instrument.

In every survey there is a chance of respondents giving an incorrect answer. The question/answer process can be seen in four different phases. First there is the understanding and interpretation of the actual question. If there are difficult terms or complicated wording, this may cause errors. In EU-SILC, the questions regarding inter-household transfers may be subject to this kind of errors because of the understanding of inter-household transfer and the term regular. Also the question on lowest monthly income to make ends meet (HS130) seems difficult to understand for many respondents.

The second phase is where the respondent recalls information. Errors in this phase may rise if the information necessary is hard to retrieve because it is old, complicated or not available to the respondent. In EU-SILC some of the questions about housing costs are quite complicated even for the person responsible for the dwelling. This may affect the accuracy of the answers given. Apart from this, we have no suspicion of frequent errors caused by difficulties in information retrieval.

The third phase is evaluating and selecting the information necessary to answer the question. In this phase, the respondent may actually have the right kind of information to answer the question correctly, but still end up with a wrong answer. This type of error is most frequent when the question is complicated and requires much information. Typical questions from EU-SILC may be questions requiring the respondent to select different economic components necessary for a specific question. Again the questions regarding inter-household transfers may be mentioned, but also the subjective evaluation of how difficult it is "to make ends meet", where the respondent has to choose which components to include in income.

The fourth and final phase is the actual formulating of the answer. This may cause errors if the respondents mastering of the language in use is weak, if the answer requires use of complicated terms or if the communication between the interviewer and the respondent is not optimal.

Measurement errors under the label "interview" are first effects of the data collection mode. In EU-SILC, all interviews are conducted by telephone. The interview is quite short, and the questionnaire is composed to avoid questions requiring visual aids. We therefore believe that errors caused by mode are minimal.

Interviewer effects may also be labelled under errors caused by interview. The interviewers used in EU-SILC were among the approximately 150 of the ordinary interviewer staff assigned to Statistics Norway.

Approximately 130 of these interviewers are locally based interviewers who are part time employees with individual agreements ranging from 500 to 1200 hours of work per year. These interviewers are stationed in the sample areas according to the standard sampling frame. The approximately 100 centrally based interviewers are working from Statistics Norway's call centres in Oslo and Kongsvinger (where Statistics Norway has offices).

When hired, all interviewers must complete an education consisting of self-studies and written tasks in two stages. The locally based interviewers are gathered to an obligatory three-day course (for centrally based interviewers two days) before they are hired for a trial period of 6 months. Before the end of the trial period and permanent hiring, all new interviewers are given a personal follow-up talk. As part of the general follow-up and education of locally based interviewers, telephone conferences are held on occasion. The centrally based interviewers have a supervisor on each work shift, and each call-centre has a co-ordinator who also follows up the interviewers on regular basis.

The specific training for EU-SILC consists of an obligatory interview guide following the survey. This guide contains information about the survey, description of the sample, time limits (start and end) and a mentioning and instructions for some of the questions. Locally based interviewers are paid to read this instruction. In addition, they are paid a fixed price (estimated number of hours) for test interviewing before starting the actual work. In EU-SILC 2009, the estimated time destined to reading of instruction and training was 4 hours per interviewer. The centrally based interviewers are, in addition to reading the specific survey guide, given an oral presentation of the survey (briefing).

The danger of systematic interviewer effects is reduced through training, but also by using a relatively large number of interviewers.

The questionnaire may also be the cause of measurement errors. We have tried to establish a questionnaire according to the recommendations of Eurostat. In cases where EU-SILC variables and

variables which are standard in our national surveys are close, we have preferred to use the national standards which are well tested. We shall comment on these variables and other cases where there might be deviations from Eurostat standards.

HH010

The standard Norwegian question is much more detailed, but most categories are easily translated to Eurostat categories. To construct the Eurostat categories we added a question on number of apartments/flats in the building.

HH020

The Norwegian question is more detailed. However it is quite clear how to aggregate categories to construct the Eurostat categories of owners and tenants. To distinguish between tenants paying rent at or below market price we asked whether the rent that is paid is market rent (question Husleie2). To distinguish households with a rent-free accommodation we asked whether the household pay rent (question Husleie1).

HH030

Only rooms of at least 6 sqm are included. The consequences for comparability are negligible.

HH040

We have split this question in two: Rot in windows or floor and Leaking roof, damp walls or floor.

HH070

When asking about interest on mortgage the respondents can choose whether they will report the amount per year, quarter or month. There are some cases where period and amount do not correspond, or the size of the mortgage and interest does not correspond, maybe due to interviewer errors. These cases have been corrected at by evaluation of each case. In cases where structural insurance, mandatory services and charges or cost of utilities are missing, average values based on post stratification of the size of the dwelling (and dwelling type for cost of utilities) have been imputed. Tax on dwellings for owners is not taken into account in HH070.

HH090

'For the sole use of the household' is not included in the Norwegian questionnaire.

HS160

The Norwegian question asks 'not enough **daylight**'.

HY080G

The same as for HY130G applies. HY080 is calculated as a sum of information from register and from interview.

HY130G

The Norwegian question differs because it excludes alimonies to former spouse/children. Information on alimonies is taken from register. HY130 is therefore calculated as a sum of information from register and from interview.

PL030

The only difference is that the Norwegian question is only asked respondents working less than 32 hours a week. Persons working 32 hours or more a week are considered as 'carrying out a job or profession'. The interviewer reads the categories.

PL110

We ask for the name and address of the firm. Industry is coded from register information on the firm.

PL060

The question explicitly mentions that paid overtime and extra work at home shall be included.

PH020

In addition to chronic illness the question mentions 'any consequence of injury or any disability'.

PH030

This variable is built on three questions to ensure that all the information needed for the variable is of good quality.

1: ' Does this (chronic illness) lead to limitations in your daily activities'

2: ' Have these limitations lasted for at least six months'

3: ' Would you say that you are strongly limited or somewhat limited'?

PE010

This variable combines information from interview and register. A person is considered as in education if he/she is in education according to PL030 (=3) or if they are in education according to register information.

PE020

This information is taken from register. The register information is per 1 October 2008.

PE040

This information is also taken from register per 1 October 2008.

In connection with the 2003 data collection, no specific field-testing of the questionnaire was done. The questionnaire was by large the same as in the pilot survey conducted in June 2002, and our opinion was that further testing was unnecessary. Before finalising the questionnaire it was submit to a structured interviewer test, where three experienced interviewers tested by pre-defined profiles. In cases where EU-SILC variables and standard variables in our surveys are close we have used the national standards, which are well tested.

The 2009 questionnaire is similar to the 2003-2008 questionnaires, only with a few minor adjustments.

2.3.2.2. Processing errors

The data collection mode in the Norwegian EU-SILC is CATI, using the interview programme Blaise developed in the Netherlands. Data entry controls are built into the electronic questionnaire, and there is less need for post data control. Control of data in the programme is done in various ways.

First, all selections are done automatically by the programme, thus reducing the risk of errors in the selections done by interviewers. This also reduces the number of signals and checks necessary. Second, all numeric variables have absolute limits for data entry, for example when entering the number of hours worked per week it is impossible to enter numbers above 168. Thirdly, and similar, there are built inn checks (hard error) which it is impossible to override. An obvious example is that year and date of birth is checked against the date of the interview. Last there are signals (soft error) which gives a warning to the interviewer if the answer is either unlikely because it is extreme or because it does not correspond to answers given to questions asked earlier. These signals can be overridden if the answer in question is confirmed.

Examples of signals, checks and value limits for the target variables are given in table 2.2. For an overview of filters in the questionnaire we refer to the written questionnaire. No errors of any importance have been detected in the post data-collection process except some confusion on id for household members where we need to programme a wider range of signals and checks. This error only occurs for persons who are not members of the household according to the population register. For mother, father or spouse id is assigned automatically based on kinship from register.

Table 2.2 Signals, checks and value limits for target variables

Variable	Description	SIGNAL (Soft error)	CHECK (Hard error)	Value
RB070	Month of birth	AGE <= 105	DATE <= TODATE	
RB080	Year of birth	AGE <= 105	DATE <= TODATE	
RB210	Basic activity status	IF RB210=3 AND AGE < 50		
RB220	Father id		NOT RB030	
RB230	Mother id		NOT RB030	
RB240	Spouse/partner id		NOT RB030	
RL020	Education at compulsory school	NOT [10..40]		0...50
RL030/40/60	Child-care at centre-based services/day-care center/grand parents			1...50
PB130	Month of birth	AGE <= 105	DATE <= TODATE	
PB140	Year of birth	AGE <= 105	DATE <= TODATE	
PB160	Father id		NOT PB030	
PB170	Mother id		NOT PB030	
PB180	Spouse/partner id		NOT PB030	
PE030	Age completed initial education	<= 13	> AGE	12..80
PL030	Self-defined currentactivity status	IF PL030 = 4 AND AGE < 50 IF PL030 = 6 AND AGE > 30		
PL060	Number of hours usually worked per week in main job	>= 70		0..168
PL100	Total number of hours usually worked in second, third... jobs	>=40 PL100+PL060>=100		0..168
HY080G	Regular inter-household cash transfer received			0..999997
HY130G	Gross regular inter-household cash transfer paid			0..999997
HH030	Number of rooms available to household			0..50
HH031	Year of contract or purchasing or installation			1900..2004
HH060	Current rent related to occupied dwelling, if any	Monthly NOT [500..10000] Quarterly NOT [1500..30000] Yearly NOT [6000..120000]		
HH061	Subjective rent related to non-tenant paying rent at market price	>= 15000		0..99997

Professional coders at Statistics Norway, who also do the coding in the Labour force survey, do coding of occupation and industry. The coding is based on information from the interview, but also with support from registers. Industry is coded from information on the name and address of workplace. This is in most cases gathered from register (for the selected respondents) in advance of the interview. If the respondent confirms this information, no post-interview coding is necessary. Income is also gathered from register, so no editing is necessary.

2.3.3 Non-response errors

2.3.3.1 Achieved sample size

- In our database there are 5 430 households that have completed an interview that is accepted.
- In our database there are 10 620 persons who are 16 years or older and are members of households that have completed an interview that is accepted.
- In our database there are 5 430 selected respondents who are members of households that have completed an interview that is accepted.

2.3.3.2. Unit non-response

For the total sample:

RA	DB120=11	8 922	0,973
	(DB120=all)-(DB120=23)	8 985	
RH	DB135=1	5 430	0,609
	DB130=all	8 922	
RP	RB250=11+12+13	10 620	1,000
	RB245=1+2+3	10 620	

$$\text{Ra is: } \frac{8922}{9169} = 0.973$$

$$\text{Rh is: } \frac{5430}{8922} = 0.609$$

$$\text{Rp is: } \frac{10620}{10620} = 1.000$$

Individual non-response rates, NRp is: $(1-1.000)*100 = 0$

Overall individual non-response rates (*NRp) are: $(1-(\text{Ra}*\text{Rh}*\text{Rp}))*100 = 40,7$

For new entries:

RA	DB120=11	1 287	0,968
	(DB120=all)-(DB120=23)	1 330	
RH	DB135=1	771	0,599
	DB130=all	1 287	
RP	RB250=11+12+13	1 549	1,000
	RB245=1+2+3	1 549	

$$\text{Ra is: } \frac{1287}{1330} = 0.968$$

$$\text{Rh is: } \frac{771}{1287} = 0.599$$

$$\text{Rp is: } \frac{1549}{1549} = 1.000$$

Individual non-response rates, NRp is: $(1-1.000)*100 = 0$

Overall individual non-response rates (*NRp) are: $(1-(Ra*Rh*Rp))*100 = 42,02$

2.3.3.3 Distribution of household.

Table 2.3.3.3.1. Distribution of original units by record of contact at address. Total.

	Number	Percent
Total	8 985	100
Address contacted (DB120=11)	8 922	99.3
Address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	63	0.7
Total address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	63	100
Address can not be located (DB120=21)	63	100
Address unable to access (DB120=22)	-	-
Address does not exist or in non residential address or is unoccupied or not principal residence (DB120=23)	-	-

Table 2.3.3.3.1a. Distribution of original units by record of contact at address. Rotation group 1.

	Number	Percent
Total	1136	100
Address contacted (DB120=11)	1126	99,3
Address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	10	0,7
Total address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	10	100
Address can not be located (DB120=21)	10	100
Address unable to access (DB120=22)		
Address does not exist or in non residential address or is unoccupied or not principal residence (DB120=23)		

Table 2.3.3.3.1b. Distribution of original units by record of contact at address. Rotation group 2.

	Number	Percent
Total	1102	100
Address contacted (DB120=11)	1097	99,2
Address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	5	0,8
Total address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	5	100
Address can not be located (DB120=21)	5	100
Address unable to access (DB120=22)		
Address does not exist or in non residential address or is unoccupied or not principal residence (DB120=23)		

Table 2.3.3.3.1c. Distribution of original units by record of contact at address. Rotation group 3.

	Number	Percent
Total	1045	100
Address contacted (DB120=11)	1040	99,4
Address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	5	0,6
Total address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	5	100

Address can not be located (DB120=21)	5	100
Address unable to access (DB120=22)		
Address does not exist or in non residential address or is unoccupied or not principal residence (DB120=23)		

Table 2.3.3.3.1d. Distribution of original units by record of contact at address. Rotation group 4.

	Number	Percent
Total	1123	100
Address contacted (DB120=11)	1116	99,6
Address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	7	0,4
Total address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	7	100
Address can not be located (DB120=21)	7	100
Address unable to access (DB120=22)		
Address does not exist or in non residential address or is unoccupied or not principal residence (DB120=23)		

Table 2.3.3.3.1e. Distribution of original units by record of contact at address. Rotation group 5.

	Number	Percent
Total	1050	100
Address contacted (DB120=11)	1037	99,6
Address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	13	0,4
Total address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	13	100
Address can not be located (DB120=21)	13	100
Address unable to access (DB120=22)		
Address does not exist or in non residential address or is unoccupied or not principal residence (DB120=23)		

Table 2.3.3.3.1f. Distribution of original units by record of contact at address. Rotation group 6.

	Number	Percent
Total	1297	100
Address contacted (DB120=11)	1287	98,7
Address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	10	1,3
Total address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	10	100
Address can not be located (DB120=21)	10	100
Address unable to access (DB120=22)		
Address does not exist or in non residential address or is unoccupied or not principal residence (DB120=23)		

Table 2.3.3.3.1g. Distribution of original units by record of contact at address. Rotation group 7.

	Number	Percent
Total	1113	100
Address contacted (DB120=11)	1107	99,7
Address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	6	0,3
Total address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	6	100
Address can not be located (DB120=21)	6	100
Address unable to access (DB120=22)		
Address does not exist or in non residential address or is unoccupied or not principal residence (DB120=23)		

Table 2.3.3.3.1h. Distribution of original units by record of contact at address. Rotation group 8.

	Number	Percent
--	---------------	----------------

Total	1119	100
Address contacted (DB120=11)	1112	99,3
Address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	7	0,7
Total address non-contacted (DB120=21 to 23)	7	100
Address can not be located (DB120=21)	7	100
Address unable to access (DB120=22)		
Address does not exist or in non residential address or is unoccupied or not principal residence (DB120=23)		

Table 2.3.3.3.2. Distribution of address contacted by household questionnaire result and by household interview acceptance. Total

	Number	Percentage
Total	8922	100
Household questionnaire completed (DB130=11)	5456	61,2
Interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	3466	38,8
Total interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	3466	100
Refusal to co-operate (DB130=21)	2406	69,4
Entire household temporarily away for duration of fieldwork (DB130=22)	577	16,6
Household unable to respond (illness, incapacity, etc) (DB130=23)	411	11,9
Other reason	72	2,1
Household questionnaire completed (DB135=1+2)	5456	100
Interview accepted for data base (DB135=1)	5430	99,5
Interview rejected (DB135=2)	26	0,5

Table 2.3.3.3.2a. Distribution of address contacted by household questionnaire result and by household interview acceptance. Rotation group 1

	Number	Percentage
Total	1126	100
Household questionnaire completed (DB130=11)	678	60,2
Interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	448	39,8
Total interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	448	100
Refusal to co-operate (DB130=21)	324	72,3
Entire household temporarily away for duration of fieldwork (DB130=22)	71	15,8
Household unable to respond (illness, incapacity, etc) (DB130=23)	23	5,1
Other reason	6	1,3
Household questionnaire completed (DB135=1+2)	678	100
Interview accepted for data base (DB135=1)	675	99,6
Interview rejected (DB135=2)	3	0,4

Table 2.3.3.3.2b. Distribution of address contacted by household questionnaire result and by household interview acceptance. Rotation group 2

	Number	Percentage
Total	1097	100
Household questionnaire completed (DB130=11)	651	59,3
Interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	446	40,7
Total interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	446	100
Refusal to co-operate (DB130=21)	310	69,5
Entire household temporarily away for duration of fieldwork (DB130=22)	66	14,8
Household unable to respond (illness, incapacity, etc) (DB130=23)	59	13,2
Other reason	11	2,5
Household questionnaire completed (DB135=1+2)	651	100

Interview accepted for data base (DB135=1)	646	99,2
Interview rejected (DB135=2)	5	0,8

Table 2.3.3.3.2c. Distribution of address contacted by household questionnaire result and by household interview acceptance. Rotation group 3

	Number	Percentage
Total	1040	100
Household questionnaire completed (DB130=11)	622	59,8
Interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	418	40,2
Total interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	418	100
Refusal to co-operate (DB130=21)	280	67,0
Entire household temporarily away for duration of fieldwork (DB130=22)	67	16,0
Household unable to respond (illness, incapacity, etc) (DB130=23)	63	15,1
Other reason	8	1,9
Household questionnaire completed (DB135=1+2)	622	100
Interview accepted for data base (DB135=1)	617	99,2
Interview rejected (DB135=2)	5	0,8

Table 2.3.3.3.2d. Distribution of address contacted by household questionnaire result and by household interview acceptance. Rotation group 4

	Number	Percentage
Total	1116	100
Household questionnaire completed (DB130=11)	694	62,2
Interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	422	37,8
Total interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	422	100
Refusal to co-operate (DB130=21)	277	65,6
Entire household temporarily away for duration of fieldwork (DB130=22)	82	19,4
Household unable to respond (illness, incapacity, etc) (DB130=23)	47	11,1
Other reason	16	3,8
Household questionnaire completed (DB135=1+2)	694	100
Interview accepted for data base (DB135=1)	691	99,6
Interview rejected (DB135=2)	3	0,4

Table 2.3.3.3.2e. Distribution of address contacted by household questionnaire result and by household interview acceptance. Rotation group 5

	Number	Percentage
Total	1037	100
Household questionnaire completed (DB130=11)	661	63,7
Interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	376	36,3
Total interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	376	100
Refusal to co-operate (DB130=21)	259	68,9
Entire household temporarily away for duration of fieldwork (DB130=22)	71	18,9
Household unable to respond (illness, incapacity, etc) (DB130=23)	41	10,9
Other reason	5	1,3
Household questionnaire completed (DB135=1+2)	661	100
Interview accepted for data base (DB135=1)	659	99,7
Interview rejected (DB135=2)	2	0,3

Table 2.3.3.3.2f. Distribution of address contacted by household questionnaire result and by household interview acceptance. Rotation group 6

	Number	Percentage
Total	1287	100

Household questionnaire completed (DB130=11)	774	60,1
Interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	513	39,9
Total interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	513	100
Refusal to co-operate (DB130=21)	345	67,3
Entire household temporarily away for duration of fieldwork (DB130=22)	96	18,7
Household unable to respond (illness, incapacity, etc) (DB130=23)	57	11,1
Other reason	15	2,9
Household questionnaire completed (DB135=1+2)	774	100
Interview accepted for data base (DB135=1)	771	99,6
Interview rejected (DB135=2)	3	0,4

Table 2.3.3.3.2g. Distribution of address contacted by household questionnaire result and by household interview acceptance. Rotation group 7

	Number	Percentage
Total	1107	100
Household questionnaire completed (DB130=11)	690	62,3
Interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	417	37,7
Total interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	417	100
Refusal to co-operate (DB130=21)	296	71,0
Entire household temporarily away for duration of fieldwork (DB130=22)	67	16,1
Household unable to respond (illness, incapacity, etc) (DB130=23)	49	11,8
Other reason	5	1,2
Household questionnaire completed (DB135=1+2)	690	100
Interview accepted for data base (DB135=1)	687	99,6
Interview rejected (DB135=2)	3	0,4

Table 2.3.3.3.2h. Distribution of address contacted by household questionnaire result and by household interview acceptance. Rotation group 8

	Number	Percentage
Total	1112	100
Household questionnaire completed (DB130=11)	686	61,7
Interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	426	38,3
Total interview not completed (DB130=21 to 24)	426	100
Refusal to co-operate (DB130=21)	315	73,9
Entire household temporarily away for duration of fieldwork (DB130=22)	57	13,4
Household unable to respond (illness, incapacity, etc) (DB130=23)	48	11,3
Other reason	6	1,4
Household questionnaire completed (DB135=1+2)	686	100
Interview accepted for data base (DB135=1)	684	99,7
Interview rejected (DB135=2)	2	0,3

2.3.3.5 Item non-response

Table 2.3.3.5.1 Distribution of item non-response

	A	B	C
	% having received an amount	% with missing values (before imputation) ¹	% with partial information (before imputation) ³
HY010: Total household gross income		100	
HY020: Total disposable household income		100	
HY022: Total disposable household income before social transfers other than old-age and survivors benefits		100	
Gross income component at household level			
HY040G: Gross income from rental of a property of land		2,5	
HY050G: Family related allowances		39,0	
HY060G: Social assistance		3,2	
HY070G: Housing allowances		2,7	
HY080G: Regular inter-household cash transfer received		2,6	
HY090G: Gross interest dividends, profit from capital investments in unincorporated business		99,8	
HY130G: Gross regular inter-household cash transfer paid		3,8	
HY140G: Tax on income and social contributions		97,1	
Gross income component at personal level			
PY010G: Gross employee or near cash income		77,8	
PY020G: Gross non-cash employee income		53,9	
PY030G: Employer's social insurance contribution		77,8	
PY035G: Contributions to individual pensions schemes		0,5	
PY050: Gross cash benefits or losses from self-employment (including royalties)		10,0	
PY080G: Gross regular pension from private schemes (other than those covered under ESSPROS)		4,1	
PY090G: Gross unemployment benefits		2,3	
PY100G: Gross old-age benefits		18,6	
PY110G: Gross survivor benefits		0,8	
PY120G: Gross sickness benefits		20,0	
PY130G: Gross disability benefits		13,0	
PY140G: Education-related allowances		9,3	

¹ Since information on income is taken from register there are no missing values.

2.4 Mode of data collection

Table 2.4.1. Distribution of household members aged 16 and over by 'RB250'. Total

	Total	RB250 =12	RB250 =13	RB250 =21	RB250 =23	RB250 =31
Total (RB245 = 1-3)	10620	165	10455			
Percent	100	1,6	98,4			
Selected respondent (RB245 = 2)						
Total	5430		5430			
Percent	100		100			
Household members (RB245 = 3)						
Total	5190	165	5025			
Percent	100	3,2	96,8			

Table 2.4.2 Distribution of household members aged 16 and over by 'RB260'. Total.

	Total	RB260 =2	RB260 =3	RB260 =5
Total (RB245 = 1-3, where RB250 = 11 or 13)	10450	113	7718	2619
Percent	100	1,1	73,9	25,1
Selected respondent (RB245 = 2)				
Total	5430	79	5351	0
Percent	100	0,9	99,1	0
Household members (RB245 = 3)				
Total	5020	34	2367	2619
Percent	100	0,7	47,2	52,2

2.5 Interview duration

The total average interview length was approximately 23,5 minutes¹. This is somewhat less than the estimated interview length of 25 minutes. One reason the proportion of proxy interviewing in our survey. We aim to interview each single household member about their employment status, but only 28 per cent of the household members answered these questions themselves. The second reason for short interview length is of course the usage of information from preceding years of data collection to reduce the burden for the respondents. In a panel survey there may also be a "training effect", where repeated interviews have an effect on both respondents and interviewers.

¹ Average estimated by excluding all recorded interviews lasting less than 5 and more then 60 minutes. Recording of interview time may be disturbed if the interviewer either forgets to close the electronic questionnaire, or opens it after completing the interview to make corrections.

3. Comparability

3.1 Basic concepts and definitions

The reference population

The reference population is persons aged 16 years or more at December 31 2008 who are living outside an institution.

The private household definition

A private household is defined as individuals that share food, meaning that they either do not pay for their food or that they share expenses for food. The definition does not require that they eat at the same times or that they are related.

The household membership

Persons will be considered as household members if they spend most of their nights at the address of the household.

1. A spouse/cohabitant who registered at the household address but is absent from the dwelling because of work, education or conscription is still considered a member of the household. In case the spouse/cohabitant have moved from the dwelling but juridical still owns (part of) the dwelling is not considered as a member of the household.
2. Persons aged 18 years and more who are absent because of education are considered members of the household if they spend a minimum of 4 days a week at the address of the household.
3. Persons aged 17 years and younger who are absent because of education are considered as members of the household.
4. Persons temporarily absent from the dwelling for less than 6 months are not considered as permanent residents unless they do not have a private address elsewhere.
5. Persons in institutions (including children) and in private care are considered as living permanently at their place of residence if the stay exceeds 6 months. Individuals admitted to hospitals or imprisoned are considered as permanent residents where they had their last place of permanent residency.
6. Persons in conscription service are members of the household that they were members of before the conscription.

The income reference period

The income reference period is the calendar year 2008.

The period for taxes on income and social insurance contributions

The period for taxes on income and social insurance contributions is the calendar year 2008.

The reference period for taxes on wealth

The reference period for taxes on wealth is the calendar year 2008.

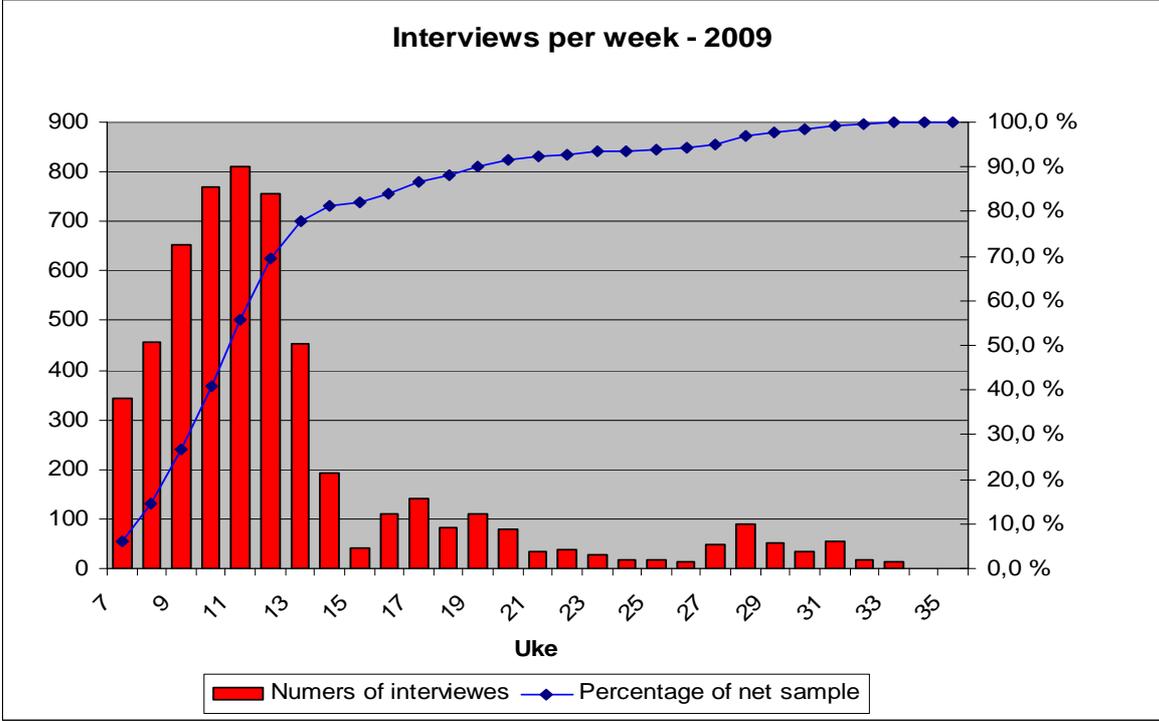
The lag between the income reference period and current variables

The income variables are collected from registers and the interval between the end of the income reference period and the time of interview for current variables is maximum 6 months

The total duration of the data collection of the sample

The interviews were carried out starting 9 February and ending 26 August. Figure 3.1 shows the number of interviews for every week of the data collection period. Poles indicating number of interviews, line indicating cumulative share of interviews. The line shows that by week 13, approximately 78 percent of the interviews were completed. The drop in number of interviews in week 15 can be explained by the Easter holidays.

Figure 3.1 Number of interviews per week



3.3. Components of income

3.3.1 Differences between the national definitions and standard EU-SILC definitions, and an assessment of the consequences of the differences mentioned in respect to target variables.

This section gives an overview of how income data from registers have been organised in order to compare with income concepts outlined in the EU-SILC guidelines. In addition references are made to any departures from these guidelines.

All income data derived from registers are recorded gross at component level. All income data are collected at the individual level (i.e. the person registered as the receiver of the income item). This also concerns typically ‘household’ related income such as housing benefits and social assistance. Register data also includes the income of children aged 13-16 years at the individual level. The income of children aged 12 and younger are, however, included in their parent’s income (e.g. interest received).

Total household gross income (HY010):

The sum of all components: HY040G + HY050G + HY060G + HY070G + HY080G + HY090G + the sum for all household members of: PY010G + PY020G + PY050G + PY090G + PY100G + PY110G + PY120G + PY130G + PY140G.

Comments: HY030G (imputed rent) is not calculated as a part of HY010. Hence HY100G (interest paid on mortgages) has not been deducted when constructing HY010.

Total disposable income (HY020):

Defined as Total gross income minus (HY130G + HY140G).

Note: HY120G (regular taxes on wealth) is included in HY140G and HY100G (interest on mortgage) has not been calculated as a part of HY020.

Total disposable household income before social transfers except old-age and survivor's benefits (HY022):

Defined as HY020 minus the sum for all household members of: (PY090N + PY120N + PY130N + PY140N) + HY050N + HY060N + HY070N.

Total disposable household income before social transfers including old-age and survivor's benefits (HY023):

Defined as HY020 minus the sum for all household members of: (PY090N + PY100N + PY110N + PY120N + PY130N + PY140N) + HY050N + HY060N + HY070N.

Imputed rent (HY030):

Imputed rent is calculated by using data from the Norwegian rental survey 2009, where 10 141 renters were interviewed about their rent. The households are post-stratified by region and dwelling size, and values are imputed according to the same method as used in the national HBS.

The regions used are Oslo (1), the county of Akershus and cities Stavanger, Bergen Trondheim and Tromsø (2), other densely populated areas with 20 000 or more inhabitants (3), other densely populated areas with 2000 – 19999 inhabitants (4), and finally other areas not included in 1-4 (5). In Oslo, we also separate households with dwellings more and less than 100 sqm. The imputed values (per month) in 2009 are as follows:

Area 1 and less than 100 sqm: $HY030 = 4\,021,69 + (69,12 * sqm)$

Area 1 and 100 sqm or more: $HY030 = 5\,546,05 + (56,11 * sqm)$

Area 2: $HY030 = 3\,672,24 + (44,65 * sqm)$

Area 3: $HY030 = 2\,907,10 + (34,93 * sqm)$;

Area 4: $HY030 = 3\,782,63 + (13,08 * sqm)$;

Area 5: $HY030 = 3\,025,89 + (12,92 * sqm)$;

Income from rental of property or land (HY040):

Defined as net income from rentals (buildings, dwellings, land etc.)

Family/children-related allowances (HY050):

Includes the following components:

- child allowance
- maternity benefits (daily cash benefit for working mothers and lump sum benefit for non-working mothers)
- cash-for-care benefit
- child support for single parents (education and childcare)
- transitional benefit to single parents

Deviation from the SILC concept:

The current register data covers only roughly 50% of the total amount paid out in daily cash maternity benefit. The remaining amount is included in PY010 (Gross employee cash or near cash income).

Social assistance (HY060):

Includes the total amount received in social assistance (benefits and loans).

Housing allowance (HY070):

Includes dwelling support in cash received by renters and owner-occupiers.

Deviation from the SILC concept:

The benefit from renting a subsidised dwelling is not included in the income concept.

Regular inter-household cash transfer received (HY080):

Includes alimonies and paid maintenance from former spouse (or advance payment from the government). Information on regular private cash support received by children living in separate households (e.g. students) is collected from the interview.

Interest, dividends, profit from capital investment in unincorporated business (HY090):

Interest and dividends are taxable income. In addition some other minor income items are included, e.g. profit from life insurance and certain types of income from abroad (lottery winnings etc.).

Interest repayments on mortgage (HY100):

In previous EU-SILC operations (2003-2006) this data has been collected from register. The problem with this has been that register data covers all interest repayments, and not only interests on mortgage. In order to increase the precision of this variable, the interest repayments on mortgage are calculated from the interview data from 2007.

Regular taxes on wealth (HY120):

Included in HY140: Total tax on income.

Regular inter-household cash transfer paid (HY130):

Includes paid maintenance to children and former spouse (alimony). These payments appear as deductions in the tax return. Information on regular cash support provided by parents to children living in separate households (e.g. students) is included from the interview.

Total tax on income and social contribution (HY140):

Include assessed income and wealth taxes and social contributions.

Deviation from the SILC concept:

The variable includes both taxes on income and wealth. It is difficult to identify each tax components because all taxes are recorded net, i.e. after special tax deductions (e.g. special tax deduction for residents of Finnmark, tax deduction for received dividends, tax deduction for low-income households etc.).

Gross Employee Cash income (PY010):

Defined as the sum of all wages and salaries including overtime, holiday pay, tips and bonuses.

Deviations from the SILC concept:

- payments to foster parents (included in wages, cannot be separated from wages)
- severance and termination pay (----- “ -----)
- sickness benefits that are not directly paid out to the employee (i.e. compensation from the Social Security Scheme to the employer)

With the exception of sickness benefits these deviations are expected to be of a minor importance.

Gross non-cash employee income (PY020):

Includes the following elements:

- Electronic communication paid by employer (telephone, internet connection etc)
- Insurance against accidents and other insurances
- Advantage of subsidised loans
- Advantage of subsidised stocks in the company
- Other taxable payments in kind such as electricity, accommodation, holidays/travels, transport etc.

Company car (PY021):

Previously included in PY020

Employer's social insurance contribution (PY030):

Defined as paid in employers' national insurance contribution per person.

Deviation from the SILC concept:

Because of the allowance scheme which is per company (and every company has employees in the various zones and age groups) it is virtually impossible to calculate the payroll tax directly per person. Therefore, the calculation is done by companies where we have taken into account the allowance scheme, zones, age, sector and individual exceptions industries.

Optional employer's social insurance contributions (PY031):

Norway does not include this variable, because we are unable to calculate the value. Part of this is still covered as a "non-cash benefits" in PY020.

Contributions to individual private pension plans (PY035):

Defined as deductions for payment of individual pensions.

Cash benefits or losses from self-employment (PY050):

Entrepreneurial income is collected net in register data. Gross cash losses thus appear as negative amounts.

Deviation from the SILC concept:

It has not been possible to identify – and thus deduct from self-employment income – interest paid on business loans.

Non-cash income from self-employment – value of own goods for own consumption (PY070):

The tax-assessed benefit from consuming own goods (estimated by the tax authorities) is included in gross cash income from self-employment (PY050).

The variable PY070 is not included in Norwegian data because the value of own goods for own consumption is assumed to be ignorable. Data from the Norwegian HBS in 2006 shows that consumption of own goods is estimated to be only 0,13 percent of the total consumption in the households. In total, the value of own goods for own consumption is less than 400 Nkr (appr 50 euro) on average per household.

Unemployment benefits (PY090):

Includes unemployment benefits for employees and unemployment benefits for the self-employed.

Deviation from the SILC concept:

No information available on benefits (in-kind) related to vocational training.

Old-age function (PY100):

Include old-age pension from the social security system and occupational pensions.

Deviation from the SILC concept:

It was not possible to split the different types of occupational pensions into different functions, e.g. old-age, disability or survivor's pension. In stead all types of occupational pensions have been included under the old-age function.

Survivor's benefits (PY110):

Includes survivor's pension from the National Insurance Scheme. In addition several minor income items have been included that are received mainly by survivors, e.g. tax-free wage income and holiday pay earned by the deceased.

Deviation from the SILC concept:

Not possible to include funeral grants in the income concept. This benefit is transferred directly to the firm of undertakers.

Social benefits in the sickness (PY120):

Includes sickness benefits paid by the National Insurance Scheme directly to the employee (i.e. after day 16 of sickness).

Deviation from the SILC concept:

The current register data covers only roughly 50% of the total amount paid out in daily cash sickness benefit. The remaining amount (compensation to the employer) is included in PY010 (Gross employee cash or near cash income).

Disability benefits (PY130):

Include disability pension from the National Insurance Scheme, basic and attendance benefit and rehabilitation benefits.

Deviation from the SILC concept:

Early retirement benefit is included in occupational pension, i.e. old-age function.

Education related allowances (PY140):

Include student grants from the State Educational Loan Fund.

3.3.2 Comparison between the national definition of income and standard EU-SILC definition

For 2003 there are only minor differences in the amount of total income and disposable (after-tax) income based on national definitions and the corresponding figures based on SILC definitions. As is shown in table 1, the difference amounted to about 5 billion NOK (or ca 0.5 per cent) for both income concepts.

The main explanation for the difference between the two income definitions is that the national definition comprises some income items that are not part of the SILC income definition. This is for example the case for certain fringe benefits other than company cars (e.g. free newspapers and telephone, low-interest loans, private insurance paid by employers etc.). In addition the SILC definition does not include *capital gains*, while this is the case in the national definition. In 2003 this income item amounted to a negative value of roughly 2 billion NOK in Norway. Finally, the national definition includes payments from a private pension scheme. Although this item is collected in SILC (PY080G), it is not included in the definition of income.

Table 3.3.1 Total gross income and disposable income. Billion NOK. 2003

	SILC definition	National definition	Difference
Total Gross income	975,0	979,8	4,8
Disposable income ¹	734,5	739,3	4,8

¹ In the national definition this income concept refers to 'After-tax income'.

In addition there are differences between national practice and SILC in income definitions at the component level, although these differences have almost no impact on total gross income and disposable income. In the definition of employee income (wages and salaries) the national definition for example includes sickness benefit and maternity allowance, while in the SILC definition these components are considered part of transfers. For self-employment income sickness benefit is again included in the national definition, but not in the SILC definition (transfer). In addition several types of pensions are specified in the SILC income concept (e.g. old-age pension, disability pension and survivor's pension), while in the national definition these programmes are all part of 'Social security benefits'.

Table 3.3.2 Comparison of income components. The national definition and EU-SILC. Billion NOK. 2003

Income component	SILC	National definition
Employee income	607,5	627,3
Self-employment income	48,7	50,6
Property income	86,8	84,9
Transfers received	232,0	216,9
Total income	975,0	979,8
Taxes and negative transfers	240,5	240,5
Disposable (after-tax) income	734,5	739,3

3.2.3. The source used for the collection of income variables

All income data in the EU-SILC are collected from various administrative and statistical registers. The main registers used are:

(a) The Tax Return Register

(Employee income, self-employment income, taxable pensions etc.)

(b) The Tax Register for Personal Tax Payers

(Assessed taxes, social security contributions)

(c) National Insurance Service

(Family allowances, attendance benefits, cash-for-care, child care benefits to single parents)

(d) Register for end-of-the-year Certificates

(Unemployment benefits, sickness and maternity allowance, company car),

(e) State Educational Loan Fund

(Education related benefits),

(f) The State Housing Bank

(Dwelling support)

(g) Social statistics

(Social assistance)

A comprehensive data file on income is created by linking the total resident population to all the different income registers. The key that links the individual to the registers is the Personal Identification Number.

3.2.4. The form in which income variables at component level have been obtained

The register data only report gross income at component level. Total assessed taxes and contribution to social security are collected separately from tax registers.

3.2.5. The method used for obtaining income target variables in the required form (i.e. as gross values)

All income data recorded gross at component level.

4. COHERENCE

4.1. Comparison of income target variables and number of persons who receive income from each 'income component', with external sources

With the exception of inter-household transfers all the income data in SILC are from register. Hence, in our opinion, there is no point in comparing the results from SILC-Norway with external sources since the source we would compare with is the source used in SILC-Norway.

In 3.2.1 we compared with national definitions. If we compare SILC-Norway with information from register using SILC-definitions we will only measure the effects of non-response that are not corrected through weighting.