

I. Generic template for national reports providing information on quality, sources and methods, together with information on the statistical processes used for the compilation of the statistics underlying the MIP indicators (including concrete specifications for **Labour Force Statistics)**

Reporting institution: ISTAT

Selected principles					Some specific examples for indicators and related questions (Response options, unless indicated otherwise: not implemented; partially implemented; fully implemented)	Statistical domain specifications
European Code of Practice principles	Public Commitment on European Statistics by the ESCB	Selected elements				
<i>Institutional Environment</i>	<i>Institutional Environment</i>	<i>CoP/PC</i>	<i>IMF DQAF</i>	<i>SIMS</i>	<i>Question(s)</i>	<i>LFS</i>
oP1 Professional Independence	PC1 Professional Independence	1.1/1.1	1.1.1 1.1.2		<p>The independence of [name of reporting institution], from political and other external interference in developing, producing and disseminating official statistics is guaranteed by law.</p> <p><i>Legal basis: Pls confirm the independence by referring to the relevant national and EU legal act(s) and the formulation used in the legal act.</i></p>	Legislative Decree No. 322 of 6 September 1989 (hereinafter Decree 322) is the legal cornerstone of Italian official statistics (Istat) and provides Istat with a strong legal mandate that is widely recognised, ensuring its professional independence (art. 4 and following). In addition, Istat, as part of the European Statistical System, is subjected to respecting the EU CoP.

		1.4/1.5			<p>The [name of reporting institution] has an annual statistical work programme which is made public.</p> <p><i>Statistics work programme: Pls confirm the existence of a statistics work programme and specify where to find it (or similar document), if available.</i></p>	<p>Statistics work programme:</p> <p>As one of its main coordination tasks in statistical data collection activities, ISTAT currently drafts the National Statistical Programme (NSP) and leads the consultation on its content. Surveys and studies of public interest are set out in the National Statistical Programme, the document that regulates the production of official statistical information.</p> <p>Labour force survey is included in the National Statistical Programme.</p> <p>http://www.sistan.it/index.php?id=471</p>
CoP2 Mandate for data collection	PC2 Mandate for data collection	2.1/2.1	0.1.1	S 7.1	<p>The mandate(s) of the [name of the institution(s)] to collect information for the development, production and dissemination of European Statistics is specified in law.</p> <p><i>Allocation of responsibilities: Pls explain the allocation of responsibilities in producing the relevant statistics.</i></p> <p><i>Legal basis: Pls confirm the mandate by referring to the relevant legal act(s) and any other kind of formal agreements.</i></p>	<p>Allocation of responsibilities:</p> <p>The Italian National Institute of Statistics (Istat) is the main producer of European statistics in Italy, including Labour Force statistics.</p> <p>Legal basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council Regulation (EC) N° 577/98 of 9 March 1998 on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community (Official Journal of the EU No L 77 p. 3), last amended by Regulation (EC) No 545/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 (Official Journal of the EU No L 163 p. 10); - Decree 322.

CoP6 Impartiality and objectivity	PC6 Impartiality and objectivity	6.6/6.6	1.2.4	S9.1 + S9.2 S.20. 1	<p>Advance notice is given on release calendars and on major revisions or changes in methodologies, source data and techniques.</p> <p><i>Advance release calendar: Pls confirm the existence of an advance release calendar and provide a link to it.</i></p> <p><i>Revision policy: Pls explain succinctly the revision policy and provide a link to material on the revision policy, if existent.</i></p>	<p>Release calendar: The production of the main indicators (quarterly results) is accompanied by an EU-LFS release calendar which provides transparency for the users on the availability of the data and favours a timeliness data release of the results.</p> <p>http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/1978984//6048829/LFS_release_announcement.pdf</p> <p>At national level the release calendar is known in advance, it contains the dates of all the data and press releases, among which LFS Employed and unemployed quarterly and monthly releases.</p> <p>http://www.istat.it/en/files/2011/03/Calendario-comunicati-2015_-inglese_Def.pdf</p> <p>Revision policy: Revisions of previously released data based on EU-LFS are not expected, unless major errors are identified in the data delivered or in their processing. Exceptional revisions may happen e.g. after new estimates of population from a population census.</p>
Statistical Processes	Statistical Processes	CoP/PC	IMF DQAF	SIMS	Question(s)	LFS
CoP7 Sound methodology	PC7 Sound methodology	7.1/7.1	2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4	S4.3 S4.4 S4.5	<p>Pls specify the relevant statistical standards to which the statistics abide</p> <p><i>Links/references to existing comprehensive methodological documentation on specific aspects of the national sources and methods can also be provided</i></p>	<p>General remarks:</p> <p>The European Union Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS) provides population estimates for the main labour market characteristics, such as employment, unemployment, inactivity, hours of work, occupation, economic activity, and other labour related variables, as well as important socio-demographic characteristics, such as sex, age, education, household characteristics and regions of residence. The Italian LFS is a continuous one, covering all the weeks of the</p>

				<p>S4.6</p> <p>S 6</p> <p>S12.1</p>	<p>year.</p> <p>The definitions of employment and unemployment, as well as other survey characteristics and the methodological framework follow in general the definitions and recommendations of Eurostat and the International Labour Organisation and the requirements in Regulation 577/1998. The definition of unemployment is further specified in Commission Regulation (EC) No 1897/2000. . Comprehensive EU-LFS methodological documentation:</p> <p>http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/EU_labour_force_survey</p> <p>Link to national methodological documentation, besides the information given in the methodological note attached to press-releases</p> <p>(http://www.istat.it/it/files/2015/10/Nota-metodologica9.pdf?title=Occupati+e+disoccupati+%28mensili%29+-+30%2Fott%2F2015+-+Nota+metodologica.pdf)</p> <p>are:</p> <p>http://www.istat.it/it/archivio/8263</p> <p>http://www.istat.it/microdata/download.php?id=/wwarmida/2/2015/2/Nota.pdf</p> <p>http://www.istat.it/en/files/2014/06/met_norme_06_32_-rilevazione_forze_lavoro.pdf</p>
				<p>Pls specify adherence or deviations from concepts and rules according to international standards and highlight coverage gaps that are of <u>material relevance</u> for the statistics.</p>	<p>There are no country-specific major deviations in the concepts and rules respect to the ILO standards and Eurostat definitions and requirements concerning the LFS.</p>

					Pls indicate whether actions to address the deviations and coverage gaps are envisaged.	
CoP8 Appropriate Statistical procedures	PC8 Appropriate Statistical procedures	8.2/8.2	3.1 3.3 3.4	S12.1 S21.1 S21.3 S 21.5- 6	Pls provide a succinct assessment of the robustness of the statistics by elaborating briefly on the relevant sources of information, statistical methods and procedures used across the various frequencies. <i>Pls provide links/references to existing comprehensive methodological documentation on specific aspects of the national statistical procedures. The objective should be to get an overview on how much the statistical output are anchored in actual collected data rather than on estimation methods or similar judgemental inputs.</i>	The following publications provide users with a tool for assessing the quality of the statistics which are based on the EU-LFS. It gives a brief description of the survey and a summary of the main quality indicators, which are: relevance, accuracy, accessibility and clarity, timeliness and punctuality, comparability, and coherence. The quality report is updated annually. Labour force survey in the EU, candidate and EFTA countries — Main characteristics of national surveys Quality report of the European Union Labour Force Survey See: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/lfs/publications/quality-reporting Further individual country information: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/metadata/EN/employ_esqrs.htm Link to national documentation is reported in previous item CoP7
Statistical Output	Statistical Output	CoP/PC	IMF DQAF	SIMS	Question(s)	LFS
CoP11 Relevance	PC11 Relevance	11.1- 11.3	0.3	S.14	Pls specify briefly why the statistics are relevant by referring to the multiple purposes for which the statistics are used at (i) international, (ii) EU and (iii) national level. References to the statistical legislation and other formal or	EU-LFS results are used by the DG Employment and a number of other Directorates of the Commission mainly for measurement and monitoring of policy agenda purposes. The European Central Bank (ECB) uses short term LFS statistics related to Euro area. Key users include NSI's, international organizations, news agencies and researchers which use various aspects of EU-LFS data for international or intra EU comparisons.

					<p>informal commitments could be sufficient.</p> <p>In addition, if applicable, the outcome of user consultation processes could also be given.</p>	<p>At national level, thanks to the inclusion of LFS in the National Statistical Programme and the role of Istat in the National statistical system, the relevance of the LFS estimates is widely recognised as well by policy makers, analysts, researchers and media.</p>
CoP12 Accuracy and reliability	PC12 Accuracy and reliability (including stability)	12.1/12.1	3.5	<p>S 15.1 S 15.2 S15.3 S.18. 2 S 20.2</p>	<p>The analysis should be based on the following indicators (to be compiled by the ECB/Eurostat on a common data vintage) on the reliability of first releases for the relevant series (selected for their material impact and to avoid compensatory effects in the case of balancing items):</p> <p>Directional reliability indicators;</p> <p>Revisions' indicators (e.g. MAPE, MACE or RMSRE depending on the indicator).</p> <p>and provide a succinct assessment of the accuracy and reliability of the statistics on the basis of the results, with an attempt to provide a relative objective measure, explaining also the main reasons for revisions.</p> <p>Pls provide a succinct assessment of the level of the statistical discrepancies (<i>"internal consistency"</i>) focusing on their size and direction (systematic bias).</p>	<p>Information on the accuracy and reliability of the LFS data by providing information on the quality indicators.</p> <p>Confidence limits at 95 % level of significance, country-specific annual average 2014: Number of employed (x1000): 22 279 ± 87, Number of part time employed (x1000): 4 091 ± 59, Number of unemployed (x1000): 3 236 ± 52, Rate of unemployment (%):12.7 ±0.2</p> <p>Sampling errors are made available in the methodological note attached to national press-releases.</p> <p>Usual revisions for seasonally adjusted data caused by the estimation of the new parameters of seasonal adjustment models including the new data available are explained in the methodological note attached to the press-release and a summary of the revisions of the main indicators is shown in the press-release.</p> <p>Information on country-specific frame quality (under and over coverage and misclassifications) of the LFS sample and specific measurement errors.</p> <p>Undercoverage: Households are selected once a year from the lists taken by municipalities' registry offices; they cover the whole reference population. The data might contain errors as for</p>

						<p>information such as addresses (due for instance to recent change of the address), wrong inclusions (recent emigration) and missed inclusions (recent immigration).</p> <p>Overcoverage rate is 2.4</p> <p>Misclassification error rate is 2.0</p>
CoP13 Timeliness and punctuality	PC13 Timeliness (including punctuality)	13.1 13.4	4.1	S.16	<p>Pls specify the timeliness requirements for international and EU purposes and the national target publication dates.</p> <p>Pls specify punctuality defined as deviations in relation to the timeliness requirements and target dates specified above.</p>	<p>Information on possible delay of delivery to Eurostat of the full dataset.</p> <p>According to Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 data shall be delivered to Eurostat within twelve weeks from the end of a reference quarter. For 2014 deadline for transmitting the data was respected.</p> <p>Monthly data are delivered to Eurostat about 27 days after the end of the month in order to be included in Eurostat release of monthly unemployment.</p> <p>National release of monthly LFS data is fixed in the same day as Eurostat monthly release (about 30 days after the end of the month).</p> <p>National quarterly release is about 70 days after the end of the quarter.</p>
CoP14 Coherence and comparability	PC14 Consistency and comparability	14.1/14.1	4.2.1 4.2.2 4.2.3	S17.2 S 18.1	<p>Pls provide a succinct assessment of the results of the consistency check of the statistics with other related domains or data sets with which the statistics must show coherence (“external consistency”).</p> <p>The results should provide a relative objective measure to facilitate cross-country comparability, e.g. be presented as a ratio of the inconsistency between compared</p>	<p>Information on the assessment of the results of the consistency check of the statistics with other related domains (“external consistency”). Coherence of LFS data with National Accounts data, registered unemployment and Business statistics data.</p> <p>Generally coherence to other statistics can be limited due to different sources, different scopes or different coverage and units.</p> <p>The coherence of LFS data with registered unemployment and with National Accounts data is limited.</p>

				<p>statistics, as a percentage of GDP, where appropriate.</p>	<p>For a summary of the deviations see: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-statistical-working-papers/-/KS-TC-15-004 (Chapter 8)</p> <p>Analysis on the coherence between LFS and NA data through a bridge table is produced and disseminated by NA office.</p> <p>In the quarterly press-release on Labour market, data coming from different sources, NA, business surveys and LFS are shown jointly and compared.</p>
				<p>Pls provide a succinct assessment of the time consistency, specifying (i) whether the time series presents breaks and if so explaining the reasons for the breaks; (ii) the length of the series for which back data are consistent; and (iii) whether the statistics are consistent across the various frequencies (monthly/quarterly/annual) where relevant.</p>	<p>The information applies only to LFS detailed survey results series. The LFS adjusted series (including LFS main indicators) include corrections for breaks.</p> <p>Since 1983, improved comparability between results of successive surveys has been achieved, mainly due to increased harmonisation, greater stability of content and higher frequency of surveys. However, the following factors may somewhat detract from perfect comparability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - population figures used for population adjustment are revised at certain intervals on the basis of new population censuses; - reference periods may not have remained the same for a given country due to the transition to a quarterly continuous survey; - countries may modify their sample designs; - in order to improve the quality of results, countries may change the content or order of their questionnaire. <p>Information on EU-LFS breaks and individual country breaks are documented:</p>

					<p>http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/EU_labour_force_survey_%E2%80%93_data_and_publication</p> <p><u>Major country-specific changes in recent years</u></p> <p>2006: Changes to the questionnaire to take into account the legal suppression of compulsory military or community service and to fully tie in with the EU-LFS definition of unemployment.</p> <p>2008: From the first quarter 2008, people aged 15 are considered as out of the labour force, to take into account a change in the national legislation which increased the number of years of compulsory education. Employment and activity rates are still computed with reference to the working age population 15-64 to keep the comparability. As very few 15 year olds are employed or unemployed, the impact on time-series is negligible.</p> <p>2009: Small changes, in particular in the question wording of some national variables, to improve the adherence with the 2008 EU-LFS explanatory notes.</p> <p>2011: Considering that the transitions from inactivity to employment of people aged 75 years or more are almost null, in order to avoid statistical burden on this target population and in particular to reduce the costs of data collection, from the 1st quarter 2011, the households composed by all members inactive and aged 75 years or more are no longer re-interviewed. In these cases the information Labour Force Survey in the EU, Candidate and EFTA countries, 2010 collected during the last available interview are copied for the next waves in which the household would be involved. This innovation will be continually monitored and may be revised in the presence of significant transition rates.</p>
--	--	--	--	--	--

						<p>2012: In 2012 a new stratification of the municipalities was made, to take into account updated information on their population and a reduction of the sample size by about 9% due to budget cuts. Consequently a new selection of the municipalities has been done, the new selected municipalities entered in the sample in the third quarter 2012. Due to rotation scheme, for 5 quarters until 2013Q3, old and new sampling designs have been overlapped. Starting from 2012 the new classification NUTS-2010 has been adopted, leading to the definition of three new provinces at NUTS 3 level and seven municipalities were moved from one NUTS 2 category to another.</p> <p>2015: On January 2015 new population figures were available for the period 2002- 2014, according to the results of the 2011 Population Census, Post Enumeration Survey of the 15th Italian population census and administrative register updates for the post census period. Consequently LFS weights have been recalculated for the period 2004Q1-2014Q3.</p> <p>The changes previously reported do not affect comparability of LFS data. LFS data are consistent starting from 2004Q1 onwards. For the previous years back-recalculated time series are available for the main indicators starting from 1977Q1 (larger detail available from 1992Q4).</p> <p>Monthly, quarterly and annual LFS data are consistent. Also monthly and quarterly seasonally adjusted data are consistent.</p>
CoP15 Accessibility and Clarity	PC15 Accessibility and Clarity	15.1/15.1	5.1.1 5.2.1	S9.3 S 11 S12.1	Pls provide a brief description of the dissemination policy and dissemination means, including links to the data and respective metadata.	The Eurostat online publication describes the European Union (EU) labour force survey (EU-LFS), a large sample survey among private households in Europe and an important source for European statistics about the situation and trends in the EU labour market. The

					<p>publication provides information on the main features, the legal basis, the methodology and the data as well as on the historical development of the EU-LFS.</p> <p>http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/EU_labour_force_survey</p> <p>National LFS data are disseminated through press-releases (both monthly and quarterly)</p> <p>http://www.istat.it/it/archivio/occupati+e+disoccupati</p> <p>http://www.istat.it/it/archivio/168024</p> <p>in Istat datawarehouse data are uploaded in the same day of the press-releases</p> <p>http://dati.istat.it/?lang=en</p> <p>Microdata and respective metadata are made available:</p> <p>http://www.istat.it/it/prodotti/microdati</p>
--	--	--	--	--	---