

FINAL QUALITY REPORT

EU-SILC-2005

Iceland

1. Common cross-sectional EU indicators

Common cross-sectional EU indicators 2005 (income year 2004)

Table 1. At-risk-of-poverty rate by age and gender

	Under 16 years	16-24 years	25-49 years	50-64 years	65 years and over	16 years and over	16-64 years	Under 65 years	All ages
Total	10,06	15,35	9,09	5,92	9,28	9,51	9,55	9,70	9,66
Males	10,72	14,01	9,11	7,20	8,73	9,50	9,62	9,94	9,82
Females	9,36	16,76	9,08	4,60	9,76	9,53	9,49	9,45	9,49

Table 2. At-risk-of-poverty rate by most frequent activity status and gender

	Employed	Unemployed	Retired	Other inactive	Total activity
Total	7,94	25,39	10,20	16,67	9,37
Males	8,52	14,78	9,30	15,88	9,32
Females	7,27	33,33	10,84	17,21	9,43

Table 3. At-risk-of-poverty rate by household type

1. One person household, under 65 years	23,81
2. One person household, 65 years and over	21,56
3. One person household, male	24,82
4. One person household, female	21,32
5. One person household, total	23,05
6. Two adults, no dependent children, both < 65 years	10,21
7. Two adults, no dependent children, at least one 65+ years	2,92
8. Other no dependent children	3,96
9. Single parent, one or more dependent child	15,42
10. Two adults, 1 dependent child	7,43
11. Two adults, 2 dependent children	8,60
12. Two adults, 3 or more dependent children	10,94
13. Other households with dependent children	4,18
14. Households without dependent children	11,30
15. Households with dependent children	8,67

Table 4. At-risk-of-poverty rate by tenure status

Total	9,65
Owner or rent free	7,74
Tenant	23,59

Table 5. At-risk-of-poverty threshold (illustrative values)

One person household	1.231.801 ISK
Two adults and two children household	2.586.782 ISK

Table 6. Inequality of income distribution S80/S20

S80 / S20	3,51
-----------	------

Table 7. Relative median at-risk-of poverty gap by age and gender

	Under 16 years	16-64 years	65 years and over	16 years and over	All ages
Males	24,49	20,53	9,95	19,23	20,24
Females	26,99	20,32	26,31	20,32	22,37
Total	20,78	20,69	6,70	17,44	18,72

Table 8. Dispersion around the at-risk-of-poverty threshold

Threshold	
40%	2,82
50%	5,31
60%	9,65
70%	16,77

Table 9. At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers except old-age and survivors benefits

	Under 16 years	16-64 years	65 years and over	16 years and over	All ages
Males	24,63	18,90	13,93	18,18	19,87
Females	25,68	18,18	12,87	17,47	19,65
Total	23,54	19,64	14,84	18,89	20,08

Table 10. At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers including old-age and survivors benefits

	Under 16 years	16-64 years	65 years and over	16 years and over	All ages
Males	25,65	20,68	80,98	29,40	28,42
Females	26,76	19,67	76,55	27,30	27,16
Total	24,48	21,72	84,82	31,49	29,69

Table 11. Gini coefficient

Gini	0,251
------	-------

Other indicators

Average equivalised disposable income per person = 2,283,575 ISK

2. Accuracy

2.1. Sample design

2.1.1 Type of sampling

There were four even one-stage simple random samples without stratification used for the 2005 EU-SILC in Iceland.

2.1.2 Sampling units

The sampling units are persons aged 16 years or more living in private households, selected from the Icelandic population register.

2.1.3 Stratification and sub-stratification criteria

The sample is post stratified, see 2.8.

2.1.4 Sample size and allocation criteria

The sample size is 4,000 persons per year and is set to meet demands for minimum effective sample size of both the cross-sectional and the longitudinal. In the end of the year 2004 the comparable population (16 and over in private households) was 210,854.

2.1.5 Sample selection schemes

The sample plan for EU-SILC is a simple random sample in one step, and no upper age limit.

2.1.6 Sample distribution over time

The sample is a rotating panel sample of approximately 4,000¹ individuals selected by simple random sampling from the national register in the end of the year 2003. The sample is divided into four rotation groups of approximately 1,000 individuals, each of which is replaced by another 1,000 participants every successive year. Therefore 1,000 new individuals were added to the sample in the end of the year 2004 and the 1,000 belonging to rotational group 1 were omitted from the sample.

2.1.7 Renewal of sample: Rotational groups


The sampling frame consists of all persons in the National Register who are 16 years or older and live in private households in Iceland. The households of the selected respondents are the household units. Each person (and respective household) drawn remains in the sample for four years and rotates as shown in table 2.1.

Table 2.1 Rotation of waves in the Icelandic SILC survey

Year t		t+1		t+2		t+3	
Wave number	Number in sample	Wave number	Number in sample	Wave number	Number in sample	Wave number	Number in sample
1	1.000	1	1.000	1	1.000	1	1.000
2	1.000	2	1.000	2	1.000	2	1.000
3	1.000	3	1.000	3	1.000	3	1.000
4	1.000	4	1.000	4	1.000	4	1.000

Notes:

¹ 4.000 in the year 2004 when the survey starts but in four years the gross sample will be appr. 4,160

	Those drawn new in sample year t
	Those drawn new in sample year t-1
	Those drawn new in sample year t-2
	Those drawn new in sample year t-3
	Those drawn new in sample year t+1
	Those drawn new in sample year t+2
	Those drawn new in sample year t+3

Persons 16 years of age are added to the sample every year in order to make up for the aging of the sample. Those who are 16 years old in 2003 will be 20 years old in 2007 and therefore there is need to add 16 year old persons to the sample every year. The gross number in the sample increases with those supplements resulting in approximately 4,160 in the year 2007 when the survey has been run for four years.

2.1.8. Weightings

2.1.8.1 Design factor

The probability of a household being selected is equal to the number of persons aged 16 and over in the household. The weight for households and for all adult household members is the inverse of the number of adult household members as calculated in **DB080**, the household design weight:

$$DB080 = \frac{1}{n_{16+}}$$

Where

n_{16+} = number of persons age 16+ in the respondents households

2.1.8.2 Non-response adjustments

Post stratification weights are used to adjust the data to the population. The information on the population comes from the national register. The weights both adjust for nonresponse and sampling error. The post stratification weights are based on age (14 groups total, 12 groups for 16 and older and 2 groups below 16), sex and residence (2 groups).

2.1.8.3 Adjustments to external data

Results are only calibrated with numbers from the national register as described above.

PB060 is the personal cross-sectional weight for selected respondent:

$$PB060 = \frac{N(kba)}{n(kba)}$$

Where

N = Population 16 years and older 31. December 2004 in private homes

n = number of cases in the data base

k = sex b = residence (capital area and other areas)

a = age groups [16-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-66, 67-79, 80+]

Originally the household cross-sectional weight (**DB090**) was calculated a shown below:

$$DB090 = DB080 * PB060 = \frac{1}{n16+} * \frac{N(kba)}{n(kba)}$$

Where

N = Population 16 years and older 31. December 2004 in private homes

n = number of cases in the data base

k = sex b = residence (capital area and other areas)

a = age groups [16-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-66, 67-79, 80+]

Integrative calibration is applied using the software G-Calib (designed by Statistics Belgium). Then the original values of **DB090** are replaced by calibrated values. The calibrated values of **DB090** are also assigned to **RB050** in order to assign identical weight to all members of the same household. Integrative calibration takes into account the distribution of the population according to age, sex and residence using information from the national register.

The personal cross-sectional weight **PB040** is equal to **RB050**.

The personal design weight for selected respondent **PB070** is calculated in a similar way as **PB060** except **PB070** applies to the selected sample while **PB060** applies to respondents only.

$$PB070 = \frac{N(kba)}{s(kba)}$$

Where

N = Population 16 years and older 31. December 2004 in private households

s = number of selected respondents

k = sex b = residence (capital area and other areas)

a = age groups [16-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-66, 67-79, 80+]

The children cross-sectional weights **RL070** are calculated as the number of children in each one-year group (0-12 years) in private households in the population divided by the number of children in one-year groups in the households interviewed:

$$RL070 = \frac{BA}{ba}$$

Where

BA = population 0-12 years of age 31. December 2004 in private households

b = number of children 0-12 years old in the respondents' households

a = age groups [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12]

2.1.9 Substitutions

No substitutions were applied.

2.2 Sampling errors

2.2.1. Standard errors and effective sample size

There were 4.018 persons in the 2005 sample. During the field period, 121 of these proved to be non-eligible (either deceased, living in institutions or emigrated), thus giving a net sample of 3.897 persons. Interviews were conducted with 2.958 of them.

Table 2.2.1.A The mean, the total number of observations and the standard errors for the following income components (unweighted data)

	Mean	Before imp	After imp	SE mean
Total HH gross inc (HY010)	6.128.825	2.952	2.952	79.847
Total HH disp. Inc (HY020)	4.379.363	2.952	2.952	58.462
Total HH disp before (HY022)	4.017.295	2.952	2.952	57.740
Total HH disp. Including (HY023)	3.610.493	2.952	2.952	61.109
Gross Income from rental (HY040)	30.357	2.954	2.954	3.984
Gross income from investments (HY090)	307.300	2.954	2.954	38.885
Gross family allowences (HY050)	107.789	2.954	2.954	5.421
Gross social excl. (HY060)	4.514	2.954	2.954	796
Gross housing allowances (HY070)	59.530	2.954	2.954	2.362
Gross inter-HH cash received (HY080)	55.027	2.898	2.952	3.022
Gross interest repayments (HY100)	369.867	2.954	2.954	7.969
Gross Income under 16 (HY110)	12.649	2.954	2.954	1.157
Gross taxes on wealth (HY120)	65.839	2.954	2.954	2.318
Gross inter-HH cash paid (HY130)	38.064	2.898	2.954	2.253
Gross tax on income (HY140)	1.644.443	2.954	2.954	25.678
Gross employee cash income (PY010)	2.062.383	6.744	6.744	26.740
Gross non-cash income (PY020)	0	6.744	6.744	0
Gross self employment (PY050)	106.262	6.744	6.744	6.058
Gross unemployment benefits (HY090)	14.230	6.744	6.744	1.033
Gross old-age benefits (PY100)	157.559	6.744	6.744	6.288
Gross survivor benefits (PY110)	20.507	6.744	6.744	3.649
Gross sickness benefits (PY120)	1.129	6.744	6.744	463
Gross disability benefits (PY130)	62.300	6.744	6.744	7.314
Gross education allowances (PY140)	5.561	6.744	6.744	1.508

Table 2.2.1.B The mean, the number of observations and the standard error for the equivalised disposable income breakdown by sex, age groups and household size (unweighted data)

	Mean	Before imp	After imp	Standard error
Euivalised disposable income				
1 household member	1.866.041	433	433	75.980
2 household members	3.618.769	1.722	1.722	53.590
3 household members	4.766.608	1.680	1.680	94.542
4+ household members	5.849.932	5.077	5.077	43.688
<25 years	5.263.625	3.711	3.711	52.595
25-34 years	4.610.653	1.130	1.130	124.257
35-44 years	5.276.491	1.252	1.252	90.632
45-54 years	5.612.932	1.254	1.254	79.112
55-64 years	5.030.166	759	759	120.095
65+ years	3.153.214	806	806	65.249
Male	5.109.537	4.475	4.475	51.146
Female	4.931.788	4.437	4.437	46.653

2.3 Non-sampling errors

Errors other than sampling errors can be placed in three categories: coverage errors, non-response errors and measurement errors.

2.3.1 Sampling frame and coverage errors

The sampling frame is the population register of Iceland in the end of the year 2004. Eligible for the sample were all persons 16 and older who were living in Iceland according to the register. Those registered at institutions were excluded from the sample.

The national register is updated continuously. However, it does not always contain correct information on changing of residence. People may move abroad or to an institution without giving that information to the national register. Therefore the national register overrepresents young people who tend to go abroad for their studies and older people who sometimes maintain a private address in spite of living in an institution.

This is adjusted for with information received during the data collection process. For instance if it turns out that 5% of 25-29 years old females from the capital area are living abroad in spite of being in the register then the population frame is adjusted to these information and the relevant group is decreased by 5%. These adjustments are made before calculating the post stratification weights.

Under coverage of foreign citizens who live in Iceland is possible but it can be hard to assess. However it is likely that most foreign citizens who live here are working legally and are therefore in the national register.

2.3.2 Measurement and processing errors

Errors of this kind can be classified into three categories: Design errors, interviewer errors and processing errors.

2.3.2.1 Measurement errors

The questionnaire may be the cause of measurement errors. The phrasing of questions can cause misunderstanding as can the ordering of questions affect responses.

Here are some comments on those variables and other cases where there might be deviations from Eurostat standards.

HH010

The standard Icelandic question is more detailed, but categories are easily translated to Eurostat categories. To construct the Eurostat categories we added a question on number of apartments/flats in the building and we added a question on 2 thru 5 apartment buildings, which are fairly common in Iceland.

HH090

“For the sole use of the household” is not included in the Icelandic questionnaire unless the household lives in accommodation that can not be considered a flat or an apartment. Those respondents were asked if they have sole use of a flushing toilet. This is done because almost all dwellings in Iceland do have flushing toilets for sole use.

HH080

This question was handled the same way as HH090.

HS040

The Icelandic question differs because of the uniqueness of Iceland as an island. We asked if the respondent and his family could afford to go on a vacation abroad for one week. We also asked if the household could go on one week vacation in Iceland for one week. We did though not ask if they could afford to pay for accommodation.

HH020

In the Icelandic questionnaire was asked whether the respondent is an owner or is renting. The situation in Iceland is that there is no clear distinction between a “prevailing rent” rent sector and a “reduced rent” sector. Most households own their home and the concept of market rent does not have a real empirical meaning in Iceland. To distinguish household with a rent-free accommodation we asked how much rent the household paid.

HS060

In the Icelandic 2005 questionnaire the question was worded as follows: “Can you (your household) meet unexpected expenses.” This was clearly all too open and inaccurate to give useful information.

HY130G

Information on compulsory alimonies paid is taken from register. The question had though to be asked to make use of register data. HY130 is therefore calculated as a sum of information from register and from interview.

HY100

Question on interest repayments on mortgage was not asked as that information is to be found in registers.

HH060

In the Icelandic questionnaire was asked how much the respondent pays in rent but in Iceland there is often a joint housing fund which very often includes electricity and heating. This makes it difficult to calculate the exact amount paid. To get closer to the exact amount paid we deducted imputed electricity and heating from the amount paid.

PL030

In the Icelandic questionnaire this question was only put to those that answered “no” to whether they had “worked at least 1 hour during previous week” (PL035). This underestimated the number of students, as they were defined as working. This was corrected for individuals who were students according to PE010 and worked part-time or less. They were defined as students.

PL110

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

PH020

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

RL040

This question is not included in the Icelandic questionnaire because it does not apply in Iceland.

2.3.2.2. Processing errors

Processing and interviewer related errors can also occur in the data collection process. These problems are most likely when printed question sheets are in use. The data collection mode in the Iceland EU-SILC is CATI, using the interview programme BLAISE. Data entry controls are built into the electronic questionnaire. Control of data in the programme is done in different 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. Thirdly, and similar, there are built in checks (hard error) which it is impossible to override. Fourthly, and 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 by the respondent.

In the EU-SILC an attempt is also made to deal with this by preferentially hiring interviewers with experience from earlier surveys, by training interviewers, and by examining the questionnaire carefully before a survey commences.

As income data was collected from register the rates of failed edits by interviewers were not a problem.

2.3.3. Non-response errors

In general, males are more difficult to reach than females. It is more difficult to contact people younger than 55 years by telephone than those who are older, and inhabitants of the capital region are more often absent than people elsewhere in Iceland.

Refusals to participate in the survey are more prevalent among inhabitants of the capital city region and older persons. In contrast, women, people outside the capital city region and young people are less likely to refuse to participate.

To counter bias, the results were weighted by sex, age and residence.

2.3.3.1. Achieved sample size

	Households (HH)	Persons 16+	HH members
2002	725	1661	2236
2003	727	1704	2243
2004	747	1687	2223
2005	759	1692	2225
	2958	6744	8927

2.3.3.2. Unit non-response

Household non-response rates (NRh)

$$NRh = (1 - Ra * Rh) * 100$$

Where

$$Ra = \frac{\text{Number of addresses successfully contacted}}{\text{Number of valid addresses selected}}$$

$$Ra = \frac{\sum (DB120 = 11)}{\sum (DB120 = all) - \sum (DB120 = 23)} = \frac{3897}{4018 - 121} = 1$$

$$Rh = \frac{\text{Number of household interviews completed and accepted for database}}{\text{Number of valid addresses selected}}$$

$$Rh = \frac{\sum (DB135 = 1)}{\sum (DB130 = all)} = \frac{2958}{3897} = 0.7590$$

$$NRh = (1 - 0.7590) * 100 = 24.10$$

Individual non-response rates (NRp)

$$NRp = (1 - (Rp)) * 100$$

Where

$$Rp = \frac{\text{Number of personal interviews completed}}{\text{Number of eligible individuals in households where interviews were completed and accepted for database}}$$

$$Rp = \frac{6744}{6744} = 1$$

$$NRp = 1 - (1 - (Rp)) * 100 = 1 - (0) * 100 = 100$$

Overall individual non-response rates (*NRp)

$$*NRp = (1 - (Ra * Rh * Rp)) * 100 = (1 - (1 * 0.7590 * 1)) * 100 = 24.10$$

2.3.3.3 Distribution of households

Table 2.3.3.3.A Distribution of households by ‘record of contact address’ (DB120)

	Rot. 1	Rot. 2	Rot. 3	Rot. 4	Rot. 1-4
address contacted (11)	983	962	978	974	3897
address not located (21)	0	0	0	0	0
address unable to access (22)	0	0	0	0	0
address does not exist (23)	16	42	30	33	121
Total	999	1004	1008	1007	4018

Table 2.3.3.3.B Distribution of households by ‘household questionnaire result’

	Rot. 1	Rot. 2	Rot. 3	Rot. 4	Rot. 1-4
completed (11)	725	727	747	759	2958
refuse (21)	134	134	132	125	525
away (22)	115	85	83	68	351
unable to respond (23)	9	16	16	22	63
other reasons (24)	0	0	0	0	0
Total	983	962	978	974	3897

Table 2.3.3.3.C Distribution of households by ‘household interview acceptance’

	Rot. 1	Rot. 2	Rot. 3	Rot. 4	Rot. 1-4
accepted for database (1)	725	727	747	759	2958
rejected (2)	0	0	0	0	0
	725	727	747	759	2958

2.3.3.4. Distribution of substituted units

Not applicable as no substitutions are applied.

2.3.3.5. Item non-response

Item non-response is mostly related to housing cost such as electricity, heating etc. Answers are imputed using information on type of housing, type of heating, area of residence and number of bedrooms.

Item non-response is not to be found for income variables as they come from registers. The only income variables imputed were the ones not received from registers, “regular inter-household cash transfer received” and “regular inter-household cash transfer paid” (HY080G and HY130G). Imputations were used for those variables using survey data.

Table 2.3.3.5 Number receiving an amount and item non response for the following income components

	% received amount	% missing	% partial
Total HH gross inc (HY010)	99,80%	0,20%	0,00%
Total HH disp. Inc (HY020)	99,80%	0,20%	0,00%
Total HH disp before (HY022)	99,80%	0,20%	0,00%
Total HH disp. Including (HY023)	99,80%	0,20%	0,00%
Gross Income from rental (HY040)	5,58%	0,20%	0,00%
Gross income from investments (HY090)	61,19%	0,20%	0,00%
Gross family allowances (HY050)	35,84%	0,20%	0,00%
Gross social excl. (HY060)	2,70%	0,20%	0,00%
Gross housing allowances (HY070)	38,81%	0,20%	0,00%
Gross inter-HH cash received (HY080)	16,06%	1,83%	0,00%
Gross interest repayments (HY100)	70,39%	0,20%	0,00%
Gross Income under 16 (HY110)	13,12%	0,20%	0,00%
Gross taxes on wealth (HY120)	87,12%	0,20%	0,00%
Gross inter-HH cash paid (HY130)	14,57%	1,89%	0,00%
Gross tax on income (HY140)	99,80%	0,20%	0,00%
Gross employee cash income (PY010)	83,41%	0,00%	0,00%
Gross non-cash income (PY020)	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%
Gross self employment (PY050)	10,94%	0,00%	0,00%
Gross unemployment benefits (HY090)	5,13%	0,00%	0,00%
Gross old-age benefits (PY100)	11,77%	0,00%	0,00%
Gross survivor benefits (PY110)	4,11%	0,00%	0,00%
Gross sickness benefits (PY120)	0,30%	0,00%	0,00%
Gross disability benefits (PY130)	4,51%	0,00%	0,00%
Gross education allowances (PY140)	3,68%	0,00%	0,00%

Table 2.3.3.6 Total item non-response and number of observations

	Valid N	item nonresp
At risk of poverty rate by gender		
Males	4475	11
Females	4437	4
At risk of poverty rate by age		
Under 25	3711	6
25-34	1130	1
35-44	1252	3
45-54	1254	3
55-64	759	1
65+	806	1
At risk of poverty rate by tenure status		
Owner	8021	13
Tenant	891	2
At risk of poverty by main activity		
Employed	4829	10
Unemployed	752	0
Inactive	890	3
At risk of poverty rate by age and gender		
Male		
Under 25	1870	6
25-34	578	0
35-44	601	2
45-54	620	2
55-64	394	0
65+	412	1
Female		
Under 25	1841	0
25-34	552	1
35-44	651	1
45-54	634	1
55-64	365	1
65+	394	0
At risk of poverty rate by main activity and gender		
Male		
Employed	2556	7
Unemployed	338	0
Inactive	393	2
Female		
Employed	2273	3
Unemployed	414	0
Inactive	497	1
At risk of poverty rate by household type		
One person under 64 years	278	2
One person, 65 years or older	155	0
One person male	208	2
One person female	225	0
One person total	433	2
Two adults under 65 no dependent children	997	2
Two adults, no dependent children	614	2
Other, no dependent children	1436	2
Single parent, one or more dependent child	327	0
Two adults , 1 dependent child	933	0
Two adults, 2 dependent children	1428	0
Two adults, 3 or more dependent children	1236	0
Other households with dependent children	1999	9
Households without dependent children	2989	6
Households with dependent children	5923	9

2.4. Mode of data collection

The mode of data collection was telephone interview with the aid of the BLAISE system for data recording. One week before the start of data collection Statistics Iceland sent a letter to the sampled individuals explaining the purpose of the survey and requesting their cooperation.

The distribution of the selected respondents, household members aged 16 or over, and non-selected household members by data status (RB250) and by type of interview (RB260) is shown in the tables below.

Table 2.4 A Distribution of household members age 16 or over by data status (RB250)

Rot. Group	Data status	Sel_resp	All hhmembers	
			16+	Non_sel
1	Only registers (12)	0	7	7
	Reg. and interview (13)	725	1654	929
2	Only registers (12)	3	16	13
	Reg.s and interview (13)	724	1688	964
3	Only registers (12)	2	10	8
	Reg. and interview (13)	745	1677	932
4	Only registers (12)	1	7	6
	Reg. and interview (13)	758	1685	927
Total		2.958	6.744	3.786

Table 2.4 B Distribution of household members age 16 or over by type of interview (RB260)

Rot. Group	Type of interview	Sel_resp	All hhmembers	
			16+	Non_sel
1	CATI (3)	725	1654	929
2	CATI (3)	724	1688	964
3	CATI (3)	745	1677	932
4	CATI (3)	758	1685	927
Total		2.952	6.704	3.752

2.5. Interview duration

The mean interview duration was 20 minutes and 26 seconds.

3. Comparability

3.1. Basic concepts and definitions

The reference population

The reference population is persons aged 16 years or more at December 31 2004, living in private households.

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 are considered as household members if they spend most of their nights at the address of the household.

Individuals that are temporarily away (not having a private address elsewhere) and will return to the household are considered as household members. As example of this are children/youngsters in boarding schools, seamen / fishermen, individuals admitted to hospitals or imprisoned and those that are working for longer periods away from home.

The income reference period

The income reference period is the calendar year 2004.

The period for taxes on income and social insurance contributions

The period for taxes on income and social insurance contributions is the calendar year 2004.

The reference period for taxes on wealth

The reference period for taxes on wealth is the calendar year 2004.

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 four and a half months.

The total duration of the data collection of the sample

The interviews were carried out in 10 weeks time starting 11th of January and ending 9th of March 2005.

Basic information on activity status during the income reference period

Table 3.1 Activity status of persons 16 years or older

	Number	Percent
Employed	4787	71,0%
Unemployed	52	0,8%
Retired	752	11,2%
Other inactive	893	13,2%
Missing	260	3,9%
Total	6.744	100,0%

3.2. Components of income

3.2.1 Differences between the national definitions and standard EU-SILC definitions, and an assessment of the consequences of the differences mentioned will be reported for the following target variables.

This section gives an overview of how income data from registers have been organised in order to be comparable to the income concepts outlined in the 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). This also concerns typically “household” related incomes such as housing benefits and social assistance.

Total household gross income (HY010)

The sum of all income components:

HY040G+HY050G+HY060G+HY070G+HY080G+HY090G

Plus the sum for all household members of:

PY010G+PY020G+PY050G+PY090G+PY100G+PY110G+PY120G+PY130G+PY140G.

Total disposable household income (HY020)

Defined as total gross income (HY100G+HY130G+HY140G) minus (HY120G+HY130+HY140G)

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

Income from rental of property or land (HY040)

Income from hiring out property not contacted to business activity. Deviates from SILC definitions in that no information is available in the register on interest repayments, maintenance, insurance and other charges.

Family/children-related allowances (HY050)

Includes the following income components:

- Family allowance
- Maternity allowance (birth grant)
- Single parent's allowance

Social assistance (HY060)

Includes the total amount received in social assistance.

Housing allowances (HY070)

Includes rent benefits granted to tenants.

Regular inter-household cash transfers received - (HY080)

Includes alimonies received from former spouse. Information on regular private cash support received by children from parents living in a separate household is included from interview. The same goes for other inter household cash transfers received.

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

Interest and dividends are taxable income.

Income received by people aged under 16 (HY110)

Includes the following income components:

- Interests and dividends.

Those are registered in one sum on parent's tax return. If more than one child in the household it is divided equally between the children.

- Children with income.

-

Interest repayments on mortgage (HY100)

As interest repayments on mortgage are used for calculating fiscal benefits to owner-occupiers are to be found in registers.

Regular taxes on wealth (HY120)

As the taxes are paid in the following year information is sought in registers from the year before.

Regular inter-household cash transfers paid (HY130)

Information on alimonies paid and regular private cash support to children from parents living in a separate household is included from interview. The same goes for other inter household cash transfers received.

Total Tax on income and social contribution (HY140)

It includes assessed income, wealth taxes and social contributions.

Repayment/receipts for tax adjustment (HY145)

It is included in HY140.

Employee cash or near cash income (PY010)

Deviation from the SILC concept:

It is not possible to separate from employee cash income redundancy compensations that should be included under unemployment benefits. The same goes for wages and salaries during sickness, which is a major part of sickness benefits paid in Iceland.

Cash benefits or losses from self-employment (PY050)

Entrepreneurial income is collected *net* in register data. Royalties are registered as “other income” and not possible to separate and not include here.

Unemployment benefits (PY090)

Deviation from the SILC concept:

It is not possible to separate from employee cash income (PY010) redundancy compensations that should be included here or in PY100.

Old-age function (PY100)

Includes the following income components:

- Old age pension from social security scheme (basic pension).
- Old age pension from compulsory private pension funds (employment pension).

Survivors' function (PY110)

Includes the following income components:

- Survivors' pension from social security scheme.
- Survivors' pension from compulsory private pension funds.
- Death grants.

Social benefits in the sickness (PY120)

All sickness benefits that are included in wages and salaries cannot be specified in registers and are included in PY010.

Disability benefits (PY130);

Includes the following income components:

- Disability benefits and pension from social security scheme (basic pension).
- Disability benefits and pension from compulsory private pension funds (employment pension).

Education related allowance (PY140)

It includes scholarship of various kinds and “educational alimony” received by children at the age of 18 to 20 years living with single parent (e.g. students).

3.2.2. The source or procedure used for the collection of income variables

Tax register is use for all income variables except for HY080 and HY130 (Regular inter-household cash transfer received and paid). For those two variables information are collected through the interview. Those are also the only income variables where imputation was used.

3.2.3. 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 contributions to social security are collected separately from tax registers.

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

All income data are 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 with external sources since the source we would compare with is the source used in SILC.