

# Standard documentation Meta information

(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)

on

## EU-SILC 2023

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## Executive Summary

EU-SILC (Statistics on Income and Living Conditions) is a survey that provides statistics on income and living conditions of persons living in private households which is harmonized on European level. It is an important foundation of European social statistics. The main topics of EU-SILC are income, employment, housing and many other domains, including subjective questions on health and the financial situation that allow for a description of the living conditions of people living in private households. EU-SILC is the main data source of the social inclusion indicators that were passed by the European Council and are meant to measure poverty and social exclusion. Until 2010, the goals set by the European Council in Lisbon (2000) aimed at alleviating poverty, helping to better understand poverty and social exclusion in the European context and supporting exchange of experience between member states in this context. Subsequently to this so-called Lisbon strategy, in 2010 the new strategy “Europe 2020” was set out. It aimed at lifting at least 20 million people in the EU out of risk of poverty or social exclusion by the year 2020. Following the Europe 2020 Strategy the Action Plan of the European pillar of social rights aims at a reduction of at least 15 million in the number of people affected by risk of poverty or social exclusion in the EU by the year 2030.<sup>1</sup> The indicator groups, the Social Protection Committee (SPC) and the Employment Committee (EMCO), worked on the revision of the indicator set of the social scoreboard. Additional to its political significance, EU-SILC is one of the most frequently requested data sources for research projects in the social sciences on national and international level. Since 2005 EU-SILC also contains ad-hoc modules on a yearly basis that cover special topics concerning certain domains of living conditions. In 2023 these were questions on Labour Market, Housing, Housing Difficulties, the intergenerational transmission of advantages and disadvantages and ad hoc module questions on energy efficiency.

In Austria, EU-SILC was carried out for the first time in 2003 by Statistics Austria, as a cross-sectional survey. From 2004 onwards, EU-SILC has been implemented as an integrated cross-sectional and longitudinal design with four rotating panels that are surveyed for four years each. This means each year one rotational panel leaves the survey and the first wave of a newly selected sample is started. The sample is drawn from a sampling frame based on the central residence register (Zentrales Melderegister – ZMR). In 2023, the response rate of the newly selected first wave amounted to 44.7% of eligible addresses in the gross sample drawn from the ZMR. This was a slightly higher response rate than the one of the previous survey year 2022 (44.1%). The response rate of the follow-up waves (i.e. rotations not surveyed for the first time) was 85.2%. In 2023 the net sample included 12,482 persons (of whom 1 989 persons were under 16) living in 6,122 households. For EU-SILC all persons aged 16 or over in the selected households are interviewed individually. Additionally, substantial information about children (younger than 16 years old) is surveyed.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/economy-works-people/jobs-growth-and-investment/european-pillar-social-rights/european-pillar-social-rights-action-plan\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/economy-works-people/jobs-growth-and-investment/european-pillar-social-rights/european-pillar-social-rights-action-plan_en) (retrieved on 30.06.2023)

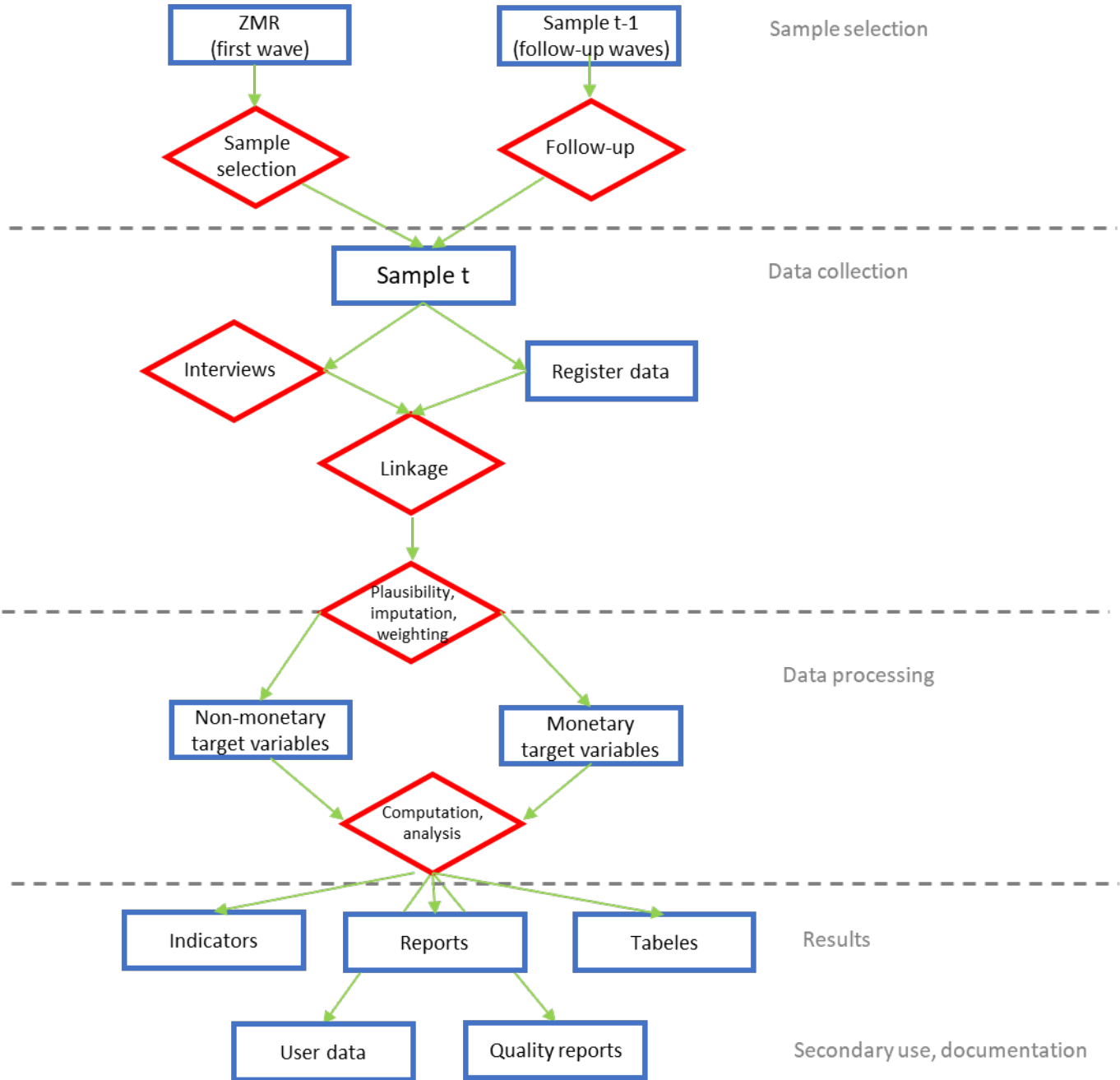
Participation is voluntary and carried out by CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing), CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing), and CAWI (Computer Assisted Web Interviewing) technique. The CAWI mode of interviewing for EU-SILC was piloted in 2021, and in 2023 the questionnaire for the different interview modes was harmonised.

The legal basis of EU-SILC are EU-regulations and a national regulation on income and living conditions (Einkommens- und Lebensbedingungen-Statistikverordnung – ELStV) of the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection (Bundesministerium für Arbeit, Soziales und Konsumentenschutz – BMASK)<sup>2</sup>. From 2022 onwards, EU-SILC is administered by the regulation of the Integrated European Social Statistics (IESS). This regulation sets a frame for all European statistics on individuals and households. As was the case for previous years, the essential components of the household income of EU-SILC 20223 (income reference period 2022) are calculated using income data from administrative registers. About 87% of the volume of the total household income is gathered in this manner. The main results of EU-SILC are published each year on the website of Statistics Austria. Anonymised micro data of the Austrian datasets are made available for scientific use without charge. A European user data-base containing all participating countries is disseminated by Eurostat. Figure 1 presents the data production process of EU-SILC starting with the selection of the sample and ending with the availability of the results of a survey year.

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<sup>2</sup> Verordnung des Bundesministers für Arbeit, Soziales und Konsumentenschutz über die Statistik der Einkommen und Lebensbedingungen, BGBl. II Nr. 277/2010: <https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&Gesetzesnummer=20006884>

Figure 1: Data production process of EU-SILC



## EU-SILC 2023 – Main Key Points

<b>Subject matter</b>	Survey of household income and living conditions based on Eurostat guidelines
<b>Population</b>	Persons living in private households in Austria
<b>Type of statistics</b>	Primary statistical survey (CAPI, CATI, and CAWI Interviews) including data from administrative registers
<b>Data sources/Survey techniques</b>	Sample survey of 6,122 households  CAPI-, CATI-Interviews carried out by the survey infrastructure of Statistics Austria; self-administered CAWI interviews Integrated cross-sectional and longitudinal survey
<b>Reference period or due day</b>	2023, income reference period: 2022
<b>Periodicity</b>	Annual
<b>Survey participation (in case of a survey)</b>	Voluntary
<b>Main legal acts</b>	Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council EU 2019/1799, three implementing regulations for all surveys covered by the IESS and two EU-SILC specific regulations. Regulation of the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection (Bundesministerium für Arbeit, Soziales und Konsumentenschutz) about the statistics on income and living conditions (Einkommens- und Lebensbedingungen-Statistikverordnung – ELStV) <a href="#">BGBl. II Nr 277/2010</a>
<b>Most detailed regional breakdown</b>	Austria - With limitations Austrian provinces (NUTS 2)
<b>Availability of results</b>	Final results: survey year t + 4 months
<b>Other</b>	EU-SILC is the basis of indicators of the Europe 2030 strategy against poverty and social exclusion. EU-SILC is the basis of national indicators of social inclusion. EU-SILC also provides input for the Austrian SDGs. Results from EU-SILC are included in publications like the Statistical Yearbook, "Migration und Integration", "Bildung in Zahlen", wtc.