



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EUROSTAT

Directorate F: Social and information society statistics
Unit F-3: Living conditions and social protection



2009 EU-SILC MODULE ON MATERIAL DEPRIVATION

0. INTRODUCTION

The Commission Regulation 362/2008 presents the list of target secondary variables relating to material deprivation. This ad-hoc Module was carried out in 2009 by the EU-27 countries plus Iceland and Norway.

The main characteristics of the 2009 Module are the following:

- **Units**

The target variables relate to three different types of units:

1. **Household:** The variables relating to housing, the environment, financial stress and durables (except possession of mobile phones) are asked at household level and refer to the household as a whole.
2. **Individual:** Information on the possession of a mobile phone, basic needs, unmet needs as well as leisure and social activities in the category "adult items" must be provided for each current household member, or, if applicable, for all selected respondents, aged 16 and over.
3. **Child:** Children's items relate to all household members aged under 16 to be compatible with the data collection defined in the EU-SILC Framework Regulation. The questions must be answered by the household respondent for the whole group of children aged under 16. If at least one child does not have the item in question, the whole group of children in the household is assumed not to have the item.

- **Modes of data collection**

For variables asked at household level (section 1 in the list below), the mode of data collection is personal interview with the household respondent.

For variables asked at individual level (section 2 in the list below), the mode of data collection is personal interview with all current household members aged 16 and over or, if applicable, with each selected respondent.

For children's variables (section 3 in the list below), the mode of collection is personal interview with the household respondent.

Owing to the characteristics of the information to be collected, only personal interviews (proxy interviews as an exception for persons temporarily absent or incapacitated) are allowed.

- **Reference periods**

All target variables relate to the current situation as the reference period, except for:

- the two variables on the expectation of the household to change dwelling, which refers to the next six months
- and the variables on unmet needs and on the visits to general practitioners (GP's) and specialists, which refer to the past twelve months.

- **Data transmission**

The target secondary variables on 'material deprivation' should be sent to EUROSTAT in the household data file (H) and in the personal data file (P) after the target primary variables.

- **Target variables**

The 2009 Module consists on thirty variables to be asked at household level (six of them optional) and seven variables to be asked at personal level. The variables are the following:

1. HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ASKED AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

1.1. HOUSING ITEMS

- HD010: Place to live with hot running water
- HD020: Expectation of household to change dwelling
- HD025: Main reason for the expectation to change dwelling
- HD030: Shortage of space in dwelling
- Optional HD035: Size of dwelling in square metres

1.2. ENVIRONMENT ITEMS

- HD040: Litter lying around in the neighbourhood
- HD050: Damaged public amenities (bus stops, lamp posts, pavements, etc.) in the neighbourhood
- HD060: Accessibility of public transport
- HD070: Accessibility of postal or banking services

1.3. FINANCIAL STRESS

- HD080: Replacing worn-out furniture

1.4. DURABLES

- HD090: Internet connection

2. ITEMS ASKED AT INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

2.1. DURABLES

- PD010: Mobile phone

2.2. BASIC NEEDS

- PD020: Replace worn-out clothes by some new (not second-hand) ones
- PD030: Two pairs of properly fitting shoes (including a pair of all-weather shoes)

2.3. UNMET NEEDS

- PD040: Visits to general practitioners (GP's) and specialists, excluding dentists and ophthalmologists

2.4. LEISURE AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

- PD050: Get-together with friends/family (relatives) for a drink/meal at least once a month
- PD060: Regularly participate in a leisure activity such as sport, cinema, concert
- PD070: Spend a small amount of money each week on yourself

3. CHILDREN ITEMS ASKED AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

3.1. BASIC NEEDS FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD CHILDREN

- HD100: Some new (not second-hand) clothes
- HD110: Two pairs of properly fitting shoes (including a pair of all-weather shoes)

- HD120: Fresh fruit and vegetables once a day
- HD130: Three meals a day
- HD140: One meal with meat, chicken or fish (or vegetarian equivalent) at least once a day

3.2. EDUCATIONAL OR LEISURE NEEDS FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD CHILDREN

- HD150: Books at home suitable for their age
- HD160: Outdoor leisure equipment (bicycle, roller skates, etc.)
- HD170: Indoor games (educational baby toys, building blocks, board games, computer games, etc.)
- HD180: Regular leisure activity (swimming, playing an instrument, youth organisations, etc.)
- HD190: Celebrations on special occasions (birthdays, name days, religious events, etc.)
- HD200: Invite friends round to play and eat from time to time
- HD210: Participate in school trips and school events that cost money
- HD220: Suitable place to study or do homework
- HD230: Outdoor space in the neighbourhood where children can play safely
- Optional HD240: Go on holiday away from home at least 1 week per year

3.3. MEDICAL NEEDS FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD CHILDREN

- Optional HD250: Unmet need for consulting a general practitioner or specialist, excluding dentists and ophthalmologists
- Optional HD255: Main reason for unmet need for consulting a general practitioner or specialist, excluding dentists and ophthalmologists
- Optional HD260: Unmet need for consulting a dentist
- Optional HD265: Main reason for unmet need for consulting a dentist

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE DEFINITIONS

• Definitions

1. Housing items

1.1. Place to live with hot running water:

(a) "Yes" answer means that there is a least one hot water tap in the housing unit.

(b) "No" answer means that there is no hot water tap in the housing unit because:

- either there is a hot water tap available within the building but outside the housing unit,
- either there is a hot water tap available but outside the building,
- either there is no hot water tap available at all.

1.2. Change of dwelling:

(a) The reference period is 'the next 6 months'. If the household expects to change dwelling for several reasons during the reference period, the main reason should be given.

(b) Eviction/distrain: forced to move for legal reasons.

- (c) Financial difficulties: problems paying rent/mortgage.
 - (d) Family-related reasons: change in marital/partnership status, to establish own household, to follow partner/parents, to obtain better school or care facilities for children or other dependants.
 - (e) Employment-related reasons: start new job or transfer of existing job, looking for work or made redundant, to be closer to work/easier to commute, retirement.
 - (f) Other reasons: housing-related reasons (desire to change accommodation or tenure status, wanting new or better house/apartment, seeking better neighbourhood/less crime), studies-related reasons (attending or leaving college/university), health and other reasons.
- 1.3. Shortage of space:
- (a) The variable refers to the respondent's opinion / perception about shortage of space in the dwelling.
- 1.4. Size of dwelling in square metres (optional variable):
- (a) The dwelling size refers to the useful floor space using the same definition as for the population and housing census and as recommended in the Programme of Current Housing and Building Statistics for Countries in the UNECE Region (Statistical Standards and Studies No. 43). Useful floor space is defined as the floor space measured inside the outer walls excluding non-habitable cellars and attics and, in multi-dwelling buildings, all common spaces.
2. Environmental items
- 2.1 Neighbourhood:
- (a) The concept of neighbourhood should be understood as the concept of local area from the EU-SILC core, which refers to the place situated close to the place of residence (where you usually shop, walk, the way home).
 - (b) The variables "litter lying around" and "damaged public amenities" refer to the area deprivation, namely to whether respondents perceive their area to be dirty and unpleasant. These aim to assess respondents' views of their neighbourhood. The interest is in establishing frequency. Respondents are asked how frequent are the two types of incidents in their area, according to their opinion/ perception.
- 2.2 Accessibility:
- (a) Accessibility of services is to be assessed in terms of physical and technical access, and opening hours, but not in terms of quality, price and similar aspects. Consequently, the access should refer to an objective and physical reality. It should not be based on a subjective feeling.
 - (b) Physical access has to be assessed in terms of distance but also of infrastructure and equipment for example for respondents with a physical

disability. The services provided at home should also be taken into account, if they are actually used by the household. Accessibility has thus to be evaluated regardless of the way(s) the household access to the service.

- (c) The respondent should give an answer for the household as a whole. If the respondent does not use a service but other household member(s) do, he or she should assess the accessibility according to this(these) other household member(s).
 - (d) Public transport: bus, metro, tram and similar.
 - (e) Postal or banking services: to send and receive ordinary and parcel post, withdraw cash, transfer money and pay bills. Technical access could also intervene. Accessibility in terms of phone-banking and PC-banking should also be part of the assessment, if these ways are actually used by the household. Accessibility has to be evaluated according to the ease/difficulty to transfer and withdraw money whether this it is done by phone-banking and PC-banking or in a bank or post office.
3. Financial stress
- (a) Furniture: objects such as tables, chairs, beds, desks, dressers, cupboards, etc. kept in the dwelling to make it suitable or comfortable for living or working in.
4. Durables
- (a) The possession of durables relates to the access of the specific product or service for the private use of the household or the individual. It can be rented or shared. If the product is shared, access to it should be easy and appropriate to the household or individual needs.
 - (b) Mobile phone: the affordability of this durable should not only refer to the phone itself but also to the phone bills.
5. Basic needs for adults
- (a) Clothes: the focus is on the replacement of the worn out clothes by some new clothes. Not all clothes must be new, some can be second-hand.
 - (b) Shoes: this concept has to be understood in a broad sense. It could include boots, sandals, etc. according to the climatic conditions of the country.
6. Unmet needs for adults
- (a) Visits to general practitioners (GP's) and specialists, excluding dentists and ophthalmologists: hospital out-patient visits and home visits by the doctor should be included while visits due to illness of other persons, such as children or elderly relatives, should be excluded.

7. Leisure and social activities for adults

- (a) Friends: people the respondent gets together with in his/her spare time (i.e. after working hours, at weekends, or for holidays) and with whom the respondent shares private matters.
- (b) Family (relatives): shall be understood in the widest sense, and shall include father/mother/children, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces and families-in-law.
- (c) To get-together for a drink/meal: means spending time eating and/or drinking with friends or family (relatives) at home or elsewhere (restaurant, pub, etc.). The "No, because cannot afford it" answer refers to the financial exclusion/deprivation while the "No, for some other reason" answer refers to another type of exclusion, namely the social exclusion.
- (d) To spend a small amount of money on yourself: means to freely spend money e.g. to go to the movies, to buy a gift for a friend, to go to the hairdresser, etc. The "Yes" answer means that the person can afford to spend this money without having to consult anyone. The variable aims to capture indirectly the effects of the intra-familial income distribution.

8. Basic needs for children

- (a) Clothes: the focus is on the affordability for the child to have some new clothes. Not all clothes must be new, some can be second-hand. This is particularly the case for young children.
- (b) Shoes: this concept has to be understood in a broad sense. It could include boots, sandals, etc. according to the climatic conditions of the country.

9. Educational or leisure needs for children

- (a) Books suitable for the age: means that the books are adapted to the age and the level of knowledge of the child.
- (b) Suitable place to study or do homework: means a silent place with enough room and light.
- (c) Variables HD160 "Outdoor leisure equipment (bicycle, roller skates, etc.)" and HD230 "Outdoor space in the neighbourhood where children can play safely" should not be confounded as a "Yes" answer for the first variable corresponds to the situation where there is at least one outdoor leisure equipment for each child of the household which is adapted to his/her age and physical conditions, while the second variable refers to the area deprivation, namely to whether it lacks pleasant and open places for children to play in the neighbourhood.

2. DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS OF THE VARIABLES

1. HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ASKED AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

1.1. HOUSING ITEMS

2.1. HD010: Place to live with hot running water

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: Household</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent or registers</i>	
Values	
1	yes
2	no
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing

The "Yes" answer means that there is a least one hot water tap in the housing unit.

The "No" answer means that there is no hot water tap in the housing unit because:

- either there is a hot water tap available within the building but outside the housing unit,
- either there is a hot water tap available but outside the building,
- either there is no hot water tap available at all.

Temporarily limitation in the water availability (shortage of water at the drought period) should not be considered as deprivation, and so should not result in a "No" answer. Deprivation is to be considered only in case of severe limitation. Consequently, only severe limitation in water availability should result in a "No" answer.

The prevalence of this item could be high in some countries,. It is however not the case for all EU-SILC participating countries so that information is interesting to collect.

2.2. HD020: Expectation of household to change dwelling

<i>Reference period: next 6 months</i>	
<i>Unit: Household</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	yes
2	no
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing

This variable records if the household expects to change dwelling in the next 6 months whatever the reason can be.

If the household expects to break up and if at least one member stays in the dwelling the answer should be "No". Only in case of all household members leave the accommodation, the answer will be "Yes".

2.3. HD025: Main reason for the expectation to change dwelling

<i>Reference period: next 6 months</i>	
<i>Unit: Household</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Household will be forced to leave, since notice has been/will be given by the landlord on termination of the contract
2	Household will be forced to leave, since notice has been/will be given by the landlord in the absence of a formal contract
3	Household will be forced to leave because of eviction or distraint
4	Household will be forced to leave for financial difficulties
5	Household will leave for a family-related reason
6	Household will leave for an employment-related reason
7	Household will leave for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (HD020=2)

If the household expect to change dwelling for several reasons during the reference period, the main reason should be given.

The categories are defined as follows:

Eviction/distraint

The household will be forced to move for legal reasons.

Financial difficulties

The expectation to change dwelling is due to problems for paying the rent or mortgage, but no legal decisions have occurred.

Family-related reason

This category relates to a change in the marital or partnership status. The change of dwelling can be expected in order to establish own household, to follow partner/parents.

The household can also expect to change dwelling to obtain better school or care facilities for children or other dependants.

Employment-related reasons

This category includes the following reasons:

- to start a new job,

- the transfer of existing job,
- looking for work,
- to be closer to work/easier to commute,
- to be made redundant,
- retirement.

Other reasons

In this category are included the housing related reasons like:

- the desire to change of tenure status,
- to want a new or a better house/apartment,
- to seek a better neighbourhood (with less crime or more shops, more facilities, etc.).

The studies-related reasons, for example a change of dwelling in order to attend or to leave the college/university, also correspond to this category.

This category is also concerned with the health and other reasons.

2.4. HD030: Shortage of space in dwelling

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: Household</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	yes
2	no
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing

This variable refers to the respondent's opinion/feeling about shortage of space in dwelling.

2.5. Optional HD035: Size of dwelling in square metres

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: Household</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent or registers</i>	
Values	
0-999	square meters
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing

The dwelling size refers to the useful floor space using the same definition as for the population and housing census and as recommended in the Programme of Current Housing and Building Statistics for Countries in the UNECE Region (Statistical Standards and Studies No. 43).

Useful floor space is defined as the floor space measured inside the outer walls excluding non-habitable cellars and attics and, in multi-dwelling buildings, all common spaces.

Although this variable is optional, the Task Force on “Material deprivation” highly recommends to collect this information on useful floor space so that a good measure of the density standard (to construct overcrowding indicators) can be obtained. Indeed, the useful floor space in square metres divided by the number of occupants in a housing unit is generally regarded as a better measure of density standard than the number of rooms divided by the number of occupants in a housing unit because rooms vary in size.

However, in some countries the population may not know, with any degree of accuracy, the useful floor space. So, for comparative purposes countries are asked to collect both the number of rooms per occupant and the useful floor space in square metres per occupant where possible.

1.2. ENVIRONMENT ITEMS

2.6. HD040: Litter lying around in the neighbourhood

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: Household</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Very frequently
2	Frequently
3	Sometimes
4	Rarely or never
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing

The concept underlying the 2 items on the neighbourhood comes from existing surveys (namely the British Poverty and Social Exclusion survey (1999)).

The concept of neighbourhood should be understood as the concept of local area from the EU-SILC core, which refers to the place situated close to the place of residence (where you usually shop, walk, the way home).

The questions on "litter lying around" and "damaged public amenities" refer to the area deprivation, namely to whether respondents perceive their area to be dirty and unpleasant. These aim to assess respondents' views of their neighbourhood. The interest is in establishing frequency. Respondents are asked how frequent are the two types of incidents in their area, according to their opinion/ perception.

2.7. HD050: Damaged public amenities (bus stops, lamp posts, pavements, etc.) in the neighbourhood

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: Household</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Very frequently
2	Frequently
3	Sometimes
4	Rarely or never
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing

The concept underlying the 2 items on the neighbourhood comes from existing surveys (namely the British Poverty and Social Exclusion survey (1999)).

The concept of neighbourhood should be understood as the concept of local area from the EU-SILC core, which refers to the place situated close to the place of residence (where you usually shop, walk, the way home).

The questions on "litter lying around" and "damaged public amenities" refer to the area deprivation, namely to whether respondents perceive their area to be dirty and unpleasant. These aim to assess respondents' views of their neighbourhood. The interest is in establishing frequency. Respondents are asked how frequent are the two types of incidents in their area, according to their opinion/ perception.

2.8. HD060: Accessibility of public transport

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: Household</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	with great difficulty
2	with some difficulty
3	easily
4	very easily
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	n/a (public transport not used by household)

Accessibility

Accessibility of the services is to be assessed in terms of physical and technical access, and opening hours, but not in terms of quality, price and similar aspects. Consequently, the access should refer to an objective and physical reality. It should not be based on a subjective feeling.

Physical access has to be assessed in terms of distance but also of infrastructure and equipment for example for respondents with a physical disability.

The respondent should give an answer for the household as a whole. If the respondent does not use a service but other household member(s) do, he or she should assess the accessibility according to this(these) other household member(s). Accessibility should be considered at the level of the household, the difficulty to access has to be evaluated for the household as a whole. If one member of the household has a disability and can hardly access a service (which he needs as an individual) and the household has no resource available to provide him support, or really represents a burden for the household, in this case the access to the service would be considered as difficult for the household.

Public transport

Public transport refer to the bus, metro, tram and similar.

As accessibility should be assessed in terms of physical and technical access, if the respondent or another household member has a physical disability and if the available public transport are not adapted to his disability, a difficulty in the accessibility should be recorded.

If public transport are too far away or have inappropriate timetable, access would also be considered as difficult.

If the service is not available, the answer should be "with great difficulty".

2.9. HD070: Accessibility of postal or banking services

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: Household</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	with great difficulty
2	with some difficulty
3	easily
4	very easily
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	n/a (services not used by household)

Accessibility

Accessibility of the services is to be assessed in terms of physical and technical access, and opening hours, but not in terms of quality, price and similar aspects. Consequently, the access should refer to an objective and physical reality. It should not be based on a subjective feeling.

Physical access has to be assessed in terms of distance but also of infrastructure and equipment for example for respondents with a physical disability.

The services provided at home should also be taken into account, if they are actually used by the household. Accessibility has thus to be evaluated regardless of the way(s) the household access to the service.

The respondent should give an answer for the household as a whole. If the respondent does not use a service but other household member(s) do, he or she should assess the accessibility according to this(these) other household member(s).

Accessibility should be considered at the level of the household, the difficulty to access has to be evaluated for the household as a whole.

If one member of the household has a disability, but if another member can access easily to the service for him/her, the access to the service causes any problem for the household in the sense that it does not represent any burden for the household, then the service would be considered as easily accessible by the household.

On the other hand, if one member of the household has a disability and can hardly access a service (which he needs as an individual) and the household has no resource available to provide him support (e.g. if no other member can access easily to the service for him/her), or really represents a burden for the household, in this case the access to the service would be considered as difficult for the household.

When assessing the accessibility, the physical access and the opening hours should be taken into account. For the postal and banking services, technical access could also intervene. Accessibility in terms of phone-banking and PC-banking should also be part of the assessment, if these ways are actually used by the household. Accessibility has to be evaluated according to the ease/difficulty to transfer and withdraw money whether this is done by phone-banking and PC-banking or in a bank or post office.

Postal services

The postal services refer to the sending and receiving ordinary and parcel post.

Banking services

The banking services refer to the following actions: withdraw cash, transfer money and pay bills.

1.3. FINANCIAL STRESS

2.10. HD080: Replacing worn-out furniture

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: Household</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing

Furniture

The term “furniture” corresponds to the objects such as tables, chairs, beds, desks, dressers, cupboards, etc. kept in the dwelling to make it suitable or comfortable for living or working in.

This variable is different from the EU-SILC core HS060 “Capacity to face unexpected financial expenses” which aims to capture problems of shortage of money and where, about the time scale, the focus is on the short term. The list of concerned expenses is also different as this variable HD080 only refers to furniture while examples for HS060 are surgery, funeral, major repair in the house and replacement of durables like washing machine, car.

1.4. DURABLES

2.11. HD090: Internet connection

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: Household</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing

The possession of durables relates to the access of the specific good or service for the private use of the household. It can be rented or shared. If the good is shared access to it should be easy and appropriate to household needs.

Availability of the durable for the private use of the household corresponds to a "Yes" answer.

Internet connection

Affordability of the internet connection is to be assessed independently of the affordability of the computer.

Internet connection through mobile phone, television, etc. is also to be considered.

2. ITEMS ASKED AT INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

2.1. DURABLES

2.12. PD010: Mobile phone

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all current household members aged 16 and over</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview (proxy as an exception for persons temporarily away or in incapacity)</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because cannot afford it

3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-3	not selected respondent

The possession of durables relates to the access of the specific good or service for the private use of the individual. It can be rented or shared. If the good is shared access to it should be easy and appropriate to individual needs.

Availability of the durable for the private use of the respondent corresponds to a "Yes" answer.

Mobile phone

The affordability of this durable should not only refer to the phone itself but also to the phone bills.

2.2. BASIC NEEDS

2.13. PD020: Replace worn-out clothes by some new (not second-hand) ones

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all current household members aged 16 and over</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview (proxy as an exception for persons temporarily away or in incapacity)</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-3	not selected respondent

The focus is on the replacement of the worn out clothes by some new clothes. Not all clothes must be new, some can be second-hand.

The variable refers to worn out clothes, not to old-fashioned ones.

2.14. PD030: Two pairs of properly fitting shoes (including a pair of all-weather shoes)

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all current household members aged 16 and over</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview (proxy as an exception for persons temporarily away or in incapacity)</i>	
Values	
1	Yes

2	No, because cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-3	not selected respondent

Shoes

The concept of shoes has to be understood in a broad sense. It could include boots, sandals, etc. according to the climatic conditions of the concerned country.

On the other hand, all-weather shoes could be defined as any daily life shoes with the exception of sandals and boots.

2.3. UNMET NEEDS

2.15. PD040: Number of visits to general practitioners (GP's) and specialists, excluding dentists and ophthalmologists

<i>Reference period: past twelve months</i>	
<i>Unit: all current household members aged 16 and over</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview (proxy as an exception for persons temporarily away or in incapacity) or registers</i>	
Values	
1	Not at all
2	1-2 times
3	3-5 times
4	6-9 times
5	10 times or more
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-3	not selected respondent

Hospital out-patient visits and home visits by the doctor should be included in the number of visits.

On the other hand, visits due to illness of other persons, such as children or elderly relatives, should be excluded.

The concerned medical visits are slightly different from the core variables on unmet needs where there are two separate questions on one the one hand, GP's and all specialists including ophthalmologists and on the other hand, dentists. In this 2009 module variable, ophthalmologists have to be excluded.

The difference between ophthalmologist and optician is the following. Opticians and ophthalmologists all provide eye care services. Ophthalmologists examine eyes and prescribe vision correcting lenses. Opticians manufacture and dispense corrective lenses.

2.4. LEISURE AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

2.16. PD050: Get-together with friends/family (relatives) for a drink/meal at least once a month

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all current household members aged 16 and over</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview (proxy as an exception for persons temporarily away or in incapacity)</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-3	not selected respondent

Friends

The friends are people the respondent gets together with in his/her spare time (i.e. after working hours, at weekends, or for holidays) and with whom the respondent shares private matters.

Family (relatives)

The family, or relatives, shall be understood in the widest sense, and shall include father/mother/children, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces and families-in-law.

To get together for a drink/meal

To get-together for a drink/meal means spending time eating and/or drinking with friends or family (relatives) at home or elsewhere (restaurant, pub, etc.).

The "No, because cannot afford it" answer for getting together for a drink/meal refers to the financial exclusion/ deprivation.

The "No, for some other reason" answer for this variable refers to another type of exclusion, namely the social exclusion.

This formulation is thought to be more adapted in a cross national perspective because having friends at home is not the main way to have social relation in all countries. This variable aims to take into account the multi-cultural specificities as well as the financial and social aspects of deprivation.

2.17. PD060: Regularly participate in a leisure activity such as sport, cinema, concert

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all current household members aged 16 and over</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview (proxy as an exception for persons temporarily away or in incapacity)</i>	

Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-3	not selected respondent

Regularly

The term “regularly” is linked to the considered activity(ies) and is to be self-defined by the respondent.

However, a "yes" answer should imply that leisure activities (all together) are done several times per year.

Leisure activity

The considered activity(ies) should occur outside home.

This(these) would cost some money for entrance and/or travel costs (e.g. swimming), for purchase costs (e.g. riding a bicycle) or for participating costs in an organised play events (e.g. football club fees).

The formal organisation of activities is not an important element.

2.18. PD070: Spend a small amount of money each week on yourself

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all current household members aged 16 and over</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview (proxy as an exception for persons temporarily away or in incapacity)</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-3	not selected respondent

To spend a small amount of money on yourself means to freely spend money e.g. to go to the movies, to buy a gift for a friend, to go to the hairdresser, etc.

The "Yes" answer means that the person can afford to spend this money without having to consult anyone.

The variable aims to capture indirectly the effects of the intra-familial income distribution.

3. CHILDREN ITEMS ASKED AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

3.1. BASIC NEEDS

2.19. HD100: Some new (not second-hand) clothes

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>between 1 and 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children aged above 1

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and above 1.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be “No, because the household cannot afford it”.

If there is/are child/children under 1 year, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag "-4" should be used.

Clothes

The focus is on the affordability for the child to have some new clothes. Not all clothes must be new, some can be second-hand. This is particularly the case for young children.

The variable refers to worn out clothes, not to old-fashioned ones.

2.20. HD110: Two pairs of properly fitting shoes (including a pair of all-weather shoes)

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>between 1 and 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	

1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children aged above 1

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and above 1.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be “No, because the household cannot afford it”.

If there is/are child/children under 1 year, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag "-4" should be used.

Shoes

The concept of shoes has to be understood in a broad sense. It could include boots, sandals, etc. according to the climatic conditions of the concerned country.

On the other hand, all-weather shoes could be defined as any daily life shoes with the exception of sandals and boots.

2.21. HD120: Fresh fruit and vegetables once a day

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>between 1 and 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children aged above 1

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and above 1.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be “No, because the household cannot afford it”.

If there is/are child/children under 1 year, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag value "-4" should be used.

All children of the household don't have to eat their fresh fruits and vegetables at the same time; they don't have to share the same food. The fresh fruits and vegetables can be eaten at different time and/or place.

2.22. HD130: Three meals a day

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>between 1 and 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children aged above 1

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and above 1.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be "No, because the household cannot afford it".

If there is/are child/children under 1 year, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag value "-4" should be used.

All children of the household don't have to eat their three meals at the same time; they don't have to share the same food. The three meals can be eaten at different time and/or place.

Three meals a day should be understood as the breakfast, the lunch and the dinner. The meal does not need to be cooked necessarily.

2.23. HD140: One meal with meat, chicken or fish (or vegetarian equivalent) at least once a day

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>between 1 and 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing

-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children aged above 1

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and above 1.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be “No, because the household cannot afford it”.

If there is/are child/children under 1 year, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag value "-4" should be used.

All children of the household don't have to eat meat, chicken or fish at the same time; they don't have to share the same food. The meat, chicken or fish can be eaten at different time and/or place.

3.2. EDUCATIONAL OR LEISURE NEEDS

2.24. HD150: Books at home suitable for their age

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>between 1 and 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children aged above 1

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and above 1.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be “No, because the household cannot afford it”.

If there is/are child/children under 1 year, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag value "-4" should be used.

Suitable book

Books suitable for the age means that the books are adapted to the age and the level of knowledge of the child.

School books are not to be taken into account.

2.25. HD160: Outdoor leisure equipment (bicycle, roller skates, etc.)

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>between 1 and 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children aged above 1

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and above 1.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be “No, because the household cannot afford it”.

If there is/are child/children under 1 year, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag value "-4" should be used.

The “Yes” answer corresponds to the situation where there is at least one outdoor leisure equipment (like a bicycle, roller skates, etc.) for each child of the household, which is adapted to his/her age and physical conditions.

Very cheap or self-made equipment are to be included. In addition, it is not strictly required that all children in the household have leisure equipment/games of their own. Sharing is possible.

This variable should not be confounded with variable HD230 “Outdoor space in the neighbourhood where children can play safely” which refers to the area deprivation, namely to whether it lacks pleasant and open places for children to play in the neighbourhood.

2.26. HD170: Indoor games (educational baby toys, building blocks, board games, computer games, etc.)

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>between 1 and 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason

Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children aged above 1

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and above 1.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be “No, because the household cannot afford it”.

If there is/are child/children under 1 year, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag value "-4" should be used.

The “Yes” answer corresponds to the situation where there is at least one indoor game (educational baby toys, building blocks, board games, computer games, etc.) for each child of the household, which is adapted to his/her age and level of knowledge.

Very cheap or self-made equipment are to be included. In addition, it is not strictly required that all children in the household have leisure equipment/games of their own. Sharing is possible.

2.27. HD180: Regular leisure activity (swimming, playing an instrument, youth organisations, etc.)

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>between 1 and 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children aged above 1

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and above 1.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be “No, because the household cannot afford it”.

If there is/are child/children under 1 year, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag value "-4" should be used.

Regular

The term “regular” is linked to the considered activity(ies) and is to be self-defined by the household respondent.

However, a "yes" answer should imply that leisure activities (all together) are done several times per year.

Leisure activity

The considered activity(ies) should occur outside home.

This(these) would cost some money for entrance and/or travel costs (e.g. swimming), for purchase costs (e.g. riding a bicycle) or for participating costs in an organised play events (e.g. football club fees).

The formal organisation of activities is not an important element.

2.28. HD190: Celebrations on special occasions (birthdays, name days, religious events, etc.)

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>between 1 and 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children aged above 1

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and above 1.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be “No, because the household cannot afford it”.

If there is/are child/children under 1 year, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag value "-4" should be used.

2.29. HD200: Invite friends round to play and eat from time to time

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>between 1 and 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes

2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children aged above 1

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and above 1.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be “No, because the household cannot afford it”.

If there is/are child/children under 1 year, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag value "-4" should be used.

Invite round to play and eat

Invitations mostly take place at home but external activities are to be considered as well.

2.30. HD210: Participate in school trips and school events that cost money

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>under 16</u> and attending school</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children attending school

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and attending school. If the interview occurs during school holidays, please refer to the school period.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be “No, because the household cannot afford it”.

If there is/are child/children too young for attending school, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag value "-4" should be used.

Only activities organised by school are concerned.

2.31. HD220: Suitable place to study or do homework

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged under 16 and attending school</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)
-4	not applicable because no children attending school

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16 and attending school. If the interview occurs during school holidays, please refer to the school period.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item.

If there is/are child/children too young for attending school, only the other child/children of the household should be taken into account. If there are no other children in the household, the flag value "-4" should be used.

A suitable place to study or do homework means a silent place with enough room and light.

The place is to be at home and not in a library for example.

2.32. HD230: Outdoor space in the neighbourhood where children can play safely

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged under 16</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent or registers</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item.

The variable refers to the area deprivation, namely to whether it lacks pleasant and open places for children to play in the neighbourhood.

The outdoor space can be the household garden as well as a playground in the neighbourhood.

This variable should not be confounded with variable HD160 “Outdoor leisure equipment (bicycle, roller skates, etc.)” for which a “Yes” answer corresponds to the situation where there is at least one outdoor leisure equipment (like a bicycle, roller skates, etc.) for each child of the household, which is adapted to his/her age and physical conditions.

2.33. Optional HD240: Go on holiday away from home at least 1 week per year

<i>Reference period: current situation</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>under 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent</i>	
Values	
1	Yes
2	No, because the household cannot afford it
3	No, for some other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item. Even if only one child does not have the item because the household cannot afford it, then the answer category should be “No, because the household cannot afford it”.

All children of the household don't have to go on holidays all together and at the same time. If every child of the household goes on holidays away from home at least one week per year, the answer should be “Yes” whatever the context is (holidays with family, relatives, friends, youth organisation, school trip, etc.)

If there is in the household a child who doesn't go on holidays because of health problems and that the household can afford to pay holidays for all its children, then the answer should be “No, for some other reason”.

Week

"One week" means 7 days.

3.3. MEDICAL NEEDS

2.34. Optional HD250: Unmet need for consulting a GP or specialist, excluding dentists and ophthalmologists

<i>Reference period: : past twelve months</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>under 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent or registers</i>	

Values	
1	Yes, there was at least one occasion
2	No, there was no occasion
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item.

There were very large differences between the EU countries in terms of the proportion of people with free access to health care or medically. In countries where all or nearly all persons are covered, access to health care may still be limited by the existence of waiting lists and other forms of rationing.

The aim of the variable is to capture the person's own assessment of whether the children in the household needed to consult a medical doctor, but was not able to. In principle, there is no need to exclude General Practitioners (GP). Actually, the question is not aimed at assessing the access to specialists only for which there is a specific question in the every 5 years European Health Interview Survey (EHIS question HC.14) but in general to examination by medical doctors (GPs, specialists, etc.). Otherwise, the magnitude of the problem of access to medical examination, which concerns potentially any type of medical examination, would be underestimated. On the other hand, it should be clear that only real needs of medical examination are taken into account.

As a summary, the question aims at covering "core" need as regard to medical care.

Regarding the inclusion of other types of treatment, one strategy is to use a form of wording to make clear that we want to include what is regarded as mainstream medicine in the country, i.e. the kinds of things covered by medical insurance. The key concern is with restrictions in access to what would generally be regarded in the society as appropriate treatment for a health condition. Countries will differ in terms of the extent to which specialists such as chiropractors, specialists in acupuncture and so on, have become 'mainstream'. This may be best accomplished by using an interviewer prompt.

In order to ensure that only serious needs are taken into account, it is suggested adding in the question the term "when you really needed ...".

2.35. Optional HD255: Main reason for unmet need for consulting a GP or specialist, excluding dentists and ophthalmologists

<i>Reference period: : past twelve months</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>under 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent or register</i>	
Values	
1	Could not afford to (too expensive)
2	Waiting list
3	Could not take the time because of work, care of other children or of other persons

4	Too far to travel/no means of transport
5	Other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (HD250=2)

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16.

Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item.

This is a follow-up question to the previous one. It aims to capture the dimension of restricted access to health care by including not only formal health care coverage (by insurance or universal coverage), but also restrictions due to rationing, waiting lists, the ability to afford care, and other reasons.

In the proposed classification for this item, option 2 (length of the waiting list) should be used for people who were actually on a waiting list and were not helped, for respondents who were discouraged from seeking care because of perceptions of the long waiting lists, as well as people who have 'applied' and are still waiting to see a medical specialist.

'Not covered by insurance' should be coded as 'could not afford to' if the respondent could not afford to pay for the treatment/examination himself or herself.

The issue on the perception of "Could not afford to (too expensive)" should be tackled in order to not include reaction about "too expensive" which are relative (more expensive than before, etc.) but relate only to the fact that the person could not pay the price, not having money enough for this. The fact that the price is not covered by an insurance fund is in particular an important element to be taken into account.

If there are different reasons because of different children or various occurrences, the latest occurrence is to be recorded.

2.36. Optional HD260: Unmet need for consulting a dentist

<i>Reference period: past twelve months</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged under 16</i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent or registers</i>	
Values	
1	Yes, there was at least one occasion
2	No, there was no occasion
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (no children aged under 16)

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16. Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item.

There were very large differences between the EU countries in terms of the proportion of people with free access to dental care. In countries where all or nearly all persons are covered, access to health care may still be limited by the existence of waiting lists and other forms of rationing.

The aim of the variable is to capture the person's own assessment of whether the children of the household needed to consult a dentist, but was not able to.

The same comments as for HD250 shall be considered.

2.37. Optional HD265: Main reason for unmet need for consulting a dentist

<i>Reference period: : past twelve months</i>	
<i>Unit: all household members aged <u>under 16</u></i>	
<i>Mode of collection: personal interview with the household respondent or register</i>	
Values	
1	Could not afford to (too expensive)
2	Waiting list
3	Could not take the time because of work, care of other children or of other persons
4	Too far to travel/no means of transport
5	Other reason
Flags	
1	filled
-1	missing
-2	not applicable (HD260=2)

The variable holds for the whole group of children aged under 16. Even if only one child does not have the item, the whole group of children in the household are assumed not to have the item.

This is a follow-up question to the previous one. It aims to capture the dimension of restricted access to health care by including not only formal health care coverage (by insurance or universal coverage), but also restrictions due to rationing, waiting lists, the ability to afford care, and other reasons.

In the proposed classification for this item, option 2 (length of the waiting list) should be used for people who are discouraged from seeking care because of perceptions of the length of wait, as well as people who have 'applied' and are still waiting to see a dentist.

The same comments as for HD255 shall be considered.

If there are different reasons because of different children or various occurrences, the latest occurrence is to be recorded.