Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2240 of 16 December 2019 specifying the technical items of the data set, establishing the technical formats for transmission of information and specifying the detailed arrangements and content of the quality reports on the organisation of a sample survey in the labour force domain in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Text with EEA relevance)

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2019/2240

of 16 December 2019

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(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 October 2019 establishing a common framework for European statistics relating to persons and households, based on data at individual level collected from samples, amending Regulations (EC) No 808/2004, (EC) No 452/2008 and (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1177/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98[(1)], and in particular Articles 7(1), 8(3) and 13(6) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) In order to ensure the accurate implementation of the sample survey in the labour force domain, the Commission should specify the technical items of the data set, the technical formats for transmission of information and the detailed arrangements and content of the quality reports.

(2) The Member States and the Union institutions should use statistical classifications for the territorial units, education, occupation and economic sector that are compatible with the NUTS[(2)], ISCED[(3)], ISCO[(4)] and NACE[(5)] classifications.

(3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the European Statistical System Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Changes to legislation: *There are outstanding changes not yet made to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2240. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

Article 1

Subject matter

This Regulation specifies the technical items of the data set, the technical formats for the transmission of information from Member States to the Commission (Eurostat) and the detailed arrangements for transmission and the content of the quality reports in the labour force domain.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions apply:

(1) ‘main variable’ means a variable with a quarterly periodicity;

(2) ‘structural variable’ means an annual, biennial, eight-yearly variable or a variable collected on an ad hoc subject;

(3) ‘minimum set of variables’ means the variables to be collected for all household members to allow analyses both at household level and at individual level broken down by specific household characteristics;

(4) ‘sample rotation scheme’ means the split of the total sample into sub-samples of observation units similar in size and design, used to specify the number of times and the exact reference quarters of the year for which an observation unit shall provide information in the survey;

(5) ‘wave’ means the sub-sample of observation units due to be interviewed for the same nth time according to the sample rotation scheme in a reference quarter;

(6) ‘uniform sample distribution of the annual sample’ with regards to all the reference quarters of the year means that each quarterly sample is the total annual sample divided by four;

(7) ‘uniform sample distribution of the quarterly sample’ with regards to all the reference weeks of the quarter means that each weekly sample is the total quarterly sample divided by the number of the weeks of the quarter; the acceptable variation as specified in Article 6(2) and (3) applies to both distribution;

(8) ‘sample of independent observations’ means a sample where each observation unit occurs only once according to the sample design;

(9) ‘reliability limits’ mean estimated sizes of population groups below which figures have to be suppressed or published with warning;

(10) ‘employed persons’ comprise persons aged 15 to 89 (in completed years at the end of the reference week) who, during the reference week, were in one of the following categories:

(a) persons who during the reference week worked for at least 1 hour for pay or profit, including contributing family workers[(6)];

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(b) persons with a job or business who were temporarily not at work during the reference week but had an attachment to their job, where the following groups have a job attachment:

— persons not at work due to holidays, working time arrangements, sick leave, maternity or paternity leave;

— persons in job-related training;

— persons on parental leave, either receiving and/or being entitled to job-related income or benefits, or whose parental leave is expected to be 3 months or less;

— seasonal workers during the off-season, where they continue to regularly perform tasks and duties for the job or business, excluding fulfilment of legal or administrative obligations;

— persons temporarily not at work for other reasons where the expected duration of the absence is 3 months or less;

(c) persons that produce agricultural goods whose main part is intended for sale or barter.

Persons in own-use production work, voluntary workers, unpaid trainees and individuals involved in other forms of work ([6]) are not included in employment on the basis of those activities;

(11) 'unemployed persons' comprise persons aged 15 to 74 (in completed years at the end of the reference week) who were:

(a) during the reference week not employed according to the definition of employment described in paragraph 10; and

(b) currently available for work, i.e. were available for paid employment or self-employment before the end of the 2 weeks following the reference week; and

(c) actively seeking work, i.e. had either carried out activities in the four-week period ending with the reference week to seek paid employment or self-employment or found a job to start within a period of at most 3 months from the end of the reference week.

For the purposes of identifying active job search, such activities are:

— studying job advertisements;

— placing or answering job advertisements;

— placing or updating CVs online;

— contacting employers directly;

— asking friends, relatives or acquaintances;

— contacting a public employment service;

— contacting a private employment agency;

— taking a test, interview or examination as part of a recruitment process; and

— making preparations to set up a business.

Seasonal workers not at work during the reference week (off-season) but who expect to return to their seasonal job are to be considered as having 'found a job';

(12) 'persons outside the labour force' comprise persons who were in one of the following categories:

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(a) aged below 15 (in completed years at the end of the reference week);

(b) aged above 89 (in completed years at the end of the reference week); or

(c) aged 15 to 89 (in completed years at the end of the reference week) and neither employed nor unemployed during the reference week according to the definitions of employment and unemployment described in paragraphs 10 and 11.

Article 3

Description of variables

1 The description and technical format of the quarterly, annual, biennial variables and the eight-yearly variables on the detailed topic ‘labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants’ and the coding to be used for the data transmission and the variables to be included in the minimum set of variables are set out in Annex I of this Regulation.

2 The number of eight-yearly variables to be collected in a given year shall not exceed 11, except in the case of:

a the detailed topic on ‘work organisation and working time arrangements’, for which the number of variables shall not exceed 10 in a given year; and

b the detailed topics on ‘young people on the labour market’ and on ‘educational attainment — details, including education interrupted or abandoned’, for which the combined number of eight-yearly variables shall not exceed seven in a given year.

3 The number of structural variables to be collected on an ad hoc subject every 4 years shall not exceed 11 in a given year.

Article 4

Statistical populations, observation units and rules for respondents

1 The target population for the labour force domain shall be all persons usually residing in private households in the territory of the Member State.

2 The data collection for the labour force domain shall be carried out for a sample of private households or a sample of persons belonging to private households as observation units.

3 Information shall be provided for:

a every person of whatever age on the topics ‘technical items’ and ‘person and household characteristics’;

b every person aged 15 to 74 on the ‘participation in education and training’ topic;

c every person aged 15 to 89 for quarterly, annual and biennial variables on all other topics;

d every person aged 15 to 74 for the eight-yearly variables of the detailed topics on ‘labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants’ and ‘accidents at work and other work-related health problems’;

e every person aged 50 to 74 for the eight-yearly variables of the detailed topic on ‘pensions and labour market participation’;

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f every person aged 15 to 34 for the eight-yearly variables of the detailed topics on 'young people on the labour market' and 'educational attainment — details, including education interrupted or abandoned';

g every person aged 18 to 74 for the eight-yearly variables of the detailed topic on 'reconciliation of work and family life';

h every employed person aged 15 to 74 for the eight-yearly variables of the detailed topic on 'work organisation and working time arrangements'.

All age groups include the limit ages specified therein.

4 Proxy interviews are allowed but their number shall be as limited as possible.

Article 5

Reference periods and reference dates

1 The information collected for the labour force domain shall generally relate to the situation during the course of a single week, running from Monday to Sunday, which constitutes the reference week.

2 The age of a person shall be the age in completed years at the end of the reference week.

3 Reference quarters shall be as follows:

a quarters of each year refer to the 12 months of the year divided by four so that January, February and March belong to the first quarter, April, May and June to the second quarter, July, August and September to the third quarter and October, November and December to the fourth quarter;

b the reference weeks are allocated to the reference quarters so that a week belongs to the quarter as defined in point (a) to which at least four days of that week belong (called 'Thursday rule'), unless this results in the first quarter of the year consisting of only 12 weeks. In that case, the quarters of the year in question will be formed by consecutive blocks of 13 weeks;

c where, in accordance with point (b), a quarter consists of 14 weeks instead of 13 weeks Member States should attempt to spread the sample over all 14 weeks; that includes the option to divide the sample usually assigned to one week over 2 weeks;

d if it is not feasible to spread the sample to cover all 14 weeks of the quarter, the Member State concerned may skip one week of that quarter by not covering it;

e the weeks with a divided sample and the week to be skipped should be typical with regard to unemployment, employment and average actual hours worked and should be part of a month containing five Thursdays;

f the first quarter of 2021 shall begin on Monday, 4 January 2021.

4 A reference year shall be the combination of the four reference quarters of that year.

Article 6

Detailed sample characteristics

1 The data collection shall refer to one reference week for each observation unit. The reference week shall be assigned to the observation unit prior to the fieldwork.