

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
1 INTRODUCTION.....	3
2 REVIEW OF DESIGNS AND METHODS OF THE EU-LFS IN 2006.....	3
2.1 <i>Coverage</i>	3
2.2 <i>Legal basis</i>	4
2.3 <i>Compulsory participation</i>	4
2.4 <i>Reference week</i>	5
2.5 <i>Periodicity of the results</i>	5
2.6 <i>Sampling designs</i>	5
2.7 <i>Rotation schemes</i>	6
2.8 <i>Calculation of the weighting factors</i>	7
2.9 <i>Data collection methods</i>	7
2.10 <i>The cost and burden of the EU-LFS</i>	8
3 RELEVANCE.....	8
3.1 <i>The Users</i>	8
3.2 <i>Completeness</i>	9
4 ACCURACY.....	12
4.1 <i>Sampling errors</i>	12
4.2 <i>Non-sampling errors</i>	15
5 TIMELINESS AND PUNCTUALITY	21
6 ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY.....	22
7 COMPARABILITY	22
7.1 <i>Comparability over time</i>	22
7.2 <i>Comparability over space</i>	25
8 COHERENCE	25
8.1 <i>Coherence with population statistics</i>	25
8.2 <i>Coherence with other employment estimates</i>	27
9 REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT	30
9.1 <i>Introduction</i>	30
9.2 <i>Sources for NUTS-III compilation of unemployment</i>	30
9.3 <i>Coefficient of variation at NUTS-II and NUTS-III for the rate of unemployment</i>	31
ANNEX: ITEM NON-RESPONSE COMPARED TO THE VARIABLES DEFINED BY THE COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) NO 430/2005 AND CLARIFICATIONS PROVIDED BY MEMBER STATES	33