

Table of Contents

1	Introduction.....	3
2	Overview of designs and methods of the EU-LFS in 2009.....	4
2.1	Coverage.....	4
2.2	Legal basis.....	4
2.3	Compulsory participation.....	4
2.4	Reference week.....	5
2.5	Periodicity of the results.....	6
2.6	Sampling designs.....	6
2.7	Rotation schemes.....	7
2.8	Calculation of the weighting factors.....	8
2.9	Data collection methods.....	9
2.10	Use of subsamples to survey structural variables.....	9
2.11	Burden of the EU-LFS.....	9
3	Relevance.....	10
3.1	The users.....	10
3.2	Completeness.....	11
4	Accuracy.....	13
4.1	Sampling errors.....	15
4.2	Non-sampling errors.....	15
5	Timeliness and punctuality.....	23
6	Accessibility and clarity.....	24
7	Comparability.....	24
7.1	Comparability over time.....	24
7.2	Comparability over space.....	27
8	Coherence.....	28
8.1	Coherence with population statistics.....	28
8.2	Coherence with other employment estimates.....	29
9	Regional labour market statistics.....	32
9.1	Introduction.....	32
9.2	Sources for NUTS 3 level labour market statistics.....	33
9.3	Coefficient of variation for NUTS 2 and NUTS 3 regions for the unemployment rate.....	33
9.4	Possible developments.....	35
	Annex: Item non-response compared to the variables defined by the Commission Regulation (EC) No 377/2008 and clarifications provided by Member States.....	36