

Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS v2.0)

(user oriented)

Country: Greece

Compiling agency: ELSTAT

Domain name: HEALTH SURVEY, 2019

ELSTAT metadata

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1. Contact	<u>Top</u>
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	management, data dissemination, etc.)
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2. Metadata update Top	
3.1 Metadata last certified	11/2/2020
3.2 Metadata last posted	
3.3 Metadata last update	

3. Statistical presentation Top	
3.1 Data description	
<p>The Health Survey is conducted in accordance with the European Health Interview Survey (EHIS) standards and produces valuable information on population health status and the determinants affecting it –positively or negatively- such as physical exercise, food consumption, smoking, alcohol consumption etc. The survey took place for first time in 2009 and is conducted ever since every 5 years.</p>	
3.2 Classification system	
NUTS 1, ISCO 08, ISCED 2011	
3.3 Sector coverage	
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3.4 Statistical concepts and definitions	
1. Dwelling	
<p>Dwelling is a separate and independent structure, which has been built or converted to cover the habitation needs of a family (household). Dwelling is also considered every space neither constructed nor converted for the purpose of habitation, used, however, as a dwelling during the reference period.</p> <p>The following are also considered as dwellings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A detached house, semi-detached house or groups of similar dwellings, apartment or flat in a building • A room or more rooms, where the household lives • A storage house, hut, shack, etc. used as main dwelling during the survey conduct. <p>The following is not considered as dwelling:</p> <p>The space which although fulfilling the above definition is used for other purposes (i.e. office, warehouse, collective household, laboratory etc.)</p>	
2. Household	
<p>Household is either one person living alone or a group of persons, not necessarily related, living at the same address with common housekeeping. The household members share household's expenses or benefit from</p>	

them due to lack of income.

More specifically:

One – person household

- One person living alone in one dwelling or in one room of the latter and does his own housekeeping
- Two or more persons living at the same address, related or not, without common housekeeping and each one of them has the exclusive use of at least one room.

Multi-person household

- One couple or parents with their children or one parent with children
- One couple with or without children, parents of the couple and the domestic live - in servant, if any, under the condition that he/she will stay for more than 12 months
- Two or more persons, not necessarily related, living at the same address with common housekeeping
- One or less than 5 boarders residing within a private household.

3. Household members

The criterion for recording household members is the **usual residence** and the time period of 12 consecutive months.

Individuals **usually residing** in the dwelling, according to the definition below constitute household and are recorded as household members.

An individual is considered to usual reside in a dwelling (household) if he/she uses the dwelling for his/her daily rest/relaxation, independently of temporary absences for recreation, holidays, visits to friends or relatives, work, medical treatment of religious obligations

Or

If the above criteria are not valid the individual is considered to usual reside in his/her legal or registered in authorities dwelling.

Only the following persons are considered as usually residing in the interviewed household:

- (1) Persons having lived in the household for the time period of 12 consecutive months before the survey conduct and
- (2) Persons having moved in the household some time during the last 12 months before the survey conduct, intending to stay for at least a year, continuously.

Hence, soldiers, sailors or persons working far from their dwelling/household for quite a long time or persons hospitalized for health problems the above criteria (1) and (2) for usual residence cannot apply and we consider them to reside in their legal registered in authorities dwelling, that is, the specific dwelling/household. The interview is in these cases done via representative (proxy interviews). For the completeness and accuracy of information collected telephone contact with interviewee is sought for recording or cross checking answers in specific questions.

For students away from home, in another city criteria (1) and (2) will be examined and case by case they may or may not be recorded as household members. If registered, proxy interview will be applied and telephone call for cross checking of answers will follow.

3.5 Statistical unit

Households and Individuals aged 15+ residing in private households.

3.6 Statistical population

The survey covers all private households of the country, irrespective of their size or their socio –economic characteristics. In each household one member aged 15 years old and over is surveyed. The following cases are excluded:

- Collective households, such as hotels, hospitals, elderly homes, camps, reformatories, etc. Collective households will also be considered the dwellings with more than 5 lodgers.

Households with foreign citizens serving in diplomatic missions.

The survey is being conducted in a sample of 11.662 households (sampling fraction 2.78‰).

3.7 Reference area

Country

3.8 Time coverage

The survey was conducted in the last quarter of 2019 (October – December).

The first wave has been conducted in 2009 and the second in 2014. The next wave is scheduled for 2025.

3.9 Base period

4. Unit of measure

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Percentage % of individuals

5. Reference period

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The reference periods of the survey vary and depend on the question. Reference periods are considered:

- **Day for the survey:** Related questions: Mainstat, Health status questions, Physical and sensory functional limitations/Health Determinants etc.
- **The past 12 months** (the period ends one day before the survey day): Chronic diseases and conditions, accidents and injuries, absence from work due to health problems, provision of health care services in a hospital as inpatient or day patient, unmet needs, provision of home care services etc.
- **The past 4 weeks** (the period ends one day before the survey conduct day): questions of pain,, consultations of a general practitioner etc.
- **The past 2 weeks** (the period ends one day before the survey conduct day): questions of medicine use / mental health etc.
- **The past 7 days** (the period ends one day before the survey conduct day): questions of physical activity/exercise etc.

The questionnaires of the Health survey 2019 have be posted in ELSTAT's site:

<https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE22/->

6. Institutional mandate

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6.1 Legal acts and other agreements

The legal framework concerning the organization and operation of ELSTAT is as follows:

- **Law 3832/2010** [Law 3832/2010](#) (Government Gazette No 38, Issue A): "*Hellenic Statistical System Establishment of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) as an Independent Authority*", as amended by article 90 paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Law 3842/2010 (Government Gazette No 58, Issue A): "*Restoration of fiscal justice, confrontation of tax evasion and other provisions*", by article 10 of the Law 3899/2010 (Government Gazette No 212, Issue A): "*Urgent measures for the implementation of the assistance program of the Greek Economy*", by article 45 of the Law 3943/2011 (Government Gazette No 66, Issue A): "*Combating tax evasion, staffing of auditing services and other provisions falling within the competence of the Ministry of Finance*", by article 22

paragraph 1 of the Law 3965/2011 (Government Gazette No 113, Issue A): "Operations Reform of the Consignment and Loan Fund, Public Debt Management Agency, Public Enterprises and Government bodies, the establishment of the General Secretary of Public Property and other provisions", by article first of the Law 4047/2012 (Government Gazette No 31, Issue A): "Ratification of the Act of Legislative Content "Very urgent measures for the implementation of the Medium-term Fiscal Strategy 2012-2015 and of the State Budget for 2011" and of the Act of Legislative Content "Regulation of very urgent issues for the implementation of law 4024/2011 "Pension provisions, uniform pay scale - grading system, labour reserve and other provisions for the implementation of the Medium-term Fiscal Strategy Framework 2012-1015" and of issues falling within the competence of the Ministries of Administrative Reform and E-Governance, Interior, Finance, Environment, Energy and Climate Change, and of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs and related to the implementation of the Medium-term Fiscal Strategy Framework 2012-2015" and other provisions", by article 323 of the Law 4072/2012 (Government Gazette No 86, Issue A): "Improvement of the business environment New corporate form - Trade Marks - Realtors - Regulating maritime, port and fishing matters and other provisions" and by article 7 paragraph 1 of the Act of Legislative Content dated 18/11/2012 (Government Gazette No 228, Issue A): "Financial rules and other provisions", by Article 93 of the Law 4182/2013 (Government Gazette No 185, Issue A): "Code of charitable estate, inheritances in abeyance and other provisions", by Article 6 paragraph 8 of the Law 4244/2014 (Government Gazette 60, Issue A): "Integration in Greek law of the Council Directive 2013/1/EU of 20 December 2012 amending Directive 93/109/EC as regards certain detailed arrangements for the exercise of the right to vote and stand as a candidate in elections to the European Parliament for citizens of the Union residing in a Member State of which they are not nationals and amendment of law 2196/1994 (A' 41) and other provisions", by Article first subparagraph C.3 of the Law 4254/2014 (Government Gazette No 85, Issue A): "Measures for the support and development of the Greek economy, in the context of the implementation of Law 4046/2012, and other provisions of law" and by Article 33, paragraphs 5a and 5b of the Law 4258/2014 (Government Gazette No 94, Issue A): "Demarcation process and arrangements of matters for streams - arrangements of Urban Planning legislation and other provisions".

- **Regulation on the Operation and Administration of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT), 2012**, (Government Gazette No 2390, Issue B, 28-8-2012) [Regulation on the Operation and Administration of ELSTAT](#)

- **Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council**, on the European statistics (Official Journal of the European Union L 87/164) [Regulation No 223/2009](#)
- **Article 14 of the Law 3470/2006** (Government Gazette No 132, Issue A): "National Export Council, tax regulations and other provisions".
- **Article 3, paragraph 1c, of the Law 3448/2006** (Government Gazette No 57, Issue A): "For the further use of information coming from the public sector and the settlement of matters falling within the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization".
- **European Statistics Code of Practice**, adopted by the Statistical Programme Committee on 24 February 2005 and promulgated in the Commission Recommendation of 25 May 2005 on the independence, integrity and accountability of the national and Community statistical Authorities, after its revision, which was adopted on 28 September 2011 by the European Statistical System Committee [COP](#).
- **Presidential Decree 226/2000** (Government Gazette No 195, Issue A): "Organization of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece".

- **Articles 4, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of the Law 2392/1996** (Government Gazette No 60, Issue A): "Access of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece to administrative sources and administrative files, Statistical Confidentiality Committee, settlement of matters concerning the conduct of censuses and statistical works, as well as of matters of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece"

The survey is conducted in accordance with Regulation 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and Council on public health and safety at work. In addition, detailed specification of the data and metadata are provided

pursuant to the Implemented Commission Regulation **No 255/2018**.

6.2 Data sharing

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7. Confidentiality

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7.1 Confidentiality policy

The issues concerning the observance of statistical confidentiality by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) are governed by articles 7, 8 and 9 of the Law 3832/2010, as amended by article 90 paragraph 8 of Law 3842/2010 and by article 10 of Law 3899/2010, as well as by article 8 of Law 2392/1996, which was brought back into force, in accordance with article 90 paragraph 8 of Law 3842/2010. <http://www.statistics.gr/en/legal-framework>

Furthermore, ELSTAT disseminates the statistics in compliance with the statistical principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice and in particular with the principle of statistical confidentiality [COP](#).

7.2 Confidentiality – data treatment

➤ ELSTAT protects and does not disseminate data it has obtained or it has access to, which enable the direct or indirect identification of the statistical units that have provided them by the disclosure of individual information directly received for statistical purposes or indirectly supplied from administrative or other sources. ELSTAT takes all appropriate preventive measures so as to render impossible the identification of individual statistical units by technical or other means that might reasonably be used by a third party. Statistical data that could potentially enable the identification of the statistical unit are disseminated by ELSTAT if and only if:

a) these data have been treated, as it is specifically set out in the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System (ELSS), in such a way that their dissemination does not prejudice statistical confidentiality or

b) the statistical unit has given its consent, without any reservations, for the disclosure of data.

➤ The confidential data that are transmitted by ELSS agencies to ELSTAT are used exclusively for statistical purposes and the only persons who have the right to have access to these data are the personnel engaged in this task and appointed by an act of the President of ELSTAT.

➤ ELSTAT may grant researchers conducting statistical analyses for scientific purposes access to data that enable the indirect identification of the statistical units concerned. The access is granted provided the following conditions are satisfied:

a) an appropriate request together with a detailed research proposal in conformity with current scientific standards have been submitted;

b) the research proposal indicates in sufficient detail the set of data to be accessed, the methods of analyzing them, and the time needed for the research;

c) a contract specifying the conditions for access, the obligations of the researchers, the measures for respecting the confidentiality of statistical data and the sanctions in case of breach of these obligations has been signed by the individual researcher, by his/her institution, or by the organization commissioning the research, as the case may be, and by ELSTAT.

➤ Issues referring to the observance of statistical confidentiality are examined by the Statistical Confidentiality Committee (SCC) operating in ELSTAT. The responsibilities of this Committee are to make recommendations to the President of ELSTAT on:

- the level of detail at which statistical data can be disseminated, so as the identification, either directly or indirectly, of the surveyed statistical unit is not possible;

- the anonymization criteria for the microdata provided to users [Anonymization criteria](#);

- the granting to researchers access to confidential data for scientific purposes.

➤ The staff of ELSTAT, under any employment status, as well as the temporary survey workers who are employed for the collection of statistical data in statistical surveys conducted by ELSTAT, who acquire access by any means to confidential data, are bound by the principle of confidentiality and must use these data exclusively for the statistical purposes of ELSTAT. After the termination of their term of office, they are not allowed to use these data for any purpose.

➤ Violation of data confidentiality and/or statistical confidentiality by any civil servant or employee of ELSTAT constitutes the disciplinary offence of violation of duty and may be punished with the penalty of final dismissal.

ELSTAT, by its decision, may impose a penalty amounting from ten thousand (10,000) up to two hundred thousand (200,000) euros to anyone who violates the confidentiality of data and/or statistical confidentiality. The penalty is always imposed after the hearing of the defence of the person liable for the breach, depending on the gravity and the repercussions of the violation. Any relapse constitutes an aggravating factor for the assessment of the administrative sanction.

8. Release policy [Top](#)

8.1 Release calendar

Press Release date - 18 December 2020

8.2 Release calendar access

<https://www.statistics.gr/en/calendar>

8.3 User access

Users are informed on data release dates through ELSTAT's website. The equal access of users to data is governed by the European Statistics Code of Practice.

9. Frequency of dissemination [Top](#)

The frequency of the survey conduction was up today every 5 years. The forth wave is scheduled for the year 2025.

10. Dissemination format [Top](#)

10.1 News release

The press release will be announced on 18 December 2020.

10.2 Publications

Publication "The Living Conditions in Greece" provides, both in greek and english languages, the latest statistics illustrating living conditions in Greece, among which data from the Health Survey.

The publication is updated with the latest data the first Friday of January, March, May, July, September and November.

Relative link: <http://www.statistics.gr/en/living-conditions-in-greece>

10.3 On-line database

On line data base for data access, will be available upon the announcement of the Press Release.

10.3.1 Data tables - consultations

Information is not available.

10.4 Micro-data access
Microdata are available to users upon request in the competent Unit of Statistical Information using the following link: http://www.statistics.gr/statistical-data-request και http://www.statistics.gr/data-for-scientific-purposes
10.5 Other
http://dlib.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE
<u>10.5.1 Metadata – consultations</u>
Information is not available.
10.6 Documentation on methodology
Information on the survey is posted on the website of ELSTAT https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE22/-
Users in the above link can find the questionnaire of the survey, the surveys' guidelines (only in Greek) and the SIMS metadata manuals in national language and in English.
Detailed methodological information will be included in the survey's Quality Report.
<u>10.6.1 Metadata completeness - rate</u>
10.7 Quality documentation
Quality documentation will be included in the survey's Quality Report

11. Quality management	Top
11.1 Quality assurance	
The quality of the survey is ensured by the existence of a methodological handbook issued by Eurostat, as well as by the use of a common questionnaire – template, in order to improve comparability of results in all member states, and in general by the implementation of the European Statistics Code of Practice.	
11.2 Quality assessment	
Quality assessment is carried out by ELSTAT and Eurostat.	
The sample size is such as to ensure high accuracy results, representative for the reference population and all necessary steps are taken so as to make all appropriate checks and minimize measurement errors in data collection. Data are accompanied by quality reports analyzing the accuracy, consistency and comparability of data.	

12. Relevance	Top
12.1 User needs	
Main users of the survey data is Eurostat, OECD, WHO, Universities (professors, graduate and post graduate students), researchers on the field of health.	
12.2 User satisfaction	
The Section of Statistical Information and Dissemination of ELSTAT conducts a survey on users' satisfaction http://www.statistics.gr/user-satisfaction-survey	
12.3 Completeness	
The completeness of data and breakdowns are considered to be very satisfactory according to user needs,	

while ESTAT's requirements are set out in Commission Regulation **1338/2008** of the European Parliament and Council on Public health and health and safety at work statistics, and in accordance with Implementing Regulation **255/2018**.

13. Accuracy and reliability

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13.1 Overall accuracy

The concept of accuracy refers to the precision of estimates computed from a sample rather than from the entire population. Accuracy depends on sample size, sampling design effect and structure of the population under study. In addition to that, sampling errors and non sampling errors need to be taken into account.

The sample size has been defined from the Division of Methodology, Quality and Public Relations, according to the provisions set in the surveys' implementing regulation, allowing thus the production of high accuracy estimations for the country and also for the 4 great geographical areas of the country (NUTS1 level).

Sampling errors are being calculated from the competent division after the completion of the survey.

13.2 Sampling error

Information on sampling errors will be presented in the Quality Report.

13.3 Non-sampling error

The non-sampling errors are divided into the following categories:

1. Coverage error
2. Measurement error
3. Non-response error
4. Processing error

13.3.1 Coverage error

Information will be presented in the Quality Report.

13.3.1.1 Over-coverage – rate

Information will be presented in the Quality Report.

13.3.1.2 Common units – proportion

Not applicable

13.3.2 Measurement error

They occur at the time of data collection from the questionnaire.

In order to reduce these errors the following actions were done:

- For building up the questionnaire we adopted the questionnaire proposed from Eurostat as the basis. The structure of the questionnaires is similar. The majority of the questions are almost literally copied and translated.
- Detailed guidelines handbook is provided to all interviewers. Also, a second manual on the use of the web application is provided.
- Training to interviewers takes place in Athens and in all regional offices.
- Checks (validation/ logical/ completeness/ flow, etc.) are carried out both by ELSTAT and EUROSTAT (validation programs). Supervisors are in close communication with interviewers for attending work progress or to discuss and solve occurring problems.

13.3.3 Processing error

Occurring in post-data-collection processes such as data entry, keying, editing and weighting

- Data entry checks are made from ELSTAT's experienced personnel, also using ESTAT's validation programs
- Longitudinal checks.
- Codification of questions relating to occupation (ISCO-08) and NACE rev.2.

13.3.4 Model assumption error

Not applicable

Non response error

a. Unit non – response

- Information on non response rate will be included in the quality report.

Actions for minimizing units' non-response are:

- An advance notification letter sent to all households, one month before the survey conduct, among others, providing information on how the data collected are used.
- In cases where the households cannot be accessed, mainly due to temporary absence, a number of attempts for phone calls (at least three) are made, on different days or hours of day.

b. Item non - response

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14. Timeliness and punctuality

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14.1 Timeliness

The time lag between the reference period of the survey data and the publication of data is approximately 11 months.

14.2 Punctuality

Dates when each of the phases of the projects started/ended

Data are produced and disseminated according to the predefined timetable.

	<u>Duration / start / end date</u>
Preparation of survey	Beginning of year 2019 – September 2019
Data collection (fieldwork)	October - December 2019
Data delivery to Eurostat	Delivery of microdata until 30/10/2020
Dissemination of national results	The national results will be available for dissemination right after the Press Release of the survey results (18/12/2020)

15. Coherence and Comparability

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15.1 Comparability - geographical

Comparability of data between Member States is assured by keeping the comparability of methods used and of definitions of variables. This target is much aided by the use of EU proposed questionnaire and of the conceptual guidelines and instructions (methodological manual).

15.1.1 Assymetry for mirror flows statistics – coefficient

Not applicable

15.2 Comparability over time

The Health Survey of the year 2019 is being conducted for the third time in the country, after 2009 and 2014. As far as the data of the previous years are concerned they are comparable as common concepts are used, therefore, in general, no problem on comparability over time exists.

15.3 Coherence cross-domain

Data on coherence will be included presented when available.

Health indicators will be calculated and compared with health indicators from the EU-SILC 2019 survey.

15.3.1 Coherence – sub annual and annual statistics

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15.3.2 Coherence – National Accounts

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15.4 Coherence - internal

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16. Cost and burden

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The health survey has been designed to keep respondent burden under control in order to avoid high non-response rate and to ensure good quality of the collected information. However the need for data not collected by any other survey in the country do have increase burden. The burden mostly concerns the time required to get the information from the surveyed households/ individuals. Nevertheless, it seems not possible to lighten this burden.

17. Data revision

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17.1 Revision policy

The revision policy may relate to the survey data and the survey itself, i.e. the questionnaire, the sample, etc., and takes into account users' needs for additional statistical information.

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/policies>

17.2 Revision practice

Data transmitted to Eurostat undergo detailed verifications by implementing automated validation procedures at the level of variables and breakdowns. Besides cross-sectional checks, longitudinal checks are conducted and whenever necessary (if data inconsistencies are found) reporting countries are asked to verify and revise their results.

18. Statistical processing

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18.1 Source data

The multi-stage stratified sampling method was adopted for the survey. Primary sampling unit (PSUs) is the area (one or more unified city blocks), secondary unit is the household and ultimate the individual aged 15+ (target population).

For the selection of the PSUs, in each Region (NUTS 2 level), the sampling units are distributed in 4 strata, according to the urbanization degree of Municipal / Local communities they belong to. Individuals of Greater Athens and of former department of Thessaloniki are further divided into 47 and 11, respectively, homogeneous clusters according to socio-economic characteristics. From the stratification of PSUs we have 108 homogeneous strata.

In each homogeneous stratum (ultimate stratum) the sampling areas are selected with probability proportionate to their size (number of households according to Census 2011). The total number of sampling areas are 1320.

From the sampling areas, a sample of households is selected with equal probabilities from the updated lists, by applying random systematic sampling method. In each household 1 person aged 15 years and over is selected for survey, with equal probabilities.

The survey has been conducted in a sample of 8,125 households and equal in number individuals aged 15+.

More information will be included in the Quality Report of the survey.

18.2 Frequency of data collection

5 years

18.3 Data collection

The Health Survey is a sampling survey and is conducted with face to face interviews by visiting the households. The interviewers are either permanent staff of ELSTAT or external collaborators / interviewers from the Statistical Interviewers' Register of ELSTAT. Whenever the household members were temporarily

absent the interviewers left a notification letter with the date of their next visit. The interviewer ought to make at least three visits to that household. After the survey conduct the interviewers had the obligation to check the data for any further errors or omissions and finally to make the data entry in electronic questionnaires using the web application designed by ELSTAT.

18.4 Data validation

Data validation is carried out by qualitative and quantitative tests based on:

- Longitudinal checks on raw data (with data of previous years)
- Comparisons of key variables with variables / data of other statistical sources
- Calculation of sampling errors, also used as a criterion for the final validation of data.

18.5 Data compilation

Tables will be produced for weighted data.
Information on grossing up procedure will be included in the Quality Report.

18.5.1 Imputation – rate

18.6 Adjustment

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18.6.1 Seasonal adjustment

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19. Comment

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