



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE



**GENERAL SECRETARIAT
NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE
OF GREECE**

GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF STATISTICAL
SURVEYS
DIVISION OF POPULATION STATISTICS AND
LABOUR MARKET DIVISION
HOUSEHOLDS' SURVEYS SECTION

FAMILY BUDGET SURVEY 2004-2005

BASIC CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

PIRAEUS, MARCH 2007

INTRODUCTION

I. THE BACKGROUND OF THE SURVEY

During the years after the Second World war considerable attention was paid by governments the world over, to bringing up to date indices for measuring retail price levels and in a large number of countries household surveys have been carried out to obtain information on the changes in consumption habits since pre-war days, to provide a basis for their compilation.

In Greece the problem was of special urgency. War occupation and the aftermath of war completely disorganized production and distribution and resulted in a virtual collapse of the currency. While runaway inflation was halted prices continued to rise during the first stages of post-war reconstruction. It is not surprising, therefore, that very considerable importance was attached by the public to the problem of measuring price levels and that the publication of the large number of index numbers, all based on arbitrary or outdated consumption patterns, was followed with keen interest. These indices as might be expected, revealed frequently conflicting price movements and were generally mistrusted.

The need for a revision of the existing indices became increasingly pressing and it was realized that the confidence of the public and of government departments could only be restored by the compilation of an Official Index based on reliable data relating to consumption patterns and on price quotations for a comprehensive range of items collected by up to date methods.

The need for official action was also stressed in the reports prepared by two separate technical assistance missions of the United Nations, which in 1953 and 1955 respectively recommended the compilation of an Official Index, and as a first step towards it, the carrying out by the National Statistical Service of Greece of a household survey to provide data relating to the consumption pattern of households as basis for the weighting of the proposed index.

Already in 1953 immediately after the setting up of the National Statistical Service of Greece, consideration was given by Government to the execution of a household survey. However, while consumption patterns and prices were distorted and subject to violent change, the execution of a such costly survey could not be justified. It was intended that the survey, when carried out, should provide, for a number of years come, a bench mark of consumption patterns. Even after the devaluation and stabilization of the currency in 1953, prices still tended to rise and not until 1955 did the comparative stability of prices bring about a situation favourable to the execution of a large-scale household survey.

The decision to undertake the survey was taken in 1955. An application for technical assistance was made by the Government to the International Labour Office, under the United Nations Expanded Programme for

Technical Assistance. The International Labour Office appointed Mr. A. B. Reitz, who arrived in Greece in June 1956 and who took part in all stages of planning, execution and analysis of the Survey.

The first Household Budget Survey was conducted by the NSSG during the interval April 1957 - March 1958, in a sample of 2.500 households over the total households of the urban areas in the country. The survey continued in the next years and until 1972, but in a smaller scale, in a smaller sample of households, over the total households of the cities with 30.000 inhabitants and over.

In May 1963, the NSSG conducted, simultaneously with the survey in urban areas, conducted a large scale survey to semi-urban and rural areas of the country, that is in municipalities and communes with less than 10.000 inhabitants. The survey lasted one year, and 3.755 households of the pre-mentioned areas were surveyed, and continued to be conducted until the year 1972, but in a smaller sample of households.

During the years 1974, 1981/82, 1987/88, 1993/94 and 1998/99 Household Budget Surveys were conducted, covering all country areas/regions, in sample of approximately 7.500 households for the first one and approximately 6.000 to 6.800 for the other four, and lasted for one year each.

The 2004/2005 (February 2004 – January 2005 Household Budget Survey (HBS) is the eighth survey conducted in Greece on a sample of 6.555 households selected from the total households in Greece.

The Household Budget Survey data are fully harmonised to the survey data of other European Union Countries. The new classification of goods and services (COICOP-HBS) which was recommended from Eurostat to European countries (Household Budget Surveys in the European Union, methodology and recommendations for harmonization, 2003) has been used.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE SURVEY

1. Objectives

Through this survey, alike the previous ones, information was collected on the value of purchases and the receipts in kind of the households as well as on the different characteristics of the households and their dwellings, aiming to:

- a) the revision of the Consumer Price Index compiled by the NSSG,
- b) the completion of the available statistical data for the estimation of the total private consumption,
- c) the study of the households' expenditures and the structure of them in relation to their income and other economic, social and demographic characteristics,
- d) the analysis of the changes occurring in the living conditions level of the households as compared to the previous surveys,

- e) the study of the relation between households purchases and receipts in kind,
- f) the study of the low income limits in the different socio-economic categories and population.
- g) The study of changes occurring in the nutritional habits of the households in the country.

2. Coverage

The survey covered all the private households throughout the country, irrespective of their size or socio-economic characteristics. The following were excluded from the survey:

- institutional households of all types (boarding houses, elderly homes, hospitals, prisons, rehabilitation centers, camps, etc.)
- households with more than five lodgers and
- households with foreigners serving in foreign diplomatic missions.

3. Definitions and basic concepts

For the selection of the sample, the collection of information and the tabulation of data, certain concepts were adopted and are being clarified as follows:

3.1. Dwelling

On the basis of the sample design adopted, the dwelling consisted the final sampling unit.

As dwelling was considered any separate and independent place which by the way it has been built, rebuilt or converted, is intended to cover housing needs or if not intended for this purpose was in fact used for habitation during the survey.

As dwellings were considered:

- A detached, semi-detached or terraced dwelling, an apartment or flat in a block of flats,
- An occupied room or number of rooms inhabited by the household.
- A warehouse, shanty, trailer or any other covered place which was used for habitation (as main dwelling) during the survey.

As dwellings were not considered:

The places intended for habitation but during the conduct of the survey were used exclusively for other purposes (professional residences, etc.), i.e. apartments used as laboratories, infirmaries, etc.

3.2. Regular room

As regular room was considered any private place within the dwelling having at least area 4 squared meters and 2 meters height, shape such as for a normal bed to fit in, and having direct day-light through a window or glass door.

As regular rooms were considered:

The dining rooms, drawing rooms, living rooms, bedrooms, domestic servants rooms and attics, kitchens, domestic warehouses, corridors and halls complying with the regular room's definition.

Were not considered as regular rooms:

Bathrooms, toilets, laundry rooms, balconies and garages, kitchens, storage rooms, corridors and anterooms, when they didn't fulfill the conditions of the regular room.

3.3. Household

Unit of survey and analysis was the household, that is one person living alone (single-person household) in a dwelling, or a group of persons, related or not (multi-person household) occupying the same dwelling, providing from common budget their feeding and all things being necessary for living (common housekeeping).

Persons living in the same dwelling but with no common housekeeping and not eating together were deemed to be separate households, provided each person had the exclusive use of one room. In the opposite case they consisted one household. More specifically:

Single-person households were considered :

One person living in the dwelling or in a room of a dwelling, providing alone all needed for living (e.g. student, unmarried man/woman, etc.), two or more persons, related or not, residing in a dwelling but not providing from common budget all needed for living, each one having the exclusive use of one room and not sharing any common place (sitting room, office, excluding hall, etc.).

Multi-person households were considered:

A couple alone or parents with their children or one parent with his/her children, a couple with or without children, the couple's parents and the domestic servant (living in the dwelling) if she plans to stay for more than 6 months, two or more persons –not necessarily related, residing in a dwelling and providing from common budget all needed for living, a family with one to five lodgers.

3.4. Members of the household

As members of the household were considered all persons constituting it. They were persons, usually residing in the dwelling or being temporarily absent.

Persons, usually residing in the dwelling, were considered the ones who spent, during the last 6 months period, most hours of day and night in the specific dwelling.

Persons, temporarily absent, being in another private household or in a collective one (e.g. hospital, elderly home, etc.), were considered and registered as household members, according to the following conditions.

As *household members* were considered and registered the following :

- **Persons usually resident, related to other members** (unmarried / married children, parents of household's head, grand children, other relatives, etc.) sharing expenses or benefiting from them as not having income (children, persons with no income, etc.).
- **Persons usually resident, not related to other members** (partners, etc.) sharing expenses or benefiting from them as not having income (children, persons with no income, etc.).
- **Resident boarders, lodgers, tenants** (up to 5) sharing expenses or benefiting from them as not having income (children, persons with no income, etc.). and either didn't have during the survey conduction any other private address elsewhere or intended to stay in the household for more than six months.
- **Visitors**, related or not, sharing expenses or benefiting from them as not having income (children, persons with no income, etc.). and either didn't have during the survey conduction any other private address elsewhere or intended to stay in the household for more than six months. Visitors not intended to stay for more than six months having another private address elsewhere as main dwelling, were not considered household members and haven't been interviewed.
- **Live-in domestic servants**, residing and sharing expenses or benefiting from them as not having income (children, persons with no income, etc.). and either didn't have during the survey conduction any other private address elsewhere or intended to stay in the household for more than six months. External domestic servants were not considered household members and haven't been interviewed.
- **Persons temporarily absent** from the dwelling (for reasons of holiday travel, work, education or similar) sharing expenses or benefiting from them as not having income (children, persons with no income, etc.). not having during the survey conduction private address elsewhere and their actual or intended duration of absence from the household being less than six months.
- **Children** of the household **being educated away from home**, residing in dormitories and **children in military service** sharing expenses or benefiting from them as not having income, irrespective of the actual or intended duration of absence, not having during the survey conduction private address

elsewhere, being partner or child of a household member and should continue to retain close ties with the household and consider this address to be their main residence. Students being educated away from home residing in another private dwelling irrespective of their intention to retain close ties with the household, considering this address to be their main residence, were not considered as household members.

- **Relatives absent for long periods** (sailors, employees in railways, intercity buses, public servants working away from office, etc.) sharing expenses or benefiting from them as not having income, irrespective of the actual or intended duration of absence, not having private address elsewhere, being partner or child of a household member and should continue to retain close ties with the household and consider this address to be their main residence.
- **Persons temporarily absent but having household ties**, in hospital, elderly home, etc. sharing expenses or benefiting from them as not having income, having financial ties to the household being expected to return to the household in less than 6 months.

3.5. Head of household

As a head of household was considered the person approved by the members of the household in the sense that this person has the responsibility for the decision making concerning the household's management, in general.

As head of the household were considered:

- The father, in most of the cases of households consisting from parents and children (either married or unmarried)
- The older working member (man or woman) or in case where nobody was working, the older member of the household in the cases where the household consisted from related persons or not.

3.6. Economically active members

As economically active members were considered:

The members 14 years old and over, which during the week before the survey conduction had a job or didn't have but were seeking one (working and unemployed).

3.7. Reference person

As reference person was considered:

- The head of the household, if he/she was economically active (having or searching for a job). In the case where the head of the household is neither working nor searching for a job, in order him/her to be considered as reference person, there shouldn't be any other economically active person in the household.
- The spouse of partner of the head if he/she was working or searching for a job, if the person declared as head was not economically active.
- The oldest member of the household, being economically active, if the head/s spouse/partner was not economically active.
- The head of the household if none else in the household was economically active.

4. Sampling plan and estimation procedure

The HBS is a sampling survey and 6.555 households have been interviewed, representing the 1,89/1000 of total households in the country for the year as whole. Ultimate sampling unit is the household, while units of analysis are the households and their members.

The method applied was a two-stage stratified random sampling based on the sampling frames of the Census 2001, covering wholly the reference population, so that the sample is representative. Primary sampling unit is the area (one or more housing blocks), secondary the dwelling, and unit of analysis the household.

4.1. Stratification

The sample design included two levels of stratification:

The first level was the geographical stratification based on the 13 Regional Districts of Development (RDO), corresponding to the European level NUTS II, while the two Greater areas of Athens and Thessaloniki consisted separate stratum.

The second level of stratification was the classification of built-up areas, within each RDO, in four urbanization categories according to their population. The stratification of the two Greater areas was done according to the supervisions of the Census 2001.

More specifically:

➤ **Urban areas**

Great Areas and Municipalities with 30.000 inhabitants and more

Great Areas and Municipalities with 5.000 - 29.999 inhabitants

Great Areas and Municipalities with 1.000 - 4.999 inhabitants

➤ **Rural areas**

Municipalities and Communes with 0 - 999 inhabitants

The Greater areas of Athens and Thessaloniki consisted special cases and were split, respectively, to 31 and 9 major strata. The total number of strata in the survey were 90.

Response achieved by NUTS2-units

NUTS2	Name	Surveyed households
GR11	Thraki and Anatoliki Macedonia	355
GR12	Kentriki Macedonia	1.182
GR13	Dytiki Macedonia	177
GR14	Thessalia	330
GR21	Ipeiros	205
GR22	Ionia Nisia	120
GR23	Dytiki Ellada	346
GR24	Stereia Ellada	232
GR25	Peloponnisos	326
GR30	Attiki	2.620
GR41	Voreio Aigaio	134
GR42	Notio Aigaio	178
GR43	Kriti	350
Total	Total	6.555

4.2. Sample Selection

The sample of private households was selected in two stages, as following:

In the first stage a random sample of areas (inhabited geographical areas being surrounded by natural or artificial borders) was selected with systematic sampling from each final stratum with sampling probability proportional to the number of private households it contains.

In the second stage a systematic random sample of private households was selected, with a specific sampling fraction, from the updated number of households (based on updating done before the survey conduction) in each selected area.

The sample was equally distributed in the year, so as to select 4 equivalent, independent from each other, samples, corresponding to the 4 quarters of the survey.

The total number of Municipalities and Communes selected was 397 and of built-up areas 480, while the number of sampling areas 1.056.

4.3. Dwelling selection

The dwelling selection was done from the Unit in charge, based on the sampling interval of each sampling area, the random number and on the special selection table which for each sampling interval indicates the number of dwellings/ households to be forwarded for survey (e.g. in the sampling interval is $\delta=14,9$ and the random number 8,7, selected are the dwellings with serial numbers 9, 24, 39, 54, 69, 84). The households selected in each sampling area were 6 or 7.

4.4. Conversion of the dwellings' sample to households' sample

Ultimate sampling unit was the household. In the cases where two or more households existed all the households were interviewed. That is, the households residing in it during the survey conduction, in the selected dwelling, have been interviewed. The dwellings found empty and the secondary ones were not surveyed.(these dwellings if found inhabited during the formation of the catalogue have been included in it). Under construction, dilapidated or under demolition dwellings when found uninhabited weren't interviewed.

Dwellings in which contact from the interviewer was not possible due to incapacity (ill, deaf-mute, etc.) or due to temporary absence, were replaced by the next dwellings. Also replaced were dwellings whose households refused to cooperate.

It is clarified that in cases where, inadvertently, empty dwellings, secondary or countryside dwellings (empty or inhabited), and dwellings of foreign missionaries were included in the frame the specific dwellings were not replaced.

The substitution of households not co-operating should be as less arbitrary as possible. The interviewee should substitute the non-responding households with other having similar basic characteristics, e.g. similar synthesis, same type of ownership, same household's head profession. That is, each non-responding household should be substituted with the next household, from the list, having, as much as possible, similar characteristics, except for the last household in the list.

The final formation of the dwellings' and households' sample is presented below:

Surveyed households

Table 1. Response rate

Achieved net sample (n)1	Response rate (R%)2
6.555	60,3 %

Dwelling sample

1. Inhabited dwellings.....	6.718
a) Inhabited dwellings, without replacement	3.948
b) Inhabited dwellings after replacement due to:	2.607
i) Temporary absence of the household, no communication possibility, etc.	1.418
ii) Refusal for cooperation	1.189
 2. Empty dwellings	 73
 3. Secondary homes dwellings, homes in the countryside, professional ones which were not obvious etc.	 9
4. Foreigners who don't speak the Greek language.....	165
 Total sample of dwellings.....	 6.801

Households sample

Dwellings with 1 household	6718	Households	6.718
Dwellings with 2 households or more	1	Households	2
 Total of households to be surveyed			 6.720
Minus:			
Unsuitable households			97
Households which interrupted the cooperation before the survey's end			68
Not surveyed households total			165
 Households that were finally surveyed			 6.555

Achieved sample size

Table 2. Number of households for which an interview is accepted for the database. Quarter breakdown and total

Quarter	Households	%
1	1549	23,6
2	1662	25,4
3	1670	25,5
4	1674	25,5
Total	6555	100,0

Table 3. Number of persons who are members of the households for which the interview is accepted for the database, Quarter group breakdown and total

Quarter	Households' members	%
1	4160	23,9
2	4362	25,1
3	4463	25,7
4	4401	25,3
Total	17386	100,0

Table 4. Non – response, by quarter group and total

Quarter	%
1	40,0
2	41,0
3	44,2
4	40,7
Total	41,5

Substitutions

Table 5. Substitutions, by quarter group and total

Quarter	%
1	39,0
2	41,0
3	44,1
4	40,5
Total	40,5

The response rate after substitutions was 98,7%

5. Data collection

5.1. The questionnaires

For the questionnaires' design the questionnaires of previous surveys were taken into consideration, after being adjusted to the facts of the new survey, as well as to the relevant international templates (harmonization with other EU countries, etc.)

The questionnaires consist of the following three basic prints/forms, models of which have been annexed.

a) Household Questionnaire (register, dwelling information, expenditure) - «HBS:1»

The HBS1 collects information referring to the whole household, and consists of Parts A1 to JC listed below:

PART A1: Household's synthesis (demographic data, employment status, nationality)

PART A2: Education and health data of household members (educational level of household members and of their parents, health insurance and nights spent in public hospital or private clinic).

PART B: Main dwelling's data (dwelling type, tenure status, rooms, year of construction, heating and cooking means, facilities, etc.) and data of secondary or countryside dwelling.

- PART C: Expenditure for main dwelling or for secondary / countryside dwelling (rent, electricity, water, fuel, etc.)
- PART D: Expenditure for vacations and pleasure travels of at least 3 days duration.
- PART E: Education and health expenditure and other regular expenditure (contributions, subscriptions, etc.)
- PART F: Expenditure for transportation means (car's purchase, circulation fees, insurance, repairs, accessories, parking rents, etc.)
- PART G: Expenditure for basic household equipment (furniture, carpets, electrical and other appliances, plus repair thereof, items of recreational use, treatment/ therapeutic appliances etc.)
- PART H: Expenditure for items of personal and household use (clothing and footwear, furnishing and bedding, household goods and tools, etc.)
- PART I : Expenditure for footwear.
- PART J: Expenditure for food, drinks, other goods of immediate consumption and miscellaneous services with way of acquisition "PURCHASE"
- PART JA: Expenditure of the above goods acquired free from household's shop, agricultural or livestock own production, from other households, from the state, organizations etc. or from the employer.
- PART JB: Household's head opinion on financial situation.
- PART JC: Household's income sources

b) Personal questionnaire for members aged 14 and more (personal expenditure, employment, income) - «HBS:2».

HBS:2 consists of three parts. Recorded are information on personal expenditure, employment and income of every member aged 14 and more. In each household the number of HBS:2 completed was the same as the number of members aged 14 or more.

In the first part were recorded the personal expenditure made, in each of the 14 days of the survey conduction, by the interviewee, regardless of whether the expenditure was made to cover his/ her own needs or those of other members of the household.

As *personal expenditure* were considered, expenditure made to cover the needs mainly of the person and not of the household, such as recreation (taverns, patisseries, coffee shops, cinema, etc.) personal cleanness and decency, nutrition at place of work, transportation and other (cigarettes, newspapers, postal charges, etc.).

In the second part was recorded information on the employment status of each member aged 14 and up. The description on employment was detailed, as we recorded detailed description of job, business/enterprise (store, local unit, main factory, service, etc.) as well as of the insurance organization of each household member.

Lastly, with the questions of the third part were recorded information on income of each household member aged 14 years and up. More specifically, in this part we registered net income by source (wages, salaries, pensions, business's gains, self-employment income, reimbursements, financial assistance from the State, etc.) as well as the value of income received in kind.

c) Personal questionnaire for members aged less than 14 years old (personal expenditure) - «HBS:3»

HBS:3 consists of one part only and is collected for members aged less than 14 years old. Registered are only children's personal expenditure for goods and services up to 70€, paid, solely, from their pocket money, being provided to them from other household members.

Also registered is the pocket money (all or part of it) being saved.

Data were collected by face-to-face interview. Interviewers visited the selected households for 14 consecutive days and gathered all necessary information for the three pre-mentioned questionnaires.

Reference periods for expenditure and income

As *reference periods* were considered the time intervals having a specific start and end date, to which expenditure and income of the household referred. In order to reduce sampling errors and difficulties in recalling the relevant details, various reference periods were used in the survey, according to the frequency of the types of expenditure incurred by the households or the received income.

Reference periods were considered:

a) The fourteen (14) days of the survey for the daily expenditure on:

- Cleaning products (detergents, soaps, toilet paper, etc.)
- Pharmaceutical products (drugs, alcohol, etc.)
- Household members' personal expenditure (cigarettes, newspapers, magazines, tickets, tissues, etc.)
- Restaurants, taverns, café, etc.

b) *One Month, two months, three months, four months, six months or year*, for payments made at regular intervals for services e.g.:

- Electricity, water, phone bills, communal charges, etc.
- Circulation fees and car insurance
- Rent for main or secondary or countryside dwelling.

c) *The last 30 days, last 3, 6 or 12 months*, etc, prior the end of the household survey (including the 14 days of the survey) for:

- Expenditure on furniture, electric devices, etc.,
- Expenditure on clothes and footwear, medical appliances, etc.,
- Expenditure on health and education,
- Expenditure on holidays,
- Income from salaries, self-employment, farming, pensions, social benefits, etc.

5.2. Households' expenditure

As *household expenditure* was considered value, in cash, of the goods and services the household bought or received in kind (from own production, own store or from elsewhere) in order to cover family and social needs.

As expenditure were **not** considered:

1. Payments increasing households' assets or reducing debts to third parties, such as purchase or extension of the house, bank deposits, loan payments, direct taxes, etc.
2. Money transfers to household and non household members.
3. Occupational expenditure on tools necessary for member's job / business, fuel for professional cars, professional trips, seeds, pharmaceutical products for cultivating land, food for animals of domestic livestock, etc.
4. Expenditure on medical and pharmaceutical care paid by the insurance organizations.

It should be noted that when occupational and family expenditure were common, like sharing lodgings of the family enterprise with the household, using a professional car for vacations, etc. effort has been made to separate and calculate the part of the expenditure corresponding to the household, e.g. part of expenditure for rent, electricity, water supply, fuels, circulation fees, insurance, etc.

5.3. Ways of goods' and services' acquisition

With the survey information is collected on the ways households obtained goods and services in order to cover their needs.

Goods' and services' can be acquired with the two following ways:

a) PURCHASES

- *Purchases – «P»*

As purchases was recorded the expenditure on goods acquired from the households by paying their value “in cash or with installments”, irrespectively whether these goods were meant to cover household's needs or to be offered as gifts to other households. Also, as purchases was recorded expenditure on services the households used by paying their value in cash or with installments.

Was not recorded under «P» expenditure on services paid by other households, the state or the employer. The specific amounts were recorded for the households that used the services with other ways «OW» or from the employer «E».

b) RECEIPTS IN KIND

- *From own production – «OP»*

Recorded were goods consumed from the households coming from own agricultural and livestock production, fishery or hunting (oil, wine, vegetables, fruits, milk, eggs, meat, cheese, wool, fish, etc.) Also included were products collected from the households as being free goods (e.g. wild seeds, mushrooms, firewood, etc.)

Was not recorded under «OP» expenditure for the goods of the pre-mentioned cases, when those goods were offered to other households. The specific expenditure was recorded for the households that received them at consuming stage with «OW» or with «Employer», in case the household that provided the goods was also employer.

- *From own enterprise – «OE» :*

Recorded were goods obtained free from households' own store, either to cover its needs or to be offered “as gifts” to third parties (bread from own bakery, furniture maker from his workshop, etc.). It should be noted that imputed rent for owners or for households providing main or second dwelling for free, was recorded as from «OE».

Was not recorded as «OE» expenditure for foodstuffs coming from household's enterprise, but were offered as “gifts” to other households. The specific expenditures were recorded to the households that consumed them as «OW» or as «OE» from the employer in case some member was

working in the enterprise. Also, were not recorded as «*OE*» services used from own stores or enterprises (surgeries, law offices, tuition centers, athletic halls, kindergarten, private schools, barber shops, cleaner's shop, clothes repair shop, clothes and footwear shops, car workshops, etc.)

- *Other ways – «OW»* :

There were recorded goods and services received “in kind” for free :

- a) From other households (only services, such as rent of main or secondary dwelling provided for free or paid by third parties, electricity, water, telephone bills paid by others, etc. as well as food and beverages).
- b) From state, municipal, church authorities, insurance organizations, etc. as receipts in kind, e.g. meals, food for households with more than 3 children, toy offers from municipalities, clothes from churches, etc.
- c) From abroad, e.g. food stuffs, clothes, furniture, etc.

- *From the employer – «Employer»* :

There were recorded goods and services received “in kind” for free or in reduced price from their employer as payment “in kind”, under the condition that it constitutes net profit for the employees, meaning that the households would certainly purchase them.

Were not considered as receipt in kind goods coming from the employer for practicing their profession (uniforms, helmets, etc.) or in order to compensate for job's disadvantages (milk, refreshments, etc. It should be noted that if those goods were transferred at home and were consumed from the household for its needs, they were recorded under «Employer».

Finally, it should be noted that when the household received goods or services for free, the whole current value (for the good or service) was recorded, while in cases where the household received goods or services at reduced price, the amount paid by the employer was recorded under «Employer» and the amount paid by the interviewee under «P».

5.4. Conditions for expenditure record

For expenditure record the following conditions should be fulfilled:

- a) The realization of the expenditure within the reference period specified for the corresponding goods or services, e.g. 14 days for food stuffs, month for clothing, 12 months for the consumption of durables, etc.
- b) The good corresponding to the expenditure should have already been possessed by the household and the service should have been offered within the reference period mentioned, irrespectively whether it was meant to cover its own needs or to be offered to other

households. The way of possession of goods and services could have been «P» (in cash or on credit), from own enterprise «OE», from others «OW» or from the employer «Employer», e.g. expenditure on clothing was recorded if the household “possessed” them within the last 30 days (including the 14 days of survey conduction) before the survey end, even if their value would be paid in the future with installments, the expenditure on tuition fees was recorded, if the service was offered in the last 12 months before the survey end, etc.

- c) Goods from households’ agricultural – livestock own production, fishery, woodland or hunting, should have been consumed during the reference period, e.g. the quantity of oil consumed by the household from own production, during the last 12 months, was recorded and not that having been stored. The same applies for vegetables from own vegetable garden or agricultural enterprise, meaning that only those consumed during the 14 days were recorded.

It should be noted that all the pre-mentioned criteria didn’t entirely apply for regular expenditure, e.g. electricity, water, drainage, telephone bills, circulation fees, insurances, etc. In these cases, the last bill was recorded with reference period the one mentioned on it (month, 2 months, 3 months, 4 months, 6 months, year), e.g. electricity bill was, usually, recorded with reference the 4 month period, car’s insurance 6 or 12 months period and usually refer to future services, circulation fees are usually recorded at 12 months period, etc.

5.5. Estimation of goods and services value

- For the purchases: In the value of goods and services, obtained from the households, it has also been included any other expenditure necessary for them to be consumed/used, e.g. for transportation, setting of electric devices, etc. When goods or services had been obtained by paying with installments or with credit card, the total value was recorded and not only the part of installments paid within the reference period.
- For the receipts in kind: The value of goods and services, obtained from the households for free, was self-estimated from the households or from the interviewer, based on retail prices of the closest local market.

For further information on data:

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