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## **The System of Official Social Surveys in Luxembourg**

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# THE SYSTEM OF OFFICIAL SOCIAL SURVEYS IN LUXEMBOURG

## 1. Short history of statistics in Luxembourg

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, statistics in Luxembourg were only the by-product of governmental administration for purposes of the trade with neighbouring countries and the organisation of parliamentary elections (see also 1.2). As Luxembourg was a rather poor country in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the government hesitated to spend money on a central statistical office (CSO). The more so as the senior officials did not understand the need of having a separate statistical office. A commission of high senior government officials from the ministry of the interior (Arrêté royal grand-ducal du 6 mars 1855) was in charge of planing the statistical needs of the country and the work was delegated to minor civil servants. The first “statistical office” or more appropriately, the first statistical service was founded early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century (instituted by law the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 1900) and became an independent institution in 1921 when the commission of senior government officials, in charge of supervising the work, was suppressed. The foundation of the Office de Statistiques in 1900 marked the beginning of regular statistical publications. The series “Publications de l’Office de Statistique” was published; it had 78 “fascicules” by 1949. The main statistical series covered all statistical fields, from population movement, employment statistics, to agricultural and livestock statistics. It was only in 1945, when a independent central statistical office (OSG: Office de la statistique générale) was created, without external control, but with rather low personal resources. Two major regulations (arrêtés grand-ducaux) were voted in 1945. The first regulation defined the mission and the organisational structure of the OSG. A second regulation established the participation for the surveys by the OSG mandatory and in return, the assurance of confidential treatment of the collected data. In 1962 (law of the 9<sup>th</sup> July 1962), the fusion of the OSG and the *Service d’études économiques* resulted in the first real CSO, the actual STATEC (*Service Central de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques*).

The mission of the STATEC was defined as follows:

- The collection and update the statistical information on the country's activity structure, its demography, the economy and the financial and social issues;
- The organisation of research to report on the economy, the conjuncture, and to prepare studies on economic previsions;
- The centralisation of statistics and economic documentation of general interest;
- The diffusion and publication of the results of its activities;
- To link its activities with the statistical offices in other countries.

The STATEC's organisational structure, its mission, were modelled on the French INSEE (Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques). The multiple objectives gave the STATEC a multitask organisation with the following characteristics:

- It was a statistical office;
- A study service;
- A service for the national accounts;
- An institute for conjuncture and economic previsions;
- A planing bureau.

Useless to say, that this was by far too much of a scope for a relatively small administration, compared to CSO's in other countries<sup>1</sup>. The law of the 14<sup>th</sup> of July 1971 made some changes to the organisational structure of the Luxembourgian CSO and established a consultative superior council for statistical matters. The council was presided by the minister of the economy. The new reorganisation in 1984 saw the mission of the statistical office enlarged, the council was enlarged too. The modifications were also important as the president of the statistical council was now attributed to the director of the STATEC. Another improvement was the enlargement of the council by members of other public administration bodies, i.e. from the fiscal administration, the social security administration and the Luxembourgian Monetary Institute. Some other new members of the statistical council came from the growing finance sector in the country. The statistical system was enlarged and modernized substantially. Regular population censuses were held nearly every ten years, new sample surveys were introduced. The publication system was extended, for example with the statistical yearbook. Especially in the last decade, the

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<sup>1</sup> In 1963, the human resources of the STATEC were 55 persons (17 senior official executives and 25 full-time employees with additionally 13 part-time employees. Today's resources are roughly 140 employees. To compare, the German Statistisches Bundesamt in Wiesbaden employs around 2800 persons and the French INSEE headquarter in Paris 1600 employees. These figures are estimates for the year 2003.

presentation of statistical results has been substantially improved. A very helpful insight of the publications on Luxembourg and especially statistical Series and Yearbooks is given by Rothenbacher (1998: p.270-276) and a very exhaustive and commented list of publications by Paul Zahlen can be found on the Statec website<sup>2</sup>.

During the entire period of statistical Information services in Luxembourg, a major question has always been the sources of the data used by the central statistical office. Should the data be gathered by public administrations or should the data be collected using population surveys. The preference was usually given to the latter.

## 2. Population censuses

The origins of data collection for statistical purposes goes back to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. Albeit the major purpose of the first data collections were either political or for trade reasons. The first population census took place after the independence of the country in 1839. All the subsequent censuses until 1867 were deemed at the collection of economical data to establish the share of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg as a member of the German Zollverein<sup>3</sup> (German Tariff Union). The censuses were held every tree years. The censuses of the years 1847, 1851 and 1865 were intended to fix the number of parliamentary representatives (Chamber of Deputies) for the constituencies at the legislative elections (Article 43 of the electoral regulation, 16<sup>th</sup> of October 1841 and Article 56 of the electoral law, 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 1848, Statec 1986: p.26). From 1871 the two types of censuses were combined. From 1875 to 1910 the censuses took place every five years. The electoral law of 1913 established a frequency of censuses every 6 years (censuses of 1916 and 1922) and a revision of the electoral law in 1924 switched to the five year regime again (census of 1927). Most of these statistics were not published, but nevertheless the *Mémorial*<sup>4</sup> contains a large amount of statistical material.

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<sup>2</sup> The document is available as Pdf-file at the following address:

[http://www.statec.lu/html\\_fr/bibliographie/Internet/InternetHTML/index.html](http://www.statec.lu/html_fr/bibliographie/Internet/InternetHTML/index.html)

<sup>3</sup> Against its own will, Luxembourg had entered into the Prussian-led Zollverein, or Tariff Union, but the grand duchy soon realised the advantages of this economic union. Luxembourg subsequently developed from an agricultural country into an industrial one.

<sup>4</sup> *Mémorial* is the name of the official periodical publication of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and can be consulted online under the following address: <http://www.etat.lu/memorial/>. The *Mémorial* is divided in tree different thematic areas: *Mémorial A* = laws and regulations (Recueil de Législation); *Mémorial B* = administrative acts (Recueil Administratif et Economique) ; *Mémorial C* = corporations and associations acts (Recueil des Sociétés et Associations). Other publications are legal collections, codes (Ex. Code Administratif, Code Pénal) and a few other types of juridical publications, edited by the Ministry of the State in Luxembourg.

The new convention of July 25<sup>th</sup> 1921 establishing the Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union (BLEU) was requiring once again a population count to redistribute the Income of the Union as to the number of people. In 1935, the census was for the purpose of defining the number of elected for the constituencies. The law of the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 1952 augmented the census-interval from 5 to 10 years. The directive of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 1973 from the European Community Council prescribed that the general Censuses of the population must be held between the 1<sup>st</sup> of March and the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 1981. This census is used as a reference for the subsequent censuses until the last census held in 2001.

### 3.2 *Intermediate censuses*

The light census of 1966 was only a short version of the normal population census. The aim of this census was to get information about the demographical and economic changes that took place after the census of 1960, especially the immigration of new labour forces from abroad.

Another instrument thought of to collect statistical information about the population and their income and living conditions was the fiscal census (recensement fiscal). The fiscal census is completed each year on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October. The head council of Statistics had recommended the use of the fiscal census for other statistical purposes. A first test was done in 1977. The fiscal census data are collected by the administration of the parish councils (Administrations communales) in order to collect data on the revenues of their inhabitants. In general, the coverage of the fiscal census is superior to the population census. The reasons are its annual coverage by the same agents knowing well their urban or village community. The participation is mandatory because the parish authorities hand out tax-cards (carte d'impôt sur les salaires) necessary for employees to be legally entitled to work with their employer.

For the purpose of an intermediate census, the fiscal census was adapted to the needs of this task and a few major questions were added<sup>5</sup>. Since then, some of the annual publications about the population are produced on the base of the fiscal census. Nevertheless, there are two different kinds of Sample surveys carried out by the CSO, Statec: the Labour force survey (also ELFS) done every year and the household budget survey (HBS) held every five years.

Futhermore, there is a socio-economic panel survey done to collect data for the European Community Household Panel (ECHP) and for which data are collected every year by a private

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<sup>5</sup> The fiscal census was enlarged with information on the family situation and a socio-economic classification and information about the dwelling.

research institute, CEPS/INSTEAD. There is also a pre- and post-election survey done by a private opinion research institute (ILRES<sup>6</sup>). Just to mention, the only major international surveys<sup>7</sup>, in which Luxemburg participates, are the pluri-annual Eurobarometer<sup>8</sup> survey and recently the European Social Survey (ESS).

### 3. Surveys regularly collected by the CSO

#### 3.2 European Labour force survey (ELFS)

The ELFS<sup>9</sup> does exist since 1973. At the beginning the surveys were held biannually but became an annual survey in 1984. The survey was done for the years 1973, 75, 77, 79, 83, 84 and each of the following years. Luxembourg was given a special dispensation from participating in the LFS in Spring 1981 because of the general population census it had to carry out that year. As there is no legislation in Luxembourg, making it compulsory to provide information to the official surveys of this type, the non-response could be quite high for the consecutive surveys. So there is usually non-respond rate for each survey.

The survey does only cover the private households in Luxembourg and yields annual results since 1984. The reference-time for the questionnaire is one week (usually the week before the week the survey is carried out) and all the interviews are carried out during one single week<sup>10</sup>.

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<sup>6</sup> ILReS : 46 rue du Cimetière, L-1338 LUXEMBOURG, contact person: Charles MARGUE ([charles.margue@ilres.com](mailto:charles.margue@ilres.com)), Tel. ++/ 352 49 92 91 and Fax. ++/ 352 49 92 95 555. Unfortunately, even though the data collection is often ordered and financed by official bodies, the data are not available for a single year. It is not clear who is entitled to decide on the data dissemination and to find you why the data is not made available to the research community. Unfortunately, several trials to get the data for the MZES at the University of Mannheim were dismissed.

<sup>7</sup> The most important international social science research projects considered here are The World Values Survey and European Values Surveys (Inglehart 2000) and the ISSP, “International Social Survey Programme” ([http://www.gesis.org/en/data\\_service/issp/guide.htm](http://www.gesis.org/en/data_service/issp/guide.htm)) and the FFS, “Family Fertility Survey” (<http://www.bib-demographie.de/ffs/indexffs.htm>). A good review of all these surveys is given by Pierre Bréchon (2002).

<sup>8</sup> For more detail about the survey and some of the publications, see the following link: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/public\\_opinion/](http://europa.eu.int/comm/public_opinion/).

<sup>9</sup> The first Community Labour Force Survey to be organized by the Statistical Office of the European Union was carried out on a sample basis in 1960 in each of the original member countries. After a gap, the surveys were repeated yearly from 1968 to 1971. For various reasons of technical nature, Luxembourg did not take part in the 1968 survey. The actual ELFS is a harmonized and synchronized survey and has become the most suitable instrument in the range of Community statistics for identifying the level and structure of employment and unemployment throughout the Community at least since 1979. Therefore the participation of the Member States is made compulsory by council regulations.

<sup>10</sup> Other countries often interview people during more than one week. Some countries, like the Netherlands, United Kingdom and Ireland are even doing their field work for a period of several months.

The week interviews are carried out either in May (1983, 1984, 1987, 1988, 1989) or in April (1983, 1984, 1990, 1991).

The universe of the population is defined as the resident population in private households in one of the communes during the week in question. The basic statistical unit is considered the household, which is defined by the country in question: as all persons living in the same dwelling<sup>11</sup>, other than subtenants and military personnel returning home at the weekend. For methodological reasons, collective households such as hotels, boarding schools, hospitals and workers' lodgings were not considered for sampling in all of the participating countries<sup>12</sup>. Anyhow, about 97% of the population do live in private households, so the sample could be regarded as representative for the whole population.

The 1973 survey asked approximately 10,000 households questions about (see also the detailed list at the end, Table 2):

- individual characteristics of all persons in the household questioned;
- occupation of the persons (status, type of activity, hours of work etc.) at the time of the survey and one year prior to it;
- Persons seeking employment, while taking account of the type of employment sought, reasons for seeking it, and the length of time spent seeking it.

A specific questionnaire was concerned with education and vocational training (see for this topic: the Social Statistics Series "Education and training in Community Countries" by EUROSTAT, 1973).

The question on the normal situation with regard to economic activity has been introduced for the first time in 1973, allowing a better distinction between persons with a main occupation and non-active persons with occasional employment (EUROSTAT 1975). Comparisons of the results of the 1960, 1968 to 1971 and 1973 surveys must be made with caution for the following

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<sup>11</sup> Statec member Jean Langers writes about the atypical situation of Luxembourg, regarding the weight of net immigration (37% of the population in 2001) which influences the drawing of a sample: "Statec tries to get round this problem by assuming that it was not households that were selected but addresses (or dwellings). In the case of a household that has left the country being drawn in the sampling base, the current occupant would be questioned" (Langers 2001).

<sup>12</sup> The Community survey 1973 defines „Members of private households [as] people [...] whose normal and actual place of residence is in one of the Community countries participating in the survey during the week in question, and who belong to a private household as defined in that country. People not considered to be members of the household are: (a) people living in collective households whether or not these have been included totally or partially in the national sampling survey; (b) people who have their legal residence in one of the Member States but usually live either in another Community country or in a third country; (c) national servicemen even if they are living as members of a private household at the time of the survey" (EUROSTAT 1975: p.209). The population census of 1981 showed that approximately 6,500 persons out of 364,600 (1.78%) were living in collective households that year (Statec 1984: p.109).

reasons: a) random errors are a feature of all sample surveys; b) the time frame of the survey was not always the same for every country; c) some of the figures in the first publications had to be revised for subsequent publications.

In 1977, Community survey a new category of non-active person was introduced to distinguish ‘persons unable to work because of permanent illness or disability’. This modification affected primarily the group of persons stating themselves to be pensioners or retired from active life. The 1978 edition of the LFS saw an extension on the definition of the labour force concept, following recommendations from the ILO. The unemployed according to the extended concept, i.e. ‘persons without a main occupation and seeking paid employment’, comprise the unemployed in the restricted sense as well as non-active persons seeking paid employment. The labour force, following the extended concept includes persons with a main occupation and unemployed persons (labour force – restricted concept) as well as non-active persons with an occasional occupation or seeking paid employment.

As Luxembourg was dispensed to proceed a survey in 1981, because of the population census held that year in spring, there is no micro data for that year available. Anyhow, those interested in the figures for that year, they should consult the publication *Recensement Général de la Population au 31 Mars 1981* (1983), bearing in mind that the population census methodology differs somewhat from that of the Labour force survey.

With the year 1983, Luxembourg’s EU-LFS became technically and methodologically well elaborated. The Statec barely used results of the EU-LFS of the precedent years for its own purposes (Statec 1991: p.128). From this survey on, the CSO thought of using the EU-LFS results to fill in the gap between two large censuses and report figures about the population and the employment situation each year. The initial aim of the survey in 1983 was to collect information on the structure of employment and unemployment in Luxembourg to adopt social policy measures on the community level. As part of the EU-LFS<sup>13</sup>, the survey is intended to be:

- Implemented on the community level, the universe are all the member countries of the C.E. (today EU);
- Harmonized: the base questionnaire is the same in all the member countries;
- Synchronized: the data collection period is situated at the end of the first quarter of every year, in spring.

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<sup>13</sup> The summary presentation of the type of information covered by the survey was included in Article 4 of the Council Regulation (ECC) No 603/83 which formed the legal basis for the 1983 survey (Eurostat 1985: p.31).

The EU-LFS in Luxembourg has never been included in a larger survey, as this was the case for other member countries (i.e. Germany, where the EU-LFS is part of the annual German Mikrozensus, a 1% sample of the German population). The sample was drawn as a simple random sample of 10,000 persons out of the target population of 128,500 households in Luxembourg at that time. The frame of the sampling procedure was chosen to be the census quarters from the population census in 1981. From these 2,577 *quartiers du recensement* each containing roughly 50 households, a sample of 225 quarters was drawn. All the persons in all of the private households in these quarters were subjected to participate in the survey. The population estimates from the '81 census were used to weight the sample. The variables used to re-weight the sample were gender, nationality and 5-year age groups. The non-response was corrected by duplicating similar records. The content of the EU-LFS '83 can be summarized as follows:

- Personal characteristics;
- Employment characteristics;
- Unemployment and job search;
- Education and training;
- Situation one year before the survey.

The non-response rate was reported to be 9.4%: 3.9% of voluntary non-response, as the participation in the survey is not compulsory, and 5.5% of losses due to other reasons (people having moved away etc.).

Persons who were unemployed and actively looking for a new job were held to report the duration of their present situation and to give some information on their method to look for a new job (see Table 2 for more details on the ILO definition adopted in 1983). There were also questions asked about some training undergone in the last four weeks and the purpose of that training. Another set of questions relative to the situation one year before the survey were asked as well. The implementation of the 1983 survey was done by voluntary interviewers recruited by the townships (communes). The survey was launched on May 30, after sixteen training sessions of the interviewers done by Statec representatives. The results of the 1983 survey as well as the consecutive ones are not strictly comparable to previous surveys because of the new concepts and definitions adopted by the Statistical Office of the European Community (SOEC). As far as unemployment<sup>14</sup> is concerned, the concepts used in the past were:

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<sup>14</sup> This changes of definitions are reported in Eurostat 1985: p. 32.

- Restricted concept (used up to the 1981 survey): persons declaring themselves as unemployed and looking for, or waiting to take up work as employees;
- Extended concept (used for the 1979 and 1981 surveys): persons declaring themselves as unemployed or inactive, and looking for, or waiting to take up work as employees;
- ‘Definition 1983’ (used for the 1981 survey, especially in the context of the 2nd periodic report “The Regions in Europe”): persons without work declaring themselves as unemployed or inactive, and looking for, or waiting to take up work as employees.

From the 1983 surveys onwards two more criteria are required in order to be considered as unemployed:

- active job search;
- immediate availability for a job.

The EU-LFS 1984, carried out in May 1984, considered persons in employment as those who during the reference week did any work for pay or profit, or were working but had jobs from which they were temporarily absent. It included family workers but excluded persons on lay-off. Unemployed were considered those persons, as in the previous survey, but adding the following categories:

- those who were looking to set up their own business or professional practice, or
- were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off, or
- had found a job to start after the reference week.

Inactive persons were those not classified as employed or unemployed (see Fig. 2 for the ILO definition). The 1985 survey was implemented in roughly the same manner as the previous one with the exception of the introduction of a weighting procedure to account for the non-response (c.f. Eurostat 1985, Labour force survey – Methods and definitions). The reference week this time was April 1985. The subsequent surveys, until 1991 followed the same guidelines as the 1985 survey.

Errors in the survey are of two kinds: sampling errors and errors due to observation. Random errors, due to the sampling procedure have been corrected using the variance of observations and the size of the sample. The correction is also related to the sampling procedure: a one stage cluster sample.

Generally speaking, the average sample size nowadays is 8500 households, giving approximately a survey rate of 5% of all households in the universe of the survey. The sample is based on the central population register and the sampling plan only comprises one stage-sampling while the sampling unit is the household. There is no sampling by states. The sample is drawn as a simple random sample and the rotation is 25%.

### 3.2 *Household and budget survey*

The Household and budget survey is held every five years, encompassing approximately 3000 households. A private service company carries out the survey. The sample-drawing procedure is very similar to the one used for the LFS.

## APPENDICES:

*Table 1 – Summary of Population Censuses held in Luxembourg*

| Population Censuses held in Luxembourg since 1839 |   |                  |
|---|---|------------------|
| Year(s)   | Purpose of the censuses                     | Population count |
| 1839  | Statistical                                 | 175.082          |
| 1843  | Share of Revenue in the Tariff Union (T.U.) | n.a.             |
| 1846  | Share of Revenue in the T.U.                | 186.140          |
| 1847  | Elections                                   | 186.062          |
| 1849  | Share of Revenue in the T.U.                | 189.783          |
| 1851  | Elections                                   | 194.719          |
| 1852  | Share of Revenue in the T.U.                | n.a.             |
| 1855  | Share of Revenue in the T.U.                | 189.480          |
| 1858  | Share of Revenue in the T.U.                | n.a.             |
| 1861  | Share of Revenue in the T.U.                | 197.731          |
| 1864  | Share of Revenue in the T.U.                | 202.937          |
| 1865  | Elections                                   | 203.664          |
| 1867  | Share of Revenue in the T.U.                | n.a.             |
| 1871  | Share of Revenue in the T.U. & Elections    | 204.028          |
| 1875  | Share of Revenue in the T.U. & Elections    | 204.606          |
| 1880  | Share of Revenue in the T.U. & Elections    | 210.507          |
| 1885  | Share of Revenue in the T.U. & Elections    | 214.633          |

|      |  |         |
|------|--|---------|
| 1890 | Share of Revenue in the T.U. & Elections   | 211.481 |
| 1895 | Share of Revenue in the T.U. & Elections   | 217.716 |
| 1900 | Share of Revenue in the T.U. & Elections   | 234.674 |
| 1905 | Share of Revenue in the T.U. & Elections   | 245.888 |
| 1910 | Share of Revenue in the T.U. & Elections   | 259.027 |
| 1916 | Share of Revenue in the T.U. & Elections   | 263.490 |
| 1922 | Share of Revenue from the BLEU & Elections | 261.643 |
| 1927 | Share of Revenue from the BLEU & Elections | 284.702 |
| 1930 | Share of Revenue from the BLEU & Elections | 299.782 |
| 1935 | Elections                                  | 296.913 |
| 1945 | Elections (not exhaustive)                 | n.a.    |
| 1947 | Share of Revenue from the BLEU & Elections | 290.992 |
| 1960 | Share of Revenue from the BLEU & Elections | 314.889 |
| 1966 | Statistical objectives only                | 334.790 |
| 1970 | Share of Revenue from the BLEU & Elections | 339.841 |
| 1981 | Share of Revenue from the BLEU & Elections | 364.602 |
| 1991 | Regular Census                             | 384.634 |
| 2001 | Regular Census                             | 439.500 |

Source: Census Information: Statec (1986), Le Recensement de la Population du 31 Mars 1981. In: Statec: Cahiers Economiques, Nr.71, Serie D. Luxembourg: Service Central de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques, pp. 72ff. Population counts: [http://db.statec.lu/STATEC/statec.retreive\\_doc\\_data?no=B100&idouv=1&mimetype=xls](http://db.statec.lu/STATEC/statec.retreive_doc_data?no=B100&idouv=1&mimetype=xls) (11/11/02).

*Table 2 – Community Labour Force Survey 1973-2000: list of variables*

| Characteristics investigated by the LFS 1973 - 2000 |  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   | Characteristic                             |  |
| Nr. investigated                                    |  | Definitions  |
| 1   | Country                                    | Universe investigated: All persons living most of the time in a household in one of the communities inside Luxembourg  |
| 2   | Regions                                    | Names of the communities:  |
| 3   | Type of household (private or institution) | Person usually living in Luxembourg<br>or<br>Person usually living outside Luxembourg  |
| 4   | Type of institution                        | –  |
| 5   | Relationship to head of household          | Person of reference<br>Spouse of the reference person<br>Child to the reference person or spouse<br>Parent of the reference person or spouse<br>other relative |

|    |  |   |  |  |  |
|----|--|---|--|--|--|
|    |  | other person  |  |  |  |
| 6  | Sex  | Male<br><br>female  |  |  |  |
| 7  | Year of birth  |   |  |  |  |
| 8  | Marital condition  | not married<br><br>married<br><br>widowed<br><br>divorced or legally separated  |  |  |  |
| 9  | Nationality  | Luxemburg<br><br>Belgium<br><br>Portugal<br><br>Poland<br><br>Other nationality   | R.F.A.<br>(Germany)<br><br>United Kingdom<br><br>Spain<br><br>Yugoslavia | France<br><br>Ireland<br><br>Norvay<br><br>Algeria | Italy<br><br>Denkmark<br><br>Turkey<br><br>Morocco<br><br>Tunesia<br><br>Netherlands<br><br>Grece<br><br>Austria |
| 10 | Usual situation with regard to economic activity* (until 1981) | <p>People <b>employed</b> cover all those people of 14 years and over who: (a) have carried out paid work as their main occupation during the week in question; (b) are normally employed but during the course of the week in question were not at work because of illness, accident, holiday, strike or other circumstances. People who have not worked for technical reasons or due to bad weather are also included in this group; (c) carry out unpaid work assisting in a family business or farm as long as this work occupies more than 14 hours per week.</p> <p>People <b>not counted as active workers</b> are: (a) those people who temporarily or for an unlimited period have no work and are not paid during</p> |  |  |  |

the week in question; (b) people without paid employment and people who have neither a farm nor any other business, but have taken steps to start a new job or business or the start farming at a date subsequent to the period in question, (c) unpaid family workers who have worked for 14 hours or less in the week in question; (d) national servicemen (regular servicemen are included under employed persons) (Eurostat 1975: p.209)

Those people who have declared themselves to be **unemployed** are all those who come into one of the following categories: (a) employable workers who were unemployed and seeking paid work during the week in question because their employment contract had come to an end or had been temporarily suspended; (b) people who had had no previous employment or whose last professional status was not that of a wage earner (former employers, etc.) or who had not worked for a certain length of time and who were capable of working during the period in question and were seeking paid employment; (c) unemployed people capable of working immediately who had taken the necessary steps to start a new paid job but at a date subsequent to the period in question; (d) people laid off temporarily or for an indefinite period without pay.

\* The methodological principles adopted by the 13<sup>th</sup> conference of labour statisticians, October 1982 (see footnote 14), the difference between the population census and the LFS, regarding activity is the “usually active population” whereas the definition of the labour force survey is “the momentary active population”, during the reference week, meaning the week the survey is carried out.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>11 Professional activity during the reference week (1<sup>st</sup> activity) (since 1983)</p> | <p>The person did any work for pay or profit during the reference week (1 hour or more);</p> <p>The person was an unpaid family worker (!);</p> <p>The person was not working but had a job or business from which absent in the reference week;</p> <p>The person had neither worked nor had a job or business during the</p> |
|--|--|

|    |   |   |           |                    |
|----|---|---|-----------|--------------------|
|    |   | reference week;   |           |                    |
|    |   | This question structure adopted in 1983 reflects the standard question developed by the ILO <sup>15</sup> and is part of the LFS since then. See also the Figure 2 in the Annex.  |           |                    |
| 12 | Professional status (1 <sup>st</sup> activity)  | In 1973, no distinction has been made between “employers” and “self-employed”. All active persons working on their own account are included in the category “self-employed”. The distinction between “manual employees” and “other employees” has been made according to national definitions. “Family workers” cover unpaid members of the family who normally assist in the running of a farm or enterprise, provided they worked more than 14 hours during the reference week. Family workers who did not work during the reference week were also included. |           |                    |
|    |   | ...   |           |                    |
| 13 | NACE branch activity (1 <sup>st</sup> activity) | Branch*   | NACE Code | Sector of activity |
|    |   | Agriculture,  | 0         | Agriculture        |
|    |   | Energy and water  | 1         | Industry           |
|    |   | Extraction and  | 2         | Industry           |
|    |   | Metal manufacture;  | 3         | Industry           |

<sup>15</sup> The ILO on the thirteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians adopted a Resolution concerning statistics of the economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment in October 1982 (Husmanns, R. / Mehran, F. / Verma V. 1992: p. 341).

|    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
|    | <p>engineering</p> <p>Other manufacturing 4<br/>industries</p> <p>Building and civil 5<br/>engineering</p> <p>Distributive trades, 6<br/>hotels, restaurants<br/>and cafés, repairs</p> <p>Transport and 7<br/>communication</p> <p>Financing, insurance, 8<br/>business services,<br/>renting</p> <p>Public administration, 91<br/>national defence and<br/>compulsory social<br/>security</p> <p>Other services 9<br/>(except 91)</p> <p>*The 1973 LFS survey had been analysed using, for the first time, the breakdown by branches of activity provided for the NACE (General Industrial Classification of Economic Activities within the European Communities). For the previous enquiries the NICE (Classification of Industries within the European Communities) nomenclature was used for industry type of branch and ISIC (International Standard Industrial Classification) classification was used for agriculture.</p> | <p>Industry</p> <p>Industry</p> <p>Services</p> <p>Services</p> <p>Services</p> <p>Services</p>  |
| 14 | Hours worked (1 <sup>st</sup> activity)  | The number of hours worked during the week in question was generally returned separately for both main occupation and second activity. The average working week has been calculated for all people who worked for at least one hour during the week in question. People who did not work during this period because of illness, holiday or for other reasons were excluded for purposes of this calculation. |
| 15 | Hours of work less   |  |

|    |   |
|----|---|
|    | than 40 hours<br>a week   |
| 16 | 2 <sup>nd</sup> activity<br>during the<br>reference<br>week                                   |
| 17 | Professional<br>Status (2 <sup>nd</sup><br>activity)  |
| 18 | NACE<br>branch of<br>activity (2 <sup>nd</sup><br>activity)                                   |
| 19 | Hours<br>worked (2 <sup>nd</sup><br>activity)   |
| 20 | Usual<br>situation with<br>regard to<br>economic<br>activity one<br>year before<br>the survey |
| 21 | Existence of<br>an occasional<br>activity one<br>year before<br>the survey                    |
| 22 | Professional<br>Status one  |

|    |   |
|----|---|
|    | year before<br>the survey   |
| 23 | NACE<br>branch of<br>activity one<br>year before<br>the survey                      |
| 24 | Country of<br>residence one<br>year before<br>the survey                            |
| 25 | Region of<br>residence one<br>year before<br>the survey                             |
| 26 | Search for<br>work and<br>type of work<br>sought                                    |
| 27 | Reasons for<br>seeking work   |
| 28 | Duration of<br>search   |
| 29 | Previous<br>professional<br>status of<br>person seek-<br>ing work<br>after losing a |

|  |
|--|
| job  |
| 30 Previous<br>NACE<br>branch of<br>activity of a<br>person seek-<br>ing work<br>after losing a<br>job |
| 31 Registration<br>at an official<br>employment<br>exchange and<br>receipt of<br>benefits              |
| 32 Method of<br>seeking<br>employment  |

*Table 3 – Samples of the ELFS for Luxembourg since 1983*

| Characteristics investigated by the LFS 1973 - 2000 |             |                      |                   |
|---|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Year  | Sample Size | Valid Questionnaires | Non-Response-Rate |
| 1983  | 9970        | n.a.                 |                   |
| 1984  | 10035       | n.a.                 |                   |
| 1985  | 9429        | n.a.                 |                   |
| 1986  | 9256        | n.a.                 |                   |
| 1987  | 9338        | n.a.                 |                   |
| 1988  | 9395        | n.a.                 |                   |
| 1989  | 9265        | n.a.                 |                   |
| 1990  | 9265        | n.a.                 |                   |
| 1991  | 9199        | n.a.                 |                   |
| 1992  | 8500        | n.a.                 |                   |
| 1993  | 8500        | 5318                 | 37.4%             |
| 1994  | 8500        | 5156                 | 39.3%             |
| 1995  | 8500        | 6478                 | 23.8%             |
| 1996  | 8500        | 6345                 | 25.4%             |
| 1997  | 8500        | 6155                 | 27.6%             |
| 1998  | 8500        | 5984                 | 29.6%             |
| 1999  | 8500        | 5570                 | 34.5%             |
| 2000  | 8500        | 5000                 | 41.2%             |
| 2001  | 5500        | 5151                 | 6.3%              |



Fig. 1 - Sample of a page from the 1983 EC-LFS questionnaire

Question à poser aux personnes qui n'ont pas travaillé durant la semaine de référence, mais avaient un emploi ou une activité dont elles étaient absentes (B1=3)

**B2 RAISON DE L'INACTIVITÉ** (28)

**Question:**  
Quelle est la raison principale pour laquelle vous n'avez pas travaillé (du tout) durant la semaine du 30 mai au 5 juin 1983 ?

- Mauvais temps  0
- Chômage partiel pour raisons techniques ou économiques  1
- Conflit de travail  2
- Enseignement scolaire ou formation (à l'extérieur de l'entreprise)  3
- Maladie, accident ou incapacité temporaire de travailler  4
- Congé de maternité  5
- Congé, vacances  6

passer à la question C1

Nouvel emploi devant commencer à une date ultérieure  7

passer au volet D

Autres raisons (p. ex. responsabilités personnelles ou familiales)  8

passer à la question C1

**C. CARACTÉRISTIQUES DE L'EMPLOI**

**C1 NOMBRE DES EMPLOIS ET ACTIVITÉS** (29)

**Question:**  
Combien d'emplois ou activités aviez-vous durant la semaine du 30 mai au 5 juin 1983 ? Un seul ou plusieurs ?

- La personne a eu un emploi ou une activité  1
- La personne a eu plus d'un emploi ou d'une activité (pour une cause autre qu'un changement d'employeur)  2

**C2 HORAIRE HEBDOMADAIRE HABITUEL** (30/31)

**Question:**  
Combien d'heures de travail effectuez-vous normalement par semaine (dans votre première activité) ?

Nombre d'heures effectuées habituellement

**C3 HEURES PRESTÉES DURANT LA SEMAINE DE RÉFÉRENCE** (32/33)

**Question:**  
Combien d'heures avez-vous effectivement travaillé durant la semaine du 30 mai au 5 juin (dans votre première activité) ?

Nombre d'heures effectivement prestées

Si C2 = C3 passer à la question C4  
Si C2 ≠ C3 passer à la question C5

**C4 RAISONS DE L'ÉCART ENTRE HORAIRE HABITUEL ET HEURES PRESTÉES DURANT LA SEMAINE DE RÉFÉRENCE** (34/35)

**Question:**

Quelle est la principale raison pour laquelle vous avez effectué (dans votre première activité), durant la semaine du 30 mai au 5 juin un nombre d'heures différent de votre horaire habituel ?

Raisons, si la personne a travaillé plus d'heures qu'habituellement:

- horaire variable (horaire mobile)  01
- autres raisons  02

Raisons, si la personne a travaillé moins d'heures qu'habituellement:

- mauvais temps  03
- chômage partiel pour raisons techniques ou économiques  04
- conflit de travail  05
- enseignement scolaire ou formation (à l'extérieur de l'établissement)  06
- horaire variable (p. ex. horaire mobile)  07
- maladie, accident ou incapacité temporaire de travailler  08
- congé de maternité  09
- responsabilités personnelles ou familiales ou autres raisons personnelles  10
- congé, vacances  11
- jours fériés  12
- début d'un emploi ou changement d'emploi durant la semaine de référence  13
- cessation d'un emploi sans reprise d'un nouvel emploi durant la semaine de référence  14
- autres raisons  15

**C5 STATUT PROFESSIONNEL DANS LA PREMIÈRE ACTIVITÉ** (36)

- Employeur (employant un ou plusieurs salariés)  1
- Indépendant (n'employant aucun salarié)  2
- Salarié  3
- Aide familial  4

**C6 ÉTABLISSEMENT OÙ LA PREMIÈRE ACTIVITÉ EST EXERCÉE** (37/38)

Nom et adresse de l'établissement (industriel, commercial, administratif, etc.):

(code STATEC)

Activité à laquelle se rattache l'établissement:

**C7 PROFESSION** (39/40)

Définition exacte de la profession:

(code STATEC)

**C8 DISTINCTION TEMPS COMPLET / TEMPS PARTIEL** (41)

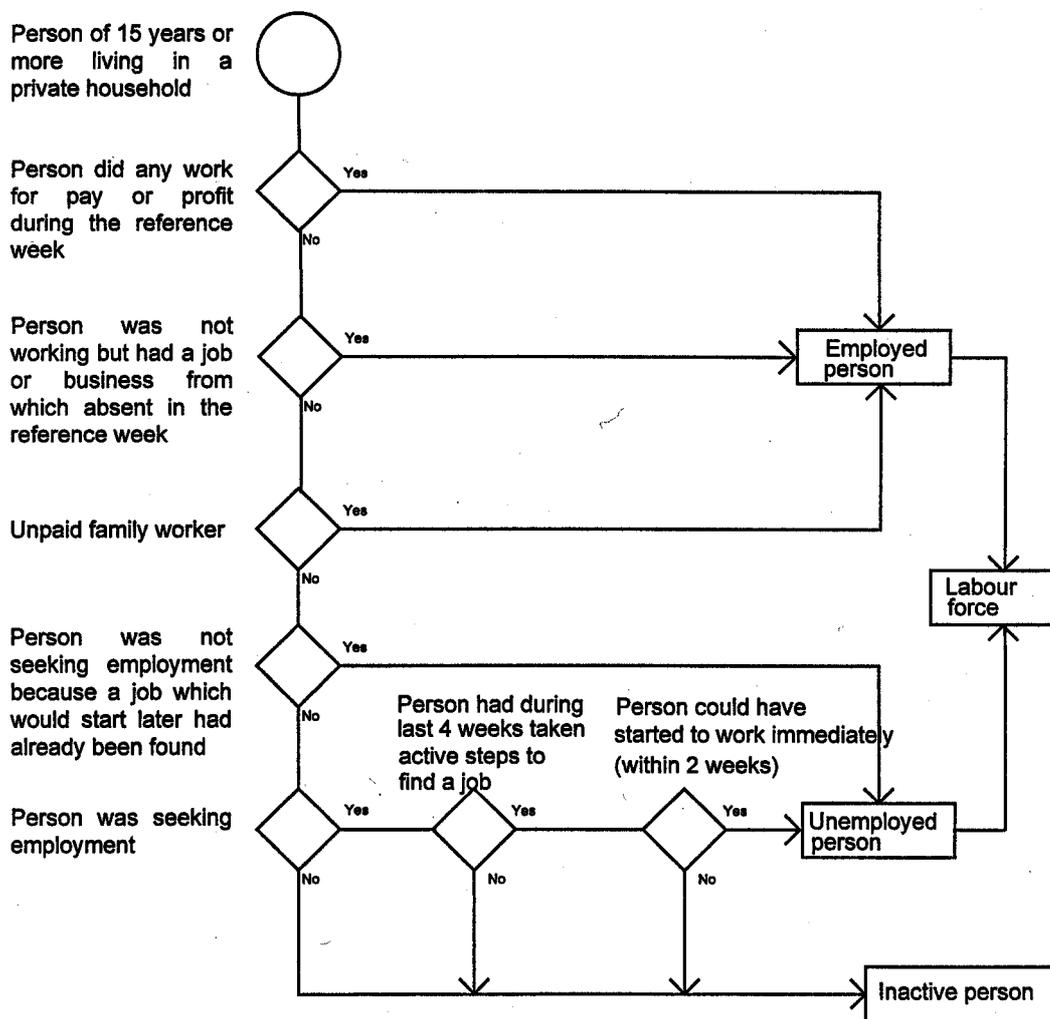
**Question:**

Est-ce que vous avez (comme première activité), un emploi à temps complet ?

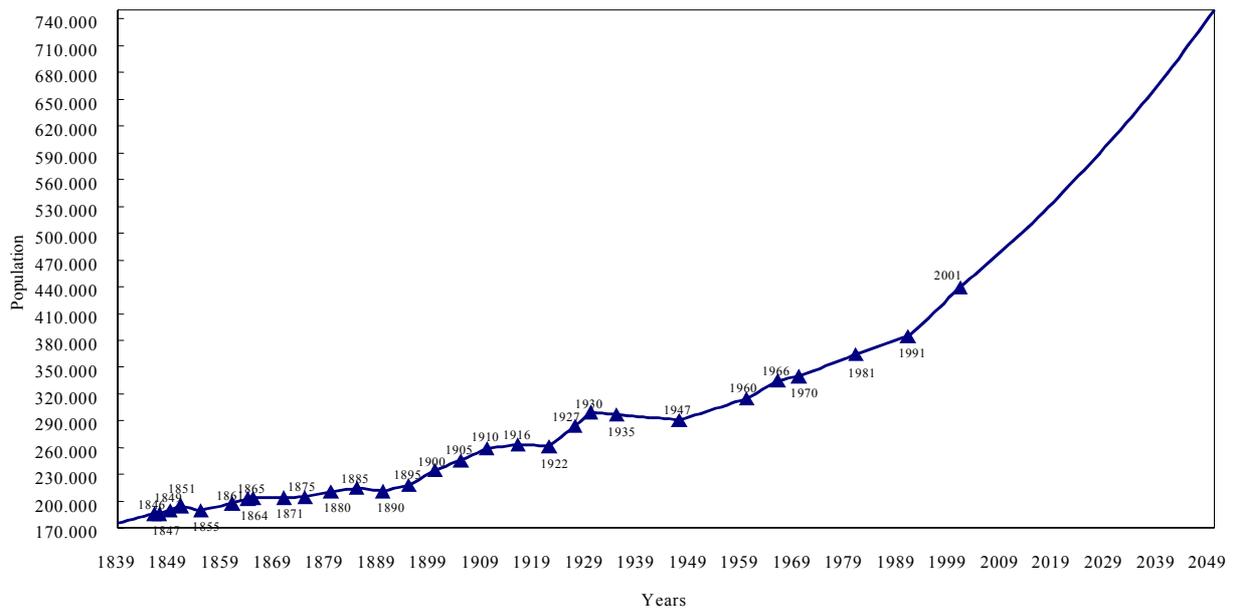
- La personne occupe un emploi à temps complet
- Oui  1
- Non  x

Si non: Quelles en sont les raisons ?

**Fig. 2 - Labour force classification in the European Union Labour force Survey (1997)**



**Figure 1 – The Growth of the Population in Luxembourg and the Population Censuses since the 19<sup>th</sup> century**



S

Source: Population count from the censuses: The dots on the curve indicate the subsequent censuses held in Luxembourg from 1839 to 2001, for the data see [http://db.statec.lu/STATEC/statec.retrieve\\_doc\\_data?no=B100&idouv=1&mimetype=xls](http://db.statec.lu/STATEC/statec.retrieve_doc_data?no=B100&idouv=1&mimetype=xls). The trend used in the figure is based on the actual debate by the Government of Luxembourg, who intends to increase the population up to 750.000 inhabitants in the year 2050, a necessary growth to keep the social benefit spending and the transfers for the welfare state constant.

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