EU-SILC health questions 2004-2014

in national languages and back translations to English by the country experts
The EHLEIS team comprises:

Jean-Marie Robine, INSERM U988 and U1198, Montpellier, France, jean-marie.robine@inserm.fr
Herman Van Oyen, Scientific Institute of Public Health, Brussels, Belgium, Herman.VanOyen@wiv-isp.be
Bernard Jeune, University of Southern Denmark, Institute of Public Health, Odense, Denmark, Bleune@health.sdu.dk
Henrik Bronnum Hansen, Department of Public Health, KU, Copenhagen, Denmark, Henrik.Bronnum-Hansen@sund.ku.dk
Emmanuelle Cambois, INED (Institut National d’Etudes Démographiques), Paris, France, Cambois@ined.fr
Gabriele Dobhammer, Rostock Center for Demographic Change, Germany, dobhammer@rostockerzentrum.de
Viviana Egidi, University la Sapienza, Rome, Italy, viviana.egidi@uniroma1.it
Wilma J. Nusselder, Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam, Netherlands, w.nusselder@erasmusmc.nl
Marten Lagergren, National Board of Health and Welfare (SoS/NBHW), Stockholm, Sweden, marten.lagergren@aldrecentrum.se
Carol Jagger, Newcastle University, United-Kingdom, carol.jagger@newcastle.ac.uk
Chris White, Office of National Statistics, Newport, United-Kingdom, Chris.White@ons.gsi.gov.uk
Isabelle Beluche, INSERM U1198, Montpellier, France, isabelle.beluche@inserm.fr
Loic D’Haillecourt, INSERM U1198, Montpellier, France, loic.dhaillecourt@inserm.fr
Christine Perrier, INSERM U1198, Montpellier, France, christine.perrier@inserm.fr

Contact EHLEIS:
Jean Marie ROBINE, INSERM
Université Montpellier
U1198/MMDN – CC105
Place Eugène Bataillon, Bat 24
34095-Montpellier cedex 05
France

Email: jean-marie.robine@inserm.fr
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Introduction

The experts of the EHLEIS network were sent a document gathering the wording of the three health questions in national language from the Minimum European Health module (MEHM) used in the EU-SILC in each country in the successive years since 2004. They were asked to back translate these three questions of the MEHM to English and comment on the possible differences with the Standard English Version of the MEHM, in particular, on the changes in the wording of the questions between successive years, with the view of better understanding/interpreting trends in Health Expectancies over time or the level of the indicator compared to other countries.
1. Standard English version of the MEHM
Standard English version of the MEHM:

How is your health in general?
1. Very Good
2. Good
3. Fair
4. Bad
5. Very Bad

2. Do you suffer from/have any chronic (long-standing) illness or condition (health problem)?
INTERVIEWER: Problems that are seasonal or recurring should be included.
1. Yes
2. No

3. For at least the past 6 months, to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do? Would you say you have been ...
1. Severely limited
2. Limited but not severely, or
3. Not limited at all?
2. Back translation of the EU- SILC health questions by the EHLEIS country experts and comments

AUSTRIA

Health Questions:

102
2004 - 2007
Nun würde ich Ihnen gerne ein paar Fragen zu Ihrer Gesundheit stellen.
Wie ist Ihr allgemeiner Gesundheitszustand?
Sehr gut, Gut, Mittelmäßig, Schlecht, Sehr schlecht, Keine Angabe

Now I would like to ask you some questions regarding your health.
How is your general health condition?
Very Good, Good, Fair, Poor, Very Poor, No Answer

2008
Jetzt möchte ich Ihnen ein paar Fragen zu Ihrer Gesundheit stellen.
Wie ist Ihre Gesundheit im Allgemeinen?

Now I would like to ask you some questions regarding your health.
How is your health in general?

➢ This question is very narrow to the question in 2004-2007. If at all, it could be understood slightly broader and lead therefore to slightly more negative answers, but on a low level.

103
2004 - 2007
Haben Sie eine chronische Krankheit?
Ja, Nein, Keine Angabe

Do you have a chronic illness?
Yes, No, No Answer

2008
Haben Sie eine chronische, also dauerhafte Krankheit oder ein chronisches, also dauerhaftes gesundheitliches Problem?

Do you have a chronic, meaning a lasting illness or a chronic, meaning a lasting health problem.

“dauerhaft” = lasting, permanent. The phrase “also dauerhaft” is just an explanation for people who might not understand the word “chronic.”
More problematic seems the addition in the sentence “health problem”. A chronic illness seems more strict, something diagnosed from a doctor. But a chronic health problem could be understood in a wider sense and therefore the ‘Yes’ category might increase?

2004 - 2007
Sind Sie seit zumindest einem halben Jahr durch eine Behinderung oder eine sonstige gesundheitliche Beeinträchtigung bei der Verrichtung alltäglicher Arbeiten beeinträchtigt?
Ja, stark beeinträchtigt; Ja, ein wenig beeinträchtigt; Nein, nicht beeinträchtigt; Keine Angabe

Are you limited in your daily works by a handicap or another health impairment since at least half a year?
Yes, severely; Yes, somewhat; No; No Answer

2008
Sind Sie seit zumindest einem halben Jahr durch ein gesundheitliches Problem bei Tätigkeiten des normalen Alltagslebens eingeschränkt?

Are you hampered in activities of everyday life by a health problem since at least 6 month?

Again, ‘health problem’ could be understood in a wider sense and lead to slightly higher ‘yes, somewhat’ proportions.
Also ‘hampered’ might have a slightly more negative meaning in comparison to ‘limited’.

2009
No changes in the translation between 2008 and 2009

2010-2011
The SiLC questions did not change in Austria since 2008.

2012
Following my mail from yesterday I can now confirm that the Austrian SiLC questions did not change in 2012. We included the 2012 questions in attached word file. Note already that there will important changes in 2014, however.

2012

P102000 Allgemeiner Gesundheitszustand
Wie ist Ihre Gesundheit im Allgemeinen?
-1 keine Angabe
1 Sehr gut
2 Gut
3 Mittelmäßig
4 Schlecht
5 Sehr schlecht

P103000 Chronische Krankheit
Haben Sie eine chronische, also dauerhafte Krankheit oder ein chronisches, also dauerhaftes gesundheitliches Problem?
P104000 Einschränkung bei Alltagstätigkeiten durch gesundheitliches Problem
Sind Sie seit zumindest einem halben Jahr durch ein gesundheitliches Problem bei Tätigkeiten des normalen Alltagslebens eingeschränkt?

-1 keine Angabe
1 Ja
2 Nein

BELGIUM

Health Questions
See doc:
SILC_MEHM_2006.doc
SILC_MEHM_2007.doc
SILC_MEHM_2008.doc
Assessment national SILC questions_2009_Belgium.doc

SILC survey in Belgium; Comments about the Mini European Health Module
Written by J. Tafforeau, E. Hesse, J. Van der Heyden; Scientific Institute of Public Health, Brussels, Belgium
March 5th, 2007

2005 - 2007
VERSION IN FRENCH

1. Subjective health

The question used in the SILC Belgium 2005 is quite similar with:

- recommendations made for the European Health Status module in english (17/09/03 and 16/01/05)
- the recommendation made for the European Health Status module in french (13/07/03)
- the question used in the HIS Belgium

The question used in the SILC Belgium is not really different with the question in SILC France (2005) and Luxembourg 2005 (it is said in Belgium “santé générale” instead of “santé en général”).

Only difference observed is related to the “fair” answer category:

- « assez bon » in SILC official recommendation
- « convenable (ni bon, ni mauvais) » is used in the SILC Belgium
- « moyen » in HIS Belgium
- « assez bon » in SILC France 2005

If we refer to the translation card of the European Health Status module in english (17/09/03), it is clearly said: “Response categories: the intermediate category ‘fair’ should be translated into an appropriately
Neutral term, as far as possible”. We do not feel that the “assez bon” is neutral as requested and we think thus that the the expressions “moyen” or « convenable (ni bon, ni mauvais) » are better. Our best suggestion for the “fair” category in french would thus be : « ni bon, ni mauvais ».

As a conclusion, we would thus recommend:

1. Not to change the wording of the question
2. or see if it is possible to change the question of the HIS Belgium from “general health” to “health in general” (if it possible, then make the same modification for the SILC Belgium)
3. Change the wording of the “fair” answer category to : « ni bon, ni mauvais ».

The question used in the **SILC Belgium 2006-7** is different from the SILC Belgium 2005 as the words “de manière” has been added giving : “Comment est votre santé de manière générale?”. This is acceptable with :

- The recommendations made for the European Health Status module in english (17/09/03 and 16/01/05)
- the recommendation made for the European Health Status module in french (13/07/03).

It is somewhat different from the question used in the HIS Belgium “Comment est votre santé général” but we could plan to harmonise the SILC and the HIS Belgium with the formulation proposed by SILC Belgium : “Comment est votre santé de manière générale”.

### 2. Chronic conditions

The question used in the **SILC Belgium 2005** is quite similar with :

- recommendations made for the European Health Status module in english (17/09/03 and 16/01/05)
- the recommendation made for the European Health Status module in french (13/07/03)
- the question used in the HIS Belgium

The question used in the SILC Belgium 2005 is not really different with the question in SILC France 2005 and Luxembourg 2005 (it is said in Belgium “souffrez-vous” instead of “avez-vous” in France).

As a conclusion, we would thus recommend:

1. to harmonise the wording of the question in France and in Belgium to either “souffrez-vous” or “avez-vous”.

The question used in the **SILC Belgium 2006-7** is similar to the one used in SILC 2005.

### 3. Functional limitations

The question used in the **SILC Belgium 2005** is quite similar with :

- recommendations made for the European Health Status module in english (17/09/03 and 16/01/05)
- the recommendation made for the European Health Status module in french (13/07/03)
- the question used in the HIS Belgium

One should however verify if the wording “**dans l’activités**” is effectively used, which is not correct and should be “**dans les activités**”. 
The question used in the SILC Belgium 2005 is not really different with the question in SILC France 2005. The wording in Luxembourg 2005 is different:

- they say “depuis les six derniers mois au moins” which is more refering to a calendar period than a duration
- they do not refer to the “activities people usually do”.

The answer categories is somehow different in Belgium (SILC and HIS) 2005 as it is said “sévèrement” which is not exactly the same as “très limité” used in the SILC recommendation in french, in the SILC France 2005 and in the SILC Luxembourg 2005. However, when we have a look at the recommendation in english:

- it is clearly said “severely limited” in the recommendations made for the European Health Status module in english (17/09/03 and 16/01/05)
- it is clearly said “strongly limited” in the recommendations made for the SILC in english.

Our suggestion would be to harmonise with the recommendation made for the European Health Status module in english and to adopt the wording “sévèrement limité”.

Our main comment however about this questions on functional limitation is … that it is far too complicated: too much concepts have been included in one single question!! It is difficult for the the interviewee to understand all the components:

- Limitation due health problems
- Limitations that lasted at least for 6 months
- Limitations in comparison with what people usually do.

When you finish to read the question you feel you have to go back at the beginning of the question and to read it again to try to understand all the different parts. The french experts of INSEE and DREES claim that 80% of the persons who have reported elsewhere in the questionnaire some functional limitations and activity restrictions have reported limitations in the MEHM question. This is indeed a good result but we think that the question is so difficult with all his different components that it will be nearly impossible to harmonise the translation between the 25 member states and thus to publish comparable results.

Our opinion about this last question is that it should be divided in two or three short and simple questions:

**to what extent have you been limited in activities people usually do**

1. were you limited because of a health problem
2. have you been limited for at least the past 6 months.

As a conclusion, we would thus recommend:

1. to correct the wording of the question (”**dans l’activités**” is not correct and should be **dans les activités**”)
2. to harmonise the question used in the SILC Luxembourg (they say “depuis les six derniers mois au moins” which is more refering to a calendar period than a duration and they do not refer to the “activities people usually do”)
3. to harmonise the answer category with the recommendation made for the European Health Status module in english and to adopt the wording “sévèrement limité”
4. to divide the question in two or three shorts and simple questions:

**to what extent have you been limited in activities people usually do**
were you limited because of a health problem
have you been limited for at least the past 6 months.

The question used in the SILC Belgium 2006 is quite similar with the one used in SILC 2005. The wording “dans l’activités” has effectively been corrected in is now “dans les activités”. However there is a new small mistake now as it is said: “êtes-vous limité .... dans les activités que les gens ont habituellement” instead of “font habituellement ». In addition nothing has been changed as far as the conceptual problem mentioned above.

VERSION IN DUTCH

1. Subjective health
EHSM 17/09/03 is exactly the same as EHSM 16/01/05. The same applies for the SILC Belgium 2005 and the HIS Belgium 2004. This leaves us with 3 different questions:

1. EHSM (both versions)
2. SILC/Belgium 2005 – HIS Belgium 2004
3. SILC Netherlands 2005

The formulation of the EHSM and the SILC Netherlands 2005 corresponds well with each other and with the “SILC concepts”.

The formulation in the SILC Belgium and the HIS Belgium ("Hoe is uw algemene gezondheidstoestand") is somewhat different because this formulation does not completely exclude that people may report on their present general health status, rather than to report on their health in general.
As a conclusion, we would thus recommend to change (if possible) in the SILC Belgium “uw algemene gezondheidstoestand” into “uw gezondheidstoestand in het algemeen”

The correction requested for the SILC Belgium 2006-7 has not been implemented in dutch and the questions in dutch and in french are not equivalent any more
Dutch : “uw algemene gezondheidstoestand”
French : “votre état de santé de manière générale”

It is thus imperative to harmonise and to adopt the present formulation in dutch : “uw gezondheidstoestand in het algemeen” in the SILC Belgium and in the HIS Belgium.

2. Chronic conditions
For this question the SILC distinguishes 3 concepts:

1. “Do you have (or do you suffer from ...) ”
2. Longstanding (or chronic)
3. Illness or health problem (or condition)

Some specific comment for each concept.
1. “Do you have (or do you suffer from ...) ”
In the 3 questions in Dutch this concept is formulated in 3 different ways:
SILC Belgium 2005 : “Lijdt u aan ..”
HIS Belgium 2004 “Hebt u ...”
SILC Netherlands 2005 “Heeft u last van ..”

As in English the meaning of “Lijdt u” en “Hebt u” is quite similar.
The expression “Heeft u last van ..” (SILC Netherlands) does not only include having the disease, but has also the notion “being bothered by”.

E.g. People may respond positively to the questions “Heeft u een hoge bloeddruk?” or “Lijdt u aan een hoge bloeddruk?”, but negatively to the question “Heeft u last van een hoge bloeddruk?”, because it was diagnosed that they have a high blood pressure but they are not bothered by it.

2. Longstanding (or chronic)
This concept is formulated in the 3 questions in Dutch in the same way as “langdurig”, which is a correct translation of “longstanding (or chronic)”.  

3. Illness or health problem (or condition)
As for 1. we note that this has concept has been formulated in a different way in the 3 questions
SILC Belgium 2005 : “handicap, langdurige ziekte of aandoening”
HIS Belgium 2004 “ziekte of aandoening (gezondheidsprobleem)”
SILC Netherlands 2005 “één of meer langdurige ziekten, aandoeningen of handicaps”

Three remarks here:
• The formulation of the HIS Belgium “ziekte, aandoening (gezondheidsprobleem)” is closest to the phrasing of the concept suggest by the SILC
• In the SILC Belgium 2005 and the SILC Netherlands 2005 exactly the same terms are used.
• In these surveys also the term “handicap” is added. Some problems could be considered as a handicap, but not as a disease, condition or health problem (e.g. dyslexia)

As a conclusion we would recommend:
1. To harmonize the wording “Lijdt u ...”, “Hebt u ...”, “Heeft u last van...”
2. Preferably use “Hebt u ...”, because this is conceptually very similar to what is presently already used in the SILC Belgium and is exactly the translation of the question used in the EHSM
3. to check if the word “handicap” that is both mentioned in the SILC Belgium and the SILC Netherlands (which makes them quite comparable) needs to be kept. This term is not used in the Belgian HIS, neither in the EHSM or the SILC concepts.

Nothing has been changed in the SILC Belgium 2006-7 :
• we still have “lijdt U” instead of “hebt U”
• the word “handicap” is still present”.

We thus strongly suggest to implement the corrections that have been requested.

3. Functional limitations

4 concepts are proposed:
1. limitation in activities (3 levels of severity)
2. for at least 6 months
3. activities people usually do
4. link between limitations and health related problems

A general remark is that grouping all those concepts in one question may be confusing for the respondents and jeopardize the validity of the information that is obtained. Therefore the approach of the SILC Netherlands 2005 to use two questions is probably a good idea, but comparability with countries that use only one question may be reduced.

1. limitation in activities (3 levels of severity)
First of all there is difference in the translation of the term “limitation”.

“Beperkt” in de SILC Belgium 2005 and the HIS Belgium 2004
“Belemmerd” in the SILC Netherlands 2005.

Although the meaning of both words is very close there is a small nuance. “Beperkt” refers more to the concept “not having been able to do some activities”, “Belemmerd” to “having had to do more efforts to do the activities”.

In the SILC Netherlands 2005 the second level of severity is “licht belemmerd”. Although it is a more logical option to specify the 3 levels of limitations (strongly limited, moderately limited, not limited), this is not proposed as such in the 3 answer categories that are proposed by the SILC (strongly limited, limited, not limited). In this way there is a difference between the SILC Netherlands 2005 and the SILC Belgium 2005 /HIS Belgium 2004.

2. For at least 6 months

In the SILC Netherlands 2005 question the phrasing “half a year” is used instead of “at least 6 months”. Most likely this does not affect the way respondents perceive the reference period.

The formulation of the HIS Belgium 2004 and the SILC Netherlands 2005 specifies clearly that the time period refers to the duration of the activity limitation and not of the health condition. The formulation of the SILC Belgium 2005 may cause misinterpretation here. In fact if one omits the second comma one may interpret that the reference period refers to the time period during which the health problem occurred, rather than to the duration of the activity limitation.

3. Activities people usually do

This has been literally translated in the SILC Belgium 2005 and in the HIS Belgium 2004. In the SILC Netherlands 2005 this has been translated as “daily activities”, which is more restrictive.

4. Link between limitations and health related problems

Is equally clearly formulated in the three questions

As a conclusion we would recommend:

1. To harmonize the translation of the term “limited”: either use “beperkt” or “belemmerd” (preferably use “beperkt”, as this is more similar to the English word “limited” than “belemmerd”)
2. Adapt the answer categories to the ones that are proposed by SILC. Presently the formulation of the SILC Netherlands 2005 for the second answer category is the equivalent of “Yes, slightly limited” instead of “Yes, limited”
3. To make a choice between “activiteiten die mensen gewoonlijk doen” (SILC Belgium 2005 – literal translation of term used in the SILC concepts) and “dagelijkse bezigheden (SILC Netherlands 2005 – better Dutch, but may be more restrictive as a concept, which may jeopardize the comparability). Hence the first formulation is preferred.
4. The approach of the SILC Netherlands in which 2 questions are formulated instead of 1 is preferred.

No adaptation have been perfomed in the question for the SILC Belgium 2006-7. The main problem is related to the reference period; we thus urgently request to harmonise the SILC question on the basis of the HIS Belgium: “Bent u, vanwege een gezondheidsprobleem, sinds 6 maanden of langer beperkt geweest in activiteiten die mensen gewoonlijk doen?”
VERSION IN GERMAN

1. Subjective health
German translations with no fundamental differences in meaning when compared to the English EHSM question or SILC recommendation
A difference in phrasing exist in the SILC question for Germany 2005 when compared to the English EHSM question. We recommend to choose the Belgian or Austrian translations

Subjective health: answer categories
German translations with no fundamental differences in meaning when compared to the English EHSM answer categories or SILC recommendation
A difference in phrasing exist in one SILC Belgium 2005 answer category in German when compared to the corresponding English EHSM or SILC answer category (FAIR). I would choose “Mittelmäßig”

2. Chronic conditions
The Belgian SILC 2005 and HIS Belgium 2004 use “do you suffer from” while the German 2005 and Austrian 2005 SILC use “do you have”
SILC Germany 2005 and SILC Austria 2005 use only the word “chronic” in their question (not the world “long standing”)
The German SILC 2005 adds an explanatory phrase to the question. This phrase mentions the notion “long-lasting”.
A less specific vocabulary exists in German: the same German word “Krankheit” can translate 2 different English words: “illness” and “disease”.

3. Functional limitations
Differences in phrasing between the different questions: “do you feel” / “are you” / “have you” but the meaning is similar
Different vocabulary used for “limited”: “beeinträchtigt” (= impaired/affected) is used in the Belgian SILC 2005 and HIS Belgium 2004 and in the Austrian SILC 2005 while in the german SILC 2005 they use: “einschränken” (= to restrict/ to limit). “Beeinträchtigt” is preferable and can be used with “sind Sie” or “fühlen Sie sich”.
The Austrian SILC 2005 uses the word “work” instead of “activity”. “Activity” can be translated by Aktivitäten or Tätigkeiten; Tätigkeiten is preferable
The Austrian SILC 2005 does not use “a health problem” but eine Behinderung (= disability/ handicap/ disablement) oder eine sonstige gesundheitliche Beeinträchtigung (=or another health impairment/ restriction) instead. This is not recommendable for comparability.
The Austrian SILC 2005 uses “half a year” instead of “6 months”
In conclusion, after contact with the German Community Administration in Belgium, the following question is recommended:
“Sind Sie seit mindestens sechs Monaten durch gesundheitliche Probleme, in den gewöhnlichen Tätigkeiten eingeschränkt?”

Functional limitations: answer categories
Different vocabulary used for “limited”: “beeinträchtigt” (= impaired/affected) is used in the Belgian SILC 2005 and HIS Belgium 2004 and in the Austrian SILC 2005 while in the german SILC 2005 they use: “einschränken” (= to restrict/ to limit)
In the first answer category of the two Belgian questions ( HIS and SILC) “sehr” (=very) is used instead of “”stark” (=strongly), but the meaning is similar
German answer categories are exactly built as recommended by the SILC English recommendations (and not like the EHSMM answer categories), except for:
• the second answer category in the Austrian SILC2005: the notion “ein wenig “ (=slightly) is appended
• the 3° answer category for HIS Belgium2004: “Nein, überhaupt nicht” (= No, not at all)
• the 3° answer category for SILC Germany2005: “Nein” (= No)

In conclusion, after contact with the German Community Administration in Belgium, the following answer categories are recommended:

“Ja, stark eingeschränkt
Ja, eingeschränkt
Nein, nicht eingeschränkt”

We didn’t receive the questionnaire SILC 2006-7 in German and it is thus no possible to verify if the corrections suggested have been applied.

ANNEXE I : recommandations (EHSM) and questions used in dutch, french and german

Mini European Health Module: subjective health

English

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vraag</th>
<th>Codes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EHSM 17/09/03</strong> How is your health in general?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very bad</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EHSM 16/01/05</strong> How is your health in general?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td><strong>SILC 2005</strong> General Health</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
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<td>Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very bad</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The reference is to health in general rather than the present state of health, as the question is not intended to measure temporary health problems; Respondents are not specifically asked to compare their health with others of the same age or with their own previous or future health state; Response categories: the intermediate category ‘fair’ should be translated into an appropriately neutral term, as far as possible.

Nederlands / Dutch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vraag</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EHSM 17/09/03</strong> How is your health in general?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Very goed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goed</td>
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<td>Sportief</td>
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<tr>
<td>SILC Belgium 2005</td>
<td>Hoe is uw algemene gezondheidstoestand?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeer goed</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goed</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaat wel (redelijk)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slecht</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeer slecht</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIS Belgium 2004</th>
<th>Hoe is uw algemene gezondheidstoestand?</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zeer goed</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goed</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaat wel (redelijk)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slecht</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeer slecht</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Netherlands 2005</th>
<th>Hoe is over het algemeen uw gezondheidstoestand?</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zeer goed</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goed</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaat wel</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slecht</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeer slecht</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Belgium 2006</th>
<th>Hoe is uw algemene gezondheidstoestand?</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zeer goed</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goed</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaat wel (redelijk)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slecht</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeer slecht</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Comment est votre santé en général ?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 13/07/03 | Très bonne  
Bonne  
Moyenne  
Mauvaise  
Très mauvaise |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>État de santé général</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|      | Très bon  
Bon  
Assez bon  
Mauvais  
Très mauvais |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Comment est votre état de santé général ?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Belgium 2005 | Très bon  
Bon  
Convenable (ni bon ni mauvais)  
Mauvais  
Très mauvais |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Comment est votre état de santé général ?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Belgium 2004 | Très bon  
Bon  
Moyen  
Mauvais  
Très mauvais |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Comment est votre état de santé en général ?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| France 2005 | Très bon  
Bon  
Assez bon  
Mauvais  
Très mauvais |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Comment M. qualifierait-il son état de santé général?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Luxembourg 2005 | Très bon  
Bon  
Assez bon  
Mauvais  
Très mauvais |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Comment est votre état de santé, de manière générale?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Belgium 2006 | Très bon  
Bon  
Convenable (ni bon ni mauvais)  
Mauvais  
Très mauvais |
Deutsch / German

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Belgium</th>
<th>Wie ist Ihr allgemeiner Gesundheitszustand?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Sehr gut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Es geht (einigermaßen)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Schlecht</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sehr schlecht</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIS</th>
<th>Wie ist Ihr allgemeiner Gesundheitszustand?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgium 2004</td>
<td>Sehr gut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mittelmäßig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Schlecht</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sehr schlecht</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Germany</th>
<th>Wie schätzen Sie Ihren allgemeinen Gesundheitszustand ein?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Sehr gut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mittel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Schlecht</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sehr schlecht</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Austria</th>
<th>Wie ist Ihr allgemeiner Gesundheitszustand?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>sehr gut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>gut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mittelmäßig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>schlecht</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sehr schlecht</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mini European Health Module: chronic conditions

English

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vraag</th>
<th>Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EHS 17/09/03 Do you have any long standing illness or health problem?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| EHS 16/01/05 Do you have any long standing illness or health problem? | |
| No | 1 |
| Yes | 2 |

| SILC 2005 Suffer from any chronic (long standing ) illness or condition | |
| Yes | 1 |
| No | 2 |

Do you have (or do you suffer from)...
Longstanding (or chronic): temporary problems are not of interest;
Illness or health problem (or condition): only problems of ill-health but not solely diseases.
### Dutch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr.</th>
<th>Vraag</th>
<th>Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SILC Belgium</td>
<td>Lijdt u aan een handicap, langdurige ziekte of aandoening (gezondheidsprobleem)?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Ja</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neen</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIS Belgium</td>
<td>Hebt u een langdurige ziekte of aandoening (gezondheidsprobleem)?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Ja</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neen</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SILC Netherlands</td>
<td>Heeft u last van één of meer lagdurige ziekten, aandoeningen of handicaps?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Ja</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neen</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SILC Belgium</td>
<td>Lijdt u aan een handicap, langdurige ziekte of aandoening (gezondheidsprobleem)?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Ja</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neen</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### French

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EHSIM 13/07/03</th>
<th>Avez-vous un problème de santé ou une maladie chronique?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oui</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Avez-vous ou souffrez-vous
Les problèmes de longue durée (ou chroniques) mais temporaires ne sont pas concernés par la question
Maladies ou problèmes de santé : tous les problèmes de santé et pas seulement les maladies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC</th>
<th>Souffre d’une maladie ou d’une affection chronique (de longue durée)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Oui</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Belgium</th>
<th>Souffrez-vous d’une maladie ou d’un problème de santé chronique?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Oui</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIS Belgium</th>
<th>Souffrez-vous d’une maladie ou d’un problème de santé chronique?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Oui</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC France</th>
<th>Avez-vous une maladie ou un problème de santé qui soit chronique ou de caractère durable?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Oui</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Luxembourg</th>
<th>M. souffre-t-il d’une maladie ou d’une affection chronique (de longue durée)?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Oui</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Belgium</th>
<th>Souffrez-vous d’une maladie ou d’un problème de santé chronique?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Oui</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Deutsch / German

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Belgium</th>
<th>Leiden Sie an einer langwierigen oder chronischen Krankheit?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Ja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIS</th>
<th>Leiden Sie an einer langwierigen oder chronischen Krankheit?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgium 2004</td>
<td>Ja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Germany</th>
<th>Haben Sie eine chronische Krankheit?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Eine chronische Krankheit liegt dann vor, wenn diese langandauernd oder permanent vorhanden ist und ständiger Behandlung oder Kontrolle bedarf.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Austria</th>
<th>Haben Sie eine chronische Krankheit?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Ja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mini European Health Module: functional limitations

#### English

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vraag</th>
<th>Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EHSM 17/09/03</strong></td>
<td>For at least the past 6 months, to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do? Would you say you have been ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Severely limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Limited but not severely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not limited at all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EHSM 16/01/05</strong></td>
<td>For at least the past 6 months, to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do? Would you say you have been ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Severely limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Limited but not severely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not limited at all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SILC 2005</strong></td>
<td>Limitation in activities people usually do because of health problems for at least the last 6 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes, strongly limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes, limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No, not limited</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For at least the last 6 months: the question aims to measure long-standing limitations. The time period refers to the duration of the activity limitation and not of the health condition;
To what extent (how much) have you been limited because of a health problem: refers only to health-related problems as the cause of the limitations and is not meant to measure limitations due to financial, cultural or other none health-related causes;
in activities people usually do: people with long-standing limitations due to health problems, have passed through a process of adaptation which may have resulted in a reduction of their activities. To identify existing limitations a reference is necessary and therefore the activity limitations are assessed against a generally accepted population standard, relative to cultural and social expectations by referring only to activities people usually do.
Severely limited...: the response categories include 3 levels to better differentiate severity.

### Dutch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr.</th>
<th>Vraag</th>
<th>Codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SILC Belgium</td>
<td>Bent u, vanwege een gezondheidsprobleem, gedurende de laatste zes maanden of langer beperkt geweest in activiteiten die mensen gewoonlijk doen?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Ja, erg beperkt</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ja, beperkt</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neen, niet beperkt</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIS Belgium</td>
<td>Bent u, vanwege een gezondheidsprobleem, sinds 6 maanden of langer beperkt geweest in activiteiten die mensen gewoonlijk doen?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Ja, erg beperkt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ja, beperkt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neen, niet beperkt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SILC</td>
<td>Wordt u bij het uitvoeren van uw dagelijkse bezigheden belemmerd door gezonheidsproblemen?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ja, sterk belemmerd</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ja, licht belemmerd</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neen, niet belemmerd</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Duurt deze belemmering reeds een half jaar of langer?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ja</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neen</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SILC Belgium</td>
<td>Bent u, vanwege een gezondheidsprobleem, gedurende de laatste zes maanden of langer beperkt geweest in activiteiten die mensen gewoonlijk doen?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Ja, erg beperkt</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ja, beperkt</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neen, niet beperkt</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Response Options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESHM 13/07</td>
<td>Êtes-vous limité depuis au moins six mois à cause d’un problème de santé dans les activités que les gens font habituellement et dans quelle mesure ? Diriez-vous que vous êtes :</td>
<td>Fortement limité, Limité, mais pas fortement, Pas limité</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SILC 2005</td>
<td>Limitations dans les activités que les gens font habituellement à cause d’un problème de santé et depuis au moins les six derniers mois</td>
<td>Oui, très limitées, Oui, limitées, Non</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SILC Belgium</td>
<td>Êtes-vous limités depuis au moins six mois à cause d’un problème de santé, dans l’activités que les gens font habituellement ?</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Oui, sévèrement limité(e), Oui, limité(e), Non, pas limité(e)</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Oui, très limité, Oui, limité, Non, aucunement limité</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SILC Luxembourg</td>
<td>Depuis au moins 6 mois, en raison de problèmes de santé, êtes-vous limité dans les activités que font les gens habituellement ?</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Oui, très limitées, Oui, limitées, Non</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SILC Belgium</td>
<td>Êtes-vous limités depuis au moins six mois à cause d’un problème de santé, dans les activités que les gens font habituellement ?</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Oui, sévèrement limité(e), Oui, limité(e), Non, pas limité(e)</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIS Belgium</td>
<td>Êtes-vous limité(e) depuis au moins 6 mois à cause d’un problème de santé, dans les activités que les gens font habituellement ?</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Oui, sévèrement limité, Oui, limité, Non, pas du tout</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### ANNEX II: détaillé analysis of the SILC in German

**Legend:**
- **In bold:** question text
  - + (EHSM recommendations)
  - Numbers to specify the order of the wording in the question
  - Differences in phrasing but +/- similar meaning
  - Clear differences in signification
- (Non bold text between (...)= translations in English)
- *Non bold text in italic: comments*

#### Subjective health: question

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Belgium 2005</th>
<th>Fühlen Sie sich seit mindestens sechs Monaten infolge eines Gesundheitsproblems in den gewöhnlichen Tätigkeiten beeinträchtigt?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ja, sehr beeinträchtigt</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ja, beeinträchtigt</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nein, nicht beeinträchtigt.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIS Belgium 2004</th>
<th>Fühlen Sie sich seit mindestens 6 Monaten infolge eines Gesundheitsproblems in den gewöhnlichen Tätigkeiten beeinträchtigt?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ja, sehr beeinträchtigt</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ja, beeinträchtigt</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nein, überhaupt nicht</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Germany</th>
<th>Haben Sie seit mindestens sechs Monaten gesundheitliche Probleme, die Sie bei täglichen Aktivitäten einschränken?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Ja, sie schränken mich stark ein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ja, sie schränken mich ein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nein</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC Austria</th>
<th>Sind Sie seit zumindest einem halben Jahr durch eine Behinderung oder eine sonstige gesundheitliche Beeinträchtigung bei der Verrichtung alltäglicher Arbeiten beeinträchtigt?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Ja, stark beeinträchtigt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ja, ein wenig beeinträchtigt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nein, nicht beeinträchtigt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Subjective health: question

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC English recommen dation In English</th>
<th>EHSM2003=EHSM2005 In English</th>
<th>SILC Belgium In German</th>
<th>HIS Belgium In German</th>
<th>SILC Germany In German</th>
<th>SILC Austria In German</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. general</td>
<td>4. in general</td>
<td>3. allgemeiner</td>
<td>3. allgemeiner</td>
<td>3. allgemeinen</td>
<td>3. allgemeiner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusions:**
- German translations with no fundamental differences in meaning when compared to the English EHSM question or SILC recommendation
- A difference in phrasing exist in the SILC question for Germany when compared to the English EHSM question. I recommend to choose the Belgian or Austrian translations

**Subjective health: answer categories**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC recommendation =EHSM2005</th>
<th>EHS2003</th>
<th>SILC Belgium</th>
<th>HIS Belgium</th>
<th>SILC Germany</th>
<th>SILC Austria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In English</td>
<td>In English</td>
<td>In German</td>
<td>In German</td>
<td>In German</td>
<td>In German</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Very good | Very good | Sehr gut | Sehr gut | Sehr gut | Sehr gut |
| Good | Good | Gut | Gut | Gut | Gut |
| Fair | Fair | *Es geht einigermaßen* (= I feel OK) | *Mittelmäßig* (= fair/average/indifferent) | *Mittel* (= mean/average/central) | *Mittelmäßig* (= fair/average/indifferent) |
| Bad | Bad | Schlecht | Schlecht | Schlecht | Schlecht |
| Very bad | Very bad | Sehr schlecht | Sehr schlecht | Sehr schlecht | Sehr schlecht |

**Conclusions:**
- German translations with no fundamental differences in meaning when compared to the English EHSM answer categories or SILC recommendation
- A difference in phrasing exist in one SILC Belgium answer category in German when compared to the corresponding English EHSM or SILC answer category (FAIR). I would choose “*Mittelmäßig*”
Chronic conditions: question

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC English recommendation In English</th>
<th>EHSM2003=EHSM2005 In English</th>
<th>SILC Belgium In German</th>
<th>HIS Belgium In German</th>
<th>SILC Germany In German</th>
<th>SILC Austria In German</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Suffer from</td>
<td>1. Do you have + or (do you suffer from)</td>
<td>1. Leiden Sie an (= do you suffer from)</td>
<td>1. Leiden Sie an (= do you suffer from)</td>
<td>1. Haben Sie (= do you have)</td>
<td>1. Haben Sie (= do you have)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. any</td>
<td>2. any</td>
<td>2. einer</td>
<td>2. einer</td>
<td>2. eine</td>
<td>2. eine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. chronic (long standing)</td>
<td>3. longwierigen oder chronischen</td>
<td>3. langwierigen oder chronischen</td>
<td>3. chronische</td>
<td>3. chronische</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. or condition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Eine chronische Krankheit liegt dann vor, wenn diese langandauernd oder permanent vorhanden ist und ständig der Behandlung oder Kontrolle bedarf. (= A chronic illness is present, when it is long-lasting or permanently present and requires constant/permanent care/therapy/attention)

Conclusions:
- The Belgian SILC and HIS use “do you suffer from” while the German and Austrian SILC use “do you have”
- SILC Germany and SILC Austria use only the word “chronic” in their question (not the world “long standing”)
- The German SILC adds an explanatory phrase to the question. This phrase mentions the notion “long-lasting”.
- A less specific vocabulary exists in German: the same German word “Krankheit” can translate 2 different English words: “illness” and “disease”.

26
### Functional limitations: question

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC English recommendation In English</th>
<th>EHS M2003=EHS M2005 In English</th>
<th>SILC Belgium In German</th>
<th>HIS Belgium In German</th>
<th>SILC Germany In German</th>
<th>SILC Austria In German</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. to what extent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. have you been</td>
<td>1. <em>Fühlen Sie sich</em> (= do you feel)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1. <em>Haben Sie</em> (= have you)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Limitation</td>
<td>4. limited</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9. <em>beeinträchtigt</em> (= impaired/affected)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. people usually do</td>
<td>5. in den gewöhnlichen (= common/ordinary/usual/routine)</td>
<td>5. in den gewöhnlichen (= common/ordinary/usual/routine)</td>
<td>5. <em>täglichen</em> (= daily/day to day/every day)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. because of</td>
<td>5. because of</td>
<td>3. infolge</td>
<td>3. infolge</td>
<td>4. <em>die Sie bei</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. health problems</td>
<td>6. a health problem</td>
<td>4. eines Gesundheitsproblems</td>
<td>4. eines Gesundheitsproblems</td>
<td>3. <em>gesundheitliche Probleme</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. for at least the last 6 months</td>
<td>1. For at least the past 6 months</td>
<td>2. <em>seit mindestens sechs Monaten</em> (= since at least 6 months)</td>
<td>2. <em>seit mindestens sechs Monaten</em> (= since at least 6 months)</td>
<td>2. <em>seit zumindest einem halben Jahr</em> (= since at least half a year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9. Would you say you have been...</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusions:

- Differences in phrasing between the different questions: “do you feel” / “are you” / “have you” but the meaning is similar

- Different vocabulary used for “limited”: “beeinträchtigt” (= impaired/affected) is used in the Belgian SILC and HIS and in the Austrian SILC while in the German SILC they use: “einschränken” (= to restrict/to limit). “Beeinträchtigt” is preferable and can be used with “sind Sie” or “Fühlen Sie sich”.

- The Austrian SILC uses the word “work” instead of “activity”. “Activity” can be translated by “Aktivitäten or Tätigkeiten; Tätigkeiten” is preferable

- The Austrian SILC does not use “a health problem” but eine Behinderung (= disability/handicap/disablement) oder eine sonstige gesundheitliche Beeinträchtigung (= or another health impairment/restriction) instead. This is not recommendable for comparability.

- The Austrian SILC uses “half a year” instead of “6 months”

In conclusion, after contact with the German Community Administration in Belgium, the following question is recommended:
“Sind Sie seit mindestens sechs Monaten durch gesundheitliche Probleme, in den gewöhnlichen Tätigkeiten eingeschränkt?”

Functional limitations: answer categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILC recommendation In English</th>
<th>EHSM2003=EHSM2005 In English</th>
<th>SILC Belgium In German</th>
<th>HIS Belgium In German</th>
<th>SILC Germany In German</th>
<th>SILC Austria In German</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Yes, strongly limited</td>
<td>Severeley limited</td>
<td>Ja, sehr beeinträchtigt (= Yes, very impaired/affected)</td>
<td>Ja, sehr beeinträchtigt (= Yes, very impaired/affected)</td>
<td>Ja, sie schränken mich stark ein (= Yes, they restrict/limit me strongly)</td>
<td>Ja, stark beeinträchtigt (= Yes, strongly impaired/affected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Yes, limited</td>
<td>Limited but not severely</td>
<td>Ja, beeinträchtigt (= Yes, impaired/affected)</td>
<td>Ja, beeinträchtigt (= Yes, impaired/affected)</td>
<td>Ja, sie schränken mich ein (= Yes, they restrict/limit me)</td>
<td>Ja, ein wenig beeinträchtigt (= Yes, slightly impaired/affected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. No, not limited</td>
<td>Not limited at all</td>
<td>Nein, nicht beeinträchtigt (= No, not impaired/affected)</td>
<td>Nein, überhaupt nicht (= No, not at all)</td>
<td>Nein (=No)</td>
<td>Nein, nicht beeinträchtigt (= No, not impaired/affected)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusions:

- Different vocabulary used for “limited”: “beeinträchtigt” (= impaired/affected) is used in the Belgian SILC and HIS and in the Austrian SILC while in the German SILC they use: “einschränken” (= to restrict/to limit)

- In the first answer category of the two Belgian questions (HIS and SILC) “sehr” (=very) is used instead of “stark” (=strongly), but the meaning is similar
German answer categories are exactly built as recommended by the SILC English recommendations (and not like the EHSM answer categories), except for:
  o the second answer category in the Austrian SILC: the notion “ein wenig” (=slightly) is appended
  o the 3° answer category for HIS Belgium: “Nein, überhaupt nicht” (= No, not at all)
  o the 3° answer category for SILC Germany: “Nein” (= Nol)

In conclusion, after contact with the German Community Administration in Belgium, the following answer categories are recommended:
  “Ja, stark eingeschränkt
  Ja, eingeschränkt
  Nein, nicht eingeschränkt”

2008
  ➢ No changes in the translation
  ➢ The wording of the GALI question did not need to be changed in Belgium since the new HLY series was initiated

2010
  No change between 2009 and 2010.

2011-2012
  No change in 2011 and 2012

BULGARIA  Adriana Tetevenska

2006 - 2008
There are no changes in the wording of the questions between successive years.

2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>№</th>
<th>Въпрос</th>
<th>Отговор</th>
<th>Код</th>
<th>Промени на въпрос №</th>
<th>Колона промени</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ПАЗАЛ 4. ЗДРАВНО СЪстояние</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Как най-общо оценявате Вашието здраве?</td>
<td>Много добро, Добро, Здравославно, Много здраво</td>
<td>1-5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Имате ли хронично заболяване?</td>
<td>Да, Няма</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>RH20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Имате ли проблеми със здравето (продължително заболяване, навлизащо в др. с продължителност най-малко 6 месеца)</td>
<td>Да, също ограничено</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>RH30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BULGARIA  Adriana Tetevenska

2006 - 2008
There are no changes in the wording of the questions between successive years.
### SECTION (PART) 4. HEALTH STATUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Go to question No.</th>
<th>Target variable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P95</td>
<td>How do you generally evaluate your health?</td>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Satisfactorily</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Very bad</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P96</td>
<td>Do you have any chronic disease?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>PH020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P97</td>
<td>Do you have problems with your health (long lasting disease, disability, etc., with duration at least 6 months), which limit your daily activities (incl. that you had a need for help and care)</td>
<td>Yes, highly limited</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>PH030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes, limited</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answer from Eurostat (Ivana Slaharova, Albane Gourdiol and Bart de Noore):

The Bulgarian question is too "restrictive" compared to the standard question: "health problems" meaning "long lasting illnesses, disability, others".

**Standard version:**

"Were you limited in daily activities people usually do, because of a health problem for at least the last 6 months."

**Version of Bulgaria:**

"Do you have health problems (long lasting illness, disability, and others, which have lasted at least 6 months), which restrict your daily activities (incl. you need help and care)?"

### 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Раздел 4. Здравно Състояние</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>P95</strong> Как ви общо оценявате Вашето здраве?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>P96</strong> Имате ли някакво продължително хронично заболяване или здравен проблем, който се очаква да продължи 6 или повече месеца?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>P97</strong> През последните 6 или повече месеца били ли сте ограничен при извършване на общия си дейност по здравето или работата си поради здравословен проблем?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SECTION (PART) 4. HEALTH STATUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P95</th>
<th>How do you generally evaluate your health?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfactorily</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very bad</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PH010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P96</th>
<th>Do you have any long-lasting chronic disease or health problem, which is expected to persist 6 or more months?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PH020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P97</th>
<th>For at least the past 6 months have you been limited in performing activities people usually do in personal life and working life because of a health problem? Would you say that you have been:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, highly limited</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, limited</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PH030</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**The changes between 2008 and 2009 are in question p96 and p97**

**12/02/2013 Adriana TETEVENSKA**

Further to your enquiry, please find enclosed translation in English of the parts of SILC questionnaires, related to the population’s health status from 2006 to 2011. There are no changes of the questions for SILC-2012.

**Years 2006, 2007, 2008**

**2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Въпрос</th>
<th>Отговор</th>
<th>Код</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P95</td>
<td>Как най-общо оценявате Вашето здраве?</td>
<td>Много добре</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Добре</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Задоволително</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Много лошо</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Много лошо</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| P96 | Имате ли възможно хронично заболяване? | Да | 1 |
|     |                     | Не | 2 |

| P97 | Имате ли проблеми със здравето (продължително заболяване, инвалидност и др. с продължителност най-малко 6 месеца), които ограничават ежедневните Ви дейности (вкл. имате нужда от помощ и грижи)? | Да, силно ограничен | 1 |
|     |                                                  | Да, ограничен     | 2 |
|     |                                                  | Не              | 3 |
### Years 2006, 2007 and 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Go to question No.</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>P95</td>
<td>How do you generally evaluate your health?</td>
<td>Very good</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Very bad</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>P96</td>
<td>Do you have any chronic disease?</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>PH020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P97</td>
<td>Do you have problems with your health (long lasting disease, disability,</td>
<td>Yes, highly limited</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>PH030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>etc., with duration at least 6 months), which limit your daily</td>
<td>Yes, limited</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>activities (incl. that you had a need for help and care)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2009

|     | **РАЗДЕЛ 4. ЗДРАВО СЪСТОЯНИЕ**                                           |                                                                        |      |                     |                |
| P95 | Как най-общо оценявате Вашето здраве?                                   | Много добре                                                           | 1    |                     | PH010           |
|     |                                                                          | Добро                                                                  | 2    |                     |                 |
|     |                                                                          | Затревотно                                                            | 3    |                     |                 |
|     |                                                                          | Жалко                                                                  | 4    |                     |                 |
|     |                                                                          | Много лошо                                                            | 5    |                     |                 |
| P96 | Вие ли имате продължително хронично заболяване или здравен проблем,    | Да                                                                      | 1    |                     | PH020           |
|     | който се очаква да продължава 6 или повече месеца?                      | Не                                                                      | 2    |                     |                 |
| P97 | През последните 6 и последните 2 месеца бяха ли естествени при    | Да, съвсем ограничено                                                  | 1    |                     | PH030           |
|     | извършване на обичайните за хората дейности въвеждане               | Да, ограничено                                                        | 2    |                     |                 |
|     | Можете ли да кажете, че събрали здравословен проблем?                | Да, ограничено                                                        | 3    |                     |                 |

|     | **SECTION (PART) 4. HEALTH STATUS**                                      |                                                                        |      |                     |                |
| P95 | How do you generally evaluate your health?                                | Very good                                                              | 1    |                     | PH010           |
|     |                                                                          | Good                                                                   | 2    |                     |                 |
|     |                                                                          | Satisfactorily                                                        | 3    |                     |                 |
|     |                                                                          | Bad                                                                    | 4    |                     |                 |
|     |                                                                          | Very bad                                                               | 5    |                     |                 |
| P96 | Do you have any long-lasting chronic disease or health problem,          | Yes                                                                    | 1    |                     | PH020           |
|     | which is expected to persist 6 or more months?                          | No                                                                     | 2    |                     |                 |
| P97 | For at least the past 6 months have you been limited in performing      | Yes, highly limited                                                   | 1    |                     | PH030           |
|     | activities people usually do in personal life and working life          | Yes, limited                                                           | 2    |                     |                 |
|     | because of a health problem?                                             | No                                                                     | 3    |                     |                 |
### РАЗДЕЛ 4. ЗДРАВНО СЪСТОЯНИЕ

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>П85</th>
<th>Как най-общо оценявате Вашето здраве?</th>
<th>Много добро</th>
<th>Добро</th>
<th>Задоволително</th>
<th>Лошо</th>
<th>Много лошо</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>PH010</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>П86</th>
<th>Имате ли някакво продължително хронично заболяване или здравен проблем, който се очаква да продължи 6 или повече месеца</th>
<th>Да</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>PH020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Не</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>П87</th>
<th>През последните 6 и повече месеца били ли сте ограничен при извършване на обичайните за хората дейности в личния живот или работата си поради здравословен проблем? Можете ли да кажете, че сте били:</th>
<th>Да, силно ограничен</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>PH030</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Да, ограничен</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Не</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### SECTION (PART) 4. HEALTH STATUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>П95</th>
<th>How do you generally evaluate your health?</th>
<th>Very good</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>PH010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Satisfactorily</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Very bad</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>П96</th>
<th>Do you have any long-lasting chronic disease or health problem, which is expected to persist 6 or more months?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>PH020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>П97</th>
<th>For at least the past 6 months have you been limited in performing activities people usually do in personal life and working life because of a health problem? Would you say that you have been:</th>
<th>Yes, highly limited</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>PH030</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes, limited</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Option</td>
<td>Number</td>
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<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P66 How do you generally evaluate your health?</td>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Satisfactorily</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very bad</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P67 Do you have any long-lasting chronic disease or health problem,</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>which is expected to persist 6 or more months?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P68 For at least the past 6 months have you been limited in</td>
<td>Yes, highly limited</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>performing activities people usually do in personal life and working</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>life because of a health problem?</td>
<td>Yes, limited</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No change in 2012.
No change in 2013

**CYPRUS**

**Eleni Kyriacou**

**2005 - 2008**

1. The health questions included in EU-SILC have been revised in 2006. Therefore, the wording of the questions used in 2005 is different from the questions used in 2006-2008.

2. **Question 10:** The only change to that question regards the wording of the third answer category. In 2005 the word “μέτρια” means fair but in Greek it has a little positive meaning, i.e. fair to positive. From 2006 onwards, the phrase “Ούτε καλή, ούτε κακή” is more neutral, meaning neither good, nor bad.

3. **Question 11:** The wording of the question has been modified in 2006, but in my view that change shouldn’t influence the results, since the meaning of the question remains the same.

**Backtranslation to English:**

**2005, Question 11:**
Do you suffer from any chronic health problem?
Yes
No
2006-2008, Question 11:
Do you suffer from any chronic illness or chronic health problem?
Yes
No

4. Question 12: The wording of the question has been modified in 2006 and it was expected to have impact on the results, since the meaning of the question changed. Specifically, according to the question used in 2005, any limitation occurred during the past 6 months or more should be reported, irrespectively of the duration of the limitation, e.g. if one had to limit his activities for 1 month due to a chronic health problem, this limitation would have been reported. Whereas, based on the modified question used in 2006 onwards, that limitation would not have been reported, since the duration of the limitation is less than 6 months. Therefore, it is expected that the index of healthy life years would have increased in 2006 and on compared to the previous years.

Backtranslation to English:

2005, Question 12:
During the past 6 months or more, have you been limited in activities people usually do, because of a health problem?
Yes, strongly limited
Yes, limited
Not limited

2006-2008, Question 12:
During the whole period of the past 6 months up to today, are your usual activities limited because of a health problem? (by usual activities please refer to activities of people at your age)
Yes, strongly limited
Yes, limited
Not limited

2009

There were no changes from 2008 to 2009. Hence the back translation remains the same as for previous years 2006-2008.

2010

Question 10: In 2010 the third answer category changed to “μέτρια”, which is the exact translation of “fair”, to be exact the same as Health Interview Survey and because it had no impact to the results.

2011

No changes from 2010 to 2011. Hence the back translation remains the same as for year 2010.

2012

No changes were performed in the SILC questions between 2011 and 2012, therefore the questions and their backtranslation remains the same as in previous years.
### ΥΓΕΙΑ

10. Πώς είναι, γενικά, η υγεία σας:
- Πολύ καλή .................................................. 1
- Καλή .......................................................... 2
- Μέτρια .......................................................... 3
- Κακή ............................................................ 4
- Πολύ κακή ..................................................... 5

11. Έχετε οποιοδήποτε χρόνια ασθένεια ή οποιοδήποτε χρόνιο πρόβλημα υγείας:
- Ναι ............................................................. 1
- Όχι ............................................................... 2

12. Για ολόκληρο το διάστημα των τελευταίων 6 μηνών μέχρι και σήμερα, είναι οι συνήθεις δραστηριότητές σας περιορισμένες λόγω κάποιου προβλήματος υγείας (συνήθεις δραστηριότητες εννοούμε αυτές που κάνοντες άμεσα της ζωής σας):
- Ναι, σε σημαντικό βαθμό ......................... 1
- Ναι, σε κάποιο βαθμό ................................. 2
- Όχι, κανένας περιορισμός ........................... 3

### HEALTH

10. How is your health in general?
- Very good.................................................. 1
- Good.......................................................... 2
- Fair............................................................ 3
- Bad............................................................ 4
- Very bad ..................................................... 5

11. Do you have any chronic (long-standing) illness or health problem?
- Yes ............................................................ 1
- No ............................................................... 2

12. For the whole of the last 6 months until presently, have your usual activities been limited due to a health problem? (by usual activities we mean those activities that people at your age usually do)
- Yes, severely limited ................................. 1
- Yes, limited but not severely ..................... 2
- No, not limited at all .................................. 3
Concerning the translation of SILC questions (these should not be treated as official back-translations; the official backtranslations may be available at the Czech Statistical Office which is a conductor of SILC in the Czech Republic):

- There were no changes in the question „How is your health in general?“ (back translation: „How do you rate your health in general?”); Only two words changed the position in the question between 2005-6 (how do you rate in general your health?) and 2007-9 (how in general do you rate your health?) which should not have any impact on results
- There were slight changes in the question „Do you have any longstanding illness or health problem?“ (no changes in response categories):
  - 2008-9 („Do you have any long term illness or longstanding health problem? (A problem which has lasted, or is expected to last, for 6 months or more)“)
  - 2007 („Do you have any health problems, e.g. chronic illness, disability etc.?“)
  - 2005-2006 („Do you have any health problems, e.g. chronic illness, bodily impairment etc.?“)
  (→ the change in wording in 2008 led to decrease in the HLE in absolute and relative terms);
- There were changes in the question „For at least the past 6 months, to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do?“ (only in question but not in response categories):
  - in 2008-9 („Have you been limited because of health complaints in the previous at least 6 months in activities that people usually do? - 1. yes, seriously limited, 2. yes, limited, 3. not limited“)
  - in 2007 („Have you been, during the past 6 months, limited on a long-term basis in your activities because of health problems?“)
  - 2005-2006 („Have you been, during the past 6 months, limited in your activities because of health problems?“)
  (→ this change may have led to increase in the HLE in 2007 and decrease in 2008 (one would expect increase in 2008)).

22/11/2012 Sarka Dankova
Concerning the SILC questions, they are completely same for 2008-2011, so I did only small checks into the relevant document.

Jakub Hrkal:
Health Questions

2005 - 2011
Concerning the translation of SILC questions (these should not be treated as official back-translations; the official backtranslations may be available at the Czech Statistical Office which is a conductor of SILC in the Czech Republic):

- There were no changes in the question „How is your health in general?“ (back translation: „How do you rate your health in general?”); Only two words changed the position in the question between 2005-6 (how do you rate in general your health?) and 2007-9 (how in general do you rate your health?) which should not have any impact on results
There were slight changes in the question „Do you have any longstanding illness or health problem?“ (no changes in response categories):
  o 2008-11 („Do you have any long term illness or longstanding health problem? (A problem which has lasted, or is expected to last, for 6 months or more)“)
  o 2007 („Do you have any health problems, e.g. chronic illness, disability etc.?“)
  o 2005-2006 („Do you have any health problems, e.g. chronic illness, bodily impairment etc.?“)

There were changes in the question „For at least the past 6 months, to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do?“ (only in question but not in response categories):
  o in 2008-11 („Have you been limited because of health complaints in the previous at least 6 months in activities that people usually do? - 1. yes, seriously limited, 2. yes, limited, 3. not limited“)
  o in 2007 („Have you been, during the past 6 months, limited on a long-term basis in your activities because of health problems?“)
  o 2005-2006 („Have you been, during the past 6 months, limited in your activities because of health problems?“)

(-> this change may have led to increase in the HLE in 2007 and decrease in 2008 (one would expect increase in 2008)).

2012
As regards 2012 SILC questions, I do not have the Czech original version, do you have it?
The SILC questions are provided on the Eurostat website. For your country the last provided are 2011. I do not have the 2012 one.

OK, thank you very much. In addition to my previous e-mails, I have received SILC questions for 2012 from my colleagues from the CZSO - there are no changes for 2012, the questions are completely same as in 2011.

DENMARK

Back-translation of health questions in the Danish SILC-surveys

2005-2007
Self-rated health
How is your health in general?
Very good
Good
Fair (reasonable)
Poor
Very poor

Long-standing illness
Do you have any chronic or mental illness or any chronic disability? Problems that do not cause burden in the daily life should also be included.
Yes
No

Activity limitation
Have you been hampered in your daily activities by this chronic problem or by other health-related problems for longer time-periods within the past 6 months?
Yes
No

2008
Self-rated health
In general, would you say your health is:
Really good
Good
Fair
Poor
Very poor

Long-standing illness
Do you have any longstanding illness or health problem? (By longstanding I mean illnesses or health problems which have lasted, or are expected to last, for 6 months or more)
Yes
No

Activity limitation
For at least the past 6 months, to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do?
Severely limited
Limited but not severely
Not limited at all

2009
As to the Danish version of SILC 2008-2009 we wonder if the answer category “don’t know” (“vedikke” in Danish) should be included. We have no further comment on the (back) translation of the SILC questions.

2010
No changes between 2009 and 2010.

2012
No changes as far as I know

ESTONIA
Liis Roovali, Mare Ruuge

2004 - 2008
Concerning MEHM questions, the third SILC question was adapted in 2006 to be more similar (but not exactly) with EHIS question (in 2004 and 2005 activity limitations were asked by different type of limitations which could cause some overestimation as compared to other countries). So, there are differences in wording between 2005 and following years concerning third (limitation) question. Your file contains both english and estonian version of 2004 and 2005 question, translation is correct and during both those years same version was used. In 2006 and
2007 survey for third question same version was used, you have both versions in your file. First two questions are same as in 2004 and 2005.

Starting 2008 the correct EHIS limitation question is used (first two questions were not changed). You have the correct national version of questions, I do not start to translate them again as Estonia participated in respective Eurostat EHIS module projects and all questions (also the russian version of questions) were translated for and back and tested and validated during those projects.

2009
No comments on back translation and assessment of the Gali.

2010
Mare Ruuge 15/02/2013
During the years we have done several harmonisation rounds. First in 2006, in 2009 all health questions were compared in detail for 2007 and 2008. In 2011 period of 2004-2010 was covered for MEHM questions. In addition all questionnaires (in Estonian, in Russian) with translations to English used in Estonian SILC must be in Eurostat as a part of our SILC metadata. Therefore it stays unclear why some years MEHM questions in Circa are only in English. Probably it is related to this that in 2006 and 2007 identical MEHM questions were used (in your file was 2006 only in English), and 2004-2005 same questions were used (in your file 2005 was only in English). For 2005 has been added only interviewer remark to the 2nd and 3rd questions: ‘ALWAYS ASK, IRRESPECTIVE OF THE PREVIOUS ANSWER!’ The questions wording was same.

Since 2008 exact wording of EHIS MEHM is used in Estonian SILC 2009-2012 we have made no changes in MEHM questions and they match to current EHIS ones.
2011
There have not been any changes in the 3 questions of the "Minimum European Health Module" and their back-translation since 2011 in Estonia.

2012
According to our information - what was already included the file you sent to us in 9.09.2014 - in Estonian SILC 2009-2012 have made no changes in MEHM questions and they match to current EHIS one.

FINLAND

2004 - 2006:

**ET1:**
Next, a few questions concerning your health. Is your health at present, in your opinion (health questions can only be asked the subject him/herself; meaning that no proxies can be used) 1. good, 2. fairly good, 3. average, 4. fairly poor (or fairly bad, both translations possible), 5. poor?

**ET2.** Do you have any longstanding (or Chronic, both translations possible) disease, health problem or injury? (Longstanding: requires continuous follow-up/surveillance or care; has lasted or is expected to last at least half a year) Yes/No

**ET3.** Has any disease, health problem or injury caused harm/ bothered/ hampered (all these translations possible) your work or your everyday activities during the past six months? (also those limitations that have lasted half a year the cause of which is not considered longstanding) 1. a lot/ much 2. to some extent 3. or not at all

2007

**ET1(M)**
Next a few questions concerning your health. How is your health in general, is it 1. very good, 2. fairly good, 3. average, 4. fairly bad/fairly poor, 5. very bad/very poor?

**ET2(M)**
The question is similar to 2004-2006, but the explanation to the interviewer is longer: Longstanding: requires continuous follow-up/surveillance or care; has lasted or is expected to last at least half a year; experienced time to time, but regularly even if would not last half a year at one time; longstanding health problems that are insignificant and other than those diagnosed by a physician

**ET3(M)**
Have you had, at least during the past six months (and still at this moment), due to health problems 1. major functional limitations (or: activity limitations, bot translations possible) 2. functional limitations to some extent, 3. no functional limitations at all

2008

**ET1 as 2007**

**ET2.** Do you have any longstanding (chronic) disease or other longstanding health problem? 1 Yes 2 No
Explanation to the interviewer: Longstanding (chronic): has lasted or is expected to last at least six months, also others that those verified by a physician = 1; longstanding but does not bother or is fully in control = 1; seasonal/intermittent/ less than six months at one time, but continuous = 1

**ET3**
To what extent has a health problem limited your normal/usual activities (compared to other people) during the past 6 months. Would you say your activities 1. have been severely limited 2. have been limited but not severely 3. are not limited at all.

Explanation: Usual: everyday (daily). Usual activities: compare functional ability with peoples activity in general, not your own activity before illness (see working guidelines); Ask for the duration of the limitations, not the duration of the health problem. The limitation must have lasted at least half a year and bother also at this moment.

FRANCE

2004 - 2007
1. Concernant les évolutions de la formulation française des questions du MEHM - SILC :
   - elles n’ont pas été modifiées entre 2004 et 2007
   - une nouvelle formulation a été définie par l’ensemble des partenaires en France après que la formulation définitive en langue anglaise a été arrêtée par Eurostat en 2006 : en 2008, par rapport aux années antérieures, les modifications concernent uniquement la question 3 sur les limitations d’activité (formulation de la question et modalités de réponse).

2. Traduction : pour les années 2004-2007, la version française correspond à la version anglaise que vous reportez dans le mail.

2008
La traduction français-anglais du mini module pour SILC 2008 est la suivante :

How is your health in general? Is it...

- very good
- good
- fair
- bad
- very bad

Do you have any longstanding illness or longstanding health problem? [By longstanding I mean illnesses or health problems which have lasted, or are expected to last, for 6 months or more].

- Yes
- No

For at least the past 6 months, to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do ?

Would you say you have been ...

- severely limited
- limited but not severely
- not limited at all

Cette version correspond à celle arrêtée par Eurostat en 2006 et s’écarte de la version que vous proposez pour les questions 2 et 3 (maladies chroniques et limitations d’activités).
2010

Traduction en retour du questionnement SILC : il n'y a pas eu de modification entre 2009 et 2010 donc il n'y a pas de modification à introduire par rapport à la réponse antérieure fournie par Sandrine Danet et Emmanuelle Cambois.

2012

Sur le site de l'Insee le questionnaire n'est pas fourni. Je suppose qu'il n'y a pas de modification de 2010 à 2011 et 2012. Questionnaire non fourni sur le site d'Eurostat.

GERMANY

Jurgen Thelen

2005-2007
Wie schätzen Sie Ihren allgemeinen Gesundheitszustand ein?
How would you rate your general health condition?

2008
Wie ist Ihr Gesundheitszustand im Allgemeinen?
How is your health condition in general?
  ➢ Not much difference between the questions (including answer categories).

2009
Comments from Gabriele Dolhammer:
  ➢ No changes between 2008 and 2009

Comments from Jurgen Thelen (Department for Epidemiology and Health Reporting, Robert Koch Institut):

Health Questions in the German SILC (Performed by the Federal Statistical Agency)

MEHM1 (EHIS original)
How is your health in general?
Very good / Good / Fair / Bad / Very Bad

2005-2007 (MEHM1)
WieschätzenSieIhren allgemeinen Gesundheitszustand ein?
How would you rate your general health condition?

2008 (MEHM1)
Wie ist Ihr Gesundheitszustand im Allgemeinen?
Sehr gut / Gut / Mittelmäßig / Schlecht / Sehr schlecht

Backtranslation:
How is your health condition in general?
Very good / Good / Fair / Bad / Very bad
  ➢ The 2008 wording of the question and the answer categories are fully comparable.
MEHM 2 (EHIS original)
Do you have any longstanding illness or [longstanding] health problem [By longstanding I mean illnesses or health problems which have lasted, or are expected to last, for 6 months or more)?
Answer categories: Yes / No

2005-2007 (MEHM2, Germany, SILC)
Haben Sie eine chronische Krankheit?
Do you have a chronic illness?
Ja/Nein (Yes/No)

2008 (MEHM2, Germany, SILC)
Haben sie eine oder mehrere lang andauernde, chronische Krankheiten? (Erläuterung: Chronische Krankheiten sind lang andauernde Erkrankungen, die ständiger Behandlung und Kontrolle bedürfen, z. B. Diabetes oder Herzerkrankungen)
Ja / Nein / Weiβ nicht
Backtranslation:
Do you have one or more longstanding chronic diseases? (Explanation: Chronic diseases are longstanding illnesses that require permanent treatment and control, e.g. Diabetes or heart diseases)
Yes / No / Don’t know
- The MEHM2 German national version differs from the original English version as it focuses on chronic illnesses which are medically treated or controlled. Longstanding health problems which are not assessed as chronic illness are not covered. Moreover the time period is only retrospective, the prospective dimension is missing.
- The 2008 wording of the question is only partly comparable with the English original. The prospective time period is not covered and chronic illnesses are qualified by their demand for treatment.

MEHM3 (EHIS original)
For at least the past 6 months, to what extend have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do?
Would you say you have been
Severely limited
Limited but not severely
Not limited at all

2005-2007 (Germany, MEHM3, SILC)
Do you have health problems for at least the past six months?
Haben sie seit mindestens sechs Monaten gesundheitliche Probleme.

2008 (Germany, MEHM3, SILC)
In welchem Ausmaß sind sie durch Krankheit in der Ausübung ihrer alltäglichen Arbeiten dauerhaft eingeschränkt? Wir meinen damit seit mindestens einem halben Jahr.
Erheblich eingeschränkt
Eingeschränkt, aber nicht erheblich
Nicht eingeschränkt
Weiβ nicht

Backtranslation 2008 version:
To what extend are you limited permanently in your daily works because of illness. We mean for at least half a year.
Severely limited
Limited but not severely
Not limited
Don’t know

- The 2008 version of the GALI question is only partly comparable to the original English version. The original version asks for limitations due to health problems while the German version asks for limitations due to illness. The original GALI question asks for limitations in activities people usually do while the German version asks for limitations in personal activities.
Due to the differences between to original MEHM questions and the national German version currently in use, the MEHM2 and MEHM3 questions will be revised. Moreover results from the German national health surveys indicate that the MEHM3 question in its current German phrasing is too complex to be understood unambiguously as it covers three different dimensions (limitation due to health problem, duration of the limitation, severity of the limitation) that shall be taken into account by the respondents. Therefore we investigate the possibilities to split the GALI question in three parts, that are asked subsequently and that enable for the gathering of truly GALI comparable data.

2010
We can confirm your, careful interpretation of the SILC data, having in mind that the German GALI question is still not in line with the original.
We currently investigate the possibilities to change the GALI question for the EHIS and to recommend to follow this recommendation for the SILC survey too.

There have been no further changes in the MEHM questions in SILC since 2008

2013
In red are the deviations from the proposed health questions in EU SILC 2004-2007. Moreover, the SILC questions are supplemented by instructions to interviewers explaining for example what is a chronic or a long-standing illness. The reference of limitation is own activities than activities people usually do.

**2004**

### HEALTH

**10. How is your health in general?**
- Very good ................................................................. 1
- Good ........................................................................ 2
- Fair .......................................................................... 3
- Bad ........................................................................... 4
- Very bad ...................................................................... 5

**11. Do you suffer from any chronic illness or condition (health problem)?**
*The answer is subjective. Problems that are seasonal or recurring should be included.*
*In red only in the guidelines to interviewers*
- Yes ........................................................................... 1
- No .............................................................................. 2

**12. For at least the last 6 months have you been limited your daily activities because of a health problem?**
*If limited specify whether strongly limited or limited is not included, (It is used daily activities than in activities people usually do)*
- Yes, strongly limited .................................................. 1
- Yes, limited .................................................................. 2
- No, not limited................................................................ 3
2005

**ΥΓΕΙΑ**

10. Πώς είναι, γενικά, η υγεία σας;
- Πολύ καλή ...........................................................................................................................  1
- Καλή ........................................................................................................................................ 2
- Μέτρια ....................................................................................................................................... 3
- Κακή ......................................................................................................................................... 4
- Πολύ κακή ................................................................................................................................ 5

11. Έχετε κάποιο χρόνιο πρόβλημα υγείας ή χρόνια ασθένεια;
Η απάντηση είναι υποκειμενική. Προβλήματα υγείας τα οποία είναι εποχιακά (π.χ. αλλεργίες) ή επανεμφανίζονται δια προέπεται να συμπεριληφθούν. *(In red only in the guidelines to interviewers)*
- Ναι ........................................................................................................................................ 1
- Όχι .......................................................................................................................................... 2

13. For at least the last 6 months have you been limited your daily activities because of a health problem? If limited specify whether strongly limited or limited is not included; *It is used daily activities than in activities people usually do*
- Yes, strongly limited .............................................................................................................. 1
- Yes, limited .............................................................................................................................. 2
- No, not limited .......................................................................................................................... 3

**HEALTH**

10. How is your health in general?
- Very good ............................................................................................................................... 1
- Good ......................................................................................................................................... 2
- Fair .......................................................................................................................................... 3
- Bad .......................................................................................................................................... 4
- Very bad .................................................................................................................................. 5

11. Do you suffer from any chronic illness or condition (health problem)?
The answer is subjective. Problems that are seasonal or recurring should be included. *(In red only in the guidelines to interviewers)*
- Yes .......................................................................................................................................... 1
- No .......................................................................................................................................... 2

13. For at least the last 6 months have you been limited your daily activities because of a health problem? *It is used daily activities than in activities people usually do*
- Yes, strongly limited .............................................................................................................. 1
- Yes, limited .............................................................................................................................. 2
- No, not limited .......................................................................................................................... 3
10. Πώς είναι, γενικά, η υγεία σας;
- Πολύ καλή ............................................................................................................................ 1
- Καλή .................................................................................................................................... 2
- Μέτρια ................................................................................................................................ 3
- Κακή .................................................................................................................................... 4
- Πολύ κακή ........................................................................................................................... 5

11. Έχετε κάποιο χρόνιο πρόβλημα υγείας ή χρόνια ασθένεια;
Η απάντηση είναι υποκειμενική. Προβλήματα υγείας τα οποία είναι εποχικά (π.χ. αλλεργίες) ή επανεμφανίζονται θα πρέπει να συμπεριληφθούν. (In red only in the guidelines to interviewers)
- Ναι ..................................................................................................................................... 1
- Όχι ...................................................................................................................................... 2

12. Κατά τους τελευταίους 6 μήνες ή και περισσότερο, περιορίστε, λόγω κάποιου προβλήματος υγείας, τις συνήθεις καθημερινές σας δραστηριότητες (It is not included activities people usually do, but your daily activities);
- Ναι, πολύ ............................................................................................................................ 1
- Ναι .................................................................................................................................... 2
- Όχι .................................................................................................................................... 3

HEALTH

10. How is your health in general?
- Very good ............................................................................................................................ 1
- Good .......................................................................................................................................... 2
- Fair .......................................................................................................................................... 3
- Bad .......................................................................................................................................... 4
- Very bad ................................................................................................................................. 5

11. Do you suffer from any chronic illness or condition (health problem)?
The answer is subjective. Problems that are seasonal or recurring should be included. (In red only in the guidelines to interviewers)
- Yes ......................................................................................................................................... 1
- No .......................................................................................................................................... 2

14. For at least the last 6 months have you been limited your daily activities because of a health problem? If limited specify whether strongly limited or limited is not included,
It is used daily activities than in activities people usually do)
- Yes, strongly limited ........................................................................................................... 1
- Yes, limited ............................................................................................................................ 2
- No, not limited ....................................................................................................................... 3
10. Πώς είναι, γενικά, η υγεία σας;
- Πολύ καλή ............................................................................................................................ 1
- Καλή ........................................................................................................................................ 2
- Μέτρια ..................................................................................................................................... 3
- Κακή ....................................................................................................................................... 4
- Πολύ κακή ................................................................................................................................... 5

11. Έχετε κάποιο χρόνιο πρόβλημα υγείας ή χρόνια ασθένεια;
Η απάντηση είναι υποκειμενική. Προβλήματα υγείας τα οποία είναι εποχικά (π.χ. αλλεργίες) ή επανεμφανίζονται θα πρέπει να συμπεριληφθούν. (In red only in the guidelines to interviewers)
- Ναι ......................................................................................................................................... 1
- Οχι .......................................................................................................................................... 2

12. Κατά τους τελευταίους 6 μήνες ή και περισσότερο, περιορίσατε, λόγω κάποιου προβλήματος υγείας, τις συνήθεις καθημερινές σας δραστηριότητες (It is not included activities people usually do, but your daily activities);
- Ναι, πολύ ................................................................................................................................... 1
- Ναι .......................................................................................................................................... 2
- Οχι .......................................................................................................................................... 3

15. For at least the last 6 months have you been limited your daily activities because of a health problem? If limited specify whether strongly limited or limited is not included, It is used daily activities than in activities people usually do)
- Yes, strongly limited ............................................................................................................... 1
- Yes, limited ............................................................................................................................... 2
- No, not limited .......................................................................................................................... 3
2008

ΥΓΕΙΑ

Γ1. Πώς θα χαρακτηρίζατε την υγεία σας; Είναι:
Η απάντηση να είναι αυθόρμητη.
- Πολύ καλή ................................................................................................................. 1
- Καλή ................................................................................................................................. 2
- Μέτρια .............................................................................................................................. 3
- Κακή .................................................................................................................................. 4
- Πολύ κακή ......................................................................................................................... 5

Γ2. Έχετε κάποιο χρόνιο πρόβλημα υγείας ή χρόνια ασθένεια;
Οι χρόνιο πρόβλημαυγείας ή χρόνια ασθένεια δεν υπάρχουν ή η ασθένεια που διαρκεί (ή πρόκειται
να διαρκέσει) περισσότερους από 6 μήνες. Προβλήματα υγείας τα οποία είναι εποχικά (π.χ. αλλεργίες) ή
επανεμφανίζονται δεν πρέπει να συμπεριληφθούν. (In red only in the guidelines to interviewers)
- Ναι................................................................................................................................. 1
- Όχι .................................................................................................................................... 2

Γ3. Κατά τους τελευταίους 6 μήνες ή και περισσότερο, περιορίσατε, λόγω κάποιου προβλήματος υγείας, τις
συνήθεις καθημερινές σας δραστηριότητες (It is not included activities people usually do, but your daily
activities);
- Ναι, πάρα πολύ ................................................................................................................ 1
- Ναι, αλλά όχι πάρα πολύ ............................................................... ................................. 2
- Όχι, καθόλου .................................................................................................................. 3

HEALTH

C1. How is your health in general?
- Very good .......................................................................................................................... 1
- Good ................................................................................................................................. 2
- Fair ................................................................................................................................... 3
- Bad ................................................................................................................................... 4
- Very bad ........................................................................................................................... 5

C2. Do you have suffer from any longstanding condition (health problems) or chronic (longstanding) illness?
(By longstanding we mean illness or health problems, which have lasted or expected to last for 6 months or
more Problems that are seasonal or recurring should be included)
- Yes ................................................................................................................................. 1
- No .................................................................................................................................... 2

C3. For at least the last 6 months have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people
usually do? (If limited specify whether strongly limited or limited). It is used daily activities than in
activities people usually do)
- Yes, strongly limited ........................................................................................................ 1
- Yes, limited ....................................................................................................................... 2
- No, not limited ................................................................................................................ 3
ΥΓΕΙΑ

Γ1. Πώς θα χαρακτηρίζατε την υγεία σας; Είναι:
Η απάντηση να είναι αυθόρμητη.
- Πολύ καλή ................................................................. 1
- Καλή ................................................................................. 2
- Μέτρια ............................................................................ 3
- Κακή .................................................................................. 4
- Πολύ κακή ........................................................................ 5

Γ2. Έχετε κάποιο χρόνιο πρόβλημα υγείας ή χρόνια πάθηση;
Ο χρόνιο πρόβλημα υγείας ή χρόνια πάθηση θεωρείται το πρόβλημα ή η πάθηση που διαρκεί η πρόκειται να
διαρκέσει περισσότεροι από 6 μήνες( π.χ. χοληστερίνη, σάκχαρο, αλλεργίες, ψωρίαση ). Περιλαμβάνονται και
οι εκ γενετής ανωμαλίες, εποχικά προβλήματα υγείας (π.χ. αλλεργίες) και προβλήματα υγείας που
επανεμφανίζονται.
- Ναι .................................................................................. 1
- Όχι ................................................................................... 2

Γ3. Κατά τους τελευταίους 6 μήνες ή και περισσότερο, έχετε περιοριστεί/δυσκολευτεί, λόγω κάποιου
προβλήματος υγείας, σε κάποιες από τις συνήθεις καθημερινές σας δραστηριότητες (It is not included
activities people usually do, but your daily activities);
- Ναι, πάρα πολύ ................................................................. 1
- Ναι, αλλά όχι πάρα πολύ ...................................................... 2
- Όχι, καθόλου ................................................................... 3

HEALTH

C1. How is your health in general?
- Very good ........................................................................... 1
- Good .................................................................................. 2
- Fair ................................................................................... 3
- Bad .................................................................................... 4
- Very bad ............................................................................ 5

C2. Do you suffer from any longstanding condition (health problems) or chronic (longstanding) illness? (By
longstanding we mean illness or health problems, which have lasted or expected to last for 6 months or
more Problems that are seasonal or recurring should be included)
- Yes ................................................................................... 1
- No ...................................................................................... 2

C3. For at least the last 6 months have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people
usually do? (If limited specify whether strongly limited or limited)
- Yes, strongly limited .......................................................... 1
- Yes, limited ........................................................................ 2
- No, not limited .................................................................... 3
ΥΓΕΙΑ

Γ1. Πώς θα χαρακτηρίζετε την υγεία σας; Είναι:
Η απάντηση να είναι αυθόρμητη.
- Πολύ καλή ........................................................................................................... ⬤1
- Καλή .................................................................................................................... ⬤2
- Μέτρια ................................................................................................................... ⬤3
- Κακή .................................................................................................................... ⬤4
- Πολύ κακή .......................................................................................................... ⬤5

Γ2. Έχετε κάποιο χρόνιο πρόβλημα υγείας ή χρόνια πάθηση;
Ο χρόνιο πρόβλημα υγείας ή χρόνια πάθηση δεν χρειάζεται το πρόβλημα ή η πάθηση που διαρκεί ή πρόκειται να διαρκέσει περισσότεροι από 6 μήνες (π.χ. χοληστερίνη, σάκχαρο, αλλεργίες, ψωρίαση). Περιλαμβάνονται και οι εκ γενετής ανωμαλίες, εποχικά προβλήματα υγείας (π.χ. αλλεργίες) και προβλήματα υγείας που επανεμφανίζονται.
- Ναι .................................................................................................................... ⬤1
- Όχι ........................................................................................................................ ⬤2

Γ3. Καθ’ όλη τη διάρκεια των τελευταίων 6 μηνών ή και περισσότερο, έχετε περιοριστεί/δυσκολευτεί, λόγω κάποιου προβλήματος υγείας, σε κάποιες από τις δραστηριότητες που συνήθως κάνουν οι άνθρωποι;
- Ναι, πάρα πολύ .................................................................................................... ⬤1
- Ναι, αλλά όχι πάρα πολύ ................................................................................... ⬤2
- Όχι, καθόλου ..................................................................................................... ⬤3

HEALTH

C1. How is your health in general?
The answer is spontaneous
- Very good ........................................................................................................... ⬤1
- Good ................................................................................................................... ⬤2
- Fair ..................................................................................................................... ⬤3
- Bad .................................................................................................................... ⬤4
- Very bad ............................................................................................................ ⬤5

C2. Do you have a chronic (longstanding) health problem or chronic (longstanding) condition?
By longstanding we mean illness or health problems, which have lasted or expected to last for 6 months or more (eg. cholesterol, sugar, allergy, psoriasis. Including congenital anomalies). Problems that are seasonal or recurring should be included
- Yes ..................................................................................................................... ⬤1
- No ...................................................................................................................... ⬤2

C3. For at least the last 6 months, have you been limited, because of a health problem in activities people usually do; (If limited specify whether strongly limited or limited)
- Yes, strongly limited ........................................................................................ ⬤1
- Yes, limited ....................................................................................................... ⬤2
- No, not limited .................................................................................................. ⬤3
Note, concerning the wording of activity limitation that:

- In the year 2008, the wording of the activity limitation question slightly changed since 2007.
- In the year 2009, the wording of the activity limitation question slightly changed since 2008 but again "activities people usually do" was not included (activities the respondent usually does were mentioned, instead).
- However this change was not according to the EU standard, that is the final wording used in the EHIS survey in 2009 and also the EU-SILC from 2010, onwards. The reason for not complying totally with the EHIS activity limitation wording is that for the Greek EHIS question wording was finalized in the end of 2009 and adopted from 2010 onwards.

SILC 2011

HEALTH 2011

C1. How is your health in general?
- Very good .......................................................................................................................... 1
- Good .................................................................................................................................. 2
- Fair ..................................................................................................................................... 3
- Bad ..................................................................................................................................... 4
- Very bad ............................................................................................................................. 5

C2. Do you have any longstanding health problem or longstanding illness? (By longstanding we mean illnesses or health problems, which have lasted or are expected to last, for 6 months or more.)
- Yes .................................................................................................................................. 1
- No ..................................................................................................................................... 2

C3. For at least the past 6 months, have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do?
- Yes, strongly limited ............................................................................................................ 1
- Yes, limited .......................................................................................................................... 2
- Not limited at all .................................................................................................................. 3

SILC 2012

HEALTH 2012

C1. How is your health in general?
- Very good .......................................................................................................................... 1
- Good .................................................................................................................................. 2
- Fair ..................................................................................................................................... 3
- Bad ..................................................................................................................................... 4
- Very bad ............................................................................................................................. 5

C2. Do you have any longstanding health problem or longstanding illness? (By longstanding
we mean illnesses or health problems, which have lasted or are expected to last, for 6 months or more.)

- Yes................................................................................................................................ 1
- No ................................................................................................................................... 2

C3. For at least the past 6 months, have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do?

- Yes, strongly limited ............................................................................................... 1
- Yes, limited................................................................................................................ 2
- Not limited at all.......................................................................................................... 2

HUNGARY

Zsuzsanna Szabó

2006

1. How would you describe your general health status?
   - 1 Very good
   - 2 Good
   - 3 Adequate
   - 4 Bad
   - 5 Very bad

2. Do you have any kind of long term health problem?
   - 1 Yes
   - 2 No

3. Do you have any kind of health problem, what limits you in any kind of activities at least for the last six months.
   - 1 Yes I have, and means serious limitation.
   - 2 Yes I have, but it means minor limitation.
   - 3 No, I don’t.

2007

1. How would you describe your general health status?
   - 1 Very good
   - 2 Good
   - 3 Adequate
   - 4 Bad
   - 5 Very bad

2. Do you have any kind of long term or chronic health problem?
   - 1 Yes
   - 2 No

3. Do you have any kind of health problem that limits you in your usual activities at least for the last six months?
   - 1 Yes I have, and means serious limitation.
   - 2 Yes I have, but it means minor limitation.
   - 3 No, I don’t.
2008
1. How would you describe your general health status?
   1. Very good
   2. Good
   3. Neither good, nor bad
   4. Bad
   5. Very bad

2. Do you have any kind of long term or chronic health problem?
   1. Yes
   2. No

3. To what extent have you felt being limited in your daily activities during the last six months due to health problems?
   1. I have felt seriously limited.
   2. I have felt limited.
   3. I haven’t felt limited at all.

2009
The 2008 and 2009 questionnaire are the same, no changes has made in the wording (coding of PH020 changed in a little extent). The 2010 version is also unchanged.

2010
Just one modification:
1. How would you describe your general health status?
   1. Very good
   2. Good
   3. Fair
   4. Bad
   5. Very bad

2. Do you have any kind of long term or chronic health problem?
   1. Yes
   2. No

3. To what extent have you felt being limited in your daily activities during the last six months due to health problems?
   1. I have felt seriously limited.
   2. I have felt limited.
   3. I haven’t felt limited at all.

2011
1. How would you describe your general health status?
   1. Very good
   2. Good
   3. Fair
   4. Bad
   5. Very bad

2. Do you have any kind of long term or chronic health problem?
3. To what extent have you felt being limited in your daily activities during the last six months due to health problems?
   1. I have felt seriously limited.
   2. I have felt limited.
   3. I haven’t felt limited at all.

2012
1. How would you describe your general health status?
   1. Very good
   2. Good
   3. Fair
   4. Bad
   5. Very bad
2. Do you have any kind of long term or chronic health problem?
   1 Yes
   2 No

3. Have you been limited at least in the past six months due to any kind of health problem in your general activity? Yes, I’ve been seriously limited (1) Yes, I’ve been limited (2), I haven’t been limited at all (3).

2013
1. How would you describe your general health status?
   1. Very good
   2. Good
   3. Neither good, nor bad
   4. Bad
   5. Very bad
2. Do you have any kind of long term or chronic health problem?
   1 Yes
   2 No

3. Considering the past six months at least, to which extent are you limited continuously by some kind of health problem in performing the everyday human activities?
   1. Yes, I’m severely limited
   2. Yes, I’m limited.
   3. No, I am not limited at all

IRELAND

2004 - 2008
The questions asked in Ireland are consistent over the period 2004-2008 and also consistent with the English version of MEHM.
2009

- No comments

2010

No comments

2011-2012

No comments.

ITALY  Luisa Frova

2004-2007

Differences found from 2007 and the other years derive from the process of Silc harmonization to EHIS started in 2006 (English version of EHIS adopted on 22 November 2006 by the Eurostat Working Group on Public Health Statistics)

The questions of Mehm on Silc survey for Italy in year 2007 have been changed to follow the EHIS guidelines in order to harmonized Silc and EHIS. This happened for Italy from 2007 and not 2008.

EUROPEAN HEALTH STATUS MODULE

Introduction

I would now like to talk to you about your health.

**HS.1 How is your health in general? Is it...**

**RUNNING PROMPT**

- very good ☐ 1
- good ☐ 2
- fair ☐ 3
- bad ☐ 4
- very bad? ☐ 5
- don’t know ☐ 8
- refusal ☐ 9

**HS.2 Do you have any longstanding illness or long standing health problem? (By longstanding I mean illnesses or health problems which have lasted, or are expected to last, for 6 months or more)**:

- Yes ☐ 1
- No ☐ 2
- don’t know ☐ 8
- refusal ☐ 9

First question: Years 2004-2006

**Come va in generale la sua salute**

**Molto bene...**1 ☐

**Bene..........................** 2 ☐

**Discretamente ..................** 3 ☐

**Malo ..............................** 4 ☐
Molto male .......................... 5 □

English

How is your health in general?
Very good
good
fair
bad
very bad.

First question: Year 2007

The answer Fair has been changed from Discretamente to Né bene Né male. Actually Discretamente (even if correct) is not the exact conceptual translation of Fair. As indicated in the Update Ehis guidelines (15-16 May 2008) Document Tech-His/2008/4.3 at page 31 “Fair is the intermediate category and should be translated into an appropriately neutral term, as far as possible keeping in mind cultural interpretations, in the various languages”.

Therefore Fair as been translated in Italian in Né bene Né male.

Come va in generale la sua salute
Molto bene......1 □
Bene................................. 2 □
Né bene né male .................3 □
Male .................................4 □
Molto male ........................5 □

English

How is your health in general?
Very good
good
fair
bad
very bad.

This change in 2007 has produced an increase of those who declare of having a good health in general

Percentage distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maschio</td>
<td>Femmina</td>
<td>Maschio</td>
<td>Femmina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molto bene</td>
<td>16,4</td>
<td>12,2</td>
<td>16,1</td>
<td>12,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bene</td>
<td>45,3</td>
<td>42,0</td>
<td>46,4</td>
<td>42,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discretamente</td>
<td>29,6</td>
<td>33,7</td>
<td>29,3</td>
<td>34,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>6,9</td>
<td>9,8</td>
<td>6,7</td>
<td>9,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molto male</td>
<td>1,7</td>
<td>2,4</td>
<td>1,4</td>
<td>2,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rifiuta di rispondere</td>
<td>0,8</td>
<td>0,8</td>
<td>0,8</td>
<td>0,8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Second question: Years 2004-2006

This question as not changed from 2004 to 2006. In 2007 there are changes as this question has been harmonized to EHIS taking into account the Updated Ehis guidelines.

Lei è affetto da malattie o condizioni patologiche croniche?
Si
No

English
Do you have any long standing illness or health problem?
Yes
No

Second question: Year 2007

This question is the conceptual translation of the English version of EHIS adopted 15-16 May 2008 Document Tech-His/2008/4.3 Italy has harmonized this question in SILC and HIS and adopted it also for SILC Year 2007.

Lei è affetto da malattie croniche o problemi di salute di lunga durata (Il termine “lunga durata” si riferisce a malattie o problemi di salute che durano da almeno 6 mesi o si prevede che durino per almeno 6 mesi)?
Si 1
No 2
Rifiuta di rispondere 3

English
Do you have any longstanding illness or longstanding health problem? (By longstanding I mean illnesses or health problems which have lasted, or are expected to last, for 6 months or more).
Yes
No
Refusal

Percentage distribution

Those who declare of not having any longstanding illness or health problem tend to be stable over time. While those declaring Yes reduces in 2007, probably as an effect of the introduction if the answer ‘refusal to anwer’. There seems not be be an effect of the wording.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maschio</td>
<td>Femmina</td>
<td>Maschio</td>
<td>Femmina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Si</td>
<td>19,4</td>
<td>23,1</td>
<td>20,3</td>
<td>23,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
<td>80,6</td>
<td>76,9</td>
<td>79,7</td>
<td>76,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rifiuta di rispondere</td>
<td>1,5</td>
<td>1,7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Third question:
The formulation of this third question as not changed from 2004 to 2006, but the answers have slightly changed. In 2007 there are more changes in the formulation and the corresponding answers; actually this question has been harmonized to EHIS question changes taking into account the Updated Ehis guidelines.
Third question: Year 2004
Unfortunately in this year there is a little mistake as answer 2 include also answer 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A causa di problemi di salute, Lei ha delle limitazioni, che durano da almeno 6 mesi, nello svolgere le abituali attività della vita quotidiana?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SI, forti limitazioni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**English**
For at least the part six months to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do?
Yes, strongly limited | 1 □ |
Yes, to some extent   | 2 □ |
No                   | 3 □ |

Third question: Year 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A causa di problemi di salute, Lei ha delle limitazioni, che durano da almeno 6 mesi, nello svolgere le abituali attività della vita quotidiana?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SI, forti limitazioni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI, alcune limitazioni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**English**
For at least the part six month to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do?
Yes, strongly limited | 1 □ |
Yes, to some extent   | 2 □ |
No                   | 3 □ |

Third question: Year 2006
In year 2006 the category 2 has slightly changed from ‘alcune limitazioni’ to ‘qualche limitazione’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A causa di problemi di salute, Lei ha delle limitazioni, che durano da almeno 6 mesi, nello svolgere le abituali attività della vita quotidiana?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SI, forti limitazioni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI, qualche limitazione</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**English**
For at least the part six month to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do?
Yes, strongly limited | 1 □ |
Yes, to some extent   | 2 □ |
No                   | 3 □ |

Third question: Year 2007
The formulation of the question is different from the previous year and among the possible answers there is also the category ‘refusal’. In year 2007 there is a 2% of those that refuse to answer.
The Italian formulation is the conceptual translation of the English version of EHIS adopted 15-16 May 2008 Document Tech-His/2008/4.3 Italy has harmonized this question in SILC and EHIS and adopted it also for SILC Year 2007

Although the English question is unchanged the Italian translation has been improved taking into account the Updated Ehis guidelines Document Tech-His/2008/4.3 where the underlying concepts of the question are specified (page 34).

From Year 2007 this question include the concepts of severe and this have an impact on the observed increase among those of having moderate activity limitations and as a consequence on the decrease of those without limitations.

The Silc data of 2008 show a very slight decrease compared to 2007 of those not limited at all. Actually in 2007 this proportion is of 72.4% and in 2008 is of 71.3%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A causa di problemi di salute, in che misura Lei ha delle limitazioni che durano da almeno 6 mesi nelle attività che le persone abitualmente svolgono? Direbbe di avere:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Limitazioni gravi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limitazioni non gravi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nessuna limitazione</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rifiuta di rispondere</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

English

For at least the past 6 month, to what extent have you been limited because of health problem in activities people usually do? Would you say you have been:

| Severely limited                               | 1 |
| Limited but not severely                        | 2 |
| Not limited at all ...                          | 3 |
| Refusal                                        | 4 |

Percentage distribution

Anni 2004-2006 A causa di problemi di salute, Lei ha delle limitazioni, che durano da almeno 6 mesi, nello svolgere le abituali attività della vita quotidiana?

Anno 2007  A causa di problemi di salute, in che misura Lei ha delle limitazioni che durano da almeno 6 mesi nelle attività che le persone abitualmente svolgono? Direbbe di avere:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sesso</td>
<td>Sesso</td>
<td>Sesso</td>
<td>Sesso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sembra</td>
<td>Maschio</td>
<td>Femmina</td>
<td>Maschio</td>
<td>Femmina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI, forti limitazioni</td>
<td>6,6</td>
<td>1,8</td>
<td>7,6</td>
<td>2,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI, alcune limitazioni</td>
<td>10,2</td>
<td>3,3</td>
<td>12,4</td>
<td>3,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
<td>84,2</td>
<td>86,1</td>
<td>80,2</td>
<td>84,3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The proportion of those declaring of being not limited at all decreases over time. However in 2004 there is an error in the responses. The wording of the answers changed also from 2005 and 2006 Therefore trends over time observed could be influenced by changes in the answers.
  - In 2007 the introduction of the concept of severity may have also contributed to the decrease. Data for 2008 are in fact more similar to those observed for 2007.
2009

- The questions are exactly the same for 2007, 2008 and 2009 (in the document attached there are three tables where you can find the Italian formulation (with the English back translation) and the results of the MEHEM questions).

2010

No comments

2011

There is no change in the wording of MEHM in 2011

2012

There are no changes in the SILC questions from 2011 to 2012.

LATVIA

Juris Krumins

2005 - 2008

I found some differences between Latvian and Russian versions for the year 2005 and some differences with the Standard English version for the same year (2005) and minor differences for following years.

Interpretation of the Question 84 (2) in the three languages for the year 2005 differs for sure. It could influence comparability between years and countries.

1. How is your health in general?
   1. Very Good
   2. Good
   3. Fair
   4. Bad
   5. Very Bad


2. Do you suffer from/have any chronic (long-standing) illness or condition (health problem)?
   INTERVIEWER: Problems that are seasonal or recurring should be included.
   1. Yes
   2. No

Year 2005 (from Latvian to English) – Do you have any long-standing illness or physical harms (handicap) or traumas (injuries)?

Year 2005 (from Russian to English) – Do you have any long-standing (chronic) illness or trauma (injury)?

Years 2006, 2007, 2008 (from Latvian and Russian to English) – Do you have any chronic illness, long standing disorders or physical harms (handicap)?

3. For at least the last 6 months have you been limited in activities people usually do, because of a health problem? (If limited specify whether strongly limited or limited)
   1. Yes, strongly limited
   2. Yes, limited
   3. Not limited

Note: If the respondent has recently become limited because of a health problem and expects the limitation to persist for 6 months then code either 1 or 2.
Year 2005 (from Latvian to English) – For at least the last 6 months have you been limited in activities people usually do at home, at work or recreation due to any long-standing problems?

Year 2005 (from Russian to English) – For at least the last 6 months have you been limited in activities people usually do at home, at work or recreation due to any long-standing health problems?

Years 2006, 2007, 2008 (from Latvian and Russian to English) – Do you presently have health problems, which for at least the last 6 months have been limited your daily activities at home, at work or recreation?

2009

➢ There are no changes in SILC questions in Latvian and Russian language versions between 2008 and 2009.

2010

➢ There are no changes between 2009 and 2010 in translation of the SILC questions.

2011-2013

➢ Minor changes in the three questions were only in the year 2013 (see further text). My backtranslation for the year 2013 is provided.

➢ EU_SILC

Backtranslation (J.Krumins):

What is your general state of health? It is
(Answers are not changed)
### PH020

2011.gads

| Vai Jums ir kāda hroniska slimība, ilgstošas kaites vai fiziski trūkumi? |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| JĀ…………1                 | NĒ…………2     |

2012.gads

| Vai Jums ir kāda hroniska slimība, ilgstošas kaites vai fiziski trūkumi? |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| JĀ…………1                 | NĒ…………2     |

2013.gads

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vai Jums ir kāda ilgstoša slimība vai ilgstoša veselības problēma?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>„Ilgstoša“ ir slimība vai veselības problēma, kas ilgst vai paredzams, ka ilgs 6 vai vairāk mēnešus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JĀ 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NĒ……… 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Backtranslation (J.Krumins):**

Do you have any longstanding illness or longstanding health problem? [By longstanding I mean illnesses or health problems which have lasted, or are expected to last, for 6 months or more.] Yes; No

### PH030

2011.gads

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vai Jums pašreiz ir veselības problēmas, kas vismaz pēdējos 6 mēnešus ir traucējušas vai ierobežojušas Jūsu iktienas aktivitātes mājas, darbā vai atpūtā?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JĀ, ir stipri ierobežojumi ................................................................................. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JĀ, ir ierobežojumi .......................................................................................... 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAV ierobežojumu ............................................................................................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2012.gads

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vai Jums pašreiz ir veselības problēmas, kas vismaz pēdējos 6 mēnešus ir traucējušas vai ierobežojušas Jūsu iktienas aktivitātes mājas, darbā vai atpūtā?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JĀ, ir stipri ierobežojumi ................................................................................. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JĀ, ir ierobežojumi .......................................................................................... 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAV ierobežojumu ............................................................................................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2013.gads

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cik lielā mērā kāda veselības problēma vismaz pēdējo 6 mēnešu laikā ir Jūs ierobežojusi veikt aktivitātes, ko cilvēki parasti dara?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stipri ierobežojusi .......................................................................................... 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ir ierobežojusi, bet ne pārāk stipri .................................................................. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAV ierobežojusi nemaz .................................................................................... 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Backtranslation (J.Krumins):**

For at least the past 6 months, to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do? Linguistic interpretation of answers has not changed.
2005 - 2009

- No comments on back translation and assessment of the Gali

2005 How in general you would describe yours health condition?
- You are chronic invalid, suffering from chronic disease, indisposed due to physical injury?
- If, during the last 6 months or longer, yours activity was limited due to health disorders?

2006 How in general you would describe yours health?
- Do you are ailing due to any long-term (chronic) disease or have long term health disorders?
- If due to health disorders, yours activity was limited 6 months or longer period?

2007 What roundly your health?
- Do you are ailing due to any long-term (chronic) disease or have long term health disorders?
- Do your usual activity was highly limited due to health disorders 6 months, or longer period?

2008 What roundly, your health?
- Do you are ailing due to any long term (chronic) disease or have long term health disorders?
- Do your usual activity was highly limited due to health disorders 6 months, or longer period?

2009 What roundly, your health?
- If ill due to some long term (chronic) disease or have long term health disorders?
- Do your usual activity was highly limited due to health disorders 6 months, or longer period?

2010 What roundly, your health?
- If ill due to long term (chronic) disease or have long term health disorders?
- Do Your usual activity was highly limited due to health disorders 6 months, or longer period?

2011

XVI. SVEIKATA

78. Kokia apskritai Jūsų sveikata?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labai gera</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gera</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vidutinė</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloga</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labai bloga</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nenurodė</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

79. Ar sergate kokia nors lėtine (chroniška) liiga arba turite ligalaičių sveikatos sutrikimų?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taip</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ne</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nenurodė</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

80. Ar Jūsų išprastinė veikla buvo labai apribota dėl sveikatos sutrikimų 6 mėn. ar ilgesnį laikotarpi?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taip, labai apribota</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taip, šiek tiek apribota</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ne, nebuvо apribota</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nenurodė</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The questions were changed a bit in the end of 2011 (so they were in use starting with the year 2012). Questions in 2011:
1. What is your health in general (Very good, good, fair, bad, very bad); 
2. Do you suffer from/have any long-standing (chronic) illness or condition (health problem)? (Yes; no); 
3. For at least the last 6 months, have you been limited in your usual activities because of a health problem? (Severely limited, moderately limited, not limited).

2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Kaip apibūdintumėte savo sveikatą?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>Labai gera .................................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gera ........................................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vidutiniška ...............................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bloga ......................................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Labai bloga ...............................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nenurodė ...................................................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ar sergiate kokia nors lėtine (chroniška) liga arba turite ilgalaikių sveikatos sutrikimų?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>Taip ....................................................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ne .......................................................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nenurodė ........................................................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ar per pastaruosius 6 mėnesius Jūsų veikla, palyginti su išprastine žmogaus veikla, buvo ribojama dėl sveikatos sutrikimų?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85</td>
<td>Labai ribojama ...............................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Šiek tiek ribojama ........................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nebuvo ribojama ...........................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nenurodė ......................................................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Questions starting with 2012 (and they haven't changed since):
1. How would you describe your health? (Very good, good, fair, bad, very bad); 
2. Do you suffer from/have any long-standing (chronic) illness or condition (health problem)? (Yes; no); 
3. During the last 6 months, have you been limited in activities people usually do, because of a health problem? (Severely limited, moderately limited, not limited).

2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Kaip apibūdintumėte savo sveikatą?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>Labai gera .................................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gera ........................................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vidutiniška ...............................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bloga ......................................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Labai bloga ...............................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nenurodė ...................................................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ar sergiate kokia nors lėtine (chroniška) liga arba turite ilgalaikių sveikatos sutrikimų?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>Taip ....................................................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ne .......................................................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nenurodė ........................................................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ar per pastaruosius 6 mėnesius Jūsų veikla, palyginti su išprastine žmogaus veikla, buvo ribojama dėl sveikatos sutrikimų?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2014

2004 - 2011
Having a look on the health questions from Minimum European Health Module used in EU-SILC 2004-2005-2006 and 2007, there were no changes in the French formulation of the three health questions.

As regards the wording of the GALI question, it has not been modified between 2004 and 2011.

2012-2014
From 2004 to 2012, the GALI question was in the following form:

Depuis les 6 derniers mois au moins, les activités que vous faites habituellement ont-elles été limitées à cause de problèmes de santé ?
-1- oui, très limitées
-2- oui, limitées
-3- non

As of 2013, the wording of the question was changed to:

Depuis les 6 derniers mois au moins, à quel point avez-vous été limité, à cause d’un problème de santé, dans les activités que les gens font habituellement ?
-1- fortement limité
-2- limité, mais pas fortement
The other 2 questions of the MEHM did not change.

In 2014 there was no change in the phrasing of the questions, but there was a change in the order of the questions: namely, a question about presence of a handicap used to be placed between the 2nd and the 3rd question of the MEHM and this question was moved after the 3 questions of the MEHM as of 2014.

We also use a Luxembourgish language questionnaire, but I am not sure precisions about the Luxembourgish version are useful to you. In case you wish to have them, please let me know and I can send them right away.

**Français de 2003 à 2013 :**

D.87  *Au cours des 6 derniers mois, les activités que M. fait habituellement ont-elles été réduites à cause de problèmes de santé ?*

- 1- oui, extrêmement réduites
- 2- oui, réduites
- 3- non

D.119  *Depuis les 6 derniers mois au moins, les activités que M. fait habituellement ont-elles été limitées à cause de problèmes de santé ?*

- 1- oui, très limitées
- 2- oui, limitées
- 3- non

D.131  *Depuis les 6 derniers mois au moins, les activités que M. fait habituellement ont-elles été limitées à cause de problèmes de santé ?*

- 1- oui, très limitées
- 2- oui, limitées
- 3- non

D.153  *Depuis les 6 derniers mois au moins, les activités que vous faites habituellement ont-elles été limitées à cause de problèmes de santé ?*

- 1- oui, très limitées
- 2- oui, limitées
- 3- non

D.167  *Depuis les 6 derniers mois au moins, les activités que vous faites habituellement ont-elles été limitées à cause de problèmes de santé ?*

- 1- oui, très limitées
- 2- oui, limitées
- 3- non

D.1  *Depuis les 6 derniers mois au moins, les activités que vous faites habituellement ont-elles été limitées à cause de problèmes de santé ?*

- 1- oui, très limitées
-2- oui, limitées
-3- non

D.2  **Depuis les 6 derniers mois au moins, les activités que vous faites habituellement ont-elles été limitées à cause de problèmes de santé ?**
-1- oui, très limitées
-2- oui, limitées
-3- non

D.3  **Depuis les 6 derniers mois au moins, les activités que vous faites habituellement ont-elles été limitées à cause de problèmes de santé ?**
-1- oui, très limitées
-2- oui, limitées
-3- non

D.4  **Depuis les 6 derniers mois au moins, les activités que vous faites habituellement ont-elles été limitées à cause de problèmes de santé ?**
-1- oui, très limitées
-2- oui, limitées
-3- non

D.5  **Depuis les 6 derniers mois au moins, les activités que vous faites habituellement ont-elles été limitées à cause de problèmes de santé ?**
-1- oui, très limitées
-2- oui, limitées
-3- non

D.6  **Depuis les 6 derniers mois au moins, à quel point avez-vous été limité, à cause d'un problème de santé, dans les activités que les gens font habituellement ?**
-1- fortement limité
-2- limité, mais pas fortement
-3- pas limité du tout

Luxembourgeois de 2003 à 2013 :
D.87  War den M. an deenen lëchten 6 Méint an sengen üblechen Aktivitéiten duerch Gesondheitsproblemer ageschränkt ?
-1- Jo, stark ageschränkt
-2- Jo, ageschränkt
-3- Nee

D.119 War den M. op mannst **an deenen leschten 6 Méint** an sengen üblechen Aktivitéiten duerch Gesondheitsproblemer ageschränkt ?
-1- jo, stark ageschränkt
-2- jo, ageschränkt
-3- nee
D.131 War den M. op mannst an deenen leschten 6 Méint an sengen üblechen Aktivitéiten duerch Gesondheetsproblemer ageschränkt?
-1- jo, stark ageschränkt
-2- jo, ageschränkt
-3- nee

D.153 War Dir op mannst an deenen leschten 6 Méint an Ären üblechen Aktivitéiten duerch Gesondheetsproblemer ageschränkt?
-1- jo, stark ageschränkt
-2- jo, ageschränkt
-3- nee

D.167 War Dir op mannst zénter deene leschten 6 Méint an Ären üblechen Aktivitéiten duerch Gesondheetsproblemer ageschränkt?
-1- jo, stark ageschränkt
-2- jo, ageschränkt
-3- nee

D.7 War Dir op mannst zénter deene leschten 6 Méint an Ären üblechen Aktivitéiten duerch Gesondheetsproblemer ageschränkt?
-1- jo, stark ageschränkt
-2- jo, ageschränkt
-3- nee

D.8 War Dir op mannst zénter deene leschten 6 Méint an Ären üblechen Aktivitéiten duerch Gesondheetsproblemer ageschränkt?
-1- jo, stark ageschränkt
-2- jo, ageschränkt
-3- nee

D.9 War Dir op mannst zénter deene leschten 6 Méint an Ären üblechen Aktivitéiten duerch Gesondheetsproblemer ageschränkt?
-1- jo, stark ageschränkt
-2- jo, ageschränkt
-3- nee

D.10 War Dir op mannst zénter deene leschten 6 Méint an Ären üblechen Aktivitéiten duerch Gesondheetsproblemer ageschränkt?
-1- jo, stark ageschränkt
-2- jo, ageschränkt
D.11  War Dir op mannst zënter deene leschten 6 Méint an Ären üblechen Aktivitéiten durch Gesondheetsproblemer ageschränkt?
   -1- jo, stark ageschränkt
   -2- jo, ageschränkt
   -3- nee

D.12  Zënter deene leschten 6 Méint op mannst, a wéi engem Mooss war Dir, wéinst engem gesondheetleche Problem, ageschränkt an Aktivitéiten déi d’Leit gewéinlech maachen?
   -1- Staark ageschränkt
   -2- Ageschränkt
   -3- Guer net ageschränkt

Anglais de 2003 à 2013 :

D.87  For the past 6 months has M. been limited in activities people usually do because of a health problem?
   -1- yes, strongly limited
   -2- yes limited
   -3- not limited

D.119  For the past 6 months has M. been limited in activities people usually do because of a health problem?
   -1- yes, strongly limited
   -2- yes limited
   -3- not limited

D.131  For the past 6 months has M. been limited in activities people usually do because of a health problem?
   -1- yes, strongly limited
   -2- yes limited
   -3- not limited

D.153  For the past 6 months have you been limited in activities people usually do because of a health problem?
   -1- yes, strongly limited
   -2- yes limited
   -3- not limited

D.167  For the past 6 months have you been limited in activities people usually do because of a health problem?
   -1- yes, strongly limited
   -2- yes limited
   -3- not limited

D.13  For the past 6 months have you been limited in activities you usually do because of a health problem?
   -1- yes, strongly limited
   -2- yes limited

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D.14 For the past 6 months have you been limited in activities you usually do because of a health problem?
   -1- yes, strongly limited
   -2- yes limited
   -3- not limited

D.15 For the past 6 months have you been limited in activities you usually do because of a health problem?
   -1- yes, strongly limited
   -2- yes limited
   -3- not limited

D.16 For the past 6 months have you been limited in activities you usually do because of a health problem?
   -1- yes, strongly limited
   -2- yes limited
   -3- not limited

D.17 For the past 6 months have you been limited in activities you usually do because of a health problem?
   -1- yes, strongly limited
   -2- yes limited
   -3- not limited

D.18 For at least the past 6 months, to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do?
   -1- Severely limited
   -2- Limited but not severely
   -3- Not limited at all

2014
Pas de changements par rapport à la traduction des questions autre que ceux signalés dans le document SILC questions_Backtranslations_2014 (pour le Luxembourg, ce document ne se réfère pas seulement à la période 2011-2012, mais indique également les changements en 2013 et 2014).

MALTA
Deborah Stoner, Dorothy Gauci, Calleja Neville

2005 - 2010
➢ No comments on back translation and assessment of the Gali

You may notice that there have been no changes in the question text from 2005 to 2010 and the questions are indicated in both Maltese English. In all cases, the English version is a true reflection of the Maltese one. The only comment I would make is a spelling mistake in the word 'osservazzjoni' that current reads 'ossevazzjoni' in all the questionnaire versions. I will highlight this to the DSS.
2011-2014
The 3 questions of the "Minimum European Health Module" and their back translation for the years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 have not changed. There were no changes in the wording, time reference or definitions. I attached the questions we use in Maltese/English.

“Minimum European Health Module” – Malta questions

1. Kif inhi s-sahha tieghek b’mod generali? / How is your health in general?
   Tajba hafna / Very good
   Tajba / Good
   Mhux hazing / Fair
   Hazina / Bad
   Hazina hafna / Very bad

2. Tbati minn xi marda jew kundizzjoni kronika? / Do you suffer from any chronic (long-standing) illness or condition?
   Nota: Kundizzjoni “kronika” hija permanenti u jkun mistenni li tirrikjedi perjodu twil (ta’ l’inqas 6 xhur) ta’ supervizjoni, osservazzjoni jew kura. Ezempi ta’ din it-tip ta’ kundizzjoni jinkludu artrite, allergiji, pressjoni gholja, migrane rikorrenti, ansjeta kronika jew djebrut, diabete u/jew azma. Mark kroniku ma jinkludix dizabilta’ jew l-uzu ta’ nuccali. Inkludi mard jek kundizjonijiet kronici li gew/ma gewx iccertifikati minn tabib./ Note: A “chronic” condition is permanent and may be expected t require a long period (of at least 6 months) of supervision, observation or care. Examples of chronic conditions include arthritis, allergies, high blood pressure, recurring migraine, chronic anxiety or depression, diabetes and asthma. Note that having a disability or wearing glasses are not considered as chronic conditions. Include chronic illnesses or conditions that have/have not been diagnosed by a doctor.
   Iva / Yes
   Le / No

3. Minn ta’ l-inqas dawn l-ahhar 6 xhur, kont qed tkun limitat/a minhabba problem ta’ sahha f’attivitajiet li n-nies is-soltu jaghmlu? / During at least the last 6 months, have you been limited because of health problem in activities people usually do?
   Iva, limitat/a hafna / Yes, very limited
   Iva, limitat/a / Yes, limited
   Le, mhux limitat/a / No, not limited

2014
The attached MT SILC questions and their back translation are correct. With regards to question C3, there has been some slight rewording in 2012 regarding the timeframe of this question. This was changed because we feared that this question was being interpreted differently than that requested. However, from SILC 2012 onwards, the wording of these three questions remained the same.

Netherlands
Wilma Nusselder / Coen van Gool

1 - Health in general:
2006:
How is your health in general? Is this
1. very good
2. good
3. fair (OK, not too good not too bad)
4. bad
5. very bad?

2007: identical

2008: virtually identical only last category has changed into: 5. or very bad?

2 - Longstanding Illness:
2006:
Do you suffer from one or more longlasting diseases, conditions or handicaps?
1. yes
2. no
2007: identical

2008:
Do you have one or more longstanding diseases or conditions?
1. yes
2. no

2009: identical

3 - GALI:

2006:
Are you hampered in carrying out your daily activities because of health problems
1. yes, strongly hampered
2. yes, slightly hampered
3. no, not hampered

2007: identical

2008:
To what extend are you hampered because of health problems in activities persons usually do. Is this:
1. severely hampered
2. hampered, but not severely
3. not at all hampered?

2009: identical to 2008

Conclusion: important changes between 2007 and 2008:

1. Longstanding Illness:
- since 2008: no longer suffer from
- since 2008: handicaps is deleted.

2. GALI:
- since 2008: "are you hampered" is replaced by "to what extend are you hampered"
- since 2008: "daily activities" is replaced by "activities people usually do"
- since 2008: wording answer categories has changed
  yes, yes, no is deleted
  strongly is replaced by severely
  slightly is replaced by hampered but not severely
  not hampered is replaced by not at all hampered

Comment from Coen van Gool:
➢ Perhaps an alternative for the 2008 back translation is: To what extent does your health limit you in usual activities. In Dutch it stated: 'health' instead of 'health problems'.

2010-2011
Back translation: 2011 seems identical to 2010, assuming that the pfd is incomplete. Could you please send a new pfd with full the complete 2011 questions. Now question on duration seems to be missing, though it looks that this is because of the pfd. I would like to check this.
OK 2011 is similar to 2010

2012

No change in 2012

POLAND Bogdan Wojtyniak

2005 - 2008
The question about activity limitation in 2005 was quite different than next years. In 2005 it went:
Because of health problems (disability or chronic disease) have you had a limited ability to perform everyday activities adequate to your age (studying at school, occupational activities, housekeeping, self-care) for six months or longer? Yes, totally limited; Yes, seriously limited; No.

In 2006, 2007 and 2008 the question goes as follows:
Because of health problems (disability or chronic disease) have you had a limited ability to perform usual activities (studying at school, occupational activities, housekeeping, self-care) for six months or longer? Yes, strongly limited; Yes, limited not too seriously; No, I have no limitations.

So direct comparison of the results is not very useful.

There are less problems with the other two questions regarding consistency over time.

1. (2005) How is your health status in general? You should not consider temporary health problems for instance cold or flu
(2006-2008) How is your health in general? You should not consider temporary health problems for instance cold or flu
Answers consistent: Very good, Good, Fair—neither good nor bad, Bad, Very bad.

2. Are you chronically ill or do you have any long-standing health problems lasting 6 months or longer? (2005) Do you have any long standing health problems or chronic diseases lasting 6 months or longer? (2006-2008) Answers consistent: Yes, No.

2009
Activity limitation (Gali) (modified when comparing to 2006-2008)

Because of health problems had you a limited ability to perform activities that people usually do, lasting for six months or longer?

Answers modified: Yes, seriously limited; Yes, limited but not too seriously; No, I had no limitations

Comment: Actually the question is in the “past tense” – “had you”, while in 2005-2008 it was rather in “present perfect”— has limitations at present but lasting for six months “have you had a limited ability” (but, maybe it should be translated as present tense “have you a limited ability”?). Anyway, different “tense” is used in 2009.

Health status (consistent with 2006-2008)

How is your health status in general? You should not consider temporary health problems for instance cold or flu

Answers: Very good, Good, Fair—neither good nor bad, Bad, Very bad

Long standing health problems (modified)

Do you have any long standing health problems or chronic diseases lasting (or anticipated that will last) 6 months or longer

Comment: So, “anticipation” has been directly included in the question in 2009.
Answers unchanged: Yes, No.

2010-2012

All three “Health” questions and answers are exactly the same as in 2009.
I am not sure if I had stressed enough one more difference between Gali question in 2006-2008 and 2009-2012. In the former period the question asked about “usual activities (studying at school, occupational activities, housekeeping, self-care)” while in the latter the question asked about “activities that people usually do”.

2012-2013

I have checked the 2012 and 2013 three questions in the SILC and they are the same as in 2011.

2014

There is no change in wording of the SILC questions in 2012 it is exactly the same as it was in 2011.

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PORTUGAL

Carlos Dias

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PORTUGAL</th>
<th>Back translation of the SILC questions (Portuguese -&gt; English) and comment on possible changes between years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2004</strong></td>
<td>We will now ask you some questions about your health. Overall how do you consider your state of health?</td>
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<td>idem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2009</strong></td>
<td>idem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2012</strong></td>
<td>From 2004 to 2005 the question has changed. In 2004 the question on health was translated to “Saúde” which in Portuguese is feminine (a Saúde, similar to la santé in French). From 2005 onwards the concept of health and the question changed to “state of health” which in Portuguese is masculine (similar, in think, to “état de santé” in French). Between these 2 years the answer categories remained unchanged and are feminine (muito bom, the first, is similar to “très bonne” in French). It was only in 2007 and beyond that the answer categories changed to masculine “Muito Bom”, (très bon” in French).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2013</strong></td>
<td>Question changed in 2008. The time frame changed from “prolonged” to “chronic”, together with change on the nouns “chronic disease or prolonged health problem” to “disease or chronic health problem”.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2014</strong></td>
<td>idem</td>
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<td>Do you suffer from any chronic disease or prolonged health problem, even if occurring seasonally or intermittently?</td>
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<td>idem</td>
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<td><strong>2009</strong></td>
<td>idem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2012</strong></td>
<td>From 2004 to 2005 the tense used changed from past (did you feel) to present (do you feel). Also from 2004 to 2005 the motive of the limitation changed from “health problem” to “disease or disability”. Since 2008 the question changed significantly:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2013</strong></td>
<td>- In the type of opinion: from “do you feel” to “do you have”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2014</strong></td>
<td>- In the reference situation: from “the general persons” to “daily activities”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2004</strong></td>
<td>- In the type of situation: from “to health problem, disease or disability” to “health problem”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2005</strong></td>
<td>- From 2008 onwards the 4 answer categories also changed: before 2008: Yes very much limited, yes, somewhat limited, no, don’t know. In 2008 and 2009: yes very limited, yes, somewhat limited, no, don’t know.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2006</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
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</table>
| **2004** | No question
| **2005** | No question |
| **2006** | idem |
| **2007** | idem |
| **2008** | No question |
| **2009** | No question |
| **2012** | This question was added in 2005, 2006, 2007 to accommodate the beginning of the limitation of activity (answer categories) |
| **2013** | |
| **2014** | |
### 2010
No comments

### 2012
Not available on Eurostat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IS</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IS1. De uma maneira geral, como considera o seu estado de saúde?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IS1000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Muito bom</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Bom</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Regular</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Ruim</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Muito ruim</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Reserva</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Não sabe</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| IS2. Tem algum problema de saúde prolongado ou doença crónica? |
| NOTA: Que dura há mais de seis meses ou que prevê que dure mais de seis meses |
| IS1010 |
| 1 Sim | 1 |
| 2 Não | 2 |
| 8 Reserva | 8 |
| 9 Não sabe | 9 |

| IS3. Agora peço-lhe que pense nas atividades que as pessoas fazem habitualmente. Tem algum problema de saúde que o tenha limitado, durante pelo menos os últimos 6 meses, na realização dessas atividades? |
| IS1020 |
| 1 Sim | 1 |
| 2 Não | 2 |
| 8 Reserva | 8 |
| 9 Não sabe | 9 |

| IS4. Nesse caso, o(a) Sr.(a) diria que tem estado severamente limitado(à) ou limitado(à) mas não severamente? |
| IS1030 |
| 1 Severamente limitado | 1 |
| 2 Limitado mas não severamente | 2 |
| 8 Reserva | 8 |
| 9 Não sabe | 9 |
Health questions from the Minimum European Health Module used in EU-SILC (2007 and 2008)

### 2007

**HEALTH STATUS AND CHRONIC ILLNESS OR CONDITION**

5. How would you describe your general health?
   - Very good…………………………..… 1
   - Good……………………………………. 2
   - Fair………………………………………. 3
   - Bad…………………………………………. 4
   - Very bad……………………………………… 5

6. Do you suffer from one or more chronic illness or disability?
   - YES…………………………………… 1
   - NO……………………………………… 2

### 2008

**HEALTH STATUS AND CHRONIC ILLNESS OR CONDITION**

6. How would you describe your general health?
   - Very good…………………………..… 1
   - Good……………………………………. 2
   - Fair………………………………………. 3
   - Bad…………………………………………. 4
   - Very bad……………………………………… 5

7. Do you suffer from one or more chronic illness or disability?
   - YES…………………………………… 1
   - NO……………………………………… 2

8. In the last six months, did you have health problems, other than chronic illness?
   - You will consider both severe health problems (e.g. pneumonia, appendicitis, etc) and less severe (e.g. cold, cough etc).
   - YES…………………………………… 1
   - NO……………………………………… 2

9. Lately, did you have limitations in your capacity to work or daily activity due to a health problem for at least six months (full period)?
   - Yes (How?)
     - Strongly limited………………………… 1
     - Somewhat limited………………………. 2
   - No………………………………………… 3
HEALTH STATUS AND CHRONIC ILLNESS OR CONDITION

6. How would you describe your general health?

Very good ...........................................1 □
Good ...................................................2 □
Fair.....................................................3 □
Bad ....................................................4 □
Very bad .............................................5 □

7. Do you suffer from any chronic illness or health problems that have lasted at least six months?

Yes....................................................1 □
No......................................................2 □

8. Did you have in the last six months health problems, other than chronic illness?
You will consider both severe health problems and less severe (e.g. cold, cough etc).

Yes ....................................................1 □
No......................................................2 □

9. Lately, did you have limitations in your capacity to work or daily activity due to a health problem for at least six months (full period)?

Yes (How?)
Strongly limited.......................1 □
Somewhat limited.....................2 □
No.....................................................3 □

10. How many times have you visited a general practitioner or a specialist physician (exclusive ophthalmologist) during the last 12 months?

never.................................1 □
1 – 2 times..........................2 □
3 – 5 times............................3 □
6 – 9 times............................4 □
10 or more times....................5 □

11. In the last 12 months, did you face unmet need for medical examination or treatment (exclusive dentist)?

Yes ...............................................1 □
No....................................................2 □

12. Which was the main reason for unmet need for medical examination or treatment (exclusive dentist)?

Could not afford to (it is too expensive or not covered by health insurance)......................1 □
Waiting list ...........................................2 □
Lack of time........................................3 □
Too far to travel / no means of transportation..............................4 □
Fear of doctor/hospital/examination/treatment...............................5 □
Wanted to wait and see if problem got better on its own.............6 □
Didn’t know any good doctor or specialist.................................7 □
Other reasons......................................8 □

13. Did you face unmet need for dentist examination or treatment during the last 12 months?

Yes ...............................................1 □
No....................................................2 □

14. Which was the main reason for unmet need for dentist examination or treatment?

Could not afford to (it is too expensive or not covered by health insurance)........................1 □
Waiting list ..........................................2 □
Lack of time........................................3 □
Too far to travel / no means of transportation..............................4 □
Fear of doctor/hospital/examination/treatment...............................5 □
Wanted to wait and see if problem got better on its own.............6 □
 Didn’t know any good dentist ...............................................7 □
Other reasons......................................8 □

15. Do you smoke?

YES (How many cigarettes?)

Less than 5 cigarettes/day .............1 □
5 - 10 cigarettes/day .....................2 □
11 - 20 cigarettes/day .....................3 □
Over 20 cigarettes per day .............4 □

NO .................................................5 □
HEALTH STATUS AND CHRONIC ILLNESS OR CONDITION

7. In general, how would you describe your health status?
   Very good…………………………..… 1
   Good………………………………….. 2
   Fair……………………………………… 3
   Bad………………………………………. 4
   Very bad………………………………….. 5

8. Do you suffer from a chronic illness or health problem that lasts and will last a long time?
The "long" means diseases or health problems that have lasted or can take six months or more.
   YES…………………………………… 1
   NO……………………………………… 2

9. Did you have in the last six months health problems, other than chronic illness?
   You will consider both severe health problems and less severe (e.g cold, cough etc).
   YES…………………………………… 1
   NO……………………………………… 2

10. At least in the last 6 months, how much you have been or are still limited due to a health problem in daily activities that you normally perform?
    Strongly limited………………………… 1
    Somewhat limited…………………….. 2
    Never……………………………………. 3

11. Was ever in the last 12 months, when you really needed to be seen by a specialist (excluding dentist), but you couldn't do this?
    YES…………………………………… 1
    NO……………………………………… 2

12. Which was the main reason for unmet need for medical examination or treatment?
    Could not afford to (it is too expensive or not covered by health insurance)…………………………… 1
    Waiting list……………………………………… 2
    Could not take time because of work, care of children or for others……………………………………… 3
    Too far to travel / no means of transportation…………………………… 4
    Fear of doctor/hospital/examination/treatment……………………… 5
    Wanted to wait and see if problem got better on its own………… 6
    Didn't know any good doctor or specialist…………………………… 7
    Other reasons……………………………………… 8

13. Was ever in the last 12 months when you really needed to be seen by a dentist, but you couldn't do this?
    YES…………………………………… 1
    NO……………………………………… 2

14. Which was the main reason for unmet need for dentist examination or treatment?
    Could not afford to (it is too expensive or not covered by health insurance)…………………………… 1
    Waiting list……………………………………… 2
    Could not take time because of work, care of children or for others……………………………………… 3
    Too far to travel / no means of transportation…………………………… 4
    Fear of doctor/hospital/examination/treatment……………………… 5
    Wanted to wait and see if problem got better on its own………… 6
    Didn't know any good dentist…………………………… 7
    Other reasons……………………………………… 8

15. Do you smoke?
    YES (How many cigarettes?)
    Less than 5 cigarettes/day……………… 1
    5 - 10 cigarettes/day……………………… 2
    11 - 20 cigarettes/day…………………… 3
    Over 20 cigarettes per day……………… 4
    NO……………………………………… 5
HEALTH STATUS AND CHRONIC ILLNESS OR CONDITION

7. How would you describe your general health?
   - Very good: 1
   - Good: 2
   - Fair: 3
   - Bad: 4
   - Very bad: 5

8. Suffer from a chronic disease or health problem that lasts and will last a long time? The "long" means diseases or health problems that have lasted or can take six months or more.
   - YES: 1
   - NO: 2

9. Did you have in the last six months health problems, other than chronic diseases? You will consider both severe health problems (e.g. pneumonia, appendicitis, etc) and less severe (e.g. cold, cough etc).
   - YES: 1
   - NO: 2

10. At least in the last 6 months, how much you have been or are still limited (a) daily activities they normally perform a health problem?
    - Strongly limited: 1
    - Somewhat limited: 2
    - Never: 3

11. Was ever in the last 12 months when you really needed to be seen by a specialist (excluding dental), but you could do this?
    - YES: 1
    - NO: 2

12. Which was the main reason for unmet need for medical examination or treatment?
    - Could not afford to (it is too expensive or not covered by health insurance): 1
    - Waiting list: 2
    - Could not take time because of work, care of children or for others: 3
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    - Fear of doctor/hospital/examination/treatment: 5
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    - Didn’t know any doctor or specialist: 7
    - Other reasons: 8

13. Was ever in the last 12 months when you really needed to be seen by a dentist, but you could do this?
    - YES: 1
    - NO: 2

14. Which was the main reason for unmet need for dentist examination or treatment?
    - Could not afford to (it is too expensive or not covered by health insurance): 1
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    - Wanted to wait and see if problem got better on its own: 6
    - Didn’t know any good dentist: 7
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15. Do you smoke?
    - YES (How many cigarettes?):
      - Less than 5 cigarettes/day: 1
      - 5 - 10 cigarettes/day: 2
      - 11 - 20 cigarettes/day: 3
      - Over 20 cigarettes per day: 4
    - NO: 5
HEALTH STATUS AND CHRONIC ILLNESS OR CONDITION

7. **How would you describe your general health?**
   - Very good ………………………………1
   - Good ………………………………………2
   - Fair …………………………………………3
   - Bad ……………………………………………4
   - Very bad ……………………………………5

8. **Suffer from a chronic disease or health problem that lasts and will last a long time?**
   - The "long" means diseases or health problems that have lasted or can take six months or more.
   - YES ………………………………………1
   - NO …………………………………………..2

9. **Did you have in the last six months health problems, other than chronic diseases?**
   - You will consider both severe health problems (e.g. pneumonia, appendicitis, etc) and less severe (e.g. cold, cough etc).
   - YES ………………………………………1
   - NO …………………………………………..2

10. **At least in the last 6 months, how much you have been or are still limited (a) daily activities they normally perform a health problem?**
    - Strongly limited ………………………1
    - Somewhat limited ……………………2
    - Never ………………………………………3

11. **Was ever in the last 12 months when you really needed to be seen by a specialist (excluding dental), but you could do this?**
    - YES ………………………………………1
    - NO …………………………………………..2

12. **Which was the main reason for unmet need for medical examination or treatment?**
    - Could not afford to (it is too expensive or not covered by health insurance) ……………………………1
    - Waiting list ………………………………2
    - Could not take time because of work, care of children or for others …………………………………………3
    - Too far to travel / no means of transportation ………………………………4
    - Fear of doctor/hospital/examination/treatment ………………………………5
    - Wanted to wait and see if problem got better on its own ………………………………6
    - Didn’t know any doctor or specialist ………………………………7
    - Other reasons ………………………………..8

13. **Was ever in the last 12 months when you really needed to be seen by a dentist, but you could do this?**
    - YES ………………………………………1
    - NO …………………………………………..2

14. **Which was the main reason for unmet need for dentist examination or treatment?**
    - Could not afford to (it is too expensive or not covered by health insurance) ………………………………1
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15. **Do you smoke?**
    - YES (How many cigarettes?)
      - Less than 5 cigarettes/day …………1
      - 5 - 10 cigarettes/day ………………..2
      - 11 - 20 cigarettes/day ………………3
      - Over 20 cigarettes per day ………..4
    - NO …………………………………………..5

### 2005

**C45:** In general you could say that your health is: very good, rather good, average, rather bad, very bad

**C45:** Do you have any chronic disease? Yes, no

**C47:** Did you must within the last 6 months to limit your activities because of a health reason? Markedly must limited, partly must limited, did not have to limit

You must have within the last 6 months to limit their activity for medical reasons

### 2006

**C16:** In general you could say that your health is: very good, rather good, average, rather bad, very bad

**C17:** Do you have any chronic disease? Yes, no

**C18:** Did you must to limit your activities for medical reasons at least the last six months? Markedly must limited, partly must limited, did not have to limit

### 2007
C16: In general you could say that your health (including health state and chronic disease) is: very good, rather good, average, rather bad, very bad
C17: Do you have any chronic (permanent) disease? Yes, no
C18: Did you must to limit your activities for medical reasons at least the last six months? Markedly must limited, partly must limited, did not have to limit

2008

C16: How would you overall (generally) evaluate your health? It is: very good, good, neither good nor bad, bad, very bad, I don’t know, didn’t answer
C17: Do you have any long-term (chronic) illness or long-term health problem? (The term "long-term" means an illness or health problem that persists or is expected to persist for 6 months or longer) Yes, no, I don’t know, didn’t answer.
C18: To what extent were you in your normal activities restricted due to health problem in at least the last 6 months? Very restricted, restricted, but not very much, not restricted, I don’t know, didn’t answer

2009

C16: How would you overall (generally) evaluate your health? It is: very good, good, neither good nor bad, bad, very bad, I don’t know, didn’t answer
C17: Do you have any long-term (chronic) illness or long-term health problem? (The term "long-term" means an illness or health problem that persists or is expected to persist for 6 months or longer) Yes, no, I don’t know, didn’t answer.
C18: To what extent were you in your normal activities restricted due to health problem in at least the last 6 months? Very restricted, restricted, but not very much, not restricted, I don’t know, didn’t answer

2010

C16: How would you overall (generally) evaluate your health? It is: very good, good, neither good nor bad, bad, very bad, I don’t know, didn’t answer
C17: Do you have any long-term illness or long-term health problem? (The term "long-term" means an illness or health problem that persists or is expected to persist for 6 months or longer) Yes, no, I don’t know, didn’t answer.
C18: To what extent (in at least the last 6 months) were you in your normal activities restricted due to health problem? Very restricted, restricted, but not very much, not restricted, I don’t know, didn’t answer

2011

No, the questions were not changed.

2012

Please find attached the document with the SILC questions supplemented with the translations of questions for years 2012-2014. There have not been any differences between the years 2011 and 2012.
### 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>4. ZDRAVIE</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>C16.</strong> Ako by ste celkovo (vo všeobecnosti) zhodnotili Vaše zdravie? Je:</td>
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<td><strong>Zlé</strong></td>
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| **C17.** Máte nejaké dlhotrvajúce ochorenie alebo dlhotrvajúci zdravotný problém? |
| **(Pod pojmom „dlhotrvajúci“ sa rozumie ochorenie alebo zdravotný problém, ktorý pretrváva, alebo sa očakáva, že bude pretrvávať 6 mesiacov a dlhšie).** |
| **Ano** | 1 | Neviem | 8 |
| **Nie** | 2 | Odmietol odpovedať | 9 |

| **C18.** Do akého miery ste boli v priebehu minimálne posledných 6 mesiacov obmedzený vo Vašich bežných činnostiach kvôli zdravotnému problému? |
| **Povedali by ste, že ste boli:** |
| **Veľmi obmedzený** | 1 | Neviem | 8 |
| **Obmedzený, ale nie veľmi** | 2 | Odmietol odpovedať | 9 |
| **Vôbec neobmedzený** | 3 |

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### 2012

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| **Povedali by ste, že ste boli:** |
| **Veľmi obmedzený** | 1 | Neviem | 8 |
| **Obmedzený, ale nie veľmi** | 2 | Odmietol odpovedať | 9 |
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### 2014

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**2006 - 2008**
The questions of MEHM in SILC in the Slovenian translation have not been changed in the last period. But we plan to change the wording for use in 2010 because now the translations in SILC and in EHIS are not identical. Therefore we will back translate the questions for 2010.

My understanding and my explanation of the third MEHM question (made by my own back translation):
"Was "Name and surname" in the past 6 months limited for a longer time in activities people usually do because of a health problem?"

So you can see there are some linguistic differences and there is a grammatical difference in tenses. It could have influence on defining and understanding the period observed. Therefore theoretically Slovenian translation could cause bias in the direction of underestimating the problem because the time period in Slovenian translation could be understood as shorter than in the original concept with definition. But we believe that in practice the influence of this difference on understanding the question was not important.

The second additional reply:
In the instructions for SILC interviewers the formulation of the third MEHM SILC question is more appropriate. It means: "For the past six months or more time ...". So we believe our SILC data correspond to the underlying concept.

**Questions for 2006:**

**PC1** How is 'Name and surname (year of birth)' health in general?
Enter the opinion of the selected person about his/her general health condition.
1. Very good.
2. Good.
3. Fair.
4. Bad.
5. Very bad.

**PC2** Does 'Name and surname (year of birth)' have any chronic or long standing illness?
1. Yes.
2. No.

**PC3** For the past 6 months, has 'Name and surname (year of birth)' been limited in activities people usually do because of a health problem?
1. Yes, strongly limited.
2. Yes, limited.
3. Not limited.

**2009**
About back translation: we did not change the question from 2006 to 2008. The existing back translation has been estimated as a sufficiently fair translation

**2010**

**Questions for 2009:**

**PC1** How is 'Name and surname (year of birth)' health in general?
Enter the opinion of the selected person about his/her general health condition.
1. Very good.
2. Good.
3. Fair.
4. Bad.
5. Very bad.
PC2 Does 'Name and surname (year of birth)' have any chronic or long standingillness?
1. Yes.
2. No.

PC3 To what extent has been 'selected person’ limited for at least the past 6 months because of health problems in usually activities?
1. Yes, strongly limited.
2. Yes, limited.
3. Not limited.

In 2010, the wording of question PC3 was revised as explained above (2006-2008). The rewording resulted in quite different results for the final indicator HLY what has been later on discussed also with Eurostat. In fact, the difference of final estimations was clearly underestimated and we believed it would have increased the final value of HLY (instead of decrease what has really happened at the end).

2009-2010 Comment from Jakub Hrkal (Eurostat)
We have already discussed the issue with the Slovenian colleagues. They changed the PH030 question as follows: The question in 2009: Has 'selected person’ been in the last 6 months limited for longer period of time in usually activities because of health problems?
The question in 2010: To what extent has been 'selected person’ limited for at least the past 6 months because of health problems in usually activities?
As you can see the problem is mainly due to the reference period. The impact of the change seems to be difficult to estimate in advance. I would personally say that the HLY should be higher because of having at least 6 months in 2010. Another explanation (I think I heard it in some of EHEMU/EHLEIS meetings) may be the wording. If you put the extent/severity at the beginning of the question you can expect higher prevalence of activity limitations.

2011-2014 Regarding the question PH030:
- There has been no changes in the wording of the question since 2010.
- The question has not been back-translated since 2006.
- In 2013 and 2014, there were some additional efforts put in the interviewers' training and de-briefing with the emphasis on use of proxy respondents; the final data on HLY were also presented to the interviewers with the aim to understand their possible influence to the respondents and the final results. Interviewers also exposed that the term "usual activity" is difficult to understand and explain (respondents understand "usual activity" in many different - non-comparable ways).

2014 At the same time, we supplemented the "SI_SILC_2005 to 2104 "document (see attachment); the document "SILC questions Backtranslation" stays the same since 2013 and 2014 have already been covered within the document.
**Question 1**
No problem with the first of the three questions, although there are a little difference in the Spanish word used to indicate the “fair” category.

**2004-2007**
What is, in general, your health?
   - Very good; good; acceptable; bad; very bad.

**2008-2010**
How is your health in general?
   - Very good; good; fair; bad; very bad

**Question 2**
**2004-2007:**
Do you have any chronic disease or any chronic disability or impairment?
   - Yes
   - No

**2008 - 2010**
Do you have any chronic disease or health problem? By chronic I refer to diseases or health problems that have lasted or is expected to last at least 6 months.
   - Yes
   - No

I think the questions are slightly different. The 2008 question (and not the other) emphasizes the length of the problem by pointing out that it should have lasted or it is expected to last at least 6 months. There are also differences in the words used to define the problems we are asking for: from 2004 to 2007, the Spanish question asks for any chronic disease or any chronic impairment or disability while in 2008 the question asks for chronic disease or health problem. I am not sure about the effect on the trends, but the 2008 question may be on the one hand more restrictive because it emphasizes in the length of the disease, but on the other hand health problem might be understood in a different (widen?) way than it is impairment or disability.

**Question 3**
**2004-2007**
Have you been limited in daily activities during the last 6 months (or do you think you will be for at last 6 months) because of a health problem. The possible answers are:
   - Yes, intensely; Yes, to some extent; No

**2008-2010**
For at least the last 6 months, to what extent have you been limited because a health problem in activities people usually do? Would you say that you have been… (read the options)
   - Strongly limited; limited but not strongly; not limited.

It seems that the 2008 question demands for a minimum length of the disease or health problem (6 months), similarly to the standard question, and the other seems to ask for any health problem during the last 6 months.

**In summary.** No problems in studying trends in question 1. For questions 2 and 3, wording in 2008 is really different from previous years, so comparability is not strictly possible. Wording in 2009 is similar to 2008 and we should not have any comparability problems.

I think that the current question used in SILC (years 2008 to 2010) are very similar to the European English reference standard (such as the Minimum European Health Module used in EHIS)
2011-2012
I have check (from the National Institute of Statistics web page) SILC questions for 2010, 2011 and 2012 and there was no changes comparing to 2009.

SWEDEN
Marten Lagergren

2004 - 2007
As you can see the questions 1 and 2 were unaltered in the period 2004 -2007 except for the addition to the alternatives “Do not know” and “Do not want to answer” in 2007. Question 3 was changed substantially in 2007 – I guess in order to make it conform better with the SILC-question. The wordings, however, are still somewhat different as you can see. It is difficult to judge whether this has any importance.

Translation of Swedish wording to English

Question 1 (Same wording 2004 - 2007) :
How do you judge you general state of health? Is it:
• Very good
• Good
• Fair
• Bad
• Very bad

In 2007 the alternatives: “Do not know” and “Do not want to answer” have been added.

Question 2 (Same wording 2004 -2007) :
Do you have any chronic or long-standing illnesses or troubles (inconveniences, bothers, pains)?
• Yes
• No

In 2007 the alternatives: “Do not know” and “Do not want to answer” have been added.

Question 3 (Same wording 2004 -2006; New wording 2007) :
2004 -2006:
(Question asked only to those persons who answered “yes” on question 2)
Does the illness(es) you have cause your capacity to work to being reduced?
(For old-age pensioners : Does the illness(es) you have prevent you from doing any activities?)
• To a high degree
• To some degree
• Not at all

2007:
Has in any way your health caused you to be limited in our daily activities during the last six months. If so, to some degree or to a high degree?
• To a high degree
• To some degree
• Not at all

• Do not know
• Do not want to answer

2008 - 2009
The English translation of the Swedish 2007 SILC-question seems to be all-right. However, as you can see, there is some difference in the wording compared to the European English reference. In the Swedish version limitations are
referring to “your daily activities”, whereas in the European English reference it is phrased” “in activities people usually do”. It is difficult to say whether this has any importance. If you are a mountain-climber and climbing is your daily activity of course it makes a difference, but this example is rather extreme (to say the least). My guess is that it does not matter. In the 2008 Swedish ULF/SILC this is changed to be more in accordance with the European English reference using the phrase “..activities people usually do”.

I can also report that we have found out what happened to the apparent shift of trend in ADL-prevalence in Sweden in the 1990-ies. It turns out that Statistics Sweden had changed the “filter”, i.e. the conditions for asking the GALI-question in the 1990-ies and then changed it back again later. This must have resulted in some ADL-dependent persons never been asked the dependency questions resulting in lower recorded prevalence. I did not know about that change previously. Now I will try to recalculate the prevalence for those years using SNAC-data to estimate the ADL-prevalence among those who never were asked the dependency questions. I will report the result later. I suspect this will show that there was no real broken trend – at least not as abrupt.

2010
According to new information from Statistics Sweden I got in July this year the wording of the SILC question was changed in 2006. This also explains the big jump that year compared to 2005.

Swedish wording:
2004, 2005 : Hindrar den eller de sjukdomar eller besvär som du har dig i dina dagliga sysselsättningar - i hög grad, i någon grad eller inte alls?
2006, 2007: Har din hälsa på något sätt medfört att du under de senaste 6 månaderna varit begränsad i dina dagliga aktiviteter? Om så är fallet har det varit i någon grad eller i hög grad?
2008 - : Har du nu något hälsovårdavården som varit i minst 6 månader och som medför att du har svårt att delta i aktiviteter eller klara av sysslor som folk i allmänhet gör? Ja, i hög grad; ja, i någon grad; Nej, inte alls.

Translation of Swedish wording:
2004, 2005: Does the sickness(es) you have limit you in your daily activities - to a high degree, to some degree, not at all
2006, 2007: Has your health in any way caused you during the last six months to be limited your daily activities. If that is the case has it been to some degree or to a high degree?
2008 - : Do you, at present and for at least six months, have any health problem that causes you to have difficulty in taking part in activities or do things that people in general do - to a high degree, to some degree, not at all.

Earlier I was given the impression by Statistic Sweden that the SILC wording was changed in 2007 and reported this to JA EHLEIS. This means you have got the wrong version 2006. It may also be important to note that in 2004 -2005 the GALI question was only given to those persons that had reported chronic disease. I 2006 and onwards the question was given to everybody.

As you see the SILC wording has been changed twice - the first time with big effect, the second with, as it seems, negligible effect. I have been able to compare the results of the Swedish ULF-study, which retained the old wording 2006 and 2007, with the SILC outcome the same years and this confirms the jump in prevalence observed for SILC between 2005 and 2006. It is questionable whether we should retain the 2004 and 2005 HLY figures for Sweden since they are obviously not comparable with 2006 and onwards. I will have to consult with the National Board on Health and Welfare before I give an answer to this – coming back soon!

I am sorry for this confusion and I hope to have straightened it out now. The root cause, as I see it, is lack of interest from Statistics Sweden to provide relevant and correct meta-information. Also it seems that EUROSTAT has not been informed well enough. The EHLEIS project is well equipped to achieve some better order and I will be glad to contribute by keeping an eye on the development in the future!

There has been no changes in the GALI-question between 2009 and 2010.
2011-2013
There were no changes in the health questions 2011 -2013.

2014
In 2014 there has been a major change. The GALI-question has been divided into four different questions (same line of reasoning as in Germany). I had no idea of this change beforehand. It has been done by Statistics Sweden without any consultations with the National Board on Health and Welfare!

Nya formuleringar I svenska ULF/SILC
Självskattad hälsa
Hur tycker du din hälsa är i allmänhet?
Kronisk sjukdom
Har du någon långvarig sjukdom eller hälsoproblem (Räkna även med funktionsnedsättning /handikapp som varat eller beräknas vara minst sex månader)
Aktivitetsnedsättning
  1. Har du svårt att delta i aktiviteter eller klara av sysslor som de flesta andra klarar av? (Avser både arbete och fritid)
  3. Skulle du säga att du har mycket svårt eller ganska svårt att delta i den/de aktiviteter som du har svårt att klara av?
  4. Har dessa svårigheter pågått under minst sex månader.

New formulations in Swedish ULF/SILC 2014
Self-rated health:
How do you rate your health in general? Very good, good, fair, poor, very poor
Chronic disease
Do you have any long-standing disease or health problem? (Including functional limitation, disability, troubles which have remained or are judged to remain at least 6 months)

General activity limitations
  1. Do you have difficulty to participate in or manage activities that most other people manage (both at work and leisure).
  2. Does this depend on your health or something else?(Health/disease, old age, functional limitation, disability, else).
  3. Would you say that you have great difficulty or some difficulty to participate in the activities that you find difficult to manage? (If varying try to tell how frequent it is).
  4. Have these difficulties been going on for at least six months? (Include also seasonal or reoccurring problems)

UNITED KINGDOM  

2005 - 2008
Regarding the wording of the health questions, I’m not entirely clear what you are asking me to do, but hopefully the following comments should cover it.

General Health: Other than the prompt 'Would you say it is....'
in the UK general health question (Genhlth2), there are no differences between the UK and SILC gen health question. There has been no change over time, although the presence of the original general health question (genhlth) alongside the SILC question, between 2005 and 2007, MAY have had some effect on response. Our analysis does not
discount this possibility, but if there is an effect it is likely to be small. Comparison of data from this period with 2008, where the original genhlth question does not appear may shed some light on this issue.

**Limiting illness: There are substantial differences between the SILC**

and UK questions designed to capture the prevalence and strength of activity limitation. Firstly, the words 'Suffer' and 'Chronic' do not appear in the UK question, secondly, in the UK, questions regarding the extent of limitation are asked only of those who respond 'yes' to the illness question and these take the form of two questions asking if activities are limited and then probing the extent of that limitation.

Finally, these filtered limitation questions do not refer to a specific time period as does the SILC question.

Preliminary analyses looking at the difference in responses to the UK and SILC limiting illness questions suggested that the SILC questions would record a higher prevalence and degree of activity limitation in the UK population.

The UK limiting illness question has not changed over the period 2005-2007.

A question suite designed to capture the prevalence and extent of limiting illness and that meets UK legislative requirements is in the final stage of testing. In short these questions will change in the near future and we will be able to comment further on the differences between UK and SILC limiting illness questions at that time.

**2009**

I am somewhat confused because I was under the impression that there was a move to harmonize with the European Health Interview Survey questions; but this doesn't seem to be the case on the basis of the Irish questions for 2008.

The Irish question on general health is fine.

The Irish question on long-lasting illness does not read well.

Do you suffer from long-standing (chronic) illness or condition (health problem)?

.. Problems that are seasonal or recurring should be included.

Do you have any long-standing illness of health condition lasting or expected to last 6 months or more? is probably better.

Suffer is somewhat contentious because Long-lasting conditions can be well controlled with treatment and if in remission the subject probably does not suffer as such. We don't like the term chronic as it risks stigmatizing the sufferer.

I think the Irish GALI question is an accurate portrayal of the question’s purpose in English.

**2008 – 2009**

Regarding the wording of the health questions, I'm not entirely clear what you are asking me to do, but hopefully the following comments should cover it.

**Primary target variable General Health:**

The European harmonized question has been collected on the General Lifestyle Survey for SILC exclusively since 2008. Therefore the possibility of exposure effects will not apply to 2008 and 2009 data. This is an obvious data collection quality improvement.

Compared with German translation 2004-07 where the wording for Austria was ‘general health condition’, our translation of this term would be a specific illness or disease. The change in Austria introduced for 2008-09 better represents the UK interpretation of the question.

UK sees no need to amend the question in any way.
**Primary target variable – Long-standing illness or health problem**

A question suite designed to capture the prevalence and extent of limiting illness and that meets UK legislative requirements is has now been approved and will form the UK SILC MEHM data collection. The details are provided below.

The question on long-standing illness currently feeding the SILC data collection is asked on the General Lifestyle survey and has the following terminology:

*Do you have any long-standing illness, disability or infirmity – by long-standing I mean anything that has troubled you over a period of time or is likely to affect you over a period of time?*

Yes
No

This question mixes the concepts of illness and disability and does not contain a definitive time frame required by the guidelines designed to harmonize the Minimum European Health Module in SILC and the European Health Interview Survey.

An alternative version of this question field tested and approved as a primary harmonized standard question for use in UK social surveys to meet national data requirements is reproduced below:

*Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?*

Yes
No

The question recommended by Eurostat for EU-SILC and EHIS data collection is:

*Do you have any long-standing illness or health problem? [By longstanding I mean illnesses or health problems which have lasted, or are expected to last, for 6 months or more]*

Yes
No

Each question excludes the terms disability or impairment so avoids mixing concepts and focuses measurement on health conditions or illnesses.

A number of explanatory guidelines for question wording options released by Eurostat in 2007 for data collections from 2008 onwards are commented on below.

- Firstly, the interpretation of long-standing should be chosen in accordance with national conventions. In the UK a period of 12 months or more is in use in alternative questions capturing long-standing illness, such as the Family Resources Survey (FRS), the Life Opportunities Survey and the question field tested above.
- Secondly, the use of the term health problem can be replaced with health condition or illness. The field test question used the term physical or mental health condition or illness, so meets this guidance.
- Thirdly, the main characteristics of chronic conditions are their permanence, requiring a long period of supervision and care. This question does not intend to capture temporary conditions or illnesses; however, our interviewer guidance advise the following are pertinent:
  
  a. illnesses that are seasonal or intermittent, even where they ‘flare up’ for less than a 12 months at a time, for example asthma and bowel disease;
b. illnesses that have not been diagnosed by a doctor (to exclude these would mean permitting those with better access to medical services to declare more problems);

c. illnesses that the respondent treats himself or herself (e.g. with over-the-counter drugs);

d. illnesses that have lasted (or recurred), or are expected to last (recur) over a six month period or longer;

e. consequences of injuries/accidents, consequences of congenital conditions, birth defects etc.;

- Fourthly, the words “disability, handicap, impairment” should not be included in the question capturing long-standing illness.

The UK harmonized question uses a different time frame of the past 12 months or likely to last for a further 12 months; however, this is unlikely to result in serious misclassification for SILC as these conditions are chronic and the individual understands that while the symptoms of the condition can be controlled with treatment, the condition cannot be cured and therefore the likelihood is that the condition will last for a period exceeding a year.

The harmonized question meets the guideline for separating out health conditions and illnesses from disability and impairment.

A risk of discontinuity of time series by introducing a new question exists; but a balance needs striking between better representation of variable standards and continuing to fall short of the standard for time series continuity.

**Primary target variable – Limitation in activities because of a health condition or illness**

The questions used to estimate limitation in activities because of a health condition or illness collected on the GLF for EU-SILC requirements are:

**IF HAS A LONG-STANDING ILLNESS OR DISABILITY**

*Does this illness or disability (do any of these illnesses or disabilities) limit your activities in any way?*

Yes

No

**AND IF YES**

*Would you say your activities are limited or strongly limited?*

Limited

Strongly limited

The harmonized questions recently field tested and designed to capture activity restriction are:

**ASK IF HAS A PHYSICAL OR MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION LASTING OR EXPECTED TO LAST 12 MONTHS OR MORE**

*Does your condition or illness\ do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry-out day-to-day activities?*

Yes, a lot

Yes, a little

No, not at all?

**AND IF ‘YES, A LOT’ OR ‘YES, A LITTLE’**

*For how long has your ability to carry-out day-to-day activities been reduced?*

Less than 6 months

Between 6 months and 12 months or

12 months or more?

The question recommended by Eurostat for harmonized EU-SILC and EHIS data collection is:
ASK ALL

For at least the past 6 months, to what extent have you been limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do?

Would you say you have been ...

RUNNING PROMPT

Severely limited
Limited but not severely OR
Not limited at all?

The SILC guidelines pertinent to this question use the terminology "activities people usually do". An activity is defined as performing a task or action; activity limitations are the difficulties an individual experiences in performing an activity relative to cultural and social expectations. Limitations should be related to a health-related cause and not limitations due to financial, cultural or other none health-related causes. Specification of health concepts (e.g. physical and mental health) should be avoided in this question as the purpose of the instrument is to measure the presence of long-standing limitations. The period of at least the last 6 months should relate to the duration of the activity limitation and not of the health problem. The answer to this question is yes (i.e. severely limited or limited, but not severely) if the person is currently limited and has been limited in activities for at least the last 6 months. New limitations not yet lasted for 6 months but are expected to continue for more than 6 months should not be selected. The question also contains extent categories in the same question using the terminology:

1. Severely limited
2. Limited, but not severely and
3. Not limited at all.

The guidelines above advise a time frame of the past six months for the duration of the activity restriction, and to exclude any future expectation. This conflicts with the Equality Act guidance which specifies either the previous 12 months or an expectation of being restricted in the future for 12 months or more. This distinction in definition supports the use of the harmonized duration filter question to select the intended SILC population. It is unlikely that capturing the time frame in a separate question will unduly influence response compared with identification in the body of the GALI question.

The EU recommended SILC question captures extent with three response categories to a single question without using a follow-up question, as occurs with the current GLF approach. The proposed harmonised question also captures extent with three categories in a single question but uses plain English terminology; a key component of field testing assessed the comparability in prevalence of each category using plain English terms, and whether overall prevalence of conflated categories concurs with current GLF disability estimates.

The field testing suggests the threshold for severe activity restriction using the term a lot is lower than the term strongly limited currently used; the field test question derives a 1.8 per cent higher prevalence, but these estimates exclude the duration filter.

The new harmonized question classifies activity restriction differently to the recommended SILC question in another important respect: the former applies only to those reporting a physical or mental health condition lasting or expected to last 12 months or more, whereas the recommended SILC question has total sample coverage. The field testing evidence suggested the need for total sample coverage is dubious, as no cases of activity restriction in the absence of a physical or mental health condition were found. Also the SILC guideline states the global activity limitation indicator question is capturing activity limitation linked to a health related cause; therefore, if a
respondent reports activity limitation for the past 6 months or more because of a health condition or illness, they must have had a health condition or illness for at least that period of time. Therefore the likelihood of false negatives arising from routeing is unlikely in practice and has the advantage of reducing interview burden and associated costs.

I think the GALI question is an accurate portrayal of the question's purpose in English.

The UK limiting illness question has not changed over the period 2005-2009.

2010
The material in the UK back translation sent to me still holds FOR 2009-10. No change to current SILC questions in the UK. However, from 2012 the new questions covering chronic illness and activity restriction will be collected as part of SILC using the Family Resources Survey, which are described in the linked document.

2011

**ADULT HEALTH**

Ask this section of all adults. Questions 214 (CutDown) to 221 (ReasNHIS, 256 (NHSDir) and 259 (NHSDuse) are not asked of proxy respondents.

205. QHealth1 How is your health in general; would you say it was...

RUNNING PROMPT

Very good ................................................................. 1
Good ................................................................. 2
Fair ........................................................................ 3
Bad ........................................................................ 4
Or very bad ........................................................... 5

206. LSIII (And) do you have any long-standing illness, disability or infirmity by long-standing I mean anything that has troubled you over a period of time or that is likely to affect you over a period of time?

Yes ........................................................................ 1
No ........................................................................ 2

207. IILim Does this illness or disability (Do any of these illnesses or disabilities) limit your/their activities in any way?

Yes ........................................................................ 1
No ........................................................................ 2

Ask if LSIII=1

Ask if LSIII=1

212. LimitAct Does this illness or disability (Do any of these illnesses or disabilities) limit your activities in any way?

Yes ........................................................................ 1
No ........................................................................ 2

Ask if activities are limited (LimitAct = 1)

213. LimitL0 Would you say your activities are limited or strongly limited?

Limited ................................................................. 1
Strongly limited ..................................................... 2
2012-2013

Chris White (15/05/2014)

There were changes planned for collection in the FRS for 2012-13 data collection and I will forward these onto you once I get access to the questionnaire.

Here are the MEHM questions collected as part of EU-SILC in the UK

3b. General health
These questions have been included as a EURO-STAT requirement.

Added EUHealth (Adults) and EUHealth (children)
How is your/his/her health in general; would you say it was...
1. Very good
2. Good
3. Fair
4. Bad
5. Or very bad

3c. Long standing illness and disabilities

16

The questions about longstanding illness and disabilities have been revised for adults and children. The revised questions are the National Statistics harmonised standard.

Questions for Adults

Added Health1 to DDAProg1

Health1

Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last for 12 months or more?
1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know (spontaneous)
4. Refusal (spontaneous)

Ask if Health1=Yes

Dis1
SHOW CARD E1

Do any of these conditions or illnesses affect you in any of the following areas?
1. Vision (for example blindness or partial sight)
2. Hearing (for example deafness or partial hearing)
3. Mobility (for example walking short distances or climbing stairs)
4. Dexterity (for example lifting and carrying objects, using a keyboard)
5. Learning or understanding or concentrating
6. Memory
7. Mental Health
8. Stamina or breathing or fatigue
9. Socially or behaviourally (for example associated with autism, attention deficit disorder or Asperger's syndrome)
10. Other
11. Refusal (spontaneous)

Ask if Health1=Yes

Condition

Does your condition or illness/do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry-out day-to-day
activities?
1. Yes, a lot
2. Yes, a little
3. Not at all

INTERVIEWER: Day to day activities include washing and dressing, household cleaning, cooking, shopping for essentials, using public or private transport, remembering to pay bills, lifting objects from the ground or lifting objects from a work surface in the kitchen.

Ask if Health1=Yes

LimitLength
For how long has your ability to carry-out day-to-day activities been reduced?
1. Less than six months
2. Between six months and 12 months
3. 12 months or more

They changed from these

Do you have any long-standing illness, disability or infirmity? By 'long-standing' I mean anything that has troubled you over a period of at least 12 months or that is likely to affect you over a period of at least 12 months.

THIS IS A QUESTION OF OPINION.
1. Yes
2. No

Does this physical or mental illness or disability (Do any of these physical or mental illnesses or disabilities) limit your activities in any way?
1. Yes
2. No

2014 (Chris White)

The 2011 figures were based on the traditional General Lifestyle Survey questions which had been in operation to collect the Minimum European Health Module since 2005. These questions are outlined below:

206. LSill (And) do you have any long-standing illness, disability or infirmity by long-standing I mean anything that has troubled you over a period of time or that is likely to affect you over a period of time?

Yes........................................................................................................................................................................1
No........................................................................................................................................................................2

If Yes

212. LimitAct Does this illness or disability (Do any of these illnesses or disabilities) limit your activities in any way?

Yes........................................................................................................................................................................1
No........................................................................................................................................................................2

Ask if activities are limited
(LimitAct = 1)

213. LimitL6 Would you say your activities are limited or strongly limited?

Limited .................................................................................................................................................................1
Strongly limited............................................................................................................................................2

In 2012 SILC changed data source to Family Resources Survey and a set of revised harmonised questions were asked:
**Ask of all adults**

**Longstanding illness or disability**

**Health1**

Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last for 12 months or more?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don’t know (spontaneous)
4. Refusal (spontaneous)

If 'yes' to **Health1**.

**Health Problems cause Difficulties**

**Dis1**

SHOW CARD E1

Do any of these conditions or illnesses affect you in any of the following areas?

1. Vision (for example blindness or partial sight)
2. Hearing (for example deafness or partial hearing)
3. Mobility (for example walking short distances or climbing stairs)
4. Dexterity (for example lifting and carrying objects, using a keyboard)
5. Learning or understanding or concentrating
6. Memory
7. Mental Health
8. Stamina or breathing or fatigue
9. Socially or behaviourally (for example associated with autism, attention deficit disorder or Asperger's syndrome)
10. Other
11. Refusal (spontaneous)

Probe and code at this question all substantial difficulties the illness causes the respondent. This is important to allow DWP to capture and analyse the extent to which disabilities/health problems affect the areas of respondents' lives.

**Ask if Health1=Yes**

**Limiting longstanding illness**

**Condition**

Does your condition or illness/do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry-out day-to-day activities?

1. Yes, a lot
2. Yes, a little
3. Not at all

**INTERVIEWER:** Day to day activities include washing and dressing, household cleaning, cooking, shopping for essentials, using public or private transport, remembering to pay bills, lifting objects from the ground or lifting objects from a work surface in the kitchen.

**Ask if Condition =Yes a lot or Yes a little**

**Length of time reduced ability**

**LimitLength**

For how long has your ability to carry-out day-to-day activities been reduced?

1. Less than six months
2. Between six months and 12 months
3. 12 months or more

Activity limitation would be classified on the basis of yes to the first question, yes limited a lot or yes limited a little to question 3, and 2 or 3 to the last question.
The first question explicitly mentions mental health conditions or illness which may increase the pool of persons answering yes to the first question, and the plain english categories may also have contributed to increases in those willing to classify themselves as limited a little compared with the old GLF questions above.

Also the 2012 SILC supply had a lower sample than the GLF IN 2012; the FRS collects data from April to March rather than January to December, and for 2012 only six months data were used for SILC collected between April 2012 and September 2012. All these factors taken together may be explaining the sharp dip in the female HLY measure in 2012 and to a lesser extent the male figure. However, in support of the change in healthy life years it is interesting to note that female life expectancy also fell slightly between these years, acting to compound any survey discontinuity effects.
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