



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

# ECB Consumer Expectations Survey

Microdata guide – 2024 (version 2)

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## 1 Introduction

The Consumer Expectations Survey (CES) collects timely and comparable (across countries) high-frequency data on euro area consumers' perceptions and expectations regarding the economy, as well as on their economic and financial behaviour. The survey is conducted online each month. It covers topics such as inflation, consumption and income, housing market activity and house prices, labour market conditions, as well as borrowing and credit access conditions across the eleven largest euro area countries. The following six countries have been included in the survey since it was launched in early 2020: Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, Italy and the Netherlands. In 2022 the sample was extended to cover five additional countries: Ireland, Greece, Austria, Portugal and Finland.

Since August 2022 several aggregate series based on the CES microdata have been updated on the ECB's website on a monthly basis. The microdata underlying these indicators have been published regularly since November 2022, with a view to ensuring full transparency and replicability of the aggregate series. The CES microdata are released on a quarterly basis. The last monthly/quarterly data are replaced with each release, until the yearly files are complete. Older files might also be replaced in the event of revisions. The microdata are provided along with [metadata](#) that include variable and category labels, as well as the number of observations per wave.

The CES microdata are collected and anonymised by IPSOS public affairs. In addition, the ECB conducts its own confidentiality analysis to ensure that personal information cannot be used to match respondents to external sources and that all data are published in a manner compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

The rest of this guide provides detailed information on the variables included in the microdata as well as practical information on how to use the data. More general methodological information on the design of the survey can be found in the [CES methodological guide](#).

All published and unpublished analysis and research conducted using the CES microdata should cite the following official source: *ECB Consumer Expectations Survey*.

To help the CES team keep track of research that makes use of the CES, all research publications are kindly requested to include the keyword "Consumer Expectations Survey" on the title page, together with references to the following two publications in the relevant part of the paper explaining the sources of the data:

- ECB (2021), "[ECB Consumer Expectations Survey: An Overview and First Evaluation](#)", ECB Occasional Paper No. 287, December 2021.
- Georganakos, D. and G. Kenny (2022), "[Household Spending and Fiscal Support During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Insights from a New Consumer Survey](#)", 129(2022), Journal of Monetary Economics, S1-S14.

Researchers and users of the CES microdata are also invited to share their project plans and/or results with the CES project team ([ECB-CES@ecb.europa.eu](mailto:ECB-CES@ecb.europa.eu)).

## 2 How to use the data

The microdata files available in the CES Data and methodological information section of the CES webpages on the ECB's website are divided into three different modules: background, monthly and quarterly. The background file contains information on respondents and their households and is cumulative across the survey waves. It also includes all respondents who have been recruited into the CES sample by granting their initial consent, completing the background module and replying to at least one core or quarterly module. The monthly and quarterly files are specific to each survey round and include data from wave 4 (April 2020) onwards. Please also note that with the 2024 Q2 release, microdata includes **an updated set of personal panel IDs** without any further implications for users.

### 2.1 Linking the files

Currently all waves across a single calendar year are appended and provided as yearly files for the monthly and quarterly modules. Time invariant individual IDs (A0010) are used to track individuals across different survey rounds. There is a single cumulative background file that can be merged (using the individual ID) with individual (or appended) yearly files to provide a panel dataset. A survey round/wave ID is included (A0030) for monthly and quarterly files. These two files can be linked to each other at the wave level (using A0010 and A0030 as identifiers).

### 2.2 Weighting

For the monthly and quarterly modules, cross-sectional weights are available for each survey round (WGT and WGT\_Q respectively). The targets used in the weight calibration model are age, gender and region, and are based on Eurostat's population statistics. The CES target population is defined as all adults (18+) in each country, and weights are defined accordingly.

The available weights are blended, combining probability and non-probability samples. The value of the blended weight indicates the number of adults in the population represented by each respondent. For each survey round and module, the CES weights add up to the population size within each country, and to the total population of the CES countries participating in the survey. Blending means that the base weights of probability and non-probability samples are calibrated jointly to the marginal distributions (age, gender and region).

Weights are constructed by the data provider and the weighting is described in more detail in the CES [methodological guide](#).

## 3 CES background module variables

### A0010: Respondent ID

**Topic and detailed topic:** Technical items / Identification

**Variable type:** Background

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Technically reported

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [String]

Number uniquely identifying each respondent

## A0020: Country

**Topic and detailed topic:** Technical items / Data collection information

**Variable type:** Background

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Technically reported

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

Two-digit string code

<b>BE</b>	Belgium
<b>DE</b>	Germany
<b>IE</b>	Ireland
<b>EL</b>	Greece
<b>ES</b>	Spain
<b>FR</b>	France
<b>IT</b>	Italy
<b>NL</b>	Netherlands
<b>AT</b>	Austria
<b>PT</b>	Portugal
<b>FI</b>	Finland



## A1020\_REC: Gender

**Topic and detailed topic:** Respondent characteristics

**Variable type:** Background

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Recoded

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

### Coding: [Categorical]

1	Male
2	Female

Recoded from originally fielded variable A1020: Gender.

### Question wording:

What is your gender?

1	Male
2	Female
3	Other

### Details:

Respondents with *Other* are randomly re-allocated into either group 1 or group 2 for confidentiality reasons.

## B2100\_ISCED\_REC: Education ISCED (recoded to low/middle/high)

**Topic and detailed topic:** Respondent characteristics

**Variable type:** Background

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Recoded

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

**Coding:** [Single response]

1	Up to lower secondary education
2	Higher secondary education (high school diploma or equivalent professional degree)
3	Higher education (university diploma or equivalent professional degree)

Recoded from Variable B2100/B2101 on highest educational level attained.

**Question wording:**

What is the highest level of school you have completed, or the highest degree you have received?

1	Primary or no education
2	Lower secondary education
3	High school diploma (or equivalent professional degree)
4	Post-secondary non-tertiary education
5	Short-cycle tertiary education
6	Bachelor's Degree (for example: BA, BS) or equivalent professional degree
7	Master's Degree (for example: MA, MBA, MS, MSW) or equivalent
8	Doctoral Degree (for example: PhD) or equivalent

**Details:**

Country-specific scales and wording of response options (reflecting the education system of the respondent's home country) are recoded into the eight categories above according to International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED, 2011). The first category reflects both classes 0 and 1 of the ISCED scale.

These eight categories are then regrouped into low, middle and high education levels following the recoding approach below:

1	B2101/B2100 = 1 to 2 (ISCED levels 0-2)
2	B2101/B2100 = 3 to 4 (ISCED levels 3-4)
3	B2101/B2100 = 5 to 8 (ISCED levels 5-8)

## B1000\_REC: Household size (top-coded at 5)

**Topic and detailed topic:** Respondent characteristics

**Variable type:** Background

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Recoded

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

1-5	Number of household members (top-coded at 5)
-----	--

Recoded from originally fielded variable B1000: Household size

### Question wording:

How many people – including children and yourself – normally live with you as members of this household? By household we mean everyone who usually lives at your main place of residence (including yourself) and, that shares a common budget (that is, excluding flatmates and lodgers).

### Details:

Households with more than 5 members are recoded to 5, such that highest category is indicating households of size 5 or above. The original valid range for question B1000 is 1-20.

## B1010\_NRCHILDREN\_REC: Number of children [aged 0-17] in the household (top-coded at 3)

**Topic and detailed topic:** Respondent characteristics

**Variable type:** Background

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Derived and recoded

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

1-3	Number of children aged below 18 in the household members (top-coded at 3)
-----	--

Recoded from originally fielded variable B1010\_X: Year of birth of other household members

### Question wording:

We would now like to ask you some questions about other people in your household. Do not include yourself when answering this question.

In what year were they born?

### Details:

The variable for households with more than 3 non-adult members is recoded to 3 to follow the top coding of 5 on the household size. In the recoding of the B1010\_X into B1010\_NRCHILDREN\_REC the month has been randomly assigned.

## B1040\_PARTNER: Presence of a partner in the household

**Topic and detailed topic:** Respondent characteristics

**Variable type:** Background

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Derived

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

0	No
1	Yes

Recoded from originally fielded variable B1040\_X: Relation to respondent members

**Question wording:**

We would now like to ask you some questions about other people in your household. Do not include yourself when answering this question.

What is their relationship to you?

1	My partner
2	My child or step child
3	My parent or step parent
4	My sibling
5	Other

**Details:**

If for at least one of the members the relationship "Partner" is selected, the derived variable takes the value 1. It is zero otherwise.

## 4 CES monthly module variables

### A0010: Respondent ID

**Topic and detailed topic:** Technical items / Identification

**Variable type:** Background

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Technically reported

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [String]

Number uniquely identifying each respondent

## A0020: Country

**Topic and detailed topic:** Technical items / Data collection information

**Variable type:** Background

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Technically reported

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

Two-digit string code

<b>BE</b>	Belgium
<b>DE</b>	Germany
<b>IE</b>	Ireland
<b>EL</b>	Greece
<b>ES</b>	Spain
<b>FR</b>	France
<b>IT</b>	Italy
<b>NL</b>	Netherlands
<b>AT</b>	Austria
<b>PT</b>	Portugal
<b>FI</b>	Finland

## A0030: Survey round

**Topic and detailed topic:** Technical items / Identification

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Technically reported

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

Running number, starting from 4 (for April 2020)

4	If date= 2/4/2020 - 6/5/2020
5	If date= 7/5/2020 - 3/6/2020
6	If date= 4/6/2020 - 1/7/2020
7	If date= 2/7/2020 - 5/8/2020
8	If date= 6/8/2020 - 2/9/2020
9	If date= 3/9/2020 - 30/9/2020
10	If date= 1/10/2020 - 4/11/2020
11	If date= 5/11/2020 - 2/12/2020
12	If date= 3/12/2020 - 6/1/2021
13	If date= 7/1/2021 - 3/2/2021
14	If date= 4/2/2021 - 3/3/2021
15	If date= 4/3/2021 - 31/3/2021
16	If date = 1/4/2021 – 5/5/2021
17	If date= 6/5/2021 - 2/6/2021
18	If date= 3/6/2021 - 30/6/2021
19	If date= 1/7/2021 - 4/8/2021
20	If date= 5/8/2021 - 1/9/2021
21	If date= 2/9/2021 - 6/10/2021
22	If date= 7/10/2021 - 3/11/2021
23	If date= 4/11/2021 - 1/12/2021
24	If date= 2/12/2021 - 5/1/2021
25	If date= 6/1/2022 - 2/2/2022
26	If date= 3/2/2022 - 2/3/2022
27	If date= 3/3/2022 - 6/4/2022
28	If date= 7/4/2022 - 4/5/2022
29	If date= 5/5/2022 - 1/6/2022
30	If date= 2/6/2022 - 6/7/2022
31	If date= 7/7/2022 - 3/8/2022
32	If date= 4/8/2022 - 7/9/2022
33	If date= 8/9/2022 - 5/10/2022



34	If date= 6/10/2022 - 2/11/2022
35	If date= 3/11/2022 - 30/11/2022
36	If date= 2/12/2022 - 4/1/2023
37	If date= 5/1/2023 - 1/2/2023
38	If date= 2/2/2023 - 1/3/2023
39	If date= 2/3/2023 - 5/4/2023
40	If date= 6/4/2023 - 3/5/2023
41	If date= 4/5/2023 - 31/5/2023
42	If date= 1/6/2023 - 5/7/2023
43	If date= 6/7/2023 - 2/8/2023
44	If date= 3/8/2023 - 6/9/2023
45	If date= 7/9/2023 - 4/10/2023
46	If date = 5/10/2023 - 1/11/2023
47	If date= 2/11/2023 - 6/12/2023
48	If date= 7/12/2023 - 3/1/2024

**Details:**

Each wave opens on the 1st Thursday of the month. The fieldwork in-practice closes on the Tuesday before the next wave opens, with possible exceptions.

## A1010\_AGE\_REC: Age group updated annually

**Topic and detailed topic:** Respondent characteristics

**Variable type:** Monthly (based on background info)

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Current

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Derived and recoded

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [categorical]

1	18-34
2	35-49
3	50-70
4	71+

Derived and recoded from originally fielded background variable A1010: Month and year of birth

**Question wording:**

What is the month and year of your birth?

YYYYMM

**Details:**

The variable A1010 is collected during recruitment. Respondent needs to be at least 18 years old in order to take this survey. The derived age variable is updated at the beginning of each year based on the reported date of birth.

## B7040\_QUINTILE: Household disposable income quintiles on monthly weighted distribution by wave

**Topic and detailed topic:** Income  
**Variable type:** Monthly (based on background info)  
**Reference unit:** Household  
**Reference period:** Year preceding the background interview  
**Filtering:** All respondents  
**Mode of collection:** Imputed and derived  
**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	First quintile
2	Second quintile
3	Third quintile
4	Fourth quintile
5	Fifth quintile

Derived and recoded from originally fielded background variables B7040 / B7050\_1/2: Total combined net of tax household income. Respondents can choose whether they want to report their household's **annual** or **monthly** income in question B7030.

**Question wording:**

### B7040

What was your household total **net** income (i.e. after tax and compulsory deductions) from all sources [if B7030=1, **over the past month**; if B7030=2, **over the past 12 months**]?

If you don't know the exact figure, please give a best estimate.

*Please consider the income of all household members, and from all sources: wages or salaries; income from self-employment or farming; pensions; unemployment/redundancy benefit; any other social benefits or grants; income from investment, savings, insurance or property; income from other sources.*

\_\_\_\_\_ €/month < if B7030=1 > (Valid range: 0 – 999999)

\_\_\_\_\_ €/year < if B7030=2 > (Valid range: 0 – 999999)

-666	Prefer not to answer
-999	Don't know

## B7050\_1/2

Perhaps you can provide the approximate range instead. Which category best matches your household total **net** income (i.e. after tax and compulsory deductions) [if B7030=1, **over the past month**; if B7030=2, **over the past 12 months**]?

We would be grateful for a response and assure you that any information you provide will remain strictly confidential.

	B7050_1	B7050_2
1	Less than €500	Less than €10,000
2	€500-€999	€10,000-€14,999
3	€1,000-€1,499	€15,000-€19,999
4	€1,500-€1,999	€20,000-€24,999
5	€2,000-€2,499	€25,000-€29,999
6	€2,500-€2,999	€30,000-€39,999
7	€3,000-€3,999	€40,000-€49,999
8	€4,000-€4,999	€50,000-€59,999
9	€5,000-€6,999	€60,000-€74,999
10	€7,000-€9,999	€75,000 or more
11	€10,000 or more	-
-666	Prefer not to answer	Prefer not to answer
-999	Don't know	Don't know

### Details:

Household net income data are collected in the background module. Respondents can select whether they would like to report their household's monthly or annual income. Answers can be provided either in open ended values or in bracketed values. For the creation of the imputed incomes, we employ a hot-deck step imputation of continuous values for those reported in brackets. Furthermore, a model-based approach is used for the imputation of both outliers and missing values.

For the creation of the **B7040\_quintile** variable the previously derived imputed incomes are used to calculate quintiles over the weighted distributions of the variable at the country level and by wave.

## WGT: Blended weight monthly

**Topic and detailed topic:** Technical items / Weights

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Technically reported

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

The weights of the two samples available (probability and non-probability) are blended. Probability and non-probability samples are combined. The combined weights of the blended sample are then calibrated to the population benchmarks (age, gender and region). More information on the computation of weights is available in the [CES methodological guide](#).

## C1010: Past prices in general – qualitative

**Topic and detailed topic:** Inflation

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Past 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	Prices <b>went up</b> a lot
2	Prices <b>went down</b> a lot
3	Prices <b>went up</b> a little
4	Prices <b>went down</b> a little
5	Prices stayed <b>exactly the same</b> (that is 0% change)

**Question wording:**

First, we would like to ask you about changes in the general level of prices for goods and services in the country you currently live in.

**Compared with 12 months ago**, what do you think has happened to prices in general?

## C1020: Past prices in general – open-ended

**Topic and detailed topic:** Inflation

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Current

**Filtering:** All respondents [If C1010 = 5, auto-fill with value 0]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

**-100.0 to 100.0** | Valid range

**Question wording:**

How much higher (lower) do you think prices in general are **now compared with 12 months ago** in the country you currently live in? Please give your best guess of the change in percentage terms. You can provide a number up to one decimal place.

\_\_\_ . \_%

## C1110: Expectation for prices in general next 12 months – qualitative

**Topic and detailed topic:** Inflation

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	Prices will <b>increase</b> a lot
2	Prices will <b>decrease</b> a lot
3	Prices will <b>increase</b> a little
4	Prices will <b>decrease</b> a little
5	Prices will be <b>exactly the same</b> (that is 0% change)

**Question wording:**

The next few questions are about future changes in prices in general in the country you currently live in.

**Looking ahead to 12 months from now**, what do you think will happen to prices in general? We are interested in even very small changes.



## C1120: Expectation for prices in general next 12 months – open-ended

**Topic and detailed topic:** Inflation

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Current

**Filtering:** All respondents [If C1110 = 5, auto-fill with value 0]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

**-100.0 to 100.0** | Valid range

**Question wording:**

How much higher (lower) do you think prices in general will be **12 months from now** in the country you currently live in? Please give your best guess of the change in percentage terms. You can provide a number up to one decimal place.

\_\_\_ . \_\_\_%

## C1150\_1-8: Expectation for prices in general next 12 months – probabilistic

**Topic and detailed topic:** Inflation

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Discontinued, used from the first round of data collection until wave 30 (June 2022) and replaced by C1152 in wave 31 (July 2022)

**Coding:** [Categorical]

		<b>Valid range:</b>
<b>1</b>	Prices will <b>increase</b> by 8% or more	0 - 100
<b>2</b>	Prices will <b>increase</b> by 4% or more, but less than 8%	0 - 100
<b>3</b>	Prices will <b>increase</b> by 2% or more, but less than 4%	0 - 100
<b>4</b>	Prices will <b>increase</b> by 0% or more but less than 2%	0 - 100
<b>5</b>	Prices will <b>decrease</b> by more than 0% but less than 2%	0 - 100
<b>6</b>	Prices will <b>decrease</b> by 2% or more, but less than 4%	0 - 100
<b>7</b>	Prices will <b>decrease</b> by 4% or more, but less than 8%	0 - 100
<b>8</b>	Prices will <b>decrease</b> by 8% or more	0 - 100

### Question wording:

Now we would like you to think about how much prices in general in the country you currently live in are likely to change **in 12 months from now**. We realise that this question may take a little more effort.

Below you see 8 possible ways in which prices could change. Please distribute 100 points among them, to indicate how likely you think it is that each price change will happen. The sum of the points you allocate should total to 100.

*You can allocate points by typing a percentage in each box. (Note that your answers should sum to 100 – if your sum exceeds 100, you should first decrease the points again in one option before you can add points in another).*

## C1152\_1-10: Expectation for prices in general next 12 months – probabilistic

**Topic and detailed topic:** Inflation

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, replaced C1150 in wave 31 (July 2022)

**Coding:** [Categorical]

		<b>Valid range:</b>
<b>1</b>	Prices will <b>increase</b> by 12% or more	0 - 100
<b>2</b>	Prices will <b>increase</b> by 8% or more, but less than 12%	0 - 100
<b>3</b>	Prices will <b>increase</b> by 4% or more, but less than 8%	0 - 100
<b>4</b>	Prices will <b>increase</b> by 2% or more, but less than 4%	0 - 100
<b>5</b>	Prices will <b>increase</b> by 0% or more but less than 2%	0 - 100
<b>6</b>	Prices will <b>decrease</b> by more than 0% but less than 2%	0 - 100
<b>7</b>	Prices will <b>decrease</b> by 2% or more, but less than 4%	0 - 100
<b>8</b>	Prices will <b>decrease</b> by 4% or more, but less than 8%	0 - 100
<b>9</b>	Prices will <b>decrease</b> by 8% or more, but less than 12%	0 - 100
<b>10</b>	Prices will <b>decrease</b> by 12% or more	0 - 100

### Question wording:

Now we would like you to think about how much prices in general in the country you currently live in are likely to change **in 12 months from now**. We realise that this question may take a little more effort.

Below you see ten possible ways in which prices could change. Please distribute 100 points among them, to indicate how likely you think it is that each price change will happen. The sum of the points you allocate should total to 100.

*You can allocate points by typing a percentage in each box. (Note that your answers should sum to 100 – if your sum exceeds 100, you should first decrease the points again in one option before you can add points in another).*

## C1210: Expectation for prices in general 3 years ahead - qualitative

**Topic and detailed topic:** Inflation

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** 3 years ahead

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	Prices will <b>increase</b> a lot
2	Prices will <b>decrease</b> a lot
3	Prices will <b>increase</b> a little
4	Prices will <b>decrease</b> a little
5	Prices will be <b>exactly the same</b> (that is 0% change)

**Question wording:**

Please think further ahead to <survey month year+2>. What do you think will happen to prices in general in the country you currently live in over the 12-month period <between survey month year+2 and survey month year+3>?

## C1220: Expectation for prices in general 3 years ahead - open-ended

**Topic and detailed topic:** Inflation

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** 3 years ahead

**Filtering:** All respondents [If C1210 = 5, auto-fill with value 0]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

-100.0 to 100.0 | Valid range

### Question wording:

By about what percentage do you expect prices in general in the country you currently live in to increase (decrease) over the 12-month period <between survey month year+2 and survey month year+3>? Please give your best guess of the change in percentage terms. You can provide a number up to one decimal place.

\_\_\_ . \_%

## C2110: Expectation for home prices next 12 months – qualitative

**Topic and detailed topic:** Housing

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	Increase a lot
2	Decrease a lot
3	Increase a little
4	Decrease a little
5	Stay <b>exactly the same</b> (that is 0% change)

**Question wording:**

Next, we would like you to think about the price of the home that you currently live in (even if you do not own it).

**In 12 months from now**, what do you expect will happen to the price of your current home? By this, we mean the price that would be paid if your home were to be sold 12 months from now.

**In 12 months from now**, I expect the price of my current home, compared with now, to:

## C2120: Expectation for home prices next 12 months - open-ended

**Topic and detailed topic:** Housing

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents [If C2110 = 5, auto-fill with value 0]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

**-100.0 to 100.0** | Valid range

**Question wording:**

**In 12 months from now**, by about what percent do you expect the price of your current home to be higher (lower)? Please give your best guess of the expected change in percentage terms. You can provide a number up to one decimal place.

**In 12 months from now**, I expect the price of my current home to be \_\_\_\_ . \_\_% higher (lower)?

## C2150\_1-8: Expectation for price of your current home next 12 months – probabilistic

**Topic and detailed topic:** Housing

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Discontinued, used from the first round of data collection until wave 30 (June 2022) and replaced by C2151 in wave 31 (July 2022)

**Coding:** [Numerical]

		<b>Valid range:</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 8% or more	0 - 100
<b>2</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 4% or more, but less than 8%	0 - 100
<b>3</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 2% or more, but less than 4%	0 - 100
<b>4</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 0% or more but less than 2%	0 - 100
<b>5</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by more than 0% but less than 2%	0 - 100
<b>6</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 2% or more, but less than 4%	0 - 100
<b>7</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 4% or more, but less than 8%	0 - 100
<b>8</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 8% or more	0 - 100

**Question wording:**

Below you see eight possible ways in which the price of your current home could change **over the next 12 months**. Please distribute 100 points among them, to indicate how likely you think it is that each price change will happen. The sum of the points you allocate should total 100.

*You can allocate points by typing a percentage in each box. (Note that your answers should sum to 100 – if your sum exceeds 100, you should first decrease the points again in one option before you can add points in another).*



## C2151\_1-10: Expectation for price of your current home next 12 months – probabilistic

**Topic and detailed topic:** Housing  
**Variable type:** Monthly  
**Reference unit:** Individual  
**Reference period:** Next 12 months  
**Filtering:** All respondents  
**Mode of collection:** Actual response  
**In use (period):** Yes, replaced C2150 in wave 31 (July 2022)

**Coding:** [Numerical]

		<b>Valid range:</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 12% or more	0 - 100
<b>2</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 8% or more, but less than 12%	0 - 100
<b>3</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 4% or more, but less than 8%	0 - 100
<b>4</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 2% or more, but less than 4%	0 - 100
<b>5</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 0% or more but less than 2%	0 - 100
<b>6</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by more than 0% but less than 2%	0 - 100
<b>7</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 2% or more, but less than 4%	0 - 100
<b>8</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 4% or more, but less than 8%	0 - 100
<b>9</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 8% or more, but less than 12%	0 - 100
<b>10</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 12% or more	0 - 100

### Question wording:

Below you see ten possible ways in which the price of your current home could change **over the next 12 months**. Please distribute 100 points among them, to indicate how likely you think it is that each price change will happen. The sum of the points you allocate should total 100.

*You can allocate points by typing a percentage in each box. (Note that your answers should sum to 100 – if your sum exceeds 100, you should first decrease the points again in one option before you can add points in another).*

## C3210: Expectation for net total household income next 12 months - qualitative

**Topic and detailed topic:** Income

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	Increase a lot
2	Decrease a lot
3	Increase a little
4	Decrease a little
5	Stay <b>exactly the same</b> (that is 0% change)

**Question wording:**

**Over the next 12 months**, what do you expect will happen to your household's total **net** income (that is after tax and compulsory deductions)? **During the next 12 months**, I expect my household's total net income to...

## C3220: Expectation for net total household income next 12 months - open-ended

**Topic and detailed topic:** Income

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents [If C3210 = 5, auto-fill with value 0]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

**-100.0 to 100.0** | Valid range

### Question wording:

By about what percent do you expect the total net income of your household to increase (decrease)? Please give your best guess of the expected change in percentage terms. You can provide a number up to one decimal place.

**During the next 12 months**, I expect the total net income of my household to increase (decrease) by \_\_\_\_.\_%

## C3250\_1-8: Expectation for net total household income next 12 months – probabilistic

**Topic and detailed topic:** Income

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Discontinued, used from the first round of data collection until wave 30 (June 2022) and replaced by C3251 in wave 31 (July 2022)

**Coding:** [Numerical]

		<b>Valid range:</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 8% or more	0 - 100
<b>2</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 4% or more, but less than 8%	0 - 100
<b>3</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 2% or more, but less than 4%	0 - 100
<b>4</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 0% or more but less than 2%	0 - 100
<b>5</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by more than 0% but less than 2%	0 - 100
<b>6</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 2% or more, but less than 4%	0 - 100
<b>7</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 4% or more, but less than 8%	0 - 100
<b>8</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 8% or more	0 - 100

**Question wording:**

Below you see 8 possible ways in which your household's total net income could change **over the next 12 months**. Please distribute 100 points among them, to indicate how likely you think it is that each income change will happen. The sum of the points you allocate should total to 100.

*You can allocate points by typing a percentage in each box. (Note that your answers should sum to 100 – if your sum exceeds 100, you should first decrease the points again in one option before you can add points in another).*

## C3251\_1-10: Expectation for net total household income next 12 months – probabilistic

**Topic and detailed topic:** Income  
**Variable type:** Monthly  
**Reference unit:** Individual  
**Reference period:** Next 12 months  
**Filtering:** All respondents  
**Mode of collection:** Actual response  
**In use (period):** Yes, replaced C3250 in wave 31 (July 2022)

**Coding:** [Numerical]

		<b>Valid range:</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 12% or more	0 - 100
<b>2</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 8% or more, but less than 12%	0 - 100
<b>3</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 4% or more, but less than 8%	0 - 100
<b>4</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 2% or more, but less than 4%	0 - 100
<b>5</b>	<b>Increase</b> by 0% or more but less than 2%	0 - 100
<b>6</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by more than 0% but less than 2%	0 - 100
<b>7</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 2% or more, but less than 4%	0 - 100
<b>8</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 4% or more, but less than 8%	0 - 100
<b>9</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 8% or more, but less than 12%	0 - 100
<b>10</b>	<b>Decrease</b> by 12% or more	0 - 100

### Question wording:

Below you see ten possible ways in which your household's total net income could change **over the next 12 months**. Please distribute 100 points among them, to indicate how likely you think it is that each income change will happen. The sum of the points you allocate should total to 100.

*You can allocate points by typing a percentage in each box. (Note that your answers should sum to 100 – if your sum exceeds 100, you should first decrease the points again in one option before you can add points in another).*

## C4010: Expectation for the economy next 12 months - qualitative

**Topic and detailed topic:** Economic growth

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	Grow
2	Shrink
3	Neither grow nor shrink

**Question wording:**

We are interested in your opinion on how well the economy of the country you currently live in will do in the future. **During the next 12 months**, I expect the economy of the country I currently live in to...

## C4020: Expectation for the economy next 12 months - open-ended

**Topic and detailed topic:** Economic growth

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents [If C4010 = 3, auto-fill with value 0]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

**-100.0 to 100.0** | Valid range

**Question wording:**

**During the next 12 months**, by how much do you think the economy will grow (shrink)? Please give your best guess of the expected change in percentage terms. You can provide a number up to one decimal place.

**During the next 12 months**, I expect the economy to grow (shrink) by \_\_\_\_.\_ %

## C4030: Current unemployment rate - open-ended

**Topic and detailed topic:** Labour market

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Current

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

0.0 to 100.0 | Valid range

**Question wording:**

What do you think is the **current unemployment rate** in the country you currently live in?

*Please give your best guess in percentage terms.*

\_\_\_ . \_\_%



## C4031: Expectations about unemployment rate next 12 months - open-ended

**Topic and detailed topic:** Labour market

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

0.0 to 100.0 | Valid range

**Question wording:**

What do you think will be the **unemployment rate 12 months from now** in the country you currently live in?

*Please give your best guess in percentage terms.*

\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_%

## C5111: Expectation for interest rate on mortgages next 12 months – open-ended

**Topic and detailed topic:** Housing

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Discontinued, used from wave 9 (September 2020) until wave 29 (May 2022) and replaced by C5113 in wave 30 (June 2022)

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

**-2.0 to 12.0** | Valid range

**Question wording:**

**In 12 months from now**, what do you think will be the interest rate on **mortgages** in the country you are currently living in?

*Please give your best guess. You can provide a number up to one decimal place.*

\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_%

## C5113: Expectation for interest rate on mortgages next 12 months – open-ended

**Topic and detailed topic:** Housing

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, replaced C5111 in wave 30 (June 2022)

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

-2.0 to 25.0 | Valid range

**Question wording:**

**In 12 months from now**, what do you think will be the interest rate on **mortgages** in the country you are currently living in?

*Please give your best guess. You can provide a number up to one decimal place.*

\_\_\_\_ . \_%

## C6010: Past household spending - qualitative

**Topic and detailed topic:** Consumption

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Past 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	My household spending <b>increased</b> a lot
2	My household spending <b>decreased</b> a lot
3	My household spending <b>increased</b> a little
4	My household spending <b>decreased</b> a little
5	My household spending remained <b>exactly the same</b> (that is 0% change)

**Question wording:**

We are interested in understanding how your household spending may have changed **compared with 12 months ago**. Even very small changes in the amount your household has spent are of interest.

**Compared with 12 months ago**, what do you think has happened to your household spending?

## C6020: Past household spending - open-ended

**Topic and detailed topic:** Consumption

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Past 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents [If C6010 = 5, auto-fill with value 0]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

-100.0 to 100.0	Valid range
-999	Don't know

**Question wording:**

How much higher (lower) do you think your household spending is **now compared with 12 months ago**? Please give your best guess of the change in percentage terms. You can provide a number up to one decimal place

\_\_\_\_.\_\_\_\_%

## C6030: Past household spending - brackets

**Topic and detailed topic:** Consumption

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Past 12 months

**Filtering:** [If C6020 = -999]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

Please estimate how much higher (lower) (in percent) your monthly household spending on all goods and services is now compared with 12 months ago, using the categories listed below.

1	Less than 2%
2	2-3%
3	4-6%
4	7-10%
5	11-15%
6	16-20%
7	More than 20%

## C6110: Expectation for household spending next 12 months - qualitative

**Topic and detailed topic:** Consumption

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	My household spending will <b>increase</b> a lot
2	My household spending will <b>decrease</b> a lot
3	My household spending will <b>increase</b> a little
4	My household spending will <b>decrease</b> a little
5	My household spending will remain <b>exactly the same</b> (that is 0% change)

**Question wording:**

**During the next 12 months**, how do you expect your household spending on all goods and services to compare with your spending in the past 12 months? Even very small changes in the amount your household will spend are of interest.

## C6120: Expectation for household spending next 12 months - open-ended

**Topic and detailed topic:** Consumption

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents [If C6110 = 5, auto-fill with value 0]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

-100.0 to 100.0	Valid range
-999	Don't know

### Question wording:

By what percent do you expect your household spending on all goods and services to change **during the next 12 months** compared with your spending in the past 12 months? Even very small changes in the amount your household will spend are of interest. Please give your best guess of the change in percentage terms.

\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_%



## C6130: Expectation for household spending next 12 months - brackets

**Topic and detailed topic:** Consumption

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** [If C6120 = -999]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	Less than 2%
2	2-3%
3	4-6%
4	7-10%
5	11-15%
6	16-20%
7	More than 20%

**Question wording:**

Please estimate how much higher (lower) (in percent) you expect your monthly household spending on all goods and services to be 12 months from now using the categories listed below.

## C7110: Past credit access

**Topic and detailed topic:** Credit access

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Past 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Discontinued, used from the first round of data collection until wave 8 (August 2020) and replaced by C7111 in wave 9 (September 2020)

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	Much harder
2	Somewhat harder
3	Equally easy/hard
4	Somewhat easier
5	Much easier
-777	Not applicable

**Question wording:**

**Compared with your household's situation 12 months ago**, do you think it is generally harder or easier these days for your household to obtain credit or loans (including credit and retail cards, car loans, student loans, and mortgages)?

## C7111: Past credit access

**Topic and detailed topic:** Credit access

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Past 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, replaced C7110 in wave 9 (September 2020)

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	Much harder
2	Somewhat harder
3	Equally easy/hard
4	Somewhat easier
5	Much easier

**Question wording:**

**Compared with your household's situation 12 months ago**, do you think it is generally harder or easier these days for your household to obtain credit or loans (including credit and retail cards, car loans, student loans, and mortgages)?

## C7120: Expectation for credit access next 12 months

**Topic and detailed topic:** Credit access

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Discontinued, used from the first round of data collection until wave 8 (August 2020) and replaced by C7121 in wave 9 (September 2020)

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	Much harder
2	Somewhat harder
3	Equally easy/hard
4	Somewhat easier
5	Much easier
-777	Not applicable

**Question wording:**

And looking ahead, do you think that **12 months from now** it will generally be harder or easier for your household to obtain credit or loans (including credit and retail cards, car loans, student loans, and mortgages) than it is these days?

## C7121: Expectation for credit access next 12 months

**Topic and detailed topic:** Credit access

**Variable type:** Monthly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Next 12 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, replaced C7120 in wave 9 (September 2020)

---

### Coding: [Categorical]

1	Much harder
2	Somewhat harder
3	Equally easy/hard
4	Somewhat easier
5	Much easier

### Question wording:

And looking ahead, do you think that **12 months from now** it will generally be harder or easier for your household to obtain credit or loans (including credit and retail cards, car loans, student loans, and mortgages) than it is these days?

## 5 CES quarterly module variables

### A0010: Respondent ID

**Topic and detailed topic:** Technical items / Identification

**Variable type:** Background

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Technically reported

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [string]

Number uniquely identifying each respondent

## A0020: Country

**Topic and detailed topic:** Technical items / Data collection information

**Variable type:** Background

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Technically reported

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

Two-digit string code

<b>BE</b>	Belgium
<b>DE</b>	Germany
<b>IE</b>	Ireland
<b>EL</b>	Greece
<b>ES</b>	Spain
<b>FR</b>	France
<b>IT</b>	Italy
<b>NL</b>	Netherlands
<b>AT</b>	Austria
<b>PT</b>	Portugal
<b>FI</b>	Finland

## A0030: Survey round

**Topic and detailed topic:** Technical items / Identification

**Variable type:** Quarterly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Technically reported

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

Running number, starting from 4 (for April 2020)

4	If date= 2/4/2020 - 6/5/2020
5	If date= 7/5/2020 - 3/6/2020
6	If date= 4/6/2020 - 1/7/2020
7	If date= 2/7/2020 - 5/8/2020
8	If date= 6/8/2020 - 2/9/2020
9	If date= 3/9/2020 - 30/9/2020
10	If date= 1/10/2020 - 4/11/2020
11	If date= 5/11/2020 - 2/12/2020
12	If date= 3/12/2020 - 6/1/2021
13	If date= 7/1/2021 - 3/2/2021
14	If date= 4/2/2021 - 3/3/2021
15	If date= 4/3/2021 - 31/3/2021
16	If date = 1/4/2021 – 5/5/2021
17	If date= 6/5/2021 - 2/6/2021
18	If date= 3/6/2021 - 30/6/2021
19	If date= 1/7/2021 - 4/8/2021
20	If date= 5/8/2021 - 1/9/2021
21	If date= 2/9/2021 - 6/10/2021
22	If date= 7/10/2021 - 3/11/2021
23	If date= 4/11/2021 - 1/12/2021
24	If date= 2/12/2021 - 5/1/2021
25	If date= 6/1/2022 - 2/2/2022
26	If date= 3/2/2022 - 2/3/2022
27	If date= 3/3/2022 - 6/4/2022
28	If date= 7/4/2022 - 4/5/2022
29	If date= 5/5/2022 - 1/6/2022
30	If date= 2/6/2022 - 6/7/2022
31	If date= 7/7/2022 - 3/8/2022
32	If date= 4/8/2022 - 7/9/2022
33	If date= 8/9/2022 - 5/10/2022

34	If date= 6/10/2022 - 2/11/2022
35	If date= 3/11/2022 - 30/11/2022
36	If date= 2/12/2022 - 4/1/2023
37	If date= 5/1/2023 - 1/2/2023
38	If date= 2/2/2023 - 1/3/2023
39	If date= 2/3/2023 - 5/4/2023
40	If date= 6/4/2023 - 3/5/2023
41	If date= 4/5/2023 – 31/5/2023
42	If date= 1/6/2023 - 5/7/2023
43	If date= 6/7/2023 - 2/8/2023
44	If date= 3/8/2023 - 6/9/2023
45	If date= 7/9/2023 - 4/10/2023
46	If date = 5/10/2023 - 1/11/2023
47	If date= 2/11/2023 - 6/12/2023
48	If date= 7/12/2023 - 3/1/2024

**Details:**

Each wave opens on the 1st Thursday of the month. The fieldwork in-practice closes on the Tuesday before the next wave opens, with possible exceptions.



## A1010\_AGE\_REC\_Q: Age group updated annually

**Topic and detailed topic:** Respondent characteristics

**Variable type:** Background

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** Current

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Derived and recoded

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	18-34
2	35-49
3	50-70
4	71+

Derived and recoded from originally fielded background variable A1010: Month and year of birth

**Question wording:**

What is the month and year of your birth?

YYYYMM

**Details:**

Respondent needs to be at least 18 years old in order to take this survey.

If the respondent is not at least 18 years old, the interviewer stops the interview.

The age is updated at the beginning of each year, when weights are recalibrated.

## B7040\_QUINTILE\_Q: Household disposable income quintiles on monthly weighted distribution by wave

**Topic and detailed topic:** Income  
**Variable type:** Quarterly (based on background info)  
**Reference unit:** Household  
**Reference period:** Year preceding the background interview  
**Filtering:** All respondents  
**Mode of collection:** Imputed and derived  
**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	First quintile
2	Second quintile
3	Third quintile
4	Fourth quintile
5	Fifth quintile

Derived and recoded from originally fielded background variables B7040 and B7050\_1/2: Total combined net of tax household income. Respondents can choose whether they want to report their household's **annual** or **monthly** income in question B7030.

**Question wording:**

### B7040

What was your household total **net** income (i.e. after tax and compulsory deductions) from all sources [if B7030=1, **over the past month**; if B7030=2, **over the past 12 months**]?

If you don't know the exact figure, please give a best estimate.

*Please consider the income of all household members, and from all sources: wages or salaries; income from self-employment or farming; pensions; unemployment/redundancy benefit; any other social benefits or grants; income from investment, savings, insurance or property; income from other sources.*

\_\_\_\_\_ €/month < if B7030=1 > (Valid range: 0 – 999999)

\_\_\_\_\_ €/year < if B7030=2 > (Valid range: 0 – 999999)

-666	Prefer not to answer
-999	Don't know

## B7050\_1/2

Perhaps you can provide the approximate range instead. Which category best matches your household total **net** income (i.e. after tax and compulsory deductions) [if B7030=1, **over the past month**; if B7030=2, **over the past 12 months**]?

We would be grateful for a response and assure you that any information you provide will remain strictly confidential.

	B7050_1	B7050_2
1	Less than €500	Less than €10,000
2	€500-€999	€10,000-€14,999
3	€1,000-€1,499	€15,000-€19,999
4	€1,500-€1,999	€20,000-€24,999
5	€2,000-€2,499	€25,000-€29,999
6	€2,500-€2,999	€30,000-€39,999
7	€3,000-€3,999	€40,000-€49,999
8	€4,000-€4,999	€50,000-€59,999
9	€5,000-€6,999	€60,000-€74,999
10	€7,000-€9,999	€75,000 or more
11	€10,000 or more	-
-666	Prefer not to answer	Prefer not to answer
-999	Don't know	Don't know

### Details:

Household net income data are collected in the background module. Respondents can select whether they would like to report their household's monthly or annual income. Answers can be provided either in open ended values or in bracketed values. For the creation of the imputed incomes, we employ a hot-deck step imputation of continuous values for those reported in brackets. Furthermore, a model-based approach is used for the imputation of both outliers and missing values.

For the creation of the **B7040\_quintile** variable the previously derived imputed incomes are used to calculate quintiles over the weighted distributions of the variable at the country level and by wave.

## WGT\_Q: Blended weight quarterly

**Topic and detailed topic:** Technical items / Weights

**Variable type:** Quarterly

**Reference unit:** Individual

**Reference period:** -

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Technically reported

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first round of CES data collection

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

The weights of the two samples available (probability and non-probability) are blended. Probability and non-probability samples are combined. The combined weights of the blended sample are then calibrated to the population benchmarks (age, gender and region). More information on the computation of weights is available in the CES methodological guide.

## Q2021\_REC: Employment situation

**Topic and detailed topic:** Labour market

**Variable type:** Quarterly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Current

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Recoded

**In use (period):** Yes, in use from wave 10 (October 2020) onwards.

### Coding: [Categorical]

1	Employed
2	Unemployed
3	Other

Derived and recoded from originally fielded variable Q2021: Current employment situation

### Question wording:

What best describes your current employment situation?

1	Working full-time (self-employed or working for someone else)
2	Working part-time (self-employed or working for someone else)
3	Temporarily laid-off (you expect to return to your previous workplace)
4	On extended leave (disability, sick, parental or other leave)
5	Unemployed and actively looking for a job
6	Unemployed, interested in having a job but not actively looking for a job
7	Unable to work because of disability or other medical reasons
8	In retirement or early retirement
9	Studying, at school, or in training
10	Looking after children or other persons, doing housework
11	Other

### Details:

The 11 categories above are regrouped into three groups following the recoding approach below:

1	[if Q2021=1 or Q2021=2 or Q2021=3 or Q2021=4]
2	[if Q2021=5 or Q2021=6]
3	[if Q2021=7 or Q2021=8 or Q2021=9 or Q2021=10 or Q2021=11]

Note that category 2 includes all respondents that consider themselves unemployed. It includes respondents who consider themselves unemployed but are not actively searching for a job. Thus, the definition of unemployment used here does not necessarily correspond to that of official EU labour market statistics.

## Q2253: Actively looking for job

**Topic and detailed topic:** Labour market

**Variable type:** Quarterly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Current

**Filtering:** [if Q2021 =9 or Q2021=10 or Q2021=11 or Q2021=1 or Q2021=2 or Q2021=3 or Q2021=4]; [if Q2021=5, autofill with 1]; [if Q2021=6, autofill with 0]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Discontinued, used from wave 13 (January 2021) until wave 52 (April 2024) and replaced by Q2254 in wave 55 (July 2024).

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	Yes
0	No

**Question wording:**

Are you currently actively looking for a job?

## Q2254: Actively looking for job

**Topic and detailed topic:** Labour market

**Variable type:** Quarterly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Current

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, replaced Q2253 in wave 55 (July 2024).

---

**Coding:** [Categorical]

1	Yes
0	No

**Question wording:**

Are you currently actively looking for a job?



## Q2302: Probability of finding a job in 3 months

**Topic and detailed topic:** Labour market

**Variable type:** Quarterly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Next 3 months

**Filtering:** [If Q2021=5 or Q2021=6]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, in use from wave 10 (October 2020) onwards.

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

0 to 100	Valid range
-999	Don't know

### Question wording:

Please think about the types of job that may be available to you. What do you think is the percent chance that, **within the next 3 months**, you will find a job that you will accept?

\_\_\_ %



## Q2352: Probability of losing a job in 3 months

**Topic and detailed topic:** Labour market

**Variable type:** Quarterly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Next 3 months

**Filtering:** [if Q2021=1 or Q2021=2 or Q2021=3 or Q2021=4]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, in use from wave 10 (October 2020) onwards.

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

**0 to 100**

Valid range

**-999**

Don't know

**Question wording:**

What do you think is the percent chance that you will lose your current job **during the next 3 months?**

\_\_%

## Q2393: Probability of looking for a job in 3 months

**Topic and detailed topic:** Labour market

**Variable type:** Quarterly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Next 3 months

**Filtering:** [If Q2253 = 0 and (Q2021=1 or Q2021=2 or Q2021=3 or Q2021=4 or Q2021=6 or Q2021=9 or Q2021=10 or Q2021=11)]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Discontinued, used from wave 13 (January 2021) until wave 52 (April 2024) and replaced by Q2394 in wave 55 (July 2024).

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

0 to 100	Valid range
-999	Don't know

**Question wording:**

What do you think is the percent chance that **within the next 3 months**, you will start looking for a job (a new job)?

## Q2394: Probability of looking for a job in 3 months

**Topic and detailed topic:** Labour market

**Variable type:** Quarterly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Next 3 months

**Filtering:** [If Q2254 eq 0 and (Q2021 eq 1 or Q2021 eq 2 or Q2021 eq 3 or Q2021 eq 4 or Q2021 eq 6 or Q2021 eq 9 or Q2021 eq 10 or Q2021 eq 11)]

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, replaced Q2393 in wave 55 (July 2024).

---

**Coding:** [Numerical]

0 to 100	Valid range
-999	Don't know

**Question wording:**

What do you think is the percent chance that **within the next 3 months**, you will start looking for a job (a new job)?

## Q4010\_1-11: Applied for credit

**Topic and detailed topic:** Labour market

**Variable type:** Quarterly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Past 3 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Discontinued, used from the first quarterly round of data collection until wave 7 (July 2020) and replaced by Q4011 in wave 10 (October 2020)

**Coding:** [Categorical]

0	No
1	Yes

For each of the below variables:

1	A mortgage to purchase a house or other real estate or a housing loan for home renovation
2	A loan to purchase a car, motorbike or other vehicle
3	Another type of consumer loan or instalment debt
4	A leasing contract (e.g. on a car)
5	A credit card or an account with an overdraft facility with a financial institution
6	A loan for education purposes
7	An increase in the limit of an existing loan
8	Refinancing of your current mortgage
9	No, did not apply for any of the above
10	Prefer not to answer
11	Don't know

**Question wording:**

**During the last 3 months**, has your household applied for any of the following?

## Q4011\_1-11: Applied for credit

**Topic and detailed topic:** Labour market

**Variable type:** Quarterly

**Reference unit:** Household

**Reference period:** Past 3 months

**Filtering:** All respondents

**Mode of collection:** Actual response

**In use (period):** Yes, replaced Q4010 in wave 10 (October 2020)

**Coding:** [Categorical]

0	No
1	Yes

For each of the below variables:

1	A mortgage to purchase a house or other real estate or a housing loan for home renovation
2	A loan to purchase a car, motorbike or other vehicle
3	Another type of consumer loan or instalment debt
4	A leasing contract (e.g. on a car)
5	A credit card or an account with an overdraft facility with a financial institution
6	A loan for education purposes
7	An increase in the limit of an existing loan
8	Refinancing of your current mortgage
9	No, did not apply for any of the above
11	Don't know

**Question wording:**

**During the last 3 months**, has your household applied for any of the following?

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