

Technical note - 2019 SILC reform

In 2019, a number of fundamental improvements were made to the survey. Consequently, the results until 2018 are not comparable with the results from 2019 onwards. These improvements are part of an Integrated European Social Statistics (IESS) reform plan. The fracture is both substantive and methodological.

In terms of content, a switch was made in 2019 to the use of administrative data for the majority of income variables (more information [here](#)). As a result, the SILC questionnaire as a whole was fundamentally revised. Questions were reworded and/or repositioned, new questions were added and other questions were deleted. This has an impact on the results. This substantive reform was crucial to reduce the burden on respondents, improve data quality and meet tighter deadlines.

At a methodological level, the whole model for the correction of non-response, attrition of panel members and calibration was revised. From now on, administrative variables (more specifically, household tax income) will be taken into account when calculating weights. This methodological reform increases the accuracy of estimates. This allows results to be calculated with sufficient accuracy at regional level, making it possible to start a regional series of figures with the figures of SILC 2019.