

European Quality of Life Survey

The entity that has organized the survey and is responsible for data collection – as well as key data on the entity's membership, governance arrangements, source of funding etc.

The European Quality of Life Survey (EQLS) is organized by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, Eurofound. Eurofound is a European Union body founded in 1975 to contribute to better living and working conditions. It cooperates with governments, employers, trade unions, and the European Union institutions. It is led by a director and a deputy director who are appointed by the European Commission from a list provided by [the Governing Board](#) – which is made up of representatives of the governments, employers and trade unions. Eurofound has a [staff](#) counting around 100 members. For more information on the organisation of the Eurofound, please [click here](#). Eurofound is funded by the European Commission.

A historical sketch of the initiation and origin of the survey

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Internet links to the website of the responsible organization

[The website of Eurofound](#)

[The website of the European Quality of Life Survey](#)

The frequency or repetitions of the survey. Possible explanation of this.

The EQLS is carried out approximately every four years.

Round 1: 2003

Round 2: 2007

Round 3: 2012

A description of the survey's content, i.e. both focused rotational and / or core modules of the survey

The goal of the EQLS is to examine both the objective circumstances of European citizens' lives and their subjective views about their lives. As such, key indicators include employment status, economic resources, family and households, community life and social participation, health and health care, knowledge, education and training, satisfaction with life, perceptions of quality of society, and so on.

An outline of the type of sample and the main data collection methods used

Random probability samples were selected in each country. Sample sizes vary, but there is a minimum limit of 1,000 per country. The frame population has to be representative of at least 95 % of the total population of the country. For detailed information about sampling design and size in the last two rounds, see Sampling 2007 ([design](#) or [size](#)), or [Sampling 2012](#).

Interviews are conducted face-to-face.

An account of the availability of the data to researchers, restrictions on access, etc.

The datasets are freely available to the public for non-commercial purposes and are made available no later than two years after fieldwork completion. Commercial use is dependent on a successful application to Eurofound. The datasets may be found [here](#).

Questionnaires, English version

[EQLS 2003 Questionnaire](#)

[EQLS 2007 Questionnaire](#)

[EQLS 2012 Questionnaire](#)

The countries included in the different rounds

EQLS 2003: The former EU15 + the 10 new member states + three candidate countries for a total of 28 countries.

EQLS 2007: The 27 EU member states + Croatia, FYR Macedonia, Norway, and Turkey for a total of 31 countries.

EQLS 2012: The 27 EU member states + seven candidate countries for a total of 34 countries.

Cumulative file of the various rounds

At the moment of writing, there is no cumulative file.

Publications based on the data

There is no list of publications based on the data.

Analytical summary...

Sources

Unless otherwise noted, all information is extracted from the website of the EQLS and/or Eurofound.