

Module on
Reconciliation between
work and family life
2018

Methodology

Madrid, June 2019

1. Background

The Community Labour Force Survey (CLFS) is coordinated throughout the European Union in accordance with Council Regulation 577/98 on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community (Official Journal L 077, 14 March 1998).

In Spain, the Community Labour Force Survey is included in the Spanish Labour Force Survey, which was adjusted to the mentioned regulation since the first quarter of 1999.

This regulation establishes that a series of questions on particular issues related with the labour market must be included in the second quarter of each year. Therefore, until 2005 an ad hoc module was carried out during these quarters in Spain, together with the Spanish Labour Force Survey.

En 2005, Regulation 430/2005 was published. It gave the opportunity to provide a group of variables called *structural variables* for an annual sub-sample which would be representative of the year. In case of using an annual sub-sample, it was determined that the gathering of information corresponding with the modules should be carried out together with the sub-sample variables during the whole year.

Therefore in Spain, starting from 2006, the questionnaire associated with the module is asked during the whole year in the sixth interview and for a sixth of the sample, when the information on the sub-sample variables is gathered.

For 2018 the subject addressed was *Reconciliation between work and family life*, pursuant to the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/2236 of 12 December 2016 which defines the technical characteristics of the LFS AHM.

The target population in the 2018 AHM is the people between 18 and 64 years old.

2 Survey design and field work

The sample design of the ad-hoc module *on Reconciliation between work and family life* is the same as that of the Spanish Labour Force Survey, since it is carried out together with the survey in a sixth of the quarter sample and during the whole year. The most important characteristics of the simple design are described below. More information is available on the National Statistics Institute publications: *EPA. Manual técnico* (Spanish Labour Force Survey. Technical handbook) and *EPA. Descripción de la encuesta, definiciones e instrucciones para la cumplimentación del cuestionario* (Spanish Labour Force Survey. Survey description, definitions and instructions to complete the questionnaire).

The Spanish Labour Force Survey is a continuous and quarterly survey whose geographical scope is the entire national territory. It is addressed to the population living in the main family dwellings, that is the dwellings used during the whole year or most of the year as a permanent and usual home. Collective households (such as hospitals, old people's homes, barracks, convents...) and secondary or seasonal dwellings are not included in the survey.

The survey has a stratified two-stage sampling. Census sections are the first-stage units and household dwellings are the second-stage units. All persons residing in selected dwellings are interviewed.

The sample size is 3,822 sections and, typically, 65,000 dwellings and 160,000 people.

The sample has been spatially distributed following a compromise allocation between proportional allocation and uniform allocation, aiming at being able to provide province estimates (NUTS 3) and Autonomous Communities estimates (NUTS 2).

On the other hand, the sample is evenly distributed along the thirteen weeks that make each quarter.

The sections sample is divided in 6 sub-samples called *waves* and each quarter the dwellings of a wave are replaced; thanks to this mechanism, each family is interviewed during six consecutive quarters and replaced by another family of the same section at the end of the six quarters period.

The field work is carried out by the interviewers working for the National Statistics Institute in each of its 52 delegations. The first interview is personal, the second and following interviews are carried out by phone, unless the family does not have a phone or if they prefer a personal interview.

Personal interviews are carried out in each one of the 52 delegations while the phone interviews are carried out in 7 delegations, where the CATI centres (centres for the computer-assisted gathering of phone information) are located. All the interviews are carried out with a laptop or a desktop computer. The delegation working system is weekly and basically the sequence is as follows:

- Interview week
- Revision and data editing week

– Questionnaires submission to Central Services (by teleprocessing) week

In December 2017 a intranet web page was created so that the provincial delegations could consult the ad-hoc module questions and the instructions for filling it in.

The fieldwork was carried out between January 8th 2018 and January 5th 2019, corresponding to the reference period between January 1th 2018 and December 30st 2018.

Table 1 shows sample size and non response.

Tabla 1. Sample size and non response in the sixth interview along the 2018 four quarters

	Total	
	Absolute value	Percentage
Initial sample	46,432	100
Refusals	2,297	4.95
Absences	4,373	9.42
Inaccessible	677	1.46
Total non response	7347	15.82
Interviewed original sample	39,085	84.18

39,085 dwellings made up the finally interviewed sample. None of them was rejected during the centralized processing.

Table 2. Sample effectively interviewed in the sixth interview

	Total	
	Absolute value	Percentage
Original sample interviewed	39,085	100
Sample loss due to centralized processing	0	0
Sample effectively interviewed	39,085	100

82,432 people were considered candidates for the sixth interviews and 58,197 for the target population of the 2018 ad-hoc module survey. There were no cases of non response for the module.

3 Questionnaire

Module on Reconciliation between work and family life

(Everybody aged 18-64)

People aged between 18 and 64, i.e. $18 \leq \text{EDAD} \leq 64$

Otherwise, end of Module

You are now required to answer some extra questions that allow us to analyze your reconciliation between work and family life

1.-Do you or does your partner have children younger than 15 years of age who live outside this household?

(Interviewer: Children younger than 15 in foster care or temporary custody must also be taken into account)

- Yes, one 1
- Yes, more than one 2
- No 3 | Go to the box 1 above M3
- Cannot say 0 | Go to the box 1 above M3

2.-

(If M1=1) **Do you take care of him/her regularly?**

(If M1=2) **Do you take care of some of them regularly?**

- Yes 1
- No, although you do occasionally 2
- No 3
- Cannot say 0

Box 1

People for whom at least one child of their own or their couple's is younger than 15 years of age living in their household or people with children younger than 15 years of age living outside their household but who take regularly care of them (M2=1)

Otherwise, go to M7

Box 2

If there exists at least one child of his own or their couple's child younger than 15 years of age living in their household and M2=1

Otherwise, go to the box 3

Text 1

We will now continue with some questions regarding children under 15 years of age, whether they live in this household or outside of it

Go to M3

Box 3

If there exists at least one child of their own or their couple's younger than 15 years of age living in their household and M2#1

Otherwise, go to M3

Text 2

We will now continue with some questions regarding children under 15 years of age, who live in this household

3. Do you normally use childcare services like kindergartens, crèches, after school centers or professional childminders?

(Interviewer: The data should refer to a normal week omitting school holidays, children's diseases and other special circumstances)

The use of childcare services organized by the other parent should also be taken into account, just in case the child lives outside the household (Mandatory schooling must be excluded)

- Yes, for all of your children younger than 15 years of age 1 | Go to the box above M6
- Yes, but not for all of your children younger than 15 years of age 2
- No 3
- Cannot say 0 | Go to the box above M6

4.

(If M3=2) **What is the main reason for not using childcare services for all of your children and/or of your partner's?**

(If M3=3) **What is the main reason for not using childcare services?**

(Interviewer: This question is referred to children younger than 15 years of age)

- There is no service or vacancy available 1 | Go to the box above M6
- They are too expensive 2 | Go to the box above M6
- The quality or kind of offered services 3 | Go to the box above M6
- Opening hours do not meet the needs of the household 4 | Go to the box above M6
- Other reasons concerning the offer of care services 5 | Go to the box above M6
- There is no need or interest 6
- Cannot say 0 | Go to the box above M6

5. Could you specify why not?

- Because care is arranged alone or together with partner 1
- Because care is arranged with the support of grandparents, relatives or friends 2
- (Appears only if M3 = 2) Because you don't need them for all of your children 3
- Because the children can take care of themselves 4
- For other reasons 5
- Cannot say 0

→ | Otherwise, go to M7

6. Have your care responsibilities for your children, had an effect on your current employment?

Please choose the most important effect.

(Interviewer: The answer categories should be read out loud completely before the respondent answers)

- Changed something to earn more money 1
- Reduced working hours 2
- Chose less demanding tasks in job 3
- Changed job or employer to facilitate reconciliation 4
- Being on parental or another family leave 5
- Changed your entry and exit working times without reducing the total hours worked 6
- Others not mentioned above 7
- They hadn't got any effects 8
- Cannot say 0

7. Do you take care of your children from the age of 15 who are disabled or ill or of other relatives who are disabled, ill or elderly?

(They are included whether they reside in this household or outside of it)

- Yes, and take care of them regularly 1
- Yes, and take care of them occasionally 2
- No 3
- Cannot say 0

People with care responsibilities, that is, with at least one child of their own or of their partner under the age of 15 living in this household or with children under 15 years of age, living outside this household, of whom they regularly take care (M2 = 1) or people who regularly take care of other relatives disabled, ill or elderly (M7 = 1)

Otherwise, go to the box above M11

For employed people, i.e. TRAPLU#b

Otherwise, go to the box above M11

Next, I am going to ask you about the care of your younger children (or those of your partner) and/or of disabled, ill or elderly relatives

8.

(If TRAPLU=6,0) **Do some characteristics of your job make it especially difficult to reconcile with your care responsibilities?**

Please indicate the main difficulty to reconcile

(If TRAPLU=1) **Do some characteristics of your main job make it especially difficult to reconcile with your care responsibilities?**

Please indicate the main difficulty to reconcile

(Interviewer: The answer categories should be read out loud completely before the respondent answers)

- Long working hours 1
- Unpredictable or difficult work schedules 2
- A long commute 3
- Demanding or exhausting job 4
- Lack of support from employers and colleagues 5
- Another difficulty 6
- No special difficulty 7
- Cannot say 0

If (((SITU1=5, 6 or (SITU1=1 and COOAS1=1) or (SITU1=3 and DESAC1=3) or (SITU1=4 and RESID1=6)) and TRAPLU <> b) or (SITU12=5, 6 or (SITU12=1 and COOAS2=1) or (SITU12=3 and DESAC2=3) or (SITU12=4 and RESID2=6))) or SITU11=7,0 and SITU12=7,0) that is, the person is in employment or doesn't know what is his/her professional status

Otherwise, go to the box above M11

9.

(If TRAPLU=6,0) **Can you modify the start or end of your working day in your job to assume better your responsibilities for child care and/or that of dependent adults?**

(If TRAPLU=1) **Can you modify the start or end of your working day in your main job to assume better your responsibilities for child care and/or that of dependent adults?**

- In general, you can 1
- You hardly ever can 2
- You cannot 3
- Cannot say 0

10.

(If TRAPLU=6,0) Without considering holidays, can you arrange your working time in your job to take at least one full day off to assume better your responsibilities for child care and/or that of dependent adults?

(If TRAPLU=1) Without considering holidays, can you arrange your working time in your main job to take at least one full day off to assume better your responsibilities for child care and/or that of dependent adults?

- In general, you can 1
- You hardly ever can 2
- You cannot 3
- Cannot say 0

Box

People who neither have any children of their own or of their couple who live in their household nor children of their own or their couple's under 15 years of age outside their household (M1 # 1,2)	
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→ Otherwise, go to the box 1 above M12

Text

Finally, I'm going to ask you some questions about the period of time since you finished your studies until now, but first I would need to know:

11. Do you have any children of yours or of your partner, aged 15 or older, who lives outside the household?

- Yes 1 | Go to the box 1 above M12
- No 6 | Go to the box above M16
- Cannot say 0 | Go to the box above M16

Box 1

If M11 = b	
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→ Otherwise, go to the box 2 above M12

Text

Finally, I'm going to ask you some questions about the period of time since you finished your studies until now

Box 2

For people who have never worked, i.e. TRAPLU=b and EMPANT#1	
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→ Otherwise, go to M13

12. Did you never work mainly because you took care of your children and/or your partners's children?

- Yes 1 | End of Module
- No 6 | End of Module
- Cannot say 0 | End of Module

13. During the period of time since you finished your studies until now, did you not work for at least one continuous month to take care of your children and/or your partners's children?

(Maternity and parental leaves, an interruption agreed with your employer, quit your job, shut down your business or did not start work right after you completed your education are included.

Regular holidays, even if they are especially used for childcare, should not be counted as an interruption)

- Yes 1
- No 6 | Go to M16
- Cannot say 0 | Go to M16

14. Considering all the periods of time during which you did not work for taking care of children, how long did they last?

(Interviewer: The answer categories should be read out completely before the respondent answers)

- Up to 6 months 1
- More than 6 months and up to 1 year 2
- More than 1 year and up to 2 years 3
- More than 2 years and up to 3 years 4
- More than 3 years and up to 5 years 5
- More than 5 years 6
- Cannot say 0

15. Was any of those periods of interruption for taking parental leave?

- Yes, in combination with maternity/paternity leave 1 | Go to M16
- Yes, only parental leave 2 | Go to M16
- No, only maternity/paternity leave 3 | Go to M16
- The interruption was for other reasons 4 | Go to M16
- Cannot say 0 | Go to M16

For people who work or have ever worked, i.e. (TRAPLU#b or EMPANT=1)

Otherwise, End of module

16.

(If M11=6, 0) During the period of time described above, did you not work for at least one continuous month to take care of ill, disabled or elderly relatives from the age of 15?

(If M11#6, 0) During the period of time since you finished your studies until now, did you not work for at least one continuous month to take care of ill, disabled or elderly relatives from the age of 15?

(Leaves to take care of relatives, an interruption agreed with your employer, quit your job, or shut down your business are included.)

Regular holidays, even if they are especially used for taking care of them, should not be counted as an interruption)

- Yes 1 | End of Module
- No 2
- Never had to take care of dependent relatives 3 | End of Module
- Cannot say 0 | End of Module

17. During that period of time, did you reduce your working time for at least one month to take care of ill, disabled or elderly relatives from the age of 15?

- Yes 1 | End of Module
- No 6 | End of Module
- Cannot say 0 | End of Module

4. Instructions for completing the questionnaire

Module on reconciliation between work and family life (Economically Active Population Survey 2018)

A INTRODUCTION

Until 2005, in the second quarter of each year, a series of questions on specific issues related to the labour market are included in the Economically Active Population Survey. Since 2006, these questions have been asked throughout the year, but only to one-sixth of the sample, specifically to the dwellings that are on their sixth interview. These questions are included in the so-called *Ad hoc module*, which is carried out in cooperation with the Labour Force Surveys of other European Union countries, as indicated in Council Regulation (EC) No. 577/98 of 9 March 1998, on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community (Official Journal of the European Communities L 77, of 14 March).

The 2018 module arises from a common agreement between the national statistics institutes and Eurostat based on Article 14 (1) (c) of Regulation (EC) No. 223/2009 of the European Parliament and the European Council on Statistics which allows for the implementation of statistical studies by means of agreements.

According to the mentioned regulation, this type of agreement must be written so as to guarantee a sufficient level of transparency, clarity and certainty in the development, production and dissemination of the European statistics.

Commission Regulation (EU) No. 318/2013 of 8 April 2013 adopting the programme of ad hoc modules, covering the years 2016 to 2018, for the labour force sample survey provided for in Regulation (EC) No. 577/98 (OJ L 99, 9.4.2013, p. 11) establishes an ad hoc module on reconciliation between work and family life.

The EU has a continuing commitment to promoting work-life balance. In the Directive on maternity leave (Council Directive 92/85/EEC of 19 October 1992 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health at work of pregnant workers and workers who have recently given birth or are breastfeeding (tenth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16(1) of Directive 89/391/EEC) (OJ L 348, 28.11.1992, p. 1) and the Directive on parental leave (Council Directive 2010/18/EU of 8 March 2010) implementing the revised Framework Agreement on parental leave concluded by BUSI-

NESSEUROPE, UEAPME, CEEP and ETUC and repealing Directive 96/34/EC (OJ L 68, 18.3.2010, p. 13) lay down minimum standards in this respect. Similarly, the EU has set targets for improving the provision of childcare in line with the Barcelona targets, and has made country-specific recommendations on work-life balance in the 2016 European Semester.

In its 2016 work programme (COM(2015) 610 final 4), the Commission presents its plans to better address the work-life balance challenges of parents and carers.

It is therefore essential to monitor these challenges and the progress made, and it is equally important to improve data collection.

According to the political needs of the moment, in the ad-hoc module that will be carried out during 2018, the topic to be investigated is the reconciliation between work and family life, the main objectives being the following:

1. To obtain complete information on all the care responsibilities of those who have children of their own or the couple's children under 15 years of age, or disabled or sick family members aged 15 and over or elderly family members.
2. To study the way in which people participate in the labour market, as well as to determine the situations in which this participation is impossible, in which case, the aim is to find out whether the reasons that prevent it are related or not to the absence or unavailability of satisfactory services for the care of children and other dependent persons.

More specifically, this would involve:

- Identifying care and attention responsibilities for children and other dependent persons.
 - Analysing the consequences of participation in the labour market, considering the nuance of free choice versus imposition.
3. Analysing the reconciliation with family life according to the degree of flexibility offered at work.
 4. Estimate the permits requested and how often they are requested:
 - Changes in normal working hours in order to take care of children or sick persons, relatives or friends aged 15 or over who need care.
 - Maternity/paternity leave for childcare.

In contrast to the last ad-hoc module on reconciliation carried out in 2010, the 2018 module will only study the care of family members, as these are directly related to the respondent's responsibilities and, therefore, their care may further hinder the respondent's participation in the labour market, as opposed to care support for non-family members (e.g. friends, neighbours' children), which is based on voluntary support, and only when circumstances permit.

B TARGET POPULATION OF THE MODULE

The module is addressed to people between 18 and 64 years old.

C INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE

This section provides the instructions for completing the questionnaire.

A paper version of the questionnaire is included in Annex I.

In Annex II, a number of assumptions are proposed to clarify the content of some questions. In case of doubt, one may contact the department promoting the survey.

Code 0 (cannot say) should be used exclusively if the person is unable to select any of the remaining response codes. This should not be read by the interviewer. This norm is applicable to all questions that allow "cannot say" as a response.

The questionnaire will be answered by people aged between 18 and 64

In addition to this general filter, you will find next to each question the additional specific filters that affect it.

1.-Do you or does your partner have children younger than 15 years of age who live outside this household?

(Interviewer: Children younger than 15 in foster care or temporary custody must also be taken into account)

- | | | | |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| - Yes, one | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| - Yes, more than one | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| - No | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box 1 above M3 |
| - Cannot say | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box 1 above M3 |

This question is aimed at people aged between 18 and 64.

It considers children under 15 years of age whose habitual residence is not the household of the person interviewed.

It takes into account biological children as well as adopted, foster and step children and minors in legal fostering (children in legal fostering are also taken into account although they are not family members, as foster parents have to assume responsibility for their care).

Since care responsibilities are often shared within a family or household, in this module, questions about own children always include the ones of the spouse or the cohabiting partner.

2.-

(If M1=1) **Do you take care of him/her regularly?**

(If M1=2) **Do you take care of some of them regularly?**

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| - Yes | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - No, although you do occasionally | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - No | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Cannot say | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

This question is intended to identify the responsibilities for the regular care of children of one or both partners, assumed by the person interviewed, as any such responsibility may be an obstacle to the person's participation in the labour market. The reference period is the current situation and the term regularly refers to a fixed pattern of behaviour: every day, every week, etc. Care should be done at least a few hours per week. In the case of fortnightly care, it will be taken into account if the average is at least several hours per week. Interviewees who perform childcare tasks during certain periods of the year should refer only to the situation in the reference week.

If the care consists only of financial support, this should not be considered regular care.

The following activities are considered childcare:

- Personal care (washing, help with dressing, help with eating, etc.)
- Help with homework
- Playing games
- Reading
- Supervision
- Taking out or giving a ride

3. Do you normally use childcare services like kindergartens, crèches, after school centers or professional childminders?

(Interviewer: The data should refer to a normal week omitting school holidays, children's diseases and other special circumstances)

*The use of childcare services organized by the other parent should also be taken into account, just in case the child lives outside the household
Mandatory schooling must be excluded)*

- | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|------------------------|
| - Yes, for all of your children younger than 15 years of age | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box above M6 |
| - Yes, but not for all of your children younger than 15 years of age | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| - No | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| - Cannot say | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box above M6 |

This question will be answered by people aged between 18 and 64, who have a child of their own or a child of their partner under the age of 15 who lives in the household or that living outside the household, they regularly take care of him or her.

This question attempts to find out whether all children who are cared for by the respondent are also regularly cared for by professional childcare services.

This information is useful for assessing whether parental participation in the labour market depends on the use of such formal or professional services. In order to accurately determine the influence of care responsibilities on employment, the situation of each child would need to be identified. However, as the number of questions in the ad-hoc module is limited, it is sufficient for at least one child not receiving additional care from a professional childcare service to assume that the child may need much more attention from his or her parents and thus limiting his or her parent's employment possibilities. Therefore, this question makes a distinction as to whether professional care services are used for all, some, or none of the children.

The question refers to the normal situation, that is, neither school holidays nor special or occasional situations should be taken into account.

Professional care services are considered whether they are part-time or full-time.

This question should also consider the use of professional childcare services if these are organized by the other parent in the event that the child lives outside the home.

By "professional care" is meant both those provided in childcare institutions for payment of the service, and those contracted on an hourly basis in exchange for wages, to persons providing such care services, usually in the home (households employing domestic service). Therefore, self-employed persons would be taken into account, as well as any person who engages in this occupation on a regular basis, including students who do so in this way.

Professional childcare services include all forms of care organized by public or private institutions, such as:

- Nurseries, kindergartens
- Day Care Centres

- Organized family care (babysitters hired by childcare centres who visit the home).
- Crèches or after-school activity centres (excluding sports clubs where children attend to practise sports or centres providing language courses).
- Private babysitters or specialized personnel directly hired by the family. For the purposes of the survey, these babysitters have to be paid in order to be taken into account in this question as a professional service. Care can take place either in the family home, in the carer's home or at a suitable facility.

Organized services are included, regardless of whether payments are made directly by parents or are subsidised by the state or by the employer.

If the child attends an additional supervision service at his/her own school after regular school hours, this will be considered as a professional childcare service. Care provided during normal school hours is not taken into account in this question.

Attendance at sports clubs, sports classes, language courses, classes or extracurricular activities is also not considered childcare, whether or not it takes place in the school itself.

If the child is left in the care of relatives or friends and they do not receive financial compensation for it, the care is not taken into account in this question, regardless of whether or not the relatives or friends reside in the same household as the child.

The question refers to routine care. Occasional care by caregivers and baby-sitters should not be taken into account, even if payment is made for them.

4.

(If M3=2) **What is the main reason for not using childcare services for all of your children and/or of your partner's?**

(If M3=3) **What is the main reason for not using childcare services?**

(Interviewer: This question is referred to children younger than 15 years of age)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|------------------------|
| - There is no service or vacancy available | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box above M6 |
| - They are too expensive | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box above M6 |
| - The quality or kind of offered services | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box above M6 |
| - Opening hours do not meet the needs of the household | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box above M6 |
| - Other reasons concerning the offer of care services | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box above M6 |
| - There is no need or interest | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| - Cannot say | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box above M6 |

This question will be answered by people aged between 18 and 64 who have at least one child of their own or of their partner under the age of 15 living in the home or outside the home they regularly care for and who do not use professional childcare services, or who use them only for some of them, but not for all of them.

It will be formulated in two different ways depending on the answer in M3, i.e., that they do not use these services for any child or that they use them for some of them but not for all of them.

The question refers to the current situation. The interviewee has to decide what the main reason is. The answers include both the reasons related to the supply of services (obstacles to accessing them) and the reasons related to the demand for them on the part of the family, since a large number of parents do not require more care services, because they have organised the care of children in another way that meets their needs, through informal support or by adapting their work situation. Parents may also not need these services because their children are old enough to be left alone.

If M3=2, i.e., professional childcare services are used for some but not all of them, the answer should refer to those for which they are not used.

If there are children of different ages, the main reason why these childcare services are not used could be different, for example, there could be no vacancy in the childcare centres for the young child and only very expensive childcare centres for the older one. In this case, the interviewee should select the motive that he or she perceives as more limiting or lasting.

Answer 1 should be chosen when no childcare service exists in the household's catchment or existing services have no vacancies available. It should also be selected in cases where a child does not have access because the requirements for using the service are not met (e.g. the child is too young, the parents' income is too high or other social criteria, the child has to belong to a certain confession, etc.) or existing services are full. The area of influence of a household is subject to the respondent's criterion and depends on their personal assessment and possibilities.

Answer 2 should be chosen when the respondent considers that price is the main problem for which payments cannot be made or if they are considered disproportionately high. If additional costs such as transport costs, meals or the purchase of special clothing (uniform, etc.) are decisive for the total or partial non-use of childcare services, the answer 2 should also be selected.

In answer 3, quality refers both to the qualification of the staff and to the capability to give the particular attention needed or to the state of the facilities or the building. Available services may have a pedagogical orientation (e.g. Montessori, Waldorf, etc.), which may not fit household preferences.

If care services cannot be used because their opening hours does not meet the needs of the household, answer 4 should be selected.

Answer 5 considers any other problem not described above that arises from the existing supply of childcare services.

If a household currently does not want or does not need additional professional childcare services, regardless of the characteristics of the offer, the respondent should choose answer 6.

5. Could you specify why not?

- Because care is arranged alone or together with partner 1
- Because care is arranged with the support of grandparents, relatives or friends 2
- (Appears only if M3 = 2) Because you don't need them for all of your children 3
- Because the children can take care of themselves 4
- For other reasons 5
- Cannot say 0

This question will be answered by people who in M4 have answered 6, that is, people who do not use professional services for the care of their children, or who using them, do so only for some of them, but not for all of them, because they do not need them or are not interested in them.

Answer 1 applies to couples who have found a way to organise themselves to raise their children, either by doing so one of them or by sharing the care responsibilities of their children and adapting, accordingly, the form and schedule or volume of their employment. It also applies to single-parent families who manage their care responsibilities on their own.

Answer 2 should be chosen if the respondent considers that he or she does not use professional childcare services because he/she has additional unpaid informal support from grandparents, other relatives or friends.

Answer 3 should only be shown if the interviewee uses professional childcare services for some but not all of his/her children (M3 =2)

This code will be chosen if the interviewee considers that the main reason for not using professional services for all his/her children is that he/she does not need more professional help because the one he/she receives is sufficient; ahead of other reasons such as that he/she *organises care privately*, either with the help of his/her partner or with the help of other relatives or that the *children are already sufficiently independent*.

If the main reason is that the children over whom the respondent has care responsibilities can already care for themselves, or even care for younger siblings inside the household, answer 4 should be selected.

Answer 5 will be chosen in the event that the main reason is another reason not cited above.

**6. Have your care responsibilities for your children, had an effect on your current employment?
Please choose the most important effect.**

(Interviewer: The answer categories should be read out loud completely before the respondent answers)

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| - Changed something to earn more money | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Reduced working hours | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Chose less demanding tasks in job | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Changed job or employer to facilitate reconciliation | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Being on parental or another family leave | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Changed your entry and exit working times without reducing the total hours worked | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Others not mentioned above | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - They hadn't got any effects | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Cannot say | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

This question will be answered by persons aged between 18 and 64 who have at least one child of their own or a child of their partner under the age of 15 who lives in the household or outside the household, who cares for the child regularly and who are currently employed, whether they have been working in the reference week, or have been absent from work due to illness, vacations, etc.

Due to the intention of the question, it is necessary that all response categories are fully read before the respondent answers, in order to support the respondent's answering process. If there is more than one effect, the respondent should choose the one that seems most important to him or her.

This question must take into account the effects on their employment that may have taken place in the past and that persist in the present, even if there are no longer childcare responsibilities. In addition, if when responsibilities cease to exist the person concerned intends to return to the previous situation, the effect on employment will also be taken into account. For example, if a person reduced the number of working hours to care for their children, this effect on employment should be taken into account and coded with a 2, even if at the end of the care period the number of working hours is increased to return to the previous situation.

In the category 1 are included the cases in which the respondent made changes such as increasing working hours or accepting a job with more responsibilities to earn more money. It also takes into account a change of company or start an additional job to increase their salary.

The change may be necessary simply because increased expenses due to the arrival of a new family member cannot be covered or because the person becomes the sole breadwinner while the partner takes care of the child.

Answers 2 and 3 refer to changes in existing jobs. If a person has several jobs, the changes made in any of them should be counted.

The answer 4 will be selected in cases in which the interviewee changed the job or employer in order to facilitate the reconciliation of their work with their care respon-

sibilities. This might have been necessary because it was not possible to reduce working hours or tasks in the existing job or because the new job offered more working time flexibility or was in a better location.

Any change to increase income is covered by answer 1.

Category 5 does not include maternity or paternity leave or annual holidays. Those interviewed during any of these periods must answer the question taking into account the situation after the leave or holidays.

If they plan to change something in their work but have not yet decided what, they will choose code 7.

If, in addition to holidays, the interviewee had taken unpaid days without having requested any type of leave, they should also select code 7.

Answer 6 refers to whether the interviewee was able to change his or her working time without changing the total hours dedicated to it. For example, the person could start working later in the morning, leaving work later, in order to take their children to school, or could accumulate hours during some days of the week in order to be able to be absent from work on days when no other care service was available, etc.

7. Do you take care of your children from the age of 15 who are disabled or ill or of other relatives who are disabled, ill or elderly?

(They are included whether they reside in this household or outside of it)

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| - Yes, and take care of them regularly | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Yes, and take care of them occasionally | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - No | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Cannot say | 0 <input type="checkbox"/> |

This question will be answered by all people aged between 18 and 64.

This question refers both to care provided to family members aged 15 and over, and to care provided to the couple (even if there are no family ties between them). This includes both caring for them and helping them because they are ill, disabled or elderly.

The family members to whom the question refers may be their own or those of the spouse or the partner with whom the person lives, regardless of whether they live in the same household as the interviewee or not.

The following activities are considered dependent adult care:

- Personal care (washing, help with dressing, help with eating, etc.)
- Physical help (e.g., moving or walking)
- Help with paperwork or financial issues
- Domestic help (housework, laundry, groceries, etc.)
- Keeping company, visiting, chatting, helping the person on a journey, accompanying the person for a walk, etc.

The care of children under 15 years old with disabilities should not be taken into account in this question.

In this question, as in M2, the care of disabled, sick or elderly relatives living outside the household is considered regular if it is carried out, at least, a few hours per week. In the case that the care is carried out fortnightly, it will be taken into account if the average is at least several hours per week.

Interviewees who perform these tasks only during certain periods of the year should refer to their situation in the reference week, i.e. they should consider whether or not they performed these tasks during the reference week.

For the purposes of this survey, care of non-relatives, care as a job, or when such care is performed by the person as a volunteer or as a member of a charity, will not be taken into account.

8.

(If TRAPLU=6,0) **Do some characteristics of your job make it especially difficult to reconcile with your care responsibilities?**

Please indicate the main difficulty to reconcile

(If TRAPLU=1) **Do some characteristics of your main job make it especially difficult to reconcile with your care responsibilities?**

Please indicate the main difficulty to reconcile

(Interviewer: The answer categories should be read out loud completely before the respondent answers)

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| - Long working hours | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Unpredictable or difficult work schedules | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - A long commute | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Demanding or exhausting job | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Lack of support from employers and colleagues | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Another difficulty | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - No special difficulty | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Cannot say | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

This question will be answered by people aged between 18 and 64 who have responsibilities for the care of minor children or dependent family members and who are employed.

The interviewer has to read all response options before the respondent responds, in order to clarify what type of obstacles are considered in the question and thus support the respondent's response process.

It will be formulated in two different ways depending on whether the interviewee has one or more jobs. In the case of having several jobs, the question will refer to the main job.

The main obstacle encountered in their main job for the fulfilment of care responsibilities is requested. If the respondent thinks that several characteristics of his or her main job pose a problem, he or she should choose the one that he or she thinks has the most negative consequences.

Answer 5 applies, for example, to people who, in principle, might be able to organize their work according to their care responsibilities, but their peers and/or direct bosses or supervisors do not allow it.

If the place where an interviewee works is not fixed and you see that fact as the main obstacle, the answer should be coded with a 6.

9.

(If TRAPLU=6,0) **Can you modify the start or end of your working day in your job to assume better your responsibilities for child care and/or that of dependent adults?**

(If TRAPLU=1) **Can you modify the start or end of your working day in your main job to assume better your responsibilities for child care and/or that of dependent adults?**

- In general, you can 1
- You hardly ever can 2
- You cannot 3
- Cannot say 0

This question will be answered by people who, complying with the general filter of the module, have care responsibilities for children and/or dependent adults and are employees.

It will be formulated in two different ways depending on whether the interviewee has one or more jobs. In the case of having several, the question refers to the main job.

The aim of this question is to assess the degree of reconciliation between working life and caring responsibilities of family members by taking into account flexibility in the beginning and end of the working day, be it this usual or exceptional flexibility.

In answering this question, both formal and informal working arrangements in terms of working hours will be taken into account.

Care responsibilities refer to those of one's own children or the partner's children under the age of 15 and/or those of dependent adult relatives aged 15 or more.

The question refers to the case in which the schedule is modified and the hours that have not been worked are usually recovered later or earlier. However, these hours do not necessarily have to be compensated in terms of hours worked: the fact that the work was done would be sufficient and should be taken into account.

The answer code 1 will be selected when:

- The person can usually start later and/or finish their working day earlier for family reasons (provided it is not a one-off urgent work period).
- The person has, in general, flexible entry and exit times or the possibility of maintaining a working time banking, or what is the same accumulation of hours for later enjoyment in the form of free hours.

The answer should be code 2, if the person can start later and/or finish earlier and be able to attend to their care responsibilities, but not generally, but on rare occasions, such as emergency situations, death of a relative, etc.

If the person is unable to start and/or finish his/her working day later, neither in general nor due to specific care related reasons, the answer should be 3. It should be used for those interviewees for whom this question is not applicable, due to the special location of their place of work, e.g. for workers on oil rigs.

Respondents who are not informed about their ability to adapt the start and/or end of their working day should not choose category '3', but answer "cannot say" (0).

10.

(If TRAPLU=6,0) **Without considering holidays, can you arrange your working time in your job to take at least one full day off to assume better your responsibilities for child care and/or that of dependent adults?**

(If TRAPLU=1) **Without considering holidays, can you arrange your working time in your main job to take at least one full day off to assume better your responsibilities for child care and/or that of dependent adults?**

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| - In general, you can | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - You hardly ever can | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - You cannot | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Cannot say | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

As with question 9, this question will be answered by people who, complying with the general filter of the module, have care responsibilities for children and/or dependent adults and are employees.

The aim of this question is to assess the degree of reconciliation between work life and caring responsibilities of family members by looking at the possibility of taking full days off, whether this is a regular or an exceptional possibility. This includes agreements that are generally available to all employees and those that are specifically available only to persons with child and/or dependent adult care responsibilities.

Organising the working time means that the person plans their working time in such a way that they can take full days off, e.g. by doing the hours in advance or later, changing shifts, etc. Means of organising the working day include:

- *Banking time* with the possibility of taking full days off.
- Freedom of schedule that allows the absence from work for a full day, without the need for any specific agreement.

Normally, days off are made up before or after you enjoy them, but they do not necessarily have to be made up in hours or days of work. This question also considers the case in which the completion of work is sufficient.

Labour agreements, both formal and informal, in terms of working hours and both paid and unpaid days off will be taken into account. Possible agreements that are taken into account are the possibility of taking days off or the general possibility of taking a full day off from work, without any special agreement.

The use of personal annual leave to care for children or dependent relatives is not taken into account for the purposes of this question. An employer may offer a number of additional days that may be used in case of emergency or to resolve own issues. In these cases and depending on the maximum number of those days, the respondent has to decide between answering answers 1 or 2.

For the purposes of this question, it is not relevant whether days off are paid for or not, but only whether it is possible to take them or not.

Code 1 will be selected if:

- The person can generally take care of children aged less than 15 and/or dependent relatives (as long as it is not a one-off period of urgent work), although there is a limit on the number of days that can be taken.
- The person has free days, which in the case of the Public Administration are known as "moscosos", although there is also a limit on the number of days available.
- The person may, in general, organise his or her working time to take full days off, and may therefore do so, in particular, for family reasons.

Code 2 will be marked if the person can only take full days off in a few situations such as: emergency situations, death of a family member, etc.

Answer code 3 applies to people who cannot organise their working day to take days off in order to better assume their responsibilities for caring for their own children and/or their partner and/or elderly or dependent relatives, even in exceptional circumstances.

Respondents who are not informed or do not know their possibilities of organising their working day in order to take days off to better assume their responsibilities for

caring for their own children and/or their partner and/or elderly dependent relatives should not choose category 3, but answer "Cannot say" (0).

11. Do you have any children of yours or of your partner, aged 15 or older, who lives outside the household?

- | | | | |
|--------------|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| - Yes | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box 1 above M12 |
| - No | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box above M16 |
| - Cannot say | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to the box above M16 |

This question will be answered by people who, complying with the general filter of the module, do not have children of their own or of their partner living in the home, nor children of their own or of their partner under the age of 15 outside the household.

The objective of the following questions is to obtain information on the care of children and disabled, sick or elderly family members and the repercussion of said care on the employment of the interviewee, in the period between the completion of their studies and the current moment.

Specifically, in questions M12 to M15 it is interesting to know the repercussion on employment of the care given to children when they are under 15 years of age.

It could happen, due to the extension of the period to be analysed, that some of these children had died before the time of the interview. If this were the case, that is, if a child had died, it would also have to be taken into account because it could (they could) influence the relationship with the interviewee's employment, at some point in the time past to be analysed. This situation will be recorded by marking code 1.

12. Did you never work mainly because you took care of your children and/or your partners's children?

- | | | | |
|--------------|---|--------------------------|---------------|
| - Yes | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | End of Module |
| - No | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | End of Module |
| - Cannot say | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> | End of Module |

This question will be answered by persons who, complying with the general filter of the module, have had children of their own or of their partner and are not currently employed and have not previously worked.

Only people who think that the main reason why they have not worked has never been to take care of their children and/or those of their partner will mark code 1.

13. During the period of time since you finished your studies until now, did you not work for at least one continuous month to take care of your children and/or your partners's children?

(Maternity and parental leaves, an interruption agreed with your employer, quit your job, shut down your business or did not start work right after you completed your education are included.

Regular holidays, even if they are especially used for childcare, should not be counted as an interruption)

- | | | | |
|--------------|---|--------------------------|-----------|
| - Yes | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| - No | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to M16 |
| - Cannot say | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to M16 |

This question will be answered by people who, complying with the general filter of the module, have had children themselves or their partner and are currently employed or have worked previously.

The aim of this question is to help identify work interruptions related to the care of children under the age of 15 and their effects on the labour market with respect to gender, age, level of education attained and country.

The time period analysed is that between the completion of studies up to the present time.

The effect of these interruptions on career and salaries can be assessed by looking at the current labour market situation, but because there are very different types of interruptions and durations from a few days to a complete withdrawal from the labour market, it is necessary to know them in more detail in order to be able to make a proper interpretation.

It is asked whether the person has interrupted his or her employment for reasons of caring for children under the age of 15 for at least one month in a row during the course of his or her working life. For the purposes of the survey, it would also be considered an interruption in work if a person, on completing his studies, did not enter the labour market directly because he/she preferred to raise his/her children in the first place.

This includes formal family leave of various types, such as maternity leave, paternity leave, parental leave or any other leave (full-time). This may be both legally established leave and leave agreed with the employer formally or informally.

Situations in which employment as such continues and those in which it does not are covered: the person may have left his or her job completely with the intention of returning to the same job or not.

If a person has initially left employment for reasons other than childcare, but has subsequently remained out of the labour market due to such care responsibilities, they should also answer the question with 'Yes'.

In any case, there must be an episode of work interruption (or delayed entry) of at least one month to answer yes to this question. Situations where there are several short interruption episodes, even if they add up to one month or more, are not taken into account.

Regular holidays and leave should not be regarded as an interruption, even if they are expressly used for childcare.

14. Considering all the periods of time during which you did not work for taking care of children, how long did they last?
(Interviewer: The answer categories should be read out completely before the respondent answers)

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| - Up to 6 months | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - More than 6 months and up to 1 year | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - More than 1 year and up to 2 years | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - More than 2 years and up to 3 years | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - More than 3 years and up to 5 years | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - More than 5 years | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Cannot say | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

This question is only asked to respondents who indicated an interruption of their work for childcare of at least one month in a row (i.e. those who answered 1 in question 13).

All options should be read before the respondent answers, as they help to indicate the level of detail required in the answer.

The aim of the question is to know the approximate total duration of all work interruptions due to childcare, including delayed entry into the labour market. It is assumed that a longer interruption will have a stronger and presumably more negative impact.

Respondents must provide the sum of the durations of ALL the interruptions of at least one month for care of children under the age of 15 stated in the previous question. Time should be counted from the time the person stops working until he or she returns to work. It is the fact of returning to work that indicates the end of the interruption and not the time that care has been needed or during which it has been provided. For example, a woman who stopped working when her child was born and who joins her job when the child turns eight must count the full eight years even though the child from the age of four has gone to school and spent most of the day there.

If, during part of the interruption, she has worked as a volunteer or has been unemployed (looking for a job and available to work), all that time would be counted for the purposes of this question.

The total maternity leave will be counted, even if part of it is taken before birth.

If the interviewee is currently on an interruption and has not returned to work at the time of the interview, the total duration should count to the current time.

Respondents who did not start work immediately after finishing their early education to care for their children should include this delay in their estimate. They should

consider the time elapsed between the completion of their studies and the time they began to work.

15. Was any of those periods of interruption for taking parental leave?

- Yes, in combination with maternity/paternity leave 1 | Go to M16
- Yes, only parental leave 2 | Go to M16
- No, only maternity/paternity leave 3 | Go to M16
- The interruption was for other reasons 4 | Go to M16
- Cannot say 0 | Go to M16

Like question 14, this question is only asked to respondents who indicated at least one work interruption for childcare for at least one month in a row (i.e., those who answered 1 in question 13).

In Spain, parental leave is a right of every worker, male or female, who has a child under 3 years of age. It is also granted in the case of adoption or legal fostering of a child under that age. The leave allows you to stop working for a period of time to care for the child, so that neither the employee works, nor receives any kind of remuneration, but retains the right to rejoin the company when the childcare time ends.

This question provides information on parental leave and its possible combinations with maternity or paternity leave.

16.

(If M11=6, 0) **During the period of time described above, did you not work for at least one continuous month to take care of ill, disabled or elderly relatives from the age of 15?**

(If M11#6, 0) **During the period of time since you finished your studies until now, did you not work for at least one continuous month to take care of ill, disabled or elderly relatives from the age of 15?**

(Leaves to take care of relatives, an interruption agreed with your employer, quit your job, or shut down your business are included.

Regular holidays, even if they are especially used for taking care of them, should not be counted as an interruption)

- Yes 1 | End of Module
- No 2
- Never had to take care of dependent relatives 3 | End of Module
- Cannot say 0 | End of Module

This question will be answered by people who, complying with the general filter of the module, are currently employed or have worked previously.

This question refers both to care provided to family members aged 15 and over, and to care provided to the couple (although there are no family ties between them) and provides information on the frequency with which people stop working in order to

care for them and thus be able to evaluate which population groups (for example, by gender or age) are mainly faced with this situation. It provides an indicator of the importance of this possible effect of the ageing of society on the labour market. It also offers the possibility to study whether people who have already adapted their participation in the labour market for childcare are more likely to do so also for older family members in need of care.

It is asked whether the person has interrupted his or her employment for reasons of caring for dependent family members for at least one month in a row during the course of his or her working life.

This question does not take into account several short episodes of interruption (less than one month) even if they total one month or more. If the person has never had responsibilities for caring for dependent family members, he/she should select answer category 3.

This includes formal family leave or any other leave (full-time). It may be a legally established leave, or one agreed with the employer formally or informally. Employment as such may or may not continue; the person may have left his or her job completely with the intention of returning to work or not.

If a person has left his or her job for reasons other than caring for dependent family members, but has subsequently remained out of the job market due to this type of care responsibilities, he or she should also answer the question with 'Yes'.

Holidays and regular leaves should not be regarded as an interruption, even if they are expressly used for the care of dependent family members.

As for question 7, the care referred to in this question is that provided to family members aged 15 years and over (including children aged 15 years and over) and considers both the care provided to them and the help provided because they are ill, elderly or have a disability. Family members may be their own or those of the spouse or partner with whom they live, regardless of whether they live in the same household as the interviewee or not. Examples of care tasks are personal care (such as help with dressing, washing, feeding), physical help (such as help with walking, getting up), helping the person on a ride, taking a walk, helping with paperwork or financial matters, domestic help (household chores, laundry, shopping).

The care of children under 15 years old with disabilities should not be taken into account in this question.

17. During that period of time, did you reduce your working time for at least one month to take care of ill, disabled or elderly relatives from the age of 15?

- Yes 1 | End of Module
- No 6 | End of Module
- Cannot say 0 | End of Module

This question is asked to those who have answered 2 in the previous question, that is, only in cases in which the respondents have had care responsibilities for dependent family members and have not stopped working for at least one month for this reason. They are then asked whether they have reduced their working hours for at least one month as a result.

The reduction in working time could be a daily reduction in working time or not going to work on some days of the week. The reduction can be based on formal or informal agreements established with the company. It does not take into account whether the interviewee has previously reduced his or her part-time hours or reduced a schedule from an excessive number of working hours to a normal full-time schedule.

The reduction must be real, not compensating hours with vacation days or accumulating hours previously or later worked.

5. Information processing

Once the Central Services received the questionnaires that include the survey's information (both the main questionnaire and the ad hoc module), these were processed in order to obtain the final file and the estimates.

The processing of the module's information follows a similar process as the processing of the basic questionnaire and complies with the following basic principles (more detailed information is on the publication *EPA. Tratamiento de la información* - Spanish Labour Force Survey. Information Processing):

- Non-interference with the basic questionnaire's processing.
- To be simultaneous to or after the processing of the basic questionnaire.

According to these principles, the module's processing stages are:

1.- Monthly processing

Each month, the identification variables of the Spanish Labour Force Survey basic questionnaire are edited by automatic detection and manual correction; this editing has been modified in the four quarters of each year so that it can also be used for the ad hoc module.

Therefore, the editing of the module's identification variables (quarter, province, sections, dwelling and number of people) is carried out together with the basic questionnaire's editing.

2.- Quarterly processing

Once the data corresponding to each one of 2018 quarters are received, the basic questionnaire's variables are edited following the same process as for the monthly processing, that is by means of automatic detection and manual correction.

Later, the module variables are also edited by means of automatic detection.

The software developed by the General Sub-directorate of Statistic Data Processing called DIA - Detección e Imputación Automática (Automatic Detection and Imputation) is used for automatic editing, both for the core variables and for the module variables.

3.- Annual processing

The final file is the result of merging the 6th interview registers corresponding to the four quarters of the year.

Such final file contains all the identification variables, the annual weighting factors and all the variables of the module, for the registers of the sixth interviews.

The format of the module variables follows the technical characteristics described in the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/2236 of 12 December 2016, previously mentioned.

