

Living Condition Survey (LCS)
Module on Material Insufficiency. Year 2014

6.5% of the households with children under 16 years old cannot afford new clothes for them

11.8% of the population cannot afford to meet with family or friends to go out for a meal or to have a drink at least once a month

The Living Conditions Survey includes each year a module to study in depth different aspects of the quality of life of the households. The 2014 edition of the LCS, carried out in spring last year, included a Module on **Material Insufficiency**, thus completing the information on this topic that is collected each year in the survey. Previously, in 2009 a similar module regarding material insufficiency was included, making it possible to ascertain in a more detailed way the changes between 2009 and 2014.

This module is a limited set of questions that measure different aspects of the insufficiency or deprivation that households face. It includes an specific set of questions about **basic, educational or leisure needs for children under 16 years old**.

As with the main survey, this module is harmonised on a European level, and is included in the mandate of a European Regulation (*Commission Regulation (EU) No 112/2013, of 7 February 2013 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1177/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning Community statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC) as regards the 2014 list of target secondary variables on material deprivation*).

Modules of the last years have been: material insufficiency (2009), ability to make decisions (2010), intergenerational transmission of poverty (2011), housing conditions (2012) and material well-being (2013)

Basic, educational or leisure needs for children under 16 years old

The module includes questions, similar to those of 2009, that enable to describe in a more detailed way situations of insufficiency and to study their evolution. The possible answers for all questions are: "yes", "no, because they cannot afford it", "no, for other reasons".

Among the questions, there are some on needs related to the children living in the household. These questions are formulated jointly to all the children of the household aged 1 to 15 years old.

Regarding basic needs, the percentage of households where the children cannot have new clothes increased from 3.8% in 2009 to 6.5% in 2014.

The percentages of households with food-deficit (eat fruit or vegetables daily and, at least, meat or fish every two days) have increased but are generally low.

Regarding educational or leisure needs, the percentage of children with insufficiency increased in all indicators investigated since 2009.

Households with children that cannot afford different basic needs by household characteristics.

Percentages

	Have new clothes		Eat fresh fruit and vegetables at least once a day		Eat meat, chicken or fish at least each two days(2)	
	2009	2014	2009	2014	2009	2014
TOTAL	3.8	6.5	1.0	1.2	0.7	2.5
INCOME						
20% of the population with the lowest income	11.3	17.4	3.9	4.3	2.3	7.0
20% of the population with the highest income	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TYPE OF HOUSEHOLD						
An adult with only dependent children	2.6	7.3	1.2	1.6	0.7	3.4
Two or more adults with dependent children	3.9	6.4	1.0	1.1	0.7	2.4
NATIONALITY(1)						
Spanish	2.5	5.5	0.3	1.1	0.3	1.9
Foreign national (European Union)	7.5	6.5	4.6	0.4	0.0	5.6
Foreign national (Rest of the world)	10.8	18.7	4.4	2.3	3.0	7.9

(1) Responsible person of the household. See methodology

(2) Or its vegetarian equivalent

Households with children that cannot afford different educational or leisure needs by household characteristics.

Percentages

	Have books appropriate for their age		Have outdoor equipment of leisure (bicycles, skates, etc)		Having regular leisure activities (sport , playing an instrument , youth organizations, etc.)		Afford to celebrate special occasions (birthdays, etc.)	
	2009	2014	2009	2014	2009	2014	2009	2014
TOTAL	1.3	1.9	4.1	4.9	5.5	11.3	6.5	10.4
INCOME								
20% of the population with the lowest income	3.7	5.7	12.9	14.2	13.2	27.9	15.5	26.9
20% of the population with the highest income	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2	1.1	0.2	0.9
TYPE OF HOUSEHOLD								
An adult with only dependent children	1.5	0.7	5.9	7.4	6.0	13.2	6.8	13.7
Two or more adults with dependent children	1.3	2.0	4.0	4.6	5.4	11.1	6.5	10.1
NATIONALITY(1)								
Spanish	0.5	1.3	2.3	3.6	3.2	8.8	4.7	8.2
Foreign national (European Union)	2.6	4.2	8.2	6.5	8.9	22.1	7.2	12.9
Foreign national (Rest of the world)	5.8	7.7	14.3	18.6	18.3	34.8	18.8	34.7

(1) Responsible person of the household. See methodology

Adults that cannot afford to meet family or friends

Another variable analysed was adults (over 16 years old) that cannot afford to meet family or friends to go out for a meal or to have a drink at least once a month. Between 2009 and 2014, the percentage of persons has moved from 6.6% to 11.8%.

By age, the group aged 45 to 64 years old recorded the highest percentage, passing from 7.9% in 2009 to 15.3% in 2014.

Regarding the population with the lowest income, the percentage increased from 15.4% in 2009 to 29.5% in 2014.

Persons (aged 16 or more years old) that cannot afford to meet friends or family to go out for a meal or to have a drink at least once a month

Percentages

	2009	2014
TOTAL	6.6	11.8
AGE GROUP		
From 16 to 29 years old	5.3	8.9
From 30 to 44 years old	6.0	11.5
From 45 to 64 years old	7.9	15.3
65 or more years old	7.3	9.4
SEX		
Male	6.3	11.3
Female	7.0	12.3
INCOME PER CONSUMPTION UNIT		
20% of the population with the lowest income	15.4	29.5
20% of the population with the highest income	0.9	1.8
TRAINING LEVEL		
Primary education or lower	11.3	18.1
First stage of secondary education	6.8	15.9
Second stage of secondary education	4.7	9.7
Higher education	2.0	3.7
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES		
Employed	3.6	6.9
Unemployed	14.4	26.3
Retired	6.9	8.7
Other inactive population	8.5	12.8
NATIONALITY		
Spanish	5.7	10.6
Foreign national (European Union)	8.3	20.6
Foreign national (Rest of the world)	17.6	27.8

Adults that cannot afford to spend a little amount of money for themselves

The question: “¿Do you spend a little amount of money for yourself each week?” was included in the module. In 2014, 16.9% of the adults confirmed that they could not afford it, as compared to 10.7% in 2009.

Regarding the relationship with the economic activity, 35.6% of unemployed people confirmed that they could not afford these expenses, as compared to 10.6% of employed people.

Persons (16 or more years old) that cannot spend a little amount of money for themselves each week

Percentages

	2009	2014
TOTAL	10.7	16.9
AGE GROUP		
From 16 to 29 years old	9.3	14.8
From 30 to 44 years old	11.4	18.5
From 45 to 64 years old	11.3	18.9
65 or more years old	10.2	13.6
SEX		
Male	8.9	15.1
Female	12.4	18.7
INCOME FOR CONSUMPTION UNIT		
20% of the population with the lowest income	22.6	38.7
20% of the population with the highest income	2.0	3.9
TRAINING LEVEL		
Primary education or lower	15.9	24.3
First stage of secondary education	12.4	20.8
Second stage of secondary education	8.4	15.4
Higher education	4.4	7.5
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES		
Employed	7.0	10.6
Unemployed	23.2	35.6
Retired	8.4	11.1
Other inactive population	13.3	19.3
NATIONALITY		
Spanish	9.1	15.4
Foreign national (European Union)	14.3	25.2
Foreign national (Rest of the world)	28.0	38.8

Households that cannot afford to change the furniture.

In 2014, 41.3% of the households confirmed that could not afford to change battered or old furniture, as compared to 36.8% in 2009.

Households that cannot afford to change battered or old furniture

Percentage

	2009	2014
TOTAL	36.8	41.3
AGE GROUP (1)		
From 16 to 29 years old	38.6	37.0
From 30 to 44 years old	36.4	40.8
From 45 to 64 years old	36.7	44.0
65 or more years old	36.9	38.8
SEX (1)		
Male	34.0	38.5
Female	40.9	45.4
INCOME PER CONSUMPTION UNIT		
20% of the population with the lowest income	58.6	69.4
20% of the population with the highest income	11.8	13.6
NATIONALITY		
Spanish	35.0	40.0
Foreign national (European Union)	39.0	51.8
Foreign national (Rest of the world)	60.5	60.0

(1) Responsible person of the household. See methodology

By age, the percentage of households that cannot afford to change their battered or old furniture fluctuated between 37.0% in the group aged 16 to 29 years old and 44.0% in the group aged 45 to 64 years old.

Concerning income, almost 7 out of 10 households with the lowest income could not afford to change battered or old furniture.

Methodological note

The Living Conditions Survey (LCS) is an annual operation carried out in a standardised way in all European Union countries. As with the main survey, every year it includes an additional module to investigate the worth noting aspects on living conditions.

The Living Conditions Survey (LCS) has an effective sample comprised by more than 32,000 persons. It is carried out in spring of each year and, in general, asks about the living conditions at the time of the interview. Questions about income are referred to the previous year.

Person Responsible for the dwelling

The person responsible for the housing will be considered that member of the household in whose name the property (owned housing) or the leasing or subleasing contract (rented housing) is held. If the housing is borrowed that member of the household to whom the house has been borrowed will be considered responsible for the housing.

If two persons share the responsibility of the house, the eldest will be considered the first responsible and the other will be considered the second. If more than two persons share the responsibility, the two eldest will be considered the responsables of the dwelling.