

Moving from ECHP to EU-SILC: Implications for Measuring Consistent Poverty and Deprivation

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EU SILC will replace the ECHP as the main European-wide comparative dataset for research on poverty and social exclusion. However, SILC is more limited than the ECHP in terms of the range of non-monetary deprivation indicators available. In this paper we build on our body of work on comparative measures of deprivation, using the ECHP data, by investigating the implications of the more limited set of indicators available on SILC for the measurement of poverty and deprivation at the European level. The paper begins by using the newly available Irish component of the European Union Survey of Income and living Conditions to develop measures of consistent poverty that overcome some of the difficulties associated with the original measures employed as targets in the Irish National Anti-Poverty Strategy. We then use the Irish example as a case study of the consequences for our ability to measure deprivation and consistent poverty of the restricted range of deprivation items available in the EU-SILC common set.