

SUMMARIES

THE HOUSEHOLD BUDGETS, LSMS AND SILC

Bogdan Bogdanov

The important role of HBS as a complex statistical survey of the NSI in Bulgaria in the context of LSMS and SILC is described in the article. Uses of the survey results are for analysis of income distribution, poverty analysis, computing the final consumption of households in the context of national accounts, determining the weighting required for the calculation of the consumer price index, nutrition analysis, and living standard analysis. In the connection with quality of HBS information, data of replacements in the sample for the survey according to the moment of replacement, the causes for replacement and replacements due to subjective causes before the beginning of the survey in 1995 - 2001 are presented. Shown are some aggregate indicators calculated by HBS data, indicators for polarization, poverty lines and poverty indices.

COMPARATIVE CHARACTERISTIC OF THE METHODS FOR POVERTY LINE ASSESSMENT

Vasil Tzanov

The aim of the paper is to present the comparative advantages of the basic approaches and methods for poverty line assessment from point of view of some criteria chosen to reflect the main requirements to the methods.

The analysis includes the methods having wide spread practical application and belonging to the main approaches for poverty line defining and assessment: objective, relative and subjective. The objective (absolute) approach is presented by three methods: the consumer basket method, the food share method, and the Orshansky method. The relative approach includes two methods - the fixed decile method and the fixed percentage of the median (average) income/consumption. The subjective approach is presented by two methods: the method of the 'minimum income' (MI) and the method of the 'income evaluation question' (IEQ).

On the basis of the comparative analysis some conclusions about the applicability of the different methods in the Bulgarian conditions and some suggestions about the statistical information were drawn.

POVERTY IN BULGARIA: TRADE UNION OPINIONS AND POSITIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SOCIAL DIALOGUE

Lyuben Tomev

The following aspects of the poverty are presented:

The absolute poverty line - a necessary argument of the trade unions in the negotiations between the social partners.

Identified and hidden poverty - the social instruments of a more effective policy.

'Working poor' - the social and economic parameters of a familiar but underestimated problem in Bulgaria.

Social dumping' - an instrument of unfair competition, that feeds poverty.

The political line of poverty - 'fait accompli' or a manifestation of consensus in the society.