ACCURACY OF IMPUTATION: A CASE STUDY ON THE FINNISH LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

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The Finnish Labour Force Survey does not routinely utilize imputation methods in standard statistics production. In January 2015 the electronic interview questionnaire contained a programming error which resulted in a missingness: for a group of respondents, one crucial question was completely passed by. It is one of those to determine whether the respondent is unemployed according to Eurostat definition or not. After finding the mistake all cases involved were re-interviewed. However, about one third of the respondents could not be re-contacted and the information was then imputed by using both traditional cold deck and nearest neighbour donor imputation methodology. We will present the results and evaluate the accuracy of imputations. The evaluation will be carried out by comparing the imputed values with true values from the re-interviews when available. The labour force status of those cases having subsequent interview round three months later were also compared with the imputed values.