

1 Appendix A

1.1 Construction of the father's ESeC

Our index of Intergenerational socio-economic mobility is constructed as the difference between the *respondent's ESeC general* and the *father's ESeC general*. These general categories are constructed on the basis of more specific ten ESeC categories (classes) (Table A1)¹, which are built on the basis of the following individual-level information:

1. the occupational status coded according to the International Standard of Occupations 1988 or 2008 (ISCO88 or ISCO08);
2. the employment status (i.e. whether an employer, self-employed or employee); and
3. the number of employees at the workplace.

The ESS contains all the information needed to construct the respondent's ESeC, so, on the basis of the material available online², we generate the ESeC of the respondent. On the other end, for the construction of the ESeC of the father we need some pieces of information not available in the ESS. By incorporating the ESS-DEVO dataset to the core modules we manage to have detailed information about the occupation of the father (ISCO88) as well as his employment status and employment relations for the first 5 waves of the survey. In this way, we can generate his ESeC following the same procedure as for the respondent. However, this method allows us to create an index of socio-economic mobility only for the first 5 waves of the ESeC. In order to cover all the waves and carry out a detailed analysis of the Italian data, we create a more general ESeC for the father, whose construction is based on two pieces of information available in the ESS dataset: a general categorization of the father's occupation and his employment status. In particular, we follow the procedure reported below.

From Tables A2 and A3, we notice that the categorization of the occupation of the father for the waves 1-3 is different from the one applied for the following waves. Since we lack the ESeC categories for the waves 6-8, we focus our attention only on the waves that have the same occupational

¹Following the instructions of the derivation material, we do not consider the tenth category "Unemployed".

²The creation of the index is done by using the derivation material provided in a do-file format from <https://www.mzes.uni-mannheim.de/d7/en>. Other derivation material can be found on the website of the Institute for Social And economic Research of the Essex University: <https://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/archives/esec>

classification, meaning the waves 4 and 5. In particular, we try to identify how the occupational status available from the ESS is distributed across of the ESeC categories for these two waves. On the basis of the data and the methodology applied in the do-file, we reach the following conclusions: the majority of the individuals classified as self-employed are assigned to the fourth of fifth category of the ESeC(i.e. "small employers and own account workers (no agriculture)" and "small employers in agriculture"), while, for the employees, almost all categories of the ESS show a well-defined pattern, meaning that their observations are more concentrated in a specific ESeC category³. Therefore, we apply the following method for the creation of the father's ESeC of the waves 6-8:

1. if the father is self-employed and his ESS occupation was "Farm worker" he is assigned to the fifth category of the ESS, otherwise, if he is still self-employed but with another occupational status, he is assigned to the fourth category of the ESeC;
2. if the father was classified as an employee, he is assigned to the ESeC category where the majority of those having his same occupations were assigned for the waves 4 and 5.⁴ Indeed, we assume that each occupation has certain characteristics that lead to the assignment into a specific ESeC category and we expect that these characteristics remain unchanged across the waves. Therefore, the Table A4 reports the classification applied.

Moreover, we decide to apply this assignment not only to the observations of the last three waves (6-8), but also to the ones belonging to the third and fourth wave. This is done because, despite the fact that our assignment tries to match the one obtained from the official material, there is the risk of creating a gap in our trend for the index of intergenerational mobility, that doesn't represent a real shift of the index but rather a measurement error. Therefore, we recode the ESeC categories according to the procedure described in Table A4, but considering the more detailed employment status provided from the ESS-DEVO. Finally, in order to guarantee consistency, we apply the same procedure to the ESeC categories of the first three waves. In this case, we always base our assignment on the distribution of the employment status (available from the ESS-DEVO) and the occupational status provided by the ESS across the different ESeC categories . Table A5

³Approximately each occupational category has 50 percent of the observations in a specific ESeC category with all other observations equally distributed across the other ESeC classes

⁴In case the occupational status is not concentrated in a particular ESeC category, we assign it to the category whose definition better matches the occupational status.

shows this last assignment.

Table A1: ESeC categories and conversion to general ESeC

ESeC	
1	Large employers, Higher managers and professional
2	Lower managers and professionals, high-level supervisors
3	Intermediate occupations
4	Small employers and own account workers (no agriculture)
5	Small employers in agriculture
6	Lower supervisors and technicians
7	Lower service, sales and clerical occupations
8	Lower technical occupations
9	Routine occupations

Table A2: Father's occupational status according to ESS definition in waves 1-3

Father's occupation when respondent's age is 14	
1	Traditional professional occupations
2	Modern professional occupations
3	Clerical and intermediate occupations
4	Senior manager or administrator
5	Technical and crafts occupations
6	Semi-routine/manual/service occupation
7	Routine manual and service occupations
8	Middle or junior managers

Table A3: Father's occupational status according to ESS definition in waves 4-8

Father's occupation when respondent's age is 14	
1	Professional and technical occupations
2	Higher administrator occupations
3	Clerical occupations
4	Sales occupations
5	Service occupations
6	Skilled worker
7	Semi-skilled worker
8	Unskilled worker
9	Farm worker

Table A4: New ESeC categories

Employment status	ESS classification	Assigned ESeC
Employee	Professional and technical occupations	1
	Higher administrator occupations	2
	Clerical occupations	3
	Sales occupations and Sales occupations	7
	Service occupations and Skilled worker	8
	Semi-skilled worker and Unskilled worker	9
Self-employed	all ESS occupations with the exception of routine workers	4
	routine worker	5

Table A5: New ESeC categories

Employment status	ESS classification	Assigned ESeC
Employee	Traditional professional occupations	1
	Modern professional occupations	2
	Clerical and intermediate occupations/ Middle and junior managers	3
	Technical, crafts occupations and farmers	8
	Semi-routine/manual/service/routine manual occupations	9
Supervisor	traditional professional occupations	4
	Modern professional occupations/ Clerical and Intermediate occupations/ Senior managers and administrators/ Middle or junior managers	2
	Technical and craft occupations farmers; Semi-routine/manual/service/routine manual occupations	6
Self-employed	all categories with the exception of agriculture sector	4
	Technical and craft occupations farmers	5