28 Title	Measuring the quality of work: the case of the Italian social cooperatives
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Abstract	Quality of work has within a short time become a major subject of study and discussion in labour
	economy. Its quantification is a challenging task because it implies the translation of various
	subjective perceptions into a single objective measure (composite indicator). In this paper, the
	method used to construct measures is the Rating Scale Model and the available data come from the
	Survey on Italian Social Cooperatives carried out in 2007. The validity of the obtained Rasch
	measures is tested with respect to some overall variables of the quality of work. Moreover, using
	inferential confidence intervals, these measures are utilized to evaluate the differences in the
	perception of the quality of work due to worker (gender, age and education) and cooperative (type,
	dimension and geographic area) characteristics, work characteristics (service area, membership,
	time and type of contract) and work incentives (economic, professional and learning).