
Labour force status

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Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: Int. NCSDD & NHDD
Knowledgebase ID: 002010 Version number: 3
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NCSIMG & NHIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 01-MAR-05
Definition: The self reported status the person currently has in being either in the labour force (employed/unemployed) or not in the labour force. The categories are determined by a person's status in relation to current economic activity (which is measured by their activities in relation to work in a specified reference period).
Context: Labour force status is one indicator of the socio-economic status of a person and is a key element in assessing the circumstances and needs of individuals and families.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: CODE
Representation layout: N
Minimum Size: 1
Maximum Size: 1
Data Domain: 1 Employed
 2 Unemployed
 3 Not in the labour force
 9 Not stated/ inadequately described

Guide For Use: Definitions for these categories are:
Employed:
Employed persons comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:
(a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising 'Employees', 'Employers' and 'Own Account Workers'); or
(b) worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business

or on a farm (i.e. 'Contributing Family Worker'); or
(c) were 'Employees' who had a job but were not at work and were:

-on paid leave

-on leave without pay, for less than four weeks, up to the end of the reference week

-stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment, for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week

-on strike or locked out

-on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job, or

-receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or

(d) were 'Employers', 'Own Account Workers' or 'Contributing Family Workers' who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Unemployed:

Unemployed persons are those aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and:

(a) had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week. Were available for work in the reference week, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the reference week). Or were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and would have started in the reference week if the job had been available then; or

(b) were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week (including the whole of the reference week) for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.

Note: Actively looking for work includes writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work. It also includes answering a newspaper advertisement for a job, checking factory or job placement agency notice boards, being registered with a job placement agency, checking or registering with any other employment agency, advertising or tendering for work or contacting friends or relatives.

Not in the Labour Force:

Persons not in the labour force are those persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week, were not in the categories employed or unemployed, as defined. They include persons who were keeping house (unpaid), retired, voluntarily inactive, permanently unable to work, persons in institutions

