

LAST UPDATE: 26 JUNE 2020

**LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS IN OECD COUNTRIES:
SOURCES, COVERAGE AND DEFINITIONS**

Data from Labour Force Surveys (LFS) make international comparisons easier, compared to a mixture of survey and registration data. However, from one country to another, national LFS may somewhat differ along a number of aspects, such as the questionnaire design, the coverage and timing of the survey, etc. The tables below summarise the key characteristics of the data which are used to compile the statistics on employment and unemployment in OECD countries:

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Table 1. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: sources and coverage

	Source / Statistical office conducting survey. Survey period	Coverage
Australia	<p>Monthly Labour Force Survey / Australian Bureau of Statistics.</p> <p>Data prior to 1978 refers to the month of August. Data for 1978 is an annual average of quarter month estimates. Data from 1979 onwards is an annual average of monthly estimates.</p>	<p>Resident civilian population (excluding members of the permanent defence forces, diplomatic personnel, members of non-Australian defence forces and their families stationed in Australia) aged 15 years and over living in private households or sampled separately in collective households (i.e. hotels, motels, hostels, religious and educational institutions including college residences, prisons, boarding houses and private hotels, Aboriginal settlements, short term caravan parks and camping grounds). Also excludes overseas residents in Australia.</p>
Austria	<p>Quarterly Microcensus (the Microcensus questions are identical with the referring questions of Labour Force Survey from 1994) / Austrian Central Statistical Office up to 1999 and Statistics Austria from 2000 onwards.</p> <p>Up to 2003, data are yearly estimates of averages of the quarterly surveys. As of 2004, the annual data are averages of quarterly estimates of the continuous Microcensus sample survey.</p>	<p>All persons aged 15 years and over living in private households including all members of the armed forces.</p>

Table 1. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: sources and coverage

	Source / Statistical office conducting survey. Survey period	Coverage
Belgium	European Labour Force Survey / Direct source: Eurostat. The annual data refer to the month of May until 2001 and to annual averages as of 2002.	Resident population aged 15 years and over living in private households.
Brazil	Pesquisa Nacional por Amostra de Domicílios Continua – PNAD Continua (Annual) from the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) as of 2016 and the National Household Sample Survey (PNAD), which was conducted once a year prior to 2016. PNAD is conducted the last complete week of each September. The PNAD Continua is a quarterly survey that also produces annual data, accumulating part of the sample of each quarter of the year.	The resident population aged 10 years and over living in private households (excluding persons living in embassies, consulates and legations, and also institutionalized persons living in collective living quarters of institutional establishments, such as: military in military installations; prisoners in penitentiaries; inmates in schools, orphanages, nursing homes, hospitals etc.; and religious in convents, monasteries etc.). Prior to 2003 the rural area of six Federation Units (Rondônia, Acre, Amazonas, Roraima, Pará e Amapá) were excluded.
Canada	Monthly Household Labour Force Survey / Statistics Canada. The annual data are averages of monthly estimates.	Civilian resident non-institutional population aged 15 years and over living in private households and in collective households via their parents, including non-permanent residents. It is conducted nationwide, in both the provinces and the territories. Excluded from the survey's coverage are: persons living on reserves and other Aboriginal settlements in the provinces, full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces, the institutionalized population, and households in extremely remote areas with very low population density. These groups together represent an exclusion of approximately 2% of the population aged 15 and over. National LFS estimates are derived using the results of the LFS in the provinces. Territorial LFS results are not included in the national estimates, but are published separately.
Chile	Encuesta Nacional de Empleo (up to 2009) Nueva Encuesta Nacional de Empleo (from 2010) The annual data are averages of quarterly estimates.	The national and regional resident population 15 and over limited to those persons living in private households or dwellings. The survey also covers the migrant population. Areas that are difficult to access -- Áreas de difícil acceso (ADA) – are excluded.
Colombia	Encuesta Continua de Hogares ECH (2001 - 2005) Gran Encuesta Integrada de Hogares - GEIH (2006 onwards)	The survey covers the civilian resident non-institutional population all over the national territory.
Costa Rica	Encuesta Continua de Empleo (ECE). The annual data are quarterly averages (Q3 2010 – Q4 2014).	Population (habitual residents in the dwelling) aged 15 years and over participating during the reference period in the production of economic goods and services or were willing to participate.
Czech Republic	Quarterly Labour Force Sample Survey / Czech Statistical Office (CSU). The annual data are averages of quarterly estimates.	Resident non-institutional population aged 15 years and over in private households living in the chosen dwellings continuously. Persons temporarily absent (under one year) are included. Also includes temporary members of the armed forces surveyed at their residences before they left for the army. There have been no military conscripts since 2005.

Table 1. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: sources and coverage

	Source / Statistical office conducting survey. Survey period	Coverage
Denmark	European Labour Force Survey / Direct source: Eurostat. The annual data refer to the months of February-June up to 2001 and to annual averages as of 2002.	Resident population aged 15 years and over living in private households or collective households.
Estonia	Estonian Labour Force Survey / Statistics Estonia Data for 1990-1999 are annual average data based on data which were collected about the changes of work in the years preceding the survey and as of 2000 data are annual averages based on reference week data.	Total population including private and collective households. For 1989-1996 the survey covers the resident population aged 15-69 and since 1997 persons aged 15-74. Conscripts are included.
Finland	Labour Force Survey / Statistics Finland. The annual data are averages of monthly estimates.	Persons aged 15 to 74 who are permanent residents of Finland. The data for labour force and employed includes career military and conscripts.
France	Labour Force Survey (<i>Enquête sur l'emploi</i>) Quarterly survey since 2003 Q1. Annual average of quarterly estimates. Direct source: INSEE. Annual survey until March 2002. As of 2003, quarterly survey and data are annual average of quarterly estimates.	Resident non-institutional population aged 15 years and over living in private households and via relatives living in private households in metropolitan France. Also includes career military and conscripts. As of 2003, the survey represents both private and collective households, which are included via relatives in private households. Resident population aged 15 years and over living in private households in France including the DOMS but excluding Mayotte.
Germany	Up to 2014, the Microcensus (German Labour Force Survey) / Federal Statistics Office. Prior to 1991, the annual data on the labour force and population are averages of monthly estimates supplied by the German authorities. The annual unemployment figures correspond to unemployed persons registered at the end of the month of September of each year. From 1991 onwards, data for unified Germany are available. Data for labour force and unemployment are annual averages. As of 2015, European Labour Force Survey / Direct source: Eurostat. The annual data are annual averages	Resident population aged 15 years and over living in private or collective households (excluding those living in military barracks). It is based on the total labour force including the armed forces.
Greece	European Labour Force Survey / Direct source: Eurostat. The annual data refer to the months of April-June until 2001 and to annual averages as of 2002.	Resident population aged 15 years and over living in private households.
Hungary	Quarterly Labour Force Survey / Hungarian Central Statistical Office. The annual data are averages of quarterly estimates.	Resident non-institutional population aged 15 to 74 years living in private households. Employed persons including those on maternity leave and excluding those on child-care leave. Persons on child care leave are categorized by their economic activity according to their activity on the reference week. <i>Note:</i> Up to 1994, age group 55 to 64 years refers to ages 55 to 74 years, and the total refers to ages 15 to 74 years.

Table 1. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: sources and coverage

	Source / Statistical office conducting survey. Survey period	Coverage
Iceland	Labour Force Survey (Economically Active Population Survey) / Statistic Iceland. The annual data are averages of bi-annual (April and November) estimates for the years 1991-2002 annual averages of the quarterly LFS since 2003.	Resident population aged 16 to 74 years living in private and collective households, including all armed forces.
India	National Sample Survey (NSS) Schedule 10 on employment and unemployment. Results from large scale employment survey conducted during the following overlapping years from July (t) to June (t+1): 1982-83, 1987-88, 1993-94, 1999-2000, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2009-10 and 2011-12.	NSS is a quinquennial survey of all households living in the whole of the Indian Union except (i) interior villages of Nagaland situated beyond five kilometres of the bus route and (ii) villages in Andaman and Nicobar Islands which remained inaccessible throughout the year. However, all the sample first stage units of both rural and urban areas of Leh, Kargil and Poonch districts of Jammu & Kashmir became casualty and therefore these districts were outside the survey coverage.
Indonesia	Labour force survey (SAKERNAS) The data refer to the month of August each year.	Sakernas is a household survey designed for labour force data collection and covers the whole country.
Ireland	Up to 1997, Labour Force Survey (LFS) replaced the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) at the beginning of Q3 2017 / Central Statistics Office. As of 2015, European Labour Force Survey / Direct source: Eurostat. The annual data are the refer to Q2 (April – June) quarterly estimates up to 1997 and annual averages from 1998 onwards.	Resident non-institutional population aged 15 years and over living in private households. Also includes career military living in private households.
Israel	Quarterly Household Labour Force Survey / Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). The annual data are averages of quarterly estimates up to 2011 and averages of monthly estimates as of 2012.	The permanent (de jure) resident population aged 15 years and over, but labour force statistics are strictly limited to civilian population up to 2011, and represent the entire population from 2012.
Italy	Up to 2006, the Quarterly Household Labour Force Survey / ISTAT. As of 2007, the European Labour Force Survey / Eurostat. The annual data are averages of quarterly estimates. From January 1 st 2004, there was a passage to a continuous survey.	Resident non-institutional population aged 15 years and over, living in private households and in collective households via their parents, including all armed forces.
Japan	The Labour Force Survey / Labour Force Statistics Office of Statistics Bureau. The annual data are averages of monthly estimates.	The survey covers the de facto (resident and non-resident) institutional population aged 15 years and over, living in private households and in collective households sampled separately, including all armed forces. Note: Data for 2011 do not include Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima.
Korea	The Economically Active Population Survey / Employment Statistics Division, Statistics Korea. The annual data are averages of monthly estimates.	The target population includes all persons aged 15 and over living in urban and rural private households and excludes the armed forces and prisoners.
Latvia	European Labour Force Survey (Spring) / Direct source: Eurostat.	Resident population aged 15 years and over living in private households.

Table 1. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: sources and coverage

	Source / Statistical office conducting survey. Survey period	Coverage
Lithuania	European Labour Force Survey (Spring) / Direct source: Eurostat.	Resident population aged 15 years and over living in private households.
Luxembourg	European Labour Force Survey (Spring) / Direct source: Eurostat. The annual data refer to the month of May until 2001 and to annual averages as of 2002.	Resident population aged 15 years and over living in private households.
Mexico	Encuesta Nacional de Empleo (ENE) until 2004 and Encuesta Nacional de Ocupación y Empleo (ENOE) as of 2005 / Secretaría del Trabajo y Previsión Social (STPS) e Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática (INEGI). ENE: Biennial survey from 1991 to 1995, annual from 1995 to 2000 and quarterly since the second quarter of 2000. The annual data refer to quarterly estimates (2 nd quarter). ENOE: Continuous survey. The annual data are averages of monthly estimates.	ENE: Civilian resident non-institutional population aged 15 years and over including armed forces which are resident in private households and those living in collective households via their parents. ENOE: Civilian resident non-institutional population aged 15 years and over including professionals of the armed forces who are resident in private households. Excludes the population living in collective/institutional dwellings such as jails, asylums, etc.
Netherlands	Labour Force Survey / Central Bureau of Statistics. The annual data refer to the 1st January up to 1986 and to annual averages of quarterly estimates from 1987 onwards.	Resident non-institutional population aged 15 years and over living in private households, including all armed forces.
New Zealand	Household Labour Force Survey / Statistics New Zealand. The annual data are averages of quarterly estimates.	Civilian resident non-institutional population aged 15 years and over living in private households since second quarter 1998 and collective households (all non-private dwellings are included in scope but not sample, since Q2 1995). As of the June 2016 quarter, the survey includes non-civilian personnel.
Norway	Quarterly Labour Force Survey / Statistics Norway, Division for Labour Market Statistics. As of 2019 European Labour Force Survey. The annual data are averages of quarterly estimates.	Resident population aged 16 to 74 years, living in private households and in collective households via their parents, including all armed forces. As from 2006 age is defined as completed years at the time of the reference week, instead of completed years at the end of the year, as earlier. Moreover the lower age limit to be covered by the survey was lowered from 16 to 15.
Poland	Up to 2014, the Labour Force Survey / Central Statistical Office. The data are averages of published quarterly figures, commencing the 2nd quarter 1992. For the 1992 annual averages a double weight has been applied to the second quarter figures. The survey a continuous survey as of the 4th quarter 1999. As of 2015, European Labour Force Survey / Direct source: Eurostat. The annual data are annual averages	Resident non-institutional population aged 15 years and over living in private households (the survey does not cover households of foreigners. However, since 2002 the survey covers permanent residents of foreign citizens who are members of households with Polish citizens/husband/wife). Armed forces living in private households are also included. Excluded are foreigners (see above), and members of households who are abroad for more than three months. Since the 1st quarter of 2004, the LFS covers foreigners who are members of the sampled households.

Table 1. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: sources and coverage

	Source / Statistical office conducting survey. Survey period	Coverage
Portugal	<p>Quarterly Labour Force Survey (bi-annual before 1983) / Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE).</p> <p>The annual data correspond to the average of bi-annual estimates up to and including 1982. From 1983 onwards the annual data correspond to the average of the quarterly estimates. From 1998 onwards the results are based on the independent estimates of the population calculated from Census 2001 final results.</p>	<p>Only private households are covered, although the survey also covers part of the population living in collective households and who represent a potential for the labour market, insofar as they have family links with the private households. The data includes all armed forces.</p>
Russian Federation	<p>Labour Force Survey.</p> <p>The annual data correspond to one week per year as of last week of October (1992-1994, 1997 and 1998); to –twice: one week as of last week of March; one week of last week of October (1995); one week per year as of last week of March (1996); quarterly estimates (1999 to 2009); monthly estimates (2010 onwards).</p>	<p>Coverage is limited to resident population living in private households or dwellings and aged 15-72 years until 2016. From 2017 onwards, the age limit is 15 years and older.</p> <p>Areas that are not included in the survey: In the republics of Ingushetia and North Ossetia-Alania the survey was conducted in 1992-1994, in the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug - in 1993-1996, in the Chechen Republic - in 1992-2005. Data as of 2015 include the Crimean Federal district.</p>
Slovak Republic	<p>Labour Force Sample Survey / Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic.</p> <p>The annual data are averages of quarterly estimates. For year 1993-1999, the data relate to seasonal quarters and as of 2000 data relate to calendar quarters. Since March 1993, the survey has become a continuous survey.</p>	<p>Resident, non-institutional (excludes prisons, psychiatric institutions, convents) population aged 15 years and over living in private households and in collective households via their parents, including all armed forces and conscripts since 1997 only.</p>
Slovenia	<p>European Labour Force Survey (Spring) / Direct source: Eurostat.</p> <p>The annual data are annual averages.</p>	<p>Resident population aged 15 years and over living in private households.</p>
South Africa	<p>Labour Force Survey from 2001-2007 and as of 2008 the Quarterly Labour Force Survey from Statistics South Africa.</p> <p>The LFS was undertaken on a six months basis March and September each year and the QLFS is a quarterly survey, hence the annual figures are the averages of the two semester for LFS and quarterly averages for QLFS.</p>	<p>The non-institutional population aged 15 years and over living in private households including residents temporarily absent, but excluding persons living in institutions – except workers' hostels and armed forces.</p> <p>Excluded are hospital/nursing homes, prisons/reformatories, homes for special care citizens (e.g. aged, disabled, juvenile offenders, etc.), old aged homes, boarding schools, hotels/motels.</p>
Spain	<p>Quarterly Labour Force Survey / Instituto Nacional de Estadística.</p> <p>The data correspond to annual averages.</p>	<p>Resident non-institutional population aged 16 years and over living in private households, including all armed forces and excluding prisons.</p>
Sweden	<p>Monthly Labour Force Survey / Statistics Sweden.</p> <p>The annual data are averages of monthly estimates.</p>	<p>All inhabitants of Sweden on the civil register including all armed forces and from 2007 aged 15 to 74. Earlier the population was 16-74 years. As from April 2005, persons registered in population records but employed abroad are included in the labour force.</p>
Switzerland	<p>Swiss Labour Force Survey (SLFS) / Office Fédérale de la Statistique (OFS).</p> <p>The annual data refer to the second quarter (April-June) until 2009 and to annual averages as of 2010.</p>	<p>Permanent resident population aged 15 and over, living in private households who have a telephone number, including all armed forces.</p>

Table 1. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: sources and coverage

	Source / Statistical office conducting survey. Survey period	Coverage
Turkey	<p>Household Labour Force Survey / Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat).</p> <p>Semi-annual survey for the period of October 1988-1999 and survey was applied in October and April within this term. Annual results refer to average of April and October. From January 2000, the HLFS is applied monthly. There are 12 reference weeks in a year. The results of the survey are determined as quarterly and yearly estimates. As of February 2014, the survey has become a continuous survey and the data are annual averages of quarterly estimates. With the continuous survey application, the 13 weeks covered along with the corresponding month in each period are considered at the beginning of 2014. Thus, labour force information is being questioned for the entire week of the year.</p>	<p>Resident non-institutional population aged 15 years and over living in private households. All private households who are living in the territory of Republic of Turkey are covered. Residents of schools, dormitories, kindergartens, rest homes for elderly persons, special hospitals, military barracks and recreation quarters for officers are not covered. The data include career military, but exclude conscripts.</p>
United Kingdom	<p>Labour Force Survey (LFS) (up to 2003) and Annual Population Survey (APS) as of 2004 / Office for National Statistics.</p> <p>Prior to 2004, the annual data are averages of quarterly estimates are from the Spring quarter (April-June) Labour Force Survey (LFS). From 2004 onwards, they are annual averages of quarterly estimates from the Annual Population Survey (APS).</p>	<p>Resident non-institutional population aged 16 years and over living in private households, including career military and excluding conscripts.</p>
United States	<p>Monthly Household Labour Force Survey (Current Population Survey) / U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics.</p> <p>The annual data are averages of monthly estimates.</p>	<p>Civilian resident non-institutional (excluding penal and mental facilities, and homes for the aged) population aged 16 years and over living in private households and in collective households (non-transient hotels, rooming and boarding houses, etc.) sampled separately.</p>

Table 2. **Employment status of specific categories in National Labour Force Surveys**

	Women with a job, on maternity leave	Persons with a job, on parental leave	Persons with a job, on long absences	Conscripts
ILO guidelines	Maternity leave is first given to the mother (but may include the leave of the father in the case of a transfer of the entitlements) and corresponds to the compulsory period of the leave stipulated by national legislation to ensure that mothers before and after childbirth have sufficient rest, or for a period to be specified according to national circumstances. People in maternity leave should always be considered in employment.	Parental leave can be taken either by the mother or the father and is the interruption of work in case of childbirth or to bring up a child of young age. It corresponds to the period when parents receive "parental leave benefit". People in full-time parental leave should be treated as a case of long term absence from work.	If the total absence from work (measured from the last day of work to the day on which the paid worker will return) exceeds three months then a person is considered to have a job only if he/she continues to receive at least 50% of the wage or salary from their employer.	Conscripts who performed some work for pay or profit during the reference week should not be considered in employment.
Australia	Considered as employed if on paid leave (resp. away) for some or all of (resp. less than) the 4 weeks up to the end of the reference week. Otherwise, unemployed or NILF depends on whether had been looking/available for work.			Outside the scope of the survey.
Austria	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	Outside the scope of the survey since 2004.
Belgium	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.
Brazil	Considered as employed.	Considered as employed.	Regardless of the time of absence, are considered employed the persons who had paid work, but not work during the entire reference week, by reason of vacation, leave (paid or unpaid), voluntary absence from work, strike, disease, temporary suspension of the employment contract, bad weather conditions, machine breakage, limitation of production or any other impediment beyond their will.	Considered as employed.
Canada	Considered as employed if they have a job to go back to. If there is no job to go back to then respondent is unemployed if looking for work or not in labour force if not looking for work.			Excluded from the LFS.
Chile	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	Not in the labour market.	Excluded from the LFS.
Colombia	Considered as employed.	Considered as employed.	Considered as employed as far as there is certainty that the person is going back working in that job.	Excluded from the survey.
Costa Rica	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	No conscripts.
Czech Republic	ILO guidelines (maximum duration of the leave: 6 months).	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	No conscripts since 2005. Prior to 2005, considered as employed.

Table 2. Employment status of specific categories in National Labour Force Surveys

	Women with a job, on maternity leave	Persons with a job, on parental leave	Persons with a job, on long absences	Conscripts
Denmark	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.
Estonia	ILO guidelines.	Considered as inactive.	ILO guidelines.	Included in total employment and labour force.
Finland	Parents on maternity, paternity or parental leave are classified as employed. After taking parental leave parents are entitled to take child care leave with employment security until their child reaches the age of 3. Employers do not have to pay employees on child care leave, but parents who take it are entitled to receive home care allowance. During child homecare leave parents are classified in LFS as "not in the labour force".		ILO guidelines since 2008. Until 2007, a person was classified as not in labour force in case of absence which was unpaid and had lasted for more than a month.	Included in employment and labour force (as well as career military).
France	ILO guidelines.	Considered as employed if the person has a job to go back and the total absence from work does not exceed 12 months for sick leave or 3 months for parental leave.		No conscripts since 2003. Prior to 2003, considered as employed.
Germany	ILO guidelines.	Considered as employed if the total absence from work does not exceed 3 months. Absences due to illness, accident or medical rehabilitation are also considered in employment if absent 3 months and longer.		ILO guidelines.
Greece	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.
Hungary	ILO guidelines (maximum duration of the leave: 6 months).	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	No conscripts.
Iceland	Information not available.			
Ireland	ILO guidelines (no qualification based on the duration of the absence).	All those on parental leave are coded as 'in employment', and no qualification is made to the data based on the duration of the absence.	Those on temporary lay-off from work are considered to be unemployed or not part of the labour market depending on whether they are currently available and looking for work.	No conscripts.
Israel	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	Absent from their job for a month or less, or those who are absent for more than one month and up to one year, and return to the same employer at the end of the period of absence, are accounted as employed (absent). All others who are absent are not accounted as employed, but accounted as unemployed or inactive according to ILO definitions	Excluded from the civilian labour force, but included in the population base until 2011 and included in the labour force as of 2012.

Table 2. **Employment status of specific categories in National Labour Force Surveys**

	Women with a job, on maternity leave	Persons with a job, on parental leave	Persons with a job, on long absences	Conscripts
Italy	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	No conscripts since 2006. Prior to 2006, considered as not in the labour force.
Japan	Employees: considered as employed if they receive or expect to receive wage or salary. Self-employed workers: considered as employed absence from work has not exceeded 30 days. Family workers: considered as unemployed persons or not in labour force.			Not applicable.
Korea	Considered as employed. Unpaid employed persons who are temporarily absent are classified as temporary absence from work only if they are sure to return to work. Unpaid employed persons whose absence lasts for more than 6 months are classified according to their actual activities which they have done last week.			
Latvia	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	
Lithuania	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	
Luxembourg	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.
Mexico	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	Considered as employed if the reason makes it clear they maintain a formal labour attachment. For independent workers, considered as employed if they receive an income from their business during the absence or if they return to their activities in less than a week.	ILO guidelines.
Netherlands	These persons belong to the employed labour force. In a separate module people are asked if they didn't work in the reference week, due to a specific reason. Of the reasons that can be mentioned: maternity leave and parental leave.			No conscripts.
New Zealand	Currently the Household Labour Force Survey has no specific rules in place for how to treat those respondents who are on paid parental leave, maternity leave or on other long absences. These respondents are most likely considered to be 'not in the labour force' but to a certain extent it would be defined by the respondent themselves. They may respond that last week they had a job but were away because of sickness, holidays or another reason. In this situation they would be counted as "employed."			
Norway	Considered as employed if the total absence from work does not exceed 12 months. Beyond 12 months, it depends whether the person receives at least 50% salary.		Considered as employed if conditions on duration and salary (only) are fulfilled.	Considered as employed.
Poland	ILO guidelines (no qualification based on the duration of the absence).	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	Outside the scope of the survey.

Table 2. **Employment status of specific categories in National Labour Force Surveys**

	Women with a job, on maternity leave	Persons with a job, on parental leave	Persons with a job, on long absences	Conscripts
Portugal	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines (for unpaid family workers: if the total absence exceeds the 3 months considered as not in employment. For self-employed: the criteria of 3 months are not applied and considered as employed if have a business, farm or professional practice.	ILO guidelines.	No conscripts since 2005.
Russian Federation	Considered in employment if on leave for up to 1.5 years.	Considered in employment if on leave for up to 1.5 years.	Considered in employment if the period of absence is less than 6 months.	Considered as employed.
Slovak Republic	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	No conscripts since 2006. From 1997 to 2005, included in the active population.
Slovenia	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.
South Africa	Employed, given that they receive part or all wage or salary, from employer or equivalent during the compulsory maternity period.	Employed, given that the leave is short, 1-3 months, precede by a period of employment or maternity leave.	Employed, given an assurance of work with the same employer.	NA
Spain	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	<p>ILO guidelines.</p> <p>Considered as having a job if the whole absence period is 3 months or more. If in this period the person receives more than the 50% of the salary, then he/she will be considered as in employment. In other case, he/she will be considered as not employed.</p> <p>Some categories don't have information on the duration of the absence. Persons absent due to maternity/paternity leave, sickness and holidays are considered in employment independently of the duration. Persons absent due to seasonal work or declaring having a job but have not started yet are considered not employed. For self-employed persons it is enough they claim having a job for being considered them as in employment.</p>	No conscripts since the end of 2001.

Table 2. **Employment status of specific categories in National Labour Force Surveys**

	Women with a job, on maternity leave	Persons with a job, on parental leave	Persons with a job, on long absences	Conscripts
Sweden	The respondent has a job when he/she has an agreement with the employer to work after a schedule or to work a certain number of hours. The job must be regular. As long as the respondent has a job, he/she may have long periods of absence by example due to paid parental leave in conjunction with birth of child/adoption (parental benefit days, paternity leave) or other paid parental leave. There is no upper limit how long time the absence can be.			Considered as employed if they have a job; not in the labour force otherwise.
Switzerland	Considered as employed.			Considered as employed if they have a job.
Turkey	ILO guidelines for persons on long absence apply to women on maternity leave.	ILO guidelines.	ILO guidelines.	Not considered as household member.
United Kingdom	Respondents on special period of maternity or paternity leave that is allowed by law are considered as employed.		Considered as employed if at least one hour of paid work in the week prior to their LFS/APS interview or if the person has a job that she/he is temporarily away from.	No conscripts.
United States	Classified as employed. More specifically, they are classified as "with a job, not at work." As long as the absence from the job is temporary, regardless of whether or not the person is being paid during the absence, they person is still considered employed.			Outside the scope of the survey.

Notes:

Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Luxembourg and Slovenia: The concepts and definitions used in the European Labour Force Survey have been derived from the ILO guidelines since 1983. The 1992 European Labour Force Survey contains changes on the definition of unemployment. For more details see Labour Force Survey - Methods and definitions, 1992, Eurostat.

Table 3. **Unemployment duration, labour contracts and working hours: sources and definitions**

	Unemployment duration	Labour contracts	Working hours
Austria Belgium Denmark France Germany Greece Ireland Italy Luxembourg Netherlands Portugal Slovenia Spain United Kingdom <i>Main source:</i> European Labour Force Survey.	Duration is the minimum between the duration of job search and the duration of joblessness. Duration "Less than one month" refers to the duration of unemployment during the previous four weeks, including the survey reference week. Notes: Austria: Labour Force Survey March (since 1997); from 2004 onwards LFS (annual average).	<i>Permanent worker:</i> If there does not exist an objective criterion for the termination of a job or work contract. <i>Temporary worker:</i> If it is understood by both employer and the employee that the termination of the job is determined by objective conditions such as reaching a certain date, completion of an assignment or return of another employee who has been temporarily replaced. In the case of a work contract of limited duration the condition for its termination is generally mentioned in the contract. To be included in these groups are: <i>i)</i> persons with a seasonal job; <i>ii)</i> persons engaged by an employment agency or business and hired out to a third party for the carrying out of a "work mission"; <i>iii)</i> persons with specific training contracts. Coverage: employees only.	Number of hours usually works. This covers all hours including extra hours, either paid or unpaid, which the person normally works, but excludes the travel time between the home and the place of work as well as the main meal breaks. Persons who usually also work at home are asked to include the number of hours they usually work at home. Apprentices, trainees and other persons in vocational training are asked to exclude the time spent in school or other special training centres.
Australia <i>Source:</i> Monthly Labour Force Survey.	Since July 2014, the duration of unemployment was replaced by duration of job search. The current and continuing period of unemployment for people who are unemployed in the reference week. Duration of job search measures the elapsed number of weeks to the end of the reference week since an unemployed person began looking for work, or since that person last worked, whichever is the shorter. For people who began looking for work while still employed, it is the period from the time the person last worked to the end of the reference week. Data are annual averages of monthly estimates.	<i>Permanent worker:</i> Those employees (including owner-managers of incorporated enterprises) who are not temporary as defined below. <i>Temporary worker:</i> Temporary workers are those employees (including owner-managers of incorporated enterprises) where the employment in main job has a set completion date or event (fixed-term contract), or casuals (those without leave entitlements) where employment is expected to continue for less than 12 months with "seasonal/temporary job/fixed contract" reported as the reason. <i>Source: Estimates are from the supplementary survey Forms of Employment (FOE), last conducted in August 1998, November in each year thereafter up to 2013 and Characteristics of Employment (COE) from 2014 onwards.</i>	Jobs covered are all jobs and the hours worked are actual hours until 2000. From 2001, the data cover usual hours worked. Normal hours refer to normal working pattern over previous three months and overtime hours are if it is a regular part of working pattern over previous three months. Estimates are annual averages from the Monthly Labour Force Survey (2001 is an Apr-Dec average).
Brazil	No information available.	No information available.	No information available.

Table 3. **Unemployment duration, labour contracts and working hours: sources and definitions**

	Unemployment duration	Labour contracts	Working hours
<p>Canada</p> <p><i>Source:</i> Monthly Household Labour Force Survey.</p>	<p>The number of continuous weeks during which a person has been without work and is looking for work or is on temporary layoff. Respondents are required to look for work at least once every four weeks; they are not required to undertake job search activities each week in order to be counted as unemployed. The LFS measures the duration of incomplete spells of unemployment, since the information is collected only from those currently unemployed. A spell of unemployment is interrupted or completed by any period of work or withdrawal from the labour force. The duration of unemployment is not known for unemployed people who had a job to start in the next four weeks.</p>	<p><i>Permanent worker:</i> A permanent job is one that is expected to last as long as the employee wants it, given that business conditions permit. There is no pre-determined termination date.</p> <p><i>Temporary worker:</i> A temporary job has a pre-determined end date or will end as soon as project is completed or a fixed term contract.</p>	<p>Jobs covered are main jobs, the hours worked are usual hours, and refer to normal hours worked.</p> <p>Prior to January 1997, usual hours was the number of hours usually worked by the respondent in a typical week, regardless of whether they were paid. Beginning January 1997, usual hours for employees refer to their normal paid or contract hours, not counting any overtime. However, the definition of usual hours remains unchanged for the self-employed and unpaid family workers.</p> <p>In January 1997, the Labour Force Survey questionnaire was changed to allow responses up to 168 hours per week. Prior to 1997, the upper limit was set at 99 hours.</p>
<p>Chile</p> <p><i>Source:</i> Encuesta Nacional de Empleo.</p>	<p>Not relevant.</p>	<p><i>Permanent worker:</i> salaried employees with a contract or agreement of indefinite duration.</p> <p><i>Temporary worker:</i> salaried employees with a contract or work agreement with a defined duration.</p>	<p>Average weekly usual hours worked in the main job.</p>

Table 3. **Unemployment duration, labour contracts and working hours: sources and definitions**

	Unemployment duration	Labour contracts	Working hours
<p>Colombia</p> <p><i>Source:</i> 2001-2005: Encuesta Continua de Hogares - ECH</p> <p>2007- onwards: Gran encuesta Integrada de Hogares – GEIH.</p>	<p>The number of weeks that the unemployed population spends in search of a job. The weeks of unemployment refers to a period in which a current unemployed person search for job, without been employed at the same time.</p> <p>Duration of “Less than one month” refers to the duration of unemployment during the previous four weeks, including the survey reference week. A year of unemployment corresponds to 52 weeks in search. A month in unemployment corresponds to the number of weeks in search divided by four.</p> <p>The reference population are unemployed people above 15 years old who actively sought for job in the last four weeks, or people who did not seek for a job in the last four weeks but are currently employed.</p>	<p><i>Permanent worker:</i> Persons whose main job is permanent or count with a work contract of unlimited duration, or employees with an employment contract for an indefinite term.</p> <p><i>Temporary worker:</i> Workers whose main job is a: fixed-term contract (for salaried workers with a written contract). Workers with verbal contract are not included.</p> <p>Data from 2001-2005 correspond to the second quarter of each year due to the question that identifies the contract term only applied in this quarter.</p> <p>Information from 2007 onwards corresponds to the annual average for each year.</p> <p>NOTE: Almost the 40% of the population is missing due to the fact that only information for temporary and permanent employees who had a written work contract is reported. Persons with verbal contracts are not.</p>	<p>Hours usually worked per week in the main job. It does not include additional hours worked or not worked last week.</p>
<p>Costa Rica</p> <p><i>Source:</i> Encuesta Continua de Empleo.</p>	<p>Refers to the duration of the period during which the person recorded as unemployed was seeking or available for work or tried to start a business or activity. This variable is available as of 2012.</p>	<p><i>Permanent worker:</i> Refers to employment with a verbal or written contract during an indefinite period of time. Unpaid workers or contributing workers are not included. In Costa Rica, a verbal or written contract is equally legal, being verbal contracts in many cases.</p> <p><i>Temporary worker:</i> People whose work, activity or business is seasonal, only for a specific time period, only performed once or only performed when asked to do so. In other words, they are considered non-permanent workers or it is a temporary activity. Unpaid workers or contributing workers are not included.</p>	<p>Normal hours worked during the reference week, at the main job (it includes absent employees). Hours that a person usually works according to the schedule for which the person was hired. It includes extra hours if these are regular. Those hours not worked due to sick leave, license, or holidays are not included. In the case of self-employment, usual hours refer to the time worked on a regular basis according to the person’s own work arrangement.</p>

Table 3. **Unemployment duration, labour contracts and working hours: sources and definitions**

	Unemployment duration	Labour contracts	Working hours
Czech Republic <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Sample Survey.	For period 1993-2005 the duration of job search was used. Since 2006 the duration of job search and the duration of unemployment have been compared and then the shorter duration of them has been used.	<i>Permanent worker:</i> Persons whose main job is a permanent job or a job with a work contract of unlimited duration. <i>Temporary worker:</i> Workers whose main job is a: fixed-term contract; interim work through a temporary work agency; apprentices and trainees; probationary period; an occasional, casual or seasonal worker; carries out community work as an unemployed; or has a contract for a specific task.	Jobs covered are main jobs, the hours worked are usual hours, and refer to normal hours worked including average overtime hours. The number of hours worked includes the 0.5 hour for the main meal break per day. Since 2002, the meal break is not included.
Estonia <i>Source:</i> Estonian Labour Force Survey.	Duration is the minimum between the duration of job search and the duration of joblessness. Duration "Less than one month" refers to the duration of unemployment during the previous four weeks, including the survey reference week.	<u>Source:</u> European Labour Force Survey.	Covers all hours including extra hours, either paid or unpaid, which the person normally works, but excludes the travel time between the home and the place of work as well as the main meal breaks. Persons who usually also work at home are asked to include the number of hours they usually work at home. Apprentices, trainees and other persons in vocational training are asked to exclude the time spent in school or other special training centres. Conscripts are excluded.
Finland <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey.	Duration refers to the duration of unemployment (1980–1998, 2000–) or to the duration of job search (1999). <u>Source:</u> Supplementary Survey: 1983–1993 (Autumn) and 1995–1998 (Spring). Since 1999, LFS, annual average.	<i>Permanent worker:</i> Person with a work contract of unlimited duration. <i>Temporary worker:</i> Person with is a fixed-term contract. Refers to the main job and to civilian employees.	Usual weekly working hours of an employed person in the main job, including regular overtime.
Hungary <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Survey.	Duration is measured only by the duration of job search. Duration of "Less than one month" refers to the duration of unemployment during the previous four weeks, including the survey reference week.	<i>Permanent worker:</i> Persons whose main job is a permanent job or with a work contract of unlimited duration, Data refer only to dependent employment, which also includes occasional, casual or seasonal workers and daily workers. <i>Temporary worker:</i> Workers whose main job is a fixed-term contract or with a work contract of limited duration, Data refer only to dependent employment, which also includes occasional, casual or seasonal workers and daily workers.	Jobs covered are main jobs, the hours worked are usual hours, and refer to normal hours worked.

Table 3. **Unemployment duration, labour contracts and working hours: sources and definitions**

	Unemployment duration	Labour contracts	Working hours
Iceland <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey.	The minimum between the duration of job search and the duration of joblessness.	<i>Permanent worker:</i> Persons whose main job is a permanent job or with a work contract of unlimited duration. <i>Temporary worker:</i> Workers whose main job is a: fixed-term contract; interim work through a temporary work agency; apprentices and trainees; probationary period; and an occasional, casual or seasonal worker.	Jobs covered are all jobs, the hours worked are usual hours, and refer to normal hours worked and overtime hours.
Israel <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Household Labour Force Survey.	The uncompleted duration of job search at the time of the survey reported in number of weeks of continuous active job search.	NA.	Hours usually worked per week, not including those temporarily absent from work. As of 2018, the absent from work workers are asked how many hours they usually work.
Japan	The minimum between the duration of job search and the duration of joblessness. <i>Source:</i> Special Survey of the Labour Force Survey prior to 2001. As of 2002, the Labour Force Survey "Detailed Tabulation".	<i>Permanent worker:</i> Persons whose main job is a work contract of unlimited duration or regular workers whose contract last for 12 months and over. <i>Temporary worker:</i> Workers whose main job is a fixed-term contract lasting not more than one year, occasional, casual or seasonal work, daily workers, or work lasting less than 12 months (Note: Covers only employees in non-agricultural industries.) In the January 2018 survey revision, four items in Status in employment – 1. Ordinary employee (Indefinite duration contract), 2. Ordinary employee (Limited duration contract) (duration of employment contract is more than 1 year), 3. Temporary employee (1 month or more up to 1 year) and 4. Daily employee (less than 1 month), were discontinued and a new survey item "duration of employment contract" was introduced. <i>Source:</i> The Labour Force Survey "Basic Tabulation".	Jobs covered are all jobs and the hours worked are actual hours. <i>Source:</i> The Labour Force Survey "Basic Tabulation".
Korea <i>Source:</i> Economically Active Population Survey.	The period that the unemployment situation lasts.	<i>Permanent worker:</i> Workers whose main job is not temporary job. <i>Temporary worker:</i> 1) workers with a work contract of limited duration; 2) workers with a work contract of unlimited duration who could be dismissed against their own will such as seasonal factor, completion of a project or return of another employee who has been temporarily replaced etc. Workers with a work contract of unlimited duration who actually responded that their main job is expected to last by renewal of the contract are treated as non-regular workers in Korea. These workers however, are not included in the relevant statistical tables of the OECD and; 3) all temporary agency workers. Temporary agency workers with a contract of unlimited duration whose main job is expected to last are also included in the relevant statistical tables considering labour market practices in Korea; 4) on-call workers. <i>Source:</i> The August Economically Active Population Survey Supplement on Working Type	Jobs covered are all jobs and the hours worked are actual hours.

Table 3. Unemployment duration, labour contracts and working hours: sources and definitions

	Unemployment duration	Labour contracts	Working hours
<p>Mexico</p> <p>Source: Encuesta Nacional de Empleo (ENE) until 2004 and Encuesta Nacional de Ocupación y Empleo (ENOE) as of 2005.</p>	<p>Refers to the time among the date that the unemployed starts to seek a work and the survey reference week.</p>	<p><i>Permanent worker:</i> Persons whose main job is a permanent job or with a work contract of unlimited duration (the survey only asks this to salaried workers with a written contract). Formerly included salaried workers with verbal contracts when they are working the entire year, except those working in agriculture and construction in occupation groups linked directly to the production process (as agricultural workers, assistants or peons). Now it is restricted to those dependent workers with a written contract of unlimited duration. This criterion is applied all along the series.</p> <p><i>Temporary worker:</i> Workers whose main job is a fixed-term contract (for salaried workers with a written contract); an occasional, casual or seasonal worker (for salaried workers with verbal contracts when they are not working the entire year, or those who are working in the agriculture and construction occupation groups linked directly to the production process -- as agricultural workers, assistants or peons-- even when they are working the entire year) has a contract for a specific task (for salaried workers with a written contract); or work lasting less than 12 months (for salaried workers with a verbal contract when they are not working the entire year). Now the current criteria places here the rest of dependent workers, either because they have not written contract or if they have one it is for a specific duration of time or else one that ends where the task has been completed as it happens with most construction workers.</p>	<p>Jobs covered are main jobs, the hours worked are usual hours, and refer to normal hours worked.</p>
<p>New Zealand</p> <p>Source: Household Labour Force Survey.</p>	<p>The length of time (to reference week) since worked for pay or profit.</p>	<p>Dataset not applicable.</p>	<p>Jobs covered are all jobs and the hours worked are usual hours (any hours worked).</p>
<p>Norway</p> <p>Source: Quarterly Labour Force Survey</p>	<p>Duration is the minimum between the duration of job search and the duration of joblessness, with the added measure of asking the unemployed persons "For how many weeks have you been trying to find work?".</p> <p>Source: As of 2019, European Labour Force Survey (see first row of Table 3 for more details).</p>	<p><i>Permanent worker:</i> Persons whose main job is a permanent job or with a work contract of unlimited duration.</p> <p><i>Temporary worker:</i> Workers whose main job is a fixed-term contract; interim work through a temporary work agency; apprentices and trainees; probationary period; an occasional, casual or seasonal worker; contract for a specific task; work lasting less than 12 months, daily workers and others.</p>	<p>Jobs covered are all jobs, the hours worked are usual hours. Usual hours refer to settled or contractual. Usual hours are asked for if there is no contract (and for self-employed/family-workers). Settled hours refer to the number of working hours determined by the working agreement. Overtime or extra hours are not included in the settled hours, even when the number of actual hours normally is higher than the settled.</p>

Table 3. **Unemployment duration, labour contracts and working hours: sources and definitions**

	Unemployment duration	Labour contracts	Working hours
Poland <i>Source:</i> To 2014 Labour Force Survey. European Labour Force Survey as of 2015	The minimum between the duration of job search and the duration of joblessness.	<i>Permanent worker:</i> Until 2000, persons whose job is defined as a job undertaken for an indefinite period or a period lasting more than one year. From 2001 onwards, workers whose permanent job or work contract is one of unlimited duration. <i>Temporary worker:</i> Until 2000, workers whose main job lasts less than 12 months. From 2001 onwards, workers with a fixed-term contract. <i>Note:</i> Data prior to 2001 cover total employment and as of 2001 to employees.	Up until 2000, jobs covered are all jobs, the hours worked are actual hours. From 2001 onwards, the data cover usual hours worked in the main job including normal and overtime hours.
Russian Federation <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey.	Duration of unemployment is defined as the number of continuous weeks/months during which a person has been without work and searching actively for work.	<i>Permanent worker:</i> Employee (i.e. wage and salaried workers) job of unlimited duration. <i>Temporary worker:</i> Persons performing work on the basis of the contract of civil nature, or on the basis of an employment contract (service contract), concluded for a definite period, or on the basis of verbal agreements without paperwork or on the basis of labour on execution of works contract at home, i.e. as homeworkers, either on the basis of an employment contract on the implementation of teleworking (figure introduced in 2014).	The number of normal working hours in a typical week.
Slovak Republic <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Sample Survey.	From 1994 to 2000, duration is measured as the duration of job search. From 2001, duration is the minimum between the duration of job search and the duration of joblessness.	<i>Permanent worker:</i> Persons whose main job is a permanent job or work contract of unlimited duration. <i>Temporary worker:</i> Workers whose main job is a: fixed-term contract; interim work through a temporary work agency; apprentices and trainees; an occasional, casual or seasonal worker; carrying out community work as an unemployed; has a contract for a specific task or daily workers. <i>Note:</i> From the 1st quarter 2006 self-employed are not asked if their work is permanent or temporary.	Jobs covered are main jobs, the hours worked are usual hours and refer to normal hours worked and overtime hours. <i>Note:</i> From 2002 the number of hours worked excludes the main meal breaks (according to the new Labour Code operative from 1st April 2002). Data for years 1994 to 2001 cover the main meal break.
South Africa <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Survey.	Classified as either long term (more than a year) or short term (less than a year) unemployment. Persons in short-term unemployment are those individuals among the unemployed who were without work and trying to find a job or start a business for a period less than one year. Long-term unemployed are those individuals among the unemployed who were without work and trying to find a job or start a business for one year or more.	NA	Individual hours worked from 0 (temporary absence) to 124 per week.

Table 3. **Unemployment duration, labour contracts and working hours: sources and definitions**

	Unemployment duration	Labour contracts	Working hours
Sweden <i>Source:</i> Monthly Labour Force Survey.	The minimum between the duration of job search and the duration of joblessness. From April 2005 unemployed also contains persons who had got a job which starts within 3 months. Earlier this limit was 1 month.	<i>Temporary worker:</i> If it is understood by both employer and the employee that the termination of the job is determined by objective conditions such as reaching a certain date, completion of an assignment or return of another employee who has been temporarily replaced. In the case of a work contract of limited duration the condition for its termination is generally mentioned in the contract. To be included in these groups are: <i>i)</i> persons with a seasonal job; <i>ii)</i> persons engaged by an employment agency or business and hired out to a third party for the carrying out of a "work mission"; <i>iii)</i> persons with specific training contracts. <i>Permanent worker:</i> If there does not exist an objective criterion for the termination of a job or work contract. Coverage: employees only. <i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey.	Jobs covered are main jobs, the hours worked are usual hours and refer to normal hours worked.
Switzerland <i>Source:</i> Swiss Labour Force Survey.	Duration is measured as the number of days between the date of the LFS-Interview and the date where the person is on job search and without job.	<i>Permanent worker:</i> Persons whose main job is a permanent job or with a work contract of unlimited duration. <i>Temporary worker:</i> Workers whose main job is a: fixed-term contract; interim work through a temporary work agency; apprentices and trainees; an occasional, casual or seasonal worker; carrying out community work as an unemployed; has a contract for a specific task; work lasting less than 12 months or daily workers.	Jobs covered are main jobs, the hours worked are usual hours, and refer to normal hours worked.
Turkey <i>Source:</i> Household Labour Force Survey.	Duration is measured as the duration of joblessness. As of 2014, the reference period is considered "the last four weeks" including reference period instead of the "last three months".	<i>Permanent worker:</i> Permanent workers are defined based on their status in employment i.e. regular employees. <i>Temporary worker:</i> Workers whose main job is occasional, casual or seasonal work; daily workers or defined based on their status in employment, i.e. casual employees.	Jobs covered refer to the main job, the hours worked are usual hours, and refer to normal hours worked.
United States <i>Source:</i> Monthly Household Labour Force Survey (Current Population Survey).	Duration represents the length of time (through the current reference week) that persons classified as unemployed had been looking for work. For persons on layoff, duration of unemployment represents the number of full weeks they had been on layoff. In US statistics, duration of unemployment is enumerated in weeks and the smallest duration category available is "less than five weeks."	<i>Temporary worker:</i> The estimate includes, on the one hand, all the wage and salary workers who do not expect their employment to last, except for those who, for personal reasons, expect to leave jobs that they would otherwise be able to keep. The data includes temporary help and contract company workers. This estimate also includes self-employed and independent contractors who work for one firm at a time and expect this arrangement to last for 1 year or less <i>Source:</i> The February US CPS supplement on Contingent and Alternative Employment Arrangements. For 2017 data, the supplement to the May 2017 Current Population Survey (CPS).	Jobs covered are all jobs, the hours worked are usual hours, and refer to normal hours worked.

Table 4. Full-time part-time employment (national definitions), Involuntary part-time workers and Economic short-time workers: sources and definitions

	Full-time part-time employment, national definition	Involuntary part-time workers	Economic short-time workers
Austria Belgium Denmark Estonia France Germany Greece Iceland Ireland Latvia Luxembourg Slovenia Spain Turkey United Kingdom <i>Main source:</i> European Labour Force Survey.	Full-time and part-time status is based on the self-perception/assessment by workers of their main job . A part-time worker is "an employed person whose normal hours of work are less than those of comparable full-time workers" (International Labour Conference, 81st session, 1994). The "comparable full-time workers" in the latter definition should be the people who work in the same occupation in the same local unit. If the respondent is the single person working in his/her occupation, then the benchmark is the group of people working in the same occupation in his branch of industry. For Austria , see national source below.	Persons who declared to work part-time because they could not find a full-time job.	Persons working less than usual during the survey reference week due to slack work for technical or economic reasons or to change of job during reference week (i.e. start or end of job without taking up a new one).
Australia <i>Source:</i> Monthly Labour Force Survey.	Full-time workers are those persons who worked 35 hours or more a week in all jobs and others, who although usually working less than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more in the reference week. Part-time workers are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week in all jobs and who did so during the survey reference week. Data prior to 1978 refers to the month of August. Data for 1978 is an annual average of quarter month estimates. Data from 1979 onwards is an annual average of monthly estimates.	Persons defined as "part-time" (working less than 30 hours) who would prefer to work more hours. These data are collected once per quarter, February, May, August and November surveys. The data are annual averages of monthly estimates until 1991 and annual averages of quarter month estimates from 1991 onwards.	Full-time workers who worked part-time hours in the reference week due to economic reasons (stood down/on short time/insufficient work) Estimates are annual averages of monthly estimates.
Austria	Based on a usual hours criterion with a 35 hours cut-off in the main job. Salaried workers and persons in private households only. From 2004 onwards the categorization to full-time or part-time is based on a directly question whether persons are working part time (self-assessment).	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).
Brazil	Not relevant.	Not relevant.	Not relevant.

Table 4. **Full-time part-time employment (national definitions), Involuntary part-time workers and Economic short-time workers: sources and definitions**

	Full-time part-time employment, national definition	Involuntary part-time workers	Economic short-time workers
Canada <i>Source:</i> Monthly Household Labour Force Survey.	Full-time employment consists of persons who usually work 30 hours or more per week at their main or only job. Part-time employment consists of persons who usually work less than 30 hours per week at their main or only job.	Persons who work part-time because they could not find work with 30 or more hours or due to business conditions, whether or not they looked for full-time work. Beginning January 1997, all respondents who usually worked < 30 hours per week at their main or only job (part-time workers) are asked if they want to work more or less than 30 hours at a (single) job or business. Respondents who respond they want to work full-time, the main reason for working part-time is collected. Responses include: own illness, personal or family responsibilities, going to school, business conditions, could not find work with 30 or more hours, or other. Those whose response is business conditions or could not find work with 30 or more hours are then asked if they looked for work with 30 or more hours during the past four weeks Prior to 1997, reason for working part-time was asked of all persons whose total usual work hours at "all" jobs or businesses were below 30 per week. Multiple job holders whose total hours were 30 or more and those respondents who answered full-time work under 30 hours were not counted in any part-time estimates.	Workers who worked less than usual hours due to slack work for technical or economic reasons.
Chile <i>Source:</i> Encuesta Nacional de Empleo.	Employees working two thirds or less of the legal working week, i.e., less than or equal to 30 hours.	Employees working less than or equal to 30 hours per week, who are willing to work more and are available to do so within the next two weeks.	Not relevant.

Table 4. Full-time part-time employment (national definitions), Involuntary part-time workers and Economic short-time workers: sources and definitions

	Full-time part-time employment, national definition	Involuntary part-time workers	Economic short-time workers
Colombia <i>Source:</i> 2001-2005: Encuesta Continua de Hogares - ECH 2007 onwards: Gran encuesta Integrada de Hogares – GEIH.	In Colombia there is no official definition of employment by full-time and part-time concepts. The data are based on the OECD common definition of part-time employment being equivalent to working less than 30 usual weekly hours of work in the main job.	Involuntary part-time workers are part-timers (working less than 35 usual hours per week) since they could not find a full-time job but reported wanting to work more hours.	Economic short-time workers (working greater or equal to 30 usual hours per week) and did not work some hours last week because the company reduced its economic activity.
Costa Rica <i>Source:</i> Encuesta Continua de Empleo.	Part-time workers are persons who work less than 40 usual hours per week in the main job. In Costa Rica the official working hours are from 40 to 48. Extra hours worked after 48 are considered over-time.	Not relevant.	Not relevant.
Czech Republic	Part-time work is based upon respondent perception of his/her job (in the main job). Persons in employment but not working for 4 weeks or more as well as army conscripts are excluded. Persons on parental leave (i.e. on child care up to 3 years) but who have a formal job attachment as employee are counted among economically inactive persons. <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Sample Survey.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).
Finland <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey.	From 1989, employees or self-employed persons who described themselves in the survey as working part-time in their main job are classified as part-time workers. Prior to 1989, part-timers persons who usually work less than 30 hours at their main job. Persons who did not indicate their working time (approximately 1-2% of the employed sample) have been grouped with full-timers. Working time of the conscripts is considered as unknown.	Persons who work part-time because full-time work was not available. The employees or self-employed persons who described themselves in the survey as working part-time in their main job are classified as part-time workers.	NA.
Hungary <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Survey.	Based on national definitions until 1999: Part-time is defined on the basis of total usual hours worked for the main job of less than 36 hours. Based on self-assessment from 2000 onwards.	Not relevant, no dataset.	Workers who worked less than usual hours due to slack work for technical or economic reasons; had started a job/change in job during the reference week or ended a job without taking up a new one during the reference week. There is no distinction between full-time and part-time worker until 1999. An economic full-time worker is defined by self-assessment from 2000 onwards.

Table 4. Full-time part-time employment (national definitions), Involuntary part-time workers and Economic short-time workers: sources and definitions

	Full-time part-time employment, national definition	Involuntary part-time workers	Economic short-time workers
Iceland <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey.	Part-time work is based on the number of weekly working hours; full-time employed are persons working 35 or more hours per week.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).
Israel	Part-time work is based on the number of weekly working hours (less than 35 hours worked); full-time employed are persons working 35 or more hours per week.	Up to 2017, employed persons who worked part-time (less than 35 hours a week) and searched for additional or full-time work but did not find it. As of 2018: Employees and co-operative members (excl. employees owners of Ltd companies) usually working less than 35 hours per week, who are interested in working more than 35 hours and actively sought to work more hours in the last four. Excl. persons living outside localities (Bedouins in the South) or in institutions (permanent samples).	Employed persons who worked less than usual during the determinant week due to reduction of employment post or persons temporarily absent from work during the determinant week due to reduction of post or due to temporary stoppage of work.
Italy	A person is considered to be part-time if working fewer hours than stipulated in collective agreements applicable for the type of job at which the person is working, i.e., a person works part-time if, in agreement with the employer, fewer than normal hours are worked in his/her particular type of employment. Based on the main job and self-assessment. <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Sample Survey.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).
Japan	Part-timers are persons who were at work and who worked less than 30 hours during the reference week. The data refer to actual hours worked. <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey and published in the Annual Report on the Labour Force Survey, Statistics Bureau. Data are based on averages of monthly estimates.	Persons who would prefer to work more hours. <i>Source:</i> The Special Survey of the Labour Force Survey prior to 2001. As of 2002, the Labour Force Survey "Detailed Tabulation".	Workers who worked less than usual hours due to slack work for technical or economic reasons and who wish to work more hours. <i>Source:</i> The Special Survey of the Labour Force Survey prior to 2001. As of 2002, the Labour Force Survey "Detailed Tabulation".
Korea <i>Source:</i> Economically Active Population Survey.	Not relevant, no dataset.	Not relevant, no dataset.	Job tenure calculates the period that the current job of employees lasts.

Table 4. Full-time part-time employment (national definitions), Involuntary part-time workers and Economic short-time workers: sources and definitions

	Full-time part-time employment, national definition	Involuntary part-time workers	Economic short-time workers
Mexico <i>Source:</i> Encuesta Nacional de Empleo (ENE) until 2004 and Encuesta Nacional de Ocupación y Empleo (ENOE) as of 2005.	There is no official definition of part-time employment in Mexico. In order to respond to international requirements part-time employment is based on persons working less than 35 hours during the reference week.	Not relevant, no dataset.	Workers who worked less than usual hours due to slack work for technical or economic reasons (includes persons usually working full-time but during the reference week they worked less than 35 hours due to economic reasons). For part-time workers, those persons usually working part-time but during the reference week they worked fewer hours than usual due to economic reasons.
Netherlands	Part-timers are persons in the working population (i.e. persons at work, including self-employed and unpaid family workers) with less than 35 usual hours. <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).
New Zealand	To 1985: Covers business establishments employing two or more persons in all industries except agriculture, hunting, fishing, waterfront work, seagoing work, and domestic service in private households. Working proprietors of businesses are considered full-timers. Work schedules of less than 30 hours per week are considered to be part-time. From 1986: Persons who <i>usually</i> work 30 hours or more in the survey reference week are classified as full-timers, those who <i>usually</i> work less than 30 hours in the survey reference week are classified as part-timers. The definition was changed in April 1990 to reduce the seasonality that was occurring with usual hours worked. <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Employment Survey to 1985 (and refer to the month of April up to 1979 and May thereafter). From 1986, data are annual averages of quarterly estimates from the Labour Force Survey.	Persons who would prefer to work more hours. <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey Supplement / Household Labour Force Survey.	Workers who worked less than their usual hours and wish to work more hours than they usually do. <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey Supplement / Household Labour Force Survey.

Table 4. Full-time part-time employment (national definitions), Involuntary part-time workers and Economic short-time workers: sources and definitions

	Full-time part-time employment, national definition	Involuntary part-time workers	Economic short-time workers
Norway <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Survey.	Up to 1988, data refer to actual hours and part-time work is defined as work of less than 35 actual hours per week in all jobs. From the Q2 1988, data refer to usual hours and part-time work is defined as work of less than 37 usual hours, except for persons working 30 to 36 usual hours who state that their work is full-time. Part-time is defined by both usual hour cut-off and self-assessment. Data prior to 1987 exclude unpaid family workers working less than 10 hours per week. There is a break in series after 1987. Estimates prior to 1989 have been chain-linked to those for later years using a ratio of new-to-old estimates calculated for 1989.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).	Persons working less than usual during the survey reference week due to slack work for technical or economic reasons or to change of job during reference week (i.e. start or end of job without taking up a new one).
Poland <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey.	The distinction between full-time and part-time work is based on self-assessment, but persons who usually work more than 40 hours are classified as full-timers. Data refer to all jobs up until 2000 and to the main job from 2001 onwards. Part-time employment was defined by an actual hour's cut-off, because information concerning usual worked hours was not collected until 2000. Since 2001, part-time and full-time workers have been classified according to the respondent's declaration.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).	Workers who worked less than usual hours due to slack work for technical or economic reasons; had started a job/change in job during the reference week or ended a job without taking up a new one during the reference week. Until 2000, counted among economic short-time workers are also part-time workers who cannot find a job with longer working hours.
Portugal	The distinction between full-time and part-time work is based on self-assessment. One is considered to be working part-time job if normal hours of work are less than normal hours of work established by law, collective agreements or enterprise agreements for the same occupation. <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Survey.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).
Russian Federation <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey.	Persons employed in basic work less than 30 hours per week or temporarily absent are considered as working part-time.	Usual weekly hours worked on the main job. Persons who could not find work with complete working week; did not wish to take work with complete working week; transferred at the initiative of the employer; other; on a state of health; on family circumstances; visiting of educational institutions.	Usual weekly hours worked on the main job. Workers who actually worked less than usual during the survey reference week due to slack work for technical or economic reasons. Persons employed in basic work less than 30 hours per week or temporarily absent due to lack of customer orders

Table 4. Full-time part-time employment (national definitions), Involuntary part-time workers and Economic short-time workers: sources and definitions

	Full-time part-time employment, national definition	Involuntary part-time workers	Economic short-time workers
Slovak Republic <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Sample Survey.	Jobs covered are main jobs and hours worked are based on self-assessment. The data from 1994 to 2000 cover only dependent employees since data for self-employed were not collected. From 2001 onwards, data cover total employment.	Persons who could not find a full-time job and those who lack work (due to the employer).	Workers who worked less than usual hours due to slack work for technical or economic reasons; had started a job/change in job during the reference week, there was no work or could not find a full-time job and who were available to start work and who wished to work more hours.
South Africa <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Survey.	Full-time employees are those permanent, temporary and casual employees who normally work the agreed number of hours in their particular occupation or, if the agreed number of hours does not apply, who normally work 35 hours or more per week. This excludes the self-employed and working proprietors. Part-time employees are those permanent, temporary or casual employees who are not full-time employees as defined above or who normally work less than 35 hours per week. This excludes the self-employed at work or with an enterprise but temporarily not at work.	Part-time workers (working less than 35-usual hours per week) because they could not find a full-time job.	NA
Sweden	Part-timers are persons 15-74 who usually work less than 35 hours per week. Prior to 1975, persons usually working less than 35 hours for economic reasons were classified as full-time. The upper age limit for the survey's working age population changed from 74 to 64 in 1986. Accordingly, to ensure historical comparability, part-timers in the 65-74 age group have been excluded from the data for years prior to 1986.. In 1993 due to the introduction of a continuous labour force survey covering all 52 weeks of the year rather than one week each month. To obtain comparability with the years before and after 1993 the estimates has been revised for 1987-1992 taking into account the changes in 1993. From 2007 the reporting in LFS is changed and covers the age group 15-74 years. <i>Source:</i> Monthly Labour Force Survey.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).
Switzerland	Part-time work is defined on the basis of the respondent's perception of his/her main job. <i>Source:</i> Swiss Labour Force Survey.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).
Turkey <i>Source:</i> Household Labour Force Survey.	Persons working usually less than 30 hours in main jobs during the reference week are classified as part-timers.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey (see above).

Table 4. **Full-time part-time employment (national definitions), Involuntary part-time workers and Economic short-time workers: sources and definitions**

	Full-time part-time employment, national definition	Involuntary part-time workers	Economic short-time workers
United States <i>Source:</i> Monthly Household Labour Force Survey (Current Population Survey).	Persons whose usual working hours for all jobs total less than 35 hours per week are classified as part-time workers. Unpaid family workers working less than 15 hours per week are not considered employed.	Persons who could not find a full-time job and would prefer to work more hours. The data on involuntary part-timers represent the number of persons working 1 to 34 hours and who usually work part time and who cite the specific reason for working less than 35 hours as "Could only find part-time work."	Workers who worked less than usual hours due to slack work for technical or economic reasons; had started a job/change in job during the reference week or ended a job without taking up a new one during the reference week; there was no work available and could not find a full-time job. Full-time workers: This category refers to individuals who gave an economic reason for working 1 to 34 hours during the reference week and includes both those who usually work full time and those who usually work part time. Economic reasons include slack work or unfavourable business conditions, inability to find full-time work, seasonal declines in demand as well as job started or ended during the reference week. Those who usually work part time must also indicate that they want and are available for full-time work to be classified as on part time for economic reasons. The data on economic short-time workers submitted represent the number of persons working 1 to 34 hours (including both those who usually work full time and those who usually work part-time) and who cite the specific reasons for working less than 35 hours as "Slack work/business conditions" or "Job started or ended during week."

Table 5. Discouraged workers, marginally attached workers and job tenure: sources and definitions

	Discouraged workers	Marginally attached workers	Job tenure
<p>Austria Belgium Denmark Estonia France Germany Greece Ireland Italy Luxembourg Netherlands Portugal Slovenia Spain United Kingdom</p> <p><i>Main source:</i> European Labour Force Survey.</p>	<p>Persons who are not seeking employment because they believe that there is no work available, but who nevertheless like to have work.</p>		
<p>Australia</p> <p><i>Source:</i> Population Job Search Mobility (PJSM).</p>	<p>Persons who are not actively seeking work because they believe no suitable work is available for labour market reasons (considered too old or too young by employers, lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience, no jobs available in locality or line of work; in suitable hours; at all, believes ill health or disability discourages employers, difficulties because of language or ethnic background, no jobs at all), wanted to work and are available to start within the next four weeks.</p> <p>Estimates are for the month of September.</p>	<p>People who were not in the labour force in the reference week, wanted to work and were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks.</p> <p>Estimates are for the month of September.</p>	<p>The length of the current continuous period of employment people had with their employer or in their own business in their main job. The length includes periods of paid leave, unpaid leave or strike.</p> <p><i>Source:</i> The biennial February supplementary survey Labour Mobility prior to 2008, thereafter from the annual November supplementary survey Forms of Employment until 2013 and from 2014 onwards the supplementary survey (Characteristics of Employment (COE))</p>
<p>Brazil</p> <p><i>Source:</i> PNAD.</p>	<p>Not relevant.</p>	<p>Not relevant.</p>	<p>The elapsed time since the entrance in the main job until the last day of the reference week.</p>
<p>Canada</p> <p><i>Source:</i> Monthly Household Labour Force Survey.</p>	<p>Those persons who reported wanting to work at a job or business during the reference week and were available but who did not look for work because they believed no suitable work was available.</p> <p>Prior to January 1997, the definition was limited to those who looked for work within the previous six months, but not during the last four weeks, although they were available, and did not look because they believed no suitable work was available.</p>	<p>The number of people who were not looking for work, but wanted to work at a job or business during the reference week</p> <p>Beginning January 1997, the reason for not looking for work is asked of those who were not employed and did not search for work, but said they wanted work during the reference week.</p>	<p>The number of consecutive months or years a person has worked for the current (or most recent) employer. The employee may have worked in one or more occupations or in one or more locations or businesses and still be considered to have continuous tenure if the employer has not changed. If a person has worked for the same employer over different periods of time, job tenure measures the most recent period of uninterrupted work. A temporary layoff does not constitute an interruption.</p>

Table 5. Discouraged workers, marginally attached workers and job tenure: sources and definitions

	Discouraged workers	Marginally attached workers	Job tenure
Chile <i>Source:</i> Encuesta Nacional de Empleo.	Persons who are outside of the workforce for reasons of labour market discouragement. Past job search refers to those who did not actively look for work in the previous 4 weeks, but did so in the previous 12 months.	Persons who are out of the labour force. Past job search refers to those who did not actively look for work in the previous 4 weeks, but did so in the previous 12 months. Availability refers to people available to work within the next two weeks.	Workers are asked the month and year they have been in their current job. The length of the period is then calculated on a monthly basis.
Colombia <i>Source:</i> 2001-2005: Encuesta Continua de Hogares - ECH 2007 onwards: Gran encuesta Integrada de Hogares – GEIH.	NA	NA	Refers to the duration of the current period of employment people had with their employer or in their own business. Length includes periods of paid leave, unpaid leave or strike.
Costa Rica <i>Source:</i> Encuesta Continua de Empleo.	Persons not in the labour force who, while willing and able to engage in a job, are not seeking work or have ceased to seek work in the last four weeks because they believe there are no suitable available jobs because: they do not have money to seek work; they are tired of looking, they do not find work because of their age, sex, ethnicity, disability; there are no work opportunities in the area or they know there are no work opportunities during that time of the year	Persons not in the labour force who, while willing and able to engage in a job, are not seeking work or have ceased to seek work in the last four weeks because they are discouraged or have some personal impediments (only work when is asked to, some illness or accident, is attending to any educational institution, family duties, personal obligations, other reason).	This variable is approached with three questions to measure the time workers has been in their current job: one inquires on the type of stability of the job (if it is permanent or temporary), another asks about the time that the person will stay or stayed in the job, and the last one inquires about the time the person has worked or has had a business or activity without interruptions.
Czech Republic <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Sample Survey.	Discouraged workers are persons aged 15 and over who were neither employed nor actively looking for work because they believe no work is available, but are willing/desire (since 2002) to work and are available to take a job during the survey reference week.	Persons aged 15 and over, neither employed, nor actively looking for work (incl. discouraged workers), but are willing/desire to work (since 2002) and are available to take a job during the survey reference week.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey.
Finland <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey.	Persons who would like to get a job and would be available for work within two weeks, but have not sought work in the past four weeks because they believe no suitable work is available.	Persons aged 15-74 who are not employed and who are not actively looking for work, but are willing to work and are available to take a job within two weeks.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey.
Hungary <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Survey.	Discouraged workers are persons aged 15-74 who were neither employed nor actively looking for work because they believe no suitable work is available for different reasons, but are willing/desire to work and are available for taking a job during the survey reference week	Persons aged 15-74, neither employed, nor actively looking for work (no reason given), but are willing/desire to work and are available to take a job during the survey reference week. Additionally, when this applies, they have looked for work during the past 12 months.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey.

Table 5. Discouraged workers, marginally attached workers and job tenure: sources and definitions

	Discouraged workers	Marginally attached workers	Job tenure
Iceland <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey.	Persons who are not actively seeking work because they believe no suitable work is available for different reasons, wish to have a job and are available to take a job.	Not relevant, no dataset.	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey.
Israel	All persons aged 15 and over whom are not in weekly civilian labour force but sought work over the 12 months preceding the survey. They are interested in working, and could have begun to work during the determinant week had they been offered appropriate jobs ("availability for work"). They did not seek work over the four weeks preceding the survey for the following reasons: they believe there are no appropriate jobs for them in their field or in their area of residence in terms of wages, work hours, or interesting work; they lack appropriate experience or training; they have difficulty with the language or their age is not appropriate (too young or too old).	Persons aged 15 and over who were neither employed or unemployed in the determinant week, did not seek work during the last 4 weeks, wanted to work in an appropriate job and were available to work.	NA
Japan	Persons who are not actively seeking work because they believe no suitable work is available for different reasons, wish to have a job, are available to take a job, had looked for work in the past 1 year. <i>Source:</i> The Special Survey of the Labour Force Survey prior to 2001. As of 2002, the Labour Force Survey "Detailed Tabulation".	Persons who are not actively seeking work, but are willing/desire to work and are available for taking a job during the survey reference week, had looked for work in the past 1 year. <i>Source:</i> The Special Survey of the Labour Force Survey prior to 2001. As of 2002, the Labour Force Survey "Detailed Tabulation".	The Employment Status Survey aims to obtain basic data on the actual conditions of the employment structure at both national and regional levels by surveying "usual" labour force status in Japan. Data for "12 months or less is included in "6 to 12 months" <i>Source:</i> Employment Status Survey
Korea	Not relevant, no dataset.	Not relevant, no dataset.	Not relevant, no dataset.
Mexico <i>Source:</i> Encuesta Nacional de Empleo (ENE) until 2004 and Encuesta Nacional de Ocupación y Empleo (ENOE) as of 2005.	Persons who are not actively seeking work because they believe no suitable work is available (for the following reasons: there is not a job of their specialty, craft or profession; or work could not be found; or they don't have the curriculum or necessary experience to perform a job), who had looked for work more than a month related to the reference week and consider that there is not work at the present time or the work would not be given to him, even they didn't look for a work. The current ENOE's definition it is not restricted to those desisting from looking for a job so includes what OECD understands as Marginally Attached Workers.	Segment of the population 15 years old or more with no economic activity whatsoever who despite were not looking for a job were available to work with no other duty or impediment to do so. Most of them are individuals who assess no chance or opportunity to be part of the labour force either because they are not young or strong any more or because they were exclusively engaged in household chores for a long time thus never acquired the labour experience usually required at their age so to compete now in the labour market.	Data from 2005 to 2008 refer to the second quarter and data as of 2009 refer to the first quarter.

Table 5. Discouraged workers, marginally attached workers and job tenure: sources and definitions

	Discouraged workers	Marginally attached workers	Job tenure
New Zealand	<p>Persons who are not actively seeking work because they believe no suitable work is available for different reasons, did not know where to look for a job, wish to have a job and are available to take a job immediately.</p> <p><u>Source:</u> Labour Force Survey Supplement / Household Labour Force Survey.</p>	<p>Persons neither employed, nor actively seeking work, but are willing/desire to work and are available for taking a job during the survey reference week.</p> <p><u>Source:</u> Labour Force Survey Supplement / Household Labour Force Survey.</p>	
Norway <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Survey.	<p>Persons who are not actively seeking work because they believe no suitable work is available for different reasons and who wish to have a job.</p>	<p>Persons aged 15 and over, not in the labour force, but are willing/desire to work and are available for taking a job now/within 2 weeks and have looked for work during the past 12 months.</p>	<u>Source:</u> European Labour Force Survey.
Poland	<p>Persons who are not actively seeking work because they believe no suitable work is available for different reasons, did not know where to look for a job and are willing to work.</p> <p><u>Source:</u> Labour Force Survey.</p>	<u>Source:</u> European Labour Force Survey.	<u>Source:</u> European Labour Force Survey.
Portugal	<p>Persons who are not seeking employment because they believe that there is no work available, but who nevertheless like to have work</p> <p><u>Source:</u> European Labour Force Survey.</p>	<u>Source:</u> European Labour Force Survey.	<u>Source:</u> European Labour Force Survey.
Russian Federation <i>Source:</i> Labour Force Survey	<p>Persons who are not part of the labour force, who do not have a job and do not seek work for reasons: despaired of finding work after long searches; do not have the opportunity to find a job; do not know how and where to look for work, but would like to have a job, and are ready to start working immediately.</p>	<p>Persons who are not part of the labour force, who do not have a job and do not seek work for reasons: expect the start of the season; for health; the fulfilment of household duties, the care of children and other family members; visiting day schools; retirement; there is no need to work, but would like to have a job, and are ready to start working immediately.</p>	
Slovak Republic	<p>Persons who are not actively seeking work because they believe no suitable work is available for different reasons, but who are willing to work.</p> <p><u>Source:</u> Labour Force Sample Survey.</p>	<p>Persons aged 15 and over who are neither employed, nor actively looking for work, but are willing/desire to work and are available for taking a job during the survey reference week.</p> <p><u>Source:</u> Labour Force Sample Survey.</p>	<u>Source:</u> European Labour Force Survey.

Table 5. Discouraged workers, marginally attached workers and job tenure: sources and definitions

	Discouraged workers	Marginally attached workers	Job tenure
South Africa <i>Source:</i> Quarterly Labour Force Survey.	A person who was not employed during the reference period, wanted to work, was available to work/start a business but did not take active steps to find work, provided that the main reason given for not seeking work was any of the following: no jobs available in the area; unable to find work requiring his/her skills; lost hope of finding any kind of work.	Not economically active: Persons aged 15–64 years who are neither employed nor unemployed in the reference week.	NA
Sweden	Persons who are not actively seeking work because they believe no suitable work is available for different reasons, who wish to have a job, are available to take a job within the next two weeks. <i>Source:</i> Monthly Labour Force Survey.	Persons who were not actively seeking work (for whatever reason) although they wish to have a job and are available to take a job within the next two weeks. <i>Source:</i> Monthly Labour Force Survey	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey.
Switzerland	Persons working less than usual during the survey reference week due to slack work for technical or economic reasons or to change of job during reference week (i.e. start or end of job without taking up a new one). <i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey.	Persons aged 15 and over, neither employed, nor actively looking for work, but are willing/desire to work and are available for taking a job during the survey reference week. Additionally, when this applies, they have looked for work during the past 12 months. <i>Source:</i> Swiss Labour Force Survey	<i>Source:</i> European Labour Force Survey.
Turkey <i>Source:</i> Household Labour Force Survey.	Persons who are not actively seeking work because they believe no suitable work is available for different reasons and are available to take a job within 15 days.	NA	NA
United States	Persons who are not actively seeking work because they believe no suitable work is available for different reasons, wish to have a job, are available to take a job, had looked for work sometime in the past 12 months (or since the end of their last job if they held one within the past 12 months). <i>Source:</i> Monthly Household Labour Force Survey (Current Population Survey).	A sub-category of persons not in the labour force, and persons who currently want a job. They are defined as persons who are not actively seeking work, have searched for work during the prior 12 months, and were available to take a job during the reference week, but had not looked for work in the past 4 weeks. <i>Source:</i> Monthly Household Labour Force Survey (Current Population Survey).	Job tenure data represent the length of time a worker has been in continuous employment for his or her current employer. The data are reported in median years across all workers. <i>Source:</i> Periodic supplement to the Monthly Household Labour Force Survey (Current Population Survey).

Table 6. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: breaks in series

Break		Reason and result
Australia	1985/1986	Prior to April 1986 contributing family workers were only classed as employed if they worked in excess of 14 hours a week. Since April 1986 contributing family workers working 1-14 hours are included as employed. This resulted in an increase in employed part-time and corresponding falls in unemployed and not in the labour force.
	2000/2001	Introduction of a new questionnaire with minor changes in the operational definition of unemployment. Persons stood down for less than 4 weeks without pay are now classified as employed. Persons who are not working, are actively seeking work but are unavailable to start work due to temporary illness have been classified as not in the labour force (previously unemployed). Employed no longer includes contributing family workers away from work in the reference week.
	2002/2003 (Unemployment by duration)	Data prior to 2002 relates to duration of unemployment since last full-time job. Data from 2002 onwards relates to duration of unemployment since any job of two-weeks or more. Duration of unemployment and duration of unemployment since last full-time job are separate series and are not directly comparable.
	Supplementary survey Persons Not in the Labour Force - Sept. 2005	The scope was changed from persons aged 15-69 to persons aged 15 and over.
	Supplementary survey Persons Not in the Labour Force - Sept. 2007	There was a change in the treatment of persons aged 65 years and over who specified they were 'permanently not intending to work'. Between Sept. 2001 and Sept. 2006 people who reported in the LFS that they were 'permanently not intending to work' were not asked questions about wanting to work and looking for work in the Persons Not in the Labour Force Survey. As such, these people were classified as 'Did not want to work'. It is likely, however, that if they had been asked these questions, then some of these people may have been classified differently and may have been included in one of the 'wanted to work' categories. From September 2007, people who specified that they were 'permanently not intending to work' were asked questions about wanting to work and looking for work. Users need to exercise caution when comparing estimates from 2007 with previous year's data.
	Supplementary survey Persons Not in the Labour Force - Sept. 2009	The response categories 'Believes no jobs in suitable hours' and 'Believes ill-health or disability discourages employers' were added to the 'Main reason not actively looking for work' data item and included in the reasons to define discouraged job seekers.
	Unemployment by duration: 2014	Data prior to July 2014 defines duration of employment as: the elapsed period to the end of the reference week since the time a currently employed person began looking for work, or since a person last worked for two weeks or more. Brief periods of work (of less than two weeks) since the persons began looking for work are disregarded. The result is a minor decrease in duration.
Austria	2003/2004	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results. For employment by usual hours worked, employed persons with working-time which varies considerably are now excluded
	2003/2004 (FTPT)	Up to 2003, data excluded persons in parental leave. Since 2004, persons in parental leave are included in working time calculations.

Table 6. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: breaks in series

Break		Reason and result
Belgium	1991/1992	Change in the questionnaire.
	1998/1999	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results.
	2000/2001	Persons in full career break for more than 3 months are no longer seen as employed.
	2001/2002	From 2002 on, the figures are annual averages. Prior to 2002 data are based on the second quarter.
	2010/2011	Break in unemployment and inactivity figures because the Belgian question about the search for work changed from a general question without reference to a certain period to a question specifying the reference month.
Brazil	2003/2004	From 1981 to 2003, PNAD covered all Country, except the rural area of six Federation Units (Rondônia, Acre, Amazonas, Roraima, Pará e Amapá). From 2004 on, PNAD reached the total coverage of the Country.
	2015/2016	<p>Introduction of a continuous PNAD survey with quarterly results. The former survey (prior to 2016) was conducted during the last week of September. Current data are annual averages of quarterly results.</p> <p>The 2016 and 2017 results are from the National Household Sample Survey Continuous (PNAD Continuous) which is quarterly. The results presented until 2015 are from the National Household Sample Survey (PNAD), which was conducted once a year. The PNAD and PNAD Continuous have important methodological differences, so their results are not linked..</p>

Table 6. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: breaks in series

Break		Reason and result
Canada	1996/1997 (Discouraged workers)	<p>Those persons who reported wanting to work at a job or business during the reference week and were available but who did not look for work because they believed no suitable work was available.</p> <p>Prior to January 1997, the definition was limited to those who looked for work within the previous six months, but not during the last four weeks, although they were available, and did not look because they believed no suitable work was available.</p>
	1996/1997 (Involuntary part-time workers)	<p>Prior to the 1997 questionnaire redesign, reason for working part-time was asked of all persons whose total usual work hours at "all" jobs or businesses were below 30 per week. Multiple job holders whose total hours were 30 or more and those respondents who answered full-time work under 30 hours were not counted in any part-time estimates..</p> <p>Beginning January 1997, all respondents who usually worked less than 30 hours per week at their main or only job (part-time workers) are asked if they want to work more or less than 30 hours at a (single) job or business. Depending on the response, the main reason for working part-time is collected. For those who respond that they want to work part-time, the main reason for not wanting to work full-time is collected. Responses include: own illness, personal or family responsibilities, going to school, personal preference, or other. For those who respond that they want to work full-time, the main reason for working part-time is collected. Responses include: own illness, personal or family responsibilities, going to school, business conditions, could not find work with 30 or more hours, or other. Those whose response is business conditions or could not find work with 30 or more hours are then asked if they looked for work with 30 or more hours during the past four weeks. The change in concepts and definitions introduced in January 1997 results in a complete break in the involuntary part-time series.</p>
	1996/1997 (Usual hours)	<p>Prior to January 1997, usual hours was the number of hours usually worked by the respondent in a typical week, regardless of whether they were paid. Beginning January 1997, usual hours for employees refer to their normal paid or contract hours, not counting any overtime. However, the definition of usual hours remains unchanged for the self-employed and unpaid family workers.</p> <p>In January 1997, the Labour Force Survey questionnaire was changed to allow responses up to 168 hours per week. Prior to 1997, the upper limit was set at 99 hours</p>
Chile	<p>2009/2010</p> <p>Change from the Chilean Encuesta Nacional de Empleo (ENE) to the Nueva Encuesta Nacional de Empleo (NENE).</p> <p><i>(Exception is LFS series which has been spliced so there is no break).</i></p>	<p>Change in the operational definition of employment. Neat application of the criterion of "at least one hour worked in a gainful job" in the Chilean Nueva Encuesta Nacional de Empleo (NENE).</p> <p>Change in the operational definition of unemployment regarding work availability from the reference week to two weeks after the reference week. This criterion did not exist in the previous survey (ENE). Also there was a change in the duration of active job search which was shortened from the last two months to the previous four weeks including the survey week.</p>
Colombia	2005/06/07	<p>A shift from ECH to GEIH in the second semester of 2006. Resulting in no reliable Labour Force Status information for 2006</p>

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Break		Reason and result
Czech Republic	1996/1997	Introduction of a continuous survey and a change from seasonal to calendar quarters.
	2001/2002 (Usual hours worked and full-time part-time employment).	Prior to 2002, the number of hours worked includes the 0.5 hour for the main meal break per day. Since 2002, the meal break is not included.
Denmark	1993/1994	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results.
Estonia	1996/1997	For 1989 to 1996 the survey covers the resident population aged 15-69 and since 1997 the population coverage is 15-74.
	1999/2000	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results. Data for 1990-1999 are annual average data based on the retrospective part of the ELFS questionnaire. As of 2000 data are annual average data based on the reference week data.
Finland	1969/1970	The data collection method was changed in 1983 from a postal inquiry to a telephone interview. Data have been retrospectively reconstructed until 1970.
	1988/1989	The adoption of concepts and definitions recommended by ILO. The survey was revised in 1998 and the series have been retrospectively corrected to conform to the revised definitions back to the year 1989. The change resulted in an approximate 1.5 percentage point decrease in the unemployment rate and decreased the amount of unemployed persons.
	1995/1996	Prior to 1995 the duration of unemployment "< 1 month" refers to "<2 months"; "1 month and < 3 months" refers to "2 months and <6months"; "3 months and <6 months" refers to "6 months and <12 months", "6 months to >1year" refers to "1 year to >2 years"; "1 year and over" refers to "2 years and over".
	1995/1996 (Involuntary part-time workers)	Up to 1995, part-time work is based on the definition of less than 30 hours per week (usual hours). Since 1996 part-time workers are dependent employed persons defining themselves as part-time workers.
	1998/1999 (FTPT employment)	
	1998/1999 and 1999/2000	Change in the definition of a part-time worker (see definition).
	1999/2000, monthly results	Change in the definition of duration from "duration of unemployment (1980-1998, and 2000 onwards) to the duration of job search (1999). Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results. The LFS data collection method gives data for all weeks in the year. For earlier years there was only one reference week in a month. This resulted in the sum of hours worked being 1.4% lower than estimated with the previous method.
2016/2017 usual hours worked hour bands 35-38 and 39.	There is a clear jump from the usual hours band 35-38 to hour band 39 as most of the public sector and other workers were previously classified in the hour band 35-38 hours.	
France	2002/2003	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results and a change in the operational definition of unemployment regarding active job search methods from registration to contact with the public employment service.

Table 6. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: breaks in series

Break		Reason and result
Germany	1983/1984	Prior to 1984, the annual data on the labour force and population are averages of monthly and annually estimates supplied by the German authorities. The annual unemployment figures correspond to unemployed persons registered at the end of the month of September of each year. From 1984 onwards, annual average figures are consistent in terms of methodology and contents with the results of the annual European Labour Force Survey (EULFS) and the national Microcensus (conducted once a year in April). Annual averages are determined by means of a factor for the sub-year development. The intra-annual development of employment is based on the monthly estimates of employment by the Federal Statistical Office, and the sub-year development of unemployment is based on the monthly figures of registered employment. Both monthly series are adjusted to the levels of the figures on persons employed and unemployed available once a year from the EULFS resp. the German Microcensus
	1990/1991	Due to the reunification of Germany. From 1991 onwards, data are for unified Germany.
	2004/2005	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results.
	2010/2011	Improved questionnaire design for the measurement of employment. This resulted in allowing to better capture employed, particularly those with small jobs. Consequently, the increase in total employment is overestimated in the Labour Force Survey. Compared to the LFS, that shows an increase of the employed persons of 2.6% in 2011, the increase was only 1.3% according to the employment figures from National Accounts.
	2010/2011	From 2011 onwards, the results of the Labour Force Survey have been re-weighted taking into account the population estimates based on the German population census 2011. The total population was 1.5 million persons smaller compared to previous results (-1.8%). The differences in the population figures used in the weighting scheme lead to deviating results, including in the figures concerning employment and unemployment
Greece	1997/1998	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results and redesign of labour force survey.
Hungary	1997/1998	Sample enlargement.
	1999/2000 (Full-time part-time employment)	Change in the definition from <36 hours worked to self-assessment.
	2002/2003	Redesign of labour force survey.
	2005/2006, monthly results	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results.
Iceland	2001/2002	Change in the operational definition of unemployment for persons having found work, added test of availability within two weeks, before that the job had to start within 4 weeks. Impact is negligible.
	2002/2003	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results.
Indonesia	2010/2011	Break in series.

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Break		Reason and result
Ireland	1997/1998	Introduction of a continuous survey September 1997 producing quarterly results. Introduction of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) replaced the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) in Q3 2017. In an effort to mitigate the effect of the introduction of the LFS on the coherence of the historic data series, a back-casting exercise was carried out to link the QNHS and the LFS. The result of this is that the QNHS series has been revised since 1998. As a result, care should be taken when comparing data from before and after this period.
	1997/1998 (Labour force by age and sex)	The annual data are the 2nd quarter (April – June) quarterly estimates up to 1997 and annual averages from 1998 onwards.
Israel	2011/2012	Change from a quarterly to a monthly Labour Force Survey and changes in the definitions from "civilian labour force" to "total labour force" (including those who are in compulsory or permanent military service).
	(Exception is LFS series which has been spliced)	The break in series between 2011 and 2012 with the introduction of a redesigned monthly labour force survey since January 2012. The series for LFS by age and sex has been smoothed. The data prior to 2012 are spliced using new-to-old chaining coefficients between monthly and quarterly surveys based on data of fourth quarter of 2011.
	2017/2018 (Involuntary part-time workers)	Until 2017: Employees and co-operative members usually working less than 35 hours per week (incl. employees owners of Ltd companies), because they sought but did not find full-time or additional work. As of 2018: Employees and co-operative members (excl. employees owners of Ltd companies) usually working less than 35 hours per week, who are interested in working more than 35 hours and actively sought to work more hours in the last four. Excl. persons living outside localities (Bedouins in the South) or in institutions (permanent samples)
	2017/2018 (Usual hours worked)	Hours usually worked per week (for Full-Time/Part-Time Workers, not including temporarily absent from work). Starting from 2018 the absent from work workers are asked how many hours they usually work.
Italy	1970-1982 (dataset LFS by sex and age)	The values for age 25-34 refer to 25-29 plus 30-39; age 35-44 to 40-49; age 45- to 50-59; and age 55-64 to 60-64.
	1992/1993	A change in the questionnaire, in the lower age limit of the active population from 14 to 15 in the definition of unemployment, in the population estimates, in the estimation procedure, in the imputation procedure.
	2003/2004	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results. Age limit in the definition of unemployed (74 years old). Impact was an increase in the level estimates for employment and a decrease in level estimates for unemployment
	2007/2008	From 2008, there was a change in the lower limit from 15 to 16 years.

Table 6. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: breaks in series

	Break	Reason and result
Japan	<p>2001/2002 (The Special Survey of the LFS prior to 2001 and the LFS "Detailed Tabulation" as of 2002) (Datasets: Discouraged workers, Economic Short-time workers, Involuntary part-time workers and Marginally attached workers)</p> <p>2011</p> <p>2017/2018</p>	<p>Change in the survey definition in 2002. Until 2001, data was collected for the number of people "wish to work 35 hours or more" in "normal work time is less than 35 hours" among people working 1 to 34 hours a week. Since 2002, data has been collected for the number of people who "wish to have more work time in the present job" among people working 0 to 34 hours a week for <i>Involuntary Part-Time Workers</i>.</p> <p>Data do not include Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima</p> <p>Temporary workers: In the January 2018 survey revision, four items in Status in employment – 1. Ordinary employee (Indefinite duration contract), 2. Ordinary employee (Limited duration contract) (duration of employment contract is more than 1 year), 3. Temporary employee (1 month or more up to 1 year) and 4. Daily employee (less than 1 month), were discontinued and a new survey item "duration of employment contract" was introduced.</p> <p>Large break in series caused by this revision, hence, items of "Duration of employment contract" cannot be compared with formerly released items of "Status in employment" directly based on the correspondence (e.g. duration of employment contract "1 month or more up to 1 year" and "Temporary employee").</p>
Korea	<p>1980-1988 (dataset LFS by sex and age)</p> <p>1999/2000</p> <p>2018/2019 (Temporary workers)</p>	<p>The LFS data for ages 65+ are ages 60+.</p> <p>Change in the operational definition of unemployment regarding the duration of active job search which changed from one week to four weeks. This change occurred in June 2005 and data were revised since 2000 to take into account the new criteria.</p> <p>Due to the impact of the pilot survey in 2019, data reflects the increase in Fixed-term Workers who were partially identified in 2018 and before. Therefore, the year-on-year comparison shall not be made for the purpose of discerning an increase or a decrease.</p>
Luxembourg	2002/2003, quarterly results as of 2007	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results.
Mexico	<p>2004/2005</p> <p>2004/2005 (Full-time part-time employment)</p> <p>2009/2010</p>	<p>Introduction of a new survey (Encuesta Nacional de Ocupacion y Empleo, ENOA) with a different questionnaire from that of the previous survey and annual averages instead of second quarter.</p> <p>Definition of part-time employment went from less than 35 hours a week in 2004 to less than 30 usual hours in 2005.</p> <p>Inclusion of population controls based on Census results in the estimation process.</p>
Netherlands	<p>1986/1987</p> <p>1991/1992</p> <p>1999/2000</p>	<p>Introduction of a continuous survey.</p> <p>Change of definition of the labour force survey resulting in a large break in the population and labour force series.</p> <p>Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results.</p>

Table 6. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: breaks in series

Break		Reason and result
New Zealand	Second quarter 1990 (Datasets: Discouraged workers, Economic Short-time workers, Involuntary part-time workers.)	<p>A new personal questionnaire was introduced. Redesigned questions regarding reasons for not looking for work, not working usual hours, and preference for working more hours and qualifications (among other changes) led to different responses.</p> <p>Result: The 1990 Calendar Year should be treated with caution as it is an average of one quarter of old and three quarters of new responses. Data for 1991 onwards should be treated as discontinuous from pre-1990 data.</p>
	June 2016	Redesign of HLFS with improved accuracy in identifying active job seekers resulting in a decreased number of people unemployed and the unemployment rate as well as on labour force participation statistics.
	Population benchmark revisions 2013-2019	The estimates from 2013-2019 have been revised. This is due to a revision to the HLFS population benchmarks. The working age population estimates were revised to incorporate 2018 Census data and NZ's new migration measure.
Norway	1974/1975	A new estimation procedure was introduced in 1975 resulting in higher estimates for employment (+30,000); more family workers and persons temporarily absent from work.
	1979/1980	A new estimation procedure and change in the definition of employment (conscripts classified as employed persons). The change in the definition of employment led to a reduction of 26,000 in employment and the latter to increased employment of 25,000 (conscripts), mainly in the age group 20-24.
	1985/1986	Revised definition of employment, concerning family workers. Previously they had to work 10 hours or more per week to be classified as employed, but as from 1986 this condition was suspended (according to ILO recommendations). This resulted in an increase of 15,000 employed persons.
	1987/1988	As from 2nd quarter 1988 data collected monthly. Previously the surveys were based on one reference week each quarter, but thereafter (up to 1st quarter 1996) on one week each month. The change in the reference weeks led to somewhat higher estimates for employed persons (about 10,000).
	1995/1996	<p>Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results.</p> <p>Change in the operational definition of unemployment regarding persons on lay-off now considered as being employed instead of as unemployed. This impacted employment and unemployment estimates.</p>
	2005/2006	There was also a change in the lower limit from 16 to 15 years. Moreover, since 2006, age is defined as completed years at the time of the reference week instead of completed years at the end of the year, as earlier.

Table 6. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: breaks in series

Break		Reason and result
Poland	1998/99/2000	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results. Data for 1999 refer to 1st quarter only.
	2000/2001	Since the 1st quarter 2001, the population of unemployed persons, in compliance with the EUROSTAT recommendation, has been limited to persons aged 15 to 74 years and had to meet the three unemployment conditions.
	2003/2004	Since 2003, the results of LFS have been generalized on the basis of the balance of the population compiled using the results of the National Census of Population 2002.
	2009/2010	Since the 3rd quarter of 2012 the LFS results were generalized on the basis of the balance of population compiled using the results of the National Census of Population and Housing 2011. The methodological changes were taken into account, excluding persons staying outside the household for 12 months and more (hitherto this was longer than 3 months).
Portugal	1982/1983	The survey was changed to a quarterly survey and census adjustment, sampling frame and application of ILO definitions.
	1991/1992	Census adjustment, new survey design and concepts harmonized to Eurostat standards, new sampling frame.
	1997/1998	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results and redesign of labour force survey.
	2010/2011	New data collection mode which comprises mainly the use of telephone interviews, a change in the questionnaire and the adoption of a new filed work supervision technologies.
Slovak Republic	1996/1997	Since the first quarter of 1997 the conscripts on compulsory military service are included in the LFS which resulted in an increase in the total labour force.
	1997/1998	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results.
	1998/1999	Redesign of labour force survey.
	1999/2000	Change from seasonal to calendar quarters.
	2001/2002	A change in the definition of usual hours worked. From 2002 the number of hours worked excludes the main meal breaks. Data for years 1994 to 2001 cover the main meal break. This resulted in decrease in the number of persons in the category 40 hours and over and an increase in the number of persons in the category 35-39 hours.
Slovenia	1996/97/98	Introduction of a continuous survey in the second quarter of 1997 producing quarterly results.
South Africa	2007/2008	Change from a semestrial survey to a quarterly survey.

Table 6. Labour Force Statistics in OECD countries: breaks in series

Break		Reason and result
Spain	1995/1996	Inclusion of population controls based on Census results in the estimation process.
	1998/1999	Introduction of a full-year continuous survey (including now the weeks in August) producing quarterly results.
	2000/2001	Change in the operational definition of unemployment regarding active job search methods from registration to contact with the public employment service. A group of around 450 000 persons previously considered as unemployed became inactive. As a consequence, the unemployed, activity and inactivity magnitudes are affected.
	2004/2005	Redesign of labour force survey which impacted employment (an increase) and unemployment (a decrease) estimates.
	2008/2009	Change in questionnaire to better measurement of CISE. The 2009 questionnaire produced an estimated transfer of about 200 000 from self-employed to employees.
Sweden	1986/1987	A major revision of LFS with new variables, changed survey definitions and methodology was introduced in 1987. From 1986 to 1994, figures for persons 65 and over relate to the fourth quarter only. For 1995, data for persons over 64 years relate to the second quarter and from 1996 – 2000 data for this group relate to April. From 2001 data for persons over 64 years relates to all months. This resulted in an increase in employment and decrease in unemployment.
	1993/1994	Introduction of a continuous survey covering all 52 weeks of the year rather than one week each month. To obtain comparability with the years before and after 1993 the estimates has been revised for 1987-1992 taking into account the changes in 1993.
	2004/2005	Introduction of new EU harmonised questionnaire. This resulted in a change in the operational definition of unemployment regarding work availability from the reference week to two weeks after the reference week to be consistent with operational definitions in other EU countries. This impacted employment and unemployment estimates.
	2006/2007	From 2007 the reporting in LFS is changed and the lower limit went from 16 to 15 years. Coverage refers to people aged 15-74 years and full time students who are seeking a job and can work are classified as unemployed in the Swedish LFS, but this category is reported as unemployed and included in the labour force from 1976. This resulted in an increase in unemployment and number of employed persons.
Switzerland	2009/2010	Change from seasonal (2nd quarter) 1991-2009 to calendar quarters from 2010 onwards. The weighting of the labour force survey data was revised for the period from 2010 to 2015. New calibrations based on social insurance data have been integrated into the weighting process. This enables greater statistical precision, particularly with regard to the labour market status (employed persons/unemployed persons based on the ILO definition/economically inactive persons). This revision generates a break in series for some of the findings.

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Break		Reason and result
Turkey	1999/2000, half yearly to quarterly results, 2004/2005 monthly results	Redesign of labour force survey.
	2003/2004	Introduction of new EU harmonised questionnaire.
	2005/2006	Possibility to disaggregate the duration of unemployment of less than one month as of 2006 only. Previously included in >1 month and less than 3 months. Up to 2005, the survey did not ask the duration of unemployment for "people who have already found a job which will start later". These persons are classified in Unknowns.
	2006/2007	Inclusion of population controls based on Census results in the estimation process. For unemployment by duration, as of 2014, the reference period is considered "the last four weeks" including reference period instead of the "last three months".
	2013/2014	Change to a continuous survey.
United Kingdom	1991/1992	Introduction of a continuous survey producing quarterly results.
	2001/2002	Data were revised back to 2002 to reflect the latest population reweighting of the labour force survey.
	2004/2005	Change in surveys from LFS to APS and from Spring quarter results to annual averages.
United States	1999/2000 and 2009/2010	Inclusion of population controls based on 2000 and 2010 decennial census into estimation process.