

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

The basic documents since 2021 are Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 October 2019 on the organization of the Labour Force Survey (Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 of 9 March 1998 was repealed) and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2240 of 16 December 2019. This ensures comparability within the European Union.

Changes in the Labour Force Survey since 2021

Until 2020	Since 2021
<p>Seasonal workers out of season are people without a job.</p> <p>Persons which stated that in the reference week they were temporarily absent from work for other (personal, family, etc.) reasons, are included in the employed regardless of the period of absence.</p>	<p>Seasonal workers in the off-season, who have a job or business but do not work temporarily during the reference week, but continue to perform regular tasks and duties related to the job or business (e.g. machine maintenance), except for legal or administrative duties, are considered employed.</p> <p>Persons which stated that in the reference week they were at work temporarily absent for other (personal, family, etc.) reasons, are considered employed if their absence was less than 3 months.</p>

Survey characteristics

Labour Force Survey (LFS) is carried out continuously in a randomly selected sample of households and is focused on determining the economic status of the population throughout the country. The scope of the survey, employment and unemployment indicators fully comply with the definitions of the International Labour Organization (ILO), www.ilo.org and Eurostat methodological recommendations (<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>). The LFS results are published according to the usual residence of the respondents.

Subject of the investigation

The subject of the survey is all persons usually living in private households. The survey does not cover persons living in collective accommodation establishments for a long time. For this reason, data are available to a limited extent for certain groups of the population, in particular foreign nationals living and working in the country.

Weighing the entire population

The results of the sample survey are transferred to the total population of the Czech Republic based on preliminary results of population statistics at the beginning of the relevant year. This estimate is further refined by predicting the development of natural movement and migration balance in individual quarters. Weighting factors for estimates at individual level are based on the territory, five-year age groups and sex of the respondents. The LFS results are always average data for the evaluated quarter. The transferred results for the total population of the Czech Republic are based on the 2011 census data.

Economically active persons (labour force) in the national economy

The population (or also the labour force) includes all persons aged 15 and over who are considered employed or unemployed in accordance with the definitions below.

Employed persons (in the main job) in the national economy

For **employed** all persons aged 15 and over, usually residing in the reference area, who during the reference week:

- ✓ have worked for at least 1 hour for pay or profit, or as an unpaid family worker,
- ✓ or were not at work but had a formal employment relationship (due to leave, working time arrangements, sickness, maternity or paternity leave, job-related training).

The main criterion for inclusion among the employed is therefore the development of any remunerated work activity. It is therefore not decisive whether the work activity of these persons was of a permanent, temporary, seasonal or occasional nature and whether they had only one or more concurrent jobs, or whether they studied, received a pension, etc. at the same time.

In the employed are included:

- ✓ all paid employees (employees and members of production cooperatives),
 - ✓ all self-employed (self-employed and unpaid family workers).
- **Employees**
Employees are persons with a formal link to employment, regardless of whether they actually worked during the reference week or not. Since 2012, members of production cooperatives have been included among the employees.
 - **Self-employed**
These are persons classified according to their employment status as self-employed with employees (employers), self-employed without employees (own-account workers) and unpaid family workers.

Among the employed are included also the following groups of persons:

- ✓ professional members of the army,
- ✓ persons on maternity leave who worked before the start,
- ✓ seasonal workers during the off-season, who have a job or business but do not work temporarily during the reference week, but continue to perform regular tasks and duties related to the job or business (e.g. maintenance of machinery) except for legal or administrative duties are considered employed.
- ✓ persons who stated that they were temporarily absent from work during the reference week are considered to be employed if their absence for other (personal, family, etc.) reasons was less than 3 months.

Among the employed are not included:

- ✓ persons on maternity leave who did not work before the start,
- ✓ persons on parental leave who are classified as economically inactive or unemployed according to whether or not they meet the ILO conditions for classification as unemployed. (The parental allowance they receive is a social benefit paid by the employment office to everyone, regardless of their previous activity.)

Main occupation

Main occupation determined based on the subjective evaluation of the respondent. In controversial cases, the decisive criterion is the number of hours worked. Another criterion may be a higher income or the fact that employment is and will continue to be the main source of livelihood.

Unemployed persons

According to an internationally comparable methodology, all persons aged 15 and over, usually living in the monitored area, who simultaneously met 3 ILO conditions during the reference week are considered unemployed:

1. were not employed,
2. were ready to start work, i.e., were available immediately or within 14 days during the reference period for paid employment or self-employment,
3. over the last 4 weeks, they have been actively looking for work (through employment offices, through private employment agencies, directly in companies, through relatives and acquaintances, using advertising, taking steps to start their own business, placing or updating CVs online).

Among the unemployed this also includes people who have already found work, but

- ✓ joined it only after the reference week,
- ✓ they will join it within 3 months at the latest and at the same time they are able to join within 14 days at the latest.

Economically inactive

Economically inactive are all persons aged 15 and over, usually living in the reference area, who did not belong to the "labour force" category during the reference period, i.e. they cannot be classified as employed or unemployed.

Number of persons employed in the second job in the national economy

All persons aged 15 and over, usually living in the reference area, who worked in their second job for a wage, salary or other remuneration during their reference week or all persons who were not present in their second job, but they had a formal relationship with him, are considered employed in a second job. The second, possibly third and next job is also monitored.

