



The Labour Force Surveys provide a classification of persons 14 years of age or over on the basis of their activity during a specified week, which is, in each case, the week which precedes the beginning of the survey. Information on the part of the population not in the labour force is also collected. These non-workers are classified as keeping house, going to school, retired or voluntarily idle, too old or permanently unable to work.

The information gathered on the labour force is divided for presentation into two groups: (1) persons with jobs, (2) persons without jobs and seeking work.

The estimates of the persons with jobs are classified by region, sex, age, hours worked, occupation, industry and occupational status. Special estimates are given for women employed in domestic service and employed women by marital status. Included in the estimate of persons with jobs are those who worked during the survey week, as well as those temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, bad weather, labour disputes or temporary layoffs.

The estimates of persons without jobs and seeking work are classified by region, sex, age and number of months looking for work.

The estimates obtained from the Labour Force Surveys are all subject to sampling error, which tends to increase as the size of the estimates decreases. Accordingly, the reliability of the smaller estimates is less than that of the larger estimates. Estimates of less than 10,000 persons should not be used without careful reservation.