

# Namibia

## Identification

**Title of the survey:** Labour Force Survey 2008

**Organisation responsible:** Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and Central Bureau of Statistics

**Objectives of the survey:** The two main objectives for the survey were to measure the extent of available and unused labour time and human resources for the purpose of macro-economic monitoring and human resources development planning; and to measure the relationship between employment and other socioeconomic characteristics for purposes of formulating and monitoring employment policies and programmes, income generating and monitoring schemes, vocational training and other similar programmes. More specifically, the survey was designed to provide basic information on the size and structure of the work force; basic elements for measuring the labour supply as well as its input and the extent to which the available human resources are utilized in the production process of the economy; a prospective basis for projections of the economically active population and its components for socioeconomic planning; a basis for research in many areas ranging from testing labour market segmentation theories to formulating demographic models; to the public, information on the employment situation of the country. When properly disaggregated by geographic area, the data may provide information on the situation in local markets especially on the number of persons available in specific occupational categories.

**Date:** 25/10/2011

## Periodicity and coverage

**Periodicity of data collection:** Irregularly or only once, the last was carried out in 2008 and the previous one in 2000

**Geographical coverage:** Whole country

**Population coverage:** Whole population excluding the following groups: Persons living in institutions

**Definition of usual resident:** People who stayed in the household the night of the 28th of September 2008, or were travelling, or were at work but would come back to the household on the next morning, were considered usual residents of the household.

**Definition of household and household members:** A private household is defined as one or more persons, related or unrelated, who live together in one (or part of one) or more than one dwelling unit and have common catering arrangements. A person who lives alone and caters for himself/herself forms a one-person household.

**Age coverage:** The labour related questions of the survey relate to the population of 10 years old and over

## Topics covered:

*Demographic characteristics:* age, sex, marital status, nationality, relationship to household head

*Main labour related characteristics:* employment, unemployment, underemployment, hours of work, employment in informal sector, informal employment, absence from work

*Other labour related characteristics:* industry, occupation, status in employment, institutional sector (public/private), size of establishment, full time/part time status, permanency of the job, type of workplace, duration of employment, existence of more than one job, characteristics of the second job(s), previous working experience, characteristics of the last job, methods of looking for work, reasons for not being in the labour force

*Other characteristics:*

## Concepts and definitions

### Current employment

**Definition of employment:** Employment refers to persons aged 15 years or over who worked for pay, profit or family gain for at least one hour during a seven-day period before the interview or who did not work during that period but had a job or business to go back to.

**Employment refers to people who during the reference period:**

- worked for one hour or more for wage or salary, in cash or in kind
- worked for one hour or more for profit or family gain, in cash or in kind
- were temporarily not at work and had a formal attachment to a wage employment job
- were temporarily not at work and had an enterprise
- worked for at least one hour without pay on a family business or farm

**Reference period for employment:** The seven days preceding the interview date (moving)

### Current unemployment

**Definition of unemployment:** Unemployed persons are those aged 15 years and over, who, during the seven-day period before the interview, did not work and had no job or business to go back to, but who were available for work. The 'relaxed' definition of unemployment has been used.

**Unemployment refers to people who during the reference period:** Are without work and available to work

**Reference period for availability for work:** The seven days preceding the interview date (moving)

### Underemployment

**Underemployment concept measured:** Visible underemployment

**Definition of underemployment related to working time:** Visibly underemployed persons comprise all employed persons who worked less than the normal hours (35-40 hours per week in all jobs held) and were willing to take up additional employment (irrespective of whether they were actively looking for additional work or not).

**Underemployment refers to employed persons who:**

- are willing to work additional hours in the survey reference period
- are available to work additional hours in the survey reference period
- worked less than 35 hours a week in all jobs

**Information collected on the number of hours of work wanted/ available for:** Yes

### Hours of work

**The survey measures:** hours actually worked and usual hours

**Information is collected for:** main and secondary job(s) separately

**Reference period used for the measure of hours of work:** a week

**Actual hours of work are collected for:** each day in the reference week separately

**Separate information is collected for overtime hours:** no

**Separate information is collected for absence hours:** no

**Separate information is collected for working time arrangements:** no

**Time unit used in the measure of hours of work:** exact hours

### Income from paid employment

### Income from self-employment

### Employment in the informal sector

### Informal employment

### Usual activity

### Treatment of special groups

### Classifications

**Disaggregations used in the analysis and tabulation of the survey results:**

- The economically active population is tabulated by: sex, age, urban/rural area
- The employed population is tabulated by: sex, age, industry, occupation, status in employment, level of education, urban/rural area
- The unemployed population is tabulated by: sex, age, industry, occupation, urban/rural area
- The economically inactive population is tabulated by: sex, age, urban/rural area

## Sample design

**Sampling frame:** Master Sample

**The sampling frame is updated:** not updated with a specific frequency

**The sample is stratified:** Yes

**Variables used for stratification:** geographic region, socio-economic characteristics: type of housing, to approach living standards, urban/rural areas

**Number of sampling stages:** 2

**Ultimate sampling units:** households

**Number of ultimate sampling units per sample area:** 25

**Sample size:** 5975 ultimate sampling units per year

## Data collection

**Main mode of data collection:** face to face personal interview (paper and pencil)

**Duration of training on the survey for newly recruited interviewers:** 7 day(s)

**Respondents' participation in the survey is compulsory:** No

**Ultimate sampling units that could not be identified are replaced:** No

**Ultimate sampling units that could not be contacted are replaced:** No

**Ultimate sampling units that refuse to participate are replaced:** No

## Estimation and adjustment

**Percentage of all eligible ultimate sampling units that are interviewed:** 87.8%

**Weighting factors used to adjust for:** sample design, survey non-response

**Adjustment for item non-response is made:** Yes

**Selected indicators tabulated from the survey:**

- Unemployment rate by: sex, age, level of education, region (urban/rural)
- Employment to population ratio by:
- Labour force participation rate by: sex, age, region (urban/rural)
- Hours of work (per worker) by:
- Earnings (per worker) by:
- Number of workers by hours band by:
- Number of workers by earnings class by:

## **Documentation and dissemination**

**Publication(s) and website where the survey results can be found:** Namibia Labour Force Survey 2008 (NLFS 2008)

**Publication(s) and website where methodological information on the survey can be found:** Namibia Labour Force Survey 2008 (NLFS 2008)

### **Dissemination formats and periodicity:**

- comprehensive report

## **Historical information**

**Year when the survey was conducted for the first time:** 1997