

Lesotho

Identification

Title of the survey: Integrated Labour Force Survey 2008

Organisation responsible: Bureau of Statistics

Objectives of the survey: The Integrated Labour Force Survey (ILFS) was mainly meant to provide additional information of the demographic characteristics of the population and to provide reliable information on the labour force to be used in planning employment strategies and assessing the effects of government employment policies.

Date: 12/10/2011

Periodicity and coverage

Periodicity of data collection: Irregularly or only once, the last was carried out in 2008 and the previous one in 1999

Geographical coverage: Whole country

Population coverage: Whole population

The survey covers: The usual residents present, the usual residents temporarily absent and the temporary visitors

Usual household members who are temporarily absent are enumerated in the survey: Yes, including labour related questions

Age coverage: The labour related questions of the survey relate to the population of 6 years old and over

Topics covered:

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

Main labour related characteristics: employment, unemployment, underemployment, hours of work, wages, employment related benefits, employment in informal sector, informal employment, training received, usual activity, production for own final use by the household, labour migration, absence from work

Other labour related characteristics: industry, occupation, status in employment, institutional sector (public/private), size of establishment, type of workplace, duration of employment, existence of more than one job, characteristics of the second job(s), duration of unemployment, previous working experience, characteristics of the last job, search for another job, reasons for not being in the labour force

Other characteristics: household chore activities

Concepts and definitions

Current employment

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
- worked in subsistence agriculture or in production of other goods for own consumption

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

Current unemployment

Definition of unemployment: The currently unemployed persons are those that concurrently did not have jobs, were available for work and seeking for work.

Unemployment refers to people who during the reference period: Are without work, available to work and actively seeking work

Reference period for seeking work: The four weeks preceding the interview date (moving)

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

Underemployment

Underemployment concept measured: Time related underemployment

Underemployment refers to employed persons who:

- are willing to work additional hours in the survey reference period
- are available to work additional hours within 4 weeks after the end of the survey period
- worked less than 40 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

Information is collected for: main job only

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

The components of income for which separate statistics are available are: Cash allowances (education, transport, food, housing, etc)

Income from paid employment covered: GROSS income

Reference period: a month

Income from paid employment refers to: main job only

Information on income from paid employment is requested in: exact amounts

Actual/usual income: actual income for a specific reference period

Income due/received: income received in a specific reference period

Income from self-employment

Income from self-employment covered: Profit of unincorporated enterprises (receipts less operating expenses)

Income from self-employment covered relates to: GROSS income

Reference period: a month

Income from self-employment refers to: main job only

Information on income from self-employment is requested in: exact amounts

Actual/usual income: actual income for a specific reference period

Income due/received: income received in a specific reference period

Employment in the informal sector

Definition of informal sector units: This relates to all establishments with less than 10 employees that are not formally registered with the respective government authorities or do not have license or registration number.

Information is collected in respect of the following categories of workers:

- employees
- employers
- own-account workers
- members of producers' cooperatives
- contributing family workers

Information is collected for: main job

Employment in the informal sector refers: only to persons whose main job is in the informal sector

Informal employment

Definition of informal employment: All employees with written contracts who either (i) had contribution to pension/retirement fund paid by their employer or (ii) were entitled to paid annual leave, are classified as persons in formal employment otherwise they are classified as persons in informal employment.

Criteria used to define informal jobs:

- lack of entitlement to paid annual leave
- lack of written employment contract

If more than one criteria are used: any one of the criteria should be met

Information is collected for: main job

Informal employment refers: only to persons whose main job is informal

Usual activity

Reference period used to measure usual activity: the last 12 months

Approach used: month-by-month recall

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, level of education, 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, level of education, urban/rural area

- The economically inactive population is tabulated by: sex, age, level of education, urban/rural area

Classifications used

Industry:

Occupation:

- Title of the classification: National Standard Classification of Occupations

Status in employment:

Education:

Sample design

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

Variables used for stratification: geographic region, urban/rural areas

Number of sampling stages: 2

Ultimate sampling units: households

Number of ultimate sampling units per sample area: 20

Sample size: 12000 ultimate sampling units per year

Data collection

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

The field staff is mainly: recruited specifically for the survey

Duration of training on the survey for newly recruited interviewers: 30 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: 95.1%

Selected indicators tabulated from the survey:

- Unemployment rate by: sex, age, level of education, region (urban/rural)
- Employment to population ratio by: sex, age, level of education, region (urban/rural)
- Labour force participation rate by: sex, age, level of education, region (urban/rural)
- Hours of work (per worker) by: sex, age
- Earnings (per worker) by: sex, age
- 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: 2008 Lesotho Integrated Labour Force Survey; www.bos.gov.ls

Publication(s) and website where methodological information on the survey can be found: 2008 Lesotho Integrated Labour Force Survey; www.bos.gov.ls

Dissemination formats and periodicity:

- news release
- comprehensive report

Historical information

Year when the survey was conducted for the first time: 1985