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A user's guide

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OFFICE STATISTIQUE DES COMMUNAUTÉS EUROPÉENNES  
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BUREAU VOOR DE STATISTIEK DER EUROPESE GEMEENSCHAPPEN  
SERVIÇO DE ESTATÍSTICA DAS COMUNIDADES EUROPEIAS

L-2920 Luxembourg — Tél. 43011 — Télex : Comeur Lu 3423  
B-1049 Bruxelles, bâtiment Berlaymont, rue de la Loi 200 (bureau de liaison) — Tél. 235 1111

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**A user's guide**

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## Contents

	Page
Introduction .....	5
Chapter I	
The nature of labour force surveys .....	7
What is a labour force survey? .....	7
The history of labour force surveys .....	8
Chapter II	
The organization of the Community labour force survey.....	9
Chapter III	
Labour market characteristics on which information is sought.....	11
Chapter IV	
Labour force concepts and definitions.....	13
Chapter V	
The Community labour force survey — Presentation of results.....	17
The annual Community labour force survey publication .....	17
Other sources through which the Community labour force survey results are made available.....	26
The Eurostat regional databank .....	26
Special or <i>ad hoc</i> tabulations of Community labour force survey data.....	27
Chapter VI	
The potential for assessing labour market issues in a wider social context .....	29
Discouraged workers .....	29
Underemployment .....	30
The household dimension in a labour market context .....	31
References .....	31
Appendix A	
The Community Regulation governing the conduct of the 1988 labour force survey .....	33
Appendix B	
List of aspects on which information is sought in the Community labour force survey.....	35
Appendix C	
The detailed categories specified for each aspect on which information is sought in the Community labour force survey .....	37
Appendix D	
Subdivision by economic activity and sector used in presenting labour force survey results corresponding to the NACE categories.....	51
Appendix E	
Regional codes for Level I and Level II of the nomenclature of territorial units (NUTS) .....	53



## INTRODUCTION

This publication is intended to provide assistance to persons who wish to utilize the results of the Community labour force survey. While the document does not presume any detailed prior knowledge on the part of the reader (and in this sense is self-standing) certain aspects, such as the items of information covered in the inquiry, are described in analysing specific issues in more depth. While technical aspects (such as the sampling methodology) are described in this document, these descriptions are of a summary nature. Reference should be made to the 1988 Eurostat publication *Labour force sample survey – Methods and definitions* for a more detailed discussion of these aspects.

This report is structured as follows. Chapter I explains the nature of labour force surveys and sets out in particular the advantages of household-based inquiries in providing labour market information. This chapter also briefly sketches the history of the development of these surveys. Chapter II describes how the Community labour force survey is organized throughout the Community while Chapter III describes the particular characteristics on which personal information is sought. Chapter IV des-

cribes the concepts and definitions used in the inquiry relating to employment, unemployment, the labour force as a whole and the economically inactive population. The information which is made available from the Community labour force survey by means of official Commission reports and databanks is described in some detail in Chapter V. The major part of this chapter is concerned with describing the content of the annual Eurostat Community labour force survey report relating to overall population aspects, employment, unemployment, hours worked and search for work. The final chapter illustrates the potential of the labour force survey in providing labour market information in the context of a wider social setting, covering such aspects as discouragement, underemployment and the extent to which the wider population in households generally is affected by labour market phenomena.

The thanks of Eurostat are due to Professor J.J. Sexton of the Economic and Social Research Institute, Dublin, who has brought his long experience as a Community labour force survey user to bear on the preparation of this guide.



# Chapter I

## The nature of labour force surveys

### What is a labour force survey?

Basically a labour force survey is an inquiry directed to households designed to obtain information on employment and related issues by means of personal interviews. As it would clearly involve considerable expense to include all the households in a country in such an exercise (as, however, is done in censuses of population) such surveys are usually confined to a sample of households, the actual size of which depends primarily on the level of detail required in the survey estimates.

There are a number of advantages in using an approach of this kind in collecting labour market information. In the first place it affords the opportunity to obtain information on relevant labour market aspects across all sectors of the economy in a consistent manner. It also facilitates the interpretation of the information in a wider population setting, since the information collected need not necessarily be confined to persons in the labour force (i. e. those employed or unemployed) but can involve all persons in the households covered. In current labour market circumstances this is an important additional dimension as analysis is increasingly concerned with those on the peripheries of the labour market. In recent decades the borderline between the labour force and what is termed the 'economically inactive' population has become increasingly blurred, due to the increasing incidence of part-time and temporary work and the ease with which large numbers of persons (particularly women and young persons in the final stages of their education) repeatedly enter or leave the labour force. Furthermore, the emergence of mass unemployment and long-term unemployment have resulted in a great many individuals becoming 'marginalized' in the sense that they tend to lose tangible contact with the core labour market. The wider coverage associated with labour force surveys also allows the possibility of assessing labour market effects in a household or family context. This is important if, for example, one wishes to measure the extent to which persons other than those directly involved (e. g. spouses, other dependants, etc.) are affected by the circumstances of unemployment.

Another advantage of a labour force survey is that it affords the opportunity to define relevant labour market characteristics in a manner not possible with other statistical sources. Thus, for example, one can identify the degree of employment engaged in by an individual in terms of the hours worked, and attempt to conceptualize unemployment in terms of aspects such as job search and availability for work. This is important not only because of the advantages it confers in being able to

define labour market entities in a more meaningful way, but it also creates the possibility of achieving much greater international comparability in the compilation of labour force estimates – if, of course, different countries adopt the same or reasonably similar definitions. The last-mentioned aspect is clearly of considerable importance in a Community context.

There are however some limitations which apply to labour force surveys. Cost considerations place a constraint on the overall household sample size and the resultant sampling variability limits the level of detail that can reasonably be shown. Thus, for example, while the labour force survey can be used to compile estimates of employment across economic sectors, it cannot be expected to yield reliable figures at a detailed level of regional disaggregation, or for individual small industrial or commercial subsectors. The sampling base on which such estimates would depend would be too small, and the degree of variability correspondingly high. For the same reason, there is also a limit to what can be achieved with labour force surveys in monitoring trends over time (in employment and unemployment, for example), especially if the movements involved are relatively small.

It is appropriate at this point to refer briefly to other sources of statistical information so that the position of the labour force survey in an overall statistical perspective can be more clearly understood. The other principal sources of labour market information are: (a) surveys of enterprises and (b) administrative records. The former source clearly has the potential for providing detailed estimates of employment for individual sectors (and in fact this is done in many countries). However, such a source is clearly restricted to a consideration of those with jobs and cannot provide any information on the unemployed, or other persons outside the labour force but who may have an attachment to it. However, such surveys can be used to obtain information, not only in relation to employment, but also to output, earnings and hours worked. The simultaneous collection of consistent data on employment and output makes it possible to compile indicators of productivity. Indeed, the derivation of output-type information is usually the main purpose of enterprise-based surveys. Many countries, for example, carry out detailed quarterly or monthly inquiries of the industrial sector which provide consistent information on output, earnings and employment and other related aspects.

Administrative records, and in this sense we are referring principally to social insurance records, can also be used to provide indicators of the levels of employment and

unemployment. A prerequisite, however, is that the administrative arrangements should specifically cater for the extraction of the relevant statistics. While this source involves relatively less expense than information derived from either enterprises or households, it suffers from a significant disadvantage in that the underlying systems are based on social welfare or other administrative provisions which may not necessarily accord with the accepted conventions for defining employment and unemployment. Furthermore, if these arrangements are changed (and experience indicates that they frequently are), a discontinuity invariably arises in the data derived therefrom. A drawback of even greater relevance, however, in an international or Community context is the fact that the social insurance systems in question vary greatly from country to country, both in terms of their design and in the manner of their implementation. This renders the derived information virtually useless in the context of making comparisons between countries, especially in absolute terms. Such sources can, however, provide a reasonable basis for monitoring short-term (i. e. monthly, quarterly, etc.) trends, the most notable in this regard being the various national series on the registered unemployed.

To summarize, therefore, the principal advantages associated with labour force sample surveys relate (1) to the opportunity which they afford to obtain comprehensive information (at less cost than a census) across the entire economy, which can be assessed in a global setting embracing society as a whole; and (2) the inherent flexibility associated with such surveys, which makes it possible to define or conceptualize not only employment and unemployment, but also the circumstances surrounding other groups outside or on the margins of the labour force. The latter feature (i. e. the facility to conceptualize or define) has assumed greater importance in recent years because of the manner in which labour markets and society generally have evolved, and in view of the growing need to view labour market phenomena in an international context. It must be recognized, however, that the sampling aspect associated with labour force surveys places a limitation on the level of detail possible in the presentation of results.

### **The history of labour force surveys**

The notion of obtaining information on the workforce by means of household-based inquiries is not in any sense new. Questions on the concept of possessing a 'gainful occupation' were introduced in censuses of population in some countries during the latter half of the last century. However, at that stage no questions were asked in regard to what is termed a person's 'economic status', i. e. whether at work, unemployed or economically inactive.

Indeed, at that stage such a notion was hardly even conceived of. However, the advancing trend of industrialization and the inevitable restructuring of society which attended this created a need for new approaches, and for more sophistication in measuring labour market phenomena. The situation became particularly urgent with the advent of mass unemployment in the 1930s following the Great Depression. Whatever uncertainties which may have previously existed regarding the need to conceptualize or measure unemployment were dispelled by the sheer fact of millions in a state of enforced idleness. There was now a clear need to have regular information on the level and trend of employment and unemployment. The first labour force survey was introduced in the United States in 1940 (on a monthly basis) with a new conceptual framework designed to provide information on relevant labour market characteristics.

The movement towards the use of labour force surveys was somewhat slower in Europe. While the intervention of the war years contributed to this, it was also due to the existence of alternative sources of information which provided at least a partial insight into aspects of the labour force. Virtually all Western European countries maintained comprehensive unemployment registers (for the purpose of dispensing unemployment compensation) which, despite their disadvantages, provided a rudimentary basis for monitoring unemployment trends. However, in time, as the need to take a more global view of the labour market became apparent, different European countries began to initiate labour force surveys. The first European country to carry out a labour force survey was France, in 1950. Further such enquiries were conducted in France throughout the subsequent decade and these evolved into a regular consistent series in the early 1960s. After an extended period of preparation, the Federal Republic of Germany initiated an annual series of labour force surveys in 1957 (the Mikrozensus). Sweden conducted its first labour force survey in 1959 and after further experimentation initiated an official quarterly series in 1963. The present position is that virtually every OECD country has at least an annual labour force survey; in quite a number (the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Portugal, USA, Canada, the Scandinavian countries) such inquiries are held on a quarterly or monthly basis.

The first coordinated Community labour force survey covering the original six Member States of the EC was carried out on an experimental basis in 1960. This was followed some years later by the initiation of an annual series in 1968 which continued until 1971. At the time of the enlargement of the Community to include Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom in 1973 a further regular series was introduced. This was on a biennial basis and was continued until 1981. In 1983 an annual series of Community labour force surveys was reintroduced, with a revised conceptual framework based on new ILO guidelines adopted in 1982 (see References).

## Chapter II

### The organization of the Community labour force survey

The technical aspects of the implementation of Community labour force surveys are agreed between Eurostat and the national statistical institutes of the Member States. On the basis of proposals from Eurostat, the standing working party on the labour force sample survey determines the content of each inquiry, the list of questions and the common coding system for individual replies, as well as the principal definitions to be applied in the analysis of the results. The national statistical institutes are responsible for selecting the sample, preparing questionnaires, conducting the interviews in households and forwarding the results to Eurostat in accordance with a standard coding scheme.

Eurostat devises the programme for analysing the results and is responsible for processing and disseminating the published information.

The Community labour force surveys are carried out on a legal basis. The relevant Council Regulation relating to the 1988 survey is reproduced in Appendix A. The regulations relating to surveys for other years are of a similar nature, except to the extent that the specified survey content may vary somewhat.

#### Reference period

Most of the labour market characteristics derived from the Community labour force surveys refer to the situation in a particular week. While the survey is synchronized to the extent that this reference week falls in the spring in all countries, the national statistical institutes determine the exact weeks on the basis of the particular situation in each country. This aspect has in fact assumed greater significance with the introduction of the revised series of annual surveys in 1983 which involve a much greater emphasis on 'current' (as distinct from 'usual') labour market circumstances. The reference weeks used in the different Member States are published in the Eurostat annual report containing the survey results.

#### Coverage

The survey is intended to cover the whole of the resident population, i. e. all persons whose usual place of residence is in the territory of the Member States of the Community. For technical reasons, however, it is not possible in all countries to include the population living in collective households, i. e. persons living in institutions of various kinds such as boarding schools, hospitals, work-

ers' hostels, etc. Consequently, in order to have the results for all countries on a consistent basis, the results are compiled on the basis of the population resident in private households only.

In more precise terms this covers all persons living in the households surveyed during the reference week, including persons temporarily absent from the household for short periods arising from business trips, illness, holidays, etc. It does not include, however, persons who, although having links with the household under survey, usually live elsewhere, either in another private household or in an institution.

#### Sampling aspects

The sampling methods used in the labour force surveys are determined by the national statistical institutes on the basis of national socio-economic factors and the technical and administrative arrangements within each country. In this regard the relevant Council regulations determine only the limits of the required sample sizes. These limits are usually specified as follows:

- (a) between 60 000 and 100 000 households for the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom;
- (b) between 30 000 and 50 000 households for Belgium, Greece, the Netherlands, Portugal and Ireland;
- (c) between 15 000 and 30 000 households for Denmark;
- (d) approximately 10 000 households for Luxembourg.

The following table sets out the approximate number of households included in the sample in each country in 1987.

Member State	Sample size
Belgium	29 800
Denmark	16 000
FR of Germany	95 400
Greece	48 400
Spain	52 300
France	65 000
Ireland	45 100
Italy	128 400
Luxembourg	9 300
The Netherlands	19 700
Portugal	27 600
United Kingdom	63 400

Thus the total sample across the Community comprised some 600 000 private households.

Within each Member State, the figures obtained from the sample are expanded to national levels, usually on the basis of expansion factors derived from the most recent census of population, suitably adjusted to take account of recent changes in population levels which may have occurred since that census.

Full details of the sample procedure used in each Member State, and of the expansion and grossing methods, are given in the 1988 Eurostat publication *Labour force sample survey – Methods and definitions*.

### **Reliability of the results**

As is the case with any sample survey, the labour force survey estimates are subject to sampling and other errors. While the complex design features which characterize the survey in different countries virtually preclude the possibility of obtaining precise measurements of sampling variability, experience with previous surveys has shown that at national level the survey information provides sufficiently accurate estimates for the principal aggregates into which the labour force is divided. Detailed classifications, however, and results at regional level in particular, may be affected by considerable sampling errors, even for relatively large segments of the overall population.

In addition to sampling errors, the results of any survey (even if this is a complete enumeration) are affected by non-sampling errors, i. e. a whole variety of influences such as non-response, errors by interviewers when completing survey documents, miscoding, etc.

Beginning with the 1986 survey, national statistical institutes have been requested to supply Eurostat with estimates of sampling errors for some basic survey results.

### **Comparability of the survey results from country to country**

Perfect comparability among Community countries is difficult to achieve, even by means of a single direct survey such as the labour force survey. Nevertheless, the degree of comparability of the Community survey results is considerably greater than that of any other existing set of statistics on employment or unemployment available from Member States. This is principally due to:

- (a) the recording of the same set of characteristics in each country;
- (b) the greatest possible correspondence between the Community list of questions and the national questionnaires;

- (c) the use of the same definitions in conceptualizing and compiling different labour market aggregates;
- (d) the use of a common classification (e. g. NACE) for economic activity;
- (e) the synchronization of the survey in the spring;
- (f) the data being centrally processed by Eurostat.

It should be noted, however, that the Community labour force survey, although subject to common agreed statistical requirements, is in fact a joint effort between Member States to coordinate their national employment surveys, which must also serve their own national needs. As a result, there are some differences in the survey from country to country, although these are minimized as far as possible by close cooperation between the national statistical institutes and Eurostat.

### **Comparability of the results of successive surveys**

For the series of surveys initiated in 1983, comparability between the results of successive inquiries should in general be better than in the past, mainly due to the greater stability of content and design.

However, there are some aspects which militate against enhanced comparability in this regard:

- (a) The population figures used for the population expansion procedures are revised at intervals on the basis of new population censuses;
- (b) The reference period may not remain precisely the same for a given country from year to year;
- (c) In order to improve the quality of the results, some countries may have changed the content or order of their questions; such changes are especially important between the 1983 and 1984 surveys;
- (d) Countries may modify their sample designs;
- (e) The manner in which certain questions are answered may be influenced by political or social circumstances at the time of the interview.

In so far as they are known, Eurostat indicates when publishing the results the main factors affecting the comparability of the survey data for successive inquiries. Due to the fundamental changes in concepts introduced in the 1983 survey, comparisons between the results from that inquiry and those of earlier years are virtually impossible for most characteristics. The report of the 1983 survey contains a quantitative appraisal of the effects of these changes on the results.

## Chapter III

### Labour market characteristics on which information is sought

The range of items of a socio-economic nature on which information is sought in the Community labour force survey is quite extensive, particularly for those persons associated with the labour force. A full list of the characteristics involved is given in Appendix B. More detailed information is given in Appendix C which sets out the full list of options for each of these items and describes the coding system used.

Not all of the survey questions of course apply to everyone and in order to fully understand their significance it is necessary to describe them in terms of the specific population groupings to which they relate.

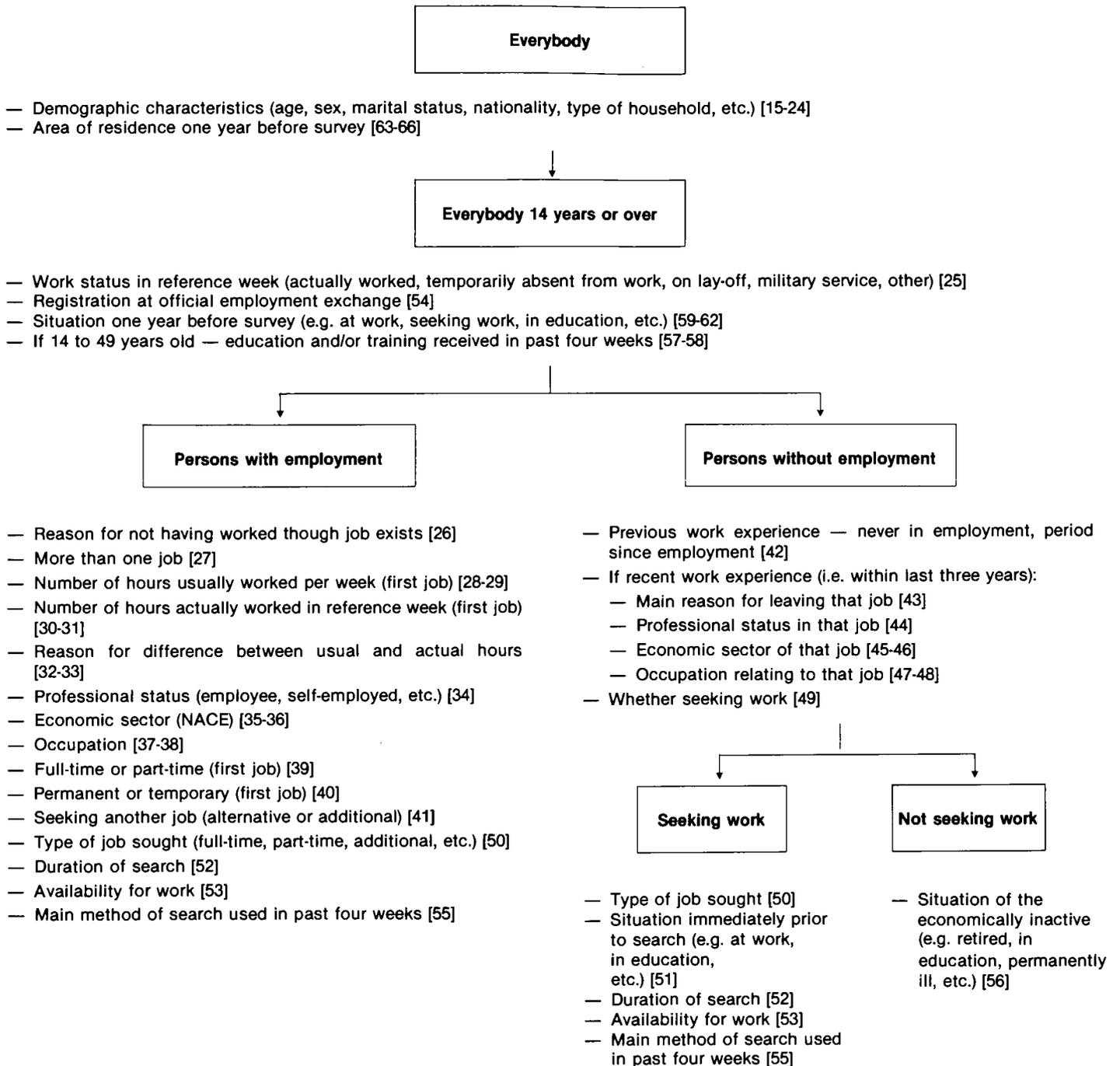
1. For persons of all ages, basic demographic characteristics (e. g. age, sex, marital status, etc.) are sought.
2. For all persons 14 years of age or over a crucial distinction centres on the respondent's 'work status' in the reference week, i. e. whether the respondent actually did gainful work, or was temporarily absent from such work or was simply not in a job and not working, for various reasons. This question is of fundamental importance as it used to make the basic distinction as to whether the person was or was not in employment in the survey reference week. Some other questions are also addressed to all persons aged 14 years or over, for example their work situation at a point one year prior to the survey date, and whether education and/or training was received during a four-week period before the survey.
3. For those who, on the basis of the replies given, are deemed to be in employment, the survey involves a

range of questions designed to provide information about the nature of this work — sector of economic activity, occupation engaged in, hours worked, whether part-time or full-time, whether permanent or temporary, if more than one job was held and whether the respondent is seeking work (either as additional or alternative employment).

4. For those without employment, apart from some questions on recent work history (duration since last job, characteristics of that job, etc.) a distinction of particular importance relates to the question designed to determine whether the respondent is seeking work or not, since this is one of the factors used in deciding whether the respondent should be defined as unemployed or otherwise (see Chapter IV).
5. For those without a job but seeking work there are questions on the type of work sought, the duration of search, availability for work and the main means used in looking for work.
6. For those without a job but not seeking work, basic information on their status is sought — i. e. whether they are retired, in full-time education, permanently ill or incapacitated, etc.

It is difficult to illustrate the salient features of the labour force survey information in written form. Reference should therefore be made to the schematic layout in Figure 1 which describes the range of items for which information is available in terms of the abovementioned groups, while at the same time illustrating how these groups subdivide and relate to one another.

**Figure 1**  
**Information available for the main population groups in the**  
**1987 Community labour force survey**



*Note:* The numbers in square brackets relate to the column numbers used for each characteristic as set out in Appendices B and C.

## Chapter IV

### Labour force concepts and definitions

Thus far the description of the labour force survey characteristics has tended to be expressed explicitly in terms of the actual survey questions. This is useful up to a point, but ultimately the presentation of data must involve the adoption of further conventions and concepts if the figures are to lend themselves to meaningful interpretation, particularly in the context of facilitating socio-economic analysis. This involves reorganizing the data so as to identify and describe the attributes of groups of individuals who share common pre-specified characteristics (such as the unemployed, so defined). This chapter is therefore concerned with the question of the working definitions used in the Community labour force survey.

It has already in fact been necessary to introduce some concepts in broad terms without referring to the actual problems of definition. One might ask, for example, what does 'being in employment' precisely mean, given that the degree of gainful activity engaged in during a specified period can extend from quite minimal effort to the significant input required for a full-time job?

However, the purpose of the labour force survey extends beyond the provision of distinctions relating solely to employment. The principal statistical objective of the survey is to subdivide the population of working age (i. e. those aged 14 years and over) into three mutually exclusive groups:

- (a) persons in employment;
- (b) unemployed persons; and
- (c) other persons (i. e. those deemed to be economically inactive);

and to provide descriptive and explanatory data on each of these categories.

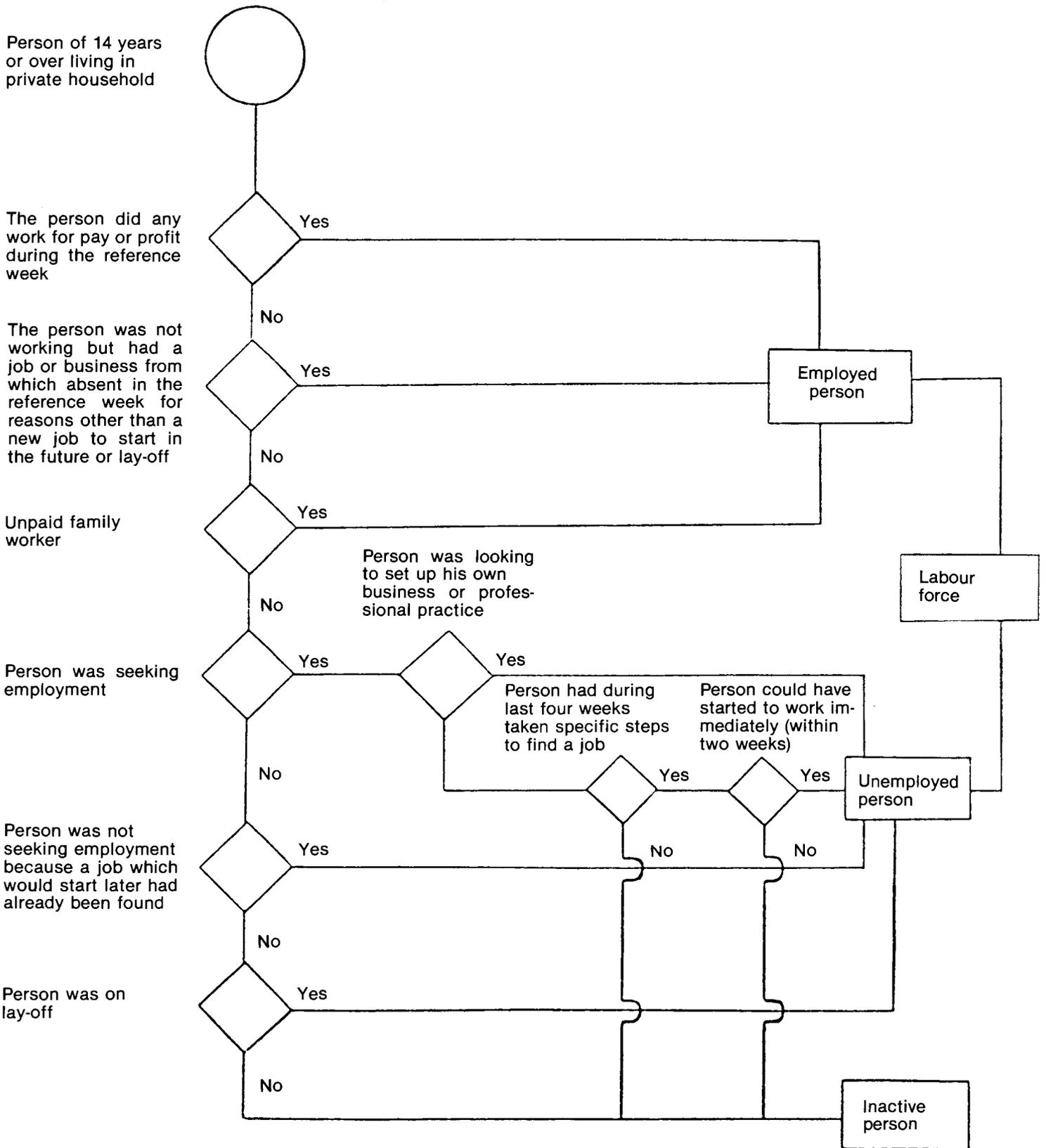
In fact the concept of being 'in employment' or 'at work' in the Community labour force survey is rather all-embracing and purports to cover 'any work of at least one hour's duration carried out for pay or profit during the reference week'. The definition of unemployment is rather complex and involves the simultaneous application of a number of different criteria (the absence of a job, evidence of job search and availability for work). Such an approach in a survey context requires the application of a 'filter process', whereby the replies from a respondent are observed in sequence, the objective being to 'filter down' the initial group targeted until a (smaller) final group is achieved, all the members of which satisfy the agreed requirements for the state or condition in question.

The precise definitions used in the Community labour force survey for the three groups in question are as follows:

1. Persons in employment are those aged 14 years or over who during the reference week:
  - (a) carried out any work to the extent of one hour or more for pay or profit. This would include paid work in the context of an employee/employer relationship or self-employment. It also includes unpaid family work, which is defined as unpaid work contributing directly to the operation of a farm, business or professional practice owned or operated by a related member of the household; or
  - (b) were not working but who had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, holidays, unsuitable weather, labour disputes, etc. Persons on lay-off and those with a new job to start in the future are however not regarded as employed.
2. Unemployed persons are those who had no employment during the reference week and who:
  - (a) were actively looking for paid work in the context of an employer/employee relationship (active search in this regard requires that specific steps to find a job were taken during a four-week period ending with the reference week), and were available for work in the sense that they were free to take up a job during a period within two weeks of the survey interview; or
  - (b) were seeking to set up their own business or professional practice; or
  - (c) were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off; or
  - (d) had a new job to start after the reference week.
3. Economically inactive persons are those persons aged 14 years or over who are neither classified as employed nor unemployed.

With regard to defining unemployment it should be noted that a four-week period is used for measuring active job search. The reason here is that delays inherent in job search (for example, periods awaiting the results of earlier job applications) require that the active element of looking for work be measured over a period greater than a week if a comprehensive measure of job-seeking is to be obtained. The term 'specific steps to find work' is meant to include activities such as being on the register at a

**Figure 2**  
**Schematic illustration of persons defined as in employment, unemployed or economically inactive**



public or private employment office, contacts with prospective employers, informal methods of search through friends and relatives, answering or placing advertisements, etc.

The above concepts are consistent with the definitions embodied in the 1982 Recommendations of the International Labour Organization contained in the resolution of the 13th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (see References).

Unemployed persons can be further classified in terms of the circumstances of unemployment into three major groups:

1. persons previously in employment who immediately began to look for work subsequent to the termination of the job in question;
2. re-entrants to the labour force, i. e. persons who previously worked, but who were inactive for a period or were on obligatory military service before beginning to look for work;
3. first job-seekers, i. e. persons who never previously worked in a regular job.

The labour force comprises persons in employment and unemployed persons.

Figure 2 provides a diagrammatic representation of the composition of each of the abovementioned groups illustrating particularly the filter process by which the unemployed group is defined.

There are other concepts which are used in the presentation of labour force data and in the analysis of labour market information generally. These are:

- (a) the labour force activity rate, which is the ratio of the labour force to the total population aged 14 years and over. Such rates can, of course, also apply to individual age categories. Basically this statistic purports to represent the propensity of the population (or a segment of it) to engage in gainful work;
- (b) The employment/population ratio is the ratio of persons in employment to the population of working age (i. e. that aged 14 years or over);
- (c) The unemployment rate, which hardly requires any introduction, is the number of unemployed persons taken as a percentage of the total labour force.



## Chapter V

### The Community labour force survey – Presentation of results

This chapter is concerned primarily with describing the information made available from the Community labour force survey in official Eurostat publications. The greater part of the data in question is made available in the annual Eurostat Community labour force survey report which contains a comprehensive corpus of statistical data which is of primary interest and utility in the context of labour market analysis, particularly when a Community-wide dimension is involved. Labour force survey data are also made available through other sources, for example in more general Eurostat publications such as those relating to social indicators and in the Eurostat regional statistics databank. The content of the latter source (in so far as it relates to the labour force survey information) is described later in this chapter, as it contains information of a regional nature not available elsewhere. It should also be noted that apart from the pre-specified tables contained in official Community reports, a great deal of additional statistical information on individual topics is potentially derivable from the computerized labour force survey files, subject to the availability of programming and computer resources. The question of the availability and accessibility of such additional *ad hoc* tabulations is considered later in this chapter.

#### The annual Community labour force survey publication

This is the principal publication setting out the results of the labour force survey; it contains basic population and labour market information for all the countries of the Community as well as containing, where appropriate, aggregate Community-wide figures.

All the tables (which are presented according to a standard format from survey to survey) are structured so as to show the data for individual countries (and for the Community as a whole) in vertical columns of figures. Many of the basic classifications are in two parts, the first of which contains estimates in absolute terms (to the nearest 1 000 units), the second containing percentages, so as to allow relative comparisons between the different Member States (which of course vary greatly in size).

The report is subdivided into four basic sections covering:  
 population and labour force activity levels;  
 employment;  
 working time;  
 unemployment and search for work.

Table 5.1 Principal characteristics of activity of the population in 1987

	EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
<b>Persons (1 000)</b>													
1. Persons in employment	125 913	3 473	2 631	26 562	3 597	11 330	21 396	1 084	20 665	154	5 851	4 354	24 816
2. Unemployed persons	15 144	441	171	1 943	286	2 941	2 574	239	2 473	4	649	350	3 073
3. Labour force (1 + 2)	141 057	3 914	2 801	28 505	3 884	14 270	23 970	1 323	23 138	158	6 500	4 704	27 889
4. Non-active persons 14 years and over	120 720	4 189	1 452	23 632	3 953	16 222	19 006	1 213	23 921	148	5 267	3 447	18 270
5. Total persons 14 years and over (3 + 4)	261 777	8 103	4 253	52 137	7 837	30 492	42 976	2 536	47 059	306	11 767	8 150	46 160
6. Persons less than 14 years	55 606	1 686	840	8 078	1 877	7 806	10 445	944	9 339	57	2 530	2 064	9 939
7. Total population	317 383	9 789	5 093	60 215	9 714	38 298	53 421	3 480	56 399	363	14 297	10 214	56 099
<b>%</b>													
Population less than 14 years as % of total population	17.5	17.2	16.5	13.4	19.3	20.4	19.6	27.1	16.6	15.7	17.7	20.2	17.7
Activity rates <sup>1</sup>	53.9	48.3	65.9	54.7	49.6	46.8	55.8	52.2	49.2	51.6	55.2	57.7	60.4
Employment/population ratios <sup>2</sup>	48.1	42.9	61.9	50.9	45.9	37.2	49.8	42.7	43.9	50.4	49.7	53.4	53.8
Unemployment rates	10.7	11.3	6.1	6.8	7.4	20.6	10.7	18.1	10.7	2.5	10.0	7.4	11.0

<sup>1</sup> The activity rates are the ratios of the labour force to the population aged 14 years and over.

<sup>2</sup> The employment/population ratio represents total employment divided by the population aged 14 years and over.

## Population and labour force activity levels

This section contains in the first instance classifications of the total population for each Member State according to five-year age groups. A further form of presentation subdivides the population of working age (i. e. those aged 14 years or over) of each country according to 'work status', i. e. distinguishing those at work, those unemployed, and those outside the labour force (i. e. the economically inactive).

At this stage it is perhaps appropriate to extend our illustration with the presentation of actual data in order to provide the reader with a better perspective of the information available. This is done in Table 5.1 which shows broad status classifications of entire populations from the 1987 labour force survey for the 12 Member States, and for the Community as a whole.

It will be noted that in that year the total population resident in private households in the aggregate Community of 12 Member States (EUR 12) was 317.4 million, of which 261.8 million were aged 14 years or over (i. e. of working age). A total of 141.1 million from the latter total were classified as being in the labour force, of which in turn 125.9 million were recorded as being in employment while 15.1 million were classified as unemployed.

The derived calculations given at the end of the table show that at Community level the aggregate labour force activity rate was 53.9% but this varied from as low as 47% in the case of Spain to as high as 66% for Denmark. It will be noted that many of the activity rates for the other countries were in the 50 to 55% range, while those for Portugal and the United Kingdom lay in the 55 to 60% range. The employment/population ratio for the Community as a whole was 48% and this varied from as low as 37% in the case of Spain to nearly 62% for Denmark.

The aggregate Community unemployment rate in 1987 was nearly 10.7% and this varied from 2.5% for Luxembourg, approximately 6 to 7% for Denmark, Germany, Greece and Portugal to as high as 21% for Spain. The rates for France, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and the United Kingdom were all reasonably close to the overall Community average rate.

The foregoing provides but an indication of the kind of information contained in this section of the Community labour force survey annual report. The actual tables presented in the report, all of which involve a basic subdivision by sex, include further classifications of the various work status categories according to age, marital status and nationality.

The full list of tables is as follows:

### *Tables relating to population and activity*

- 01 Principal characteristics of activity of the population
- 02 Principal characteristics of activity of young persons aged 14 to 24 years
- 03 Activity rates by age groups (%)
- 04 Activity rates by marital status and broad age groups (%)
- 05 Activity rates by nationality and broad age groups (%)
- 06 Employment/population ratios by age groups (%)

- 07 Employment/population ratios by marital status and broad age groups (%)
- 08 Unemployment rates by age groups (%)
- 09 Unemployment rates by marital status and broad age groups (%)
- 10 Total population by age groups (1 000)
- 11 Total population by age groups (%)
- 12 Foreign population by broad age groups (1 000)
- 13 Foreign population by broad age groups (%)
- 14 Labour force by age groups (1 000)
- 15 Labour force by age groups (%)
- 16 Labour force by nationality and broad age groups (1 000)
- 17 Labour force by nationality and broad age groups (%)
- 18 Persons in employment by age groups (1 000)
- 19 Persons in employment by age groups (%)
- 20 Unemployed persons by age groups (1 000)
- 21 Unemployed persons by age groups (%)
- 22 Inactive persons by age groups (1 000)
- 23 Inactive persons by age groups (%)
- 24 Young persons aged 14 to 24 years in education by main population categories and age groups (1 000)

The age classifications used involve for the most part a broad categorization of the population of working age distinguishing those aged 14 to 24 years, 24 to 29 years, 30 to 34 years, 35 to 39 years, 40 to 44 years, 45 to 49 years, 50 to 54 years, 55 to 59 years, 60 to 64 years and 65 years and over. The nationality subdivision used in Tables 5, 16 and 17 is rather broad, distinguishing for each country aggregate figures for the number of nationals for all EC Member States combined, and non-EC countries.

## Employment

This section contains details of classifications of those at work or in employment as defined in the preceding chapter. The basic categorizations involved in this section relate to professional status, economic activity and the distinction between full-time and part-time work.

The classifications according to professional status distinguish whether persons at work are employers or self-employed, paid employees or family workers. The last category is meant to relate to persons who assist another member of the family to run an agricultural holding or another business, provided they are not considered as employees.

The subdivisions presented in terms of economic activity are given at two levels. The first level of disaggregation involves just three sectors – agriculture, industry and services; the second more detailed categorization extends to 11 sectors at the NACE II level as defined in Appendix D.

The distinction between full-time and part-time work is generally made on the basis of the subjective replies given by the survey respondents. In a number of countries, however, the categorization is somewhat more specific, being based wholly or partly on hours worked.

In Greece, for example, a person is considered to work part-time if he or she works less hours than those provided for in collective agreements applicable to the type of work in which the person is engaged.

In Italy, a person works part-time if, in agreement with the employer, he or she works less hours than those normally worked in the particular type of employment.

In the Netherlands, self-employed or family workers are defined as working part-time if they usually work less than 35 hours per week. Employees are regarded as part-time if either their contractual hours are less than 31 hours per week, or if they are between 31 and 34 hours per week but are considered as less than those normally worked for the type of job.

Tables 5.2 and 5.3 provide an illustration of the kind of basic information on employment made available in this

section of the report. The first table which relates to professional status shows that of the 125.9 million persons who were recorded as in employment throughout the Community in 1987 almost 20 million (15.9%) were employers or self-employed, 101.5 million (81%) were paid employees while about 4.3 million (some 3.4%) were family workers. The relative distributions *vis-à-vis* these three categories vary considerably between countries, with the proportions of employers and self-employed being particularly high in Greece (35.4%) and also in Spain, Italy, Ireland and Portugal, where the corresponding proportions were each in excess of 20%. These relatively high percentages derive partly from the size of the agricultural sectors in these countries.

Table 5.2 **Persons in employment in 1987 by professional status**

	EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
<b>Persons (1 000)</b>													
Employers and self-employed	19 999	532	241	2 421	1 274	2 650	2 709	236	5 044	14	593	1 185	3 098
Employees	101 453	2 835	2 329	23 466	1 794	7 877	17 904	816	14 573	137	5 123	2 962	21 639
Family workers	4 338	107	60	675	529	760	782	32	1 048	3	136	206	—
Not stated	123	—	—	—	—	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	80
Total	125 913	3 473	2 631	26 562	3 597	11 330	21 396	1 084	20 665	154	5 851	4 354	24 816
<b>%</b>													
Employers and self-employed	15.9	15.3	9.2	9.1	35.4	23.5	12.7	21.8	24.4	9.2	10.1	27.2	12.5
Employees	80.7	81.6	88.5	88.3	49.9	69.8	83.7	75.3	70.5	88.8	87.5	68.0	87.5
Family workers	3.4	3.1	2.3	2.5	14.7	6.7	3.7	2.9	5.1	2.0	2.3	4.7	—
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 5.3 **Persons in employment in 1987 by sector of activity**

	EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
<b>Persons (1 000)</b>													
Agriculture	9 967	109	150	1 242	971	1 723	1 591	170	2 160	5	297	967	583
Industry	41 772	1 098	732	10 654	938	3 670	6 526	310	6 666	48	1 564	1 482	8 084
Services	73 778	2 266	1 676	14 666	1 688	5 937	13 182	598	11 838	101	3 916	1 899	16 009
Not stated	396	—	73	—	—	—	96	5	—	—	75	6	140
Total	125 913	3 473	2 631	26 562	3 597	11 330	21 396	1 084	20 665	154	5 851	4 354	24 816
<b>%</b>													
Agriculture	7.9	3.1	5.8	4.7	27.0	15.2	7.5	15.8	10.5	3.3	5.1	22.2	2.4
Industry	33.3	31.6	28.6	40.1	26.1	32.4	30.6	28.8	32.3	31.1	27.1	34.1	32.8
Services	58.8	65.2	65.5	55.2	46.9	52.4	61.9	55.5	57.3	65.6	67.8	43.7	64.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The classifications by economic activity given in Table 5.3 show that of the Community total of 125.9 million employed persons, just under 10 million were engaged in agriculture, nearly 42 million in industry (which includes building and construction) and almost 74 million in the broad services area. When this distribution is expressed in relative terms the percentages corresponding to these sectors were 7.9, 33.3 and 58.8 respectively. However, it will be noted that again these varied greatly between countries. The percentage at work in agriculture was as high as 27% in Greece, over 22% in Portugal and 15 to

16% in Ireland and Spain, and extended down to a mere 2.4% in the United Kingdom. In the case of the countries with a high proportion at work in agriculture, this pattern naturally affects the other (non-agricultural) sectors for which the corresponding percentages are relatively low. The most notable features which stand out among the countries with few engaged in agriculture are the high proportion at work in the industrial sector in Germany (over 40%) and the high percentages for services activities in the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark and Luxembourg.

The tables included in the Community labour force survey report under the abovementioned headings involve a range of cross-classifications according to the characteristics just described. These tables are as follows:

*Tables relating to employment*

- 25 Persons in employment by professional status (1 000)
- 26 Persons in employment by sector of activity (1 000)
- 27 Persons in employment by professional status (%)
- 28 Persons in employment by sector of activity (%)
- 29 Persons in employment by professional status and sector of activity (1 000)
- 30 Persons in employment by professional status and sector of activity (%)
- 31 Persons in employment by sector of activity and professional status (1 000)
- 32 Persons in employment by sector of activity and professional status (%)
- 33 Persons in employment by professional status with a full-time/part-time breakdown (1 000)
- 34 Persons in employment by professional status with a full-time/part-time breakdown (%)
- 35 Persons in employment by sector of activity with a full-time/part-time breakdown (1 000)
- 36 Persons in employment by sector of activity with a full-time/part-time breakdown (%)
- 37 Employees by sector of activity with a full-time/part-time breakdown (1 000)
- 38 Employees by sector of activity with a full-time/part-time breakdown (%)
- 39 Non-employees by sector of activity with a full-time/part-time breakdown (1 000)
- 40 Non-employees by sector of activity with a full-time/part-time breakdown (%)
- 41 Persons working full-time/part-time by broad age groups (1 000)
- 42 Persons working full-time/part-time by broad age groups (%)
- 43 Persons in employment by economic activity (1 000)
- 44 Persons in employment by economic activity (%)
- 45 Employees by economic activity (1 000)
- 46 Employees by economic activity (%)

**Working time**

The section of the Community labour force survey report dealing with this aspect contains tabulations setting out information on working time expressed in terms of weekly hours. Two basic concepts are used to define working time:

- (a) usual hours worked; and
- (b) actual hours worked.

The first category corresponds to the number of hours which survey respondents indicated that they normally worked in a week. In the context of calculating 'average hours usually worked', respondents who were unable to provide information for usual hours, e. g. because the hours worked varied considerably from week to week, are not taken into account.

'Hours actually worked' corresponds to the actual number of hours which a survey respondent worked during the reference week of the survey. These hours may differ from the usual hours for reasons such as overtime, illness, holidays, flexible working hours, etc. For purposes of

calculating 'average hours actually worked' respondents having worked less than one hour, or not at all during the reference week, or those who did not reply to this question, are not taken into account in the calculation.

If the respondent held more than one job, the hours worked for the first job only are considered in the context of these analyses.

There are two basic methods of exposition in relation to these data — the figures are either expressed in terms of average hours per week or in the form of distributions showing the proportions of respondents recorded to different duration categories. With regard to the latter, the duration classes actually used for persons in full-time employment are:

- Between 1 and 35 hours;
- 36 to 39 hours;
- 40 hours;
- 41 to 45 hours;
- 46 hours or more.

The single category '40 hours' is distinguished because it occurs frequently, it still being the standard weekly working duration in many (but not all) Community countries.

The figures in the various tables presented under this heading are usually shown for all persons at work and for paid employees separately. It is considered that the data for paid employees are perhaps more meaningful since the concept of working hours in the case of many self-employed persons and family workers may be difficult to determine because of the uncertain distinction which often exists in relation to gainful work and other activities.

Tables 5.4 to 5.7 contain basic figures on hours worked for 1987 by paid employees. The first table, which contains data for usual average weekly working time by broad sector, shows that the average usual hours worked by employees in the year in question was 37.8 hours, the averages for males and females being 40.7 hours and 33.4 hours respectively. Viewing the position across countries it will be noted that the highest averages are for Portugal and Spain (in excess of 40 hours), while the lowest are for the Netherlands and Denmark (less than 35 hours).

Table 5.5 contains information similar to that given in Table 5.4 except that the figures are now presented on the basis of actual hours worked. Broadly speaking the pattern of the results is similar to that described above.

Tables 5.6 and 5.7 contain information on working time for full-time employees in the form of distributions according to duration categories. The first of these tables, which contains data in this form on usual working time, shows that just over 6% of full-time paid employees usually worked less than 35 hours per week, nearly one third worked between 36 and 39 hours, almost 40% worked exactly 40 hours, while more than 20% worked 41 hours or more. The figures indicate a greater preponderance of shorter working durations among women; more than 49% of women usually worked less than 40 hours per week, compared with a corresponding proportion of 33% for men.

Table 5.4

**Average hours usually worked per week by employees  
for 1987 by sector of activity**

		EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
		<b>Hours</b>												
All employees	<b>T</b>	37.8	36.1	34.7	38.3	39.6	40.1	37.7	39.0	38.1	38.5	32.8	41.5	37.3
	<b>M</b>	40.7	38.2	37.5	40.6	40.6	41.1	40.0	41.0	39.5	40.3	36.5	43.1	43.5
	<b>F</b>	33.4	32.3	31.6	34.6	37.5	37.5	34.9	35.9	35.6	35.3	26.2	38.9	29.8
Agriculture	<b>T</b>	41.5	38.2	36.5	41.9	43.2	44.5	40.4	48.3	38.6	(44.2)	36.4	47.4	43.2
	<b>M</b>	43.5	41.1	38.2	43.3	44.8	44.9	42.2	49.0	40.5	(45.4)	38.4	48.6	48.0
	<b>F</b>	35.8		31.0	39.1	38.9	40.3	35.2		35.0		28.7	44.3	30.3
Industry	<b>T</b>	39.8	38.2	37.1	38.9	40.5	40.2	39.4	40.4	40.1	39.8	35.9	43.3	41.7
	<b>M</b>	40.8	38.8	38.4	39.9	40.6	40.4	40.0	41.2	40.4	40.3	36.9	43.8	44.1
	<b>F</b>	36.7	35.9	33.4	35.7	40.1	39.0	37.7	38.1	39.0	36.3	29.5	42.2	34.5
Services	<b>T</b>	36.4	34.8	33.6	37.7	38.9	39.5	36.8	37.9	36.8	37.8	31.4	39.3	35.0
	<b>M</b>	40.4	37.6	36.9	41.4	40.4	41.1	40.0	40.4	38.6	40.2	36.1	41.6	42.9
	<b>F</b>	32.4	31.5	31.2	34.2	36.5	37.0	34.2	35.2	34.3	35.1	25.7	36.8	28.7

Table 5.5

**Average hours actually worked by employees in 1987  
during the reference week by sector of activity**

		EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
		<b>Hours</b>												
All employees	<b>T</b>	37.4	36.3	33.8	38.7	37.7	38.1	38.4	37.9	37.9	38.4	33.2	40.8	35.4
	<b>M</b>	40.2	38.5	36.7	41.2	38.6	39.0	40.9	40.0	39.4	40.2	37.0	42.4	41.1
	<b>F</b>	32.9	32.3	30.5	34.8	35.8	35.6	35.0	34.4	35.2	35.0	26.1	38.2	28.2
Agriculture	<b>T</b>	40.0	39.9	36.8	42.1	37.7	41.6	40.4	49.1	37.1	(43.6)	37.4	42.8	41.7
	<b>M</b>	42.1	42.7	38.9	43.4	40.4	42.2	42.2	49.9	39.4	(45.1)	39.6	44.0	46.6
	<b>F</b>	33.8		30.1	39.3	30.0	36.7	34.8		32.5		28.7	39.7	28.2
Industry	<b>T</b>	39.1	38.3	35.5	39.2	37.9	38.1	39.7	38.9	39.8	39.7	35.3	42.6	39.1
	<b>M</b>	40.1	38.9	37.0	40.3	37.9	38.2	40.4	39.7	40.2	40.1	36.3	43.1	41.4
	<b>F</b>	35.9	35.7	31.2	35.7	37.9	37.0	37.7	36.3	38.6	36.1	28.8	41.5	32.0
Services	<b>T</b>	36.2	35.2	33.0	38.2	37.6	37.6	37.7	36.8	36.8	37.7	32.2	39.0	33.3
	<b>M</b>	40.3	38.2	36.4	42.2	39.2	39.3	41.4	39.5	38.7	40.1	37.4	41.4	40.6
	<b>F</b>	32.0	31.5	30.4	34.4	35.0	35.2	34.4	33.8	34.0	34.9	25.8	36.3	27.3

Table 5.6

**Employees in full-time employment  
— groups of hours usually worked per week — 1987**

	EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
<b>Males and females %</b>													
Employees	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1-35 hours	6.5	7.8	3.6	1.0	9.8	4.8	8.3	15.0	9.0	5.1	3.7	8.7	9.9
36-39 hours	32.2	63.3	81.3	23.6	20.7	5.7	62.0	8.9	23.9	1.7	49.9	11.2	27.7
40 hours	39.8	25.3	5.9	65.0	48.0	69.8	12.6	58.4	53.6	87.7	40.4	20.2	14.1
41-45 hours	10.5	1.0	3.6	3.8	8.5	9.9	9.3	7.4	6.1	1.8	2.0	51.2	21.4
46 + hours	11.1	2.5	5.6	6.6	12.9	9.8	7.8	10.3	7.4	3.6	4.0	8.6	26.8
<b>Males %</b>													
Employees	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1-35 hours	3.7	4.9	1.7	0.4	7.1	3.0	5.8	9.9	4.4	2.1	2.5	5.4	5.5
36-39 hours	29.7	62.8	81.2	24.7	20.1	4.5	59.6	7.5	21.8	(1.3)	49.8	8.2	21.6
40 hours	41.2	28.0	6.1	63.0	49.2	71.6	13.8	60.7	57.5	90.5	40.9	21.4	14.0
41-45 hours	11.6	1.2	4.2	4.1	8.6	10.3	10.9	8.5	7.0	2.0	2.2	55.3	24.2
46 + hours	13.8	3.2	6.9	7.8	15.0	10.6	9.9	13.4	9.2	4.1	4.6	9.7	34.8
<b>Females %</b>													
Employees	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1-35 hours	12.1	14.7	7.0	2.0	15.9	9.6	12.1	23.8	18.2	12.0	7.8	14.3	19.3
36-39 hours	37.2	64.6	81.6	21.4	22.2	9.1	65.8	11.3	28.0	(2.5)	50.0	16.2	40.3
40 hours	36.8	19.0	5.5	69.3	45.4	64.8	10.7	54.3	45.8	81.5	38.8	18.2	14.5
41-45 hours	8.3	0.7	2.5	3.1	8.4	8.9	6.8	5.6	4.2	(1.4)	1.5	44.4	15.7
46 + hours	5.6	1.1	3.4	4.2	8.1	7.6	4.6	5.0	3.7	(2.4)	1.9	6.8	10.3

Table 5.7

**Employees in full-time employment  
— groups of hours actually worked during the reference week — 1987**

	EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
	<b>Males and females %</b>												
Employees	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 hours	5.7	2.2	8.3	4.2	2.8	3.4	9.0	5.5	3.4	4.0	7.5	3.9	7.7
1 to 35 hours	12.8	8.2	21.3	3.2	28.0	20.4	8.6	26.5	10.5	7.3	20.7	11.6	23.4
36 to 39 hours	26.6	58.7	52.1	20.4	15.0	5.9	49.5	6.6	22.4	1.8	25.5	12.8	22.7
40 hours	33.4	24.9	5.0	56.6	35.6	53.4	11.2	42.8	49.4	79.3	22.1	18.7	11.6
41 to 45 hours	9.7	2.1	5.2	5.5	6.8	8.2	10.4	6.6	6.5	2.6	9.3	43.9	13.8
46 + hours	11.9	4.0	8.2	10.2	11.9	8.7	11.2	11.9	7.8	5.0	15.0	9.0	20.8
	<b>Males %</b>												
Employees	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 hours	5.0	2.0	7.0	4.0	2.1	3.3	7.4	4.6	3.0	3.9	7.5	3.8	7.0
1 to 35 hours	10.4	5.3	19.7	2.6	26.0	19.1	6.9	22.4	5.9	4.7	19.6	8.5	18.6
36 to 39 hours	24.8	57.8	52.1	21.1	14.5	5.1	47.1	5.9	20.6	(1.4)	24.9	10.3	19.5
40 hours	34.4	27.5	5.3	54.3	36.5	54.4	12.1	44.2	53.2	81.2	21.8	19.8	12.2
41 to 45 hours	10.7	2.4	5.9	6.0	6.8	8.6	12.2	7.6	7.6	2.8	9.5	47.4	15.7
46 + hours	14.6	5.0	10.1	12.1	14.0	9.5	14.2	15.4	9.7	5.0	16.7	10.1	26.9
	<b>Females %</b>												
Employees	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0 hours	7.0	2.8	10.5	4.6	4.2	3.6	11.6	7.1	4.3	4.2	7.5	4.0	9.2
1 to 35 hours	17.8	14.8	24.0	4.6	32.4	24.0	11.6	34.1	19.7	13.4	24.4	16.9	33.4
36 to 39 hours	30.3	60.8	52.2	18.9	16.0	8.1	53.5	7.9	26.0	(2.5)	27.7	17.1	29.3
40 hours	31.3	18.8	4.5	61.4	33.4	50.7	9.6	40.5	41.9	75.1	23.3	16.8	10.4
41 to 45 hours	7.6	1.3	3.9	4.4	6.9	7.1	7.5	4.8	4.3	(1.9)	8.4	38.0	9.9
46 + hours	6.1	1.6	4.8	6.1	7.1	6.5	6.3	5.6	3.8	(2.7)	8.7	7.2	7.9

There is considerable variation across countries in relation to the distribution by working time. In Denmark, for example, it will be noted that only 6% of paid employees were indicated to have worked exactly 40 hours per week because the standard working week is lower in that country (81% of paid employees in Denmark worked between 36 and 39 hours). In the United Kingdom only some 14% of paid employees usually worked 40 hours per week, but this is because in that country there is a more widely spread pattern of working times, embracing both short and long durations. It will be noted, for example, that in the United Kingdom almost 27% of paid employees worked more than 45 hours per week, which is more than twice the overall Community average.

Table 5.7 contains a classification of actual hours worked for full-time paid employees according to duration categories. In this context it is necessary to have an additional category relating to 'zero' hours and the relevant figures show that in 1987 some 5.5% of full-time paid employees with a job did not work at all in the survey reference week (for reasons of illness, holidays, etc.). With this type of concept (i.e. as distinct from usual working hours) it is only to be expected that one would find relatively smaller numbers working what one might describe as 'standard hours'. At overall Community level it will be noted that some 33% of paid employees actually worked 40 hours in the reference week, compared with

nearly 40% when formulated on the basis of usual working time.

The full range of tabulations included in the Community labour force survey report under the heading of working time involves various cross-classifications under the headings described in the preceding paragraphs. The full list of these tables is as follows:

*Tables relating to working time*

- 47 Persons in employment — average hours usually worked per week by sector of activity (hours)
- 48 Persons in employment — average hours actually worked during the reference week by sector of activity (hours)
- 49 Persons in full-time employment — groups of hours usually worked per week (%)
- 50 Persons in full-time employment — groups of hours actually worked during the reference week (%)
- 51 Persons in part-time employment — groups of hours usually worked per week (%)
- 52 Persons in part-time employment — groups of hours actually worked during the reference week (%)
- 53 Persons in full-time/part-time employment — differences between usual and actual hours (1 000)
- 54 Employees — average hours usually worked per week by economic activity (hours)

- 55 Employees working full-time – average hours usually worked per week by economic activity (hours)  
 56 Employees working part-time – average hours usually worked per week by economic activity (hours)  
 57 Employees in industry working full-time – groups of hours usually worked per week by economic activity (%)  
 58 Employees in services working full-time – groups of hours usually worked per week by economic activity (%)  
 59 Employees in industry and services working part-time – groups of hours usually worked per week (%)  
 60 Persons working full-time – detailed groups of hours actually worked during the reference week (%)

- 61 Employees working full-time – detailed groups of hours actually worked during the reference week (%)

### Unemployment and search for work

The final section of the annual Community labour force survey report is concerned with unemployment and search for work. Clearly analyses relating to search for work are important in the context of the unemployed but it should be noted that some of these tabulations extend further in the sense that they present information on those who are in employment but who are seeking work (in the form of an additional or alternative job). Thus, in effect, the assessment covers the phenomenon of job search in the context of the labour force as a whole.

Table 5.8(a)

### Principal characteristics of the unemployed and other persons seeking employment — 1987

	EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
	<b>Persons (1 000)</b>												
Unemployed persons	15 144	441	171	1 943	286	2 941	2 574	239	2 473	4	649	350	3 073
Seeking after loss/leaving job	7 049	293	128	1 333	122	1 392	1 548	151	241	2	96	112	1 631
Seeking first job	3 958	77	7	142	124	1 105	337	39	1 525	(1)	157	109	335
Seeking work after inactivity	4 050	70	36	458	41	444	643	48	689	(1)	392	128	1 101
Not stated on group	87	.	—	10	—	—	47	.	19	.	(3)	.	(6)
Persons with job seeking another	6 302	113	192	623	94	511	1 325	68	938	3	660	170	1 607

Table 5.8(b)

### Principal characteristics of the unemployed and other persons seeking employment — 1987

	EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
	<b>%</b>												
Unemployed persons	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Seeking after loss/leaving job	46.5	66.6	75.0	68.6	42.6	47.3	60.1	63.1	9.7	44.1	14.9	31.9	53.1
Seeking first job	26.1	17.5	4.2	7.3	43.1	37.6	13.1	16.2	61.7	(26.1)	24.3	31.3	10.9
Seeking work after inactivity	26.7	15.9	20.8	23.6	14.3	15.1	25.0	20.1	27.8	(27.4)	60.4	36.6	35.8
Not stated on group	0.6	.	—	0.5	—	—	1.8	.	0.8	.	(0.4)	.	(0.1)

Basic information on these aspects is given in Tables 5.8 (a) and 5.8 (b). The tables show that of the 15.1 million persons who were classified as unemployed in 1987, some 7 million (nearly 47%) were seeking work, having lost or left a previous job, almost 4 million (just over a quarter) were seeking their first job after leaving the educational system, while just over 4 million (27%) were looking for a job after a period outside the labour force. The majority in the last group were women.

The emphasis with regard to the three abovementioned groups varies significantly between countries. The figures show a preponderance of first job seekers among the unemployed in Italy, Greece and Spain (62, 43 and 38% respectively) while in Denmark and Germany less than 10% of the totality of unemployed fell into this category.

Table 5.8 (a) also shows that at overall Community level there were in 1987 6.3 million persons in employment who were seeking additional or alternative jobs. This figure represents 5% of the total number of persons at work in that year.

Apart from what might be regarded as standard categorizations such as those relating to sex or age, this section of the Community labour force survey report contains classifications of unemployment and work search in terms of (a) the relationship of the respondent to the head of the household in which he/she is resident; (b) duration of work search; and (c) the principal methods used in carrying out this search. Tables 5.9 to 5.11 provide an illustration of the information available under each of these headings.

Table 5.9

## Unemployed by relationship to head of household — 1987

	EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
<b>% Males and females</b>													
Unemployed persons	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Head of household	34.2	34.0	81.0	52.6	24.4	22.1	36.7	41.9	14.7	(28.9)	40.9	18.6	45.6
Spouse of head of household	21.7	39.3	12.5	23.2	20.3	12.7	30.8	16.8	19.3	(19.2)	21.6	21.4	22.4
Child of head of household	39.3	21.4	6.4	19.2	52.0	59.3	28.3	36.9	63.8	(37.5)	31.5	51.8	26.0
Others	4.8	5.3	—	5.0	3.2	5.9	4.1	4.4	2.2	(14.2)	5.9	8.2	6.0

Table 5.10

## Detailed duration of search for unemployed job-seekers — 1987

	EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
<b>% Males and females</b>													
Unemployed persons	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 1 month	4.5	2.3	14.7	5.9	6.0	0.5	4.4	3.3	2.7	.	5.4	1.4	9.7
1 to 2 months	10.0	3.5	13.2	12.9	8.9	10.1	10.8	5.4	2.5	.	17.1	11.5	13.5
3 to 5 months	12.7	6.9	19.9	17.1	16.0	10.2	14.8	8.8	9.2	(17.5)	13.0	14.4	14.1
6 to 11 months	17.3	12.7	22.7	16.0	23.3	13.5	20.5	16.4	19.3	(24.1)	18.8	16.1	17.6
12 to 17 months	12.3	10.4	10.5	9.6	16.6	13.6	11.0	14.4	17.0	.	12.1	14.7	9.4
18 to 23 months	6.3	7.5	6.4	7.6	8.8	4.3	8.6	4.7	7.1	.	3.9	6.7	5.3
24 months or more	36.8	56.7	12.6	31.0	20.4	47.8	29.8	47.0	42.2	(15.6)	29.6	35.3	30.5
6 months or more	72.7	87.3	52.2	64.2	69.1	79.2	70.0	82.4	85.6	58.4	64.4	72.8	62.8
12 months or more	55.4	74.6	29.5	48.1	45.8	65.7	49.4	66.1	66.3	(34.2)	45.7	56.7	45.2
24 months or more	36.8	56.7	12.6	31.0	20.4	47.8	29.8	47.0	42.2	(15.6)	29.6	35.3	30.5

The analyses relating to internal household relationships (Table 5.9) show that in 1987, of the totality of the unemployed in the Community over a third were actually household heads, some 20% were spouses of household heads while a further 40% were offspring (of any age) of the heads of households.

Table 5.10 shows a percentage distribution of the unemployed according to duration of search for work.<sup>1</sup> The most notable feature of this information is the high incidence of long-term unemployment. Well over a half (some 55%) of the total unemployed were seeking work for a year or more while some 37% had been looking for more than two years. The pattern of long-term unemployment varies substantially between countries. The proportion seeking work for a year or more was in excess of 60% in Italy, Spain, Belgium and Ireland, but just under 30% in Denmark.

Finally, Table 5.11 shows a classification of the unemployed according to the main means used to find work. The figures show that throughout the Community almost 20% of the group in question were seeking work solely via official employment exchanges while over 60% utilized both official employment offices and other private

means. Just less than 20% used private or non-official methods only. Among those who utilized non-official means the most frequently mentioned approach was through the medium of the press, newspapers, etc., even though informal methods such as 'direct contact with employers' and 'personal contacts' are also shown to be of significance.

The full range of tabulations included in the Community labour force survey report relating to unemployment and search for work is as follows:

*Tables relating to unemployment and search for work*

- 62 Principal characteristics of the unemployed and other persons seeking employment (1 000)
- 63 Principal characteristics of the unemployed and other persons seeking employment (%)
- 64 Principal characteristics of young unemployed and other young persons seeking employment — 14 to 24 years (1 000)
- 65 Principal characteristics of young unemployed and other young persons seeking employment — 14 to 24 years (%)
- 66 Unemployed by relationship to head of household (1 000)
- 67 Unemployed by relationship to head of household (%)
- 68 Detailed duration of search for unemployed job-seekers (1 000)

<sup>1</sup> This table, it should be noted, relates only to those for whom the notion of search duration is actually relevant, i.e. it does not include those on lay-off or those with a job already found but not yet taken up. Neither does it include those for whom the relevant information was not obtained.

Table 5.11

## Unemployed seeking paid employment by method of job search — 1987

	EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
	% Males and females												
Seeking paid employment	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Only registered at exchange	18.2	13.5	9.2	49.5	.	.	21.2	4.0	44.4	.	1.4	4.2	1.6
Both registered and other method	63.0	81.3	67.5	38.4	13.0	85.1	68.5	68.4	46.8	55.3	58.2	27.1	71.3
Private employment office	11.8	5.1	—	9.2	.	0.3	15.4	20.5	1.7	.	13.1	.	33.8
Direct contact with employers	10.2	31.9	32.0	5.8	7.6	—	18.2	12.7	22.7	.	3.8	4.9	4.7
Through the press	19.1	33.2	32.0	19.6	(1.2)	17.2	30.2	22.4	1.1	(39.0)	32.6	(0.8)	24.2
Asked friends, relatives, etc.	11.3	8.1	(2.1)	2.1	2.7	32.8	3.8	12.7	9.8	.	1.4	7.8	6.8
Other methods	10.5	2.9	.	1.7	(1.0)	34.8	0.9	.	11.4	.	7.3	13.3	1.8
Only other method	18.9	5.3	23.5	12.1	86.6	14.9	10.3	27.6	8.9	(41.8)	40.3	68.7	27.1
Private employment office	2.3	.	.	3.6	.	.	0.6	5.6	(0.1)	—	4.6	.	6.8
Direct contact with employers	3.7	1.4	11.4	1.5	47.9	—	3.3	4.4	4.6	.	5.8	14.4	2.7
Through the press	6.5	2.7	7.8	5.0	10.7	4.0	4.2	12.3	(0.3)	(24.4)	22.5	3.9	13.9
Asked friends, relatives, etc.	4.6	(0.7)	(2.8)	0.8	19.9	10.1	2.1	5.2	2.0	.	4.6	22.0	2.6
Other methods	1.8	.	.	1.3	7.6	0.6	.	.	1.8	.	2.8	28.4	1.1

- 69 Detailed duration of search for unemployed job-seekers (%)
- 70 Duration of search for the main groups of unemployed job-seekers (1 000)
- 71 Duration of search for the main groups of unemployed job-seekers (%)
- 72 Duration of search for unemployed job-seekers by broad age groups (%)
- 73 Duration of search for unemployed job-seekers by relationship to head of household (%)
- 74 Unemployed having lost/left job as employee due to economic reasons by previous economic activity (1 000)
- 75 Unemployed seeking or having found job to start later by type of employment sought (1 000)
- 76 Unemployed seeking or having found job to start later by type of employment sought (%)
- 77 Unemployed seeking or having found job to start later by broad age groups and type of employment sought (1 000)
- 78 Unemployed seeking or having found job to start later by broad age groups and type of employment sought (%)
- 79 Unemployed seeking paid employment by method of job search (1 000)
- 80 Unemployed seeking paid employment by method of job search (%)
- 81 Persons having a job and seeking another by broad age groups and reasons (1 000)
- 82 Persons having a job and seeking another by broad age groups and reasons (%)

#### Other sources through which the Community labour force survey results are made available

As has already been mentioned, there are sources, other than the comprehensive annual report, through which information from the Community labour force is made available. These are more general purpose Commission reports, such as those relating to social indicators and

regional statistics and the regional statistics databank (Regio).

The first of the abovementioned sources (i. e. that relating to social indicators) does not contain any new information that is not otherwise available from the annual report; no further reference will therefore be made to this source. The information on regions is however additional or extra and it is appropriate to describe it. This illustration will be confined to the material in the databank and this is the most detailed available, and regional information issued elsewhere would be based on this.

#### The Eurostat regional databank

This source involves three levels of regional disaggregation, even though the labour market data derived from the labour force survey is shown only up to the second level. The actual levels are as follows:

NUTS<sup>1</sup> I (Level I): European Community regions (RCE), 66 in number;

NUTS II (Level II): Basic administrative units (UAB), 176 in number;

NUTS III (Level III): Subdivisions of basic administrative units (SUAB), 828 in number.

Ireland, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and Denmark are taken as entire territorial units at Levels I and II. The databank also contains information which is shown only at the level of countries (i. e. national); this is described as 'NUTS 0'. The full list of Level I and Level II regions for all the countries of the Community is given in Appendix E.

The series of tabulations taken from the Community labour force survey included in the regional databank are as follows:

<sup>1</sup> NUTS = Nomenclature des unités territoriales statistiques.

1. Population by age and sex (EFDT2POP) with the following dimensions:

Regions: NUTS 0, 1, 2;

Sex: Total/Females;

Age: Total/< 14/14 to 24/25 to 34/ 35 to 44/ 45 to 54/ 55 to 64/ 65 + ;

Years: 1977/1979/1981/1983/1984/1985/1986/1987;

2. Economically active population by age and sex (EFDT 2ACTIV), dimensions as in 1;

3. Persons in employment by sex, status and sector (EFDT2EMPL) with the following dimensions:

Regions: NUTS 0, 1, 2;

Sex: Total/Females;

Status: Total, of which part-time;

Sectors: Total, agriculture, industry, services;

Years: 1979/1981/1983/1984/1985/1986/1987

#### **Special or *ad hoc* tabulations of Community labour force survey data**

Apart from the pre-specified information contained in published reports and in other sources such as data-

banks, a great deal of additional information is potentially available on the basic Community labour force survey computer files. In fact, given the diversity of characteristics covered, there is virtually no limit to the sequence of tabulations possible. However, the utility or the economic or social relevance of such additional tabulations would vary greatly depending on the aspects involved and the type of formulation extracted. Special tabulations of the Community labour force survey data have in fact been used extensively in a number of special studies carried out by Eurostat over the years, such as the report on multiple job holders (1982) and the study on long-term unemployment and its wider labour market effects (1988) (see References).

A large volume of additional cross-classifications are compiled for the use of different Commission Directorates-General as an aid to the process of policy formulation and monitoring. Information is also made available to commercial, social and research interests throughout the Community, even though the latter service is subject to the constraints imposed by the availability of resources.



## Chapter VI

### The potential for assessing labour market issues in a wider social context

So far the labour market information described has been what one might term as 'conventional' in nature. The preceding chapters have been concerned with describing how the labour force survey can be used to provide information on the work-force as perceived in standard terms, i. e. comprising the employed and the unemployed. However, recent developments in the labour market and in society generally suggest that labour force related issues need to be considered in a much wider social context. The severity and persistence of the economic difficulties which have beset all countries over the last 10 years have resulted in large numbers being forced out of the labour force while others have been pushed to a state of peripheral attachment to the extent that the boundary between what has traditionally been termed the 'active' and the 'inactive' populations has become increasingly blurred. As a result there has in recent years been a growing interest in analysing the so-called 'marginalized' groups. The labour force survey, because of the facility which it affords to define and classify individuals in terms of their current circumstances, provides a unique opportunity to gain useful insights into such phenomena.

A further point of interest in this regard is that since the labour force survey is 'household-based' it is possible to carry out analyses in a wider 'family-type' context – for example by identifying the numbers in households (spouses, offspring, etc.) indirectly affected by the circumstances of unemployment.

Some of the issues referred to above have, in fact, already been touched on – for example the information provided from the labour force survey on long-term unemployment and on the extent of part-time work. In this chapter two further aspects associated with the notion of 'marginalization' will be considered – 'discouraged workers' and 'underemployment'. It should be noted, however, that these aspects have not as yet been precisely defined in the context of the Community labour force survey even though such an extension of the survey's capabilities is being considered. Thus, the content of this chapter should only be taken as indicative of the potential value of the Community labour force survey in providing information on the issues in question.

#### Discouraged workers

Basically this term is normally meant to refer to those persons who are available for work and want a job, but are not looking, because it is considered that job search would be futile (either because no jobs are available, or because the person has not the required skills, education,

qualifications, etc., which are necessary to procure one). In such circumstances labour force survey respondents would tend to reply negatively to the question on seeking work, thus resulting in their exclusion from the labour force as defined in the survey context. While there is no defined concept of 'discouragement' in the Community labour force survey, in the context of ascertaining reasons why work is not being sought the particular option 'belief that work is not available or lack of knowledge of where to get work'

is addressed to the respondent. Even though this simple criterion, as addressed to those outside the labour force, does not constitute a precisely conceived definition of the phenomenon in question it can be used to provide some broad illustrations of the extent of discouragement in Community countries.

Table 6.1 **Discouraged workers in 10 Member States — 1987**

Member State	Males	Females	Total
	(1 000)		
Belgium	17.0	14.7	31.7
Denmark	3.9	6.1	9.9
Greece	1.2	4.2	5.4
Spain	19.8	95.6	115.4
Ireland	4.1	7.3	11.4
Italy	155.6	532.2	687.8
Luxembourg	0.1	0.1	0.2
The Netherlands	16.1	42.4	58.5
Portugal	9.0	21.9	30.9
United Kingdom	131.8	88.1	219.8
Total	358.6	812.5	1171.1

Source: Community labour force survey, 1987.

Note: Data are not available for France and Germany.

On the basis of this simple definition, Table 6.1 shows that in those countries for which this information is available from the 1987 survey the number of discouraged workers was of the order of 1.2 million. The numbers for individual countries extended from very small figures in Greece and Luxemburg to about 10 000 in Ireland and Denmark, up to 115 000 in Spain, almost double that amount in the United Kingdom, and almost 700 000 in Italy. On the basis of these figures one might perhaps extend the estimation procedure to suggest that in the

Table 6.2 **Economically inactive persons who lost their most recent job involuntarily, classified by principal economic status — 1987**

Member State	Student	Retired	Permanently ill	Other	Total
(1 000)					
Belgium	0.8	49.7	2.4	16.9	69.8
Denmark	27.7	11.8	5.4	19.4	64.2
FR of Germany	15.5	197.3	22.8	110.0	345.5
Greece	2.0	3.1	0.2	21.2	26.5
Spain	22.1	66.2	3.9	182.3	274.5
France	22.6	231.7	.	139.3	393.6
Ireland	1.4	1.1	0.5	8.8	11.8
Italy	48.2	87.2	4.2	154.6	294.2
Luxembourg	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.4	1.5
The Netherlands	12.0	64.1	2.3	44.2	122.5
Portugal	6.7	1.3	0.5	36.9	45.3
United Kingdom	27.7	142.2	58.3	280.9	509.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>186.6</b>	<b>856.6</b>	<b>100.6</b>	<b>1 014.8</b>	<b>2 158.7</b>

Source: Community labour force survey, 1987.

Note 1: This table applies only to those jobs which terminated within a period of three years prior to the survey date.

Note 2: Persons were considered to have left their job involuntarily if they had been dismissed or made redundant, if a job of limited duration had ended or if they were obliged to take early retirement for economic reasons.

Community as a whole the total number of discouraged workers is probably around 1.5 million.

It should be noted that there are criteria other than those cited above which may be of relevance in defining or

conceptualizing discouragement. One could, for example, view the problem in terms of those economically inactive persons (i. e. those outside the labour force) who have suffered involuntary job loss. Table 6.2 provides estimates from the 1987 Community labour force survey of the numbers of inactive involuntary job-losers classified by principal economic status. The figures refer only to those persons whose jobs had terminated within a period of three years prior to the survey date. Persons were considered to have left their jobs involuntarily if they had been dismissed or made redundant, if a job of limited duration had ended, or if they were obliged to take early retirement for economic reasons. In aggregate Community terms the total number was quite substantial – more than 2 million. However, the availability for work of many of those involved appears to be questionable since the status categories given in the table indicate that no less than 856 000 inactive involuntary job-losers recorded themselves as 'retired', 187 000 were in full-time education and 100 000 were classified as 'permanently ill'. This leaves a Community total of just over 1 million job-losers who were classified to the residual 'other status' category, of which a significant majority (700 000 or 69%) were females. It is possible that a significant proportion of the females in question may, in fact, have been precluded from engaging in employment because of domestic or family responsibilities; however, it is not possible to provide an indication of this as the status classification used in the Community labour force survey does not involve a specific category intended to cover such activities.

### Underemployment

The ILO labour market concepts formulated in 1982 (see References) define what it termed 'visible underemployment' as comprising all persons in employment involun-

Table 6.3 **Estimates of underemployment in 1987 (i.e. persons working part-time who could not find full-time employment)**

Persons working part-time involuntarily	Males	Females	Total	Total as proportion	Total as proportion
	(1 000)	(1 000)	(1 000)	of total employment	of total unemployment
				%	%
Belgium	20.0	88.7	108.7	3.1	24.6
Denmark	8.5	49.0	57.5	2.2	33.6
FR of Germany	32.5	195.3	227.8	0.9	13.6
Greece	27.2	21.6	48.7	1.4	17.0
Spain	60.6	146.4	207.0	1.8	7.0
Ireland	12.2	13.0	25.2	2.3	10.5
Italy	207.5	234.1	441.6	2.1	17.9
Luxembourg	0.1	0.9	1.0	0.6	25.0
The Netherlands	73.8	275.7	349.5	6.0	53.9
Portugal	22.9	59.8	82.7	1.9	23.6
United Kingdom	209.4	344.8	554.2	2.2	18.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>674.7</b>	<b>1 429.2</b>	<b>2 103.9</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>13.9</b>

Note: Information on the aspects in question is not available for France.

tarily working less than the normal duration of work appropriate to the activity, who were seeking or are available for additional work during the reference period.

In the context of obtaining information on reasons for part-time working, the Community labour force survey contains a question designed to determine whether such

part-time work is being engaged in because a full-time job could not be found. Table 6.3 contains information from the Community labour force survey on this aspect. It will be noted that the concept used does not involve the criteria of job search or availability and, as such, does not meet all of the provisions of the ILO definition. However, the data, despite this deficiency, can be taken as indicating broad orders of magnitude.

The figures show that throughout the Community in 1987 (France excluded) 2.1 million persons were in 'involuntary' part-time employment, comprising some 1.7% of the total number at work. A notable feature of these figures is that when they are expressed in terms of total employment the derived ratios do not vary very much from country to country, except for the Netherlands and, to a lesser extent, Belgium.

The phenomenon in question can, however, be regarded as an intermediate state between employment and unemployment and it is, therefore, also meaningful to compare the derived levels in relation to unemployment totals. These ratios (which are given in the final row of the table) are, of course, much higher than those related to employment, the Community proportion amounting to some 14%, while among the various countries the ratios vary from as low as 7% for Spain to almost 54% in the case of the Netherlands.

#### The household dimension in a labour market context

Since the labour force survey is based on a sample of private households and their constituent members, the survey data can be used to analyse employment and

unemployment in a broader household or family context. Table 6.4, for example, provides information on the degree of concentration of unemployment with respect to households. These estimates show that for the Community in 1987, some 13% of unemployed individuals resided in households in which there was at least one other unemployed person. This proportion varied from as low as 2% in Denmark to as high as 22% in Spain, even though it should be remembered that differences in average household size can influence these results.

Analysing the labour force survey data in a wider household perspective also allows one to assess the extent of the impact of unemployment on those indirectly affected. Table 6.5 shows a classification of the 1987 Community population in private households according to the manner in which these households were associated with the labour market. These estimates show that in the Community in 1987, nearly 46 million persons (14.4% of the entire population) were resident in households in which there was at least one unemployed person. This is, of course, a significantly higher figure than that relating to those who were directly unemployed, who numbered some 15.1 million at that time. Some 216 million persons throughout the Community (nearly 68%) were in households in which there was at least one person at work (and none unemployed) while about 56.6 million (18% of the total population) were resident in households in which no member was active in the labour force.

Table 6.4 **The unemployed classified by the total number of unemployed in the households in which they reside — 1987**

Member State	Total unemployed in household			Total
	1	2	3+	
	%			
Belgium	92.6	6.8	0.6	100.0
Denmark	98.2	1.8	0.0	100.0
FR of Germany	93.4	6.1	0.6	100.0
Greece	89.9	9.1	1.0	100.0
Spain	77.8	17.2	5.0	100.0
France	89.0	9.6	1.5	100.0
Ireland	81.1	15.2	3.8	100.0
Italy	84.8	12.8	2.5	100.0
Luxembourg	93.9	5.3	0.8	100.0
The Netherlands	91.8	7.9	0.3	100.0
Portugal	86.5	11.3	2.2	100.0
United Kingdom	88.8	10.0	1.2	100.0
EUR 12	87.1	10.9	2.0	100.0

Source: Community labour force survey, 1987.

Table 6.5 **The population in private households in 1987 classified by the manner in which the household is associated with the labour market**

Member State	Type of household			Total
	At least one person at work, none unemployed	At least one person unemployed	No one in labour force	
	Persons (1 000)			
Belgium	6 261.0	1 296.2	2 212.2	9 769.3
Denmark	3 623.9	331.5	1 137.2	5 092.6
FR of Germany	43 216.0	4 893.3	12 483.0	60 592.3
Greece	7 223.3	917.2	1 574.0	9 714.5
Spain	23 337.9	9 925.1	4 537.2	37 800.2
France	36 570.3	7 778.5	9 828.4	54 177.2
Ireland	2 249.9	838.4	406.8	3 495.1
Italy	38 718.9	7 864.8	9 743.1	56 326.8
Luxembourg	289.4	12.5	60.4	362.3
The Netherlands	9 957.2	1 827.9	2 596.0	14 381.0
Portugal	7 647.6	1 298.4	1 268.4	10 214.4
United Kingdom	37 034.9	8 855.9	10 756.4	56 647.2
EUR 12	216 130.0	45 839.5	56 603.1	318 573.0

Source: Community labour force survey, 1987.

## References

Eurostat. *Multiple job holders. An analysis of second jobs in the European Community*. Luxembourg, 1982.

Eurostat. *Long-term unemployment and its wider labour market effects in the European Community*. Luxembourg, 1988.

Eurostat. *Labour force sample survey – Methods and definitions*. Luxembourg, 1988.

International Labour Organization. Thirteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Resolution concerning statistics on the economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment. Geneva, 1982.

**COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 3621/87**

**of 1 December 1987 on the organization of a labour force sample survey in the spring of 1988**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 213 thereof,

Having regard to the draft Regulation submitted by the Commission,

Whereas in order to carry out the tasks which are assigned to it by the Treaty, and in particular by Articles 2, 92, 117, 118, 122 and 123 thereof, the Commission must be acquainted with the situation and developments in employment and unemployment;

Whereas the statistical information available in each of the Member States does not provide a suitable basis for comparison, particularly because of the differences between the laws, rules and administrative practices of the Member States on which those statistics are based;

Whereas the best method of ascertaining the level and the structure of employment and unemployment consists in carrying out a harmonized and synchronized Community labour force sample survey, as has been done regularly in the past;

Whereas in a period of continuing and increasing difficulties on the labour market and of structural changes in the employment sector, fully up-to-date information must be made available;

Whereas only the repetition in 1988 of the survey carried out in 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986 and 1987 will enable this information to be obtained,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

In the spring of 1988 the Statistical Office of the European Communities shall conduct a labour force sample survey for the Commission based on a sample of households in each of the Member States.

*Article 1*

The survey shall be carried out in each of the Member States in a sample of households having their residence in the territory of those States at the time of the survey. The Member States shall take measures to prevent double counting of persons with more than one residence.

The information shall be collected for each member of the households included in the sample. In cases where one member of a household provides information for other members, this shall be clearly indicated.

*Article 3*

The sample shall comprise between 60 000 and 100 000 households in Germany, France, Italy, the United Kingdom and Spain, between 30 000 and 50 000 in Belgium, the Netherlands, Ireland, Greece and Portugal, between 15 000 and 30 000 in Denmark and approximately 10 000 in Luxembourg.

*Article 4*

The survey shall cover:

- (a) the individual characteristics of all members of the household questioned, namely: sex, age, marital status, nationality, type of household in which the person is living and surveyed, type of family relationship within the household. The members of one household shall be identified by a joint serial number and a code designating the State and region in which the household is questioned;
- (b) situation with regard to economic activity of these persons at the time of the survey and characteristics of their work as follows: occupation, status, economic activity, number of hours usually and actually worked and reasons for any difference between the two; full or part-time work, permanent or temporary work and any paid second job;
- (c) attempts to find work with, in particular, the following information: the type and extent of the work sought, the conditions and reasons, methods and length of time spent seeking work, whether unemployment benefit or aid is being received, the situation directly preceding the start of the search for work and the availability for work or the reasons for not being available;

- (d) the highest level of education or training completed: the type and purpose of educational and training courses in which persons aged from 14 to 49 have recently taken part;
- (e) work experience of persons of working age without work, including the characteristics of the last job and the time of, and reasons for, its coming to an end;
- (f) the situation of the members of the household one year before the present survey, including: country and region of residence, position with regard to economic activity and, if employed, economic activity and occupational status of the job held.

*Article 5*

The information shall be gathered by the statistical services of the Member States on the basis of the list of questions drawn up by the Commission in cooperation with the competent services of the Member States.

The Commission shall determine, in collaboration with the Member States, the details of the survey, in particular the starting and closing dates and the deadlines for transmission of the results. The statistical services of the Member States shall ensure the representative nature of the sample according to practice in the Member States, which may, in certain cases, make the provision of replies compulsory. They shall also ensure that at least a quarter of the survey units are taken from the 1987 survey and that a proportion of at least a quarter may form part of a subsequent survey. These two groups shall be identified by a code.

*Article 6*

The Member States shall endeavour to ensure that the information requested is furnished truthfully and in its

entirety within the period specified. They shall ensure that the survey provides a reliable foundation for a comparative analysis at Community level as well as at the level of the Member States and certain regions. The statistical services of the Member States shall forward to the Statistical Office of the European Communities the results of the survey, duly checked, for each person questioned, without any indication of name or address.

*Article 7*

Items of information relating to individuals provided in the context of the survey may be used for statistical purposes only. They may not be used for fiscal or other purposes and may not be communicated to third parties.

The Member States and the Commission shall take the requisite steps to penalize any infringement of the obligation under the first paragraph to preserve the confidentiality of the information gathered.

*Article 8*

The Member States shall receive a contribution towards the conduct of the survey. The amount of the contribution shall be set off against the appropriations provided for this purpose in the budget of the European Communities.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 1 December 1987.

*For the Council*  
*The President*  
*H. DYREMOSE*

## Appendix B List of aspects on which information is sought in the Community labour force survey

The column numbers identify each item's position on the computer record.

Column	Description
<b>1-14</b>	<b>Technical items relating to the interview</b>
1/2	Year of survey
3/4	Reference week
5/6	Country
7/8	Region
9/14	Serial number of household
<b>15-24</b>	<b>Demographic background</b>
15	Type of household in which person lives
16	Type of institution
17	Relationship to head of household
18	Sex
19/20	Year of birth
21	Date of birth within the year
22	Marital status
23/24	Nationality (citizen of)
<b>25-26</b>	<b>Work status</b>
25	Work status in reference week
26	Reason for not having worked at all though having a job
<b>27-41</b>	<b>Employment characteristics of person in employment</b>
27	Existence of more than one job or business
28/29	Number of hours per week usually worked in first job or business
30/31	Number of hours actually worked during the reference week in first job or business
32/33	Main reason for hours actually worked during the reference week in first job being different from the person's usual hours
34	Professional status in first job
35/36	Economic activity (NACE classification) of the establishment in which person has first job
37/38	Occupation of first job
39	Full-time/part-time distinction in first job
40	Permanency of first job
41	Looking for another job and reasons for doing so
<b>42-48</b>	<b>Previous work experience for person not in employment</b>
42	Previous work experience and period since having been in last employment
43	Main reason for leaving last job or business for person having worked less than three years ago but with no job during the reference week <i>Details of last job or business</i>
44	Professional status
45/46	Economic activity (NACE classification) of the establishment
47/48	Occupation

Column	Description
<b>49-55</b>	<b>Seeking employment</b>
49	Seeking employment for person without employment during the reference week
50	Type of employment sought
51	Situation immediately before person started to seek employment
52	Duration of seeking employment
53	Availability for work
54	Registration at an official employment exchange
55	Main method employed during previous four weeks to find a job other than being registered at an official employment exchange
<b>56</b>	<b>Situation of the inactive</b>
56	Situation of person who neither has a job nor is looking for one
<b>57-58</b>	<b>Education and training</b>
57	Education and training during previous four weeks
58	Purpose of the training being received during previous four weeks
<b>59-66</b>	<b>Situation one year before survey</b>
59	Situation with regard to activity one year before survey
60	Professional status one year before survey
61/62	Economic activity (NACE classification) of the establishment in which person was working one year before survey
63/64	Country of residence one year before survey
65/66	Region of residence one year before survey (within each country)
<b>67-75</b>	<b>Technical items relating to the interview (2)</b>
67	Participation in the survey
68/73	Weighting factor for each record
74	Sub-sample—preceding survey
75	Sub-sample—next survey
<b>76-77</b>	<b>From 1988 survey onwards:</b>
76	Highest level of education or training completed
77	Highest level of education or training attended but not completed

**Appendix C The detailed categories specified for each aspect on which information is sought in the Community labour force survey**

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
		<b>TECHNICAL ITEMS RELATING TO THE INTERVIEW</b>	
1/2		<i>Year of survey</i>	F: Everybody
	88	For survey held in 1988	
3/4		<i>Reference week</i>	F: Everybody
	05	Number of the week going from Monday to Sunday (except for Italy where the week goes from Sunday to Saturday)	
	30	For survey held in 1988 week No 05 is week going from Monday 25 January to Sunday 31 January (for Italy from Sunday 24 January to Saturday 30 January)	
5/6		<i>Country</i>	F: Everybody
	01	FR of Germany	
	02	France	
	03	Italy	
	04	The Netherlands	
	05	Belgium	
	06	Luxembourg	
	07	United Kingdom	
	08	Ireland	
	09	Denmark	
	10	Greece	
	11	Portugal	
	12	Spain	
7/8		<i>Region</i>	F: Everybody
		For coding, see Appendix E	
9/14		<i>Serial number of household</i>	F: Everybody
		Household serial numbers are allocated by the national statistical institutes	
		Records relating to different members of the same household carry the same serial number	

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
15		<b>DEMOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND</b> <i>Type of household in which person lives</i>	F: Everybody
	1	Person living in private household (or permanently in a hotel)	
	2	Person living in an institution and surveyed there	
	3	Person living in an institution and included by means of private household	
	4	Person living in another private household on the territory of the member country and included by means of household of origin	
	5	Person living outside the territory of the member country	
16		<i>Type of institution</i>	F: Col. 15 = 2, 3
	1	Educational institution	
	2	Hospital	
	3	Other welfare institution	
	4	Religious institution (not included in 1-3)	
	5	Workers' hostel, working quarters at building sites, student hostel, university accommodation, etc.	
	6	Military establishment	
	7	Other (e.g. prison)	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 15 = 1, 4, 5)	
	blank	No answer	
17		<i>Relationship to head of household</i>	F: Col. 15 = 1, 3-5
	1	Head of household	
	2	Spouse of head of household	
	3	Child of head of household (or his/her spouse)	
	4	Ascendant of head of household (or his/her spouse)	
	5	Other relative	
	6	Other	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 15 = 2)	No blanks allowed
18		Sex	F: Everybody
	1	Male	
	2	Female	No blanks allowed
19/20		<i>Year of birth</i>	F: Everybody
		The last two figures of year of birth are entered	
	89	Born in 1888 or earlier	No blanks allowed
21		<i>Date of birth within the year</i>	F: Everybody
	1	Person's birthday falls within the period between 1 January and the end of the reference week	
	2	Person's birthday falls within the period of the year following the end of the reference week	No blanks allowed

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
22		<i>Marital status</i>	F: Everybody
	1	Single	
	2	Married	
	3	Widowed	
	4	Divorced or legally separated	
	blank	No answer	
23/24		<i>Nationality (citizen of)</i>	F: Everybody
	01	FR of Germany	
	02	France	
	03	Italy	
	04	The Netherlands	
	05	Belgium	
	06	Luxembourg	
	07	United Kingdom (British subjects coming within the category 'free movement of labour')	
	08	Ireland	
	09	Denmark	
	10	Greece	
	11	Portugal	
	12	Spain	
	13	Norway	
	14	Turkey	
	15	Austria	
	16	Poland	
	17	Yugoslavia	
	18	Algeria	
	19	Morocco	
	20	Tunisia	
	21	Other and Stateless	
	22	Other British subjects	
	blank	No answer	

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
25		<b>WORK STATUS</b>	
		<i>Work status in reference week</i>	F: Everybody 14 years and older
	1	Person did any work for pay or profit during the reference week (one hour or more) (including family workers but excluding conscripts on compulsory military or community service)	
	2	Person was not working but had a job or business from which absent during the reference week (including family workers but excluding conscripts on compulsory military or community service)	
	3	Person was not working because he/she was on lay-off	
	4	Person was a conscript on compulsory military or community service	
	5	Other (14 years and older) who neither worked nor had a job or business during the reference week	
	9	Child less than 14 years old	No blanks allowed
	26		<i>Reason for not having worked at all though having a job</i>
		The reason for not having worked at all during the reference week was:	
0		Bad weather	
1		Slack work for technical or economic reasons	
2		Labour dispute	
3		School education or training	
4		Own illness, injury or temporary disability	
5		Maternity leave	
6		Holidays	
7		New job to start in the future	
8		Other reasons (e.g. personal or family responsibilities)	
9	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 1, 3-5, 9)		
	blank	No answer	
27		<b>EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS OF PERSON IN EMPLOYMENT</b>	
		<i>Existence of more than one job or business</i>	F: Col. 25 = 1, 2 and not Col. 26 = 7
	1	Person had only one job or business during the reference week	
	2	Person had more than one job or business during the reference week (not due to change in employer)	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 3-5, 9 or Col. 26 = 7)	
	blank	No answer	
28/29		<i>Number of hours per week usually worked in first job or business</i>	F: Col. 25 = 1, 2 and not Col. 26 = 7
	00	Usual hours cannot be given because hours worked vary considerably from week to week or month to month	Only for those who cannot give an average for the last four weeks
	01-98	Number of hours usually worked in the first job	
	99	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 3-5, 9 or Col. 26 = 7)	
	blank	No answer	

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
30/31		<i>Number of hours actually worked during the reference week in first job or business</i>	F: Col. 25 = 1, 2 and not Col. 26 = 7
	00	Person having a job or business and not having worked during the reference week (Col. 25 = 2 and not Col. 26 = 7)	
	01-98	Number of hours <i>actually</i> worked during the reference week	
	99	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 3-5, 9 or Col. 26 = 7)	
	blank	No answer	
32/33		<i>Main reason for hours actually worked during the reference week in first job being different from the person's usual hours</i>	F: Cols 28/29 = 00-98 and Cols 30/31 = 01-98 and Cols 28/29 NE Cols 30/31
		Person has worked <i>more</i> than usual due to:	Cols 30/31 > Cols 28/29 or Cols 28/29 = 00
	01	— variable hours (e.g. flexible working hours)	
	02	— other reasons	
		Person has worked <i>less</i> than usual due to:	Cols 30/31 < Cols 28/29 or Cols 28/29 = 00
	03	— bad weather	
	04	— slack work for technical or economic reasons	
	05	— labour dispute	
	06	— school education or training	
	07	— variable hours (e.g. flexible working hours)	
	08	— own illness, injury or temporary disability	
	09	— maternity leave	
	10	— special leave for personal or family reasons	
	11	— annual holidays	
	12	— bank holidays	
	13	— start of job/change in job during the reference week	
	14	— end of job without taking up a new one during the reference week	
	15	— other reasons	
	97	Person having worked usual hours during the reference week (Cols 30/31 = 01-98 and Cols 28/29 = 01-98 and Cols 30/31 = Cols 28/29)	
	98	Person whose hours vary considerably from week to week or month to month and who did not state a reason for a divergence between the actual and the usual hours (Cols 28/29 = 00, if not Cols 32/33 = 01-15)	
	99	Other not applicable (Cols 25 = 2-5, 9, Cols 28/29 = blank or Cols 30/31 = blank)	
	blank	No answer	

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
34		<i>Professional status in first job</i>	F: Col. 25 = 1, 2 and not Col. 26 = 7
	1	Self-employed with employees	
	2	Self-employed without employees	
	3	Employee	
	4	Family worker	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 3-5, 9 or Col. 26 = 7)	
	blank	No answer	
35/36		<i>Economic activity (NACE classification) of the establishment in which person has first job</i>	F: Col. 25 = 1, 2 and not Col. 26 = 7
	00-98 9A,9B	For coding, see Appendix D	
	99	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 3-5, 9 or Col. 26 = 7)	
	blank	No answer	
37/38		<i>Occupation of first job</i>	F: Col. 25 = 1, 2 and not Col. 26 = 7
39		<i>Full-time/part-time distinction in first job</i>	F: Col. 25 = 1, 2 and not Col. 26 = 7  Codes in order of priority
	1	The job is a full-time job The job is a part-time job which was taken because:	
	2	— person is undergoing school education or training	
	3	— of own illness or disability	
	4	— person could not find a full-time job	
	5	— person did not want a full-time job	
	6	— of other reasons	
	7	Person with a part-time job but giving no reason	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 3-5, 9 or Col. 26 = 7)	
	blank	No answer	

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks	
40		<i>Permanency of first job</i>	F: Col. 34 = 3	
	1	Person has a permanent job/work contract of unlimited duration	Codes in order of priority	
		Person has a temporary job/work contract of limited duration because:		
	2	— it is a contract covering a period of training (apprentices, trainees, research assistants, etc.)		
	3	— he could not find a permanent job		
		4	— he did not want a permanent job	For Luxembourg only
		5	Person with a temporary job/work contract of limited duration but giving no reason	
		6	Person has a temporary job/work contract of limited duration because it is a contract covering a probationary period	
		9	Not applicable (Col. 34 = 1, 2, 4, 9, blank)	
	blank	No answer		
41		<i>Looking for another job and reasons for doing so</i>	F: Col. 25 = 1, 2 and not Col. 26 = 7	
	0	Person is <i>not</i> looking for another job	Codes in order of priority	
		Person is looking for another job because:		
		1		— of risk or certainty of loss or termination of present job
		2		— actual job is considered as a transitional job
		3		— seeking a second job
		4		— of wish to have better working conditions (e.g. pay, working or travel time, less strenuous work)
		5	— of other reasons	
		6	Person looking for another job but giving no reason	
		9	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 3-5, 9 or Col. 26 = 7)	
	blank	No answer		

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
42		<b>PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE FOR PERSON NOT IN EMPLOYMENT</b>	
		<i>Previous work experience and period since having been in last employment</i>	F: Col. 25 = 3-5 or (Col. 25 = 2 and Col. 26 = 7)
	0	Person has never been in employment (apart from purely occasional work such as vacation work. Compulsory military or community service is not to be considered as employment)	
		Person has already been in employment (compulsory military or community service is not to be considered as employment) and last job was left:	If the last job was followed by compulsory military or community service the period starts to count at the end of this service
	1	— less than 6 months ago	
	2	— 6 to 11 months ago	
	3	— 12 to 17 months ago	
	4	— 18 to 23 months ago	
	5	— 24 to 35 months ago	
	6	— more than 35 months ago	
	7	Person having been in employment but not having stated when last job was left	
9	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 1, 9 or (Col. 25 = 2 and not Col. 26 = 7))		
	blank	No answer	
43		<i>Main reason for leaving last job or business for person having worked less than three years ago but with no job during the reference week</i>	F: Col. 42 = 1-5
		For former employees only:	
	0	Person has been dismissed or made redundant	
	1	A job of limited duration has ended	
	2	Person has resigned from his/her job	
	3	Person has taken early retirement for economic reasons	
		For all:	
	4	Person has given up work for reasons of illness or incapacity	
	5	Person has retired for other than economic or health reasons	
	6	Person was called up for compulsory military or community service	
7	Other reasons		
9	Not applicable (Col. 42 = 0, 6, 7, 9, blank)		
	blank	No answer	

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
		<b>Details of last job or business for those having worked less than three years ago but with no job during the reference week (Excluding persons who have retired for other than economic or health reasons or who left the job or gave up business for personal or other unspecified reasons)</b>	
44		<i>Professional status</i>	F: Col. 42 = 1-5 and not Col. 43 = 5, 7, 9, blank
	1	Self-employed with employees	
	2	Self-employed without employees	
	3	Employee	
	4	Family worker	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 43 = 5, 7, 9, blank)	
	blank	No answer	
45/46		<i>Economic activity (NACE classification) of the establishment</i>	F: Col. 42 = 1-5 and not Col. 43 = 5, 7, 9, blank
	00-98, 9A, 9B	For coding, see Appendix D	
	99	Not applicable (Col. 43 = 5, 7, 9, blank)	
	blank	No answer	
47/48		<i>Occupation</i>	F: Col. 42 = 1-5 and not Col. 43 = 5, 7, 9, blank
49		<b>SEEKING EMPLOYMENT</b> <i>Seeking employment for person without employment during the reference week</i>	F: Col. 25 = 3-5 or (Col. 25 = 2 and Col. 26 = 7)
	1	Person is seeking employment	
	2	Person has already found a job which will start later	
		Person is not seeking employment because of:	
	3	— awaiting recall to work (for persons on lay-off)	
	4	— belief that work is not available or does not know where to get work	
	5	— other reasons	
	6	Person not seeking employment but giving no reason	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 1, 9 or (Col. 25 = 2 and not Col. 26 = 7))	
	blank	No answer	

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
50		<i>Type of employment sought</i>	F: Col. 49 = 1, 2 or Col. 41 = 1-6
		The employment sought is (for Col. 49 = 2 the employment found is)	
	1	as self-employed	
		as employee:	
	2	— and only a full-time job will be accepted (or has already been found)	
	3	— and full-time job is sought, but if not available, part-time job will be accepted	
	4	— and part-time job is sought, but if not available, full-time job will be accepted	
	5	— and only a part-time job will be accepted (or has already been found)	
	6	— person did not state whether a full-time or a part-time job is sought	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 9 or Col. 41 = 0, blank or Col. 49 = 3-6, blank)	
	blank	No answer	
51		<i>Situation immediately before person started to seek employment (or was waiting for new job to start)</i>	F: Col. 49 = 1, 2
	1	Person was working (including apprentices, trainees)	
	2	Person was undergoing full-time education or training (excluding apprentices and trainees)	
	3	Person was conscript on compulsory military or community service	
	4	Person was keeping house	
	5	Other (e.g. retired)	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 49 = 3-6, 9, blank)	
	blank	No answer	
52		<i>Duration of seeking employment</i>	F: Col. 49 = 1 or Col. 41 = 1-6
	0	Search not yet started	
	1	Less than 1 month	
	2	1 to 2 months	
	3	3 to 5 months	
	4	6 to 11 months	
	5	12 to 17 months	
	6	18 to 23 months	
	7	24 months or more	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 9 or Col. 41 = 0, blank or Col. 49 = 2-6, blank)	
	blank	No answer	

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
53		<i>Availability for work</i>	F: Col. 49 = 1 Col. 41 = 1-6 (For Greece and Portugal only F: Col. 49 = 1, 4 or Col. 41 = 1-6)
		If a job were found now:	
	1	Person could start to work immediately (within two weeks)	
		Person could not start to work immediately (within two weeks) because:	
	2	— he/she must complete education or training	
	3	— he/she must complete compulsory military or community service	
	4	— he/she cannot leave present job within two weeks	
	5	— of personal or family responsibilities (incl. maternity)	
	6	— of illness, incapacity (for more than two weeks)	
	7	— of other reasons	
	8	Person not able to work immediately (within two weeks) but giving no reason	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 9 or Col. 41 = 0, blank or Col. 49 = 2-6, blank)	
	blank	No answer	
54		<i>Registration at an official employment exchange</i>	F: Everybody of 14 years or over
	1	Person is registered at an official employment exchange and receives benefit or assistance	
	2	Person is registered at an official employment exchange but does not receive benefit or assistance	
	3	Person is neither registered at a careers office nor at an official employment office nor at a job centre but receives benefit or assistance	
	4	Person is not registered at an official employment exchange and does not receive benefit or assistance	
	9	Child less than 14 years old	
	blank	No answer	
55		<i>Main method employed during previous four weeks to find a job other than being registered at an official employment exchange</i>	F: Col. 49 = 1 or Col. 41 = 1-6
	0	Being on a register at a private employment office including careers office or job centre	
	1	Awaiting results of a competition for being recruited to the public sector	
	2	Inserted advertisements in newspapers or journals	
	3	Answered advertisements in newspapers or journals	
	4	Applied to employers directly	
	5	Asked friends, relatives, colleagues, trade unions, etc.	
	6	Studied 'situations vacant' columns in newspapers, etc.	
	7	Other methods used (to be specified to the interviewer)	
	8	No method used	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 9 or Col. 41 = 0, blank or Col. 49 = 2-6, blank)	
	blank	No answer	

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
56		<b>SITUATION OF THE INACTIVE</b>	
		<i>Situation of person who neither has a job nor is looking for one (excluding conscripts on compulsory military or community service)</i>	F: Col. 49 = 4-6, blank and not Col. 25 = 4
	1	Pupil or student in initial education or training	
	2	Person having left his/her job at the end of his working life	
	3	Person unable to work due to permanent disability	
	4	Other	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 25 = 4 or Col. 49 = 1-3, 9)	
	blank	No answer	
57		<b>EDUCATION AND TRAINING</b>	
		<i>Education and training during previous four weeks</i>	F: Everybody between 14 and 49 years
	0	Person was not receiving any education or training	
	1	Person was attending a school which provides general education (Isced 01)	
		Person was receiving training which was related to economic activity:	
	2	— by attending a school which provides training in specific subject matters (not Isced 01) or by attending university (without complementary training elsewhere)	
	3	— within the establishment (without complementary training elsewhere)	
		— in a dual training system, which provides training within the establishment as well as at school or university:	
	4	in the framework of an apprenticeship	
	5	in other forms of dual training systems	
	6	— other training related to economic activity not listed before	
	7	Part-time college	UK only
	9	Child less than 14 years old or person of 50 years or over	
	blank	No answer	
58		<i>Purpose of the training being received during previous four weeks</i>	F: Col. 57 = 2-6 (UK: Col. 57 = 2-7)
	1	Initial vocational training	
	2	Advancement in career	
	3	Changing career	
	4	Other purposes	
	9	Not applicable (col. 57 = 0, 1, 9, blank)	
	blank	No answer	
59		<b>SITUATION ONE YEAR BEFORE SURVEY</b>	
		<i>Situation with regard to activity one year before survey</i>	F: Everybody of 14 years or over Codes in order of priority
	1	Person was working, had a job or business	
		Person was not working, had no job or business and	
	2	— was seeking employment or was on lay-off	
	3	— was pupil or student in initial education or training	
	4	— was conscript on compulsory military or community service	
	5	— was in a situation different from those described above	
9	Child less than 14 years old at time of survey		
	blank	No answer	

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
60		<i>Professional status one year before survey</i>	F: Col. 59 = 1
	1	Self-employed with employees	
	2	Self-employed without employees	
	3	Employee	
	4	Family worker	
	9	Not applicable (Col. 59 = 2-5, 9, blank)	
	blank	No answer	
61/62		<i>Economic activity (NACE classification) of the establishment in which person was working one year before the survey</i>	F: Col. 59 = 1
	00-98 9A-9B	For coding, see Appendix D	
	99	Not applicable (Col. 59 = 2-5, 9, blank)	
	blank	No answer	
63/64		<i>Country of residence one year before survey</i>	Everybody
	01	FR of Germany	
	02	France	
	03	Italy	
	04	The Netherlands	
	05	Belgium	
	06	Luxembourg	
	07	United Kingdom	
	08	Ireland	
	09	Denmark	
	10	Greece	
	11	Portugal	
	12	Spain	
	13	Norway	
	14	Turkey	
	15	Austria	
	16	Poland	
	17	Yugoslavia	
	18	Algeria	
	19	Morocco	
	20	Tunisia	
	21	Other	
	99	Child less than one year old	
	blank	No answer	

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
65/66		<i>Region of residence one year before survey (within each country)</i> Only for person who has not changed country of residence For coding, see Appendix E	F: Everybody
	00	Not applicable (person who has changed country of residence, or child less than one year old)	
	blank	No answer	
		<b>TECHNICAL ITEMS RELATING TO THE INTERVIEW</b>	
67		<i>Participation in the survey</i>	F: Everybody of 14 years or over
	1	Direct participation	
	2	Participation via another member of the household	
	9	Child less than 14 years old	
	blank	No answer	
68/73		<i>Weighting factor for each record</i> Cols 68-71 contain whole numbers Cols 72-73 contain decimal places	F: Everybody  No blanks allowed
74		<i>Sub-sample to which person's address or household belongs in relation to the preceding survey</i>	F: Everybody
	1	Person's address or household belongs to the sub-sample <i>not</i> surveyed in the previous Community labour force survey	
	2	Person's address or household belongs to the sub-sample already surveyed in the previous Community labour force survey (for area samples only: including addresses relating to buildings constructed since the previous survey and belonging to this sub-sample)	No blanks allowed
75		<i>Sub-sample to which person's address or household belongs in relation to the next survey</i>	F: Everybody
	1	Person's address or household belongs to the sub-sample <i>not</i> to be surveyed in the next Community labour force survey	
	2	Person's address or household belongs to the sub-sample to be surveyed again in the next Community labour force survey	No blanks allowed

Column	Code	Description	Filter/Remarks
76		<b>From 1988 survey onwards:</b> <i>Highest level of education or training completed</i>	F: Everybody of 14 years or over
	0	No formal education	
	1	First level	
	2	Second level, first stage	
	3	Second level, second stage	
	4	Third level	
	5	Third level, non-university	
	6	Third level, university or equivalent	
	7	Post-graduate	
	9	Person under 14 years old	
	blank	No answer	
77		<i>Highest level of education or training attended but not completed</i>	F: Everybody of 14 years or over
	1	First level	
	2	Second level, first stage	
	3	Second level, second stage	
	4	Third level	
	5	Third level, non-university	
	6	Third level, university or equivalent	
	7	Post-graduate	
	8	Person has completed the highest level of education he/she has attended	
	9	Person under 14 years old	
	blank	No answer	

**Appendix D Subdivision by economic activity and sector used in presenting labour force survey results corresponding to the NACE categories**

Economic activity	NACE
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	00
Energy and water	10
Extraction and processing of non-energy-producing minerals and derived products; chemical industry	20
Metal manufacture; mechanical, electrical and instrument engineering	30
Other manufacturing industries	40
Building and civil engineering	50
Distributive trades, hotels, catering, repairs	60
Transport and communication	70
Banking and finance, insurance, business services, renting	80
Public administration, national defence and compulsory social security	91
Other services	90
	(excluding 91)
<b>SECTORS</b>	<b>NACE</b>
Agriculture	00
Industry	10-50
Services	60-90

**Appendix E Regional codes for Level I and Level II of the nomenclature of territorial units (NUTS)**

**BELGIQUE/BELGIË**

LEVEL I			
10	Vlaams gewest/Région flamande	11 22 23 51 81 91	Antwerpen Halle-Vilvoorde Leuven Limburg Oost-Vlaanderen West-Vlaanderen
20	Waals gewest/Région wallonne	24 31 41 61 71	Nivelles Hainaut Liège Luxembourg Namur
30	Brussels gewest/Région bruxelloise	21	Bruxelles capitale/Brussel hoofdstad
LEVEL II			
01	Antwerpen/Anvers	11	Antwerpen
02	Brabant	21 22 23 24	Bruxelles capitale/Brussel hoofdstad Halle-Vilvoorde Leuven Nivelles
03	Henegouwen/Hainaut	31	Hainaut
04	Luik/Liège	41	Liège
05	Limburg/Limbourg	51	Limburg
06	Luxemburg/Luxembourg	61	Luxembourg
07	Namen/Namur	71	Namur
08	Oost-Vlaanderen/Flandre orientale	81	Oost-Vlaanderen
09	West-Vlaanderen/Flandre occidentale	91	West-Vlaanderen

## BR DEUTSCHLAND

	LEVEL I		LEVEL II
10	Schleswig-Holstein	10	Schleswig-Holstein
20	Hamburg	20	Hamburg
30	Niedersachsen	31	Braunschweig
		32	Hannover
		33	Lüneburg
		34	Weser-Ems
40	Bremen	40	Bremen
50	Nordrhein-Westfalen	51	Düsseldorf
		52	Köln
		53	Münster
		54	Detmold
		55	Arnsberg
60	Hessen	61	Darmstadt
		62	Gießen
		63	Kassel
70	Rheinland-Pfalz	71	Koblenz
		72	Trier
		73	Rheinhessen-Pfalz
80	Baden-Württemberg	81	Stuttgart
		82	Karlsruhe
		83	Freiburg
		84	Tübingen
90	Bayern	91	Oberbayern
		92	Niederbayern
		93	Oberpfalz
		94	Oberfranken
		95	Mittelfranken
		96	Unterfranken
		97	Schwaben
A0	Saarland	A0	Saarland
B0	Berlin (West)	B0	Berlin (West)

## GREECE

	LEVEL I		LEVEL II
10	Northern Greece	11	Eastern Macedonia and Thraki
		12	Central Macedonia
		13	Western Macedonia
		14	Thessalia
20	Central Greece	21	Epirus
		22	Ionian islands
		23	Western Greece
		24	Greek mainland
		25	Peloponnese
30	Attica	30	Attica
40	Islands	41	Northern Aegean
		42	Southern Aegean
		43	Crete

ESPAÑA

	LEVEL I		LEVEL I
10	Noroeste	11 12 13	Galicia Asturias Cantabria
20	Nordeste	21 22 23 24	País Vasco Navarra Rioja Aragón
30	Madrid	30	Madrid
40	Centro	41 42 43	Castilla - León Castilla - La Mancha Extremadura
50	Este	51 52 53	Cataluña Comunidad Valenciana Balears
60	Sur	61 62 63	Andalucía Murcia Ceuta y Melilla <sup>1</sup>
70	Canarias	70	Canarias

<sup>1</sup> The region formed by Ceuta y Melilla is not covered in the labour force survey.

FRANCE

	LEVEL I		LEVEL II
10	Île de France	10	Île de France
20	Bassin parisien	21 22 23 24 25 26	Champagne-Ardenne Picardie Haute-Normandie Centre Basse-Normandie Bourgogne
30	Nord-Pas-de-Calais	30	Nord-Pas-de-Calais
40	Est	41 42 43	Lorraine Alsace Franche-Comté
50	Ouest	51 52 53	Pays de la Loire Bretagne Poitou-Charentes
60	Sud-Ouest	61 62 63	Aquitaine Midi-Pyrénées Limousin
70	Centre-Est	71 72	Rhône-Alpes Auvergne
80	Méditerranée	81 82 83	Languedoc-Roussillon Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur Corse

ITALIA

	LEVEL I		LEVEL II
10	Nord-Ovest	11 12 13	Piemonte Valle d'Aosta Liguria
20	Lombardia	20	Lombardia
30	Nord-Est	31 32 33	Trentino - Alto Adige Veneto Friuli - Venezia Giulia
40	Emilia-Romagna	40	Emilia-Romagna
50	Centro	51 52 53	Toscana Umbria Marche
60	Lazio	60	Lazio
70	Campania	70	Campania
80	Abruzzi e Molise	81 82	Abruzzi Molise
90	Sud	91 92 93	Puglia Basilicata Calabria
A0	Sicilia	A0	Sicilia
B0	Sardegna	B0	Sardegna

NEDERLAND

	LEVEL I		LEVEL II
10	Noord-Nederland	11 12 13	Groningen Friesland Drenthe
20	Oost-Nederland	21 22 23	Overijssel Gelderland Flevoland
30	West-Nederland	31 32 33 34	Utrecht Noord-Holland Zuid-Holland Zeeland
40	Zuid-Nederland	41 42	Noord-Brabant Limburg

PORTUGAL

	LEVEL I		LEVEL II
10	Norte do Continente	11 12	Norte Centro
20	Sul do Continente	21 22 23	Lisboa e Vale do Tejo Alentejo <sup>1</sup> Algarve <sup>1</sup>
30	Ilhas	31 32	Açores Madeira

<sup>1</sup> In 1986 and 1987, these regions are combined as 'Sul'.

UNITED KINGDOM

	LEVEL I		LEVEL II
10	North		
20	Yorkshire and Humberside		
30	East Midlands		
40	East Anglia		
50	South-East		
60	South-West		
70	West Midlands		
80	North-West		
90	Wales		
A0	Scotland		
B0	Northern Ireland		

Luxembourg }  
Ireland } Each entire country constitutes one Level II region.  
Denmark }

**ES** **Clasificación de las publicaciones de Eurostat****TEMA**

- 1 Estadísticas generales (azul oscuro)
- 2 Economía y finanzas (violeta)
- 3 Población y condiciones sociales (amarillo)
- 4 Energía e industria (azul claro)
- 5 Agricultura, silvicultura y pesca (verde)
- 6 Comercio exterior (rojo)
- 7 Servicios y transportes (naranja)
- 8 Medio ambiente (turquesa)
- 9 Diversos (marrón)

**SERIE**

- A Anuarios
- B Coyuntura
- C Cuentas, encuestas y estadísticas
- D Estudios y análisis
- E Métodos
- F Estadísticas rápidas

**GR** **Ταξινόμηση των δημοσιεύσεων της Eurostat****ΘΕΜΑ**

- 1 Γενικές στατιστικές (βαθύ μπλε)
- 2 Οικονομία και δημοσιονομικά (βιολετί)
- 3 Πληθυσμός και κοινωνικές συνθήκες (κίτρινο)
- 4 Ενέργεια και βιομηχανία (μπλε)
- 5 Γεωργία, δάση και αλιεία (πράσινο)
- 6 Εξωτερικό εμπόριο (κόκκινο)
- 7 Υπηρεσίες και μεταφορές (πορτοκαλί)
- 8 Περιβάλλον (τουρκουάζ)
- 9 Διάφορα (καφέ)

**ΣΕΙΡΑ**

- A Επετηρίδες
- B Συγκυρία
- C Λογαριασμοί, έρευνες και στατιστικές
- D Μελέτες και ονολύσεις
- E Μέθοδοι
- F Ταχείες στατιστικές

**IT** **Classificazione delle pubblicazioni dell'Eurostat****TEMA**

- 1 Statistiche generali (blu)
- 2 Economia e finanze (viola)
- 3 Popolazione e condizioni sociali (giallo)
- 4 Energia e industria (azzurro)
- 5 Agricoltura, foreste e pesca (verde)
- 6 Commercio estero (rosso)
- 7 Servizi e trasporti (arancione)
- 8 Ambiente (turchese)
- 9 Diversi (marrone)

**SERIE**

- A Annuari
- B Tendenze congiunturali
- C Conti, indagini e statistiche
- D Studi e analisi
- E Metodi
- F Note rapide

**DA** **Klassifikation af Eurostats publikationer****EMNE**

- 1 Almene statistikker (mørkeblå)
- 2 Økonomi og finanser (violet)
- 3 Befolkning og sociale forhold (gul)
- 4 Energi og industri (blå)
- 5 Landbrug, skovbrug og fiskeri (grøn)
- 6 Udenrigshandel (rød)
- 7 Tjenesteydelser og transport (orange)
- 8 Miljø (turkis)
- 9 Diverse statistikker (brun)

**SERIE**

- A Årbøger
- B Konjunkturoversigter
- C Regnskaber, tællinger og statistikker
- D Undersøgelser og analyser
- E Metoder
- F Ekspresoversigter

**EN** **Classification of Eurostat publications****THEME**

- 1 General statistics (midnight blue)
- 2 Economy and finance (violet)
- 3 Population and social conditions (yellow)
- 4 Energy and industry (blue)
- 5 Agriculture, forestry and fisheries (green)
- 6 Foreign trade (red)
- 7 Services and transport (orange)
- 8 Environment (turquoise)
- 9 Miscellaneous (brown)

**SERIES**

- A Yearbooks
- B Short-term trends
- C Accounts, surveys and statistics
- D Studies and analyses
- E Methods
- F Rapid reports

**NL** **Classificatie van de publicaties van Eurostat****ONDERWERP**

- 1 Algemene statistiek (donkerblauw)
- 2 Economie en financiën (paars)
- 3 Bevolking en sociale voorwaarden (geel)
- 4 Energie en industrie (blauw)
- 5 Landbouw, bosbouw en visserij (groen)
- 6 Buitenlandse handel (rood)
- 7 Diensten en vervoer (oranje)
- 8 Milieu (turkoois)
- 9 Diverse statistieken (bruin)

**SERIE**

- A Jaarboeken
- B Conjunctuur
- C Rekeningen, enquêtes en statistieken
- D Studies en analyses
- E Methoden
- F Spoedberichten

**DE** **Gliederung der Veröffentlichungen des Eurostat****THEMENKREIS**

- 1 Allgemeine Statistik (Dunkelblau)
- 2 Wirtschaft und Finanzen (Violett)
- 3 Bevölkerung und soziale Bedingungen (Gelb)
- 4 Energie und Industrie (Blau)
- 5 Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Fischerei (Grün)
- 6 Außenhandel (Rot)
- 7 Dienstleistungen und Verkehr (Orange)
- 8 Umwelt (Türkis)
- 9 Verschiedenes (Braun)

**REIHE**

- A Jahrbücher
- B Konjunktur
- C Konten, Erhebungen und Statistiken
- D Studien und Analysen
- E Methoden
- F Schnellberichte

**FR** **Classification des publications de l'Eurostat****THÈME**

- 1 Statistiques générales (bleu nuit)
- 2 Économie et finances (violet)
- 3 Population et conditions sociales (jaune)
- 4 Énergie et industrie (bleu)
- 5 Agriculture, sylviculture et pêche (vert)
- 6 Commerce extérieur (rouge)
- 7 Services et transports (orange)
- 8 Environnement (turquoise)
- 9 Divers (brun)

**SÉRIE**

- A Annuaire
- B Conjoncture
- C Comptes, enquêtes et statistiques
- D Études et analyses
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