Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)

Item No	Concept name	Details
1	**Contact**	
1.1	Contact Organisation	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)
1.2	Compiling agency	Survey coordination division(SCD),NSO
1.3	Contact Details	Ms. Noushida N A, Director (SCD)/Email: noushida.na@gov.in/ Phone no: 011-22388203 Office Address: Sankhyiki Bhawan, Maharshi Valmiki Marg,CBD Shahdara, Delhi-110032
2	**Statistical presentation and description**	
2.1	Data description	Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) is the primary source of data on employment and unemployment situation of the country for estimating various labour market indicators like Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR) and Unemployment Rate (UR), etc.
2.2	Classification system	Levels of disaggregation at which different employment and unemployment indicators are presented includes: • State • Sector (rural, urban) • Gender • Age group • Level of education
2.3	Sector coverage	The following industry sections as per National Industrial Classification (NIC-2008) are covered in PLFS: Section A: Agriculture, forestry and fishing Section B: Mining and quarrying Section C: Manufacturing Section D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply Section E: Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities Section F: Construction Section G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles Section H: Transportation and storage, Section I: Accommodation and Food service activities Section J: Information and communication Section K: Financial and insurance activities, Section L: Real estate activities Section M: Professional, scientific and technical activities

		Section N: Administrative and support service activities Section O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security Section P: Education Section Q: Human health and social work activities Section R: Arts, entertainment and recreation Section S: Other service activities Section T: Activities of households as employers Section U: Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies
2.4	Statistical concepts and definitions	Definition of key indicators of employment and unemployment from PLFS are as follows: **1. Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR):** $$\frac{no.\ of\ employed\ persons + no.of\ unemployed\ persons}{total\ population}$$ **2. Worker Population Ratio (WPR):** $$\frac{no.\ of\ employed\ persons}{total\ population} * 100$$ **3. Unemployment Rate (UR):** $$\frac{no.of\ unemployed\ persons}{no.\ of\ employed\ persons + no.of\ unemployed\ persons}$$ Detailed concepts and definitions are available in the published Annual Report, PLFS in the website of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation : https://www.mospi.gov.in/download-reports
2.5	Statistical unit	Information is collected from the members of the selected households
2.6	Statistical population	PLFS covers the whole of the Indian Union except the villages in Andaman and Nicobar Islands which are difficult to access. The coverage of population in the survey are determined with the following guidelines:

		1. Under-trial prisoners in jails and indoor patients of hospitals, nursing homes, etc., are excluded, but residential staff in such institutions are included. Convicted prisoners undergoing sentence are excluded.
		2. Floating population, i.e., persons without any normal residence are excluded. But households residing in open space, roadside shelter, under a bridge, etc., more or less regularly in the same place are included.
		3. Foreign nationals and their domestic servants, if by definition the latter belongs to the foreign national's household are excluded. If, however, a foreign national becomes an Indian citizen for all practical purposes, he or she is included.
		4. Persons residing in barracks of military and paramilitary forces (like police, BSF, etc.) are outside the survey coverage. However, civilian population residing in their neighbourhood, including the family quarters of service personnel, are covered.
		5. Orphanages, rescue homes, *ashrams* and vagrant houses are outside the survey coverage. However, persons staying in old age homes, students staying in *ashrams*/ hostels and the residential staff (other than monks/ nuns) of these ashrams are included. For orphanages, although orphans are not covered, the persons looking after them and staying there are included.
2.7	Reference Period	Two types of reference period are used in PLFS for determining activity status of a household member: • For determining the Usual Activity Status (ps+ss), the reference period is last 365 days from the date of survey. • For determining the Current Weekly Status (CWS), the reference period is last 7 days from the date of survey.
2.8	Data Confidentiality[1]	Unit level data are disseminated after masking First Stage Unit (FSU) details for suppression or anonymization of the identification details of individuals and households

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[1] All statistical information published by any agency shall be arranged in such a manner so as to prevent any particulars becoming identifiable by any person (other than the informant by whom those

3	Institutional Mandate	
3.1	Legal acts and other agreements	Data in PLFS is not collected under any statutory Act.
3.2	Data sharing	As per the data dissemination policy of the Ministry, same may be seen at link: http://microdata.gov.in/nada43/index.php/dissemination
3.3	Release policy	As per the data dissemination policy of the Ministry, same may be seen at link: http://microdata.gov.in/nada43/index.php/dissemination
3.4	Release calendar	Release calendar for the year 2019-20 may be seen at the following link: https://www.mospi.gov.in/release-calendar
3.5	Frequency of dissemination	On the basis of PLFS the following Reports/Bulletins are released (i) Annual Report (ii) Quarterly Bulletin for urban areas corresponding to each quarter of the year. (iii) Annual Bulletin
3.6	Data access	All reports are published in MoSPI website, link for which is given below: https://www.mospi.gov.in/download-reports Further, unit level data is at the following link: https://microdata.gov.in/nada43/index.php/catalog/PLFS
4	Quality Management	
4.1	Documentation on methodology	Concepts, definitions and methodologies adopted for PLFS are available in the published Reports.
4.2	Quality documentation	To ensure quality, monitoring is ensured at each step the of survey including field inspection, scrutiny, various stages of validation, checking for consistency of the tables, etc.

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particulars were supplied) as the particulars relating to the informant who supplied it, even through the process of elimination (Source: Collection of Statistics Act, 2008)

4.3	Quality assurance	Checking for completeness of data and data quality during the survey on regular basis;Rigorous checking followed in data; Therefore, all the results are subjected to rigorous monitoring of the survey work and intensive checking/validation of data and tables at each stage of processing;
4.4	Quality assessment	In the PLFS, Relative Standard Errors (RSE)is used to assess quality. For the latest Annual report released for the year 2020-21, the RSE tables may be seen at Appendix B (page B-1 to B-15) of the report, link of which is given below: https://www.mospi.gov.in/documents/213904/301563//Annual%20Report%20PLFS%202020%20211655184532664.pdf/a2787b2e-254f-3d4f-c796-3032f3c70216
5	**Accuracy and Reliability**	
5.1	Sampling error	The Relative Standard Errors (RSE) of the key employment and unemployment indicators are presented in the published Annual Reports/Quarterly Bulletin
6	**Timeliness**	
6.1	Timeliness	Results of the survey and unit level data are published once finalized.
7	**Coherence and Comparability**	
7.1	Comparability – over time	Results are comparable over time
7.2	Coherence	Coverage of economic activities used in PLFS to determine the activity status of the household members broadly matches with that of System of National Accounts (SNA 2008)
8	**Statistical Processing**	
8.1	Source data type	Survey data
8.2	Frequency of data collection	PLFS is a continuous survey.
8.3	Data collection method	Data is collected through personal interviewing method through CAPI.
8.4	Data validation	Collected data is validated through a set of scrutiny programmes and other consistency checks.
8.5	Data compilation	Data compilation is done through a dedicated Division for data processing
9	**Metadata Update**	
9.1	Metadata last posted	June 8th, 2022

9.2	Metadata last update	June 19th, 2023

2 All statistical information published by any agency shall be arranged in such a manner so as to prevent any particulars becoming identifiable by any person (other than the informant by whom those particulars were supplied) as the particulars relating to the informant who supplied it, even through the process of elimination (Source: Collection of Statistics Act, 2008).