

DEFINITIONS, CLASSIFICATIONS, AND EXPLANATIONS

A. Population and Labour Force

1. **Population** - the survey population includes the permanent (de jure) population of Israel aged 15 and over.

The survey population **includes**:

1. Permanent residents living in Israel.
2. Permanent residents living abroad for a period of less than one year.
3. New immigrants and potential immigrants, from the moment of their arrival in Israel.
4. Tourists, volunteers or temporary residents living in Israel continuously for one year or more.
5. As of 1968, residents of East Jerusalem.
6. As of 1972, the population of Jewish localities in the Golan sub-district; as of 1982, all the residents in the Golan sub-district.
7. As of 2006, includes the population of Jewish localities in the Judea and Samaria Area (from 1972 to 2005 – the Judea, Samaria and Gaza Areas).

The survey population **does not include**:

1. Permanent residents living abroad continuously for one year or more.
 2. Tourists, volunteers or temporary residents living in Israel for less than one year.
 3. Foreign diplomats and UN people.
2. The **determinant week** is the week ending on the Saturday preceding the visit of the interviewer to the household.

3. Characteristics of the civilian labour force

As of 1995, the definition of the civilian labour force characteristics was changed. For a detailed explanation see Central Bureau of Statistics, in *Labour Force Surveys 1998*, Special Publication 1104, Chapter E.

- 3.1 **Weekly civilian labour force** - persons aged 15 and over who were “employed” or “unemployed” during the determinant week, according to the definitions given below.

- 3.1.1 **Employed persons** - worked for at least one hour during the determinant week, at any type of work, for pay, profit or other remuneration; all those working in kibbutzim (whether in services or any other industry); family members who worked without pay for more than 15 hours during the investigation week; persons in institutions who worked more than 15 hours during the week, persons who were temporarily absent from their work.

Employed persons are divided into three sub-groups:

- a. **Worked full time** - all those who worked 35 hours or more during the determinant week (including preparation hours).

- b. **Worked part time** - persons who worked 1-34 hours during the determinant week (including preparation hours).
- c. **Temporarily absent from work** - this group includes all those who were temporarily absent from their regular work during the entire determinant week, due to illness, vacation, reserve army service, decrease in the extent of work, labour dispute, temporary disruption of work (for up to 30 days), etc. (The definition does not include persons who were absent for only part of the determinant week).

Note: Usually worked full time / usually worked part time – determined by the workers' usual number of work hours (not in the determinant week).

3.1.2 Unemployed persons - all those who did not work for even one hour during the determinant week and who actively sought work during the last four weeks, by registering with the Labour Exchange of the Employment Service or by application to employers, either in person or in writing, or by another method mentioned below, and could have started work in the determinant week, had suitable work been offered (“availability to work”).

Note: A person who was not available to work during the determinant week due to illness/reserve duty is considered unemployed.

Unemployed persons are divided into two sub-groups:

- a. Unemployed persons who did work in Israel during the twelve months preceding the determinant week.
- b. Unemployed persons who did not work in Israel during the twelve months preceding the determinant week.

Modes of actively seeking work:

- Labour Exchange of the Employment Service
- Other employment office
- Advertisements in newspapers, on the Internet, etc.
- Personal or written application to employer
- Friends or relatives
- Attempt to establish a business
- Sought work in other way

Note: Since unemployed persons can search for work in more than one way, they are asked about each of the above possibilities.

3.2 Not in the weekly civilian labour force - all persons aged 15 and over who were neither “employed” nor “unemployed” during the determinant week. This group includes: students; non-paid volunteers; persons who cared for children, family members, or the household and did not work for even one hour outside of the home; persons not fit to work, and persons living off their pensions or other income and who did not work for even one hour during the determinant week. Also included in this group are soldiers in the regular army (compulsory service or permanent army), family members who worked without pay less than 15 hours per week, persons in institutions who worked less than 15 hours during the determinant week.

3.2.1 Discouraged workers - all persons aged 15 and over who are not in weekly civilian labour force but sought work over the 12 months preceding the survey. They are interested in working, and could have begun to work during the determinant week had they been offered appropriate jobs ("availability for work"). They did not seek work over the four weeks preceding the survey for the following reasons: they believe there are no appropriate jobs for them in their field or in their area of residence in terms of wages, work hours, or interesting work; they lack appropriate experience or training; they have difficulty with the language or their age is not appropriate (too young or too old).

4. Characteristics of the annual civilian labour force

4.1 Annual civilian labour force (during the year): all persons aged 15 and over who were in the weekly civilian labour force, as well as those who worked during the year, but were not in the weekly civilian labour force.

4.2 Employed during the year (annually employed): all persons aged 15 and over who worked in Israel for **at least one day** during the 12 months preceding the survey. People who worked less than one month are considered as those who worked for one month.

4.3 Not in the annual civilian labour force: not in the weekly civilian labour force, and did not work at all during the 12 months preceding the survey.

5. Religion and population group:

The head of the household is the only household member who is questioned regarding his religion. The head of the household's religion is registered as the religion of all the members of the household. The classification according to religion includes: Jews, Moslems, Christians, Druze and other religions (other religions also include no religion or religion unknown).

The category "Other Religion" includes all those who replied that they are not Jews. As of 2002, this group was divided into two population groups:

- "Arabs":
 - a. Live in non-Jewish localities, or
 - b. Live in Jewish or mixed localities, were born in Israel or arrived in Israel before 1990 (Tables, Chapter 8).
- "Others": Live in Jewish or mixed localities, and arrived in Israel in 1990 and after (Tables, Chapter 9).

6. Years of study - the number of years spent **in regular studies in school** but not studying on one's own or attending irregular courses. The number of years consists only of completed years. If a person is studying at the time of the interview, that year is counted.

7. Type of school last attended by the interviewee, even if he did not complete his studies there.

8. Highest diploma (degree) received (as of January-March 2000) - the highest diploma that a person received from a school or from educational settings that grant official diplomas (not including certificates for completion of courses, certificates for completion of in-service training, etc.).

9. **Head of household** - In the Labour Force Surveys' tables, the head of household is the economic head of household.

As of 1995, the definition of head of household was changed, and is now determined by *"degree" of belonging to the labour force, with no connection to age or sex.*

- The head of household is the main wage earner of the household, i.e., the employed person who usually works 35 or more hours a week (including soldiers in the permanent army), preceding an employed person who works up to 34 hours a week, who in turn comes before an unemployed person.
- If more than one person in the household fits the definition of head of household, the head is determined by the interviewee.
- If there is no wage earner in the household, the interviewee will determine the head of household.

Note: The head of household is a person aged 18 or over (except households where the only wage earner is aged 15-17 and households where there are only 15-17 year olds).

10. **Number of children, by age group** - information is obtained on the number of children of each female in the household and the total number of children in the household.

11. **Work hours per week** - the number of hours actually worked by employed persons during the determinant week, including: overtime in the same place of work or in other places of work, preparation hours of teachers and artists, waiting hours (e.g. a driver or porter waiting for work), as well as work hours of a non-paid family member in the family business or farm (if the person worked 15 hours or more, on the average, per week).

The average work hours per week is obtained by dividing the total number of weekly work hours of all employed persons by the number of employed persons. This average is calculated both for all employed persons (including those temporarily absent from their work) and for employed persons excluding those temporarily absent from work.

12. **Type of locality**

There are two types of localities: current, and permanent.

A current type of locality is determined according to the size of the population at the end of each year.

A permanent type of locality is a current locality that was frozen for several years in order to allow for a comparison of data from different years.

The type of locality by which data in the Labour Force Surveys are classified is the permanent type of locality appearing in the list of localities.

The localities are divided into two main groups, the distinction between them being according to size of locality (number of residents):

- a. **Urban localities**, in which there are 2,000 or more residents. These localities are classified into sub-groups by size;

b. **Rural localities**, in which there are less than 2,000 residents, which are classified into three types of localities:

1. Kibbutzim
2. Moshavim and collective moshavim
3. Other rural localities

From 1998 to 2001, localities were classified according to their estimated population in the 1995 Census of Population and Housing. As of 2002 localities were classified according to their estimated population at the end of 2001. This was done in order to reflect the changes which occurred in population size in various localities between the censuses. In 2007, localities were classified according to their estimated population at the end of 2005.

For further details, see - Central Bureau of Statistics, *List of Localities, Their Population and Codes, 31.12.2002*, Technical Series, 75.

13. Development localities

Included are the localities specified in the regularly updated regulations based on the "1963 Severance Pay Law".

The 25 localities that are included in the Labour Force Survey data are listed below:

Development localities in the North: Bet She'an, Hazor HaGelilit, Tiberias, Yoqne'am Illit, Karmi'el, Migdal HaEmeq, Ma'alot-Tarshiha, Nazerat Illit, Akko, Afula, Zefat, Qiryat Shemona, Shelomi.

Development localities in the South: Elat, Ofaqim, Bet Shemesh, Dimona, Yavne, Yeroham, Mizpe Ramon, Netivot, Arad, Qiryat Gat, Qiryat Mal'akhi, Sederot.

14. District and sub-district - the districts and sub-districts are defined according to the official administrative distribution of the country, according to which there are 6 districts and 15 sub-districts. For details, see *List of Localities, Their Population and Codes, 31.12.2002*, Technical Series No. 75, Central Bureau of Statistics.

As of 1972, the Judea, Samaria and Gaza Areas were added, in order to characterize the Jewish localities and their population, found in these areas. The data for 2005 relate to the residents of the Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Areas, and do not reflect changes in the population following the evacuation of the Israeli localities (the Jewish localities) in the Gaza Area and northern Samaria, under the Disengagement Plan Law 2005.

As of 2006 – the Judea and Samaria Area.

15. Work district and sub-district - employed persons are classified according to the locality in which they work. Employed persons working in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Areas were classified as a separate group.

16. Metropolitan areas

A metropolitan area is a large cluster of local authorities whose territories are contiguous, and are integrated socio-economically and culturally. A metropolitan area is made up mostly of urban localities, but unlike a conurbation, it also includes the territories of regional councils and rural localities that are economically and functionally integrated with the metropolitan localities.

The metropolitan areas are divided according to their internal structure:

Core: The territory of the primary city serving as the focus of the population of the metropolitan area.

Inner Ring: The area containing the localities surrounding the Core.

Middle Ring: The area containing the localities surrounding the Inner Ring (the Tel Aviv and Be'er Sheva Metropolitan Areas).

Outer Ring: The area containing the localities surrounding the Middle Ring.

Sections (Northern, Eastern, Southern): sub-divisions of the rings of each metropolitan area.

As of 1999, the labour force survey has used a new definition of metropolitan area, which replaced the former definition of conurbation. Two metropolitan areas were defined: the Tel Aviv Metropolitan Area and the Haifa Metropolitan Area.

In 2001, the borders of the metropolitan areas were re-examined and, as a result, the borders of the Haifa Metropolitan Area were changed. **The changes in the Haifa Metropolitan Area** were made in the localities included in the outer ring of the metropolitan area: in the south the locality of Jisr Az-Zarqa was removed, and in the north it was decided to include all the localities up to the Nahariyya line (inclusive). In the North-East of the outer ring, it was decided to include all the localities in the Karmiel natural area and, in addition, the localities of the Mizgav Regional Council. The borders of the **Tel Aviv Metropolitan Area** were not changed.

Be'er Sheva Metropolitan Area: In 2001, a plan was approved which defines the borders of a metropolitan area in the south, which is developing around the city of Be'er Sheva. The Be'er Sheva Metropolitan plan is similar to the contours of the other metropolitan areas, in that it is also divided into rings with sections in them. The rings are defined by their distance from the center of the metropolitan area (the "core"), which is the city of Be'er Sheva. The borders of the Be'er Sheva Metropolitan Area include the Northern Negev: from the border of the Be'er Sheva sub-district in the north, up to Mitzpeh Ramon in the south; and from the border of the Gaza Area and Egypt in the west, up to the Dead Sea and the Jordanian border in the east.

For a detailed explanation of the borders of the metropolitan areas, and for a list of the localities included in the metropolitan areas by internal structure, see *List of Localities – Geographical Characteristics and Population 1948-1995*, Census of Population and Housing 1995 Series, No. 3, Central Bureau of Statistics.

B. Classification by Status at Work, Industry, Occupation and Commuting to Work

Employed persons (including temporarily absent from work) are classified by their status at work, industry and occupation, according to their work during the determinant week. For unemployed persons and persons not in the civilian labour force (including soldiers in compulsory and permanent service) who worked in Israel during the 12 months preceding the survey, the data relate to their last work.

1. Status at work

Employee - a person working for another person in exchange for daily or monthly wages, piece work or work for any other kind of remuneration. Self-employed who are registered as a company and receive their wages from that company are classified as employees.

Recipients of wages from employment agencies or employment contractors - employees placed in jobs and receiving their wages from the employment agency or employment contractor, while the place of work they were referred to is responsible for implementation of the work.

The following are not included in this definition:

- Employees on the staff of the employment agency;
- Employees hired through a subcontractor. In these cases, the subcontractor bears responsibility for the implementation and quality of the work. These employees work mainly in two industries: Security and Cleaning Activities (Group 750), and Home Care Services (Group 862).

Employer - a person who employs other persons for wages or any other remuneration, or a partner in a business employing others, including a farm owner employing others for wages.

Self-employed - a person working in his own business or farm, who does not employ others for wages or any other remuneration.

Member of cooperative - a person who, in addition to his salary, shares in the profits of a cooperative. This is also the case for a member of a collective moshav.

Member of kibbutz - a person who lives in a kibbutz and works there **with no pay**, including members, candidates for membership, relatives residing permanently in the kibbutz and training groups. It does not include "volunteers" - people who are not kibbutz members but who live in the kibbutz and work there for wages or other remuneration and kibbutz members who work for pay outside the kibbutz.

Unpaid family member - a family member or other relative working in the family business 15 hours or more during the determinant week without any kind of remuneration. A family member receiving a salary is considered an employee.

- 2. Industry** - is determined by the nature of the establishment in which the interviewed person worked. The industry to which this establishment belongs is determined by the main product or service of the establishment.

If an establishment covers more than one industry and the various industries may be considered “classification units” (e.g. a textile business that engages in spinning, weaving and sewing, or an institution such as a municipality), the industry is determined by the type of work of the department, or the division in which the interviewed person works. A subsidiary unit serving only the needs of the establishment without its own accounts department, is not considered a separate department.

If the establishment is engaged in several types of work which cannot be separated according to departments, the economic classification of the establishment is determined by its final product.

Persons interviewed in kibbutzim were classified according to their industry.

As of 1995, persons interviewed were classified according to the 1993 classification of industries.

The classification of industries is based on the UN Classification:

International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Third Revision, 1990.

A detailed explanation on the new classification of industries appears in: Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), *Standard Classification of Economic Activities, 1993*, Technical Publication 63 - 2003.

- 3. High technology industries:** The definition of high technology industries is based on the Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, 1993” Second Edition, Technical Publication 63, The Central Bureau of Statistics, as well as on the definitions of OECD and Eurostat. See “Recommendations of the Subcommittee for Official Classification of High Technology Industries in Israel – Definition of High Technology Industries”.

http://www.cbs.gov.il/publications/hitech/hi_class_heb.pdf.

The following are defined as high technology industries in Israel:

Code	Name of Industry
Manufacturing in the High-Tech Sector (High-Tech Industry)	
245	Manufacture of pharmaceutical products for human and veterinary uses
30	Manufacture of office and accounting machinery and computers
32	Manufacture of electronic components
33	Manufacture of electronic communication equipment
34	Manufacture of industrial equipment for control and supervision, medical and scientific equipment
355	Manufacture of aircraft
Services in the High-Tech Sector (Knowledge-Intensive High-Tech Services)	
66	Telecommunications
72	Computer and related services
730	Research and development in natural sciences

4. Occupation

Occupation is determined by the type of work performed by the interviewed person at his place of work, without regard to what he studied, if his work is not in that field.

As of 1995, interviewed persons were classified according to the 1994 classification of occupations.

The classification of occupations is based on the classification of the International Labour Office (ILO): *International Standard Classification of Occupations I.S.C.O. 88*.

A detailed explanation on the new classification of occupations appears in: *Standard Classification of Occupations 1994*, Technical Publication 64, Central Bureau of Statistics.

5. Commuting to Work:

a. Commuter: Employed person working outside of their locality of residence.

There are four levels of commuting:

- Work in the sub-district of residence;
- Work outside of the sub-district of residence, but within the district of residence;
- Work outside the district of residence in one locality
- Work outside the district of residence in two or more localities.

b. Noncommuter: Employed person working in his own locality of residence.

C. International Comparisons

The tables present comparative data on persons belonging to the labour force and on unemployed persons. Although precise international comparability was not achieved, the adjusted figures provide a better basis for international comparison than the figures published regularly by each country.

1. The data in Table “Percent in Labour Force of the Working Age Population – An International Comparison of Standardised Data”, were published in the *Monthly Labor Review*, US Department of Labor, BLS (see *Review* for detailed explanation on definitions and adjustment methods).

Data were adapted to the age in which compulsory schooling in each country ends: for instance, age 16 in US, France, Sweden, and United Kingdom; age 15 in Israel, Canada, Australia, Japan, Germany, Italy (age 14 until 1993, and age 15 as of 1993), and Netherlands.

Persons living in institutions are included in the data of Israel, Japan and Germany, but are not included in the data of the US and other countries.

2. The data appearing in Table “Percent of Unemployed in the Labour Force – An International Comparison of Standardised Data”, were published in *Quarterly Labour Force Statistics*, OECD (see detailed explanation regarding definitions and adjustment methods).

Standardised data were prepared by the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat) for its member countries. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD, prepared the standardised data for non-European member countries.

The definition of unemployment conforms with ILO definitions. The estimates are adjusted using a method based on a common and precise definition of unemployment. Once a year, member countries supply data based upon identical questions that appear in labour force survey questionnaires. The definitions in Israel conform with those of the ILO since 1995.