What is the Labour Force Survey (LFS)?

Every month, Statistics Canada produces timely and reliable estimates of employment and unemployment for each member of your household aged 15 and over. This includes those who are retired or not in the labour force.

Tell us how Canada works

THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

Labour Force Survey has an importance that extends beyond your household. Labour Force Survey represents approximately 300 Canadians in your household who are among 56,000 others randomly selected in every month of Canada. This ensures that every member of your household is included in the survey. Every member of your household is included in the survey.

What does this survey involve?

Once a month for six consecutive months, you will be asked to complete a short survey about employment and unemployment for each member of your household aged 15 and over.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the unemployment rate for 2020 rose to 9.5%, the highest annual rate since 1996. At the same time, the participation rate was 64.1%, the lowest it had been since 1979.

What about confidentiality?

A reliable way to take the country’s economic temperature is to look at its employment and unemployment data. The Labour Force Survey is a key source of information for governments, businesses and social agencies to make important decisions that affect all Canadians. Our governments, banks, labour unions, businesses and social agencies use Statistics Canada’s Labour Force Survey information to make important decisions that affect all Canadians. As such, whether you are retired, employed or are an unemployed senior, the information you provide for statistical purposes only. It is never released to anyone, not even other government departments.

Why is it important?

It is important to the LFS?

Many government departments rely on the Labour Force Survey to identify these changing trends. This information leads to informed policy decisions regarding retirement and pension funding and accurate information on the employment situation of older workers. In fact, whether you are a retired, unemployed or employed senior, the information you provide is important in building reliable data that affects all Canadians.

Tell us how Canada works

THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the unemployment rate for 2020 rose to 9.5%, the highest annual rate since 1996. At the same time, the participation rate was 64.1%, the lowest it had been since 1979.

For technical assistance or other enquiries, contact us Monday to Friday (except holidays) from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) TTY 1-877-475-5629 Email infostats@canada.ca

Visit www.statcan.gc.ca/LFS

Can I complete this survey online?

The Labour Force Survey has an online option. Following the same interview with one of our interviewers. This approach is to ensure the correct address and household membership are recorded.

The confidentiality of the data you provide is our top priority, which is why the interviewer Statistics Canada employee takes an oath of secrecy. The information you provide for statistical purposes only. It is never released to anyone, not even other government departments. It is used by Statistics Canada to produce reliable estimates of employment and unemployment for all Canadians. The information you provide is important in building reliable data that affects all Canadians. It also includes those who are retired or not in the labour force.

Tell us how Canada works

THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

The confidentiality of the data you provide is our top priority, which is why the interviewer Statistics Canada employee takes an oath of secrecy. The information you provide for statistical purposes only. It is never released to anyone, not even other government departments.

Why are seniors and retirees important to the LFS?

The Labour Force Survey data is used to describe changes in the labour market. These include trends related to population aging and fluctuations in average retirement ages.

Many government departments rely on the Labour Force Survey to identify these changing trends. This information leads to informed policy decisions regarding retirement and pension funding and accurate information on the employment situation of older workers. In fact, whether you are a retired, unemployed or employed senior, the information you provide is important in building reliable data that affects all Canadians.

Tell us how Canada works

THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

In 2020, employment fell in every major age group, with the largest decline for young women aged 15 to 24. For most demographic groups, the year-over-year increase in employment was the largest on record.