

2013:7

The series Background facts presents background material for statistics produced by the Department of Labour and Education Statistics at Statistics Sweden. Product descriptions, methodology reports and various statistic compilations are examples of background material that give an overview and facilitate the use of statistics.

### Publications in the series Background facts on Labour and Education Statistics

2000:1	Övergång till yrkeskodning på fyrsiffernivå (SSYK) och införande av jobbstatus- kod i SCB:s lönestatistik
2000:2	The Information System for Occupational Injuries and the Work-related Health Problems Survey – A comparative study
2000:3	Konferens om utbildningsstatistik den 23 mars 2000
2001:1	Avvikelser i lönesummestatistiken – en jämförelse mellan LAPS och LSUM
2001:2	En longitudinell databas kring utbildning, inkomst och sysselsättning 1990–1998
2001:3	Staff training costs 1994–1999
2001:4	Studieresultat i högskolan i form av avklarade poäng
2001:5	Urvals- och estimationsförfarandet i de svenska arbetskraftsundersökningarna (AKU)
2001:6	Svar, bortfall och representativitet i Arbetsmiljöundersökningen 1999
2001:7	Individ- och företagsbaserad sysselsättningsstatistik – en jämförelse mellan AKU och KS
2002:1	Tidsseriebrott i utbildningsregistret 2001-01-01
2002:2	En longitudinell databas kring utbildning, inkomst och sysselsättning (LOUISE) 1990–1999
2003:1	Exempel på hur EU:s "Quality Reports" kan skrivas – avser Labour Cost Survey (LSC) 2000
2003:2	Förändrad redovisning av högskolans personal
2003:3	Individ- och företagsbaserad sysselsättningsstatistik – en fortsatt jämförelse mellan AKU och KS
2003:4	Sjukfrånvarande enligt SCB och sjukskrivna enligt RFV
2003:5	Informationssystemet om arbetsskador och undersökningen om arbetsorsakade besvär. En jämförande studie
2004:1	Samlad statistik från SCB avseende ohälsa
2004:2	Översyn av forskarutbildningsstatistiken. Bedömning av kvaliteten
2004.3	Sjukfrånvaro och ohälsa i Sverige – en belysning utifrån SCB:s statistik
2005:1	En longitudinell databas kring utbildning, inkomst och sysselsättning (LOUISE) 1990–2002
2005:2	Nordisk pendlingskarta. Huvudrapport
2005:3	Nordisk pendlingskarta. Delrapport 1–4.
2005:4	Flödesstatistik från AKU
2005:5	Flow statistics from the Swedish Labour Force Survey
2006:1	Sysselsättningsavgränsning i RAMS – Metodöversyn 2005

Continued on inside of the back cover!

**Background Facts** 

# Part-time employed job seekers

Labour and Education Statistics 2013:7

Statistics Sweden 2013

**Background Facts** 

Labour and Education Statistics 2013:7

# Part-time employed job seekers

Statistics Sweden 2013

Producer	Statistics Sweden, Population and Welfare Department BOX 24300 SE-104 51 STOCKHOLM
Inquiries	Anna Broman, +46 8 506 944 62 anna.broman@scb.se
	Elisabet Andersson, +46 8 506 946 45 elisabet.andersson@scb.se

It is permitted to copy and reproduce the contents in this publication. When quoting, please state the source as follows: Source: Statistics Sweden, Background Facts, Population and Welfare Statistics 2013:7, *Part-time employed job seekers.* 

ISSN 1654-465X (Online)

URN:NBN:SE:SCB-2013-AM76BR1307\_pdf

This publication is only available in electronic form on www.scb.se.

### Foreword

The Swedish Labour Force Survey (LFS) presents employment and unemployment in accordance with the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Convention for labour market statistics. The survey follows a hierarchical structure, and the requirement for being classified as *employed* is that the person must have performed at least one hour of paid work during the reference week or been an unpaid helper in a family business during the reference week. If the individual was not employed and also looked for work and is able to take a job, he or she is classified as *unemployed*. Persons who are neither employed nor unemployed are classified instead as *not in the labour force*.

Because of the definition of employment, all hours worked in the economy are captured in the survey, allowing for the analysis of the economic situation. Also, the definition cause the group of employed to be very heterogeneous since a person who works full time and a person who only works a few hours during the reference week are classified and presented in the same way. A person who works few hours and also seeks work and is able to take a job might have more in common with a person who is unemployed from a social perspective. However, the hierarchical structure only allows for a person to belong to one labour status. Thus, the measures employment and unemployment primarily aim at describing the economic aspects of the labour market, the labour supply. However, the measures are often used as social indicators representing economic independence, income, social integration etc.

The reason for introducing the complementary indicators *Underemployed part-time workers* and *Part-time employed job seekers* is to provide a more detailed picture of the labour market by giving measures capturing those employed who have a labour market situation similar to those who are unemployed. I.e. Part-time employed persons who want to work and can do so more than they do, and in the next step those in that group who also seek work.

The indicator Underemployed part-time workers is based on work conducted by Eurostat, and is thereby also produced by other member states. For Part-time employed job seekers there are no international guidelines. This measure has been developed by Statistics Sweden due to a strong need for such a measure from the LFS' main users. Constructing this indicator, it has been the ambition of Statistics Sweden to follow the intentions of ILO despite the absence of clear guidelines for this issue. The work with developing these indicators has been approved by the main users of the LFS and internally at Statistics Sweden. Colleagues from Eurostat have also contributed with valuable comments. Anna Broman has led the work and is the author of this report.

Statistics Sweden August 2013

Inger Eklund

## Contents

Foreword	3
Part-time employed job seekers	7
Background	
Employed or unemployed?	
How are full-time and part-time measured respectively?	
Possible limits	10
Actual or usual number of hours worked	11
Proposal for setting boundary	12
Part-time employed job seekers	13
Group definitions	
Temporary change in the questionnaire	16
Name discussion	16
Publishing	17
Appendix	19

## Part-time employed job seekers

### Background

The project aims to supplement the ILO measure of unemployment with additional indicators by first producing a subset of the group underemployed, underemployed part-time workers. Thereafter, a further subset will be developed within this group, so-called Part-time employed job seekers<sup>1</sup>.

The task of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) is to describe the situation on the labour market. This is done by developing a variety of indicators, including statistics on the number of employed, unemployed and how many are outside the labour force. The LFS is a sample survey of individuals that has been conducted by Statistics Sweden since 1961. The design gives priority to quarterly estimates, especially changes between adjoining quarters. The statistics are published monthly, quarterly and annually.

Individuals in the sample are classified as either employed, unemployed or outside the labour force - three groups that are mutually exclusive. To provide a more comprehensive picture, subsets within these groups are also published. The number of reports and indicators that are continuously produced has increased in step with a growing need and increasing interest among various users to make in-depth assessments of the labour market.

The project Part-time employed job seekers aims to include additional indicators in the LFS. The rationale is to describe employed individuals who are in a labour market situation that in certain respects is closely related to the unemployed group. The requirement for being classified as employed is that the person must have performed at least one hour of work during the reference week. All work and hours worked are captured in this way. Hours worked are used as an economic indicator, including for the analysis of the economic situation and forecasts of GDP development. Thus, this definition covers people who work only a few hours and counts them as employed.

The ILO and Eurostat have for some time worked to develop definitions for people who find themselves in a situation close to unemployment. They have looked at the groups that are currently in the group of people outside the labour force but who are close to an active labour market status, and they have looked at people who are employed but working less than they would like. This project report focuses on the latter group, which appears to be in some sort of hybrid situation between employment and unemployment, so-called time-related underemployment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Part-time employed job seekers is a working name. For more information on the name issue, see the section "Name discussion".

Since the second quarter of 2005, the LFS has produced estimates to measure the underemployed as currently defined. This is a subset of employees, consisting of people who want to work<sup>2</sup> more than they do in their current situation and can extend their working hours, either by increasing the number of hours worked in their current job, getting a second job or by switching to a different job with longer hours.

Underemployed persons are used, together with "latent job seekers" (persons in the potential labour force who are not seeking work) and the unemployed, to calculate the labour supply not utilised, in terms of the number of people and the number of unutilised hours. Hence, there is no restriction of a maximum limit on the number of hours that the persons usually work. The labour supply not utilised indicates the resources available in the country and thus can provide a picture of the possibilities for growth. From an economic perspective, the underemployed and latent job seekers can thus be considered a complement to the unemployed.

Classifying a person as underemployed requires that they are employed but willing and able to work more. There is no limit to how much work they currently perform. Thus, even a full-time employee can be underemployed because the measure is based on the individual's own perception of how much he or she wants to work. Since the underemployed comprise a very heterogeneous group, there is a need to divide it into smaller groups in order to identify the individuals who are close to the group of unemployed. We are talking about time-related underemployment, parttime workers who are willing and able to work more. Within the group of underemployed part-time workers, we can subsequently identify those who are actively seeking work.

It is already possible to gain certain information about the size of those who work part-time and seek work through Swedish Public Employment Service data. One advantage of using the LFS measurements instead is that the definitions are not affected by changes in administrative rules. This means that you get a more objective measure, which in turn allows for comparable figures.

By developing this new measure, ILO's unemployment concept could be supplemented by an additional indicator. It could provide a better picture of the labour market from a social or societal perspective. For example, this could concern people who only worked temporarily during the specific reference week, or people who work only a few hours per week and who want to work more and are actively looking for work, just like an unemployed person. They could be seen as part-time employed, but also as partly unemployed, i.e. in some form of partial unemployment.

#### **Employed or unemployed?**

People classified as employed in the LFS may be people who work fulltime as well as part-time, have a permanent job, a temporary job, or are self-employed. Thus, employed persons are a rather heterogeneous group,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>The LFS makes use of Eurostat's definition of wanting to work more, which differs from ICLS 16. The Eurostat definition asks if you want to work more than your normal number of hours worked, while ICLS 16 advocates instead the use of the actual number of hours worked.

and therefore it is common to break down the group by creating different subgroups. The usual breakdown is according to the degree of attachment to the labour market, i.e. how many people have permanent employment, temporary employment and how many are self-employed or family workers. Other common classifications are, for example, by industry, sector, working hours, etc.

Many people have jobs with shorter working hours, which can be regarded as insufficient in terms of working time and income. Examples of jobs where working hours are often shorter include hourly employment and jobs where people are called in for work when workloads are higher than normal and there is a need for additional labour.

Among those who work part-time, there are people who, like the unemployed, actively seek a job and can and want to work more. They may seem to be in a cross of employment and unemployment. Since they nonetheless have a job and are counted as employed, there is a risk that they are forgotten when interpreting the statistics.

The fact that more people have jobs with insufficient number of hours worked is also a risk that can lead to difficulties for them to cope financially. The group in the current LFS that is closest to this are the underemployed, i.e. employees who are willing and able to increase their working hours. To be considered capable of increasing working hours, the person is required to have been able to work more during the reference week or to start working more hours within two weeks following the end of the reference week. However, something that is not taken into account is the hours worked, which means that even people who are already working full-time can be counted as underemployed. In addition, whether the person sought additional work with their current or another employer is not taken into account.

Unemployment is used as an indicator of economic as well as social contexts. To be classified as unemployed requires that the person was without work during the reference week but looked for work in the last four weeks (the reference week and three weeks back) and could work during the reference week or begin work within 14 days from the end of the reference week. Unemployed persons also include persons who have received work that will begin within three months, on the condition that they could have worked during the reference week or begin within 14 days from the end of the reference week.

# How are full-time and part-time measured respectively?

Both ILO and Eurostat have presented reports highlighting the case for dividing the group underemployed into two smaller groups - full-time and part-time workers. In this way, a better measure is obtained that complements the unemployed from a social perspective.

- 1. Underemployed persons
  - 1.1 Underemployed persons, part-time employee
  - 1.2 Underemployed persons, full-time employee

In order to make this division, we need to introduce a restriction that the working time shall not correspond to full-time employment to be counted as underemployed, part-time employment. This will exclude those who want to increase working hours solely to increase income, but not because they work too few hours.

Considering someone as Part-time employed job seeker requires that they work part-time. However, making a division between full-time and parttime employees is not without difficulties. Should a limit be set to how long working hours may be to be counted as part-time; and if so, where should this limit be set?

#### **Possible limits**

The structure of the LFS allows for three possibilities: Actual hours worked, usual hours worked, and self-defined full-time or part-time. The actual hours worked is measured for all employees, i.e. the number of hours worked during the reference week. All weeks during the year are surveyed, but each interviewee is asked about a specific week. Different interviewees are thus linked to different reference weeks. All weeks are then used to calculate how much we work on average during different periods. The measure varies a lot by season since we work less during the summer months and major holidays, for example. Other factors such as temporary illness also affect the actual number of hours worked.

Another way to measure time worked is by looking at the usual working hours, which is defined as the agreed working hours for employees, and average working hours for people who do not have an agreement with their employer or who are self-employed. This measure refers to a longer period of time and is therefore more stable.

In addition, there is a question in the LFS where the individual may state whether the work in their main job is full-time or part-time (self-defined measure of full-time/part-time). In cases where the employee is temporarily working part-time due to parental leave, for example, this is counted as full-time work. A useful definition of part-time work is "working less than the working hours of a full-time employee with the same profession at the same workplace". Eurostat currently uses selfdefined part-time work in the main employment, when it produces estimates of underemployed part-time workers.

These ways of measuring are all beset with a variety of practical problems. For those who state that they work part-time in their main employment, but have more than one job, the self-defined measure becomes problematic because the total working time including secondary occupations can be 40 hours or more. Building on hours actually or usually worked also poses problems when a limit must be set for what should be counted as full-time and part-time employment respectively, and the contracted work time may vary for full-time employment in different occupational groups. For most full-time employment, this means a 40-hour week, but certain groups, such as shift workers, workers who work according to a timetable, or underground workers have reduced working hours through collective agreements. Estimating time worked can often be difficult, especially for those who have working hours that vary from week to week. People who are called in when needed and those who worked temporarily in the reference week are currently not asked about full-time and part-time employment respectively. Nor are they asked about their average working time. The only information regarding working hours found in these cases is information on the actual time worked during the reference week. These people are currently coded as full-time or part-time in their main employment according to the self-defined measure, based on the number of hours actually worked in the main employment. The boundary between full-time and part-time employment respectively is derived at 35 hours.

#### Actual or usual number of hours worked

One way to handle the problem of different definitions is to decide to use the self-defined measure and supplement it with an additional restriction that the overall working hours, including secondary occupations, may not exceed 35 hours (the limit that is used in the Swedish LFS's press releases to distinguish full-time employed from others). This addresses the problem of people who work part-time in their main employment, but who have more than one job and thus work full-time in total. This definition is also easy to explain - the group of underemployed part-time workers includes those individuals who stated that they work part-time in their main employment and whose total working time is less than 35 hours.

Different problems arise depending on how the working time is measured, i.e. if you use the actual or usual number of hours worked. The primary argument for the use of actual time worked is that we want to measure short-term changes in the volume of work and how much labour on average is available for use during each week. During a *Preparatory Regional Meeting of Labour Statisticians in support of the 19th ICLS* in Paris in 2012, the ILO advocated that the hours actually worked should be used when measuring underemployed part-time workers. However, there are clear difficulties in practical statistical production with the use of actual hours worked to set a boundary between full-time and part-time employment. During a week of absence due to vacation, for example, no actual hours worked are reported. Thus, this measure would be very sensitive to seasonal variation. Sickness absence in the reference week could also lead to a person being classified as a part-time employee, even if the usual working hours are equivalent to full-time employment.

A longer reference period than just one week regarding working time would increase stability. The measure usual hours worked reflects structural problems with insufficient quantity of work in the longer term. Moreover, a person does not seek more work due to the number of hours worked in a given week, but rather due to their general situation. In addition, the reason why they work fewer hours in a given week is often sickness or other factors that are not taken into account in what is to be measured with the new measure. This measure will also be more consistent, in that the LFS's conditions for wanting to work more hours refer to the time usually worked and not the actual time worked. Thus, a more consistent measure is gained with hours usually worked, since the same reference period is used. Overall, if a time limit ought to be set there are more reasons for making use of usually worked hours than actual hours worked, given that the boundary between full-time and part-time employment is based on hours worked.

#### Proposal for setting boundary

In 2011, Eurostat implemented a measure of underemployed part-time workers. It set a boundary by using only the self-defined full-time or part-time employment. Figures produced under this definition for the first quarter of 2012 can be found in Table 1.

The corresponding figures when taking into account that people can have more than one job are found in Table 2. When comparing the tables, one can see how the numbers change if you count as full-time employees those people who have stated that they work part-time in their main job and whose total number of hours usually worked are less than 35 hours when taking into account their secondary employments.

#### Table 1 Number of persons, self-defined as part-time employees, thousands, Quarter 1 2012

Age	Underemployed persons	Underemployed part-time workers	Part-time employed job seekers
15–24 years	88.0	53.6	18.5
25–34	76.4	41.4	13.2
35–44	53.3	33.3	9.0
45–54	47.1	31.6	7.7
55–74	30.0	22.7	2.7
15–74	294.8	182.6	51.0

## Table 2 Number of persons, Self-defined part-time and total hours worked< 35, thousands, Quarter 1 2012</td>

Age	Underemployed persons	Underemployed part-time workers	Part-time employed job seekers
15–24 years	88.0	49.8	17.2
25–34	76.4	37.9	12.7
35–44	53.3	29.9	8.7
45–54	47.1	26.6	6.9
55–74	30.0	21.4	2.6
15–74	294.8	165.6	48.1

From Tables 1 and 2 we can see that the Eurostat method produces 17 000 more underemployed part-time workers than if you remove the people who become full-time employed when taking their secondary occupations into account.

The boundary in the Swedish LFS should be harmonised with the Eurostat figures for best comparability. Thus, the conclusion is that only the self-defined measure of whether a person works full-time or part-time should be used in accordance with the Eurostat recommendations.

### Part-time employed job seekers

After the boundary has been set between full-time and part-time employed, a subset of the group of underemployed part-time workers is produced, which can be described as Part-time employed job seekers.<sup>3</sup> It may be suitable to introduce a criterion for this - that the person sought additional work from their current or another employer. By making this division, we can more clearly see the situation of different parts of the heterogeneous group of the underemployed in relation to the unemployed. This provides us with a better indicator of the labour market situation from both a social and economic perspective than we have access to today.

The definition of unemployment in the LFS should be taken into consideration when developing this subset of underemployed part-time workers. The criteria applied for classifying the unemployed should be used as a basis for discussion on how the group should be defined.

The primary criterion for classification as unemployed is that people are without work during the reference week. Since the group Part-time employed job seekers by definition is employed and therefore have a job, we can ignore this criterion.

In practice, there are two ways for people without work to be classified as unemployed instead of belonging to the group outside the labour force. The first is that the person has looked for work during the most recent four weeks (the reference week and three weeks back) and could work the reference week or begin within 14 days of the end of the reference week. The other way is that the person has received work that will begin within three months, on the condition that they could have worked during the reference week or begun work within 14 days from the end of the reference week. The discussion here focuses on whether these two ways are appropriate and fully applicable to people who are employed and are likely to belong to the group Part-time employed job seekers.

The criterion for active job seeker can be currently applied to the group Underemployed part-time workers without difficulty. It would generate the estimates given in Table 1 for Part-time employed job seekers. Using only this criterion would also allow the development of long time series with the first publication of the new measure. However, in the interpretation of this group, one should take into consideration that underemployed part-time workers who want to remain with their current employer are actively seeking to a lesser extent, because it is not possible to apply for more work with their current employer every week. Therefore, it may be of interest to also present a table showing how an underemployed part-time worker wants to increase their working hours. Another aspect is that this measure does not reflect the situation of the self-employed person as well as for employees, since

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>One could have looked at job seekers among the entire group of Underemployed persons. However, this would have resulted in excessive overlap of Underemployed part-time workers, and thus create confusion.

active job search is not applicable to self-employed persons who are not interested in a parallel employment in the same way as for employees.

When it comes to the second criterion, i.e. classifying people who have found employment that starts within three months as unemployed, there are several things to consider, both theoretical and practical.

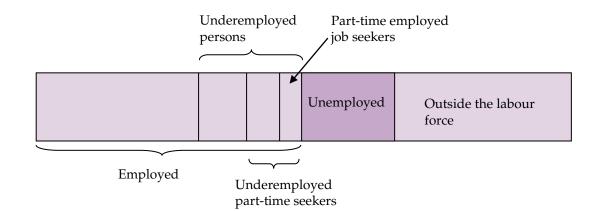
Since we are discussing people who actually have a job to some extent, the assumption is significantly stronger that these people would have actively looked for work if they were not expecting an increase in working hours than for people without work. In the case of employed people, it is thus more questionable to include people who have found a job.

Since employed people currently do not receives a question regarding if they have found a job, the inclusion of people who are starting a new employment within 3 months also poses practical problems. For example, one would not be able to publish some longer time series when the measure is introduced in LFS's quarterly publication because the group has not received the question.

Eurostat discusses the use of active job search as a possible criterion in the report *Report from the Task Force on indicators to supplement the ILO unemployment rate, 2010.* The current report does not make any concrete proposal for how a group built on job seekers should be delimited and defined. However, if we consider the discussions and empirical studies on possible structures in this report, only active job seekers are taken into account, not people who have already found a job. This can be taken as an indication that Eurostat also see this as the relevant criterion.

Thus, there are few reasons that the group people who have found a job starting within 3 months should be included in the group Part-time employed job seekers, other than that they are included in the ILO unemployment definition. However, since these people are nonetheless employed, and a different purpose is involved in the presentation of this group, this reason is considered subordinate.

All in all, it is proposed that only people who are actively seeking work are to be included in the new measure, and not people waiting for a job within three months. However, at the same time, the question should be further explored. A new question should be temporarily introduced for a year in the questionnaire as an experiment to evaluate whether it is worthwhile to include people awaiting a job starting within 3 months in Part-time employed job seekers.



Since Part-time employed job seekers is a subgroup of the underemployed, only persons willing and able to work can be Part-time employed job seekers. This means that people who cannot take a new job during the reference week, or within 14 days, because of the notice period from their present work, cannot be included in the group since they do not meet the second condition. However, those who want to work more and actively seek work but indicate that they cannot take a new job within 14 days because of the notice period are few, about three percent in the first quarter of 2012. Thus, this should not affect the size of the group in a significant way.

#### **Group definitions**

The groups must be clearly defined to enable quantification. The goal is to create specific definitions in order to follow the development of Underemployed part-time workers and Part-time employed job seekers by continuously producing estimates for these groups in Statistics Sweden's Labour Force Surveys.

Since the groups are subgroups within the current definition of the underemployed and shall function as a supplementary measure of the unemployed, the criteria for ways of seeking work, for example, should to some extent be based on criterions for the unemployed. The reference periods should also be the same as for the unemployed.

A proposal for the breakdown is as follows:

- 1. Underemployed persons
  - 1.1 Underemployed part-time workers
    - 1.1.1 Part-time employed job seekers
  - 1.2 Underemployed full-time workers.

Underemployed persons are defined as persons who

- 1) Want to increase their working hours.
- 2) Can work more. To be considered being able to work more, the person should have been able to work more during the reference week or to increase their working hours within two weeks after the end of the reference week.

An additional criterion is introduced to generate the new group of underemployed part-time workers, so that they are defined as persons who are

3) Employed but do not work full-time in their employment. Part-time is to be defined using the self-defined measure of part-time.

In addition to the above three criteria, active job searching is required for classification as Part-time employed job seeker, which leads to the definition becoming

4) Actively seeking work in the last four weeks.

### Temporary change in the questionnaire

Classification as unemployed currently requires that you actively sought work during the most recent four weeks. However, as noted above, there is an exception for people who have agreed to begin a job within three months, but who could have begun the job within two weeks after the end of the reference week. However, the underemployed do not receive any question about whether they have agreed to begin a job within three months that matches their desired working time.

Looking at the group who already have found a job among the currently unemployed, you can see that this group causes some seasonal variations in the unemployed group because people in younger age groups fall within the boundaries for the unemployed when they await summer jobs, etc. Figures from 2011 for young people age 15-24, for example, show that the share of the unemployed who have found a job is 17.5 percent in the first quarter, but increased to 39.4 percent in the second quarter. In the third quarter, the figure decreased to 20.2 percent. People in the age group 25-34 show similar patterns, and the percentage of persons who already have found a job increases sharply in the second quarter.

However, it is unclear whether the pattern would be similar for part-time employed job seekers as for the unemployed, and how large the group who have found a job might be. To study this, a question similar to that currently provided to the unemployed on whether they have agreed to begin a job within three months should be introduced temporarily to assess the size of the group. Subsequently, a further assessment could be made as to whether it is worthwhile to include these people in the group Part-time employed job seekers.

#### Name discussion

The working names for the new measures are Underemployed part-time workers and Part-time employed job seekers.

Eurostat uses the term Underemployed part-time workers in its reports. Hence, the Swedish term "Undersysselsatta deltidsarbetare" is a fairly straight translation of the English term to Swedish. The focus of the discussion is thus to name the subgroup in this report referred to as Parttime employed job seekers.

Other name proposals include Part-time unemployed and Partially unemployed. However, these proposals can be regarded as misleading in describing the group in question. According to ILO's main classifications of people in the labour market, which are all mutually exclusive, the people in this group belong to the employed group and not to the unemployed group. This should also be reflected in the name of the group. There is also a risk that the unemployment concept will becomes weakened if we use this concept in the name. In addition, there is the risk that summations will be made of the unemployed and the new group.

The proposed name Part-time employed job seekers is also not entirely unproblematic as it is not clear that these are *underemployed* part-time workers who also are looking for work. The alternative could be leaving the group without a name and only referring to the group "of which job seekers". However, Statistics Sweden's understanding is that Part-time employed job seekers is the most suitable proposal for a name to describe the current group.

#### Publishing

Since Underemployed part-time workers, and above all Part-time employed job seekers are relatively small groups, they should be published quarterly, rather than monthly, as the sample is considered to be too small to make monthly estimates. The small size of the groups also makes it impossible to make many divisions into smaller subgroups. However, there are possibilities of reporting the number of Part-time employed job seekers within certain divisions of the population.

Underemployed persons are currently reported in the basic tables by sex and age in Table 18 and by Swedish-born/foreign-born, sex and age in Tables 37A and 37B (see Appendix 1). It would also be desirable to develop tables for Underemployed part-time workers and Part-time employed job seekers that correspond to the tables that are currently produced for the underemployed. Unfortunately, this possibility is limited because of group sizes. For example, tables showing breakdowns by sex and Swedish-born or foreign-born cannot be divided by age as is done in Tables 37A and 37B because of sample size. Divisions that proved to be possible in smaller tests are:

- Sex and Age
- Sex and Swedish-born/foreign-born
- Sex and Highest level of education attained
- Sex and Public/private sector.
- Sex and Long or short part time
- Sex and Permanent/temporary employment or self-employed

As the question used to find out whether or not the respondent has sought work is "*Have you looked for a different job or an extra job during the last 4 weeks, i.e. during the period ...? Include other work with your current employer*", it is not completely clear that the respondent has sought work with more hours. Thus, a table showing the reasons for why the respondent has sought work should be included to complete the picture. However, such a table is based on the main reason for seeking work, and thus, it is not excluded that more working hours is a secondary reason for seeking work.

In the tables "Kompletterande tabeller avseende Grundtabeller och Befolkningen ej i arbete, 15-74 år, kvartal", there are additional tables for the underemployed. Three tables are presented here with the underemployed over time distributed by Swedish-born/foreign-born, age or highest level of education attained in Tables 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 (see Appendix 1). All are broken down for both sexes, women and men. The above table numbers are for quarterly data.

However, constructing tables that show the duration of job seeking for Part-time employed job seekers is more difficult. Test runs of the tables with the classifications made in the supplementary Tables 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 show that in some categories only about 60 individuals were surveyed on a quarterly basis. This is when they are not broken down by sex, age or some other variable. Division based on age only results in less than 20 sample units in nearly all cells. If the breakdown is based on sex only, cells with less than 20 sample units also occur relatively often.

One possibility is to report only the "long-term part-time employed job seekers," i.e. people who were Part-time employed job seekers for more than 27 weeks, broken down by sex only. However, looking at the distribution over the weeks, it can be argued that even this division can be problematic. The presentation of mean values is also questionable in this perspective. Since there is non-response, there is also the risk that users of the statistics conclude that those who are not part of the group "long-term part-time employed job seekers" have belonged to the group less than 27 weeks.

Another possibility is to have a breakdown by sex only and for 1-4 weeks, 5-26 weeks, and 27 or more weeks. This gives a more accurate picture of the labour market situation, but also involves a greater risk of having too few people in the sample. Hence, the question of whether we should report the time period of Part-time employed job seekers, and if so, how this should be done remains open and should be addressed further before any implementation of such a table in the Swedish LFS.

Since a person is not likely to actively seek work with their own employer each week, the published tables should be supplemented with a table showing how Underemployed part-time workers (and possibly Part-time employed job seekers) want to increase their working hours. This table could be based on the question "How would you like to increase your working hours?" which already exists in the Swedish LFS. The question gives the respondent the opportunity to enter different ways to increase working hours. The alternatives listed in the question are:

- Have other work at present employer
- Change employers
- Work more hours in present job
- Have an additional job/secondary occupation.

In order that the table shall add up to the total number of people, one could report the groups as "Want more hours within current company", "Want more hours outside current company" and "Want more hours either within or outside current company ". This table should be presented for foreignborn/Swedish-born and by public/private sector. The table will probably be published annually, but further study should be made on whether it is possible to also publish on a quarterly basis.

## Appendix

#### Table 1

## Underemployed, underemployed part-time workers and part-time employed job seekers, by sex and age

Sex			1 000s		
Age	Employed	thereof	Uı	nderemploye	d
	-	Part-time	All under- employed (3)	Part-time workers (4)	thereof
		workers			Job seekers
	(1)	(2)			(5)
Both sexes 15–24 25–54 55–74 15–74					
<b>thereof</b> 16–64 20–64 <b>Men</b>					

# Table 2Underemployed, underemployed part-time workers and part-time employedjob seekers, by sex and Swedish/foreign born

Sex			1 000s		
Swedish and foreign born	Employed	thereof	Ur	nderemploye	d
5		Part-time		Part-time	thereof
		workers	employed workers	Job seekers	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<b>Both sexes</b> Swedish born Foreign born Total					
<b>Men</b> Swedish born Foreign born Total					
<b>Women</b> Swedish born Foreign born Total					

Sex			1 000s		
Education	Employed	thereof	Ui	nderemploye	d
		Part-time	All under-	Part-time	thereof
		workers	employed	workers	Job seekers
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Both sexes ISCED 0,1,2 ISCED 3 ISCED 4,5,6 Data not available Total					
Men ISCED 0,1,2 ISCED 3 ISCED 4,5,6 Data not available Total					
Women ISCED 0,1,2 ISCED 3 ISCED 4,5,6 Data not available Total					

# Table 3Underemployed, underemployed part-time workers and part-time employedjob seekers, by sex and level of education

#### Table 4

## Underemployed, underemployed part-time workers and part-time employed job seekers, by sex and sector

Sex			1 000s		
Sector	Employed	thereof	U	nderemploye	d
	-	Part-time	All under-	Part-time	thereof
		workers	employed	workers	Job seekers
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<b>Both sexes</b> Public Private Data not available Total					
<b>Men</b> Public Private Data not available Total					
<b>Women</b> Public Private Data not available Total					

Sex	1 000s					
Permanency of the job	Employed	thereof	Uı	nderemploye	d	
		Part-time	All under-	Part-time	thereof	
		workers	employed	workers	Job seekers	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
<b>Both sexes</b> Permanent employment Temporary employment Total						
<b>Men</b> Permanent employment Temporary employment Total						
<b>Women</b> Permanent employment Temporary employment Total						

#### Table 5 Underemployed, underemployed part-time workers and part-time employed job seekers, by sex and permanency of the job

# Table 6Underemployed, underemployed part-time workers and part-time employedjob seekers, by sex and type of part-time

Sex			1 000s		
Type of part-time	Employed	thereof	Uı	nderemploye	d
		Part-time	All under-	Part-time	thereof
		workers	employed	workers	Job seekers
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Both sexes 1–19 hours 20–34 hours					
<b>Men</b> 1–19 hours 20–34 hours					
<b>Women</b> 1–19 hours 20–34 hours					

Sex		1 000s						
Age	Rea	Reason for seeking work						
	Want to change the hours of work (1)	Temporary/ uncertain work (2)	Want better work conditions (3)					
Both sexes 15–74 thereof 16–64 20–64								
Men 15–74 thereof 16–64 20–64								
Women 15–74 thereof 16–64 20–64								

## Table 7 Part-time employed job seekers, broken down by reason for seeking work, age and sex

- 2007:1 Några väsentliga sysselsättningsbegrepp i den officiella statistiken
- 2007:2 Registerbaserad aktivitetsstatistik
- 2008:1 Ungdomar utan fullföljd gymnasieutbildning en undersökning med många utmaningar
- 2009:1 Longitudinell Integrationsdatabas för Sjukförsäkrings- och Arbetsmarknadsstudier (LISA) 1990–2007
- 2010:1 Principiella grunder för Arbetskraftsundersökningarna (AKU) och arbetsmarknadsstatistiken
- 2010:2 Rekryteringsstatistik från AKU
- 2011:1 Basic principles for Labour Force Surveys (LFS) and labour market statistics
- 2011:2 Recruitment Statistics for the Swedish Labour Force Survey
- 2011:3 Arbetskraftsundersökningarna (AKU) 50 år. Fyra forskarperspektiv på arbetsmarknaden
- 2011:4 Longitudinell integrationsdatabas för Sjukförsäkrings- och Arbetsmarknadsstudier (LISA) 1990–2009
- 2011:5 Yrkesregistret med yrkesstatistik. En beskrivning av innehåll och kvalitet
- 2011:6 Urvals- och estimationsförfarandet i de svenska arbetskraftsundersökningarna (AKU)
- 2011:7 Konjunkturberoende i inflödet till och utflödet från högre studier
- 2012:1 Actual Hours Worked in the Swedish LFS. Four articles
- 2013:1 Ungdomsarbetslöshet jämförbarhet i statistiken mellan ett antal europeiska länder
- 2013:2 Revising Surveys Linking Old and New Data
- 2013:3 Consistent Seasonal Adjustment and Trend-cycle Estimation
- 2013:4 Youth unemployment comparability in statistics between a number of European countries
- 2013:5 Länkning av centrala serier i Arbetskraftsundersökningarna (AKU) 1970–1986
- 2013:6 Deltidssysselsatta arbetssökande

ISSN 1654-465X (Online)

All officiell statistik finns på: **www.scb.se** Statistikservice: tfn 08-506 948 01

All official statistics can be found at: **www.scb.se** Statistics Service, phone +46 8 506 948 01

www.scb.se