STATISTICS OF TRADE UNION MEMBERSHIP

Data for 49 countries
taken mainly from national statistical publications

August 2010
ILO Bureau of Statistics
(unpublished)
Data are currently available in Excel for the following countries:

Antigua and Barbuda
Australia
Barbados
Belgium
Belize
Bermuda
Brazil
Canada
China
Colombia
Denmark
Dominica
Egypt
El Salvador
Finland
France
Germany
Guatemala
Guyana
Hong Kong, China
Iceland
India
Ireland
Japan
Korea, Republic of
Kuwait
Malaysia
Malta
Montserrat
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Pakistan
Philippines
St Kitts and Nevis
St Lucia
St Vincent and the Grenadines
Singapore
Slovakia
South Africa
Sri Lanka
Suriname
Sweden
Switzerland
Syrian Arab Republic
Turkey
United Kingdom
United States
The data in these tables are the official national statistics taken mainly from national publications, but in a few cases other sources have been used. This is indicated in the tables and in the notes that follow. The figures have not been adjusted in any way, but are as shown in the publications.

For a number of reasons, the data may not be directly comparable between countries.

For some countries, the data are drawn from the official reports of trade unions submitted in accordance with laws or regulations to the competent authority, such as a certification officer or registrar. In these cases, the trade unions actually providing reports may vary from year to year. Non-affiliated and non-registered trade unions may not report at all. In other countries, data are collected through household labour force surveys or surveys of establishments (employers). The coverage of the data derived from the different sources varies: the data may cover different sizes of establishments (establishment surveys often exclude small establishments), different groups of workers (all persons in employment, paid employees only, etc.), different sectors or economic activities, and so on. Some trade union figures may include not just employed persons, but also retired workers, persons who are not economically active and unemployed persons.

Union membership data are subject to reporting errors, whatever the source. In household surveys, both sampling and non-sampling errors may occur, such as inaccurate proxy answers. Many unions have difficulty in keeping accurate and up-to-date records of their membership, and therefore reports by unions are subject to inaccuracies. Members who have left the union or who have died may not be deleted from the records for some time, and those joining another union may be counted in each for a certain period.

The rates of trade union membership ("union density") are a measure of those who belong to unions as a percentage of those eligible to join. In some countries, these rates are calculated as the ratio of union members to the total number of paid employees. However, as noted above, the coverage of the union membership may be broader or narrower, depending on the inclusion of the self-employed, or retired workers, etc. or the unemployed, or the exclusion of certain groups. The rates shown are those calculated by the countries themselves, where available; for some countries, the ILO Bureau of Statistics has calculated the rates using as denominator the total number of paid employees as published in the ILO Yearbook of Labour Statistics (Table 2E).

The following is an extract from the World Labour Report 1997-98: Industrial relations, democracy and social stability (ILO, Geneva, 1997)

Industrial relations indicators¹

Compiling trade union membership statistics

There are two main methods of compiling union membership statistics. The first is to carry out a household, enterprise or labour force survey. The method has clear advantages for calculating detailed union density rates by sex, employment status, industrial branch, enterprise size, educational attainment, level of earning or other characteristics. The survey method gives better results when it is clear to respondents what is meant by a union and membership, and if problems of statistical sampling are solved. ...

The second method is a compilation of membership statistics from questionnaires completed by individual unions or trade union federations. In many countries this task is undertaken by an official registrar, a government office, a central statistical bureau,

¹ These technical notes are drawn from J. Visser: Global trends in unionization (ILO, Geneva, 1997).
or one or more trade union federations. In some cases such data are compiled by independent researchers, either on the basis of unpublished registers, government surveys or even their own surveys. This kind of data offers advantages for a study of membership developments in relation to union type, membership concentration, inter-union competition, union politics and union ideology.

One of the main difficulties with the second method is statistical coverage or the identification of unions (i.e. not so much whether an organization should be considered as a "trade or labour union", but simply locating and identifying the existence of small new unions). This constitutes a problem in the case of unaffiliated unions as well as in countries where there is no obligation for a union to register. Official registration is not always useful either because it is sometimes used, with denial of recognition, as a means to hinder the formation of newly emerging unions ... or because unions fail to return their membership or financial files to the registrar ...

Under-reporting of non-affiliated and non-registered trade unions constitutes a problem in many countries but in the absence of surveys, elections, and independent press reports it is difficult to estimate its size. It relates less to making comparisons within countries over time than to those drawn between countries. In general, statistical coverage has increased - especially in western countries.

Self-reporting of membership reflects different administrative and political practices and may yield incomparable and unreliable results. Unions may have reasons to overstate or understate their membership figures in reports to the press, public agencies, political parties, employers or competitors. They may apply different norms regarding who is to be considered a "member in good standing" and may be slow to remove those who have left or no longer pay their contributions. Unions may include people who no longer consider themselves as members. Comparison with survey data suggests that some overstatement in reported membership is general but, in most cases, small.

Union density and labour force statistics: three denominators

As a measurement of relative rather than absolute size, union density rates are better suited to making comparisons, especially across countries, than absolute membership figures. Union density expresses union membership as a proportion of the eligible workforce. Ideally, groups who are not legally permitted to join a union should be excluded from the calculation of union density statistics. In many countries, senior civil servants, the armed forces, police officers, security staff, teachers or domestic servants are not permitted to join a Union. However, as Chang and Sorrentino (1991)² rightly observe, the eligibility to join a union shifts over time and across countries, and the strict application of such a criterion for calculating union density rates would make comparison across countries extremely difficult if not impossible.

Therefore, a common denominator is applied to permit comparison. Given the definition of a trade union, and the self-declared purpose and domain of most unions, this common denominator is defined as all people who earn their living on wages and salaries, including those who are employed in the public sector or work in government service. Normally, union density rates are standardized by calculation union membership as a proportion of the wage and salary earners in the same year (preferably on the basis of some annual average, or en-of-year data). Such data is directly comparable with household or labour force survey data. ... Although many unions, at least in Europe, retain membership of unemployed workers and those that have retired from the labour force (i.e. through reduced contribution rates or by offering special benefits), the calculation of standardized density rates requires their number to be subtracted from the "active membership". This is possible, mostly with the help of surveys, financial data or on the basis of estimates ...

The major difficulty inherent in calculating union density rates on the basis of wage and salary earners in employment arises from the fact that, in many developing countries, the necessary

employment data are missing. In many of these countries the line between employment, underemployment and unemployment, or between self-employment and employment for wages, is not easily drawn. In order to broaden the orbits of comparison, two more baselines for the calculation of union density rates are presented. One is connected to the concept of the non-agricultural labour force, the other to the formal wage sector.

... The non-agricultural labour force is often regarded as the unions' main domain. As a rule, the number of union members in agriculture should be subtracted before union density rates are calculated. However, as it is rare for unions to organize any significant number of farm workers, this calculation has not been performed. Unionized farm workers are found only where there is a plantation system ... or where unions have established a tradition of providing social security benefits. In the few countries where union density in agriculture is very high, for instance in the Scandinavian countries, the agricultural wage sector becomes so small (less than 5% of overall employment) that their number in the aggregate is ignored, without comparability being impaired.

The main advantage of using the non-agricultural labour force as the denominator for calculating union density rates is that data is available for almost all countries. The disadvantage is that many groups (such as the self-employed and unpaid family workers, especially in construction and in commercial, personal and household services) which do not belong to the target population of trade unions are also part of the non-agricultural labour force. The number of wage earners is generally much smaller than the whole non-agricultural labour force - also because the latter includes the unemployed in industry and services.

Finally, in some countries - in particular in Africa, South Asia and parts of Latin America - employment data are only available for the formal wage sector. Thus, this sector constitutes the third common denominator for the calculation of union density rates.
NATIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION
ON TRADE UNION MEMBERSHIP

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Data collected by ILO Office, Port-of-Spain, from the Labour Department, Antigua and Barbuda.

Number of members of workers’ organizations.

Publications:
*Caribbean Digest of Labour Statistics*
- (ILO, Port-of-Spain)

Contact information:
ILO Area Office and Multidisciplinary Advisory Team for the Caribbean
11 St. Clair Avenue
P.O. Box 1201
PORT-OF-SPAIN
Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: +868 628 1453
Fax: +868 628 2433

Web site:
http://mirror/public/English/region/ampro/portofspain/system_links/link_databases.htm

AUSTRALIA

The figures are compiled from questionnaires completed by individual trade unions and employee associations in respect of their membership as at 30 June 1985 onwards and as at 31 December in previous years.

Current lists of trade unions are maintained by reference to the following sources:
- trade unions registered under the provisions of the various Federal and State industrial relations Acts, trade union Acts, etc.
- unions reported to be engaged in conciliation and arbitration proceedings.
- reports in trade journals, trade union and employer periodicals, newspapers and other publications.

It should be noted that not all reporting trade unions are registered under industrial relations legislation or State trade union Acts.

To reduce the possibility of duplication of the number of unions and members in the statistics, where a trade union is a branch of a larger trade union, only the larger organization is counted. Unions with interstate associations which are not strictly branches of a common organization are counted as separate unions in the totals for Australia.

The published number of trade unions varies from year to year as a result of amalgamations of unions, deregistration of unions, unions ceasing to operate, new unions being formed, existing organizations changing their status such that it brings them within the scope of the definition of a trade union, and unions reporting for the first time.

For the purposes of the statistics, a trade union is defined as an organization, consisting predominantly of employees, the principal activities of which include the negotiation of rates of pay and conditions of employment for its members. Non-operating unions or branches, i.e. those with no members at the date of collection, are not included in the statistics. Financial members of trade
unions are members whose dues are no more than six months in arrears. The total number of members includes all persons (financial, unfinancial, honorary, suspended, junior, etc.) regarded by unions as members.

Persons who are members of more than one union cannot be separately identified and are therefore counted more than once in the totals. The extent of this duplication is not known. Members of unions who work overseas are excluded from the reported membership data. Membership figures may be affected by differences in the concept of membership adopted by different unions or by the same union at different times.

From 30 June 1985, the proportion of employees has been calculated from estimates of employees from the survey of Employment and Earnings published in *Employed wage and salary earners, Australia*. These estimates of employees have been adjusted by adding estimates of employees in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting and in private households employing staff, from the Labour Force Survey. Prior to 30 June 1985, estimates of employees from *The Labour Force, Australia* were used. The percentages should be regarded as giving only a broad indication of the extent of union membership among employees, because they are based on estimates of employed wage and salary earners and the degree of unemployment of reported union members will affect the percentages for a particular year and comparisons over time. The published number of reporting trade unions varies from year to year as a result of amalgamations and mergers of unions, unions ceasing to operate, new unions being formed, existing organisations changing their status such that it brings them within the scope of the definition of a trade union and existing unions reporting for the first time.

**NB** Up to 1985: all members; from 1986: members who were employees.

In association with the August 1988 labour force survey, information was obtained about the membership of trade unions and employee associations, and various characteristics of members and non-members. Similar surveys were previously conducted in November 1976, during the period March to May 1982, and in August 1986. Although some persons may be union members in their second job only, this survey collected characteristics of respondents who were trade union members in relation to their main job.

**Classifications:**
Unions and members by:
(a) number of states and/or territories of operation (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or more)
(b) size of union (15 groups, from under 100 to 100,000 and over)

Members by:
(a) state or territory of usual residence (8)
(b) age group (8)
(c) birthplace (in Australia, outside Australia - mainly English-speaking, other)
(d) occupation (managers and administration; professionals; paraprofessionals; tradepersons; clerks; salespersons and personal service workers; plant and machine operators, and drivers; labourers and related workers)
(e) industry (agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting; mining; manufacturing; electricity, gas and water; construction; wholesale and retail trade; transport and storage; communication; finance, property and business services; public administration and defence; community services; recreation, personal and other services)
(f) sector (public, private)
(g) permanent or casual
(h) full-time or part-time in main job
(i) male or female
Publications:
Year Book Australia (annual)
- Australian Bureau of Statistics (P72008)

Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Members (annual)
- Australian Bureau of Statistics

Labour Force Australia (monthly)
- Australian Bureau of Statistics (P43219)

Labour Statistics Australia (annual)
- Australian Bureau of Statistics (P74472)

Australian Labour Market Statistics
Feature article - Trade Union Membership (annual)
- Australian Bureau of Statistics (P74472)

Contact information:
Australian Bureau of Statistics
PO Box 10
Belconnen ACT 2616
Tel: +61 2 6252 5000
Fax: +61 2 6251 6009

Web site: www.abs.gov.abs

BARBADOS

Data collected by ILO Office, Port-of-Spain, from Barbados Workers Union.

Number of members of workers’ organizations. Data are shown for 11 of the 23 unions.

Publications:
Caribbean Digest of Labour Statistics
- ILO, Port-of-Spain

Contact information:
ILO Area Office and Multidisciplinary Advisory Team for the Caribbean
11 St. Clair Avenue
PUBES 1201
PORT-OF-SPAIN
Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: +868 628 1453
Fax: +868 628 2433


BELGIUM

Data from study carried out by Kurt Vandaele, University of Ghent.
Comments: “A considerable number of trade union members are situated outside the labour market. Many are students or unemployed. It is estimated that roughly 17.5% of trade union members have retired early.”
“The unions themselves are known to inflate their own membership numbers, and researchers generally reduced union estimates by 14.9%.”
“Additionally, Belgian unions are responsible for administering unemployment benefit payments, which provides a powerful incentive for people to maintain their union membership when they are out of work. Thus, an estimated 85% of Belgian unemployed people are unionized - a far higher proportion than among the working population.”

Publication:
European Industrial Relations Review
(EIRR 345, October 2002)

BELIZE

Data collected from ILO Office, Port-of-Spain, from Labour Department, Belize.

The number of unions covered by the data varies from year to year.

Classifications:
Number of members of workers' organizations, by sex.

Publications:
Caribbean Digest of Labour Statistics
- ILO, Port-of-Spain

Contact information:
ILO Area Office and Multidisciplinary Advisory Team for the Caribbean
11 St. Clair Avenue
PUBES 1201
PORT-OF-SPAIN
Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: +868 628 1453
Fax: +868 628 2433

Web site:
http://mirror/public/english/region/ampro/portofspain/system_links/link_databases.htm

BERMUDA

Data collected from ILO Office, Port-of-Spain, from the Statistical Department, Bermuda (1996). Number of members of workers’ organizations.

Publications:
Caribbean Digest of Labour Statistics
- ILO, Port-of-Spain

Contact information:
ILO Area Office and Multidisciplinary Advisory Team for the Caribbean
11 St. Clair Avenue
PUBES 1201
PORT-OF-SPAIN
Trinidad and Tobago
BRAZIL

IBGE, Diretoria de Pesquisas, Dep. de Estatísticas e Indicadores Sociais, PNAD

For methodology, see: Maria das Graças Mangueira Este: Pesquisa Sindical: da idéia de reformulação do antigo Inquérito Estatístico Sindical & produção de uma nova pesquisa (mimeo).

Classifications:
Unions by region

Unions and members by type (urban unions: employers, autonomous agents, employees, professionals, autonomous workers; rural unions: employers, workers)

Publications:
Anuário Estatístico do Brasil (annual)
- Fundação Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (IBGE) Ministerio da Economia, Fazenda e Planejamento (P71733)

Contact information:
Fundação Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (IBGE)
Av. Franklin Roosevelt 166
10º andar
CEP 20021-120
20021 Rio de Janeiro
Tel: +55 21 514 4501
Fax: +55 21 220 5943

Web site: www.ibge.gov.br

CANADA (1)

Data registered under the Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act, Statistics Canada (71-202)

These data (CALURA) have long been the only major source of data on unionized workers. However, this source provides little information on the demographic and labour market characteristics of workers. A study ("Unionized workers", by Diane Galarneau, published in Perspectives (Statistics Canada, Spring 1996)) created a series on unionized workers based on two household surveys that collected information on both employment and union membership: the Survey of Union Membership of 1984, and the Labour Market Activity Survey from 1986 to 1990. In these two surveys, union membership was determined according to responses to the following two questions:

1. In connection with your job, were you a member of a union or other group that bargained collectively with your employer?
2. Although you were not a member of a union, were your wages covered by a collective agreement negotiated by a union or other group?

With these two questions, two rates were calculated: one based on the first question only, and the other based on both. The first gave the union density, the second the rate of coverage of collective agreements.
Union density based on household surveys is always higher than that of CALURA, for a number of reasons, including differences in reference periods, coverage, and denominators.

Publications:
Canada year book
- Statistics Canada
  (P72262)

"Unionization in Canada: A Retrospective" in Perspectives (summer 1999)
- Statistics Canada
  (P48866)

CANADA (2)

From 1997, the Labour Force Survey is the major source of data on unionization. The redesigned survey came into effect in January 1997. (More information available from Marc Lévesque, Labour Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, Tel. (613) 951-2793.)

Classifications:
Total employees, union members and workers who are not union members, but who are covered by collective agreements (e.g. some religious group members), by:
(a) sex
(b) sector (public - employees in government departments or agencies, crown corporations or publicly funded schools, hospitals or other institutions; private - all other wage and salary earners)
(c) age (15 to 24, 25 to 44, 45 to 54, 55 and over)
(d) education (less than Grade 9, some high school, high school graduation, some post secondary, post secondary certificate or diploma, university degree)
(e) province
(f) work status (full-time, part-time)
(g) economic activity (according to North American Industry Classification System - NAICS)
(h) occupation (according to 1991 Standard Occupational Classification - SIC 1991)
(i) workplace size (under 20 employees, 20 to 99 employees, 100 to 500 employees over 500 employees)
(j) job tenure (1 to 12 months, over 1 year to 5 years, over 5 years to 9 years, over 9 years to 14 years, over 14 years)
(k) job status (permanent, non-permanent)

Publications:
Perspectives
- Statistics Canada
  (P48866)

Contact information:
Statistics Canada
Labour Statistics Division
Tunney’s Pasture
Ottawa K1A OT6
Tel: +1 613 951 8920
  Fax: +1 613 951 1231
  e-mail: infostats@statcan.ca

Web site: www.statcan.ca

CHINA
Number of unions and members only

Publications:
China Statistical Yearbook
(P75235)

China Labour Statistical Yearbook
(P75938)

Contact information:
National Bureau of Statistics
75 Yuetan Nanjie
Sanlihe
Beijing 100826
Tel: + 86 10 326 66 00
Fax: + 86 10 326 66 00

COLOMBIA

The first "Censo Nacional Sindical" was carried out in 1947 by the Dirección de Supervigilancia Sindical of the Ministerio de Trabajo. All unions were required to register with the Inspecciones Seccionales del Trabajo, so that the census could be carried out on 1 July 1947. Information was collected on the number of active and inactive unions, the number of members, by sex, the type of union, and other data. In 1967, a survey was made of unions in Bogota. Attempts were made at conducting other census, but it was not until 1983 that the second national census could be planned. It was carried out between March and December 1984.

The "III Censo Nacional Sindical" covered a nine-month period from August 1989 to May 1990. A precensus test was carried out, in which forms were sent out to the 23 Divisiones Departamentales de Trabajo y Seguridad Social to include the list of and basic information about the active unions. The information received was compared with the results of the 1984 census, and also with the Archivo Central Sindical of the Ministerio del Trabajo to include unions established since 1984. In this way, a list was set up of all active or inactive unions for each region, with basic information about most of the active unions, as the basis for the survey. Information was collected from each regarding the number of members, by sex, as well as the affiliation of each union to a confederation, etc.

Regular Censos Sindicales have been carried out each year since 1989.

Classifications:
Data published in the Boletín de análisis y estadísticas laborales

Unions and members by:
(a) region (25)
(b) type of union organization
(c) industry (agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing; mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas and water; construction; wholesale and retail trade; transport, storage and communication; financial establishments; community, social and personal services; other)

Data disseminated on the Web site of the Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad Social:

Union members by:
(a) trade union
(b) sex
Publications:
Boletín de análisis y estadísticas laborales, No. 41, July-December 1989
- Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad Social
  (P46992)

Web site of Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad Social: www.mintrabajo.gov.co

Contact information:
Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad Social
Santafe de Bogotá, D.C.
e-mail: info@mintrabajo.gov.co

DENMARK

Membership of employees' vocational organizations

Classifications:
Members, of whom women, by name of union

Publications:
Statistisk Arbog (annual)
- Danmarks Statistisk
  (P72844)

Contact information:
Danmarks Statistisk
Sejrogade 11
Postboks 2550
2100 Kobenhaven
Tel: +45 39 17 39 17
Fax: +45 31 18 48 01
Web site: www.dst.dk

DOMINICA (1)

Figures compiled by the Labour Division. The membership of unions is separated into "registered" and "financial", because of unions' insistence that only "financial" members can vote during union elections. The figures in this table relate to "financial" members.

Classifications:
Members by:
(a) name of union
(b) registered or financial

Publications:
Labour market information bulletin

Contact information:
Labour Division
Roseau
DOMINICA (2)

Data collected by ILO Office, Port-of-Spain.

The number of unions covered by the data varies from year to year.

Classifications:
Number of members of workers’ organizations.

Publications:
Caribbean Digest of Labour Statistics
- ILO, Port-of-Spain

Contact information:
ILO Area Office and Multidisciplinary Advisory Team for the Caribbean
11 St. Clair Avenue
PUBES 1201
PORT-OF-SPAIN
Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: +868 628 1453
Fax: +868 628 2433


EGYPT

Data published by the Ministry of Manpower and Emigration.

Classifications:
Unions and members by:
(a) Industry;
(b) type of union (industry, enterprise)

Contact information:
Ministry of Manpower and Emigration
EGYPT

Web site: http://www.emigration.gov.eg

EL SALVADOR

Unions registered with the Departamento de Planificación.

Classifications:
Unions and members by:
(a) industry: agriculture, hunting and fishing; mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas and water; construction; trade, restaurants and hotels; transport and communication; financing and insurance; services.
(b) union federation (8)
(c) type of union (industry, enterprise, company)

Publications:
Estadísticas del Trabajo (annual)
- Ministerio de Trabajo y Previsión Social, Departamento de Planificación (P71623)
Contact information:
Ministerio de Trabajo y Previsión Social
Departamento de Organizaciones Sociales
2a Av. Nte 428 Zona 1
Colonia San Benito
San Salvador

FINLAND

Confederations of workers and salaried employees

Classifications:
Members by name of union

Publications:
*Statistical Yearbook of Finland* (annual)
- Statistics Finland
  (P71768)

Other sources:
Supplementary Labour Force Survey, Autumn 1989

Trade union members by sex, industry and trade union, see:

*Supplementary Labour Force Survey Autumn 1989*
- Official Statistics of Finland
  (P74492)

Contact information:
Statistics Finland
Tyopajakatu 13
Box 9
00022 Helsinki
Tel: 35 8 0 917 341
Fax: 35 8 0 917 342 750

Web site: [www.tilastokeskus.fi](http://www.tilastokeskus.fi)

FRANCE

Number of employees in establishments with at least one union representative.

Publications:
*Annuaire statistique de la France*
- Institut national de la statistique et des études économiques (INSEE)
  (P71753)

Contact information:
Institut national de la statistique et des études économiques (INSEE)
18 bvd. Adolphe Pinard
75675 Paris Cédex 14
Tel: +33 141 17 50 50
Fax: +33 141 17 66 66
GERMANY (FRG up to 1990):

Members of trade unions quoted in several international publications

Publications:
UIMM Social International

European Industrial Relations Review

GERMANY (whole country)

Members of trade unions.

Classifications:
Members by:
(a) sex
(b) category (arbeiter, angestellte, beamte)

Publications:
Statistisches Jahrbuch für die Bundesrepublik Deutschland
– Statistisches Bundesamt
(P71783)

Contact information:
Statistisches Bundesamt
Gustave-Stresemann Ring 11
65180 Wiesbaden
Fax: +49 611 72 40 00

Web site: www.statistik-bund.de

GUATEMALA

Figures compiled by the Departamento de Estadísticas del Trabajo, on the basis of information provided by the Dirección General de Trabajo.

Classifications:
Unions and members by:
(a) economic activity (10 groups)
(b) type of workers (3 groups)
(c) sex
(d) sector (public - central government, decentralized and autonomous, private)
(e) urban or rural
(f) region (8) and department (22)

Publications:
Boletín de estadísticas del trabajo
– Ministerio de Trabajo y Previsión Social, Departamento de Estadística
Contact information:
Departamento de Estadística del Trabajo
Ministerio de Trabajo y Prevision Social
14 calle 5-49, zona 1
Edificio NASA, 5º Nivel
01001 Guatemala, C.A.

GUYANA

Data are collected by ILO, Port-of-Spain. They relate to Trade Unions Council Membership Returns.

Number of members of workers’ organizations.

Publications:
Caribbean Digest of Labour Statistics
– ILO, Port-of-Spain

Contact information:
ILO Area Office and Multidisciplinary Advisory Team for the Caribbean
11 St. Clair Avenue
PUBES 1201
PORT-OF-SPAIN
Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: +868 628 1453
Fax: +868 628 2433

Web site:
http://mirror/public/english/region/ampro/portofspain/system_links/link_databases.htm

HONG KONG, China

Union membership declared to the Registry of trade unions.

Workers in Hong Kong are free to join trade unions which are required by law to register with the Registry of Trade Unions under the Trade Union Ordinance. This is to ensure that trade unions are properly run and the interests of their members duly protected. Trade unions can be classified into three groups: (i) employee trade unions, (ii) employer trade unions and (iii) mixed organizations of employees and employers. Some 90 per cent of the unions in Hong Kong are employee unions.

Publications:
Report of the Commissioner for Labour (annual)
– Commissioner for Labour
(P71857)

Contact information:
Commissioner for Labour

ICELAND

Number of trade unions and membership, excluding members who do not pay union dues, such as prisoners. Membership in many cases are estimates.

Classifications:
Members by:
(a) union & sex.
INDIA

Annual returns relating to calendar years received from the State Governments and Union Territories under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926. The statistics relate only to those unions which have been registered under the Act, and which submit annual returns. It is not obligatory on trade unions to secure registration under the Indian Trade Unions Act. Even among registered ones, the response of the unions submitting annual returns is generally less than fifty per cent. Data regarding unregistered unions are not available.

Classifications:
Unions and members by:
(a) state or union territory
(b) industry (agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing - total and 3 groups; mining and quarrying - total and 2 groups; manufacturing - total and 23 groups or subgroups; electricity, gas and water - total and 3 groups; construction - total; wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels - total and 1 group; transport, storage and communication - total and 5 groups; financing, insurance real estate and business services - total and 2 groups; community, social and personal services - total and 3 groups; other)

Publications:
 Statistical Abstract (annual)
 – Central Statistical Organisation
   (P72837)

Statistical Pocket Book (annual)
 – Central Statistical Organisation
   (P72360)

Contact information:
Labour Bureau
Ministry of Labour
Clermont
Simla 171 004

IRELAND (1)

Trade union information declared to the Registrar of Friendly Societies.

A trade union is defined in section 2(1) of the Trade Union Act of 1913 as:
"any combination, whether temporary or permanent, the principal objects of which are under its constitution statutory objects"
The statutory objects are defined in section 1(2) of the Act as:
"the regulation of the relations between workmen and masters, or between workmen and workmen, or between masters and masters, or the imposing of restrictive conditions on the conduct of any trade or business, and also the provision of benefits to members"

Trade unions, as registered, fall into three broad groups: employee associations, employer associations and trade associations. The data in the table refer to employee associations only, as at the end of each year.

Publications:

Report of the Registrar of Friendly Societies (annual)

IRELAND (2)

Data collected through the annual Labour Force Survey: employees at work, members of staff association or trade union.

Classifications:
Employees who are members of staff associations/trade unions by:
- sex
- economic activity (agriculture, forestry and fishing; other production industries; building and construction; commerce, insurance, finance and business services; transport, communication and storage; public administration and defence; professional services; other industries or industries not stated)

Contact information:
Central Statistics Office
Ardee Road
Dublin 6
Tel: +35 3 21 35 9000
e-mail: info@cso.ie

Web site: www.cso.ie

JAPAN

The Basic Survey on Labour Unions has been carried out in June each year since 1948. Originally designed to bring to light the actual conditions of the organization of labour unions, in 1983, the survey was changed, becoming part of the annual Survey on Industrial Relations. It is still carried out as of the end of June each year, by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. The survey, comprising the Labour Union Basic Survey and the General Survey, whose items differ from year to year, aims at obtaining a comprehensive picture of the labour-management relationship. Labour unions are broadly classified into three categories: unit unions (independent unions whose membership is obtained in the member's individual capacity), labour unions (organizations whose membership is obtained in the member's individual capacity and which have the units with the same functions as unit unions) and federations.

The estimated ratio of organization is the membership divided by the number of employees obtained from the Labour Force Survey.

Classifications:
Unions and members by:
(a) union federation
(b) industry (agriculture; forestry; fisheries; mining; construction; manufacturing; electricity, gas, heat supply and water services; transport and communication; wholesale and retail trade, eating and drinking places; financing and insurance; real estate; services; government; other)
(c) sex
(d) size of membership

Publications:
Japan labour bulletin (monthly)
- Japan Institute of Labour
(P41980)

Japan statistical yearbook (annual)
- Statistics Bureau, Management and Coordination Agency
(P71915)

Contact information:
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
2-2 Kasumigaseki 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8916
Tel: +81 3 3595 2402
Fax: +81 3 3502 1946
Web site: www.mhlw.go.jp

Statistics Bureau
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications
19-1 Wakamatsucho Shinjuku-ku
Tokyo 162-8668
Web site: www.stat.go.jp

KOREA, REPUBLIC OF

Figures compiled by the Ministry of Labour.

Classifications:
Unions and members by:
- industry (railways, textiles, mining, electric power, foreign institutions, post and telecommunications, port and transport, shipping, financial institutions, tobacco and ginseng, chemistry, metal industry, federation, publication, automobile transport, tourist industry, communications, insurance, tax, rubber, clerical and finance workers)

Members by sex

Publications:
Korea statistical yearbook (annual)
- National Bureau of Statistics, Economic Planning Board
(P72127)

Statistical Indicators in Korea (annual)
- National Statistical Office
(P75123)

Major Statistics of Korean Economy (annual)
- National Statistical Office
(P74373)
Contact information:
Ministry of Labour
Seoul

National Statistical Office
Government Complex III
920 Dunsan-dong, So-gu
Taejeon 302-701
Tel: +82 42 472 2600
Fax: +82 42 481 2200
e-mail: isd@nso.go.kr

Web site: www.nso.go.kr

KUWAIT
Number of trade unions and membership registered with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

Contact information:
Ministry of Social Affairs & Labour
P.O.box 563 Safat
P.C. 13006
Kuwait

MALAYSIA

Number of trade unions and membership registered with the Department of Trade Union Affairs, Ministry of Human Resources under the Trade Unions Act 1959. Figures at end of period.

Classifications:
Members and trade unions by:
(a) economic activity (agriculture, forestry and fishing; mining and quarrying; manufacturing; construction; electricity, gas and water; commerce; transport and communication; services)
(b) category of union (private sector; government sector; statutory body and local government)

Members by sex

Publications:
Yearbook of Statistics Malaysia
– Department of Statistics
(P75491)

– Ministry of Human Resources

Contact information:
Department of Statistics
Jabatan Perangkaan Malaysia
Wisma Statistik
Jalan Cenderasari
50514 Kuala Lumpur
e-mail: jpbpo@stats.gov.my

Web site: www.statistics.gov.my
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Kementerian Sumber Manusia
Level 2-4, Block B, North
Jalan Damanlela
Pusat Bandar Damansara
Damansara Town Centre
50530 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: +60 3 255 7200
Fax: +60 3 255 4700

MALTA

Figures compiled by the Department of Labour and Emigration.

Publications:
Annual Abstract of Statistics
– Central Office of Statistics
(P71665)

Contact information:
Central Office of Statistics
Lascaris
Valletta CMR 02
Tel: +356 250 570
Fax: +356 249 841
e-mail: cos@magnet.mt

Web site: www.magnet.mt/home/cos

Department of Labour
121 Melita Street
Valletta CMR 02
Tel: +356 236 376
Fax: +376 243 177


MONTSERRAT

Information collected by ILO, Port-of-Spain. They relate to the number of members of workers’ organizations.

Publications:
Caribbean Digest of Labour Statistics
– ILO, Port-of-Spain

Contact information:
ILO Area Office and Multidisciplinary Advisory Team for the Caribbean
11 St. Clair Avenue
PUBES 1201
PORT-OF-SPAIN
Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: +868 628 1453
Fax: +868 628 2433
NETHERLANDS

Members of trade unions affiliated to the Trade Union Federation for Staff and Managerial Personnel, General Trade Union Federation, Dutch Federation of Trade Unions and Dutch Federation of Christian Trade Unions (and other trade union organizations as from 1990). Prior to 1992, the series does not include the General Trade Union Federation.

Regular quarterly surveys are undertaken by the main confederations of their membership. The Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek also carries out a survey of membership of all unions, whether affiliated to the main confederations or not.

Membership as at 31 March each year.

Publications:
Statistical Yearbook of the Netherlands (annual)
- Statistics Netherlands
  P71704

Sociaal-Economische Maandstatistiek (monthly)
- Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek
  (P46762)

Contact information:
Statistics Netherlands
Prinses Beatrixlaan 428
PO Box 4000
2270 JM Voorburg
Tel: +31 7 0 337 3800
Fax: +31 7 0 387 7429

Web site: www.cbs.nl

NEW ZEALAND (1)

Annual membership data for registered trade unions are published by the Department of Statistics. Many unions are not required to register and are therefore not included in the series. In particular, state employees' unions are not included. Data are available up to 1991. With the passage of the Employment Contracts Act 1991, the Office of the Registrar of Trade Unions and the official collection of trade union data in New Zealand ended.

Publications:
New Zealand Official Yearbook (annual)
- Department of Statistics
  (P72866)

NEW ZEALAND (2)

Membership of trade unions compiled through an annual survey carried out since 1991 by the Industrial Relations Centre at Victoria University of Wellington, with funding from the Public Good Science Fund, administered by the Foundation for Research Science and Technology.

The surveys are modelled on those conducted by the Registrar of Trade Unions, but with questions included on gender, economic activity and affiliation to other organizations. Responding unions
provide information on a voluntary basis; while some consistently refuse to participate in the survey, most are willing to supply the information requested.

To identify new and existing trade unions, a number of sources are used, starting with the unions and employee associations identified in the previous year’s survey. The register of incorporated societies is searched for recently incorporated societies of employees, and the telephone directory is scanned for listings of new industrial unions and bargaining agents. In addition, information is obtained by word-of-mouth from union officials and reports in union newsletters. A final source is an associated project on collective bargaining. When a new union is identified as party to a contract sent to the project, the supplying party is asked for contact details of the new union. All identified organizations are written to in mid-January. Unions previously surveyed are sent a brief letter outlining the research project and enclosing a return sheet for completion. Newly identified unions are sent a letter which outlines the project in more detail and a copy of the previous year’s report. A reminder letter and a second copy of the return sheet are sent to non-respondents in late March, and this is followed up with a phone call to the union secretary in early May. Some unions are eliminated during the exercise, as divisions or branches of existing unions operating under different names, because they had ceased their industrial activity.

Non-respondents tend to be smaller unions, most with less than 300 members. Informal contacts and sources, including local officials of other unions, human resource managers (where the union in question is based at a single enterprise), union journals and other publications are used to estimate membership figures for non-responding unions.

Classifications:
Unions and members by:
(a) size (under 1,000, 1,000 to 4,999, 5,000 to 10,000, over 10,000)
(b) economic activity (major division level of ISIC rev.2)
(c) sex
(d) affiliations (NZ Council of Trade Unions, Trade Union Federation)

Publications:
“Unions and union membership in New Zealand: Annual Review”, by Aaron Crawford, et al, in New Zealand Journal of Industrial Relations
(P46502)

Contact information:
Aaron Crawford
School of Business and Public Management
Victoria University of Wellington
PO Box 600
Wellington RH 1018
Tel: +64 4 463 5700

Raymond Harbridge
Graduate School of Management
La Trobe University
Bundoora
Melbourne
Tel: +61 03 9458 2755
e-mail: r.harbridge@latrobe.edu.au

Pat Walsh
School of Business and Public Management
Victoria University of Wellington
PO Box 600
Wellington RH 1018
NORWAY

Figures of the Norwegian Federation of Trade Unions, Confederation of Vocational Unions, Federation of Norwegian Professional Associations and other associations of wage earners.

Classifications:
Members by name of union

Publications:
*Statistical yearbook* (annual)
- Statistics Norway
  (P71010)

Contact information:
Statists Norway
Kongens Gt. 6
Postboks 8131 DEP
0033 Oslo 1
Tel: +47 22 86 45 00
Fax: +47 22 86 4973

Web site: [www.ssb.no](http://www.ssb.no)

PAKISTAN

Figures compiled by the Labour Division.

Classifications:
Members by sex

Unions and members by:

- economic activity (railways, including workshop and other transport and tramways; plantation; textile; jute; printing press; municipal; seamen; docks and Port Trust; engineering; mines; mints; food; tobacco; wood and glass; chemical and dyes; post and telecommunication; agriculture; banks; business and commerce; building, public works and construction; electricity; leather and rubber; matches; miscellaneous)

Publications:
*Pakistan Statistical Yearbook* (annual)
- Federal Bureau of Statistics, Statistics Division
  (P71089)

Contact information:
Federal Bureau of Statistics
Statistics Division
SLIC Building No. 5
Blue Area, F-6/4
Islamabad

PHILIPPINES
Figures compiled by the Bureau of Labor Relations and Statistical and Performance Reporting System (DOLE Regional Offices).

**Classifications:**
Unions and members by:
(a) type (local/independent union, federation, labour center, public sector union)
(b) region (14)

**Publications:**
*Labour and employment statistical report* (quarterly)
- Department of Labor and Employment
  Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics
  (P49030)

*Yearbook of labor statistics* (annual)
- Department of Labor and Employment
  Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics
  (P74589)

*Current labor statistics* (monthly)
- Department of Labor and Employment
  Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics
  (P48853)

**Contact information:**
Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics
Department of Labor and Employment
DOLE Building
General Luna Street
Intramuros
Manila
e-Mail: dolebles@manila-online.net

**ST KITTS AND NEVIS**

Information collected by ILO, Port-of-Spain. They relate to the number of members of workers’ organizations.

**Publications:**
*Caribbean Digest of labour Statistics*
– ILO, Port-of-Spain

**Contact information:**
ILO Area Office and Multidisciplinary Advisory Team for the Caribbean
11 St. Clair Avenue
PUBES 1201
PORT-OF-SPAIN
Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: +868 628 1453
Fax: +868 628 2433

Web site:
http://mirror/public/english/region/ampro/portofspain/system_links/link_databases.htm

**ST LUCIA**
Information collected by ILO, Port-of-Spain. They relate to the number of members of workers’ organizations.

**Publications:**
*Caribbean Digest of labour Statistics*
- ILO, Port-of-Spain

**Contact information:**
ILO Area Office and Multidisciplinary Advisory Team for the Caribbean
11 St. Clair Avenue
PUBES 1201
PORT-OF-SPAIN
Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: +868 628 1453
Fax: +868 628 2433

Web site:
http://mirror/public/english/region/ampro/portofspain/system_links/link_databases.htm

**ST VINCENT & THE GRENADINES**

Information collected by ILO, Port-of-Spain. They relate to the number of members of workers’ organizations.

**Publications:**
*Caribbean Digest of labour Statistics*
- ILO, Port-of-Spain

**Contact information:**
ILO Area Office and Multidisciplinary Advisory Team for the Caribbean
11 St. Clair Avenue
PUBES 1201
PORT-OF-SPAIN
Trinidad and Tobago
Tel: +868 628 1453
Fax: +868 628 2433

Web site:
http://mirror/public/english/region/ampro/portofspain/system_links/link_databases.htm

**SINGAPORE**

Statistics on employers’ and employees’ trade unions are compiled by the Labour Relations Department of the Ministry of Labour.

A trade union is a group of employers or workers, formed mainly to regulate regulations between employers and workers to:
- promote good industrial relations,
- improve the working conditions of workers or enhance their economic and social status, and
- raise the productivity for the benefit of workers, employers and the overall economy.

**Classifications:**
Unions and members by:
(a) size of trade union (number of members - under 50; 50-249; 250-999; 1000-4999, 5000-9999; 10000 and over)
(b) industry (manufacturing; construction; commerce; transport, storage and communication; financing, insurance, real estate and business services and community, social and personal services; other - agriculture and fishing, mixed activities, and others not adequately defined)

Publications:
*Singapore Yearbook of Labour Statistics* (annual)
- Research and Statistics Department, Ministry of Labour
  (P74594)
  now
*Singapore Yearbook of Manpower Statistics*
- Manpower Research and Statistics Department, Ministry of Manpower
  (P74594)

*Yearbook of Statistics* (annual)
- Department of Statistics
  (P70490)

Contact information:
Manpower Research and Statistics Department
Ministry of Manpower
No. 06-02 MOL Building
18 Havelock Road
Singapore 059764
Tel: +65 539 5020
Fax: +65 530 5004
e-mail: mom_rsd@mom.gov.sg


Department of Statistics


SLOVAKIA

Number of trade unions members.

Publication:
*Social Trends in the Slovak Republic*  
(P76221)

Contact information:
Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic
Mileticova 3
824 67 BRATISLAVA
Tel: +421 55 42 58 02
Fax: +421 55 42 45 87

Web site: [www.statistics.sk](http://www.statistics.sk)

SOUTH AFRICA

The data are based on information supplied to the Department of Manpower by trade unions, employers' organizations, federations, industrial councils and regional offices of the Department, in
terms of the Labour Relations Act (Act No. 28 of 1956). This data is not verified by the Department of Manpower.

**Classifications:**  
Unions and members by ethnic group (whites, coloureds and Asians, blacks, mixed, unspecified) - up to 1990.

**Publications:**  
*South African labour statistics* (annual)  
(P75871)

**Contact information:**  
Central Statistical Services  
274 Schoeman Street  
Private Bag X44  
0001 Pretoria  
Tel: +27 12 310 8911  
Fax: +27 12 322 3374  
e-mail: info@statssa.pwv.gov.za

Department of Labour  
Private Bag X117  
0001 Pretoria  
Fax: +27 12 320 1942

**SRI LANKA**

Trade unions registered with the Department of Labour under the Trade Unions Ordinance. Membership of reported unions only.

**Classifications:**  
Unions and members by:  
(a) category (central government, corporations, private, local government)  
(b) occupational group (professional, technical and related workers; administration and managerial workers; clerical and related workers; sales workers; service workers; agricultural, animal husbandry and forestry, fishermen and hunters; production and related workers, transport, equipment workers; workers not classified according to trade)  
(c) size of union (5 groups, from below 50 to 5000 and over)

**Publications:**  
*Administration report of the Department of Labour* (annual)  
- Commissioner of Labour  
(P72112)

*Statistical Abstract*  
- Department of Census and Statistics, Ministry of Finance and Planning  
(P72259)
**Contact information:**
Labour Secretariat  
Naranenpita  
Colombo 5

Department of Census and Statistics  
Ministry of Finance and Planning  
No. 6 Albert Crescent  
PO Box 563  
Colombo 7

**SURINAME**

Information collected by the ILO. They relate for 5 of 6 unions.

The number of members of workers’ organizations.

**Publications:**
*Caribbean Digest of labour Statistics*
- ILO, Port-of-Spain

**Contact information:**
ILO Area Office and Multidisciplinary Advisory Team for the Caribbean  
11 St. Clair Avenue  
PUBES 1201  
PORT-OF-SPAIN  
Trinidad and Tobago  
Tel: +868 628 1453  
Fax: +868 628 2433


**SWEDEN**

Figures compiled by the Swedish Federations of Trade Unions.

Data include retired members.

**Classifications:**
Members by name of union and sex

**Publications:**
*Statistical Yearbook of Sweden* (annual)  
- Statistiska Centralbyran  
  (P72881)

**Contact information:**
Statistics Sweden  
PO Box 24300  
10451 Stockholm

Web site: www.scb.se

**SWITZERLAND**
Figures covering the Union syndicale suisse (the country's largest union confederation) and Fédération des sociétés suisses d'employés.

Data include retired members

**Classifications:**
Members by name of union

**Publications:**
*Annuaire statistique de la Suisse*
– Office fédérale de la statistique
(P72894)

**Contact information:**
Office fédérale de la statistique
Espace de l'Europe 10
2010 Neuchâtel
Tel: +41 32 713 6011
Fax: +41 32 713 6012

Web site: www.admin.ch/bfs

**SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC**

**Classifications:**
Unions and members by:
(a) economic activity (mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas and water; building and construction; wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels; transport, storage and communication; financing, insurance, real estate and business services; community, social and personal services)
(b) mohafazat (13)
(c) industry of union (22)

**Publications:**
*The Annual Statistical Bulletin* (annual)
– Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour
(P72893)

*Statistical Abstract* (annual)
– Central Bureau of Statistics
(P72985)

**Contact information:**
Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour
BP 12175
Damascus
Fax: +963 11 224 7499

**TAIWAN**

Unions and members, compiled by the Department of Statistics, Council of Labor Affairs. Data refer to the end of each year.

**Classifications:**
Unions and members by:
– sex
– area
– federation, industrial or craft unions;
– economic activity for industry unions (ISIC, Rev. 2, major divisions and ISIC Rev.3, tabulation categories)
– occupation for craft unions (ISCO-88, major groups).

Publications:
Monthly Bulletin of Labor Statistics, Taiwan Area, Republic of China
– Council of Labor Affairs, Executive Yuan
(P46413)

Yearbook of Labor Statistics, Taiwan Area, Republic of China
– Council of Labor Affairs, Executive Yuan
(P74942)

Contact Information:
Web site: http://www.cla.gov.tw

TURKEY

Figures compiled by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security.

Labour union: an organization in which workers participate as members and which exists for the purpose of dealing with employers concerning grievances, wages, hours and conditions of employment.

Under the labour legislation passed in 1983, trade unions can operate on a sectoral basis only. To engaged in collective bargaining, such unions must organize at least ten per cent of the workers in any particular sector, and also at least fifth per cent of the employees of any one plant.

Data available for January and July each year. Figures in Database refer to January each year.

Unionization rate is published, calculated as number of unionized workers/number of workers not defined.

Classifications:
Unions and members by:
(a) economic activity (agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing; manufacturing - 12 groups; banks and insurance; construction; energy; commerce, office, education and fine arts; transportation, communication and storage - 6 groups; health; hotels, restaurants and cafés; national defence; other.

Publications:
Labour Statistics (annual)
– Ministry of Labour and Social Security
(P49595)

Contact information:
Ministry of Labour and Social Security
Calisma ve Sosyal Güvenlik Bakanlığı
Ankara
Fax: +904 287 1644

UNITED KINGDOM (1)
Figures compiled by the Department of Trade and Industry (previously Employment Department). The
statistics cover the membership of all organizations known to the Department of Trade and Industry.
Since 1975, they relate to organizations that fall within the definition of a trade union, in accordance
with Section 28 of the Trade Unions and Labour Relations Act 1974. The figures are based on data
supplied by the Certification Officer for Trade Unions and Employers' Associations, which comprises
those unions, branches and sections on the statutory list of trade unions at 31 December. This is
supplemented by information obtained from the Department of Economic Development, Northern
Ireland, and some individual trade unions. They include home and overseas membership figures of
contributory and non-contributory members, under the rules of those trade unions whose head offices
are situated in the United Kingdom, but do not include any members of trade unions whose head
offices are elsewhere. Categories of membership are not obtained and the figures may include some
people who are self-employed, unemployed or retired. As some workers may belong to more than
one union, there may be some duplication in the aggregates; however, this is believed to be relatively
insignificant.

Lists of trade unions and employers' associations are kept by the Certification Office of Trade Unions
and Employers' Associations in accordance with [Section 8 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations
Act 1974] Section 2 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. To be entered
in the statutory list of trade unions, a body must satisfy the definition of [Section 28 of the 1974 Act]
Section 1 of the 1992 Act, the essential requirement being that it is an organization of workers which
has the regulation of relations between workers and employers as one of its principal purposes. The
Certification Office also keeps records of other bodies which appear to satisfy the statutory definition
of a trade union, but which have not applied for entry in the list. While application for entry into the list
is entirely voluntary, all listed and unlisted trade unions and employers' associations are required,
under Section 32 of the 1992 Act, to submit annual returns, which include membership figures, to the
Certification Officer. The Employment Department, with the cooperation of the Certification Office, has
been able to use this information about membership and thus avoid having a separate survey, except
for those unions with their head office in Northern Ireland. Sections of certain unions (for example,
areas of the National Union of Mineworkers) are listed as separate trade unions by the Certification
Office, whereas the Employment Department has continued its practice of counting only the "parent"
union in the total number of trade unions.

Classifications:
Unions and members by size of union (12 groups from under 100 to 250,000 and more)

Publications:
Up to 1995:
Employment Gazette, annual article in May issue "Membership of trade unions"
- Employment Department
  (P40302)

From 1996:
Labour market trends, annual article in February issue "Membership of trade unions: an analysis
based on information from the Certification Officer"
- Office of National Statistics
  (P40302)

Annual Report of the Certification Officer
- Certification Officer for Trade Unions and Employers' Associations

Annual Abstract of Statistics (annual)
- Office for National Statistics
  (Formerly Central Statistical Office)
  (P72902) and (P71665)

Contact information:
UNITED KINGDOM (2)

Trade union members. The Labour Force Survey (LFS), carried out by the Employment Department (now carried out by the Office for National Statistics), included for the first time in 1989 a question about trade union membership. The survey allows union membership to be analysed by occupation, sex, age, etc., although these data are not available for specific unions and are not comparable with the information supplied by the Certification Officer. This is not only because of the differences in geographical coverage, but also because the LFS figures exclude unemployed and retired members and overseas members.

The LFS is a survey of around 60,000 private households throughout Great Britain. The question on trade union membership has been asked annually since 1989 of all individuals in employment (or away temporarily) during the reference week, either as employees or self-employed, or of people on government employment or training programmes who were based with an employer during the reference week. The remaining trade union related questions were introduced as annual questions in the autumn 1993 survey and the data are analysed in respect of all employees. The exact wording and sequence of the questions from 1993 to 1998 were as follows:

- At your place of work, are there any unions, staff associations or groups of unions?
  - If yes:
    - Is it/are any of them recognized by management for negotiating pay and conditions of employment?
    - If yes:
      - Is it possible for someone in your type of job to join this/one of these union(s)/staff association(s)?
  - All in employment:
  - Are you a member of a trade union or staff association?

The questions were reordered and reworded in 1999; these changes affect the time series. The wording of the question that asks respondents whether they are members of a trade union remains the same, only its place in the sequence has changed. The question that asks whether any of the people at the respondent’s place of work are members of a trade union or staff association is designed to measure trade union presence. The wording, routing and sequence of this question have changed. Previously, it was asked of all in employment; now it is only asked to those who say they are not union members.

Each household in the LFS is in the sample for five consecutive quarters. For the small number of households that were not contactable in the quarter (other than the first), their responses from the previous quarter are brought forward. For questions that do not appear every quarter, such as the trade union questions, there is no previous response to carry forward, and so a “does not apply” response is recorded. Response estimates have been derived by allocating these cases pro-rata to the relevant positive and negative response categories according to those who did respond to the question. This is distinct from those instances where the respondent was interviewed in the quarter by did not answer any question. However, such cases have also been treated in the same way and allocated pro-rata according to those who did answer the questions.
The LFS sample results are grossed to national population estimates using data produced by the Office for National Statistics. It is possible that some non-sampling error arises in the series because of measurement problems. Around a third of the sample are proxy respondents, and the data show that this group are less likely to be union members than those responding on their own behalf.

Classifications:
Union members by:
(a) sex
(b) full-time/part-time
(c) non-manual/manual
(d) sector (public, private)
(e) age group (under 20 years, 20 to 29 years, 30 to 39 years, 40 to 49 years, 50 years and over)
(f) length of service (less than 3 months, 3 to 6 months, 6 to 12 months, 1 to 2 years, 2 to 5 years, 5 to 10 years, 10 to 20 years, 20 years or more)
(g) occupation (according to the 1991 Standard Occupational Classification)
(h) economic activity (according to the 1992 Standard Industrial Classification)
(i) region (10 regions)
(j) workplace size (less than 25 employees, 25 or more employees)

Publications:
*Employment Gazette*, annual article “Trade union membership and recognition: Labour Force Survey data”
- Employment Department
  (P40302)

From 1996:
*Labour market trends*, annual article “Trade union membership and recognition: Labour Force Survey data”
- Office for National Statistics
  (P40302)

Trade union membership (annual)
- Department of Trade and Industry
downloadable from
  www.dti.gov.uk/er/emar/trade.htm

Contact information:
Office for National Statistics
1 Drummond Gate
London SW1V 2QQ
Tel: +44 20 7233 9233

Web site: www.statistics.gov.uk

Employment Market Analysis and Research
Department of Trade and Industry
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET
e-mail: emar@dti.gov.uk

Web site: www.dti.gov.uk/er/emar/
UNITED STATES

Union membership figures are obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS) conducted by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Beginning in January 1983, the CPS collects information each month on union membership and contract coverage. The CPS provides estimates of the number of wage and salary employees who are union members and those who are represented by a union at their workplace, regardless of whether they are union members. Union members include employees belonging to traditional labour unions or to employee associations similar to labour unions. The membership estimates exclude workers who are self-employed, retired or unemployed. Wage and salary employees are those receiving wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind or piece rates.

\[
\text{MEMBERSHIP } j \sim \sim \left( \sum_{i} \delta_{ij} W_{ij} \right) / 12
\]

Because the CPS estimates of union membership are based on a scientifically selected probability sample, rather than a census of the entire population, they may differ from the results obtained from a census. The sample used was one of many possible samples, each of which could have produced different estimates. The variation in the sample estimates across all possible samples that could have been drawn is measured by the standard error. The data are also subject to non-sampling error. For example, information on job-related characteristics of the worker - industry, occupation, union membership and earnings - are sometimes reported by a household member rather than the worker. Consequently, such data may reflect reporting error by the respondent.

In the CPS, households are in the sample for four months, followed by eight months out of the sample, followed by an additional four months in the sample. A supplementary survey containing questions on union membership status is asked of wage and salary workers in the outgoing rotation groups (groups 4 and 8). Membership information is based on response to one survey question that remains constant. Individuals are counted as union members if they respond "yes" to the question "On this job, is ... a member of a labour union or of an employee association similar to a union?". Membership density, measured as the percentage of employed wage and salary workers who are union members are calculated as

\[
\text{DEN}_j = \left( \sum_{i} \delta_{ij} W_{ij} \right) / 12
\]

Changes: The 1994 data will not be directly comparable with those for prior years because a number of changes have been introduced in the CPS.

Classifications:
Members by:
(a) sex
(b) age (7 groups, from 16 to 24 years, to 65 years and over)
(c) race (white, black, Hispanic origin)
(d) full- or part-time status (based on hours usually worked)
(e) occupation (managerial and professional specialty - 2 groups; technical, sales and administrative support - 3 groups; service occupations - 2 groups; precision production, craft and repair; operators, fabricators and labourers - 3 groups; farming, forestry and fishing)
(f) economic activity (agricultural wage and salary workers; private non-agricultural workers: mining; construction; manufacturing - durable, non durable goods; transportation and public utilities - 2 groups; wholesale and retail trade - 2 groups; finance, insurance and real estate; services; government workers)

Publications:
Monthly labor review (annual article)
- Department of Labor
  (P41438)

Union members (annual)
- Department of Labor

Compensation and working conditions (annual article)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics
  Department of Labor
  (P41502)

News (annual press release)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics
  Department of Labor

Statistical Abstract of the United States
- Department of Commerce
  Bureau of the Census
  (P72944)

Contact information:
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Department of Labor
Washington, D.C. 20212
Tel: +1 202 606 7828

Web site: stats.bls.gov