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**National practices in the measurement
of the economically active population,
employment, unemployment and
time-related underemployment**

Household-based sources

National practices in the measurement of the economically active population, employment, unemployment and time-related underemployment: Household-based sources

ILO Department of Statistics¹

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Introduction

1. This report documents national practices in the implementation of the international standards for the measurement of employment, unemployment and time-related underemployment adopted by the International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS). It shows the extent to which the international standards currently in force are applied by countries and territories to produce official statistics on these topics. The standards are reproduced in a separate room document [No.11] and their main features are summarized in Chapter 2 of *Report II Statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization*.
2. Overall, the review indicates that the body of international standards on statistics of employment, unemployment, and underemployment is used by the vast majority of countries as the basis for the production of their official national statistics on the topic. These standards are widely applied to collect statistics about the economically active population in national household surveys, particularly labour force surveys, and to a lesser extent in population and housing censuses. In agricultural census, the standards are generally adapted to measure economic activity in agricultural holdings, in particular with respect to the total number of persons employed in the holding and volume of work.

Sources and methodology

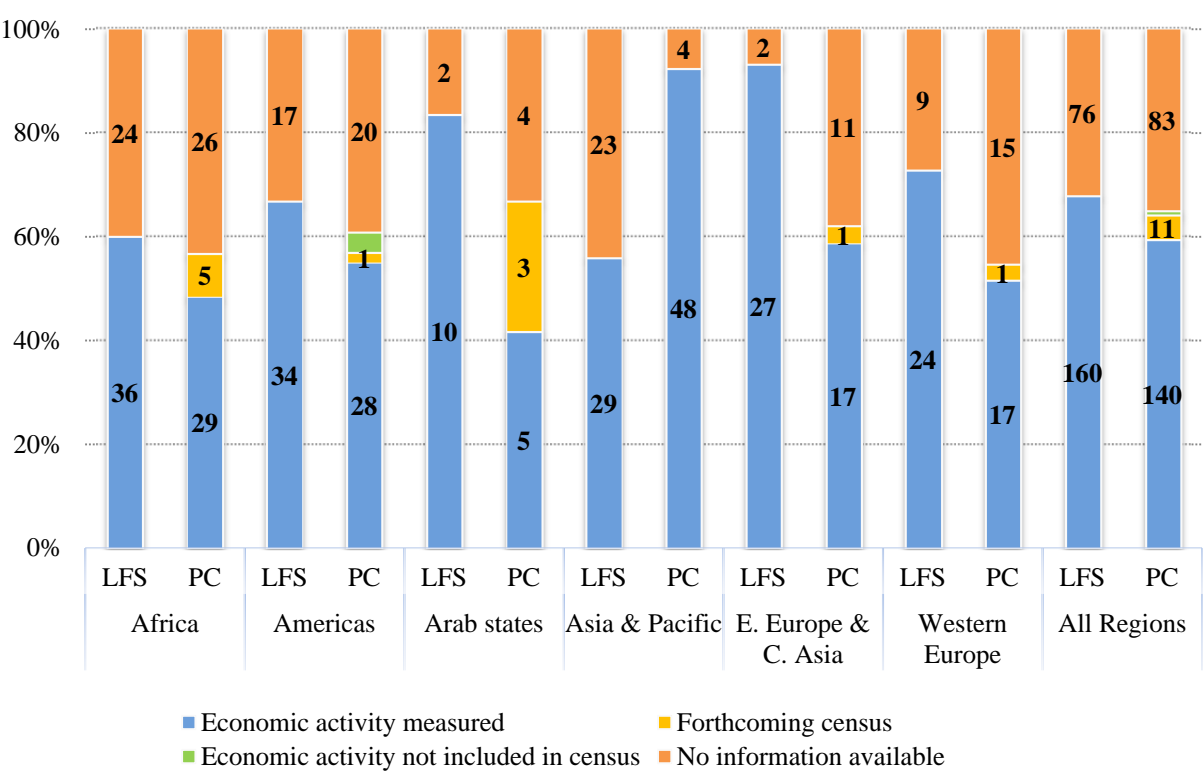
3. The review covers national practices in three main sources, namely labour force surveys, population and housing censuses and agricultural censuses. For labour force surveys, the review is based on the results of the ILO methodological questionnaire on *Statistics of the labour force and its components derived from labour force or other household sample surveys* sent to all member States in 2011. The ILO questionnaire obtained methodological information about the most recent household survey carried out by countries between 2000 and 2010 to produce official national statistics on employment, unemployment, underemployment and related topics. The full results are contained in the 3rd edition of the ILO publication *Sources and Methods: Labour Statistics, Volume 3*, available at: http://laborsta.ilo.org/applv8/data/SSM3_NEW/E/SSM3.html. The survey questionnaires reported by countries were further reviewed in order to document practices in specific areas of concern, particularly regarding the treatment of temporary absences from employment and the treatment in employment of production of goods for own consumption.
4. To document national practices in population censuses, the ILO Department of Statistics also carried out a review of questionnaires used by countries as part of the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses (2005-2014), and available in the website of the United Nations Statistics Division at http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/census/2010_PHC/. The census practices summarized here reflect the situation as of November 2012, date when the review was completed.
5. In the case of agricultural census, the Department reviewed national questionnaires used by countries as part of the WCA 2000 Round of Agricultural Censuses (1996-2005) and available in the website of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization at <http://www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-wca/wca-2000/wca2000-country/ru/> as of August 2013.
6. Overall, the results presented here refer to the information reported by countries and territories and made available through the above-mentioned sources. It covers, labour force surveys for 160 countries and territories, 142 population and housing censuses, and 71 censuses of agriculture. The corresponding summary tables of national practices by main region, following the ILO geographic classification, are included in Annex I. The ILO geographic classification of countries and territories is presented in Annex II.

Summary of main results

A. Population censuses and household surveys

7. The ILO review of national practices indicates that since 2000, over 60 percent of the 236 countries and territories worldwide have conducted a population and housing census or a national household survey to produce official labour force statistics. More specifically, as of November 2012, 140 countries and territories had collected labour force statistics as part of the 2010 round of population and housing censuses (2005-2015). Inclusion of economic activity as a core topic in population censuses is near universal. Only two countries for which information is available did not collect statistics on this topic through their most recent population census. In addition, between 2000 and 2010, a labour force survey or household survey with a labour force module was carried out, at least once, in 160 countries and territories (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Countries and territories recently collecting labour force statistics, by region and source (No. and %)



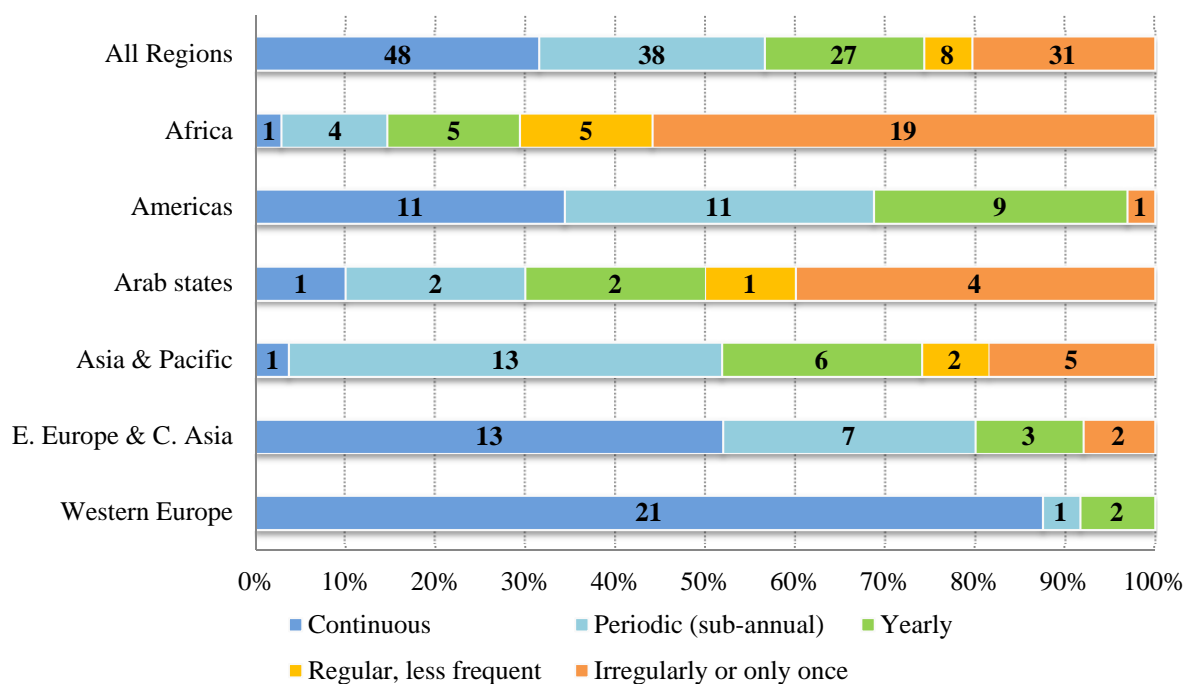
LFS=labour force survey (period 2000-2010);
 PC=population census, excluding register-based censuses (period 2005-2015).

Periodicity of survey data collection

8. While most countries have a recent source of official labour force statistics as seen above, there are important differences in the frequency with which the information is collected through household surveys. Just over half of the countries with a recent labour force survey (86 out of 160) collect the information on a sub-annual basis as recommended to monitor or account for short-term trends and seasonal variations in labour force participation. Another 27 countries carry out the survey on a yearly basis, providing at minimum annual structural information about the labour market. At the same time, close to a quarter of the countries (39) carry out surveys to produce

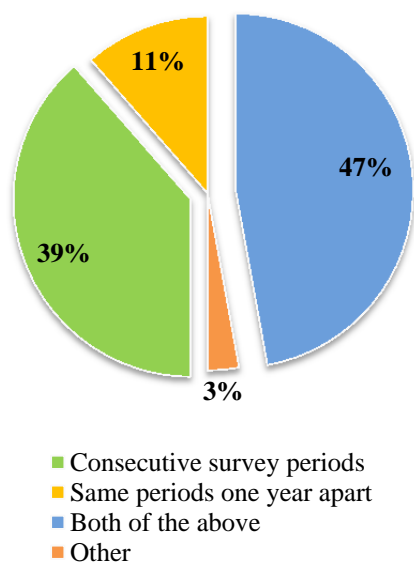
labour force statistics on a less frequent or irregular basis. Sub-annual data collection is widespread in Western Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the Americas and, to a lesser extent, in Asia and the Pacific. By contrast, most countries in Africa and Arab States collect labour force statistics through a household survey only every few years or on an ad-hoc basis (Figure 2)

Figure 2: Countries and territories with a labour force survey, by periodicity of data collection and region (No. and %)



9. Introduction of sample rotation in labour force surveys is growing among countries with established sub-annual or yearly data collection programmes. By 2010, at least 70 countries had introduced sample rotation in their labour force surveys. The sample rotation schemes implemented are diverse. Nonetheless, close to half of those countries have implemented schemes with sample overlap both between consecutive survey periods and between the same periods one year apart. The next most common pattern of sample overlap is that between consecutive survey periods (Figure 3). While sample rotation has been introduced in labour force surveys primarily to improve the efficiency of the estimates, some countries are also using the resulting panel data to carry out analyses of labour market dynamics.

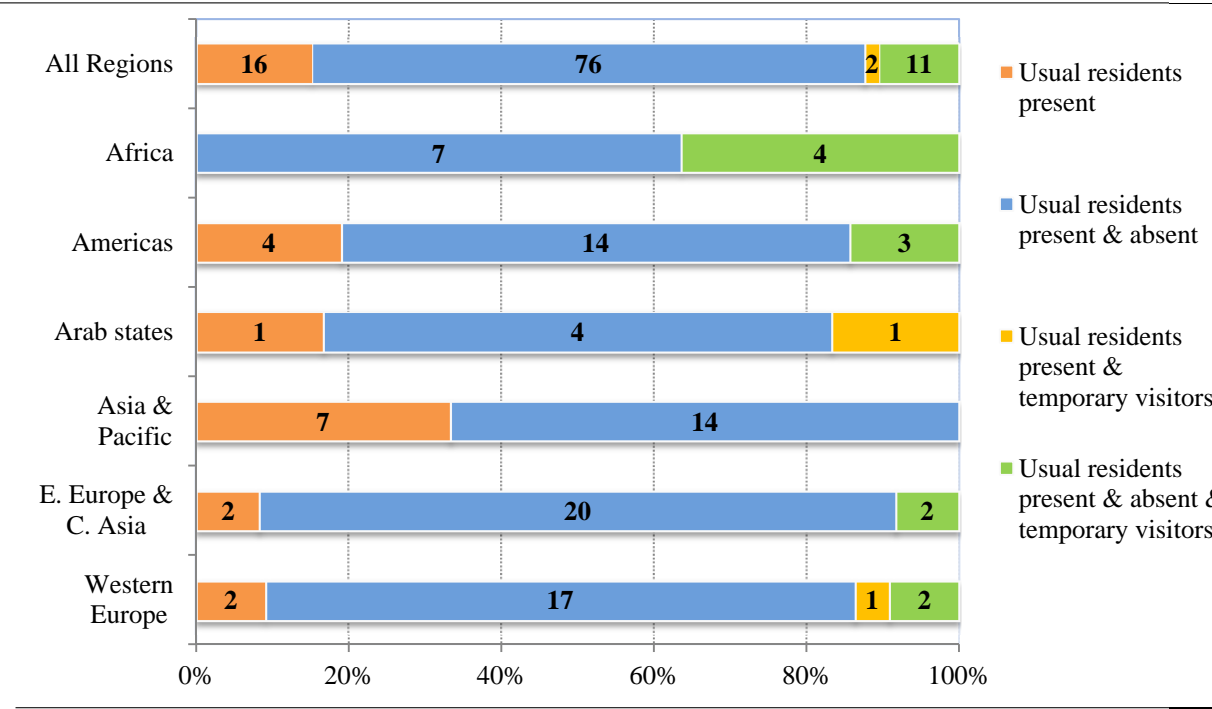
Figure 3: Countries using sample rotation in LFS by type of sample overlap (%)



Population coverage

10. Most of the countries for which information is available collect labour force statistics with respect to all usual residents present and temporarily absent. This is especially the case in Western Europe and Eastern Europe and Central Asia. About 15 percent of countries cover only the usual residents who are present. This approach appears to be more common in Asia and the Pacific. In addition a few countries use a de facto enumeration in their labour force surveys, covering all usual residents present as well as visitors. The remaining countries combine a de jure and de facto enumeration, covering all usual residents present and absent as well as visitors, a pattern more common in Africa (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Reference population covered in labour force surveys, by region (No. and %)

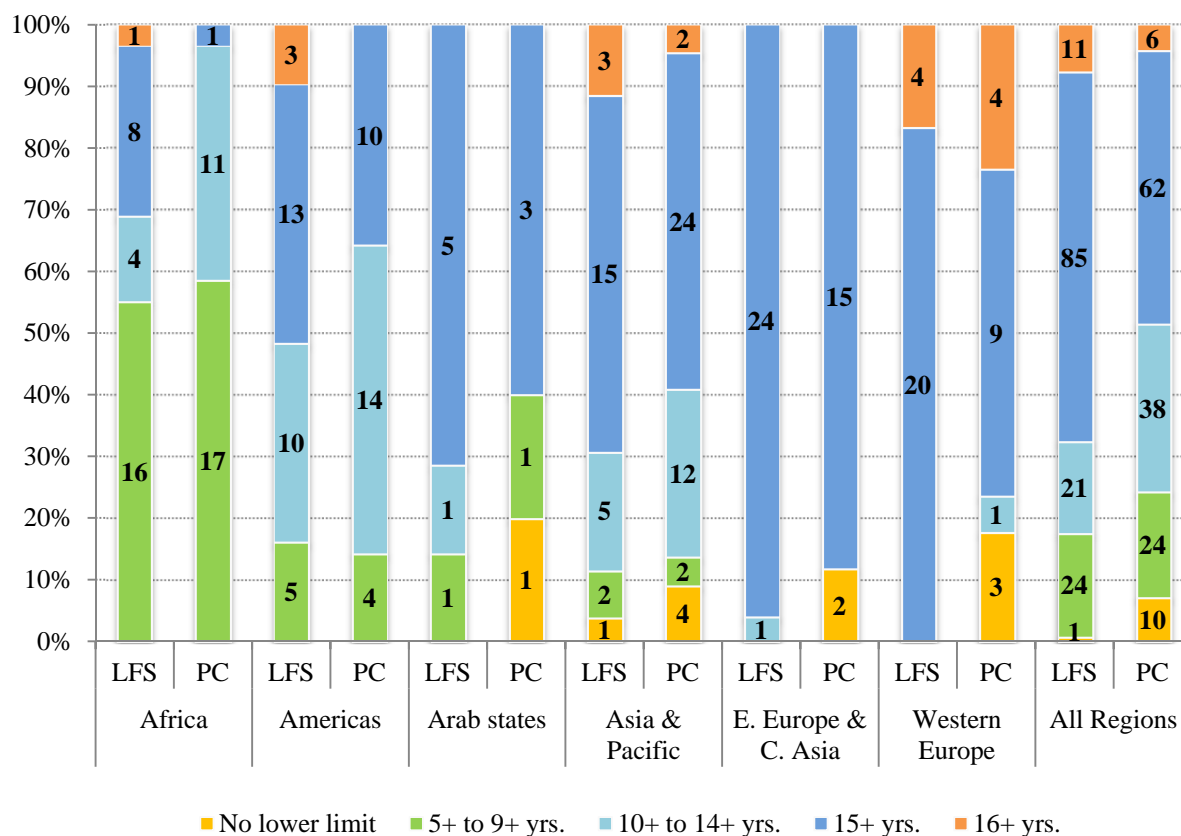


Age limits

11. Most countries include a minimum age limit for the collection of labour force statistics in their population census as well as in the labour force survey. In general, about half of the countries collect labour force information for persons aged 15 years and above, both in population censuses and in labour force surveys. This minimum age limit is most commonly used among countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Western Europe, Arab States and Asia and the Pacific. Lower age limits are more common, starting at 5+ to 9+ years in Africa, in particular, and at 10+ to 14+ years in the Americas. (Figure 5).

12. Upper age limits, ranging between 64 to 79 years, are used only by a small number of countries from Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Western Europe and Africa, primarily in labour force surveys. In population censuses only a few countries from Eastern Europe and Central Asia were found to introduce upper age limits to collect labour force statistics.

Figure 5: Minimum age limit for collecting labour force statistics, by region and source (No. and %)

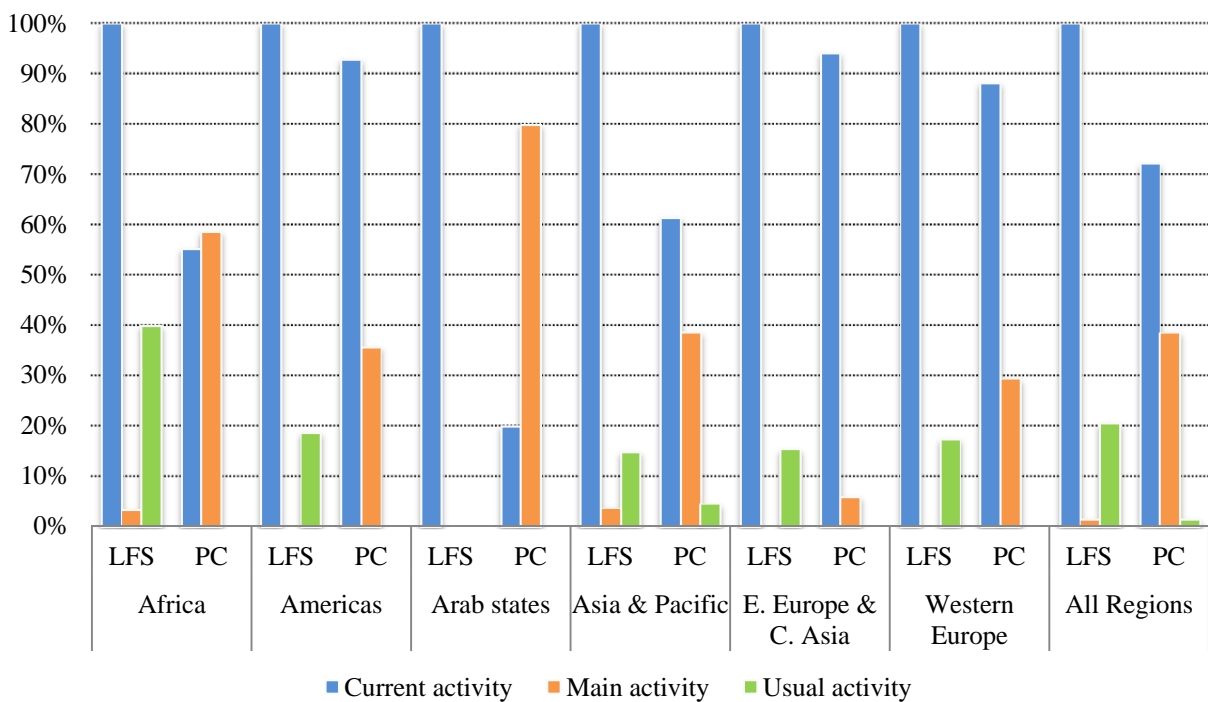


Measurement approaches

13. The *labour force framework* (also known as *current activity framework*) has become the foremost approach to produce statistics on employment and unemployment through both labour force surveys and population censuses. All countries for which information is available use this framework to classify persons as employed, unemployed or inactive in a short reference period of measurement. The *usual activity framework* is seldom used (30 out of 160 countries), although it is most common among countries in Africa where surveys are generally conducted only every few years. Nonetheless, all countries measuring usual activity in their labour force survey also collect information on current activity using the labour force framework.

14. National practices in population censuses are more diverse, with most countries (101 out of 140) collecting information on current activity according to the labour force framework, but also an important number of countries collecting information on *main activity* (54 out of 140). By contrast, only 2 countries measure usual activity in their population census. Measurement of main activity is most common in the Arab States and Africa, while measurement of usual activity is restricted to Asia and the Pacific (Figure 6). Among countries measuring main activity, a small number (15) also collects information about current activity using the labour force framework. In such cases, the questions are usually combined to first identify the main activity as self-reported followed by identification of persons performing any work among those who did not self-identify as employed.

Figure 6: Countries measuring economic activity, by measurement approach, region and source (%)



15. Where the usual activity framework is used, a variety of measurement methods are applied. In labour force surveys the most common methods include spontaneous self-assessment as well as whole-year and month-by-month recall to determine the number of weeks in the previous 12 months spent employed, unemployed or inactive (Figure 7). In population censuses, the two countries collecting such information use simplified methods based on whole-year and half-year recall techniques to establish the usual activity of the respondents.

Figure 7: Countries measuring *Usual activity* in LFS, by method used (%)

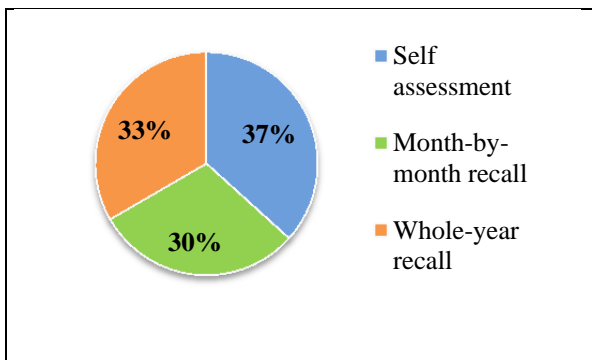
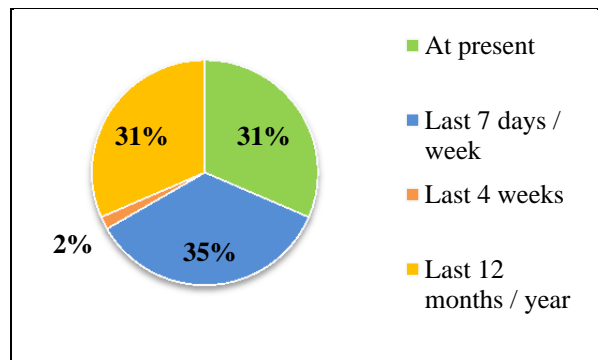


Figure 8: Countries measuring *Main activity* in Population Censuses, by reference period used (%)



16. Although not a part of the international standards currently in force, measurement of main activity as self-reported is relatively common in population censuses. In general, main activity is measured with respect to a short reference period, particularly the last 7 days or calendar week or with respect to the situation at the time of the interview and without further reference to a specified period of time. Nonetheless, close to a third of the countries measuring main activity use a long reference period comprising the last 12 months or the last calendar year (Figure 7b). In such

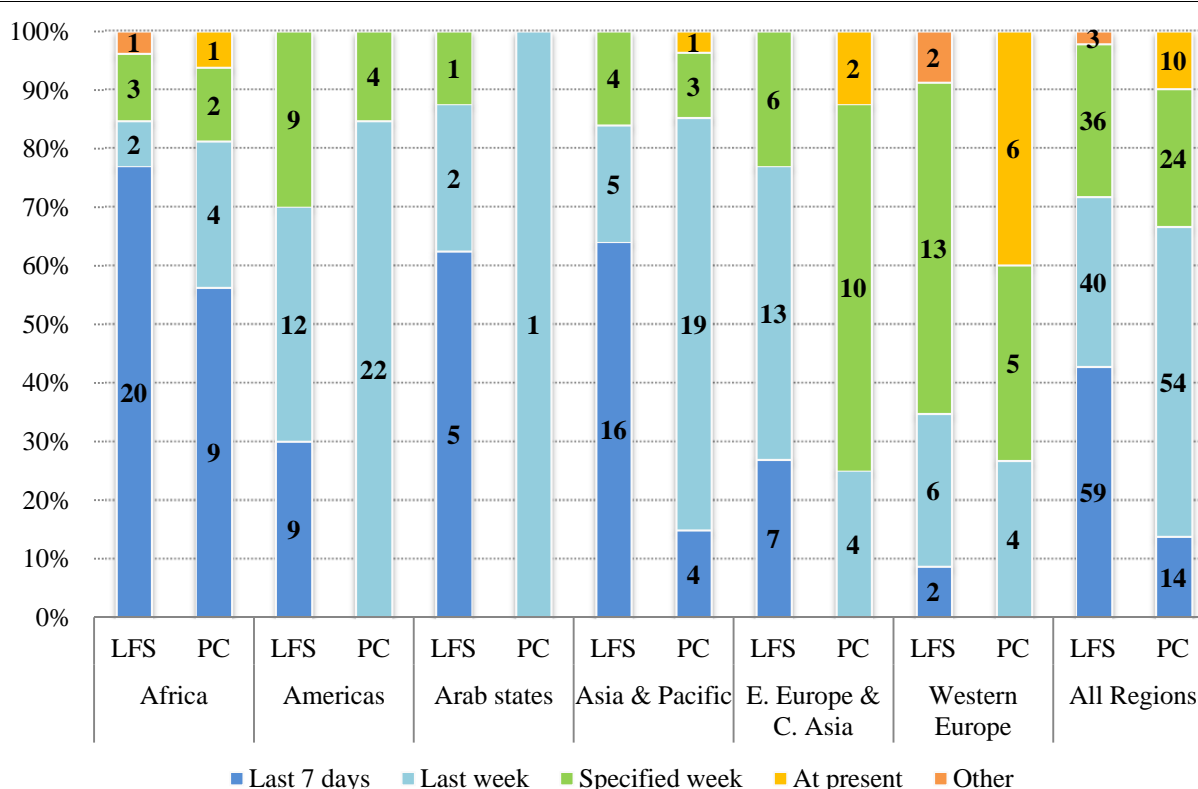
instances, the measurement of main activity and usual activity using spontaneous self-assessment becomes relatively similar, except when there is the explicit reference to “usual” or “main” activity in the question formulation.

Employment

Reference period

17. Among countries applying the labour force framework, use of a "one week" or "7 day" reference period to measure employment is near universal, both in population censuses and in labour force surveys. This reference period of measurement is implemented in a number of ways: with reference to the preceding 7 days; the preceding calendar week; or a specified week in the month. In addition, in population censuses, a few countries refer to the situation of the person at present, without further specifying a duration limit (Figure 9).

Figure 9: Reference period to measure employment, by region and source (%)

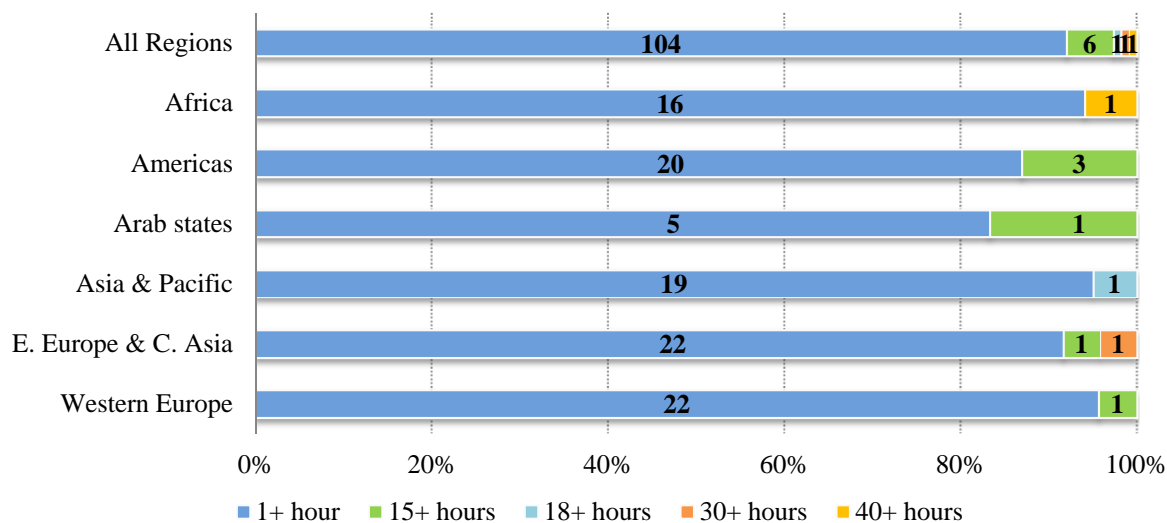


Note: Refers to measurement of employment among countries applying the labour force framework.

One hour criterion

18. The one hour criterion to classify persons as in employment is used also by the vast majority of countries, both in labour force surveys and in population censuses. The one hour criterion is generally made explicit during the interview process by referring to “work for at least one hour” or to “any work”. In some cases, however, reference is only made in interviewer manuals or during interviewer training. While most countries apply the one hour criterion to all groups of workers, a few countries apply the option to introduce a higher hours’ threshold to classify contributing family workers as employed. In labour force surveys the most common hours’ threshold applied to this group of workers is 15+ hours, although a few countries use other thresholds such as 18+, 30+ and 40+ hours (Figure 10).

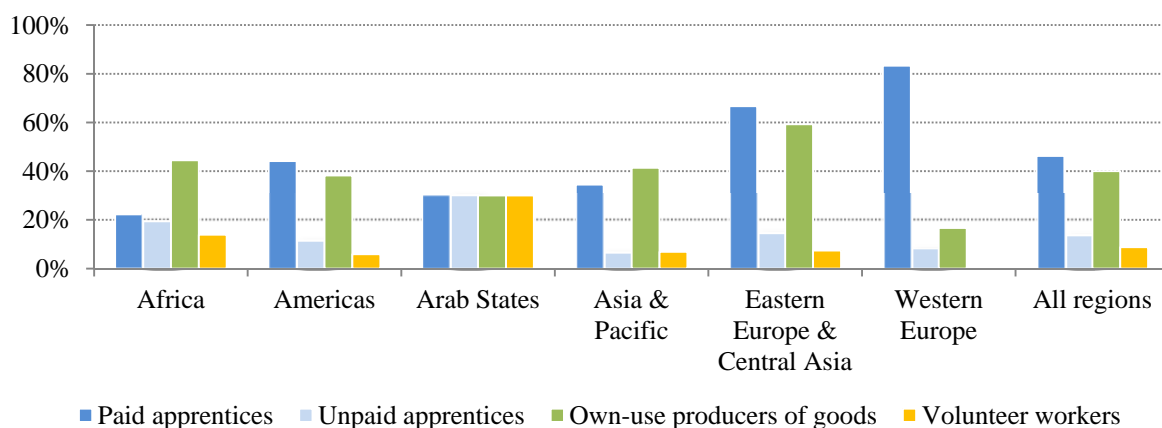
Figure 10: Hour's threshold used in labour force surveys to classify contributing family workers in employment, by region (No. and %)



Activity scope of employment

19. The concept of employment as measured by most countries through labour force surveys does not actually encompass all types of activities included within the production boundary of the System of National Accounts (SNA 2008). All countries include activities related to paid employment as well as to self-employment in market enterprises. The vast majority of countries, however, exclude from the scope of employment the following productive activities: own-account production of goods (60%), and volunteer work in market enterprises, in non-market enterprises and in households producing goods for own consumption (86%). The treatment in employment statistics of work performed by apprentices, trainees and interns is harder to document. It would appear that paid apprenticeships, in particular, are commonly included in employment whereas unpaid work carried out by trainees, apprentices or interns is included in employment only by a few countries (Figure 11).

Figure 11: Countries including specific worker groups in employment, by region (%)



20. More so, important differences are observed among countries that include in employment persons engaged in production of goods for own consumption. Of the 64 countries that do include these activities in employment, 27 do not use explicit probes in their surveys to ensure complete coverage (Figure 12a). Among those that do include explicit probes (37), the vast majority do not cover all activities to produce goods for own consumption (Figure 12b). While most of these countries include agricultural activities to produce goods for own consumption, less than 20 percent include construction of own dwelling, manufacturing of other goods, fetching water and collecting firewood.

Figure 12a: Countries by treatment in employment of activities to produce goods for own consumption (No.)

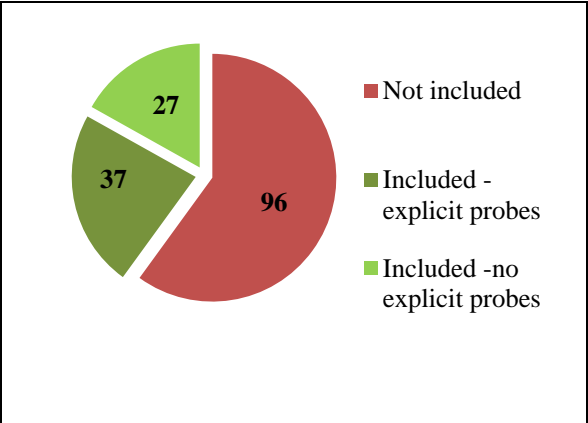
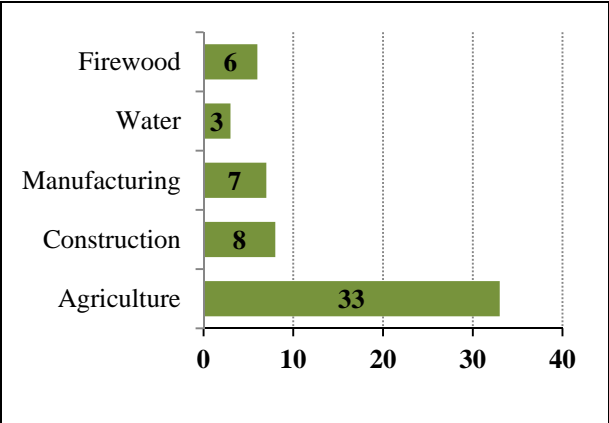


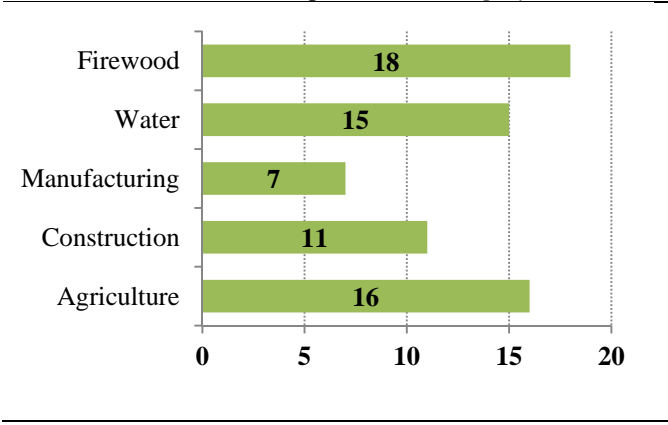
Figure 12b: Countries by scope of activities to produce goods for own consumption included in employment (No.)



21. Furthermore, countries use different types of thresholds to determine which part of agricultural activities for own consumption to include in employment. While most countries include all agricultural production for own consumption, others use a variety of thresholds based on the number of hours actually worked in such activities in the reference period of measurement, the estimated percentage of the production intended for sale, or the self-reported importance of the production to the household livelihood or budget.

22. In addition, a small number of countries (27) measure participation in activities to produce goods for own consumption as *outside* of employment in a separate section of their labour force survey or general household survey. Among those countries, the most commonly measured activities are collecting firewood and agriculture, followed by fetching water and construction or major repair of own dwelling. Manufacturing of other goods tends to be measured by a smaller number of those countries (Figure 12c). Measuring production of goods for own consumption *outside* of employment is done by most countries in a section on “Other current activities” in the same reference period used for the measurement of employment. The remaining countries do so in a section on “Other usual activities” or in a household-level section on “Agricultural production”. A few countries measure these activities in multiple sections at the individual and household level.

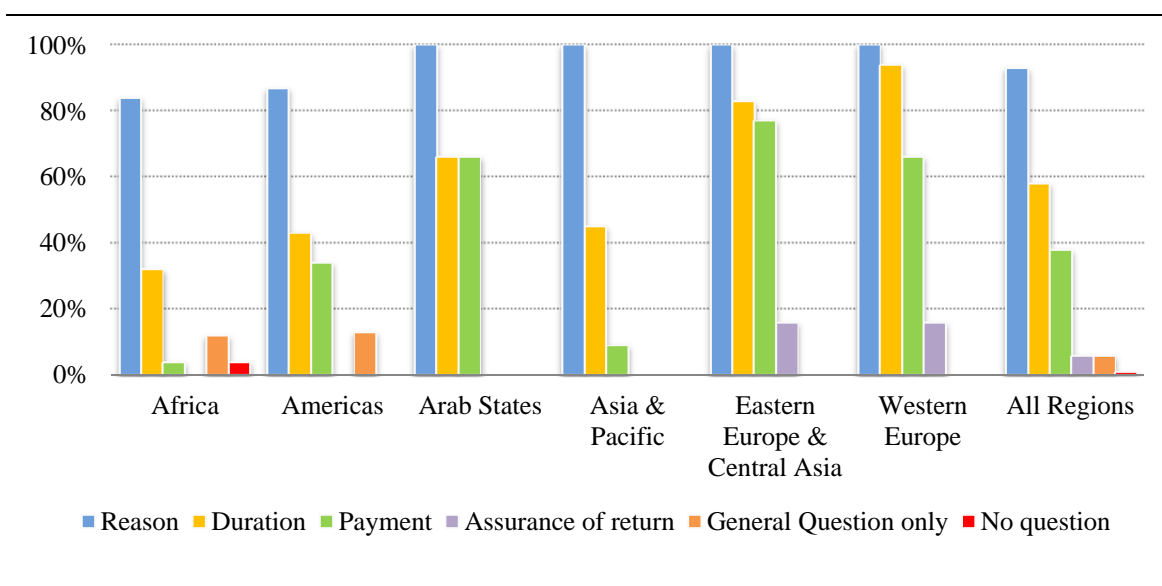
Figure 12c: Countries measuring activities to produce goods for own consumption *outside* employment (no.)



Temporary absence from employment

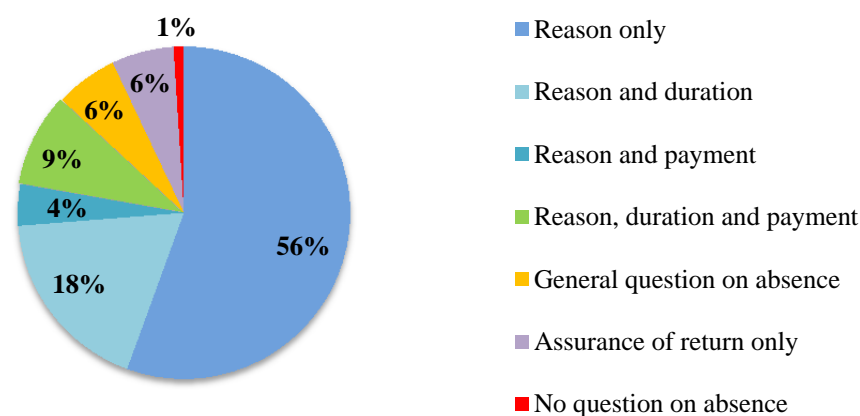
23. National practice to classify persons on temporary absence from their job as employed is also varied. In labour force surveys, the most common question on temporary absence asked by countries is *reason for absence* (93%). This is followed by questions on *duration of absence* (58%) and on *payment during the absence* (39%). Very few countries ask specific questions probing for *assurance of return to work*. Rather, assurance of a return is usually introduced in the formulation of the main question on temporary absence. In a few cases, countries only ask a general question on temporary absence from work or no question at all (Figure 13).

Figure 13: Type of questions on temporary absence included in labour force surveys, by region (%)



24. Not all countries that ask multiple questions on absence actually combine such information to determine treatment in employment of persons on temporary absence. Indeed, slightly over half of the countries (56%) identify employed persons on temporary absence using the question on reason for absence alone. Close to a fifth (18.4%) use, in addition, the question on duration of absence. The remaining countries use a combination of reason, payment and duration (9%); a single question on assurance of return to work (6%); a general question on temporary absence (6%), or a combination of reason and payment (4%) (Figure 14).

Figure 14: Criteria used or combined to determine temporary absence from employment (%)

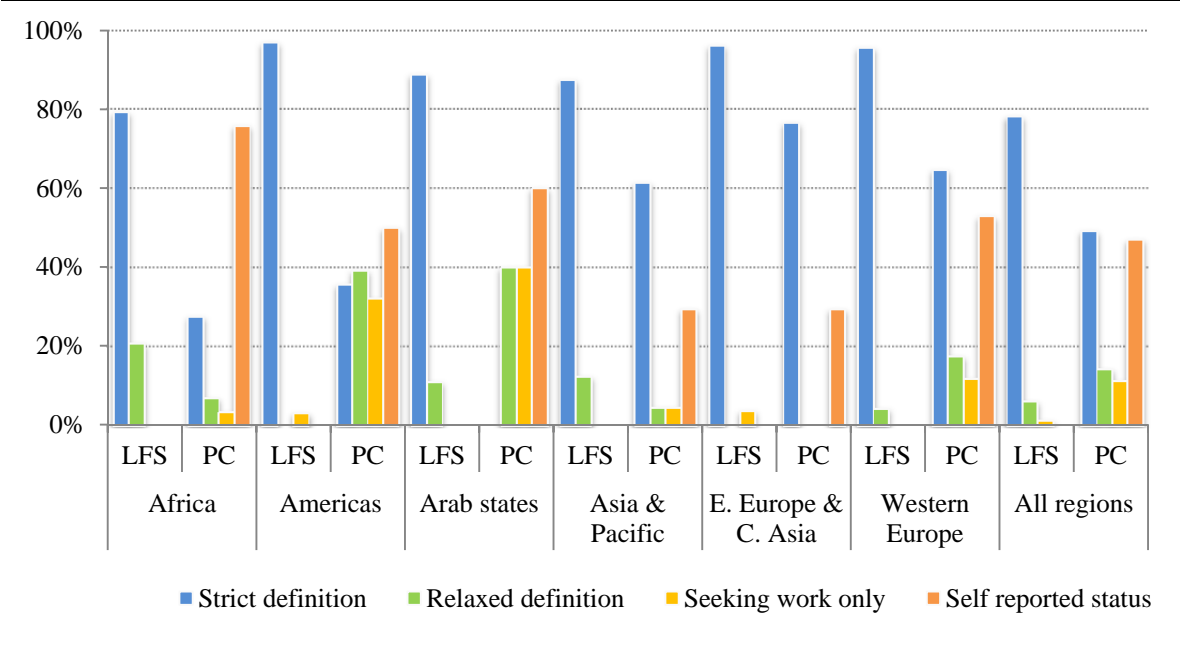


25. The reasons most commonly treated directly as temporary absence from employment without further tests of formal job attachment are: own illness, injury and temporary incapacity; annual leave (vacation); maternity leave, parental leave or family member care; school or education; slack work for technical or economic reasons; and national holidays. The combination of reason and duration to determine formal job attachment is most commonly used in the case of labour dispute or suspension; slack work for technical or economic reasons; bad weather and low season. In most cases, durations of 1 month and up to 3 months are treated as temporary absence from employment. Payment is also used by a few countries as an additional criterion primarily in the case of the low season and maternity leave.

Unemployment

26. The measurement of unemployment in labour force surveys broadly follows the recommendations embodied in the international standards. The vast majority of countries (78%) measure unemployment using the three criteria: “without work”, “available for work” and “seeking work”, simultaneously. A small number of countries (6%), particularly in Africa, and Asia and the Pacific, use the option to relax the “seeking work” criterion in defining unemployment. Practices are more diverse in population censuses: close to half of the countries (49%) apply the three criteria to measure unemployment and about 15 percent use the relaxation of the seeking work criterion. However, an important number of those countries measure unemployment as a self-reported status (47%). Only a small number of countries (7) measure unemployment both according to the ICLS standards and as a self-reported status (Figure 15).

Figure 15: Criteria to measure unemployment used in labour force surveys and population censuses, by region (%)



Reference periods of measurement

27. In labour force surveys, convergence to a common reference period of measurement is observed for the criterion *active job search* (Figure 16a). Most countries use a "four week" or "calendar month" reference period of measurement. Still, about a fifth of countries use a shorter period (the reference week) than suggested in the standards. In the case of *availability for employment*,

national practices in labour force surveys are more varied (Figure 16b). Less than half of the countries use the “reference period” as recommended. Instead, a majority of countries in each region use a longer duration including: the “2 weeks after the survey reference period” (40%); “the reference period plus the 2 weeks after” (9%); or other periods of longer duration (4%).

Figure 16a: Reference period used for measuring *active job search* in LFS (%)

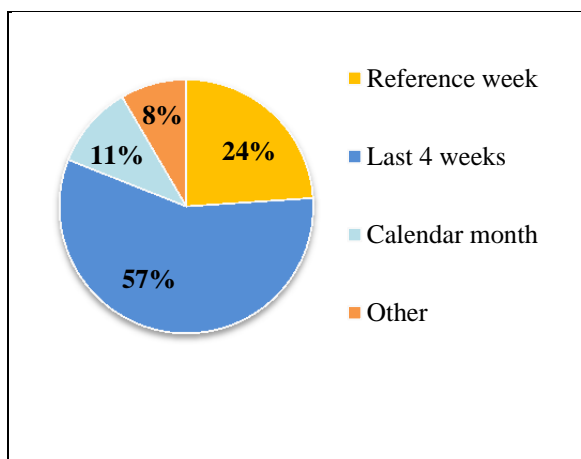
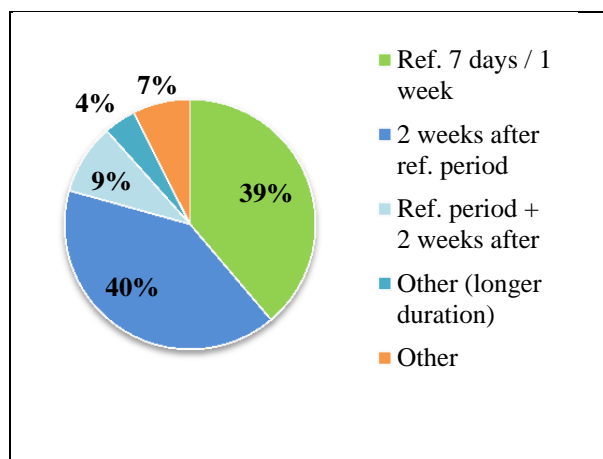


Figure 16b: Reference period used for measuring *availability for work* in LFS (%)



28. In population censuses, shorter reference periods tend to be more common for the measurement of both *active job search* and *availability for employment*. Indeed, 45 percent of countries use “the last 4 weeks” or “calendar month” to measure active job search, and a similar percentage of countries measure this criterion with respect to the “last 7 days” or “calendar week”, or to the situation at the time of the interview without further reference to a specified duration. In the case of availability for employment, close to 40 percent of countries use the recommended reference period comprising the “last 7 days” or “calendar week”, another 36 percent use a slightly longer reference period comprising the “2 weeks after the reference period” or the “reference period plus the 2 weeks after”. The remaining countries refer to the situation at the time of the interview or leave the reference period unspecified. Finally a few countries use a longer reference period in the past to determine availability (Figures 17a and 17b).

Figure 17a: Reference period used for measuring *active job search* in Population Censuses (%)

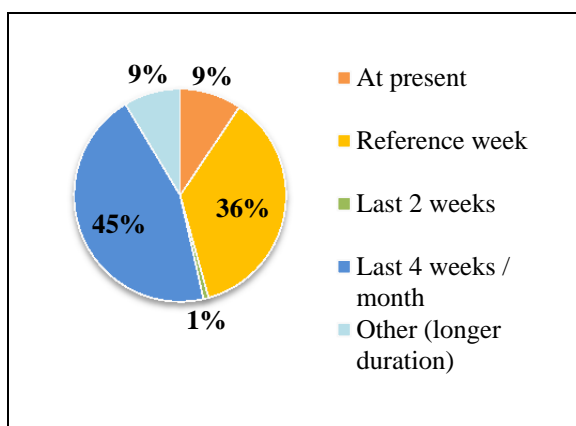
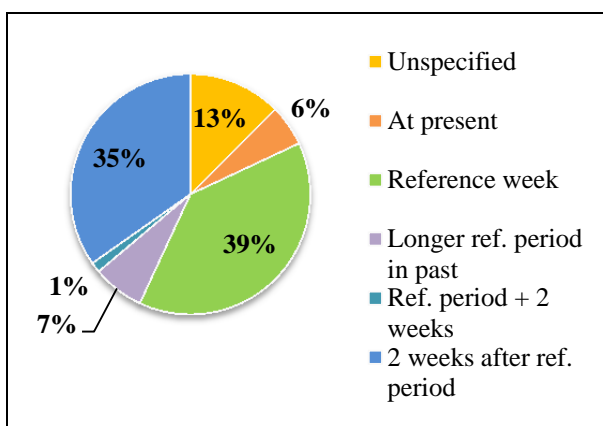


Figure 17b: Reference period used for measuring *availability for work* in Population Censuses (%)



Future starters

29. The standards provide general guidance to include “future starters” among the unemployed. The term “future starters” is used to refer to persons not currently employed who did not seek employment because they had already found a job to start in the near future, provided that they were available to start working in the reference period. Only about one third of countries include questions in their labour force surveys to identify future starters (Figure 18a). All of these countries apply a duration threshold to include among the unemployed only those future starters that have an agreement to start a new job within a short reference period. The most common duration threshold used comprises a period of 3 months (Figure 18b).

Figure 18a: Countries that separately identify future starters (%)

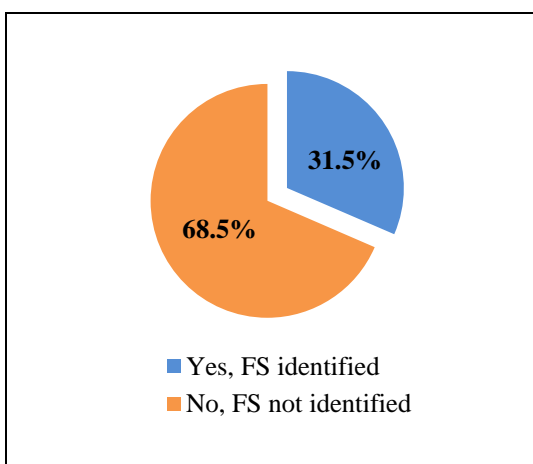
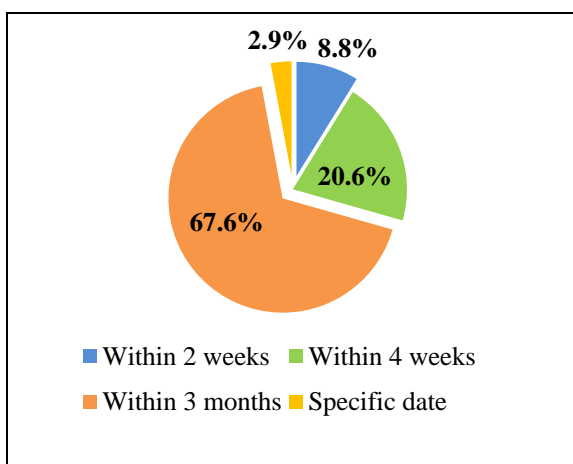


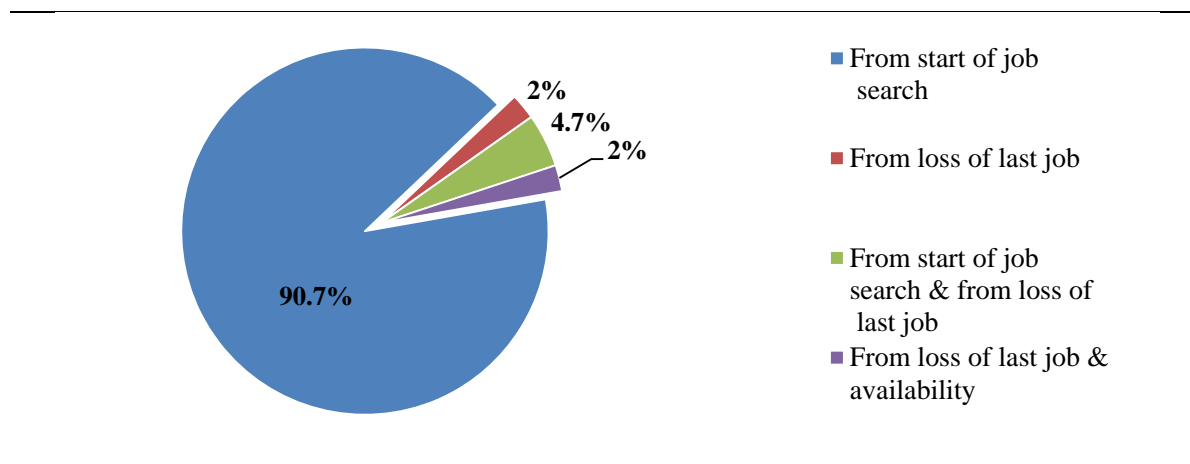
Figure 18b: Duration thresholds used to include future starters among unemployed persons



Duration of unemployment

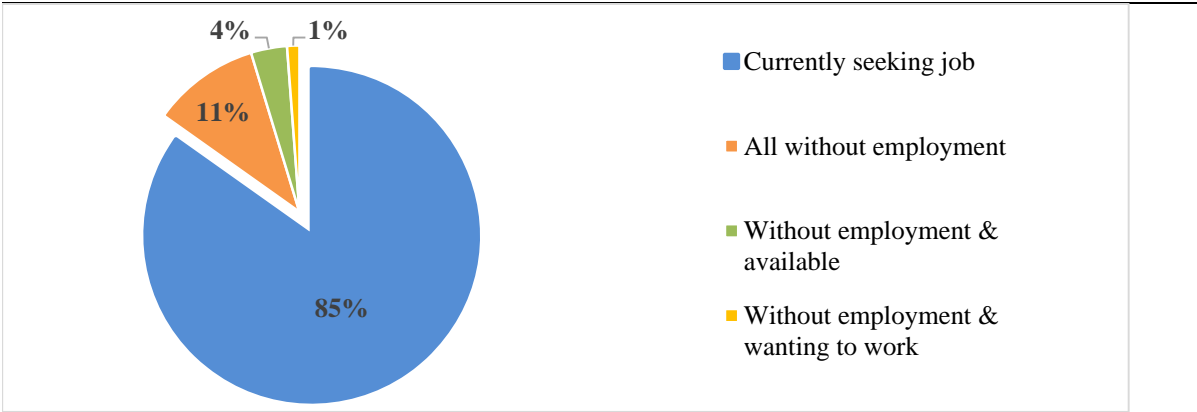
30. In addition to measuring unemployment in the short reference period, the vast majority of countries also include questions in their labour force surveys to capture duration of unemployment (Figure 19). Generally, this is measured from the start of job search and up to the reference week (90.7%). In a few cases, the duration of unemployment is measured from the loss of the last job (2%). Tests for availability during the period of job search are seldom used. Only a few countries using a relaxed definition of unemployment measure duration of unemployment from the point when the person lost their last job and became available for employment.

Figure 19: Boundaries used to measure duration of unemployment (%)



31. In most cases (85%), questions on duration of job search are asked to persons not in employment who carried out active steps to seek employment in the last four weeks or calendar month. Few countries using a relaxed definition of unemployment ask these questions to persons not in employment who want or are available for employment. Still a small percentage of countries (11%) ask the questions on duration of job search to all persons not in employment (Figure 20).

Figure 20: Target population for questions on duration of unemployment (%)



32. Different approaches are used by countries to capture the duration of job search (Figure 21). In general, more than half of the countries (57%) use an open-ended question to record the duration of job search in a variety of time units (i.e. days, weeks, months and/or years). However, the use of a variety of broad duration ranges is also widespread, particularly in the Asia & Pacific and Eastern Europe & Central Asia regions. Among countries using open-ended questions (49), the most common time units used to record duration of job search are a combination of months and years. This is followed by the use of months alone or weeks (Figure 21b).

Figure 21a: Approaches used to record duration of unemployment (%)

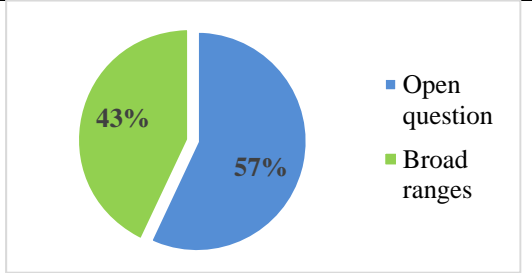
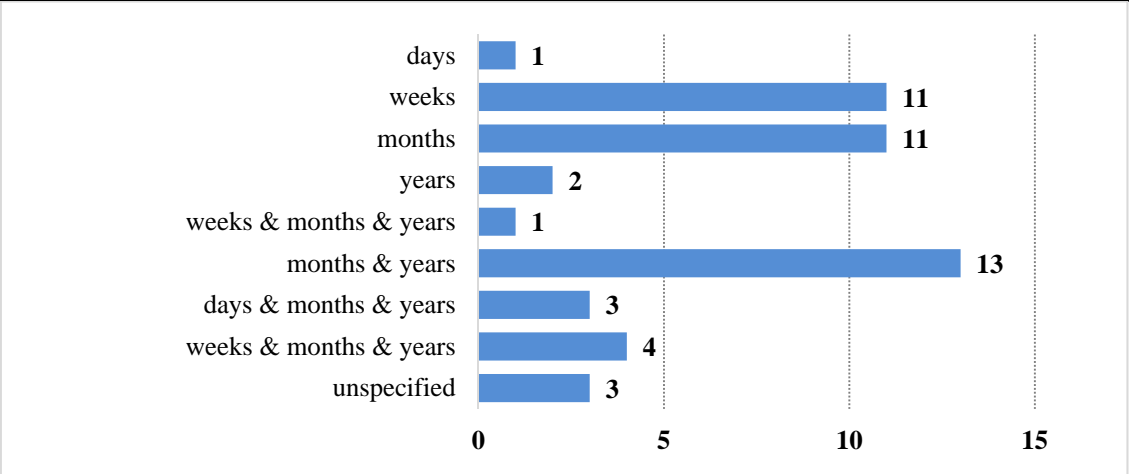
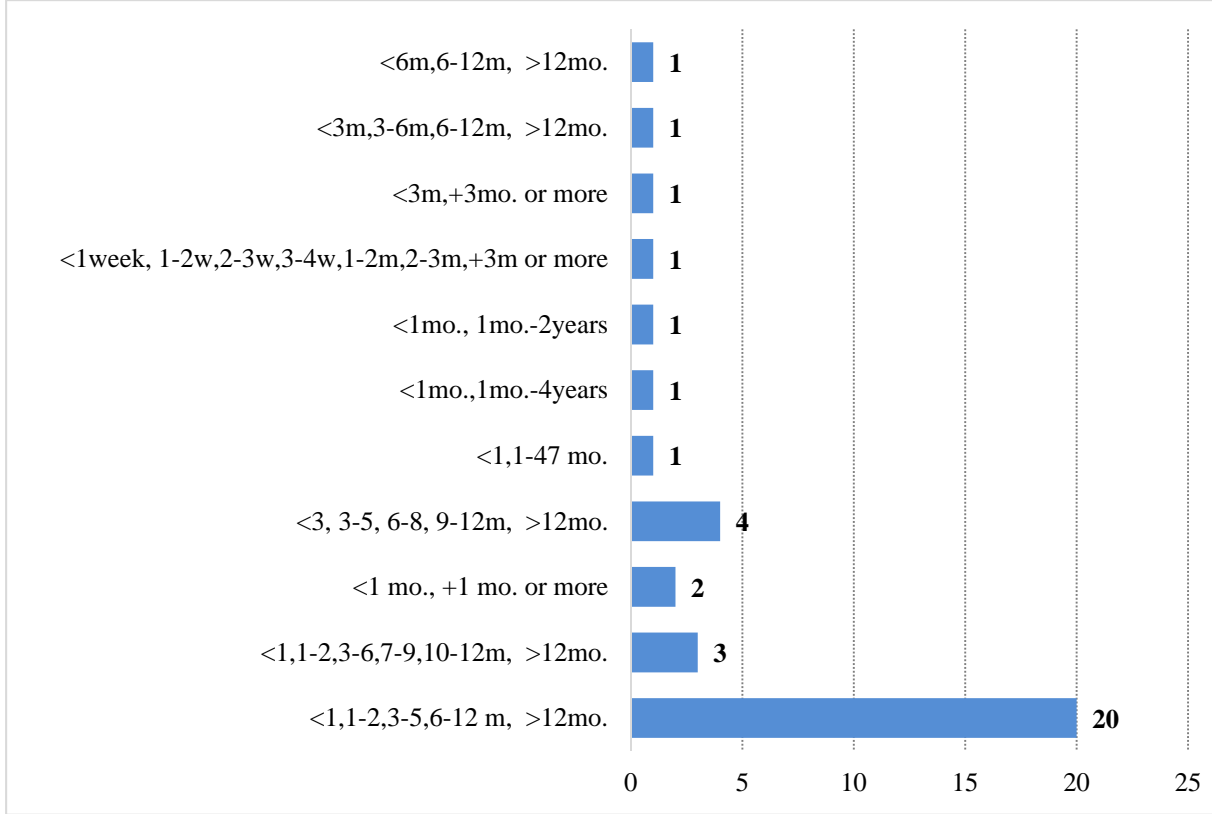


Figure 21b: Time-units used with open-ended questions to capture duration of unemployment (No.)



33. In the case of countries using predefined ranges (37), the most commonly used duration ranges are “less than one month, one to two months, three to five months, six to twelve months, and more than 12 months” (Figure 21c).

Figure 21c: Duration ranges used with close-ended questions to capture duration of unemployment (No.)

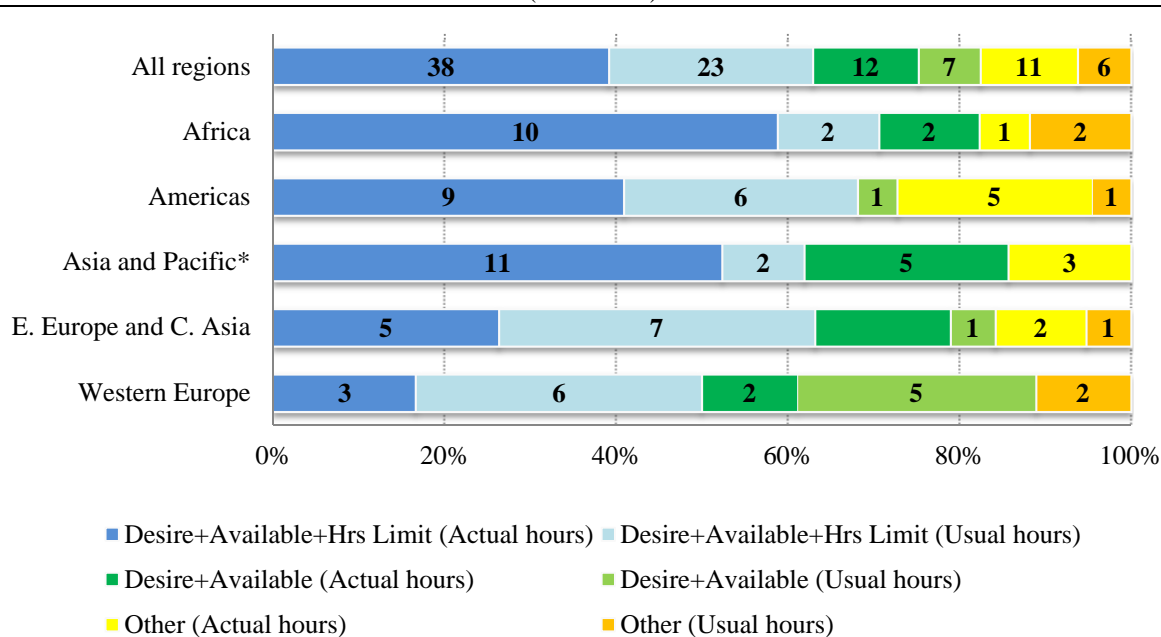


Time-related underemployment

34. Compared to employment and unemployment, measurement of time-related underemployment (TRU) is less widespread. Nevertheless a majority of countries worldwide collected information on this topic in their latest labour force survey (97 out of 160). The measurement approaches used by countries are also more diverse. This partly reflects differences in focus between identifying persons in a situation of TRU and persons who are involuntarily in part-time jobs. Overall, slightly over 60 percent of countries apply the three recommended criteria to measure TRU: “desire to work more hours”, “availability to work more hours”, and “total working time less than a set threshold”. The remaining countries apply two of the criteria (most commonly desire and availability to work more hours) or only one criterion.

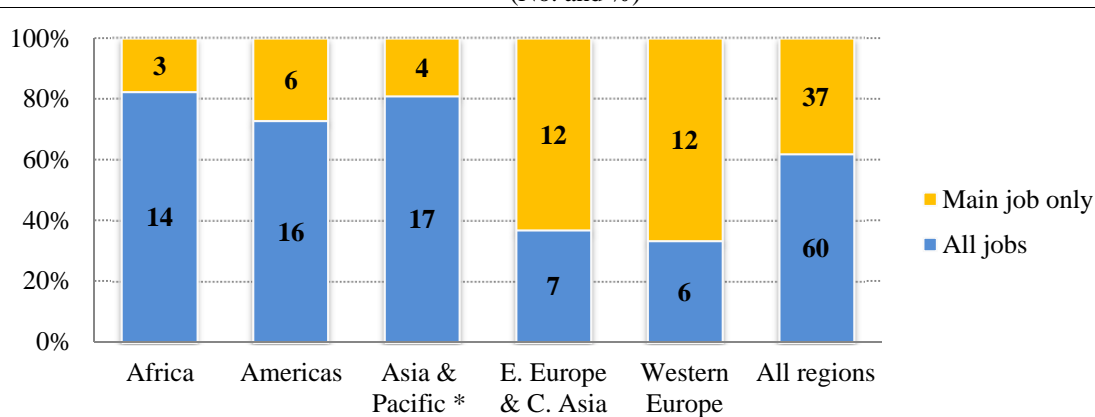
35. Among countries applying the three criteria, 38 measure persons in TRU using hours actually worked in the period of reference as recommended in the international standards. The remaining countries (23) use hours usually worked as reference, thus identifying the subset of persons in TRU who usually work less than full-time and want to work additional hours. Focus on this group of workers is most common among countries in Western Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and to a lesser extent in the Americas (Figure 22).

Figure 22: Countries measuring time-related underemployment in LFS, by measurement approach and region (No. and %)



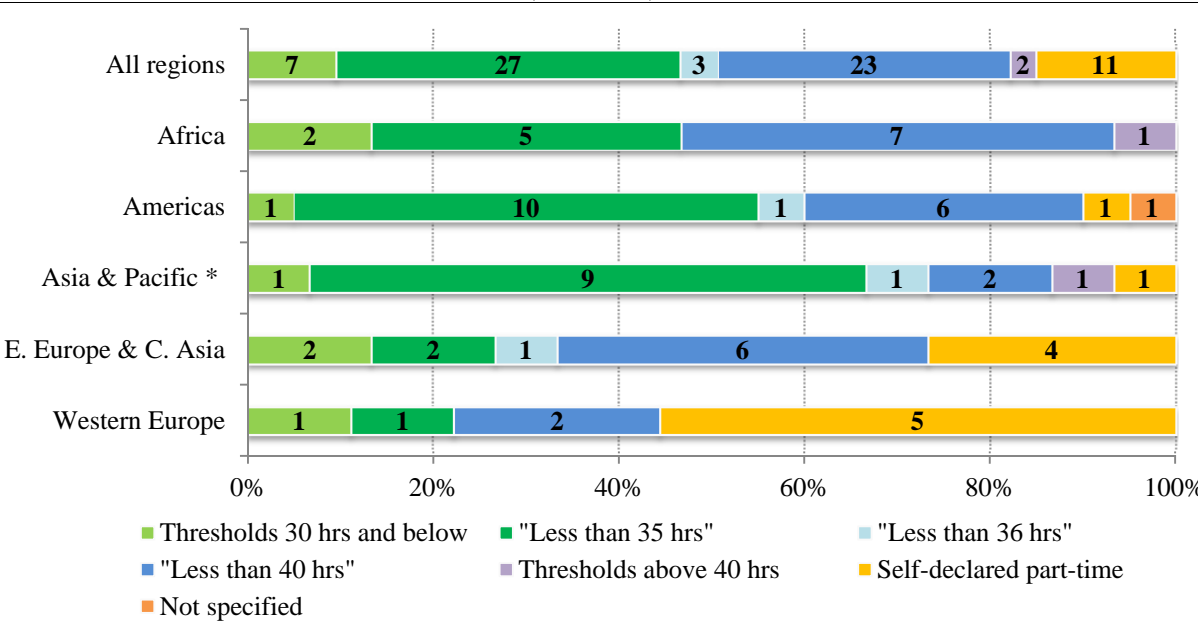
36. There are also measurement differences in terms of job coverage. Globally while most countries measure TRU with respect to working time in all jobs, as recommended in the standards, close to 40 percent use only the main job as reference. This practice is most common among countries in Western Europe, and Eastern Europe and Central Asia where secondary jobs are less prevalent (Figure 23).

Figure 23: Job coverage used by countries measuring time-related underemployment in LFS, by region (No. and %)



37. Finally, different approaches are also used by countries in applying the hours' threshold to measure TRU. Among those countries using an hour's threshold, the most common thresholds are "less than 35 hours" and "less than 40 hours," used by two thirds of the countries. The lower threshold ("less than 35 hours") is most commonly used in the Americas, and Asia and the Pacific, whereas the higher threshold ("less than 40 hours") tends to be more prevalent in Africa, and Eastern Europe and Central Asia. In Western Europe the most common approach is to determine the threshold based on the part-time employment status of the person as self-declared (Figure 24).

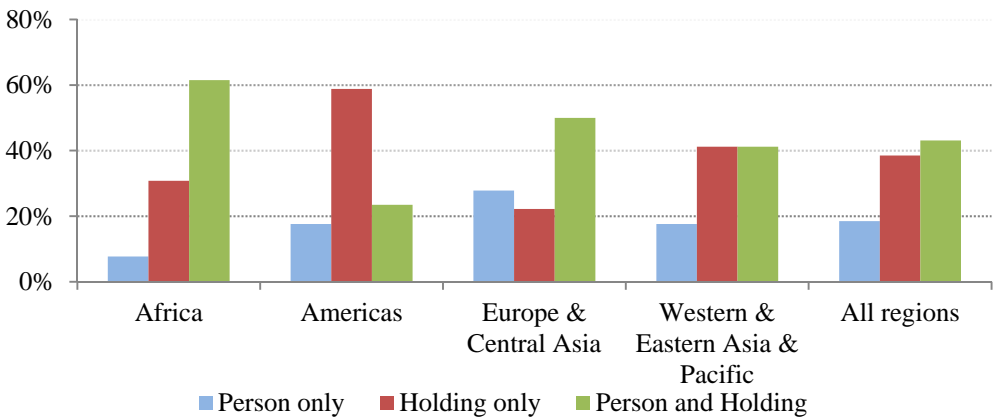
Figure 24: Hour's thresholds used by countries measuring time-related underemployment in LFS, by region (No. and %)



B. Agricultural Censuses

38. The implementation of the standards in agricultural censuses is different compared to in population and housing censuses and labour force surveys. Given the specific measurement objectives of agricultural censuses, the standards are adapted by countries to produce estimates of economic activity (i.e. total number of persons working in the holding by broad categories such as sex and age-group and/or total volume of work) in reference to the agricultural holding. Of the 71 national practices reviewed, only 6 countries did not collect information on economic activity in their agricultural census. Among those that do, slightly over 40 percent collect information both at the person and holding-level. Another 40 percent of countries collect only aggregate information at the holding level). The remaining countries collect information on economic activity at the individual level only (Figure 25).

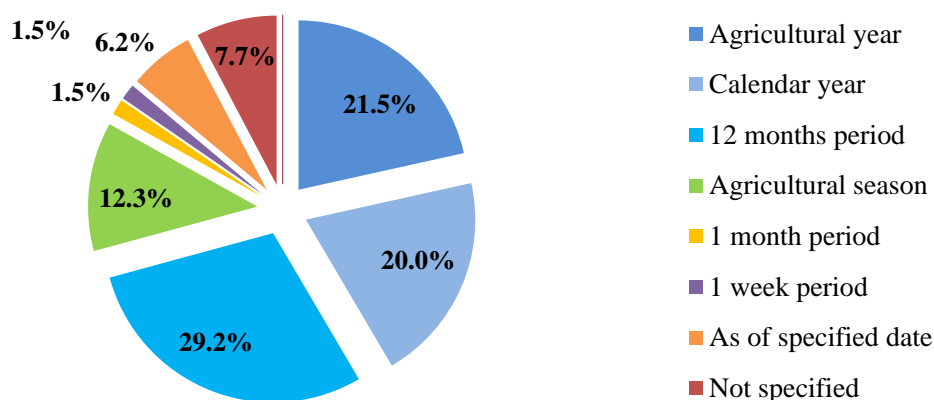
Figure 25: Unit of observation used by countries measuring economic activity in agricultural censuses (1995-2004), by region (%)



Reference period

39. Economic activity with respect to the agricultural holding is measured using a variety of reference periods (Figure 26). Over 70 percent of countries use a long reference period comprising the agricultural year (21.5%), the calendar year (20.0%) or the last 12 months (29.2%). Slightly over 12% use a shorter reference period comprising the agricultural season. The remaining countries use a cut-off date, a one month or a one week reference periods. On the other hand, 8 percent of countries do not precise the reference period for the economic activity in their questionnaires.

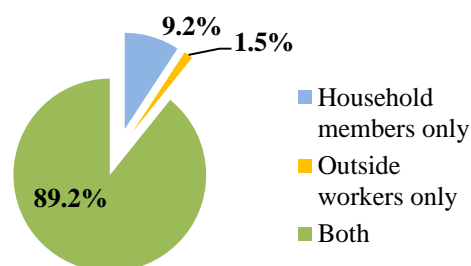
Figure 26: Reference periods used to measure economic activity in agricultural censuses (%)



Workers coverage

40. Given the focus on the agricultural holding, the vast majority of countries collect information on economic activity with respect to both household members and outside workers (89%). Only about 9 percent of countries restrict their coverage to household members working in the holding. Finally, only one country collects information on economic activity for outside workers only (Figure 27).

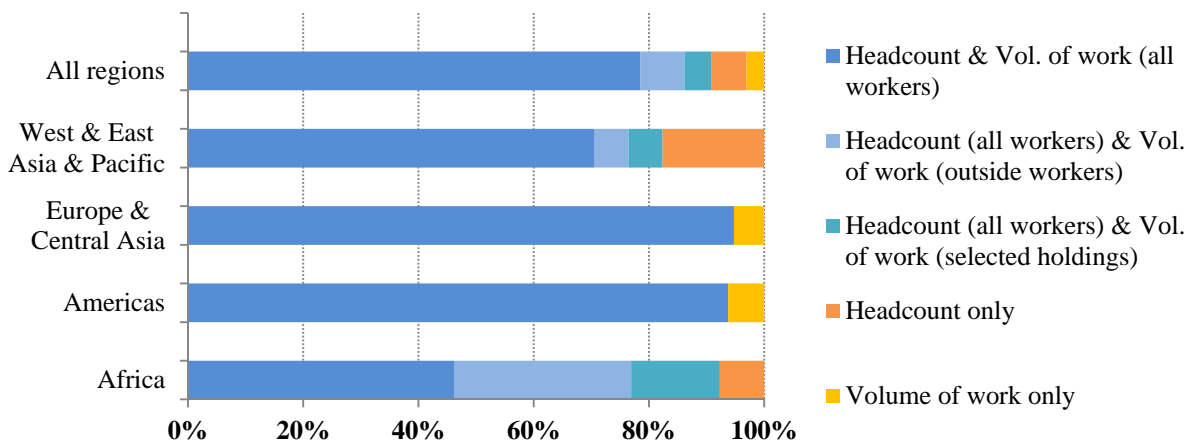
Figure 27: Workers coverage in agricultural censuses (%)



Measures of economic activity

41. The two main measures of economic activity captured in agricultural censuses are total number of persons working in the holding (headcount) and their volume of work (labour input) (Figure 28). Over three quarters of the countries (78.5%) collect information that enables them to produce estimates of the total number of persons working in the holding and their volume of work. A few additional countries can produce estimates of the total number of persons working in the holding, but restrict their measures of volume of work to selected worker groups (outside workers only) or holdings. The remaining countries are able to produce estimates of headcounts only (2%) or volume of work only (6%).

Figure 28: Measurement of economic activity in agricultural censuses (%)



Volume of work

42. Different approaches are used by countries to collect information in order to produce estimates of volume of work or labour input in agricultural holdings during the reference period. The approaches used vary to a certain extent depending on the category of worker (i.e. household member / outside worker). Nonetheless, in general the two most common approaches used are either collecting information on the number of “Days per year” worked or on the number of workers by broad working-time categories of “Permanent/Temporary” (Figures 29a and 29b).

Figure 29a: Categories of working time used in agricultural censuses, for **household members** (in number).

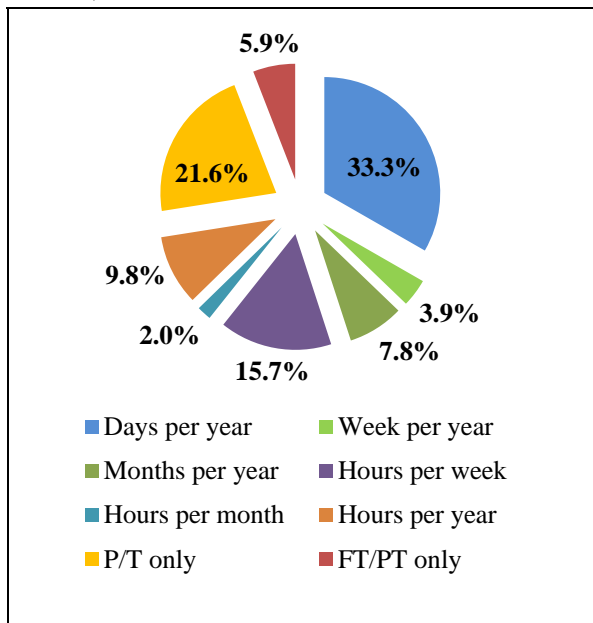
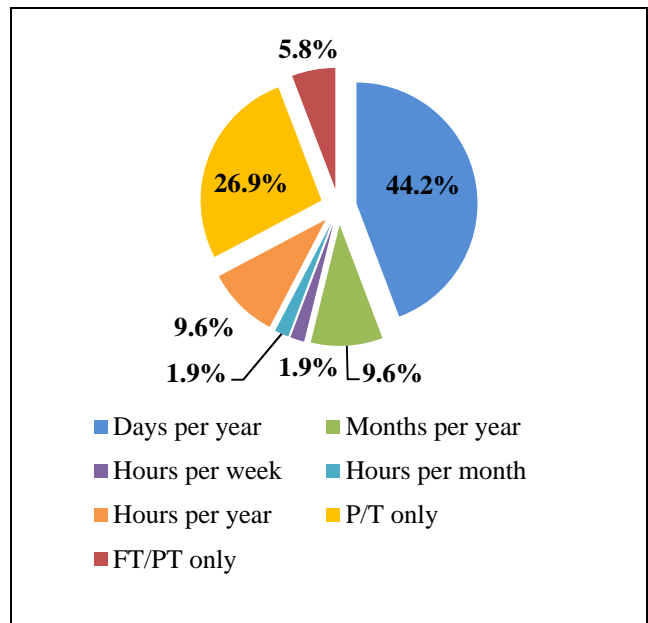


Figure 29b: Categories of working time used in agricultural censuses, for **outside workers** (in number).



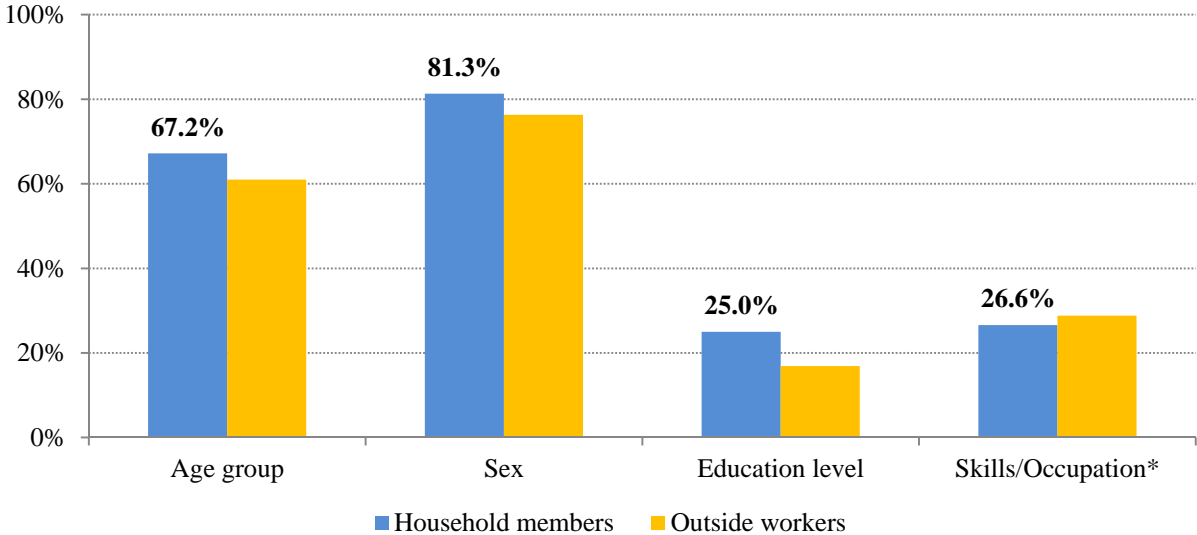
*P/T = “Permanent/Temporary”. No other time unit used in conjunction.

**FT/PT= “Full time/Part time”. No other time unit used in conjunction.

Characteristics of workers

43. Countries collecting information on the total number of workers engaged in the agricultural holdings also compile basic information on selected characteristics of the workers, in particular, sex and age group. Less common is to collect information on their level of education and broad occupational categories (Figure 30). Very few countries (5) ask information on job search or on other economic activities of agricultural workers in the holding.

Figure 30: Characteristics of workers collected in agricultural censuses by category of worker (%)



Annex I. Summary Tables

Table 1. Countries with a recent source of labour force statistics by type of source.

Table 2. Frequency of labour force survey data collection (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 3. Countries with sample rotation in labour force surveys by type of sample overlap (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 4. Reference populations covered in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

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Table 5b. Age limits used in population censuses to collect labour force statistics, 2010 round.

Table 6. Approaches used to measure economic activity by type of source.

Table 7. Methods used to measure usual activity in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

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Table 9. Reference periods used to measure employment in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 10. Hour's thresholds used in labour force surveys to classify contributing family workers in employment (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

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Table 13. Number of countries that include questions on temporary absence from employment, by type of question (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 14. Countries by criteria used to determine treatment in employment of persons on temporary absence (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 15a. Criteria used to measure unemployment in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 15b. Criteria used to measure unemployment and duration of unemployment in population censuses, 2010 round.

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Table 16b. Reference periods used to measure availability for employment in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 17a. Reference periods used to measure active of job search in Population and Housing Censuses, 2010 Round.

Table 17b. Reference periods used to measure availability for employment in Population and Housing Censuses, 2010 Round.

Table 18. Duration thresholds used to include future starters among unemployed persons (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 19. Boundaries used to measure duration of unemployment (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 20. Target population for questions on duration of unemployment (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 21. Approaches used to record duration of unemployment (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 22. Criteria used to measure time-related underemployment in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 23. Job coverage in the measurement of time-related underemployment (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 24. Hours' thresholds used in the measurement of time-related underemployment (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

Table 25. Coverage of economic activity in national agricultural censuses (2000 Round, 1995-2004).

Table 26. Reference periods used to measure economic activity in national agricultural censuses (2000 Round, 1995-2004).

Table 27. Workers coverage in national agricultural censuses (2000 Round, 1995-2004).

Table 28. Measurement of economic activity in national agricultural censuses (2000 Round, 1995-2004).

Table 29. Categories of working time used in national agricultural censuses (2000 Round, 1995-2004).

Geographical distribution of states and territories

Table 1. Countries with a recent source of labour force statistics by type of source.

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
<i>Household surveys</i>							
Labour Force Survey	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
Information not available	22	18	2	23	2	9	76
<i>Population and Housing Census</i>							
Economic activity included	29	28	5	44	17	17	140
Economic activity not included	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Forthcoming census	5	1	3	0	1	1	11
Information not available	24	21	4	8	11	15	83
Total no. States and territories	58	52	12	52	29	33	236
<i>Percentage (%)</i>							
<i>Household surveys</i>							
Labour Force Survey	62	65.4	83.3	55.8	93.1	73	67.8
Information not available	38	34.6	16.7	44.2	6.9	27	32.2
<i>Population and Housing Census</i>							
Economic activity included	50.0	53.8	41.7	84.6	58.6	51.5	59.3
Economic activity not included	0	3.8	0	0	0	0	0.8
Forthcoming census	8.6	2	25	0	3.4	3.0	4.7
Information not available	41.4	40.4	33	15.4	37.9	45.5	35.2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO review of national Population & Housing Census questionnaires as of November 2012 and ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 2. Frequency of labour force survey data collection (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
<i>Periodicity of data collection</i>							
Continuous	1	11	1	1	13	21	48
Periodic (sub-annual)	4	11	2	13	7	1	38
Yearly	5	9	2	6	3	2	27
Regular, less frequent	5	0	1	2	0	0	8
Irregularly or only once	19	1	4	5	2	0	31
No response	2	2	0	2	2	0	8
Countries in sample	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
					<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>		
<i>Periodicity of data collection</i>							
Continuous	2.9	34.4	10.0	3.7	52.0	87.5	31.6
Periodic (sub-annual)	11.8	34.4	20.0	48.1	28.0	4.2	25.0
Yearly	14.7	28.1	20.0	22.2	12.0	8.3	17.8
Regular, less frequent	14.7	0	10.0	7.4	0	0	5.3
Irregularly or only once	55.9	3.1	40.0	18.5	8.0	0	20.4
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 3. Countries with sample rotation in labour force surveys by type of sample overlap (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
<i>Sample overlap</i>							
Consecutive survey periods	2	6	3	6	7	3	27
Same periods one year apart	1	2	1	1	1	2	8
Consecutive periods and same periods one year apart	2	8	0	2	8	13	33
Other	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Countries in sample	5	16	4	11	16	18	70
<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>							
<i>Sample overlap</i>							
Consecutive survey periods	40	37.5	75	54.5	43.8	16.7	38.6
Same periods one year apart	20	12.5	25	9.1	6.3	11.1	11.4
Consecutive periods and same periods one year apart	40	50	0	18.2	50	72.2	47.1
Other	0	0	0	18.2	0	0	2.9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 4. Reference populations covered in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
<i>Reference population</i>							
Usual residents present only	0	4	1	7	2	2	16
Usual residents, present & absent	7	14	4	14	20	17	76
Usual residents present & temporary	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Usual residents, present & absent &	4	3	0	0	2	2	11
No response	25	13	4	8	3	2	55
Countries in sample	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
	<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>						
<i>Reference population</i>							
Usual residents present only	0	19.0	16.7	33.3	8.3	9.1	15.2
Usual residents, present & absent	63.6	66.7	66.7	66.7	83.3	77.3	72.4
Usual residents present & temporary	0	0	16.7	0	0	4.5	1.9
Usual residents, present & absent &	36.4	14.3	0	0	8.3	9.1	10.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 5a. Age limits used in household surveys to collect labour force statistics (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
<i>Lower age limit</i>							
No limit	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
5+ to 9+ yrs.	16	5	1	2	0	0	24
10+ to 14+ yrs.	4	10	1	5	1	0	21
15+ yrs.	8	13	5	15	24	20	85
16+ yrs.	1	3	0	3	0	4	11
<i>Upper age limit</i>							
64+ to 79+ yrs.	4	0	0	0	9	7	20
98+ yrs.	0	4	0	2	0	2	8
No limit	25	27	7	24	16	15	114
No response	7	3	3	3	2	0	18
Countries in sample	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
	<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>						
<i>Lower age limit</i>							
No limit	0	0	0	3.8	0	0	0.7
5+ to 9+ yrs.	55.2	16.1	14.3	7.7	0	0	16.9
10+ to 14+ yrs.	13.8	32.3	14.3	19.2	4.0	0	14.8
15+ yrs.	27.6	41.9	71.4	57.7	96.0	83.3	59.9
16+ yrs.	3.4	9.7	0	11.5	0	16.7	7.7
<i>Upper age limit</i>							
64+ to 79+ yrs.	13.8	0	0	0	36.0	29.2	14.1
98+ yrs.	0	12.9	0	7.7	0	8.3	5.6
No limit	86.2	87.1	100.0	92.3	64.0	62.5	80.3
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 5b. Age limits used in population censuses to collect labour force statistics, 2010 round.

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
<i>Minimum age limit</i>							
No limit	0	0	1	4	2	3	10
5+ to 9+ yrs.	17	4	1	2	0	0	24
10+ to 14+ yrs.	11	14	0	12	0	1	38
15+ yrs.	1	10	3	24	15	9	62
16+ yrs.	0	0	0	2	0	4	6
<i>Upper age limit</i>							
72+ yrs.	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
75+ yrs.	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
No limit	29	28	5	44	15	17	138
Countries in sample	29	28	5	44	17	17	140
<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>							
<i>Minimum age limit</i>							
No limit	0	0	20	9.1	11.8	17.6	7.1
5+ to 9+ yrs.	58.6	14.3	20	4.5	0	0	17.1
10+ to 14+ yrs.	37.9	50	0	27.3	0	5.9	27.1
15+ yrs.	3.4	35.7	60	54.5	88.2	52.9	44.3
16+ yrs.	0	0	0	4.5	0	23.5	4.3
<i>Upper age limit</i>							
72+ yrs.	0	0	0	0	5.9	0	0.7
75+ yrs.	0	0	0	0	5.9	0	0.7
No limit	100	100	100	100	88.2	100	98.6
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO review of national Population & Housing Census questionnaires as of November 2012.

Table 6. Approaches used to measure economic activity by type of source.

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
<i>Labour force surveys</i>							
Current activity	30	32	8	27	26	23	146
Main activity	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Usual activity	12	6	0	4	4	4	30
No response	6	2	2	2	1	1	14
Countries in sample	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
<i>Population censuses</i>							
Current activity	16	26	1	27	16	15	101
Main activity	17	10	4	17	1	5	54
Usual activity	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Countries in sample	29	28	5	44	17	17	140
<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>							
<i>Labour force surveys</i>							
Current activity	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Main activity	3.3	0	0	3.7	0	0	1.4
Usual activity	40.0	18.8	0.0	14.8	15.4	17.4	20.5
<i>Population censuses</i>							
Current activity	55.2	92.9	20.0	61.4	94.1	88.2	72.1
Main activity	58.6	35.7	80.0	38.6	5.9	29.4	38.6
Usual activity	0	0	0	4.5	0	0	1.4

Source: ILO review of national Population & Housing Census questionnaires as of November 2012 and ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 7. Methods used to measure usual activity in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Not measured	24	28	10	25	23	20	130
Measured	12	6	0	4	4	4	30
<i>Approach used</i>							
Self assessment	2	1	0	1	4	3	11
Whole-year recall	6	2	0	2	0	0	10
Month-by-month recall	4	3	0	1	0	1	9
Countries in sample	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>							
Not measured	66.7	82.4	100.0	86.2	85.2	83.3	81.3
Measured	33.3	17.6	0	13.8	14.8	16.7	18.8
<i>Approach used</i>							
Self assessment	16.7	16.7	0	25.0	100.0	75.0	36.7
Whole-year recall	50.0	33.3	0	50.0	0	0	33.3
Month-by-month recall	33.3	50.0	0	25.0	0	25.0	30.0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 8. Approaches and reference periods used to measure economic activity in population censuses, 2010 round.

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
<i>Current activity</i>							
At present	1	0	0	1	2	6	10
Last 7 days	9	0	0	4	0	0	13
Last week	4	22	1	19	4	4	54
Specified week	2	4	0	3	10	5	24
	16	26	1	27	16	15	101
<i>Main activity</i>							
At present	3	1	3	6	1	3	17
Last 7 days/1 week	8	3	1	5	0	2	19
Last 4 weeks	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Last 12 months/year	5	6	0	6	0	0	17
	17	10	4	17	1	5	54
<i>Usual activity</i>							
Last 12 months/year	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Countries in sample	29	28	5	44	17	17	140
	<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>						
<i>Current activity</i>							
At present	3.4	0	0	2.3	11.8	35.3	7.1
Last 7 days	31.0	0	0	9.1	0	0	9.3
Last week	13.8	78.6	20.0	43.2	23.5	23.5	38.6
Specified week	6.9	14.3	0	6.8	58.8	29.4	17.1
	55.2	92.9	20.0	61.4	94.1	88.2	72.1
<i>Main activity</i>							
At present	10.3	3.6	60.0	13.6	5.9	17.6	12.1
Last 7 days/1 week	27.6	10.7	20.0	11.4	0	11.8	13.6
Last 4 weeks	3.4	0	0	0	0	0	0.7
Last 12 months/year	17.2	21.4	0	13.6	0	0	12.1
	58.6	35.7	80.0	38.6	5.9	29.4	38.6
<i>Usual activity</i>							
Last 12 months/year	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	0.0	0.0	1.4

Source: ILO review of national Population & Housing Census questionnaires as of November 2012.

Table 9. Reference periods used to measure employment in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Preceding 7 days	20	9	5	16	7	2	59
Preceding calendar week	2	12	2	5	13	6	40
Specified reference week	3	9	1	4	6	13	36
Other	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
No response	10	4	2	4	1	1	22
Countries in sample	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
	<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>						
Preceding 7 days	76.9	30.0	62.5	64.0	26.9	8.7	42.8
Preceding calendar week	7.7	40.0	25.0	20.0	50.0	26.1	29.0
Specified reference week	11.5	30.0	12.5	16.0	23.1	56.5	26.1
Other	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.7	2.2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 10. Hour's thresholds used in labour force surveys to classify contributing family workers in employment (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
1+ hour	16	20	5	19	22	22	104
15+ hours	0	3	1	0	1	1	6
18+ hours	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
30+ hours	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
40+	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
No response	19	11	4	9	3	1	47
Countries in sample	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
	<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>						
1+ hour	44.4	58.8	50	65.5	81.5	91.6	65
15+ hours	0	8.8	10	0	3.7	4.1	3.8
18+ hours	0	0	0	3.4	0	0	0.6
30+ hours	0	0	0	0	3.7	0	0.6
40+	2.8	0	0	0	0	0	0.6
No response	52.8	32.4	40	31	11.1	4.1	29.4
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 11. Countries including selected groups of workers in employment (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab States	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Paid apprentices	8	15	3	10	18	20	74
Unpaid apprentices	7	4	3	2	4	2	22
Own-use producers of goods	16	13	3	12	16	4	64
Volunteer workers	5	2	3	2	2	0	14
Countries in sample	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
	<i>Valid percentage (%)</i>						
Paid apprentices	22.2	44.1	30.0	34.5	66.7	83.3	46.3
Unpaid apprentices	19.4	11.8	30.0	6.9	14.8	8.3	13.8
Own-use producers of goods	44.4	38.2	30.0	41.4	59.3	16.7	40.0
Volunteer workers	13.9	5.9	30.0	6.9	7.4	0.0	8.8

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2011 edition.

Table 12. Measurement of production of goods for own consumption in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab States	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Measured as part of employment	16	13	3	12	16	4	64
No explicit probe in questionnaire	4	6	3	7	4	3	27
Explicit probe in questionnaire	12	7	0	5	12	1	37
<i>by scope of coverage</i>							
Agriculture	11	7	0	5	9	1	33
Construction	4	1	0	3	0	0	8
Manufacturing	5	0	0	2	0	0	7
Water	1	0	0	2	0	0	3
Firewood	1	0	0	2	3	0	6
Measured outside employment	17	7	0	1	2	0	27
<i>by scope of coverage</i>							
Agriculture	8	6	0	0	2	0	16
Construction	8	3	0	0	0	0	11
Manufacturing	5	2	0	0	0	0	7
Water	14	0	0	1	0	0	15
Firewood	15	0	0	1	2	0	18
Countries in sample	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
							<i>Vaild Percentage (%)</i>
Measured as part of employment	44.4	38.2	30.0	41.4	59.3	16.7	40.0
No explicit probe in questionnaire	11.1	17.6	30.0	24.1	14.8	12.5	16.9
Explicit probe in questionnaire	33.3	20.6	0.0	17.2	44.4	4.2	23.1
Measured outside employment	47.2	20.6	0.0	3.4	7.4	0.0	16.9

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 13. Number of countries that include questions on temporary absence from employment, by type of question (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab States	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
<i>Type of question</i>							
Reason	21	20	3	11	18	18	91
Duration	8	10	2	5	15	17	57
Payment	1	8	2	1	14	12	38
Assurance of return	0	0	0	0	3	3	6
General Question	3	3	0	0	0	0	6
No questions	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Countries in sample	25	23	3	11	18	18	98
<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>							
<i>Type of question</i>							
Reason	84	87.0	100	100	100	100	92.9
Duration	32	43.5	66.7	45.5	83.3	94.4	58.2
Payment	4	34.8	66.7	9.1	77.8	66.7	38.8
Assurance of return	0	0	0	0	16.7	16.7	6.1
General Question	12	13.0	0	0	0	0	6.1
No questions	4	0	0	0	0	0	1.0

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 14. Countries by criteria used to determine treatment in employment of persons on temporary absence (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab States	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
<i>Criteria</i>							
Reason only	16	14	3	10	8	3	54
Reason and duration	4	3	0	1	2	8	18
Reason and payment	1	2	0	0	0	1	4
Reason, duration and payment	0	1	0	0	5	3	9
General question on absence	3	3	0	0	0	0	6
Assurance of return only	0	0	0	0	3	3	6
No question on absence	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Countries in sample	25	23	3	11	18	18	98
<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>							
<i>Criteria</i>							
Reason only	64	60.9	100	90.9	44.4	16.7	55.1
Reason and duration	16	13	0	9.1	11.1	44.4	18.4
Reason and payment	4	8.7	0	0	0	5.6	4.1
Reason, duration and payment	0	4.3	0	0	27.8	16.7	9.2
General question on absence	12	13	0	0	0	0	6.1
Assurance of return only	0	0	0	0	16.7	16.7	6.1
No question on absence	4	0	0	0	0	0	1

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 15a. Criteria used to measure unemployment in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Strict definition	19	30	8	21	25	22	125
Relaxed definition	5	0	1	3	0	1	10
Seeking work only	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
No response	12	3	1	5	1	1	23
Countries in sample	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
	<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>						
Strict definition	79.2	96.8	88.9	87.5	96.2	95.7	91.2
Relaxed definition	20.8	0.0	11.1	12.5	0.0	4.3	7.3
Seeking work	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	3.8	0.0	1.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 15b. Criteria used to measure unemployment and duration of unemployment in population censuses, 2010 round.

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
<i>Unemployment</i>							
Self reported status	22	14	3	13	5	9	66
Strict definition	8	10	0	27	13	11	69
Relaxed definition	2	11	2	2	0	3	20
Seeking work only	1	9	2	2	0	2	16
<i>Duration of unemployment</i>							
No. months	0	1	3	1	1	1	7
Specified duration brackets	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
1+ years	0	1	0	1	0	3	5
Duration since last job	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Not measured	0	0	0	4	0	0	4
Countries in sample	29	28	5	44	17	17	140
	<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>						
<i>Unemployment</i>							
Self reported status	75.9	50.0	60	29.5	29.4	52.9	47.1
Strict definition	27.6	35.7	0	61.4	76.5	64.7	49.3
Relaxed definition	6.9	39.3	40	4.5	0	17.6	14.3
Seeking work only	3.4	32.1	40	4.5	0	11.8	11.4
<i>Duration of unemployment</i>							
No. months	0	3.6	60	2.3	5.9	5.9	5
Specified duration brackets	3.4	0	0	2.3	0	0	1.4
1+ years	0	3.6	0	2.3	0	17.6	3.6
Duration since last job	0	0	0	2.3	5.9	0	1.4
Not measured	0	0	0	9.1	0	0	2.9

Source: ILO review of national Population & Housing Census questionnaires as of November 2012.

Table 16a. Reference periods used to measure active job search in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Reference week	6	9	5	9	3	2	34
Last 4 weeks	9	20	4	9	21	18	81
Calendar month	3	2	1	4	3	2	15
Other	4	3	0	3	0	2	12
Not applicable	2	0	0	1	0	0	3
No response	12	0	0	3	0	0	15
Countries in sample	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
	<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>						
Reference week	27.3	26.5	50.0	36.0	11.1	8.3	23.9
Four week reference period	40.9	58.8	40.0	36.0	77.8	75.0	57.0
Calendar month	13.6	5.9	10.0	16.0	11.1	8.3	10.6
Other	18.2	8.8	0	12.0	0	8.3	8.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 16b. Reference periods used to measure availability for employment in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Ref. period (7 days / 1 week)	12	15	4	11	2	3	47
2 weeks after ref. period	5	2	2	2	23	15	49
Ref. period + 2 weeks	1	1	3	2	1	3	11
Other (longer duration)	1	2	0	2	0	0	5
Other	3	4	0	1	0	1	9
Not applicable	1	1	0	5	0	1	8
No response	13	9	1	6	1	1	31
Countries in sample	36	34	10	29	27	24	160
	<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>						
Ref. period (7 days / 1 week)	54.5	62.5	44.4	61.1	7.7	13.6	38.8
2 weeks after ref. period	22.7	8.3	22.2	11.1	88.5	68.2	40.5
Ref. period + 2 weeks	4.5	4.2	33.3	11.1	3.8	13.6	9.1
Other (longer duration)	4.5	8.3	0	11.1	0	0	4.1
Other	13.6	16.7	0	5.6	0	4.5	7.4
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

Table 17a. Reference periods used to measure active job search in Population and Housing Censuses, 2010 Round.

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
At present	2	1	1	3	2	3	12
Last 7 days/week	17	13	1	12	1	2	46
Last 2 weeks	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Last 4 weeks/month	3	13	3	15	12	11	57
Last or less than 3 months	1	0	0	3	0	0	4
Last 12 months	3	2	0	2	0	0	7
Countries in sample	26	30	5	35	15	16	127
At present	7.7	3.3	20.0	8.6	13.3	18.8	9.4
Last 7 days/week	65.4	43.3	20.0	34.3	6.7	12.5	36.2
Last 2 weeks	0	3.3	0	0	0	0	0.8
Last 4 weeks/month	11.5	43.3	60.0	42.9	80.0	68.8	44.9
Last or less than 3 months	3.8	0	0	8.6	0	0	3.1
Last 12 months	11.5	6.7	0	5.7	0	0	5.5

Source: ILO review of national Population & Housing Census questionnaires as of November 2012.

Table 17b. Reference periods used to measure availability for employment in Population and Housing Censuses, 2010 Round.

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Unspecified	2	0	0	6	0	1	9
Immediately	1	0	0	3	0	0	4
Last 7 days/week	4	6	0	17	0	1	28
Longer ref. period in past	2	0	0	2	0	1	5
Ref. period + 2 weeks	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
2 weeks after ref. period	1	3	0	2	13	6	25
Countries in sample	10	9	0	30	13	10	72
	<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>						
Unspecified	20.0	0	0	20.0	0	10.0	12.5
Immediately	10.0	0	0	10.0	0	0	5.6
Last 7 days/week	40.0	66.7	0	56.7	0	10.0	38.9
Longer ref. period in past	20.0	0	0	6.7	0	10.0	6.9
Ref. period + 2 weeks	0	0	0	0.0	0	10.0	1.4
2 weeks after ref. period	10.0	33.3	0.0	6.7	100.0	60.0	34.7

Source: ILO review of national Population & Housing Census questionnaires as of November 2012.

Table 18. Duration thresholds used to include future starters among unemployed persons (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Countries measuring duration of unemployment	10	24	3	14	20	15	86
<i>Duration used to include future starters among unemployed persons</i>							
Within 2 weeks	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Within 4 weeks	2	2	0	3	0	0	7
Within 3 months	0	0	0	0	11	12	23
Specific date	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
No question	8	22	3	10	6	3	52
Countries not measuring duration of unemployment	11	2	1	4	1	6	25
Countries in sample	21	26	4	18	21	21	111

Source: ILO review of national labour force surveys questionnaires as of August 2013.

Table 19. Boundaries used to measure duration of unemployment in national labour force surveys by region (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Countries measuring duration of unemployment	10	24	3	14	20	15	86
<i>by boundaries for measuring duration of unemployment</i>							
From start of job search	7	22	3	14	17	15	78
From loss of last job	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
From start of job search & from loss of last job	1	1	0	0	2	0	4
From loss of last job & availability	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Countries not measuring duration of unemployment	11	2	1	4	1	6	25
Countries in sample	21	26	4	18	22	21	111
<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>							
Countries measuring duration of unemployment	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>by boundaries for measuring duration of unemployment</i>							
From start of job search	70.0	91.7	100.0	100.0	85.0	100.0	90.7
From loss of last job	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	2.3
From start of job search & from loss of last job	10.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	4.7
From loss of last job & availability	10.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3

Source: ILO review of national labour force surveys questionnaires as of August 2013.

Table 20. Target population for questions on duration of unemployment in national labour force surveys by region (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
<i>Target population</i>							
Currently seeking job	8	20	3	13	16	13	73
All without employment	1	2	0	1	3	2	9
Without employment & available	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
Without employment & wanting to work	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Countries measuring duration of unemployment	10	24	3	14	20	15	86
							<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>
Currently seeking job	80.0	83.3	100.0	92.9	80.0	86.7	84.9
All without employment	10.0	8.3	0.0	7.1	15.0	13.3	10.5
Without employment & available	10.0	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5
Without employment & wanting to work	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	1.2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO review of national labour force surveys questionnaires as of August 2013.

Table 21. Approaches used to record duration of unemployment in national labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Arab states	Asia & Pacific	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Open question	7	17	3	6	8	8	49
Broad Ranges	3	7	0	8	12	7	37
Countries measuring duration of unemployment	10	24	3	14	20	15	86
							<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>
Open question	70.0	70.8	100.0	42.9	40.0	53.3	57.0
Broad ranges	30.0	29.2	0.0	57.1	60.0	46.7	43.0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO review of national labour force surveys questionnaires as of August 2013.

Table 22. Criteria used to measure time-related underemployment in labour force surveys (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Asia & Pacific*	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Desire+Available+Hrs Limit (Actual hours)	10	9	11	5	3	38
Desire+Available+Hrs Limit (Usual hours)	2	6	2	7	6	23
Desire+Available (Actual hours)	2	0	5	3	2	12
Desire+Available (Usual hours)	0	1	0	1	5	7
Other (Actual hours)	1	5	3	2	0	11
Other (Usual hours)	2	1	0	1	2	6
Countries in sample	17	22	21	19	18	97
	<i>Valid percentage (%)</i>					
Desire+Available+Hrs Limit (Actual hours)	58.8	40.9	52.4	26.3	16.7	39.2
Desire+Available+Hrs Limit (Usual hours)	11.8	27.3	9.5	36.8	33.3	23.7
Desire+Available (Actual hours)	11.8	0	23.8	15.8	11.1	12.4
Desire+Available (Usual hours)	0	4.5	0	5.3	27.8	7.2
Other (Actual hours)	5.9	22.7	14.3	10.5	0	11.3
Other (Usual hours)	11.8	4.5	0	5.3	11.1	6.2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

(*) including Jordan.

Table 23. Job coverage in the measurement of time-related underemployment (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Asia & Pacific *	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Main job only	3	6	4	12	12	37
All jobs	14	16	17	7	6	60
Countries in sample	17	22	21	19	18	97
	<i>Valid percentage (%)</i>					
Main job only	17.6	27.3	19.0	63.2	66.7	38.1
All jobs	82.4	72.7	81.0	36.8	33.3	61.9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

(*) including Jordan.

Table 24. Hours' thresholds used in the measurement of time-related underemployment (latest LFS, 2000-2010).

	Africa	Americas	Asia & Pacific *	Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Western Europe	All regions
Thresholds 30 hrs and below	1	2	1	1	2	7
"Less than 35 hrs"	1	2	9	10	5	27
"Less than 36 hrs"	0	1	1	1	0	3
"Less than 40 hrs"	2	6	2	6	7	23
Thresholds above 40 hrs	0	0	1	0	1	2
Self-declared part-time	5	4	1	1	0	11
Not specified	0	0	0	1	0	0
No threshold	9	4	6	2	2	24
Countries in sample	17	22	21	19	18	97
	<i>Valid percentage (%)</i>					
Thresholds 30 hrs and below	11.1	13.3	6.7	5.0	13.3	9.6
"Less than 35 hrs"	11.1	13.3	60.0	50.0	33.3	37.0
"Less than 36 hrs"	0	6.7	6.7	5.0	0	4.1
"Less than 40 hrs"	22.2	40.0	13.3	30.0	46.7	31.5
Thresholds above 40 hrs	0	0	6.7	0	6.7	2.7
Self-declared part-time	55.6	26.7	6.7	5.0	0	15.1
Not specified	0	0	0	5.0	0	0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO Sources and Methods volume 3, 2012.

(*) including Jordan.

Table 25. Coverage of economic activity in national agricultural censuses by unit of observation and region (2000 Round of Agricultural Censuses (1996-2005)).

	Africa	Americas	Europe & Central Asia	Western & Eastern Asia & Pacific	All regions
Economic activity included	13	17	18	17	65
<i>by scope of coverage</i>					
Person only	1	3	5	3	12
Holding only	4	10	4	7	25
Person and Holding*	8	4	9	7	28
Economic activity not included	0	1	1	4	6
Countries in sample	13	18	19	21	71
				<i>Valid percentage (%)</i>	
Economic activity included	100	100	100	100	100
<i>by scope of coverage</i>					
Person only	7.7	17.6	27.8	17.6	18.5
Holding only	30.8	58.8	22.2	41.2	38.5
Person and Holding*	61.5	23.5	50.0	41.2	43.1

Source: ILO review of National Agricultural Censuses questionnaires as of August 2013.

*Note: Two countries collected information at level of villages, townships and collective gardens.

Table 26. Type of reference period for economic activity measurement used in national agricultural censuses by region. (2000 Round of Agricultural Censuses (1996-2005)).

	Africa	Americas	Europe & Central Asia	Western & Eastern Asia & Pacific	All regions
<i>Reference period for economic activity</i>					
Agricultural season	4	3	1	0	8
Agricultural year	4	2	5	3	14
Calendar year	2	5	0	6	13
12 months period	0	4	10	5	19
1 month period	0	0	0	1	1
1 week period	0	1	0	0	1
As of specified date	1	1	2	0	4
Not specified	2	1	0	2	5
Countries measuring economic activities	13	17	18	17	65
<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>					
<i>Reference period for economic activity</i>					
Agricultural season	30.8	17.6	5.6	0.0	12.3
Agricultural year	30.8	11.8	27.8	17.6	21.5
Calendar year	15.4	29.4	0.0	35.3	20.0
12 months period	0.0	23.5	55.6	29.4	29.2
1 month period	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.9	1.5
1 week period	0.0	5.9	0.0	0.0	1.5
As of specified date	7.7	5.9	11.1	0.0	6.2
Not specified	15.4	5.9	0.0	11.8	7.7
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO review of National Agricultural Censuses questionnaires as of August 2013.

Table 27. Agricultural workers coverage in national agricultural censuses by region. (2000 Round of Agricultural Censuses (1996-2005)).

	Africa	Americas	Europe & Central Asia	Western & Eastern Asia & Pacific	All regions
<i>Worker coverage</i>					
Household members only	2	0	3	3	6
Outside workers only	0	0	0	1	1
Household members and outside workers	11	17	15	13	58
Countries measuring economic activities	13	17	18	17	65
				<i>Valid Percentage (%)</i>	
<i>Worker coverage</i>					
Household members only	15.4	0.0	16.7	17.6	9.2
Outside workers only	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.9	1.5
Household members and outside workers	84.6	100.0	83.3	76.5	89.2
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO review of National Agricultural Censuses questionnaires as of August 2013.

Table 28. Measurement of economic activity in national agricultural censuses by region. (2000 Round of Agricultural Censuses (1996-2005)).

	Africa	Americas	Europe & Central Asia	Western & Eastern Asia & Pacific	All regions
Headcount only	1	0	0	3	4
Volume of work only	0	1	1	0	2
Headcount & Volume of work (all workers)	6	15	18	12	51
Headcount (all workers) & Volume of work (outside workers only)	4	0	0	1	5
Headcount (all workers) & Volume of work (selected holdings only)	2	0	0	1	3
Countries measuring economic activities	12	16	19	17	65
				<i>Valid percentage (%)</i>	
Headcount only	8.3	0.0	0.0	17.6	6.2
Volume of work only	0.0	6.3	5.3	0.0	3.1
Headcount & Volume of work (all workers)	50.0	93.8	94.7	70.6	78.5
Headcount (all workers) & Volume of work (outside workers only)	33.3	0.0	0.0	5.9	7.7
Headcount (all workers) & Volume of work (selected holdings only)	16.7	0.0	0.0	5.9	4.6
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ILO review of National Agricultural Censuses questionnaires as of August 2013.

Table 29. Categories of working time used to measure economic activity in national agricultural censuses by workers coverage. (2000 Round of Agricultural Censuses (1996-2005)).

	Household Members	Outside Workers	Total
<i>Categories of working time</i>			
Days per year	17	23	40
Weeks per year	2	0	2
Months per year	4	5	9
Hours per week	8	1	9
Hours per month	1	1	2
Hours per year	5	5	10
P/T only	11	14	25
FT/PT only	3	3	6
Questionnaires * with working time question	51	52	103
			<i>Valid percentage (%)</i>
Days per year	33.3	44.2	38.8
Weeks per year	3.9	0.0	1.9
Months per year	7.8	9.6	8.7
Hours per week	15.7	1.9	8.7
Hours per month	2.0	1.9	1.9
Hours per year	9.8	9.6	9.7
P/T only	21.6	26.9	24.3
FT/PT only	5.9	5.8	5.8
Total	100	100	100

Source: ILO review of National Agricultural Censuses questionnaires as of August 2013.

*Note: Some questionnaires used different categories of working time subject to household members and outside workers.

Annex II. ILO Geographical distribution of states and territories

AFRICA	AMERICAS	ARAB STATES	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EASTERN EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA	WESTERN EUROPE
Algeria *P,S,A	Anguilla*P,S	Bahrain *P	Afghanistan ***	Albania *P,S,A	Andorra ***
Angola *S	Antigua and Barbuda ***	Iraq*P,S	American Samoa*P,A	Armenia*P,S	Austria*P,S
Benin *P,S	Argentina *P,S,A	Jordan*P,S	Australia*P,S	Azerbaijan*P,S,A	Belgium*P,S,A
Botswana *P,S,A	Aruba*P,S	Kuwait*P,S	Bangladesh *P,S,A	Belarus*P,S	Cyprus*P,S,A
Burkina Faso*P,S	Bahamas*P,S	Lebanon *S	Bhutan*P,S	Bosnia and Herzegovina *S	Denmark*S
Burundi*P,S	Barbados*P,S	Oman*P,S	Brunei Darussalam *S	Bulgaria*P,S	Faeroe Islands*P,S
Cameroon *P	Belize*P,S	Qatar *P,S,A	Cambodia*P,S	Croatia*P,S	Finland *S
Cape Verde *P,A	Bermuda*P,S	Saudi Arabia*P,S	China*P,S,A	Czech Republic*P,S	France*P,S,A
Central African Republic *P	Bolivia*P,S	Syrian Arab Republic *P	Cook Islands *P,A	Estonia*P,S	Germany*P,S
Chad ***	Brazil*P,S	United Arab Emirates*P,S,A	Fiji*P,S	Georgia *S,A	Gibraltar *P,A
Comoros ***	British Virgin Islands ***	West Bank and Gaza Strip*P,S	French Polynesia *P,A	Hungary*P,A,S	Greece*P,S
Congo*P,S	Canada*P,S,A	Yemen *P,S,A	Guam*P,S,A	Kazakhstan*P,S	Guernsey *P
Congo, Democratic Republic of the *S	Cayman Islands*P,S		Hong Kong, China*P,S	Kosovo *S	Holy See ***
Côte d'Ivoire*P,S,A	Chile*P,S,A		India *P	Kyrgyzstan *P,A	Iceland *S
Djibouti*P,S	Colombia*P,S		Indonesia*P,S	Latvia*P,S	Ireland*P,S
Egypt*P,S	Costa Rica*P,S		Iran, Islamic Rep. of*P,S	Lithuania*P,S,A	Isle of Man *P
Equatorial Guinea ***	Cuba *P		Japan*P,S	Macedonia, The former Yugoslav Rep. of*P,S	Israel*P,S
Eritrea ***	Curacao ***		Kiribati *P	Moldova, Republic of*P,S	Italy*P,S,A
Ethiopia*P,S	Dominica *P		Korea, Dem. People's Rep. Of *P	Montenegro*P,S	Jersey*P,S
Gabon*P,S	Dominican Republic*P,S		Korea, Republic of*P,S	Poland*P,S	Liechtenstein *P
Gambia*P,S	Ecuador*P,S,A		Lao People's Dem. Rep. *P,A	Romania*P,S,A	Luxembourg*P,S
Ghana*P,S	El Salvador*P,S		Macau, China*P,S	Russian Federation*P,S	Malta*P,S,A
Guinea *P	Falkland Islands (Malvinas) ***		Malaysia*P,S	Serbia*P,S	Monaco *P
Guinea-Bissau *P	French Guiana *S,A		Maldives*P,S	Slovakia*P,S,A	Netherlands *S
Kenya*P,S	Greenland ***		Marshall Islands *P	Slovenia*P,S,A	Norway*P,S,A
Lesotho*P,S	Grenada *P		Mongolia*P,S	Tajikistan*P,S	Portugal*P,S,A
Liberia*P,S	Guadeloupe *S,A		Myanmar * S,A	Turkmenistan*P,S	San Marino ***
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya ***	Guatemala*A		Nauru *P	Ukraine*P,S	Spain*P,S,A
Madagascar *S	Guyana *P		Nepal*P,S,A	Uzbekistan ***	Svalbard and Jan Mayer Islands ***
Malawi*P,S	Haiti *P		New Caledonia *P,A		Sweden*P,S

AFRICA	AMERICAS	ARAB STATES	ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EASTERN EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA	WESTERN EUROPE
Mali*P,S,A	Honduras*P,S		New Zealand*P,S,A		Switzerland*P,S
Mauritania*P,S	Jamaica*P,S,A		Niue *P		Turkey*P,S,A
Mauritius*P,S	Martinique *S,A		Norfolk Island *P		United Kingdom*P,S,A
Mayotte *P	Mexico*P,S		Northern Mariana Islands *P,A		
Morocco*P,S	Montserrat ***		Pakistan*P,S,A		
Mozambique*P,S,A	Nicaragua*P,S,A		Palau *P		
Namibia*P,S	Panama*P,S,A		Papua New Guinea *P		
Niger *P	Paraguay*P,S		Philippines*P,S,A		
Nigeria*P,S	Peru*P,S		Pitcairn ***		
Réunion *S,A	Puerto Rico *S,A		Samoa *P,A		
Rwanda *P	Saint Kitts and Nevis *P		Singapore*P,S		
Saint Helena *P	Saint Lucia*P,S,A		Solomon Islands *P		
Sao Tome and Principe ***	Saint Pierre and Miquelon ***		Sri Lanka*P,S,A		
Senegal*P,S,A	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines *A		Taiwan, China *S		
Seychelles *P	Saint Maarten (Dutch part) *P		Thailand*P,S,A		
Sierra Leone*P,S	Suriname ***		Timor-Leste*P,S		
Somalia ***	Trinidad and Tobago *P,A		Tokelau *P		
South Africa*P,S,A	Turks and Caicos Islands ***		Tonga*P,S,A		
South Sudan ***	United States of America*P,S,A		Tuvalu ***		
Sudan*P,S	Uruguay*P,S,A		Vanuatu *P		
Swaziland *P	Venezuela, Bolivarian Rep. of*P,S		Viet Nam*P,S,A		
Tanzania, United Republic of *P,S,A	Virgin Islands (US) *P,A		Wallis and Futuna Islands *P		
Togo *P					
Tunisia*P,S,A					
Uganda*P,S,A					
Western Sahara ***					
Zambia*P,S					
Zimbabwe*P,S					

*P: Population Census available, S: Labour Force Survey available, A : Agricultural Census available.

*** : No information