

# Philippines - Labor Force Survey 2008

**National Statistics Office**

Report generated on: February 16, 2023

Visit our data catalog at: <https://psada.psa.gov.ph/>

## Overview

### Identification

---

ID NUMBER  
PHL-NSO-LFS-2008-v2.0

### Version

---

VERSION DESCRIPTION  
v2.0: Edited data, for public use.

PRODUCTION DATE  
2009-04-01

### Overview

---

ABSTRACT  
Objectives:

The Labor Force Survey (LFS) aims to provide a quantitative framework for the preparation of plans and formulation of policies affecting the labor market.

Specifically, the survey is designed to provide statistics on levels and trends of employment, unemployment and underemployment for the country as a whole, and for each of the administrative regions.

Importance of the Labor Force Survey:

- a. It provides a quantitative framework for the preparation of plans and formulation of policies affecting the labor market towards
  - 1) creation and generation of gainful employment and livelihood opportunities
  - 2) reduction of unemployment and promotion of employment
  - 3) improvement of working conditions
  - 4) enhancement of the welfare of a working person
- b. It provides statistics on levels and trends of employment and unemployment and underemployment for the country and regions;
- c. It is used for the projection of future manpower, which when compared with the future manpower requirements, will help identify employment and training needs;
- d. It helps in the assessment of the potential human resource available for economic development; and
- e. It identifies the differences in employment, unemployment, and underemployment according to the different economic, social and ethnic groups existing within the population.

KIND OF DATA  
Sample survey data [ssd]

UNITS OF ANALYSIS  
Individual

## Scope

### NOTES

The survey involves the collection of data on the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population in general. It covers a nationwide sample of about 51,000 households deemed sufficient to measure the levels of employment and unemployment at the national and regional levels.

The reporting unit is the household, which means that the statistics emanating from this survey will refer to the characteristics of the population residing in private households. Persons who reside in the institutions are not within the scope of the survey.

### TOPICS

Topic	Vocabulary	URI
Labor force		
Employment		
Unemployment		
Underemployment		

### KEYWORDS

Labor force, Employment, Unemployment, Underemployment

## Coverage

### GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The geographic coverage consists of the country's 17 administrative regions defined in Executive Order (EO) 36 and 131. The 17 regions are:

National Capital Region (NCR)

Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)

Region I - Ilocos Region

Region II - Cagayan Valley

Region III - Central Luzon

Region IV-A - CALABARZON

Region IV-B - MIMAROPA

Region V - Bicol Region

Region VI - Western Visayas

Region VII - Central Visayas

Region VIII - Eastern Visayas

Region IX - Zamboanga Peninsula

Region X - Northern Mindanao

Region XI - Davao Region

Region XII - SOCCSKSARGEN

Caraga

Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)

## UNIVERSE

The LFS has as its target population, all household members of the sample housing units nationwide. A household is defined as an aggregate of persons, generally but not necessarily bound by ties of kinship, who live together under the same roof and eat together or share in common the household food. Household membership comprises the head of the household, relatives living with him such as his or her spouse, children, parent, brother or sister, son-in-law or daughter-in-law, grandson or granddaughter, and other relatives. Household membership likewise includes boarders, domestic helpers and non-relatives. A person who lives alone is considered a separate household.

## Producers and Sponsors

## PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
National Statistics Office	

## FUNDING

Name	Abbreviation	Role
National Statistics Office	NSO	

## OTHER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Name	Affiliation	Role
National Statistical Coordination Board		technical assistance
Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics	Department of Labor and Employment Department of Labor and Employment Department of Labor and Employment	technical assistance

## Metadata Production

## METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Monina C. Glumalid	MCG	National Statistics Office	Documenter
Fe Dy-Liacco	FVND	ADP	Reviewer

## DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2009-08-12

## DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Version 1.0 (August 2009)

## DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI-PHL-NSO-LFS-2008-v1.0

# Sampling

## Sampling Procedure

---

The sampling design of the Labor Force Survey (LFS) uses the sampling design of the 2003 Master Sample (MS) for Household Surveys that started July 2003.

### Sampling Frame

As in most household surveys, the 2003 MS used an area sample design. The Enumeration Area Reference File (EARF) of the 2000 Census of Population and Housing (CPH) was utilized as sampling frame. The EARF contains the number of households by enumeration area (EA) in each barangay. This frame was used to form the primary sampling units (PSUs). With consideration of the period for which the 2003 MS will be in use, the PSUs were formed/defined as a barangay or a combination of barangays with at least 500 households.

### Stratification Scheme

Stratification involves the division of the entire population into non-overlapping subgroups called strata. Prior to sample selection, the PSUs in each domain were stratified as follows:

- 1) All large PSUs were treated as separate strata and were referred to as certainty selections (self-representing PSUs). A PSU was considered large if it has a large probability of selection.
- 2) All other PSUs were then stratified by province, highly urbanized city (HUC) and independent component city (ICC).
- 3) Within each province/HUC/ICC, the PSUs were further stratified or grouped with respect to some socio-economic variables that were related to poverty incidence. These variables were: (a) the proportion of strongly built houses (PSTRONG); (b) an indication of the proportion of households engaged in agriculture (AGRI); and (c) the per-capita income (PERCAPITA).

### Sample Selection

To have some control over the subsample size, the PSUs were selected with probability proportional to some estimated measure of size. The size measure refers to the total number of households from the 2000 CPH. Because of the wide variation in PSU sizes, PSUs with selection probabilities greater than 1 were identified and were included in the sample as certainty selections.

At the second stage, enumeration areas (EAs) were selected within sampled PSUs, and at the third stage, housing units were selected within sampled EAs. Generally, all households in sampled housing units were enumerated, except for few cases when the number of households in a housing unit exceeds three. In which case, a sample of three households in a sampled housing unit was selected at random with equal probability.

An EA is defined as an area with discernable boundaries within barangays, consisting of about 150 contiguous households. These EAs were identified during the 2000 CPH. A housing unit is a structurally separate and independent place of abode which, by the way it has been constructed, converted, or arranged, is intended for habitation by a household.

### Sample Size

The 2003 Master Sample consist of a sample of 2,835 PSUs of which 330 were certainty PSUs and 2,505 were non certainty PSUs. The number of households for the 2000 CPH was used as measure of size. The entire MS was divided into four sub-samples or independent replicates, such as a quarter sample contains one fourth of the PSUs found in one replicate; a half-sample contains one-half of the PSUs in two replicates.

### Strategy for non-response

Replacement of sample households within the sample housing units is allowed only if the listed sample households had moved out of the housing unit. Replacement should be the household currently residing in the sample housing unit previously occupied by the original sample.

## Response Rate

---

A total of 56,414 households were selected for the January 2008 LFS. Of this total, 44,410 were considered eligible households where 94.9 percent or 42,161 households were successfully interviewed.

Among the regions, Ilocos Region had the highest response rate of 96.7 percent. Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao registered the lowest response rate of 89.8 percent.

## Weighting

---

### Calculation of Basic Weights:

Following a standard approach, the weights to be used in analyzing surveys based on the 2003 MS are developed in three stages.

First, base weights are computed to compensate for the unequal selection probabilities in the sample design.

Second, the base weights are adjusted to compensate for unit non-response.

Third, the non-response adjusted weights are further adjusted to make some weighted sample distributions to conform to some known population totals.

### Final Survey Weight

The final survey weight assigned to each responding unit is computed as the product of the base weight, the non-response adjustment, and the population weighting adjustment. The final weights should be used in all analyses to produce valid estimates of population parameters.

More detailed explanation on the estimation procedure is provided in the Technical Documents.

# Questionnaires

## Overview

---

ISH FORM 2 (LFS questionnaire) is a four-page, forty four-column questionnaire that is being used in the quarterly rounds of the Labor Force Survey nationwide. This questionnaire gathers data on the demographic and economic characteristics of the population.

On the first page of the questionnaire, the particulars about the geographic location, design codes and household auxiliary information of the sample household that is being interviewed are to be recorded. Certifications by the enumerator and his supervisor regarding the manner by which the data are collected are likewise to be made on this page.

The inside pages of the questionnaire contain the items to be determined about each member of the sample household. Columns 2 to 11 are for the demographic characteristics; columns 2 to 7A are to be ascertained of all members of the household regardless of age. Columns 8 to 9 are asked for members 5 years old and over, while column 10 is asked for members 5 to 24 years old, column 11, for 15 years old and over, while columns 12 to 16 are asked for members 5 years old and over. Items 18 to 44 on the other hand, are the series of items that will be asked of all the members 15 years old and over to determine their labor force and employment characteristics.

Most of the questions have pre-coded responses. The possible answers with their corresponding codes are printed at the bottom of the page for easy reference. Only the appropriate codes need to be entered in the cells.

Other items, however, require write-in entries such as column 14 (primary occupation) and column 16 (kind of business/industry), etc. For such items, it is required that the enumerator describes the primary occupation or kind of business/industry.

The ISH Form 2 is provided as Technical Documents.

## Data Collection

### Data Collection Dates

---

Start	End	Cycle
2008-01-08	2008-01-31	N/A
2008-04-08	2008-04-30	N/A
2008-07-08	2008-07-31	N/A
2008-10-08	2008-10-31	N/A

### Data Collection Mode

---

Face-to-face [f2f]

### Data Collection Notes

---

#### Training:

There were three levels of training:

The first level involves the training of task force members conducted at the Central Office participated by selected central office personnel, selected regional or provincial staff.

The second level training was held at the Regional Offices participated by the Provincial Statistical Officers, Regional Statisticians, and Provincial Statisticians. Regional or provincial staff who attended the Task Force Training will act as trainers during the second level training.

The third level training was held at the Provincial Offices participated by the District Statistics Officers, Statistical coordination Officers and hired Statistical Researchers. The provincial staff who attended the second level training will act as trainers in this level of training.

#### Enumeration:

The enumeration period started start on the second week up to the end of the survey month including Saturdays. The total mandays given to each enumerator to complete his/her workload will depend on the assigned sample areas but must not go beyond 21 days.

All households from the sample barangays/EAs had been administered with the LFS questionnaire (ISH Form 2) with an output of six to eight households per day.

A courtesy call to the head of the Barangay were done to inform that there is an on-going survey in their area.

A detailed instructions on how to deal with problems encountered during enumeration is included as Technical Documents.

## Questionnaires

---

ISH FORM 2 (LFS questionnaire) is a four-page, forty four-column questionnaire that is being used in the quarterly rounds of the Labor Force Survey nationwide. This questionnaire gathers data on the demographic and economic characteristics of the population.

On the first page of the questionnaire, the particulars about the geographic location, design codes and household auxiliary information of the sample household that is being interviewed are to be recorded. Certifications by the enumerator and his supervisor regarding the manner by which the data are collected are likewise to be made on this page.

The inside pages of the questionnaire contain the items to be determined about each member of the sample household. Columns 2 to 11 are for the demographic characteristics; columns 2 to 7A are to be ascertained of all members of the household regardless of age. Columns 8 to 9 are asked for members 5 years old and over, while column 10 is asked for members 5 to 24 years old, column 11, for 15 years old and over, while columns 12 to 16 are asked for members 5 years old and over. Items 18 to 44 on the other hand, are the series of items that will be asked of all the members 15 years old and over to determine their labor force and employment characteristics.

Most of the questions have pre-coded responses. The possible answers with their corresponding codes are printed at the

bottom of the page for easy reference. Only the appropriate codes need to be entered in the cells.

Other items, however, require write-in entries such as column 14 (primary occupation) and column 16 (kind of business/industry), etc. For such items, it is required that the enumerator describes the primary occupation or kind of business/industry.

The ISH Form 2 is provided as Technical Documents.

## Data Collectors

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation
National Statistics Office	NSO	

## Supervision

The Regional Directors/Officer-In-Charge (RDs/OICs), Provincial Statistics Officers (PSOs), Regional and Provincial Staff were allotted a number of days to supervise the enumeration.

- 1) The RD/OIC coordinates with the PSOs and provides the general supervision to the staff of the provincial offices under the jurisdiction on all administrative matters and field operations relative to the survey.
- 2) The PSO supervises the activities of the personnel to ensure that the data collection is finished according to the timetable set.
- 3) The Regional and Provincial Statistician supervise in the field and ensure that all items in the questionnaire were asked, and review and edit questionnaires while still in their area of assignment and ensure that all sample households have corresponding questionnaire.

Central Office Statisticians were assigned to provinces to supervise and monitor the conduct of the survey.

## Data Processing

### Data Editing

---

Data processing involves two stages: manual processing and machine processing.

Manual processing is done at the provincial offices. This is the general review of the questionnaires. This process includes the folioing of the questionnaires, completeness and consistency checking of the responses, editing and coding of responses. This is done prior to machine processing. The average output per day is 50 questionnaires.

### Other Processing

---

Data entry, the transformation of information from the questionnaire to machine readable form, is done in the field offices.

Machine processing involved all operations that were done with the use of a computer and/or its accessories, that is, from data encoding to tabulation. Coded data were usually in diskettes or CDs.

Machine editing was preferred to ensure correctness of encoded information. Data entry errors as well as that of the manual processing were identified using a consistency check computer program and were given necessary corrections as per verification of the field offices.

Verification and validation of geographic identification, completeness checking and consistency checking and certification pass are also done at the central office.

CSPro was used in the data entry and tabulations.

Preliminary and final tabulations are done at the Central Office.

# Data Appraisal

## Estimates of Sampling Error

ROTATION GROUP  
 MASTER SAMPLE SURVEY MONITORING  
 ROTATION GROUPS USED AND SAMPLES ROTATED

LFS SURVEYS CONDUCTED  
 SYSTEM MAIN SURVEY RIDER SURVEY ROTATION GROUP  
 REPL 1:4 REPL1 REPL2 REPL3 REPL4 REPL1 REPL2 REPL3 REPL4

LFS032 JULY 2003 LFS 2003 FIES 2003 FIES 2003 FIES 2003 FIES 2 2 2 2  
 LFS033 OCTOBER 2003 LFS 2003 SOF 2003 SOF 2003 SOF 2003 SOF 2 2 2 2  
 LFS034 JANUARY 2004 LFS 2003 FIES 2003 FIES 2003 FIES 2003 FIES 2 2 2 2  
 LFS041 APRIL 2004 LFS 2004 FPS \_ 2004 FPS \_ 1 1 1 1  
 LFS042 JULY 2004 LFS 2004 APIS 2004 APIS 2004 APIS 2004 APIS 3 3 3 2  
 LFS043 OCTOBER 2004 LFS 2004 SOF/ 2004 SOF/ 2004 SOF/ 2004 SOF/ 4 4 4 4 2004 HECS 2004 HECS 2004 HECS 2004  
 HECS  
 LFS044 JANUARY 2005 LFS 2 2 5 5  
 LFS051 APRIL 2005 LFS 2005 FPS 2005 FPS 2005 FPS 2005 FPS 1 6 1 6  
 LFS052 JULY 2005 LFS 3 3 7 7  
 LFS052 OCTOBER 2005 LFS 2005 SOF/ 2005 SOF/ 2005 SOF/ 2005 SOF/ 4 4 8 8 2005 HSDV2005 HSDV 2005 HSDV 2005  
 HSDV  
 LFS054 JANUARY 2006 LFS 5 5 5 5  
 LFS061 APRIL 2006 LFS 6 6 6 6  
 LFS062 JULY 2006 LFS 2006 FIES 2006 FIES 2006 FIES 2006 FIES 7 7 7 2  
 LFS063 OCTOBER 2006 LFS 8 8 8 8  
 LFS064 JANUARY 2007 LFS 7 7 7 2  
 LFS065 APRIL 2007 LFS 6 6 9 9  
 LFS066 JULY 2007 LFS 5 5 10 2  
 LFS067 OCTOBER 2007 LFS 8 8 11 11  
 LFS068 JANUARY 2008 LFS 9 9 12 12  
 LFS069 APRIL 2008 LFS 10 10 9 9  
 LFS070 JULY 2008 LFS 11 11 10 10  
 LFS077 OCTOBER 2008 LFS 12 12 11 11

Remarks: January 2008 LFS onwards not yet conducted as of date of reporting/updating - Nov 19, 2007.