

Labour Force and Household Conditions Survey (LFHLCS), 2018-2019, Lebanon

Use of Microdata Files

The use of microdata files from the Labour Force and Household Conditions Survey (LFHLCS) is now available for the public without any charge. It is provided by the Central Administration of Statistics (CAS) and aimed at enabling researchers to conduct their own analyses with the data.

The LFHLCS was conducted by CAS between 2018 and 2019 and was entirely funded by the Delegation of the European Union to Lebanon, with the technical cooperation of the International Labour Organization (ILO), Regional Office for Arab States.

This document gives a description of the files, information on how to access and obtain them, and finally a discussion on the data dictionaries.

Obtaining LFHLCS 2018-2019 public use microdata files

The LFHLCS public use microdata files 2018-2019 can be downloaded free of charge from the CAS web page, at www.cas.gov.lb; data files are available in SPSS format, the documentation file in PDF format, and the data dictionary file in Excel format.

- The two SPSS data files consist of one individual for all the individual characteristics, and one household for the household characteristics.
- This documentation file gives an overall idea on how to use the data.
- The data dictionary Excel file explains each variable in the two SPSS files, in addition to its label and its value labels.

Confidentiality of LFHLCS 2018-2019 public use microdata files

The LFHLCS public use files contain information collected about individual respondents and members of their households, in addition to households' characteristics. The individual file has one record for each household member, and the household file has one record for each household. These files do not contain any personally identifiable information; all such information has been removed to protect respondent confidentiality. CAS has made all safeguards in the LFHLCS public use files to ensure that respondent-identifying information is not disclosed.

Edited variables

Not all collected variables during the survey are included in the public use files. When there is an edited variable, the corresponding unedited variable is usually deleted from the files.

This procedure is undertaken to protect the confidentiality of the respondents as required by law and to make sure that the definitions are following and in compliance with the international standards.

We mention hereunder few examples for the purpose of confidentiality:

- Ages were grouped into categories of five or ten years or into working age categories.
- Nationality was grouped into Lebanese and non-Lebanese.
- Geography variable is at governorate level....

To be noted that all the empty cases are not applicable for any concerned variable while the no response cases are coded “-2”.

Other examples for the purpose of international standards for definitions:

- Labour Force status (employed, unemployed or outside labour force)
- Informal sector and informal employment
- Labour underutilization
- Job categories and Economic activities
- Disability

For more details about these definitions please refer to the chapter on methodology in the main report of LFHLCS at the link below:
<http://www.cas.gov.lb/images/Publications/Labour%20Force%20and%20Household%20Living%20Conditions%20Survey%202018-2019.pdf>

Sampling, data collection and weight

The scope of the LFHLCS covered the population of Lebanon living in residential dwellings in the time period from April 2018 to March 2019, divided into four rounds. It excluded the population living in non-residential units, such as construction and agriculture sites, shops, stores, factories, unfinished buildings, army barracks, refugee camps and adjacent gatherings, informal settlements, etc. The complete national sample size is more than 39,000 households.

Domestic workers, living on a regular basis with their respective households were counted in this survey, only on demography, education and labour in a partial way.

Each response of the survey should be weighted in order to estimate aggregate population totals. The variable weight name is “weight2019”; this variable should be used before extracting any result from the survey.

Any individual estimation below 2500 and any household estimation below 800 have a relative standard error above 20%.

Generating estimates using the LFHLCS public use files

When generating estimates from the data files, follow these steps:

- **Identify the file(s) needed:** Identify the file(s) that should be used, household or individual, noting that both files may be merged or linked using the household identification number as key variable.
- **Identify the variables needed:** There are several key pieces of documentation to use when working with the data files that can help you determine which variables are best for your purpose. The data dictionary is available in Excel format and technical documentation is also available at the end of this file.
- **Identify the weight:** As previously mentioned, all results should be weighted; the variable weight name is “weight2019”.
- **Perform the calculation:** Make sure the formula you are using is correct.
- **Verify your results (if possible):** It is always helpful to verify at least one estimate with an official published estimate.
- **For educational module:** Data on the attained educational level were collected for all residents aged 3 years and above.
Data on the current educational situation were collected for all residents (except domestic workers) aged between 3 and 24 years old.
- **For labour indicators:** since working age population is 15 years and above, it should be respected and adopted when measuring all labour indicators.

Variable Names

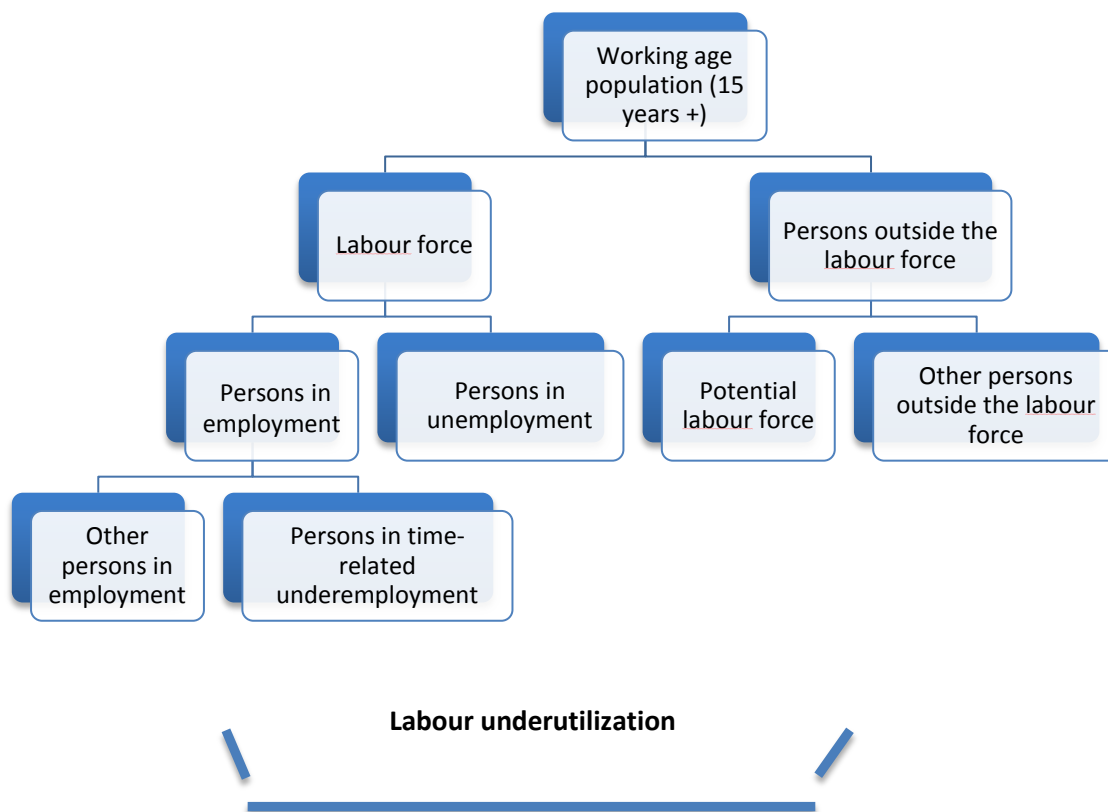
Individual data file	
Variable names starting with	Subject
SD	Socio- Demographic
EDU	Education
LB	Labour Market
HE	Health
IN	Insurance
DIS	Disability

Household data file	
Variable name starting with	Subject
PR	Primary residence characteristics
DA	Durables
MT	Means of transportation
SE	Services
RF	Financial situation

Measurement framework

The main concepts and definitions of the survey may be schematically represented into the following measurement framework in line with the 19th ICLS Resolution concerning statistics of work,

employment and labour underutilization. According to this framework, the working age population is divided into the labour force and persons outside the labour force. The labour force is composed of persons in employment and persons in unemployment. Persons in time-related underemployment are a subset of persons in employment. Similarly, the potential labour force is a subset of persons outside the labour force. The total sum of time-related underemployment, unemployment and potential labour force is labour underutilization.



Technical formulas

- Total dependency ratio =
$$\frac{\text{Number of individuals aged under 15 years} + \text{Number of individuals aged 65 years and above}}{\text{Number of individuals aged 15–64 years}} \times 100$$
- Illiteracy rate =
$$\frac{\text{Number of illiterate individuals aged 10 years and above}}{\text{Number of individuals aged 10 years and above}} \times 100$$
- $$\text{Labour force} = \text{Employed} + \text{Unemployed}$$
- LFPR (Labour force participation rate) =
$$\frac{100 \times \text{Labour force}}{\text{Working age population}}$$
- EMP (Employment_to_population ratio) =
$$\frac{100 \times \text{Persons in employment}}{\text{Working age population}}$$
- LU1(Unemployment rate) =
$$\frac{100 \times \text{Persons in unemployment}}{\text{Labour force}}$$

- $$\text{LU2(Combined rate of time_related underemployment and unemployment)} = \frac{100 \times (\text{Persons in time_related underemployment} + \text{Persons in unemployment})}{\text{Labour force}}$$
- $$\text{Extended labour force} = \text{Labour force} + \text{Potential labour force}$$
- $$\text{LU3(Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force)} = \frac{100 \times (\text{Persons in unemployment} + \text{Potential labour force})}{\text{Extended labour force}}$$
- $$\text{LU4(Composite measure of labour underutilization)} = \frac{100 \times (\text{Persons in time_related underemployment} + \text{Persons in unemployment} + \text{Potential labour force})}{\text{Extended labour force}}$$

For additional information

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