

Sri Lanka (LXX)
SDDS - DQAF View
Category: Labor market: Employment

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H.Header data

H.0.1 National Descriptor

[National Descriptor]

Sri Lanka

H.0.7 Data category notes

[Data category notes]

Labor market: Employment

0. Prerequisites

0.1 Legal environment

0.1.1 Responsibility for collecting, processing, and disseminating statistics

[Laws and administrative arrangements specifying the responsibility for collecting, processing, and disseminating statistics]

The DCS produces and disseminates data under the Statistical Ordinance and Census Ordinance, which gives it the authority to conduct censuses of population, housing, agriculture, livestock, trade, labour, industry, or commerce or other such matters as it deems necessary for ascertaining the demographic, social, or economic conditions of the inhabitants of Sri Lanka.

0.1.2 Data sharing and coordination among data producing agencies

[Data sharing and coordination among data producing agencies are adequate.]

The DCS has been formed a National Data Committee (NDC) under the capacity building project of the government of Sri Lanka jointly funded by the World bank and the Government. The NDC create more productive statistical system to fulfill data needs of users within an acceptable timeframe. The NDC is chaired by Deputy Secretary to the Treasury and the core Members of the Committee are the Management level officers of the Department of the Census and Statistics, National Planning and the representative from the presidential secretariat, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Demographic Department of the University of Colombo, Institute of policy, Representatives of the Ministries, public and private sector institutions also invited to the committee as and when necessary.

The committee will identify the national statistical priorities and provide necessary guidance to the Department of Census & Statistics and other relevant institutions thereby contributing towards strengthening the National Statistical system of the country.

All statistics compiled by DCS are disseminated by official web site as well as printed reports. And also press releases, press briefings, articles are used and micro data is released according to the dissemination policy.

The DCS releases selected statistical information including certain census & survey reports on pre announced dates in the Advanced Data Released calendar (ADRC) published in the department website. Any revisions to these dates will be informed to the users by publishing revised dates in the ADRC at least two weeks before the scheduled dates given in the calendar. The objective of the ADRC is to let data users know when the data will be released by the DCS and to make all data accessible to all parties at the same time. DCS mainly disseminate data either by publishing in the department's website or printed reports. Dates for these two data dissemination channels are given in this calendar. Dates are decided for one year at a time.

0.1.3 Confidentiality of individual reporters' data

[Measures ensuring individual reporters' data are kept confidential and used for statistical purposes only.]

Confidentiality of individuals is guaranteed under the Ordinance which states "...no publication ... shall disclose or facilitate the identification of any particulars as being particulars relating to any individual person" and "Every person engaged in the collection and preparation of statistics under this Ordinance shall make a declaration in the prescribed form that he will not disclose or make use of any information supplied under this Ordinance."

0.1.4 Ensuring statistical reporting

[Legal mandates and/or measures to require or encourage statistical reporting.]

As given in the Statistical and Census ordinance

0.2 Resources

0.2.1 Staff, facilities, computing resources, and financing

[Staff, facilities, computing resources, and financing for statistical programs currently available as well as what would be required for programmed statistical outputs.]

- A government funded survey
- Trained, permanent staff of the department involves at all steps of the survey.
- Data entry, editing and coding are decentralized into district statistical units.
- The statistical packages SPSS, STATA and CSpro are used.

0.2.2 Ensuring efficient use of resources

[Measures implemented to ensure efficient use of resources.]

- Use a working calendar with deadlines for each activity.
- Conduct frequent supervision on survey to data entry activities.
- There is an action plan for all processes.
- Dates of each and every completed activity written in control sheets.

0.3 Relevance

0.3.1 Monitoring user requirements

[How the relevance and practical utility of existing statistics in meeting users' needs are monitored.]

- Different user needs are considered accordingly questionnaires updated.
- Send letters asking for changes, updates or new requirements from main data users before updating a questionnaire. (once in five year)

0.4 Quality management

0.4.1 Quality policy

[Processes in place to focus on quality.]

Following are done;

- Staff training (concepts, questionnaire)
- Pilot survey
- Pre test
- Supervision on survey activities
- Send advance notice to respondent households to inform them about survey activities, period of survey

0.4.2 Quality monitoring

[Processes in place to monitor the quality of the statistical program.]

- Frequent supervision (survey, data entry)
- Validation and verification test for data entry
- Computer based edit programs to correct range, consistency and structural edits

0.4.3 Quality planning

[Processes in place to deal with quality considerations in planning the statistical program.]

- Listing update of selected samples (PSU's) (one month before the survey month)
- Monitoring , and field supervision plan
- Documentation

1. Integrity

1.1 Professionalism

1.1.1 Impartiality of statistics

[Measures to promote impartiality in production of statistics.]

Completely independent survey from data collection stage until data dissemination.

1.1.2 Selection of sources, methodology, and modes of dissemination

[Selection of sources, methodology, and modes of dissemination.]

The DCS has the independence in determining release of data and methodology.

1.1.3 Commenting on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics

[Entitlement to, opportunity for, and historical frequency of, comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics by the appropriate statistical entity.]

- DCS usually answers for misuse and misinterpretations.
- For individual raw data requests, DCS follows its data dissemination procedure such as, initially data users are requested to submit the data request application with the project proposal.
- Initially 25% of raw data is released to data users. The data users are required to submit a project report using this data, in order to observe their objectives and limitations of data. If the report of 25% data is approved then 100% data set is released.

1.2 Transparency

1.2.1 Disclosure of terms and conditions for statistical collection, processing, and dissemination

[Disclosure of terms and conditions for statistical collection, processing, and dissemination.]

Ordinance and act of the acts on Census and Surveys confirm the survey.

1.2.2 Internal governmental access to statistics prior to release

[Disclosure of Internal governmental access to statistics prior to their release.]

There is no access to data before they are released to the public.

1.2.3 Attribution of statistical products

[Identification of statistical agencies/units producing disseminated statistics.]

There is no commentary by senior government officials on the release of any data by the DCS. In many cases, the data release contains a detailed technical commentary.

1.2.4 Advance notice of major changes in methodology, source data, and statistical techniques.

[Advance notice of major changes in methodology, source data, and statistical techniques.]

Data are indicated as provisional or revised in all DCS publications. Normally no advance notice of major changes in methodology, but technical descriptions of changes on concepts and definitions, coverage and methodology accompany at the release of data in DCS publications.

1.3 Ethical standards

1.3.1 Guidelines for staff behavior

[Measures implementing and enforcing guidelines for staff behavior.]

Trained permanent staff with survey experience is engage in survey activities and also they are given all the guidelines before the survey including ethical matters.

2. Methodology

2.1 Concepts and definitions

2.1.1 Concepts and definitions

[Degree to which the overall structure of concepts and definitions follows internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.]

Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) compiles quarterly/annual data based on household surveys. The definition of labour force, employment, unemployment, underemployment (visible), informal sector used in this survey is consistent with International Labor Organization standards. Economic activities are identified using UNSD guidelines (SNA 2008). Almost all Labour statistics published by the DCS are consistent with ILO definitions.

2.2 Scope

2.2.1 Scope

2.2.1.1 Scope of the data

[Scope of the data.]

To provide information on economically active and economically inactive population of the country.

To supply information about labour force of the country.

To measure employment, unemployment and underemployment statistics with respect to scale and distribution.

To analyze informal sector employment statistics

To measure literacy levels in languages Sinhala, Tamil and English

2.2.1.2 Exceptions to coverage

[Exceptions to coverage.]

Institutional population is not covered , such as hostels, military barracks...etc.

2.2.1.3 Unrecorded activity

[Unrecorded activity.]

Illegal activities may not be reported (under report).

2.3 Classification/sectorization

2.3.1 Classification/sectorization

[Broad consistency of classification/sectorization systems used with internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.]

Occupations are classified considering the International Standard of Occupation (ISO). Until 2012 ISO-88 is used and from 2013 ISO-2008 will be used.

Industries are classified using International Standard Classification of Industries (ISIC). Before 2002 ISIC rev.2, from 2002-2012 ISIC rev.3.1 and From 2013 ISIC rev.4 is used.

2.4 Basis for recording

2.4.1 Valuation

[Types of prices (market, historical, administrative, basic, purchasers', producer, etc.) used to value flows and stocks.]

2.4.2 Recording basis

[Degree to which recording meets requirements for accrual accounting.]

2.4.3 Grossing/netting procedures

[Broad consistency of grossing/netting procedures with internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.]

3. Accuracy and reliability

3.1 Source data

3.1.1 Source data collection programs

[Comprehensiveness of source data from administrative and survey data collection programs, and appropriateness of the collection modality for country-specific conditions.]

The Annual Employment Survey of Sri Lanka has been conducted by the **Department of Labor** since 1971, using the postal questionnaire method. This survey is designed to collect information on employment by industry and occupation and covers establishments having five or more paid employees engaged in productive, distributive business and commercial activities in both the private and public sectors. More specifically, the survey provides information on the distribution, change of employment, and gender distribution of employment among major industries. The reference period for the survey is June 30th of the survey year. The non-availability of a complete list of establishments and a high non-response rate are the main drawbacks for the coverage of the survey.

Quarterly employment data are collected by the **Department of Census and Statistics** of the Ministry of Finance and Planning through the Quarterly Labor Force Survey since 1990. The data are derived from household interviews obtained from a sample of the population 10 years of age and older. The survey provides comprehensive information on the Labor Force, the Employed, and the Unemployed, and includes such characteristics as age, sex, occupation, and industry attachment. The survey also provides information on hours worked, and reasons for unemployment and nonparticipation in the labor force. The definition of employment and unemployment used in this survey is consistent with International Labor Organization standards. The survey is conducted by trained interviewers from a total annual sample of about 20,000 households. About 5,000 households are visited each quarter. The inquiry relates to the previous calendar week of the interview to obtain "current" information. Data are collected monthly to represent a given quarter through a scientifically selected sample designed to represent the non-institutional household population. Inmates of institutions, such as military camps, are not surveyed. No seasonal adjustments are done on the data. On the contrary, seasonality can be observed by comparing the survey results of different quarters. Published data are presented by age, gender, and sector of residence (i.e., urban, rural, or estate).

The DCS provides estimates at district level since 1992 using very similar methodology to the quarterly surveys. The publication Annual Report of Labor Force in Sri Lanka contains district level employment estimates based on a survey period of twelve months using a sample of 20,000 housing units. A census of the public and semi-government sector employment is also conducted by the DCS every four years since 1980. Three censuses were administered also before 1980 and were limited to public sector employment. Those earlier censuses were conducted by the Ministry of Public Administration (1968, 1972, and 1976). The DCS collects census information relevant to the public and semi-government sectors by an individual questionnaire filled personally by the employees. A section of public sector employees who were previously under the Central Government were absorbed into the Provincial Public service in 1990. Since then, information on public sector employees have been segregated into two sectors, namely: State Sector and Provincial Public Sector. Information on employees under corporations, statutory boards, and public-private companies are collected under the Semi-Government Sector. The classification of occupations used in the Census of Public and Semi-Government Sector Employment is based on the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO). Published data are presented by age, gender, district, and Ministry.

3.1.2 Source data definitions, scope, classifications, valuation, and time of recording

[Degree to which source data approximate the definitions, scope, classifications, valuation, and time of recording required (as described in 2.1.1-2.4.3).]

3.1.3 Source data timeliness

[Source data timeliness relative to what is required for producing statistical outputs whose timeliness meets applicable data standard (SDDS requirements or GDDS recommendations).]

3.2 Assessment of source data

3.2.1 Source data assessment

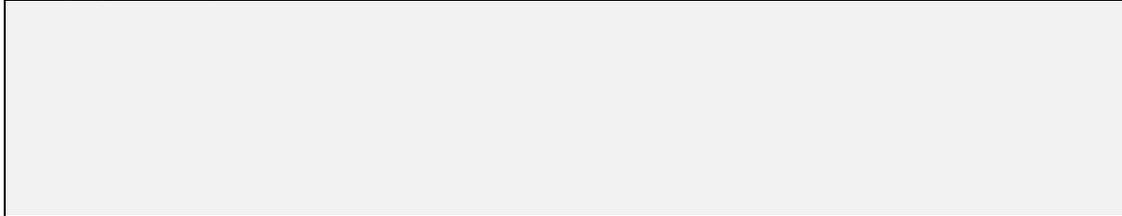
[Routine assessment of source data—including censuses, sample surveys, and administrative records (e.g., for coverage, sample error, response error, and nonsampling error); whether assessment results are monitored; how results are used to guide statistical processes.]



3.3 Statistical techniques

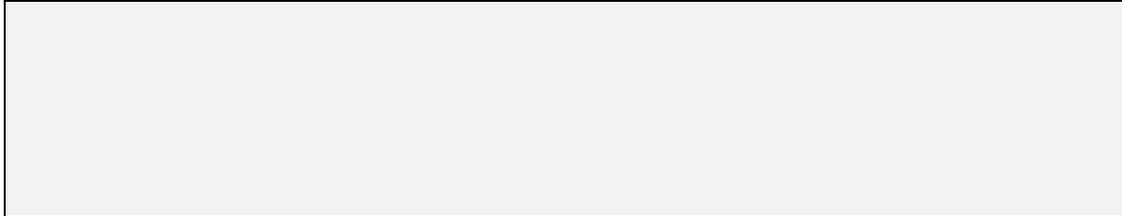
3.3.1 Source data statistical techniques

[Statistical techniques in data compilation to deal with data sources (e.g., to align them with target concepts from 2.1.1).]



3.3.2 Other statistical procedures

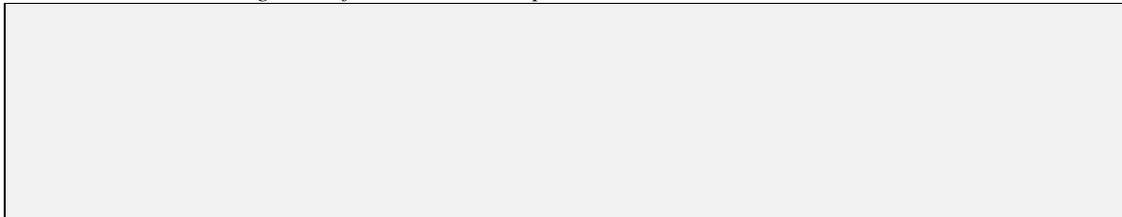
[Statistical techniques employed in other statistical procedures (e.g., data adjustments and transformations, and statistical analysis).]



3.4 Data validation

3.4.1 Validation of intermediate results

[Assessment and investigation of statistical discrepancies in intermediate data.]



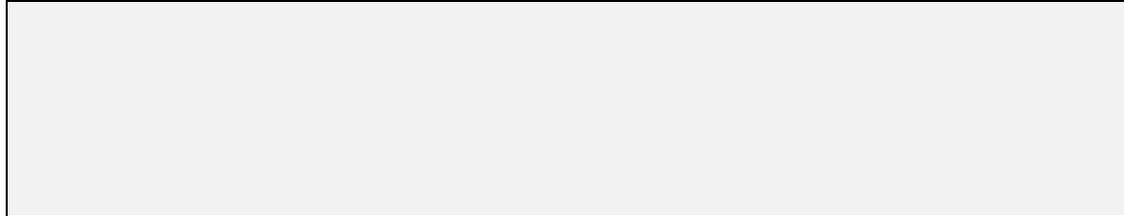
3.4.2 Assessment of intermediate data

[Assessment and investigation of statistical discrepancies in intermediate data.]



3.4.3 Assessment of discrepancies and other problems in statistical outputs

[Investigation of statistical discrepancies and other potential indicators of problems in statistical outputs.]



3.5 Revision studies

3.5.1 Revision studies and analyses

[Periodicity with which studies and analyses of revisions are carried out; whether and how they are used internally to inform statistical processes (see also 4.3.3).]



4. Serviceability

4.1 Periodicity and timeliness

4.1.1 Periodicity

[Periodicity of statistical outputs relative to applicable dissemination standard (SDDS requirement or GDDS recommendation).]

The Labor Force survey is conducted quarterly.

4.1.2 Timeliness

[Timeliness of statistical outputs relative to applicable dissemination standard (SDDS requirement or GDDS recommendation).]

Summary information on the Quarterly Labor Force Survey is disseminated to the public three months after the end of the reference period in the "Bulletin of Labor Force Statistics of Sri Lanka" for free. The Department of Census and Statistics publication "Quarterly Report of the Sri Lanka Labor Force Survey" is available in the Department website, immediately after the publication of the quarterly bulletin.

4.2 Consistency

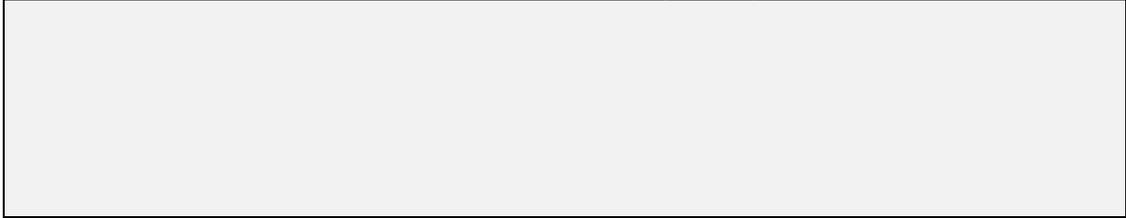
4.2.1 Internal consistency

[Consistency of statistics within the dataset.]



4.2.2 Temporal consistency

[Consistency or reconcilability of statistics over a reasonable period of time.]



4.2.3 Intersectoral and cross-domain consistency

[Consistency or reconcilability of statistics with those obtained through other data sources and/or statistical frameworks.]



4.3 Revision

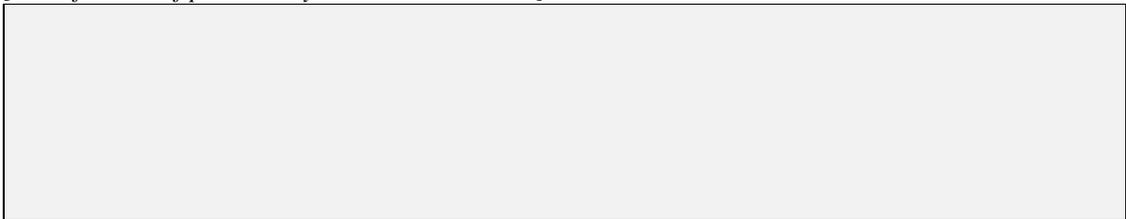
4.3.1 Revision schedule

[Transparency and regularity of revision schedule.]



4.3.2 Identification of preliminary and/or revised data

[Identification of preliminary and/or revised data.]



4.3.3 Dissemination of revision studies and analyses

[Dissemination of revision studies and analyses (see also 3.5.1).]

5. Accessibility

5.1 Data

5.1.1 Statistical presentation

[Statistics are presented in a way that facilitates proper interpretation and meaningful comparisons (layout and clarity of text, tables, and charts).]

Detailed tables on unemployment by gender, age group, level of education, major industrial groups, and major occupational groups are presented in the Department of Census and Statistics publications Quarterly Report of the Sri Lanka Labor Force Survey and Annual Report of Labour Force.

5.1.2 Dissemination media and format

5.1.2.1 Hard copy - New release

[Hard copy - New release.]

5.1.2.2 Hard copy - Weekly bulletin

[Hard copy - Weekly bulletin.]

5.1.2.3 Hard copy - Monthly Bulletin

[Hard copy - Monthly Bulletin.]

5.1.2.4 Hard copy - Quarterly bulletin

[Hard copy - Quarterly bulletin.]

There are quarterly bulletin and a report

1. "Bulletin of Labour Force Statistics of Sri Lanka"
2. "Quarterly Report of the Sri Lanka Labor Force Survey"

5.1.2.5 Hard copy - Other

[Hard copy - Other.]

"Employment Survey Sri Lanka," by Department of Labor

"Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey Annual Report" by Department of Census and Statistics

More detailed tabulations can be provided on paper by the Labor Department at no extra cost. "Labor Statistics Sri Lanka," Department of Labor

5.1.2.6 Electronic - On-line bulletin or data

[Electronic - On-line bulletin or data.]

All the publications of the Labour Force Survey are available on the Department of Census and Statistics website – <http://www.statistics.gov.lk>/Selected indicators available on the Labor Department website – www.labour.gov.lk

5.1.2.7 Electronic - Other

[Electronic - Other.]

5.1.3 Advance release calendar

[Pre-announcement of the release schedule for statistics.]

Advance data release calendar is available in the web site of the Department of Census and Statistics.

Quarter-ahead precise release dates are disseminated in the International Monetary Fund's (IMF's) Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board.

5.1.3.1 ARC Note

[ARC Note.]



5.1.4 Simultaneous release

[Degree to which statistics are made available to all users at the same time, and modalities used to achieve this.]

Prepared reports are published in the web site, <http://www.statistics.gov.lk/>

5.1.5 Dissemination on request

[Dissemination on request of unpublished but non-confidential statistics.]

Data dissemination Unit of the Department is responsible for data dissemination, and the unpublished but non- confidential data are released with appropriate approval from the Director General.

5.2 Metadata

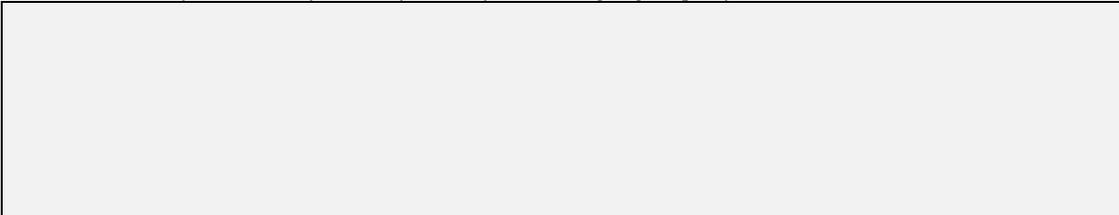
5.2.1 Dissemination of documentation on concepts, scope, classifications, basis of recording, data sources, and statistical techniques

[Dissemination of documentation on concepts, scope, classifications, basis of recording, data sources, and statistical techniques, including annotation of differences from internationally accepted standards, guidelines.]

The DCS publications "Quarterly Report of the Sri Lanka Labor Force Survey" and "Annual Report of Labour Force" contain detailed information on how data are compiled and collected, concepts and definitions, measures of the labor force, and sample design.
The questionnaires used in conducting the quarterly survey and district profile survey are attached to the published documents.
The occupation and industry classifications are published in the Department website.

5.2.2 Disseminated level of detail

[Customization of detail and format of tables for the target groups of users.]



5.3 Assistance to users

5.3.1 Dissemination of information on contact points

[Dissemination of information on contact points for each subject field.]

Each survey report or bulletin indicates the contact details of responsible person.

5.3.2 Availability of documents and services catalogs

[Dissemination of catalogs of publications, documents, and other services, including information on any charges.]

Contact Person(s):

[Please provide information below as relevant]

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Agency:

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Postal Code:

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Fax: Country Code/City Code/Number

Email:

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