

# Review of the calculation method of the results or the estimation method of the Labour Force Survey from the beginning of 2021

## Why was the estimation method reviewed?

The entire Labour Force Survey was reviewed from the beginning of 2021 to comply with the new EU legislation and significant national reviews were implemented at the same time. The new EU legislation had an effect on the formation of the sample and the calculation method of the results or the estimation method, because the survey now covers persons aged 15 to 89, while previously the target group was aged 15 to 74. In addition, the quality indicators set for the reliability of the results were taken into account in the estimation method. When reviewing the estimation method, the aim was to consider the growth in non-response and the effect of web responding on the age and educational structures of the respondent group.

## How was the estimation method reviewed?

Changes in EU legislation and anticipation of non-response are considered when forming weighting coefficients by means of which the data provided by the respondents are generalised to concern the population according to the new definition. The weighting utilises more extensively than before the additional information available from register sources, which helps to correct the bias caused by non-response and narrow the margin of error of the estimate. If necessary, register data can also be used as comparison data. The greater the dependency between the data collected in the data collection and the register data describing the same occurrence, the more the estimation improves.

Besides the population data (gender, age, region and language), the reviewed weighting takes into account additional information from the following register sources: the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment's Employment Service Statistics (registered unemployed), Statistics Finland's Register of Completed Education and Degrees (level of education) and employment statistics (main type of activity), and the Tax Administration's Incomes Register (monthly wages and salaries sum).

## Formation of retrospectively corrected time series according to the new Labour Force Survey

Comparable time series according to the reviewed Labour Force Survey are formed retrospectively by using the weighting coefficient produced with the new calculation method.

The time series revision takes into consideration the combined effect of all reviews, in the assessment of which use is made of the parallel data of the pilot study, the Labour Force Survey data for 2000 to 2020 and the data for the early part of 2021 as well as data from register sources (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment's Employment Service Statistics and Statistics Finland's Register of Completed Education and Degrees and employment statistics).