

## PL200: NUMBER OF YEARS SPENT IN PAID WORK [AS EMPLOYEE OR SELF-EMPLOYED]

**Topic and detailed topic:** Job tenure, work biography and previous work experience / Previous work experience

**Variable type:** Annual

**Unit:** All current household members aged 16 years and over or selected respondent (where applicable)

**Reference period:** Working life

**Mode of collection:** Personal interview (proxy as an exception for persons temporarily away or in incapacity) or registers

**In use (period):** Yes, since the first year of the EU-SILC data collection

**Series' differences:** No changes

### VALUES AND FORMAT

0-65     Number of years

### FLAGS

- 1     Collected via survey/interview
- 2     Collected from administrative data
- 3     Imputed
- 4     Not possible to establish a source
- 1    Missing
- 2    Not applicable (PL016 not equal to 3 and PL032 not equal to 1)
- 3    Not applicable (Non-selected respondent (RB245 equal to 3))

### DESCRIPTION

The variable provides a summary measure of the labour force experience of the person.

This covers the number of years since the respondent started their first regular job, that they have spent at work, whether as an employee or self-employed.

When a person had a job, but was temporarily absent because of maternity leave, injury or temporary disability, slack work for technical or economic reasons, the related period is to be taken into account when computing the number of years spent in paid work.

**At work:** is self-defined. In cases where there is doubt, such as when the person spent a number of years working on a part-time basis, the person's own perception of whether their main activity was 'at work' or something else should be taken. If a person retires and continues to have a paid work at the same time, this time period should only be taken into account if the person declares themselves as working. If this person considers themselves as retired, then the number of years spent in paid work stops with the retirement of the person.

Vacation jobs taken by students, from which they return to studies or to other non-work situations are not taken into account, as well as any other casual job undertaken from time to time. Part-time jobs that the person may have engaged in while still in school or university are not included. However, if the person works or worked in formal regular work, during their studies, this work should be considered.

#### Suggested question:

*'How many years did you spend in a regular paid job excluding periods of inactivity (unemployment, training.....)?'*

*(When temporarily absent from a job because of maternity leave, injury or temporary disability, slack work for technical or economic reasons, ... the related period is to be taken into account when computing the number of years spent in paid work).*

Please write the number of years: \_\_\_\_\_