

PL051A: OCCUPATION IN MAIN JOB⁵⁵

Topic and detailed topic: Labour market participation / Elementary job characteristics

Variable type: Core Variable /Annual

Unit: All current household members aged 16 years and over

Reference period: Current

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

In use (period): New (split as A and B from 2021)

Series' differences: Yes, 2009 (2012)

VALUES AND FORMAT

ISCO Code 08 (2 digits / see Annex: ISCO: International Standard Classification of Occupations)

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 (PL032 not equal to 1)
- 7 Not applicable (PB010 < 2021)

DESCRIPTION

This variable is part of the standardised list of social variables.

This variable refers to the main job, namely the current main job for people at work (PL032 = 1). If multiple jobs are held, the main job should be the one in which the greatest number of hours are usually worked. Interviewers, when asking the ISCO code, should refer, if applicable, to the code given for the preceding year(s) in order to avoid too many (and unjustified) changes in the value of this variable from one year to another.

The variable is defined according to the International Standard Classification of Occupations, version 2008 (ISCO-08), up to 4-digit level: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/1978984/6037342/ISCO-08.pdf>

It groups or classifies jobs according to the similarities of the tasks and duties undertaken in the job. In the International Labour Organization (ILO) resolution adopting the ISCO-08, occupation is defined as a set of jobs whose main tasks and duties are characterised by a high degree of similarity.

The term job is used in reference to employment. One job is a set of tasks and duties performed for a single economic unit. Persons may have one or several jobs. For employees, each contract can be considered as a separate set of tasks and duties, and consequently as a separate job. Those in self-employment will have as many jobs as the economic units they own or co-own, irrespective of the number of clients served. In cases of multiple job-holding, the main job is that with the longest hours usually worked, as defined in the international statistical standards on working time.

The category 'not applicable' covers persons not in employment marked as Flag '-2'.

The essential information for determining the occupation is usually the job title of the person in employment and a description of the main tasks undertaken in the course of their duties.

If a person carries out two or more tasks for their employer which are so different from each other that they should have different ISCO codes, it is recommended to code it on the most extensive task.

⁵⁵ ISCO-08: To use from the 2011 operation onwards,
see: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/1978984/6037342/ISCO-08.pdf>