

PL211C: MAIN ACTIVITY IN MARCH

Topic and detailed topic: Working conditions including working hours and working time arrangements / Calendar of activities

Variable type: Annual

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

Reference period: Income reference period

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

In use (period): Yes, since 2009

Series' differences: No changes

VALUES AND FORMAT

- 1 Employee working full-time
- 2 Employee working part-time
- 3 Self-employed working full-time (including family worker)
- 4 Self-employed working part-time (including family worker)
- 5 Unemployed
- 6 Student, pupil
- 7 Retired
- 8 Unable to work due to long-standing health problems
- 9 Compulsory military or civilian service
- 10 Fulfilling domestic tasks
- 11 Other

FLAGS

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

DESCRIPTION

The variable replaces, from the 2009 operation onwards, the variable PL210.

The self-declared current 'main activity status': the concept of 'current' implies that any definitive changes in the activity situation are taken into account. For instance, if a person has lost a job or has retired recently, or the activity status has otherwise changed in a definitive manner, then the situation as of the time of the interview should be reported. In this sense, 'current' overrides any concept of averaging over any specific reference period.

The target variable captures the person's own perception of their main activity at present. It differs from the ILO concept to the extent that people's own perception of their main status differs from the strict definitions used in the ILO definitions. The self-declared main activity status is determined on the basis of how most time is spent, but no criteria have been specified explicitly. If the person combines different part-time jobs as an employee that result in the equivalent hours of a full-time job, the person should consider themselves as an employee working full-time (code 1 should be ticked for the month).

If more than one type of activity occur in the same month, priority should be given to economic activity ("main activity: work") over non-economic activity and over inactivity. On the basis of this principle, the following rules may be used:

If the respondent worked, at least during two weeks of the month, then code 1, 2, 3 or 4 should be ticked for the month.

If more than one of the other codes apply in the same month, the respondent should select one on the basis of self-assessment. The criterion of most time spent may be useful where applicable. See the description