

ACTIVITY 18.1**Employment Status Cards**

1. You are retired and not looking for a job.

2. You are a lawyer who works 60 hours a week at a law firm.

3. You are a manager at a construction company who works 40 hours a week.

4. You do not have a job and applied for three jobs this week.

5. You are working five hours a week at Macy's, but want more hours.

ACTIVITY 18.1 (Continued)

6. You last looked for work six months ago but could not find work; you feel you are not qualified for the jobs that are available. You want to work.

7. You have been laid off and are waiting to be called back to work, which you anticipate will be next month.

8. You are working 40 hours a week as a sanitation worker.

9. You are working five hours a week at the local library. You do not want more hours.

10. You were fired from your last job and applied for a job two weeks ago.

11. You stay at home with two small children and do not seek paid employment.

ACTIVITY 18.1 (Continued)

12. You are working 40 hours a week as a high school teacher.

13. You are working 45 hours a week as a lab technician.

14. You are not working but recently interviewed and received an offer for a job that starts in two weeks.

15. You want a job but do not have one. You have not looked for a job in the past month because you looked unsuccessfully for the past year and you don't believe you will find one now.

16. You are working 30 hours a week as a cook but you want more hours.

17. You are working 40 hours a week as an electrical engineer.

ACTIVITY 18.1 (Continued)

18. You do not have a job and looked for a job this week.

19. You are working 38 hours a week running your own landscaping business.

20. You are a college student who goes to school full time and does not want a job.

21. You are working 40 hours a week as a gardener but times are so hard that you want to work more hours.

22. You teach 20 hours a week at the local high school. You want more teaching hours but district budgets are tight and full-time positions are not available.

23. You looked for a job three months ago but did not find one; you have not looked since because you don't think jobs that match your skills are available. You would take a job if one were offered.

ACTIVITY 18.1 (Continued)

24. You lost your job two years ago and have been applying for jobs every two weeks since.

25. You are working 20 hours a week as an accountant. You are studying for CPA exams the rest of the time, so you don't want more work.

26. You are a farmer who works 55 hours a week on your own land.

27. You just graduated from college and are living with your parents. You enjoy hanging out with your friends and have not gotten around to looking for a job. Your parents suspect that you really don't want a job. To make your parents happy, you read job ads online but have not applied for any of them.

28. You quit your job last week because the boss was driving you crazy. You have looked for another job.

29. You are 12 years old and in school. You have no job.

ACTIVITY 18.1 (Continued)

30. You are in prison and do not work.

31. You are in a nursing home and do not work.

ACTIVITY 18.2

Survey Reporting Form

Instructions

1. Look at your card. Write your card number in the table below. According to your card, check whether you are employed, unemployed, neither employed nor unemployed, or you are young or institutionalized.
2. Survey five of your classmates. Ask each to describe her or his job situation, then write her or his name and card number in the first two columns. Check-mark the column you believe she or he belongs in: employed; unemployed; neither employed nor unemployed; or young or institutionalized. Do not survey someone with the same card number more than once.
3. After you have surveyed five people, put your estimate of the unemployment rate in the space below. Base your estimate on the six lines of data you recorded in the table. (The unemployment rate is a percentage.)

Name	Card No.	Working Age, Not in Institution			Young or Institutionalized
		Employed	Unemployed	Neither	
Yourself					

I believe the unemployment rate is _____%, based on my data.

Show work here:

ACTIVITY 18.3

Assessment

For each person, check the appropriate employment classification and use the information to answer the questions below.

Name	Situation	Population			
		Young or Institutionalized	Not in Labor Force	In Labor Force	
				Employed	Unemployed
Bill	Working 15 hours a week at bookstore				
Sharmila	Retired				
Nikhil	Two years old; not working				
Alka	Looked for work this week; found no job				
Neela	Working 40 hours a week as computer consultant				
Mesmin	Laid off; waiting to return to work				
Pat	Staying home taking care of children				
Paul	Working five hours a week as a lifeguard				
Tom	Working 30 hours a week as lawyer				
Harry	Insane, currently in hospital				

ACTIVITY 18.3 (Continued)

1. What is the unemployment rate? _____%
2. Assume that Alka has given up looking for work (becomes a discouraged worker). Calculate the new unemployment rate: _____. Explain why the rate has changed.
3. Assume that Alka is looking for work (she is no longer discouraged), and Pat starts to look for, but has not yet found, a part-time job. Calculate the new unemployment rate: _____. Explain why the rate has changed.