

## INDIA WORKING IN NUMBERS

Read Me Document - Jul 20, 2021

### Data sources

(i) Estimates of labour force participation rates (LFPR), unemployment rates (UR), earnings, informality levels and the educational, sectoral and caste composition of the working age population of India are based on household level data provided by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)'s Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for the year 2018-19.

To track some of these indicators across time, alongside the above data we have included information from the 50th, 55th, 61st and 68th round of the NSSO's Employment and Unemployment Surveys. These rounds cover the years 1993-94, 1999-00, 2004-05 and 2011-12 respectively.

(ii) Estimates of labour productivity, real wages and the degree of contractualisation in the organised manufacturing sector of India are based on plant level data from the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) data for 2017-18. Productivity and wage trends across time are captured by adding to the above information, plant level data for the years 2000-01, 2005-06, 2010-11 and 2015-16.

(iii) Productivity trends in the unorganised manufacturing sector of India have been captured using firm level records obtained from the NSSO's 56<sup>th</sup> and 62<sup>nd</sup> 'Unorganised Manufacturing Enterprise Survey' rounds which correspond to the years 2000-01 and 2005-06, along with the NSSO's 67th and 73rd 'Unincorporated Non-Agricultural Enterprises (excluding Construction)' rounds which cover the years 2010-11 and 2015-16.

### Points to Note

- Definitions of the indicators used are available on the main dashboard page.
- All graphs depicting LFPRs, URs and composition of the workforce have used the 'principal activity status' definition provided by the NSSO to define employment. According to the [NSSO](#) *"The activity status on which a person spent relatively long time (major time criterion) during the 365 days preceding the date of survey is considered the usual principal activity status of the person."*

- All graphs related to earnings of the working age population use the current weekly status (CWS) criterion to determine employment. As per the NSSO, CWS is *“the activity status determined on the basis of a reference period of last 7 days preceding the date of survey.”*
- Earnings are for the previous month for regular wage workers and the past 30 days for self-employed workers. For casual wage workers, earnings reported for the previous week are multiplied by four to arrive at monthly earnings. Negative and zero values are included in the calculations for self-employed workers. Unpaid helpers in household enterprises (CWS code 21) were excluded from the earnings analysis.
- All graphs related to employment and earnings take into account only the working age population i.e. persons who are of 15 years of age and above.
- The third gender category has been dropped in gender-wise analysis because of the relatively small sample size.
- Information on state-wise employment trends across time for Chattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand is only available for the years 2004-05, 2011-12 and 2018-19. For Telangana, data is available for only the most recent time point i.e 2018-19.
- The manufacturing sector includes only those firms whose two digit NIC (National Industrial Classification) 2008 code lies between 10 and 33.
- The variable ‘total workers’ (direct plus contractual workers) was used to classify organised sector firms by employment size.
- The ‘worker’ category in the unorganised manufacturing sector includes working owners, unpaid workers, hired workers as well as part time workers, with the latter counting as 0.5 full time equivalents.
- Real wage rate and labour productivity (value-added per worker) have been indexed to base year (2000-01). Wages have been deflated using CPI-IW and value-added by WPI-Manufactured Products (2004-05 base).
- Contract workers are defined as workers hired via third-party contractors who are not directly on the firm’s payroll.
- Information on social security and written job contracts pertains only to wage workers. Wage workers receiving some form of social security and having a written contract belong to the

'Strong Formal' category. Wage workers receiving some form of social security or having a written contract belong to the 'Weak Formal' category.

- The General category consists of non-SC, non-ST, non-OBC, non-Muslim individuals.

### Disclaimers

Our estimates are based on official surveys. It should be borne in mind that some of these estimates may be subject to debate. For example, it has been argued that the actual female labour force participation rate is higher than that estimated by the NSSO. We encourage users to investigate such limitations by engaging with relevant literature on their subject of interest.

While the unit level has been procured from official sources, the dashboard team is solely responsible for any errors made in the estimation of indicators. If there are any such discrepancies that you observe or if there are any other clarifications, kindly write to us at [cse@apu.edu.in](mailto:cse@apu.edu.in).