

The three conditions – namely, without work, currently available for work and seeking work during the past week from the time of visit of the NSO enumerator are to be satisfied for a person to be counted as “unemployed”. But there are instances when one can be “unemployed” even though he is not looking for work if his reasons are included in the five stated earlier.

The discouraged workers or those group of workers who need work and are willing to work but stopped looking for work because of the belief that there is no work available are also counted among the unemployed in the country.

Here are some other cases:

Case	Labor Force		Not in the Labor Force
	Employed	Unemployed	
Retired University Professor	X	X	✓
Full time student in a University	X	X	✓
Working student – crew of a fast food chain	✓	X	X
Mrs. de la Cruz, full time housewife	X	X	✓
Mrs. Lina, housewife, sells e-load during sparetime	✓	X	X
Ka Tomas, farmer of seasonal crops	✓	X	X
Enumerator waiting for rehire	X	✓	X
Former mechanic applying for a loan to put up an auto repair shop	X	✓	X
Laid off sales lady answering classified ads	X	✓	X

Dapat, ang tatlong pamantayan – na walang trabaho, handang magtrabaho kung mabigyan ng pagkakataon magtrabaho at naghahanap ng trabaho noong nakaraang linggo bago ang pagdalaw ng NSO enumerator ay matugunan lahat para mabilang ang isang tao na “UNEMPLOYED”. Ngunit may mga pagkakataon na kahit hindi ka naghahanap ng trabaho ay maaaring ituring kang “unemployed” kung ang dahilan ng hindi mo paghahanap ay napapaloob sa naunang nabanggit na limang kadahilanan.

Ang mga “discouraged workers” o hanay ng mga taong nangangailangan ng trabaho at handang tumanggap ng trabaho ngunit tumigil sa paghahanap ng trabaho dahil sa naniniwala silang di sila makakahanap ng trabaho ay bilang na “unemployed” sa ating bansa.

The **EASY STAT** is a BLES series of “What is...or How-to...” that focuses on basic concepts or measures used on labor and employment statistics. It aims to reach out to ordinary folks and workers by describing these concepts and measures in an illustrative manner and easy-to-understand language or to the extent possible, in Pilipino.

For further information, please contact:

THE DIRECTOR

Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics
3/F Department of Labor and Employment Bldg.,
Gen. Luna St., Intramuros, Manila
1002 PHILIPPINES

Tel no: (632) 527-3000 loc 317 (Data Bank)

Fax no: (632) 527-5506

E-mail: doblebles@manila-online.net
blesdole@bles.dole.gov.ph

Website: <http://www.manila-online.net/bles>
<http://www.bles.dole.gov.ph>

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AN EASY WAY TO UNDERSTAND STATISTICAL CONCEPTS AND MEASURES USED IN LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

How do you count the Unemployed?



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics

UNEMPLOYMENT and its growing number continue to be one of the major concerns of the government. In 2005, a new definition was approved by the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB), the highest policy making body on statistical matters in the country. This definition is now used in the Labor Force Survey (LFS) conducted by the National Statistics Office (NSO) during the months of January, April, July and October. While its adoption created quite a controversy; nonetheless the biggest question for many, still is: how are unemployed persons counted?

This first issue of **Easy Stat** will shed light on who are considered as unemployed.

“Ang **WALANG HANAPBUHAY** (Unemployed) ay mga taong may edad 15 pataas mula noong kanilang huling kaarawan at naitalang walang trabaho o hanapbuhay, handang magtrabaho at naghahanap ng trabaho noong nakatakdang panahon ng pagtatala o hindi naghahanap ng trabaho dahil sa mga sumusunod na dahilan: (a) manggagawang naghanap ng trabaho sa nakalipas na anim na buwan subalit walang nakitang trabaho; (b) naghihintay ng resulta sa huling inaplayang trabaho; (c) may pansamantalang kapansanan/sakit ; (d) masamang panahon; at (e) naghihintay ng tawag sa huling pinasukang trabaho.”

NSCB Resolution No. 15 Series of 2004 defines the “**UNEMPLOYED**” as those persons 15 years old and over as of their last birthday, who were reported as

- 1. without work**, i.e., had no job or business during the basic survey reference period, e.g., past week before interview date.



- 2. seeking work**, i.e., had taken specific steps to look for a job or establish a business during the basic survey reference period; or **not seeking work due to the following reasons**: a) tired/believe no work available, i.e., the discouraged workers who looked for work within the last six months prior to the interview date; b) awaiting results of previous job application; c) temporary illness/disability; d) bad weather; and e) waiting for rehire/job recall.

- 3. currently available for work**, i.e., were available and willing to take up work in paid employment or self employment during the basic survey reference period and/or would be available and willing to take up work in paid employment or self employment within two weeks after the interview date;

Kung sakaling may bakanteng trabaho na pwede mong pasukan ngayon at hanggang sa susunod na dalawang linggo, handa ka ba na ito'y tanggapin?



Naghahanap ka ba ng trabaho? Anong paraan ang ginagawa mo para makahanap ng trabaho?



Presuming, NSO enumerators conducting the LFS visit Barangay Marilag in Quezon City, among sample households they encounter, who would be classified as “Unemployed”:

CASE 1



Jerome, a 27 year old computer programmer got terminated 10 days ago. For the past week, he was job hunting and had scheduled interviews.

Jerome is looking for work and available for work as evident by his job hunting activities. **Ito'y halimbawa ng isang masigasig na naghahanap ng trabaho.**

CASE 2



Diego, a 23 year old management graduate resigned a month ago from a computer company and applied for a loan from a bank, the proceeds of which he plan to put up a cyber café.

Diego in this case is unemployed as he has taken a step (applied for bank loan) towards self-employment (operating a cyber café). **Si Diego ay masasabing gumagawa ng paraan para makapagtayo ng sariling hanapbuhay, imbes na mamasukan sa iba.**

CASE 3



Badong, your typical bystander and happy-go-lucky guy, spends much of his time in the street, or “bumming” around with friends.

Badong is considered as not economically active or not in the labor force. He has been found to be without work, or did not work at all, has not taken steps to find employment, nor has shown interest to be available for work (the week past the interview date). The LFS distinguishes the idle person from the unemployed. **Si Badong ay isang istambay at di maituturing na kasama sa lakas-manggagawa o “labor force”.**

CASE 4

The **Santos** couple, **Pedro** and **Maria**: Pedro, a chemist, has not worked for almost a year and relies mostly from the allowance sent by his parents abroad to sustain his family. Maria, his wife, a nurse, resigned from work three months ago to take care of her aging father.



Pedro is also classified as not economically active or not in the labor force because, for almost a year, he has no work and has not taken steps to seek work, either paid or unpaid. The same with Maria, who is not available for work. **Ang mag asawang ito ay maituturing na di kasama sa lakas-manggagawa o “labor force”.**