



PRESS NOTE

ON

**PERIODIC LABOUR FORCE SURVEY (PLFS)
ANNUAL REPORT [JULY 2021 – JUNE 2022]**

AND

**SOME ADDITIONAL INDICATOR FROM PLFS
FOR 2021 [JANUARY 2021 – DECEMBER 2021] AND
2022 [JANUARY 2022 – DECEMBER 2022]**

**NATIONAL SAMPLE SURVEY OFFICE
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION**

24th February, 2023
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PRESS NOTE

1. Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) – Annual Report [July, 2021 – June, 2022]

A. Introduction

Considering the importance of availability of labour force data at more frequent time intervals, National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) launched Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) in April 2017. The objective of PLFS is primarily twofold:

- to estimate the key employment and unemployment indicators (viz. Worker Population Ratio, Labour Force Participation Rate, Unemployment Rate) in the short time interval of three months for the urban areas only in the 'Current Weekly Status' (CWS).
- to estimate employment and unemployment indicators in both 'Usual Status' (ps+ss) and CWS in both rural and urban areas annually.

Four Annual Reports covering both rural and urban areas giving estimates of all important parameters of employment and unemployment in both usual status (ps+ss) and current weekly status (CWS) have been released. These four Annual Reports are brought out on the basis of data collected in PLFS during July 2017- June 2018, July 2018-June 2019, July 2019-June 2020 and July 2020-June 2021.

Now the fifth Annual Report is being brought out by NSSO on the basis of Periodic Labour Force Survey conducted during July 2021-June 2022.

B. PLFS fieldwork during COVID-19 pandemic

Due to the 2nd wave of COVID-19 pandemic related restrictions, the field work of PLFS was suspended for the second time in April 2021 in most parts of the country. The field work was gradually resumed in the first week of June 2021. This therefore had some spill-over effect in completion of the field work in respect of the allotted samples for different quarters of the survey period July 2021 – June 2022 which is covered in the present Annual Report. For the schedules which were canvassed later, after resumption of field work, the information was collected with respect to the actual reference period which would have been adopted had there been no pandemic. Thus, there was no break in the flow of information collected for any quarter except that informants were approached at a later date due to the unavoidable situation. Field work for collection of information in respect of the FSUs allotted for the last quarter April-June 2022 was completed by 04.07.2022 (for first visit samples) and 30.06.2022 (for revisit samples).

C. Sample Design of PLFS

1. A rotational panel sampling design has been used in urban areas. In this rotational panel scheme, each, selected household in urban areas is visited four times, in the beginning with 'First Visit Schedule' and thrice periodically later with a 'Revisit Schedule'. In urban area, samples for a panel within each stratum were drawn in the form of two independent sub-samples. The scheme of rotation ensures that 75% of the first-stage sampling units (FSUs)¹ are matched between two consecutive visits. There was no revisit in the rural samples. For rural areas, samples for a stratum/sub-stratum were drawn randomly in the form of two independent sub-samples. For rural areas, in each quarter of the survey period, 25% FSUs of annual allocation were covered.

D. Sampling method

2. **Sample Size for First Visit during July 2021 - June 2022 in rural and urban areas for the Annual Report:** Out of the total number of 12,800 FSUs (7,024 villages and 5,776 UFS blocks) allotted for the survey at the all-India level during July 2021 - June 2022, a total of 12,733 FSUs (6,988 villages and 5,745 urban blocks) were surveyed for canvassing the PLFS schedule (Schedule 10.4). The number of households surveyed was 1,01,782 (55,895 in rural areas and 45,887 in urban areas) and number of persons surveyed was 4,28,525 (2,49,175 in rural areas and 1,79,350 in urban areas). Among the persons surveyed, total number of persons of age 15 years and above was 3,27,081 (1,85,551 in rural areas and 1,41,530 in urban areas).

3. **Conceptual Framework of Key Employment and Unemployment Indicators:** The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) gives estimates of Key employment and unemployment Indicators like, the Labour Force Participation Rates (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR), Unemployment Rate (UR), etc. These indicators, and the 'Usual Status' and 'Current Weekly Status' are defined as follows:

- (a) **Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR):** LFPR is defined as the percentage of persons in labour force (i.e. working or seeking or available for work) in the population.
- (b) **Worker Population Ratio (WPR):** WPR is defined as the percentage of employed persons in the population.
- (c) **Unemployment Rate (UR):** UR is defined as the percentage of persons unemployed among the persons in the labour force.
- (d) **Activity Status- Usual Status:** The activity status of a person is determined on the basis of the activities pursued by the person during the specified reference period. When the activity status is determined on the basis of the reference period of last 365 days preceding the date of survey, it is known as the usual activity status of the person.
- (e) **Activity Status- Current Weekly Status (CWS):** The activity status determined on the basis of a reference period of last 7 days preceding the date of survey is known as the current weekly status (CWS) of the person.

The Annual Report on PLFS 2021-22 is available at the website of the Ministry (<https://mospi.gov.in>). The key results are given in the statements annexed.

¹Villages and urban blocks are the smallest area units taken as first-stage sampling units (FSU) in rural and urban areas respectively.

Key Findings of PLFS, Annual Report 2021 - 2022

Statement 1: LFPR, WPR and UR (in per cent) in usual status (ps+ss)* during PLFS, 2021-22, 2020-21 and 2019-20 for persons of age 15 years and above

| Indicator | Rural | | | Urban | | | Rural+Urban | | | all-India |
|--|-------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|--------|-----------|
| | male | female | person | male | female | person | male | female | person | |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) | (10) | |
| PLFS 2021-22 | | | | | | | | | | |
| LFPR | 78.2 | 36.6 | 57.5 | 74.7 | 23.8 | 49.7 | 77.2 | 32.8 | 55.2 | |
| WPR | 75.3 | 35.8 | 55.6 | 70.4 | 21.9 | 46.6 | 73.8 | 31.7 | 52.9 | |
| UR | 3.8 | 2.1 | 3.2 | 5.8 | 7.9 | 6.3 | 4.4 | 3.3 | 4.1 | |
| PLFS 2020-21 | | | | | | | | | | |
| LFPR | 78.1 | 36.5 | 57.4 | 74.6 | 23.2 | 49.1 | 77.0 | 32.5 | 54.9 | |
| WPR | 75.1 | 35.8 | 55.5 | 70.0 | 21.2 | 45.8 | 73.5 | 31.4 | 52.6 | |
| UR | 3.8 | 2.1 | 3.3 | 6.1 | 8.6 | 6.7 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 4.2 | |
| PLFS 2019-20 | | | | | | | | | | |
| LFPR | 77.9 | 33.0 | 55.5 | 74.6 | 23.3 | 49.3 | 76.8 | 30.0 | 53.5 | |
| WPR | 74.4 | 32.2 | 53.3 | 69.9 | 21.3 | 45.8 | 73.0 | 28.7 | 50.9 | |
| UR | 4.5 | 2.6 | 3.9 | 6.4 | 8.9 | 6.9 | 5.0 | 4.2 | 4.8 | |
| <p><i>Note: *(ps+ss) determined considering both principal activity status and subsidiary economic activity status</i></p> <p><i>2021-22 refers to the period July 2021 – June 2022 and likewise for 2020-21 and 2019-20</i></p> | | | | | | | | | | |

Principal activity status (ps) - The activity status on which a person spent relatively long time (major time criterion) during 365 days preceding the date of survey, was considered the usual principal activity status of the person.

Subsidiary economic activity status (ss)- The activity status in which a person in addition to his/her usual principal status, performs some economic activity for 30 days or more for the reference period of 365 days preceding the date of survey, was considered the subsidiary economic status of the person.

Statement 2: LFPR, WPR and UR (in per cent) in Current Weekly Status (CWS)* during PLFS, 2021-22, 2020-21 and 2019-20 for persons of age 15 years and above

| Indicator | Rural | | | Urban | | | Rural+Urban | | | all-India |
|---|-------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|--------|-----------|
| | male | female | person | male | female | person | male | female | person | |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) | (10) | |
| PLFS 2021-22 | | | | | | | | | | |
| LFPR | 76.7 | 29.2 | 53.0 | 74.2 | 22.1 | 48.6 | 75.9 | 27.2 | 51.7 | |
| WPR | 71.7 | 27.9 | 49.9 | 68.4 | 19.9 | 44.6 | 70.7 | 25.6 | 48.3 | |
| UR | 6.5 | 4.5 | 6.0 | 7.8 | 9.9 | 8.3 | 6.9 | 5.8 | 6.6 | |
| PLFS 2020-21 | | | | | | | | | | |
| LFPR | 76.7 | 30.0 | 53.4 | 73.8 | 21.7 | 48.0 | 75.8 | 27.5 | 51.8 | |
| WPR | 71.2 | 28.6 | 50.0 | 66.8 | 19.0 | 43.1 | 69.9 | 25.7 | 47.9 | |
| UR | 7.1 | 4.8 | 6.5 | 9.4 | 12.2 | 10.1 | 7.8 | 6.6 | 7.5 | |
| PLFS 2019-20 | | | | | | | | | | |
| LFPR | 76.7 | 28.3 | 52.5 | 73.8 | 22.1 | 48.2 | 75.8 | 26.3 | 51.2 | |
| WPR | 70.1 | 26.7 | 48.4 | 66.0 | 19.4 | 43.0 | 68.8 | 24.4 | 46.7 | |
| UR | 8.7 | 5.5 | 7.8 | 10.5 | 12.4 | 11.0 | 9.3 | 7.3 | 8.8 | |
| <p><i>Note: *CWS: activity status determined on the basis of a reference period of last 7 days preceding the date of survey</i></p> <p><i>2021-22 refers to the period July 2021 – June 2022 and likewise for 2020-21 and 2019-20</i></p> | | | | | | | | | | |

Statement 3: WPRs (in per cent) in usual status (ps+ss) by different levels of education among persons of age 15 years and above during PLFS 2021-22, 2020-21 and 2019-20

all-India

| category of persons | highest level of education successfully completed | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------|--------|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------|------|
| | not literate | literate & upto primary | middle | secondary | higher secondary | diploma/certificate course | graduate | post graduate & above | secondary & above | all |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) | (10) | (11) |
| PLFS 2021-22 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rural | | | | | | | | | | |
| male | 77.3 | 86.9 | 78.3 | 65.1 | 61.1 | 76.3 | 75.6 | 83.9 | 67.0 | 75.3 |
| female | 43.7 | 43.4 | 30.6 | 23.0 | 20.9 | 50.5 | 25.7 | 35.3 | 23.7 | 35.8 |
| person | 55.3 | 65.2 | 57.6 | 47.5 | 44.0 | 69.7 | 56.3 | 64.3 | 49.3 | 55.6 |
| Urban | | | | | | | | | | |
| male | 72.9 | 82.9 | 74.9 | 61.5 | 55.8 | 76.2 | 71.7 | 80.5 | 65.9 | 70.4 |
| female | 24.0 | 26.5 | 18.8 | 13.8 | 13.8 | 41.3 | 25.9 | 37.4 | 20.9 | 21.9 |
| person | 39.6 | 53.5 | 48.9 | 39.7 | 36.4 | 67.0 | 51.8 | 59.2 | 45.7 | 46.6 |
| Rural+Urban | | | | | | | | | | |
| male | 76.6 | 86 | 77.5 | 64 | 59.3 | 76.3 | 73.6 | 81.8 | 66.6 | 73.8 |
| female | 40.4 | 39.2 | 27.3 | 19.9 | 18.2 | 46.3 | 25.8 | 36.8 | 22.5 | 31.7 |
| person | 52.8 | 62.4 | 55.3 | 45 | 41.3 | 68.5 | 53.9 | 60.9 | 47.8 | 52.9 |
| PLFS 2020-21 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rural | | | | | | | | | | |
| male | 80.3 | 87.2 | 77.9 | 64.6 | 58.6 | 74.9 | 72.5 | 79.3 | 65.0 | 75.1 |
| female | 43.5 | 42.6 | 31.7 | 23.8 | 19.3 | 40.0 | 23.5 | 38.1 | 23.1 | 35.8 |
| person | 56.1 | 65.1 | 58.1 | 47.5 | 42.4 | 64.9 | 53.5 | 62.6 | 48.0 | 55.5 |
| Urban | | | | | | | | | | |
| male | 75.3 | 81.5 | 74.8 | 62.5 | 53.8 | 73.1 | 71.7 | 78.2 | 65.1 | 70.0 |
| female | 25.5 | 24.7 | 18.3 | 13.1 | 13.1 | 38.2 | 23.6 | 36.9 | 19.6 | 21.2 |
| person | 41.3 | 51.5 | 48.7 | 39.9 | 35.0 | 63.4 | 50.3 | 57.8 | 44.6 | 45.8 |
| Rural+Urban | | | | | | | | | | |
| male | 79.5 | 85.9 | 77.1 | 63.9 | 57.0 | 74.0 | 72.1 | 78.6 | 65.1 | 73.5 |
| female | 40.3 | 37.9 | 27.8 | 20.0 | 16.9 | 39.1 | 23.5 | 37.3 | 21.5 | 31.4 |
| person | 53.6 | 61.7 | 55.5 | 44.9 | 39.7 | 64.2 | 51.8 | 59.4 | 46.5 | 52.6 |
| PLFS 2019-20 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rural | | | | | | | | | | |
| male | 79.6 | 86.5 | 76.6 | 64.4 | 57.6 | 73.4 | 69.0 | 78.3 | 63.9 | 74.4 |
| female | 39.4 | 36.3 | 27.4 | 21.6 | 18.1 | 38.6 | 21.1 | 38.3 | 21.3 | 32.2 |
| person | 53.3 | 62.3 | 55.3 | 46.8 | 41.2 | 63.9 | 50.9 | 61.8 | 46.8 | 53.3 |
| Urban | | | | | | | | | | |
| male | 75.8 | 81.9 | 74.3 | 62.7 | 54.5 | 72.9 | 70.1 | 78.4 | 65.0 | 69.9 |
| female | 25.2 | 23.6 | 17.8 | 12.0 | 12.7 | 37.8 | 26.0 | 38.1 | 20.2 | 21.3 |
| person | 41.7 | 51.2 | 47.6 | 40.3 | 35.3 | 63.7 | 50.4 | 58.5 | 45.0 | 45.8 |
| Rural+Urban | | | | | | | | | | |
| male | 78.9 | 85.4 | 76.0 | 63.8 | 56.5 | 73.1 | 69.6 | 78.4 | 64.4 | 73.0 |
| female | 36.8 | 32.8 | 24.4 | 18.0 | 15.8 | 38.2 | 24.1 | 38.1 | 20.8 | 28.7 |
| person | 51.3 | 59.5 | 53.0 | 44.5 | 38.8 | 63.8 | 50.6 | 59.5 | 46.0 | 50.9 |

2021-22 refers to the period July 2021 – June 2022 and likewise for 2020-21 and 2019-20

Note: Detailed Results are available at the website of the Ministry (www.mospi.gov.in.)

2. Some Additional Indicators from PLFS for 2021 [January, 2021 – December, 2021] and 2022 [January, 2022 – December, 2022]

In the Annual Reports of PLFS, estimates of labour market indicators are presented on the basis of the data collected during the period July of a year to June of the next year, e.g., in the Annual Report, PLFS, 2021-22 estimates are presented based on data collected during July 2021 - June 2022.

The samples of First Stage Units (FSU) of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) canvassed during the period July of one year to June of the next year are independently drawn for each quarter before commencement of the survey. Since the quarterly samples are drawn independently, estimates of labour force indicators for a calendar year have been obtained by combining the data of four quarters of the calendar year. For example, the samples for the four quarters, namely, January – March 2022, April-June 2022, July – September 2022 and October – December 2022 of the calendar year 2022 have been combined to produce the estimates of key labour market indicators for the calendar year 2022. The estimates are derived on the basis of the data collected during first visit of the survey.

Sample Size for First Visit during January 2021 - December 2021 in rural and urban areas for the estimates of 2021: A total of 12,686 FSUs (6,977 villages and 5,709 urban blocks) were surveyed for canvassing the PLFS schedule (Schedule 10.4). The number of households surveyed was 1,01,373 (55,797 in rural areas and 45,576 in urban areas) and number of persons surveyed was 4,21,142 (2,43,408 in rural areas and 1,77,734 in urban areas). Among the persons surveyed, total number of persons of age 15 years and above was 3,22,772 (1,82,143 in rural areas and 1,40,629 in urban areas).

Sample Size for First Visit during January 2022 - December 2022 in rural and urban areas for the estimates of 2022: A total of 12,749 FSUs (6,999 villages and 5,750 urban blocks) were surveyed for canvassing the PLFS schedule (Schedule 10.4). The number of households surveyed was 1,01,934 (55,983 in rural areas and 45,951 in urban areas) and number of persons surveyed was 4,24,521 (2,46,888 in rural areas and 1,77,633 in urban areas). Among the persons surveyed, total number of persons of age 15 years and above was 3,23,876 (1,83,393 in rural areas and 1,40,483 in urban areas). Calendar year estimates for January 2022 to December 2022 do not have the data pertaining to Lakshadweep for the period July 2022 to December 2022 as the survey could not be carried out during this period.

2.1 Key Indicators of Labour market from PLFS 2021 and 2022

In Statements 4 and 5, estimates of key labour market indicators viz. Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR) and Unemployment Rate (UR) are presented based on the data collected in PLFS during the calendar year January – December 2022. The estimates are presented in both Usual Status (ps+ss) and Current Weekly Status (CWS) for persons of age 15 years and above.

Statement 4: LFPR, WPR and UR (in per cent) in usual status (ps+ss)* from PLFS conducted during January 2021 – December 2021 and January 2022 – December 2022 for persons of age 15 years and above

| Indicator | all-India | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|--------|
| | Rural | | | Urban | | | Rural+Urban | | |
| | male | female | person | male | female | person | male | female | person |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) | (10) |
| January 2021 – December 2021 | | | | | | | | | |
| LFPR | 78.5 | 36.8 | 57.6 | 74.9 | 23.2 | 49.4 | 77.4 | 32.8 | 55.2 |
| WPR | 75.5 | 36.0 | 55.7 | 70.4 | 21.3 | 46.2 | 74.0 | 31.7 | 52.9 |
| UR | 3.8 | 2.1 | 3.3 | 6.0 | 8.2 | 6.5 | 4.5 | 3.4 | 4.2 |
| January 2022 – December 2022 | | | | | | | | | |
| LFPR | 79.5 | 37.5 | 58.5 | 74.3 | 24.7 | 50.0 | 78.0 | 33.9 | 56.1 |
| WPR | 77.1 | 36.7 | 56.9 | 70.4 | 22.8 | 47.0 | 75.1 | 32.8 | 54.1 |
| UR | 3.1 | 2.1 | 2.8 | 5.3 | 7.7 | 5.9 | 3.7 | 3.3 | 3.6 |
| Note: *(ps+ss) determined considering both principal activity status and subsidiary economic activity status | | | | | | | | | |

Statement 5: LFPR, WPR and UR (in per cent) in Current Weekly Status (CWS)* from PLFS conducted during January 2022 – December 2022 for persons of age 15 years and above

| Indicator | all-India | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|--------|
| | Rural | | | Urban | | | Rural+Urban | | |
| | male | female | person | male | female | person | male | female | person |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) | (10) |
| January 2021 – December 2021 | | | | | | | | | |
| LFPR | 77.0 | 29.7 | 53.3 | 74.3 | 21.7 | 48.4 | 76.2 | 27.3 | 51.8 |
| WPR | 71.5 | 28.3 | 49.8 | 67.7 | 19.3 | 43.8 | 70.4 | 25.6 | 48.0 |
| UR | 7.1 | 4.7 | 6.4 | 9.0 | 10.9 | 9.4 | 7.7 | 6.1 | 7.3 |
| January 2022 – December 2022 | | | | | | | | | |
| LFPR | 78.0 | 30.7 | 54.4 | 73.8 | 23.2 | 48.9 | 76.8 | 28.6 | 52.8 |
| WPR | 74.0 | 29.3 | 51.7 | 68.6 | 21.0 | 45.2 | 72.4 | 27.0 | 49.8 |
| UR | 5.2 | 4.4 | 5.0 | 7.0 | 9.4 | 7.6 | 5.7 | 5.6 | 5.7 |
| Note: *CWS: activity status determined on the basis of a reference period of last 7 days preceding the date of survey | | | | | | | | | |

2.2 Some Additional Indicators in Current Weekly Status (CWS) from PLFS 2021 [January, 2021 – December, 2021] and 2022 [January, 2022 – December, 2022]

| Srl. No. | Description of the Indicator | Estimate of Indicator (in per cent) | | | | | |
|----------|---|-------------------------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------------|-------|---------------|
| | | Jan, 2021 – Dec, 2021 | | | Jan, 2022 – Dec, 2022 | | |
| | | Rural | Urban | Rural + Urban | Rural | Urban | Rural + Urban |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) |
| 1 | Ratio of female workers to male workers working as Legislators, Senior officials and Managers (age group: 15 years and above) | 22.5 | 17.6 | 20.0 | 19.5 | 18.6 | 19.0 |
| 2 | Ratio of female workers to male workers working as Professionals and Technical Workers (age group: 15 years and above) | 49.9 | 45.4 | 47.3 | 49.7 | 44.4 | 46.5 |
| 3 | Percentage of female employed with advanced degree among total employed (age group: 25 years and above) | 1.3 | 5.9 | 2.5 | 1.2 | 6.4 | 2.6 |

Clarification on the indicators:

- Indicators at srl. no. 1 and 2 is for persons of age 15 years and above and based on the information on occupation collected using the National Classification of Occupation (NCO). For collection of occupation information for the survey period January 2021 – June 2021, NCO-2004 was used and for July 2021 – December 2021, NCO-2015 was used. For collection of occupation information for the survey period January 2022 - December 2022, NCO-2015 was used.
- Indicator at srl. no. 3 is for female of age 25 years and above and based on the information on highest level of education successfully completed. The highest level of education 'graduation' and/or 'post graduation and above' have been considered.
