

# Sri Lanka - Labour Force Survey - 2006

**Department of Census and Statistics - Ministry of Finance and Planning**

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# Overview

## Identification

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### **ID NUMBER**

LKA-DCS-LFS-2006-v1.0

## Version

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### **VERSION DESCRIPTION**

v1.0: Full edited dataset, original version for internal DPD use.

### **PRODUCTION DATE**

2008-04-04

## Overview

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### **ABSTRACT**

The employment/unemployment data are required at very short intervals to monitor the program made in the employment generating policies of the government. To satisfy this need, Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey was designed as a quarterly basis survey to measure the levels and trends of employment, unemployment and labour force in Sri Lanka. Thus the survey is repeated four times each year (in most years) since the first quarter of 1990.

Key objectives of the survey

- To study the economically active / inactive population.
- To analyze employment by major industry group and employment status.
- To determine unemployment rates by level of education and by age group
- To study the informal sector employment.
- To determine the underemployment rates by sector and by major industries

In January 2006, significant improvements have been made to the survey schedule in such aspects as literacy, household economic activities, informal sector employment, underemployment etc. The survey has been started only in February for 2006 in the Northern and the Eastern Provinces but sufficient information could not be collected. Therefore the national level estimates were worked out without taking those two Districts into account.

### **KIND OF DATA**

Sample survey data [ssd]

### **UNITS OF ANALYSIS**

Individuals from the population aged 10 years or more

## Scope

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### **NOTES**

The scope of LFS 2006 includes the following key sections:-

- 1). Identification Information
- 2). Control Data
- 3). Personal Information

## 4). Information on Labour Force

Identification and Personal Information are as follows:-

## Identification Information

- Address, Province, District, D.S. Division, G. N. Division, Sector, Name of MC/UC/PS
- Name of Ward/Village/Estate, Census Block Number, Sample Reference Number
- Survey Quarter, Number of households, Name of the Head of the household
- Identifications of Interviewers & Supervising Officers

## Personal Information

- Relationship to Head of Household, Gender, Age, Ethnic Group, Religion, Marital Status
- Educational Attainment, Attendance at Schooling or other Educational Institution
- Professional / Technical Training, Persons who are working abroad

**TOPICS**

Topic	Vocabulary	URI
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT [3]	CESSDA	<a href="http://www.nesstar.org/rdf/common">http://www.nesstar.org/rdf/common</a>

## Coverage

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**GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE**

National coverage[Excluding the Northern and the Eastern Provinces].

**UNIVERSE**

Working age population (10 years and above) living in the non-institutional households in Sri Lanka

## Producers and Sponsors

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**PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)**

Name	Affiliation
Department of Census and Statistics	Ministry of Finance and Planning

**OTHER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Name	Affiliation	Role

## Metadata Production

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**METADATA PRODUCED BY**

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Department of Census and Statistics	DCS	Ministry of Finance & Planning	Data Collection

**DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION**

2008-04-04

**DDI DOCUMENT VERSION**

Version 1.0 ( April 2008 ).

**DDI DOCUMENT ID**  
DDI-LKA-DCS-LFS-2006-v1.0

# Sampling

## Sampling Procedure

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### 2.1 Sampling plan and the sampling frame

A two stage stratified sampling procedure was adopted to select a sample of 22,000 housing units to be enumerated in the survey. The master sampling frame prepared for 2001 - Census of Population and Housing was used as the sampling frame for the selection of sample for the Labour Force Survey 2006.

### 2.2 Sample size

The quarterly survey was conducted since 1990 using a sample of 2,000 housing units per quarter in areas other than North and East, and the sample size was increased to 4,000 housing units per quarter 1996 and continued thereafter. However, in 1992 and 1997, an annual sample of 20,000 housing units was selected to give reliable district level estimates. In 2004 again 20,000 housing units were selected for the survey. However, in order to provide district level estimates precisely, it was decided to use 20,000 - 25,000 housing units as the annual sample. As such, in 2006, the annual sample of 22,000 housing units was selected.

### 2.3 Sample Allocation

Allocation of 2,000 Primary Sampling Units (PSU's) for the Districts and sectors were done using the Neymann Allocation procedure. In other words, the allocation of PSU's to strata was disproportionate, designed to produce estimates of acceptable reliability for each area for which separate estimates were needed. Then The District sample was equally distributed among the 12 monthly rounds. Table 1 gives the sample distributions by District for year 2006.

Table 1: Sample allocation by District - 2006

District	Housing Units	District	Housing Units
Total	22,000	Mulatiwe	360
Colombo	2,030	Killinochchi	360
Gampaha	1,920	Batticaloa	480
Kalutara	1,210	Ampara	840
Kandy	1,400	Trncomalee	360
Matale	610	Kurunegala	1,680
Nuwara-eliya	580	Puttlam	840
Galle	1,200	Anuradhapura	960
Matara	960	Polonnaruwa	480
Hambantota	840	Badulla	860
Jaffna	720	Moneragala	480
Mannar	360	Ratnapura	1,160
Vavuiya	360	Kegalle	950

### 2.4 Selection of Primary Sampling Units (PSU)

Primary sampling units are the census blocks prepared for the Census of Population and Housing - 2001. The sample frame, which is a collection of all census blocks in the domain, was used for the selection of primary sampling units. A sample of 2,200 primary sampling units was selected from the sampling frame for the 2006 labour force survey.

### 2.5 Selection of Secondary Sampling Units (SSU)

Secondary Sampling Units are the housing units in the selected 2,200 primary sampling units (census blocks). From each primary sampling unit 10 housing units (SSU) were selected for the survey.

# Questionnaires

## Overview

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### Survey Schedule

Current survey concepts and methods are very similar to those introduced at the beginning of the survey in 1990. However, some changes have been made over the years to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the data.

In the beginning of January 2006, some significant improvements were made to the labour force survey schedule in order to fulfill the requirements of its users and also to provide additional information for the planning purposes. This was done after carefully reviewing of the LFS schedule with the Assistance of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Adviser. The revision was made focusing on literacy, household economic activities, informal sector employment and underemployment etc. This revised version was introduced for the survey conducted in 2006 first quarter, and it will be used in future as well.

## Data Collection

### Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2006-01-01	2006-12-31	12 months

### Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

#### DATA COLLECTION NOTES

##### Field Work

The field work of the survey for the year 2006 was done in all 12 months from January to December 2006. Listing operation went along for a period of 12 months starting from November 2005 to October 2006. For each primary sampling unit, updating was done, about two months prior to the scheduled interviewing. As such, for example, the census blocks which were surveyed in April, were updated in February.

Statistical officers of the DCS were involved in the listing operation prior to the survey and also in the survey data collection operation. Each statistical officer is responsible of doing all statistical activities in a Divisional Secretariat office to which she/he is attached. These officers were given a thorough training before they were entrusted with the survey operations. In each district, there is an officer who is in charge of the statistical activities in the district

### Data Collectors

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation
Department of Census and Statistics	DCS	Ministry of Finance and Planning

#### SUPERVISION

##### Field supervision

Senior officers of the DCS visited the district to check whether enumerators have done their work properly. These supervising officers were expected to submit their reports to the heads of the relevant divisions based on their observations.

# Data Processing

## Other Processing

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Data was processed in district -wise batches and filed separately with different file names.

Data processing included the following steps.

1. Counting and accepting the filled questionnaires by the DP Division
2. Do a visual check for completeness
3. Preliminary editing and marking codes
4. Entry of data
5. Run edit program for each District batch
6. Produce error report and return to the Survey office
7. Correction of errors on the report
8. Change incorrect data using the corrected error report
9. Re-run the edit program and repeat the error correction procedure
10. Consolidate all clean batch files to form the master file and update same with code labels
11. Produce final tables on clean data (updated with sample weights) with a backup of clean data.



## **Data Appraisal**

### **Estimates of Sampling Error**

The estimation procedure is given in the section 2.6 in the Annual Report.

The Annual Report is attached in the External Resources Section.

### **Other forms of Data Appraisal**

The adjustments for non-response is given in the section 2.7 in the Annual Report.

The Annual Report is attached in the External Resources Section.