

**INTERVIEWERS INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SURVEY ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PERSONS WITH HEALTH PROBLEMS (2011 AD HOC MODULE)**

The main purpose of the ad hoc module on employment of persons with health problems is to collect information on the situation in the labour market of persons with health problems.

Survey questions are addressed to persons 15 – 64 years old who participate in the Labour Force Survey for the 2nd Quarter 2011.

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All Persons born from 1947 to 1995 are included in the survey. If a person was born in 1946 is included only if was born after the reference week while if a person was born in 1996 is included if was born before reference week

The survey includes the following questions:

Question 1: Do you have any of the following health problems or disease?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 01. Problems with arms or hands (which includes arthritis or rheumatism) 02. Problems with legs or feet (which includes arthritis or rheumatism) 03. Problems with back or neck (which includes arthritis or rheumatism) 04. Cancer 05. Skin conditions, including allergic reactions and severe disfigurement 06. Heart, blood pressure or circulation problems 07. Chest or breathing problems, including asthma and bronchitis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 08. Stomach, liver, kidney or digestive problems 09. Diabetes 10. Epilepsy (include fits) 11. Severe headache such as migraine 12. Learning difficulties (reading, spelling or math disability) 13. Chronic anxiety 14. Depression 15. Other mental, nervous or emotional problems 16. Other progressive illnesses (which include multiple sclerosis, HIV, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease) 17. Other longstanding health problems |
|---|--|

Yes..... 1→ Q. 2
 No..... 2→ Q. 7

The purpose of this question is to identify if the respondent has any (one or more) longstanding health problem or disease. The main criterion to consider a problems as longstanding, is to have a duration of at least 6 months. As a consequence, a problem with shorter duration – no matter how serious it is – should not be included here.

Examples:

1. A persons is diagnosed with diabetes before 2 months. In that case, and despite the fact that the duration of the problem till now is less than 6 months, the answer to Question 1 should be YES because the problem is chronic.
2. A person was injured in a traffic accident 5 months before the interview. The treatment for the injuries is completed but the person will have for all his life a health problem (for example, in his legs). The answer in Question 1 should be YES.

3. A person was injured in a traffic accident 10 months before the interview. The treatment for the injuries lasted 8 months and now the persons has no problem. The answer in Question 1 is NO.

We should note that:

- Certain health problems are periodic (for example, back pain, migraine, epilepsy) followed by periods of remission. If the problem is recurring it should be considered as longstanding and reported.
- A person can give an affirmative answer in Question 1 even if there is no “official” diagnosis of the problem. We are interested in the respondents opinion about heaving (or not) a health problem
- A person can have a health problem which is not causing important problems or is under control because of medical treatment – for example, a diabetic who takes insulin and feels completely healthy. Since the good condition depends on the treatment the problem should be reported.

Question 2. Which of the longstanding health problems that you have do you consider as being the most severe? Please indicate maximum 2, starting with the most severe one

Code of the most severe problem..... | _ | _ |

Code of the second most severe problem..... | _ | _ |

If the respondent suffers from more than 1 problem, will ask him to declare which one considers as more severe and which one considers as the second more severe. These 2 problems must be coded in Question 2 using the relevant codes from Question 1. For example, if the respondent believes that the most important health problem he suffers is migraine and the second most severe problem is back pain, then the first code that will be used in Question 2 is 11 and the second is 03.

Question 3: Does this health problem (or problems) limit the number of hours you can work?

Yes..... 1

No..... 2

Question 4 Does this health problem (or problems) limit the kind of job you can do (for example, if you are not able to do a manual job or to work many hours with a computer, etc.)?

Yes..... 1

No..... 2

Question 5: Does this health problem (or problems) limit you (or would pose limits if you were working) in getting to and from work?

Yes..... 1

Questions 3 – 6b should be addressed to all persons that answer that they suffer from a health problem in Question 1.

These Questions want to investigate if the respondent faces limitations concerning the number of hours he/she can work, or in the type of job that can perform or with the transportation to and from work. Additionally, we want to see if the person is using (or would have to use) in his/her job special assistance or arrangements because of the health problem.

Examples:

1. A person has a problem with the back. The person is working as a security guard in a factory and the health problem is not causing him any inconvenience in the job. The answer in Question 4 should be 2 (NO)
2. A person has a problem with the back. The person was working in the constructions but now, due to the health problem, is working as a security guard in a factory. The answer in Question 1 should be 1 (YES)
3. A person suffers from kidney failure. The person is looking for a part time job because every 4 days has to undergo dialysis. The answer in Question 3 should be 1 (YES)
4. A person is bound in a wheel chair. The person is working as a translator in his home. Nevertheless, in Question 5 should answer with 1 (YES) because the health problem demands (and is actually using) special arrangements in order to get to and from work.

We should note that the limitations may be caused by any health problem and not only by the one that was reported as most severe. For example, a person can consider high blood pressure as her most important health problem. This particular problem may cause no limitation in her job, but it may be the case that the same person is limited in the transportation to work due to a problem in legs (which is considered by her as the second important problem).

Question 6a. Do you use any of the following in order to work, because of your health problem (or problems)?

1. Personal assistance in the job: Yes..... 1 No... 2

2. Special equipment or workplace adaptations: Yes..... 1 No... 2

3. special working arrangements (for example, sedentary job, tele-working,
flexible hours, less strenuous work: Yes..... 1 No... 2

Question 6b. Does this most severe problem has as consequence to need any of the following in order to be able to work?

1. Personal assistance in the job: Yes..... 1 No... 2

2. Special equipment or workplace adaptations: Yes..... 1 No... 2

3. special working arrangements (for example, sedentary job, tele-working,
flexible hours, less strenuous work: Yes..... 1 No... 2

Questions 6a and 6b are similar, and investigate if the person needs special arrangements in order to work because of the health problem (or problems).

Question 6a is addressed only to persons that are working. We note that in order to answer yes, the respondent must actually use special help (or equipment, etc) in the work place. In Question 6b (which is addressed to persons that are not working) we want to know if any special help, equipment or arrangement in the work place is necessary for the person in order to be able to work.

Examples

1. A person is working as a programmer in public sector. He suffers from multiple sclerosis and faces important problems going to his job (but nevertheless he manage to go). It would be quite helpful if this person could work in his home (teleworking) but this is not an option. The answer in Question 6a (2) should be NO.
2. A person (who is not working) is bound in a wheelchair. In order to be able to work a ramp would be necessary in the entrance of the work place. The answer in Question 6b (2) must be YES.

Question 7. Do you have difficulties with any of the following basic everyday activities?

01 Problem with seeing, even if wearing glasses

02 Problem with hearing, even if using a hearing aid

03 Problem to walk or to climb steps

04 Problem to sit or with standing

05 Problem to remembering or concentrate

06 Problem with communicating, for example understanding or being understood

07 Problem with reaching or stretching

08 Problem with lifting and carrying objects

09 Problem with Bending

10 Holding, gripping, or turning objects

Yes..... 1→ Q. 8
No..... 2→ Q. 13

With Question 7 we want to investigate if the person has difficulties with basic everyday activities. As with the health problems or diseases, these difficulties must be chronic: they should last at least 6 months.

We should note that:

- A person should report a difficulty even if he/she can overcome it with some “technical assistance” (for example, to walk with the help of a stick). The only exception in this rule are difficulties in seeing and hearing which should not be reported when they are tackled with glasses, contact lenses or hearing aid.
- A person can have a health problem (and answer YES in Question 1) that creates a difficulty in an everyday activity – for example, a person can have a breathing problem and, as a consequence to have difficulty in climbing stairs. In that case, the persons should answer YES in Question 7 as well.
- We should take in to account communication problems only when the difficulty is related to the health condition of the person (for example, stuttering). Consequently, a person that can not communicate because does not know the language, should not answer with code 06.



There are three questions in the core questionnaire of Labour Force Survey where the respondent can report a health problem. These questions refer to:

***The reason that the person is working part – time (Question 23a, code 3)
The reason that the person stopped working in his/her last job (Question 51, code 6)
The reason that the person is not looking for a job (Question 56, code 07)***

If the respondent reported illness or disability in any of these questions then we should expect to report a health problem in Question 1 of the ad hoc module or a difficulty in Question 7. Consequently, if he report no problem in both questions we should remind him or her the relevant answer in the core questionnaire and ask for clarification.

Nevertheless, we should not that there is the case that the problem reported in th core questionnaire lasted less than 6 months and consequently the respondent correctly answered no in Questions 1 and 7 of the ad hoc module

Question 8. With which activities you have the most difficulty? Please indicate maximum 2, starting with the most severe one

Code of the activity that causes the worst difficulty|_|_|

Code of the activity that causes the second difficulty|_|_|

If the respondent have more than one difficulties, will ask him to declare which one considers as more severe and which one considers as the second more severe. These two problems must be coded in Question 8 using the relevant codes from Question 7.

We should note that if a person has a difficulty that is caused by another difficulty, should not report two different difficulties. If, for example, the person has a problem to walk because is blind, then only the difficulty with seeing should be reported.

Question 9: Does this difficulty (or difficulties) limit the number of hours you can work?

Yes..... 1
No..... 2

Question 10: Does this difficulty (or difficulties) limit the kind of job you can do (for example, if you are not able to do a manual job or to work many hours with a computer, etc.)?

Yes..... 1
No..... 2

Question 11: Does this difficulty (or difficulties) limit you (or would pose limits if you were working) in getting to and from work?

Yes..... 1
No..... 2

Question 12a. Do you use any of the following in your work, because of this difficulty (or difficulties)?

- 1. Personal assistance in the job: Yes..... 1 No... 2
- 2. Special equipment or workplace adaptations: Yes..... 1 No... 2
- 3. special working arrangements (for example, sedentary job, teleworking, flexible hours, less strenuous work: Yes..... 1 No... 2

Question 12b. Does this difficulty (or difficulties) has as consequence to need any of the following in order to work?

- 1. Personal assistance in the job: Yes..... 1 No... 2
- 2. Special equipment or workplace adaptations: Yes..... 1 No... 2

3. special working arrangements (for example, sedentary job, teleworking,
flexible hours, less strenuous work: Yes..... 1 No... 2

Questions 9 – 12b should be addressed to persons that reported a difficulty in Question 7. These questions are similar to Questions 3 – 6b and the same instructions and clarifications are applicable for them.

Question 13: Apart health problems, there are also other factors that can affect our ability to work. Can you tell me if there is any factor (apart health problems) that limits you in the work you can do? (The limitation can refer to the kind of job, the number of hours you can work, or the transportation to and from job.)

Yes..... 1 → Q. 14
No..... 2 → End

Question 14: Which is the main factor that limits you in the work you can do?

- Lack of qualifications/experience..... 1
- Lack of appropriate job opportunities..... 2
- Lack or poor transportation to and from workplace..... 3
- Employers' lack of flexibility..... 4
- Affects receipt of benefits..... 5
- Family/caring responsibilities..... 6
- Personal reasons..... 7
- Other reason..... 8

Questions 13 and 14 are addressed to all people aged 15 - 64, regardless of whether they have declared a health problem / or difficulty. With these questions we want to see if the respondent have some other problem (different than health problem) that limits him in the job he can do (and in particular, poses limitations in the number of hours he can work or in the type of job he can do or transportation to and from work.

Examples

A young person is looking for a job, but all available jobs require work experience (which he has not). That person can answer with code 1.

A person lives in a small island where jobs are available only during a short period in the summer. That person can answer with code 2.

A person lives in a small community and works in the family business (in agriculture). There are better job opportunities in the nearest big city but that person does not have a car and the public transportation system is problematic. That person can answer with code 3.

A person would start working if he could found a job with flexible working hours but can not find an employer willing to accept such an arrangement. That person can answer with code 4.

A person receives an survivors pension. If the person starts working, she will stop receiving the pension and her income will be practically the same. That person can answer with code 5.

A person is working part time giving private lessons. This person can work full time in a school but can not do that because she has care responsibilities for two young children. That person can answer with code 6.

A person is involved in volunteer activities and has no time to work. That person can answer with code 7.

A person has migrated and has no residence permit. As a result, can work only uninsured. That person can answer with code 8.