

# **Economically Active Population Survey 2021 Methodology.**

**Survey overview**

Madrid, 2021

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## 1 Introduction

The EPAS is a quarterly sampling survey, aimed at the population residing in family dwellings in the national territory. Its purpose is to determine the characteristics of said population in relation to the labour market.

It was started in 1964. From this date until the end of 1968, results were obtained with a quarterly reference. From 1969 to 1974, the time reference was changed to semi-annual, and from 1975 it became quarterly again.

The EPAS is a continuous survey, with interviews distributed evenly throughout the 52 weeks of the year. Until 1998 the month of August was excluded.

The survey has undergone numerous modifications in its methodology and content, derived from the need to adapt to changes in the Spanish labour market, to incorporate the latest advances in the collection and processing of information and to follow international methodological standards for this type of surveys. Whenever a change is made that involves a break in the main series of results, a link of these series is provided.

Among the main changes, worth mentioning that of 1987, the year in which the EPAS questionnaire was modified to adapt to the recommendations of the 1982 International Conference of Labour Statisticians, to incorporate the variables of the European Union Labour Force Survey (on the occasion of the incorporation of Spain into the European Communities in 1986) and to include information on recent developments in the Spanish labour market (increase in part-time work, temporary hiring, etc.).

Another important change in the EPAS occurred in 2002, when a new operational definition of unemployment was applied.

In 2005 there was another substantial methodological change, with the introduction of a new and broader questionnaire, which was more 'friendly' and understandable for the interviewees, and the centralized control of the collection of information by means of a computer-assisted telephone survey. Also from that year on, part of the survey variables began to be collected exclusively in an annual subsample, representative of the average situation for the year, instead of being obtained quarterly. These are the so-called 'annual subsample variables'.

Finally, in 2021 the survey was adapted to the new European regulations that regulate surveys directed at the population and, in particular, the Labour Force Survey:

- Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council of October 10, 2019.
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2240 of December 16, 2019.
- Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2241 of the Commission of December 16, 2019.

- Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2181 of the Commission of December 16, 2019.
- Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/256 of the Commission of December 16, 2019.
- Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/257 of the Commission of December 16, 2019.

Many of the requirements that the new European regulation imposes on a mandatory basis as of 2021 have already been fulfilled in the EPAS for some time. The current figures of the survey develop the methodology established in 2005 with the adaptations of this normative change and others derived from the ILO resolutions of 2013 and 2018, which have been incorporated into the variables of the Labour Force Survey in a harmonised way.

In addition to the modifications described, those foreseen in the design and normal execution of the survey should be added, among which are the periodic updating of the sample and its rotation.

The main characteristics of the survey are briefly described below: its universe, periodicity, field work, definitions, information processing and dissemination formats.

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## 2 Objectives

The main purpose of the Labor Force Survey (EPA) is to understand economic activity with regard to its human component. It is aimed at providing data on the main population categories in relation to the labour market (employed, unemployed, active, inactive) and at obtaining classifications of these categories according to different characteristics. It also makes it possible to produce a uniform time series of results. Finally, since the definitions and criteria used are consistent with those established by international bodies dealing with labour issues, it allows a comparison with data from other countries.

Detailed results are obtained for the nation as a whole. For Autonomous Communities and provinces, information is provided on the main characteristics with the degree of disaggregation provided by the estimator variation coefficient.

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## 3 Need

Although there are other statistical sources that provide information on these topics, all of them have some type of drawback, thereby making a specific survey necessary.

Population Censuses are sources for obtaining information on the workforce, but they have the disadvantage of their distance over time, that the data collection is carried out by self-registration (that is, the interviewee completes the questionnaire themselves), its high cost and the delay in obtaining results due to the large volume of the operation.

The Salary Surveys and Industrial Surveys provide information on only a part of those employed: wage earners; furthermore, they do not include all branches of activity.

Registered Unemployment and Social Security affiliation, like all statistics that come from administrative records, are subject to variable legal regulations, so that, apart from offering information only on a part of the group studied (registered unemployed or employed affiliated to Social Security, respectively), do not allow obtaining homogeneous series.

On the contrary, a labour force survey has the following advantages:

- It can be done continuously with the desired periodicity.
- It allows to deepen in the aspects that are of interest in relation to the workforce, as it is an investigation focused directly on these issues.
- Specialized interviewers are in charge of filling in the questionnaires.
- the results are obtained quickly, as it is a sample survey.
- the definitions and treatment of the information are uniform throughout the successive realizations of the survey, which gives rise to homogeneous series of results.
- Results can be obtained for the national total and for territorial subsets (in the case of the EPA, mainly the autonomous communities and the provinces).

The main drawback stems from its own condition as a sample survey and is not being able to provide information on some characteristics with the greatest possible disaggregation. Thus, for example, the number of assets in each of the sixty divisions of the National Classification of Economic Activities in each province is unreliable, since a greater disaggregation in the information corresponds to a greater sampling error.

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#### **4 Survey Units**

There are two types:

- Sampling. The primary sampling units are the census areas (clearly defined geographical areas). The final units are the dwellings.
- Analysis. Households and persons in the surveyed dwellings are taken as units of analysis.

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#### **5 Geographical scope**

Since its inception (1964) the EPAS has covered the entire national territory, except for Ceuta and Melilla, whose incorporation did not take place until the 2nd quarter of 1988.

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## 6 Population scope

The EAPS targets the population residing in main family dwellings, that is, those used throughout the year or most of it as a habitual or permanent dwelling. Therefore, neither so-called collective households (hospitals, homes, barracks, etc.) nor secondary or seasonal dwellings (summer, weekend, etc.) are considered. It does include, however, families who live in such collective establishments as an independent group (e.g. the director or caretaker of the centre).

In the particular case of families that use two dwellings on a regular basis (the mother, alone or with the children, in one of them and the father in the other, for reasons of work, studies, etc., or entire families using two dwellings at the same time or seasonally), it is considered as the main dwelling that the family itself recognizes as such, surveying all the members of said family.

Finally, it should be noted, with regard to the delimitation of what is considered to be the dwelling object of the survey or *surveyable*, that the generic name of *family dwelling* also includes those whose components do not have family ties

Since 2021, the criteria of residence and that of sharing a common budget among its members have been used as a definition of household in all population surveys. In the event that there is more than one household in the same family dwelling, all of them are surveyed.

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## 7 Reference periods

We will distinguish the following:

1. Reference period of the Survey results. The quarter.
2. Reference period for the information: The week immediately before (Monday to Sunday) the interview according to the calendar. The answers to the questions in the questionnaire will therefore always be expressed in relation to that week. However, there are questions with special reference periods such as:
  - Job search methods, the peculiarities of the working day and those relating to studies that have been followed, refer to the four weeks prior to the Sunday of the reference week.
  - Availability for work refers to the two weeks following the Sunday of the reference week.
  - The age of the interviewee refers to the age on the last day (Sunday) of the reference week. - The same occurs with registration at the Administration's employment office.
  - Question J-1 refers to the previous year.

- In questions about studies carried out that are incorporated as a novelty in a biennial module from 2021 onwards, the year prior to the reference week is used as the reference period.

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## 8 Sample design

For the selection of the sample, a two-stage sampling is used with stratification in the first-stage units for each province.

The first stage units are the **census sections**. These sections are perfectly delimited geographic areas whose population size, according to the Electoral Law, must be between 500 and 2000 voters.

The second stage units are the **main family dwellings** and in them no sub-sampling was carried out, therefore having to interview all the people who reside in them.

Once a home has been selected to be part of the survey, it will remain there for six consecutive quarters, after which it is replaced by another from the same section.

For more information, the document *Design of the survey and evaluation of the quality of the data* can be consulted on the website of the survey.

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## 9 Collection of information

Currently the information capture is carried out as follows:

- In first interviews by personal visit<sup>1</sup> computer-assisted, that is, through what is called the CAPI method (which corresponds to the acronym of the name in English Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing).
- In second and successive interviews (from 2nd to 6th) by means of a computer-assisted telephone call, that is, by means of the CATI method (which corresponds to the abbreviations of the English denomination Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing).
- Since 2020 it is allowed to complete the survey through the Internet or CAWI (Computer Assisted Web Interviewing)

The first interviews are carried out weekly by interviewers from the 52 provincial delegations of the INE.

Also in the provincial delegations, information is collected on those dwellings that, despite being in successive interviews (from 2nd to 6th), show their preference for continuing to collaborate through a personal visit.

The rest of the successive interviews are carried out by telephone from seven CATI centers located in the delegations of: Barcelona, Cádiz, A Coruña, Seville, Valencia,

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<sup>1</sup> Exceptionally, during the pandemic all interviews were conducted by telephone.

Vizcaya and Central Services, with the sample from the entire national territory being distributed among these centers.

Subsequently, the information collected is transmitted to Central Services for further processing.

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## 9.1 PROCESSING OF INCIDENTS IN HOMES

We will distinguish, depending on the type of incident, the following cases:

### **Empty house, seasonal or dedicated to other purposes.**

They are not revisited in subsequent quarters.

### **Inaccessible housing or absent human group.**

Depending on the characteristics of the section, the contacts (telephone or personal) with the home are repeated at different times and on different days. As a general rule, these contacts should be made as soon as possible and, in any case, respecting the closing date of the quarterly survey.

### **Negative**

All persons 16 or more years of a house refuse to collaborate. The refusal questionnaire will be completed for any human group that refuses to collaborate for the first time.

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## 9.2 DETERMINATION OF SURVEYABLE PERSONS

When a dwelling selected in the sample is inhabited, the human group that resides in it is analysed.

The people that make up the human group are classified as surveyable or non-surveyable, according to the criteria set out below, the main objective of which is to prevent a person from being interviewed in two dwellings.

### **A.- Persons Present in the home**

#### **- Provisionally surveyable:**

- . If it is their usual main residence.
- . If they are in joint custody.
- . If they spend seasonal time with children
- . If they are internal workers in the home.

#### **- Not surveyable:**

- . If they are temporarily displaced for studies.



. If they are temporarily displaced for work and are not internal workers in the home.

. If they are temporarily displaced for different reasons.

#### **B.- Persons absent in the home**

##### **- Provisionally surveyable:**

. If they are temporarily displaced for studies.

. If they are temporarily displaced for work and are not internal workers in another home.

. If they are temporarily absent for different reasons.

##### **- Not surveyable:**

. If they are in joint custody.

. If they spend seasonal time with children

. If the absence is definitive.

#### **Determination of the place where persons are interviewed according to casuistry:**

1. **Internal workers** dedicated to domestic services (cooks, maids, drivers, etc.) are always surveyed in the **home where they work**. As such, they will not be surveyable in their family homes.

2. **Persons temporarily** displaced elsewhere, such as:

- sick in sanatoriums

- people on business or leisure trips

- fishermen at sea

- navigating personnel of national or foreign airlines or maritime companies

- students and workers temporarily displaced to another municipality or country

they are always surveyed in the **family home occupied by the rest of the family**.

Students and workers will be considered temporarily displaced if, when the cause for which they were displaced ends, they plan to reunite with the rest of the family. If this circumstance is unknown, they will be considered non-surveyable if they have been absent for more than a year.

3. **Persons in joint custody** are always surveyed in the **home where they are present** at the time of the interview.

4. **Persons who live seasonally with their children** are always surveyed in the **home where they are present** at the time of the interview.

The present or absent situation refers to the dominant one in the reference week, which is the one immediately prior to the interview.

These rules are applicable to both Spaniards and foreigners, being surveyable all those provisionally surveyable with Spanish nationality or dual nationality or being a foreigner, when their stay in Spain is or will be equal to or greater than one year.

For a dwelling to be surveyable, it must have at least one surveyable person (either present or absent) aged 16 or over.

**The human group** that inhabits the home can be classified as:

- respondent, if at least one of the surveyable persons that compose it is interviewed.
- absent, if all surveyable persons aged 16 or over in the group are absent from the dwelling.
- negative, if all surveyable persons aged 16 or over refuse to collaborate.
- for the purposes of classifying the human group, if there is more than one household in the dwelling, all households are considered as a single human group.

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## 10 Definitions

The definitions are based on the recommendations adopted by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) at the Nineteenth and Twentieth International Conferences of Labour Statisticians (Geneva, 2013 and 2018, respectively).

On the other hand, all the defined characteristics refer to the national concept and not to the domestic one, in accordance with the definitions of the European System of National and Regional Accounts (ESA-95). This is due to the fact that it is not possible to collect information from the population who work in Spain and live abroad, as the survey is aimed at people who live in family dwellings in the national territory.

They therefore include:

- Spaniards established in Spain.
- Spanish civilians who stay abroad for a period of less than one year (border and seasonal workers, tourists, patients, etc.).
- Foreign civilians established in Spain for a period equal to or greater than one year (including personnel from European Community institutions and international civil organizations located in Spain).
- Foreign military personnel working in international military organizations located in Spain.
- Foreign technical assistance personnel on long-term missions who work in our country and consider themselves employed by the Spanish public administration,

on behalf of the public administration or the international organization that effectively finances their work.

By agreement, the total population also includes, regardless of the duration of the stay abroad:

- Spanish students abroad.
- Members of the Spanish armed forces stationed abroad.
- Spanish personnel from Spanish scientific bases established outside the geographical territory of Spain.
- Spanish diplomatic personnel on mission abroad.
- members of the crews of fishing boats, other vessels, aircraft and floating platforms (in international waters) operated by units resident in Spain.

At the same time, it does not include:

- Foreign civilians who remain in Spain for a period of less than one year (border and seasonal workers, tourists, patients, etc.).
- Spanish civilians residing abroad for a period equal to or greater than one year.
- Spanish soldiers working in international organizations located abroad.
- Spanish technical assistance personnel on long-term missions who work abroad and consider themselves employed by the public administration of the host country, on behalf of the public administration or the international organization that effectively finances their work.

And, by agreement, it does not include:

- foreign students whatever the duration of their studies in Spain.
- Members of the armed forces of a foreign country stationed in Spain.
- Foreign personnel from foreign scientific bases established in the geographical territory of Spain.
- Foreign diplomatic personnel on mission in Spain.
- residents in Spain who are members of the crews of fishing boats, other vessels, aircraft or floating platforms (in international waters) operated by non-resident units.

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## 10.1 ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION

In general, it is the set of people of certain ages who, in a given reference period, supply labour for the production of economic goods and services or who are available and take steps to join said production in exchange for remuneration or economic benefit. In the Labour Force Survey, the age group considered is 16 and over, since 16 is the limit for compulsory schooling and the legal minimum age for work.

Depending on whether the reference period is long (twelve months, for example) or short (one week at most), a usual or temporary situation will be reflected, respectively. In the EPAS, given its periodic nature, the latter has been chosen, taking the week as the reference period.

In the EPAS, therefore, the economically active population comprises all persons aged 16 or over who, during the reference week (the one prior to the one in which the interview is due according to the Survey calendar) meet the necessary conditions for their inclusion among employed or unemployed persons, as defined below.

A group related to the economically active population is the *asset potential*, which is made up of the economically active population and potential assets (see point 10.4 for the definition of potential assets).

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## 10.2 EMPLOYED POPULATION (OR PEOPLE WITH EMPLOYMENT)

It is made up of all those people aged 16 or over who during the reference week have had a job for others or have carried out an activity on their own, according to the definitions given below.

**A) Persons employed by others or salaried employees** are all those who fall into the following categories:

- *Working*: persons who, during the reference week, have worked, even sporadically or occasionally, for at least one hour in exchange for a salary, wage or other form of related payment, in cash or in kind.

- *Employed but not working*: persons who, having already worked in their current job, are absent from it during the reference week and have a close link with it. The strength of this link is determined according to the period of absence or in some cases to the receipt or not of some type of remuneration.

People absent from work due to illness or accident, vacation or maternity leave, or having a summer day or flexible hours, are considered as people with work.

Those absent due to having fixed discontinuous contracts, because they are seasonal workers or because they are waiting to join a new job, are considered employed in the periods in which they carry out their activity. In the rest of the time, they are considered employed only if they regularly perform some task related to their employment.

Cases of paid maternity or paternity leave are also considered employed.

Those absent for reasons other than the above (for example: bad weather, partial unemployment for technical or economic reasons, regulation file, being on strike or labour dispute, personal reasons or family responsibilities), are considered occupied if they are going to rejoin your job in the next three months. Exceptionally, while the COVID19 pandemic continues, people absent from their employment due to a temporary employment regulation file are considered to

maintain a strong link with their employment if they receive a benefit greater than 50% of their salary.

Apprentices who have received remuneration in cash or in kind and students who have worked for full or part-time remuneration are considered as salaried persons and are classified as *working* or *not working* on the same basis as other persons with I work for others.

Active members of the armed forces are also among the salaried population.

The following people will not be considered salaried:

- Entrepreneurs and independent workers, even if they were hired as employees in their own company.
- Unpaid family workers (*family benefits*) and members of cooperatives who work in them.
- People absent from work, on leave or suspended, who are weakly linked to their employment (as has been seen, the link is established according to the nature and time of absence as well as the receipt or not of remuneration in the case of maternity or paternity leave).
- Seasonal, occasional or non-continuous workers employed by others in the period of less activity who have not worked in the reference week and do not regularly carry out tasks related to their employment or seasonal business.

**B) Self-employed persons** are all those included in the following categories:

- *Working*: persons who, during the reference period, have worked, even sporadically or occasionally, for at least one hour in exchange for a benefit or a family earning, in cash or in kind.
- *Employed but not working* : people who during the reference period had to do some work in exchange for a benefit or family gain but have been temporarily absent from it due to illness or accident, vacations, summer shift, variable hours , flexible or similar. In case of other absences such as parties, bad weather or other similar reasons, the duration of the absence must be three months or less.

According to this definition, entrepreneurs, independent workers, members of cooperatives who work in them and unpaid family workers (*family benefits*) carry out an activity on their own.

The following persons will not be considered self-employed:

- Those who take care of their home without pay, those who provide unpaid or charitable social services and other unpaid people who carry out activities outside the scope of economic activities.
- Seasonal own-account workers and seasonal workers or occasional unpaid family members in the season of less activity who have not worked in the reference week or regularly carry out activities related to the seasonal business.

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### 10.3 FOREIGN POPULATION

At the XVI International Conference of Labour Statisticians (Geneva, October 1998), a resolution was adopted concerning the measurement of underemployment and situations of inadequate employment.

**Underemployment due to insufficient hours** exists when the working hours of an employed person are insufficient in relation to an alternative employment situation that this person wishes to perform and is available to do so.

Persons underemployed due to insufficient hours are all those with a job, as defined in current international standards on employment statistics, who meet the three criteria during the reference period used to define employment:

- a) *wanting to work longer hours*, that is, to have another job (or jobs) in addition to your current job(s) in order to increase your total working hours; replace any of your current jobs with another job (or jobs) with more hours worked; increase working hours in any of your current jobs; or combine these possibilities. To show how the *desire to work longer hours* is expressed in terms of action, taking into account national circumstances, those who have actively sought to work additional hours must be distinguished from those who did not. Actively seeking to work additional hours should be defined in accordance with the criteria of the job search definition used in the measurement of the economically active population, taking into account the activities necessary to increase the hours of work in the current job;
- b) *be available to work longer hours*, that is, be able to actually do so during a specified subsequent period, depending on additional job opportunities that arise. The subsequent period to be specified to determine the availability of workers to work longer hours should be chosen according to the national situation and so as to cover the period generally required by workers to leave one job and start working in another.
- c) *have worked less than a certain limit of hours*, that is, persons whose *number of hours actually worked* in all jobs during the reference period, as defined in the current international guidelines on working time statistics, was less than a limit defined according to national circumstances. This limit can be defined, for example, based on the border between full-time and part-time employment, median values, averages, working hours established in the corresponding legislation, collective agreements, agreements on working hours or national labour practices.

In the Spanish EPAS, underemployed due to insufficient hours are those employed who wish to work longer hours, who are available to work (within two weeks of the reference period) or who cannot leave their current job due to the notice period and whose actual hours worked in the reference week, both in the main job and in the possible secondary job, are less than the weekly hours normally worked by full-time employees in the branch of activity in which the underemployed person has their main job .

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#### 10.4 UNEMPLOYED POPULATION

All persons aged 16 or over who simultaneously meet the following conditions will be considered unemployed:

- *without work*, that is, they have not been employed or self-employed during the reference week.
- *in search of work*, that is, they have actively sought work for others or have taken steps to establish themselves on their own during the preceding month.
- *be available for work*, i.e. able to start work within two weeks of the Sunday of the reference week.

Also considered unemployed are persons aged 16 or over who during the reference week have been without work, available for work and who are not looking for a job because they have already found one to which they will join within three months after said week. Therefore, in this case the criterion of effective job search is not required.

Persons absent from work who are not considered employed as established in point 10.2 and who are going to return to their employment after three months have passed, are unemployed if they have looked for work and are available to perform it.

If a person meets the conditions of the definition of unemployed, they will be considered as such, even if they make this situation compatible with others such as that of a student or housework.

The unemployed are subdivided into: unemployed seeking their first job and unemployed who have previously worked.

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#### 10.5 ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE POPULATION:

The economically inactive population includes all persons aged 16 or over, not classified as employed or unemployed or as a population counted separately during the reference week.

It comprises the following functional categories:

- *persons who look after their household*: persons who, without exercising any economic activity, dedicate themselves to looking after their own homes; for example, housewives and other relatives who take care of the house and the children.
- *students*: people who, without engaging in any economic activity, receive systematic instruction at any level of education.
- *retired people or early retirees*: persons who have had a previous economic activity and who, due to age or other causes, have ceased it, receiving a pension (or early retirement income) due to their previous activity.

- *persons who receive a pension other than retirement and early retirement.*
- *persons who carry out social work, charitable activities, etc. without remuneration. (excluding those that are family benefits).*
- *unable to work.*
- *other situation:* persons who, without exercising any economic activity, receive public or private aid and all those who are not included in any of the above categories, for example, income earners.

Depending on their connection with the activity, a special group is distinguished within the inactive group, which is that of those who are **potentially active**. They are defined as those persons who inactive who are available to work but do not seek employment, excluding those who do not seek it because they are retired, because they are studying, because of illness, because they have to care for dependents or because they have other personal or family responsibilities.

In turn, within the potentially active, an interest group is that of those who are *discouraged*, who are people without work, available to work in a period of two weeks and who have not looked for work in the last four weeks because there is no suitable employment available.

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#### 10.6 POPULATION COUNTED SEPARATELY

Men who fulfilled compulsory military service (or alternative social service) were considered to be counted separately, that is, they were not included among the active or inactive, regardless of whether or not they had worked in the reference week. Compulsory military service disappeared in December 2001.

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#### 10.7 ANALYTICAL RELATIONSHIPS

- Salaried workforce = people with salaried employment + people looking for a salaried job.
- Non-salaried workforce = people with self-employment + people looking for self-employment.
- Total labor force = salaried labor force + non-salaried labor force.
- Employed = people with work for others + people with work for themselves.
- Total unemployed = unemployed seeking salaried employment + unemployed who want to establish themselves.
- Active = employed + unemployed.
- Civil active = active - armed forces.
- Population aged 16 or over = active + inactive + population counted separately.



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## 10.8 FEES

### - *Global activity rate:*

It is the quotient, in percentage, between the total number of assets and the total population.

It is calculated for both sexes together and for each of them separately.

### - *Specific activity rate:*

The specific activity rate for a given age interval is the percentage of active persons of those ages with respect to the population corresponding to the interval.

It is generally calculated for both sexes together and for each of them separately. The intervals are usually five-year or ten-year.

What is known as the *activity rate* is the percentage of active persons with respect to the population aged 16 and over.

### - *Global employment rate:*

It is the quotient, in percentage, between the total number of employed persons and the total population.

It is calculated for both sexes together and for each of them separately.

### - *Specific employment rate:*

The specific employment rate for a given age interval is the percentage of employed persons of those ages with respect to the population corresponding to the interval.

It is generally calculated for both sexes together and for each of them separately. The intervals are usually five-year or ten-year.

What is known as the *employment rate* is the percentage of employed persons with respect to the population aged 16 and over.

### - *Unemployment rate*

This is the ratio, in percentage, between the number of unemployed persons and the number of active persons. It is calculated for both sexes together and for each of them separately.

### - *Specific unemployment rate:*

The specific unemployment rate for a given age interval is the percentage of unemployed aged between the extremes of the interval with respect to the number of active persons in that interval.

It is generally calculated for both sexes together and for each of them separately. The intervals are usually five-year or ten-year.

- *Salary rate.*

It is the quotient, in percentage, between the number of wage earners and the total number of employed persons.

- *Temporality rate.*

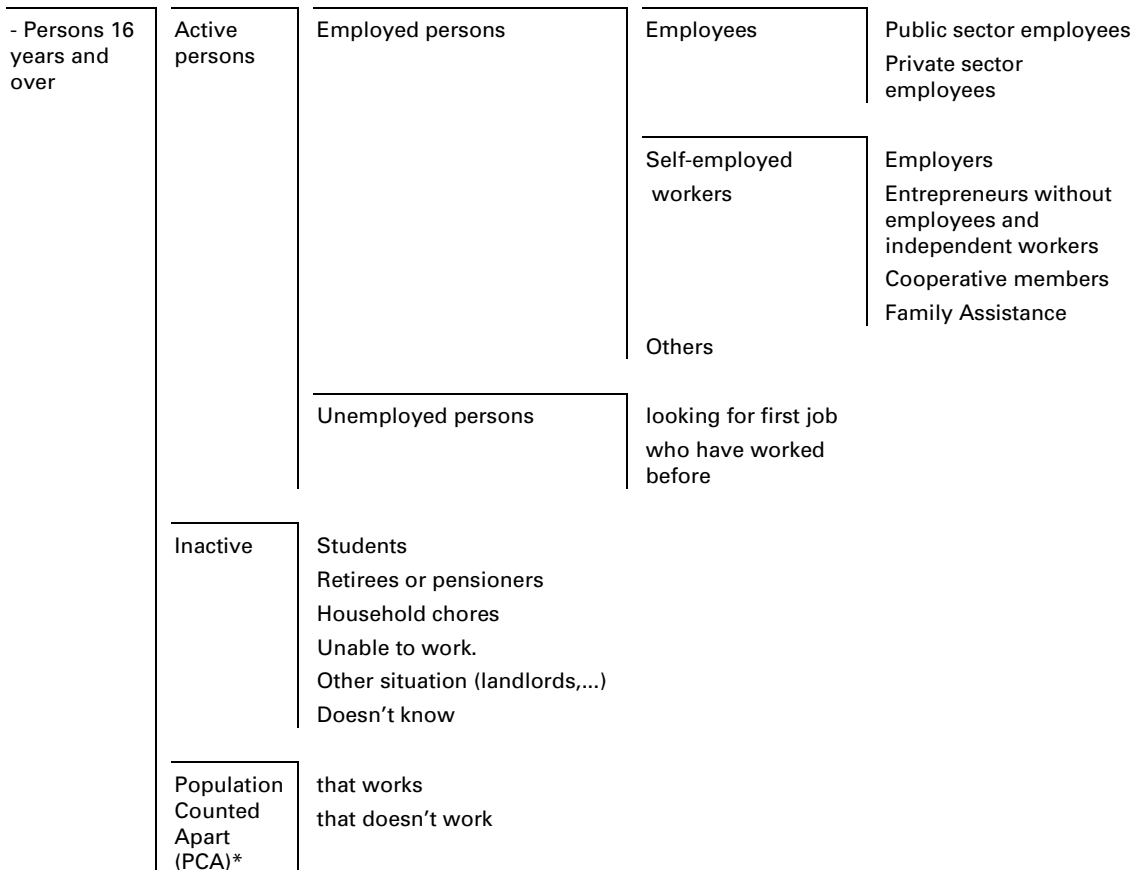
It is the quotient, in percentage, between the number of employees with a temporary contract and the total number of employees.

- *Part-time work rate.*

It is the percentage of part-time employed persons with respect to the total number of employed persons.

10.9 POPULATION CLASSIFICATION SCHEME

- Under the age of 16



\* In 2002, compulsory military service disappeared, so as of that date, this population category does not exist.

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## 11 Information processing

The treatment of the information includes all the purification and imputation processes that are carried out with the data, from the interview to obtaining a final coherent file that can be directly used to make estimates. According to this definition, in the treatment of information we can consider the following phases:

### 1. In the Provincial Delegation or CATI centre

- Conducting the interview

Since the fourth quarter of 1997, all EPAS interviews have been carried out using computers, which has allowed the detection of errors during the completion of said interviews and, therefore, immediate consultation of the interviewee himself. In addition, this form of collection significantly increased the quality of the data as it managed to reduce the errors that occurred with the previous system based on paper questionnaires and centralized recording.

- Reviewing the interview

Subsequently, a process of filling in the information that may have been pending during the interview is carried out (regarding codes of classifications of occupations, activities and training) and a process of reviewing the interviews already completed.

### 2. In Central Services

- Control of identification variables

Once the interviews have been completed and reviewed in the provincial delegations or CATI centers, they are sent to Central Services. In a first phase, the household identification variables and certain demographic variables (such as age) that will be essential for the correct allocation of elevation factors are reviewed and refined whenever necessary.

- Control of code compatibility of the rest of variables

Next, any possible inconsistencies that might exist between the rest of the variables are eliminated, so that the data of each person remains coherent.

- Generation of derived variables and calculation of elevation factors

Once all the data have been refined, derived variables are generated that facilitate the tabulation of the data and then the elevation factors are calculated, which will allow giving estimates of the population from the sample data obtained.

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## 12 Dissemination of the EAPS

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### 12.1 QUARTERLY RESULTS

Every quarter, according to the calendar of short-term statistics of the INE, the data from the EPAS are published in INEBASE.

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### 12.2 ANNUAL RESULTS

Provides the following:

#### **Results in annual arithmetic mean of the four quarters of the year**

#### **Results on the subsample variables**

The subsample variables, or structural variables, are those for which, according to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2240 of the Commission, can be provided annually and not quarterly. Only one sixth of the sample is asked each quarter, specifically the one who is currently in the 6th interview, and an annual file is then compiled.

#### **Results on the deciles of wages of the main job**

These data are provided in Spain annually, based on Regulation 1372/2007 of the Council and the European Parliament and the Commission's Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2240. The series begins in 2006.

The results are published in the form of deciles and mean wages.

#### **Results of the annual ad-hoc module and regular modules**

These modules have been developed in a harmonized manner throughout the European Union since 1999, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 577/98 of the Council and the European Parliament. They deal with matters of labour interest at all times. As of 2021, a multi-year system of regular modules is established in accordance with Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/256 of the Commission.

The modules are made up of a maximum of 11 variables and each year they will deal with a different topic, being associated with the EPAS.

In addition, there are biennial modules, with fixed content, of which results are provided in the odd or even year in which they correspond.

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### 12.3 MICRODATA AND CUSTOM INFORMATION

The microdata of the survey is made available to users. The simplified version of the microdata file is freely available on the INE website.

In addition, it is possible to request a tailored tabulation of the survey results, which is handled based on the available sample to prepare the required estimates.