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# Working? Sick? Looking for work? Retired?

## Whatever your circumstances – we need you to help us describe the labour market in Sweden

Dear reader,

Statistics Sweden would like to invite you to take part in the Labour Force Surveys (LFS).

In about two weeks, an interviewer will phone you to ask you about your situation on the labour market. More specifically, whether you are working, looking for work, retired, studying or engaged in some other activity. The interview normally takes 5 to 10 minutes. You are also welcome to contact us by phone or e-mail and schedule the interview at a time that you find convenient.

### You may not be replaced by another person

You have been selected at random. Naturally, your participation is voluntary, but we hope that you will agree to take part, as the LFS is an important survey. It provides data on matters like unemployment and working hours, and constitutes a basis for political decisions that affect you and everyone else living in Sweden. The official unemployment rate that is often quoted in television, newspapers and radio is based on this survey.

Every month, we call 18 200 people. Each person who is interviewed represents about 400 people in the population. This means your participation is very important.

### Questions?

Do you have any questions about the survey or what taking part involves? Contact us and we will be pleased to assist you.

Thank you in advance for taking part in the survey.

Sincerely,

Joakim Stymne  
*Director General, Statistics Sweden*

### No need to wait!

Contact us today to schedule an interview.

Call us or send a text message at +46 10 479 62 00 or e-mail us at [aku-dih@scb.se](mailto:aku-dih@scb.se)

### Schedule your interview in another language or in sign language

+46 10 479 62 00  
[aku-talk@scb.se](mailto:aku-talk@scb.se)

### Questions about the LFS

+46 10 479 62 00  
+46 10 479 42 60  
[aku@scb.se](mailto:aku@scb.se)

### Where will the results be published?

The statistics are published every month on [www.scb.se/aku](http://www.scb.se/aku).

More information about the survey and an introduction letter in various languages are available at [www.scb.se/aku-info](http://www.scb.se/aku-info).

### Do you have questions about how your personal data is processed?

Contact Statistics Sweden's data protection officer: +46 10 479 40 00, [dataskyddsbud@scb.se](mailto:dataskyddsbud@scb.se)  
See also [www.scb.se/personuppgifter](http://www.scb.se/personuppgifter)

### Statistics Sweden describes Sweden

Statistics Sweden provides society with statistics for decision-making, debate and research on behalf of the Government, government agencies, researchers and industry. These statistics contribute to fact-based public discourse and informed decisions.



**Who is carrying out the survey?**

The LFS is carried out by Statistics Sweden by decision of the Riksdag and the Government. This survey forms part of Sweden's official statistics and is not done for commercial purposes.

**Who will use the information and how?**

Once we have collected the answers, we compile them as statistics in the form of tables and figures. The statistics we produce are used by the Riksdag and the Government, the political parties, newspapers, television and radio, businesses, labour unions, researchers and students, and the general public. The statistics produced cannot be used to link specific answers to you or another individual.

Statistics Sweden may sometimes share data and other survey information with researchers or other statistics producers. Research and statistical activities that use material from Statistics Sweden are subject to statistical confidentiality, regardless of whether they take place at Statistics Sweden or at some other location. Statistics Sweden is very restrictive about releasing material.

**Will you be collecting any information about me in advance?**

Yes, to save you the trouble of providing information that is already available in Statistics Sweden's registers, we retrieve data on your address, country of birth, year of immigration (where applicable), education, name of your workplace, its address and business sector, and income (if available).

**When will you call me?**

We will call you about two weeks after you receive this letter. An important part of these statistics concerns changes on the labour market – for example, how often people change jobs and how long they remain unemployed. This is why we interview everyone several times, generally eight times, three months apart. In some interviews, we may ask additional questions related to the labour market, for example about the work environment.

**Why should I take part?**

By taking part in this survey, you will be helping us to provide an accurate picture of the Swedish labour market.

**I'm not working – should I take part anyway?**

Yes, the situation of every person, regardless of whether or not they are working, is relevant for a complete and accurate picture of the labour

market. If we only interviewed people who have a job, it would lead to a very skewed picture of the labour market.

**I am not a Swedish citizen – should I take part anyway?**

Yes, the statistics should reflect the situation of everyone living in Sweden, regardless of citizenship.

**Do I have to answer all of the questions?**

No. You can skip questions that you do not wish to answer. Some of the questions – like the one about whether or not you are working – must be answered for the interview to be included in the survey, but the interviewer will keep track of this.

**Are my answers really secure?**

Yes. The answers that you submit in the interview are kept confidential, and all those who work on the survey are bound by the obligation of professional secrecy as provided by Chapter 24, Section 8 of the Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act (2009:400).

**How will my personal data be processed?**

Statistics Sweden is the data controller of personal data that is processed by Statistics Sweden. Provisions on processing personal data are contained in the EU General Data Protection Regulation, the Official Statistics Act (2001:99), and the Official Statistics Ordinance (2001:100). In addition, there are rules in the Act on Supplementary Provisions to the EU General Data Protection Regulation (2018:218) and in regulations issued in association with that Act.

You have the right to obtain, free of charge, a copy in the form of a register extract, of the personal data processed by Statistics Sweden in its capacity as the data controller. For more information, visit [www.scb.se/registerutdrag](http://www.scb.se/registerutdrag)

If you believe that Statistics Sweden has processed your personal data in a way that is in violation of the EU General Data Protection Regulation, you have the right to have your personal data erased under certain circumstances.

The interviews will be recorded and sometimes a colleague listens in to the interview, but only with your express approval. We use listening in as a way to help improve our questionnaires and interview methods. All recorded interviews are deleted within four weeks. The recordings are covered by the Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act and the EU General Data Protection Regulation.