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Understanding statistics on full-time/part-time employment

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Explains how full-time/part-time status is defined and summarises recent statistics.

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is the principal source of statistics on full-time and part-time employment, which labour market analysts often regard as a convenient shorthand measure of working patterns and labour input.

This article explains how full-time/part-time status is defined in the LFS and other sources; summarises recent LFS statistics on full-time/part-time employment; and highlights issues that users need to be aware of when interpreting these statistics. It also gives an overview of hours of work concepts, including actual hours worked, usual hours of work and paid hours.

Misc

The Full Text of this article can be found on the National Statistics website (http://www.statistics.gov.uk/elmr/02_07/downloads/ELMR02_07Walling.pdf).