

**Documentation of statistics for
Employee Trade Unions 2015**

1 Introduction

The purpose of the statistics is to compile aggregated annual statistics showing the number of members of employee organisations with attachment to the labour market. Since 1994 the statistics in its present form have been compiled and included in a table published in the Statistical Yearbook and the Statistical Ten-Year Review. From 2008, the statistics is published in Statbank and from 2009 the statistics are also published in the series 'Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik' (News from Statistics Denmark). In connection with publication of the statistics in May 2015, the statistics were subjected to revision and adjustment and the date of reference was changed from 1 January of a year to 31 December of the previous year. The statistics are revised and adjusted backwards to 31 December 2007.

2 Statistical presentation

The statistics provide an overview of the number of members of employee organisations with attachment to the labour market. The statistics is published on a yearly basis.

2.1 Data description

These statistics provide an overview of the number of members of employee organisations with attachment to the labour market, i.e.. excl. trainees, retirees, early retirees and self-employed. The statistics is published on a yearly basis.

2.2 Classification system

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.3 Sector coverage

These statistics include all sectors represented by employee trade unions.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Employee: Individuals who work for a public or private employer and receive remuneration in the form of cash or in kind and income compensation. Conscripts are also included.

Employee with attachment to the labour market: An employee with attachment to the labour market has a paid work or is unemployed. An employee without attachment to the labour market is a trainee, retiree or early retiree.

Employee Organization: Association of employed and unemployed people with the same occupation or education or with the same type of work with the aim to work for the common interests. Most employee organizations are members of a central organization (LO, FTF, AC or Managers and Executives), while a smaller number are outside the main organizations.

2.5 Statistical unit

Person.

2.6 Statistical population

Employees with attachment to the labour market, ie. they have a paid job or are unemployed, and who are members of a Danish Employee Organization.

2.7 Reference area

Denmark.

2.8 Time coverage

1. December 2007 -

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

People.

2.11 Reference period

The number of members is compiled the 31 December 2015

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

The statistics is published on a yearly basis.

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

Data are collected in accordance with section 6 of the Act on Statistics Denmark (cf. Consolidated act no. 1189 of 12 December 1992 with amendments as a consequence of section 1 in Law No. 295 of 2 May 2000.

2.14 Cost and burden

The size of the burden of reporting is not calculated.

2.15 Comment

Additional information is available by contacting Statistics Denmark.

3 Statistical processing

These statistics are based on annual reports from employees' organisations on the number of members attached to the labour market per December 31. Corrections are taken back in time, if possible. There are no seasonally adjustments since it is an annual statistics.

3.1 Source data

The statistics are based on annual reports of employee organisations. The Central Organizations transmit the data for their member organisations.

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Reporting to the statistics is on an annual basis.

3.3 Data collection

Approximately one month after the reference date (31 December) an email is sent to reporting units with response time approx. two months after the reference date. The responding units are requested to report the number of employee members who are attached to the labour market, i.e. exclusive members who are students, self-employed, early retirees or pensioners. The membership must be divided by gender. The responding units are the Central Organisations (LO, FDF, AC and Managers and Executives) and employees' organisations outside the Central Organizations.

3.4 Data validation

The reports are validated by comparing the figures with the previous reference period. If the level has changed considerably contact is made to the respondent. During the validation process errors have been corrected with respect to not including members who are not attached to the labour market, i.e. trainees, retirees and early retirees. There have also been examples of erroneous reporting self-employed.

3.5 Data compilation

Immediately after the reporting deadline a reminder is sent to non-respondents. If the transmission does not occur before the statistics is published data is imputed on basis of data from the previous year.

3.6 Adjustment

No corrections of data are made beyond what has already been described regarding data validation and data processing.

4 Relevance

Users of the statistics are typically employee and employer organisations, researchers and the media. No dissatisfaction has been expressed with the statistics.

4.1 User Needs

Among users of the statistics are employee and employer organisations, researchers and the media.

4.2 User Satisfaction

The statistics has a relatively high profile in the media in connection with the annual publication. There have been no requests for changes in the statistics or expressed dissatisfaction with the statistics.

4.3 Data completeness rate

All data are published.

5 Accuracy and reliability

The statistics are based on reports from Central Employee Organisations and other employee organisations. Not all employee unions are able to calculate the figures exclusive members not attached to the labor market, i.e.. students, early retirees and pensioners, and self-employed may also be included . The data are therefore believed to be a little overestimated. The statistics are believed to have a reasonable quality. The data are normally not revised, but if errors are detected they are corrected back in time as far as possible.

5.1 Overall accuracy

The statistics are believed to have a reasonable quality. The reported data are however assumed to be overvalued. This is based on our experience which shows that not all employee organisations are able to estimate the figures excluding members not attached to the labour market. In other words, students, early retirees and pensioners, as well as self-employed may be included . There is a risk that new small employee organisations have not been included in the population.

5.2 Sampling error

The statistics are based on an approximated census. There is a risk that newly established small employee organisations have not been included in the population.

5.3 Non-sampling error

The frame population is 150 Danish employee organisations but can change from year to year. If one organisation do not report, there is a small under-coverage of 0.7 per cent (unweighted).

5.4 Quality management

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

5.5 Quality assurance

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

5.6 Quality assessment

A questionnaire is sent to those employee organisations which it have been identifiable. A single employee organisation (Danmarks Frie Fagforening) has never responded and number of members of the union is therefore not included in the statistics. Not all organisations are able to determine the figures exclusive members not attached to the labour market, i.e. there may be trainees, retirees and early retirees included in the figures as well as self-employed. To the extent that organisations are able to correct errors previously reported, the figures are corrected to the extent that it is possible, however this is often difficult for historic data. No figures are available regarding the size of insecurity. Quality is assessed to be reasonable.

5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

5.8 Data revision practice

Normally the published figures are not revised. If errors are detected in the published figures, these will, however, be corrected.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

The statistics are published 4-5 months after the reference date.

The statistics are usually published on the scheduled date without delay.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

The average time from the reference date (31 December) until publishing date is 128 days.

Since 2010 the publishing time has been from 106 to 131 days.

6.2 Punctuality

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7 Comparability

There may be minor breaks over time in connection with employee organisations changing their calculation method, for example, correcting errors. Typically, organisations will not be able to fix it back in time. Also, membership of the Central Organisations varies over time as the employee organisations can sign in and out of the Central Organisations. In addition, new employee organisations appear and other organisations disappear over time.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

The statistics is not internationally comparable.

7.2 Comparability over time

Since 1994 the statistics have been compiled and included in a table published in the Statistical Yearbook and the Statistical Ten-Year Review. There may be minor breaks over time in connection with employee organisations changing their calculation method, for example, correcting errors. Typically, organisations will not be able to fix it back in time. Also, membership of the Central Organisations varies over time as the employee organisations can sign in and out of the Central Organisations. In addition, new employee organisations appear and other organisations disappear over time.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

There is no other Danish statistics on the subject.

7.4 Coherence - internal

All employee organisations and Central Organisations receive the same questionnaire. However, not all organisations are able to calculate figures exclusive members with no attachment to the labour market, i.e. students, early retirees and pensioners as well as self-employed.

8 Accessibility and clarity

The statistics is published in *Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik* (News from Statistics Denmark), Statbank.dk, Statistical Yearbook, Statistical Ten-Year-Review.

8.1 Release calendar

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

8.4 News release

New statistics is published in a yearly article: [Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik](#).

All data are available in: [StatBank Denmark](#).

8.5 Publications

The data are published in:

- The Statistical yearbook, Labour, earnings and income, [Labour force participation](#)
- [Statistisk Tiårsoversigt](#)

8.6 On-line database

All data are available in: [StatBank Denmark](#).

8.7 Micro-data access

There are no more detailed data available than already published.

8.8 Other

No comments.

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

It is not necessary to hide data according to Statistics Denmark's Confidentiality rules.

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

It is not necessary to hide data according to [Confidentiality rules of Statistics Denmark](#).

8.11 Documentation on methodology

No further documentation is available.

8.12 Quality documentation

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

9 Contact

These statistics are administratively placed in the division Labour Market. The responsible for the statistics is Lisbeth Johansen, +45 39 17 30 42, e-mail: ljo@dst.dk

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Statistics Denmark

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Labour Market, Social Statistics

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