

# Gallup® Employment Classifications

Gallup in 2009 developed a question series that accurately measures U.S. employment in accordance with International Conference of Labour Statisticians' standards. The data collected in the United States since April 2009 are in line with those the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported for the same time period. From this expansive set of data, Gallup is able to expand upon government measures of employment and gain a better understanding of the wellbeing of the U.S. workforce.

## Gallup Employment/Gallup Underemployment

Gallup classifies respondents into one of six categories of employment, spanning the employed and the underemployed. A respondent is **employed** if he or she is employed full time OR if he or she is working part time but does not want to work full time. Respondents are **underemployed** if they are employed part time but want to work full time OR if they are unemployed. Gallup's Payroll to Population measure is based on the entire population, while unemployment and underemployment rates are based on the workforce.

### Payroll to Population (Employed)

Payroll to Population rates reflect the percentage of the U.S. adult population aged 18 and older -- not just the workforce -- who are employed full time for an employer for at least 30 hours per week. Adults who are self-employed, working part time, unemployed, or out of the workforce are not counted as payroll-employed in the Payroll to Population metric.

### Employed Full Time for Self (Employed)

Respondents are considered employed full time for themselves if they are self-employed and if they work for at least 30 hours per week.

### Employed Part Time, Do Not Want to Work Full Time (Employed)

Respondents who work either for an employer or for themselves, and do not work more than 30 hours per week at either job are categorized as employed part time. Additionally, when asked, these respondents indicated they **do not** want to work more than 30 hours per week.

### Employed Part Time, Want to Work Full Time (Underemployed)

Respondents who work either for an employer or for themselves, and do not work more than 30 hours per week at either job are categorized as employed part time. Additionally, when asked, these respondents indicated they **do** want to work more than 30 hours per week.

### Unemployed (Underemployed)

A respondent is unemployed if he/she reports not being employed in the last 7 days, either for an employer or for himself or herself. The respondent must also report actively looking for a job in the last four weeks AND being able to begin work in the last four weeks.

### Out of the Workforce

Respondents who are out of the workforce were not employed within the last 7 days, either for an employer or for themselves, are not looking for work AND/OR are not available to start work. Respondents may be full-time students, retired, disabled, or homemakers; however, some respondents will not fall into any of these scenarios.

## Survey Methods

Results are based on aggregated data from Gallup Daily tracking questions. Landline and cellular telephone interviews are conducted each night with 1,000 national adults, aged 18 and older. For results based on a nightly sample of 1,000 national adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 3$  percentage points. For results based on an average monthly sample of 30,000, one can say with 95% confidence that the maximum margin of sampling error is  $\pm 0.6$  percentage points. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

## Survey Questions Used for Gallup Employment Classifications

*Some questions are only asked of a subset of respondents.*

Thinking about your WORK SITUATION over the past 7 days, have you been employed by an employer — even minimally like for an hour or more — from whom you receive money or goods? (This could be for one or more employers.)

1. Yes
2. No
3. (Don't know)
4. (Refused)

In a typical week (7 days), how many hours do you work for an employer? (This could be for one or more employers.) (Open ended and code)

1. 30 hours per week or more
2. 15 to 29 hours per week
3. 5 to 14 hours per week
4. Less than 5 hours per week
5. (Don't know)
6. (Refused)

Again thinking about the last 7 days, were you self-employed, even minimally like for an hour or more? This means working for yourself, freelancing, or doing contract work, OR working for your own or your family's business. Self-employment also includes fishing, doing farm work, or raising livestock for either *your own* or *your family's* farm or ranch.

1. Yes
2. No
3. (Don't know)
4. (Refused)

In a typical week (7 days), how many hours do you work as a self-employed individual? (Open ended and code)

1. 30 hours per week or more
2. 15 to 29 hours per week
3. 5 to 14 hours per week
4. Less than 5 hours per week
5. (Don't know)
6. (Refused)

Do you want to work 30 hours or more per week?

1. Yes
2. No
3. (Don't know)
4. (Refused)

In the past four weeks, have you actively been looking for employment? "Actively looking" means applying for jobs, searching for jobs, and the like.

1. Yes
2. No
3. (Don't know)
4. (Refused)

Would you have been able to begin work had you been offered a job within the last four weeks?

1. Yes
2. No
3. (Don't know)
4. (Refused)