

Payroll employment

Method and sources

Quarterly payroll employment is estimated in two stages:

- 1) For past years, INSEE compiles annual estimates of employment by department, region, occupational status, and activity sector from several sources.

The employment statistics are based on the concept of principal occupation stated in administrative data base Estel (*Estimations d'emploi localisées*, a project run by INSEE). Annual employment refers to the definition used by ILO and the project Estel has been carried out every year since septembre 2009 when the first Estel point was published (year 2007). The trainees, unpaid family help, and the persons involved in national service in the military are excluded (although the latter are included in the labor force). Annual employment is calculated for the whole of France (including the overseas departments).

Data from Estel are updated by several sources : DADS (for collecting employer and employee data), MSA (for nonwage earning agricultural workers) and ACOSS (for nonwage earning non agricultural workers).

- 2) Quarterly data are disseminated in number of persons, regardless of work duration, in employment on the last day of the quarter. Employment estimates are made for all sectors excluding agriculture and public employees in non-market sectors. The publication of quarterly information on competitive sector employment covers metropolitan France only. Data are published using the French classification of activities (NAF Rev 2) with 38 categories for wage earners.

Quarterly data are from three sources:

- the quarterly establishment survey of the Ministry of Labour (ACEMO survey) for Flash estimate data; data from Acemo do not take into account the changes in employment in establishments with fewer than ten employees or in new establishments
- the quarterly statistics of "URSSAF" (organisation in charge of collecting employer's social contributions; source: EPURE)
- the quarterly statistics of "Pôle emploi" (organisation in charge of collecting employer's social contributions) for temporary employment data for temporary employment data and, since Q2 2016, the "Déclaration Sociale Nominative" (DSN) for several large temporary employment agencies.

The series are seasonally adjusted.

Concerning the number of employees of individual employers (TZ sector), the quarterly series is estimated from interpolation of annual data. However early quarterly estimates based upon information on employees of individual employers can be mobilized (e.g. in Q1 2013, the number of payroll employees decreased by more than 5%).

Schedule and revisions

Data can be revised over a period of two years with the publication of new annual points. With the data base Estel, the annual statistics on employment are published twice : in September, 8 months after year-end (provisional data), and in March, 26 months after year-end (final data).

The quarterly series are published in a flash estimate (45 days after the end of a quarter). These estimates (source ACEMO), which are more fragile than the following ones, are released only for the broad activity groupings : goods-producing industries, construction, services.

The first estimate using data from Epure is released 70 days after the end of the quarter and then data are revised 160 days after the end of the quarter.