

## Joint production and extension of the scope of quarterly payroll employment estimates

Until the Q4 2016 results, INSEE, in partnership with the French Ministry of Labour's Directorate for Research, Studies and Statistics (DARES), used to publish estimates of payroll employment in the competitive sector in Metropolitan France on a quarterly basis, approximately 70 days after the end of the quarter. These estimates were mainly based on the following administrative sources:

- "BRC" summary statements of contributions and "DSN" electronic payroll declarations sent by enterprises to URSSAF (social security contribution collection offices) and processed by INSEE;

- for temporary employment: the monthly statements transmitted to Pôle Emploi (French employment agency) or the DSN declarations from temporary employment agencies, processed by DARES.

Since the Q1 2017 results, the 70-day estimate has been calculated in partnership with the Central Agency of Social Security Associations (ACOSS) and DARES. Its scope has been extended to all employees and the French overseas departments (apart from Mayotte). In relation to the previous publication, payroll employment in agriculture and the civil service have been added, while the scope of Private Individuals' Employees has been extended. All business sectors are now included.

As before, the levels of employment are derived from the annual employment estimates produced by INSEE. These estimates measure "registered" employment in the workplace at the end of the year, as defined by the International Labour Office (ILO), after processing for multiple activities:

- employment is measured over the last week of the year and any jobs declared in the administrative data (employment declarations and payroll files) are included;

- processing for multiple activities leads to people who occupy several jobs during the last week of the year being counted only once – for their main job – which is the occupation from which they obtain the most remuneration over the year.

Quarterly rates of change are now applied to these annual employment baselines. These rates are produced by:

- INSEE for agriculture, the civil service and Private Individuals' Employees;

- DARES and Pôle Emploi for temporary employment;

- ACOSS for the private sector apart from temporary employment, agriculture and Private Individuals' Employees.

INSEE is responsible for synthesising all of the data provided by the three partners. As before, when new annual employment estimates become available each year (in March and in the autumn), the quarterly series are realigned with them. The classification of the scope as public or private is based on the employers' legal category. The public scope (or civil service) corresponds to that which is monitored annually by INSEE via the System for Information on Civil Servants (SIASP).

The following sources are used for the extension of the scope in quarterly series:

- payroll declarations centralised by the Mutualité sociale agricole (MSA – agricultural social insurance mutual benefit fund) for agriculture;

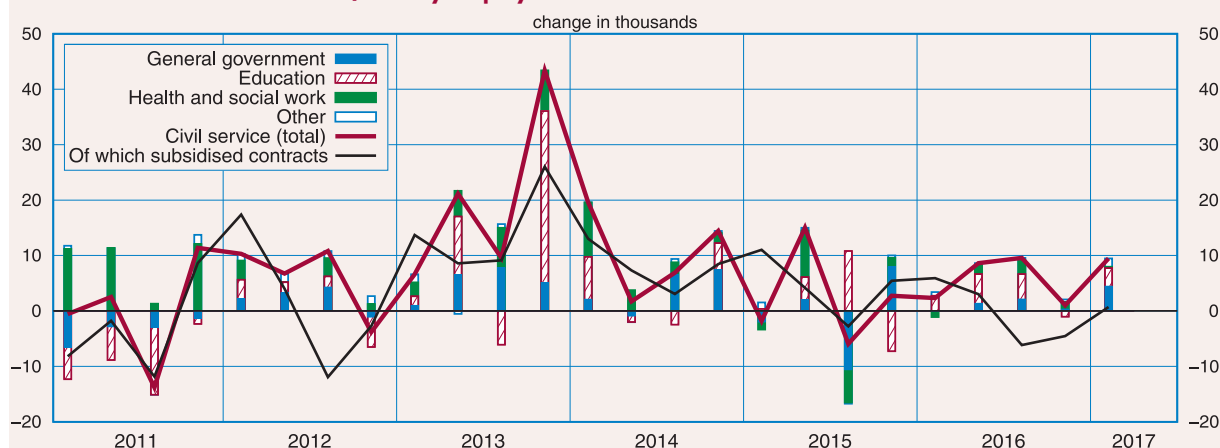
- the "DNS" simplified nominative employment declarations, the "CESU" universal employment service cheque and the "PAJE" child support service for Private Individuals' Employees<sup>1</sup>;

- the BRC, DSN and payroll files for the civil service.

These quarterly series have been available since late 2010.

1. At the start of the joint production between ACOSS, DARES and INSEE, within the scope of individual family employers, the quarterly variations are derived from a smoothing of the annual data; over the period not covered by the annual employment estimates, recent trends are extended.

### Quarterly employment estimates in the civil service



Source: INSEE, employment estimates

## French developments

Within this scope, the quarterly employment estimates state that in Q1 2017, just over 300,000 people held a salaried post in the agricultural sector. Since the end of 2010, the quarterly changes in salaried employment in this sector, after adjustment for seasonal fluctuations, have been relatively consistent, following a slightly upward trend. In 2016, it rose by 4,900, after +1,600 in 2015 and +3,600 in 2014.

At the same time, at the end of March 2017, 460,000 people were employed by private individuals in their homes. Their activities were varied: housework, cooking, gardening and childminding in parents' homes. In addition, 370,000 people were also employed by private individuals for social welfare-related activities: mainly childminders. Since the end of 2010, the employment of private individuals in homes has been declining. In social welfare, employment was up slightly in 2011 and 2012 but it has since fallen back.

Lastly, in the first quarter of 2017, 5.8 million people held a salaried post in the civil service (as civil servants or contract staff members). Nearly half of them worked in the general government sector (including local authorities), just under a quarter in education, nearly a fifth in health and less than a tenth in social welfare. After remaining almost stable in 2011, civil service employment picked up in 2012 (+24,000) and in 2013 (+81,000), before slowing during the next two years (+43,000 followed by +10,000). This profile is

linked to the subsidised employment contract profile in particular (*Graph*): +7,000 in 2012, and then +57,000 in 2013 with the establishment of the *emplois d'avenir* ("future jobs") scheme, followed by +32,000 in 2014 and +18,000 in 2015.

Finally, public employment picked up slightly in 2016 (+22,000), driven by the implementation of the *Pacte de sécurité* (Security Pact), which increased the number of employees in the police and justice system and stopped the decline in the number of military personnel. Since the end of 2010, the quarterly fluctuations in civil service employment have originated mainly from the education sector (*Graph*). In 2013, the figures were affected by the change in the competitive examination timetable for primary and secondary school teaching posts in the French National Education system. ■

### Bibliography

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