



# Labour Market Statistics: September 2016 quarter

# Table of Contents

<a href="#">Labour Market Statistics: September 2016 quarter</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Labour Market Statistics: September 2016 quarter</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Variables</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Concepts</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Labour Market Statistics Quarterly Concept set</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Household Labour Force Survey Concepts</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Labour cost index</a> .....	9
<a href="#">QES Concepts</a> .....	9

# Labour Market Statistics: September 2016 quarter

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### #####Period-specific information

#### #####Response Rates

See [New quality measures for the Household Labour Force Survey](#) for more information on the sample rate and response rates.

#### #####HLFS

#### #####Outliers

During the seasonal adjustment process, X-13-ARIMA-SEATS can give less weight to the irregular component. Specifically, if the estimated irregular component at a point in time is sufficiently large compared with the standard deviation of the irregular component as a whole, then the irregular component at that point can be downweighted or removed completely and re-estimated. We refer to such observations as partial- and zero-outliers, respectively. In practice, the downweighting of outliers does little to seasonally adjusted data, but the impact of the outliers on the trend series will generally be reduced. However, if an outlier ceases to be an outlier as more data becomes available, then significant revisions to the trend series become possible.

The table below shows any partial (P) and zero (Z) outliers for the last year of each time series

#### #####HLFS pre- and post-calibration weight

The following figure shows that while the distribution of the pre- and post-calibration weights differs within a quarter, the difference between the weights typically does not change from quarter to quarter.



The undercoverage rate indicates how representative the pre-calibrated sample is. The higher the undercoverage rate, the less representative the pre-calibrated sample.

Usually the undercoverage rate in the HLFS is around 20 percent. The overall undercoverage rate for the HLFS in the September 2016 quarter was 17.0 percent. This compares with 18.2 percent in the June 2016 quarter and 18.8 percent in the September 2015 quarter.

#### #####General information and methodology

For general information and methodology on the specific surveys within the labour market statistics release, please see the following Datainfo+ pages:

- [Household Labour Force Survey](#)
- [Labour Cost Index](#)
- [Quarterly Employment Survey](#)

## Variables

## Concepts

### Labour Market Statistics Quarterly Concept set

Name	Description
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Labour market statistics	<p><b>Labour market statistics</b> The labour market statistics information release combines data from three surveys to present a broad picture of the labour market.</p> <p>From the <b>Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS)</b> we provide a picture of New Zealand's labour force – these statistics relate to employment, unemployment, and people not in the labour force.</p> <p>The <b>Quarterly Employment Survey (QES)</b> estimates the demand for labour by New Zealand businesses – the levels and changes in employment, total weekly gross earnings, total weekly paid hours, average hourly and average weekly earnings, and average weekly paid hours in the industries we survey.</p> <p>The <b>Labour Cost Index (LCI)</b> measures changes in salary and wage rates for a fixed quantity and quality of labour input. It is a measure of wage inflation, reflecting changes in the rates that employers pay to have the same job done to the same standard.</p> <p>[Household Labour Force Survey sources and methods: 2016](<a href="https://www.stats.govt.nz/methods/household-labour-force-survey-sources-and-methods-2016">https://www.stats.govt.nz/methods/household-labour-force-survey-sources-and-methods-2016</a>) provides a technical description of the sample design and other aspects of the HLFS.</p>
Business Register	<p><b>Business Register</b> The list of all economically significant enterprises in New Zealand, which is maintained by Statistics NZ.</p>
Disability	<p><b>Disability</b> Disability status is determined by a set of questions ([The Washington Group Short Set](<a href="http://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/washington-group-question-sets/short-set-of-disability-questions/">http://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/washington-group-question-sets/short-set-of-disability-questions/</a>)), that ask respondents about their ability to carry out six basic activities.</p> <p>The activities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- seeing, even if wearing glasses</li> <li>- hearing, even if using a hearing aid</li> <li>- walking or climbing steps</li> <li>- remembering or concentrating</li> <li>- washing all over or dressing</li> <li>- communicating</li> </ul> <p>The response options are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No difficulty</li> <li>- Some difficulty</li> <li>- A lot of difficulty</li> <li>- Can't do at all</li> </ul> <p>People who respond 'a lot of difficulty' or 'can't do at all' to at least one of the activities are counted as disabled in the survey.</p>
Employed	<p><b>Employed</b> People in the working-age population who, during the reference week, did one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- worked for one hour or more for pay or profit in the context of an employee/employer relationship or self-employment</li> <li>- worked without pay for one hour or more in work which contributed directly to the operation of a farm, business, or professional practice owned or operated by a relative</li> <li>- had a job but were not at work due to own illness or injury, personal or family responsibilities, bad weather or mechanical breakdown, direct involvement in an industrial dispute, or leave or holiday.</li> </ul>
Employment rate	<p><b>Employment rate</b> The number of employed people expressed as a percentage of the working-age population. The employment rate is closely linked to the working-age population definition.</p>

Enterprise	<b>Enterprise</b> A business or service entity operating in New Zealand.
Extended labour force	<b>Extended labour force</b> People in the labour force, or in the potential labour force.
Filled jobs	<b>Filled jobs</b> The total number of full-time jobs, part-time jobs, and working proprietors.
Full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs	<b>Full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs</b> The total number of full-time jobs plus half the number of part-time jobs. Does not include working proprietors.
Full-time jobs	<b>Full-time jobs</b> Jobs where the employee works for 30 hours or more per week.
Full-time/part-time status	<b>Full-time/part-time status</b> Full-time workers usually work 30 hours or more per week, even if they did not do so in the survey reference week because of sickness, holidays, or other reasons. Part-time workers usually work fewer than 30 hours per week.
Hours worked	<b>Hours worked</b> Actual hours are the number of hours a person worked in the reference week (including overtime). Usual hours refers to the number of hours a person normally works in a week (including overtime).
Index reference period	<b>Index reference period</b> The benchmark with which prices in other periods are compared (eg if the index number in a later period is 1150, prices have increased by 15.0 percent since the index reference period). Prices for later periods can also be compared in the same fashion. The LCI has an index reference period of the June 2009 quarter (=1000).
Industry	<b>Industry</b> Determined from the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 2006. Businesses in QES are classified using ANZSIC06 industries. See ANZSIC 2006 – industry classification for more information about ANZSIC06 and its implementation into the QES and other Statistics NZ collections.
Labour force	<b>Labour force</b> Members of the working-age population, who during the survey reference week, were classified as 'employed' or 'unemployed'.
Labour force participation rate	<b>Labour force participation rate</b> The total labour force expressed as a percentage of the working-age population. Labour force participation is closely linked to how the working-age population is defined.
NEET (not in employment, education, or training)	<b>NEET (not in employment, education, or training)</b> Young people aged 15–24 years who are unemployed (part of the labour force) and not engaged in education or training, and those not in the labour force and not engaged in education or training for many reasons.
NEET rate	<b>NEET rate</b> The total number of youth (aged 15–24 years) who are not in education, employment, or training (NEET), as a proportion of the total youth working-age population.
Not in the labour force	<b>Not in the labour force</b> Any person in the working-age population who is neither employed nor unemployed. For example, this residual category includes people who <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- are retired</li> <li>- have personal or family responsibilities such as unpaid housework and childcare</li> <li>- attend educational institutions</li> <li>- are permanently unable to work due to physical or mental disabilities</li> <li>- were temporarily unavailable for work in the survey reference week</li> <li>- are not actively seeking work.</li> </ul>

Part-time jobs	<b>Part-time jobs</b> Jobs where the employee works less than 30 hours per week.
Potential labour force	<b>Potential labour force</b> People who are not actively seeking but are available and wanting a job and people who are actively seeking but not currently available, but will be available to work in the next four weeks.
Price index	<b>Price index</b> Measures the change in price between time periods for a given set of goods and services. It summarises a set of prices for a variety of goods and services collected from a number of outlets.
Seasonally adjusted series	<b>Seasonally adjusted series</b> Removes the seasonal component present when dealing with quarterly data. Seasonal patterns obscure the underlying behaviour of the series.
Statistically significant	<b>Statistically significant</b> Statistical assessment of whether a change in the series is systematic or simply due to chance. Systematic movements occur when the change is greater than its respective sampling error.
Trend series	<b>Trend series</b> Removes both the seasonal and irregular component of the series and reveals the underlying direction of movement in a series.
Underemployment	<b>Underemployment</b> People who are in part-time employment who would like to, and are available to, work more hours.
Underemployment rate	<b>Underemployment rate</b> The number of underemployed people expressed as a percentage of the employed population.
Underutilised	<b>Underutilised</b> The sum of those unemployed, underemployed and in the potential labour force.
Underutilisation rate	<b>Underutilisation rate</b> The number of underutilised people expressed as a proportion of those in the extended labour force.
Unemployed	<b>Unemployed</b> All people in the working-age population who, during the reference week, were without a paid job, available for work, and had either actively sought work in the past four weeks ending with the reference week, or had a new job to start within the next four weeks.
Unemployment rate	<b>Unemployment rate</b> The number of unemployed people expressed as a percentage of the labour force.
Union Membership	<b>Union Membership</b> Whether an employee belongs to a union in their main job.
Working proprietors	<b>Working proprietors</b> Includes sole proprietors, partners, or shareholders in a limited liability company who actively engage in the business or its management. Please note that working proprietors in businesses with no employees are outside the scope of the QES and are not included in the estimate of filled jobs.
Working-age population	<b>Working-age population</b> The usually resident, non-institutionalised population of New Zealand aged 15 years and over.

## Household Labour Force Survey Concepts

Name	Description
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Disability	<p><b>Disability</b> Disability status is determined by a set of questions ([The Washington Group Short Set](<a href="http://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/washington-group-question-sets/short-set-of-disability-questions/">http://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/washington-group-question-sets/short-set-of-disability-questions/</a>)), that ask respondents about their ability to carry out six basic activities.</p> <p>The activities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- seeing, even if wearing glasses</li> <li>- hearing, even if using a hearing aid</li> <li>- walking or climbing steps</li> <li>- remembering or concentrating</li> <li>- washing all over or dressing</li> <li>- communicating</li> </ul> <p>The response options are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No difficulty</li> <li>- Some difficulty</li> <li>- A lot of difficulty</li> <li>- Can't do at all</li> </ul> <p>People who respond 'a lot of difficulty' or 'can't do at all' to at least one of the activities are counted as disabled in the survey.</p>
Employed	<p><b>Employed</b> People in the working-age population who, during the reference week, did one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- worked for one hour or more for pay or profit in the context of an employee/employer relationship or self-employment</li> <li>- worked without pay for one hour or more in work which contributed directly to the operation of a farm, business, or professional practice owned or operated by a relative</li> <li>- had a job but were not at work due to own illness or injury, personal or family responsibilities, bad weather or mechanical breakdown, direct involvement in an industrial dispute, or leave or holiday.</li> </ul>
Employment type	<p><b>Employment type</b> We measure four different employment types in the HLFS: employee, employer, self-employment, and unpaid family worker. The HLFS defines a person as self-employed if they work for themselves and do not have any employees.</p>
Employment rate	<p><b>Employment rate</b> The number of employed people expressed as a percentage of the working-age population. The employment rate is closely linked to the working-age population definition.</p>
Employment relationship	<p><b>Employment relationship</b> Distinguishes between different types of employees, according to whether they have a permanent or temporary work arrangement and what type of temporary work arrangement.</p>
Extended labour force	<p><b>Extended labour force</b> People in the labour force, or in the potential labour force.</p>
Formal study statistics	<p><b>Formal study statistics</b> To be participating in formal study, a person must be working towards a qualification that takes three or more months of full-time study to complete. Full-time study is defined as 20 or more hours per week.</p>
Full-time/part-time status	<p><b>Full-time/part-time status</b> Full-time workers usually work 30 hours or more per week, even if they did not do so in the survey reference week because of sickness, holidays, or other reasons. Part-time workers usually work fewer than 30 hours per week.</p>
Hours worked	<p><b>Hours worked</b> Actual hours are the number of hours a person worked in the reference week (including overtime). Usual hours refers to the number of hours a person normally works in a week (including overtime).</p>

Industry	<p><b>Industry</b> Determined from the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 2006. Businesses in QES are classified using ANZSIC06 industries. See ANZSIC 2006 – industry classification for more information about ANZSIC06 and its implementation into the QES and other Statistics NZ collections.</p>
Labour force	<p><b>Labour force</b> Members of the working-age population, who during the survey reference week, were classified as 'employed' or 'unemployed'.</p>
Labour force participation rate	<p><b>Labour force participation rate</b> The total labour force expressed as a percentage of the working-age population. Labour force participation is closely linked to how the working-age population is defined.</p>
NEET (not in employment, education, or training)	<p><b>NEET (not in employment, education, or training)</b> Young people aged 15–24 years who are unemployed (part of the labour force) and not engaged in education or training, and those not in the labour force and not engaged in education or training for many reasons.</p>
NEET rate	<p><b>NEET rate</b> The total number of youth (aged 15–24 years) who are not in education, employment, or training (NEET), as a proportion of the total youth working-age population.</p>
Not in the labour force	<p><b>Not in the labour force</b> Any person in the working-age population who is neither employed nor unemployed. For example, this residual category includes people who</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- are retired</li> <li>- have personal or family responsibilities such as unpaid housework and childcare</li> <li>- attend educational institutions</li> <li>- are permanently unable to work due to physical or mental disabilities</li> <li>- were temporarily unavailable for work in the survey reference week</li> <li>- are not actively seeking work.</li> </ul>
Part-time jobs	<p><b>Part-time jobs</b> Jobs where the employee works less than 30 hours per week.</p>
Potential labour force	<p><b>Potential labour force</b> People who are not actively seeking but are available and wanting a job and people who are actively seeking but not currently available, but will be available to work in the next four weeks.</p>
Seasonally adjusted series	<p><b>Seasonally adjusted series</b> Removes the seasonal component present when dealing with quarterly data. Seasonal patterns obscure the underlying behaviour of the series.</p>
Statistically significant	<p><b>Statistically significant</b> Statistical assessment of whether a change in the series is systematic or simply due to chance. Systematic movements occur when the change is greater than its respective sampling error.</p>
Trend series	<p><b>Trend series</b> Removes both the seasonal and irregular component of the series and reveals the underlying direction of movement in a series.</p>
Underemployment	<p><b>Underemployment</b> People who are in part-time employment who would like to, and are available to, work more hours.</p>
Underemployment rate	<p><b>Underemployment rate</b> The number of underemployed people expressed as a percentage of the employed population.</p>
Underutilised	<p><b>Underutilised</b> The sum of those unemployed, underemployed and in the potential labour force.</p>

Underutilisation rate	<b>Underutilisation rate</b> The number of underutilised people expressed as a proportion of those in the extended labour force.
Unemployed	<b>Unemployed</b> All people in the working-age population who, during the reference week, were without a paid job, available for work, and had either actively sought work in the past four weeks ending with the reference week, or had a new job to start within the next four weeks.
Unemployment rate	<b>Unemployment rate</b> The number of unemployed people expressed as a percentage of the labour force.
Union membership	<b>Union membership</b> Whether an employee belongs to a union in their main job.
Working-age population	<b>Working-age population</b> The usually resident, non-institutionalised population of New Zealand aged 15 years and over.

## Labour cost index

Name	Description
Distribution of increases in surveyed pay rates	<b>Distribution of increases in surveyed pay rates</b> Surveyed salary and ordinary time wage rates (and overtime wage rates) are compared with those of the previous quarter and the same quarter of the previous year, and grouped according to whether they decreased, showed no change, or increased. In the case of ordinary time rates, the increases are divided into the following ranges: increases of up to 2 percent, more than 2 but not more than 3 percent, more than 3 but not more than 5 percent, and more than 5 percent
Average increase	<b>Average increase</b> The unweighted arithmetic mean increase of those surveyed salary and ordinary time wage rates that rose from the previous quarter and from the same quarter of the previous year.
Median increase	<b>Median increase</b> The unweighted median (i.e. middle) increase of those surveyed salary and ordinary time wage rates that rose from the previous quarter and from the same quarter of the previous year.

## QES Concepts

Name	Description
Business Register	<b>Business Register</b> The list of all economically significant enterprises in New Zealand, which is maintained by Statistics NZ.
Earnings	<b>Earnings</b> Earnings estimates are based on payroll data received from economically significant businesses. Businesses provide the total amount of wages/salaries paid to employees by gender and from here earnings figures such as average hourly earnings, and average weekly earnings are derived. Gross earnings can include shift, penal and other allowances, ACC earners premiums, bonuses, paid leave and commissions earned in the pay period. However, it excludes payments not earned in the pay period (e.g. back pay, redundancy or severance pay) and non-taxable payment (e.g. tool money).
Employment	<b>Employment</b> Employment estimates are based on filled jobs in economically significant businesses. If a person has a paid job in the reference week they are considered employed. This includes employees even if they are absent from work (e.g. due to sickness, being on leave, on strike or temporary lay-off, etc.) whether paid or not. This also includes all managerial or executive staff (e.g. Chief Executive).
Enterprise	<b>Enterprise</b> A business or service entity operating in New Zealand.
Full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs	<b>Full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs</b> The total number of full-time jobs plus half the number of part-time jobs. Does not include working proprietors.

Full-time jobs	<b>Full-time jobs</b> Jobs where the employee works for 30 hours or more per week.
Hours Paid	<b>Hours Paid</b> Hours paid is represented by any ordinary time and overtime hours for which an employee has been paid. The concept of hours paid includes paid travelling time, hours represented by holiday pay, sick pay, etc. It is not restricted to just hours that have been worked.
Industry	<b>Industry</b> Determined from the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 2006. Businesses in QES are classified using ANZSIC06 industries.
Part-time jobs	<b>Part-time jobs</b> Jobs where the employee works for less than 30 hours per week.
Working proprietors	<b>Working proprietors</b> Includes sole proprietors, partners, or shareholders in a limited liability company who actively engage in the business or its management. Please note that working proprietors in businesses with no employees are outside the scope of the QES and are not included in the estimate of filled jobs.
Filled jobs	<b>Filled jobs</b> The total number of full-time jobs and part-time jobs.