

PSTILL

Primary employment

Period

From 1980 onwards

Break in series

Yes

Register

Integrated Database for Labour Market Research (IDA)

Description

The variable defines the job function of the most important employment at the end of November of each year.

PSTILL is derived from the variable SOCSTIL_KODE (from Register-based Labour Force Statistics(RAS)) which describes the population's primary connection to the labour market at a given point in time (at the end of November).

The Danish population's primary connection to the labour market can be divided into 3 main groups which are:

- 1) Employed persons
- 2) Unemployed persons
- 3) Persons outside the labour force

Sub classification of employed persons

The sub classifications of employed persons changes in 1996. Before 1996 the employed persons are classified according to their craft code in the groups: salaried employees, skilled and unskilled workers. From 1996 the employed persons are classified based on their work function (the variable DISCO) into following groups:

1. Top managers in enterprises, organizations and the public sector
2. Employees doing work that requires upper level skills
3. Employees doing work that requires medium level skills
4. Employees doing work that requires basic level skills
5. Other employees
6. Employees not specified

From 2003 the level of skills is for 67 pct. of the employed directly connected to the job they are managing at the end of November. For some employees, information about earnings is missing. For these persons other sources such as information about education and line of industry, and membership of unemployment insurance fund are used. Today people can choose more freely between unemployment insurance funds. This makes it harder to establish the level of skill, when the only source is membership of such a fund. As a consequence the group of "employees not specified" has increased.

From 2008 the number of “employees not specified” decreases. The reason is that from 2008 the data which is reported directly to the earnings statistics is used. Before 2008 only data in the final earnings register (where many reports have been excluded) were used.

As a consequence of validating information about earnings, the number of reports from the private sector fluctuates across years. Therefore, one should be cautious when using information about socioeconomic status for employees. The development of number of “employees” at a specific skill level must always be seen relative to the development of the number of “employees not specified” in a given year.

Minor mistake in 2001

There is a minor mistake in Register-based Labour Force Statistics (RAS) in 2001 regarding persons who receive social security and the new introductory benefit compared to the numbers in IDA. The total is lower in RAS compared to IDA while the number of “others outside the labour force” is correspondingly higher in RAS compared to IDA.

Sub-classification of persons outside the labour force

During the period November 1980-1989 persons outside the labour force are classified in the following groups:

- 1) Persons on early retirement
- 2) Pensioners
- 3) Children and young people
- 4) Enrolled in education
- 5) Others outside the labour force

During the period 1990-1993 the categories 3-5 (children and young people, people enrolled in education and others outside the labour force) are accumulated into one category “Others outside the labour force”. From 1994 and onwards there is an additional sub classification of the persons outside the labour force which is due to an increased need of more detailed information.

During the whole period from 1980 the persons outside the labour force can be classified into the following four groups:

- 1) Persons temporarily outside the labour force
- 2) Withdrawal from the labour force
- 3) Pensioners
- 4) Others outside the labour force

The new classification of persons outside the labour force was not published until 1997. This caused a significant decline in the number of persons enrolled in education.

Changes in the set of values

IDA 1993; Code 55 “Benefit before early retirement” was implemented.

IDA 1994 and onwards; a new set of values is implemented because of new codes for persons on leave from employment (code 01-05, 71-77) and persons on leave from unemployment (code 41).

IDA 1996; a change in the sub-classification of “employed persons” (codes 30-399) and a change in some codes concerning leave (71-77).

IDA 1997; in connection to the new classification of “persons outside the labour force” the codes 41-49 and 93-96 are implemented.

IDA 2001; code 97 has a change of content. From 2001 and onwards it only concerns persons on introductory benefit. In 2000 the code also concerned persons in activation. Because of uncertainty about the filings they are no longer included.

Code 98 “Introductory education was implemented.

IDA 2002; code 52 “unemployment benefit” and code 51 “activation” (according to the social security register) was implemented.

IDA2007; codes 47 “special activation” and 55 “benefit before early retirement” were removed from the set of values.

IDA 2008; codes 56 “fleksydelse” and 57 “partial unemployment” was implemented.

The accuracy of the distribution of employment across the groups of employed persons (codes 31-37) increased from 2008 and onwards because of information from the e-Income register. There is a decrease in the number of “employees not specified” and a corresponding increase in the other groups of employees.

Classifications

The information on the primary employment can be classified into four main groupings (see below). However it is also possible to classify into more detailed subgroups if there is a need for information on a more specific level.

1.	Employed persons (PSTILL=1-37 and 71-77) (Including persons on leave)
2.	Unemployed persons (PSTILL=40)
3.	Persons outside the labour force (except for persons enrolled in education) (PSTILL=41-45 47-57, 90 and 92-98)
4.	Persons enrolled in education (PSTILL=46 and 91)

Pstill

