

**Documentation of statistics for  
Employee Trade Unions 2023**

## 1 Introduction

The purpose of the statistics is to compile aggregated annual statistics showing the number of members of employee organisations with attachment to the labour market. Since 1994 the statistics in its present form have been compiled and included in a table published in the Statistical Yearbook and the Statistical Ten-Year Review. From 2008, the statistics is published in Statbank and from 2009 the statistics are also published in the series 'Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik' (News from Statistics Denmark). In connection with publication of the statistics in May 2015, the statistics were subjected to revision and adjustment and the date of reference was changed from 1 January of a year to 31 December of the previous year. The statistics are revised and adjusted backwards to 31 December 2007. 1 January 2019 LO and FTF were merged into FH, and a deviation in the figures according to previous year can be due to the harmonizing between FTF and LO.

## 2 Statistical presentation

The statistics provide an overview of the number of members of employee organisations with attachment to the labour market i.e. excl. trainees, retirees, early retirees and self-employed. The statistics is published on a yearly basis.

### 2.1 Data description

These statistics provide an overview of the number of members of employee organisations with attachment to the labour market, i.e. excl. trainees, retirees, early retirees and self-employed. The statistics is published on a yearly basis. When we publish the data from 2019 we have made some revisions in the structure of the corresponding tables in the statbank. These revisions are made for the whole time series 2007-2019.

### 2.2 Classification system

The employee organisations are grouped in four main organisations: 'FH', 'AC' and 'Ledernes Hovedorganisation'.

### 2.3 Sector coverage

These statistics include all sectors represented by employee trade unions.

### 2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

**Employee:** Individuals who work for a public or private employer and receive remuneration in the form of cash or in kind and income compensation. Conscripts are also included.

**Employee with attachment to the labour market:** An employee with attachment to the labour market has a paid work or is unemployed. An employee without attachment to the labour market is a trainee, retiree or early retiree.

**Employee Organization:** Association of employed and unemployed people with the same occupation or education or with the same type of work with the aim to work for the common interests. Most employee organizations are members of a central organization (LO, FTF, AC or Managers and Executives), while a smaller number are outside the main organizations.

## **2.5 Statistical unit**

Person.

## **2.6 Statistical population**

Employees with attachment to the labour market, ie. they have a paid job or are unemployed, and who are members of a Danish Employee Organization.

## **2.7 Reference area**

Denmark.

## **2.8 Time coverage**

1. December 2007 - 31. December 2023.

## **2.9 Base period**

Not relevant for these statistics.

## **2.10 Unit of measure**

People.

## **2.11 Reference period**

01-01-2023 - 31-12-2023

## **2.12 Frequency of dissemination**

The statistics is published on a yearly basis.

## **2.13 Legal acts and other agreements**

Participation in the survey is voluntary.

## **2.14 Cost and burden**

The size of the burden of reporting is not calculated, but the reporting is voluntary.

## **2.15 Comment**

Additional information is available by contacting Statistics Denmark.

### **3 Statistical processing**

These statistics are based on annual reports from employees' organisations on the number of members attached to the labour market per December 31. Corrections are taken back in time, if possible.

#### **3.1 Source data**

The statistics are based on annual reports of employee organisations. The Central Organizations transmit the data for their member organisations.

#### **3.2 Frequency of data collection**

Reporting to the statistics is on an annual basis.

#### **3.3 Data collection**

Approximately one month after the reference date (31 December) an email is sent to reporting units with response time approx. two months after the reference date. The responding units are requested to report the number of employee members who are attached to the labour market, i.e. exclusive members who are students, self-employed, fulltime-early retirees or pensioners. The membership must be divided by gender. The responding units are the Central Organisations (FH, AC and Managers and Executives) and employees' organisations outside the Central Organizations.

#### **3.4 Data validation**

The reports are validated by comparing the figures with the previous reference period. If the level has changed considerably contact is made to the respondent. During the validation process errors have been corrected with respect to not including members who are not attached to the labour market, i.e. trainees, retirees and early retirees. There have also been examples of erroneous reporting self-employed. These corrections can effect the figures concerning the previous years.

#### **3.5 Data compilation**

Immediately after the reporting deadline a reminder is sent to non-respondents. If the transmission does not occur before the statistics is published data can be imputed on basis of data from the previous year. In reason years it has not been necessary to make imputations.

#### **3.6 Adjustment**

No corrections of data are made beyond what has already been described regarding data validation and data processing.

### **4 Relevance**

Users of the statistics are typically employee and employer organisations, researchers and the media. No dissatisfaction has been expressed with the statistics.

#### **4.1 User Needs**

Among users of the statistics are employee and employer organisations, researchers and the media.

#### **4.2 User Satisfaction**

The statistics has a relatively high profile in the media in connection with the annual publication. There have been no requests for changes in the statistics or expressed dissatisfaction with the statistics.

#### **4.3 Data completeness rate**

All data are published.

### **5 Accuracy and reliability**

The statistics are based on reports from Central Employee Organisations and other employee organisations. Not all employee unions are able to calculate the figures exclusive members not attached to the labor market, i.e.. students, early retirees and pensioners, and self-employed may also be included . The data are therefore believed to be a little overestimated. The statistics are believed to have a reasonable quality. The data are normally not revised, but if errors are detected they are corrected back in time as far as possible.

#### **5.1 Overall accuracy**

The statistics are believed to have a reasonable quality. The reported data are however assumed to be overvalued. This is based on our experience which shows that not all employee organisations are able to estimate the figures excluding members not attached to the labour market. In other words, students, early retirees and pensioners, as well as self-employed may be included . There is a risk that new small employee organisations have not been included in the population.

#### **5.2 Sampling error**

The statistics are based on an approximated census. There is a risk that newly established small employee organisations have not been included in the population.

#### **5.3 Non-sampling error**

The frame population is 110-120 Danish employee organisations, this number can change from year to year. One organisation do not report, which result in a minor under-coverage of less than 1 per cent.

#### **5.4 Quality management**

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

## **5.5 Quality assurance**

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

## **5.6 Quality assessment**

A questionnaire is sent to those employee organisations which it have been identifiable. A single employee organisation (Danmarks Frie Fagforening) has never responded and number of members of the union is therefore not included in the statistics. Not all organisations are able to determine the figures exclusive members not attached to the labour market, i.e. there may be trainees, retirees and early retirees included in the figures as well as self-employed. To the extent that organisations are able to correct errors previously reported, the figures are corrected to the extent that it is possible, however this is often difficult for historic data. No figures are available regarding the size of insecurity. Quality is assessed to be reasonable.

## **5.7 Data revision - policy**

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

## **5.8 Data revision practice**

Normally the published figures are not revised. If errors are detected in the published figures, these will, however, be corrected.

## **6 Timeliness and punctuality**

The statistics are published 4-5 months after the reference date.

The statistics are usually published on the scheduled date without delay.

### **6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results**

The average time from the reference date (31 December) until publishing date is 4,5 months.

Since 2010 the publishing time has been from 106 to 155 days.

### **6.2 Punctuality**

The statistics are usually published on the scheduled date without delay. Since 2010 the publishing time has been from 106 to 142 days.

## **7 Comparability**

There may be minor breaks over time in connection with employee organisations changing their calculation method, for example, correcting errors. Typically, organisations will not be able to fix it back in time. Also, membership of the Central Organisations varies over time as the employee organisations can sign in and out of the Central Organisations. In addition, new employee organisations appear and other organisations disappear over time.

### **7.1 Comparability - geographical**

The statistics is not internationally comparable.

### **7.2 Comparability over time**

Since 1994 the statistics have been compiled and published. There may be minor breaks over time in connection with employee organisations changing their calculation method, for example, correcting errors. Typically, organisations will not be able to fix it back in time. Also, membership of the Central Organisations varies over time as the employee organisations can sign in and out of the Central Organisations. In addition, new employee organisations appear and other organisations disappear over time.

### **7.3 Coherence - cross domain**

There is no other Danish statistics on the subject.

### **7.4 Coherence - internal**

All employee organisations and Central Organisations receive the same questionnaire. However, not all organisations are able to calculate figures exclusive members with no attachment to the labour market, i.e. students, early retirees and pensioners as well as self-employed.

## **8 Accessibility and clarity**

The statistics is published in *Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik* (News from Statistics Denmark), <http://www.Statbank.dk>, Statistical Ten-Year-Review.

### **8.1 Release calendar**

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

### **8.3 User access**

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

### **8.2 Release calendar access**

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

#### **8.4 News release**

New statistics is published in a yearly article: [Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik](#).

All data are available in: [StatBank Denmark](#).

#### **8.5 Publications**

The data are published in:

- [Statistisk Tiårsoversigt](#)

#### **8.6 On-line database**

The statistics are published in the StatBank under the subject [Employees trade unions](#) in the following tables:

- [LONMED2](#): Members per 31.12 by member of organisation, sex
- [LONMED3](#): Members per 31.12 by member of organisation, sex

#### **8.7 Micro-data access**

There are no more detailed data available than already published.

#### **8.8 Other**

No comments.

#### **8.9 Confidentiality - policy**

It is not necessary to hide data according to [Statistics Denmark's Confidentiality rules](#)

#### **8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment**

It is not necessary to hide data according to [Confidentiality rules of Statistics Denmark](#)

#### **8.11 Documentation on methodology**

No further documentation is available.

#### **8.12 Quality documentation**

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.



## **9 Contact**

The administrative placement of these statistics is in the division of Labour Market. The contact person is Mikkel Zimmermann, tel.: + 45 5144 9837, and e-mail: [MZI@dst.dk](mailto:MZI@dst.dk).