

# SCE JOB SEARCH SUPPLEMENT DATASET CODEBOOK

MAY 2023

**Note: As of 2023, we are posting a newly formatted data file, replacing the ones we had posted previously. Please note that some of the variable names may have changed. Going forward, we will be updating and adding new data to this file.**

## SUMMARY

This document lists the survey details as well as survey questions and their possible responses for the Survey of Consumer Expectations (SCE) Job Search Supplement.

### *Job Search Supplement Overview*

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York has fielded the Job Search Supplement each October since 2013. The sample frame is the same as that for the monthly SCE, and is described in detail by Armentier et al. (2017).<sup>1</sup> In short, it is a nationally-representative sample of heads of households age 18 and older. The Job Search Supplement draws a cross-section of these respondents to interview online each October. As such, the annual supplement is a series of repeated cross-sections rather than longitudinal. The Job Search Supplement was originally designed by Jason Faberman, Andreas Mueller, Aysegül Şahin, and Giorgio Topa, and Faberman et al. (2017) provide additional details on it.<sup>2</sup> Each survey year has roughly 1,100 observations, with the specific number for each year listed below.

Survey Year	Observations	Survey Year	Observations
2013	1,333	2017	1,120
2014	1,225	2018	1,172
2015	1,065	2019	1,102
2016	1,174	2020	965

### *Micro Data and Codebook Details*

Within the public Job Search Supplement dataset, variables are named based on their survey question number, which corresponds to the question number listed in this Codebook. Next to each question, the Codebook also lists the skip logic that defines the scope of respondents who are asked the question.

Some questions allow the respondent to “check all that apply.” These questions have a separate variable (roughly named after the response option) equal to one if the respondent checked the option and zero otherwise. These questions are tagged with a “[CA]” label in the Codebook.

Some questions allowed respondents to provide an open-ended “Other” response. Prior to the public release of the micro data, these open-ended responses are recoded into one of the other possible responses to best extent possible. In the micro data, variables that include recoded information have an “\_rc” suffix. Recoded variables also have an imputation flag variable (labeled using the question number and the “\_impute\_flag” suffix) associated with them, which is equal to one if a respondent have had any answer recoded. In the Codebook, these questions are noted with an “[RC]” label.

Questions have been added or revised since the inception of the survey in 2013, with the majority of these changes occurring between the 2013 and 2014 surveys (there were no changes to the survey in 2018 or 2019). The Codebook

---

<sup>1</sup> Armentier, Olivier, Giorgio Topa, Wilbert van der Klaauw, and Basit Zafar, 2017. “An Overview of the Survey of Consumer Expectations”, *Economic Policy Review*, December 2017, Vol. 23(2): 51-72.

<sup>2</sup> Faberman, R. Jason, Andreas Mueller, Ayşegül Şahin, and Giorgio Topa, 2017. “Job Search Behavior among the Employed and Non-Employed,” *Econometrica*, July 2022, Vol 90(4): 1743-79.

notes these changes with note in brackets that briefly describe the change. In some cases, the survey added new options for question responses or revised existing responses. In these cases, the revision is also noted next to the relevant response.

One notable change was the revision of how the survey asked about labor force status after 2013. In 2013, the survey asked a single question about employment or nonemployment status (Question L1). From 2014 forward, the survey first asks about employment status (Question L1a), and then asks about the type of nonemployment (revised Question L1) if the respondent does not respond that they are employed in Question L1a.

Another notable change was the removal of the option to report earnings as monthly or biweekly after the 2013 survey. Consequently, the 2013 biweekly and monthly responses were imputed to a weekly estimate based on reported usual hours worked for consistency with data from other survey years.

Finally, in 2020 several survey questions were added and the responses to several survey questions were revised to elicit responses that may have been specific to the Covid pandemic, or to address potential measurement concerns that arose in other household surveys during this time. These are noted in the same manner as revisions from earlier years.

**L. GENERAL LABOR MARKET QUESTIONS**

**L1a.** [All respondents] [Introduced in 2014; options originally in Question L1 in 2013]

Are you currently working for pay, either for yourself or for someone else?

- Yes, working for pay full-time (1)
- Yes, working for pay part-time (2)
- No (3)

**L1.** [If L1a = 3] [RC] [Revised in 2014 and 2020; split into Questions L1a, L1 in 2014]

You said that you are not currently working for pay. Which of the following BEST describes your current employment situation?

- Yes, working for pay full-time [[Option (1) in 2013, moved to L1a afterward]
- Yes, working for pay part-time [Option (2) in 2013, moved to L1a afterward]
- Not working, but would like to work (1) [Option (3) in 2013]
- Temporarily laid off or on furlough (2) [Option (4) in 2013; “or on furlough” added in 2020]
- On sick leave or other temporary personal leave (3) [Option (5) in 2013; “personal” added in 2020]
- Permanently disabled or unable to work (4) [Option (6) in 2013]
- Retiree or early retiree (5) [Option (7) in 2013]
- Student, at school, or in training (6) [Option (8) in 2013]
- Homemaker, caregiver, or at home and not seeking work (7) [Option (9) in 2013]

**L2a.** [All employed, including temporary layoffs]

Altogether, how many jobs do you have (including the job from which you were temporarily laid off, but) excluding volunteer or other unpaid work)?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ job(s)

**L4** [Employed only, including on layoff]

In your main/current job, do you work for someone else or are you self-employed?

- Self-employed (1)
- Work for someone else (0)

**L5** [Non-employed only, but including those on layoff]

Have you done anything in the LAST 4 WEEKS to look for work?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**L5b** [Follow up, if L5 = 2 (no search in last 4 weeks)]

Would you want a job, either full-time or part-time, if one was offered to you?

- Yes (1)
- Maybe, depending on the job and circumstances (2)
- No (3)

**L6** [Employed only, excluding layoffs]

Have you done anything in the LAST 4 WEEKS to look for new work?

- Yes, looking to leave my current job for a new job (1)
- Yes, looking for an additional job without leaving my current job (2)
- No (3)

**L6c** [Follow up, if L6 = 2 (no search in last 4 weeks)]

Would you want a job in addition to your main/current job, if one was offered to you?

- Yes (1)
- Maybe, depending on the job and circumstances (2)
- No (3)

**L6b** [Follow up, if L6 = 2 (no search in last 4 weeks)]

Would you want a new job, either full-time or part-time, if one was offered to you?

- Yes (1)
- Maybe, depending on the job and circumstances (2)
- No (3)

**L7b** [All respondents that did not search in the last 4 weeks] [**Introduced in 2017**]

And did you do anything to look for work within the LAST 8 WEEKS?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**L7** [All respondents, searched within last 4 weeks] (all responses converted to days)

How long have you been looking for a job?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ day(s)

**L8a.** [All respondents with L1 = {2 or 3} (all those on temp layoff or leave).] [**Introduced in 2020**]

Are you out of work directly because of the coronavirus pandemic or related restrictions on activity or business operations?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

**L8b.** [All respondents with L1 = {2 or 3} (all those on temp layoff or leave).] [**Introduced in 2020**]

Are you currently receiving pay while out of work?

- Yes, my employer is currently paying me without my having to use any paid leave of my own (1)
- Yes, but I am using my own paid leave (2)
- No, I am currently unpaid (3)

**L8** [Non-employed only, but including those on layoff]

How long has it been since you have done any paid work, either full-time or part-time? Please round up to the nearest number of months.

I have been out of work for (1) \_\_\_\_\_ month(s)  
 999995 = I have never had a paid job

**L9** [Employed only, including on layoff]

What was the month and year that you started working at your main/current job?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as YYYYMM)

**L10** [Employed only, including on layoff]

How many hours per week do you USUALLY work at your main/current job?

I usually work (1) \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week

**L10b.** [All respondents with L1a = { 1 or 2 } (all employed, excluding those on layoff or on leave).] [**Introduced in 2020**]

Are you currently teleworking (working from home)?

- Yes, all of my work is done while teleworking and I had the same telework schedule prior to March 13, 2020 (1)
- Yes, all of my work is done while teleworking, but I only teleworked occasionally prior to March 13, 2020 (2)
- Yes, all of my work is done while teleworking, and I did not telework at all prior to March 13, 2020 (3)
- My work involves a mix of teleworking and working outside of my home, but my work involved at least some telework prior since March 13, 2020 (4)
- My work involves a mix of teleworking and working outside of my home, and I did not telework at all prior to March 13, 2020 (5)
- Yes, I am doing at least some work while teleworking, but I started my current job after March 13, 2020 (6)
- No, all of my work is done at my place of employment or otherwise outside of my home. (7)

**L11** [Employed only, including on layoff] [**Revised in 2014 to drop biweekly, monthly reporting options, which were imputed into weekly values in 2013**]

How much do you make BEFORE taxes or other deductions at your main/current job? Please include any bonuses, overtime pay, tips or commissions.

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as hourly, weekly, or annually)
- [See INCOME BRACKETS list in the Appendix, for annual salaries reported as a range]

**JH9** [Employed only, including on layoff] [**Revised in 2014 to drop biweekly, monthly reporting options, which were imputed into weekly values in 2013**]

And how much did you make when you STARTED your main/current job, before taxes and other deductions? Please include any bonuses, overtime pay, tips or commissions

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as hourly, weekly, or annually)
- 999999 = Don't remember (included in hourly earnings variable)

**L14self** [Self-employed or Non-employed] [**RC**] [**CA**]

Do you currently have any of the following coverage? [check all that apply]

- Health insurance (1)
- Dental or vision insurance (2)
- Life or disability insurance (3)
- None of the above (4)

**L14** [Employed, wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] [**RC**] [**CA**] [**Options revised in 2014; see BENEFITS list in Appendix**]

Do you receive any of the following employer-provided benefits at your main/current job?

- [See BENEFITS list in Appendix]

**L15.** [All employed or on layoff/leave, excluding self-employed] **[Introduced in 2014]**

Suppose 12 MONTHS FROM NOW you are working in the same ["main"] job as you do now. Do you think you will have an increase, decrease, or no change in your employer-provided benefits 12 MONTHS FROM NOW?

- Overall, I expect my benefits to increase (1)
- Overall, I expect my benefits to decrease (2)
- I expect no change in my benefits in the next 12 months(3)

**L18** [Employed, wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] **[RC] [CA] [Question only asked in 2013; replaced by Question L15 in 2014]**

Suppose 12 MONTHS FROM NOW you are working in the same (main) job as you do now. Which of the following employer-provided benefits do you think you will receive at your job 12 months from now?

- [See BENEFITS list in Appendix]

**L20** [Not employed or on layoff and had previous employment]

What month and year did you last work at your most recent job?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as YYYYMM)

**L21** [Not employed or on layoff and had previous employment]

And what was the month and year that you STARTED working at your most recent job?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as YYYYMM)

**L22** [Not employed or on layoff and had previous employment]

How many hours per week did you usually work at your most recent job?

- I usually worked (1) \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week

**L24** [Not employed or on layoff and had previous employment] **[Revised in 2014 to drop biweekly, monthly reporting options, which were imputed into weekly values in 2013]**

How much did you make, BEFORE taxes and other deductions, on your most recent job? Please include any bonuses, overtime pay, tips or commissions.

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as hourly, weekly, or annually)

- [See INCOME BRACKETS list in the Appendix, for annual salaries reported as a range]

**L25self** [Not employed or on layoff and had previous employment]

In your most recent job, did you work for someone else or were you self-employed?

- Self-employed (1)
- Work for someone else (0)

**L25** [Follow up, if L25self = 1 (wage and salary employment)] **[RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014; see BENEFITS list in Appendix]**

Did you receive any of the following employer-provided benefits at your most recent job?

- [See BENEFITS list in Appendix]

**EC. ADDITIONAL EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION**

**EC1a** [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] [RC]

In your main/current job, what type of employer do you work for?

- Government (1)
- Private-sector, for-profit company (2)
- Non-profit organization (3)
- Work in the family business (4)

**EC1b** [Follow up, if EC1a = 1 (Government)]

Would this be the federal, state, or local government?

- Federal (1)
- State (2)
- Local (3)

**EC1f** [Follow up, if EC1a ≠ 1 (Private, non-profit, or family business)] [RC] [Options revised in 2014; see INDUSTRY list in Appendix]

What kind of business or INDUSTRY is this?

- [See INDUSTRY list in Appendix]

**EC2a** [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] [RC] (responses coded into 3-digit SOC codes)

What kind of work do you do, that is, what is your OCCUPATION on your main/current job? (for example: Electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, ...).

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (3-digit SOC code)

**EC3a** [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff]

For your main/current job, does your employer's business operate out of more than one LOCATION (office, store, or other permanent place of business)?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**EC3b** [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff]

How many paid employees does your employer's business at your main/current job usually have AT YOUR USUAL PLACE OF WORK?

- [See EMPLOYER SIZE list in the Appendix]

**EC3c** [Follow up, if EC3a = 1 (Multi-location business)]

Counting ALL LOCATIONS where your employer operates, what is your best guess for the total number of persons who work for your employer?

- [See EMPLOYER SIZE list in the Appendix]

**EC4** [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] [Introduced in 2014]

At your PLACE OF WORK for your [main/current] job, are you or any other employees part of a union?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

**EC4a** [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] [**Introduced in 2014; wording revised to include “or one that has a specific task or end date” in 2017**]

Is your [main/current] job a temporary or seasonal job, or one that has a specific task or end date?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

**EC4b** [Follow up, if job is temporary or seasonal] [**Introduced in 2017**]

Counting from today, how many more months do you expect this job to last?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ months
- 999992 = less than one month

**EC5** [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff]

What is the average time you spend commuting to and from your main/current job each day?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ minutes
- 999996 = I mostly work from home

**EC6** [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] [RC]

At your main/current job, has your employer ever reduced your hourly wage, salary or hours because of slack demand or other difficult conditions for the business?

- Yes, a reduction in hours (1)
- Yes, a reduction in hourly wage (2)
- Yes, a reduction in overall salary for the same number of hours (3)
- No reduction in salary or hourly wage (5)

**EC9** [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] [**Introduced in 2014**]

How satisfied would you say you are with your level of compensation at your [current/main] job?

- Very dissatisfied (1)
- Somewhat dissatisfied (2)
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3)
- Somewhat satisfied (4)
- Very satisfied (5)

**EC10** [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] [**Introduced in 2014**]

And how satisfied would you say you are with other aspects of the job, such as benefits, maternity/paternity leaves, flexibility in work hours, etc?

- Very dissatisfied (1)
- Somewhat dissatisfied (2)
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3)
- Somewhat satisfied (4)
- Very satisfied (5)



**EC11 [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] [Introduced in 2014]**

On a scale from 1 to 7, how well do you think this job fits your experience and skills?

- Very poor fit (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)
- (6)
- Very good fit (7)

**EC12 [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] [Introduced in 2014]**

On a scale from 1 to 7, how would you rate the opportunities for a promotion or other career progression with your current employer, over the next three years?

- Very poor options (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)
- (6)
- Very good options (7)

**EC13 [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] [Introduced in 2014]**

Taking everything into consideration, how satisfied would you say you are, overall, in your [current/main] job?

- Very dissatisfied (1)
- Somewhat dissatisfied (2)
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3)
- Somewhat satisfied (4)
- Very satisfied (5)

**EC14 [Wage and salary earners only, including on layoff] [Introduced in 2014]**

What do you think is the percent chance that you might be laid off within the NEXT 6 MONTHS at your [main/current] job?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ percent chance

**ES. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED**

**ES1 [Self-employed only] [RC] [Revised response options in 2014]**

Which of the following describe your status as a self-employed individual?

- I work as an independent contractor / consultant / freelancer (1)
- I own a business where I am the only employee (2) **[Revised in 2014 to add “where I am the only employee”]**
- I own a business where I employ at least one other person (3) **[Option added in 2014]**
- I work in the family business (4) **[Option (3) in 2013]**

**ES1a** [Follow up, if ES1 = 2 (own a business)] [RC]

What is the nature of your business?

- Sole proprietorship or partnership (1)
- Limited liability company (2)
- Corporation (3)

**ES3a** [Self-employed only] [RC] [Options revised in 2014; see INDUSTRY list in Appendix]

What kind of business or INDUSTRY do you work in?

- [See list in Appendix]

**ES3b** [Self-employed only] [RC] (responses coded into 3-digit SOC codes)

What kind of work do you do, that is, what is your OCCUPATION? (for example: Electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, ...)

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (3-digit SOC code)

**ES4** [Follow up, if ES1 = 2 (own a business)]

Excluding yourself, how many paid employees does your business usually have?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ employees

**ES5new** [Follow up, if ES1 = 2 (own a business)]

What do you think is the percent chance that your business will have more workers than it currently has 12 MONTHS FROM NOW?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ percent chance

**ES6** [Follow up, if ES4 > 0 (has paid employees)]

Does your business operate out of more than one LOCATION (office, store, or other permanent place of business)?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**ES7** [Follow up, if ES1 = 2 (own a business)] [RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014; see BENEFITS list in Appendix]

Does your business provide any of the following benefits to any of your employees? [check all that apply]

- [See BENEFITS list in Appendix]

**ES9** [Self-employed only]

What is the average time you spend commuting to and from work each day?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ minutes
- 999996 = I mostly work from home

**ES11** [Self-employed only]

How many hours per week have you worked [in your independent contractor job, in your business, in your family business, as a self-employed individual], on average, over the LAST FOUR WEEKS?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week

**ES12 [Self-employed only] [Introduced in 2014]**

Taking everything into consideration, how satisfied would you say you are, overall, in your [independent contractor job, business, family business, as self-employed?

- Very dissatisfied (1)
- Somewhat dissatisfied (2)
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3)
- Somewhat satisfied (4)
- Very satisfied (5)

**EO. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THE NON-EMPLOYED**

**EO1 [Temporary layoffs only] [Wording revised in 2020]**

As of last week, how many weeks have you been on layoff or on furlough? [Added “or on furlough” in 2020]

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ week(s)

**EO2 [Temporary layoffs only]**

Has your employer given you a date to return to work?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**EO3 [Temporary layoffs, plus non-employed up to 6 months that would like to work]**

(Earlier you mentioned that you have been out of work for the past [L8 answer] months.) Have you been given any indication that you will be recalled to work by your previous employer within the next 6 months?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**EO3a [Temporary layoffs only]**

Regardless of whether you have been given any indication, what do you think is the percent chance that you will be recalled by your previous employer within the next 6 months?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ percent chance

**EO4 [Students only] [RC]**

You indicated that you were currently attending school or receiving training. What type of training are you currently enrolled in?

- High School or equivalent program (1)
- Vocational training or certification program (2)
- A two-year college (3)
- An undergraduate program at a four-year college or university (4)
- A graduate or professional degree program (5)

**EO5 [Students only]**

Are you currently enrolled in your program on a full-time or part-time basis?

- Full-time (1)
- Part-time (2)

**EO6** [If L2a or L2b > 1 (multiple-jobholders)]

You indicated that you currently have more than one job. Outside of your main job, how many hours per week do you USUALLY work in your other job(s)?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week

**EO7** [All but self-employed and wage and salary owners with current employer for at least 5 years]

How many different employers have you worked for during the LAST 5 YEARS? Please include all current employers in the total.

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ employers

**EO7b** [Follow up to EO7]

Of the jobs you just listed, think about the one that you worked at the LONGEST during the last 5 years. How many MONTHS did you work at this job?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ month(s)

**EO10** [Follow up, if EO7 > 0]

You mentioned you worked at [EO7 answer] total jobs in the LAST 5 YEARS. How many of these jobs...

- Did you work at for at least 2 weeks? (1) \_\_\_\_\_
- Were full-time jobs of at least 35 hours per week? (2) \_\_\_\_\_
- Were temporary or seasonal jobs? (3) \_\_\_\_\_
- Ended because of slow or poor business conditions? (4) \_\_\_\_\_
- Ended because of performance-related reasons? (5) \_\_\_\_\_
- Ended because of an internal reorganization? (6) \_\_\_\_\_
- Did you voluntarily separate from? (7) \_\_\_\_\_

**EO11** [All but self-employed and wage and salary owners with current employer for at least 5 years]

During the LAST 5 YEARS, how many months IN TOTAL did you spend without a job?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ month(s)

**EO12** [Follow up to EO11]

You just mentioned that during the LAST 5 YEARS you spent [EO11 answer] months without a job. How many of these months were spent primarily...

- Looking for work: (1) \_\_\_\_\_ months (1)
- Enrolled in school: (2) \_\_\_\_\_ months (2)
- Not looking for work because no work was available: (3) \_\_\_\_\_ months (3)
- Not looking for work because of disability or retirement: (4) \_\_\_\_\_ months (4)
- Not looking for work for family/personal reasons: (5) \_\_\_\_\_ months (5)
- Not looking for work for other reasons: (6) \_\_\_\_\_ months (6)

**EL. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE MOST RECENT JOB**

**EL1** [Not employed or on layoff, with a previous paid job, excluding the previously self-employed] [RC]

Now we would like to ask you some more questions about your most recent job. What was the MAIN REASON that you separated from this job? [Options revised in 2014]

- Layoff due to slow business conditions or employer going out of business (1) [Revised in 2014 to add “or employer going out of business”]
- Internal reorganization or position eliminated (2)
- Office or store closing (3) [Removed after 2013, merged with Option (1)]
- Employer went out of business (4) [Removed after 2013, merged with Option (1)]
- End of temporary or seasonal work (3) [Option (5) in 2013]
- Firing or termination (4) [Option (6) in 2013]
- Voluntary separation from job (5) [Option (7) in 2013]
- Retirement or old age (6) [Option (8) in 2013]
- Disability (7) [Option (9) in 2013]

**EL2a** [Not employed or on layoff, with a previous paid job, excluding the previously self-employed] [RC]

In your most recent job, what type of employer did you work for?

- Government (1)
- Private-sector, for-profit company (2)
- Non-profit organization (3)
- Self-employed (4)
- Working in the family business (5)

**EL2b** [Follow up, if EL2a = 1 (Government)]

Would this be the federal, state, or local government?

- Federal (1)
- State (2)
- Local (3)

**EL3a** [Not employed or on layoff, with a previous paid job, excluding the previously self-employed]

Did this employer’s business operate out of more than one LOCATION (office, store, or other permanent place of business)?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**EL3b** [Not employed or on layoff, with a previous paid job, excluding the previously self-employed]

How many paid employees did this business usually have AT YOUR USUAL PLACE OF WORK?

- [See EMPLOYER SIZE list in the Appendix]

**EL3c** [Follow-up, if EL3a = 1 (multiple-location business)]

Counting ALL LOCATIONS where your employer operated, what is your best guess for the total number of persons who worked for this employer?

- [See EMPLOYER SIZE list in the Appendix]

**EL3d** [Not employed or on layoff, with a previous paid job, excluding the previously self-employed]

Did this employer shut down your usual place of work, or go out of business entirely, at the time or shortly after you left your job?

- Yes, shut down my usual place of work (1)
- Yes, went out of business entirely (2)
- No (3)
- Don't know (4)

**EL4a** [Follow up, if EL2a = {2, 3, or 4} (reported non-government previous employment)] **[RC]** **[Options revised in 2014; see INDUSTRY list in Appendix]**

What kind of business or INDUSTRY was this?

- [See INDUSTRY list in Appendix]

**EL4b** [Not employed or on layoff, with a previous paid job, excluding the previously self-employed] **[RC]**  
(responses coded into 3-digit SOC codes)

What kind of work did you do, that is, what was your OCCUPATION on your most recent job? (for example: Electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, ...)

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (3-digit SOC code)

**EL5a.** [Not employed or on layoff, with a previous paid job, excluding the previously self-employed] **[Introduced in 2014]**

Were any employees at this business part of a union?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

**EL5b.** [Not employed or on layoff, with a previous paid job, excluding the previously self-employed] **[Introduced in 2014; wording revised to include "or one that has a specific task or end date" in 2017]**

Was this job a temporary or seasonal job, or one that has a specific task or end date?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

**EL5c.** [Not employed or on layoff, with a previous paid job, excluding the previously self-employed] **[Introduced in 2014]**

At the time of your separation, how many hours per week did you USUALLY work at your most recent job?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week.

**EL6** [Not employed or on layoff, with a previous paid job, excluding the previously self-employed]

At the time of your separation, what was the average time you spent commuting to and from your most recent job each day?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ minutes
- 999996 = I mostly worked from home

**EL7** [Not employed or on layoff, with a previous paid job, excluding the previously self-employed]

Since you separated from your most recent job, have you COMPLETED any additional schooling or training?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- Currently enrolled in a school or training program (3)

**EL8** [Follow up, if EL7 = 1 (additional schooling or training)] [RC]

What type of degree or training did you complete?

- High School or equivalent degree (1)
- Vocational training or certification program (2)
- An associate degree at a two-year college (3)
- A bachelors degree at a four-year college or university (4)
- A graduate or professional degree (5)

## **JS. JOB SEARCH BEHAVIOR**

**JS1** [All who looked for new/additional work in last 4 weeks, or want or might want a new/additional job, excluding the self-employed]

You indicated that you have looked for work in the last four weeks (you currently would want a job). Are you interested in full-time work of at least 35 hours per week, part-time work, or would you take the best available job regardless of the hours offered?

- Full-time of at least 35 hours (1)
- Part-time (2)
- Either full-time or part-time (3)

**JS1b** [Follow up, if JS1 = 2 (part-time)] [RC] [Options revised in 2014; wording revised in 2020]

What is the main reason why you are interested in part-time and not full-time work?

- Child care problems (including at-home schooling) or other family obligations, including caring for an ill family member (1) [Added “(including at-home schooling)” and “including caring for an ill family member” in 2020]
- My own illness, poor health, or medical limitations (2) [Added “My own illness, poor health, or” in 2020]
- School/training (3)
- Retired/Social Security limit on earnings (4)
- Current full-time work week is less than 35 hours (5)
- I have a job and am looking for an additional part-time job (6)
- I prefer the hours flexibility and/or shorter workweek of part-time work (7) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (8) “want the extra time for myself/just looking to keep busy” and (9) “prefer the flexibility of part-time work” in 2013]
- I am just looking for additional income (8) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (10) in 2013]

**JS1c.** [All respondents with JS1b = {1, 2, 7, 8, 9} (all those looking for PT work because of child care, health, flexibility, income, or other).] [Introduced in 2020]

Are your reasons for only looking for part-time work related to the coronavirus pandemic or related restrictions on activity or business operations?

- Yes, I am/have been ill with coronavirus symptoms (1)
- Yes, I am/have been caring for someone with coronavirus symptoms (2)
- Yes, I have added child care or other family obligations (3)
- No (4)

**JS2a** [Wage and salary earners, seeking a new job only] [RC] [CA]

Why are you a looking for a new job?

- I have been given notice that I will lose my job (1)
- Not satisfied with pay or benefits on current job (2)
- Not satisfied with duties on current job (3)
- Unsuitable work hours on current job (4)
- Commuting distance is too long (5)
- I was denied a promotion/pay increase / I am unlikely to receive a promotion/pay increase in the near future (6)
- I am not making good use of my experience or skills on this job (7)
- The job has a low quality of work life, such as inflexibility with child care and family responsibilities (8)
- Conflict with co-workers or boss (9)
- I am relocating for non-job-related reasons (10)
- I am just looking for a change of environment or careers (11) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (12) in 2013]
- I am worried about being laid off from my current job (12) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (13) in 2013]

**JS3** [All that did not search within the last 4 weeks, excluding the self-employed] [RC]

You indicated that you were not looking for a job over the last 4 weeks. Why didn't you look for work? Please select the answer that best describes why you did not look for work.

- I currently have a job (1)
- No work available in my line of work or area (2)
- I tried to find work, but could not find any (3)
- I lack the necessary schooling, training or experience (4)
- Employers think I have been out of work for too long (5)
- Lack of child care, or other family responsibilities (6)
- In school or other training (7)
- Ill health or physical disability (8)
- Retired (9)
- Transportation problems (10)
- I have no desire or financial need to work (11) ) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (12) in 2013]

**JS3b.** [All respondents with JS3 = {2, 3, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12} (all those not looking because of work availability, child care, health, transportation, work desire, or other).] [Introduced in 2020]

Are your reasons for not looking for work related to the coronavirus pandemic or related restrictions on activity or business operations?

- Yes, I am/have been ill with coronavirus symptoms (1)
- Yes, I am/have been caring for someone with coronavirus symptoms (2)
- Yes, I have added child care or other family obligations (3)
- Yes, the coronavirus pandemic has left no work available in my work or area (4)
- Yes, I am afraid of contracting the coronavirus if I work (5)
- No (6)



**JS4** [All that did not search within the last 4 weeks, excluding the self-employed]

Did you look for work at any time during the LAST 12 MONTHS?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JS6** [All that reported searching within the last 4 weeks] [RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014]

What were ALL the things you have done to look for work during the LAST 4 WEEKS?

- Had at least one job interview (1) [Option removed in 2014, superseded by new Question JS18a]
- Contacted an employer directly online or through e-mail (1) [Option (2) in 2013]
- Contacted an employer directly through other means, including in-person (2) [Option (3) in 2013]
- Contacted an employment agency or career center, including a career center at a school or university (3) [Option (4) in 2013]
- Contacted friends or relatives (4) [Option (5) in 2013]
- Contacted former co-workers, supervisors, teachers, business associates (5) [Option (6) in 2013]
- Contacted current employees at other companies (6) [Option (7) in 2013]
- Applied to a job posting online (7) [Option (8) in 2013]
- Applied to a job opening found through other means, including help wanted ads (8) [Option (9) in 2013]
- Checked union/professional registers (9) [Option (10) in 2013]
- Looked at job postings online (10) [Option (11) in 2013]
- Looked at job postings elsewhere, including help wanted ads (11) [Option (12) in 2013]
- Posted or updated a resume or other employment information, either online or through other means (12) [Option (13) in 2013]

**JS7** [All that reported searching within the last 4 weeks]

And within the LAST 7 DAYS, about how many TOTAL hours did you spend on job search activities? Please round up to the nearest total number of hours.

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ hours

**JS11** [All who looked for new/additional work in last 4 weeks, or want or might want a new/additional job, excluding the self-employed]

If someone offered you a job today, could you begin work within the next 7 days?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JS11b** [Follow up, if JS11 = 2 (No)] [RC]

Why is that?

- Already waiting for a new job to begin (1)
- My own temporary illness (2)
- Going to school (3)
- Lack of child care, or other family responsibilities (4)
- Disabled (5) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (7) in 2013]
- Retired (6) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (8) in 2013]
- Need to give advance notice to my current employer (7) [Option (5) in 2013]
- I am currently content with and/or committed to my current job (8) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (9) in 2013]

**JS11c.** [All respondents with JS11b = {2, 4, 9} (all those not available because of health, child care, or other).]  
**[Introduced in 2020]**

Is the reason you are not available for work related to the coronavirus pandemic or related restrictions on activity or business operations?

- Yes, I am/have been ill with coronavirus symptoms (1)
- Yes, I am/have been caring for someone with coronavirus symptoms (2)
- Yes, I have added child care or other family obligations (3)
- No (4)

**JS12** [All that reported searching within the last 4 weeks]

Are you looking for work similar to your current/most recent job?

- Yes, only searching for work similar to my most recent job (1)
- Yes, but also searching across a range of jobs (2)
- No (3)

**JS13a** [All that reported searching within the last 4 weeks] [RC] (responses coded into 3-digit SOC codes)

What OCCUPATION would best describe the kind of work that you are looking for? (For example: Electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, ...)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (3-digit SOC code)

**JS14** [All but self-employed]

How many potential employers, if any, did you apply to for employment within the LAST 4 WEEKS? Please include all applications made in person, online, or through other direct methods. Do not include inquiries that did not lead to a job application.

I applied to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ employers

**JS15** [All but self-employed]

In the LAST 4 WEEKS, how many potential employers contacted you about a job opening? Please include all contacts, even those that were not solicited by you.

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ Employers

**JS16** [Follow up, if JS15 > 0 (at least one employer contact)]

How many of these contacts were unsolicited? In other words, how many potential employers contacted you without a direct application by you?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ employers

**JS17a** [Follow up, if JS15 > 0 (at least one employer contact)]

You just mentioned that [ANSWER FROM JS15] potential employers contacted you in the last 4 weeks. How many of these contacts were the direct result of a referral?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ contacts

**JS17** [Follow up, if JS17a > 0 (at least one referral)] **[Introduced in 2014]**

You just mentioned that [JS15 answer] potential employers contacted you in the last 4 weeks. How many of these contacts were the direct result of a referral from...

- A friend or relative (1) \_\_\_\_\_
- A former co-worker, supervisor, teacher, or business associate (2) \_\_\_\_\_
- A current employee at that company (3) \_\_\_\_\_

**JS18a** [All except self-employed] **[Introduced in 2014]**

Did you have any job interviews, including any informal interviews, in the LAST 4 WEEKS?

- Yes (1)  
 No (2)

**JS18b** [if JS18a = 1 (at least one interview)] **[Introduced in 2014]**

How many job interviews did you have in the LAST 4 WEEKS?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ job interviews

**JS18** [Follow up, if JS15 > 0 (at least one employer contact)]

Did ANY of the contacts from potential employers result in a job offer?

- Yes (1)  
 Not yet, but an offer is pending (2)  
 No (3)

**JS19** [All but self-employed]

How many job offers have you received in the LAST 4 WEEKS? Please include all offers, including those made informally and those made by contacts not solicited by you.

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ job offers

**JS19b** [Follow up, if JS19 = 0 (no job offers in last 4 weeks)]

And looking further back, how many job offers have you received in the LAST 6 MONTHS? Please include all offers, including those made informally and those made by contacts not solicited by you.

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ job offers

**JS19c** [Follow up, if JS19b > 0 (job offers within last 6 months) and most recent job started less than 6 months ago]

Was this offer (one of these offers) the one you received for your most recent job?

- Yes (1)  
 No (0)

**JS19d** [Follow up, if JS19 > 0 and respondent did not search] **[RC] [Introduced in 2014]**

You indicated that you received “a job offer”/“several job offers” in the last 4 weeks. Earlier you indicated that you were not actively looking for work in the last 4 weeks. How did the “job offer”/“job offers” come about?

- The job “offer was”/“offers were” the result of me looking for work, but more than 4 weeks ago (1)  
 The job “offer”/“offers” came up without me looking for work (for example, through “networking, a referral or other unsolicited contact by the employer”/“networking, referrals or other unsolicited contacts by the employer” (2)  
 Actually, I did look for work in the last 4 weeks (3)

**JS20** [Follow up, if JS19 = 1 or JS19b = 1 (one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)] **[RC]** (responses coded into 3-digit SOC codes)

(Out of the [JS19 or JS19b answer] job offers you received over the last 4 weeks (6 months), please consider the BEST job offer.) What OCCUPATION would best describe the kind of work that the job would entail? (For example: Electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, ...)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (3-digit SOC code)

**JS22** [Follow up, if JS19 = 1 or JS19b = 1 (one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)] **[Introduced in 2014]**

What was the month and year that you received “this”/”your best” job offer?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as YYYYMM)

**JSemp** [Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)]

Were you employed, either full-time or part-time, at the time you received this (your best) job offer?

- Yes, full-time (1)
- Yes, part-time (2)
- No (3)

**JS22a** [If JSemp=3 (not employed at time of offer)] **[Introduced in 2014]**

Did you do anything to look for work in the months prior to receiving “this”/”your best” job offer?

- Yes, I was looking for work (1)
- No, the job offer came up without me looking for work (for example, through networking, a referral or other unsolicited contact by the employer) (0)

**JS22g** [Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)] **[Asked as Question JS22 in 2013; revised in 2014 to drop biweekly, monthly reporting options, which were imputed into weekly values in 2013]**

What was the wage or salary offered (before taxes and other deductions) for this (your best) job offer? Please include any bonuses, overtime pay, tips or commissions.

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as hourly, weekly, or annually)

**JS22b** [Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)]

And about how many hours a week would/do you have to work on this job?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week

**JS23** [Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)]

Have you accepted, or do you plan to accept, this (your best) job offer?

- Accepted or will accept (1)
- Rejected or will reject (2)
- Don't know yet (3)

**JS24a** [Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)] [CA] [Options revised in 2014]

Please select the employer-provided benefits, if any, included in this (your best) offer. [check all that apply]

- Traditional pension plan (1)
- Employer contribution to a retirement account (2)
- Health insurance (3)
- Dental or vision insurance (4)
- Health or Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (5)
- Housing or housing subsidy (6)
- Life or disability insurance (7)
- Commuter benefits (8)
- Childcare assistance (9)
- Stock options, or other equity (10) [Added as response option in 2014]
- Quality of life benefits (gym memberships, tuition subsidies, etc.) (11) [Added as response option in 2014]
- None of these (12) [Option (10) in 2014]

**JS25** [Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)] [RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2016]

For this (your best) job offer, how did you learn about this job? [check all that apply]

I learned about this job from:

- Found through the employer's website (1)
- Inquired with the employer directly through other means, including in-person (2)
- Found through an employment agency or career center (3)
- A temporary job was converted to permanent job (4)
- Referred by a friend or relative (5)
- Referred by a former co-worker, supervisor, business associate (6)
- Referred by a current employee at the company (7)
- Found through an online job search engine (8)
- Found job opening through other means, including help wanted ads (9)
- Found through union/professional registers (10)
- Unsolicited contact by potential employer, recruiter, or headhunter (11) [added wording "recruiter, or headhunter" in 2016]
- I had worked for this employer previously (12) [Option added in 2016]

**JS25b** [Follow up, if JS25 = {5, 6, or 7} (referral)] [RC] [Options revised in 2014]

You just mentioned you learned about this job through a referral. What is the relationship between the person who provided the referral and this employer?

- The referrer is a manager or supervisor at this employer (1)
- The referrer is a non-supervisory worker at this employer (2)
- The referrer works at this employer in a similar level or position to mine (3) [Option removed after 2013]
- The referrer does not work at this employer but knows someone at this employer personally (3) [Option (4) in 2013]
- The referrer does not work at this employer and does not know anyone at this employer personally, but knew about the job opening (4) [Option (5) in 2013]
- Don't know (6)

**JS25c** [Follow up, if JS25 = {5, 6, or 7} (referral)] **[RC]** (responses coded into 3-digit SOC codes)

What is the OCCUPATION of the person who provided the referral? (for example: Electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, ...)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (3-digit SOC code)

999999 = Don't remember

**JS25d** [Follow up, if JS25 = {5, 6, or 7} (referral)] **[Introduced in 2017]**

What is the gender of the person who provided the referral?

Male (1)

Female (2)

**JS26** [Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)]

For this (your best) job offer, roughly how many people work for this employer? Please include all locations where this employer operates.

[See EMPLOYER SIZE list in the Appendix]

**JS26a**[Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)] **[RC]** **[Introduced in 2014]**

For "this"/"your best" job offer, what type of employer made you this offer?

*Please select only one.*

Government (including state or local government; a public school, university or hospital) (1)

Private-sector, for-profit company (2)

Non-profit organization (3)

**JS26b** [If JS27a = 1 (government)] **[RC]** **[Introduced in 2014]**

Would this be the federal, state, or local government?

Federal (1)

State (2)

Local (3)

**JS26c** [If JS26a = {2,3} (non-government)] **[RC]** **[Introduced in 2014]**

What kind of business or INDUSTRY does this employer operate in?

[See INDUSTRY list in Appendix]

**JS26d.** [Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)] **[Introduced in 2014]**

Do you know if any employees at the business of "this"/"your best" job offer are part of a union?

Yes (1)

No (2)

Don't know (3)

**JS26e.** [Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)] **[Introduced in 2014; wording revised to include "or one that has a specific task or end date" in 2017]**

Is "this"/"your best" job offer for a temporary or seasonal job, or one that has a specific task or end date?

Yes (1)

No (0)

**JS26f** [Follow up, if job offer is temporary or seasonal] **[Introduced in 2017]**

For how many months 'do you expect'/'would you have expected' this job to last?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ months  
 999992 = less than one month

**JS26g.** [Follow up, if received at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months and employed at time of offer] **[Introduced in 2017]**

Is/Was this offer for a job at the SAME EMPLOYER that you had at the time of the job offer, or is/was it for a job at a DIFFERENT EMPLOYER?

- It is/was for a job at the SAME EMPLOYER that I had at the time of the job offer (1)  
 For a job at a DIFFERENT EMPLOYER (0)

**JS26h.** [Follow up, if job offer is by same employer at time of offer] **[Introduced in 2017]**

'Does this job offer require'/'Would this job offer have required' a change in your typical activities and job duties?

- Yes, my typical activities and job duties would 'change'/'have changed' (1)  
 No, my typical activities and job duties would 'be'/'have been' similar to before (2)

**JS26i.** [Follow up, if job offer is by same employer at time of offer] **[Introduced in 2017]**

Is/Was this job offer for a promotion?

- Yes (1)  
 No (2)

**JS27** [Follow up, if JS23 = 1 (accepted or will accept (best) offer)] **[RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014, 2016, and 2020]**

Think about the job that you have accepted or will accept. What characteristics of this job made it worth accepting?

- Pay is as good or better than expected (1)  
 Benefits are as good or better than expected (2)  
 Preferred work hours were offered (either full-time or flexible full or part time hours) (3)  
 The commute time to work seems manageable (4)  
 The job appears to have a high quality of work life, including flexibility with child care and family responsibilities (5)  
 The job appears to have a safe work environment (13) **[Added as a response in 2020]**  
 The job satisfactorily addresses health concerns I have about working during the coronavirus pandemic (14) **[Added as a response in 2020]**  
 The job fits well with my experience or skills (6)  
 I think I have good chances of promotion on this job (7)  
 I think I will be likely to receive a pay increase on this job over the next few years (8)  
 The job looks secure, with little chances of being laid off (9) **[Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (9) in 2013]**  
 I had no other alternatives (10) **[Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (10) in 2013]**  
 I have worked for this employer previously (11) **[Added as a response in 2016]**

**JS28** [Follow up, if JS23 = 1 (accepted or will accept (best) offer)]

In how many weeks, counting from today, will you start working on your new job?

- I will start in (1) \_\_\_\_\_ week(s)  
 999997 = Already started this new job

**JS28b** [Follow up, if JS28 = “already started this new job”]

Is this the same job that you reported as your main/current job above?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JS28c.** [Follow up, if at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months and employed at time of offer] **[Introduced in 2017]**

Is/Was this offer for a NEW job, that is, replacing the job or jobs you held at the time of the offer, or is/was it for a job IN ADDITION to the one(s) you held at the time of the offer?

- The offer is/was for a new job that ‘would replace’/‘would have replaced’ the job(s) I held at the time of the offer (1)
- The offer is/was for a job in addition to the one(s) I held at the time of the offer (0)

**JS29** [Follow up, if JS23 = 2 (rejected or will reject (best) offer)] **[RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014 and 2020]**

You indicated that you rejected or will reject the (best) job offer that you listed above. What characteristics of this job offer caused/will cause you to reject it?

- Pay was inadequate (1)
- Benefits were inadequate (2)
- Unsuitable work hours (3)
- Commute time would be too long (4)
- Job would require me to relocate (5)
- The job appears to have a low quality of work life, with little flexibility with child care and family responsibilities (6)
- The job appears to have an unsafe work environment (13) **[Added as a response in 2020]**
- The job does not satisfactorily address health concerns I have about working during the coronavirus pandemic (14) **[Added as a response in 2020]**
- I would not make good use of my experience or skills (7)
- I think I would have little chances of promotion on this job (8)
- I think I would be unlikely to receive a pay increase on this job over the next few years (9)
- I think there is some chance that I would be laid off from this job in the coming years (10) **[Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (11) in 2013]**
- I am happy with my current employment/non-employment situation (11) **[Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (12) in 2013]**

**JS30** [Follow up, if JS27 = 2 or JS29 = 2 (benefits were better than expected (inadequate))] **[RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014; see BENEFITS list in Appendix]**

You indicated above that the benefits offered are/were important in the decision to accept (reject) the job offer. Which of the following employer-provided benefits are/were important in your decision?

- [See BENEFITS list in Appendix]



**JS31b** [Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)]

Consider again your (best) job offer. At the time that you were first interviewed for this job, did you already know exactly how much it would pay, had a pretty good idea of how much it would pay, or had very little idea of how much it would pay if you got it?

- Knew exactly what it would pay (1)
- Had a good idea (2)
- Had very little idea (3)
- Did not have an interview for this job (4)

**JS31c** [Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)]

Consider again your (best) job offer. Did the employer learn how much you are (were) making on your current (previous) job before making you the job offer?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JS31d** [Follow up, if JS19 >0 1 or JS19b > 1 (at least one job offer in last 4 weeks or 6 months)]

Consider again your (best) job offer. When you were offered this job, did the employer make a 'take-it-or leave-it' offer or was there some bargaining that took place over the pay?

- Some bargaining over pay (1)
- 'Take-it-or leave-it' offer (0)

**JS32a** [Follow up, if JS28 = "already started this new job"]

Did your PREVIOUS employer match the wage that was offered on your new job, or do you think they would have if you asked?

- Yes, my previous employer matched the wage offered (1)
- Yes, I think my previous employer would have matched the wage offered (2)
- No (3)

**JS32b** [Follow up, if JS23 ≠ 1 (have not accepted decided to accept)]

Do you think your current employer would match the wage that was offered (on your best job offer)?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

**JS32c/JS32d** [Follow up, if JS28 = "already started this new job"] **[CA]**

(Were you able to secure any promotion, pay increase, or increase in benefits on your main/current job as a result of this outside job offer?)/Before you accepted the offer for your new job, were you offered any promotion, pay increase, or increase in benefits by your previous employer as a counter-offer to this outside job offer? [check all that apply]

- Yes, a promotion was offered (1)
- Yes, a pay increase was offered (2)
- Yes, an increase in benefits was offered (3)
- No promotion, pay increase, or increase in benefits were offered (4)

**JS32e** [Follow up, if JS32c or JS32d = 2 (a pay increase was offered by current/previous employer)] **[Revised in 2014 to drop biweekly, monthly reporting options, which were imputed into weekly values in 2013]**

By how much did your pay increase as a result (if at all)?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as hourly, weekly, or annually)

**JS34a** [All except self-employed]

In the LAST 4 WEEKS, have any employers indicated that they would be willing to make you a job offer, but you indicated that you were not interested?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JS34b** [Follow up, if JS34a = 1 (yes)]

How many employers indicated that they would be willing to make you a job offer, but you were not interested?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ employers (1)

**JS35a** [All wage and salary earners, including on layoff]

Suppose you were offered a job in the same line of work and location and with the same benefits as your current job. If the job offered a 10% higher salary than your current job, would you ask your current employer for a promotion or pay increase?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JS35bnew** [Follow up, if JS35a = 1 (yes)]

What do you think is the percent chance that your current employer would match the outside offer in terms of the pay increase?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ percent chance

## **RW. RESERVATION WAGE ELICITATION**

**RW1a** [All who looked for new work in last 4 weeks, or want or might want a new, excluding the self-employed]

Assuming you could find suitable/additional work, how many hours PER WEEK would you prefer to work on this new job?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week (1)

**RW2** [All who looked for new/additional work in last 4 weeks, or want or might want a new/additional job, excluding the self-employed] **[Revised in 2014 to drop biweekly, monthly reporting options, which were imputed into weekly values in 2013]**

Suppose someone offered you a job today. What is the lowest wage or salary you would accept (BEFORE taxes and deductions) for the type of work you are looking for?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as hourly, weekly, or annually)

[NOTE: RW2h = reservation wage, calculated for non-hourly responses as weekly earnings/usual hours or annual earnings/(52 × usual hours)]

**RW3** [All who looked for new/additional work in last 4 weeks, or want or might want a new/additional job, excluding the self-employed]

Suppose you were offered a job today that paid \$[RW2h answer]. Would you accept this job if it required you to relocate to another city or state?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**RW3b** [Follow up, if RW3 = 2 (no)]

By what PERCENTAGE would the wage have to be higher, if at all, for you to relocate?

The wage would have to be (1) \_\_\_\_\_ percent higher

999998 = I would not accept such a job

**RW4** [All who looked for new/additional work in last 4 weeks, or want or might want a new/additional job, excluding the self-employed]

Suppose you were offered a job today that paid \$[RW2h answer]. Would you accept this job if it required your daily commute to double (compared to your main/current or most recent job)?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**RW4b** [Follow up, if RW4 = 2 (no)]

By what PERCENTAGE would the wage have to be higher, if at all, for you to double your daily commute?

The wage would have to be (1) \_\_\_\_\_ percent higher

999998 = I would not accept such a job

**RW6** [All who looked for new/additional work in last 4 weeks, or want or might want a new/additional job, excluding the self-employed, and RW2b = "hourly"]

Suppose you were offered a job today that paid an hourly wage of \$[RW2h answer] at your preferred work hours. Would you accept this job if it required 10% more hours than your preferred weekly work hours?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**RW6a** [All who looked for new/additional work in last 4 weeks, or want or might want a new/additional job, excluding the self-employed, and RW2b ≠ “hourly”]

You indicated above that you would accept a job that paid \$[RW2a answer] per [RW2b answer]. According to our calculations this corresponds to an HOURLY wage of \$[answer]. Suppose you were offered a job today that paid an hourly wage of \$[answer]. Would you accept this job if it required 10% more hours than your preferred weekly work hours?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**RW6b** [Follow up, if RW6 or RW6a = 2 (no)]

By what PERCENTAGE would the HOURLY wage have to be higher, if at all, for you to accept a job that required you to work 10% more hours than what you prefer?

The wage would have to be (1) \_\_\_\_\_ percent higher  
 999998 = I would not accept such a job

**RW7** [All who looked for new/additional work in last 4 weeks, or want or might want a new/additional job, excluding the self-employed]

Suppose you were offered a job today that paid \$[RW2h answer]. Would you accept this job if it did not provide health insurance?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**RW7b** [Follow up, if RW6 = 2 (no)]

By what PERCENTAGE would the wage have to be higher, if at all, for you to accept a job that did not provide health insurance?

The wage would have to be (1) \_\_\_\_\_ percent higher  
 999998 = I would not accept such a job

**JH. JOB SEARCH FOR MOST RECENT JOB**

**JH1** [All wage and salary earners, including those on layoff but excluding the self-employed] [RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014 and 2016]

How did you learn about your current job? [check all that apply]

- Found through the employer’s website (1)
- Inquired with the employer directly through other means, including in-person (2)
- Found through an employment agency (including the conversion from temporary to permanent work) (3)
- Referred by a friend or relative (4)
- Referred by a former co-worker, supervisor, teacher, business associate (5)
- Referred by a current employee at the company (6)
- Found through a school/university/government employment or career center (7)
- Found through an online job search engine (8)
- Found job opening through other means, including help wanted ads (9)
- Found through union/professional registers (10)
- Contacted by potential employer, recruiter, or head-hunter (11) [Added “recruiter, or head-hunter” in 2016]
- Temporary or part-time job converted into full-time job (12)
- Within-company promotion or transfer (13) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (15) in 2013]
- Returned to a previous employer, including one where I had a previous internship or something similar (14) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (16) in 2013]
- Began work in the family business (15) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (17) in 2013]
- Don’t remember (17)

**JH1b** [Follow up, if JH1 = {4, 5, or 6} (referral)] [RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014]

You just mentioned you learned about your current job through a referral. What was the relationship between the person who provided the referral and this employer? [check all that apply]

- The referrer was a manager or supervisor at this employer (1)
- The referrer was a non-supervisory worker at this employer (2)
- The referrer works at this employer in a similar level or position to mine (3) [Option removed after 2013]
- The referrer does not work at this employer but knows someone at this employer personally (3) [Option (4) in 2013]
- The referrer does not work at this employer and does not know anyone at this employer personally, but knew about the job opening (4) [Option (5) in 2013]
- Don’t remember (6)

**JH1c** [Follow up, if JH1 = {4, 5, or 6} (referral)] [RC] (responses coded into 3-digit SOC codes)

What was the OCCUPATION of the person who provided the referral? (for example: Electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, ...)

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (3-digit SOC code)
- 999999 = Don’t remember

**JH1d** [Follow up, if JH1 = {4, 5, or 6} (referral)] [Introduced in 2017]

What is the gender of the person who provided the referral?

- Male (1)
- Female (2)

**JH2** [All wage and salary earners, including those on layoff but excluding the self-employed] [RC] [Options revised in 2014 and 2016; wording revised in 2017]

Were you hired to your current employer while still employed somewhere else? [Asked “Were you employed immediately prior to accepting your current job?” prior to 2017]

- Yes, I was employed when I got hired but was about to lose my previous job (1) [Option was “Yes, I was employed but lost my previous job” prior to 2017]
- Yes, I was employed when I got hired and quit my previous job (2) [Option was “Yes, I was employed but quit my previous job” prior to 2017]
- Yes, I was employed when I got hired but a temporary or seasonal job ended (3) [Option was “ • Yes, I was employed but a temporary job ended” prior to 2017]
- Yes, I was employed when I got hired and kept my previous job (4) [Added as response option (8) in 2014 and 2015, and (4) from 2016 on, recoded as (9) in 2013]
- Yes, I was employed in a temporary job that was converted into a permanent job (5) [Added as response option (9) in 2014 and 2015, and (5) from 2016 on, recoded as (10) in 2013]
- No, there was a period where I was not employed prior to my current job (6) [Option (4) in 2013 through 2015]
- No, I did not have any job prior to my current job (my current job is my first job ever) (7) [Option (5) in 2013 through 2015]
- No, I was retired (8) [Recoded as option (8) in 2013 only]
- Don't remember (9) [Option (7) in 2013 through 2015]

**JH2a.** [All wage and salary earners, including those on layoff but excluding the self-employed] [Introduced in 2017]

Were you actively looking for work in the months prior to accepting your current job?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- Don't remember (3)

**JH2b** [Follow up, if JH2 = {1, 2, 3, or 5} (reported prior work history)]

How many weeks passed between the time when your previous job ended and the time when your current job started? Please enter 0 if you started your current job right after your previous job ended.

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ week(s)
- 999999 = Don't remember

**JH2c** [Follow up, if JH2 = {1, 2, 3, or 5} (reported prior work history)]

Regardless of how you separated from your PREVIOUS job, had you been given advance notice that you would lose your PREVIOUS job?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- Don't remember (3)

**JH2d** [Follow up, if JH2c = 1 (advance notice of separation)]

How many months before you were to have lost your job did you receive that notice?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ month(s)  
 999999 = Don't remember

**JH2e - JH2e** [Follow up, if JH2 = 2 (quit previous job)] [**Introduced in 2015**]

Why did you quit your previous job?

Check all that apply

- My current job offered higher earnings and/or better benefits than my previous job (1)
- My current job offered better hours than my previous job (2)
- My current job is a better fit for my skills than my previous job (3)
- My current job requires a shorter commute to work (4)
- My current job has a better work environment and/or a higher quality of work life than my previous job (5)
- I needed to switch jobs for family or personal reasons, including moving to a new location (6)
- I anticipated being laid off from my previous job in the near future (7)
- My wages, hours, or benefits at my previous job changed in a way to make me seek a new job (8)
- The work environment and/or the overall quality of work life at my previous job changed in a way to make me seek new work (9)
- Other (please specify) (10) \_\_\_\_\_

**JH3** [Follow up, if JH2 = { 1, 2, 3, or 5 } (reported prior work history)]

Did accepting your main/current job cause you to relocate to another city or state?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JH4** [Follow up, if JH2 = { 1, 2, 3, or 5 } (reported prior work history)]

Did accepting your main/current job cause your daily commute to at least double, compared to your previous job?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JH5** [Follow up, if JH2 = { 1, 2, 3, or 4 } (reported prior work history)] [**Only asked in 2013; replaced by a revised question JH5b in 2014**]

Did accepting your main/current job reflect an increase, no change, or a decrease in your USUAL hours worked per week, compared to your previous job?

- Increase (1)
- No change (2)
- Decrease (3)

**JH5b** [Follow up, if JH2 = { 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 } (reported prior or existing work history)] [**Question revised in 2014**]

How many hours per week did you USUALLY work at your PREVIOUS job? That is, the job you had immediately before your current job? [Was **“By how much did your weekly hours increase (decrease)? Please give your best guess.”** In 2013; followed up JH5 if (follow up if JH5 = {1,3} (increase or decrease in hours)]

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week

**JH6** [Follow up, if JH2 = { 1, 2, 3, or 5 } (reported prior work history)]

Did accepting your main/current job reflect an increase, no change, or a decrease in your overall quality of work life, compared to your previous job?

- Increase (1)
- No change (2)
- Decrease (3)

**JH7** [Follow up, if JH2 = { 1, 2, 3, or 5 } (reported prior work history)]

Did accepting your main/current job reflect an increase, no change, or a decrease in your benefits received, compared to your previous job?

- Increase (1)
- No change (2)
- Decrease (3)

**JH8** [Follow up, if JH2 = { 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 } (reported prior or existing work history)] **[RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014]**

Did you receive any of the following employer-provided benefits at your PREVIOUS job? That is, the job you held before starting to work on your current job.

- Traditional pension plan (1)
- Employer contribution to a retirement account (for instance, a 401(k), 403(b) or IRA account) (2)
- Health insurance (3)
- Dental or vision insurance (4)
- Health Care or Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (5)
- Housing or housing subsidy (6)
- Life or disability insurance (7)
- Commuter benefits (8)
- Childcare assistance (9)
- Stock options, or other equity (13) **[Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (13) in 2013]**
- Quality of life benefits (gym memberships, tuition subsidies, etc.) (14) **[Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (14) in 2013]**
- Did not receive employer provided benefits (11)
- Don't remember (12)

**JH10** [Follow up, if JH2 = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 } (reported prior or existing work history)] **[Revised in 2014 to drop biweekly, monthly reporting options, which were imputed into weekly values in 2013]**

Please give your best estimate of how much you made, before taxes and other deductions, AT THE TIME YOU LEFT your previous job / at your previous job JUST PRIOR TO STARTING YOUR CURRENT JOB. Please include any bonuses, overtime pay, tips or commissions.

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as hourly, weekly, or annually)
- 999999 = Don't remember (reported in hourly earnings variable)

**JH11a** [Follow up, if JH2 = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 } (reported prior or existing work history)] **[RC]** (responses coded into 3-digit SOC codes)

What kind of work did you do, that is, what was your OCCUPATION on your previous job? (for example: Electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, ...)

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (3-digit SOC code)



**JH12** [Follow up, if JH2 = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior or existing work history)] [RC] [Introduced in 2017]  
What type of employer did you work for in your previous job?

*Please select only one.*

- Government (including state or local government; a public school, university or hospital) (1)
- Private-sector, for-profit company (2)
- Non-profit organization (3)
- Worked in the family business (4)

**JH12a.** [Follow up, if JH12 = 1 (government)] [RC] [Introduced in 2014]  
Would this be the federal, state, or local government?

- Federal (1)
- State (2)
- Local (3)

**JH12b** [Follow up, if JH12 = {2, 3, 4} (non-government)] [RC] [Introduced in 2014]  
What kind of business or INDUSTRY was your previous employer in?

- [See INDUSTRY list in Appendix]

**JH12c** [Follow up, if JH2 = {1, 2, 3, 4, or 5} (reported prior or existing work history)]

Did your previous employer's business operate out of more than one LOCATION (office, store, or other permanent place of business)?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JH12d** [Follow up, if JH2 = {1, 2, 3, 4, or 5} (reported prior or existing work history)] [Introduced in 2014]

How many paid employees did your previous employer's business have AT YOUR USUAL PLACE OF WORK?

- [See EMPLOYER SIZE list in the Appendix]

**JH12e** [Follow up, if JH12c = 1 (Multi-location business)] [Introduced in 2014]

Counting ALL LOCATIONS where your previous employer operated, what is your best guess for the total number of persons who worked for your employer?

- [See EMPLOYER SIZE list in the Appendix]

**JH12f** [Follow up, if JH2 = {1, 2, 3, 4, or 5} (reported prior or existing work history)] [Introduced in 2014]

At your PLACE OF WORK for your previous job, were you or any other employees part of a union?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JH12g** [Follow up, if JH2 = {1, 2, 3, 4, or 5} (reported prior or existing work history)] [Introduced in 2014;  
wording revised to include "or one that has a specific task or end date" in 2017]

Was your previous job a temporary or seasonal job, or one that has a specific task or end date?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JH12h** [Follow up, if JH2 = {1, 2, 3, 4, or 5} (reported prior or existing work history)] [Asked as question JH12 in 2013]

Have your job duties changed between your previous job and your main/current job?

- Yes, to a limited extent (1)
- Yes, to a significant extent (2)
- No (3)
- My main/current job is a completely different job (4)

**JH13** [All wage and salary earners, including those on layoff but excluding the self-employed] [**Options revised in 2014**]

As best as you can remember, how many weeks did you look for work before accepting the offer of your current job?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ weeks (1)  
 999993 = An opportunity came up without me looking for work [**Option added in 2014**]  
 999999 = Don't remember

**JH13b.** [All wage and salary earners, including those on layoff but excluding the self-employed] [**Introduced in 2014**]

As best as you can remember, how many weeks passed between the time when you accepted the offer of your current job and the time when you started work?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ weeks  
 999994 = I started my new job immediately that week  
 999999 = Don't remember

**JH14** [All wage and salary earners, including those on layoff but excluding the self-employed]

As best as you can remember, how many potential employers did you apply to before accepting your current job? Please include all applications made in person, online, or through other direct methods.

- I applied to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ employers (1)  
 999999 = Don't remember

**JH15** [All wage and salary earners, including those on layoff but excluding the self-employed]

As best as you can remember, how many potential employers contacted you before you accepted your current job? Please include all contacts, even those that were not solicited by you.

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ employers (1)  
 999999 = Don't remember

**JH15b** [Follow up, if JH15 > 0 (at least one contact)]

How many of these contacts were unsolicited? In other words, how many potential employers contacted you without a direct application by you?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ employers (1)  
 999999 = Don't remember

**JH15c** [Follow up, if JH15 > 0 (at least one contact)] [**Introduced in 2014; reflects split of original question JH15c in 2013 (see next question below)**]

You just mentioned that [JH15 answer] potential employers contacted you for your current job. How many of these contacts were the direct result of a referral?

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ job offers (1)  
 999999 = Don't remember

**JH15d** [Follow up, if JH15c > 0] [Asked as question JH15c in 2013]

How many of these were a referral from...

A friend or relative \_\_\_\_\_

A former co-worker, supervisor, teacher, or business associate \_\_\_\_\_

A current employee at that company \_\_\_\_\_

999999 = Don't remember

**JH16** [All wage and salary earners, including those on layoff but excluding the self-employed]

As best as you can remember, how many job offers, including the one from your current employer, did you receive during the search that led to your current job? Please include all informal offers and offers from contacts that were not solicited by you.

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ job offers (1)

999999 = Don't remember

**JH-SELF. JOB SEARCH FOR MOST RECENT JOB – SELF-EMPLOYED**

**JH1self** [Self-employed only] [RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014 and 2017]

How did you choose your current job?

I wanted to be my own boss (1)

A former employer/client suggested that I work as an independent contractor / consultant / freelancer (2)

I created a start-up (3)

Most in my profession are self-employed (11) [Added as response option in 2017]

I sold a business that I previously owned and wanted to start a new activity (4)

I retired but wanted to continue a work activity (5)

I took over an existing business (6)

I am self-employed for economic reasons (e.g., hardship, need the additional income, etc.) (7) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (9) in 2013]

I am self-employed because of child care or other family obligations (8) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (10) in 2013]

Don't remember (10)

[Option in (8) in 2013]

**JH2self** [Self-employed only] [RC] [Options revised in 2014 and 2017; wording revised in 2017]

Did you start your current job as a self-employed individual while still employed somewhere else? [Revised from "Were you employed immediately prior to starting your current job as a self-employed individual?" in 2017]

Yes, I was employed but lost my previous job (1)

Yes, I was employed but quit my previous job (2)

Yes, I was employed but a temporary job ended (3)

Yes, I was employed but I just retired (4)

Yes, I was self-employed but closed or sold my previous business (5)

Yes, I was employed but am now self-employed as a contractor at my former employer (6) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (10) in 2013]

Yes, I was employed and kept my previous job (11) [Added as response option in 2017]

No, there was a period where I was not employed prior to my current job (7) [Option in (6) in 2013]

No, I did not have any job prior to my current job (my current job is my first job ever) (8) [Option in (7) in 2013]

Don't remember (10)

[Option in (9) in 2013]

**JH2bself** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior work history)]

How many weeks passed between the time when your previous job ended and the time when your current job started? Please enter 0 if you started your current job right after your previous job ended.

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ week(s)

999999 = Don't remember

**JH2cself** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, or 3} (reported layoff or end of temporary job)]

Regardless of how you separated from your PREVIOUS job, had you been given advance notice that you would lose your PREVIOUS job?

Yes (1)

No (2)

Don't remember (3)

**JH2dself** [Follow up, if JH2cself = 1 (yes)]

How many months before you were to have lost your job did you receive that notice?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ month(s)

999999 = Don't remember

**JH5self** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 10} (reported prior work history)] [**Only asked in 2013; replaced by a revised question JH5bself in 2014**]

Did starting your current job as a self-employed person reflect an increase, no change, or a decrease in your USUAL hours worked per week, compared to your previous job?

Increase (1)

No change (2)

Decrease (3)

**JH5bself** [Follow up, if JH5self = {1, or 3} (increase or decrease in usual hours)] [**Question revised in 2014**]

How many hours per week did you USUALLY work at your PREVIOUS job? That is, the job you had immediately before you became self-employed. [**Was "By how much did your weekly hours increase (decrease)? Please give your best guess." In 2013; followed up JH5self if (follow up if JH5 = {1,3} (increase or decrease in hours)**]

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week

999999 = Don't remember

**JH6self** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior work history)]

Did starting your current job as a self-employed person reflect an increase, no change, or a decrease in your overall quality of work life, compared to your previous job?

Increase (1)

No change (2)

Decrease (3)

**JH7self** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior work history)]

Did starting your current job as a self-employed person reflect an increase, no change, or a decrease in your benefits received, compared to your previous job?

- Increase (1)
- No change (2)
- Decrease (3)

**JH8self** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior work history)] **[RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014 and 2016]**

Did you receive any of the following employer-provided benefits at your PREVIOUS job, that is the job you held before starting to work on your current job? [check all that apply]

- Traditional pension plan (1)
- Employer contribution to a retirement account (for instance, a 401(k), 403(b) or IRA account) (2)
- Health insurance (3)
- Dental or vision insurance (4)
- Health Care or Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (5)
- Housing or housing subsidy (6)
- Life or disability insurance (7)
- Commuter benefits (8)
- Childcare assistance (9)
- Stock options, or other equity (13) **[Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (13) in 2013]**
- Quality of life benefits (gym memberships, tuition subsidies, etc.) (14) **[Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (14) in 2013]**
- None of the above (11) **[Added as response option in 2016, recoded as (11) in 2013 through 2015]**
- Don't remember (12)

**JH10self** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior work history)] **[Revised in 2014 to drop biweekly, monthly reporting options, which were imputed into weekly values in 2013]**

Please give your best estimate of how much you made, before taxes and other deductions, AT THE TIME YOU LEFT your previous job. Please include any bonuses, overtime pay, tips or commissions.

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as hourly, weekly, or annually)
- 999999 = Don't remember (reported in hourly earnings variable)

**JH11self** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior work history)] **[RC]** (responses coded into 3-digit SOC codes)

What kind of work did you do, that is, what was your OCCUPATION on your previous job? (for example: Electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, ...)

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (3-digit SOC code)

**JH12self** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior work history)] **[RC] [Introduced in 2014]**

What type of employer did you work for in your previous job?

*Please select only one.*

- Government (including state or local government; a public school, university or hospital) (1)
- Private-sector, for-profit company (2)
- Non-profit organization (3)
- Worked in the family business (4)

**JH12aself** [Follow up, if JH12self = 1 (government)] [RC] [Introduced in 2014]

Would this be the federal, state, or local government?

- Federal (1)
- State (2)
- Local (3)

**JH12bself** [Follow up, if JH12self = {2, 3, 4} (non-government)] [RC] [Introduced in 2014]

What kind of business or INDUSTRY was your previous employer in?

- [See INDUSTRY list in Appendix]

**JH12cself** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior work history)] [Introduced in 2014]

Did your previous employer's business operate out of more than one LOCATION (office, store, or other permanent place of business)?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JH12dself** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior work history)] [Introduced in 2014]

How many paid employees did your previous employer's business have AT YOUR USUAL PLACE OF WORK?

- [See EMPLOYER SIZE list in the Appendix]

**JH12eself** [Follow up, if JH12dself = 1] [Introduced in 2014]

Counting ALL LOCATIONS where your previous employer operated, what is your best guess for the total number of persons who worked for your employer?

- [See EMPLOYER SIZE list in the Appendix]

**JH12fself** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior work history)] [Introduced in 2014]

At your PLACE OF WORK for your previous job, were you or any other employees part of a union?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JH12gself** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior work history)] [Introduced in 2014]

Was your previous job a temporary or seasonal job?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**JH13self** [Follow up, if JH2self = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6} (reported prior work history)] [Asked as question JH12self in 2013]

Have your job duties changed between your previous job and your current job as a self-employed person?

- Yes, to a limited extent (1)
- Yes, to a significant extent (2)
- No (3)
- My main/current job is a completely different job (4)

**TP. BENEFITS AND TRANSFER PAYMENTS HISTORY**

**TP1** [All respondents] [CA] [Options revised in 2014 and 2020]

In the LAST 4 WEEKS, have you received any of the following payments? [check all that apply]

- Social Security, SSI, or other retirement payments (1)
- Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) (2)
- Food stamps or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (3)
- Unemployment Insurance compensation, , including any Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) or similar unemployment benefits (4) **[Added “, including any Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) or similar unemployment benefits” in 2020]**
- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) (5)
- Other disability insurance (6)
- Workers compensation or sick pay (7)
- Court ordered child support (8)
- Alimony (9)
- Severance pay (10) **[Added as response option in 2014]**
- None of the above (11) **[Option in (10) in 2013]**

**TP4** [Follow up, if TP1 = 4 (unemployment insurance compensation)]

How long, in weeks, have you received Unemployment Insurance benefits?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ week(s)

**TP5** [Follow up, if TP1 = 5 (SSDI benefits)]

How long, in weeks, have you received Social Security Disability Insurance benefits?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ week(s)

**TP6** [Follow up, if TP1 ≠ 4 (no unemployment insurance compensation) and not employed at least part-time] [RC] (recoded based on responses to other questions)

Have you applied for Unemployment Insurance benefits in the LAST 4 WEEKS?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- I have already exhausted my UI benefits (3)

**TP6b** [Follow up, if TP6 = 2 (no)] [RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014 and 2020]

Why haven't you applied?

- Don't think I am eligible (1)
- Don't need the extra assistance at this time (2)
- Do not know how or where to apply for benefits (3)
- I prefer not to receive government assistance (4)
- I am retired (5) **[Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (6) in 2013]**
- I am disabled (6) **[Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (7) in 2013]**
- I did apply for benefits, but more than 4 weeks ago (8) **[Added as response option in 2020]**

**TP6c.** [All respondents with TP6b = 8 (all those that applied more than 4 weeks ago).] **[Introduced in 2020]**

What is the status of your application?

- Still under review (1)
- My application was denied (2)
- Unknown/I have not heard back (3)
- "I received unemployment benefits in the past, but no longer receive them now. (4)"

**TP7** [Follow up, if TP1 ≠ 5 (no SSDI benefits) and not employed at least part-time]

Have you applied for Social Security Disability Insurance benefits in the LAST 4 WEEKS?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**TP7b** [Follow up, if TP7 = 1 (yes)]

What is the status of your application?

- Under review (1)
- Pending appeal (2)
- Denied initial application (3)
- Denied appeal (4)

## **HH. SPOUSE/PARTNER EMPLOYMENT STATUS**

**HH1a** [Wage and salary earners, including on layoff, L14 ≠ 3 (no reported health insurance)] **[RC]** (recoded based on responses to other questions)

Earlier, you indicated that you don't have employer-provided health insurance. Do you currently have health insurance coverage through other means?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**HH1b** [Follow up, if HH1a = 1 (yes)] **[RC]** **[CA]** **[Options revised in 2014 and 2016]**

What is the source of your health insurance coverage? [check all that apply]

I have coverage through:

- a previous employer (1)
- my spouse/partner's health insurance (2)
- my parents' health insurance (3)
- a government sponsored program (for instance, Medicare or Medicaid) (4)
- a government-run health exchange (i.e., Obamacare) (7) **[Added as response option in 2014]**
- a private health insurance plan (6)
- my second (or other) job, besides by main job (8) **[Added as response option in 2016]**



**HH1c** [Non-employed and self employed only, L14self = 1 (reported health insurance)] [RC] [CA] [Options revised in 2014]

Earlier, you indicated that you currently have health insurance coverage. What is the source of your health insurance coverage? [check all that apply]

I have coverage through:

- a previous employer (1)
- my spouse/partner's health insurance (2)
- my parents' health insurance (3)
- a government sponsored program (for instance, Medicare or Medicaid) (4)
- a private health insurance plan (5)
- a government-run health exchange (i.e., Obamacare) (7) **[Added as response option in 2016]**

**HH2** [If Q38 = 1 (married or partner present)]

Is your spouse/partner currently employed, either part-time or full-time?

- Yes (1)
- No (0)

**HH2b.** [All respondents with HH2 = 2 (spouse not working).] **[Introduced in 2020]**

Did your spouse/partner lose their job because of the coronavirus pandemic or related restrictions on activity or business operations?

- Yes, my spouse/partner lost their job because of the pandemic or related restrictions (1)
- My spouse/partner lost or left their job for other reasons (2)
- My spouse/partner was not working prior to the coronavirus pandemic (3)

**HH3** [Follow up, if HH2 = 1 (yes)]

How many hours per week does your spouse/partner USUALLY work at his/her current job?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week

**HH4** [Follow up, if HH2 = 1 (yes)] **[Revised in 2014 to drop biweekly, monthly reporting options, which were imputed into weekly values in 2013]**

Roughly speaking, how much does your spouse/partner make, BEFORE taxes and other deductions, on his/her current job? Please include any bonuses, overtime pay, tips or commissions.

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (reported as hourly, weekly, or annually)
- [See INCOME BRACKETS list in the Appendix, for annual salaries reported as a range]
- 999999 = Don't know (reported in hourly earnings variable)

**HH5** [If Q38 = 1 (married or partner present)] [CA] [Options revised in 2014]

In the LAST 4 WEEKS, did your spouse/partner receive any of the following payments?

- Social Security, SSI, or other retirement payments (1)
- Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) (2)
- Food stamps or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (3)
- Unemployment Insurance compensation (4)
- Severance pay (11)
- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) (5)
- Other disability insurance (6)
- Workers compensation or sick pay (7)
- Court ordered child support (8)
- Alimony (9)
- Severance pay (11) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (11) in 2013]
- None of the above (10)

**HH6.** [All respondents.] [Introduced in 2020]

Are there any children in this household enrolled in a public school, enrolled in a private school, or educated in a homeschool setting in Kindergarten through 12th grade or grade equivalent? [check all that apply]

- Yes, at least one child enrolled in a public or private school (1)
- Yes, at least one child homeschooled who was also homeschooled during the previous school year (2)
- Yes, at least one child homeschooled who was enrolled in a public or private school during the previous school year (3)
- No (4)

**HH7.** [All respondents with HH6 = 1 (enrolled in public or private school).] [Introduced in 2020]

How has the coronavirus pandemic affected how the children in this household receive education for the 2020-2021 school year? [check all that apply]

- Classes normally taught in person at their school are now cancelled (1)
- Classes normally taught in person moved entirely to an online/distance-learning or similar format (2)
- Classes normally taught in person moved partially to an online/distance-learning or similar format (3)
- The coronavirus pandemic did not affect how children in this household receive education (4)

**HH8.** [All respondents with HH6 = {1 or 2} (any household children in school).] [Introduced in 2020]

About how many hours in the LAST 7 DAYS did you spend on helping children in the household with online/distance-learning or some similar out-of-classroom format?

<sup>^NumericOnly('EOI\_1')^</sup>

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ hours (1)

## **Q. DEMOGRAPHIC AND OTHER VARIABLES TAKEN FROM THE MONTHLY SCE SURVEY**

[Questions asked of, or variables created for, all respondents]

**responseid** – Survey identifier (4-digit) of respondent specific to Job Search Supplement survey year

**userid** – unique SCE survey identifier (8-digit) of respondent

**survey\_weight** – Sample weight of respondent

**male** – Identifier for whether or not the respondent is male.

- Male (1)
- Female (0)

**age** – Respondent age at time of survey

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ years old

**education** – Highest degree achieved by respondent.

- Less than high school (1)
- High School diploma (or equivalent) (2)
- Some college (3)
- Associates or Junior College degree (4)
- Bachelor's degree (5)
- Master's degree(6)
- Doctoral degree (7)
- Professional degree (8)
- Other degree (9)

**hispanic** – Identifier for whether or not the respondent is Hispanic.

- No (1)
- Yes (2)

**race** – Identifier for the reported race of the respondent.

- White (1)
- Black (2)
- American Indian (3)
- Asian (4)
- Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (5)
- Other (6)

**married** – Identifier for whether or not the respondent is current married or living as a partner (not including roommates) with someone.

- Married or partner present (1)
- Unmarried (0)

**current\_region** – The current major Census region of the respondent [character format].

- Northeast (region\_northeast)
- Midwest (region\_midwest)
- South (region\_south)
- West (region\_west)

**own\_rent** – Whether or not the respondent own, rents, or has some other arrangement for his or her housing.

- Owns (1)
- Rents (2)
- Other (3)

**hh\_income**– Category for total household income, including any bonuses, overtime pay, tips or commissions.

- Less than \$10,000 (1)
- \$10,000 to \$19,999 (2)
- \$20,000 to \$29,999 (3)
- \$30,000 to \$39,999 (4)
- \$40,000 to \$49,999 (5)
- \$50,000 to \$59,999 (6)
- \$60,000 to \$74,999 (7)
- \$75,000 to \$99,999 (8)
- \$100,000 to \$149,999 (9)
- \$150,000 to \$199,999 (10)
- \$200,000 or more (11)

**hhsiz**e – number of individuals living in the household

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ household members

**numchildren\_under6** – number of household children under 6 years old

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ children

**numchildren\_under18** – number of household children under 18 years old

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ children

## APPENDIX. DROP-DOWN LISTS

### A. INCOME BRACKETS list (Please include any bonuses, overtime pay, tips or commissions)

- Less than \$10,000 [Value used = \$5,000] (1)
- \$10,000 to \$19,999 [Value used = \$15,000] (2)
- \$20,000 to \$29,999 [Value used = \$25,000] (3)
- \$30,000 to \$39,999 [Value used = \$35,000] (4)
- \$40,000 to \$49,999 [Value used = \$45,000] (5)
- \$50,000 to \$59,999 [Value used = \$55,000] (6)
- \$60,000 to \$74,999 [Value used = \$67,500] (7)
- \$75,000 to \$99,999 [Value used = \$87,500] (8)
- \$100,000 to \$149,999 [Value used = \$125,000] (9)
- \$150,000 or more [Value used = \$227,850] (10)

### B. BENEFITS list [RC] [CA] [Revised for all relevant questions in 2014]

- Traditional pension plan (1)
- Employer contribution to a retirement account (for instance, a 401(k), 403(b) or IRA account) (2)
- Health insurance (3)
- Dental or vision insurance (4)
- Health Care or Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (5)
- Housing or housing subsidy (6)
- Life or disability insurance (7)
- Commuter benefits (8)
- Childcare assistance (9)
- Stocks, options, or other company equity (10) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (12) in 2013]
- Quality of life benefits (gym memberships, tuition reimbursements, etc.) (11) [Added as response option in 2014, recoded as (13) in 2013]
- None of the above (13) [Option (11) in 2013]

### C. INDUSTRY list [RC] [Revised for all relevant questions in 2014]

- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing or Hunting (1)
- Mining, Quarrying, or Oil and Gas Extraction (2)
- Utilities (3)
- Construction (4)
- Manufacturing (5)
- Wholesale Trade (6)
- Retail Trade (7)
- Transportation or Warehousing (8)
- Information Services (including Publishing or Media) (9)
- Banking, Finance, or Insurance (10)
- Real Estate, or Rental & Leasing Services (11)
- Professional, Technical, or Business Services (12)
- Education (13)
- Health Care or Social Assistance (14)
- Arts, Entertainment, or Recreation (15)
- Hotel, Accommodation, Restaurant, or Food Services (16)
- Other Services (except Government) (17)
- Government, including Military (18) [Removed after 2013, superseded by questions on Type of Work]

D. EMPLOYER SIZE list

- Less than 10 (1)
- 10–99 (2)
- 100–499 (3)
- 500–999 (4)
- 1,000–4,999 (5)
- 5,000 or more (6)