

2026 Employment Survey

Guidance Notes



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA
Department of Statistics



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA

Department of Statistics

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Introduction

The purpose of these guidance notes is to explain how to complete the Employment Survey forms. You will notice that much of the information gathered is common to all forms. We strongly advise that you take a moment to read these Guidance Notes before filling them in. Important definitions modifications / additions are included in the Guidance Notes such as:

- Employee
- Existing Employee
- Filled Job
- Layoff
- New Employee

If you have any questions regarding the survey documents or if any of the items listed below are missing, please call the Department of Statistics at 444-1757, 246-8756, 444-1758 or 246-8750. The Department of Statistics is located on the third floor of the Cedar Park Centre, 48 Cedar Avenue, Hamilton.

The 2026 survey reference week is **Sunday, 30 August to Saturday, 5 September 2026**. You must therefore ensure that all information written on the survey forms A, B and C reflects your employees' situations as they were during that week. For this reason, we request that you fill in your survey forms after the reference week. All businesses are required to complete the gross annual income and benefits information for their new and existing job holders, see page 9.

Form F should be completed only by **new employees** hired from **7 September 2025 to 5 September 2026**. Copies of Form F can be downloaded from our web page at <https://www.gov.bm/articles/bermuda-employment-statistics>. You may also download a copy of the *Bermuda Standard Classification of Occupations (BSCO)* and the *2026 Employment Survey Guidance Notes*.

All survey forms should be completed and returned to the Department of Statistics by **12 October 2026** via email (employmentsurvey@gov.bm), fax (295-8390), or mail.

Your envelope should contain:

1. A letter from the Director of Statistics that explains the purpose of the survey.
2. A **Current Vacancies form** (Form A).
3. A **New Employees form** (Form B).
4. A return envelope for completed survey forms (**No postage required**).

If your business made a return last year, you should also find:

5. The **Employees and Occupations form** showing all of your business' employees during last year's reference week (Form C).

Before returning your completed survey forms, you should also check that the following information is correct:

- Your name or the business name and address (including postal code and telephone number) at the top of the first page of each survey form.
- The spelling of your employees' names, especially those employees whose information was ticked '**no change**'.

FORM A – CURRENT VACANCIES

Instructions

A vacant position is a funded position that you have not filled which you are preparing to fill or recruiting to fill. The Current Vacancies form, **Form A**, is used for recording all vacant positions in existence as at the last day of the Reference Week, that is **5 September 2026**. On Form A, the information that is required includes:

1. **JOB TITLE:** Choose the title of the job description in the BSCO that most closely matches that of the vacant job. Record in the job title as it is given in the BSCO.
2. **OCCUPATION CODE:** You can find the code in the BSCO immediately across from the job title. Record in the job code corresponding to the job title entered.
3. **FULL - OR PART-TIME:** The number of normal hours worked in the job per week. Any job requiring less than 35.0 hours per week is part-time. Any job 35.0 or more hours per week is full-time. Record the word **'FULL'** or the word **'PART'** in the space provided, as appropriate.
4. **NO. OF WEEKS VACANCY UNFILLED:** in the last column enter the number of weeks the job has been vacant including the Reference Week, if applicable. If the job has been filled and became vacant repeatedly during the year, simply give the length of time since the job last became vacant.

Completing the Current Vacancies Form

Please refer to page 5. This is an example of a **Form A** modified according to the following instructions.

During the course of the 12-month period between last year's and this year's reference weeks, two positions within the No Name Company became vacant and are not yet to be filled.

The job title **'Salesperson'** along with its corresponding occupation code **'3313'** must be recorded in the columns headed **'JOB TITLE'** and **'OCCUPATION CODE'**, respectively. When filled, this position normally requires the job holder to work 35.0 hours per week; therefore, the word **"Full"** is inserted in the appropriate box under the **'FULL or PART-TIME'** column. The number **'15'** should be inserted in the space below the column headed **'NO. OF WEEKS VACANCY UNFILLED'** because the job was unfilled for 15 weeks up to and including the reference week.

The post of **'Sales Clerk, Retail Trade'** has also been vacated and has remained unfilled. The job title and the corresponding occupation code **'5212'** are each placed under the columns so named.

When last occupied the job required its holder to work less than 35.0 hours per week; therefore, the word **'Part'** denoting part-time must be recorded in the appropriate box under the column headed **'FULL OR PART-TIME'**. Counting backward inclusively from the reference week, it has been determined that the post has been vacant for a total of 30 weeks. Place **'30'** in the weeks unfilled column.

ID NO.: 1234567

EMPLOYER NAME: NO NAME COMPANY
ADDRESS: NO STREET

ES CONTACT PERSON: JOE NAME
PHONE NO.: 230-0000

"FORMA" CURRENT VACANCIES

[illegible]

The above details relating to the period Sunday, 30 August 2026 – Saturday, 5 September 2026 are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
DATE COMPLETED 25 / 09 / 2026

N.B. 1. This form must be completed and returned to the Department of Statistics by Monday, 12 October 2026

FORMS B AND C – COMMON DEFINITIONS

Filled Job - A filled job is one which has an employee in the post.

Employee - An employee is someone who has a formal employment agreement / contract on a paid or unpaid basis irrespective of the number of hours worked and whether they made contributions to benefits. For the purposes of the Employment Survey, the following are included in the definition of an employee as long as they have an employment contract (paid or unpaid):

- Apprentices
- Interns
- Laid off workers
- On-call workers
- Self-employed workers
- Summer students
- Trainees
- Workers absent for any reason for any duration (e.g. maternity leave, sick leave, vacation leave, administrative leave, etc.)

If a person is not an employee of the reporting establishment, he/she must be excluded from the definition of employee. Examples of persons that fall under this category are as follows:

- Casual Workers
- Consultants
- Secondees
- Volunteers

Layoff - A layoff is where an employer temporarily suspends the activities of the employee for economic reasons and not for an employee's actual performance during the Survey Reference week. The laid off person shall be considered an employee who has been temporarily relieved of the duties of a filled job, so long as they retain a contract with their employer.

FORM B – NEW EMPLOYEES

Instructions

New employee – an employee employed subsequent to the last Employment Survey (31 August to 6 September 2025) and remained employed during the 2026 Reference Week (30 August to 5 September 2026).

On the New Employees form (**Form B**), all staff members (either paid or unpaid) that were employed subsequent to the last Employment Survey and remain employed during the Reference Week.

ID NO.: This is a computer-generated identification number that was assigned when your business came into existence.

(Page No. ____ of ____): You should number the completed forms in the following order. Form A **(Page No. 1 of 3)**, Form B **(Page No. 2 of 3)** and Form C **(Page No. 3 of 3)**.

Employer Name: The name of your business. If the business has no name, enter the name of the working owner or self-employed person.

Address: Your full street or mailing address, whichever is most appropriate.

Contact Person: If you are self-employed and your name does not appear on the contact person line, print your name there. For larger employers, the contact person will generally be the person responsible for completing the survey forms.

Phone No.: The business telephone number (7 digits) of the person responsible for completing the Employment Survey.

Name of Authorised Signatory: Print your full name in the space provided so that the survey officers can easily contact the right person if the need arises.

Authorised Signatory: Sign your name at the bottom of each form after you complete it, as this will help us verify the authenticity of your return.

Date Completed: You must also indicate the date that the forms were completed. Enter the day, month and year in that order, e.g. 25 September 2026 will be 25 9 2026.

Job Holder Details

Form B (New Employees) and Form C (Employees & Occupations) are used to collect and modify the following job holder information.

Surname, Forename and Initials: Insert each name in the space at the left-hand side of each box.

Date of Birth: Record the birth date of each job holder in day, month and year order. An employee whose date of birth is 8 February 1981 should be written 08 02 1981.

Sex: Record ‘M’ for male or ‘F’ for female job holders. Remember that a person’s sex is not always clear from the first name, e.g. Robin, Tracey, and Ashley.

Race: Form F should only be completed by new employees hired after last year’s Survey or by existing employees whose race is listed incorrectly on Form C. Electronic copies of Form F are available at <https://www.gov.bm/employment-statistics>. Employees must record their name and date of birth in the appropriate place and circle the number code that corresponds with the most appropriate racial group. Employees should then sign and fold the form and return it to their employer. Transfer the employee race code to Form B or Form C, whichever is applicable. The following race codes apply.

1. Black
2. White
3. Asian
4. Black and White
5. Black and Other
6. White and Other
7. Other

Occupation Code: Use the BSCO booklet to identify the occupation code that most accurately describes a job holder’s duties.

Bermudian Status B/NB/P/S: If the job holder is a Bermudian place a ‘B’ in the ‘Status’ column. Record ‘P’ if the job holder is a non-Bermudian but holds a permanent residence certificate. Place an ‘S’ under the ‘Status’ column if the individual is a non-Bermudian spouse of a Bermudian. All other non-Bermudians should be classified as ‘NB’.

Actual Hrs.: Refers to the actual hours spent at the job during the reference week and includes both regular time and overtime but excludes unpaid down time such as lunch period. Remember to exclude absences such as sick, vacation leave or public holidays. To capture layoffs, place **00.0** in the Actual Hours of Work field.

Normal. Hrs.: Normal hours refers to the hours that the person is contracted to work in a typical week whether or not they happened to be at work during the reference week. To capture layoffs, record **99.9** in the Normal Hours of Work field.

Gross Annual Income from Employment (Grs Ann Inc): Use the gross annual income bands sheet on page 11 to record the letter code that represents the gross annual income bracket of **every** job holder in your organisation. Gross annual income includes employment income before deductions from wages, salaries (excluding overtime), commissions, bonuses, tips and earnings from self-employment. Where an employee has not worked for an entire year in his or her current position, use the weekly or monthly equivalent that corresponds with what the income would have been if he had worked for an entire year. Where an employee normally receives tips or gratuities, or is paid on a commission basis, choose the income bracket that represents the best estimate of gross annual income.

Benefits: Refers to the employment benefits that a job holder is entitled to receive. Place a check mark in the box that corresponds with the benefit(s) that each employee is entitled to receive. Benefits comprise the following:

Annual Bonus (AB): Tick the annual bonus column if the job holder is eligible to receive an annual monetary gift.

Car Allowance (CA): Tick the car allowance column if the job holder is entitled to receive reimbursement or an allowance for personal transportation expenses.

Housing Allowance (HA): Tick the housing allowance column if the job holder is entitled to receive subsidised rental housing.

Mortgage Subsidy (MS): Tick the mortgage subsidy column if the job holder is entitled to receive supplements for employee-purchased housing.

Stock Options (SO): Tick the stock options column if the job holder is entitled to participate in an employee stock option plan(s).

Travel Allowance (TA): Tick the travel allowance column if the job holder is entitled to receive reimbursement or an allowance for expenses associated with travel.

Other (O): Tick the other column if the job holder is entitled to receive a benefit that cannot be classified under any other specific category. Other benefits (O) include provisions such as employer subsidised childcare services and access to a recreational, fitness or wellness facility, **but excludes all legally mandated benefits** such as health insurance and pension benefits.

Owner: Place a '**X**' in the box if the job holder owns or co-owns the business. Otherwise, leave the space blank.

Summer Student (SUM STU): If a student filled a job, place a '**X**' in the summer student column. Otherwise leave the space blank. A student is someone who attends school full-time and is being employed only during a vacation period.

Part-Time Job (P/T JOB): The number of normal hours worked in the job per week. Jobs requiring less than 35.0 hours per week are considered part-time.

Completing the New Employees Form

Please refer to page 12. This is an example of **Form B** modified according to the following instructions.

ADAMS, JOHN C. was employed to fill the position of manager for accounting. Print his surname, forename and initials in the appropriate columns. Enter his birth date 1 October 1973 (**01-10-1973**) under the column headed **'DATE OF BIRTH'**. Place an **'M'** for male in the space under the column headed sex. The appropriate occupation code for the job he holds (**1323**) is written in the **'OCCUPATION CODE'** column. He is a Bermudian; therefore, a **'B'** is placed in the **'STATUS'** column. He worked 52.0 hours during the reference week; however, he normally works 40.0 hours per week. On the employee information form, he circled code number **'2'**. Record the number **'2'** in the **'RACE'** column directly across from his name. John's gross annual salary which includes his bonus and car allowance is \$96,750. Record an **'I'** in the income column across from his name and an **'X'** in the annual bonus and car allowance boxes.

BEAN, CHARLTON D. was recently employed as a retail buyer (occupation code 3315). His date of birth is 10 December 1968 (**10-12-1968**) and he is a non-Bermudian spouse of a Bermudian **'S'**. He actually worked 40.0 hours during the reference week but normally works 35.0 hours a week. He circled code **'I'** on the employee information form. Transfer this code into the appropriate cell. Mr. Bean earns \$680 per week so a **'C'** should be placed in the income column next to his name and place an **'X'** in the travel allowance box since he is entitled to reimbursement for certain travel costs that he incurs while abroad on company business.

CANN, DEANNA E. was employed two months ago as a part-time sales clerk (5212). An **'X'** must be placed in the box, which corresponds to her name under the **'PART-TIME JOB'** column. As a Bermudian by grant of status the code **'B'** is placed in the **'STATUS'** column. Deanna Cann was born on 2 March 1988 (**02-03-1988**) and she circled code **'2'** on the employee information form. She was hired with the agreement that the job required her to work 21.0 hours per week and she actually worked 21.0 hours during the reference week. As a part-time sales clerk, Ms. Cann makes \$460 per week and she is entitled to no benefits. Record a **'B'** in the income column and leave the benefits boxes unmarked.

GROSS ANNUAL INCOME BANDS

Gross Income refers to income before deductions from the following sources: wages, salaries (**excluding overtime**), commissions, bonuses, tips, net earnings from own business and self-employed

SELECT ONE CODE IF USING		SELECT ONE CODE IF USING		SELECT ONE CODE IF USING
Weekly Income Equivalent	OR	Monthly Income Equivalent	OR	Annual Income Equivalent
A \$1 to under \$231		A \$1 to under \$1,000		A \$1 to under \$12,000
B \$231 and under \$577		B \$1,000 and under \$2,500		B \$12,000 and under \$30,000
C \$577 and under \$692		C \$2,500 and under \$3,000		C \$30,000 and under \$36,000
D \$692 and under \$923		D \$3,000 and under \$4,000		D \$36,000 and under \$48,000
E \$923 and under \$1,154		E \$4,000 and under \$5,000		E \$48,000 and under \$60,000
F \$1,154 and under \$1,385		F \$5,000 and under \$6,000		F \$60,000 and under \$72,000
G \$1,385 and under \$1,615		G \$6,000 and under \$7,000		G \$72,000 and under \$84,000
H \$1,615 and under \$1,846		H \$7,000 and under \$8,000		H \$84,000 and under \$96,000
I \$1,846 and under \$2,077		I \$8,000 and under \$9,000		I \$96,000 and under \$108,000
J \$2,077 and under \$2,538		J \$9,000 and under \$11,000		J \$108,000 and under \$132,000
K \$2,538 and under \$3,000		K \$11,000 and under \$13,000		K \$132,000 and under \$156,000
L \$3,000 and under \$4,519		L \$13,000 and under \$19,583		L \$156,000 and under \$235,000
M \$4,519 and under \$6,731		M \$19,583 and under \$29,167		M \$235,000 and under \$350,000
N \$6,731 and under \$9,615		N \$29,167 and under \$41,667		N \$350,000 and under \$500,000
O \$9,615 and under \$12,500		O \$41,667 and under \$54,167		O \$500,000 and under \$650,000
P \$12,500 and under \$14,423		P \$54,167 and under \$62,500		P \$650,000 and under \$750,000
Q \$14,423 and under \$16,346		Q \$62,500 and under \$70,833		Q \$750,000 and under \$850,000
R \$16,346 and under \$17,308		R \$70,833 and under \$75,000		R \$850,000 and under \$900,000
S \$17,308 and over		S \$75,000 and over		S \$900,000 and over
T Unpaid		T Unpaid		T Unpaid

FORM C – EMPLOYEES AND OCCUPATIONS

Instructions

Existing employee - an employee employed during the last Employment Survey (31 August to 6 September 2025) and remained employed during the 2026 Reference Week (30 August to 5 September 2026).

If your business completed an Employment Survey return in 2025, you will find an Employees and Occupations Form in your package. You will notice that Form C is almost identical to Form B and therefore refer to the instructions on pages 7 to 9. Unlike Form B, however, the purpose of Form C is to update the information that you reported last year. On the far right hand side of Form C, there are three check boxes next to each employee's job information. Record '**X**' in the box that applies to each employee.

Nature of Business: If you are completing the survey form for the first time, you must provide a description of the type of business you conduct. If your business activity has changed since the last survey, record a description in the place provided. Otherwise, leave the space blank.

NO CHG: Refers to no change. If there were no changes made to a job holder's record and they were still employed during the reference week, mark the no change box.

CHG: Refers to change. Mark the change box if any of the job holder's information has changed.

DEL: Refers to delete. Mark the delete box across from the name of all employees who were no longer employed by your business during the reference week.

Changing the Employees and Occupations Form

Please refer to page 14. This is an example of **Form C** modified according to the following instructions.

1. Brian Adams was laid off during the reference week. Change his actual hours to **00.0** and normal hours to **99.9**. Record '**X**' in the **CHG** box.
2. Ruth Barker worked last year as a Sales Clerk, Retail Trade. During the year, she was promoted to Marketing Manager. As a consequence, her hours have increased. You should cross out her previous occupation, occupational code and hours and amend accordingly. Then record '**X**' in the **CHG** box.
3. Edith Gordon works as a receptionist. During the year she was married; therefore, her surname changed. Cross out '**GORDON**' and record '**SMITH**'.
4. During the last year, Mrs. Smith became a permanent resident certificate holder of Bermuda. Cross out '**NB**' and record '**P**'. Then record '**X**' in the **CHG** box.
5. Morris King had left the business before the survey reference week began. Record '**X**' in the **DEL** box.

"FORM C" EMPLOYEES & OCCUPATIONS																tick correct boxes				
Surname Forename	Date of Birth	Sex	Race	Occ. Code	Occupation Description	Sts	Act Hrs.	Norm Hrs.	Grs Ann Inc	Benefits AB	Benefits CA	HA	MS	SO	TA	OWN ER	SUMS TU	P/T JOB	NO CHG	CHG DEL
ADAMS BRIAN	1/9/1973	M	2	1320	MANAGER ADMINISTRATION/ PERSONNEL	B	50.0 00.0	50.0 99.9	G											X
BARKER RUTH	24/01/1992	F	1	5212 1325	SALESCLERK, RETAIL TRADE MARKETING MANAGER	B	40.0 45.0	40.0 45.0	F											X
GORDON EDITH SMITH	31/03/1985	F	2	4226	RECEPTIONIST	NR P	25.0	25.0	D									X		X
KING MORRIS	15/02/1963	M	4	1325	MANAGER/DIRECTOR/ MARKETING	B	0.0	40.0	F											X

EMPLOYER DETAILS

Remember that if your business activity has changed since last year's reference week, record a description of the new activity in the 'Nature of Business' box at the top of form. For businesses with four or more job holders, the 'Nature of Business' box is on top of Form C.

Where the 'Contact Person' information is blank or no longer accurate, place the correct name in the space provided.

Finally, check the remaining employer details and correct them if necessary:

- Employer name / Trading name.
- Postal box or street address, parish and postal code.
- Telephone number.

Please refer to page 16 for answers to some frequently asked questions.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Situation: I have only two employees, do I still have to complete the survey?

Response: Yes, you still have to complete the survey.

Situation: If I am self-employed do I include myself as an employee?

Response: Yes, if you are self-employed you must include yourself along with any other employees you have.

Situation: I am a taxi permit holder but I do not drive a taxi myself. Do I include those who operate my taxi?

Response: If you own a taxi, please list all operators of your taxi.

Situation: My housekeeper lives in my home, do I need to include her?

Response: Households that employ live-in domestics like nannies, housekeepers or gardeners are required to include their employees in the survey data even if the job is only part-time.

Situation: One of my heavy equipment operators also cleans my business office in the evening after work. Should I include him twice?

Response: If an employee does more than one job then a separate record must be created for each job that he or she holds.

Situation: I used to be self-employed but now I work for someone else. I don't need to return your forms, do I?

Response: If you are no longer self-employed or if your business is no longer in existence, return your forms in the normal way but mark them 'No Longer Operating'.

Situation: My business still exists but I have suspended operations temporarily. Do I still need to return the survey forms?

Response: If the business still exists but has no employees at the present time and would have employees in the future, please return the forms with the words, 'No Employees' marked on them.

Situation: In July 2025 I laid off an employee for an indefinite time period. Should this post be classified as vacant?

Response: No, this post will be considered a filled job. You should adjust the actual hours of work to **00.0** and the normal hours of work to **99.9** on the employee record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
Contact the Department of Statistics at
297-7761 or employmentsurvey@gov.bm

