



# मासिक बुलेटिन Monthly Bulletin

आवधिक श्रम बल सर्वेक्षण (पीएलएफएस)  
Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)

मई 2025  
MAY 2025



Data for Development

भारत सरकार  
Government of India  
सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation  
राष्ट्रीय सांख्यिकी कार्यालय  
National Statistics Office

16<sup>TH</sup> जून, 2025

16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2025



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## आवधिक श्रम बल सर्वेक्षण (पीएलएफएस) Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)

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## A. INTRODUCTION

Considering the need for generation of high frequency labour force indicators with enhanced coverage the sampling methodology of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) has been revamped from January 2025. The revamped PLFS design is envisaged to address the following objectives

- to estimate the key employment and unemployment indicators (*viz.* Labour Force Participation Rate, Worker Population Ratio and Unemployment Rate) on a monthly basis for rural and urban areas in the Current Weekly Status (CWS<sup>1</sup>) at all India level
- to extend the coverage of the Quarterly results of PLFS to rural areas and thereby producing quarterly estimates covering both rural and urban parts of India in the Current Weekly Status (CWS)
- to estimate important employment and unemployment indicators in both usual status<sup>2</sup> (ps+ss) and CWS for rural and urban areas annually.

### Changes in PLFS from 2025

## B. MONTHLY BULLETIN OF PLFS



The Monthly estimates of Labour Force Participation Rate, Worker Population Ratio and Unemployment Rate at all-India level following Current Weekly Status (CWS) disaggregated by gender, sector and broad age-group is released in the form of Monthly Bulletins of PLFS.

The monthly Bulletin for the month April, 2025 has already been released.

The present monthly Bulletin for the month of May, 2025 is the second in the series of monthly Bulletins.

<sup>1</sup> The activity status of a person is determined on the basis of the activities pursued by the person during the specified reference period. The activity status determined on the basis of a reference period of last 7 days preceding the date of survey is known as the current weekly status (CWS) of the person.

<sup>2</sup> The activity status determined on the basis of the reference period of last 365 days preceding the date of survey is known as the usual activity status of the person. Activity status in the usual status (ps+ss) are obtained by considering the usual principal status (ps) and the subsidiary status (ss) together.

## C. Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)

### LFPR IN CWS



Labour force refers to the part of the population which supplies or offers to supply labour for pursuing economic activities for the production of goods and services and therefore, includes both 'employed' and 'unemployed' persons.

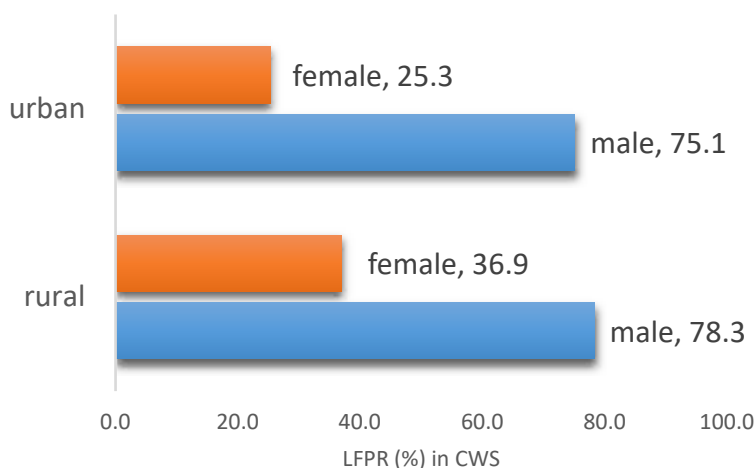


Labour force according to current weekly status (CWS) is the number of persons either employed or unemployed on an average in a week of 7 days preceding the date of survey



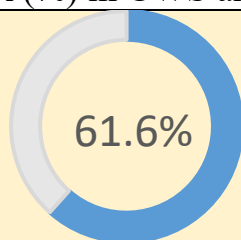
- LFPR (%) in CWS for persons of age 15 years and above in the country stood at 54.8% in May 2025.
- LFPR (%) in CWS for persons of age 15 years and above in rural areas was 56.9% and was 50.4% in urban areas

**LFPR (%) in CWS during May 2025 for male and female**

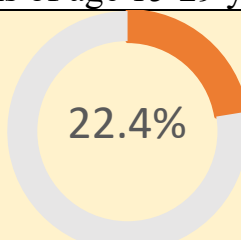


- LFPR (%) among rural male of age 15 years and above was 78.3% during May, 2025
- For rural female of the same age group LFPR (%) during May, 2025 was found to be 36.9%
- In urban areas LFPR (%) among female of age 15 years and above during May, 2025 was 25.3% compared to 75.1% observed for male of the same age group

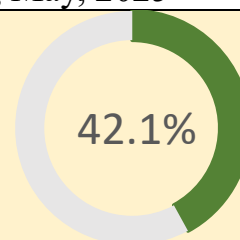
### LFPR (%) in CWS among persons of age 15-29 years during May, 2025



LFPR (%) among male of age 15-29 years



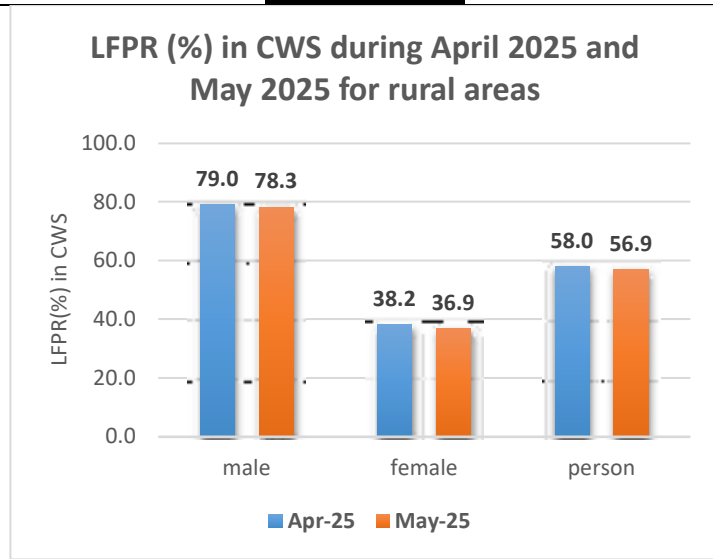
LFPR (%) among female of age 15-29 years



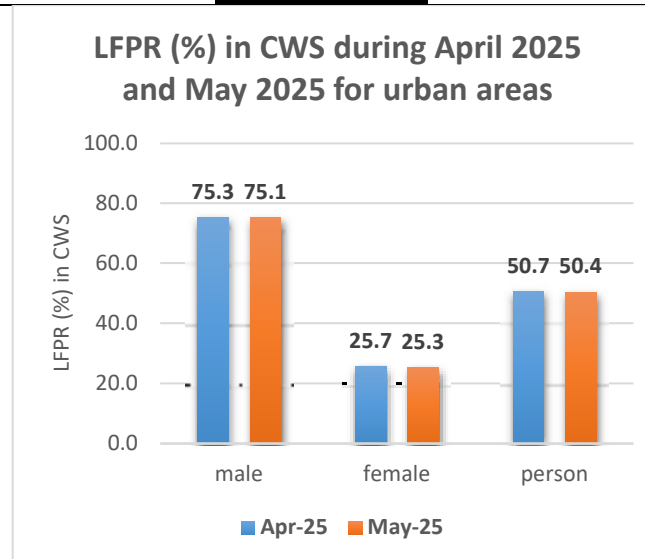
LFPR (%) among persons of age 15-29 years

LFPR (%) in CWS during April 2025 and May 2025 for persons of age 15 years and above separately for rural and urban areas and rural and urban areas combined are presented below.

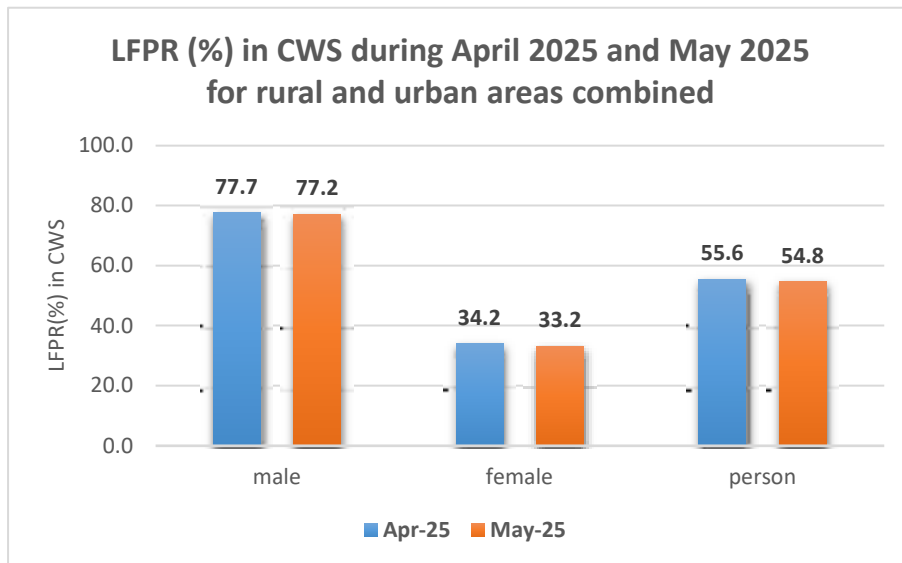
**for rural areas**



**for urban areas**



**for rural and urban areas combined**



In Statement 1, estimates of LFPR (%) in CWS for May, 2025 and April, 2025 are presented for different gender, sector and broad age-group categories.

**Statement 1: Labour Force Participation Rate (in per cent) in CWS**

sector	survey month	male	female	person
	age group: 15-29 years			
	April 2025	63.5	23.8	43.4
	May 2025	63.1	22.9	42.7
	age group: 15 years and above			
rural	April 2025	79.0	38.2	58.0
	May 2025	78.3	36.9	56.9
	age group: all age			
	April 2025	57.5	28.8	42.9
	May 2025	57.0	27.8	42.2
	age group: 15-29 years			
	April 2025	59.1	21.5	41.2
	May 2025	58.6	21.3	40.8
	age group: 15 years and above			
urban	April 2025	75.3	25.7	50.7
	May 2025	75.1	25.3	50.4
	age group: all age			
	April 2025	58.5	20.5	39.9
	May 2025	58.5	20.2	39.7
	age group: 15-29 years			
	April 2025	62.0	23.1	42.7
	May 2025	61.6	22.4	42.1
	age group: 15 years and above			
rural + urban	April 2025	77.7	34.2	55.6
	May 2025	77.2	33.2	54.8
	age group: all age			
	April 2025	57.8	26.2	42.0
	May 2025	57.5	25.5	41.4

## D.Worker Population Ratio (WPR)

### WPR IN CWS



The workforce measured in CWS gives the average picture of the workforce in a short period of one week during the survey period.

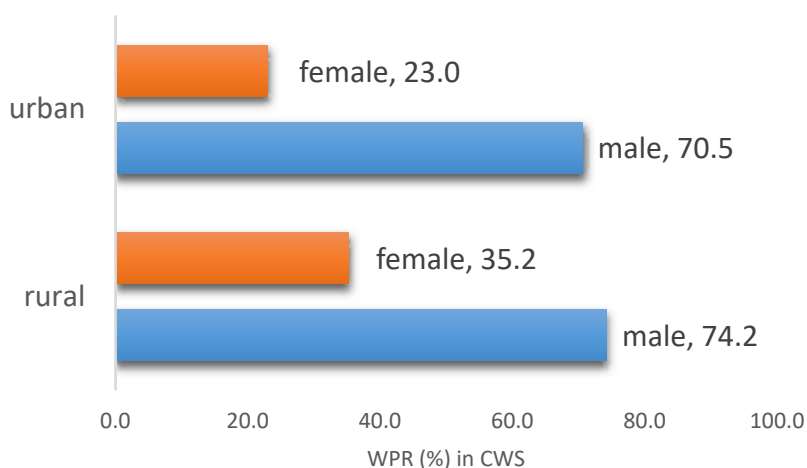


The estimate of workforce in the CWS provides the number of persons who worked for at least 1 hour on any day during the 7 days preceding the date of survey.



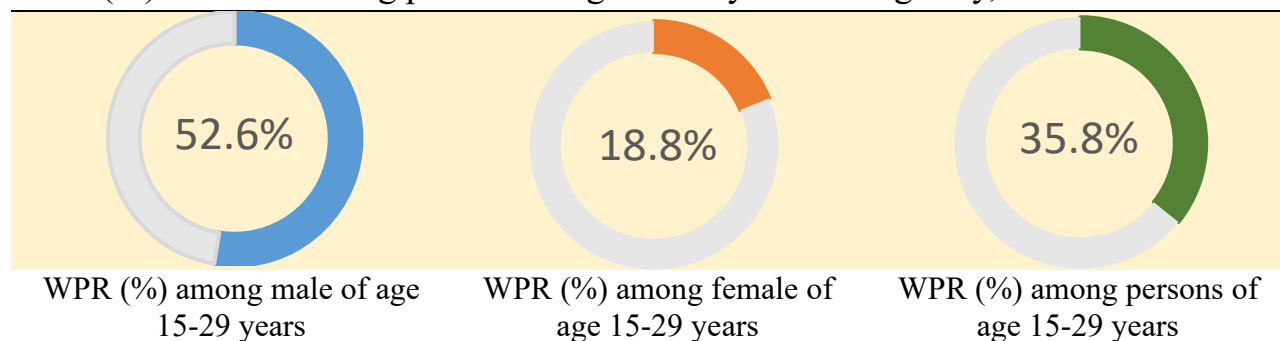
- WPR (%) in CWS for persons of age 15 years and above in the country stood at 51.7% in May 2025.
- WPR (%) in CWS for persons of age 15 years and above in rural areas was 54.1% and was 46.9% in urban areas.

**WPR (%) in CWS during May 2025 for male and female**



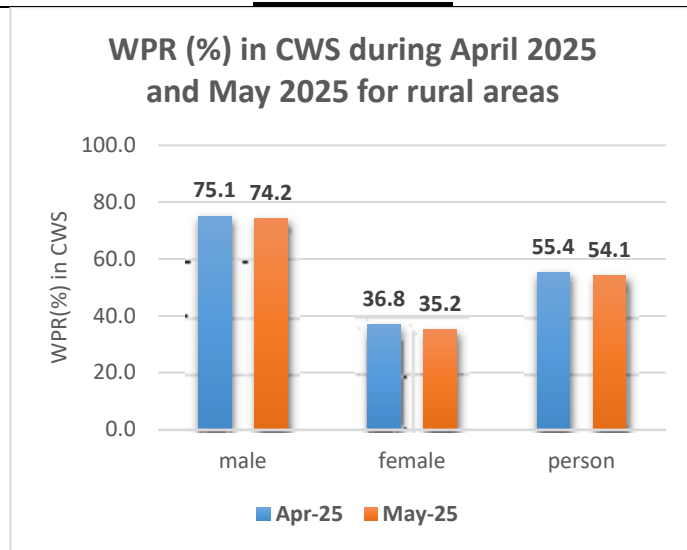
- WPR (%) among rural male of age 15 years and above was 74.2% during May, 2025
- For rural female of the same age group WPR (%) during May, 2025 was found to be 35.2%
- In urban areas WPR (%) among female of age 15 years and above during May, 2025 was 23.0% compared to 70.5% observed for male of the same age group

### WPR (%) in CWS among persons of age 15-29 years during May, 2025

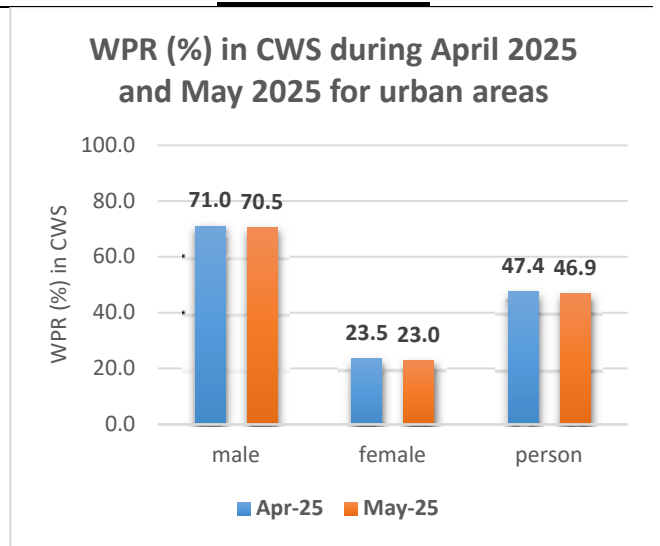


WPR (%) in CWS during April 2025 and May 2025 for persons of age 15 years and above separately for rural and urban areas and rural and urban areas combined are presented below

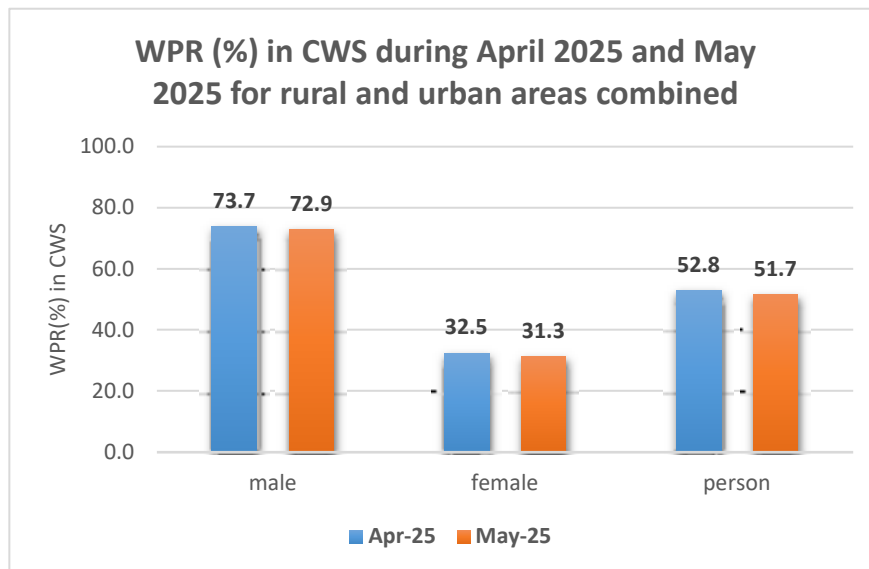
**for rural areas**



**for urban areas**



**for rural and urban areas combined**



In Statement 2, estimates of WPR in CWS for May, 2025 and April, 2025 are presented for different gender, sector and broad age-group categories.

**Statement 2: Worker Population Ratio (in per cent) in CWS**

sector	survey month	male	female	person
	age group: 15-29 years			
	April 2025	55.3	21.2	38.0
	May 2025	54.3	19.9	36.8
	age group: 15 years and above			
	April 2025	75.1	36.8	55.4
	May 2025	74.2	35.2	54.1
	age group: all age			
	April 2025	54.7	27.7	41.0
	May 2025	53.9	26.5	40.0
	age group: 15-29 years			
	April 2025	50.2	16.4	34.1
	May 2025	49.4	16.1	33.5
	age group: 15 years and above			
	April 2025	71.0	23.5	47.4
	May 2025	70.5	23.0	46.9
	age group: all age			
	April 2025	55.1	18.7	37.3
	May 2025	54.9	18.3	36.9
	age group: 15-29 years			
	April 2025	53.6	19.8	36.8
	May 2025	52.6	18.8	35.8
	age group: 15 years and above			
	April 2025	73.7	32.5	52.8
	May 2025	72.9	31.3	51.7
	age group: all age			
	April 2025	54.8	24.9	39.8
	May 2025	54.2	24.0	39.0

## E. Unemployment Rate (UR)

### UR IN CWS



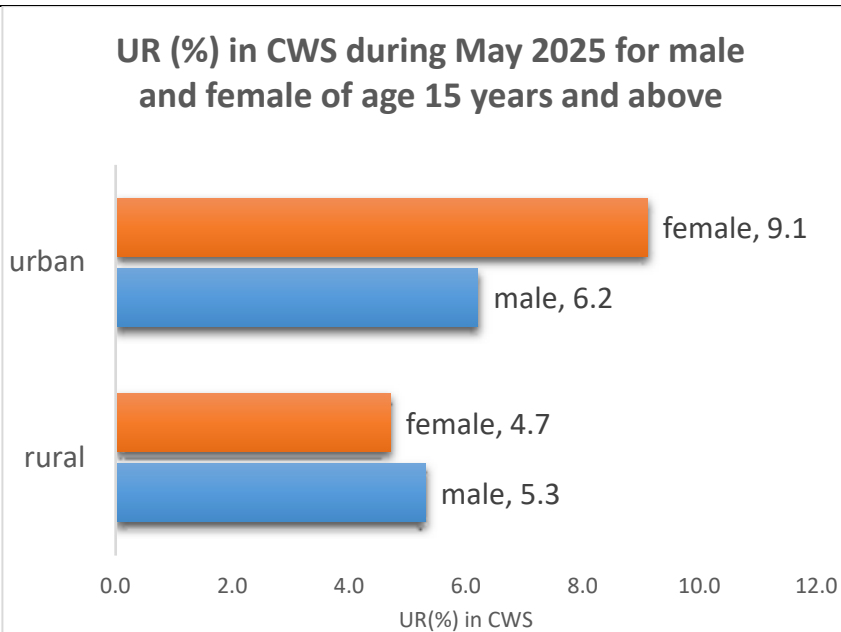
The estimates of unemployed in CWS give an average picture of unemployment in a short period of 7 days during the survey period.



A person was considered as unemployed in a week if he/she did not work even for 1 hour on any day during the reference week but sought or was available for work at least for 1 hour on any day during the reference week

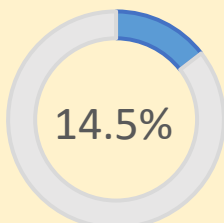


- UR (%) in CWS for persons of age 15 years and above in the country stood at 5.6% in May 2025.
- UR (%) in CWS for persons of age 15 years and above in rural areas was 5.1% and was 6.9% in urban areas

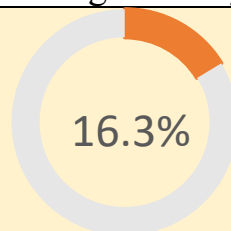


- UR (%) among rural male of age 15 years and above was 5.3% during May, 2025
- For rural female of the same age group UR (%) during May, 2025 was found to be 4.7%
- In urban areas UR (%) among female of age 15 years and above during May, 2025 was 9.1% compared to 6.2% observed for male of the same age group

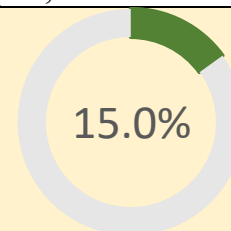
### UR (%) in CWS among persons of age 15-29 years during April, 2025



UR (%) among male of age 15-29 years



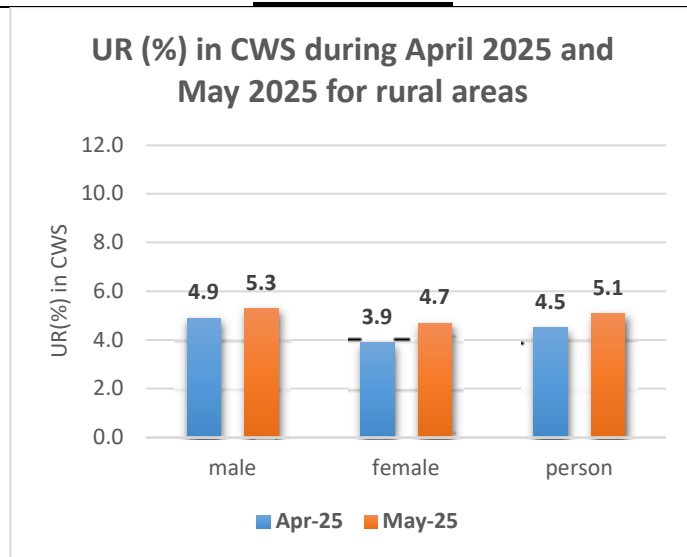
UR (%) among female of age 15-29 years



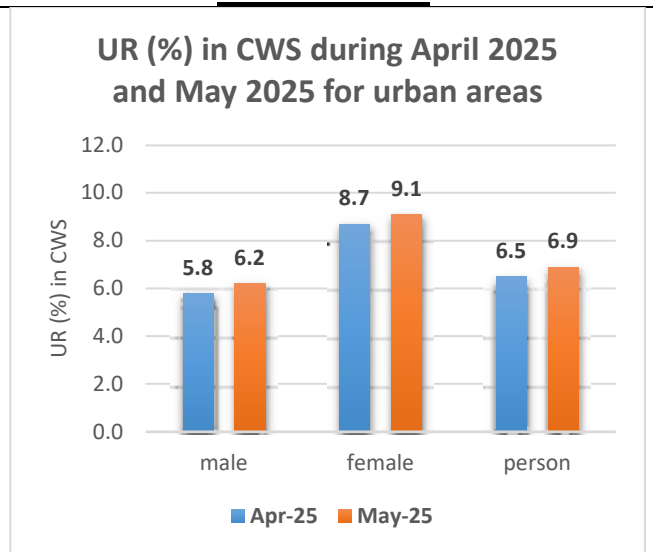
UR (%) among persons of age 15-29 years

UR(%) in CWS during May, 2025 and April, 2025 for persons of age 15 years and above separately for rural and urban areas and rural and urban areas combined are presented below.

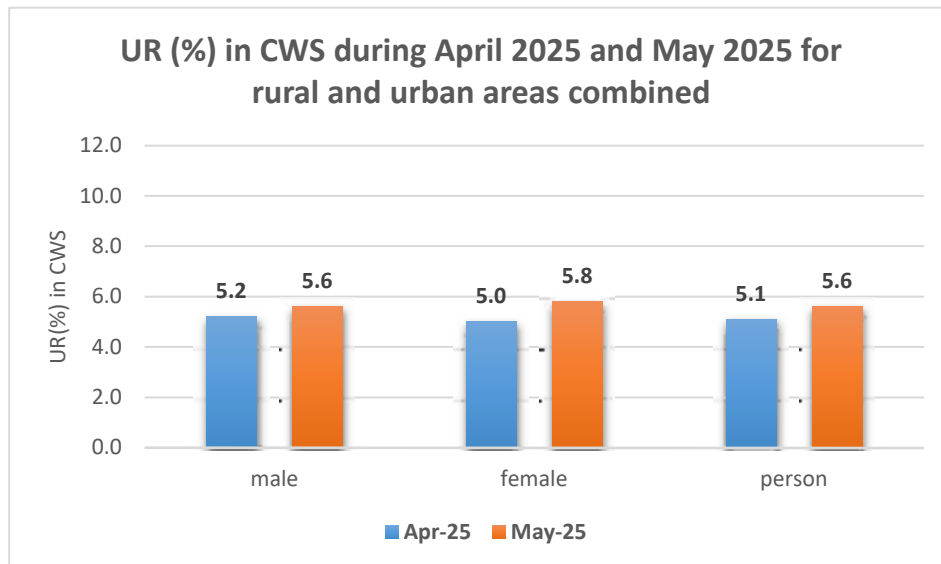
**for rural areas**



**for urban areas**



**for rural and urban areas combined**



In Statement 3, estimates of UR in CWS for May, 2025 and April, 2025 are presented for different gender, sector and broad age-group categories.

**Statement 3: Unemployment Rate (in per cent) in CWS**


sector	survey month	male	female	person
	age group: 15-29 years			
	April 2025	13.0	10.7	12.3
	May 2025	14.0	13.0	13.7
	age group: 15 years and above			
	April 2025	4.9	3.9	4.5
	May 2025	5.3	4.7	5.1
	age group: all age			
	April 2025	4.9	3.8	4.5
	May 2025	5.3	4.7	5.1
	age group: 15-29 years			
	April 2025	15.0	23.7	17.2
	May 2025	15.8	24.4	17.9
	age group: 15 years and above			
	April 2025	5.8	8.7	6.5
	May 2025	6.2	9.1	6.9
	age group: all age			
	April 2025	5.8	8.7	6.5
	May 2025	6.2	9.1	6.9
	age group: 15-29 years			
	April 2025	13.6	14.4	13.8
	May 2025	14.5	16.3	15.0
	age group: 15 years and above			
	April 2025	5.2	5.0	5.1
	May 2025	5.6	5.8	5.6
	age group: all age			
	April 2025	5.2	5.0	5.1
	May 2025	5.6	5.7	5.6

## F. Sample Size

In revamped PLFS design adopted from January 2025, a rotational panel sampling design is used and in this rotational panel scheme each selected household is visited four times in four consecutive months –in the beginning with first visit schedule in the first month and other three with the revisit schedule in the following three months for both rural and urban areas.

In the statement 4 given below, the sample size in terms of FSUs (census 2011 villages /Urban Frame Survey blocks/ subunits), households and persons are given, separately for rural areas, urban areas and rural and urban areas combined. It may be noted that, besides the first visit sample (25 per cent of total sample size), samples in respect to three revisits (75 per cent of total sample size) were also surveyed during the months May, 2025 and April, 2025.

**Statement 4: The First Stage Units (FSUs), households and persons surveyed during April and May, 2025**

Sector	Surveyed FSUs	 Surveyed Households	Person surveyed
	sample surveyed during April, 2025		
rural	4,140	49,323	2,17,483
urban	3,371	40,111	1,63,355
rural + urban	7,511	89,434	3,80,838
	sample surveyed during May, 2025		
rural	4,137	49,267	2,16,542
urban	3,374	40,105	1,63,058
rural + urban	7,511	89,372	3,79,600

## G. Reliability of the estimates



PRECISION



Reliability of the estimates of key labour market indicators is measured here by the Relative Standard Error (RSE) of the estimates.

In Statement 5, the RSE (%) of the estimates of Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR) and Unemployment Rate (UR) in CWS for April, 2025 is presented for persons of age 15 years and above.

**Statement 5: RSE (%) of LFPR, WPR and UR estimates in CWS for persons aged 15 years and above for April and May 2025**

Indicator	sector	male	female	person
April 2025				
LFPR	rural	0.31	0.93	0.40
	urban	0.40	1.25	0.45
	rural + urban	0.25	0.77	0.31
WPR	rural	0.35	0.97	0.44
	urban	0.45	1.34	0.49
	rural + urban	0.28	0.8	0.34
UR	rural	2.97	4.76	2.70
	urban	3.18	4.02	2.57
	rural + urban	2.22	3.25	1.95
May 2025				
LFPR	rural	0.31	0.96	0.4
	urban	0.41	1.24	0.45
	rural + urban	0.25	0.78	0.31
WPR	rural	0.35	1.01	0.43
	urban	0.47	1.33	0.49
	rural + urban	0.28	0.83	0.34
UR	rural	2.70	4.97	2.48
	urban	3.12	4.08	2.56
	rural + urban	2.06	3.43	1.83

**CORRIE GENDUM**

Due to mis-specification of the expression of RSE, the RSE estimates of LFPR, WPR and UR brought out in the monthly bulletin of PLFS for the month April 2025 on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2025 was inaccurately mentioned under Section G of the Bulletin.

The correct estimates of RSE of the indicators LFPR, WPR and UR are presented under Section G of the present bulletin for the month of May, 2025.

## H. Comparability of monthly estimates with previously released estimates of PLFS

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The sample design of the Periodic Labour Survey (PLFS) has been revamped from January 2025. As part of revamping of the sample design monthly rotational panel scheme has been implemented for both rural and urban areas wherein each selected household is visited four times in four consecutive months – one with first visit schedule and other three with the revisit schedule in the following three months. The aspects related to the multistage stratified design followed in PLFS like the choice of First stage Units (FSU) to be surveyed, the primary geographical unit (i.e. basic stratum) from which FSUs are selected, stratification rules applied to FSUs and sampling selection method for selecting FSUs have been changed. The number of households to be surveyed within a selected FSU has been increased from 8 to 12 households.



In addition, some changes have also been incorporated in the structure of the Schedule of inquiry. The details of the revamped PLFS sample design and changes made in the Schedule of inquiry have been provided in the PLFS release titled *PLFS: Changes in 2025*. Users of PLFS results need to consider the changes implemented in PLFS from January 2025 while comparing PLFS results with estimates released through PLFS publications up to December, 2024. The results of the PLFS post January 2025 thus need to be understood and used in the context with which the sample selection methodology of PLFS has been designed.



## FEEDBACK FORM

1. **Name** (optional):

2. **email id** (optional) :

3. **Your field of Work:** (please tick (✓) the relevant)

- (a) Govt Sector                      (b) Corporate Sector                      (c) Research                      (d) Civil Services  
(e) NGO                      (f) Education                      (g) Art & Culture                      (h) Media  
(i) Business                      (j) Student

4. Please mention the report/publication you are commenting on:

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### CONTENT

5. How useful/relevant is the Monthly Bulletin for your professional interests [please tick (✓) the relevant]

- (a) very useful                      (b) Moderately Useful                      (c) not at all useful

6. How useful/relevant is the Monthly Bulletin for your personal interests [please tick (✓) the relevant]

- (a) very useful                      (b) Moderately Useful                      (c) not at all useful

### PRESENTATION

7. How do you find style of presentation of information of the Monthly Bulletin? [please tick (✓) the relevant]

- (a) Excellent                      (b) Very Good                      (c) fair                      (d) not good at all

### ACCESSIBILITY

8. How easy was it to access the Monthly Bulletin?

- (a) Very easy                      (b) Moderately easy                      (c) difficult

### 9. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

**Please note:** These comments may be used for internal and external promotional purposes but will not be attributed to the person making them, unless explicitly agreed to this in writing. (please add extra sheet if required)

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