



THE GAMBIA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Kanifing Institutional Layout, P.O. Box 3504, Serrekunda, The Gambia.



METADATA DOCUMENT

The Gambia 2026 Labour Force Survey (Q1)

Microdata Documentation

Final Version | July 2026

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1. DATASET OVERVIEW

Attribute	Value
Country	The Gambia (GM)
Survey	Gambia Labour Force Survey 2026 (GLFS 2026)
Quarter	Q1 (First Quarter)
Data Source	2024 Population and Housing Census (PHC) Frame
Data Type	Individual-level Microdata
File Format	Stata (.dta)
Version	v1
Release Date	July 24, 2026



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Attribute	Value
Publisher	Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS)

1.1 Survey Description

The Gambia Labour Force Survey (GLFS) 2026, Quarter 1, is a nationally representative household survey designed to collect comprehensive data on the labour market characteristics of the Gambian population. The survey provides critical information on employment, unemployment, underemployment, and other labour market indicators essential for policy formulation and monitoring.

Key Objectives:

- Measure the size and composition of the labour force
- Estimate employment and unemployment rates
- Assess the quality of employment (formal/informal, working conditions)
- Measure child labour incidence
- Monitor youth labour market outcomes
- Track progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



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1.2 Sampling Frame

The sampling frame for the GLFS 2026 was derived from the **2024 Population and Housing Census (PHC)** conducted by the Gambia Bureau of Statistics. The PHC provided up-to-date enumeration area (EA) maps and household listings, ensuring comprehensive coverage of the entire country.



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2. SURVEY DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Sample Design

Design Element	Description
Sampling Frame	2024 PHC Enumeration Areas (EAs)
Sampling Method	Stratified two-stage cluster sampling
Stage 1	Selection of EAs (Primary Sampling Units - PSUs)
Stage 2	Selection of households within selected EAs
Strata	Urban/Rural within each of the 8 administrative regions
Geographic Coverage	National (all 8 regions)
Survey Period	First Quarter (Q1), January-March 2026



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2.2 Geographic Coverage

Region Code	Region Name	Urban/Rural
1	Banjul	Only Urban
2	Kanifing	Only Urban
3	Brikama	Both Urban and Rural
4	Mansa Konko	Both Urban and Rural
5	Kerewan	Both Urban and Rural
6	Kuntaur	Both Urban and Rural
7	Janjanbureh	Both Urban and Rural
8	Basse	Both Urban and Rural



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2.3 Weighting Variables

The dataset includes **five sampling weights** for different population sub-groups and analysis types:

Weight Variable	Description	Applicable Population	File(s) Available In
hh_calibrated	Household-level weight (calibrated to census totals)	All households	All files
all_persons_wt	Person weight for all household members	ALL individuals (including children and adults) - used for internal migration, demographics, and all modules administered to ALL members	All files
ilo_wgt / adult_wt	Adult weight	Population aged 15+ (working-age population)	All files
child_weight	Child labour weight	Population aged 5-17 (for child labour analysis)	All files
youth_wt	Youth weight	Population aged 15-35 (for youth analysis)	All files



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Important Weight Usage Guidelines:

Analysis Type	Weight to Use
Household-level analysis	hh_calibrated
Internal migration analysis	all_persons_wt
Demographic analysis (all ages)	all_persons_wt
Labour force analysis (15+)	ilo_wgt / adult_wt
Child labour analysis (5-17)	child_weight
Youth analysis (15-35)	youth_wt



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2.4 Survey Design Declaration

The following survey design was declared for proper variance estimation:

Component	Description
Primary Sampling Unit (PSU)	hh1 (Household identifier)
Sampling Weight	ilo_wgt (Adult weight)
Strata	survey_strata (Urban/Rural by region)
Single Unit Handling	Centered (balanced repeated replication)

Users should apply the survey design in their analysis software (Stata, R, SPSS) to obtain correct standard errors.



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3. DATA FILES INCLUDED

3.1 File Naming Convention

All files follow the naming convention:

GM_GLFS_2026_Q1_[Content]_[Type]_v[Version]_[YYYYMMDD].dta

3.2 List of Files

File Name	Description	Population
GM_GLFS_2026_Q1_ChildLabour_Analysis_v1_20260724.dta	Computed child labour indicators	Children aged 5-17
GM_GLFS_2026_Q1_LabourForce_Analysis_v1_20260724.dta	Computed labour force indicators	Working-age population (15+)
GM_GLFS_2026_Q1_Youth_Analysis_v1_20260724.dta	Computed youth indicators	Youth aged 15-35
GM_GLFS_2026_Q1_WeightsOnly_Raw_v1_20260724.dta	Raw variables with three weights	All household members



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3.3 ZIP Folder Structure

```
GM_GLFS_2026_Q1_Microdata_v1.zip
|
├── Data/
|   ├── GM_GLFS_2026_Q1_ChildLabour_Analysis_v1_20260724.dta
|   ├── GM_GLFS_2026_Q1_LabourForce_Analysis_v1_20260724.dta
|   ├── GM_GLFS_2026_Q1_Youth_Analysis_v1_20260724.dta
|   └── GM_GLFS_2026_Q1_WeightsOnly_Raw_v1_20260724.dta
|
├── Documentation/
|   ├── README_GLFS_2026_Q1.txt
|   ├── Metadata_GLFS_2026_Q1.pdf
|   ├── GLFS_2026_Q1_Questionnaire.pdf
|   └── GLFS_2026_Q1_Data_Dictionary.pdf
|
└── Syntax/
    └── GLFS_2026_Q1_Variable_Construction_Syntax.do
```



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4. VARIABLE DICTIONARY

4.1 Identifiers and Survey Settings

Variable	Label	Type	Description
ilo_key	Key unique identifier per individual	Numeric	Unique individual identifier (1 to N)
ilo_hh	Key unique identifier per household	Numeric	Unique household identifier
ilo_time	Time (Gregorian Calendar)	Numeric	Survey period (1 = 2026 Q1)
ilo_wgt	Adult weight (15+)	Numeric	Sampling weight for working-age population analysis



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4.2 Demographic Characteristics

4.2.1 Geographic Variables

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_geo	Residence	1=Urban, 2=Rural, 3=NEC
ilo_region	Region	1=Banjul, 2=Kanifing, 3=Brikama, 4=Mansa Konko, 5=Kerewan, 6=Kuntaur, 7=Janjanbureh, 8=Basse

4.2.2 Sex and Age

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_sex	Sex	1=Male, 2=Female
ilo_age	Age	Years (0-+)



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Age Band Variables:

Variable	Label	Categories
ilo_age_5yrbands	Age (5-year bands)	0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65+
ilo_age_10yrbands	Age (10-year bands)	<15, 15-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65+
ilo_age_aggregate	Age (Aggregate)	<15, 15-24, 25-54, 55-64, 65+

Youth Variables:

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_age_yth	Youth (UN-Definition)	1=15-24, 2=25+
gm_age_yth	Youth (Gambia Youth Policy)	1=15-35, 2=36+

4.3 Education Variables

4.3.1 Education Level (ISCED 11)

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_edu_isced11	Education (ISCED 11)	X=No schooling, 0=Early childhood, 1=Primary, 2=Lower secondary, 3=Upper secondary, 4=Vocational certificate, 5=Diploma, 6=Higher, 9=NEC
ilo_edu_aggregate	Education (Aggregate)	1=Less than basic, 2=Basic, 3=Intermediate, 4=Advanced, 5=Level not stated

4.3.2 Education Participation

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_edu_voc	Vocational Education	1=Attended, 2=Did not attend, 3=NEC
ilo_edu_attendance	Education (Attendance)	1=Attending, 2=Not attending, 3=NEC



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Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_edu_intappaggregate	Apprenticeship/Internship	1=Paid, 2=Unpaid, 3=Not doing, 4=NEC

4.4 Migration and Citizenship

4.4.1 Place of Birth and Citizenship

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_placeofbirth	Place of birth	1=Native-born, 2=Foreign-born, 3=Status unknown
ilo_citizenship	Citizenship	1=Citizens, 2=Non-citizens, 3=Status unknown

4.4.2 International Migration

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
im_migrant_status	Migration status (ILO defined)	1=Non-migrant, 2=Recent migrant (<5y), 3=Long-term migrant (5+y)



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Variable	Label	Categories/Values
im_migrant_stock	Migrant stock	0=Non-migrant, 1=Migrant
im_mig_reason	Main reason for migration	1=Economic, 2=Education, 3=Family, 4=Conflict/Insecurity, 5=Other
im_gambia_citizen	Citizen of The Gambia	0=Not citizen, 1=Citizen
im_dual_citizen	Dual citizenship	0=Single, 1=Dual
im_birth_country	Birth country (for migrants)	1=Senegal, 2=Nigeria, 3=Sierra Leone, 4=Liberia, 5=Ghana, 6=Guinea, 7=Bissau Guinea, 8=Mauritania, 9=Other West Africa, 10=Other Africa, 11=Non-Africa, 12=Mali

4.4.3 Internal Migration

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
lifetime_migrant	Lifetime internal migrant	0=Born in same LGA, 1=Born in different LGA
years_since_move	Years since move	Numeric years
recent_migrant_5yr	Recent internal migrant	0=No, 1=Yes (<5 years)
internal_migrant_status	Internal migration status	1=Non-migrant, 2=Recent (<5y), 3=Long-term (5+y)
duration_bands	Duration of residence	1=<1y, 2=1-4y, 3=5-9y, 4=10-19y, 5=20+y

4.5 Relationship and Marital Status

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_relationship_details	Relationship to reference person	1=Head, 2=Partner/Spouse, 3=Child, 4=Child-in-law, 5=Grandchild, 6=Parent, 7=Parent-in-law, 8=Sibling, 9=Sibling-in-law, 10=Other family, 11=Servant, 12=Co-wife, 13=Other unrelated, 14=DK, 15=Not stated
ilo_relationship_aggregate	Relationship (Aggregate)	1=Head, 2=Partner/Spouse, 3=Child, 4=Parent, 5=Other family, 6=Servant, 7=Other unrelated, 8=DK, 9=Not stated
ilo_mrts_details	Marital status	1=Single, 2=Married, 3=Union/cohabiting, 4=Divorced/Separated/Widowed, 5=NEC
ilo_mrts_aggregate	Marital status (Aggregate)	1=Single/Widowed/Divorced/Separated, 2=Married/Union/Cohabiting, 3=NEC

4.6 Disability Status

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_dsb_details	Disability status (Details)	1=No difficulty, 2=Some difficulty, 3=A lot of difficulty, 4=Cannot do at all
ilo_dsb_aggregate	Disability status (Aggregate)	1=Without disability, 2=With disability

4.7 Labour Force Status

4.7.1 Core Labour Force Variables

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_wap	Working-age population	1=Working-age (15+)



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Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_lfs_emp	Employment	1=Employed at work, 2=Employed (temporary absence), 3=Not employed
ilo_lfs	Labour Force Status	1=Employed, 2=Unemployed, 3=Outside Labour Force

Unemployment Components:

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_lfs_notemp_activ	Looking to work	1=Actively looking, 2=Not actively looking, 3=Not stated
ilo_lfs_notemp_avail	Available to work	1=Available, 2=Not available, 3=Not stated
ilo_lfs_notemp_futur	Future starters	1=Future starters, 2=Not future starters, 3=Not stated
ilo_lfs_notemp_will	Willing to work	1=Willing, 2=Not willing, 3=Not stated

4.7.2 Labour Force Attachment

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_olf_plf	Potential Labour Force	1=Potential Labour Force, 2=Outside PLF
ilo_olf_dlma	Labour market attachment	1=Seeking not available, 2=Not seeking available, 3=Willing non-jobseekers, 4=Not willing, 5=NEC
ilo_olf_reason	Reasons for not seeking	1=Labour market, 2=Other labour market, 3=Personal/Family, 4=Does not need/want, 5=Lack of resources, 6=Other, 7=NEC
ilo_dis	Discouraged job-seekers	0=Not discouraged, 1=Discouraged

4.7.3 Derived Indicators

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
labour_force	In labour force	0=No, 1=Yes
employed	Employed	0=No, 1=Yes
unemployed	Unemployed	0=No, 1=Yes
lfpr	Labour force participation (yes/no)	0=No, 1=Yes
emp_ratio	Employment-to-population (yes/no)	0=No, 1=Yes



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4.8 Main Job Characteristics

4.8.1 Status in Employment

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_job1_ste_icse93	Status in employment (ICSE 93)	1=Employees, 2=Employers, 3=Own-account, 4=Cooperatives, 5=Contributing family, 6=NEC
ilo_job1_ste_aggregate	Status (Aggregate)	1=Employees, 2=Self-employed, 3=NEC



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ICSE 2018 Variables:

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_job1_ste_icse18	Status in employment (ICSE 18)	11=Employers in corporations, 12=Employers in household enterprises, 19=Employers NEC, 21=Owner-operators without employees, 22=Own-account workers, 29=Own-account NEC, 30=Dependent contractors, 41=Permanent employees, 42=Fixed-term employees, 43=Short-term/casual, 44=Paid apprentices, 49=Employees NEC, 51=Contributing family, 99=NEC
ilo_job1_ste_icse18_authority	ICSE 18 - Authority	1=Employers, 2=Own-account, 3=Dependent contractor, 4=Employees, 5=Contributing family, 6=NEC
ilo_job1_ste_icse18_authority_ag	ICSE 18 - Authority (Agg)	1=Independent workers, 2=Dependent workers, 3=NEC



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Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_job1_ste_icse18_risk	ICSE 18 - Risk	1=Independent in household, 2=Dependent contractors, 3=Contributing family, 4=Owner-operators, 5=Employees, 6=NEC
ilo_job1_ste_icse18_risk_ag	ICSE 18 - Risk (Agg)	1=Employment for profit, 2=Employment for pay, 3=NEC

4.8.2 Economic Activity

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_job1_eco_isic4	Economic activity (ISIC Rev. 4)	A=Agriculture, B=Mining, C=Manufacturing, D=Electricity, E=Water, F=Construction, G=Trade, H=Transport, I=Accommodation, J=Information, K=Financial, L=Real estate, M=Professional, N=Admin, O=Public admin, P=Education, Q=Health, R=Arts, S=Other services, T=Households, U=Extraterritorial, X=NEC
ilo_job1_eco_aggregate	Economic activity (Aggregate)	1=Agriculture, 2=Manufacturing, 3=Construction, 4=Mining/Utilities, 5=Market Services, 6=Non-market Services, 7=NEC
gind1	General Industry	1=Agriculture, 2=Industry, 3=Services, 4=NEC



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Detailed Economic Activity Variables:

Variable	Label	Level
ilo_job1_eco_isic4_2digits	Economic activity - 2 digits	Division
ilo_job1_eco_isic4_3digits	Economic activity - 3 digits	Group
ilo_job1_eco_isic4_4digits	Economic activity - 4 digits	Class

4.8.3 Occupation

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_job1_ocu_isco08	Occupation (ISCO-08)	1=Managers, 2=Professionals, 3=Technicians, 4=Clerical, 5=Service/Sales, 6=Skilled agriculture, 7=Craft/Trades, 8=Operators/Assemblers, 9=Elementary, 10=Armed forces, 11=NEC
ilo_job1_ocu_aggregate	Occupation (Aggregate)	1=Managers/Professionals/Technicians, 2=Clerical/Service/Sales, 3=Skilled agriculture/Trades, 4=Operators/Assemblers, 5=Elementary, 6=Armed forces, 7=NEC
ilo_job1_ocu_skill	Occupation (Skill level)	1=Low, 2=Medium, 3=High, 4=NEC



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Detailed Occupation Variables:

Variable	Label	Level
ilo_job1_ocu_isco08_2digits	Occupation - 2 digits	Sub-major group
ilo_job1_ocu_isco08_3digits	Occupation - 3 digits	Minor group
ilo_job1_ocu_isco08_4digits	Occupation - 4 digits	Unit group

4.8.4 Institutional Sector and Working Hours

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_job1_ins_sector	Institutional sector	1=Public, 2=Private, 3=Household
ilo_job1_how_usual	Weekly hours usually worked	Hours (0-168)
ilo_job1_how_actual	Weekly hours actually worked	Hours (0-168)



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Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_job1_job_time	Working time arrangement	1=Part-time, 2=Full-time, 3=Unknown

4.8.5 Contract Characteristics

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_job1_job_contract	Type of contract	1=Permanent, 2=Temporary, 3=Unknown
ilo_job1_job_form_contract	Form of contract	1=Written, 2=Verbal, 3=No contract, 4=Unknown
ilo_job1_job_tempdur_details	Contract duration (detailed)	1=<1m, 2=1-3m, 3=3-6m, 4=6-12m, 5=12-24m, 6=24+m, 7=Not stated
ilo_job1_job_tempdur_aggregate	Contract duration (Aggregate)	1=<6m, 2=6-12m, 3=12+m, 4=Not stated



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4.9 Employment Benefits and Enterprise Characteristics

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_job1_socsec	Entitlement to social security	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Not stated
ilo_job1_paidleave	Entitlement to paid leave	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Not stated
ilo_job1_sickleave	Entitlement to sick leave	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Not stated
ilo_job1_rgt	Registration	1=Registered, 2=Not registered, 3=Not stated
ilo_job1_bkp	Bookkeeping	1=Formal accounts, 2=No accounts, 3=Not stated
ilo_job1_pow	Place of work	1=Fixed premises, 2=Home, 3=Non-fixed, 4=Not stated



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Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_job1_size_details	Size of establishment (Detailed)	1=1, 2=2-4, 3=5-9, 4=10-19, 5=20-49, 6=50+
ilo_job1_size_aggregate	Size of establishment (Aggregate)	1=<5, 2=5-49, 3=50+, 4=Not stated

4.10 Informal/Formal Economy

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_job1_ife_prod	Unit of production	1=Informal Sector, 2=Formal Sector, 3=Households
ilo_job1_ife_nature	Nature of job	1=Informal main job, 2=Formal main job
informal	Informal employment (yes/no)	0=No, 1=Yes

4.11 Second Job Characteristics

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_mjh	Multiple job holders	1=One job only, 2=More than one job, 3=NEC
ilo_job2_eco_isic4	Economic activity - Second job	Same categories as ilo_job1_eco_isic4
ilo_job2_eco_aggregate	Economic activity (Aggregate) - Second	Same categories as ilo_job1_eco_aggregate
ilo_job2_ocu_isco08	Occupation (ISCO-08) - Second	Same categories as ilo_job1_ocu_isco08
ilo_job2_ocu_aggregate	Occupation (Aggregate) - Second	Same categories as ilo_job1_ocu_aggregate
ilo_job2_ocu_skill	Occupation (Skill level) - Second	1=Low, 2=Medium, 3=High, 4=NEC
ilo_job2_how_usual	Weekly hours usually - Second	Hours (0-168)



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Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_job2_how_actual	Weekly hours actually - Second	Hours (0-168)

4.12 All Jobs Variables

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_joball_how_usual	Weekly hours usually - All jobs	Hours (0-168)
ilo_joball_how_actual	Weekly hours actually - All jobs	Hours (0-168)
ilo_joball_lookoj	Looking for another job	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Not stated
ilo_joball_will	Willing to work additional hours	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Not stated
ilo_joball_avail	Available to work additional hours	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Not stated



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4.13 Labour Underutilization Indicators

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_joball_tru1	Time-related underemployed	0=Not underemployed, 1=Underemployed
lu1	Unemployment rate (LU1)	0=No, 1=Yes
lu2	Combined UNE and TRU (LU2)	0=No, 1=Yes
lu3	Combined UNE and PLF (LU3)	0=No, 1=Yes
lu4	Composite LU measure (LU4)	0=No, 1=Yes



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Definition of Labour Underutilization Indicators:

Indicator	Definition
LU1	Unemployment rate
LU2	Combined unemployment and time-related underemployment
LU3	Combined unemployment and potential labour force
LU4	Composite measure of labour underutilization



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4.14 Unemployment Duration

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_dur_details	Duration of unemployment (Details)	1=<1m, 2=1-3m, 3=3-6m, 4=6-12m, 5=12-24m, 6=24+m, 7=NEC
ilo_dur_aggregate	Duration of unemployment (Aggregate)	1=<6m, 2=6-12m, 3=12+m, 4=NEC

4.15 Youth Indicators

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_neet	NEET (UN, 15-24)	0=Not NEET, 1=NEET
gm_neet	NEET (Gambia, 15-35)	0=Not NEET, 1=NEET
Youth_emp_edu	Youth employment-education	1=Employed only, 2=Education only, 3=Both, 4=NEET

4.16 Own-Use Production

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_sub_farm	Farming for own-use	0=No, 1=Yes
ilo_sub_fish	Fishing for own-use	0=No, 1=Yes
ilo_sub_hunt	Hunting/gathering for own-use	0=No, 1=Yes
ilo_sub_proc	Processing food for storage	0=No, 1=Yes
ilo_sub_fetch	Fetching water for own-use	0=No, 1=Yes
ilo_sub_coll	Collecting firewood for own-use	0=No, 1=Yes



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Variable	Label	Categories/Values
ilo_sub_manuf	Manufacturing for own-use	0=No, 1=Yes
ilo_sub_cons	Own-dwelling construction	0=No, 1=Yes
ilo_sub_opf	Own-use producers of foodstuff	0=No, 1=Yes
ownuse	Engaged in own-use production	0=No, 1=Yes



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4.17 Outside Labour Force Components

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
outside_component	Outside labour force components	1=Studying only, 2=Subsistence agriculture, 3=Other outside LF

4.18 Child Labour Variables

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
employment_ch	Child employment (work for pay or profit)	0=Not employed, 1=Employed
ownuse_ch	Child own-use production of goods (economic activities)	0=No, 1=Yes
chores_ch	Child performs household chores	0=No, 1=Yes
chores_hours	Weekly hours spent on household chores	Hours (additive)



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Variable	Label	Categories/Values
work_ch	Child total work (economic activities only)	0=No, 1=Yes
hours_ch	Child weekly hours worked - economic activities only	Hours (0-98)
child_industry	Economic activity (ISIC Rev. 4) - children	A=Agriculture, B=Mining, C=Manufacturing, D=Electricity, E=Water, F=Construction, G=Trade, H=Transport, I=Accommodation, J=Information, K=Financial, L=Real estate, M=Professional, N=Admin, O=Public admin, P=Education, Q=Health, R=Arts, S=Other services, T=Households, U=Extraterritorial
child_gind	General aggregated industry (children)	1=Agriculture, 2=Industry, 3=Services



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Variable	Label	Categories/Values
child_hazardous_ind	Hazardous industries (mining, construction)	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Not stated
child_hazardous_ocu	Hazardous occupations (ISCO-08)	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Not stated
child_haz_work_composite	Hazardous work (composite indicator)	1=Yes, 2=No
childlabour_national	Child labour - National estimate (aligned with Children's Act 2005)	0=No, 1=Yes



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Variable	Label	Categories/Values
childlabour_sdg	Child labour - SDG 8.7.1 estimate	0=No, 1=Yes
attend_ch	Current school attendance	0=No, 1=Yes
activity_ch	Work-study combination	1=Work only, 2=Study only, 3=Work and study, 4=Neither
agegroup_ch	Age group for child labour analysis (legal definition)	1=5-15, 2=16-17



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4.18.1 Child Labour Methodology

National Estimate (childlabour_national)

Aligned with **The Gambia's Children's Act 2005**:

Age Group	Criterion	Classification
5-15 years	Any economic activity (employment or own-use production)	Child labour
5-15 years	Household chores (fetching water/collecting firewood) ≥ 21 hours/week	Child labour
5-17 years	Hazardous work (composite indicator)	Child labour
16-17 years	Non-hazardous work under 43 hours/week	NOT child labour

Important: This definition differs from previous GLFS rounds. Estimates are **NOT comparable** with earlier reports. For trend analysis, use childlabour_sdg.



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SDG 8.7.1 Estimate (childlabour_sdg)

Follows **Approach 2** (General Production Boundary) as defined in the SDG metadata for Indicator 8.7.1:

Age Group	Economic Activity	Household Chores
5-11 years	≥1 hour/week	≥21 hours/week
12-14 years	≥14 hours/week	≥21 hours/week
15-17 years	≥43 hours/week	Excluded

Purpose: Used for international comparability and SDG reporting.

Hazardous Work Composite Indicator (child_haz_work_composite)

Identifies children in hazardous work if **ANY** of the following criteria are met:

1. **Direct hazardous conditions** (H1-H17) - primary source
 2. **Hazardous industries:** Mining (ISIC 2) or Construction (ISIC 6)
 3. **Hazardous occupations** (ISCO-08 based list)
 4. **Long hours:** ≥43 hours per week
-



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4.19 Workplace Violence Variables

Variable	Label	Categories/Values
work_safe_ch	Feels safe at work	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Don't know
punished_work_ch	Ever punished for mistakes at work	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Don't know
can_leave_work_ch	Allowed to leave workplace if ill/injured	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Don't know
physically_hurt_ch	Physically hurt at work	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Don't know
who_physically_hurt_ch	Who physically hurt child at work	1=Adult, 2=Another child/adolescent
threatened_work_ch	Threatened at work	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Don't know
who_threatened_ch	Who threatened child at work	1=Adult, 2=Another child/adolescent
humiliated_work_ch	Ridiculed, insulted, or shamed at work	1=Yes, 2=No, 3=Don't know



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Variable	Label	Categories/Values
who_humiliated_ch	Who humiliated child at work	1=Adult, 2=Another child/adolescent
workplace_violence_ch	Any workplace violence	0=No, 1=Yes

5. KEY LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

5.1 Core Indicators

Indicator	Variable(s)	Description
Labour Force Participation Rate	lfpr	Proportion of working-age population in labour force
Employment-to-Population Ratio	emp_ratio	Proportion of working-age population employed
Unemployment Rate	unemp / labourforce	Proportion of labour force unemployed



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Indicator	Variable(s)	Description
NEET Rate (UN)	ilo_neet	Youth not in education, employment or training (15-24)
NEET Rate (Gambia)	gm_neet	Youth not in education, employment or training (15-35)
Time-Related Underemployment	ilo_joball_tru / emp	Employed persons working fewer than 35 hours and wanting more
Informal Employment Share	informal	Proportion of total employment in informal jobs
Average Hours Worked	ilo_job1_how_actual	Mean actual weekly hours
Child Labour Rate (National)	childlabour_national	Proportion of children (5-17) in child labour - aligned with Children's Act 2005



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Indicator	Variable(s)	Description
Child Labour Rate (SDG 8.7.1)	childlabour_sdg	Proportion of children (5-17) in child labour - SDG definition

5.2 Indicator Computation

Indicator	Formula
LFPR	$(\text{Employed} + \text{Unemployed}) / \text{Working-age population} \times 100$
Employment-to-Population Ratio	$\text{Employed} / \text{Working-age population} \times 100$
Unemployment Rate	$\text{Unemployed} / \text{Labour Force} \times 100$
NEET Rate (UN)	$\text{NEET (15-24)} / \text{Youth population (15-24)} \times 100$
NEET Rate (Gambia)	$\text{NEET (15-35)} / \text{Youth population (15-35)} \times 100$



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Indicator	Formula
Time-Related Underemployment	$\text{Underemployed} / \text{Employed} \times 100$
Informal Employment Share	$\text{Informal employment} / \text{Total employment} \times 100$
Child Labour Rate (National)	$\text{Children in child labour (5-17)} / \text{Total children (5-17)} \times 100$
Child Labour Rate (SDG 8.7.1)	$\text{Children in child labour (5-17)} / \text{Total children (5-17)} \times 100$

6. SDG INDICATORS

6.1 SDG Indicators Computed

SDG Indicator	Description	Variable(s)	Computation Method
5.5.2	Female share of employment in managerial positions	ilo_sex, ilo_job1_ocu_isco08_2digits	Proportion of females among managers (ISCO-08 2-digit: 11, 12, 13)
8.3.1	Proportion of informal employment in total employment	ilo_job1_ife_nature, ilo_sex, gind1	Informal employment / Total employment, by sex and sector
8.5.2	Unemployment rate by sex	unemp, labourforce, ilo_sex	Unemployed / Labour Force × 100, by sex
8.6.1	NEET youth (15-24 years)	ilo_neet, ilo_sex, ilo_region	NEET youth / Youth population (15-24) × 100



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SDG Indicator	Description	Variable(s)	Computation Method
8.7.1	Child labour rate (SDG estimate)	childlabour_sdg, ilo_sex, ilo_region, ilo_age	Children in child labour / Total children (5-17) × 100, by sex and region

6.2 Recommended Analysis

For SDG 5.5.2 (Female Share of Managerial Positions):

- The variable ilo_job1_ocu_isco08_2digits with values 11 (Chief executives), 12 (Administrative managers), and 13 (Production managers) identifies managerial positions.
- The proportion of females among these occupations should be computed.

For SDG 8.3.1 (Informal Employment):

- The variable ilo_job1_ife_nature identifies informal (value 1) vs formal (value 2) employment.
- Disaggregation by sex (ilo_sex) and sector (gind1) is recommended.

For SDG 8.5.2 (Unemployment Rate by Sex):

- Use unemployed and labourforce variables.
- Disaggregate by sex (ilo_sex).



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For SDG 8.6.1 (NEET Rate):

- Use ilo_neet for UN definition (15-24) or gm_neet for Gambia definition (15-35).
- Disaggregate by sex and region.

For SDG 8.7.1 (Child Labour Rate):

- Use childlabour_sdg for international comparability.
- Disaggregate by sex (ilo_sex), region (ilo_region), and age group.

7. DATA QUALITY NOTES

7.1 Processing Steps

Step	Description
1	Original data loaded from "LFS_weights_final.dta"
2	All variable names converted to lowercase
3	Individual identifier (ilo_key) and household identifier (ilo_hh) created



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Step	Description
4	Weight variable (ilo_wgt) created from adult_wt
5	Survey design declared using appropriate design variables
6	All variables mapped to ILO standard variable names
7	Labour market indicators computed following ILO standards
8	Data quality checks performed (range checks and consistency checks)

7.2 Missing Values

Variable Type	Missing Value Coding
Categorical variables	NEC (Not Elsewhere Classified) or "Not stated" categories included in labels



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Variable Type	Missing Value Coding
Continuous variables (hours, age)	System missing (.)
"Don't know" responses	Coded as values like 97, 999, 9997, 9999
"Not applicable" responses	Coded as appropriate non-missing values

7.3 Data Range Checks

Variable	Check	Action
ilo_age	Must be ≥ 0	Values < 0 set to missing
Hours variables	Must be between 0-168	Values > 168 capped at 140



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7.4 Important Notes for Users

1. **Weight Usage:** Use the correct weight for your analysis population:
 - Adults (15+): Use ilo_wgt
 - Children (5-17): Use child_weight
 - Youth (15-35): Use youth_wt
 - All persons: Use all_persons_wt
 - Households: Use hh_calibrated
2. **Survey Design:** Always account for the survey design in your analysis to obtain correct standard errors.
3. **Subpopulation Analysis:** For subpopulation analysis, use appropriate survey design commands that handle subpopulations correctly.
4. **Categorical Variables:** Many variables have "NEC" (Not Elsewhere Classified) categories. Include these in your analysis or exclude them as appropriate.
5. **Hours Variables:** Hours variables are capped at 140 for values exceeding 168 hours per week.

7.5 Child Labour Data Quality Notes

1. **Two Estimates Provided:**
 - childlabour_national: Aligned with The Gambia's Children's Act 2005. **NOT comparable** with previous GLFS rounds.
 - childlabour_sdg: Follows SDG 8.7.1 methodology. **Comparable** internationally and with previous GLFS rounds.



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2. Age Groups:

- agegroup_ch (5-15, 16-17): Used for national estimate based on legal definition.
- Standard age groups (5-11, 12-14, 15-17): Used for SDG 8.7.1 estimate.

3. Household Chores:

- Fetching water (opg11) and collecting firewood (opg13) are classified as household chores.
- Included in national estimate for ages 5-15 if ≥ 21 hours/week.
- Included in SDG estimate for ages 5-14 if ≥ 21 hours/week.
- **Excluded** from industry classification.

4. Hazardous Work:

- Composite indicator includes: hazardous conditions (H1-H17), hazardous industries, hazardous occupations, and long hours (43+).

5. Weight Usage: Always use child_weight for child labour analyses.

6. Workplace Violence: Variables are available only for working children (work_ch == 1). Some variables have skip patterns (e.g., who_physically_hurt_ch only asked if physically_hurt_ch == 1).



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8. CITATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

8.1 Suggested Citation

For the Dataset:

Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS). (2026). *Gambia Labour Force Survey 2026, Quarter 1 - Microdata* [Data files]. Banjul, The Gambia.

For Reports Using This Data:

The data used in this report comes from the Gambia Labour Force Survey 2026 (GLFS 2026), conducted by the Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS). The survey was conducted in the first quarter of 2026 and provides nationally representative estimates of the Gambian labour market.

8.2 Acknowledgements

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- The dedicated field staff and supervisors who conducted the household interviews
- The analysts who processed and validated the data
- The International Labour Organization (ILO) for technical assistance in data processing and indicator computation



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8.3 Terms of Use

The data is provided for **research and policy purposes only**. Users are expected to:

1. Cite the source of the data appropriately
2. Not attempt to identify individual respondents
3. Use the data in accordance with confidentiality agreements
4. Not redistribute the data without authorization

9. CONTACT INFORMATION

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10. VERSION HISTORY

Version	Date	Author	Changes Made
v1	2026-07-24	GBoS Data Team	Initial release of GLFS 2026 Q1 Microdata

11. APPENDIX: VARIABLE NAMING CONVENTIONS

11.1 Prefixes

Prefix	Meaning	Example
ilo_	ILO standard variable	ilo_lfs, ilo_ste
gm_	Gambia-specific variable	gm_age_yth, gm_neet



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Prefix	Meaning	Example
im_	Migration variable	im_migrant_status
_ch	Child labour variable suffix	work_ch, attend_ch

11.2 Suffixes

Suffix	Meaning	Example
_details	Detailed classification	ilo_dsb_details
_aggregate	Aggregated classification	ilo_dsb_aggregate
_icse93	ICSE 1993 classification	ilo_job1_ste_icse93
_icse18	ICSE 2018 classification	ilo_job1_ste_icse18



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Suffix	Meaning	Example
_isced11	ISCED 2011 classification	ilo_edu_isced11
_isic4	ISIC Rev. 4 classification	ilo_job1_eco_isic4
_isco08	ISCO 2008 classification	ilo_job1_ocu_isco08
_national	National estimate	childlabour_national
_sdg	SDG estimate	childlabour_sdg

This metadata document was prepared to accompany the GLFS 2026 Q1 Microdata release. Users are encouraged to consult this document for complete variable definitions and proper use of the data.

End of Metadata Document