

# Instructions for the Labour Cost Survey 2020

## General information

The Labour Cost Survey collects data on the total expenditure borne by an employer in order to have people employed during the year. Data should be submitted about the number of employees, hours worked and hours paid, salary costs, benefits of kind, social insurance contributions, other labour costs, and subsidies. The objective includes measuring the labour cost per hour.

### Who should be included?

Employees for whom you had labour costs are to be reported.

*The following should not be included:*

- hired personnel
- employees who are on leave of absence for whom you did not had any costs
- board members/owners/employees whose remuneration mainly consists of a share of the profits or a one-off payment, assisting family members, employees working on-board or abroad

### Please note:

- If an item of information cannot be measured, an estimate should be provided.
- Verify that the submitted data is accurate and is reasonable for your operations, for example that hours and information about costs relate to the employees you are reporting. A number of average values will be calculated and available as data is entered online, for example salary per hour worked.

## Survey unit

The reporting should refer to the specified company or local unit. The information provided about the stated business has been retrieved from Statistics Sweden's Business Register. Contact Statistics Sweden if the company/local unit has been merged, closed down, or in some other way is not consistent with the specified information.

## Reporting period

The reporting period is the full year 2020. If your financial year is split, e.g. if it runs from 1 April to 31 March, add up the parts of the financial years that fall within the calendar year 2020.

If this is not possible, you may report the split financial year, selecting the financial year that falls for most part in 2020.

If your reporting period deviates from the full year 2020, please include a comment about this when you answer the survey. Remember that all information that is reported should refer to the same period.

## Payroll and accounting systems

Payroll systems contain much of the data that is being requested. Data for statistical reporting can often be extracted from these systems. When you extract data from the payroll system, please be sure that the system has the correct settings. It may be necessary to retrieve some data from the accounting system. Ensure that the data is cohesive.

For more information on this and accounting guidelines, see the last page of this document.

## A. Employees

### A.1 Average number of employees (A.1 = A.2 + A.3)

Report the average number of employees during the year for whom you have paid labour costs. If possible, determine the number of employees each month throughout the year according to the payroll, and provide an average of them. Otherwise report the number of employees calculated as an average based on measurements at two or more representative points in time. Round off to the nearest integer.

Example: If seven persons were employed from January-March, nine persons from April-June and 14 persons in July-December, the average is:

$$(7+7+7+9+9+9+14+14+14+14+14+14)/12 = 11$$

### A.2 Average number of full-time employees

State the average number of full-time employees that are included in A.1. Full-time employees who were temporary covered by short-time work are to be reported as full-time employees.

### A.3 Average number of part-time employees

State the average number of part-time employees that are included in A.1. Seasonal workers and those paid by the hour should also be included. Full-time employees who were temporary covered by short-time work are to be reported as full-time employees under A.2.

### A.4 Number of part-time employees converted into full-time units

Calculate and add up the activity level of the employees reported in A.3 (part-time employees including seasonal workers and those paid by the hour). That means that two employees working at 50 percent and 70 percent together make up an activity level of 1.20 full-time employees.

If the activity level for part-time employees is not available, it can be calculated by dividing the part-time employee's agreed working hours by the full-time employee's agreed working hours. Next, add up the activity level of the part-time employees and report the total here.

$$\text{Activity level} = \frac{\text{agreed working hours, part-time employees}}{\text{agreed working hours, full-time employees}}$$

Example 1: An employer has eight employees working 50 percent full time and two employees working 80 percent of full time. Together, they correspond to 5.60 full-time employees.  $8*0.5+2*0.8 = 5.60$

Example 2: An employer has three part-time employees during the year. Their agreed working hours were 20, 30, and 32 hours per week. The latter worked for a period of six months. The working hours for a full-time employee are 40 hours per week.

$$\frac{20}{40} + \frac{30}{40} + \left( \frac{32}{40} * \frac{6}{12} \right) = 1.65 \text{ full-time units}$$



## D. Benefits, etc.

### D.1 Benefits in kind and cash contributions

Report the actual costs of benefits. If it is easier, you may instead report the value of the benefits calculated according to recommendations by the Swedish Tax Agency.

*To be included:*

- free/company cars, housing provided by the employer, free or subsidised meals, free travel to and from the workplace, beneficial loans to employees, etc.
- daily allowances *over* the standard (the taxable part) and other *taxable parts* of reimbursements
- cash remuneration, such as remuneration for proposal activities, inventions, compensation/contributions to housing costs, meal costs, travel to/from the workplace, work clothes, work material, and gratuities
- costs that occur in cases where the employer provides the company's products free of charge or at a reduced price to employees

The value of products, goods and services is calculated at market value, which is according to the Swedish Tax Agency, corresponds to the regular price (including VAT) of the goods or services. The market value of tax exempt discounts should also be included. If benefits are received at a reduced price, the cost should be calculated as the difference between what the employee paid and the market value of the benefit.

## E. Social insurance contributions

### E.1 Statutory employer's social security contributions

Report the cost for the statutory social security contributions. These include general old-age pension and sick and parental insurances, which the employer is required to pay by law. The statutory social security contributions for 2020 was 31.42%, but less for persons over 65 years or under 18 years, as well as for persons working in research and development. The contributions were also temporarily lower between 1 March and 30 June due to COVID-19. For 30 of those employees, employers only needed to pay pension fee contributions (10.21%). This applied to gross wages up to SEK 25 000 per employee and month. On amounts exceeding this, full social security contributions applied (31.42%).

Please note that special payroll tax is to be reported under E.3. Social security contributions associated with collective agreements, such as pension agreements and labour market insurance are to be reported under E.2a.

### E.2 Employer contributions according to contractual agreements

#### E.2a Collective agreement benefits (pension and insurance premiums)

Report costs for social security contributions and insurances regulated by a collective agreement/affiliated collective agreement. That includes old-age pension fees, such as ITP, fees/premiums to labour market insurances (FORA, Collectum AFA, Alecta, etc.) and group insurances or other social costs associated with collective agreements.

Employers who finance old-age pension under its own management are to report paid pensions and changes in pension liabilities. If the change in pension liabilities is negative, subtract the amount from the total.

Costs should refer to those who were employed in 2020 reported in Section A. Redemption of pension liabilities should not be included.

#### E.2b Individual contractual benefits

Report costs of individual contractual benefits, such as individually covered pension insurances that have arisen by special agreement between employers and employees.

### E.2c Other social insurance

Report costs of insurance premiums for sick pay or holiday pay costs or other social insurance costs not reported under E.2a or E.2b.

### E.3 Special payroll tax, etc.

Report any costs of special payroll tax, both on earned income (SLF) and pension costs (SLP). Tax on returns from pension funds and other taxes that may be regarded as labour costs should be included. The special payroll tax is 24.26 percent of the basis for taxation (SLF/SLP).

## F. Other labour costs

### F.1 Staff training costs

Report course fees, external teachers, hire of equipment, etc. Deduct any contributions to staff training costs. Salary costs for own staff who take part in training, costs for buildings or own equipment used for training should not be included.

### F.2 Employer costs for company medical and healthcare schemes

Report the cost of company medical and healthcare schemes, free medicine, medical materials, treatment outside of business operations, eye glasses for computer terminals, etc.

### F.3 Costs for staff welfare

Report costs for staff parties, leisure activities, leisure establishments, health promotion funds, trivial benefit, etc. Child care is also be included in the costs for staff welfare activities, as are staff curative activities, staff magazines, directly paid assistance with burials, holiday bonuses, etc. Provisions for staff funds should be reported here. Any reimbursements from a staff fund should be subtracted from the costs reported.

### F.4 Costs for staff recruitment and work clothes

Report costs incurred in connection with recruitment of staff. For example costs for the applicant's travel from another town for the interview, contributions to accommodation in connection with recruitment, costs of language training before the employment begins, costs of recruitment advertisements and fees paid to recruitment consultants.

Also state the costs for work clothes provided by the employer.

### F.5 Other labour costs

Report any costs not mentioned earlier.

## G. Subsidies

### G.1 Subsidies to labour costs

Report all subsidies received that are intended to cover a part or all of the remuneration to employees. Subsidies can, for example, come from regional policy or labour market policy measures, be in the form of a standard subsidy per man year or be a subsidy to cover salary costs, such as wage subsidies. Compensation for high sick pay costs should be reported here.

In 2020, new support were introduced to reduce labour costs, such as reduced employer social security contributions, short-time work allowance and compensation for sick pay costs. The compensation for sick pay costs and short-time work allowance is to be reported here, while the support for the reduced employer contributions is not to be reported here, but be deducted in the reporting of statutory employers' social security contributions. The same applies to reimbursement from social insurance institutions and extra insurance, as well as assistance for staff training costs that are not to be reported here.

If possible, comment on the type of subsidies and the amount you have received for e.g. sick pay costs, short-time work allowance, wage subsidies, etc.

## ACCOUNT GUIDELINES

Payroll systems generally contain much of the information requested, but information may also need to be collected from sources such as accounting systems. Below are references to accounts for those who use the BAS accounting plans' standard accounts. The references should only be considered as guidelines and not complete sources for requested information. The accounts may contain parts of the information and it may be necessary to use supplementary information from other accounts and sources.

Note that most references are at sub-account level. If accounting is done on the main accounts or on accounts not in line with the intentions of the standard (the meaning of an account has changed), this has to be taken into account in data collection. The same applies if accounts are used that are tailored to your activities.

If data is collected from both payroll and accounting systems, ensure that the data is cohesive. The costs should relate to 2020 and the employees reported in Section A.

	BAS 2020	R-BAS 20	Kommun-Bas 20:	Stat baskonto 2020
<b>C.2 Payment for hours worked and not worked</b>	7011, 7013, 7082, 7089, 709x, 7211, 7213, 7221, 7285, 7286, 7288, 7289, 729x, part of accounts: 7019, 7219, 7229	40, 411, 419	502, 503, 505, 511, 513, 519, 591	401, 402, 403, 4081, 4091
<b>C.3 Sick pay and remuneration over and above the benefits paid by the Swedish Social Insurance Agency</b>	7081, 7083, 7281, 7282, 7283, 7284	412	512	-
<b>C.4 Bonuses, share of profits, personnel share options</b>	7012, 7212, 7222, part of accounts: 7019, 7219, 7229	-	-	-
<b>C.5 Redundancy pay</b>	7017, 7217, 7227	-	-	-
<b>C.6 Payments into employee savings schemes</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>D.1 Benefits and cash contributions</b>	731x, 7322, 7324, 7332, 738x, 739x	4312, 4322, 433 alt. account 434, 435, 4392	530, 541, 548, 5512, 5522, 5532, 5592, 5598	43221, 43222, 43231, 43232, 4328, 4332, 4333, 4338, 438, 439
<b>E.1 Statutory employer's social security contributions</b>	751x excl. 7516	451	561	4511, 4513, 4519, 4541, 4543, 4548, 4561, 4562
<b>E.2a Collective contractual benefits</b>	7411, 7418, 742x, 743x, 744x, 746x, 747x, 749x, 757x, 758x	4411, 442, 444, 447, 449, 457	567, 568, 5712, 5713, 572, 574, 575	457, 461, 462, 464, 4659, 466, 467, 468
<b>E.2b Individual contractual benefits</b>	7412	4413, 4414, 4415	5711	463
<b>E.2c Other social insurance</b>	759x, 765x	459	569	-
<b>E.3 Special payroll tax, etc.</b>	753x, 755x	453	5635	453, 455
<b>F.1 Staff training costs</b>	761x	461	part of account 765 that refers to employees	48
<b>F.2 Employer costs for company medical and healthcare schemes</b>	762x	462	part of account: 645, 747	47
<b>F.3 Costs for staff welfare</b>	763x, 767x, 7692, 7693	463, 466, 469	711	493, 494, 496, 498
<b>F.4 Costs for staff recruitment and work clothes</b>	548x, 735x, 7691	464, 648	part of accounts: 648, 722	491
<b>F.5 Other labour costs</b>	7699	465	-	497
<b>G.1 Subsidies to labour costs</b>	part of account: 398x (concerning subsidies for labour cost), 3988, 3997	part of account: 38 (concerning subsidies for labour cost), 382, 3997	part of account 35 (concerning subsidies for labour cost)	part of accounts: 35, 36, 37 (concerning subsidies for labour cost)

BAS 2020 is available on the BAS website. R-BAS 20 and Kommun-Bas 20 are available on the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions website and basic classification of accounts 2020 for government agencies is available on the Swedish National Financial Management Authority website.

"-" means that there are no BAS accounts that can be linked to this data. "Free accounts" may have been used to register costs, or the costs may have been registered as part of another BAS account. The current cost is to be reported for this data.

**For those reporting per local unit:** Certain costs, such as training costs, may sometimes be difficult to obtain at local unit level and an estimate may need to be made. If the cost was registered at department level or at administration level, it may be estimated by dividing the cost at administration level by the number of employees at the administration and then multiplying it by the number of employees at the local unit.

**For those with short-time work:** Full-time employees and part-time employees who were temporarily covered by short-time work are to continue to be reported as full-time and part-time employees respectively. Their *actually* number of hours worked are to be reported (i.e. their hours worked are reduced in relation to the regular working hours). The number of hours paid includes the number of hours worked plus absence that is paid by the employer (incl. holidays and paid absence during short-term layoff). The reduced salary that the employer pays the employee during short-term layoffs is to be reported. Support for layoffs that the employer received for short-time work in 2020 is to be reported as subsidies.

Example: At 60 percent layoff, the actually number of hours worked is 40 percent of full-time (B1), and the number of hours paid is 92.5 percent of full-time (B2). The employer pays 92.5 percent of the salary to the employee (C2). The support for layoffs related to layoffs in 2020 is to be reported as subsidies (G1).