



## Job Losses During 2020 Lockdown

### Why in News

Recently, the **Ministry of Labour and Employment** presented the data on job loss during the [2020 lockdown for Covid pandemic](#).

- The data is based on the [All India Quarterly Establishment based Employment Survey \(AQEES\)](#).

//

SECTORS	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (IN LAKH)			
	Prior to Lockdown (before March 25, 2020)		As on July 1, 2020	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Manufacturing	98.7	26.7	87.9	23.3
Construction	5.8	1.8	5.1	1.5
Trade	16.1	4.5	14.8	4
Transport	11.3	1.9	11.1	1.9
Education	38.2	29.5	36.8	28.1
Health	15	10.6	14.8	10.1
Accommodation & Restaurants	7	1.9	6.2	1.7
IT/BPOs	13.6	6.3	12.8	6.1
Financial Services	11.5	5.9	11.3	5.7
Total*	217.8	90.0	201.5	83.3

### Key Points

- **About:**

- **All-India Quarterly Establishment-based Employment Survey (AQEES):** The AQEES has been taken up by the **Labour Bureau** to provide **frequent (quarterly) updates** about the employment and related variables of establishments, in both organised and unorganised segments of nine selected sectors.
  - The 9 sectors are Manufacturing, Construction, Trade, Transport, Education, Health,

Accommodation and Restaurants, [IT/BPO](#), Financial Service Activities.

◦ **Components:**

- **Quarterly Employment Survey (QES):** It provides the employment estimates for the establishments employing 10 or more workers.
  - The revamped **QES** was conducted during the first quarter (April-June 2021).
  - The **earlier version of QES was suspended in 2018**, citing a gap in numbers with the payroll data.
- **Area Frame Establishment Survey (AFES):** It covers the unorganised segment (with less than 10 workers) through a sample survey.

▪ **Major Findings:**

- **Manufacturing sector:** It recorded job losses of 14.2 lakh between the pre-[lockdown](#) (March 2020) and post-lockdown (July 2020) period.
  - About **7.5 % job losses were seen during the lockdown for Covid pandemic in 2020.**
- **Financial services sector:** It recorded a **job loss of 0.4 lakh and 1 lakh for the IT/BPOs sector** during the same period.
- **Other sectors: Construction sector** recorded a loss of 1 lakh, while **trade and education sectors** registered job losses of 1.8 lakh and 2.8 lakh, respectively.
- **Female workers: Females** registered a **job loss of 7.44 %** among the nine key sectors.
  - Female employment in the manufacturing sector reduced to 23.3 lakh (as on July 2020) from 26.7 lakh (as on March 2020).
  - Female workers in the construction sector were reduced to 1.5 lakh from 1.8 lakh.
  - Female employment in the trade sector reduced to 4 lakh (as on July 1, 2020) from 4.5 lakh (as on March 2020)
- **Male workers:** Males registered a **job loss of 7.48 %** between the pre-lockdown and post-lockdown period.
  - Male workers in manufacturing during the same period reduced to 87.9 lakh from 98.7 lakh.
  - Male workers in the construction sector were reduced to 5.1 lakh from 5.8 lakh during the lockdown.
  - Male employment in the trade sector reduced to 14.8 lakh (as on July 2020) from 16.1 lakh (as on March 2020).

▪ **Latest Findings:**

- The [new quarterly employment survey](#) released in September had shown **employment** in key nine sectors **rising to 3.08 crore in April-June 2021 from 2.37 crore in 2013-14.**
  - The base year was chosen based on the [sixth economic census.](#)
- Employment in the **organised non-farm segment** decreased in 27 % of the establishments due to the pandemic.
  - As much as 81 % of the workers received full wages during the lockdown period (March 2020-June 2020), 16 % received reduced wages and only 3 % were denied any wages.

▪ **Significance:**

- Information gathered through these surveys would **enable the government** to understand significant issues and help **to frame evidence-based National Employment Policy.**
  - Other than this the ministry has launched two more surveys namely, **All-India Survey of Migrant Workers** and [All-India Survey on Domestic Workers.](#)

▪ **Related Initiatives:**

- [Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme](#)
- [Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana \(DDU-GKY\)](#)
- [Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission](#)
- [The Atma Nirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana as part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat package 3.0](#)

[Source: IE](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/job-losses-during-2020-lockdown>

