The most important facts and questions about the BIBB/BAuA Employment Survey 2018

In a nutshell:
In the 2018 BIBB/BAuA survey, 20,012 employees aged 15 and over working at least 10 hours a week were interviewed. The telephone interviews were conducted between 2017 and 2018.

The current survey is the seventh employment survey which has been carried out since 1979, while the BAuA has been involved since 1998/99.

The aim is to continuously describe occupational activities, working conditions and their consequences, to document changes and to be able to better assess the consequences of these changes. The survey focuses on questions relating to

• current occupational activity
• working conditions and workloads
• education and further training
• job satisfaction and
• health impairments.

Why is the survey carried out?
The world of work is constantly changing. This change is also reflected in working conditions and the demands on employees. Therefore collecting data regularly are important to get a more detailed understanding of the world of work:

• continuous description of the working world in Germany
• documentation of changes in working conditions and requirements
• observation of changes in various occupational fields, sectors and groups of employees
• assessing the associations between changes in the working world and health, vocational education and training as well need for further training
• derive needs for action for policy, economy and research

History:
The survey was conducted for the first time in 1979 as a BIBB/IAB survey (IAB = Institute for Labour Market and Vocational Research). The Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (BAuA) has been a project partner since the 1998/99 survey. Since 2005/2006, the survey has been conducted jointly by BIBB and BAuA and the BIBB/IAB survey became the BIBB/BAuA employment survey. The 2017/2018 survey is the seventh version of the employment survey.

Who is interviewed?
For the current 2018 survey 20,012 employed individuals aged 15 and above with an average working time of at least ten hours per week in Germany have been interviewed. Foreign residents were only included if
they had sufficient knowledge of German. Unpaid family workers and individuals with a maximum of three months’ interruption from work (e. g. maternity leave) were interviewed as well. Volunteers as well as individuals who are currently in an employment relationship within their first vocational training were excluded.

**What is asked?**

The BIBB/BAuA employment survey contains questions about the workplace. In particular, employees are asked what occupational activities they currently perform, what qualifications they have and what skills they need. The respondents also provide information about their working conditions and the associated strain. In addition, questions are asked about job satisfaction and health impairments.

Some topics are of interest fields of both **BIBB** and **BAuA**. For instance:

- current occupational activity
- working time and place
- job requirements (e. g. knowledge of foreign languages and of work with computers)
- employment relationship (e. g. temporary employment contract)
- physical and environmental working conditions (e. g. working while standing or in noisy conditions)
- changes in the working environment (e. g. restructuring)
- job satisfaction
- personal details (e. g. school education)

The **BAuA** focuses in particular on the following topics:

- psychological working conditions (e. g. pressure of time, support from colleagues and supervisor, decision latitude)
- health status and health impairments.

By contrast, **BIBB** focuses on the following topics:

- career and life goals
- vocational training and further education
- professional career (e. g. occupational change, interruption from work)
- relationship between training and gainful employment.

Date: February 2019