



March 4, 2009

Dr. Munir Sheikh
Chief Statistician of Canada
Statistics Canada
100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway
Ottawa ON K1A 0T6

Re: PBO Information Request 006

Dear Dr. Sheikh:

I would like to request from Statistics Canada the monthly and annual *Labour Force Survey* microdata sets. The Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer will use this information for its research to track recent developments as well as past trends in the Canadian labour market, beyond the publicly reported variables. As one example, we intend to study movements into and out of various employment states (e.g., employment, unemployment, non-participation) over the business cycle by calculating national rates of job finding and job loss (temporary vs. permanent, layoffs vs. quits).

As this is the PBO's first information request to your department, you may refer to our *Information Protocol*, for further information on the basic procedure (available on our webpage at: <http://www2.parl.gc.ca/Sites/PBO-DPB/documents/Information%20Protocol.pdf>). This protocol describes the process by which the PBO can obtain information from government departments, using the access to free and timely data as provisioned by amendments to the *Parliament of Canada Act*, in the creation of our office.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We appreciate your cooperation. Please let us know if any part of this request requires clarification.

Yours truly,

[signature]

Kevin Page
Parliamentary Budget Officer
Email: PageK@parl.gc.ca

Encl.

c.c.: Timothy Sargent, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet, Privy Council Office, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy



PBO Information Request

1) Request Number:	006
2) PBO Contact Name:	Stephen Tapp (613-947-0570 or tapps@parl.gc.ca)
3) Type of Request:	Recurrent: each month following the <i>Labour Force Survey</i> release
4) PBO Objective:	To analyze recent developments in the Canadian labour market
5) Relation to Mandate:	To provide independent analysis to the Senate and House of Commons on trends in the national economy.
6) Information and Data Requested:	Labour Force Survey Public Use microdata files (i.e., the administrative database is currently not being requested) Formatting information: Windows operating system for use with Stata statistical software (if possible)
7) Priority:	Normal
8) Date Request Sent:	March 4, 2009
9) Response Requested By:	March 17, 2009 to include February's data