

**Summery Findings of Time Use Survey in Urban Areas,  
Winter 2009 (22 December 2008 – 20 March 2009)**

## **Introduction**

Collecting statistics on people's use of time is a subject which has been taken into accounts by planners and researches of socio-economic studies in many countries. Reviewing the people's average time spent on each activity group and finally knowing people's time use pattern in each various social group can provide a basis forformulating program on the nation's socio-economic problems.

The aim of time use survey is to identify types of activity that people engage in and amount of time spent by people on various activities and to review changes in people's lifestyle in successive seasons of the year. This survey was designed and conducted by the Statistical Centre of Iran in 2008

Since this survey has been planned and carried out on the basis of other countries' experiences and according to international definitions and classifications, it can not only present statistics and indicators at national levels but also provide results comparable with international statistics on time use pattern.

In order to review changes in patterns of time-use among urban population in different seasons, the time use survey was designed for a one- year statistical period. The first stage was carried out in autumn 2008 (23 Sept.-21 Nov) and second stage was conducted in winter 2009 (22 December 2008 – 20 March 2009). It was also for the first time that data collection was done through self-completion method. In this method, according to the enumerator's explanations and manual provided to households, respondents are asked to complete the questionnaire personally and accurately based on their 24-hour activities which are broken down into 15 minute slots, and then return back the completed questionnaire to the enumerator. In this survey, sample households were selected from the 2006 Population and Housing Census frame. Rotation sampling method was used to estimate average changes in time spent by people for various activities.

## Definitions and concepts

### Present household members

Refers to members who are present at the household during enumerator's reference time or are present at work, school, etc, and return to the household residence after daily work or school time

### Age

Number of complete years that a person has lived as of his/her birthday

### Activity group

All activities that a person performs over 24 hours are classified into 15 main groups according to International Classification of Activities for Time Use Statistics (ICATUS). Each of these groups is considered as an activity group. The classification is presented at the 2-digit level as follows:

1. Work for corporations/quasi-corporations, non-profit institutions and government (formal sector work)
2. Work for household in primary production activities
3. Work for household in non-primary production activities
4. Work for household in construction activities
5. Work for household providing services for income
6. Providing unpaid domestic services for own final use within household
7. Providing unpaid caregiving services to household members
8. Providing community services and help to other households
9. Learning
10. Socializing and community participation
11. Attending/visiting cultural, entertainment and sports events/venues
12. Hobbies, games and other pastime activities
13. Indoor and outdoor sports participation and related courses
14. Mass media
15. Personal care and maintenance

**Work:** any economic activity (mental or physical) which is carried out for earning an income (in-cash or in-kind) and the goal of which is the production of goods or provision of services.

### Activity status

In this survey, activity status of people during the 7 days preceding the enumeration is taken into accounts. According to this definition and the definition of work, each of people lies in one of the following groups:

#### Economically active population

All people aged 15 and over who are engaged in production of goods and services (employed) or capable of participating in goods and services production (unemployed) in the 7 days before enumeration.

### **Employed:**

All people aged 15 and over who worked for at least 1 hour during the 7 days preceding the enumeration according to the work definition; however, they have not worked in their ordinary job are considered as employed. In addition, people with following qualifications are regarded as "employed:"

- People who have job, but have not worked for at least 1 hour during the 7 days preceding the enumeration.
- People who work for themselves in agricultural activities, but have not worked during the 7 days preceding the enumeration, because of their seasonal activities.
- People who were absent from work during the 7 days preceding the enumeration because of their work shifts.
- People who received scholarship from their organization and are busy with studying and have not worked during the 7 days preceding the enumeration due to this reason.
- People who were absent from work during the 7 days preceding the enumeration due to leave, holidays, illness, travel, etc.
- People who were temporarily absent from their work due to temporary organizational changes, out of service tools and machinery, or lack of any customer or order for work.
- People who are suspended from their job but have a formal attachment to their job

### **Unemployed**

All people aged 15 and over who have not worked for at least 1 hour during the 7 days preceding the enumeration, and also had no employment are considered unemployed in case of the two following conditions:

- 1- Those people who have not taken specific steps for seeking jobs during the last 30 days. The specific steps may include registration at public or private employment exchange; seeking assistance of friends or relatives, application to employers, placing or answering newspaper advertisements;, etc.
- 2- Those people who are available to work, that is, they are available to start work within a 15 -day period including 7 days before and 7 days after the survey.

Also the following people are considered as unemployed:

- Those people who are waiting to start a new job, i.e. there is a job for them and they are going to start work later and also those who are available to work (according to work definition).
- Those people who are waiting to return to their previous job and those who are available to work (according to work definition). "Waiting to return to the previous job" means that a person had a job before and lost it due to some reasons and now he/she does not have any formal attachment to his/her job, but still is waiting to return to his/her job.

### **Non-economically active population**

All people aged 15 and over who are neither "employed" nor "unemployed" are considered non-economically active population

**Student:** Those people who are neither employed nor unemployed and who attend any regular educational institutions according to the country's formal education or are studying abroad are considered as students.

**Income recipient:** Those people who are not classified as employed, unemployed (seeking job) or student and who receive income from retirement, land and property, dividends, deposits, etc, are considered as income recipient.

**Homemaker:** Those people who are not classified as "employed", "unemployed" (seeking job), "student" and "income recipient" and who are engaged in household duties

**Other:** Those people, who cannot be classified in the above categories, are considered as "Other."

**Literate:** Those people who can read or write a simple text in Persian or any other language, whether they have an official certificate or not, are classified as literate.

All students, including the first year primary school students and learners of Literacy Movement are considered as literate.

**Attendant at educational institutions:** A person who is studying according to the country's official curriculum is considered as an educating person.

**Type of enumeration day:** In this survey, enumeration days are classified as two groups: "Working" (non holiday) and "Official Holiday". "Official Holiday" is a day which is off according to the official calendar of the country.

**Comparative table of time use activities**

In this table, 15 main groups of activity classification (ICATUS) are combined into 10 main groups for better understanding and perception:

Code	ICATUS Classification	Summarized classification
01	Work for corporations/quasi-corporations, non-profit institutions and government (formal sector work)	Work and professional activities (Codes 01 to 05)
02	Work for household in primary production activities	
03	Work for household in non-primary production activities	
04	Work for household in construction activities	
05	Work for household providing services for income	
06	Providing unpaid domestic services for own final use within household	Household activities (Codes 06 and 07)
07	Providing unpaid caregiving services to household members	
08	Providing community services and help to other households	Voluntary and charity activities (Code 08)
09	Learning	Teaching and learning activities (Code 09)
10	Socializing and community participation	Social participation (Code 10)
11	Attending/visiting cultural, entertainment and sports events/venues	Cultural and recreational activities (Codes 11 to 12)
12	Hobbies, games and other pastime activities	
13	Indoor and outdoor sports participation and related courses	Sport activities (Code 13)
14	Mass media	Mass media (code 14)
15	Personal care and maintenance	Personal care (Code 15)

## Indices

### Average hour for each activity

The ratio of total time spent doing each activity category to the total population aged 15 and over at the household

$$\text{Average hour of each activity} = \frac{\text{Total hours spent doing each activity category}}{\text{Population aged 15 and over at the household}}$$

### Ratio of participating people in each activity group

Ratio of people participating in each activity group to the population aged 15 and over at the household

$$\text{Relative frequency of people participating in each activity category} = \frac{\text{Number of participating people in each activity category}}{\text{Population aged 15 and above at the household}} \times 100$$

## Summery findings of Time Use Survey- winter 2009

### Pattern of time use activities

The review of the pattern of time use among the population aged 15 and over in winter 2009 shows that personal care activity occupied the highest average of spent time among the activities and household activity with 3 hours 20 minutes, job activity with 2 hours 47 minutes, and mass media with 2 hours follow it respectively. The lowest average time spent per day belonged to the charity and voluntary activities with only 2 minutes.

Among men, after personal care and maintenance, the highest average time use per day belonged to work and job activities with 4 hours 58 minutes, mass media with 2 hours and 1 minute, and education and learning activities with 1 hour and 12 minutes respectively. Among women, household activity with 5 hours and 19 minutes, mass media with 2 hours, and education and learning activities with 1 hour and 18 minutes are activities with the highest average of time spent per day following personal care and maintenance activity.

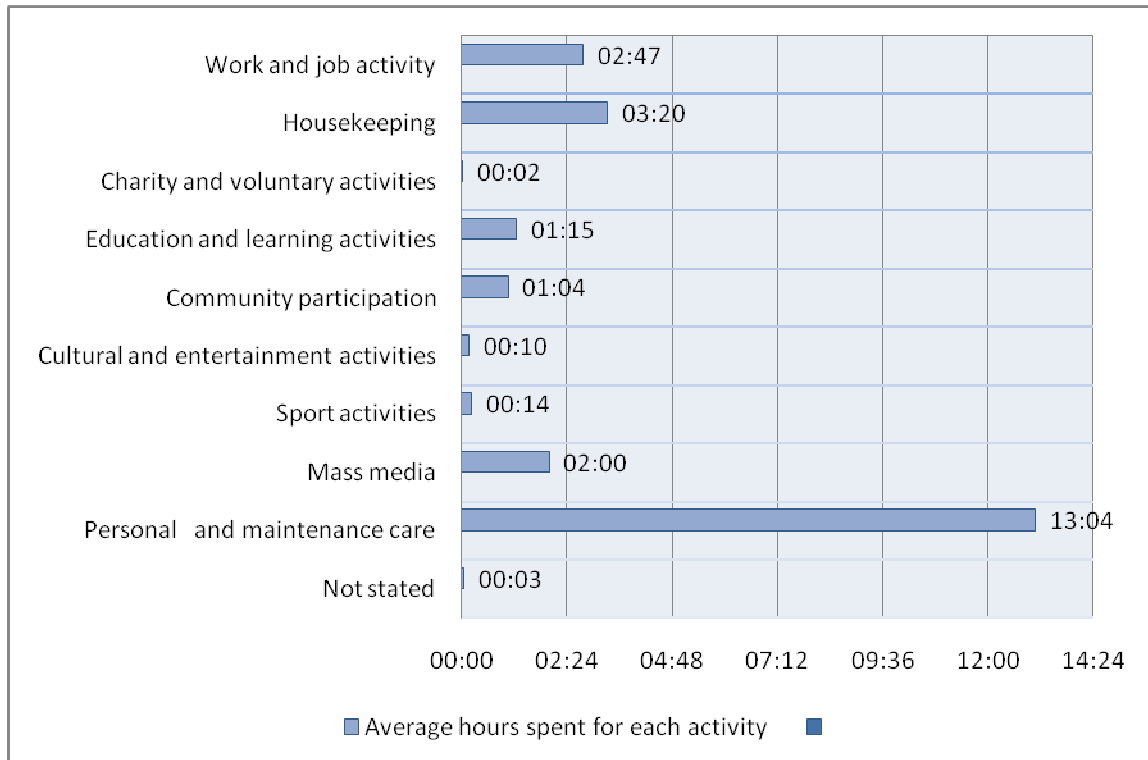
**Table 1. Average time spent by population aged 15 and over by activity categories and sex in urban areas, winter 2009**

**(hour and minute)**

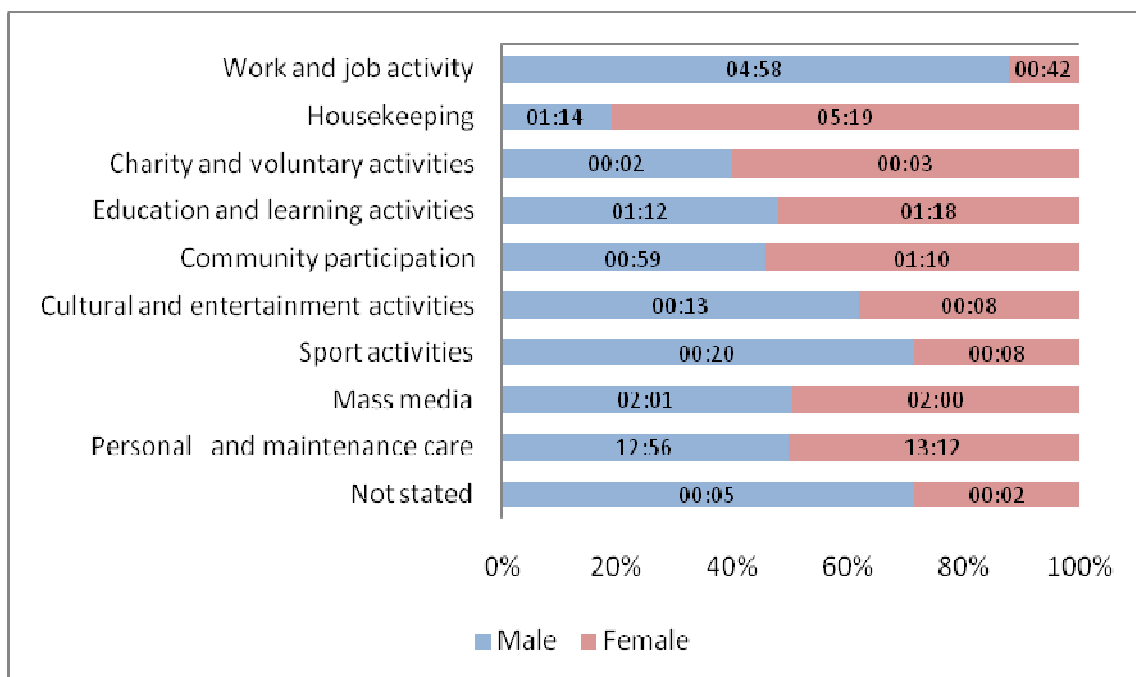
Activity categories <sup>1</sup>	Average hours spent for each activity		
	Both sexes	Male	Female
Total	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>
Work and job activity	02:47	04:58	00:42
Housekeeping	03:20	01:14	05:19
Charity and voluntary activities	00:02	00:02	00:03
Education and learning activities	01:15	01:12	01:18
Community participation	01:04	00:59	01:10
Cultural and entertainment activities	00:10	00:13	00:08
Sport activities	00:14	00:20	00:08
Mass media	02:00	02:01	02:00
Personal care and maintenance	13:04	12:56	13:12
Not stated	00:03	00:05	00:02

<sup>1</sup> 15 groups of activities were merged into 10 groups according to the ICATUS classification

**Chart 1. Average time spent by population aged 15 and over by activity categories in urban areas, winter 2009**



**Chart 2. Average time spent by population aged 15 and over by activity categories and sex in urban areas, winter 2009**





### Changes of time-use activities in autumn and winter

The review of changes of time-use activities in autumn and winter indicates that in winter 2009, work and job activities occupied the highest average time spent per day. This indicator had 12 minutes increase as compared to autumn 2008. Moreover, the results show that community activities (social communication) and educational activities had the highest decrease as compared to autumn 2008.

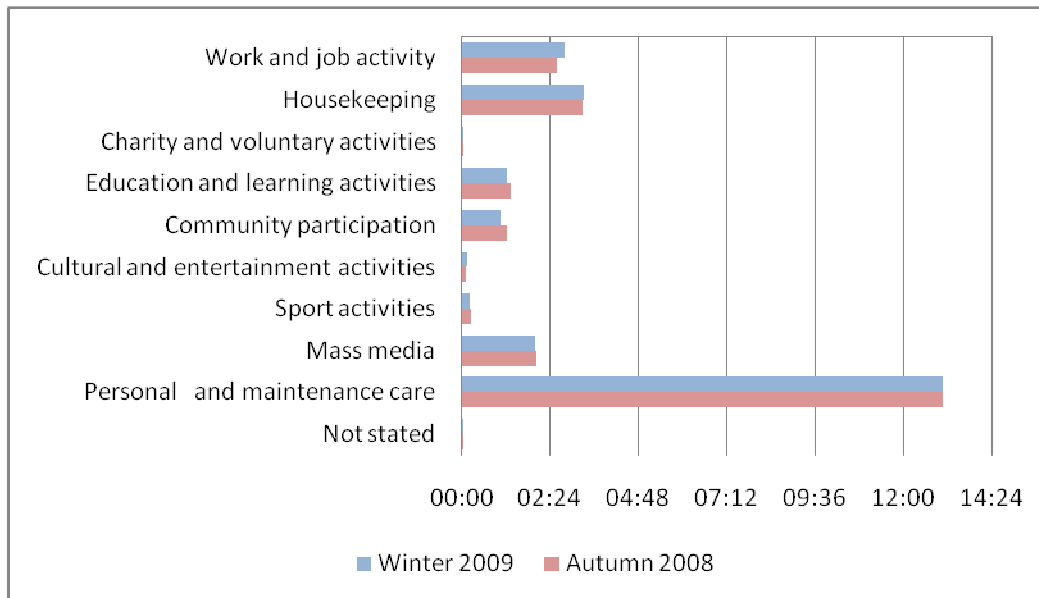
**Table 2. Average time spent in each group of activities by the young adults aged 15 and over in urban areas, autumn 2008 and winter 2009**

(hour and minute)

Groups of activity <sup>1</sup>	Average hours spent for each activity	
	Autumn 2008	Winter 2009
Total	24:00	24:00
Work and Job Activity	02:35	02:47
Housekeeping	03:17	03:20
Charity and Voluntary Activities	00:02	00:02
Education and Learning Activities	01:21	01:15
Community Participation	01:13	01:04
Cultural and entertainment activities	00:08	00:10
Sport activities	00:15	00:14
Mass media	02:02	02:00
Personal and maintenance care	13:05	13:04
Not Stated	00:03	00:03

<sup>1</sup> 15 groups of activities were merged into 10 groups according to the ICATUS classification

**Chart 3. Average time spent in each group of activities by young adults aged 15 and over in urban areas, autumn 2008 and winter 2009**



**Pattern of time use of young adults aged 15 to 24**

The review of this pattern indicates that personal care activity with 12 hours and 44 minutes occupied the highest average of spent time among the activities. After this activity, education and learning activities with about 4 hours, and mass media with 2 hours 12 minutes have the most spent time per day respectively. The lowest average of time spent per day at this age group belonged to the charity and voluntary activities with 2 minutes.

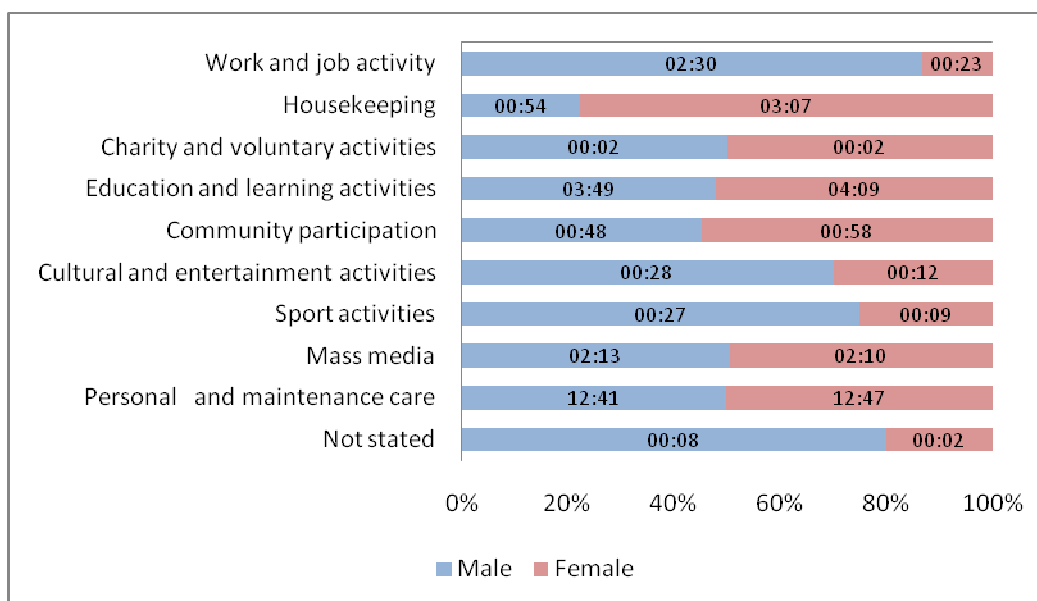
The review of the time spent per day by population aged 15-24 on work and job activities shows that men in this group spent, on average, 2 hours 30 minutes and women spent 23 minutes on work and job activities.

**Table 3. Average time spent by population aged 15-24 by activity categories and sex in urban areas, winter 2009**

(hour and minute)

Activity categories	Age group 15-24		
	Both sexes	Male	Female
Total	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>
Work and job activity	01:26	02:30	00:23
Housekeeping	02:01	00:54	03:07
Charity and voluntary activities	00:02	00:02	00:02
Education and learning activities	03:59	03:49	04:09
Community participation	00:48	00:48	00:58
Cultural and entertainment activities	00:20	00:28	00:12
Sport activities	00:18	00:27	00:09
Mass media	02:12	02:13	02:10
Personal care and maintenance	12:44	12:41	12:47
Not stated	00:05	00:08	00:02

**Chart 4. Average time spent by population aged 15-24 or over, by groups of time use activity and sex in urban areas, winter 2009**



## **Pattern of time- use activities by economic status**

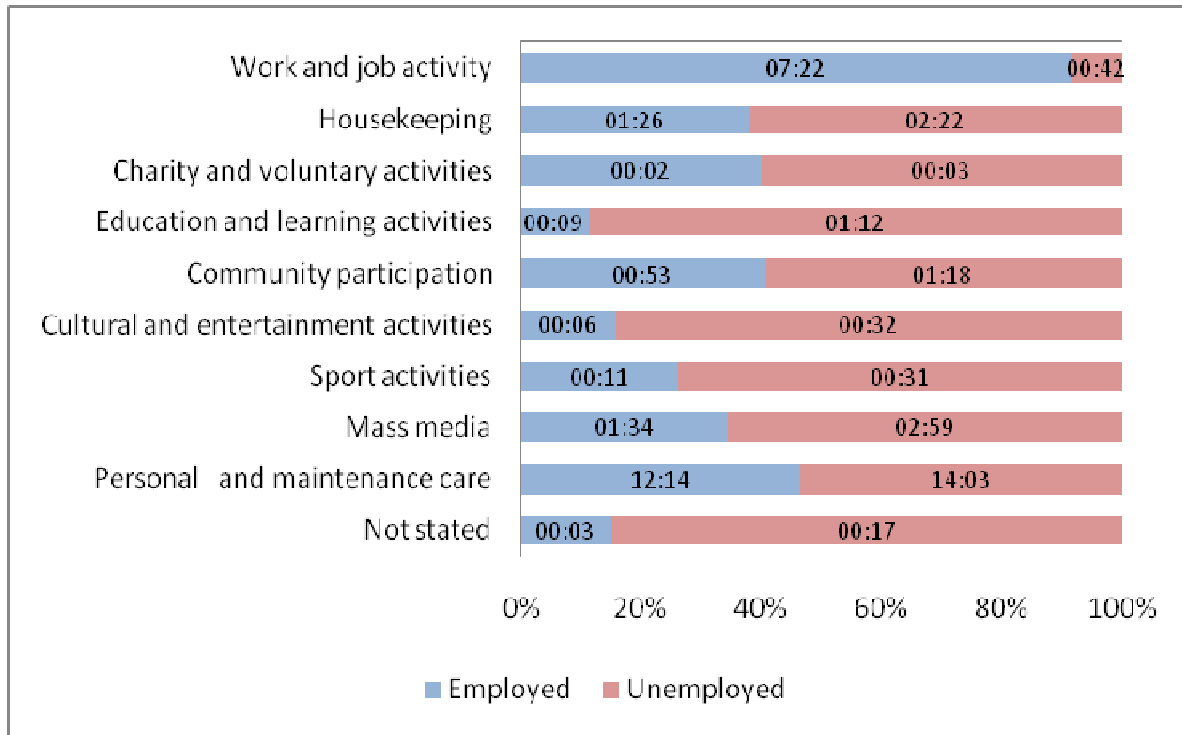
Among employed persons, personal care activity with 12 hours and 14 minutes occupied the most time and work and job activities with an average of 7 hours and 22 minutes followed it. The lowest time spent was related to the charity and voluntary activity with 2 minutes. Unemployed people spent 14 hours 3 minutes for personal care activity, 3 hours for mass media, and 2 hours and 22 minutes for housekeeping activity. The lowest spent time belongs to the charity and voluntary activities with 3 minutes.

The review of time use in every category of non- economically active population shows that the highest average of spent time belongs to the personal care activity. Beside, among this group of population, housekeepers, on average, spent most of their time doing household activities ( 6 hours and 45 minutes), students spent about 7 hours on educational activities , and income recipient (retirees, ...) spent, on average, most of their time (3 hours and 15 minutes ) in household activity.

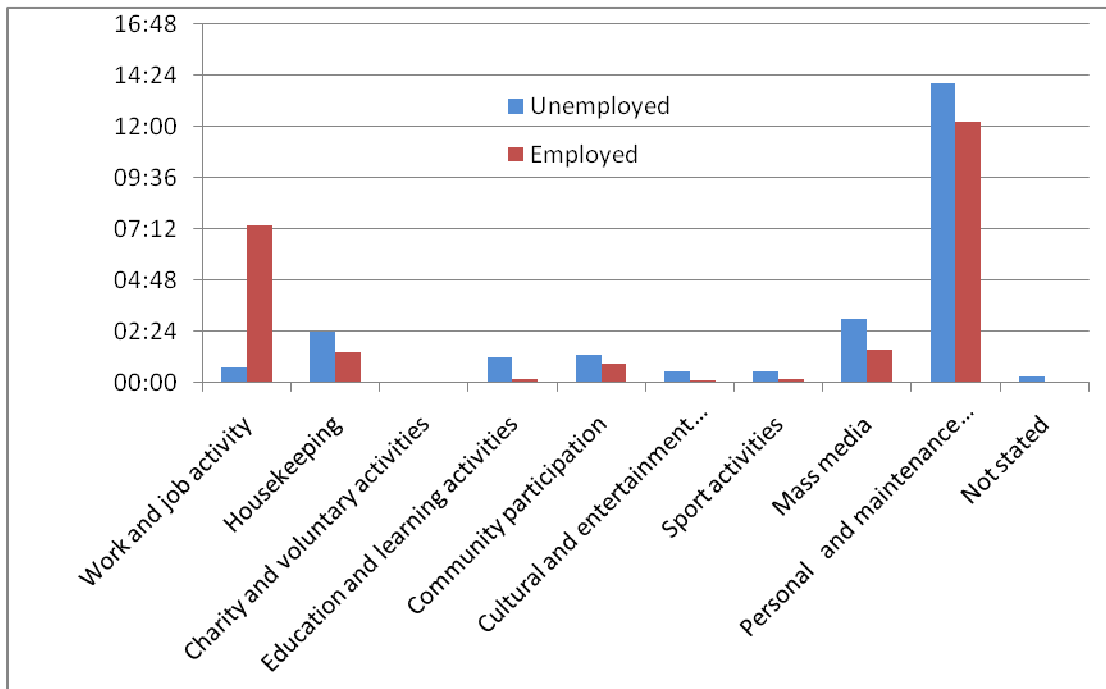
**Table 4. Average time per day spent by individuals aged15 and over by groups of time use activity and economic activity status - urban areas, winter 2009 ( hour, minute)**

Sex and group of activity	Total	Economically Active		Non-economically active			
		Employed	Unemployed	Housekeeper	Student	Income recipient	Other
<b>Both sexes</b>	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00
Work and job activity	02:47	07:22	00:42	00:03	00:04	00:07	00:11
Housekeeping	03:20	01:26	02:22	06:45	01:11	03:15	02:10
Charity and voluntary activities	00:02	00:02	00:03	00:03	00:02	00:03	00:03
Education and learning activities	01:15	00:09	01:12	00:10	07:02	00:03	01:34
Community participation	01:04	00:53	01:18	01:16	00:46	01:30	01:05
Cultural and entertainment activities	00:10	00:06	00:32	00:07	00:19	00:11	00:19
Sport activities	00:14	00:11	00:31	00:07	00:18	00:27	00:27
Mass media	02:00	01:34	02:59	02:03	01:59	02:49	03:03
Personal care and maintenance	13:04	12:14	14:03	13:24	12:16	15:29	15:03
Not stated	00:03	00:03	00:17	00:02	00:03	00:04	00:06
<b>Male</b>	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00
Work and job activity	04:58	07:41	00:53	00:00	00:07	00:09	00:17
Housekeeping	01:14	01:03	01:50	02:51	00:44	02:31	01:25
Charity and voluntary activities	00:02	00:02	00:04	00:00	00:02	00:03	00:05
Education and learning activities	01:12	00:07	00:47	00:36	07:02	00:02	01:31
Community participation	00:59	00:54	01:21	01:59	00:39	01:30	01:08
Cultural and entertainment activities	00:13	00:06	00:41	00:28	00:28	00:13	00:19
Sport activities	00:20	00:13	00:37	00:08	00:28	00:34	00:37
Mass media	02:01	01:42	03:11	02:40	02:08	03:10	03:23
Personal care and maintenance	12:56	12:18	14:16	15:04	12:16	15:42	15:04
Not stated	00:05	00:03	00:19	00:15	00:06	00:05	00:10
<b>Female</b>	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00
Work and job activity	00:42	05:43	00:22	00:03	00:03	00:03	00:05
Housekeeping	05:19	03:34	03:23	06:46	01:36	05:05	02:55
Charity and voluntary activities	00:03	00:02	00:03	00:03	00:02	00:03	00:00
Education and learning activities	01:18	00:17	02:00	00:10	07:02	00:05	01:36
Community participation	01:10	00:49	01:12	01:16	00:52	01:31	01:02
Cultural and entertainment activities	00:08	00:04	00:15	00:07	00:10	00:07	00:18
Sport activities	00:08	00:04	00:18	00:07	00:09	00:11	00:17
Mass media	02:00	01:30	02:37	02:03	01:51	01:59	02:44
Personal care and maintenance	13:12	11:55	13:38	13:24	12:15	14:58	15:02
Not stated	00:02	00:00	00:12	00:02	00:00	00:00	00:01

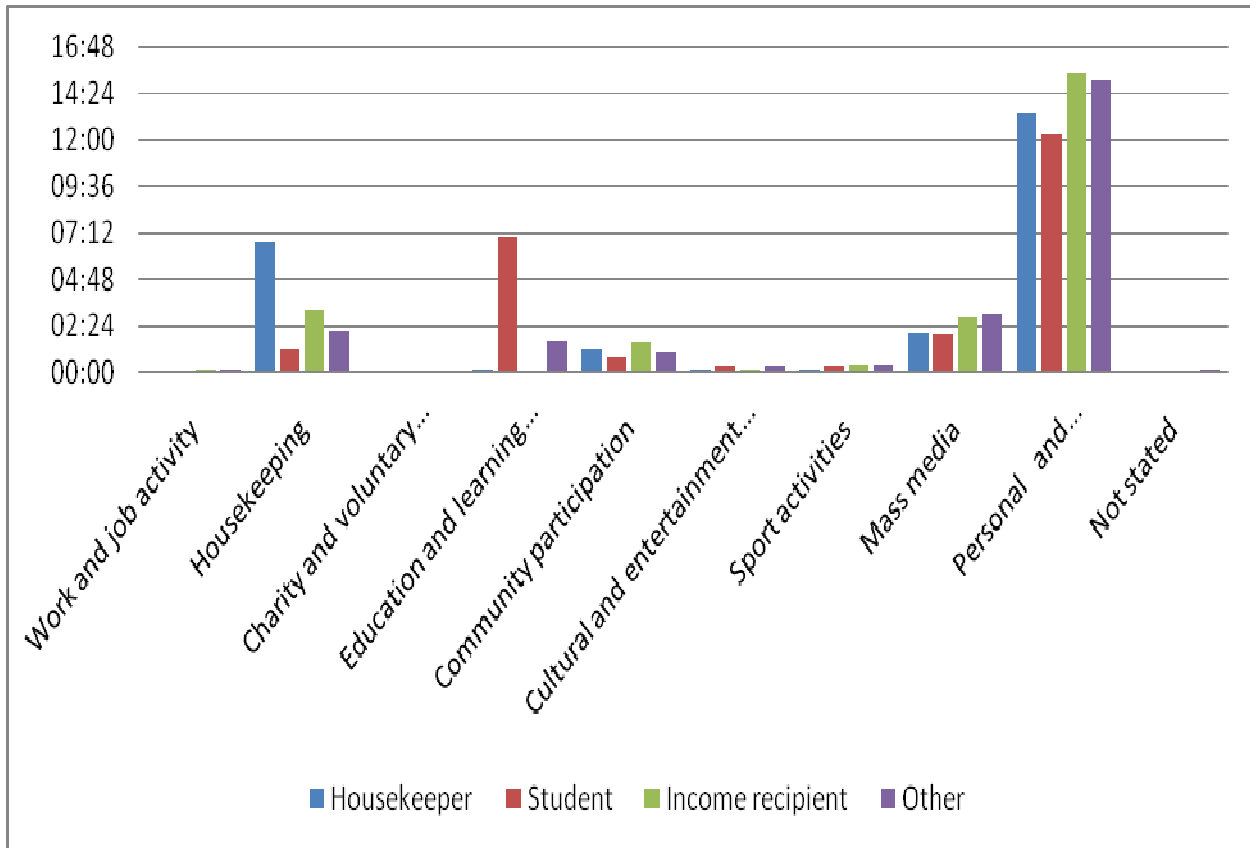
**Chart 5. Average time spent by population aged 15 and over, by groups of time use activity and activity status - urban areas, winter 2009**



**Chart 6. Average time spent by individuals aged 15 and over, by groups of time use activity and economic activity status - urban areas, winter 2009**



**Chart 7. Average time spent by economically inactive population aged 15 and over, by groups of time use activity - urban areas, winter 2009**





## **Methods of time use by literacy status**

The review of time use pattern among literate people aged 15 and over shows that personal care activity with 12 hours and 51 minutes occupied the highest average of time spent per day and housekeeping activity was the next with 3 hours and 14 minutes, while illiterate people spent 14 hours and 44 minutes for personal care activity and 4 hours and 6 minutes for housekeeping activity. The lowest average of spent time for both literate and illiterate population belongs to the charity and voluntary activity with 2 minutes.

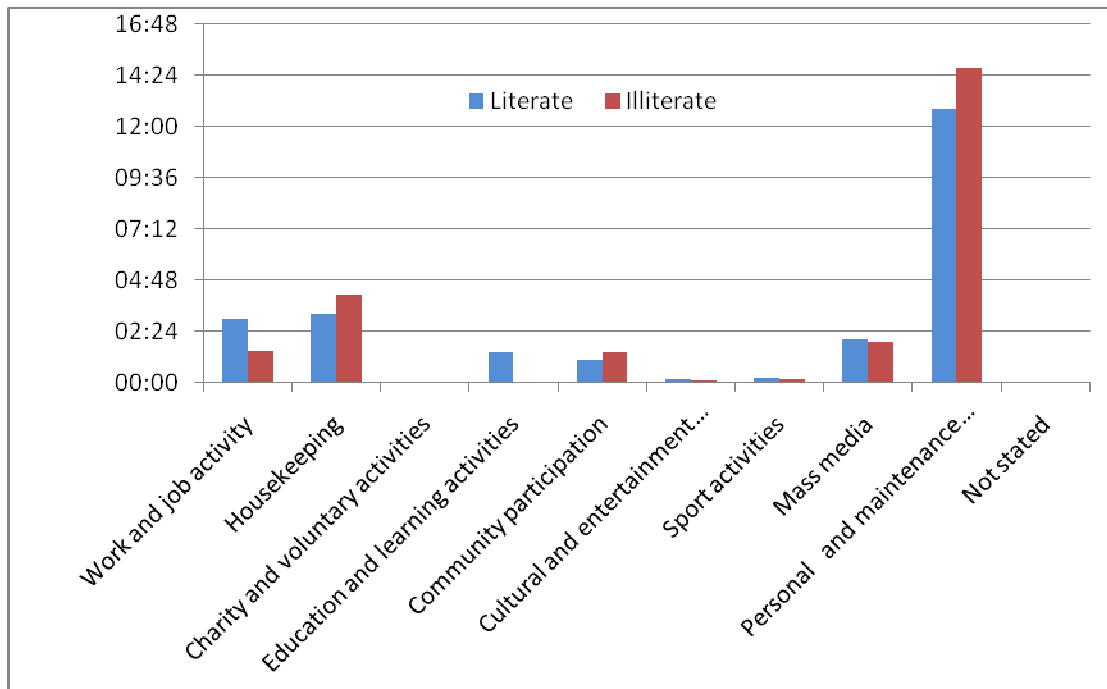
Review of the education and learning activities of the literate population based on the educational levels indicates that people with pre-university degree spent 3 hours and 37 minutes and people with a bachelor's degree spent 2 hours and 32 minutes on education and learning activities, that is, these people spent more time on education and learning activities than others.

The study of work and job activities group among literate and illiterate people represents that people with master's and doctoral degrees spent an average of 9 hours and 31 minutes in work and job activities while illiterate people spent an average of 1 hour and 30 minutes in these activities.

**Table 5. Average time per day spent by individuals aged15 and over by literacy status and groups of time- use activity - urban areas, winter 2009 ( hour and minute)**

Activity groups	Literate											
	Total	Literate	Primary	Lower secondary	Upper secondary and diploma	Pre-university	Associate's	Bachelor's	Master's and doctorate's	Professional doctorate	Learner and non-formal education	Illiterate
<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>	<b>24:00</b>
Work and job activity	02:47	03:00	03:04	03:27	02:30	02:17	03:14	03:09	04:56	09:31	01:21	01:30
Housekeeping	03:20	03:14	04:00	03:23	03:07	02:53	02:24	02:24	01:53	00:10	04:43	04:06
Charity and voluntary activities	00:02	00:02	00:02	00:03	00:02	00:06	00:03	00:02	00:03	00:00	00:01	00:02
Education and learning activities	01:15	01:24	00:07	00:26	02:08	02:37	02:04	02:32	01:28	00:21	00:09	00:03
Community participation	01:04	01:02	01:07	01:05	01:00	00:59	00:54	00:56	00:52	00:15	01:11	01:24
Cultural and entertainment activities	00:10	00:11	00:06	00:10	00:14	00:15	00:13	00:11	00:09	00:34	00:06	00:05
Sport activities	00:14	00:14	00:11	00:12	00:15	00:16	00:21	00:17	00:10	00:00	00:10	00:09
Mass media	02:00	02:01	01:57	01:56	02:04	02:01	02:08	02:03	02:22	01:22	02:20	01:53
Personal care and maintenance	13:04	12:51	13:23	13:05	12:36	12:32	12:36	12:23	12:06	11:47	13:56	14:44
Not stated	00:03	00:03	00:04	00:04	00:03	00:03	00:03	00:02	00:00	00:00	00:02	00:03

**Chart 8. Average time per day spent by individuals aged 15 and over by literacy status and groups of time-use activity - urban areas, winter 2009**



**Pattern of time- use activities on holidays and working days**

The study of method of time use activities on holidays and weekends, and working days shows that on holidays/weekends, work and job activities with 2 hours and 55 minutes and educational activities with 1 hours and 20 minutes occupied more time than other activities. Also community participation with an average of 1 hour and 13 minutes and mass media with 2 hours and 15 minutes occupied more time on holidays and weekends than on working days. Results show that there is no significant difference between average times spent for other activities on holidays and weekends and working days.

The results of this survey also show that on holidays and working days, personal care and then housekeeping activities occupied most average of time.

**Table 6. Average time per day spent by individuals aged 15 and over by groups of time- use activity type of days (holiday and working day) - urban areas, winter 2009**

( hour and minute)

Groups of activity	Average hours spent per day for every activity	
	Holidays/weekends	Weekdays
Both sexes	24:00	24:00
Work and job activity	02:08	02:55
Housekeeping	03:29	03:18
Charity and voluntary activities	00:03	00:02
Education and learning activities	00:54	01:20
Community participation	01:13	01:02
Cultural and entertainment activities	00:14	00:09
Sport activities	00:16	00:13
Mass media	02:15	01:57
Personal care and maintenance	13:26	12:59
Not stated	00:03	00:04

**Chart 9. Average time spent by individuals aged 15 and over, by groups of time- use activity and type of days (holiday/weekends and weekdays) - urban areas, winter 2009**

