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This release presents key indicators for monitoring employment for ten consecutive years starting from 2005 to 2014.

Key Indicators on the Labour Market: 2005-2014

Labour force

Over a span of ten years starting from 2005, the activity rate increased by 8.7 percentage points. The most significant contribution to this increase was the presence of more females in the labour market, with the female activity rate increasing from 36.4 per cent in 2005 to 52.1 per cent in 2014. The age bracket with the highest changes was the 25-54 group with an increase of 13.1 percentage points between 2005 and 2014. When comparing national figures with EU28 averages, it can be noted that activity rates are lower than national values for the younger segment of the population (15-24) whereas as age increases, EU28 averages tend to be higher than Malta's values (Table 1).

Education

The rate of early school leavers (ESL) dropped by 12.6 percentage points between 2005 and 2014. Though females have had the lower rates throughout the whole time series, the highest drop in ESL rates was recorded among males. Although Malta's levels for this indicator declined over the reference period, national values are still higher when compared to European averages (Table 2).

Labour Force Survey estimates indicate that over the past decade more persons in the 25-64 age bracket are participating in lifelong learning with levels reaching 7.1 per cent in 2014. The EU28 average for 2014 stood at 10.7 per cent (Table 4). Of the persons aged 30-34 years having achieved tertiary level, a constant increase was recorded over the period of ten years, from 17.6 per cent in 2005 to 26.6 per cent in 2014 (Table 5).

Employment

The behaviour of employment and activity rates among different age groups is quite similar (Table 6). The share of employment in services sector has increased during the period under review, with the rate rising by 11.7 percentage points over the past decade (Table 7). The share of self employment has kept the same levels between 2005 and 2014 (Table 8) whereas the share of part-time employees has increased by 7.2 percentage points over the same period (Table 9). Fixed-term contract employment has also increased by 3.4 percentage points over the past decade (Table 10).

Unemployment

The national unemployment rate in 2014 stood at 5.9 per cent as against the EU28 average of 10.2 per cent (Table 13). Over a span of ten years, the youth unemployment ratio dropped from 8.6 per cent to 6.2 per cent (Table 14), whereas a further decrease was also estimated in the long-term unemployment rate with levels reaching 2.8 per cent in 2014 (Table 15) ■

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Labour Force

Table 1. Activity rate by sex and age group
(%)

Year	15-64			
	Males	Females	Total	Activity gender gap *
2005	78.5	36.4	57.6	42.1
2006	78.5	36.8	57.9	41.7
2007	78.0	39.1	58.8	38.9
2008	77.3	40.4	59.1	36.8
2009	77.0	41.2	59.4	35.8
2010	77.8	42.5	60.4	35.3
2011	78.6	44.7	61.9	33.9
2012	78.3	47.5	63.1	30.8
2013	79.4	50.2	65.0	29.2
2014	79.9	52.1	66.3	27.7
EU 28 (2014)	78.1	66.5	72.3	11.6
Year	15-24			
	Males	Females	Total	Activity gender gap *
2005	55.8	51.3	53.6	4.5
2006	56.8	49.1	53.1	7.7
2007	57.5	50.4	54.0	7.1
2008	55.4	50.0	52.7	5.4
2009	54.6	48.3	51.6	6.3
2010	53.6	48.0	50.9	5.6
2011	55.7	48.0	51.9	7.7
2012	54.0	47.7	50.9	6.3
2013	56.0	49.5	52.8	6.5
2014	52.9	51.7	52.3	1.2
EU 28 (2014)	44.4	38.9	41.7	5.5
Year	25-54			
	Males	Females	Total	Activity gender gap *
2005	93.4	38.7	66.4	54.7
2006	94.1	40.8	67.9	53.2
2007	94.4	44.3	69.8	50.2
2008	93.9	46.7	70.7	47.1
2009	94.1	48.8	71.9	45.2
2010	94.5	50.6	73.0	43.9
2011	94.9	54.0	74.7	40.9
2012	94.3	58.1	76.5	36.2
2013	94.4	61.1	78.1	33.3
2014	95.1	63.3	79.5	31.7
EU 28 (2014)	91.5	79.5	85.5	12.0
Year	55-64			
	Males	Females	Total	Activity gender gap *
2005	54.2	12.7	33.0	41.6
2006	51.9	11.5	31.4	40.4
2007	48.7	12.8	30.5	35.8
2008	49.5	13.7	31.4	35.9
2009	48.8	13.2	30.9	35.6
2010	52.3	14.6	33.3	37.7
2011	53.0	15.6	34.2	37.5
2012	54.8	17.3	36.0	37.5
2013	57.2	19.7	38.4	37.5
2014	60.1	20.6	40.3	39.5
EU 28 (2014)	63.9	48.4	55.9	15.5

* The gender gap figure may not work out to be exact difference between male and female rates due to rounding

Education

Selected rates by sex (%)

Table 2. Early school leavers, 18-24 years

Year	Males	Females	Total
2005	37.5	28.4	33.0
2006	36.1	28.1	32.2
2007	34.8	25.3	30.2
2008	31.1	23.2	27.2
2009	30.1	21.1	25.7
2010	29.9	17.4	23.8
2011	28.8	16.3	22.7
2012	25.3	16.8	21.1
2013	23.2	17.7	20.5
2014	22.3	18.3	20.4
EU 28 (2014)	12.7	9.5	11.1

Table 3. Youth educational attainment, 20-24 years

Year	Males	Females	Total
2005	56.0	64.0	59.9
2006	55.7	63.0	59.3
2007	61.8	72.1	66.8
2008	63.5	71.7	67.5
2009	65.6	75.5	70.4
2010	66.1	80.7	73.2
2011	67.2	81.5	74.2
2012	70.6	80.9	75.6
2013	72.6	80.5	76.5
2014	72.4	78.9	75.6
EU 28 (2014)	79.9	84.7	82.3

Table 4. Lifelong learning, 25-64 years

Year	Males	Females	Total
2005	5.7	4.5	5.1
2006	5.5	5.4	5.5
2007	6.2	5.5	5.9
2008	6.3	6.1	6.2
2009	6.0	6.2	6.1
2010	5.8	6.2	6.0
2011	6.0	6.8	6.4
2012	6.5	7.3	6.9
2013	7.4	7.7	7.5
2014	6.8	7.5	7.1
EU 28 (2014)	9.8	11.6	10.7

Table 5. Tertiary educational attainment, 30-34 years

Year	Males	Females	Total
2005	17.9	17.3	17.6
2006	19.3	22.0	20.7
2007	19.1	22.5	20.8
2008	21.0	21.0	21.0
2009	20.2	23.7	21.9
2010	20.3	23.8	22.0
2011	22.7	24.2	23.4
2012	23.4	26.5	24.9
2013	22.6	29.5	26.0
2014	22.9	30.5	26.6
EU 28 (2014)	33.6	42.3	37.9

Employment

Table 6. Employment rate by sex and age group
(%)

Year	15-64			Employment gender gap *
	Males	Females	Total	
2005	73.5	33.4	53.6	40.2
2006	73.6	33.7	53.9	39.9
2007	73.5	36.0	55.0	37.5
2008	72.9	37.7	55.5	35.2
2009	72.0	38.0	55.3	34.0
2010	72.5	39.4	56.2	33.1
2011	73.9	41.5	57.9	32.4
2012	73.8	44.0	59.1	29.8
2013	74.1	47.0	60.8	27.1
2014	74.9	49.3	62.3	25.5
EU 28 (2014)	70.1	59.6	64.9	10.5
Year	20-64			Employment gender gap *
	Males	Females	Total	
2005	79.7	34.8	57.4	44.9
2006	79.6	35.7	57.9	43.9
2007	79.0	37.7	58.6	41.3
2008	78.5	39.5	59.2	39.1
2009	77.5	40.0	59.0	37.6
2010	78.2	41.6	60.1	36.7
2011	79.0	43.9	61.6	35.2
2012	79.2	46.6	63.0	32.6
2013	79.4	49.8	64.8	29.6
2014	80.3	51.9	66.3	28.4
EU 28 (2014)	75.0	63.5	69.2	11.5
Year	15-24			Employment gender gap *
	Males	Females	Total	
2005	46.8	43.1	45.0	3.7
2006	47.5	42.1	44.8	5.4
2007	48.8	44.4	46.7	4.4
2008	48.1	45.0	46.6	3.1
2009	45.8	42.2	44.1	3.5
2010	45.9	42.3	44.2	3.5
2011	48.1	41.8	45.0	6.3
2012	46.7	40.7	43.8	6.0
2013	47.5	44.4	46.0	3.1
2014	45.6	46.7	46.1	-1.1
EU 28 (2014)	34.4	30.6	32.5	3.8
Year	25-54			Employment gender gap *
	Males	Females	Total	
2005	89.1	36.4	63.1	52.7
2006	89.7	38.2	64.4	51.5
2007	90.3	41.3	66.3	48.9
2008	89.6	44.1	67.2	45.5
2009	89.5	45.8	68.1	43.7
2010	89.1	47.5	68.6	41.6
2011	90.0	50.8	70.7	39.2
2012	89.7	54.9	72.5	34.8
2013	89.6	57.8	74.0	31.8
2014	90.5	60.5	75.8	30.1
EU 28 (2014)	83.2	71.8	77.5	11.4
Year	55-64			Employment gender gap *
	Males	Females	Total	
2005	51.9	12.7	31.9	39.3
2006	50.6	11.2	30.6	39.4
2007	47.3	12.1	29.5	35.1
2008	48.0	12.7	30.1	35.3
2009	46.2	12.3	29.1	33.9
2010	50.0	14.2	31.9	35.8
2011	51.5	15.1	33.2	36.4
2012	53.1	16.3	34.6	36.9
2013	53.8	18.7	36.2	35.2
2014	55.7	19.8	37.7	35.9
EU 28 (2014)	58.9	45.2	51.8	13.7

* The gender gap figure may not work out to be exact difference between male and female rates due to rounding

Table 7. Employment share in services by sex
(%)

Year	Males	Females	Total
2005	45.2	27.5	36.5
2006	46.3	28.5	37.5
2007	47.6	31.0	39.4
2008	46.8	33.4	40.2
2009	47.6	33.3	40.6
2010	47.8	34.1	41.0
2011	49.6	36.1	42.9
2012	51.3	39.1	45.3
2013	51.9	41.3	46.7
2014	52.3	44.0	48.2
EU 28 (2014)	41.7	50.0	45.9

Table 8. Self employed as a percentage of total employment by sex
(% employment)

Year	Males	Females	Total
2005	17.2	6.1	13.8
2006	17.4	5.8	13.8
2007	17.6	7.1	14.3
2008	17.5	6.3	13.8
2009	17.5	6.7	13.8
2010	18.7	6.1	14.4
2011	17.5	6.0	13.5
2012	17.6	6.2	13.5
2013	18.5	6.2	13.9
2014	18.2	6.9	13.8
EU 28 (2014)	19.1	10.4	15.1

Table 9. Part-time employees as a percentage of total employees by sex
(% employees)

Year	Males	Females	Total
2005	4.2	19.9	9.4
2006	4.5	21.2	10.1
2007	4.1	24.0	11.0
2008	3.8	24.9	11.5
2009	4.5	22.7	11.2
2010	5.4	23.9	12.4
2011	6.0	25.3	13.3
2012	5.9	25.2	13.5
2013	7.7	25.7	15.1
2014	8.3	28.2	16.6
EU 28 (2014)	9.0	33.0	20.6

Table 10. Proportion of employees on a fixed-term contract basis by sex
(% employees)

Year	Males	Females	Total
2005	3.6	5.9	4.4
2006	2.7	5.8	3.8
2007	3.7	7.7	5.1
2008	3.4	5.8	4.3
2009	3.9	6.8	4.9
2010	4.3	7.1	5.4
2011	5.7	8.1	6.6
2012	6.1	7.9	6.8
2013	6.9	8.4	7.5
2014	6.8	9.1	7.8
EU 28 (2014)	13.6	14.4	14.0

Table 11. Average weekly number of hours usually worked per week (full-time)
(hours)

Year	Males	Females	Total
2005	40.6	38.6	40.0
2006	40.0	38.4	39.5
2007	40.3	38.1	39.6
2008	40.4	38.4	39.8
2009	40.7	38.9	40.1
2010	40.9	38.9	40.3
2011	41.4	39.1	40.7
2012	41.4	39.2	40.7
2013	41.2	39.0	40.4
2014	40.9	38.9	40.2
EU 28 (2014)	42.4	40.0	41.5

Table 12. Time-related under employment by type of employment
(%)

Year	Full-time	Part-time	Total
2005	12.6	31.8	14.4
2006	11.0	26.0	12.5
2007	9.9	23.8	11.4
2008	8.8	22.3	10.3
2009	9.2	21.8	10.7
2010	13.0	26.1	14.7
2011	13.4	22.5	14.6
2012	13.5	24.3	15.0
2013	11.9	22.0	13.4
2014	10.3	19.6	11.8

Note: EU28 data in respect of this variable is not available.

Unemployment

Table 13. Unemployment rate by sex and age group
(%)

Year	15-74		Total
	Males	Females	
2005	6.3	8.4	6.9
2006	6.1	8.3	6.8
2007	5.8	7.9	6.5
2008	5.6	6.8	6.0
2009	6.5	7.7	6.9
2010	6.7	7.1	6.9
2011	6.0	7.1	6.4
2012	5.7	7.3	6.3
2013	6.5	6.3	6.4
2014	6.2	5.4	5.9
EU 28 (2014)	10.1	10.2	10.2
Year	15-24		Total
	Males	Females	
2005	16.2	16.0	16.1
2006	16.4	14.3	15.5
2007	15.0	11.8	13.6
2008	13.1	9.9	11.6
2009	16.2	12.5	14.5
2010	14.4	11.8	13.3
2011	13.7	12.8	13.3
2012	13.5	14.8	14.1
2013	15.2	10.4	13.0
2014	13.8	9.6	11.8
EU 28 (2014)	22.6	21.2	21.9
Year	25-74		Total
	Males	Females	
2005	4.5	5.2	4.7
2006	4.3	6.1	4.8
2007	4.2	6.5	4.9
2008	4.3	5.7	4.8
2009	4.9	6.3	5.3
2010	5.5	5.8	5.6
2011	4.7	5.6	5.0
2012	4.5	5.6	4.9
2013	5.1	5.3	5.2
2014	5.1	4.5	4.9
EU 28 (2014)	8.8	9.1	8.9

Table 14. Youth unemployment ratio (15-24) by sex
(%)

Year	Males	Females	Total
2005	9.0	8.2	8.6
2006	9.3	7.0	8.2
2007	8.6	6.0	7.3
2008	7.2	5.0	6.1
2009	8.9	6.1	7.5
2010	7.7	5.7	6.7
2011	7.6	6.2	6.9
2012	7.3	7.0	7.2
2013	8.5	5.2	6.9
2014	7.3	5.0	6.2
EU 28 (2014)	10.0	8.2	9.1

Table 15. Long-term unemployment rate (15-74) by sex
(%)

Year	Males	Females	Total
2005	3.5	3.3	3.5
2006	2.9	2.3	2.8
2007	2.9	2.6	2.8
2008	2.8	2.4	2.7
2009	3.2	2.6	3.0
2010	3.5	2.6	3.2
2011	3.5	2.6	3.2
2012	3.4	2.7	3.1
2013	3.3	2.3	3.0
2014	3.3	2.1	2.8
EU 28 (2014)	5.0	5.0	5.0

Methodological Notes

General Note

2013 data in respect of the indicators presented in this release was updated on account of new population figures emerging from the Census of Population and Housing 2011. In this regard, revised 2013 data was first published in News Release 219/2014 on 19 November 2014.

Concepts and Definitions

1. Labour force

- **Activity rate:** the number of persons in the labour force falling within a particular age bracket as a percentage of the working population in the same age bracket (15-24, 25-54, 55-64 and 15-64).
- **Activity gender gap:** the difference in activity rates between males and females for different age groups (15-24, 25-54, 55-64 and 15-64).

2. Education

- **Early school leavers rate:** the percentage of persons aged 18-24 who achieved secondary education or less (ISCED <= 2) and are not pursuing further education or training.
 - A change in definition refers to figures prior to 2010. For the period 2006 to 2009 students on holiday are considered to be early school leavers whereas from 2010 onwards, these persons are not considered to form part of the early school leavers population.
- **Life long learning:** the percentage of persons aged 25-64 participating in regular education, or in non-formal training such as courses, seminars and conferences. Students on holiday are not considered to be part of the population in life-long learning.
- **Tertiary educational attainment:** the percentage of persons aged between 30-34 years having achieved at least tertiary level of education (ISCED >=5).
- **Youth educational attainment:** the percentage of persons aged 20-24 years having achieved at least upper secondary education (ISCED >=3).

3. Employment

- **Employment rate:** the number of employed persons falling within a particular age bracket as a percentage of the working population in the same age bracket (15-24, 25-54, 55-64, 15-64 and 20-64).
- **Employment gender gap:** the difference in employment rates between males and females for different age groups (15-24, 25-54, 55-64, 15-64 and 20-64).
- **Employment rate in services:** the number of employed persons (15-64 years) working in the services sector as a percentage of the working population in the same age group. For the years 2005-2008, the economic activity was classified using Nace Rev. 1.1. (G-Q). For the period 2009-2013, Nace Rev. 2.0 (G-U) was applied.
- **Average weekly number of hours usually worked per week:** the sum of hours usually worked by full-time employees divided by the number of full-time employees.
- **Self-employed:** this component is made up of persons who are self employed with or without employees. The rate is worked out as a percentage of the total employment.
- **Type of employment:** grouped into full-time employment and part-time employment. For the purpose of this release part-time employment is made up of full-time with reduced hours jobs and part-time jobs.
- **Fixed-term contracts:** refers to all those persons working with a definite contract or on a temporary basis.
- **Time related underemployment:** refers to the number of persons having a main job but willing/wishing to work more than the number of hours currently worked in their job.

4. Unemployment

- **Unemployment rate:** the number of unemployed persons aged within a particular age bracket as a percentage of the labour force in the same age bracket (15-24, 25+ and 15+).
- **Youth unemployment ratio:** refers to the number of unemployed persons aged 15-24 as a percentage of the total population falling within the same age bracket.
- **Long-term unemployment rate:** the number of long-term unemployed (12 months or more) as a proportion of the labour force.

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