

During the first quarter of 2018, Labour Force Survey estimates indicated an increase of 5.7 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2017.

## Labour Force Survey: Q1/2018

### Labour Status

Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates indicate that, during the first quarter of this year, total employment stood at 217,259 accounting to more than half the population aged 15 and over. The number of persons who were unemployed stood at 9,966 (2.5 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 172,092 (43.1 per cent) (Table 1). The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 71.2 per cent, with the highest rate recorded being among persons aged 25-54 (82.4 per cent) (Table 2).

### The Employed Population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged between 15 to 64 years, 68 were employed. The male employment rate for this age bracket reached 79.1 per cent while that for females stood at 56.4 per cent (Table 4). The largest share of employed persons was recorded among persons aged between 25 and 34 years, for both males and females (Chart 1).

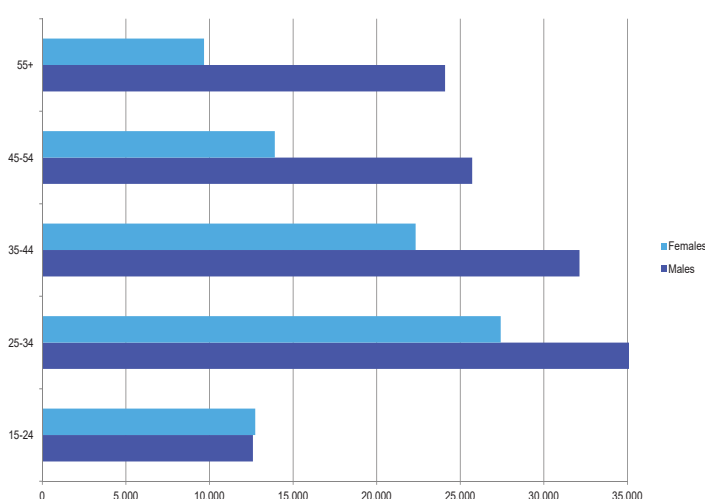
Self-employment accounted for 14.3 per cent of all persons with a main job (Table 5). The majority of employed persons were working on a full-time basis totalled 186,832. On the other hand, an estimated count of 30,427 persons had a part-time job as their primary employment (Table 6). On average, full-timers worked 41.5 hours while part-timers were working for 23.3 hours per week (Table 7).

The average annual basic salary (excluding overtime, bonuses and allowances) of employees for the first quarter of 2018 was estimated at €18,643. The highest basic salary was recorded in Financial and Insurance Activities sector (Table 10). Average annual salaries varied from €34,291 among managers to €12,922 among persons employed in elementary occupations (Table 14).

### The Unemployed and Inactive Population

The unemployment rate for the first quarter of 2018, stood at 4.4 per cent (Table 17). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 and over (Table 16). Among the unemployed, 74.3 per cent stated that they had been seeking work for less than 12 months (Table 18). The main reason for inactivity relates to persons reaching retirement age or taking up early retirement (43.9 per cent) (Table 20).

Chart 1. Employment by age groups and sex



## Education Attainment

According to the Labour Force Survey, 53.2 per cent of the 15 plus population have attained a low level of education (Table 21). This comprises persons with less than 5 ordinary level (or equivalent) qualifications. Among the employed population, 29.7 per cent had a tertiary level education (Table 22).

**Table 1. Persons aged 15 and over by sex and labour status**

Labour status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2018					
Employed	131,197	65.1	86,062	43.5	217,259	54.4
Unemployed	6,133	3.0	3,833 <sup>u</sup>	1.9 <sup>u</sup>	9,966	2.5
Inactive	64,184	31.9	107,908	54.6	172,092	43.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>201,514</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>197,803</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>399,317</b>	<b>100.0</b>
January-March 2017 (Revised)						
Employed	125,117	63.6	80,452	41.5	205,569	52.6
Unemployed	5,385	2.7	4,495	2.3	9,880	2.5
Inactive	66,112	33.6	108,983	56.2	175,095	44.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>196,614</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>193,930</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>390,544</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 2. Activity rates by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	January-March 2018					
15-24	51.7		53.3		52.5	
25-54	95.0		68.8		82.4	
55-64	69.2		32.5		50.8	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>82.9</b>		<b>58.9</b>		<b>71.2</b>	
January-March 2017 (Revised)						
15-24	51.3		47.1		49.3	
25-54	94.5		68.7		82.1	
55-64	61.9		25.3		43.6	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>80.8</b>		<b>56.3</b>		<b>68.9</b>	

**Table 3. Distribution of employed persons with a main job by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2018					
15-24	12,600	9.6	12,733	14.8	25,333	11.7
25-34	36,663	27.9	27,419	31.9	64,082	29.5
35-44	32,133	24.5	22,332	25.9	54,465	25.1
45-54	25,711	19.6	13,904	16.2	39,615	18.2
55-64	20,666	15.8	9,408	10.9	30,074	13.8
65+	3,424	2.6	:	:	3,690	1.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>131,197</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>86,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>217,259</b>	<b>100.0</b>
January-March 2017 (Revised)						
15-24	12,218	9.8	10,796	13.4	23,014	11.2
25-34	34,360	27.5	26,755	33.3	61,115	29.7
35-44	32,005	25.6	20,898	26.0	52,903	25.7
45-54	25,652	20.5	13,879	17.3	39,531	19.2
55-64	18,194	14.5	7,387	9.2	25,581	12.4
65+	2,688 <sup>u</sup>	2.1 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	3,425	1.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>125,117</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>80,452</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>205,569</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 4. Employment rates by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%		%		%	
	January-March 2018					
15-24	46.6		50.0		48.2	
25-54	90.8		66.2		79.0	
55-64	67.8		30.7		49.2	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>79.1</b>		<b>56.4</b>		<b>68.1</b>	
January-March 2017 (Revised)						
15-24	44.6		42.1		43.4	
25-54	91.4		65.6		79.0	
55-64	60.4		24.5		42.4	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>77.4</b>		<b>53.3</b>		<b>65.7</b>	

**Table 5. Distribution of employed persons by sex and professional status of main occupation**

Professional status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2018					
Self-employed without employees	17,542	13.4	4,184 <sup>u</sup>	4.9 <sup>u</sup>	21,726	10.0
Self-employed with employees	7,486	5.7	:	:	9,235	4.3
Employee	106,169	80.9	80,068	93.0	186,237	85.7
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Total</b>	<b>131,197</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>86,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>217,259</b>	<b>100.0</b>
January-March 2017 (Revised)						
Self-employed without employees	16,005	12.8	4,748	5.9	20,753	10.1
Self-employed with employees	7,713	6.2	:	:	9,048	4.4
Employee	101,399	81.0	74,369	92.4	175,768	85.5
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Total</b>	<b>125,117</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>80,452</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>205,569</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>i</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 6. Distribution of employed persons by sex and type of employment in main occupation**

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2018					
Full-time job	120,739	92.0	66,093	76.8	186,832	86.0
Part-time job	10,458	8.0	19,969	23.2	30,427	14.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>131,197</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>86,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>217,259</b>	<b>100.0</b>
January-March 2017 (Revised)						
Full-time job	116,275	92.9	60,045	74.6	176,320	85.8
Part-time job	8,842	7.1	20,407	25.4	29,249	14.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>125,117</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>80,452</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>205,569</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 7. Normal hours worked by sex and type of employment in main occupation**

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	Average (Hours)					
	January-March 2018					
Full-time job	42.4		39.8		41.5	
Part-time job	23.1		23.5		23.3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>40.9</b>		<b>36.1</b>		<b>39.0</b>	
January-March 2017 (Revised)						
Full-time job	42.2		39.6		41.4	
Part-time job	23.6		24.0		23.9	
<b>Total</b>	<b>40.9</b>		<b>35.7</b>		<b>38.9</b>	

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

**Table 8. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: January-March 2018**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,586 <sup>u</sup>	1.2 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,081 <sup>u</sup>	1.0 <sup>u</sup>
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	20,963	16.0	6,404	7.4	27,367	12.6
Construction	12,595	9.6	:	:	13,863	6.4
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	38,474	29.3	19,119	22.2	57,593	26.5
Information and communication	5,709	4.4	2,713 <sup>u</sup>	3.2 <sup>u</sup>	8,422	3.9
Financial and insurance activities	5,713	4.4	4,875	5.7	10,588	4.9
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	2,530 <sup>u</sup>	1.2 <sup>u</sup>
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	12,538	9.6	11,177	13.0	23,715	10.9
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	24,852	18.9	32,482	37.7	57,334	26.4
Other services	7,226	5.5	6,540	7.6	13,766	6.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>131,197</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>86,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>217,259</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>i</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

**Table 9. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: January-March 2017 (Revised)**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,692 <sup>u</sup>	1.4 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,937 <sup>u</sup>	0.9 <sup>u</sup>
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	18,863	15.1	7,116	8.8	25,979	12.6
Construction	13,266	10.6	:	:	13,762	6.7
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	37,843	30.2	19,566	24.3	57,409	27.9
Information and communication	6,408	5.1	2,105 <sup>u</sup>	2.6 <sup>u</sup>	8,513	4.1
Financial and insurance activities	4,902	3.9	6,437	8.0	11,339	5.5
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	1,844 <sup>u</sup>	0.9 <sup>u</sup>
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	11,247	9.0	7,621	9.5	18,868	9.2
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	21,724	17.4	30,823	38.3	52,547	25.6
Other services	7,958	6.4	5,413	6.7	13,371	6.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>125,117</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>80,452</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>205,569</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>i</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Note: Estimates include both public and private sectors.

**Table 10. Average annual basic salary\* for employees by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: January-March 2018**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	17,704	18,363	6,343	14,056	24,047	17,226
Construction	7,823	17,111	:	:	9,091	16,583
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	29,319	18,294	17,680	12,307	46,999	16,041
Information and communication	4,931	22,560	2,640 <sup>u</sup>	20,442 <sup>u</sup>	7,571	21,821
Financial and insurance activities	5,427	28,299	4,875	23,449	10,302	26,004
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	10,241	18,305	9,550	16,927	19,791	17,640
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	24,114	20,544	32,101	17,997	56,215	19,090
Other services	5,716	29,573	4,484 <sup>u</sup>	20,470 <sup>u</sup>	10,200	25,572
<b>Total</b>	<b>106,169</b>	<b>20,077</b>	<b>80,068</b>	<b>16,743</b>	<b>186,237</b>	<b>18,643</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

\* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Notes: For definition of average annual basic salary refer to methodological note 3.

Estimates include both public and private sectors.

**Table 11. Average annual basic salary\* for employees by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: January-March 2017 (Revised)**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	16,237	19,300	7,081	16,639	23,318	18,492
Construction	8,611	16,141	:	:	9,042	16,207
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	29,425	17,430	18,100	13,181	47,525	15,812
Information and communication	5,884	23,537	1,995 <sup>u</sup>	19,641 <sup>u</sup>	7,879	22,551
Financial and insurance activities	4,528	30,372	6,437	19,889	10,965	24,218
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	8,395	18,850	6,601	17,145	14,996	18,100
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	20,892	20,301	30,038	17,791	50,930	18,821
Other services	6,498	25,403	2,996 <sup>u</sup>	20,693 <sup>u</sup>	9,494	23,917
<b>Total</b>	<b>101,399</b>	<b>19,761</b>	<b>74,369</b>	<b>16,864</b>	<b>175,768</b>	<b>18,535</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

\* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Notes: For definition of average annual basic salary refer to methodological note 3.

Estimates include both public and private sectors.

Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: January-March 2018

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	1,865 <sup>u</sup>	1.4 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,148 <sup>u</sup>	1.0 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	14,947	11.4	6,584	7.7	21,531	9.9
Professionals	19,980	15.2	18,035	21.0	38,015	17.5
Technicians and associate professionals	19,590	14.9	12,371	14.4	31,961	14.7
Clerical support workers	9,675	7.4	15,339	17.8	25,014	11.5
Service and sales workers	20,300	15.5	23,580	27.4	43,880	20.2
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	1,977 <sup>u</sup>	1.5 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,100 <sup>u</sup>	1.0 <sup>u</sup>
Craft and related trades workers	21,402	16.3	:	:	22,234	10.2
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,126	7.0	2,862 <sup>u</sup>	3.3 <sup>u</sup>	11,988	5.5
Elementary occupations	12,335	9.4	6,053	7.0	18,388	8.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>131,197</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>86,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>217,259</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>∴</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 13. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: January-March 2017 (Revised)

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	1,641 <sup>u</sup>	1.3 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,746 <sup>u</sup>	0.8 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	14,712	11.8	5,669	7.0	20,381	9.9
Professionals	18,604	14.9	17,750	22.1	36,354	17.7
Technicians and associate professionals	18,634	14.9	11,856	14.7	30,490	14.8
Clerical support workers	8,951	7.2	13,320	16.6	22,271	10.8
Service and sales workers	20,632	16.5	22,730	28.3	43,362	21.1
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	1,932 <sup>u</sup>	1.5 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,998 <sup>u</sup>	1.0 <sup>u</sup>
Craft and related trades workers	19,747	15.8	:	:	20,820	10.1
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,291	6.6	2,657 <sup>u</sup>	3.3 <sup>u</sup>	10,948	5.3
Elementary occupations	11,973	9.6	5,226	6.5	17,199	8.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>125,117</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>80,452</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>205,569</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>∴</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 14. Average annual basic salary\* for employees by sex and main occupation: January-March 2018**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)
Armed Forces	1,865 <sup>u</sup>	17,073 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,148 <sup>u</sup>	17,216 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	10,785	35,656	5,803	31,754	16,588	34,291
Professionals	17,351	25,750	17,184	22,556	34,535	24,161
Technicians and associate professionals	17,192	20,269	11,443	17,910	28,635	19,327
Clerical support workers	8,967	16,936	14,969	14,022	23,936	15,114
Service and sales workers	15,419	15,089	21,001	11,767	36,420	13,173
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	13,801	16,169	:	:	14,351	16,041
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,398	15,963	2,862 <sup>u</sup>	12,245 <sup>u</sup>	11,260	15,018
Elementary occupations	11,704	14,454	5,903	9,884	17,607	12,922
<b>Total</b>	<b>106,169</b>	<b>20,077</b>	<b>80,068</b>	<b>16,743</b>	<b>186,237</b>	<b>18,643</b>

<sup>:</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

\* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

**Table 15. Average annual basic salary\* for employees by sex and main occupation: January-March 2017 (Revised)**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)
Armed Forces	1,641 <sup>u</sup>	17,008 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,746 <sup>u</sup>	17,163 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	11,743	32,940	5,186	30,543	16,929	32,206
Professionals	16,105	25,718	16,266	21,938	32,371	23,819
Technicians and associate professionals	15,737	20,507	11,586	19,125	27,323	19,921
Clerical support workers	8,673	15,841	13,102	14,739	21,775	15,178
Service and sales workers	14,742	14,958	19,834	11,559	34,576	13,008
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	13,674	16,840	:	:	14,484	16,575
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	7,797	14,857	2,606 <sup>u</sup>	13,989 <sup>u</sup>	10,403	14,639
Elementary occupations	10,455	12,923	4,874	9,573	15,329	11,858
<b>Total</b>	<b>101,399</b>	<b>19,761</b>	<b>74,369</b>	<b>16,864</b>	<b>175,768</b>	<b>18,535</b>

<sup>:</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

\* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.



**Table 16. Distribution of unemployed persons by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2018					
15-24	1,388 <sup>u</sup>	22.6 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,226 <sup>u</sup>	22.3 <sup>u</sup>
25-74	4,745 <sup>u</sup>	77.4 <sup>u</sup>	2,995 <sup>u</sup>	78.1 <sup>u</sup>	7,740	77.7
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>6,133</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,833<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>100.0<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>9,966</b>	<b>100.0</b>
January-March 2017 (Revised)						
15-24	1,829 <sup>u</sup>	34.0 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	3,121 <sup>u</sup>	31.6 <sup>u</sup>
25-74	3,556 <sup>u</sup>	66.0 <sup>u</sup>	3,203 <sup>u</sup>	71.3 <sup>u</sup>	6,759	68.4
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>5,385</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,495</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,880</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>i</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 17. Unemployment rates by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	January-March 2018					
15-24	9.9 <sup>u</sup>		:		8.1 <sup>u</sup>	
25-74	3.9 <sup>u</sup>		3.9 <sup>u</sup>		3.9	
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>4.5</b>		<b>4.3<sup>u</sup></b>		<b>4.4</b>	
January-March 2017 (Revised)						
15-24	13.0 <sup>u</sup>		:		11.9 <sup>u</sup>	
25-74	3.1 <sup>u</sup>		4.4 <sup>u</sup>		3.6	
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>4.1</b>		<b>5.3</b>		<b>4.6</b>	

<sup>i</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 18. Distribution of unemployed persons by sex and duration of job search**

Duration	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2018					
Less than 12 months	4,273 <sup>u</sup>	69.7 <sup>u</sup>	3,127 <sup>u</sup>	81.6 <sup>u</sup>	7,400	74.3
12 months or more	1,860 <sup>u</sup>	30.3 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,566 <sup>u</sup>	25.7 <sup>u</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,133</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,833<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>100.0<sup>u</sup></b>	<b>9,966</b>	<b>100.0</b>
January-March 2017 (Revised)						
Less than 12 months	3,192 <sup>u</sup>	59.3 <sup>u</sup>	2,346 <sup>u</sup>	52.2 <sup>u</sup>	5,538	56.1
12 months or more	2,193 <sup>u</sup>	40.7 <sup>u</sup>	2,149 <sup>u</sup>	47.8 <sup>u</sup>	4,342	43.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,385</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,495</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,880</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>i</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 19. Distribution of inactive persons by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2018					
15-24	13,070	20.4	11,906	11.0	24,976	14.5
25-34	:	:	7,520	7.0	9,212	5.4
35-44	:	:	10,132	9.4	11,966	7.0
45-54	1,711 <sup>u</sup>	2.7 <sup>u</sup>	12,321	11.4	14,032	8.2
55-64	9,400	14.6	20,665	19.2	30,065	17.5
65+	36,477	56.8	45,364	42.0	81,841	47.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>64,184</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>107,908</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>172,092</b>	<b>100.0</b>
January-March 2017 (Revised)						
15-24	13,344	20.2	13,585	12.5	26,929	15.4
25-34	2,194 <sup>u</sup>	3.3 <sup>u</sup>	7,302	6.7	9,496	5.4
35-44	1,701 <sup>u</sup>	2.6 <sup>u</sup>	9,687	8.9	11,388	6.5
45-54	1,634 <sup>u</sup>	2.5 <sup>u</sup>	12,360	11.3	13,994	8.0
55-64	11,478	17.4	22,507	20.7	33,985	19.4
65+	35,761	54.1	43,542	40.0	79,303	45.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,112</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>108,983</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>175,095</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>†</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 20. Main reasons for being inactive by sex**

Reason	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	January-March 2018					
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	30,671	28.4	30,671	17.8
Education or training	12,866	20.0	12,246	11.3	25,112	14.6
Reached retirement age, or uptake of early retirement	43,872	68.4	31,680	29.4	75,552	43.9
Other reasons	7,446	11.6	33,311	30.9	40,757	23.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>64,184</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>107,908</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>172,092</b>	<b>100.0</b>
January-March 2017 (Revised)						
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	26,153	24.0	26,988	15.4
Education or training	13,127	19.9	13,395	12.3	26,522	15.1
Reached retirement age, or uptake of early retirement	43,486	65.8	30,020	27.5	73,506	42.0
Other reasons	8,664	13.1	39,415	36.2	48,079	27.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,112</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>108,983</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>175,095</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>†</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

**Table 21. Persons aged 15 years and over by sex and highest educational attainment**

	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>January-March 2018</b>						
Low	103,216	51.2	109,398	55.3	212,614	53.2
Medium	56,755	28.2	48,494	24.5	105,249	26.4
High	41,543	20.6	39,911	20.2	81,454	20.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>201,514</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>197,803</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>399,317</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>January-March 2017 (Revised)</b>						
Low	103,464	52.6	107,299	55.3	210,763	54.0
Medium	55,541	28.2	53,889	27.8	109,430	28.0
High	37,609	19.1	32,742	16.9	70,351	18.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>196,614</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>193,930</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>390,544</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 22. Persons aged 15 years and over by labour status and highest educational attainment**

	Employed		Unemployed		Inactive		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>January-March 2018</b>								
Low	80,970	37.3	4,966	49.8	126,678	73.6	212,614	53.2
Medium	71,684	33.0	3,134 <sup>u</sup>	31.4 <sup>u</sup>	30,431	17.7	105,249	26.4
High	64,605	29.7	:	:	14,983	8.7	81,454	20.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>217,259</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,966</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>172,092</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>399,317</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>January-March 2017 (Revised)</b>								
Low	78,606	38.2	5,009	50.7	127,148	72.6	210,763	54.0
Medium	69,805	34.0	3,032 <sup>u</sup>	30.7 <sup>u</sup>	36,593	20.9	109,430	28.0
High	57,158	27.8	:	:	11,354	6.5	70,351	18.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>205,569</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,880</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>175,095</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>390,544</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

## Methodological Notes

1. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is carried out on an ongoing basis using a quarterly gross sample of 3,200 private households. The objective is to have a continuous assessment of labour market trends given that the reference weeks are evenly spread throughout the 13 weeks of the quarter. One-fourth of the sample is made up of households who have been selected to participate in the LFS for the first time. Three-fourths of the quarterly sample is made up of households who were selected to participate in the survey in previous instances, either one quarter before, or one year before, or one year and a quarter before (2-(2)-2). Unless otherwise indicated, figures provided in this release refer to persons aged 15 and over and living in private households during the reference period. All criteria used for this survey match international methodologies used by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).
2. The LFS is designed to satisfy the concepts and definitions as outlined by Eurostat, which is the EU Statistical Agency. This allows the comparability of results with other EU member states and countries following ILO definitions of employment and unemployment. Occupations are classified according to the ISCO - 08 classification (International Standard Classification of Occupations) whereas the economic activity is classified according to NACE Rev. 2 (Nomenclature générale des Activités économiques dans les Communautés Européennes). Education attainment is classified according to ISCED 2011.

### 3. Definitions:

- **Activity rate:** Labour force (15-64) as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64).
- **Annual basic salary:** Refers to the annual basic salary received by employees before any social contributions and tax deductions. This amount excludes payments for overtime, allowances and bonuses.
- **Education Attainment:**
  - **low:** comprising persons with no schooling, primary education, special schools for disabled, and persons who attained a secondary level education and have less than 5 ordinary level qualifications or equivalent. In the context of the ISCED classification, low includes ISCED 0 to 2.
  - **medium:** comprising persons with a secondary level education and having 5 ordinary level qualifications or equivalent or more, persons with a post secondary level attainment who have at least obtained 1 intermediate or advanced level qualification or equivalent. In the context of the ISCED classification, medium refers to ISCED 3 and 4.
  - **high** - comprising persons with a tertiary level education and with qualifications ranging from diploma to doctorate level. In the context of the ISCED classification, high refers to ISCED 5 to 8.
- **Employees:** are defined as persons who work for a public or private employer and who receive compensation in the form of wages, salaries, fees, gratuities, payment by results or payment in kind.
- **Employed persons:** All persons aged 15 and over who, during the reference week, were in one of the following categories:
  - **paid employment:** includes those who during the reference week worked for at least one hour for a wage or salary, in cash or in kind.
  - **were employed but absent from work:** due to sick leave, bad weather, were undergoing training or education, did not work due to a labour dispute, were on maternity or parental leave, did not work due to slack work for technical or economic reasons, were absent from work for a period of less than 3 months, or were not working because on layoff and receiving at least 50 per cent of the salary/wage.
  - **self-employed:** covers persons who run a trade or business, rather than working as an employee for someone else. A person is self-employed if s/he is a sole proprietor or a partner working in a business.
  - **unpaid family workers:** refers to people who worked without pay in a family business or farm. Excluded from this definition are housewives.
- **Employment rate:** Persons in employment (15-64) as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64).
- **Inactive persons:** All persons who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as inactive.
- **Labour force:** All persons in employment and unemployed persons.

- **Normal hours worked:** Refers to the number of usual hours worked per week in the main job over a long reference period, excluding weeks when an absence from work occurs (e.g. holidays, vacation leave or sick leave).
- **Part time employment:** A part-time worker is an employed person whose normal hours are less than those of comparable full-time workers. Persons employed on a full-time with reduced hours basis are included in this category.
- **Reference week:** The week to which the collected data relate.
- **Unemployed persons:** All persons above 15 years of age who, during the reference week, satisfied the following criteria:
  - **without work**
  - **actively seeking work during the previous 4 weeks:** example of active job search include contacting Jobspplus, applying directly with an employer, contacting a private employment agency, inserting or answering to an advert in a newspaper.
  - **currently available for work:** available to start work within 2 weeks of the reference week.
- **Unemployment rate:** Unemployed persons (15 to 74 years) as a percentage of the labour force (15-74 years).

#### 4. Sampling variability

Data included in this release are based on sample data and are therefore subject to sampling error. Sampling error is measured by a quantity known as the margin of error, which in turn, expresses the variability between the true population parameters and their corresponding sample estimates. In the table below, the margin of error is used to construct a set of 95 per cent confidence intervals for specific variables, which give an indication of where the true population parameters lie.

**Sampling variability of LFS figures**

	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Margin of error</b>	<b>95% confidence interval</b>
Employment	217,259	4,767	217,259 ± 4,767
Employment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	68.06	1.50	68.06 ± 1.50
<i>Males</i>	79.06	1.46	79.06 ± 1.46
<i>Females</i>	56.38	1.94	56.38 ± 1.94
15-24	48.22	3.59	48.22 ± 3.59
25-54	79.02	1.97	79.02 ± 1.97
55-64	49.22	3.10	49.22 ± 3.10
Unemployment	9,966	2,333	9,966 ± 2,333
Unemployment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	4.39	1.02	4.39 ± 1.02
<i>Males</i>	4.47	1.19	4.47 ± 1.19
<i>Females</i>	4.26	1.80	4.26 ± 1.80
15-24	8.08	2.78	8.08 ± 2.78
25+	3.88	1.09	3.88 ± 1.09
Inactivity	172,092	4,580	172,092 ± 4,580
Activity rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	71.24	1.43	71.24 ± 1.43
<i>Males</i>	82.86	1.28	82.86 ± 1.28
<i>Females</i>	58.90	1.93	58.90 ± 1.93
15-24	52.46	3.55	52.46 ± 3.55
25-54	82.41	1.80	82.41 ± 1.80
55-64	50.79	3.15	50.79 ± 3.15

The table above provides estimated measures of sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 217,259 and the margin of error is 4,767. Hence, the actual figure in the population lies between 212,492 and 222,026 persons.

Key

- : Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.
- <sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

5. Percentage Totals may not add up due to rounding.
6. Absolute changes between one survey estimate and another must be treated with caution since minor changes (i.e. less than 2,100 persons) might be the result of sampling error.
7. More information is available from the NSO upon written request.
8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Sources and Methods:

[https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources\\_and\\_Methods/Unit\\_C2/Labour\\_Market\\_Statistics/Pages/Labour-Force-Survey.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_C2/Labour_Market_Statistics/Pages/Labour-Force-Survey.aspx)

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>

Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=33>

Classification: [http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE Rev. 2](http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE_Rev._2)  
[http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCO 2008](http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCO_2008)  
<http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCED%202011>

9. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
10. A detailed news release calendar is available on [https://nso.gov.mt/en/News\\_Releases/Release\\_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx)
11. Labour Force survey data for 2017 has been revised in line with demographic updates published on the 12th of February 2018 (Release No: 022/2018). These updates are reflected in the grossing up methodology used for the survey.