

27 September 2018 | 1100 hrs | 150/2018

During the second quarter of 2018, Labour Force Survey estimates indicate an increase of 6.0 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2017.

Labour Force Survey: Q2/2018

Labour Status

Labour Force Survey estimates indicate that, during the second quarter, total employment stood at 231,152 accounting to more than half the population aged 15 and over. Unemployed persons stood at 9,159 (2.2 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 167,148 (41.0 per cent) (Table 1). The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 73.5 per cent, with the highest rate recorded among persons aged 25-54 (85.4 per cent) (Table 2).

The Employed Population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged between 15 to 64 years, 71 were employed. The male employment rate for this age bracket was 80.3 per cent while that for females stood at 60.2 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-employed persons accounted for 14.3 per cent of all persons with a main job (Table 5). The majority of employed persons worked on a full-time basis totalling 198,941 and 32,211 had a part-time job as their primary employment (Table 6). Results show that, on average, full-timers work 41.7 hours while part-timers work 23.0 hours per week (Table 7).

The average annual basic salary of employees for the second quarter of 2018 was estimated at €18,945. The highest basic salary was recorded in the Financial and insurance activities sector (Table 10). Average annual salaries varied from €33,786 among managers to €12,106 among persons employed in elementary occupations (Table 14).

The Unemployed and Inactive Population

The unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2018, stood at 3.8 per cent (Table 17). The largest share of unemployed persons was recorded among persons aged 25 and over (Table 16). Among the unemployed, 75.4 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 (40.6 per cent) (Table 20).

Education Attainment

According to the Labour Force Survey, 52.6 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 30.9 per cent had a tertiary level education (Table 22) ■

Chart 1. Employment by age group and sex

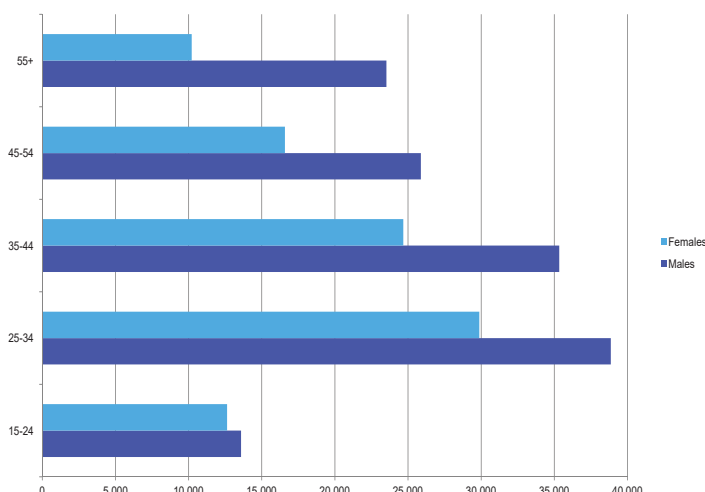


Table 1. Persons aged 15 and over by sex and labour status

Labour status	Males		Females		Total		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
	April-June 2018						
Employed	137,182	66.4	93,970	46.8	231,152	56.7	
Unemployed	5,670	2.7	3,489 ^u	1.7 ^u	9,159	2.2	
Inactive	63,752	30.9	103,396	51.5	167,148	41.0	
Total	206,604	100.0	200,855	100.0	407,459	100.0	
	April-June 2017 (Revised)						
	Employed	130,770	65.6	87,380	44.7	218,150	55.2
	Unemployed	5,253	2.6	3,634	1.9	8,887	2.2
	Inactive	63,376	31.8	104,633	53.5	168,009	42.5
	Total	199,399	100.0	195,647	100.0	395,046	100.0

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 2. Activity rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	April-June 2018					
15-24	55.2		53.0		54.1	
25-54	95.7		74.2		85.4	
55-64	66.8		32.0		49.5	
Total (15-64)	83.7		62.5		73.5	
	April-June 2017 (Revised)					
	15-24	54.1		51.6		52.9
	25-54	96.4		72.7		85.0
	55-64	63.8		26.0		45.0
	Total (15-64)	83.0		59.8		71.7

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

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2018					
15-24	13,582	9.9	12,627	13.4	26,209	11.3
25-34	38,862	28.3	29,873	31.8	68,735	29.7
35-44	35,337	25.8	24,678	26.3	60,015	26.0
45-54	25,880	18.9	16,582	17.6	42,462	18.4
55-64	19,888	14.5	9,574	10.2	29,462	12.7
65+	3,633	2.6	:	:	4,269	1.8
Total	137,182	100.0	93,970	100.0	231,152	100.0
April-June 2017 (Revised)						
15-24	13,379	10.2	12,037	13.8	25,416	11.7
25-34	36,222	27.7	28,286	32.4	64,508	29.6
35-44	33,248	25.4	21,921	25.1	55,169	25.3
45-54	26,232	20.1	16,731	19.1	42,963	19.7
55-64	18,937	14.5	7,723	8.8	26,660	12.2
65+	2,752	2.1	:	:	3,434	1.6
Total	130,770	100.0	87,380	100.0	218,150	100.0

⋮ Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

Table 4. Employment rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%		%		%	
	April-June 2018					
15-24	49.4		49.7		49.5	
25-54	92.5		71.7		82.6	
55-64	64.8		31.6		48.3	
Total (15-64)	80.3		60.2		70.6	
April-June 2017 (Revised)						
15-24	48.2		46.8		47.5	
25-54	93.3		70.3		82.2	
55-64	62.5		25.6		44.1	
Total (15-64)	79.7		57.4		68.9	

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

Professional status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2018					
Self-employed without employees	17,287	12.6	5,470	5.8	22,757	9.9
Self-employed with employees	8,196	6.0	:	:	10,217	4.4
Employee	111,596	81.3	86,281	91.8	197,877	85.6
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	137,182	100.0	93,970	100.0	231,152	100.0
April-June 2017 (Revised)						
Self-employed without employees	14,246	10.9	6,632	7.6	20,878	9.6
Self-employed with employees	8,562	6.5	:	:	9,702	4.4
Employee	107,903	82.5	79,431	90.9	187,334	85.9
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
Total	130,770	100.0	87,380	100.0	218,150	100.0

⋮ Unreliable - less than 20 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.	%
	April-June 2018					
Full-time job	127,617	93.0	71,324	75.9	198,941	86.1
Part-time job	9,565	7.0	22,646	24.1	32,211	13.9
Total	137,182	100.0	93,970	100.0	231,152	100.0
April-June 2017 (Revised)						
Full-time job	122,756	93.9	65,066	74.5	187,822	86.1
Part-time job	8,014	6.1	22,314	25.5	30,328	13.9
Total	130,770	100.0	87,380	100.0	218,150	100.0

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

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	Average (Hours)					
	April-June 2018					
Full-time job	42.6		40.1		41.7	
Part-time job	23.6		22.8		23.0	
Total	41.3		35.9		39.1	
April-June 2017 (Revised)						
Full-time job	42.5		40.0		41.6	
Part-time job	22.5		22.6		22.6	
Total	41.3		35.6		39.0	

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

Table 8. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: April-June 2018

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,472 ^u	1.8 ^u	:	:	2,875 ^u	1.2 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	21,855	15.9	6,863	7.3	28,718	12.4
Construction	11,998	8.7	:	:	13,569	5.9
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	42,030	30.6	20,475	21.8	62,505	27.0
Information and communication	6,350	4.6	3,215 ^u	3.4 ^u	9,565	4.1
Financial and insurance activities	5,964	4.3	6,012	6.4	11,976	5.2
Real estate activities	1,859 ^u	1.4 ^u	:	:	3,127 ^u	1.4 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	9,453	6.9	12,189	13.0	21,642	9.4
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	26,216	19.1	31,856	33.9	58,072	25.1
Other services	8,985	6.5	10,118	10.8	19,103	8.3
Total	137,182	100.0	93,970	100.0	231,152	100.0

[:] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u 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: April-June 2017 (Revised)

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,441 ^u	1.9 ^u	:	:	2,585 ^u	1.2 ^u
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	20,792	15.9	6,947	8.0	27,739	12.7
Construction	13,966	10.7	:	:	14,315	6.6
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	36,453	27.9	23,182	26.5	59,635	27.3
Information and communication	6,540	5.0	2,014 ^u	2.3 ^u	8,554	3.9
Financial and insurance activities	6,384	4.9	6,515	7.5	12,899	5.9
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	2,150 ^u	1.0 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	12,025	9.2	8,025	9.2	20,050	9.2
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	24,141	18.5	31,246	35.8	55,387	25.4
Other services	6,944	5.3	7,892	9.0	14,836	6.8
Total	130,770	100.0	87,380	100.0	218,150	100.0

[:] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u 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: April-June 2018

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€) ^P	No. of employees	Average (€) ^P	No. of employees	Average (€) ^P
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	17,724	18,971	6,680	13,339	24,404	17,429
Construction	6,629	17,883	:	:	8,200	17,398
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	34,109	19,107	18,883	12,173	52,992	16,636
Information and communication	5,542	23,130	3,117 ^u	18,847 ^u	8,659	21,588
Financial and insurance activities	5,811	28,362	6,012	18,254	11,823	23,222
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	1,896 ^u	21,438 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	7,525	20,573	10,535	17,448	18,060	18,750
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	25,359	21,027	31,208	18,763	56,567	19,778
Other services	7,100	28,068	7,241 ^u	17,204 ^u	14,341	22,583
Total	111,596	20,850	86,281	16,481	197,877	18,945

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

^P Provisional

Notes:

1. For definition of average annual basic salary refer to methodological note 3.
2. Estimates include both public and private sectors.

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

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€) ^P	No. of employees	Average (€) ^P	No. of employees	Average (€) ^P
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	17,545	18,864	6,630	13,294	24,175	17,337
Construction	10,305	15,553	:	:	10,563	15,584
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	27,071	17,312	20,223	12,749	47,294	15,361
Information and communication	6,042	24,361	:	:	8,019	22,766
Financial and insurance activities	5,670	28,235	6,515	21,319	12,185	24,537
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	1,473 ^u	18,787 ^u
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	10,475	19,615	7,026	16,867	17,501	18,512
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	23,802	19,994	29,913	17,441	53,715	18,572
Other services	5,434	24,902	6,061 ^u	18,511 ^u	11,495	21,532
Total	107,903	19,634	79,431	16,235	187,334	18,193

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

^P Provisional

Notes:

1. For definition of average annual basic salary refer to methodological note 3.
2. Estimates include both public and private sectors.

Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: April-June 2018

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	16,253	11.8	7,207	7.7	23,460	10.1
Professionals	20,975	15.3	20,756	22.1	41,731	18.1
Technicians and associate professionals	21,572	15.7	13,409	14.3	34,981	15.1
Clerical support workers	10,596	7.7	15,508	16.5	26,104	11.3
Service and sales workers	21,852	15.9	25,580	27.2	47,432	20.5
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,248 ^u	1.6 ^u	:	:	2,464 ^u	1.1 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	22,766	16.6	:	:	23,657	10.2
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,046	5.9	3,453 ^u	3.7 ^u	11,499	5.0
Elementary occupations	11,558	8.4	6,767	7.2	18,325	7.9
Total	137,182	100.0	93,970	100.0	231,152	100.0

[:] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

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

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	1,792 ^u	1.4 ^u	:	:	1,792 ^u	0.8 ^u
Managers	15,242	11.7	7,093	8.1	22,335	10.2
Professionals	19,288	14.7	18,587	21.3	37,875	17.4
Technicians and associate professionals	20,255	15.5	11,864	13.6	32,119	14.7
Clerical support workers	8,429	6.4	13,030	14.9	21,459	9.8
Service and sales workers	19,320	14.8	26,127	29.9	45,447	20.8
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,048 ^u	1.6 ^u	:	:	2,192 ^u	1.0 ^u
Craft and related trades workers	20,673	15.8	:	:	21,683	9.9
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	10,565	8.1	3,234 ^u	3.7 ^u	13,799	6.3
Elementary occupations	13,158	10.1	6,291	7.2	19,449	8.9
Total	130,770	100.0	87,380	100.0	218,150	100.0

[:] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 14. Average annual basic salary for employees by sex and main occupation: April-June 2018

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€) ^P	No. of employees	Average (€) ^P	No. of employees	Average (€) ^P
Armed Forces	:	:	:	:	:	:
Managers	12,468	37,074	5,572	26,430	18,040	33,786
Professionals	18,153	26,327	18,952	23,122	37,105	24,690
Technicians and associate professionals	19,279	21,425	12,878	17,863	32,157	19,999
Clerical support workers	10,373	16,703	15,177	14,256	25,550	15,249
Service and sales workers	17,939	15,273	22,688	11,848	40,627	13,361
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	14,453	16,819	:	:	15,208	16,703
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	6,979	16,818	3,378 ^u	12,307 ^u	10,357	15,347
Elementary occupations	10,310	13,545	6,644	9,873	16,954	12,106
Total	111,596	20,850	86,281	16,481	197,877	18,945

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

^P Provisional

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

Table 15. Average annual basic salary for employees by sex and main occupation: April-June 2017 (Revised)

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€) ^P	No. of employees	Average (€) ^P	No. of employees	Average (€) ^P
Armed Forces	1,792 ^u	16,216 ^u	:	:	1,792 ^u	16,216 ^u
Managers	12,037	32,332	6,862	28,342	18,899	30,883
Professionals	17,897	26,353	17,298	21,807	35,195	24,119
Technicians and associate professionals	16,955	19,590	10,792	17,995	27,747	18,969
Clerical support workers	8,374	15,693	12,549	13,550	20,923	14,408
Service and sales workers	14,070	14,847	21,838	11,155	35,908	12,602
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	14,963	16,647	:	:	15,770	16,486
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,381	15,658	3,177 ^u	12,527 ^u	12,558	14,866
Elementary occupations	11,913	12,896	6,108	9,715	18,021	11,818
Total	107,903	19,634	79,431	16,235	187,334	18,193

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

^P Provisional

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.	%
April-June 2018						
15-24	:	:	:	:	2,456 ^u	26.8 ^u
25-74	4,075 ^u	71.9 ^u	2,628 ^u	75.3 ^u	6,703	73.2
Total (15-74)	5,670	100.0	3,489^u	100.0^u	9,159	100.0
April-June 2017 (Revised)						
15-24	1,632 ^u	31.1 ^u	1,254 ^u	34.5 ^u	2,886 ^u	32.5 ^u
25-74	3,621 ^u	68.9 ^u	2,380 ^u	65.5 ^u	6,001	67.5
Total (15-74)	5,253	100.0	3,634	100.0	8,887	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 17. Unemployment rates by sex and age group

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
April-June 2018						
15-24	:	:	:	:	8.6 ^u	
25-74	3.2 ^u		3.1 ^u		3.2	
Total (15-74)	4.0		3.6^u		3.8	
April-June 2017 (Revised)						
15-24	10.9 ^u		9.4 ^u		10.2 ^u	
25-74	3.0 ^u		3.1 ^u		3.0	
Total (15-74)	3.9		4.0		3.9	

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u 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.	%
April-June 2018						
Less than 12 months	3,954 ^u	69.7 ^u	2,956 ^u	84.7 ^u	6,910	75.4
12 months or more	:	:	:	:	2,249 ^u	24.6 ^u
Total	5,670	100.0	3,489^u	100.0^u	9,159	100.0
April-June 2017 (Revised)						
Less than 12 months	3,298 ^u	62.8 ^u	2,132 ^u	58.7 ^u	5,430	61.1
12 months or more	1,955 ^u	37.2 ^u	1,502 ^u	41.3 ^u	3,457 ^u	38.9 ^u
Total	5,253	100.0	3,634	100.0	8,887	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u 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.	%
	April-June 2018					
15-24	12,335	19.3	11,943	11.6	24,278	14.5
25-34	:	:	6,662 ^u	6.4 ^u	7,900	4.7
35-44	:	:	8,610	8.3	9,864	5.9
45-54	2,123 ^u	3.3 ^u	10,291	10.0	12,414	7.4
55-64	10,191	16.0	20,606	19.9	30,797	18.4
65+	36,611	57.4	45,284	43.8	81,895	49.0
Total	63,752	100.0	103,396	100.0	167,148	100.0
April-June 2017 (Revised)						
15-24	12,753	20.1	12,445	11.9	25,198	15.0
25-34	:	:	6,529	6.2	7,608	4.5
35-44	:	:	9,335	8.9	10,317	6.1
45-54	1,611 ^u	2.5 ^u	10,155	9.7	11,766	7.0
55-64	10,963	17.3	22,320	21.3	33,283	19.8
65+	35,988	56.8	43,849	41.9	79,837	47.5
Total	63,376	100.0	104,633	100.0	168,009	100.0

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

Table 20. Main reasons for being inactive by sex

Reason	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2018					
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	31,810	30.8	32,324	19.3
Education or training	11,909	18.7	11,993	11.6	23,902	14.3
Reached retirement age, or uptake of early retirement	44,783	70.2	23,080	22.3	67,863	40.6
Other reasons	6,546	10.3	36,513	35.3	43,059	25.8
Total	63,752	100.0	103,396	100.0	167,148	100.0
April-June 2017 (Revised)						
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	24,926	23.8	25,724	15.3
Education or training	11,845	18.7	12,745	12.2	24,590	14.6
Reached retirement age, or uptake of early retirement	42,738	67.4	26,530	25.4	69,268	41.2
Other reasons	7,995	12.6	40,432	38.6	48,427	28.8
Total	63,376	100.0	104,633	100.0	168,009	100.0

[‡] 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.	%	
	April-June 2018						
Low	106,596	51.6	107,660	53.6	214,256	52.6	
Medium	57,766	28.0	49,276	24.5	107,042	26.3	
High	42,242	20.4	43,919	21.9	86,161	21.1	
Total	206,604	100.0	200,855	100.0	407,459	100.0	
	April-June 2017 (Revised)						
	Low	104,603	52.5	106,189	54.3	210,792	53.4
	Medium	57,281	28.7	51,703	26.4	108,984	27.6
High	37,515	18.8	37,755	19.3	75,270	19.1	
Total	199,399	100.0	195,647	100.0	395,046	100.0	

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

	Employed		Unemployed		Inactive		Total		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
	April-June 2018								
Low	84,086	36.4	4,686	51.2	125,484	75.1	214,256	52.6	
Medium	75,543	32.7	2,637 ^u	28.8 ^u	28,862	17.3	107,042	26.3	
High	71,523	30.9	:	:	12,802	7.7	86,161	21.1	
Total	231,152	100.0	9,159	100.0	167,148	100.0	407,459	100.0	
	April-June 2017 (Revised)								
	Low	81,909	37.5	5,301	59.6	123,582	73.6	210,792	53.4
	Medium	73,794	33.8	2,446 ^u	27.5 ^u	32,744	19.5	108,984	27.6
High	62,447	28.6	:	:	11,683	7.0	75,270	19.1	
Total	218,150	100.0	8,887	100.0	168,009	100.0	395,046	100.0	

[‡] Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u 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. Data for this variable is provisional and subject to revisions.
- **Education Attainment:**
 - **low:** comprising persons with no schooling, primary education, schools for children with special needs, 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 Jobsplus, 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

	Estimate	Margin of error	95% confidence interval
Employment	231,152	4,864	231,152 ± 4,864
Employment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	70.62	1.48	70.62 ± 1.48
<i>Males</i>	80.28	1.41	80.28 ± 1.41
<i>Females</i>	60.24	1.99	60.24 ± 1.99
15-24	49.50	3.28	49.50 ± 3.28
25-54	82.57	1.88	82.57 ± 1.88
55-64	48.29	3.38	48.29 ± 3.38
Unemployment	9,159	2,228	9,159 ± 2,228
Unemployment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	3.82	0.93	3.82 ± 0.93
<i>Males</i>	3.98	1.27	3.98 ± 1.27
<i>Females</i>	3.58	1.36	3.58 ± 1.36
15-24	8.57	3.12	8.57 ± 3.12
25-74	3.17	0.98	3.17 ± 0.98
Inactivity	167,148	4,516	167,148 ± 4,516
Activity rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	73.47	1.38	73.47 ± 1.38
<i>Males</i>	83.69	1.22	83.69 ± 1.22
<i>Females</i>	62.49	1.94	62.49 ± 1.94
15-24	54.14	3.33	54.14 ± 3.33
25-54	85.44	1.66	85.44 ± 1.66
55-64	49.52	3.36	49.52 ± 3.36

The table above provides estimated measures of sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 231,152 and the margin of error is 4,864. Hence, the actual figure in the population lies between 226,288 and 236,016 persons.

Key

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

^u 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
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
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.